

# Updating ministerial durations and stability in PNG from 1972-2022

PNG Update

University of Papua New Guinea

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Henry IVARATURE

*Australia Pacific Security College*

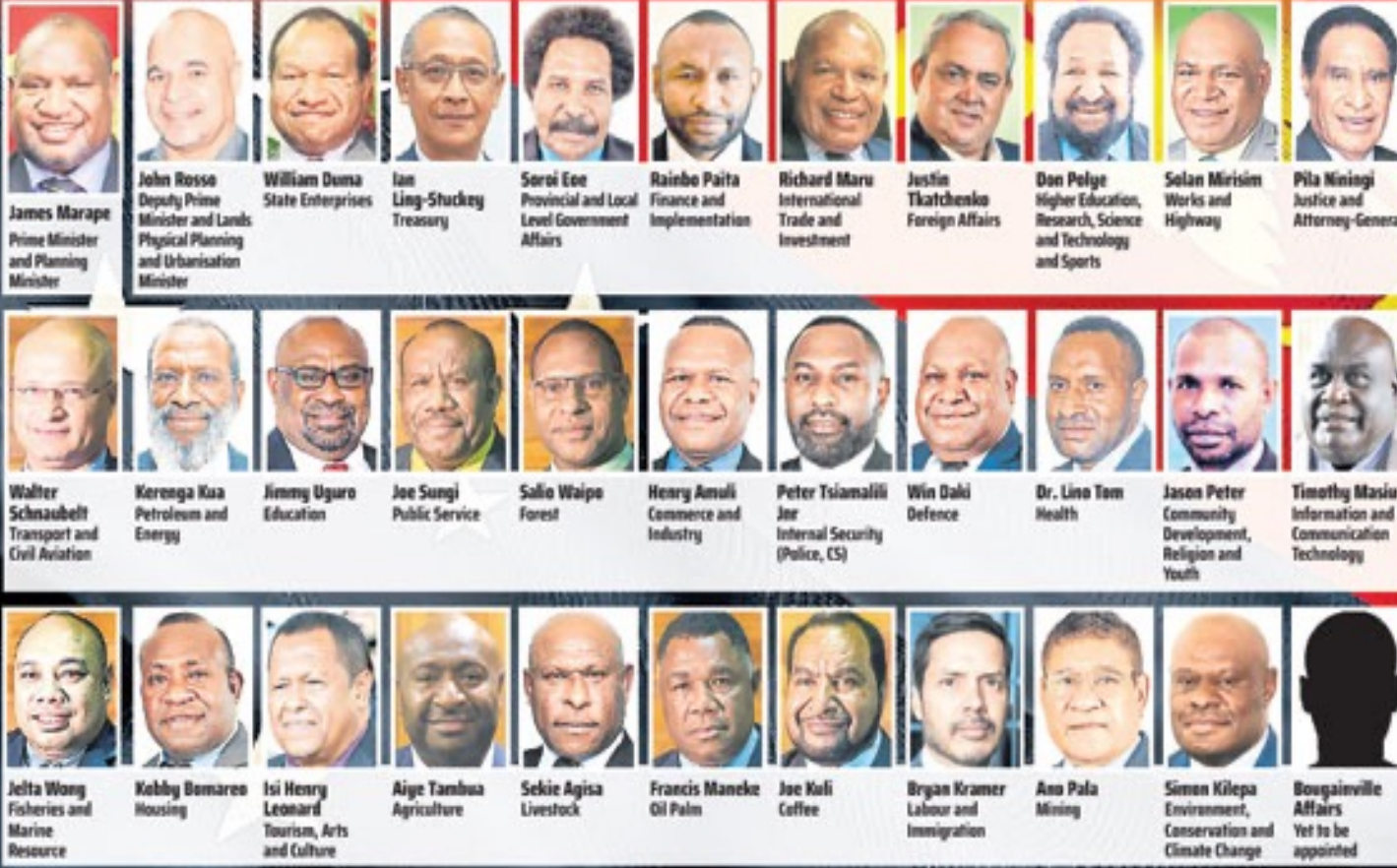


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# Marape's cabinet

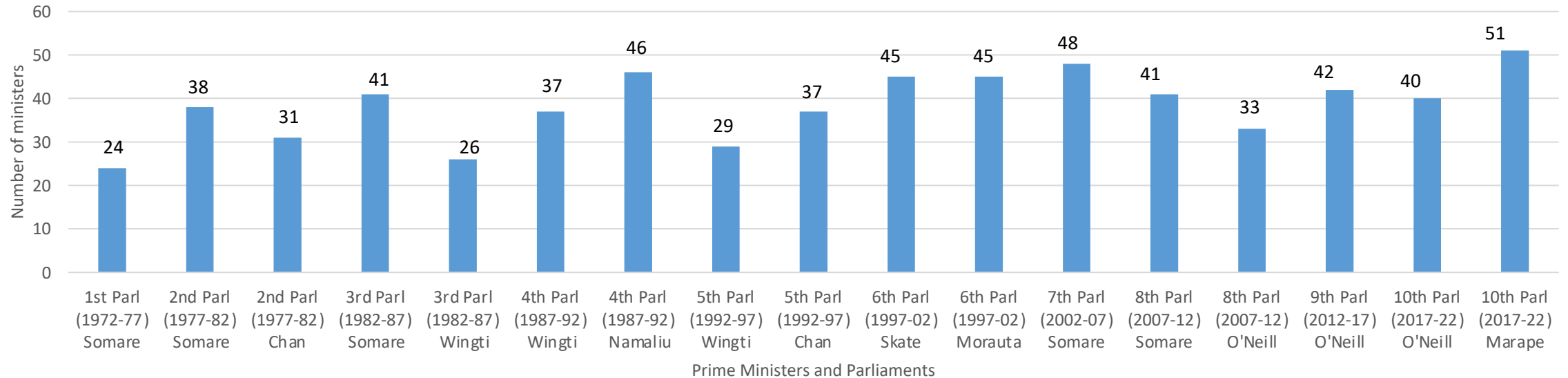


Marape's ministers,  
11<sup>th</sup> parliament

Source: The National,  
29 January 2023

# Number of ministers appointed by each prime minister, 1972-2022

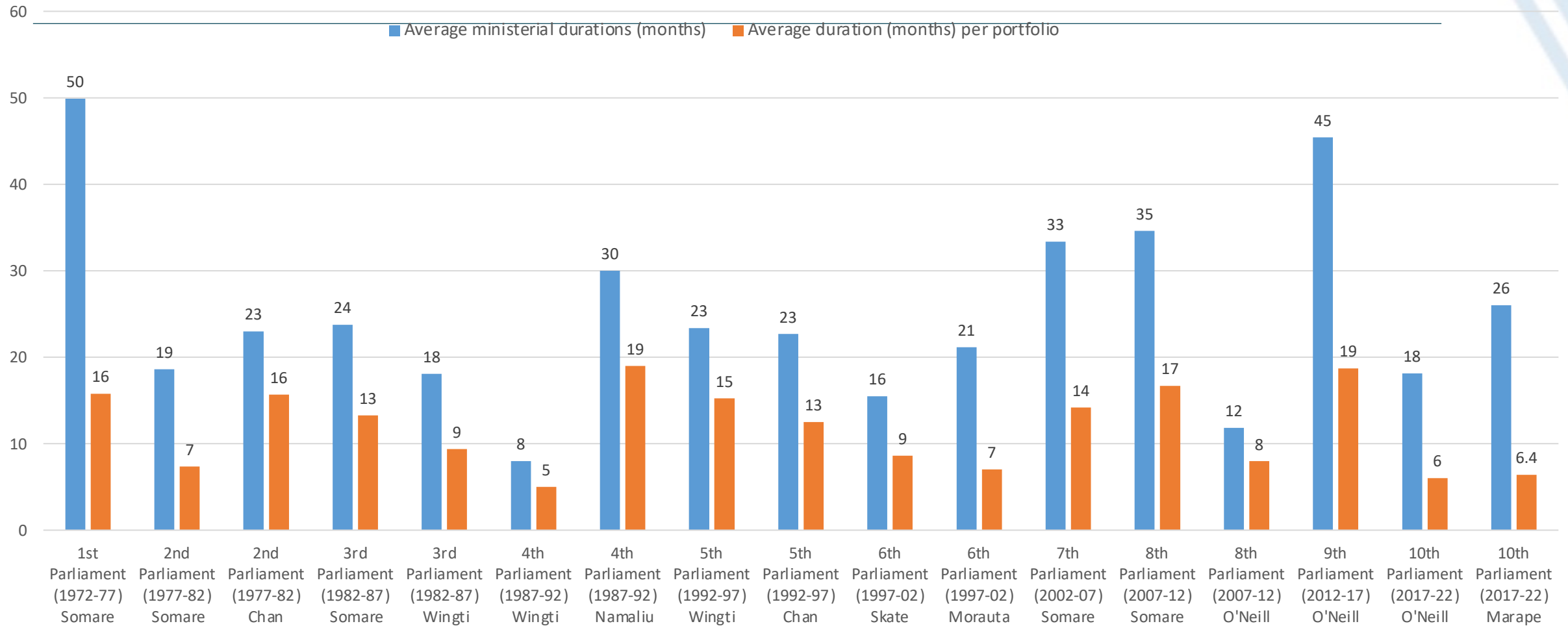
Total number of ministers appointed by each prime minister, 1972-2022



## Average ministerial durations & Stability indicators

- One average is the mean ministerial duration of all ministers in the government.
- The other is the average ministerial duration in a portfolio in that government.
- Each minister's total duration in every portfolio they held during the government in question was added together and divided by the number of portfolios they were appointed to in that government.
- All the averages for individual ministers were added and divided by the total number of ministers in the government, to calculate the mean duration in a portfolio for each government.
- These averages are used to construct two stability indicators to measure ministerial stability under each prime minister.

