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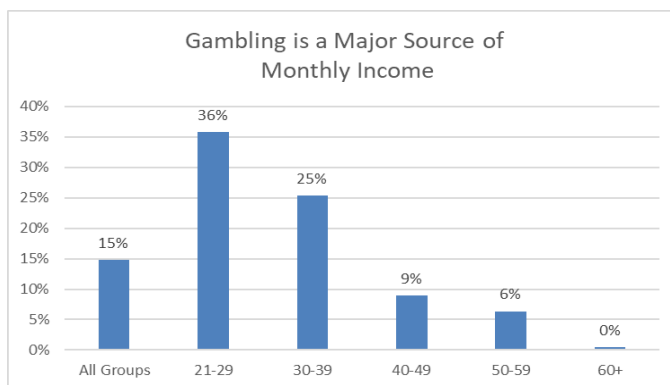
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CCGNJ Survey Examines Gambling Patterns Statewide; Findings Include Inflation’s Impact on Betting

15 percent regard gambling as a major source of their income

Hamilton, NJ – August 2, 2022 - The Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey (CCGNJ) has released findings from its new statewide survey on gambling prevalence, which include indications that inflation may drive people to gamble with the hope of keeping up with rising costs. CCGNJ’s survey was emailed to 1,002 New Jersey residents from May 15 to June 8, with demographics reflecting the state’s population, with a 3.1 percent margin of error.

The statewide survey was undertaken in response to gambling’s growing presence in the state, and the worsening toll gambling is taking on New Jersey individuals and families. Online betting apps, sportsbook, excessive gambling advertising and promotions collectively entice people to gamble and to bet beyond their means. Nearly 3 in 10 survey respondents (28 percent)



indicated that easy access to betting apps strongly influenced their betting.

A mounting concern is that the recent rise in inflation will lead more people to gamble in an attempt to supplement their income. The survey explored this issue and found that 15 percent of respondents

consider betting-related activities to be a major source of their monthly income.

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The percentages are markedly higher for people between the ages of 21 and 39: more than one in three (36 percent) of people in their 20s indicated gambling is a major source of their earnings, as compared to one in four (25 percent) of individuals in their 30s .

In May, Felicia Grondin, CCGNJ Executive Director, testified before the Assembly Tourism, Gaming and the Arts Committee where she detailed the increase in gambling in New Jersey. During the session, Ms. Grondin attributed the betting uptick to easy access via gambling apps coupled with a growing volume of gambling advertisements. Overall, gambling has become commonplace and a frequent activity in our society, she said. One example is the regular use of betting terms such as “the spread” and “over-under” during sporting event broadcasts.

Gambling has seen a significant increase since the onset of online gambling in 2013 and sports betting in 2018. Ms. Grondin said, “The social costs of gambling are rising at an alarming rate. We conducted this poll to get a sense of the extent of problem gambling in New Jersey and identify which populations are most affected. We are heartened to see broad support of the concept of placing limits on gambling ads and including warning labels at gambling properties and online sites.”

Seven in 10 respondents agree that a warning label, akin to those required for tobacco products, should appear on all gambling apps, websites and brick-and-mortar betting locations, while 6 in 10 (59 percent) believe that gambling advertising should be subject to federal and/or state regulation.

CCGNJ cautions that a sign of problem gambling occurs when a person exceeds the betting limit they may set for themselves. One in four New Jersey adults (24 percent) indicated they bet more than they intended. Nearly half (46 percent) ‘chased’ their losses, meaning they bet more in an attempt to recoup gambling losses, which can trigger spiraling losses and desperation. The survey also examined betting frequency, with nearly half (47 percent) reporting they gamble once a week or more, including 8 percent who bet daily.

Another key finding is that a large majority - 8 in 10 residents (82 percent) - agree that gambling can become an addiction similar to drugs and alcohol.

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Total sample size was 1,002 adults. Fieldwork was undertaken between 25th May - 8th June 2022 via an online survey. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all US adults (aged 21+).

The Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey, Inc., is a private non-profit organization providing information, education and treatment referral services to people affected by a gambling problem for 40 years. CCGNJ'S primary purpose is to represent the best interest of problem and disordered gamblers and their families, recognizing that problem gambling is a treatable condition.

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