

Global online gambling continues steady growth

Written by News Feature

Around the World, online gambling is an issue that is getting a lot of attention from government regulators. Some countries ban online gambling altogether and people are not permitted to use overseas gambling sites.



In Australia, liberal gambling laws make the nation attractive to foreign companies that are particularly encouraged by laws relating to the interactive betting sector.

The Australian government could raise millions by taxing online pokies operating from overseas and from within. Conventional gambling locations such as race tracks for horse racing, greyhound racing harness racing and even human racing at the Stawell Gift event each year are taxed.

People in Australia are not taxed on their winnings and as a result, up to 80% of adults have gambled in some form during their lives. With an increase in the use of mobile devices that easily access online gambling sites, Australians are able to access a vast range of online sports betting options.

There is no doubt that State and federal government stand to make considerable additional revenue if they tax online sports betting. It could make millions each year.

State and federal governments levy a range of taxes on income earned from land based casinos and pokies venues but tax opportunities are in many ways being lost on inadequate tax collection on businesses operating online pokies and sports betting.

Gambling winnings are not taxed as gambling for most people, is not a business; it is a hobby or recreational pursuit.

It was reported on 24 Sep 2015 by the ABC that gambling income is growing.

"Crown Perth generated gaming revenue of \$835 million in 2014-15, according to the Gaming and Wagering Commission annual report tabled in State Parliament."

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-09-24/crown-perth-gaming-revenue-up-despite-fall-in-visitor-numbers/6800264>

[Get more information on online pokies at pokiespalace.com.au](http://pokiespalace.com.au)

Taxation laws on gambling in Australia

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Courtesy Wikipedia

Gamblers' winnings in Australia are not taxed. There are 3 main reasons for that:

- Gambling is not considered a profession, it's treated as a hobby or recreational activity.
- The Australian government views gains from gambling activities not as income, but as a result of good luck. Even if someone wins big, they also lose a lot in other gambling sessions.
- The government taxes gambling operators instead. [\[19 \]](#)

Taxation of gambling operators in Australia differs from state to state and different gambling services are taxed in a different way. There are taxes on the turnover, on player loss and net profit. As gambling operators need to obtain a license to offer their services, certain fees must also be paid at this stage of gambling business development. [\[20 \]](#)

Major forms of gambling taxation by gambling type	[20]	Forms of taxation	Gambling Activ
Turnover tax		Bookmakers (racing)	
		Bookmakers (sports betting)	
		Totalisator wagering on racing	
		Lottery subscriptions	
		Draw card machines	
		Keno	
		Tax on player loss	Totalisator wagering on racing
		Sports betting	
		Poker machines in hotels, clubs, casinos	
		Casinos	
		TAB sports betting	

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Keno

Net profits tax

Poker machines

Off-course totalisator investment

Licence Fees

Casinos

Poker machines

Lotteries

Racing

Bookmakers

Sports betting

Minor gambling (bingo, raffles)