



DROPPING OFF THE EDGE 2021

KEY FINDINGS:

- Disadvantage is concentrated in a small number of communities within South Australia
- Four areas (2% of total locations) accounted for close to a quarter (24%) of the most disadvantaged rankings across the indicators examined. This is a twelve-fold overrepresentation.
- These communities experience a complex web of disadvantage that make it challenging to improve life opportunities.
- Of the top 20 most disadvantaged areas in South Australia, eight were in Adelaide and 12 were outside Adelaide (notwithstanding

the weight of population is centred in the capital). Disadvantage is centred around the remote north of the state, and north-west of Adelaide.

- Several communities have remained disadvantaged for long periods. Of the top 20 most disadvantaged areas, 19 were also highly disadvantaged in 2015. Many of these communities were experiencing disadvantage on multiple fronts.
- The fact that many disadvantaged communities were affected by air pollution is likely a reflection of the remoteness of many of the disadvantaged locations, with both dust and mining activity potentially contributing to particulates in the atmosphere.

2% OF TOTAL LOCATIONS ACCOUNTED FOR CLOSE TO A QUARTER (24%) OF THE MOST DISADVANTAGED RANKINGS ACROSS THE INDICATORS.

LOCATIONAL DISADVANTAGE IS CONCENTRATED

A limited number of communities account for a disproportionate number of 'top ranked' (ie most disadvantaged) positions across the various indicators:

- Four areas, about 2% of locations, accounted for 24% of the most disadvantaged rank positions across all indicators.

- This is a twelve-fold overrepresentation, a stark indication of the heavy burden of disadvantage born by a limited section of the community.
- 17 SA2s (10% of total) accounted for 57% of most disadvantaged positions.

A SMALL NUMBER OF AREAS ARE EXPERIENCING PERSISTENT, MULTILAYERED DISADVANTAGE

The report found a number of communities were considered significantly disadvantaged in both 2015 and 2021.

Of the top 20 most disadvantaged areas, 19 were also highly disadvantaged in 2015; and half (10) were also disadvantaged in 2007. Many of these communities were experiencing disadvantage on multiple fronts.

Disadvantage appears difficult to shift when it occurs across multiple areas of life, as these challenges combine to create what can seem to be insurmountable hurdles. While there seems to have been some movement in which communities showed most disadvantage on particular indicators, these movements may be small (ie marginally in and out of top 5% most disadvantaged) – similarity on the index

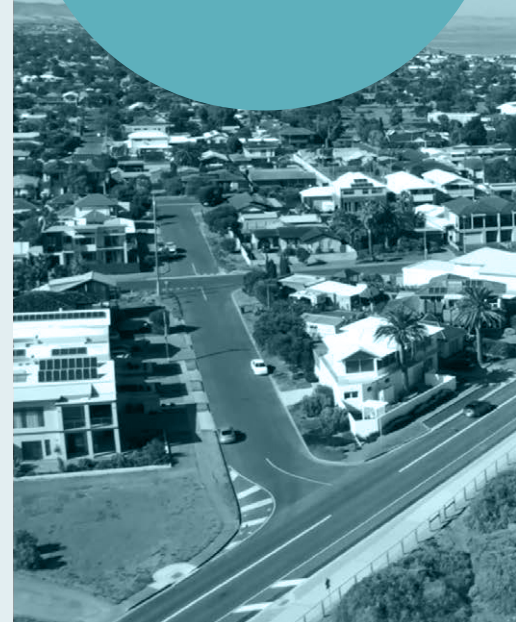
rankings for 2015 and 2021 would suggest this.

A total of 25 communities had at least one indicator in the most disadvantaged 5% in both reports, with seventeen ranking highly disadvantaged on five or more indicators in 2021. In terms of persistent disadvantage, only five communities had six or more indicators in the top 5% in the 2015 report and 2021 report. Different areas ranked highly on different indicators, highlighting the diversity of disadvantage between communities and the need to explicitly consider the individual community context when designing programs to address disadvantage and the impacts of disadvantage.

Place-based approaches that recognise the multi-faceted nature of disadvantage, and the particular types of disadvantage prevalent in any community, will have better prospects of success.

There is immense social and economic cost to the entire community as a result of sustained disadvantage, which perpetuates inequality and constrains life opportunities for significant sections of society.

