

# Weather & Climate

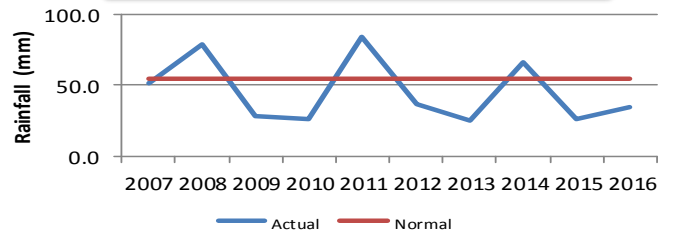
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February 2017

## NORMAL FEBRUARY CONDITIONS

Rainfall Total	31.2 mm – 57.0 mm	1– 2 in.
Avg. No. of Rain days	10 days	
Daily Average Temperature	25.4°C	78°F
Avg. Max. Temperature	28.8°C	84 °F
Avg. Min. Temperature	23.1°C	74°F
Avg. Daily Hours of Sunshine	9 hrs	

### Actual Vs Normal February Rainfall



Rainfall for the month of February was below -normal for 7 of the last 10 years.

**Sunny Days  
with very few  
wet spells.**

## Seasonal Outlook for February to April (FMA) 2017

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

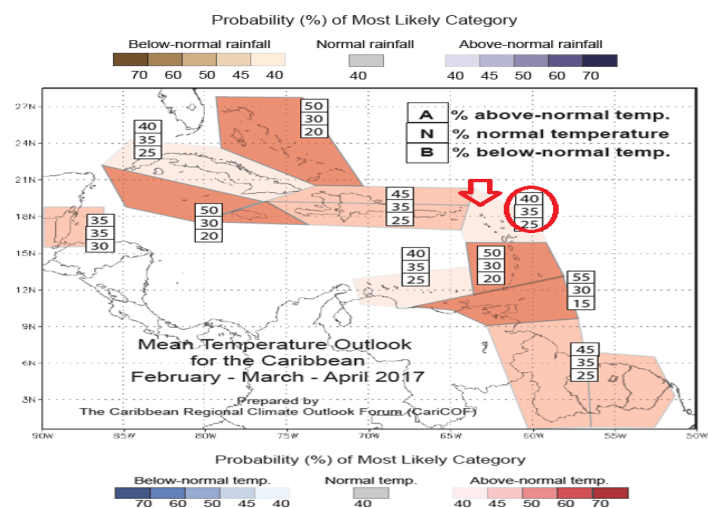
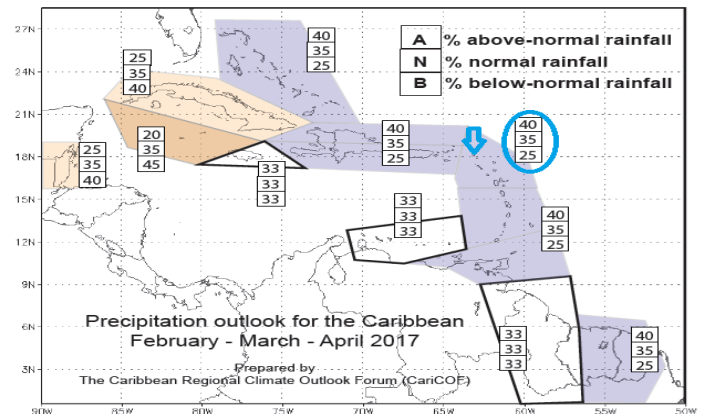
Rainfall in most of the Eastern Caribbean is forecasted to be near to above normal for the season Feb-Mar-Apr but for the Cayman Islands, Cuba and Belize it is expected to be below-normal.

The normal rainfall for St. Maarten ranges from 148.1 mm –178.9 mm/ 6-7 in. During February to April there are mostly sunny days with very few wet spells therefore no major flash flooding is expected.

