

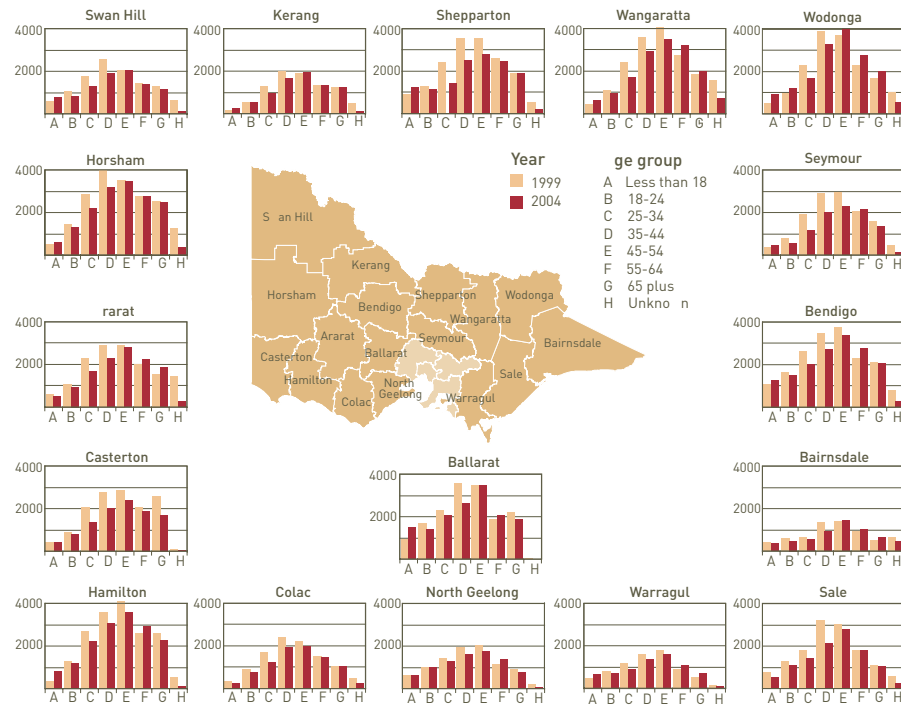
Volunteer emergency services

Emergency services

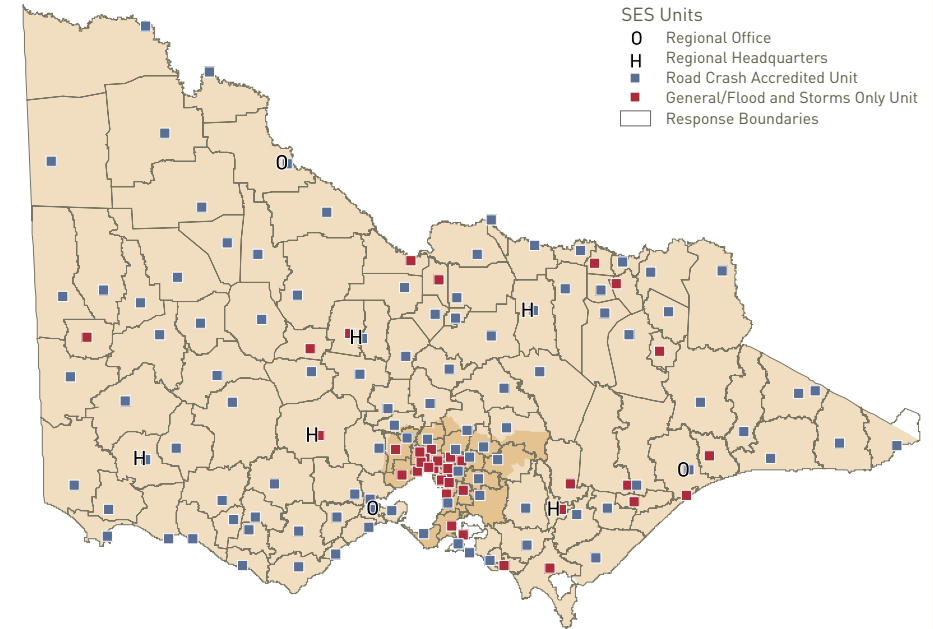
Rural areas have a high level of dependence on volunteers to provide emergency services such as fire control. The Country Fire Authority (CFA) and the Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) are two of a large number of organisations that contribute to the safety of the community. Although CFA has the larger volunteer base, both organisations are experiencing a loss in the participation of 25 to 44 year olds, mainly due to out-migration of young adults. This has flow on effects for emergency response capacity.

CFA volunteer numbers by age

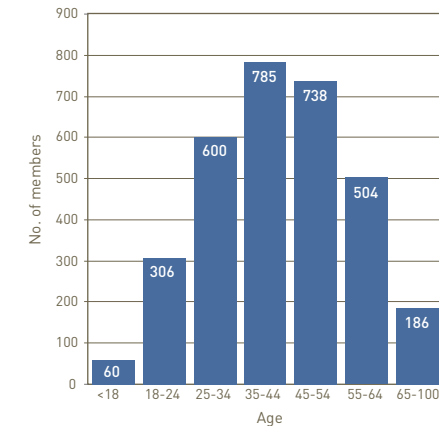
CFA Regions, 1999 and 2004



Location of SES units and response boundaries²



Total active and non-active SES membership, 2004²



Sources ¹CFA 2005 unpublished data ²VICSES 2005 unpublished data