

**Bendigo Loddon
Primary Care Partnership
Community Wellbeing Profile
2009**

Updated June 2009



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Demographic characteristics

The Bendigo Loddon Primary Care Partnership (PCP) region comprises the Local Government areas of Loddon Shire and City of Greater Bendigo. The region spans an area of approximately 9,700 square kilometres and, in 2007, had an estimated population of 106,400. The population, outside of Bendigo, is widely dispersed and takes in a number of small towns.

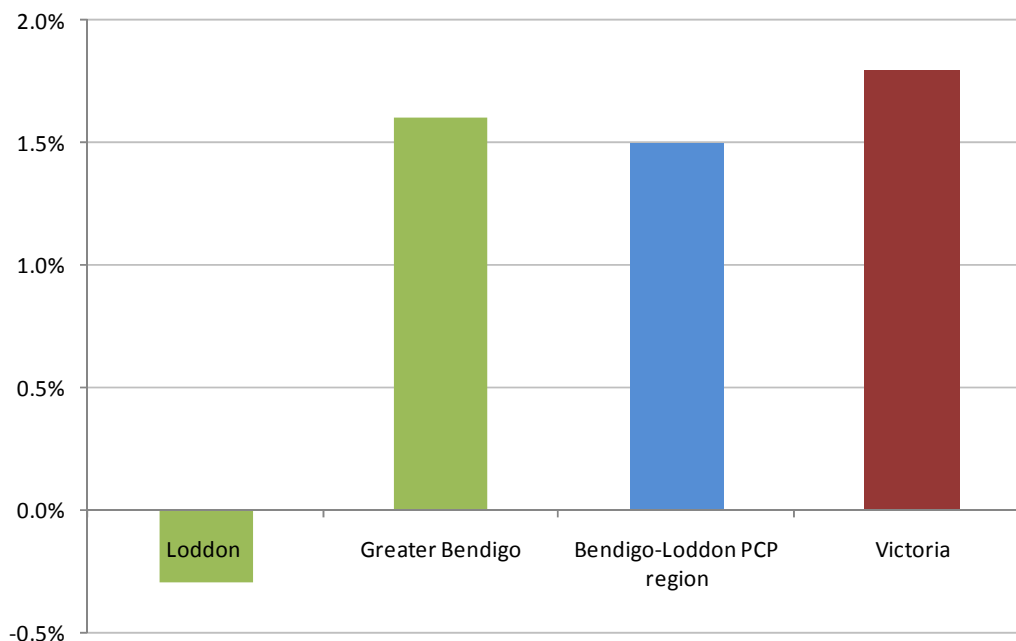
Population

Estimated resident population by Local Government area

	Loddon	Greater Bendigo	Bendigo Loddon PCP region	Victoria
June 2007	8,050	98,456	106,506	5,221,310
June 2008	8,073	100,054	108,127	5,313,823
Change 07-08	-0.3%	1.6%	1.5%	1.8%

ABS 3218.0 (March 2009) www.abs.gov.au

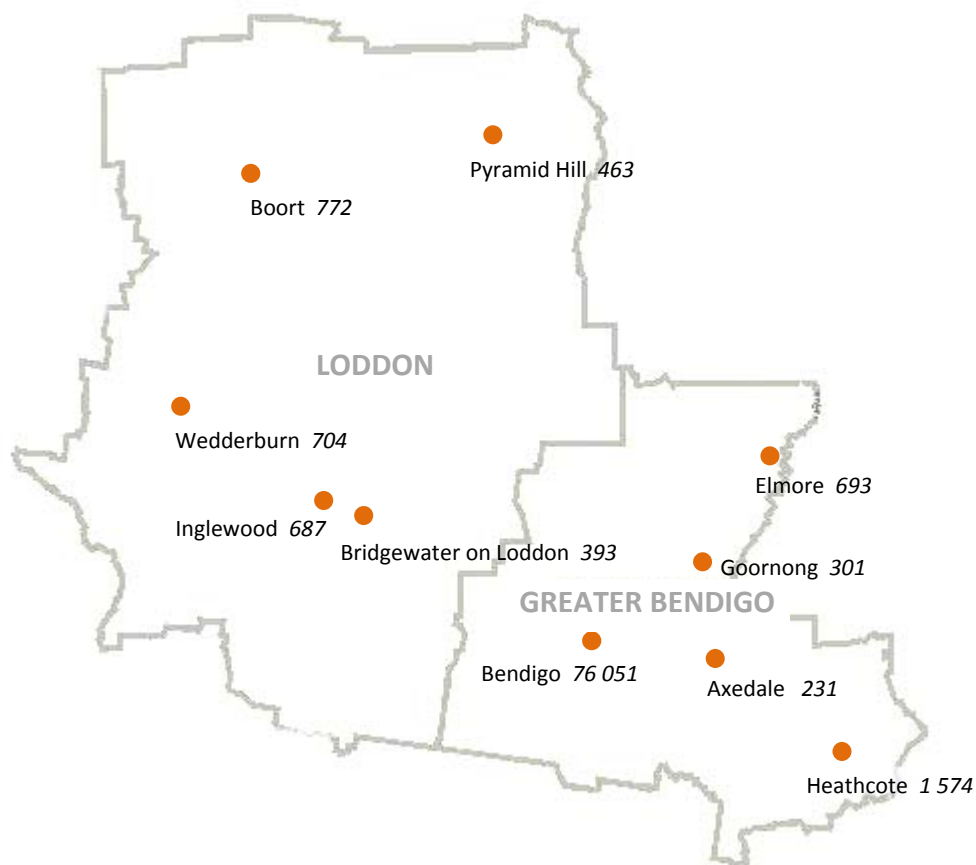
Population change - June 2007 to June 2008



ABS 3218.0 (March 2009) www.abs.gov.au

Population distribution

In 2006, around 19% of the region's usual resident population lived in rural areas and small settlements, with the balance living in towns. The map below sets out how the region's population was distributed across its towns.



ABS 2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Population forecast

The Victorian State Government developed population forecasts in 2008, *Victoria in Future*. These forecasts predict that the population of the Bendigo Loddon PCP region will reach 133,015 by 2021. Most population growth will take place in the City of Greater Bendigo.

Bendigo-Loddon PCP region population forecast (based on *Victoria in Future* 2004 population projections)

Area	Year			
	2011	2016	2021	2026
Greater Bendigo	106,016	115,476	125,267	134,705
Loddon	7,990	7,874	7,749	7,674
Total (PCP Region)	114,007	123,349	133,015	142,380

www.dse.vic.gov.au/victoriainfuture/

The City of Greater Bendigo has commissioned an independent population forecast and this forecast is lower than the 2008 Victoria in Future forecast. Based on this forecast, the population of the Bendigo Loddon PCP region would reach 128,848 by 2021.

Bendigo-Loddon PCP region population forecast*

Area	Year			
	2011	2016	2021	2026
Greater Bendigo	104,068	112,444	121,099	129,943
Loddon	7,990	7,874	7,749	7,674
Total (PCP Region)	112,058	120,318	128,848	137,617

Victoria in future population projections (2008) www.dse.vic.gov.au/victoriainfuture/ and www.id.com.au/bendigo/forecastid/

*(based on Victoria in Future 2008 population projections for Loddon and i.d. consulting population projections for City of Greater Bendigo)

Age structure

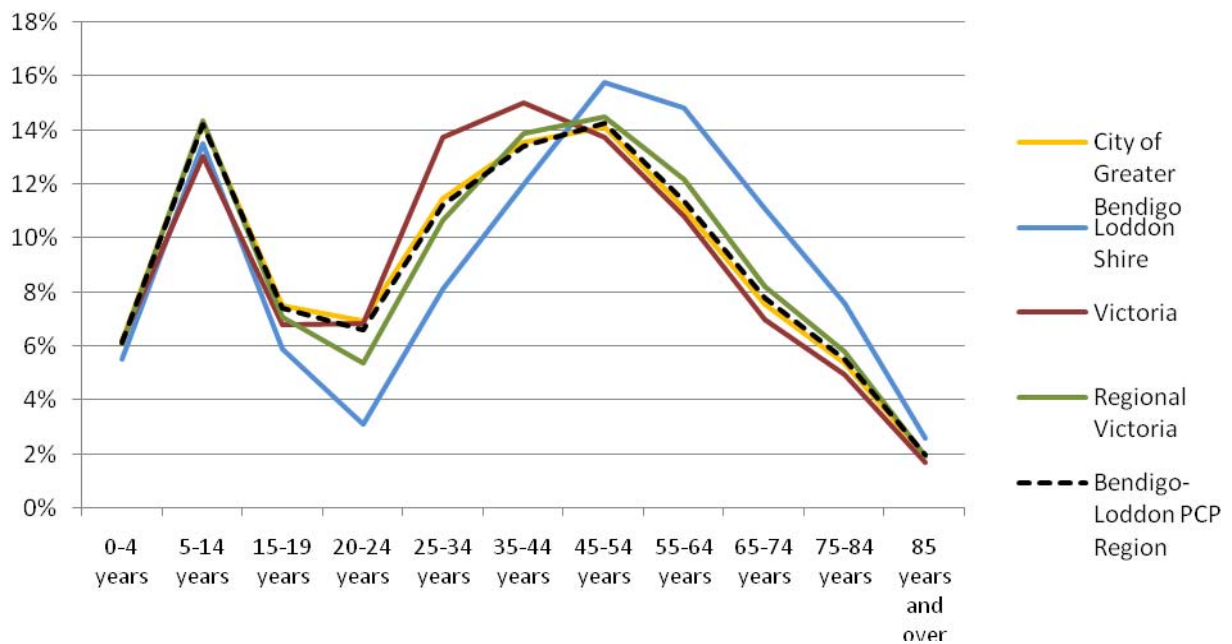
The age structure of the Bendigo Loddon PCP region is similar to that of Regional Victoria. The region also shares a similar age structure to that of Victoria, other than having a lower proportion of population in the 25-44 year old age bracket. However, this pattern is influenced by the presence of Bendigo in the PCP region and that, as a major regional centre, the age structure of Bendigo's population is not typical of rural areas. Loddon Shire's age structure is markedly different to City of Greater Bendigo, Regional Victoria and Victoria. A lower proportion of population in the 15 to 54 year old age brackets and a higher proportion of population aged in the 55 to 85+ age brackets reflects the trends in many rural areas of population leaving to seek education, employment and cultural opportunities.

Age structure of population (2006)

Age in years	Greater Bendigo		Loddon		Bendigo Loddon PCP region		Regional Victoria		Victoria	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
0-4	5,779	6%	434	6%	6213	6%	80873	6%	305938	6%
5-14	13,295	14%	1057	13%	14352	14%	191581	14%	644451	13%
15-19	7,013	8%	461	6%	7474	7%	94095	7%	335181	7%
20-24	6,454	7%	245	3%	6699	7%	71653	5%	338715	7%
25-34	10,710	11%	637	8%	11347	11%	142017	11%	677883	14%
35-44	12,637	14%	939	12%	13576	13%	184733	14%	741348	15%
45-54	13,179	14%	1235	16%	14414	14%	193215	14%	679516	14%
55-64	10,356	11%	1161	15%	11517	11%	162298	12%	534487	11%
65-74	7,030	8%	868	11%	7898	8%	109806	8%	345526	7%
75-84	4,998	5%	596	8%	5594	6%	77383	6%	245506	5%
85 +	1,802	2%	203	3%	2005	2%	25782	2%	83872	2%
Total	93,253	100%	7,836	100%	101,089	100%	1,333,436	100%	4,932,423	100%

ABS 2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Age structure of Bendigo-Loddon PCP population 2006

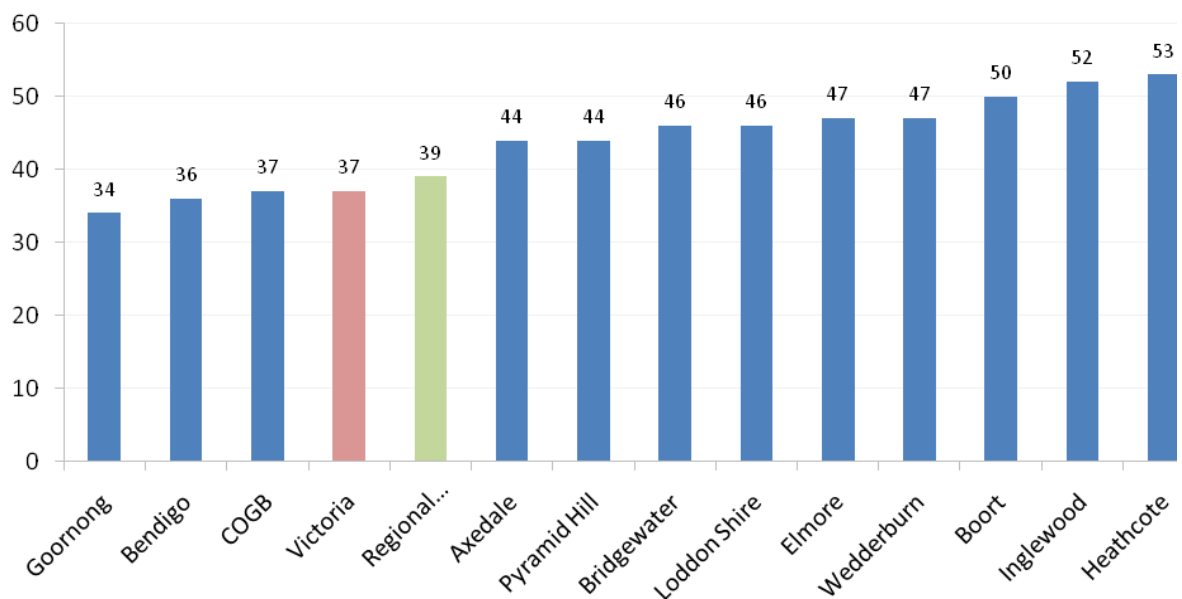


ABS 2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Median age

In 2006, the median age of Loddon Shire’s population was 46 and the median age of City of Greater Bendigo’s population was 37, compared to 37 as the median age for Victoria and 39 as the median age for regional Victoria. This reflects the general trend of aging population seen in most isolated rural communities and the capacity of larger centres such as Bendigo to attract younger population to their employment and education opportunities. This trend is emphasised in the graph below, which sets out the median ages of the main townships in the PCP region.

Median ages in towns of the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region 2006



2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Population aged 65 years and over

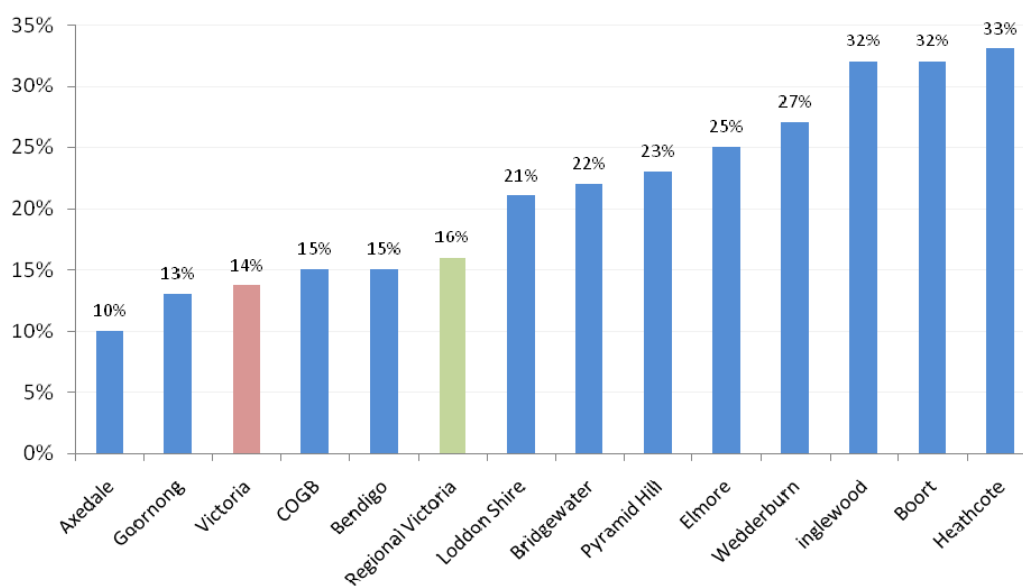
In 2006, 21% of Loddon’s population was aged over 65, compared to 15% in Greater Bendigo. Bendigo and neighbouring commuter towns, Goornong and Axedale, had a lower proportion of population in this age bracket, while more isolated towns had a higher proportion. This reflects the pattern of aging population seen in median ages across the PCP region and regional Victoria.

2006 Population aged 65+ (ranked)

	Number	% of Population
Axedale	22	10%
Goornong	39	13%
Victoria	674 904	14%
Greater Bendigo (LGA)	13 830	15%
Bendigo	11 665	15%
Regional Victoria	212 971	16%
Loddon (LGA)	1 667	21%
Bridgewater	87	22%
Pyramid Hill	108	23%
Elmore	173	25%
Wedderburn	191	27%
Inglewood	221	32%
Boort	247	32%
Heathcote	521	33%

Source: ABS population of usual residence 2006

Proportion of population aged 65+ in the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region (2006)



ABS population of usual residence 2006

Population aged 0 - 4 years

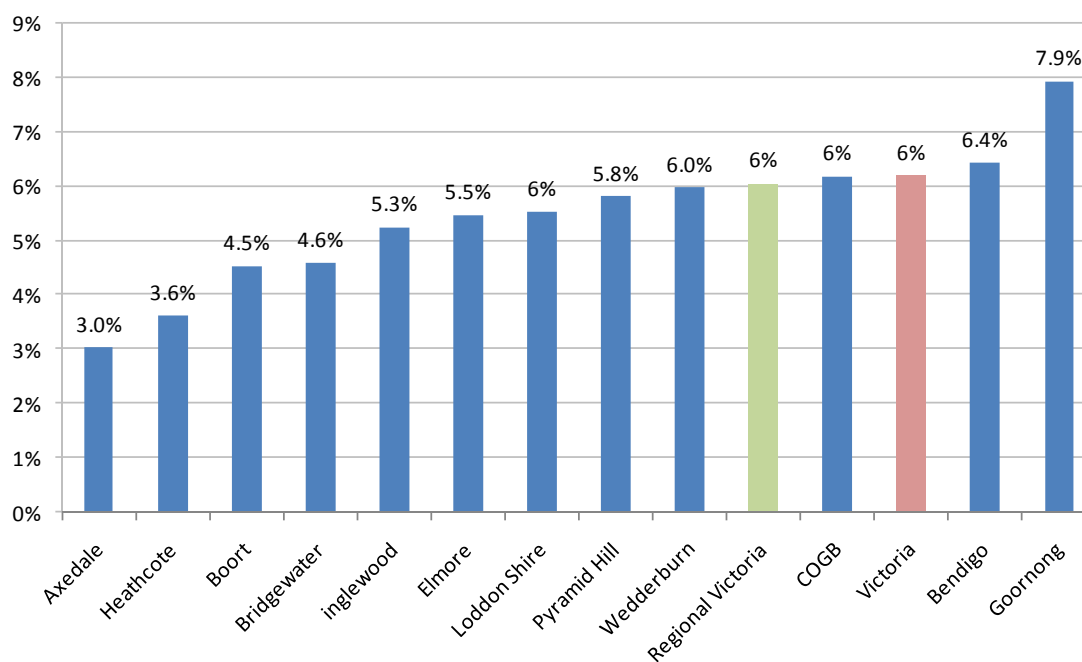
In 2006, 6% of Loddon and Greater Bendigo's population was aged 0-4 yrs. Most small towns in the region had a lower proportion of population in this age cohort, reflecting the higher proportions of aging population seen in many small country towns. Wedderburn (6%) and Goornong (7.9%) defied this trend, with the same or a higher proportion of 0-4yr olds as Loddon, Greater Bendigo and the average for Regional Victoria and Victoria.

2006 Population aged 0-4yrs (ranked)

Location	Number	% of population
Axedale	7	3.0%
Heathcote	57	3.6%
Boort	35	4.5%
Bridgewater	18	4.6%
Inglewood	36	5.3%
Elmore	38	5.5%
Loddon (LGA)	434	6.0%
Pyramid Hill	27	5.8%
Wedderburn	42	6.0%
Regional Victoria	80,873	6.0%
Greater Bendigo (LGA)	5,779	6.0%
Victoria	305,938	6.0%
Bendigo	4,899	6.4%
Goornong	24	7.9%

ABS population of usual residence 2006

Proportion of population aged 0-5yrs in the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region (2006)



ABS population of usual residence 2006

Population aged 15 - 19 years

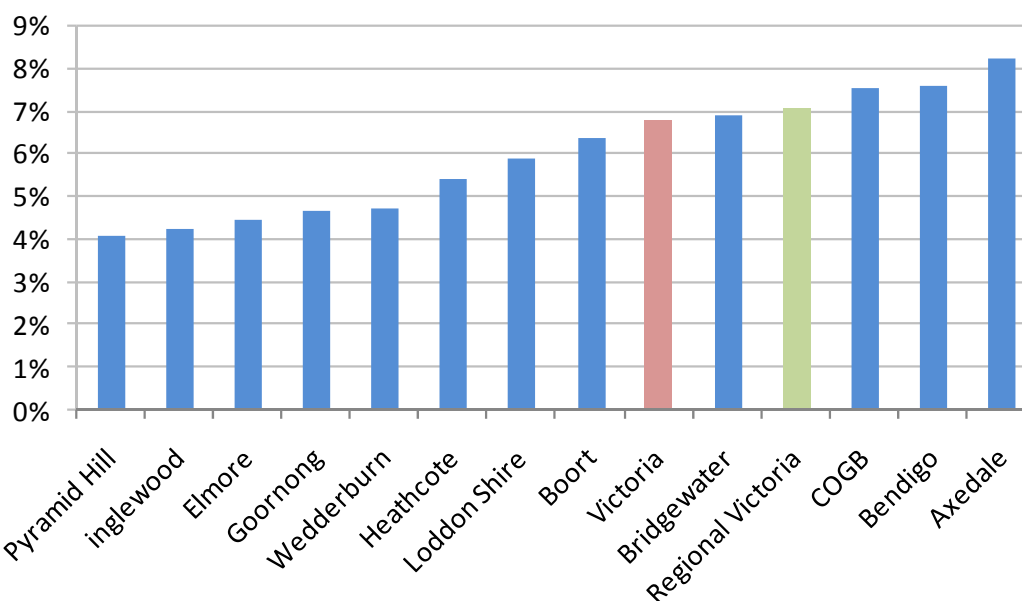
In 2006, 6% of Loddon's population was aged 15-19yrs, a figure slightly lower than those for Regional Victoria and Victoria (both 7%). Greater Bendigo had 8% of its population in this age cohort, a figure slightly higher than the Regional Victoria and Victoria average. Many small towns had a lower proportion of population in this age cohort, compared to the Regional Victorian average. However, Boort (6.4%) and Bridgewater (6.9%) were close to the average figures and Axedale (8.2%) had a much higher proportion of population in this cohort than either Local Government Area or the average for Regional Victorian and Victoria.

