

**CHAPTER 8: GAMBLING AMONG
YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 16 AND 17
YEARS**

8.1 Introduction

This chapter summarises the prevalence of each type of gambling activity for respondents aged 16 and 17 years of age (n=605). The responses by 16 and 17 year olds have been weighted to the South Australian population and thus are reflective of this age group in South Australia.

8.2 Types of gambling

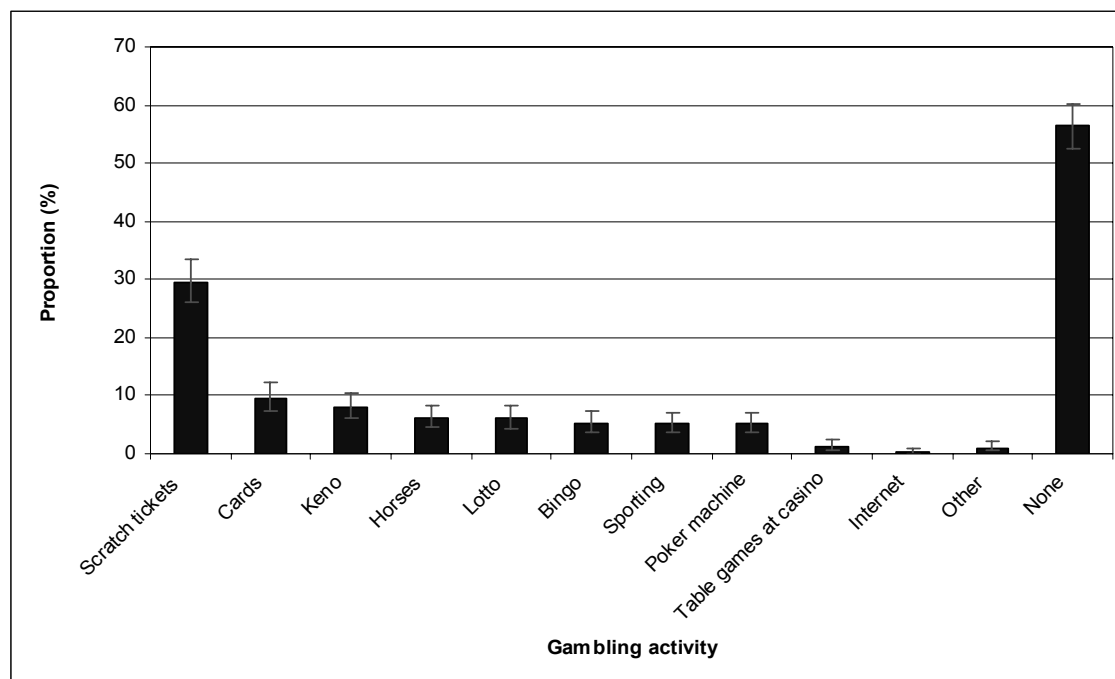
All respondents aged 16 and 17 years (n=605) were asked to self report on their participation in any of the listed gambling activities over the past 12 months (Table 8.1 and Figure 8.1). This age group was surveyed because young people in South Australia aged 16 years and over are able to legally participate in various lottery products such as Instant Scratchies, lotto, Keno, Powerball etc. The most common form of gambling was scratch tickets (29.6%). This was followed by games played privately for money, such as cards or mah-jongg (9.6%).

Table 8.1: Summary of the prevalence of each form of gambling in the last 12 months, 16 and 17 year olds*

Gambling activity	n	% (95% CI)
Played instant scratch tickets	179	29.6 (26.1 - 33.4)
Played games like cards, mah-jongg privately for money at home or any other place	58	9.6 (7.5 - 12.2)
Played Keno	49	8.0 (6.1 - 10.5)
Bet on horses or greyhounds excluding sweeps	37	6.2 (4.5 - 8.4)
Played lotto or any other lottery games like Powerball, Pools or Super 66	36	6.0 (4.4 - 8.2)
Played bingo at a club or hall	32	5.2 (3.7 - 7.3)
Played poker machines or gaming machines	31	5.1 (3.6 - 7.2)
Bet on a sporting event like football, cricket or tennis	31	5.1 (3.6 - 7.1)
Played table games at a casino such as Blackjack or Roulette	7	1.2 (0.6 - 2.5)
Gambled on the Internet	1	0.2 (0.1 - 1.0)
Gambled via Pay TV	-	-
Played any other gambling activity – excluding raffles or sweeps	6	1.0 (0.5 - 2.2)
None of the above	341	56.4 (52.5 - 60.3)

* Multiple responses possible

Figure 8.1: Prevalence of each type of gambling activity among young people, aged 16 and 17 years



8.3 Gambling activity in the past 12 months among 16 and 17 year olds

Overall, 43.6% (n=263) of 16 and 17 year olds had participated in one of the nominated activities in the past 12 months. The responses are summarised in Table 8.2.

