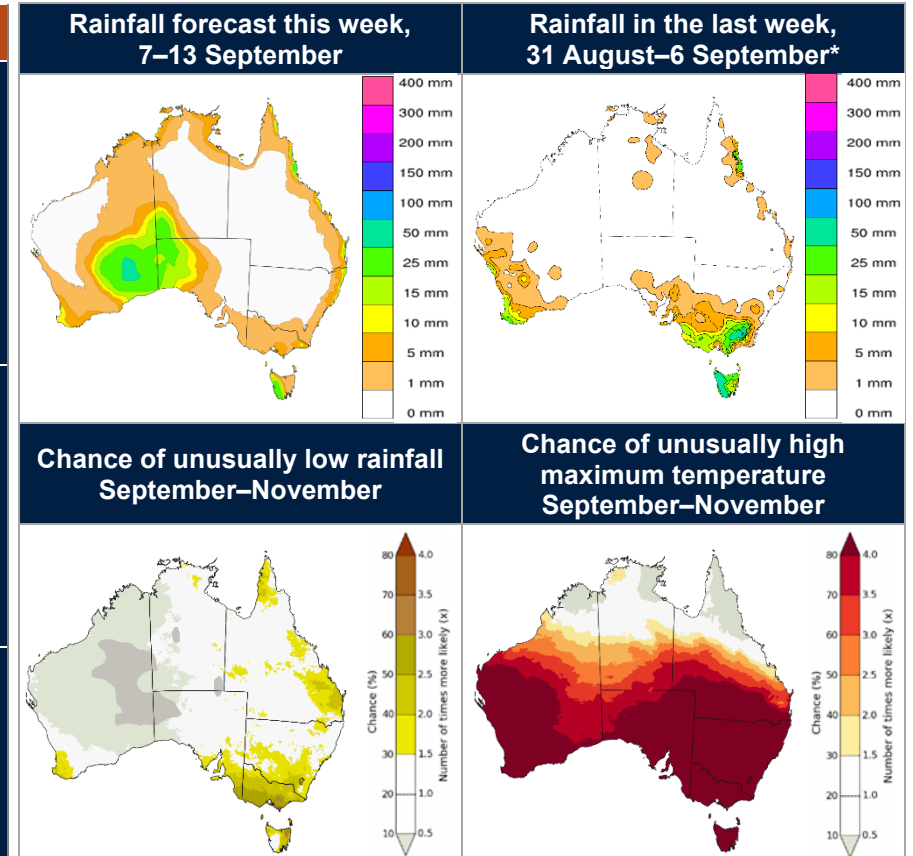
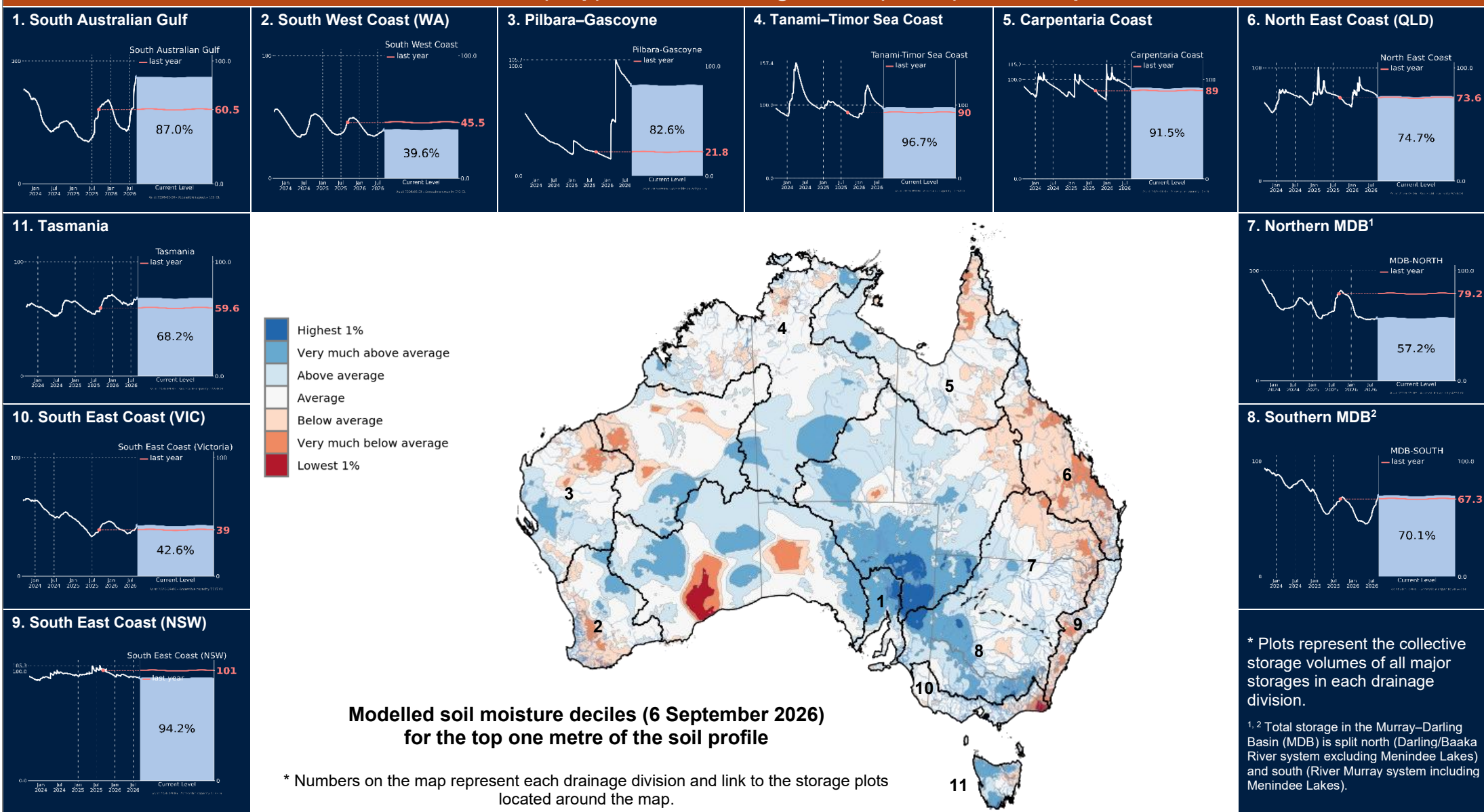




