POWERED BY Octopusbot

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2026 Wheat Condition Report

How Australia's wheat crop is tracking, region by region. October 2026.

66.5 / 100

National **Condition Index**, October 2026

▼ -0.6 index points since September

▼ -2.1 index points vs last year (actual)



The dot is this October (66.5). The faint marks show September (67.1) and last year's actual (68.6).

Australia's wheat crop eased slightly over the past month. The national Condition Index is 66.5 out of 100, down from 67.1 in September and below last year's actual of 68.6. Most of the crop, 51%, is rated Fair, while the share rated Good or Excellent is 40%. South Australia and Victoria hold the strongest crops, while Queensland is the weakest of the five states.

SA	VIC	WA	NSW	QLD
90.6 INDEX	87.6 INDEX	62.7 INDEX	55.8 INDEX	22.4 INDEX

HOW TO READ THIS REPORT

Octopusbot's AI forecasts the yield in every wheat-growing region, then compares it with what that region usually grows. Each region gets one of five ratings, each mapping to a band of the 0 to 100 Condition Index:

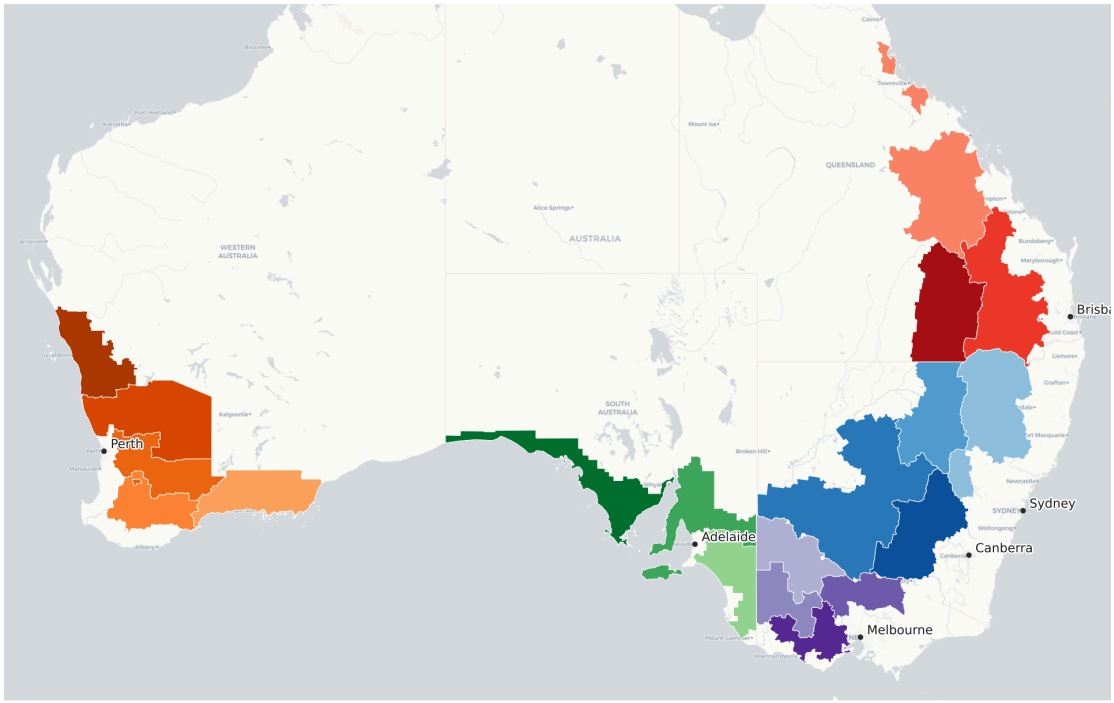
Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
0-10	10-30	30-70	70-90	90-100
over 40% below usual	20 to 40% below	within 20% of usual	20 to 40% above	over 40% above usual

