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- *all* respondents classified as regular gamblers were interviewed;
- 1 in 2 respondents classified as non-gamblers were interviewed; and
- 1 in 4 respondents classified as non-regular gamblers were interviewed.

Survey protocols were put in place to maximise the contact rate and to minimise non-responses (refusals).

If the respondent participated less than once a week in one type of gambling activity or their overall frequency of participation in gambling activities was less than weekly (less than 52 times a year), they were classified as non-regular gamblers. If the respondent participated at least once a week in one gambling activity other than lottery games or instant scratch tickets, or their overall participation in gambling activities other than lottery games or instant scratch tickets was at least weekly, they were classified as regular gamblers.

As occurred with the 1999 Productivity Commission survey, gambling status was also assessed on the basis of total annual expenditure recorded at SQ4 of the survey questionnaire. At this point in the survey, six non-regular gamblers were found to be spending more than \$4,000 per annum and so were treated as regular gamblers for the balance of the interview.

The interviews were conducted using ACNielsen's CATI system (Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing). Benefits of the CATI system included:

- rotation of survey responses to remove any ordering effect;
- automated sequencing so that questions were asked in their correct order;
- range and logic checks were built into the program to ensure data validity;
- validation was ongoing. 10% of all interviews were monitored by a supervisor in order to ensure that quality standards were maintained;
- call-back times were easily programmed, and appointments were honoured which encouraged respondent cooperation; and

- detailed daily CATI reports allowed for continual monitoring of all aspects of the fieldwork.

Across all 5,445 interviews, including the short screener questionnaires, the average interview length was eight minutes. This time is skewed somewhat due to the large number of screener calls and the comparatively smaller number of in-depth interviews conducted with problem gamblers. At all stages the survey process was closely monitored and controlled resulting in high quality data.

## **Population sample**

### **Sample source**

Households were randomly selected from residential telephone numbers in the latest electronic White Pages for the ACT area. The following procedures were used in order to achieve as high a contact rate as possible:

- a) calls were generally made in the evening or on weekends when individuals were most likely to be home;
- b) phones were permitted to ring at least ten times before hanging up;
- c) five attempts were made to make initial contact with respondents;
- d) once contact was made, a further five call-backs were allowed in order to achieve an interview;
- e) call-back times were varied to maximise the chances of contact; and
- f) four weeks were allowed during the fieldwork phase to ensure minimal loss of respondents.

### **Respondent selection**

Respondents were selected from households based on age (18+) and according to their birth date. Householders who had their last birthday prior to the date of the phone call were selected for interview.

Quota sampling according to age and gender was not attempted in this survey due to financial and time constraints. Moreover, there are a number of shortcomings associated

with quota sampling including false perceptions of sample representativeness and undue influence on the sample to match the age/sex distribution of the population.

## **Response rate**

Within the screener questionnaire, the contact rate achieved was 79.6% (10,403/13,067), slightly lower than the Productivity Commission's 86% contact rate. After taking account of refusals, terminations and appointments that were not kept, 5,445 completed screeners were obtained, constituting a participation rate of 52.3% (5,445/10,403). The overall response rate of 41.7% was lower than the Productivity Commission's response rate of 47%.<sup>39</sup>

Response rates are important, particularly to the extent that non-respondents might otherwise bias the results by having different characteristics and gambling patterns to those who chose to participate in the survey. The Productivity Commission compared the 1999 surveyed gambler/non gambler mix to the *ABS Population Survey Monitor*, which had a high response rate of 80% and found participation rates almost identical to overall gambling participation rates.<sup>40</sup> A similar comparison could be made between the ACT 2001 Gambling Survey and the *ABS Population Survey Monitor 1996* for the ACT. Appendix B provides results of the Response and Sampling Analysis produced by ACNielsen.

## **Sampling approach**

The same sampling method employed in the Productivity Commission National Survey was adopted for the 2001 ACT survey. Regular gamblers were over-sampled to ensure reasonable respondent numbers for analytical purposes. A proportion of non-gamblers and non-regular gamblers were selected to contain project costs. Thus the sample was not strictly randomised as it was subject to some selective processes.

The followed sampling strategy was used:

- All respondents were screened to establish gambling status.
- Then, based on the classification question at SQ3 of the survey questionnaire,

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<sup>39</sup> Lattimore and Phillips op. cit., pp. 11-13.

- one in two non-gamblers were interviewed;
- one in four non-regular gamblers were selected at random for interview;
- all regular gamblers were interviewed; and
- non-regular gamblers and non-gamblers were selected by random methods.

Table 4 below gives details of the final sample achieved. A total of 5,445 Screener interviews were conducted, resulting in 2,011 Core interviews.

**Table 4 ACT Gambling Survey response rates**

	Screener section	Core interview
Non-gamblers	1,451	432
Non-regular gamblers	3,533	851
Regular gamblers	461	432
TOTAL interviews	5,445	2,011

The questions asked of different groups of respondents in the *ACT Gambling Survey* replicated closely those used in the Productivity Commission's 1999 national survey as indicated in Table 5.

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<sup>40</sup> Lattimore and Phillips op. cit., pp. 12-13.  
AIGR 2001

**Table 5 Categories of questions asked of different respondent groups**  
PC1999 National Survey and ACT 2001 Gambling Survey

Questionnaire area	Non-gambler	Non-regular gambler	Regular gambler
Perceptions about aspects of gambling	Yes	Yes	Yes
Knowledge of anyone with gambling problems?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Personal characteristics	Yes	Yes	Yes
Further details of gambling participation and frequency		Yes	Yes
How much time is devoted to each gambling activity?		Yes	Yes
How much money is spent on each gambling activity?		Yes	Yes
How would the money spent on gambling otherwise have been used?		Yes	Yes
Problem gambling screen (SOGS)			Yes
Other effects of gambling on the gambler and 'significant others' (employment, legal, financial and personal)			Yes
Help seeking behaviour for problem gambling?			Yes

Source: Lattimore, R. and Phillips, R. 2000 'The impacts of legal gambling and the prevalence of problem gambling in Australia,' *Eleventh International Conference on Gambling and Risk Taking*, MGM Grand Casino, Las Vegas.

## Pilot test

Pilot testing was essential for a survey of this scale and sensitivity. The main benefits of the pilot phase were:

- interview lengths were tested (in particular, average time taken to obtain each completed interview);
- questionnaire text and field procedures were refined to optimise response rates;
- questionnaire performance feedback was provided (particularly with reference to respondents reception and ability to understand the questions);
- it permitted the CATI programming to be monitored to ensure that it was working as intended; and
- the training package was tested to identify areas that required further attention in the training for the main survey.

The pilot test provided the opportunity to assess the most effective introduction. For example, it helped clarify whether the survey should initially be referred to as one relating to leisure activities or gambling. It was decided to follow the example of the Productivity Commission and indicate that the survey was focused on people's attitudes to gambling.

## **Quality standards and data checking**

Given the CATI system has considerable capacity for applying edits during the interview stage, a balanced approach was adopted. It was essential to ensure that the edits were not too broad and simple nor too rigid and complex. A compromise was made between having apparently clean data and the undesirable situation of forcing respondents to give answers that fit the edit requirements. A combination of edit checks were used in order to maximise data quality without costing too much interview time.

Some minor errors in the survey were discovered during data analysis, however, they had no significant effect on the survey data or findings. These lapses were:

- The second part of SOGS question 9 (9b) was inadvertently omitted from the *ACT Gambling Survey*. After consultation with other experienced researchers and consideration of the role of this question in the SOGS screen the research team resolved to remove this question from calculations of SOGS scores in this survey. Consequently the SOGS scores are conservative results.
- Introductory phrasing for one of the HARM questions (HARM item 22)<sup>41</sup> was removed after the pilot survey because it did not allow the interview to flow smoothly. As this change might have affected the responses to that question the research team decided, after lengthy consultation, to also remove it from the calculations.
- The survey also did not ask a question related to HARM item 21.<sup>42</sup> However, these omissions will not significantly affect the HARM scores. The HARM indicator is a

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<sup>41</sup> The omitted half [in brackets] of the HARM 22 question asked respondents whether '[in the last 12 months] have you tried to get help related to your gambling.'

<sup>42</sup> The omitted HARM 21 question asked respondents whether they 'have wanted help for gambling problems?' However, several questions in the ACT 2001 Gambling Survey probed the help-seeking behaviour of respondents.

relatively stringent measure; only one of 22 conditions is deemed to indicate harmful impacts from gambling. The results of the ACT survey will be conservative as a result of this change. Moreover, HARM is not a measure of problem gambling prevalence, as is the SOGS scale.

- The expenditure data revealed a number of 'big winners' in the ACT, or statistical 'outliers,' who reported gambling patterns considerably outside the normal range. According to normal practice and using similar methods to those employed by the Productivity Commission, these outliers were removed from the statistical analysis to prevent distortion or bias in the results.

# **ACT 2001 GAMBLING SURVEY RESULTS**

As explained in previously in this report, the ACT 2001 Gambling Survey provided a random sample of responses from 5,445 ACT residents on their attitudes to gambling, its perceived impact on the community and the prevalence of problem gambling. Specific data was gathered on people's regular gambling experiences with particular reference to gamblers who experience associated problems.

In consultation with the ACT Gambling and Racing Commission (GRC), the telephone survey for this project extended the questions of the Productivity Commission *National Gambling Survey* and asked a representative sample of ACT problem gamblers questions related to the survey objectives (see Section 3 of this report). Additional questionnaire refinements in consultation with the Productivity Commission resulted in the reduction of questions posed on lotteries and the addition of questions on help seeking (adapted from the Productivity Commission's 1999 *Survey of Clients of Counselling Agencies, Part E*).



## **Gambling participation**

This section of the report presents the findings from the 2001 *ACT Gambling Survey* and compares them, where relevant, with findings from the Productivity Commission's 1999 *National Gambling Survey*. Table 6 below presents results from the Productivity Commission's national survey and the 2001 ACT survey. Except where indicated, all figures presented in Tables below are weighted.

The ACT population survey conducted in April 2001 suggests that 72.9% of ACT adults participated in at least one gambling activity in the last 12 months (Table 6). This is lower than the figures found by the Productivity Commission for Australians and ACT residents in 1999 (that 81.5% of adult Australians and 80% of ACT adults had participated in at least one gambling activity in the previous 12 months).<sup>43</sup>

In part, this difference can be explained by the way that the survey questions were asked. For example, the Productivity Commission did not distinguish between those people that may have brought lotto tickets or instant scratch tickets for someone else, while the ACT 2001 survey made this distinction. If ACT non-gambling residents who purchased lotto or instant scratch tickets for someone else were included in the ACT results, then the total proportion of ACT residents that participated in one form of gambling over the previous 12 months increases from 72.9% to 74.9% of the ACT adult population surveyed. However, this figure is still well below that found in the 1999 survey.

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<sup>43</sup> PC op. cit., p.3.16.  
AIGR 2001

**Table 6 Comparison of gambling participation and frequency by gambling mode**  
**PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Survey 2001 (percentage)**

Form of gambling	Total participation			Less than 1 time/ month		1-3 times/ month		1 to 3 times/ week		More than 3 times/ week	
	ACT 2001	ACT 1999	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC
Poker machines in a club	38.1	37	38.6	60.2	62.1	25.1	24.5	13.8	11.4	1.0	2.0
Bet on horse or greyhound races	23.3	28	24.3	81.2	70.9	10.4	13.6	7.0	13.4	1.4	2.2
On-course	10.0	13	13.4	93.3	84.2	4.4	10.7	2.3	4.9	0.0	0.2
Off-course	18.6	21	19.0	80.7	73.0	11.2	11.8	7.6	13.9	0.5	1.3
By phone	1.8	2	3.3	23.1	45.3	41.7	24.9	25.3	28.2	9.9	1.6
Via the internet	0.5	<0.5	0.1	62.9	34.7	23.6	42.7	13.5	21.8	0.0	0.8
Played lotto/lottery game	48.4	53	60.0		25.4		23.9		44.5		6.2
Played lotto/lottery game for themselves	46.5			41.1		22.5		35.9		0.4	
A weekly lottery game	NA	52	57.0	NA	26.4	NA	23.4	NA	45.6	NA	4.6
A daily game	NA	14	12.5	NA	38.9	NA	30.2	NA	29.0	NA	1.9
Bought instant scratch tickets	43.4	43	46.2		51.9		33.4		14.0		0.7
Bought instant scratch tickets for themselves <sup>a</sup>	35.9	NA	NA	59.4	NA	29.4	NA	10.8	NA	0.4	NA
Played gaming machine keno at an ACT club/hotel/casino	6.9	13	15.9	69.0	72.2	24.5	19.6	5.8	7.1	0.6	1.1
Played table games at a casino	10.0	8	10.9	81.3	82.3	15.9	15.2	2.8	2.3	0.0	0.2
Played bingo at a club or hall	3.2	5	4.6	57.3	48.5	15.7	22.8	21.9	27.3	5.2	1.5
Bet on a sporting event	5.9	6	6.3	60.2	52.4	21.3	24.6	18.4	23.0	0.2	0.0
Played an internet casino game	0.2	<0.5	0.4	100	60.3	0.0	15.2	0.0	20.9	0.0	3.6
Played cards privately for money	5.1	4	5.3	68.4	68.1	22.4	22.5	8.4	7.4	0.8	2.0
Played any other gambling activity	0.7	<0.5	0.6	53.4	70.9	18.1	10.2	20.3	18.9	8.1	0.0
Participated in any gambling activity	72.9 <sup>b</sup>	80	81.5	38.3	26.4	25.8	24.1	29.9	36.6	5.9	13.0

Source: *ACT Gambling Survey, 2001*; PC 1999, p. 3.16 (Table 3.3). Figures for the PC survey refer to national survey results.

<sup>a</sup> In total, 43.4% of the weighted ACT population bought instant scratch tickets in the twelve months before April 2001. However nearly 7.6% of the weighted population bought instant scratch tickets for someone else. These people were not included in Table 6.

<sup>b</sup> Includes poker machines, horses, scratchies, lotto, keno, table games at a casino, bingo, sportsbetting, internet casino, private games, and other (excluding raffles and sweeps).







**Table 7 Comparison of socio-demographic characteristics of gamblers and non-gamblers**

National Survey 1999 and ACT Survey 2001

Characteristic		All (%)		Non-gamblers (%)		Non-regular gamblers (%)		Regular gamblers (%)	
		ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC
Gender	Male	49.8	49.1	49.5	45.0	47.4	48.6	65.6	60.4
	Female	50.2	50.9	50.5	55.0	52.6	51.4	34.4	39.6
Age	18-24	15.8	13.3	12.0	11.2	15.8	13.2	25.4	17.8
	25-34	21.1	20.4	18.6	17.4	22.4	21.4	19.8	18.2
	35-49	30.8	30.1	32.2	30.0	31.3	31.0	24.0	24.0
	50-64	20.8	23.3	21.3	22.7	21.0	23.2	18.5	25.4
	65+	11.4	13.0	15.9	18.7	9.5	11.3	12.2	14.7
Marital Status	Married/living with partner	64.4	66.1	66.1	66.3	65.7	66.9	51.7	60.2
	Separated/divorced	6.9	5.7	7.5	4.6	6.6	5.7	7.1	7.5
	Widowed	2.9	4.1	4.1	6.5	2.1	3.3	4.3	5.7
	Single	25.9	23.8	22.3	21.9	25.6	23.9	36.9	26.7
Household type	Single person	9.6	8.6	12.1	10.8	8.1	7.7	12.4	11.5
	One parent family with children	6.0	4.8	5.9	4.0	5.6	5.0	8.5	5.1
	Couple with children	49.1	50.0	48.3	48.5	50.7	51.2	41.2	43.9
	Couple with no children	22.9	22.3	25.0	23.7	22.5	22.1	19.6	22.7
	Group household	9.2	11.0	6.9	9.8	9.5	11.1	13.4	12.2
	Other	3.2	3.0	1.7	2.9	3.6	2.8	4.9	4.6
	Education	Up to 4th form	15.0	28.6	11.5	24.6	14.5	28.1	27.4
Finished high school	27.6	27.7	21.5	24.0	28.5	28.3	37.2	30.3	
TAFE/technical	10.5	10.5	8.9	7.8	11.4	11.3	9.2	10.5	
CAE/University	46.9	33.2	58.1	43.7	45.7	32.3	26.2	19.8	

Source: *ACT Gambling Survey 2001*; PC 1999, p.3.18. Figures for the PC survey refer to national survey results.















- 36.9% are single compared to the national figure of 26.7%;
- 13.4% live in a group household compared to the national figure of 12.2%;
- 37.2% of all ACT regular gamblers finished high school compared to the national figure of 30.3%;
- 26.2% completed university compared to the national figure of 19.8%;
- 24.7% earned more than \$50,000 per annum compared to the national figure of 19.5%;
- 53.8% work full-time compared to the national figure of 49.7%;
- 6.8% were students compared to the national figure of 5.1%;
- 12.9% were self-funded retirees compared to the national figure of 11.8%;
- 64.6% of all ACT regular gamblers are wage or salary earners compared to the national figure of 60.8%;
- 10.9% live on a retirement benefit compared to the national figure of 5.1%;  
and
- 83.4% were born in Australia compared to the national figure of 80.2%.

## Gambling expenditure

The ACT gambling industry generated expenditure of \$209m. in 1999-2000. Not accounting for gambling expenditure by visitors (both interstate and from outside Australia) this represents an average loss per ACT adult of \$906 per annum.

However, the 2001 survey indicates that approximately 25% of ACT residents did not gamble in the previous twelve months, although they may have participated in raffles and private games. If these non-gamblers are taken into account, the average amount lost by ACT adult gamblers increases to around \$1,210 per year. Table 8 below provides a comparison of TGC data to the ACT survey data.

**Table 8 Comparison of gambling expenditure**  
2001 ACT survey and Tasmanian Gaming Commission

	Tasmanian Gaming Commission 1999-2000 (\$m)	ACT Gambling Survey 2001 (\$m)	% of under-reporting <sup>a</sup>
Gaming machines	156.835	62.174	60.4
Total wagering <sup>b</sup> (excluding sportsbetting)	19.304	-	-
Lotteries, lotto style and pools	13.513	17.501	-29.5
Scratchies	2.469	4.189	-69.7
Keno	-	1.997	-
Casino table games	17.700	6.922	60.9
Sports betting	0	0.619	-
Other commercial games (bingo, casino internet and other etc)	-	0.832	-
Commercial gambling total	209.821	94.234	55.1 <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> A negative value in this column means that the self-reported expenditure data in the survey over-represents the more reliable TGC data. <sup>b</sup>The wagering expenditure figure from the 2001 *ACT Gambling Survey* has been omitted as the sample was small and the data were not sufficiently robust.

There is also evidence to suggest that surveys may not provide reliable data on gambling expenditure, that respondents can overstate spending on some forms of gambling and under-report others. To assess this issue, we have compared the ACT survey results with the more reliable official data provided by the Tasmanian Gaming Commission (TGC). Although the TGC data are for the period July 1999-2000,

twelve months prior to the 2001 survey, they provide a conservative base for comparison.

### **Total expenditure**

Based on self-reported gambling expenditure by ACT respondents surveyed in 2001, total ACT gambling expenditure for the past twelve months was calculated to be approximately \$94.2m. This compares to the official TGC's recorded total of \$209.8m in 1999-2000. On these calculations, ACT respondents surveyed in 2001 have under-reported their total gambling expenditure by 55.1%.

### **Gaming machines**

The total surveyed expenditure on gaming machines in the ACT was \$62.2m. This compares to a recorded \$156.8m in the TGC data, such that ACT survey respondents have under-reported expenditure on gaming machines by 60.4%.

### **Total wagering**

Analysis of expenditure on racing was problematic as there were a number of gamblers who won large sums on racing. For example, on-course betting consisted of a number of gamblers, males aged around fifty, who study the guide in detail and make informed bets. These people, from our survey results, appear to have made a lot of money from their on-course gambling and skewed the wagering results accordingly. This problem appeared to be endemic across all racing categories and the results for racing have subsequently not been reported in this report.

### **Lotteries and Instant Scratch-its**

Lotteries and scratch-its recorded a surveyed expenditure of \$17.5m and \$4.2m respectively. Compared to the TGC data of \$13.5m and \$2.5m for lotto and scratch-its, these forms of gambling were over-reported in our sample by 29.5% and 69.7%

respectively. This is not surprising considering that a significant proportion of prize money will go to one winning combination which is not likely to be picked up in the survey.

## **Casino table games**

The reported survey expenditure on casino table games was \$6.9m compared to the TGC data of \$17.7m. Thus the surveyed expenditure under-represents TGC data by 60.9%.

## **Sportsbetting**

Sportsbetting commenced in the ACT in 1995-96 and there are currently four sportsbetting licenses issued in the ACT. The surveyed expenditure on sportsbetting was \$619,000. Expenditure figures in the TGC are not available as holders of sportsbetting licences are not required to provide expenditure results.

