

## ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA DROUGHT OUTLOOK

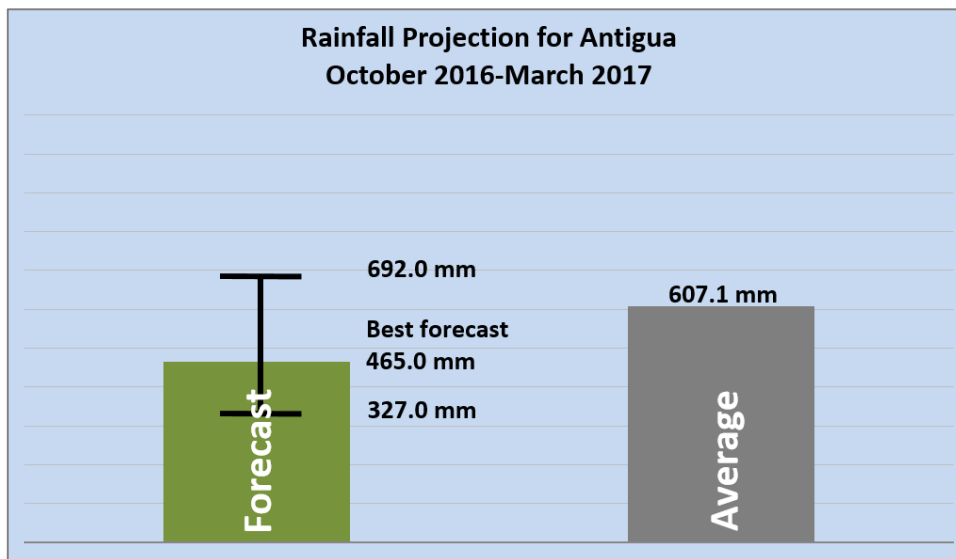


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### ...Drought watch in effect for the short term...

Based upon rainfall that has already fallen and rainfall forecast predicated on sea surface temperatures across the tropics, the following are being projected for Antigua with respect to **droughts**, particularly meteorological drought of **moderate or worse intensity**. September's rainfall erased the meteorological, agrometeorological and ecological droughts of the past few years and the rainfall of November has kept them away and further easing the hydrological and socioeconomic **droughts**. Unfortunately, in the short term, below normal rainfall is possible; hence, there could be a return of a moderate meteorological drought or worse. Rainfall analyses up to the end of the other periods indicate that moderate droughts or worse are unlikely. Thus, there are minimal drought concerns, for the medium and long term at the moment.

### Standard Precipitation Index (SPI) Based (Rainfall) Projections



#### Short Term – Six Months

##### *October 2016 to March 2017*

Based on the rainfall measured for October and November 2016 (305.3 mm or 12.02 in) and the outlook for December to March – **a moderate drought or worse is possible** at the end of the six-month period October 2016 to March 2017 (OM). Hence, a **drought watch** is in effect for the MO period. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is around 40%. Further, the best

forecast of rainfall accumulation for MO is around **465.0 mm** (18.3 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 327.0 to 692.0 mm (12.9 to 27.2 in), which is centred **below normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 586.7 mm (23.1 in).

#### Medium Term – Nine Months

##### *August 2016 to April 2017*

Based on the rainfall measured for August to November 2016 (649.7 mm or 25.58 in) and the outlook for December 2016 to April 2017, a **moderate drought or worse is UNLIKELY** at the end of the nine-months period August 2016 to April 2017 (AA). Hence, there is minimal concerns for drought by the end of the AA period. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is around 25%. Further, the best forecast of rainfall accumulation for AA is around **905.0 mm** (35.6 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 657.0 to 1210.0 mm (25.9 to 47.6 in), which is centred **near normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 922.0 mm (36.3 in).

## Long Term – One Year

### *July 2016 to June 2017*

Based on the rainfall measured for July to November 2016 (733.8 mm or 28.89 in) and the outlook for December to June, a **moderate drought or worse is UNLIKELY** at the end of the twelve-month period July 2016 to June 2017 (JJ). Hence, there are minimal concerns for drought by the end of the JJ period. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is around 25%. Further, the best forecast of rainfall accumulation for JJ is around **1169.0 mm** (46.0 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 861.0 to 1543.0 mm (33.9 to 60.7 in), which is centred **near normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 1183.6 mm (46.9 in).

## **Related Products**

More outlooks: [January 2016](#), [January-March 2017](#), [April-June 2017](#), [January-June 2017](#)

Recently observed: [Rainfall](#), [Temperature](#)

## **Definition**

**Drought:** In the most general sense, drought originates from a deficiency of precipitation over an extended period of time--usually a season or more--resulting in a water shortage for some activity, group, or environmental sector. There are four types – *meteorological, hydrological, agricultural, and socioeconomic*. [Read more...](#)

**Drought watch:** An announcement that a **moderate drought or worse (MD/+)** is possible or has a probability of 35-49% of occurring. [This alert calls for, among other things, the implementation of management plans and residents to keep updated.](#)

**Drought warning:** An announcement that a **MD/+** is evolving or has a probability of 50-82% of occurring. [This alert calls for, among other things, maximized water conservation and efficiency measures.](#)

**Drought emergency:** An announcement that a **MD/+** is evolving or has a probability of over 82% of occurring. [This alert calls for, among other things, enforcement of water restrictions.](#)

The next outlook will be issued around October 5.

## **Disclaimer**

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