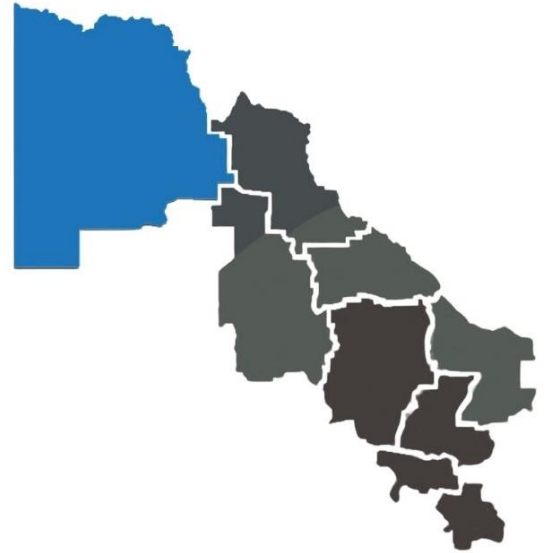


# MILDURA DATA PROFILE


## 2024






# Mildura Data Profile

Produced by Bendigo Health,  
Loddon Mallee Public Health Unit  
Version Oct 2024

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  We acknowledge the First Peoples of Australia who are the Traditional Custodians of the land and water where we live, work and play. We celebrate that this is the oldest living and continuous culture in the world. We are proud to be sharing the land that we work on and recognise that sovereignty was never ceded.

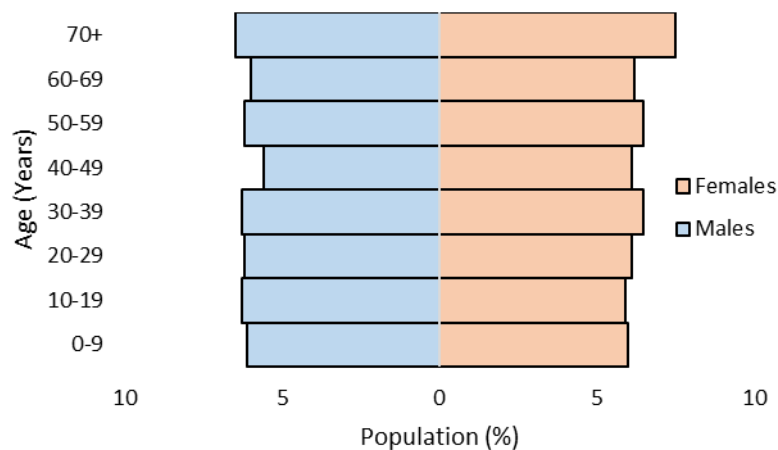
   We welcome all cultures, nationalities and religions. Being inclusive and providing equitable healthcare is our commitment.

## Data Snapshot

The Mildura local government area is situated in the far north-west corner of Victoria, within the Mallee sub-region of the Loddon Mallee. It has a culturally diverse population with the state's largest proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Mildura, like much of regional Victoria, has an aging population with a higher burden of chronic disease and disability than the state average. There are also high rates of health risk factors such as obesity, alcohol consumption and smoking. The median income for individuals, families and households are all below that of the state and Mildura has high homelessness rates. With 98% of the region bushfire prone and increasing average temperatures the region, it is likely to be significantly impacted by climate change.

This document has been prepared to provide a data profile on the health and wellbeing of the local government area of Mildura. It contains publicly available data that has been collated and summarised to inform local government, health services, advocacy and community groups.

### Mildura Age Profile



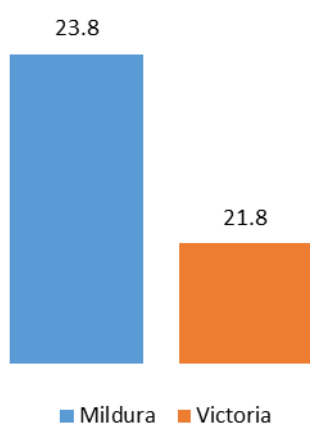
### Median household income:

Mildura \$1,341  
Victoria \$1,746

### People experiencing homelessness:

Mildura 62.6 per 100,000  
Victoria 46.9 per 100,000

### Birth Rate



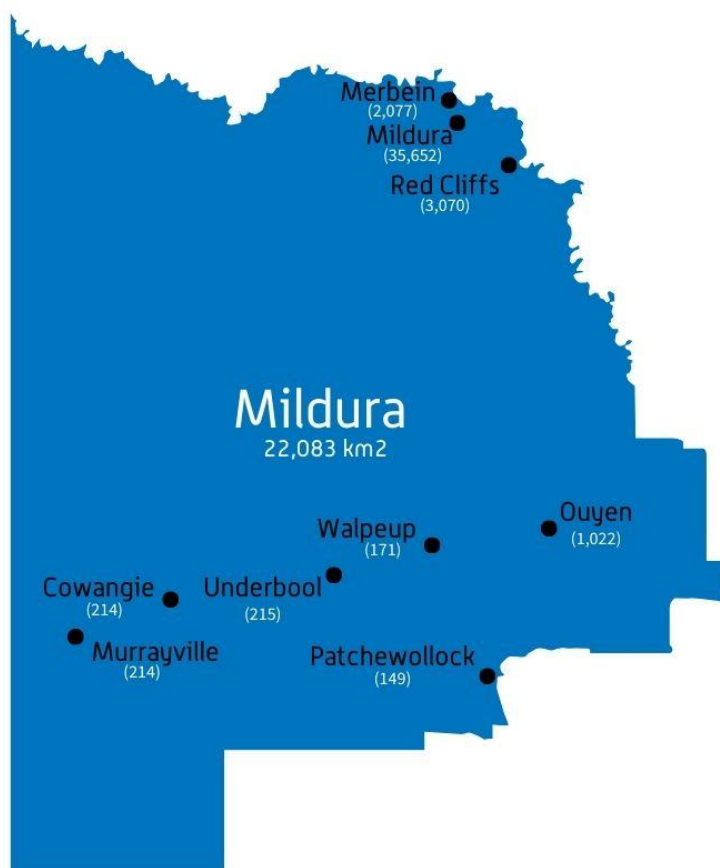
### Indigenous Population



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## Local Government Area (LGA) Summary - Mildura



The local government area of Mildura Rural City is located in the north west of the Loddon Mallee region, bordering Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia. Known locally as Sunraysia and on the banks of the Murray River, the region occupies almost 10% of Victoria and is home to 56,972 people (2021).

The economic drivers for the region are predominately broad acre farming, medium and small scale horticultural farming and associated industries. State and wilderness together with national parks also occupy vast areas of the region.

According to geographical remoteness classifications within the [Modified Monash Model \(MMM\) 2019](#), the region comprises in three MMM categories (3, 5 and 6) which reflects large rural towns (Mildura), small rural towns and remote communities.

It is acknowledged that Mildura Rural City is situated on the traditional lands of the Latji Latji and Barkndji people, who have been custodians of our land and water ways for thousands of years.

**Source:** [Hattah-Kulkyne National Park \(parks.vic.gov.au\)](https://parks.vic.gov.au/), [City Profile \(mildura.vic.gov.au\)](https://mildura.vic.gov.au/), [Regional City of Mildura - Regional Development Victoria \(rdv.vic.gov.au\)](https://rdv.vic.gov.au/)

[2021 Mildura, Census All persons Quick Stats | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://abs.gov.au/)

# 1. Population

## 1.1 General Population

Mildura's population profile, based on ABS data obtained from the census reveals a slightly older demographic. The median age of 40 years is slightly higher than the state median of 38 years. The percentage of people aged 70 and above is also higher in Mildura compared to the state average. The male-female ratio is slightly skewed towards females.

