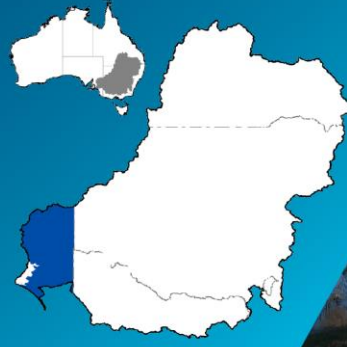




Water Reporting Summary - South Australian Murray

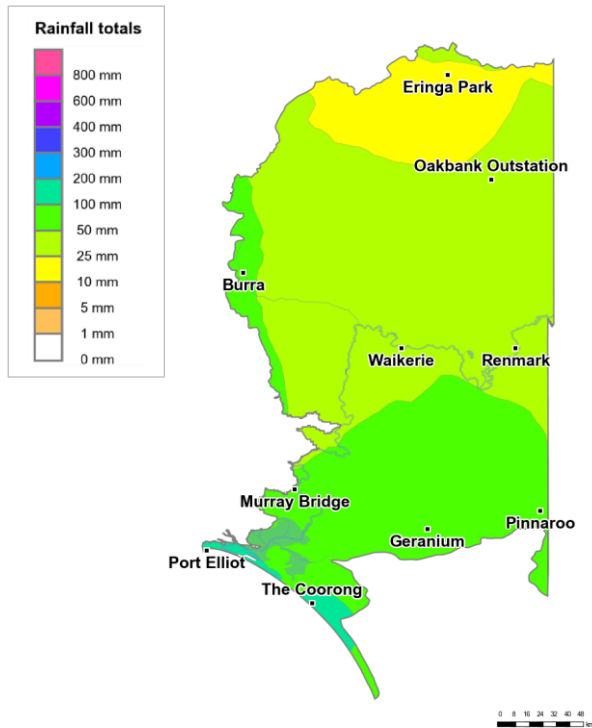
15 May 2020



Overview

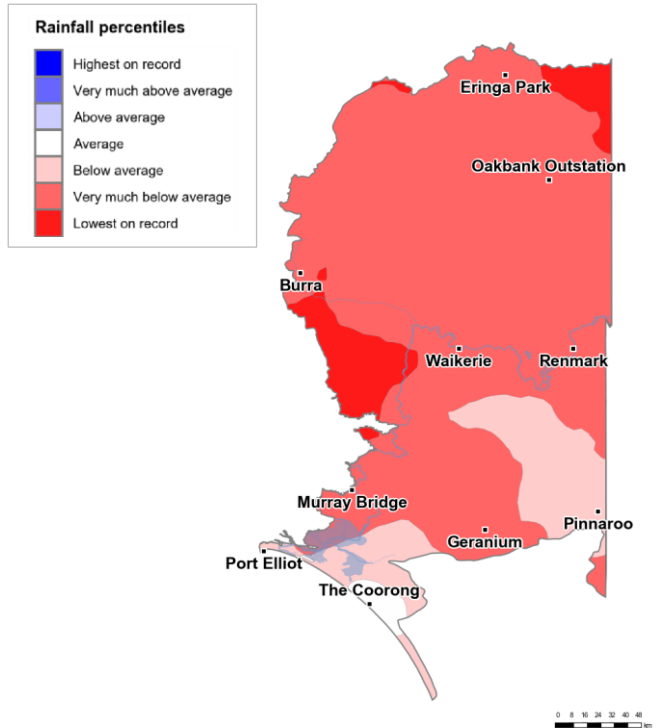
- In the last 30 days, most parts of the South Australian Murray catchment received 25 to 100 mm of rainfall. On the coast near Port Elliott and the Coorong, up to 200 mm of rain fell, whereas northern parts of the catchment near Eringa Park received less than 25 mm (Figure 1). The catchment area-average rainfall was 45 mm. This rainfall is in the context of the extended dry period from January 2017 with rainfall across most of the South Australian Murray catchment being very much below average or lowest on record (Figure 2).
- Water allocations to the majority of entitlement holders reached 100% on 15 November 2019. An update provided on 16 December 2019 confirmed 100% allocation for all entitlement holders (Figure 4). In seven out of the last ten years, 100% allocation was announced at the beginning of the water year (1 July).
- Allocation prices remain relatively high for this time of year (\$400 per ML) due to low water availability but have declined significantly from their peak of over \$950 per ML in November 2019 (Table 1).
- Significant recent rainfall in upstream catchments over the last month has improved water availability (Figure 3) and improved the outlook for the 2020-21 water year (SA DEW). For information on 1 July 2020 allocation outlooks, refer to [South Australia's River Murray Water Allocation Statement \(15 May 2020\)](#).