Weekly Agriculture, Climate and Water Update – Monday 7 September 2026

Root zone soil moisture (map) and water storage levels (charts) as of 6 September 2026



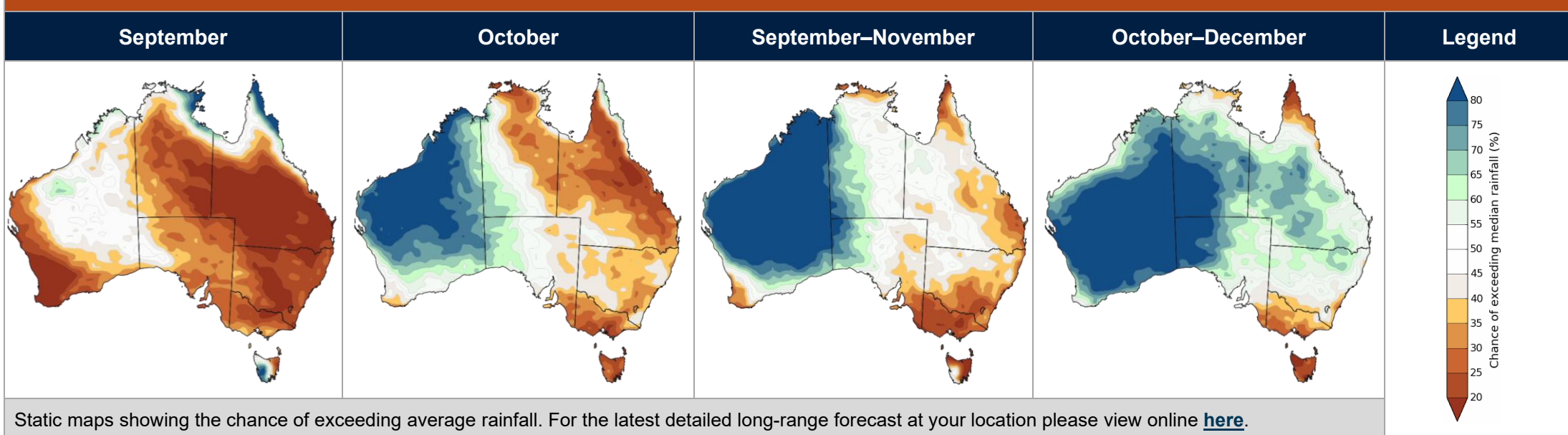
* Includes the seven days of rainfall to 9:00am on Sunday.

