

2021 ADULT GAMBLING BEHAVIORS IN INDIANA

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A total of 495 Indiana residents 18 years or older participated in the 2021 Adult Gambling Behaviors in Indiana survey conducted in spring 2021. Funding for the survey was provided by the Indiana Council on Problem Gambling. The survey design, administration, and data analysis were conducted by Prevention Insights at the School of Public Health, Indiana University-Bloomington.

GAMBLING ACTIVITIES

Approximately 84.8% of Indiana adults reported participating in at least one gambling activity in the past year. About 71.7% of people reported playing any lottery, 20.5% participated in any sports gaming, and 46.2% reported visiting casinos to gamble in the past year. The most common gambling activities that respondents participated in were lotteries (61.0%), scratch tickets (59.0%), raffle tickets (49.9%), card games (44.2%), and games of personal skill (40.1%).

Males were more likely than females to report table games, video poker, other sports betting, fantasy sports, and high-risk trading. Females were more likely than males to report bingo. Younger individuals (18-34 years) were more likely to report participating in multiple gambling activities, including dice games, other sports betting, card games, games of personal skill, fantasy sports, online gambling, and high-risk trading. Middle-aged respondents (35 – 54 years) were more likely to report office pool participation. Gambling rates did not vary widely by household income, except households with less than \$50,000 of annual income were more likely to report online gambling and less likely to report participation in raffle tickets.

AT-RISK OR PROBLEM GAMBLING

The survey utilized the Pathological Gambling Diagnostic Form (DSM-V), the NORC Diagnostic Screen for Gambling Problems (NODS), and the Problem Gambling Severity Index (PGSI) to measure levels of problem gambling.

The prevalence of problem gambling in Indiana was less than 5% of the adult population. Approximately 4.1% of the adult population had gambling disorders based on the DSM-V, 3.4% of the population were pathological gamblers based on the NODS, and 2.5% of the population reported severe problematic gambling based on the PGSI.

Men reported more pathological gambling than women on the NODS and younger adults (18 – 34 years) were more likely to be grouped into low severity categories than older adults on the PGSI.

AWARENESS AND USE OF GAMBLING RELATED SERVICES

Approximately 44.8% of Indiana adults were aware of the gambling helpline 1-800-9WITHIT. About 1.2% of Indiana adults had ever sought treatment for a gambling problem. People who were categorized into severe problem gambling were more likely to seek treatment for a gambling problem (29.3% of people with gambling disorder on the DSM-V, 34.6% of pathological gamblers on the NODS, and 42.7% of problem gamblers on the PGSI had ever sought treatment for a gambling problem).

OTHER HEALTH-RISK BEHAVIORS

The respondents reported consuming alcohol (73.4%), using cigarettes (29.1%), vaping devices (14.6%), and marijuana (20.0%), and misusing prescription or over the counter drugs (11.4%) during the past month. The average number of mentally unhealthy (i.e., stress, depression, and problems with emotions) days was 5.3 days during the past month.

