

**Meteorological Department  
St. Maarten**

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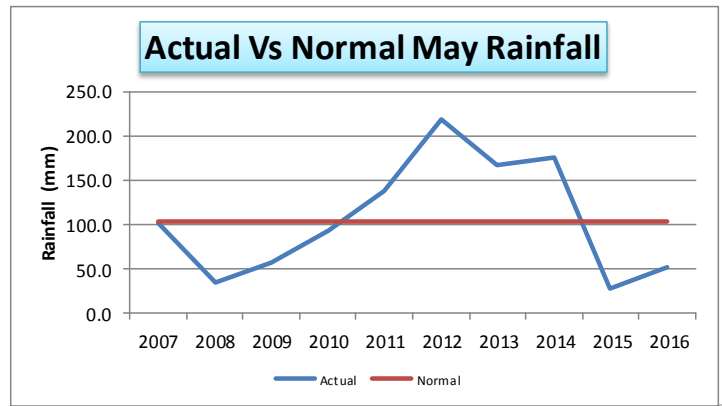
**Weather & Climate**

Volume 2, Issue 37

May 2017

**NORMAL MAY CONDITIONS**

Rainfall Total	56.4 mm – 115.2 mm	2– 5 in.
Avg. No. of Rain days	10 days	
Daily Average Temperature	27.5°C	80°F
Avg. Max. Temperature	30.7°C	86 °F
Avg. Min. Temperature	25.2°C	76°F
Avg. Daily Hours of Sunshine	8 hrs	



**May & June more frequent showers,  
July—dry spell**

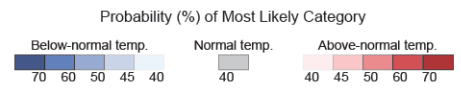
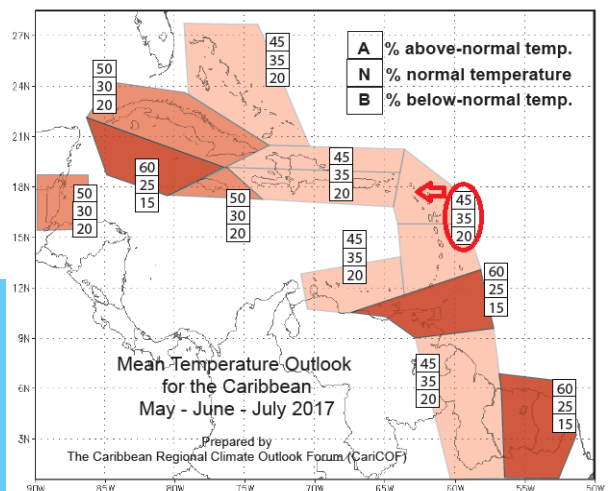
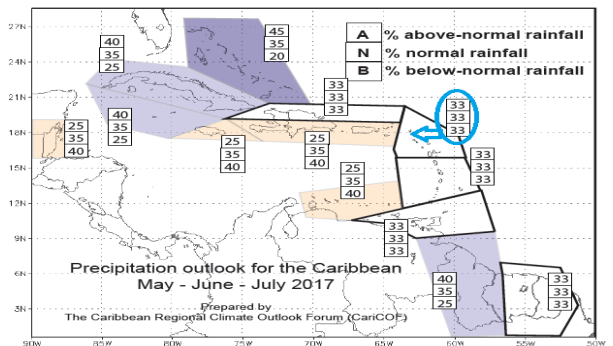
Rainfall for the month of May was below-normal for 6 out of the last 10 years.

**Seasonal Outlook for May to July (MJJ) 2017**

According to the Caribbean Outlook Forum <http://rcc.cimh.edu.bb/long-range-forecasts/caricof-climate-outlooks/>

Rainfall in the northwest and southern Caribbean, is forecast to be near to above normal for the season May-June-July. There is low predictability for St. Maarten and other areas. There is an equal chance for either above or below normal rainfall to occur in St. Maarten this season.

The normal rainfall for St. Maarten ranges from 194.1 mm – 281.1mm/ 8-11in. In May and June, there is usually more frequent shower activity as transition into the wet season takes place and in July there is usually a mid-summer dry spell. Temperatures across the Caribbean are likely to be above normal except for maximum temperature across the Leeward Islands .



