



# Community Attitudes to Poker Machines and Gambling Reform Analysis Report

October 2024

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because every life matters

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## Executive Summary

Wesley Mission, in partnership with Compass Polling, routinely surveys adults in NSW to evaluate their views on reducing gambling harm. This is the fourth survey undertaken, carried out from October 11 to 16, 2024.

### Key Insights

#### 1. Strong support for reform measures:

- a. **Mandatory cashless gambling with harm minimisation measures:** As well as being identified since our surveys started as one of the two best interventions governments could make, respondents were overwhelmingly comfortable with the idea of the new technology. We asked for the first time if people had any reservations, and 72% replied NO.
- b. **Shutdown from midnight to 10am:** Survey after survey results in a strong 82% of respondents supporting a longer shutdown period in NSW. This has just overtaken mandatory cards (20% to 19%) as the best intervention government can make.

#### 2. Regional differences in reform preferences:

When asked about reservations around a mandatory card, there was a statistically significant difference for rural residents than anyone else. Of rural residents, 45.7% had reservations. In relation to shutdown periods, however, popularity for midnight closing remained high across NSW, with 74.3% of rural residents supporting.

These results should not be over-emphasized – only 3.4% of the survey participants live in rural NSW, while 67% live in Sydney and over 70% of those participants had no reservations about a mandatory card with harm minimisation features.

3. **Gambling harm minimisation measures continue to have effect:** a year since the ban on external signage was brought in, between a quarter and over a third of regular gamblers say they are still less likely to enter a venue now there are no signs. This result should encourage further reforms, as clearly there is a persistence in behavioural change among the target demographic.
4. **Marginal improvement in trust in government commitment:** Less than half of respondents trusted the government to act on gambling reform. They also believed the government was not committed to reforms, or was not doing enough, and over half felt that the gambling industry has too much influence over NSW Labor. Since April 2023 there has been a marginal improvement in these sentiments.
5. **Majority support for full ban on sports gambling ads:** now that the option of a partial ban on sports gambling ads on broadcast TV, outside live sport and children's programs, has been aired, support for a full ban on sports gambling ads has fallen. However, when broken down by age, gender and income, there are clear demographics still much preferring a full ban: women and those over 54 years of age. Overall, a majority of Australian still prefer a full ban on sports gambling ads.

## Survey findings

We conduct cross-sectional surveys six-monthly, each involving approximately 1,000 adults from NSW. The surveys are administered by Compass Polling.

# PART 1: Demographic Insights

## Sample characteristics

The samples across the waves are comparable with minor demographic shifts, as shown in the **Table 1** below:

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>April 2023 (%)</b>	<b>October 2023 (%)</b>	<b>April 2024 (%)</b>	<b>October 2024</b>
<i>Totals (n)</i>	1,007	1,000	1,007	1016
<b>Gender</b>				
<i>Male</i>	49.3	48.8	46.8	47.8
<i>Female</i>	50.5	51.2	53.0	51.8
<i>Other</i>				0.2
<i>Unspecified</i>				0.2
<b>Age distribution</b>				
<i>18-24</i>	12.0	11.1	10.0	6.9
<i>25-34</i>	19.1	18.0	19.5	21.7
<i>35-44</i>	17.1	17.6	16.2	18.9
<i>45-54</i>	16.5	16.3	18.1	17.6
<i>55-64</i>	14.9	15.1	15.1	15.4
<i>65+</i>	20.5	21.9	21.0	19.6
<b>Education</b>				
<i>School</i>	24	23.2	23.4	20.1
<i>Trade/TAFE</i>	27.3	28.5	28.8	25.5
<i>University</i>	48.7	48.3	47.8	54.4
<b>Income</b>				
<i>Less than \$70,000</i>	36.7	36.2	35.7	29.0
<i>\$70,000K to \$160,000</i>	45.4	46.1	45.0	47.0
<i>\$160,000 or more</i>	17.9	17.7	19.3	23.9
<b>Voting preferences</b>				
<i>Labor Party</i>	41.3	40.1	34.5	33.3
<i>Liberal Party</i>	28.0	28.6	29.7	32.5
<i>Greens</i>	10.5	10.3	10.4	11.6
<i>Independent</i>	5.9	6.2	6.3	6.5
<i>One Nation</i>	4.1	4.0	5.9	5.6
<i>Nationals</i>	3.3	3.7	3.8	3.1
<i>Other</i>	1.2	1.5	3.1	0.7
<i>Ineligible</i>				1.4
<i>Prefer not to say</i>	5.8	5.6	6.3	5.4
<b>Region*</b>				
<i>Inner city of Sydney</i>	37.5	37.4	35.3	35.8
<i>Outer suburbs of Sydney</i>	28.2	29.5	21.6	30.8
<i>Other major city (e.g. Newcastle)</i>	11.5	11.9	-	10.9
<i>Regional</i>	19.1	17.5	23.0	19.0
<i>Rural</i>	3.7	3.7	20.1	3.4

Note: \*In the 2024 dataset, the 'region' variable options were updated to: inner metropolitan, outer metropolitan, provincial and rural areas.