COMMODITY	COVERAGE	AS AT
Wheat	5 States, 19 Regions	October 2026

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Condition by region

The growing regions, colour coded. Condition Index and areas for each are listed below



REGION	INDEX	GRDC REGIONS
NEW SOUTH WALES		
NSW Slopes	62	Central and South East NSW
NSW Central	73	Central and South West NSW
NSW Northwest Plains	35	North West NSW
NSW Northern Slopes	36	North East NSW
QUEENSLAND		
QLD South West	13	South West QLD
QLD Darling Downs	24	Darling Downs and South East QLD
QLD Central	26	Central QLD
SOUTH AUSTRALIA		
SA Western	99	Eyre Peninsula
SA Central	84	Mid North, Yorke Peninsula and Riverland SA
SA Eastern	76	Murray Mallee, Coorong and South East SA
VICTORIA		
VIC South West	62	South West VIC
VIC Slopes	77	North East and North Central VIC
VIC Wimmera	81	Wimmera VIC
VIC Mallee	96	North and South VIC Mallee
WESTERN AUSTRALIA		
WA Geraldton	61	Geraldton
WA Kwinana North	68	Kwinana North
WA Kwinana South	54	Kwinana South
WA Albany	50	Albany
WA Esperance	73	Esperance

Condition Index Weaker Stronger

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Condition by region

Each state broken into its growing regions, rated red (poor) to green (excellent)

REGION	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT	CONDITION INDEX
New South Wales	3%	13%	62%	10%	12%	55.8
NSW Slopes	0%	0%	81%	19%	0%	62.1
NSW Central	0%	0%	57%	4%	39%	73.4
NSW Northwest Plains	16%	23%	60%	1%	0%	34.9
NSW Northern Slopes	1%	44%	43%	12%	0%	35.9
Queensland	11%	70%	19%	0%	0%	22.4
QLD South West	53%	46%	1%	0%	0%	12.7
QLD Darling Downs	4%	73%	23%	0%	0%	23.7
QLD Central	0%	78%	22%	0%	0%	25.5
South Australia	0%	0%	13%	17%	70%	90.6
SA Western	0%	0%	0%	1%	99%	99.1
SA Central	0%	0%	20%	32%	48%	84.3
SA Eastern	0%	0%	43%	38%	19%	76.5
Victoria	0%	0%	18%	24%	58%	87.6
VIC South West	0%	0%	72%	26%	2%	61.5
VIC Slopes	0%	0%	49%	30%	21%	77.2
VIC Wimmera	0%	0%	25%	27%	48%	81.2
VIC Mallee	0%	0%	0%	22%	78%	96.3
Western Australia	0%	2%	75%	23%	0%	62.7
WA Geraldton	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	60.9
WA Kwinana North	0%	0%	67%	33%	0%	68.3
WA Kwinana South	0%	13%	87%	0%	0%	53.7
WA Albany	1%	0%	99%	0%	0%	50.4
WA Esperance	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	72.8

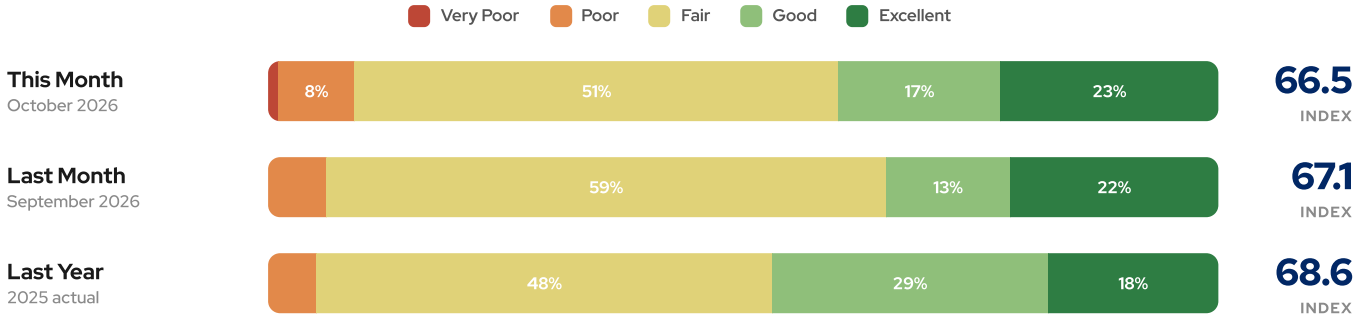
Shaded rows show the whole-state result; the regions beneath show how it breaks down, weighted by planted area. Region names carry their state for clarity. The Condition Index rescales each area's forecast yield to a figure from 0 to 100, based on how it compares with that area's usual yield, taken as its ten-year average. An average year scores 50, and each 1 percent above or below moves the score by 1 point, so a forecast 20 percent below scores 30 and one 20 percent above scores 70. The bands run Very Poor 0 to 10, Poor 10 to 30, Fair 30 to 70, Good 70 to 90 and Excellent 90 to 100. Each state and region figure is the planted-area weighted average of the areas within it.

