

# Cashing Out Among Individuals Who Engage In In-Play Sports Betting

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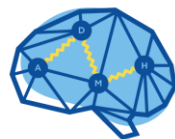


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# How sports gambling changes now that it's fully legal in Ontario



Everything you need to know before placing a bet

[Myles Dichter](#) · CBC Sports · Posted: Apr 04, 2022 5:31 PM EDT | Last Updated: April 4, 2022



Alberta opened up online gambling in September 2020, but offshore betting sites continue to advertise and take profits away from provincial corporations. (Julio Cortez/The Associated Press)

# Evolution of Sports Betting

## Types and Novel Forms

- **In-play betting** → Placing any bet as game is ongoing
  - 25% of sports bettors who bet online have participated in in-play sports betting (Killick & Griffiths, 2019)
- A popular feature of in-play bets is cash out features (Killick & Griffiths, 2019)
- Cashing out is not unique to in-play betting





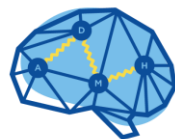
**Cashing out** → withdrawing bets before the sporting event ends

- Cash out a potential win
- Avoid a potential loss
- Hedge bets



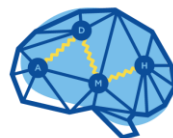
# Cashing Out

- Cash-out feature related to problem gambling?  
(Lopez-Gonzalez et al., 2019)
- Characteristics and motivations of in-play bettors who do and do not cash out is unknown
- Implications?



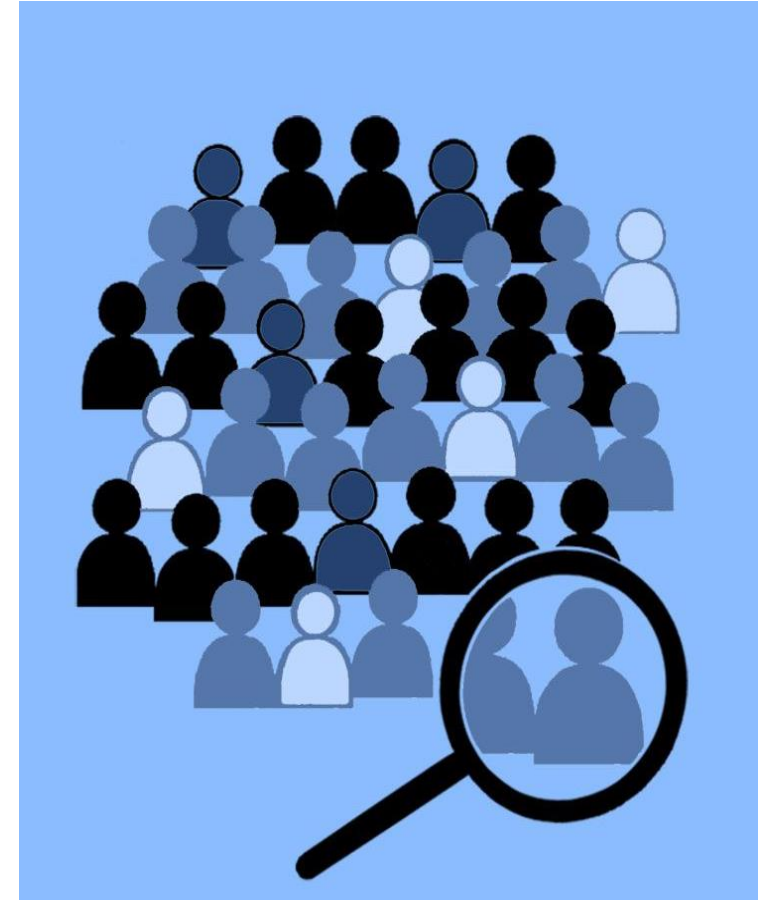
# Study Overview

- **Sample** → 929 Ontarian adults who placed a sports bet in the past 3 months and completed measure of sports betting engagement (Timeline follow-back)
- **Online survey**
  - Demographics
  - Psychological vulnerabilities (e.g., adverse childhood experiences)
  - Problem gambling and related harms



