



# Colignan community

In interpreting this information, it is important to understand that there are many drivers of the socio-economic trends reflected in the data. Therefore, the socioeconomic changes outlined here cannot simply be attributed to the Basin Plan – it is just one of a number of factors that affect communities.

This information should be read in conjunction with *Understanding change in Basin communities* on the Southern Basin community profiles page at [mdba.gov.au](http://mdba.gov.au).

Total surface water entitlements available in Colignan prior to Basin Plan water recovery was 68.6 GL. 10.7 GL (15.6% of available water) was recovered up to October 2016. 10.5 GL was recovered through purchase (of which 90% was purchased up to June 2011). 0.2 GL was recovered through on-farm infrastructure investment. The net reduction in water available for production is 10.4 GL (15.2% of available water).

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## Trends in social and economic conditions

### AREA POPULATION

Decreased from 1,463 to 1,026 persons (29.9%) between 2001 and 2016

- Most of the decrease occurred between 2006 and 2011

### WORKFORCE

#### Total area workforce

Decreased from 518 to 322 FTE (37.7%) between 2001 and 2016

- Three-quarters of the decrease occurred between 2001 and 2011
- Workforce participation fell from 35.4 to 31.4 FTE per 100 persons

#### Agricultural workforce

Decreased 26.5% (55 FTE) between 2001 and 2016

- Mostly between 2006 and 2011
- Employment in irrigated production decreased 28.5% mostly between 2006 and 2011

#### Agricultural manufacturing workforce

A small and diminishing part of the local economy

#### Non-agriculture private workforce

Decreased 54.9% (107 FTE) between 2001 and 2016

- Constantly decreasing across the period

#### Government services workforce

Decreased 46.7% (36 FTE) between 2001 and 2016

- Constantly decreasing across the period

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## ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

Percentage FTE in key sectors:

- **2001:** 40% agriculture, 38% non-agriculture private, 15% government services
- **2016:** 47% agriculture, 27% non-agriculture private, 13% government services

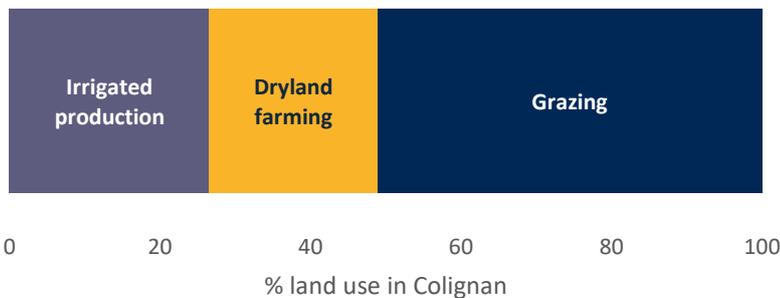
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## TOWN POPULATION

