

# CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

May 2024 | Volume X | ISSUE 12

## Announcement

With many Caribbean territories experiencing, or close to, drought conditions over the past few months of the 2024 Dry Season, there is much concern for long term drought impacts on large rivers and reservoirs and groundwater by the end of May 2024 in northern portions of the Guianas, Trinidad, southwestern Puerto Rico, Cayman Islands, central Cuba and southwest Belize. Interests in the ABC Islands, St. Vincent, Dominica, western Jamaica, central Cuba and northern Belize should closely monitor such resources through May. However, with a fair to high level of confidence for normal to above normal rainfall through to October 2024 as rainfall increases in most of the Caribbean, short term drought that that can impact streams, small rivers and ponds by the end of July is not expected to be of concern apart from in the vicinity of eastern Cuba and parts of Belize. Interests in central French Guiana should closely monitor their water resources through July.

## Month at a Glance

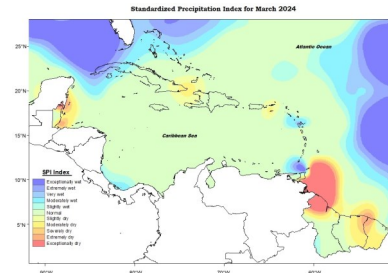
Conditions throughout the eastern Caribbean were mixed during the month of March. Trinidad ranged from extremely dry in the south to extremely wet in the north; Tobago extremely wet to severely dry; Grenada extreme to moderately wet; Barbados, St Vincent, Saint Lucia, Martinique, St Maarten and Anguilla normal; Dominica slightly dry to normal; Guadeloupe normal to very wet; Antigua slightly wet to normal; St Kitts moderate to slightly wet; St Croix moderate to slightly dry and St Thomas slightly dry. In the Guianas, conditions ranged from moderately wet in southwestern Guyana to exceptionally dry in northern Guyana and extremely dry in the vicinity of the northern Suriname/French Guiana border.

[Read More;](#)

## Latest News

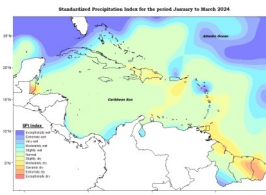
**Drought Ready; Agro-processors take steps to make farms resilient,** [Read More;](#)

**\$150 million for drought mitigation’,** [Read More;](#)

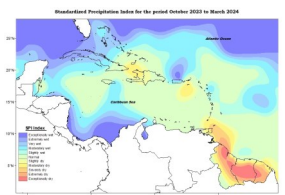


## January-February-March

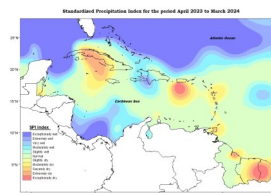
Mixed conditions were seen over the three month period throughout the eastern Caribbean. Trinidad, Tobago and St Thomas were moderately dry; Grenada normal; Barbados slightly dry; St Vincent and Saint Lucia normal to slightly wet; Martinique and Dominica normal to moderately dry; Guadeloupe normal to exceptionally wet; Antigua extreme to very wet; St Kitts very to moderately wet; St. Maarten very to slightly wet; Anguilla moderately wet to normal and St Croix moderate to slightly dry. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from extremely wet in southern Guyana to extremely dry in central and eastern areas of French Guiana and in the vicinity of the Suriname border. Aruba was slightly dry and Curacao slightly dry to normal. Puerto Rico ranged from normal to very wet. The Dominican Republic was mostly slightly dry ranging to moderately dry in east central areas and to normal in the extreme south. Jamaica was mostly normal ranging to slightly wet in the south. Grand Cayman was normal. Cuba ranged from exceptionally wet in the west to slightly dry in the extreme east. Northern Bahamas was normal to exceptionally wet and Belize extremely dry in the south ranging to moderately wet in the north.



**JAN 2024 - MAR 2024**  
**SPI 3 MONTHS**



**OCT 2023 - MAR 2024**  
**SPI 6 MONTHS**



**APR 2023 - MAR 2024**  
**SPI 12 MONTHS**

## The Caribbean Drought & Precipitation Monitoring Network

The Caribbean Drought and Precipitation Monitoring Network is led by the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH), the World Meteorological Organization's Regional Climate Centre (RCC) for the Caribbean. The Network was launched in January 2009 under the Caribbean Water Initiative ([CARWIN](#)) to support equitable and sustainable Integrated Water Resources Management.

