

Study of gambling and health in Victoria

Gambling frequency



What is the study?

The Victorian prevalence study 2014 is a telephone survey of 13,554 Victorian adults who were selected randomly from the general population. There were 12,551 surveys using landlines and 1003 using mobile telephones. The study aimed to explore gambling and problem gambling in the Victorian population.

General patterns in gambling frequency

Participation in gaming machines was higher than table games, race betting and sports betting across all gambling risk groups.

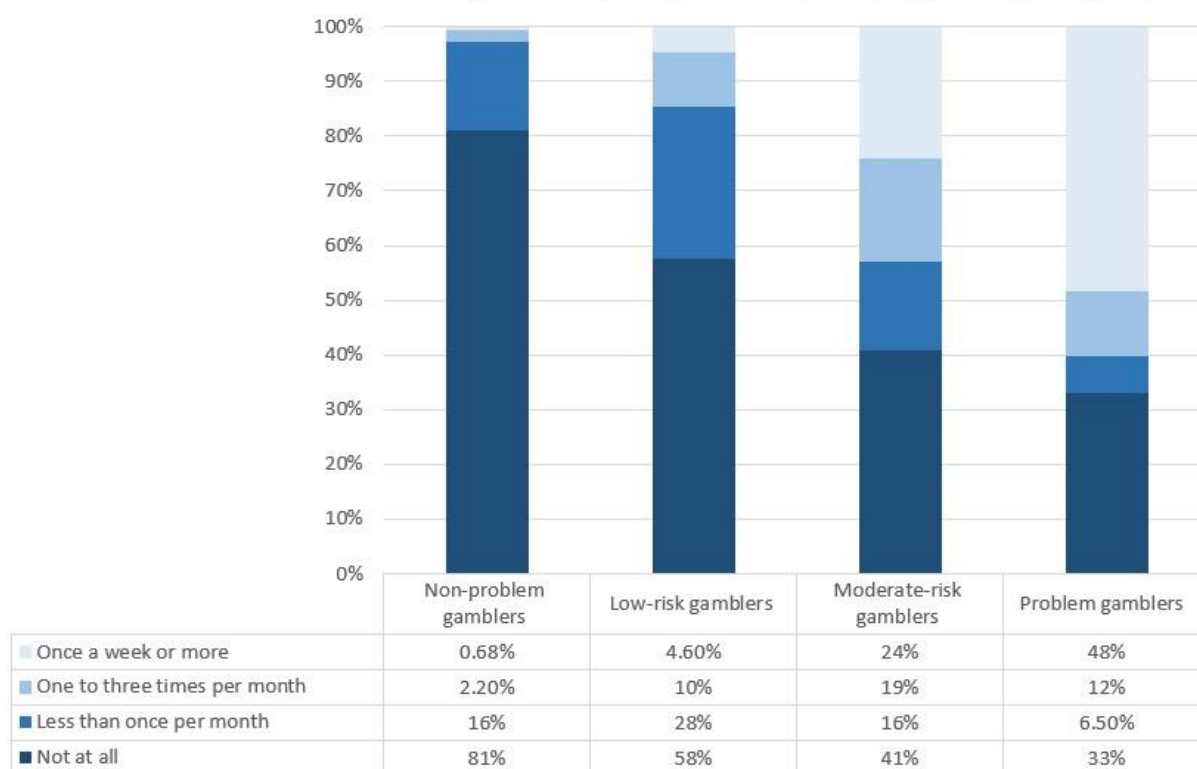
People at a higher risk of gambling harm participated more often in gaming machines, table games, race betting and sports betting than people at a lower risk of gambling harm.

These patterns are indicative only due to the small samples of moderate-risk* and problem gamblers in the study.

Frequency of gaming machine participation

Around 48 per cent of problem gamblers participated in gaming machines once a week or more, compared to only 24 per cent of moderate-risk gamblers.

