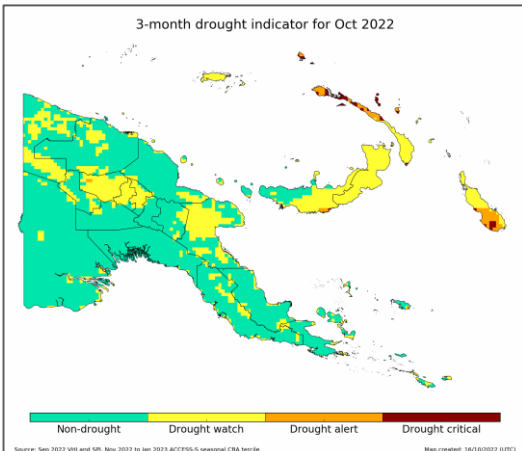


Key messages

Significant number of provinces remain at severe drought risk which is due to rainfall deficiencies in the past few months. South Bougainville and northern parts of New Ireland are at critical drought condition and are forecasted to experience below average rainfall in the next one to three months.

Drought Early Warning Status

Derived from observed rainfall and 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 the Islands region including Bougainville, lower parts of East and West Sepik, Enga, Hela, Western Highlands, Jiwaka, Chimbu, Eastern Highlands and Morobe.
- [Rainfall over the last three months](#) was below average across the Islands region, north and southern parts of West Sepik, Morobe, northern parts of Eastern Highlands, Jiwaka, Enga and Western Highlands.
- [Vegetation health conditions](#) indicate some mild vegetation stress present over East & West Sepik, Madang, East New Britain, and Bougainville.
- At the [6-month timescale](#), South Bougainville and northern parts of New Ireland province remain drought affected.
- Despite a [wet forecast](#) for southern parts of PNG, South Bougainville and northern parts of New Ireland are predicted to receive below average rainfall, in the coming months.

3-month timescale provincial summary (detailed status table [here](#))

Drought Watch	Drought Alert	Drought Critical
Bougainville, Central, Chimbu, Eastern Highlands, East New Britain, East Sepik, Enga, Hela, Jiwaka, Morobe, NCD, New Ireland, West Sepik and Western Highlands	None	None

Drought Risk Status

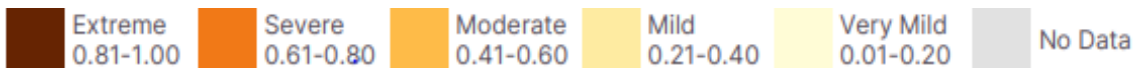
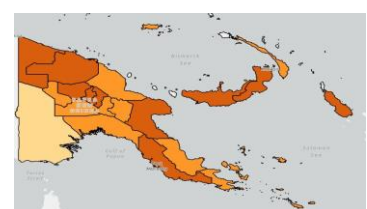
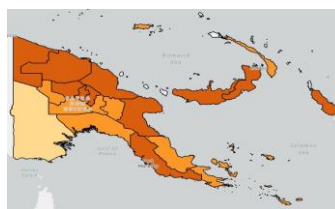
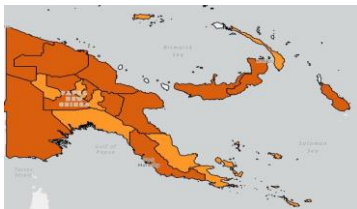
An indication of past drought risk based on drought hazard, exposure and vulnerability.

- Bougainville, Central, East New Britain, East Sepik, Enga, Jiwaka, Morobe, West New Britain, Western Highlands and West Sepik provinces remain at severe drought risk levels for several months now. These provinces will continue to be monitored closely.
- Risk levels remain similar in most provinces except Madang and Western Province have decreased risk levels.

July 2022

August 2022

September 2022



● September 2022 Provinces in Severe

● September 2022 Provinces in Extreme

Bougainville, Central, East New Britain, East Sepik, Enga, Jiwaka, Madang, Morobe, Western Highlands, West New Britain, West Sepik

Nil

Climate Context

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

- ACCESS-S outlooks suggests a wetter outlook over southern region, Southern Highlands, Morobe, West New Britain and northern parts of East and West Sepik in November. Average to below average rainfall is forecasted for most of highlands region, Kavieng, Manus, south Bougainville and northern parts of East and West Sepik.
- La Niña is still active. Cooler than average sea surface temperatures in Central & Eastern Pacific persist with atmospheric conditions indicating a La Niña event. Models suggest a return to ENSO neutral state by early 2023.
- The negative IOD continues. Models suggest IOD to return to neutral values in December 2022.