The Alpine Community Atlas series is a project of the Alpine Shire Council. These documents have been produced as a reference for Alpine Shire Council councillors, staff, residents, businesses and organisations operating in Alpine Shire. The Atlas series provides sound, verified information for use in making evidence-based decisions.

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# Porepunkah Township
Community Atlas

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## Glossary of Terms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABS</td>
<td>Australian Bureau of Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASC</td>
<td>Alpine Shire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASGS</td>
<td>Australian Statistical Geography Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUWBI</td>
<td>Australian Unity Well-being Index</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBI</td>
<td>Community Building Initiative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CFA</td>
<td>Country Fire Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHPCP</td>
<td>Central Hume Primary Care Partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIV</td>
<td>Community Indicators Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD</td>
<td>Department of Education &amp; Early Childhood Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHS</td>
<td>Department of Human Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPCD</td>
<td>Department of Planning and Community Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DSE</td>
<td>Department of Sustainability &amp; Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NECMA</td>
<td>North East Catchment Management Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NETCP</td>
<td>North East Transport Connections Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEVDGP</td>
<td>North East Victoria Division of General Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RDV</td>
<td>Regional Development Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEIFA</td>
<td>Social and Economic Indices for Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSC</td>
<td>State Suburb (ABS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRV</td>
<td>Sport and Recreation Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAC</td>
<td>Transport Accident Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAFE</td>
<td>Technical &amp; Further Education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.1 What is the Community Atlas?

**Background Information:**
In March 2006, the Department for Victorian Communities (DVC) announced the approval of a two year grant to the Alpine Shire for the establishment of a Community Building Initiative (CBI) Project.

Community Building was a commitment announced in the State Government’s policy *A Fairer Victoria*. The CBI aimed to bring residents, businesses, government and local organizations together to help transform their community into a place of opportunity and activity.

Shareholders were invited to contribute to decisions about how best to achieve the aims of:
- Ongoing community participation in locally relevant decision making
- New job and learning opportunities
- Increased neighbourhood volunteering and other support
- Upgraded community facilities and open spaces
- Greater participation in cultural, recreational and sporting activities
- Improved feelings of safety and well-being.

The CBI Project was established as a partnership to assist local communities and the Alpine Shire Council (ASC) respond to the strategic drivers nominated in *A Fairer Victoria*. The areas that participated in the project were Dederang, Harrietville, Porepunkah Tawonga, and Wandiligong.

The goal of the CBI project was "to strengthen small Victorian communities and help them take charge of their future. It is a chance to explore new ways to address disadvantage, encourage participation and create opportunities for everyone in the community."

The key objectives of the CBI were to:
- Build skills and knowledge
- Involve diverse groups and individuals
- Build relationships in and across the community and organisations
- Plan for the future
- Build on local strengths and assets
- Grow local economies and enhance employment opportunities
- Identify opportunities for new and improved community infrastructure.

---

1 Bogong Alpine Village had been nominated as pending participation in the CBI project until such time as the town’s future governance administration model was determined by stakeholders.
2 CBI Governance Model. Alpine Shire Council.
The Community Building Initiative was a “place-based” approach to the alleviation of concerns, disadvantage or gaps in capacity. The CBI program developed local governance structures and other processes to bring different stakeholders together in order to build a partnership that would work together to tackle the underlying causes of disadvantage.

From the CBI Project, the series of Alpine Shire Community Atlases for Dederang, Harrietville, Porepunkah, Tawonga and Wandiligong areas were developed and extended to the towns of Bright, Mount Beauty, Myrtleford and Tawonga South. The Community Atlas Series continues to be extended, revised and up-dated by the Alpine Shire Council. In 2013 a new Alpine Shire Community Atlas will be published.

2.2 Purpose of the Community Atlas

The purpose of the Community Atlas is to provide a reference document that compiles known statistics, material and information into a “one stop shop” document. The Community Atlas is a tool that provides a reference point where relevant material about the community can be recorded. This information is valuable because it can assist anyone who wants to undertake local action planning.

2.3 The 2013 Porepunkah Township Community Atlas

This 2013 version of the Porepunkah Township Community Atlas is a revised and updated version based on the 2011 Australian Census data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in 2012. All statistics and comments analyzing those statistics are based on information from the ABS 2011 Census. The Census provides us with a count of the total population in the Porepunkah Township in 2011 and analyses age groups and other selected characteristics. These include country of birth, main language spoken at home, religious affiliation, marital status, labour force, industry of employment, and income. The Census data also analyses family and dwelling characteristics. Information from the Community Indicators Victoria, SEIFA Indexes and research from other reference sources also forms part of the Atlases.
3 Porepunkah Township: Profile

3.1 Overview

Porepunkah is a town in north east Victoria. The town is located on the Great Alpine Road, at the foot of Mount Buffalo, 320 kilometres north east of the state capital, Melbourne and 5 kilometres north west of Bright. It is part of the Alpine Shire and situated on the banks of the Ovens River, near the Buckland River junction. At the ABS 2011 Census, the township of Porepunkah had a population of 574. The town is named for the Hindu word for "gentle breeze"; whilst other sources suggest its origin is indigenous for “meeting of the waters.”

Open space is a key feature of the town, particularly the popular riverside park, its summer swimming pool in the Ovens River and walking and cycling trails. The Murray to Mountains Rail Trail passes through Porepunkah, connecting the town with Myrtleford and Wangaratta to the north-west and Bright to the south-east.

Town Services include:
- Recreation reserve
- Community hall
- Porepunkah Primary School
- Porepunkah Hotel
- Roadhouse
- Caravan Parks and Accommodation
- Mechanics Garage
- Ski Hire
- Light industry
- CFA Facility

The residents of Porepunkah project a sense of a friendly and cohesive community. The local community value Porepunkah's particular blend of qualities that make it a great place to live. These qualities include the spectacular alpine scenery, country village atmosphere, fresh air, friendliness, opportunities for recreation, access to services, links to the river and good community spirit.

The image on the right shows the geographical position of Porepunkah in the Alpine Shire.