	Mildura	Victoria
<b>Median age</b>	40	38

	Mildura		% Mildura		% Victoria	
Age Groups	Male	Female	% Male	% Female	% Male	% Female
0-9 years	3,468	3,406	6.1	6.0	6.1	5.8
10-19 years	3,596	3,358	6.3	5.9	6.0	5.6
20-29 years	3,512	3,466	6.2	6.1	6.9	6.9
30-39 years	3,565	3,686	6.3	6.5	7.4	7.8
40-49 years	3,217	3,492	5.6	6.1	6.4	6.6
50-59 years	3,539	3,715	6.2	6.5	5.9	5.9
60-69 years	3,444	3,515	6.0	6.2	5.0	5.5
70+ years	3,702	4,296	6.5	7.5	5.4	6.5
Total	28,040	28,932	49.2	50.8	49.2	50.6

Source: [2021 Mildura, Census All persons Quick Stats](#) | [Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)

## 1.2 Indigenous Status

Mildura has a significant Indigenous population which makes up 4.6% of the total population. This is considerably higher than the state average of 1%. The median age of Mildura's Indigenous population is younger at 20 years, compared to the state median of 24 years. The median age is also significantly younger than the average of the total Mildura population.

Indigenous status	Mildura	% Mildura	Victoria	% Victoria
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	2,621	4.6	65,646	1
Non-Indigenous	50,208	88.1	6,148,188	94.5
Indigenous status not stated	4,140	7.3	289,665	4.5
Median age of Indigenous population	20		24	

Source: [2021 Mildura, Census All persons Quick Stats](#) | [Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)

### 1.3 Culture Diversity

A substantial majority of Mildura's residents, accounting for 84.5% of the total population, are Australian citizens with 78% being born in Australia. It is noteworthy that 8.2% of the population in Mildura consists of people who are not Australian citizens. Language use patterns reveal that a vast majority (79.9%) of Mildura's residents speak English only. However, a small percentage (0.7%) speak other languages and do not use English at all. Overall, Mildura's population profile reflects a blend of cultural and linguistic diversity, contributing to the multicultural fabric of the region.

Australian Citizenship	People	% Mildura	Victoria	% Victoria
Australian Citizen	48,117	84.5	5,389,821	83
Not stated	4,181	7.3	303,333	5
Not an Australian Citizen	4,680	8.2	810,344	12
Speaks English only	45,513	79.9	4,369,804	67
Uses other language and speaks English: Not well	1,500	2.6	216,541	3
Uses other language and speaks English: Not at all	406	0.7	69,334	1
Total Pop	56,972		6,503,491	

Source: [Census of Population and Housing, 2021, TableBuilder](#)

Country of birth, top responses (all people)	Mildura	% Mildura	Victoria	% Victoria
Australia	44,464	78.0	4,228,667	65.0
<i>Other top responses:</i>				
Malaysia	1,097	1.9	62,662	1.0
England	701	1.2	174,552	2.7
India	627	1.1	258,193	4.0
Italy	520	0.9	64,796	1.0
New Zealand	453	0.8	99,344	1.5

Source: [2021 Mildura, Census All persons QuickStats | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)

Language used at home other than English, top responses (all people)	Mildura	% Mildura	Victoria	% Victoria
Mandarin	953	1.7	221,798	3.4
Italian	831	1.5	92,320	1.4
Turkish	431	0.8	34,864	0.5
Vietnamese	408	0.7	118,801	1.8
Punjabi	407	0.7	104,949	1.6
English only used at home	45,513	79.9	436,9804	67.2
Households where a non-English language is used	2,919	13.7	722,004	30.2

Source: [2021 Mildura, Census All persons QuickStats | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)

## 1.4 LGBTIQ+ population

Unfortunately, there is a lack of local data on LGBTIQ+ population including population size and health and wellbeing data. There is data at a state and national level that can be used as an indicator. The Victorian Population Health Survey 2017 estimates 5.7 per cent of Victorian adults identify as LGBTIQ+, however some rural areas have attracted significantly higher proportion of LGBTIQ+ people to their communities.

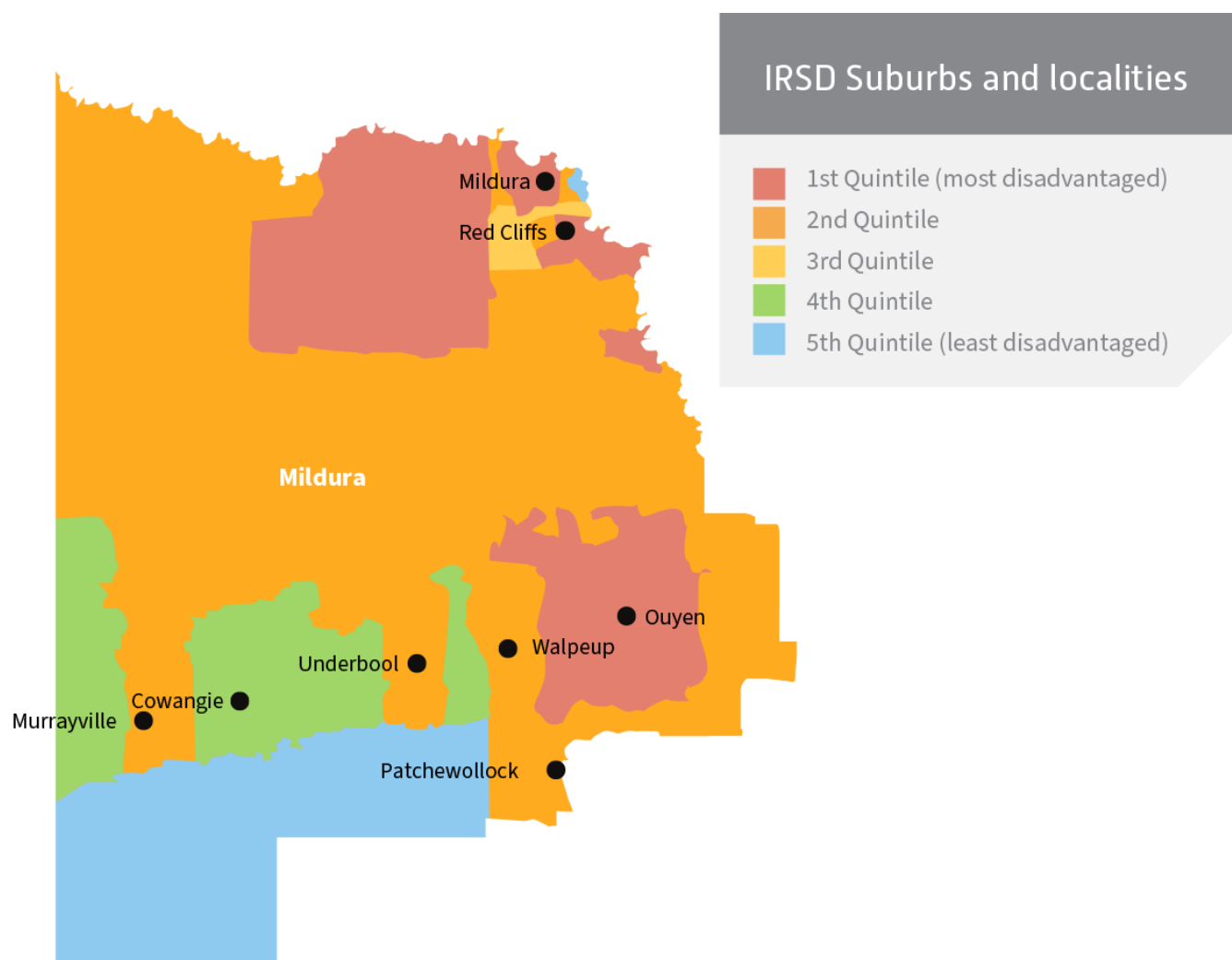
State and national data indicates poorer mental and physical health for LGBTIQ+ community members. There is also significantly higher rates of drug use, alcohol, smoking, chronic disease, homelessness, and disability along with higher rates of anxiety and depression, psychological stress and low satisfaction with life.