## **Other expenditure**

Other expenditure includes expenditure on bingo in ACT clubs or halls, internet casino games and other expenditure. The total surveyed expenditure was \$798,000.

What is apparent from these results is that surveyed gambling expenditure underestimates aggregate expenditure (as recorded by the government for tax purposes) by roughly 55%. This compares to an under-reporting of about 73% in the ABS Household Expenditure Survey about 25% in the Productivity Commission's *National Gambling Survey*.

There are possible sources of difference between demand estimates (our 2001 survey results) and supply estimates (TGC data). These include:



- the difficulty that respondents may have in recalling and isolating gambling expenditure separately from other forms of expenditure such as food, drinking and entertainment, or may more readily record winnings rather than losses;
- the structure of the survey questions on expenditure;<sup>57</sup> and
- industry estimates includes expenditure by overseas visitors to Australia whereas these are excluded in the survey estimates.

## **Problem gambling**

Research in the United States and much of the literature on gambling has viewed problem gambling as an issue of individual pathology, that is, a mental disorder. Australian researchers have questioned the accuracy of this view (a medicalised model), which identifies problem gambling as originating with the gambler. Recent Australian research, including that of the AIGR, has determined problem gambling to be a social and public health issue. Namely, problem gambling is subject to broader environmental, socio-cultural, political and economic factors.

Measurement of problem gambling as a mental disorder has its foundations in the field of psychiatric epidemiology. Abbott has noted that health authorities view pathological gambling as a serious form of mental disorder.<sup>58</sup> The South Oaks Gambling Screen (SOGS-R measure), developed from the diagnostic criteria for pathological gambling as set out by the American Psychiatric Association DSM – 111, has been used to estimate the current state of gambling related problems.<sup>59</sup> Thus prevalence surveys that utilise these measures in their definition internalise the problem with the gambler. Such research also tends to categorise problem gamblers by using medicalised terms such as ‘pathological’ or ‘compulsive’ gambling. A sociological and culturally sensitive approach to assessing the nature and extent of problem gambling is absent in this model.

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<sup>57</sup> Blaszczynski, A., Dumlao, V., and Lange, M. 1997 “How much do you spend gambling?” Ambiguities in survey questionnaire items,’ *Journal of Gambling Studies*, Vol. 13 (3), Fall, pp. 237-52.

<sup>58</sup> Abbott, M. and Volberg, R. 2000 *Taking the Pulse on Gambling and Problem Gambling in New Zealand*, New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs, Wellington, p.12.

<sup>59</sup> *Ibid.* p. 9

The Productivity Commission acknowledged that there is strong disagreement between researchers about the validity of the different problem gambling measures commonly in use.<sup>60</sup> Often these differences have a national dimension reflecting different cultural perspectives. For example, many researchers in the United States and New Zealand have tended to view gambling as a ‘mental disorder’ and thus prefer more sensitive, psychiatric measures than those used in Australia, resulting in higher prevalence rates.

Various modifications of the SOGS (South Oaks Gambling Screen) have been most widely used in Australia, New Zealand, the USA and Canada to measure problem gambling. However, criticisms regarding the use of SOGS as a research tool stem from a growing dissatisfaction within the Australian research and service communities with the ability of SOGS to accurately assess problem gambling as manifest in the Australian community.

The Productivity Commission also expressed reservations about the SOGS and DSM IV instruments given the cultural diversity in Australia.<sup>61</sup> The key issue appears to be whether problem gambling can be adequately assessed using a psychological framework with an emphasis on behavioural responses or whether criteria that are more sensitive to cultural and environmental factors should also be included. The overall opinion of the Productivity Commission was that there is plenty of room in the field for the development of more appropriate measures and methods to recognise problem gambling. In this latter regard, the Productivity Commission noted that the Canadian Problem Gambling Index (CPGI) was ‘highly promising’.

However, the Commission recognised the benefit of SOGS screening measures for providing ‘guides’ to the prevalence rates and impacts of problem gambling. SOGS5+ continues to be the ‘most popularly used international test,’<sup>62</sup> therefore providing researchers in various jurisdictions with comparative figures.

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<sup>60</sup> PC op. cit., pp. 6.40-6.41.

<sup>61</sup> PC op. cit., p.6.42-6.43.

<sup>62</sup> Ibid.

In response to criticisms of SOGS, the Commission argued that it made better use of SOGS in its national survey by deliberately selecting that section of the target group who gambled weekly on non-lotto forms of gambling for SOGS testing. Numerous Australian studies have shown these forms of gambling to be the most significant indicator of likely problems. While this research design limited the ability of the Commission's study to identify problem gamblers from the non-regular target group, it also significantly lowered the likelihood of false positive results.

Hence, for the purpose of replicating the Productivity Commission survey, the ACT survey continued to use SOGS questions (in a 12 month timeframe) as the primary screening tool for problem gambling prevalence. It also included measures of HARM as used in the Productivity Commission survey. The HARM measure omits most of the items in the SOGS scale that could simply indicate problematic behaviour that do not result in harm to the gambler (eg borrowing from friends, chasing losses). It is a relatively stringent measure in that every indicator is a serious measure of harm related to gambling.

## **Problem gambling and the 2001 ACT gambling survey**

The *ACT Gambling Survey 2001* used similar questions as the Productivity Commission's 1999 national survey, including:

- a scale on the SOGS questions about the frequency of any behaviour;
- questions about the possible harmful impacts of gambling (such as relationship breakdown and illegal acts) on both a lifetime and past 12 month basis;
- self-perception questions about the extent of any problems; and
- questions about the need for and attempts to obtain help for gambling problems.<sup>63</sup>

### **Prevalence of problem gambling**

Regular gamblers screened from Stage One of the ACT 2001 survey were asked a series of questions on the SOGS scale to ascertain the prevalence of problem gambling. SOGS 5+ is commonly used in Australia as a measure of problem gambling.

Problem gambling exists on a continuum of severity ranging from no problem to severe problems. Based on the different levels of problem gambling identified in the ACT survey, and using various tests to measure it, the prevalence of gambling problems among ACT gamblers can be calculated as shown in Table 9.

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<sup>63</sup> Ibid., pp. 6.24-6.25.

**Table 9 Prevalence of gambling problem by degree of problem**  
**PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001**

	People affected		Share of adult population		100 * standard error (%)		Marginal number of people affected		Marginal prevalence rate	
	ACT	PC	ACT (%)	PC (%)	ACT (%)	PC (%)	ACT	PC	ACT (%)	PC (%)
SOGS 3+	8652	692235	3.13	4.90	0.28	0.28	2003	240711	0.724	1.70
SOGS 4+	6649	451524	2.40	3.20	0.26	0.24	1352	158787	0.488	1.12
SOGS 5+	5297	292737	1.91	2.07	0.24	0.20	1476	86249	0.533	0.61
SOGS 6+	3821	206487	1.38	1.46	0.21	0.17	599	48471	0.216	0.34
SOGS 7+	3222	158016	1.16	1.12	0.19	0.15	1120	34158	0.405	0.24
SOGS 8+	2102	123858	0.76	0.88	0.16	0.13	449	30325	0.162	0.21
SOGS 9+	1653	93533	0.60	0.66	0.14	0.11	403	46741	0.146	0.33
SOGS 10+	1250	46792	0.45	0.33	0.13	0.08	1250	46792		
HARM	3312	254778	1.197	1.80	0.20	0.19	3312	254778		

Source: *ACT Gambling Survey 2001*; Productivity Commission, 1999, p.6.44 (Table 6.10).

<sup>a</sup> Column 1 records the number of people in each of the SOGS categories who score at that level. A SOGS n+ means those people who scored from n to 20 on the SOGS. Thus SOGS 3+ are people who scored 3 or more on the SOGS. Column 2 is the share of such people in the ACT adult population in 2001. Column 3 is the standard error of the estimate, reflecting the statistical uncertainty associated with survey samples. It can be used to understand the likely range of prevalence rates. The 95% confidence interval for any given prevalence rate is the measured rate plus or minus 2 times the standard error. For example, the 95% confidence range for the SOGS 5+ prevalence rate is 1.43% to 2.39%. The standard errors shown here do not take account of the complex survey design. Column 4 records the marginal number of people affected as higher SOGS thresholds are used. Thus in 2001 there are about 600 people in the ACT who have a SOGS score of exactly 6. Column 5 records the marginal prevalence rate associated with column 4. Note that the prevalence rates assume that non-regular (on non-Lotto forms of gambling) lower-spending gamblers do not experience *any* problems. However, it may be that even some of these gamblers will have problems, so the estimates here probably understate the prevalence rate.

The ACT 2001 survey found that 1.91% of the ACT adult population have gambling problems as measured by the SOGS 5+ scale, compared to the slightly higher national figure of 2.01%. However the ACT registered a higher prevalence of severe problem gamblers with 0.45% of the ACT adult population have a score of SOGS 10+ compared to the 1999 national figure of 0.33%.<sup>64</sup>

These figures suggest that in 2001 approximately 5,297 people in the ACT have gambling problems as measured by SOGS 5+, with 1,250 of them experiencing severe problems (SOGS 10+). In the US it is suggested that people scoring SOGS 3-4 are also at risk of gambling problems. In the ACT 2001 survey and 1999 national survey this would account for 8,600 and 690,000 people with problems related to their gambling respectively. However this lower threshold would likely generate too many false positives amongst the problem gambling population (see Table 9).

Similar to the Productivity Commission's 1999 national survey, ACT regular gamblers were also asked to consider whether they may or may not have suffered harm as a result of their gambling (Table 10).

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<sup>64</sup> Ibid., p. 21.

**Table 10 Problem gambling and HARM**  
**PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001**

	People				% of adults							
	Not SOGS 5+		SOGS 5+		Total		Not SOGS 5+		SOGS 5+		Total	
	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT (%)	PC (%)	ACT (%)	PC (%)	ACT (%)	PC (%)
No HARM	271012	13 750271	2453	121 224	273465	13 871 495	97.92	97.34	0.89	0.86	98.80	98.20
HARM	468	83 265	2844	171 513	3312	254 778	0.17	0.59	1.03	1.21	1.20	1.80
Total	271480	13 833536	5297	292 737	276777	14 126 273	98.09	97.93	1.91	2.07	100.00	100.00
	Not SOGS 10+		SOGS 10+		Total		Not SOGS 10+		SOGS 10+		Total	
	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT (%)	PC (%)	ACT (%)	PC (%)	ACT (%)	PC (%)
No HARM	273346	13869558	119	1 937	273465	13 871 495	98.76	98.18	0.04	0.01	98.80	98.20
HARM	2181	209922	1131	44 856	3312	254 778	0.79	1.49	0.41	0.32	1.20	1.80
Total	275527	14079480	1250	46 793	276777	14 126 273	99.55	99.67	0.45	0.33	100.00	100.00

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001; PC 1999, p. 6.30 (Table 6.5).

In the 1999 national survey, around 1.8% of the surveyed adult population scored one or more of the HARM measures, slightly less than the number of Australians who were measured as problem gamblers (SOGS 5+). Around 54% of the national HARM group scored two or more of the HARM indicators. A total of 1.2% of ACT gamblers surveyed in 2001 claimed to have experienced harm associated with gambling. The proportion of the HARM group in the ACT 2001 survey who scored two or more of the HARM measures is comparable to the findings of the 1999 national survey.

There are an estimated 5,297 problem gamblers (SOGS 5+) in the ACT, but only 2,844 (53.7%) have experienced some harm as measured by the HARM indicator. This reflects the stringent criteria of scoring on the HARM indicator scale and should not be used to imply that SOGS 5+ people are not suffering harm as a result of their problem gambling. In comparison, of the 1,250 severe problem gamblers in the ACT using the SOGS 10+ threshold, 1131 (or 90.5%) report a HARM impact.

There are 468 people (14.1%) who report experiencing harm (at least one HARM impact) with their gambling who do not score SOGS 5+ (Table 10). Conversely, 2,181 (65.9%) report experiencing harm (at least one HARM impact) with their gambling but do not score SOGS 10+. These results indicate that it is apparent that a score of SOGS 10+ fails to identify all people that are suffering HARM from their gambling while the false negative problem is much less for those problem gamblers who score five or more on SOGS. These results support the usefulness of SOGS 5+ as a measure of problem gambling, as opposed to SOGS 10+.

As well as SOGS and HARM measures, the ACT survey also examined the nature and extent of gambling problems in the ACT using self-assessment questions similar to the Productivity Commission's 1999 national survey. ACT regular gamblers were asked to rate the degree of problems they experienced with gambling from 1 (being no problem at all) to 10 (a serious problem) (Table 11). In the 2001 survey 95.53% of ACT regular gamblers reported that they experienced no problems associated with gambling while 0.06% claimed to have a serious problem related to gambling. This result compares closely with the Productivity Commission findings, which show nationally that 93.68% of regular gamblers experienced no problems and 0.12% claimed to have serious problems with gambling.



**Table 11 Gamblers' self-rating of the degree of problem they face**PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001<sup>a</sup>

Rating of Problem	Number of adults		Share of adult population (%)	
	ACT	PC	ACT	PC
1 - Not at all a problem	264 415	13 233 000	95.53%	93.68%
2	4 621	397 000	1.67%	2.81%
3	3 366	176 000	1.22%	1.25%
4	1 228	94 000	0.44%	0.67%
5	1 172	67 000	0.42%	0.47%
6	637	48 000	0.23%	0.34%
7	717	50 000	0.26%	0.36%
8	197	18 000	0.07%	0.13%
9	117	5 000	0.04%	0.03%
10 - A serious problem	155	17 000	0.06%	0.12%
Cant say	152	21 000	0.05%	0.15%
Total	276 777	14 126 000	100.00%	100.00%

Source: *ACT Gambling Survey 2001*; PC 1999, p. 6.47 (Table 6.12).

<sup>a</sup>Although the question was asked of regular gamblers, the PC's Table heading could be interpreted to suggest that the findings are for the entire adult gambling population. For consistency, we have used the same Table heading as the PC.

Building on the previous table, the following results compare gamblers with self-assessed problems on a scale of 1 to 10 to those gamblers who scored differently on SOGS (Table 12). It should be noted that the Productivity Commission's figures in this table do not appear to tabulate correctly and no explanatory notes were provided in their report. Accordingly, the following discussion should be treated with some caution.

One of the findings from the ACT survey is that an unusually high proportion of ACT residents in the SOGS 10+ category (24.9%) believed themselves to have experienced no problems at all with their gambling, in marked contrast with the findings of the national survey (0%). A large proportion of ACT gamblers in the SOGS 5+ group (15.2%) also denied having any problem; however this compares with the results of the 1999 national survey. Overall, ACT gamblers identified as problem gamblers show a greater tendency to either deny or minimise the extent of their problem.

**Table 12 Self rating of degree of severity by SOGS score**  
PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001 (percentage)

Rating of degree of problem	SOGS 3-4		SOGS 5-9		SOGS 5+		SOGS 10+	
	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC
1 (no problems)	35.8	48.3	12.2	14.9	15.2	12.5	24.9	0.0
2 to 3 (minor problems)	56.5	35.2	35.6	27.7	28.3	23.8	4.6	3.7
4 to 6 (moderate problems)	5.5	16.5	36.6	36.4	35.5	33.2	32.2	16.2
7-10 (most severe problems)	2.3	0.0	15.6	19.0	21.0	24.7	38.3	54.8
All	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001; PC 1999, p. 6.28 (Table 6.4).

## Length of gambling problems?

Self-assessed problem gamblers in the ACT survey were asked how long they had experienced problems with their gambling (Table 13). The most common reported duration of gambling problems was one to two years (35.2%). However, a substantial number of respondents (15.9%) reported gambling problems enduring for more than 10 years.

**Table 13 The duration of gambling problems**  
PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001<sup>a</sup>

	Share of problem gamblers (%)	
	ACT	PC
Less than one year	1.7	3.1
One to two years	35.2	16.5
Over 2 years to 5 years	29.3	27.9
Over 5 years to 7 years	6.1	12.4
Over 7 years to 10 years	12.0	9.8
Over 10 years to 15 years	3.3	11.6
Over 15 years	12.6	18.6

Source: *ACT Gambling Survey 2001*; PC 1999, p. 6.60 (Table 6.18).

<sup>a</sup>Note that the ACT sample is not based on clients of counselling services (as surveyed by the Productivity Commission) but rather all regular gamblers who currently have a self-assessed problem. Thus these two columns are not directly comparable.

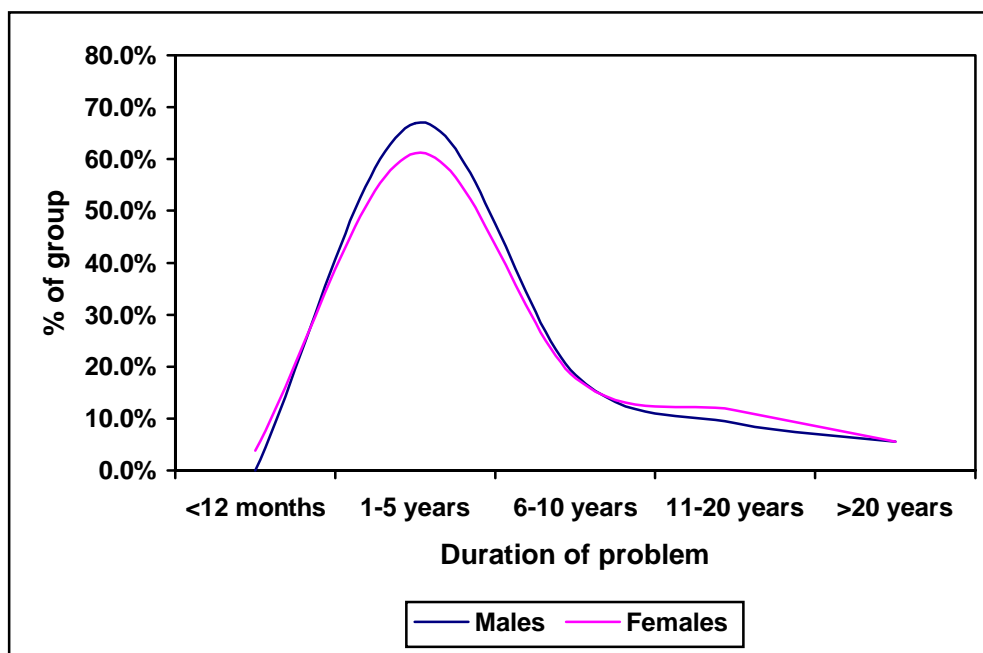
Compared to the Productivity Commission's national survey of clients in counselling services, self-assessed problem gamblers in the ACT tend to experience problems for a shorter period of time on average. For example, the most common (27.9%) timeframe for gambling problems at the national level was between two and five years. 30.2% of Australian problem gamblers in counselling had experienced difficulties for over ten years, compared with 15.9% of ACT self-assessed problem gamblers.

The majority of ACT problem gamblers had experienced problems for 1-2 years (35.2%) or 2-5 years (29.3%), compared with the national client survey results of

16.5% and 27.9% respectively. While the two sample groups are not directly comparable, these findings suggest that the average duration of problem gambling amongst ACT residents could be shorter than the national average of 8.7 years.<sup>65</sup>

Duration of gambling problems is minimally affected by gender (Figure 10). Women in the ACT are slightly more likely to experience longer periods of difficulty than males. 17.2% of women’s gambling problems exceed ten years compared to 14.7% of men.

**Figure 10 Duration of problem gambling by gender**  
ACT Gambling Survey 2001<sup>a</sup>



Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001. <sup>a</sup> The data has been smoothed. Note that this population sample is not from clients of counselling services, as in the Productivity Commission’s 1999 national study, but rather all regular gamblers in the ACT who have a self-assessed problem.

Of the group of ACT self-assessed problem gamblers, between 0% and 35% of males and 5%-35% of females report that they have experienced problems with gambling for less than twelve months. Approximately 70% of male gamblers in this group compared to 60% of females have had problems with their gambling for periods of two to three years. Similar results according to gender are seen at the five year duration period.

<sup>65</sup> Ibid., p. 6.60.

However, approximately 10% of ACT males and females with a self-assessed gambling problem have experienced problems for over 10 years.

## Problem gambling and types of gambling

Findings of the 2001 ACT gambling survey indicate that gaming machines are associated with the highest prevalence of problem gambling and harm incident rates among regular gambling ACT residents. A large proportion of ACT gamblers play gaming machines (38.1% - see Table 6), with a large number of these players experiencing problems as a result (Table 14).

