



Saskatchewan

Approximately how many gambling games/venues are there?

Games/Venues in Saskatchewan (as of March 31, 2011)¹	
Casinos	8
Slot machines in native SIGA casinos	1,870
Slot machines in SaskGaming casinos	995
Number of VLTs	3,936
Number of communities with VLTs	302
Number of VLT sites	629
Number of charitable gaming licenses	3,606
Bingo halls	15
Internet gambling	No

Who operates and regulates gambling activities?

- The 2 non-First Nation casinos are regulated by [Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority](#) (SLGA), conducted and managed by SLGA, Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation (SGC) and [Western Canada Lottery Corporation](#) (WCLC) and operated by SGC and SIGA.
- EGM's (non casino) are regulated, conducted and managed by SLGA and operated by WCLC.
- Horse racing is regulated by the Canadian Pari-Mutuel Agency and SLGA and is operated by exhibition associations and not profit organizations.
- Ticket lotteries are regulated by the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport, conducted and managed by WCLC and operated by WCLC and Interprovincial Lottery Centre.
- First Nations casinos are conducted through an agreement between the Province and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Reserves (FSIN). The Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority (SIGA) operates these casinos.
- [Indigenous Gaming Regulators](#) (IGR) licenses and regulates on-reserve charitable gaming by the government under a licensing agreement between SLGA and IGR.²

What are the most common gambling activities?

- Students aged 15-18 buy scratch tickets and play games of skill the most.³
- Adults prefer raffle tickets/fundraising and lottery tickets.⁴

What are the rates of problem gambling in Saskatchewan?

- 2.4% of youth ages 19–24 experience a gambling problem and 9.4% are moderate risk gamblers.
- 1.2% of adults are affected by problem gambling and 4.7% are considered moderate risk.
- Due to a small sample size, the problem gambling rate for adults 65+ is unknown but 2.9% are moderate risk gamblers.
- Aboriginal gamblers are significantly more likely than gamblers in other ethnic groups to be more at risk (12%) for problem gambling and for developing a gambling problem (12%).⁴



What are the most common activities among those affected by problem gambling?

- VLTs and instant win tickets cause the most problems for adults.⁴

What are the gambling revenues?

- Gross VLT revenue was \$223.3 million in 2010-2011.
- Charitable gaming proceeds totaled \$27.7 million in 2010-2011.
- The racing handle for 2010-2011 was \$9.1 million.

Where are the gambling revenues allocated?

- Proceeds from Saskatchewan Lotteries are transferred to the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation.⁵
- The government's net income from VLTs helps fund programs and services, including healthcare, education, and infrastructure.⁶
- Net profits from SIGA are split with 50% allocated to the First Nations Trust, 25% to the government's general revenue fund and 25% to Community Development Corporations.⁶
- Net profits from SGC are split with 50% retained by the governments General Revenue Fund, 25% to the First Nations (CIF) and 25% is directed to Community Development Corporations.⁶
- In 2010-11, a total of \$4.75 million is expected to be allocated for problem gambling (\$2.5 million through the Gaming Agreement with the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, and an additional \$2.25 million is expected to be allocated for First Nations problem gambling initiatives).⁶
- Money raised through charitable gaming is used for a charitable/religious object or purpose.

Who is involved in reducing the harm associated with gambling and what are they doing?

Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority (SLGA)

- administers the VLT program, which promotes responsible use of VLTs (all VLTs feature responsible gaming software which displays the amount wagered in dollars and provides a pop-up reminder that interrupts the player every 30 minutes)
- provides training to VLT site holders and/or managers
- funds problem gambling activities, including a helpline
- funds ongoing media awareness campaigns through the Ministry of Health

Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation

- funds and manages a Responsible Gaming Information Centre
- developed the iCare facial recognition program that identifies at-risk patrons
- offers voluntary ban programs
- works with the Canadian Mental Health Association, Regina Committee on Problem Gambling and the Moose Jaw Committee to raise awareness and offer support in the area of responsible gaming
- promotes responsible gaming on all promotions within and external to the casino
- provides staff awareness training



[Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority \(SIGA\)](#)

SIGA employs a number of initiatives to reduce the harm associated with gambling including:

- implements a Responsible Gaming policy and a Responsible Gaming Strategy which includes research on current trends and best practices
- provides responsible gaming information on their website and a self exclusion program
- places the “Play Responsibly” tagline on all marketing and promotional material
- distributes Responsible Gaming brochures at Information Kiosks at all six casino sites
- provides staff training on a wide variety of topics including Responsible Gaming Policy, How the Games Work, Gambling Behaviour, and Staff Role in the Responsible Gaming program
- Promotes the awareness of the Provincial Helpline and treatment programs
- Allocates \$2.25 million annually to the First Nations Addiction Rehabilitation Foundation, which established two treatment centres located in northern and southern Saskatchewan

[Saskatchewan Health \(SH\)](#)

- SH provide services related to the prevention, education and treatment of problem gambling
- SH runs a media campaign, implements awareness initiatives for the general public, older adults and post secondary students. They provide a range of resources for teachers, youth, older adults, families and problem gamblers.
- SH funds regional health authorities to provide out-patient counseling. Inpatient services are also available and inpatient referrals are made through Regional Health Authorities and must be approved by the Ministry of Health.
- SH oversees operation of a toll-free helpline.
- In cooperation with The Community Initiatives Fund, SH offers a community grants program and day treatment programs.

[Canadian Mental Health Association–Problem Gambling Community Program](#)

- Through a mandate from SH, they deliver public education and community development programs.
- Working in partnership with SH, the health district problem gambling counsellors, and the Problem Gambling Helpline, CMHA staff raises awareness about problem gambling issues in Saskatchewan through information, workshops and presentations.

References

1. Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority. (2011). [2010-2011 Annual Report](#). Province of Saskatchewan.
2. Canadian Partnership for Responsible Gambling. (2010). [Organization and management of gambling in Canada](#).
3. University of Saskatchewan. (2006). [Youth gambling in Saskatchewan: Perceptions, behaviours and youth culture. University of Saskatchewan Survey](#). Saskatchewan Ministry of Health.
4. Wynne, H.J. (2002, January). [Gambling and problem gambling in Saskatchewan](#). Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse. Ottawa: Ontario.
5. Saskatchewan Lotteries. (n.d.). [Where the money goes](#).
6. Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority. (August, 2010). [Factsheet - VLTs in Saskatchewan](#) and [Factsheet – Casinos in Saskatchewan](#)