



NOVA SCOTIA

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Gender Differences in Gambling*



*Unless otherwise indicated, all information on gender differences is from www.problemgambling.ca

Motivation for Gambling

- Men gamble for the excitement, rush and action.
- Women gamble mostly to escape and cope with stressful or unsatisfying lives.

Progression of Problem and Age of Onset

- The progression of a gambling problem is much faster in women than men.
- Women start to gamble later in life, compared to men.

Other Risk-Taking Behaviours by Females/Males Experiencing Problems Related to Gambling

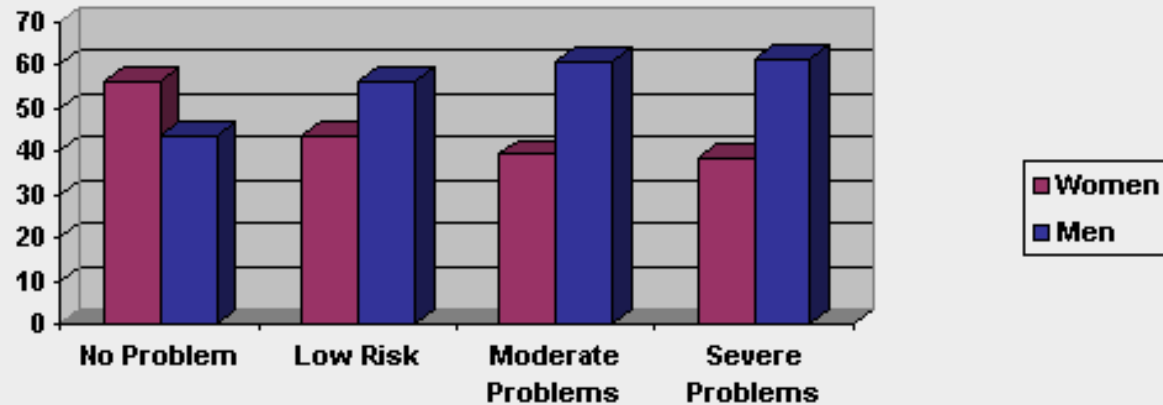
- Females are more likely to attempt suicide than males.
- Men engage in more sexually risky behaviour than females.
- Men are more likely to abuse alcohol than women.

Relationship Issues

- Females experiencing problems with gambling are more likely to be living with someone with a current gambling or alcohol problem.
- Females also have more friends who gamble than males.

Prevalence Rates of Problem Gambling

Gender differences based on the Canadian Problem Gambling Index results:



	No Problems	Low Risk	Moderate Problems	Severe Problems
Women	56.4%	43.6%	39.3%	38.4%
Men	43.6%	56.4%	60.7%	61.6%

Prevalence of Problem Gambling

- Compared to female gamblers, male gamblers have significantly higher levels of risk (5.1% versus 3.4%) and gambling problems (4.1% versus 1.7).*