

## Wet Season Statement for Antigua - July to December 2016

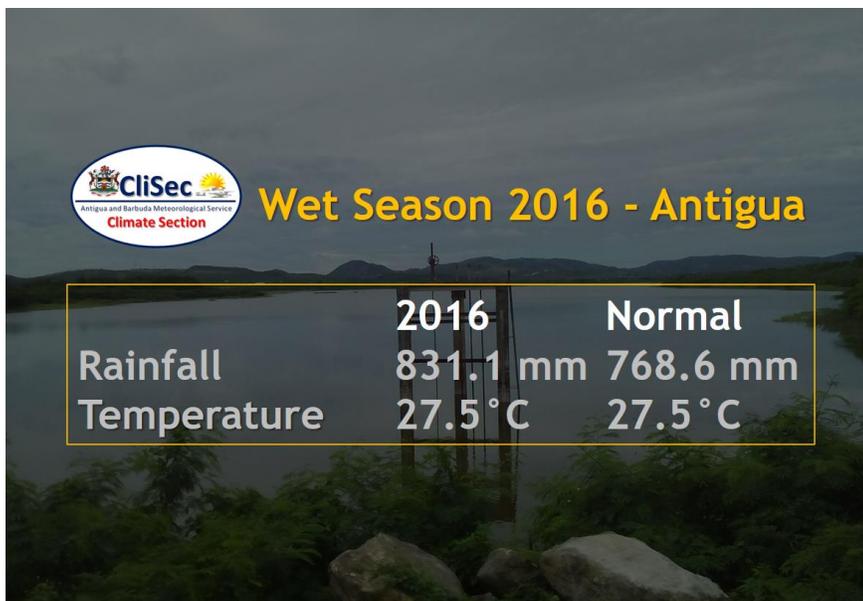


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...Near normal rainfall and temperature...

### Rainfall

It was a near normal wet season with the island-average rainfall total of 831.1 mm (32.72 in). Although near normal for the period July to December, it was the wettest wet season since 2011. This stand in stark contrast to the last wet season, when only 405.6 (15.97 in) fell – the lowest dating back to perhaps 1871. The rainfall of September, ended the **meteorological**, **agrometeorological** and **ecological** droughts, which dates back to 2013. However, **hydrological** and **socioeconomic** droughts continue, at least, at slight levels.



The wettest and driest months for the period were November with 259.1 mm (10.20 in) and February with 29.2 mm (1.15 in) respectively. Relative to normal, October had the largest deficit and November had the highest surplus. The normal wet season rainfall total is 768.6 mm (30.26 in), accounting for around 65% of the annual total, nearly twice the amount of the dry season.

### Temperature

The temperature for the wet season of 27.5 °C (81.5 °F) was near normal. However, is the second highest since 2009.

The warmest months for the period were July and August with 28.2 °C (82.8 °F). This represents near normal and below normal for these months respectively. As usual, December was the coolest with 26.2 °C (79.2 °F); notwithstanding, it was warmer than usual and tied for the second warmed December since 2002. The normal temperature for the wet season is 27.5 °C (81.5 °F).

The improvement in rainfall was due mainly to reduced vertical wind shear, slightly warmer than usual tropical Atlantic sea surface temperature and cool-neutral El Nino Southern Oscillation. These are all conditions favourable for cloud growth and rainfall. These were the same conditions that helped [2016 Atlantic hurricane season](#) to become the most active since 2010. It is quite possible that the season would have been wetter, if not for drier than normal mid-levels conditions prevailing for the wet season.

### Related Products

[Dry Season Statement 2016](#), [Drought and Precipitation Statement Dec 2016](#)

## Definition

The following definitions are being used based on the 1981 to 2010 datasets:

- **Well Below normal (much drier/cooler than usual):** Total or average in the lowest 10% of the dataset
- **Below Normal (drier/cooler than usual):** Total or average in the lowest 33.3% of the dataset
- **Near Normal (usual):** Total or average in the middle 33.3% of the data
- **Above Normal (wetter/warmer than usual):** Total or average in the highest 33.3% of the dataset
- **Well Above Normal (much wetter/warmer than usual):** Total or average in the highest 10% of the dataset
- **Rainfall:** Island average, based on rainfall at the airport and Green Castle

### Disclaimer

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