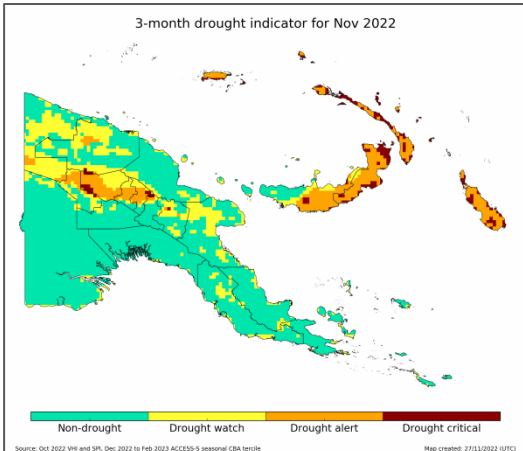


## Key messages

New Ireland is at critical drought condition due to continuous rainfall deficiencies in the past months. Bougainville, East New Britain, Enga, Jiwaka, Manus, West New Britain and Western Highlands provinces are at Drought alert. All are experiencing Severe risk levels. Forecasts indicate continued cause for concern for these provinces. However, with the peak of wet season and La Niña, Southern parts of PNG is expected to receive above average rainfall.

## 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 New Guinea Islands, including Bougainville, MOMASE region, Eastern Highlands, Enga, Jiwaka, Western Highlands, coastal areas of Central and northern parts of Oro Province.
- [Rainfall over the last three months](#) was below average at New Guinea Islands region, East Sepik, Eastern Highlands, Enga, Hela, Jiwaka, Western Highlands, northern parts of Chimbu and Eastern Highlands
- [Vegetation health conditions](#), mild stress in Bougainville, East New Britain, East Sepik, Morobe and West Sepik.
- [Forecasts for the upcoming season](#) indicate below average rainfall across the country except Southern region to receive above average rainfall.
- At the [6-month drought timescale](#), New Ireland is at critical drought whilst Bougainville, East New Britain, Enga, Jiwaka, Manus, West New Britain and Western Highlands provinces are at drought alert which is due to continuous rainfall deficiencies in the last few months

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

● Drought Watch	● Drought Alert	● Drought Critical
Hela, National Capital District, West Sepik	Bougainville, East New Britain, Enga, Jiwaka, Manus, West New Britain and Western Highlands	New Ireland

## Drought Risk Status

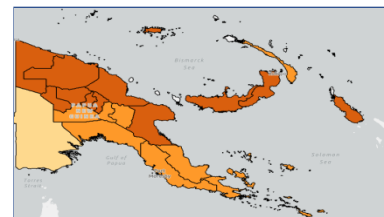
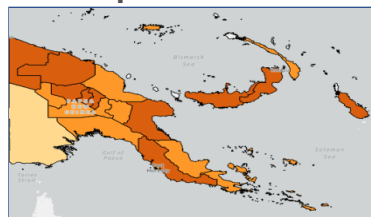
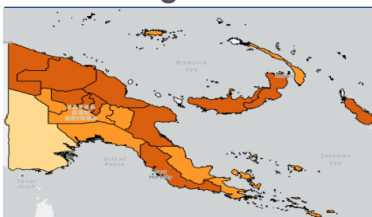
An indication of past drought risk based on drought hazard, exposure and vulnerability.

- Bougainville, East New Britain, East Sepik, Enga, Jiwaka, Manus, Morobe, West New Britain and West Sepik provinces remain at high-risk levels, thus suggest close monitoring.
- Central province has decreased risk levels since last month.

August 2022

September 2022

October 2022



● Provinces in Severe this month

● Provinces in Extreme this month

Bougainville, East New Britain, East Sepik, Enga, Jiwaka, Manus, Morobe, West New Britain, West Sepik

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## Climate Context

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

- ACCESS-S outlook shows average to above average rainfall for major parts of PNG except Manus, NGI, and Bougainville which shows drier than average conditions for December. However, 3 months outlook shows drier-than-average conditions across the country.
- With the peak of the wet season and the La Niña, the country is expected to receive above-normal rainfall for southern parts of PNG.
- A strong MJO pulse is expected to influence the country's rainfall in the coming weeks.
- ENSO remains at La Niña in the Pacific. Models indicating a return to ENSO-neutral conditions (neither La Niña nor El Niño) early in 2023.
- Negative IOD is weak and at neutral level.