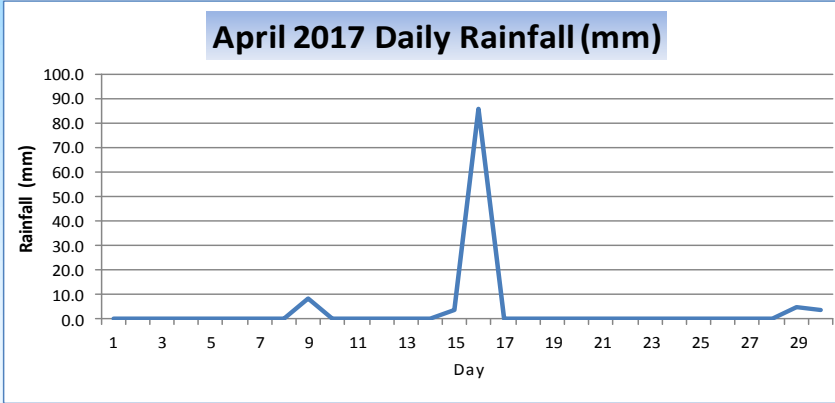
During mid-April 2017, the tropical Pacific remained in an ENSO-neutral state. Sea surface temperature anomaly across the Pacific Ocean varied from near normal in the central areas to above normal in the eastern Pacific Ocean.

A collection of all ENSO Predicting Models continue to indicate increasing chances of El Nino into the summer of 2017. If this manifests, odds are in favour of hotter conditions and less hurricane activity than usual. See diagram on page 2.

Please note that all data was recorded at the Princess Juliana International Airport and may not necessarily reflect conditions at other points on country St Maarten.

**APRIL 2017 IN REVIEW**

Rainfall for the month of April was above the normal range (41.3-74.9 mm). A total of 106.8 mm/4.2 inches were recorded with only five (5) rain days. There was only one heavy rainfall day; April 16th, when 85.8mm were measured. This was due to instability associated with a frontal boundary across the northern Caribbean. 64mm/2.5 inches was measured in 1.5 hours at the airport. The rest of the month was mainly dry. The longest dry spell was from March 22<sup>nd</sup> to April 8<sup>th</sup> ;18 days.



The longest dry spell was 18 days.

Rainfall for the year so far is 230.9mm this amount is now within the normal range (214-265mm).  
However, there is still the possibility for bush fires throughout this season May-Jun-Jul especially during long dry spells. Citizens in areas vulnerable to fires should be vigilant.

<b>Total Rainfall</b>	<b>106.8 mm</b>	<b>4.2 in.</b>
<b>2017 Cumulative Rainfall</b>	<b>230.9 mm</b>	<b>9.1 in.</b>
<b>Max. 24-Hr. Rainfall</b>	<b>April 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>85.8 mm/ 3.4 in.</b>
<b>No. Rain Days (&gt;=1.0 mm)</b>	<b>5 days</b>	
<b>No. Heavy Rain Days (&gt;=10.0 mm)</b>	<b>1 day</b>	
<b>No. Thunderstorm Days</b>	<b>1 day</b>	
<b>Avg. Wind Speed</b>	<b>9 kts.</b>	<b>10 mph</b>
<b>Max. Wind Gust</b>	<b>April 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>28 kts. / 32 mph</b>
<b>Avg. Temperature</b>	<b>26.4 °C</b>	<b>80 °F</b>
<b>Max. Temperature</b>	<b>April 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>29.9 °C / 86 °F</b>
<b>Min. Temperature</b>	<b>April 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>21.9°C / 71 °F</b>

The average and maximum temperature for April were within the normal range while the minimum temperature was below-normal.

The warmest day was the 14<sup>th</sup> with an average temperature of 27.2°C/81°F.

The day with the most sunshine hours was the 22<sup>nd</sup> (11hrs :48min).

The day with the least sunshine hours was the 15<sup>th</sup> (1hr: 06 min).

The windiest day was the 17<sup>th</sup>, with a daily average wind speed of 14 kts. / 16 mph.

The highest wind gust was recorded as 28kts/ 32 mph on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Skies were mostly cloudy throughout the month with some fair days.

Mid-Apr IRI/CPC Model-Based Probabilistic ENSO Forecast

