



Gender & Disaster Australia

Mallacoota

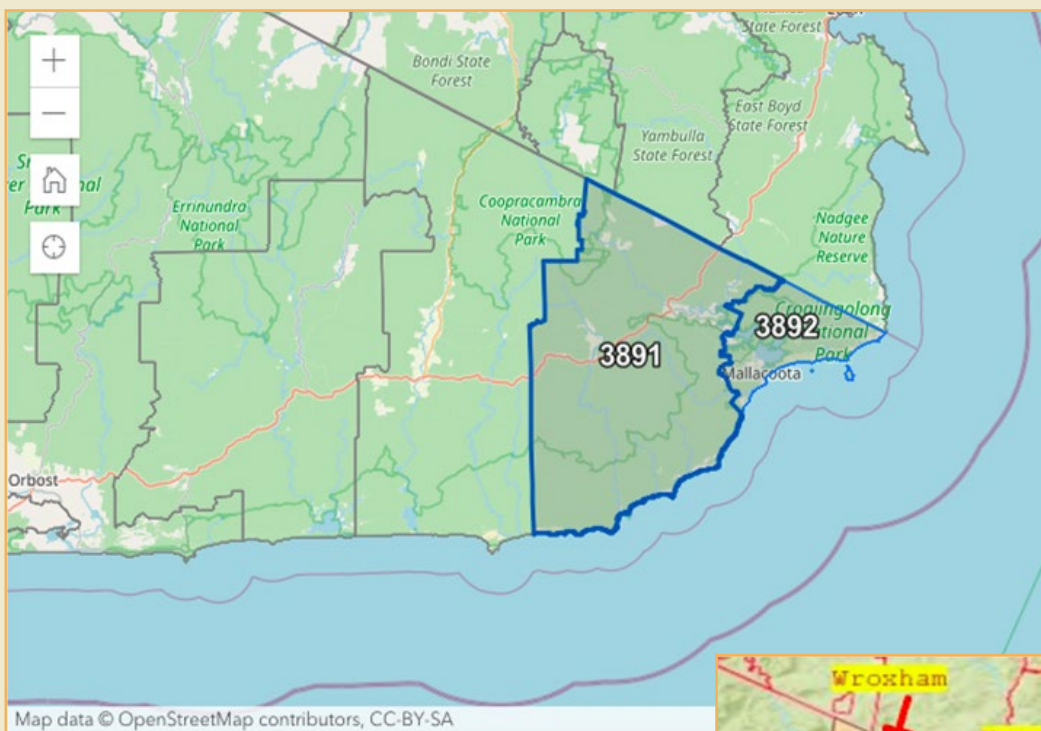
DISASTER CONTEXT

Socio-demographics from
a gendered perspective





Mallacoota



Mallacoota and District State Suburbs (identified by postcodes).
From <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area>

A further map, indicating the names and boundaries of Mallacoota and the District State Suburbs.
From: MADRA's Recovery Plan¹



¹ MADRA (Mallacoota and District Recovery Association Inc) (2022), *Community-led Recovery Plan V2: Ongoing Recovery, Future Resilience*, MADRA Website, Accessed: 20 April 2023, <https://madrecovery.com/madra-resources>



The areas covered by the above maps, and considered in this factsheet, are the Mallacoota and District State Suburbs. The Mallacoota and District State Suburbs were selected because it includes the localities surrounding Mallacoota that were impacted by the Black Summer bushfires. These localities, Genoa, Gipsy Point, Maramingo Creek, Wallagaraugh, Wangarabell,

Wingan River and Wroxham, rely on Mallacoota for most of their socio-economic needs and are also considered by MADRA, (the community-led bushfire recovery group), in their recovery plan. Data cited in this factsheet relate to Mallacoota and District, except where data pertaining to Mallacoota alone or East Gippsland Shire in general are highlighted.

INTRODUCTION

Mallacoota is a small town situated in the East Gippsland Shire Council of Victoria, Australia². It is considered to be the most remote township in Victoria and is the last township before the NSW border on the Eastern coast of Victoria. It is located approximately 6 hours from Melbourne³. The town is located 250km from the East Gippsland LGA Council Hall in Bairnsdale. Geographically, the town is situated on the Mallacoota inlet, with both Genoa and Wallagaraugh Rivers flowing into the inlet. Mallacoota and District is located on parts of the lands of four indigenous nations; Bidwal, Gunnaijurnai, Monero (Ngarigo) and Yuin Country⁴.

