

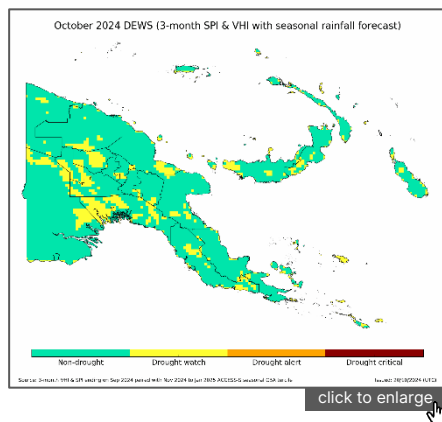
## Key messages

Issued 27/10/2024

Drought Watch conditions are in place for NCD with mild exposure and severe vulnerability levels. Most provinces have reduced drought risk levels due to recent rainfall amounts. El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is at neutral conditions. ENSO-neutral conditions will continue until at least February 2025 despite earlier signs of developing La Nina. An Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is at neutral conditions. The IOD is likely to remain neutral at least for the next three months. The Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) is located over Maritime continent. It is likely to enhance rainfall over parts of PNG.

## Drought Early Warning Status (DEWS)

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

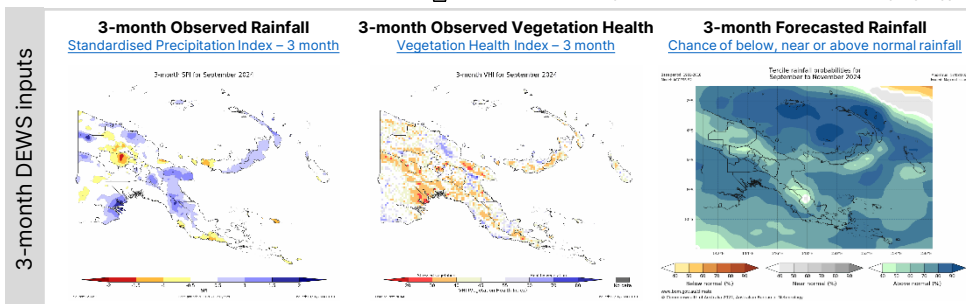


- Drought watch conditions are in place for NCD at 3-months timescale. However, at this time there is no significant impacts expected and it will be monitored closely.
- It is likely that Enga, Gulf, Hela, Manus and New Ireland provinces may transition to drought watch conditions in the coming months if not sufficient rainfall is received.
- At the 3 months timescale, there is vegetation stress around borders of Western and Gulf Provinces.
- Above normal rainfall is forecasted across the country which may possibly lead to flooding events in certain parts of PNG.

### 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
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

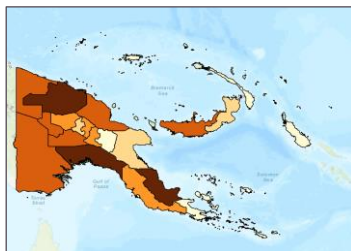
Contextualise drought early warning information with drought risk information.

**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.

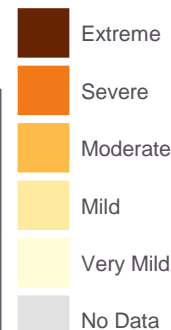
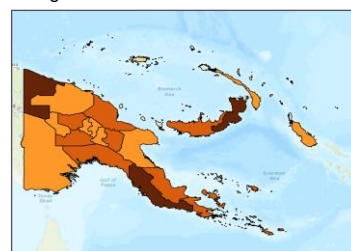
### Provinces of concern:

- NCD has Drought Watch status with Mild exposure and Severe vulnerability levels.
- All other provinces remain at non drought status with reduced risk 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 outlooks for November and November to January 2025 indicates a possibility of above normal rainfall across the country.
- El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is at neutral conditions. ENSO-neutral conditions will continue until at least February 2025 despite earlier signs of developing La Nina.
- An Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is at neutral conditions. The IOD is likely to remain neutral at least for the next three months..
- The Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) is located over Maritime continent. It is likely to enhance rainfall over parts of PNG.