Table 8.2: Prevalence of undertaking a gambling activity in the past 12 months, 16 and 17 years

Prevalence of gamblers	n	% (95% CI)
Not gambled in the last 12 months	341	56.4 (52.5 - 60.3)
Gambled in the last 12 months	263	43.6 (39.7 - 47.5)
Total	605	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

The demographic profile of those aged 16 and 17 years who did, and did not, gamble in the past 12 months is summarised in Table 8.3.

Table 8.3: Demographic profile of 16 and 17 year olds who did, and did not, participate in gambling activities in the last 12 months

Variable	At least one type of gambling activity		None	
	n	%	n	%
Gender				
Male	136	45.5	163	54.5
Female	127	41.6	178	58.4
Area of residence				
Metropolitan regions – Northern/Western/Eastern/Southern	191	42.8	255	57.2
Country North/Country South	73	45.8	86	54.2
Area of residence (region)				
Northern	39	36.0	70	64.0
Western	25	33.0	51	67.0
Eastern	55	44.9	67	55.1
Southern	71	51.6	67	48.4
Country North	32	42.2	43	57.8
Country South	41	49.1	43	50.9
Household size (16 years and over)				
1 adult	2	57.0 #	1	43.0 #
2 adults	26	44.0	34	56.0
3 adults	127	43.8	163	56.2
4 or more adults	108	43.0	143	57.0
Children (less than 16 years) living in household				
None	130	49.1 ↑	135	50.9 ↓
One or more children	133	39.2 ↓	206	60.8 ↑
Marital status				
Married/de facto	3	100.0 #	-	-
Never married	259	43.1	341	56.9
Not disclosed	2	100.0 #	-	-
Overall	263	43.6	341	56.4

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

↑ ↓ statistically significantly higher or lower (χ^2 test, $p < 0.05$) than the other categories combined

Insufficient numbers for statistical tests

Table 8.3: Demographic profile of 16 and 17 year olds who did, and did not, participate in gambling activities in the last 12 months (cont.)

Variable	At least one type of gambling activity		None	
	n	%	n	%
Highest educational qualification obtained				
Secondary	258	44.1	328	55.9
Trade/Apprenticeship/Certificate/Diploma	5	27.9	14	72.1
Country of birth				
Australia – non Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	239	43.7	308	56.3
Australia – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	4	25.8 #	11	74.2
UK/Ireland	7	81.6	2	18.4 #
Other	13	38.9	21	61.1
Main language spoken at home				
English	253	44.6	315	55.4
Other	10	28.0	26	72.0
Work status				
Employed full time	15	56.9	12	43.1
Employed part time	52	63.6 ↑	30	36.4 ↓
Unemployed	10	38.7	16	61.3
Student/other	186	39.6 ↓	284	60.4 ↑
Overall	263	43.6	341	56.4

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

↑ ↓ statistically significantly higher or lower (χ^2 test, $p < 0.05$) than the other categories combined

Insufficient numbers for statistical tests

Table 8.3: Demographic profile of 16 and 17 year olds who did, and did not, participate in gambling activities in the last 12 months (cont.)

Variable	At least one type of gambling activity		None	
	n	%	n	%
Housing dwelling status				
Owned or being purchased by occupants	221	44.8	273	55.2
Rented from Housing Trust	11	31.7	24	68.3
Rented privately	19	39.0	29	61.0
Other	12	50.0	12	50.0
Not disclosed	-	-	3	100.0 #
Gross annual household income				
Less than \$12,000	2	43.4 #	3	56.6 #
\$12,001 to \$20,000	9	78.1 ↑	2	21.9 #
\$20,001 to \$40,000	19	43.2	25	56.8
\$40,001 to \$60,000	25	43.2	33	56.8
\$60,001 to \$80,000	27	63.4 ↑	16	36.6 ↓
More than \$80,000	28	73.4 ↑	10	26.6 ↓
Don't know/not stated	154	37.9 ↓	253	62.1 ↑
Overall	263	43.6	341	56.4
Receive pension or benefit (if not employed)				
No	161	40.6	236	59.4
Yes	35	35.4	64	64.6
Overall	196	39.5	300	60.5

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

↑ ↓ statistically significantly higher or lower (χ^2 test, $p < 0.05$) than the other categories combined

Insufficient numbers for statistical tests

8.4 Time spent on gambling activities, 16 and 17 year olds

The time that each respondent aged 16 to 17 years spent on each gambling activity was identified to determine the frequency of gambling. However, the results were approached in the same way as those of respondents aged 18 years and over, in that the time spent playing lotteries or bingo was not used in determining gambling frequency (Section 3.2.5 and 3.2.18). The time spent on the remaining activities is summarised below (Table 8.4).

