

Volume 10, Issue 05 **May 2025** 

# Weather & Climate

#### **Key Points**

- Temperatures remain above normal since April 2023.
- April 2025 was the wettest April since 2017.
- Rainfall for the May-Jun-Jul season is expected to be **below normal**.

SEASONAL OUTLOOK FOR MAY TO JULY (MJJ) 2025

### Rainfall Forecast

**Normal Rainfall** May-Jun-Jul Season

167 mm - 295 mm | 7 -12 inches 28 - 36 wet days



- Likely to be below normal
- up to 4 (7-day) wet spells
- up to 8 (7-day) dry spells

As we transition to the wet season, during May and June there is usually frequent showers while in July there is often a mid summer dry spell.

## Drought Alert

There is no drought concern for St.Maarten and most places by the end of July 2025. However, it is advised to monitor resources and monthly updates, and upgrade infrastructure and management plans.

#### No Concern Drought Watch Drought Warning Drought Emergency Missing Short term drought alert levels

at the end of July 2025

## Flash Flood Potential

**Moderate Chance** 20% - 50%

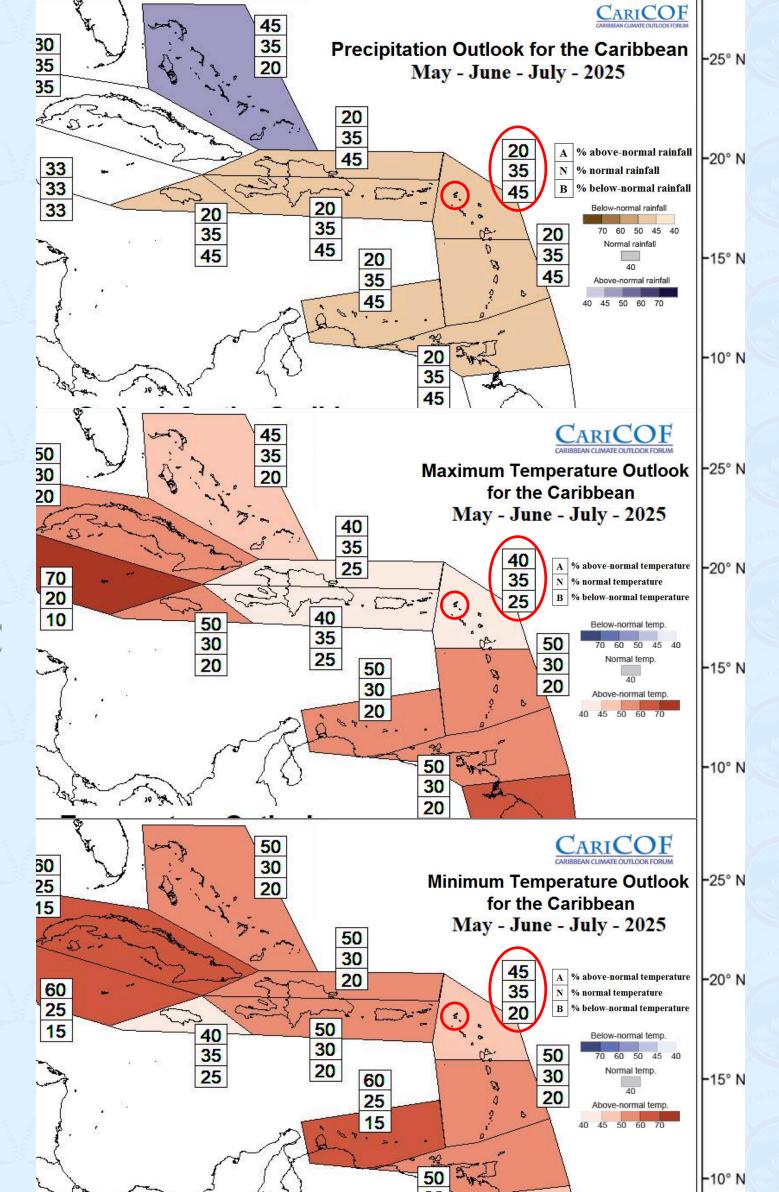
Atleast 1 event could cause flash flooding/ flooding

### Temperature Forecast

**Day-time Temp. Night-time Temp.** 

Above normal

Episodes of hazardous heat, extreme heat with heatwaves, could increase by July particularly when the air is dusty and humid.