Sources and for more information: [Pride in our future: Victoria's LGBTIQ+ strategy 2022–32 | vic.gov.au \(www.vic.gov.au\)](#)

[The health and wellbeing of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer population in Victoria - Findings from the Victorian Population Health Survey 2017 | Victorian Agency for Health Information \(vahi.vic.gov.au\)](#)

## 1.4 Areas of Disadvantage

The Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD) is a general socio-economic index that summarises a range of information about the economic and social conditions of people and households within an area. Within the Mildura LGA there are areas calculated to have the highest relative disadvantage and areas with the least relative disadvantage. The areas of the most disadvantage cluster around the most populated areas of Mildura, Red Cliffs and Ouyen.



Source: [ABS: Census of population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes from areas \(SEIFA\), 2021](#)



## 2 Prevention and Determinants

### 2.1 Prevalence of selected health risk factors for adults

The prevalence of high or very high psychological distress is slightly higher in Mildura at 14.7%, compared to the state average of 13.3%. Similarly, the region exhibits a higher prevalence of high blood pressure (23.8% in Mildura versus 22.7% in Victoria) and obesity (38.1% in Mildura versus 31.3% in Victoria). Mildura also shows a higher percentage of current smokers (23.4% compared to 15.5% in Victoria) and people consuming more than two standard alcoholic drinks per day on average (20.4% in Mildura versus 14.4% in Victoria). The data suggests Mildura experiences higher rates in certain health risk factors which may impact long term health measures.

Indicators^ (ASR per 100 population, modelled estimates), 18 years and over, self reporting 2017-2018	Mildura	Victoria
High or very high psychological distress	14.7	13.3
High blood pressure	23.8	22.7
Overweight (but not obese)	35	36.4
Obese	38.1	31.3
Current smokers	23.4	15.5
Consumed more than two standard alcoholic drinks per day on average	20.4	14.4
Consumed adequate fruit intake	48	51.5
Undertook low, very low or no exercise in the previous week	70.5	65.7

Source: Source: [Social Health Atlas of Australia: Victoria, published 2023](#)

^ASR per 100. Age Standardise Rate (ASR) is used to remove the effect of the differing age distributions that we can make conclusions about the relative decreases or increases in mortality over time.

### 2.2 Alcohol and other drugs

The alcohol and other drugs statistics for Mildura, based on the provided data, highlight certain trends and patterns in the region's substance use landscape. The statistics are presented per 100,000 population.

In general, it appears that Mildura experiences higher rates of alcohol-related deaths and ambulance attendances but lower hospital admissions, when compared to Victoria. Mildura has less deaths and hospital admissions related to illicit drug taking but higher ambulance attendance.

Alcohol and other drug Indicators (rate per 100,000 population)	Mildura	Victoria
Deaths for alcohol-related events, FY-2021	147.44	142.83
Deaths for illicit drug (any)-related events in, FY-2021	0.00	0.60
Ambulance attendances for Alcohol Intoxication (w/wo Other Substance), FY-2022/23	548.8	390.42
Ambulance attendances for Alcohol Only (Intoxication), FY-2022/23	470.2	314.57
Ambulance attendances for Illicit Drugs (Any), FY-2022/23	244.7	199.40
Hospital admissions for Alcohol, FY-2021	494.98	577.91
Hospital admissions for Illicit Drugs (Any), FY-2021	240.47	273.98

Source: [Alcohol and other drug statistics in Victoria - AODstats](#)

These statistics are presented per 100,000 population

## 2.3 Life Expectancy

The median age at death for both males and females in Mildura remained stable from 2016 to 2021, showing no percentage difference compared to Victoria. This suggests that, on average, individuals in Mildura are experiencing a similar life expectancy as their counterparts in the broader state.

Examining premature mortality (deaths occurring before the age of 75), Mildura demonstrated positive trends. For males, there was a substantial reduction from an average annual Age Standardise Rate (ASR) of 460.8 to 273.4, indicating a percentage decrease of 21.5%. Similarly, for females, the average annual ASR decreased from 291.7 to 172.9, reflecting a percentage decrease of 25.8%. These figures signify progress in reducing premature deaths in Mildura, outperforming the state average.

Avoidable mortality (deaths that could have been prevented) also showed improvement in Mildura. For males, there was a decline from an average annual ASR of 242.2 to 139.5, representing a percentage reduction of 24.5%. For females, the average annual ASR decreased from 157.4 to 80, indicating a percentage reduction of 32.5%. Once again, Mildura demonstrates positive strides in addressing avoidable causes of death, surpassing the state average.

	Report - 2016 to 2020 ASR <sup>^</sup> per 100,000				Report - 2017 to 2021 ASR <sup>^</sup> per 100,000				% Difference between reports			
	Mildura		Victoria		Mildura		Victoria		Mildura (%)		Victoria (%)	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Median age at death	78	84	79	85	78	84	79	85	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Premature Mortality, 0 to 74 years of age	460.8	291.7	269.5	171.2	379.4	231.8	273.4	172.9	-21.5	-25.8	1.4	1.0
Avoidable Mortality, 0 to 74 years of age	242.2	157.4	138.3	80.5	194.5	118.8	139.5	80	-24.5	-32.5	0.9	-0.6

Source: [Social Health Atlas of Australia: Victoria, published 2023](#)

[Social Health Atlas of Australia: Victoria, published 2022](#)

<sup>^</sup>Average annual ASR per 100,000. Age Standardise Rate (ASR) is used to remove the effect of the differing age distributions that we can make conclusions about the relative decreases or increases in mortality over time.

## 2.4 Sexual and Reproductive Health

Mildura consistently shows higher birth rates and total fertility rates compared to the Victorian average. Interestingly, the adolescent birth rate in Mildura is notably higher than the Victorian average.

Indicators	2020		2019	
	Mildura	Victoria	Mildura	Victoria
Female Birth - Rate (per 1,000) <sup>1</sup>	23.84	21.8	24.75	22.4
Female Total Fertility Rate - Rate (lifetime) <sup>2</sup>	1.92	1.8	2.08	1.9
Female Adolescent Birth - Aggregate 2 year rate (per 1,000) <sup>3</sup>	21.19	8.2	18.64	9.1

Source: [Victorian Women's Health Atlas \(victorianwomenshealthatlas.net.au\)](https://victorianwomenshealthatlas.net.au)

<sup>1</sup>The rate equals the number of live births in 2020, per 1,000 women of the corresponding LGA. Note: Care should be taken when interpreting changes in fertility rates for Victoria from 2015 to 2018 due to registry system changes and processing of backlogs which may have inflated the birth counts for 2016 and 2017.

<sup>2</sup>The average number of children that a woman in a particular LGA could expect to bear during her reproductive lifetime if current fertility rates in that LGA continue. Note: Care should be taken when interpreting changes in fertility rates for Victoria from 2015 to 2018 due to registry system changes and processing of backlogs which may have inflated the birth counts for 2016 and 2017.

<sup>3</sup>The rate equals the number of live births to women younger than 20 years in the two-year period Jan 2019-Dec 2020, by LGA, per 1,000 women aged 13-19 residing in that LGA.

## 2.5 Sexually transmitted diseases

In 2023 Mildura had higher rates of Chlamydia, Gonorrhoea, Hepatitis B and Syphilis (females) compared to the Victoria averages.

