



# Tabbita 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 Tabbita prior to Basin Plan water recovery was 23.5 GL. 0.4 GL (1.7% of available water) was recovered up to October 2016. 0.4 GL was recovered through purchase (of which 0% was purchased up to June 2011). 0 GL was recovered through on-farm infrastructure investment. The net reduction in water available for production is 0.4 GL (1.7% of available water).

## Trends in social and economic conditions

### AREA POPULATION

Decreased from 299 to 105 persons (64.9%) between 2001 and 2016

- Mostly between 2006 and 2011

### WORKFORCE

#### Total area workforce

Decreased from 112 to 35 FTE (68.5%) between 2001 and 2016

- All the decrease occurred between 2006 and 2011
- Workforce participation fell from 37.6 to 33.7 FTE per 100 persons

#### Agricultural workforce

Decreased 84.3% (27 FTE) between 2001 and 2016

- Over half between 2006 and 2011
- Employment in irrigated production decreased 87.4% (81.1% between 2001 and 2011)

#### Agricultural manufacturing workforce

Remained a small part of the local economy

#### Non-agriculture private workforce

Decreased 69.7% (35 FTE) between 2001 and 2016

- Nearly all between 2006 and 2011

#### Government services workforce

Decreased 48.9% between 2001 and 2016

- Mostly between 2006 and 2011

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## ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

Percentage FTE in key sectors:

- **2001:** 28% agriculture, 46% non-agriculture private, 14% government services
- **2016:** 14% agriculture, 44% non-agriculture private, 23% government services

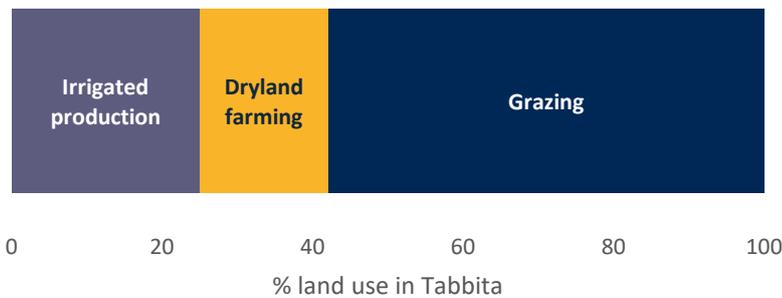
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## TOWN POPULATION

There are no towns within the Tabbita community area

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## Land use



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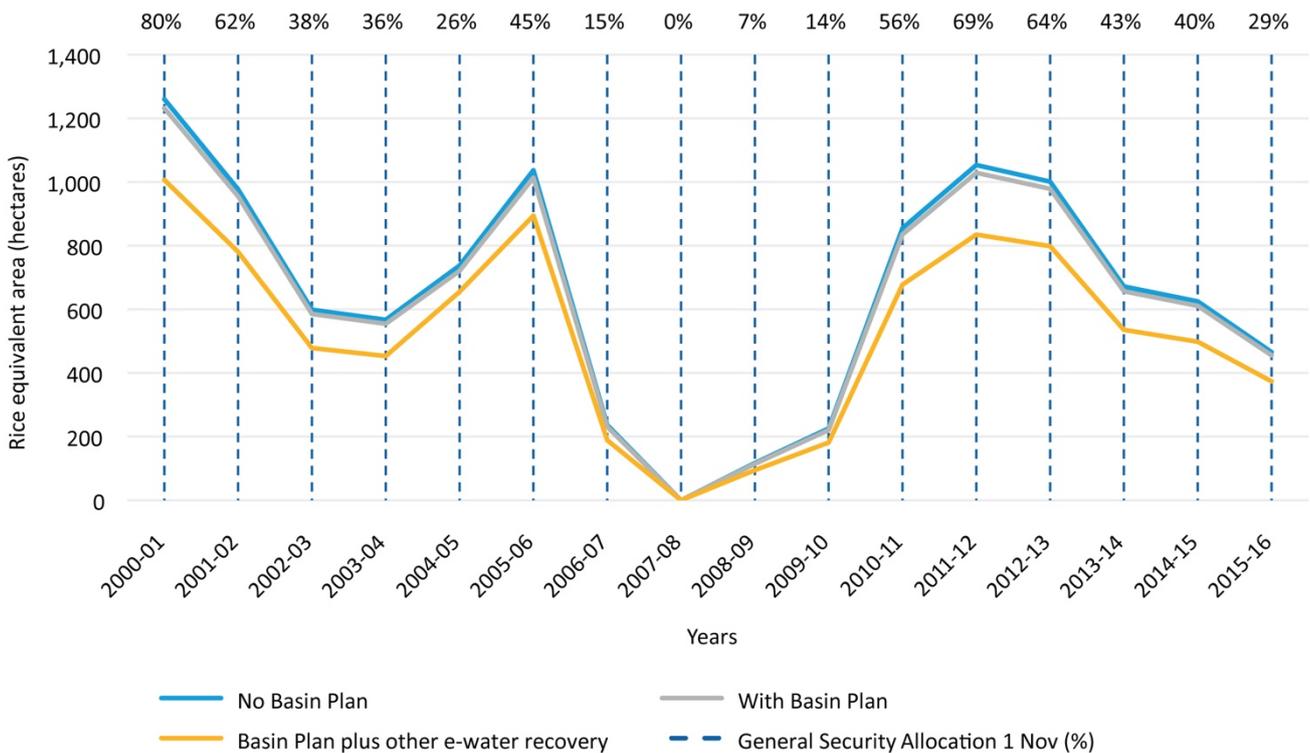
## Water recovery programs

