Summary of key issues

- During the week ending 10 April 2019 rainfall was recorded across northern Australia and Tasmania, and isolated parts of southern and eastern Australia.
- In cropping regions, rainfall of between 5 and 10 millimetres was recorded across central Western Australia during the week ending 10 April 2019. Little to no rainfall was recorded across cropping regions in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and remaining cropping regions in Western Australia.
- For the week ending 9 April 2019, maximum and minimum temperatures were generally above average across much of the country.
- The latest rainfall outlook released by the Bureau of Meteorology indicates that for most of the country there are roughly equal chances of a wetter or drier than average May. A drier than average May is more likely for isolated parts of eastern and southern Australia. In contrast, inland areas of Western Australia and isolated parts of northern Australia have an increased chance of being wetter than usual.
- The rainfall outlook for May to July 2019 indicates that there are roughly equal chances of a wetter or drier three months across most of Australia. A drier than average three months is more likely for across large areas of eastern Australia and isolated areas of southern Western Australia.
- During the next eight days, little to no rainfall is expected across much of mainland Australia. Rainfall is likely to be restricted to the west, and the far north, south and east of mainland Australia, and Tasmania.
- In cropping regions, rainfall of between 1 and 5 millimetres is expected across much of Western Australia, South Australia and south-western Victoria. Little to no rainfall is expected across cropping regions in New South Wales, Queensland and the remainder of Victoria.
- Water storage levels in the Murray-Darling Basin (MDB) decreased between 3 April and 9 April 2019 by 87 gigalitres (GL). Current volume of water held in storage is 8,517 GL which represents 34 per cent of total capacity. This is 36 percent or 4,779 GL less than at the same time last year.
- Allocation prices in the southern Murray-Darling Basin decreased from $486 per ML in the week ending 25 March 2019 to $442 per ML in the week ending 1 April 2019.
1. Climate

1.1. Rainfall this week

During the week ending 10 April 2019 rainfall was recorded across northern Australia and Tasmania, and isolated parts of southern and eastern Australia.

Rainfall totals of between 10 and 25 millimetres were recorded across parts of coastal southern New South Wales, southern Victoria, northern and isolated parts of coastal Queensland, isolated parts of northern and southern Western Australia, Tasmania and the north of the Northern Territory. Higher rainfall totals in excess of 50 millimetres were also recorded in the Cape York Peninsula and north-eastern Queensland, the far north of Western Australia, western Tasmania and the north of the Northern Territory.

In cropping regions, rainfall of between 5 and 10 millimetres was recorded across central Western Australia during the week ending 10 April 2019. Little to no rainfall was recorded across cropping regions in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and remaining cropping regions in Western Australia.

Rainfall analysis for the week ending 10 April 2019
1.2. Temperature anomalies this week

For the week ending 9 April 2019, maximum and minimum temperatures were generally above average across much of the country. Temperatures of 2°C to 10°C above average maximum were recorded across large parts of southern, central and western Australia. Minimum temperatures were 2°C to 8°C above average across vast areas of central Australia, and parts of western and eastern Australia. Maximum temperatures were -2°C to -4°C below average in isolated parts of the north of the Northern Territory. Average (-2°C to 2°C) minimum and maximum temperatures were recorded across the remainder of the country.

Maximum temperature anomalies for the week ending 9 April 2019

Minimum temperature anomalies for the week ending 9 April 2019

Note: Spatial temperature analyses are based on historical weekly temperature data provided by the Bureau of Meteorology. These temperature anomaly maps show the departure of the maximum and minimum temperatures from the average over the 1961 to 1990 reference period. For further information go to: http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/awap/temp/index.jsp.
1.3. **National Climate Outlook**

The rainfall and temperature outlooks presented here show the likelihood, represented as a percentage, of experiencing wetter or drier (and warmer or cooler) than median climatic conditions for the given outlook periods. These climate outlooks are generated by ACCESS–S (Australian Community Climate Earth-System Simulator–Seasonal). ACCESS–S is the Bureau of Meteorology’s dynamical (physics-based) weather and climate model used for monthly, seasonal and longer-lead climate outlooks.


