Cullulleraine 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.

Total surface water entitlements available in Cullulleraine prior to Basin Plan water recovery was 6.6 GL. 2.4 GL (35.6% of available water) was recovered up to October 2016. 2.3 GL was recovered through purchase (of which 0% was purchased up to June 2011). 0.1 GL was recovered through on-farm infrastructure investment. The net reduction in water available for production is 2.3 GL (34.2% of available water).

Trends in social and economic conditions

AREA POPULATION
Decreased from 63 to 53 persons (15.9%) between 2001 and 2016
→ 19% decrease between 2001 and 2006, increase of 3.1% since 2006

WORKFORCE
Total area workforce
Decreased from 19 to 14 FTE between 2001 and 2016
→ Mostly between 2001 and 2006
→ Workforce participation fell from 30.5 to 26.1 FTE per 100 persons

Agricultural workforce
Remained relatively small (less than 10 FTE)
→ Employment in irrigated production remained quite small

Agricultural manufacturing workforce
Remained a small part of the local economy

Non-agriculture private workforce
Remained relatively constant (around 7 FTE)

Government services workforce
Remained relatively constant (around 3 FTE)
ECONOMIC STRUCTURE
Percentage FTE in key sectors:
- 2001: 45% agriculture, 34% non-agriculture private, 15% government services
- 2016: 22% agriculture, 43% non-agriculture private, 21% government services

TOWN POPULATION
There are no towns within the Cullulleraine community area

Land use

Water recovery programs
Water Purchase accounted for most of the water recovery. A small volume was recovered through Round 3 of the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program.
Basin Plan impact on irrigated agriculture

The main irrigated crops grown are grapes and nuts. Across the period examined, and particularly since 2010-11, the area of irrigated production has been expanding even though the volume of permanent water entitlements held in the community has been decreasing. While most of the increase is observed in the area of nut production, it is estimated the total area of irrigated production is around 20% to 30% below the potential area which might have been developed for irrigation if there had been no Basin Plan water recovery.

Area of irrigated production (hectares) 2001–16
Basin Plan impact on farm sector

In 2001, farm employment was approximately 20 FTE (including seasonal workers). Farm employment increased up to around 80 FTE between 2001–16. If there had been no Basin Plan water recovery, it is estimated that farm employment would be around 12.5% higher than its current level.

Effect of Basin Plan on farm employment 2001–16
Basin Plan impact on total employment

In 2001, total employment was approximately 90 FTE (including seasonal workers). Total employment increased slightly between 2001–16. It is estimated that employment might be around 10% higher than the current level if there had been no Basin Plan water recovery.

Effect of Basin Plan on total employment 2001–16