

Meteorological Department St. Maarten

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Weather & Climate

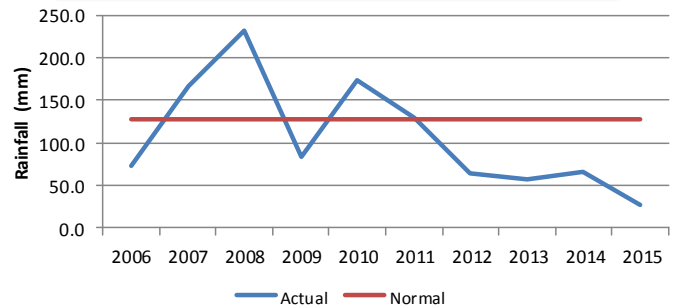
Volume 2, Issue 29

September 2016

NORMAL SEPTEMBER CONDITIONS

Rainfall Total	94.9 mm – 132.7 mm	4– 5 in.
Avg. No. of Rain days	14 days	
Daily Average Temperature	28.6°C	85°F
Avg. Max. Temperature	31.8°C	89 °F
Avg. Min. Temperature	26.2°C	79°F
Avg. Daily Hours of Sunshine	8 hrs	

Actual Vs Normal September Rainfall



Rainfall for the month of September has been below-normal for 6 out of the last 10 years.

We are still in the hurricane season

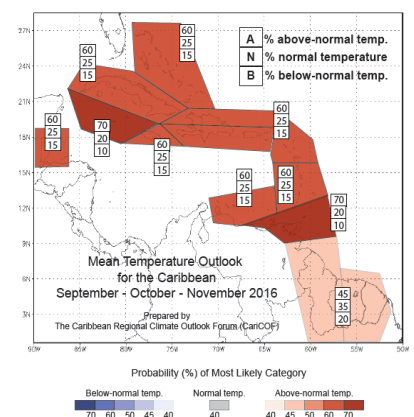
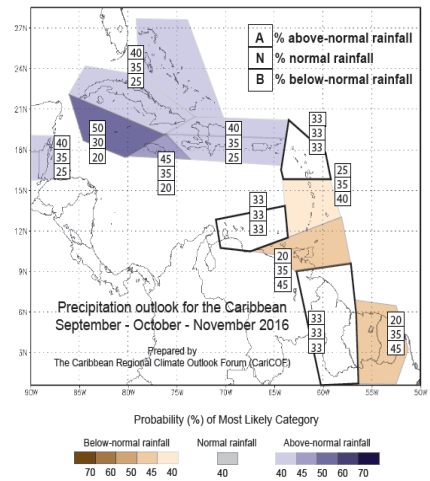
Seasonal Outlook for September to November (SON) 2016

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

There is very little predictability in the rainfall forecast for the northeastern Caribbean for the season; ‘September to November 2016’. Therefore the forecast is that, there is an equal chance that rainfall could be either normal, above or below normal. The normal rainfall for St. Maarten ranges from 355.5 mm –498.2 mm/ 14-20in.

September to November is usually the wettest three months of the year, as a result, there is usually frequent showers some which may be heavy.

There is however high confidence that temperature for most of the Caribbean will be above normal.



During mid-August, sea surface temperature anomalies across the Pacific Ocean were near -0.5 approaching a weak La Nina threshold. However, most key atmospheric variables indicate a neutral ENSO. Most models indicate a weak La Nina to continue until March 2017.

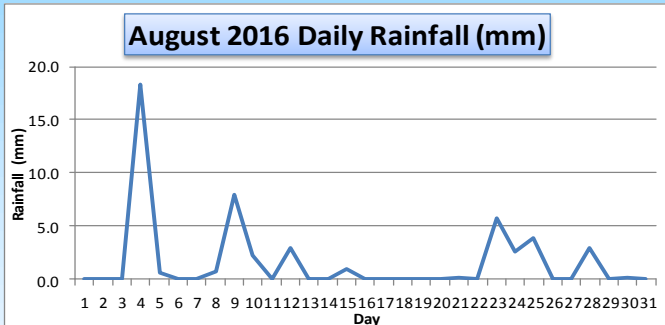
The 2016 Atlantic Hurricane Season continues with four named storms and one depression forming in August: Earl, Fiona, Gaston, Depression 8 and Hermine. In its August updated forecast, NOAA predicted a near normal to above normal season.

Irrespective of what the predictions are we should be prepared and protected life and property this Hurricane Season.

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.

AUGUST 2016 IN REVIEW

Rainfall for the month of August was 45% of the normal range. A total of 49.5 mm/1.9 inches were recorded. There were nine days of rainfall one of which was heavy. August was the sixth month for the year so far with below normal rainfall. A few tropical waves drifted across the local area during the month of August, however due to the abundance of dry air a limited amount of rainfall was produced.



The longest dry spell was 7 days.

Rainfall from Jan. to August	
Normal	561.5–615.1 mm
2015	226.9 mm
2016	380.6 mm

Total Rainfall	49.5 mm	1.9 in.
2016 Cumulative Rainfall	380.6 mm	15 in.
Max. 24-Hr. Rainfall	August 4th	18.3 mm/ 0.7 in.
No. Rain Days (>=1.0 mm)	9 days	
No. Heavy Rain Days (>=10.0 mm)	1 day	
No. Thunderstorm Days	1 day	
Avg. Wind Speed	9 kts.	10 mph
Max. Wind Gust	August 24th	47 kts. / 54 mph
Avg. Temperature	29.1 °C	84 °F
Max. Temperature	August 26th	32.8 °C / 91 °F
Min. Temperature	August 24th	24.5°C / 76 °F

The normal rainfall for August ranges from 76.1 - 123.6 mm /3-5 in.

The temperatures recorded during the month of August varied from below-normal to normal.

The warmest day was the 17th with an average temperature of 29.8°C/86°F.

The day with the most sunshine hours was the 22nd (10hrs :54 min).

The day with the least sunshine hours was the 28th (0 hr: 24 min)

The windiest day was the 1st, with a daily average wind speed of 13 kts. / 15 mph.

Skies were Partly cloudy to Cloudy during the month of August.

2016 Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Names

Alex	Jan. 13th	Depression #8	Aug. 28th	Nicole	Walter
Bonnie	May 27th	Hermine	Aug. 31st	Otto	
Collin	Jun. 5th	Ian		Paula	
Danielle	Jun. 20th	Julia		Richard	
Earl	Aug. 2nd	Karl		Shary	
Fiona	Aug. 17th	Lisa		Tobias	
Gaston	Aug. 22nd	Matthew		Virginie	