

GAMBLING IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC IN 2018

This issue of “Focused” contains a summary of the annual report on gambling in the Czech Republic in 2018 produced by the National Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Addiction (the National Focal Point). The report presents the latest information and trends concerning gambling-specific regulation and policies, the gambling market, gambling activities, problem gambling, the social implications of gambling, and gambling-related crime, as well as the prevention and treatment of problem gambling.

Obsah

Executive Summary
Gambling Regulation and Policy
Gambling Supply
Economic Indicators
Gambling in the Population
Problem Gambling
Crime
Prevention
Treatment

the last licences for electronic gaming machines and live games granted under the previous law will expire by the end of 2019. Since January 2018, however, even gambling activities authorised under the previous legislation must comply with certain requirements, such as mandatory registration and user’s accounts, centralised odds setting, record-keeping of gambling opportunities, and mandatory provision of various types of relevant information.

- The new law prescribes the offer of self-commitment options, the obligation to provide relevant information, restrictions on the opening hours of gambling venues, breaks in gambling sessions, and a number of other measures aimed at protecting players.
- Illegal gambling: efforts to block illegal websites appear successful (a list of blocked websites maintained by the Ministry of Finance featured a total of 120 items as of 15 January 2019). 1,800 illegally operated slot machines were seized in 2018.
- Activities are emerging on the market which involve gambling elements but are not (at this point) regulated as gambling activities in the Czech Republic. These include online “practice gambling”, i.e. with no real money being at stake, and loot boxes, which, in a computer game, can provide a player with an advantage, in exchange for money, which is not known in advance.
- The system to register individuals excluded from gambling has not been put into operation yet (in addition to those excluded on a voluntary basis, this concerns especially individuals on subsistence allowances and those in bankruptcy). It is estimated that the register

Executive Summary

Policy and Regulation

- The domain of gambling is an integral part of a policy covering addictions and addictive behaviour; a new nine-year strategy was adopted by the government in May 2019.
- A new Gambling Act and the Act on the Taxation of Gambling have been in effect since 1 January 2017 and new measures to regulate advertising for gambling were adopted.
- The transitional provisions of the new law make it possible to operate gambling activities authorised under the previous piece of legislation, the Lotteries Act;

will contain 200-400 thousand people who meet the statutory criteria.

- > There is a growing number of municipalities that have set about regulating gambling on a local level (as of 12 March 2019 there were 685 municipalities).
- > In May 2019 the Government endorsed a proposal for changes in tax rates. Three different rates were proposed: 25% for fixed-odds betting, raffles, small-scale tournaments, and totalisator games (originally 23%), 30% for lotteries, bingo, and live games (originally 23%), and 35% for electronic gaming machines (no change).

Gambling Market

> Since 2011, when there were almost 102,000 authorised electronic gaming machines (EGMs), the number of licensed EGMs has been declining. At the end of 2018 there were less than 40,000 authorised EGMs in the Czech Republic (a 26% year-on-year decline). A decrease was observed in all regions. The greatest absolute number of EGMs was reported by the Central Bohemia region, while the greatest relative number was recorded in the Karlovy Vary region; the lowest number of EGMs is reported from the Vysočina region. Since 1 January 2018 no slot machines licensed by municipalities have been in operation.

> The number of gambling establishments with EGMs has been declining in the long term. As of 31 December 2018, there were altogether 1,636 of them, including 548 casinos. Since 2011, when it reached its peak (8,367), the number of gambling outlets has dropped by 80%. EGMs and live games tend to be concentrated in large-scale gambling venues and casinos in order to comply with the legislative requirements.

> In 2018 gamblers put CZK 249.5 billion into gambling. CZK 218.2 billion was paid out as prize money and CZK 31.3 billion was lost (losses constitute the operators' gross income). While in 2016 and 2017 the operators' income recorded a year-on-year increase by 29% and 1%, respectively, in 2018 it declined by 21%. This decline can be attributed to the decrease in income generated by land-based EGMs as a result of regulatory measures (including regulation at the municipal level, the cancellation of special arrangements establishments, and players' compulsory registration).

> As in previous years, land-based EGMs accounted for the greatest proportion of gambling income (41% of the market). Revenues from online fixed-odds betting and land-based lotteries represented 20% and 19%, respectively.

> A 20% year-on-year decline in the amount of money collected as gambling tax was observed in 2018. It went down to CZK 9.7 billion, which was less than in 2016. This decline was mainly due to the reduction of the land-based EGM market as a result of stricter regulation. This year-on-year drop meant a reduction in contributions earmarked for the national budget (by 14%) and, especially, municipal budgets (by 25%).

Gambling in the General Population

> The level of gambling among the adult population is currently on the rise, especially as a result of an increase

in the level of participation in lotteries. This trend is apparent among both genders, as well as among the group of young adults aged 15-34. Engagement in gambling activities in the last 12 months was reported by approximately 33-40% of the adults participating in the relevant surveys, with lotteries being mentioned with the highest frequency.

- > An increase in the level of online fixed-odds betting has also been observed recently, while playing on land-based electronic gaming machines seems to be in decline.
- > Gambling is also relatively widespread among children and young people. Gambling in the last 12 months was reported by approximately one fifth of the respondents from among students in the 11-15 age category and approximately a quarter of secondary school students aged 15-19. Males are much more likely to engage in gambling. Higher levels of gambling have been found among members of youth sports clubs who place bets through their older fellow-athletes or even coaches.

Problem Gambling, Consequences, and Treatment

> The levels of problem gambling have been estimated as part of population surveys since 2012. The comparison of such estimates, arrived at by means of various screening scales, shows that 5.7% of the adult population, i.e. about 510,000 individuals, are at risk of developing problem gambling, of whom 60-130 thousand people are at high risk in this respect.

> Women account for approximately 15% of the problem gamblers in treatment. A recent increase in the proportion of gamblers seeking treatment for problems with fixed-odds betting and live games have been observed.

> The most serious socio-economic gambling-related harms to individuals and the people close to them are indebtedness and the disruption of their relationships with their family, partners, friends, etc. Problem gambling is associated with a high rate of psychiatric comorbidity and suicides.

> Approximately 90% of pathological gamblers are in debt. According to a survey among pathological gamblers conducted in 2017, the average level of indebtedness



Abbreviations

PGSI	Problem Gambling Severity Index
2010–2018 National Strategy	National Drug Policy Strategy for the Period 2010–2018
Action Plan	2015–2018 Gambling Action Plan
GCDPC	Government Council for Drug Policy Coordination
EGMs	electronic gaming machines (above all slot machines)
the Gambling Act	Act No. 186/2016 Coll., on gambling
the Lotteries Act	Act No. 202/1990 Coll., on lotteries and similar games

was approximately CZK 800,000. The average level of the debts incurred by problem gamblers kept on file by debt counselling services in 2018 was approximately CZK 750,000 (it was CZK 800,000 in 2017).

> While the number of problem gamblers in contact with counselling and treatment services is growing, their uptake of treatment is still low in proportional terms. In recent years the number of specialised programmes for problem gamblers has grown, particularly thanks to

support provided by the Government Council for Drug Policy Coordination (GCDPC).

> Out of the programmes supported by the GCDPC in 2018, a total of 56 projects reported providing services to at least one problem gambler, with 2,093 problem gamblers altogether being in contact with such services. A year-on-year increase in the total number of clients, contacts, and counselling and therapeutic interventions was recorded. X



Gambling Regulation and Policy

> The gambling policy has been incorporated into the drug policy since 2014. In that year, the Government redefined the drug policy to integrate the issues of substance use (including that of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs) and gambling. The advisory and coordination body of the Government for drug policy-related issues is the Government Council for Drug Policy Coordination (GCDPC).

The key strategic document determining the focus of the drug policy in 2018 was the *National Drug Policy Strategy for the Period 2010-2018* (the 2010-2018 National Strategy) with its related action plans, including the *2015-2018 Gambling Action Plan*. The highest proportion of the tasks of the Action Plan that were fulfilled pertained to the domains of monitoring, the evaluation of the measures, and counselling and treatment

for problem gamblers. On the contrary, the highest proportion of outstanding tasks included those aimed at reducing risks and preventing problem gambling among the gambling population (41%) and at raising public awareness and preventing problem gambling among the general population (30%).

In May 2019 the Government of the Czech Republic approved the new *National Strategy to Prevent and Reduce Harm Associated with Addictive Behaviours 2019-2027*,¹ which fully integrates the issues of legal and illegal substances and non-substance addictions. The key objective of the Strategy

¹ http://www.vlada.cz/cz/ppov/protidrogova-politika/strategie-a-plany/narodni-strategie-prevence-a-snizovani-skod-spojnych-se-zavislostnim-chovanim-2019_2027-173695/ [2019-05-27]

is to prevent and reduce the health, social, economic, and immaterial harms associated with substance use, gambling, and other types of addictive behaviour, as well as with the existence of both legal and illegal markets in substances, gambling, and other products with an addictive potential.

From 2013 to 2015, as part of its grant scheme, the GCDPC provided CZK 3-5 million annually to support projects aimed at preventing and treating problem gambling. In 2016 the amount rose to CZK 24.5 million, while in 2017 it dropped to CZK 20.1 million. In 2018 the GCDPC supported a total of 24 gambling-specific projects with an amount of CZK 23.3 million. Support was granted to 22 programmes engaging primarily in providing services to gamblers, of which 14 involve outpatient care, one is a counselling programme provided by a drop-in centre, and one is designed as an online counselling service. Grants were also awarded to three specific aftercare programmes for gamblers and three primary prevention programmes.

Replacing the act on lotteries and similar games ("the Lotteries Act"), the Gambling Act and the Act on the Taxation of Gambling have constituted the general legal framework for the operation of gambling in the Czech Republic since 1 January 2017. No changes to the legislation governing the gambling domain were made in 2018.

The transitional provisions of the Gambling Act make it possible to operate gambling activities which were authorised under the conditions of the now-defunct Lotteries Act. Practically, however, all the licences for electronic gaming machines (EGMs) under the Lotteries Act will expire by the end of 2019 (there were less than a thousand of them in mid-2019), while the last licences for live games ceased to be valid in early August 2019.

Since 1 January 2017 the operation of land-based gambling has been regulated by the customs authorities, which also exercise regulatory powers over advertising, promotional campaigns, or support for gambling activities operated in contravention of the Gambling Act. The advertising of legally operated gambling is currently supervised by regional trade licence offices. The exception is advertising communicated by radio, television, or the internet (such as streaming), the control over which is the responsibility of the Council for Radio and Television Broadcasting.

The operation of online gambling was overseen by the Ministry of Finance in 2017 and 2018. Both websites providing illicit online gambling and payments to accounts used to operate such gambling activities are blocked. The Ministry of Finance publishes these websites on its list of unauthorised online gambling activities.² Providers of internet and payment services must not allow access to such sites and transactions involving the accounts listed as being associated with unauthorised online gambling activities.

