2001–02 Victorian Budget Regional Overview

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Budget Overview

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# Treasurer’s Message

The Government is committed to building a new Victoria for the 21st Century where all Victorians have the opportunity to contribute to and share in Victoria’s growth and economic prosperity.

The 2001-02 Budget delivers on this commitment through a program of financially responsible and socially progressive initiatives that deliver improved services and promote growth across the whole State – now and for the future.

Specific measures to grow the whole State include:

* investing heavily in social and economic infrastructure, to be funded in part through the allocation of the Growing Victoria infrastructure reserve;
* building a creative and innovative economy, with a substantial investment in schools, TAFE institutes and research institutions and the establishment of the Victorian Endowment for Science, Knowledge and Innovation (VESKI);
* improving environmental sustainability with a series of initiatives focusing primarily on the sustainable use of Victoria’s water resources;
* enhancing Victoria’s business environment, including the implementation of the Government’s tax package – *Better Business Taxes: Lower, Fewer, Simpler*; and
* new programs to strengthen the Victorian community through multi-year strategies in the key areas of health, education and community building.

This paper demonstrates the Government’s commitment to openness and accountability, highlighting key initiatives of the 2001-02 Budget and outlining specific asset initiatives for every region of Victoria. It illustrates how the Government is ensuring that the rewards of Victoria’s prosperity are being distributed equitably across the whole State.

In formulating the current budget, the Government has recognised that despite Victoria’s relatively strong economic performance, it cannot be quarantined from the impact of national economic conditions.

The 2001-02 Budget delivers a strong and secure financial base that provides a buffer against reasonable economic risks. Maintaining a strong financial position is critical to the delivery of Victoria’s long-term economic, social and environmental wellbeing.

John Brumby

Treasurer

# Achievements in Regional and Rural Victoria

The Bracks Government has shown a strong commitment to promoting growth across the whole State. The 2000-01 Budget demonstrated the Government’s commitment to rebuild rural and regional communities.

|  |
| --- |
| More than one in every three new jobs in Victoria in the past year created in regional and rural Victoria. |
| Major upgrades of public hospitals, including the Kyneton and District Hospital ($11 million ), Colac Hospital ($13 million ), Warragul Hospital ($6.5 million ), Ballarat Base Hospital ($6 million) and Daylesford Hospital ($1.7 million ). |
| $180 million allocated, over three years, to the Regional Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for capital works in regional communities. |
| Established the Office of Rural Communities to strengthen the voice of regional Victoria. This includes a team of nine community development officers, based in rural centres across regional Victoria, to work closely with individual communities on local issues. |
| Established a $240 million accident blackspots program that will improve safety on our roads and reduce the road toll. Half of the total amount is dedicated to regional and rural Victoria. |
| Launched Linking Victoria, a $1.5 billion plan to revitalise Victoria’s transport links, including an unprecedented public investment of $550 million for Fast Rail links from Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo and Latrobe Valley, delivered in partnership with the private sector. |
| Funded a $270 million upgrade of the Geelong Freeway, in partnership with the Federal Government. |
| Launched a $7 million ‘Naturally Victorian’ marketing campaign to promote Victoria’s clean, green produce image to domestic and export markets. |
| Supported the dairy industry in Victoria through guaranteeing access to the national support package, creating a $60 million dairy fund for industry support and establishing a new dairy food safety authority. |
| Abolished Compulsory Competitive Tendering (CCT) for local government. |
| Provided a major boost to country TAFEs and schools. |
| Established the $35 million Living Suburb s, Living Regions Fund and boosted support for regional economic development organisations to better promote regional investment. |

# 2001-02 Initiatives for all Victorians

The Bracks Government’s commitment to growing the whole State and delivering improved services is evident in the distribution of services and projects across all regions of Victoria.

In the 2001-02 Budget, the Government is committed to delivering today and building for tomorrow. The Government is building on last year’s investments by adopting medium to long-term strategies to improve service quality, access and equity, particularly in health, education, community safety and transport.

The 2001-02 Budget details $226 million of additional funding for new service initiatives for 2001-02. New infrastructure projects of $2.13 billion are detailed in the 2001-02 Budget. Initiatives to improve services include:

* a $108 million ongoing commitment to increasing hospitals’ capacity to cope with rising demand, in particular for emergency services plus support for alternative care options;
* a four-year $150 million program to address the causes of growth in hospital admissions through a range of preventive initiatives;
* $7 million over three years towards community building projects;
* $25 million targeted towards enhancing a wide range of community support services available to people and their carers;
* $14 million ongoing in new initiatives to improve services provision for older Victorians;
* since the 2000-01 Budget, education has received an additional $371 million to 2004-05 for initiatives directed at improving participation and achievement in education outcomes;
* $386 million investment in education and training facilities across the whole of Victoria to provide modern and enhanced learning environments;
* $34 million to make Victorian communities safer through a visible police presence and to upgrade local and regional police stations;
* $166 million to increase the permanent capacity of the prison system; and
* $246 million over four years towards transport initiatives to provide more accessible and efficient transport services.

This paper contains highlights only and should not be read as a comprehensive list of the total of Government spending on all output and asset initiatives across Victoria.

# Building for Tomorrow

The Government recognises the importance of restoring environ mental flows to Victoria’s rivers and the contribution this makes to the environment and prosperity of catchments.

## Restoring flows to the Snowy

Under the outcome to the Snowy Water Inquiry, the Victorian Government has announced an agreement with New South Wales (NSW) and the Commonwealth to achieve total flows equivalent to 21 per cent average annual natural flows within ten years, as part of a long-term objective of restoring 28 per cent of average annual natural flows.