Sea surface temperatures in the tropical Pacific Ocean are warmer than average and there is a reasonable chance that El Niño will develop during autumn 2019. El Niño typically results in reduced rainfall for southern Australia during autumn and reduced rainfall for eastern Australia during winter and spring.

Other climate influences relevant to this latest outlook relate to the temperature of the oceans surrounding Australia. The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is forecast to remain neutral through the forecast period. This means the IOD has little influence on this outlook. The ACCESS–S climate model also indicates that pressure over the Tasman Sea is likely to be higher than normal. This increases the chance of dry and warm weather over eastern Australia.

The latest rainfall outlook released by the Bureau of Meteorology indicates that for most of the country there are roughly equal chances of a wetter or drier than average May. A drier than average May is more likely for isolated parts of eastern and southern Australia. In contrast, inland areas of Western Australia and isolated parts of northern Australia have an increased chance of being wetter than usual (Bureau of Meteorology ‘National Climate Outlook’, 11 April 2019).

**Chance of exceeding the median rainfall May 2019**

![Map showing the chance of exceeding the median rainfall for May 2019](image-url)
The rainfall outlook for May to July 2019 indicates that there are roughly equal chances of a wetter or drier three months across most of Australia. A wetter than average three months is more likely for isolated parts of northern Queensland, inland areas of Western Australia and northern parts of the Northern Territory. In contrast, there is an increased chance of a drier than average three months across large areas of eastern Australia and isolated areas of southern Western Australia (Bureau of Meteorology ‘National Climate Outlook’, 11 April 2019).

**Chance of exceeding the median rainfall May to July 2019**

![Rainfall Outlook Map](https://example.com/rainfall-map.png)
The temperature outlook for May to July 2019 indicates that daytime temperatures are more likely to be warmer than average for much of the country, with a very high chance (greater than 80%) across eastern and northern Australia. Night-time temperatures are also likely to be warmer than average for Australia (Bureau of Meteorology ‘National Climate Outlook’, 11 April 2019).

**Chance of exceeding the median maximum temperature May to July 2019**

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**Chance of exceeding the median minimum temperature May to July 2019**

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1.4. Rainfall forecast for the next eight days

During the next eight days, little to no rainfall is expected across much of mainland Australia. Rainfall is likely to be restricted to the west, and the far north, south and east of mainland Australia, and Tasmania.

Rainfall totals of between 10 and 50 millimetres are forecast for parts of coastal New South Wales, northern and southern Queensland, north-western Western Australia, western Tasmania and the north-east of the Northern Territory. Heavier falls in excess of 50 millimetres are forecast for parts of north-eastern Queensland.

In cropping regions, rainfall of between 1 and 5 millimetres is expected across much of Western Australia, South Australia and south-western Victoria. Little to no rainfall is expected across cropping regions in New South Wales, Queensland and the remainder of Victoria.

This rainfall forecast is produced from computer models. As the model outputs are not altered by weather forecasters, it is important to check local forecasts and warnings issued by the Bureau of Meteorology.

Total forecast rainfall (mm) for the period 11 April to 18 April 2019
2. Water

2.1. Water markets – current week

Water storage levels in the Murray–Darling Basin (MDB) decreased by 87 gigalitres (GL) between 3 April and 9 April 2019. The current volume of water held in storage is 8,517 GL, which represents 34 per cent of total capacity. This is 36 percent or 4,779 GL less than at the same time last year.


Allocation prices in the southern Murray–Darling Basin decreased from $486 per ML in the week ending 25 March 2019 to $442 per ML in the week ending 1 April 2019.

