



Yanco 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 Yanco prior to Basin Plan water recovery was 378 GL. 17.5 GL (4.6% of available water) was recovered up to October 2016. 12.7 GL was recovered through purchase (of which 27% was purchased up to June 2011). 4.8 GL was recovered through on-farm infrastructure investment. The net reduction in water available for production is 10.6 GL (3% of available water).

Trends in social and economic conditions

AREA POPULATION

Remained fairly constant (around 11,300 people) between 2001 and 2016

WORKFORCE

Total area workforce

Decreased from 4,047 to 3,660 FTE (9.6%) between 2001 and 2016

- Over half the decrease occurred between 2001 and 2006
- Workforce participation fell from 35.4 to 32.3 FTE per 100 persons

Agricultural workforce

Decreased 40.7% (467 FTE) between 2001 and 2016

- Most of the decrease occurred between 2001 and 2006
- Employment in irrigated production decreased 23.9% (decreasing 36.1% between 2001 and 2011 before increasing 11.2% between 2011 and 2016)

Agricultural manufacturing workforce

Increased 30.8% (154 FTE) between 2001 and 2016

- Increasing 45.1% between 2001 and 2006, decreasing 14.4% between 2006 and 2016

Non-agriculture private workforce

Decreased 22.7% (384 FTE) between 2001 and 2016

- Most of the decrease occurred between 2001 and 2006, and between 2011 and 2016

Government services workforce

Increased 25% (177 FTE) between 2001 and 2016

- Increasing 25.4% between 2001 and 2011, decreasing 0.5% between 2011 and 2016

ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

Percentage FTE in key sectors:

- **2001:** 28% agriculture, 42% non-agriculture private, 17% government services
- **2016:** 19% agriculture, 36% non-agriculture private, 24% government services

TOWN POPULATION

Remained constant (around 6,900 persons) between 2001 and 2016

- Small increases and decreases across the period

45% of the town population was 45 and over in 2016, up from 34% in 2001

- 32% increase in 45 years and over, 17% decrease in under 45s

EMPLOYMENT

Full-time employment

28% of town population in 2016
down from 29% in 2001

Part-time employment

Constant around 11% to 12% of
town population

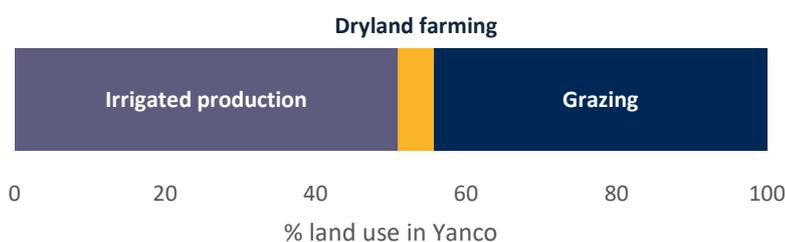
Unemployment in the town

Constant around 2% to 3% of
town population

SEIFA FOR TOWN: (DECILE RANKINGS)

- **2001:** disadvantage = 7, advantage/disadvantage = 7, wealth = 8, education = 6
- **2016:** disadvantage = 5, advantage/disadvantage = 5, wealth = 5, education = 5

Land use



Water recovery programs

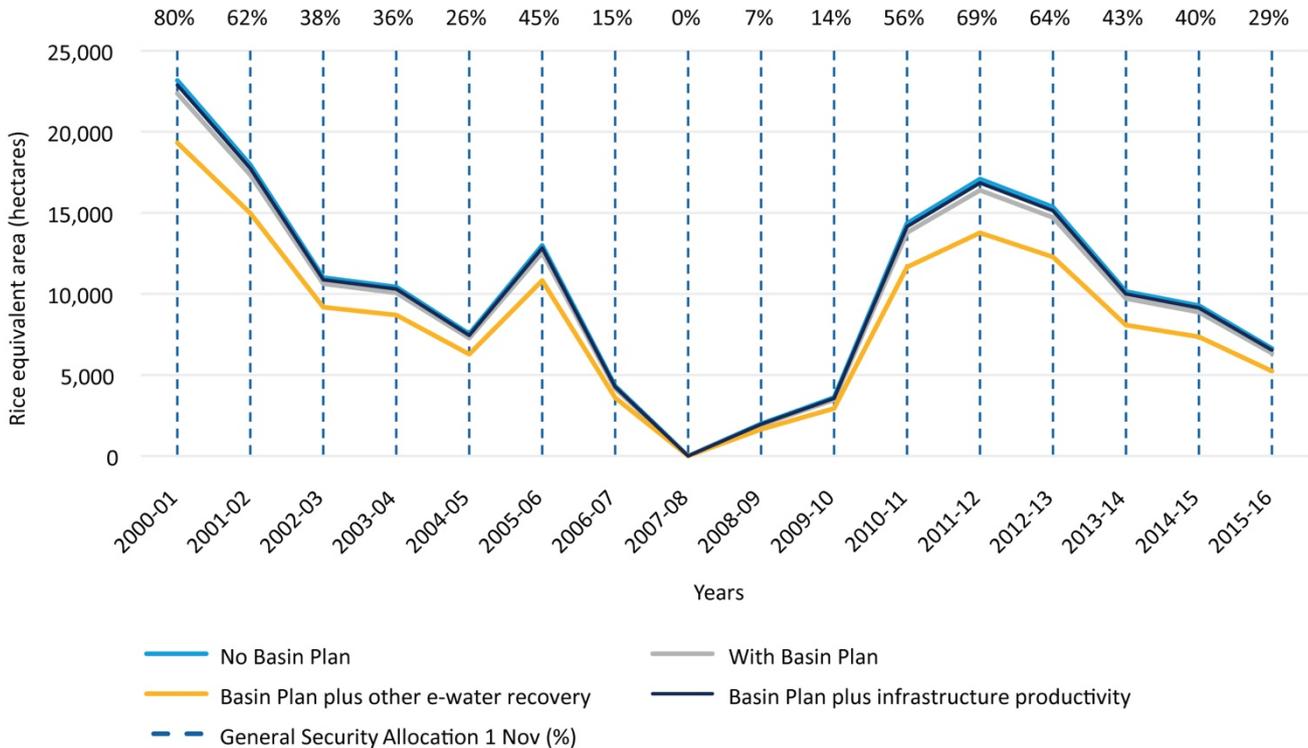
Water recovery through purchase occurred between 2010 to 2013. Infrastructure water recovery from the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency program occurred between 2012 and 2017. The community benefited from irrigation system modernisation delivered through Murrumbidgee Irrigation.

