



MONTHLY RAINFALL SUMMARY

METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE, JAMAICA

HIGHLIGHTS FOR NOVEMBER

- Twelve (12) parishes received below-normal rainfall during November.
- Three (3) parishes recorded meteorological drought conditions.
- Above-normal rainfall is forecast for January to March 2023.
- Near-normal to above-normal temperatures are expected for January to March 2023.

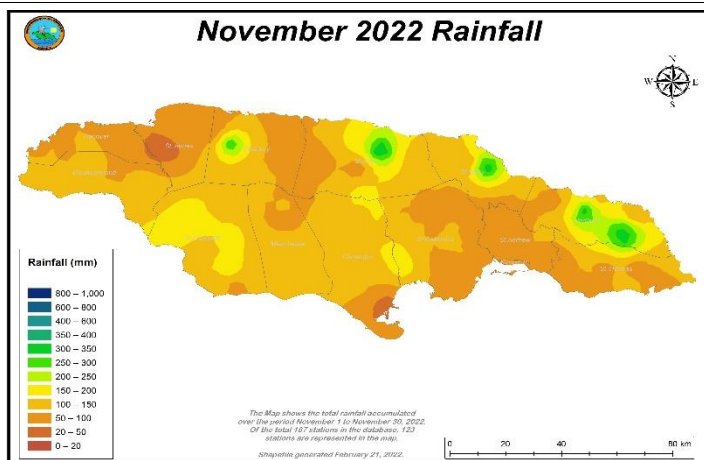


Fig.1. Distribution of Jamaica's Rainfall for November 2022

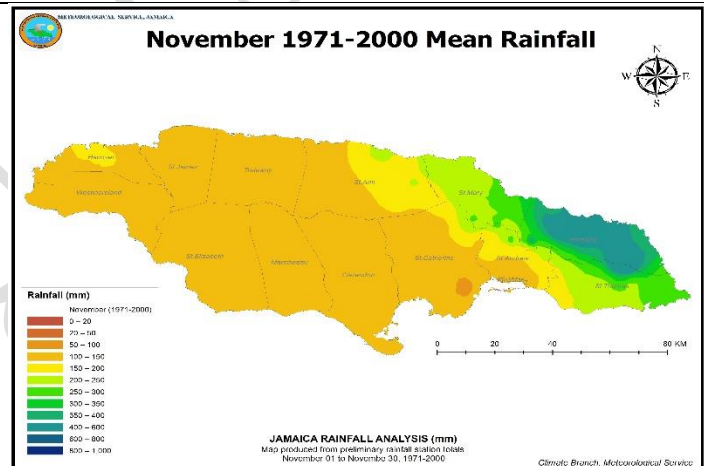
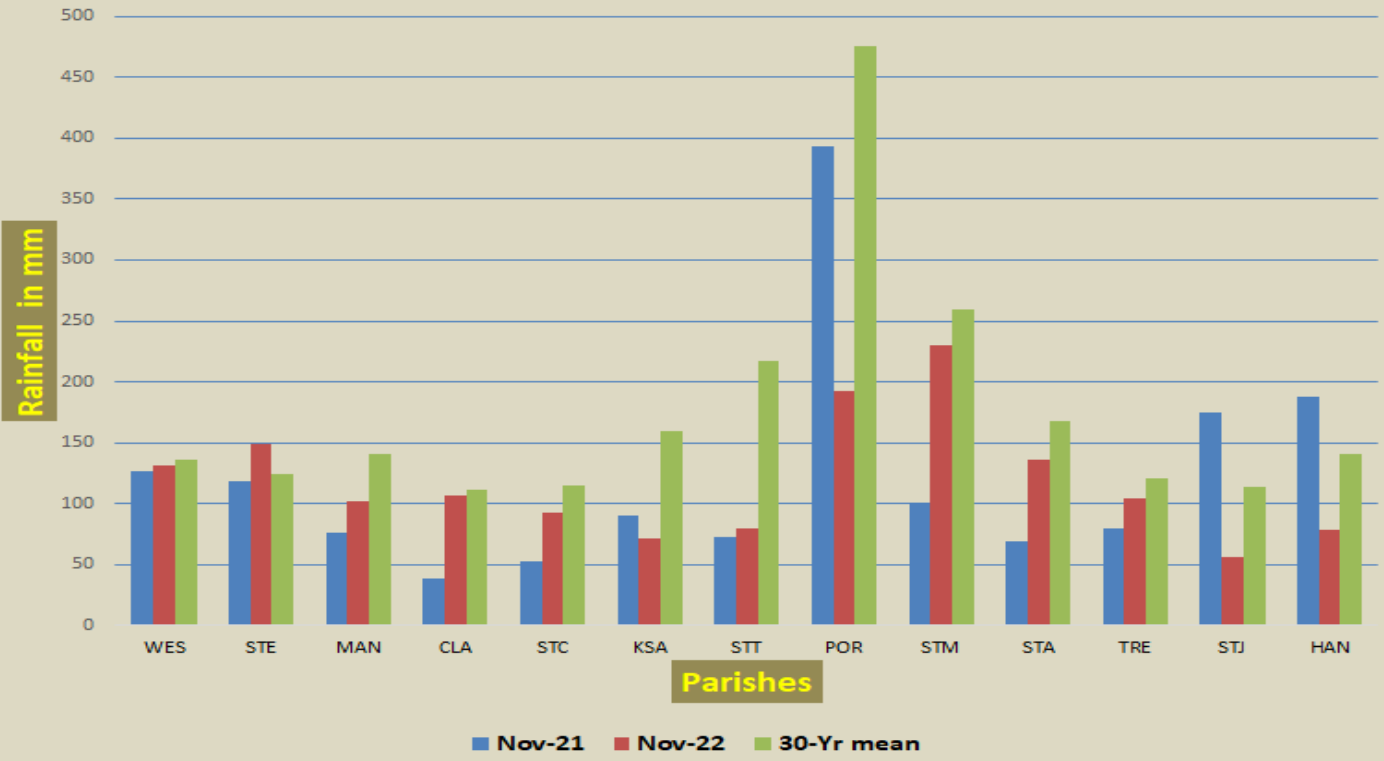