Water recovery has been through purchase (in 2013).

## Basin Plan impact on irrigated agriculture

The main irrigated crops grown are annual crops (summer and winter cereals and oils, pasture, rice and more recently the increasing substitution of land from growing rice to cotton represented as rice equivalent hectares) and vegetables. There are also relatively small areas of grapes, citrus and fruit. The area of fruit and citrus production has decreased since the drought while the areas of grapes and vegetables have both increased. For the rice equivalent area, the maximum area irrigated is estimated to have fallen by approximately 20% to 21%. Around 2% to 3% of this decline is associated with the Basin Plan water recovery. The remaining effect on the area of rice-equivalent hectares is associated with other sources of environmental water recovery.

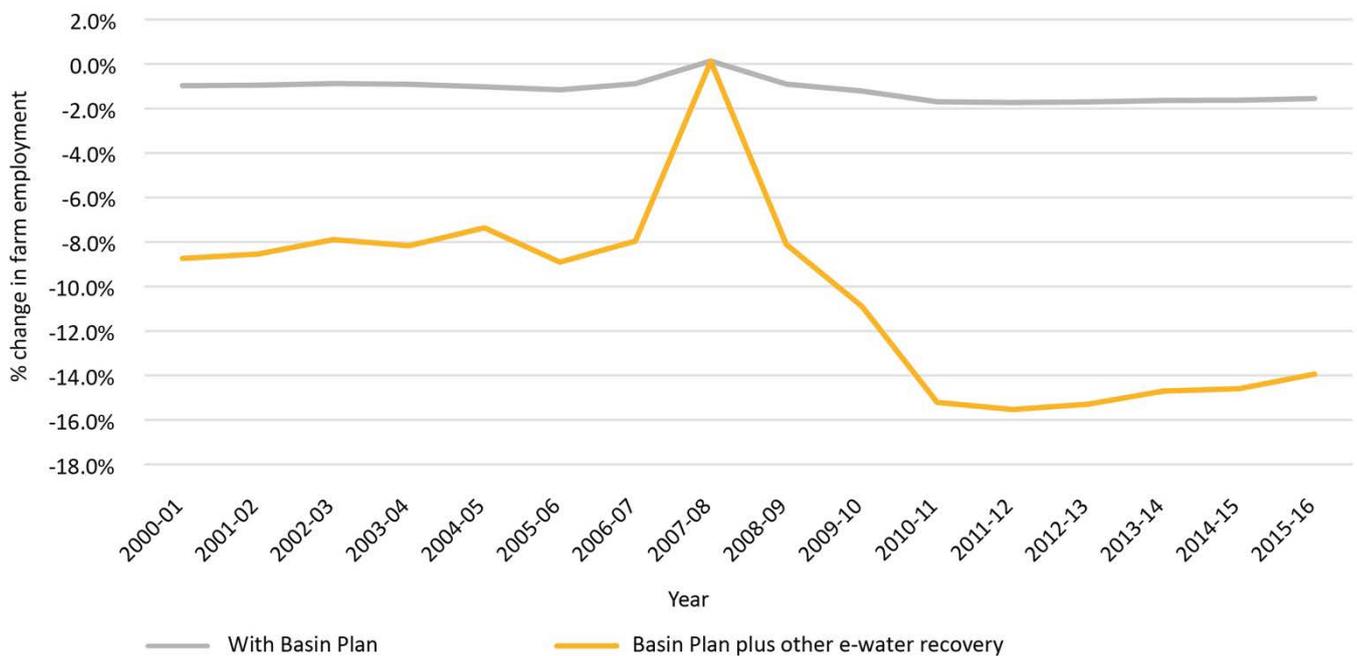
### Area of irrigated production (rice equivalent hectares) 2001–16



