



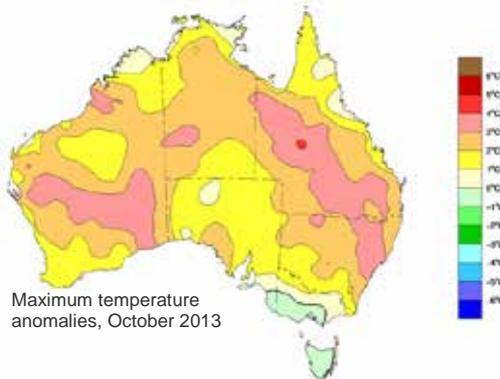
# National Climate and Water Briefing Series

28 November 2013

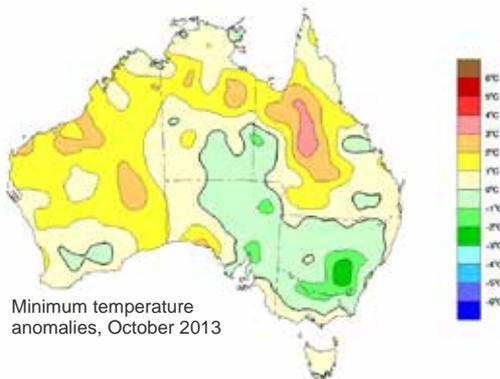
Warmer than average conditions persisted in October, although severe frosts affected southern New South Wales and northern Victoria. Rainfall was well below average across much of the country in October, and dry conditions are likely to continue in northeastern Australia. Near median streamflows are more likely for much of eastern Australia.

## Recent conditions

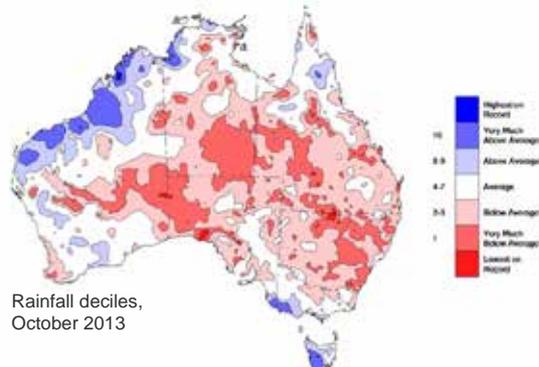
- Maximum temperature, averaged over Australia, was 2.1 °C above average – 3<sup>rd</sup> warmest



- Overall, minimum temperatures were 0.8 °C above average, but southern New South Wales and northern Victoria experienced severe frosts



- October rainfall was 51% below average across Australia, exacerbating deficits in inland Queensland and New South Wales



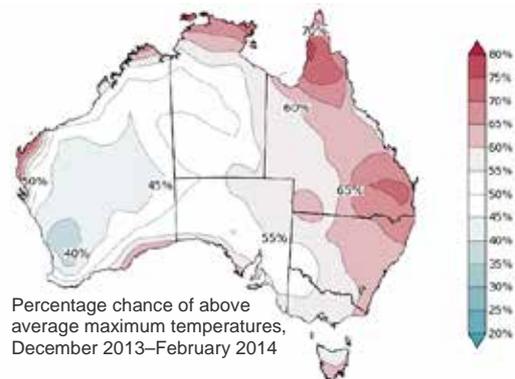
## Climate drivers

- Neutral El Niño-Southern Oscillation
- Local factors, such as warm sea surface temperatures around the Australian continent, are likely to influence regional climate

## Climate outlook December–February

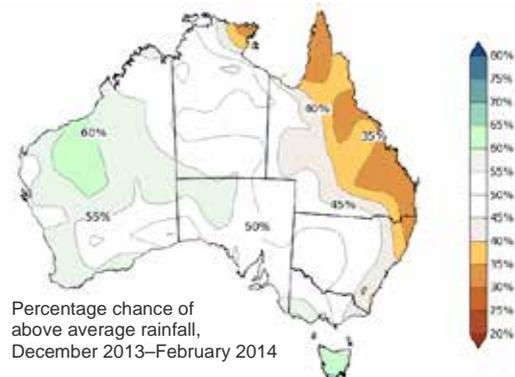
### Temperature

- Warmer than normal season more likely for much of eastern Australia and the Top End of the Northern Territory



