SA

RUBBISH REPORT



The 2020 Rubbish Report is a snapshot of rubbish removed by Clean Up Australia volunteers. Across South Australia, the Report is based on the count of 21,631 rubbish items from 86 surveyed locations (22.885 items from 71 locations in 2019).

ESTIMATED VOLUNTEERS: 35,439 40,978 in 2019



VOLUNTEER HOURS: 70,878

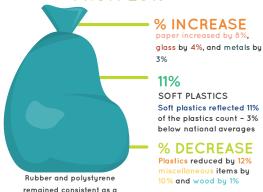
81,956 in 2019

SITES REGISTERED:

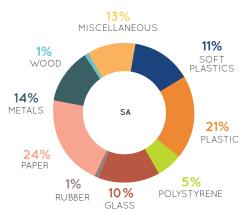


481 in 2019

NOTABLE CHANGES FROM 2019



MAJOR TYPES OF **RUBBISH REPORTED**



2020 participation reflects the impact of COVID-19 on volunteer capacity to join with their neighbours and friends to clean up their favourite locations.

Despite local lockdowns and restrictions, SA volunteers continued to Step Up to Clean Up with a 5% increase in the number of registered activities across the state.

This clearly demonstrates the importance volunteers place on local parks, streets, waterways and bushland and we applaud the estimated 35,439 volunteers who donned a mask and gloves during 2020.

TOP TEN RUBBISH ITEMS AS A % OF THE TOTAL RUBBISH SURVEYED

GROUP ITEMS



percentage of counted rubbish

RANK #1 Non-Food Packaging 30.74%



RANK #2 Food Packaaina 13.23%



RANK #3 Beverage Rubbish 12.8%



Beverage Containers 11.76%



Soft Plastics 10.54%



Sanitary Items 9.5%



RANK #7 Household Items 6.2%



Materials 2.28%



RANK #9 Construction Toys, Sport goods Ropes, Straps 1.64%



RANK #10 Clothing

0.87%

NOTABLE CHANGE

Soft plastics have been separated into their own category for the first time in 2020. Counts include plastic food, retail and garbage bags, plastic confectionery wrappers, cling wrap and 'other' soft plastics. 2020 volunteers counted 1,507 of these items through their reporting, representing 10.6% of all surveyed rubbish and 33.44% of plastics.

Beverage related rubbish [caps, lids, wrapping, straws, casks and corks] represented 12.8% of reported rubbish the highest in Australia and 4.3% higher than the national average

Sanitary items are a significant issue, with SA ranking as the state with the highest % counts nationally. At 9.5% of recorded rubbish, they were 7% higher than the national average and 5% ahead of their nearest rival (TAS).

Food packaging represented 13.2% of all counted items -3.3% higher than the national average and the second highest in Australia behind TAS

*Grouped Data made up 99.7% (99.1% in 2019) of surveyed rubbish

SINGLE ITEMS



RANK #1 Napkins & Tissues 8.83%



Cigarette Butts 7.85%



RANK #3

Glass Pieces 5.81%



RANK #4 Plastic Lids & Bottle Caps 5.25%



RANK #5 Plastic Chip & Confect. Wrappers 5.23%

RANK #6 Straws 4.81%





RANK #7 Small Paper Pieces



Foil Chip & Confect, Wrappers 4.79%



4.5%



RANK #9 Other Misc. Items 3.9%



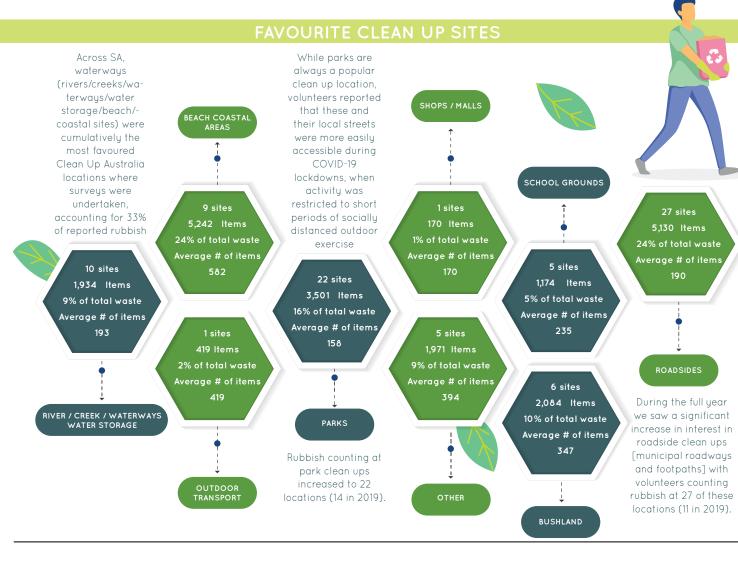
Soft Drink Cans 3.55%

NOTABLE CHANGES

SA is always notable because the mix of items recorded differs from other states due to the progressive nature of SA legislation to ban problematic singlue-use items. As a result, items within the Top 10 are more akin to 'accessories', with napkins and tissues recording the highest

Vhile cigarette butts as a % of counted rubbish within SA are the lowest of all states, the environmental impact of a butt cannot be underestimated. Leaching toxins and leaving small pieces of plastic in their wake

5.8% being the highest percentage across Australia. This is 1.7% higher than the national average and 1.31% ahead of NSW and WA – the states with the next highest counts at 4.5%.



Plastics were the rubbish type most commonly reported across SA waterways, representing 32.5% of the total rubbish counted. Once again plastic items were the dominant rubbish type reported at parks and roadsides - representing 44.6% of rubbish reported in parks and 29% of that counted along roadsides.





Founding Partner



Partners















