FANTASY SPORTS IN IOWA

GAMBLING ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIORS: A 2015 SURVEY OF ADULT IOWANS

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POPULATION ESTIMATES OF GAMBLING & FANTASY SPORTS

- About seven in ten adult Iowans (68%) have **gambled** in the past 12 months. This is about 1.6 million Iowans
- About one in ten adult Iowans (13%) were classified as **at-risk gamblers** with one or more symptoms as measuered on the PGSI[2] or DSM-5[3]. This is about 294,000 Iowans
- Fewer than one in ten adult Iowans (8%) have engaged in **fantasy sports** in the past 12 months. This is about 178,000 Iowans

FANTASY SPORTS PLAYERS & DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Fantasy sports players' characteristics:

- gender: male (78%), and female (22%)
- race and ethnicity: white (non-Hispanic) (95%), and non-white (all others) (5%)
- age groups: 18 to 34 years (52%), 35 to 54 years (42%), and 55 or older (6%)
- employment: employed (78%), and unemployed (22%)
- marital status: married (57%), and unmarried (43%)
- education: high school or less (24%), some college education or a bachelor degree (66%), and post graduate degree (10%)
- income: less than $25K (19%), $25K – $75K (33%), and $75K or more (47%)
- place of residence: live in a farm (11%), small town (19%), large town (19%), small city (42%) and large city (9%)

FANTASY SPORTS AND OTHER GAMBLING BEHAVIORS

Vast majority of fantasy sports players (91%) were engaged in some type of gambling behaviors in the past 12 months.

- 66% engaged in casino gambling such as slot machines or cards
- 60% engaged in lottery games such as powerball or scratch tickets
- 78% engaged in other type of gambling such as office pools or sport betting

FANTASY SPORTS AND AT-RISK GAMBLERS

Fantasy sports players were more likely than non-fantasy players to be an at-risk gambler.

- Of 178,000 fantasy sports players in Iowa, 21% were at-risk gamblers with one or more symptoms measured by the of PGSI or DSM-5 criteria
- About half of those Iowans who played fantasy sports (53%) have **bet or wagered money in fantasy sports** in the past 12 months. This is about 94,000 Iowans
    - Among those fantasy sports players who bet or wagered money in fantasy sports, three in ten (30%) were at-risk gamblers. This is about 28,000 Iowans

[1] Detailed finding can be found at: Park, K. , Avery M., Pollock, N., & Losch, M. (2014). *Gambling Attitudes and Behaviors: A 2015 Survey of Adult Iowans*: *Gaming and Fantasy Sport*. Cedar Falls, IA: Center for Social and Behavioral Research, University of Northern Iowa.
[2] PGSI: Problem Gambling Severity Index.
[3] DSM 5: the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorder fifth edition.