**Table 14 Problem gambling prevalence and harm incidence rates by gambling mode and frequency of playing**  
PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001

	SOGS 5+		SOGS 10+		HARM		Relevant share of adults	
	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC
ALL players								
EGM players	4.94	4.67	1.10	0.76	3.06	4.09	38.10	38.60
Racing	4.66	4.46	0.77	0.74	2.53	3.80	23.27	24.30
Instant scratch tickets <sup>a</sup>	2.85	2.83	0.77	0.39	2.02	2.34	35.87	46.20
Lotteries <sup>a</sup>	2.60	2.75	0.78	0.34	1.90	2.42	46.48	60.00
Casino table games	9.18	6.12	1.47	1.06	4.93	4.67	9.98	10.31
Other commercial games	-	5.60	-	0.92	-	5.02	-	23.51
All commercial gambling	-	2.55	-	0.41	-	2.22	-	81.30
Weekly players								
EGM players	22.45	22.59	4.36	3.77	16.89	14.79	5.21	4.27
Racing	17.03	14.75	5.61	3.10	9.09	11.45	2.22	3.45
Instant scratch tickets <sup>a</sup>	4.18	5.49	1.33	1.32	4.59	5.90	4.03	6.70
Lotteries <sup>a</sup>	4.37	2.48	1.71	0.35	3.07	2.44	16.92	29.10
Casino table games	19.54	23.84	0.00	8.03	16.33	15.63	0.36	0.25
Other commercial games	-	13.31	-	2.30	-	8.05	-	3.70
All commercial gambling	-	4.62	-	0.88	-	3.48	-	37.53

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001; PC 1999, p.6.54 (Table 6.15).

<sup>a</sup> Unlike the PC survey, our questionnaire distinguished between instant scratchie and lotto gamblers who bought products for themselves or someone else. Therefore, it should be noted that the two results are not directly comparable.

Regular gamblers (more than weekly) on gaming machines, table games and to some extent racing are significant indicators of problem gambling. For example, 22.5% regular gaming machine players and 19.5% of regular casino table game players have problems with their gambling. These patterns are broadly similar to the national survey results at 22.6% and 23.8% respectively.

Similarly regular gaming machine players and table game players at a casino are more likely indicators of people suffering from severe forms of problem gambling (scoring greater than SOGS 10) or experiencing some form of harm as measured by the HARM indicator.

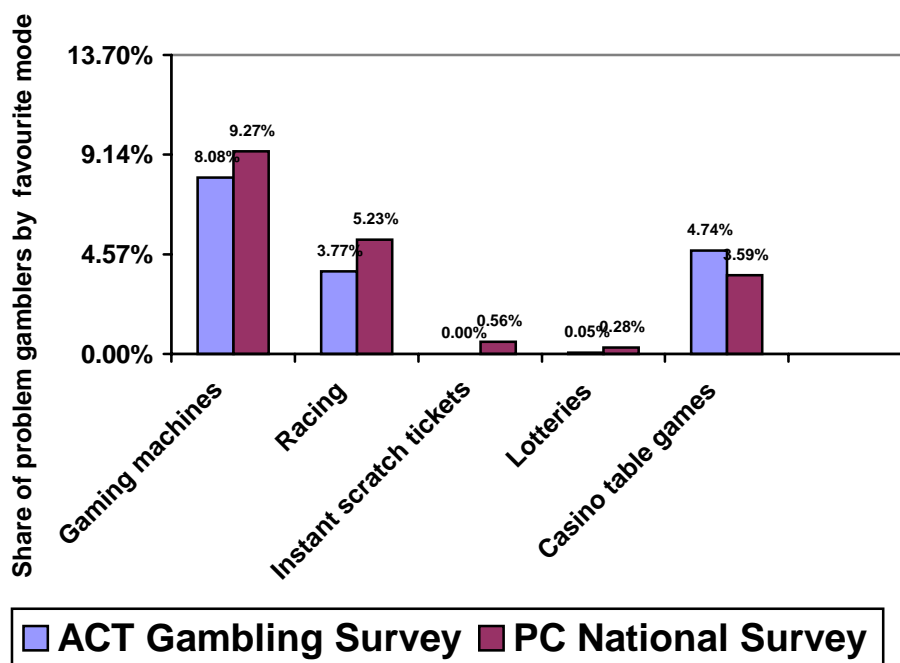
The high adult participation in gaming machines, racing, instant scratch its and lotto mean that they record lower prevalence rates for that particular mode of gambling for all regular and non regular gamblers compared to casino table games. For example, roughly one in 10 table game players have problems with their gambling as measured by a score of SOGS 5+, compared to nearly one in twenty people for gaming machines and racing.

It is noteworthy that while lotteries/lotto have the highest level of participation amongst all ACT gamblers (46.48%), this form of gambling has the lowest prevalence of problem gambling as measured by the SOGS 5+, SOGS 10+ and HARM scales. This finding is similar to that of the national survey in 1999.

People often gamble on more than one mode of gambling, and so problem gamblers in a particular mode will be classed as a problem gambler in another mode, yet their expenditure or frequency of play in this other mode of play may not be representative or problem gambling patterns. The following graph (Figure 11) shows a comparison of preferred modes of gambling as indicated by those ACT gamblers identified as problem gamblers.

**Figure 11 Share of people with gambling problems by their favourite mode of gambling**

PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001<sup>a</sup>



Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001; PC 1999, p. 6.54, (Figure 6.4). Figures for the PC survey refer to national survey results.

<sup>a</sup>The favourite mode of gambling was determined by asking what mode gamblers thought they spent the most money on.

Figure 11 suggests that lotteries and instant scratch tickets do not create problem gamblers. For example, 0.05% and 0% of people who consider lottery gambling and instant scratch tickets their favourite forms of gambling score SOGS 5+. Gaming machine and casino table games present a larger source of problem gamblers with roughly 1 in 12 and 1 in 20 people who play gaming machines and casino table games scoring SOGS 5+.

Results are similar for the ACT and national surveys, with ACT problem gamblers showing a slightly higher preference for casino table games and a slightly lower preference for gaming machines. However, gaming machines are still clearly indicated as the most preferred form of gambling for players identified as problem gamblers in the ACT and national survey.

**Table 15 Responses to separate SOGS items**  
**PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001<sup>a</sup>**

SOGS item- what gamblers said	Regular gamblers (%)		SOGS 0-2 (%)		SOGS3-4 (%)		SOGS 5-9 (%)		SOGS5+ (%)		SOGS 10+ (%)		HARM (%)	
	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC
Chasing losses often or always	7.9	3.5	0.0	1.0	7.9	3.6	25.8	20.0	35.7	27.5	67.7	66.7	41.8	27.3
Claimed to be winning when lost	14.7	10.0	5.7	4.0	19.7	21.6	38.0	47.4	43.2	52.7	60.3	80.6	44.1	32.7
Problem with gambling	16.5	8.9	1.9	2.5	12.1	12.0	62.5	63.6	71.3	67.6	100	88.7	89.0	62.6
Gambled more than intended	58.1	35.1	39.8	20.7	99.2	92.6	95.6	98.3	96.6	98.5	100	100	95.5	83.4
People criticised gambling	19.9	10.8	4.9	2.5	21.7	31.4	64.6	63.3	71.9	64.5	95.5	70.8	71.6	49.6
Felt guilty about what happens when gambling	32.5	19.2	7.1	5.8	82.3	64.3	90.5	87.7	91.1	89.7	93.2	100	83.2	88.8
Like to stop but can't	21.2	9.4	2.6	1.0	29.0	24.9	76.7	65.1	82.2	70.3	100	97.0	86.1	64.7
Hidden signs of gambling	12.1	5.8	1.9	0.6	14.4	17.5	39.6	33.2	46.6	39.7	69.2	73.9	34.1	37.6
Borrowed without paying back	3.5	2.6	0.0	0.8	0.0	3.9	5.5	14.1	17.9	18.7	58.2	42.9	21.5	13.2
Lost time from work or study	9.5	2.8	0.8	1.2	11.5	2.4	37.8	13.2	39.4	18.9	44.8	50.3	37.0	14.9
Borrowed from household money	9.6	5.8	0.0	0.6	13.1	18.0	28.3	32.5	41.6	41.0	84.4	87.0	49.6	34.5
Borrowed from a partner	10.3	5.8	1.3	2.1	14.0	11.3	31.3	29.2	39.5	34.9	66.2	64.2	32.8	26.2
Borrowed from other relatives	6.2	2.2	0.3	0.4	4.6	3.4	11.3	13.1	28.3	18.7	83.5	47.8	38.9	12.6
Obtained cash advances from credit cards	8.5	4.9	0.7	1.1	9.6	10.7	24.5	28.8	35.2	34.6	69.6	64.5	30.9	29.3
Borrowed from banks etc	2.3	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	3.4	6.1	11.7	11.7	38.3	40.9	16.8	12.6
Borrowed from loan sharks	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	2.8	5.8	11.8	16.7	2.6	4.9
Cashed in shares	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.7	6.9	4.3	6.3	12.6	3.2	5.0	7.2
Sold property	3.3	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.9	6.5	5.2	16.5	11.0	48.9	40.8	19.2	10.3
Passed a bad cheque	1.5	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	2.2	7.6	4.1	32.1	14.2	10.2	2.9

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001; PC 1999, p.6.25 (Table 6.1).

<sup>a</sup> The CATI system in the Productivity Commission's *National Gambling Survey* was programmed to calculate annual gross expenditure in order to distinguish big spending non-regular gamblers. However a flaw in the subsequent data entry meant that a number of lower spending non-regular gamblers (308 in the unweighted sample) were mistakenly transferred to the group that was administered SOGS. Therefore, caution needs to be exercised when comparing results between the two surveys.



Table 15 shows the comparative results of the Productivity Commission's national survey and the ACT 2001 survey in regard to SOGS survey questions asked of all respondents categorised as regular gamblers. Individual aspects of the SOGS ratings are provided with a breakdown of respondents based on their SOGS scores.

The most frequent responses from all regular ACT gamblers were 'gambled more than intended' (58.1%); 'felt guilty' (32.5%); and 'like to stop but can't' (21.2%). The ACT survey results show higher than national average rates for all regular gamblers for each individual SOGS question with the exception of 'borrowed from loan sharks' and 'obtained cash advances from credit cards' to finance gambling. There were large differences in the ACT the Productivity Commission's 1999 national results in the areas of 'gamble more than intended', 'liked to stop but can't', 'hidden signs of gambling', 'lost time from work or study', 'borrowed for other relatives', 'passed bad cheques', 'cashed in shares' and 'sold property as a result of gambling'.

The most frequent responses from ACT regular gamblers scoring SOGS 5+ were 'gambled more than intended' (96.6%); 'felt guilty about what happens when gambling' (91.1%); 'like to stop but can't' (82.2%); and 'people criticised gambling' (71.9%).

ACT survey responses for SOGS 5+ problem gamblers were markedly higher than the 1999 national figures for the following questions: 'like to stop but can't'; 'lost time from work or study'; and 'borrowed from other relatives'. The notably lower ACT response rate (43.2% compared to 52.7%) was on the question of 'claimed to be winning when losing'.

For problem gamblers in the more severe SOGS 10+ group, ACT figures indicate similar key response areas including: 'problem with gambling' (100%); 'gambled more than intended' (100%); 'like to stop but can't' (100%); 'people criticised gambling' (95.5%); and 'felt guilty' (93.2%). ACT response rates were higher than the national survey results for SOGS 10+ respondents on the issues of 'problem with gambling'; 'people criticised gambling'; 'borrowed without paying back'; 'borrowed

from other relatives'; 'cashed in shares'; and 'passed a bad cheque.' ACT gamblers revealed markedly lower impacts than national figures with regard to 'claimed to be winning when losing' (60.3% for the ACT compared to 80.6% for the national survey) and 'borrowed from loan sharks' (11.8% in the ACT compared to 16.7% in the national survey).

The most common SOGS related problems experienced by ACT gamblers who had experienced harm from gambling as measured by scoring one or more on the HARM scale were 'gambled more than intended' (95.5%); 'problem with gambling' (89.0%); 'like to stop but can't' (86.1%); and 'felt guilty' (83.2%). ACT gamblers recorded marginally higher response rates on all questions than the 1999 national survey respondents. The exceptions with lower response rates than the national results were 'felt guilty'; 'hidden signs of gambling'; 'borrowed from loan sharks' and 'cashed in shares.'

Overall, ACT problem gamblers registered on the SOGS 5+, SOGS 10+ or HARM scales reported greatest difficulty with 'problem with gambling'; 'gambled more than intended'; 'people criticised gambling'; 'felt guilty'; and 'like to stop but can't'.

Considerable variations exist between the ACT and national survey results, however, possibly reflecting particular socio-economic characteristics within the ACT and the central role that clubs operating gaming machines play in community life. Further, the instruments are not sensitive to culturally or socially distinct gambling practices and behaviour. The SOGS and HARM prevalence measures of problem gambling are structured questionnaires that do not allow respondents to report problems they face beyond the questions posed.

## **Who are the problem gamblers?**

It is important for public policy to know whether there are any sub-groups in the general population with specific socio-demographic characteristics who may record a higher prevalence of problem gambling. As suggested in the previous section, (Figure 11 and Table 14), regular gambling on gaming machines, table games at a casino and, to some extent, racing present a definite risk for problem gambling. A comparison of socio-demographic profiles of problem gamblers, all gamblers and non-gamblers in the ACT, as found in the Productivity Commission's 1999 national survey and the ACT 2001 survey, is presented in Table 16.

**Table 16 Who are the problem gamblers?**

PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001 (percent)

Characteristic		Problem Gamblers		All gamblers		Non-gamblers	
		ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC
Age	Under 25	36.3	26.4	17.1	13.8	12.0	11.2
	25-29	16.7	15.1	11.3	9.4	9.1	9.3
	30-34	11.0	8.4	10.7	11.6	9.5	8.2
	35-39	8.3	10.6	9.8	10.2	11.5	10.1
	40-44	6.4	6.8	10.8	10.2	9.7	9.4
	45-49	6.0	9.0	9.7	9.7	11.0	10.6
	50-54	7.0	8.3	9.1	11.0	10.8	10.0
	55-59	3.2	8.1	6.5	7.7	7.2	7.2
	60-64	1.4	2.6	5.1	4.7	3.3	5.5
	65-69	1.7	3.3	3.4	4.4	4.0	5.3
	70+	2.1	1.5	6.5	7.2	11.9	13.4
Education	Up to 4th year high school	34.4	31.0	16.2	29.5	11.5	24.6
	Finished high school	38.4	28.7	29.6	28.6	21.5	24.0
	TAFE/technical education	14.4	9.8	11.1	11.2	8.9	7.8
	CAE/University	12.8	30.5	43.1	30.8	58.1	43.7
Male	71.0	60.0	49.9	50.0	49.5	45.0	
Foreign born	13.1	19.7	20.9	22.3	28.2	27.9	
Father Australian	68.2	56.9	64.3	63.2	58.0	58.9	
Mother Australian	62.9	63.3	66.3	65.9	60.8	60.9	
Non-English spoken at home	4.5	8.2	3.3	4.8	6.1	9.2	
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	0.0	2.4	1.7	1.6	1.1	1.0	

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001; PC 1999, p.6.55-57 (Table 6.16 and 6.17 combined).

**Table 16 cont. Who are the problem gamblers?**  
 PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001 (percent)

		Problem Gamblers		All gamblers		Non-gamblers	
		ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC
Marital Status							
	Married or living with partner	30.0	47.3	63.8	66.1	66.1	66.3
	Separated or divorced	5.7	8.1	6.7	5.9	7.5	4.6
	Widowed	2.9	1.4	2.4	3.6	4.1	6.5
	Single	61.5	43.2	27.1	24.3	22.3	21.9
Household type							
	Single person	15.0	8.5	8.7	8.1	12.1	10.8
	One parent family with children	14.2	3.7	6.0	5.0	5.9	4.0
	Couple with children	35.7	34.9	49.4	50.3	48.3	48.5
	Couple with no children	8.8	21.2	22.1	22.2	25.0	23.7
	Group household	24.7	27.0	10.0	11.2	6.9	9.8
	Other	1.7	4.6	3.8	3.0	1.7	2.9
Major income source							
	Wages/salary	74.2	69.7	72.3	63.6	65.3	52.8
	Own business	6.7	7.0	9.1	13.8	8.8	18.2
	Other private income	0.9	1.6	1.3	2.9	2.3	4.4
	Unemployment benefit	4.0	5.2	0.3	2.3	1.8	2.0
	Retirement benefit	2.2	2.0	10.1	3.8	14.0	5.1
	Sickness benefit	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.3
	Supporting parent benefit	0.0	2.3	0.7	1.5	0.3	0.5
	Age/invalid pension	7.4	9.0	4.3	8.5	4.4	12.5
	Other	3.0	3.1	1.7	2.6	2.9	2.1

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001; PC 1999, p.6.55-57 (Table 6.16 and 6.17 combined).

**Table 16 cont. Who are the problem gamblers?**

PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001 (percent)

	Problem Gamblers		All gamblers		Non-gamblers	
	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC
Work status						
Working full-time	50.4	53.5	57.3	48.4	47.4	41.9
Working part-time	18.9	16.4	14.3	16.0	14.5	15.3
Home duties	3.9	6.4	4.9	10.1	8.3	9.2
Student	10.9	10.5	6.9	5.3	7.8	6.6
Retired (self supporting)	4.2	2.1	12.2	8.9	16.2	12.8
Pensioner	7.0	7.0	3.2	7.1	2.3	9.3
Unemployment (or looking for work)	2.0	4.1	0.8	2.9	2.4	2.4
Other	2.7	0.1	0.6	1.0	1.3	2.0
Average personal income		\$30 050		\$32 120		\$31 100
< \$10,000	14.7		9.8		13.9	
\$10,000 - \$24,999	30.0		16.5		17.7	
\$25,000 - \$34,999	29.9		15.4		14.6	
\$35,000 - \$49,999	12.9		25.0		18.9	
\$50,000 plus	12.6		33.3		34.9	

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001; Productivity Commission, 1999, p.6.55-57 (Table 6.16 and 6.17 combined).

## **Gender**

The male population of all-gamblers and non-gamblers surveyed in the ACT consisted of roughly half the sampled population. However the proportion of males in the ACT problem gambling sample was considerably higher (71.0%).

60.0% of surveyed Australians with a gambling problem in 1999 were male compared to 50.0% of all-gamblers and 45.0% of non gamblers.

## **Age**

ACT residents with a gambling problem are far more likely to be young adults compared to all-gamblers and non-gamblers. The under 25 year age group has the highest incidence of problem gamblers in the ACT (36.3%), markedly higher than the national population (26.4%). This is followed by the 25-29 year age group (16.7% compared to 15.1% nationally) and 30-34 years (11% compared to 8.4% nationally).

Over-representation of youth among ACT gamblers (problem, all gamblers and non-gamblers) may reflect the comparatively younger population of the ACT. The 60-64 year age group has the lowest incidence of problem gambling in the ACT at 1.4%. However, problem gamblers over the age of 70 years in the ACT are over-represented at 2.1% compared to the national figure of 1.5%.

## **Marital status**

Approximately 63.8% and 66.1% of ACT all-gamblers and non-gamblers respectively are married or living with a partner. These are similar to the figures recorded for all-gamblers and non-gamblers in the 1999 national survey. However, problem gamblers in the ACT are far less likely to be married or living with a partner, with only 30.0% of the problem gamblers being married. Similarly, single respondents are over-represented amongst problem gamblers.

However separated or divorced people were less likely to be problem gamblers within the ACT population. This trend is different to the results in the national survey which found a greater proportion of separated or divorced people amongst problem gamblers.

## **Household type**

The high proportion of single problem gamblers in the ACT survey corresponds with findings that problem gamblers in the ACT are more likely than all other gambling groups in the 2001 survey to be living in a single household, in a group household or as a 'one parent family with children'.

Couple households with or without children comprise 44.5% of problem gamblers in the ACT compared to over 70% in the all-gambler and non-gambler samples. This compares similarly to the national survey although the national survey had a much higher proportion of problem gamblers living in a 'couple with no children' household. Problem gamblers in the ACT are more likely to be living in single households (15.0%) or a one parent family with children (14.2%) compared to 8.5% and 3.7% respectively in the 1999 national survey.

## **Education**

Problem gamblers in the ACT have lower levels of education than for the other gambling categories. For example, the highest level of education for 72.8% of problem gamblers was finishing high school compared to 45.8% and 33.0% of the all-gambler and non-gambler populations respectively in the ACT. 12.8% of problem gamblers in the ACT received some CAE or university education compared to 43.1% and 58.1% the all-gambler and non-gambler populations respectively in the ACT.

There are also some important differences between the ACT and national trends. A larger proportion of problem gamblers have completed high school (72.8%) or some form of technical education (14.4%) compared to the 1999 national survey (59.7% and 9.8% respectively). Problem gamblers in the ACT population are less likely to



have a CAE/university education (12.8%) than problem gamblers in the 1999 national survey (30.5%). This result is surprising considering that ACT general population and ACT regular gamblers (which is the sample that problem gamblers are predominantly drawn from) in the ACT 2001 survey have a higher prevalence of completing tertiary studies compared to the national results (see Table 7).

## **Income**

In general problem gamblers have a lower percentage of people in the higher income categories, that is, over \$35,000 than 'all gambler' and 'non-gambler' populations. For example, only 25.5% of problem gamblers earn over \$35,000 per annum compared to 58.3% and 53.8% of the gambling and non-gambling populations. Similarly, 44.7% of the problem gambling population earn under \$25,000 compared to 26.3% and 31.6% of the gambling and non-gambling populations. 14.7% of the problem gambling population earn less than \$10,000.

