

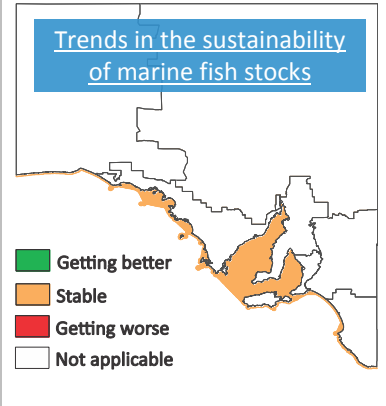
2014 State Report Card

Are our recreational and commercial marine fish stocks being used sustainably?

Our fisheries produce premium seafood for local and export markets and feed for our aquaculture industries. Fishing supports employment in the commercial, charter and recreational industries and related businesses and we value fishing for the social, cultural and health benefits it provides.

[Commercial](#) and [recreational](#) fisheries depend on healthy ecosystems. To ensure that wild fish stocks are used sustainably the Government controls the number of fish that can be caught and manages the impacts of fishing on marine ecosystems. Maintaining our wild fish stocks also relies on management of developments, water quality within catchments and marine pests.

This report card summarises the sustainability of our fish [stocks](#) based on whether they have adequate abundance, recruitment (number of new young fish that enter a stock in a given year) and control of fishing pressure. It should be read alongside other reports on marine [ecosystems](#).



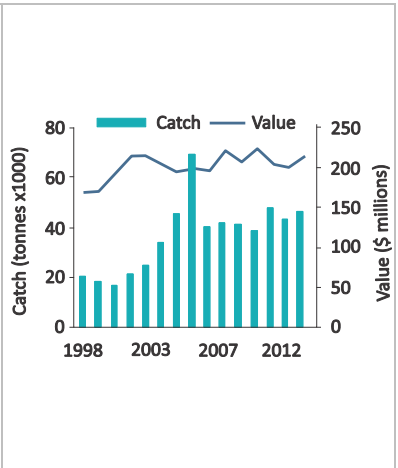
 **State target**
Maintain the productive capacity of our natural resources

Trend (2012–14)	Stable	The status of fish stocks between 2012–14 was stable. However the number of <i>transitional-depleting</i> stocks has increased.
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The [Australian fish stocks reports](#), [PIRSA](#) and [SARDI](#) classify stocks as *sustainable*, *overfished*, or *transitional*. Fish stocks in South Australia, have remained stable since 2012, despite an increase in number of *transitional-depleting* stocks, for which fishing pressure is too high. *Transitional-depleting* stocks can still be commercially exploited, but they require management, such as reducing fishing pressure and changing recreational size and bag limits, until the stock recovers.

In 2012, commercial fishers caught 47,000 tonnes of seafood, valued at \$211 million (graph on right, which excludes the charter industry). Ninety per cent of both the total catch and value was from rock lobster, greenlip and blacklip abalone, king prawn, sardine and blue swimmer crab.

Over 90 per cent of South Australians live within 50 kilometres of the coast. A [recreational fishing survey](#) conducted by PIRSA indicates that about 1 in 6 South Australians went fishing in 2007. Collectively, they fished for about 1 million days and targeted King George whiting, garfish, snapper, Australian herring, Australian salmon, southern calamari and blue swimmer crab. For these species, the recreational catch accounted for 19-50 per cent of the total annual catch.



Where we are at (2014)	Fair	Out of 36 fish stocks, 15 are <i>sustainable</i> and 14 are <i>transitional</i>
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In 2014, 15 out of the 36 stocks were classified as *sustainable* and 1 as *transitional-recovering* (table on right). The 13 stocks that were classified as *transitional-depleting* are being managed to promote their recovery. For example, buy-backs of commercial netting licences and spatial netting closures have been used since 2005 to improve garfish stocks. Seven fish stocks were regarded as *undefined* because there was not enough information for their classification.

Sustainable	Transitional - recovering	Transitional - depleting	Undefined
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australian salmon (1 stock) Australian sardine (1 stock) Blacklip abalone (southern zone) Greenlip abalone (western zone) Blue swimmer crab (Spencer Gulf) Pipi (1 stock) King George whiting (west coast) Mulloway (Lakes and Coorong) King prawn (Spencer Gulf, west coast) Southern rock lobster (1 stock) Snapper (northern Gulf St Vincent) Southern calamari (1 stock) Yelloweye mullet (2 stocks) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue swimmer crab (Gulf St Vincent) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blacklip abalone (western & central zone) Greenlip abalone (central zone) Southern garfish (northern Spencer Gulf, northern Gulf St Vincent) Giant crab (1 stock) King George whiting (Gulf St Vincent, Spencer Gulf) King prawn (Gulf St Vincent) Snapper (southern & northern Spencer Gulf, south east, southern Gulf St Vincent) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue swimmer crab (west coast) Mulloway (Marine Scalefish Fishery) Snapper (west coast) Southern garfish (west coast, southern Spencer Gulf, southern Gulf St Vincent, south-east)

Reliability of information  Excellent for most of our marine fish stocks

Further information: [Technical information for this report card](#), Status of marine fish stocks in [2006](#), [2012](#), [2014](#)