



Mental Health and Recovery Services Board

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Second Ohio Gambling Survey

(TIFFIN, OH) - The Mental Health & Recovery Services Board released an analysis of the Ohio Gambling Survey - Round Two data specifically relating to adults in this area. The Round Two survey is a follow-up to the baseline survey done in 2012, before any of the state's casinos and racetrack-based racinos had opened. The initial exploratory survey produced statewide data only.

Mircea Handru, executive director of the MHRS Board of Seneca, Sandusky & Wyandot Counties, commented, "This analysis helps us to tailor our local prevention and awareness-building efforts around problem and responsible gambling audiences. We know that most people gamble a little, but it doesn't need to be detrimental to themselves or their families."

The 2016-2017 data collection gathered 800 surveys in this area and more than 24,000 completed responses across the state. The survey included the same prevalence measurement used in 2012, the Canadian Problem Gambling Index (CPGI), which allows for a summary of current gambling activity among Ohio adults, and highlights statewide changes in gambling behavior over a four-year period. A few of the most notable statistics for Seneca, Sandusky and Wyandot counties are listed below, with comparisons to the state in some cases.

SENECA-SANDUSKY- WYANDOT GAMBLING SURVEY 2016-2017 HIGHLIGHTS:

- Seneca, Sandusky, and Wyandot counties adult at-risk/problem gamblers comprise 8.3% or 8,850 people, compared to the state rate of 10.3%.
- Young adults (18-24) had a higher rate of at-risk/problem gambling at 14.7% than other age groups.
- Individuals who were never married or divorced/ separated had higher rates of at-risk problem gambling than those who were married, widowed, or living with a partners.
- Individuals who worked part-time had higher rates of at-risk problem gambling than those who worked full-time.

Ohio adults gamble in many different ways: 50-50 raffles, bingo, casinos, keno, horse racing, scratch-off tickets, lottery tickets and sports betting to name just a few. Proceeds from the taxes on casino profits and the Lottery sales help to support schools, local governments, and prevention and responsible gambling campaigns and programs. Funds from Ohio's taxes related to gambling revenues ensure that any Ohioan who needs treatment for gambling disorder can obtain care at no cost. "Under the leadership of Governor John R. Kasich and the Ohio for Responsible Gambling partners, Ohio has committed to ensuring that prevention of problem gambling and education on responsible gambling practices reaches all citizens. For the small number who may need help due to gambling challenges, we have a quality system of care in place," explained Director Tracy Plouck of Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS), upon release of the statewide data.

If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, call the Ohio Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-589-9966 or visit www.beforeyoubet.org.

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