



A GUIDE TO AUSTRALASIA'S GAMBLING INDUSTRIES

Facts, Figures and Statistics

CHAPTER FOUR

New Zealand's Gambling Expenditure

2019/20

A Guide to Australasia's Gambling Industries

Published and Prepared by the Australasian Gaming Council (AGC).



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Chapter 4

New Zealand's Gambling Expenditure

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Version Control

Version	Date	Explanation
2016-17	June 2019	2016-17 Edition updated with new statistics from NZ DIA.
2017-18	January 2020	2017-18 Edition updated with new statistics from NZ DIA.
2018-19	May 2021	2018-19 Edition updated with new statistics from NZ DIA.
2019-20	January 2023	2019-20 Edition updated with new statistics from NZ DIA.

OVERVIEW

Aggregate and per capita expenditure - summary

Table 4-1 Summary: Inflation adjusted aggregate and per capita gambling expenditure in New Zealand (2019-20)¹

		Wagering	Lotteries	Gaming Machines²	Casino	Total
Aggregate	\$NZ million	284	569	723	454	2,030
Per capita	\$NZ	72	144	184	115	516

Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics (inflation adjusted)

Table 4-2 Summary: Inflation adjusted aggregate and per capita gambling expenditure in New Zealand (2020-21)³

		Wagering	Lotteries	Gaming Machines⁴	Casino	Total
Aggregate	\$NZ million	336	606	861	487	2,289
Per capita	\$NZ	85	153	217	123	578

Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics (inflation adjusted)

Gambling expenditure in New Zealand in 2019-20 amounted to \$2.030 billion dollars on the four main forms of gambling.

Expenditure on gaming machines outside of casinos totalled nearly \$NZ 723 million and accounted for 35.6% of all gambling expenditure. Wagering accounted for 14% of gambling expenditure (\$NZ 284 million), while expenditure on lotteries (\$NZ 569 million) accounted for 28% of spending. With expenditure of \$NZ 454 million, casinos accounted for 22.4% of all gambling spending in New Zealand.

In 2019-20 average gambling expenditure in New Zealand per adult was approximately \$NZ 516 - comprising wagering (\$NZ 72 per adult), lotteries (\$NZ 144), gaming machines (\$NZ 184) and casinos (\$NZ 115).

¹ Totals may not equal the sum of individual values due to rounding.

² Excludes gaming machines at casinos.

³ Totals may not equal the sum of individual values due to rounding.

⁴ Excludes gaming machines at casinos.

EXPENDITURE ON GAMBLING

Aggregate

Table 4-3 Aggregate gambling expenditure in New Zealand (2019-20) (\$ NZ million)

Gambling Type	Expenditure \$NZ million
Casinos	504
Gaming machines (non-casino)	802
Lotteries Commission products	631
Racing and sports betting	315
All Gambling	2,252

Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics. <https://www.dia.govt.nz/gambling-statistics-expenditure> (actual dollars, non-adjusted)

Table 4-4 Aggregate gambling expenditure in New Zealand (2020-21) (\$ NZ million)

Gambling Type	Expenditure \$NZ million
Casinos	559
Gaming machines (non-casino)	987
Lotteries Commission products	694
Racing and sports betting	385
All Gambling	2,625

Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics. <https://www.dia.govt.nz/gambling-statistics-expenditure> (actual dollars, non-adjusted)

Expenditure Change

Table 4-5 Comparison of gambling spending in New Zealand (2018-19 to 2019-20)

Gambling type	\$NZ million (2018-19)	\$NZ million (2019-20)	Increase/Decrease
Casinos	616	504	-18.2%
Gaming machines (non-casino)	924	802	-13.2%
Lotteries Commission products	530	631	+19.1%
Racing and sports betting	332	315	-5.1%
Total⁵	\$2.402 billion	\$2.252 billion	-6.2%

Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics. <https://www.dia.govt.nz/gambling-statistics-expenditure> (actual dollars, non-adjusted)

Table 4-6 Comparison of gambling spending in New Zealand (2019-20 to 2020-21)

Gambling type	\$NZ million (2019-20)	\$NZ million (2020-21)	Increase/Decrease
Casinos	504	559	+10.9%
Gaming machines (non-casino)	802	987	+23.1%
Lotteries Commission products	631	694	+10%
Racing and sports betting	315	385	+22.2%
Total⁶	\$2.252 billion	\$2,625 billion	+16.6%

Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics. <https://www.dia.govt.nz/gambling-statistics-expenditure> (actual dollars, non-adjusted)

⁵ Totals may not equal the sum of individual values due to rounding.

