

Facts About . . .

Gambling in Canada

- In Canada, gambling operates exclusively under the control of the provincial and territorial governments.
- In 2008, net revenue from government-run lotteries, video lottery terminals (VLTs), casinos and slot machines not in casinos was \$13.67 billion compared to \$2.73 billion in 1992.¹
- In 2008, horse racing net revenue was \$378 million compared to \$532 million in 1992.¹
- In 2008, the national average spent on all government-run gambling (less winnings) was \$528.00.¹
- Gaming is Canada's largest entertainment industry and is about the same size as movies, TV, recorded music and professional sports combined.²
- Gaming in Canada directly supports over 135,000 full-time jobs and more than 267,000 total jobs.²
- Gaming is a more than \$15 billion industry in Canada.²
- The growth of gaming is due to an increase in slot machines—from roughly 15,000 in 2000 to over 50,000 in 2008.²
- In 2006–2007, 70.7% of Canadian adults gambled.³
- 2.1% of Canadian adults gambled using the Internet in 2006–2007.³
- The most common gaming activities among Canadian adults are lotteries and instant-win tickets.³
- The rate of Internet gambling among Canadian adults increased since 2004 but Internet gambling is the least common form of gambling in Canada.³

Problem Gambling in Canada

- 3.2% of Canadian adults are affected by moderate to severe problem gambling.³
- 2.2% of youth aged 15–24 are affected by moderate risk or problem gambling.⁴
- According to provincial surveys conducted between 2001 and 2006:
 - Saskatchewan and Manitoba have the highest rates of moderate risk and problem gambling.⁵
 - Quebec and New Brunswick have the lowest rates of moderate risk and problem gambling.⁵

References

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3. Wood, R.T. & Williams, R.J. (2009, January). [Internet gambling: Prevalence, patterns, problems, and policy options](#). Final report for the Ontario Problem Gambling Research Centre; Guelph, Ontario.
4. Huang, J.H. & Boyer, R. (2007). [Epidemiology of youth gambling problems in Canada: A national prevalence study](#). *The Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*, 52 (10), 657–664.
5. Canadian Partnership for Responsible Gambling. (2009, April). [Canadian gambling digest 2007-2008](#).