## Key insights

### Voting, education and age:

Education and age significantly influence voting preferences, as shown in Table 2. The data reveals distinct patterns across demographic segments, highlighting the need for campaigns to craft targeted strategies that resonate with specific voter groups.

**Table 2:** Voter preferences by age and education level, October 2024

Oct-24	D_Vote	Labor Party	Liberal Party	Nationals	Greens	Independent	One Nation	Other	Ineligible	Prefer not to say	Totals
D_Education	D_Age										
School	18-24	2.1%	2.1%		7.6%	1.5%			7.1%	7.3%	2.9%
	25-34	2.4%	0.9%	3.2%	0.8%	4.5%	7.0%			3.6%	2.2%
	35-44	2.7%	0.9%	3.2%	0.8%		1.8%				1.5%
	45-54	4.1%	3.6%	3.2%		3.0%	1.8%		14.3%	5.5%	3.4%
	55-64	3.6%	3.9%	3.2%	1.7%	6.1%	1.8%			1.8%	3.3%
	65+	7.4%	8.8%	9.7%	3.4%	4.5%	3.5%		7.1%	3.6%	6.8%
Trade/TAFE	18-24	0.9%	0.6%		2.5%	1.5%				3.6%	1.1%
	25-34	3.6%	1.5%		7.6%	4.5%	7.0%	14.3%	7.1%		3.4%
	35-44	5.0%	5.8%	6.5%	2.5%	9.1%	7.0%			9.1%	5.5%
	45-54	3.8%	4.2%		1.7%	6.1%	15.8%	14.3%		1.8%	4.3%
	55-64	5.6%	3.0%	3.2%	3.4%	9.1%	10.5%	14.3%	7.1%	5.5%	5.0%
	65+	3.8%	8.2%	19.4%	1.7%	3.0%	8.8%	28.6%	14.3%	5.5%	6.1%
University	18-24	2.1%	3.3%		7.6%					5.5%	3.0%
	25-34	17.5%	14.8%	19.4%	22.0%	12.1%	8.8%		7.1%	16.4%	16.0%
	35-44	12.7%	10.3%		21.2%	7.6%	12.3%		7.1%	10.9%	11.9%
	45-54	9.5%	11.5%	3.2%	8.5%	12.1%	3.5%	14.3%	7.1%	12.7%	9.8%
	55-64	6.5%	7.6%	12.9%	4.2%	13.6%	5.3%		14.3%	1.8%	7.0%
	65+	6.8%	8.8%	12.9%	2.5%	1.5%	5.3%	14.3%	7.1%	5.5%	6.7%
<b>Totals</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Table 3:** Annual income and residential location of participants October 2024

Location	Inner Metro (%)	Outer Metro (%)	Non-capital city (%)	Regional (%)	Rural (%)	Total (%)
Annual income						
<\$70k	19	25	30	51	49	29
\$70k-\$160k	53	50	43	36	37	47
>\$160k	29	25	27	14	14	24

## PART 2: Attitudes to gambling harm and reforms

### *Preferences for gambling reforms*

In October 2024, as the cashless gambling trial was already underway, suggestions about this were dropped and additional options were provided, delivered to participants in a randomised order:

- a. Introduce a mandatory cashless gambling card for all venues with daily, weekly and yearly loss limits.
- b. Require all poker machines to be switched off from midnight until 10am.
- c. Let local Councils have more of a say about extra poker machines being introduced into their area.
- d. Limiting the number of machines in clubs
- e. Reducing the number of operating machines by 10% per year
- f. Issuing fines to venues if they let in people who have self-excluded
- g. Cancelling unused poker machine licences after 18 months
- h. No need for intervention by the government
- i. Other (please specify)

<b>Table 4: Gambling reforms</b> (What would be the best intervention by the government?)	<b>April 2023 (%)</b>	<b>October 2023 (%)</b>	<b>April 2024 (%)</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
Midnight closing for poker machine venues	22	27	28	21
Mandatory cashless gambling card	32	36	29	19
Limiting number in clubs				16
Reducing numbers by 10% yearly				11
No need for government intervention	8	9	10	11
Fines for venues for failing to exclude				9
Local Council Involvement	7	7	8	4
Cancelling unused licences after 18 months				4
Other (please specify)	4	5	4	3
Negative sound/silence mandate for poker machines	10	7	7	Not asked
Cashless gaming trial	7	n/a	n/a	Not asked
Simplifying self-exclusion	10	11	13	Not asked

Note: \*\* Wesley Mission did not seek access to the suggestions under "Other".