The system for registering individuals excluded from gambling has not been put into operation yet. It is intended to involve a central register containing both those who excluded themselves voluntarily and those who were barred from gambling on a statutory basis. The latter should include individuals on subsistence allowances, those in personal

bankruptcy, and those who have been ordered by a court to refrain from gambling or enter treatment for pathological gambling. The number of these people is estimated at 200-400 thousand.³

The operation of EGMs and live games (including bingo) in land-based settings requires authorisations for gambling premises (i.e. gambling venues or casinos) which are issued by the municipal authorities within the jurisdiction of which such gambling activities are to be operated. EGMs can only be operated in gambling venues or casinos, while live games can only take place in casinos. Municipalities can use generally binding ordinances ("municipal ordinances") to ban the operation of both EGMs and live games within their territories or restrict their operation in terms of place and time. The number of municipalities that regulate gambling within their territories is growing. As of 12 March 2019, such municipal ordinances had been adopted by a total of 685 municipalities, which was 45 more than at the end of 2017. 418 municipalities had imposed a total ban on gambling within their territories, which was 44 more than at the end of 2017 and approximately double the figure recorded as of the end of 2013. The regional capitals with overall bans on EGMs or gambling venues within their territories in 2018 were Brno, České Budějovice, and Jihlava. Other large municipalities with complete bans on EGMs include Frýdek-Místek, Havířov, and Kolín. As of January 2018, over six million people lived in municipalities that regulated electronic gambling activities by means of municipal ordinances, including 1.25 million living in municipalities that had adopted a complete ban on EGMs. ✕

Gambling Supply

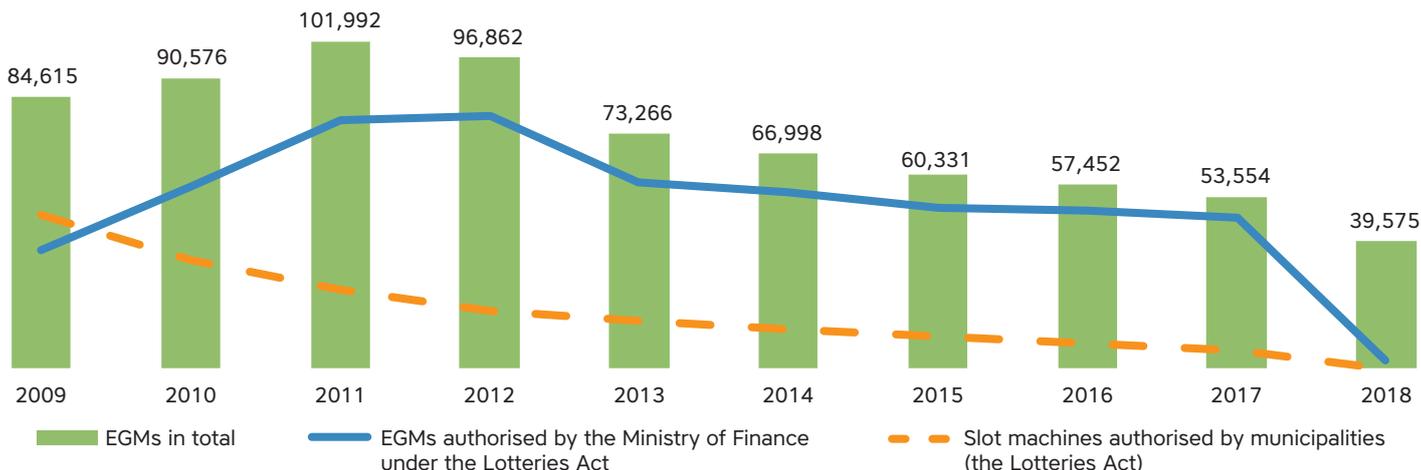
> In 2017 the Czech gambling market was opened up to foreign operators. In addition to the already permitted fixed-odds betting, the operation of online EGMs, live games, and lotteries was allowed as a new element. As of 1 January 2019, 57 companies, three fewer than in the previous year, had been authorised to operate a certain type of gambling in the Czech Republic. 45 companies had been authorised to operate EGMs, of which 41 and seven possessed licences for land-based and online gambling activities, respectively. Live games were legally operated by 37 companies (35 land-based and four online), fixed-odds betting by 11 companies (seven land-based and four online), and lotteries by nine companies (eight land-based and one online). One company was licensed to operate land-based bingo.

At the end of 2018 there were less than 40,000 authorised EGMs in the Czech Republic, which was 26% less than almost 54,000 EGMs at the end of 2017 and 61% less than over 102,000 EGMs at the end of 2011 (Graph 1). Slightly less than 3,000 EGMs were authorised under the Lotteries Act, but

² <http://www.mfcr.cz/cs/soukromy-sektor/hazardni-hry/seznam-nepovolenych-internetovych-her> [2019-03-26]

³ National Focal Point, Monitoring of Gambling and Related Impact, a working group session of 26 April 2019

GRAPH 1
Number of authorised EGMs, 2009-2018



Note: By the end of 2018 93% of EGMs had been authorised under the Gambling Act.

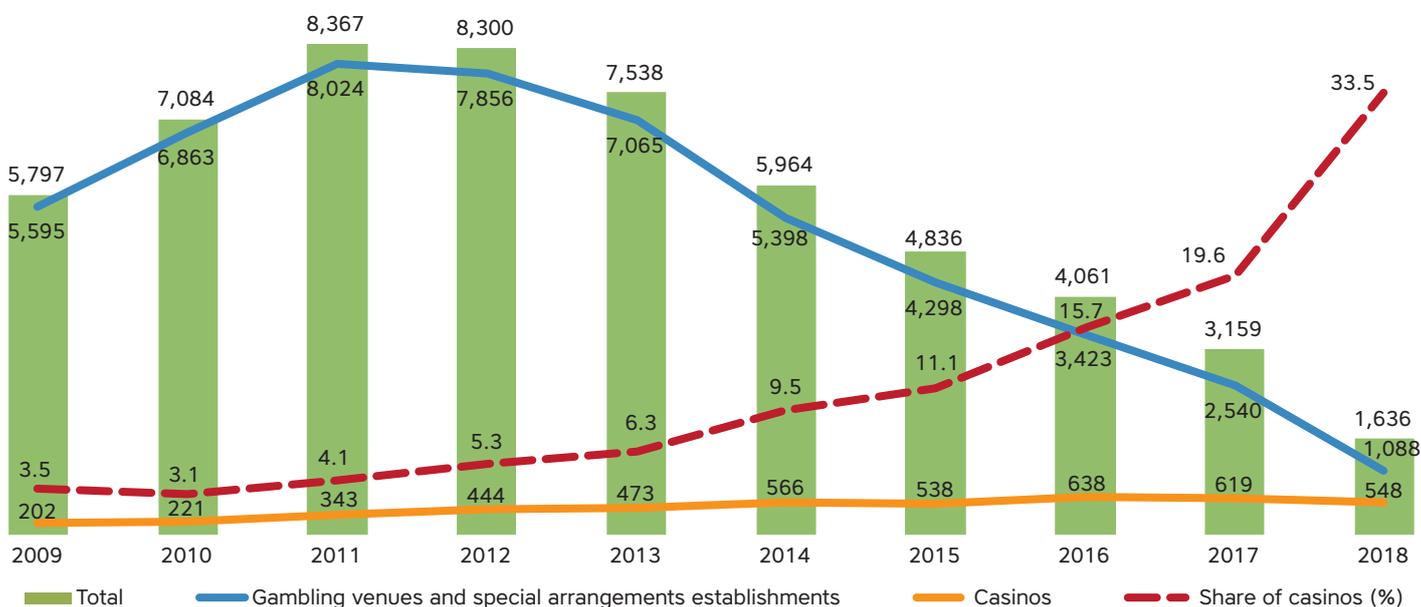
these licences will have expired by the end of 2019. In 2018 3.7 EGMs per 1,000 inhabitants had been authorised, which was 1.4 less in comparison with 2017. The largest relative numbers of EGMs were recorded in the Karlovy Vary and Pilsen regions (8.5 and 7.2 EGMs per 1,000 inhabitants, respectively), while the smallest relative numbers of EGMs were reported by the Vysočina and Moravia-Silesia regions (1.5 and 2.3 respectively). Out of the ten districts with the greatest relative numbers of EGMs, nine are found in districts situated on the borders with Germany (7) and Austria (2). As for Europe, the largest numbers of EGMs in relation to the population were found in Monaco, which is famous for its casinos (32.4 EGMs per 1,000 inhabitants), followed by Italy (7.5) and the Czech Republic (5.0). However, these figures reflect the situation in 2017, and in 2018 the number of EGMs in the Czech Republic declined dramatically.

According to the data available from the Ministry of Finance, there were 4,400 authorised live games as of 31 December 2018, which was 1,400 more than in the previous year. Unlike

the number of authorised EGMs, the number of licensed live games has been rising in recent years, with a 48% increase in comparison with the previous year. This rise is due to the efforts on the part of the operators of EGMs to have their establishments authorised as casinos rather than gambling venues because of the conditions of both the statutory regulation (concerning opening hours, limits on bets, etc.) and municipal regulation of EGMs. In casinos, at least three live game tables must be available to players.

As of 31 December 2018, altogether there were 1,636 establishments with licensed live games or EGMs, including 548 casinos. The decline observed in the previous years continued in 2018 – since 2011, when it reached its peak (8,367), the number of gambling outlets dropped by 80%. Despite a year-on-year decline in the number of casinos, their share in the total number of gambling establishments increased significantly, to 34%; in 2018 there were 548 of them (Graph 2). The availability of establishments offering live games or EGMs in the Czech Republic has seen

GRAPH 2
Number of gambling outlets authorised by the Ministry of Finance, 2009-2018

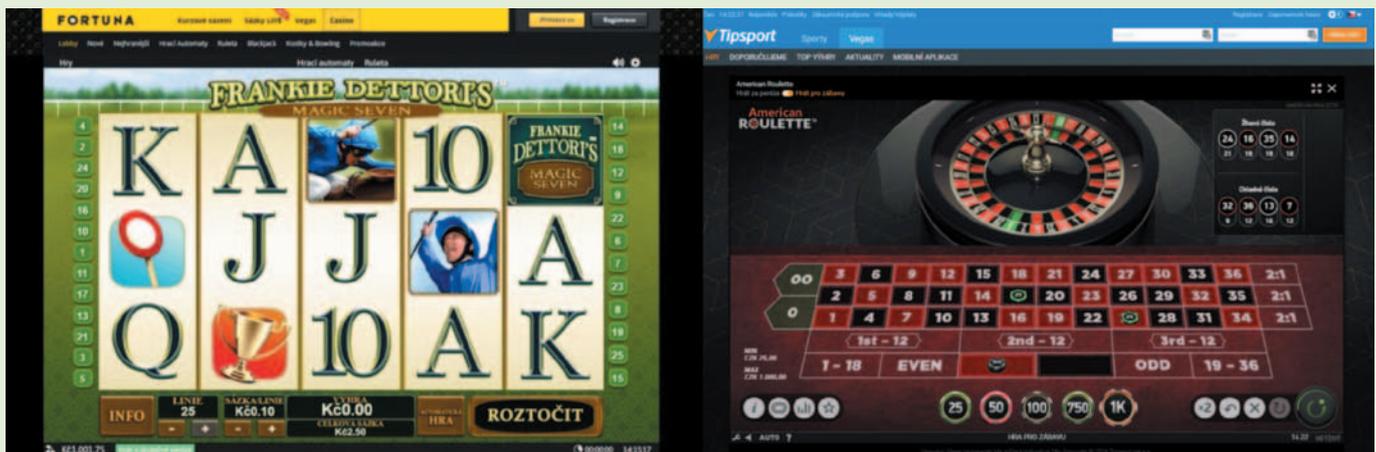


Activities with elements of gambling

Activities are emerging on the market which involve gambling elements but are not (at this point) regulated as gambling activities in the Czech Republic. Some operators of online EGMs and live games made it possible for people to participate in “practice sessions” involving EGMs or live games or play “for fun” without them logging onto a player’s account, i.e. without registration (Figure 1). While no money can be lost on this type of gambling, free access to such games means that they can be played by minors. Computer games feature virtual “loot boxes”,

which a gamer can purchase with virtual currency (“microtransactions”), which can be obtained during the game or purchased with real currency. Such boxes contain randomised rewards that make it possible, in a computer game, for a player to acquire an advantage, in exchange for money, which is not known in advance. Internationally, there is an ongoing discussion about ways of regulating loot boxes. In Belgium, for example, loot boxes on which real money can be spent were banned as being in contravention of the gambling legislation.