THERE IS IMMENSE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COST TO THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY AS A RESULT OF SUSTAINED DISADVANTAGE.



ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS CAN PLAY A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN DISADVANTAGE

Environmental indicators were included in DOTE 2021 for the first time, namely measures of heat vulnerability, green canopy and air quality (particulate matter). High levels of particulate matter, or poor air quality, often coexisted with other forms of disadvantage in many states, and this was also apparent in South Australia. This could be due to disadvantaged areas being close to industrial areas in Adelaide, or dust in remote areas in the north of the State.

DROPPING OFF THE EDGE INCLUDED ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 2021



HEAT VULNERABILITY



AIR POLLUTION



GREEN CANOPY

INTERGENERATIONAL DISADVANTAGE

The research also examined indicators of intergenerational disadvantage for the first time. These indicators - teenage pregnancies and families that reported neither parent in employment – frequently coexisted with other forms of disadvantage.

PLACE-BASED APPROACHES

Place-based approaches tailored to address particular types of complex and interrelated disadvantage in place will have a better chance of achieving sustained change. The voices from the case study communities in other states illustrate and reinforce the importance of solutions based in local experiences of both community disadvantage and community strengths.

MOST DISADVANTAGED POSTCODES IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

- COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS

(Bands illustrate the severity of disadvantage experienced by a location with Band 1 being most severe. Locations listed alphabetically within bands.)

List of 20 most disadvantaged locations in South Australia

BAND	SA2 NAME	POPULATION	LOCATION	IN LIST IN 2007	IN LIST IN 2015
MOST DISADVANTAGED LOCATIONS					
1	Christie Downs ¹	9,758	Greater Adelaide	Y	Y
	Coober Pedy	1,820	Rest of SA	Y	Y
	Davoren Park ²	18,291	Greater Adelaide	Y	Y
	Hackham West - Huntfield Heights ³	7,674	Greater Adelaide	Y	Y
	Murray Bridge	19,414	Rest of SA		Y
	Port Augusta	13,397	Rest of SA	Y	Y
	Port Pirie	14,086	Rest of SA	Y	Y
	Renmark	4,806	Rest of SA		Y
	Salisbury	18,579	Greater Adelaide		Y
	Walleroo ⁴	4,301	Rest of SA		Y
2	Berri	4,230	Rest of SA		Y
	Ceduna	2,550	Rest of SA	Y	Y
	Elizabeth East ⁵	13,449	Greater Adelaide	Y	Y
	Enfield - Blair Athol ⁶	24,758	Greater Adelaide	Y	Y
	Mannum ⁷	6,529	Rest of SA		Y
	Moonta ⁸	5,194	Rest of SA		Y
	Outback	2,484	Rest of SA		
	Salisbury North	18,149	Greater Adelaide		Y
	The Parks ⁹	19,341	Greater Adelaide		Y
	Whyalla	21,478	Rest of SA	Y	Y

