

**Research Project:**

**Cumulative socioeconomic impacts  
Of CSG Development in the Western Downs**

**DATA REPORT**

**INDICATORS OF CHANGE  
IN  
WANDOAN AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY**

Interviews March - April 2017

Statistical data updated in March 2017 (using 2016 data)

This version June 2017

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## The Wandoan CSG Development Story

The 'Wandoan CSG-Development story' was developed in consultation with key members of the Wandoan and district community. These included representatives of: Wandoan businesses, community committees, and local government.

The individuals participating in this consultation were asked to discuss and comment on statistical data on 'indicators' of social and economic impact. These discussions provided a local point of view and insight into the 'Wandoan CSG-Development story', to be used in combination with the publicly available data. The following indicators were discussed:

1. Population
2. Unemployment
3. Income
4. Housing
5. Training
6. Top offences recorded by police
7. Staff availability / local skills shortages
8. Available tourist beds.

Those interviewed said Wandoan was historically a 'quiet close knit little town' in a geographically widespread area. They recalled a rise in economic activity in 2008 with commencement of the Wandoan Coal Project and drilling of some CSG wells. Wandoan's population has maintained a steady decline for more than a decade. The town population decreased while the proportion of non-resident workers increased with coal and CSG development. This change in the composition of the population was seen as having caused a 'shock'. Several families left Wandoan after their farms were bought by Xstrata Coal leaving about 150 families in the area at the time of the Census in 2011. This reduced the numbers of school students, coal industry funded apprentices and trainees, and volunteers. In late 2013, the coal project was put on hold, as CSG development took off. In 2015-16 there has been another rapid increase in non-resident workers; to the point that there are almost two CSG workers to every Wandoan resident.

Increased volumes of CSG related traffic on the roads and in the town of Wandoan were noticed. Interviewees noted that some key businesses changed to cater for the new non-resident workers and that local demand for hotel venues and accommodation was given second priority. An increase in new businesses and business income between 2011 and 2014 has been welcomed, said interviewees, but they felt a simultaneous loss of connection within the community has occurred. With the initial CSG construction period ended, people reported feeling uncertain about the town's future. They believe the local benefits of resource development are over, even as the newer CSG Project Charlie is in under construction. People did not believe the Wandoan Coal project will proceed and if it does, they do not expect to see benefits in the Wandoan community. This view is based on their observations from recent CSG development - locating workers in camps out of town and hiring very few local people in the operations phases of development. The Wandoan community is seeking alternatives that provide long term manageable growth for their town that has been traditionally reliant on agriculture and forestry.

Increased demand for housing, attributed to the CSG sector, substantially boosted rent for a 3-bedroom house, taking it past the state median in 2012. Rents rose 58% during 2013, before returning to pre-CSG levels in 2015. The sale price of houses climbed at a similar pace to that of Brisbane housing prices, except for a significant decrease in housing demand in 2013 followed the relocation of many CSG workers to camps outside of Wandoan. The lack of affordable housing was stated by several interviewees to be the biggest impact of CSG development. It was blamed for causing families in the

lower socio-economic groups to leave town. Some businesses chose to subsidise workers' rents. Both sale prices and rents have since continued to drop back to near 'affordable' levels. However, interviewees commented in a worried tone that there are now 'a lot of empty houses and duplexes' – including those constructed by the CSG industry for their staff.

Traffic offences increased sharply in 2010 reaching a peak in 2013/14, at a rate three times higher than Queensland rate. Increased traffic from CSG activity coupled with local roads not built for this volume of traffic exacerbated the number of traffic offences. Transport strategies of the CSG companies involving buses for workers to and from camps and multi-occupant car trips reduced the road traffic and related traffic offences after 2013. Traffic offences have been falling and in 2015/16 the rate of offences are half the state's average; but still double the historical trend for Wandoan

There was a significant increase in various offences and total number since 2010/11. The change in policing strategy led to higher vigilance and detection of traffic and drug offences during this period. Good order offences and theft peaked in 2013-2014, while drug offences peaked once more in 2014/15 to well above Queensland average; but sharply declined in 2015/16. With the cooperation of the CSG companies, severe penalties were imposed on CSG workers breaching good order and workers were largely relocated to camps outside of town.

Interviewees stated that some Wandoan businesses had benefited from the 'CSG boom', including hotels and motels. Business incomes and wage and salary earnings rose significantly from 2011-12 to 2013-14. Casual workers did not have to leave town to find work, they added. However, some businesses closed and investments did not realise full potential with reduced opportunities to do work with the CSG. Examples included a local transport company, hotel and unit developments that came on line late in 2013. Other pre-existing businesses continue to struggle in an economy with a lower town population.

Unemployment is historically stable and lower than the Queensland average. It was low in the coal driven mini boom of 2008 and began rising again in 2009-10. Unemployment in Wandoan was very low from 2011-2013, and has been rising since 2014. Those interviewed expected unemployment to rise even with CSG construction resuming on the Project Charlie and potentially on the Wandoan coal project. In 2016, unemployment rose but still remains low compared to the rate for Queensland.

The number of businesses and business income in Wandoan is variable through to 2010-11. It was said that new businesses started up in anticipation of CSG contracts but folded as contracts did not emerge and the industry slowed. Total business income quadrupled from 2011-12 to 2012-13. However there has been a marked reduction from 2013 to 2015. Interviewees reported few signs of increased wealth in the community. Wage and salary earnings increased from 2010 to 2013 and have levelled off with a slight drop in 2014-15 (the latest ATO data). Average incomes did not change significantly. Personal incomes are expected to fall as benefits of CSG development end. The community believes that CSG industry workers, contractors and those businesses providing services to the industry (e.g. hotel accommodation) are the main beneficiaries.

This booklet provides detail on aspects of the 'Wandoan CSG development story' based on the range of priority indicators that we tracked. We would like to thank members of the Wandoan community for their cooperation and the gift of their time. We hope that we have done justice to their contributions in this investigation.

*The UQ 'Cumulative Impacts' Research Team.*

## INTRODUCTION

The University of Queensland is conducting research into the social and economic impacts of coal seam gas (CSG) development. The project has focused on the combined impacts of the multiple CSG developments in the Western Downs region of Queensland as an initial case study. That focus has now expanded to include other local government areas – Maranoa, Toowoomba, and Isaac. In this document, we present findings on the town of Wandoan.

### Research project aims

- **Find key indicators** – we want to identify ways to calculate and report the impact of multiple CSG projects in terms of a few numbers that are important and credible, e.g., weekly rents.
- **Involve people from the community, government, and industry** – we are asking stakeholders to decide which ‘indicators’ are the most important to monitor. In working with stakeholders, we aim to help develop a shared understanding of social and economic development in the community and create a frame of reference for ongoing, collaborative decision-making in the region.
- **Lessons to help other regions** – we want to develop models and approaches that can be used to measure, track and analyse cumulative impacts in other regions.

### The research team

- Assoc. Prof. Will Rifkin, Industry Affiliate, former Chair in Social Performance, Centre for Coal Seam Gas (CCSG) and Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining (CSRSM).
- Dr Jo-Anne Everingham, Senior Research Scientist, CSRSM.
- Dr Katherine Witt, Research Fellow, CCSG.
- Ms Sarah Choudhury, CSRSM (2017)
- Ms Sherylee Johnson, Research Technician, CCSG (2013-2016).
- Professor David Brereton, Associate Director, Sustainable Minerals Institute (2012-2016).
- Dr Vikki Uhlmann, Research Manager, CSRSM (2013 -2014).
- Ms Kylie May, Research Analyst, CSRSM (2013 – 2014).
- Lisa Kelly, Research Officer, CCSG (2016).

**Funding:** The project receives industry funding through the Centre for Coal Seam Gas (CCSG), which is within the University of Queensland’s Sustainable Minerals Institute. CCSG’s industry partners include QGC, Arrow Energy, Santos, and Australia-Pacific LNG. These organisations are providing valuable information on their operations. Researchers are employed by the University of Queensland.

**Collaborators:** We are getting help from - Queensland government agencies and CSIRO researchers funded by the Gas Industry Social and Environmental Research Alliance (GISERA).

**Community participation:** In March 2014, a small research team from UQ started to visit communities to introduce the project. We gathered information, mostly from government sources, on impacts that key stakeholders in these communities perceived to be important. We visit each community to discuss that data, to get their insights on what has been occurring.

**Reporting timeframes:** The data collection for the project has been occurring annually since 2013. Project outcomes, recommendations, and reports have been released periodically. This latest version includes information from the 2017 interviews. Updates are planned for 2018 (*i.e.*, the duration of the project). Each report contains an updated version of data presented previously. We hope that each page can be read and understood without us being present.

**Ethics guidelines we follow:** This study has been cleared by the human research ethics committee of the University of Queensland in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council’s guidelines (Research Ethics clearance approval no. 2013000587).

**Questions:** Contact the lead researcher, Dr Katherine Witt, Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining, SMI, The University Of Queensland, Brisbane, QLD 4072 , Ph: 0418 619 341, Email: [w.rifkin@uq.edu.au](mailto:w.rifkin@uq.edu.au), [www.csrsm.uq.edu.au](http://www.csrsm.uq.edu.au). If you would like to speak to an officer of the University not involved in the study, you may contact the Ethics Officer on 07 3365 3924.

