

### Disaster and economic resilience in Small Regional Communities: The case of Toodyay

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Business Cooperative Research Centres Programme



### Research

- Estimate economic impact of natural disasters
- Optimise and inform a sustainable disaster recovery model





## Measuring the impact

- Difference-in-difference model
- ABS Census 2006, 2011 and 2016







## Black Saturday bushfires

Individual income losses by demographic group



Deakin University CRICOS Provider Code: 001138





## Black Saturday bushfires

Individual income losses by sectors of employment



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Modelling hampered by small sample size



LOW INCOME



# Toodyay bushfires

Demographic profiling uncovered valuable insights



Hours to bring fire under control % Toodyay SA2 burnt



Employed residents work outside of Tooday

Public assistance distributed within first three months







# Centre for Energy, the Environment and Natural Disasters



#### Commonwealth

• Emergency Management Australia

#### Queensland

• Queensland Reconstruction Authority

### South Australia

• Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources

#### Victoria

- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
- Inspector General of Emergency Management Victoria

#### Western Australia

Office of Bushfire Risk Management, Department of Fire
and Emergency Services



### Utilisation

End-users

Factors affecting longterm community recovery

bushfire&natural



Black Saturday: the economic cost



So far

IGEM Inspector-General for Emergency Management



Ten years of emergency management reform

Black Saturday: counting the cost





# Utilisation



- Pre- and post-disaster funding should better reflect the long-term nature of social impacts
- A collaborative approach needed to address the medium- and long-term economic costs of the social impacts of natural disasters
- Further research must be done into ways of quantifying these costs





### Utilisation

Small towns like Toodyay form 9.7% of Australia's population



