

# 2014 Regional Snapshot

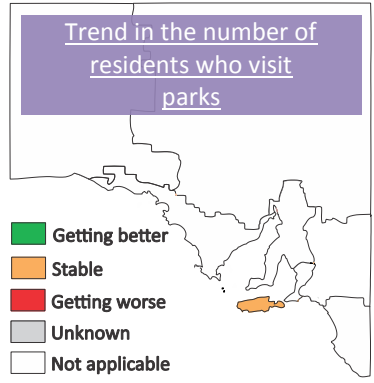
## How many people visit parks?


There are 26 public protected areas in the Kangaroo Island NRM region (see map at bottom), including national parks, marine parks, wilderness protection areas and conservation reserves.

The parks in the Kangaroo Island NRM region [protect](#) and showcase natural and cultural heritage, including historic European sites, rugged coastlines, pristine wilderness and unique [plants](#) and [animals](#).

These parks and reserves are also important for [regional tourism](#). They are places where we can all 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 residents who visited at least one land based park or reserve each year. A report on our marine parks is available [here](#).

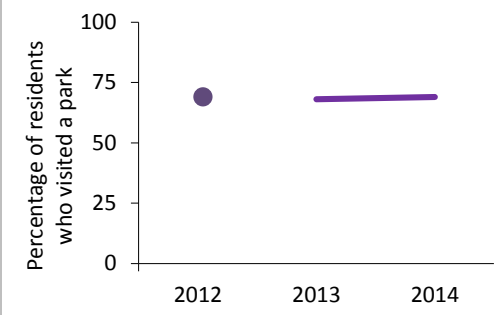


 **State target**  
Maintain the productive capacity of our natural resources

**Trend (2013-14)**      Stable      The number of Kangaroo Island residents visiting parks has been stable

Within the Kangaroo Island NRM region, the percentage of residents who visited a park was stable between 2013- 14 (graph on right). Information was also collected in 2012, but it was combined with a survey of residents from the Fleurieu Peninsula. This information was not used to calculate the trend, but it is shown as a dot on the graph.

Information about tourists visiting the Flinders Chase and Seal Bay parks is collected in the Kangaroo Island visitor exit surveys. The proportion of visitors who went to Flinders Chases National Park was stable from 2008-13. The proportion of visitors who went to Seal Bay has decreased from 2008-13. More information about where visitors to Kangaroo Island NRM region visit can be found [here](#).

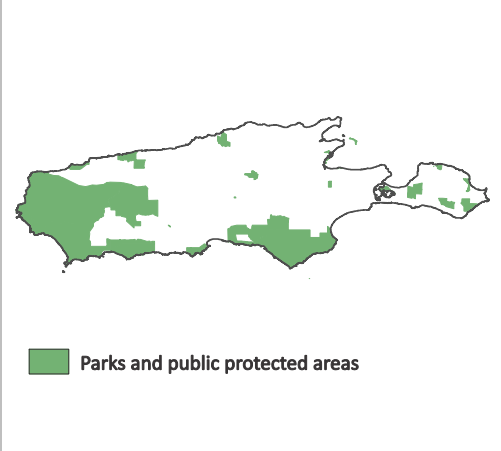


**Where we are at (2014)**      Fair      In 2014, 69 per cent of residents visited at least one park

In 2014, the percentage of residents in the Kangaroo Island NRM region who visited a park was about 69 per cent.

Enhancing visitor experiences and conserving natural and cultural heritage is a complicated balancing act. 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.

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.



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

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