



# Water Reporting Summary - Murrumbidgee Catchment

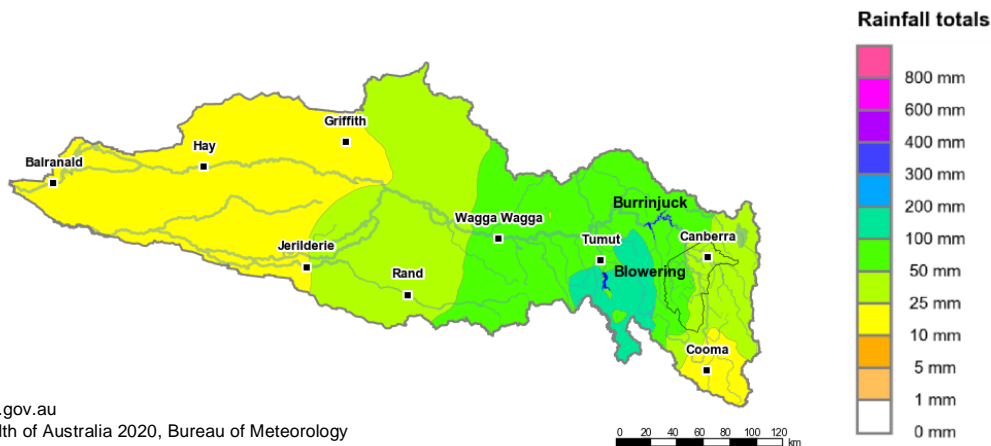
1 July 2020



## Overview

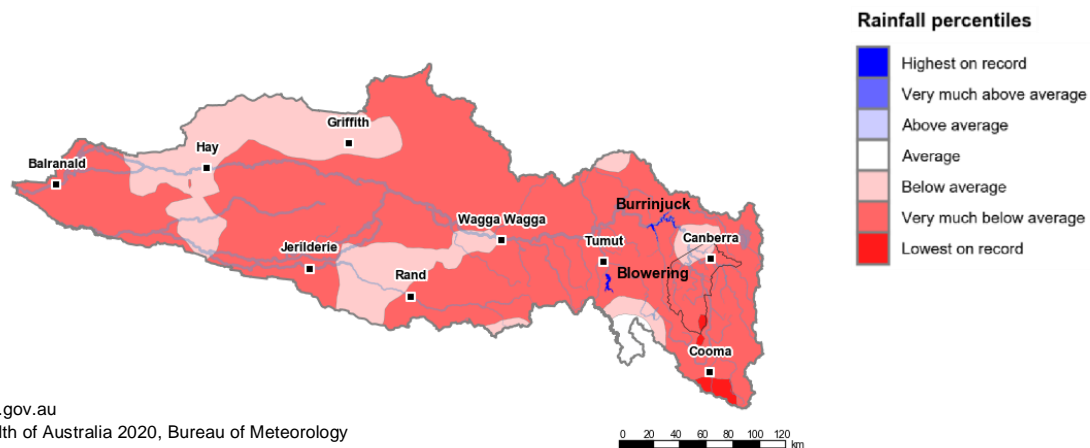
- In the last 30 days, the upper and downstream parts of the Murrumbidgee catchment received 10 to 50 mm of rainfall. Most of the central catchment received 50 to 100 mm, while areas near Blowering Dam received up to 200 mm (Figure 1). The total area-average rainfall for the catchment was 40 mm. This recent patchy rainfall is in the context of the extended dry period since January 2017 with rainfall across the Murrumbidgee catchment mainly below average or very much below average (Figure 2).
- Root zone soil moisture was average in most of the Murrumbidgee catchment during June, with the patchy rainfall over the last month translating into some inflows into storages (Figures 3).
- Allocations for general security entitlement holders opened at 10%, which is the highest opening allocation since 2017–18 (Figure 4 and Table 1). Allocation prices ended the 2019-20 water year significantly lower (\$200 per ML) than their peak of \$750 per ML in January 2020 (Table 1).
- A comprehensive water allocation statement will be available on 15 July 2020 (NSW DPIE).

