

Survey: Ballarat Community Attitudes to Gambling

We're asking the Ballarat community to share their views on gambling and gambling-related harm.

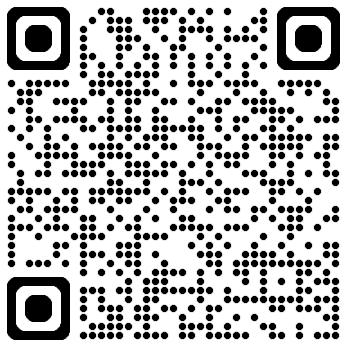
Your input will help guide future programs, policies, strategies to reduce harm, and advocacy efforts by local organisations.

The survey will take approximately 10 minutes.

If you would prefer to complete this survey online, please go to

<https://mysay.ballarat.vic.gov.au/community-attitudes-to-gambling>

or scan the QR code:



Please return this form, either:

- via email to hsplanning@ballarat.vic.gov.au
- via post to:
Health and Social Planning
City of Ballarat
Wadawurrung Country
PO Box 655 Ballarat, VIC, 3353
- in-person at the Phoenix Building:
25 Armstrong St S, Ballarat VIC 3350

Need Help? You're Not Alone. Reach Out Anytime

If you would like support with your gambling, or are impacted by someone else's gambling, please contact one of the following services:

- **Cafs – Gambler's Help (Ballarat)**
 - Free, confidential support
 - ☎ 1800 692 237
 - 🌐 [Gambler's Help - Cafs](#)
- **Gambler's Help (Victoria-wide)**
 - Free counselling and support services
 - ☎ 1800 858 858
 - 🌐 gamblershelp.com.au
- **Gambling Help Online**
 - 24/7 online support and self-help tools
 - 🌐 gamblinghelponline.org.au
- **Lifeline**
 - Crisis support and suicide prevention
 - ☎ 13 11 14
 - 📠 Text 0477 13 11 14
 - 🌐 lifeline.org.au

About You

01. Do you live, work, study, play or volunteer in Ballarat? **Required**

Select one answer only
☐ Yes
☐ No

Gambling Behaviour & Experiences

Throughout this survey, we will refer to 'gambling activities' which may include:

- Pokies (aka. "Electronic Gaming Machines", poker machines)
- Lottery tickets
- Raffle tickets
- Scratch cards
- Footy tipping (where money can be won)
- Bingo (where prize money can be won)
- Keno
- Casino games (in person or online, e.g. blackjack, roulette, poker),
- Horse or greyhound racing
- Informal private betting (e.g. card games, mahjong)
- Sports betting (or other online betting)
- Gambling game apps (such as pokies apps, Keno, casino games)
- Online games with randomised in-game purchase options (ie. loot boxes)

02. In the past 12 months, have you participated in any form of gambling?

Select one answer only
☐ Yes
☐ No (skip to question 9)
☐ Prefer not to answer (skip to question 9)

In-person gambling

03. Which of the following **in-person** gambling activities have you participated in?

Select all that apply.

Select all that apply
☐ Pokies (aka. "Electronic Gaming Machines", poker machines)
☐ Purchased a lottery ticket, raffle ticket or scratchie
☐ Played bingo (where prize money could be won)
☐ Played Keno (in person)
☐ Casino games (in person, e.g. blackjack, roulette, poker)
☐ Horse or greyhound racing (in-person)
☐ Footy tipping (where money can be won) in-person, such as at work
☐ Informal private betting (e.g., card games, mahjong)
☐ None of the above
☐ Other

Online gambling

04. Which of the following **online** gambling activities have you participated in?

Select all that apply (continues over page)

Select all that apply
☐ Sports betting (or other online betting)
☐ Gambling game apps (such as pokies apps, Keno, casino games)
☐ Online footy tipping where money can be won
☐ Placed horseracing or greyhound racing bets online (including virtual races)
☐ Purchased a lottery or raffle ticket online

☐ Online games with randomised in-game purchase options (ie. loot boxes)
☐ None of the above
☐ Other

05. In the past 12 months, have you ever bet more money than you were comfortable losing?

Select one answer only
☐ Yes
☐ No

06. Have you ever experienced harm as a result of your own, or someone else's gambling?

Harms can range from financial, relationship, psychological, health, or legal issues.

Select all that apply
☐ Yes- my own
☐ Yes- someone else's
☐ No (skip to question 9)
☐ Unsure (skip to question 9)

07. What type of harm did you experience?

Select all that apply (continues over page)

Select all that apply
☐ Late payments on bills (e.g. utilities, rates)
☐ Reduced performance at work or study (i.e. due to tiredness or distraction)
☐ Loss of sleep due to stress or worry about their gambling or gambling-related problems
☐ Stress-related health problems (e.g. high blood pressure, headaches)
☐ Increased experience of depression or anxiety

☐ Feelings of hopelessness about their gambling
☐ Felt angry about not controlling their gambling
☐ Got less enjoyment from time spent with people I care about
☐ Threat of separation or ending a relationship/s
☐ Took money or items from friends or family without asking first

08. Did you (or the person gambling) seek help in relation to this?

Select one answer only
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Unsure

Perceptions of Harm & Community Impact

09. In your opinion, what impact does gambling have on people in Ballarat?

On a scale between 1 and 5, provide your rating below (circle your answer)
1- Very negative impact 2- Negative impact 3- Neutral/ No impact 4- Positive impact 5- Very Positive Impact

10. Are you concerned about the impact of gambling on the Ballarat community?

On a scale between 1 and 5, provide your rating below (circle your answer)
1- Very concerned 2- A little concerned 3- Neutral 4- Mostly unconcerned 5- Not at all concerned

11. How do you feel about the number of poker machines currently in Ballarat?

Also known as "pokies", or Electronic Gaming Machines.

