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Special points of interest:

- Betting on lottery tickets increases with age
- Betting on card games, sports teams and games of skill are popular with male youth
- Youth 17 years and older are more likely to bet on scratch tickets
- There is very little involvement in VLTs and online gambling

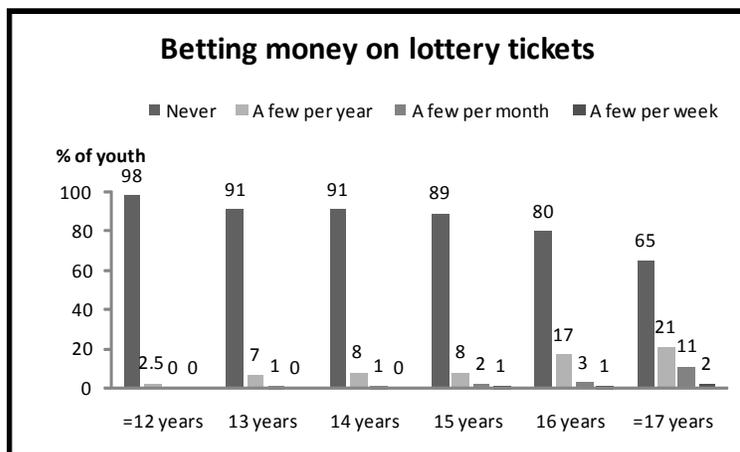
Gambling

Gambling has become a legal and socially acceptable form of entertainment, and many see it as good fun. However, the growth in youth gambling has many health professionals concerned that this will result in a higher risk of the development of problem gambling. Research has shown that people who start gambling at an early age have an increased risk of developing a gambling problem later in life. Research has also suggested that between 4 and 6% of youth have serious gambling problems. Young males are more involved in gambling than females and youth gambling increases with age. Problem gambling has also been linked to other issues such as substance abuse, delinquency, school

problems, psychosocial problems and abuse (Winter et al 2002; Schissel 2001).

The rural youth in this study were most likely to bet on card games, likely a result of the increasing popularity of poker. Males are more likely than females to bet on lottery tickets, sports teams, scratch tickets, card games and games of skill. 10% of youth reported being involved in four or more of the gambling activities. These more involved youth were more likely to be the older male youth.

Betting on lottery tickets increases with age



15% of the youth from various age groups bet on lottery tickets. The percentage of youth betting on lottery tickets increases with age ranging from 3% of 12 year olds or younger to 35% of youth 17 years old or over.

Most of the youth are betting on lottery tickets a few times per year (11.1%) and a few

times per month (3.2%). Again the frequency increases with age.

There is also a significant difference between the responses from female and male youth ($p < 0.05$). Six percent more male youth than female youth bet on lottery tickets at least a few times a year.

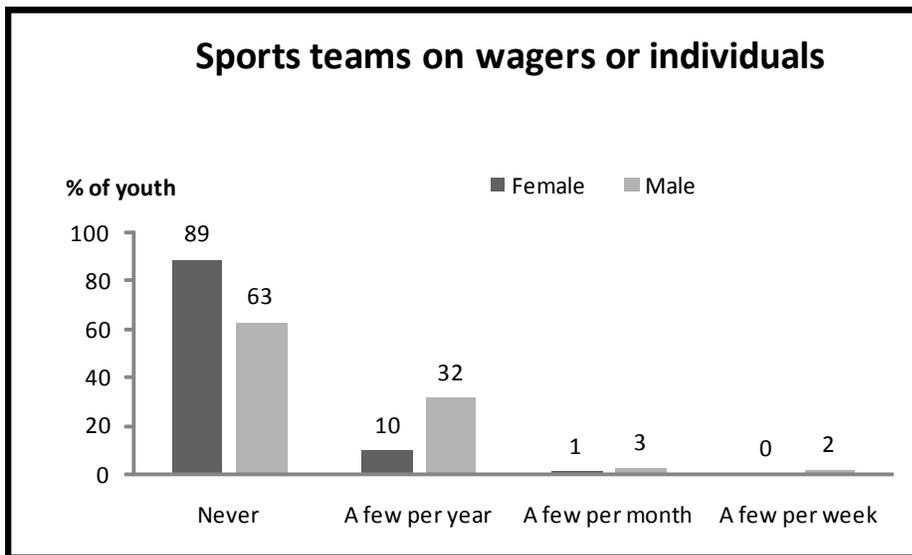
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Female youth much less likely to bet on sports

“I think there’s way worse stuff that you could do than gambling.”- Youth Focus Group Participant

The table shows that there is significant difference ($p < 0.01$) in the responses of betting on sports team among the different age groups. On average 22% of youth from various age groups bet on sports teams. The percentage increases from 5% at age 12 years old or over. In particular, youth 17 years old or over bet more frequently than the youth in other age groups.

