

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA DROUGHT OUTLOOK

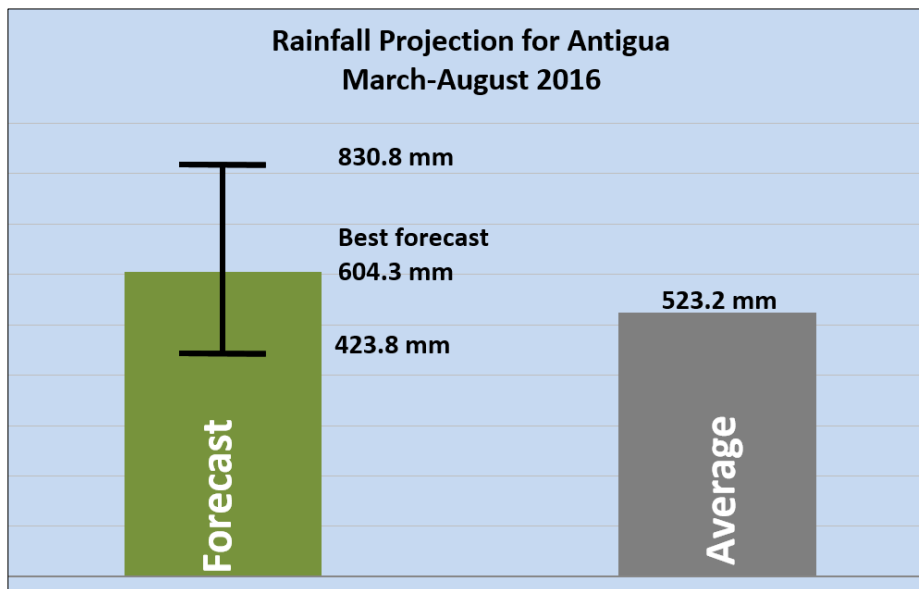


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May 31, 2016

...Droughts likely to ease further...

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**. *The existing meteorological and agricultural droughts will possibly come to an end during summer – June to August. However, the hydrological and socioeconomic droughts will possibly continue beyond summer.*

Standard Precipitation Index (SPI) Based (Rainfall) Projections



Short Term – Six Months

March to August 2016

Based on the rainfall measured for March and April 2016 (126.0 mm or 4.96 in) and the outlook for May to August, **slight meteorological and agricultural droughts are possible** at the end of the March-August 2016 (MA) period; hence, these droughts are of **minimal concerns** for this period; however, significant hydrological and socioeconomic drought concerns remain. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is only 15%. Conversely,

there is a 55% chance of moderate wetness or better. The best forecast of rainfall accumulation for MA is around **604.3 mm** (23.8 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 423.8 to 830.8 mm (16.7 to 32.7 in), which is centred **above normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 523.2 mm (20.6 in).

Medium Term – Nine Months

January to September 2016

Based on the rainfall measured for January to April 2016 (200.7 mm or 7.9 in) and the outlook for May to September, a **moderate drought or worse is possible** at the end of the January-September 2016 (JS) period; hence, a **drought watch** is in effect for JS. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is 45%. Further, the best forecast of rainfall accumulation for JS is around **623.7 mm** (24.6 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 444.6 to 847.1 mm (17.5 to 33.4 in), which is centred **below normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 792.5 mm (31.2 in).

Long Term – One Year

December 2015 to November 2016

Based on the rainfall measured for December 2015 to April 2016 (249.9 mm or 9.84 in) and the outlook for May to November, **slight meteorological and agricultural droughts are possible** at the end of the December 2015-November 2016 (DN) period; hence, these droughts are of **minimal concerns** for this period; however, **significant** hydrological and socioeconomic **drought concerns remain**. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is 25%. Further, the best forecast of rainfall accumulation for DN is around **1134.4 mm** (44.7 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 870.5 to 1447.5 mm (34.3 to 57.0 in), which is centred **near normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 1206.5 mm (47.5 in).

Related Products

More outlooks: [June 2016](#), [June-August 2016](#), [September-November 2016](#), [Jun-November 2016](#)

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 July 3.

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