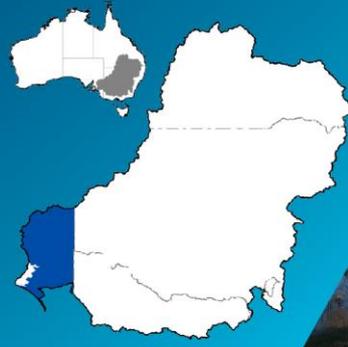




Water Reporting Summary – South Australian Murray

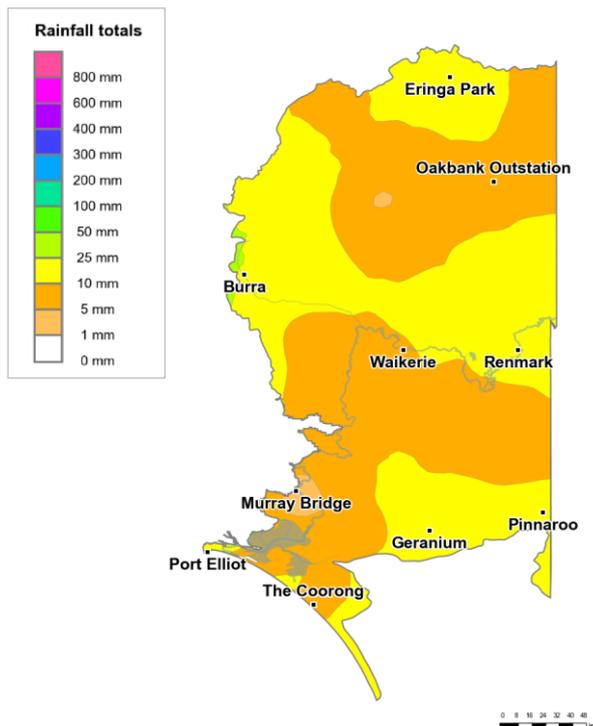
15 December 2020



Overview

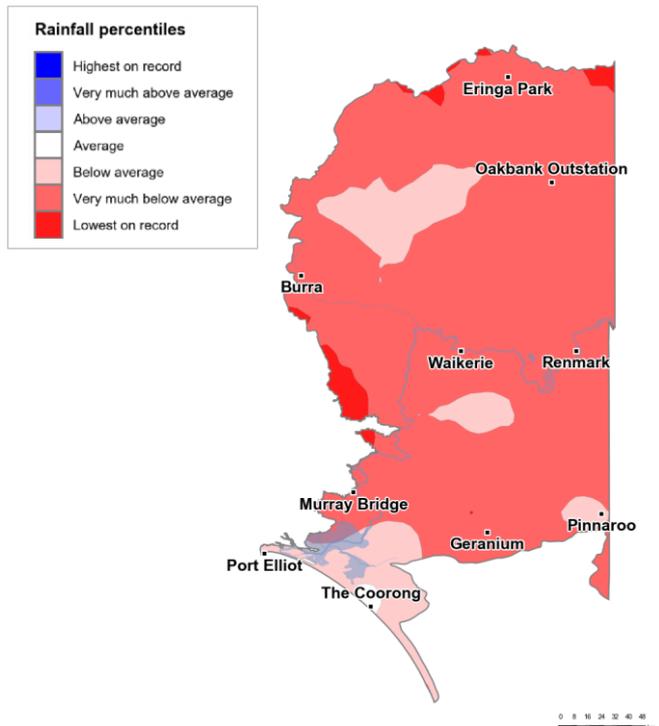
- In the last 30 days, there has been limited rainfall across most of the South Australian Murray catchment. Southern areas of the catchment mostly received 5 to 10 mm, with the exception of areas near Geranium and Pinnaroo which received up to 25 mm. Central areas near Renmark and Burra mostly received 10 to 25 mm, while northern parts of the catchment mainly received 5 to 10 mm of rainfall. Eringa Park was an exception receiving up to 25 mm (Figure 1). The catchment area-average rainfall was 10 mm for the last month. Rainfall in the last month is in the context of the extended dry period from January 2017 with rainfall across most of the South Australian Murray catchment being below or very much below average (Figure 2).
- Water allocations to the majority of entitlement holders reached 100% on 17 August 2020. An update provided on 2 November 2020 confirmed 100% allocation for all entitlement holders (Figure 4). In six out of the last ten years, 100% allocation was announced at the beginning of the water year (1 July).
- Allocation prices are currently \$218 per ML, which is similar to prices in November (\$200 per ML) but significantly lower than prices paid at the same time last year (\$800 per ML) (Table 1).

Recent conditions



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Figure 1: Rainfall totals for the last 30 days
(16 Nov to 15 Dec 2020)



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Figure 2: Rainfall percentiles since January 2017
(compared to 1900–2019 long-term average) (Jan 2017 to
Nov 2020)

Note: Rainfall percentiles for the period from January 2017 are shown as the Bureau of Meteorology considers January 2017 to be the start of the current dry period for eastern Australia.

How much water is there for the South Australian Murray?

