

Game On: Past Year Gambling, Gambling-Related Problems, and Fantasy Sports Gambling Among College Athletes and Non-athletes

College students experience higher rates of gambling-related problems compared to other populations.

Little is known about how the gambling behavior and fantasy sports participation of college student athletes compares to other college students.



Examined differences in **past year (PY) gambling behavior, gambling-related problems, fantasy sports (FS) participation, and FS gambling*** among a sample of 692 students, comparing:



Determined whether the relationship between athlete status and gambling and FS behavior differed by gender.

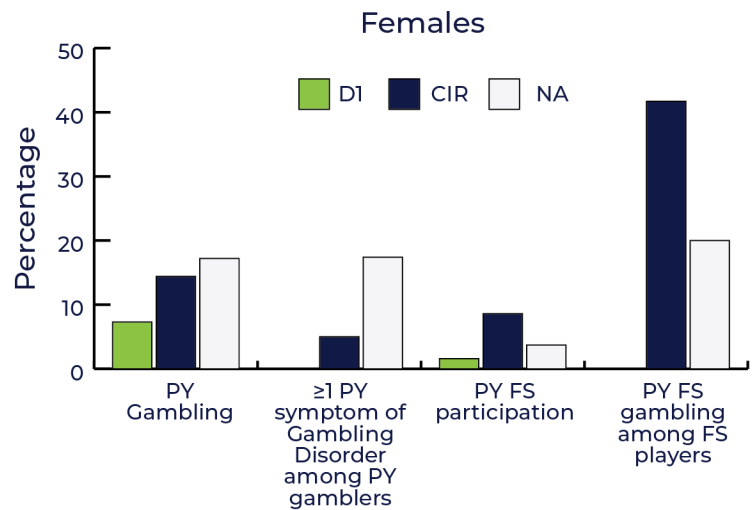
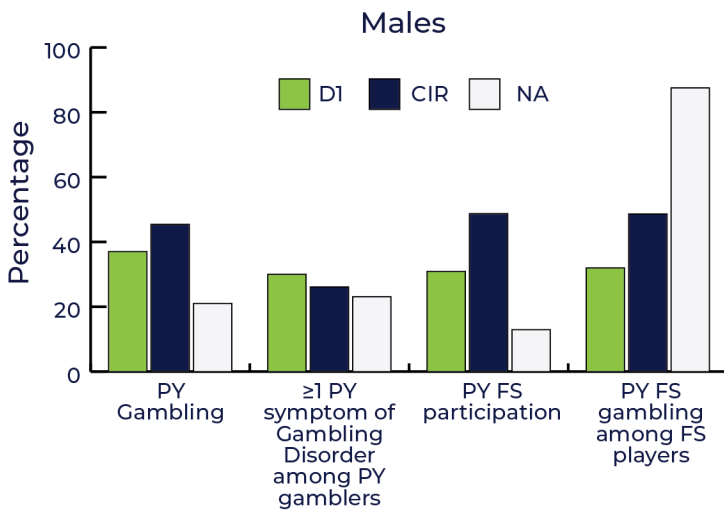
Athletes to non-athletes (NA)

Division 1 (D1) athletes to club/intramural/recreational (CIR) athletes

The sample consisted of 205 D1 athletes, 291 CIR athletes, and 196 NAs, including 397 females and 295 males.

* FS gambling = participation in FS with an entry fee

Among males, D1 and CIR athletes were more likely to gamble than NAs, but this was not the case for females.



Being **male and participating in fantasy sports** predicted experiencing one or more symptoms of **Gambling Disorder**.

For both males and females, being an athlete, particularly a **CIR athlete**, was associated with **playing fantasy sports**. However, among fantasy sports players, **D1 athletes** were **less likely to gamble on fantasy sports** than others.

Fantasy sports participation and other gambling behaviors and problems were associated with each other, and being an athlete and being male were associated with fantasy sports participation and gambling behavior.

Since fantasy sports might not always be viewed as gambling, college administrators should incorporate problem gambling and fantasy sports education into health education programs, athlete training sessions, and student orientations.