8.4.1 Frequency of playing instant scratch tickets, 16 and 17 year olds

Overall, 29.6% (n=179) of all 16 and 17 year old respondents identified that they played instant scratch tickets. Of these, 40.4% (n=72) played instant scratch tickets less than once a month, but more than yearly. The frequency of playing is summarised in Table 8.4.

Table 8.4: The frequency of playing instant scratch tickets, 16 and 17 year olds who played instant scratch tickets

Frequency of playing scratch tickets	n	%
More than once a week	4	2.3
Once a week	12	6.7
Less than weekly but at least fortnightly	10	5.6
Less than fortnightly but at least monthly	26	14.8
Less than once a month but more than yearly	72	40.4
Once a year	47	26.5
Can't say/not disclosed	7	3.7
Total	179	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Of the total number of respondents aged 16 and 17 years, 12.0% played instant scratch tickets less than once a month but more than yearly. The results are summarised in Table 8.5.

Table 8.5: The frequency of playing instant scratch tickets, all 16 and 17 year old respondents

Frequency of playing scratch tickets	n	%
More than once a week	4	0.7
Once a week	12	2.0
Less than weekly but at least fortnightly	10	1.7
Less than fortnightly but at least monthly	26	4.4
Less than once a month but more than yearly	72	12.0
Once a year	47	7.8
Can't say/not disclosed	7	1.1
Respondents who did not play scratch tickets	426	70.4
Total	605	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

8.4.2 Frequency of playing Keno, 16 and 17 year olds

Overall, 8.0% (n=49) of all 16 and 17 year old respondents stated that they played Keno. Of these, 36.2% (n=18) played Keno less than once a month but more than yearly. Table 8.6 summarises the playing frequency of young people aged 16 and 17 years of age who played Keno.

Table 8.6: The frequency of playing Keno, 16 and 17 year olds who played Keno

Frequency of playing Keno	n	%
Once a week	4	8.2
Less than weekly but at least fortnightly	6	11.9
Less than fortnightly but at least monthly	10	21.3
Less than once a month but more than yearly	18	36.2
Once a year	11	22.4
Total	49	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Of the total number of 16 and 17 year old respondents, 2.9% purchased Keno tickets less than once a month but more than yearly. The results are summarised in Table 8.7.

Table 8.7: The frequency of playing Keno, all 16 and 17 year old respondents

Frequency of playing Keno	n	%
Once a week	4	0.7
Less than weekly but at least fortnightly	6	1.0
Less than fortnightly but at least monthly	10	1.7
Less than once a month but more than yearly	18	2.9
Once a year	11	1.8
Respondents who did not play Keno	556	92.0
Total	605	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

8.4.3 Frequency of playing cards or mah-jongg privately for money, 16 and 17 year olds

Overall, 9.6% (n=58) of all 16 and 17 year old respondents stated that they played cards or mah-jongg privately for money. Of these, 50.7% (n=29) played cards or mah-jongg less than once a month but more than yearly. Table 8.8 summarises the playing frequency of young people aged 16 and 17 years of age who played games like cards or mah-jongg privately for money.

Table 8.8: The frequency of playing cards or mah-jongg privately for money, 16 and 17 year olds who participated in this form of gambling

Frequency of playing cards or mah-jongg	n	%
Once a week	8	14.1
Less than weekly but at least fortnightly	3	5.2
Less than fortnightly but at least monthly	9	15.2
Less than once a month but more than yearly	29	50.7
Once a year	9	14.8
Total	58	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Of the total number of respondents aged 16 and 17 years, 4.9% played games like cards or mah-jongg privately for money less than once a month but more than yearly. The results are summarised in Table 8.9.

Table 8.9: The frequency of playing cards, all 16 and 17 year old respondents

Frequency of playing cards or mah-jongg	n	%
Once a week	8	1.4
Less than weekly but at least fortnightly	3	0.5
Less than fortnightly but at least monthly	9	1.5
Less than once a month but more than yearly	29	4.9
Once a year	9	1.4
Respondents who did not play cards	547	90.4
Total	605	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

8.4.4 Frequency of betting on horses or greyhounds, 16 and 17 year olds

Overall, 6.2% (n=37) of all 16 and 17 year old respondents identified that they gambled on horses or greyhounds (excluding sweeps). Of these, 35.5% (n=13) bet on horses or greyhounds less than once a month but more than yearly, and 48.0% (n=18) did so once a year. Table 8.10 summarises the playing frequency of young people aged 16 and 17 years of age who bet on horses or greyhounds.

Table 8.10: The frequency of betting on horses or greyhounds, 16 and 17 years who bet on horses or greyhounds

Frequency of betting on horses or greyhounds	n	%
Less than weekly but at least fortnightly	4	9.9
Less than fortnightly but at least monthly	2	5.3
Less than once a month but more than yearly	13	35.5
Once a year	18	48.0
Can't say/not disclosed	1	1.2
Total	37	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Of the total number of respondents aged 16 and 17 years, 2.2% bet on horses or greyhounds less than once a month but more than yearly, and 3.0% did so once a year. The results are summarised in Table 8.11.

