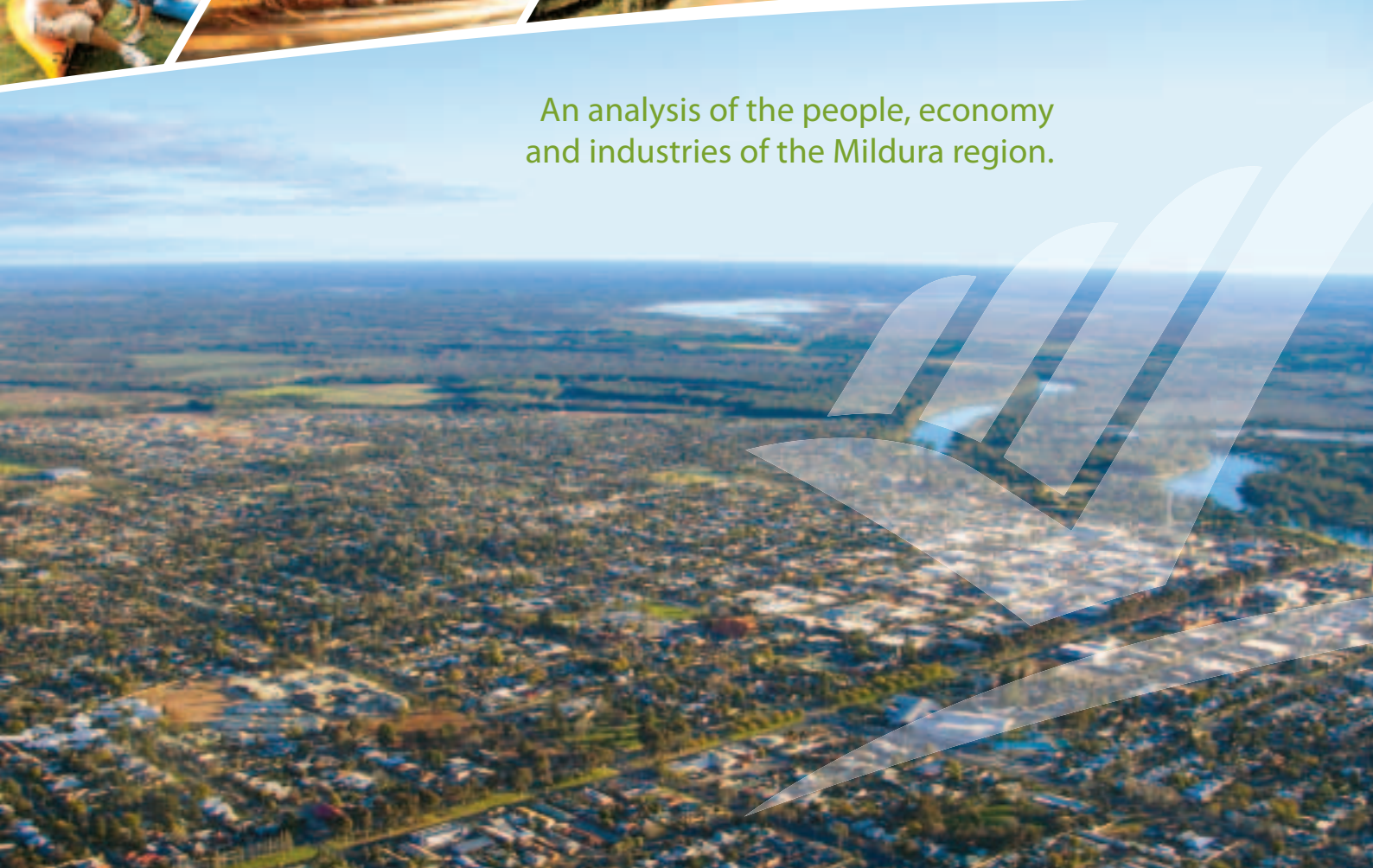




Mildura Region Economic Profile



An analysis of the people, economy
and industries of the Mildura region.



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40 Parks Victoria

42 Mallee Catchment Management Authority

42 Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority



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Foreword



On behalf of the Mildura Development Corporation Inc, I am pleased to present the 2009 Mildura Region Economic Profile. This publication contains important information and data on the Mildura region's economy and has been designed for use by businesses, industry, investors, Government departments and individuals. We hope that the profile will assist you in making informed decisions and in planning for a sustainable future.

This publication profiles the Mildura region's people, economy, industry, infrastructure and unique assets, and has been designed as an easy to access, easy to up-date publication.

Whilst renowned for quality horticultural production, the Mildura region's economy has diversified and expanded over many years to include a variety of industries. Value adding industries such as manufacturing (predominantly wine, fruit and vegetable processing) have become well established in the region and benefit from the area's tri-state location and transport infrastructure.

Tourism is also a strong sector for our economy with the Mildura region a well known tourism destination. The area is best known for its Mediterranean style climate; its location on the Murray River; its proximity to the world heritage listed Mungo National Park; and being the home of Stefano's restaurant. We also have a large variety of retail outlets, events and festivals, restaurants, hotels and clubs, sporting facilities and events, and a strong arts culture to offer visitors and residents.

More recently Mildura has become an area of great interest to the renewable energy sector, with an abundance of sunshine hours, clear days and excellent infrastructure, making it Victoria's premier solar location.

People enjoy living in the Mildura region as it has a great lifestyle, excellent education facilities, access to a variety of health and community services as well as many activities for families, singles and people of all ages.

We hope that you find this a useful and informative publication that promotes the opportunities and diversity that the Mildura region offers.

Dane Huxley
Chairman
Mildura Development Corporation Inc.

About Us



Mildura Development Corporation Inc. is the peak economic development organisation for the Mildura region. It is focused on creating and developing a sustainable regional economy that will deliver the high standard of living that the residents of the area enjoy.

Our Vision

Creating our region's future

Our Goals

- 1 Work with industry and business in facilitating growth in the Mildura region.
- 2 Attract and develop new investment opportunities.
- 3 Assist in building a vibrant and sustainable community.
- 4 Develop productive strategic alliances with relevant funding providers.
- 5 Consistently engage with our stakeholders.

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Throughout this publication, the Mildura region refers to the Local Government areas of Mildura Rural City Council and Wentworth Shire Council (see below map of the Mildura region).



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Overview of the Mildura Region Economy



A flourishing and dynamic area with a rich past and a bright future.

The Mildura region (also known as Sunraysia) is a flourishing and dynamic area with a rich past and a bright future. Occupation of the region by local indigenous people dates back many thousands of years, and at Mungo National Park the record of human occupation extends well beyond 40,000 thousand years. European settlers first came to the region in the 1840s establishing sheep runs. One of the first homesteads, Kow Plains, was constructed in 1859. The town of Wentworth was established in 1860 and was known as one of the busiest and largest inland ports. In 1886 George Chaffey arrived in Australia and selected the Mildura sheep run on the Murray River as the site for his first irrigation settlement. Mildura was officially established in 1887 and the first irrigation channels were constructed, making it one of the first horticulture regions in Australia. Today, the region remains a nationally significant agricultural and horticultural area, and has diversified into food and beverage processing, advanced manufacturing, transport and storage, mining and renewable energy.

Located at the intersection of Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia, the region has much to offer businesses and new residents alike.



Region Definitions

The Mildura region can be defined as the Local Government Areas (LGA) of Mildura Rural City Council (Victoria) and the Wentworth Shire Council (New South Wales) - see below map.

Wherever possible throughout the profile, data has been collected for the Mildura region, however in some cases (particularly in the agricultural section), data includes other regions such as Swan Hill. This is because each industry collects data from within different boundaries. For example, citrus data is from the Murray Valley region (which includes Swan Hill). This data cannot be separated into Mildura region only and therefore has had to include other regions in the in the data reported. Each table has been clearly labelled to indicate which region the data has been collected from (see region definitions below).

Region Definitions	
Mildura Rural City Council (LGA)	Includes the townships of Mildura, Ouyen, Merbein, Red Cliffs, Irymple, Meringur, Werrimull, Cullulleraine, Cardross, Nangiloc, Colignan, Murrayville, Cowangie, Underbool and Walpeup.
Wentworth Shire Council (LGA)	Includes the townships of Wentworth, Buronga, Gol Gol, Dareton and Pooncarie.
Mildura Region	Is made up of the LGA's of Mildura and Wentworth
Murray Valley	Extends from the South Australian border along the Murray River to Koondrook. Includes the towns such as Meringur, Werrimull, Cullulleraine, Wentworth, Dareton, Merbein, Mildura, Cardross, Buronga, Irymple, Gol Gol, Red Cliffs, Nangiloc, Colignan, Pooncarie, Euston, Robinvale, Balranald, Swan Hill and Koondrook.
Murray Darling	Extends from the South Australian border to just past Swan Hill. Includes the towns such as Meringur, Werrimull, Cullulleraine, Wentworth, Dareton, Merbein, Mildura, Cardross, Buronga, Irymple, Gol Gol, Red Cliffs, Nangiloc, Colignan, Pooncarie, Euston, Robinvale, Balranald, Swan Hill and Koondrook.
Sunraysia	While there is no set definition of Sunraysia, it is known as the irrigated areas of the Mildura and Wentworth LGA's, and includes Robinvale which is in the Swan Hill Rural City Council LGA.

Mildura is the perfect location for our business.

Damien Matthews
Managing Director,
GTS Freight Management
Pty Ltd



Mildura Regional Snapshot

Statistic	Time	Data
Population	2008	60,281
Population Growth	2007-2008	1.1%
Area	-	48,355 sq. km
Labour Force	Dec. 2008	30,850
Median Rent(a)	March 2009	\$170 per week
Gross Regional Product	2007-2008	\$2.788 billion

Source: AECgroup; Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 3218.0 (2007); Dept. of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Small Area Labour Market Report; (2008); VIC Dept. of Sustainability and Environment, 'Victorian Property Sales Report'; Notes: (a) Represents median 2 bedroom house rental price in Mildura Rural City Council.

Mildura Region Gross Regional Product (GRP) % Contribution, 2007-2008



Source: AECgroup GRP Model (2008); Australian Bureau of Statistics Census (2006); Australian Bureau of Statistics 5220.0 (2008); Australian Bureau of Statistics 6291.0 (2008)
 Notes: "Other" includes Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants; Personal and Other Services; Communications; and Cultural and Recreational Services. Tourism is not identified as an industry as prescribed within Australia's national accounts. It is identified as a satellite account which then links to the national accounts. Tourism in the Mildura region generates \$210 million expenditure per year. Within this context Tourism would rate third behind Agriculture and Manufacturing in the above table.

Employment in Mildura Region (Estimated) 2008

Industry	Employment (2008 est.)	% of Total
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	3,778	14.7%
Mining	133	0.5%
Manufacturing	2,750	10.7%
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	304	1.2%
Construction	1,706	6.6%
Wholesale Trade	1,433	5.6%
Retail Trade	4,133	16.0%
Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants	1,318	5.1%
Transport and Storage	1,072	4.2%
Communication Services	175	0.7%
Finance and Insurance	533	2.1%
Property and Business Services	1,768	6.9%
Government Administration and Defence	1,013	3.9%
Education	2,050	8.0%
Health and Community Services	2,485	9.6%
Cultural and Recreational Services	350	1.4%
Personal and Other Services	755	2.9%
Total	25,756	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; Australian Bureau of Statistics Census (2006); Australian Bureau of Statistics 6291.0 (2008)
 Note: 2008 estimates calculated by using State employment by industry growth from the Australian Labour Force Survey.

Top 10 Things You Must Know About the Mildura Region

- 1 The Mildura region economy generates \$2.788 billion in Gross Regional Product (GRP) per annum and is diversified across agriculture/horticulture, advanced manufacturing, logistics and services.
- 2 Solar Systems is building the largest solar photovoltaic power station in the world (154 megawatt) in the Mildura region worth \$420 million.
- 3 The Murray Darling and Swan Hill region produces 15% of Australia's red wine grape crush and 25% of Australia's white wine grape crush.
- 4 The Mildura region offers excellent education and training and research and development facilities.
- 5 The region produces a significant amount of Australia's fruit, vegetables and nuts, including 98% of all dried fruit, 74% of table grapes and 24% of all citrus.
- 6 Mildura Airport is the largest and busiest regional airport in Victoria catering for 188,708 passengers per year and offering 70 flights per week.
- 7 A high quality of life and a low cost of living makes the Mildura region an attractive location to recruit and retain employees.
- 8 Suitable land and infrastructure exists to provide for future industrial, residential and commercial development.
- 9 The Mildura region offers cost savings to businesses through low cost of living, affordable land and great infrastructure.
- 10 Over 300 festivals and events are held within the Mildura region each year.

Agriculture and Horticulture

Crop	Production (tonnes) ^(a)	% of Australian Production
WINE GRAPES - Murray Darling and Swan Hill		
Red	118,070	12.0%
White	168,477	19.8%
Total Wine Grapes	286,547	15.6%
WINE CRUSH - Murray Darling and Swan Hill		
Red	144,504	15.1%
White	220,707	25.3%
Total Wine Crush	365,211	19.9%
TABLE GRAPES - NW Vic, Big Rivers NSW and Lower Murray SA		
Total (all varieties)	92,500	74.0%
DRIED GRAPES - Murray Darling		
Sultanas	12,535	98.0%
Currants	2,030	95.0%
Raisins	1,121	100.0%
Other	1,688	98.0%
Total Dried Grapes	17,374	98.0%
CITRUS - Murray Valley		
Navel	66,263	34.9%
Valencia	25,020	10.3%
Mandarin	11,119	8.5%
Lemon/Lime	4,150	5.0%
Grapefruit	4,531	40%
Tangelo	2,463	100%
Total Citrus	113,546	24.3%
VEGETABLES ^(b) - Mildura Rural City Council and Wentworth Shire Council		
Carrot	30,000	11.0%
Melon	15,300	7.5%
Asparagus	900	16.0%
Potato	14,000	1.0%
Lettuce	7,500	1.0%
Zucchini & Squash	1,800	8.0%
Capsicum & Chilli	1,920	3.0%
Eggplant	750	<1.0%
Pumpkin	2,500	3.0%
NUTS - Sunraysia		
Almond	16,900	65.0%
Pistachio	1,800	41.0%
Total Nuts	18,700	n/a
OLIVES - Swan Hill Region		
Olives	13,000	22.8%
Olive Oil	1,800,000 litres	-
GRAINS - Mallee Region		
Wheat	574,000	4.2%
Barley	300,000	4.2%
Oats	30,000	2.0%
Canola	3,000	0.2%
Total Grains	907,000	1.5%
LIVESTOCK (SHEEP) - Mildura Rural City Council		
Ouyen Saleyard	219,069 sheep	0.3%
Yelta Saleyard	38,500 sheep	0.01%
Total Sheep	257,569 sheep	0.3%
HONEY - Sunraysia		
Honey	600	2%
Bee Wax	7	n/a

Source: AECgroup; Australian Regional Wine Grape Crush Survey Murray Darling / Swan Hill, 2008; Australian Bureau of Statistics Cat. No. 1329 (2008); SunRise 21 (2006); Australian Table Grape Association (2008); Australian Dried Fruit Association (2008); Australian Citrus Growers Members, State/Regional Citrus Authorities, NSW Dept. of Primary Industries (2008); Murray Valley Citrus Board (2008); NSW Dept. of Primary Industries (2009); VIC Dept. of Primary Industries (2009); Australian Pioneer Pistachio Company (2008); Almond Board of Australia (2008); Boundary Bend Estate (2008); Robinvale Estate Olive Oil (2008); ABS Cat. No. 7121 (2008); ABS Cat. No. 7111 (2008); ABS Cat. No. 7501 (2009); Ouyen Saleyards (2008); Australian Honey Bee Council (2008); Industry consultation.

Notes: Regional boundaries and time frames for the collection of the data above vary greatly. Please refer to detailed explanation in the Agriculture Section of the Profile.
(a) All figures are in tonnes unless otherwise noted. (b) There are other vegetables grown in the Mildura region though the quantities are quite small so they have not been captured in this table.

Regional Economy



Industry sectors such as manufacturing, property development, retail and construction are flourishing.

The Mildura region has a vibrant economy that is continuing to grow and adapt to change. While the traditional industries in the agriculture and horticulture sectors continue to contribute significantly to the regional economy, other industry sectors are beginning to flourish, such as manufacturing, property development, retail and construction.

The regional economy continues to benefit from a strong increase in population, as many people discover the value and quality of life this dynamic region offers.

Gross Regional Product (GRP)

The Mildura region has a \$2.8 billion economy that has shown positive growth over recent years. Significant agricultural and horticultural sectors generate economic activity in other sectors such as manufacturing, wholesale trade, transport and storage.

However, new industries are also emerging. The mining sector has almost doubled over the last four years, due to increases in mineral sands and bentonite mining and salt extraction. Additionally, other growing industries include the manufacture of natural tartaric acid, boat building and packaging. New industries such as solar power generation are also starting to emerge.

Mildura Rural City Council Gross Regional Product (GRP) \$ Millions

Industry Sector	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	\$286	\$299	\$290	\$345
Mining	\$36	\$46	\$61	\$67
Manufacturing	\$199	\$220	\$243	\$229
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	\$79	\$83	\$93	\$99
Construction	\$95	\$108	\$133	\$128
Wholesale Trade	\$108	\$116	\$134	\$137
Retail Trade	\$123	\$129	\$143	\$143
Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants	\$33	\$35	\$38	\$39
Transport and Storage	\$78	\$89	\$106	\$98
Communication Services	\$28	\$30	\$34	\$30
Finance and Insurance	\$70	\$76	\$95	\$94
Property and Business Services	\$132	\$150	\$174	\$175
Government Administration and Defence	\$45	\$51	\$62	\$59
Education	\$91	\$101	\$119	\$117
Health and Community Services	\$111	\$121	\$143	\$133
Cultural and Recreational Services	\$16	\$17	\$21	\$20
Personal and Other Services	\$29	\$29	\$35	\$37
Non-classifiable	\$45	\$50	\$57	\$58
Total (Excl Ownership of Dwellings & General Govt)	\$1,608	\$1,752	\$1,981	\$2,009
GRP/GSP at Current Prices	\$1,962	\$2,121	\$2,369	\$2,450
% change from previous year	-	8.1%	11.7%	3.4%
Gross State Product (GSP)				
Victoria	\$224,078	\$235,284	\$247,789	\$267,966
New South Wales	\$302,089	\$316,882	\$335,828	\$359,883

Source: AECgroup GRP Model (2008); ABS Census (2006); ABS 5220.0 (2008); ABS 6291.0 (2008)

Wentworth Shire Council Gross Regional Product (GRP) \$ Millions

Industry Sector	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	\$53	\$49	\$43	\$43
Mining	\$9	\$13	\$18	\$20
Manufacturing	\$23	\$23	\$25	\$26
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	\$12	\$13	\$13	\$14
Construction	\$17	\$18	\$21	\$23
Wholesale Trade	\$17	\$18	\$20	\$20
Retail Trade	\$13	\$13	\$14	\$15
Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants	\$9	\$9	\$10	\$10
Transport and Storage	\$10	\$11	\$12	\$14
Communication Services	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$3
Finance and Insurance	\$8	\$9	\$10	\$11
Property and Business Services	\$19	\$21	\$24	\$25
Government Administration and Defence	\$9	\$10	\$11	\$11
Education	\$11	\$12	\$13	\$13
Health and Community Services	\$12	\$13	\$14	\$15
Cultural and Recreational Services	\$2	\$2	\$2	\$2
Personal and Other Services	\$3	\$3	\$3	\$4
Non-classifiable	\$7	\$8	\$9	\$9
Total (Excl Ownership of Dwellings & General Govt)	\$239	\$248	\$264	\$281
GRP/GSP at Current Prices	\$285	\$294	\$320	\$337
% change from previous year	-	3.1%	9.0%	5.4%
Gross State Product (GSP)				
Victoria	\$224,078	\$235,284	\$247,789	\$267,966
New South Wales	\$302,089	\$316,882	\$335,828	\$359,883

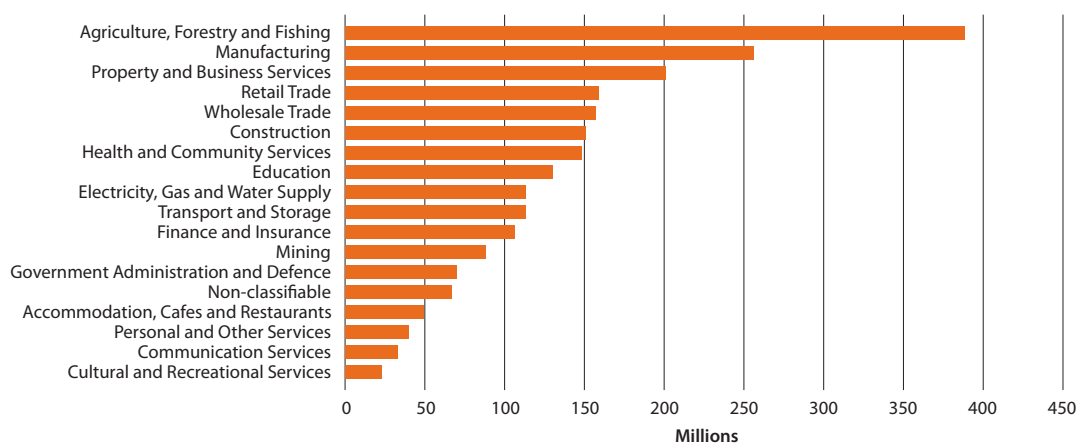
Source: AECgroup GRP Model (2008); ABS Census (2006); ABS 5220.0 (2008); ABS 6291.0 (2008)

Mildura Region Gross Regional Product (GRP) \$ Millions

Industry Sector	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	\$339	\$349	\$332	\$388
Mining	\$45	\$59	\$79	\$88
Manufacturing	\$222	\$243	\$268	\$256
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	\$91	\$96	\$106	\$113
Construction	\$112	\$126	\$154	\$151
Wholesale Trade	\$126	\$133	\$154	\$157
Retail Trade	\$136	\$143	\$157	\$159
Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants	\$42	\$44	\$48	\$49
Transport and Storage	\$89	\$100	\$118	\$113
Communication Services	\$32	\$33	\$37	\$33
Finance and Insurance	\$78	\$85	\$105	\$106
Property and Business Services	\$151	\$171	\$198	\$201
Government Administration and Defence	\$55	\$61	\$72	\$70
Education	\$102	\$113	\$132	\$130
Health and Community Services	\$123	\$133	\$157	\$148
Cultural and Recreational Services	\$18	\$19	\$24	\$23
Personal and Other Services	\$32	\$32	\$38	\$40
Non-classifiable	\$52	\$58	\$66	\$67
Total (Excl Ownership of Dwellings & General Govt)	\$1,847	\$1,999	\$2,245	\$2,290
GRP/GSP at Current Prices	\$2,247	\$2,414	\$2,689	\$2,788
% change from previous year	-	7.4%	11.4%	3.7%
Gross State Product (GSP)				
Victoria	\$224,078	\$235,284	\$247,789	\$267,966
New South Wales	\$302,089	\$316,882	\$335,828	\$359,883

Source: AECgroup GRP Model (2008); ABS Census (2006); ABS 5220.0 (2008); ABS 6291.0 (2008)

Mildura Region Gross Regional Product (GRP) \$ Millions, 2007-2008



Source: AECgroup GRP Model (2008); ABS Census (2006); ABS 5220.0 (2008); ABS 6291.0 (2008)

Businesses by Sector

With such a focus on agricultural production, it is no surprise that a third of the businesses in the Mildura region are engaged in this sector. The overall business community is also supported by a large number of property and business services organisations and the recent boom in construction over the past years has created a large number of construction companies.

As the region continues to diversify, the number of businesses in manufacturing, wholesale trade and numerous service sectors are anticipated to grow.

Businesses by Sector, 2007

Industry Sector	Mildura	% of Total	Wentworth	% of Total	Mildura Region	% of Total
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1,641	30.7%	450	55.1%	2,091	34.0%
Mining	18	0.3%	3	0.4%	21	0.3%
Manufacturing	138	2.6%	6	0.7%	144	2.3%
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	36	0.7%	3	0.4%	39	0.6%
Construction	648	12.1%	69	8.5%	717	11.6%
Wholesale Trade	171	3.2%	30	3.7%	201	3.3%
Retail Trade	492	9.2%	30	3.7%	522	8.5%
Accom., Cafes & Restaurants	150	2.8%	48	5.9%	198	3.2%
Transport and Storage	213	4.0%	24	2.9%	237	3.8%
Communication Services	30	0.6%	6	0.7%	36	0.6%
Finance and Insurance	204	3.8%	33	4.0%	237	3.8%
Property and Business Services	762	14.3%	87	10.7%	849	13.8%
Education	21	0.4%	-	0.0%	21	0.3%
Health and Community Services	168	3.1%	3	0.4%	171	2.8%
Cultural and Recreational Services	528	9.9%	12	1.5%	540	8.8%
Personal and Other Services	123	2.3%	12	1.5%	135	2.2%
Total	5,343	100.0%	816	100.0%	6,159	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS 8165.0 (2007)

Mildura Region Number of Business by Industry, 2006



Source: AECgroup; ABS 8165.0 (2007)

Businesses and Employment by Industry Comparison - Mildura Rural City Council, 2006

Industry Sector	Businesses	% of Total	Employment	% of Total
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1,641	33.6%	2,973	13.8%
Mining	9	0.2%	84	0.4%
Manufacturing	147	3.0%	2,414	11.2%
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	9	0.2%	239	1.1%
Construction	669	13.7%	1,460	6.8%
Wholesale Trade	141	2.9%	1,160	5.4%
Retail Trade	510	10.4%	3,627	16.8%
Accom., Cafes & Restaurants	147	3.0%	987	4.6%
Transport and Storage	231	4.7%	959	4.5%
Communication Services	30	0.6%	177	0.8%
Finance and Insurance	201	4.1%	414	1.9%
Property and Business Services	765	15.6%	1,384	6.4%
Education	18	0.4%	1,661	7.7%
Health and Community Services	165	3.4%	2,216	10.3%
Cultural and Recreational Services	78	1.6%	278	1.3%
Personal and Other Services	129	2.6%	623	2.9%
Total	4,890	100.0%	20,656	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS 8165.0 (2007); ABS Census (2006).

Note: Employment figures above do not include Government Administration and Defence workers.

Businesses and Employment by Industry Comparison - Wentworth Shire Council, 2006

Industry Sector	Businesses	% of Total	Employment	% of Total
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	450	55.1%	746	24.5%
Mining	3	0.4%	40	1.3%
Manufacturing	6	0.7%	237	7.8%
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	3	0.4%	52	1.7%
Construction	69	8.5%	208	6.8%
Wholesale Trade	30	3.7%	184	6.1%
Retail Trade	30	3.7%	347	11.4%
Accom., Cafes & Restaurants	48	5.9%	200	6.6%
Transport and Storage	24	2.9%	121	4.0%
Communication Services	6	0.7%	21	0.7%
Finance and Insurance	33	4.0%	48	1.6%
Property and Business Services	87	10.7%	176	5.8%
Education	-	0.0%	204	6.7%
Health and Community Services	3	0.4%	237	7.8%
Cultural and Recreational Services	12	1.5%	31	1.0%
Personal and Other Services	12	1.5%	60	2.0%
Total	816	100.0%	2,912	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS 8165.0 (2007); ABS Census (2006).

Note: Employment figures above do not include Government Administration and Defence workers.

Businesses and Employment by Industry Comparison - Mildura Region, 2006

Industry Sector	Businesses	% of Total	Employment	% of Total
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	2,091	34.0%	3,718	15.1%
Mining	21	0.3%	125	0.5%
Manufacturing	144	2.3%	2,651	10.8%
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	39	0.6%	291	1.2%
Construction	717	11.6%	1,668	6.8%
Wholesale Trade	201	3.3%	1,344	5.5%
Retail Trade	522	8.5%	3,975	16.2%
Accom., Cafes & Restaurants	198	3.2%	1,186	4.8%
Transport and Storage	237	3.8%	1,080	4.4%
Communication Services	36	0.6%	198	0.8%
Finance and Insurance	237	3.8%	462	1.9%
Property and Business Services	849	13.8%	1,560	6.3%
Education	21	0.3%	1,865	7.6%
Health and Community Services	171	2.8%	2,453	10.0%
Cultural and Recreational Services	540	8.8%	309	1.3%
Personal and Other Services	135	2.2%	683	2.8%
Total	6,159	100.0%	23,568	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS 8165.0 (2007); ABS Census (2006).

Note: Employment figures above do not include Government Administration and Defence workers.

Population and Demographics



The current population of the Mildura region is 60,281 and has seen consistent growth over past decades. This population increase has generated demand for a variety of products and services, including housing, which has aided in driving a strong economy. Unless otherwise indicated, "Place of usual residence" data from the ABS has been used in this analysis and best reflects the actual population characteristics of the region.

General Population

Historic Population

Population Changes - Mildura Rural City Council, 1981-2008

Region	Year	Population	Period	% Change	Annual %Change
Mildura City & Shire, Walpeup	1981	38,344			
Mildura City & Shire, Walpeup	1986	41,506	1981-1986	8.3%	1.6%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B	1991	44,537	1986-1991	7.3%	1.4%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B	1996	45,811	1991-1996	2.9%	0.6%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B	2001	49,616	1996-2001	8.3%	1.6%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B	2006	51,590	2001-2006	4.0%	0.8%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B	2008	53,122	2006-2008	3.0%	1.5%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006); ABS 3218.0 (2009)

Population Changes - Wentworth Shire Council, 1981-2008

Region	Year	Population	Period	% Change	Annual %Change
Wentworth Shire Council	1981	7,100			
Wentworth Shire Council	1986	7,374	1981-1986	3.9%	0.8%
Wentworth Shire Council	1991	7,270	1986-1991	-1.4%	-0.3%
Wentworth Shire Council	1996	7,197	1991-1996	-1.0%	-0.2%
Wentworth Shire Council	2001	7,214	1996-2001	0.2%	0.1%
Wentworth Shire Council	2006	7,058	2001-2006	-2.2%	-0.4%
Wentworth Shire Council	2008	7,159	2006-2008	1.4%	0.7%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006); ABS 3218.0 (2009)

Population Changes - Total Mildura Region, 1981-2008

Region	Year	Population	Period	% Change	Annual % Change
Mildura City & Shire, Walpeup, Wentworth	1981	45,444			
Mildura City & Shire, Walpeup, Wentworth	1986	48,880	1981-1986	7.6%	1.5%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B, Wentworth	1991	51,807	1986-1991	6.0%	1.2%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B, Wentworth	1996	53,008	1991-1996	2.3%	0.5%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B, Wentworth	2001	56,830	1996-2001	7.2%	1.4%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B, Wentworth	2006	58,648	2001-2006	3.2%	0.6%
Mildura Rural City Council , Pt A & Pt B, Wentworth	2008	60,281	2006-2008	2.8%	1.4%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006); ABS 3218.0 (2009)

Population Changes - Mildura Region, 1996-2008

Region	Population 1996	Population 2008	Ave Annual % Change 1996-2008	Area km ²	Population density 2008 persons/km ²
Mildura Rural City Council Part A	41,130	49,280	1.5%	483.3	102.0
Mildura Rural City Council Part B	4,681	3,842	-1.6%	21,603.3	0.2
Mildura Rural City Council Total	45,811	53,122	1.2%	22,086.6	2.4
Wentworth Shire Council	7,197	7,159	0.0%	26,268.7	0.3
Mildura Region	53,008	60,281	1.1%	48,355.0	1.2

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006); ABS 3218.0 (2009)

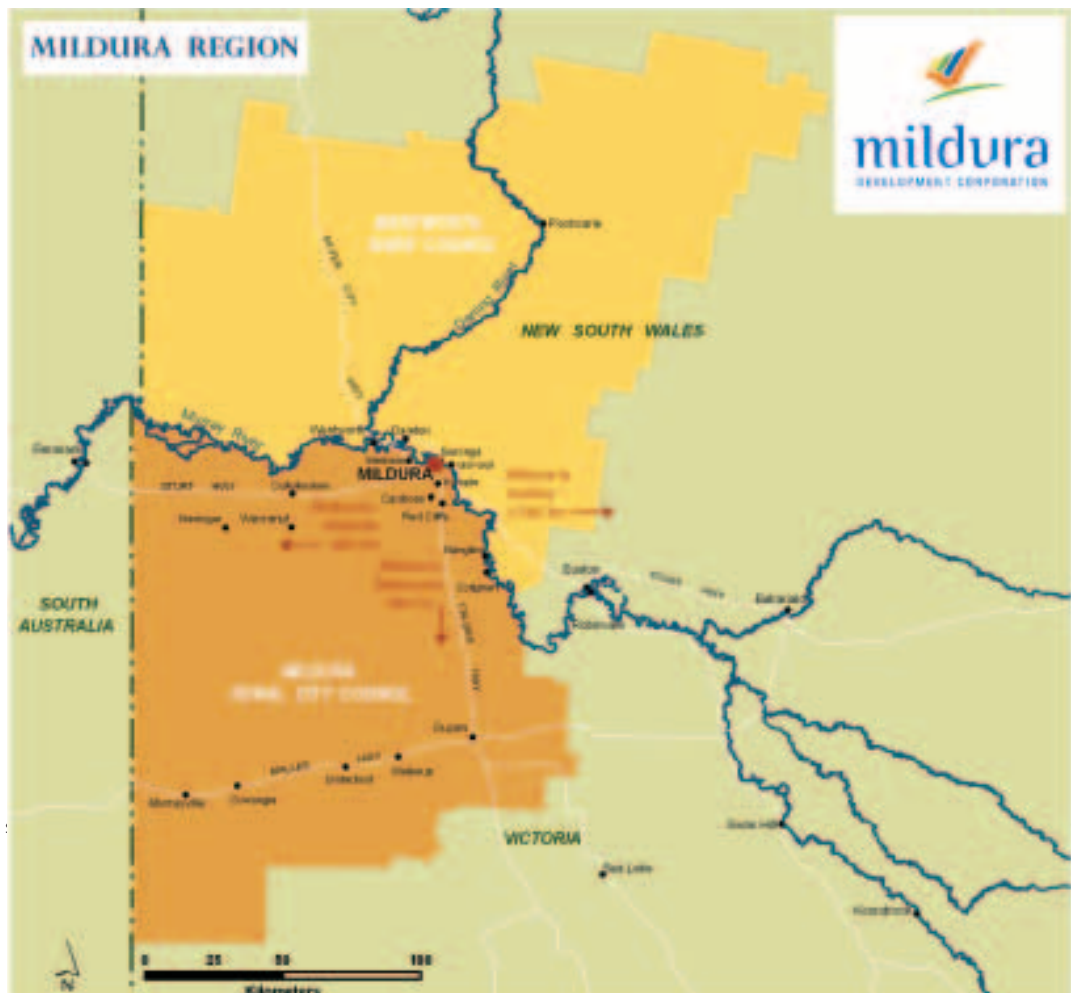
The Mildura region has seen an increase in population over the last decade of 1.1% per year on average.