As part of this process, it is intended that a joint government enterprise be established by the Victorian, NSW and Commonwealth Governments with a charter to acquire water at least cost. The enterprise will acquire water primarily through investing in water savings projects.

An amount of $20 million in 2001- 02 and approximately $19 million per year from 2002- 03 to 2010-11 has been allocated to fund Victoria’s contribution to the entity and for environmental and riverine works.

## Addressing salinity

Salinity results in damage to agricultural land, downstream water users, aquatic ecosystems and biodiversity, and to regional and urban infrastructure.

Victoria has long been a leader in salinity management. The Government will contribute $157 million over seven years to prevent, stabilise and reverse increasing salinity of waterways. This contribution is subject to the Commonwealth matching State funding under the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality.

## Marine national parks and marine sanctuaries

The Government is continuing with its commitment to protect Victoria’s natural environment, in particular, the rich diversity of marine flora and fauna to be found in Victorian waters. The Government has agreed to adopt the broad thrust of the final report of the Environment Conservation Council, Marine, Coastal and Estuarine Investigation, which recommends the establishment of a system of marine national parks and sanctuaries.

Funding of $10.3 million per year has been provided in 2001- 02 and 2002- 03, $9.7 million in 2003- 04 and $8.6 million ongoing, commencing in 2004- 05, to implement the marine national parks and marine sanctuaries package. This includes specific funding in the first two years for specialised marine equipment.

## National parks

The Government is providing $7 million to renew and upgrade facilities in national parks, and for boat access works in Port Phillip Bay.

## Transport – Linking Victoria

The Bracks Government is committed to ensuring that suburban and country regions are connected through integrated road and rail systems, providing economic benefits to all communities.

The State’s transport infrastructure provides direct support to business, government and communities by providing access to jobs, services, resources and markets through the movement of passengers and freight.

Consistent with the aim of an integrated system, the Government’s *Linking Victoria* program is aimed at revitalising the State’s roads, rail and ports, improving transport from regions to the centre of Melbourne, linking Victoria to overseas markets, and generating investment opportunities and partnerships with the private sector.

The 2001-02 Budget incorporates a number of major *Linking Victoria* transport infrastructure initiatives.

### Re-opening country rail lines

The Government will restore rail passenger services to four regional centres: Mildura, Ararat, Bairnsdale and South Gippsland (Leongatha). In addition, freight services to South Gippsland (Leongatha) will recommence. An extension of Victoria’s country rail services will promote regional development and will deliver high-quality transport services to these four regional centres. The reintroduction of country rail services is a key part of the Government’s aim to improve inter-city and country connections and will significantly enhance transport services and mobility to services, job and other opportunities for rural and regional communities.

### Standardisation of regional freight lines

The Government is moving to convert to standard gauge those parts of the rail network that have critical links to ports and where investment will return high net benefits in terms of reduced freight costs, increased efficiency, reduced operating costs and greater interport competition. Funding of $96 million over five years will be provided for the conversion to standard gauge. Funding contributions are also being sought from the Commonwealth

Government and the private sector to enable the rail standardisation program to be completed. Standardisation will stimulate regional and trade-exposed industry development by improving access to global, interstate and regional markets for Victorian producers and manufacturers and provide an integrated and seamless freight and logistics system. It is expected that rail transport’s share of freight will increase as a result of improved competitiveness with road.

### Fast Rail links to regional centres

The Victorian Government is committed to introducing Fast Rail links servicing the transport corridors from Melbourne to the key regional centres of Ballarat, Bendigo, Latrobe Valley and Geelong. The introduction of high-speed rail services to the State’s major provincial centres will pave the way for significant and ongoing benefits across Victoria. It will facilitate better interaction between Melbourne and regional Victoria while providing new social, employment and economic opportunities for our provincial centres.

The upgrading of regional rail services is the biggest rail project in Victoria since the construction of the underground railway loop in Melbourne in the 1970s.

The new, more efficient rail network will have ongoing and long-term benefits for regional Victoria including a population boost in the corridors of more than 20,000 and the creation of more than 4,000 extra jobs.

The development of Victoria’s regional centres will also ease the growth pressures on Melbourne’s fringe.

# A Budget for all Victorians

New service delivery initiatives announced in the 2001-02 Budget will provide improved services for all Victorians. Major new asset investments will also commence in all regions of the State.

# Statewide Initiatives

## Budget infrastructure highlights

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Total estimated investment $ |
| Hospital and nursing home infrastructure upgrade program  | 28,000,000 |
| Residential aged care redevelopment and upgrade | 25,000,000 |
| Information and communication technology (ICT) strategy for health care  | 30,000,000 |
| Hospital equipment upgrade | 20,000,000 |
| Upgrade of residential care facilities  | 12,000,000 |
| Ambulance facilities and vehicles development | 6,600,000 |
| Modernisation of facilities – schools  | 73,600,000 |
| Modernisation and upgrade of TAFE facilities | 16,000,000 |
| Modernisation of school facilities to incorporate ICT | 40,000,000 |
| Enhanced learning environments – schools  | 23,000,000 |
| Enhanced learning environments – TAFE | 37,800,000 |
| Bridging the digital divide – computers in schools | 45,000,000 |
| Broadband ICT delivery infrastructure for TAFE  | 19,000,000 |
| Science innovation and education precincts  | 50,000,000 |
| Standardisation of regional freight lines | 96,000,000 |
| Fast Rail links to regional centres  | 550,000,000 |
| Re-opening of country rail lines | 32,700,000 |
| Regional arterial road and bridge links  | 40,100,000 |
| Police protective equipment | 7,800,000 |
| Road safety initiatives | 12,200,000 |
| Police station new and replacement police stations  | 39,100,000 |
| Parks asset base | 7,000,000 |
| Regional telecommunications infrastructure | 3,000,000 |
| Redevelopment of vic.gov.au portal to enhance e-Government  | 4,000,000 |
| Library and community networks | 1,600,000 |
| Risk mitigation in coastal areas  | 8,000,000 |
| Minerals and petroleum development  | 4,000,000 |
| Marine national parks and sanctuaries | 1,400,000 |