---

3 Porepunkah Small Township Masterplan, December 2006
European settlement began in the 1830s, but it wasn't until the discovery of gold in the 1850s that development of the town took place. Porepunkah is the nearest modern township to the site of the Buckland Riot, an anti-Chinese race riot. Many of the early miners were Chinese who were following the huge gold rushes. Anti-Chinese sentiment was widespread during the Victorian gold rush. This resentment manifested on 4 July 1857 when around 100 European rioters attacked Chinese settlements in the nearby Buckland Valley. The rioters had just left a public meeting at the Buckland Hotel where the riot ringleaders decided they would attempt to expel all Chinese immigrants in the Buckland Valley.

During the riot, Chinese residents were beaten and robbed then driven across the Buckland River. At least three Chinese miners died and entire encampments and a recently constructed Joss House were destroyed. Police arrested thirteen European accused rioters; however, the empaneled juries acquitted all of major offences amid the cheers of bystanders. The verdicts of the juries were later criticized in the press. One of the police involved in the arrests was Robert O'Hara Burke, later of the infamous Burke and Wills expedition.

The Chinese miners were invited to return to the Buckland Valley; however, only fifty did so. The Buckland Riot has been compared to the Eureka Stockade uprising in size and intensity, but is not remembered as such.

The presence of the Chinese on the goldfields in Victoria resulted in riots, entry taxes, killings and segregation in the short term and became the foundations of the White Australia policy. In short, the gold rush was a revolutionary event and reshaped Victoria, its society and politics.

Harry Power, the notorious bushranger who had defied police in the Ovens district for a decade, held up the mail coach at Porepunkah on 7 May 1869 after escaping from Pentridge Prison.

The Porepunkah Post Office opened on 22 February 1870. Although the Post Office doesn't exist exclusively today, the Porepunkah Roadhouse provides Australia Post services to the community as there is no mail service to homes.

The Porepunkah Primary School (No. 1144) was officially opened on 23 January 1873, with Henry Jeffreys as the headmaster and an enrolment of 43 children. The school remains open today.

The Porepunkah Recreation Reserve was gazetted on 11 April 1895. Porepunkah was proclaimed a township on 22 June 1910 by Lord Carmichael, the Governor of Victoria.

The Porepunkah Railway Station was the stopping point for passengers to disembark for Mount Buffalo. In June 1925 a "sedan passenger car" was
introduced to transport up to 27 people from the station to the Mount Buffalo Chalet.

**Industry in the District**

Tobacco used to be grown near Porepunkah, however, this stopped when the tobacco industry in Victoria ceased in 2006. There are hop gardens near Porepunkah towards Eurobin.

There are several vineyards and wineries in the Porepunkah district, which is part of the cool-climate Alpine Valleys wine region. There is one dairy farm in the Buckland Valley operated by the Lumsden family. Bruce Lumsden is an international ploughing competitor.

Nearby softwood plantations provide seasonal employment for thinning, pruning, planting and harvesting.

In the ABS 2011 Census, the most common industries of employment for persons aged 15 years and over usually resident in the township of Porepunkah were Cafes, Restaurants and Take-Away Food Services (10.6%), Supermarket and Grocery Stores (8.0%), Accommodation (8.0%), Hospitals (6.1%) and Land Development and Site Preparation Services (4.2%).

As there are no health services or supermarkets located in Porepunkah, the statistics reflect that Porepunkah is partly a dormitory town for Bright, Myrtleford and surrounding districts.

**Sport**

Football, cricket and cycling were popular sports at Porepunkah in the early 20th century. Porepunkah teams competed against rivals from Bright and district. Porepunkah competed in the Myrtleford Bright Football League as late as 1951.

On 10 April 1913, The Argus newspaper in Melbourne reported a "country record" of six wickets for one run, by Porepunkah bowler John Graham in a match against Wandiligong.

Porepunkah won the 1915 Bright District Football League premiership when the competition was cancelled to aid recruiting for the war as Porepunkah had a substantial lead from the other clubs.

Today, the Porepunkah Panthers baseball team plays at the Porepunkah Oval in the North Eastern Baseball Association. There are tennis courts at the Porepunkah Hall.
### 3.3 Porepunkah District & Porepunkah Township: A Snapshot

This snapshot is taken from the ABS 2011 Census data.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Porepunkah (District)</th>
<th>Porepunkah Township</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People</td>
<td>953</td>
<td>574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>468</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Age</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English spoken at home</td>
<td>93.2%</td>
<td>93.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All private dwellings</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupied private dwellings</td>
<td>76.9%</td>
<td>75.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unoccupied private dwellings</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwelling fully owned</td>
<td>43.2%</td>
<td>39.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwelling being purchased</td>
<td>24.0%</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwelling being rented</td>
<td>33.7%</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median weekly household income</td>
<td>$817</td>
<td>$884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median monthly mortgage repayment</td>
<td>$1200</td>
<td>$1131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median weekly rent</td>
<td>$180</td>
<td>$190</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 3.4 Porepunkah Township: A snapshot

This snapshot is taken from the ABS 2006 Census and the ABS 2011 Census data. Please be aware that comparisons are difficult and could be inaccurate because of the ABS change to the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) for data collection for the ABS 2011 Census.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People</td>
<td>589</td>
<td>574</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Age</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English spoken at home</td>
<td>92.4%</td>
<td>93.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All private dwellings</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupied private dwellings</td>
<td>79.4%</td>
<td>75.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unoccupied private dwellings</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwelling fully owned</td>
<td>39.3%</td>
<td>39.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwelling being purchased</td>
<td>27.6%</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwelling being rented</td>
<td>22.6%</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median weekly household income</td>
<td>$741</td>
<td>$884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median monthly mortgage repayment</td>
<td>$953</td>
<td>$1131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median weekly rent</td>
<td>$165</td>
<td>$190</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.5 What unique points does the ABS 2011 Census data identify about the Porepunkah Township?