There are no towns within the Colignan community area

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## Land use



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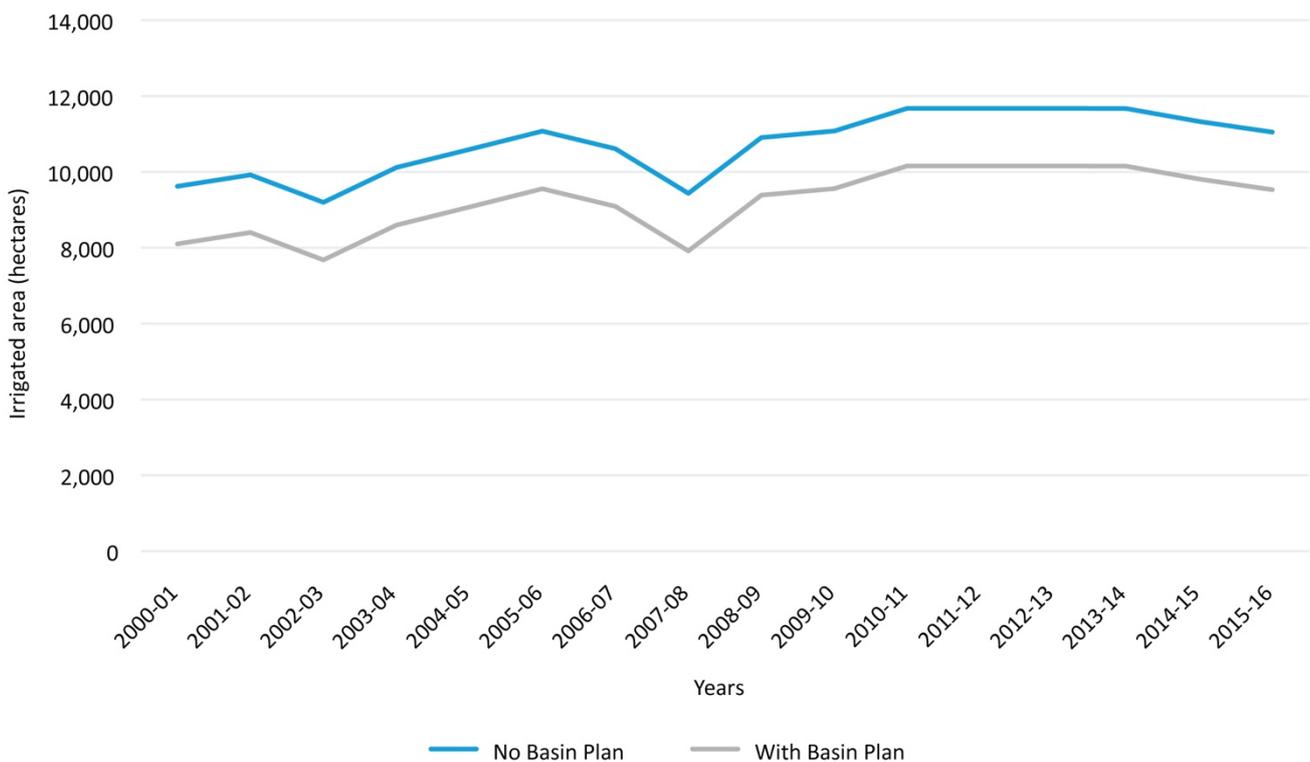
## Water recovery programs

The bulk of water recovery occurred through purchase, and mostly in 2011. A small volume of water was recovered through the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency program.

## Basin Plan impact on irrigated agriculture

Grapes and citrus are the main crops grown, with some production of fruit, nuts and vegetables. While the total area irrigated has been growing across the period being examined, the Basin Plan water recovery has resulted in the total area irrigated being approximately 13% to 15% below the level of irrigated production which might have occurred in the absence of the Basin Plan. The effects of the Basin Plan are observed in the reduced area of grape production. While there have been small changes in the area of citrus and fruit irrigated, the area under vegetable and nut production have expanded.

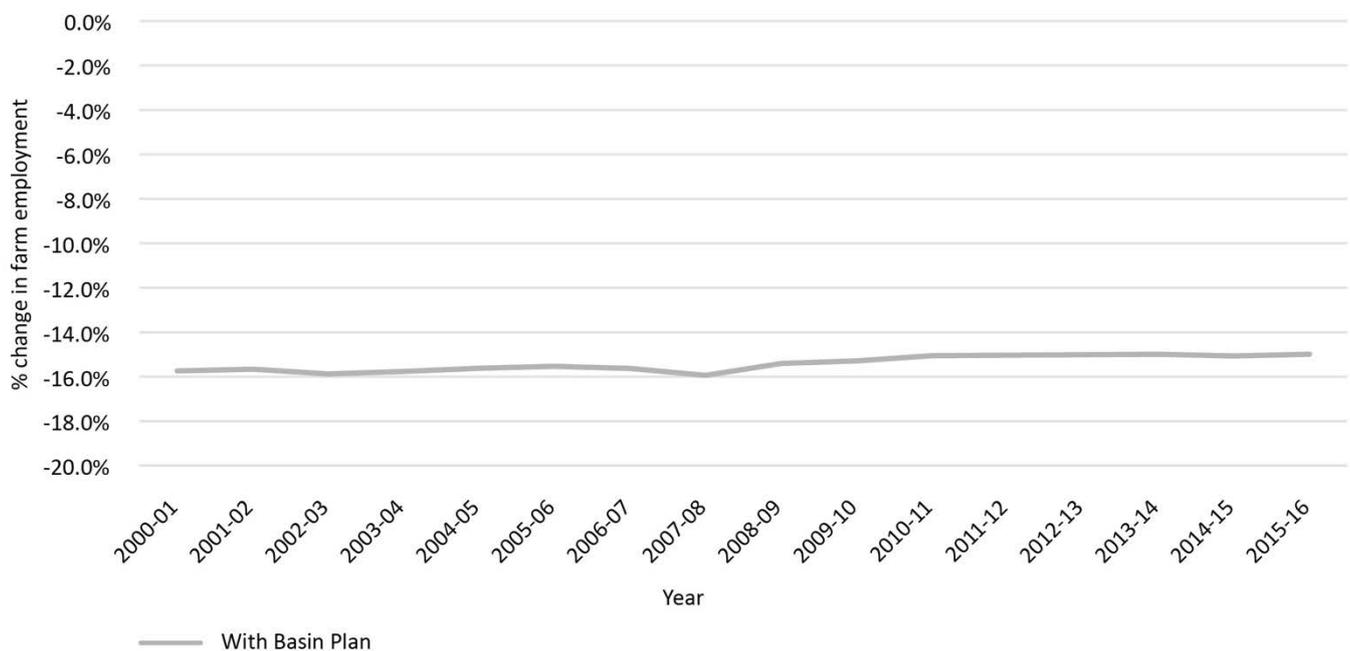
### Area of irrigated production (hectares) 2001–16