⁶ Totals may not equal the sum of individual values due to rounding.

Per capita

Table 4-7 Per capita gambling expenditure (inflation adjusted) in New Zealand (2019-20 to 2020-21) (\$NZ)

Gambling Type	Per Capita \$NZ (2019-20)	Per Capita \$NZ (2020-21)
Casinos	115	123
Gaming machines (non-casino)	184	217
Lotteries Commission products	144	153
Racing and sports betting	72	85
Total	516	578

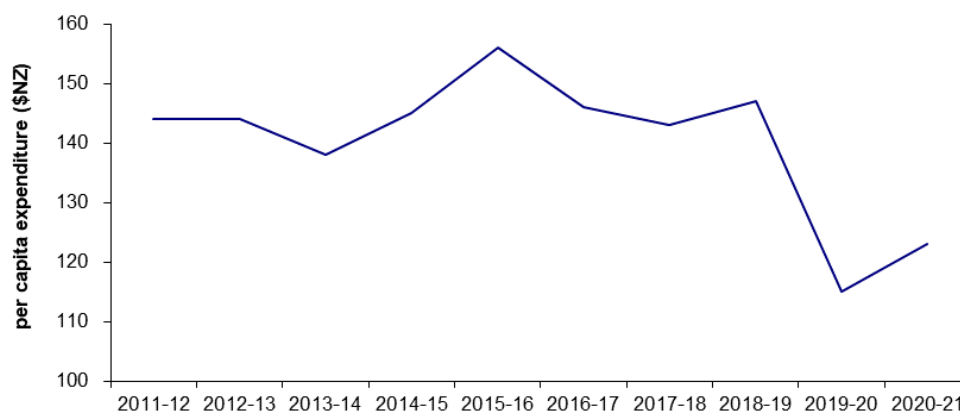
Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics (inflation adjusted)

Please note, all per capita values, as provided for by the New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs, take inflation adjusted expenditure, in \$NZD, GST inclusive and divide by the Statistics NZ medium estimate for the population 18 years and over, as at 30 June for the year.

EXPENDITURE TREND

Casinos

Figure 4-1 Per capita casino expenditure (inflation adjusted) – New Zealand (2011-12 to 2020-21) (\$NZ)



Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics (inflation adjusted)

Table 4-8 Per capita casino expenditure (inflation adjusted) in New Zealand (2011-12 to 2020-21) (\$NZ)

Year	Per Capita \$NZ
2011-12	144.00
2012-13	144.00
2013-14	138.00
2014-15	145.00
2015-16	156.00
2016-17	146.00
2017-18	143.00
2018-19	147.00
2019-20	115.00
2020-21	123.00

Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics (inflation adjusted)

For some gambling forms, legislation dictates the minimum payout ratios to players – gaming machine play, for instance, must adhere to the following returns (although in practice, payout ratios are commonly higher than that which is required by law).