The ABS 2011 Census population information shows that, when compared to the Victorian average, the structure of the Porepunkah Township differs from the population norm in the following age groups:

1. 20-24 years group: 3.5% (Porepunkah Town) compared to 7.0% (Victoria)
2. 25-29 years group: 2.6% (Porepunkah Township) compared to 7.3% (Victoria)
3. 45-49 years group: 5.7% (Porepunkah Township) compared to 7.0% (Victoria)
4. 50-54 years group: 8.7% (Porepunkah Township) compared to 6.6% (Victoria)
5. 50-79 years group: 37.7% (Porepunkah Township) compared to 28.1% (Victoria)

As in the Community Atlas first release in 2008, education statistics indicate that a significant difference exists in the number of people attending technical, further education, university or tertiary institutions: 15.7% attendance (Porepunkah Township) compared to 22.5% attendance (Victoria)

In cultural and language diversity the ABS 2011 Census data shows a significant difference in the ancestry of the population:

1. Australian ancestry: 31.2% (Porepunkah Township) compared to 23.3% (Victoria)
2. Australia as country of birth: 83.3% (Porepunkah Township) compared to 68.6% (Victoria)
3. Both parents born overseas: 19.6% (Porepunkah Township) compared to 38.1% (Victoria)
4. Both parents born in Australia: 70.5% (Porepunkah Township) compared to 50.4% (Victoria)
5. English only spoken at home: 93.5% (Porepunkah Township) compared to 72.4% (Victoria)

In employment the ABS 2011 Census identifies a significant difference in the number of professionals in the Porepunkah Township (13.7%) compared to the number in Victoria (22.3%). In the industry of employment there is a significant difference in the number of people employed in accommodation (8%) compared to those in Victoria (0.9%)
The **median weekly income** of households in the *Porepunkah Township* was lower than the Victorian average, with $884 in the *Porepunkah Township* compared to $1216 in Victoria.

There is a significant difference in the rate of people aged 15 years and over who did **voluntary work** in the year prior to the ABS 2011 Census: 27.6% (*Porepunkah Township*) compared to 17.7% (Victoria).
ABS 2011 Census Data for Porepunkah Township, the Alpine Shire and Victoria
ABS 2011 Census Data:

The following information (3.6 to 3.23) is based on the ABS 2011 Census data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in 2012 and 2013.

All statistics, and comments analyzing those statistics, are based on information from the ABS 2011 Census.

3.6 People: demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>11,881</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>5,354,042</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
<td>5,877</td>
<td>49.5%</td>
<td>2,632,619</td>
<td>49.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>53.8%</td>
<td>6,004</td>
<td>50.5%</td>
<td>2,721,423</td>
<td>50.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 3.7 People: age groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>344,733</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-19</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>2080</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
<td>999,399</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>375,108</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>843</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>760,883</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-49</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>20.4%</td>
<td>2358</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
<td>1,146,979</td>
<td>21.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>671,548</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
<td>1759</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td>518,723</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-84</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>1474</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>431,674</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85+</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>104,995</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the ABS 2011 Census there were 574 people in the *Porepunkah Township*. Of these 46.2% were male and 53.8% were female. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people made up 1.4% of the population.

The median age of people in the *Porepunkah Township* was 42 years. Children aged 0-14 years made up 20.0% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 18.5% of the population.

Of people in the *Porepunkah Township* aged 15 years and over, 48.8% were married and 12.9% were either divorced or separated.

The median age of married people in the *Porepunkah Township* was 54 years and the median age of people never married was 27 years.

In the *Porepunkah Township*, of people aged 15 years and over, 47.6% were in a registered marriage and 16.6% were in a de facto marriage.

The median age of people in a registered marriage in the *Porepunkah Township* was 54 years and the median age of people in a de facto marriage was 40 years.
3.8 People: education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attending Educational Institutions</th>
<th>Porepunkah Township: Number</th>
<th>Porepunkah Township: Percentage</th>
<th>Alpine Shire: Number</th>
<th>Alpine Shire: Percentage</th>
<th>Victoria: Number</th>
<th>Victoria: Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-School</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>89,819</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>34.0%</td>
<td>877</td>
<td>29.8%</td>
<td>411,017</td>
<td>25.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
<td>784</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>345,466</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tertiary and/or Technical</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
<td>364,503</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other/Not Stated</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>714</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
<td>406,752</td>
<td>25.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of the population in the Porepunkah Township 26.5% people were attending an educational institution. The number of students attending Primary School in the Porepunkah Township is significantly higher than that in Victoria, 34.0% compared to 25.4% in Victoria. Another marked difference is noted when comparing the number of students attending Tertiary and/or Technical Education.
Porepunkah Township: Percentage Attending Educational Institutions

- Pre-School: 15.7%
- Primary School: 34.0%
- Secondary School: 29.4%
- Tertiary &/or Technical: 12.5%
- Other: 8.5%

Alpine Shire: Percentage Attending Educational Institutions

- Pre-School: 24.3%
- Primary School: 29.8%
- Secondary School: 26.7%
- Tertiary &/or Technical: 13.1%
- Other: 6.0%

Victoria: Percentage Attending Educational Institutions

- Pre-School: 25.1%
- Primary School: 25.4%
- Secondary School: 21.4%
- Tertiary &/or Technical: 5.6%
- Other: 22.5%
### 3.9 People: main occupations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Porepunkah Township: Number</th>
<th>Porepunkah Township: Percentage</th>
<th>Alpine Shire: Numbers</th>
<th>Alpine Shire: Percentage</th>
<th>Victoria: Number</th>
<th>Victoria Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technicians and Trade Workers</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>21.0%</td>
<td>865</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
<td>350,758</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managers</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
<td>1,026</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
<td>332,929</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Workers</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>245,334</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professionals</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
<td>564,781</td>
<td>22.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community and Personal Service Workers</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>545</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
<td>234,381</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labourers</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>227,185</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerical and Administrative Workers</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>364,498</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machinery Operators and Drivers</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>154,543</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of the employed people in the *Porepunkah Township*, 10.6% worked in Cafes, Restaurants and Take Away food Services; 8.0% worked in Supermarket and Grocery Stores; 8.0% worked in Accommodation; 6.1% worked in Hospitals and 4.2% worked in Land Development and Site Preparation Services.
### 3.10 Families: family composition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Composition</th>
<th>Porepunkah Township: Numbers</th>
<th>Porepunkah Township: Percentage</th>
<th>Alpine Shire: Numbers</th>
<th>Alpine Shire: Percentage</th>
<th>Victoria: Numbers</th>
<th>Victoria: Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Couple family without children</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>40.1%</td>
<td>1,614</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
<td>518,535</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couple with children</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>45.2%</td>
<td>1,204</td>
<td>37.3%</td>
<td>651,071</td>
<td>46.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One parent family</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
<td>218,930</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other family</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>26,027</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of the families in the *Porepunkah Township*, 45.2% were couples with children, 40.1% were couple families without children, and 14.6% were one parent families. In the *Porepunkah Township* 15.0% of single parents were male and 85.0% were female.
3.11 People: cultural and language diversity

