



# Water Reporting Summary - Victorian Murray Catchment

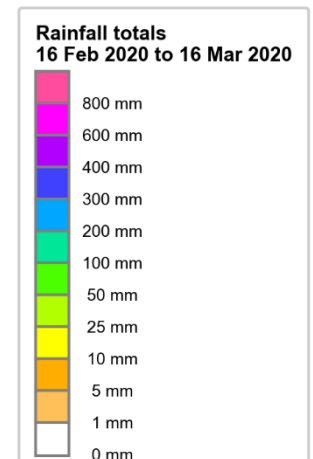
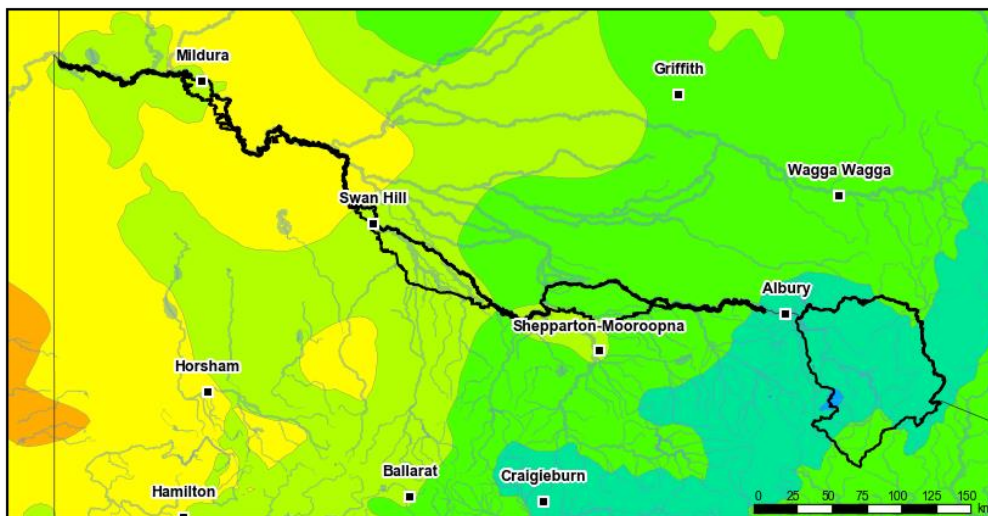
16 March 2020



## Overview

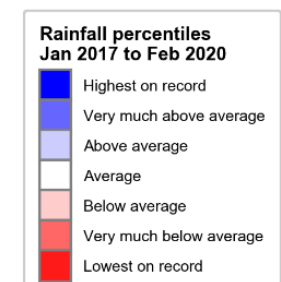
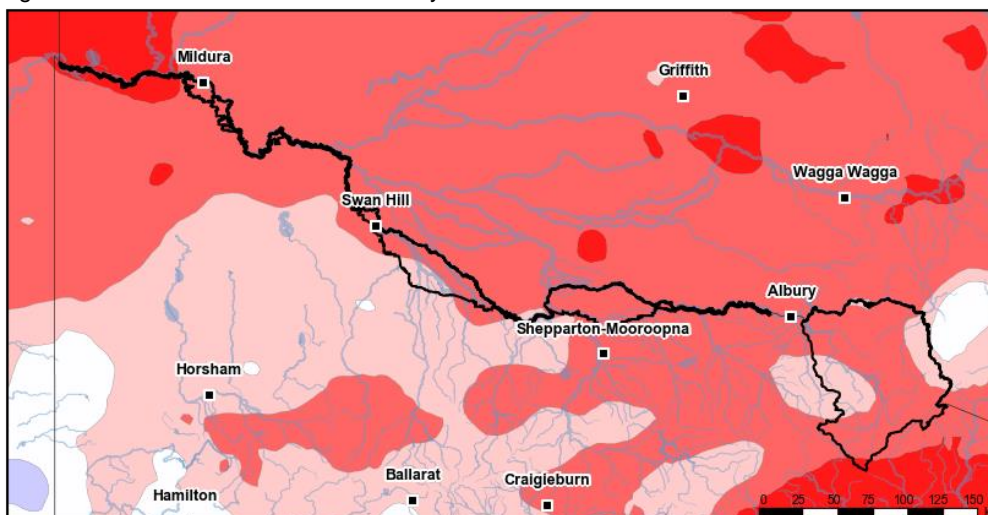
- In the last month, most of the Victorian Murray received between 25 to 100 mm of rainfall. Exceptions included upstream parts of the catchment, which received up to 200 mm of rainfall, and areas between Mildura and Swan Hill, which received less than 25 mm (Figure 1). The area-average rainfall for the catchment was 101 mm. This recent patchy rainfall is in the context of the extended dry period since January 2017 with rainfall across the Victorian Murray catchment mostly being very much below average (Figure 2).
- Low storage volumes and inflows have led to low current allocation volumes (Figure 3). Looking forward to the 2020-21 summer, if storages receive similar inflows to those received during 2019-20, announced allocations (known as seasonal determinations) would only be expected to reach about 45% for high-reliability water shares (Northern Victoria Resource Manager).
- Announced allocations for high-reliability water shares are currently 65%, which is the lowest level for this time of year since 2008-09 (Table 1).