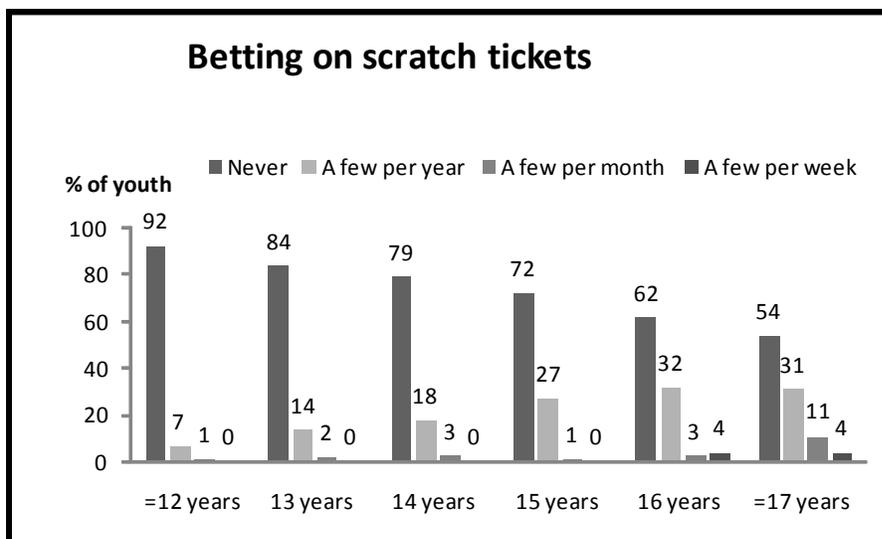


Female youth are significantly less likely to bet on sports teams with 26% more male youth reporting they bet on sports teams

than female youth. Male youth also bet more frequently than female youth.

46% of youth 17 and older bet on scratch tickets

“I don’t see this as a major problem, people do a lot of this for fun, there may be the odd person that does get addicted to gambling but...”- Youth Focus Group Participant



27% of youth from various age groups bet on scratch tickets.

The graph shows that the percentage of youth betting increases from 8% at age 12 years old or younger to 46% at 17 years old or over.

The number of youth who bet on scratch tickets a few times per year and a few times per month account for 22.4% and 3.7%, respectively.

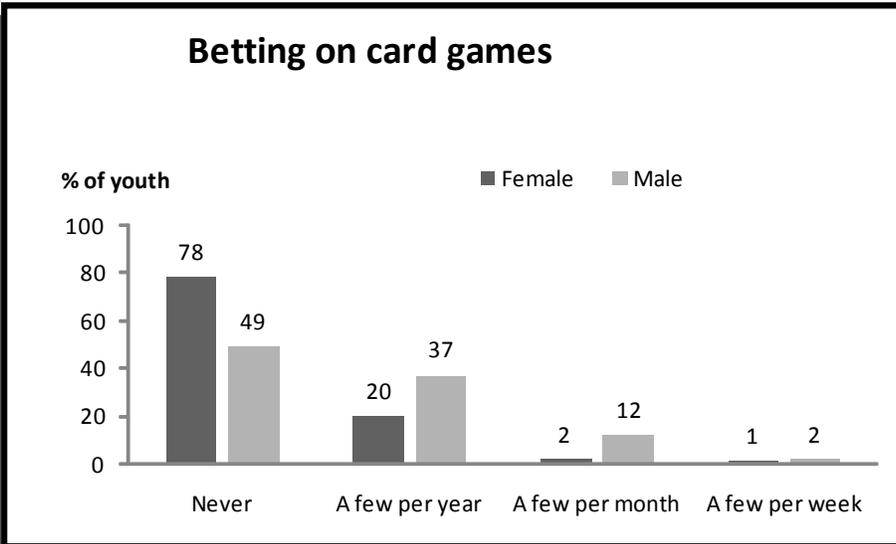
The frequency increases with age, and a small number of

youth 16 years old or over reported they bet daily.

The difference between the responses from female and male youth is not significant.

