

Internet gambling and problem gambling among 13-18 year adolescents in Iceland



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Concerns regarding the Internet

- Accessible (Home;schools)
- Anonymity
- 24/7, 365 days.
- Fast games
- Number of online sites increasing!
- Offer free play!
- Many online sites are not regulated!
- Bonus money to get you started!
- Problem in Iceland: To slow internet connections!

Changes in Internet access in Iceland

- In 2002 approximately 78% of homes had access to the Internet, but only 26% with fast speed connections (e.g. ADSL).
- In 2006 the number of homes had increased to 84%, but importantly, the number of fast speed connections had risen to 85% (Statistics Iceland, 2006).
- Internet usage among 16y+ was also the highest in Europe, where 80% went online at least once a week while the average usage was 43% elsewhere (Statistics Iceland, 2006).

Study 1: 16-18 years

- **Instruments**
 - DSM-IV-MR-J (Fisher, 2000).
 - Questions related to gambling on Icelandic internet websites and on foreign websites.
- **Sample**
 - Fifteen comprehensive schools participated.
 - Students in both academic and vocational schools were included in the sample to minimize bias.
 - The total sample was 1513.
 - Gender: Boys were 730 and girls were 783.
 - Questionnaires were administered during class during winter of 2005 to 2006.

Study 2: 13-18 year olds

- Population
 - About 1.887 thirteen to eighteen year old adolescents were registred in Hafnarfjörður in 7 primary-and 2 comprehensive schools.
 - All schools agreed to participate.
 - Questionnaires were administrated during class.
- Sample
 - The total sample was 1.537 students or 81,4%.
 - Gender distribution: Boys (768), girls (747).
 - Age distribution:
 - Primary: 13y (350), 14y (351) 15y (324).
 - Comprehensive: 16y (184), 17y (194), 18y (127).

Internet gambling questions

Study I (16-18Y)

Study II (13-18y)

Icelandic websites

Lotto

✓

✓

Sport pools

✓

✓

Sport betting

✓

✓

Foreign websites

Internet poker

✓

✓

Casino games (EGMs, roulette, black jack)

✓

✓

Sport betting on foreign websites

✓

Played on free play sections on websites

✓

Gambling participation: Total figures

	Study I (16-18Y)		Study II (13-18y)	
	Regular	Total	Regular	Total
All games	11%	62%	8,1%	56,6%
All internet games	3,8%	20,2%	4,2%	24,3%

Study I: Boys (32,2%) were more likely to wager money on the Internet than girls (9,2%) $\chi^2(1, N=1415)=116,28, p < 0.01$.

Study II: Boys (36,7%) were more likely to wager money on the Internet than girls (11,5%) $\chi^2(1, N=1513)=13,309, p < 0.01$.

Secondary school students (29,8%) were more likely to gamble on the internet than primary school students (21,5%) $\chi^2(1, N=1517)=12,465, p < 0.01$.

