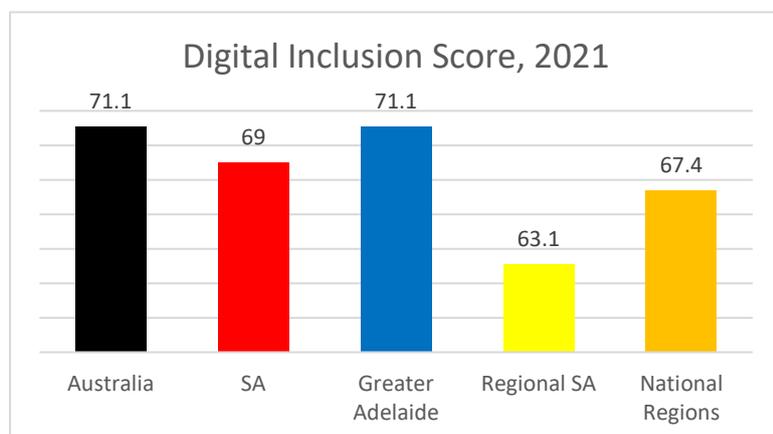


## Digital Inclusion in South Australia: Yorke and Mid North

Digital inclusion is about ensuring that every Australian is able to make full use of digital technologies – to access and participate in work, education, and services, and to stay connected to family and friends. It is about more than simply owning a computer or smartphone, it is about using digital technologies to improve skills and enhance quality of life and wellbeing.

Digital inclusion reflects and compounds other areas of disadvantage. People on lower incomes, older people and people living with disability are all likely to be least included. It is crucial to ensure that **no one is left behind** as key services and experiences increasingly move online.

The [Australian Digital Inclusion Index](#) (ADII) measures the extent of digital inclusion in Australia under three broad headings: Access, Affordability and Ability to use digital technologies. As the graphs below show, South Australia lags behind the national average for digital inclusion by 2.1 points, and regional South Australia is less included than Adelaide and less included than regional areas measured nationally.<sup>1</sup>



Much of the difference between city and regional areas is in digital ability, where the national gap is 11.1 points. The gap in access is 5.6 points. Affordability is roughly equal across most geographic areas and is mostly determined by household income differentials.

### Digital Inclusion by Local Government Area

In 2021, for the first time the ADII shows the level of digital inclusion by Local Government Area (LGA). This is not based on direct survey data, but uses statistical modelling to apply national patterns of digital inclusion to each area based on its demographic characteristics.

<sup>1</sup> Results are based on various survey measures scored relative to an idealised digitally included person who would score 100. The Adelaide and Regional SA figures are averages of LGA scores, not aggregations of index data, so should be treated with some caution.

In this sense, it tells us which LGAs are *likely to be* digitally excluded or included based on their demographics.

The following table lists the digital inclusion scores for each local government area in the Yorke Mid North region. The table shows overall digital inclusion scores and the three areas measured by the ADII: access, affordability and ability. The table also highlights the gap between the state average and each LGA.

LGA	Overall	Gap	Affordability	Gap	Access	Gap	Ability	Gap
Barunga West	59	-10	92	-1	60	-10	48	-13
Clare and Gilbert Valleys	63	-6	92	-1	64	-6	50	-11
Copper Coast	61	-8	91	-2	60	-10	51	-10
Goyder	63	-6	92	-1	62	-8	54	-7
Mount Remarkable	61	-8	92	-1	61	-9	50	-11
Northern Areas	62	-7	92	-1	61	-9	53	-8
Orroroo/Carrieton	61	-8	92	-1	60	-10	49	-12
Peterborough	59	-10	89	-4	58	-12	49	-12
Port Pirie	62	-7	91	-2	60	-10	53	-8
Wakefield	63	-6	91	-2	62	-8	54	-7
Yorke Peninsula	59	-10	91	-2	59	-11	47	-14
<b>State average</b>	<b>69</b>		<b>93</b>		<b>70</b>		<b>61</b>	

## Digital inclusion goals

SACOSS has identified a set of goals that will help drive the digital inclusion agenda, ensuring people can keep up and stay engaged in our changing world.

### *All South Australians:*

- Have access to affordable internet connections beyond their mobile phone;
- Have a base level of digital competency as measured by an [agreed framework](#);
- Are able to access South Australian government websites and information without barriers of disability, language, cultural background or data cost.

### *Every suburb and regional town:*

- Has at least one all-weather public internet access facility with computers, printers and long opening hours
- Has at least one secure, non-commercial public Wi-Fi network accessible from multiple public venues.

*All South Australians* in secondary school have access to their own devices and data at home to enable them to do school work, research and assignments, and online-schooling where necessary.

*All South Australians Living with Disability* have access to adequate affordable data to enable the use of assistive technology appropriate to their needs.