## Recent conditions



<http://www.bom.gov.au>  
© Commonwealth of Australia 2020, Bureau of Meteorology

Figure 1: Rainfall totals for the last 30 days (2 June to 1 July 2020)



<http://www.bom.gov.au>  
© Commonwealth of Australia 2020, Bureau of Meteorology

Figure 2: Rainfall percentiles since January 2017 (Compared to 1900-2019 long-term average) (Jan 2017 to June 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 in the storages?

Storage volume: Burrinjuck, Blowering storages as at 1 July 2020

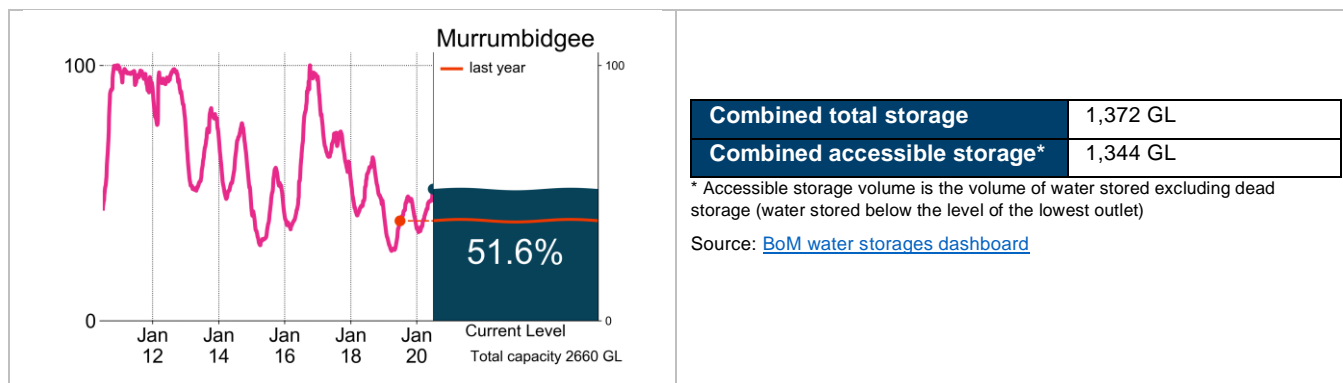


Figure 3: Current total storage (% of total capacity) compared to the last ten years

## Who is the water for?



Figure 4: Volumes of water made available to water licences (and % of total) for the 2020-21 water year (as at 1 July 2020)

Source: [WaterNSW Water Register](#)

NB: Allocation information shown here is water allocated for various water licence categories as at 1 July 2020. It does not represent remaining available allocated water as it does not allow for water used, traded or new storage inflows (in excess of minimum assumptions). Water allocation figures shown here differ to those on WaterNSW's [Water Insights](#), which shows estimated water available over a two-year planning period (2020 to 2022).

Table 1: Allocation announcements (%) and market prices – Selected licence categories as at 1 July 2020

Licence category	Announced allocation	Historic comparison (same time of year)	Entitlement Prices (monthly median)	Allocation Price (median - last 7 days)
Stock & Domestic	100%	Same as most years	n/a	\$200/ML*
High Security	95%	Same as most years	\$6,000/ML	
General Security	10%	Third lowest opening allocation in the last ten years	\$2,000/ML	
Average Carryover (General Security)	18%	10% higher than the previous year	n/a	

\*Indicative - limited trade data

Source: [NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment](#) and [BoM water markets dashboard](#)

FIND OUT MORE

For more information email [water@bom.gov.au](mailto:water@bom.gov.au)



With the exception of logos, photography and data referenced as being from other organisations, this publication is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia Licence. The terms and conditions of the licence are available at <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au>. Attribution for this publication should be: © Commonwealth of Australia (Bureau of Meteorology) 2020.