## **Work status**

A higher proportion of the gambling population in the ACT work either full-time or part-time compared to the non-gambling population. This trend is also apparent in the national survey results.

In the ACT survey there are smaller proportion of self funded retirees who are problem gamblers compared to the all-gambling and non-gambling sub populations. This trend is consistent with the national survey. However the proportion of pensioners is higher in the ACT problem gambling population than in the other gambling categories and in the Productivity Commission estimates.

## **Main source of income**

For the majority of problem gamblers in the ACT, their main source of income was derived from wages and salaries (74.2%). Though unemployed people and aged/invalid pensioners comprise a small percentage of problem gamblers (4.0% and

7.4%) they account for around double the proportion in this category as they do for all gamblers (0.3% and 4.3% respectively) and non-gamblers (1.8% and 4.4%).

## **Country of birth**

There were a number of indicators of ethnicity. In this survey ethnicity type questions revolved around the following issues:

- whether the person was born in Australia;
- whether the parents were born in Australia or overseas; and
- whether non-English is mainly spoken at home.

Roughly 13.1% of problem gamblers in the ACT are born overseas compared to 20.9% of all-gamblers and 28.2% of non-gamblers. These results have a similar trend to the national survey conducted by the Productivity Commission although the ACT gambling population has a greater proportion of people born in Australia.

While the father of a problem gambler is more likely to be Australian born compared to all-gamblers and non-gamblers, the mother is more likely to be Australian born compared to non-gamblers only. There does not appear to be a higher problem gambling prevalence among gamblers who do not speak English at home.

## **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples comprise 1.7% of the total ACT gambling population and 1.1% of the non-gambling population. However, no surveyed ACT gamblers from this group were found to have a gambling problem, compared with 2.4% in the 1999 national survey.

## **Sub-populations by favourite mode of gambling**

The following table (Table 17) shows the socio-demographic characteristics of problem gamblers participating in different modes of gambling.

The number of problem gamblers recorded for each mode reflects responses to the question ‘on which gambling activity have you spent the most money overall in the last 12 months?’ This does not indicate the total number of problem gamblers who participated in that gambling mode. Due to the relatively small sample size, unweighted figures are provided to prevent overstating of socio-demographic trends.

**Table 17 Problem gamblers by favourite mode of gambling**  
ACT Gambling Survey 2001<sup>a</sup>

		EGM's (53)	Racing (7)	Table Games (5)	Other <sup>b</sup> (4)
Male		31	7	5	1
Age					
	Under 25	10	2	3	0
	25-29	6	0	0	0
	30-34	7	1	0	0
	35-39	4	3	0	1
	40-44	7	1	1	0
	45-49	3	0	1	1
	50-54	7	0	0	1
	55-59	4	0	0	0
	60-64	1	0	0	1
	65-69	2	0	0	0
	70+	2	0	0	0
Marital Status					
	Married/living with partner	19	3	0	3
	Separated or divorced	6	0	1	1
	Widowed	2	0	0	0
	Single	25	4	4	0
Household type					
	Single person	12	1	0	0
	One parent family with children	10	0	2	1
	Couple with children	14	4	1	2
	Couple with no children	7	1	0	1
	Group household	8	1	2	0
	Other	1	0	0	0

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001. <sup>a</sup>These are unweighted figures. As with the Productivity Commission's results, the favourite mode of gambling was based on the mode problem gamblers believed they spent the most money on.<sup>66</sup> <sup>b</sup>Includes lotto, instant scratch-its, bingo, sports betting and internet casino gambling.

<sup>66</sup> Ibid., p. 6.54.

**Table 17 cont. Problem gamblers by favourite mode of gambling**  
ACT Gambling Survey 2001

	EGMs (53)	Racing (7)	Table Games (5)	Other <sup>b</sup> (4)
<b>Education</b>				
Up to 4 <sup>th</sup> year h/school	20	2	0	2
Finished high school	18	3	3	1
TAFE/technical education	8	0	1	1
CAE/university	6	2	1	0
<b>Income</b>				
Less than \$10,000	8	0	2	0
\$10,000 - \$24,999	10	1	1	1
\$25,000 - \$34,999	13	2	0	1
\$35,000 - \$49,999	6	2	1	2
\$50,000 +	8	1	1	0
<b>Work status</b>				
Working full-time	26	6	3	3
Working part-time	8	0	0	1
Home duties	4	0	0	0
Student	1	1	2	0
Retired (self supporting)	4	0	0	0
Pensioner	4	0	0	0
Unemployed (or looking for work)	3	0	0	0
Other	2	0	0	0
<b>Major income source</b>				
Wages/salary	35	6	3	4
Own business	3	1	1	0
Other private income	1	0	0	0
Unemployment benefit	4	0	0	0
Retirement benefit	2	0	0	0
Sickness benefit	2	0	0	0
Age/invalid pension	4	0	0	0
Student allow/scholarship	1	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Country of Birth</b>				
Australia	9	7	4	1
<b>Father's country of birth</b>				
Australia	33	7	2	3
<b>Mother's country of birth</b>				
Australia	34	6	2	3
English not spoken at home	3	0	0	0
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander	0	0	0	0

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001.

<sup>b</sup>Includes lotto, instant scratch-its, bingo, sports betting and internet casino gambling

## **Gaming machines**

Problem gamblers whose favourite mode of gambling was electronic gaming machines were predominantly:

- under 35 years old;
- male;
- Australia-born with Australian born father and mother;
- English speaking at home;
- educated up to fourth year high school or finished high school;
- single or married/living with a partner;
- living in couple with children or single households;
- wage or salary earners;
- working full-time or part-time; and
- earning less than \$35,000 per annum. Of those, over half earned less than \$25,000 and a quarter earned less than \$10,000 per annum.

On average, younger Australian-born men on lower income levels with no post-secondary education seemed to be experiencing the most difficulties with gaming machines. Though many of the problem gamblers in this sub-population were single most lived with partners and had dependent children. Half of these problem gamblers did not have full-time employment and had relatively low incomes.

## **Racing**

Racing was the gambling mode preferred by the second highest number of problem gamblers. The characteristics of this group differed in some ways to those who nominated gaming machines. The most prominent socio-demographics for problem gamblers whose favourite mode of gambling was racing included:

- all were under 45 years old with a third being under 25 years of age;
- all male;
- all Australia-born with mostly Australian born fathers and mothers;
- all English speaking at home;
- educated up to fourth year high school or finished high school;
- single or married/living with a partner;

- living in couple with children households;
- wage or salary earners or business owners;
- working full-time or students; and
- majority earn over \$25,000.

The main differences amongst problem gamblers who spent most of their money on racing as opposed to gaming machines, included: all respondents were male; Australian-born and English-speaking at home; slightly less likely to have post-secondary qualifications; more likely to be working full-time or a student; and earning slightly higher personal incomes.

### **Table games**

Though casino table games have only been available in the ACT since 1992, this mode of gambling was still reported by the third highest number of problem gamblers as their preferred gambling option. Again the socio-demographics for this sub-population vary from problem gamblers who favour gaming machines or racing. The key indicators are as follows:

- under 25 years old while the remaining participants;
- all male;
- mostly Australia-born;
- all English speaking at home;
- finished high school or had post-secondary qualifications;
- single or separated or divorced;
- living in a group household and one parent family with children;
- wage and salary earners or business owners;
- the majority were working full-time;
- the majority earned less than \$25,000 per annum including.

Again, there were certain distinguishing features of the socio-demographic profile for table game players. As with racing gamblers, this group was all male, but much more likely to be under 25 years of age and slightly more likely to be in the 40-49 years group than the other two modes. On average, table game players were considerably more likely to have finished high school and slightly more likely to have tertiary

qualifications than problem gamblers who preferred gaming machines or racing. None of these men were married or had partners, though they were more likely to be living in group households or be single parents with dependent children. Table games attracted the highest percentage of students. Lower average incomes than those participating in other modes were also recorded with over half earning less than \$25,000 per annum.

For policy and service provision purposes it is important to recognise that the three most favoured modes of gambling each attracted different types of problem gamblers. All of the socio-demographic characteristics discussed above showed marked leanings towards specific sub-populations, particularly in relation to gender, age, education, language spoken at home and place of birth. Across the three favoured gambling modes, men made up the majority of problem gamblers. Female problem gamblers are more inclined to spend most of their gambling money on gaming machines. Relatively young gamblers appear to be experiencing more problems, especially amongst racing and table game participants. Gaming machines were the single mode favoured by any problem gamblers in the 50 and over age group. Most problem gamblers across the modes tended towards middle and lower levels of education and were primarily English-speaking at home, Australian born and had Australian born parents.

Responses to marital status and household type provided some insight into the types of relationships problem gamblers had with others. The majority of problem gamblers across the three modes were single, though the remainder had quite different marital statuses depending on the mode. Patterns in household type were also quite divergent between the three types of gambling, however, it is noteworthy that around half of those experiencing gambling problems lived in households with dependent children.

The implications of these observations should also be considered in relation to the types of income and occupational status recorded by respondents. Across the three modes, people with gambling problems are most likely to be wage and salary earners, social security recipients.<sup>67</sup> Interestingly, despite the number of students with

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<sup>67</sup> These are percentages of the total number of problem gamblers across the modes of gaming machines, racing and table games. All the social security recipients nominated gaming machines as their favourite mode.

problems who favoured racing and table games, none of them relied upon student allowances or scholarships as their main source of income. This suggests that these male students with gambling problems either owned businesses or earned wages/salaries while also studying full-time. Though there were important differences in income levels between the modes, more than half of these problem gamblers earned less than \$35,000 per annum and more than 15% earned less than \$10,000 per annum.

From this information it can be surmised that the majority of people trying to cope with gambling problems were not well resourced financially and many were also likely to have other people dependent upon them in a variety of ways, including children. At the same time, about two-thirds of these respondents were either separated/divorced, widowed or single, which may indicate something about the social attraction of gambling for individuals isolated from other forms of social or community interaction. The personal and social impacts of problem gambling are examined in more detail in the following section.

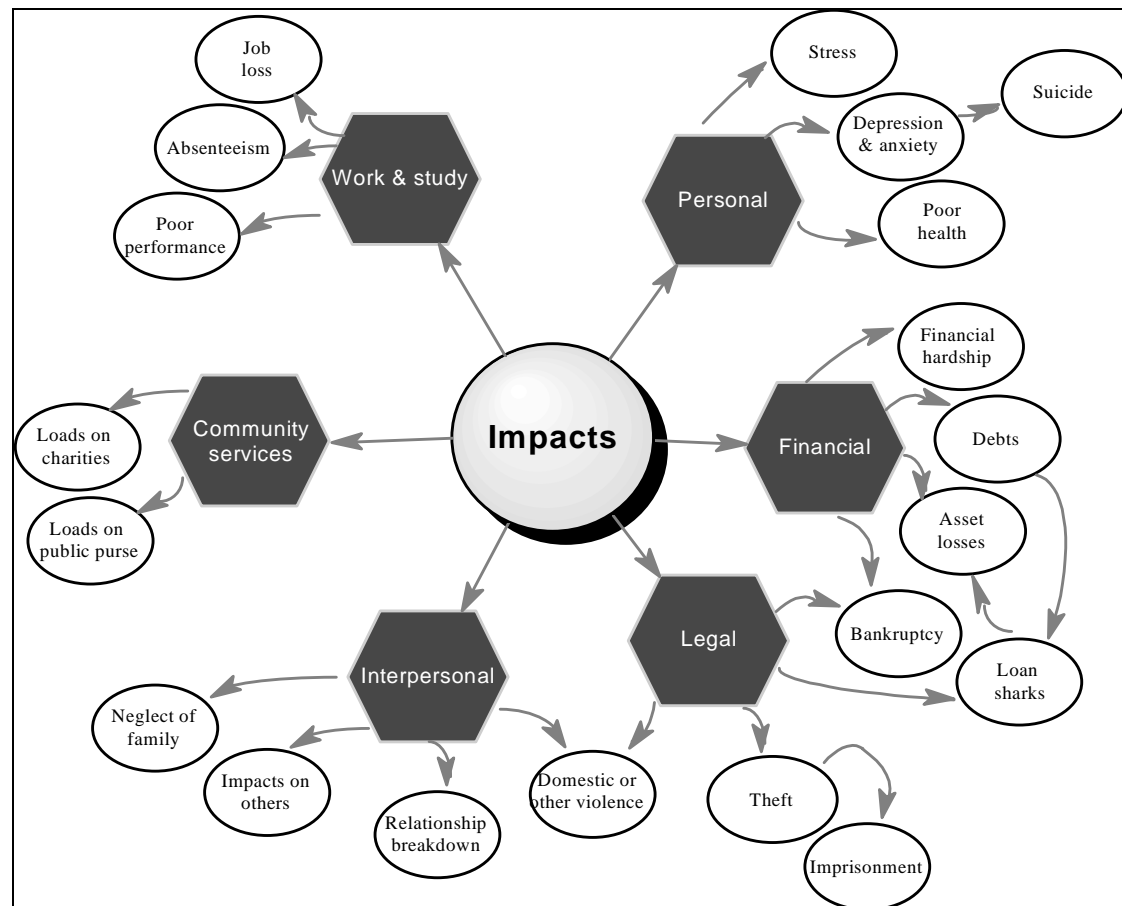


## Impacts of problem gambling

For the majority gambling is a form of entertainment. However, for a small proportion of the population gambling can become a source of harm to themselves and others.

Figure 12 below illustrates some of these negative impacts.

**Figure 12 Impacts of gambling**



Source: PC 1999, p. 7.3.

This section deals with each of these adverse impact categories. From the outset it should be noted that the Productivity Commission observed some methodological problems with this analytical framework.

- Firstly, there are linkages between each adverse impact. For example, someone who is suffering from interpersonal problems such as relationship breakdown is also likely to suffer personal problems such as stress or depression.
- Another difficulty arises concerning whether an individual's gambling problems are a cause or consequence of other personal difficulties. For example, does a

person gamble because they are stressed or become stressed because they gamble. As with other harmful behaviours, causal relationships are more likely to multi-directional. The Productivity Commission concluded that '[t]he most effective way of identifying causal pathways relating to apparent adverse outcomes for problem gamblers would be a longitudinal study of gamblers.'<sup>68</sup>

### **Private impacts of problem gambling on individuals**

Table 18 shows the self-assessed impact of gambling on the lives of problem gamblers as reported in Productivity Commission's 1999 *National Gambling Survey* and the 2001 *ACT Gambling Survey*. Respondents were asked what effect gambling had on their enjoyment of life.

A majority of all ACT gamblers surveyed in 2001 (73.8%) reported that their participation in gambling made no difference to their enjoyment of life. This is a slightly higher figure than Australian gamblers reported in the 1999 national survey (67.6%). About a fifth of all ACT gamblers (21.2%) and a quarter of Australian gamblers as a whole (27.3%) derived enjoyment from gambling.<sup>69</sup> Smaller percentages of all gamblers in the 2001 ACT Survey (4%) and the 1999 Productivity Commission Survey (4.5%) felt that life was made less enjoyable by gambling.

Of those ACT respondents experiencing gambling problems, 29.3% (on SOGS 5+) and 38.9% (SOGS 10+) reported that their gambling participation made life a 'lot less enjoyable.' Nevertheless, this compares positively to the corresponding national figures of 34.2% for SOGS 5+ and 60.6% for SOGS 10+ problem gamblers.

It is notable that a considerable proportion of ACT respondents in the problem gambling categories, 21.6% (SOGS 5+) and 11.2% (SOGS 10+), reported that gambling made their 'life a little more enjoyable'. Moreover, 33.3% (SOGS 5+) and 28.4% (SOGS 10+) reported that their participation in gambling 'made no difference' to enjoyment of life.

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<sup>68</sup> PC op. cit., p. 7.9.

<sup>69</sup> Figures include responses to gambling 'made life more enjoyable' and 'made life a little more enjoyable' in Table 18.

**Table 18 Do problem gamblers enjoy gambling?**  
PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001

	Made life a lot more enjoyable		Made life a little more enjoyable		Made no difference		Made life a little less enjoyable		Made life a lot less enjoyable		Can't say	
	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC
SOGS 5+	7.2	5.7	21.6	24.1	33.3	20.1	6.3	15.9	29.3	34.2	2.2	0.1
NON-SOGS 5+	3.1	3.6	17.9	23.7	74.9	68.9	2.4	2.2	0.7	1.1	1.0	0.6
SOGS 10+	9.9	5.8	11.2	3.0	28.4	13.1	11.6	17.2	38.9	60.6	0.0	0.3
NON-SOGS 10+	3.1	3.6	18.0	23.8	74.1	67.8	2.4	2.5	1.3	1.7	1.0	0.6
HARM	3.9	3.1	26.2	18.3	20.7	24.8	6.3	15.8	39.2	38.0	3.6	0.1
NON HARM	3.2	8.8	17.9	34.8	74.7	51.8	2.4	2.8	0.9	1.6	1.0	0.4
<b>ALL GAMBLERS</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>23.7</b>	<b>73.8</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.6</b>

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001; PC 1999, p. 6.27 (Table 6.3). Figures for the PC survey refer to national survey results.

Table 19 provides a breakdown of those ACT gamblers and non-gamblers who have suffered personally as a result of people's gambling activities. When ACT problem gamblers were asked whether they had suffered from depression due to gambling, 51.5% of ACT problem gamblers said that they had at some time; and 45.5% reported having experienced depression in the last twelve months. This is slightly lower than the findings for Australian problem gamblers as a whole who recorded 58.1% and 52.7% respectively.

In contrast, only 1% of non-problem regular gamblers in the ACT report they have suffered from depression in the last twelve months due to gambling, which was less than half the 1999 national figure of 2.6%.

In the 2001 survey, 14.1% of ACT problem gambling respondents reported that they had 'seriously considered suicide due to gambling' at some stage. This was considerably higher than the 1999 national survey finding of 9.2%. This problem appears to have intensified for people recently, with 9% of ACT problem gamblers reporting suicidal thoughts during the last twelve months, more than double the national figure of 4.4%. As in the national survey, no non-problem regular gamblers had considered suicide because of their gambling.

75.9% of ACT problem gamblers surveyed in 2001 experienced guilt related to their gambling activities in the last twelve months compared to 88.9% of Australian problem gamblers in 1999. A much smaller percentage of surveyed ACT problem gamblers (35.3%) reported that gambling had made their life less enjoyable in the last twelve months, compared to the 1999 national figure of 50.1%.

66.3% of ACT respondents with gambling problems wished to stop gambling in the last year but were unable to do so. This figure was slightly lower than the 1999 national survey finding (69.1%). Interestingly, a small proportion of non-problem regular gamblers in the ACT (3.5%) indicated that they had problems controlling their gambling behaviour, though this was less than half the national survey results of 6.7%.

**Table 19 Personal impacts of problem gambling**  
**PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001**

	Yes %		Number affected		Never %		Rarely %		Some-times %		Often %		Always %	
	ACT	PC	ACT	PC ('000)	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC
Suffered from depression due to gambling														
Problem gamblers (ever)	51.5	58.1	2730	170.2	48.5	41.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-problem regulars (ever)	3.0	4.3	655	52.2	97.0	95.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adults (ever) all adults in the population (gamblers and non-gamblers)	1.2	2.1	3385	289.9	98.8	97.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Problem gamblers (in last year)	45.5	52.7	2408	154.3	54.5	47.3	6.8	8.6	18.5	21.9	18.8	16.4	1.4	5.8
Non-problem regulars (in last year)	1.0	2.6	222	31.5	99.0	97.4	0.8	1.5	0	0.7	0.2	0.1	0	0.3
Adults (in last year)	1.0	1.5	2630	205.9	99.0	98.5	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0	0.2
Seriously considered suicide due to gambling														
Problem gamblers (ever)	14.1	9.2	747	26.9	85.9	90.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-problem regulars (ever)	0	0	0	0	100	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adults (ever)	0.3	0	747	35.5	99.7	99.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Problem gamblers (in last year)	9.0	4.4	478	12.9	91.0	95.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-problem regulars (in last year)	0	0	0	0	0	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adults (in last year)	0.2	0.1	478	12.9	99.8	99.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001; PC 1999, p. 7.15 (Table 7.1).













































The *ACT Gambling Survey* reinforced the findings of the 1999 national survey that ‘problem gamblers tend to give up spending on personal items (such as clothing) and paying bills, much more than non-problem gamblers’.<sup>71</sup> ACT survey findings include:

- The SOGS 10+ group of ACT gamblers has the highest proportion (29%) not spending money on groceries or small household items. This compares with non-problem non-regular gamblers (23.1% nationally).
- The SOGS 5+ group of ACT gamblers has the highest proportion (15.4%) not spending money on major household goods, compared with SOGS 10+ (8.7% nationally).
- The SOGS 10+ group of ACT gamblers has the highest proportion (19.3%) not spending money on paying off credit cards or bills, compared with 28.4% nationally.
- The SOGS 5+ group of ACT gamblers has the highest proportion (3.8%) not spending money on rent or mortgage payments compared with SOGS 10+ (14.3% nationally).
- The group of ACT non-problem regular gamblers has the highest proportion (19.8%) not spending money on savings compared with 24.2% nationally.
- Amongst the SOGS 10+ group of ACT problem gamblers 3.1% chose to forego spending on other forms of recreation and entertainment in order to gamble compared to 21.5% for the national SOGS 10+ group. This may reflect either a lack of other entertainment facilities in the ACT or a higher average income levels amongst ACT residents compared to other Australians (Table 7).
- 19.3% of the ACT SOGS 10+ group of problem gamblers chose not to pay off credit cards or bills in order to fund their gambling. This rate is considerably lower than the 1999 national finding of 28.4% and may again be a result of higher income levels and affordability of ACT residents (see Table 7).
- Moreover, a relatively small proportion of ACT SOGS 5+ problem gamblers (2%) chose not to save as much or any money in order to gamble. This proportion contrasts with the 1999 national survey which found that 17.4% of SOGS 5+ gamblers chose to sacrifice their savings to finance gambling activity.
- Also in marked contrast to the 14.3% of national SOGS 10+ gamblers who reported choosing to forego rent and mortgage payments in order to fund their

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<sup>71</sup> PC *ibid.*, p. 7.56.

gambling habits, no SOGS 10+ gamblers in the 2001 ACT survey reported not paying their rent or mortgage in order to gamble.