Basin Plan impact on irrigated agriculture

The main crops grown are annuals plus more than 3,000 hectares of citrus and 4,000 hectares of grapes, with a small proportion of the land utilized for fruit and vegetables. The annuals include summer and winter cereals and oils, pasture, rice and more recently the increasing substitution of land from growing rice to cotton. These annuals crops are grouped together as a rice-equivalent estimate of the area of irrigated production. The Basin Plan water recovery was estimated to reduce the rice equivalent area by approximately 3.5% to 4.5%.

Other sources of environmental water recovery together with the Basin Plan water recovery were estimated to reduce the rice equivalent area by around 16% to 21%. However, significant investment through the Basin Plan on-farm and off-farm infrastructure programs, together with the changes made to the farming production systems have contributed to an identifiable increase in productivity. These productivity gains have effectively resulted in farmers overcoming the effects of water recovery with the area of these crops being irrigated (in rice equivalent hectares) falling by approximately 1% to 2% below the area irrigated without the Basin Plan. There is no detectable effect of the Basin Plan water recovery on the area of the other irrigated crops being grown.

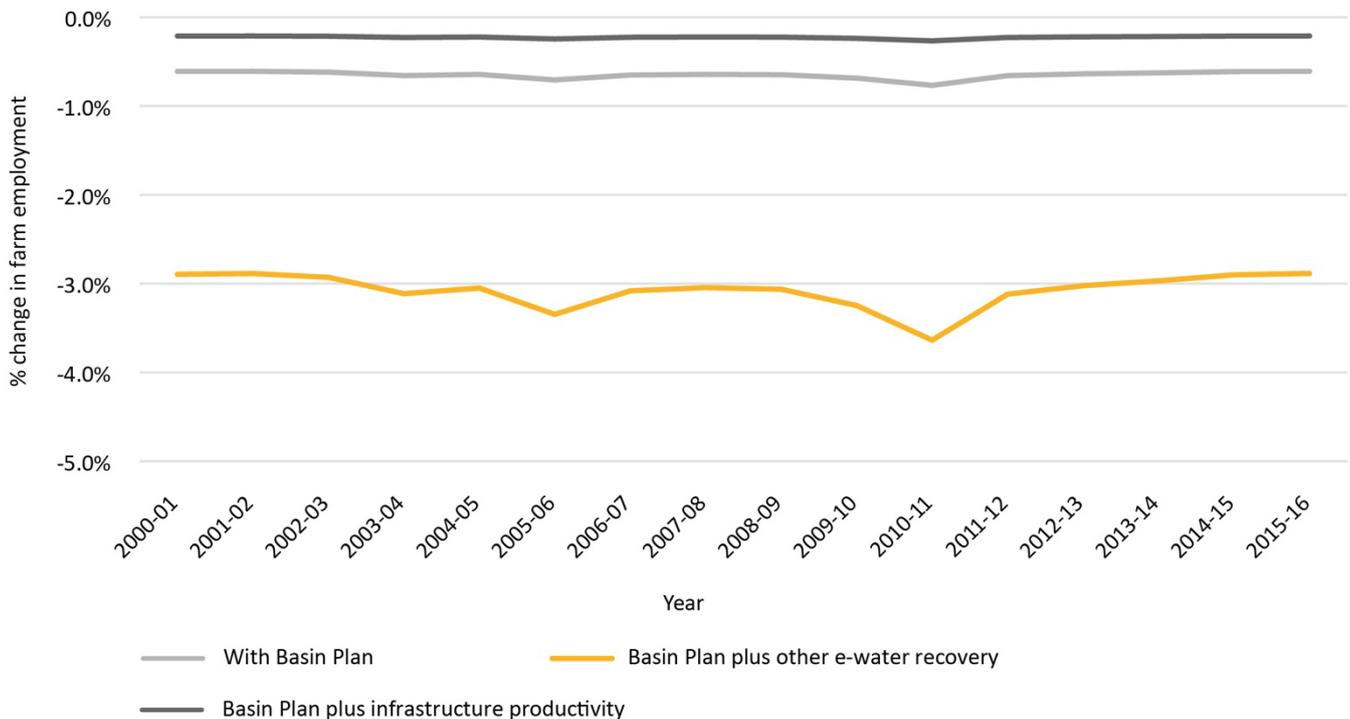
Area of irrigated production (rice equivalent hectares) 2001–16



