



# Community Views on Poker Machines Research Report

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# The Research

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## Methodology

The telephone survey consisting of two questions was administered to a sample of 1,000 Tasmanian residents aged 18 years and over, drawn from the adult Tasmanian population of 381,296 (ABS, 2011). Of these, 500 were from the South, 250 were from the North and North East, and 250 were from the North West and West Coast regions. Interviewing took place between the 1st and 5th of November 2015.

Quotas were put in place for age, gender and region to ensure that the sample reflected the Tasmanian demographic profile. Where the quotas were not achieved, weighting was applied. To ensure accurate representation of age, gender and region, the data was weighted to the 2011 ABS population statistics. This ensures a more accurate representation of the Tasmanian population. Percentage figures are weighted, however any numbers quoted within the text or the “n=” of tables and charts are actual numbers.

## Key Findings

**The clear majority of respondents (84%) indicated that they disagree at some level that the Tasmanian community benefits from having poker machines in hotels and clubs, 66% of whom reported “strongly disagree”.**

**Unsurprisingly, around one third of respondents (32%) indicated that the number of poker machines in hotels and clubs should be “reduced”, while a further one in two (50%) were of the view that poker machines should be “removed completely”.**

# The People Interviewed

**Table 1 – Gender\*†**

Gender	Number	Percentage
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>55</b>

**Table 2 – Age†**

Age	Number	Percentage
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>18 to 24 years</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>25 to 34 years</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>35 to 44 years</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>45 to 54 years</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>55 to 69 years</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>70 years or over</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>22</b>

**Table 3 – Household Situation†**

Household Situation	Number	Percentage
Total	1,000	100
Single, never married	70	7
A couple with no children	40	4
Family, no children over 16	181	18
Family, children over 16 at home	256	26
Married, no children at home	296	30
Widowed	77	8
Sole parent	21	2
Separated or divorced	52	5
Declined to answer	7	1

\*Percentages do not sum to 100 due to rounding.

†Numbers and percentages in these tables are unweighted.

# The People Interviewed

Table 4 – Employment Status†

Employment Status	Number	Percentage
Total	1,000	100
Employed full time	328	33
Employed part time	182	18
Home duties	49	5
Retired or on a pension	380	38
Unemployed	30	3
Student	28	3
Declined to answer	3	0

Table 5 – Combined Household Income\*†

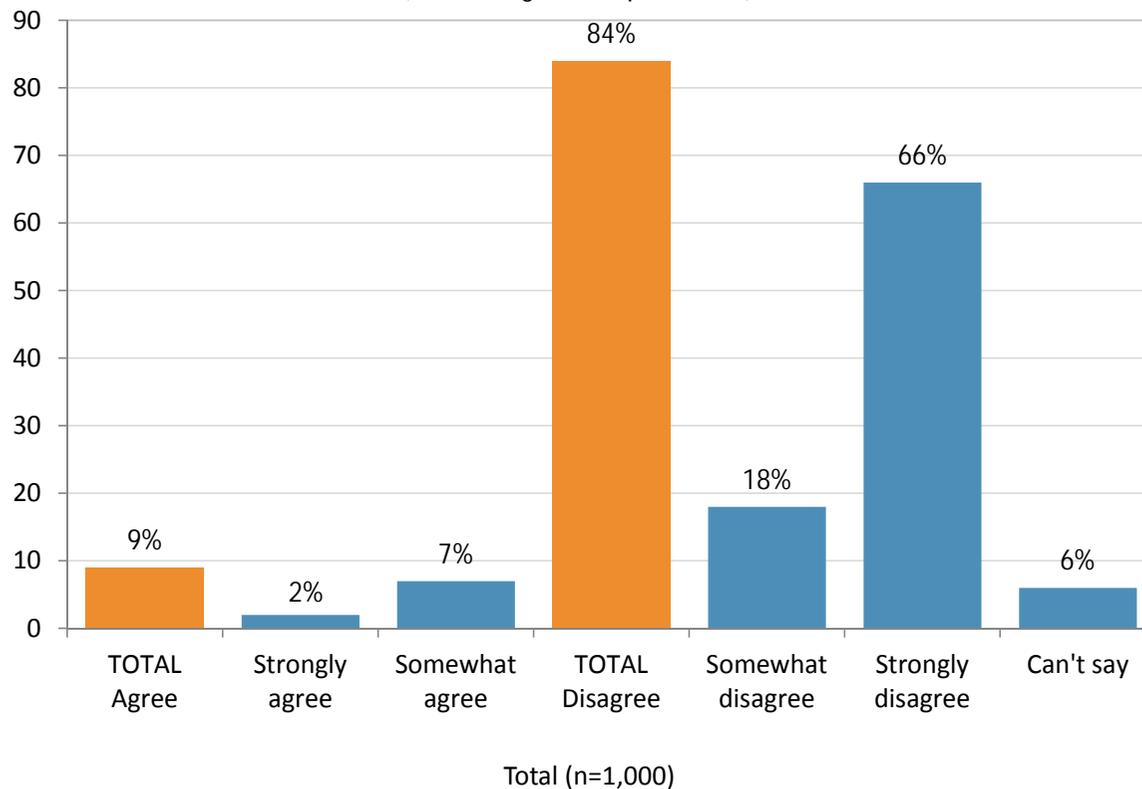
Combined Household Income	Number	Percentage
Total	1,000	100
Under \$20,000	93	9
\$20,000 and under \$40,000	198	20
\$40,000 and under \$60,000	148	15
\$60,000 and under \$80,000	130	13
\$80,000 and under \$100,000	107	11
\$100,000 and over	219	22
Declined to answer	105	11

\*Percentages do not sum to 100 due to rounding.