Table 8.11: The frequency of betting on horses or greyhounds, all 16 and 17 year old respondents

Frequency of betting on horses or greyhounds	n	%
Less than weekly but at least fortnightly	4	0.6
Less than fortnightly but at least monthly	2	0.3
Less than once a month but more than yearly	13	2.2
Once a year	18	3.0
Can't say/not disclosed	1	0.1
Respondents who did not bet on horses or greyhounds	567	93.8
Total	605	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

8.4.5 Frequency of gambling on sporting events, 16 and 17 year olds

Overall, 5.1% (n=31) of all 16 and 17 year old respondents identified that they gambled on a sporting event like football, cricket or tennis. Of these, 37.7% (n=12) bet on sporting events less than once a month but more than yearly, and 51.6% (n=16) did so once a year. Table 8.12 summarises the betting frequency of young people aged 16 and 17 years of age who gambled on sporting events.

Table 8.12: The frequency of gambling on sporting events, 16 and 17 years who bet on sporting events

Frequency of gambling on sporting events	n	%
Less than weekly but at least fortnightly	1	4.3
Less than fortnightly but at least monthly	2	6.5
Less than once a month but more than yearly	12	37.7
Once a year	16	51.6
Total	31	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Of the total number of all respondents aged 16 and 17 years, 1.9% of all 16 and 17 year olds gambled on sporting events less than once a month but more than yearly, and 2.6% did so once a year. The results are summarised in Table 8.13.

Table 8.13: The frequency of gambling on sporting events, all 16 and 17 year olds

Frequency of gambling on sporting events	n	%
Less than weekly but at least fortnightly	1	0.2
Less than fortnightly but at least monthly	2	0.3
Less than once a month but more than yearly	12	1.9
Once a year	16	2.6
Respondents who did not gamble on sporting events	574	94.9
Total	605	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

8.4.6 Frequency of gambling on poker machines, 16 and 17 year olds

Overall, 5.1% (n=31) of all 16 and 17 year old respondents identified that they played poker machines. Of these, 37.9% (n=12) gambled on poker machines less than once a month but more than yearly, and 50.6% (n=16) did so once a year. Table 8.14 summarises the playing frequency of young people aged 16 and 17 years of age who gambled on poker machines.

Table 8.14: The frequency of gambling on poker machines, 16 and 17 years who played poker machines

Frequency of playing poker machines	n	%
Once a week	4	11.4
Less than once a month but more than yearly	12	37.9
Once a year	16	50.6
Total	31	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Of the total number of respondents aged 16 and 17 years, 1.9% gambled on poker machines less than once a month but more than yearly, and 2.6% did so once a year. The results are summarised in Table 8.15.

Table 8.15: The frequency of gambling on poker machines, all 16 and 17 year old respondents

Frequency of playing poker machines	n	%
Once a week	4	0.6
Less than once a month but more than yearly	12	1.9
Once a year	16	2.6
Respondents who did not gamble on poker machines	574	94.9
Total	605	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

8.4.7 Frequency of playing table games at the casino, 16 and 17 year olds

Overall, 1.2% (n=7) of all 16 and 17 year old respondents identified that they played table games at the casino. Of these, 62.6% (n=5) played table games at the casino less than once a month but more than yearly, and 37.4% (n=3) once a year. Table 8.16 summarises the playing frequency of young people aged 16 and 17 years of age who played table games at the casino.

Table 8.16: The frequency of playing table games at the casino, 16 and 17 years who played table games at a casino

Frequency of playing table games at a casino	n	%
Less than once a month but more than yearly	5	62.6
Once a year	3	37.4
Total	7	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Of the total number of respondents aged 16 and 17 years, 0.8% played table games at the casino less than once a month but more than yearly, and 0.5% did so once a year. The results are summarised in Table 8.17.

Table 8.17: The frequency of playing table games at the casino, all 16 and 17 year old respondents

Frequency of playing table games at a casino	n	%
Less than once a month but more than yearly	5	0.8
Once a year	3	0.5
Respondents did not play table games at the casino	597	98.8
Total	605	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

8.4.8 Time spent gambling on the Internet, 16 and 17 year olds

The one respondent aged between 16 and 17 years who gambled on the Internet, did so once a year.

8.5 Where undertake gambling activities, 16 and 17 years

Those respondents aged 16 to 17 years who:

- bet on horse or greyhound races;
- bet on sporting events; or
- played Keno;

were also asked where they had mainly participated in that activity.

Overall, of respondents aged 16 and 17 years who bet on horses or greyhounds, 35.7% did so at a stand alone TAB. The responses are summarised in Table 8.18.