FIGURE 1
Examples of EGMs and live games “for fun”, without registration



Source: casino.ifortuna.cz [2019-03-18], www.tipsport.cz/vegas [2019-03-18]

a marked decrease in the long term. By far the greatest numbers of such outlets per 100,000 inhabitants were found in the Karlovy Vary region (38.2), while the lowest numbers were reported in the Vysočina region and Prague (7.5 and 9.3 respectively). Nine out of the ten districts with the greatest relative numbers of these establishments are found in districts situated on the borders with other countries.

The decline in the numbers of gambling establishments is associated with the legislative changes. According to the Gambling Act, a gambling venue must have at least 15 licensed EGM player positions and a casino with EGMs a minimum of 30 such player positions. While at the end of 2017 72% of the premises had less than 15 authorised EGM player positions, at the end of 2018 the figure had dropped

Gambling advertising

As prescribed by an amendment to Act No. 40/1995 Coll., on the regulation of advertising, since 2017 any advertising for gambling must include a message concerning the ban on people under 18 engaging in gambling and the following warning about gambling-related risks: “The Ministry of Finance warns: gambling may develop into addiction!” However, no specific form for these warnings has been prescribed. For example, an audio warning in radio advertisements may be designed in such a way as to arouse interest in gambling rather than deter it. In graphic advertisements, warnings are often rendered in very small letters and colours tend to be chosen in such a way as to make the text difficult to read. The same applies to warning texts displayed on some operators’ websites – warnings in small letters are often placed at the very bottom

of the page. It is therefore highly improbable that a player will take any notice of the warning.

Scratchcards with motifs that can be considered as being targeted at children were still available in the Czech Republic in 2018. They belonged to the issue of scratchcards authorised prior to 2017, the year in which the new legislation became effective.

In Europe, advertising gambling is forbidden in Italy, Latvia, and Lithuania, for example. As a general trend, advertising is being moved from traditional mass media to the internet. Social media are of concern in terms of advertising regulation, as the advertisements communicated within these networks are tailor-made to individual users.

down to no more than 21%. Thus, the year 2018 witnessed not only a decline in the number of EGMs, but also their being concentrated in larger establishments. As regards casinos, live games too tend to be concentrated in larger outlets. While in 2016 almost three quarters of casinos held permits for only one or two live games, in 2017 such casinos accounted for no more than 57% and in 2018 represented 1% only. These changes relate to the fact that the Gambling Act allows EGMs to be operated only in casinos with a minimum of three live game tables. The casinos with the greatest numbers of licensed EGMs are found in municipalities situated on the borders with Bavaria and Austria.

As of 4 January 2019, land-based fixed-odds betting was being operated in the Czech Republic by five companies with a total of 2,085 outlets at 1,951 unique addresses. This corresponds to almost 20 betting outlets per 100,000 inhabitants. In this respect, the highest numbers were recorded in the Moravia-Silesia (29) and Karlovy Vary (28) regions, the lowest in the Vysočina region (13). The largest numbers of betting outlets were operated by *Tipsport.net* (734) and *Fortuna Game* (567). At present, the great majority of fixed-odds betting takes place online (operated by seven companies). ✕



foto: pixabay.com

Economic Indicators

> The money lost by players on gambling amounted to a total of CZK 31.3 billion in 2018. CZK 249.5 billion was wagered on gambling and over CZK 218.2 billion was paid out as prize money. The amount of money lost by players (operators' income from gambling) recorded a year-on-year decline by CZK 8.5 billion (21%), which is 10% more than five years ago. The 2018 data concerning the money put into gambling and paid out as prize money is not fully comparable with that from previous years because of changes in methodology (Graph 3).

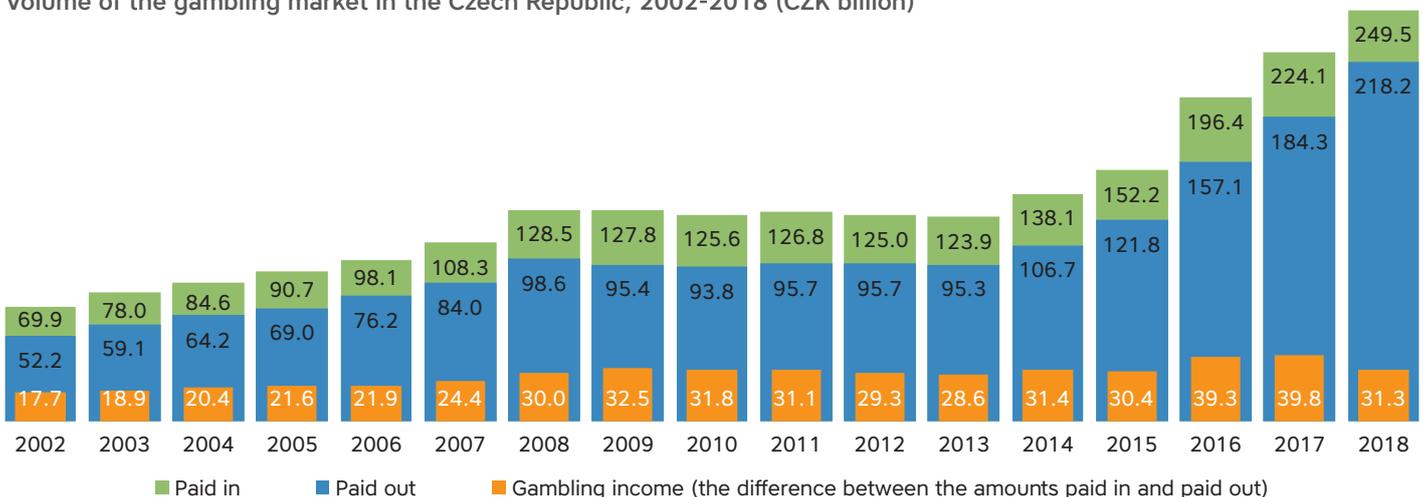
As in previous years, land-based EGMs accounted for the greatest proportion of gambling income (money lost by players). Representing 41% of the market, they generated CZK 12.9 billion. Income from fixed-odds betting amounted

to CZK 6.4 billion (20% of the market, a 5% year-on-year increase) and from land-based lotteries CZK 6.0 billion (19%, a 5% year-on-year increase). Out of the total amount of money gambled away, 71% (78% in 2017) was lost in land-based settings and 29% (22% in 2017) online. Thus, the percentage of money lost on online gambling appears to have been growing in recent years (Graph 4, Graph 5, and Graph 6).

While in 2016 operators' income from gambling recorded a year-on-year increase as regards all types of gambling activities and the entire market grew by 29%, in 2017 the income rose by 1%, and in 2018 it dropped by 21%. In general, the decline can be attributed to the decrease in the income generated by land-based EGMs, which went down by

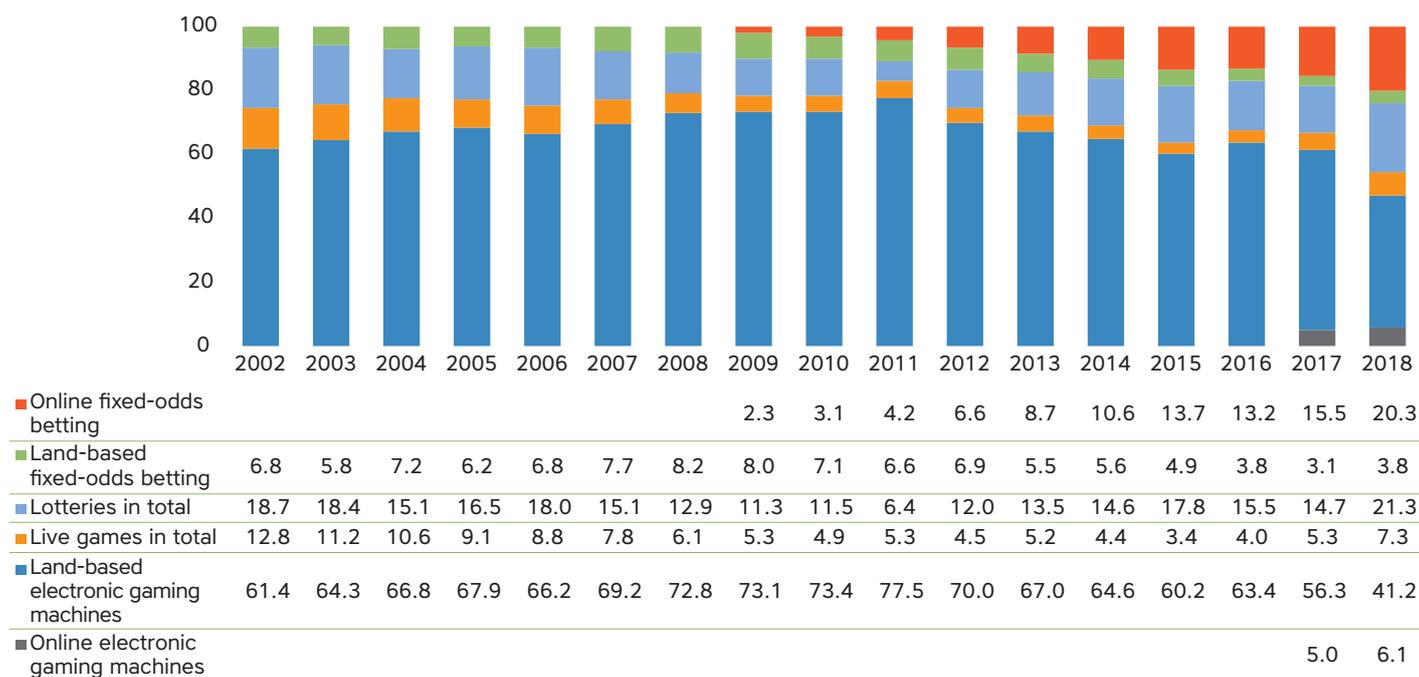
GRAPH 3

Volume of the gambling market in the Czech Republic, 2002-2018 (CZK billion)