2006 Population aged 15-19rs (ranked)

Location	Number	% of Population
Pyramid Hill	19	4.1%
Inglewood	29	4.2%
Elmore	31	4.5%
Goornong	14	4.6%
Wedderburn	33	4.7%
Heathcote	85	5.4%
Loddon Shire	461	6.0%
Boort	49	6.4%
Victoria	335181	7.0%
Bridgewater	27	6.9%
Regional Victoria	94095	7.0%
COGB	7,013	8.0%
Bendigo	5,740	7.5%
Axedale	19	8.2%

ABS population of usual residence 2006

Proportion of population aged 15-19yrs in the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region (2006)



ABS population of usual residence 2006

Population aged 20-24 years

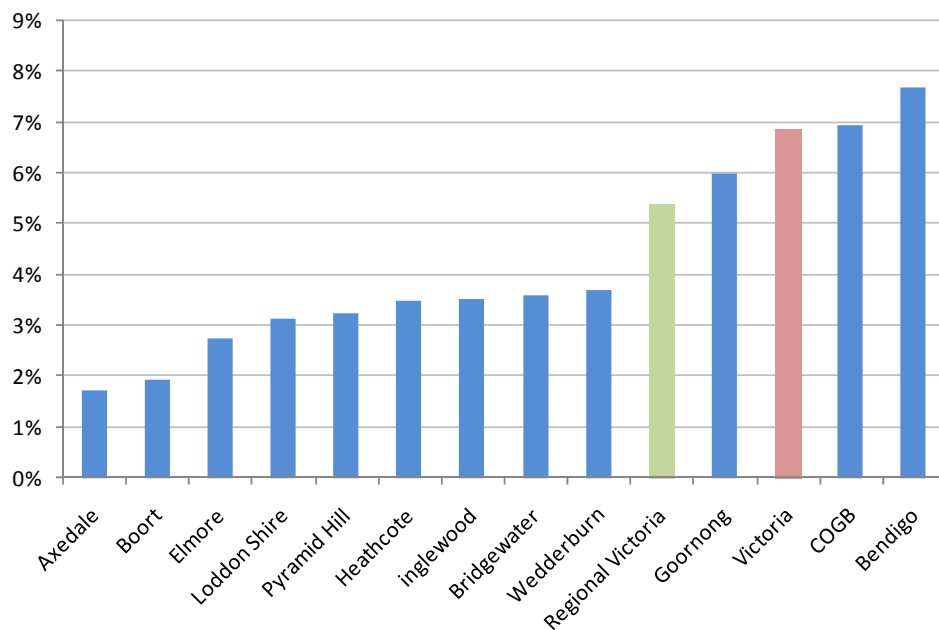
In 2006, 3% of Loddon's population was aged 20-24yrs, while 7% of Greater Bendigo's population fell in this age bracket. In most cases, Bendigo had at least double the proportion of population in this age bracket compared to small towns in the PCP region. The notable exception was Goornong, which had 6% of population in this age bracket. These figures reflect state population trends which illustrate the outward migration of young adults to larger cities.

2006 Population aged 20-24rs (ranked)

Location	Number	% of Population
Axedale	4	1.7%
Boort	15	1.9%
Elmore	19	2.7%
Loddon Shire	245	3.0%
Pyramid Hill	15	3.2%
Heathcote	55	3.5%
Inglewood	24	3.5%
Bridgewater	14	3.6%
Wedderburn	26	3.7%
Regional Victoria	71653	5.0%
Goornong	18	6.0%
Victoria	338715	7.0%
COGB	6,454	7.0%
Bendigo	5,825	7.7%

ABS population of usual residence 2006

Proportion of population aged 20-24yrs in the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region 2006



ABS population of usual residence 2006

Projected change to population age structure

The *Victoria in Future* population projections set out the projected change in population structure by year. As the table below illustrates, the proportion of population aged 65 or over is projected to increase significantly. The projected proportion of population aged 65 or over for the PCP region is higher than for Victoria. Within the PCP region, there is a marked and growing difference in population structure between City of Greater Bendigo and Loddon Shire. Age-based population projections are currently only available for metropolitan LGAs. As such, this data is from the 2004 Victoria in Future population forecast.

Projected change to population age structure 2011 - 2021

	2011		2016		2021	
	number	% of population	number	% of population	number	% of population
City of Greater Bendigo	17 152	16.6%	21 366	19.5%	25 887	22.3%
Loddon Shire	1953	23.5%	2 249	27.5%	2505	31.2%
Regional Victoria	259 605	17.8%	316 240	20.9%	374 009	23.8%
Victoria	795 364	14.9%	948 577	17.0%	1 101 665	19.0%

Victoria in future population projections (2004) www.dse.vic.gov.au/victoriainfuture/

Projected proportion of population aged 65 and over



Victoria in future population projections (2004) www.dse.vic.gov.au/victoriainfuture/

People living alone

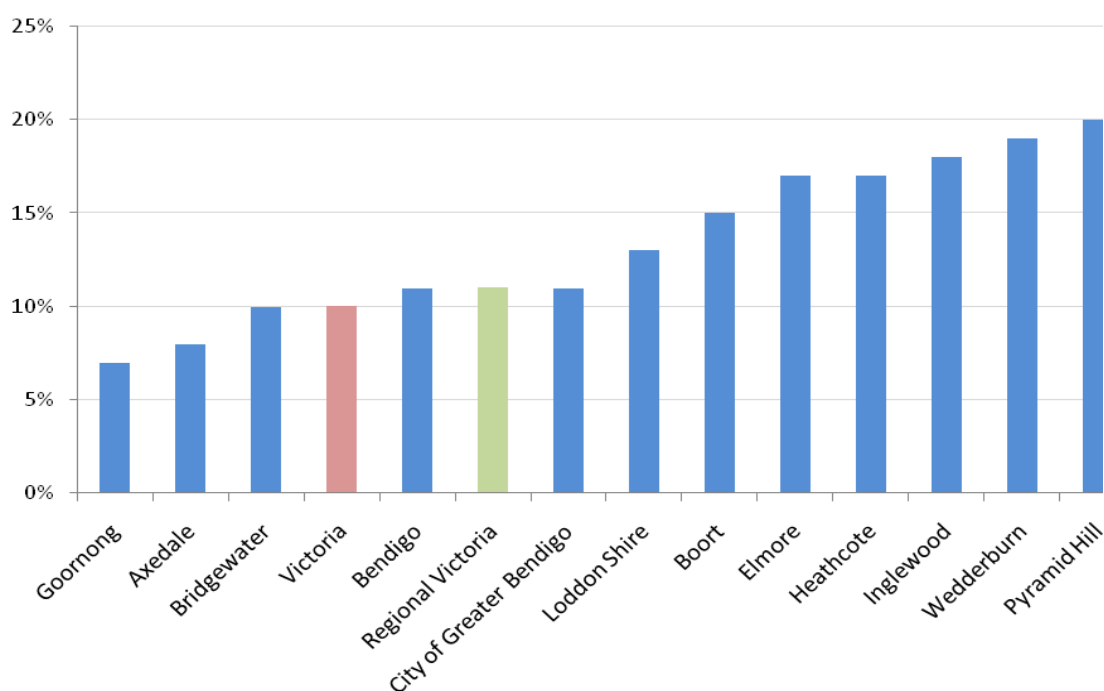
In 2006, there were 10,296 people living alone in the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region. Of these, 9 344 lived in Greater Bendigo and 952 lived in Loddon. The proportion of population living alone varied across the region, with Pyramid Hill recording 20% while Goornong recorded 7%. These patterns largely reflect the pattern of aging population.

Proportion of lone person households (2006)

Location	Number	% of total population
Goornong	22	7%
Axedale	18	8%
Bridgewater	36	10%
Victoria	443 639	10%
Bendigo	8104	11%
Regional Victoria	132 737	11%
City of Greater Bendigo	9344	11%
Loddon Shire	952	13%
Boort	99	15%
Elmore	107	17%
Heathcote	251	17%
Inglewood	110	18%
Wedderburn	125	19%
Pyramid Hill	85	20%

2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Proportion of population living alone 2006



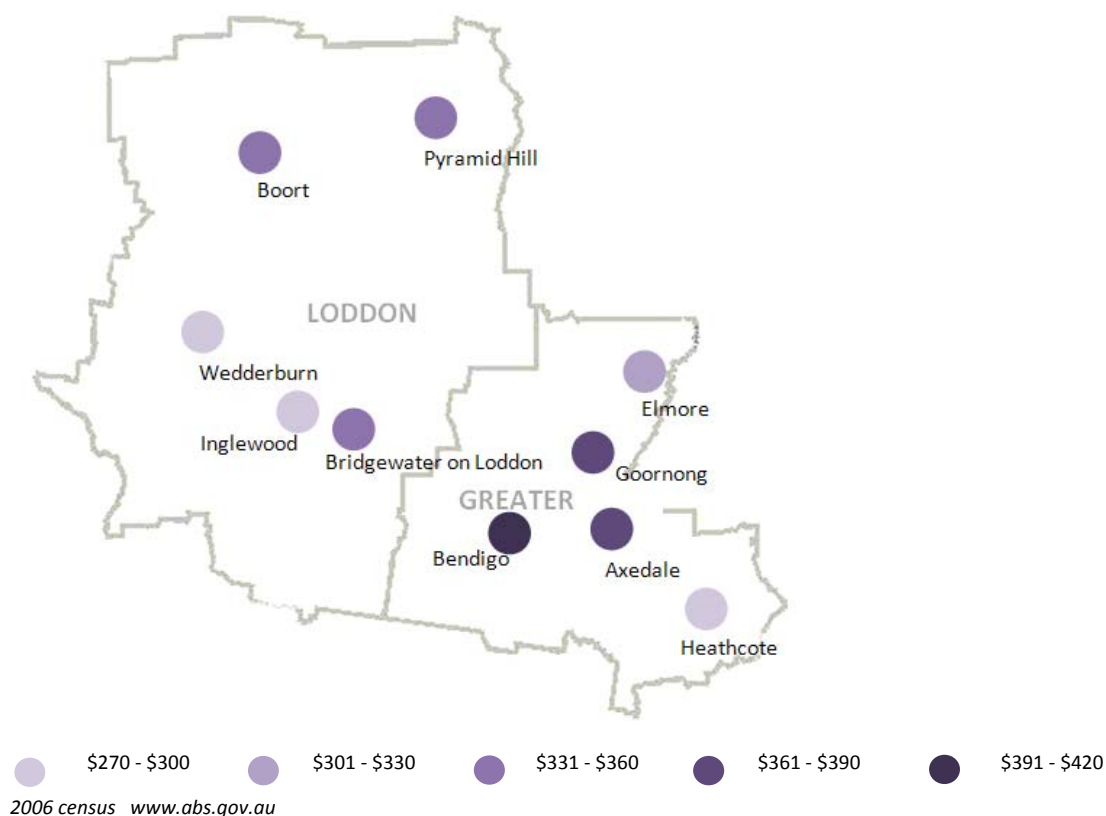
2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Income and employment

Individual income

In 2006, the median individual income of Loddon Shire residents was \$324. This figure was lower than that of Regional Victoria (\$399) and Victoria (\$456). The median individual income of City of Greater Bendigo residents was \$403. This figure was slightly higher than that of Regional Victoria and was lower than the Victorian median. Towns within the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region varied, with Heathcote and Inglewood recording the lowest income and Bendigo recording the highest income.

Median individual incomes by town 2006 - map



Gross individual weekly income by LGA 2006

	Greater Bendigo	Loddon	Regional Victoria	Victoria
Negative/Nil income	1%	2%	1%	1%
\$1-\$149	1%	2%	2%	1%
\$150-\$249	6%	9%	6%	5%
\$250-\$349	9%	11%	9%	7%
\$350-\$499	6%	10%	6%	5%
\$500-\$649	13%	16%	13%	10%
\$650-\$799	7%	7%	7%	6%
\$800-\$999	8%	6%	7%	7%
\$1,000-\$1,199	12%	11%	11%	11%
\$1,200-\$1,399	6%	5%	6%	6%
\$1,400-\$1,699	7%	4%	7%	7%
\$1,700-\$1,999	5%	3%	5%	6%
\$2,000-\$2,499	4%	2%	4%	6%
\$2,500-\$2,999	3%	1%	3%	5%
\$3,000 or more	2%	1%	2%	5%

2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Gross individual weekly income by town 2006

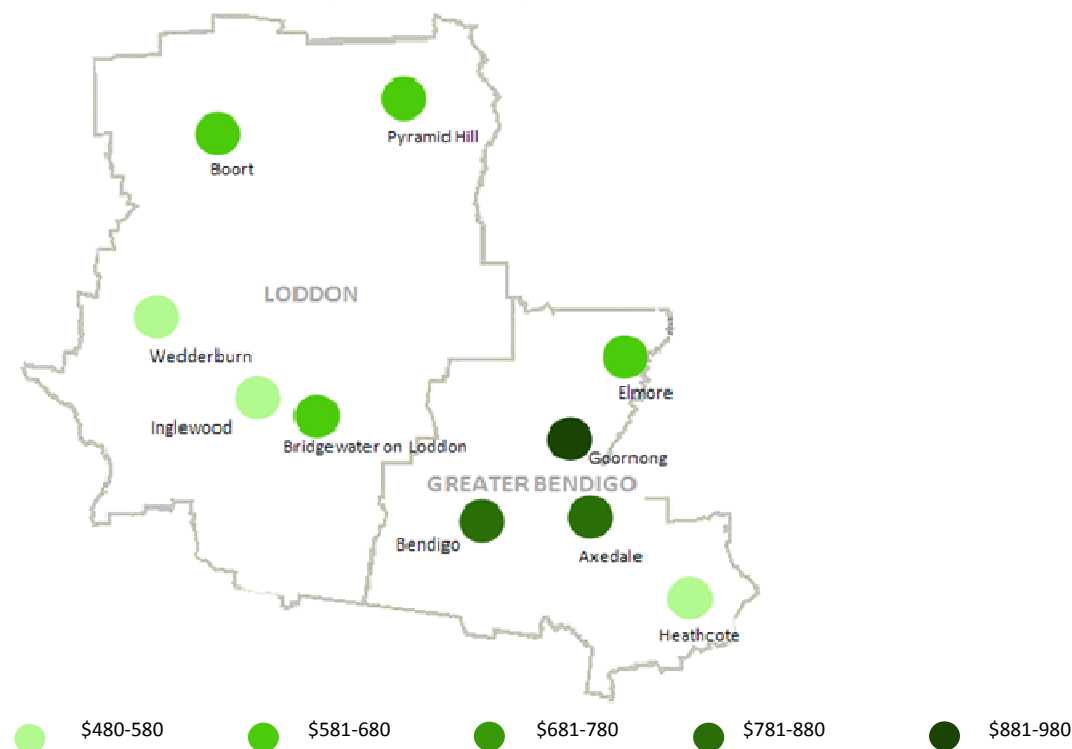
	Bridgewater	Boort	Wedderburn	Pyramid Hill	Inglewood	Axedale	Heathcote	Goornong	Elmore	Bendigo
Negative/Nil income	6%	7%	4%	5%	3%	11%	6%	5%	5%	5%
\$1-\$149	5%	9%	6%	3%	5%	9%	7%	8%	6%	8%
\$150-\$249	22%	17%	30%	23%	33%	20%	27%	19%	24%	17%
\$250-\$399	20%	18%	22%	22%	23%	7%	21%	16%	23%	16%
\$400-\$599	20%	14%	15%	19%	15%	16%	13%	17%	13%	16%
\$600-\$799	8%	9%	8%	9%	8%	14%	7%	14%	9%	11%
\$800-\$999	4%	6%	4%	4%	3%	10%	4%	6%	5%	7%
\$1,000-\$1,299	3%	5%	2%	5%	2%	4%	3%	7%	4%	6%
\$1,300-\$1,599	4%	2%	0%	0%	1%	4%	1%	1%	2%	3%
\$1,600-\$1,999	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%
> \$2,000	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%
not stated	7%	12%	8%	7%	6%	3%	11%	5%	8%	7%

2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Household income

In 2006, the median household income in Loddon Shire was \$597, compared to \$820 across Regional Victoria and \$1022 for the Victorian average. The median household income in City of Greater Bendigo was \$833. Towns within the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region varied substantially.

Median household income by town 2006 - map



2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Gross household weekly income by LGA 2006

	City of Greater Bendigo	Loddon Shire	Regional Victoria	Victoria
Negative/Nil income	1%	2%	1%	1%
\$1-\$149	1%	2%	2%	1%
\$150-\$249	6%	9%	6%	5%
\$250-\$349	9%	11%	9%	7%
\$350-\$499	6%	10%	6%	5%
\$500-\$649	13%	16%	13%	10%
\$650-\$799	7%	7%	7%	6%
\$800-\$999	8%	6%	7%	7%
\$1,000-\$1,199	12%	11%	11%	11%
\$1,200-\$1,399	6%	5%	6%	6%
\$1,400-\$1,699	7%	4%	7%	7%
\$1,700-\$1,999	5%	3%	5%	6%
\$2,000-\$2,499	4%	2%	4%	6%
\$2,500-\$2,999	3%	1%	3%	5%
\$3,000 or more	2%	1%	2%	5%

2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Gross household weekly income by town 2006

	Bridgewater	Boort	Wedderburn	Pyramid Hill	Inglewood	Axedale	Heathcote	Goornong	Elmore	Bendigo
Negative/Nil income	2.0%	2.3%	3.5%	0.0%	2.8%	0.0%	1.3%	3.7%	0.0%	0.7%
\$1-\$149	2.0%	2.6%	3.2%	2.1%	0.0%	6.7%	2.2%	0.0%	2.7%	1.2%
\$150-\$249	6.6%	9.5%	11.9%	9.7%	12.8%	3.4%	10.0%	5.6%	9.7%	6.4%
\$250-\$349	10.6%	11.8%	15.5%	12.3%	13.4%	5.6%	16.1%	2.8%	13.4%	9.2%
\$350-\$499	12.6%	4.9%	10.6%	8.2%	13.4%	6.7%	11.9%	3.7%	9.4%	5.6%
\$500-\$649	19.2%	14.4%	17.1%	17.4%	16.6%	14.6%	17.4%	13.0%	18.4%	13.4%
\$650-\$799	5.3%	9.2%	8.1%	5.6%	6.6%	7.9%	6.3%	6.5%	6.0%	7.6%
\$800-\$999	7.3%	6.9%	4.8%	6.7%	7.6%	0.0%	5.7%	12.0%	9.7%	8.0%
\$1,000-\$1,199	11.3%	13.4%	6.8%	12.8%	7.6%	14.6%	6.8%	13.0%	7.7%	11.7%
\$1,200-\$1,399	4.0%	2.3%	1.9%	6.7%	3.1%	5.6%	2.5%	7.4%	4.7%	6.2%
\$1,400-\$1,699	6.6%	3.6%	2.9%	3.6%	1.7%	7.9%	3.7%	8.3%	4.7%	6.7%
\$1,700-\$1,999	0.0%	2.3%	1.0%	3.1%	2.1%	6.7%	1.6%	2.8%	1.0%	4.8%
\$2,000-\$2,499	2.0%	4.6%	1.0%	0.0%	1.0%	5.6%	2.4%	2.8%	1.7%	4.2%
\$2,500-\$2,999	2.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%
\$3,000 or more	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.7%	2.3%	1.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Age pensioners and carers

The Age Pension is an income support payment for people who have reached retirement age. Men must be aged 65 or over and women must be 63 ½ or over. Both Loddon and Greater Bendigo had a higher proportion of population that was receiving the Age Pension when compared to the Victorian average. Loddon had a particularly high proportion.

The Carer Payment is an income support payment for people who are unable to support themselves through participation in the workforce because they are caring for someone with a disability, severe medical condition or who is frail aged. Compared to the Victorian average, Greater Bendigo and Loddon had double the proportion of population aged 15 years or over receiving the Carer Payment.

