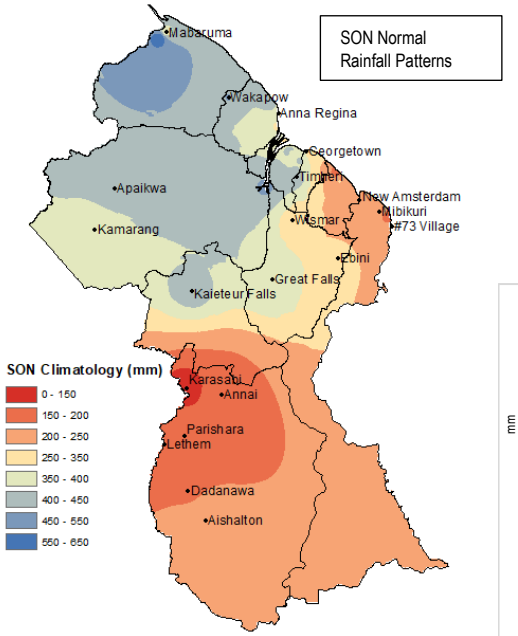
Seasonal Climate Outlook: September-October-November (ASO) 2018
Date of Issue: August 25 , 2018

Hydrometeorological Service, Ministry of Agriculture

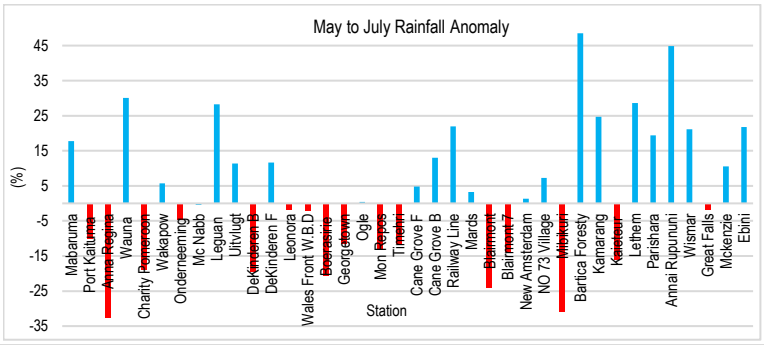
Climatology for September-October-November (SON)

September to November is usually dry in Guyana. The northern portion of Guyana is usually dry until the end of November and until mid-April in the coming year for southern Guyana. These conditions repeat each year unless they are being influenced by El Niño (drier conditions prevail) or La Niña (wetter conditions prevail). Normally, the highest amount of rainfall is being received in Regions 1, northern, 7, 8 and 10, and southern Region 3 as seen in map below



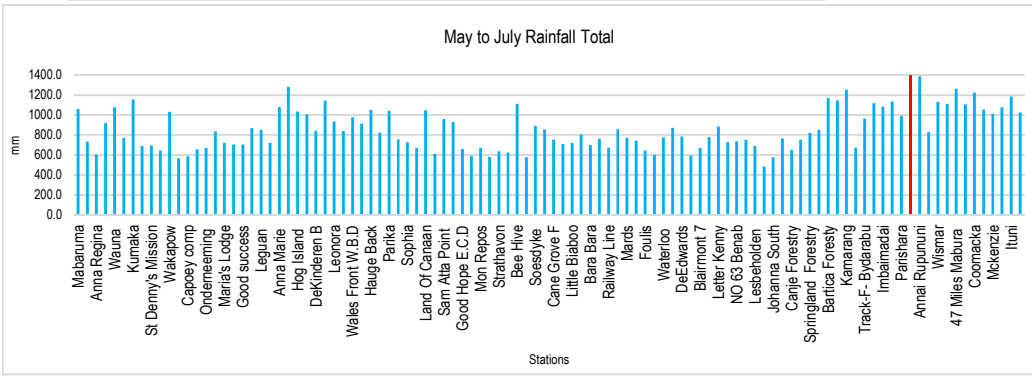
Review for May-June-July (MJJ)2018

The average total rainfall (897 mm) recorded across Guyana was slightly above the climatological average (871 mm). The highest rainfall total (1395 mm) for the period was recorded at Kumu, Region 9 as in chart (May to July Rainfall) below. Most stations in Regions 3, 9 and 10 received rainfall in the excess of 800 mm which resulted in floods during the season. Forty Five percent (45%) of stations recorded rainfall below their climatological averages with the majority in Regions 2, 4 and 5 as shown in the anomaly chart below. The anomaly is expressed in percentage (%); blue means increase in rainfall while red means decrease reference to their normal amounts (long-term averages).