On a scale between 1 and 3, provide your rating below (circle your answer)
1- There should be less poker machines 2- The number of poker machines is about right 3- There should be more poker machines

12. How socially acceptable do you think gambling is in Ballarat?

"Socially acceptable" means that most people in a community or society think it is okay or appropriate.

On a scale between 1 and 5, provide your rating below (circle your answer)
1- Not at all socially acceptable 2- Slightly socially acceptable 3- About right 4- Very socially acceptable 5- Too socially acceptable

Attitudes to Gambling Culture, Advertising & Regulation

In this section, we would like to understand your opinions about gambling culture, advertising and regulation.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

13. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
(continued over page)

Gambling is embedded in social and recreational life in Ballarat
☐ Strongly disagree
☐ Neither agree or disagree
☐ Strongly agree
The community benefits of gambling outweigh the harms
☐ Strongly disagree

☐ Neither agree or disagree
☐ Strongly agree
Gambling advertising should be banned during televised sport
☐ Strongly disagree
☐ Neither agree or disagree
☐ Strongly agree
Gambling problems are mostly the responsibility of the individual
☐ Strongly disagree
☐ Neither agree or disagree
☐ Strongly agree
Local and professional sport should not be sponsored by gambling companies or venues
☐ Strongly disagree
☐ Neither agree or disagree
☐ Strongly agree
The use of credit cards for gambling should be banned
☐ Strongly disagree
☐ Neither agree or disagree
☐ Strongly agree
Children are too exposed to gambling advertising
☐ Strongly disagree
☐ Neither agree or disagree
☐ Strongly agree
There is already enough education about gambling risks and harm
☐ Strongly disagree
☐ Neither agree or disagree
☐ Strongly agree

Advocacy

14. Which actions should local organisations advocate for most strongly?

Please rank all that you think are important, in order of importance, from numbers 1 to 6 (write number in the box)

Select one answer only	
	Banning or regulating sports betting advertising (such as during televised sport, in public places and venues)
	Reducing the number of poker machines in Ballarat
	Increasing funding for gamblers help support services
	Improving education about gambling in schools and communities
	Banning gambling company sponsorship of sport
	Banning gambling-like features in children's games and apps (such as loot boxes)

Support, Education and Awareness

15. Are you concerned about children being exposed to gambling-like features in online games?

This may include gamified in-game purchases, gamified betting, loot boxes.

Select one answer only	
☐	I am aware of this, but not concerned
☐	I am aware of this, and somewhat concerned
☐	I am aware of this, and very concerned
☐	I am not aware of this issue

16. In your opinion, what might prevent someone from seeking help for gambling-related harm?

Select all that apply.

Select all that apply
☐ Shame or stigma
☐ Not knowing where to go
☐ Cost of support
☐ Fear of judgment
☐ Thinking gambling isn't a problem
☐ Other

17. Would you know where to go for help if you (or someone you know) needed it?

Select one answer only
☐ Yes
☐ No (please see supports listed on page one of this survey)
☐ Unsure (please see supports listed on page one of this survey)

18. Where should education about gambling harm be focused in Ballarat?

Tick all that apply (continues over page)

Select all that apply
☐ Schools
☐ Sporting clubs
☐ Youth services
☐ Workplaces
☐ Online/ social media
☐ Health services
☐ Families/ parents
☐ Community Centres/ Neighbourhood Houses

☐ Libraries
☐ Other

Other ideas, comments or thoughts

19. Do you have any other comments about gambling, gambling harm, or how to prevent/reduce harm in Ballarat?

Write your response here...



About You

Your answers to the following questions help us ensure that everyone has an opportunity to participate.

Your responses are anonymous, secure, and confidential.

Each question includes a "Prefer not to say" option.

20. Which of the following best describes your gender? **Required**

Select one answer only
☐ Man
☐ Woman
☐ Non-binary
☐ Prefer not to say
☐ Self-described (please specify)

21. Please select your age group **Required**

Select one answer only
☐ Under 12
☐ 12 to 25
☐ 26 to 35
☐ 36 to 45
☐ 46 to 55
☐ 56 to 65
☐ 66 to 75
☐ 76 to 85
☐ 86+
☐ Prefer not to say

22. Do any of the following apply to you? **Required**

Select all that apply

Select one answer only
☐ I identify as LGBTQIA+
☐ I am Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
☐ I am a person with disability or chronic health condition
☐ I am from a culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) background
☐ I earn less than \$650 per week, receive a government pension or allowance, or hold a Health Care Card
☐ None of the above
☐ Prefer not to say