This paper contains highlights only and should not be read as a comprehensive list of the total of Government spending on all output and asset initiatives across Victoria.

# Barwon/Western District

## Economy

The Western District is one of the most important regions in the State for wool growing and grain production. The southern parts of Corangamite Shire also have one of the most intensive dairying areas in the State, and the Glenelg region supports a significant timber production industry.

The Western District also contains Portland, home to one of only two aluminium smelters in Victoria. The largest city in the Barwon region is Geelong, which has a strong manufacturing base and is a major commercial and residential centre. Tourism is an important economic activity around the Daylesford-Hepburn Springs area as well as along the coastal areas and Great Ocean Road. Agricultural industries in the region include timber and dairying. Colac is also an important centre for retail trade, manufacturing and community service employment.

Key industries in the Barwon/Western District region include primary industries, retail trade, manufacturing and health and community services. Together, these industries employ 68 per cent of the Barwon/Western District region workforce.

Population 2000 347,411
*(estimated resident population)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Major Centres | Population 2000 |
| Geelong  | 157,930 |
| Warrnambool  | 28,960 |
| Portland  | 10,250 |
| Colac  | 9,794 |
| Hamilton | 9,005 |

## Population

Between 1999 and 2021, the population of the Barwon/Western District region is projected to increase by 27,931 persons, representing an average annual growth rate of 0.4 per cent. This growth is expected to occur mainly in the Barwon region.

## Regional labour market

In the Barwon/Western District region, employment rose by 16.1 per cent over the past year, including strong growth in Geelong and Warrnambool. Jobs growth in the region has been boosted by a boom in tourism and significant construction activity along the coast.

## Asset investment highlights in Barwon/ Western District

|  | Location | Total estimated investment $ |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Grace McKellar Centre redevelopment  | Geelong | 19,000,000 |
| Bellarine Peninsula Police Station – replacement  | Ocean Grove | 5,000,000 |
| Allansford and District Primary School – construct library  | Allansford | 168,000 |
| Bundarra Primary School – construct library  | Portland | 323,000 |
| Casterton Secondary College – ICT, science and library facilities  | Casterton | 612,000 |
| Herne Hill Primary School – construct library  | Geelong North | 336,000 |
| James Harrison Secondary College – school redevelopment – IT, science, library | Geelong East | 1,304,000 |
| Merrivale Primary School – construct library  | Warrnambool | 109,000 |
| North Geelong Secondary College – modernise science and technology (foods) facilities | Geelong North | 1,016,523 |
| Warrnambool East Primary School – library  | Warrnambool | 189,000 |
| Woodford Primary School – distance education  | Woodford | 75,000 |
| Lara Secondary College – construct new school  | Lara | 4,500,000 |
| Corio Community College – reinstate facilities destroyed by fire  | Corio | 1,200,000 |
| Allansford and District Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Allansford | 1,087,000 |
| Bundarra Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Portland | 1,051,000 |
| Casterton Secondary College – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Casterton | 482,000 |
| Fyans Park Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Newtown | 802,339 |
| Herne Hill Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Geelong North | 1,040,000 |
| James Harrison Secondary College – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Geelong East | 1,196,000 |
| Leopold Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Leopold | 1,762,651 |
| Merrivale Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Warrnambool | 928,000 |
| Warrnambool East Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Warrnambool | 912,474 |
| Warrnambool West Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Warrnambool | 737,053 |
| Woodford Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Woodford | 725,000 |
| Agriculture Victoria Hamilton – modernise facilities  | Hamilton | 1,500,000 |
| Standardisation of regional freight lines  | Heywood to South Australian border | \* |
| Branxholme Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Branxholme | 250,000 |
| Skipton Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Skipton | 260,000 |

\*A total of $96 million has been allocated Statewide.

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# Central Highlands/Wimmera

## Economy

The economy of the Central Highlands/Wimmera region is based largely on broadacre farming, especially grain (wheat, barley and oats) and sheep production, but in recent years has diversified into the production of oilseeds and legumes. Other agricultural activities in the region include fine wool, meat and wine production. Tourism is popular throughout the former goldfields region and in winery districts. Areas to the east of Ballarat have many of their residents working in the western suburbs of Melbourne. The City of Ballarat is the largest settlement in the region. It is one of Victoria’s major regional centres, with an historical significance due to its gold mining past. The city’s economy is based on manufacturing, information technology, retailing and education.

Key industries in the Central Highlands/Wimmera region include manufacturing, primary industries, retail trade, and health and community services. Together, these industries employ 70 per cent of the Central Highlands/Wimmera region workforce.