## Recent conditions



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

Figure 1: Rainfall totals for the last 30 days



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

Figure 2: Rainfall percentiles since January 2017 (Compared to 1900-2019 long-term average). 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?

Combined total storage (VIC share\*): 1,170 GL (as at end Feb 2020)

\*Victoria's share of Dartmouth, Hume, Lake Victoria and Menindee Lakes storages

Source: [MDBA](#)

Storage	% Full (total storage capacity as at 16/3/2020)	% Full (same time last year)
Dartmouth	47%	63%
Hume	16%	23%
Lake Victoria	39%	41%
Menindee Lakes	<1%	1%

Source: [BoM water storages dashboard](#)

## Who is the water for?

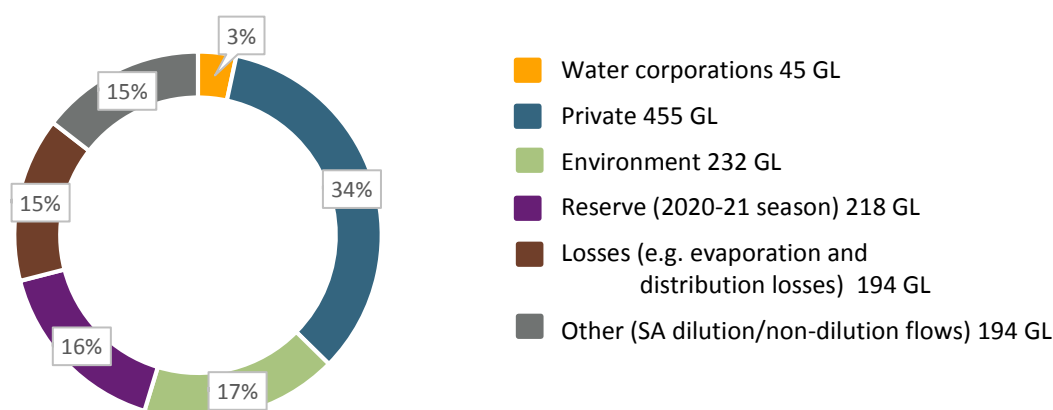


Figure 3: Volumes of water allocations currently available or remaining (% of total remaining) (as at 16 March 2020)

Source: [Northern Victoria Resource Manager](#)

NB: Allocation information shows water currently available in allocation accounts and remaining commitments. Information published by the Northern Victoria Resource Manager differs from information published on the Victorian Water Register as the former includes preliminary environmental water holder use and volumes for operational use by Goulburn-Murray Water private water shareholders.

Table 1: Allocation announcements (seasonal determinations) (%) - Selected licence categories as at 16 March 2020

Licence category	Current announced allocation	Historic comparison (same time of year)
VIC Murray High-Reliability Water Share	65%	Lowest since 2008-09
VIC Murray Low-Reliability Water Share	0%	Same as most years

Source: [Victorian Water Register](#)

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.