

SA Winegrape Crush Survey

Regional Summary Report 2018

Riverland Wine Region

Wine Australia August 2018

DATUM: GDA94
 PROJECTION: MGA Zone 54
 DATE: 8th March 2017
 SOFTWARE: ESRI ArcGIS v10.4
 DATA SOURCE:
 Vineyard Block - Vinehealth Australia
 Wine Region - Wine Australia

Riverland Wine Region



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Riverland

Vintage overview

VINTAGE REPORT

The 2018 vintage highlight was the demand for fruit and lack of rain during vintage which was a pleasant change for growers. The winemakers were actively competing for the major reds and whites, culminating in higher prices for most varieties.

Despite a relatively dry winter, even for the Riverland, budburst was even and the timing was about on par with previous years; however, the dry soil caused many growers to irrigate a bit earlier than normal. From October to December we had one good rain each month which did not cause any disease problems, allowing growers to minimise downy mildew sprays.

From early December onwards there was very little rain, with above average temperatures and a four day stretch in mid-January of above 40 degrees. Apart from a little leaf scorch this did not appear to do any damage to the fruit unlike other years.

Harvest of the whites started in late January which is about normal. They came in quite quickly and due to the lack of rain it was good clean fruit which resulted in good quality wine. Reports indicate that the yields for all the white varieties except Chardonnay will be below the 3-year average.

Unlike the last few years where we had the reds ripening at the same time as the whites, the wineries were able to process most of the whites before the reds really started. The reds' ripening also slowed from about the middle of February until early March; however they increased after that creating a frenzy to get them crushed within the preferred parameters.

The crop levels for all the reds, while being below last year's exceptionally high levels, were close to the three year average. Vintage was all over by early April, about three weeks earlier than the extended 2017 vintage.

Jim Caddy, CCW

OVERVIEW OF VINTAGE STATISTICS

The reported harvest from the Riverland in 2018 was 447,410 tonnes, 5% below the near-record 2017 crush of 470,123 tonnes, but just above the five-year (2013-2017) average crush for the Riverland of 442,774 tonnes.

Despite the reduced tonnage, the total estimated value of all grapes increased by 9%, from \$162 million to \$176 million, as a result of a 14% increase in the overall average price paid.

The average prices for all major red varieties increased. Shiraz was up by 23% to \$487 per tonne, and Cabernet Sauvignon by 19% to \$466 per tonne. For whites, Chardonnay increased by 5% to \$327 per tonne, despite having an increased tonnage against the general trend. Sauvignon Blanc increased by 8% to \$411 per tonne. These increases follow similar increases in 2017, and the average prices for all the top three varieties are now the highest since 2008.

The price dispersion data shows an upward shift in dispersion, with purchases of more red varieties shifting into the \$600 per tonne or above bracket than last year, and very few red grapes purchased at below \$300 per tonne. For the whites, 28% were purchased at below \$300 per tonne, compared with 35% in 2017.

There were 56 hectares of new plantings in the 2017 planting season, compared with 202 hectares the previous year. Cabernet Sauvignon (19 hectares) and Pinot Gris/Grigio (14 hectares) were the main contributors to the new plantings. The non-bearing area of Pinot Gris is currently over one-third of its total area.

There was a net increase in total vineyard area in the Riverland of around 35 hectares after a decline of 300 hectares last year. The total planted area is 20,339 hectares, 400 hectares less than it was in 2013.

