

Victorian climate change data and information for local government

This factsheet provides a snapshot of the climate information and data available for Victorian councils to use, and a decision-tree to help determine which resource might be best suited for a particular decision or action.

Understanding and managing the risks of climate change to council assets, services and local communities are critical responsibilities of local governments.

When making decisions in a changing climate, councils can no longer rely on the historical climate trends as a good indicator of the climate we can expect in the future.

Instead, we must draw on climate models to project possible future climates and plan in ways that allow for uncertainty.

The Victorian Government partnered with CSIRO's Climate Science Centre to develop new local scale climate projections for Victoria at a 5 km grid. The projections cover average and extreme temperature and rainfall, relative humidity and evaporation to the 2090s for moderate and high emissions scenarios.

Based on the best available climate science, Victorian Climate Projections 2019 provides a solid evidence base for management, planning and policy decisions that will result in a more resilient Victoria.

Victoria is already experiencing the impacts of climate change



Temp. increase of **just over 1.0°C** since 1910



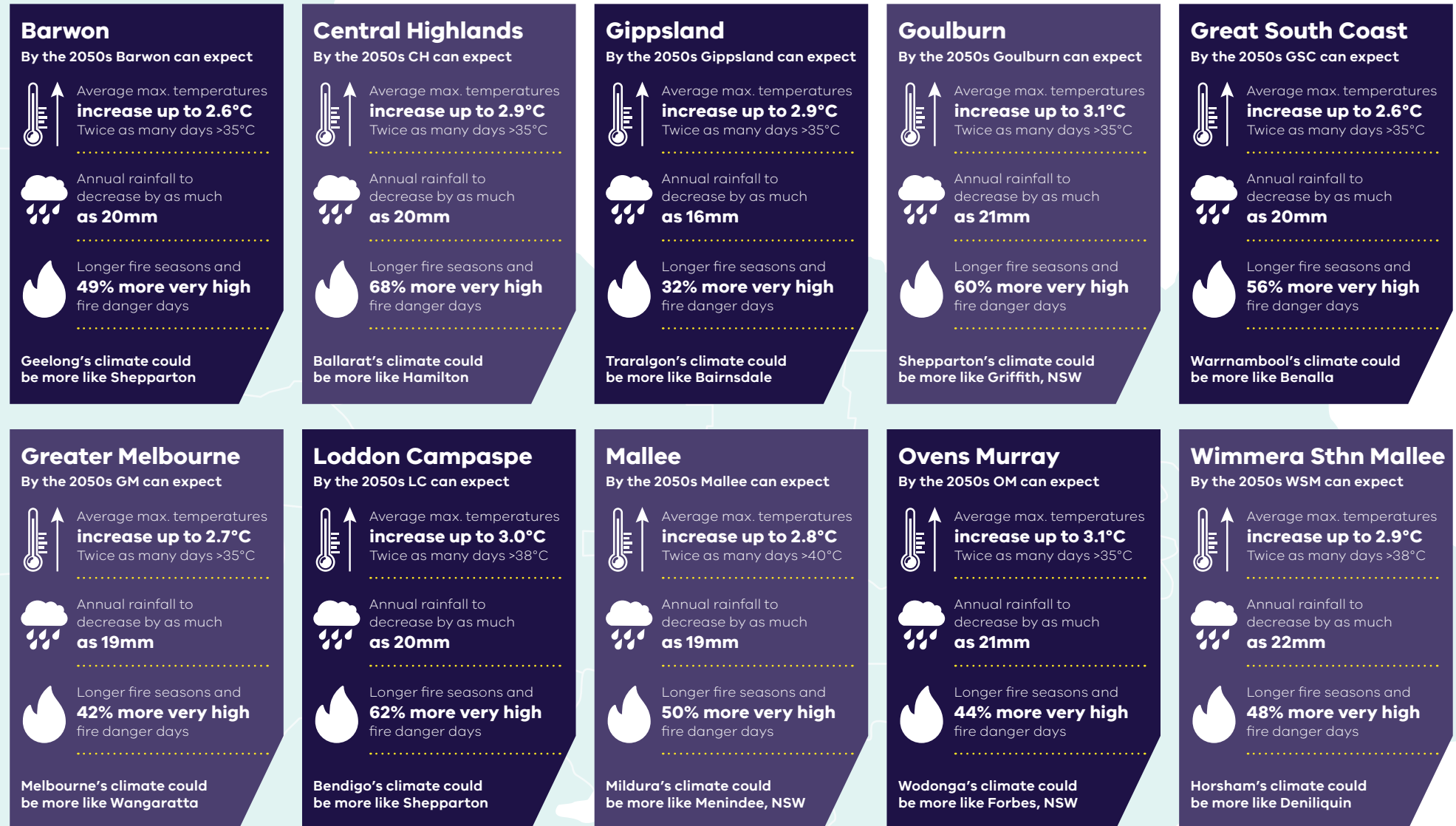
Decrease in average rainfall



Increase in fire danger in spring

Victoria's Changing Climate

Climate projections for Victoria indicate the state is likely to become hotter and drier in the future, and the timing and extent of these changes will vary across regions. These snapshots show what the projections indicate for each of Victoria's regions for the 2050s (compared to 1986–2005) under high global greenhouse gas emissions.