Surface water trade activity, Southern Murray–Darling Basin

Note: The trades shown reflect estimated market activity and do not encompass all registered trades. The price line reflects value weighted average prices for the entire southern Murray-Darling Basin. Data shown is current as at Thursday 11 April 2019, and encompasses water activity until 3 April 2019. ABARES has changed the data source for this output. Data is now sourced from the Bureau of Meteorology water dashboard.

To access the full, interactive, weekly water dashboard, which contains the latest and historical water storage, water market and water allocation information, please visit http://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/publications/weekly_update/weekly-update-110419
## 3. Commodities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Week ended</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Latest price</th>
<th>Price week prior</th>
<th>Weekly change</th>
<th>Price 12 months prior</th>
<th>Year-on-year change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Selected World Indicator Prices</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Dollar – AUD/USD Exchange Rate</td>
<td>10-Apr</td>
<td>US$/A$</td>
<td>0.71</td>
<td>0.71</td>
<td>0% ⬆️</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>-8% ⇩</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wheat – US no. 2 hard red winter wheat, fob Gulf</td>
<td>09-Apr</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>&lt;1% ⇩</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>-10% ⇩</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coarse Grains – US no. 2 yellow corn, fob Gulf</td>
<td>10-Apr</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>0% ⬆️</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>-7% ⇩</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canola – Rapeseed, Europe, fob Hamburg</td>
<td>09-Apr</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>&lt;1% ⬆️</td>
<td>427</td>
<td>-5% ⇩</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cotton – Cotlook 'A' Index</td>
<td>10-Apr</td>
<td>USc/lb</td>
<td>87.5</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>1% ⬆️</td>
<td>91.7</td>
<td>-5% ⇩</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugar – Intercontinental Exchange, nearby futures, no.11 contract</td>
<td>10-Apr</td>
<td>USc/lb</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>0% ⬆️</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>2% ⬆️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wool – Eastern Market Indicator</td>
<td>04-Apr</td>
<td>Ac/kg clean</td>
<td>1,943</td>
<td>1,947</td>
<td>&lt;1% ⇩</td>
<td>1,776</td>
<td>9% ⬆️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wool – Western Market Indicator</td>
<td>05-Apr</td>
<td>Ac/kg clean</td>
<td>2,095</td>
<td>2,099</td>
<td>&lt;1% ⇩</td>
<td>1,884</td>
<td>11% ⬆️</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Selected domestic crop indicator prices</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milling Wheat – ASW1, track quote, Port Adelaide, SA</td>
<td>09-Apr</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>&lt;1% ⬆️</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>25% ⬆️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feed Wheat – General purpose, Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>10-Apr</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>0% ⬆️</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>44% ⬆️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed Barley – Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>10-Apr</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>0% ⬆️</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>31% ⬆️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canola – Portland, Vic.</td>
<td>29-Oct</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>597</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>11% ⬆️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain Sorghum – Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>10-Apr</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>0% ⬆️</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>-7% ⇩</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Selected domestic livestock indicator prices</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beef – Eastern Young Cattle Indicator</td>
<td>04-Apr</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>494</td>
<td>2% ⬆️</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>-6% ⇩</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutton – Mutton indicator (18–24 kg fat score 2–3), Vic</td>
<td>05-Apr</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>7% ⬆️</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>8% ⬆️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamb – Eastern States Trade Lamb Indicator</td>
<td>04-Apr</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>697</td>
<td>683</td>
<td>2% ⬆️</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>16% ⬆️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pig – Eastern Seaboard (60.1–75 kg), average of buyers &amp; sellers</td>
<td>29-Mar</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>&lt;1% ⬆️</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>26% ⬆️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goat – Eastern States (12.1–16 kg)</td>
<td>08-Apr</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>626</td>
<td>0% ⬆️</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>33% ⬆️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live cattle – Light steers ex Darwin to Indonesia</td>
<td>06-Apr</td>
<td>Ac/kg lwt</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>0% ⬆️</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>-10% ⇩</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live sheep – Live wether (Muchea WA saleyard) to Middle East</td>
<td>04-Mar</td>
<td>$/head</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>0% ⬆️</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>-15% ⇩</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicator</td>
<td>Week ended</td>
<td>Unit</td>
<td>Latest price</td>
<td>Price week prior</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Global Dairy Trade (GDT) weighted average prices  
Dairy – Whole milk powder | 03-Apr     | US$/t | 3,287        | 3,317            | <1% ▼         | 3,278                | <1% ↑               |
| Dairy – Skim milk powder  | 03-Apr     | US$/t | 2,468        | 2,405            | 3% ↑          | 1,849                | 33% ↑               |
| Dairy – Cheddar cheese    | 03-Apr     | US$/t | 4,248        | 4,036            | 5% ↑          | 3,679                | 15% ↑               |
| Dairy – Anhydrous milk fat| 03-Apr     | US$/t | 5,867        | 5,662            | 4% ↑          | 5,806                | 1% ↑                |