#### IMPLICATION OF FORECAST FOR SECTORS

#### Health

- UV radiation will continue to increase this season. Excessive UV exposure can cause skin damage across the population on sunny days.
- Keep hydrated and limit outdoor activity between 11am and 3pm.
- An increase in Saharan Dust incursion is likely; persons with respiratory illnesses should be vigilant.

### **Energy/Water**

Energy demand for cooling purposes will continue to increase.

#### Tourism

- On hot days, there will be an increase demand for cooling & hydration.
- Some interruptions for outdoor activities.

### Agriculture

- Schedule irrigation during dry spells.
- Increase cooling and ventilation for livestock.

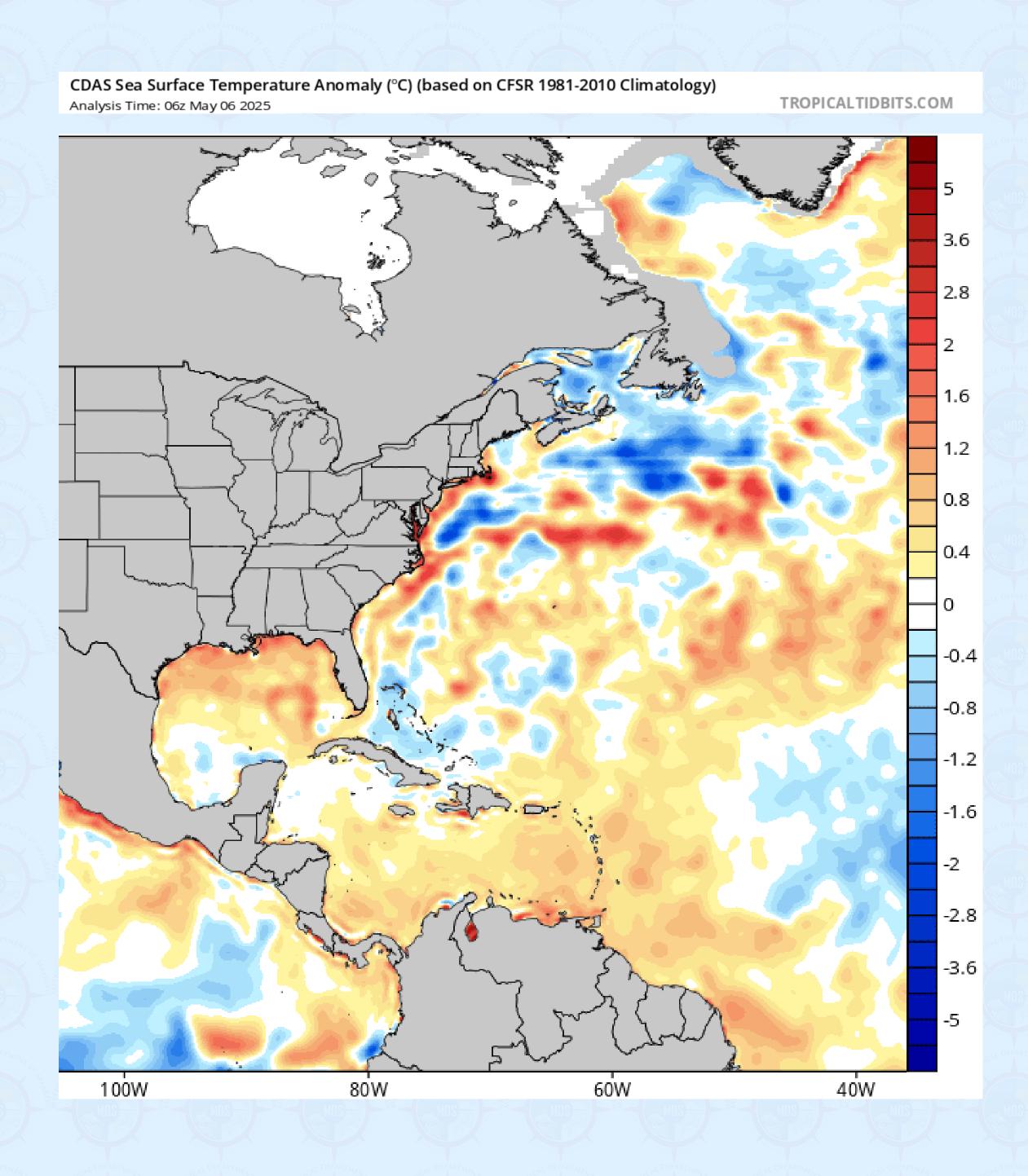
# What Influences This Season's Climate?