Population 2000 189,067
*(estimated resident population)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Major Centres  | Population 2000 |
| Ballarat  | 81,981 |
| Bacchus Marsh  | 15,079 |
| Horsham  | 13,164 |
| Ararat  | 11,318 |
| Stawell  | 9,164 |

## Population change

In June 2000, the estimated resident population of the Central Highlands/Wimmera region was 189,067 persons. Between 1999 and 2021, the population of the Central Highlands/Wimmera region is projected to increase by 8,281 persons, representing an average annual growth rate of 0.2 per cent.

## Regional labour market

In the Central Highlands/Wimmera region, employment rose by 1.8 per cent over the past 18 months.

## Asset investment highlights in Central Highlands/Wimmera

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Location  | Total estimated investment $ |
| Agriculture Victoria Horsham – modernise facilities  | Horsham  | 10,000,000 |
| Australian College of Wine\*  | Ararat  | 7,400,000 |
| Mt Pleasant Primary School – modernise library  | Mount Pleasant  | 203,000 |
| Bacchus Marsh Science and Technology Centre – upgrade and refurbish  | Bacchus Marsh  | 4,000,000 |
| Ballarat vocational education and training centre – improved access to training  | Ballarat  | 5,000,000 |
| University of Ballarat – School of Mines – refurbishment of buildings  | Ballarat  | 1,500,000 |
| Forest Street Primary School – modernise facilities  | Wendouree  | 1,158,000 |
| Mt Pleasant Primary School – new technology-enhanced classrooms  | Mount Pleasant  | 629,000 |
| Pleasant Street Primary School – Stage 2, technology-enhanced classrooms  | Ballarat  | 1,497,825 |
| Sebastopol Secondary College – modernise science facilities  | Sebastopol  | 1,560,000 |
| Ararat Hospital redevelopment  | Ararat  | 7,300,000 |
| Stawell District Hospital redevelopment  | Stawell  | 3,300,000 |
| Restoration of passenger rail service to Ararat  | Ararat  | 5,400,000 |
| Apsley Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Apsley  | 250,000 |
| Clunes Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Clunes  | 250,000 |
| Kaniva Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Kaniva  | 545,000 |

\*This initiative will also benefit Eden Park, Yarra Glen and all Victorian wine regions.

# Gippsland

## Economy

The Latrobe Valley generates most of Victoria’s electricity from its large reserves of brown coal. Other major industries include timber processing, paper manufacture and provision of services to the region. South Gippsland is an important beef production and dairying area. Wilson’s Promontory and Phillip Island are both important tourist attractions. The western-most part of the Gippsland region provides ex-urban growth areas for the south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne.

The economy of East Gippsland is based on tourism and primary industries such as agriculture, horticulture, forestry and fishing. Population in East Gippsland is centred around the Gippsland Lakes area which is highly attractive to visitors and retirees. The largest centres in the region are Sale and Bairnsdale and a number of large facilities (a major prison, the Longford gas plant and an RAAF base) are located in the area.

Key industries in the Gippsland region include retail trade, manufacturing and primary industries. Together, these industries employ 45 per cent of the Gippsland region

Population 2000 233,883
*(estimated resident population)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Major Centres  | Population 2000 |
| Traralgon  | 25,656 |
| Morwell  | 22,633 |
| Moe  | 18,292 |
| Bairnsdale  | 24,674 |
| Sale  | 13,804 |

## Population change

In June 2000, the estimated resident population of the Gippsland region was 233,883 persons. Between 1999 and 2021, the population of the Gippsland region is projected to increase by 24,296 persons, representing an average annual growth rate of 0.5 per cent.

## Regional labour market

In the Gippsland region, employment grew by 12.9 per cent over the past year. Employment increased in the Latrobe Valley and Bairnsdale over the past year.

### Asset investment highlights in Gippsland

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Location  | Total estimated investment $ |
| Regional arterial road links Bass Highway (Bay Rd to The Gurdies)  | The Gurdies  | 15,500,000 |
| Restoration of passenger rail service to Bairnsdale  | Bairnsdale  | 14,000,000 |
| Lang Lang Primary School – modernise library  | Lang Lang  | 200,000 |
| Maffra Secondary College – science/technology upgrade  | Maffra  | 2,544,000 |
| Warragul RC – modernise technology facilities  | Warragul  | 646,000 |
| Education precinct in Gippsland – modernise facilities  | Churchill  | 10,500,000 |
| Lucknow Primary School – replacement school  | Lucknow  | 2,500,000 |
| Drouin Secondary College – modernise facilities  | Drouin  | 2,009,000 |
| Lang Lang Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Lang Lang  | 718,000 |
| Maffra Secondary College – modernise art facilities  | Maffra  | 461,000 |
| Warragul RC – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Warragul  | 899,000 |
| Agriculture Victoria Ellinbank – modernise facilities  | Ellinbank  | 12,500,000 |
| Restoration of passenger rail service to South Gippsland  | Leongatha  | 5,600,000 |
| Boolarra Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Boolarra  | 250,000 |
| Lang Lang Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Lang Lang  | 270,000 |

Note: Future initiatives for Latrobe Valley will be announced as part of the Government response to the Latrobe Valley Ministerial Task Force report.

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# Goulburn/Ovens Murray

## Economy

The Goulburn/Ovens Murray region supports a diverse range of economic activities including agriculture, tourism and forestry. To the east the Alpine National Park and

Mt Buller ski resort are important tourist attractors, as are the Murray and Goulburn Rivers to the north. In the western parts of the region, value-adding to the agricultural produce of the region forms a number of significant economic activities, especially in relation to milk, cereals, fruit growing, and grapes. The largest centres in the region are Shepparton and Wodonga. Shepparton is a major fruit, vegetable and dairy product processing centre, providing products for both local consumption and export. Wodonga, along with Albury, forms part of a major growth centre which services a wide rural hinterland. To the south, Mitchell Shire is close enough to the Melbourne metropolitan area to provide a commuter base for many residents.

