

Yorke and Northern

Regional Service Area · Yorke Peninsula, Clare and Port Pirie

8,832

Carers, one in seven people aged 15 and over

404

Young Carers aged 15 to 24

3,348

First Nations people, 4.3% of residents

2,693

people born in a non-English-speaking country

Who lives here

Population (2024) **79,409**Children under 15 **15.6%**
SA average 16.6%Aged 65 and over **29.7%**
SA average 20.3%Single parent families **26.2%**
SA average 22.6%

The state's oldest communities: almost one in three residents is aged 65 and over, and one in four families with children is a single parent family.

First Nations and multicultural community

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people **3,348**Share of population **4.3%**
SA average 2.9%Born in a non-English-speaking country **3.5%**
SA average 16.1%Speak English not well or not at all **125**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make up 4.3% of residents, above the state average. Few residents were born overseas and only 125 people speak little or no English.

Carers in Yorke and Northern

Carers aged 15 and over	8,832	SHARE PROVIDING UNPAID CARE, BY AGE
Share of everyone aged 15+	13.7%	15-19 5.4%
SA average 13.1%		20-24 6.4%
Carers who are women	59.3%	25-34 9.7%
Young Carers 15-24	404	35-44 15.0%
Provide unpaid child care	22.2%	45-54 18.0%
		55-64 19.0%
		65-74 14.4%
		75-84 11.0%
		85+ 4.6%

Caring peaks between 55 and 64, when one in five people here is a Carer. The Census only counts Carers from age 15, so children in caring roles are additional to these numbers.

Support needs

Profound or severe disability **6,230**As a share of all residents **8.7%**
SA average 6.9%NDIS participants **2,094**NDIS rate per 1,000 **26**
SA average 31Long-term mental health condition **11.9%**
SA average 10.2%

The highest rates of disability and long-term health conditions in the state.

Community context

Live in the lowest 20% of areas for socio-economic advantage **68%**
ABS SEIFA 2021, lowest quintileLow income renters in rental stress **27.6%**Living in social housing **3.5%**
SA average 4.3%Volunteers **24.7%**
SA average 17.0%

More than two in three residents live in areas in the most disadvantaged fifth nationally, with Port Pirie the most disadvantaged area, but volunteering is the highest of any region.

Local health services

- Port Pirie Regional Health Service
- Wallaroo Hospital and Health Service
- Clare Hospital
- Central Yorke Peninsula Hospital (Maitland)
- Southern Yorke Peninsula Health Service (Yorketown)
- Jamestown Hospital and Health Service
- Crystal Brook and District Hospital

and other hospitals and health services, including Balaklava, Burra, Peterborough and Port Broughton, Country Health Connect and Mental Health Services.

Yorke and Northern Local Health Network services.

Where is Yorke and Northern?



The Yorke and Northern Local Health Network, shown in blue. Boundaries from ABS SA2 2021 areas and the SA Health locality file.

What this tells us

Yorke and Northern has the state's oldest communities, with almost one in three people aged 65 and over, the highest rates of disability and long-term health conditions in South Australia, and high disadvantage. Support for Carers here needs to be connected to aged care and health services, delivered locally through partners, and reachable by phone for Carers far from a town.

Yorke and Northern: how we know this region

Our engagement footprint, what we hear and what we are doing

443 Carers received a Carers SA service in 2025-26

98% of Carers surveyed in 2025-26 were satisfied with Carers SA services

How we listen

- Carers SA runs the Yorke and Mid-North collaborative provider workshop, now in its third iteration. The most recent brought together around 24 providers online, including Country Health SA, Cara, ADAI, Country Home Services, e2 Services, the Medicare Mental Health Centre at Port Pirie, Barunga Villages and the Health Advisory Committee.
- Carers and Disability Link, a Carer Gateway partner, co-delivers Carer peer groups across the region, at Clare, Kadina, Moonta and Balaklava. Carers SA runs groups at Ardrossan, Edithburgh, Maitland, Peterborough, Port Broughton and Port Pirie.

In Carers' own words

I am very grateful for the support I have received as a Carer for my husband. It helps me acknowledge that the role is tough when I sometimes feel overwhelmed.

YORKE AND NORTHERN CARER • SATISFACTION SURVEY, SEPTEMBER 2025

So very grateful to Carers SA they have helped me time and time again. An amazing organisation that cares about the Carers. Total respect for this organisation.

YORKE AND NORTHERN CARER • SATISFACTION SURVEY, JUNE 2026

What we hear

Conversations find Carers where forms do not

- The Health Advisory Committee's view is that conversations beat form questions
- Cara's intake makes personal calls, and ADAI's intake form asks the Carer question directly
- Country Home Services care partners share Carers SA information verbally when a client's needs change
- Many Carers here travel to Adelaide for treatment, and our work with Local Health Networks finds them while they are there

Providers want to keep the connection going

- Barunga Villages is adding the Carers SA flyer to its welcome packs
- Providers and Carers asked for My Aged Care education

Partners of older clients do not see themselves as Carers

- e2 Services finds partner-Carers of older clients reluctant to accept help: 'it's my job'
- The reframing that works is 'you can care better with support'
- Aged care services focus on the person receiving care, so the Carer beside them goes unrecorded

The number behind it
29.7% of residents are aged 65 and over, the highest share in South Australia, and **8.7% have a profound or severe disability**.

Male Carers

- A 'fix-it' identity keeps male Carers from asking for help
- Carers attend The Men's Table in Minlaton, and Men's Sheds at Ardrossan, Minlaton, Yorketown and Maitland

Study, work and local supports

- Carers want help to study and to find work, and ask where to start
- Carers SA is exploring working from Uni Hub Spencer Gulf sites at Port Pirie and Kadina in 2026-27, so Carers can meet us alongside study and employment support
- Evolve Well Health, a nurse-led, bulk billing service at Port Pirie
- The Gather My Crew app for coordinating informal support

What we are doing

Support for Carers here needs to be connected to aged care and health services, delivered locally through partners, and reachable by phone for Carers far from a town. This is how we do that.

Connected to aged care and health services

- Carer screening embedded in Local Health Network clinical intake through Partnering with Carers in Health
- Practical help for Carers navigating My Aged Care, and a My Aged Care education session for Carers
- Collaborative provider workshops with health, aged care and disability services, now in their third iteration

Delivered locally through partners

- Carers and Disability Link co-delivers Carer peer groups at Clare, Kadina, Moonta and Balaklava
- Carers SA runs groups at Ardrossan, Edithburgh, Maitland, Peterborough, Port Broughton and Port Pirie
- Coaching delivered in person alongside peer group visits where travel allows, so Carers in smaller towns can meet a coach face to face

Wherever Carers live

- Phone, video and online options for counselling, coaching and peer support
- Interpreting through TIS National in over 150 languages
- Emergency respite available 24 hours a day, seven days a week
- Carers SA staff are based locally and travel to communities across the region, and Carers can reach us on 1800 422 737 or online at any time