Over 50% of male youth bet on card games

“Gambling and binge drinking happens quite often. During the Super Bowl or the hockey playoffs or whatever, you bet with friends on who is going to win the series or whatever.”-Youth Focus Group Participant



35% of youth from various age groups bet on card games. The percentage of youth betting on card games increases from 18% at age 12 years old or younger to 46% at age 17 years old or over. Most youth bet on cards a few

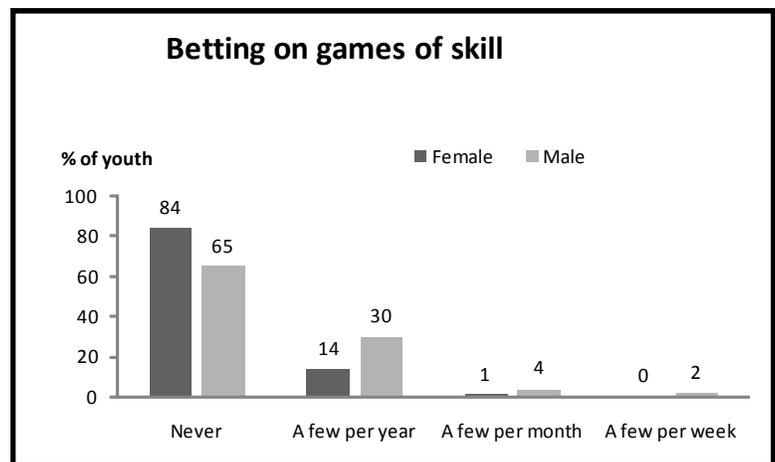
times per year (27.1%), with 6.4% betting a few times per month, 1.3% betting a few times a week.

Female youth are significantly less likely to bet on card games than male youth. Over 50% of

male youth reported they bet on card games, almost 30% higher than the female youth.

Male youth more likely to bet on games of skill

“That’s like entertainment, cause like social and you’ll go out and play cards and hang out with your friends and have a few drinks usually.”-Youth Focus Group Participant



24% of youth from various age groups bet on games of skill such as pool, darts or basketball. Although the relationship is not statistically significant, the older youth are, the more they are involved in betting on the games. The percentage increases from 12% at age 12

years old or younger to 32% at age 17 years old or over. Most of the youth from all age groups bet a few times a year or a few times a month.

As the graph shows, male youth are significantly more likely to bet on games of skill than fe-

male youth. Thirty five percent of male youth bet on the games as compared to approximately 16% of female youth. Furthermore, the percentage of male youth betting a few times a week or daily accounts for 1.2% and 0.5%, respectively.

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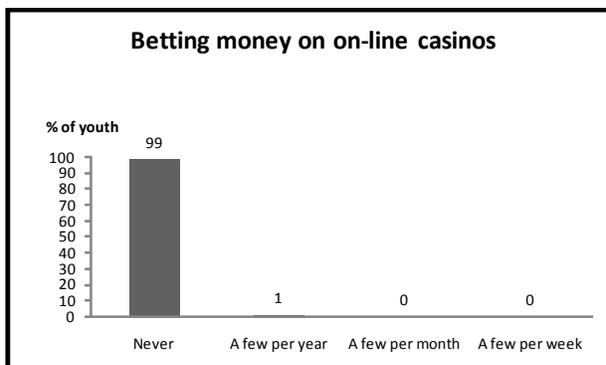
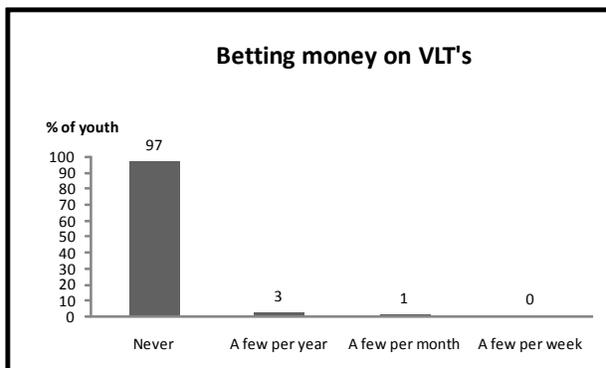
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Few youth using VLT's or on-line gambling



VLT'S

Older youth are significantly more likely to bet on VLT's, reflecting their increased access to the bars which host VLT's. On average fewer than 4% of youth from various age groups bet on VLT's. None of the youth younger than 14 years old reported betting money on VLT's. Most older youth bet a few times a year, and a small portion bet a few times a month and a few times a week.

Although the difference between the responses from female and male youth is not significant, the number of male youth who bet on the VLT's is slightly higher than female youth in all categories.

On-line Gambling

On average 1.3% of youth from the various age groups bet on on-line casinos a few times a year. A small portion, 0.6% of the youth 16 years old or over reported they bet daily.

Although the difference between the responses from female and male youth is not significant. The number of male youth who bet online is slightly more than female youth in all categories.