Table 8.18: Where mainly bet on horse or greyhound races, 16 and 17 years who bet on horses or greyhounds

Location	n	%
At race track	8	21.8
At a hotel	10	27.5
At a stand alone TAB	13	35.7
Via the phone	2	5.3
Family member/friend	2	4.4
Don't know/can't remember	2	5.3
Total	37	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Overall, of 16 and 17 year olds who played Keno, 60.6% did so at a newsagent or lottery kiosk. The responses are summarised in Table 8.19.

Table 8.19: Where mainly bet on Keno, 16 and 17 years who played Keno

Location	n	%
At a hotel	19	39.4
At a newsagent/lottery kiosk	29	60.6
Total	49	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Overall, of 16 and 17 year olds who bet on sporting events, 39.9% did so with family, friends or privately. The responses are summarised in Table 8.20.

Table 8.20: Where mainly bet on sporting events, 16 and 17 years who bet on sporting events

Location	n	%
At a hotel	6	19.1
At a stand alone TAB	6	19.6
At the event	4	13.2
With family/friends/privately	12	39.9
Don't know/can't remember	3	8.2
Total	31	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

8.6 Poker machines and young people

Respondents aged 16 to 17 years who reported that they had played poker machines in the past year (n=31) were asked a series of more detailed questions about the machines they had used. The responses are summarised in the following sections.

8.6.1 Where play poker machines, 16 and 17 years

Respondents (n=31) were asked where they mainly bet on poker machines. The responses are in Table 8.21.

Table 8.21: Where play poker or gaming machines, 16 and 17 years

Location	n	%
At a club	2	6.6
At a hotel	24	79.1
At a casino	3	9.0
Don't know/can't remember	2	5.4
Total	31	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

8.6.2 Name and kind of machine played, 16 and 17 years

Respondents (n=31) were asked what kind of machine they usually played. The responses are summarised in Table 8.22.

Table 8.22: Kind of machine usually played, 16 and 17 years

Kind of machine	n	%
1 cent machine	15	48.4
2 cent machine	5	17.4
\$1 machine	3	11.2
Don't know	7	23.0
Total	31	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Respondents (n=31) were then asked the name or theme of their favourite machine. The responses are summarised in Table 8.23.

Table 8.23: Favourite machine name or theme, 16 and 17 years

Favourite machine name or theme	n	%
Dolphin Treasure/Double Dolphin/Dolphin machine	4	14.3
Red Baron	2	6.4
Play anything	11	35.4
No loyalty	8	24.9
Don't know	6	19.0
Total	31	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

8.6.3 Rewards and patterns of play, 16 and 17 years

All respondents aged 16 and 17 years who played poker machines (n=31) were asked if they use loyalty or rewards cards when they play gaming machines. All respondents stated that they did not use loyalty or rewards cards (100.0%, n=31).

Respondents (n=31) were asked how often they bet more than one line at each press. The responses are summarised in Table 8.24.

Table 8.24: How often bet more than one line, 16 and 17 years

How often bet more than one line	n	%
Never	4	13.1
Rarely	8	26.6
Sometimes	8	27.0
Often	1	3.6
Always	8	24.3
Can't say	2	5.4
Total	31	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Respondents who stated that they rarely, sometimes, often, or always bet more than one line (n=25), were then asked how many lines they play. The responses are in Table 8.25.

Table 8.25: Number of lines played, 16 and 17 years

How many lines	n	%
1 to 5 lines	10	40.2
6 to 10 lines	5	18.9
11 to 20 lines	5	18.4
21 lines to 30 lines	4	15.9
Don't know/not disclosed	2	6.6
Total	25	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

All respondents aged 16 and 17 years who played poker machines (n=31) were then asked how often they bet more than one credit per line. The responses are in Table 8.26.

Table 8.26: How often bet more than one credit, 16 and 17 years

How often be more than one credit	n	%
Never	7	21.5
Rarely	7	23.9
Sometimes	12	37.7
Often	1	4.3
Always	2	7.2
Can't say	2	5.4
Total	31	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Respondents, who stated that they rarely, sometimes, often, or always play more than one credit (n=23), were then asked how many credits they play. The responses are in Table 8.27.

Table 8.27: How many credits usually play, 16 to 17 years

How many credits	n	%
1 to 5 credits	12	51.2
11 to 19 credits	2	8.8
20 credits (or more)	4	17.6
Don't know/not disclosed	5	22.5
Total	23	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Respondents aged 16 and 17 years who played on poker machines (n=31) were asked if they ever increased their bets when they were losing. The responses are summarised in Table 8.28.

Table 8.28: Increased bets when losing, 16 and 17 years

Increased bets when losing	n	%
Never	24	79.2
Rarely	3	8.6
Sometimes	2	5.8
Always	2	6.4
Total	31	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Respondents who stated that they rarely, sometimes, or always, increased their bets when losing (n=6), were then asked how long their losing streak would need to be before they increased their bets. Of these respondents:

- 69.1% (n=4) stated that the losing streak would have to be between zero and five minutes; and
- 30.9% (n=2) said they did not know how long their losing streak would need to be before increasing their bets.