Age pension and other pensions March 2009

Location	Age Pension		Carer Payment	
	No. of recipients	% of total LGA population	No. of recipients	% of LGA pop. aged ≥ 15yrs
Greater Bendigo	12,462	12.7%	1,064	1.8%
Loddon Shire	1,477	18.3%	114	1.8%
Victoria	526,365	10.7%	36,027	0.9%

Commissioned data from Centrelink www.centrelink.gov.au

Occupation

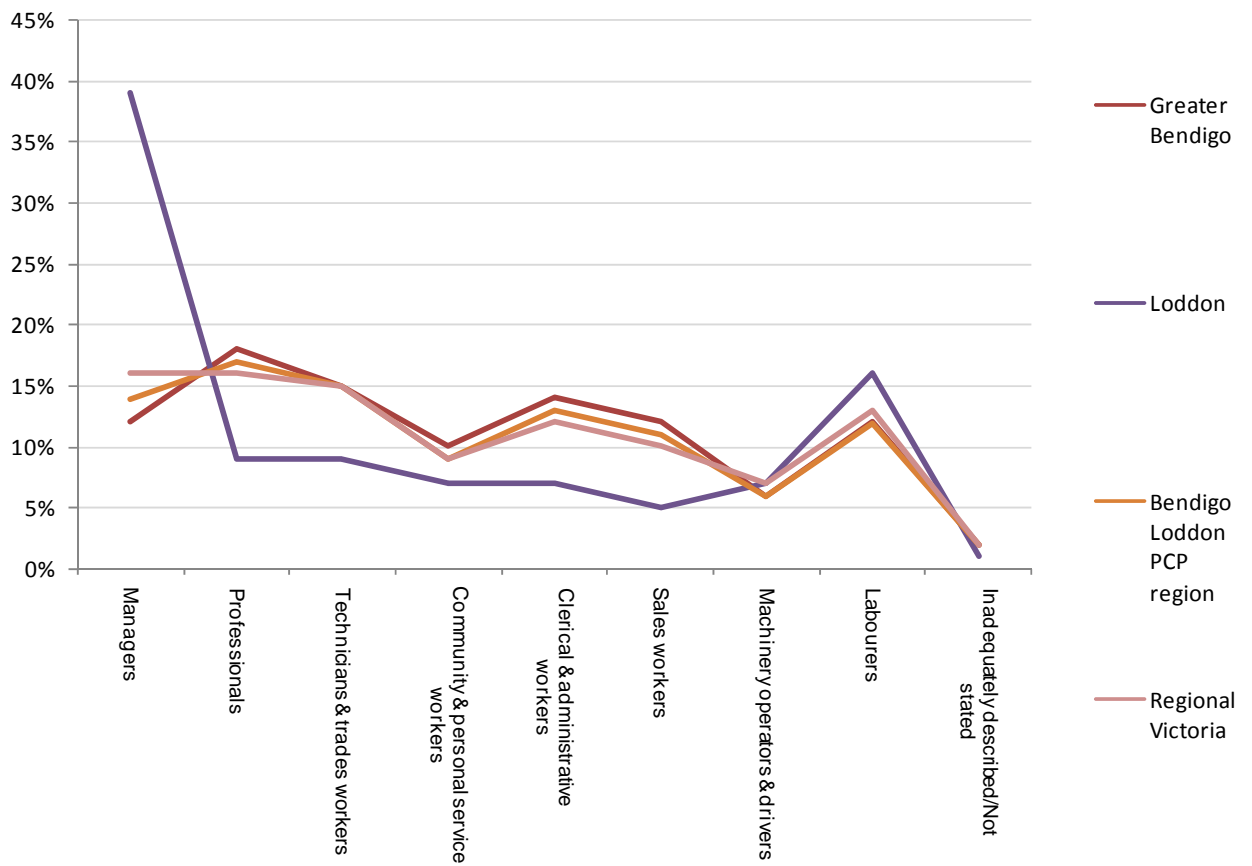
Occupations held by the labour force residing in the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region are largely similar to those for Regional Victoria, with a higher proportion of professionals and clerical and administration workers and a lower proportion of managers. Compared to the whole of Victoria, the PCP region has a lower proportion of professionals and a higher proportion of labourers. When comparing Local Government areas, Loddon Shire has a significantly higher proportion of managers and has a lower proportion of most other occupations, other than labouring. City of Greater Bendigo shares the same occupation proportions as the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region, and this is based on the range of employment opportunities offered in the large regional centre of Bendigo.

Occupation of labour force table 2006

	Greater Bendigo		Loddon		Bendigo-Loddon PCP		Regional Victoria	
Managers	4,774	12%	1,231	39%	6,005	14%	95,647	16%
Professionals	7,319	18%	291	9%	7,610	17%	91,391	16%
Technicians & trades workers	6,249	15%	289	9%	6,538	15%	90,103	15%
Community & personal service workers	3,927	10%	216	7%	4,143	9%	53,054	9%
Clerical & administrative workers	5,622	14%	234	7%	5,856	13%	69,476	12%
Sales workers	4,741	12%	168	5%	4,909	11%	57,784	10%
Machinery operators & drivers	2,622	6%	207	7%	2,829	6%	41,515	7%
Labourers	5,021	12%	493	16%	5,514	12%	76,864	13%
Inadequately described/Not stated	680	2%	47	1%	727	2%	10,155	2%
Total	40,955	100%	3,176	100%	44,131	100%	585,989	100%

www.abs.gov.au

Occupation of labour force 2006



Industry of employment

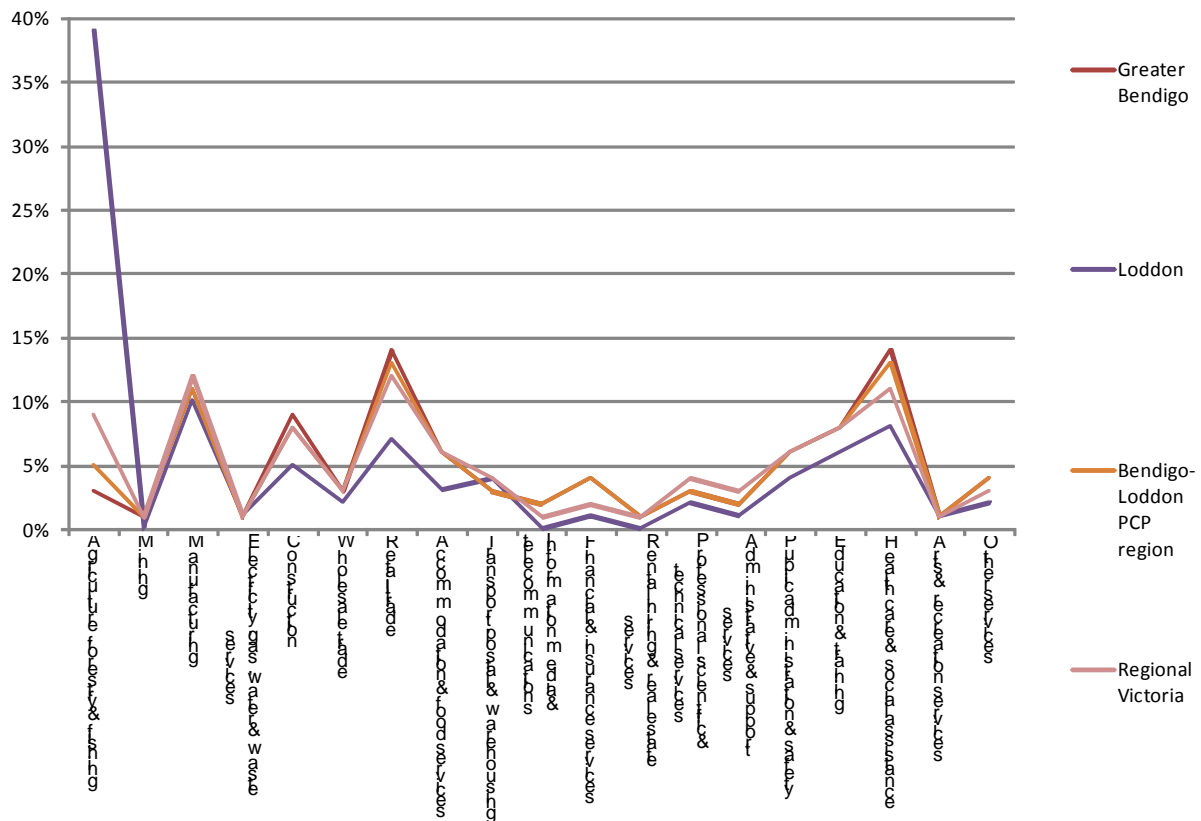
In 2006, the labour force residing in the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region worked in similar industries as the labour force across Regional Victoria. A lower proportion of labour force working in the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector was the major difference. Compared to the Victorian labour force, the PCP region had a lower proportion working in the professional, scientific and technical and the wholesale trade industry sectors, while it had a higher proportion working in the agriculture, forestry and fishing, the retail trade and the health care/social assistance sectors. As expected, Loddon Shire had a high proportion of labour force working in the agricultural sector and, generally, a lower proportion of labour force working across the other sectors.

Industry of employment 2006

	Greater Bendigo		Loddon		Bendigo-Loddon PCP Region		Regional Vic.	
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	1,170	3%	1,239	39%	2,409	5%	54,129	9%
Mining	473	1%	8	0%	481	1%	3,417	1%
Manufacturing	4,665	11%	315	10%	4,980	11%	69,327	12%
Electricity, gas, water & waste services	468	1%	34	1%	502	1%	7,830	1%
Construction	3,506	9%	145	5%	3,651	8%	48,136	8%
Wholesale trade	1,189	3%	65	2%	1,254	3%	19,543	3%
Retail trade	5,734	14%	220	7%	5,954	13%	71,761	12%
Accommodation & food services	2,550	6%	109	3%	2,659	6%	36,686	6%
Transport, postal & warehousing	1,390	3%	129	4%	1,519	3%	24,644	4%
Information media & telecommunications	988	2%	13	0%	1,001	2%	7,719	1%
Financial & insurance services	1,532	4%	33	1%	1,565	4%	11,717	2%
Rental, hiring & real estate services	403	1%	6	0%	409	1%	6,384	1%
Professional, scientific & technical services	1,412	3%	57	2%	1,469	3%	21,522	4%
Administrative & support services	996	2%	46	1%	1,042	2%	15,085	3%
Public administration & safety	2,565	6%	139	4%	2,704	6%	33,809	6%
Education & training	3,444	8%	199	6%	3,643	8%	46,272	8%
Health care & social assistance	5,589	14%	262	8%	5,851	13%	66,943	11%
Arts & recreation services	495	1%	25	1%	520	1%	7,126	1%
Other services	1,538	4%	68	2%	1,606	4%	20,329	3%
Inadequately described/Not stated	845	2%	63	2%	908	2%	13,614	2%
Total	40,952	100%	3,175	100%	44,127	100%	585,993	100%

ABS 2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Industry of employment 2006



ABS 2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Unemployment

Unemployment figures for the December 2008 quarter indicate that there were 3,138 unemployed people in the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region. Unemployment rates decreased or were stable in most Statistical Local Areas (SLA), reflecting Victorian trends. Loddon - North SLA had the lowest rate (3.1%) while Greater Bendigo - Eaglehawk SLA had the highest (8.6%). Compared to Regional Victoria, unemployment rates were higher in five of the nine SLAs.

Unemployment numbers and rates for the Bendigo-Loddon PCP Region (December 2008 quarter)

Location	Unemployment – number		Unemployment - rate		Total labour force
	September 2008	December 2008	September 2008	December 2008	
Gr. Bendigo – central	711	706	7.1	7.0	10,048
Gr. Bendigo - Eaglehawk	358	344	8.5	8.1	4,240
Gr. Bendigo – Inner East	847	840	6.6	6.5	12,897
Gr. Bendigo – Inner North	234	235	4.8	4.8	4,915
Gr. Bendigo – Inner West	456	458	5.6	5.6	8,212
Gr. Bendigo – Part B	250	252	4.5	4.5	5,572
Gr. Bendigo – Strathfieldsaye	97	100	3.1	3.2	3,129
Total Greater Bendigo	2,953	2,935	6.0	6.0	49,013
Loddon - North	62	62	3.1	3.1	2,020
Loddon - South	147	141	6.2	5.9	2,370
Total Loddon Shire	209	203	4.6	4.6	4,390
Total BLPCP		3,138		5.9	53,403
Regional Victoria	-	-	4.8	4.7	-
Victoria	-	-	4.5	4.4	-

Small Area Labour Markets - December quarter 2008 www.workplace.gov.au

NewStart recipients

Newstart is an income support payment for people who are looking for work. It allows them to participate in activities designed to increase their chances of finding work. A person must be aged 21 to 64 to qualify. In March 2009, compared to Victoria, Greater Bendigo and Loddon Shire had a higher proportion of females who were receiving a Newstart allowance and a much higher proportion of males receiving the allowance.

Newstart recipients (March 2009)

	Female			Male			All persons		
	NewStart recipients	All females aged 21-64	%	NewStart recipients	All males aged 21-64	%	NewStart recipients	All persons aged 21-64	%
Greater Bendigo	1,175	21,791	5.4	1,906	20,065	9.5	3,081	41,856	7.4
Loddon	98	2,020	4.9	179	2,149	8.3	277	4,169	6.6
Victoria	1,476,300	46,519	3.2	1,427,609	70,649	4.9	2,903,909	117,168	4.0

Commissioned data from Centrelink www.centrelink.gov.au

Indigenous population

In 2006, an estimated 1.1% of the region's residents were of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin, compared to 0.6% across Victoria. The highest proportions of indigenous population lived in Boort and Inglewood and the lowest lived in Axedale and Heathcote.

Number and proportion of total population that are indigenous persons - 2006 (ranked)

Location	Number	%
Axedale	0	0.0%
Heathcote	9	0.6%
Victoria	30,140	0.6%
Pyramid Hill	4	0.9%
Elmore	7	1.0%
Bridgewater	4	1.0%
Loddon Shire LGA	80	1.0%
Greater Bendigo LGA	1,020	1.1%
Bendigo	906	1.2%
Regional Victoria	15,925	1.2%
Goornong	4	1.3%
Wedderburn	10	1.4%
Inglewood	16	2.3%
Boort	20	2.6%

ABS 2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Cultural diversity

In 2006, most Bendigo-Loddon PCP region residents were born in Australia. After Australia, the most common countries of birth were New Zealand, Netherlands, Germany, United Kingdom and Italy.

Country of Birth (2006)

	Greater Bendigo LGA		Loddon LGA		Regional Victoria	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Australia	82,848	89%	6,888	88%	1,124,362	84.3%
Austria	36	0%	3	0%	1,063	0.1%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	10	0%	0	0%	621	0.0%
Cambodia	6	0%	0	0%	145	0.0%
Canada	62	0%	0	0%	1,041	0.1%
Chile	0	0%	0	0%	147	0.0%
China (excl. SARs and Taiwan Province)	122	0%	0	0%	1,752	0.1%
Croatia	46	0%	12	0%	2,809	0.2%
Cyprus	14	0%	0	0%	371	0.0%
Egypt	21	0%	3	0%	418	0.0%
Fiji	25	0%	0	0%	539	0.0%
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	6	0%	0	0%	1,025	0.1%
France	21	0%	0	0%	537	0.0%
Germany	242	0%	32	0%	6,896	0.5%
Greece	78	0%	9	0%	2,009	0.2%
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	22	0%	0	0%	500	0.0%
Hungary	30	0%	8	0%	821	0.1%
India	123	0%	3	0%	2,054	0.2%
Indonesia	71	0%	0	0%	556	0.0%
Iran	0	0%	0	0%	293	0.0%
Iraq	15	0%	0	0%	646	0.0%
Ireland	103	0%	12	0%	1,954	0.1%
Italy	150	0%	8	0%	9,008	0.7%
Japan	25	0%	0	0%	479	0.0%
Korea, Republic of (South)	21	0%	0	0%	327	0.0%
Lebanon	6	0%	3	0%	277	0.0%
Malaysia	105	0%	9	0%	1,276	0.1%
Malta	51	0%	10	0%	1,888	0.1%
Mauritius	11	0%	0	0%	210	0.0%
Netherlands	279	0%	35	0%	8,229	0.6%
New Zealand	567	1%	65	1%	11,363	0.9%
Papua New Guinea	44	0%	0	0%	484	0.0%
Philippines	177	0%	3	0%	2,761	0.2%
Poland	45	0%	0	0%	1,613	0.1%
Portugal	0	0%	0	0%	193	0.0%
Romania	9	0%	0	0%	300	0.0%
Russian Federation	10	0%	3	0%	262	0.0%
Samoa	6	0%	0	0%	206	0.0%
Singapore	41	0%	3	0%	620	0.0%
South Africa	116	0%	3	0%	1,998	0.1%
South Eastern Europe, not further defined	32	0%	15	0%	1,693	0.1%
Spain	3	0%	0	0%	527	0.0%
Sri Lanka	101	0%	0	0%	842	0.1%
Taiwan	6	0%	0	0%	146	0.0%
Thailand	38	0%	0	0%	620	0.0%
Turkey	8	0%	0	0%	1,147	0.1%
Ukraine	8	0%	0	0%	465	0.0%
United Kingdom	2,199	2%	221	3%	48,026	3.6%
United States of America	115	0%	9	0%	2,134	0.2%
Viet Nam	27	0%	4	0%	877	0.1%
Born elsewhere	325	0%	36	0%	8,905	0.7%
Total	93,252	100%	7,836	100%	1,333,436	100.0%

Language spoken at home

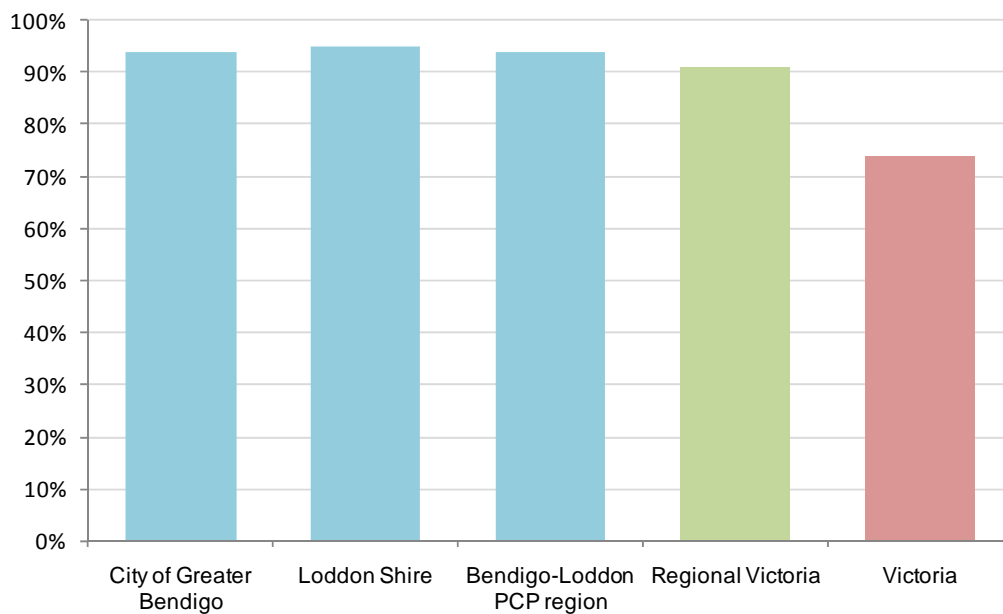
Reflecting the high proportion of the region's residents who were born in Australia, the region also has a high proportion of residents who only speak English at home. This figure is higher than that for Regional Victoria and for Victoria.

Only speaks English at home (2006)

	Number	Percentage of population
City of Greater Bendigo	87 706	94%
Loddon Shire	7 480	95%
Bendigo-Loddon PCP region	95 186	94%
Regional Victoria	1 216 055	91%
Victoria	3 668 282	74%

ABS 2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Proportion of population that only speaks English at home



ABS 2006 census www.abs.gov.au

Health

Social determinants of health

Ten social determinants of health were developed by the World Health Organisation in 2000, based on an increasing understanding of the significant sensitivity of health to the social environment. The ten social determinants are listed below.

1. The Social Gradient - <i>“Life expectancy is shorter and most diseases are more common further down the social ladder in each society.”</i>
2. Stress - <i>“Stressful circumstances, making people feel worried, anxious and unable to cope, are damaging to health and may lead to premature death.”</i>
3. Early life - <i>“A good start in life means supporting mothers and young children: the health impact of early development and education lasts a lifetime.”</i>
4. Social exclusion - <i>“Life is short where its quality is poor. By causing hardship and resentment, poverty, social exclusion and discrimination cost lives.”</i>
5. Work - <i>“Stress in the workplace increases the risk of disease. People who have more control over their work have better health.”</i>
6. Unemployment - <i>Job security increases health, well-being and job satisfaction. Higher rates of unemployment cause more illness and premature death.</i>
7 Social Support - <i>“Friendship, good social relations and strong supportive networks improve health at home, at work and in the community.”</i>
8 Addiction - <i>“Drug use is both a response to social breakdown and an important factor in worsening the resulting inequalities in health.”</i>
9. Food - <i>“A good diet and adequate food supply are central for promoting health and well-being. A shortage of food and lack of variety cause malnutrition and deficiency diseases.”</i>
10. Transport - <i>“Healthy transport means less driving and more walking and cycling, backed up by better public transport. Cycling, walking and the use of public transport promote health in four ways. They provide exercise, reduce fatal accidents, increase social contact and reduce air pollution.”</i>

Social Determinants of Health: the Solid Facts - 2nd edition - World Health Organization 2003
www.health.vic.gov.au/healthpromotion/foundations/determinants.htm

The table below sets out some key indicators that provide a snap shot of some social determinants of health for the Bendigo-Loddon area. Most of the data is presented and discussed in more detail in other areas of this report. Much of the data relates to more than one of the social determinants of health. For instance, unemployment (to varying degrees) has an impact on: the social gradient, stress, social exclusion, work, unemployment and the social support social determinants of health. Data is from different sources and from different dates and should only be used as a general guide.

