

Weather & Climate

Volume 11, Issue 8 - August 2026

METEOROLOGICAL
DEPARTMENT
ST. MAARTEN



We are in the peak of the Atlantic hurricane and Caribbean heat season. As El Niño continues to strengthen in the coming months, rainfall activity in the Caribbean region will remain low and excessive heat, high humidity and possible heatwaves will persist. **Stay hydrated, wear protective clothing and look out for the vulnerable (elderly and children) and monitor weather information.**

THE SEASON AT A GLANCE - AUGUST TO OCTOBER 2026



Rainfall

- We are in the wet season
- Less rainfall than usual is expected



Temperature

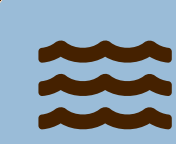
- Daytime and nighttime temperatures usual or higher than usual



Drought

Short-term
Long-term

- Drought Watch by the end of October
- No concern



Flood Risk

- Moderate risk of 1 event occurring in August
- High risk for the season

WHAT DRIVES THIS SEASON'S CLIMATE

Climate Influences

- El Niño conditions continue to strengthen.
- Reduced rainfall activity and increased risk of excessive heat. Tropical cyclone development is possible.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU



Health

- Heat stress increases
- Increased UV radiation
- Saharan dust intrusions increase risk of respiratory illnesses.



Tourism

- Use protective clothing and stay hydrated
- Monitor weather information



Water & Energy

- Increased demand for cooling



Agriculture

- Put irrigation plans in place
- Provide shade/cooling for animals
- Increased risk of bush fires.

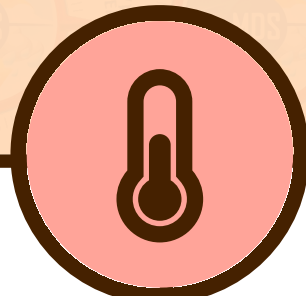


JULY 2026 IN SNAPSHOTS



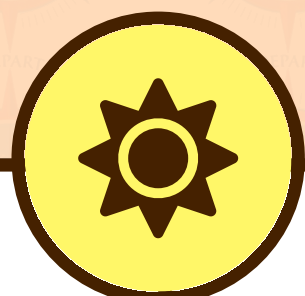
Total Rainfall	16.3 mm 0.6 in
2026 Cumulative Rainfall	407.3 mm 16 in
Maximum 24-hr. Rainfall	8.8 mm 0.3 in
No. of Rain Days	4 days
No. of Heavy Rain Days	0 days
No. of Thunderstorm Days	0 days

↓ Below Normal



Average Temperature	29.0°C 84°F
Maximum Temperature	July 15th 33.1°C 92°F
Minimum Temperature	July 31st 25.4°C 78°F
Warmest Day Average Temperature	July 26th 29.6°C 85°F
Coollest Day Average Temperature	July 7th 28.3°C 83°F

↑ Above Normal



Sunniest Day (Most Sunshine Hours)	July 23rd 11hrs:30mins
Cloudiest Day (Least Sunshine Hours)	July 4th 6hrs:24mins

↑ Above Normal



Average Wind Speed	11 kt 13 mph
Windiest Day Average Wind Speed	July 7th 13 kt 15 mph
Highest Wind Gust	July 7th 28 kt 32 mph

↑ Above Normal

How July 2026 Felt

- Warm days, increasing warm nights
- No significant rainfall activity



Longest Dry Spell	12 days July 8th to July 19th
Hot days	9 days
Warm Nights ($\geq 27.2^\circ$ 81°F)	14 nights

Weather Events

Saharan dust intrusions with varying concentrations through July. Two (2) hot spells recorded in July.

Facts

- July 2026 was the driest July since 2015.

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>



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.

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