The population of Mildura Rural City Council has grown significantly from previous census periods dating back to the 1980s, from 38,344 in 1981 to 53,122 in 2008. At the same time, the population of Wentworth Shire Council has remained relatively constant and in 2008 totalled 7,159.

The Mildura region has seen an increase in population over the last decade of 1.1% per year on average. At the same time, the population density clearly shows that Mildura city is a population hub compared to the surrounding region, which contains much of the agricultural activity.

Steady population growth offers increased demand for products and services and helps maintain a growing economy.

Mildura Region Overview



Mildura Regional Population Change, 2001-2006

The city of Mildura has grown by 8.2% between 2001 and 2006.

Town ^(a)	2001	2006	Change	% Change
Mildura	26,555	28,743	2,188	8.2%
Wentworth	1,430	1,303	-127	-8.9%
Red Cliffs	2,629	2,736	107	4.1%
Ouyen	1,155	1,061	-94	-8.1%
Underbool	223	217	-6	-2.7%
Murrayville	231	212	-19	-8.2%
Cabarita	271	280	9	3.3%
Merbein	1,820	1,974	154	8.5%
Gol Gol	569	663	94	16.5%
Buronga	923	807	-116	-12.6%
Dareton	620	567	-53	-8.5%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006), VIC Dept. of Sustainability and Environment's Towns in Time 2001 report

Note: (a) Towns refer to 'urban centres' as defined by the ABS, except Mildura. Mildura 2001 population figure taken from the DSE Towns in Time Report 2001 (due to changes in boundaries) and Mildura 2006 population based on Mildura as a 'state suburb', as defined by the ABS.

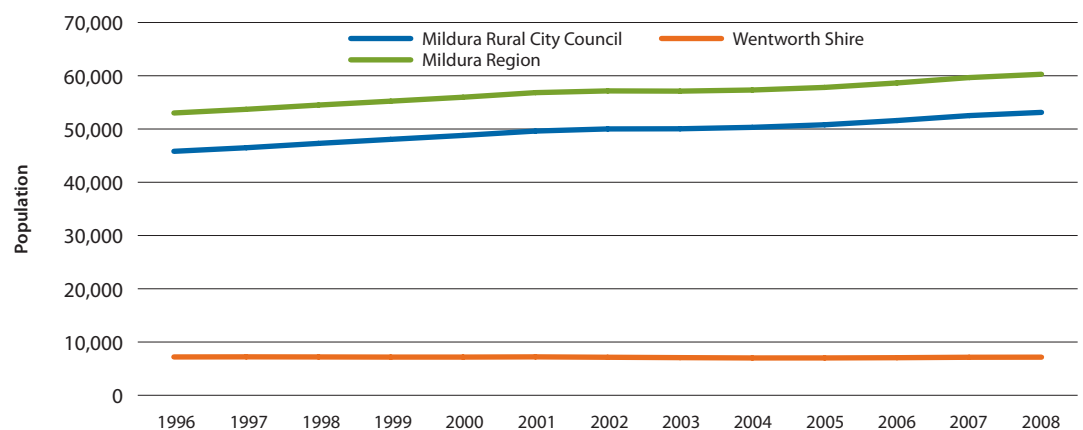
Towns of the Mildura Region, 2006

Town ^(a)	2006 Population	Proportion of Population
Buronga	807	1.4%
Cabarita	280	0.5%
Cardross	739	1.3%
Colignan	204	0.4%
Dareton	567	1.0%
Gol Gol	663	1.2%
Irymple	5,704	10.1%
Merbein	1,974	3.5%
Meringur	147	0.3%
Mildura	28,743	50.8%
Murrayville	212	0.4%
Nangiloc	400	0.7%
Ouyen	1,061	1.9%
Pooncarie	155	0.3%
Red Cliffs	2,736	4.8%
Underbool	217	0.4%
Walpeup	108	0.2%
Wentworth	1,303	2.3%
Rural Balance ^(b)	10,576	18.7%
Total	56,596	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Note: (a) Towns refer to 'state suburbs' as defined by the ABS. (b) Rural balance comprises area located outside 'state suburb' boundaries.

Historic Population, Mildura Region, 1996-2008



Source: AECgroup; ABS 3218.0 (2009)

Population Projections

The population of the Mildura region is expected to continue growing into the future, reaching almost 63,000 by 2026.

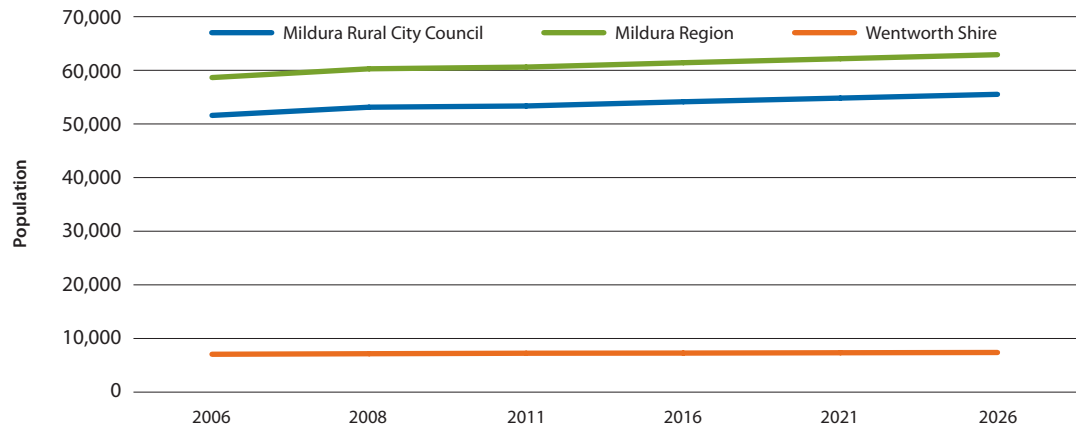
A strong future population helps to ensure a growing labour pool, which in turn helps businesses find the necessary skills to grow. As businesses continue to expand in the Mildura region, they will also offer a greater number of employment opportunities, which combined with the quality of life of the region can also contribute to the growing population. This interaction between population and job growth has contributed to the recent growth in Mildura and will continue to assist the region to grow into the future.

Population Projections - Mildura Region, 2006-2026

LGA	2006	2008	2011	2016	2021	2026
Mildura Rural City Council	51,590	53,122	53,351	54,135	54,820	55,523
Wentworth Shire Council	7,058	7,159	7,250	7,280	7,340	7,390
Mildura Region	58,648	60,281	60,601	61,415	62,160	62,913
% Change	-	2.8%	0.5%	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%

Source: AECgroup; ABS 3218.0 (2009); NSW Dept. of Planning (2007); VIC Dept. of Sustainability and Environment, Victoria in Future (2008)

Population Projections - Mildura Region, 2006-2026



Source: AECgroup; ABS 3218.0 (2006); NSW Dept. of Planning (2007); VIC Dept. Sustainability and Environment, Victoria in Future (2008)

The Mildura region population is expected to reach almost 63,000 by 2026.



Population Profile

Age Profile

Like many communities in Australia, the population of the Mildura region is aging. A comparison of the past two census periods shows that the age groups from 80-84 years, 45-49 years and 55-59 years were the fastest growing age segments. This continuing increase in an older population will require additional medical services as well as generate pressure on the younger population to provide services and generate economic value for the community.

The table and charts below also show that persons between the age groups of 20-29 are much smaller than the surrounding age groups. This would indicate a large number of residents of this age are leaving the Mildura region. This phenomenon could be easily explained by young adults leaving for university or jobs outside the Mildura region.

Population Age Structure, Mildura Region, 2001-2006

	2001		2006		Change 2001-2006	
	No.	% Total	No.	% Total	No.	% Total
0-4 years	4,274	7.5%	3,812	6.5%	-462	-10.8%
5-9 years	4,621	8.1%	4,483	7.6%	-138	-3.0%
10-14 years	4,557	8.0%	4,748	8.1%	191	4.2%
15-19 years	3,868	6.8%	4,224	7.2%	356	9.2%
20-24 years	2,954	5.2%	3,065	5.2%	111	3.8%
25-29 years	3,468	6.1%	3,094	5.3%	-374	-10.8%
30-34 years	3,918	6.9%	3,662	6.2%	-256	-6.5%
35-39 years	4,180	7.4%	4,068	6.9%	-112	-2.7%
40-44 years	4,375	7.7%	4,201	7.2%	-174	-4.0%
45-49 years	3,819	6.7%	4,371	7.5%	551	14.4%
50-54 years	3,703	6.5%	3,793	6.5%	89	2.4%
55-59 years	2,863	5.0%	3,657	6.2%	794	27.7%
60-64 years	2,560	4.5%	2,840	4.8%	280	10.9%
65-69 years	2,194	3.9%	2,409	4.1%	215	9.8%
70-74 years	2,090	3.7%	2,054	3.5%	-36	-1.7%
75-79 years	1,603	2.8%	1,888	3.2%	285	17.8%
80-84 years	989	1.7%	1,285	2.2%	296	30.0%
85 years and over	792	1.4%	993	1.7%	201	25.3%
Total	56,830	100.0%	58,648	100.0%	1,818	3.2%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

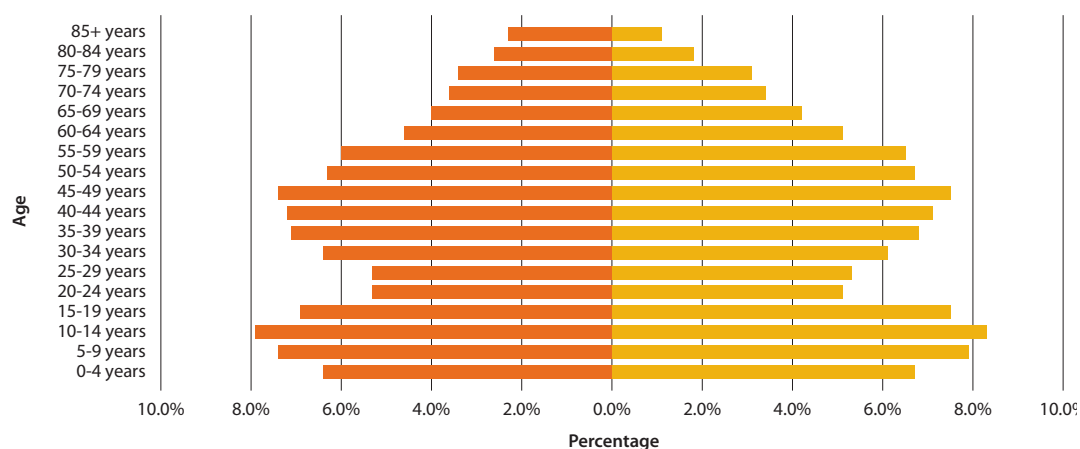
8.1% of Mildura's population are aged 10-14, followed by 7.6% aged 5-9 years and 7.5% aged 45-49 years.

Population Age by Gender, Mildura Region, 2001-2006

	Males		Females		Total Persons		Change 2001-2006	
	No.	% Total	No.	% Total	No.	% Total	No.	% Total
0-4 years	1,924	6.7%	1,888	6.4%	3,812	6.5%	-462	-10.8%
5-9 years	2,287	7.9%	2,196	7.4%	4,483	7.6%	-138	-3.0%
10-14 years	2,405	8.3%	2,343	7.9%	4,748	8.1%	191	4.2%
15-19 years	2,161	7.5%	2,063	6.9%	4,224	7.2%	356	9.2%
20-24 years	1,480	5.1%	1,585	5.3%	3,065	5.2%	111	3.8%
25-29 years	1,524	5.3%	1,570	5.3%	3,094	5.3%	-374	-10.8%
30-34 years	1,768	6.1%	1,894	6.4%	3,662	6.2%	-256	-6.5%
35-39 years	1,967	6.8%	2,102	7.1%	4,068	6.9%	-112	-2.7%
40-44 years	2,049	7.1%	2,152	7.2%	4,201	7.2%	-174	-4.0%
45-49 years	2,164	7.5%	2,207	7.4%	4,371	7.5%	551	14.4%
50-54 years	1,932	6.7%	1,861	6.3%	3,793	6.5%	89	2.4%
55-59 years	1,871	6.5%	1,785	6.0%	3,657	6.2%	794	27.7%
60-64 years	1,485	5.1%	1,355	4.6%	2,840	4.8%	280	10.9%
65-69 years	1,206	4.2%	1,203	4.0%	2,409	4.1%	215	9.8%
70-74 years	980	3.4%	1,074	3.6%	2,054	3.5%	-36	-1.7%
75-79 years	883	3.1%	1,005	3.4%	1,888	3.2%	285	17.8%
80-84 years	516	1.8%	769	2.6%	1,285	2.2%	296	30.0%
85 years and over	316	1.1%	677	2.3%	993	1.7%	201	25.3%
Total	28,918	100.0%	29,730	100.0%	58,648	100.0%	1,818	3.2%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

Age Profile, Mildura Region, 2006



Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Cultural Diversity

The traditional indigenous people of Mildura are the Latje Latje people, while the broader area of the Mildura Rural City Council includes the Latje Latje and Wergaia. Other tribal groups such as the Ngintait, Ngardad and Jari Jari are mentioned in historical research. The Wentworth Shire Council area is the native land of the Barkindji, Maraura and Kereinji people.

Today, the land in Mildura is recognised as Latje Latje country and the land in Wentworth is recognised as Barkindji country. Many of these indigenous peoples still call the region home and the population of indigenous people in the Mildura region has been increasing over the past years.

Indigenous Profile

Indigenous Population, Mildura Region, 2001-2006

Region	2001		2006	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Mildura Rural City Council	516	574	645	787
Wentworth Shire Council	262	279	299	312
Mildura Region	778	853	944	1,099
Total	1,631		2,043	

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

Country of Birth

Beyond the indigenous population, there are also residents in the region from other countries including United Kingdom, Italy, New Zealand and Greece. These residents help provide for a culturally and linguistically diverse community.

Main Countries of Birth, Mildura Region, 2001-2006

Country	Mildura Rural City Council		Wentworth Shire Council		Mildura Region	
	2001	2006	2001	2006	2001	2006
Australia	85.8%	84.2%	86.9%	87.9%	85.9%	84.6%
United Kingdom	1.8%	1.8%	1.7%	1.6%	1.8%	1.8%
Italy	1.8%	1.5%	1.3%	1.0%	1.7%	1.4%
New Zealand	0.8%	1.0%	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	1.0%
Turkey	1.1%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.9%
Greece	0.4%	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.4%	0.4%
Born elsewhere	3.1%	3.7%	1.9%	1.9%	3.0%	3.5%
Country of birth not stated	5.1%	6.3%	7.2%	6.7%	5.4%	6.4%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

Language Spoken

Given the country of birth for many residents, it is not surprising that many other languages including Italian, Greek and others are spoken in the Mildura region. Beyond language, the Mildura region is a culturally and linguistically diverse community.

Main Language other than English (LOTE) Spoken, Mildura Region, 2001-2006

Language	Mildura Rural City Council		Wentworth Shire Council		Mildura Region	
	2001	2006	2001	2006	2001	2006
% LOTE Speaking	8.3%	8.3%	4.2%	3.3%	7.8%	7.7%
% English Only Speaking	87.6%	87.4%	89.5%	92.1%	87.8%	88.0%
Not Stated	4.1%	4.2%	6.3%	4.6%	4.3%	4.3%
% LOTE of total population:						
Italian	3.2%	2.5%	2.1%	1.6%	3.0%	2.4%
Turkish	1.6%	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%	1.4%
Greek	0.9%	0.8%	0.2%	0.2%	0.8%	0.7%
Samoan	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%
Croatian	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%
Other	2.2%	2.8%	1.7%	1.1%	2.1%	2.6%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

In 2006, 7.7% of the Mildura region population spoke a language other than English.

Nearly 85% of dwellings in the Mildura region are separate houses.

Housing in the Mildura Region

There are currently 20,948 occupied private dwellings in the Mildura region, which are primarily family households (71%) in separate houses (85%). There are more separate houses in the Mildura region when compared to the average in Victoria and New South Wales, which is primarily due to the propensity of units in other parts of the states, namely Melbourne and Sydney.

At the same time, home ownership in the Mildura region seems to be in line with Victorian and New South Wales averages. The clear majority (71%) of households are families and the majority (61%) of these homes include children.



Total Households

Total Occupied Private Dwellings, Mildura Region, 2001-2006

Region	2001	2006	% Change (2001-2006)
Mildura Rural City Council	18,155	18,482	1.8%
Wentworth Shire Council	2,649	2,466	-6.9%
Mildura Region	20,804	20,948	0.7%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

Dwelling Structure

Dwelling Structure, Mildura Region, 2006

Structure	Mildura Rural City Council	Wentworth Shire Council	Mildura Region	VIC	NSW
Separate House	83.8%	90.5%	84.6%	77.5%	71.4%
Semi-detached/row/terrace house	5.7%	1.7%	5.2%	9.1%	9.7%
Flat/unit/apartment	8.2%	3.9%	7.7%	12.6%	17.7%
Caravan & Other	2.3%	4.0%	2.5%	0.7%	1.1%
Not Stated	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Housing Tenure

Housing Tenure, Mildura Region, 2006

Structure	Mildura Rural City Council		Wentworth Shire Council		Mildura Region		VIC		NSW	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Owned:										
Fully owned	6,383	34.5%	916	37.2%	7,299	34.8%	644,112	36.2%	810,706	34.8%
Being purchased	6,163	33.3%	806	32.7%	6,969	33.3%	632,337	35.5%	742,157	31.9%
Total owned/being purchased	12,546	67.9%	1,722	69.9%	14,268	68.1%	1,276,449	71.6%	1,552,863	66.7%
Rented:										
Real estate agent	2,339	12.7%	164	6.7%	2,503	11.9%	251,485	14.1%	389,724	16.7%
State housing authority	918	5.0%	49	2.0%	967	4.6%	54,523	3.1%	108,793	4.7%
Person not in same household	1,208	6.5%	179	7.3%	1,387	6.6%	98,371	5.5%	129,519	5.6%
Other landlord type	484	2.6%	185	7.5%	669	3.2%	21,971	1.2%	40,274	1.7%
Landlord type not stated	217	1.2%	45	1.8%	262	1.3%	12,678	0.7%	19,120	0.8%
Total Rented	5,166	28.0%	622	25.2%	5,788	27.6%	439,028	24.6%	687,430	29.5%
Other tenure:	120	0.6%	23	0.9%	143	0.7%	11,918	0.7%	19,259	0.8%
Tenure type not stated	650	3.5%	98	4.0%	748	3.6%	54,269	3.0%	68,666	2.9%
Total Dwellings	18,482	100.0%	2,465	100.0%	20,947	100.0%	1,781,664	100.0%	2,328,218	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Household Structure, Mildura Region, 2006

	Families		Lone Person		Group Household	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Mildura Rural City Council	13,126	71.0%	4,876	26.4%	482	2.6%
Wentworth Shire Council	1,827	74.1%	583	23.6%	56	2.3%
Mildura Region	14,953	71.4%	5,459	26.1%	538	2.6%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Family Households, Mildura Region, 2006

Structure	Mildura Rural City Council		Wentworth Shire Council		Mildura Region	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
With Children	5,777	43.6%	783	42.4%	6,560	43.4%
Without Children	5,140	38.8%	764	41.4%	5,904	39.1%
Single Parents	2,187	16.5%	270	14.6%	2,457	16.3%
Other	156	1.2%	29	1.6%	185	1.2%
Total	13,260	100.0%	1,846	100.0%	15,106	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Employment and Income



Labour Force

The Mildura region has a workforce of 30,850 people.

In December 2008, the Mildura region had a total labour force of 30,850. Changes in the labour force over the past years have been accentuated in the Mildura region, as increases (and decreases) in the labour force in Victoria and New South Wales have changed. This trend could be caused by some large seasonal aspects of the labour force, which is connected to the agriculture and horticulture sectors.

Labour Force, Mildura Region, Victoria, New South Wales, December 2001-2008

Region	Dec-01	Dec-02	Dec-03	Dec-04	Dec-05	Dec-06	Dec-07	Dec-08
Mildura Rural City Council	24,219	24,200	26,302	24,306	24,937	27,117	27,733	27,073
Wentworth Shire Council	3,865	4,077	3,824	3,720	3,586	3,802	3,896	3,777
Mildura Region	28,084	28,277	30,126	28,026	28,523	30,919	31,629	30,850
VIC	2,472,900	2,506,600	2,545,200	2,555,200	2,620,500	2,658,900	2,723,300	2,761,400
NSW	3,249,600	3,299,000	3,359,300	3,366,000	3,423,300	3,471,800	3,518,300	3,585,300

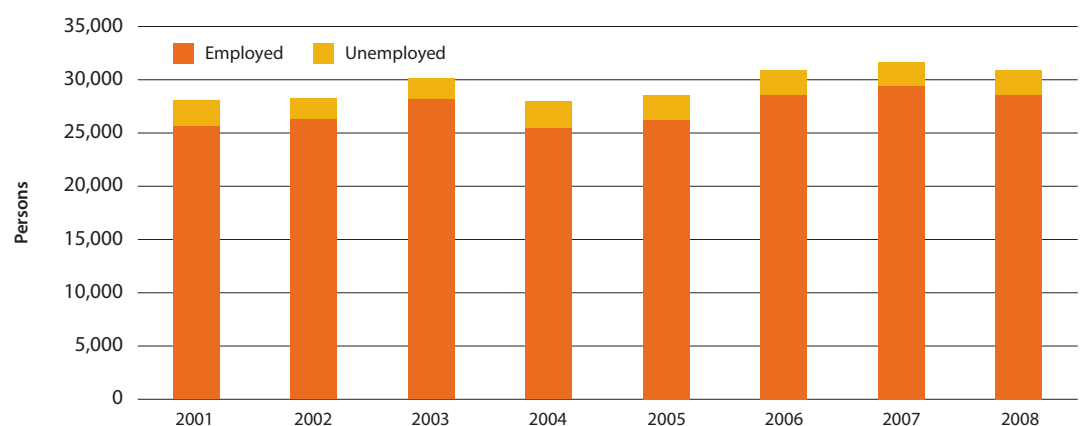
Source: AECgroup; Dept. of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Small Area Labour Markets (SALM) reports (2008)

Unemployment, Mildura Region, Victoria, New South Wales, Year Ended December 2001-2008

Region	Dec-01	Dec-02	Dec-03	Dec-04	Dec-05	Dec-06	Dec-07	Dec-08
Mildura Rural City Council	2,057	1,624	1,610	2,343	1,943	2,049	1,960	1,991
Wentworth Shire Council	398	387	369	280	348	314	280	310
Mildura Region	2,455	2,011	1,979	2,623	2,291	2,363	2,240	2,301
VIC	155,600	148,100	141,600	147,200	142,400	133,200	126,700	122,100
NSW	194,200	201,300	196,700	180,400	178,600	184,400	169,400	170,700

Source: AECgroup; Dept. of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Small Area Labour Markets (SALM) reports (2008)

Labour Force and Unemployment, Mildura Region, Year Ended December 2001-2008



Source: AECgroup; Dept. of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Small Area Labour Markets (SALM) reports (2008)

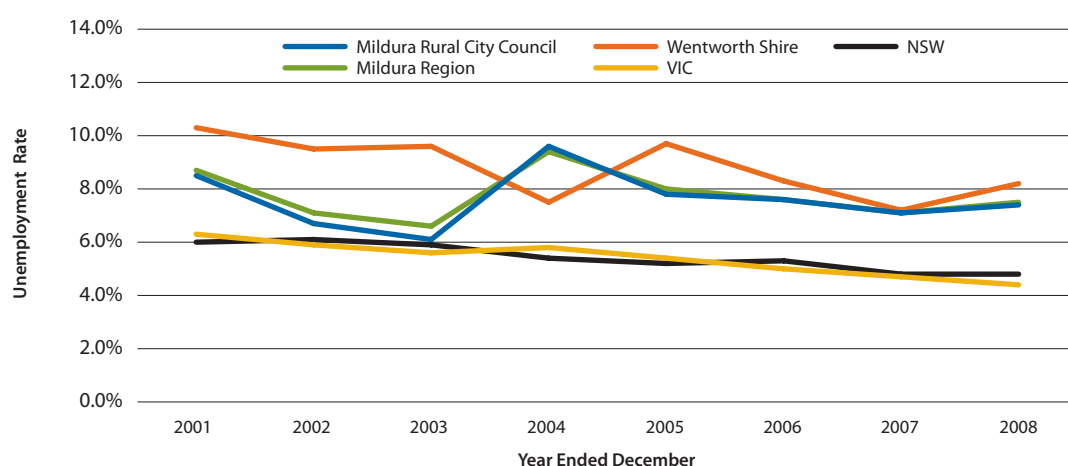
The unemployment rate in the Mildura region has consistently been above the state averages for Victoria and New South Wales. At the same time, changes in the unemployment over time appear to be more volatile in the Mildura region when compared to Victoria and New South Wales. This discrepancy could be caused again by seasonal changes in the labour force related to the amount of agricultural and horticulture production. Essentially, years of very good production require more people to harvest the production but if the production is much lower than the previous year, there is less need for workers during harvest time.

Unemployment Rate, Mildura Region, Victoria, New South Wales, Year Ended December 2001-2008

Region	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Mildura Rural City Council	8.5%	6.7%	6.1%	9.6%	7.8%	7.6%	7.1%	7.4%
Wentworth Shire Council	10.3%	9.5%	9.6%	7.5%	9.7%	8.3%	7.2%	8.2%
Mildura Region	8.7%	7.1%	6.6%	9.4%	8.0%	7.6%	7.1%	7.5%
VIC	6.3%	5.9%	5.6%	5.8%	5.4%	5.0%	4.7%	4.4%
NSW	6.0%	6.1%	5.9%	5.4%	5.2%	5.3%	4.8%	4.8%

Source: AECgroup; Dept. of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Small Area Labour Markets (SALM) reports (2008)

Unemployment Rate, Mildura Region, Victoria, New South Wales, Year Ended December 2001-2008



Source: AECgroup; Dept. of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Small Area Labour Markets (SALM) reports (2008)

Employment by Industry and Occupation

The Mildura region has a dynamic economy and a diverse workforce with a wide range of skills. As expected, the agricultural sector is a major employer together with a strong retail sector. Manufacturing also plays a key employment role. There are many manufacturing operations that feed off agricultural production in the region. Education and healthcare are also major employers, which combined with retail indicate a strong community services sector in Mildura.

Between the Census years of 2001 and 2006, there were many changes to the industry employment in the Mildura region. Most notably is the decline in workers in the agriculture sector, declining 5% during this period compared to the state averages of -0.7% and 0.6% in Victoria and New South Wales, respectively. The continuing drought and reduced water allocations to irrigators have no doubt affected employment levels in the agricultural sector. It is interesting to note that during this same period, manufacturing employment increased 1.2% compared to falls in both Victoria and New South Wales of -2.2% and -1.2%.

Employment by Industry, Mildura Region, VIC and NSW, 2001 & 2006

Industry	Mildura Region			Victoria			New South Wales		
	2001	2006	% Pt. Change	No.	%	% Pt. Change	No.	%	% Pt. Change
Retail Trade	15.5%	16.2%	0.7%	15.1%	14.9%	-0.2%	14.6%	14.4%	-0.1%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	20.1%	15.1%	-5.0%	3.6%	2.9%	-0.7%	3.5%	2.8%	-0.6%
Manufacturing	9.6%	10.8%	1.2%	15.7%	13.5%	-2.2%	11.8%	10.5%	-1.2%
Health & Community Services	9.2%	10.0%	0.8%	10.0%	10.9%	1.0%	9.6%	11.0%	1.3%
Education	7.2%	7.6%	0.3%	7.3%	7.6%	0.4%	7.0%	7.5%	0.6%
Construction	5.7%	6.8%	1.1%	6.7%	7.7%	1.0%	7.1%	7.5%	0.4%
Property & Business Services	6.2%	6.3%	0.2%	11.7%	11.4%	-0.3%	12.5%	11.9%	-0.6%
Wholesale Trade	6.3%	5.5%	-0.8%	5.7%	5.4%	-0.2%	5.7%	5.2%	-0.5%
Accommodation, Cafes & Restaurants	5.0%	4.8%	-0.2%	4.4%	4.4%	0.0%	5.3%	5.2%	-0.1%
Transport & Storage	3.9%	4.4%	0.5%	3.9%	4.3%	0.4%	4.7%	4.9%	0.2%
Government Administration & Defence	2.7%	4.1%	1.5%	3.0%	4.2%	1.1%	3.9%	4.8%	0.9%
Personal and Other Services	2.9%	2.8%	-0.2%	3.4%	3.4%	0.0%	3.7%	3.7%	0.0%
Finance & Insurance	1.7%	1.9%	0.2%	4.0%	4.1%	0.1%	4.9%	5.1%	0.2%
Cultural & Recreational Services	1.5%	1.3%	-0.3%	2.6%	2.5%	-0.1%	2.5%	2.4%	-0.2%
Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	1.2%	1.2%	0.0%	0.6%	0.7%	0.1%	0.8%	0.8%	0.1%
Communication Services	0.9%	0.8%	-0.1%	2.1%	1.8%	-0.3%	2.0%	1.6%	-0.4%
Mining	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.6%	0.7%	0.2%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

The top 5 key employment sectors in the Mildura region are:

- Retail trade (3,975 employees, 16.2% of total employment);
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing (3,718 employees, 15.1% of total employment);
- Manufacturing (2,651 employees, 10.8% of total employment);
- Health & community services (2,453 employees, 10% of total employment); and
- Education (1,865 employees, 7.6% of total employment).

The Mildura region's highest employment sector is retail, employing 16.2% of the Mildura region workforce.

The table below shows that Mildura is the employment centre of the region. These employment figures also demonstrate the diversity of the Mildura regional economy, as jobs are spread over many different sectors and no single sector is considerably larger than another.

As in most economies, retail trade is a large and important employer. The agriculture and manufacturing sectors are very high valued sectors and equally generate a great deal of wealth in the regional economy, driving demand for other services like health, education, construction and business services.

Employment by Industry, 2006

Industry	Mildura Rural City Council		Wentworth Shire Council		Mildura Region	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Retail Trade	3,627	16.8%	347	11.4%	3,975	16.2%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	2,973	13.8%	746	24.5%	3,718	15.1%
Manufacturing	2,414	11.2%	237	7.8%	2,651	10.8%
Health & Community Services	2,216	10.3%	237	7.8%	2,453	10.0%
Education	1,661	7.7%	204	6.7%	1,865	7.6%
Construction	1,460	6.8%	208	6.8%	1,668	6.8%
Property & Business Services	1,384	6.4%	176	5.8%	1,560	6.3%
Wholesale Trade	1,160	5.4%	184	6.1%	1,344	5.5%
Accommodation, Cafes & Restaurants	987	4.6%	200	6.6%	1,186	4.8%
Transport & Storage	959	4.5%	121	4.0%	1,080	4.4%
Government Administration & Defence	885	4.1%	129	4.3%	1,014	4.1%
Personal and Other Services	623	2.9%	60	2.0%	683	2.8%
Finance & Insurance	414	1.9%	48	1.6%	462	1.9%
Cultural & Recreational Services	278	1.3%	31	1.0%	309	1.3%
Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	239	1.1%	52	1.7%	291	1.2%
Communication Services	177	0.8%	21	0.7%	198	0.8%
Mining	84	0.4%	40	1.3%	125	0.5%
Total	21,543	100.0%	3,039	100.0%	24,582	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

As the table below demonstrates, the agricultural and food manufacturing sectors dominate the region. Naturally, there are many synergies between these two industries, as food manufacturers enjoy locating near the source of their production to reduce costs and increase efficiency.

In comparison to state averages, the Mildura region's lead position in agriculture and food manufacturing are clear, with approx. 3-5% more employment in agriculture and a striking 43% more employment in food manufacturing.

Employment by Sub-Division in the Agriculture and Manufacturing Industries, Mildura Region, VIC and NSW, 2006

Compared to state averages, the Mildura region employs over 40% more people in the food manufacturing sector.

