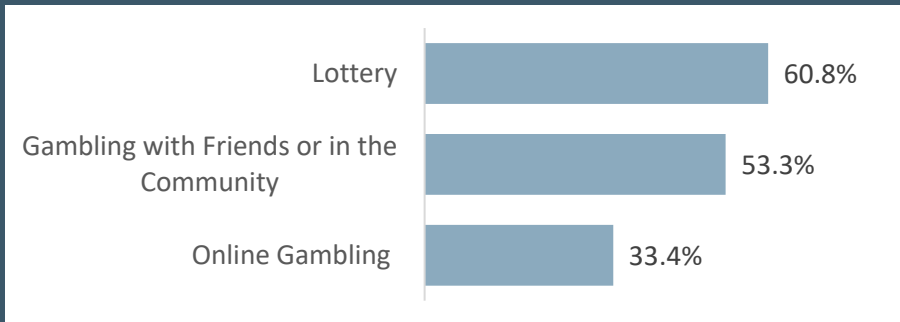


Problem Gambling in Youth & Young Adults

Approximately, 2.1% to 2.6% of North American youth have a gambling problem [1-2]. Few high school students in Illinois report gambling (1% to 5%), however, discussions with Illinois youth and other Illinoisans suggest that problem gambling among youth may be a growing concern [3].

An estimated 3.8% of Illinoisans have a gambling problem. An additional 7.7% of Illinoisans are at-risk of developing a gambling problem.

Top 3 Gambling Types Among Illinois Residents Ever, among Illinoisans 18 to 24, 2021



The highest lifetime prevalence of online gambling was among Illinoisans 18 to 24 years old.

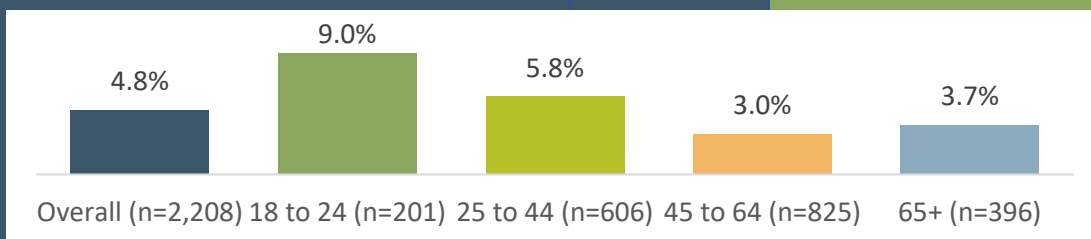
DATA SOURCE: IL Problem Gambling Assessment, Representative Population Sample, Weighted %s, 2021

- While Illinois young adults similarly reported lottery (60.8%) and gambling with friends or in the community (53.3%) as the most popular forms of lifetime gambling, they were the age group with the highest prevalence of lifetime online gambling (33.4%).
- At the individual level, youth who are impulsive, sensation-seeking, or have poor coping strategies may be at higher risk for developing a gambling problem [4-5].
- The surrounding environment also plays a role in youth problem gambling, with poor family cohesion, neighborhood disadvantage, and gambling availability & marketing being associated with higher risk [4]
- Community discussions with youth also highlighted the growing concern of the availability of gambling opportunities at local grocery stores, gas stations, and mobile games/e-sport applications

Youth from community discussions highlighted micro transactions in readily accessible free-to-play games as “overly predatory”.

- Illinois young adults were the most likely to say they would not seek help for a gambling problem (9.0%)

Percent that Would not Seek Help for a Gambling Problem for You or Someone Else, among Illinois Residents, by Age, 2021 (n=2,028)



DATA SOURCE: IL Problem Gambling Assessment, Representative Population Sample, Weighted %s, 2021

If you or someone you know is experiencing problems with gambling, contact the State's Gambling Hotline at:

1-800-GAMBLER, weknowthefeeling.org, or Text: "ILGamb" to 833234