

ARIA Index for Remoteness – User Manual

The following web address is a useful tool for determining remoteness
www.gisca.adelaide.edu.au/products_services/ariav2_about.html.

- Click on **Click here to view ARIA + scores online**

Australia).

ARIA+ is widely accepted as Australia's most authoritative geographic measure of remoteness.

ARIA and its successors ARIA+ and ARIA++, are indexes of remoteness derived from measures of road distance between populated localities and service centres. These road distance measures are then used to generate a remoteness score for any location in Australia.

ARIA+ is the standard Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) endorsed measure of remoteness. ARIA+ forms the basis for the ABS' "Remoteness Structure" component of the Australian Standard Geographical Classification.

Summary

ARIA+ like its predecessor ARIA, is an unambiguously geographical approach to defining remoteness. ARIA+ is a continuously varying index with values ranging from 0 (high accessibility) to 15 (high remoteness), and is based on road distance measurements from 11,879 populated localities to the nearest service centres in five size categories based on population size. The five distance measurements, one to each level of service centre, are recorded for each populated locality and standardized to a ratio by dividing by the Australian mean for the category. After applying a threshold of three to each of the ratios are summed to produce the ARIA+ score for each populated locality across Australia. An interpolation procedure was used to interpolate the index values for each of the localities to a 1 km grid so that all areas of Australia recorded an index value. Using the interpolated grid surface scores for larger areas such as CDs and SLAs were derived.

The major advantages of ARIA over other methods of measuring remoteness are that:

- it is a purely geographic measure of remoteness, which excludes any consideration of socio-economic status, rurality and population size factors (other than the use of natural breaks in the population distribution of Urban Centres to define the service centre categories);
- it is flexible and can be aggregated to a range of spatial units, used as a continuum or classified;
- its methodology is conceptually clear;
- it is precise;
- and is stable over time.

As a comparable index of remoteness that covers the whole of Australia, ARIA+ provides a measure of remoteness that is suitable for a broad range of applications including assisting in service planning, demographic analysis and resource allocation.

Although ARIA+ provides a measure of accessibility and remoteness for the whole of Australia, including metropolitan and non metropolitan areas, the principal focus of the index has been to quantify accessibility in non-metropolitan Australia. This is not to deny the importance of service access issues within major urban areas, but a detailed analysis of accessibility within urban areas is believed better served by a dedicated methodology. GISCA has recently completed a prototype of a metropolitan accessibility index that has adapted the ARIA methodology and underlying principles to measure accessibility in the urban context.

[Further information on the ARIA+ National Data Product.](#)

[Click here to view ARIA+ scores online.](#)

- Click on **ABS Postal Units** top right hand side

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Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA)

ARIA is an index of remoteness derived from measures of road distance between populated localities and service centres. A continuous score of remoteness generated for any location in Australia.

- ARIA based on 4 services centres, values ranging from 0-12
- ARIA+ based on 5 services centres, values ranging from 0-15
- ARIA++ based on 6 services centres, values ranging from 0-18
- STATE ARIA+ based on 5 service centres located within the individual State boundaries.

ARIA+ is the standard Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) endorsed measure of remoteness.

