METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT ST.MAARTEN

Volume 10, Issue 10 October 2025

Weather & Climate

Key Points

- Rainfall for September 2025 was **below normal**.
- There is **extremely high potential** for flash flooding in October.
- **Temperatures** are predicted to be **above normal**, through October.

SEASONAL OUTLOOK FOR OCTOBER TO NOVEMBER (OND) 2025

Rainfall Forecast

Normal Rainfall *Oct-Nov-Dec Season*	325 mm - 415 mm | 13-16 inches 37 - 45 wet days
Oct-Nov-Dec 2025	• Likely to be normal • up to 7 (7-day) wet spells • up to 4 (7-day) dry spells

In October and November showers are expected to be more frequent followed by a decrease in intensity and frequency in December as we transition to the dry season.

Temperature Forecast

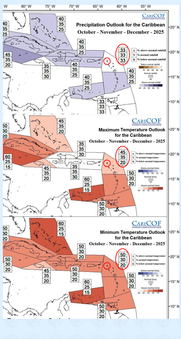
Day-time Temp. Night-time Temp.	*Near to Above normal*

Temperatures are expected to become more comfortable towards the end of November.

Flash Flood Potential

Extremely High Chance *> 81%*	Atleast **3-4** events could cause flash flooding/ flooding

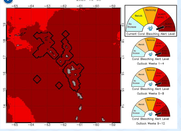
There is a high probability that at least **2** of these events could occur in October.



Coral Reef Bleaching

Sea Surface Temperatures	Above bleaching threshold

A bleaching **Alert Level 2** has been issued for the region. This Alert Level 2 will continue through the season. At this time widespread bleaching and mortality are expected.



Sargassum Report

Total sargassum amounts in all regions continued to decrease in September. Currently the areas with the most sargassum are the eastern Atlantic and the Caribbean Sea. This declining trend is expected to continue through October and November. However, sargassum inundation of variable degree will continue to occur. The amount an area receives will depend on the local winds and currents. (*CIGF September 30, 2025 Outlook*)

IMPLICATION OF FORECAST FOR SECTORS

Health

- UV radiation will continue to increase this season.
- Keep hydrated, wear protective clothing, and limit outdoor activities during peak hours (11am to 3pm).
- Proper management of water storage containers is advised as these may create breeding grounds for mosquitoes and increase the risk of transmission of vector borne diseases.

Tourism

- Some disruptions to outdoor activities likely.
- Widespread coral reef bleaching are likely.
- Monitor weather forecasts as we are in the hurricane season.

Agriculture

- Schedule irrigation during dry spells.
- Increased cooling and ventilation needed to mitigate heat stress in small and large livestock.

Energy/ Water

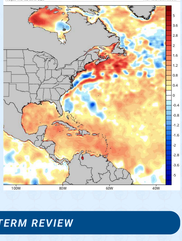
- Energy demand & consumption remain high for cooling purposes.

What Influences This Season's Climate ?

As of mid-September 2025, the equatorial Pacific remains in an ENSO-neutral state. The IRI ENSO plume forecast indicates a moderate (60%) probability of La Niña conditions developing this season. These La Niña conditions are expected to continue through Dec-Feb 2026. However, neutral conditions are expected to return during the Jan-Mar 2026 season with a 55-74% probability.

Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in the Caribbean Sea and the Tropical North Atlantic 0.5°C to 1°C warmer than usual. Models are forecasting warm SST to persist this season.

These warmer-than-normal SSTs in and around the Caribbean are expected to contribute to higher air temperatures, increased humidity, and above-normal seasonal rainfall totals. They also raise the likelihood of more frequent severe weather events, including tropical cyclones through the end of the year.



SHORT / LONG TERM REVIEW

September In Review

Average Temperature	**29.5°C | 85°F**
Maximum Temperature	**September 5th, 11th, 28th** *33.3°C | 92°F*
Minimum Temperature	**September 18th** *24.1°C | 75°F*

Most Sunshine Hours	**September 1st** *11hrs:42mins*
Least Sunshine Hours	**September 18th** *4hrs:18mins*

Warmest Day *Average Temperature*	**September 28th** *30.5°C | 87°F*
Coolest Day *Average Temperature*	**September 18th** *27.7°C | 82°F*
Hot Days *(≥ 32.2° | 90°F)*	**22 days**
Hot Spells	**5 spells**
Heat waves	**1 wave**
Warm Nights *(≥ 31.2° | 87°F)* *Extremely Warm Nights*	**19 nights** **3 nights**

Average Wind Speed	**7 kt | 8 mph**
Windiest Day *Daily Average Wind Speed*	**September 23rd** *11 kt | 13 mph*
Highest Wind Gust	**September 18th** *30 kt | 35 mph*

Total Rainfall	**56 mm | 2.2 in**
2025 Cumulative Rainfall	**450.9 mm | 17.8 in**
Maximum 24-hr. Rainfall	**12.6 mm | 0.5 in**
No. of Rain Days	**10 days**
No. of Heavy Rain Days	**2 days**
No. of Thunderstorm Days	**14 days**

For the month of September, rainfall was below the normal range, while temperatures were generally above the normal range.

Year In Review
Oct 2024 - Sep 2025

Normal Rainfall Recorded Rainfall	**939 mm - 1132 mm** ↓ 886mm | 35 inches

Seasonal Review
Jul-Aug-Sep 2025

Normal Rainfall Recorded Rainfall *Heavy Rain Days (>10 mm)*	**250 mm - 349 mm** ↓ 179.4 mm | 7 inches *4 days*

Normal October Conditions

Total Rainfall	97 - 167 mm | 4 - 7 in
Average No. of Rain Days	14 days
Daily Average Temperature	28.3°C | 83°F
Avg. Max. Temperature	31.2°C | 88°F
Avg. Min. Temperature	26.0°C | 79°F
Avg. Daily Hrs. of Sunshine	8 hrs

NEWS

2025 ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON UPDATE

We are now entering the final stretch of the Atlantic hurricane season. While tropical cyclone activity has been relatively subdued so far, there is still a possibility that the season could end up above average. For perspective, just last year **seven storms** developed in October and November, including **four hurricanes** — **two** of which reached **major hurricane** status.

In September, the Atlantic basin produced three named storms: **Gabrielle**, **Humberto**, and **Imelda**. All three intensified into **hurricanes**, with Gabrielle and Humberto becoming **major hurricanes**. Fortunately, none of these systems had direct impacts on St. Maarten.

Sea surface temperatures across the Atlantic remain **above normal**, which leaves room for increased activity as the season draws to a close. We encourage everyone not to become complacent — stay vigilant and keep monitoring daily forecasts for the most reliable and timely information.

The Meteorological Department reminds the public to remain vigilant and prepared throughout the season.

Remember, it only takes one storm or hurricane making landfall on our island to make it an active and impactful season.

~~ANDREA~~	~~HUMBERTO~~	**OLGA**
~~BARRY~~	~~IMELDA~~	**PABLO**
~~CHANTAL~~	**JERRY**	**REBEKAH**
~~DEXTER~~	**KAREN**	**SEBASTIEN**
~~ERIN~~	**LORENZO**	**TANYA**
~~FERNAND~~	**MELISSA**	**VAN**
~~GABRIELLE~~	**NESTOR**	**WENDY**

This newsletter is produced by

the Meteorological Department of St. Maarten.

We would appreciate your comments and feedback.

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For more information on other Caribbean Outlooks go to
http://rcc.cimh.edu.bb/long-range-forecasts/caricof-climate-outlooks

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