## **PRIORITY INDICATORS FOR WANDOAN AND DISTRICT**

### **DEMOGRAPHICS**

1. Population

### **EMPLOYMENT, BUSINESS & INCOME**

2. Unemployment
3. Income

### **HOUSING**

4. Median house prices
5. Median rents

### **WELLBEING**

6. Selected offences

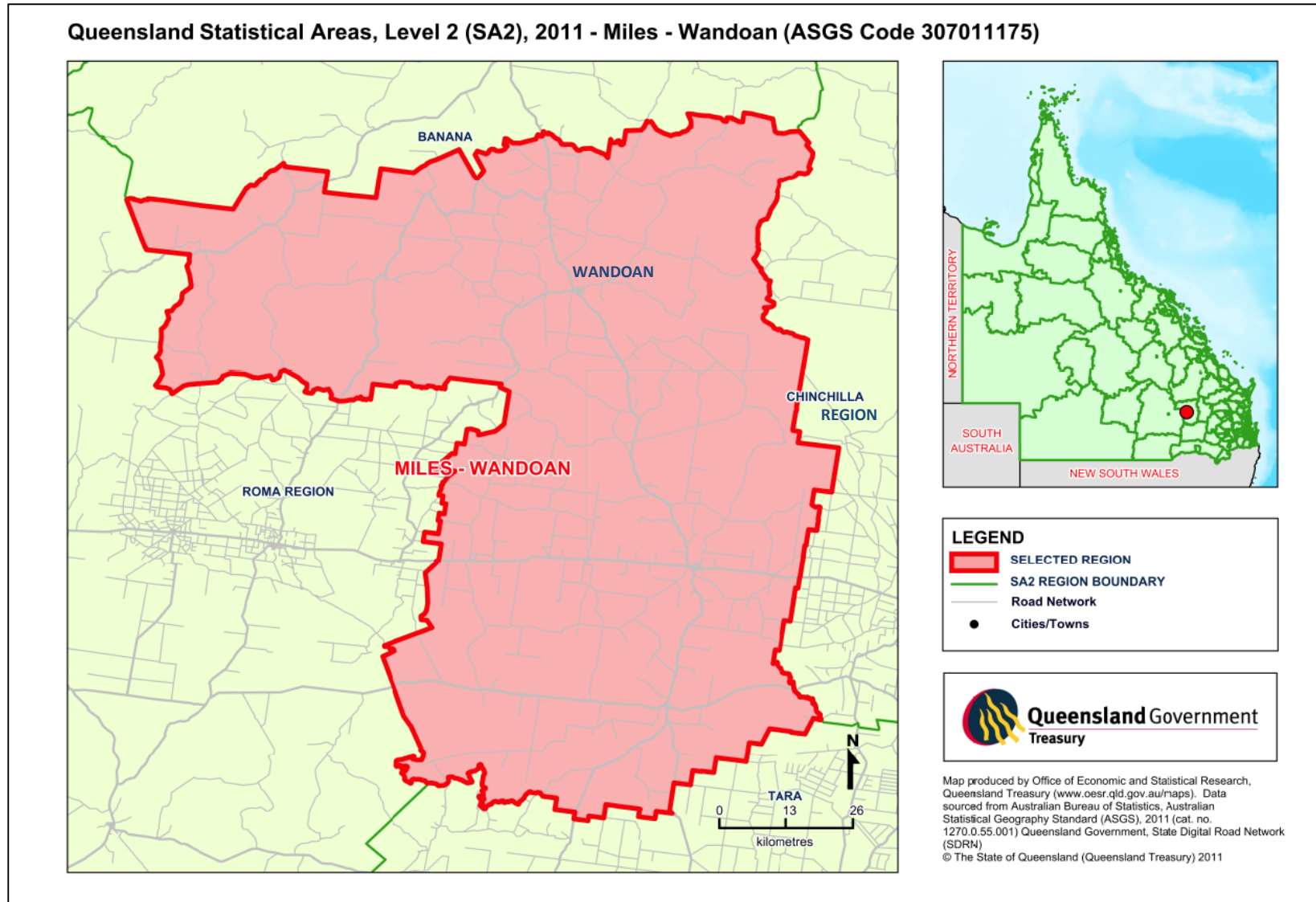
### **EXOGENOUS FACTORS**

7. Rainfall
8. Petrol prices

### **IMPACTS ON INDIGENOUS MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY**

Efforts are ongoing to select the most appropriate indicators for measuring impacts on Indigenous residents and businesses in the Western Downs. A case study of the Aboriginal employment program of one proponent has been completed by UQ researchers. A UQ specialist has evaluated the Reconciliation Action Plan of a proponent. A UQ team has identified challenges in making and implementing agreements between Aboriginal groups and proponents in the coal seam gas arena (addressing issues like group politics and Native Title claims).

<b>Other Indicators Examined</b>	<b>Indicator-related research being conducted</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resilience; Community aspirations (CSIRO)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public health – PhD study (UQ)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demographic &amp; economic trends (CSIRO &amp; UQ)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business (women in business) – PhD study (UQ)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Chemistry Atlas (UQ)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture &amp; Co-existence (UQ &amp; CSIRO)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental impacts – biodiversity (CSIRO)</li> </ul>

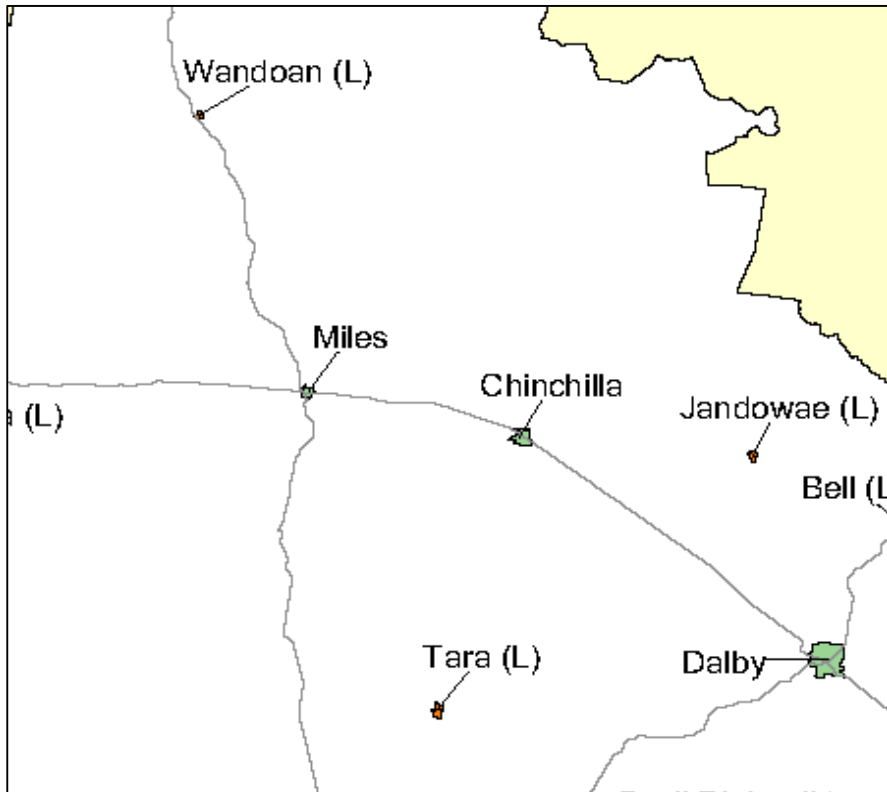


Source: <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/products/maps/qld-sa2-asgs-2011/index.php>

This information has been compiled for use in consultation with the Wandoan community

UQ Research Project: Cumulative socio-economic impacts of CSG development in Western Downs

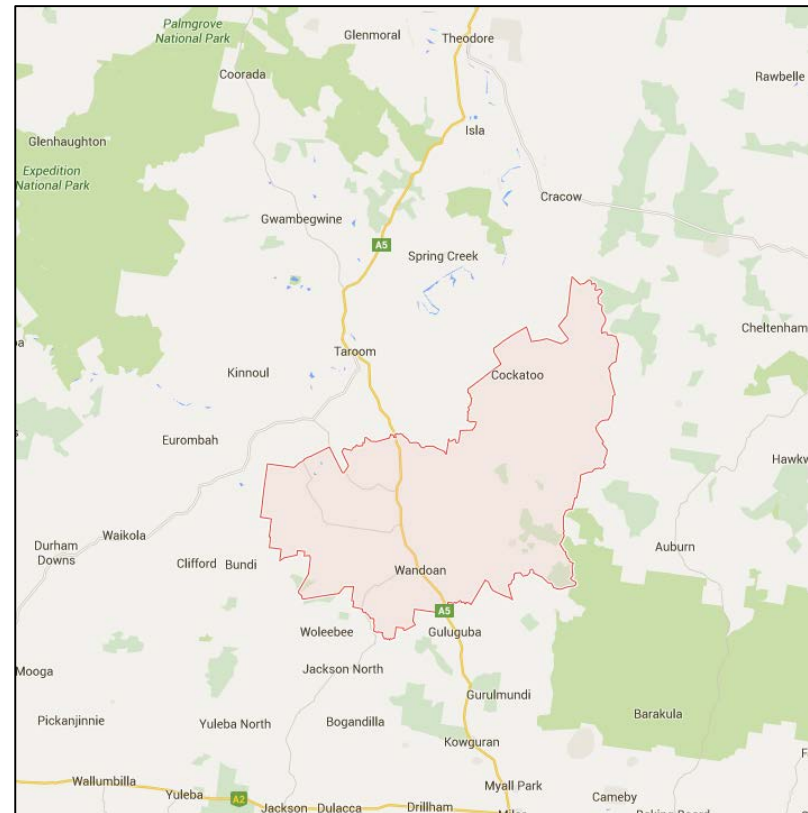
Wandoan UCL Map



Source:

<http://abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/1270.0.55.004July%202011?OpenDocument>