Support for the cashless gambling card around the time of the election in 2023 was very high, as it was the major reform option being discussed in the media. We expected support to drop in October 2024 as we introduced more options, and participants were asked to indicate what they thought **the best** intervention would be. Cashless gambling with harm minimisation continues to have strong community support.

<b>Table 5: Reservations (Do you have any reservations about the introduction of a mandatory cashless payment system, with harm minimisation measures, for poker machines)</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
Yes	28.3
No	71.7

As the Independent Panel and the pre-implementation testing of technical solutions to a cashless gambling solution is underway, we replaced our earlier questions around support for a trial with a question on whether participants had any reservations about such a system. The result was significant.

In addition, our preliminary analysis of the 250 responses from those who answered that they did have some reservations indicate that some participants felt the proposal fell short, and so their “reservations” were more to do with the scale of reform rather than the particular reform measure.

### ***Operational hours for poker machines***

Support for closing poker machine venues from midnight to 10am remains very high. This should be coupled with the 21% of respondents who considered this the best intervention, showing a strong mandate for government regulatory change.

<b>Table 6: Opinion (Should poker machines be switched off between midnight and 10am?)</b>	<b>April 2023 (%)</b>	<b>October 2023 (%)</b>	<b>April 2024 (%)</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
No	-	18	17	18
Yes	-	82	83	82

### ***Awareness of harm from poker machines***

When we introduced the “Don’t know” option to the survey in October 2023, we immediately saw a drop in the number of people who were certain the answer was “No”. The event stronger fall in April 2024 now appears to have been an aberration, and there are clear indicators that more work needs to be done to help people understand what gambling harm looks like.

<b>Table 7: Awareness of harm (Do you have a colleague, family member or friend who has been harmed by gambling on poker machines?)</b>	<b>April 2023 (%)</b>	<b>October 2023 (%)</b>	<b>April 2024 (%)</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
Yes	31	33	30	26
No	69	54	38	64
Don’t know	-	14	32	9

### ***Awareness of harm from online gambling***

Our question on harm related to online gambling is new to the October 2024 survey.

<b>Table 8: Awareness of harm</b> (Do you have a colleague, family member or friend who has been harmed by online gambling?)	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
Yes	17
No	66
Don't know	16

### *Full or partial ban on sports gambling ads*

In June 2023 the Federal House of Representatives' Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs, chaired by Peta Murphy, tabled its report into online gambling entitled "You Win Some, You Lose More". That report included 31 recommendations to reduce the harm of online gambling. One of those recommendations was for a phased in complete ban on all forms of online gambling advertising, including on digital, print and broadcast media.

Although the government has yet to make a formal response to the recommendations, there has been public discussion around a partial ban, especially allowing, outside of live sport and children's programming, a partial ban on ads which would allow two per hour.

Although support for a full ban has been dropping in the last 3 months since the debate on a partial ban commenced, clearly support for a full ban is higher among women, among those on low and high incomes, and increases significantly with age.

<b>Table 9: Full or partial ban</b>	<b>Full %</b>	<b>Partial %</b>
All ages, all genders	54.1	45.9
<b>By gender</b>		
Female	60.3	39.7
Male	48.3	51.7
<b>By age</b>		
18-24	48.6	51.4
25-34	42.7	57.3
35-44	51.0	49.0
45-54	53.6	46.4
55-64	61.5	38.5



<b>Table 9: Full or partial ban</b>	<b>Full %</b>	<b>Partial %</b>
65+	66.3	33.7
By income		
<\$70k	58	42
\$70-\$160k	51	49
>\$160k	56	44

## PART 3: Gambling participation rates

For the first time, we surveyed types of gambling and the approximate age at which participants, if they gambled, made their first bets. We also investigated preferences for poker machine free venues, and whether the 2023 ban on external signage was still influencing behaviour.

### *Types of gambling and age of first bet*

<b>Table 10: Have you ever gambled with:</b>	<b>Lotteries or Lotto</b>	<b>Scratchies</b>	<b>Poker machines</b>	<b>Horse/dog racing</b>	<b>Casino</b>	<b>Online sports gambling</b>	<b>None of these</b>
All	72	60	53	42	35	33	13
18-24	50	51	33	21	23	34	27
25-34	66	55	50	40	40	46	12
35-44	73	62	58	50	44	52	9
45-54	78	65	54	45	35	28	12
55-64	76	62	58	52	38	25	12
65+	75	60	54	36	21	12	16
NSW 2019 Prevalence Study	41	13	16	13	5	6	

This data shows clearly that younger people are participating less in gambling, although that might be a function of opportunity. However, the response to “none of the above” is much higher in this age group and might reflect the impact of gambling harm awareness education through schools. This should be further explored.

