

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA DROUGHT OUTLOOK

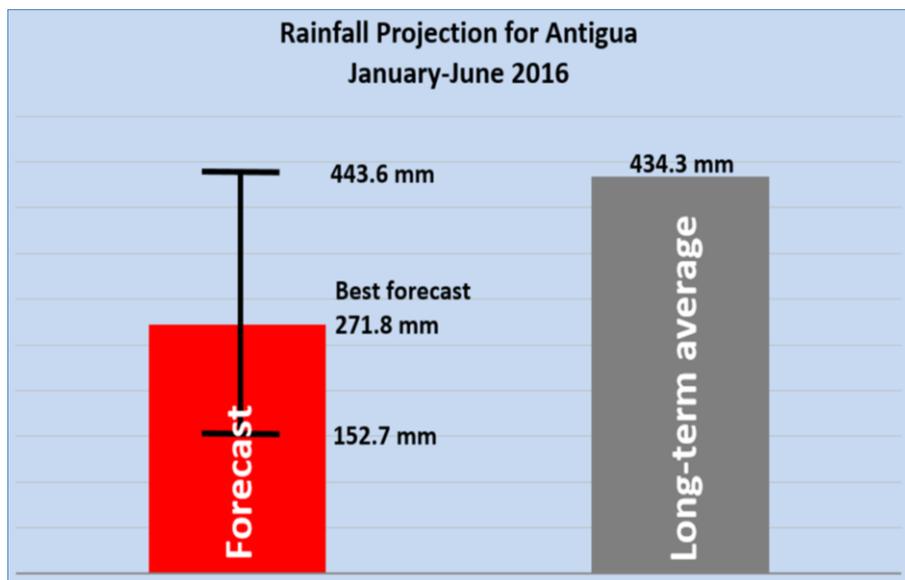


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...Serious drought evolving...drought warnings remain in effect...

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 those of **moderate or worse intensity**. *There is a high chance that the existing drought will continue into the second half of 2016 but at less intense levels.*

Standard Precipitation Index (SPI) Based (Rainfall) Projections



Short Term – Six Months

January to June 2016

Based on the rainfall experienced January and February 2016 (74.9 mm or 2.95 in) and the outlook for March to June, a **moderate drought or worse is evolving** over the January-June 2016 (JJ) period; hence, a **drought warning** is in effect for the JJ period. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is 60%. Further, the best forecast of rainfall accumulation for the JJ period is around **271.8 mm** (10.7 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation

will be in the range 152.7 to 443.6 mm (6.0 to 17.5 in), which is centred **below normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 434.3 mm (17.1 in). Dry season 2016 – January to June is likely to be drier than usual but wetter than dry season 2015.

Medium Term – Nine Months

November 2015 to July 2016

Based on the rainfall experienced November 2015 to February 2016 (229.6 mm or 9.04 in) and the outlook for March to July, a **serious drought or worse is evolving** over the November 2015-July 2016 (NJ) period; hence, a **drought warning** is in effect for the NJ period. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is 66%. Further, best forecast of rainfall accumulation for the NJ period is around **494.8 mm** (19.5 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 309.2 to 745.9 mm (12.2 to 29.4 in), which is centred **well below normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 787.4 mm (31.0 in).

Long Term – One Year

October 2015 to September 2016

Based on the rainfall experienced October 2015 to February 2016 (320.3 mm or 12.61 in) and the outlook for March to September, a **serious drought or worse is evolving** over the October 2015-September 2016 (OS) period; hence, a **drought warning** is in effect for the OS period. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is 69%. Further, the best forecast of rainfall accumulation for the OS period is around **813.3 mm** (32.02 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 572.4 to 1117.1 mm (22.5 to 44.0 in), which is centred **well below normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 1201.4 mm (47.3 in).

Related Products

More outlooks: [April 2016](#), [April-June 2016](#), [July-September 2016](#), [April-September 2016](#)

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

Definition

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 May 3.

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