The most common ancestries in the Porepunkah Township were Australian 31.2%, English 31.2%, Scottish 9.1%, Irish 8.4% and German 3.6%.

In the Porepunkah Township 83.3% of people were born in Australia that is, 478 people out of the total population of 574. The other most common countries of birth were England 4.9%, Germany 1.4%, Scotland 1.4%, New Zealand 1.2%, and Canada 0.5%.

In the Porepunkah Township 70.5% of people had both parents born in Australia and 19.6% of people had both parents born overseas.

The most common responses for religion in the Porepunkah Township were No Religion 34.9%, Anglican 19.4%, Catholic 18.8%, Uniting Church 12.7% and Presbyterian and Reformed 2.3%.

In the Porepunkah Township 93.5% of people only spoke English at home. Other languages spoken at home included German 1.0%, French 0.9%, Italian 0.7%, Croatian 0.7% and Dutch 0.5%.

3.12 People: employment

There were 274 people of people in the Porepunkah Township employed in the work force. Of these 52.6% were employed full time, 36.1% were employed part-time and 4.7% were unemployed. 6.6% worked away from home.

Of employed people, 12.0% worked 1 to 15 hours, 12.0% worked 16 to 24 hours and 43.2% worked 40 hours or more.

Of people resident in the Porepunkah Township the median age of people employed full-time was 45 years and for people who worked part-time was 38 years.

3.13 People: weekly income

The median weekly personal income for people aged 15 years and over in the Porepunkah Township was $473. The median family income was $1166 and the median household income was $884.
3.14 People: travel to work, top responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Travel to work</th>
<th>Porepunkah Township: Number</th>
<th>Porepunkah Township: Percentage</th>
<th>Alpine Shire: Numbers</th>
<th>Alpine Shire: Percentage</th>
<th>Victoria: Numbers</th>
<th>Victoria: Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Car, as driver</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>65.5%</td>
<td>3,101</td>
<td>58.0%</td>
<td>1,554,490</td>
<td>61.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walked only</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>83,524</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car, as passenger</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>116,098</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>30,912</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.15 People: unpaid work

In the Porepunkah Township of people aged 15 years and over, 75.1% did unpaid domestic work in the week before the Census. During the two weeks before the Census, 30.0% provided care for children and 10.0% assisted family members or others due to a disability, long term illness or problems related to old age.

In the year before the Census, 27.6% of people did voluntary work through an organisation or a group.

Of people who did unpaid domestic work in the week before the Census in the Porepunkah Township, 25.6% worked 5 to 14 hours, 14.2% worked 15 to 29 hours and 13.8% worked 30 hours or more.

3.16 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

There were 9 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Porepunkah Township, of these 6 were male and 3 were female with the median age 8.
3.17 Families: weekly income

In the *Porepunkah Township* for couple families with two incomes, the median income for those with children was $1767, and for those without children was $1406.

3.18 Families: employment status of couple families

In the *Porepunkah Township* 12.3% of couple families had both partners employed full-time, 2.9% had both partners employed part-time and 26.8% had one employed full-time and the other part-time.

3.19 Dwellings: tenure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tenure</th>
<th><em>Porepunkah Township</em>: Number</th>
<th><em>Porepunkah Township</em>: Percentage</th>
<th>Alpine Shire: Number</th>
<th>Alpine Shire: Percentage</th>
<th>Victoria: Number</th>
<th>Victoria: Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owned outright</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>39.9%</td>
<td>2,160</td>
<td>45.6%</td>
<td>665,416</td>
<td>34.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owned with a mortgage</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
<td>1,354</td>
<td>28.6%</td>
<td>697,533</td>
<td>35.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rented</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
<td>1,077</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
<td>515,586</td>
<td>26.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other tenure type</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>14,619</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenure not stated</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>51,535</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Porepunkah Township: Dwellings - Tenure Percentage

- Owned Outright: 39.9%
- Owned With a Mortgage: 36.4%
- Rented: 20.6%
- Other Tenure Type: 1.3%
- Tenure Not Stated: 1.8%

Alpine Shire: Dwellings - Tenure Percentage

- Owned Outright: 45.6%
- Owned With a Mortgage: 28.6%
- Rented: 22.7%
- Other Tenure Type: 0.8%
- Tenure Not Stated: 2.3%

Victoria: Dwellings - Tenure Percentage

- Owned Outright: 34.2%
- Owned With a Mortgage: 35.9%
- Rented: 26.5%
- Other Tenure Type: 0.8%
- Tenure Not Stated: 2.7%
3.20 Dwellings: structure

In the Porepunkah Township 75.3% or 225 private dwellings were occupied and 24.7% or 74 were unoccupied. Of occupied private dwellings in the Porepunkah Township 90.7% were separate houses, 5.7% were semi-detached, row or terrace houses, townhouses etc. 3.5% were flats, units or apartments and 0.0% were other dwellings.

Of the occupied private dwellings in the Porepunkah Township, 56.1% had 3 bedrooms, whilst 24.1% of dwellings had 4 or more bedrooms. The average number of bedrooms per occupied dwelling was 3.1. The average number of people per household was 2.4.