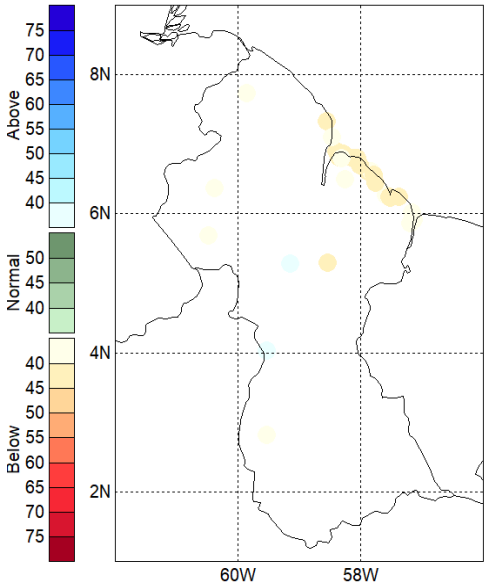
Mean Maximum Temperature recorded across Guyana was 0.4C below climatological average (30.4C).

Mean Minimum Temperature recorded across Guyana was 0.2C above climatological average (22.4C).



Monthly Precipitation Outlook for September 2018

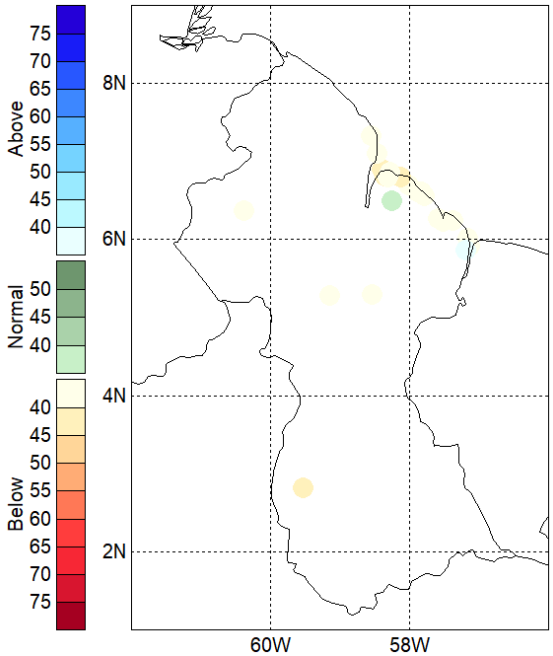
Except for Region 8 (slightly wetter) all other Regions are likely to be drier than usual. The probabilistic forecast map below shows the chances for drier and wetter condition for the month of September.



Citizen are advised to conserve water during the month of September. Less reliable rains for agriculture and slower increase in surface wetness across the country can be expected.

Seasonal Precipitation Outlook for September-October-November (SON)2018

Some areas in western Region 4 can expect dry as usual conditions and slightly wetter conditions for lower Corentyne districts. Other Regions can expect drier than usual conditions.

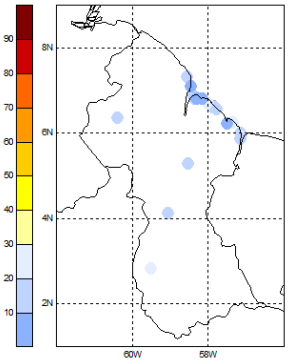


Citizen are strongly advised to conserve water during the season. Reduced long-term flooding potential and slow recharge rates of large water reservoirs can be expected. Using of water from conservancies should be well managed.

Wet days and Wet spells for SON 2018 – This section indicates the amount of wet days and wet spells that can lead to extreme wet and dry conditions. The usual numbers of wet days and spells and their respective probabilistic maps can be seen below. The forecast suggests that there are still chances for downpours that can lead to flooding but with low possibilities.

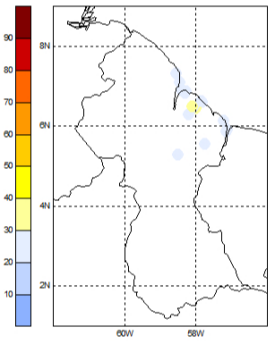
Usually No. of wet days (≥1mm) is 16 to 31, the same numbers can be expected

Probability of increased No. of wet days



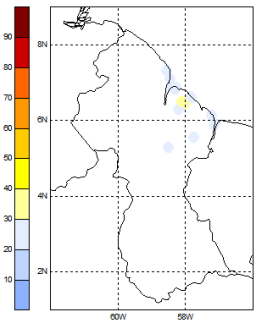
Usual No. of 7-days wet spells (20% wettest) is 0.5 to 2.8, slight chances for decrease in numbers in Region 4.

Probability of increased No. of 7-day wet spells



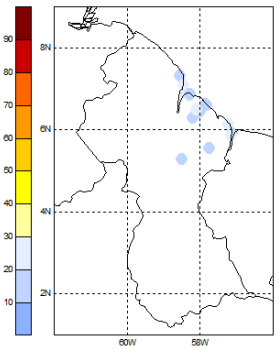
Usual amount of 7-days very wet spells (10% wettest) is 0.1 to 1.4, slight chances for decrease in numbers for Region 4.