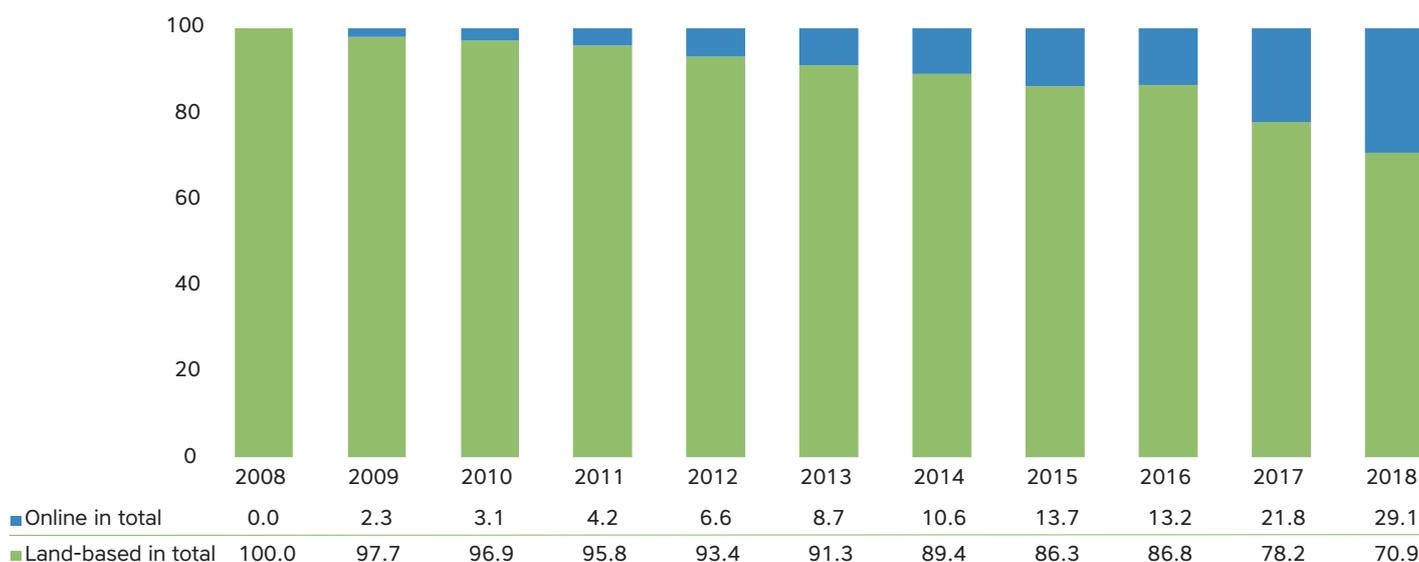
GRAPH 4

Development of market shares of different gambling activities according to gambling income, 2002-2018 (%)



GRAPH 5

Development of market shares of land-based and online gambling according to operators' income, 2008-2018 (%)



CZK 9.5 billion (42%). Less money was also gambled away on online EGMs (by 5%) and land-based fixed-odds betting (by 4%).

Within the last five years, the greatest rise was observed in the income generated by online fixed-odds betting (by 156%), lotteries (by 73%), and live games (by 54%). The proceeds of online gambling grew by 266% within the last five years, while the income from land-based gambling slumped by 15%.

The development of market shares of different gambling activities according to operators' income (money lost on gambling) indicates a long-term increase in the share of online fixed-odds betting. The share of live games rose from 3% to 7% in the last three years. The last year also

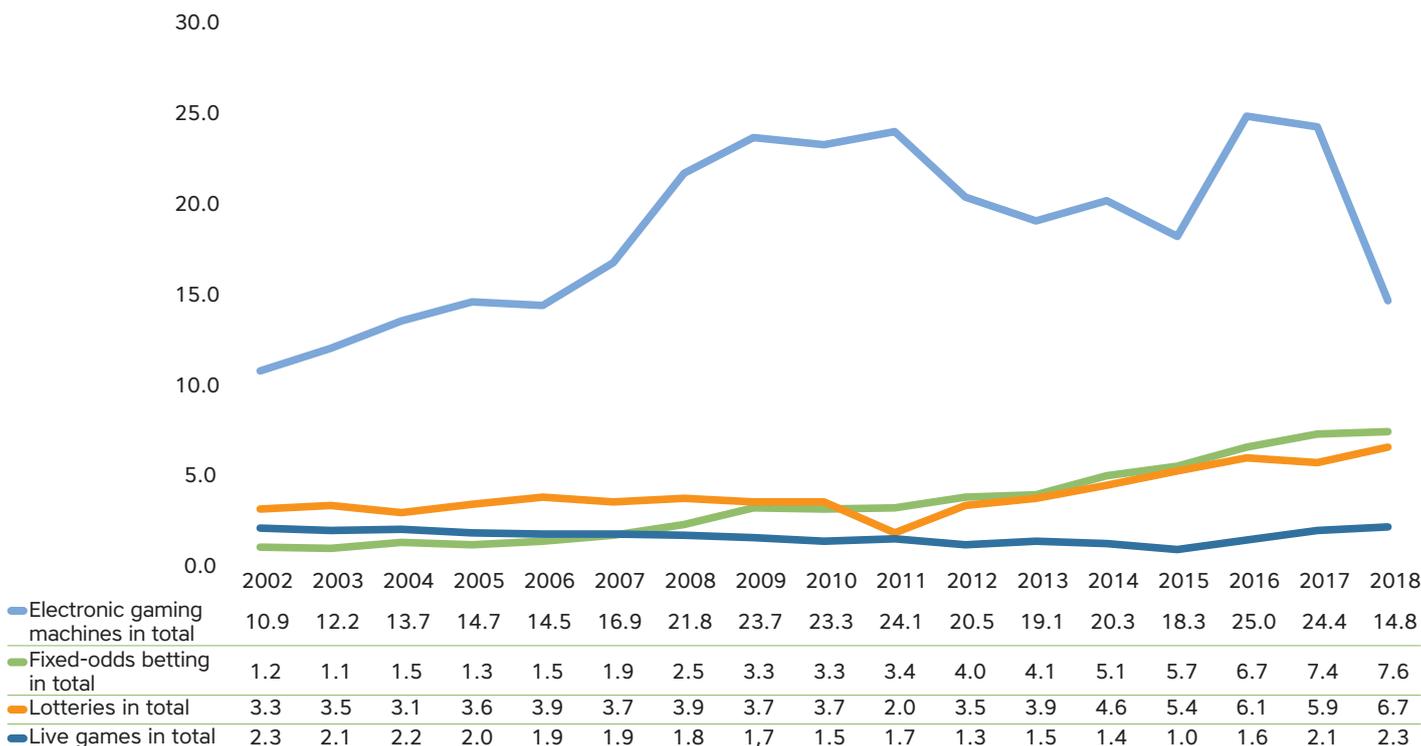
witnessed a major rise in the proportion of lotteries, to 21%, which is the highest level since 2002 (the beginning of the period under scrutiny). While in the last 15 years, both land-based and online EGMs have always accounted for over 60%, their share dropped to 47% in 2018 (Graph 4).

The development of the gambling market in the last 17 years according to different gambling activities in terms of the absolute figures of operators' incomes is shown in Graph 6. A long-term increase in operators' income from fixed-odds betting and lotteries and the current dramatic decline in EMGs are particularly apparent.

From 2013 to 2015 the total amount of contributions from income generated by the operation of gambling (gambling tax,

GRAPH 6

Development of gambling income from major types of gambling activities, 2002-2018 (CZK billion)



in fact) reached approximately eight billion Czech crowns. By 2017 it had grown to CZK 12.1 billion, while in 2018 the volume of contributions dropped again, to CZK 9.7 billion, which was 20% less than in 2017. The amount of contributions in 2018 was thus smaller than in 2016 (Graph 7). This decline was due to the reduction of the EGM market as a result of stricter regulation.

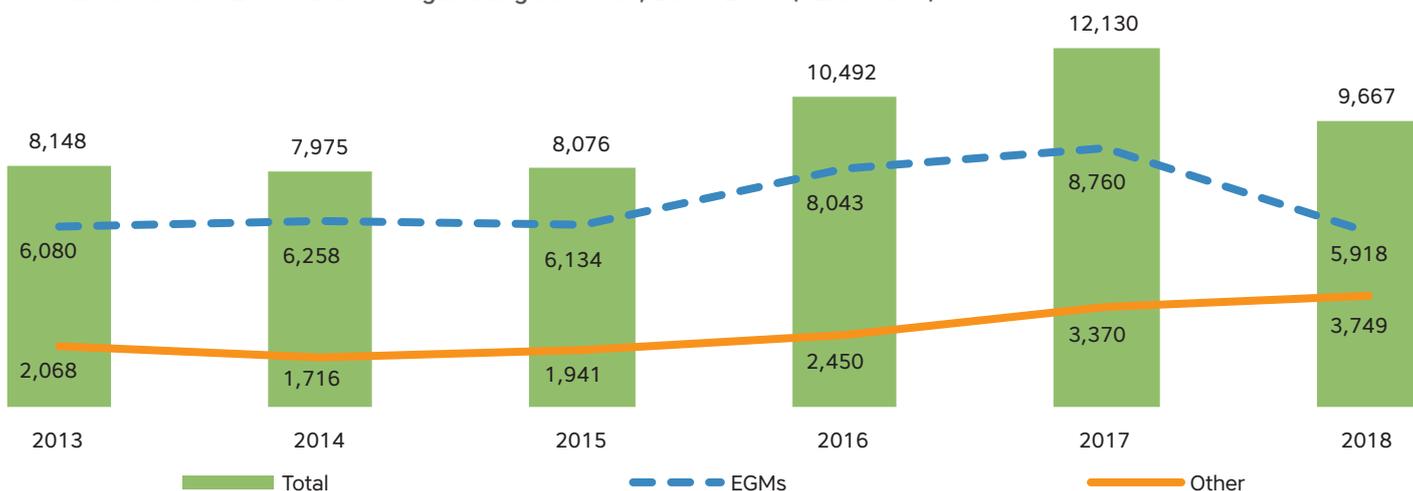
Contributions from EGMs reached CZK 5.9 billion and those from other types of gambling CZK 3.7 billion in 2018 (Graph 7). After a two-year growth, the budgetary income generated from the taxation of EGMs recorded a year-on-year decrease by one third (by CZK 2.8 billion) in 2018. On the contrary, the budgetary income generated from the taxation of other gambling activities continued to rise in the last four years: from 2015 to 2018 these revenues rose by 93% (by CZK 0.4

billion), with the year 2018 witnessing an 11% increase. In 2018 public budgets received CZK 911.00 per capita from the tax collected on gambling, while in 2017 it was CZK 1,146. These revenues are divided into the national and municipal budgets, with the state receiving 35% of the contributions from EGMs and 70% of the contributions from gambling other than that involving EGMs. The share of the gambling taxation-related money going to the national budget is growing in the long term – while from 2013 to 2015 it accounted for about one third of the tax collected on gambling, in 2018 it grew to almost half (49%).