Industry	Mildura Rural City Council	Wentworth Shire Council	Mildura Region	VIC	NSW
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing					
Agriculture	92.6%	94.2%	92.9%	89.9%	87.8%
Services to Agriculture; Hunting and Trapping	6.9%	5.8%	6.7%	6.0%	6.1%
Forestry and Logging	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	2.5%	3.3%
Commercial Fishing	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	1.2%	2.3%
Other Agriculture	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	0.4%	0.6%
Manufacturing					
Food, Beverage and Tobacco Manufacturing	57.8%	54.1%	57.5%	16.6%	16.7%
Machinery and Equipment Manufacturing	8.4%	5.2%	8.1%	23.3%	18.1%
Metal Product Manufacturing	6.6%	6.5%	6.6%	11.3%	14.6%
Printing, Publishing and Recorded Media	5.7%	6.5%	5.8%	9.7%	12.5%
Petroleum, Coal, Chemical and Associated Product Manufacturing	4.1%	3.5%	4.0%	10.9%	9.3%
Wood and Paper Product Manufacturing	4.0%	3.9%	4.0%	5.9%	6.4%
Non-Metallic Mineral Product Manufacturing	2.7%	3.0%	2.7%	3.4%	4.3%
Textile, Clothing, Footwear and Leather Manufacturing	0.9%	1.3%	0.9%	5.7%	4.3%
Other Manufacturing	9.9%	16.0%	10.5%	13.3%	13.9%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Employment by Industry (Estimated), 2008

Sector	Mildura Rural City Council		Wentworth Shire Council		Mildura Region	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	3,042	13.5%	736	23.4%	3,778	14.7%
Mining	88	0.4%	45	1.4%	133	0.5%
Manufacturing	2,500	11.1%	251	8.0%	2,750	10.7%
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	253	1.1%	51	1.6%	304	1.2%
Construction	1,483	6.6%	222	7.1%	1,706	6.6%
Wholesale Trade	1,261	5.6%	173	5.5%	1,433	5.6%
Retail Trade	3,755	16.6%	378	12.0%	4,133	16.0%
Accommodation, Cafes and Restaurants	1,105	4.9%	213	6.8%	1,318	5.1%
Transport and Storage	930	4.1%	142	4.5%	1,072	4.2%
Communication Services	156	0.7%	19	0.6%	175	0.7%
Finance and Insurance	485	2.1%	49	1.5%	533	2.1%
Property and Business Services	1,592	7.0%	176	5.6%	1,768	6.9%
Government Administration & Defence	887	3.9%	126	4.0%	1,013	3.9%
Education	1,836	8.1%	215	6.8%	2,050	8.0%
Health and Community Services	2,222	9.8%	263	8.4%	2,485	9.6%
Cultural and Recreational Services	320	1.4%	29	0.9%	350	1.4%
Personal and Other Services	697	3.1%	57	1.8%	755	2.9%
Total	22,612	100.0%	3,144	100.0%	25,756	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006); ABS 6291.0 (2008)

Note: 2008 estimates calculated by using State employment by industry growth from the Australian Labour Force Survey.

Employment by Occupation, Mildura Region, VIC and NSW, 2001 & 2006

Industry	Mildura Region			Victoria			New South Wales		
	2001	2006	% Pt. Change	2001	2006	% Pt. Change	2001	2006	% Pt. Change
Intermediate Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	13.6%	14.5%	0.9%	16.4%	17.0%	0.6%	16.8%	17.3%	0.4%
Managers and Administrators	16.6%	14.1%	-2.5%	9.8%	9.5%	-0.3%	9.7%	9.6%	-0.1%
Labourers and Related Workers	15.4%	14.0%	-1.4%	8.4%	8.1%	-0.3%	8.1%	7.8%	-0.4%
Professionals	13.2%	13.7%	0.5%	19.6%	20.6%	1.0%	19.5%	20.7%	1.2%
Tradespersons and Related Workers	11.7%	12.1%	0.5%	12.4%	12.0%	-0.4%	12.2%	11.7%	-0.5%
Associate Professionals	10.4%	10.7%	0.2%	11.6%	11.7%	0.1%	11.9%	12.1%	0.2%
Elementary Clerical, Sales and Service Workers	8.8%	9.9%	1.1%	9.8%	9.8%	0.0%	9.5%	9.5%	-0.1%
Intermediate Production and Transport Workers	7.4%	8.4%	1.1%	8.3%	8.0%	-0.2%	8.0%	7.9%	-0.1%
Advanced Clerical and Service Workers	2.9%	2.6%	-0.4%	3.7%	3.2%	-0.5%	4.2%	3.5%	-0.7%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

Income Statistics

Income levels are relatively consistent across the Mildura region but show some differences with state averages across the various income levels. The Mildura region seems to have larger shares of the lower income levels.

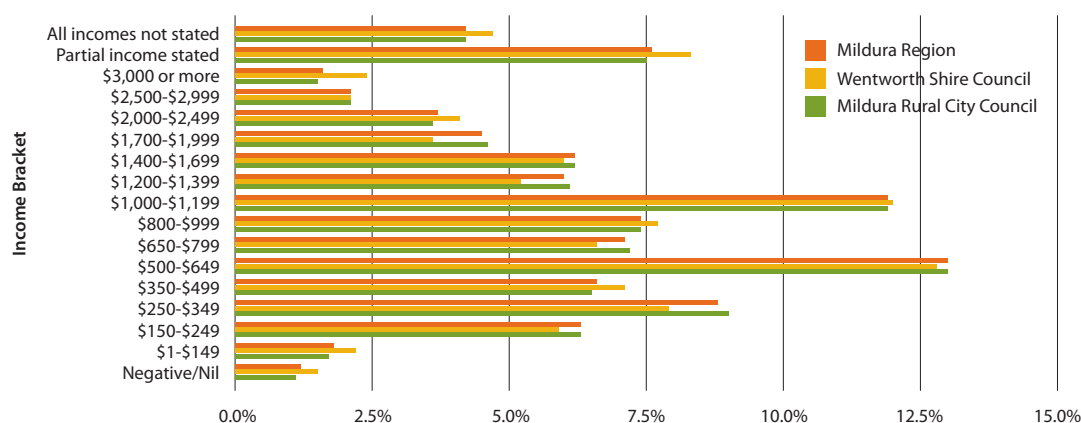
Household

Weekly Household Income, Mildura Region, 2006

Income	Mildura Rural City Council		Wentworth Shire Council		Mildura Region		VIC		NSW	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Negative/Nil	203	1.1%	38	1.5%	241	1.2%	22,685	1.3%	28,841	1.2%
\$1-\$149	320	1.7%	53	2.2%	373	1.8%	26,714	1.5%	34,454	1.5%
\$150-\$249	1,168	6.3%	145	5.9%	1,313	6.3%	87,245	4.9%	121,575	5.2%
\$250-\$349	1,655	9.0%	194	7.9%	1,849	8.8%	121,844	6.8%	162,152	7.0%
\$350-\$499	1,202	6.5%	174	7.1%	1,376	6.6%	88,966	5.0%	120,360	5.2%
\$500-\$649	2,403	13.0%	315	12.8%	2,718	13.0%	181,209	10.2%	233,507	10.0%
\$650-\$799	1,332	7.2%	162	6.6%	1,494	7.1%	114,574	6.4%	139,260	6.0%
\$800-\$999	1,362	7.4%	191	7.7%	1,553	7.4%	127,076	7.1%	151,853	6.5%
\$1,000-\$1,199	2,203	11.9%	295	12.0%	2,498	11.9%	192,733	10.8%	231,371	9.9%
\$1,200-\$1,399	1,134	6.1%	127	5.2%	1,261	6.0%	99,036	5.6%	118,009	5.1%
\$1,400-\$1,699	1,146	6.2%	148	6.0%	1,294	6.2%	132,682	7.4%	166,841	7.2%
\$1,700-\$1,999	849	4.6%	89	3.6%	938	4.5%	106,961	6.0%	138,083	5.9%
\$2,000-\$2,499	674	3.6%	100	4.1%	774	3.7%	106,265	6.0%	140,562	6.0%
\$2,500-\$2,999	388	2.1%	52	2.1%	440	2.1%	92,251	5.2%	140,184	6.0%
\$3,000 or more	283	1.5%	60	2.4%	343	1.6%	82,885	4.7%	139,990	6.0%
Partial income stated	1,392	7.5%	205	8.3%	1,597	7.6%	144,802	8.1%	193,198	8.3%
All incomes not stated	770	4.2%	117	4.7%	887	4.2%	53,737	3.0%	67,978	2.9%
Total	18,484	100.0%	2,465	100.0%	20,949	100.0%	1,781,665	100.0%	2,328,218	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Weekly Household Income, Mildura Region, 2006



Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

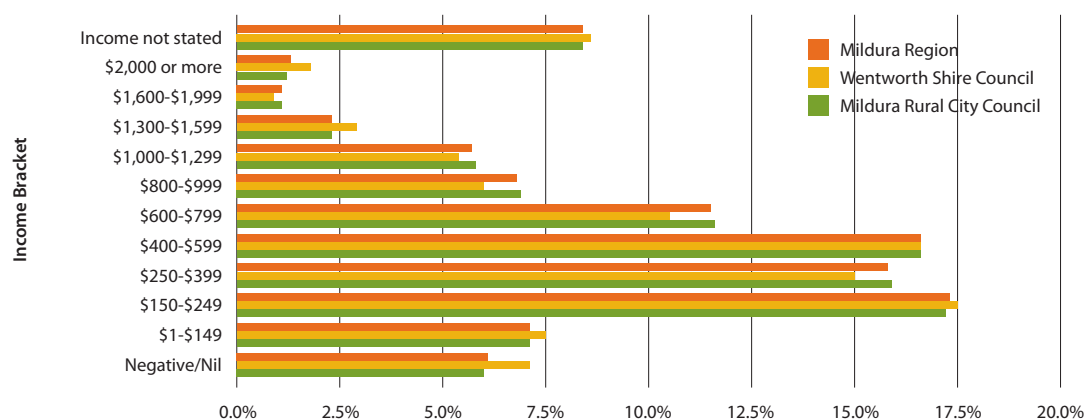
Individual

Weekly Individual Income, Mildura Region, 2006

Income	Mildura Rural City Council		Wentworth Shire Council		Mildura Region		VIC		NSW	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Negative/Nil	2,313	6.0%	380	7.1%	2,693	6.1%	303,055	7.6%	409,360	7.8%
\$1-\$149	2,732	7.1%	402	7.5%	3,134	7.1%	296,839	7.5%	353,411	6.7%
\$150-\$249	6,667	17.2%	933	17.5%	7,600	17.3%	558,639	14.0%	742,258	14.1%
\$250-\$399	6,153	15.9%	802	15.0%	6,955	15.8%	506,249	12.7%	672,062	12.8%
\$400-\$599	6,402	16.6%	884	16.6%	7,286	16.6%	540,331	13.6%	684,204	13.0%
\$600-\$799	4,502	11.6%	558	10.5%	5,060	11.5%	423,791	10.6%	528,102	10.1%
\$800-\$999	2,657	6.9%	322	6.0%	2,979	6.8%	322,545	8.1%	393,509	7.5%
\$1,000-\$1,299	2,238	5.8%	287	5.4%	2,525	5.7%	302,247	7.6%	390,018	7.4%
\$1,300-\$1,599	875	2.3%	157	2.9%	1,032	2.3%	154,010	3.9%	242,409	4.6%
\$1,600-\$1,999	432	1.1%	50	0.9%	482	1.1%	91,535	2.3%	142,165	2.7%
\$2,000 or more	457	1.2%	98	1.8%	555	1.3%	133,290	3.3%	212,723	4.1%
Income not stated	3,245	8.4%	458	8.6%	3,703	8.4%	349,504	8.8%	480,041	9.1%
Total	38,673	100.0%	5,331	100.0%	44,004	100.0%	3,982,035	100.0%	5,250,262	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Weekly Individual Income, Mildura Region, 2006



Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Average Annual Individual Income, Mildura Region, 2005-2006

Income	Average Wage & Salary Income
Mildura Rural City Council	\$33,838
Wentworth Shire Council	\$33,186
Mildura Region	\$33,760
Victoria	\$41,782
NSW	\$44,896

Source: AECgroup; ABS Cat. No. 5673 (2007)

Earnings by Industry

Earnings in the Mildura region are significantly lower than the average earnings in Victoria and New South Wales across every industry sector. **On average, earnings in the Mildura region are 22%-32% lower than in Victoria and New South Wales.** Since the cost of living in the Mildura region is lower than in Victoria and New South Wales, the region offers companies direct savings on labour.

Average Individual Weekly Income by Industry, 2006

Industry	Mildura Rural City Council	Wentworth Shire Council	Mildura Region	VIC	NSW
Mining	\$1,451	\$1,671	\$1,617	\$1,868	\$2,080
Financial & insurance services	\$1,116	\$1,194	\$1,204	\$1,535	\$1,705
Electricity, gas, water & waste services	\$1,376	\$1,144	\$1,197	\$1,518	\$1,644
Public administration & safety	\$1,173	\$1,106	\$1,130	\$1,325	\$1,481
Professional, scientific & technical services	\$945	\$1,096	\$1,096	\$1,494	\$1,600
Education & training	\$1,097	\$1,037	\$1,059	\$1,151	\$1,316
Transport, postal & warehousing	\$1,184	\$990	\$1,026	\$1,157	\$1,270
Rental, hiring & real estate services	\$949	\$991	\$1,001	\$1,215	\$1,285
Information media & telecommunications	\$822	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,372	\$1,540
Construction	\$1,037	\$951	\$975	\$1,162	\$1,214
Health care & social assistance	\$887	\$941	\$951	\$1,053	\$1,140
Manufacturing	\$891	\$935	\$946	\$1,183	\$1,241
Wholesale trade	\$850	\$865	\$875	\$1,206	\$1,309
Administrative & support services	\$648	\$814	\$810	\$939	\$1,034
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	\$712	\$718	\$726	\$866	\$855
Other services	\$770	\$697	\$717	\$861	\$938
Arts & recreation services	\$568	\$676	\$674	\$913	\$993
Retail trade	\$607	\$603	\$612	\$726	\$770
Accommodation & food services	\$656	\$516	\$544	\$574	\$664

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2006)

Note: Earnings by industry are not available for ANZSIC 1993 codes, so ANZSIC 2006 codes have been used. As such, the industries are not consistent with the rest of this profile. Earnings by industry have been calculated based on ABS Census information.

Education



The Mildura region is fortunate to have excellent education facilities that contribute significantly to producing a skilled and productive workforce.

The Mildura region is fortunate to have excellent education facilities that contribute significantly to producing a skilled and productive workforce. Specialty training courses exist in horticulture, food processing, transportation and logistics, healthcare, education, business and more. Close ties to local business and industry ensure that the regional education facilities develop and produce the skills that are in demand.

Educational Institutions

There are multiple options for education in the Mildura region ranging from primary schools to TAFE's, University and adult education providers.

Educational Institutions in the Mildura Region, 2008

TAFE & University	Address	Website Address
La Trobe University (Mildura Campus)	La Trobe University, Mildura Vic 3502	www.latrobe.edu.au/mildura/
Sunraysia Institute of TAFE	Benetook Ave, Mildura Vic 3502	www.sunitafe.edu.au
TAFE NSW - Riverina Institute	Silver City Highway, Dareton NSW 2717	www.rit.tafensw.edu.au
Mildura Regional Clinical School (Monash University)	231-237 Thirteenth St, Mildura Vic 3500	www.med.monash.edu.au/srh/mildura/
Other Education Providers	Address	Website Address
Kip McGrath Education Centre Sunraysia	Cnr Walnut Ave & Fifteenth St, Mildura Vic 3500	www.kipmcgrath.com.au
Sunraysia & Murray Group Training	146a Eighth St, Mildura Vic 3500	www.smgt.com.au
ABC Training & Business Services	Shop 6 /102 Eighth St, Mildura Vic 3500	www.abctraining.com.au
Access Training Service	148 Lime Ave, Mildura Vic 3500	www.accessmildura.com.au
Australian National Institute Pty Ltd	75 Orange Ave, Mildura Vic 3500	www.ani.edu.au
Clarke Creative Training Consultants	74 Lemon Ave, Mildura Vic 3500	
MADEC Community College	339 Deakin Ave, Mildura Vic 3500	www.madec.edu.au
Mildura First Aid Services (Parasol EMT Mildura)	PO Box 3499, Mildura Vic 3500	www.mildurafirstaid.com.au
Prestige Staffing Personnel	43 Lemon Ave, Mildura Vic 3500	www.prestaff.com.au
Sunraysia Skills Centre	146a Eighth St, Mildura Vic 3500	www.smgt.com.au
SITE Security Training Pty Ltd	Mildura Vic 3500	www.sitesecurity.com.au
Neil's Driver Training	7 Allen Dr, Mildura Vic 3500	
Aust-Link Pty Ltd	Karkarooc Industrial Skills Centre, Airport Precinct, Walnut Ave, Mildura Vic 3500	www.aust-link.com.au

Cont'd...

The Mildura region is home to almost 50 schools, including a specialist school and an English Language Centre.

Educational Institutions in the Mildura Region, 2008 *Cont'd...*

Primary Schools (PS)	Address	Website Address
Cardross Primary School	Dairtnunk Ave, Cardross, Vic 3496	www.cardrossps.vic.edu.au
Irymple Primary School	Fifteenth St, Irymple, Vic 3498	www.irymplesps.com
Irymple South Primary School	Cnr Belar Ave & Fifteenth St Ext, Irymple, Vic 3498	www.irymplesouthps.vic.edu.au
Koorlong Primary School	Benetook Ave, Koorlong, Vic 3501	www.koorlongps.vic.edu.au
Merbein Primary School	Jenner St, Merbein, Vic 3505	www.merbeinps.vic.edu.au
Merbein South Primary School	Sturt Hwy, Merbein South, Vic 3505	www.merbeinsouthps.vic.edu.au
Merbein West Primary School	Paschendale Ave, Merbein West, Vic	www.merbeinwestps.vic.edu.au
Mildura Primary School	Twelfth St, Mildura, VIC 3500	www.milduraps.vic.edu.au
Mildura South Primary School	San Mateo Ave, Mildura, Vic 3500	www.msps.vic.edu.au
Mildura South Primary School	Deakin Ave, Mildura South, Vic 3501	www.msps.vic.edu.au
Mildura West Primary School	Ninth St, Mildura, Vic 3500	www.web.mildurawestps.vic.edu.au
Nangiloc/Colignan Primary School	Kulkyne Way, Nangiloc, Vic 3494	www.nangilocps.vic.edu.au
Nichols Point Primary School	Fifth St, Nichols Point, Vic 3501	www.nicholspointps.vic.edu.au
Ranfurly Primary School	Ontario Ave, Mildura, Vic 3500	www.ranfurlyps.vic.edu.au
Red Cliffs Primary School	Murray Ave, Red Cliffs, Vic 3496	www.redcliffps.vic.edu.au
Red Cliffs East Primary School	Nerum Ave, Red Cliffs, Vic 3496	www.rceps.vic.edu.au
Robinvale Consolidated School	George St, Robinvale, Vic 3549	www.rcs.vic.edu.au
Sunnycliffs Primary School	Sunny Cliffs Crs, Sunnycliffs, Vic 3496	www.sunnycliffps.vic.edu.au
The Lake Primary School	Seventeenth St, Cabarita, Vic 3505	www.thelakeps.vic.edu.au
Underbool Primary School	Cotter St, Underbool, Vic 3509	www.underboolps.vic.edu.au
Walpeup Primary School	Glen St, Walpeup, Vic 3507	www.walpeups.vic.edu.au
Secondary Schools (SS)	Address	Website Address
Red Cliffs Secondary College	Fitzroy Ave, Red Cliffs, Vic 3496	www.red-cliffs-sc.vic.edu.au
Chaffey Secondary College	Deakin Ave, Mildura, Vic 3500	www.chaffeysc.vic.edu.au
Irymple Secondary College	Karadoc Ave, Irymple, Vic 3498	www.irysec.vic.edu.au
Merbein Secondary College	Commercial St, Merbein, Vic 3505	www.merbeinssc.vic.edu.au
Mildura Senior College	Deakin Ave, Mildura, Vic 3500	www.milsen.vic.edu.au
P-12 Schools	Address	Website Address
Murrayville Community College	20 Francis St, Murrayville, Vic 3512	www.murrayvillecc.vic.edu.au
Ouyen P-12 College (Jr Campus)	Hunt St, Ouyen, Vic 3490	
Ouyen P-12 College (Secondary Campus)	Fuller St, Ouyen, Vic 3490	www.ouyensc.vic.edu.au
Werrimull P-12	King St, Werrimull, Vic 3496	www.werrp12.vic.edu.au
Mildura English Language Centre	Mildura Senior College, Deakin Ave, Mildura, Vic 3500	
Mildura Specialist School	341-357 Deakin Ave Mildura, Vic 3500	www.mildss.vic.edu.au
Two Rivers Community College	Benetook Ave, Mildura, Vic 3500	
Catholic Schools	Address	Website Address
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College	Box St, Merbein, Vic 3505	www.olsh.vic.edu.au
St Joseph's College, Mildura	154 Twelfth St, Mildura, Vic 3500	www.sjcma.vic.edu.au
St Joseph's Red Cliffs	17 Fitzroy Ave, Red Cliffs, Vic 3496	
St Paul's Primary, Mildura	Cnr Etiwanda Ave & Fourteenth St, Mildura, Vic 3500	www.stplmldr.balrt.catholic.edu.au
Independant Schools	Address	Website Address
Henderson College	Cowra Ave, Irymple, Vic 3498	www.henderson-college.com.au
Isik College	76 Madden Ave, Mildura, Vic 3500	www.isikcollege.vic.edu.au
Mildura Baptist College	Cnr Karadoc Ave and Jones Rd, Irymple, Vic 3498	
Trinity Lutheran College	920 Fifteenth St, Mildura, Vic 3500	www.tlc.vic.edu.au
NSW Schools	Address	Website Address
Buronga Public School	Chapman St, Buronga, NSW 2739	
Coomealla High School	Silver City Hwy, Dareton, NSW 2717	www.coomealla-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
Dareton Public School	Matong St, Dareton, NSW 2717	www.dareton-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Gol Gol Public School	William St, Gol Gol, NSW 2738	www.golgol-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Palinyewah Public School	Palinyewah, Wentworth, NSW 2648	www.palinyewah-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Pomona Unified School District	Pomona Rd, Wentworth, NSW 2648	www.pusd.org
Pooncarie Public School	Tarcoola St, Pooncarie, NSW 2648	
Wentworth Public School	Darling St, Wentworth, NSW 2648	www.wentworth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Source: AECgroup; Australian School Directory (2008); Northern Mallee LLEN (2009)

La Trobe is an internationally recognised university which focuses on research and high quality teaching outcomes. Our regional network of campuses is unmatched by any other university in Victoria and our global reach brings an international flavour to study in Mildura.

Kent Farrell
Executive Director,
La Trobe University
- Mildura Campus

La Trobe University (Mildura Campus)

Part of the La Trobe University system, the Mildura campus currently has over 350 students. La Trobe University (Mildura Campus) offers undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Accounting, Arts, Business, Education, Graphic Design, Nursing, Social Work and Visual Arts. Being a smaller campus, all students benefit from more one-on-one contact time with La Trobe staff. The courses have been designed to meet industry needs at regional, national and global levels. The Mildura campus enjoys very strong relationships with local businesses and the community.

Locations

Main Campus
471 Benetook Avenue
Mildura VIC 3500

Central Business District Campus
The George & William Chaffey Building
29 Deakin Avenue
Mildura VIC 3500

Visual Arts Research Studio (VARS)
Mildura Arts Precinct
7 Chaffey Avenue
Mildura VIC 3500

Telephone +61 (3) 5051 4000
Email mildura@latrobe.edu.au
www.latrobe.edu.au/mildura

Courses available at La Trobe University Mildura Campus include:

- Diploma of Business
- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Business
- Bachelor of Accounting
- Bachelor of Education
- Bachelor of Graphic Design
- Bachelor of Visual Arts
- Bachelor of Nursing (Pre-registration)
- Bachelor of Nursing (Division 2 Conversion)
- Bachelor of Health Sciences/Master of Paramedic Practice
- Bachelor of Health Sciences/Master of Occupational Therapy Practice
- Bachelor of Social Work (Advanced Standing)
- Bachelor of Human Services/Master of Social Work
- Bachelor of Visual Arts (Honours)
- Bachelor of Graphic Design (Honours)

Postgraduate courses at the Mildura Campus include:

- Graduate Diploma in Accounting
- Master of Visual Arts
- Masters (by Research) and Doctoral programmes (PhD) are also available in selected disciplines (depending on topic and availability of supervision)

From 2011 the following courses will also be available through the Mildura Campus:

- Bachelor of Health Sciences/ Master of Physiotherapy Practice
- Bachelor of Health Sciences / Master of Speech Pathology
- Bachelor of Health Sciences / Master of Podiatric Practice

Sunraysia Institute of TAFE

Sunraysia Institute of TAFE (SuniTAFE) is the largest provider of vocational education and training services in the north-west of Victoria, covering a geographic area of 77,000 square kilometres. SuniTAFE's traditional delivery areas reflected the industry base of the region - these were predominantly agriculture, horticulture, building, construction and trades, engineering, community health and welfare, business and retail and hospitality services. Whilst still delivering in the traditional areas, in recent years SuniTAFE are training in new and emerging technologies and green skills.

Sunraysia Institute of TAFE has over eight thousand enrolments and in recent years has begun to recruit international students from China, India, Thailand and Korea.

SuniTAFE is one of five partner Institutes in the National Centre for Sustainability which began as a Victorian government initiative to promote sustainability in key areas of education - technology, building, renewable energy and conservation and land management. The latter is SuniTAFE's speciality, undertaking environmental management projects including pest and weed control management, frontage action, water testing and wetlands. SuniTAFE also undertakes behavioural change programs through grants in areas such as rural leadership, indigenous training and community gardening.

SuniTAFE employs three hundred staff members at four campuses - Mildura, Swan Hill, Robinvale and Ouyen. The Institute has over eight thousand enrolments and in recent years has begun to recruit international students from China, India, Thailand and Korea. International students see Mildura as a safe destination with a welcoming community, a wonderful climate and the opportunity to find part-time employment.

TAFE provides a pathway to University for students who want to continue their studies when they complete their course. SuniTAFE has articulation pathways to La Trobe University and other institutions for all of its diploma and advanced diploma programs.

Locations

Mildura Campus

Benetook Ave
Mildura VIC 3500
Telephone +61 (3) 5022 3666
Email mildura@sunitafe.edu.au

Swan Hill Campus

64 Sea Lake Swan Hill Rd
Swan Hill VIC 3585
Telephone +61 (3) 5036 0220
Email swanhill@sunitafe.edu.au

Robinvale Campus

Latje Road
Robinvale VIC 3549
Telephone +61 (3) 5051 8300
Email robinvale@sunitafe.edu.au

Mallee Campus

46 Oke Street
Ouyen VIC 3490
Telephone +61 (3) 5091 0400
Email mallee@sunitafe.edu.au

www.sunitafe.edu.au

Available Training Courses at Sunraysia Institute of TAFE, 2009

Available Courses by Title	
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Cultural Arts	Graphic Design
Accounting	Hairdressing
Aged Care	Horticulture
Agriculture	Hospitality
Animal Studies	Human Resources
Auditing	Indigenous Business
Automotive	Information Technology
Beauty	Irrigation
Building and Construction	Laboratory Techniques
Business	Language, Literacy and Numeracy
Business Administration	Legal
Children's Services	Management
Commercial Cookery	Marketing
Community Welfare	Motorsport
Competitive Manufacturing	Multimedia
Conservation and Land Management	Nursing
Customer Contact	Occupational Health and Safety
Electrical	Plumbing
Engineering	Production Horticulture
Event Management	Property
Financial Services	Renewable Energy
Food Processing	Retail
Frontline Management	Rural Business
General Education for Adults	

Source: AECgroup; Sunraysia Institute of TAFE (2008)

TAFE NSW - Riverina Institute

TAFE NSW Riverina Institute provides vocational and technical education through 590 courses on 19 campuses in the Riverina region, including the Coomealla campus at Dareton NSW. Strong relationships with industry ensure that TAFE NSW Riverina Institute develops people with the skill sets that employers need, backed by qualifications that are recognised all around the world.

TAFE NSW Riverina Institute offers many specialty training programs for horticulture, food processing, aged care, education and business.

Location

Silver City Highway
Dareton NSW 2717
Telephone +61 (3) 5019 8700
www.rit.tafensw.edu.au

Available Training Courses at TAFE NSW Riverina Institute (Coomealla Campus), 2009

Available Courses by Title	
Food Processing (Wine)	Certificate I
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Cultural Arts	Certificate I
Horticulture (Landscape)	Certificate II
Auslan	Certificate II
Food Processing (Wine)	Certificate II
Business	Certificate II
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Cultural Arts	Certificate II
Horticulture (Landscape)	Certificate III
Community Services Work	Certificate III
Aged Care Work	Certificate III
Education Support - Aboriginal	Certificate III
Food Processing (Wine)	Certificate III
Business	Certificate III
Clothing Production	Certificate III
Community Services (Lifestyle and Leisure)	Certificate IV
Community Services Work	Certificate IV
Aged Care Work	Certificate IV
Community Services Work	Certificate IV
Computers, A First Course	Course In
Language, Literacy and Numeracy	Course In
Community Services (Lifestyle and Leisure)	Diploma
Access to Work and Training	Statement of Attainment
Learner Support	TAFE Statement

Source: AECgroup; Sunraysia Institute of TAFE (2008)

Qualifications and Education Attainment

Highest Level Qualification Attained, 2001-2006

Level of Qualification	Mildura Rural City Council			Wentworth Shire Council			Mildura Region		
	2001	2006	% Change	2001	2006	% Change	2001	2006	% Change
Postgraduate Degree	164	241	47.0%	6	27	350.0%	170	268	57.6%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	393	447	13.7%	43	43	0.0%	436	490	12.4%
Bachelor Degree	2,008	2,477	23.4%	244	324	32.8%	2,252	2,801	24.4%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	1,530	1,867	22.0%	204	249	22.1%	1,734	2,116	22.0%
Certificate	5,191	6,322	21.8%	687	880	28.1%	5,878	7,202	22.5%
Inadequately described or not stated	3,871	5,020	29.7%	721	691	-4.2%	4,592	5,711	24.4%
Total	13,157	16,374	24.5%	1,905	2,214	16.2%	15,062	18,588	23.4%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

Qualifications, 2001 -2006

Degree of Qualification	Mildura Rural City Council		Wentworth Shire Council		Mildura Region	
	2001	2006	2001	2006	2001	2006
% of persons with non-school qualification	36.3%	42.3%	36.0%	41.5%	36.3%	42.2%
% of persons with Bachelor or higher	7.1%	8.2%	5.5%	7.4%	6.9%	8.1%
% of persons with Advanced Diploma or Diploma	4.2%	4.8%	3.9%	4.7%	4.2%	4.8%
% of persons with Certificate	14.3%	16.3%	13.0%	16.5%	14.2%	16.4%
% Inadequately described or not stated	10.7%	13.0%	13.6%	13.0%	11.1%	13.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

Highest School Year Completed, 2006

Degree of Qualification	Mildura Rural City Council	Wentworth Shire Council	Mildura Region
% of persons completed year 12 or equivalent	27.3%	25.4%	27.1%
% of persons completed year 11 or equivalent	16.2%	14.9%	16.1%
% of persons completed year 10 or equivalent	21.9%	25.4%	22.3%
% of persons completed year 9 or equivalent	11.0%	12.3%	11.2%
% of persons completed year 8 or equivalent	12.7%	11.2%	12.5%
% of persons did not go to school	0.9%	0.7%	0.9%
% Not Stated	10.0%	10.2%	10.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

Enrolment and Field of Study

Enrolment by Field of Study, 2001-2006

Field of Study	Mildura Rural City Council		Wentworth Shire Council		Mildura Region	
	2001	2006	2001	2006	2001	2006
Natural and physical sciences	226	295	19	31	245	326
Information technology	79	111	11	13	90	124
Engineering and related technologies	2,074	2,316	300	349	2,374	2,665
Architecture and building	849	956	109	150	958	1,106
Agriculture, environmental and related studies	641	741	132	162	773	903
Health	1,395	1,619	181	198	1,576	1,817
Education	1,235	1,435	168	206	1,403	1,641
Management and commerce	1,288	1,851	158	224	1,446	2,075
Society and culture	787	1,168	89	132	876	1,300
Creative arts	226	275	17	24	243	299
Food, hospitality and personal services	836	1,029	84	119	920	1,148
Mixed field programmes	19	25	3	3	22	28
Field of study inadequately described	101	164	10	16	111	180
Field of study not stated	3,403	4,389	635	589	4,038	4,978
Total	13,159	16,374	1,916	2,216	15,075	18,590

Source: AECgroup; ABS Census (2001 & 2006)

Research and Development in the Mildura Region



SunRISE 21 uses the latest digital mapping technologies to provide valuable information to local industry.

SunRISE 21 Inc.

SunRISE 21 is an incorporated, community based organisation specialising in mapping and spatial information services. Since 1995, SunRISE 21 has been expanding its expertise and capacity to provide powerful communication, management and planning tools. These resources are accessed by individuals, industry organisations, research agencies, businesses and government agencies; across local, regional and National programs.

SunRISE mapping and information products are customised to meet specific client information needs through integration, analysis and concise presentation of digital data from a range of sources.