Probability of increased No. of 7-day very wet spells



Usual amount of 3-days extremely wet spells (1% wettest) is 0 to 1.9, these number are expected to be the same.

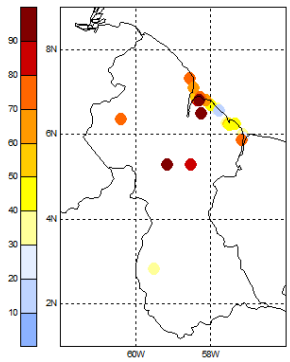
Probability of increased No. of 3-day extremely wet spells



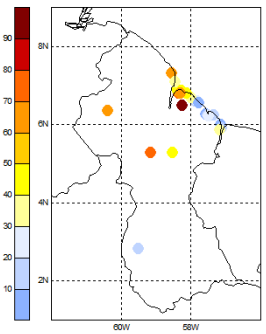
Probability of Exceedance

The maps below show the probability of the forecast rainfall exceeding 200mm, 300mm, 400mm and 500m respectively. The scale of probability is from 0 to 100; towards red (70 -100) means higher chances of exceeding the amount of rainfall while towards blue (20 – 0) means lesser chances. For example, the first map (below left) says there is more than 60 % chance of most location experiencing more than 200 mm of rainfall, only one station in Region 5 on the coast is not likely to exceed 200mm of rainfall.

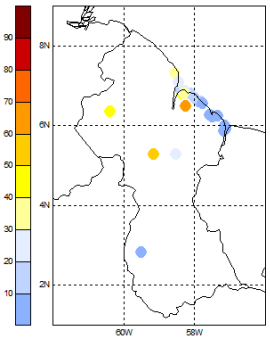
Probability of Exceeding 200mm



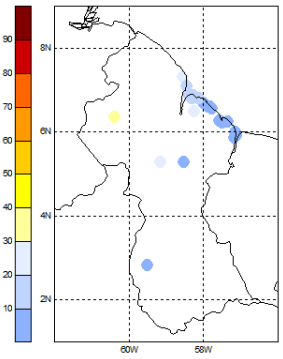
Probability of Exceeding 300mm



Probability of Exceeding 400mm



Probability of Exceeding 500mm



Temperatures: Day-time and Night-time temperatures are expected to be cooler than the usual September to November.

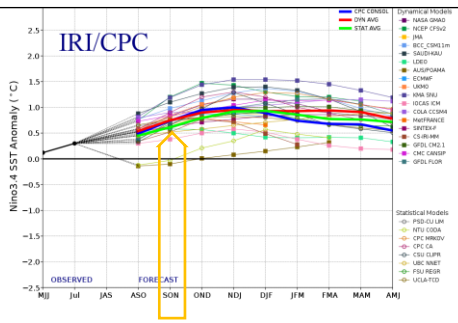
Drought: The current forecast is indicating no drought concerns for the SON season. However, there are increasing concerns of drier than usual conditions through November.

Extended Outlook for November-December-January (DJF) 2018-'19

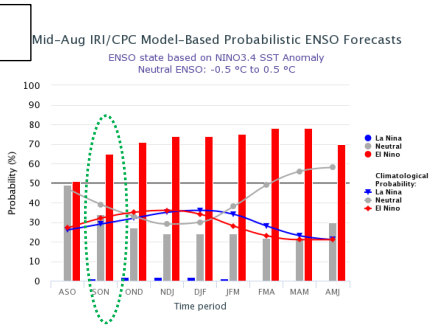
The forecast El Niño (~75%) conditions for DJF may lead to a drier than usually wet season (the short-wet season). Rainfall water users should look out for regular updates to aid in their decision makings. Less rainfall may affect large scale agriculture activities.

This section monitors the indicators that are responsible for increase and decrease of rainfall in Guyana.

Recent Observation: In the most recent week, the Sea Surface Temperature (SST) anomaly in the Nino3.4 region has increased to slightly above 0.5 within the weak El Niño range as seen in chart to the right.



ENSO Outlook: Most models suggest weak to moderate El Niño conditions to be in place for SON (65 - 70% confidence) as per chart to the right. During El Niño conditions rainfall trends to less than average which leads to drier conditions.



This is a seasonal outlook valid for three months, which would be updated monthly. Please be guided by the daily weather forecasts and updates provided by the National Weather Watch Centre for any changes relating to atmospheric conditions. For further location specific seasonal data and information, kindly contact Mr. Komalchand Dhiram (Specialist Meteorologist) at 225-9303 or kdhiram@hydromet.gov.gy