Key industries in the Goulburn/Ovens Murray region include primary industries, manufacturing and retail trade. Together, these industries employ 49 per cent of the Goulburn/Ovens Murray region workforce.

Population 2000 279,067
*(estimated resident population)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Major Centres  | Population 2000 |
| Shepparton |  43,291 |
| Wodonga  | 31,885 |
| Wangaratta  | 15,971 |
| Echuca  | 11,128 |

## Population change

In June 2000, the estimated resident population of the Goulburn/Ovens Murray region was 279,067 persons. Between 1999 and 2021, the population of the

Goulburn/Ovens Murray region is projected to increase by 36,962 persons, representing an average annual growth rate of 0.6 per cent.

## Regional labour market

In the Goulburn/Ovens Murray region, employment fell by 2.6 per cent over the past 18 months. However, the unemployment rate has remained broadly unchanged over the last 12 months.

### Asset investment highlights in Goulburn/Ovens Murray

|  | Location  | Total estimated investment $ |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Wodonga rail freight and urban redevelopment  | Wodonga  | 30,000,000 |
| Kilmore Police Station replacement  | Kilmore  | 4,500,000 |
| Echuca East Primary School – modernise library  | Echuca  | 378,000 |
| Kiewa Valley Primary School – modernise library  | Tangambalanga  | 201,000 |
| Wallan Primary School – modernise library  | Wallan  | 128,000 |
| Wodonga TAFE – replacement library and refurbishment  | Wodonga  | 2,750,000 |
| Bourchier Street Primary School – modernise facilities  | Shepparton  | 1,681,000 |
| Echuca East Primary School – redevelopment Stage 2  | Echuca  | 717,000 |
| Kiewa Valley Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms and facilities  | Tangambalanga  | 1,057,000 |
| Wallan Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms, music and PE facilities | Wallan  | 2,351,000 |
| Yarrunga Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms and facilities  | Wangaratta  | 564,000 |
| Agriculture Victoria Rutherglen – modernise facilities  | Rutherglen  | 3,200,000 |
| Institute of Sustainable Irrigated Agriculture, Tatura – modernise facilities  | Tatura  | 7,000,000 |
| Institute of Sustainable Irrigated Agriculture, Kyabram – modernise facilities  | Kyabram  | 600,000 |
| Standardisation of regional freight lines  | Seymour  | \* |
| Standardisation of regional freight lines to Echuca | Toolamba  | \* |
| Bonegilla Migrant Settlement Centre – rebuilding and recreation of the centre  | Bonegilla  | 2,000,000 |
| Eildon Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Eildon  | 545,000 |
| Chiltern Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Chiltern  | 250,000 |
| Tongala Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Tongala  | 250,000 |
| Violet Town Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Violet Town  | 250,000 |
| Yackandandah Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Yackandandah  | 290,000 |
| Yea Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Yea  | 545,000 |

\*A total of $96 million has been allocated Statewide.

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# Loddon/Mallee

## Economy

Bendigo and Mildura are the major regional centres in the Loddon/Mallee region. Bendigo’s traditional reliance on manufacturing has diminished in recent years, however a strong health, education and retail sector has developed in the city. Rural areas in the region support a diversity of agricultural activities such as cropping, dairying, grazing, horticulture and viticulture.

The Loddon/Mallee region includes dryland farming areas to the west which are used for grain and sheep production, and irrigated areas in the east which support cropping, dairying, horticulture and viticulture. There are also extensive irrigation areas along the Murray River around Mildura where much of Victoria’s citrus fruit and grape production occurs. Tourism is also a significant sector of the economy for the former goldfields of the Loddon region and for local winery districts throughout the Loddon/Mallee region.

Key industries in the Loddon/Mallee region include primary industries, manufacturing, community services and wholesale and retail trade. Together, these industries employ over two thirds (69 per cent) of the Loddon/Mallee region workforce.

Population 2000 250,403
*(estimated resident population)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Major Centres  | Population 2000 |
| Bendigo  | 77,184 |
| Mildura  | 44,141 |
| Swan Hill | 9,601 |
| Maryborough  | 7,523 |
| Castlemaine  | 7,050 |

## Population change

In June 2000, the estimated resident population of the Loddon/Mallee region was 250,403 persons. Between 1999 and 2021, the population of the Loddon/Mallee region is projected to increase by 27,540 persons, representing an average annual growth rate of 0.5 per cent.

## Regional labour market

In the Loddon/Mallee region, employment grew by 5.8 per cent over the past year. This included increased employment in Bendigo and Mildura.