Mallacoota is known for its natural beauty and relies on tourism and fishing industries, as the main sources of income⁵. Mallacoota has a population of 1183⁶, and during the

tourist season, it swells to more than 8,000 people⁷. The surrounding townships of Genoa have a population of 66, Gipsy Point 31, and the Maramingo Creek, Wallagaraugh and Wangarabell, Wingan River and Wroxham, all combined have a population of 18 people⁸.

Due to its geography, Mallacoota is prone to flooding⁹. The impacts of floods are often exacerbated due to the isolation of the town. Mallacoota (and Gipsy Point) has one main road that connects the town to the rest of the State, which starts from the Princes Highway (known as the Mallacoota-Genoa Rd)¹⁰.

Mallacoota also has a single line of power supply^{11,12}. During flood events, Mallacoota and Gipsy Point are often cut off from the rest of the State due to the flooding and closure of Princes Highway¹³. Additionally, floods and severe

2 MADRA (Mallacoota and District Recovery Association Inc) (2022), *Community-led Recovery Plan V2: Ongoing Recovery, Future Resilience*, MADRA Website, Accessed: 20 April 2023, <https://madrecovery.com/madra-resources>

3 <https://www.gippslandports.vic.gov.au/ports-and-waterways/ports-and-waterways/mallacoota-inlet/>

4 MADRA (Mallacoota and District Recovery Association Inc) (2022), *Community-led Recovery Plan V2: Ongoing Recovery, Future Resilience*, MADRA Website, Accessed: 20 April 2023, <https://madrecovery.com/madra-resources>

5 MADRA (Mallacoota and District Recovery Association Inc) (2022), *Community-led Recovery Plan V2: Ongoing Recovery, Future Resilience*, MADRA Website, Accessed: 20 April 2023, <https://madrecovery.com/madra-resources>

6 <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/SAL21584>

7 <https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/resources/ajem-october-2022-community-led-disaster-recovery-mallacoota-victoria/>

8 MADRA (Mallacoota and District Recovery Association Inc) (2022), *Community-led Recovery Plan V2: Ongoing Recovery, Future Resilience*, MADRA Website, Accessed: 20 April 2023, <https://madrecovery.com/madra-resources>

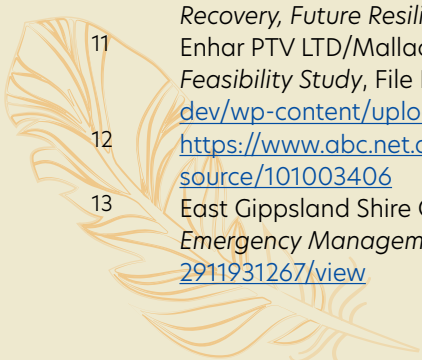
9 East Gippsland Shire Council (2012), *East Gippsland Shire Flood Emergency Plan: A Sub-plan of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan*, Version 1, Trove Website, Accessed: 15 April 2023 <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-2911931267/view>

10 MADRA (Mallacoota and District Recovery Association Inc) (2022), *Community-led Recovery Plan V2: Ongoing Recovery, Future Resilience*, MADRA Website, Accessed: 20 April 2023, <https://madrecovery.com/madra-resources>

11 Enhar PTV LTD/Mallacoota Sustainable Energy Working Group (2013), *Sustainable Energy for Mallacoota Feasibility Study*, File Reference: P1331-C001-010, Enhar Website, Accessed: 1 May 2023, <https://www.chirf.org.au/dev/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Mallacoota-Energy-Sustainability-Report-2013.pdf>

12 <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-04-23/mallacoota-energy-group-reliable-renewable-power-source/101003406>

13 East Gippsland Shire Council (2012), *East Gippsland Shire Flood Emergency Plan: A Sub-plan of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan*, Version 1, Trove Website, Accessed: 15 April 2023 <https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-2911931267/view>





weather events regularly cause power outages. The issue of accessibility and power have been highlighted as major concerns for the town and the repeated flood events have highlighted the importance of emergency preparedness and response in Mallacoota and the surrounding Districts¹⁴.

However, the most recent disaster that impacted Mallacoota was the Australian summer of 2019-2020¹⁵. This event occurred at peak tourist time and the population swelled, resulting in around 4,000 people (approximately 3000 tourists) sheltering on the foreshore, as fire encircled the town¹⁶. 83% of the land area was burnt and 123 homes, businesses (such as the abalone factory which provided employment for the locals), and wildlife habitats were destroyed which had a significant impact on the local community¹⁷.