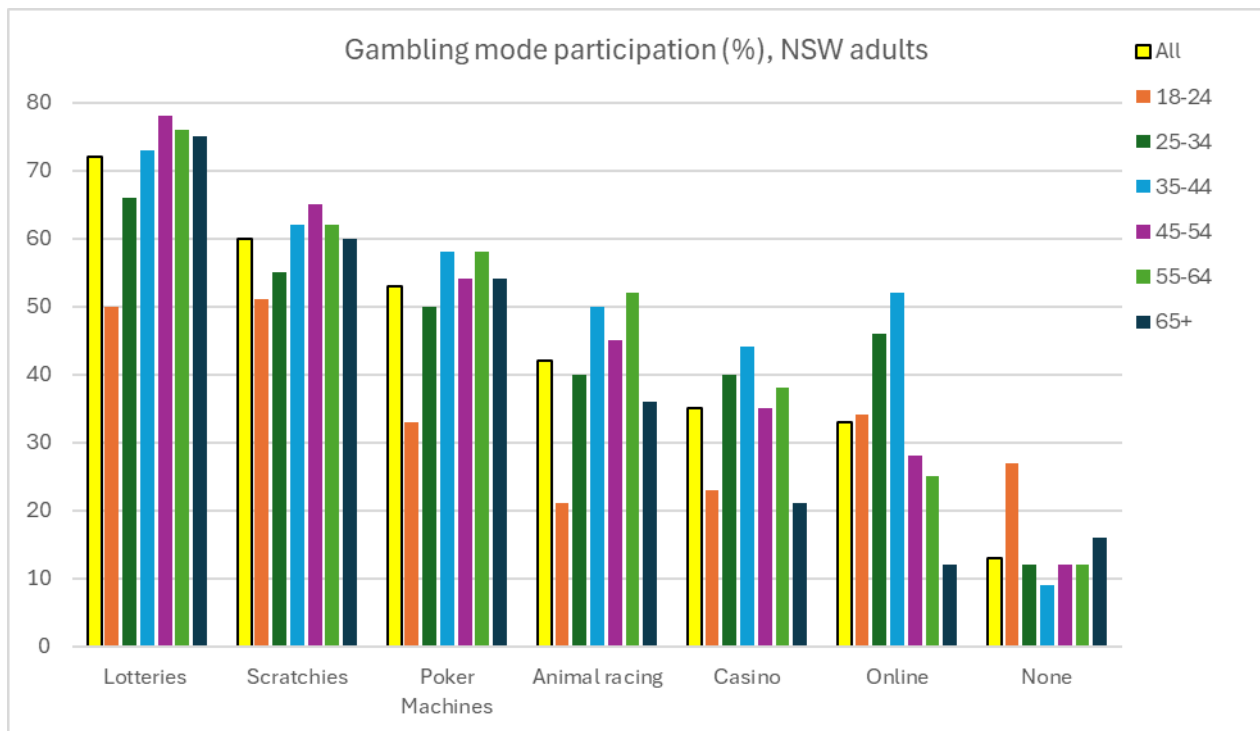
As expected, online gambling participation is higher in younger age groups.

We have included the results from the 2019 RGF NSW Prevalence Study (the most recent study is expected before the end of 2024 and may well differ in relation to online gambling) as a comparison with our results. We combined the figures for “lottery tickets in person or online” and “lotteries or keno via services such as Lottoland” as we are interested in the mode, not the platform, of gambling. The RGF study also included more forms of gambling, including keno, bingo and eSports, however that should not have significantly impacted on the comparative results.

We asked about “ever” gambling, in contrast to most prevalence studies which ask if participants have gambled in the last 12 months. The responses reflect this difference; however it should be noted that in all prevalence studies, including ours, lottery, lotto or scratchie tickets are the most common form of gambling.

We are also unsure the extent to which younger people distinguish between horse/dog racing betting (formerly landbased, at the TAB or at the course) and online sports gambling, given that most online wagering services offer both products. This too should be further explored by researchers.

**Figure 1: Participation by age group**



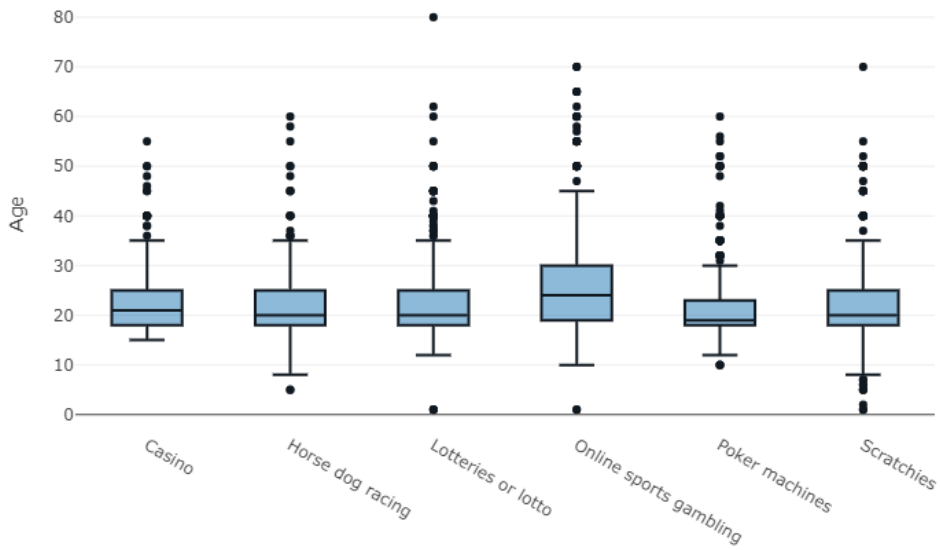
We asked participants, if they had gambled on any of these modes, to tell us their approximate age when they first made a bet or bought a lottery or scratchie ticket.