## Basin Plan impact on farm sector

In 2001, farm employment was approximately 622 FTE (including seasonal workers). Farm employment fell by around 29% between 2001–16. Non-Basin Plan factors led to around 13% to 14% of this change, while Basin Plan water recovery contributed the remaining 15% to 16%.

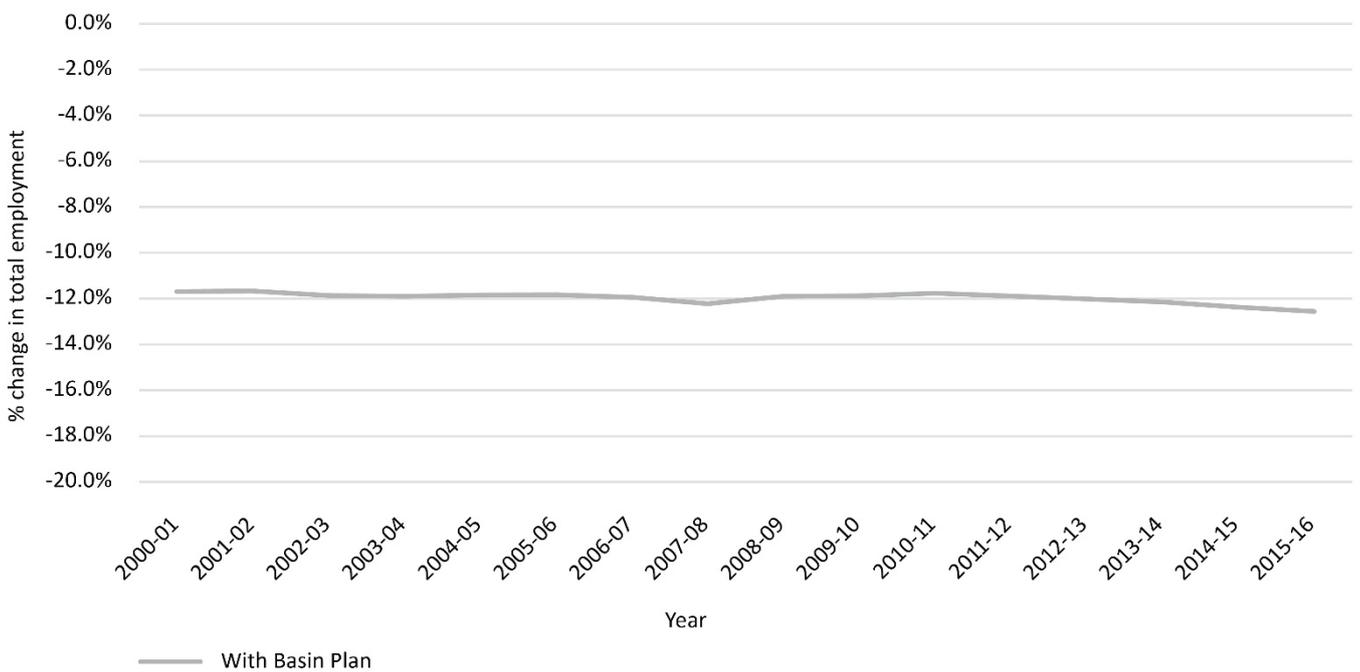
### Effect of Basin Plan on farm employment 2001–16



## Basin Plan impact on total employment

In 2001, total employment was approximately 840 FTE (including seasonal workers). Total employment fell by around 38% between 2001–16. Non-Basin Plan factors led to 26% of this change, while the Basin Plan water recovery contributed the remaining 12%.

### Effect of Basin Plan on total employment 2001–16



Updated June 2018