Recent conditions



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



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Figure 2: Rainfall percentiles since January 2017 (Compared to 1900-2019 long-term average) (Jan 2017 to Apr 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 2019-20: 1,594 GL*

*Based on the MDBA's current assessment of water resource availability. It provides for an allocation of 870 GL for consumptive entitlements and an allowance for dilution and losses, and excludes water held under South Australia's Storage Right (356.3 GL as at end April 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: 3,211 GL (as at 15 May 2020)

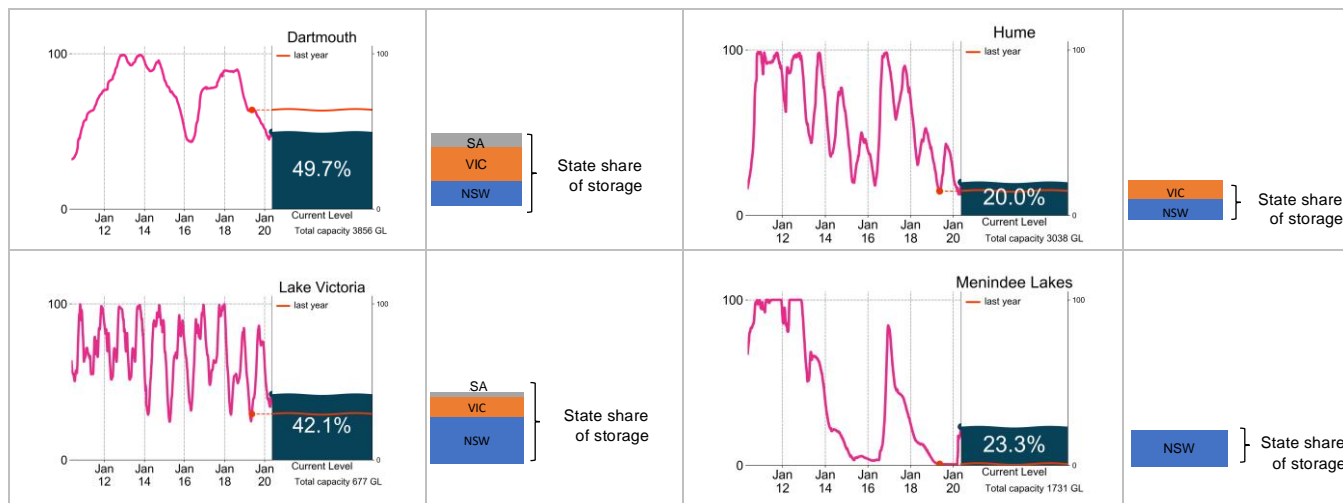


Figure 3: Current total storage (% of total capacity) as at 15 May 2020 compared to the last ten years (State shares updated end April 2020)

Source: [BoM water storages dashboard](#)

Who is the water for?

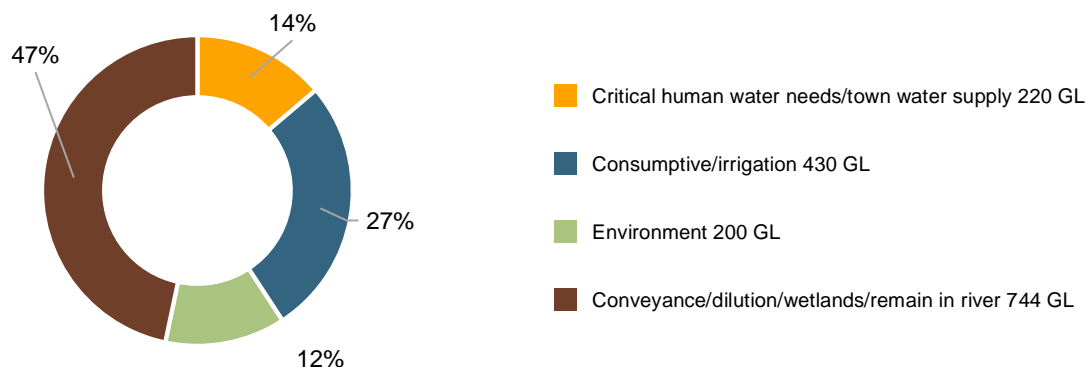


Figure 4: Volumes of water allocated (% of total) for the 2019-20 water year (as at 15 May 2020)

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

NB: Information shown is water allocated for various purposes in 2019-20 and is not adjusted for water used or traded.

Table 1: Allocation announcements (%) and market prices – Selected licence categories as at 15 May 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	\$400/ML
SA Murray Class 3 (irrigation)	100%	100% allocation as of 15 November. In seven out of the last ten years, 100% allocation was announced on 1 July.	\$7,050/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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