The average gambling-related per capita income credited to municipal budgets was CZK 469.00. The greatest average income per inhabitant was recorded in municipalities situated in the Karlovy Vary (CZK 832.00) and Pilsen (CZK 673.00) regions, the lowest (CZK 248.00) in the Vysočina region.

GRAPH 7

Contributions from EGMs and other gambling activities, 2013-2018 (CZK million)



In terms of districts, as in previous years, the highest income from gambling-related contributions relative to the number of inhabitants went to the budgets of municipalities situated in the Znojmo (CZK 1,277.00), Domažlice (CZK 1,196.00), Český Krumlov, Cheb, and Tachov districts (all of which border Austria or Bavaria). Their respective average income in 2018 exceeded CZK 1,000.00 per inhabitant. ✕

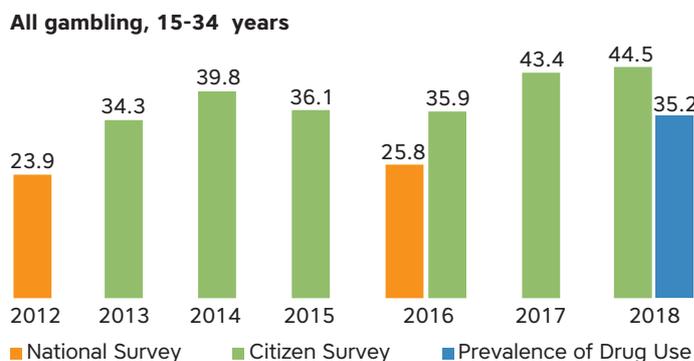
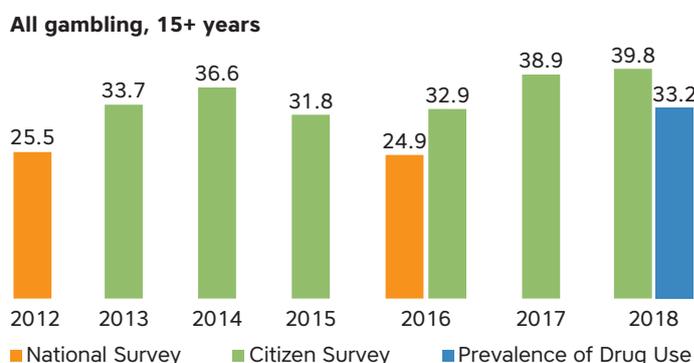
Historical summary of taxation of gambling income in the Czech Republic

- > Until 1 January 2012 gambling operators paid “contributions for public interest purposes” amounting to 6-20% of their income from gambling; gambling-related revenues were not subject to any income tax or other such government-imposed payments.
- > Since 1 January 2012 gambling operators have been subject to corporate income tax. A mandatory contribution amounting to 20% of their gambling income (i.e. the difference between the money paid in and paid out as prize money) was introduced. In addition, a daily charge of CZK 55.00 was levied on each licensed electronic gaming machine. The obligation to contribute money for public interest purposes was extinguished. On the basis of an amendment to the Lotteries Act, starting on 1 January 2014, operators of lotteries and fixed-odds betting (not any other games) were allowed to reduce the prescribed partial contribution from lotteries and fixed-odds betting from 20% to 15% by an amount provided as a monetary donation to the Czech Olympic Committee for sports purposes.
- > From 1 January 2016, on the basis of a government amendment to the Lotteries Act, there were two tax rates: while EGMs were subject to a tax rate of 28% of the gambling income and a daily charge of CZK 80.00 per machine, the remaining gambling activities were taxed at a rate of 23% of the gambling income.
- > On 1 January 2017, Act No. 187/2016 Coll., on the taxation of gambling, introduced two tax rates: 35% for EGMs and 23% for the remaining gambling activities. This piece of legislation also removed the opportunity to claim tax deductions on the basis of a donation made to the Czech Olympic Committee.
- > In May 2019 the government approved a motion for a change in tax rates to the effect that three rates of taxation should be levied: a 25% rate for fixed-odds betting, raffles, small-scale tournaments, and totalisator games (originally 23%), 30% for lotteries, bingo, and live games (originally 23%), and 35% for EGMs (no change). The proposal will be heard by the Parliament.

Gambling in the Population

> The level of experience with gambling among the adult population is currently on the rise, especially as a result of an increase in the level of experience with participation in numerical and instant lotteries. This rise applies to both genders, as well as to the group of young adults in the 15-34 age category (Graph 8). Engagement in gambling activities in the last 12 months was reported in 2018 by approximately 33-40% of the adults included in the relevant surveys, with participation in land-based lotteries being mentioned with the highest frequency (27-36% of the adults) (Graph 9). Apart from lotteries, the most common gambling activities pursued in the last 12 months include land-based fixed-odds betting (8-11%), online fixed-odds betting (5-7%), and online live betting (5-6%), followed by playing on land-

GRAPH 8
Prevalence of gambling in the last 12 months among the adult population aged 15+ and the population of young adults aged 15-34 – comparison of surveys carried out from 2012 to 2018 (%)



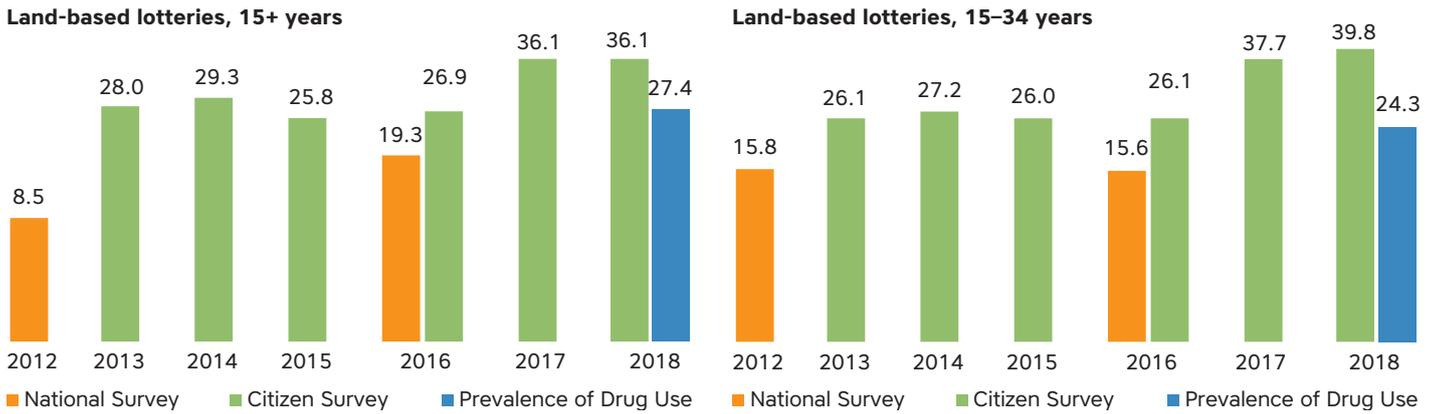
Note: The 2012 National Survey covered the 15-64 age group.

Gambling among prisoners

Data about gambling among the prison population is regularly collected as part of a questionnaire survey of drug use among offenders serving a prison sentence. The fifth wave of this survey took place in 2018. Participation in gambling activities other than lotteries in the last 12 months before the beginning of the prison sentence was reported by 32% of the inmates, with slot machine-type EGMs and land-based live games being the most common types of gambling indicated by the study sample (27% and 13% respectively).

GRAPH 9

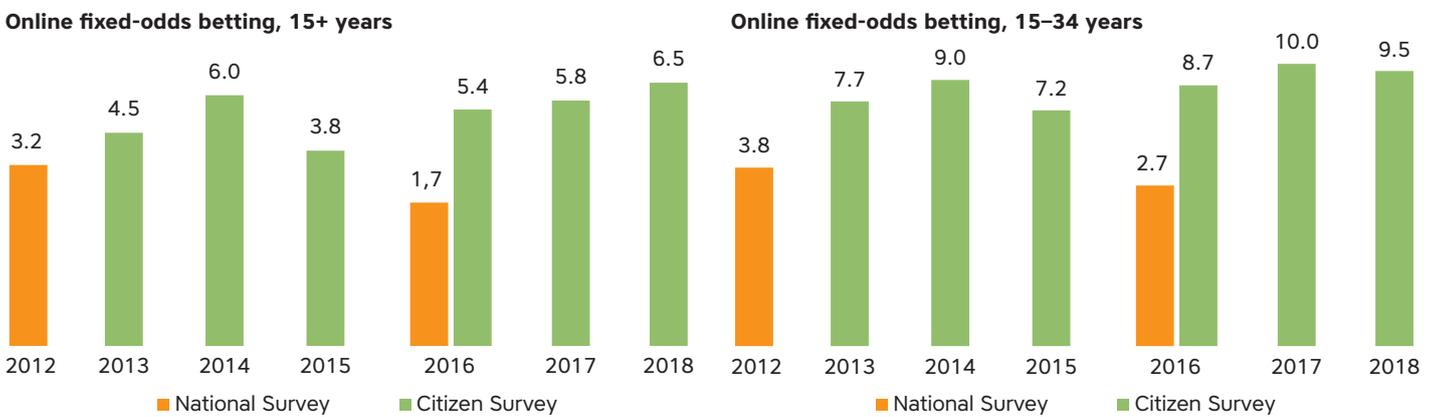
Prevalence of participation in land-based lotteries in the last 12 months among the adult population aged 15+ and the population of young adults aged 15-34 – comparison of surveys carried out from 2012 to 2018 (%)



Note: The 2012 National Survey covered the 15-64 age group.