Locate ARIA+ values by Spatial Unit

Census Collection Districts

ABS Postal Units

Statistical Local Area

Statistical Division

Raw ARIA+ values

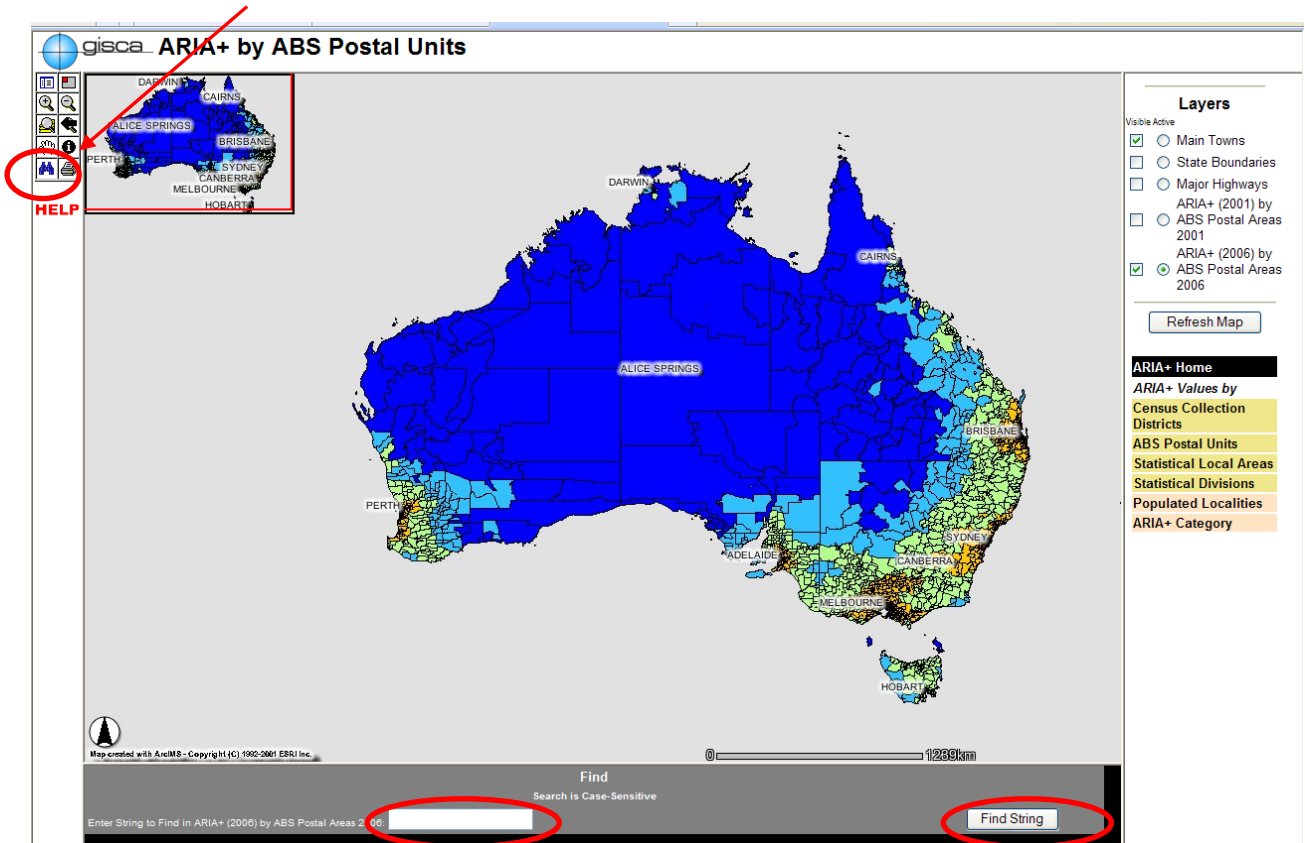
Populated Localities

ARIA+ Categories (derived from 1.0km Grid)

More Health and Aged Care projects.

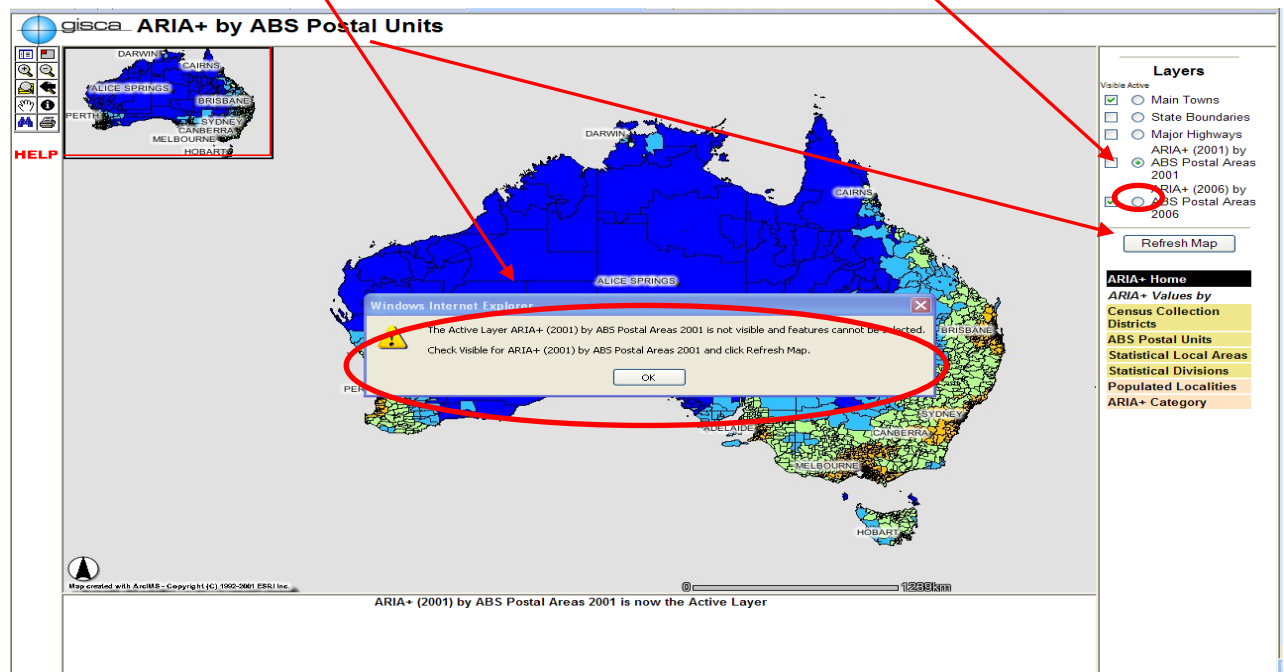
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- Click on  Blue binoculars in the left hand side tool box



