

# National Climate and Water Briefing

28 September 2017

September continued to be warm and dry across most of eastern Australia, following a warm and dry winter. Major climate drivers are still neutral, although the Pacific Ocean is beginning to lean toward the La Niña side of neutral. September this year has seen summer-like temperatures and extreme heat for this time of year across a large part of eastern and central Australia.

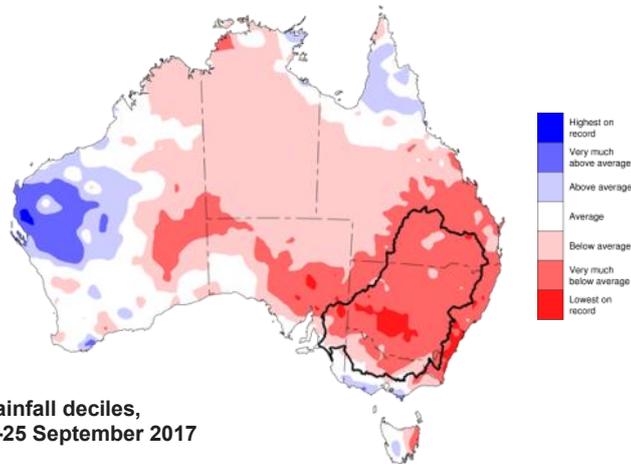
## Climate influences and conditions

### Climate influences

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

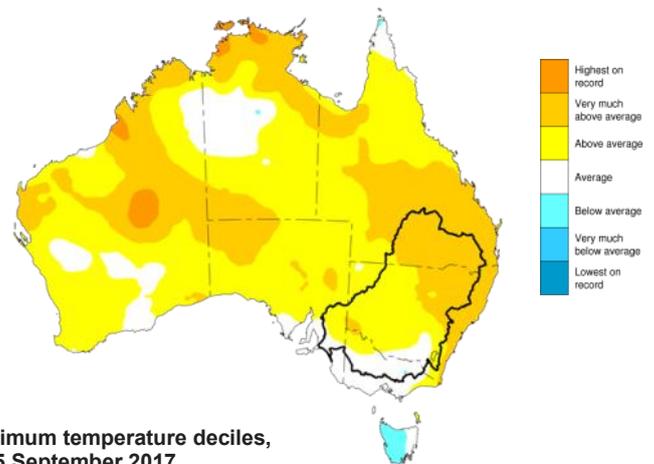
### Recent rainfall and temperatures

- Nationally, on track to be the 10<sup>th</sup> driest September on record, with rainfall 59% below average
- Lowest September rainfall total on record for the Murray–Darling Basin and New South Wales



Rainfall deciles,  
1–25 September 2017

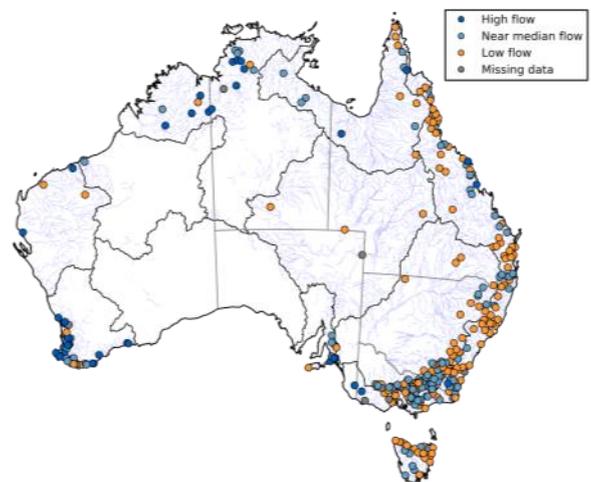
- Modelled lower-layer soil moisture is very much below average for southern Queensland and New South Wales
- September daily maximum temperatures were above average for every State/Territory except Tasmania.
- Australia-wide mean daily maximum temperature for September will be in top ten warmest on record
- Australia's warmest September day on record occurred on 22 September with a national mean daily maximum temperature of 33.5 °C