Respondents who stated that they would increase their bets (n=6) were then asked by how much they would increase them. Of these respondents, 41.1% (n=3) would increase their bets by less than double, and 58.9% (n=4) would double their bets.

All respondents (n=31) were then asked how many times they had lost \$50 or more in a single day or session of gambling. The responses are in Table 8.29.

Table 8.29: How many times lost \$50 or more in a single day or session of gambling, 16 and 17 years

Number of times lost \$50 or more	n	%
Never	26	85.1
Between 1 and 5 times	2	7.8
Between 21 and 50 times	2	7.2
Total	31	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

8.7 Frequent gamblers aged 16 and 17 years of age

Frequent gamblers were determined to be those respondents aged 16 and 17 years who gambled at least fortnightly on a gambling activity other than lotteries or bingo. Over the preceding 12 months, 43.6% (n=263) had participated in some form of gambling activity; however, only 8.0% (n=48) of these were classified as frequent gamblers. The prevalence is summarised in Table 8.30.

Table 8.30: Prevalence of frequent gamblers, 16 and 17 years

Prevalence of frequent gamblers	n	% (95% CI)
Not gambled in the last 12 months	341	56.4 (52.5 - 60.3)
Gambled in the last 12 months but not frequently (or on lotto or bingo only)	215	35.6 (31.9 - 39.5)
Gambled at least fortnightly but less than weekly	14	2.4 (1.4 - 3.9)
Gambled weekly or more often	34	5.6 (4.0 - 7.7)
Total	605	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

The demographic profile of those who gambled at least fortnightly (n=48) is presented in Table 8.31.

Table 8.31: Demographic profile of frequent gamblers, 16 and 17 years

Variable	Gambled at least fortnightly	
	n	%
Gender		
Male	28	9.5
Female	20	6.5
Area of residence		
Metropolitan regions – Northern/Western/Eastern/Southern	36	8.1
Country North/Country South	12	7.5
Area of residence (region)		
Northern	7	6.3
Western	5	6.8
Eastern	14	11.7
Southern	10	7.1
Country North	5	6.1
Country South	7	8.8
Household size (16 years and over)		
1 adult	1	41.4 #
2 adults	8	14.1
3 adults	17	5.8
4 or more adults	22	8.6
Children (less than 16 years) living in household		
None	27	10.3
One or more children	21	6.2
Marital status		
Married/de facto	3	100.0 #
Never married	46	7.6 ↓
Highest educational qualification obtained		
Secondary	47	8.0
Trade/Apprenticeship/Certificate/Diploma	1	6.9 #
Main language spoken at home		
English	45	7.8
Other	4	10.0 #
Overall	48	8.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

↑ ↓ statistically significantly higher or lower (χ^2 test, $p < 0.05$) than the other categories combined

Insufficient numbers for statistical tests

Table 8.31: Demographic profile of frequent gamblers, 16 and 17 years (cont.)

Variable	Gambled at least fortnightly	
	n	%
Country of birth		
Australia – non Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	42	7.7
Australia – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	1	7.4 #
UK/Ireland	2	22.0 #
Other	3	8.2 #
Work status		
Employed full time	5	17.2
Employed part time	11	13.2
Unemployed	3	11.7 #
Student/other	30	6.3 ↓
Housing dwelling status		
Owned or being purchased by occupants	34	6.9 ↓
Rented from Housing Trust	2	6.5 #
Rented privately	10	21.6 ↑
Other	1	5.7 #
Gross annual household income		
Less than \$12,000	2	43.4 #
\$12,001 to \$20,000	-	-
\$20,001 to \$40,000	8	17.5 ↑
\$40,001 to \$60,000	2	3.4 #
\$60,001 to \$80,000	8	17.7 ↑
More than \$80,000	5	12.1
Don't know/not stated	24	6.0 ↓
Overall	48	8.0
Receive pension or benefit (if not employed)		
No	21	5.2 ↓
Yes	12	12.3 ↑
Overall	33	6.6

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

↑ ↓ statistically significantly higher or lower (χ^2 test, $p < 0.05$) than the other categories combined

Insufficient numbers for statistical tests

8.8 Types of activities undertaken by frequent gamblers aged 16 and 17 years

The survey examined the types of gambling activities of fortnightly (n=14) and weekly gamblers (n=34) aged 16 to 17 years. As the response summary in Table 8.32 shows, the most common activity was playing scratch tickets.