Riverland

Winegrape intake summary table - red

	Total tonnes purchased	Price dispersion - number of tonnes in each price range					total value purchased grapes	Average purch. value per tonne	Change in price YoY	Winery grown fruit	Share of winery grown	Total Est total value crushed	ALL grapes
		< \$300	\$300 to <\$600	\$600 to <\$1500	\$1500 to <\$2000	\$2000+							
Red													
Barbera	6		6						23	80%	29	\$10,911	
Cabernet Franc	4		4							0%	4	\$1,517	
Cabernet Sauvignon	49,489		49,266	222		\$23,062,955	\$466	19%	13,968	22%	63,457	\$29,572,576	
Dolcetto	3		3							0%	3	\$1,228	
Durif	563		192	371	1	\$329,254	\$585	18%	271	32%	834	\$487,585	
Grenache	3,329		3,308	21		\$1,322,198	\$397	19%	362	10%	3,691	\$1,465,902	
Lagrein	22		6	13	3	\$20,786	\$926	2%		0%	22	\$20,786	
Malbec	194		194						92	32%	286	\$105,813	
Mataro/Mourvedre	2,641		2,597	45		\$1,173,026	\$444	26%	168	6%	2,809	\$1,247,517	
Merlot	17,001		16,958	43		\$7,609,007	\$448	15%	7,316	30%	24,317	\$10,883,243	
Montepulciano	109		49	56	5	\$73,885	\$676	8%	48	31%	157	\$106,317	
Muscat Rouge a Petits Grains	185		185							0%	185	\$81,063	
Petit Verdot	5,734		5,709	25		\$2,399,952	\$419	18%	5,946	51%	11,681	\$4,888,664	
Pinot Noir	7,734		7,734			\$3,355,645	\$434	13%	1,043	12%	8,777	\$3,808,125	
Ruby Cabernet	903		890	12		\$380,278	\$421	20%	974	52%	1,876	\$790,423	
Sangiovese	73		71	2		\$33,382	\$458		317	81%	390	\$178,763	
Shiraz	86,072		85,264	808		\$41,883,819	\$487	23%	24,213	22%	110,286	\$53,666,304	
Tarrango	210	210								0%	210	\$49,672	
Tempranillo	663		663			\$303,070	\$457	7%	222	25%	886	\$404,696	
Other red	1,125		1,079	41	4	\$533,935	\$475	2%	605	35%	1,729	\$821,020	
Red total	176,062	210	174,180	1,659	13	\$82,688,619	\$470	20%	55,569	24%	231,631	\$108,592,124	

Note: Where there are fewer than three purchasers of a variety, the average price and total value are not reported to protect confidentiality.

