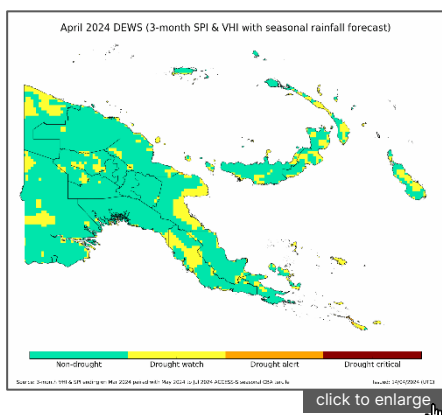


Key messages

NCD and New Ireland continues to be on Drought Watch with moderate to severe Vulnerability levels. However, Milne Bay and Central Provinces have received enough rainfall easing the ongoing drought like conditions. El Niño has ended and hence at neutral conditions. An IOD remain at neutral which may potentially reach positive thresholds in the next month or two. Wet season is ending, however northern parts of PNG are predicted to receive above average rainfall.

Drought Early Warning Status (DEWS)

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

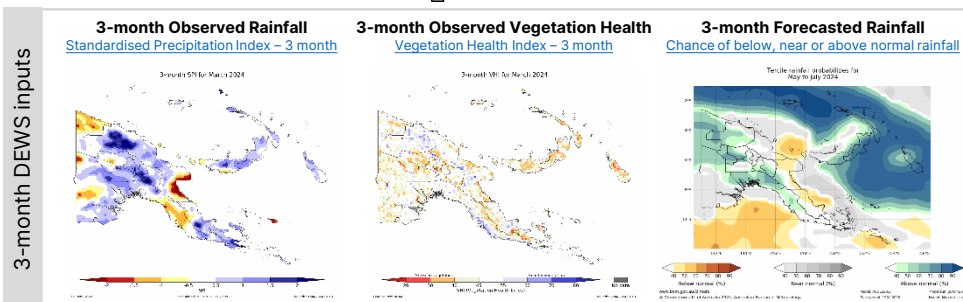


- Drought watch conditions continue for NCD and New Ireland at 3-month timescales.
- Milne Bay and Central provinces have received enough rainfall in the past months easing drought conditions at the 3 months timescale.
- At the 12-month timescale, rainfall deficiencies remain in parts of Highlands region, Morobe and West Sepik provinces. Long term deficiencies are likely to affect rainfall despite recent 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
Bougainville, NCD and New Ireland	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

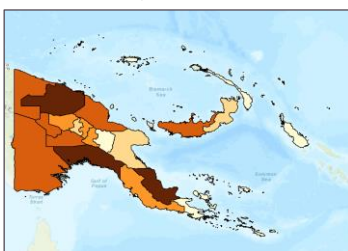
Contextualise drought early warning information with drought risk information.

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.

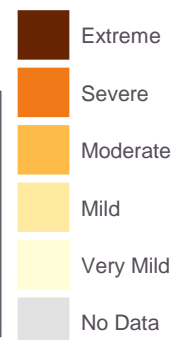
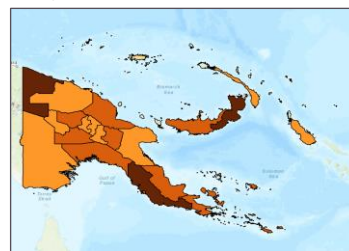
Provinces of concern:

- NCD has a majority Drought Watch status with Moderate exposure levels and Severe vulnerability levels.
- New Ireland has a majority Drought Watch status with Mild exposure levels and moderate vulnerability levels.

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 likelihood of above normal rainfall over Islands region including Bougainville. In Highlands region, East Sepik, West Sepik, and most parts of Southern region, rainfall is likely to be near normal to above normal. In addition, Milne Bay, Madang, Morobe, and Oro provinces show near normal to below normal rainfall.
- El Niño has ended and hence at neutral conditions. Climate models suggest ENSO neutral to continue in the next few months.
- An Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is at neutral conditions. Climate models indicate positive IOD in the next one or two months with a low confidence level.
- The MJO is currently weak and may not have any influence on rainfall. Climate models indicate the MJO to remain weak in the coming week.