

## UPDATE: LA NIÑA 2020/2021

**La Niña continues in the tropical Pacific. Australian & international climate models suggest it's likely to continue at least into February 2021.**

Models suggest the current La Niña will strengthen further, peaking in December 2020 or January 2021 at moderate to strong levels. Climate outlooks indicate December 2020 to February 2021 rainfall is likely to be above median for most of the country. Current La Niña conditions (though not as strong as 2010–12), warmer than average waters to the north of Australia, climate change and a positive SAM are contributing to the increased chances of rainfall over Australia.

Aust. Climate Rainfall Comparison	Rain fall to Date	Difference from Median	How often do we receive more...
Georgetown	79mm	+31mm	34%
Mount Surprise	54mm	+10mm	44%
The Lynd	67mm	+18mm	39%
Chillagoe	33mm	-13mm	66%
Forsayth	87mm	+33mm	34%
Einasleigh	73mm	+20mm	37%
Croydon	55mm	+0mm	51%
Greenvale	46mm	-8mm	56%
Almaden	20mm	-34mm	83%

ANALYSING THE START TO THE WET: Rainfall totals from townships – 1<sup>st</sup> September to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### How's the season so far?

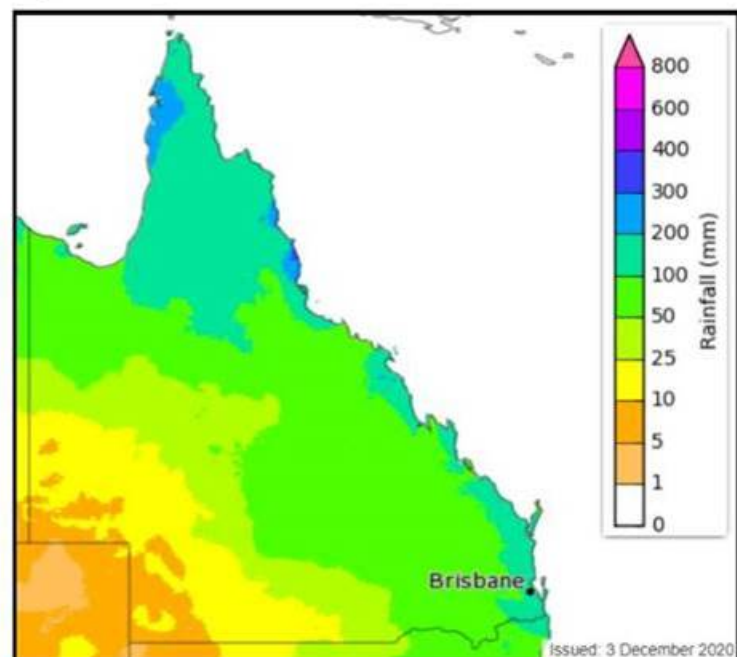
The table above summarises the 'start of the wet season' in the Northern Gulf – providing rainfall totals from the 1<sup>st</sup> of September to 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2020. For most areas, rainfall has been above the median. Almaden is the notable exception, receiving just 20mm of rain by the 30<sup>th</sup> of November, which is 34mm below its median; Greenvale and Chillagoe have also received below median rainfall for this time of the year.

Georgetown and Forsayth have both received rainfall that exceeds the median by 30mm, The Lynd and Einasleigh by close to 20mm, and Mt Surprise by 10mm. At the time of writing, Croydon had received its exact median rainfall for this period.

### Looking Ahead...

Over the next 3 months, December to February, the Median rainfall in the Northern area is between 400mm and 800mm. All the climate drivers predict the rainfall to be above the median.

*\*Seasonal Climate Update – Released 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020*



Rainfall totals that have a 75% chance of occurring for December