### **Connections between accessibility to ATMs and problem gambling**

Ready access to money at gambling venues has been associated with higher incidence of problem gambling in several studies. All ACT survey respondents were therefore asked how often they withdrew money from ATMs at gaming machine venues to play the machines (Table 29) and at the casino to play table games (Table 30).

Though ACT recreational players were slightly less inclined to withdraw money from ATMs at gaming venues (3.2% compared to 4.6% nationally), problem gamblers in the 2001 ACT survey were much more likely to do so. Nearly half of who scored SOGS 5+ (46.9% compared to 37.8% nationally) and over two-thirds who scored SOGS 10+ (73.6% compared to 58.7% nationally) often or always withdrew money from ATMs to play gaming machines. Across all regular gamblers the proportion of ACT gamblers using ATMs to play gaming machines was higher than the 1999 national figure.

These results suggest a stronger connection between access to money and problem gambling levels amongst ACT residents than was recorded in the Productivity Commission’s 1999 national survey.

**Table 29 How often do you withdraw money from an ATM at a venue to play the machines?**

PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001 (percent)<sup>a</sup>

	Never or rarely		Often or always	
	PC	ACT	PC	ACT
Recreational players	90.0	88.9	4.6	3.2
Problem gamblers (SOG 5+)	47.0	38.5	37.8	46.9
Problem gamblers (SOGS 10+)	25.2	10.2	58.7	73.6

Source: *ACT Gambling Survey 2001*; PC 1999, p. 45 (Table 8).

<sup>a</sup>This question differs slightly from the original question in the Productivity Commission’s 1999 National Survey: “How often do you withdraw money from an ATM at a venue *when you* play poker machines?” This change was made to elicit a more accurate survey response.

Though the Productivity Commission did not discuss its survey responses to this question, the results from the ACT 2001 survey indicate that problem gamblers in the ACT are 3 to 4 times more likely than recreational gamblers to withdraw money from ATMs for the purposes of gambling at the venue. These figures suggest that there is a positive correlation between problem gambling severity and likelihood of using ATMs at the venue. These findings may have some bearing on debate concerning the relationship between withdrawal limits and accessibility to money and problem gambling prevalence.

**Table 30 How often do you withdraw money from an ATM at the casino to play table games?**  
2001 ACT Gambling Survey (percent)<sup>a</sup>

	Never or rarely	Often or always
Recreational players	79.4	7.7
Problem gamblers (SOG 5+)	45.8	24.5
Problem gamblers (SOGS 10+)	37.2	28.0

Source: *ACT Gambling Survey 2001*.

<sup>a</sup>This question differs slightly from the original question in the Productivity Commission’s 1999 National Survey: “How often do you withdraw money from an ATM at a casino *when you play the table games?*” This change was made to elicit a more accurate survey response.

## **Crime impacts in relation to problem gambling**

Several studies including the Productivity Commission have investigated the relationship between gambling participation and illegal activity. This *ACT Gambling Survey* asked similar questions to the Productivity Commission in relation to whether a respondent had:

- obtained money illegally because of their gambling;
- experienced problems with the police because of their gambling; or
- appeared in court on charges related to their gambling.

The results were classified in terms of two categories of problem gamblers (SOGS scores 5+ and 10+) (Table 31).

**Table 31 Legal system impacts of problem gambling**  
 PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001(percent)

	Ever SOGS 5+		Ever SOGS 10+		Last 12 months SOGS 5+		Last 12 months SOGS 10+	
	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC	ACT	PC
Any gambling related illegal activity	15.1	10.5	16.4	26.5	5.5	3.3	2.8	11.3
Obtained money illegally	14.2	7.0	16.4	13.2	5.5	1.2	2.8	3.7
Been in trouble with the police	7.1	4.1	-	13.8	0.7	2.2	-	7.6
In court on gambling related charges	5.5	3.1	-	13.4	-	0.2	-	1.4

Source: *ACT Gambling Survey 2001*; PC 1999, p. 7.62 (Table 7.20). Figures from the PC refer to national survey results.

The results of the ACT 2001 survey differed from the 1999 national survey for problem gamblers (SOGS 5+):

- 15.1% of ACT gamblers in this group had committed a gambling-related criminal offence, compared to 10.5% for the equivalent group in the national survey;
- 14.2% of ACT SOGS 5+ gamblers had obtained money illegally, compared with 7% in the national survey; and
- 7.1% had been in trouble with police and 5.5% had been in court on a gambling related charge, compared to 4.1% and 3.1% respectively of problem gamblers nationally.

The most marked differences are between ACT problem gamblers in the ‘severe’ SOGS 10+ category and the 1999 survey findings for the equivalent national group.

- A smaller percentage of ACT SOGS 10+ problem gamblers (16.4% compared with 26.5% nationally) said they had committed a gambling related crim at some stage of their gambling career, with 2.8% (compared to 11.3% nationally) doing so during the past twelve months.
- No ACT SOGS 10+ problem gamblers said they had been in trouble with police or been in court on gambling related charges, compared with 13.8% and 13.4% of Australians in this problem gambling category.

## **Problem gambling and help seeking**

To further explore the help-seeking behaviour of ACT gamblers, the 2001 ACT survey included several questions on help-seeking derived in part from the questions asked in the Productivity Commission's *Survey of Clients of Counselling Agencies*. Questions in the 2001 ACT survey were designed for a more general gambling population. Information was also sought in relation to the ACT counselling and community services available.

ACT gamblers who scored on the SOGS scale were asked if they had tried to get help with their gambling problems or had received counselling in the last 12 months (Table 32). Of those ACT gamblers who had experienced problems with their gambling (SOGS 5+), a similar proportion had tried to get help and/or had received counselling as was indicated for Australian gamblers in the 1999 national survey. However a larger proportion of ACT gamblers in the SOGS 10+ group (54.3%) tried to get help with their gambling problems than in the 1999 national survey (32%). A slightly higher proportion of the SOGS 10+ group in the ACT (29.3%) also received counselling in the last 12 months than was found amongst Australian gamblers as a whole (23%). The small sample size suggests that these figures should be treated with caution, however.

It is also important to note that the Productivity Commission findings in 1999 relate to help-seeking behaviour of clients in counselling, a different sample population group to the ACT 2001 Gambling Survey. As can be seen below, the majority of ACT regular gamblers with a self-assessed problem did not seek help for their problems, although help-seeking increased according to the severity of gambling problem being experienced (see Table 32).

**Table 32 Help-seeking behaviour by severity of gambling problem**  
PC National Survey 1999 and ACT Gambling Survey 2001

	Wanted help		Tried to get help		Received counselling	
	PC	ACT <sup>a</sup>	PC	ACT <sup>b</sup>	PC	ACT
SOGS 10+ (1250)	63% (29,350)	-	32% (15,040)	54.3% (678)	23% (10,590)	29.3% (366)
SOGS 5-9 (4047)	32% (78,630)	-	12% (29,750)	12.3% (498)	7% (17,880)	7.1% (286)

Source: *ACT Gambling Survey 2001*; PC 1999, p. 17.32 (Figure 17.4).

<sup>a</sup>Data was not available on this question from the ACT 2001 Gambling Survey.

<sup>b</sup>Percentages relate to proportion of regular gamblers who tried to get help and had SOGS scores of 10+ and 5-9.

In the ACT 2001 survey, regular gamblers were asked in the SOGS questionnaire whether they have or had experienced a problem with their gambling. Of the 27,437 regular gamblers in the ACT (weighted population), 4,534 respondents (16.5%) reported that they currently have or have had a gambling problem. Of this group, 3,264 (72%) reported that they have not sought help for their self-assessed gambling problems; 1,270 of ACT regular gamblers who reported problems with their gambling (28%) did try to find help.

ACT respondents with a self-assessed gambling problem gave a number of reasons why they did not seek help for their gambling problems (Table 33). A large majority (60.7%) believed they could beat the problem on their own. Information on this question was not provided from the 1999 national survey.

**Table 33 Number of ACT problem gamblers not seeking help**  
ACT Gambling Survey 2001

	Number of people	% of people not wanting help
Didn't know where to go	426	13.1
Too embarrassed to see a counsellor	245	7.5
Thought I could beat the problem on my own	1980	60.7
Other	613	18.8
Total	3264	100

Source: *ACT Gambling Survey 2001*.

Respondents who indicated that they tried to get help for their self-assessed gambling problems in the last 12 months were then asked:

- what prompted them to seek help for their gambling problems;
- whether they received counselling in the last year, and if so, with whom; and
- whether they were satisfied with the help that they received from that organisation.

**Table 34 What prompted ACT gamblers to seek help for their gambling problems?**  
ACT Gambling Survey 2001<sup>a</sup>

	Number of people with a self-assessed gambling problem	% of people wanting help	% of regular gamblers
Financial problems	412	32.4	1.5
Relationship problems	829	65.3	3.0
Legal problems	25	1.9	0.1
Work/employment problems	47	3.7	0.2
Someone urged you to	444	35.0	1.6
Felt depressed/worried	555	43.7	2.0
Other	57	4.5	0.2

Source: *ACT Gambling Survey 2001*.

<sup>a</sup> Proportions may sum to more than 100 because some respondents reported more than one problem.

Of those ACT people with a self-assessed gambling problem who had sought help for their gambling problems in the last 12 months, 65.3% reported that relationship problems had prompted them to seek help; 43.7% reported that they had felt depressed or worried (Table 34). Other motivations included being urged by someone else to seek help (35%) and financial problems (32.4%).

78.7% of those ACT gamblers who reported they have sought help for their self-assessed gambling problems in the last 12 months are currently seeing a counsellor. Apart from counselling services and community agencies, 42.2% of ACT gamblers with self-assessed problems have turned to other people for help in the last year. Of these gamblers, 78.7% are also currently seeing a counsellor, that is, they are seeking help from both a counsellor and other sources. As with all findings in the help-seeking part of the ACT survey, these figures must be treated with extreme caution because of the small sample size.

**Table 35 Where did ACT gamblers seek help for gambling related problems?**

ACT Gambling Survey 2001<sup>a</sup>

ACT agency <sup>a</sup>	%
Lifeline	53.7
Centacare	0.0
Salvation Army Counselling Services	10.9
Smith Family	0.0
CARE Financial Counselling and Legal Services	10.9
Welfare or church organisation (eg. St Vincent de Paul, Anglicare)	15.7
Family relationship organisations	10.9
Hospital or clinic	0.0
Community Health Centre	0.0
Indigenous or ethnic community agency (Migrant Resource Centre)	0.0
Other organisation	35.0

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001

<sup>a</sup> Proportions may sum to more than 100 because some respondents turned to more than one group for help.

A small majority (53.7%) of ACT self-assessed problem gamblers who have sought help for their gambling problems in the last 12 months have sought help from Lifeline, which operates the Gambling and Financial Counselling Service (GAFCS).



However, people also turned for help to other community agencies such as the Salvation Army, welfare and church organisations, and Relationships Australia (Table 35). Notably, 35% reported that they had sought help from ‘other organisations’ such as Gamblers’ Anonymous.

**Table 36 Who do ACT problem gamblers turn to for help outside of counselling agencies?**  
ACT Gambling Survey 2001<sup>a</sup>

	% of ACT gamblers who seek help other than from counselling agencies
Spouse or partner	0
Family or friends	100
An employee of a gambling venue	0
GP/Doctor	0
Church or religious worker	0
Someone else	0
No one else	0
Other	25.6

Source: *ACT Gambling Survey 2001*

<sup>a</sup> Proportions may sum to more than 100 because some respondents turned to more than one group for help.

When ACT gamblers who had sought help from more than one source were asked who they turned to for help outside counsellors and a gambling help-line, they nominated family or friends as the most common source of help (Table 36).

A large majority (91.1%) of ACT self-assessed problem gamblers who had tried to get help in the last 12 months from counselling and other sources were satisfied with the help that they received, with the remaining 8.9% unable to say.

For those ACT gamblers who have been in counselling the last year and are currently receiving help from someone outside counselling agencies, the following question was asked: ‘how did you find out about the services available to help people with gambling problems?’

**Table 37 Source of information about help services in the ACT**

ACT Gambling Survey 2001

How did you find out about help services?	(%)
Signs at a gambling venue	11
Pamphlets at gambling venue	0
Signs or pamphlets elsewhere	0
Telephone directory	10
Radio and TV advertising	0
Newspaper	0
Health professional	0
Financial adviser	0
Word of mouth	26
Asked someone for help	53
Other	0
Can't say	0

Source: *ACT Gambling Survey 2001*.

The large majority of ACT gamblers with self-assessed problems (79%) found out about ACT help services through informal mechanisms (word of mouth, asking someone for help) (Table 37). Only two other sources of help information were nominated by gamblers: signs at a gambling venue (11%) and the telephone directory (10%). There appears to be considerable room for improvement in provision of community information about gambling support services in the ACT.

ACT gamblers who had sought help for their self-assessed problems were also asked their intentions for gambling in the future (Table 38). Approximately one third of those gamblers who had sought help in the past twelve months or who were currently receiving help intended to stop gambling altogether; none planned to limit their gambling. A large proportion of these two groups had 'other' intentions that were not specified. Further research (for example, interviews with gamblers who wanted or received help for gambling problems) is needed to explore this issue.

**Table 38 ACT problem gamblers' intentions after seeking help**  
ACT Gambling Survey 2001 (percent)

	Sought help in last 12 months	Currently seeking help
Plan to limit gambling	-	-
Plan to stop gambling altogether	35.7	32.6
Undecided	11.2	-
Other	53.1	67.4

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001

The ACT 2001 survey also asked whether ACT gamblers with problems had ever tried to give up or reduce their gambling and if so, how many times? The majority of ACT respondents (61.9%) who have or have had a self-assessed gambling problem have tried to give up or reduce their gambling (Table 39).

**Table 39 ACT gamblers who have tried to give up or reduce gambling**  
ACT Gambling Survey 2001

	Number of gamblers	%
Yes	2806	61.9
No	1332	29.4
Can't say	395	8.7
Total	4534	100

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001.

A majority of these gamblers (57.7%) have tried unsuccessfully up to ten times to give up or reduce gambling (Table 40).

**Table 40 Unsuccessful attempts to give up or reduce gambling**  
ACT Gambling Survey 2001

Number of times tried to give up	Number of ACT gamblers	%
None	268	9.6
Once or twice	426	15.2
Three-five times	643	22.8
Six-ten times	551	19.7
Eleven-fifteen times	314	11.2
Twenty times	187	6.7
52 times	55	1.9
70 times	85	3.0
80 times	35	1.3
90 times	57	2.0
99 times or more	187	6.7
Total	2806	100.0

Source: ACT Gambling Survey 2001.













character of gambling within the ACT and the central role that clubs with gaming machines play in community life.

For policy and service provision purposes it is important to recognise that the three most favoured modes of gambling (gaming machines, racing, casino table games) each attracted different problem gambling sub-populations, particularly in relation to gender, age, education and place of birth. Across the three favoured gambling modes, men made up the majority of problem gamblers. Female problem gamblers are more inclined to spend most of their gambling money on gaming machines. Relatively young gamblers appear to be experiencing more problems, especially amongst racing and table game participants. Gaming machines were the single mode favoured by any problem gamblers in the 50 and over age group. Most problem gamblers tended towards middle and lower levels of education and were primarily Australian born and had Australian born parents.

From this information it can be surmised that the majority of people trying to cope with gambling problems were not well resourced financially; many were also likely to have other people dependent upon them in a variety of ways, including children. At the same time, about two-thirds of these respondents were either separated/divorced, widowed or single, which may indicate something about the social attraction of gambling (especially club gaming machines) for individuals isolated from other forms of social or community interaction.

However, we agree with the Productivity Commission's proposition that these survey data are most likely to under-estimate the extent of gambling problems.<sup>73</sup> It is important to note that ACT survey respondents have failed to report the full extent of their gambling activities, consciously or unconsciously. An area of future research will be to explore the relationship between the level of under-reporting by particular groups of gamblers and the prevalence of problem gambling.

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<sup>73</sup> PC, op. cit, p. 6.34.







2 Still refuses THANK & CLOSE

There are a few quick questions to start with, to see if you qualify for the survey, and your answers will be strictly confidential.

SQ1a. First, could you please tell me how many people aged 18 or over usually live in this household?

ENTER NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

SQ1b. For demographic purposes, could tell me your age please?

IF UNWILLING TO GIVE AGE, READ OUT THE AGE RANGES:

IF UNDER 18, SAY: Thankyou for your time, but for this survey we only wish to speak to people 18 and over.

1 Under 18 THANK AND CLOSE

2 18 – 24

3 25 – 29

4 30 – 34

5 35 – 39

6 40 – 44

7 45 – 49

8 50 – 54

9 55 – 59

10 60 – 64

11 65 – 69

12 70+

97 REFUSED

SQ1c RECORD GENDER

1 Male

2 Female

SQ2A I'm going to read out a list of popular gambling activities. Could you please tell me which of these you have participated in during the **last 12 months**? READ OUT

1 Played poker machines or gaming machines

2 Bet on horse or greyhound races EXCLUDING sweeps

3 Bought INSTANT scratch tickets

4 Played lotto or ANY OTHER lottery game like Tattslotto, Powerball, the Pools, or \$2 Jackpot Lottery

5 Played gaming machine Keno at an ACT club

6 Played ACTTAB Keno at an ACT club or hotel

7 Played Keno at the Canberra casino

8 Played table games at a casino such as Blackjack or Roulette

9 Played bingo at an ACT club or hall

10 Bet on a sporting event like football, cricket or tennis with a TAB or Bookie

11 Played casino games on the internet, FOR MONEY rather than points

12 Played games like cards privately FOR MONEY at home or any other place

13 Bought raffle tickets

- 96 Played any other gambling activity EXCLUDING raffles or sweeps  
 FIRST OTHER MENTION - SINGLE CODE. SPECIFY. \_\_\_\_\_
97. ALL OTHER MENTIONS – MULTICODES. SPECIFY \_\_\_\_\_
99. None of the above DON'T READ OUT

**IF PURCHASED INSTANT SCRATCH TICKETS (SQ2A=3) ASK**

**SQ2A1** Were you those scratch tickets bought for yourself or for someone else?

- 1 Yes – some or all were bought for self
- 2 No – all bought for someone else **THIS RESPONDENT DOES NOT QUALIFY AS A SCRATCH TICKET BUYER**

**IF PURCHASED LOTTO OR LOTTERY TICKETS (SQ2A=CODE 4)**

**SQ2A2** Were you those lotto or lottery tickets bought for yourself or for someone else?

- 1 Yes – some or all were bought for self
- 2 No – all bought for someone else **THIS RESPONDENT DOES NOT QUALIFY AS A LOTTO OR LOTTERY BUYER**

IF ONLY “BOUGHT RAFFLE TICKETS” OR “NONE OF THE ABOVE” (CODE 13 OR 99), GO TO SQ3.

**IF MORE THAN ONE ‘OTHER’ MENTION (SQ2A=CODE 97) ASK:**

**SQ2B1.** Of those other gambling activities you just mentioned, which one have you done the **most** in the last 12 months? SINGLE RESPONSE

97 Main ‘other’ type of gambling SPECIFY \_\_\_\_\_

99 Can't say

**IF GIVES ONE MAIN OTHER ACTIVITY (SQ2A=CODE 96 BUT NOT 97, OR SQ2B1=CODE 97) ASK:**

**SQ2B2a.** In the last 12 months, how many times per week OR per month OR per year have you taken part in (INSERT ANSWER GIVEN AT SQ2A, OR SQ2B1)?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR. IF CAN'T SAY, ENCOURAGE BEST GUESS.