## Basin Plan impact on farm sector

In 2001, farm employment was approximately 78 FTE (including seasonal workers). Farm employment decreased by around 80% between 2001–16. Non-Basin Plan factors led to 73% of this change. Basin Plan water recovery reduced the level of farm employment by less than 1%, while the water recovery for the environment from processes beyond the Basin Plan contributed the remaining 6%.

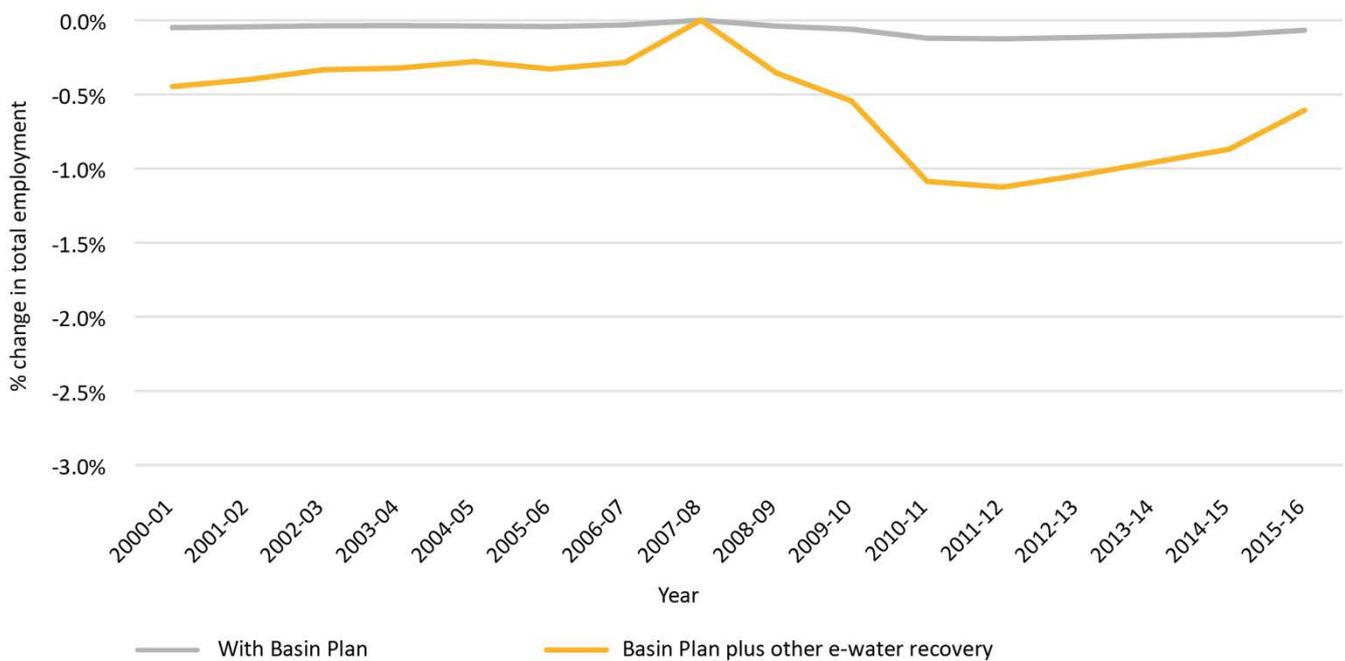
### Effect of Basin Plan on farm employment 2001–16



## Basin Plan impact on total employment

In 2001, total employment was approximately 160 FTE (including seasonal workers). Total employment decreased by around 80% between 2001–16. Non-Basin Plan factors led to 78% of this change. The Basin Plan water recovery reduced the level of total employment by less than 1%, while the water recovery for the environment from processes beyond the Basin Plan contributed the remaining 1%.

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



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