

South Australia's River Murray Water Allocation Statement

Issued 15 April 2025



Key messages

- The projected minimum opening allocation for South Australian River Murray irrigators for the 2025-26 water year is 100 percent.
- Carryover will not be available in 2025-26. With the projected minimum opening allocation, as announced on 15 April 2025, being greater than 50 percent, the carryover trigger for 2025-26 was not met.
- As the projected minimum opening allocation is 100 percent for the 2025-26 water year, no further allocation announcements are scheduled for the 2025-26 water year. In mid-June 2025, the volume of water available for allocation will be gazetted and allocations issued for use from 1 July 2025.
- During the 2024-25 water year, daily and monthly inflows to the major storages in the River Murray System have been below the long-term average in almost every month. However, above average inflows in the previous 2 water years have led to current storage volumes around the long-term average for this time of year.
- Current projections for the 2025-26 water year are favourable following recent rain in the northern Basin and it is likely South Australia will see improvements to receive its full Entitlement.

Interstate Allocations and Outlooks

Information on current River Murray allocations and projected allocations for 2025-26, in both New South Wales and Victoria, can be found at the website links below:

- [NSW allocation information](#)
- [Victorian allocation information](#)



Private carryover

In accordance with the [Water Allocation Plan for the South Australian River Murray Prescribed Watercourse](#), access to private carryover is only available to eligible users when the projected minimum opening irrigation allocation is 50 percent or less. As the worst case projected minimum opening allocation for 2025-26 is 100 percent, **private carryover will NOT be available in the 2025-26 water year.**

A 4 page [factsheet](#) is available on South Australia's River Murray updated private carryover policy.



Water allocation framework

The [Water Allocation Plan for the South Australian River Murray Prescribed Watercourse](#) (River Murray WAP) details how water is allocated. A 5 page [factsheet](#) is also available.

The [SA River Murray Water Calculator](#) also helps you better understand how the water available to SA is shared. It improves transparency of water sharing arrangements within SA by showing how much water is allocated for different purposes.



Water held in storage

Regularly updated information regarding the current volumes held in Murray-Darling Basin storages is available via the MDBA's River Data website. The MDBA offers three visualisation options:

- [Map view](#) – This shows the geographic locations of measurement sites across the River Murray system, with options to view water levels, water temperatures, salinity levels, flow rates and storage volumes at selected sites.
- [System view](#) – This provides an overview of flow conditions across the River Murray system and from the tributaries, including water flow rates, release rates, storage volumes, river heights and salinity levels.
- [List view](#) – This provides a dashboard view of the flow conditions at the same sites as provided under the system.

For real-time information on the volumes held in major River Murray system storages, please visit:

1. [Dartmouth Dam](#)
2. [Hume Dam](#)
3. [Lake Victoria](#)
4. [Menindee Lakes*](#)

* The MDBA can access and manage water in the Menindee Lakes once the volume rises above 640 GL and until it falls below 480 GL. Once the water level falls below the 480 GL trigger point, New South Wales manages the water in accordance with their priorities, including to best meet local demands. For more information on Menindee Lakes visit this [MDBA webpage](#).

For more information on water storages visit:

- The Bureau of Meteorology's [Water Storage Dashboard](#)
- The Bureau of Meteorology's [Murray–Darling Basin Water information portal](#)

Under clause 91 and Schedule G of the *Murray-Darling Basin Agreement 2008* (the Agreement), South Australia can defer and store part of its annual Entitlement in unused airspace in these River Murray storages to meet critical human water needs and/or private carryover in dry years.



Climate outlook

The Bureau of Meteorology provides [climate outlooks](#) that offer insights into future weather patterns. These outlooks include three-monthly forecasts for [rainfall](#), [maximum and minimum temperatures](#) and updates on key [climate influences](#) affecting Australia.

More detailed information can be found in the Bureau of Meteorology's [Climate Data](#) website.



Further information

For more information on South Australia's water allocations visit the [DEW website](#).

The DEW issues a weekly River Murray Flow Report that contain information about water levels, flow rates and barrage operations as well as any navigation issues and construction activities. To view earlier reports, click [here](#). To sign up to receive the weekly River Murray Flow Report click [here](#).

To speak with someone about your water allocation or account:

- Drop into the water licensing office at 2 Wade Street, Berri SA.
- Call the water licensing office on (08) 8595 2053.
- Email water licensing on DEW.WaterLicensingBerri@sa.gov.au.