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Model-based forecast. Indicative only; not a guarantee of yield or commercial outcome.

How the crop changed

This month compared with last month and last year



The share of wheat rated Good or Excellent is now 40%.

The national Condition Index declined by 0.6 points from 67.1 in September to 66.5, while the share rated Good or Excellent rose from 35% to 40%. Most of the crop is rated Fair at 51%, down from 59% in September.

South Australia

South Australia has the strongest crop with a Condition Index of 90.6. Most of its wheat, 70%, is rated Excellent.

Victoria

Victoria is close behind with a Condition Index of 87.6. Most of its crop, 58%, is rated Excellent.

Western Australia

Western Australia records a Condition Index of 62.7. Most of its wheat, 75%, is rated Fair.

New South Wales

New South Wales has a Condition Index of 55.8. Most of its wheat, 62%, is rated Fair.

Queensland

Queensland has the weakest crop with a Condition Index of 22.4. Most of its wheat, 70%, is rated Poor.

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Methodology

The data and AI models behind the forecast

Octopusbot runs thousands of interconnected proprietary AI models that continuously simulate global grain and oilseed markets. For this report, the yield models estimate the wheat crop in every Australian growing region each month, by combining detailed historical yield records for each region with extensive historical weather patterns.

The models analyse more than **200 localised weather variables**, including rainfall, soil moisture, temperature and wind speeds, alongside satellite imagery, and can forecast yields **seven months ahead of the market**. Production estimates combine these regional yield forecasts with AI planted-area estimates, which weigh commodity prices, farmer profitability and seasonal weather.

Ratings are produced at local statistical level and rolled up to growing regions, states and the nation using estimated planted area as the weight, so larger growing areas count for more in each combined figure. The whole pipeline is automated end to end and refreshes every month as new weather and satellite data arrive. Because it is built entirely on data, the platform is independent and free of bias, and each model produces a range of likely outcomes rather than a single number.

Octopusbot | Crop forecasting by Octopusbot, prepared for Elders.

FORECAST ACCURACY

97.4%	forecast accuracy, 2024/25 season
95%	accuracy seven months ahead
5,000+	interconnected AI models
200+	localised weather variables

HOW THE ESTIMATE IS BUILT

1 · Regional yield history + weather	inputs
2 · AI yield forecast per region	yield
3 · AI planted-area estimate	area
4 · Yield × area	production
5 · Forecast vs usual yield	rating
6 · Roll-up weighted by planted area	totals

About the ratings: each region's forecast yield is compared with its usual result. Excellent is more than 40% above usual, Good 20 to 40% above, Fair within 20%, Poor 20 to 40% below, Very Poor more than 40% below. The five ratings map onto the Condition Index, a single figure from 0 to 100: Very Poor 0 to 10, Poor 10 to 30, Fair 30 to 70, Good 70 to 90 and Excellent 90 to 100, with a forecast in line with usual sitting near 50.

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