†Numbers and percentages in these tables are unweighted.

# Poker Machines and Community Benefit

Chart 1 – Whether Respondents Agree or Disagree that the Tasmanian Community Benefits from Having Poker Machines in Hotels and Clubs  
(Percentage of respondents)\*



In total, 84% of respondents indicated that they disagree at some level that the Tasmanian community benefits from having poker machines in hotels and clubs, 66% of whom reported “strongly disagree”.

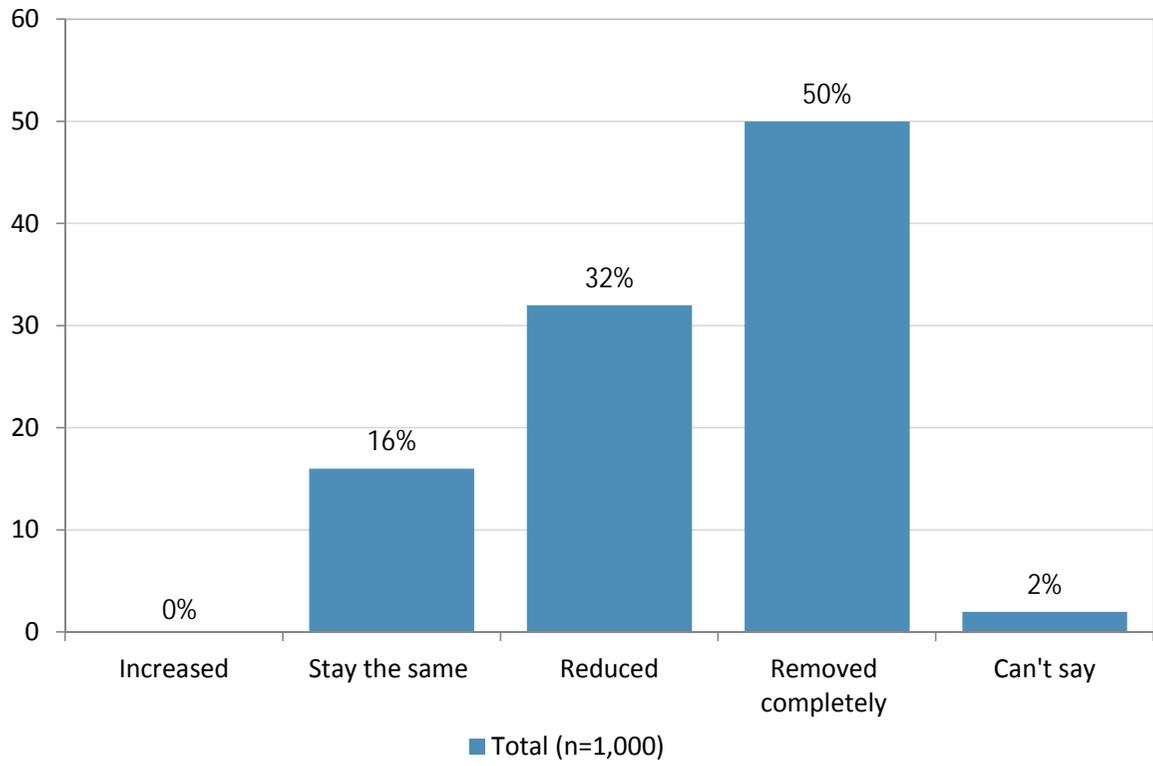
There were no significant differences to be noted across the demographic subgroups, though if anything, respondents classified as being “unemployed” were more likely to agree that there is a community benefit of having poker machines in hotels and clubs (27%).

Q1: Do you agree or disagree that the Tasmanian community benefits from having poker machines in hotels and clubs?

\* Percentage do not sum to 100 due to rounding.

# Prevalence of Poker Machines in Hotels and Clubs

Chart 2 – Respondents' Views about the Number of Poker Machines in Hotels and Clubs (Percentage of respondents)



Unsurprisingly, around one third of respondents (32%) reported that the number of poker machines in hotels and clubs should be “reduced”, while a further one in two (50%) were of the view that poker machines should be “removed completely”.

Less than one fifth of respondents (16%) indicated that the number of poker machines in hotels and clubs should “stay the same”. Just 3 respondents indicated that the number of poker machines in hotels and clubs should be “increased”.

Those aged 18-34 years were significantly less likely to indicate that poker machines should be removed completely from hotels and clubs (38%), compared to their older counterparts aged 35 years and over (54%).

Q2: Do you believe the number of poker machines in hotels and clubs should be increased, reduced, or stay the same, or should poker machines be removed completely from hotels and clubs?