

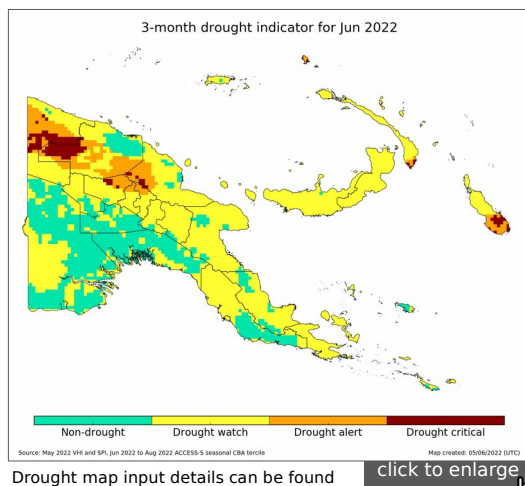
Key messages

Gulf, Southern Highlands and Western have no drought conditions. Most provinces have been in drought watch in the last few months and remain at watch. East New Britain continues to be at extreme drought risk for the last three months whilst Central, West Sepik, Enga and Madang are in the second month of extreme

Drought Risk.

Drought Early Warning Status

Derived from observed rainfall and vegetation health; and forecasted rainfall.



- [Rainfall over the last month](#) was below average for most provinces except Hela, Southern Highlands and Western.
- [Rainfall over the last three months](#) was above average in Gulf, Central, Southern Highlands and northern parts of Western. However below average across most provinces in the
- [Vegetation health conditions](#) remains as it is showing mild stress over East and West Sepik and parts of the PNG Highlands areas.
- At the [6-month timescale](#), Bougainville remain drought affected.

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

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

Drought Risk Status

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

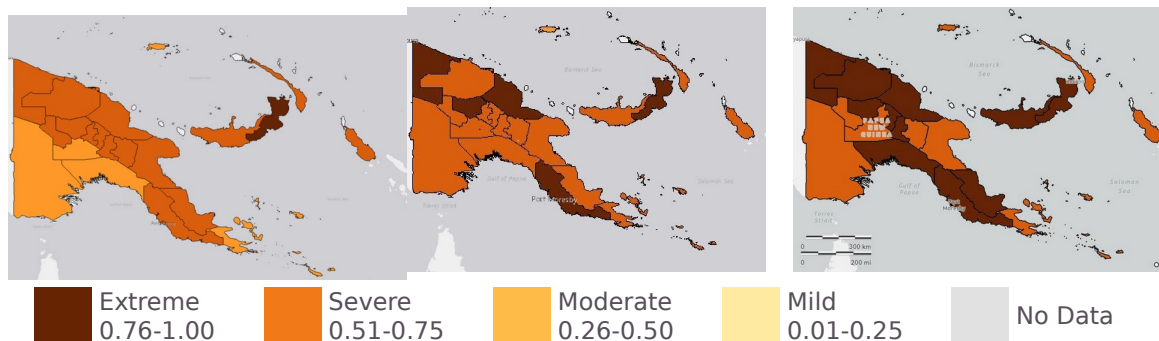
East New Britain remains at a high-risk level as it has been in recent months; it needs to be closely monitored.

- Most provinces are at a severe or extreme risk level into the second month.

March 2022

April 2022

May 2022



● May 2022 Provinces in Severe

Bougainville, Central, Chimbu, East Sepik, Eastern Highlands, Hela, Jiwaka, Morobe, New Ireland, Northern (Oro), West New Britain, Western Highlands

● May 2022 Provinces in Extreme

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

Climate Context

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

- ACCESS-S outlook shows wet conditions across most of PNG from July into the next three months. However, East and West Sepik predicted to remain drier in the same period.
- La Niña continues to weaken with ENSO returning to neutral.
- The IOD is currently at neutral state. There is possibility in development of a negative IOD in the next few month as model skills continue to improve.