

Weather & Climate

Volume 11, Issue 9 - September 2026

METEOROLOGICAL
DEPARTMENT
ST. MAARTEN



We are in the second half of the Atlantic hurricane and the late Caribbean heat season. A very strong El Niño continues in the Pacific Ocean leading to drought, excessive heat and low rainfall activity across the Caribbean region. Nevertheless, flood risk remains high and tropical cyclone development is still possible.

THE SEASON AT A GLANCE - SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2026



Rainfall

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



Temperature

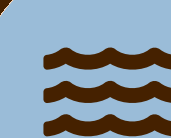
- High daytime and nighttime temperatures through October



Drought

Short-term
Long-term

- No concern



Flood Risk

- Moderate risk of 1 event occurring in September; Moderate risk for the season

WHAT DRIVES THIS SEASON'S CLIMATE

Climate Influences

- Strong El Niño conditions persists.
- 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

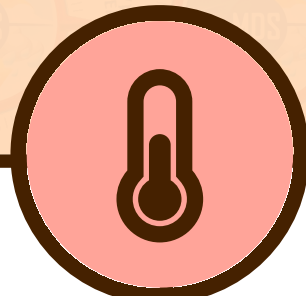


AUGUST 2026 IN SNAPSHOTS



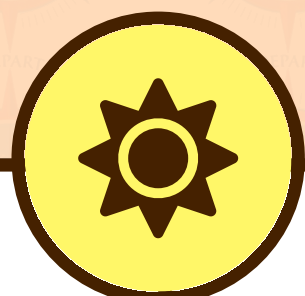
Total Rainfall	25.9 mm 1.0 in
2026 Cumulative Rainfall	433.3 mm 17.1 in
Maximum 24-hr. Rainfall	11.4 mm 0.4 in
No. of Rain Days	4 days
No. of Heavy Rain Days	1 days
No. of Thunderstorm Days	1 days

↓ Below Normal



Average Temperature	29.5°C 85°F
Maximum Temperature	August 8th 33.9°C 93°F
Minimum Temperature	August 11th 24.8°C 77°F
Warmest Day Average Temperature	August 14th 30.1°C 86°F
Coollest Day Average Temperature	August 30th 28.1°C 83°F

↑ Above Normal



Sunniest Day (Most Sunshine Hours)	August 27th 11hrs:42mins
Cloudiest Day (Least Sunshine Hours)	August 30th 0hrs:18mins

↑ Above Normal



Average Wind Speed	11 kt 13 mph
Windiest Day Average Wind Speed	August 15th 13 kt 15 mph
Highest Wind Gust	August 15th 35 kt 40 mph

↑ Above Normal

How August 2026 Felt

- Many hot days and warm nights
- Very little rainfall activity



Longest Dry Spell	17 days August 11th to July 27th
Hot days	24 days
Warm Nights ($\geq 27.2^\circ$ 81°F)	22 nights

Weather Events

Saharan dust Intrusions with varying concentrations through August. Three (3) heatwaves and four (4) hot spells recorded in August.

Facts

- August 2026 was the driest August on 74-year old record.

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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