Wandoan postcode boundary 4419

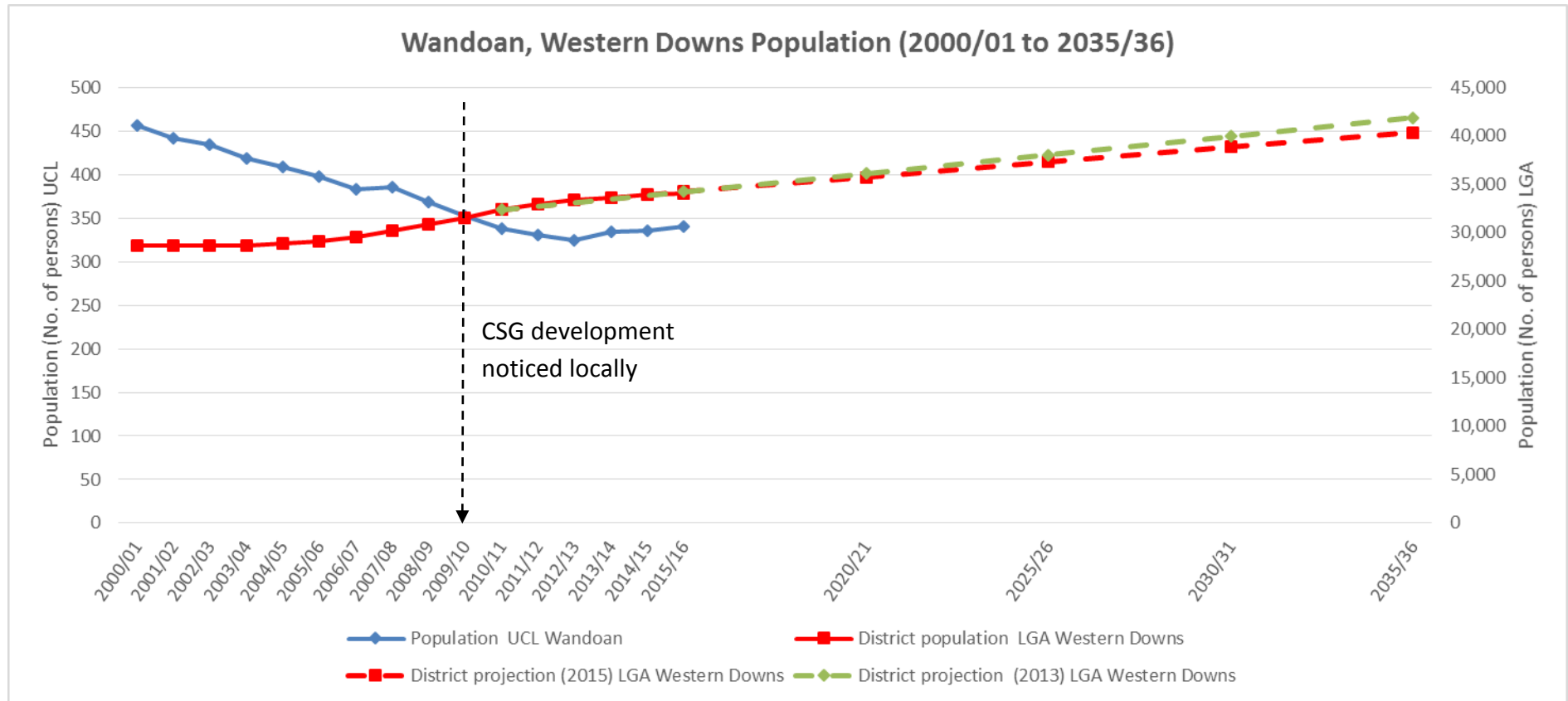


Source:

<https://www.google.com.au/maps/place/Queensland+4419/@-25.8724928,149.444575,9z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m2!3m1!1s0x6bbf2fe593daa4d3:0x1c00eef4d3091470>

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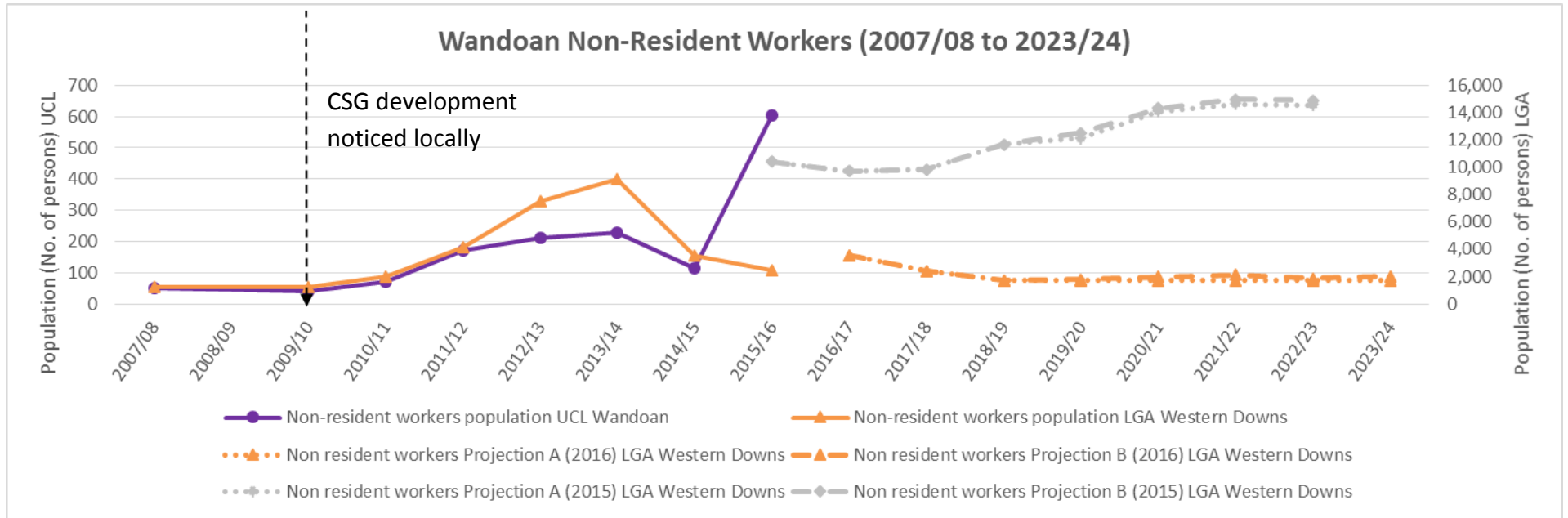


Data sources

- Population projections by LGA (2015 edition) from QGSO table 'Projected population (medium series), by local government area, Queensland, 2011 to 2036', Source: Qld Government population projections, 2015 edition; ABS Regional population growth, Australia 2013-14' (ASGC 2001) <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/subjects/demography/population-projections/tables/proj-pop-lga-qld/index.php>
- Population projections by LGA (2013 edition) from archived QGSO table 'Projected population (medium series), by local government area, Queensland, 2011 to 2036', Source: Qld Government (2014), Population projections by LGA, 2013 edition' (ASGC 2001)
- Population and non resident workers population estimates (LGA and UCLs) from the QGSO 'Surat Basin Population Report, 2016' (ASGC 2016), <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/products/reports/surat-basin-pop-report/surat-basin-pop-report-2016.pdf>



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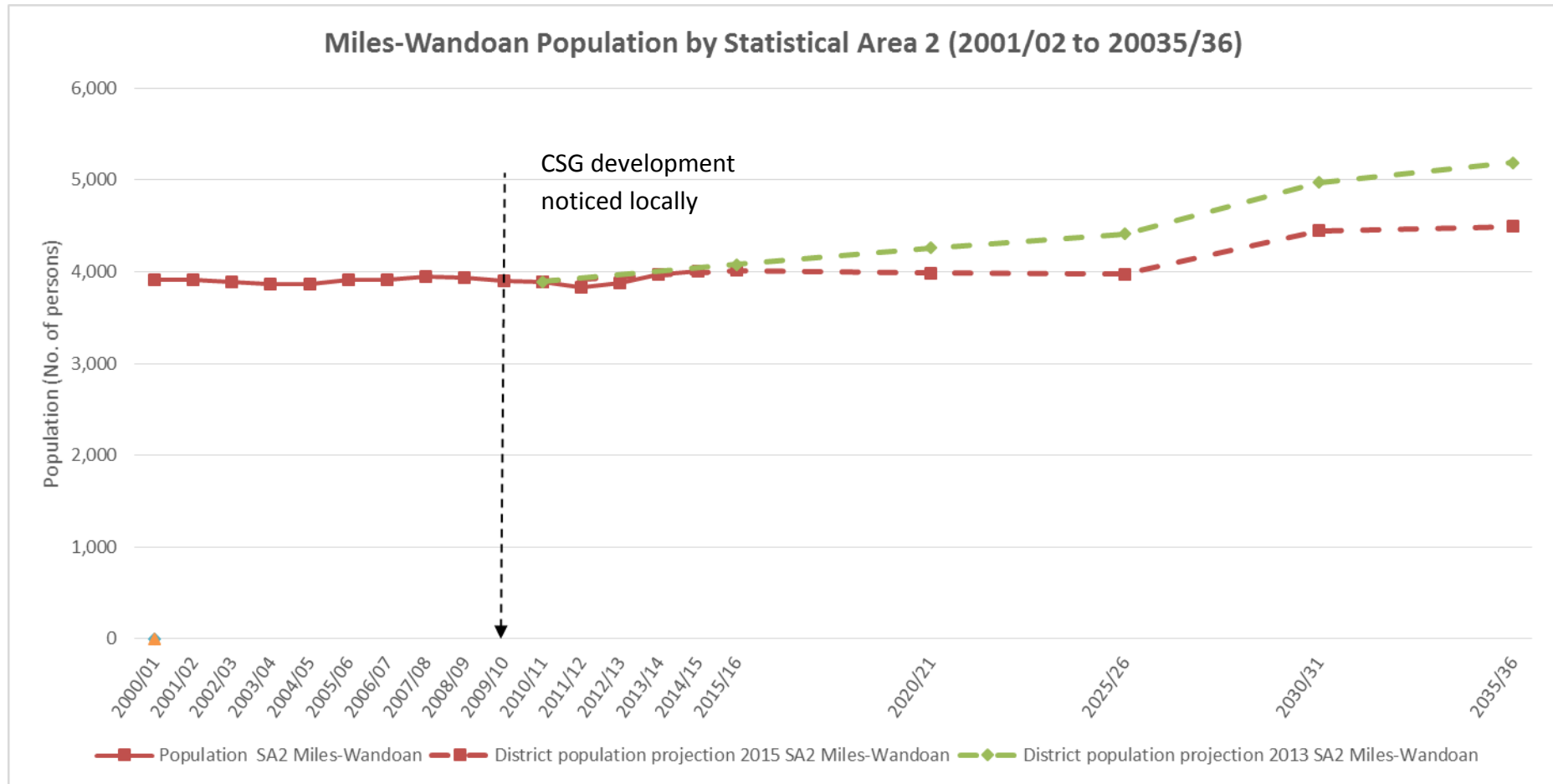


Data sources

- Population and non resident workers population estimates (LGA and UCLs) from the QGSO 'Surat Basin Population Report, 2016', <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/products/reports/surat-basin-pop-report/surat-basin-pop-report-2016.pdf>
- Non resident workers projections (2016) by LGA from QGSO table 'Surat Basin: Non-resident population projections, by local government area (LGA), 2016 to 2022', <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/subjects/demography/population-projections/tables/surat-basin-non-resident-pop-proj-lga/index.php>
- Non resident workers projections (2014) by LGA from QGSO report 'Surat Basin non-resident population projections: 2015 to 2021', <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/products/reports/surat-basin-non-resident-pop-proj/surat-basin-non-resident-pop-proj-2015-2021.pdf>

Notes about Non resident workers projections (2016) by LGA

- The projection series are largely based on the status of projects in the environmental impact statement (EIS) process at the time of preparation (March 2016). The projections also include some projects outside the approvals process.
- Series A projection is based on the number of non-resident workers on-shift who were engaged in existing resource operations and associated infrastructure activities in the area at June 2015. The projection takes into account future changes to those operational workforces as advised by resource company sources, as well as the estimated non-resident construction and operational workforces of Category A projects (i.e. those that had reached final investment decision (FID)) at the time of preparation.
- Series B projection includes the Series A projection plus projected growth in the non-resident population arising from Category B projects (those that have an EIS approved but have yet to reach FID).