Social determinants of health snapshot

Indicator	Greater Bendigo	Loddon	Loddon Mallee Region	Victoria
% of 2006 workforce working as professionals	18%	9%		21%
% of 2006 workforce working as labourers	12%	16%		10%
% of 2006 workforce working on full time basis	60%	66%		60%
Unemployment rate for December 2008 quarter	6.0%	4.6%		4.4%
% of households earning less than \$350 per week	17%	24%		15%
% of adult population completed year 12 or equivalent	34%	23%		44%
% of adult population with university grad. or post grad. qualification	12%	7%		17%
% of lone households in 2006	11%	13%		10%
% of population who slept in caravan, cabin, houseboat, tents, improvised home, tent, sleepers out on night of 2006 census	0.6%	1.1%		0.3%
% of single parent households (of all family households) in 2006	18%	13%		15%
% of children aged 12-15 mnths fully immunised (dec 2007)	92%	93%		92%
% of children aged 24-27 mnths fully immunised (dec 2007)	94%	96%		94%
% of children aged 60-63 mnths fully immunised (dec 2007)	93%	91%		91%
Proportion of teenage births (out of all births)	5.5%	1.1%		2.6%
% of 2006 workforce that used public transport, walked or cycled	2.8%	2.2%		10.7%
Perceived safety in community	67%	85%	64%	
Family Incident Reports Rates per 100,000 Population (07/08)	533	384	-	604
Crimes per 100,000 population 2007-2008	7384.3	3912.3		7185.5
SEIFA LGA rating 2006 (high value indicate less disadvantage)	984.4	941.6		
% of hospital admissions for alcohol use & induced mental disorders	0.6%	1.0%		1.0%
% of hospital admissions for drug use & induced mental disorders	0.6%	0.4%		0.7%

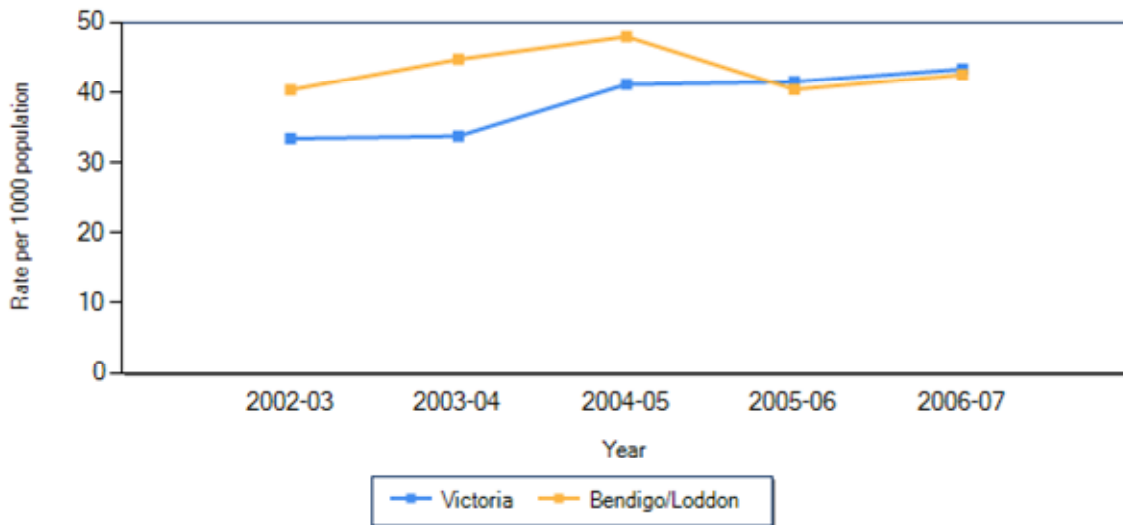
Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions (ACSC)

Ambulatory care is any medical care delivered where the patient does not need to stay in hospital overnight. If a patient visits a doctor's office, hospital or health centre without an overnight stay, it is considered ambulatory care. Hospitalisation rates for ambulatory care sensitive conditions can be used as an indicator of access to and quality of primary health care. A range of factors, including disease prevalence in a community, personal choices, socio-economic factors and hospital admission and coding practices can also influence these rates.

The ACSC admission rate for the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region increased a small amount between 2002-2003 and 2006-2007 (40.4 and 42.5 respectively). This increase was significantly less than the increase seen across Victoria (from 33.4 to 43.3). Additionally, the admission rates for total ACSCs in the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region in 2006-07 was lower than the Victorian rate (43.33).

Further information about ACSCs can be found at www.health.vic.gov.au/healthstatus/acsc/index.htm

ACSCs admission rates trend in Bendigo/Loddon PCP, 2002-03 to 2006-07



www.health.vic.gov.au

Most common ACSCs

Diabetes complications were the most common ACSCs in the Bendigo Loddon PCP region in 2006/07. The rate in Loddon Shire was significantly higher than in Greater Bendigo. Dental conditions were the next most common ACSC for both local government areas.

Top ten ACSCs by LGA for 2006/07 (ranked)

Greater Bendigo			Loddon Shire		
ACSC	Admissions		ACSC	Admissions	
	No.	Rate p/1000 persons		No.	Rate p/1000 persons
Diabetes complications	2010	18.73	Diabetes complications	406	33.40
Dental conditions	343	3.60	Dental conditions	35	4.88
Chronic Obstr. Pulm. Dis. (COPD)	285	2.63	Dehydration & gastro.	39	3.90
Cong. cardiac failure	259	2.31	Chronic Obstr. Pulm. Dis. (COPD)	48	3.78
Dehydration & gastro.	224	2.18	Asthma	26	2.99
Pyelonephritis	210	1.98	Angina	30	2.50
Angina	203	1.87	Cellulitis	22	2.41
Asthma	172	1.76	Pyelonephritis	25	2.38
Iron deficiency anaemia	165	1.53	Cong. cardiac failure	21	1.58
Cellulitis	155	1.53	Ear, nose & throat infections	12	1.58

www.health.vic.gov.au

ACSC rates compared to Victoria

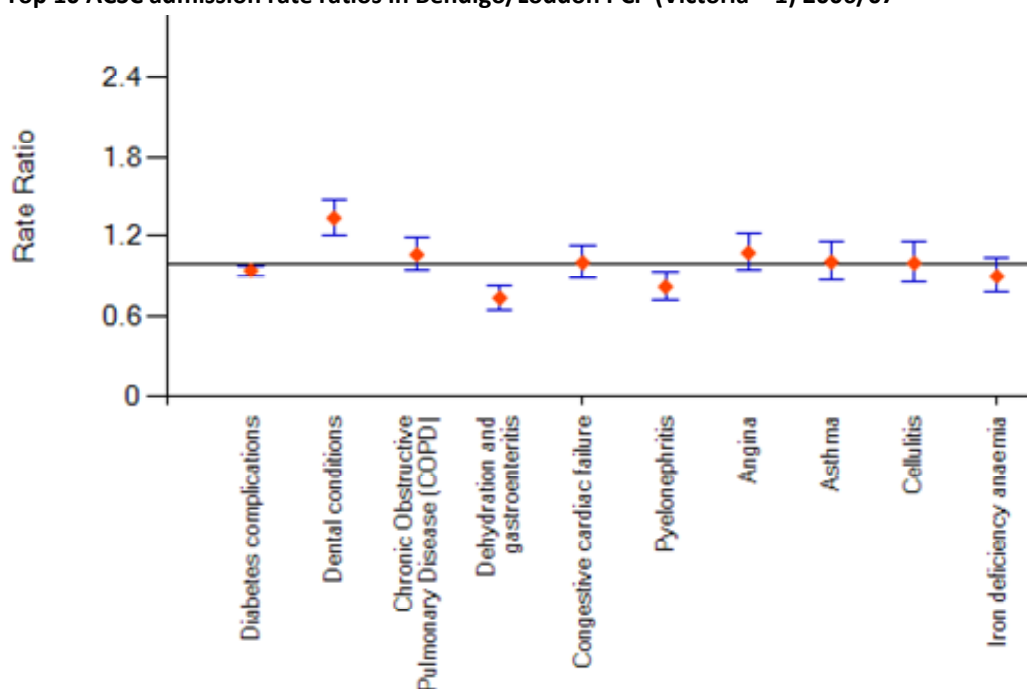
Compared to the Victorian average admission rates, Greater Bendigo had slightly higher admission rates for dental conditions, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, congestive cardiac failure, and angina. Loddon Shire had a significantly higher admission rate for diabetes complications, dental conditions, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma, angina, cellulitis, and ear, nose and throat infections.

Top 10 ACSCs compared to Victoria 2006/07

Greater Bendigo		Loddon Shire		Victoria	
ACSC	Rate p/1000 persons	ACSC	Rate p/1000 persons	ACSC	Rate p/1000 persons
Diabetes complications	18.73	Diabetes complications	33.40	Diabetes complications	21.47
Dental conditions	3.60	Dental conditions	4.88	Dehydration and gastroenteritis	3.15
Chronic Obstr. Pulm. Dis.	2.63	Dehydration & gastro.	3.90	Dental conditions	2.75
Cong. cardiac failure	2.31	Chronic Obstr. Pulm. Dis.	3.78	Chronic Obstr. Pulm. Dis.	2.59
Dehydration & gastro.	2.18	Asthma	2.99	Pyelonephritis	2.44
Pyelonephritis	1.98	Angina	2.50	Congestive cardiac failure	2.22
Angina	1.87	Cellulitis	2.41	Asthma	1.84
Asthma	1.76	Pyelonephritis	2.38	Angina	1.79
Iron deficiency anaemia	1.53	Cong. cardiac failure	1.58	Iron deficiency anaemia	1.69
Cellulitis	1.53	Ear, nose & throat	1.58	Cellulitis	1.58

www.health.vic.gov.au

Top 10 ACSC admission rate ratios in Bendigo/Loddon PCP (Victoria = 1) 2006/07



www.health.vic.gov.au

Cause of death 2006

In 2006, the number one cause of death for men in Greater Bendigo and Loddon was neoplasms, followed by diseases of the circulatory system. For women in Greater Bendigo and Loddon, the number one cause of death was diseases of the circulatory system, followed by neoplasms.

Underlying cause of death 2006

	Loddon Shire			City of Greater Bendigo			Regional Victoria			Victoria		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases	0	n.p.	n.p.	6	7	13	47	50	97	224	224	448
Neoplasms	23	9	32	120	90	210	1897	1368	3265	5623	4469	10092
Diseases of the blood & blood-forming organs & certain disorders involving the immune mechanism	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	21	34	69	67	136
Endocrine, nutritional & metabolic diseases	n.p.	n.p.	4	20	15	35	263	223	486	765	770	1535
Mental and behavioural disorders	0	n.p.	n.p.	8	16	24	149	248	397	505	906	1411
Diseases of the nervous system	0	n.p.	n.p.	15	11	26	200	228	428	597	700	1297
Diseases of the eye and adnexa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diseases of the ear and mastoid process	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	n.p.	n.p.
Diseases of the circulatory system	18	18	36	110	149	259	1766	2049	3815	4971	5927	10898
Diseases of the respiratory system	5	3	8	21	31	52	456	397	853	1314	1297	2611
Diseases of the digestive system	3	5	8	11	11	22	194	205	399	582	578	1160
Diseases of the skin & subcutaneous tissue	0	0	0	n.p.	0	n.p.	7	n.p.	n.p.	28	34	62
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	0	0	0	n.p.	n.p.	12	37	77	114	102	210	312
Diseases of the genitourinary system	0	n.p.	n.p.	9	7	16	103	127	230	383	448	831
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	n.p.	n.p.	0	n.p.	n.p.
Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	0	0	0	n.p.	0	n.p.	21	15	36	81	68	149
Congenital malformations, deformations & chromosomal abnormalities	0	0	0	n.p.	n.p.	3	20	17	37	69	70	139
Symptoms, signs & abnormal clinical & laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	n.p.	n.p.	4	10	7	17	73	46	119	163	115	278
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
External causes of morbidity and mortality	n.p.	n.p.	7	28	14	42	414	238	652	1209	739	1948
All Causes	58	48	106	363	370	733	5660	5314	10974	16685	16626	33311

www.abs.gov.au commissioned data June 2008

Life expectancy at birth

The life expectancy at birth for a male born in Loddon Shire in 2006 is 74.4, the lowest ranking (age) for any Local Government Area in Victoria. The life expectancy for a male born in Greater Bendigo in 2006 is 78.6, which is closer to the Loddon Mallee region and state figures (78.3 & 80.0). Of the 79 Local Government areas, Loddon Shire ranked 79 and Greater Bendigo ranked 45.

The life expectancy at birth for a female born in Loddon Shire in 2006 is 83.0 and the life expectancy for a female born in Greater Bendigo in 2006 is slightly higher at 83.3. Of the 79 Local Government areas, Greater Bendigo ranked 56 and Loddon Shire ranked 61.

Life Expectancy at Birth (2006)

	Male	Female
City of Greater Bendigo	78.6	83.3
Loddon Shire	74.4	83.0
Loddon Mallee DHS region	78.3	83.4
Victoria	80.0	84.3

Department of Human Services: www.health.vic.gov.au

Chronic disease risk factors

Smoking

An estimate of the proportion of population that smokes has undertaken by the Public Health Information Development Unit at the University of Adelaide, using data from the 2004-05 National Health Survey. Within the Bendigo Loddon PCP region, the rate of male and female smokers was highest in the SLA of City of Greater Bendigo - Eaglehawk and lowest in the SLA of City of Greater Bendigo - Strathfieldsaye. Most SLAs in the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region had a higher rate of smokers (in red) than the Victorian average.

Estimates of selected risk factors 2004-05: Smokers, 18+ years

Statistical Local Area	Males		Females	
	Number	Rate in 1000	Number	Rate in 1000
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Central	2,230	335.3	1,999	275.3
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Eaglehawk	1,023	352.9	973	307.7
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner East	2,141	253.5	1,986	206.4
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner North	1,050	309.7	753	220.0
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner West	1,598	288.4	1,287	215.1
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Pt B	1,211	301.0	860	216.2
Gr. Bendigo (C) - S'saye	446	202.8	363	160.1
Loddon (S) - North	350	299.9	225	215.0
Loddon (S) - South	591	345.0	439	277.7
Victoria	487,710	259.8	356,814	181.5
Country Vic	145,522	304.4	111,783	225.9

www.publichealth.gov.au

Nutrition

Poor nutrition is considered a risk factor for chronic disease. An estimate of the proportion of people aged 12 years or over that consume two or more serves of fruit per day was undertaken in 2008 by the Public Health Information Development Unit at the University of Adelaide, using data from the 2004-05 National Health Survey.

Within the PCP region, Greater Bendigo - Strathfieldsaye SLA had the lowest estimated rate of population aged 12 years or older that ate 2 or more serves of fruit per day, while Loddon - North SLA had the highest. Most Greater Bendigo SLAs had lower rates (in red) than the Victorian average.

Fruit intake (≥ 2 serves) by persons aged ≥ 12 years 2004-05

Statistical Local Area	Number	Rate in 1000
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Central	8,799	558.2
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Eaglehawk	3,737	512.6
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner East	10,631	512.6
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner North	3,699	481.7
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner West	6,239	471.3
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Pt B	4,791	487.2
Gr. Bendigo (C) - S'saye	2,279	460.1
Loddon (S) - North	1,631	564.5
Loddon (S) - South	2,345	538.1
Victoria	2,270,339	534.7
Country Vic	598,505	516.1

Physical inactivity

Physical inactivity, or lack of physical exercise, is considered a risk factor for chronic disease. Estimates of physical inactivity were undertaken in 2008 by the Public Health Information Development Unit using the 2004-05 National Health Survey data.

Within the Bendigo Loddon PCP region, the estimated rate of physical inactivity for persons aged 15 years and older was highest (which indicates a related higher risk of chronic disease) in the SLA of Greater Bendigo- Eaglehawk and was lowest in the SLA of City of Greater Bendigo-Strathfieldsaye. Generally speaking, the estimated rate of physical inactivity was lower in Greater Bendigo than the Victorian average rate.

Estimates of selected risk factors: physical inactivity, 15+ years 2001

Statistical Local Area	Number	Rate in 1000
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Central	5,754	379.1
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Eaglehawk	2,870	415.2
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner East	5,837	291.3
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner North	2,230	311.8
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner West	3,657	294.4
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Pt B	2,895	315.4
Gr. Bendigo (C) - S'saye	912	201.4
Loddon (S) - North	1,075	388.4
Loddon (S) - South	1,638	394.9
Victoria	5,754	379.1
Country Vic	2,870	415.2

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Obesity

Obesity is considered a risk factor for chronic disease. Estimates of obesity were undertaken in 2008 by the Public Health Information Development Unit using the 2004-05 National Health Survey data.

There was a significant difference in estimated rates of obesity between males and females of the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region.

Loddon - North SLA had the highest rate of obesity in males aged 15 years and over. Compared to the Victorian average rates, all Bendigo-Loddon PCP region SLAs except Greater Bendigo - Strathfieldsaye had a higher rate of obesity in males.

Greater Bendigo-Eaglehawk had the highest rate of obesity in females aged 15 years and over. This was the only SLA in the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region that had a female obesity rate higher than the Victorian average.

Number of obese males and females aged ≥ 15 years 2004-05

Statistical Local Area	Males		Females	
	Number	Rate in 1000	Number	Rate in 1000
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Central	1,432	209.1	1,525	199.3
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Eaglehawk	663	209.2	724	204.4
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner East	1,575	182.7	1,527	151.6
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner North	700	195.1	568	158.4
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner West	1,110	183.8	999	155.2
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Pt B	902	186.0	745	157.9
Gr. Bendigo (C) - S'saye	301	122.4	209	90.4
Loddon (S) - North	314	226.6	230	176.7
Loddon (S) - South	461	212.5	357	177.5
Victoria	315,080	159.6	1,525	199.3
Country Vic	101,076	189.5	724	204.4

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Hospital admissions

There were 38,647 hospital admissions amongst the Bendigo Loddon PCP area residents in 2006/07. This figure represents approximately 36% of the estimated population of these LGAs for 2007. This compares to 2,117,733 hospital admissions for Victorian residents, representing approximately 41% of the estimated population of Victoria in 2007. The main reasons for admission to hospital amongst residents are set out in the table below. One person may have multiple admissions over time. The data is based on hospital admissions for residents of the Bendigo Loddon PCP areas and not for hospitals based in the PCP area. The table below ranks hospital admissions by principle diagnosis for the residents of Greater Bendigo, Loddon and the Victorian average.

Principle diagnosis for hospital admissions by place of residence 2006-07

Ranking	Greater Bendigo		Loddon		Victoria	
	Principal Diagnosis Description	Frequency	Principal Diagnosis Description	Frequency	Principal Diagnosis Description	Frequency
1	Extracorporeal dialysis	5,103	Extracorporeal dialysis	168	Extracorporeal dialysis	262,315
2	Pharmacotherapy session for neoplasm	991	Cataract unspecified	92	Pharmacotherapy session for neoplasm	112,511
3	Singleton born in hospital	757	Pharmacotherapy session for neoplasm	87	Care inv use of rehab procedure unsp	30,715
4	Cataract unspecified	644	Singleton born in hospital	59	Cataract unspecified	28,888
5	Care inv use of rehab procedure unsp	588	Care inv use of rehab procedure unsp	49	Singleton born in hospital	27,723
6	Chest pain unspecified	386	Chest pain unspecified	40	Chest pain unspecified	22,691
7	Impacted teeth	354	Pneumonia unspecified	37	Other and unspecified abdominal pain	19,225
8	Atheroscl heart dis native coron artery	317	Unstable angina	34	Adjust & mgmt vascular access dev	18,671
9	Pneumonia unspecified	294	Atheroscl heart dis native coron artery	32	Medical abortion comp. unsp wo comp	18,447
10	Unstable angina	276	Dental caries unspecified	30	Impacted teeth	18,384
11	Gastrointestinal haemorrhage unsp	250	Noninfect gastroenteritis & colitis unsp	27	Noninfect gastroenteritis & colitis unsp	14,727
12	Other primary gonarthrosis	250	Impacted teeth	27	Pneumonia unspecified	14,035
13	Dental caries unspecified	248	Spec screen exam neoplasm intest tract	27	Atrial fibrillation and flutter	11,962
14	Adjust & mgmt vascular access dev	238	Gastrointestinal haemorrhage unsp	26	Other primary gonarthrosis	11,824
15	Medical abortion complete unsp wo comp	227	COPD with acute lower resp infection	26	In vitro fertilisation	11,666
16	Atrial fibrillation and flutter	221	Medical abortion complete unsp wo comp	25	Obstructive sleep apnoea syndrome	11,524
17	Congestive heart failure	209	Asthma unspecified	25	Gastrointestinal haemorrhage unsp	11,317
18	F/U exam after surg for malg neoplasm	196	Other primary gonarthrosis	23	Urinary tract infection site not spec	10,639
19	Chronic tonsillitis	191	Atrial fibrillation and flutter	22	Gastro-oesoph reflux dis w oesophagitis	10,633
20	Spec screen exam neoplasm intest tract	183	Acute subendocardial MI	22	Spec screen exam neoplasm intest tract	10,228
21	In vitro fertilisation	182	(blank or uncoded)	21	Unstable angina	10,226
22	Acute subendocardial MI	181	Angina pectoris unspecified	21	Congestive heart failure	9,561
23	Noninfect gastroenteritis & colitis unsp	179	Obstructive sleep apnoea syndrome	21	Pain localised to upper abdomen	9,387
24	Malignant neoplasm of prostate	179	F/U exam after surg for malg neoplasm	21	Rec depres disrd curr sev wo psych	9,134
25	Malg neoplasm skin oth / unsp parts face	178	Other and unspecified abdominal pain	20	Acute subendocardial MI	8,986

Source: Victorian Admitted Episode Dataset (VAED) 2006/07 (Public and Private Hospital files)

Major Diagnostic Categories (MDC)

The following table sets out hospital admissions for residents of the Bendigo Loddon PCP area and all Victorian residents, by major diagnostic category (MDC). While the ranking for many MDCs is the same between the Bendigo Loddon PCP areas and Victoria, the proportion of all admissions can vary. Some notable differences between the PCP Local Government areas and the Victorian resident admissions include:

Compared to all Victorian residents, a greater proportion of Greater Bendigo residents were admitted for the following MDCs:

- Diseases & Disorders of the Kidney & Urinary Tract (1.8% difference)
- Diseases & Disorders of the Circulatory System (1.6% difference)
- Diseases & Disorders of the Ear, Nose, Mouth & Throat (1.1% difference)

Compared to all Victorian residents, a greater proportion of Loddon residents were admitted for the following MDCs:

- Diseases & Disorders of the Circulatory System (3.3% difference)
- Diseases & Disorders of the Musculoskeletal System & Connective Tissue (1.5% difference)
- Diseases & Disorders of the Respiratory System (2.4% difference)
- Diseases & Disorders of the Ear, Nose, Mouth & Throat (1.0% difference)
- Diseases & Disorders of the Eye (1.5% difference)

Compared to all Victorian residents, a lesser proportion of Greater Bendigo residents were admitted for the following MDCs:

- Diseases & Disorders of the Digestive System (-1.5% difference)
- Neoplastic Disorders (Haematological & Solid Neoplasms) (-2.10% difference)
- Mental diseases and disorders (-1.20% difference)