GRAPH 10

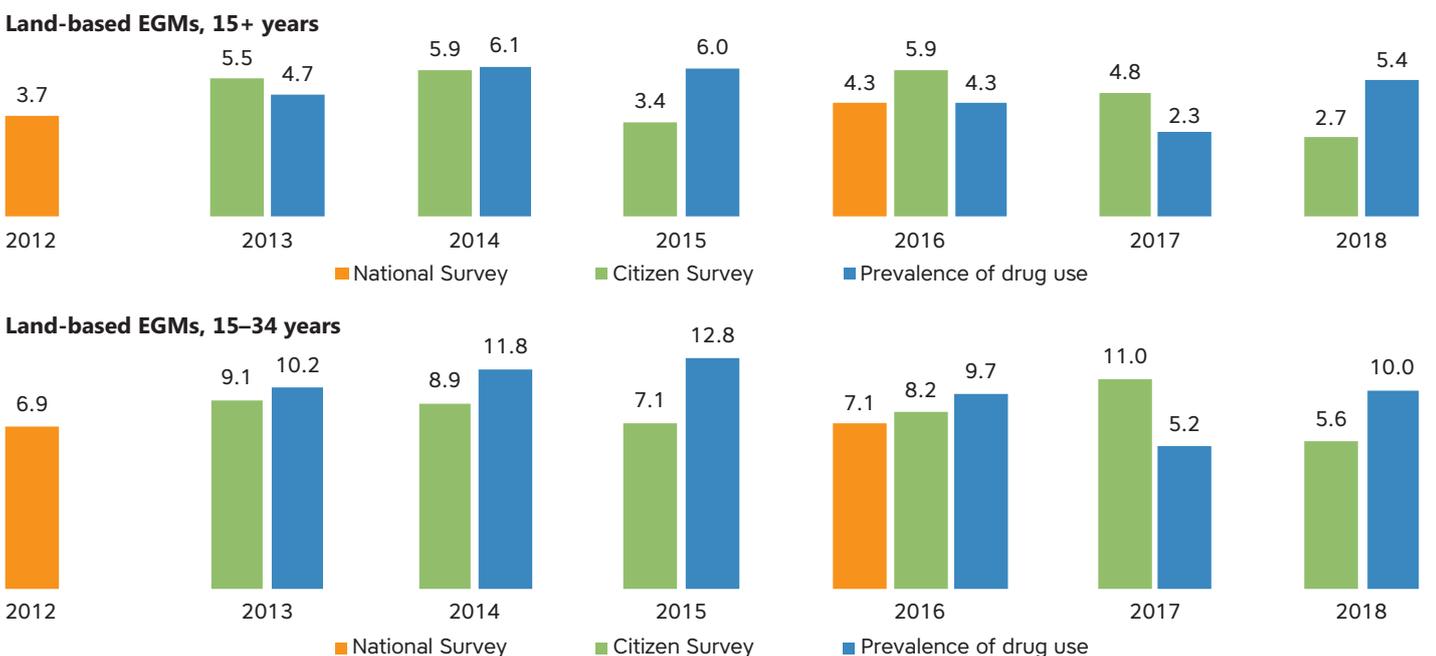
Prevalence of participation in online fixed-odds betting in the last 12 months among the adult population aged 15+ and the population of young adults aged 15-34 – comparison of surveys carried out from 2012 to 2018 (%)



Note: The 2012 National Survey covered the 15-64 age group.

GRAPH 11

Prevalence of playing on land-based EGMs in the last 12 months among the adult population aged 15+ and the population of young adults aged 15-34 – comparison of surveys carried out from 2012 to 2018 (%)



Note: The 2012 National Survey covered the 15-64 age group.



Surveys commissioned by the National Focal Point

Since 2012 the National Focal Point has conducted a total of 15 studies (in three series) looking into the level of experience with gambling among the general population.

Citizen Survey

Every year since 2013 an omnibus survey on Czech citizens' opinions about, and attitudes to, the issues of health care and health, carried out by INRES-SONES, has included the Lie/bet screening scale used to estimate problem gambling.

Prevalence of Drug Use

Every year since 2012, *Prevalence of Drug Use among the Population of the Czech Republic*, an omnibus survey carried out by *ppm factum research*, has included a module of questions concerning gambling.

National Survey

The National Survey on Substance Use is a general population survey carried out on a randomised representative sample of the adult population of the Czech Republic at four-year intervals. The latest wave of this survey took place in 2016.

Gambling among children and young people

In 2018 the Faculty of Arts of Palacky University in Olomouc conducted a study on the prevalence of computer gaming and gambling among middle and secondary school students aged 11-19. A total of 3,950 questionnaires were collected.

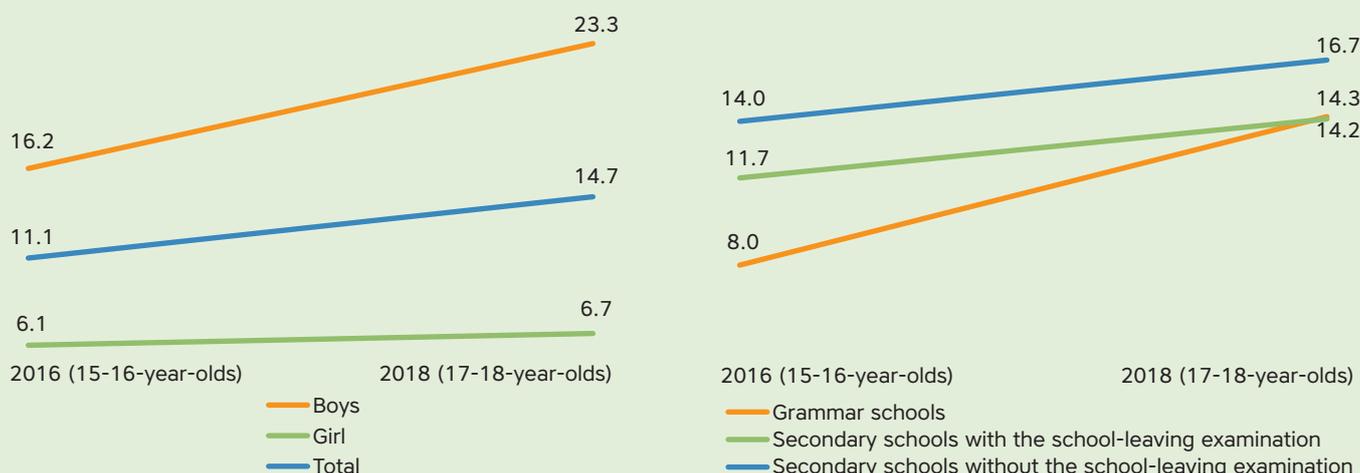
- > In a sample comprising students aged 11-15, gambling in the last 12 months was reported by a total of 18.4% of the respondents (with 10.9% engaging in gambling other than lotteries). The most commonly reported gambling activities included land-based lotteries and scratchcards (12.9%), online cards and dice (6.1%), and web-based lotteries (5.3%). Boys (20.7% and 14.5% with lotteries excluded) and students at middle schools (21.0% and 12.8% with lotteries excluded) were more likely to have engaged in gambling than girls (16.4 % and 8.0 % with lotteries excluded) and students at junior secondary (grammar) schools (14.9% and 8.5% with lotteries excluded) respectively.
- > In a sample of secondary school students with no further differentiation (age 15-19), gambling in the last 12 months was reported by a total of 23.4% of the respondents, with 18.0% having participated in some gambling activities other than lotteries. As with students aged 11-15, in this case, too, the most frequently reported gambling activities were land-based lotteries and scratchcards (9.9%) and online cards and dice (8.2%), followed by

online fixed-odds betting (6.8%). The boys reported a higher level of experience with gambling in comparison to the girls (30.3% and 17.2% for gambling other than lotteries vs. 26.9% and 10.0% for gambling other than lotteries). While students at secondary schools without the school-leaving examination ("*maturita*") reported higher levels of gambling, particularly that pursued online, students at secondary schools with the school-leaving examination were more likely to engage in playing on land-based slot machines.

Another survey carried out in 2018 focused on third-year secondary school students from the same schools and classes that participated in the data collection for the 2016 *ESPAD* validation study. Gambling in the last 12 months was reported by a total of 20.8% of the respondents, with the figure going down to 14.7% after lotteries had been excluded. The most common gambling activities reported by this group of 17-18-year-olds were land-based lotteries and scratchcards (10.2%) and online fixed-odds betting (7.5%), followed by cards and dice played online (6.6%) and online lotteries (6.5%). The comparison of the results with the *ESPAD* validation study revealed that the prevalence of gambling (other than lotteries) in the last 12 months grew from 11.1% among the 15-16-year-olds in 2016 to 14.7% among the 17-18-year-olds in 2018. A more significant increase was observed among boys (Graph 12).

GRAPH 12

Prevalence of gambling (other than lotteries) in the last 12 months among the population of secondary school students (born in 2000), 2016 and 2018 – *ESPAD* validation study (%)



-based electronic gaming machines (2-5%). The degree of men's participation in gambling activities other than lotteries is a multiple of that reported by women. A significantly higher prevalence rate has been observed among young adults.

The highest levels of participation in gambling activities other than lotteries in the last 12 months were observed from 2014 to 2015. By 2018 it declined, to 12-15%, and among young adults to 17-22%. Participation in online fixed-odds betting appears to be growing, both among the general population and among young adults aged 15-34. ✕



Problem Gambling

> The levels of problem gambling have been estimated as part of population surveys since 2012. The comparison of such estimates, arrived at by means of various screening scales, suggests inconsistent trends.

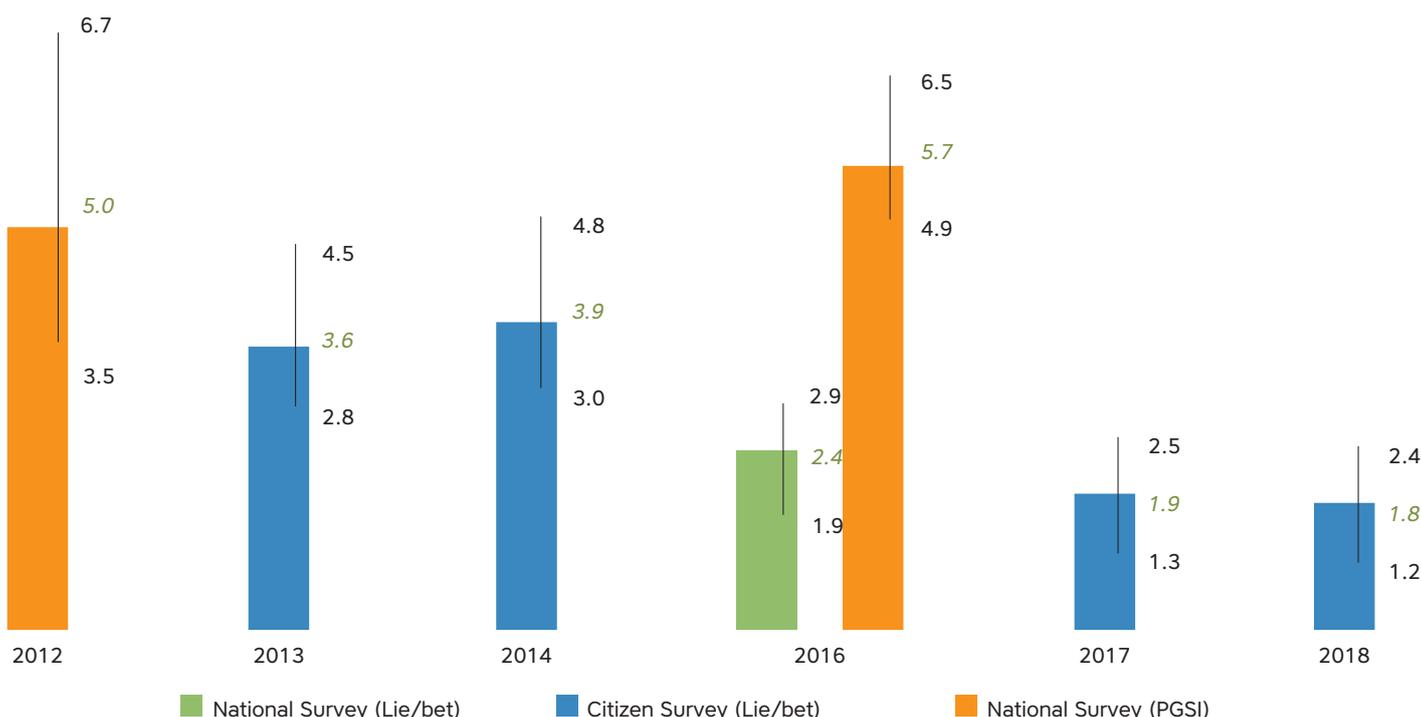
According to the PGSI scale, used in 2012 and 2016, the level of problem gambling among the general population grew, with the increase also applying to the number of individuals falling within the high-risk category. In 2012 and 2016 respectively, 3.2% and 5.7% of the adult population were found to be at risk of problem gambling as a result of their engaging in gambling activities other than lotteries, which corresponded to 290,000 and 510,000 people, respectively.