Fig.2. Mean Island Rainfall for November

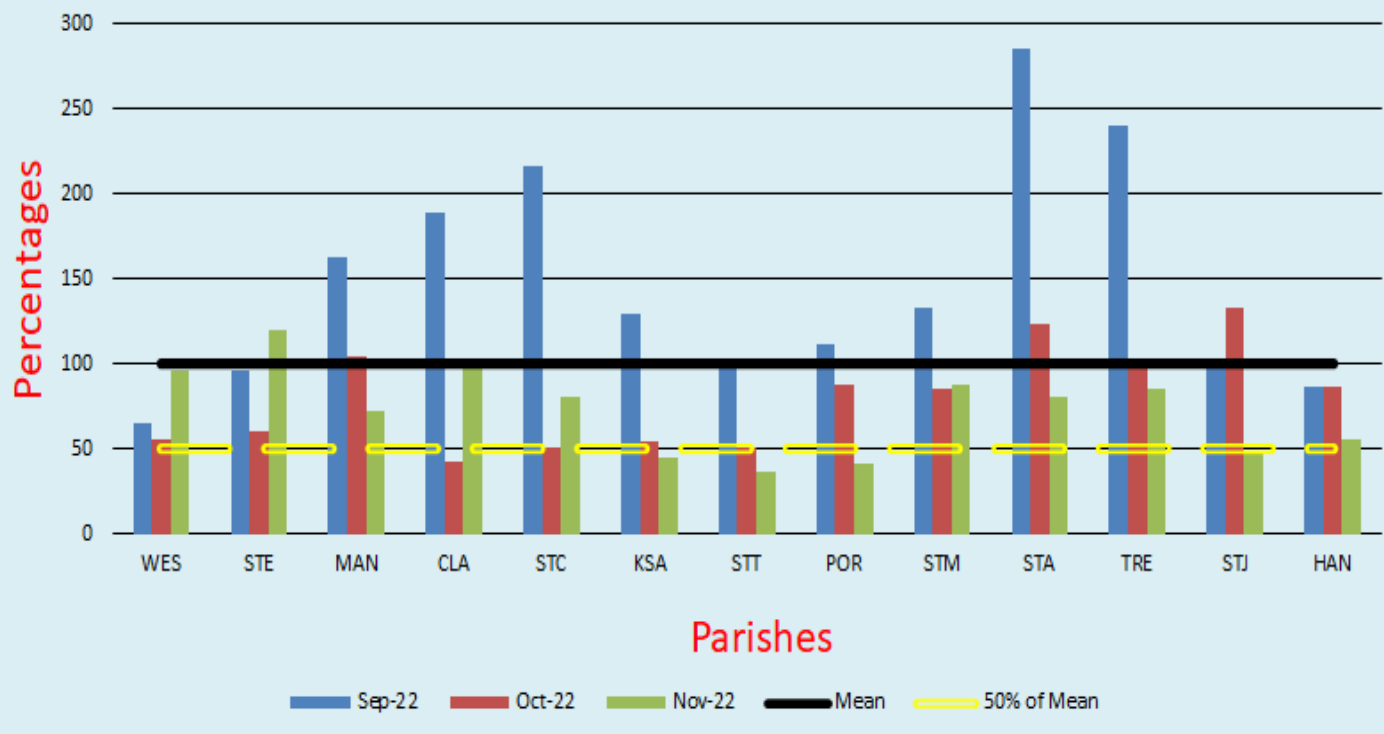
NOVEMBER RAINFALL SUMMARY

For November 2022, twelve of 13 parishes recorded below-normal (<100%) rainfall amounts, with values ranging from 37% to 97%, of their respective 30-year (1971-2000) monthly means. One parish therefore, received above-normal (>100%) of its monthly mean rainfall. In general, Jamaica received 118 mm of rainfall or 4 mm less than it did in November 2021. For the October/November bi-monthly period, twelve of 13 parishes recorded decreases in their SPI values while, one parish recorded an increase. Nine of 13 parishes recorded negative SPI values and, therefore, experienced varying levels of dryness with rankings ranging from near-normal (dry) to moderately dry. Four parishes recorded positive SPI values and, experienced mild wetness all with rankings in the near-normal (wet) class. Three parishes experienced meteorological drought conditions in the October/November period.

