Kyabram-Tatura 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 Kyabram-Tatura prior to Basin Plan water recovery was 400.1 GL. 82.7 GL (20.7% of available water) was recovered up to October 2016. 75 GL was recovered through purchase (of which 51% was purchased up to June 2011). 7.7 GL was recovered through on-farm infrastructure investment. The net reduction in water available for production is 71.7 GL (18.2% of available water).

Trends in social and economic conditions

**AREA POPULATION**
Increased from 23,817 to 24,422 persons (2.5%) between 2001 and 2016
→ Population decreasing and increasing by around 3% to 4% between census

**WORKFORCE**

**Total area workforce**
Decreased from 8,312 to 7,213 FTE (13.2%) between 2001 and 2016
→ Most of the decrease occurred between 2011 and 2016
→ Workforce participation fell from 34.9 to 29.5 FTE per 100 persons

**Agricultural workforce**
Decreased 32.1% (817 FTE) between 2001 and 2016
→ Half of the decrease occurred between 2001 and 2006
→ Employment in irrigated production decreased 41.6% (all between 2001 and 2011)

**Agricultural manufacturing workforce**
Decreased 13.6% (146 FTE) between 2001 and 2016
→ Mostly between 2011 and 2016

**Non-agriculture private workforce**
Decreased 22.7% (756 FTE) between 2001 and 2016
→ Mostly between 2011 and 2016

**Government services workforce**
Increased 28.2% (380 FTE) between 2001 and 2016
→ Increasing 31.5% between 2001 and 2011, decreasing 3.4% between 2011 and 2016
ECONOMIC STRUCTURE
Percentage FTE in key sectors:
- **2001**: 31% agriculture, 40% non-agriculture private, 16% government services
- **2016**: 24% agriculture, 36% non-agriculture private, 24% government services

TOWN POPULATION
Increased from 9,640 to 11,264 persons (16.8%) between 2001 and 2016
50% of the town population was 45 and over in 2016, up from 40% in 2001
- 49% increase in 45 years and over, 4% decrease in under 45s

EMPLOYMENT
Full-time employment
22% of town population in 2016
down from 25% in 2001
Part-time employment
Constant around 12% to 14% of
town population
Unemployment in the town
Constant around 2% to 3% of
town population

SEIFA FOR TOWN: (DECILE RANKINGS, KYABRAM/TATURA)
- **2001**: disadvantage = 7, advantage/disadvantage = 6/7, wealth = 6/7, education = 6/7
- **2016**: disadvantage = 5/6, advantage/disadvantage = 5/6, wealth = 4/6, education = 5/7

Land use

Water recovery programs
Most water recovery occurred though purchase between 2009 and 2013. Infrastructure water recovery from the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency program occurred between 2011 and 2015. The community benefitted from the Victoria Farm modernisation program between 2015 and 2017.
Basin Plan impact on irrigated agriculture

Since the early 2000s, the overall decline in milk production has been around 26%. Factors contributing to the decline in milk production during this period include the sale of water out of the district prior to 2007-08, the long-term effects of drought, changes in farming practices to accommodate the effects of both drought and Basin Plan water recovery, and the milk prices received. The net effect of Basin Plan water recovery represents nearly half (11%-12%) of the total decrease in milk production with a further quarter of the decrease explained by the permanent sale of water out of the community prior to 2007-08. The other factors listed above contributed to the remainder of the decrease in milk production.

Fruit production is also a major part of the irrigated production in this community. Limited data provided by industry indicates the major changes were associated with changing from supplying the canned fruit sector to the fresh fruit market. These include significant changes in the types of trees grown and the layout of the orchards. Basin Plan related changes for the fruit-growing sector will be considered as part of the observed changes in employment for the agriculture sector.

Milk production (million litres) 2001–16
Basin Plan impact on farm sector

In 2001, farm employment was approximately 1,930 FTE (including seasonal workers). Farm employment fell by around 42% between 2001–16. Non-Basin Plan factors led to 33% of this change, while Basin Plan water recovery is estimated to have contributed the remaining 8% to 9%.

Effect of Basin Plan on farm employment 2001–16
In 2001, total employment was approximately 8,310 FTE (including seasonal workers). Total employment fell by around 13% between 2001–16. Non-Basin Plan factors led to 9.3% of this change, while the Basin Plan water recovery is estimated to have contributed the remaining 3.7%.

Effect of Basin Plan on total employment 2001–16