



BMS MONTHLY CLIMATE OUTLOOK NEWSLETTER

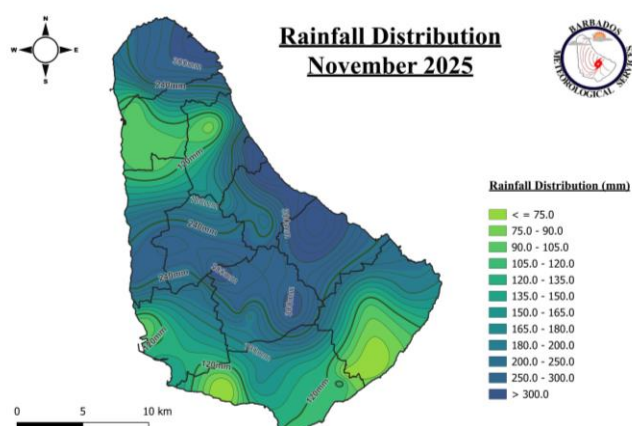
November 2025 | Issue No.70

Key Messages: Near to above average rainfall is expected for much of the forecast period. However, given that Barbados dry season is beginning, **Agricultural Drought and Hydrological Drought Watches** are now in effect and may be elevated to **Drought Warnings in the coming months**. The cool season is beginning however; **warmer-than-normal temperatures will persist**. ENSO neutral conditions are present and are expected for much of the forecast period. Persons are urged to continue monitoring the BMS daily weather forecast as well as seasonal outlooks for updates.

NOVEMBER IN REVIEW

Precipitation

Figure 1: November Rainfall Distribution



Although there was an increase in rainfall recorded at Charnocks when compared to the previous 3 months, rainfall recorded for the month remained below the climatological average for November. Here at Charnocks, 120.3mm of rainfall was recorded, which was 52mm below the climatological average for November (172.6mm). Meanwhile, rainfall across the island ranged from 62.8mm to 349.2mm, as seen in Figure 1. Much of the rainfall this month originated from only 2 major rainfall events.

The first rainfall event occurred on the 8th as a Tropical wave affected the island and prompted the issuance of a flash flood watch. Here at Charnocks, roughly an inch of rainfall was recorded and rainfall accumulations between half an inch and 2 inches were recorded across the remainder of the island.

The second rainfall event occurred across multiple days from the 15th to 19th of the month. This was due to a trough system enhanced by a favourable upper-level divergent pattern. Several flash flood watches and warnings were issued during this four-day period and roughly 3 inches of rainfall was recorded here at Charnocks while rainfall accumulations across the island ranged from 2.5 to 10.5 inches. There were reports of significant damage and that one person had perished in sections of the news media, as a result of this activity.

Also issued this month was a high surf advisory for western coastlines on the 7th and a small craft advisory on the 9th as swell heights peaked between 2.5 and 3 m in open water.

Temperature

Figure 2: November Average Temperature Distribution

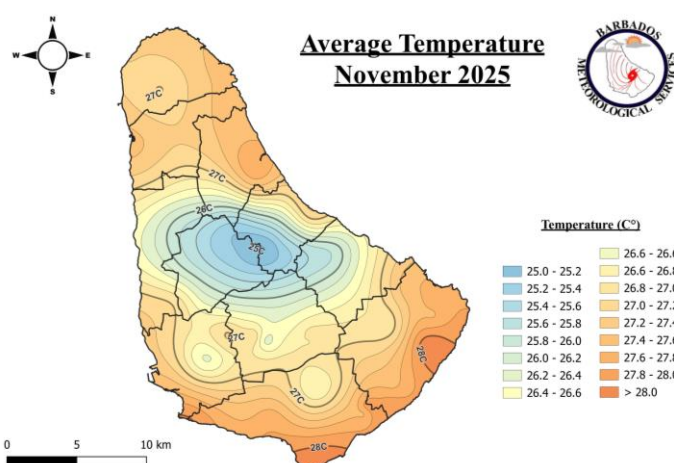
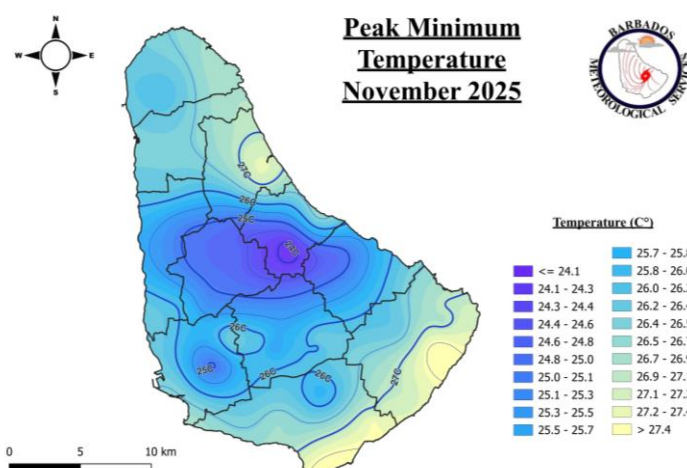