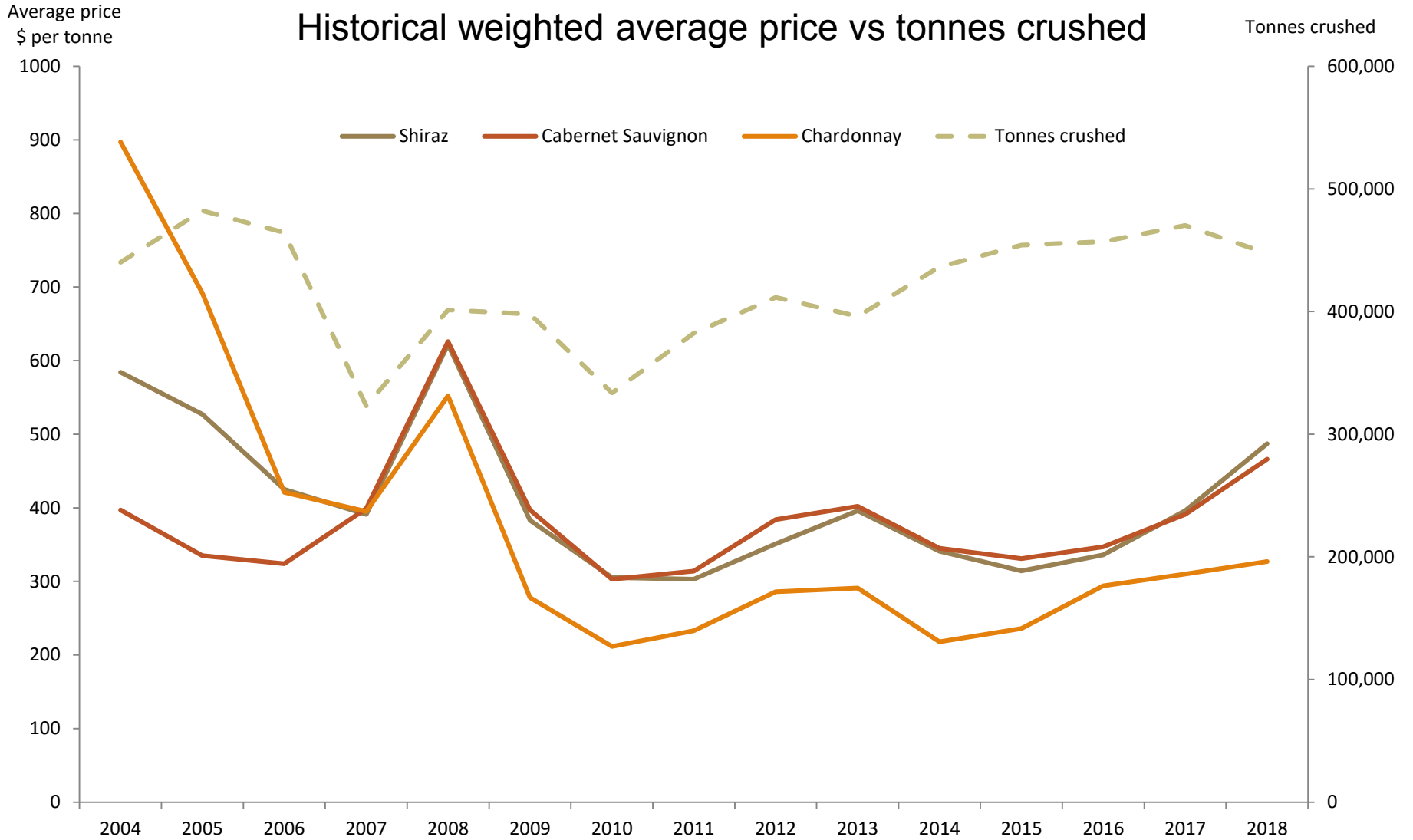
Riverland

Winegrape intake summary table - white

	Total tonnes purchased	Price dispersion - number of tonnes in each price range					total value purchased grapes	Average purch. value per tonne	Change in price YoY	Winery grown fruit	Share of winery grown	Total crushed	Est total value ALL grapes
		< \$300	\$300 to <\$600	\$600 to <\$1500	\$1500 to <\$2000	\$2000+							
White													
Canada Muscat	33		33						98	75%	131	\$65,450	
Chardonnay	101,989		101,629	359		\$33,346,022	\$327	5%	19,929	16%	121,918	\$39,861,919	
Chenin blanc	1,559	1,550	10			\$387,444	\$248	10%	11		1,570	\$390,181	
Colombard	23,087	23,080	7			\$5,541,579	\$240	8%	3,477	13%	26,563	\$6,376,073	
Doradillo	42	42							7	14%	49	\$10,976	
Fiano	148		145	4					3	2%	152	\$69,900	
Gewurztraminer	1,350	7	1,343			\$464,969	\$344	-9%	1,411	51%	2,761	\$951,067	
Moscato Giallo	66		66							0%	66	\$19,812	
Muscadelle (Tokay)	32	32							37	54%	70	\$20,605	
Muscat Blanc a Petits Grains	3,619	57	3,562			\$1,181,559	\$326	6%	447	11%	4,066	\$1,327,393	
Muscat Gordo Blanco	21,927	21,581	346			\$5,211,809	\$238	3%	2,204	9%	24,131	\$5,735,781	
Pinot Gris/Grigio	2,225		2,225			\$1,134,167	\$510	1%	556	20%	2,781	\$1,417,376	
Riesling	2,249	65	2,184			\$763,157	\$339	6%	597	21%	2,847	\$965,900	
Roussanne	7	7								0%	7	\$1,890	
Sauvignon Blanc	12,523		12,523			\$5,144,411	\$411	8%	3,344	21%	15,867	\$6,517,891	
Semillon	4,014	2,739	1,275			\$1,153,063	\$287	7%	3,658	48%	7,672	\$2,203,994	
Sultana	486	466	20			\$116,819	\$240	12%		0%	486	\$116,819	
Verdelho	1,901	747	1,154			\$721,591	\$380	11%	72	4%	1,973	\$748,857	
Vermentino	338	35	208	95		\$157,743	\$467	13%	234	41%	572	\$267,015	
Viognier	1,007	79	737	191		\$435,326	\$432	18%	504	33%	1,511	\$653,134	
Other white	413	400	4	9		\$99,777	\$242	0%	175	30%	588	\$142,107	
White total	179,016	50,888	127,470	658	13	\$55,985,057	\$313	6%	36,764	17%	215,779	\$67,864,140	
Grand total	355,078	51,098	301,650	2,317	13	\$138,673,676	\$391	14%	92,332	21%	447,410	\$176,456,265	

Note: Where there are fewer than three purchasers of a variety, the average price and total value are not reported to protect confidentiality.

