

Data reflected in this summary of mosquito-borne disease in the Wheatbelt Region is taken from the Western Australia Notifiable Infectious Disease Database (WANIDD) and includes enhanced surveillance data collected by Population Health Units and Local Governments. (Only locations with notified cases of disease are shown in tables and figures).

#### Ross River virus (RRV)

There was a total of five RRV cases reported during these two quarters. Two of these cases were notified by doctor and follow up data are available for one of these cases. The monthly number of cases has been significantly lower than the long term monthly mean for most months except for July and September when the number was within the normal range.

RRV 2018	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Wheatbelt	2		1	1	1		5
Chittering (S)					1		1
MUCHEA					1		1
Goomalling (S)			1				1
GOOMALLING			1				1
Lake Grace (S)	1						1
NEWDEGATE	1						1
Northam (S)				1			1
NORTHAM				1			1
Wandering (S)	1						1
WANDERING	1						1
Total	2		1	1	1		5





### **Barmah Forest virus (BFV)**

There were two BFV cases reported during thee two quarters. These were both notified by lab only and so no follow up data are available. Prior to this the last BFV case in this region was reported in May 2018. The long term monthly mean is less than one BFV case per month.

BFV	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Wheatbelt	1		1				2
Narrogin (T)	1						1
NARROGIN	1						1
Northam (S)			1				1
NORTHAM			1				1
Total	1		1				2

Fiscal Year





Apr 18

May 18

Jun 18

Jul 18

Notified human cases

Aug 18

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#### **Ross River virus (RRV)**

There were three RRV cases reported during this quarter. Only one of these cases was notified by doctor and follow up data are available for this case. The monthly number of RRV cases has been significantly lower than the long term monthly mean since October 2018.

RRV 2019	Month			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
Wheatbelt	1		2	3
Gingin (S)			1	1
GINGIN			1	1
Goomalling (S)	1			1
KONNONGORRING	1			1
Lake Grace (S)			1	1
LAKE GRACE			1	1
Total	1		2	3

### Barmah Forest virus (BFV)

There were no cases of BFV reported during this quarter. The long term monthly mean is less than one BFV case per month. The most recent two cases were reported from Northam in September and from Narrogin in July.



Sep 18

Month

Oct 18

---- Monthly 5yr moving average

Nov 18

Dec 18

Jan 19

Feb 10

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El Niño conditions are associated with a decrease in rainfall and tidal activity.

**La Niña** brings wetter and warmer-than-normal weather which can increase mosquitoes and mosquito borne diseases.

# ENSO Wrap-Up issued by Australian BOM 30 April 2019 Outlooks indicate short-lived El Niño likely

The Bureau's ENSO Outlook remains at El Niño ALERT. This means the chance of El Niño developing in 2019 is approximately 70%. Although the surface of the tropical Pacific Ocean remains warmer than average, water below the surface of the ocean has been gradually cooling. A cooling of water at depth can lead to a cooling of the ocean surface, which may reduce the length of an event if one develops. Most climate models indicate surface warmth in the Pacific Ocean will remain at El Niño-like levels at least through May. The longer the ocean surface warmth remains, the more likely it is that the atmosphere will respond, and El Niño will develop. If El Niño does develop in May, it's likely to be short lived. El Niño typically brings drier than average conditions for eastern Australia during winter-spring, and warmer days across the southern two-thirds of the country. The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is currently neutral. Climate outlooks indicate the IOD is likely to remain neutral for the remainder of autumn. However, by September half of the models predict a positive IOD will form, with the rest indicating neutral conditions will persist. A positive IOD typically means drier than average conditions for southern and central Australia during winter-spring.

## IRI ENSO Forecast issued 19 April 2019 (International Research Institute for Climate and society)

ENSO Alert System Status: **El Niño Advisory** A weak El Niño is likely to continue through the Northern Hemisphere summer 2019 (65% chance) and possibly autumn (50-55% chance).



# Climate outlook issued by Australian BOM 26 April 2019

**Drier May in the east, wetter May–July for western and central Australia** While May is likely to be drier, the three months from May to July show most of southern Australia have no strong tendency towards above or below average rainfall. A wetter than average three months is likely for large parts of northwestern and central Australia, but many of these areas typically receive little or no rainfall at this time of the year, meaning only a small amount of rainfall is needed to exceed the median.

### Warmer than average days and nights likely for most of Australia

Warmer than average days and nights during May to July are very likely (greater than 80% chance) for large parts of northern Australia, with chances reducing in the southwest. For northern Australia, the chances of being warmer than average are very high; greater than 80%. However, the forecast for drier than average conditions could bring more cloud-free nights, increasing the risk of frost in susceptible areas.





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