Sexually transmitted diseases (rate per 10,000)	2023				2022			
Indicators	Mildura		Victoria		Mildura		Victoria	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
Chlamydia <sup>1</sup>	23.5	13.0	16.3	18.7	18.6	12.3	14.4	15.7
Gonorrhoea <sup>2</sup>	3.2	5.8	2.5	8.6	5.1	3.7	2.2	8.0
Hepatitis B <sup>3</sup>	1.3	1.1	0.6	0.8	1.0	^	0.7	0.9
Syphilis <sup>4</sup>	2.1	3.2	0.7	2.7	0.9	0.9	0.5	2.5

Source: [Victorian Women's Health Atlas \(victorianwomenshealthatlas.net.au\)](https://victorianwomenshealthatlas.net.au)

<sup>^</sup>Where less than five cases are reported in the year the case rate will not be included.

<sup>1</sup> The rate equals the number of chlamydia cases notified in the year period 2021, by LGA, per 10,000 persons of the corresponding LGA. Notes: (1) Rates based on counts of <5 are assigned an arbitrary count value of 2.5 to enable rate calculation

<sup>2</sup> The rate equals the number of gonorrhoea cases notified in the year period 2021, by LGA, per 10,000 persons of the corresponding LGA. Notes: (1) Rates based on counts of <5 are assigned an arbitrary count value of 2.5 to enable rate calculation. (2) State and region total and averages shown in the Atlas are automatically generated based on LGA location data for female/male sex only and may differ to Victorian totals published elsewhere.

<sup>3</sup> The rate equals the number of hepatitis B cases (total of both newly acquired and unspecified) notified in the year period 2021, by LGA, per 10,000 persons of the corresponding LGA. Notes: (1) Rates based on counts of <5 are assigned an arbitrary count value of 2.5 to enable rate calculation. (2) State and region total and averages shown in the Atlas are automatically generated based on LGA location data for female/male sex only and may differ to Victorian totals published elsewhere.

<sup>4</sup> The rate equals the number of syphilis cases (total of both newly acquired and unspecified) notified in the year period 2021, by LGA, per 10,000 persons of the corresponding LGA. Notes: (1) Rates based on counts of <5 are assigned an arbitrary count value of 2.5 to enable rate calculation. (2) State and region total and averages shown in the Atlas are automatically generated based on LGA location data for female/male sex only and may differ to Victorian totals published elsewhere.

<sup>5</sup> The rate equals the number of HIV cases (total of both newly acquired and unspecified) notified in the year period 2021, by LGA, per 10,000 persons of the corresponding LGA. Notes: (1) Rates based on counts of <5 are assigned an arbitrary count value of 2.5 to enable rate calculation. (2) State and region total and averages shown in the Atlas are automatically generated based on LGA location data for female/male sex only and may differ to Victorian totals published elsewhere.

## 2.6 Health - Selected long-term health condition, 2021

Arthritis and asthma are prevalent in the community, with 9.7% and 10% of the population reporting these conditions respectively. Both conditions show slightly higher prevalence rates in Mildura compared to the state of Victoria.

Cancer affects 3.1% of Mildura's population, which is higher than the state average of 2.8%. Similarly, dementia and diabetes have a lower prevalence in Mildura (0.7% and 5.5% respectively) compared to Victoria.

Heart disease, kidney disease, lung conditions, mental health conditions and stroke also have notable prevalence rates in Mildura, with percentages ranging from 1.1% to 9.9%. These rates are generally in line with or slightly higher than the state averages.

The proportion of Mildura residents having one or more long-term health condition (31.1%) is higher than the state average (27.4%). Further data looking at heart health shows the rates of heart related hospitalisations (43.6 per 10,000) and coronary heart disease mortality (72.0 per 100,000) are both higher than the Victorian average (40.6 per 10,000 and 60.2 per 100,000 respectively).

Type of long-term health condition, 2021	Mildura	% Mildura <sup>^</sup>	Victoria	% Victoria <sup>^</sup>
Asthma	5,676	10	543,047	8.4
Mental health condition (including depression or anxiety)	5,661	9.9	571,150	8.8
Arthritis	5,546	9.7	518,633	8
Diabetes (excluding gestational diabetes)	3,125	5.5	303,371	4.7
Heart disease (including heart attack or angina)	2,721	4.8	243,130	3.7
Cancer (including remission)	1,751	3.1	179,326	2.8
Lung condition (including COPD or emphysema)	1,238	2.2	97,270	1.5
Kidney disease	716	1.3	57,437	0.9
Stroke	626	1.1	59,844	0.9
Dementia (including Alzheimer's)	420	0.7	45,946	0.7
Any other long-term health condition(s)	4,374	7.7	519,110	8
No long-term health condition(s)	31,176	54.7	3,969,506	61
Not stated	6,117	10.7	492,709	7.6

Source: [2021 Mildura, Census All persons Quick Stats | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)

<sup>^</sup>Calculated percentages represent a proportion of the number of people in the area (including those who did not answer the long-term health conditions question).

Count of selected long-term health conditions* (all people)	Mildura	Victoria	%Mildura	%Victoria
All people				
None of the selected conditions	33,132	4,228,219	58.2	65.0
One condition	11,208	1,224,496	20.2	18.8
Two conditions	3,878	371,819	6.8	5.7
Three or more conditions	2,343	186,237	4.1	2.9
Not stated	6,117	492,709	10.7	7.6

\* Selected long-term health conditions include arthritis, asthma, cancer (including remission), dementia (including Alzheimer's), diabetes (excluding gestational diabetes), heart disease (including heart attack or angina), kidney disease, lung condition (including COPD or emphysema), mental health condition (including depression or anxiety) and stroke. Other long-term health conditions are not included in this count.

Source: [2021 Mildura, Census All persons Quick Stats | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)

Heart health indicators	Mildura	Victoria
Heart related hospital admissions (2016-2021)	43.6	40.6
ASR (per 10,000 persons)		
Coronary heart disease mortality (2012-2020)	72.0	60.2
ASR (per 100,000 persons)		

Source: [Heart Foundation – Australian Heart Maps](#)

## 2.7 Avoidable deaths by cause

Avoidable deaths are deaths from conditions that are potentially preventable through individualised care and/or treatable through existing primary or hospital care.

The highest rate of avoidable deaths (0-74 years) in Mildura are circulatory system disease (43.6 per 100,000) and cancer (38.1 per 100,000), both with considerably higher rates compared to Victoria (32.7 per 100,000, 27.8 per 100,000 respectively). Mildura's avoidable deaths in circulatory system disease, cancer, respiratory disease and transport accidents are all statistically significantly higher than Victoria

Avoidable deaths by cause^ (ASR per 100,00) 0-74 yrs, 2017 -2021	Mildura	Victoria
Circulatory system disease	43.6	32.7
Cancer	38.1	27.8
Ischaemic heart disease	26	20.6
Breast cancer	21.2	15.6
External causes (Falls, burns, suicide and self-inflicted injuries etc)	20.1	13.5
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	16.5	10.6
Colorectal cancer	14.8	10.1
Respiratory system disease	14.2	9.0
Obstructive pulmonary disease	13.1	8.3
Cerebrovascular disease	9.1	7.6
Transport accidents	8.9	4.0
Diabetes	8.8	5.2

Source: [Social Health Atlas of Australia: Victoria](#)

