



Deniboota 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 Deniboota prior to Basin Plan water recovery was 175 GL. 49.5 GL (28.3% of available water) was recovered up to October 2016. 44.2 GL was recovered through purchase (of which 83% was purchased up to June 2011). 5.3 GL was recovered through on-farm infrastructure investment. The net reduction in water available for production is 41.9 GL (24.3% of available water).

Trends in social and economic conditions

AREA POPULATION

Decreased from 2,106 to 1,774 persons (15.8%) between 2001 and 2016
→ Decrease of 20.5% between 2001 and 2011, increase of 4.7% since 2011

WORKFORCE

Total area workforce

Decreased from 754 to 559 FTE (25.8%) between 2001 and 2016
→ 22.1% between 2001 and 2011, 3.7% between 2011 and 2016
→ Workforce participation fell from 35.8 to 31.5 FTE per 100 persons

Agricultural workforce

Decreased 51.1% (129 FTE) between 2001 and 2016
→ 29.5% between 2001 and 2006, 3.1% between 2011 and 2016

→ Employment in irrigated production decreased 61% (all between 2001 and 2011)

Agricultural manufacturing workforce

Remained constant (34 FTE) between 2001 and 2016

Non-agriculture private workforce

Decreased 29.1% (99 FTE) between 2001 and 2016
→ Rate of decrease was relatively constant between 2001 and 2016

Government services workforce

Increased 11.3% (14 FTE) between 2001 and 2016
→ Rate of increase was relatively constant between 2001 and 2016

ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

Percentage FTE in key sectors:

- **2001:** 34% agriculture, 45% non-agriculture private, 17% government services
- **2016:** 22% agriculture, 43% non-agriculture private, 26% government services

TOWN POPULATION

Increased from 645 to 661 persons (2.5%) between 2001 and 2016

- Relatively constant increase over the period

62% of the town population was 45 and over in 2016, up from 50% in 2001

- 26% increase in 45 years and over, 21% decrease in under 45s

EMPLOYMENT

Full-time employment

21% of town population in 2016
up from 18% in 2001

Part-time employment

Constant around 11% of town
population

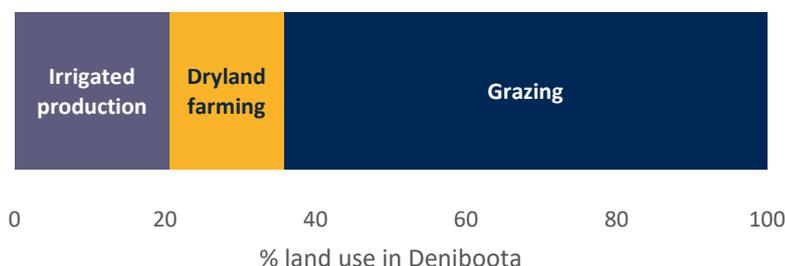
Unemployment in the town

Varied around 2% to 5% of town
population

SEIFA FOR TOWN: (DECILE RANKINGS)

- **2001:** disadvantage = 2, advantage/disadvantage = 1, wealth = 2, education = 1
- **2016:** disadvantage = 3, advantage/disadvantage = 2, wealth = 3, education = 1

