



INDUSTRY FACTS AND FIGURES: EAST

Gippsland & Central Highlands regions

- In Gippsland and the Central Highlands, the timber and forestry industry is based almost entirely on native forest timber harvesting and associated processing activity. There is also a key area of softwood plantations and some hardwood plantations. The region includes the Central Highlands, Gippsland and East Gippsland Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) regions
- The industry contribution to Gross Regional Product in the region was **\$740.5 million In 2015-16**
- The Gippsland and Central Highlands regions have **3,646 direct jobs in the timber and forestry industry**: 2,830 jobs in in forest management and primary processing, and further 599 jobs in secondary processing This represents:
 - **1.2% of the employed labour force of the region;**
 - **24.2% of all Victorian timber and forestry industry jobs.**
- Direct employment includes **1,335 jobs supported by native forests and 1,478 in softwood and hardwood plantations.**
- There are an estimated **3,788 flow-on jobs in the region**, generated in other industries to service demand generated by the timber and forestry industry.
- In a statewide survey, 60% of respondents in Latrobe and East Gippsland, Murrindindi, Wellington and Yarra Ranges thought that the forest industry was important to their local community.
- A total of 1,639 Victorian jobs rely on logs harvest from native forests.
 - 1,060 and 1,170 jobs of these rely on forests located in the Central Highlands RFA region.
 - 230-260 of these rely on forests located in the East Gippsland RFA region.

Employment in key Local Government Areas¹:

LGA	Total jobs in timber and forestry	Jobs in Forest Management and Primary Processing	Jobs in Secondary Processing	% of employed LGA labour force	% of all Victorian Industry jobs
Yarra Ranges Shire	599	197	402	0.8	4
Murrindindi Shire	119	110	9	2	0.8
City of Latrobe	1,384	1,305	79	4.7	8.6
Wellington Shire	567	543	24	3.2	3.8

¹ Information from Schirmer *et al.* (2018) Socio-economic impacts of the forest industry – Victoria (exc the Green Triangle)

East Gippsland Shire	363	330	33	2.1	2.4
Baw Baw Shire	337	273	64	1.6	2.2