Games on the internet

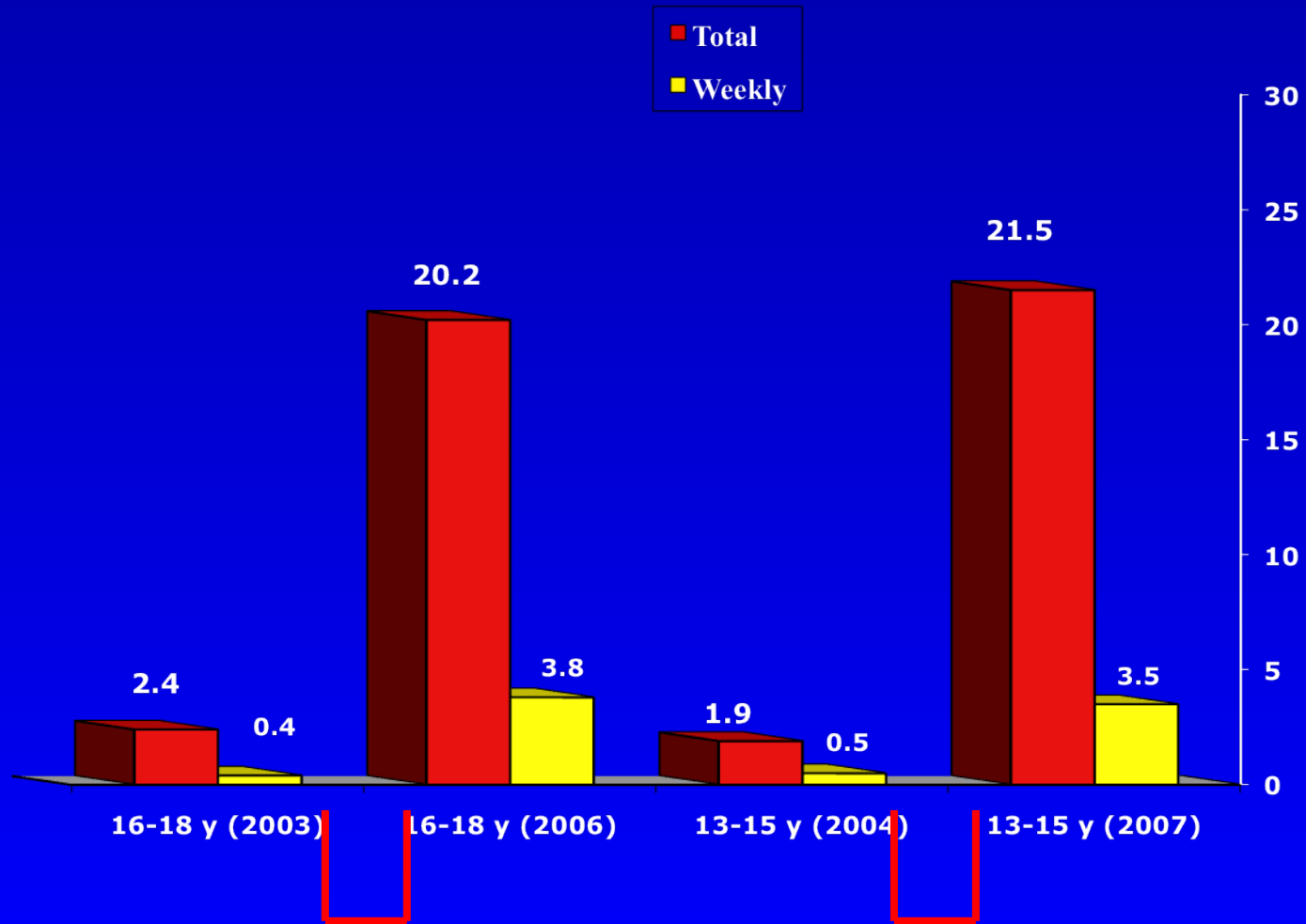
	Study I (16-18Y)		Study II (13-18y)	
	Regular	Total	Regular	Total
Icelandic websites				
Lotto	0,6	2,4	0,5	8,7
Sport pools	0,7	3,4	0,9	8,5
Sport betting	0,8	2,9	1,2	6,2
Foreign websites				
Internet poker	0,6	1,9	1,8	6,5