SunRISE 21 employs seven, full and part time, staff. It has a voluntary Board of management comprising ten community leaders and key industry representatives. As a not-for-profit association, income generated and property owned by SunRISE 21 is used solely within the organisation for the benefit of the community.

SunRISE 21 recognises that the region supports a diverse range of industries with a unique climate, land and water resources. As such, the organisation uses the latest digital mapping technologies to provide information for industry planning, management and sustainable development opportunities.

www.sunrise21.org.au

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)

CSIRO has conducted research for the horticultural industries from the Merbein site over a long period. The site has a long and rich history. Research commenced soon after the site was selected in 1919 by the Mildura and District Research Committee, with the Mildura Vineyards Protection Board taking control of the site in 1920. CSIR, the forerunner of CSIRO, assumed full responsibility for the station in 1927. The Station later became the CSIRO Division of Horticultural Research in 1967, with research embracing viticulture, plant physiology, biochemistry, fruit processing and fruit trees. Research expanded to include citrus breeding in the 1980s. The Merbein Laboratory became part of the CSIRO Division of Plant Industry in 1997.

There have been many achievements over the years. The early viticultural research was focussed on development of better and more efficient vineyard management practices and the introduction, breeding and evaluation of improved varieties and clones suited to Australian conditions. Significant achievements were new systems for lighter or minimal pruning of wine grapes, the first trials of grapevine mechanical harvesters in Australia, the introduction of nematode resistant rootstocks, improved trellis systems, improved Sultana clones and better methods for production and postharvest quality management of dried grapes. Several new varieties have been released from breeding e.g. the wine grapes Tarrango, Taminga, Tyrian and Cienna, the dried grapes Sunmuscat (a joint development with United States Department of Agriculture) and Carina, new muscat flavoured and seedless table grapes, new easy peel 'no to low pip' mandarins and three new grapevine rootstocks.

In May 2008, CSIRO announced the staged closure of the Merbein laboratory over a period of 12 to 30 months. Over that period, research on dried grapes, table grapes and citrus is to be wound down and then ceased, while research on wine grapes and rootstocks for wine grapes will be maintained, but to be transferred and operated from the Adelaide laboratory of the CSIRO Division of Plant Industry. CSIRO will cease research at the Merbein site in 2011-2012. However, a research farm at Koorlong is to be retained as a warm region trial site for research on wine grapes and grapevine rootstocks, with research at the site to be directed from the Division's Adelaide Laboratory.

www.csiro.au/plantindustry

Environment and Sustainability in the Mildura Region



There are many organisations and Government departments based in the Mildura region who focus on the environment and sustainability.

Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre

The Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre (MDFRC) is a multi-disciplinary research centre with capacity across three broad areas; nutrient cycles, biology and ecology. In the area of nutrient cycles, the MDFRC has an established National Association of Testing Authorities accredited chemical laboratory to underpin both water quality and nutrient cycling research projects and assessments of water quality that are routinely undertaken for a diverse clientele. The MDFRC also supports a microbiological laboratory that supports research on the major drivers of nutrient cycles in aquatic ecosystems.

The MDFRC also has significant biological expertise particularly in the areas of and macro- and micro-invertebrate taxonomy. The Centre's invertebrate taxonomy laboratory maintains an invertebrate reference collection (spanning approximately 30 years). The Centre has also developed the capacity to identify fish larvae.

The MDFRC also undertakes research on diverse aspects of freshwater ecology, including; environmental flows in rivers and wetlands; the effects of salinity; wetland acidification, rehabilitation, microbial, fish and invertebrate ecology.

The multi-disciplinary expertise within the MDFRC enables it to provide a service to governments and the corporate sector and has a proven track record in dealing with water management issues both locally and nationally. MDFRC research and technical staff are all professionally trained in the collecting, processing and analysis of valid and representative samples.

The MDFRC has developed a strong teaching role and capacity, ranging from support for PhD and Honours degrees through to an extensive program of school events. The partnership with La Trobe University provides exciting opportunities to develop this capability.

The Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre is ideally located for accessing the main water assets of the lower Murray-Darling Basin, their research into freshwater ecology informs management of the key environmental values of the region and builds on global freshwater knowledge. The knowledge MDFRC generates gives a scientific underpinning to resource management and industry decisions around use of the rivers and floodplains in this region.

The MDFRC employs approximately 60 staff in Mildura and Wodonga.

www.mdfrc.org.au

National Centre for Sustainability

The National Centre for Sustainability (NCS) is a collaboration of several educational institutions. It provides educational leadership and works in partnership with industry, government and the community to undertake program delivery, resource development, project work and applied research, to support the development of sustainable practices.

The National Centre for Sustainability - Sunraysia operates from the Mildura and Swan Hill campuses of Sunraysia Institute of TAFE. It works with local stakeholders, community and government agencies to achieve sustainability gains in land and water management across the Sunraysia region. To achieve this, the Centre identifies potential sustainability gains, initiates sustainability projects, engages community partners, enhances the capacity of partners, implements physical change and provides project management.

The NCS also undertakes behavioural change programs through grants in areas such as rural leadership, indigenous training and sustainable building and gardening projects.

www.ncsustainability.com.au

Mallee Sustainable Farming Inc.

Mallee Sustainable Farming Inc. (MSF) delivers research and extension services for low rainfall dryland farmers. The organisation encompasses the Mallee region of South Eastern Australia which stretches across three states - from Hay (NSW) in the east to Murray Bridge (SA) in the west and Walpeup (Vic) in the south.

MSF produces a range of informative printed and electronic material such as FarmTalk Fact Sheets, MSF Annual Results Compendium and newsletters. It also conducts field days, crop walks and other events; as well as carrying out a range of trials and demonstrations.

Mallee Sustainable Farming Inc. delivers research and extension services for low rainfall dryland farmers.

Membership of MSF provides a strong network of farmers facing similar issues who can provide valuable feedback and support. Membership is available to both individuals and organisations, with associate memberships also offered at a reduced rate.

MSF was established in 1997 to investigate and assist farmers implement technological advances. Since then, profitability of dryland farming in the Mallee has increased significantly as have environmental and social gains.

Collaborative project work undertaken by MSF enables farmers, researchers, extensionists and agribusiness to improve their knowledge and skill in farming.

MSF projects have identified and promoted sustainable farming practices that align with the Mallee CMAs regional catchment strategy (RCS). MSF has shown that cropping systems that implement no-till cropping practices continually crop with no bare fallow and retain crop residues and are increasing productivity and sustainability.

MSF projects have researched and developed cropping systems contributing to the Mallee CMA Regional Catchment Strategy by:

- Reducing the threat of wind erosion by utilising minimum tillage cropping technology and maintaining ground cover by retaining crop residues.
- Improving the physical, chemical and biological health of Mallee soils.
- Reducing the threat of dryland salinity by minimising ground water recharge through higher water use in continuous cropping systems.

The research expertise of both state and federal government agencies are utilised by MSF to meet the goal of finding the best options for long term farm sustainability by undertaking projects that aim to improve productivity and profitability of mallee dryland farming systems. Research partners include CSIRO, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Victorian Department of Primary Industries, Primary Industries and Resources South Australia, Lower Murray Darling CMA, Mallee CMA, South Australian Murray Darling, Basin NRM Board.

Dryland farming in the Mallee tri-state regions includes the cropping of a wide variety of cereals and pulse crops. They include barley, wheat, triticale, vetch, lupins and canola. Livestock that form a part of many farms operations include sheep for their wool products and lambs for their quality meat. Beef cattle are also present on some farms and goats have become a growing commodity in recent years.

A number of challenges face farmers throughout the MSF region into the future. These include the impacts of climate change on farm profitability such as less water availability during the seasons of winter and spring, the rise in the cost of farming inputs such as fertiliser and fuel, the falling numbers of farmers in the Mallee area and the increasing competitiveness of gaining funds in the government and private sectors to invest in research and extension in the region.

Issues addressed utilising Mallee Sustainable Farming Inc. project resources include:

- Productivity of medic pastures
- Assessment of soil microbial activity in low rainfall mallee soils
- Profitable crop rotations
- Soil water management options and potential risk for recharge
- Identification of sub-soil constraints through EM Mapping and management options for Mallee soils
- Crop nutrition and targeted input options
- Fallow management and erosion risk potential
- Production responses of sheep and pastures at different stocking rates
- Biodiversity and farming

www.msfp.org.au

Department of Primary Industries - Victoria

Aiding existing and emerging industries is the Department of Primary Industries. The DPI places a high priority on world-class science by conducting innovative, practical and focused research servicing the needs of Victoria's primary and energy industries. The DPI fund important research, development, demonstration, commercialisation and practice change that would not occur sufficiently if left entirely to the market. Their innovation programs seek to provide various benefits, notably:

- Improving primary industry productivity, reducing environmental impacts and animal welfare
- Developing new food export markets
- Improving knowledge of the State's geology
- Reducing greenhouse emissions and water use
- Facilitating bio-security and market access

Innovation in science and practice is a major focus of the DPI's work. Most of this work is done by areas of the department's Agriculture and Fisheries Group, primarily through the:

- Office of Science Technology and Commercialisation
- Future Farming Systems Research Division
- Biosciences Research Division

The Department is also establishing a new Biosciences Research Centre that will be a joint initiative of the Government of Victoria, through DPI, and La Trobe University. The initiative is envisaged to be a world-class centre for agricultural biosciences research. The centre will accommodate up to 400 staff, including scientists and support staff.

www.dpi.vic.gov.au

NSW Department of Primary Industries

The NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) at Dareton services horticultural producers in the Lower Murray Darling region of the state. Research is primarily directed at improving the sustainability of citrus production.

NSW DPI is located in the major fruit growing area that forms part of the Sunraysia irrigation region of New South Wales and Victoria.

The NSW DPI is in the Coomealla irrigation area, 3km from Dareton and 10km from Wentworth. The NSW DPI, Dareton is 243ha in area, and about one-third of this area has soils suitable for horticulture.

- The main horticultural industries have been dried vine fruit and citrus.
- Minor crops include avocados, stone fruit and pistachios.
- Major developments are occurring in the winegrape and vegetable industries.

Jointly funded by NSW DPI and industry, research has focused on the improvement of fruit size and quality to assist export development programs and the development of new varieties and rootstocks to address current and future market requirements.

Work is directed at gaining a better understanding of the impact of seasonal conditions on fruit development and the identification of key growth stages for manipulating crop load and enhancing fruit size, quality and post-harvest shelf-life.

NSW DPI at Dareton has a national coordination role in citrus variety research with trial sites located at Dareton and in the Riverina in NSW, as well as in Western Australia, South Australia, and Queensland.

The national program for screening and evaluation of new citrus rootstocks is also centred at Dareton in an industry funded program involving NSW DPI, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, The South Australian Research and Development Institute, and the Queensland Department of Primary Industries & Fisheries.

www.dpi.nsw.gov.au

Department of Sustainability & Environment - Victoria

The focus of the Department of Sustainability and Environment is to manage land, fire, water and biodiversity, to protect our natural resources for the benefit of future generations.

The programs that the Department of Sustainability and Environment oversees are aimed towards:

- Ensuring a safe, reliable and sustainable supply of water for irrigators, urban uses and the environment
- Protecting communities and the environment through fire management
- Enhancing the values of Victoria's parks and forests
- Investing in improved land and catchment management
- Protecting biodiversity and the associated ecosystem services
- Encouraging sustainable practices in homes, businesses and communities
- Providing quality property administration services and information

Many of these programs are delivered locally through partners of the Department of Sustainability and Environment such as Lower Murray Water, the Mallee Catchment Authority and Parks Victoria. The Department of Sustainability and Environment is also responsible for intergovernmental issues such as Victoria's commitments to the management of the Murray Darling Basin.

The Department of Sustainability and Environment has a common desire to improve the stewardship of our natural resources. In this, we can be guided by the relationship that indigenous peoples have with their traditional lands and water.

The Corporate Plan of the Department of Sustainability and Environment provides an outline of priorities and helps frame short-term efforts to meet the long-term objective of sustaining the land and water that provides for wellbeing of Victorians now and into the future.

DSE is committed to the public sector values of responsiveness, integrity, impartiality, accountability, respect, leadership and the promotion of human right.

www.dse.vic.gov.au

Parks Victoria

Parks Victoria is the custodian of a diverse estate of significant parks in Victoria. There are approximately 3.96 million hectares of parks and reserves covering about 17 per cent of Victoria and visited by 76 million visitors a year. More than one million hectares are in the Mallee region.

Through effective environmental and visitor management, Parks Victoria is dedicated to preserving the natural and heritage values of the parks, bays, and waterways, including full protection of sensitive areas.

Healthy Parks Healthy People

Parks Victoria is also focussing on the contribution our parks and waterways make to healthy and liveable communities.

Healthy Parks expresses our commitment to a parks and waterway system that is resilient, protects biodiversity and is actively managed to resist threats such as weeds and pests. Healthy Parks deliver clean water, clean air and sequester carbon and remain healthy for generations to come.

Healthy People expresses the central role our natural environment plays in the health and wellbeing of individuals and our community.

Excellence in Environmental Management

Parks Victoria's people are well qualified to address the challenges involved in balancing protection of our natural heritage with the needs of visitors. Integrated environmental policy, planning and research functions have been established to ensure that standards of excellence and efficiency are achieved.

Our Parks are in Safe Hands

Parks Victoria employs staff across the State in a wide range of roles. Most are professionals with formal qualifications in park and reserve management, environmental management and recreation. This highly skilled and experienced team includes over 400 rangers based in parks, bays, and waterways supported by specialists in business systems, financial management, planning and marketing.

All are totally committed to their role of protecting the State's natural and cultural heritage, and to developing an understanding and appreciation of this heritage by park visitors and the Victorian community.

The Mallee Region

Parks Victoria manages more than a million hectares of national parks in Victoria's Mallee region, and these adjoin similar areas in South Australian and New South Wales.

Victoria's Mallee region has more than one million hectares of National Parks.

These parks are extremely important for nature conservation because of their relatively undisturbed state and tremendous variety of biodiversity. They feature wide open spaces, magnificent sunsets, abundant spring wildflowers interesting cultural history.

Autumn, winter and spring are the best times to visit. The main picnic and camping areas are generally accessible in 2WD vehicles, and 4WD opportunities abound.

Hattah- Kulkyn National Park and Murray-Kulkyn Regional Parks Victoria

This park features the merging of rolling Mallee dunes with the Murray River and a series of intermittent lakes protected under an international agreement (the RAMSAR Convention Treaty) for protection of wetlands.

There is a Visitor Information Centre, a Nature Drive and a self-guided Nature Walk, as well as opportunities for lakeside camping, canoeing, walking, picnicking or just relaxing.

The cultural history of the park is rich. For thousands of years indigenous people have been sustained by Murray River's floodplain system rich waters and woodlands. During flood periods, they camped on mounds that formed islands in the high water, moving from place to place in canoes constructed from the bark of River Red Gums. Indigenous people also built weirs to trap fish in times of high water. Mussels were a staple diet for the river tribes while the shells provided utensils like spoons, scrapers and knives.

Early European settlers soon followed the inland watercourses, and indigenous people's lifestyles were severely affected. Sheep and cattle grazing, wood cutting, paddle boats and river trade have impacted severely on the parks. But nature is strong and management strives to restore the balance.

Wyperfeld National Park

Wyperfeld is Victoria's third largest national park and Australia's first Mallee National Park. Celebrating 100 years as a reserve in 2009 the park protects 356,800 ha of Mallee country. Emus and Western Grey Kangaroos can be seen grazing at dawn and dusk in the usually dry lake beds and creeks.

Camping with basic facilities is available in the northern section at Casurina Campground, via Patchewollock or Underbool. Wonga Campground in the south, approached from Rainbow and Yaapeet, has a Visitor Information Centre, self-guided trails (including the Tyakil Nature Walk) and a scenic Nature Drive.

The Indigenous Wotjobaluk people regularly travelled along Outlet Creek visiting lakes and swamps. European settlers followed the same route to establish pastoral runs from the 1860s on.

Pressure from the naturalists inspired the government to reserve 3,900 hectares in 1909 and Wyperfeld National Park was proclaimed in 1921.

Big Desert Wilderness Park

One of the most remote and least disturbed areas in Victoria, this park protects 142,300 ha of the Mallee. Vehicles are not permitted, but the park can be explored on foot from the neighbouring tracks. Bushwalkers must be experienced and self-reliant. 4WD access through the Big Desert outside the Wilderness Park is via the Murrayville Track.

Murray Sunset National Parks Victoria

Murray Sunset National Park is in north-west Victoria, between Mildura and Renmark, about 550km from Melbourne and 400km from Adelaide. The park protects 633,000 hectares of Mallee woodlands, pink salt lakes and River Red Gums.

Aboriginal people lived in the area for thousands of years. Shell middens, hearths and scar trees found throughout the park reveal much about the lifestyle and rich culture of the people. Local food resources include fish, freshwater mussels, reptiles, kangaroos, quondong fruits and Nardoo, a freshwater fern.

Stock grazing in the "Sunset Country" dates back as far as the 1860s. Remnants of the pastoral era such as the shearers' quarters and Mopoke Hut can be discovered. Pest plant and animal eradication and revegetation works are restoring area affected by stock grazing and rabbits.

Kings Billabong Wildlife Reserve

Kings Billabong is part of the Murray River floodplain which is dry for most of the year. Occasionally it floods and at these times fish, plants, seeds and other wetland foods are spread throughout the area, attracting wildlife.

Local Aboriginal people enjoyed the Billabong's rich life-supporting wetland food supply. Shell middens (kitchen hearths), burials and sacred trees indicate a lifestyle celebrated on these banks for centuries.

Kings Billabong took its name from Captain James King, who navigated the Murray River and its tributaries in the late 19th Century. The Chaffey brothers, supported by Alfred Deakin established nearby Mildura (originally a sheep station) as a suitable location for Australia's first irrigation settlement.

The reserve was logged until the 1950s to supply fuel for steam-powered paddle boats and pumps. There were also cattle grazing, cultivation and dried fruit rack sites in the reserve until 1989.

www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

Mallee Catchment Management Authority

The Mallee Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is the peak body for the delivery of natural resource programs in the Mallee.

The Mallee Catchment Management Authority is the largest catchment area in the state, covering 3.9 million hectares.

The Mallee CMA was established by the Victorian Government in 1997, under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994. The primary responsibility of the Mallee CMA is to ensure that natural resources in the region are managed in an integrated and ecologically sustainable way. It prepares a Regional Catchment Strategy and co-ordinates and monitors its implementation, while also advising the Victorian and Australian governments on regional natural resource management priorities.

The Mallee CMA region covers 3.9 million hectares - about one fifth of Victoria. It is the largest catchment area in the state and runs along the Murray River from Swan Hill to the South Australian border, and south to the vast dryland cereal and wheat crops of the Wimmera.

The Mallee CMA's project responsibilities include the management of:

- Waterways
- Water quality
- Biodiversity (including vegetation restoration and threatened species recovery)
- Floodplains
- Regional drainage
- Salinity
- Pest plants and animals
- Soil health

The Mallee CMA is also responsible for Landcare support and funding co-ordination, community involvement and education, a regional response to climate change, cultural heritage, and for monitoring and reporting on the health of the catchment.

www.malleecma.vic.gov.au

Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority

The Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority (LMD CMA) delivers funding from the New South Wales and Australian Governments, and other sources to help Lower Murray Darling catchment land managers improve and restore the natural resources of the catchment.

The LMD CMA is a statutory organisation established by the New South Wales Government in 2004 under the "Catchment Management Authorities Act 2003". It is overseen by a community-based Board.

The Lower Murray Darling Catchment Action Plan (CAP) has been developed in consultation with government agencies, local government, industry and the catchment communities to provide a targeted approach to managing the catchment in a way that will:

- Administer the Native Vegetation Act
- Improve riverine health
- Protect biodiversity
- Identify and encourage best practice soil and land management
- Support/encourage the role of the community in natural resource management and sustainable farming systems; and
- Provide support to the quadruple bottom line - environment, economic, social and cultural values.

The CAP uses a targeted approach to managing natural resource management issues - regional outcomes, riverine health, salinity, vegetation and soils. The use of targets allows specific actions to be funded and undertaken. A comprehensive monitoring and auditing program measures progress toward achievement of these targets.

Three key areas of operation:

- 1 Engagement of the whole community in the implementation of the CAP.
- 2 Developing strategic partnerships in the development, funding and delivery of projects to deliver the CAP.
- 3 Delivery of Property Vegetation Plan and consent services in relation to native vegetation.

www.lmd.cma.nsw.gov.au

Private Consumption



Retail spending has been expanding over the past years.

The Mildura region operates as a service centre for the surrounding region, offering numerous and varied shopping opportunities for goods and services. As such, the retail sector is an important employer in Mildura City. Consistent with population growth, retail spending has been expanding over the past years, albeit at a slower rate than the population is growing.

Household Retail Expenditure

Weekly Household Retail Expenditure, Mildura Rural City Council, 2003-2004 – 2008-2009

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Groceries & Specialty Food	\$124.7	\$125.3	\$126.0	\$126.6	\$127.2	\$127.9
Food & Liquor Catering	\$43.5	\$43.7	\$43.9	\$44.1	\$44.4	\$44.6
Clothing & Accessories	\$35.2	\$35.3	\$35.5	\$35.7	\$35.9	\$36.1
Furniture, Houseware & Appliances	\$38.4	\$38.6	\$38.8	\$39.0	\$39.2	\$39.4
Recreation & Entertainment Equipment	\$39.1	\$39.3	\$39.5	\$39.7	\$39.9	\$40.1
Garden & Hardware Goods	\$12.4	\$12.5	\$12.6	\$12.6	\$12.7	\$12.8
Other Goods & Personal Services	\$37.0	\$37.2	\$37.4	\$37.6	\$37.8	\$38.0
Total	\$330.4	\$332.1	\$333.8	\$335.4	\$337.1	\$338.8

Source: AECgroup Retail Model (2008)

The Mildura region is a service centre for the surrounding area, offering numerous and varied retail and professional services.

Weekly Household Retail Expenditure, Wentworth Shire Council, 2003-2004 – 2008-2009

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Groceries & Specialty Food	\$125.7	\$126.3	\$126.9	\$127.5	\$128.2	\$128.8
Food & Liquor Catering	\$44.2	\$44.4	\$44.7	\$44.9	\$45.1	\$45.3
Clothing & Accessories	\$36.5	\$36.6	\$36.8	\$37.0	\$37.2	\$37.4
Furniture, Houseware & Appliances	\$38.9	\$39.1	\$39.3	\$39.5	\$39.7	\$39.9
Recreation & Entertainment Equipment	\$40.1	\$40.3	\$40.5	\$40.7	\$40.9	\$41.1
Garden & Hardware Goods	\$12.6	\$12.7	\$12.7	\$12.8	\$12.9	\$12.9
Other Goods & Personal Services	\$37.8	\$38.0	\$38.2	\$38.4	\$38.6	\$38.7
Total	\$335.7	\$337.4	\$339.1	\$340.8	\$342.5	\$344.2

Source: AECgroup Retail Model (2008)

Weekly Household Retail Expenditure, Mildura Region, 2003-2004 – 2008-2009

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Groceries & Specialty Food	\$124.8	\$125.5	\$126.1	\$126.7	\$127.3	\$128.0
Food & Liquor Catering	\$43.6	\$43.8	\$44.0	\$44.2	\$44.4	\$44.7
Clothing & Accessories	\$35.3	\$35.5	\$35.7	\$35.9	\$36.0	\$36.2
Furniture, Houseware & Appliances	\$38.5	\$38.7	\$38.9	\$39.1	\$39.3	\$39.5
Recreation & Entertainment Equipment	\$39.2	\$39.4	\$39.6	\$39.8	\$40.0	\$40.2
Garden & Hardware Goods	\$12.5	\$12.5	\$12.6	\$12.7	\$12.7	\$12.8
Other Goods & Personal Services	\$37.1	\$37.3	\$37.5	\$37.7	\$37.9	\$38.1
Total	\$331.0	\$332.7	\$334.4	\$336.0	\$337.7	\$339.4

Source: AECgroup Retail Model (2008)

Retail

Retail is the largest employer in the Mildura region, employing 3,975 people or 16.2%. The retail industry in the Mildura region services a large catchment from South Australia, New South Wales as well as regional Victoria. The region boasts a large variety of large chain stores stocking whitegoods, furniture, electrical, recreation and leisure products as well as office equipment and supplies, many of which are located in the Fifteenth Street precinct in Mildura.

The retail sector employs 3,975 people in the Mildura region.

Fifteenth Street is also home to a number of large retailers such as Harvey Norman, Clive Peeters, The Good Guys, Rays Outdoors, Bunnings Warehouse, Spotlight and Retravisio to name but a few. The Mildura Homemaker Centre is also located on Fifteenth Street and contains a number of furniture and retail shops.

Centro Mildura (located on Fifteenth Street, Mildura) is home to over 80 specialty shops and two major tenants (Target and Woolworths Supermarket). In 2005 a \$35m redevelopment of Centro Mildura has seen it increase significantly in floor space and attract a number of national chain retailers and local stores to the complex.

East of the CBD district you will find many trade, industrial, engineering and automotive services and suppliers including Dahlsens, Reece Plumbing and Baldwin Boats.

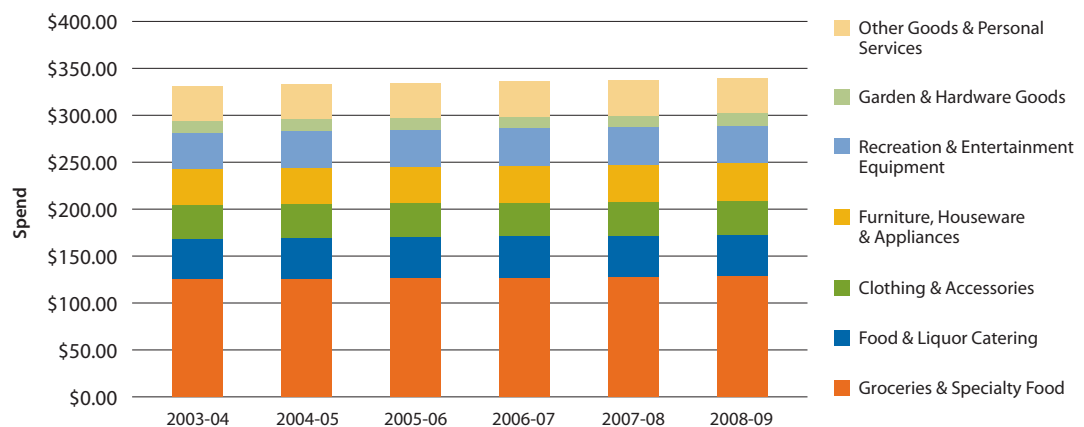
The Central Business District in Mildura is home to a range of retail outlets including boutique, specialist, tourist and services shops. There is also a dining precinct 'Feast Street' centred around Langtree Avenue, with a number of restaurants, cafés, alfresco dining and coffee shops located in and around the CBD area.

Support services are also well established in the region with numerous banks, accountancy and legal firms, IT businesses and real estate agents serving the area. Many towns within the Mildura region also offer excellent shopping and service centre facilities.

The following banks and credit unions are available in the Mildura region:

- ANZ
- Bendigo Bank
- Commonwealth Bank
- National Australia Bank
- Regional One Credit Union
- St George
- Westpac

Weekly Household Retail Expenditure, Mildura Region, 2008-2009



Source: AECgroup Retail Model (2008)

Property Development

As mentioned previously, the population and business in the Mildura region has been growing, which is driving demand for new property developments of all kinds, including residential, industrial and retail/commercial. The region has seen a great deal of investment in property in recent years.

Building Approvals

Property development in the Mildura region has benefited from new residents coming to the area. The region has seen dramatic construction over the recent years contributing significantly to the economy.

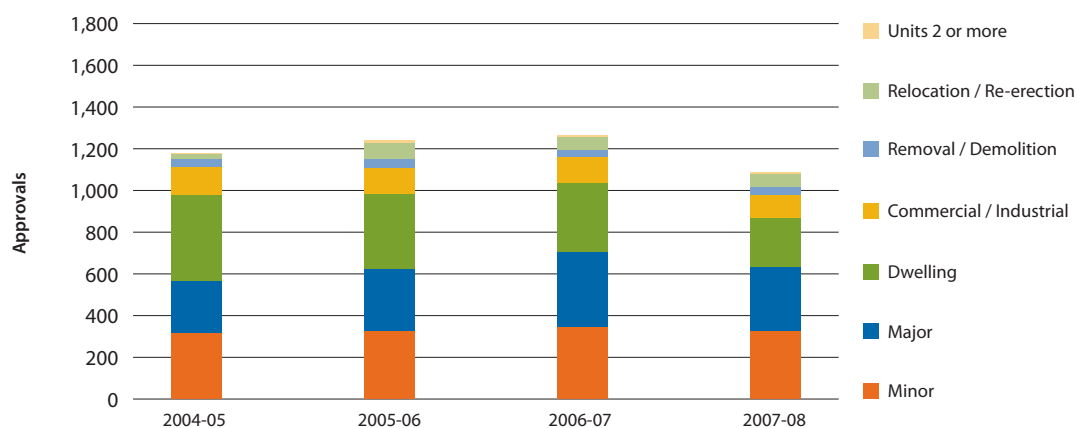
Number of New Building Approvals, Mildura Rural City Council

Building Type	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Minor	313	323	345	322
Major	250	302	359	311
Dwelling	413	359	332	231
Commercial / Industrial	137	123	122	114
Removal / Demolition	35	41	36	35
Relocation / Re-erection	24	80	61	63
Units 2 or more	5	10	10	11
Total	1,177	1,238	1,265	1,087

Source: AECgroup; Mildura Rural City Council (2009)

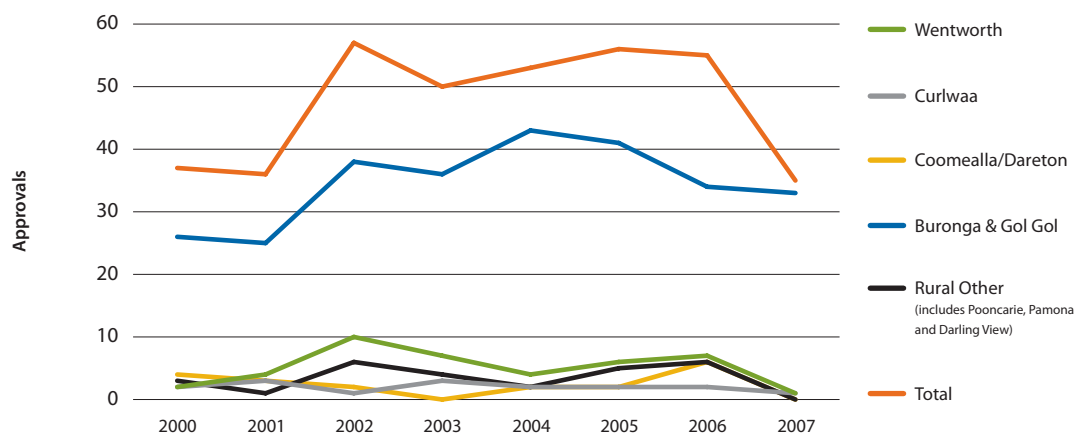
Over 1,000 new building approvals are approved each year in the Mildura Local Government Area.

