

Youth Gambling

In 2012, 49.9% of Nova Scotia students in grades 7-12 engaged in gambling for money.

Why Are Youth Gambling? The Effects of Advertising



Commercial gambling advertisements impact the knowledge, attitudes, beliefs and behavioural intentions of youth.¹



Advertisements have normalized gambling in society, and have created the perception that gambling is fun, easy and has no consequences.²



42% of youth reported that gambling advertisements make them want to try gambling, and 61% imagine/dream about spending their winnings.²



39% of youth were more likely to buy a lottery ticket after seeing an advertisement.³

Why is Youth Gambling a Concern?



Research suggests that youth have higher rates of gambling-related problems compared to adults.⁴



Among youth, there is quick movement from a social gambler to a problem gambler.⁵



Many youth problem gamblers show depressive symptoms and impulsivity.⁵



Youth problem gambling is associated with substance use disorders and the persistence of ADHD.⁶⁻⁷

Youth Gambling in Nova Scotia

The legal age for gambling in Nova Scotia is 19.

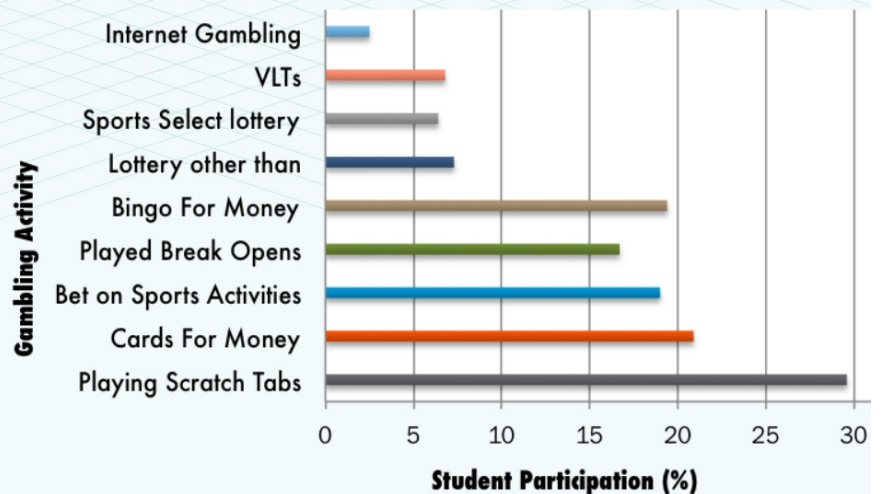
In 2012, half of the students in grades 7-12 gambled for money.

2.4% of students met the criteria for at-risk or problem gambling.

Students across all areas of Nova Scotia were equally likely to gamble.

Males were more likely to gamble than females.

Gambling Activities Among Nova Scotian Youth ⁸



*Please see reverse for a list of references used.

References

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