

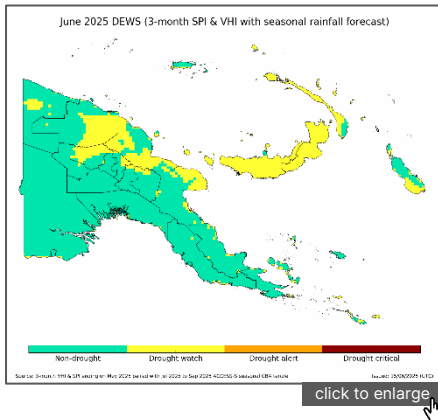
Key messages

Issued 24/06/2025

East New Britain, New Ireland and West New Britain provinces have been in drought watch for at least 6 months despite the last wet season. Prolong dry conditions in these locations may affect water resources and water dependant crops. El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains in neutral condition. ENSO neutral is forecasted to remain this forecast period. Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) remains neutral since last forecast period. Neutral conditions may possibly continue for this forecast period.

Drought Early Warning Status (DEWS)

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

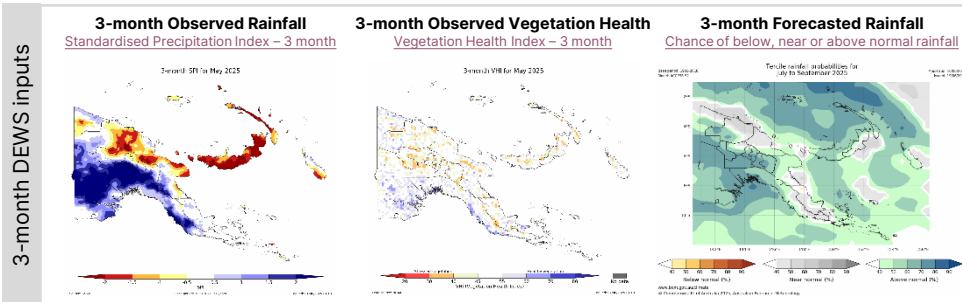


- East New Britain, New Ireland and West New Britain continues to be in drought watch status since December 2024 whilst Madang has been in drought watch since February 2025.
- Prolong dry conditions in these locations may affect water resources and water dependent crops.
- Enga has transitioned to a drought watch status at the three months timescale.

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

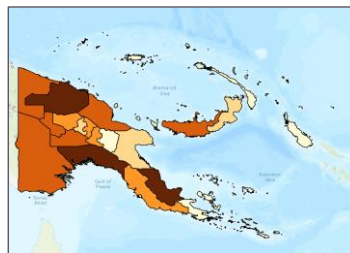
Contextualise drought early warning information with drought risk information.

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.

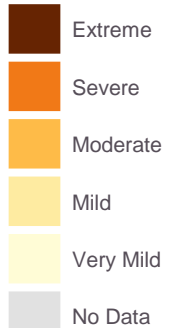
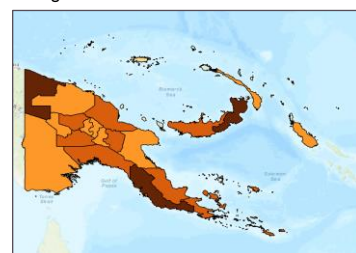
Provinces of concern:

- East New Britain, Madang, New Ireland & West New Britain have drought watch status at a three months timescale with mild to extreme exposure and vulnerability levels.
- Enga has a drought watch status at a three months timescale with moderate exposure and 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 rainfall forecast for July shows above normal rainfall across most parts of PNG including New Guinea Islands region whilst August to September shows average rainfall. During this time of the year, typically low rainfall is experienced in most parts of PNG.
- El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remains in neutral condition. Models indicating ENSO neutral to continue this forecast period.
- Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) remains neutral since last forecast period. Neutral conditions may possibly continue for this forecast period.
- The MJO is currently weak. It is forecasted to remain weak in the remaining weeks of June.