Temperatures for most of the Caribbean is forecast to rise but generally continue to be comfortable until April.

During mid-January 2017, sea surface temperature anomaly across the Pacific Ocean was near –0.5C, the threshold for a weak La Nina.

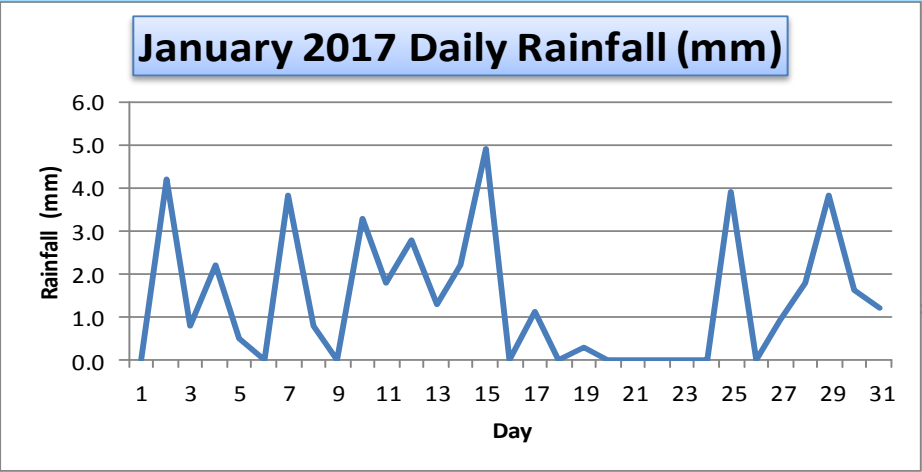
Models are now indicating that this weak La Nina will dissipate to a neutral phase by the end February. The mid-January projections are predicting that the neutral phase will continue until August to October 2017. See diagram on page 2.



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.

## JANUARY 2017 IN REVIEW

Rainfall for the month of January was below the normal range (60.3-85.0 mm). A total of 42.5 mm/1.2 inches were recorded with fifteen (15) rain days. There was no significant rainfall event this month, the Atlantic High Pressure System influenced windy conditions and brought low level cloud patches across the area which produced temporary cloudiness with few showers.



The longest dry spell was 7 days.

<b>Total Rainfall</b>	<b>42.5 mm</b>	<b>1.7 in.</b>
<b>2017 Cumulative Rainfall</b>	<b>42.5 mm</b>	<b>1.7 in.</b>
<b>Max. 24-Hr. Rainfall</b>	<b>January 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>4.9 mm / 0.2 in.</b>
<b>No. Rain Days (&gt;=1.0 mm)</b>	<b>15 days</b>	
<b>No. Heavy Rain Days (&gt;=10.0 mm)</b>	<b>0 days</b>	
<b>No. Thunderstorm Days</b>	<b>0 day</b>	
<b>Avg. Wind Speed</b>	<b>9 kts.</b>	<b>10 mph</b>
<b>Max. Wind Gust</b>	<b>January 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>32 kts. / 37 mph</b>
<b>Avg. Temperature</b>	<b>25.7 °C</b>	<b>78 °F</b>
<b>Max. Temperature</b>	<b>January 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>29.3 °C / 85 °F</b>
<b>Min. Temperature</b>	<b>January 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>21.6°C / 71 °F</b>

The Average temperature for January was within the normal range while maximum temperature was above-normal and the minimum temperature was below-normal.

The warmest day was the 24<sup>th</sup> with an average temperature of 26.8°C/80°F.

The days with the most sunshine hours were the 20<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> (10hrs :12min).

The day with the least sunshine hours was the 22<sup>nd</sup> (4 hr: 42 min).

The windiest day was the 14<sup>th</sup>, with a daily average wind speed of 16 kts. / 18 mph.

The highest wind gust was recorded as 32kts/ 37 mph on January 29<sup>th</sup>.

Skies were fair to partly cloudy during the month of January.

