

# 2014 Regional Snapshot

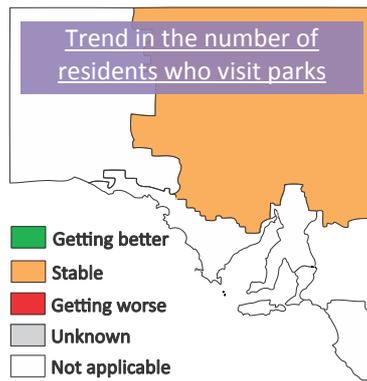
## How many people visit parks?

There are about 30 public protected areas in the South Australian Arid Lands NRM region (see map at bottom), including national parks and conservation reserves, which are public places, and Indigenous Protected Areas, which are on private land.

The parks in the SA Arid Lands NRM region [protect](#) and showcase natural and cultural heritage, including ancient landscapes and fossils, Aboriginal art and engravings, historic European sites, mountain ranges, 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 South Australians who visited at least one land based park or reserve each year.

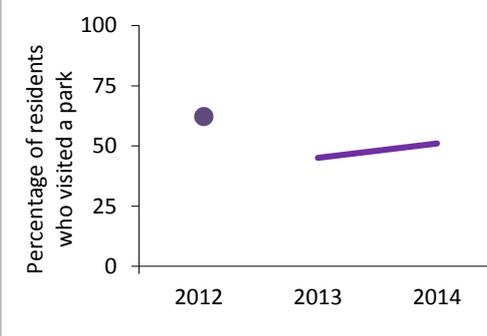


**State target**  
Maintain the productive capacity of our natural resources

|                        |        |  |
|------------------------|--------|--|
| <b>Trend (2013-14)</b> | Stable | This is the second year these data have been collected<br>Trends will be available in the future |
|------------------------|--------|--|

Within the SA Arid Lands NRM region, the percentage of residents who visited a park was varied between 45- 51 per cent in 2013-14 (graph on right). Information was also collected in 2012, but it was combined with a survey of residents from the Alinytjara Wilurara NRM region. This information was not used to calculate the trend, but it is shown on the graph.

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.

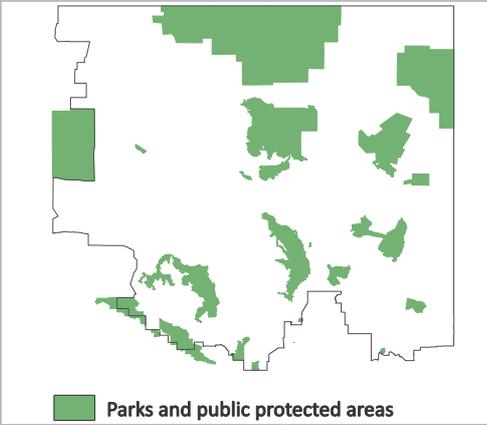


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|-------------------------------|------|---|
| <b>Where we are at (2014)</b> | Fair | In 2014, 51 per cent of residents visited at least one park |
|-------------------------------|------|---|

In 2014, the percentage of residents from the SA Arid Lands NRM region who visited a park was about 51 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.



|                                   |           |   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|
| <b>Reliability of information</b> | ★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆ | Fair, more information is needed on park visitation |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|

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