Estimates generated using the Lie/bet scale suggest a decline in the level of problem gambling in the population. While in 2013 and 2014 respectively, 3.6% and 3.9% of the adult population (excluding individuals participating in lotteries only) were found to be at risk of problem gambling, in 2016 the estimated numbers of problem gamblers dropped to 2.4% and continued to decline to 1.9% and 1.8% in 2017 and 2018 respectively.

When extrapolated to the population of the Czech Republic aged 15 and above, the results obtained from 2016 to 2018 using the Lie/bet scale corresponded *pro rata* to some 160-210 thousand individuals at risk of problem gambling, while the problem gambling estimates from the 2013-2014 period corresponded to some 320-350 thousand people. In 2013 and 2014 an estimated 115-130 thousand individuals were found to be at high risk of problem gambling. According to the data from 2017 and 2018, this estimate is 60-65 thousand people.

GRAPH 13

Lie/bet and PGSI – comparison of results for the general population, 2012-2018 (%)



Note: The estimates cover individuals who reported having engaged in gambling activities other than lotteries in the last 12 months. A vertical line indicates 95% confidence interval to estimate problem gambling.



The number of pathological gamblers estimated on the basis of a 2018 survey among physicians reached a mean value of 1.0-1.2% of the adult population, i.e. 89-105 thousand people, of whom 11-13 thousand were under 18. A slight increase was recorded, even among minors, in comparison to 2016.

The results of school surveys show that 3-8% of secondary school students, especially boys and those attending apprentice training centres, are at risk of problem gambling.

The risk appears to rise with age, as the intensity of gambling grows with age. A slight increase in the proportion of school-children found to be at risk of problem gambling has been observed in recent years.

The 2018 *Citizen Survey* found that those individuals who had played EGMs of the slot type in the last 12 months were at the greatest risk of developing problem gambling (31%), followed by those who had engaged in live casino games

GRAPH 14

Results of the Lie/bet screening scale for last-12-month gambling according to different gambling activities (combination of land-based and online gambling) – Citizen Survey 2018 (%)



Note: The green figures in italics stand for the means of the total proportions of all the people at some degree of risk (one or more points on the PGSI scale). The vertical lines indicate 95% confidence intervals for problem gambling estimates.

and fixed-odds betting in the last 12 months (23% and 15%, respectively), while people participating in lotteries were at the lowest risk (4%).

According to the latest wave of a survey among pathological gamblers in treatment which took place in 2017, women accounted for approximately 15% of the study population. The average age of the pathological gamblers in treatment was 35.5. The majority of them reported that the primary gambling activity leading to their developing pathological gambling was playing on EGMs (64%), followed by fixed-odds betting (18%) and live games (16%). A total of 18% of the gamblers in treatment in 2017 indicated online gambling as their primary problem gambling activity. Since 2013 there

has been a major decrease in the proportion of EGMs and an increase in the proportion of live games and online fixed-odds betting in this respect.

Addiction treatment services, too, report a recent increase in the number of clients experiencing problems with online gambling, especially with fixed-odds betting, and a decline in the number of those playing on land-based electronic gaming machines. Active athletes and sports enthusiasts represent a significant proportion of their clients. There has also been a rise in the number of problem gamblers affiliated with youth sports clubs, and cases of problem gambling associated with instant lotteries (such as the purchase of scratchcards worth some CZK 200,000) were reported. ✕

Crime

> Criminal offences, misdemeanours, and administrative offences involving the operation of gambling or engaging in it are referred to as primary gambling-related crime. Since the beginning of 2017 the regulatory authority for land-based gambling has been the Customs Administration, which is gradually taking over the regulatory powers from the Ministry of Finance in order also to oversee gambling pursued online.

In its capacity as a gambling regulatory body, in 2018 the Customs Administration conducted a total of 1,462 audits (in 2017 there were 1,750) and identified 876 violations of the Gambling Act (there were 488 in 2017). 1,800 illegally operated EGMs (in 2017 the figure was less than 1,000 EGMs), including over 1,500 quiz machines, were seized. Illegal EGMs were discovered in 423 gambling establishments, with the

FIGURE 2
Example of an offer of free transportation and refreshment

**ZDARMA ODVOZ Z CASINA
GAME BUSEM NEBO TAXI**

JAK TO U NÁS VYPADÁ?

Casino SAN MARCO KOLIBA v Ostravě – Porubě

Otevřeno pro Vás máme non-stop. Odvoz zdarma z casina zajištěn. Navštivte naši hernu, kde se o Vás postaráme a můžete se soustředit na Vaši hru. Oslovíte prosítoček, nejnovější terminály to je San Marco Koliba v Ostravě – Porubě.

- Automatiz. hry: všechny druhy, Kaja, Multihořka, Předaktor, šachy, hračky, grad club casino, red & blue games, Apollo
- Cashback (bankomat na provozovně)
- Skalované postupové středně kamenným systémem
- Prostory pro literatury
- Kapacita 60 osob
- 30 VLT, šachy, grad club casino
- 2x WC

Co najdete v okolí casina Koliba?

Casino San Marco Koliba v Ostravě nabízí v okolí mnoho jiných atrakcí:

- kárpatská 1187y – jen 900 metrů pěšky
- baseball hřiště Arrows – jen 500 metrů pěšky
- ulice Průběžná – jen 500 metrů pěšky
- supermarket Albert – jen 800 metrů pěšky
- nákupní středisko OLMA – jen 1 km pěšky

Najdete nás na této adrese
17. listopadu 1009 Ostrava – Hrabetov
tel.: +420 702 990 989
email: kasinoporuba@gmail.com
Casino SAN MARCO KOLIBA v zapekch. 00000

OBČERSTVENÍ ZDARMA

KLIDNÉ PROSTŘEDÍ

PÁJEMNÁ OBSLUHA

100% DISKRÉTNOST

Source: www.kasinoporuba.cz [2019-03-18]

greatest numbers of them being situated in the Zlín region (52) and Prague (47).

The Ministry of Finance maintains a list of blocked websites featuring an unauthorised offer of gambling. As of 15 January 2019, the list contained a total of 120 sites, of which 111 addresses involved variants on two gambling websites. In 2018 the Ministry of Finance conducted administrative proceedings concerning the blocking of websites offering gambling activities with 14 companies.

The Gambling Act introduced a ban on providing players with benefits such as food, drinks, tobacco products, or stimulating substances. Nevertheless, some gambling venues and casinos continue to offer inexpensive or free refreshment (Figure 2).

In 2018 social networks were platforms for the operation of “dipping”, i.e. unauthorised online raffles for, e.g., jewellery, children’s clothes, or cosmetics. In June 2018 the Ministry of Finance ordered one of the organisers of dipping to pay a fine of CZK 90,000. However, dipping is believed to have moved from open Facebook groups to closed ones and to be continuing there.

In 2018 the police registered 26 criminal offences which, by definition, involved the operation of gambling. Public prosecutors and courts, respectively, registered 34 and 33 such offences.

Some data about secondary gambling-related crime, i.e. that committed by gamblers, is available from the *Pathological Gamblers in Treatment* survey conducted in 2017. Its results show that theft had been committed at some point in their lives by 43% of the gamblers participating in the survey, fraud by 29%, embezzlement by 27%, drug manufacturing and/or dealing by 24%, and robbery by 8% of the respondents. Theft, fraud, and embezzlement were also the most common criminal offences among gamblers kept on file by the Probation and Mediation Service in 2018.

The results of a survey among offenders serving a prison sentence carried out in 2018 showed that, at some point in their lives, almost 15% of the inmates (15% of the men and 18% of the women) had committed a theft to fund their gambling or to pay off gambling-related debts. ✕

Prevention

> Gambling prevention is incorporated in the system of the school-based prevention of risky behaviour. It is specifically addressed by Appendix 21 to the Methodological Recommendations on the Primary Prevention of Risk Behaviour among Children and Students at Schools and Education Facilities. The quality of the programmes aimed at preventing risky behaviour is ensured by means of certifications granted by the National Institute for Education. In May 2019 this certification of professional competency for primary prevention was held by a total of 62 organisations (there were 58 of them in January 2018) providing 94 programmes (90 in 2018),



of which 78 (75 in 2018) delivered addiction prevention. As the prevention of gambling comes under this broad category, it is impossible to identify programmes focusing exclusively on gambling.

An electronic register of school-based prevention activities has been in operation since 2016. In the 2017/2018 academic year, 43% of all schools in the Czech Republic reported relevant data to the system. An average of 12.7 lessons at primary and middle schools and 6.4 lessons at secondary schools (all grades in the aggregate) were dedicated to the prevention of non-substance addictions, including gambling, in that academic year. In the 2017/2018 academic year, as part of the curriculum, the greatest amount of time was dedicated to the prevention of the risky behaviour under consideration in the eighth and ninth grades, two lessons in each.

Starting from 2017, the Gambling Act introduced the obligation to offer self-commitment options and provide players with numerous pieces of information. The level of players’ experience with such an offer of information and opportunities for self-commitment has grown recently. The results from 2018 indicate that an offer of self-commitment options was encountered by 7.7% of the players (5.7% in 2017). Individuals engaging in online gambling other than lotteries were exposed to self-commitment options to the greatest degree – 32.8% (14.4% in 2017). The proportion of gamblers who report materials obtained in gambling establishments and websites featuring online gambling as their sources of information is growing. Finally, projects are being launched to enhance the competencies of the staff of land-based gambling outlets in identifying problem gamblers.

Laxus, a not-for-profit organisation, conducted a qualitative field survey in establishments with EGMs in the Hradec Králové and Pardubice regions. The majority of the staff of gambling premises with EGMs, with women accounting for 90% of them, indicated that they were interested in increasing the level of their knowledge about problem gambling and in information and printed materials in order to offer customers help. However, the staff responded negatively to the idea of addiction workers being present in gambling venues, expressing their concerns about the loss of customers.