A Navy rescue was required due to the isolation of Mallacoota as the Genoa-Mallacoota Road was closed¹⁸ for "37 days due to bushfires and fallen trees"¹⁹. This Navy rescue has become known as the largest evacuation by sea in a disaster in Australia²⁰. The fires in Mallacoota and District were also known as one of the most destructive fires during the Black Summer fires in Australia²¹. However, the town has shown resilience in the face

of this adversity and continues to attract visitors who appreciate its natural beauty and relaxed atmosphere²².

A community-led recovery model was proposed by a group of locals called the Thinking Group, as a way to take ownership of the town's recovery process after the bushfires²³. This model was based on the experiences of the Victorian town, Strathewen, following the 2009 Black Saturday bushfires. The model then was endorsed by the locals, and Mallacoota and District Recovery Association (MADRA), consisting of a total of 12 elected representatives, (6 men and 6 women from the ages of 20 to 60) was formed in May 2020. MADRA's main goal was to establish a disaster recovery pathway that was led by the community. As a result the MADRA Disaster Recovery Plan was produced²⁴. A 6 part documentary series was broadcasted by ABC in 2022, to capture the progress of the town and follows MADRA's efforts into recovery²⁵.

It is too early for academic literature on the social impacts of the 2019-2020 fires in Mallacoota to have been published. However, some problematic issues that occurred during the evacuation process have been highlighted in grey literature. During the evacuation process the most vulnerable groups,

- 14 MADRA (Mallacoota and District Recovery Association Inc) (2022), *Community-led Recovery Plan V2: Ongoing Recovery, Future Resilience*, MADRA Website, Accessed: 20 April 2023, <https://madrecovery.com/madra-resources>
- 15 <https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/resources/ajem-october-2022-community-led-disaster-recovery-mallacoota-victoria/>
- 16 <https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/resources/black-summer-bushfires-vic-2019-20/>
- 17 East Gippsland Shire Council/ Bushfire Recovery Australia (2022), *East Gippsland Bushfires 2019/20 Third Progress Report*, Version 2, October, East Gippsland Shire Council Website: Accessed: 15 April 2023 https://global-uploads.webflow.com/5f10ce18aa01d050c26b7c5e/6361d2d9c6f2ad8fd9706538_East%20Gippsland%20Bushfire%20-%20Progress%20Report%20October%202022.pdf
- 18 <https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/cut-off-how-the-crisis-at-mallacoota-unfolded-20200117-p53sdn.html>
- 19 Filkov, A. I., Ngo, T., Matthews, S., Telfer, S., & Penman, T. D. (2020), 'Impact of Australia's Catastrophic 2019/20 Bushfire Season on Communities and Environment. Retrospective Analysis and Current Trends', *Journal of Safety Science and Resilience*, 1(1), 44-56.
- 20 McAdam J (2022), 'Exploring the Legal Basis in Australia for Evacuations from Disasters: Avoiding Arbitrary Displacement', *University of New South Wales Law Journal*, 45(4), 1329-1366.
- 21 Filkov, A. I., Ngo, T., Matthews, S., Telfer, S., & Penman, T. D. (2020), 'Impact of Australia's Catastrophic 2019/20 Bushfire Season on Communities and Environment. Retrospective Analysis and Current Trends', *Journal of Safety Science and Resilience*, 1(1), 44-56.
- 22 <https://www.australiangeographic.com.au/topics/science-environment/2020/08/east-gippsland-grit-the-resilience-driving-recovery/#:~:text=Many%20of%20Mallacoota's%20major%20employers,turnover%20of%20about%20%2415%20million>
- 23 Lloyd, J. & Hopkins, C. (2022) 'Community-led Disaster Recovery - Mallacoota, Victoria', *Australian Journal of Emergency Management*, 37(4), 8-9 <https://search.informit.org/doi/pdf/10.3316/informit.727313732063235>
- 24 MADRA (Mallacoota and District Recovery Association Inc) (2022), *Community-led Recovery Plan V2: Ongoing Recovery, Future Resilience*, MADRA Website, Accessed: 20 April 2023, <https://madrecovery.com/madra-resources>
- 25 <https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/resources/peoples-republic-of-mallacoota/>



such as families with young children, elderly, and people with disabilities, got left behind and were evacuated last ²⁶. This happened despite them being put on a vulnerable list, and were said to have been prioritised to be evacuated by air. However, the plan to airlift vulnerable groups of people could not be carried out due to low visibility, and rather than being evacuated by sea, and like the rest of the population, locals reported that they were asked to wait.