Key Points

- Spring rainfall is likely to be below average across parts of the south and east and above average across much of the western half of Australia.
- The dry signal is strongest early in the season, extending across much of Australia in September, before the wet signal emerges from October. While much of Australia is likely to see this seasonal shift in the forecast, southern Victoria and Tasmania maintain a drier than average forecast throughout the season.
- There is an increased chance of unusually low rainfall across much of south-east Australia and eastern parts of Queensland. Where unusually low rainfall is that in the driest 20% of September to November records between 1981 and 2018.
- Warmer than average spring days and nights are likely for most of Australia except for parts of the tropics.
- There is an increased likelihood of unusually high maximum temperatures across the southern two-thirds of Australia, with the highest chances over most of western Western Australia and south-eastern Australia.
- Below-average root-zone soil moisture is likely for much of eastern Australia and areas in western Australia during October and November.
- Runoff is likely to be above the seasonal average for parts of northern, western and central Australia, but below average for parts of the south-west and some regions in the east.
- Overall Australia's total water storage is currently around 71%. Storages across the Murray–Darling Basin are currently 67% full, increasing by around 17% over winter.

Email water@bom.gov.au if you would like more information about this Weekly Update or have any other climate and water related questions. Email agriculture@bom.gov.au to request more information on agriculture impacts or provide feedback.

Rainfall long-range forecasts – Issued 3 September 2026



Static maps showing the chance of exceeding average rainfall. For the latest detailed long-range forecast at your location please view online [here](#).



Weekly Agriculture, Climate and Water Update – Monday 7 September 2026

Agriculture and climate conditions assessment as of 7 September 2026

Summary

- September rainfall is likely to be below average for large parts of the country, including **south-western Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, north-east Tasmania, southern and central eastern Queensland**.
- For the extended period, October to December, rainfall is likely to be below average for **Tasmania, Victoria, southern New South Wales** and far north **Queensland**. There is a chance of exceeding average rainfall for large parts of **Western Australia, South Australia, northern New South Wales and into Queensland**.
- While this may differ from what we expect during a **strong El Niño**, Australia's climate is complex and El Niño alone does not determine our rainfall. Oceans around Australia and globally are much warmer than usual and this adds to the moisture and energy that can fuel rain systems. We talk about this in an [article on our website](#) when we reported El Niño and what it means for Australia's rainfall and temperature.
- From October to December, **most of Australia** is likely to be warmer than normal, with more than an 80% chance of above-average temperatures. The main exception is **northern Australia**. **Southern Australia** is also very likely to experience unusually warm nights, with overnight temperatures expected to be among the warmest 20% recorded for this time of year.
- The bureau's [long-range forecast](#) responds to all ongoing changes in our climate systems and seasonal outlooks are updated weekly.