### Asset investment highlights in Loddon/Mallee

|  | Location  | Total estimated investment $ |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Centre for Land Protection Research, Bendigo – modernise facilities  | Bendigo  | 10,700,000 |
| Restoration of passenger rail service to Mildura  | Mildura  | 7,700,000 |
| Irymple South Primary School – modernise library  | Irymple  | 194,000 |
| Mildura Secondary College – modernise ICT facilities  | Mildura  | 832,795 |
| Red Cliffs Secondary College – library  | Red Cliffs  | 685,000 |
| Specimen Hill Secondary College – modernise facilities  | Golden Square  | 100,000 |
| Maryborough Education Precinct – development of educational precinct – Stage 1 planning | Maryborough  | 600,000 |
| Golden Square Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Golden Square  | 746,239 |
| Irymple South Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Irymple  | 920,614 |
| Mildura SDS – Stage 3 replacement school  | Mildura  | 700,000 |
| Nyah District Primary School – merger Stage 2 – technology-enhanced classrooms | Nyah West  | 759,460 |
| Red Cliffs Secondary College – upgrade Stage 2  | Red Cliffs  | 705,000 |
| Tylden Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms and facilities  | Tylden  | 843,000 |
| Kyneton Hospital redevelopment – continuation  | Kyneton  | 1,700,000 |
| Sunraysia Horticulture Centre – modernise facilities  | Mildura  | 4,500,000 |
| Pyramid Creek salt interception and harvesting scheme  | Kerang  | 1,700,000 |
| Standardisation of regional freight lines  | Mildura, Robinvale, Kulwin | \* |
| Gisborne Police Station replacement  | Gisborne  | 5,000,000 |
| Maryborough Police Station replacement  | Maryborough  | 4,500,000 |
| Romsey Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Romsey  | 545,000 |
| Underbool Police Station – upgrade/replacement program  | Underbool  | 250,000 |

\*A total of $96 million has been allocated Statewide.

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# Inner Melbourne

## Economy

Melbourne is the second largest city in Australia. It is the capital of Victoria and has more than 72 per cent of the State’s population. The Inner Melbourne region is the major commercial and business centre for the whole of the metropolitan area. Inner Melbourne continues to attract young people seeking proximity to education and employment. It loses families to the suburbs, and older people seeking regional lifestyles or retirement opportunities.

Key industries in the Inner Melbourne region include retail trade, community services, financial and business services and recreational services, employing 76 per cent of the Inner Melbourne region workforce.

Population 2000 249,009
*(estimated resident population)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Major Cities |  |
| Yarra |  |
| Port Phillip |  |
| Melbourne |  |
| Stonnington (part) |  |

## Population change

In June 2000, the estimated resident population of the Inner Melbourne region was 249,009 persons.

Between 1990 and 2000, the Inner Melbourne region grew by 32,433 persons, representing an annual average growth rate of 1.4 per cent. This was higher than Victoria’s average annual growth rate during the same period (0.9 per cent).

At the time of the 1996 Census the age structure of the Inner Melbourne region showed higher numbers of young adults in the 20-29 year age bracket. This is typical of large urban areas which attract young adults for education and employment.

Between 1999 and 2021, the population of the Inner Melbourne region is projected to increase by 29,820 persons, representing an average annual growth rate of 0.6 per cent. This equals the projected average annual growth rate for Victoria.

## Labour market

Employment in the Inner Melbourne region grew by 17.2 per cent over the past year.

### Asset investment highlights in Inner Melbourne

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Location  | Total estimated investment $ |
| New gene technology access centre  | Parkville  | 4,200,000 |
| Land titles automation project Inner  | Melbourne  | 29,700,000 |
| Station Pier refurbishment  | Port Melbourne  | 800,000 |
| Public transport information system upgrades  | Inner Melbourne  | 14,900,000 |
| Courts IT infrastructure improvement initiative  | Melbourne  | 6,120,000 |
| Meat Market Craft Centre – asset management  | North Melb  | 3,260,000 |
| Victorian Arts Centre Trust – asset management  | Melbourne  | 5,400,000 |
| Legislative compliance program for State-owned assets – Victorian Arts Centre Trust  | Melbourne  | 486,100 |
| Australian Centre for Moving Image – technology infrastructure  | Melbourne  | 13,840,000 |
| Royal Exhibition Building improvements  | Carlton  | 800,000 |
| 3 Treasury Place, Melbourne – refurbishment of offices  | Melbourne  | 9,000,000 |
| Old Treasury Building – refurbishment works  | Melbourne  | 1,000,000 |
| Parliament House improvements  | Melbourne  | 1,030,000 |
| Parliament IT strategy  | Melbourne  | 560,000 |

This paper contains highlights only and should not be read as a comprehensive list of the total of Government spending on all output and asset initiatives across Victoria.

# Melbourne – North/West

## Economy

Key industries in the North/West Melbourne region include manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade, community services and financial and business services, employing 72 per cent of the North/West Melbourne region workforce.

Population 2000 1,253,493
*(estimated resident population)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Major Cities |  |
| Darebin  | Moreland |
| Hume | Whittlesea |
| Brimbank | Wyndham |
| Banyule | Maribyrnong |

## Population change

In June 2000, the estimated resident population of the North/West Melbourne region was 1,253,493 persons.

Between 1990 and 2000, the North/West Melbourne region grew by 163,740 persons, representing an annual average growth rate of 1.4 per cent. This was higher than Victoria‘s average annual growth rate during the same period (0.9 per cent).

At the time of the 1996 Census, the age structure of the North/West Melbourne region showed higher numbers of young adults in the 20-39 year age bracket, high numbers of young people aged less than 20 years and significant numbers of people aged 40 to 49 years. This is typical of large urban areas.

Between 1999 and 2021, the population of the North/West Melbourne region is projected to increase by 223,620 persons, representing an average annual growth rate of 0.8 per cent. This compares with the projected average annual growth rate for Victoria of 0.6 per cent and is the highest of the metropolitan area.