Compared to all Victorian residents, a lesser proportion of Loddon residents were admitted for the following MDCs:

- Diseases & Disorders of the Kidney & Urinary Tract (-6.1% difference)
- Neoplastic Disorders (Haematological & Solid Neoplasms) (-2.4% difference)
- Mental Diseases & Disorders (-1.7% difference)

Rankings of Diagnostic Categories (MDC) for Bendigo, Loddon and Victoria, Public and Private Separations, 2006-2007

Greater Bendigo				Loddon Shire				Victoria	
MDC Description	Frequency	% of admissions	difference to all Victorian resident admissions	MDC Description	Frequency	% of admissions	difference to all Victorian resident admissions	MDC Description	% of all admissions
Diseases & Disorders of the Kidney & Urinary Tract	6,094	17.2%	1.8%	Diseases & Disorders of the Digestive System	419	13.0%	0.3%	Dis. & Disorders of Kidney & Urinary Tract	15.4%
Diseases & Disorders of the Digestive System	3,955	11.2%	-1.5%	Diseases & Disorders of the Circulatory System	329	10.2%	3.3%	Dis. & Disorders of the Digestive System	12.7%
Dis. & Disorders of the Musculoskeletal System & Connective Tissue	3,112	8.8%	0.8%	Dis. & Disorders of the Musc. System & Conn. Tissue	306	9.5%	1.5%	Dis. & Disorders of the Musculoskeletal System & Connective Tissue	8.0%
Diseases & Disorders of the Circulatory System	3,003	8.5%	1.6%	Diseases & Disorders of the Kidney & Urinary Tract	299	9.3%	-6.1%	Dis. & Disorders of the Circulatory System	6.9%
Pregnancy, Childbirth & the Puerperium	2,207	6.2%	-0.1%	Diseases & Disorders of the Respiratory System	212	6.6%	2.4%	Neoplastic Disorders (Haematological & Solid Neoplasms)	6.5%
Diseases & Disorders of the Ear, Nose, Mouth & Throat	1,943	5.5%	1.1%	Factors Infl. Health Status & Other Contacts with Health Svces	197	6.1%	0.2%	Pregnancy, Childbirth & the Puerperium	6.3%
Factors Influencing Health Status & Other Contacts with Health Services	1,857	5.2%	-0.7%	Pregnancy, Childbirth & the Puerperium	178	5.5%	-0.8%	Factors Influencing Health Status & Other Contacts with Health Services	5.9%
Diseases & Disorders of the Respiratory System	1,599	4.5%	0.3%	Diseases & Disorders of the Ear, Nose, Mouth & Throat	173	5.4%	1.0%	Dis. & Disorders of the Ear, Nose, Mouth & Throat	4.4%
Neoplastic Disorders (Haematological & Solid Neoplasms)	1,563	4.4%	-2.1%	Diseases & Disorders of the Eye	140	4.3%	1.5%	Diseases & Disorders of the Respiratory System	4.2%
Diseases & Disorders of the Nervous System	1,459	4.1%	0.2%	Diseases & Disorders of the Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue & Breast	140	4.3%	0.4%	Diseases & Disorders of the Nervous System	3.9%
Diseases & Disorders of the Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue & Breast	1,357	3.8%	-0.1%	Neoplastic Disorders (Haematological & Solid Neoplasms)	133	4.1%	-2.4%	Diseases & Disorders of the Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue & Breast	3.9%
Diseases & Disorders of the Female Reproductive System	1,299	3.7%	0.4%	Diseases & Disorders of the Nervous System	111	3.4%	-0.5%	Mental Diseases & Disorders	3.4%
Newborns & Other Neonates	1,154	3.3%	0.3%	Diseases & Disorders of the Female Reproductive System	100	3.1%	-0.2%	Diseases & Disorders of the Female Reproductive System	3.3%
Diseases & Disorders of the Eye	1,090	3.1%	0.3%	Newborns & Other Neonates	91	2.8%	-0.2%	Newborns & Other Neonates	3.0%

Mental Diseases & Disorders	763	2.2%	-1.2%	Injuries, Poisonings & Toxic Effects of Drugs	67	2.1%	0.2%	Diseases & Disorders of the Eye	2.8%
Injuries, Poisonings & Toxic Effects of Drugs	558	1.6%	-0.3%	Mental Diseases & Disorders	55	1.7%	-1.7%	Injuries, Poisonings & Toxic Effects of Drugs	1.9%
Diseases & Disorders of the Male Reproductive System	557	1.6%	0.2%	Diseases & Disorders of the Male Reproductive System	54	1.7%	0.3%	Diseases & Disorders of Blood, Blood Forming Organs, Immunological Disorders	1.7%
Diseases & Disorders of the Hepatobiliary System & Pancreas	553	1.6%	0.1%	Diseases & Disorders of the Hepatobiliary System & Pancreas	53	1.6%	0.1%	Diseases & Disorders of the Hepatobiliary System & Pancreas	1.5%
Diseases & Disorders of Blood, Blood Forming Organs, Immunological Disorders	482	1.4%	-0.3%	Dis. & Disrdrs of Blood, Blood Forming Organs, Imm'cal Disrdrs	49	1.5%	-0.2%	Diseases & Disorders of the Male Reproductive System	1.4%
Endocrine, Nutritional & Metabolic Diseases & Disorders	388	1.1%	-0.2%	Endocrine, Nutritional & Metabolic Diseases & Disorders	47	1.5%	0.2%	Endocrine, Nutritional & Metabolic Diseases & Disorders	1.3%
Infectious & Parasitic Diseases, Systemic or Unspecified Sites	243	0.7%	-0.1%	Infectious & Parasitic Diseases, Systemic or Unspecified Sites	35	1.1%	0.3%	Infectious & Parasitic Diseases, Systemic or Unspecified Sites	0.8%
(blank or uncoded)	122	0.30%	0.1%	(blank or uncoded)	21	0.7%	0.5%	Alcohol/Drug Use & Alcohol/Drug Induced Organic Mental Disorders	0.6%
Alcohol/Drug Use & Alcohol/Drug Induced Organic Mental Disorders	42	0.10%	-0.5%	Alcohol/Drug Use & Alcohol/Drug Induced Organic Mntl Disorders	11	0.3%	-0.3%	(blank or uncoded)	0.2%
Burns	22	0.10%	0.0%	Burns	3	0.1%		Burns	0.1%
Unassignable to MDC	1	0.00%		Unassignable to MDC	1	0.0%		Unassignable to MDC	0.0%

Source: Victorian Admitted Episode Dataset (VAED) 2006/07 (Public and Private Hospital files)

Infectious diseases

In April 2009, the rate of notifiable infectious diseases in Greater Bendigo was generally higher than in Loddon Shire. Greater Bendigo, compared to Victoria, had particularly high rates of hepatitis A, paratyphoid, vero toxin producing e.coli, invasive meningococcal disease, chlamydia, invasive pneumococcal disease, mumps, rubella, ross river and Q fever. Loddon Shire, compared to Victoria, had particularly high rates of hepatitis C, campylobacter infection, giardiasis, chickenpox, herpes zoster (shingles), invasive pneumococcal disease, and mumps.

Notifiable infectious disease rates April 2009

	Infectious disease	Rate in 100,000 [#]			
		Greater Bendigo	Loddon Shire	Loddon Mallee Region	Victoria
Blood Borne Diseases	Hepatitis B - Newly acquired	1.1		1.7	1.5
	Hepatitis B - Not further specified	9.5		10.9	38.6
	Hepatitis C - Newly acquired	2.1		1.7	2.8
	Hepatitis C -Not further specified	34.9	47.6	38.4	44.3
	Hepatitis D			0.0	0.2
Enteric Diseases	Campylobacter infection	113.1	154.6	91.7	107.7
	Cryptosporidiosis	3.2	11.9	7.9	17.3
	Food/Water/Environmental - Other	1.1	11.9	4.6	26.6
	Giardiasis	11.6	35.7	21.9	29.0
	Hepatitis A	6.3		3.0	2.0
	Hepatitis E			0	0.2
	Listeriosis	0.0		0.3	0.3
	Paratyphoid	1.1		0.3	0.5
	Salmonellosis	14.8	11.9	25.8	30.2
	Shigellosis	1.1		1.0	3.1
	Typhoid			0	0.7
	Vero Toxin producing E.coli	3.2		1.0	0.2
	Other Infectious Notifiable Diseases	Invasive Meningococcal Disease - Group B	3.2		1.3
Invasive Meningococcal Disease - Other		1.1		0.3	0.3
Legionella pneumophila 1		1.1		0.7	0.8
Mycobacterium tuberculosis		4.2		2.0	7.4
Mycobacterium ulcerans		0		0.3	0.6
Sexually Transmitted Infections	Chlamydia	373.1	190.3	218.2	237.3
	Gonococcal Infection	4.2	0.0	6.3	22.3
	Syphilis - infectious	4.2		2.6	6.8
Vaccine Preventable Diseases	Chickenpox	1.1	71.4	6.0	6.1
	Herpes zoster (Shingles)	6.3	11.9	8.6	6.1
	Influenza	15.9	0.0	11.9	25.8
	Invasive Pneumococcal Disease	10.6	11.9	7.0	7.2
	Measles	0.0		0.0	0.7
	Mumps	3.2	11.9	1.3	0.6
	Pertussis	11.6	0.0	42.4	40.3
	Rubella	1.1		0.3	0.2
Varicella-zoster virus - not further specified	6.3		4.0	10.8	
Vector Borne Diseases	Barmah Forest	0.0		1	0.4
	Dengue	0		0.3	0.3
	Malaria	1.1		1.0	2.0
	Ross River	6.3	0 0 0	9.6	2.6
Zoonoses	Psittacosis	0.0		0.3	0.9
	Q Fever	1.1	0 0 0	1.0	0.3

[#] Rate per 100,000 for the 12 months to 8/04/2009 calculated using ABS 2004 estimated resident population as at 30 June 2005

Breast cancer screening

Breast cancer screening data is provided at the postcode level. Note that certain postcodes span more than one local government area (such as 3444). As such, the figures below are a guide only for each local government area.

Of the female population aged 50 - 69 years, City of Greater Bendigo had participation rates generally similar to the state average. Particularly low participation rates were recorded in 3515 and 3570. Particularly high participation rates were recorded in 3453 and 3556.

Loddon Shire had participation rates that were similar to or lower than the state average. Particularly low participation rates were recorded in 3475, 3517, 3525, 3571 and 3573. Particularly high participation rates were recorded in 3463, 3575 and 3576.

Breast cancer screening participation for women aged 50-69 years over 2006 to 2008

	Approx. matching region	Number that participated	% of total age group population that participated
Greater Bendigo		No.	%
3444	Mia Mia/Redesdale	647	58
3453	Ravenswood	118	64
3515	Marong	56	37
3523	Heathcote	294	51
3550	Central Bendigo	2392	55
3551	Axedale/Mandurang/ Strathfieldsaye/Huntly/ Lockwood, Maiden Gully regions	1240	54
3555	Kangaroo Flat/Golden Square/ Big Hill regions	1162	58
3556	Eaglehawk/Sebastian/ Woodvale regions	740	59
3557	Barnadown/ Goornong regions	49	57
3558	Elmore region	70	57
3570	Raywood/Neilborough regions	53	45
Loddon			
3463	Laanecoore region	253	66
3475	Bealiba/Logan regions	24	30
3516	Bridgewater region	53	60
3517	Inglewood/Kingower region	105	49
3518	Wedderburn region	98	54
3520	Korong Vale region	12	55
3525	Charlton region	97	43
3537	Boort region	84	57
3571	Dingee region	21	43
3573	Terrick Terrick east region	38	41
3575	Pyramid Hill region	50	65
3576	Durham Ox region	-	-
Victoria			55%

BreastScreen Victoria - commissioned data April 2009

www.breastscreen.org.au

Cervical cancer screening

The participation rate for pap tests in Bendigo Loddon PCP region females was lower than the regional and state average in the 2006 and 2007 period (24 months). Further details about these screening statistics and the methodology used to estimate participation is available at the web link below.

Biennial cervical screening rates for calendar years of 2006 and 2007 (24 months)

	Proportion of eligible women* who were screened in 2006 & 2007
Greater Bendigo	60.9%
Loddon	60.6%
Loddon Mallee Region	62.7%
Victoria	63.1%

www.vccr.org:80/stats_reports/2007/screening_07.html

HIV

There were 6 new HIV infections in the Bendigo Loddon PCP region in 2007-2008. Most cases were recorded in City of Greater Bendigo.

Number of new HIV infections 2007-2008*

LGA	Number
Greater Bendigo	5
Loddon	1
Total	6

Commissioned data from the Burnet Institute

www.burnet.edu.au

* The source of data for this report is the Victorian HIV/AIDS Register which is managed by the Burnet Institute on behalf of DHS. Numbers may differ from previous reports due to the annual audit of retrospective records.

GP availability

The Bendigo Loddon PCP area sits within two divisions of General Practice: Central Victoria General Practice Network and Murray Plains Division of General Practice.

The 2006-07 annual survey of General Practice Divisions indicates that the Central Victoria General Practice Network had a full-time GP to population ratio of 1:1499 and the Murray Plains Division of General Practice had a (slightly higher) full-time GP to population ratio of 1:1255. At the time of the survey, the GP:population ratio for the Central Victoria General Practice Network was the third highest in Victoria.

Number of GPs by General Practice Divisions 2006-07

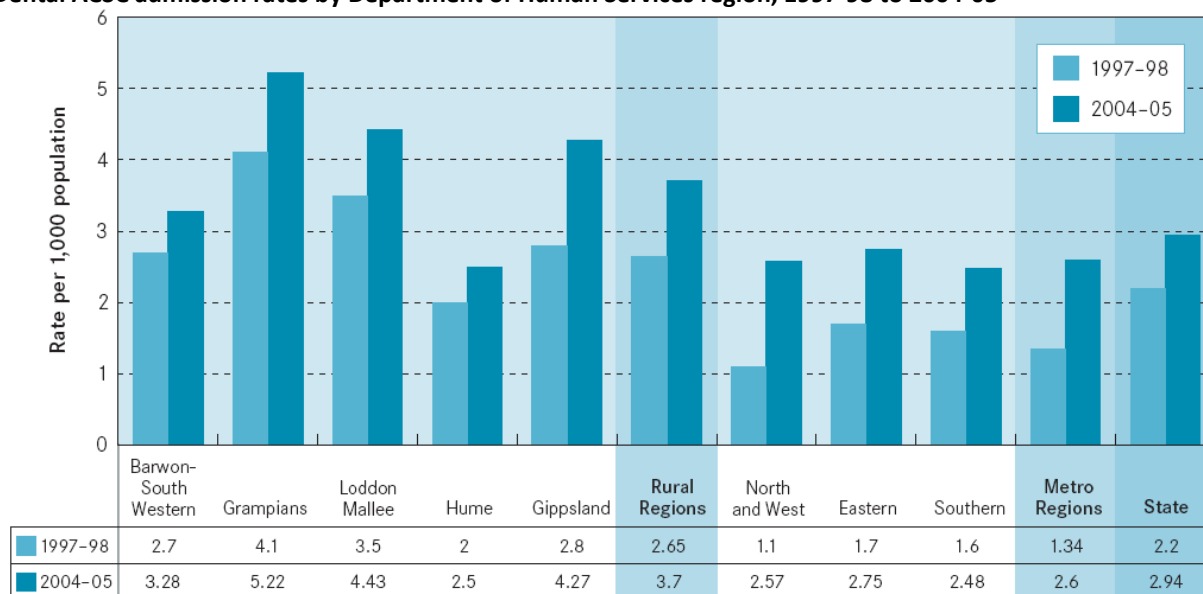
Name of Division of General Practice	Number of female GPs	FWE GPs as at 30/06/06 ^E	Estimated number of GPs: population 2006 ratio	FWE GP: population 2006 ratio
Murray Plains Division of General Practice	13	51	1049	1255
Bendigo & District Division of General Practice	27	69	1014	1499

Source: Key Division of General Practice characteristics 2006-2007 www.phcris.org.au

Dental health

Dental caries, the disease process which leads to tooth decay, has significant impacts upon the overall health and wellbeing of the population. Between 1997/98 and 2004/05, Ambulatory Care Sensitive Condition (ACSC) admission rates for dental caries increased in the Loddon Mallee region. ACSCs are conditions for which hospitalisation is considered to be avoidable with the application of preventive care and early disease management. In 2004-05, the Loddon Mallee region had the second highest admission rate for dental ACSCs. Overall, as the table below illustrates, rural areas were much more likely to have high dental ACSC admission rates.

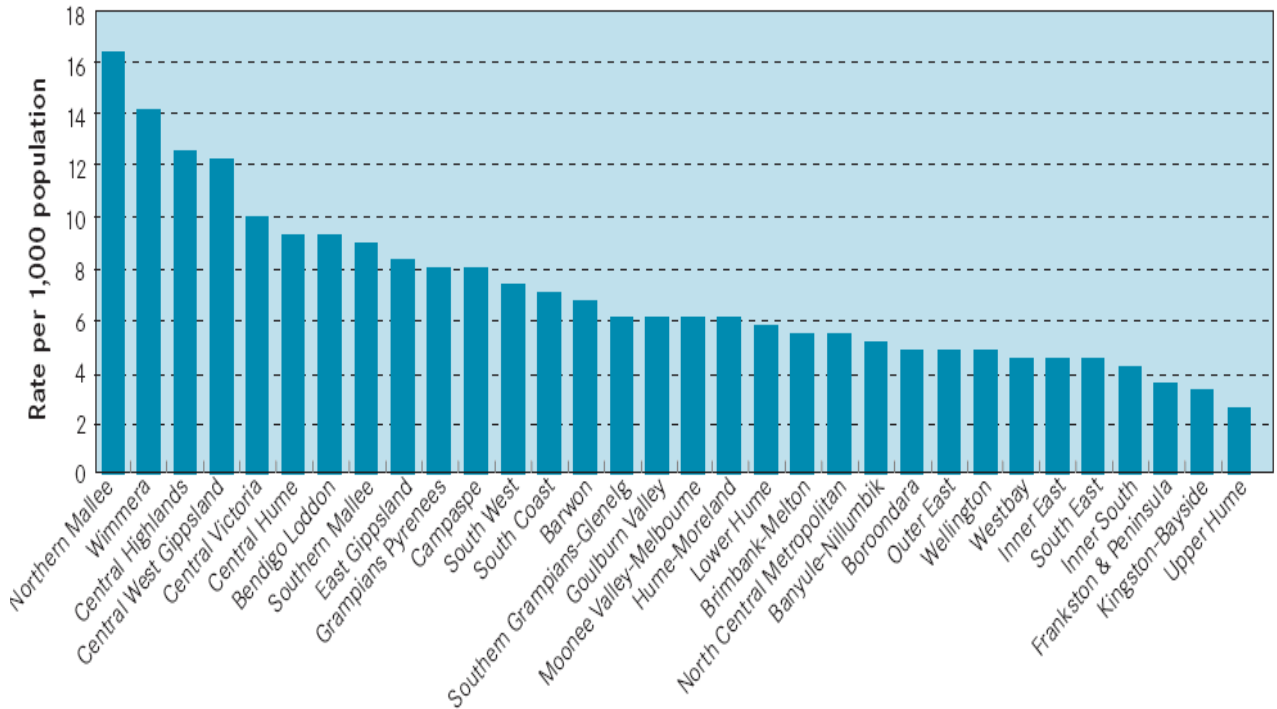
Dental ACSC admission rates by Department of Human Services region, 1997-98 to 2004-05*



* Table taken from the *Demographic analysis of trends in dental ambulatory care sensitive condition (ACSC) admissions in Victoria, 1997-98 to 2004-05* (The Department of Human Services 2007)

For young people (0-14 yrs old), dental ACSC admissions in 2004-05 were associated with lack of fluoridation coverage, poverty and living in a rural area. The Bendigo Loddon PCP area had a dental ACSC admission rate of 9.32 per 1000 for 0-14yr olds in 2004-05, which ranked it seventh highest out of 32 PCPs.

Dental ACSC admission rates by Primary Care Partnership, 0-14 year olds, 2004-05*



* Table taken from the *Demographic analysis of trends in dental ambulatory care sensitive condition (ACSC) admissions in Victoria, 1997-98 to 2004-05* (The Department of Human Services 2007)

Further information about dental ACSC admission rates is available at: www.health.vic.gov.au/dentistry/publications/demographic.htm

Mental health and wellbeing

Cause of death

Mental and behavioural disorders accounted for approximately 3% of underlying cause of death for Greater Bendigo residents in 2006. Data was not available for Loddon residents, due to small samples sizes and the requirement to keep records anonymous. Mental and behavioural disorders accounted for approximately 4% of underlying cause of death for all Victorian residents.

Hospital admissions

The VAED data for 2006/07 indicates that there were 818 admissions diagnosed as “mental diseases and disorders” for residents of the Bendigo-Loddon PCP region. This represented approximately 2% of all admissions for residents of the region. This figure compares to 3% of all hospital admissions for all Victoria residents.

Intentional self harm

Data from the Victorian Episode Minimum Dataset (VEMD) for 2006/07 indicates that there were 187 presentations from Greater Bendigo residents classified as intentional self harm, representing approximately 0.55% of all emergency department (ED) presentations. There were 10 presentations from Loddon Shire residents, representing 0.60% of all ED presentations. Both Greater Bendigo and Loddon had a higher proportion than Victoria, which was 0.50%.

Emergency department presentations classified as intentional self harm 2006/07

Location	Number	% of all ED presentations
Greater Bendigo	187	0.55%
Loddon	10	0.60%
Victoria	-	0.50%

Source: VEMD 2006/07 (Public hospitals only) commissioned data from DHS

Burden of disease data (2001)

Note that the Burden of disease data is from 2001 and does not include recent changes to suicide statistics.

The Burden of Disease data from 2001 indicates the DALY rates for male suicide for Greater Bendigo (5.9) were significantly higher than that of the whole of Victoria (3.9). The DALY rate for suicide in Loddon Shire was also higher (5). Of the 79 Local Government Areas listed, with number 1 ranking having the highest DALY rate of suicide, City of Greater Bendigo ranked 6 and Loddon Shire ranked 37.