Riverland



Riverland

Current plantings by variety and year planted – white winegrapes

Variety	Year planted				Total area	% planted in 2017
	Pre-2015	2015	2016	2017		
White winegrapes						
Chardonnay	4,445	0	2	0	4,447	0%
Chenin Blanc	84	0	0	0	84	0%
Colombard	783	1	0	0	784	0%
Doradillo	36	0	0	0	36	0%
Muscadelle (Tokay)	11	0	0	0	11	0%
Muscat A Petit Grains Blanc (White Frontignac)	127	0	0	0	127	0%
Muscat Gordo Blanco	962	6	0	1	968	0%
Palomino	8	0	0	0	8	0%
Pinot Gris	94	7	33	14	148	10%
Riesling	167	0	0	0	167	0%
Sauvignon Blanc	519	0	16	6	541	1%
Semillon	335	0	0	0	335	0%
Sultana	146	0	0	0	146	0%
Traminer (Gewurztraminer)	115	0	0	0	115	0%
Trebbiano	15	0	0	0	15	0%
Verdelho	93	0	0	0	93	0%
Vermantino	17	0	0	0	17	0%
Viognier	120	0	0	0	120	0%
Other white	57	4	1	0	62	0%
Total white varieties	8,134	18	52	21	8,225	0%

Source: Vinehealth Australia

Riverland

Current plantings by variety and year planted – white winegrapes

Variety	Year planted				Total area	% planted in 2017
	Pre-2015	2015	2016	2017		
Red winegrapes						
Cabernet Sauvignon	3,200	28	30	19	3,277	1%
Grenache	341	0	0	0	341	0%
Malbec	23	0	3	0	26	0%
Mataro (Mourvedre)	239	0	0	0	239	0%
Merlot	1,169	9	4	3	1,185	0%
Petit Verdot	496	0	0	0	496	0%
Pinot Noir	290	0	0	0	290	0%
Ruby Cabernet	120	0	0	0	120	0%
Sangiovese	14	0	0	4	18	20%
Shiraz	5,366	65	92	3	5,526	0%
Tempranillo	52	2	0	0	54	0%
Other red	125	9	21	6	161	4%
Total red varieties	11,435	113	150	35	11,733	0%
Unknown variety	246	0	0	0	246	0%
Rootstock Block	25	0	0	0	25	0%
Table grapes - red	28	1	0	0	29	0%
Table grapes - white	11	16	0	0	27	0%
Multi-purpose red	62	0	0	0	63	0%
Multi-purpose white	25	2	0	0	27	0%
Total all varieties	19,966	150	202	56	20,375	0%

Source: Vinehealth Australia

Explanations and definitions

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL VINTAGE SURVEY

The information for this report has been collected and analysed by Wine Australia as part of the Australian National Vintage Survey. The SA Winegrape Crush Survey Report has been prepared by Wine Australia on behalf of the South Australian Wine Industry Association, Wine Grape Growers South Australia and Primary Industries and Regions SA.

Maps and planting data tables are provided by Vinehealth Australia (see notes on planting data tables pg 20).

The survey publication is available on Wine Australia's website wineaustralia.com, the Vinehealth Australia website vinehealth.com.au and via links from the Wine Grape Council SA website wgcsa.com.au and the South Australian Wine Industry Association website winesa.com.au

Photo credits

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Note: data published in this report supercedes that in earlier reports. Minor variations in reported figures can occur due to data revisions.

Any questions about the report should be directed to:

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Explanations and definitions - continued

INTAKE (CURRENT VINTAGE) DATA

Definition of regions

Regions have been defined in accordance with Geographical Indication (GI) boundaries. If a GI region has not been declared, or produces less than 5,000 tonnes, then the data is aggregated into the relevant GI zone. Disaggregation of data into smaller regions such as Southern Fleurieu and Mount Benson is available on request from Wine Australia.