Recent Conditions

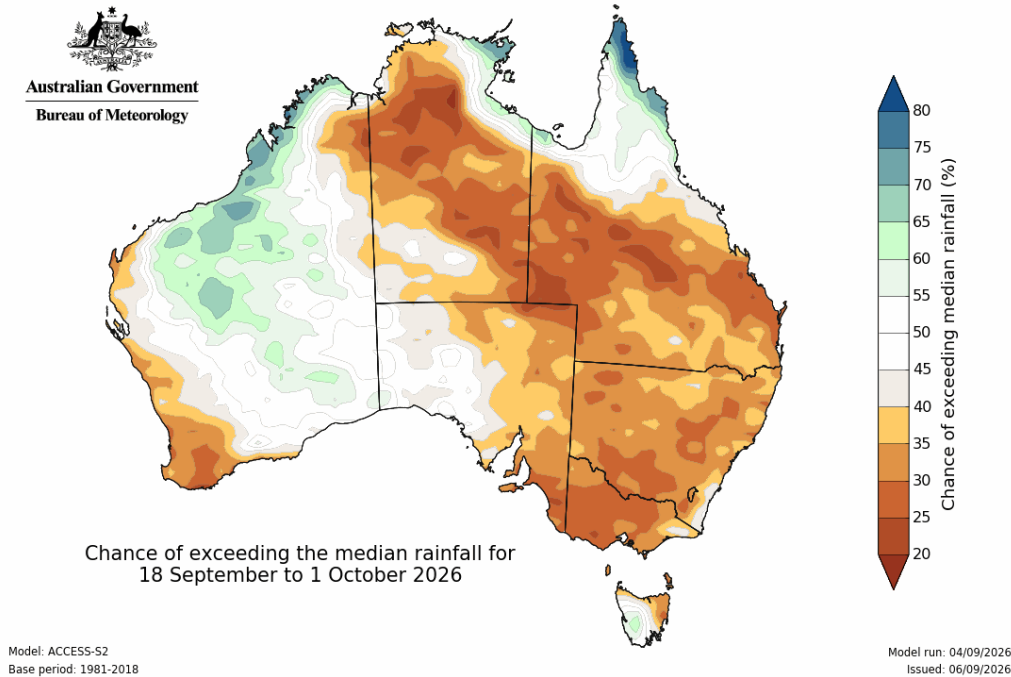
June to August rainfall was above average across much of **central and southern Australia**, particularly in parts of the **south-eastern Western Australia, Northern Territory, South Australia, western New South Wales, north-west Victoria**, and **western Queensland** where some areas recorded very much above average rainfall.

Winter rainfall was the highest on record for an area spanning the border between **South Australia** and **New South Wales**. Many stations had their record highest winter total rainfall. **South Australia** had its sixth-wettest winter on record, the wettest since 1978.

In contrast, below-average rainfall occurred along parts of **eastern Queensland, northern New South Wales, Gippsland in Victoria**, most areas of **Tasmania, south-west Western Australia** and parts of the **Kimberly region**, with a few isolated areas experiencing very much below average rainfall. **South-west Western Australia** is experiencing a severe rainfall deficit, despite recent rainfall in the past week. Above average rainfall was recorded in the **Gascoyne region** during August.

June to August maximum temperatures were above average for most of the country except for the interior, with **Tasmania** and **western Victoria** experiencing highest on record maximum temperature for this period. Minimum mean temperatures for the same period were very much above average. These mild temperature conditions supported rapid growth of crops and pastures, meaning many are at advanced growth stages for this time of year.

Fortnightly Rainfall Outlook 18 September to 01 October 2026



Agriculture Watch Points

		Western Australia wheat belt remains highly sensitive to weather outcomes through September. While recent rainfall has stabilised crop conditions across much of the wheat belt, subsoil moisture deficits persist in several regions. Yield potential will be heavily influenced by follow-up rainfall during September, with the current outlook indicating an increased likelihood of drier-than-average conditions across parts of the grain-growing region .
		Parts of east Gippsland, Victoria are beginning to dry following a below average rainfall during winter. While current conditions remain adequate for most production systems, warmer-than-average temperatures through spring could increase moisture demand, with additional rainfall important to support pasture growth and maintain yield potential.
		Above average rainfall over the first eight months of the year has promoted good pasture growth in extensive parts of South Australia . For winter crops in this region – yield is expected to be up considerably when compared to the 2025 season due to ideal planting conditions and above average winter rainfall.
		Above average fire danger is forecast for September to November for most of the Northern Territory, northern New South Wales, eastern Victoria and northeastern Tasmania . Above average fire danger also indicated for patches of the Gascoyne region of Western Australia . The official spring bushfire outlook from AFAC was released last month.
		Water availability remains a key watchpoint across southern Queensland's major irrigation regions, particularly the Darling Downs, Balonne-St George and Maranoa . Continued dry conditions could limit summer crop planting opportunities and increase irrigation pressure for horticultural producers during spring and summer.
		Northern New South Wales and much of Queensland remain Australia's primary grain production risk area. Limited stored soil moisture, below-average winter rainfall and a dry spring outlook are reducing yield potential, with crop prospects ranging from below average in the driest districts to moderate where recent rainfall has provided temporary relief.
		Irrigated horticulture across the Riverina, Sunraysia and Riverland may face increased water demand through late spring and early summer. These regions sit within the area of highest likelihood of unusually high maximum temperatures. Extended hot periods could increase irrigation requirements and create heat stress risks during flowering, fruit set and early fruit development.

Conditions improving
 Conditions unchanged
 Conditions degrading