The data has some obvious issues – it is very unlikely that anyone bought their first lottery or scratchie ticket or first bet on a horse race at one year of age. Taking that into account, we believe that the majority of respondents appear to be honest with their answers, as overall the results match our anticipated outcomes. That is, it is very difficult, but not impossible, to enter and gamble in a casino aged under 18. The 2020 NSW Youth Gambling Study, investigating gambling among 12-17 year olds, reported that around 75% of participants were not stopped from gambling. Online gambling using another person’s account with permission was the most common method of under-age gambling. The average age when respondents had first gambled was 11-12 years old. Wesley Mission has spoken with people who made bets in the TAB while in school uniform, or gambled on poker machines where their age was not checked as long as they did not order alcohol. We are therefore not surprised that the age of first bet in our survey shows noticeable numbers of people gambling under-age.

We would also have expected, as these results show, that the median age of first gambling on a poker machine is the closest to 18 of all forms. Anecdotal evidence known to Wesley Mission is that gambling on a poker machine is a rite of passage for young people reaching the age of 18.

Given the relatively recent introduction of online gambling, the higher median age for first betting is not surprising.

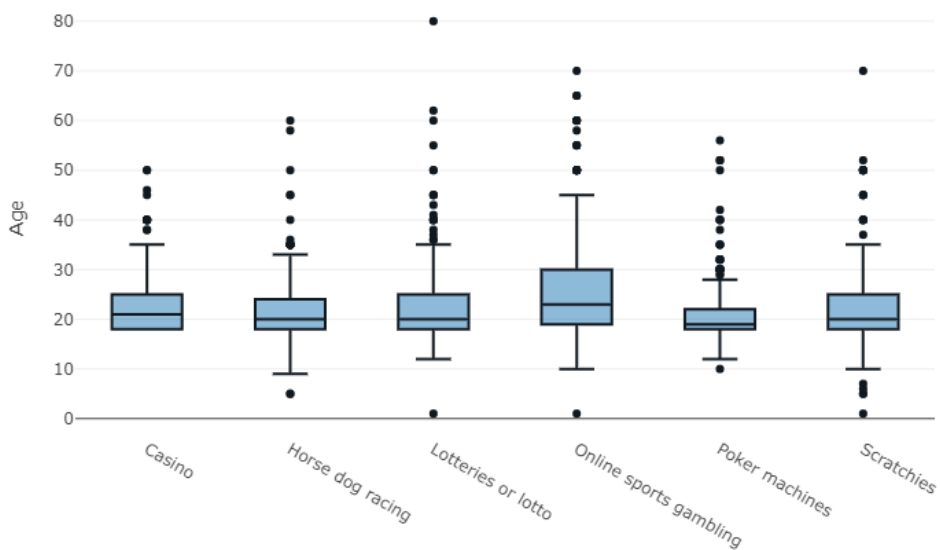
**Figure 2: approximate age at first bet, all age groups, all genders**



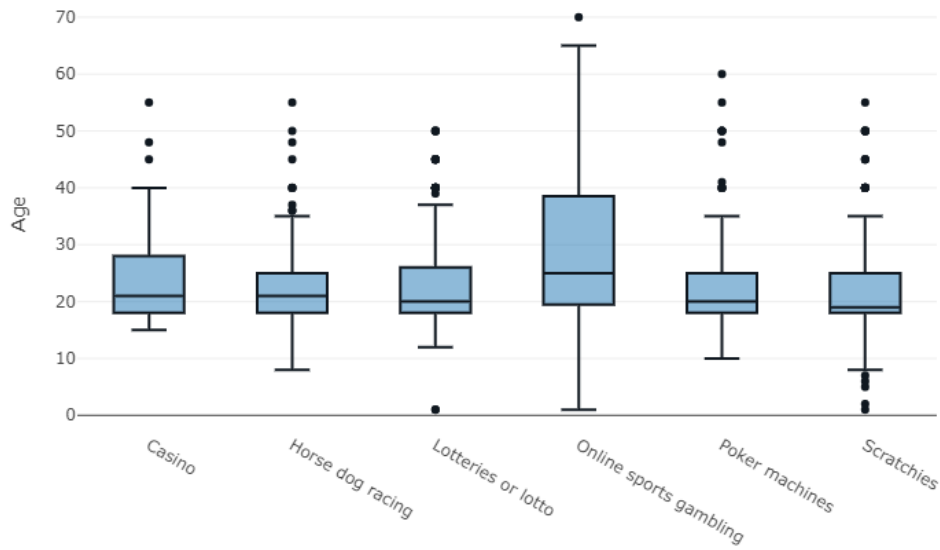
**Table 11: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quintiles and median ages for figure 1 graph.**