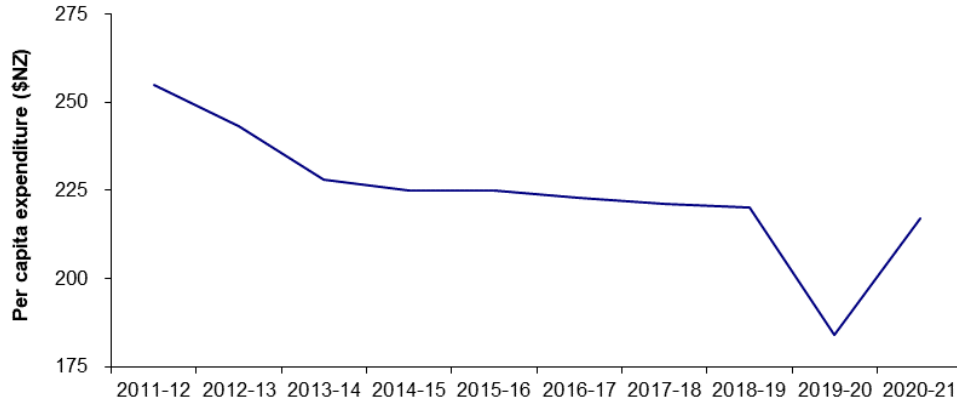
Table 4-9 Average player return percentages (RTP) for gaming machines in New Zealand (2022)

	Casino	Hotels and clubs (Class 4)
New Zealand	87.00%	78.00%

Source: Australia/New Zealand Gaming Machine National Standard, Revision 11.1, February 2022.

Electronic Gaming Machines

Figure 4-2 Per capita gaming machine expenditure (inflation adjusted) – New Zealand (2011-12 to 2020-21) (\$NZ)



Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics (inflation adjusted)

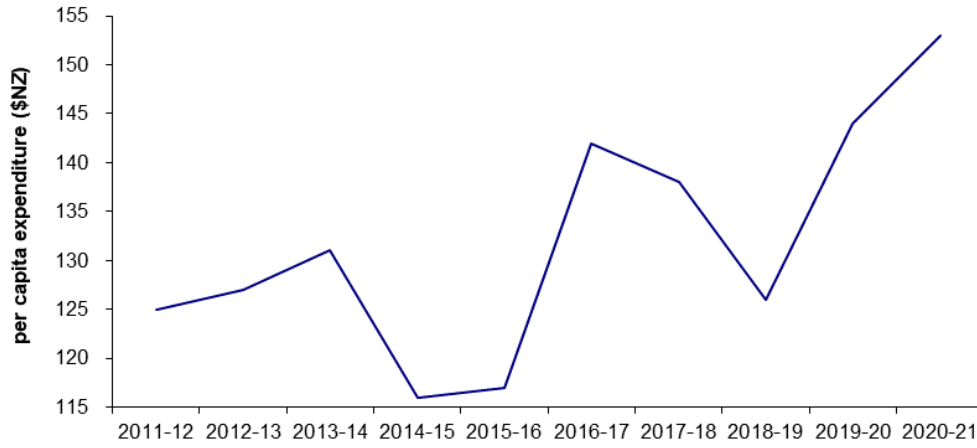
Table 4-10 Per capita gaming machine expenditure (inflation adjusted) in New Zealand (2011-12 to 2020-21) (\$NZ)

Year	Per Capita \$NZ
2011-12	255.00
2012-13	243.00
2013-14	228.00
2014-15	225.00
2015-16	225.00
2016-17	223.00
2017-18	221.00
2018-19	220.00
2019-20	184.00
2020-21	217.00

Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics (inflation adjusted)

Lotteries

Figure 4-3 Per capita lottery expenditure (inflation adjusted) – New Zealand (2011-12 to 2020-21) (\$NZ)



Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics (inflation adjusted)

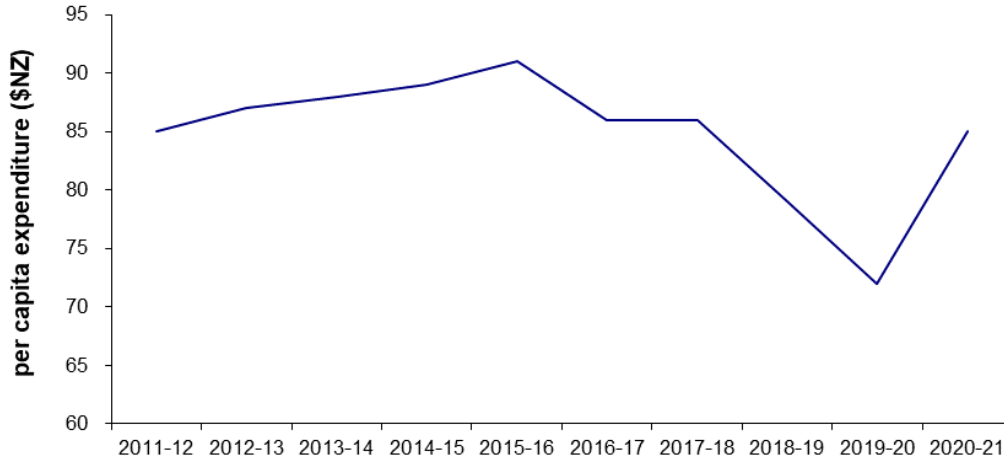
Table 4-11 Per capita lottery expenditure (inflation adjusted) in New Zealand (2011-12 to 2020-21) (\$NZ)