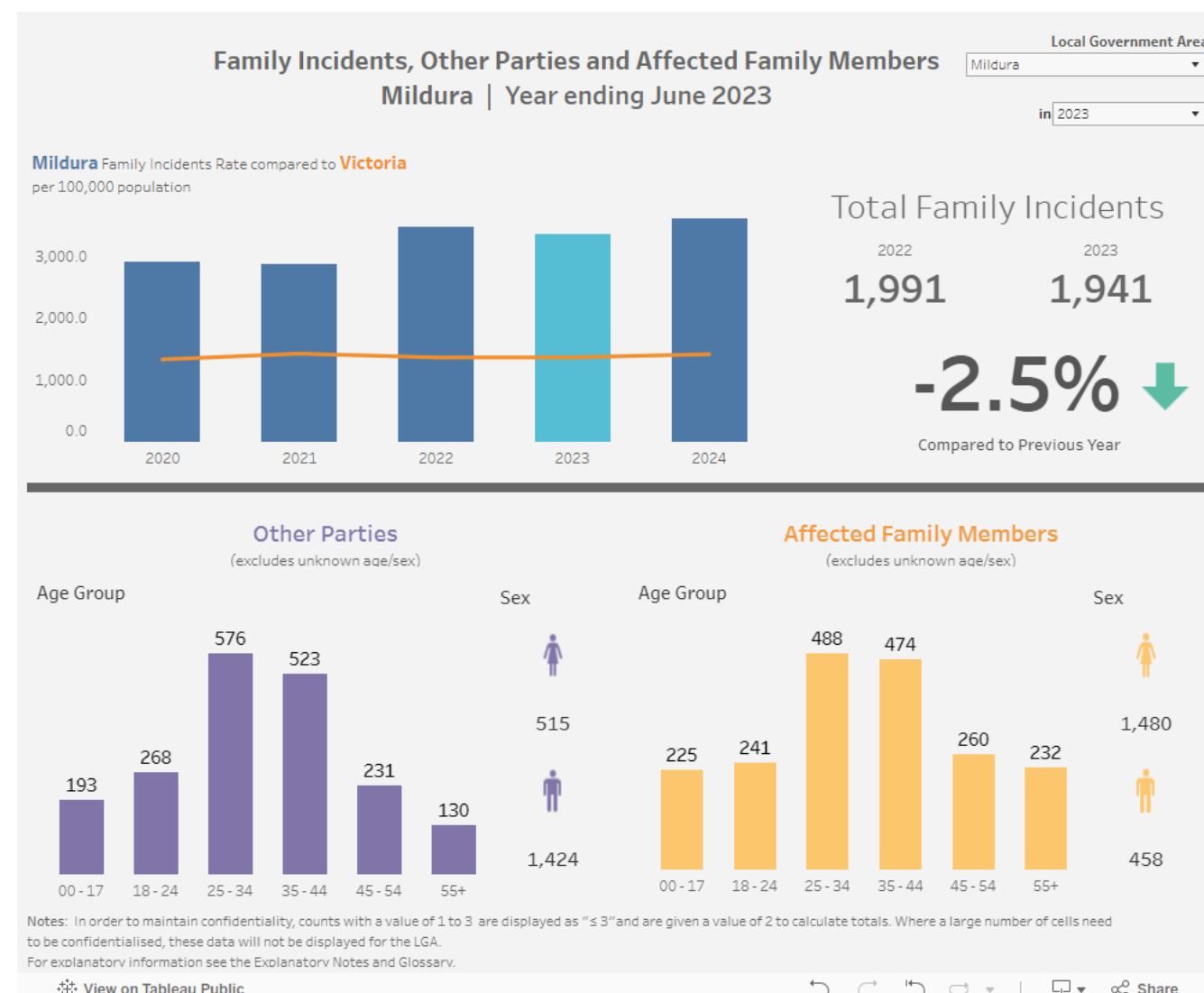
^ For all indicators, the data presented are the average annual indirectly age-standardised rates per 100,000 total population (aged 0 to 74 years); and/or indirectly age-standardised ratios, based on the Australian standard. The exception is for 'Deaths from breast cancer (females)', where the rates are limited to the female population.

### 3 Family Violence

According to the Crimes Statistic Agency, Mildura had 3,372.5 per 100,000 family violence incidents (2022/23) which is more than double the Victorian rate (1,366.2 per 100,000).

A family incident is an incident attended by Victoria Police and a police report has been completed. Mildura reported family violence incidents are consistently higher than the State rate. An 'affected family member' is the individual who is deemed to be affected by events occurring during a family incident. The majority of the 'affected family' in Mildura is women.

The other individual involved in a family incident is referred to as the 'other party'. The 'other party' could be a current partner, former partner or a family member. The highest age group for other parties and affected family members is 25-34 years.



Source: [Latest crime data by area](#) | Crime Statistics Agency Victoria

## 4 Family and Income

### 4.1 Family composition

A couple families without children constitutes the largest proportion in Mildura, accounting for 41.6% of all families, which is slightly higher than the state average of 37.6%. Couple/families with children make up 38.5% of all families in Mildura, which is lower than the state average of 45.5%. This indicates a smaller proportion of families in Mildura have children compared to the broader state.

One-parent families represent 18.4% of all families in Mildura, which is higher than the state average of 15.2%. This suggests that single-parent households are more prevalent in Mildura compared to the state as a whole.

Other families, which may include non-traditional family structures, account for a small percentage (1.6%) in Mildura, similar to the state average of 1.7%.

All families	Mildura	% Mildura	Victoria	% Victoria
Couple family without children	6,124	41.6	645,543	37.6
Couple family with children	5,667	38.5	782,321	45.5
One parent family	2,703	18.4	262,040	15.2
Other family	239	1.6	28,875	1.7

Source: [2021 Mildura, Census All persons Quick Stats | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)

### 4.2 Single (or lone) parents

The data indicates the majority of single (or lone) parents in Mildura are female, constituting a substantial 81.4% of the total single parent population. This percentage is slightly higher than the female proportion in Victoria, which is 80.9%.

Proportion of the total single (or lone) parent population	% Mildura	% Victoria
Male	18.7	19.1
Female	81.4	80.9

Source: [2021 Mildura, Census All persons Quick Stats | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)

### 4.3 Employment status of couple families

In Mildura, the three most common employment statuses for couple families are both not working (23.1%), both partners or parents working (21.9%) and one adult employed full-time, one part-time (21.7%). The proportion of both adults not working is higher in Mildura than the state average (19.8%). This could indicate a lack of employment opportunities but may also be due to caregiving responsibilities, study or other reasons.

Couple families where parents or partners were aged 15 years and over	Mildura	% Mildura	Victoria	% Victoria
Both employed, worked full-time	2,586	21.9	323,693	22.7
Both employed, worked part-time	543	4.6	70,928	5
One employed full-time, one part-time	2,557	21.7	322,757	22.6
One employed full-time, other not working	1,242	10.5	189,173	13.2
One employed part-time, other not working	670	5.7	90,569	6.3
Both not working	2,724	23.1	283,160	19.8
Other	816	6.9	97,725	6.8
Labour force status not stated	640	5.4	49,854	3.5

Source: [2021 Mildura, Census All persons Quick Stats | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)



## 4.4 Early child development

The Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) is a nationwide census of early child development that shows how young children have developed as they start their first year of full-time schooling. The Mildura figures indicate a higher proportion of vulnerable children for physical, social, emotional and language indicators compared to the Victorian proportions. There is also a higher proportion of children in Mildura who have two or more developmental vulnerable domains (11.7%) compared to Victoria (10.2%).