Age at first bet>>	Casino	Animal racing	Lotteries	Online sports	Poker machines	Scratchies
Q1	18	18	18	19	18	18
Median	21	20	20	24	19	20
Q3	25	25	25	30	23	25

**Figure 3: Age at first bet, male, all ages**



**Figure 4: Age at first bet, female, all ages**



### Frequency of gambling on poker machines

Respondents were asked about their frequency of gambling on poker machines. The results were:

<b>Table 12: Frequency (How often do you gamble on poker machines?)</b>	<b>April 2023 (%)</b>	<b>October 2023 (%)</b>	<b>April 2024 (%)</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
Never	47	49	47	36
Less than once per year	21	21	20	29
Several times per year	20	18	19	20
More than once a month	9	8	11	10
More than once a week	3	4	3	5

The results for this question differ in wave 4 from the stable answers in the previous three waves. The increased result for “less that once a year” is statistically significant. However, we would need to wait for the next survey to determine if this is an anomaly or represents behavioural change in the last six months, which seems unlikely. The proportions of people reporting regular gambling on poker machines has not changed significantly.

### Frequency and intensity of online gambling

<b>Table 13: How frequently do you gamble online</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
Never	53
Less than once a year	10
Several times a year	16
More than once a month	13
More than once a week	8

<b>Table 14: Number of online accounts</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
0	52.6
1	30.2
2	11.5
3	3.6
4	0.8
5	1.3

As this is the first survey we have asked these questions, our analysis is limited. However, we note that the response to frequency is much higher than in the 2021 Interactive Gambling Survey (2<sup>nd</sup> ed)<sup>1</sup> where in 2019 it was estimated that 17.5% of Australian adults gambled online. It is also higher than the AIFS 2023 Gambling in Australia<sup>2</sup> snapshot of 44% of adults betting on sports and/or racing in the last year (the majority online). Of those who gambled online in the snapshot sample, more reported having two accounts and more reported having three or more accounts than our sample.

### *Venue characteristics*

<b>Table 15: Venue preference (Are you more likely to visit venues with or without poker machines?)</b>	<b>April 2023 (%)</b>	<b>October 2023 (%)</b>	<b>April 2024 (%)</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
Clubs without poker machines	67	69	60	64
Clubs with poker machines	33	31	40	36

<b>Table 16: Given the absence of external signage, are you:</b>	<b>October 2023 (%)</b>	<b>April 2024 (%)</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
Less likely to enter a venue to gamble on poker machines	13	9	13
More likely to enter a venue to gamble on poker machines	6	5	6
The signage does not influence my decisions	44	35	47

<sup>1</sup> N. Hing et al, The Second National Study of Interactive Gambling in Australia (2019-2020), prepared for Gambling Research Australia, 2021

<sup>2</sup> Gambling Participation and experience of harm in Australia: Research snapshot, Australian Gambling Research Centre 2023 (accessed November 2024: [AGRC Snapshot: Gambling participation, experience of harm and community views - overview](#))

I do not gamble on poker machines	37	52	35
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<b>Table 17: Frequency of poker machine use &gt; Impact of external signage ban v</b>	<b>Never</b>	<b>&lt; once a year</b>	<b>Several times a year</b>	<b>&gt; once a month</b>	<b>&gt;once a week</b>	<b>Total of participants</b>
Do not use poker machines	74.6 % 270 people	22.4 % 67 people	5.4 % 11 people**	4.0 % 4 people**	0	34.6 % 352 people
No effect	20.7	65.2	71.2	39.6	46.9	47.1
Less likely to enter	3.3	10.4	18.0	34.7	26.5	12.6
More likely to enter	1.4	2.0	5.4	21.8	26.5	5.6
	100	100	100	100	100	100

We wanted to test whether the impact of removing external signage has persisted over the year since the ban came into effect. In our view, the target for this intervention were the people who gambled at least once a month. It is pleasing to see, and should encourage further reforms, that between one quarter and over one third of regular gamblers are still less likely to enter a venue now there is no signage – this is the same or greater than in the survey immediately after the ban commenced (October 2023).

*\*\* We note the inconsistency between answers given by 15 people in this survey who claimed in an early question not to use poker machines, but then noted use in their answers to the later question on impact of signage.*

## PART 4: Public trust in government independence

Respondents were asked a number of questions related to influence over public policy and the degree to which they felt the government would act.