Maximum temperature deciles,  
1–25 September 2017

### Streamflow conditions

- Observed streamflows for August 2017 were:
  - high at 42 locations (13%)
  - near median at 112 locations (35%)
  - low at 148 locations (47%)



Observed streamflows, August 2017

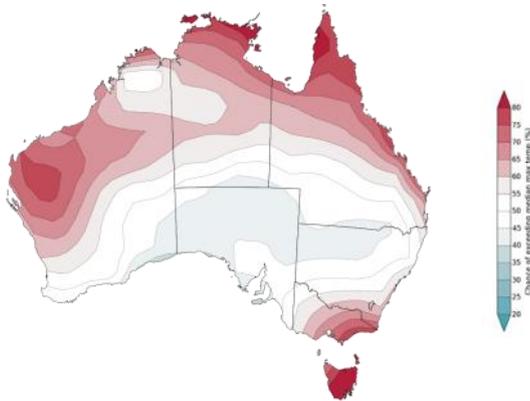


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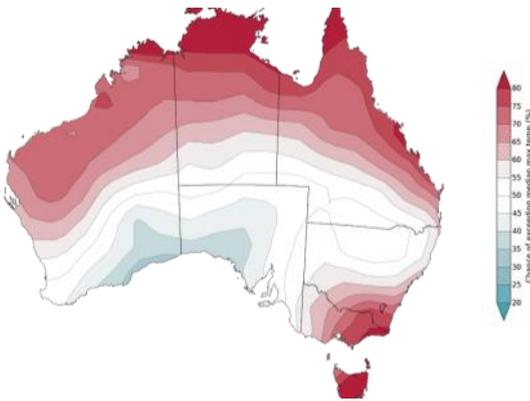
## Climate outlooks

- Maximum temperatures October–December likely to be above median in far northern Australia and in the southeast, including Tasmania and Victoria



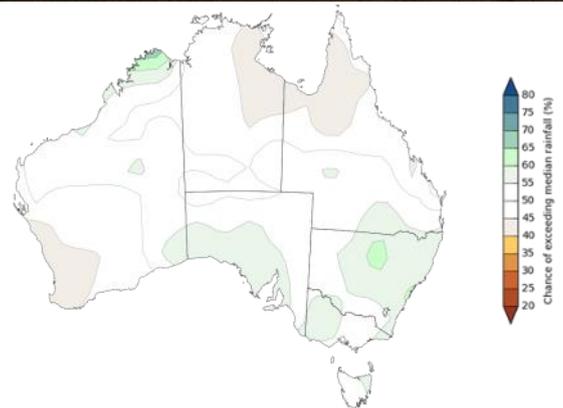
Chance of exceeding median maximum temperature, October–December 2017

- Minimum temperatures likely to be above median for northern Australia for October–December



Chance of exceeding median minimum temperature, October–December 2017

- The likelihood of receiving above-median rainfall for October–December is not strong for anywhere in Australia, meaning there are roughly equal chances for above or below-median rainfall



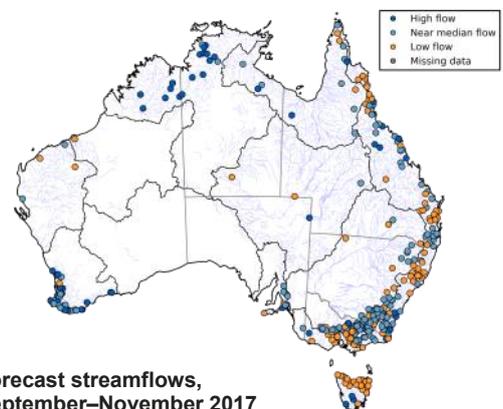
Chance of exceeding median rainfall, October–December 2017

- Above-median rainfall possible for parts of eastern Australia in October

## Streamflow outlooks

Compared to average for this time of year, the streamflow outlook for September–November is for:

- high flows more likely at 56 locations (17%)
- near-median flows at 148 locations (47%)
- low flows at 114 locations (36%)
- more than two-thirds of locations have moderate to high skill at this time of year



Forecast streamflows, September–November 2017

## More information

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

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

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