

National Climate and Water Briefing

26 October 2017

Major climate drivers are currently neutral, but there is around a 50% likelihood of La Niña developing in the Pacific Ocean later this year. La Niña typically brings increased rainfall to eastern Australia, but a repeat of the 2010–2011 La Niña is not expected.

The dry winter has increased the risk of heatwaves and bushfire through summer. Other severe weather hazards have a similar risk to most years.

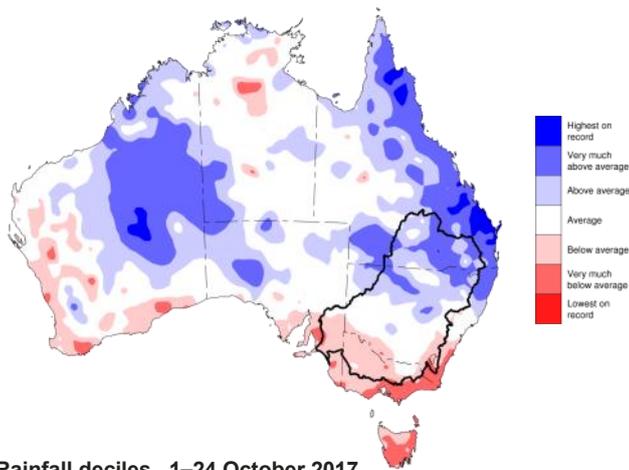
Climate influences and conditions

Climate influences

- Pacific Ocean leans toward La Niña, but remains neutral
- Indian Ocean is warm, but Indian Ocean Dipole index is neutral

Recent rainfall and temperatures

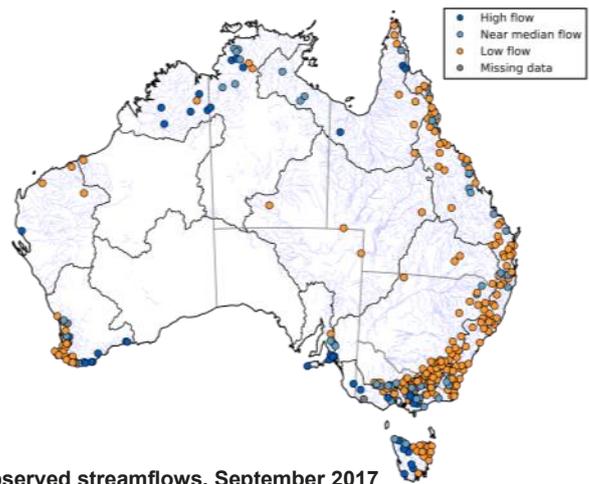
- 7th highest October rainfall on record for Queensland
- 9th lowest October rainfall on record for Tasmania



Streamflow conditions

September streamflows, compared to average for the month, were:

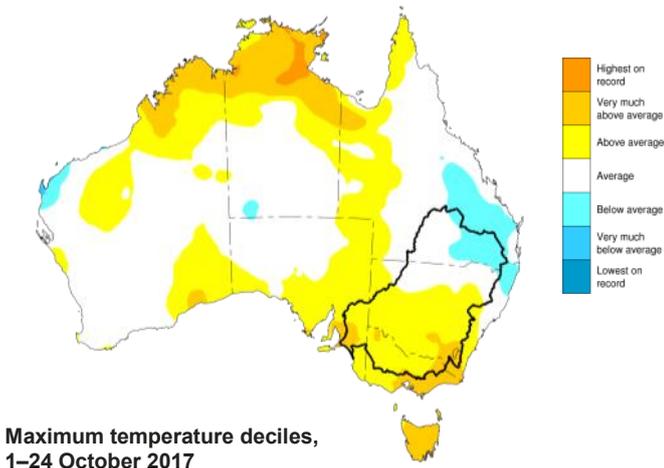
- high at 39 locations (13%)
- near median at 66 locations (21%)
- low at 205 locations (66%)



Severe weather outlook 2017–18

- Heatwaves and bushfire activity more likely than usual
- Likelihood of tropical cyclones, widespread flooding and severe storms similar to most years

Hazard	Likelihood compared to most years
Heatwave	More likely
Bushfire activity	More likely
Widespread flooding	Similar
Tropical cyclone numbers	Similar
Severe Storms	Similar