Gaming machine participation frequency by gambling risk group



Frequency of table game participation

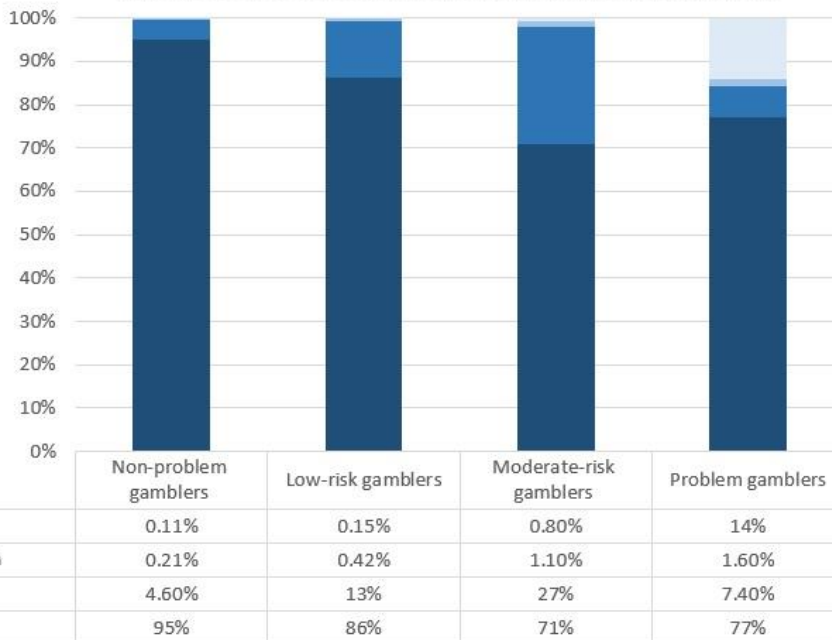
Table games were more popular among moderate-risk gamblers than other risk groups, with 29 per cent participation by moderate-risk gamblers. Only 23 per cent of problem gamblers, 14 per cent of low-risk gamblers and five per cent of non-problem gamblers participated in table games.

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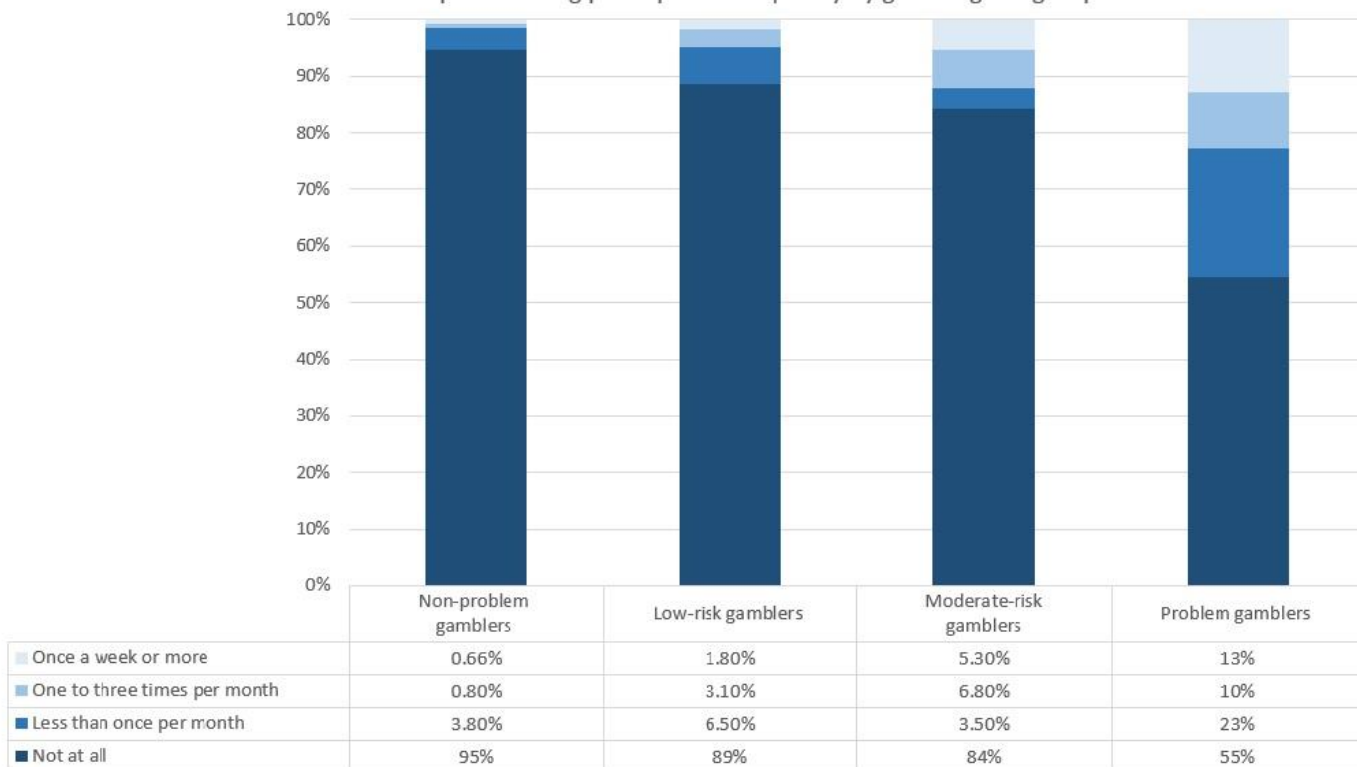
Table game participation frequency by gambling risk group



