Australia's Environment | 2020 Regional Report Card

Australian National University

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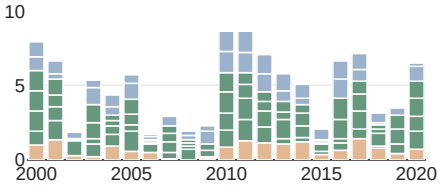
North Central

One of 60 NRM Regions in Australia.

Summary Score

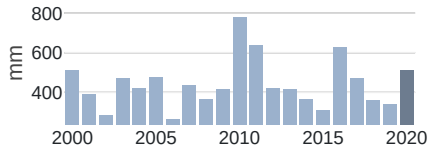
6.5

+2.9



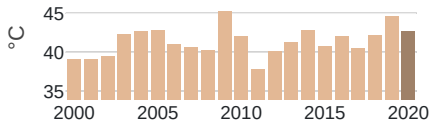
The overall environmental score (out of 10) was 6.5, up from 3.6 in 2019.

Rainfall



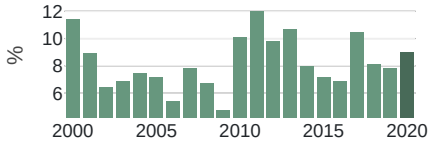
Rainfall was 3rd highest since 2000

Maximum temperature



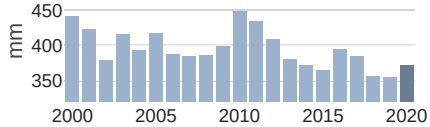
Maximum temperature was above average

Tree cover



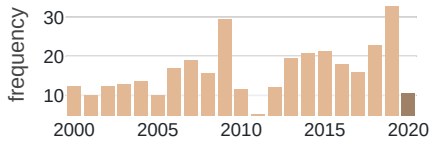
Woody vegetation cover was about average

Soil moisture



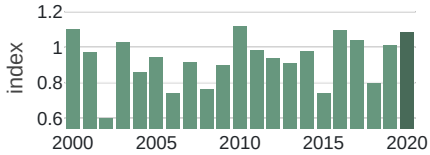
The mean amount of moisture in the soil was 2nd lowest since 2000.

Hot days



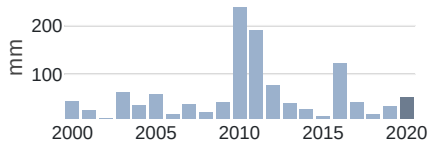
The number of days above 35 °C was below average

Vegetation condition



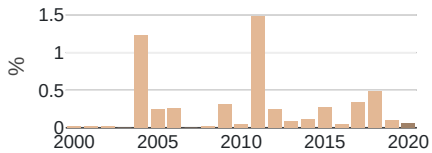
Leaf area index was 3rd highest since 2000

River flows



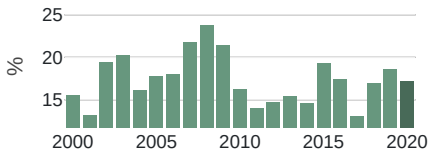
River flows were about average.

Bushfire extent



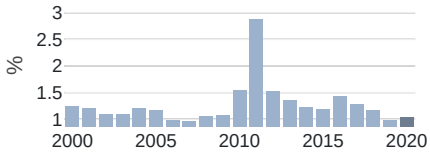
The area burnt was below average

Exposed soil



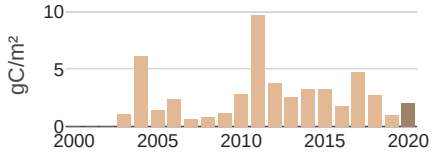
The area of unprotected soil was about average.

Inundation



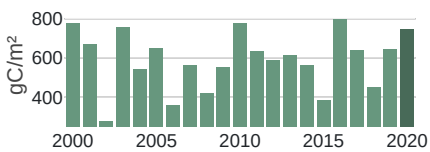
Inundation was 3rd lowest since 2000.

Biomass burnt



Fire carbon emissions were about average.

Vegetation growth



Vegetation growth was above average.

This report card summarise changes in the region's natural resources and ecosystems in 2020.