# Demographic Characteristics

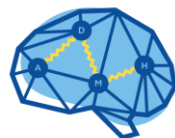
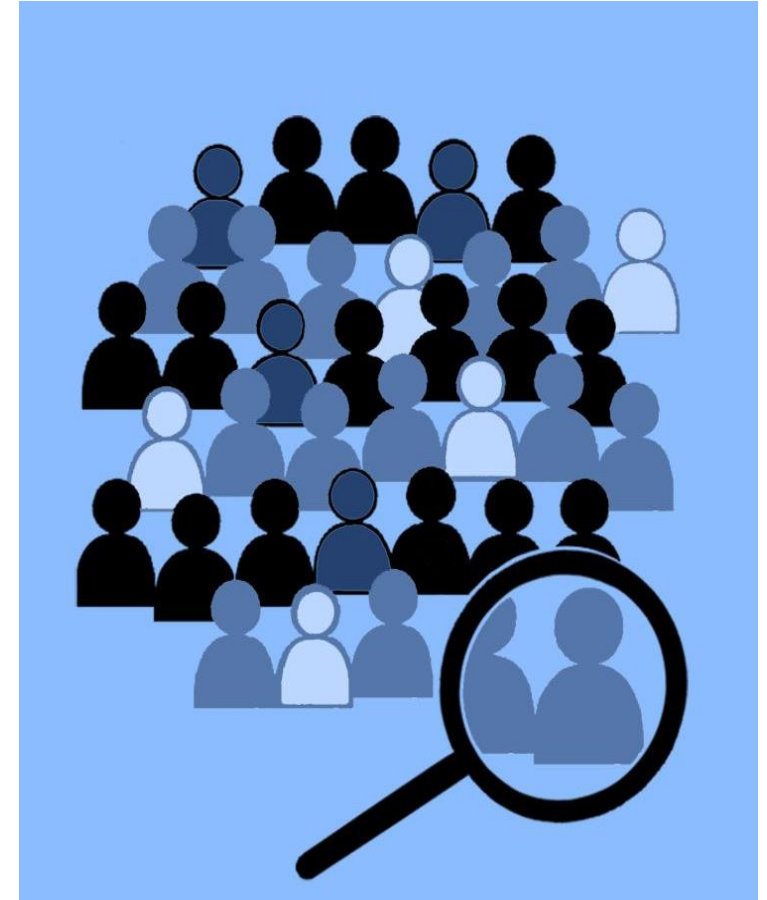
- Overall sample
  - **Age** → The average age of participants was 47.8 years old
  - **Gender** → Participants were more likely to be men than women
  - **Ethnicity** → Participants were more likely to be South Asian



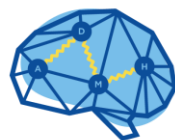
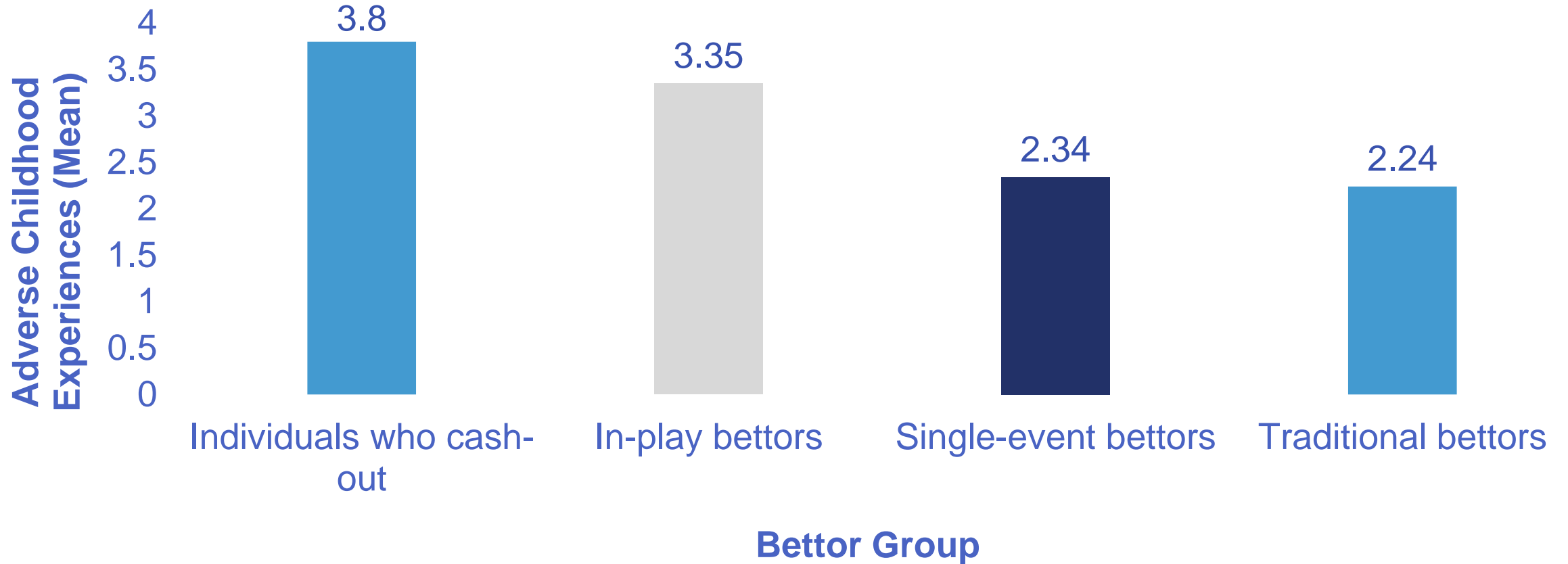