¹ This was called Onkaparinga – North Coast in the 2007 and 2015 reports

² This was called Playford – West Central in the 2007 and 2015 reports

³ This was called Onkaparinga – Hackham in the 2007 and 2015 reports

⁴ This was called Copper Coast in the 2007 and 2015 reports

⁵ This was called Playford – Elizabeth in the 2007 and 2015 reports

⁶ This was called Port Adel. Enfield (C) – Inner in the 2007 and 2015 reports

⁷ This was called Mid-Murray in the 2007 and 2015 reports


⁸ This was called Copper Coast in the 2007 and 2015 reports

⁹ This was called Port Adel. Enfield (C) – Park in the 2007 and 2015 reports








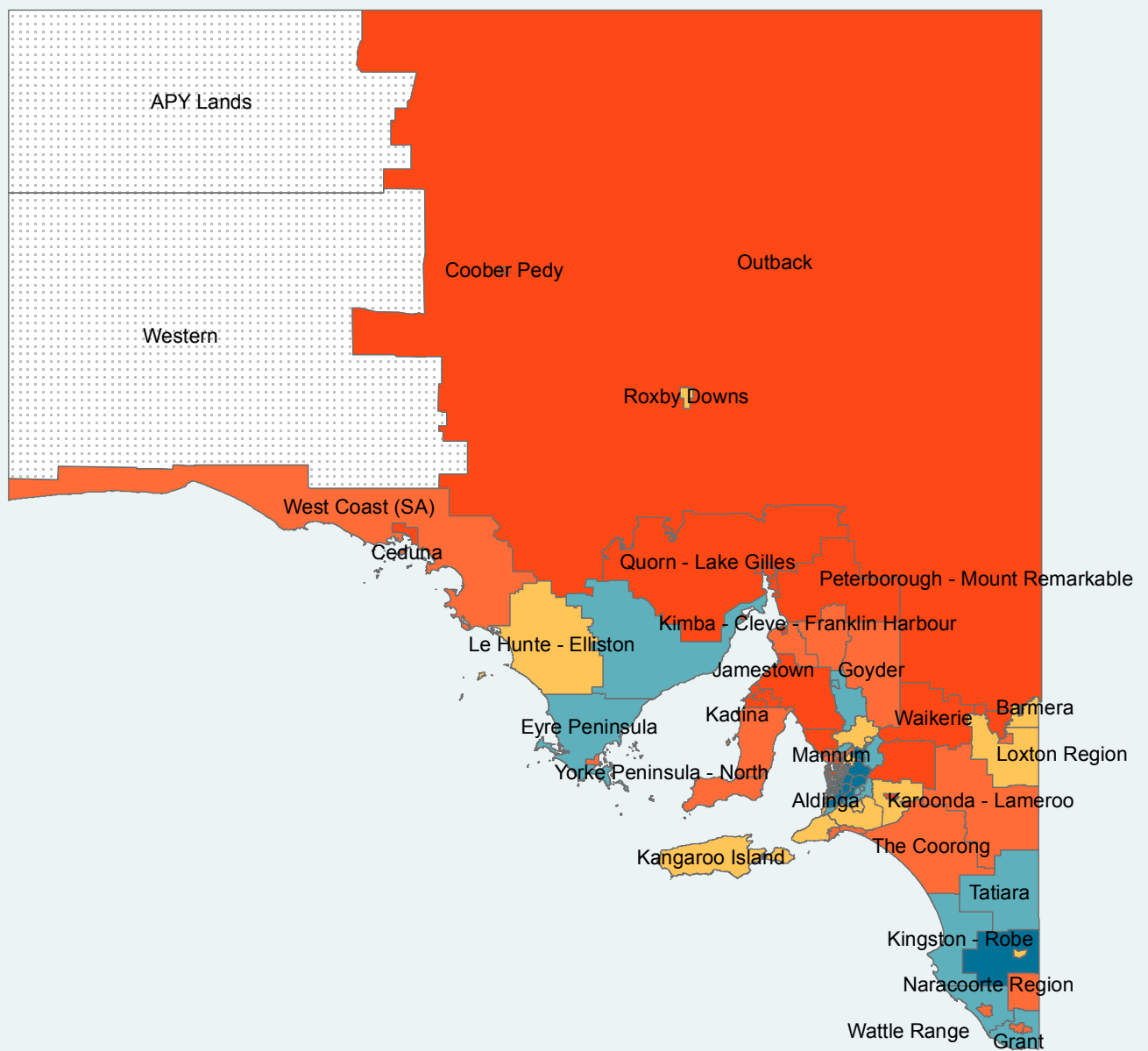
MAP OF INDEX FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

