



NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE OF BELIZE

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SEASONAL PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK

Several agro-meteorological stations across the country are used to produce monthly and seasonal rainfall and temperature forecast. This is done by using the historical data observed at these stations, global and regional climate models, and statistical models such as the Climate Predictability Tool (CPT) and Subjective inputs.

Based on these inputs, the Rainfall Forecast for the country during the period April-May-June 2018 (AMJ 2018) is for below normal rainfall over most areas of the country with the exception of central areas where rainfall is expected to be near normal. Temperatures are expected to be above normal during this period.

Approximate rainfall amounts that are expected over different regions of the country during the period April-May-June 2018 are as follows:

REGION	RAINFALL (mm)	CATEGORY
<i>North (Orange Walk and Corozal Districts)</i>	250-350	Below Normal
<i>Central Inland Areas (Cayo District)</i>	300-400	Near Normal
<i>Central Coastal Areas (Belize District)</i>	350-450	Near Normal
<i>Southern Areas (Stann Creek and Toledo Districts)</i>	400-700	Slightly Below Normal

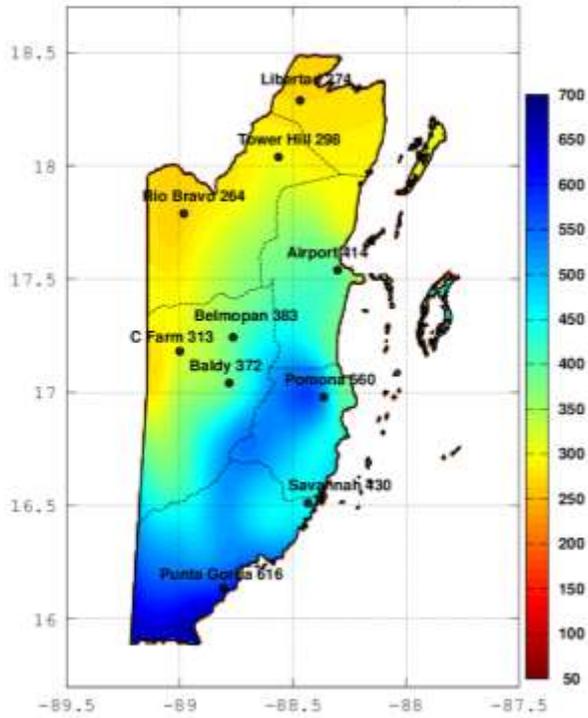
The Rainfall Forecast for the country during the period July-August-September 2018 (JAS 2018) is for below normal rainfall over most areas of the country. However, the extreme south will trend towards near normal rainfall. Temperatures are expected to be above normal during this period.

Approximate rainfall amounts that are expected over different regions of the country during the period July-August-September 2018 are as follows:

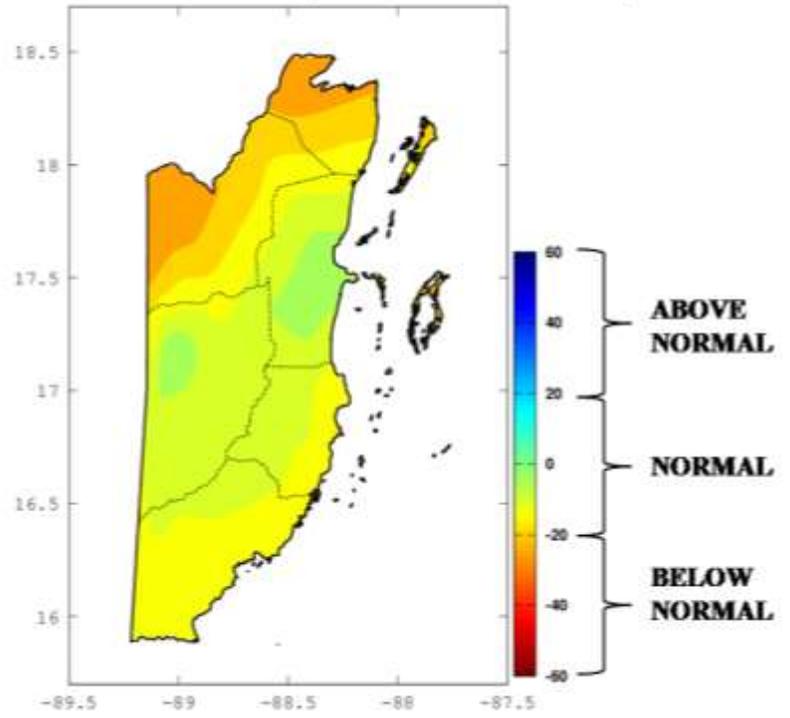
REGION	RAINFALL (mm)	CATEGORY
<i>North (Orange Walk and Corozal Districts)</i>	350-450	Below Normal
<i>Central Inland Areas (Cayo District)</i>	350-550	Near Normal
<i>Central Coastal Areas (Belize District)</i>	450-550	Below Normal
<i>Southern Areas (Stann Creek and Toledo Districts)</i>	700-1800	Below to Near Normal

The maps below show approximate rainfall totals that can be expected. The expected maximum and minimum temperatures are also shown. Users are advised that the amounts shown are only an approximation and are therefore cautioned not to focus on the exact value on the maps but instead to expect that the rainfall and temperature should be somewhere in that general range.