Figure 3: November Peak Night-time Temperature Distribution



Cooler temperatures were recorded when compared to the previous months, as Barbados ended the annual Heat Season. Here at Charnocks, an average temperature of 27.6°C was recorded, which was 0.4°C warmer than the climatological average(27.2°C). Meanwhile, the average temperature across the island ranged from 25.0°C to 28.1°C, as seen in Figure 2. Meanwhile, night-time temperatures here at Charnocks were 25.6°C, which was 1.1°C warmer than the climatological average (24.5°C). As for the hottest nights this month, the night-time temperatures peaked at 27.4°C here at Charnocks and ranged from 23.9°C to 27.6°C, as seen in Figure 3.

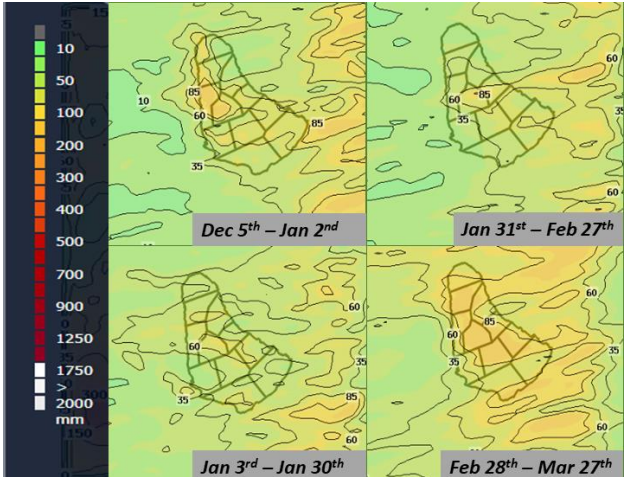


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PRECIPITATION OUTLOOK

Figure 4: BMS Experimental rainfall forecast from December 2025 to March 2026



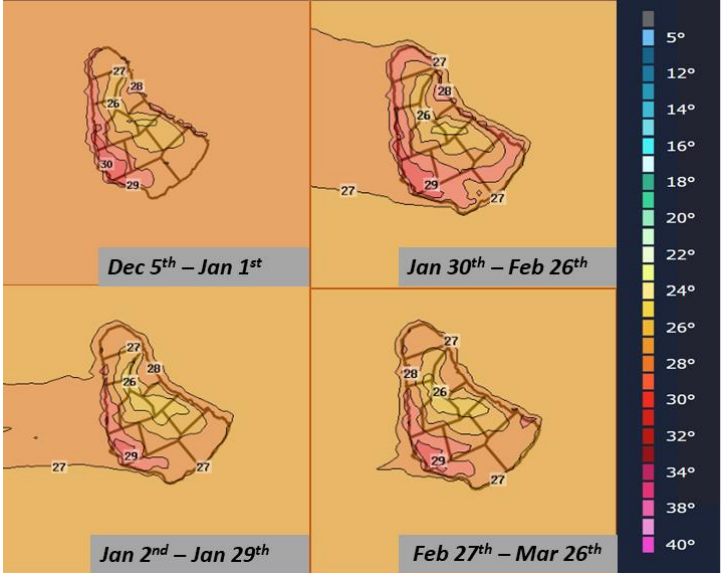
The BMS seasonal rainfall forecast calls for near to above average rainfall until March 2026. Given that the BMS Experimental Model (figure 4) was able to capture the intense rainfall events in late November and early December, albeit with a bit of a low bias, the official forecast has been adjusted upwards. However, it should be noted that factors like entering the driest period of the year based on the 30-year climatology; intrusions of Saharan dust, which are common for this time of the year but difficult to predict on a seasonal timescale; and the expectation of very little to no impact from ENSO, may lead to reduced rainfall total. Therefore, all forecasts issued by the BMS should be monitored for updates in the coming months.