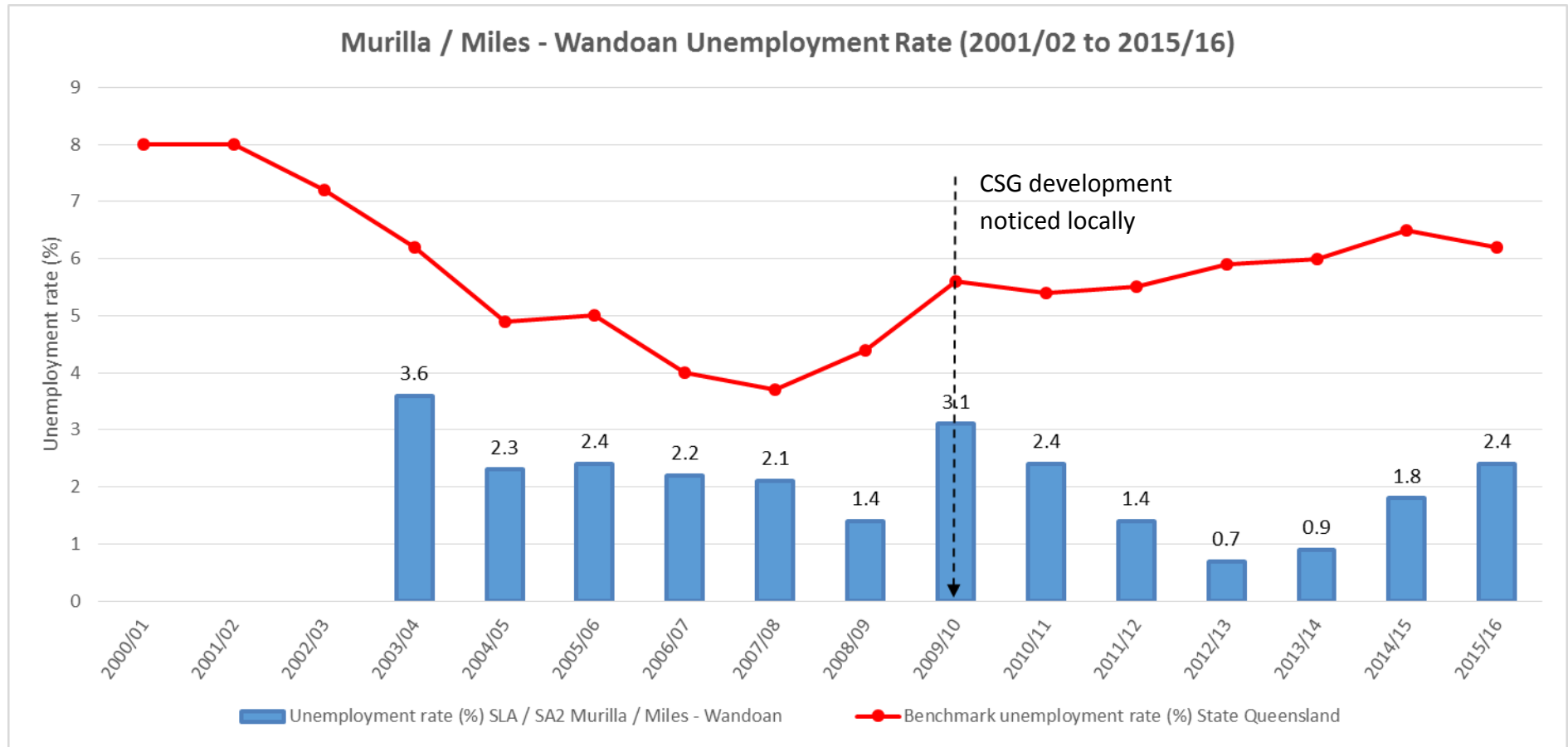


Data sources

- Population estimates (SA2) from QGSO table 'Estimated resident population by statistical area level 2 (SA2), Queensland, 2005 to 2015p'
- <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/subjects/demography/population-estimates/tables/erp-sa2-qld/index.php>
- District population projection (2015) by SA2 from QGSO table 'Projected population (medium series), by statistical area level 2 (SA2), SA3 and SA4, Queensland, 2011 to 2036'
- <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/subjects/demography/population-projections/tables/proj-pop-medium-series-sa2-sa3-sa4-qld/index.php>
- District population projection (2014) by SA2 from archived QGSO table 'Projected population (medium series), by statistical area level 2 (SA2), SA3 and SA4, Queensland, 2011 to 2036'

## Data & Perceptions about Population

- **History and trend:** Population declining from 2001, by approx. 20% until 2012/13. Since then, small but sustained increases. Largest population declines between 2008 and 2010. In contrast to the broader Western Downs LGA, Wandoan's population maintained a steady decline for more than a decade.
- **Change:** Trend of decline reversed 2012/13, but is steady around 340 (approx. 2008/09 level). Steady increase of non-resident workers (NRWs) since 2009/10, with an initial peak in 2013/14 at more than 1 NRW to 2 Wandoan residents. In 2015/16, increased CSG activity in the area bring an influx of NRWs; an unprecedented high with almost twice as many NRWs as Wandoan residents.
- **Perceived Change:** The Wandoan community was impacted by the loss of 6 landholding families whose 35 rural properties were bought by resource companies, on top of the impacts of general population decline. Disappointment that expected benefits in terms of employment, incomes, business opportunities from the proposed Xstrata/Glencore coal mine, did not eventuate. Expected benefits from CSG also disappointing to some. Wandoan residents pleased to see more CSG activity but hope to see long term benefits for their community.
- **Expectations:** The population of Wandoan expected to decline further, unless growth as a result of resource development will occur. There are concerns about local businesses closing, groundwater, weeds, traffic on roads and neglected empty housing.
- **Implications for the next project/stage:** Industry is needed to drive growth in Wandoan – CSG industry and/or government funding for tourism, community events and services is sought to develop future options.
- **Community Recommendations:** NRWs encouraged to stay and spend locally. e.g., at the Wandoan accommodation park. CSG and coal industries provide business opportunities and employment to locals. Funding for community projects involving local business and labour are also recommended; e.g., funding sporting teams, sports facility upgrades and health services.
- **2017 Update:** Population could remain low or decrease further if benefits from nearby resource development do not materialise in town; e.g., NRWs living in camps outside the town continues. Large increase of CSG NRWs and, as of May 2017, Glencore's \$6 billion Wandoan thermal coal project may also move forward, further influx of NRWs likely; need to coordinate between various resource developers and council to avoid another 'boom'/'bust' cycle.

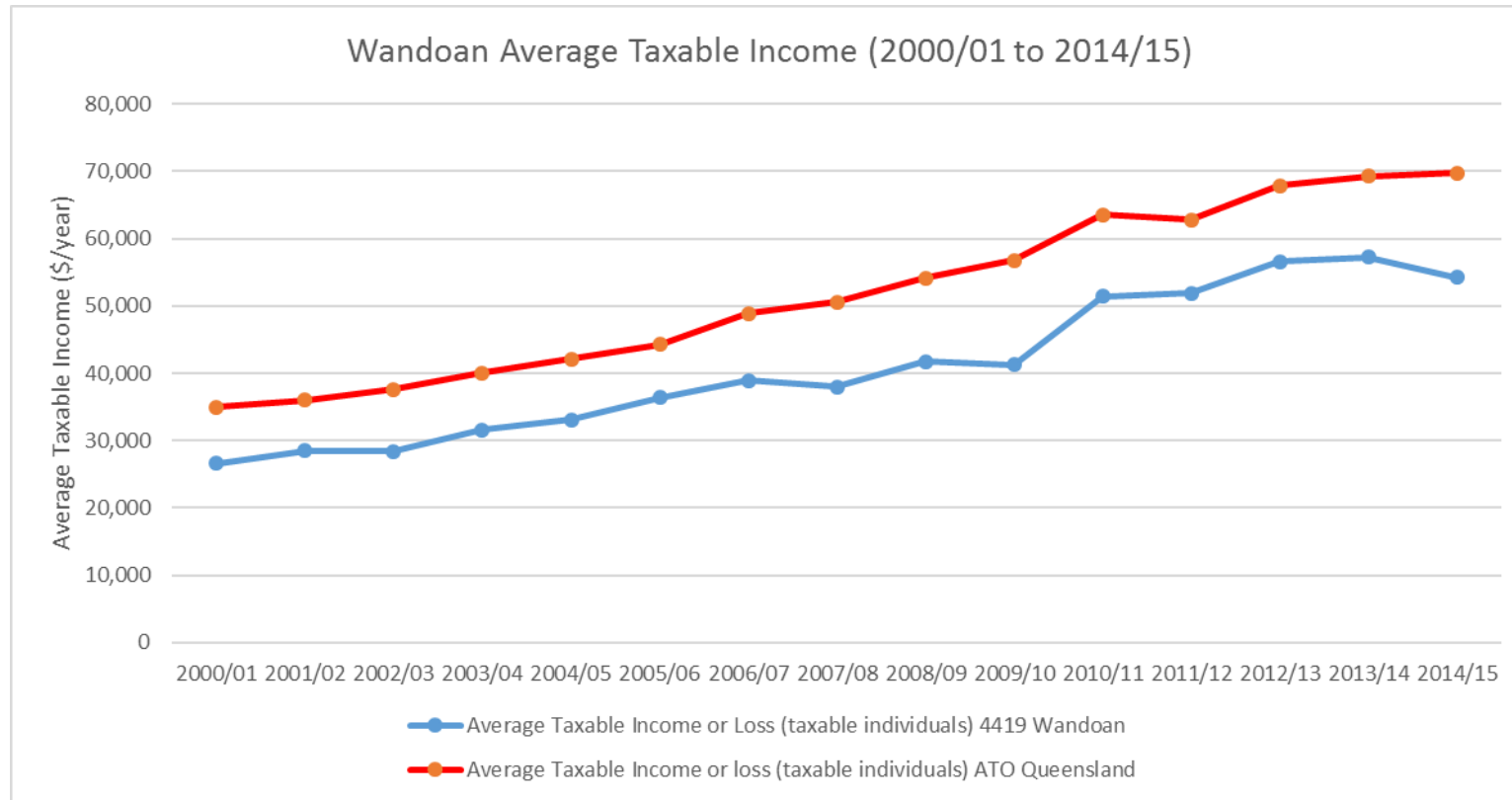


Data sources

- Jun2003-Jun2008 SLA from QGSO Regional Database Archived dataset 'Labour Force - Small Area (Qtr Ended 31 Dec 2002 to Qtr Ended 31 Dec 2008) [DEEWR, Small Area Labour Markets Australia] (ASGC 2001)', <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/products/tables/qld-regional-database/index.php>
- Jun2009-Jun2010 from DEEWR file 'Unemployment salm\_data\_files\_2008-2013'
- Jun2010-Jun2016 SA2 from QGSO Regional Database dataset 'Labour Force - Small Area (Qtr Ended 31 Dec 2010 to Qtr Ended 30 Sep 2016) [Department of Employment, Small Area Labour Markets Australia] (ASGS 2016)', <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/products/tables/qld-regional-database/index.php>

