



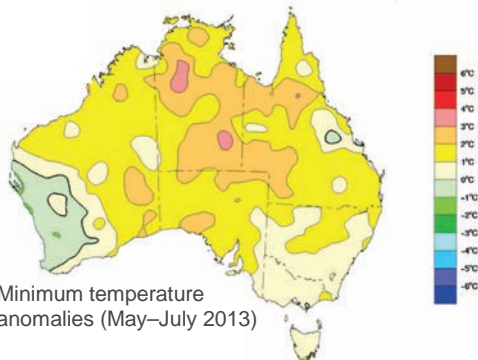
# National Climate and Water Briefing Series

29 August 2013

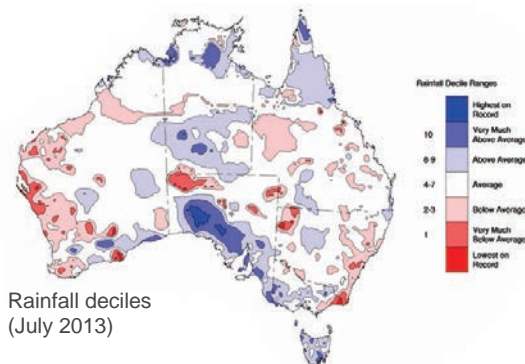
Above average temperatures continued across most of Australia through July and early August. National rainfall was below average for July, but above average through much of South Australia. Warmer spring conditions are favoured for northern Australia, coastal Western Australia and Tasmania, and a wetter season is more likely for southeastern Australia and the Top End. Near median or high streamflows are likely for much of eastern Australia.

## Recent conditions

- July maximum temperatures: highest on record in Tasmania (+1.28°C), third highest nationally
- Single-day maximum temperature records set for Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne in July
- Twelve months to end-July: warmest on record nationally
- Three months to end-July: highest minimum temperatures on record for South Australia, fourth highest nationally



- 2013 tracking to be warmest year on record if current temperature anomaly continues
- July rainfall: 22% below average nationally, 49% below average for Queensland; patches above average, particularly through South Australia



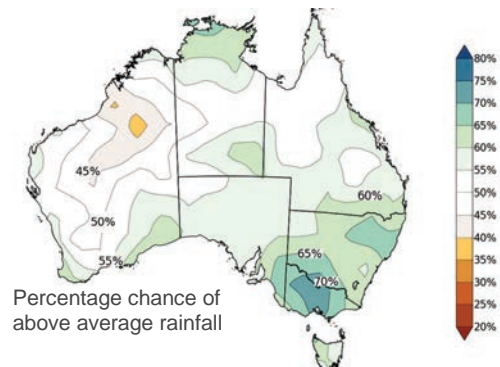
## Climate drivers

- Weakening negative Indian Ocean Dipole
- Neutral-to-cool tropical Pacific
- Warm local sea surface temperatures

## Climate outlook September–November

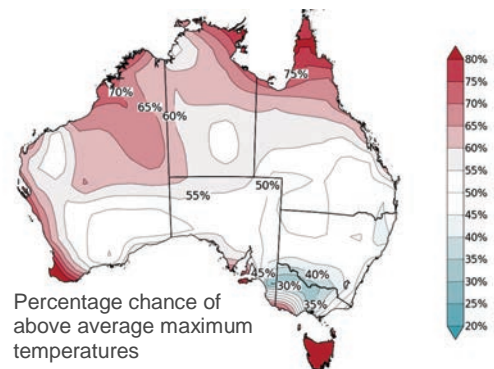
### Rainfall

- Wetter than normal season likely for southeastern Australia and Top End of the Northern Territory



### Temperature

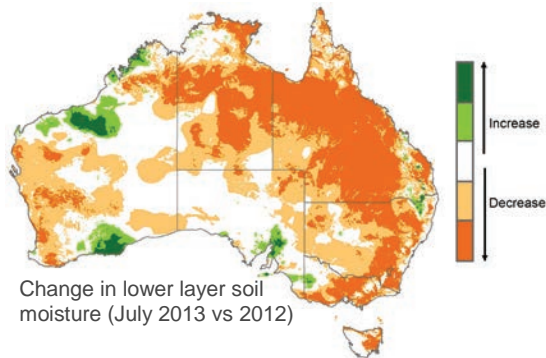
- Warmer conditions more likely over northern Australia, coastal Western Australia and Tasmania
- Cooler days likely through southern New South Wales and central and northwest Victoria



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### Soil moisture

- Lower layer soil moisture generally above average; but lower than July last year



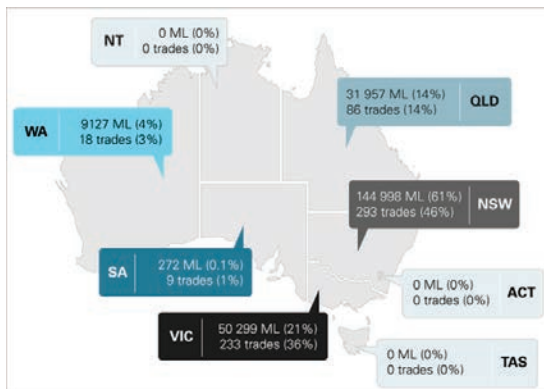
Change in lower layer soil moisture (July 2013 vs 2012)

### Water storage levels

- Storage levels decreased in Canberra (13%) and, Darwin (16%); Adelaide levels increased by 16%
- Dartmouth and Hume Dams releasing in advance of peak filling season; increased risk for flooding in spring

### Water markets

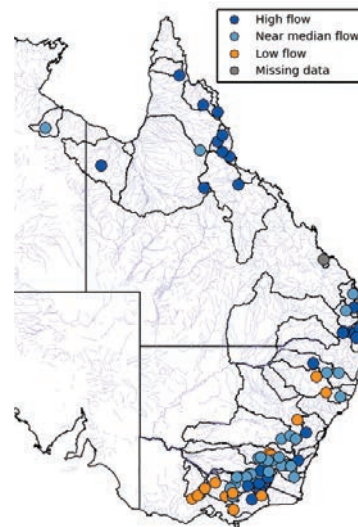
- More than 230 000 ML of water traded in July 2013; comparable to July 2012



### Streamflow conditions and outlook

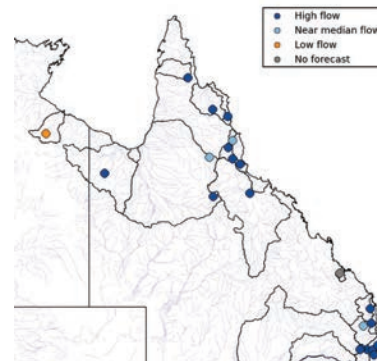
Observed July streamflow

- Near median flows recorded at 29 locations, high flows at 27 and low flows at 13 locations



Outlook August–October

- High streamflows more likely at most Queensland locations and some northern Victorian locations



- Near median flows more likely at majority of New South Wales locations

### More information

Rainfall and temperature outlook  
[www.bom.gov.au/climate/ahead](http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/ahead)

Seasonal streamflow forecasts and Water Storage  
[www.bom.gov.au/water](http://www.bom.gov.au/water)

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