### Asset investment highlights in Melbourne – North/West

|  | Location  | Total estimated investment $ |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Altona Secondary College – modernise science and technology  | Altona  | 1,384,000 |
| Box Forest Secondary College -modernise IT facilities  | Glenroy  | 148,000 |
| Broadmeadows Secondary College – modernise facilities  | Broadmeadows  | 1,110,709 |
| Essendon Keilor College (Essendon Campus) – modernise technology facilities  | East Keilor  | 678,572 |
| Iramoo Primary School – modernise library  | Werribee  | 71,000 |
| Keilor Downs Primary School – library extension  | Keilor Downs  | 158,000 |
| Lalor North Secondary College – modernise facilities  | Epping  | 1,275,000 |
| Mackellar Primary School – modernise library  | Delahey  | 116,000 |
| Macleod College – upgrade facilities  | Macleod  | 367,000 |
| Melton South Primary School – extend library  | Melton South  | 350,000 |
| Melton West Primary School – upgrade library  | Melton  | 316,000 |
| Merrilands P-12 – modernise facilities  | Reservoir  | 448,000 |
| Mill Park Heights Primary School – upgrade library  | Mill Park  | 222,000  |
| Austin and Repatriation Medical Centre redevelopment and Mercy Hospital for Women relocation | Heidelberg  | 310,700,000 |
| Sydenham public transport upgrade  | Sydenham  | 14,000,000 |
| Northern Hospital redevelopment  | Epping  | 12,000,000 |
| Montmorency Secondary College – library upgrade  | Montmorency  | 212,000 |
| Mossfiel Primary School – upgrade library  | Hoppers Crossing  | 90,000 |
| Strathmore Secondary College – modernise facilities  | Strathmore  | 283,000 |
| Sunbury Secondary College – technology upgrade  | Sunbury  | 1,956,000 |
| Sunbury Secondary College – modernise library  | Sunbury  | 389,000 |
| Taylors Lakes Primary School – library extension  | Taylors Lakes  | 110,000 |
| Wales Street Primary School – modernise library  | Thornbury  | 328,000 |
| Strathmore Secondary College – construction of Space Science Education Centre  | Strathmore  | 6,400,000 |
| Copperfield Secondary College – construct new school  | Sydenham  | 3,500,000 |
| Roxburgh Park Secondary College – construct new school  | Roxburgh Park  | 4,930,000 |
| Mackellar Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Delahey  | 743,000 |
| Mill Park Heights Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Mill Park  | 536,000 |
| Lalor North Secondary College – modernise art facilities  | Epping  | 71,000 |
| Strathmore Secondary College – Stage 3: technology-enhanced classrooms  | Strathmore  | 1,040,000 |
| Taylors Lakes Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Taylors Lakes  | 1,045,000 |
| Albanvale Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | St Albans  | 1,407,504 |
| Bellbridge Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Hoppers Crossing  | 233,592 |
| Box Forest Secondary College – upgrade facilities  | Glenroy  | 401,000 |
| Braybrook Secondary College – new facilities  | Braybrook  | 180,000 |
| Iramoo Primary School – new and upgraded facilities  | Werribee  | 784,000 |
| Keilor Downs Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Keilor Downs  | 642,000 |
| Melton South Primary School – refurbish and construct facilities  | Melton South  | 755,000 |
| Melton West Primary School – new facilities  | Melton South  | 675,000 |
| Merrilands P-12 – modernise facilities  | Reservoir  | 425,000 |
| Montmorency Secondary College – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Montmorency  | 1,637,000 |
| Moreland City College – modernise facilities  | Moreland  | 639,000 |
| Mossfiel Primary School – modernise physical education facilities  | Hoppers Crossing  | 425,000 |
| Niddrie Secondary College – new facilities  | Niddrie  | 379,000 |
| Pascoe Vale Girls Secondary College – modernise facilities  | Pascoe Vale  | 1,183,000 |
| Seaholme Primary School – Stage 1: technology-enhanced classrooms  | Altona  | 1,362,824 |
| Sunbury Secondary College – modernise facilities  | Sunbury  | 804,000 |
| Thomastown Meadows Primary – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Thomastown  | 723,187 |
| Thomastown Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Thomastown  | 695,933 |
| Wales Street Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Thornbury  | 556,000 |
| Whittlesea Secondary College – upgrade technology  | Whittlesea  | 470,000 |
| Whittlesea Secondary College – arts, personal development  | Whittlesea  | 553,000 |
| Wyndham Community Health Service  | Wyndham  | 11,000,000 |
| IT and Document Management Centre – Department of Natural Resources and Environment  | Laverton  | 11,760,000 |
| Diamond Creek Police Station replacement  | Diamond Creek  | 6,000,000 |

# Melbourne – South/East

## Economy

Key industries in the South/East Melbourne region are manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade, community services and financial and business services, employing 75 per cent of the South/East Melbourne region workforce.

Population 2000 1,963,523
*(estimated resident population)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Major Cities |  |
| Greater Dandenong  | Casey |
| Booroondara  | Glen Eira |
| Knox  | Yarra Ranges (Shire) |
| Monash  | Mornington Peninsula |
| Whitehorse  | Kingston |

## Population change

In June 2000, the estimated resident population of the South/East Melbourne region was 1,963,523 persons.

Between 1990 and 2000, the South/East Melbourne region grew by 248,524 persons, representing an annual average growth rate of 1.4 per cent. This was higher than Victoria’s average annual growth rate during the same period (0.9 per cent).