3.21 Dwellings: household composition & income

In the Porepunkah Township, of all households, 69.3% or 158 were family households, 27.6% or 63 were single person households and 3.1% or 7 were group households.

In the Porepunkah Township, 34.0% of households had a weekly household income of less than $600 and 2.9% of households had a weekly income of more than $3000.

3.22 Dwellings: mortgage and rent

The median rent in Porepunkah Township was $190 and the median mortgage repayments were $1131.
## 3.23 Dwellings: number of motor vehicles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of motor vehicles</th>
<th>Porepunkah Township: Number</th>
<th>Porepunkah Township: Percentage</th>
<th>Alpine Shire: Number</th>
<th>Alpine Shire: Percentage</th>
<th>Victoria: Number</th>
<th>Victoria: Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>164,030</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 motor vehicle</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>35.5%</td>
<td>1,702</td>
<td>35.9%</td>
<td>673,937</td>
<td>34.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 motor vehicles</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>42.1%</td>
<td>1,771</td>
<td>37.4%</td>
<td>720,287</td>
<td>37.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 or more motor vehicles</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
<td>892</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
<td>327,268</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of motor vehicles not stated</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>59,167</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4 Primary Health Data

A review of the health data commissioned by Alpine Health\textsuperscript{4} and published in 2008 showed that Porepunkah is located in the North East Victorian Division of General Practice (NEVDGP), the Central Hume PCP and is serviced by the Ovens and King Community Health Service and Alpine Health. The data on primary health issues does not drill down to small area level and is quoted at Alpine Shire and Hume Region level.

The key primary health issues cited in the data within the Alpine Shire relate to fertility, oral health, diabetes, respiratory diseases, cancer, heart disease, substance misuse and road accidents. The relative impact of issues by gender was different, with the main issue for men being lung cancer and for women, depression and breast cancer. Rates of mental health issues for men and women were below Regional and Victorian State averages.

The Alpine Health data identifies the key health issues as being smoking, nutrition, alcohol, insufficient physical activity, gambling and crime\textsuperscript{5}. The data on rates of cancer, oral health and heart disease reinforce those priorities.

\textsuperscript{4} Alpine Shire Victoria: Health and Community Profile, Plexus Consulting, April 2008
\textsuperscript{5} ibid p251.
5 Community Indicators: What are Community Indicators and why are they important?

Community Indicators are measurements that provide information about trends — past and present. They highlight issues of importance to communities and are designed to be relevant to policy and planning. Community Indicators can tell you whether a local area is improving, declining or staying the same. In essence, Community Indicators chart the interaction among a community’s economic, social, environmental, cultural and democratic well-being.\(^6\)

Community Indicators Victoria (CIV) is a community indicator system with local level data that measures the wellbeing of Victoria. CIV can assist local governments to govern better. It can improve councils’ knowledge, responsiveness, effectiveness and accountability. It can provide the basis for:

- community engagement
- support for local council decision-making
- integrated approach to policy and planning
- focus on outcomes and practical results for communities
- ensure accurate and transparent reporting and accountability

CIV data is reported on a Local Government Area, Regional Basis and Victorian State levels. Data is not drilled down to smaller areas.

\(^{6}\)CIV. McCaughey VicHealth Centre for Community Wellbeing. University of Melbourne 2012.
6 Latest Data: What are the findings from the latest available data?

Self-Reported Health was measured in the CIV 2007 Survey. 57.1% of residents in the Alpine Shire reported that their health was either excellent or very good compared to 54.3% in both the Hume Region and Victorian State.

Subjective Wellbeing was measured in the 2011 VicHealth Indicators Survey. The Personal Wellbeing Index for Australia, ranging between 0-100, was approximately 75. In comparison, the average Personal Wellbeing Index for persons living in the Alpine Shire was 81.3, while the Hume Region was 79.6 and the average for the State of Victoria was 77.5.

The same VicHealth Survey asked residents to rate their satisfaction with feeling part of the community. The average Community Connection score for Australia was 70. In comparison the score for persons living in the Alpine Shire was 82.5. This was also ten points higher than the Victorian State average of 72.3.

In the Victorian Population Survey conducted in 2008, 16.4% of people in the Alpine Shire were classified as obese, which was very similar to the Victorian State average of 16.7%. It was also lower than the 21% rate of obesity in the Hume Region.

In research undertaken in 2008, the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) measured Volunteering. In the Alpine Shire 55.3% of people reported that they helped out as a volunteer, compared to 48% in the Hume Region and 40.8% in the State of Victoria.

Child Health Assessments are routinely undertaken by the Maternal and Child Health Service in Victoria. In 2010-2011 the rate of participation for children eligible for an assessment at 3.5 years was 71.8% in the Alpine Shire. This compared favourably with the rate of 65.8% in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of 62.2%.

The Transport Accident Commission (TAC) released the Road Traffic Fatalities per 100,000 population at 2011. Alpine Shire had a rate of 16.8 which was higher than that of the Hume Region, 14.1 and significantly higher than that of the State of Victoria which was 5.4.
The number of **Road Traffic Major Injuries** per 100,000 at 2011 in the Alpine Shire was 260.9. This was quite considerably higher than the rate in the Hume Region 153.1, and the rate of 129.8 in Country Victoria. More significantly the rate in the Alpine Shire was much higher than that of the State of Victoria which was 107.

The average **Distance to the Nearest Medical Clinic** with a General Practitioner has been gathered by the Department of Human Services, (DHS) Data Directory 2012. In the Alpine Shire the average distance was 11.39km, compared to 8.18km in the Hume Region and 2.93km in Victoria.

The **unemployment rate** in the Alpine Shire was measured by the Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations for the period 2010-2011. In the Alpine Shire the rate of unemployment was 4.7%, compared to 6.0% for the Hume Region, 5.4% for the State of Victoria and 5.3% for Country Victoria. This rate of 4.7% for the Alpine Shire was also lower than the rate of unemployment of 5.2% for the period 2009-2010.

**Greenhouse Gas Emissions** have been measured by the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) for the years: 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007. Over that period there had been little change in Greenhouse Gas Emissions in the Alpine Shire. The 2007 figures show the Alpine Shire to be larger emitters, 14.1 tonnes per private dwelling compared to 9.9 for the State of Victoria.