Frequency of sports betting participation

Problem gamblers participated more frequently in sports betting than other risk groups, with 13 per cent betting on sports once a week or more. Around five per cent of moderate risk-gamblers and two per cent of low-risk gamblers reported betting on sports once a week or more.

Sports betting participation frequency by gambling risk group



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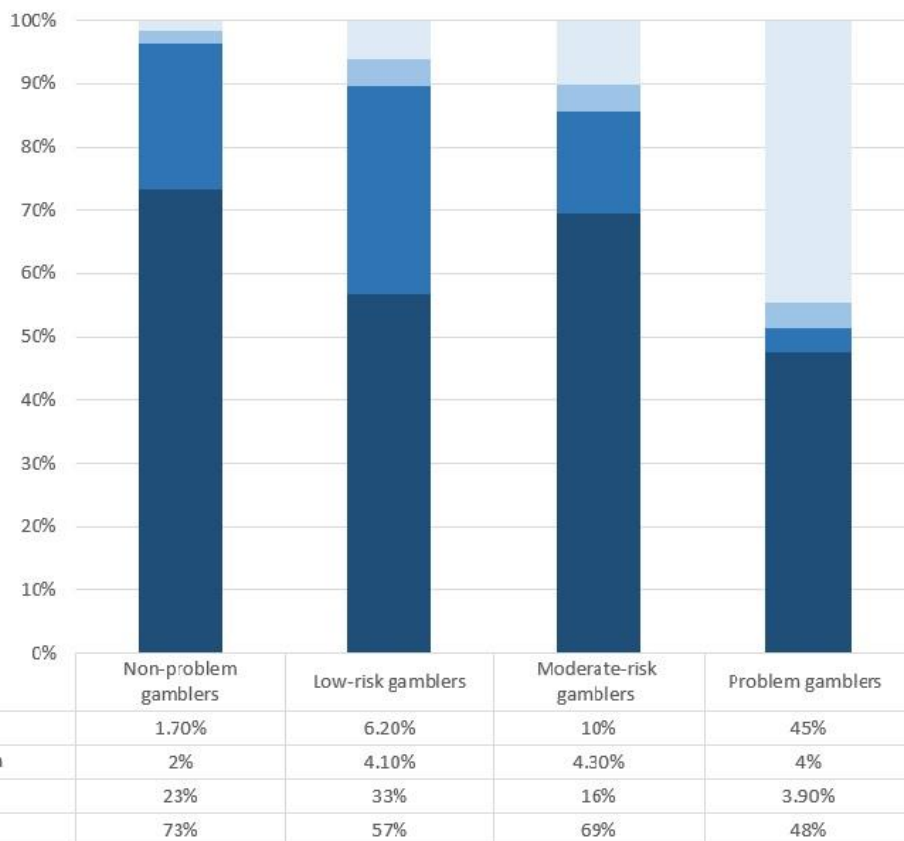
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Frequency of race betting participation

Problem gamblers participated more frequently in race betting than other risk groups, with 45 per cent betting on races once a week or more. Only 10 per cent of moderate-risk gamblers participated in race betting once a week or more.

Race betting participation frequency by gambling risk group



* The categories for risk of gambling harm used in this study are based on the Problem Gambling Severity Index. They are:

- Non-problem gambler – gambles with no negative consequences.
- Low-risk gambler – experiences a low level of problems with few or no identified negative consequences.
- Moderate-risk gambler – experiences a moderate level of problems leading to some negative consequences.
- Problem gambler – gambles with negative consequences and a possible loss of control.

For more information about what these categories mean, see [fact sheet 2: Categories for risk of gambling harm](#).