Parish Mean Rainfall November 2021 and November 2022 vs 30-Yr Parish Means

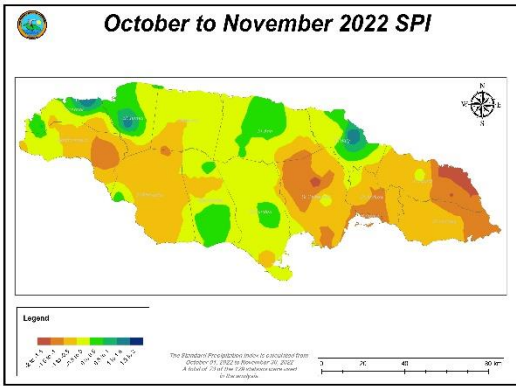


Parish Percentages of 30-Yr Monthly Mean Rainfall



[Click here to visit our website for additional information](#)

Drought (SPI) Discussion:



Analyses of the October/November parish SPI values indicated that, twelve of 13 parishes recorded decreases in their SPI values while, one parish recorded an increase.

St. Catherine recorded the largest decrease in SPI value with -1.62, followed by Trelawny with -1.33, Portland with -1.15 and Clarendon & St. Thomas both with -0.95, being the top five parishes to do so. Westmoreland recorded the only increase in SPI value with +0.24.

Nine of thirteen (13) parishes experienced varying levels of dryness, with rankings ranging from near-normal (dry) to moderately dry. Meanwhile, four parishes experienced mild wetness, all with rankings in the near-normal (wet) class.

The parish which recorded the largest decrease in SPI value, namely St. Catherine, recorded a downward movement of four (4) severity classes; the most from among the parishes. Meanwhile, Trelawny and Portland both experienced downward movements by three (3) severity classes each and St. Thomas was among five parishes which experienced downward movements by two (2) severity classes, with the other parishes being St. Elizabeth, Manchester, Kingston & St. Andrew (KSA) and St. Ann. Clarendon, St. Mary and St. James experienced downward movements by one (1) severity class each. Westmoreland and Hanover both in the west, experienced no movement in severity class and, therefore, no changes in conditions.

There was a reversal of conditions in St. Catherine, deteriorating from abnormally wet to moderately dry. Reversal of conditions also occurred in the following parishes: Trelawny from moderately wet to near-normal (dry); Manchester from abnormally wet to near-normal (dry); Clarendon from near-normal (wet) to near-normal (dry) and Portland from near-normal (wet) to moderately dry. Conditions became drier in the following parishes: St. Elizabeth, KSA and St. Thomas, with each moving from near-normal (dry) to moderately dry. Conditions in Westmoreland remained the same at moderately dry.

Meanwhile, conditions were not as wet in the following parishes: St. Ann from moderately wet to near-normal (wet) and St. James and St. Mary both from abnormally wet to near-normal (wet). Hanover experienced no change and remained at near-normal (wet).

Three (3) parishes; namely Westmoreland, St. Thomas and Portland experienced meteorological drought conditions in the October/November bi-monthly period, with St. Catherine being marginally above the declaration of experiencing drought.

St. Ann recorded the highest SPI value of 0.34 while, Portland recorded the lowest SPI value of -1.07.

[Parish Drought \(SPI\) for August to November 2022 and the Drought Severity Classes \(click here to view\)](#)

Precipitation and Temperature Outlook

January to March 2023

The period December to March is regarded as Jamaica's dry season where, the island traditionally receives its lowest amounts of rainfall. For the months of January to March 2023 however, the island is projected to receive above-normal rainfall.

The below-normal rainfall received in Jamaica during October and November makes it consecutive months of this occurring and, therefore, bringing drier conditions to many areas in all parishes, with three (3) parishes experiencing meteorological drought conditions, before the start of the dry season. This should be cause for concern, especially during the period when reduced rainfall amounts are traditionally expected and, it is therefore likely, that dry/drought conditions could worsen in more areas across several parishes.

Despite the rainfall projections, water levels in storage facilities and in rivers, could continue to decline and therefore, water management plans including conservation should be activated.

Temperatures over the three months from January to March are forecast to be near-normal to above-normal and this should make for comfortable day time and cooler night time conditions during the northern hemisphere winter months.

As the Meteorological Service continues to monitor drought conditions across the island, the advice is for stakeholders particularly farmers, is to employ rainwater harvesting and other soil moisture retention methods, which may prove useful for the upcoming months.

CONTACT US:

Meteorological Service, Jamaica

65 ¾ Half Way Tree Road, Kingston 10

Telephone: 876-929-3700 / 876-929-3706

Email: datarequest@metservice.gov.jm