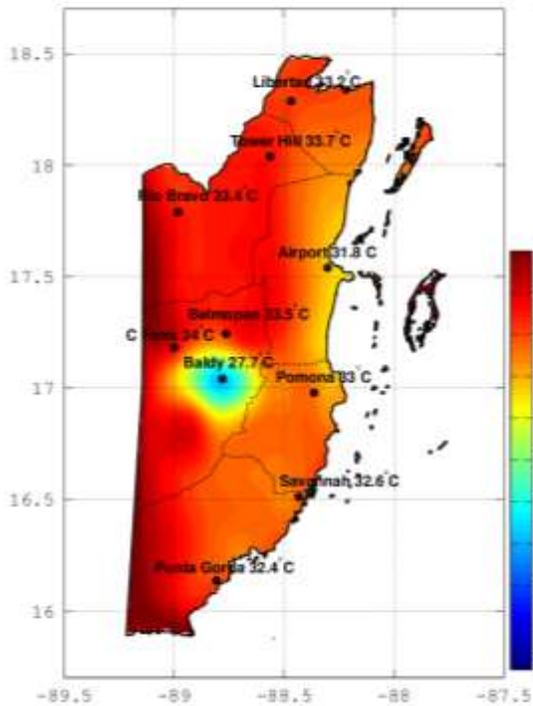
RAINFALL FORECAST: AMJ 2018 (mm)



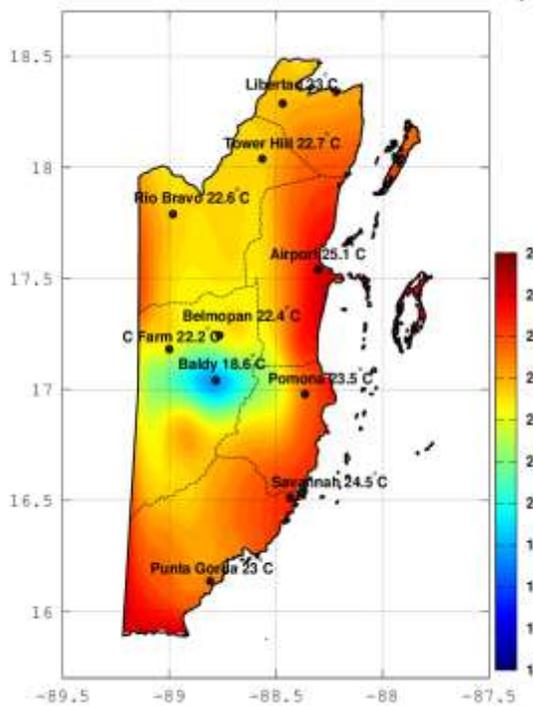
RAINFALL FORECAST: AMJ 2018 (%ABOVE/BELOW AVERAGE)



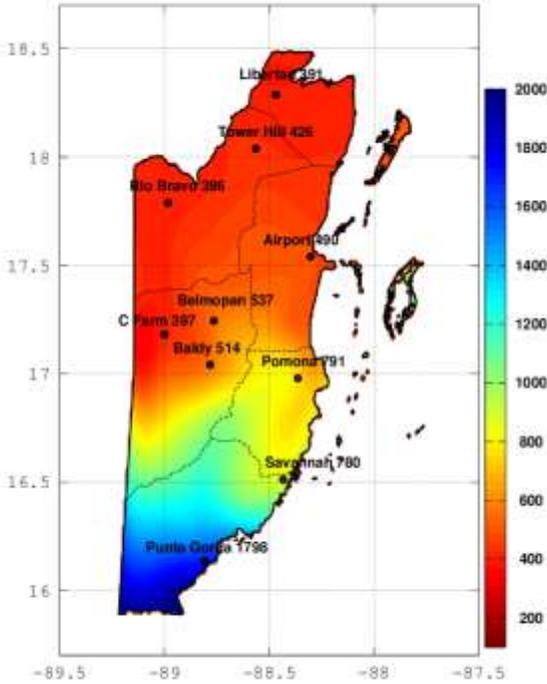
MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE FORECAST: AMJ 2018 (°C)