North Central

NRM Regions

Area: 29,825 km²

Climate indicators

averages for 2000-2019

Precipitation: 442 mm per year
Days over 35°C: 16.4 per year
Days with frost: 4.6 per year

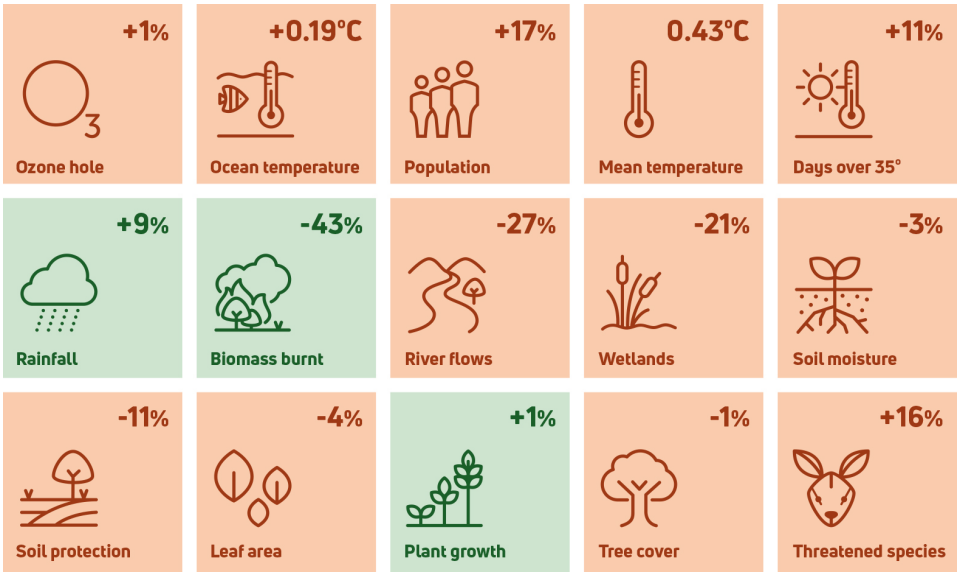
Land use: Dryland cropping (36%), Grazing on modified pasture (29%), Irrigated pasture (11%), Natural environments (7%)

Tree cover: 0.27 Mha or 9.0% (2019)

For more information about this region follow this link

National context

Deviation from 2000-2019 average



About This Report

The annual Australia's Environment Report summarises a large number of observations on the trajectory of our natural resources and ecosystems.

On the report website, you can find a national summary report, as well as report cards for different types of administrative and geographical regions. In the accompanying data explorer, the spatial data can be viewed as maps, accounts or charts by region and land use type, and downloaded for further use.

Acknowledgements: Australia's Environment is produced with support from TERN, an NCRIS-enabled National Research Infrastructure. Production is made possible by the National Computational Infrastructure (NCI) and data published by Bureau of Meteorology, CSIRO, Geoscience Australia, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian Government Departments, Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network, Atlas of Living Australia, NASA, European Centre for Medium-range Weather Forecasts and others.

About The Data

Summary score: overall environmental condition expressed between 0 and 10 relative to previous years. It is calculated as the average of the ranking of component scores (from top to bottom in the bar graph): inundation and streamflow (blue), vegetation growth, leaf area, soil protection and tree cover (green) and the number of hot days (orange).

Indicators: measures of the condition of natural resources and ecosystems summarised from several spatial data sources. Land cover, inundation, fire occurrence, burn extent, exposed soil, and vegetation leaf area are derived by automated analysis of satellite imagery. The other indicators are estimated by integrating ground- and satellite data with environmental prediction models. For full details on the methods, follow this link.

National context: Selected environmental indicators as a relative change from average conditions since 2000. Such a change can be part of a long-term trend or be within normal variability. For historical context on each indicator follow this link.

About Us

The Centre for Water and Landscape Dynamics develops new methods to measure, monitor and forecast climate, water availability and landscape conditions. Our solutions often combine large amounts of data from satellites and sensor networks with field research, biophysical modelling and machine learning.

Our focus areas are extreme weather, bushfires, water resources, agriculture, forestry and our natural environment. Our activities span education and training, research, and developing practical solutions for decision-making. Among others, we develop innovative web-based platforms to help you find, explore and interpret environmental information derived from satellites and on-ground networks.

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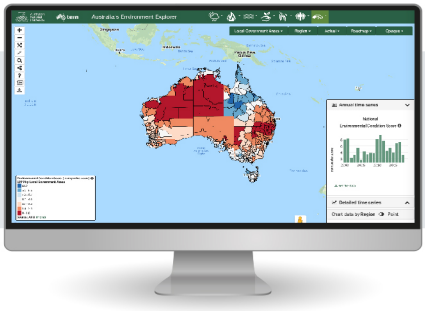

For further information on the environment condition of this and other parts of Australia visit
www.ausenv.online

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Australia's Environment is produced by the Australian National University's Centre for Water and Landscape Dynamics with support from TERN, an NCRIS-enabled National Research Infrastructure.