Number of New Building Approvals, Mildura Rural City Council



Source: AECgroup; Mildura Rural City Council (2009)

Number of New Building Approvals, Wentworth Shire Council



Source: AECgroup; Wentworth Shire Council Construction Certificate Register (2009)

Note: data is based on actual construction certificates, not Development Applications

Value of Building Approvals (\$'000), Mildura Rural City Council

Building Type	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Minor	\$1,856	\$1,813	\$1,945	\$2,108
Major	\$8,650	\$14,003	\$11,568	\$10,143
Dwelling	\$79,341	\$80,006	\$66,675	\$51,423
Commercial / Industrial	\$51,460	\$48,672	\$47,156	\$27,056
Removal / Demolition	\$1,339	\$693	\$414	\$444
Relocation / Re-erection	\$769	\$9,721	\$804	\$487
Units 2 or more	\$2,035	\$15,250	\$9,616	\$11,088
Total	\$145,449	\$170,158	\$138,178	\$102,750

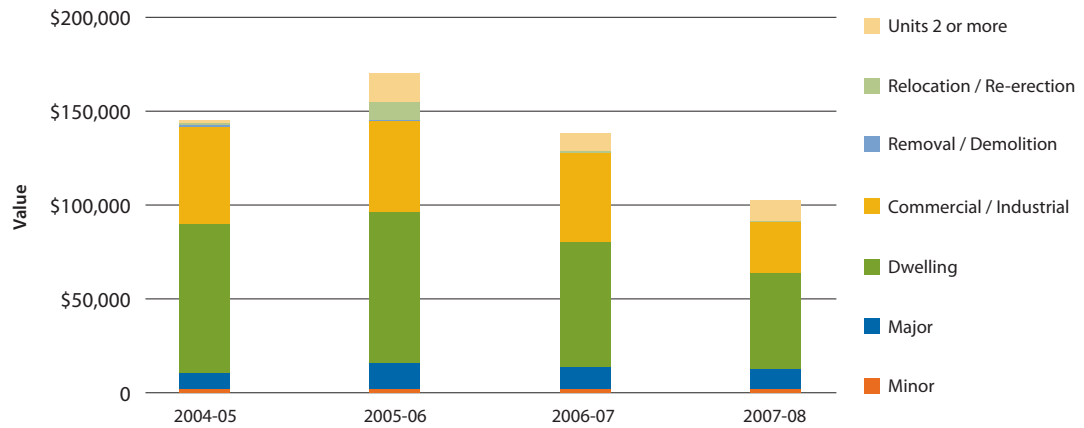
Source: AECgroup; Mildura Rural City Council (2009)

Value of Building Approvals (\$'000), Wentworth Shire Council

Building Type	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
New Residential	\$13,887	\$8,185	\$8,211	\$6,251
New Non-residential	\$440	\$75	\$1,283	\$569
Residential (Reinvestment)	\$903	\$1,612	\$1,441	\$996
Non-residential (Reinvestment)	\$296	\$152	\$992	\$1,332
Total	\$15,526	\$10,024	\$11,927	\$9,148

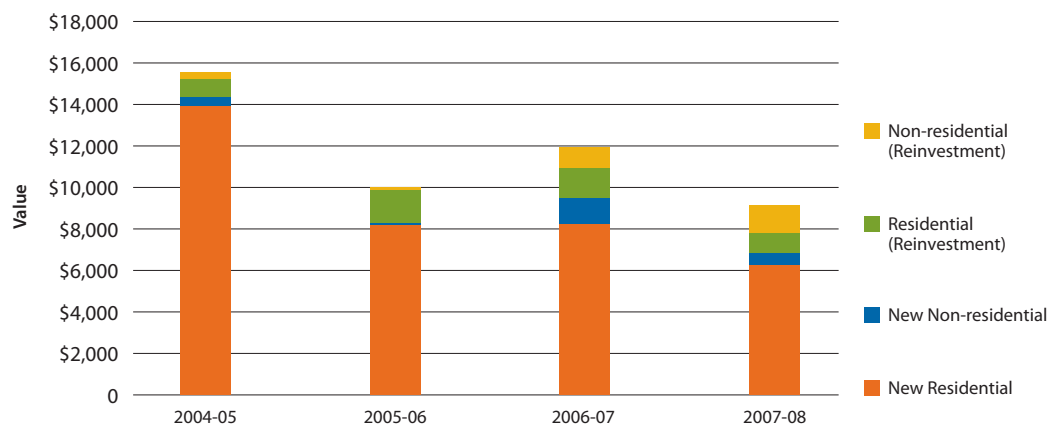
Source: AECgroup; ABS 8731.0 (2008)

Value of Building Approvals (\$'000), Mildura Rural City Council



Source: AECgroup; Mildura Rural City Council (2009)

Value of Building Approvals (\$'000), Wentworth Shire Council



Source: AECgroup; ABS 8731.0 (2008)

Median Property Prices

In recent years, property prices have fluctuated due to many factors, including the increase in supply from new construction. Compared to the State averages, housing is 33%-70% less expensive in the Mildura region. As housing is often the single largest personal expense, these figures demonstrate the low cost of living in the Mildura region. Combined with a high quality of life, this low cost of living can assist companies to entice new employees to move to the region as well as retain their current employees.

Median Property Prices, Mildura Rural City Council, 1998-2008

Property prices in the Mildura Local Government Area have increased by 7-8% per annum over the past 10 years.

Year	Houses	Units/Apartments	Vacant House Blocks
1998	\$95,000	\$73,000	\$36,775
1999	\$108,000	\$82,250	\$38,000
2000	\$112,500	\$91,000	\$42,250
2001	\$130,000	\$105,000	\$48,500
2002	\$150,000	\$119,000	\$56,000
2003	\$163,750	\$140,000	\$60,000
2004	\$178,250	\$144,000	\$65,000
2005	\$185,000	\$145,000	\$76,000
2006	\$190,000	\$152,000	\$82,000
2007	\$205,000	\$160,000	\$82,000
2008	\$194,000	\$158,975	\$80,000
Average Annual Growth	7.4%	8.1%	8.1%

Source: AECgroup; VIC Dept. of Sustainability and Environment. 'Victorian Property Sales Report' (2009)

Median Sales statistics, Wentworth, as of July 2009

Dwelling Type	Wentworth
House	\$280,000
Unit	\$234,000
Vacant House Block	NA

Note: Median sales information represent sale prices in 6 months to July 2009.
Source: AECgroup; Australian Property Monitors (2008)

Annual Median Property Prices, VIC, 1998-2008

Year	Houses	Units/Apartments	Vacant House Blocks
1998	\$135,000	\$134,000	\$53,225
1999	\$150,000	\$162,000	\$57,500
2000	\$161,000	\$175,000	\$58,000
2001	\$185,000	\$215,000	\$65,000
2002	\$220,000	\$245,000	\$76,000
2003	\$250,000	\$259,000	\$97,700
2004	\$270,000	\$260,185	\$112,000
2005	\$280,500	\$271,000	\$120,000
2006	\$300,000	\$287,500	\$125,320
2007	\$322,000	\$315,000	\$130,500
2008	\$335,000	\$327,000	\$138,000
Average Annual Growth	9.5%	9.3%	10.0%

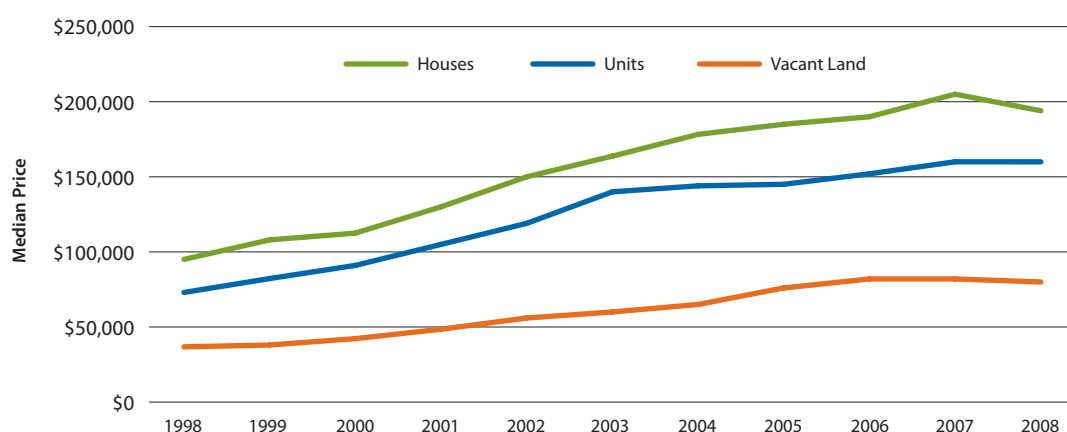
Source: AECgroup; VIC Dept. of Sustainability and Environment. 'Victorian Property Sales Report' (2009)

Quarterly Median Property Price Trend, NSW, December 2007-2008

Dwelling Type	Dec-07	Mar-08	Jun-08	Sep-08	Dec-08	Ave. Qtr % Change Dec 07-08
NSW						
House	\$388,000	\$370,000	\$380,000	\$370,000	\$360,000	-1.86%
Unit	\$380,000	\$360,000	\$365,000	\$360,000	\$350,000	-2.03%
Vacant Land	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	

Source: AECgroup; Housing NSW (2008), Australian Property Monitors (2008)

Median Property Prices, Mildura Rural City Council, 1998-2008



Source: AECgroup; VIC Dept. of Sustainability and Environment. 'Victorian Property Sales Report' (2009)

The Mildura region offers affordable rental properties.

Rental Prices

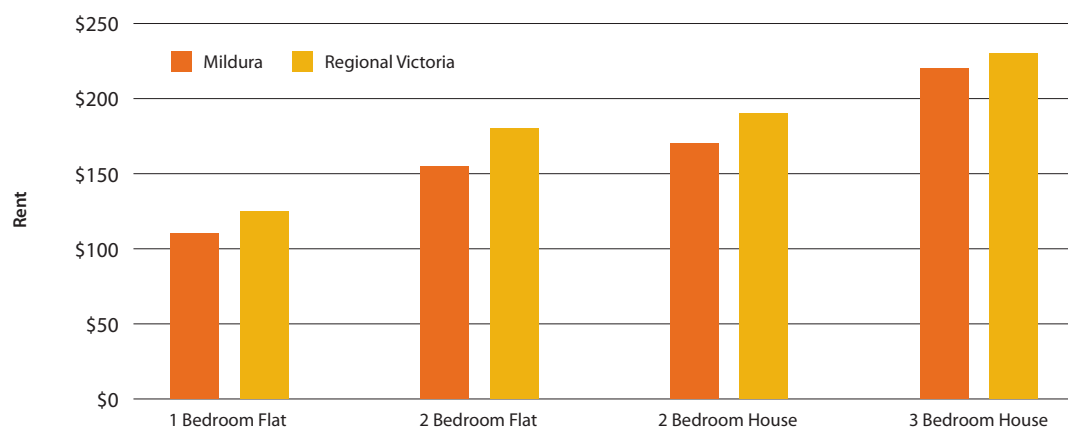
Similar to housing prices, rents in the Mildura region are less costly than other parts of Victoria and New South Wales. Lower rental prices further underscore the region's affordability.

Median Weekly Rents, Mildura Rural City Council, March Quarter 2009

Dwelling Type	Mildura	Regional Victoria	Regional NSW
Flat			
1 Bed	\$110	\$125	NA
2 Bed	\$155	\$180	\$180
House			
2 Bed	\$170	\$190	NA
3 Bed	\$220	\$230	\$245

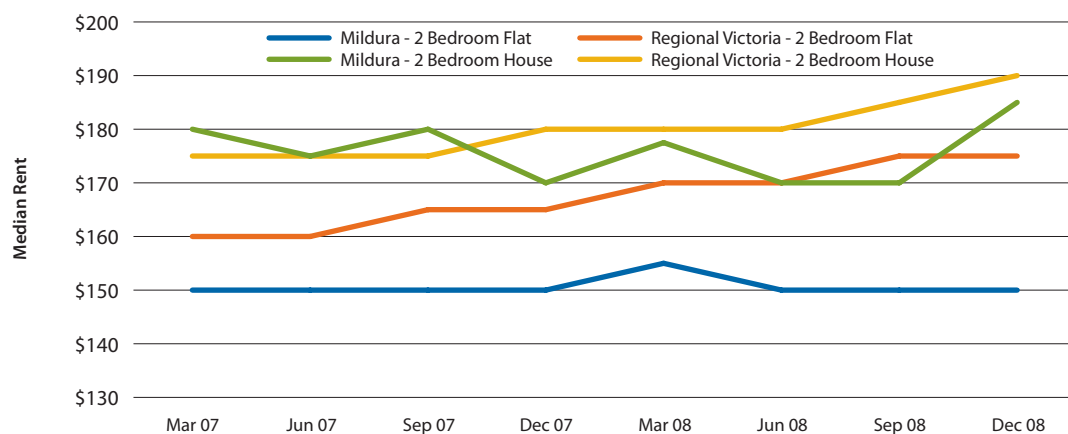
Note: Data for Victoria is reported in two categories: regional and metropolitan
Source: AECgroup; VIC Dept. of Human Services 'Rental Report' (2009); NSW Dept. of Housing 'Rent Report' (2009)

Median Weekly Rents for Flats and Houses, Mildura Rural City Council and Regional Victoria, March 2009



Source: AECgroup; VIC Dept. of Human Services 'Rental Report' (2009)

Median Weekly Rents for Flats and Houses, Mildura Rural City Council and Regional Victoria, 2008



Source: AECgroup; VIC Dept. of Human Services 'Rental Report' (2009)

Dockside Mildura is being developed as Australia's only fully integrated inland marina. With waterfront dining and entertainment, premium quality residential options and marina berths, retail and commercial space, hotel and conference facilities, supporting maritime-based infrastructure and related services, Dockside is the major catalyst in the rebirth of Mildura's riverfront.

John Daffy
Dockside Mildura

Dockside Mildura Development

The Dockside Mildura marina is located on the Murray River within walking distance to the Mildura central business district. It has a 270 metre frontage along the Murray River. Dockside Mildura will be a magnificent and prestigious place in which to reside, to conduct business and to relax. Dockside combines the lifestyle features of a master planned resort, with the functionality and practicality required of a premier grade marina facility.

The first stages of development, including the masterplan design, creation of the marina basin and land for residential and commercial precincts, installation of essential services and roadways already have been completed. The first stage of marina berths have been installed, Dockside's first homes are now being constructed, the Marine Services Centre including its refuelling facilities are in place and further stages of residential development now are being undertaken. Dockside's landmark red bridge, located within walking distance of the Mildura CBD, incorporates restored sections of the historic lift span bridge that originally crossed the Murray River between Mildura and Buronga.

After an exhaustive program of environmental assessments, design and development approvals which have been signed off by the three tiers of government, Dockside now is taking shape as a \$120 million-plus development comprising a sophisticated mix of:

- 15 Premium Homesites
- 19 Harbourfront Villas
- 39 Harbourview Villas
- 24 Horizonview apartments in a luxury mid-rise
- Hotel and conference centre
- Retail and commercial space
- Fully floating freehold marina berths for private owners and commercial operators
- Marine Services Centre
- Walkways, promenades and public open space

www.docksidemildura.com.au



Motor Vehicle and Boat Registrations

Motor Vehicle

Motor Vehicle Registrations, Mildura Region, 2007

Year	Houses	Units/Apartments	Vacant House Blocks
Campervans	138	5	143
Light rigid trucks	196	10	206
Heavy rigid trucks	948	64	1,012
Prime movers	583	21	604
Buses	239	3	242
Motorcycles	1,415	70	1,485
Passenger vehicles	23,901	1,506	25,407
Light commercial vehicles	9,040	846	9,886
Non-freight carrying trucks	27	0	27

Source: AECgroup; ABS 9309.0 (2008)

Note: Data obtained through postcode and is an estimate only. There are some instances where the postcode of the vehicle's owner is in a different state or territory from that in which the vehicle was registered. For example, the postcode of the owner of the vehicle could be in Sydney, yet the vehicle could be registered in Qld. Some official postcodes do not correspond to residential areas and some postcodes could be invalid.

Boat Registrations

At the year ending 30 June 2008, there were a total of 3,325 boating registrations in the Victorian section of the Mildura Region, comprised of 3,282 (98.7%) registrations in Mildura, Victoria and 43 (1.3%) equivalent registrations in Wentworth, Victoria.



Climate and Land



As a major agricultural region in Australia, the Mildura region has great climate and soil conditions, which combined with irrigated crop land offer opportunities for agricultural and horticultural development.

Temperature and Rainfall

Annual Mean Temperature Readings, Mildura Region

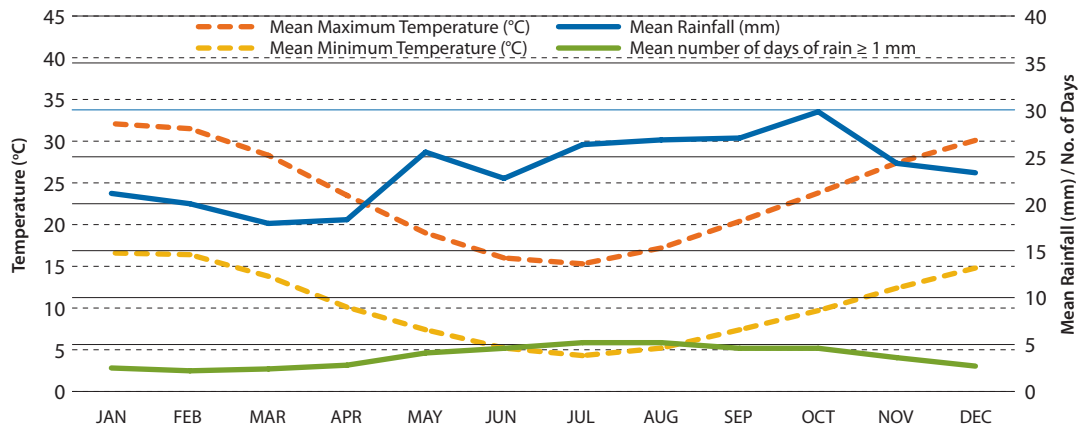
Year	Mildura Rural City Council	Wentworth Shire Council	Mildura Region
Temperature ^(a)			
Mean maximum temperature (°C)	23.7	24.3	24.0
Mean minimum temperature (°C)	10.3	11	10.7
Rainfall			
Mean rainfall (mm) ^(b)	284.5	283	283.8
Median (decile 5) rainfall (mm) ^(c)	275.8	277.8	276.8
Mean no. of days of rain \geq 1 mm ^(d)	42.6	44.5	43.6

Source: AECgroup; Bureau of Meteorology (2009)

Note: The data reported for the Mildura region represents a mean of the median values for Mildura Rural City Council and Wentworth Shire Council. The medians for the climate data have been compiled over different periods of time: (a) Collated over 61 years. (b) Collated over 141 years. (c) Collated over 127 years (d) Collated over 135 years.

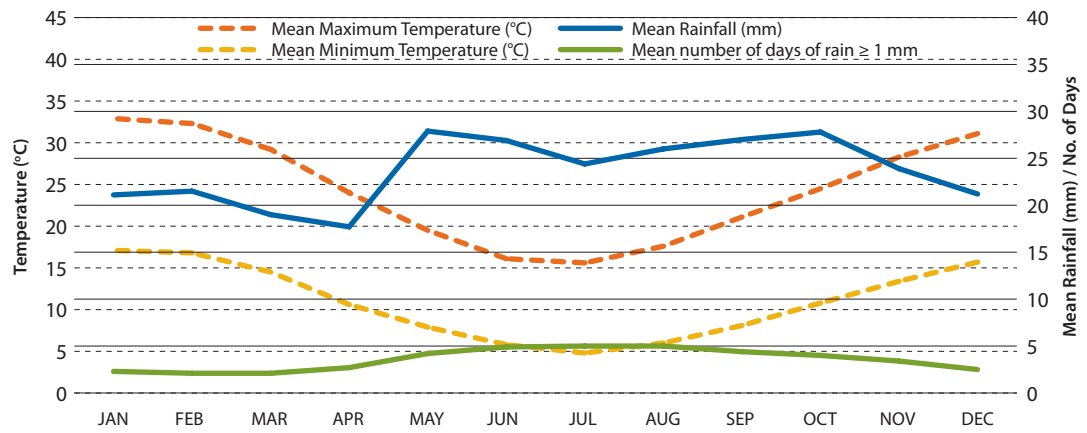


Mean Temperature Readings, Mildura Rural City Council, 62 Years of Reading



Source: AECgroup; Bureau of Meteorology (2009)

Median Temperature Readings, Wentworth Shire Council, More Than 61 Years of Reading



Source: AECgroup; Bureau of Meteorology (2009)



Soil in the Mildura Region

The Mildura region has a great diversity of soil types that reflect differences in parent material, topography, climate, organic activity and age. There are five main soil categories:

- Calcareous Soils
- Sandy Soils
- Texture Contrast Soils
- Cracking Clay Soils
- Wet Soils

Calcareous Soils

The most common calcareous soils are formed on calcareous, aeolian sediments of variable texture. These soils can be calcareous throughout, and often have accumulations of calcium carbonate (lime) in the soil profile.

Generally with a gradual increase in clay content with depth, the pH tends to be highly alkaline in the subsoil. Sodicity and salinity levels are usually high in the heavier subsoils.

Crops: dryland cereals and grazing, irrigated viticulture, stone fruit and nuts.

Sandy Soils

Characteristic of the upper slopes and crests of the dunes, these soils are thought to have originated as coastal sands when the seas retreated westwards from the Murray Gulf. There is little soil development apart from weak surface accumulation of organic matter. These loose sands have low fertility and a high wind erosion hazard.

Crops: irrigated citrus and avocados.

Texture Contrast Soils

Texture contrast soils display strong texture contrast between the surface (A horizons) and the subsoil (B horizons) e.g. sand or loam over clay. They have subsoils which are not strongly acid but are sodic. Their surface texture ranges from sandy loam to clay loam over medium to heavy clay.

On the higher terraces near the River Murray, texture contrast soils support shrublands of saltbush and bluebush. Erosion has frequently removed the surface horizons to expose red, somewhat saline clays that seal over on wetting. These sites are difficult to reclaim on dryland farms and are known as “scalded country”.

Crops: dryland pasture and grazing, irrigated viticulture and stonefruit.

Cracking Clay Soils

These soils occur on alluvium and associated lake bed deposits, along creeks and rivers, as well as on broad low-lying plains. They are cracking clay soils that display significant shrinking and swelling during wetting and drying cycles. They exhibit strong cracking when dry, and at depth have slickensides and/or lenticular peds. Profiles are typically gilgaied, coarsely structured, sodic, gypseous and somewhat saline.

Crops: irrigated viticulture and stonefruit.



Wet Soils

Hydrosols are soils which are seasonally or permanently saturated (for at least 2-3 months per year) occur naturally in low-lying parts of the Mildura region where saline regional groundwater reaches the surface. Soil surfaces are variably saline, depending largely on depth to the watertable.

Soils which are saline to the surface are commonly red clay loams overlying gypsum. They may be bare or support extremely salt tolerant low bushes such as samphire. Soils which are non-saline at the surface but highly saline at depth usually have a sandy surface and support shrubs such as saltbush.

The area of Hydrosols is increasing in both dryland and irrigated areas because of changed hydrological conditions since European settlement.

Crops: not suitable for commercial crops.

Information provided by:

Sunraysia Environmental Pty Ltd
Telephone +61 (3) 5023 3643
Email enquiries@sunenv.com.au
www.sunenv.com.au

Key Industry Sectors for Growth



Agriculture

Irrigation and the Mediterranean climate make the Mildura, Sunraysia region ideal for growing high quality dried fruits.

Peter Jones
Immediate Past Chairman,
Australian Dried Fruits
Association Inc.

The Mildura region is steeped in history as a major agricultural and horticultural centre. This proud history holds true today as agriculture, horticulture and fruit and vegetable processing continue to grow and significantly contribute to the economy and character of this region.

Fruit Fly Exclusion Zone

The Mildura region is proud of its fruit fly free status. The Greater Sunraysia region has been accorded an annual window of opportunity for Pest Free Status which gives it easier access to export markets.

The fruit fly is a great threat to fruit and vegetable growers and has the potential to devastate the agricultural and horticultural industries in the Mildura region. Fruit flies can lay their eggs in a wide variety of fruit and some vegetables. Infected fruit can look perfectly fine on the outside, but on the inside it will be infested, brown and mushy. Infections can spread quickly.

Generally speaking, fruit flies cannot travel very far, unless they are carried by unsuspecting humans carrying fruit and vegetables. The Fruit Fly Exclusion Zone, as well as the Greater Sunraysia Pest Free Area both protect the growers in the Mildura region and this strong tradition of agriculture and horticulture. It is forbidden to take any fruit or vegetables into these areas as outbreaks of fruit fly will jeopardise producer's ability to sell product into important markets.

To help protect fruit and vegetable growing regions in South Australia, northern Victoria and southern New South Wales, areas of these states are protected by the Fruit Fly Exclusion Zone, the Greater Sunraysia Pest Free Area and Protected Areas in the Riverina. You cannot take fruit or fruiting vegetables into these areas. Large fines exist for those people caught bringing in fruit or vegetables whether they contain fruit fly or not.

Fruit Fly Exclusion Zone Map



Source: www.fruitfly.net.au (2009)

Wine and Wine Grapes

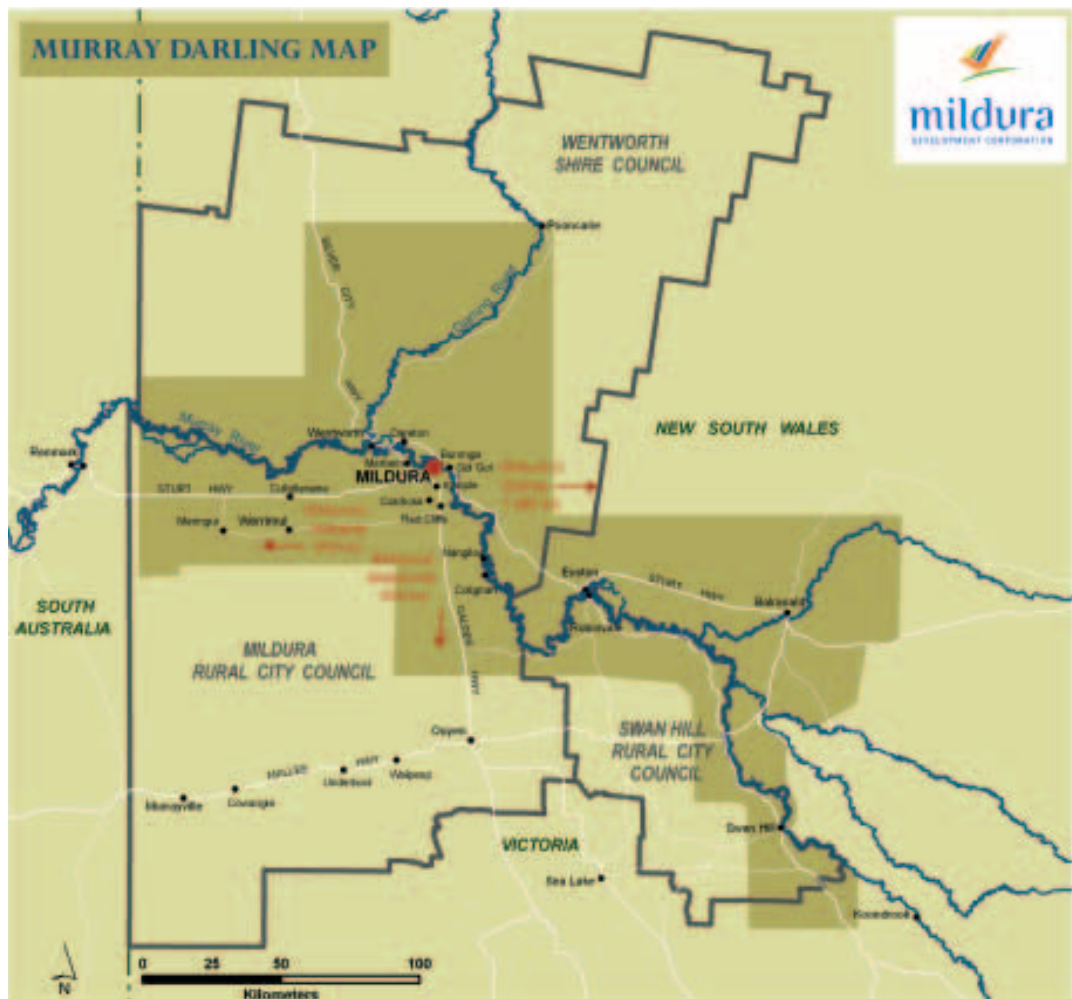
The Murray Darling and Swan Hill region is a significant grape growing and wine production area in Australia, crushing over 365,211 tonnes of wine grapes and roughly 20% of the total Australian grape crush in 2008. Much of the wine from the region is exported, with primary markets being the United States and the United Kingdom. The following tables highlight the varieties of grapes that are grown in the Murray Darling and Swan Hill region and the range of wines produced.

Mildura is positioned in the heart of the Murray-Darling wine region, among the largest and most diversified of Australia's wine production zones. All the major grape varieties are grown in the region for most of the best-known and successful international wine brands.

Mike Stone
Chief Executive Officer,
Murray Valley Winegrape
Growers'



The map below highlights the Murray Darling and Swan Hill winegrape growing region.



Red Grape Varieties for Wine in the Murray Darling and Swan Hill Region

20% of Australia's wine is crushed in the Murray Darling and Swan Hill region.

Variety	Winery Grown 2008 (tonnes)	Total Crush 2008 (tonnes)
Cabernet Sauvignon	6,100	41,664
Dolcetto	532	638
Durif	52	135
Grenache	99	1,188
Malbec	52	52
Mataro (Mouvedre)	95	410
Merlot	6,789	29,484
Muscat a Petit Grains Rouge / Rose	-	80
Other Red	1,136	1,543
Petit Verdot	604	2,521
Pinot Noir	322	2,358
Red Globe	-	58
Ruby Cabernet	1,505	2,542
Sangiovese	731	1,209
Shiraz	8,572	58,750
Tarrango	1,265	1,494
Tempranillo	15	260
Total	27,938	144,504

Source: AECgroup; VIC Dept. of Primary Industries, *Australian Regional Wine Grape Crush Survey Murray Darling / Swan Hill* (2008)

Note: Figures represented include production from Swan Hill area, which is outside the Mildura region. Winery grown figures represent only those figures reported by wineries surveyed. Not all wineries were surveyed and of those surveyed, not all replied. "Winery Grown" grapes refer to locally grown grapes, "Total Crush" includes grapes grown in other regions that are crushed in the Mildura region.



White Grape Varieties for Wine in the Murray Darling and Swan Hill Region

Variety	Winery Grown 2008 (tonnes)	Total Crush 2008 (tonnes)
Canada Muscat	4	477
Chardonnay	20,523	125,117
Chenin Blanc	-	939
Colombard	1,025	18,535
Crouchen	1,534	2,457
Muscat a Petit Grains Blanc	-	98
Muscat Gordo Blanc	166	16,553
Orange Muscat	448	557
Other white	-	5,338
Pinot Gris	1,569	11,911
Riesling	532	1,854
Sauvignon Blanc	5,884	12,050
Semillon	6,408	12,960
Sultana	-	6,599
Taminga	10	10
Traminer	-	269
Trebbiano	-	90
Verdelho	709	1,851
Viognier	532	272
Total	39,435	220,707

Source: AECgroup; VIC Dept. of Primary Industries, *Australian Regional Wine Grape Crush Survey Murray Darling / Swan Hill* (2008)

Note: Figures represented include production from Swan Hill area, which is outside the Mildura region. Winery grown figures represent only those figures reported by wineries surveyed. Not all wineries were surveyed and of those surveyed, not all replied. "Winery Grown" grapes refer to locally grown grapes, "Total Crush" includes grapes grown in other regions that are crushed in the Mildura region.

Wine Production in the Murray Darling and Swan Hill Region

	Hectares Grown 2006	Total Wine Crush 2008 (tonnes)	Wine Crush 2008 (% of Australian Total) (a)	Production Value 2008 (M\$)
Red	8,757	144,504	15.1%	\$90.1
White	13,383	220,707	25.3%	\$113.4
Total	22,140	365,211	19.9%	\$203.7

Source: AECgroup; VIC Dept. of Primary Industries, *Australian Regional Wine Grape Crush Survey Murray Darling / Swan Hill* (2008); ABS Cat. No. 1329 (2008); SunRise 21 (2006).

Note: Hectares grown are sourced from SunRise 21 2006 crop report and are for the Murray Darling area and are not to be used in conjunction with production figures above. (a) Australian production volume of wine crush is based on 2007-2008 information.

Murray Valley Winegrowers' Inc.
62 Madden Avenue, Mildura Victoria 3500
Telephone +61 (3) 5021 3911
Email mvw@murrayvalleywinegrapes.com.au
www.murrayvalleywinegrapes.com.au

Mildura Murray Darling Wine Industry Association Inc. (Mildura Wines)
PO Box 2653, Mildura Victoria 3502
Email info@mildurawines.com.au
www.mildurawines.com.au

74% of Australia's table grapes are grown in and around the Mildura region.

Table Grapes

Table grapes are another crop in which the Mildura region leads the country. Roughly 74% of all table grapes in Australia are grown in and around Mildura. The Australian Table Grape Association is also based in Mildura.

Table Grapes in NW Victoria, Big Rivers NSW and Lower Murray SA Region

Crop	Hectares Grown 2006	Production Volume 2009 (tonnes)	Production Volume 2009 (% of Australian Total)	Production Value 2009 (M\$)	Export Volume 2009 (tonnes)
Table Grape (all varieties)	8,165	92,500	74%	\$240	59,375

Source: AECgroup; ABS Cat. No. 1329 (2008); Australian Table Grape Association (2009); SunRise 21 (2006).

Notes: Production figures taken from ABS regional districts NW Victoria, Big Rivers NSW and Lower Murray, which are larger than the Mildura region. Production value for Mildura region is based on total production in Australian and export figure assumes national average of exports of table grapes. Hectares grown are sourced from SunRise 21 2006 crop report for the Murray Darling area and should not be used in conjunction with production figures above.

Australian Table Grape Association

31 Deakin Avenue, Mildura Vic 3500

Telephone +61 (3) 5021 5718

Email info@atga.com.au

www.atga.com.au

Dried Grapes

The Mildura region produces 98% of Australia's dried grapes and is home to the Australian Dried Fruit Association, a peak industry body representing the interests of growers that dates back to 1895.

Dried Vine Fruit in the Murray Darling Region

Variety	Hectares Grown 2006	Production Volume 2009 (tonnes)	Production Volume 2009 (% of Australian Total)
Sultanas	3,765	12,535	98.0%
Currants	380	2,030	95.0%
Raisins	261	1,121	100.0%
Other	645	1,688	98.0%
Total	5,050	17,374	98.0%

Source: AECgroup; Australian Dried Fruit Association (2009); SunRise 21 (2006).

Note: Hectares grown are sourced from SunRise 21 2006 crop report and should not be used in conjunction with production figures above.

Australian Dried Fruits Association Inc.

31 Deakin Avenue, Mildura Vic 3500

Telephone +61 (3) 5023 5174

www.adfa.asn.au

Sunbeam sees Sunraysia as the perfect environment to base its operations.