Land use



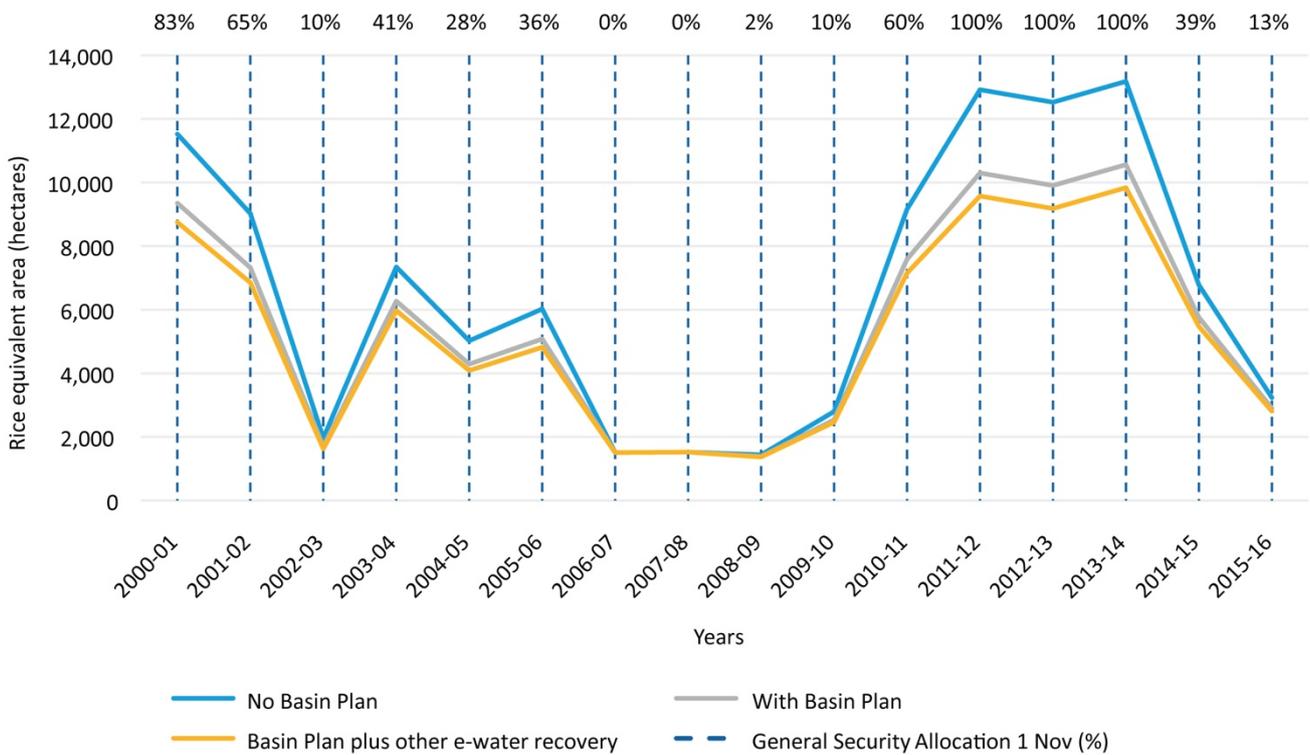
Water recovery programs

The majority of water recovery was through purchase, and mostly occurring in 2010. Water recovery through the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program occurred through rounds 1, 2, 4 and 5.

Basin Plan impact on irrigated agriculture

The main forms of irrigated production include annual cropping and dairying. A mix of annual irrigated crops are grown including winter cereals and oils, pasture and rice. Basin Plan water recovery has led to a reduction in the maximum area irrigated of around 18% to 20%. Other environmental water recovery when considered along with the Basin Plan water recovery has contributed to the maximum area of irrigation decreasing by approximately 24% to 26%. Across the period being examined, the maximum volume of milk production has remained constant at around 35 million litres per annum, though milk production did decline to under 31 million litres in 2009-10.

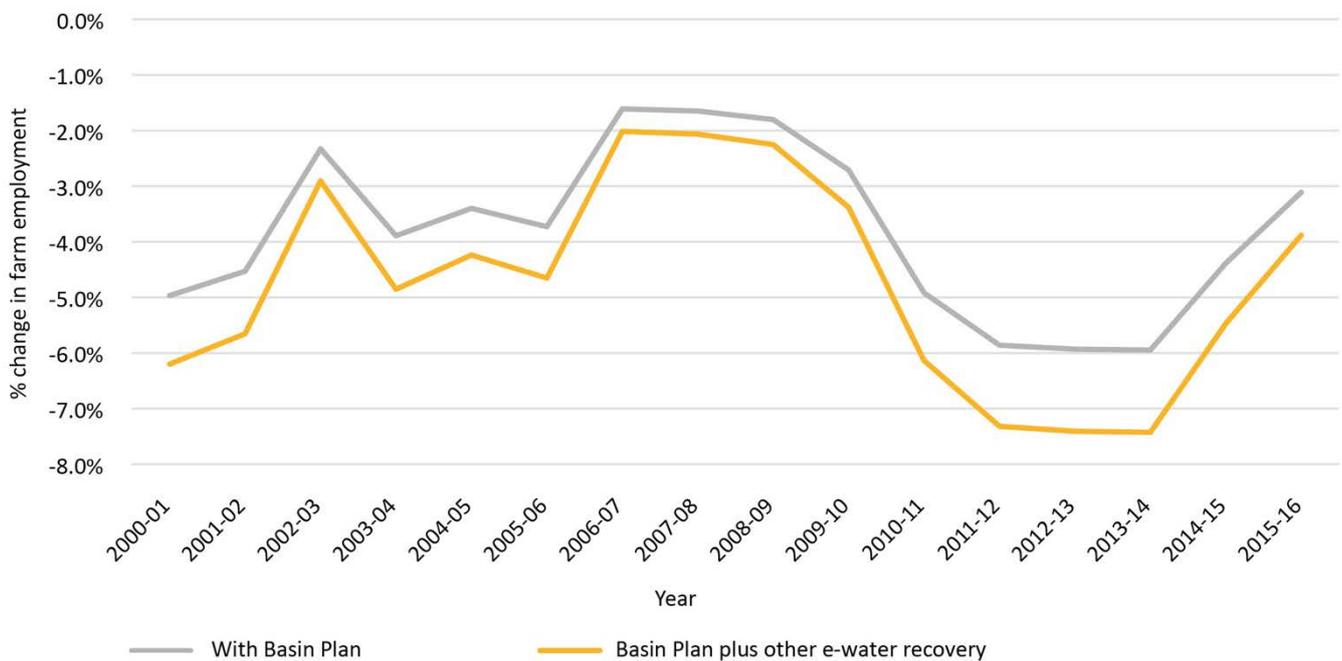
Area of irrigated production (rice-equivalent hectares) 2001–16