Table 8.32: Types of gambling activities undertaken by fortnightly and weekly gamblers, 16 and 17 years*

Gambling activity	Gambled at least fortnightly but less than weekly		Gambled weekly or more often	
	n	% (95% CI)	n	% (95% CI)
Played instant scratch tickets	11	78.7 (52.9 - 92.4)	30	87.6 (72.5 - 94.9)
Played Keno	3	21.5 (7.7 - 47.3)	13	39.9 (25.3 - 56.6)
Played lotto or any other lottery game like Powerball, Pools, Super 66	2	15.4 (4.6 - 40.8)	9	25.9 (14.2 - 42.6)
Played games like cards, mah-jongg privately for money at home or any other place	4	27.3 (11.1 - 53.0)	16	46.4 (30.8 - 62.7)
Played bingo at a club or hall	1	6.4 (1.1 - 30.1)	3	9.4 (3.4 - 23.8)
Bet on horses or greyhounds excluding sweeps	5	32.3 (14.2 - 57.8)	15	43.8 (28.5 - 60.3)
Bet on a sporting event like football, cricket or tennis	2	15.6 (4.7 - 41.0)	9	28.1 (15.8 - 44.9)
Played poker machines or gaming machines	2	15.6 (4.7 - 41.0)	8	24.5 (13.1 - 41.1)
Played table games at a casino such as Blackjack or Roulette	-	-	3	9.1 (3.2 - 23.4)

* Multiple responses possible

8.9 Identification of problem gamblers

The national definition of problem gambling (Neal et al⁴) defines it as ‘being characterised by difficulties in limiting money and/or time spent on gambling, which leads to adverse consequences for the gambler, for others, or for the community’.

Frequent gamblers (n=48)—defined as respondents aged 16 and 17 years of age who gambled regularly, at least once a fortnight, on all types of gambling excluding lotteries or bingo—were asked a series of questions to ascertain whether they had a serious gambling problem.

8.9.1 Adolescent Problem Gambling Measure (DSM IV-J)

Problem gamblers aged 16 and 17 years were identified using the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, Version IV, Juvenile Criteria (DSM IV-J)¹⁰. The DSM IV-J consists of 12 questions which are presented in Table 8.33.

Table 8.33: DSM IV-J – questions and response categories, 16 and 17 years

Question	n	%
The following questions refer to the ways people gamble and how people feel while gambling. Thinking about the last 12 months, please indicate yes or no to the statements which apply to your own gambling in the last 12 months		
1 Do you often find yourself thinking about gambling activities at odd times of the day and/or planning the next time you will play?		
Yes	6	12.5
No	42	87.5
2 Do you lie to your family or friends, or hide how much you gamble?		
Yes	-	-
No	48	100.0
3 After spending money on gambling activities, do you play again another day to try and win your money back (more than half the time)?		
Yes	6	12.5
No	42	87.5
4 In the past year, have you spent your school lunch money or money for bus fares, on gambling activities?		
Yes	4	7.9
No	44	92.1
5 In the past year, have you taken money from someone you live with, without their knowing, to gamble?		
Yes	-	-
No	48	100.0
6 Do you ever gamble as a way of escaping problems?		
Yes	4	8.4
No	44	91.6
Total	48	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

Table 8.33: DSM IV-J – questions and response categories, 16 and 17 years (cont.)

Question	n	%
7 Do you find you need to spend more and more money on gambling activities?		
Yes	-	-
No	48	100.0
8 In the past year, have you stolen money from outside the family, or shoplifted, to gamble?		
Yes	2	4.1
No	46	95.9
9 Do you become restless, tense, fed up or bad tempered when trying to cut down or stop gambling?		
Yes	4	9.1
No	44	90.9
10 In the past year, have you gone to someone for help with a serious money worry caused by participation in gambling?		
Yes	2	5.0
No	46	95.0
11 Have you fallen out with members of your family, or close friends, because of your gambling behaviour?		
Yes	4	7.6
No	45	92.4
12 In the past year, have you missed school to participate in gambling experiences (5 times or more)?		
Yes	2	5.0
No	46	95.0
Total	48	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

The DSM IV-J was scored by allocating 1 point for every 'yes' response. The points are then summed and if the score is greater than or equal to four, the respondent is classified as a problem gambler. The range of scores is summarised in Table 8.34.

Table 8.34: Distribution of the DSM IV-J scores, 16 and 17 years

Score	APGM classification	n	%
<i>Frequent and non-problem 16 and 17 year old gamblers</i>			
Score of 0-3		42	87.5
	0	40	83.7
	1	2	3.7
<i>Frequent and problem 16 and 17 year old gamblers</i>			
Score of 4-12		6	12.5
	4	2	3.4
	6	4	9.1
Total		48	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

8.10 Prevalence of problem gamblers

8.10.1 Derivation of problem gamblers

As described in the previous section, those 16 and 17 year olds who were identified as 'frequent' gamblers (that is, gambled at least fortnightly) were then asked the DSM IV-J. The DSM IV-J identifies respondents as a non-problem gambler (score < 4) and a problem gambler (score \geq 4).