Further, a report presented in the Gender Justice in Disaster Conference in 2021²⁷ noted that there was a lack of factoring of gendered needs in the 2019-20 bushfires across Australia as a whole, and provided an example in the context of Mallacoota. The report noted how guidance in emergency preparedness lacked an understanding of the needs of pregnant and breastfeeding women, as mothers had to wash baby bottles in sinks in toilet areas.

These incidents highlighted the need for prioritising the needs of vulnerable groups when developing emergency preparedness and responses in the context of Mallacoota.

Further, information published by MADRA²⁸ and East Gippsland Shire reports^{29,30} have highlighted the issue of housing as a pressing issue post bushfire. MADRA outlined this as a 'wicked problem'³¹. Immediate response after the loss of homes was hamstrung by red tape and due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The remoteness, and labour shortages which were exacerbated by the limited accommodation for workers, were barriers as identified by MADRA³².

Additionally, the rising costs of building material were highlighted as a growing problem³³, as insurance pay-outs were not enough to cover the new costs of re-building³⁴.

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- ²⁶ Aria A (2020), 'V for Vulnerable', *Westerly*, The University of Western Australia, Australia, 65(1), 171-177 <https://westerlymag.com.au/wp-content/uploads/edd/2020/07/Westerly-65.1.pdf#page=62>
- ²⁷ Parkinson, D., Leonard, W., Kaur, J., O'Malley, S., & Mackay, R. (2022), 'Issues paper: Gender Justice in Disaster Conference 2021', *The Australian Journal of Emergency Management*, 37(1), 44-51 <https://search.informit.org.ezproxy.lib.rmit.edu.au/doi/10.3316/agispt.20220301062686>
- ²⁸ MADRA (Mallacoota and District Recovery Association Inc) (2022), *Community-led Recovery Plan V2: Ongoing Recovery, Future Resilience*, MADRA Website, Accessed: 20 April 2023, <https://madrecovery.com/madra-resources>
- ²⁹ East Gippsland Shire Council/ Bushfire Recovery Australia (2022), *East Gippsland Bushfires 2019/20 Third Progress Report*, Version 2, October, East Gippsland Shire Council Website: Accessed: 15 April 2023 https://global-uploads.webflow.com/5f10ce18aa01d050c26b7c5e/6361d2d9c6f2ad8fd9706538_East%20Gippsland%20Bushfire%20-%20Progress%20Report%20October%202022.pdf
- ³⁰ East Gippsland Shire Council (2022), *Mallacoota Recovery Update*, December, East Gippsland Shire Council Website, Accessed: 15 April 2023, available at: https://global-uploads.webflow.com/5f10ce18aa01d050c26b7c5e/6392cae98bfd52e85242f42_Mallacoota%20Place%20Update%20-%20December%202022.pdf
- ³¹ Lloyd, J. & Hopkins, C. (2022) 'Community-led Disaster Recovery - Mallacoota, Victoria', *Australian Journal of Emergency Management*, 37(4), 8-9 <https://search.informit.org/doi/pdf/10.3316/informit.727313732063235>
- ³² MADRA (Mallacoota and District Recovery Association Inc) (2022), *Community-led Recovery Plan V2: Ongoing Recovery, Future Resilience*, MADRA Website, Accessed: 20 April 2023, <https://madrecovery.com/madra-resources>
- ³³ <https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/people-are-at-breaking-point-still-waiting-for-a-home-in-mallacoota-20221230-p5c9f8.html>
- ³⁴ ABC (2022), *People's Republic of Mallacoota*, 6 Part Documentary, ABC, Australia <https://iview.abc.net.au/show/people-s-republic-of-mallacoota>



The State government has so far built 15 modular homes and also provided grants for the overall recovery of the district³⁵. In 2022, the government committed to the build of a further “five public/ social housing dwellings and five affordable housing dwellings”³⁶ in Mallacoota and District. Further, the East Gippsland Shire Council’s report³⁷ updating on Mallacoota’s recovery in December 2022, stated that of the 123 homes lost, 48 homes were planned to be rebuilt or are already in progress of rebuilding. Out of these 26 houses have been completed, whilst another 8 were in construction and 14 permits have been issued for rebuilding. MADRA’s recovery plan also highlights that there is a lack of emergency accommodation as the bushfires burnt the existing spaces for housing needs³⁸. The low number of houses being built and the lack of emergency shelters indicate that the need to address housing issues are of paramount importance.