Basin Plan impact on farm sector

In 2001, farm employment was approximately 165 FTE (including seasonal workers). Farm employment fell by around 61% between 2001–16. Non-Basin Plan factors led to 54% of this change, while Basin Plan water recovery contributed approximately 4.5% to 6%. The remaining decrease in farm employment (1% to 1.5%) is associated with the recovery of water for the environment through processes beyond the Basin Plan.

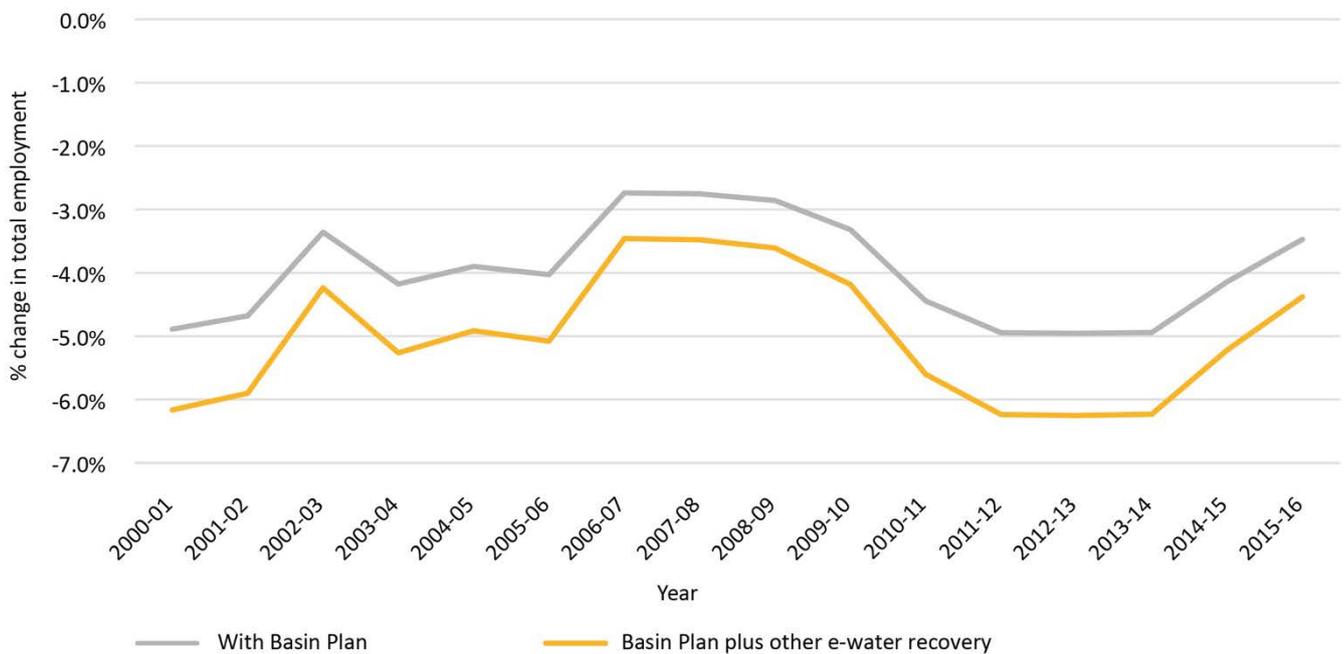
Effect of Basin Plan on farm employment 2001–16



Basin Plan impact on total employment

In 2001, total employment was approximately 755 FTE (including seasonal workers). Total employment fell by around 26% between 2001–16. Non-Basin Plan factors led to 19.5% of this change, while Basin Plan water recovery contributed approximately 5%. The remaining decrease in total employment (1.5%) is associated with the recovery of water for the environment outside the Basin Plan. Given the prevailing social and economic conditions at the time of the water recovery and the trends of social and economic change affecting the community, it is possible the modelling results might under-estimate the effect of Basin Plan water recovery.

Effect of Basin Plan on total employment 2001–16



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