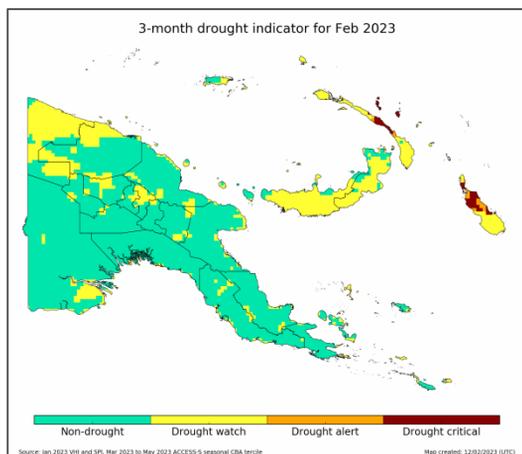


## Key messages

Despite the recent rains, several provinces remain at severe drought conditions. These provinces include, Bougainville, New Ireland, Central, East New Britain, East Sepik, Enga, Madang, West New Britain and West Sepik.

## 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 in Bougainville, NGI region, Chimbu, Enga, Eastern Highlands, Madang, Morobe, West Sepik and southern parts of Western Province. In Hela, Southern Highlands, Oro, Gulf, Milne Bay, Western and parts of Central, above average rainfall was received.
- [Rainfall over the last three months](#) was average to below average at Bougainville, New Guinea Islands region, East Sepik, Enga, Eastern Highlands, Madang, Morobe, Western Highlands and southern parts of Western province. In Southern Highlands, Hela and Southern region, rainfall was above average.
- [Vegetation health conditions](#), minor stress in Bougainville, East Sepik, Enga and New Ireland.
- [Forecasts for the upcoming season](#) indicate above average rainfall over Morobe, Southern Highlands and Southern region whilst below average rainfall in Bougainville, New Ireland and Manus. In East Sepik, West Sepik, Madang, Highlands region, the outlook shows neutral conditions.
- At the [6-month drought timescale](#), Bougainville and central New Ireland are still at a critical drought due to rainfall deficiencies in the past months

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

● Drought Watch      ● Drought Alert      ● Drought Critical

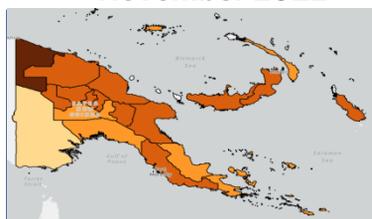
Bougainville, East New Britain, Jiwaka, Manus, New Ireland, west New Britain, West Sepik

## Drought Risk Status

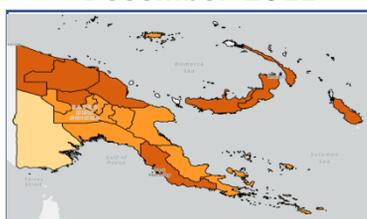
An indication of past drought risk based on drought hazard, exposure and vulnerability.

- Bougainville, Central, East New Britain, East Sepik, Enga, Madang, West New Britain and West Sepik remain at severe drought risk whilst Eastern Highlands, Hela, Jiwaka, Morobe, Oro and Western Highlands are at moderate risk levels.
- Milne Bay has reduced risks to a mild level as it has been receiving above average rainfall in the last few months. All provinces will continue to be monitored.

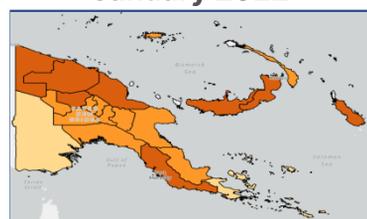
### November 2022



### December 2022



### January 2022



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, Central, East New Britain, East Sepik, Enga, Madang, New Ireland, West New Britain

## Climate Context

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

- ACCESS-S outlook shows above average rainfall over Morobe, Southern Highlands and Southern region whilst below average in Bougainville, New Ireland and Manus. In East Sepik, West Sepik, Madang and Highlands region, the outlook shows neutral conditions.
- El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains at La Niña in the Pacific. It is easing and may return to neutral in the coming months. Even as La Nina weakens, it will continue to influence rainfall, especially over the southern coastal regions of PNG
- Strong Madden–Julian oscillation (MJO) over the past few days has enhanced rainfall over PNG. It is expected to track eastward, away from PNG, over the coming weeks
- The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is currently at neutral state and is expected to remain neutral for the next few months.