Table 1: Rainfall Projections for December 2025 to March 2026

Month	Projections (mm)	Deviation from 30-yr Average at Charnocks
December	100-150	Above Average
January	50-100	Near to Above Average
February	40-70	Near to Above Average
March	35- 75	Near to Above Average

TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK

Figure 5: BMS Experimental peak temperature forecast from December 2025 to March 2026



As Barbados enters the cool season, above-normal temperatures are expected until May 2026. The latest probabilistic and dynamic model forecast projects above-normal minimum and mean temperatures for the entire forecast period (Table 2). As for the maximum temperature, the probabilistic forecast is leaning towards above-normal for DJF and near normal thereafter. Based on the BMS experimental model (Figure 5), daytime temperatures should peak around 27°C in the higher elevations and around 30°C in the urban and south-western districts.

Table 2: Temperature Outlook for December 2025 to May 2026

Temperature	Season	Forecast Probability (%)		
		Below	Normal	Above
Minimum Temperature	DJF	19	16	65
	MAM	8	24	68
Maximum Temperature	DJF	24	29	47
	MAM	32	41	27
Mean Temperature	DJF	8	36	56
	MAM	19	27	54

DROUGHT OUTLOOK

Although they were intense rainfall events that lead to flooding in November, rainfall, at least at Charnocks, remains below average for 2025. This and the fact that Barbados' dry season is beginning, the **Agricultural Drought Watch** remains in effect and may be elevated to an **Agricultural Drought Warning** from January 2026. Persons in the agricultural sector are urged to continue monitoring the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security for updates and the BMS for updates to the seasonal drought outlook. Given the current state of available water resources as reported by BWA, the alert level remains elevated to a **Hydrological Drought Watch** and a **Hydrological Drought Warning** may be issued in January 2026. Members of the public are urged to continue to conserving water, regardless of the drought alert level and to monitor the BWA and the BMS for updates. Below is a table of the forecast drought alert levels based on the forecast rainfall accumulations (Table 1).

Table 3: Drought Outlooks for December 2025 to March 2026

MONTH	AGRICULTURAL	HYDROLOGICAL
DECEMBER	Drought Watch	Drought Watch
JANUARY	Drought Warning	Drought Warning
FEBRUARY	Drought Warning	Drought Warning
MARCH	Drought Warning	Drought Warning



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Agricultural Drought Watch

Responses to the predicted Drought Alert Level.

Key Messages:

- *Protect resources*
- *Conserve and recycle water*
- *Repair and upgrade infrastructure*
- *Prepare for increased irrigation during periods of extensive dryness*
- *Report Impacts*

- ✓ *Continue to monitor for updates from the Barbados Water Authority and Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security.*
- ✓ *Continue to monitor the BMS Climate Outlook for monthly updates.*

Hydrological Drought Watch

Responses to the predicted Drought Alert Level.

Key Messages:

- *Encourage water conservation through public awareness campaigns*
- *Last minute infrastructural repairs and upgrades*
- *Implement drought management plans*

- ✓ *Continue to monitor for updates from the Barbados Water Authority.*
- ✓ *Continue to monitor the BMS Climate Outlook for monthly updates.*

Likely Impacts for the November 2025 to April 2026 Period

What do these forecasts mean for Barbados?

- Unchanged/ falling reservoir/aquifer levels.
- Employ rainwater harvesting techniques for rain feed crops during dry periods.
- It is recommended to have an irrigation plan and systems to ensure the best crop yield during the dry season.
- More comfortable nights as compared to the warmer months.
- Air quality may be impacted by periodic intrusions of Saharan dust and grass fires.
- Keep updated with daily weather as well as seasonal forecasts issued by the BMS.

CLIMATE OUTLOOK

ENSO (El Niño Southern Oscillation)

ENSO is the interaction between the ocean and atmosphere in the equatorial Pacific which results in periodic departures from the expected sea surface temperatures. There are two phases of ENSO, the cold phase of sea surface temperatures, La Niña and the warm phase, El Niño. La Niña conditions usually results in higher rainfall for Barbados. El Niño conditions usually result in lower rainfall for the island. Neutral conditions which are close to average or what is normally expected. These are the general conditions associated with each phase however, there are other factors which influence the rainfall patterns across Barbados which may result in a deviation from the norm.

