



Internet Gambling in Canada

- The prevalence rate of Internet gambling in Canada is 2.1%, or 3.5% when including people who use the Internet to buy and sell high risk stocks, options or futures and/or 'day trade'.¹
- The prevalence of Internet gambling in Canada has increased, especially since 2004.
- Canadian participation rate in Internet gambling is somewhat higher than Singapore and Australia, roughly equivalent to the United States, and lower than some European jurisdictions.
- Canadian Internet gamblers are predominately male (82.4%).
- Gender is the demographic variable that is most strongly predictive of being a Canadian Internet gambler.
- The prevalence of Internet gambling amongst gamblers varies between provinces, ranging from 0% in Prince Edward Island to 8.2% in New Brunswick.
- Geographic origin is the demographic variable with the second strongest statistical association to Internet gambling in Canada, with Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Alberta having significantly lower rates than provinces such as British Columbia and New Brunswick.
- Motivations for gambling online include: 24-hour availability and convenience, a better gaming experience and a more physically comfortable setting during play.
- Virtually all Internet gamblers also gamble on several land-based gambling formats, with 4.7 being the average number of gambling formats engaged in.
- The prevalence of problem gambling is 3 to 4 times higher in Internet gamblers compared to Non-Internet gamblers.
- The risk of problem gambling among Internet gamblers is 37.9% versus 7.7% for non-problem gamblers.
- In Canada, the rate of CPGI moderate and severe problem gambling among Internet gamblers is 17.1%, compared to 4.1% for Non-Internet gamblers.

About GREO

Gambling Research Exchange Ontario (GREO) is an independent knowledge translation and exchange (KTE) organization that aims to eliminate harm from gambling. We create and translate credible research to support evidence-informed decision making in responsible gambling policies, standards, and practice.

For more information, please email info@greo.ca.

¹ Wood, R.T. and Williams, R.J. (January 2009). [Internet Gambling: Prevalence, Patterns, Problems, and Policy Options](#). Final Report prepared for OPGRC.