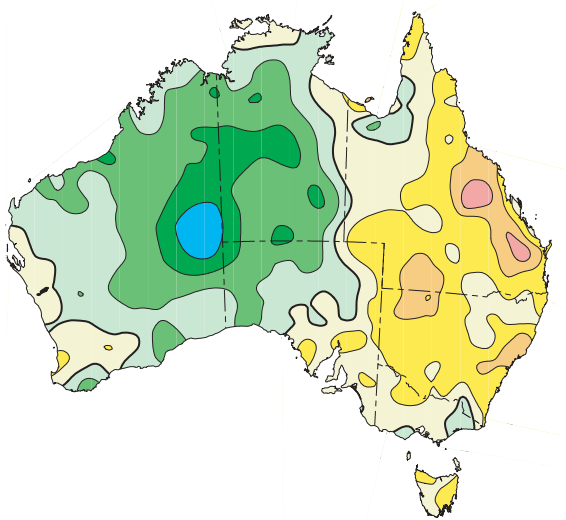
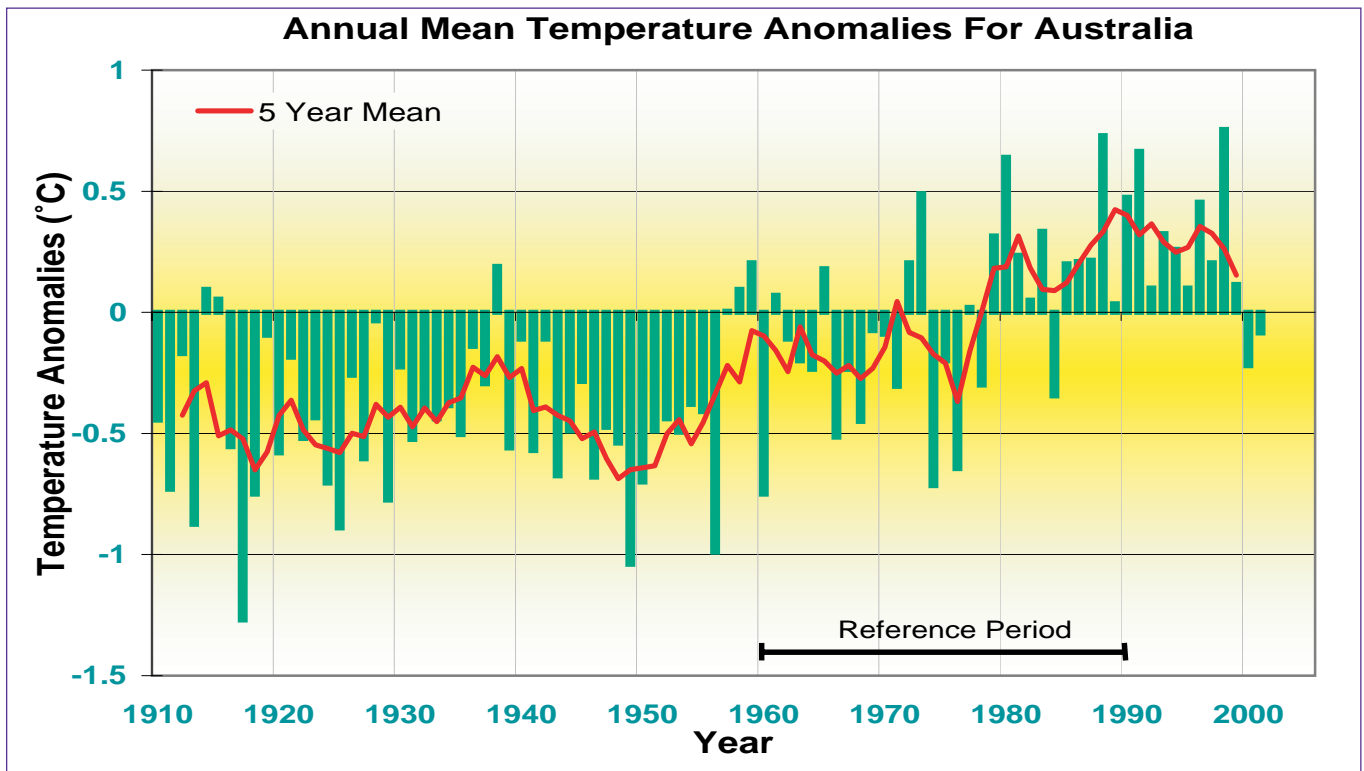


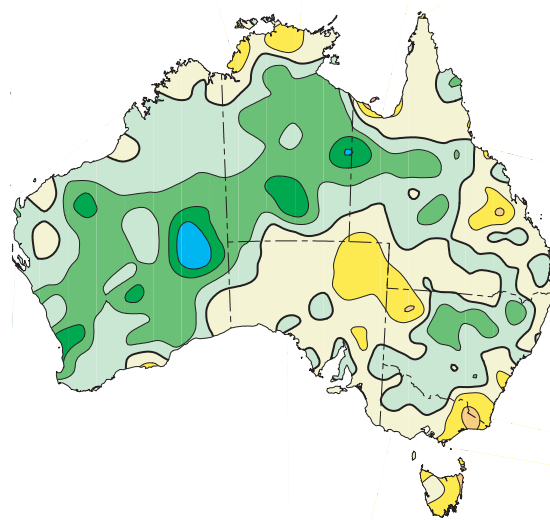
1. Annual temperature record

For the third consecutive year, the all-Australian mean temperature was close to the 1961-90 normals, being 0.09°C below normal in 2001. Maximum and minimum temperatures anomalies were 0.02°C and -0.19°C respectively. Generally the east of the continent experienced warmer than normal temperatures during 2001, with the wetter central and western parts reporting cooler than normal temperatures.

Compared with recent decades, the Australian annual temperatures for the past three years has been relatively cool. Despite this, mean Australian temperatures show a general rise during the 20th century, in line with global temperatures. According to a preliminary estimate released by the World Meteorological Organization on 18 December 2001, the global mean temperature for 2001 was the second warmest on record (since 1861), with Australia being one of the few regions that was not above normal.



2001 Maximum Temperature Anomaly (°C)



2001 Minimum Temperature Anomaly (°C)

Anomalies based on a 30 year mean calculated from 1961 to 1990