Vulnerable (n=695, 2021)				
Indicator	Indicator description	Mildura	% Mildura	% Victoria
Physical	Child is healthy; independent; excellent gross and fine motor skills	65	10	8.1
Social	Gets along with others; shares; self-confident	66	10.1	9.0
Emotional	Able to concentrate; help others; patient, not angry or aggressive	59	9.1	7.7
Language	Interested in reading or writing; can count; recognises numbers and shapes	64	9.8	7.2
Communication	Can tell a story; communicate with adults and children; articulate themselves	44	6.7	7.4
Vulnerability 1	Developmentally vulnerable in one or more domains	150	23	19.9
Vulnerability 2	Developmentally vulnerable in two or more domains	76	11.7	10.2

Source: <https://www.aedc.gov.au/data-explorer/?id=181509>

## 4.5 Household income

The provided data on household income for the Mildura region, compared to the state of Victoria, gives insights into the income distribution within the community. The median weekly incomes for people aged over 15, families and households are all below the state medians. The percentage of occupied private dwellings in Mildura with a weekly income of less than \$650 is 21.2% and above is \$3000 13.5% compared with a state average of 16.4% and 24.2% respectively. This indicates that Mildura has a greater number of households with low income when compared to the state average.

Occupied private dwellings (excl. visitor only and other non-classifiable households)^	% Mildura	% Victoria
Less than \$650 total household weekly income	21.2	16.4
More than \$3,000 total household weekly income	13.4	24.2

^ Percentages exclude dwellings with 'Partial income stated' of 'All incomes not stated.'

Source: [2021 Mildura, Census All persons Quick Stats | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)

Median weekly incomes ^	Mildura	Victoria
People aged 15 years and over		
Personal	\$694	\$805
Family	\$1,700	\$2,120
Household	\$1,341	\$1,746

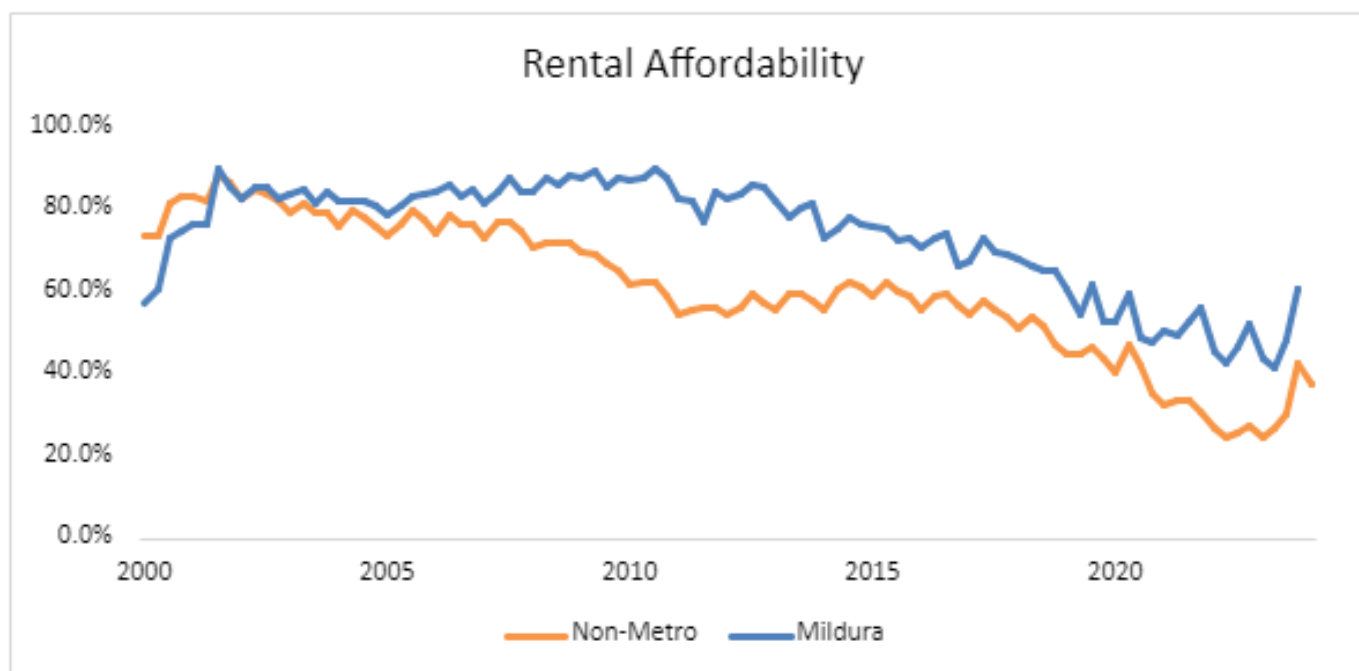
^ Incomes are collected in ranges and exclude people, families and households where at least one member aged 15 years and over did not state their income.

Source: [2021 Mildura, Census All persons Quick Stats | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)



## 4.6 Rental affordability

Median rent prices are continuing to increase and becoming less affordable. The graph below represents affordability of rental homes for lower income households. The affordability benchmark used is that no more than 30% of gross income is spent on rent. Rental affordability is higher in Mildura than the non-metro average but has fallen from 90% in 2001 to 44% in 2023.



Source: [Rental Report - Quarterly: Affordable Lettings by LGA - Dataset - Victorian Government Data Directory](#)

Lower income households are defined as those receiving Centrelink incomes.

## 4.7 Homelessness

Access to safe, adequate housing is central to the health and wellbeing of individuals and families. Secure and affordable housing is the basis for social connectedness and a contributor to the social determinants of health and wellbeing. This data includes:

- living in improvised dwellings, tents or sleeping out
- living in supported accommodation for the homeless
- staying temporarily with other households
- living in boarding houses
- living in 'severely' crowded dwellings

The data on the Age-Standardised Rate (ASR) per 10,000 people experiencing homelessness in Mildura compared to Victoria provides insight into homelessness in the region. The ASR in Mildura is 62.6 per 10,000 people while the ASR in Victoria is 46.9 per 10,000 people. This indicates the estimated rate of homelessness standardised to the age distribution of the population is higher in Mildura compared to the broader state of Victoria. While the overall rate is different between Mildura and Victoria, the specific challenges and characteristics of homelessness may vary between regions.

ASR* per 10,000		
	Mildura	Victoria
people experiencing homelessness, 2021	62.6	46.9

Source: [Social Health Atlas of Australia: Victoria](#), published 2023

^Average annual ASR per 10,000. Age Standardise Rate (ASR) is used to remove the effect of the differing age distributions that we can make conclusions about the relative decreases or increases in mortality over time.

## 5 Education

### 5.1 Type of educational institution attending

Mildura has a comparable percentage of the population attending early and secondary education to the state average. However, Mildura has a significantly lower percentage of people attending university or other higher education compared to the state-wide average, with Mildura at 13.8% and Victoria at 24.5%.

People attending an educational institution	Mildura	% Mildura	Victoria	% Victoria
Preschool	1,182	7.1	139,502	7.1
Primary total	4,564	27.3	520,258	26.5
Secondary total	3,466	20.7	412,219	21
Tertiary - Vocational education (including TAFE and private training providers)	1,341	8	155,358	7.9
Tertiary - University or other higher education	969	5.8	325,961	16.6
Tertiary total	2,308	13.8	482,005	24.5

Source: [2021 Mildura, Census All persons Quick Stats](#) | Australian Bureau of Statistics ([abs.gov.au](#))

### 5.2 Level of highest educational attainment

The data on the highest educational attainment in Mildura for people aged 15 years and over reveals a diverse educational landscape. Mildura shows lower percentages of individuals with higher education qualifications (Bachelor's degree and above) and advanced Diplomas/Diplomas, while having higher percentages in Certificate III qualifications and Year 11 and below, indicating a diverse educational profile. This could potentially reflect accessibility to different forms of higher education compared to metropolitan areas. The percentage of individuals in Mildura with a Bachelor's degree or higher is notably lower than the state-wide average, accounting for 12.7% in Mildura compared to 29.2% in Victoria. Meanwhile, Mildura has 15% of individuals with Certificate III qualifications compared to the 10.9% state-wide average. The combined percentage of individuals with Year 11 or below education in Mildura and Victoria is 39% and 20.2% accordingly.