Total crush

The total crushed is the total tonnes of grapes crushed from a particular source region, whether processed in that region, another region in SA or interstate. All wineries in Australia are included in the survey collection process. However, not all wineries respond to the survey - therefore the total tonnage reported may underestimate the true crush. It is estimated that the overall response rate for the survey is 85 per cent; however, individual regions may vary. Generally, regions will have a higher response rate when there is a high proportion of purchased winegrapes within the region.

Reported fruit is separated into fruit produced from the winery's own or associated vineyards ("own grown") and from independent vineyards ("purchased").

Calculated average purchase value

The survey requests wineries to provide the total amount paid for each parcel of fruit purchased (or the price per tonne). This is the price paid for fruit of a particular variety at the point of receipt – NOT including freight. It includes any penalties or bonuses (eg Baumé) applied at the weighbridge, but DOES NOT INCLUDE other bonuses or adjustments such as end use quality bonuses, which are not available at the time the survey is conducted (May-June 2018).

The calculated average purchase value per tonne is the average amount paid per tonne of fruit across all wineries.

Winery grown grapes are not included in the calculation of average purchase value; nor are grapes grown by companies connected with the winery or under lease arrangements.

Average and total purchase values are not reported where there are fewer than three purchasers of a variety in a particular region.

Important note on average purchase value

There is considerable variation in the pricing arrangements made by different wineries. For example, some wineries make adjustment payments based on the average value per tonne reported in this survey and some pay quality bonuses based on the end use of the product. These additional payments are not included in the reported figures. The average price also does not give any indication of the distribution of prices, or variables that go into individual contracts.

Price dispersion data (shaded columns in Intake Summary tables)

All purchases for each variety are grouped into price segments according to the price paid for that batch of fruit. The sum of tonnes in all the price segments may not match the total tonnes purchased where there are tonnes reported without an associated price.

Estimated total value of all grapes

The estimated total value of all grapes is calculated by multiplying the average purchase value per tonne by all tonnes crushed. If there is a variety where there are no purchases, then the average purchase value for the same variety across similar regions, or across all other varieties of the same colour in the same region is used to determine an estimated value for the own grown grapes.

Explanations and definitions continued

PLANTING DATA

Source of planting data tables

Planting data is not collected by the 2018 Australian Wine Sector Survey. The information is obtained from the vineyard register maintained by Vinehealth Australia.

Vinehealth Australia is required under the *Phylloxera and Grape Industry Act 1995* to maintain a complete and accurate register of vineyard owners in the state. Vineyard owners with plantings of 0.5 hectares or more are required to register with Vinehealth Australia, and provide details of any changes made to these vineyard plantings within three months of any such change. This information is kept strictly confidential and provided for this survey in a deidentified and aggregated manner.

Explanatory notes for planting data tables

Regions are defined according to the Register of Australian Geographical Indications.

To protect confidentiality, the following rules are applied to reporting varieties:

- where there are fewer than 10 registered owners with plantings of a particular variety across the state, that variety is not separately identified in either the state or the regional reports but is grouped with “other red/white”, AND
- where there are fewer than three registered owners with a particular grape variety in a given region, that variety is not separately identified in the regional report but is grouped with “other red/white” unless it is a white variety listed in the top six, or red variety in the top five by planted area for the state for the current year.

- Planting data tables are current as at 30 April 2018 and include all plantings from the 2017 planting season.
- Reference to “other varieties” includes rootstock, multi-purpose and table-grape plantings.
- Vines planted in a particular year may include top-worked or replaced vines, as well as new plantings in virgin ground. Where vines have been replaced or topworked, the old variety record is removed. This explains why the area planted for earlier years may be different in the 2018 report compared with previous reports.
- Where a zero (0) appears in a table, this may indicate the presence of a planting of less than 0.5 hectares, or it may indicate zero plantings. Rounding may produce slight discrepancies in totals.

For more information on the planting data in this report or about registration of vineyards, please contact the Vinehealth Australia office on (08) 8273 0550.