In the aftermath of the fires, the issue of mental health has also become acute. Even though not much literature is available, some news reports provide insights into the conditions in Mallacoota and District. According to Carol Hopkins, the chair of MADRA, “psychologists report being busier than ever”³⁹ years after the bushfires. Hopkins states that there is a growing concern as mental health

first aid responders allocated to Mallacoota and District in the immediate aftermath of the fires, such as the Red Cross, the Royal District Nursing Services and the Royal Flying Doctor Service, are now being withdrawn. This is also at a time when residents seem to need mental health services more than ever, as the recovery efforts take a mental health toll on people as years pass by. MADRA also highlights the issue of mental health and wellbeing as one of the key areas that needs to be addressed in the long term recovery of Mallacoota, as people’s lives were impacted deeply due to the loss of property⁴⁰. The East Gippsland 2019-20 states that to address the need, funding grants have been allocated to Mallacoota to establish dedicated practitioners that will provide psychosocial support⁴¹. Additionally, the East Gippsland Council reported that a social recovery needs assessment of the whole LGA (including Mallacoota and District) revealed that service providers “listed two of the top four most pressing needs as social connection at 89% and mental health services at 64%”⁴². The need for accessibility to ongoing mental health and wellbeing services have been repeatedly highlighted as crucial for ongoing recovery efforts across the local council area.

³⁵ <https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/people-are-at-breaking-point-still-waiting-for-a-home-in-mallacoota-20221230-p5c9f8.html>

³⁶ East Gippsland Shire Council/ Bushfire Recovery Australia (2022), *East Gippsland Bushfires 2019/20 Third Progress Report*, Version 2, October, East Gippsland Shire Council Website: Accessed: 15 April 2023 https://global-uploads.webflow.com/5f10ce18aa01d050c26b7c5e/6361d2d9c6f2ad8fd9706538_East%20Gippsland%20Bushfire%20-%20Progress%20Report%20October%202022.pdf

³⁷ East Gippsland Shire Council (2022), *Mallacoota Recovery Update*, December, East Gippsland Shire Council Website, Accessed: 15 April 2023, Available at: https://global-uploads.webflow.com/5f10ce18aa01d050c26b7c5e/6392cae98bfda52e85242f42_Mallacoota%20Place%20Update%20-%20December%202022.pdf

³⁸ MADRA (Mallacoota and District Recovery Association Inc) (2022), *Community-led Recovery Plan V2: Ongoing Recovery, Future Resilience*, MADRA Website, Accessed: 20 April 2023, <https://madrecovery.com/madra-resources>

³⁹ <https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/people-are-at-breaking-point-still-waiting-for-a-home-in-mallacoota-20221230-p5c9f8.html>

⁴⁰ MADRA (Mallacoota and District Recovery Association Inc) (2022), *Community-led Recovery Plan V2: Ongoing Recovery, Future Resilience*, MADRA Website, Accessed: 20 April 2023, <https://madrecovery.com/madra-resources>

⁴¹ This allocation was highlighted to be on track in terms of progress in the sub-progress report. See: *East Gippsland Shire Council (2019-20), East Gippsland Fires 2019-20 Social Recovery Sub-plan*, East Gippsland Shire Council Website: Accessed: 15 April 2023 https://global-uploads.webflow.com/5f10ce18aa01d050c26b7c5e/5ff395d91f1893ae2b0a77af_social_recovery_sub-plan.pdf

⁴² East Gippsland Shire Council and Bushfire Recovery Victoria (2022), *East Gippsland Bushfires 2019/20 Third Progress Report*, October, East Gippsland Shire Council Website, Available at: https://global-uploads.webflow.com/5f10ce18aa01d050c26b7c5e/6361d2d9c6f2ad8fd9706538_East%20Gippsland%20Bushfire%20-%20Progress%20Report%20October%202022.pdf



DISASTER BACKGROUND

Kind of disasters affecting this region/town: Floods and Bushfires

Recent major disaster: Black Summer Bushfires, 2019/2020

- Fatalities: 1⁴³
- People displaced:
 - More than 1,100 people from Mallacoota⁴⁴, including residents and tourists were evacuated by the Australian Navy and by air to the Port of Hastings⁴⁵.
 - Mallacoota's Main Hall was transformed into a relief and evacuation centre during the fires⁴⁶. Following the evacuation, an emergency relief centre at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre was set up by the City of Melbourne for evacuees from Mallacoota⁴⁷. To support those who lost their businesses and homes, The Mallacoota and District Recovery Hub was set up for long-term recovery needs⁴⁸.
 - Properties and infrastructure affected:
 - 83% of the land area and 123 homes were burnt⁴⁹.
 - Access to Mallacoota through Princes Highway was cut-off as the Highway closed for 37 days due to the bushfires⁵⁰.
 - Tap water was restricted for 2 days due to an increased demand during the fires. Residents were also urged to boil water to make it safe for consumption. Bottled water was provided and water supply resumed later on the second day⁵¹.