The concept was born out of the need to mitigate and respond to the creeping phenomenon, drought. Drought and the general precipitation status is monitored at the regional scale. Efforts are being made to enhance drought monitoring at the national level.

## The Caribbean Climate Outlook Forum (CariCOF)

The CariCOF brings together climate experts and meteorological services in the Caribbean region on an operational basis to produce a monthly climate outlook. CariCOF interacts with sectoral users to assess the likely implications of the outlooks on the most pertinent socio-economic sectors. The Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH), in its role as WMO Regional Climate Centre, coordinates the CariCOF process. [Read more.....](#)

### For more information contact:

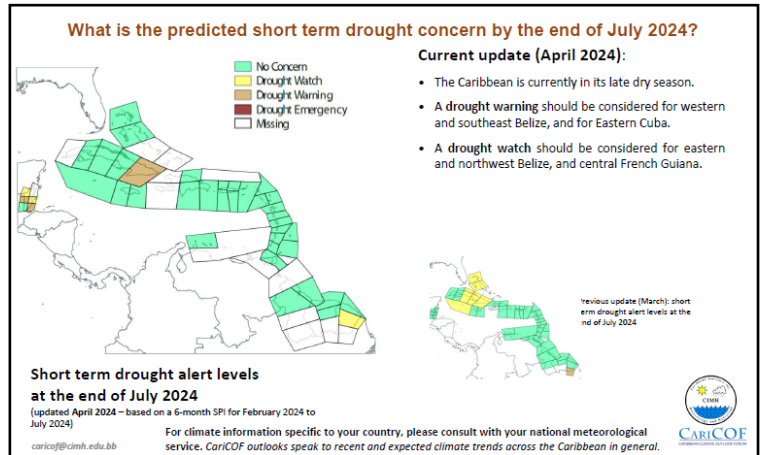
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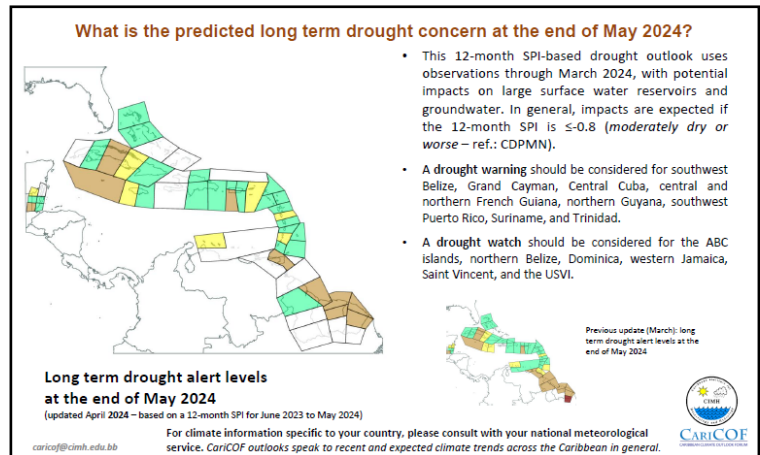
## CariCOF Drought Alert Maps

### Map of short-term drought by the end of July 2024



- Short-term drought situation (by the end of July 2024):
  - Short-term drought is evolving in western and southeast Belize, and for Eastern Cuba.
  - Short-term drought might possibly develop or continue in eastern and northwest Belize, and central French Guiana.

### Map of long-term drought by the end of May 2024



- Long-term drought situation (by the end of May 2024):
  - Long-term drought is evolving in southwest Belize, Grand Cayman, Central Cuba, central and northern French Guiana, northern Guyana, southwest Puerto Rico, Suriname, and Trinidad.
  - Long-term drought might possibly develop or continue in ABC islands, northern Belize, Dominica, western Jamaica, Saint Vincent, and the USVI.

"We advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring their environment for signs of drought, and look out for our monthly updates"

**Drought outlook available for download [here](#)**