Current state

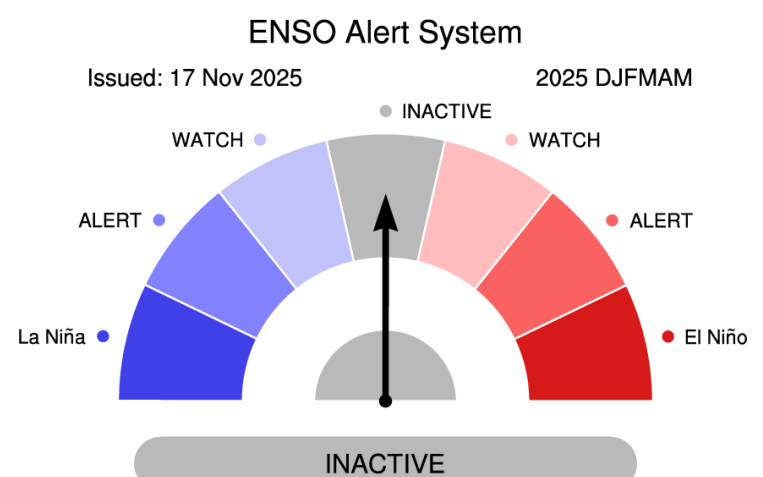
ENSO Neutral conditions are present across much of the Pacific Ocean.

What's the Outlook?

ENSO neutral conditions are expected for the entire forecast period.

Impact to the Upcoming Seasons

There is typically no significant predictability on rainfall patterns in Barbados during ENSO-neutral events.



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(Source: APCC/ Climate Information Services)



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CLIMATE OUTLOOK

Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs)

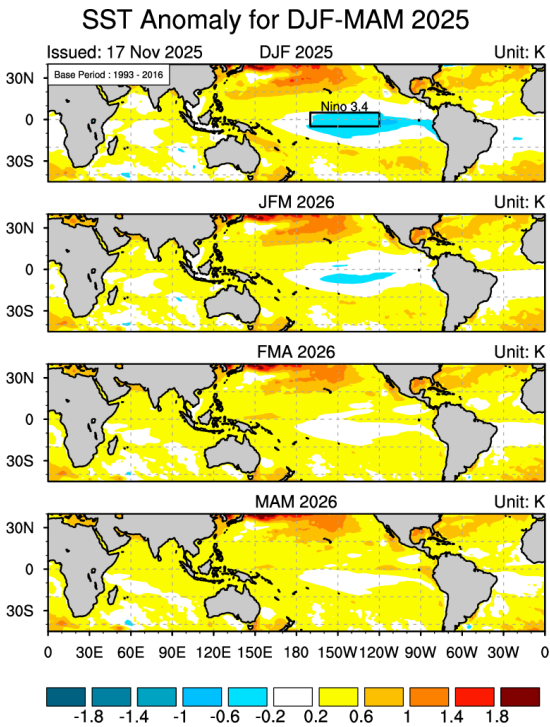
The Multi-Model Ensemble continues to suggest above-normal sea surface temperatures (SSTs) are expected across the tropical Atlantic. SSTs are forecast to remain above normal by 0.2°C through to May 2026. Across the eastern and central equatorial Pacific, SSTs are expected to be 0.2°C cooler than normal which is consistent with the ENSO-neutral conditions.

Impact on Rainfall

Warmer-than-normal SSTs in the Atlantic may favour some periods of increased rainfall.

Impact on Temperatures

Warmer-than-normal SSTs across the tropical Atlantic will result in warmer-than-normal temperatures, although not uncomfortable as we enter our cool season.



(Source: APCC/ Climate Information Services)

2025 ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON REVIEW

In terms of numbers, the 2025 Atlantic Hurricane Season fell in line with the lower range of the forecasts which was closer to climatology. Within this 'normal' season, Hurricane Melissa was record-breaking; as one of the strongest hurricanes on record. The forecast produced by the Barbados Meteorological Services, a hybrid statistical and deterministic product to predict the activity in the Eastern Atlantic (bounded by 10°W – 65°W, 5°N – 20°N), also performed similarly, with systems in our area of interest also falling within the lower range of the outlook. The table below summarizes these forecasts as compared to Atlantic hurricane season Climatology.

Table 3: 2025 Atlantic Hurricane Season Forecast compared to Atlantic Hurricane Season Climatology and Observed Activity

	Atlantic Basin Climatology (1991-2020)	Cumulative Forecast Ranges for 2025 Hurricane Season	BMS 2025 Eastern Atlantic Outlook	Observed Tropical Cyclones in the Atlantic (30 th November)	Observed Tropical Cyclones in the Eastern Atlantic (30 th November)
Named Storms	14	12-19	5-8	13	5
Hurricanes	7	6-10	2-5	5	1
Major Hurricanes (Category 3 and above)	3	3-5	0-2	4	1

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