Victorian climate change information and data products available

DELWP have worked with CSIRO and the Bureau of Meteorology to produce a range of resources to help plan for a changing climate. These include:

[Victoria's Climate Science Report 2019](#)

A summary of the best available scientific evidence on current and future climate for our state, including observed changes over recent decades.

Understanding the drivers and impacts of these changes, as well as what we can expect in the future, will help us to plan and adapt.

[Regional Reports](#)

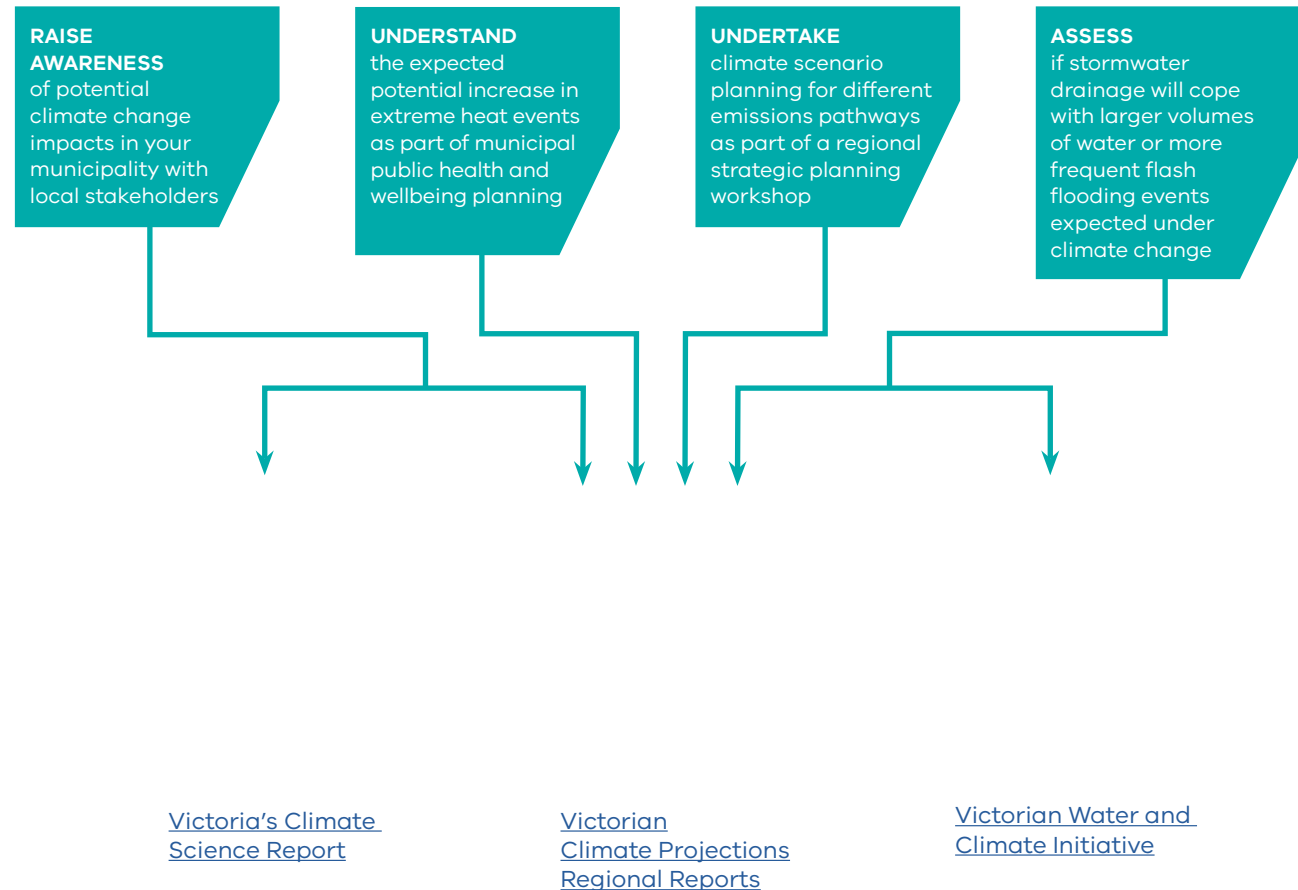
A selection of the Victorian Climate Projections findings for each of Victoria's Regional Partnership regions and Greater Melbourne to help you understand how the climate will change in your region.

[Technical datasets](#)

Can be used by technical specialists for use in climate risk assessments and impact modelling to understand how particular systems may respond to climate change.

Planning for a changing climate: example actions or decisions and suitable data sources.

Examples of actions or decisions made by local government



Choosing the climate information or data product for your needs

Different questions or decisions need information and data at various levels of detail and complexity.

It is important to consider the level of detail of the information you need, as not all decisions will require detailed data analysis. Some assessment and scenario planning can be done on basic information about trends, which can be easily found in the Regional Reports and Victoria's Climate Science Report 2019. It is also always important to consider the impact of climate change alongside the impact of other changes, such as population, economic and technology changes.

The [Victorian Climate Projections 2019 Technical Report \(chapter 7\)](#) provides guidance on how to incorporate the projections information into adaptation, vulnerability or impact assessments and the decision tree presented here is a simplified summary of that guidance.

For a list of climate impacts on local government assets and functions see:

[Climate Change Adaptation Actions for Local Government](#)

This decision tree can help you to determine which data and information might be useful for a particular action, as well as relevant links.

