Assessment of rainfall received over the last month and 3-month period

The rainfall received during January 2020 was near-normal to above normal in most parts of the country. Below normal rainfall occurred over nearly the entire Gauteng and over the northeastern parts of the Northern Cape as well as in isolated areas of the Free State, KwaZulu-Natal and the Limpopo Province.

Assessment of Rainfall for January 2020

Legend
- Below Normal
- Near Normal
- Above Normal
During the 3-month period from November 2019 to January 2020, below-normal rainfall occurred over large parts of the Northern Cape extending to parts of the Western and Eastern Cape as well as in isolated areas across the country. The remainder of the country received near-normal to above-normal rainfall in isolated areas.

**Assessment of Rainfall for November 2019 to January 2020**
**Indications of Drought - Standardised Precipitation Index (SPI)**

During January 2020, moderately dry to severely dry conditions were experienced in small isolated areas of the Northern Cape, Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal. The remainder of the country experienced somewhat dry conditions in isolated areas.
During the three-month period from November to January 2020, moderately dry to severely dry conditions were experienced in isolated areas of the Northern Cape extending to adjacent areas of the Western Cape. Somewhat dry conditions were mostly experienced over the western-half of the country as well as in isolated areas in other parts of the country.

**Standardised Precipitation Index for November 2019 to January 2020**
During the six-month period from August 2019 to January 2020, extremely dry conditions were experienced in isolated areas over the Northern Cape. Moderately dry to severely dry conditions were experienced in large parts of the Northern and Eastern Cape as well as in small isolated areas across the country except Gauteng. The remainder of the country experienced somewhat dry conditions in isolated areas.
The 12-month (February 2019 to January 2020) as well as 24-month (February 2018 to January 2020) SPI maps give an indication of areas where prolonged droughts exist, in other words, where below-normal rainfall occurred over a period of one year or longer. On both the 12-month and the 24-month SPI maps, extremely dry conditions were most noticeable in large parts of the Northern Cape.
Standardised Precipitation Index for February 2018 to January 2020