Chris Ellis

General Manager,

Domestic Fruit Supply,

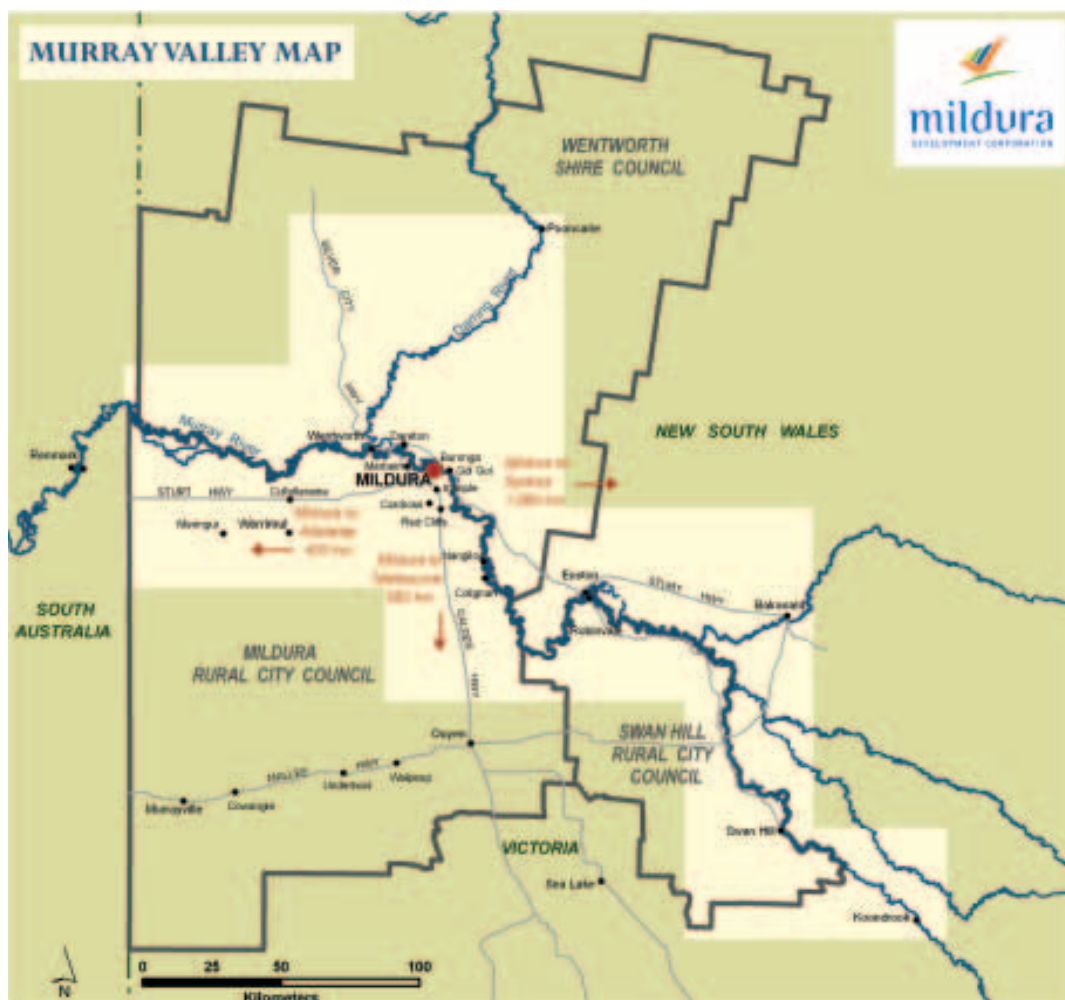
Sunbeam Foods Pty Ltd



Citrus Crops

The Murray Valley region, which incorporates Mildura (see map next page), is also a significant citrus growing region, producing over a third of the Navel orange and Grapefruit crop in Australia. Mildura is also the headquarters of Citrus Australia Ltd, the peak body of the citrus industry in Australia and is also the location for the office of the Murray Valley Citrus Board that provides a wide range of information and services to citrus growers, packers and marketers in the region.

24% of Australia's citrus is grown in the Murray Valley region.



Citrus in the Murray Valley

Crop	Planted 2009 (Ha)	Fruit Bearing 2009 (Ha)	Production Volume 2008-2009	Production Volume 2008-2009 (% of Australian Total)
Navel	4,068	3,628	66,263	34.9%
Valencia	1,125	1,110	25,020	10.3%
Mandarin	737	455	11,119	8.5%
Lemon/Lime	128	120	4,150	5.0%
Grapefruit	191	178	4,531	40.0%
Tangelo	90	82	2,463	100.0%
Total	6,339	5,573	113,546	24.3%

Source: AECgroup; Murray Valley Citrus Board (2009).
Note: Production figures above are derived from the Murray Valley.



Murray Valley Citrus Board
58 Pine Avenue, Mildura Victoria 3500
Telephone +61 (3) 5051 0500
Email executive@mvcitrus.org.au
www.mvcitrus.org.au

Citrus Australia Ltd
51 Deakin Avenue, Mildura Victoria 3500
Telephone +61 (3) 5023 6333
Email admin@australiancitrusgrowers.com
www.australiancitrusgrowers.com

Vegetables

While not as significant as other crops, the Mildura region still produces a large amount of vegetables every year, much of which goes to domestic consumption like lettuce and many varieties of melon. Additionally, many vegetable products are exported such as carrot juice and green asparagus.

Vegetables in the Mildura Rural City Council and Wentworth Shire Council

Crop	Hectares Grown 2008	Production Volume 2008 (tonnes)	Production Volume 2008 (% of Australian Total)	Production Value 2008 (M\$)	Production Value 2008 (% of Australian Total)
Carrot	1,000	30,000	11.0%	\$10.5	6.64%
Melon	450	15,300	7.5%	\$11.3	6.51%
Asparagus	300	900	16.0%	\$3.6	13.74%
Potato ^(a)	500	14,000	1.0%	\$4.2	0.82%
Lettuce	250	7,500	1.0%	\$2.6	0.93%
Zucchini & Squash	120	1,800	8.0%	\$1.8	2.58%
Capsicum & Chilli	40	1,920	3.0%	\$1.7	1.21%
Eggplant	50	750	<1.0%	\$0.8	<1.0%
Pumpkin	100	2,500	3.0%	\$0.7	0.96%
Other	-	-	0.0%	\$4.0	0.00%
Total	2,810	74,670	NA	\$41.1	NA

Source: AECgroup; Horticulture Australia, NSW Dept. of Primary Industries (2009); VIC Dept. of Primary Industries (2009)

Note: Potatoes are grown in Murrayville VIC and 40kms beyond the boundary of the Mildura Region at Boundary Bend. Other vegetables grown in the region include bean, garlic, pea, cauliflower, cucumber, okra, broccoli, spinach, tomato and onion. Some columns may not sum due to rounding errors.

Nut Crops

The Mildura region is a nationally significant nut growing region, specifically for almonds and pistachios. The Sunraysia region is one of four major almond growing regions in Australia, and has the fastest growing almond industry in the world. There have been extensive plantings of almonds since 1999, representing growth of over 600%!

There are about 25 pistachio growers in Australia (4 large and 21 smaller growers), with about 550 hectares of trees planted. Australian Pioneer Pistachio Company has recently completed the construction of a new hulling and grading plant at Robinvale, Victoria.

Nuts in the Sunraysia Region

Crop	Hectares Grown 2009	Production Volume 2009 (tonnes)	Production Volume 2009 (% of Australian Total)	Production Value 2009 (M\$)	Production Value 2009 (% of Australian Total)
Almond ^(a)	8,599	16,900	65.0%	\$116.5	65%
Pistachio	200	1,800	41.0%	\$10.8	41%

Source: AECgroup; Australian Pioneer Pistachio Company (2008); Almond Board of Australia (2008); Industry consultation.

Note: Almonds are predominantly grown at Lake Cullulleraine, Mildura and surrounding areas, Robinvale / Boundary Bend and surrounding areas and Piangil. Pistachio production is concentrated around Robinvale and Nangiloc. (a) Almond figures are for 2008.



Olives and Olive Oil

Olive growing has expanded significantly in recent years. Since 2004, the hectares of olives grown has expanded fourfold. Production of olives since 2004 has grown by 1,450%! Boundary Bend Estate (located in the Swan Hill region) has planted extensive olive groves and has pioneered mechanical harvesting that enables rapid movement of the fruit from trees to the oil extraction plant. Boundary Bend is exporting its olive oil all around the world and is reaping the benefits from its bountiful harvest and world leading technology.

Olives and Olive Oil in the Swan Hill region

Crop	Hectares Grown 2008	Production Volume Olives 2008 (tonnes)	Production Volume Olives 2008 (% of Australian Total)	Production Value Olive Oil 2008 (litres)	Production Value 2008 (M\$)	Export Volume 2008 (litres)
Olives	3,860	13,000	22.8%	1,800,000	\$9.0	900,000

Source: AECgroup; Boundary Bend Estate (2008); Robinvale Estate Olive Oil (2008); ABS Cat. No. 7121 (2008).

Note: Boundary Bend Estate and Robinvale Estate Olive Oil are both located in the Swan Hill LGA. For national comparisons, information from 2006-2007 was used.

Dryland Farming (Grains)

While relatively small compared to other grain growing regions in Australia, the grain industry in the Mildura region is well established and makes up part of the agricultural tradition of the region. The impact of climate change and low rainfall patterns has been effecting the production of grains in the region resulting in declining yields in recent years.

Grain Growing in the Mallee Region

Grain Crop	Hectares Grown 2008	Production Volume 2008 (tonnes)	Production Volume 2008 (% of Australian Total)	Production Value 2008 (M\$)	Production Value 2008 (% of Australian Total) ^(a)
Wheat	820,000	574,000	4.15%	\$195.2	3.60%
Barley	375,000	300,000	4.17%	\$102.0	4.54%
Oats	50,000	30,000	1.94%	\$8.6	2.09%
Canola	15,000	3,000	0.24%	\$2.2	0.33%
Total	1,260,000	907,000	1.45%	\$307.9	3.52%

Source: AECgroup; VIC Dept. of Primary Industries (2009); ABS Cat. No. 7111 (2008); ABS Cat. No. 7501 (2009)

Note: The Mallee Region is made up of the Local Government Areas of Mildura, Swan Hill and Buloke. Comparisons to national statistics based on 2007-2008 information from the ABS. (a) Column will not sum. % represents the total production value in the Mallee region compared to the national total value of the selected grain crop.

Livestock (Sheep)

Beyond crops of fruit and vegetables, the Mildura region also has a vibrant livestock industry, including the *Prime Mallee Lamb* trademark. There are two major saleyards in the region, the Ouyen Livestock Exchange and the Yelta Saleyards.

Livestock in the Mildura Rural City Council LGA

Livestock (Sheep)	Volume 2007-2008 (Number of Sheep)	Volume 2007-2008 (% of Australian Total)	Value of Sheep 2007-2008 (M\$)
Ouyen Saleyard	219,069	0.28%	\$6.0
Yelta Saleyard	38,500	0.05%	\$1.05
Total Sheep	257,569	0.33%	\$7.05

Source: AECgroup; Ouyen Saleyards (2008)

Note: In order to calculate the value of sheep in Mildura, the national average price per sheep in 2007-2008 was used.



Honey Bee

As a large horticultural area, honey bees are very important in the Mildura region, particularly for the pollination of almond, avocado and melon crops. While the region does produce some honey and bees wax, pollination is an industry in itself. There are over 6,000 hives based in the region that produced over \$1 million in 2007-2008.

In order to pollinate the region's vast almond plantations, between 60,000 and 70,000 bee hives are brought into the region from as far away as the East Coast and Queensland in order to meet the huge demand that pollination creates, generating up to \$4.2 million.

Bee keepers in the Mildura region also service other regions including South Australia.

Honey in the Sunraysia Region, 2007-2008

Product	Production Volume 2007-2008 (tonnes)	Production Volume 2007-2008 (% of Australian Total)	Production Value 2007-2008 (M\$)	Production Value 2007-2008 (% of Australian Total)
Honey	600	2.0%	\$1.80	2.0%
Bees Wax	7	NA	\$0.04	0.8%

Source: AECgroup; Australian Honey Bee Council (2008); Industry consultation.

Note: NA – Not Available. For the purposes of this information, the Sunraysia region extends from the South Australia border to Robinvale along the Murray River.



Manufacturing

The Mildura region has been actively diversifying and developing additional value to its core strengths through numerous manufacturing sectors. This activity in advanced manufacturing has brought significant value to the region. There are numerous active industry clusters and many poised for continued growth in the future.

As a key supplier to the Australian wine and beverage industry we have been able to grow as the region's wine industry has taken advantage of domestic and global opportunities for their own growth.

Damien Matthews
Managing Director,
GTS Freight Management
Pty Ltd

Food and Beverage

The food and beverage manufacturing sector is a natural fit with the Mildura region due to its strength in agricultural and horticultural production. This activity offers synergies with numerous other operations in the region, beyond the primary production of food, including the growing transport and logistics sectors, machinery and equipment manufacturing and a wide variety of services.

Some of the products manufactured in the Mildura region include numerous varieties of wine, fruit and vegetable juices and concentrates as well as other types of food products. It is estimated that this sector currently employs 1,587 workers and is poised for future growth as the population of Australia continues to grow and generate demand for food and beverage products.

Wine

The Murray Darling region boasts nearly 40 wine producers, ranging from boutique to large scale wineries. They have the capacity to crush between 5 and 120,000 tonnes of wine grapes each annually. The region has the capacity to produce over 400,000 tonnes of wine grapes per annum and approximately 20% of the national crush from more than 40 different varieties. The mainstream varieties are Chardonnay, Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot with new and emerging varieties planted and increasing each year including Pinot Grigio, Pinot Noir and Tempranillo.

The Murray Darling wine growing region contributes significantly to the national wine industry, with many of Australia's most recognised and successful brands sourcing wine from this region. In 2007/2008 over 300 medals were won by Murray Darling wineries from national and international wine shows.

One of the largest wineries in the Mildura region is Lindemans Karadoc complex which was established in 1973. The site includes wine production, packaging and a national distribution centre; as well as a popular cellar door. Karadoc's focus is on production of commercial wines. It is considered a key Lindemans site, with international markets in the USA and Europe. Its packaging facility predominantly packages wine for the Australian market. It receives and packages wine from several wineries in the Foster's Group. The Karadoc Warehouse is the National Distribution Centre for domestic wine. It supplies wine to all state distribution centres and warehouses and delivers directly to major customers.

The region's infrastructure, central location and strong support services have enabled us to further develop our operations at Karadoc.

Wayne Falkenberg
Regional Winemaker,
Lindemans Karadoc

The site is now Australia's largest sparkling wine producer with carbonation, charmat and tirage sparkling wine capability up to 500 kilolitres per week.

Karadoc is one of the top three employers in the Sunraysia region with around 250 permanent employees plus casual contractors during vintage and peak production periods.

Current crush capacity is 85,000 tonnes of grapes. The winery can process up to 2,500 tonnes of grapes per day, with a red ferment capacity of 7,000 tonnes per fill. Total wine storage capacity is 114 million litres with the largest tanks being 1.5 million litres making them the largest tanks in the Australian wine industry.

Fruit and Vegetable Processing

With an abundance of fruit and vegetable production, value-adding processing is a well established industry in the Mildura region. Carrot juice is a big export for the Mildura region and becomes the key ingredient into many dishes in Japan and other Asian countries. As agricultural production continues to grow, the fruit and vegetable processing sector is likely to grow as well.

Mildura is home to Australia's largest orange packer and exporter, Mildura Fruit Company (MFC). MFC markets a full range of citrus fruits around the world. MFC sources quality citrus from approximately 130 citrus growers along the Murray and Darling Rivers including the Mildura region.

Large volumes of quality citrus are sourced from an extensive harvest area. MFC's largest twenty suppliers deliver greater than 50% of their intake. MFC packs out of a single, very large packing-house, located in Mildura and employs 40 permanent staff and 220 casual staff to meet seasonal and shift requirements. MFC is one of the world's most technologically advanced citrus packers, making extensive use of bar code scanning and computerised fruit sizing and sorting equipment.

In recent years, MFC has spent in excess of A\$7 million on major plant upgrades and shed expansion, to cope with a steady growth in packing and marketing demand, which is forecast at 3.5 million carton output in 2009. MFC's operation consists of 2 large capacity packing lines that enable the full range of citrus products to be sorted and packed with little interruption throughout the busy navel and mandarin season. MFC is well supported by an established, worldwide customer base and in 2008 greater than 85% of MFC's carton production was shipped to overseas destinations; including USA, Canada, Japan, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, New Zealand, India, Bangladesh, Russia, the Middle East and Europe. MFC also has significant market share in Australian wholesale markets and supermarkets.

SdS Beverages Pty Ltd (located in the Mildura region) is the largest vegetable concentrate manufacturer and one of the top three manufacturers of base blended fruit concentrates and fruit pastes in Australia.

The company employs 45 people and focuses mainly on vegetable juice, carrot juice, concentrate and pulp. SdS processes up to 35,000 tonnes of carrots annually and purchases approximately 80% of carrots from the Mildura region. Carrot juice is predominantly made for the export market where 85% is exported to Japan and 15% sold to the domestic market.

The principal activities of SdS Beverages are:

- Import and blend citrus concentrates into value added juices/drinks
- Process vegetables into value added concentrates/pulps
- Process dried fruits into fruit pastes/purees

Dried Grapes

With 98% (or 17,000 tonnes) of Australia's dried grapes produced in the Mildura region it is not surprising that the region is home to Sunbeam, Australia's largest dried fruit company.

Sunbeam, which also includes the Angas Park brand, services the export, retail and food services markets. Sunbeam employs 160 staff within Sunraysia and produces over 20,000 tonnes of dried grapes and dried tree fruit annually.

Apart from being close to our suppliers, Sunraysia has all the resources required for modern food manufacturing and most importantly gives ready access to a talented, committed workforce who enjoy living a vibrant regional centre.

Chris Ellis
General Manager
- Domestic Fruit Supply,
Sunbeam Foods Pty Ltd



The business was established in Mildura by the Andriske family in 1947. Since the acquisition by Titan Europe, the business has continued to grow to a level that Mildura has supported in infrastructure and industry.

Clinton Taylor
Production Manager,
Titan Wheels Australia
Pty Ltd

Machinery and Equipment

An additional sector that has tremendous synergies with the food industry is Mildura's machinery and equipment manufacturing sector, which provides a lot of equipment to these operations. Having numerous companies nearby that share so many synergies becomes an incentive for additional companies to move to the area.

Titan Wheels Australia Pty Ltd, (part of the global Titan Europe Group of companies), is the world's largest wheel manufacturer is located in the Mildura region. Titan Wheels Australia offers the widest range of engineered wheels available in Australia to the industrial, mining, earthmoving, crane, and agricultural markets.

They design, develop and manufacture wheels to the "off road" industry. On-site manufacturing facilities include advanced production machinery including CNC lathes, welding equipment and heavy pressing machinery.

Titan Wheels Australia employs over 40 staff in Mildura with over 100 employees Australia wide.

Natural Tartaric Acid

Australian Tartaric Products Pty Ltd at Colignan, just out of Mildura, Victoria, is Australia's largest manufacturer of natural Tartaric Acid, and also produces Food Grade Spirit. The facility processes considerable volumes of grape marc, grape lees, centrifuge desludge by-products created from the wine making process, producing a completely natural product from material, which would otherwise go into landfill. The company collects the above-mentioned waste from the Sunraysia, Riverland, Riverina and Barossa Valley wine growing regions.

A major ingredient in wine-making, the Tartaric Acid produced in the Mildura region is sold mainly to Australian wineries, with smaller quantities taken up by pharmaceutical companies and food manufacturers. Food Grade Spirit is also sold both to Australian wineries and internationally to be used in wine fortification and Brandy production.

Australian Tartaric Products manufacture and supply the finest quality natural Tartaric Acid, natural Cream of Tartar and pure food grade Spirit to the Australian wine industry. They are also suppliers of Citric Acid, Rochelle salt, Ammonium Tartrate, Metatartaric Acid and Potassium Tartrate.

Emerging Industries

There are numerous emerging industries in the Mildura region, including:

- Boat Building
- Recycling
- Renewable Energy
- Packaging, and
- Aquaculture

Boat Building

Baldwin Boats have been producing and manufacturing commercial and private vessels along the Murray River for over 30 years.

Baldwin's design, manufacture and deliver customised boats, from luxury commercial vessels, to work boats and weekenders.

Demand for the company's products and services has allowed Baldwin Boats to expand it's original factory size, invest in the latest innovative construction methods and techniques and service the entire industry up and down the length of the Murray River and beyond.

They operate a state of the art manufacturing facility, with modern equipment operated by a workforce of highly skilled fabricators, technicians, fibreglassers, fitter and turners, electricians and plumbers.

Recycling

Local company AusPlaztik has developed and patented a blend of recycled plastic and natural fibre products for use in the agriculture, horticulture, marine and recreation industries.

AusPlaztik recycles waste plastics and agricultural films into useful products such as decking, bollards, posts and planks, for use in oyster farms, marine environments, speciality irrigation products, streetscapes, playgrounds and home garden landscaping.

They employ 14 people and have a customer base that stretches from Perth to Cairns. This makes Mildura an ideal location as it sits on the cross-over point of all interstate freighting.

Mildura is an ideal site for our operation, and many other industries looking to decentralise, Mildura has it all.

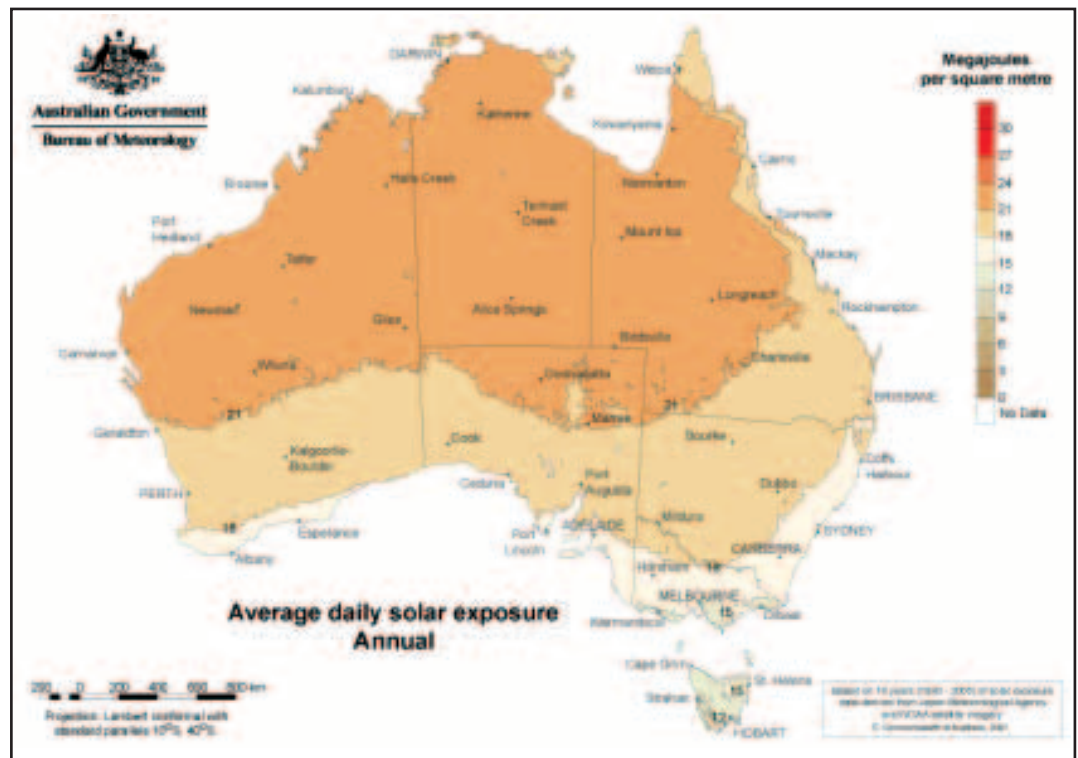
Geoff Redman
Director,
AusPlaztik Pty Ltd

Renewable Energy

The Mildura region has the best solar resources in Victoria, with an average of:

- 8.6 hours of sunshine per day
- Annual maximum temperature of 23.7°C
- 132.1 clear days per year
- 18.9MJ(m*m) in solar exposure

The Mildura region is Victoria's premier solar location.



The Mildura region is also conveniently located in a tri-state area with connections to the National electricity grid, access to flat land and water supply. Excellent transport connections (via road, rail and air), a ready source of labour along with excellent support services, make Mildura the ideal location for renewable energy development.

The first stage of a \$420 million large scale solar power station is to be built in the Mildura - Red Cliffs region. The solar power station will be built by Melbourne-based clean energy technology company Solar Systems, in partnership with project investor and leading energy management company, TRUenergy.

The project is expected to provide many economic benefits, such as the creation of up to 950 new jobs at the peak of construction and up to 45 new direct full-time ongoing jobs. A large majority of local positions will be filled by workers from within the Mildura region.

There will also be numerous opportunities for local suppliers and regionally based manufacture and component assembly. When complete, the Mildura solar power plant will be one of the largest and most efficient concentrated solar power plants in the world and will generate carbon free power. Construction of the two megawatt pilot plant is due to commence in 2010, with the 154 megawatt power station due for completion in 2013.

Development of the solar power station was made possible following a A\$292 million development agreement between TRUenergy and Solar Systems, as well as State and Federal government grant funding of \$125 million.

For more information on Solar Systems please visit www.solarsystems.com.au
For more information on TRUenergy please visit www.truenergy.com.au

Tourism in the Mildura Region

Tourism is a major and vibrant industry in Mildura, generating more than \$210 million expenditure each year and underpinning around 2,100 full time jobs.

Mildura's setting - on the banks of the Murray River while being flanked by impressive natural surrounds and national parks - lends itself to the apt description of being where the Mediterranean meets the Outback.

An abundance of quality restaurants and eateries celebrate the magnitude of locally-grown produce while Mildura's reputation as a wine region is further enhanced by a growing number of cellar doors that are emerging among the ranks of nearly 40 wine producers.

Mildura boasts an exceptional sporting, cultural and arts scene with an impressive year-round calendar of highly reputable events directly matching the diversity of themes and interests that makes life in and around Mildura very liveable. Mildura was Australia's first irrigated colony, heritage proudly displayed along the Chaffey Trail which enables visitors to follow the 1880s vision of the Chaffey Brothers who transformed Mildura into an irrigated oasis in the midst of an arid land.

The Murray River provides a spectacular yet calming backdrop to everything that happens in Mildura; there's no better example than the junction of where Australia's two greatest rivers - the Murray and the Darling - occurs at Wentworth. Not surprisingly the luxury houseboat market, epitomizing floating indulgence, is one of the fastest growing and highest yielding segments of Mildura's tourism industry.

Also of growing significance are the region's surrounding national parks. Best known with its international reputation and indigenous significance is Mungo National Park, while the Perry Sandhills, Kings Billabong Reserve, Hattah-Kulkyne National Park and Murray Sunset National Park are among firm favourites with locals.

The conference and business events market is another growing segment within the local tourism industry. Currently Mildura hosts around 25 conferences a year, with strategic efforts aiming to double that within two years.

For the year ending Year Ended December 2008, Mildura attracted some 500,000 visitors (domestic, international and day trippers) to the region who spent 1.3 million visitor nights here. Domestic overnight travel represents our largest visitor sector. For the Year Ended December 2008 Mildura received 392,000 domestic overnight visitors, down 16% on the previous year. Domestic visitors spent nearly 1.3 million nights in the region, down 21% on the previous year. It is acknowledged that, around Australia, domestic tourism is generally flat or in decline. Mildura's domestic figures mirror those of similar regions within Victoria and around Australia. Other figures worth noting include the main purpose for domestic visits to the Mildura region and sources of origin of those visitors.

Mildura Tourism

PO Box 3103, Mildura Vic 3502

Telephone +61 (3) 5021 0599

Facsimile +61 (3) 5021 0599

Email admin@milduratourism.com.au

www.visitmildura.com.au

Mildura Visitor Information & Booking Centre

Cnr Deakin Ave and Twelfth St, Mildura Vic 3500

Open 9am - 5.30pm Monday to Friday and 9am - 5pm weekends and public holidays. Closed Christmas Day.

Telephone +61 (3) 5018 8380 or Freecall 1800 039 043 (within Australia)

Email tourism@mildura.vic.gov.au

Wentworth Visitor Centre

66 Darling St, Wentworth NSW 2648

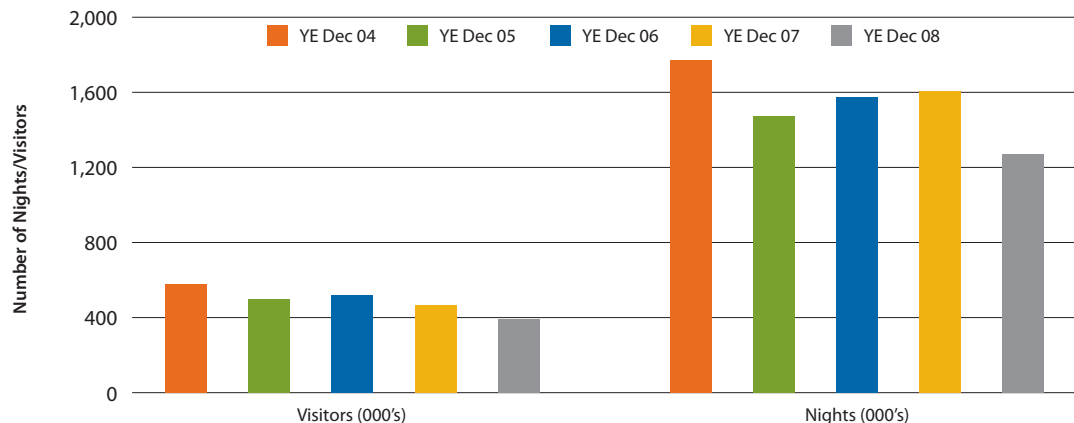
Open 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday and 10am - 2pm weekends and public holidays.

Telephone +61 (3) 5027 3624

Email tourism@wentworth.nsw.gov.au

www.visitmildura.com.au

Tourism Visitors and Nights, Year Ended December 2008



Source: AECgroup; Mildura Tourism, 2008

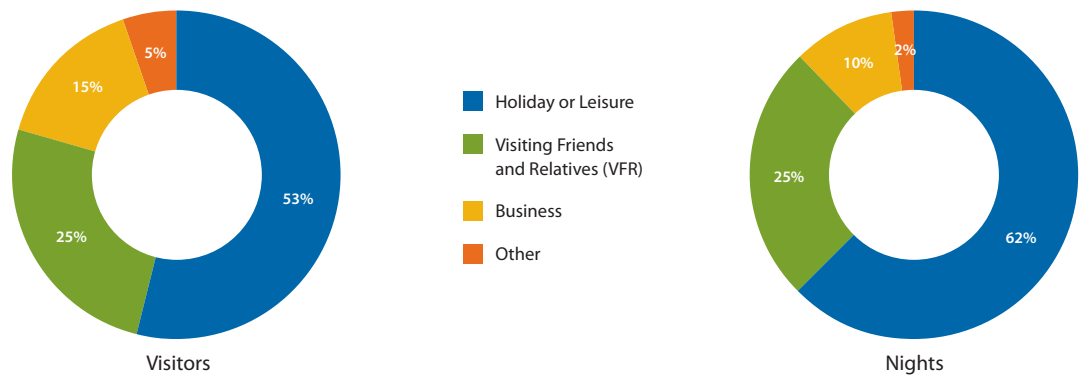
Tourism generates \$210 million per annum in expenditure in the Mildura region.

Visitor Origin, Year Ended December 2008



Source: AECgroup; Mildura Tourism, 2008

Purpose of Trip, Year Ended December 2008



Source: AECgroup; Mildura Tourism, 2008



Mining Resources

The Mildura region is fortunate to have mining resources that are starting to expand and further diversify the economy. The resources currently being extracted include:

- Mineral Sands
- Bentonite
- Salt

Mineral Sands

The Murray Basin has an abundance of mineral sands resources and is seen as the next big mineral sands producing region in Australia. Mineral sands are made up of rutile, ilmenite, zircon and leucoxene and are processed and used in the production of the following:

- Pigment
- Paint and plastics
- Sunscreen
- Paper coating
- Toothpaste
- Aircraft and ship building
- Surgical implants such as artificial joints and pacemakers
- Foodstuffs
- Pharmaceuticals and cosmetics
- Sports equipment
- Ceramic glazes on tiles
- White goods and televisions
- Welding rods

Iluka is focused on developing a regional workforce from Mildura and surrounding areas to enable it to access the significant mineral sands resources in north-western Victoria.

Iluka Resources Limited

Iluka Resources Limited is the world's largest producer of zircon and the second largest producer of titanium minerals and has annual sales in excess of \$1000 million. The Murray Basin Stage 2 Project comprises two areas of mineralisation:

- The Kulwin deposit about 28km east of Ouyen
- The combined deposits of Woornack, Rowanack and Pirro about 20km south-east of Ouyen

The operational workforce for the Murray Basin Stage 2 Project will consist of approximately 160 people on site, some of whom will be housed within a self contained accommodation resort on the outskirts of Ouyen.

The Murray Basin Stage 2 Project is expected to produce approximately 2.4 million tonnes of dry, heavy mineral concentrate over 7 years with mining taking place 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

www.iluka.com

Bemax Resources Limited

Bemax Resources Limited (Bemax) has mining operations located in two significant mineral sands provinces in Australia namely, the Murray Basin and south west Western Australia.

In 2006, Bemax became the largest producer of Leucoxene, the third largest producer of Rutile and the seventh largest producer of Zircon, globally and became recognised as one of Australia's premier mineral sands miners.

