Observatoire français des drogues et des tendances addictives

In a glimpse

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Monitoring gambling practices among adults in France

Based on the results of its EROPP survey (opinions on drugs and public policies) and data from the Barometer of the French Public Health Agency (*Santé publique France*), the OFDT published a report on gambling in France in 2023.

In France, more than half of 18- to 75-year-olds (51.6%) gambled in 2023. Since the 2019 Barometer, gambling activity has increased by 4.6 points (47.0% in 2019).

The rise in gambling over the year concerns both men and women, and is true for almost all age groups.

Types of games played

In 2023, lotteries remained the most popular gambling activity in France. More than a third (34.2%) of adults aged 18 to 75 bet on these games at least once during the year. Loto®, EuroMillions®, and Keno® remain the most popular and most played among the various lotteries.

Scratch cards are the second most popular category, with 30.9% of 18- to 75-year-olds having played them during the year. The next most popular type of gambling involves sports betting (6.7%) and slot machines (6.6%). Other types of gambling (other casino games, horse racing, poker) are played by less than 5.0% of the population. This gaming hierarchy remains similar to that of 2019.

Between 2019 and 2023, the types of games that saw the greatest increase in participation were poker (2.7% versus 1.4%), slot machines (6.6% versus 4.6%), and other casino games (4.7% versus 2.8%). Changes in other types of gambling remained more conservative.

Over the course of the year, more than half of gamblers (52.2%) bet money on only one type of gambling. In other words, 47.8% have bet money on at least two distinct types of gambling. One in ten players (9.8%) have bet money on three types of gambling.

Internet use

Internet-based gambling (exclusively or in association with a point of sale) affected 31.8% of players in 2023.

Internet-based gambling is the highest among sports betting players (74.9%, despite a network of over 29 000 points of sale) and poker players (65.3%). It affects nearly a third of horse racing bettors (30.7%) and lottery participants (30.5%).

Despite the lack of a legal online offering, 7.8% of slot machine players reported playing all or part of their games online.

Problem gambling

In 2023, approximately 5% of gamblers were problem gamblers, according to the Canadian Problem Gambling Index (CPGI), a scale measuring the risk of gambling addiction. Among adults aged 18 to 75, 1.7% were moderate-risk gamblers and 0.8% were high-risk gamblers, representing approximately 810 000 and 360 000 adults, respectively. The percentage of problem gamblers in 2023 has not changed significantly since 2019. The proportion of risk gamblers is higher among men than among women: 80.3% of male gamblers report no problems compared to 90.8% of female gamblers.