

**Climate Change: Jamaica and the Caribbean**  
*Really, what must we expect?*

Michael Taylor and Anthony Chen  
Climate Studies Group Mona  
Department of Physics  
University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica

Historical records are studied for means and trends in temperature and rainfall in Jamaica and the Caribbean. Scenarios of future changes using global and regional climate models are developed. Local studies of sea level rise are presented. For temperature changes by the end of the century it is found that much of the same can be expected. Thus temperatures will continue to increase, by between 1 and 3.5°C, and there will be warmer days and nights. For rainfall some of the same but some differences can be expected. Rainfall will be strongly modulated by interannual and decadal variability but there will be a drying tendency toward the end of the century. Sea level will continue to rise but the level is uncertain.