⁴³ ABC (2022), *People's Republic of Mallacoota*, 6 Part Documentary, ABC, Australia <https://iview.abc.net.au/show/people-s-republic-of-mallacoota>

⁴⁴ Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements (2020), 'Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements Report', Canberra, Australia, Accessed: 20 April 2023 <https://naturaldisaster.royalcommission.gov.au/system/files/2020-11/Royal%20Commission%20into%20National%20Natural%20Disaster%20Arrangements%20-%20Report%20%20%5Baccessible%5D.pdf>

⁴⁵ Mallacoota & District Historical Society (n.d.), 'Our Blacksummer Bushfires', Mallacoota & District Historical Society Website, Accessed: 15 April 2023 <https://www.mallacootabunker.com.au/images/pdf/Black-Summer-Bushfires-v2.pdf>

⁴⁶ Mallacoota & District Historical Society (n.d.), 'Our Blacksummer Bushfires', Mallacoota & District Historical Society Website, Accessed: 15 April 2023 <https://www.mallacootabunker.com.au/images/pdf/Black-Summer-Bushfires-v2.pdf>

⁴⁷ <https://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/news-and-media/Pages/Mallacoota-bushfire-relief-centre-to-re-open.aspx>

⁴⁸ Mallacoota & District Historical Society (n.d.), 'Our Blacksummer Bushfires', Mallacoota & District Historical Society Website, Accessed: 15 April 2023 <https://www.mallacootabunker.com.au/images/pdf/Black-Summer-Bushfires-v2.pdf>

⁴⁹ East Gippsland Shire Council/ Bushfire Recovery Australia (2022), *East Gippsland Bushfires 2019/20 Third Progress Report*, Version 2, October, East Gippsland Shire Council Website: Accessed: 15 April 2023 https://global-uploads.webflow.com/5f10ce18aa01d050c26b7c5e/6361d2d9c6f2ad8fd9706538_East%20Gippsland%20Bushfire%20-%20Progress%20Report%20October%202022.pdf

⁵⁰ Filkov, A. I., Ngo, T., Matthews, S., Telfer, S., & Penman, T. D. (2020), 'Impact of Australia's Catastrophic 2019/20 Bushfire Season on Communities and Environment. Retrospective Analysis and Current Trends', *Journal of Safety Science and Resilience*, 1(1), 44-56.

⁵¹ <https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/cut-off-how-the-crisis-at-mallacoota-unfolded-20200117-p53sdn.html>



- o Loss of cash flow for local businesses during peak tourist season. This resulted in laying off of staff and closing off of businesses relying on tourism. This also had a flow-on effect on other businesses around the town⁵².
- o Abalone Co-operative which employed 8 permanent staff and over 40 casual staff, was burnt. The Abalone industry usually has an annual turnover of \$15 million⁵³. The loss due to the fires disrupted the income.

ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE

- East Gippsland LGA is ranked⁵⁴:
 - o 211 out of 544 LGAs in Australia (where 544 is most advantaged)
 - o in the 4th decile (out of 10, where 10 is most advantaged)
 - o in the 39th percentile (out of 100, where 100 is most advantaged)

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY AND HOMELESSNESS

- Housing affordability in Mallacoota District⁵⁵

	Mallacoota ⁵⁶	Gipsy Point ⁵⁷	East Gippsland ⁵⁸	Victoria ⁵⁹
Median rent payments	\$221/wk	\$90/wk	\$268/wk	\$370/wk
Rental stress ⁶⁰	31.2%	n/a	33.1%	30.9%

- Homelessness⁶¹:
 - o In 2021-22, 1260 people accessed Specialist Homelessness Services in the SA3 of East Gippsland,⁶² equating to 2.58% of the population, or 258 per 10,000.
 - o 488 of these were men (100 per 10,000) and 772 were women (158 per 10,000)⁶³

⁵² MADRA (Mallacoota and District Recovery Association Inc) (2022), Community-led Recovery Plan V2: Ongoing Recovery, Future Resilience, MADRA Website, Accessed: 20 April 2023, <https://madrecovery.com/madra-resources>