## Average ministerial durations (months) and average ministerial durations (months) per portfolio under prime ministers 1972-2022

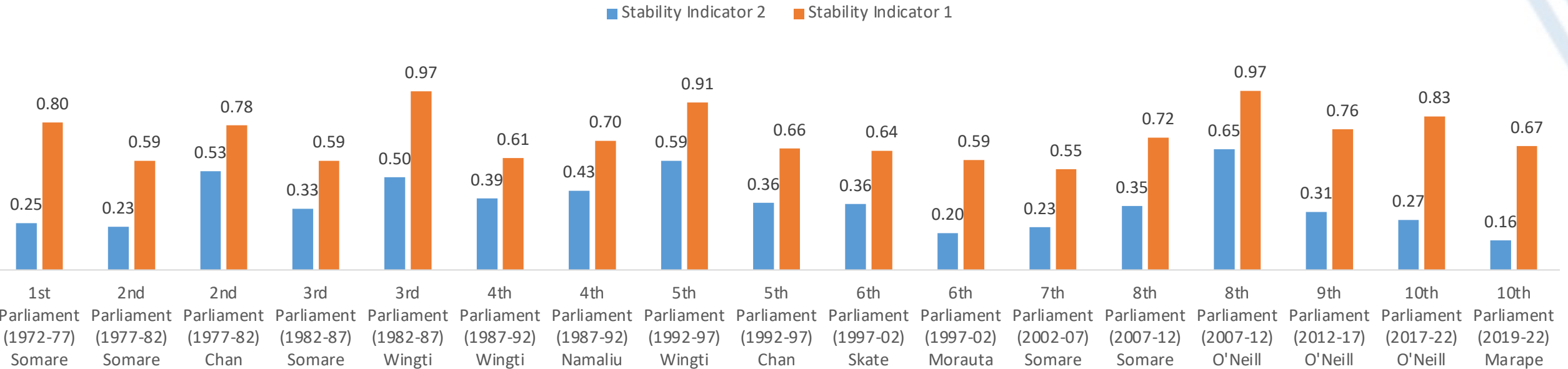


# Ministerial stability indicators

- Stability indicator 1 uses the average durations of all ministers in each government, including the prime ministers. It is divided by the tenure of the prime minister to measure ministerial stability for that government.
- Stability indicator 2, on the other hand, uses second ministerial duration, that is the average duration in a portfolio. The average duration in a portfolio is also divided by the length of the tenure of the prime minister to measure ministerial stability in a portfolio for that government.
- Stability Indicators can range between 0 and 1.
- Value of 0 indicates low ministerial stability and value 1 indicates a high measure of ministerial stability.



# Ministerial stability in a government (Stability Indicator 1) and Ministerial stability per portfolio (Stability Indicator 2) for PNG governments, 1972-2022



# Findings – 17 governments, 1972-2022

- Average duration of all ministers is 25 months.
- Average ministerial duration per portfolio is 12 months.
- The average for stability indicator 1 is 0.73.
- The average for Stability Indicator 2 is 0.36.
- As with ministerial duration, there are no clear trends on either of the ministerial stability indicators.
- Ministerial stability as measured here does not appear to be either increasing or decreasing.
- There is considerable variation in stability over time and between governments.
- Marape's government recorded the lowest for Stability Indicator 2 suggesting a high degree of ministerial instability.



## Findings – Why O’Neill and Marape experienced ministerial instability in the 10<sup>th</sup> parliament.

O’Neill - 40 ministers were reshuffled and dismissed in a total of 10 cabinet changes between 9 August 2017 and 24 May 2019. Other changes to his ministers were forced by resignations and defections of MPs and ministers to the opposition instigated by Marape in May 2019.

Marape – 51 ministers and nine ministerial changes. One changes was caused by defection of ministers and MPs to the opposition in November 2020 in an attempted to overthrow him from office. After fending off this attempted no-confidence vote, Marape’s tenure remained safe until the 2022 general election. He made several changes to his cabinet in December 2020, January 2022, and 25 May 2022.

# Bikpela tok tanikiu

Source: The National,  
3 June 2019