<b>Table 18: Trust in government</b> (Do you trust the government to stand up to the gambling industry?)	<b>April 2023 (%)</b>	<b>October 2023 (%)</b>	<b>April 2024 (%)</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
Yes	35	31	28	38
No	65	70	72	62

<b>Table 19: Confidence in government</b> (Are you confident that the NSW Government is fully committed to addressing gambling harm?)	<b>April 2023 (%)</b>	<b>October 2023 (%)</b>	<b>April 2024 (%)</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
Yes	46	33	44	45
No	54	67	57	55

<b>Table 20: Doing enough</b> (Do you think the NSW Government is doing enough for poker machine and gambling reform?)	<b>April 2023 (%)</b>	<b>October 2023 (%)</b>	<b>April 2024 (%)</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
Yes	30	28	32	39
No	70	72	68	61

<b>Table 21: Influence on NSW Labor Party</b> (Does the gambling lobby have too much influence on NSW Labor?)	<b>April 2023 (%)</b>	<b>October 2023 (%)</b>	<b>April 2024 (%)</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
Yes	60	62	61	58
No	40	38	40	42

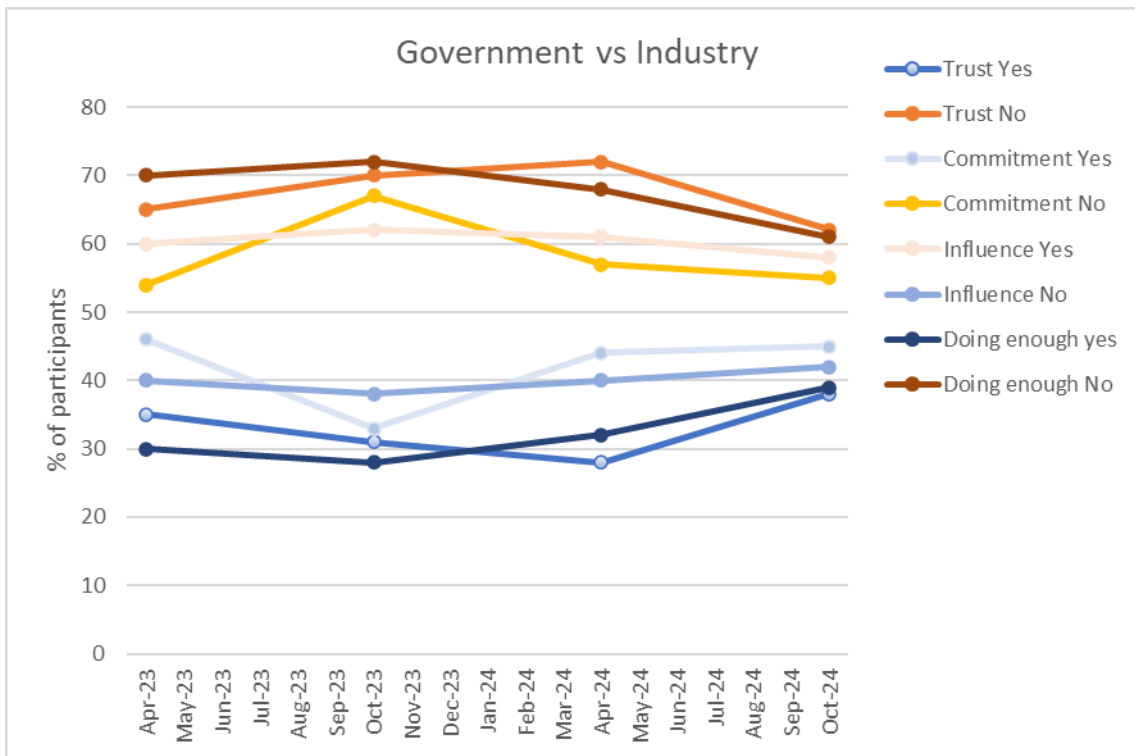
<b>Table 22: Influential groups</b> (Who has the strongest say on gambling policy in NSW?)	<b>April 2023 (%)</b>	<b>October 2023 (%)</b>	<b>April 2024 (%)</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
Industry lobby	33	33	36	41
Citizens/voters	26	25	24	21
Politicians	25	23	24	26



<b>Table 22: Influential groups</b> (Who has the strongest say on gambling policy in NSW?)	<b>April 2023 (%)</b>	<b>October 2023 (%)</b>	<b>April 2024 (%)</b>	<b>October 2024 (%)</b>
Media	10	10	9	8
Academics and reform advocates	7	9	7	4

Collectively, the answers to these questions show that participants feel that the government is not committed or trusted to act on gambling harm because the industry has too much influence on public policy, and specifically, over the ALP. This trend is consistent over time, however there are signs that people’s opinion of the government’s independence of the industry is improving, as the converging lines above and below 50% on the graph below show, but is only marginally better than in April 2023 immediately after the election. The brown lines indicate lack of trust, belief that the government is not committed to reform, and belief that the gambling industry has too much influence over NSW Labor. The blue lines are the opposite positions, and clearly show that less than 50% have faith in the government to act against the gambling industry’s interests.