**Household Electricity Use** has been measured by the DSE in 2007. Electricity use has been indicated in megawatts an hour per private occupied dwelling. The statistics show that users in the Alpine Shire used 10.7 megawatts an hour compared to the Average of only 5.7 in the State of Victoria. The situation was reversed when comparing the figures for Household Gas Use. This was also measured by the DSE in 2007. The measurements are in gigajoules per customer, with 46.6 being the average in the Alpine Shire, compared to the average of 52.5 in the State of Victoria.

The **population of the Porepunkah Township** differs when comparing the figures of the ABS Census 2006 (589 persons) and the ABS Census 2011(574 persons). These differences reflect the ABS move to the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS).
7 Healthy Safe and Inclusive Communities – Personal Health and Well-being

Self-Reported Health

Self-Reported Health was measured in the 2007 CIV Survey. Respondents were asked to rate their health as excellent, very good, good, fair or poor.

57.1% of persons living within the Alpine Shire reported that their health was either excellent or very good as compared to 54.3% in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of 54.3%.

Subjective Well-being

Subjective well-being was measured in the 2011 VicHealth Indicators survey using the Australian Unity Well-being Index (AUWBI). Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction with their lives on a number of domains resulting in an aggregated Personal Well-Being Index Ranging between 0-100.

Normative data from the AUWBI indicated that the average Personal Well-being Index for Australians was approximately 75. In comparison, the average Personal Well-being Index for persons living in Alpine was 81.3 in 2011, while the Hume Region average was 79.6 and the Victorian State average was 77.5.
8 Healthy Safe and Inclusive Communities – Community Connectedness

Feeling Part of the Community

Community Connection was measured in the 2011 VicHealth Survey. Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction with feeling part of their community and answers were presented according to a 0-100 range.

Normative data from the AUWBI indicated that the average Community Connection score for Australians was approximately 70. In comparison, the average Community Connection score for persons living in the Alpine Shire was 82.5 in 2011, while the Hume Region average was 77.4 and the Victorian State average was 72.3.

Social Support

Social Support was measured in the 2008 Department of Planning & Community Development (DPCD). Respondents were asked if they could get help from friends, family or neighbours when they needed it, either definitely, sometimes or not at all.

90.9% of persons living within the Alpine Shire reported that they could definitely get help from friends, family or neighbours when they needed it, as compared to 91.8% in the Hume Region and 91.7% in Victoria.

Volunteering

Volunteering was measured in the 2008 DPCD. Respondents were asked whether or not they helped out as a volunteer.

55.3% of persons living within the Alpine Shire reported that they helped out as a volunteer, as compared to 48% in the Hume Region and 40.8% in Victoria.
Child Health Assessments

Child Health Assessments are routinely undertaken by the Maternal and Child Health Service in Victoria to monitor child health and development. Ten visits are anticipated according to key ages and stages until a child reaches 3.5 years of age. Data relating to the activities of the Maternal and Child Health service are collated on a financial year basis by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD).

The rate of participation for children eligible for an assessment at 3.5 years was 71.8% in the Alpine Shire in the 2010-11 Office for children, compared to 65.8% in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of 62.2%.
10 Healthy Safe and Inclusive Communities – Personal and Community Safety

Perceptions of Safety

Perceptions of Safety were measured in the 2011 VicHealth Indicators Survey. Respondents were asked to rate how safe they felt when walking alone in their local area during the day and night.

When walking alone in their local area during the day 99.2% of persons in the Alpine Shire felt safe or very safe, compared to 98.4% in the Hume Region and the Victorian state Average of 97%.

When walking alone at night 89% of persons in the Alpine Shire felt safe or very safe compared to 75.4% in the Hume Region and the Victorian state average of 70.3%

Respondents who stated that they were never alone in the particular situation were not asked to give their perception of how safe they might feel in the situation, and were excluded from the calculation of the proportions.

Crime

Crime statistics are produced annually by Victoria Police. Summaries of offences are reported per 100,000 population to enable comparisons across different areas.

In the Alpine Shire there were 521 recorded crimes against the person per 100,000 population in 2011-12 compared to 1090 in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of 984.

In the Alpine Shire there were 2,049 recorded crimes against property per 100,000 in 2011-12, compared to 4,049 in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of 4,797.
School Leavers

The activities of young people who have left school have been sourced from the 2012 Department of Education & Early Childhood Development data which described the level of engagement in work and study activities of 15-19 year olds who are not attending school. This population can be categorized into three major groups:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fully Engaged School Leavers:</td>
<td>Those who are involved in work and/or non-school study (including university, TAFE and vocational training) on a full time basis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disengaged school leavers:</td>
<td>Those who are not involved in any work or study activities at all.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remaining school leavers:</td>
<td>Those who are partly engaged.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The percentage of fully engaged and disengaged school leavers is presented below.

Engaged or Disengaged: In the Alpine Shire 7.34% of 15-19 year old school leavers were fully engaged in work or non-school study, compared to 4.89% in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of 2.4%. Furthermore 1.49% was disengaged, compared to 0.61% in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of 0.41%.

The ABS 2011 Census cites the rate of young people who are aged 17 years and still attending school as 77.9% which was less than the rate across Victoria, of 80.7%; but greater than that of country Victoria (75.5%). In the Alpine Shire 13.1% of young people aged 17 were not attending any educational institution which was higher than the rate in Victoria of 10.5%.
Highly Skilled workforce

A skilled workforce in a community is an essential component of a strong local economy. For this indicator, highly skilled has been defined as occupations with ANZSCO Skill Levels 1-3. The data has been collated from customized Census tables obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

55.3% of employed persons working in the Alpine Shire worked in highly skilled occupations compared to 54.3% in the Hume Region and the Victorian state average of 56.3%.

Employment Rate

The employment rate has been calculated from the ABS 2011 Census. This employment to population ratio describes the percentage of persons aged 15 years or older who are employed.

