

Drought and Flood Monitoring Bulletin

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PREAMBLE

The WMO recommended Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) technique, which compares this month's rainfall values with the normal across the country and could be higher, equal or lower than the 30-year average. During the period under review, increased rainfall activities were observed across the country. Above normal rainfall amounts were reported in parts of the northwest, the northeast states, the Southwest inland, Imo in the South East Inland and parts of the South east coastal area. The maps represent the 1-month (i.e. July 2018), the 3-month (May - July 2018), the 6-month (February - July, 2018) and the 12-month (August, 2017 - July, 2018) SPIs respectively. They show the degree of wetness and/ or dryness across the country during the periods under review.

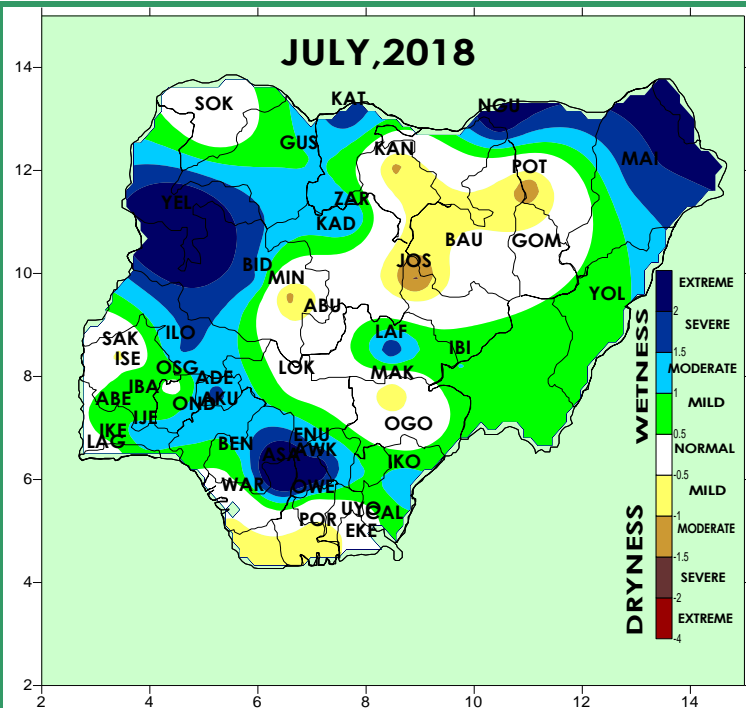


Fig.1: 1-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for meteorological drought)

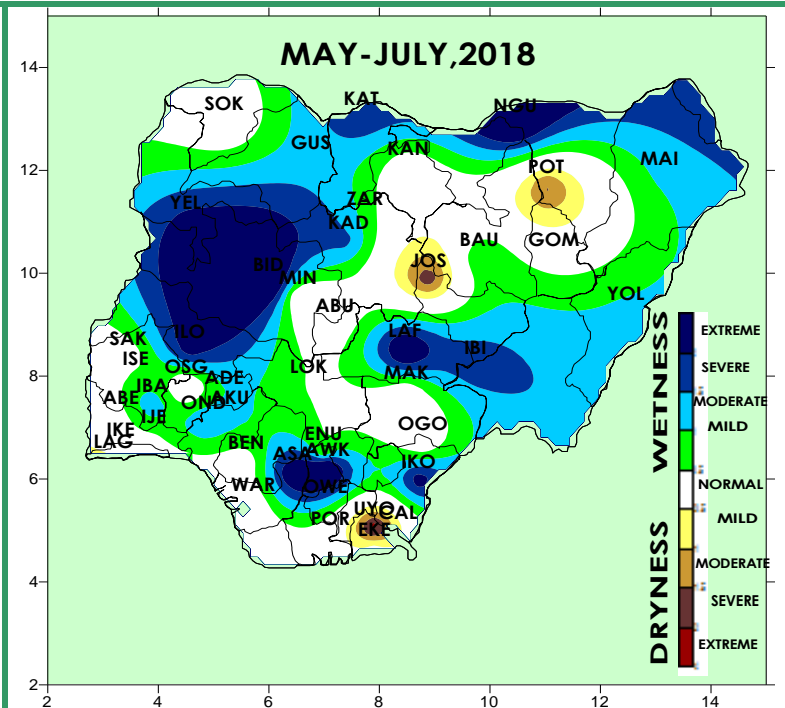


Fig.2: 3-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for agricultural drought)

OBSERVED FEATURES

The 1-month Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) for July (Fig.1), shows significant parts of the country under wetter-than-normal conditions as the rainfall establishes in most parts of the country resulting to extreme wetness in parts of Kebbi, Niger, Katsina, Borno and Yobe states. Parts of Nassarawa, Kwara, Osun, Ekiti Delta, Ondo and Imo states experienced extreme-to-severe wetness. Mild-to-moderate wet conditions were experienced over parts of Zamfara, Kaduna, Adamawa, Taraba and Benue States. However, other parts of the country were under normal to mild dryness except for parts of Plateau and Yobe, which experienced moderate dryness.

Analysis of the 3-month Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) in (Fig.2) showed similar distribution of wetness with 1-month SPI across the country, with parts of Yobe, Kebbi, Niger, Kwara, Nassarawa, Benue and Delta states having experienced extreme-to-severe wet conditions. Mild-to-moderate wetness was observed over Zamfara, Kaduna, Ondo, Osun, Benue, parts of Edo, Enugu, Ogun and Cross River States. Other parts of the country were under normal condition, with the exception of parts of Yobe, Gombe, Plateau and Cross River States where mild-to-severe dryness were observed.