**Figure 5: confidence in the government acting for reform**



# Appendix

## Study questionnaire

### Community Attitudes to Poker Machines in NSW – October 2024

1. Gender (standard)
2. Age (standard)
3. State (Screen out all other than NSW)
4. Region
  - a. Inner city of Capital city (e.g., Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane)
  - b. Outer suburbs of Capital city (e.g., Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane)
  - c. Other major city (e.g., Newcastle, Geelong, Gold Coast)
  - d. Regional
  - e. Rural
5. Please enter your postcode (number entry)
6. Please select which political party you identify with most?
  - a. Greens
  - b. Labor Party
  - c. Liberal Party
  - d. Nationals
  - e. One Nation
  - f. Independent
  - g. Other (Please specify)
  - h. Prefer not to say
7. What is your highest level of education?
  - a. School
  - b. Trade/TAFE
  - c. University
8. What is your annual household income?
  - a. less than \$70,000
  - b. \$70,000k to \$160,000
  - c. \$160,000 or more

=====QUESTIONS=====

9. Have you ever gambled using any of (check boxes, more than one allowed):
  - a. Online sports gambling
  - b. poker machines
  - c. horse/dog racing
  - d. casino
  - e. lotteries or lotto
  - f. Scratchies
10. If you have gambled on any of the above, what was your approximate age when you made your first bet or used a poker machine?

### Thinking specifically about poker machines

11. How often do you gamble on poker machines? (Q2)
  - a. More than once a week
  - b. More than once a month
  - c. Several times per year

- d. Less than once per year
  - e. Never
12. What do you think would be the best intervention by the government to minimise gambling harm? (randomised, single selection) (Q3)
- a. Introduce a mandatory cashless gambling card for all venues with daily, weekly and yearly loss limits.
  - b. Require all poker machines to be switched off from midnight until 10am.
  - c. Let local Councils have more of a say about extra poker machines being introduced into their area.
  - d. Limiting the number of machines in clubs
  - e. Reducing the number of operating machines by 10% per year
  - f. Issuing fines to venues if they let in people who have self-excluded
  - g. Cancelling unused poker machine licences after 18 months
  - h. No need for intervention by the government
  - i. Other (please specify)
13. Do you have a colleague, family member or friend who has been harmed by gambling on poker machines? (Q4)
- a. Yes
  - b. No
  - c. Don't know
14. Are you more likely to enter a venue with or without poker machines? (Q6)
- a. With poker machines
  - b. Without poker machines
15. Since the external signage (for example VIP LOUNGE) was banned in September 2023, are you: (Q7)
- a. More likely to enter a venue to gamble on poker machines?
  - b. Less likely to enter a venue to gamble on poker machines?
  - c. The signage does not influence my decision.
  - d. I do not gamble on poker machines.
16. Research suggests that gambling after midnight is associated with a higher risk of harm. Do you support a proposal for all poker machine to be switched off from midnight until 10am? (Q8)
- a. Yes
  - b. No

The NSW government has been running a trial of different technical solutions for cashless gambling for poker machines, including some harm minimisation features such as setting limits for total losses or time spent gambling

17. Do you have any reservations about the introduction of a mandatory cashless payment system, with harm minimisation measures, for poker machines (randomised answers) (Q9)
- a. Yes
  - b. No

18. If yes, what is your main concern? [open text answer]
19. Are you confident that the NSW government is fully committed to addressing gambling harm? (Q10)
- Yes
  - No
20. Do you think the NSW government is doing enough for poker machine and gambling reform? (Q11)
- Yes
  - No
21. Do you believe the gambling lobby has too much influence on the NSW Labor Party? (Q12)
- Yes
  - No
22. Who do you believe has the strongest say on gambling policy in NSW? (Q18)
- industry lobby
  - citizens/voters
  - politicians
  - academics and reform advocates
  - media
23. Do you trust the NSW state government to stand up to the gambling industry? (Q13)
- Yes
  - No

### **Thinking now about online sports gambling**

24. How often do you gamble using an online sports gambling account? (Q14)
- More than once a week
  - More than once a month
  - Several times per year
  - Less than once per year
  - Never
25. If you gamble on sport, how many accounts do you have? [open response] (Q15)
26. Do you have a colleague, family member or friend who has been harmed by sports gambling or online gambling? (Q16)
- Yes
  - No
  - Don't know

The government is considering extending existing bans on sports gambling advertising, to possibly include broadcast TV, digital platforms, print, sponsorship and stadium advertising. A partial ban is also considered, which might allow 2 ads per hour on broadcast TV, outside children's programs, but including family viewing programs

27. Would you prefer (randomised) (Q17)

- a. A full ban
- b. A partial ban