

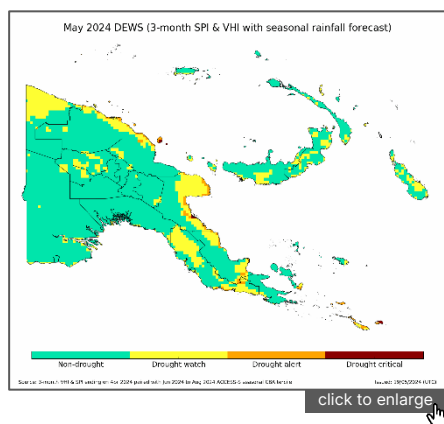
Key messages

Issued 27/05/2024

Drought Watch conditions persists for NCD with mild exposure and severe vulnerability levels. El Niño Southern Oscillation remains at neutral conditions. ENSO neutral is possible in the next two months. An IOD remain at neutral which may possibly reach a weak positive IOD in the next month or two. Wet season has ended, however northern parts of PNG are predicted to receive above average rainfall whilst other parts of PNG are mostly likely to receive below normal to near normal rainfall.

Drought Early Warning Status (DEWS)

Derived from observed 3-month rainfall and vegetation health, along with 3-month forecasted rainfall.

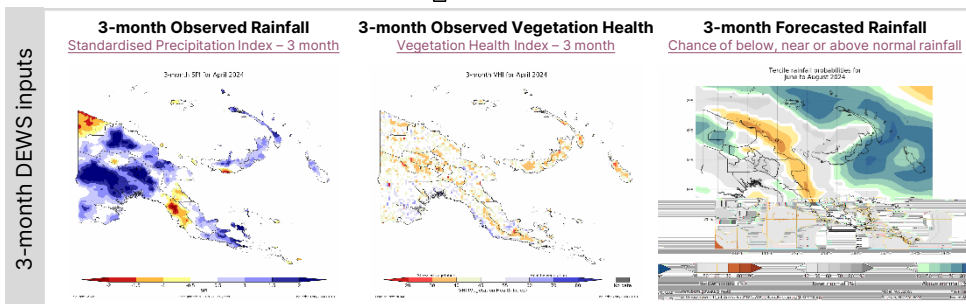


- Drought watch conditions persist for NCD at 3-months timescale.
- Central province in the last month has received less rainfall resulting in lower rainfall amounts and slightly affected vegetation cover.
- At the 12-month timescale, rainfall deficiencies remain in parts of Hela, Morobe and West Sepik provinces. Long term rainfall deficiencies may affect water levels despite current rainfall amounts received.

3-month timescale provincial summary

(A province's overall status is given by its majority status on the map and is presented in this [summary table](#))

● Drought Watch	● Drought Alert	● Drought Critical
Below average rainfall or Stressed vegetation or Dry forecast	(Below average rainfall or Stressed vegetation) and Dry forecast	Below average rainfall and Stressed vegetation and Dry forecast
Central and NCD	No Province	No Provinces



Links to other timescales:

- [1-month Drought Early Warning Status](#)
Drought early warning status using 1-month rainfall, 1-month vegetation health and 3-month rainfall forecast.
- [1-month Standardised Precipitation Index](#)
Rainfall over the last month.
- [1-month Vegetation Health Index](#)
Vegetation health over the last month.
- [6-month Drought Early Warning Status](#)
Drought early warning status using 6-month rainfall, 6-month vegetation health and 3-month rainfall forecast.
- [6-month Standardised Precipitation Index](#)
Rainfall over the last 6 months.
- [6-month Vegetation Health Index](#)
Vegetation health over the last 6 months.

Provinces at Risk if Drought Occurs

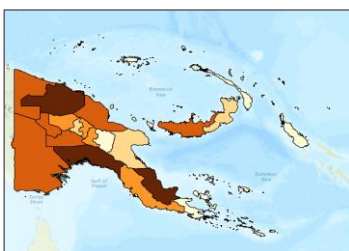
Contextualise drought early warning information with drought risk information.

Drought risk is the probability of harmful impacts resulting from interactions between drought hazard, exposure, and vulnerability. Hazard information is given by the Early Warning Status, with drought exposure and vulnerability levels shown in the maps below.

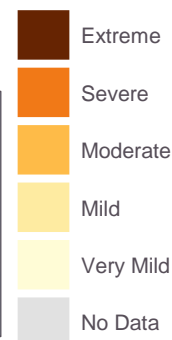
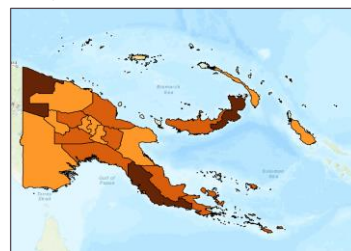
Provinces of concern:

- Central has a majority Drought Watch status with Moderate exposure level and Severe vulnerability level.
- NCD has a majority Drought Watch status with Mild exposure level and Severe vulnerability level.

Exposure - Extent of exposed aspects of the total population and its livelihoods in an area which drought may occur.



Vulnerability - Likelihood of exposed factors to suffer negative impacts when drought occurs.



Climate Context

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

- ACCESS-S outlook for one and three months, shows the rainfall is likely to be above normal over islands region and parts of East and West Sepik. In contrast, below normal rainfall to near normal rainfall is likely for rest of the country.
- El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains at neutral conditions. Models suggest ENSO neutral is possible in the next two months.
- An Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is at neutral conditions. Climate models indicate weak positive IOD is possible in the next one to two months.
- The MJO is currently weak and may not likely have any influence on rainfall. Climate models indicate the MJO to re-strengthen over the coming weeks.