

Gambling Trends Study: piloting a National Gambling Reporting System.

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Introduction/Issues: Globally, gambling has expanded rapidly with new technologies and consumers, and related harms are an increasing concern. The Gambling Trends Study, also known as the National Gambling Reporting System (NGRS), aims to identify emerging trends and monitor changes over time in gambling participation and related harms within and across Australian jurisdictions.

Method/Approach: During 2021 the Australian Gambling Research Centre is conducting a pilot study in Victoria, NSW and the ACT. The pilot study involves: 1) surveys of people aged 18+ who gamble regularly at venues on poker machines ('pokies') or online on sports or racing; 2) semi-structured interviews with professionals working in gambling research, regulation, policy and treatment; and 3) analysis of secondary data (such as gambling helpline and expenditure data).

Key Findings: To date, n=371 surveys have been conducted with people who gamble online and n=84 interviews with people who gamble on pokies. Data collection will be completed in August 2021. Findings will explore participants' gambling behaviour (e.g., the types of products people gamble on, how often people gamble, and how much people spend), alcohol consumption, and impacts on health and wellbeing. We will also discuss recommendations for the scale-up of the project across all Australian jurisdictions in 2022.

Discussions and Conclusions: This presentation will showcase a new gambling trends monitoring system. Findings from the study will help to inform the development and implementation of evidence-based policy and practice responses to prevent and reduce gambling-related harm in Australia.

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