Year	Per Capita \$NZ
2011-12	125.00
2012-13	127.00
2013-14	131.00
2014-15	116.00
2015-16	117.00
2016-17	142.00
2017-18	138.00
2018-19	126.00
2019-20	144.00
2020-21	153.00

Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics (inflation adjusted)

Wagering

Figure 4-4 Per capita wagering expenditure (inflation adjusted) – New Zealand (2011-12 to 2020-21) (\$NZ)



Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics (inflation adjusted)

Table 4-12 Per capita wagering expenditure (inflation adjusted) in New Zealand (2011-12 to 2020-21) (\$NZ)

Year	Per Capita \$NZ
2011-12	85.00
2012-13	87.00
2013-14	88.00
2014-15	89.00
2015-16	91.00
2016-17	86.00
2017-18	86.00
2018-19	79.00
2019-20	72.00
2020-21	85.00

Source: New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (2022) Gambling expenditure statistics report: Gambling operators' key financial statistics (inflation adjusted)

HOUSEHOLD SPENDING COMPARISON

Statistics New Zealand produces a regular *Household Economic Survey* which records the expenditure of a sample of New Zealand households. The latest household expenditure statistics available are for the 2018-19 period. Comparisons between the results gained in 2016 and 2019 are also possible and outlined in Table 4-14. Note that both surveys were based on self-report and gambling expenditure may be under-reported.

Table 4-13 Estimated household weekly expenditure on selected goods and services in New Zealand by expenditure (\$) and proportion of total expenditure (%) (2018/19)

	Average weekly expenditure per household	Expenditure as percentage of total net expenditure
	\$NZ	%
Food	233.60	17.3
Restaurant meals	26.50	2.0
Alcohol, tobacco products & illicit drugs	29.40	2.2
Clothing and shoes	36.70	2.7
Housing and household utilities	344.20	25.5
Household furniture, appliances and contents	51.30	3.8
Health products and medical services	41.90	3.1
Transportation and travel	215.80	16.0
Communication	39.00	2.9
Recreation and culture goods and services	130.00	9.6
Games of chance	4.40	0.3
Education	19.50	1.4
Miscellaneous goods and services	114.20	8.5
Other expenditure	133.60	9.9

Source: Statistics New Zealand (2020) Household Economic Survey, Year End 30 June 2019.

Table 4-14 Comparison of selected goods and services in New Zealand by expenditure (\$) (2012/13 & 2018/19)

	Average weekly expenditure per household 2015/16	Average weekly expenditure per household 2018/19
	\$NZ	\$NZ
Food	213.90	233.60
Restaurant meals	23.60	26.50
Alcohol, tobacco products & Illicit drugs	30.40	29.40
Clothing and shoes	31.90	36.70
Housing and household utilities	323.20	344.20
Household furniture, appliances and contents	47.30	51.30
Health products and medical services	37.80	41.90
Transportation and travel	189.70	215.80
Communication	35.20	39.00
Recreation and culture goods and services	115.10	130.00
Games of chance⁷	5.00	4.40
Education	21.50	19.50
Miscellaneous goods and services	111.60	114.20
Other expenditure	142.20	133.60

Source: Statistics New Zealand (2020) Household Economic Survey, Year End 30 June 2019.

⁷ Note: Expenditure is reported as a gross figure.