

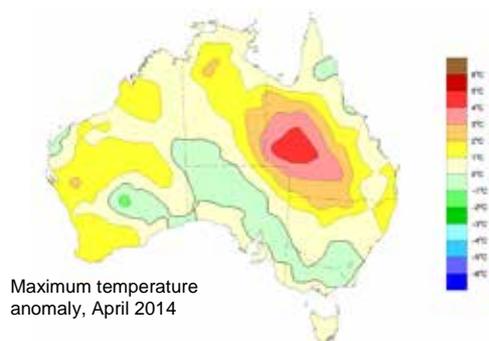
National Climate and Water Briefing

29 May 2014

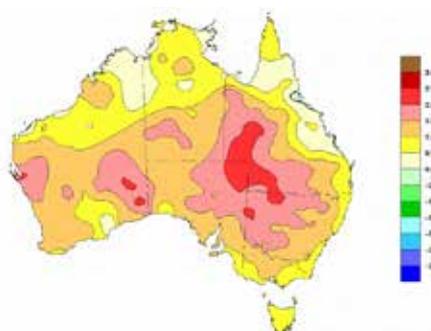
Above average temperatures continued through April, with unseasonably warm conditions for much of southeastern Australia experienced in May. Despite above average rainfall across large parts of the country in April, deficiencies persist in inland Queensland and northern New South Wales. The outlook suggests drier than normal conditions are more likely in New South Wales and South Australia and warmer than normal days and nights over most of the country. Near median or high streamflows are more likely for most forecast locations. Climate models and observations continue to indicate an increased chance of an El Niño developing in winter or spring 2014.

Recent conditions

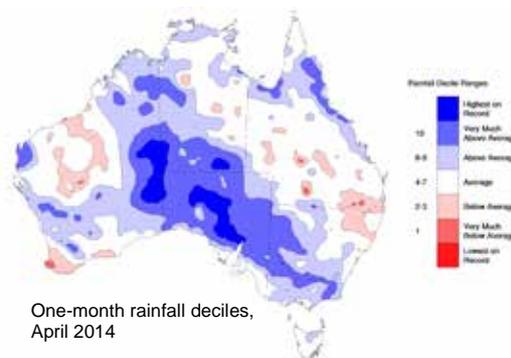
- Nationally averaged maximum temperature 0.91 °C above normal for April; minimum temperature 1.31 °C above normal



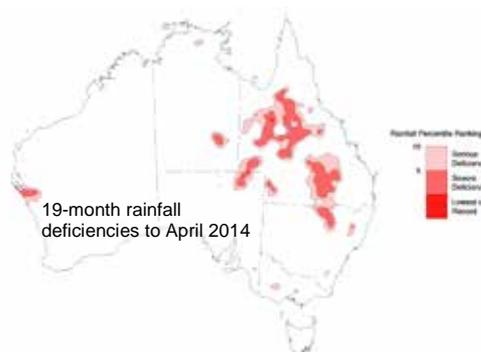
- Unseasonably warm conditions in May for much of southeastern Australia; reversal of the usual Autumn cooling trend
- 24-months to April were the hottest on record for any two year period (24 months to May will likely exceed this record)



- Rainfall was above normal for much of Australia for April, southwest Western Australia and Queensland experienced below normal rainfall



- Rainfall deficiencies persist in inland Queensland and northern New South Wales



Climate drivers

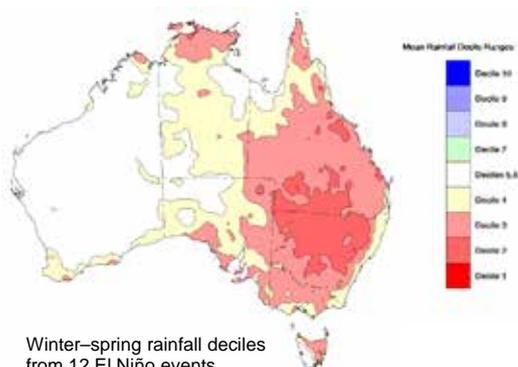
- El Niño continues to be likely to develop later in 2014 – strongest impact usually in winter/spring, although impacts vary between events



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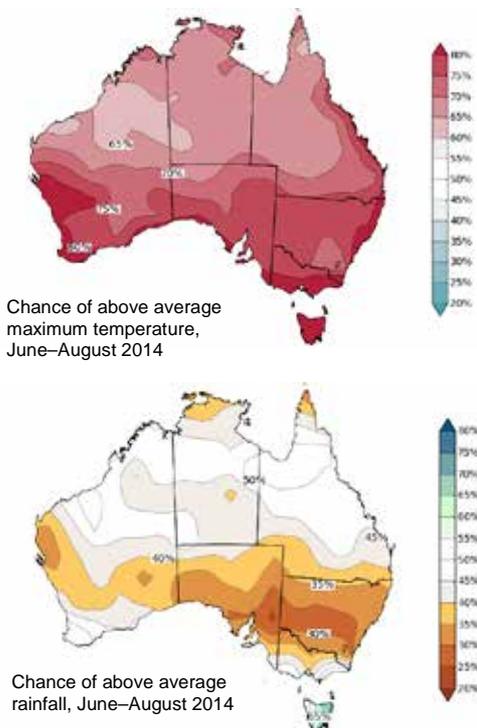
Historical impact of El Niño on rainfall



Winter-spring rainfall deciles from 12 El Niño events

Climate outlook June–August 2014

- Warmer than average days and nights likely over most of the country
- Increased chance of below average rainfall for much of New South Wales and South Australia



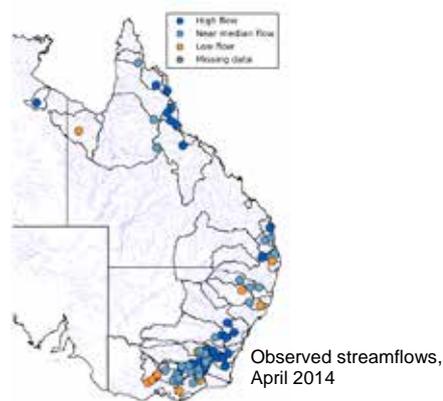
Chance of above average maximum temperature, June–August 2014

Chance of above average rainfall, June–August 2014

Streamflow conditions and outlook

Observed streamflow April 2014

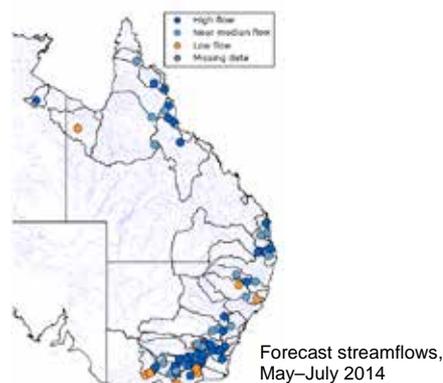
- Near median streamflows recorded at 34 of 74 locations monitored, high flows at 27 locations including record high monthly flows for three locations



Observed streamflows, April 2014

Outlook May–July 2014

- Near median and high streamflows more likely for most forecast locations



Forecast streamflows, May–July 2014

More information

Rainfall and temperature outlook
www.bom.gov.au/climate/ahead

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

Contact

Darren Ray, Climate Liaison Section
(08) 8366 2664
or 0459 818 363
d.ray@bom.gov.au