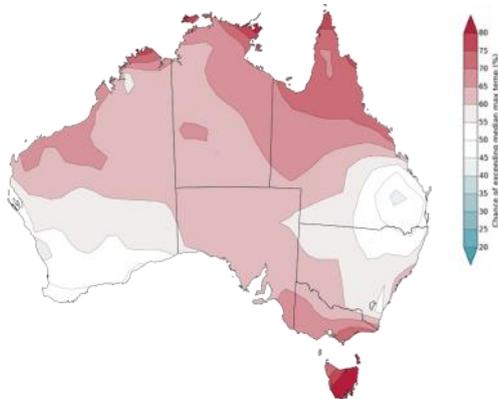


National Climate and Water Briefing

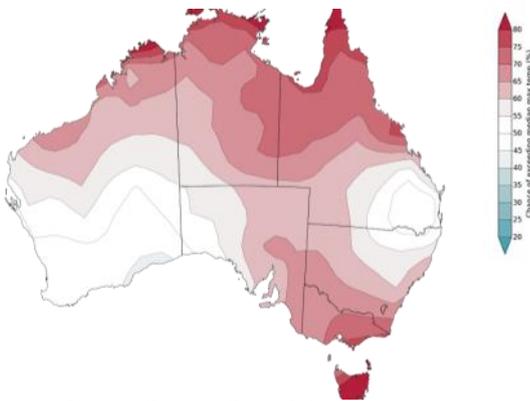
26 October 2017

Climate outlooks

- Maximum and minimum temperatures for November–January are likely to be above median in the north of the continent, through central areas, and in the southeast including Tasmania

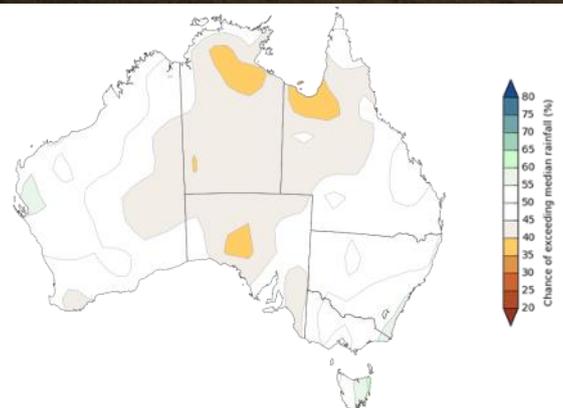


Chance of exceeding median maximum temperature, November 2017 – January 2018



Chance of exceeding median minimum temperature, November 2017 – January 2018

- The likelihood of receiving above-median rainfall for November–January is lower than average for parts of northern Australia, and near-average elsewhere

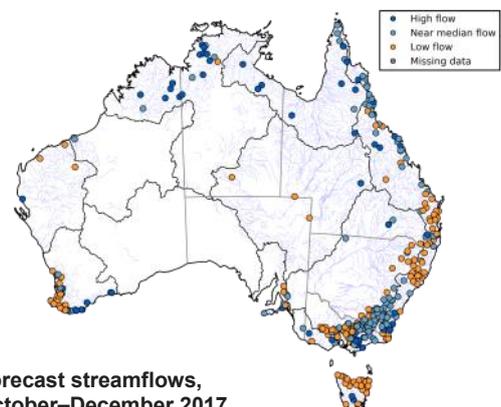


Chance of exceeding median rainfall, November 2017 – January 2018

Streamflow outlooks

Compared to average for this time of year, the streamflow outlook for October–December is for:

- high flows more likely at 57 locations (18%)
- near-median flows at 119 locations (37%)
- low flows at 142 locations (45%)
- almost two-thirds of locations have moderate to high skill at this time of year, mainly in the southeast



Forecast streamflows, October–December 2017

More information

Rainfall and temperature outlooks
www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks

Seasonal streamflow forecasts and water storage
www.bom.gov.au/water

Severe weather information

www.bom.gov.au/weather-services/severe-weather-knowledge-centre/

Contact

Joel Lisonbee

(02) 6210 3001 | joel.lisonbee@bom.gov.au