Frequency

1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week

2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month

3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year

9 Can't say

**IF RESPONDENT HAS PLAYED POKER MACHINES OR GAMING MACHINES (SQ2A=CODE 1) ASK:**

**SQ2C1.** In the last 12 months, how many times per week OR per month OR per year have you played poker machines or gaming machines?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR. IF CAN'T SAY, ENCOURAGE BEST GUESS FOR THIS AND ALL SUBSEQUENT QUESTIONS WHICH ASK FOR FREQUENCIES OR VALUES.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 9 Can't say

IF RESPONDENT HAS BET ON HORSE OR GREYHOUND RACES EXCLUDING SWEEPS (CODE 2 AT SQ2A) ASK:

SQ2C2. In the last 12 months, how many times per week OR per month OR per year have you bet on horse or greyhound races excluding sweeps?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 9 Can't say

IF RESPONDENT HAS BOUGHT INSTANT SCRATCH TICKETS (CODE 3 AT SQ2A, AND SQ2A1=CODE 1) ASK:

SQ2C3. In the last 12 months, how many times per week OR per month OR per year have you bought INSTANT scratch tickets?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 9 Can't say

IF RESPONDENT HAS PLAYED LOTTO OR ANY OTHER LOTTERY GAME (CODE 4 AT SQ2A, AND SQ2A2-CODE 1) ASK:

SQ2C4. In the last 12 months, how many times per week OR per month OR per year have you played Lotto or any other lottery game?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 9 Can't say

IF RESPONDENT HAS PLAYED KENO AT AN ACT CLUB, HOTEL OR CASINO (CODE 5, 6 or 7 AT SQ2A) ASK:

SQ2C5. In the last 12 months, how many times per week OR per month OR per year have you played Keno at an ACT club, hotel, casino?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 9 Can't say

IF RESPONDENT HAS PLAYED TABLE GAMES AT A CASINO SUCH AS BLACKJACK OR ROULETTE (CODE 8 AT SQ2A) ASK:

SQ2C6. In the last 12 months, how many times per week OR per month OR per year have you played table games at a casino such as Blackjack or Roulette?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 9 Can't say

IF RESPONDENT HAS PLAYED BINGO AT AN ACT CLUB OR HALL (CODE 9 AT SQ2A) ASK:

SQ2C7. In the last 12 months, how many times per week OR per month OR per year have you played bingo at an ACT club or hall?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 9 Can't say

IF RESPONDENT HAS BET ON A SPORTING EVENT LIKE FOOTBALL, CRICKET OR TENNIS (CODE 10 AT SQ2A) ASK:

SQ2C8. In the last 12 months, how many times per week OR per month OR per year have you bet on a sporting event like football, cricket or tennis??

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 9 Can't say

IF RESPONDENT HAS PLAYED CASINO GAMES ON THE INTERNET (CODE 11 AT SQ2A) ASK:

SQ2C9. In the last 12 months, how many times per week OR per month OR per year have you played casino games on the internet?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 9 Can't say

IF RESPONDENT HAS PLAYED GAMES LIKE CARDS PRIVATELY FOR MONEY AT HOME OR ANY OTHER PLACE (CODE 12 AT SQ2A) ASK:



SQ2C10. In the last 12 months, how many times per week OR per month OR per year have you played games like cards privately FOR MONEY at home or any other place?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 9 Can't say

SQ3 CLASSIFICATION FOR GAMBLING STATUS QUOTAS. THE COMPUTER WILL CALCULATE THE ANNUAL FREQUENCY OF GAMBLING AT SQ2.

IF RESPONDENT DOES NOT PARTICIPATE IN GAMBLING, OR ONLY PARTICIPATES IN RAFFLES (SQ2A= EITHER CODE 99 OR ONLY CODE 13), THEY ARE CLASSIFIED AS NON-GAMBLERS.

IF RESPONDENT PARTICIPATES LESS THAN ONCE A WEEK IN ONLY ONE TYPE OF GAMBLING ACTIVITY, OR THEIR OVERALL FREQUENCY OF PARTICIPATION IN GAMBLING ACTIVITIES IS LESS THAN WEEKLY ie LESS THAN 52 TIMES A YEAR, THEY ARE CLASSIFIED AS NON-REGULAR GAMBLERS.

IF RESPONDENT PARTICIPATES AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK IN ONLY ONE GAMBLING ACTIVITY OTHER THAN LOTTERY GAMES OR INSTANT SCRATCH TICKETS, OR THEIR OVERALL PARTICIPATION IN GAMBLING ACTIVITIES OTHER THAN LOTTERY GAMES OR INSTANT SCRATCH TICKETS IS AT LEAST WEEKLY ie 52 TIMES A YEAR, THEY ARE CLASSIFIED AS REGULAR GAMBLERS

THE COMPUTER WILL SELECT ONE IN TWO NON-GAMBLERS AND ONE IN FOUR NON-REGULAR GAMBLERS TO CONTINUE WITH THIS SURVEY. IF THE PROGRAM SELECTS THIS INTERVIEW TO BE TERMINATED, THANK & CLOSE.

SQ3A CLASSIFICATION PRIOR TO RANDOM SELECTION

- 1 REGULAR
- 2 NON REGULAR
- 3 NON GAMBLERS

SQ3B SAMPLE AFTER RANDOM SELECTION – (DISPLAY ON SCREEN)

- 1 OVERALL REGULAR
- 2 OVERALL NON REGULAR
- 3 OVERALL NON GAMBLERS

IF RESPONDENT IS A GAMBLER (SQ3B=CODE 1 OR 2) SAY: As you participate in gambling we're keen to hear your views in the rest of the survey. It will take between 10 and 20 minutes, and your assistance would be really appreciated.

IF RESPONDENT IS UNWILLING TO PARTICIPATE SAY: I know I'm intruding on your time, but this is important research and if we can include you the results will be more accurate. It won't take long, and your assistance would be really appreciated.

1 Agrees to participate

2 Agrees to callback RECORD DETAILS

7 Refuses to continue THANK & CLOSE

## **SECTION B- ASK ALL**

As you know, gambling is a popular leisure activity for many people. I'm going to read out some statements about gambling and I'd like to hear your opinion about these.

SQB1. What do you think of the statement that overall, gambling does more good than harm for the community? Do you ...READ OUT

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Slightly agree
- 3 Neither agree nor disagree
- 4 Slightly disagree
- 5 Strongly disagree
- 9 Don't know/can't say DON'T READ OUT

SQB2. Do you think the number of poker machines and other gaming machines currently available in your local community should be increased, decreased or stay the same?

PROBE: And do you think that (increase/decrease) should be small or large?

- 1 Large increase
- 2 Small increase
- 3 Stay the same GO TO SQB4
- 4 Small decrease
- 5 Large decrease
- 9 Have no opinion/can't say GO TO SQB4

IF NUMBER OF MACHINES SHOULD BE INCREASED OR DECREASED (SQB2=CODE 1, 2, 4 OR 5), ASK:

SQB3. Poker machines and gaming machines are located in ACT clubs. Do you think the number of machines should be (increased/decreased) in ACT Clubs?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Can't say

SQB4. Some people say that the wider availability of gambling in recent years has provided more opportunities for recreational enjoyment. Do you .. READ OUT

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Slightly agree
- 3 Neither agree nor disagree
- 4 Slightly disagree
- 5 Strongly disagree
- 9 Don't know/can't say DON'T READ OUT

IF NON-GAMBLER, GO TO O1

**SECTION C – Poker and gaming machines**

IF PLAYED POKER MACHINES OR GAMING MACHINES (SQ2A=CODE 1)

Next I have some questions about the gaming machines you played in the last 12 months.

C0. In the last 12 months, how many times per week OR per month OR per year have you visited an ACT CLUB and NOT gambled?

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 4 None
- 9 Can't say

C1a. What type of gaming machine do you USUALLY play?

- 1 Poker machines ('pokies')
- 2 Clown Keno machines
- 98 Some other gaming machine (SPECIFY)\_\_\_\_\_
- 99 Can't say

C1b. In the last 12 months, how many times per week OR per month OR per year have you visited an ACT CLUB and played (INSERT RESPONSE GIVEN AT C1a) machines?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 4 None
- 9 Can't say

C2. For how long do you usually play the (INSERT RESPONSE GIVEN AT C1a) machines when you visit a venue? RECORD WHETHER ANSWER HAS BEEN GIVEN IN HOURS OR MINUTES, THEN RECORD THE NUMBER GIVEN.

Number

- 1 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ hours
- 2 Minutes \_\_\_\_\_ minutes
- 9 Don't know

C3. How often do you withdraw money from an automatic teller machine (ATM) at a venue to play the (INSERT RESPONSE GIVEN AT C1a) machines? Is that... READ OUT

- 1 Never
- 2 Rarely
- 3 Sometimes
- 4 Often
- 5 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

C4. When you visit a venue, how much money do you usually **take with you** to play the (INSERT RESPONSE GIVEN AT C1a) machines, including any additional money withdrawn or borrowed during the period of play? ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

C5. And how much do you usually **have left** when you finish playing the (INSERT RESPONSE GIVEN AT C1a) machines? ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF CAN'T SAY AT C4 OR C5, ASK C5b, ELSE GO TO C6

C5b. Do you usually win or lose when you play these machines?

1 Usually win GO TO C5b2

2 Usually lose GO TO C5b3

9 Can't say GO TO C6

C5b2. So how much money do you usually win? ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF ANSWERED AMOUNT OR CODE 9 AT C5b2 GO TO C6.

C5b3. So how much money do you usually lose? ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

C6. What kind of machine do you usually play? READ OUT. MULTIPLE RESPONSE.

1 1 cent machine

2 2 cents machine

3 5 cents machine

4 10 cents machine

5 20 cents machine

6 50 cents machine

7 \$1 machine

8 \$2 machine

9 Higher than \$2 machine

99 Can't say (DO NOT READ OUT)

IF C1a=CODES 2 OR 98 OR 99 GO TO C13.

IF USUALLY PLAY POKER MACHINE (C1a=CODE 1) ASK:

C7. Do you usually bet more than 1 line at each press of the button?

1 Yes

2 No GO TO C10

9 Can't say GO TO C10

C8. Is that ... READ OUT

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT. GO TO C10.

C9. And how many lines do you usually play on those occasions?

Number of lines \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

IF POKER MACHINE (C1a=CODE 1) ASK:

C10. Do you bet more than 1 credit per line?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No GO TO C13
- 9 Can't say GO TO C13

C11. Is that... READ OUT

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT GO TO C13

C12. And how many credits do you usually play on those occasions?

ENTER NUMBER OF CREDITS.

Number of credits \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

IF PLAYED POKER OR GAMING MACHINES (SQ2A=CODE 1) ASK:

C13. Do the machines you usually play allow you to insert notes.

- 1 Yes
- 2 No GO TO C15
- 9 Can't say GO TO C15

C14. Do you insert notes .. READ OUT

- 1 Never GO TO C15
- 2 Rarely
- 3 Sometimes
- 4 Often
- 5 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT. GO TO C15

C14a. IF NOTES ARE USED (CODE C14=CODE 2, 3, 4 or 5) ASK:

What denominations of notes do would you usually use...READ OUT

- 1 \$5
- 2 \$10
- 3 \$20
- 4 \$50

5 \$100

9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

IF PLAYED POKER OR GAMING MACHINES (SQ2A=CODE 1) ASK:

C15. Do you have a card which you can use to earn bonus points when you play the machines?

1 Yes

2 No GO TO NEXT SECTION

9 Can't say GO TO NEXT SECTION

C16. Do you insert this card into the machines .. READ OUT

1 Never

2 Rarely

3 Sometimes

4 Often

5 Always

8 Refused DON'T READ OUT

9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

**SECTION D – Horses and greyhounds**

IF BET ON HORSE OR GREYHOUND RACES (SQ2A=CODE 2) SAY:

Next some questions about your betting on horse or greyhound races **in the last 12 months.**

D1a. In the last 12 months, on how many days per week OR per month OR per year have you bet on the races when you have been at a RACETRACK?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 4 None
- 9 Can't say

D1b. In the last 12 months, on how many days per week OR per month OR per year have you bet on the races at an OFF-COURSE VENUE such as a TAB agency, club, hotel or casino?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 4 None
- 9 Can't say

D1c. In the last 12 months, on how many days per week OR per month OR per year have you bet on the races by PHONE?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 4 None GO TO D1e
- 9 Can't say GO TO D1e

D1d. In the last 12 months when you bet on races by phone, who did you usually bet with? READ OUT

- 1 ACTTAB
- 2 ACT bookmaker
- 3 A bookmaker in another state
- 4 TAB in another state
- 8 Other DON'T READ OUT

D1e. In the last 12 months, on how many days per week OR per month OR per year have you bet on the races VIA THE INTERNET?

ENTER FREQUENCY THEN RECORD WEEK/MONTH/YEAR.



Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 4 None GO TO SQ3bb
- 9 Can't say GO TO SQ3bb

D1f In the last 12 months when you bet on races via the internet, who did you usually bet with? READ OUT

- 1 ACTTAB
- 2 ACT bookmaker
- 3 A bookmaker in another state
- 4 TAB in another state
- 8 Other DON'T READ OUT

SQ3bb FROM RESPONSES TO D1a, b, c AND e, COMPUTER IS TO CALCULATE THE TOTAL FREQUENCY OF BETTING ON HORSES OR GREYHOUNDS.

IF AVERAGE FREQUENCY OF BETTING IS WEEKLY OR MORE OFTEN ie MORE THAN 52 TIMES A YEAR, ASK:

D2. In a usual week, overall how much time do you take to study the form, place your bets and listen to/watch the races?

RECORD WHETHER ANSWER HAS BEEN GIVEN IN HOURS OR MINUTES, THEN RECORD THE NUMBER GIVEN.

Number

- 1 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ hours
- 2 Minutes \_\_\_\_\_ minutes
- 9 Can't say

IF BET ONLY ONCE IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS, ASK D3a AND THEN D3b:

D3a. How much of your own money did you gamble on that occasion? ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

D3b. And how much, if any, did you win? ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

IF BET MORE THAN ONCE ON COURSE IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS (CHECK D1a), ASK D4a AND THEN D4b:

D4a. Thinking about when you go to a racecourse, how much money do you usually **take with you** to bet on the races, including any additional money withdrawn or borrowed during your time at the races?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

D4b. And how much money do you usually **have left** when you leave the races?  
ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF CAN'T SAY AT D4a OR D4b, ASK D4c, ELSE GO TO D5a:

D4c. Do you usually win or lose during a day at the races?

1 Usually win GO TO D4d

2 Usually lose GO TO D4e

9 Can't say GO TO D5a

IF USUALLY WIN (CODE 1 AT D4c), ASK:

D4d. So how much money do you usually win during a day at the races?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF ANSWERED AMOUNT OR CODE 9 IN D4d GO TO D5a

IF USUALLY LOSE (D4c=CODE 2), ASK:

D4e. So how much money do you usually lose during a day at the races? ENTER  
AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF BET MORE THAN ONCE OFF-COURSE IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS (CHECK  
D1b), ASK:

D5a. How much of your own money do you usually **gamble** on the races each day  
you bet off-course at a TAB, club, hotel or casino? ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

D5b And how much money do you usually **have left** at the end of the day's betting?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF CAN'T SAY AT D5a OR D5b, ASK D5c, ELSE GO TO D6a:

D5c. Do you usually win or lose during a day's betting off-course at a TAB, club,  
hotel or casino?

1 Usually win GO To D5d

2 Usually lose GO TO D5e

9 Can't say GO TO D6a

D5d. So how much money do you usually **win** during a day's betting off-course?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF ANSWERED AMOUNT OR CODE 9 IN D5d GO TO D6a

D5e. So how much money do you usually **lose** during a day's betting off-course?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF BET MORE THAN ONCE BY PHONE IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS (CHECK D1c), ASK:

D6a. How much of your own money do you usually **gamble** on the races each day you bet by phone?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

D6b. And how much money do you usually **have left** at the end of the day's betting?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF CAN'T SAY AT D6a OR D6b, ASK D6c, ELSE GO TO D7a:

D6c. Do you usually win or lose during a day's betting by phone?

1 Usually win GO TO D6d

2 Usually lose GO TO D6e

9 Can't say GO TO D7a

D6d. So how much money do you usually win during a day's betting by phone?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF ANSWERED AMOUNT OR CODE 9 IN D6d GO TO D7a

D6e. So how much money do you usually lose during a day's betting by phone?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF BET MORE THAN ONCE VIA THE INTERNET IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS (CHECK D1e), ASK:

D7a. How much of your own money do you usually **gamble** on the races each day you bet via the internet?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

D7b. And how much money do you usually **have left** at the end of the day's betting?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF CAN'T SAY AT D7a OR D7b, ASK D7c, ELSE GO TO NEXT SECTION

D7c. Do you usually win or lose during a day's betting via the internet?

1 Usually win GO TO D7d

2 Usually lose GO TO D7e

9 Can't say GO TO NEXT SECTION

D7d. So how much money do you usually **win** during a day's betting via the internet?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF ANSWERED AMOUNT OR CODE 9 IN D7d GO TO NEXT SECTION

D7e. So how much money do you usually **lose** during a day's betting via the internet?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

**SECTION E – Instant scratch tickets**

IF BOUGHT INSTANT SCRATCH TICKETS (SQ2A=CODE 3, AND SQ2A1=CODE 1) SAY:

You mentioned earlier that you bought instant scratch tickets in the last 12 months.

E2. How much money do you usually outlay each time you buy instant scratch tickets?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

E3. And approximately how much money would you say that you have won from the instant scratch tickets you have bought in the last 12 months?

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF CAN'T SAY AT E2 OR E3, ASK E4, ELSE GO TO NEXT SECTION.

E4. Do you usually win or lose from the instant scratch tickets?

1 Usually win GO TO E4b

2 Usually lose GO TO E4c

9 Can't say GO TO NEXT SECTION

E4b. So how much money do you usually win?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF ANSWERED AMOUNT OR CODE 9 IN E4b GO TO NEXT SECTION

E4c. So how much money do you usually lose?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

**SECTION F – Lotto & Lottery Games**

IF PLAYED LOTTO OR ANY OTHER LOTTERY GAME (SQ2A=CODE 4, AND SQ2A2-CODE 1)

F1. I'd like you to think about the lottery games you have played in the last 12 months. I'll now read out a list of games. Please tell me if you have played each game in the last 12 months. READ OUT. MULTIPLE RESPONSE.

- 1 Lotto
- 2 Lotto Strike
- 3 Tattslotto
- 4 Oz Lotto
- 5 Powerball
- 6 Super 66
- 7 The Pools
- 8 \$5 Jackpot Lottery
- 9 \$2 Jackpot Lottery
- 10 Tatts 2
- 11 Tatts Keno
- 12 Cash Bonanza
- 13 None of these (DON'T READ OUT)

IF PLAYED LOTTO IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS (F1=CODE 1) ASK:

F2a. How many times per week OR per month OR per year do you play Lotto?  
ENTER WEEK/MONTH/YEAR THEN RECORD FREQUENCY.

Frequency

- 1 Week \_\_\_\_\_per week
- 2 Month \_\_\_\_\_per month
- 3 Year \_\_\_\_\_per year
- 9 Can't say

F3A. And how much money do you usually outlay each time you play Lotto or any other lottery game?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

**SECTION G – Table Games at Casino**

IF PLAYED TABLE GAMES AT CASINO (CODE 8 AT SQ2A)

You mentioned earlier that you play table games at a casino, such as Blackjack or Roulette about ..... times per ..... in the last 12 months. (INSERT FREQUENCY FROM SQ2c6 )

G2. For how long do you usually play the table games when you visit a casino?  
RECORD WHETHER ANSWER HAS BEEN GIVEN IN HOURS OR MINUTES,  
THEN RECORD THE NUMBER GIVEN.

Number

- 1 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ hours
- 2 Minutes \_\_\_\_\_ minutes
- 9 Can't say

G3. How often do you withdraw money from an automatic teller machine (ATM) at a casino to play the table games? Is that ...READ OUT

- 1 Never
- 2 Rarely
- 3 Sometimes
- 4 Often
- 5 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

G4. How much money do you usually **take with you** to play the table games, including any additional money withdrawn or borrowed during the period of play?  
ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

G5. And how much do you usually **have left** when you finish playing the table games?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

IF CAN'T SAY AT G4 OR G5, ASK G6, ELSE GO TO NEXT SECTION

G6. Do you usually win or lose when you play the table games?

- 1 Usually win GO TO G6b
- 2 Usually lose GO TO G6c
- 9 Can't say GO TO NEXT SECTION

G6b. So how much money do you usually win?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

IF ANSWERED AMOUNT OR CODE 9 IN G6b GO TO NEXT SECTION

G6c. So how much money do you usually lose?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

## SECTION H - Keno

IF PLAYED KENO AT AN ACT CLUB, HOTEL, OR CASINO

(SQ2A=CODE 5 or 6 or 7)

You mentioned earlier that you play Keno about .....times per ..... in the last 12 months. (INSERT FREQUENCY FROM SQ2c5)

H2. For how long do you usually play Keno on those occasions?