As of mid-April the equatorial Pacific is in an ENSO-neutral state. The IRI ENSO Plume forecast indicates a high probability (80%) for ENSO neutral conditions from May to July 2025.

ENSO-neutral phase is favored through the Aug-Sep-Oct 2025 season with probabilities of 50% and above followed by slightly lower probabilities of ENSO-neutral sticking around till the end of 2025.

Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) in the Caribbean Sea and the Tropical North Atlantic have cooled to around 0.5°C above normal. Models are confidently forecasting above average SSTs of about 0.2 - 0.5°C across the Caribbean Sea and the Tropical North Atlantic to persist through the Aug-Sep-Oct 2025 season.

Warm SSTs in and around the Caribbean contribute to higher air temperatures with above-average humidity, seasonal rainfall totals, and increased frequency of severe weather. The likelihood of intense heatwaves is slightly higher than usual but less than 2023 and 2024.



#### METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT ST. MAARTEN



#### April In Review

**Average Temperature** 

**Maximum Temperature** 

**Minimum Temperature** 

**Warmest Day** 

**Coolest Day** 

Average Temperature

Average Temperature

**Longest Dry Spell** 

since April 2023.

**Normal Rainfall** 

**Recorded Rainfall** 

For the month of April, rainfall was above the normal

range. This was the wettest April since 2017.

Temperatures continue to be above the normal range

26.8°C | 80°F

**April 29th** 30.9°C | 88°F

**April 22nd** 22.8°C | 73°F

April 29th & 30th

27.8°C | 82°F

25.6°C | 78°F

**April 3rd** 

**Most Sunshine Hours** 

**Least Sunshine Hours** 

April 16th & 22nd 11hrs:36mins

> **April 26th** 02hrs:36mins

**Average Wind Speed** 

**Windiest Day** 

Daily Average Wind Speed

**Highest Wind Gust** 

9 kt | 10 mph

**April 4th** 

15 kt | 17 mph

**April 3rd** 31 kt | 36 mph

April 20th - 24th

5 days

**Total Rainfall** 

**2025 Cumulative Rainfall** 

Maximum 24-hr. Rainfall

No. of Rain Days

No. of Heavy Rain Days

No. of Thunderstorm Days

93.4 mm | 3.7 in

199.8 mm | 7.9 in

29.3 mm | 1.2 in

11 days

3 days

LONG / SHORT TERM SEASONAL REVIEW

#### Year In Review

May 2024 - Apr 2025

956 mm - 1181 mm 1207 mm | 48 inches Seasonal Review

Feb-Mar-Apr 2025

**Normal Rainfall** 

**Recorded Rainfall** Heavy Rain Days (>10 mm) 132 mm - 168 mm 164 mm | 7 inches 3 days

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.



# Normal May Conditions

Total Rainfall

Average No. of Rain Days

Daily Average Temperature

Avg. Max. Temperature

Avg. Min. Temperature

**Avg. Daily Hrs. of Sunshine** 

49 - 121 mm | 2 - 5 in 10 days 27.5°C | 82°F 30.4°C | 87°F 25.3°C | 78°F 8 hrs

#### NEWS

# First Climate Outlook Forum

The Meteorological Department St. Maarten is pleased to invite all stakeholders to its first Climate Outlook Forum, carded for

Friday, May 9, 2025, at 9:00 AM at the Government Building Conference Room.

This forum will serve as a platform for identifying Climate seasonality hazards for St. Maarten, presenting the three-month climate forecast, guiding stakeholders on the interpretation and application of climate outlooks, and introducing upcoming programs focused on long-term climate projections for St. Maarten. The event will bring together key stakeholders from various sectors to discuss climate-related impacts and enhance preparedness and resilience.