# Demographic Characteristics

- Out of the 929 participants, 224 reported using cash out features
  - All the individuals who cashed out were in-play bettors
- Individuals who cashed out were younger ( $M = 41$ ) than individuals who did not cash out ( $M = 44.9$ )

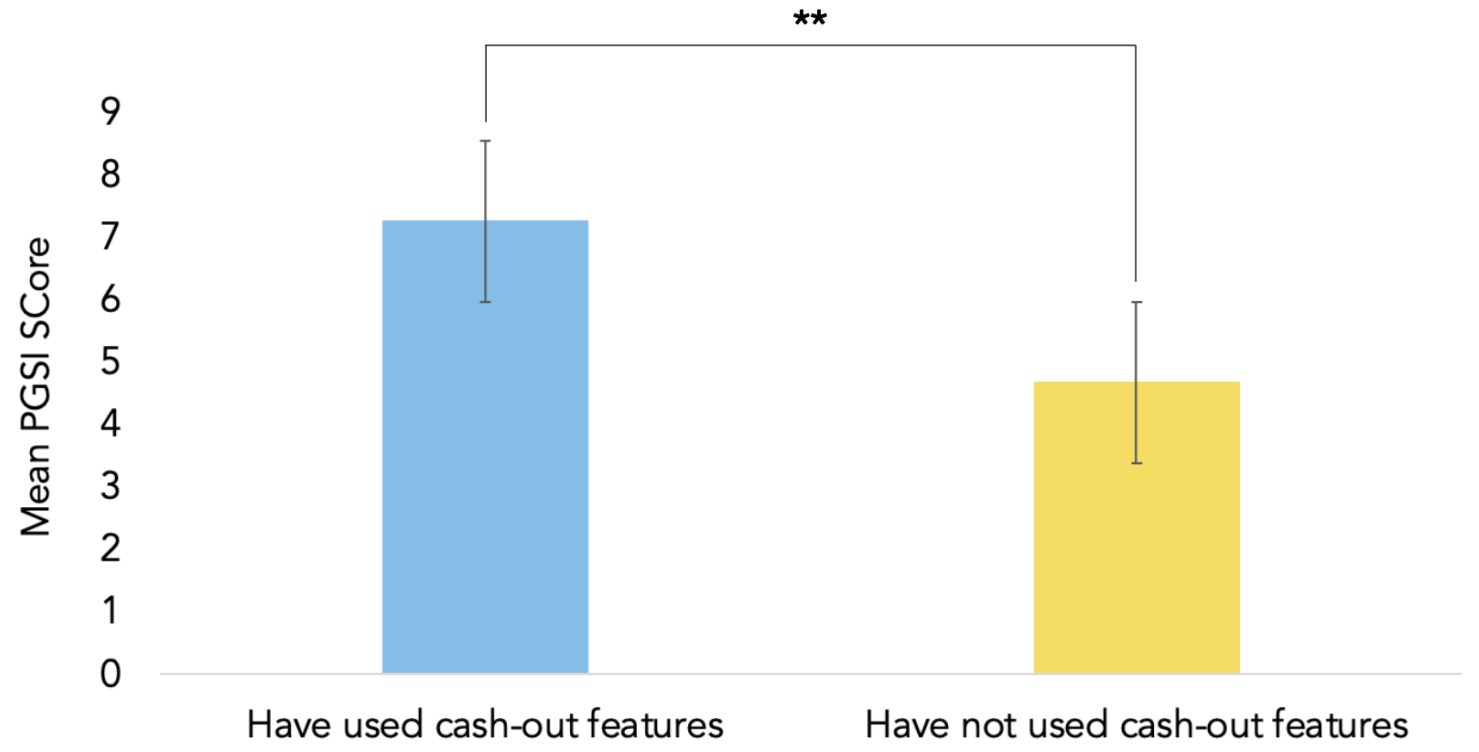


# Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) of Bettors

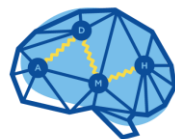


# Problem Gambling Severity Index Scores of In-Play Bettors

Figure 1. PGSI scores for individuals who have vs. have not used cash-out features



