

# 2014 Regional Snapshot

## How many people visit parks?

There are more than 90 public protected areas in the Eyre Peninsula NRM region (see map at bottom), including national parks, marine parks and conservations reserves.

The parks in the Eyre Peninsula NRM region [protect](#) and showcase natural and cultural heritage, including ancient landscapes and fossils, Aboriginal art and engravings, historic European sites, rugged coastlines and ranges, pristine wilderness and unique [plants](#) and [animals](#).

These parks and reserves are also important for [regional tourism](#). They are places where we can enjoy natural surroundings and the physical, social and psychological health benefits they provide. There is increasing community awareness of these benefits. For example, children develop physically and mentally when they are able to explore and play in natural surroundings.

This report summarises information on the percentage of South Australians who visited at least one land based park or reserve each year. A report on marine parks is available [here](#).



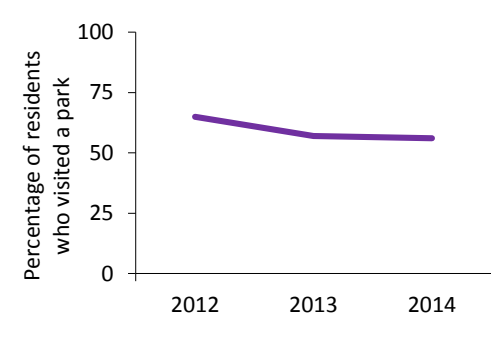
**State target**  
Maintain the productive capacity of our natural resources

**Trend (2012-14)**      Getting worse      The number of Eyre Peninsula residents visiting parks has declined

Within the Eyre Peninsula NRM region, the percentage of residents who visited a park declined from 65 to 56 per cent between 2012-14 (graph on right).

Information on visitors to Lincoln and Coffin Bay National Parks was collected between 2005 and 2010. The number of visitors increased and in 2010 it was around 175,000 per year. This was 60 per cent higher than the number of visitors in 2005.

To encourage more people to visit our parks, the Government of South Australia promotes the physical, social and psychological health benefits of visiting parks and participating in [nature conservation activities](#). For example, [Nature Play SA](#) encourages parents and communities to promote outdoor learning environments.

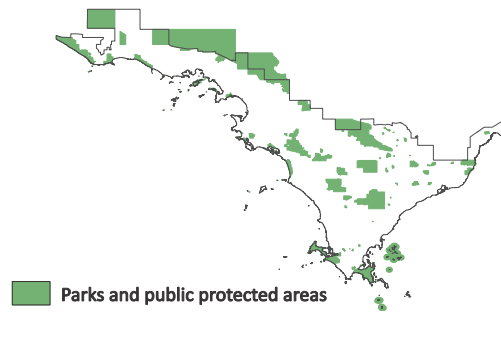


**Where we are at (2014)**      Fair      In 2014, 56 per cent of residents visited at least one park

In 2014, the percentage of residents from the Eyre Peninsula NRM region who visited a park was about 56 per cent.

Many of the people who [visit](#) the NRM region from elsewhere also visit a park as part of their trip.

Enhancing visitor experiences and conserving natural and cultural heritage requires careful management. Some of our parks are maintained to protect biodiversity and these parks have few facilities for visitors, but in many cases the Government of South Australia partners with the tourism industry to enhance opportunities for visitors.



**Reliability of information**      ★★☆☆☆      Fair, more information is needed on park visitation

Further information: [Technical information for this report](#), and [SA Parks](#)