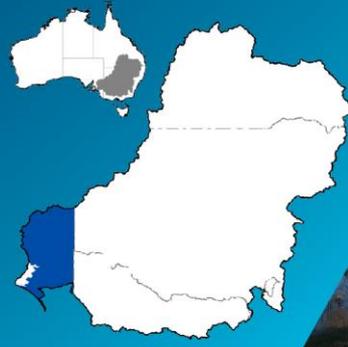




Water Reporting Summary – South Australian Murray

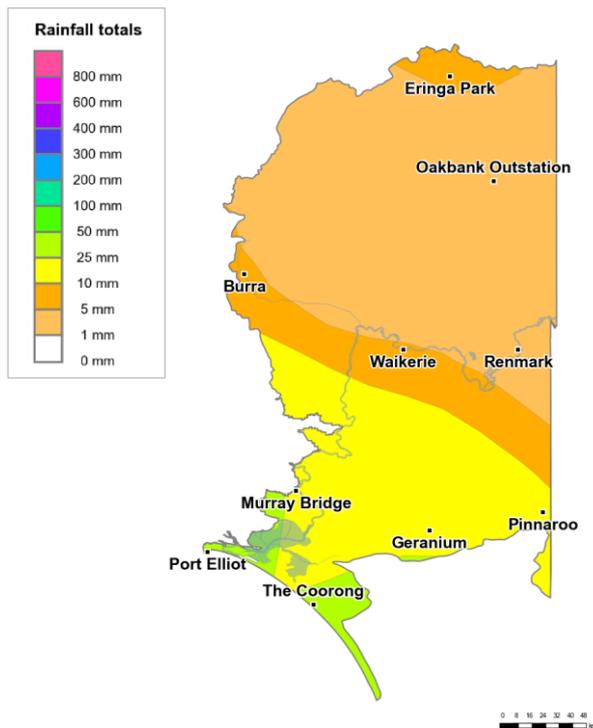
1 March 2021



Overview

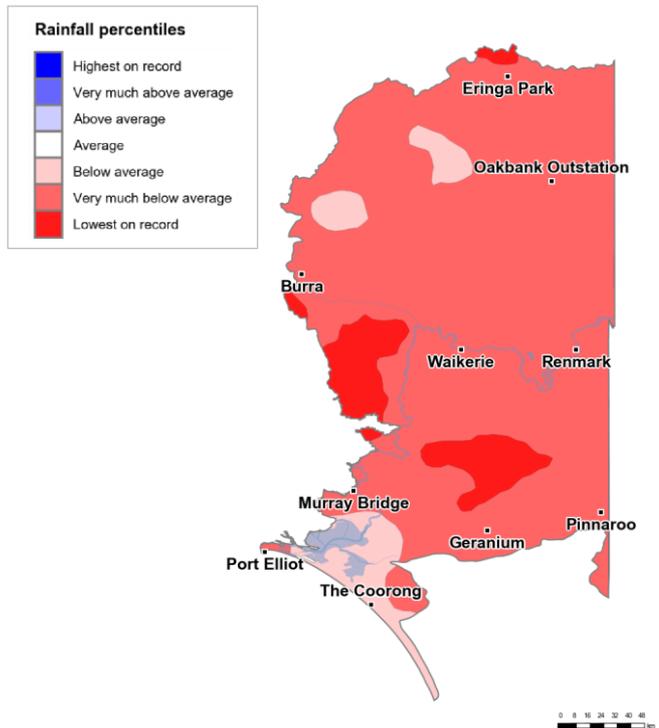
- In the last 30 days, southern areas of the South Australian Murray catchment mostly received 10 to 25 mm of rainfall, with some coastal areas receiving up to 50mm. In contrast, most northern parts of the catchment near Renmark and Oakbank Station received less than 5 mm of rainfall (Figure 1). The catchment area-average rainfall was 8 mm for the last month, with most of this rainfall received in the first week of February. 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 \$100 per ML, which is lower than prices paid last month (\$115 per ML) (Table 1).