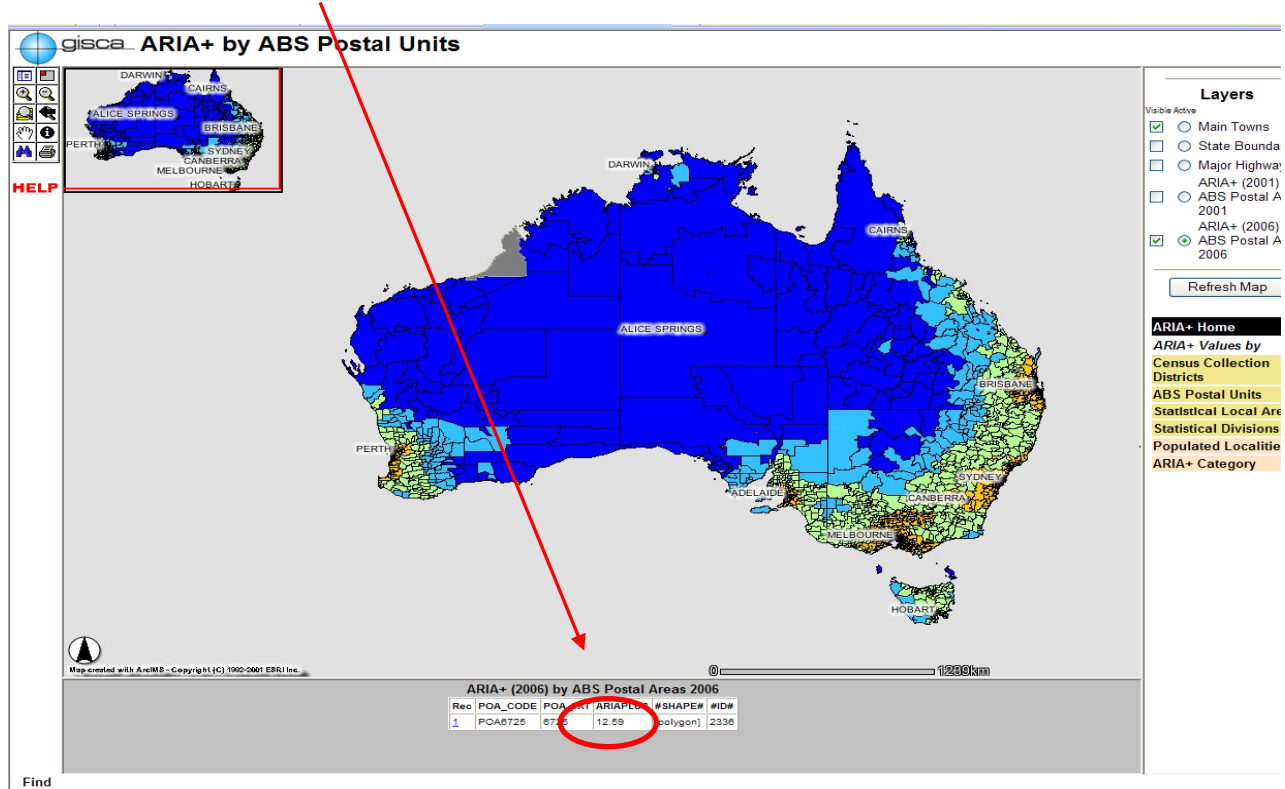
- At the bottom of the screen type the **Post Code** in pop up box then click **Find String**

Note: if an **error screen pops up** Click on the following **ARIA + (2006) by ABS Postal Areas 2006 active box** then click the **Refresh Map** button on the right hand side



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- The **ARIA PLUS** score will be displayed in the pop up box at the bottom of the screen.



Following scores relate to very remote, remote, outer provincial, provincial and metropolitan areas.

- Very remote area [CD ARIA Plus score >10.53];
- Remote area [CD ARIA Plus score >5.92 and, 10.53];
- Outer provincial areas [CD ARIA Plus score >2.4 and <5.92];
- Provincial [CD ARIA Plus score <2.4 and >0.2]; and
- Metropolitan [CD ARIA Plus score 0 <0.2]