People aged 15 years and over	Mildura	% Mildura	Victoria	% Victoria
Bachelor Degree level and above	5,904	12.7	1,557,447	29.2
Advanced Diploma and Diploma level	3,630	7.8	521,291	9.8
Certificate level IV	1,774	3.8	179,000	3.4
Certificate level III	6,978	15	580,494	10.9
Year 12	6,058	13	797,281	14.9
Year 11	3,634	7.8	304,927	5.7
Year 10	5,485	11.8	389,680	7.3
Certificate level II	53	0.1	3,250	0.1
Certificate level I	6	0	647	0
Year 9 or below	5,946	12.8	422,139	7.9
Inadequately described	819	1.8	111,674	2.1
No educational attainment	588	1.3	59,722	1.1
Not stated	5,540	11.9	406,049	7.6

Source: [2021 Mildura, Census All persons Quick Stats](#) | Australian Bureau of Statistics ([abs.gov.au](#))

## 6 Disability

### 6.1 NDIS active participants

The provided data outlines the distribution of National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) active participants in Mildura across different age groups, comparing these figures with the overall distribution in Victoria.

Compared to Victoria, the age groups zero to 14, 25 to 34, and 55 to 64 age groups collectively account for a substantial portion of NDIS participants in Mildura. The largest percentage of NDIS participants in Mildura falls within the seven to 14 age group, constituting 28.2%. The zero to six age group also has a significant proportion, accounting for 18.4% of participants. Mildura generally mirrors the age distribution trends seen across Victoria, with a slightly higher percentage of NDIS participants in the seven to 14 years age group compared to the state-wide average.

2022/23				
Age Group	Mildura	Victoria	% Mildura	% Victoria
0 to 6	1,342	113,720	18.4	17.7
7 to 14	2,054	170,590	28.2	26.5
15 to 18	604	50,125	8.3	7.8
19 to 24	544	47,075	7.5	7.3
25 to 34	694	54,322	9.5	8.4
35 to 44	512	51,876	7.0	8.1
45 to 54	582	60,516	8.0	9.4
55 to 64	708	68,437	9.7	10.6
65+	238	27,125	3.3	4.2
Total	7,278	643,786	12.7 <sup>^</sup>	9.9 <sup>^</sup>

<sup>^</sup>As a proportion of the total population, 2022/23

Source: [NDIS - Active participants by Total](#)

The data provided below offers insights into the primary disabilities of National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) active participants in Mildura in comparison to Victoria. The distribution of Mildura's NDIS participants by primary disability aligns with several trends seen in Victoria. Autism and intellectual disability are the most common primary disabilities, while Mildura shows some variations in the prevalence of certain conditions compared to the state-wide averages.

Autism is the most prevalent primary disability in both Mildura and Victoria, representing 34.0% and 32.9% of NDIS active participants respectively. Intellectual disability is the second most common primary disability in Mildura and is higher than the state average, accounting for 20.2% of participants, compared to 15.0% in Victoria. Psychosocial disability is also significant in both regions but lower in Mildura, representing 9.1% in Mildura and 12.2% in Victoria.

2022/23	Mildura	Victoria	Percentage Primary Disability Over Total Active participants in Mildura <sup>^</sup>	Percentage Primary Disability Over Total Active participants in Victoria <sup>^</sup>
ABI	222	18,380	3.1	2.9
Autism	2,473	211,614	34.0	32.9
Cerebral Palsy	166	16,735	2.3	2.6
Developmental Delay	1,019	88,597	14.0	13.8
Down Syndrome	93	11,349	1.3	1.8
Global Developmental Delay	< 73*	10,835	< 1	1.7
Hearing Impairment	254	26,857	3.5	4.2
Intellectual Disability	1,468	964,44	20.2	15.0
Multiple Sclerosis	101	12,625	1.4	2.0
Other	80	6,969	1.1	1.1
Other Neurological	178	21,662	2.4	3.4
Other Physical	201	18,031	2.8	2.8
Other Sensory Speech	< 44*	1,807	< 0.6	0.3
Psychosocial Disability	661	78,358	9.1	12.2
Spinal Cord Injury	< 61*	4,007	< 0.8	0.6
Stroke	63	7,870	0.9	1.2
Visual Impairment	177	11,646	2.4	1.8

Source: [NDIS - Active participants by primary disability](#)

<sup>^</sup> Primary Disability Ratio = Primary Disability / Total number of active participants

\* Estimated values

The provided data on disability shows that the proportion of people with a profound or severe disability in Mildura, whether they live in long-term accommodation or in households, are higher than Victorian proportions. This data indicates the majority of people with a profound or severe disability aged 0 to 64 years are living and being cared for in households (4.5%) rather than long-term accommodation. This is higher than the Victorian proportion (3.2%).

In Mildura there are 1,551 people participating in the National Disability Scheme (2.7 ASR per 100 population) in 2022, higher compared to the Victorian rate (2.2 ASR per 100 population).

Indicator	Mildura	Mildura	Victoria
People with a profound or severe disability, includes people in long-term accommodation (all ages), 2021	4,245	8%	6.1%
People with a profound or severe disability and living in households (all ages), 2021	3,691	7%	5.4%
People with a profound or severe disability, includes people in long-term accommodation (0 to 64 years)	1,951	4.6%	3.3%
People with a profound or severe disability and living in households (0 to 64 years), 2021	1,932	4.5%	3.2%
Estimated number of total persons, living in households, with moderate or mild core activity limitation (modelled estimates), 2018	5,901	9.9 ASR <sup>^</sup>	n.p.
National Disability Insurance Scheme participants, 2022	1,551	2.7 ASR <sup>^</sup>	2.2 ASR <sup>^</sup>

Source: [Social Health Atlas of Australia: Victoria](#)

<sup>^</sup> Average annual ASR per 100. Age Standardise Rate (ASR) is used to remove the effect of the differing age distributions that we can make conclusions about the relative decreases or increases in mortality over time.

## 7 Environment

### 7.1 Municipal emissions snapshot

Mildura is a large rural city with a low urban density compared to the state average. The major source of emissions in the area is electricity consumption, with the majority of it coming from residential homes.

Source (2021/22)		Mildura		Victoria	
	Sector	Emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> e <sup>^</sup> )	% Emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> e)	Emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> e)	% Emissions (t CO <sub>2</sub> e)
Electricity	Residential	140,000	19.39%	13,049,000	15%
	Commercial	104,000	14.40%	12,037,000	13%
	Industrial	62,000	8.59%	10,798,000	12%
Gas	Residential	54,000	7.48%	6,128,000	7%
	Commercial	11,000	1.52%	1,192,000	1%
	Industrial	26,000	3.60%	4,174,000	5%
Transport	On road	160,000	22.16%	17,313,000	19%
	Rail	-	-	229,000	0%
	Aviation	15,000	2.08%	1,171,000	1%
Waste		20,000	2.77%	2,683,000	3%
IPPU		34,000	4.71%	6,370,000	7%
Fugitive		-	-	2,911,000	3%
Agriculture		95,000	13.16%	11,523,000	13%
Land Use		1,000	0.14%	230,000	0%
Total municipal emissions		722,000	100.00%	89,578,000	100%

Source: [Mildura, VIC - 2021/22 municipal emissions snapshot](#)

<sup>^</sup>Tonnes (t) of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) equivalent (e)

### 7.2 Average temperature from a 30-year climate period

Temperatures in the region differ significantly from north to south. The northern part of the region sees hot summers with an average maximum temperature of 30°C, while winters are mild, and the temperature stays around 10°C on average. Conversely, the southern part of the region experiences cool and rainy winters and warm and arid summers. In the elevated southern regions, the average maximum temperature is below 25°C. Frosty weather is frequent in the whole region.