Burden of disease data from 2001 indicates the DALY rates for female suicide for Greater Bendigo (1.3) was the same rating as that of the whole of Victoria. The DALY rate for suicide in Loddon Shire was slightly lower at 1.2, which was shared as the rating for the Loddon Mallee DHS region. Of the 79 Local Government Areas listed, with number 1 ranking having the highest DALY rate of suicide, City of Greater Bendigo ranked 13 and Loddon Shire ranked 50.

DALY Rates for suicide per 1000 population, 2001

Location	DALY rate	
	Males	Females
City of Greater Bendigo	5.9	1.3
Loddon Shire	5.0	1.2
Victoria	3.9	1.3

www.health.vic.gov.au

Deaths from suicide and self-inflicted injuries

The Public Health Information Development Unit at the University of Adelaide has published data on potentially avoidable mortality, using data from the ABS 2004 to 2006 Death Data. For further information please refer to www.publichealth.gov.au/publications/australian-and-new-zealand-atlas-of-avoidable-mortality.html

Based on the avoidable mortality data, Greater Bendigo - Inner North SLA had the highest rate of potentially avoidable deaths from suicide and self-inflicted injuries over 2004 to 2006. This rate is almost triple the average Victorian rate. Greater Bendigo - Eaglehawk SLA also had a very high rate (29.0) which was more than double the average Victorian rate.

Potentially avoidable deaths: suicide and self-inflicted injuries of 0-74 yr olds (2004 to 2006)

Statistical Local Area	Number	Rate in 1000
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Central	11	13.1
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Eaglehawk	11	29.0
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner East	11	10.4
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner North	16	37.9
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner West	6	8.5
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Pt B	#	..
Gr. Bendigo (C) - S'saye	#	..
Loddon (S) - North	#	..
Loddon (S) - South	#	..
Country Vic	2,521	10.7
Victoria	790	13.0

www.publichealth.gov.au

Self assessed mental, behavioural and mood problems

Estimates of mental and behavioural problems and mood problems were undertaken in 2008 by the Public Health Information Development Unit using self-reported data from the 2004-05 National Health Survey. The data suggests that the Bendigo Loddon PCP region had a high proportion of males with highest rate of males with self-reported mental and behavioural problems. Eight of the region's nine SLAs had a higher rate of self reported mental and behavioural problems than the Victorian average and five of the nine had higher rates than the country Victorian average. Within the region, Greater Bendigo-Eaglehawk SLA had the highest rate for males and females. Greater Bendigo - Central and Loddon - South SLAs also had very high rates for males and females.

Estimated number of people with mental and behavioural problems (self-assessed) 2004-05

Statistical Local Area	Males		Females	
	Number	Rate in 1000	Number	Rate in 1000
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Central	1,083	124.5	1,414	148.9
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Eaglehawk	527	128.4	669	152.6
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner East	1,127	100.3	1,160	92.2
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner North	487	103.7	390	85.5
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner West	785	100.8	919	114.3
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Pt B	635	107.3	656	117.0
Gr. Bendigo (C) - S'saye	259	79.6	323	106.2
Loddon (S) - North	183	107.2	152	96.5
Loddon (S) - South	322	126.4	334	145.2
Country Victoria	70,918	104.9	77,558	114.1
Victoria	223,864	90.4	271,774	106.8

www.publichealth.gov.au

The estimates of self-reported mood problems data indicates that the SLAs of Greater Bendigo - Central, Greater Bendigo - Eaglehawk, Greater Bendigo - Inner East, and Loddon - South all had higher rates of mood problems for males and females, compared to Victoria. Within the region, Greater Bendigo-Eaglehawk had the highest rate for males and females.

Figure 1 Estimated number of people with mood problems (self-assessed) 2004-05

Statistical Local Area	Males		Females	
	Number	Rate in 1000	Number	Rate in 1000
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Central	503	57.8	765	80.5
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Eaglehawk	231	58.4	357	82.7
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner East	518	46.4	879	69.5
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner North	207	45.2	293	65.1
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner West	341	45.0	538	67.7
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Pt B	280	47.9	378	68.5
Gr. Bendigo (C) - S'saye	74	24.0	150	50.5
Loddon (S) - North	71	41.8	100	65.5
Loddon (S) - South	143	56.2	177	77.9
Victoria	30,467	45.9	46,582	69.3
Country Vic	100,098	40.3	169,008	66.3

www.publichealth.gov.au

Psychological distress levels

The estimated rate of people with high or very high psychological distress levels was highest in Greater Bendigo - Eaglehawk SLA, followed by Greater Bendigo-Central and Loddon-South. Data was derived from the 2004-05 National Health Survey using the Kessler Psychological Distress Scale.

Psychological distress levels (K-10), persons aged 18 years and over

Statistical Local Area	Number	Rate in 1000
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Central	2,383	167.9
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Eaglehawk	1,136	179.4
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner East	1,998	106.5
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner North	691	101.0
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner West	1,259	107.8
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Pt B	977	115.3
Gr. Bendigo (C) - S'saye	315	72.2
Loddon (S) - North	257	106.0
Loddon (S) - South	615	167.4
Country Victoria	121,338	119.8
Victoria	478,650	124.7

www.publichealth.gov.au

Mental health clients in Loddon Mallee region by LGA and type of service - 2007-08

In 2007/08, there were 1,761 mental health clients who were Greater Bendigo residents. This represented 1.8% of the 2007 estimated resident population. Loddon Shire had a total of 128 mental health clients who were residents and this represented 1.6% of the total population.

LGA Name	2007 LGA population*	ADULT		AGED		CAMHS*		FORENSIC		SPECIALIST		TOTAL	
		No. Clients	% of 2007 LGA population	No. Clients	% of 2007 LGA population	No. Clients	% of 2007 LGA population	No. Clients	% of 2007 LGA population	No. Clients	% of 2007 LGA population	No. Clients	% of 2007 LGA population
Buloke (S)	7051	47	0.7%	19	0.3%	14	0.2%	-		<5		81	1.1%
Campaspe (S)	38,339	402	1.0%	86	0.2%	85	0.2%	<5		<5		578	1.5%
Central Goldfields (S)	12,766	163	1.3%	29	0.2%	46	0.4%	-		-		238	1.9%
Gannawarra (S)	11,630	118	1.0%	20	0.2%	24	0.2%	<5		<5		165	1.4%
Greater Bendigo (C)	100,054	1,239	1.2%	241	0.2%	259	0.3%	9	0.0%	13	0.0%	1,761	1.8%
Loddon (S)	8,073	92	1.1%	16	0.2%	19	0.2%	<5		-		128	1.6%
Macedon Ranges (S)	40,939	260	0.6%	56	0.1%	93	0.2%	<5		<5		415	1.0%
Mildura (RC)	53,122	885	1.7%	117	0.2%	151	0.3%	<5		6		1,163	2.2%
Mount Alexander (S)	18,116	250	1.4%	51	0.3%	47	0.3%	<5		<5		353	1.9%
Swan Hill (RC)	21,765	260	1.2%	59	0.3%	59	0.3%	-		<5		381	1.8%

Source: Case Files 2007-08, MH&DD, DHS

* CAMHS = Child and adolescent area mental health services

Disability

In 2006, almost 4,500 residents of Greater Bendigo required assistance in one or more of the following three core activity areas: self-care, mobility and communication, because of a disability, long term health condition (lasting six months or more) or old age. This figure represented 5% of the total population. In Loddon Shire, just under 500 residents required assistance with the same core activities. This figure represented 6% of the total population. The proportion of population that required assistance in one or more of the three core activities was higher in Greater Bendigo and in Loddon than the Victorian average.

Core activity need for assistance 2006

	Greater Bendigo		Loddon Shire		Victoria	
	need for assistance	% of total population	need for assistance	% of population	need for assistance	% of population
MALES						
0-4 years	34	1%	0	0%	1,665	1%
5-14 years	187	3%	24	4%	8,545	3%
15-19 years	91	3%	8	3%	2,945	2%
20-24 years	71	2%	7	5%	2,187	1%
25-34 years	108	2%	8	2%	4,561	1%
35-44 years	169	3%	22	5%	6,753	2%
45-54 years	244	4%	32	5%	8,860	3%
55-64 years	314	6%	49	8%	13,638	5%
65-74 years	269	8%	29	6%	12,955	8%
75-84 years	365	17%	38	13%	18,777	18%
85 years and over	224	41%	40	51%	10,577	39%
Total	2,076	5%	257	6%	91,463	4%
FEMALES						
0-4 years	17	1%	4	2%	985	1%
5-14 years	100	2%	12	2%	4,252	1%
15-19 years	50	1%	0	0%	1,848	1%
20-24 years	42	1%	0	0%	1,747	1%
25-34 years	109	2%	6	2%	3,835	1%
35-44 years	145	2%	17	3%	6,402	2%
45-54 years	218	3%	25	4%	9,555	3%
55-64 years	271	5%	28	5%	12,401	5%
65-74 years	262	7%	34	8%	15,188	8%
75-84 years	565	20%	50	17%	31,596	23%
85 years and over	640	51%	61	49%	28,961	51%
Total	2,419	5%	237	6%	116,770	5%
PERSONS						
0-4 years	51	1%	4	1%	2,650	1%
5-14 years	287	2%	36	3%	12,797	2%
15-19 years	141	2%	8	2%	4,793	1%
20-24 years	113	2%	7	3%	3,934	1%
25-34 years	217	2%	14	2%	8,396	1%
35-44 years	314	2%	39	4%	13,155	2%
45-54 years	462	4%	57	5%	18,415	3%
55-64 years	585	6%	77	7%	26,039	5%
65-74 years	531	8%	63	7%	28,143	8%
75-84 years	930	19%	88	15%	50,373	21%
85 years and over	864	48%	101	50%	39,538	47%
Total	4,495	5%	494	6%	208,233	4%

www.abs.gov.au

Disability support pension

The purpose of the Disability Support Pension is to provide income support for people who have a permanent physical, intellectual or psychiatric impairment.

In March 2009, Loddon Shire and Greater Bendigo had a higher proportion of population receiving the disability support pension, compared to Victoria. The Loddon Shire figure was almost double that of the Victorian average.

Disability Support Pension Recipients at March 2009

Location	No. of benefit recipients	% of total population
City of Greater Bendigo	5,225	5.3%
Loddon Shire	578	7.2%
Victoria	183,344	3.7%

Commissioned data from Centrelink www.centrelink.gov.au

Substance abuse & alcohol consumption

VAED data for 2006-07 indicates that, of the total number of hospital admissions of Bendigo and Loddon residents, 1.35% were treated during their episode of care for an alcohol or drug problem (or both). This figure is lower than the Victorian average of 1.92%. Note that figures can represent multiple admissions for the same individual.

People treated for alcohol or drug problem during episode of care 2006/07

	All admissions	Treated for alcohol problem		Treated for drug problem		Treated for combined alcohol and drug problem	
		number	% of all admissions	number	% of all admissions	number	% of all admissions
Bendigo & Loddon LGA residents	38,647	255	0.7%	209	0.5%	57	0.1%
All Victorian residents	2,117,733	22077	1.0%	15433	0.7%	3076	0.1%

Source: Victorian Admitted Episode Dataset (VAED) 2006/07 (Public and Private Hospital files)

Crime and safety

Road accidents

Road accident fatalities

Eleven people were killed in road accidents in the PCP region in 2007. Greater Bendigo ranked 7th highest for road accident fatalities (out of 39 regional municipalities) and Loddon ranked 19th.

Road toll by regional Victoria municipalities (2007)

Municipality	Bicyclist	Driver	Motorcyclist	Passenger	Pedestrian	Total
Greater Bendigo		6		1		7
Loddon		4				4

Municipal statistics TAC www.tacsafety.com.au

Serious road accidents

One hundred and three people were seriously injured in road accidents in Greater Bendigo in 2007, ranking 2nd across regional Victoria. Nine people were seriously injured in road accidents in Loddon Shire in 2007, ranking 35th out of 39 municipalities.

Serious road accident injuries by Regional Victoria municipalities (2005)

Municipality	Bicyclist	Driver	Motorcyclist	Passenger	Pedestrian	Unknown	Total
Bendigo	3	47	10	32	11		103
Loddon		6	1	2			9

Municipal statistics TAC www.tacsafety.com.au

Workplace accidents

Between July 2005 and end of June 2008, there were 1 530 Worksafe claims in the Greater Bendigo and Loddon region. Of these, 1 445 were from Greater Bendigo and 85 were from Loddon. In Loddon and Greater Bendigo, the greatest proportion of claims were from workers in the manufacturing industry, reflecting the figures for Regional Victoria. However, Loddon Shire had a much higher proportion than Greater Bendigo and Regional Victoria. Not surprisingly, Loddon Shire also had a high proportion of claims from workers in the agricultural sector.

Worksafe claims (selected) by industry division: July 2005 - June 2008

Industry division	Greater Bendigo		Loddon		Regional Victoria	
	No. of claims	% of all claims	No. of claims	% of all claims	No. of claims	% of all claims
Agriculture	49	3.4	17	20.0	1429	6.9
Manufacturing	318	22.0	31	36.5	4930	23.8
Construction	169	11.7	6	7.1	1940	9.4
Trade	143	9.9	6	7.1	2055	9.9
Community Services	457	31.6	14	16.50	6024	29.1

www.worksafe.gov.au

Greater Bendigo and Loddon both had a high proportion of claims resulting from body stressing injuries, reflecting the Regional Victorian figures. The next most common claim was for injuries resulting from falls, trips and slips and this proportion was consistent across Greater Bendigo, Loddon and Regional Victoria. Greater Bendigo claims were similar to Regional Victoria, across most injuries, while Loddon Shire had a higher proportion of vehicle accident and hitting objects injury

claims and a lower proportion of being hit by moving objects, body stressing and exposure to mental stress factor injury claims.

Worksafe claims (selected) by mechanism of injury: July 2005 - June 2008 (as at 31 July 2008)

Mechanism of injury	Greater Bendigo		Loddon		Regional Victoria	
	No. of claims	% of all claims	No. of claims	% of all claims	No. of claims	% of all claims
Falls, Trips and Slips	267	18.5	16	18.8	3904	18.9
Hitting Objects	64	4.4	8	9.4	1027	5.0
Being Hit by Moving Object	224	15.5	11	12.9	2969	14.4
Body Stressing	593	41.0	31	36.5	8390	40.6
Exposure to Mental Stress Factors	150	10.4	6	7.1	2119	10.2
Vehicle Accident	40	2.8	9	10.6%	675	3.3
Other Mechanism	82	5.7	4	4.7%	1076	5.2

www.worksafe.gov.au

Farm accidents

Injury by sex

The majority of hospital admissions and emergency department presentations for both Greater Bendigo and Loddon Shire were for males.

Injury by age

Over the three year period between 2004 to 2006, Greater Bendigo had 90 farm-related injuries that required hospital admission and Loddon had 32. For Greater Bendigo residents, most emergency department presentations for farm-related injuries occurred among persons aged 15-64 years (72%) followed by those aged 65 years or over (18%) then 14 years or younger (10%). This pattern was similar in Loddon Shire, with persons of working age accounting for most admissions (65%), however there were less admissions among children (3%) and more among those of retirement age (32%).

Emergency Department presentations - Injury by age group 2004 to 2006 (36 months)

Age group	Bendigo		Loddon		Rest of Victoria	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0-4	*	*	*	*	128	2%
5-9	0	0%	*	*	308	4%
10-14	5	6%	*	*	665	9%
15-19	12	13%	5	16%	783	11%
20-24	10	11%	*	*	749	10%
25-29	6	7%	5	16%	606	8%
30-34	11	12%	3	9%	592	8%
35-39	3	3%	*	*	591	8%
40-44	10	11%	5	16%	602	8%
45-49	4	4%	*	*	528	7%
50-54	15	17%	*	*	462	6%
55-59	7	8%	0	0%	388	5%
60-64	3	3%	0	0%	281	4%
65-69	*	*	*	*	197	3%
70-74	*	*	*	*	114	2%
75-79	0	0%	*	*	83	1%
80+	0	0%	0	0%	60	1%
Total	90	100%	32	100%	7,137	100%

Source: commissioned data from Victorian Injury Surveillance Unit (VISU) www.muarc.monash.edu.au

Between 2004 to 2006, Greater Bendigo had 29 farm-related injuries that required hospital admission and Loddon had 27. The greatest proportion of hospital admission in Loddon Shire were for the 40-44 year age group. In Greater Bendigo, the greatest number of admission fell across 4 age groups: 20-24 years, 30-34 years, 45-49 years and 55-59 years. Loddon Shire had a higher proportion of farm injuries in the 15-19 year old age bracket and in the 70-74 year old age bracket.

Hospital admissions - Injury by age group 2004 to 2006 (36 months)

Age Group	Greater Bendigo		Loddon		Rest of Victoria	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0-4yrs	*	*	0	0%	32	2%
5-9yrs	*	*	0	0%	45	3%
10-14yrs	*	*	*	*	102	6%
15-19yrs	0	0%	3	11%	134	8%
20-24yrs	3	10%	3	11%	94	6%
25-29yrs	*	*	*	*	102	6%
30-34yrs	3	10%	*	*	111	6%
35-39yrs	*	*	0	0%	140	8%
40-44yrs	*	*	4	15%	156	9%
45-49yrs	3	10%	0	0%	127	7%
50-54yrs	*	*	*	*	134	8%
55-59yrs	3	10%	3	11%	147	9%
60-64yrs	*	*	*	*	120	7%
65-69yrs	*	*	*	*	82	5%
70-74yrs	*	*	3	11%	68	4%
75-79yrs	*	*	*	*	56	3%
80-84yrs	0	0%	0	0%	37	2%
85+ yrs	*	*	*	*	22	1%
Total	29	100%	27	100%	1,709	100%

Source: commissioned data from Victorian Injury Surveillance Unit (VISU) www.muarc.monash.edu.au

Cause of injury

The main causes of emergency department presentation injuries for Greater Bendigo were from falls and motor vehicles. However, in Loddon Shire, the main cause of injury was from being hit/struck/crushed by transport, compared to Bendigo and compared to the rest of Victoria, and this proportion was much higher than in Greater Bendigo or the rest of Victoria.

Emergency department presentations - Injury cause 2004- 2006

Injury class	Greater Bendigo		Loddon		Rest of Victoria	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Falls	20	22%	6	19%	1,234	17%
Motor vehicle	19	21%	5	16%	1,275	18%
Hit / Struck / Crush	12	13%	10	31%	1,050	15%
Cutting / Piercing	11	12%	*	*	921	13%
Other transport	7	8%	*	*	800	11%
Fire / Flames / Heat	3	3%	*	*	122	2%
Poisoning	0	0%	*	*	24	0%
Drowning	0	0%	*	*	*	*
Other unintentional	12	13%	0	0%	741	10%
Unspecified	6	7%	4	13%	966	14%
Total	90	100%	32	100%	7,137	100%

Source: commissioned data from Victorian Injury Surveillance Unit (VISU) www.muarc.monash.edu.au

Hospital admissions - Injury cause 2004- 2006

Primary injury cause	Greater Bendigo		Loddon		Rest of Victoria	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
transport	13	45%	6	22%	604	35%
fall	6	21%	7	26%	251	15%
natural/environmental/animals	5	17%	4	15%	307	18%
hit/struck/crush	3	10%	*	*	162	9%
machinery	*	*	4	15%	166	10%
cutting/piercing	0	0%	3	11%	85	5%
fires/burns/scalds	0	0%	*	*	24	1%
poisoning	0	0%	0	0%	17	1%
explosions/firearms	0	0%	0	0%	4	0%
drowning/near drowning	0	0%	0	0%	2	0%
other unintentional	*	*	0	0%	87	5%
Total	29	100%	27	100%	1,709	100%

Source: commissioned data from Victorian Injury Surveillance Unit (VISU) www.muarc.monash.edu.au

National farm accident trends

According to the *Traumatic deaths in Australian Agriculture 2007* report (National Farm Injury Data Centre 2007), tractors continue to be the most reported cause of unintentional farm related fatalities, while farm vehicles remain prominent with a significant increase in ATVs as a key cause of fatalities.

Crime rates

As set out in the table below, in 2007/08, City of Greater Bendigo had a higher rate of offences against person than Victoria, while Loddon Shire had a lower rate. City of Greater Bendigo also had a higher rate of drug offences than Victoria, while Loddon Shire had a lower rate than Victoria. Between 2006/07 and 2007/08, overall crime rates have reduced in Loddon Shire and across Victoria but have increased in City of Greater Bendigo.

Crime rates by Local Government Area (in 100,000)

	Loddon Shire			Greater Bendigo			Victoria		
	Rate per 100,000 population*			Rate per 100,000 population*			Rate per 100,000 population*		
	2006/07	2007/08	% change	2006/07	2007/08	% change	2006/07	2007/08	% change
Crime against person	778.3	680.9	-12.50%	899.3	913.3	1.60%	820.2	818.6	-0.2
Crime against property	2,507.70	2092.4	-16.60%	4,456.20	5181.9	16.30%	5,468.00	5,358.90	-2
Drug offences	172.9	222.9	28.90%	364.9	307.2	-15.80%	282.1	270.8	-4
Other crime	555.9	916.2	64.80%	866.2	982.5	13.40%	757.4	737.2	-2.7
total	4,014.80	3912.3	-2.60%	6,586.70	7384.3	12.10%	7,327.60	7,185.50	-1.9

Source: Victoria Police <http://www.police.vic.gov.au/statistics/>

* Rates were calculated using estimated resident population figures as at 31 December 2007 obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS Cat. No. 3101.0). The % change column is the percentage change in the rate per 100,000 population from 2006/2007.

Perception of safety

Local Government Community Strength Indicators were undertaken by the Victorian State Government in 2006. Survey respondents were asked a range of questions about their community, including how safe they felt on the street alone after dark. The survey responses indicate that residents of Loddon Shire felt significantly safer alone in their streets after dark than residents of the Loddon Mallee region and Regional Victoria. Responses from City of Greater Bendigo residents reflected the average for Regional Victoria. The table below sets out the responses.