* Global Dairy Trade prices are updated twice monthly on the first and third Tuesday of each month.
3.1. Selected world indicator prices

- **World wheat indicator price**
  - US No. 2, hard red winter wheat, fob Gulf
  - Week ended 9 April 2019

- **World coarse grains indicator price**
  - US corn No. 2, fob Gulf
  - Week ended 10 April 2019

- **World canola indicator price**
  - Europe fob Hamburg
  - Week ended 9 April 2019

- **World cotton indicator price**
  - Cotlook 'A' index
  - Week ended 10 April 2019
3.2. Global Dairy Trade (GDT) weighted average prices

Whole milk powder price
3 April 2019

Skim milk powder price
3 April 2019

Cheddar cheese price
3 April 2019

Anhydrous milk fat price
3 April 2019

US$/t
3.3. Selected domestic crop indicator prices

Grain sorghum indicator price
Sydney, NSW
Week ended 10 April 2019

Feed barley indicator price
Sydney, NSW
Week ended 10 April 2019

Feed wheat indicator price
General Purpose, Sydney, NSW
Week ended 10 April 2019

Milling wheat indicator price
ASW1, track quote, Port Adelaide, SA
Week ended 9 April 2019
3.4. Selected domestic livestock indicator prices

Eastern Young Cattle Indicator
Week ended 4 April 2019

Eastern States Trade Lamb Indicator
Week ended 4 April 2019

Mutton indicator price in Victoria
(18–24 kg fat score 2–3)
Week ended 5 April 2019

Pig indicator price Eastern Seaboard
(60.1–75 kg)
Week ended 29 March 2019
Goat indicator price Eastern States
(12.1–16 kg)
Week ended 8 April 2019

Live cattle indicator price
light steers ex Darwin
Week ended 6 April 2019

Live sheep indicator price
wether ex Western Australia
Week ended 4 March 2019
3.5. Selected fruit and vegetable prices – week ended 11 April 2019
4. Data attribution

Climate
Bureau of Meteorology

Water
New South Wales

Queensland
- Sunwater: www.sunwater.com.au
- Seqwater: http://seqwater.com.au

South Australia
- South Australian Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources: www.environment.sa.gov.au

Victoria
- Goulburn–Murray Water: www.g-mwater.com.au

Commodities
Fruit and vegetables
- Datafresh: www.freshstate.com.au

Pigs
- Australian Pork Limited: www.australianpork.com.au

Canola
- Weekly Times: hardcopy

Dairy

World wheat, canola
- International Grains Council

World coarse grains
- United States Department of Agriculture

World cotton
- Cotlook: www.cotlook.com/

World sugar
- New York Stock Exchange - Intercontinental Exchange

Wool

Milling wheat
- ProFarmer

Domestic wheat, barley, sorghum
- The Land: hardcopy or online at www.theland.farmonline.com.au/markets

Domestic canola
- The Weekly Times: hardcopy

Cattle, beef, mutton, lamb, goat and live export