

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

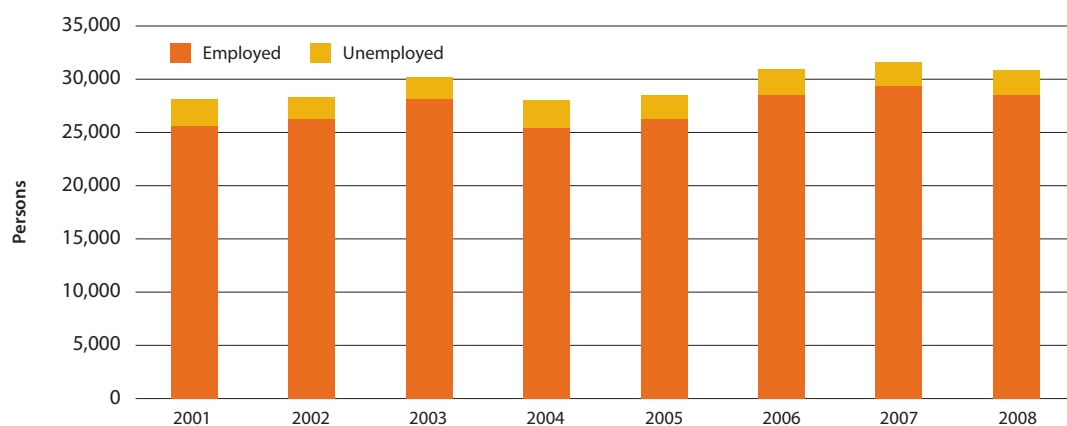
Source: AECgroup; Dept. of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Small Area Labour Markets (SALM) reports (2008)

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)

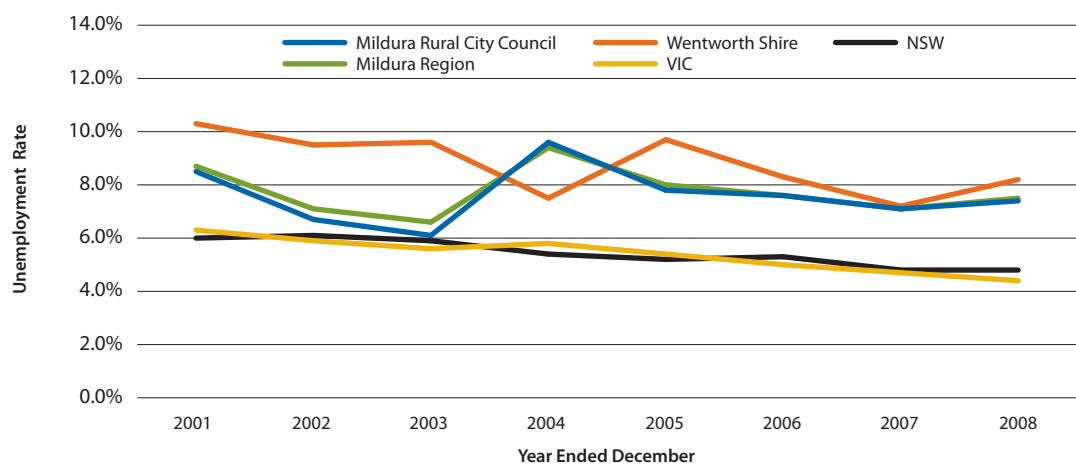
The unemployment rate in the Mildura region has consistently been above the state averages for Victoria and New South Wales. At the same time, changes in the unemployment over time appear to be more volatile in the Mildura region when compared to Victoria and New South Wales. This discrepancy could be 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.

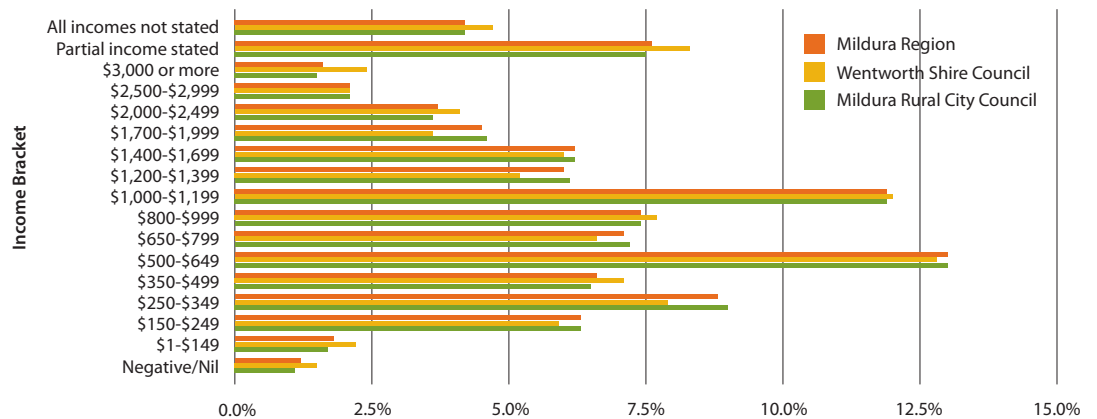
Household

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)

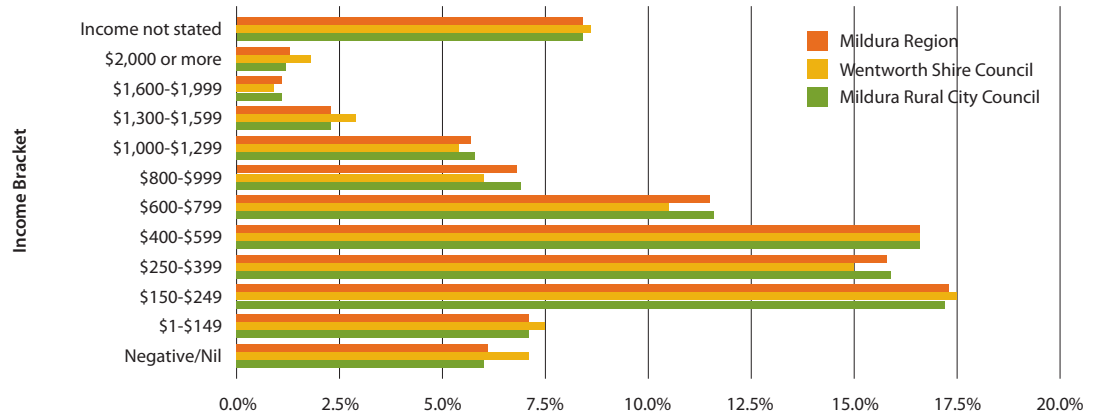
Individual

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.