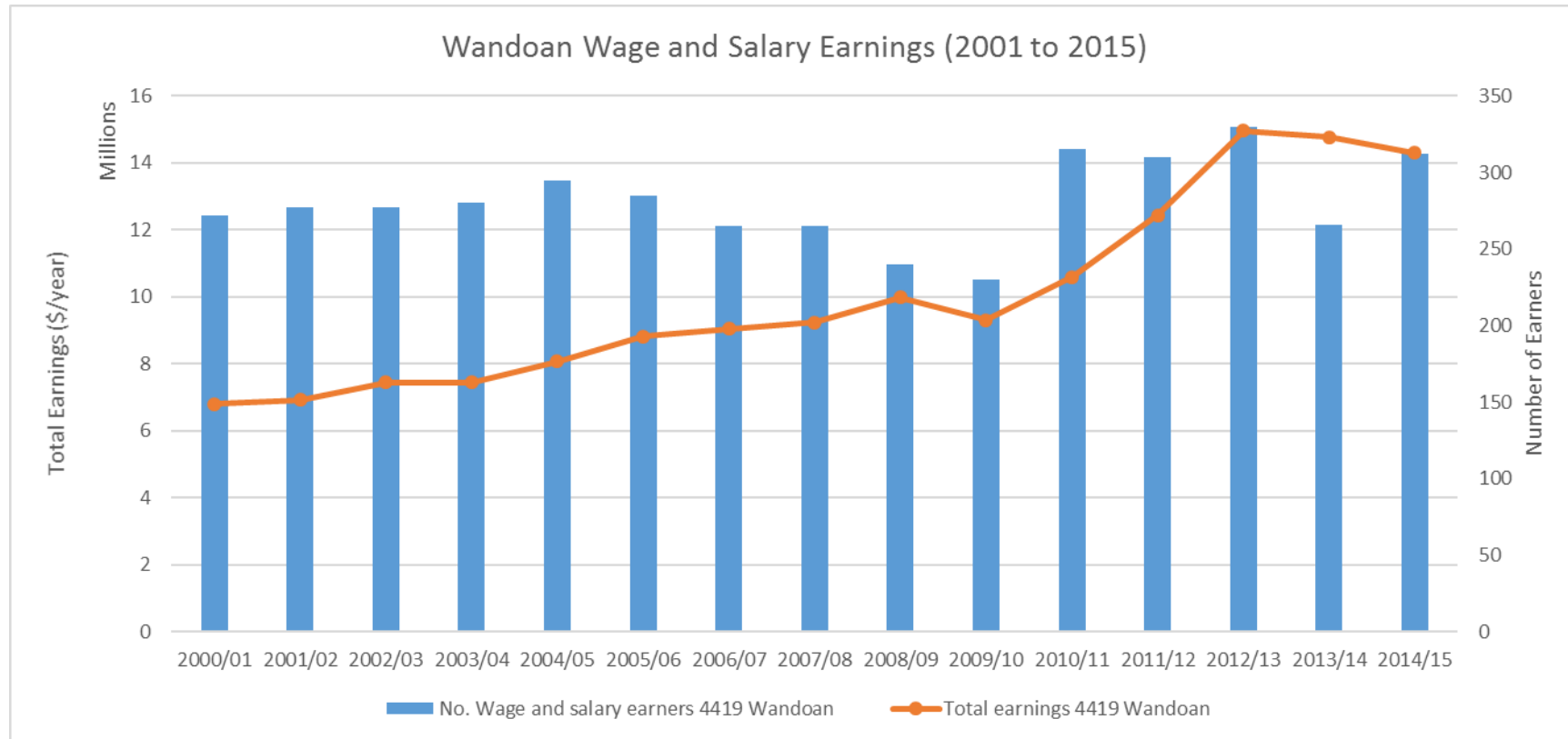
## Data & perceptions about Employment

- **History and trend:** Very low unemployment rate. Unemployment rate in the Murilla/Miles district, which includes Wandoan, historically around half the Queensland rate.
- **Change:** Unemployment decreased from 2009/10 when CSG was first noticed locally, suggesting local employment benefits. Unemployment fell to below 1% during peak of CSG construction phase from 2012-2014. Since then, increasing again to 2.4% in 2015/16, which is comparable to pre-CSG levels.
- **Conclusion:** Although Wandoan's unemployment rate fluctuates with small population, the unemployment rate decreased during the CSG construction period. The employment benefits appear to be temporary as the unemployment rate increased again following the end of construction.
- **2017 Update:** Increasing unemployment rate in Wandoan is in line with Western Downs as a whole. However, increased CSG activity and potential coal projects may lead to new local employment opportunities that may impact local unemployment rates.



- Original data - No discounting applied
- Source: ATO 'Average taxable income of individuals, for selected Queensland postcodes, 2000–01 to 2014-15 income years' Australian Taxation Office, Research and Statistics (<https://www.ato.gov.au/>)
- All statistics for 'Taxable individuals only' were sourced from the relevant years' Taxation statistics publication, and therefore include individual income tax returns processed by 31 October of the year after the end of the income year. For example, the 2014-15 statistics include data up to 31 October 2016.

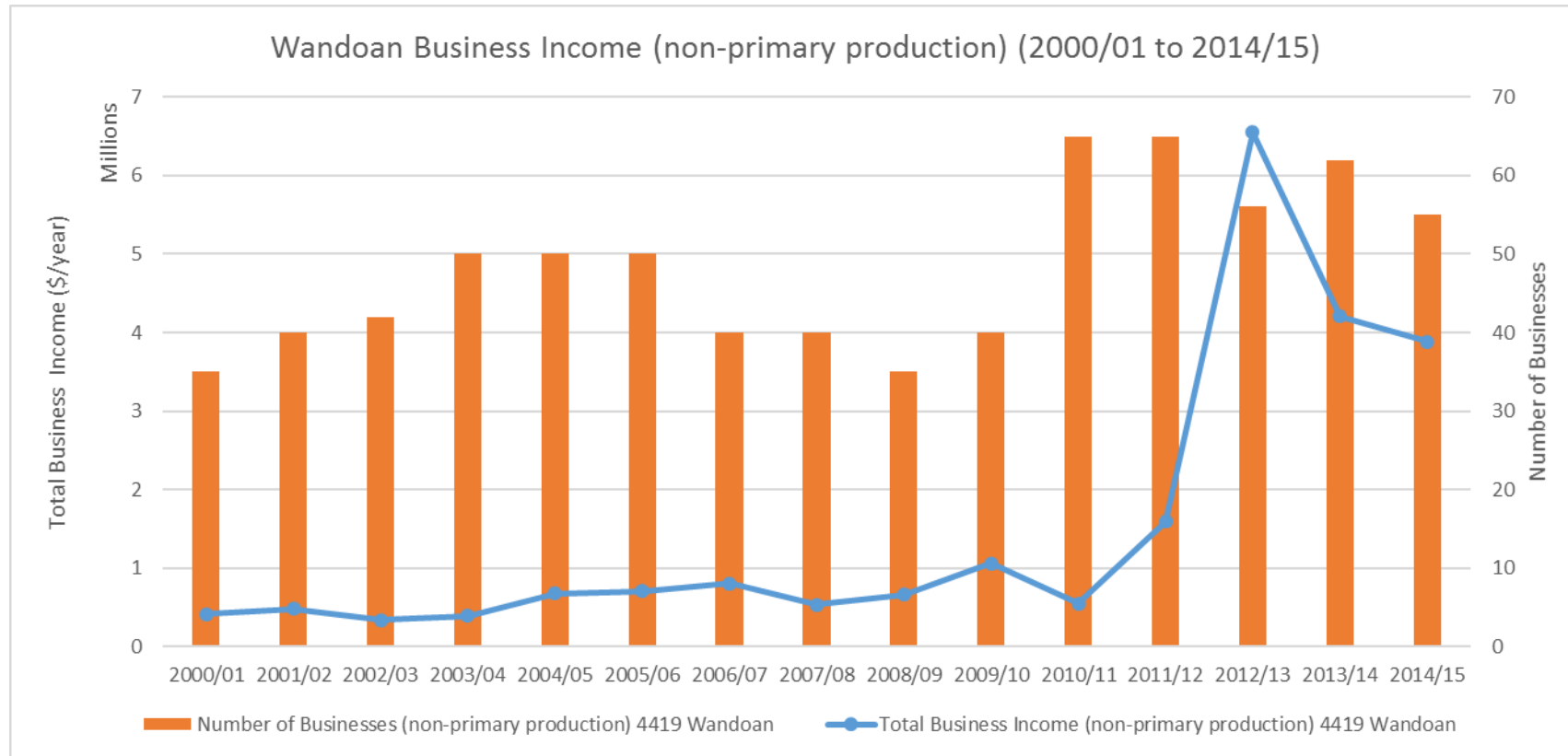
UQ Research Project: Cumulative socio-economic impacts of CSG development in Western Downs



- Original data - No discounting applied
- Sources: Australian Taxation Office, Research and Statistics (<https://www.ato.gov.au/>)

