

## Media Release

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### AGC Releases Gambling Statistics

Newly appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Gaming Council, Cheryl Vardon, this week unveiled the Australian gambling industry's statistics.

The Australian Gaming Council (AGC) each year produces a "A Database on Australia's Gambling Industries", a comprehensive compendium of statistics and analysis covering a wide range of economic, social and community issues drawing on authoritative sources from Australia and internationally.

The AGC Database is well established as a significant resource for the gambling industry as well as government, community and other stakeholders - covering everything from how the industry is taxed, community contributions, social impacts and Australia's standing in gambling around the world.

Ms Vardon said: "The Database is an encyclopaedia in terms of raw statistical material on all aspects of the gambling industry. It gives us a base for looking at various aspects of the industry - what we know and what we may need to know.

Key Points from the Database include:

- 82 per cent of adult Australians have a punt - on horses, poker machines, lottery two-up or at the casino tables;
- gambling provides tax revenue of \$4.2 billion in Australia;
- the industry contributes more than \$390 million to community projects and activities a year through voluntary and levied contributions;
- gambling employs over 220,000 Australians and provides training and apprenticeships for thousands of new workers every year;
- there are over 725,000 shareholders in gambling-related businesses in Australia; and
- Gambling is a key player in tourism - with international visitors spending \$161 million on gambling in 2005.