RECORD WHETHER ANSWER HAS BEEN GIVEN IN HOURS OR MINUTES, THEN RECORD THE NUMBER GIVEN.

Number

1 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ hours

2 Minutes \_\_\_\_\_ minutes

9 Can't say

H3. How much money do you usually **take with you** to play Keno, including any additional money withdrawn or borrowed during the period of play?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

H4. And how much do you usually **have left** when you finish playing Keno?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF CAN'T SAY AT H3 OR H4, ASK H5, ELSE GO TO NEXT SECTION

H5. Do you usually win or lose when you play Keno?

1 Usually win GO TO H6a

2 Usually lose GO TO H6b

9 Can't say GO TO NEXT SECTION

H6a. So how much money do you usually win?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF ANSWERED AMOUNT OR CODE 9 IN H6a GO TO NEXT SECTION

H6b. So how much money do you usually lose?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say



**SECTION I - Bingo**

IF PLAYED BINGO AT AN ACT CLUB OR HALL (SQ2A =CODE 9)

You mentioned earlier that you have played Bingo ..... times per ..... in the last 12 months. (INSERT FREQUENCY GIVEN AT SQ2c7)

I2. For how long do you usually play Bingo on those occasions?

RECORD WHETHER ANSWER HAS BEEN GIVEN IN HOURS OR MINUTES, THEN RECORD THE NUMBER GIVEN.

Number

1 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ hours

2 Minutes \_\_\_\_\_ minutes

9 Can't say

I3. How much money do you usually take with you to play Bingo, including any additional money withdrawn or borrowed during the period of play?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

I4. And how much do you usually have left when you finish playing Bingo?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF CAN'T SAY AT I3 OR I4, ASK I5, ELSE GO TO NEXT SECTION

I5. Do you usually win or lose when you play Bingo?

1 Usually win GO TO I6a

2 Usually lose GO TO I6b

9 Can't say GO TO NEXT SECTION

I6a. So how much money do you usually win?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

IF ANSWERED AMOUNT OR CODE 9 IN I6a GO TO NEXT SECTION

I6b. So how much money do you usually lose?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

9 Can't say

**SECTION J – Sports Betting**

IF BET ON A SPORTING EVENT SUCH AS FOOTBALL, CRICKET OR TENNIS  
(SQ2A =CODE 10)

Next some questions about your sports betting in the last 12 months.

J0. Where do you usually place your bets? READ OUT. MULTIPLE RESPONSE

- 1 By phone
- 2 In person
- 3 Via the internet
- 9 Don't Know

J1 When you place your bets, who do you usually bet with? READ OUT

- 1 ACTTAB
- 2 ACT bookmaker
- 3 A bookmaker in another state
- 4 TAB in another state
- 8 Other DO NOT READ OUT

You mentioned earlier that you place sports bets about ..... times per ..... in  
the last 12 months. (INSERT FREQUENCY FROM SQ2c8)

J2. How much money do you usually gamble each day you place sports bets?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

J3. And how much do you usually end up with at the end of the day's betting?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

IF CAN'T SAY AT J2 OR J3, ASK J4a, ELSE GO TO NEXT SECTION

J4a. Do you usually win or lose during a day's betting?

- 1 Usually win GO TO J5a
- 2 Usually lose GO TO J5b
- 3 Can't say GO TO NEXT SECTION

J5a. So how much money do you usually win?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

IF ANSWERED AMOUNT OR CODE 9 IN J5a GO TO NEXT SECTION

J5b. So how much money do you usually lose?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

**SECTION K – Casino Games on the Internet**

IF PLAYED CASINO GAMES FOR MONEY ON THE INTERNET (SQ2A =CODE 11)

You mentioned earlier that you have played casino games on the internet ..... times per ..... in the last 12 months. (INSERT FRQUENCY FROM SQ2c9)

K2. For how long do you usually play casino games on the internet on those occasions?

RECORD WHETHER ANSWER HAS BEEN GIVEN IN HOURS OR MINUTES, THEN RECORD THE NUMBER GIVEN.

Number

- 1 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ hours
- 2 Minutes \_\_\_\_\_ minutes
- 9 Can't say

K3. How much **of your own money** do you usually **gamble** each time you play casino games on the internet? **Please delete the text highlighted**

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

K4. And how much do you usually **have left** when you finish playing casino games on the internet?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

IF CAN'T SAY AT K3 OR K4, ASK K5, ELSE GO TO NEXT SECTION

K5. Do you usually win or lose in a typical session when you play casino games on the internet?

- 1 Usually win GO TO K6a
- 2 Usually lose GO TO K6b
- 3 Can't say GO TO NEXT SECTION

K6a. So how much money do you usually win in a typical session?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

IF ANSWERED AMOUNT OR CODE 9 IN K6a GO TO NEXT SECTION

K6b. So how much money do you usually lose in a typical session?

ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 9 Can't say

**SECTION L– Other Gambling Activities**

IF PLAYED ANY OTHER GAMBLING ACTIVITIES (CODES 96 OR 97 AT SQ2A)

You mentioned earlier that you play (OTHER GAMBLING ACTIVITIES) ..... times per ..... in the last 12 months. (INSERT FREQUENCY FROM SQ2A AND SQ2b2a)

L2. For how long do you usually gamble on that activity when you play?  
RECORD WHETHER ANSWER HAS BEEN GIVEN IN HOURS OR MINUTES, THEN RECORD THE NUMBER GIVEN.

Number

- 1 Hours \_\_\_\_\_ hours
- 2 Minutes \_\_\_\_\_ minutes
- 9 Can't say

L3. How much money do you usually outlay each time you play?  
ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
9 Can't say

L4. And how much do you usually have left when you finish playing?  
ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
9 Can't say

IF CAN'T SAY AT L3 OR L4, ASK L5, ELSE GO TO NEXT SECTION

L5. Do you usually win or lose when you play?

- 1 Usually win GO TO L6a
- 2 Usually lose GO TO L6b
- 3 Can't say GO TO NEXT SECTION

L6a. So how much money do you usually win?  
ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
9 Can't say

IF ANSWERED AMOUNT OR CODE 9 IN L6a GO TO SQ4

L6b. So how much money do you usually lose?  
ENTER AMOUNT IN \$'s.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
9 Can't say

SQ4 ANNUAL GROSS EXPENDITURE  
CLASSIFICATION OF REGULAR GAMBLERS FOR QUOTAS

- 1 REGULAR
- 2 NON REGULAR
- 3 NON GAMBLERS

## SECTION M

ASK ALL GAMBLERS WHO GAMBLE ON MORE THAN ONE ACTIVITY  
(MORE THAN ONE RESPONSE AT SQ2A AND SQ4=CODE 1 OR 2)

M1. On which gambling activity have you spent the **most** money overall in the last 12 months? SINGLE RESPONSE ONLY.

- 1 Played poker machines or gaming machines.
- 2 Bet on horse or greyhound races EXCLUDING sweeps.
- 3 Bought INSTANT scratch tickets.
- 4 Played Lotto or ANY OTHER lottery game like Tattslotto, Powerball, the Pools, Tatts 2, or Oz Lotto.
- 5 Played Keno at an ACT club, hotel, casino or any other place.
- 6 Played table games at a casino such as Blackjack or Roulette.
- 7 Played bingo at an ACT club or hall.
- 8 Bet on a sporting event like football, cricket or tennis with TAB or bookie
- 9 Played casino games on the internet, for money.
- 10 Bought raffle tickets
- 96 (First other mention) (SPECIFY)\_\_\_\_\_
- 97 (All other mentions) (SPECIFY)\_\_\_\_\_
- 99 Can't say. GO TO M3

DUMMY QUESTION FOR M2 QUESTION TEXT This question is not asked - it served as a second prompt for the interviewer

- 1 Poker machines or gaming machines.
- 2 Horse or greyhound races EXCLUDING sweeps.
- 3 INSTANT scratch tickets.
- 4 Lotto or ANY OTHER lottery
- 5 Keno
- 6 Table games at a casino
- 7 Bingo
- 8 A sporting event
- 9 Casino games on the internet
- 10 Raffle tickets
- 96 Response given at M1, CODE 96
- 97 Response given at M1, CODE 97
- 99 Can't say.

ASK ALL GAMBLERS (SQ4=CODE 1 OR 2)

M2. Looking back over the last 12 months, how would you rate your experience of gambling on (IF ANSWERED M1 INSERT ACTIVITY FROM M1 OR IF INSERT FROM SQ2A IF **ONLY** SINGLE ACTIVITY UNDERTAKEN IN SQ2A)

Would you say it has made your life ... READ OUT

- 1 A lot more enjoyable
- 2 A little more enjoyable
- 3 Made no difference to your life
- 4 A little less enjoyable

- 5 A lot less enjoyable
- 9 Don't know/can't say (DON'T READ OUT)

ASK ALL GAMBLERS (SQ4=CODE 1 OR 2)

M3. Think about the amount of money you used for gambling in the last (Regular – week) (Non-regular – month). If you hadn't spent the money on gambling, in what other ways you might have used it?

DO NOT READ OUT. IF MENTIONS 'SPENT IT ON OTHER ITEMS' ASK FOR DETAILS. MULTIPLE RESPONSE.

- 1 Spent it on groceries or small household items
- 2 Put it towards major household goods (eg TV, refrigerator)
- 3 Spent it on personal items (eg clothing, footwear)
- 4 Spent it on restaurant meals
- 5 Spent it on wine/beer etc
- 6 Spent it on the movies or a concert
- 7 Spent it on other entertainment or recreation activities
- 8 Used it to pay bills/credit card
- 9 Used it to pay rent/mortgage
- 10 Spent it on children/grandchildren/family
- 11 Spent it on petrol
- 12 Spent it on cigarettes
- 13 Donate it to charity
- 14 Buy magazines/books
- 98 Spent it on other items (SPECIFY)\_\_\_\_\_
- 15 Not spent it/saved it/put it in the bank
- 99 Don't know

## SECTION N

ASK ALL REGULAR GAMBLERS (SQ4=CODE 1)

I am now going to read out some questions about what people do when they gamble. As I read out each statement, please tell me whether it has applied to you personally in the last 12 months. Remember that all the information you provide is anonymous and confidential so I'd like you to give honest answers.

N1. In the last 12 months, when you gambled, how often did you go back another day to win back money you lost? Would you say.. READ OUT

- 1 Never
- 2 Rarely
- 3 Sometimes
- 4 Often
- 5 Always
- 7 Refused DON'T READ OUT
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N2. In the last 12 months, have you claimed to be winning money from gambling when in fact you lost? Would you say.. READ OUT

- 1 Never
- 2 Rarely
- 3 Sometimes
- 4 Often
- 5 Always
- 7 Refused DON'T READ OUT
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

For the next set of questions, please just initially answer yes or no.

N3a. In the last 12 months, have you gambled more than you intended to?

- 1 Yes GO TO N3c
- 2 No GO TO N3b
- 7Refused GO TO N4a
- 9 Can't say GO TO N4a

N3B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

- 1 Rarely
  - 2 Not at all
- IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N3B GO TO N4a

N3C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N4a. In the last 12 months, have people criticised your gambling or told you that you have a gambling problem, regardless of whether or not you thought it was true?

1 Yes GO TO N4c

2 No GO TO N4b

7 Refused GO TO N5a

9 Can't say GO TO N5a

N4B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

1 Rarely

2 Not at all

IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N4B GO TO N5a

N4C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

1 Rarely

2 Sometimes

3 Often

4 Always

9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N5a. In the last 12 months, have you felt guilty about the way you gamble or what happens when you gamble?

1 Yes GO TO N5c

2 No GO TO N5b

7 Refused GO TO N6a

9 Can't say GO TO N6a

N5B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

1 Rarely

2 Not at all

IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N5B GO TO N6a

N5C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

1 Rarely

2 Sometimes

3 Often

4 Always

9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N6A. In the last 12 months, have you felt that you would like to stop gambling but didn't think you could?

1 Yes GO TO N6c

2 No GO TO N6b

7 Refused GO TO N7a

9 Can't say GO TO N7a

N6B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

1 Rarely

2 Not at all



IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N6B GO TO N7a

N6C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N7a. In the last 12 months, have you hidden betting slips, lottery tickets, gambling money or other signs of gambling from your spouse/partner, children, or other important people in your life?

- 1 Yes GO TO N7c
- 2 No GO TO N7b
- 7 Refused GO TO N8a
- 9 Can't say GO TO N8a

N7B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

- 1 Rarely
  - 2 Not at all
- IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N7B GO TO N8a

N7C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N8a. in the last 12 months, have you argued with people you live with over how you handle money?

- 1 Yes GO TO N8c
- 2 No GO TO N8b
- 7 Refused GO TO N9a
- 9 Can't say GO TO N9a

N8B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

- 1 Rarely
  - 2 Not at all
- IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N8B GO TO N9a

N8C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N9a. In the last 12 months, have you borrowed from someone and not paid them back as a result of your gambling?

- 1 Yes GO TO N9c
- 2 No GO TO N9b
- 7 Refused GO TO N10a
- 9 Can't say GO TO N10a

N9B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

- 1 Rarely
  - 2 Not at all
- IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N9B GO TO N10a

N9C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N10a. In the last 12 months, have you lost time from work or study because of your gambling?

- 1 Yes GO TO N10c
- 2 No GO TO N10b
- 7 Refused GO TO N11a
- 9 Can't say GO TO N11a

N10B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

- 1 Rarely
  - 2 Not at all
- IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N10B GO TO N11a

N10C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

Next are some ways people have obtained money to gamble or to pay gambling debts. Again, please answer honestly and tell me if any of the following questions applied to you personally.

N11a. In the last 12 months, have you borrowed from household money to gamble or to pay gambling debts?

- 1 Yes GO TO N11c
- 2 No GO TO N11b
- 7 Refused GO TO N12a
- 9 Can't say GO TO N12a

N11B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

1 Rarely

2 Not at all

IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N11B GO TO N12a

N11C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

1 Rarely

2 Sometimes

3 Often

4 Always

9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N12a. In the last 12 months, have you borrowed from your spouse or partner to gamble or to pay gambling debts?

1 Yes GO TO N12c

2 No GO TO N12b

7 Refused GO TO N13a

9 Can't say GO TO N13a

N12B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

1 Rarely

2 Not at all

IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N12B GO TO N13a

N12C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

1 Rarely

2 Sometimes

3 Often

4 Always

9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N13a. In the last 12 months, have you borrowed from other relatives or inlaws to gamble or to pay gambling debts?

1 Yes GO TO N13c

2 No GO TO N13b

7 Refused GO TO N14a

9 Can't say GO TO N14a

N13B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

1 Rarely

2 Not at all

IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N13B GO TO N14a

N13C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

1 Rarely

2 Sometimes

3 Often

4 Always

9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N14a. In the last 12 months, have you obtained cash advances using your credit cards to gamble or to pay gambling debts? This does not include using cards to make cash withdrawals from savings or cheque accounts.

1 Yes GO TO N14c

2 No GO TO N14b

7 Refused GO TO N15a

9 Can't say GO TO N15a

N14B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

1 Rarely

2 Not at all

IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N14B GO TO N15a

N14C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

1 Rarely

2 Sometimes

3 Often

4 Always

9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N15a. In the last 12 months, have you **arranged a personal loan** from a bank, finance company or credit union to gamble or to pay gambling debts?

1 Yes GO TO N15c

2 No GO TO N15b

7 Refused GO TO N16a

9 Can't say GO TO N16a

N15B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

1 Rarely

2 Not at all

IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N15B GO TO N16a

N15C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

1 Rarely

2 Sometimes

3 Often

4 Always

9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N16a. In the last 12 months, have you borrowed from loan sharks to gamble or to pay gambling debts?

1 Yes GO TO N16c

2 No GO TO N16b

7 Refused GO TO N17a

9 Can't say GO TO N17a

N16B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Not at all

IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N16B GO TO N17a

N16C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N17a. In the last 12 months, have you cashed in shares, bonds or other securities to gamble or to pay gambling debts?

- 1 Yes GO TO N17c
- 2 No GO TO N17b
- 7 Refused GO TO N18a
- 9 Can't say GO TO N18a

N17B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Not at all

IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N17B GO TO N18a

N17C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N18a. In the last 12 months, have you sold personal or family property to gamble or to pay gambling debts?

- 1 Yes GO TO N18c
- 2 No GO TO N18b
- 7 Refused GO TO N19a
- 9 Can't say GO TO N19a

N18B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Not at all

IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N18B GO TO N19a

N18C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always

9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N19a. In the last 12 months, have you written a cheque knowing there was no money in your account to gamble or to pay gambling debts?

- 1 Yes GO TO N19c
- 2 No GO TO N19b
- 7 Refused GO TO N20a
- 9 Can't say GO TO N20a

N19B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

- 1 Rarely
  - 2 Not at all
- IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N19B GO TO N20a

N19C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N20a. In the last 12 months, have you spent more money on gambling than you can afford?

- 1 Yes GO TO N20c
- 2 No GO TO N20b
- 7 Refused GO TO N21
- 9 Can't say GO TO N21

N20B. Do you mean rarely or not at all?

- 1 Rarely
  - 2 Not at all
- IF ANSWERED CODE 1 OR 2 IN N20B GO TO N21

N20C. Is that rarely, sometimes, often or always?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

N21a. Do you feel you've ever had a problem with your gambling?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No GO TO N24

N21b Would you say READ OUT

- 1 Yes, I had a problem in the past but not now GO TO N22
- 2 Yes, I feel this way now GO TO N23
- 3 No I haven't got a problem with gambling GO TO N24

8 Refused GO TO N24 DO NOT READ OUT

9 Can't say GO TO N24 DO NOT READ OUT

N22. And for how long did you have a problem with your gambling?

ENTER AMOUNT OF YEARS. ROUND TO NEAREST YEAR - IF LESS THAN 6 MONTHS, ENTER 0.

Number of years \_\_\_\_\_ NOW GO TO N24

N23. So for how long do you feel you have had a problem with your gambling?

ENTER AMOUNT OF YEARS. ROUND TO NEAREST YEAR - IF LESS THAN 6 MONTHS, ENTER 0.

Number of years \_\_\_\_\_

N24. Now on a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 means you feel your gambling is NOT AT ALL a problem and 10 means you feel your gambling IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM, how would you rate your gambling right now?

Record rating \_\_\_\_\_

97 Refused

99 Can't say

## SECTION O

### ASK EVERYONE

As you probably know, there is some concern about the number of people who have gambling related problems, such as personal or financial problems.

O1. Do you personally know of someone who has experienced serious problems with their gambling?

- 1 Yes GO TO O2
- 2 No GO TO NEXT SECTION
- 9 Can't say GO TO NEXT SECTION

O2. Were those problems experienced in the last 12 months?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Can't say

O3. Could you please tell me what that person's relationship is to you?

- 1 Spouse/partner
- 2 Father
- 3 Mother
- 4 Brother
- 5 Sister
- 6 Child
- 7 Other relative
- 8 Friend/acquaintance
- 9 Work colleague
- 11 Client/customer/patient
- 12 Ex spouse/partner
- 13 Ex girlfriend/boyfriend
- 14 Ex relative
- 97 Refused
- 98 Other (SPECIFY)\_\_\_\_\_
- 99 Can't say

O4. In what type of gambling was that person mainly involved?

- 1 Poker machines or gaming machines.
- 2 Bet on horse or greyhound races.
- 3 Instant lotteries.
- 4 Played Lotto or other lottery game.
- 5 Played table games at a casino.
- 6 Keno.
- 7 Bingo.
- 8 Sports betting.
- 9 Private games played for money.
- 10 Internet gambling for money.
- 11 Everything/anything.
- 12 Casino/casino based activities.



98 OTHER (SPECIFY) \_\_\_\_\_

98 Don't know

O5. Is that person obtaining help for their gambling problem?

1 Yes

2 No

9 Can't say

O6. Do you personally know of anyone else who has experienced serious problems with their gambling?

1 Yes GO TO O7

2 No GO TO NEXT SECTION

9 Can't say GO TO NEXT SECTION

IF KNOWN 2ND PROBLEM GAMBLER

O7. Were those problems experienced in the last 12 months?

1 Yes

2 No

9 Can't say

O8. Could you please tell me what that person's relationship is to you?

1 Spouse/partner

2 Father

3 Mother

4 Brother

5 Sister

6 Child

7 Other relative

8 Friend/acquaintance

9 Work colleague

11 Client/customer/patient

12 Ex spouse/partner

13 Ex girlfriend/boyfriend

14 Ex relative

97 Refused

98 Other (SPECIFY) \_\_\_\_\_

99 Can't say

O9. In what type of gambling was that person mainly involved?