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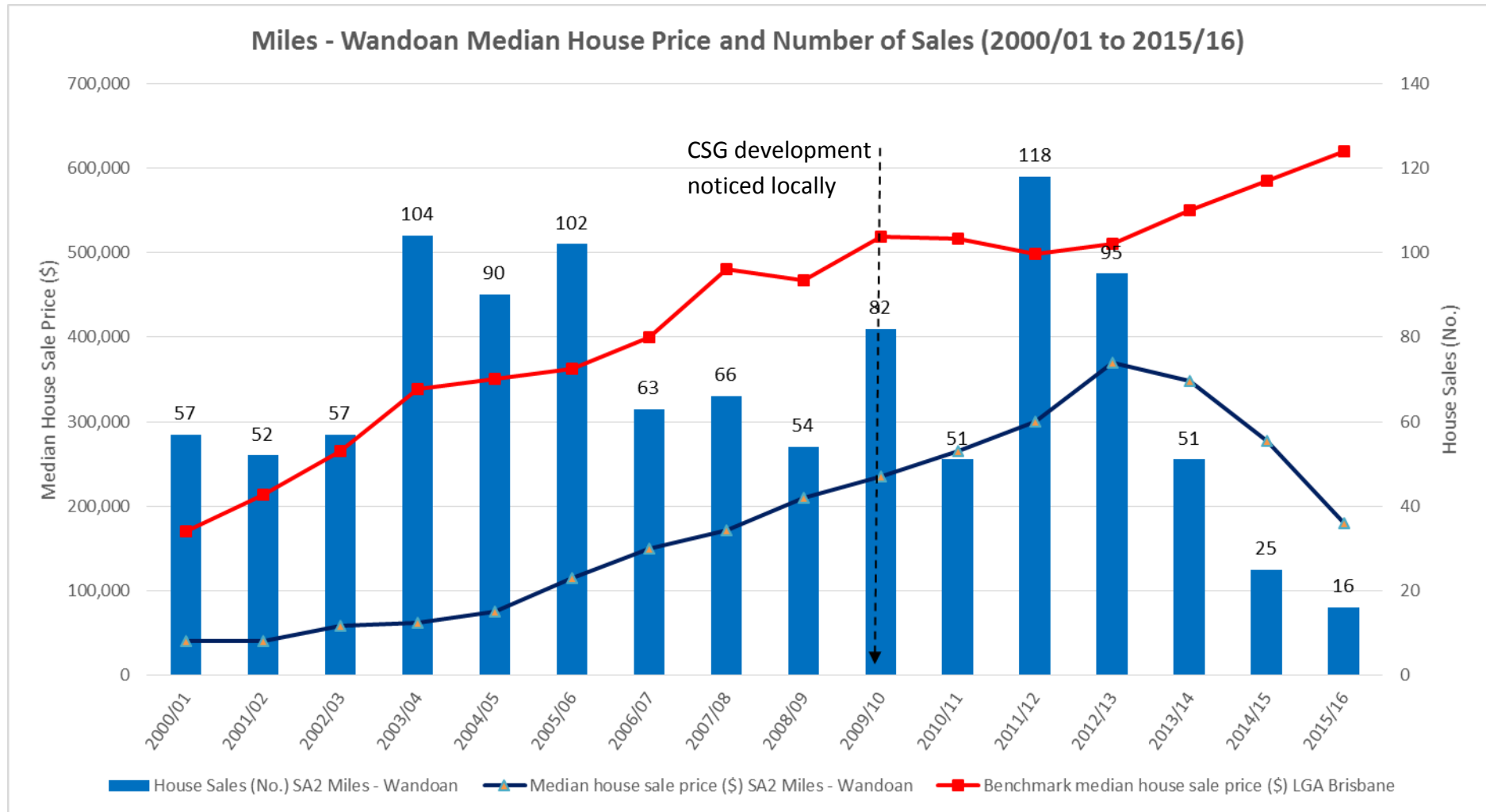


- Original data - No discounting applied
- Sources: Australian Taxation Office, Research and Statistics (<https://www.ato.gov.au/>)



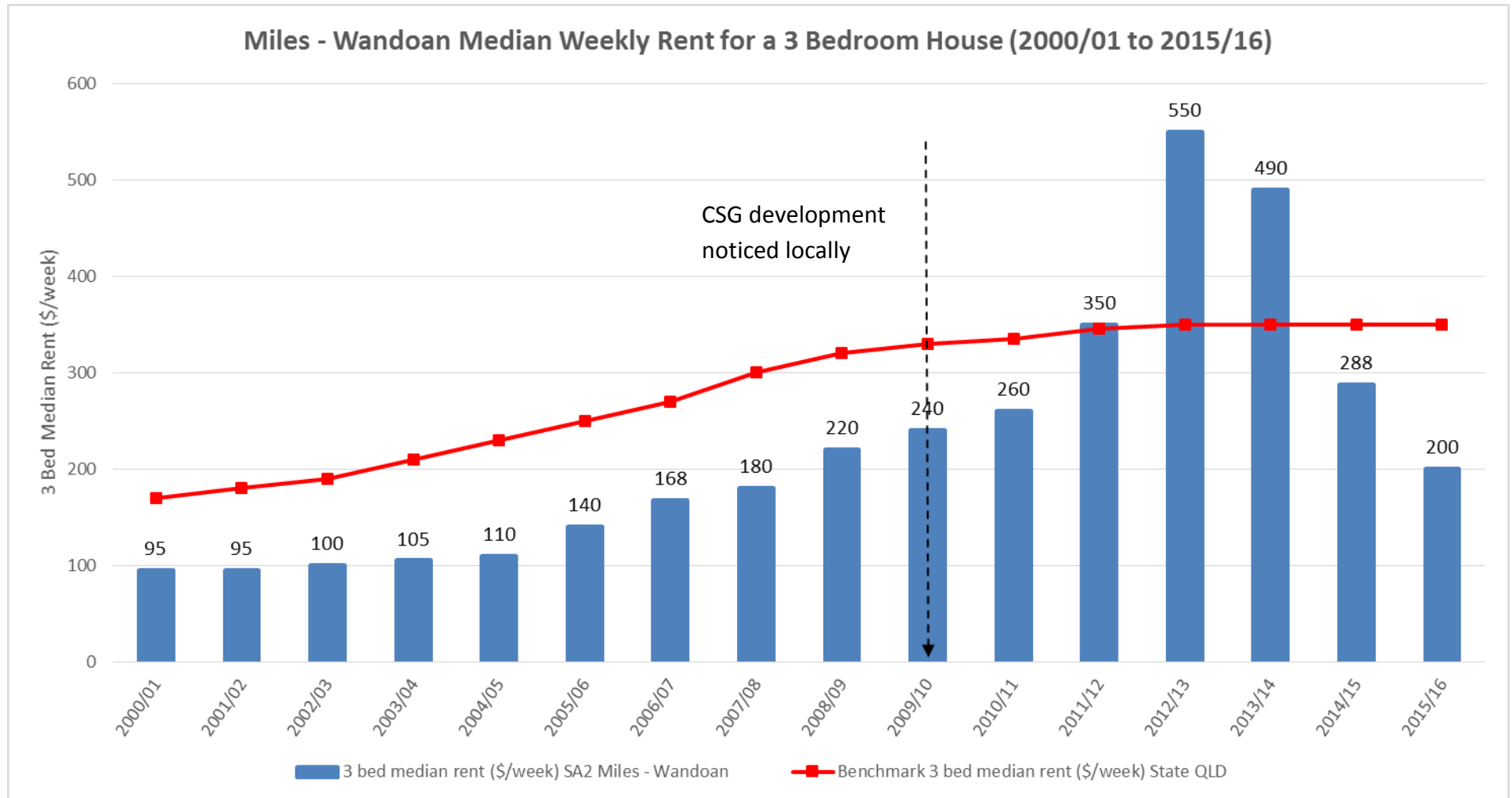
## Data & Perceptions about income

- **History and trend:** Wandoan's average taxable income historically below Queensland average. Averages fluctuate more than the Queensland average, possibly with seasonal variations in agriculture as the dominant industry, but Wandoan's average income increases along with the Queensland average. Around 40 non-primary production businesses earn a combined income of around \$600,000 annually.
- **Change:** In 2010-11 and 2012-13 Wandoan's average income rose sharply as did the number of wage earners. Income growth slowed as employment fell with completion of CSG construction phase. Business incomes increased sharply from 2010-11, peaking in 2012-13 then declining. In 2014/15, remain at 4.5 times the pre-CSG average business income.
- **Perceived change:** Wages have grown with the CSG boom but are more likely to be industry workers new to the area. New businesses started up in anticipation of CSG contracts but folded as contracts did not emerge and the industry slowed. No visible effects of increased wealth in the community.
- **Expectations:** In 2016, personal incomes are expected to fall. Business incomes may remain the same, but total figures do not reflect the distribution of benefits between all businesses. Concern that workers who arrived with the CSG industry will depart again as the project advances.
- **Conclusion:** The number of earners and businesses, and total income and business income increased significantly from 2010/11, when CSG construction and flood reconstruction commenced. Since 2011, average wage and salary incomes have increased although the average taxable income remains lower than Queensland average. Business incomes remain at 4.5 times pre-CSG levels.
- **Community recommendations:** CSG industry to provide more opportunities to local businesses and workers. This would be enhanced by accommodating more CSG workers in town; but, only to a number that is sustainable long term, otherwise potential for housing over-supply post-construction (see below).
- **2017 update:** Average personal incomes have declined. The total amount earned in wages has declined slightly but remains higher than pre-CSG amount. The number of wage earners also increased again in 2014/15, suggesting jobs have been created (as unemployment is also increasing). Business incomes appear to be levelling off at around 4.5 times previous levels.