8.10.2 Prevalence of problem gambling as defined by the DSM IV-J

Overall, using the DSM IV-J, 1.0% (n=6) of 16 and 17 year olds respondents (n=605) were identified as problem gamblers. The responses are summarised in Table 8.35.

Table 8.35: Prevalence of levels of gambling as defined by the DSM IV-J, 16 and 17 years

Category	n	% (95% CI)	SA population aged 16 and 17 years ¹²
Non gambler	341	56.4 (52.4-60.3)	23192
Gambled but not frequent	215	35.6 (31.9-39.5)	14625
Frequent gambler but not a problem	42	7.0 (5.2-9.3)	2863
Problem gambler	6	1.0 (0.5-2.2)	410
Total	605	100.0	41091

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

8.11 The impact of gambling

Once respondents had completed the DSM IV-J, those with a score greater than or equal to four were asked if they were happy to answer some more questions about their gambling. Of the n=6 respondents who fulfilled these criteria, n=4 were prepared to answer questions regarding the impact of their gambling. Due to the small number of respondents, these results will not be reported on further.

8.12 Awareness of help seeking/ support services

8.12.1 Overall number of services

All respondents aged 16 and 17 years, except those who had declined to answer further questions regarding their gambling (n=603), were asked to identify services to help people with gambling problems. The responses are in Table 8.36.

Table 8.36: Services that respondents are aware of in South Australia to assist people with gambling problems, 16 and 17 years*

Support service	n	%
Gambling Help Line	360	59.6
Gamblers Anonymous/Pokies Anonymous	29	4.8
Ban from venue	6	1.0
Church	6	1.0
Lifeline/Lifeline South East	4	0.6
Gambling Venue services (e.g. Casino, Hotels Association)	3	0.6
Break Even Counselling	3	0.5
Advertising/TV/website	2	0.3
Doctor/GP	2	0.3
Break Even	1	0.2
Centacare	1	0.2
Nick Xenophon	1	0.1
Anglicare	-	-
Cambodian Association	-	-
Central Mission – Adelaide/Port Pirie	-	-
Centre for Anxiety Related Disorders	-	-
Independent Gambling Authority	-	-
Intensive Therapy Service for Problem Gamblers	-	-
Nunkawarrin Yunti	-	-
Overseas Chinese Association	-	-
P.E.A.C.E (Personal Education and Community Empowerment)	-	-
Relationships Australia/Cope	-	-
Salvation Army	-	-
Uniting Care Wesley/Wesley Uniting Mission	-	-
Vietnamese Community in Australia	-	-
Other counselling services (i.e. not elsewhere listed)	17	2.9
Other responses	2	0.3
Can't remember name	92	15.3
None of the above	122	20.3

* Multiple responses possible

The number of services that respondents (n=603) were able to nominate was examined. Overall, 58.3% (n=351) of respondents were able to name one service, and 35.6% (n=215) could not remember the name of a single service, or could not name any. The responses are summarised in Table 8.37.

Table 8.37: Number of services nominated by respondents, 16 and 17 years

Number of support services	n	%
0	215	35.6
1	351	58.3
2	29	4.8
3	7	1.2
5	1	0.2
Total	603	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

8.12.2 Respondents aged 16 and 17 years who nominated the Gambling Help Line

The Gambling Help Line was the service most frequently nominated by respondents (59.6%, n=360). The respondents who nominated the Gambling Help Line (n=360) were examined further to determine what other services they had nominated. The number of services nominated overall by these respondents is summarised in Table 8.38, with 10.3% (n=37) nominating at least one additional service apart from the Help Line.

Table 8.38: Number of other services named by respondents who nominated the Gambling Help Line, 16 and 17 years

Number of support services	n	%
1	322	89.7
2	29	8.0
3	7	1.9
5	1	0.4
Total	360	100.0

Note: The weighting of the data can result in rounding discrepancies or totals not adding (see Section 1.5.3)

These respondents (10.3%, n=37) were then examined further to identify the other services they had nominated. Overall, 36.6% (n=14) of these respondents also nominated 'Other counselling services (i.e. not elsewhere listed)', and 31.3% (n=12) also nominated Gamblers Anonymous/ Pokies Anonymous. The responses are in Table 8.39.

Table 8.39: Other services named by respondents who nominated the Gambling Help Line, 16 and 17 years*

Support service	n	%
Gamblers Anonymous/Pokies Anonymous	12	31.3
Church	6	16.5
Ban from venue	4	12.0
Lifeline/Lifeline South East	4	9.8
Break Even Counselling	3	8.0
Break Even	1	3.7
Centacare	1	3.7
Gambling Venue services (e.g. Casino, Hotels Association)	1	3.7
Other counselling services (i.e. not elsewhere listed)	14	36.6
Other responses	2	4.5

* Multiple responses possible

Due to small numbers, there was no further examination of responses of 16 and 17 year olds to the gambling support services question.