Basin Plan impact on farm sector

In 2001, farm employment was approximately 930 FTE (including seasonal workers). Farm employment fell by around 24% between 2001–16. Non-Basin Plan factors alone have led to nearly all of this change. It is estimated that water recovery has reduced employment by a further 2.5% (consisting of 1% from Basin Plan recovery and 1.5% from other environmental water recovery). However, the productivity benefits associated with the combined on-farm and off-farm infrastructure investment has essentially offset the effects of the environmental water recovery, leading to the overall decrease in farm employment being 24%.

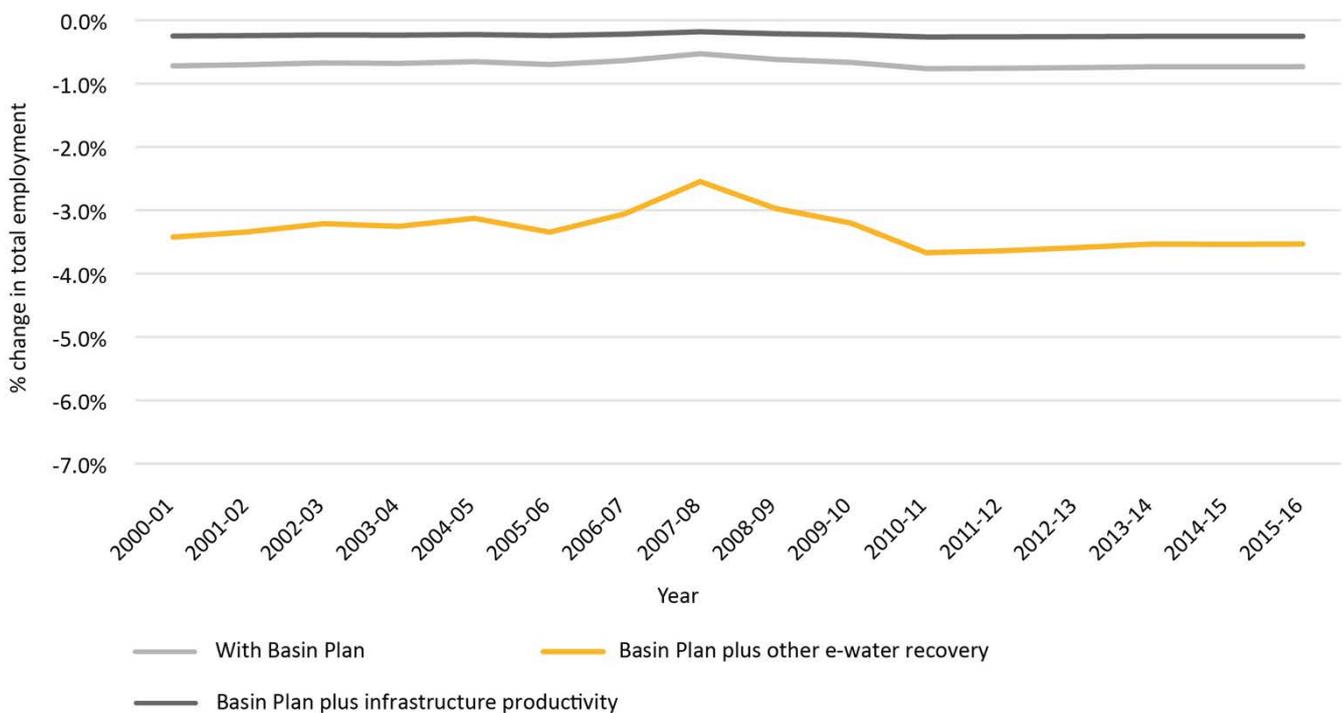
Effect of Basin Plan on farm employment 2001–16



Basin Plan impact on total employment

In 2001, total employment was approximately 4,375 FTE (including seasonal workers). Total employment fell by around 10% between 2001–16. Non-Basin Plan factors led to most of this change, while the Basin Plan water recovery contributed less than 1%. Other environmental water recovery is estimated to have reduced total employment by a further 3%. However, the productivity benefits associated with the combined on-total and off-total infrastructure investment have off-set the effects of the environmental water recovery, leading to the overall decrease in total employment remaining close to 10%.

Effect of Basin Plan on total employment 2001–16



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