Data sources

- Median house sale price and hose sales from QGSO Regional Database dataset 'Residential land and dwelling sales (Year Ended 30 Sep 2000 to Year Ended 30 Jun 2016) [DNRM] (ASGS 2016)', <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/products/tables/qld-regional-database/index.php>



Data sources

- 3 Bed Median rent from QGSO Regional Database dataset 'Median rent (Year Ended 30 Sep 1990 to Year Ended 31 Dec 2016) [RTA] (ASGS 2011)', <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/products/tables/qld-regional-database/index.php>

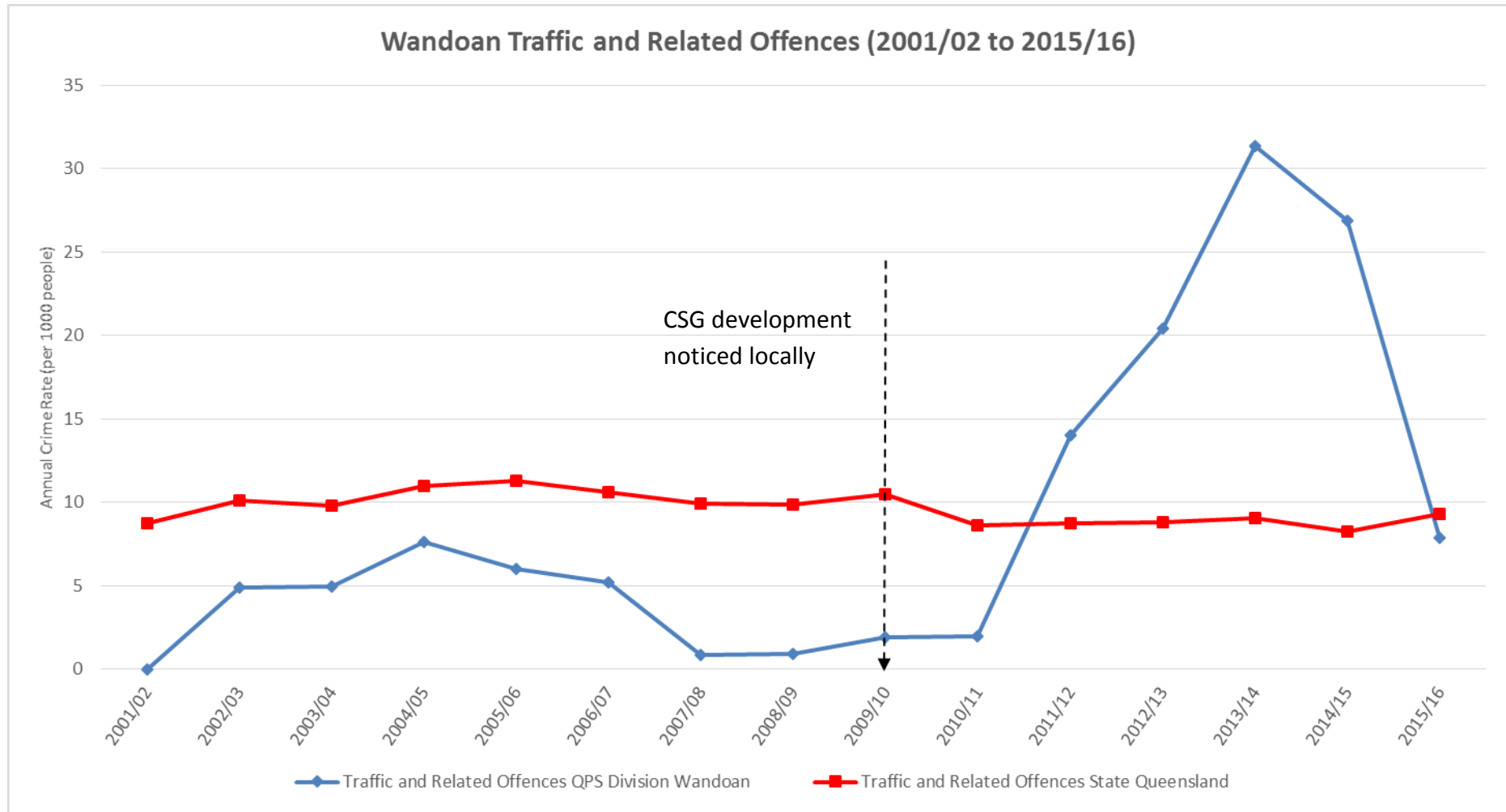


Data sources

- Residential and non-residential building approvals from QGSO Regional database dataset 'Building Approvals (Jul 2001 to Dec 2016) [ABS 8731.0] (ASGS 2016)', <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/products/tables/qld-regional-database/index.php>

## Data & Perceptions about Housing

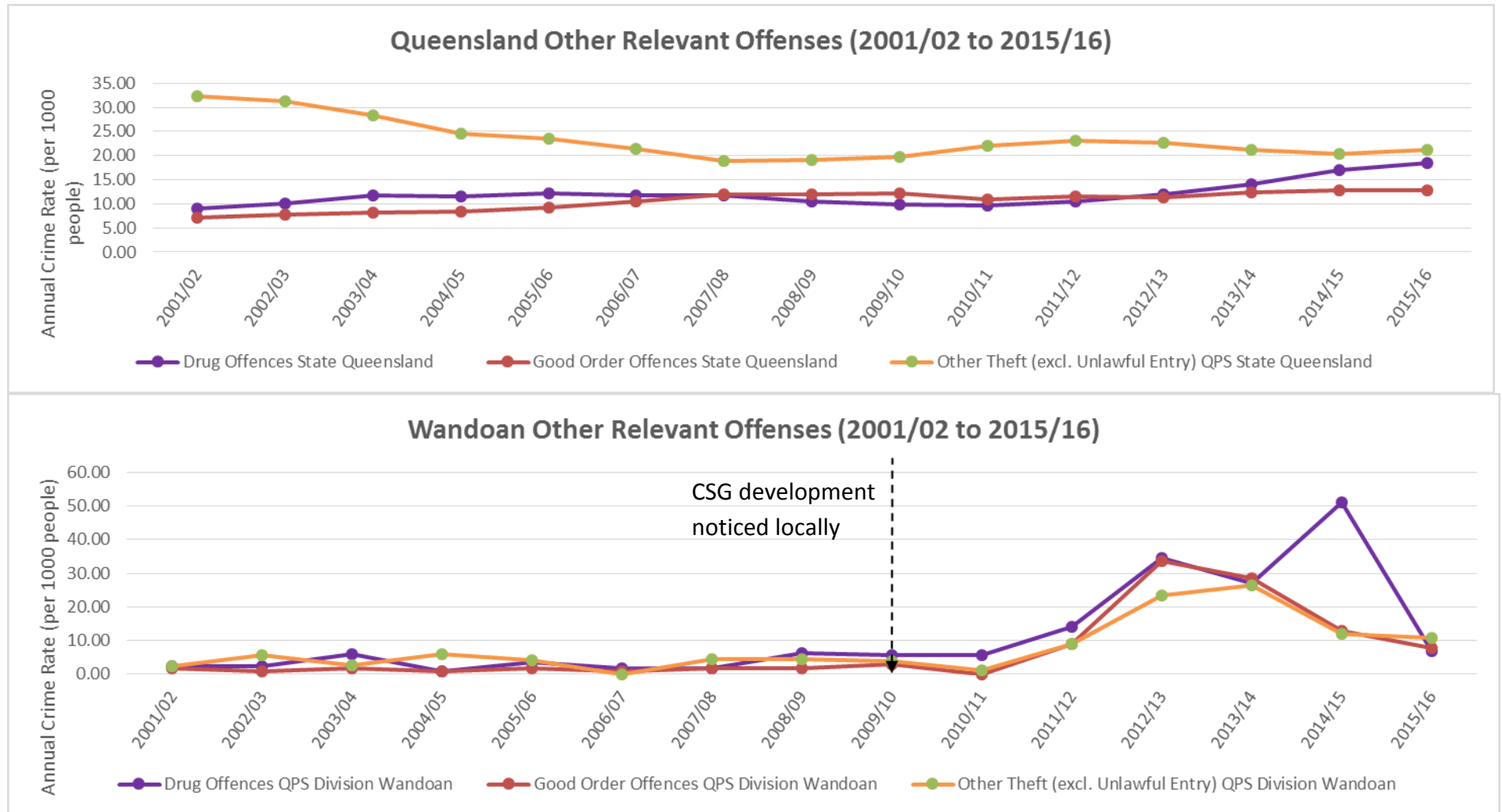
- **History and trend:** Wandoan rents much lower than Queensland rents until 2011. From 2012 to 2014 rents in Wandoan were higher than the Queensland median until falling sharply in 2015, returning again to below Queensland levels. House prices in Wandoan were increasing at about the same rate as Brisbane house prices until 2012.
- **Change:** A sharp increase in rents in 2012 with a peak in 2013 at 60% higher than the Qld median. House prices also increased in 2013 with the number of sales more than doubling from 2010 to 2012 and remaining high in 2013. Since 2013, demand dropped and house prices fell dramatically. At the same time, new housing approvals increased. Rents increased sharply in 2012/13 to well above the Qld median. Since peaking around 2013, rents, sale numbers and house prices have all fallen sharply.
- **Perceived change:** Construction of new duplexes and hotels were “too late to benefit fully from the boom”. Now an excess of accommodation exists and the resident population is still declining.
- **Expectations:** Rents and housing prices will remain at affordable levels without much expected change in demand or prices as CSG and coal activity increases. If the NRWs can be housed in the empty accommodation in towns and not in the workers’ camps, benefits will accrue.
- **Conclusion:** Rents in Wandoan increased more significantly than house prices, in 2013 and 2014. Both house prices and rents have dropped to prices equivalent to 2008 prices. Now, the number of vacant houses is a significant concern.
- **Implications for next project/stage:** Managing extreme rent and house price increases that price locals out of the area. Concerns about empty houses deteriorating due to lack of maintenance and absentee owners.
- **Community recommendations:** More CSG workers to be located in the accommodation park preferably, leaving lower priced houses and rentals for locals. Concerns about how to attract new industry and residents to the area; need for diversification to increase community’s ability to ‘absorb’ resource industries’ boom/bust cycles.
- **2017 update:** House prices and sales have fallen significantly since 2014, falling again in 2016. Rents also continue to decrease sharply. Further CSG or coal activity may lead to some recovering of sale prices and rent, but excess of new housing will soak up any demand. Vacant properties continue to be a concern.