Casino games (EGMs, roulette, black jack)	2,2	15,8	1,8	12,3
Sport betting on foreign websites	-	-	0,5	1,9
Played on free play sections on websites	3,3	28	-	-

Method of Payment?

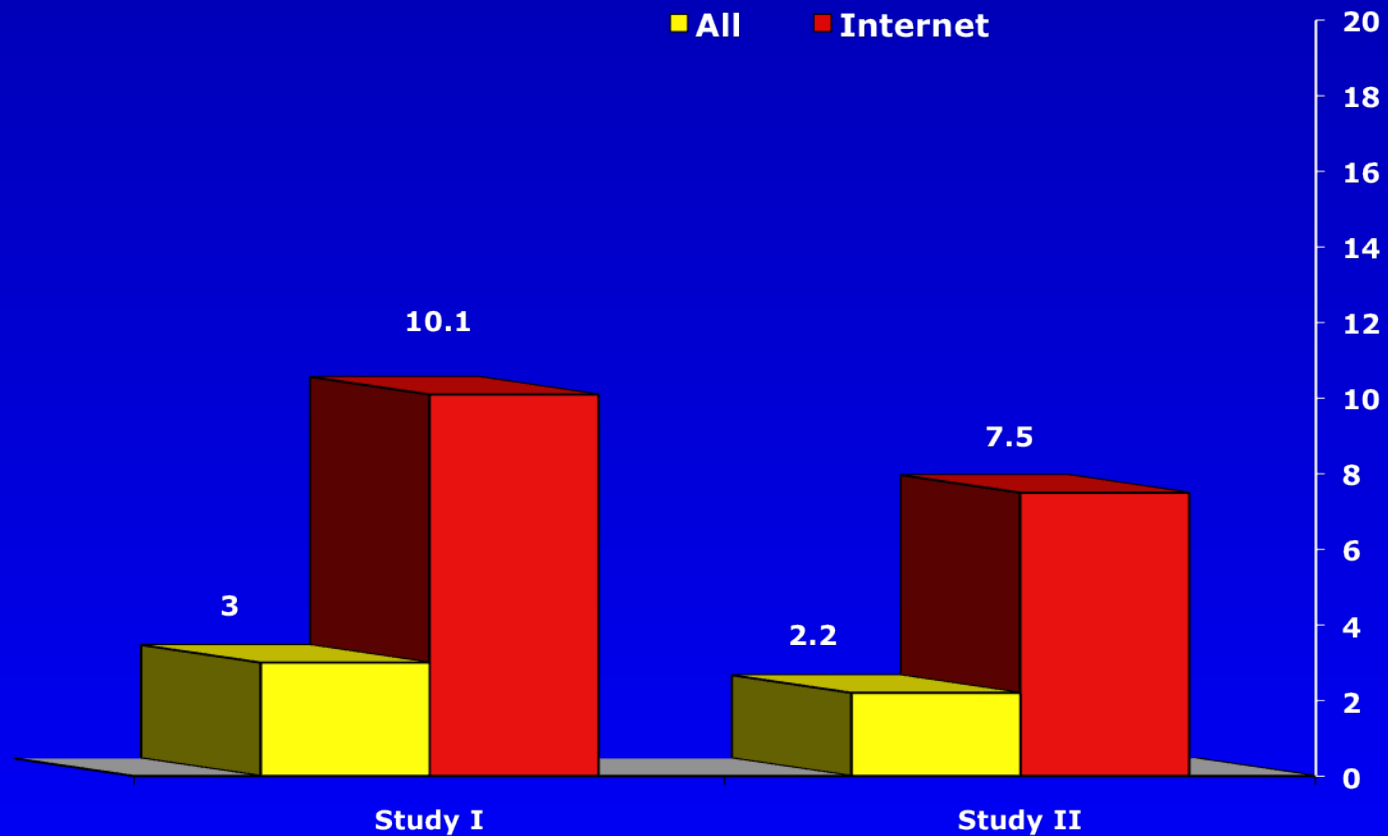
	%
My own creditcard	11,5
My debitcard	23,1
My parents creditcard	15,4
Other ways	50