The current projected minimum volume of water available to South Australia by the end of 2020–21: 1 850 GL*

*Based on the MDBA's current assessment of water resource availability. It provides for an allocation of 830 GL for consumptive entitlements and an allowance for dilution and losses, and excludes water held under South Australia's Storage Right (339.3 GL as at end Nov 2020). The storage right has been set aside under Schedule G of the Murray–Darling Basin Agreement to meet future critical human water needs and private carryover.

Source: [SA Department of Environment and Water](#) and [MDBA](#)

How much water is in the MDBA operated storages?

Total volume in the MDBA operated storages: 5 369 GL (as at 15 December 2020)

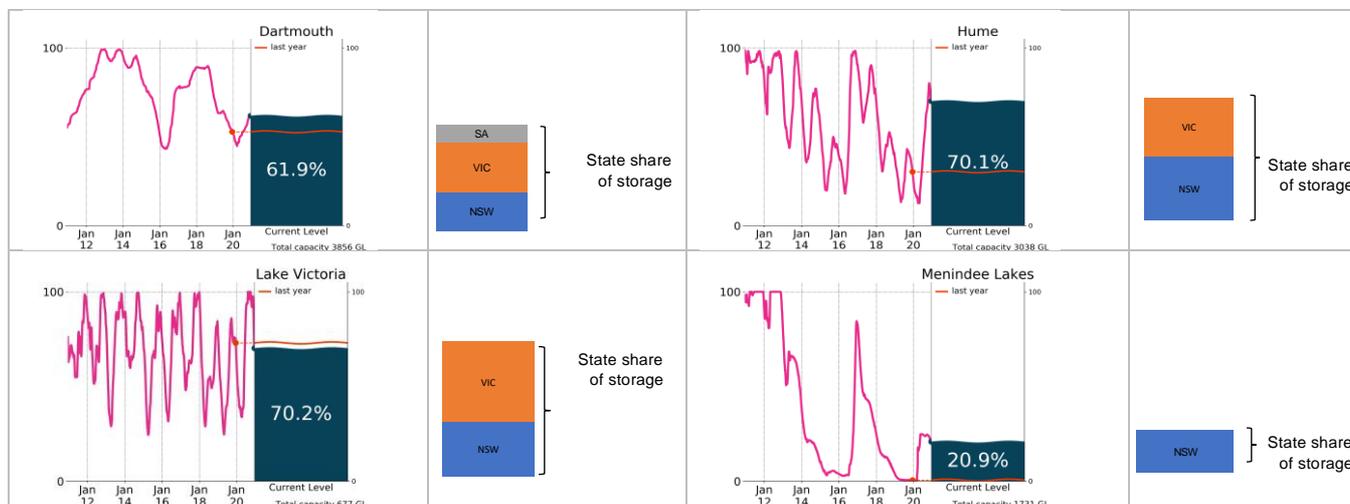


Figure 3: Current total storage (% of total capacity) as at 15 December 2020 compared to the last ten years (State shares updated end Nov 2020)

Source: [BoM water storages dashboard](#) and [MDBA](#)

Who is the water for?

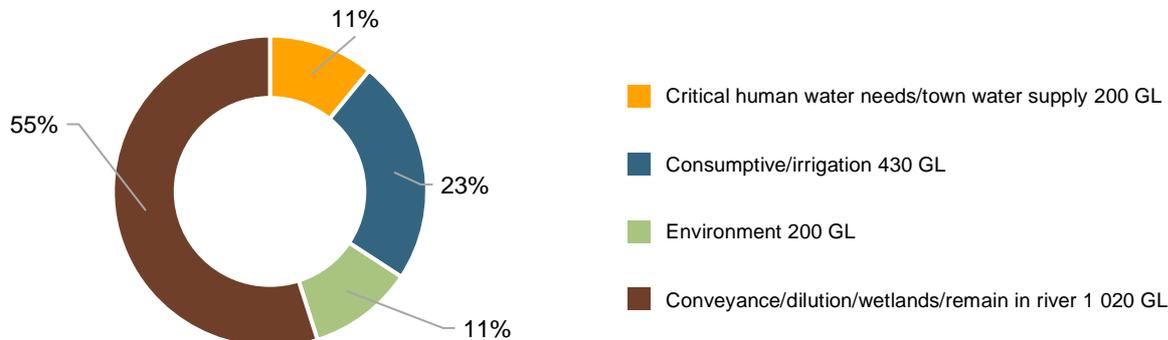


Figure 4: Volumes of water allocated (% of total) for the 2020-21 water year (as at 15 December 2020)

Source: [SA Department of Environment and Water](#)

NB: Information shown is water allocated for various purposes in 2020–21 and is not adjusted for water used or traded.

Table 1: Allocation announcements (%) and market prices – selected licence categories as at 15 December 2020

Licence category	Announced allocation	Historic comparison (same time of year)	Entitlement prices (monthly median)	Allocation price (median – last 7 days)
SA Murray Class 1 (stock and domestic)	100%	Same as most years	n/a	\$218/ML
SA Murray Class 3 (High Security)	100%	In six out of the last ten years, 100% allocation was announced on 1 July.	\$6 800/ML	

Source: [SA Department of Environment and Water](#) and [BoM water markets dashboard](#)

FIND OUT MORE

For more information email water@bom.gov.au



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