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Australia’s Wine Future — A Climate Atlas

ALPINE VALLEYS

Heat

Figure 1: Observed mean Growing Season Temperature (Oct–Apr) across all growing years from 1997–2017.

Figure 2: Observed change in mean Growing Season Temperature from 1997–2017 minus 1961–1990.

Figure 3: Projected mean Growing Season Temperature from 2021–2040.

Figure 4: Projected Growing Season Temperature (October to April) for 20-year time periods from 2021 to 2100. Growing Season Temperature is expected to increase steadily into the future. Each grid cell is the mean of the 6 ensemble members.

Figure 5: Probability distribution of GST for 20-year time periods from 2001 to 2100. Variability can occur spatially within the region, across years, or between ensemble members. Grey shapes represent the probability distribution of GST for contrasting regions during 1997–2017. A shift to the right (left) indicates warmer (cooler) conditions.

Figure 6: Probability distribution of growing year maximum GDD for 20-year time periods from 2001 to 2100. Variability can occur spatially within the region, across years, or between ensemble members. Grey shapes represent the probability distribution of growing year maximum GDD for contrasting regions during 1997–2017. A shift to the right (left) indicates warmer (cooler) conditions.

Figure 7: Cumulative Growing Degree Days (GDD) across the growing year (July–June). Dashed lines show GDD values (1000, 1500, 2000, 2500) for some example phenological thresholds. Each growing year is represented by a colored line. In future time periods, heat accumulates faster, thresholds are reached earlier and maximum GDD reached is higher.

Figure 8: Distribution of date when Growing Degree Days reaches threshold.

Figure 9: Observed mean Growing Season Temperature (Oct–Apr) across all growing years from 1997–2017.

Figure 10: The change in Growing Season Temperature between the current (1997–2017) and historical (1961–1990) periods. Growing Season Temperature has increased across the region over recent decades.

Figure 11: Projected mean Growing Season Temperature (Oct–Apr) for 20-year time periods from 2021 to 2100. Growing Season Temperature is expected to increase steadily into the future. Each grid cell is the mean of the 6 ensemble members.

Figure 12: Projected Growing Season Temperature (October to April) for 20-year time periods from 2021 to 2100. Growing Season Temperature is expected to increase steadily into the future. Each grid cell is the mean of the 6 ensemble members.
Figure 1: Observed mean Growing Season Rainfall (Oct–Apr) across all growing years from 1997–2017.

Figure 2: Change in Growing Season Rainfall (Oct–Apr) between the current (1997–2017) and historical (1961–1990) periods. Negative values indicate a trend towards drier conditions. Positive values indicate a trend towards wetter conditions.

Figure 3: Projected mean Growing Season Rainfall (Oct–Apr) for 20-year time periods from 2021 to 2100. Each grid cell is the mean of the 6 ensemble members.

Figure 4: Projected Growing Season Rainfall (October to April) for 20-year time periods from 2021 to 2100. Each grid cell is the mean of the 6 ensemble members. Horizontal grey bars represent the projected mean Growing Season Rainfall value for 1997–2017 in selected regions across Australia. These can be used to make decisions based on projected temperature change rather than time.

Figure 5: As with Figure 4, but for Non-Growing Season Rainfall. Horizontal grey bars represent the mean Non-Growing Season Rainfall value during 1997–2017 in selected regions across Australia.

Figure 6: Violin plots of monthly rainfall (mm) for 20-year time periods from 2001 to 2100. Each violin represents monthly totals for each grid cell, for each of the 6 ensemble members, and for each growing year within the time period. In each panel the monthly violins indicate the expected probability distribution of rainfall across the growing year. The current period (2001–2020) is shadowed underneath the future time periods to highlight any differences expected into the future. Dots represent the mean monthly rainfall for each violin. If the violin shifts lower (higher) this indicates a change towards drier (wetter) conditions.

Figure 7: Distribution of seasonal rainfall

Figure 8: Number of rainy days during harvest for each 20-year period. Harvest refers to the date when Growing Degree Days (GDD) reach example phenological thresholds (1000, 1500, 2000, 2500) which were chosen to reflect development time of different grape styles and varieties. Rainy days during harvest were defined as days with >10mm of rain from 7 days before to 7 days after the date each GDD threshold was reached. Variability can occur spatially within the region, across years, or between ensemble members. A shift in the curve to the left (right) indicates fewer (more) rainy days during harvest. A missing time period indicates that the specific phenological threshold was not reached within the growing year (July–June).
Figure 1: Observed mean annual Aridity Index across all growing years from 1997–2017. Aridity Index is a value that characterizes the ratio between the mean annual rainfall and mean annual evaporation. Low (high) values indicate drier (wetter) conditions.

Figure 2: Observed percentage change in mean annual Aridity Index between the current (1997–2017) and historical (1961–1990) periods. This shows the change already experienced across the region. Negative (positive) values indicate a trend towards drier (wetter) conditions.

Figure 3: Projected mean annual Aridity Index for 20-year time periods from 2021 to 2100. Each grid cell is the mean of the 6 ensemble members. Decreasing (increasing) values indicate a trend towards drier (wetter) conditions.

Figure 4: Time series of annual Aridity Index. Points are the annual means for each grid cell in the region, for each of the 6 ensemble members. Aridity Index values >2 all indicate very wet conditions. There is no meaningful difference past this value, so higher values were not presented. Horizontal grey bars represent the mean annual Aridity Index from selected regions across Australia — these provide an example of conditions the region may transition towards in the future. Coloured bars represent the projected global temperature increase expected in the future (following the RCP 8.5 scenario) which can be used to make decisions based on projected temperature change rather than time (for example, if the rate of warming rapidly increases, where temperature change are experienced earlier, useful information can still be extracted from these figures by using the coloured boxes instead of the time-axis).