Feels safe on the street alone after dark (2006)

City of Greater Bendigo	67.2%
Loddon Shire	85.3%
Loddon Mallee Region (DHS)	63.8%
<i>Victorian regional average</i>	67.2%

www.dvc.vic.gov.au

Family violence

In 2007/08, Greater Bendigo had 533 family incident reports recorded per 100,000 population and had 126 reported family incidents that resulted in charges being laid per 100,000 population. Loddon Shire had a lower rate of family incident reports that were recorded, with 384 reports per 100,000 population and 123 reported family incidents resulted in charges being laid per 100,000 population.

The rate of family incident reports per 100,000 population increased for both Greater Bendigo and Loddon between 2006/07 and 2007/08.

A family incident is any situation where the police are requested to attend an incident involving a family. This may or may not involve violence. Family members take in the following family relationships: married, de-facto, child/parent, separated, divorced, other family member, boyfriend/girlfriend, gay and lesbian. The table below sets out the change in reported family incidents.

Recorded family incident reports rates per 100,000 population

	Family Incident Reports								
	2006/07			2007/08			% Change		
	Family incidents	Where charges laid	Where IVO applied for	Family incidents	Where charges laid	Where IVO applied for	Family incidents	Where charges laid	Where IVO applied for
Greater Bendigo	434.1	112.7	173.7	532.9	126.1	189.2	22.8	11.9	8.9
Loddon	259.4	61.8	37.1	383.8	123.8	74.3	47.9	100.4	100.4
Victoria	574.2	147.4	134.5	574.2	147.4	134.5	5.2	-1.6	0.1

www.police.vic.gov.au

Education

Level of education attained

In 2006, Greater Bendigo and Loddon had a lower proportion of population who had completed year 12 than the Victorian average.

Highest year of school completed (persons aged 15 yrs and over) 2006

	Greater Bendigo				Loddon				Victoria			
	Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
Year 12 or equivalent	11,032	31%	13,980	36%	648	20%	842	27%	829,698	43%	922,605	45%
Year 11 or equivalent	5,814	16%	6,092	16%	528	16%	548	18%	272,641	14%	276,171	13%
Year 10 or equivalent	7,909	22%	7,593	20%	819	25%	630	20%	323,055	17%	307,895	15%
Year 9 or equivalent	3,911	11%	3,792	10%	456	14%	349	11%	146,833	8%	141,299	7%
Year 8 or below	3,356	9%	3,618	9%	514	16%	424	14%	152,396	8%	181,688	9%
Did not go to school	128	0%	108	0%	13	0%	8	0%	18,241	1%	25,386	1%
not stated	3,180	9%	3,666	9%	275	8%	292	9%	190,024	10%	194,102	9%
Total	35,330	100%	38,849	100%	3,253	100%	3,093	100%	1,932,888	100%	2,049,146	100%

www.abs.gov.au

The table below sets out the non school qualifications of population aged over 15 (that had a non school qualification). In 2006, compared to the Regional Victoria averages, Greater Bendigo residents aged over 15 were more likely to have a graduate or post graduate qualification, while the proportion of residents with a diploma or certificate qualification was slightly lower. Residents aged over 15 in Loddon Shire, compared to the Regional Victoria average, were generally less likely to have a graduate or post graduate qualification (except for a graduate diploma).

Non school qualifications 2006

	Greater Bendigo				Loddon				Regional Victoria			
	Males		Females		Males		Females		Males		Females	
Postgrad. Degree, nfd	16	0%	29	0%	3	0%	0	0%	115	0%	237	0%
Doc. Degree	133	1%	56	1%	0	0%	3	0%	1,592	1%	778	1%
Master Degree	292	2%	278	3%	10	1%	13	2%	3,761	2%	3,321	2%
Graduate Diploma	407	3%	677	7%	13	2%	54	9%	4,217	2%	7,611	6%
Graduate Certificate	37	0%	60	1%	0	0%	0	0%	414	0%	880	1%
Bachelor Degree	2,101	17%	3,138	31%	85	11%	163	26%	27,275	15%	38,828	28%
Adv. Dip. & Dip. nfd	18	0%	19	0%	0	0%	0	0%	204	0%	256	0%
Adv. Dip. & Associate Degree	676	5%	813	8%	48	6%	71	11%	9,965	6%	12,980	9%
Diploma	787	6%	821	8%	40	5%	43	7%	10,532	6%	12,407	9%
Certificate, nfd	271	2%	412	4%	20	3%	29	5%	3,648	2%	5,778	4%
Certificate III & IV(d)	6,576	53%	2,392	23%	472	60%	139	22%	95,463	54%	31,895	23%
Certificate I & II(e)	204	2%	496	5%	14	2%	27	4%	2,998	2%	6,182	4%

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Highest year of school completed (15-19 yr olds)

The proportion of 15-19 year olds who lived in Loddon Shire and Greater Bendigo that completed year 12 or equivalent was lower than the Victorian average for both males and females.

	Greater Bendigo		Loddon		Victoria	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Males						
Year 12 or equivalent	724	20.7%	38	16.5%	44,340	25.8%
Year 11 or equivalent	676	19.4%	47	20.3%	33,846	19.7%
Year 10 or equivalent	892	25.5%	57	24.7%	39,595	23.1%
Year 9 or equivalent	655	18.8%	53	22.9%	26,848	15.6%
Year 8 or below	243	7.0%	21	9.1%	9,313	5.4%
Did not go to school	3	0.1%	0	0.0%	231	0.1%
Highest year of school not stated	300	8.6%	15	6.5%	17,401	10.1%
Total	3,493	100.0%	231	100.0%	171,574	100.0%
Females						
Year 12 or equivalent	1,054	29.9%	43	18.6%	50,732	31.0%
Year 11 or equivalent	639	18.2%	60	26.0%	32,284	19.7%
Year 10 or equivalent	811	23.0%	56	24.2%	34,581	21.1%
Year 9 or equivalent	558	15.9%	38	16.5%	23,394	14.3%
Year 8 or below	182	5.2%	21	9.1%	6,947	4.2%
Did not go to school	3	0.1%	0	0.0%	171	0.1%
Highest year of school not stated	273	7.8%	13	5.6%	15,498	9.5%
Total	3,520	100.0%	231	100.0%	163,607	100.0%
All persons						
Year 12 or equivalent	1,778	25.4%	81	17.5%	95,072	28.4%
Year 11 or equivalent	1,315	18.8%	107	23.2%	66,130	19.7%
Year 10 or equivalent	1,703	24.3%	113	24.5%	74,176	22.1%
Year 9 or equivalent	1,213	17.3%	91	19.7%	50,242	15.0%
Year 8 or below	425	6.1%	42	9.1%	16,260	4.9%
Did not go to school	6	0.1%	0	0.0%	402	0.1%
Highest year of school not stated	573	8.2%	28	6.1%	32,899	9.8%
Total	7,013		462		335,181	

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Absent days

The Bendigo Loddon PCP region falls into the Department of Education and Early Childhood education networks of Bendigo and Sandhurst (Loddon Mallee Region). Unfortunately, the network regions do not align with Local Government and there is overlap with some other local government areas in the case of the Bendigo region. The Department has advised that these figures are

preliminary and are estimates only, due to some data gaps where schools have not provided information.

In 2008, the P-12 mean number of absent days for schools in the Bendigo and Sandhurst networks was a little higher overall compared to the 2007 Victorian benchmark (the 2007 state benchmark was reported to be the same as 2008 by the Loddon Mallee DEECD office).

The Bendigo network had a higher number of mean absence days for 7-12 and the P-12, compared to the State benchmark and Sandhurst had a higher number of mean absence days for the P-6 and P-12, compared to the State benchmark.

Mean absent days 2008 - as of 31st March 2009

	Bendigo Network	Sandhurst Network	2007/08 state benchmark
P-6 mean	13.3	14.0	13.4
7-12 mean	16.5	14.7	16.3
P-12 mean	14.7	14.9	14.6

www.deecd.vic.gov.au commissioned data

Retention rates

In 2007, the apparent retention rates (ARR) for year 12 (from years 7 - 12) in the Loddon Mallee region was 72.8% and the apparent retention rate for year 12 (from years 10-12) was 78.0%. Both rates were higher than the average for non-metropolitan regions. All ARR for rural based regions were lower than those for metropolitan regions.

Schools, students, apparent retention (ARR) and class size by region, February 2007

Regional summary – government schools

13. Schools, students, apparent retention (ARR) and class sizes by region, February

Region	February, 2008				Feb, 1999		Feb, 2008	
	Schools	Students (FTE)	ARR		Average class size			
			10-12	7-12	P-2	All Prim	P-2	All Prim
Western Metropolitan	143	69,511.7	81.1	82.3	25.1	26.1	21.0	22.8
Northern Metropolitan	199	77,983.0	88.0	87.0	25.1	26.2	21.0	22.4
Eastern Metropolitan	248	104,729.4	85.3	84.5	25.2	26.3	21.1	22.7
Southern Metropolitan	247	118,206.0	79.5	82.8	25.3	26.3	21.1	22.8
Barwon South Western	140	40,255.3	72.2	68.5	23.2	24.3	20.2	21.9
Grampians	131	25,556.1	71.6	66.2	22.7	23.7	19.0	20.6
Loddon Mallee	166	39,562.8	78.0	72.8	22.8	24.0	19.8	21.3
Hume	162	32,468.7	67.6	61.4	22.7	23.9	19.0	20.7
Gippsland	151	29,843.2	69.9	64.1	22.4	23.8	19.6	21.0
Metropolitan	837	370,430.1	83.3	84.1	25.2	26.3	21.1	22.7
Non-metropolitan	750	167,686.1	72.2	67.0	22.8	23.9	19.6	21.2
Total	1587	538,116.2	79.7	78.2	24.3	25.4	20.6	22.2

Source: DEECD February School Census

Taken from: Summary Statistics for Victorian Schools - March 2009 www.education.vic.gov.au

Youth engagement

Community Indicators Victoria measured the engagement of young people aged 15-19 years old, who were not attending school. Engagement was defined in three ways:

- 1) Fully engaged school leavers are defined as those who are involved in work and/or non-school study (including university, TAFE and vocational training) on a full-time basis;
- 2) Disengaged school leavers are defined as those who are not involved in any work or study activities at all; and
- 3) the remaining school leavers, who are defined as partly engaged.

Greater Bendigo and Loddon Shire had a lower proportion of population aged 15-19 years that was defined as fully engaged and a higher proportion of this population that was defined as disengaged, compared to the Victoria.

Post year 12 destinations

	Engaged	Disengaged
Greater Bendigo	65.3%	19.4%
Loddon	61.2%	22.4%
Loddon Mallee region	61.8%	21.5%
Victoria	71.9%	15.4%

www.communityindicators.net.au

Transport

Public transport

Regular public transport is available in Bendigo, including regular services to Melbourne and Castlemaine, providing commuting options for much of the population. The urban area of Bendigo is also serviced with a regular bus service. Outside the Bendigo urban area, most towns have minimal public transport available which restricts opportunities for regular commuting for work purposes and for accessing various services. The proportion of workforce that used public transport to get to work on the day of the census was 1.2% for Greater Bendigo and 0.3% for Loddon Shire, reflecting a range of factors including availability of public transport, location of workplace and commuting distances/time frames.

Method of travel to work 2006

	Greater Bendigo		Loddon		Victoria	
used bus, train, tram or ferry	480	1.2%	11	0.3%	206,479	9.1%
walked or cycled only to work	672	1.6%	59	1.9%	35,477	1.6%
worked from home	1720	4%	720	23%	104403	5%
motor vehicle driver or passenger*	30,233	73.8%	1,702	53.6%	1,570,309	69.0%

www.abs.vic.gov.au

* includes car, taxi, truck and motorbike/scooter

Walking and cycling

As the table above sets out, Greater Bendigo had the same proportion of workforce walking or cycling to work as Victoria. Loddon had a high proportion of workforce working from home, which is likely to reflect the proportion of workplaces that are farms. Greater Bendigo had a higher proportion of workforce using a motor vehicle to get to work compared to Victoria.

Motor vehicle usage

In 2006, compared to the Victorian average, Greater Bendigo had a similar proportion of dwellings with no motor vehicles, while Loddon had a lower proportion. Both Loddon and Greater Bendigo had a higher proportion of dwellings that had 3 or more motor vehicles, compared to the Victorian average.

Number of motor vehicles per dwelling 2006

	Greater Bendigo		Loddon		Victoria	
None	2,767	8%	138	5%	159,693	9%
1 motor vehicle	11,912	35%	966	32%	614,281	36%
2 motor vehicles	13,060	39%	1,119	38%	659,657	38%
3 motor vehicles	4,156	12%	418	14%	192,189	11%
4 or more motor vehicles	1,914	6%	343	11%	90,084	5%
<i>Total</i>	<i>33,809</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>2,984</i>	<i>100%</i>	<i>1,715,904</i>	<i>100%</i>

www.abs.vic.gov.au

Housing

Social housing

In 2006, 1,785 dwellings in Greater Bendigo (20% of all renting households) were rented from a State Government housing authority, a housing cooperative or a community or a church group. This is higher than the average for Regional Victoria (18.7%) and Victoria (14.1%). In Loddon Shire, 13.1% of renting households were renting from the State Government housing authority or from a housing cooperative or a community or a church group. This figure was lower than the average for Regional Victoria (18.7%) and Victoria (14.1%).

Number of private dwellings being rented by landlord type

	State Government housing authority	housing cooperative, cmnty or church group	Total	Percentage of all renting households
City of Greater Bendigo	1479	306	1785	20%
Loddon Shire	57	13	70	13.1%
Regional Vic	18,487	2747	21234	18.7%
Victoria	54,522	7467	61989	14.1%

www.abs.gov.au

Homelessness

On the night of the 2006 census, a higher proportion of Greater Bendigo and Loddon residents were living in an improvised home, a tent, were sleeping out, or were living in a caravan or a cabin than the Victorian average.

Persons occupied in private dwellings by type (2006)

	Greater Bendigo		Loddon		Victoria	
Separate house, semi-detached, row or terrace house, townhouse, flat, unit or apartment	86,115	99.10%	7,125	98.30%	4,554,413	99.50%
Caravan, cabin, houseboat	379	0.4%	66	0.9%	11,015	0.2%
Improvised home, tent, sleepers out	113	0.1%	13	0.2%	2,102	0.0%

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Household sizes

Generally speaking, average household sizes (the number of people living in each dwelling) were smaller in townships situated in more remote or rural locations. Small household sizes are often linked to the age structure of the population. Median household sizes in Axedale, Bendigo, Goornong and Bridgewater were similar to the Victoria and Regional Victoria average.

Average household sizes (2006)

Axedale	2.6	Inglewood	2.1
Bendigo	2.5	Pyramid Hill	2.1
Elmore	2.1	Wedderburn	2.1
Goornong	2.7	Loddon Shire	2.3
Heathcote	2.1	Greater Bendigo	2.5
Boort	2.2	Regional Victoria	2.5
Bridgewater	2.4	Victoria	2.6

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Renting costs

Generally speaking, weekly rents in Loddon and Greater Bendigo were significantly less than the Victorian average in 2006. However, between 1996 and 2001, weekly rents in both Greater Bendigo and Loddon Shire increased significantly. In Greater Bendigo, the proportion of renters spending \$140 or more per week on rent has increased from 22% in 1996 to 66% in 2006. In Loddon Shire, the proportion increased from 3% to 12%, while across Victoria the proportion increased from 38% to 74%.

Weekly rent change 1996 - 2006

	Greater Bendigo						Loddon					
	1996		2001		2006		1996		2001		2006	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
\$0-\$49	962	13%	759	9%	392	4%	257	42%	228	37%	164	30%
\$50-\$99	1,833	24%	1,633	20%	1,240	14%	233	38%	228	37%	146	26%
\$100-\$139	2,952	39%	2,537	32%	1,446	16%	72	12%	100	16%	143	26%
\$140-\$179	1,324	17%	2,152	27%	2,314	26%	6	1%	14	2%	37	7%
\$180-\$224	248	3%	453	6%	2,157	24%	3	0%	0	0%	12	2%
\$225-\$274	44	1%	112	1%	837	9%	3	0%	6	1%	0	0%
\$275-\$349	25	0%	29	0%	249	3%	4	1%	0	0%	0	0%
\$350-\$449	10	0%	25	0%	48	1%	3	0%	0	0%	4	1%
\$450-\$549	7	0%	11	0%	13	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
\$550 and over	53	1%	57	1%	64	1%	0	0%	8	1%	13	2%
Rent not stated	163	2%	272	3%	289	3%	28	5%	28	5%	33	6%
Total	7,621	100%	8,040	100%	9,049	100%	609	100%	612	100%	552	100%

www.abs.gov.au 2006 census

Property values

In 2007, the median house price in Greater Bendigo was \$225,000 and \$123,800 in Loddon. The median house price for Victoria was \$322,000 and the median house price for Regional Victoria was \$232,000 in 2007. Property prices have increased significantly in both Greater Bendigo and Loddon, although both have median property values below the average for Victoria.

Between 2002 and 2007, median house prices in Greater Bendigo increased from \$147,500 to \$225,000 (53%) and prices in Loddon Shire increased from \$60,000 to \$123,800 (106%).

Median House Prices

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Loddon	\$60,500	\$60,000	\$75,000	\$80,875	\$102,160	\$120,000	\$123,800
Greater Bendigo	\$122,000	\$147,000	\$180,000	\$198,500	\$206,750	\$220,000	\$225,000

A Guide to Property Values 2006 (Department of Sustainability and Environment)

Rental Stress

Based on census figures from 2006, most Greater Bendigo SLAs had a higher rate of households experiencing rental stress than the Victorian average.

Households experiencing rental stress 2006

Statistical Local Area (SLA)	Households with rental stress*	Rented private dwellings	% Rental stress*
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Central	832	2,759	30.2
Gr. Bendigo (C) -	336	990	33.9
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner	845	2,825	29.9
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner	161	623	25.8
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner	377	1,205	31.3
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Pt B	132	471	28.0
Gr. Bendigo (C) - S'saye	31	178	17.4
Loddon (S) - North	29	281	10.3
Loddon (S) - South	58	276	21.0
Country Victoria	31,151	116,233	26.8
Victoria	109,633	447,070	24.5

www.publichealth.gov.au

* Calculated using unpublished ABS data from 2006, based on households in bottom 40% of income distribution (with less than 80% of median income) that are spending more than 30% of income on rent.

Mortgage stress

Based on census figures from 2006, the Loddon - South SLA had the highest proportion of households experiencing mortgage stress. Greater Bendigo - Eaglehawk, Greater Bendigo - Part B and Loddon - North SLA also had a higher proportion of households experiencing mortgage stress compared to Country Victoria and Victoria in 2006.

Households experiencing rental stress 2006

Statistical Local Area (SLA)	Households with rental stress*	Rented private dwellings	% Rental stress*
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Central	173	1,989	8.7
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Eaglehawk	123	1,100	11.2
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner East	179	2,635	6.8
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner North	131	1,495	8.8
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Inner West	201	2,353	8.5
Gr. Bendigo (C) - Pt B	204	1,708	11.9
Gr. Bendigo (C) - S'saye	79	1,120	7.1
Loddon (S) - North	31	261	11.9
Loddon (S) - South	64	506	12.6
Country Victoria	15,925	167,673	9.5
Victoria	58,238	634,802	9.2

www.publichealth.gov.au

* Calculated using unpublished ABS data from 2006, based on households in bottom 40% of income distribution (with less than 80% of median income) that are spending more than 30% of income on mortgage repayments.

Housing repayments

The proportion of households paying monthly housing repayments of \$1200 or more increased significantly in Loddon and Greater Bendigo between 1996 and 2006, reflecting the increases across Victoria. Average monthly housing repayments were higher for Victoria than for Greater Bendigo or Loddon.

Housing Loan repayment (monthly) 1996 - 2006

		\$1-\$249		\$250-\$399		\$400-\$549		\$550-\$749		\$750-\$949		\$950-\$1199	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Loddon	1996	47	10%	86	18%	121	25%	75	16%	38	8%	17	4%
	2006	34	5%	88	14%	118	19%	101	16%	67	11%	64	10%
Greater Bendigo	1996	773	0	852	12%	1,592	22%	1,794	25%	1,102	15%	524	7%
	2006	351	3%	392	4%	894	9%	1,273	12%	1,492	14%	1,747	17%
Victoria	1996	25,104	7%	27,408	7%	51,042	14%	69,951	19%	67,287	18%	53,483	14%
	2006	12,677	2%	13,367	2%	29,693	5%	41,008	8%	53,498	10%	72,421	13%

		\$1,200-\$1399		\$1,400-\$1599		\$1,600-\$1999		\$2,000-\$2,999		3000 and over		Not stated	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Loddon	1996	6	1%	6	1%	6	1%	8	2%	3	1%	66	14%
	2006	26	4%	10	2%	14	2%	16	3%	12	2%	78	12%
Greater Bendigo	1996	159	2%	75	1%	63	1%	41	1%	9	0%	274	4%
	2006	1,207	12%	737	7%	889	9%	520	5%	168	2%	675	7%
Victoria	1996	22,723	6%	11,967	3%	10,985	3%	8,686	2%	3,341	1%	19,050	5%
	2006	58,556	11%	46,779	9%	68,527	13%	70,495	13%	31,151	6%	42,269	8%

www.abs.gov.au

Families, children and young people

Family structure

Data from the 2006 census indicates that Loddon Shire had a higher proportion of couple families with no children (47%) than the Victorian average (36%). Compared to the Victorian average, Loddon and Greater Bendigo had a lower proportion of couple families with children (of any age) and Greater Bendigo had a higher proportion of lone parent families with children aged under 15yrs. Loddon had a lower proportion of lone parent families, with children of any age, compared to the Victorian average.

