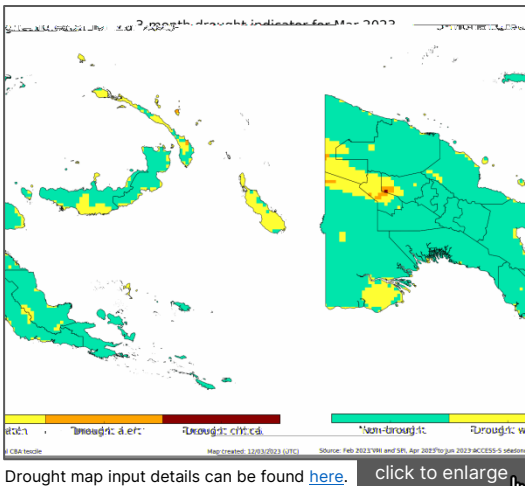


Key messages

Despite the recent rainfalls, Bougainville, East New Britain, West New Britain and West Sepik provinces continue to remain at severe drought risk conditions. La Niña has ended and ENSO is at neutral conditions.

Drought Early Warning Status

Derived from observed rainfall, vegetation health and forecasted rainfall.



Drought map input details can be found [here](#). [click to enlarge](#)

- [Rainfall over the last month](#) was below average at Bougainville, Hela, Enga and most parts of Western Provinces. In MOMASE region, Manus, Milne Bay and parts of Gulf, rainfall was above average. Rest of the country received average rainfall.
- [Rainfall over the last three months](#) was below average at Bougainville, Enga, Hela, New Ireland South Fly and West New Britain. In Gulf, East Sepik, Manus, Milne Bay, Oro and Southern Highlands, rainfall was above average. Rest of the country received average rainfall.
- [Vegetation health conditions](#), mild stress in Bougainville, Enga, Jiwaka, New Ireland and parts of Oro.
- [Forecasts for the upcoming season](#) indicate above average rainfall over Milne Bay, Morobe and South Fly. Rest of the country is forecasted to receive average to below average rainfall.
- At the [6-month drought timescale](#), Bougainville, Enga, East New Britain, Hela, New Ireland, West New Britain and Western Highlands are at drought watch.

3-month timescale provincial summary (detailed table [here](#) – select 'Download')

● Drought Watch ● Drought Alert ● Drought Critical

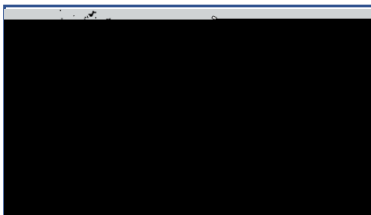
Bougainville, New Ireland, Hela

Drought Risk Status

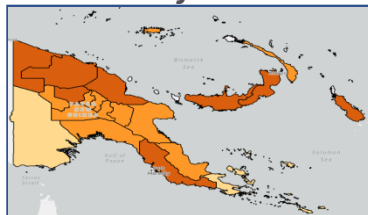
An indication of past drought risk based on drought hazard, exposure and vulnerability.

- Bougainville, East New Britain, West New Britain and West Sepik remain at severe drought risk whilst most provinces previously at severe risk levels have reduced to a moderate level. All provinces will continue to be monitored.
- Milne Bay remains at mild risk level as it continues to receive above average rainfall.

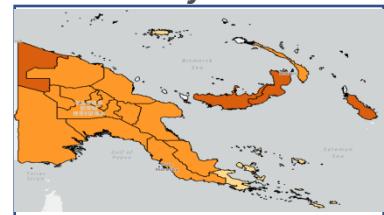
December 2022



January 2023



February 2023



Extreme 0.81-1.00
 Severe 0.61-0.80
 Moderate 0.41-0.60
 Mild 0.21-0.40
 Very Mild 0.01-0.20
 No Data

● Provinces in Severe this month

● Provinces in Extreme this month

Bougainville, East New Britain, West New Britain, West Sepik

Climate Context

A summary of the relevant climate drivers affecting PNG over the coming months

- ACCESS-S outlook for the coming season indicate above average rainfall over Milne Bay, Morobe and South Fly. Rest of the country is forecasted to receive average to below average rainfall.
- La Niña has ended in the Pacific region and ENSO is at neutral conditions.
- Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) is active in the eastern Pacific and forecasted to move into the Atlantic region in the next one to two weeks and is not likely to influence rainfall over PNG.
- The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is at a neutral state and is expected to remain neutral for the next few months.