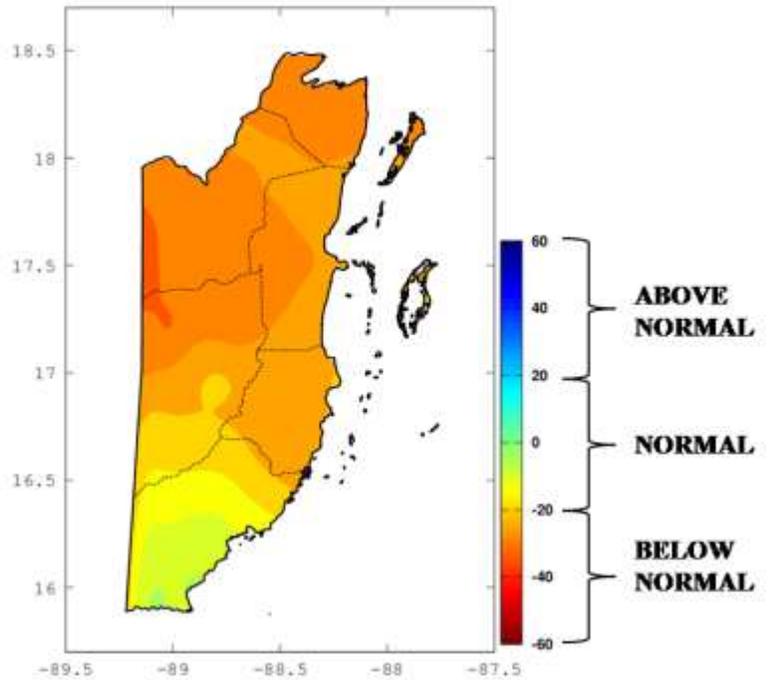
MINIMUM TEMPERATURE FORECAST: AMJ 2018 (°C)



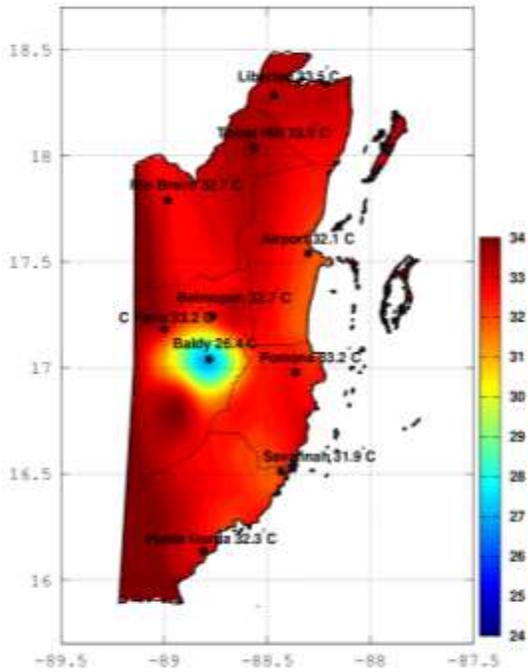
RAINFALL FORECAST: JAS 2018 (mm)



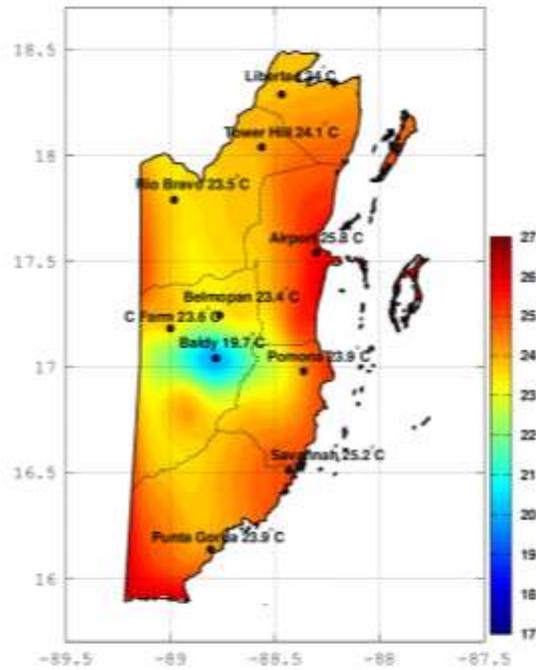
RAINFALL FORECAST: JAS 2018 (%ABOVE/BELOW AVERAGE)



MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE FORECAST: JAS 2018 (°C)



MINIMUM TEMPERATURE FORECAST: JAS 2018 (°C)



What influences the next season? Observations show Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) in the equatorial eastern Pacific (NINO3.4) region hovering below normal at around -0.7 degrees Celsius below average during the January-February-March season. Most global models suggest that temperatures should start warming up and become neutral by May-June-July followed by a possible transition to a weak El Niño by mid-summer. Moderate warming in the Niño 3.4 region would suggest drier conditions over our region. However, there is always some level of uncertainty in predicting the major climate drivers. ENSO in particular is known to be quite unpredictable during

the northern hemisphere spring. Users of this information are therefore asked to continue to monitor the monthly updates.

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