There were 5,607 people who reported being in the labour force in the week before the Census night in the Alpine Shire. Of these, 53.7% were employed full-time, 35.3% were employed part-time and 4.7% were unemployed.

Income

Median Equivalised Household Income has been calculated from the ABS 2011 Census. Equivalising income adjusts the total income of the household according to the number of persons and household type.

Median Equivalised Gross Weekly Household Income for the Alpine Shire was $569 compared to $629 in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of $749.

Food Security

Food Security was measured in the 2007 CIV Survey. Respondents were asked if there had been any times in the previous 12 months when they had run out of food and could not afford to buy more.

6% of persons in the Alpine Shire had experienced food insecurity, compared to 7.3% in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of 6%.
Educational Qualifications

Educational Qualifications are an important resource enabling individuals and their communities an opportunity to engage in the knowledge economy. The percentage of people in the Alpine Shire who had tertiary or Technical & Further Education (TAFE) qualifications has been calculated from the ABS 2006 Census.

Of those living in the Alpine Shire 46.8% of persons aged 25 years and over had tertiary or TAFE qualifications, compared to 43.8% in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of 50.7%.

Adequate Work-Life Balance

Work-Life Balance was measured in the VicHealth Indicators Survey. Employed respondents were asked whether they agreed that “their work and family life often interfere with each other”.

44.6% of employed persons living in the Alpine Shire disagreed or strongly disagreed that their work and family life often interfere with each other, and felt that they had a good balance of work and family. This is compared to 50% in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of 53.1%.
Housing Affordability

One measure of Housing Affordability has been calculated through the ABS 2011 Census. The data shows the percentage of households spending 30% or more of their gross household income on rent or mortgage payments.

17.4% of households in the Alpine Shire were spending 30% or more of gross household income on rent or mortgage payments, compared to 17.5% in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of 20.4%.

Transport Limitations

Transport Limitations were measured in the 2011 VicHealth Indicators Survey. Respondents were asked if their day-to-day travel had been limited or restricted in the previous 12 months.

27.2% of persons living in the Alpine Shire had experienced transport limitations in the previous year, compared to 22.6% in the Hume Region and the Victorian State average of 23.7%.

Waste Water Recycling

Household Water Conservation was measured in the 2011 VicHealth Indicators Survey. Respondents were asked if their household had engaged in a list of water conservation methods, including the collection of waste water from washing machines, showers or sinks.

32.7% of persons living in the Alpine Shire were in households that collect waste water, compared to 32.9% in the Hume region and the Victorian State average of 41.3%.

Household Waste Recycling

Data on Household waste recycling are obtained from an annual survey conducted by Sustainability Victoria which collects information on the kerbside service activities provided by local government. An average of 475kg of garbage was collected per household from kerbside collections in Victoria in 2009-10.

30% of household waste collected in kerbside collections in the Alpine Shire was recycled in 2009-10 compared to the Victorian state average kerbside recycling rate of 44%.
Sustainable Built & Natural Environments

- Housing Affordability
- Transport Limitations
- Waste water recycling
- Household waste recycling

Legend:
- Alpine
- Hume
- Victoria
Participation in Arts and Cultural Activities

Participation in Arts and Culture was measured in the 2011 VicHealth Indicators survey. Respondents were asked if they had participated in a range of activities in the previous month, including painting, drawing, art and craft, playing musical instruments, singing, writing and performing.

57.6% of persons in the Alpine Shire had participated in at least one of the selected artistic and cultural activities in the previous month, compared to 57.4% in the Hume region and the Victorian state average of 63.6%.
15 Environment and Climate

The Great Dividing Range is the dominant geographic feature in North East Victoria, producing wide variations in climate. The weather patterns of the Alpine Valleys are strongly influenced by elevation and topography. The following are some of the main aspects of weather patterns in the Alpine Valleys based on data from the Bureau of Meteorology and the Department of Primary Industries (DPI).⁷

- Rain is the main form of precipitation in the Alpine Valleys.
- At high altitudes a large proportion of winter precipitation falls as snow.
- In each of the Alpine Valleys winter rainfall is higher than summer rainfall.
- Townships within the Alpine Valleys have an average annual rainfall (1920-2007) of between 700 and 1400mm.
- The annual average rainfall decreases with elevation and subsequently decreases down the valleys.
- The hottest months in the Alpine Valleys are December, January and February.
- January and February are the driest months in the year.
- At each location in the Alpine Valleys the distribution of rainfall shows a winter peak.
- Average summer temperatures range from 26.8° at Harrietville to 30.3° at Myrtleford.
- July is normally the coldest month with average maximum temperatures varying between (1920-2007) 9° at Kergunyah and 12.4° at Myrtleford.
- Average minimum temperatures range from around 11.6° - 14° in February to 1.5° - 3° in July.
- Frosts occur in the period between April and October in the Alpine Valleys.

Climate variability is one of the most important risk factors to an agricultural enterprise. Research by the DPI has identified the following factors which may influence both plant and animal productivity and sustainability:

- **The availability of soil moisture and suitability of the temperature can strongly influence the length of the growing season.**

- **Soil moisture is influenced by precipitation and evaporation.**

- **Temperature can influence both relative humidity and the frequency of frosts.**

- **Low temperatures can restrict or completely inhibit plant growth.**

- **Frost can kill plants outright if it occurs during critical growth stages such as flowering or fruit setting.**

- **High temperatures lead to high evaporation and potential moisture stress in both plants and animals.**

- **High rainfall can result in waterlogging or erosion activities.**

- **Extremely low rainfall will lead to moisture stress such as drought.**

- **Increases in relative humidity can cause problems such as a higher incidence of fungal disease.**
16 Measures of Advantage and Disadvantage – SEIFA

Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) is a product developed by the ABS that ranks areas in Australia according to relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage. The Indexes are based on information from the five-yearly Census.

SEIFA 2011 is based on ABS 2011 Census data, and consists of four indexes, each focusing on a different aspect of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage and being a summary of a different subset of Census variables.