Note: \*  $p < .05$ , \*\*  $p < .01$ , \*\*\*  $p < .001$



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# Gambling-Related Harms of In-Play Bettors

Figure 2. Gambling-related harms for individuals who have vs. have not used cash-out features

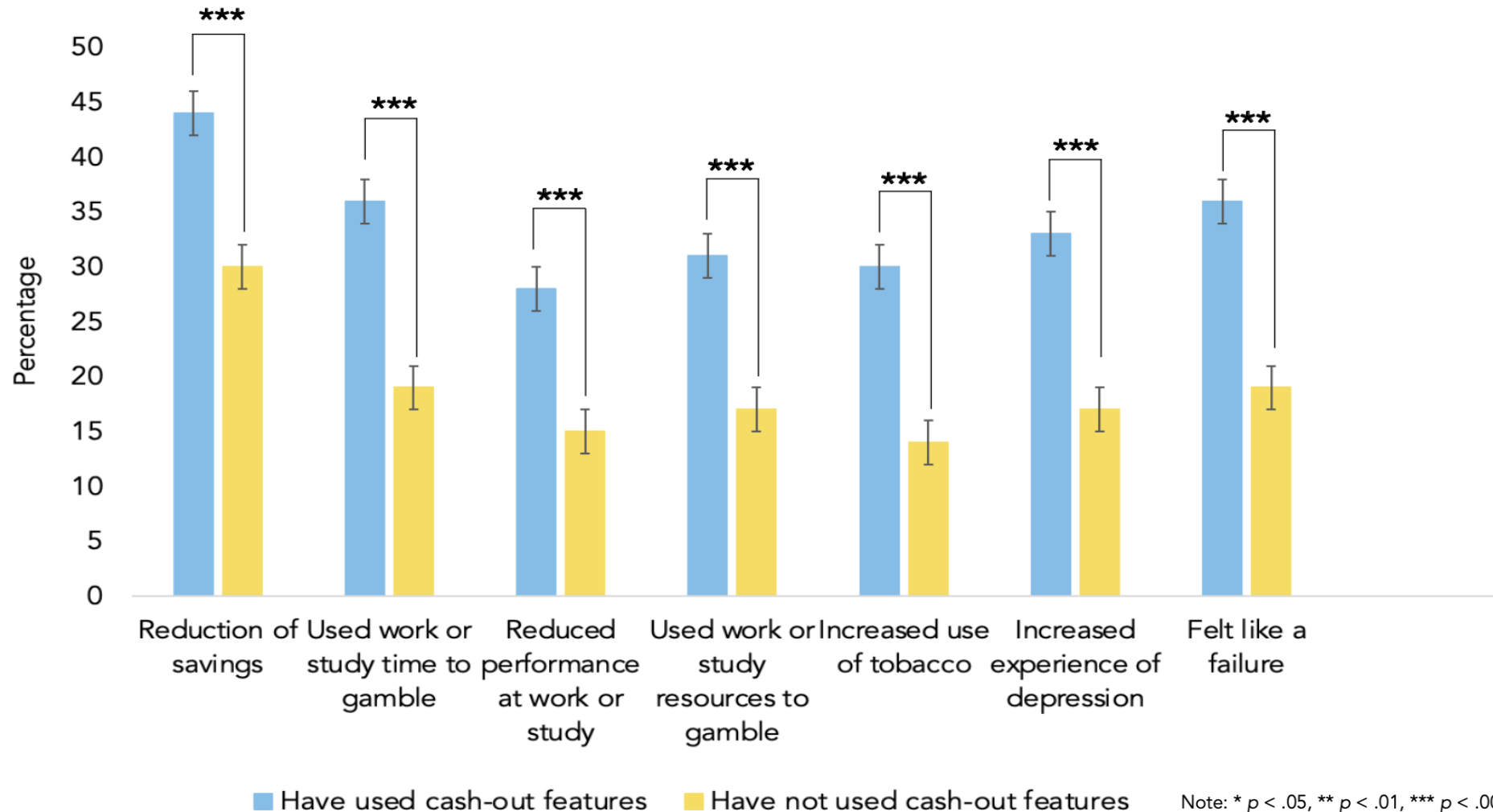
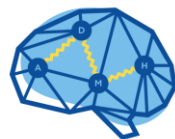
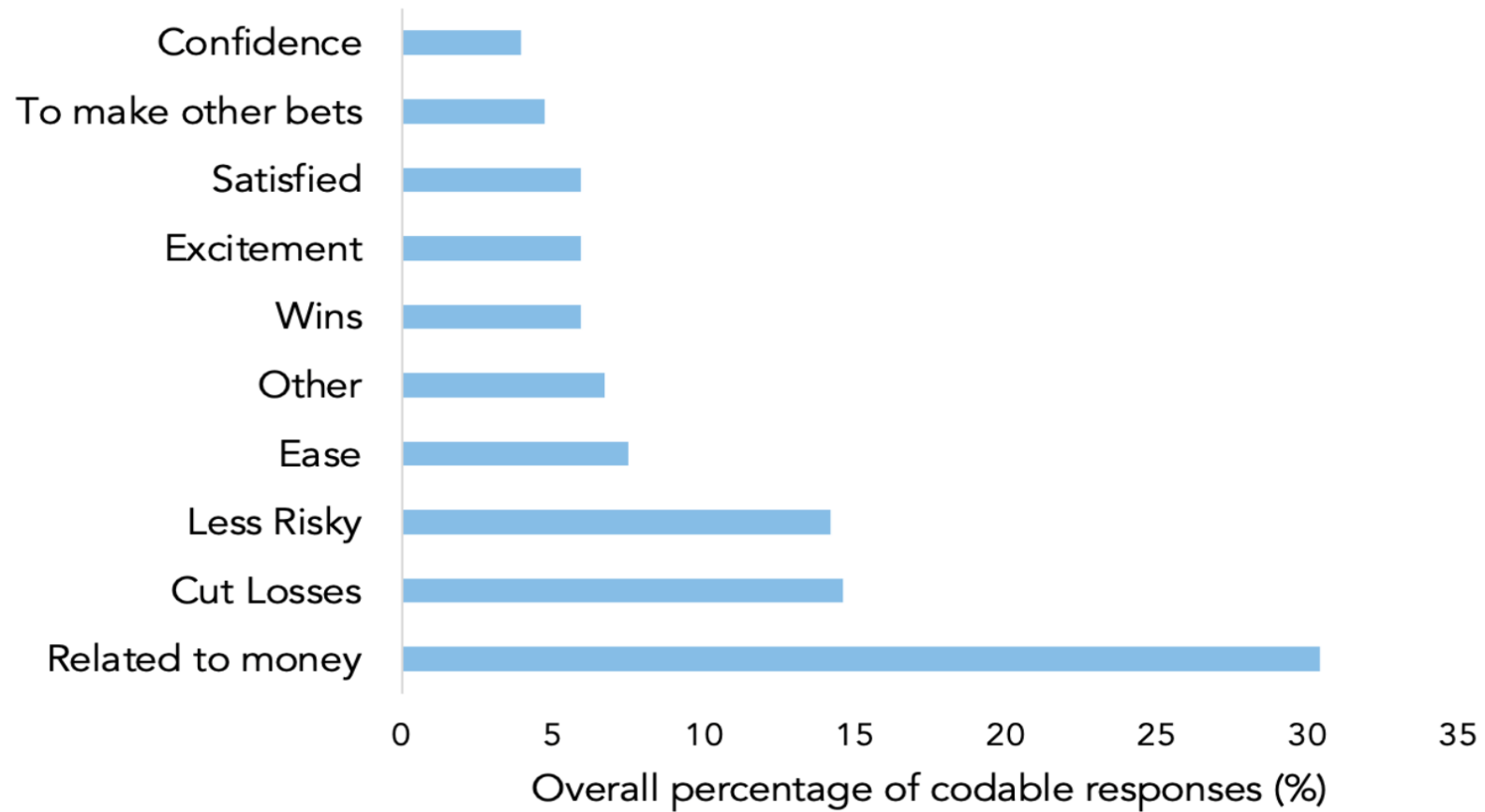


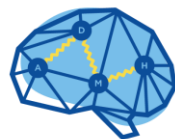
Figure 3. *Percentage of all codable responses describing motives for cashing out*





# Motives for Cashing Out

## Qualitative Results



# Conclusion

- ❖ Cashing out appears to be a particularly harmful activity relative to individuals who do not cash out while gambling
- ❖ Counterintuitive?
- ❖ Efforts to address the harms of in-play betting are necessary, given the increasing liberalization and availability of sports betting in Canada and the U.S.
- ❖ More research on cash out, implications for RG? It's very novel but conclusions should be specifically drawn from the results!
  - ❖ Psychoeducation?



# Thank You!



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<https://psychlabs.ryerson.ca/admh>