At the time of the 1996 Census, the age structure of the South/East Melbourne region showed higher numbers of young adults in the 20-39 year age bracket, high numbers of young people aged less than 20 years and significant numbers of people aged 40 to 49 years. This is typical of large urban areas.

Between 1999 and 2021, the population of the South/East Melbourne region is projected to increase by 214,786 persons, representing an average annual growth rate of 0.5 per cent. This is slightly lower than the projected average annual growth rate for Victoria of 0.6 per cent, mainly because of the relative scarcity of land for development in this part of Melbourne.

### Asset investment highlights in Melbourne – South/East

|  | Location  | Total estimated investment $ |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Eastern Freeway extension to Ringwood | Nunawading  | 71,000,000 |
| Outer east service expansion and redevelopment (Maroondah Hospital and Angliss Health Service) | South East Melbourne  | 18,500,000 |
| Croydon Police Station replacement  | Croydon  | 5,100,000 |
| Birmingham Primary School – modernise library  | Lilydale  | 358,000 |
| Boronia Primary School – modernise library  | Boronia  | 352,000 |
| Box Hill Senior Secondary College – modernise facilities  | Box Hill North  | 1,478,000 |
| Carwatha P-12 – modernise facilities  | Noble Park North  | 518,000 |
| Hampton Primary School – modernise library  | Hampton  | 352,000 |
| Kew High School – upgrade facilities  | Kew East  | 1,887,000 |
| Kooweerup Secondary College – modernise facilities  | Kooweerup  | 1,754,000 |
| Lilydale Heights Secondary College – upgrade facilities  | Lilydale  | 507,000 |
| Mentone Girls Secondary College – modernise facilities  | Mentone  | 1,098,000 |
| Mitcham Primary School – modernise library  | Mitcham  | 242,000 |
| Swinburne Senior Secondary College – upgrade facilities  | Hawthorn  | 714,000 |
| Upwey High School – Stage 2 – modernise facilities  | Upwey  | 2,232,000 |
| Wonga Park Primary School – modernise library  | Wonga Park  | 207,000 |
| Yarra Road Primary School – modernise library  | Croydon  | 244,000 |
| Hampton Park Secondary College – upgrade – Stage 2  | Hampton Park  | 1,200,000 |
| Berwick South Secondary College – new school – Stage 2  | Berwick  | 4,500,000 |
| Narre Warren South Secondary College – new school – Stage 2  | Narre Warren South  | 4,500,000 |
| Mornington East Primary School – new school  | Mornington  | 4,000,000 |
| Hillsmeade Primary School – new school  | Narre Warren South  | 4,000,000 |
| Princess Elizabeth Junior School – new school  | Burwood  | 2,500,000 |
| Brighton Secondary College – replacement facilities destroyed by fire  | Brighton  | 600,000 |
| Wonga Park Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Wonga Park  | 871,000 |
| Yarra Road Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Croydon  | 647,000 |
| Berwick Lodge Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Berwick  | 429,175 |
| Birmingham Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Lilydale  | 1,347,000 |
| Boronia Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Boronia  | 1,182,000 |
| Box Hill Senior Secondary College – modernisation of facilities  | Box Hill North  | 1,336,000 |
| Brentwood Park Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Berwick  | 467,334 |
| Brighton Primary School – modernisation of facilities  | Brighton  | 880,000 |
| Carwatha P-12 – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Noble Park North  | 1,632,000 |
| Coral Park Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Hampton Park  | 217,772 |
| Courtenay Gardens Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Cranbourne  | 784,488 |
| Hampton Primary School – modernise library  | Hampton  | 851,000 |
| Healesville Primary School – replacement facilities destroyed by fire  | Healesville  | 1,400,000 |
| Heany Park Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Rowville  | 561,000 |
| Kew High School – modernise facilities  | Kew East  | 793,000 |
| Kooweerup Secondary College – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Kooweerup  | 479,000 |
| Langwarrin Park Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Langwarrin  | 808,150 |
| Lilydale Heights Secondary College – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Lilydale  | 137,000 |
| Lysterfield Primary School – modernise facilities  | Lysterfield  | 161,000 |
| Maramba Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Maramba  | 166,652 |
| Mentone Girls Secondary College – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Mentone | 1,573,000 |
| Mitcham Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms (Stage 2)  | Mitcham  | 795,000 |
| Mont Albert Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms (Stage 2)  | Mont Albert  | 869,480 |
| Pakenham Consolidated School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Pakenham  | 280,698 |
| Pakenham Hills Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Pakenham  | 713,134 |
| Pakenham Secondary College – modernise facilities  | Pakenham  | 1,340,000 |
| Rowville Primary School – modernise facilities  | Rowville  | 909,000 |
| Sandringham Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Sandringham  | 938,755 |
| Somerville Rise Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Somerville  | 634,304 |
| Springvale Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Springvale  | 1,522,000 |
| Swinburne Senior Secondary College – technology-enhanced classrooms (Stage 2) | Hawthorn  | 907,000 |
| Thomas Mitchell Primary School – technology-enhanced classrooms  | Endeavour Hills  | 411,730 |
| Westernport Secondary College – modernise facilities  | Hastings  | 376,000 |
| Chisholm Institute of TAFE – planning of new and replacement facilities  | Dandenong  | 1,900,000 |
| Frankston Hospital redevelopment  | Frankston  | 9,000,000 |
| Scoresby transport corridor planning  | Outer East and South East Melbourne | 2,000,000 |
| Box Hill public transport upgrade  | Box Hill  | 5,500,000 |
| Endeavour Hills Police Station construction  | Endeavour Hills  | 4,000,000 |

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