Figure 5: Violin plots of monthly Aridity Index for 20-year time periods from 2001 to 2100. Each violin represents ensemble averages for each grid cell, for each of the 6 ensemble members, and for each growing year within the time period. The current period (2001–2020) is shadowed underneath the future time periods to highlight any differences expected into the future. Dots represent the mean monthly Aridity Index for each violin. If the violin shifts lower (higher) this indicates a change towards drier (wetter) conditions.

Figure 6: Distribution of seasonal Aridity Index

Figure 7: Mean annual Aridity Index accumulated from start of the growing season (July) to date of harvest, presented as a probability distribution for each 20-year period. Variability can occur spatially within the region, across years, or between ensemble members. Grey shapes represent the probability distribution of mean annual Aridity for contrasting regions during 1997–2017. Differences in the shape of curves between the current and future periods indicate a change in the typical conditions. A shift to the left (right) indicates an increase in drier (wetter) conditions. Aridity Index values >2 all indicate very wet conditions.
Figure 1: Observed mean excess heat factor (EHF) during heatwaves (as per Nairn and Fawcett (2013)), across all growing years from 1997–2017. EHF is an index that characterizes heatwaves; high values indicate more intense heatwaves. The mean EHF is the mean value from all heatwaves that occurred from 1997–2017.

Figure 2: Change in mean EHF during heatwaves between the current (1997–2017) and historical (1961–1990) periods. Positive (negative) values indicate a trend towards more (less) intense heatwaves.

Figure 3: Projected mean EHF during heatwaves for 20-year time periods from 2021 to 2100. Each grid cell is the mean of the 6 ensemble members. Increasing (decreasing) values indicate a trend towards more (less) intense heatwaves.

Figure 4: Time series of the number of days per growing year with temperatures greater than 30°C, 35°C, and 40°C. Areas indicate the number of days each threshold is exceeded per growing year. Values are averaged across all grid cells and the 6 ensemble members. Coloured bars represent the projected global temperature increase expected into the future (following the RCP 8.5 scenario) which can be used to make decisions based on projected temperature change rather than time.

Figure 5: Time series of the number of days per growing year with high human heat stress. This is defined as days when daily maximum temperatures are >30°C and daily minimum humidity is >60%. These conditions cause severe risk of heat stress to humans (and potentially low productivity) to those working in exposed areas. Humans cannot work in high temperatures, high humidity environments without appropriate adaptive behaviours and equipment. Points are for each grid cell from each of the 6 ensemble members. Coloured bars represent the projected global temperature increase expected into the future (following the RCP 8.5 scenario) which can be used to make decisions based on projected temperature change rather than time.

Figure 6: Violins plots of high temperatures (°C) per growing year for 20-year time periods from 2001 to 2100. Colours indicate extreme threshold values (90th, 95th and 99th percentile) of temperature during each growing year. The 99th percentile value reflects the 4th hottest day each growing year; the 95th percentile is the 18th hottest day each growing year; and the 90th percentile is the 36th hottest day each growing year. Generally increasing values reflect a warming climate.
Australia’s Wine Future — A Climate Atlas

ALPINE VALLEYS
Extremes — Cold

Figure 1: Observed mean number of days at risk of frost during the growing season (October to April) over the period 1997–2017. Days at risk of frost are those with a daily minimum temperature <2°C. High (low) values indicate high (low) frost risk.

Figure 2: Change in the mean number of days at risk of frost during the growing season (October to April) between the current (1997–2017) and historical (1961–1990) periods. Days at risk of frost are days with a minimum temperature <2°C. High (low) values indicate increased (decreased) frost risk.

Figure 3: Projected mean number of days at risk of frost during the growing season (October to April) for 20-year time periods from 2021 to 2100. Each grid cell is the mean of the 6 ensemble members. Increasing (decreasing) values indicate a trend towards higher (lower) frost risk.

Figure 4: Violin plots of daily minimum temperature (°C) for each month for 20-year time periods from 2001 to 2100. Each violin represents daily data for each grid cell, for each of the 6 ensemble members, and for each growing year within the time period, e.g., the top-left most violin represents the daily minimum temperature for every January day in the period 2001–2020, for each grid cell in the region, for each of the 6 ensemble members. The current period (2001–2020) has been shadowed underneath future time periods to highlight any differences expected into the future. Dots represent the means for each violin. If the violin shifts lower (higher) this indicates a change towards colder (warmer) conditions.

Figure 5: Projected monthly minimum temperature

Figure 6: Projected accumulated frost intensity

Figure 7: Projected monthly frost risk days

Figure 8: Monthly average cumulative frost days for 20-year time periods from 2001 to 2010. Values are a summary across all grid cells, for all years with each 20-year period, for each of the 6 ensemble members. This reflects how frost risk varies across the year within each 20-year period. The current period (2001–2010) has been shadowed underneath future time periods to highlight any differences expected into the future.

Figure 9: Timeseries of accumulated frost intensity, which is the cumulative total of temperatures less than 2°C over a growing season. This index characterizes exposure to cold conditions. High values indicate cold winters/springs. Points are for each grid cell, averaged across the 6 ensemble members.

Figure 10: Time series of the number of days per growing year when temperature falls below selected thresholds (<2°C, <0°C, <–2°C). Arrows indicate the number of days when freezing conditions occur for at least one day during each growing year. Values are averaged across all grid cells and the 6 ensemble members. Fewer instances reflect a warming climate.