Family composition (2006)

	Greater Bendigo		Loddon		Victoria
	Number	% of all families	Number	% of all families	% of all families
Couple family with no children	9,391	38%	981	47%	36%
<i>Couple family with children</i>	10,408	42%	815	39%	47%
- Couple family with children under 15	7,421	30%	564	27%	31%
- Couple family with no children under 15	2,987	12%	251	12%	15%
One parent family with children	4,431	18%	275	13%	15%
- One parent family with children under 15	2,654	11%	153	7%	8%
- One parent family with no children under 15	1,777	7%	122	6%	7%
Other family	369	2%	33	2%	2%
Total	24,599	100%	2,104	100%	100%

www.abs.gov.au

Single parent pensions

In March 2009, City of Greater Bendigo had almost double the proportion of population aged 15years or older receiving the single parenting payment than the Victorian average. In Loddon Shire, the proportion of population was also higher than the Victorian average.

Single parenting payments - March 2009

	No. of benefit recipients	% of population aged ≥ 15 yrs
City of Greater Bendigo	2,386	3.9%
Loddon Shire	150	2.4%
Victoria	79,163	2.0%

Commissioned data from Centrelink www.centrelink.gov.au

Teenage births

In 2007, City of Greater Bendigo had more than double the proportion of births that were to mothers aged 15 to 19yrs than Victoria. The rate in Loddon Shire was lower than the Victorian average.

LGA and crude livebirth rates, teenage confinements 2005-2006

Local Government Area	Number	% of all confinements
Greater Bendigo	71	5.5
Loddon	1	1.1
Victoria	1818	2.6

www.dhs.vic.gov.au Victorian Perinatal Data Collection Unit

Neonatal and low birth weight

2006-07 private and public hospital admission data indicates that the proportion of low birth weight babies (<2,500 gms) was higher in the Bendigo Loddon PCP region than for the whole of Victoria.

Frequency of Low Birth Weight Babies (<2,500 grams) (Public and Private Hospitals)

Place of residence of mother	<2500	Total	Percentage
Bendigo Loddon PCP region	102	1136	9.0%
Victoria	4,312	**53,402	8.1%

Source: Victorian Admitted Episode Dataset (VAED) 2006/07 (Public and Private Hospital files)

** Interpretation of total number of liveborn babies for Victoria (and other areas) should be undertaken with care. Data quality in this area is flawed due to an inability to confirm (total) liveborn numbers with equivalent data holders in this field (e.g. Perinatal Data Collection Unit at DHS, Australian Bureau of Statistics, and the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Victoria)), due to their data being held by calendar year, not financial year. Coded data may be inaccurate due to different coding practices between health care facilities, but this inaccuracy is minimal.

General child health

Up until the 8 month stage visit, participation rates for key ages and stage visits at Maternal and Child Health Centres was generally higher in Greater Bendigo than they were for the Loddon Mallee Region. Participation rates for the 8 and 12 month stage visits for Greater Bendigo were lower than the Loddon Mallee Region average. Up until the 18month stage visit, participation rates were generally lower than the average for Victoria.

In 2006/07, the main reasons for child referral in Greater Bendigo were communication (87 referrals) and auditory (53) and potentially disabling conditions (52). In Loddon Shire, the main reasons were development (10), potentially disabling conditions (8) and illness (8). Across the Loddon Mallee Region, the main reasons were illness (443), potentially disabling conditions (433) and communication (334).

Maternal and Child Health Centres - Participation for key ages and stage visits (2006/07)

	2 wks	4 wks	8 wks	4 mnths	8 mnths	12 mnths	18 mnths	2 yrs	3.5 yrs
Loddon	87.6%	92.1%	75.3%	84.3%	69.5%	70.7%	61.4%	50.7%	45.1%
Greater Bendigo	92.7%	93.8%	91.6%	89.2%	78.5%	70.7%	69.3%	68.3%	70.3%
Loddon Mallee Region	89.8%	91.1%	90.3%	88.8%	80.9%	75.4%	66%	64.2%	62%
Victoria	94.9%	93.9%	93.9%	91.2%	84.1%	78.9%	69.1%	64.8%	57.8%

Maternal & Child Health Services Annual Report, 2006-2007 Loddon Mallee Region and Victoria

Immunisation participation

The percentage of children who were fully vaccinated was lower in Loddon Shire than it was in Greater Bendigo and the Loddon Mallee and Victorian averages. The difference was particularly significant in the 12-<15 month age bracket and the 72 -<75 month age bracket. Full immunisation percentages in Greater Bendigo were generally similar to the averages for the Loddon Mallee region and for Victoria.

Percentage of children fully immunised (December 2008)

	12 - <15 months	24-<27 months	72-<75months
Loddon	92.6	95.5	90.5
Greater Bendigo	91.8	94.2	92.8
Victoria	91.8	93.8	90.9

Australian Childhood Immunisation Register - Coverage Report 31 December 2007

Youth allowance

Youth allowance is an income support payment for young people who are studying, undertaking training or an Australian Apprenticeship, looking for work or sick. A person must be aged 15 to 24 to qualify.

In March 2009, Greater Bendigo and Loddon had a significantly higher proportion of population aged 15-24 years that was receiving the youth allowance. The proportion of females receiving the benefit was higher than males in both LGAs.

Youth allowance recipients - March 2009

	Female			Male			All persons		
	All females aged 15-24	No. of recipients	%	All males aged 15-24	No. of recipients	%	All persons aged 15-24	No. of recipients	%
City of Greater Bendigo	5,974	1,439	24.1	5,591	1,201	21.5	11,565	2,640	22.8
Loddon Shire	339	100	29.5	367	80	21.8	706	180	25.5
Victoria	342,708	41,118	12.0	331,188	47,238	14.3	673,896	88,356	13.1

Commissioned data from Centrelink www.centrelink.gov.au

Community wellbeing indicators

SEIFA

The 2006 (SEIFA) is based on data from the 2006 Census. In essence, it provides a socio-economic snapshot of a geographical area. SEIFA 2006 consists of four separate indexes that each concentrate on a different aspect of the social and economic conditions in an area. The index is a continuum of advantage to disadvantage and is based upon a social and economic information from the 2006 Census. Low values indicate areas of disadvantage and high values indicate areas of advantage. It takes into account variables such as the proportion of families with high incomes, people with a tertiary education and employees in skilled occupations. The indexes show where the affluent (as opposed to just high income earning) live; where disadvantaged (as opposed to the unemployed) live; and where the highly skilled and educated (as opposed to the tertiary educated people) live.

SEIFA index of relative socio-economic disadvantage 2006

Local Government Areas in Regional Victoria (ranked from most to least disadvantaged)	2006 SEIFA index of disadvantage
Loddon (S)	941.6
Greater Bendigo (C)	984.4

www.abs.gov.au

SEIFA by towns and suburbs

The tables on the following pages set out the SEIFA scores (high scores = lower relative socio-economic disadvantage) for many towns and suburbs within the Bendigo Loddon PCP area. Within City of Greater Bendigo, Strathfieldsaye had the highest SEIFA score, followed by Mandurang, Sedgwick, Junortoun and Maiden Gully, indicating a low level of relative socio-economic disadvantage. Long Gully had the lowest SEIFA score, followed by California Gully, Heathcote, Bendigo West and Bendigo North, indicating a high level of socio-economic disadvantage.

Within Loddon Shire, Yarrawalla had the highest SEIFA score, followed by Shelbourne, Serpentine, Calivil, and Bridgewater indicating a low level of relative socio-economic disadvantage. Korong Vale had the lowest SEIFA score, followed by , Tarnagulla, Dunolly, Bridgewater on Loddon and Inglewood, indicating a high level of socio-economic disadvantage.

Bendigo Loddon PCP highest and lowest SEIFA scores

	Highest scores (least disadvantaged)			Lowest scores (most disadvantaged)		
	Town/suburb	score	State percentile	Town/suburb	score	State percentile
Greater Bendigo	Strathfieldsaye	1102	95	Long Gully	846	2
	Mandurang	1098	94	California Gully	871	3
	Sedgwick	1097	93	Heathcote	914	7
	Junortoun	1082	89	Bendigo West	920	8
	Maiden Gully	1079	87	Bendigo North	924	9
Loddon Shire	Yarrawalla	1036	61	Korong Vale	788	1
	Shelbourne	1032	57	Tarnagulla	825	2
	Serpentine	1031	56	Dunolly	868	3
	Calivil	1030	55	Bridgewater on Loddon	885	4
	Bridgewater	1027	54	Inglewood	872	4

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SEIFA scores for relative socio-economic disadvantage - Greater Bendigo 2006

Greater Bendigo	SEIFA Score	State Rank	State Decile	State Percentile
Ascot (3551)	1073	1236	9	84
Axe Creek (3551)	1053	1068	8	73
Axedale (3551)	972	325	3	23
Bagshot (3551)	1027	788	6	54
Bagshot North (3551)	924	122	1	9
Bendigo (3550)	972	326	3	23
Bendigo East (3550)	997	514	4	35
Bendigo North (3550)	924	122	1	9
Bendigo West (3550)	920	111	1	8
Big Hill (3555)	996	512	4	35
California Gully (3556)	871	44	1	3
Eaglehawk (3556)	928	134	1	10
Elmore (3558)	942	187	2	13
Eppalock (3551)	1058	1111	8	76
Epsom (3551)	1019	700	5	48
Flora Hill (3550)	975	346	3	24
Golden Gully (3555)	1010	622	5	43
Golden Square (3555)	967	301	3	21
Goornong (3557)	1011	624	5	43
Heathcote (3523)	914	102	1	7
Huntly (3551)	998	522	4	36
Ironbark (3550)	952	229	2	16
Jackass Flat (3556)	1031	818	6	56
Junortoun (3551)	1082	1298	9	89
Kangaroo Flat (3555)	945	207	2	15
Kennington (3550)	1008	598	5	41
Knowsley (3523)	1000	539	4	37
Lockwood (3551)	1021	722	5	49

Greater Bendigo	SEIFA Score	State Rank	State Decile	State Percentile
Lockwood South (3551)	1048	1020	7	70
Long Gully (3550)	846	28	1	2
Longlea (3551)	1051	1053	8	72
Maiden Gully (3551)	1079	1281	9	87
Mandurang (3551)	1098	1377	10	94
Marong (3515)	969	310	3	22
Mount Camel (3523)	968	305	3	21
Myers Flat (3556)	1038	905	7	62
Neilborough (3570)	988	440	3	30
Quarry Hill (3550)	1017	679	5	47
Raywood (3570)	1013	647	5	44
Redesdale (3444)	944	203	2	14
Sailors Gully (3556)	970	319	3	22
Sedgwick (3551)	1097	1369	10	93
Shelbourne (3463)	1032	829	6	57
Spring Gully (3550)	1032	834	6	57
Strathdale (3550)	1040	936	7	64
Strathfieldsaye (3551)	1102	1393	10	95
Toolleen (3551)	995	498	4	34
White Hills (3550)	963	275	2	19
Woodvale (3556)	1002	548	4	38

SEIFA scores for relative socio-economic disadvantage - Loddon 2006

Loddon Shire	SEIFA Score	State Rank	State Decile	State Percentile
Bealiba (3475)	903	82	1	6
Boort (3537)	989	447	4	31
Bridgewater (3516)	1027	791	6	54
Bridgewater on London (3516)	885	55	1	4
Calivil (3573)	1030	808	6	55
Dingee (3571)	974	341	3	24
Dunolly (3472)	868	41	1	3
Fentons Creek (3518)	972	329	3	23
Inglewood (3517)	872	45	1	4
Korong Vale (3520)	788	6	1	1
Laanecoore (3463)	949	221	2	15
Leitchville (3567)	1008	605	5	42
Mitiamo (3573)	892	67	1	5
Mysia (3518)	980	378	3	26
Newbridge (3551)	987	436	3	30
Pyramid Hill (3575)	904	85	1	6
Rheola (3517)	912	96	1	7
Serpentine (3517)	1031	823	6	56
Shelbourne (3463)	1032	829	6	57
Tarnagulla (3551)	825	16	1	2
Wedderburn (3518)	881	50	1	4
Wychitella (3525)	961	267	2	19
Yarrowalla (3575)	1036	885	7	61

www.abs.gov.au

Community strength indicators

The Victorian State Government produced the report “Indicators of community strength at the local government area level” in 2006. This is still the most current version. The indicators for Greater Bendigo and Loddon Shire, as well as Loddon Mallee Region and Regional Victoria, are set out below. More survey respondents (12 out of 17) from Loddon Shire residents scored higher than the Regional Victoria average than Greater Bendigo (8 out of 18).

	Can get help from friends family or neighbours when needed	Could raise \$2000 in 2 days in an emergency	Volunteers	Member of organised groups	Member of groups that has taken local action	Parental participation in schools	Is on decision making board of committee	Attendance at community events	Feels safe on the street alone after dark	Feels multiculturalism makes life in the area better	Feels valued by society	Feels there are opportunities to have a real about issues that are important say	The area has easy access to recreational and leisure facilities	The area has good facilities and services like shops, childcare, schools and libraries	The area has opportunities to volunteer	The area has a wide range of community and support groups	It's an active community	Organised sport
City of Greater Bendigo	92.7	74.7	49.8	47.1	46.5	70.6	25.6	55.3	67.2	77.5	65.1	61.6	73.2	71.5	81.3	69.9	73.1	49
Loddon Shire	92.3	73.6	71	66.7	65.3	79.4	34.2	64.4	85.3	71.7	75.1	71.6	70.9	56.3	85.2	67.1	76.8	-
Loddon Mallee Region	93.8	70.1	53.9	52.1	53.7	68.3	24.6	56.8	63.8	72.8	70.0	61.3	74.9	73.3	82.6	73.3	75.2	-
Victorian regional average	94.2	70.8	52.5	51.4	51.5	66.7	22.5	53.1	67.2	78.5	69.3	59.1	78.2	74.5	81.3	73.4	72.2	45.0

Source: Department for Victorian Communities (2007) Indicators of Community Strength at the Local Government Area Level in Victoria 2006. The report includes a description of the rationale and method for the creation of these data and can be found at www.dvc.vic.gov.au

Disadvantage

“*Dropping of the Edge*” is a 2007 study of social disadvantage across Australia, undertaken by Professor Tony Vinson for the Jesuit Social Services and Catholic Social Services Australia. The study looked at a range of indicators (set out below) to identify areas of marked disadvantage.

- (1) **Social Distress:** Low family income, rental stress, home purchase stress, lone person households
- (2) **Health:** Low birth-weight, childhood injuries, immunisation, disability / sickness support, life expectancy, psychiatric patients: hospital / community, suicide
- (3) **Community Safety:** Child maltreatment, criminal convictions, imprisonment, domestic violence
- (4) **Economic:** Unskilled workers, unemployment, long-term unemployment, dependency ratio, low mean taxable income, limited computer use/internet access
- (5) **Education:** Non-attendance at preschool, incomplete education, early school leaving, post-schooling qualifications
- (6) **Community Engagement:** A range of Victorian community indicators

Data was collected at postcode level and areas of disadvantage were ranked for each state. Out of 726 Victorian postcodes, a top 40 of Victoria’s most disadvantaged postcodes was produced. A number of postcodes in the Bendigo Loddon PCP region fell in the top 40:

3520 - Korong Vale, Knypanial

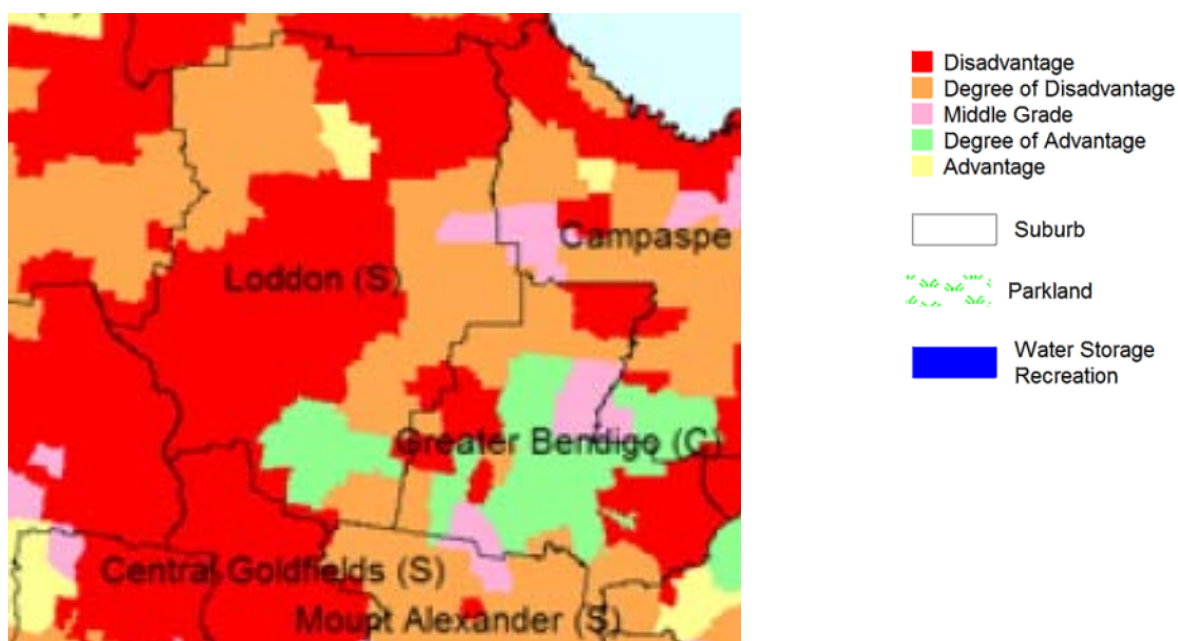
3523 - Heathcote, Arglye, Costerfield, Redcastle, Derrinal, Knowsley, Heathcote South, Mount Camel, Moormbool West

3515 - Marong, Wilsons Hill

3517 - Inglewood, Bullabull, Bears Lagoon, Brenanah, Glenalbyn, Jarklin, Kingower, Kurting, Powlett Plains, Rheola, Salisbury West, Serpentine

3556 - Eaglehawk, Comet Hill, California Gully, Campbells Forest, Eaglehawk North, Jackass Flat, Myers Flat, Sailors Gully, Sebastian, Whipstick, Woodvale

The study also mapped areas of disadvantage. As the maps below indicate, large proportions of the Bendigo Loddon PCP area, particularly Loddon Shire, are set out as areas of disadvantage or having a degree of disadvantage.



Source: www.australiandisadvantage.org.au

Off farm income

The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE), an Australian government economic research agency, undertakes two annual farm surveys: The Australian Agricultural and Grazing Industries Survey (AAGIS) and the Australian Dairy Industry Survey (ADIS). Information is gathered based on regions. The Bendigo Loddon PCP region takes in parts of 2 ABARE regions: Wimmera and Central North. Only a small number of farms out of the total number of farms in a particular industry are surveyed and results provide estimates only.

Data from the annual surveys suggests that, overall, farm owner/managers and spouses work more hours off-farm in 2006 and 2007 than they did in 1996 and 1997.

Source: www.abare.gov.au

Exceptional Circumstances payments

The City of Greater Bendigo and Loddon Shire, along with most of rural Victoria, have been declared areas of exceptional circumstances due the ongoing drought conditions. Exceptional Circumstances (EC) relates to farmers and agriculture-dependent small businesses. They are defined as rare and severe events outside those a farmer could normally be expected to manage using responsible farm management strategies.

Once an area is declared as experiencing EC, eligible farmers will qualify to receive EC Relief Payments. EC Relief Payments are equivalent to the NewStart Allowance and are delivered by Centrelink. More than one adult at a farm may receive an EC payment.

As of March 2009, there were 144 individuals from City of Greater Bendigo and 292 individuals from Loddon Shire receiving Exceptional Circumstances relief payments. While the proportion of population aged 15 years or older receiving an EC payment was the same in Greater Bendigo as the Victorian average, it was significantly higher in Loddon Shire

Exceptional Circumstances payments - March 2009

Location	No. of recipients	% of population aged ≥ 15 years
City of Greater Bendigo	144	0.2%
Loddon Shire	292	4.6%
Victoria	8,031	0.2%

Commissioned data from Centrelink www.centrelink.gov.au

Gambling participation

In 2003, the Centre for Gambling Research Australian National University prepared the Victorian Longitudinal Community Attitudes Survey. This survey includes participation rates for different forms of gambling by individual Local Government Areas. Thirty-two non-metropolitan local government areas, including Loddon Shire, were excluded from the survey analysis and table as the sample size was too small for the results to provide meaningful analysis.

Of the non-metropolitan LGAs that were included in the analysis, Greater Bendigo (45.8%) and Shepparton (44.1 %) have the highest rates of Electronic Gaming Machine participation. Also, Greater Bendigo has the highest casino participation rate amongst non-metropolitan LGAs (7.8 %), despite being located further away from Crown Casino

this LGA than many of the other rural LGAs which have lower casino participation rates. This data is currently the most recent information available for gambling at the Local Government Level.

Overall, among the Victorians surveyed, gambling participation levels were highest among:

- Separated or divorced people (84.3 per cent);
- Single parents (86.0 per cent);
- Full-time workers (80.1 per cent);
- Self-supporting retirees (79.2 per cent);
- People on medium incomes (83.4 per cent);
- Rural residents (78.9 per cent).

The survey also found that, overall, regular gamblers were more likely to be male, aged over 50, have lower levels of education and lower incomes than non-gamblers and non-regular gamblers, and be receiving aged and invalid pensions or self-supporting retirees.

Gaming machine expenditure

Greater Bendigo had a higher net electronic gaming machine expenditure (EGM) per adult than the Country Victorian average. Greater Bendigo also had a higher rate of EGMs per adult population than the Country Victorian average.

Gaming machine expenditure G21 region

City / Shire	Total net expen.* 2006-07	Net EGM expend. per adult	EGMs p/1000 pop (18yrs +)
Greater Bendigo	\$43,479,261.52	\$580.88	7.31
Loddon**	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Country Victoria	\$540,069,849.46	\$505.50	6.97
Total Victoria	\$2,543,175,356.33	\$639.11	6.86

www.vcgr.vic.gov.au

*expenditure after winnings deducted

** no data recorded in Shire

Note that data is based on location of the electronic gaming machine and not location of residence of person using that machine.