LGA (1961-1990)	Summer (°C)		Winter (°C)	
	Max	Min	Max	Min
Buloke Shire	30	14	14.6	4.4
Campaspe Shire	29.3	14.1	13.9	3.9
Central Goldfields Shire	27.8	12.2	12.9	3.5
City of Greater Bendigo	28.2	13.4	13.1	3.9
Gannawarra Shire	30.5	14.7	14.8	4.5
Loddon Shire	29.4	13.9	13.9	4.2
Macedon Ranges Shire	24.1	11.2	10.3	3.2
Mildura Rural City	31	14.8	15.9	5.2
Mount Alexander Shire	27	12	12	3.1
Swan Hill Rural City	31.2	15	15.6	4.6
LMR Average	28.9	13.5	13.7	4.1

Source: [Loddon Mallee Environmental Scan](#) | [Emergency Management Victoria \(emv.vic.gov.au\)](#)

### 7.3 Bushfire prone areas

There are numerous areas with high bushfire hazards in the Loddon Campaspe sub-region, many of which intersect with settlements and areas that are experiencing growth in rural residential and tourism. Some of the settlements identified for targeted expansion are also situated in areas that are at risk of bushfires such as Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton, and Gisborne.

The Fire Danger Period (FDP) in Victoria has become lengthier, indicating a trend towards extended fire seasons. The seasonal fire restriction dates are determined by the municipality and are dependent on factors such as amounts of rain, grassland curing, and other local conditions. In 2019-2020, fire restriction dates for Victoria were extended from as early as 23 September 2019 to 23 March 2020.

Smoke from fires, including planned burns, can also pose a hazard within the Loddon Mallee region. The individuals most at risk from smoke exposure include young children, adults over 65 years of age, people with asthma or existing heart or lung conditions, pregnant women, outdoor workers, and smokers. Bushfire-prone areas are either subject to or likely to be subject to bushfires, and are subject to specific bushfire construction standards. Nearly all of the land in the region is designated as a bushfire area.

LGA	Bushfire Prone Area* (km <sup>2</sup> )	Total Area^ (km <sup>2</sup> )	% Area Bushfire Prone
Buloke Shire	7,807	8,000	97.6
Campaspe Shire	4,415	4,519	97.7
Central Goldfields Shire	1,529	1,533	99.7
City of Greater Bendigo	2,930	3,000	97.6
Gannawarra Shire	3,701	3,750	98.7
Loddon Shire	6,694	6,696	100
Macedon Ranges Shire	1,723	1,748	98.6
Mildura Rural City	21,710	22,083	98.3
Mount Alexander Shire	1,527	1,530	99.8
Swan Hill Rural City	5,625	6,115	92.0
LMR Total or Average	57,662	58,960	97.8

Source: [Loddon Mallee Environmental Scan](#) | [Emergency Management Victoria \(emv.vic.gov.au\)](#)

\*^ DELWP (2020): <https://discover.data.vic.gov.au/dataset/designated-bushfire-prone-area-bp>



## 7.4 Areas potentially impacted by flooding inundation

The Mallee sub-region has a significant number of urban settlements exposed to flood risk. Floods have caused significant damage to farms through inundation, isolation, and flash floods following heavy rainfall. Flooding provides important inflows to wetlands and lake systems but may also impact towns and infrastructure.

The flood warning service coverage is shown in the figure below with both the Flood Watch and Flood Warning catchment shown. The table below shows the effected main localities. This is not an extensive list and there are smaller localities that may be impacted. The flood risk and area impacted by flooding varies around the region. Table (below) shows the percentage of each LGA which is impacted by flooding at the 1:100-year average recurrence interval (ARI). There is a one percent chance (1% annual exceedance probability (AEP)) of these areas experiencing flooding of this level in any given year based on flood modelling results from flood studies. The localities listed have some defined built up area in or near the flood impact area defined by the 1:100-year ARI.

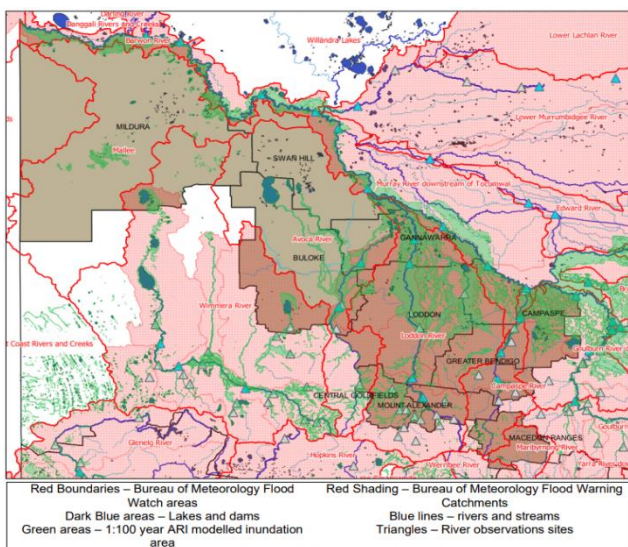


Figure 1: Flood warning and 1:100-year ARI inundation.

LGA	%Included in 1:100 Ari Area <sup>^</sup>	Main Localities with Affected Built Up Areas
Buloke	11.2	Charlton, Donald
Campaspe	31.7	Echuca, Kyabram, Moama (NSW), Rochester, Tongala, Wharparilla
Central Goldfields	20.1	Carisbrook, Dunolly, Maryborough
Gannawarra	40.4	Barham (NSW), Cohuna , Kerang ,Koondrook , Quambatook
Greater Bendigo	5.9	Ascot (Bendigo), Bendigo, Eaglehawk, East, Bendigo, Elmore, Epsom, Flora Hill, Golden Square, Heathcote, Huntly, Kangaroo Flat, Kennington, Long Gully, Maiden Gully, North Bendigo, Quarry Hill, Spring Gully, Strathdale, Strathfieldsaye, White Hills
Loddon	29.1	Boort, Pyramid Hill
Macedon Ranges	2.0	Gisborne, Kyneton , Riddells Creek , Romsey , Woodend
Mildura	6.7	Mildura , Nichols Point
Mount Alexander	2.4	Campbells Creek, Castlemaine, Moonlight Flat
Swan Hill	10.2	Murray Downs (NSW ) , Nyah, Pental Island, Robinvale, Swan Hill

Source: [Loddon Mallee Environmental Scan | Emergency Management Victoria \(emv.vic.gov.au\)](#)

<sup>^</sup>Percentage of each LGA which is impacted by flooding at the 1:100-year average recurrence interval (ARI).

## Abbreviations

Abbreviation Table	
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AEP	Annual Exceedance Probability
ARI	Age Recurrence Interval
ASR	Age Standardise Rate
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
FDP	Fire Danger Period
FY	Financial Year
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IPPU	Industrial processes and product use
IRSD	Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage
LGA	Local Government Area
NDIS	National Disability Insurance Scheme
TAFE	Technical and Further Education

## Resources

LMPHU	<a href="#">Bendigo Health Website - Loddon Mallee Public Health Unit</a>
PHIDU	<a href="https://phidu.torrens.edu.au/">https://phidu.torrens.edu.au/</a>
Women's Health Atlas	<a href="https://victorianwomenshealthatlas.net.au/#/">https://victorianwomenshealthatlas.net.au/#/</a>
ABS Quick stats	<a href="https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/SAL21682">https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/SAL21682</a>

## Disclaimer

All effort has been made to report data accurately and represent data available at time of publishing. These estimates may differ from those seen elsewhere due to differences in calculation methodologies and/or source data used.

## Feedback

Any feedback on this profile is welcome and should be provided to the Loddon Mallee Public Health Unit via email: [lmphu@bendigohealth.org.au](mailto:lmphu@bendigohealth.org.au)