SEIFA 2011 is released according to the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (AGSC). This is a change from past versions of SEIFA, which used the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC). The main implication for SEIFA from this change is that the new base unit of analysis is the Statistical Area Level 1 (SA 1) rather than the Census Collection District (CD) used in the past.

For the purposes of SEIFA the ABS continues to broadly define relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage in terms of people’s access to material and social resources, and their ability to participate in society.

The four SEIFA 2011 Indexes are:

- The Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage.
- The Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage and Disadvantage.
- The Index of Economic Resources.
- The Index of Education and Occupation.

1. **The Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (IRSD)**

The IRSD summarises variables that indicate relative disadvantage. The Index ranks on a continuum from the most disadvantaged to the least disadvantaged.

A low score on this Index indicates a high proportion of relatively disadvantaged people in an area. We cannot conclude that an area with a very high score has a large proportion of relatively advantaged (well-off) people, as there are no variables in the Index to indicate this. We can only conclude that such an area has a relatively low incidence of disadvantage.

The SEIFA Index of Disadvantage measures the relative level of socio-economic disadvantage based on a range of Census characteristics. It is a good place to start to get a general view of the relative level of disadvantage in one area compared to others and is used to advocate for an area based on its level of disadvantage.

The Index is derived from attributes that reflect disadvantage such as low income, low educational attainment, high unemployment, and jobs in relatively unskilled occupations. When targeting services to disadvantaged communities, it is important to also look at these underlying characteristics as they can differ markedly between areas with similar SEIFA scores and shed light on the type of disadvantage being experienced.

A higher score on the Index means a lower level of disadvantage. A lower score on the Index means a higher level of disadvantage.
2. **The Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage and Disadvantage.** *(IRSAD)*

The IRSAD summarises variables that indicate either relative advantage or disadvantage. The Index ranks areas on a continuum from most disadvantaged to most advantaged. An area with a high score on this Index has a relatively high incidence of advantage and a relatively low incidence of disadvantage. Due to the differences in scope between this Index and the IRSD, the scores of some areas can vary substantially between the two Indexes. For example, consider a large area that has parts containing relatively disadvantaged people, and other parts containing relatively advantaged people. This area may have a low IRSD ranking, due to its pockets of disadvantage. However, its IRSAD ranking may be moderate, or even above average, because the pockets of advantage may offset the pockets of disadvantage.

3. **The Index of Economic Resources.** *(IER)*

The IER summarises variables relating to the financial aspects of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage. These include indicators of high and low income, as well as variables that correlate with high or low wealth. Areas with higher scores have relatively greater access to economic resources than areas with lower scores.

4. **The Index of Education and Occupation.** *(IEO)*

The IEO summarises variables relating to the educational and occupational aspects of relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage. This Index focuses on the skills of people in an area, both formal qualifications and the skills required to perform different occupations. A low score indicates that an area has a high proportion of people without qualifications, without jobs, and/or with low skilled jobs. A high score indicates many people with high qualifications and/or highly skilled jobs.

**Some important characteristics of the Indexes:**

1. The Indexes are assigned to areas and not to individuals. They indicate the collective socio-economic characteristics of the people living in an area.
2. As measures of socio-economic conditions, the Indexes are best interpreted as ordinal measures that rank (order) areas. The Index scores are based on an arbitrary numerical scale and do not represent a quantity of advantage or disadvantage. For ease of interpretation, it is recommended using the Index deciles that is one of the ten equal groups that a large number of people or things are divided into for comparing things.
3. Each Index is constructed based on a weighted combination of selected variables. The Indexes are dependent on the set of variables chosen for the analysis.
4. The Indexes are primarily designed to compare the relative socio-economic characteristics of areas at a given point in time. It can be very difficult to perform longitudinal or time series analysis, and it should not be attempted flippantly.

**Some common uses of SEIFA include:**

- Determining areas that require funding and services
- Identifying new business opportunities
- Assisting research into the relationship between socio-economic advantage and various social outcomes.
Alpine Shire Council is rated 46 out of 80 on the Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD) of Local Government Areas in Victoria.

The highest score for an Local Government Areas in Victoria is Nillumbik and the LGA with the lowest score is Greater Dandenong (C).

Mt Beauty has a high level of relatively disadvantaged people. It is in the 2nd lowest decile (between 10-20%) on the IRSD.

Dederang, Tawonga, Porepunkah, and Harrietville are in the sixth decile on the IRSD (between 50-60%) indicating a slightly above average level of relatively disadvantaged people in the area.

Tawonga South is in the eighth decile on the IRSD (between 70-80%) which indicates a low proportion of relatively disadvantaged people in the area.

The people of Mt Beauty have a relatively lower access to economic resources, being on the 1st decile (between 0-10%).

Dederang has a score in the 7th decile (between 60-70%) on the IER, indicating above average access to economic resources.

Mt Beauty and Myrtleford have a high proportion of people without qualifications, without jobs, and/or low skilled jobs being in the 2nd decile on the IEO (between 10-20%).

Tawonga South has a high score being in the 9th decile (80-90%) of the IEO. This indicates an area with many people with high qualifications and/or highly skilled jobs.

Bright has an above average proportion of people with high qualifications or highly skilled jobs, and a below average proportion of people with greater access to economic resources.

Dederang and Tawonga score above average on all four of the SEIFA Indexes. Mt Beauty and Myrtleford score below average on all four of the SEIFA Indexes.
**ABS SEIFA 2011 Index of Socio-Economic Disadvantage Alpine Deciles**

A low score indicates a high proportion of relatively disadvantaged people in an area.

**ABS SEIFA 2011 Index of Economic Resources Alpine Deciles**

Areas with higher scores have relatively greater access to economic resources than areas with lower scores.
ABS SEIFA 2011 Index of Socio-Economic Advantage & Disadvantage

Alpine Deciles

An area with a high score has a relatively high incidence of advantage and a relatively low incidence of disadvantage.

ABS SEIFA 2011 Index of Education and Occupation Alpine Deciles

A low score indicates a high proportion of people without qualifications, jobs &/or low skilled jobs. High score indicates many people with high qualifications &/or highly skilled jobs.