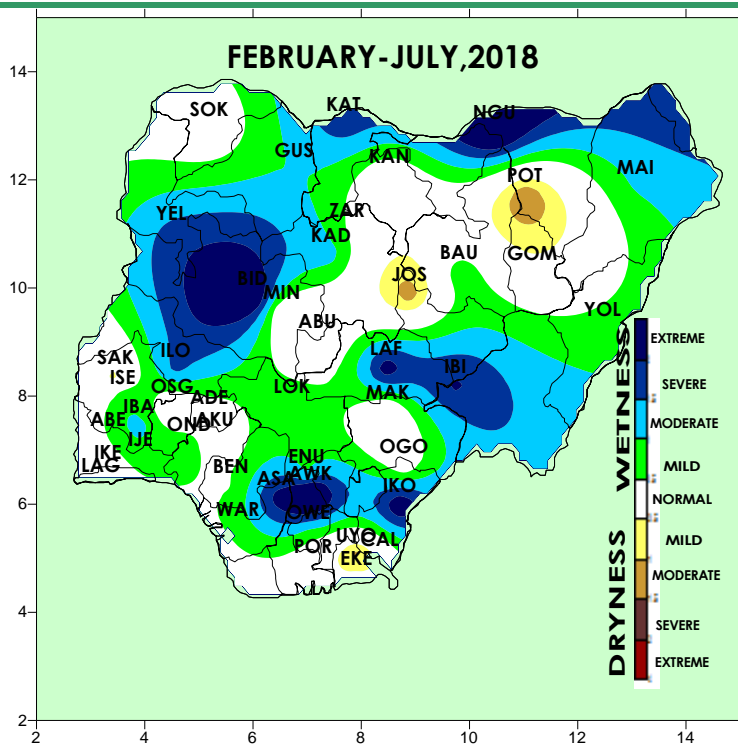


Fig. 3: 6-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for Groundwater drought)

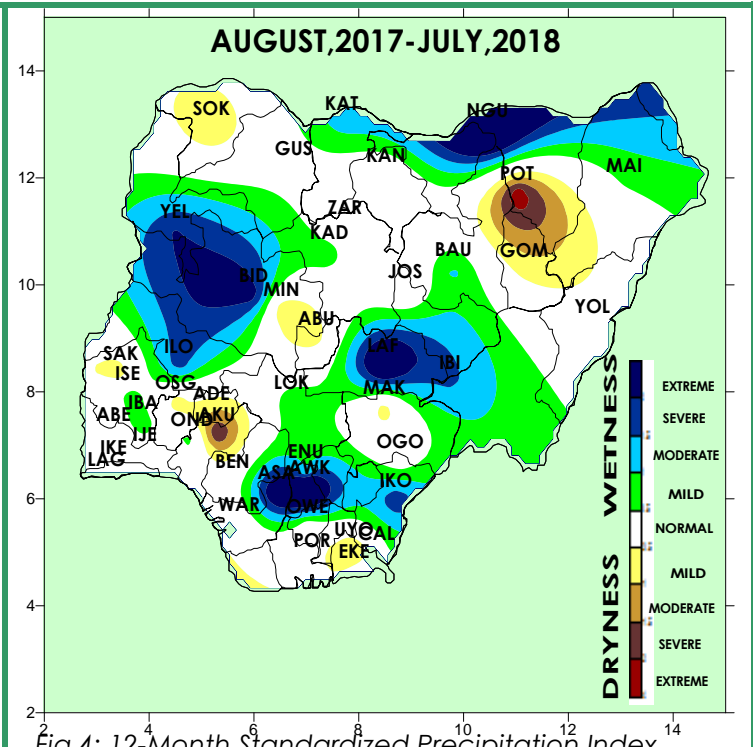


Fig.4: 12-Month Standardized Precipitation Index (for stream-flow and lake storage drought)

The cumulative rainfall analysis (SPI-6) for groundwater monitoring (Fig.3) shows extreme-to-severe wetness over parts of Katsina, Yobe, Niger, Maiduguri, Nasarawa, Kwara, Taraba, Cross River, Imo, Anambra and Delta States. Moderate-to-mild wetness was observed over Zamfara, Kano, Niger, Kebbi, Adamawa, Osun, Oyo, Ogun, Edo and Kogi states. The rest of the country witnessed normal conditions except parts of Yobe, Gombe, Plateau and Cross River States that contends with mild-to-moderate dry conditions.

The 12-month Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) for stream flows and lake storage monitoring analysis shows increased wetter-than-normal conditions over parts of Katsina, Yobe, Maiduguri, Kebbi, Taraba, Delta, Anambra and Imo states. However, parts of Yobe and Ondo experienced extreme-to-severe dryness becoming mild-to-moderate over parts of Sokoto, Gombe, FCT, Oyo and Osun States. Other parts of the country experienced normal conditions.

OUTLOOK FOR AUGUST, 2018

Rainfall activities are expected to peak in August thus boosting agricultural activities. However, the expected "little dry season", may likely delay rainfall activities in the south, especially the southwest. In line with these expectations, coupled with observations presented in the maps (fig 3 and 4), dam managers, reservoir operators and other actors in the hydrological community are advised to look out for positive impacts of flows, recharges and river discharges.

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