Recent conditions



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Figure 1: Rainfall totals for the last 30 days (31 Jan to 1 March 2021)



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Figure 2: Rainfall percentiles since January 2017 (compared to 1900–2019 long-term average) (Jan 2017 to Feb 2021)

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 (337.9 GL as at 1 Feb 2021). 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: 4 617 GL (as at 28 February 2021)

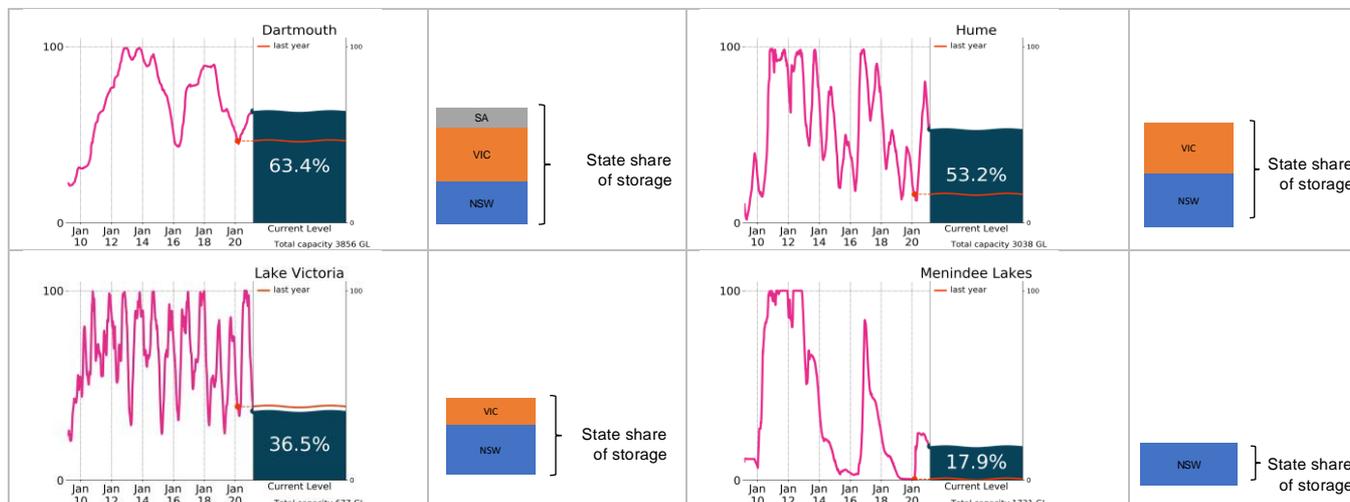


Figure 3: Current total storage (% of total capacity) as at 28 February 2021 compared to the last ten years (State shares updated end Jan 2021)

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

Who is the water for?

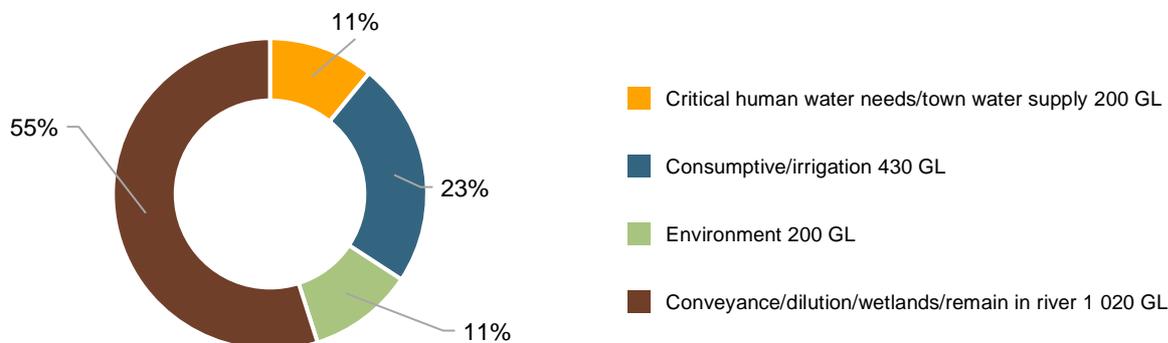


Figure 4: Volumes of water allocated (% of total) for the 2020-21 water year (as at 1 March 2021)

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 1 March 2021

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	\$100/ML
SA Murray Class 3 (High Security)	100%	In six out of the last ten years, 100% allocation was announced on 1 July.	\$6 850/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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