

## ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA DROUGHT OUTLOOK

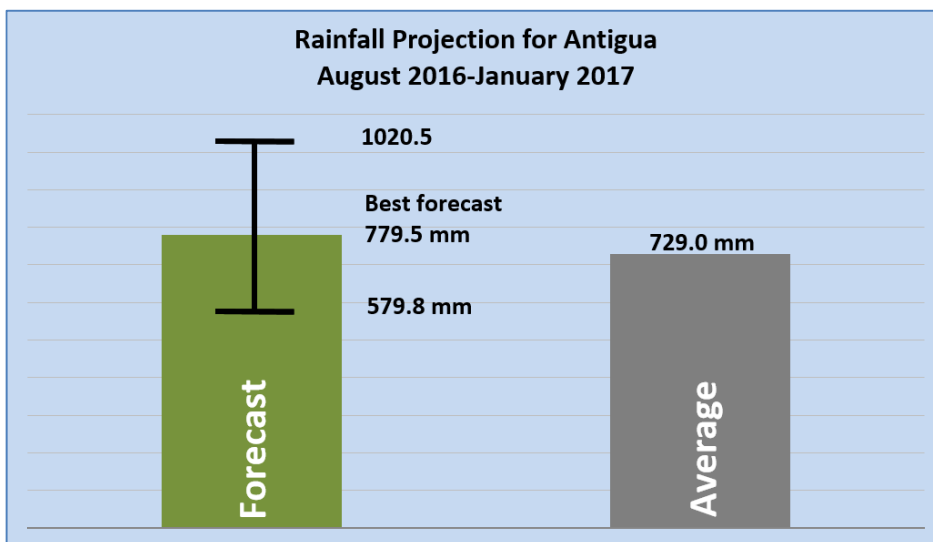


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...Moderate or worse droughts are **UNLIKELY**...

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**. September's rainfall erased the meteorological and hydrological droughts of the past few years; however, it was not enough to end the **other droughts**. Unfortunately, the wet trend did not continue through October, which was the fourth driest on record. Notwithstanding, rainfall analyses up to the end of the various periods below, show that moderate droughts or worse are unlikely. Thus, there are minimal drought concerns, at the moment.

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



#### Short Term – Six Months

##### *August 2016 to January 2017*

Based on the rainfall measured for August and September 2016 (344.4 mm or 13.56 in) and the outlook for October to January – a **moderate drought or worse is UNLIKELY** at the end of the six-month period August 2016 to January 2017 (AJ). Hence, there is minimal concerns for drought by the end of the AJ period. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is around 15%. Further, the best

forecast of rainfall accumulation for AJ is around **779.5 mm** (30.7 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 579.8 to 1020.5 mm (22.8 to 40.2 in), which is centred **near normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 729.0 mm (28.7 in).

#### Medium Term – Nine Months

##### *June 2016 to February 2017*

Based on the rainfall measured for June to September 2016 (531.1 mm or 20.91 in) and the outlook for October 2016 to February 2017, a **moderate drought or worse is UNLIKELY** at the end of the nine-months period June 2016 to February 2017 (JF). Hence, there is minimal concerns for drought by the end of the JF period. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is around 15%. Further, the best forecast of rainfall accumulation for JF is around **1014.3 mm** (39.9 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 785.3 to 1283.3 mm (30.9 to 50.5 in), which is centred **near normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 952.5 mm (37.5 in).

## Long Term – One Year

### *May 2016 to April 2017*

Based on the rainfall measured for May to September 2016 (568.2 mm or 22.37 in) and the outlook for October to April, a **moderate drought or worse is UNLIKELY** at the end of the twelve-month period May 2016 to April 2017 (MA). Hence, there are minimal concerns for drought by the end of the MA period. The probability of a **moderate drought or worse** is around 20%. Further, the best forecast of rainfall accumulation for MA is around **1193.0 mm** (47.0 in), with a 70% chance that the accumulation will be in the range 910.0 to 1530.0 mm (35.8 to 60.2 in), which is centred **near normal** relative to the 1981-2010 normal of 1183.6 mm (46.9 in).

## **Related Products**

More outlooks: [November 2016](#), [November 2016-January 2016](#), [February-April 2017](#), [November 2016-April 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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