Since January 2019, *Podané ruce*, an NGO, has implemented *HRaní*, a gambling-related harm reduction project. It is aimed

at developing and disseminating a new method of preventive e-outreach social work interlinked with a harm reduction app designed for gamblers in order to prevent the development of problem gambling and reduce the harm it does.

Recovery, a patient association, worked with operators of online gambling on the issue of the closing of players'

accounts. While a player's account can be opened instantly, it generally takes a registered letter with a signed application to close an account, with the gambling operator having a 14-day period to grant the application. With some operators, efforts to accelerate the closing of accounts were successful; they currently make it possible to close the account on the basis of an email containing a scan of the signed application. ✕

Treatment

> While the number of problem gamblers in contact with counselling and treatment services is growing, their uptake of treatment is still low in proportionate terms. The most common reasons for them to seek professional help are disrupted relationships with people close to them and financial problems.

In the Czech Republic, services for problem gamblers are provided by outpatient addiction treatment programmes and outpatient psychiatric clinics, as well as residential programmes.

In recent years the number of specialised programmes for problem gamblers has grown, particularly thanks to the support provided by the Government Council for Drug Policy Coordination (GCDPC). The objective of this support is to establish a general network of specialised programmes for problem gamblers in all regional capitals.

Out of 275 specialised addiction treatment facilities, a problem gambling-specific service or intervention was offered by a total of 100 programmes (36.4%). For 151 services (54.9%),



foto: pixabay.com

Online information and counselling services

Recent years have witnessed a growth in the availability of online information and counselling services for the general population, as well as gamblers and people close to them. The *National Gambling Helpline* (800 350 000) was established in 2018 as an extension of the services offered by the *National Smoking Cessation Helpline*, operated by the Czech Coalition against Tobacco with financial support from the GCDPC. The gambling helpline is operated by the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic as part of the national website intended to assist people in tackling pathological gambling (*hazardni-hrani.cz*) administered by the National Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Addiction. Telephone counselling is also provided by addiction

treatment services. In 2017 the SANANIM organisation launched the *koncimshranim.cz* website. In 2018 a screening questionnaire found on the website was completed by 708 individuals, of whom 547 (77.3%) were assessed as problem gamblers. The *neprohraživot.cz* website was visited by 2,870 new users in 2018. Its screening test was completed by 1,053 visitors.

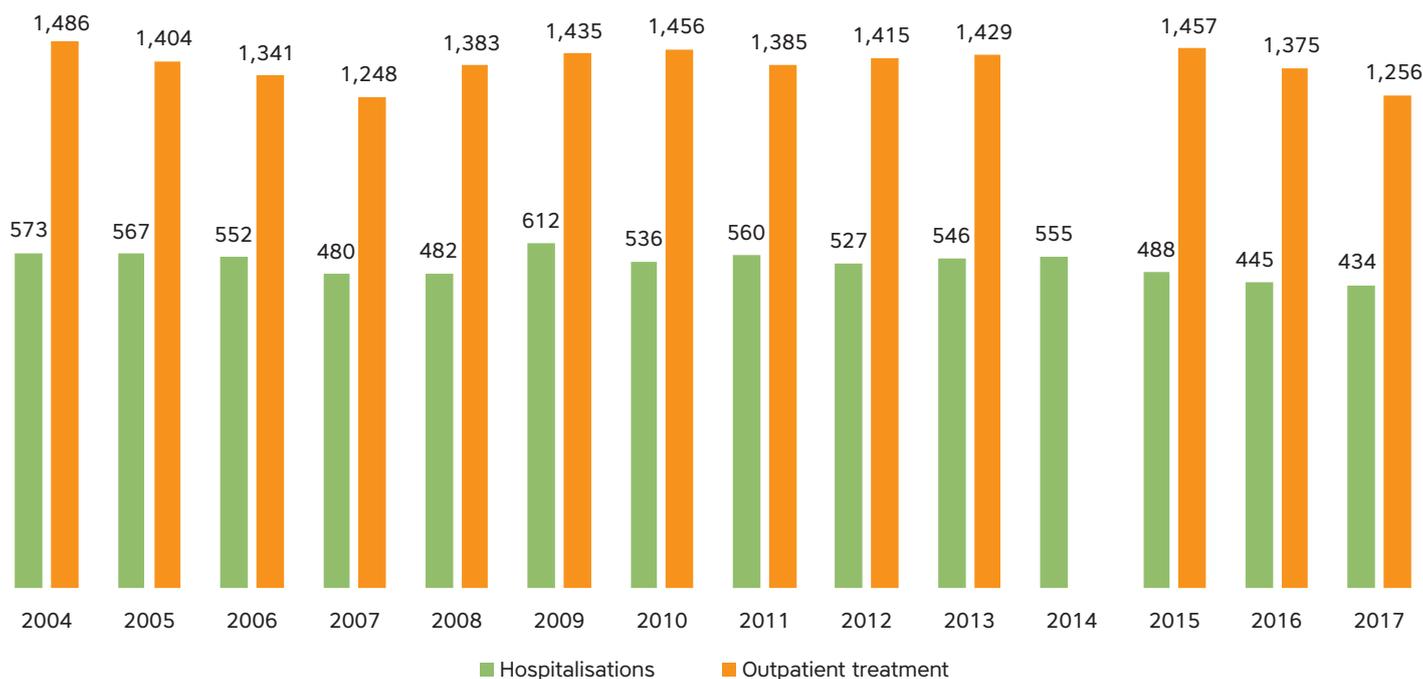
Often made possible by emerging programmes supported by the GCDPC, information campaigns aimed at raising public awareness of problem gambling and its health and social impacts are being launched at municipal levels.

TABLE 1
Information and counselling websites for gamblers

Website	Operated by	Screening	Information and links	Online treatment interventions
<i>koncimshranim.cz</i>	SANANIM	yes	yes	yes
<i>hazardni-hrani.cz</i>	Office of the Government of the Czech Republic	yes	yes	no
<i>poradna.adiktologie.cz</i>	Department of Addictology, 1st Faculty of Medicine, Charles University and General University Hospital, Prague	yes	yes	yes
<i>gambling.podaneruce.cz</i>	<i>Společnost Podané ruce</i>	yes	yes	no
<i>neprohraživot.cz</i>	<i>Life Atelier</i>	yes	yes	no
<i>standby.cppt.cz</i>	CPPT	yes	yes	no
<i>f63.cz</i>	<i>Magdaléna, Prostor Plus, Semiramis, Laxus</i>	yes	yes	no
<i>neprohraji.se</i>	<i>Prevent 99</i>	yes	yes	no

GRAPH 15

Numbers of patients receiving treatment in outpatient psychiatric clinics and hospitalised with the F63.0 diagnosis, 2004-2017



Note: Data from the annual reports of the outpatient psychiatric facilities for 2014 is not available because of technological and organisational changes in the data collection procedures as part of the National Health Information System.

problem gamblers are one of the target groups. Facilities reporting gamblers as their primary target group mainly offer outreach and outpatient services. Problem gamblers were frequent clients in 55 of these services (37.9%). 15-25 programmes can be considered as being specialised in providing services to problem gamblers (gamblers account for over 20% of the clients or are “very common” clients).

Out of the programmes supported by the GCDPC in 2018, a total of 56 projects reported providing services to at least one problem gambler, with 2,093 problem gamblers altogether being in contact with such services. A year-on-year increase in the total number of clients, contacts, and counselling and therapeutic interventions was observed. The greatest number of clients was reported by outpatient services (1,270 clients in 28 programmes operating in 37 municipalities). There were nine regional problem gambling treatment centres providing their services in the Czech Republic in 2018.

In 2017 outpatient treatment for pathological gambling (F63.0) was reported by 247 outpatient psychiatric clinics (1,256 patients). Psychiatric hospitals and psychiatric wards reported 434 inpatients (the data for 2018 is not available yet).

From 2004 to 2017 the number of hospitalisations with the F63.0 diagnosis reached an annual average of 530, while approximately 1,300-1,500 patients received treatment from outpatient psychiatric clinics, where they accounted for 0.3% of all patients.

Self-help initiatives are also emerging in the Czech Republic. A self-help group meets in the Bohnice Psychiatric Hospital in Prague and there is a Gamblers Anonymous group in Brno. *Zotavení Brno*, a self-help group including recovery coaches, people who have personal experience with addiction issues, was established in 2018. *Recovery*, a patients’ advocacy association, has existed since 2018. It assists people with addiction problems in exercising their rights at the policy level and promotes the destigmatisation of addiction-related conditions.

Specialised wings with voluntary addiction treatment programmes, intended for pathological gamblers, too, have been established in 10 out of the total of 35 prisons. The total capacity of the specialised units was 340 places (there were 363 of them in 2017). Gambling was reported as their primary problem by less than 1% of the total number of 362 inmates referred to these facilities. ✕

This issue is based on the document *Gambling in the Czech Republic in 2018 – Annual Report* [MRAVČÍK, V., ROUS, Z., CHOMYNOVÁ, P., GROHMANNOVÁ, K., JANÍKOVÁ, B., ČERNÍKOVÁ, T., TION LEŠTINOVÁ, Z. 2019. Výroční zpráva o hazardním hraní v České republice v roce 2018. MRAVČÍK, V. (Ed.). Praha: Úřad vlády České republiky.]. For detailed information and its sources specified according to citation standards see the Annual Report.



National Monitoring
Centre for Drugs
and Addiction

ANNOUNCEMENTS / LINKS OF INTEREST

Information about substance use and gambling in the Czech Republic is available at

<http://www.drogy-info.cz>.

All the publications released by the National Focal Point (National Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Addiction), including all the issues of the "Zaostřeno" bulletin, are downloadable in electronic form from

<http://www.drogy-info.cz/index.php/publikace>.

Any orders for hard copies of the publications should be sent to grygarova.marketa@vlada.cz.

Help Map

<https://www.drogy-info.cz/mapa-pomoci/>.

Changes in contact information should be sent to: grygarova.marketa@vlada.cz.

Calendar of events

<http://www.drogy-info.cz/kalendar-akci/>. Information about training events and seminars that concern addictology or are relevant to it and can be posted in the calendar should be sent to: grygarova.marketa@vlada.cz.

Když musíš, tak musíš ("When You Have To, You Just Have To")

Orders for the new edition of the project featuring six DVDs with documentaries on drugs should be sent to grygarova.marketa@vlada.cz.

For the UniData and PrevData applications for maintaining a record of the clients and interventions of drug services, including user support, visit <http://www.drogovesluzby.cz/>.

Website of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)

<http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/>.

EMCDDA Best Practice Portal

<http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/best-practice>

The EMCDDA European Drug Report

<http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/edr2019>

National smoking cessation website

<https://www.koureni-zabiji.cz/>.

National smoking cessation hotline (800 35 00 00)

National gambling-related harm reduction website

<https://www.hazardni-hrani.cz/>.

National website to support alcohol use reduction

<https://www.alkohol-skodi.cz/>.