In 2008, Cristal Australia Pty Ltd acquired all of the shares in Bemax via an off-market takeover bid and the company was removed from the official list of the Australian Stock Exchange.

Cristal Australia Pty Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of The National Titanium Dioxide Company Limited (Cristal). Cristal is a private company with headquarters in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Regarded by the industry as a world class Zircon and Titanium mineral sands province, the future of Bemax and indeed the mineral sands industry in Australia, is in the Murray Basin. The implementation of Bemax's planned expansion of the Murray Basin operations is advancing well. Bemax has two significant deposits in the Murray Basin, Ginkgo and Snapper, both of which are located between Wentworth and Broken Hill. The current focus is the development of the Snapper mine.

The Ginkgo mine contains 5.8 million tonnes of heavy mineral, with an excellent suite of products including Zircon. The Snapper mine, which will be mined in conjunction with the Ginkgo mine, is an even richer mine containing an overall higher tonnage and greater percentages of both Rutile and Zircon. The Ginkgo mine is located 220km from Broken Hill.

Suresh Vadnagra

Mine Manager,

Murray Basin Stage 2

Iluka Resources Limited

The infrastructure at the Ginkgo mine is well established and includes a 124km (66kv) power line, 67 km of unsealed haulage road, readily available water supply, accommodation camp, communications as well as administration buildings.

Heavy mineral concentrate from the Ginkgo mine (and the Snapper mine once commissioned) is transported to the Broken Hill Mineral Separation Plant for processing.

www.bemax.com.au

Bentonite

Bentonite is an absorbent clay which is naturally formed by the decomposition of volcanic ash and has swelling properties of 5 to 6 times its original volume in the presence of water.

Arumpo Bentonite Pty Ltd's deposit is the largest bentonite deposit in Australia. With indicated reserves in excess of 70 million tonnes, renowned for its purity, the deposit is located 95km north east of Mildura.

Arumpo bentonite is produced in a variety of sizes and grades to suit a wide range of applications including, but not limited to; pet litter, stockfeed additive, water storage sealing, civil engineering, electrical earthing aids, road making, geological barriers, drilling, farm dam sealing, absorbents, soil improvers and garden products.

Large weatherproof storage, processing and packing facilities in both Mildura and Buronga allow for consistent and regular supply of product all year round.

Arumpo Bentonite Pty Ltd has developed its world class bentonite deposit over the past 16 years and the shallow depth of the deposit allows for easy mining with minimal disturbance to the immediate environment. The company employs a workforce of 16.

www.arumpobentonite.com.au

Salt Resources

SunSalt commenced salt harvesting in 1982 known then as Hattah Salt. The business originally began producing salt from the unlimited supply of underground saline water (twice as salty as seawater) at Spectacle Salt Lake - Hattah, Victoria, Australia.

In 1986 the company installed a refinery for drying, processing and packaging of salt products. To enable the business to grow successfully, further salt producing sites were identified at Mourquong basin and Wakool Mitigation Site 2.

In addition to the long term production of industrial, bulk and stockfeed salts, whose varied uses include tanning hides, metal recycling, cooking and baking, pickling and preserving, the dye industry, detergents, swimming pool chlorination, dust suppressants and stabilising of dirt roads - the company also produces a retail gourmet flake salt, Murray River Pink Salt. This gourmet, naturally pink finishing salt has won many prestigious awards and is enjoyed by food connoisseurs the world over.

www.sunsalt.com.au

Transport, Logistics and Warehousing

As mentioned earlier, with a growing population and economy, it is no surprise that the transport and logistics sectors is doing well in the Mildura region. Supported by key road and rail infrastructure, it is easy to move products and people to anywhere in Australia. Currently, it is estimated that 2,431 people work in this field.

The Mildura Region Transport and Logistics Cluster (MRTaLC) was established in 2007, through joint funding from the Department of Innovation Industry and Regional Development Regional Innovation Clusters Program; Office of Training and Tertiary Education initiative funding through Sunraysia Institute of TAFE; support from the Sunraysia Mallee Economic Development Board (now Mildura Development Corporation Inc.); Mildura Rural City Council; and local industry.

The Cluster has been established to be an action group, focusing on the concerns of the Transport and Logistics industry within the Mildura region, to research and develop strategies and initiatives that can be implemented to resolve those issues.

Being ideally situated between capital cities, having a locally based high class freight distribution network, and its close proximity to the bentonite deposit, makes Mildura the perfect location for Arumpo Bentonite Pty Ltd and enables the company to offer reliable national delivery to its entire customer base.

Lloyd Thomson
Managing Director,
Arumpo Bentonite Pty Ltd

There are over 237 transport and storage companies in the Mildura region employing around 2,431 people.

The Cluster has identified following areas of focus for the group:

- **CROSS BORDER ANOMALIES** Working with key bodies in an effort to streamline state regulations for the Heavy Vehicle Industry
- **INFRASTRUCTURE** Working with local and state governments to identify, prioritise and develop appropriate Heavy Vehicle access infrastructure.
- **SKILLS SHORTAGES** Developing strategies to fill existing and future needs for skilled labour.
- **INDUSTRY IMAGE** Promoting a positive image of the Transport profession to the community.

This is a new Cluster being the first of its kind and reflects the importance of transport within this growing tri-state region of Australia.

The Cluster believes that Mildura is in a key strategic position to develop into a national Transport and Logistics hub. To achieve this, collaboration with and within industry is essential as is the joint partnerships of local, state and federal government and the transport and logistics sector.

There are over 237 transport and storage companies in the Mildura region, some of the largest transport operators include Pickering Transport Group, Piscioneri Transport Services, Wakefield Transport and GTS Freight Management. GTS Freight Management is a privately owned transport company based in Mildura. Established in 1982, its core focus has been the provision of integrated transport and logistics services to the Australian wine and beverage industry. Servicing the eastern seaboard, GTS' infrastructure and equipment is extensive with 112 b-double prime movers complimented by 280 curtain side trailers. GTS' transport division is complimented by over 21,000 square metres of insulated warehousing, with another 8,000 square metres of non-insulated warehousing also available.

GTS Freight Management employs over 215 people (as well as additional labour hire as required) locally and elsewhere on the eastern seaboard. The majority of those employed outside the region are drivers located in strategic geographical locations that compliment the workload, contracts and growth opportunities.

Productivity in a linehaul transport company is primarily measured by kilometres travelled by the fleet as a whole as well as average kilometres travelled by each prime mover per working day. During 2008 the GTS fleet travelled in excess of 20 million kilometres, with average daily productivity per prime mover in the order of 800 kilometres.

Utility Infrastructure



The Mildura region has suitable existing utility infrastructure to support continued population and business growth into the future. Furthermore, extensive planning and analysis is currently underway by many authorities to ensure that the provision of utility infrastructure keeps pace with development.

Water and Wastewater

The Mildura region has access to sufficient water and wastewater for future business and industry growth. Water is managed in the region through various government organisations. The Murray Darling Basin Authority is the Commonwealth agency that allocates base loads of water from the overall river system. The Victorian Government through its agent, Goulburn-Murray Water, manage the transfer of water to the local authority, Lower Murray Water. Bulk water entitlements are made available for urban users (residential and industrial), rural users (irrigation) and the environment.

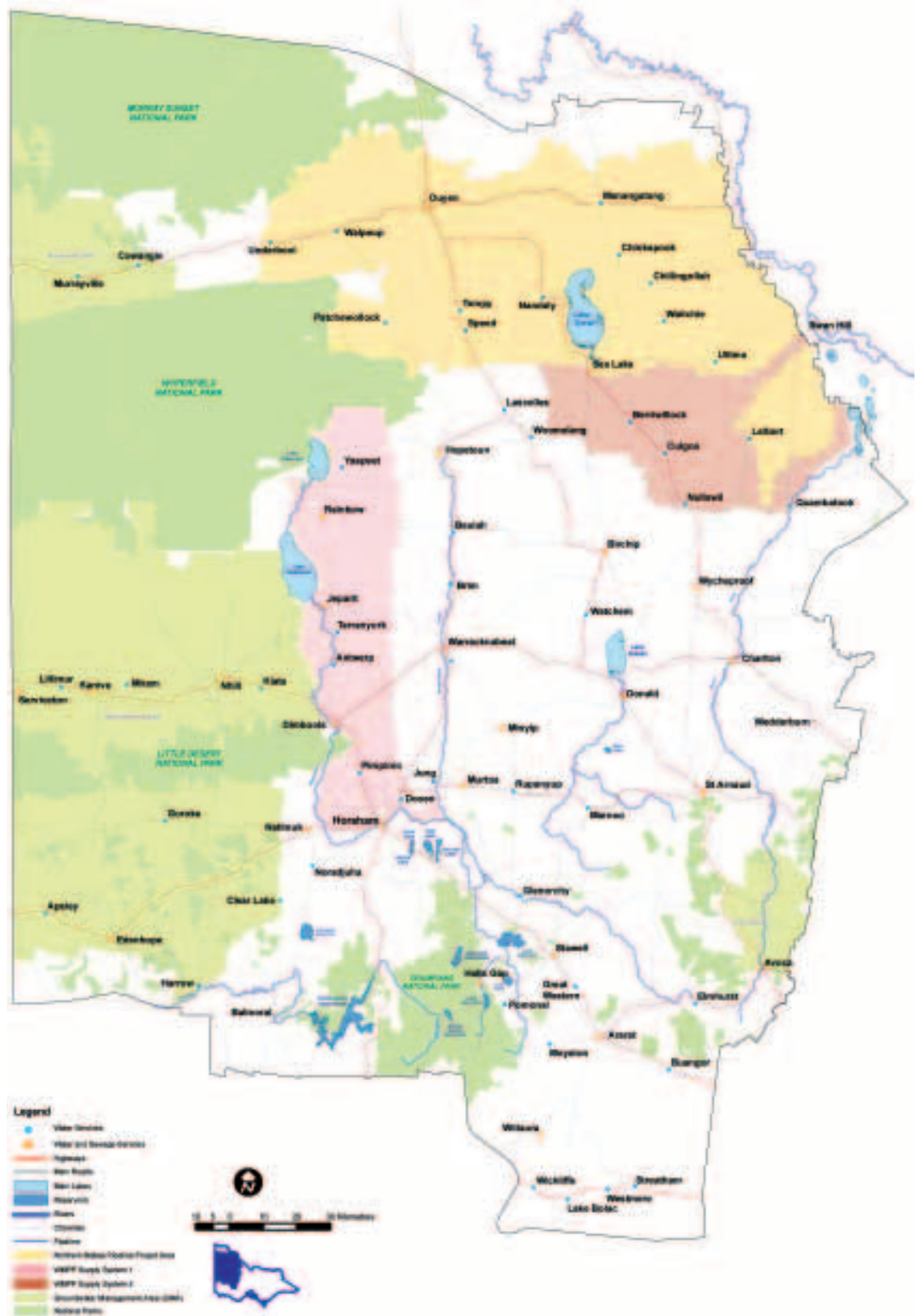
Lower Murray Water

Lower Murray Water provides various urban and rural water and waste water services for the Mildura Rural City Council area as well as the Swan Hill and Gannawarra municipalities, including:

- Urban water services to 15 townships (approx. 60,000 customers) via nine treatment plants
- Wastewater collection, treatment and effluent re-use and disposal services to 11 towns via 10 treatment plants
- River quality water services to 3,701 customers in the three pumped irrigation districts of Merbein, Red Cliffs and Robinvale, the Millewa rural district and some areas of the waterworks districts of Carwarp and Yelta
- Management of the region's rural bulk water entitlement of 440,107ML
- The collection and disposal of subsurface drainage water from the three pumped irrigation districts, Nangiloc, Robinvale diverters and Boundary Bend
- Ensuring drainage design in new agricultural developments conforms with salinity management plan development guidelines
- Partnership in the design, implementation, operation and maintenance of works initiated by the Mallee Darling Basin Authority
- Management of the private diversion licences of 1,061 water users along the Murray River in Victoria between Nyah and the South Australian border
- The assessment and approval of permanent and temporary water trade applications
- Reclaimed water for third party use

Lower Murray Water is the main water authority for residents, business and industry in the north of the Mildura Rural City Council area.

www.lmw.vic.gov.au



Source: AECgroup; Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water (2009)

Western Murray Irrigation Limited

Western Murray Irrigation (WMI), located in the Wentworth Shire Council area is a privately owned irrigation infrastructure operator. WMI is responsible for the delivery of unfiltered River Murray water to over 500 customers including irrigators and stock and domestic users. The fully pipelined and pressurised delivery systems provide water on demand 24 hours, 365 days of the year to the Buronga, Coomealla and Curlwaa areas. WMI also manages the disposal of drainage water and water trade to and from the bulk entitlement licence.

www.westernmurray.com.au

Wentworth Shire Council

Residents and businesses within the Wentworth Shire are provided with filtered and raw water for domestic and industrial use within the Shire.

Water is drawn from both the Murray River and the Darling River to provide a dual water supply for the townships of Wentworth, Buronga, Gol Gol, Dareton, and Pooncarie.

Within the municipality, Council has two lagoon sedimentation water treatment works and one Laemealla clarifier plant, 14 service reservoirs, 8 water pumping stations, 32 km of trunk mains, and 132 km of reticulation.

The Wastewater system includes wastewater treatment works providing tertiary treatment (trickling filter and oxidation ponds), 30 wastewater pumping stations comprising of wet and dry wells, 19 km of rising mains and 76 km of gravity trunk mains and reticulation.

www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au

Power Infrastructure

The National electricity grid runs through the Mildura region.

The Mildura region receives electricity transmitted through the national grid from generation centres in Victoria and New South Wales. The Mildura LGA is serviced by an electricity network that is owned by Powercor, and an electricity transmission network (66kv and 220kv) that is owned by SP Ausnet. The Wentworth LGA is serviced by Country Energy. There are three 220kV transmission lines that feed into the Mildura region as well as a DC underground transmission cable linking into South Australia. Within the region, there are six substations that convert power from 66kV to 22kV for distribution to users. These substations are located at Merbein, Mildura, Ouyen, Wemen, Robinvale and Boundary Bend (commissioned in October 2008). This network ensures a high reliability of electricity service by providing numerous sources for power both in terms of substations as well as multiple generation sources.

Mildura Rural City Council Region Electricity Network



Source: SunRISE 21, Powercor Australia (2009)

Powercor

There are currently many planned upgrades to this electricity network, in order to ensure that residents and business receive the highest standard of service. These improvements include:

- Network upgrades to connect a new 66kV line from Ouyen to Kulwin for the Iluka mineral sands mine (2009)
- A new 220kV terminal station at Wemen east (2009)
- A new 66kV line from Wemen east terminal station to Wemen zone sub (2009)
- A new 66kV line from Red Cliffs via Mildura to Buronga in NSW (2010)
- New 66kV lines to connect the planned Solar Systems generation station, which will have a maximum capacity of 154 MW (2010-2011)

www.powercor.com.au

Indicative Electricity Costs, January 2009

General Purpose Tariff E	Rate (ex. GST)	Rate (incl. GST)
First 333 kWh/month	\$0.1839/kWh	\$0.2023/kWh
Balance	\$0.1947/kWh	\$0.2142/kWh

Source: AECgroup; Origin Energy (2009)

Note: The above cost information is indicative only, based on certain operating assumptions. Actual costs may vary and additional charges may apply.

Country Energy

Country Energy services the Wentworth LGA and has a Field Service Centre and a Customer Service Centre located in Wentworth.

www.countryenergy.com.au

A Selection of Current Projects

Project Name	Project Description	Projected Investment
Buronga Town New zone substation	Construct a new zone substation and 66,000 Volt powerline.	\$8 million
Buronga Distribution powerline conductor replacement	Replace and upgrade distribution powerlines along the Silver City Highway.	\$550,000
Gol Gol Distribution powerline upgrade	Upgrade the distribution powerline.	\$310,000

Natural Gas Infrastructure

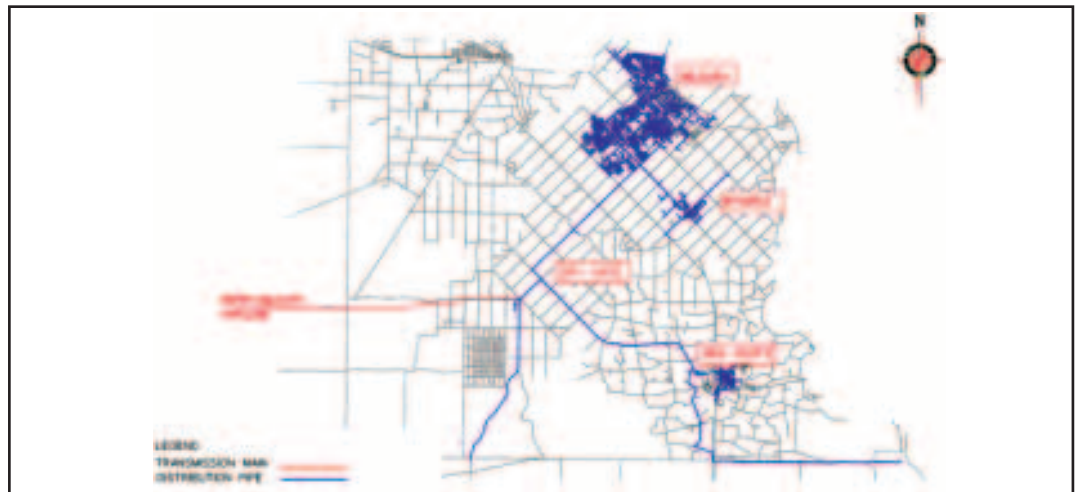
Mildura is serviced with natural gas by the Berri-Mildura Pipeline. From the City Gate, a distribution network delivers high pressure natural gas to business and residential customers in Mildura, Irymple and Red Cliffs.

The Mildura network is a 0.4 PJ high pressure network.

Origin Energy is the natural gas retailer for the Mildura region.

www.originenergy.com.au

Mildura Natural Gas Network



Source: AECgroup; Envestra Limited (2009)

Indicative Natural Gas Costs, January 2009

244 Commercial / Industrial Tariff	Rate (ex. GST)	Rate (incl. GST)
First 1,500 MJ	\$0.02026/MJ	\$0.02228/MJ
Next 81,833 MJ	\$0.01301/MJ	\$0.01432/MJ
Next 333,333 MJ	\$0.01220/MJ	\$0.01342/MJ
Over 416,666 MJ	\$0.01155/MJ	\$0.01271/MJ

Source: AECgroup; Origin Energy (2009)

Note: The price above is indicative only. Actual costs may vary and additional charges may apply.

Telecommunications

Telstra

Telstra provides telecommunications infrastructure in the Mildura region. Currently they provide exchanges with BigPond® Broadband ADSL access in the following localities:

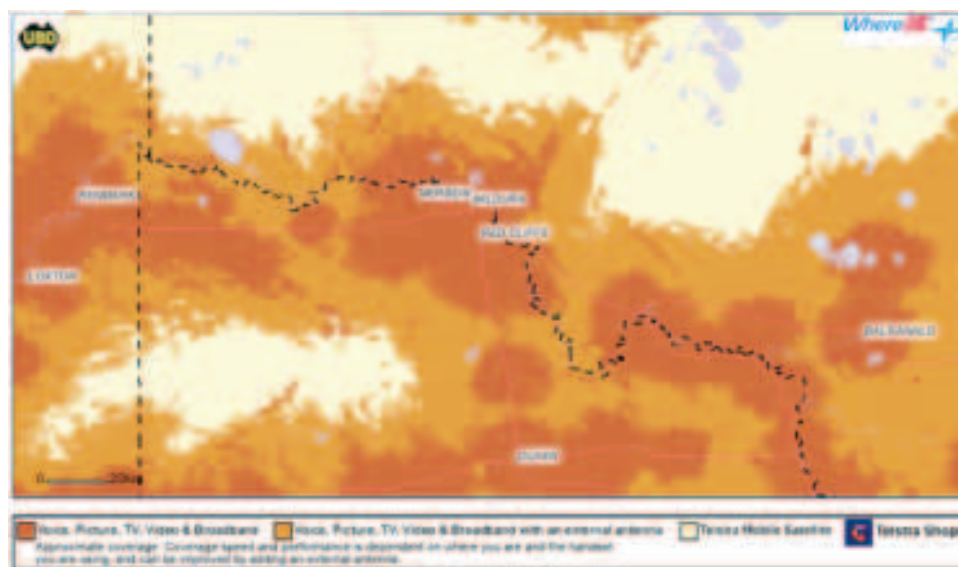
Curlwaa, Dareton, Gol Gol, Irymple, Koorlong, Merbein, Merbein South, Mildura, Murrayville, Nangiloc, Ouyen, Red Cliffs, Underbool, Wentworth and Walpeup.

Telstra also provide mobile coverage in the following areas:

Carwarp, Cowangie, Cullulleraine, Hattah, Irymple, Karadoc, Merbein, Mildura, Mildura Central, Mildura South, Nangiloc, Ouyen, Red Cliffs, Underbool, Wentworth, Walpeup, Kulwin and Yelta.

www.telstra.com.au

Telstra Coverage in the Mildura Region



Source: AECgroup; www.telstra.com.au (2009)

Neighbourhood Cable

Neighbourhood Cable is a telecommunications infrastructure and services provider in Mildura.

Services offered by Neighbourhood Cable include:

- High speed Broadband Internet
- VoIP telephony
- Over 30 channels of Pay-TV
- Network-based services and applications solutions
- Domain registration and webhosting
- Off-site storage for security
- Wireless solutions, ADSL and Dial-up for customers away from the cable network
- High speed Virtual Private Networks
- Mobile phones

Having an independent network gives Neighbourhood Cable the freedom to design and deliver telecommunications services that are affordable, reliable, fast and friendly to their target market.

www.ncable.net.au

Transportation Infrastructure



Mildura's central location between Australian capital cities is ideal with good rail, road and air transport.

Peter Jones
Immediate Past Chairman,
Australian Dried Fruits
Association Inc.

The Mildura region is strategically located at the junction of Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia. It is connected to the rest of Australia and indeed the world through major road, rail and air infrastructure. As agricultural production and manufactured goods of all kinds continue to expand, so does the transportation and distribution industry and networks that take these products to market.

Mildura Region Infrastructure



Source: Mildura Development Corporation (2009)

Road Access

The Mildura region is serviced by the Sturt Highway, Calder Highway, Sunraysia Highway and Silver City Highway, which carry people and product in and out of the region.

Access by Road from Mildura Region

Destination	Distance	Driving Time
Melbourne VIC	550 km	6 hrs
Sydney NSW	1,000 km	12 hrs
Adelaide SA	400 km	5.5 hrs
Broken Hill NSW	300 km	3.5 hrs

Source: AECgroup; Google Maps (2009)

Air Access

The Mildura Airport is Victoria's largest and busiest regional airport. It acts as a major gateway to the region for many business travellers from Australia and abroad. The airport is located on 240 hectares of land, which offers available property for industrial and commercial development in the future.

The airport draws passengers from Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia.

Four airlines, QantasLink, Regional Express (Rex), Sharp and Virgin Blue, provide regular passenger transport services to Melbourne and Adelaide, utilising turbo prop and jet aircraft.

The Mildura Airport is one of the region's most valuable and specialised assets.

Bill Burke
Chief Executive Officer,
Mildura Airport Pty Ltd



Mildura Airport Pty Ltd

Characteristics	Statistics
Annual Passengers (2008-2009)	188,708
Annual Aircraft Movements (2008)	6,800 Regular Passenger Transport (RPT) 6,200 General Aviation (GA)
Flights per week	70
Primary Destinations	Melbourne, Adelaide
Airlines Servicing Airport	Qantas www.qantas.com.au Virgin Blue www.virginblue.com.au Rex www.rex.com.au Sharp Airlines www.sharpairlines.com
Runway East West 09/27 (asphalt grooved)	1,830 m x 45 m
Runway North South 18/36 (sealed)	1,139 m x 30 m
Aircraft Capacity	57,000 kgs (suitable for Boeing 737)

Source: AECgroup; Mildura Airport Pty Ltd (2009)

Mildura Airport Pty Ltd
PO Box SM356, Mildura South Vic 3501
Telephone +61 (3) 5055 0500
Email info@milduraairport.com.au
www.milduraairport.com.au

Please refer to the airline websites listed above for all information about flight times, arrivals, departures or any other airline enquiry.

Rail Access

The Mildura region is currently serviced by the Yelta (Mildura) rail line, which connects Mildura to Melbourne and Geelong via Ballarat. The rail line is a broad gauge connection from Ballarat except for a short dual gauge section between Maryborough and Dunolly.

Victorian Rail Network



Source: AECgroup; VIC Dept. of Infrastructure (2007)

The Mildura line transports export grain (200,000 tonnes) and containerised produce (1.3 million tonnes) every year, equating to between 10,000 and 13,000 Twenty-foot Equivalent Units (TEU). Containerised freight for the domestic market also travels the line with regular intermodal services provided in Mildura.

Sunraysia is the food bowl for many major export products from Victoria and as we are positioned on the rail with warehousing and road support, Mildura offers our business many growth opportunities from this clean and green export market.

The Mildura region is serviced by an Intermodal Transport Hub at Merbein for containerised products operated by Wakefield Transport in partnership with Patrick Rail. The facility permits transfer of freight between road and rail, and services exporters in the Mildura region and South Australia's Riverland. With a modern transport fleet, cool rooms, warehousing and documentation services, the facility specialises in cold chain management of perishable cargo by rail to the Port of Melbourne.

The Intermodal Terminal at Merbein (10km west of Mildura) ships in excess of 250,000 tonnes per annum of fresh fruit, dried fruit, concentrates and wine products all grown locally in the district. The rail/road combination allows produce from our area to arrive at its international destination in pristine condition by use of "Cold Chain" technology. The rail services run three times per week scheduled to arrive on days of vessel cut offs, the train arrives direct to the waterfront giving a seamless rail/sea interface. This mode of transport is reliant on consistent large volumes and is able to send between 1,520-2,315 tonnes per day from farm gate to awaiting vessel.

Currently, a \$73 million upgrade to the Mildura line will improve track structure and install new gauge-convertible sleepers in order to create a faster, more reliable rail link. The increased efficiency means that trains can run at speed up to 80 km/h, reducing travel time from 14 hours to 10 hours. The work is currently on schedule and should be completed by late 2009.

Ken Wakefield
Group Manager,
Wakefield Transport
Group Pty Ltd

Ports (for export)

Product is exported from the Mildura region to the following ports by road, rail and in some cases a combination of both (depending on the destination).

- Port of Melbourne
- Port of Adelaide
- Geelong Port, and
- Port of Portland

The majority of the region's grain is sent to the Geelong Port, while mineral sands mined in the area is transported to the Port of Portland (both of which are bulk ports).

Port of Melbourne

As Australia's largest container and general cargo port, the Port of Melbourne handles around 38% of the nation's container trade. It contributes \$2.2 billion to the State of Victoria's economy every year and \$2.5 billion to the national economy. The port is located at the northern end of Port Phillip Bay and is serviced by more than 100 nautical miles of shipping channels.

Forty-two container shipping lines as well as a number of other general cargo carriers, service the Port shipping goods all around the world.

www.portofmelbourne.com.au

Port of Adelaide

The Port of Adelaide is the main service point for shipping in the State and is located 14 km northwest of the State's capital at the centre of Australia's southern coast. Export activity focuses on the shipment of grains, minerals, cement, wine, motor vehicles, ores and concentrates. The largest single import is petroleum.

www.flindersports.com.au

Ports for Export from Mildura

	Port of Melbourne (2007-2008)	Port of Adelaide (2008-2009)
Number of Containers - TEUs	2,256,000	190,267
Tonnes of Cargo	75.7 million	9.72 million
Number of Berths/Wharves	34	19
Ship Calls	3,200	1,019

Source: AECgroup; Port of Melbourne (2009); Flinders Ports SA (2009)

Geelong Port

Geelong Port is Victoria's second largest port, and the largest regional port in Victoria. The port offers a broad range of port, ship and wharf-side services, with multiple stevedoring businesses operating within Geelong Port.

www.geelongport.com.au

Port of Portland

The Port of Portland is a deep-water bulk port strategically located between the ports of Melbourne and Adelaide.

The Port specialises in bulk commodities, particularly agricultural, forestry and mining products as well as aluminium and fertiliser. It has approximately four million tonnes in annual throughput, which is expected to grow to seven million tonnes by 2012.

The Port is served by both road and rail systems, which bypass the City of Portland to allow 24-hour access. It delivers \$1.5 billion into the region and the nation each year - a figure that will continue to grow.

www.portofportland.com.au

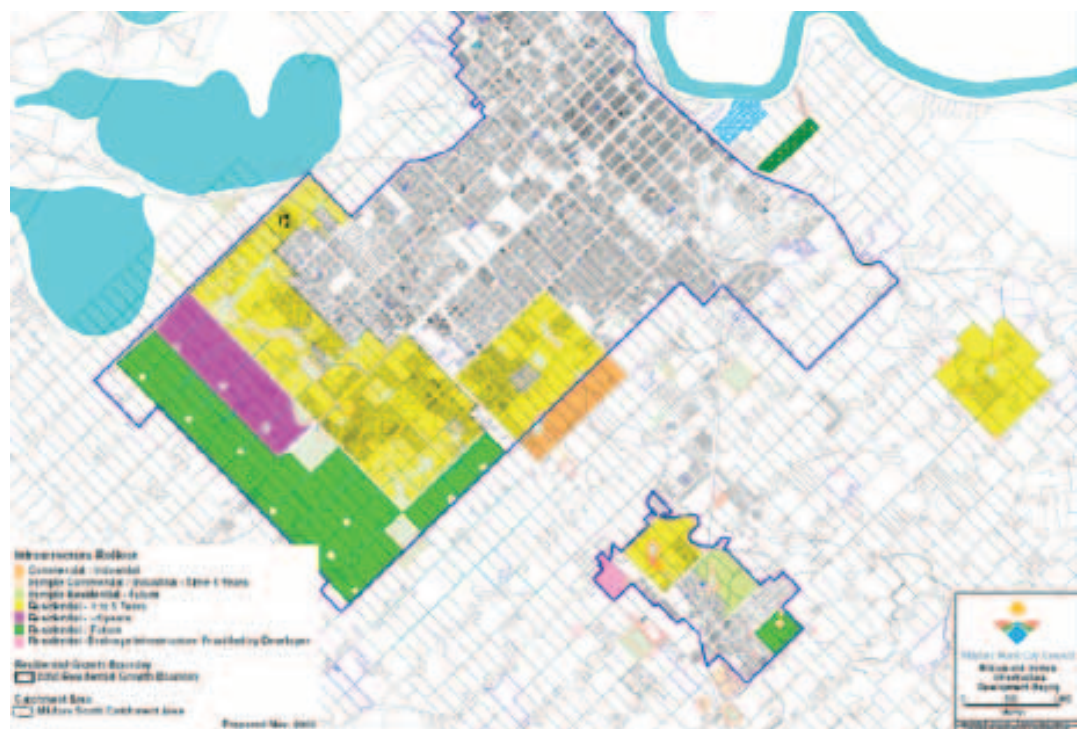
Available Land



The Mildura region has industrial and residential land strategies, facilitating available land for future growth.

The Mildura region is fortunate to have had solid growth over the past years, but through strategic planning, the Council has been able to set aside various options for further industrial, residential and commercial/retail development.

Development Staging, Mildura Rural City Council 2006



Source: Mildura Rural City Council, 2006

Industrial

Mildura Rural City Council has conducted detailed planning to ensure the future supply of industrial land to continue to meet the demands of growing companies. Audits have been undertaken of Mildura, Irymple, Merbein, and Red Cliffs (the Urban Estates) as well as existing “Greenfield” industrial zonings at Thurla, Koorlong.

The audit sought to summarise the subdivision and development between 2001 and 2005 in the region. Key findings include:

Subdivision

- **Urban:** approximately 34 ha of industrial zoned land was subdivided creating 82 industrial development lots, equating to 6.84 ha and 16 new lots per year. 92% of new lots were created in the Mildura industrial estate
- **Non urban:** 220.8 ha, 35 lots created at Thurla

Development

- **Urban:** approximately 32.5 ha of industrial zoned land committed to industrial development, equating to a development rate of 6.5 ha per year.
- **Non urban:** no building permits were issued

Undeveloped Land Supply & Capacity

- 52 ha of industrial zoned land undeveloped

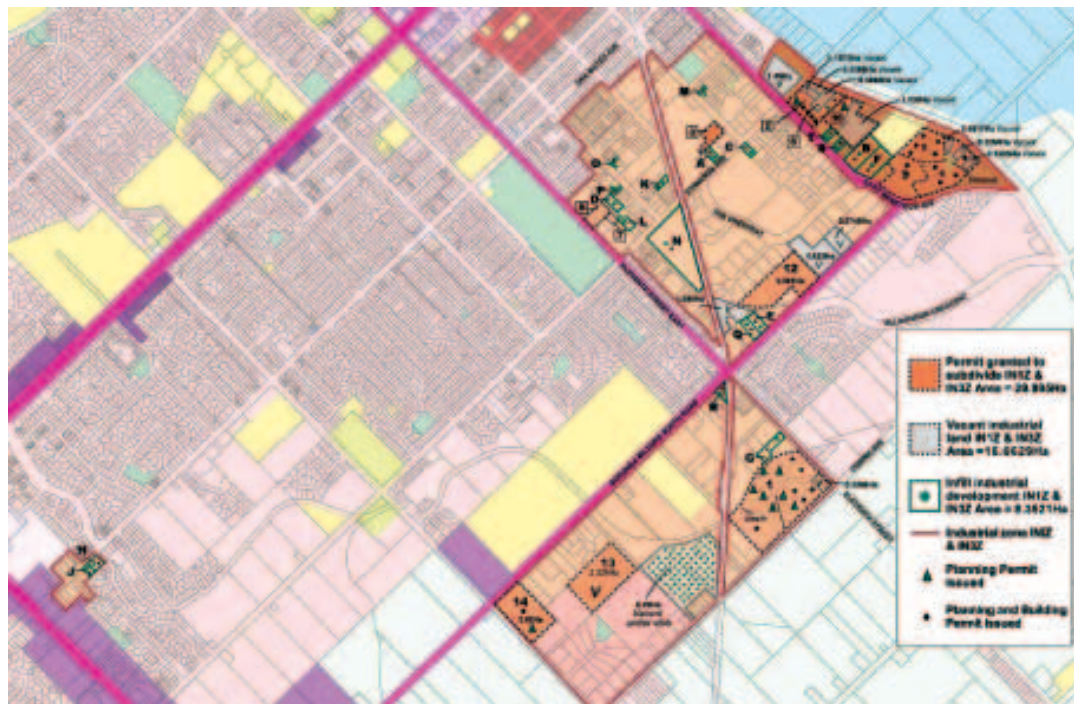
Mildura Industrial Estate

The Mildura Industrial Estate has seen further development and planning since 2001 as demonstrated below:

- **Subdivision** A total of 30 ha of industrial land was subdivided into 78 lots, equating to a rate of subdivision of approximately 6 ha and 15 new lots per year.
- **Development** A total of 30 ha of land committed to industrial development, equating to a development rate of approximately 6 ha per year.
- **Existing Vacant Land Supply and Capacity** 16.6 ha of land undeveloped. At a rate of 0.7 ha average land requirement for development recorded over the past 5 years, it is estimated 21 developments could be accommodated.