- Other ways
 - With bonus money
 - My brother 's creditcard (with his permission)
 - My friend pays and I pay him back
 - Electronic cash, paypal, neteller

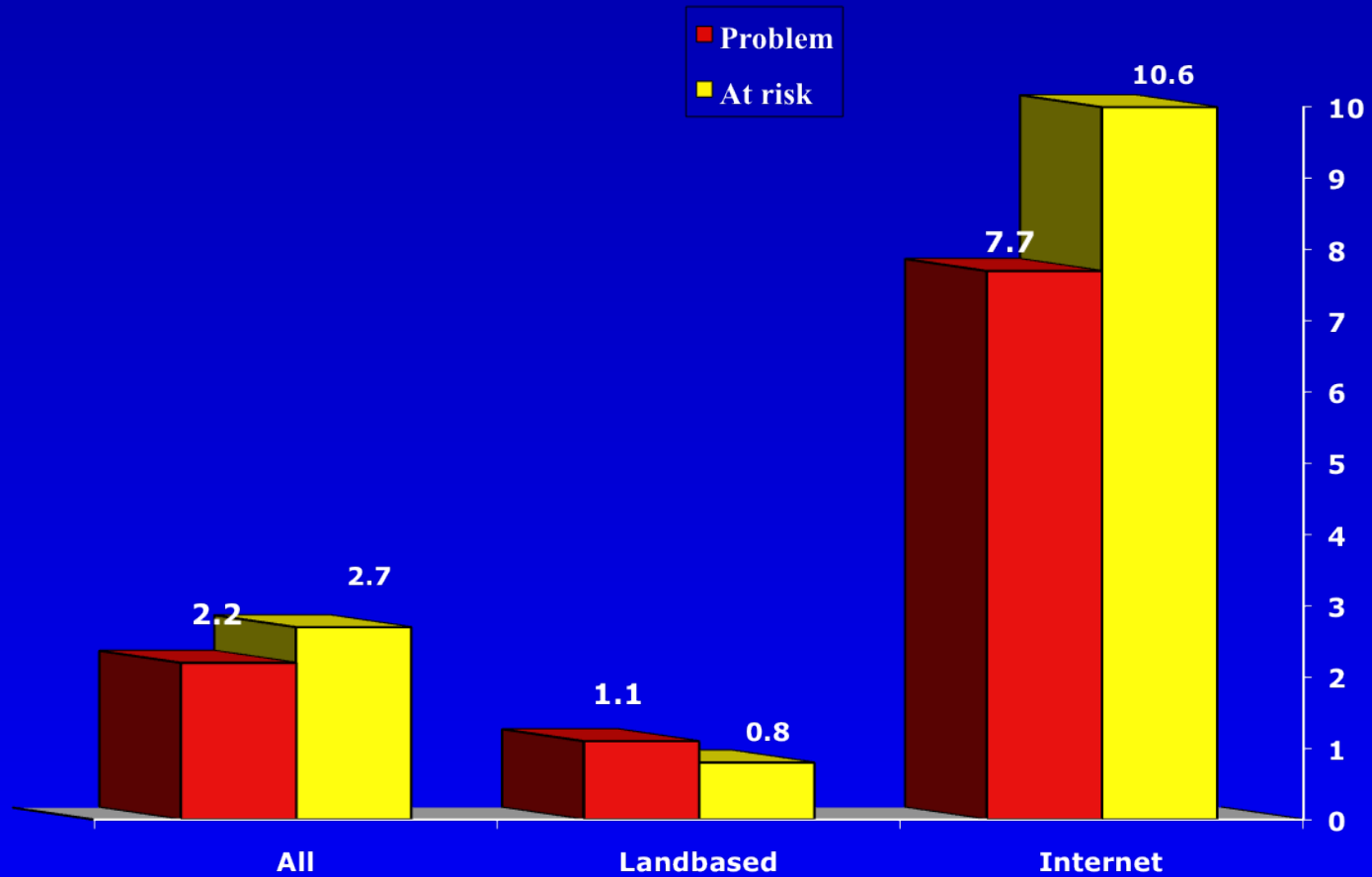
Comparison with earlier studies



Problem gambling



Landbased vs Internet: Study II



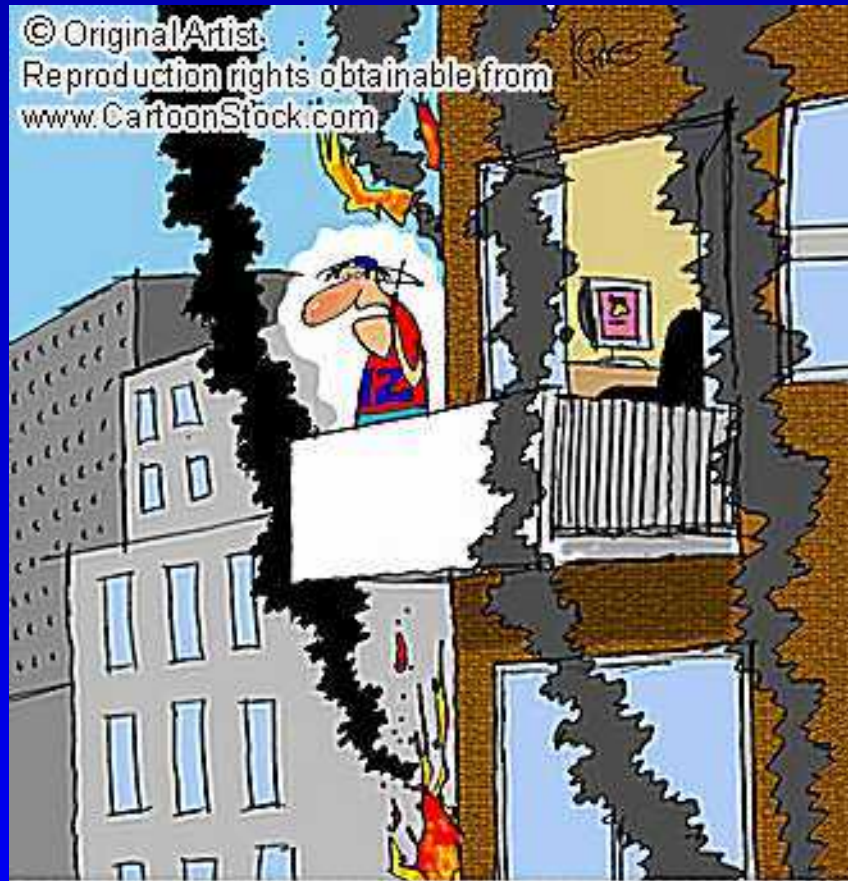
Log linear analysis: Study I

	Wald test	Odds ratio	CI for odds ratio
Step 1			
Gender	11,653**	12,218	2,903-51,416
Step 2			
EGMs	6,215**	4,560	1,383-15,034
Poker with cards	13,048**	9,241	2,765-30,884
Internet wagering	3,902*	3,037	1,009-9,146
ADHD	5,674*	3,967	1,276-12,326
Depression	5,247*	1,049	1,007-1,093

Summary and conclusion

- Both studies indicate that about one fifth of adolescents have wagered money on internet gambling activities and again it is mostly boys!
- Both studies also indicate that there has been a considerable change in internet gambling in the last years.
- Problem gambling figures are much higher for internet gamblers!

On-line gambling!



"Dude, I know my building is on fire, but I'm gambling online, and I'm on a winning streak. I can't leave now."