### Rainfall

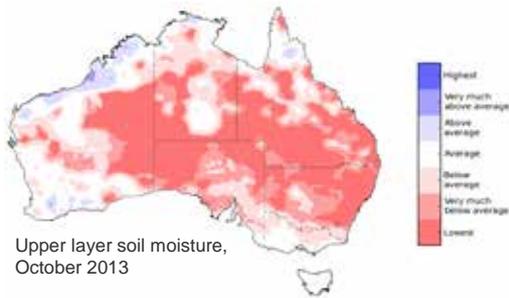
- Drier than normal summer more likely for most of northeastern Australia; wetter than normal for Tasmania and northwestern Western Australia



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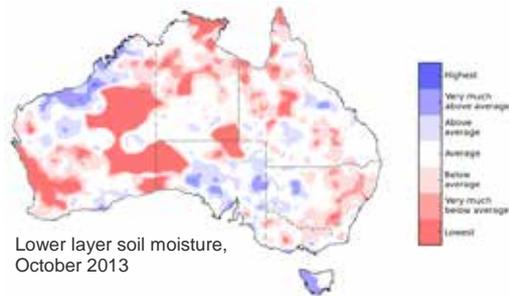
### Soil moisture

- Upper layer soil moisture is very low across much of the country

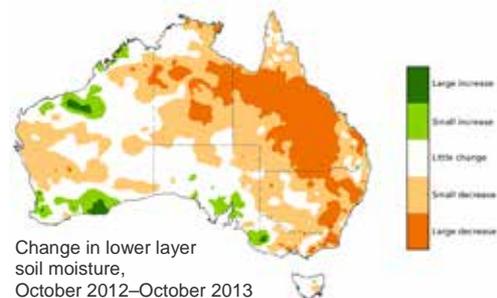


Upper layer soil moisture, October 2013

- Lower layer soil moisture varies around Australia, but is generally lower than same time last year



Lower layer soil moisture, October 2013



Change in lower layer soil moisture, October 2012–October 2013

### Water storage levels

- Storage levels in most drainage divisions are lower than 12 months ago; South West Coast and South Australian Gulf drainage divisions have increased

### More information

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

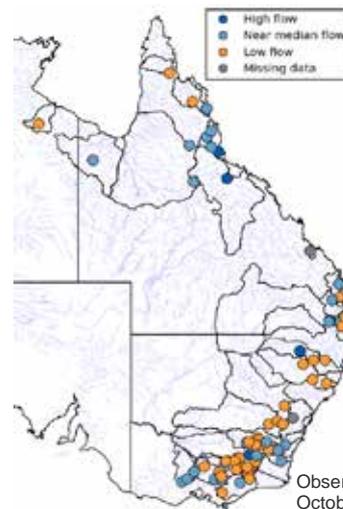
Seasonal streamflow forecasts and water storage  
[www.bom.gov.au/water](http://www.bom.gov.au/water)

Severe weather warnings  
[www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)

### Streamflow conditions and outlook

#### October streamflow

- Near median or low flows observed at most locations in October

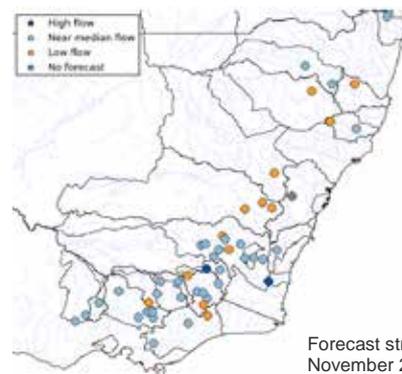


Observed streamflows, October 2013

- Trend toward lower streamflows since July

#### Streamflow outlook November–January

- Near median or high streamflows more likely at most Queensland coastal locations
- Near median or low flows more likely at majority of New South Wales and Victorian locations



Forecast streamflows, November 2013–January 2014

### Contact

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