Additionally, the Mildura Rural City Council is also considering re-zoning 70 ha for future industrial development.

Recent subdivision and building activity in Mildura Industrial Estate 2000-05



Source: Mildura Rural City Council (2006), 'Industrial Land Strategy Update Final Report December 2007'.

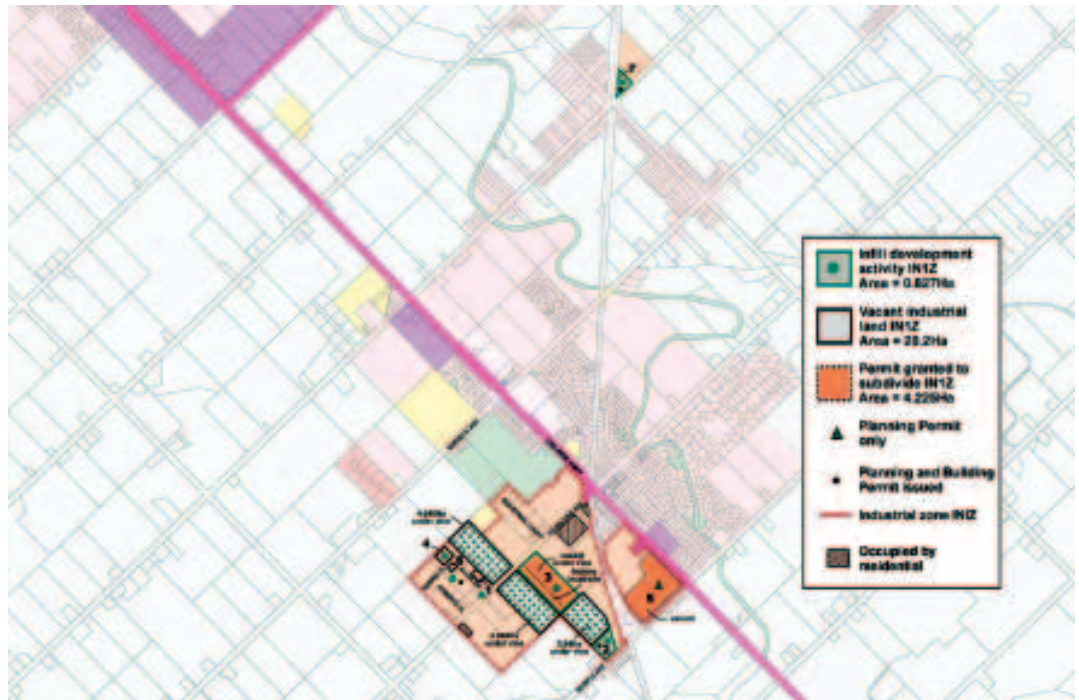
Irymple Industrial Estate

The recent development activity at the Irymple Industrial Estate since 2001 is demonstrated below:

- **Subdivision** 4.225 ha over the five years creating 4 new industrial development lots, equating to a rate of 0.6 ha and 0.8 ha lots per year.
- **Development** 0.8274 ha of land committed to industrial development, equating to a rate of 0.16 ha per year.
- **Existing Vacant Land Supply and Capacity** 20.2 ha of land undeveloped, accommodating an estimated 91 additional developments.

There is a currently 113.75 years supply of industrial land.

Recent Subdivision and building activity in Irymple Industrial Estate 2000-05



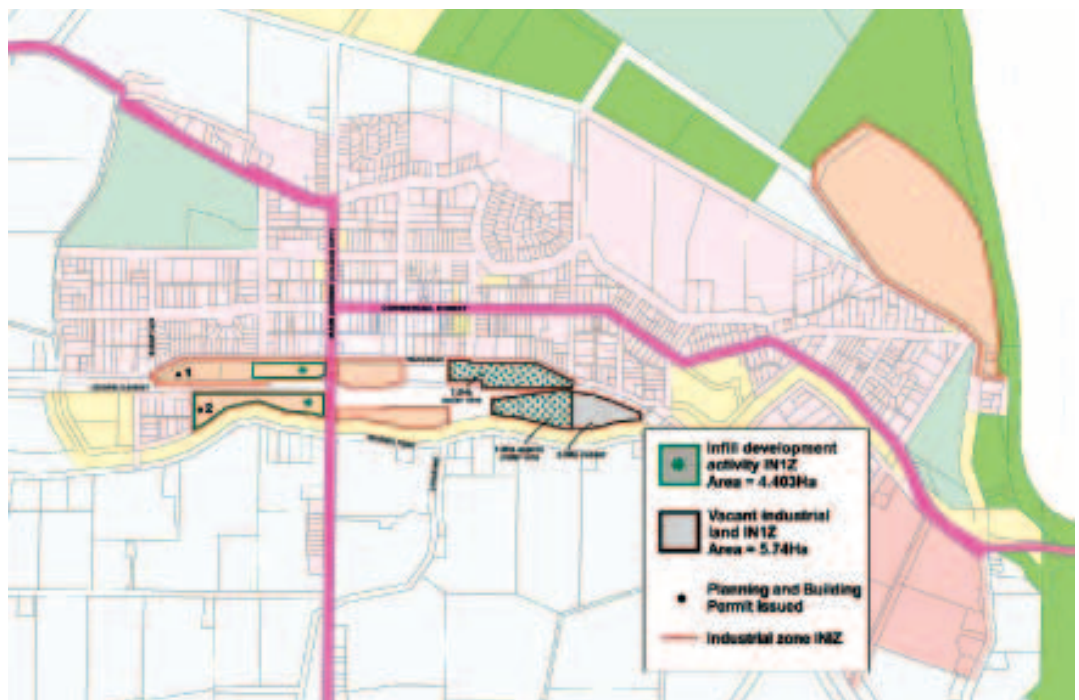
Source: Mildura Rural City Council (2006). 'Industrial Land Strategy Update Final Report December 2007'.

Merbein Industrial Estate

Recent activity in the Merbein Industrial Estate is highlighted below:

- **Subdivision** No industrial subdivision occurred.
- **Development** 4.403 ha of land committed to industrial development, equating to a development rate of 0.88 ha per year.
- **Existing Vacant Land Supply and Capacity** 5.74 ha of land undeveloped, at an average rate of 2.2 ha per development, it is estimated that an additional 2 developments could be accommodated.

Recent Subdivision and building activity in Merbein Industrial Estate 2000-05



Source: Mildura Rural City Council (2006). 'Industrial Land Strategy Update Final Report December 2007'.

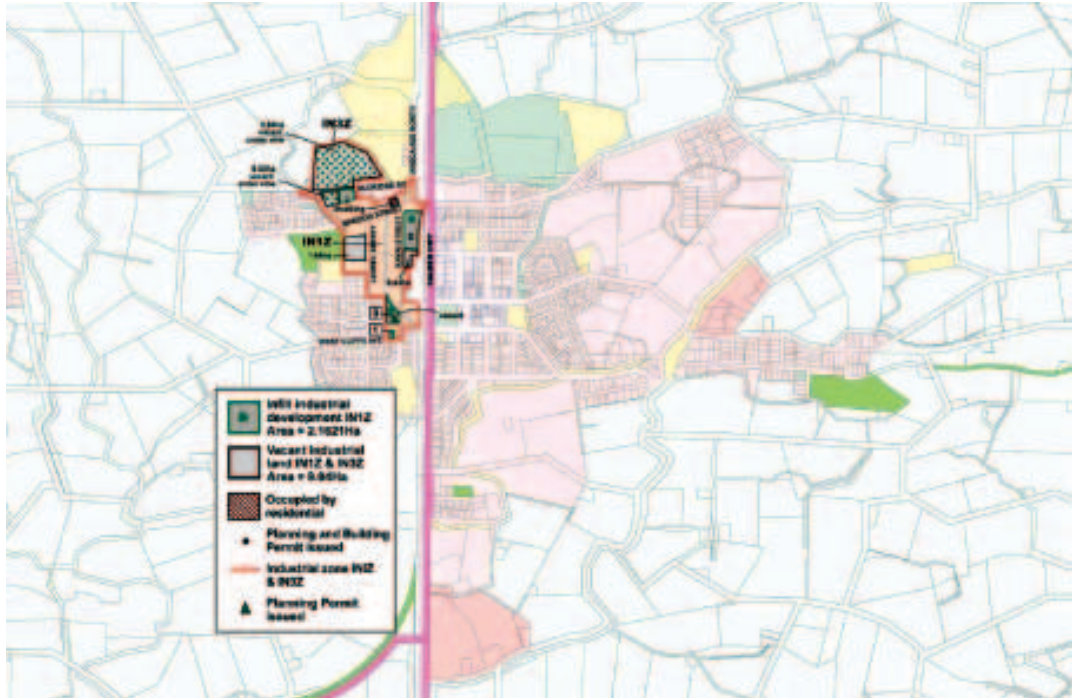
Red Cliffs Industrial Estate

The recent development activity in the Red Cliffs Industrial Estate is highlighted below:

- **Subdivision** No industrial subdivision.
- **Development** 1.5581 ha of land committed to industrial development, equating to a development rate of 0.31 ha per year.
- **Existing Vacant Land Supply and Capacity** 9.044 ha of industrial land undeveloped. At an average rate of 0.77 ha per development it is estimated an additional 11 developments could be accommodated.

There is a current 27.5 years supply of industrial land according to recent studies.

Recent Subdivision and building activity in Red Cliffs Industrial Estate 2000-05



Source: Mildura Rural City Council (2006), 'Industrial Land Strategy Update Final Report December 2007'.

Non Urban Industrial Estates (Thurla, Koorlong)

The Non Urban Industrial Estates have been going through various planning processes in order to ensure that they are ready when industrial development starts to begin:

- **Subdivision** 220.83 ha of non urban industrial areas was subdivided creating 35 new industrial development lots, equating to a rate of 44.2 ha and 7 new lots.
- **Development** No development activity within the non urban industrial estates.
- **Existing Vacant Land Supply and Capacity** All of the 632 ha of land within the non urban industrial estates is undeveloped.

These areas are capable of accommodating a significant amount of long term, large lot, industrial needs.



Source: Mildura Rural City Council (2006). 'Industrial Land Strategy Update Final Report December 2007'.

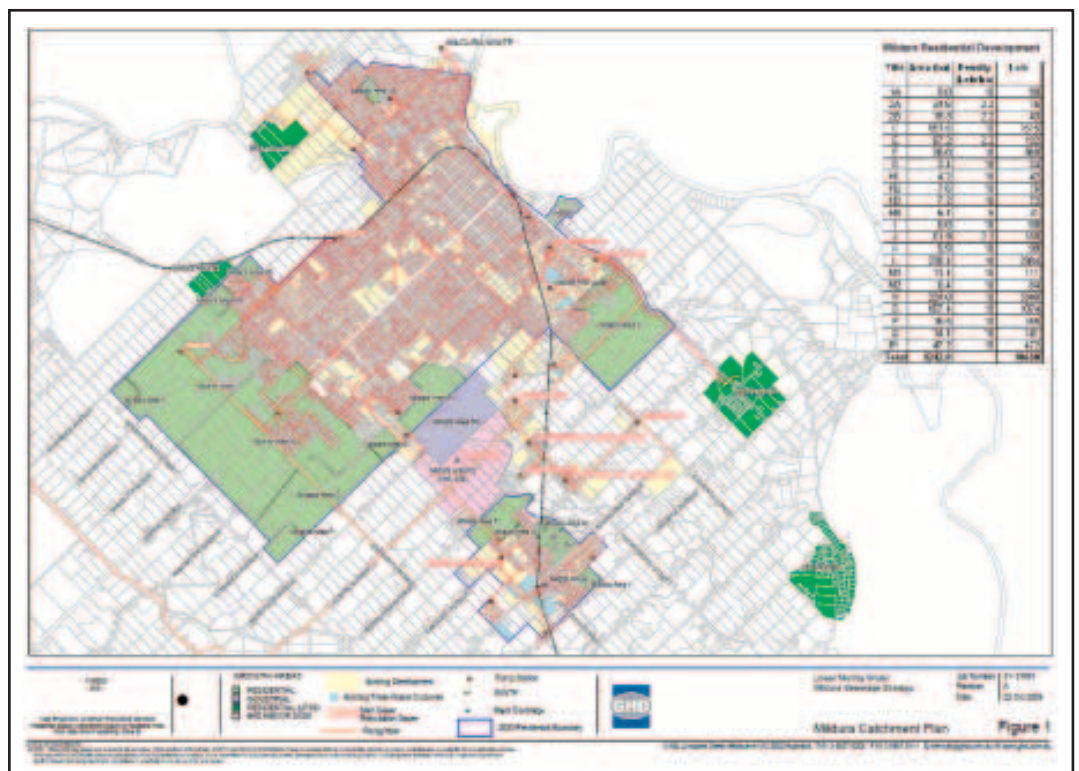
Residential

The 1,602 hectares of residential growth area in the Mildura Region and includes:

- 1,424 hectares in Mildura and Irymple;
- 121 hectares in Red Cliffs; and
- 57 hectares in Merbein.

The three figures below show these residential growth areas, where the light green shade indicates future development and the grey shade indicates existing development.

Mildura & Irymple Growth Areas



Source: Lower Murray Water Mildura Sewerage Strategy, GHD (2008)

MERIDEN

Title	Area (ha)	Priority	Lots
A	12.2	90	20
B	20.9	90	366
C	11.3	90	112
Total	31.4		181

REDCLIFFS

Title	Area (ha)	Priority	Lots
A1	20.2	90	912
A2	26.1	90	261
B	3.4	90	12
C1	15.4	90	1140
C2	26.9	90	2840
C3	13.8	90	970
Total	121.8		1240

Legend:

- Water (blue)
- Water (green)
- Water (yellow)
- Water (orange)
- Water (red)
- Water (purple)
- Water (brown)
- Water (pink)
- Water (grey)
- Water (white)
- Water (black)
- Water (dark blue)
- Water (light blue)
- Water (medium blue)
- Water (dark green)
- Water (light green)
- Water (medium green)
- Water (dark yellow)
- Water (light yellow)
- Water (medium yellow)
- Water (dark orange)
- Water (light orange)
- Water (medium orange)
- Water (dark red)
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- Water (medium red)
- Water (dark purple)
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- Water (dark brown)
- Water (light brown)
- Water (medium brown)
- Water (dark pink)
- Water (light pink)
- Water (medium pink)
- Water (dark grey)
- Water (light grey)
- Water (medium grey)
- Water (dark white)
- Water (light white)
- Water (medium white)

Scale: 1:10,000

North Arrow: [Symbol]

Meriden and Red Cliffs Catchment Plans

GHD

Contact: [Details]

Commercial and Retail

Regional centre:
Vacant floor area:
Undeveloped sites:

Sub-regional centre:
Vacant floor area:

Peripheral sales:

Fifteenth Street Precinct

Town centres:

Red Cliffs, Wentworth, Merbein, Dareton and Irymple

Neighbourhood centres:

small centres of up to 15 shops dispersed throughout the Mildura region.

Local shops:

convenience outlets serving daily needs

Quality of Life



The Mildura region has an excellent quality of life that continues to attract residents and businesses alike. Residents enjoy the country lifestyle with metropolitan amenities. Businesses benefit from the high quality of life that makes it easy to attract and retain staff.

The Mildura region offers a great lifestyle, affordable housing and low cost of living.

Cost of Living

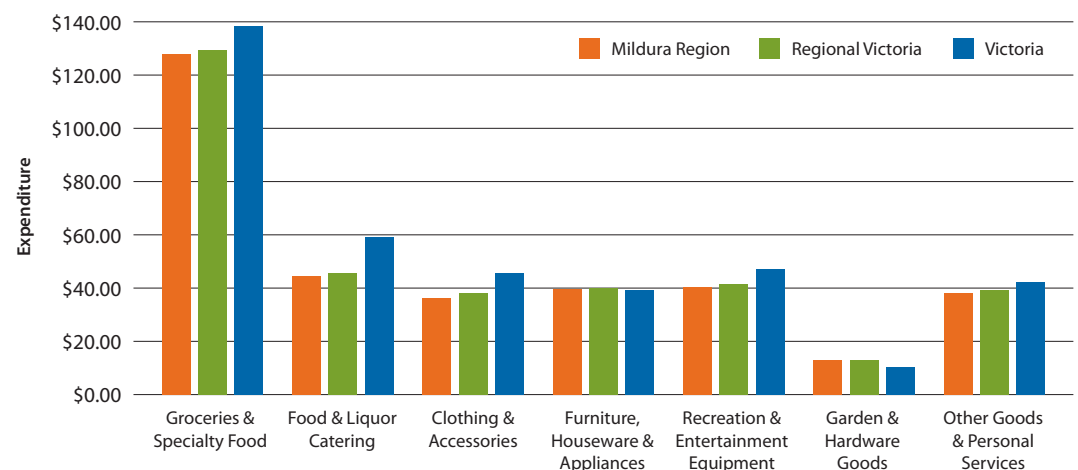
The cost of living in the Mildura region is less than many other parts of Australia, including the capital cities. This advantage means that residents enjoy a high quality of life at a discounted price. For employers, it means that employees can afford a better lifestyle for the same salary as compared to other potential locations.

Comparison of Weekly Household Retail Expenditure, Mildura Region, Regional Victoria and Victoria, 2008-2009

	2008-09	% Difference Regional Victoria	% Difference Victoria
Mildura Rural City Council	\$338.8	-2.2%	-11.4%
Wentworth Shire Council	\$344.2	-0.7%	-9.9%
Mildura Region	\$339.4	-2.1%	-11.2%
Regional Victoria	\$346.6		
Victoria	\$382.2		

Source: AECgroup Retail Model (2008)

Cost of Living Comparison, 2008-2009



Source: AECgroup Retail Model (2008)

Recreational and Sporting Activities

The region offers a diverse range of quality recreation and sporting facilities which assists to attract employees to the region. The sporting facilities support local clubs to host major sporting events in a wide range of sports at a State, National and International level which supports the local tourism industry.

A selected sample of events and festivals on offer throughout the region are outlined in the table below.

A Sample of Events and Festivals

Event Name	Month	Description
Murray River International Music Festival	January	Combines food, wine and the river environment with music by international performers.
Mildura Wentworth Arts Festival	March	Provides a combination of events ranging from emerging stars, indigenous artists, to high profile productions.
Easter Power Sports	March/April	A major event in Mildura, tourists swarm to Mildura to enjoy the power sports and camping along the river.
Mildura Cup Carnival	May	Provides the perfect atmosphere of racing, glamour and fashion.
Mildura Eisteddfod	June	Aims to identify the many talents of our competitors. The Mildura Eisteddfod is an annual event with competition in Piano, Vocal, Choral, Instrumental, Speech, Drama and Dance.
Mildura Writers Festival	July	Considered one of the finest literary festivals in the country, recognized for directly engaging environmental and social sustainability issues through art.
Golf Week	July	Numerous golf courses are located in the Mildura region, and each year golfers from around Australia gather to compete in graded championship, mixed and other events.
Mildura Masters Games	August	Sports include athletics, swimming, darts, equestrian, football - super rules, indoor rowing, mountain bike riding, petanque and wine tasting, public speaking, ten pin bowling, rowing small bore, golf and softball.
Mildura Jazz, Food & Wine Festival	November	A combination of regional wines and contemporary jazz in a variety of locations.
Great Australian Vanilla Slice Triumph	September	Bakers across Australia come to compete for the Best Vanilla Slice.
Motor sports		Olympic Park Motorcycle Complex and Timmis Speedway are home to drag racing, motorcycle and sedan speedway racing, sprint cars, speed cars and hot rods.
Numerous bowls and tennis events		Mildura hosted the Davis Cup in 1998 and the Federation Cup in 2009.

Over 300 festivals and events are held in the Mildura region each year.

Source: AECgroup; Mildura Visitors' Handbook; www.visitmildura.com.au (2009)
Note: This list is not exhaustive.



The Mildura region has a number of attractions for visitors and residents, including:

Attractions, Mildura Region

Attractions
Nature
• The Murray River
• Mungo National Park (part of the World Heritage Listed Willandra Lakes)
• Numerous National Parks
• Lang's Native Plant Nursery
• Australian Inland Botanic Gardens
• Orange World
• Farmers' Markets
• Almost 40 local wineries, many of which have cellar doors
• Local produce
Cultural
• Langtree Hall Museum
• Mildura Arts Centre & Gallery
• Historic Churches
• Millewa Pioneer Village
• Carringbush Glass Gallery
• Gallery of China and Ceramics
• Red Cliffs Historical Steam Railway
• Old Wentworth Gaol
• Mildura Brewery Pub
• Big Lizzie Giant Tractor
• Turlee Station Stay
• Psyche Pumps
• The Chaffey Trail
• Langtree Hall Museum
• Mildura Arts Centre & Gallery
• Historic Churches
• Millewa Pioneer Village
• Carringbush Glass Gallery
• Gallery of China and Ceramics
• Red Cliffs Historical Steam Railway
• Old Wentworth Gaol
• Mildura Brewery Pub
• Big Lizzie Giant Tractor
• Turlee Station Stay
• Psyche Pumps
• The Chaffey Trail
Sport & Recreation
• Mildura Formula K Grand Prix Go Karts
• Mildura Golf Club Resort
• Putt Putt Mildura
• Sun City Rollerama
• House of Golf - Sunraysia Golf Range
• Sunraysia Tenpin
• Arnnie's Laserforce
• Snakes 'N' Ladders
• Wentworth Services Golf Club
• Wentworth Services Sporting Club
• Coomealla Memorial Sporting Club
• Coomealla Golf Club
• Houseboat and boat hire
• Historic paddleboat and steam train tours
• International standard grass tennis courts
• International standard motor sport facilities
• Mildura Waves Aquatic & Leisure Centre
• Deakin Cinema Complex
Other
• Over 300 events and festival held in the region each year ranging from food and wine to the arts, music and sporting events
• PS Melbourne, PB Rothbury & PS Mundoo (River Cruising)
• Woodsies Gem Shop
• Masseurs and Day Spas
• Hot air balloon and scenic flights over Mildura
• Stefano's Restaurant

Source: AECgroup; Mildura Visitors' Handbook

Note: This list is not exhaustive. Attractions have been classified for simplicity.

For a list of local wineries and cellar doors, visit www.mildurawines.com.au and download a copy of the Mildura Region Wine Map.

Please see page 66 for Mildura Tourism's contact details along with contact details for the Mildura and Wentworth Visitor Information Centres.

The Mildura region has a vast array of health, allied health and community services.

Healthcare

The Mildura region is privileged to have excellent healthcare facilities for its residents. This infrastructure ensures that residents can continue to enjoy the quality of life.

The table below provides a list of the type of medical facilities and services that are on offer throughout the region.

Medical Services in the Mildura region (2009)

Type of Service	Facilities
Mildura Base Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardiology (limited) • Community and Inpatient Mental Health Services • Chemotherapy • Day Surgery • Dialysis • Emergency Services • ENT Surgery • Faciomaxillary Surgery • General Medicine • General Surgery • Hospital in the Home • Intensive Care • Obstetrics and Gynaecology • Oncology • Ophthalmology • Orthopaedics • Paediatrics • Psychiatry • Rehabilitation Services • Urology <p>Comprehensive Pathology, Imaging, Pharmacy and Allied Health Services are also available on-site. Resident medical staff provide medical cover 24 hours a day, working in liaison with visiting medical officers.</p>
Mildura Private Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Surgery • Orthopaedic Surgery including joint replacements • Plastic / Reconstructive Surgery • Gynaecological Surgery • Gastric Laparoscopic Banding • ENT Surgery • Faciomaxillary Surgery • Cardiac Pacemaker Insertion • Urology Surgery • Liposuction Procedures • In Vitro-Fertilisation Procedures • Acute General Medicine • Day Procedure Unit • Chemotherapy • High Dependency Unit • Sleep Study • Palliative Care <p>Patients have continuity of care provided by their own admitting doctors and referrals can be made to visiting specialist when required. Contracted pathology, radiology, physiotherapy, diabetes education and dietician are available at all times.</p>
Sunraysia Community Health Services Inc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aged Care • Adult Daily Activity Programs • Adult Public Dental Program • Aged Care Assessment Service • Family Planning • Generalist Counselling Programs • Healthy Living Program (Chronic Disease Self Management Support) • Meals on Wheels • Safe Sex Education • Victims Assistance and Counselling Program • Victorian Aids and Equipment Program • Well Women's Clinic

Cont'd...

Medical Services in the Mildura region (2009) *Cont'd...*

Type of Service	Facilities
Mallee Track Health & Community Service	Bed based services:
	• Acute, emergency and post-natal care
	• Residential aged care and respite
	• Palliative care
	Medical clinic:
	• General Practitioner
	• Practice Nurse
	Allied Health:
	• Occupational Therapy
	• Physiotherapy
	• Hydrotherapy
	• Podiatry
	• Social Worker
	• Public dental service
	• Generalist Counselling
	• Speech Pathologist (visiting)
	• Dietician (visiting)
	• Diabetes Educator (visiting)
	• Chiropractor
	• District Nursing
	• Health Promotion & Education
	• Childcare
	• Meals on Wheels
	• Social Support
	• Planned Activity Groups (Adult Day Activity Programs)
	• Carer support
	• Youth Services support programs
	• X-ray & Ultrasound (visiting)
Aged Care	• Jacaranda Village
	• RegisCare Mildura
	• Oasis Aged Care Inc.
	• Princes Court Homes
	• Chaffey Aged Care
Other Community Health Organisations & Services	• Mildura Aboriginal Health Service (Mildura Aboriginal Corporation)
	• Telephone Counselling (Relationships Australia Victoria)
	• Mildura Rural City Council
	• Accommodation Assistance (Cystic Fibrosis Victoria)
	• Northern Mallee Primary Care Partnership
	• Mallee Family Care
	• Loddon Mallee Women's Health
	• Community Care Options
	• Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services

Source: AECgroup; Mildura Visitors' Handbook, yellow pages, Mildura Base Hospital

Medical practitioners in the town of Mildura include:

- 22 Dentists
- 55 Doctors
- 10 Physiotherapists
- 45 Massage therapists
- 20 Chiropractors

Monash University - Mildura Regional Clinical School (MRCS)

In 2001 the Federal Government provided funding to nine Universities with Medical Schools, to set up Clinical Schools in rural Australia, aimed at training doctors locally with the overall aim of then attracting new medical graduates back to the rural communities to practice.

The Mildura Regional Clinical School rolls out the Monash University Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) course to Years 1-5 students with Years 3, 4 and 5 spending the majority of their time on the MRCS campus.

Monash University was one of the Universities funded by the Federal Government, and as such the Monash University School of Rural Health has established the Mildura Region Clinical School (MRCS).

New facilities were constructed for the MRCS within the grounds of the Mildura Base Hospital. Facilities consist of tutorial and meeting rooms, academic and administrative offices and clinical teaching consulting rooms. A separate building provides residential accommodation for 10 students. MRCS also leases residential properties within Mildura for student accommodation. In 2009, additional building works occurred including new tutorial rooms, academic offices and a Clinical Skills laboratory.

The academic program centres on clinical experiences in the Mildura Base Hospital, general practices in the region and local indigenous communities. A particular focus of MRCS is to establish educational and research programs for health disciplines other than medicine.

www.med.monash.edu.au/srh/mildura/

Lifestyle in the Mildura Region

Residents of the Mildura region make the most of the temperate, and year-round Mediterranean climate by enjoying an active, relaxed outdoors lifestyle that centres around the Murray and Darling Rivers. Residents and tourists alike enjoy navigating the river by houseboat, paddleboat, canoe or kayak and partake in activities such as fishing, swimming and water sports.

The dining and winery experience is an important aspect of the lifestyle enjoyed in the region. Residents enjoy a range of dining options from alfresco restaurants to sidewalk cafes, including award-winning Stefano's restaurant. Meals enjoyed are complemented by a number of affordable quality wines produced in the Mildura wine region.

A multitude of attractions, festivals and events on offer in the region ensure residents enhance community cohesion and provide entertainment for residents of all ages. Residents and tourists have a variety of activities to choose from, whether it be exploring the national parks, partaking in a local festival or event, touring the wine region or floating down the Murray River.

Residents of the Mildura Region enjoy a unique lifestyle for a number of reasons, including:

- **Climate** The region has a 'Mediterranean' climate that allows residents to enjoy outdoor markets, events and activities year-round.
- **Environment** A combination of the Murray and Darling Rivers, national parks and the wine region provide a variety of activities for residents to enjoy.
- **Culture** A range of historical sites, arts festivals and events provide ongoing entertainment for the community and a unique environment to live in.
- **Services** The Mildura region has excellent health, allied health, retail, business and professional services.
- **Infrastructure** An ever expanding airport, road, rail and air transport, and well maintained utility services.

Useful Contacts



Cardross Progress Association Inc.

PO Box 60, Cardross Vic 3496
Telephone +61 (3) 5024 1141
Email billandi@inet.net.au

Department of Planning & Community Development

131 Langtree Ave, Mildura Vic 3500
Telephone +61 (3) 5051 2000
www.dpcd.vic.gov.au

Irymple Progress Association Inc.

PO Box 441, Irymple Vic 3498
Telephone +61 (0) 417 845 262
Email tashmiller7@bigpond.com

Merbein Development Association Inc.

PO Box 750, Merbein Vic 3505
Telephone +61 (0) 458 256 263
Email gloria.wall@bigpond.com
www.merbeindevelopmentassociation.org

Mildura Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 410, Mildura Vic 3502
Telephone +61 (3) 5021 4221
www.mildurachamber.com.au

Mildura City Heart

1st Floor, Civic Building,
76-85 Deakin Ave, Mildura Vic 3500
Telephone +61 (3) 5018 8157
Email richard.morfaw@mildura.vic.gov.au
www.milduracity.com.au

Mildura Tourism

PO Box 3103, Mildura Vic 3502
Telephone +61 (3) 5021 0599
Facsimile +61 (3) 5021 0599
Email admin@milduratourism.com.au
www.visitmildura.com.au

Mildura Visitor Information & Booking Centre

Cnr Deakin Ave and Twelfth St,
Mildura Vic 3500
Telephone +61 (3) 5018 8380
Freecall 1800 039 043 (within Australia)
Email tourism@mildura.vic.gov.au

Mildura Young Professionals Network

PO Box 10179, Mildura Vic 3502
Telephone +61 (0) 414 691 481
Email info@milduraypn.com
www.milduraypn.com

Millewa Advisory Group Inc.

PO Box 10, Werrimull Vic 3496
Email ehyates@activ8.net.au

Murrayville Local Government Liaison Committee Inc.

RSD 607, Murrayville Vic 3512
Email pmwillersdorf@bigpond.com

Nangiloc / Colignan and District Community Association Inc.

PO Box 236, Nangiloc Vic 3494
Telephone +61 (3) 5029 1403

Ouyen Inc.

PO Box 168, Ouyen Vic 3490
Email ouyeninc@ouyen.vic.au
www.ouyen.vic.au

Regional Development Victoria - Mildura Office

131 Langtree Ave, Mildura Vic 3500
Telephone +61 (3) 5051 2000
Email costa.skiadas@rdv.vic.gov.au
www.business.vic.gov.au

The Red Cliffs Chamber of Commerce Inc.

PO Box 1166, Red Cliffs Vic 3494
Telephone +61 (3) 5024 3650
Email settlernews@bigpond.com

The Walpeup and District Development Committee Inc.

Post Office, Walpeup Vic 3507
Telephone +61 (3) 5094 1268
Email daryl.elliott5@bigpond.com

Torrita Hall and Progress Association Inc.

Community Mail Bag, Torrita Vic 3490
Telephone +61 (3) 5094 6375
Email jimnev1@bigpond.com

TradeStart

PO Box 2244, Mildura Vic 3502
Telephone +61 (3) 5023 2363
Email export@sunraysia.com.au
www.sunraysia.com.au

Underbool Progress Group Inc.