⁵³ <https://www.australiangeographic.com.au/topics/science-environment/2020/08/east-gippsland-grit-the-resilience-driving-recovery/#:~:text=Many%20of%20Mallacoota's%20major%20employers,turnover%20of%20about%20%2415%20million.>

⁵⁴ [2033.0.55.001 - Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas \(SEIFA\), Australia, 2016](https://www.census.gov.au/2033.0.55.001-Census-of-Population-and-Housing-Socio-Economic-Indexes-for-Areas-SEIFA-Australia-2016) (third data cube LGA Indexes, SEIFA 2016)

⁵⁵ Data for Settlements of Genoa, Maramingo Creek, Wallagarough, Wangarabell, Wingan River, Wroxham are not available

⁵⁶ Data in this column: <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/UCL221044>

⁵⁷ Data in this column: <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/SAL20998>

⁵⁸ Data in this column: <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/LGA22110>

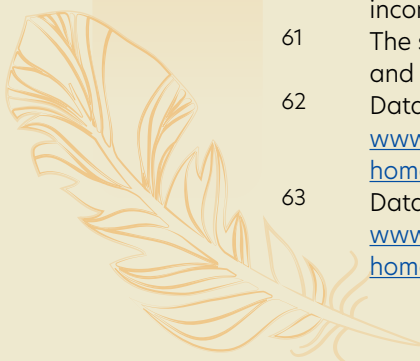
⁵⁹ Data in this column: <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/LGA22110>

⁶⁰ Refers to the percentage of households with rent payments exceeding 30% of household income

⁶¹ The statistics are for the whole of East Gippsland LGA, as town specific statistics for Mallacoota and District are not available

⁶² Data cube: SHSC geographical location of client—SA3, SA4, RA, GCCSA. Available here: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/homelessness-services/shsc-data-cubes/contents/specialist-homelessness-services-collection-shsc-data-cubes>

⁶³ Data cube: SHSC geographical location of client—SA3, SA4, RA, GCCSA. Available here: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/homelessness-services/shsc-data-cubes/contents/specialist-homelessness-services-collection-shsc-data-cubes>





MENTAL HEALTH

- Mental health conditions (any): Mallacoota: 11.0%⁶⁴ | East Gippsland: 5.1% | Vic: 10.5%⁶⁵
- Suicide rates for Mallacoota⁶⁶
 - o Age-standardised rate per 100 000: 23.2 (VIC :10.5/ Aus:12.6)
 - o 48 deaths between 2017-2021



GENDER EQUALITY

- Lone parent status
 - o One-parent families: Mallacoota: 10.3%⁶⁷ (East Gippsland: 14.5%/ VIC: 15.2%⁶⁸) – Mallacoota: 66.7% female-led⁶⁹ (East Gippsland: 80.4%/ VIC: 80.9%⁷⁰)
- Mothers' index⁷¹
 - o East Gippsland LGA is ranked 70 out of 79 LGAs in VIC, where 1 is the best place for a mother to live
- Unpaid care in Mallacoota⁷²
 - o Unpaid domestic work: 349 women did 5 or more hours of unpaid domestic work per week compared to 247 men
 - o Unpaid assistance to a person with a disability, health condition, or due to old age: 101 women compared to 59 men provided unpaid assistance
 - o Unpaid Childcare: 100 women compared to 78 men provided childcare (whether for their own child or other children)
- Violence against women⁷³
 - o The most prevalent offence in the East Gippsland LGA is breaching of a family violence order (485 cases in 2022)
 - o The home is the primary location where crime takes place (1382 cases Jan-Dec 2022)
 - o Family incident (Jan-Dec 2022, rate per 100,000 population): 3,151.5 (VIC: 1400)

⁶⁴ <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/UCL221044>

⁶⁵ <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/LGA22110>

⁶⁶ Suicide Rates based on Sex is not available for SA3, (East Gippsland is in SA3). All suicide rate stats come from Data table: 2021 National Mortality Database - Suicide, Table NMD S11, available at: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/suicide-self-harm-monitoring/data/data-downloads>

⁶⁷ <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/UCL221044>

⁶⁸ <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/LGA22110>

⁶⁹ <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/UCL221044>

⁷⁰ <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/LGA22110>

⁷¹ Mother's Index for Mallacoota and District not available. The mothers' index consists of composite scores from five different indicators relating to maternal wellbeing (maternal health, children's wellbeing, educational status, economic status and socio-economic disadvantage), with each indicator given equal weighting. Scores were sorted from low to high and ranked from 1 to 79 (1 being the best place for a mother to live) to give the overall Mothers Index rank for each LGA in VIC. <https://apo.org.au/node/63692>