LEGEND

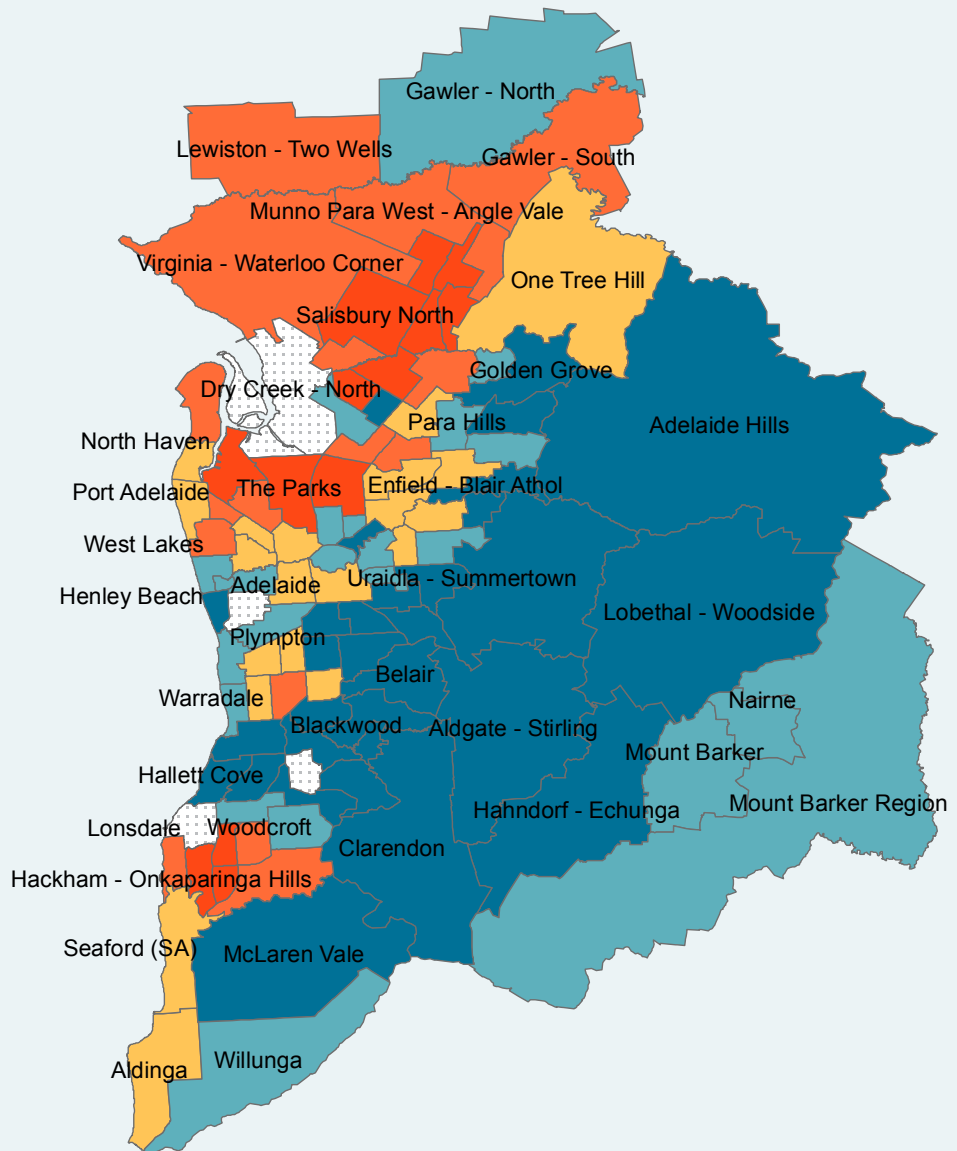
 Inadequate data

Index Value 2021

-  Q1 (the most disadvantage)
-  Q2
-  Q3
-  Q4
-  Q5 (the least disadvantage)



MAP OF INDEX FOR ADELAIDE



LEGEND

Inadequate data

Index Value 2021

- Q1 (the most disadvantage)
- Q2
- Q3
- Q4
- Q5 (the least disadvantage)

DROPPING OFF THE EDGE 2021

examines 172 locations (SA2s or “statistical areas”) in South Australia across 36 different **indicators of disadvantage**. The indicators, based on statistics collected from a number of government agencies, reflect factors that may limit life opportunities in the broad areas of social wellbeing, health, community safety, economic factors and education. In addition, for the first time, the 2021 report also includes environmental indicators and indicators of intergenerational disadvantage.

An index was created that lists areas in bands according to their level of disadvantage. For each area we are able to identify the key drivers of disadvantage.

The Report also considers every indicator separately, paying special attention in South Australia to locations with five or more single indicators where the area ranked in the top 5% of disadvantage. These areas are grappling with disadvantage on **multiple fronts**, and we can identify what those fronts are.

Comparing the index ranking over the years of the report series, as well as performance against a particular indicator over time, provided insights into where and what type of disadvantage was **persistent**.

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builds on similar reports released in 2015, 2007, 2004 and 1999.