

Meteorological Department

St. Maarten

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Weather & Climate

MARCH 2014 IN REVIEW

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April 2014

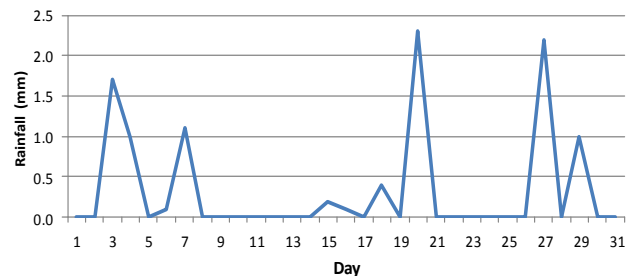
The weather conditions across St. Maarten for the entire month of March 2014 was dominated by the Atlantic High Pressure Ridge and the presence of a dry air-mass in the mid to upper levels of the atmosphere. March is normally the driest month of the year on St. Maarten based on both long term and short term records. March 2014 has proven to be the driest since 2000 at the Princess Juliana International.

Total Rainfall	10.1 mm	0.4 in.
2014 Cumulative Rainfall	142.0 mm	5.6 in.
Max. 24-Hr. Rainfall	23 rd	2.3 mm/ 0.1 in.
No. Rain Days (>=1.0 mm)	06 days	
No. Heavy Rain Days (>=10.0 mm)	0 day	
No. Thunderstorm Days	None	
Avg. Wind Speed	8 kts.	9 mph
Max. Wind Gust	28 th	30 kts. / 35 mph
Avg. Temperature	26.0 °C	79 °F
Max. Temperature	27 th	30.2 °C / 86 °F
Min. Temperature	7 th	22.5 °C / 73 °F

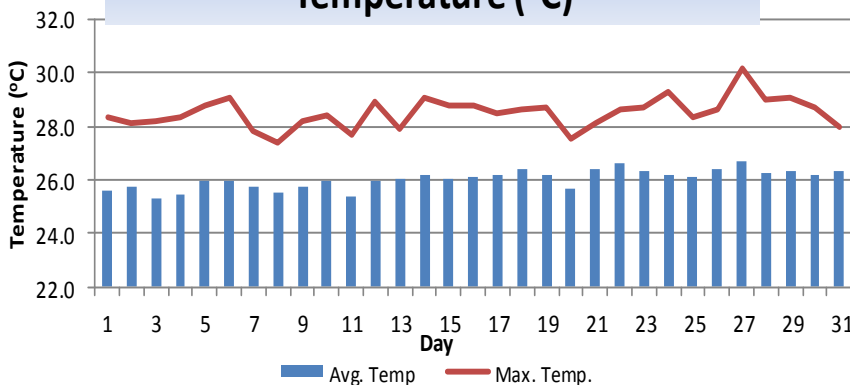
Rainfall this month was approximately 80% below normal. Normal rainfall for March ranges from 31.3-58.8 mm/ 1-2 in. There were a series of dry spells throughout the month with the longest being 12 days from the 8th to 19th. The day with the most rainfall was the 23rd when a mere 2.3 mm was recorded.

March 2014
driest March since
2000.

March 2014 Daily Rainfall (mm)



March 2014 Daily Average & Maximum Temperature (°C)



The Maximum and the average daily temperatures were within the normal range for the month of March while the minimum temperature was above normal.

The warmest day was the 27th with an average temperature of 26.7°C/80°F.

Maximum daily sunshine hours was recorded on the 25th (11hrs 12 min).

Minimum sunshine hours was recorded on the 8th (4 hrs. 06min)

The windiest day was the 28th with a daily average wind speed of 14 kts. / 16mph.

Skies were mostly fair throughout March.

APRIL AT A GLANCE

April 1972 is the driest April on record!

Normal Rainfall Total	41.7 mm – 74.1 mm	2 – 3 in.
Driest April	1972	12.2 mm/ 0.5in.
Wettest April	1960	305.3mm/ 12.0in
Normal No. of Rain days	8 days	
Normal Daily Average Temperature	26.4 °C – 26.9 °C	79 – 80 °F
Normal Max. Temperature	30.9°C – 31.8°C	88 – 89°F
Normal Min. Temperature	21.7 °C – 22.3°C	71 – 72°F
Avg. Daily Hours of Sunshine	8 hrs. 54min.	

Mild & Dry in April becoming wetter in May & June

Seasonal Outlook

Dry Season!

According to the Caribbean Outlook Forum : www.cimh.edu.bb/?p=precipoutlook

- ◆ The climate outlook for the season ‘April-May-June’ is expected to be dry, with alternations of sunny days with short spells of showers, mostly without heavy rainfall in April. In May becoming wet with some heavy rainfall and in June more frequent heavy rainfall.
- ◆ Rainfall is expected to be below normal while temperature is expected to be above normal.
- ◆ Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) are presently slightly above normal and are forecasted to remain above normal throughout the season.
- ◆ Moisture in the atmosphere is expected to increase during May-June.

Impact:

Reduced Risk of pests & vector borne diseases in the dry season.