

South Australia's progress towards the implementation of meters compliant with *Australian Standard 4747: Meters for non-urban water supply*



Ref: DEW-D0021287

Summary

The following report fulfils a commitment by the South Australian Government to annually report on licensed water take and the State's progress toward implementing [Australian Standard 4747: Meters for non-urban water supply](#) (the National Metering Standards). This report applies to water taken in all prescribed water resources areas across the State. In accordance with the commitments in the [Murray-Darling Basin Compliance Compact](#), meters installed after 1 July 2019, must comply with the National Metering Standards. Meters installed prior to 1 July 2019, are 'grandfathered' and can continue to operate under statewide obligations, until the meter is replaced.

Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3 provide the volumes of licensed water take measured through 'grandfathered' meters, AS4747 compliant meters and unmetered water take for the 2020, 2021 and 2022 reporting periods. All report years are provided in a single document for ease of comparison.

Table 1: South Australia's 2021 – 2022 metered and unmetered licensed water use.

	Metered and unmetered licensed water use 2021-22 (all prescribed water resources areas)	Water Use (Gigalitres)	Proportion of total volume	No of meters
1	Metered licensed water use taken through non-AS4747 compliant meters (grandfathered)	1065.1	85.4%	11,112
2	Metered licensed water use through AS4747 compliant meters	103.7	8.3%	1,170
3	Unmetered licensed water use	78.1	6.3%	
	TOTALS	1,246.9	100%	12,282

Table 2: South Australia's 2020 – 2021 metered and unmetered licensed water use.

	Metered and unmetered licensed water use 2020-21 (all prescribed water resources areas)	Water Use (Gigalitres)	Proportion of total volume	No of meters
1	Metered licensed water use taken through non-AS4747 compliant meters (grandfathered)	1084.9	88.7%	11,507
2	Metered licensed water use through AS4747 compliant meters	58.9	4.8%	752
3	Unmetered licensed water use	79.1	6.5%	0
	TOTALS	1,222.9	100%	12,259

Table 3: South Australia's 2019 – 2020 metered and unmetered licensed water use.

	Metered and unmetered licensed water use 2019-20 (all prescribed water resources areas)	Water Use (Gigalitres)	Proportion of total volume	No of meters
1	Metered licensed water use taken through non-AS4747 compliant meters (grandfathered)	1068.9	91.4%	11855
2	Metered licensed water use through AS4747 compliant meters	16.8	1.4%	287
3	Unmetered licensed water use	83.2	7.2%	
	Totals	1168.9	100%	12142

Notes:

- This report meets commitment 3.7 of the Murray-Darling Basin Compliance Compact and the reporting requirements outlined in Chapter 15 of the [Metrological Assurance Framework 2](#).
- The 2021-2022 data provided is accurate as at 1 December 2022, however, variations may occur when new information results in adjustments to usage volumes.
- 'Metered licensed water use' in row 1 and 2 is water confirmed to be metered via either a grandfathered meter that complies with the South Australian Licensed Water Use Meter Specification pre 2019 (row 1) or an AS4747 compliant meter that complies with the National Metering Standards and the South Australian Licensed Water Use Meter Specification post 2019 (row 2).
- 'Unmetered licensed water use' in row 3 includes all water use deemed to be taken through licensed water sources. This includes low risk extractions that are exempt from metering as outlined in meter implementation plans – predominantly licensed stock and domestic use, small low-risk dams in the Eastern and Western Mount Lofty Ranges Prescribed Water Resource Areas (PWRAs), diverters from the Lower Angas and Bremer rivers in the Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges PWRA (who on-supply water for environmental purposes) and other low risk extractions (e.g. inactive infrastructure, roof runoff). It also includes a small number of unmetered extractions in the Far North PWA and the Little Para Watercourse that are in the process of meter rollout.
- Unmetered forestry and environmental water uses are not included in this report as they are unable to be metered (i.e. no off-takes or structures but water is accounted for in water budgets).