METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT ST.MAARTEN

Volume 10, Issue 08 August 2025

Weather & Climate

Key Points

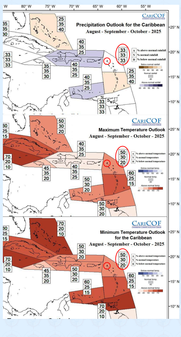
- July 2025 was the **driest July** in the last ten (10) years.
- July 26th 2025 was the **warmest day** of 2025 so far.
- Temperatures are predicted to be **above normal**; heatwaves are possible through October.

SEASONAL OUTLOOK FOR AUGUST TO OCTOBER (ASO) 2025

Rainfall Forecast

Normal Rainfall *Aug-Sep-Oct Season*	290 mm - 408 mm	11-16 inches 37 - 45 wet days
Aug-Sep-Oct 2025	• Likely to be normal • up to 7 (7-day) wet spells • up to 5 (7-day) dry spells

A mid summer dry spell expected to continue through mid August, with more frequent showers forecasted for September and October.



Temperature Forecast

Day-time Temp. Night-time Temp.	Above normal

This is the peak of the Caribbean Heat Season.

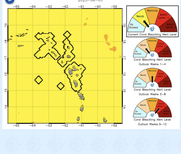
Flash Flood Potential

High Chance *50% - 80%*	Atleast 3 events could cause flash flooding/ flooding

Coral Reef Bleaching

Sea Surface Temperatures	Nearing bleaching threshold

A watch has been issued for the region. An Alert Level 1 will come into effect towards the end of August as bleaching is expected.



Sargassum Report

Total sargassum amounts decreased slightly in the Tropical Atlantic. Growth seem to have lost momentum however bleaching is expected to continue across the Caribbean.

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).
- Frequent Saharan Dust incursions is likely to continue; persons with allergies/respiratory illnesses should be vigilant.

Tourism

- Some disruptions to outdoor activities likely.
- Potential for coral reef bleaching.
- 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

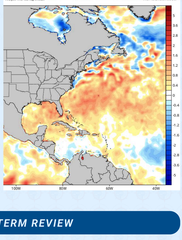
- A significant increase in energy demand/consumption for cooling is anticipated.

What Influences This Season's Climate ?

As of mid-July 2025, the equatorial Pacific remains in an ENSO-neutral state. The IRI ENSO plume forecast indicates a 75% probability that the neutral phase will continue through September 2025. Thereafter the probabilities for neutral conditions to persist decreases but remain higher than either La Niña or El Niño.

Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in the Caribbean Sea and the Tropical North Atlantic have warmed slightly approximately 1°C to 2°C above normal. Forecast models suggest that above-average SSTs will persist across these regions through the Sept–Oct–Nov 2025 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. While intense heatwaves are anticipated, they are projected to be less extreme than those experienced during 2024.



SHORT / LONG TERM REVIEW

July In Review

Average Temperature	**28.9°C	84°F**
Maximum Temperature	**July 26th** *32.9°C	91°F*
Minimum Temperature	**July 29th** *24.4°C	76°F*

Most Sunshine Hours	**July 28th & 29th** *11hrs:42mins*
Least Sunshine Hours	**July 17th** *06hr:00mins*

Average Wind Speed	**10 kt	12 mph**
Windiest Day *Daily Average Wind Speed*	**July 23rd** *15 kt	17 mph*
Highest Wind Gust	**July 7th** *26 kt	30 mph*

Warmest Day *Average Temperature*	**July 23rd** *29.5°C	85°F*
Coolest Day *Average Temperature*	**July 1st** *27.5°C	82°F*
Hot Days *(≥ 32.2° | 90°F)*	**9 days**
Warm Nights *(≥ 27.2° | 81°F)*	**12 nights**

Total Rainfall	**39.8 mm	1.6 in**
2025 Cumulative Rainfall	**311.3 mm	12.3 in**
Maximum 24-hr. Rainfall	**12.1 mm	0.5 in**
No. of Rain Days	**12 days**
No. of Heavy Rain Days	**1 day**
No. of Thunderstorm Days	**-**

For the month of July, rainfall was below the normal range, it was the driest July since 2015. Additionally, temperatures were near normal to slightly above the normal range.

Year In Review
Aug 2024 - Jul 2025

Normal Rainfall Recorded Rainfall	**933 mm - 1198 mm** 986.3 mm	39 inches

Seasonal Review
May-Jun-Jul 2025

Normal Rainfall Recorded Rainfall *Heavy Rain Days (>10 mm)*	**167 mm - 295 mm** ↓ 111.5 mm	4 inches *3 days*

Normal August Conditions

Total Rainfall	75 - 122 mm	3 - 5 in
Average No. of Rain Days	14 days
Daily Average Temperature	28.8°C	84°F
Avg. Max. Temperature	31.8°C	89°F
Avg. Min. Temperature	26.5°C	80°F
Avg. Daily Hrs. of Sunshine	9 hrs

NEWS

2025 ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON UPDATE

The 2025 Atlantic hurricane season has remained relatively quiet. During the month of July, only one named storm developed:

Tropical Storm Chantel, which formed off the coast of South Carolina. However, the system was short-lived and weakened to a tropical depression the following day.

This reduced activity is largely attributed to several suppressing factors, including high wind shear across the Caribbean during June and July, frequent intrusions of Saharan dust, and only slightly warmer-than-average sea surface temperatures in the main development region (MDR). While sea surface temperatures in the eastern and central Atlantic remain warm, they are not as elevated as observed in recent years during the same period.

As we approach the peak of the Atlantic hurricane season, tropical cyclone activity is expected to increase with rising sea surface temperatures. However, if frequent Saharan dust outbreaks persist, the formation of intense storms may be limited. That said, these conditions could lead to drier, hotter, and more humid weather across our region.

We encourage everyone to remain vigilant and prepared.

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.

www.meteosxm.com
www.facebook.com/sxmweather
mdsclimatesection@gmail.com
+1 (721) 520 3312 | 545 4226

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.

This information contained in this newsletter is produced with the understanding that the Meteorological Department of St. Maarten makes no warranties, either implied or expressed concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the forecast. The information may be used freely by the public with appropriate acknowledgement of its source.