Data sources

- Crime data rates (per month per 100,000 people) obtained by Queensland Police Service (QPS) Division and Queensland State , <https://www.police.qld.gov.au/online/data/>
- Data was adjusted to be presented as annual data per 1000 people

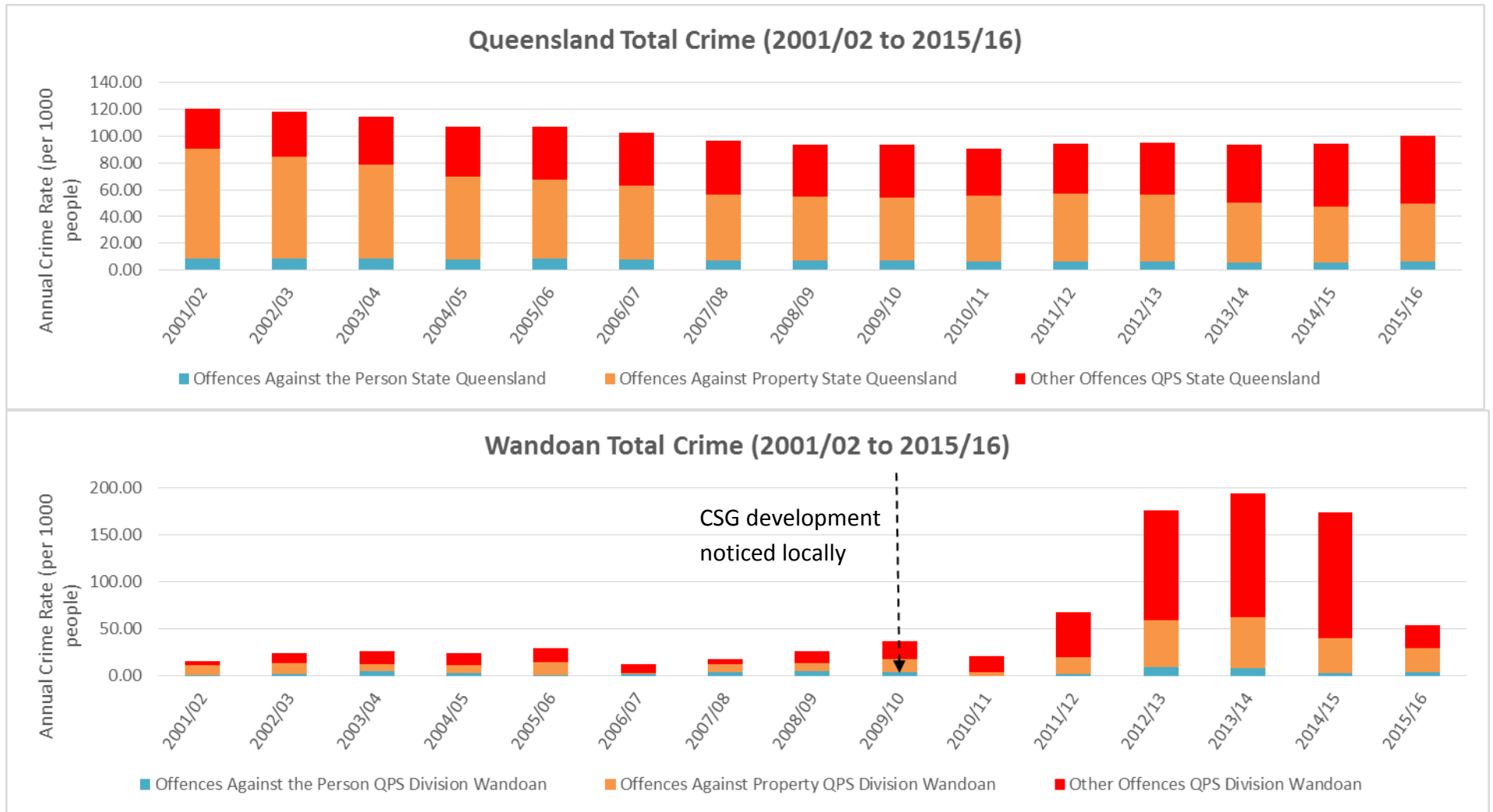
UQ Research Project: Cumulative socio-economic impacts of CSG development in Western Downs



Data sources

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Data sources

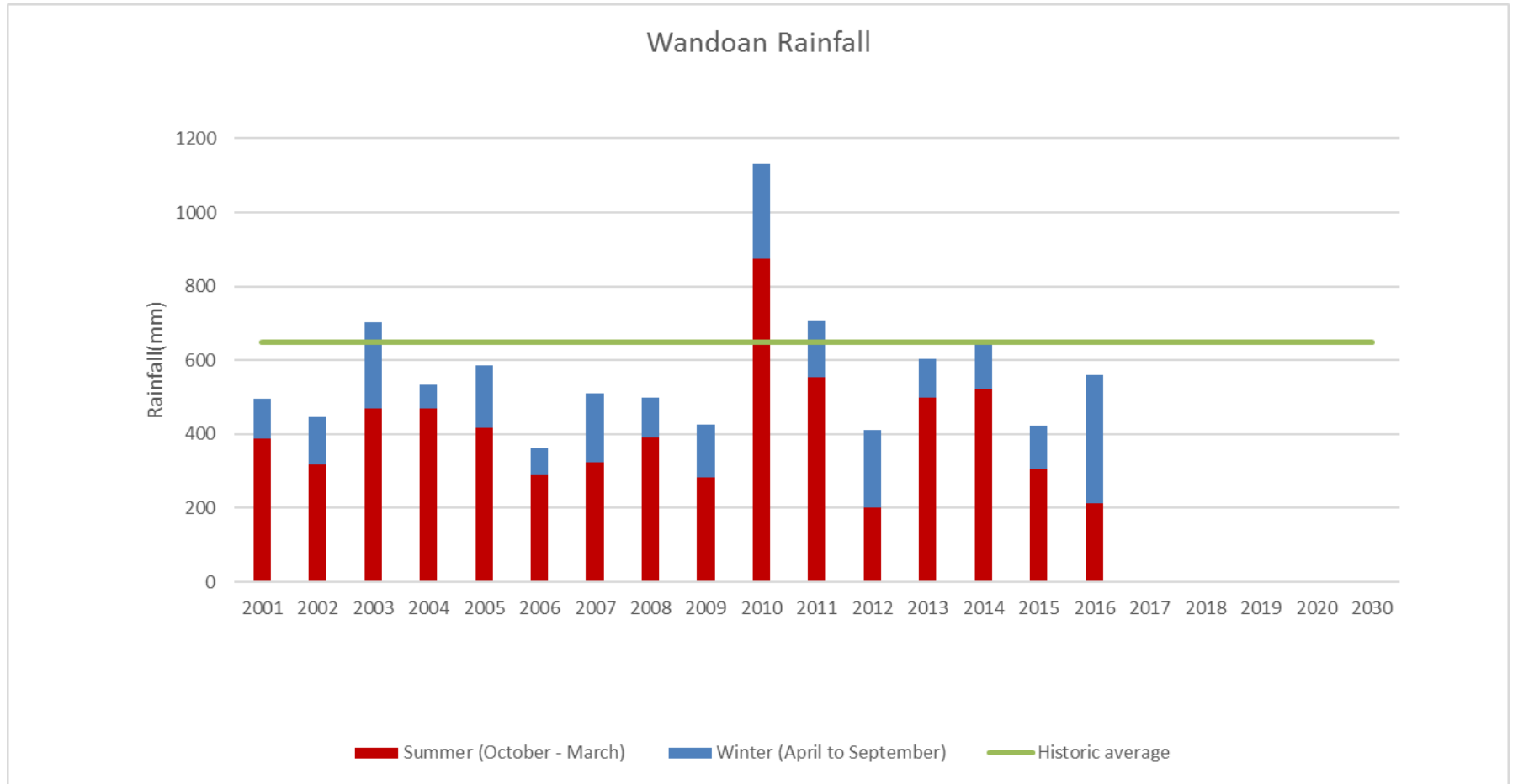
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This information has been compiled for use in consultation with the Wandoan community



## Data & Perceptions about Safety & Wellbeing

- **History and trend:** In line with Western Downs as a whole, most offences and their total number in Wandoan well below Queensland averages in 2000s.
- **Change:** Significant increase in various offences and total number since 2010/11. Traffic offences in Wandoan have varied until a sharp increase in 2010 reaching a peak in 2013/14, at a rate significantly higher than Queensland's; significant decline to approx. state average in 2015/16. Theft, drug and good order offences vary historically, but they are generally steady until a sharp increase in 2011 (with Wandoan at much higher rates of both and very much higher than the QLD averages). Good order offences and theft peaked in 2013-2014, while drug offences peaked once more in 2014/15 to well above Queensland average; but sharp decline in 2015/16. Total offences in Wandoan declined from 2002 to a trough in 2006. They then had an increasing trend until a sharp rise from 2011. Total offences peaked in 2013/14 at a rate much higher than the Queensland rate, but fell until 2015/16 to half the state's average; still at approx. double the historical trend for Wandoan
- **Perceived change:** Increased traffic from CSG activity coupled with local roads not built for the volume of traffic exacerbated the number of traffic offences. The change in policing strategy led to higher vigilance and detection of traffic and drug offences during this period.
- **Expectations:** Traffic is expected to rise in the outer areas near CSG camps, Charlie project (Woleebee). Road improvements to this area (Bundi road) are expected to reduce the number of traffic related instances. Increasing CSG activity from new project/expansions and coal activity may lead to rising number of offences although no problems expected.
- **Conclusion:** Rates of offences have varied, though major increases were seen after 2010 in traffic, drug, and good order offences. Most offences and total number peaked in the period 2012-2015; similar to trend across the Western Downs.
- **Community recommendations:** Continued police presence on roads and around hotels where other offences occur with increased CSG workers. Some other local roads used by CSG traffic could benefit from CSG funds.
- **2017 update:** The overall crime rate decreased substantially in 2016. Almost to pre-CSG low levels.



Data Source: Bureau of Meteorology Climate Data online <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/idx/>

## ***Wandoan Alignment of 'visions'***

UQ Research Project: Cumulative socio-economic impacts of CSG development in Western Downs

Category / Study ->	Chamber	WDRC	CSIRO Not Wandoan specifically	UQ Not Wandoan specifically
<b>Population</b>	Doubling in size	2% av growth p.a. 2010-2031	---	No specific findings for Wandoan
<b>Wellbeing</b>	Volunteering Families	---	Community spirit, social fabric, respect & integration	Greater certainty
<b>Housing</b>	Sustainable property market	Strong demand for rural lifestyle	Affordability	More housing
<b>Employment</b>	Maximising growth	---	Opportunities	'Have-nots' benefit too
<b>Business</b>	Tourism gateway, vibrant retail Resource sector service centre		Sustainability	Distribution of benefits from resources
<b>Educ./Training</b>	Youth entrepreneurs, families	---	Skills, training opportunities and labour migration to resource industry	Skilled immigration
<b>Governance</b>	Adaptable planning scheme Community champions improved services	---	Collaboration, handle rapid change	Reduced social divisions, improved services