⁷² ABS General Community Profile for Mallacoota, Tables, G24-G26. Available here: <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/community-profiles/2021/UCL221044>

⁷³ Violence against women statistics for Mallacoota and District are not available. <https://www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/crime-statistics/latest-crime-data-by-area>



- o Sexual offences are the second most prevalent offence against the person in East Gippsland LGA (233 cases Jan-Dec 2022). This is a rate of 478.2 (the national rate of 121 per 100,000 in 2021 is indicative only as it is drawn from different data)⁷⁴



DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION FOR MALLACOOTA COMPARED TO EAST GIPPSLAND LGA, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA

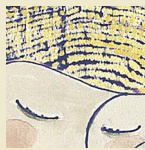
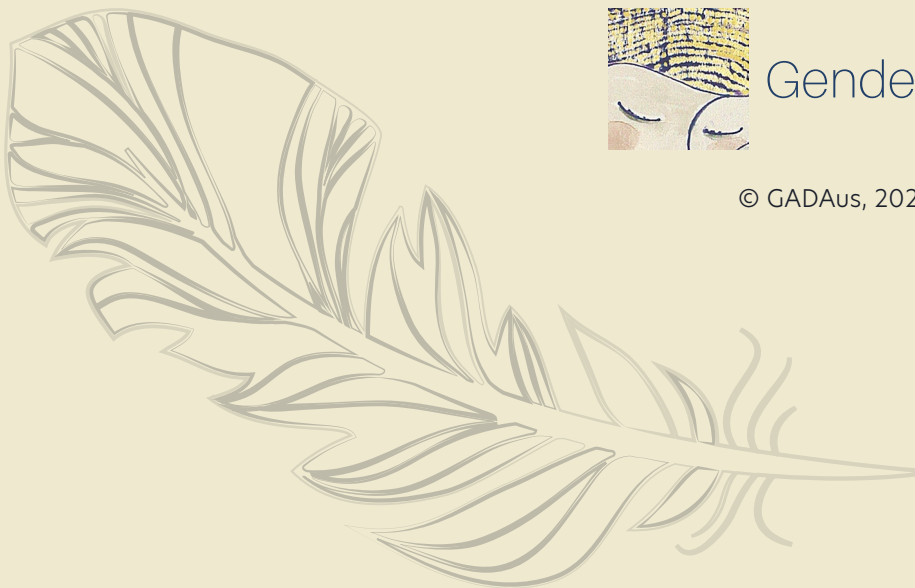
	Mallacoota ⁷⁵	East Gippsland LGA ⁷⁶	Victoria	Australia
Median age	59	52	38	38
Indigenous status	1.0%	3.5%	1.0%	3.2%
Both parents born in Australia	58.0%	66.8%	42.4%	45.9%
Non-English language used in household	6.0%	5.3%	30.2%	24.8%
With university education	22.5%	13.7%	29.2%	26.3%
Year 10 as highest qualification	9.2%	11.9%	7.3%	10.0%
Part-time workers	47.0%	38.4%	32.3%	31.2%
Unemployed	2.7%	4.4%	5.0%	5.1%
Personal income	\$1,031/wk	\$603/wk	803/wk	\$805/week
Household income	\$591/wk	\$1,110/wk	\$1,759/wk	\$1746/week
Rate of people on Disability Support	Mallacoota: 338			
Pension per 10,000 population ⁷⁷	Genoa, Gipsy Point, Maramingo Creek, Wallagaraugh, Wangarabell, Wingan River and Wroxham: 879	500	281	296

⁷⁴ <https://www.abs.gov.au/media-centre/media-releases/sexual-assaults-increase-tenth-year-row>

⁷⁵ Unless otherwise indicated the data from this column come from: <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/UCL221044>

⁷⁶ Unless otherwise indicated the data from the next three columns come from: <https://abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/quickstats/2021/LGA22110>

⁷⁷ <https://data.gov.au/data/dataset/dss-payment-demographic-data> (Data cubes used: the DSS Demographics cube - December 2022 for the Mallacoota District and the Expanded DSS Benefit and Payment Recipient Demographics cube - March 2021 for East Gippsland, Vic and Aus)



Gender & Disaster Australia

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