1 Poker machines or gaming machines.

2 Bet on horse or greyhound races.

3 Instant lotteries.

4 Played Lotto or other lottery game.

5 Played table games at a casino.

6 Keno.

7 Bingo.

8 Sports betting.

9 Private games played for money.

- 10 Internet gambling for money.
- 11 Everything/anything.
- 12 Casino/casino based activities.
- 98 OTHER (SPECIFY)\_\_\_\_\_
- 98 Don't know

O10. Is that person obtaining help for their gambling problem?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Can't say

## SECTION P

ASK ALL REGULAR GAMBLERS (SQ4=CODE 1)

I am now going to read out some questions that relate to what people have said about their gambling. Again, please answer honestly and tell me whether any of the questions apply to you personally. Remember that your answers are confidential.

P1a. Have you ever owed money because of your gambling?

- 1 Yes GO TO P1b
- 2 No GO TO P2a
- 7 Refused GO TO P2a
- 9 Can't say GO TO P2a

P1b. And have you owed money in the last 12 months because of your gambling?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Can't say

P2a. Have you ever deposited personal items at a pawnbrokers or cash converters because of your gambling?

- 1 Yes GO TO P2b
- 2 No GO TO P3a
- 7 Refused GO TO P3a
- 9 Can't say GO TO P3a

P2b. And have you done this in the last 12 months?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Can't say

P3a. Have you ever suffered from depression because of your gambling?

- 1 Yes GO TO P3b
- 2 No GO TO P4a
- 7 Refused GO TO P4a
- 9 Can't say GO TO P4a

P3b. Have you suffered from that in the last 12 months?

- 1 Yes GO TO P3c
- 2 No GO TO P4a
- 9 Can't say GO TO P4a

P3c. During that time, have you suffered from depression because of your gambling rarely/sometimes/often/or always?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

P4a. Has your gambling ever adversely affected how well you perform in your job?  
1 Yes GO TO P4b  
2 No GO TO P5a  
7 Refused GO TO P5a  
9 Can't say GO TO P5a

IF JOB ADVERSELY AFFECTED (CODE 1)

P4b. And has this happened in the last 12 months?  
1 Yes GO TO P4c  
2 No GO TO P5a  
9 Can't say GO TO P5a

P4c. During that time, has your gambling adversely affected your job rarely/sometimes/often/or always?  
1 Rarely  
2 Sometimes  
3 Often  
4 Always  
9 Can't say

P5a. Have you ever changed jobs as a result of problems related to your gambling?  
1 Yes GO TO P5b  
2 No GO TO P6a  
9 Can't say GO TO P6a

P5b. And have you done so in the last 12 months?  
1 Yes  
2 No  
9 Can't say

P6a. Have you ever been sacked from a job because of your gambling?  
1 Yes GO TOP6b  
2 No GO TO P7a  
7 Refused GO TO P7a  
9 Can't say GO TO P7a

P6b. And has this happened in the last 12 months?  
1 Yes  
2 No  
9 Can't say

P7a. Has your gambling ever left you with not enough time to look after your family's interests?  
1 Yes GO TOP7b  
2 No GO TO P8a  
7Refused GO TO P8a  
9 Can't say GO TO P8a

P7b. And has this happened in the last 12 months?

- 1 Yes GO TO P7c
- 2 No GO TO P8a
- 9 Can't say GO TO P8a

P7c. During that time, has your gambling left you with not enough time to look after your family's interests rarely/sometimes/often/or always?

- 1 Rarely
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Often
- 4 Always
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

P8a. Have your gambling debts ever caused you to be declared bankrupt?

- 1 Yes GO TOP8b
- 2 No GO TO P9a
- 7 Refused GO TO P9a
- 9 Can't say GO TO P9a

P8b. And has this happened in the last 12 months?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Can't say

P9a. Has your gambling ever led to the break-up of an important relationship in your life?

- 1 Yes GO TOP9b
- 2 No GO TO P10a
- 7 Refused GO TO P10a
- 9 Can't say GO TO P10a

P9b. And has this happened in the last 12 months?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Can't say

P10a. Has your gambling ever led you to obtain money illegally, even if you intended to pay it back?

- 1 Yes GO TO P10b
- 2 No GO TO 11a
- 7 Refused GO TO P11a
- 9 Can't say GO TO P11a

P10b. And have you done this in the last 12 months?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Can't say

P11a. Have you ever been in trouble with the police because of activities related to your gambling?

1 Yes GO TO P11b

2 No GO TO 12a

7 Refused GO TO P12a

9 Can't say GO TO P12a

P11b. And has this happened in the last 12 months?

1 Yes

2 No

9 Can't say

P12a. Have you ever appeared in court on charges related to your gambling?

1 Yes GO TO P12b

2 No GO TO 13a

7 Refused GO TO P13a

9 Can't say GO TO P13a

P12b. And has this happened in the last 12 months?

1 Yes

2 No

9 Can't say

P13a. Have you ever seriously thought about suicide because of your gambling?

1 Yes GO TO P13b

2 No GO TO NEXT SECTION

7 Refused GO TO NEXT SECTION

9 Can't say GO TO NEXT SECTION

P13b. And have you thought like that in the last 12 months?

1 Yes

2 No

9 Can't say

If you like I can give you the phone number of a counselling agency: 13 11 14

## SECTION Q

ASK ALL REGULAR GAMBLERS (SQ4=CODE 1) AND IF N21b = CODE 1 OR 2

The next few questions relate to the gambling support services that are available to help people who are experiencing difficulties related to gambling. Please answer from your own experience.

Q1. Have you tried to get help for problems related to your gambling?

- 1 Yes GO TO Q2
- 2 No GO TO Q6
- 9 Can't say GO TO Q6

Q2. What prompted you to seek help for your gambling problems? READ OUT.  
MULTIPLE RESPONSE.

- 1 Financial problems
- 2 Relationship problems
- 3 Legal problems
- 4 Work/employment problems
- 5 Someone urged you to go
- 6 Felt depressed/worried
- 98 Other (SPECIFY)\_\_\_\_\_

Q3a1. In the last 12 months have you received counselling or help from any of the following organisations for problems related to your gambling? READ OUT

- 1 Lifeline
- 2 Centacare
- 3 Salvation Army Counselling Services
- 4 Smith Family
- 5 CARE Financial Counselling and Legal Services
- 6 Welfare or church organisation (eg. St Vincent de Paul, Anglicare)
- 7 Family relationship organisations
- 8 Hospital or clinic
- 9 Community Health Centre
- 10 Indigenous or ethnic community agency (Migrant Resource Centre)
- 11 No, Not in the last 12 months – GO TO Q.7a
- 98 Some other organisation (SPECIFY)\_\_\_\_\_
- 97 Refused DONT READ OUT
- 99 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

IF MORE THAN ONE ORGANISATION GIVEN AT Q3A1

Q3a2 Which of those was the main organisation you dealt with?

RECORD-----

Q3b. Were you satisfied with the help you received from this organisation?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Can't say

Q3c. Other than a counselling agency or a gambling help line, did you turn to any other person for help for problems related to your gambling?

1 Yes GO TO Q3d

2 No GO TO Q7a

9 Can't say GO TO Q7a

Q3d. Who was that person?

1 Spouse or partner

2 Family or friends

3 An employee of a gambling venue

4 GP/Doctor

5 Church or religious worker

8 Someone else

9 No one else

98 Other (SPECIFY) \_\_\_\_\_

Q3e. Were you satisfied with the help you received from this person?

1 Yes

2 No

9 Can't say

Q4b. Are you currently seeing a counsellor about your gambling?

Yes GO TO Q4c

No GO TO Q4d

Q4c After finishing your contact with (INSERT RESPONSE FROM Q3a1 OR Q3a2), how much do you plan to gamble? Do you .... READ OUT

1 Plan to limit your gambling

2 Plan to stop gambling altogether

3 Or are you undecided

8 Other (SPECIFY) \_\_\_\_\_

Q4d When you finished your contact with (INSERT RESPONSE FROM Q3a1 OR Q3a2), did you .... READ OUT

1 Plan to limit your gambling

2 Plan to stop gambling altogether

3 Or are you undecided

8 Other (SPECIFY) \_\_\_\_\_

Q5. How did you find out about the services available to help people with gambling problems? Was it through ...READ OUT. MULTIPLE RESPONSE.

1 Signs at a gambling venue

2 Pamphlets at a gambling venue

3 Signs or pamphlets available elsewhere (eg doctor's surgery)

4 Telephone directory

5 Radio and TV advertising

6 Newspaper and media articles on gambling

7 A health professional



- 8 A financial adviser
  - 9 A community service agency
  - 10 Employees assistance program
  - 11 Word of mouth
  - 12 Asked for help from someone
  - 97 Refused
  - 98 Other (SPECIFY)\_\_\_\_\_
  - 99 Can't say (DON'T READ OUT)
- GO TO Q7A**

IF Q1=CODE 2 OR 9, ASK Q6, ELSE GO TO DEMOGRAPHICS

Q6. If you have not sought help for problems related to your gambling, why was this?

- 1 Didn't know where to go
- 2 Too embarrassed to see a counsellor
- 3 The kind of help I wanted wasn't available locally
- 4 Thought I could beat the problem on my own
- 8 Other (SPECIFY)\_\_\_\_\_

Q7a. Have you ever tried to give up or reduce your gambling and not been able to?

- 1 Yes GO TO 7b
- 2 No
- 9 Can't say

Q7b. How many unsuccessful attempts do you think you have made to give up or reduce your gambling?

\_\_\_\_\_ number times

## SECTION R - Demographics

ASK ALL

Finally I need to ask some general questions about you and your household to make sure we have a reasonable coverage of the population.

R1. In which country were you born?

- 1 Australia
- 2 Canada
- 3 China
- 4 Eastern Europe
- 5 Greece
- 6 Hong Kong
- 7 India
- 8 Italy
- 9 Lebanon
- 10 Malaysia
- 11 New Zealand
- 12 Philippines
- 13 South Africa
- 14 Spanish
- 15 United Kingdom
- 16 USA
- 17 Vietnam
- 98 OTHER (SPECIFY)\_\_\_\_\_

R2a. Was your mother born in Australia?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Refused

R2b. Was your father born in Australia?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 Refused

R4. Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Refused

R3a. Is English the main language spoken in your household?

- 1 Yes GO TO R5
- 2 No

IF ENGLISH NOT MAIN LANGUAGE (CODE 2)

R3b. What is the main language spoken in your household?

- 1 Arabic

- 2 Cantonese Chinese
- 3 Chinese
- 4 Croatian
- 5 Dutch
- 6 English
- 7 Filipino
- 8 French
- 9 German
- 10 Greek
- 11 Indonesian
- 12 Italian
- 13 Korean
- 14 Macedonian
- 15 Malaysian
- 16 Mandarin Chinese
- 17 Polish
- 18 Portuguese
- 19 Russian
- 20 Spanish
- 21 Tagalog (Filipino)
- 22 Turkish
- 23 Vietnamese
- 97 Other
- 98 Can't say

R5. What is your current marital status?

- 1 Married or living with a partner
- 2 Separated or divorced
- 3 Widowed
- 4 Single
- 7 Refused

R6. Which of the following best describes your household? READ OUT

- 1 Single person **GO TO R9**
- 2 One parent family with children
- 3 Couple with children
- 4 Couple with no children **GO TO R9**
- 5 Group household
- 8 Other
- 9 Can't say

**R7 & R8a have been deleted**

R8b. How many children under 18 years of age usually live in your household?

Number of children \_\_\_\_\_

R9. Which of the following best describes your current work status? READ OUT

- 1 Working full-time

- 2 Working part-time
- 3 Home duties
- 4 Student
- 5 Retired (self-supporting, in receipt of superannuation)
- 6 Pensioner
- 7 Unemployed (or looking for work)
- 8 Other DON'T READ OUT)
- 9 Can't say DON'T READ OUT

R10. What is the highest level of education you have reached?

- 1 Primary School
- 2 Some secondary school
- 3 Year 10/ 4th form (or equivalent)
- 4 Year 11/ 5th form/ leaving certificate (or equivalent)
- 5 Year 12/ HSC/VCE (or equivalent)
- 6 Some technical or commercial
- 7 Finished technical school.
- 8 Commercial college or TAFE
- 9 Diploma from CAE
- 10 Diploma
- 11 Some university/CAE
- 12 Degree from university/CAE
- 97 Refused
- 98 Other
- 99 Can't say

R11. What is the main source of income in your household?

- 1 Wage/salary
- 2 Own business
- 3 Other private income
- 4 Unemployment benefit
- 5 Retirement benefit/superannuation
- 6 Sickness benefit
- 7 Supporting parent benefit
- 8 Aged pension
- 9 Invalid/disability pension
- 10 Student allowance/scholarship
- 98 Other
- 99 Don't know
- 97 Refused

R12. Could you please tell me your own annual income from all sources before tax?

- 1 Less than \$10,000
- 2 \$10,000 – \$14,999
- 3 \$15,000 – \$19,999
- 4 \$20,000 – \$24,999
- 5 \$25,000 – \$29,999
- 6 \$30,000 – \$34,999

- 7 \$25,000 – \$39,999
- 8 \$40,000 – \$49,999
- 9 \$50,000 – \$59,999
- 10 \$60,000 – \$69,999
- 11 \$70,000 - \$89,999
- 12 \$90,000 - \$119,000
- 13 \$120,000 or more.
- 99 Don't know
- 97 Refused

**IF RESPONDENT LIVES ALONE (R6=CODE 1), SKIP TO NEXT SECTION.**

R13. Could you please tell me your total annual household income from all sources before tax? Include income from all household members.

- 1 <Less than \$10,000
- 2 \$10,000 – \$14,999
- 3 \$15,000 – \$19,999
- 4 \$20,000 – \$24,999
- 5 \$25,000 – \$29,999
- 6 \$30,000 – \$34,999
- 7 \$25,000 – \$39,999
- 8 \$40,000 – \$49,999
- 9 \$50,000 – \$59,999
- 10 \$60,000 – \$69,999
- 11 \$70,000 – \$79,999
- 12 \$80,000 – \$89,999
- 13 \$90,000 – \$99,999
- 14 \$100,000 – \$124,999
- 15 \$125,000 - \$149,999
- 16 \$150,000 - \$174,999
- \$175,000 or more.
- 99 Don't know
- 97 Refused

**IF REGULAR GAMBLER (SQ4=CODE 1)**

R15. There is a possibility that we might want to contact participants again in the future to follow up in more detail some of the questions asked today. Could we contact you?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

**IF 'YES', RECORD CONTACT DETAILS.**

This completes the survey. My supervisor may call to check that I have completed this interview properly, so could I have your first name and phone number.

Contact details \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you very much for your time and assistance. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE INTERVIEWER

S1. PLEASE RATE THE LEVEL OF THE RESPONDENT'S CO-OPERATION WITH THE SURVEY. HOW WILLING WAS THE RESPONDENT TO BE INTERVIEWED?

1 HIGH

2 MEDIUM

3 LOW

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE INTERVIEWER Delete this text**

S2. PLEASE CODE THE QUALITY OF THE COMMUNICATION WITH THE RESPONDENT (HOW WELL DID THE RESPONDENT APPEAR TO UNDERSTAND THE QUESTIONS?)

1 HIGH

2 MEDIUM

3 LOW

## Appendix B – Survey and sample analysis

The table below gives details of the final sample achieved. A total of 5,445 Screener interviews were conducted, which resulted in 2011 Core interviews. Based on the classification question at SQ3 one in four non regular gamblers were selected at random for interview, and one in two non gamblers.

	Screener section	Core interview
Non gamblers	1,451	432
Non regular gamblers	3,533	851
Regular gamblers	461	432
TOTAL interviews	5,445	2,011

ACT Gambling Response Analysis	TOTAL SAMPLE FRAME	
	Numbers	%
Total Numbers Dialed	18,359	100
Out of coverage	5,293	29
Ineligible – business number (314), fax number (405), paging service (7), disconnected/out of order (4041)	4,767	
Ineligible – no one of correct age	82	
Ineligible – not available during survey period	459	
Coverage not yet determined - not finalised	2,663	15
Engaged number	7	
No answer, but less than < 4 calls backs	895	
No answer, more than 4 callbacks	1,390	
Answering machine	371	
In scope - finalised	10,403	56
Appointment made (soft)	12	
Appointment made (hard)	3	
Unsuitable, language etc	168	
A) Screener Questionnaire:		
1) Refuses	4,343	
2) Agrees and starts screener	5,877	
3) Terminates during screener	432	
4a) Completes screener total	5,445	
4b) Completes screener NON GAMBLER	1,451	
4c) Completes screener NON REGULAR GAMBLER	3,533	
4d) Completes screener REGULAR GAMBLER	461	

ACT Gambling Response Analysis	TOTAL SAMPLE FRAME	
	Numbers	%
B) Core Questionnaire:		
1a) Selected total	2,148	
1b) Selected NON GAMBLER	766	
1c) Selected NON REGULAR GAMBLER	899	
1d) Selected REGULAR GAMBLER	483	
2a Refuses to continue	99	
2b Refuses NON GAMBLER	29	
2c Refuses NON REGULAR GAMBLER	41	
2d Refuses REGULAR GAMBLER	29	
2e Makes appointment for callback	9	
3) Agrees and starts interview	2,040	
4) Terminates during interview	29	
5a) Completes interview total	2011	
5b) Completes interview NON GAMBLER	728	
5c) Completes interview NON REGULAR GAMBLER	851	
5d) Completes interview REGULAR GAMBLER	432	

At SQ4 gambling status was reassessed based on total annual expenditure, and at this point 6 nonregular gamblers were found to be spending more than \$4,000 per annum and so were treated as regular gamblers for the balance of the interview, that is, they followed the sequence of questions for regular gamblers.



## Appendix C–South Oaks Gambling Screen (Lifetime version)

1. When you gamble, how often do you go back another day to win back money you lost? (never; some of the time [less than half the time] I lost; most of the time I lost; every time I lost)
2. Have you ever claimed to be winning money gambling but weren't really? In fact you lost? (never or never gamble; yes, less than half the time I lost; yes, most of the time)
3. Do you feel you have ever had a problem with gambling? (no; yes, in the past, but not now; yes)
4. Did you ever gamble more than you intended to? (yes, no)
5. Have people criticised your gambling? (yes, no)
6. Have you ever felt guilty about the way you gamble or what happens when you gamble? (yes, no)
7. Have you ever felt like you would like to stop gambling, but didn't think you could? (yes, no)
8. Have you ever hidden betting slips, lottery tickets, gambling money, or other signs of gambling from your spouse, children or other important people in your life? (yes, no)
9. a) Have you ever argued with people you live with over how you handle money? (yes, no)  
b) If you answered yes to the previous question: Have money arguments ever centred on your gambling? (yes, no)
10. Have you ever borrowed from someone and not paid them back as a result of your gambling? (yes, no)
11. Have you ever lost time from work (or school) due to gambling? (yes, no)

If you borrowed money to gamble or pay gambling debts, who or where did you borrow from? (check 'yes' or 'no' for each).

12. From household money? (yes, no)
13. From your spouse? (yes, no)
14. From other relatives or in-laws? (yes, no)
15. From banks, loan companies, or credit unions? (yes, no)
16. From credit cards? (yes, no)
17. From loan sharks? (yes, no)
18. You cashed in stocks, bonds or other securities? (yes, no)
19. You sold personal or family property? (yes, no)
20. You borrowed on your checking account? (passed bad checks)? (yes, no)

Source: Lesieur and Blume (1987, p.118).

## Appendix D – The Harm Indicator

### Elements of harmful gambling

A person has experienced harm from gambling if they meet *any* of the following conditions for the last year. They:

1. found that gambling has made life a lot less enjoyable and they *always* feel they cannot control gambling, although they want to;
2. *always* have money arguments about gambling;
3. *always* borrow to gamble while not paying borrowings back;
4. *always* lose time from work or study due to gambling;
5. *always* feel guilty about gambling;
6. borrow from loan sharks to gamble *sometimes* to *always*;
7. fraudulently write cheques to gamble *sometimes* to *always*;
8. believe they have a current problem *and* they rate their problem from 5 or more on a 10 point Likert scale;
9. *always* spend more than they can afford;
10. have *often* or *always* suffered from depression due to gambling;
11. have *often* or *always* experienced adverse effects on their job due to gambling;
12. have changed jobs in the last year due to gambling;
13. have been sacked in the last year due to gambling;
14. have *often* or *always* not had enough time to look after their family's interests due to gambling;
15. have become bankrupt due to gambling;
16. have experienced a relationship breakdown due to gambling;
17. have obtained money illegally to gamble;
18. have been in trouble with police over gambling;
19. have appeared in court on a gambling-related matter;
20. have seriously thought about suicide because of gambling;
21. have wanted help for gambling problems; or
22. have tried to get help for gambling problems in the last year.

A person who records a single answer to any of the above is deemed to have experienced harmful impacts from gambling, simply because each individual impact is serious. The *Productivity Commission National Gambling Survey* suggested that around 1.8% of the adult population score one or more using the above measures (which is somewhat less than the number of people who are measured as problem gamblers using the SOGS 5+ cutoff). About 54% of this HARM group score 2 or more.

Source: PC 1999, p.6.29 (Box 6.7).