Gambling Participation is associated with Past Year Binge Drinking among Delaware 11th Graders

With a focus on National Problem Gambling Awareness Month, the March DDATAGram highlights the association between binge drinking and gambling activity among Delaware 11th graders. As the chart illustrates, students who reported a higher frequency or problematic gambling behavior were also more likely to report binge drinking\(^1\) in the past year. Gambling participation was categorized in several ways, with the most extreme behavior labeled as “lie-bet” gambling which occurred when respondents felt the need to bet more and more money, and had lied to people important to them about how much they gambled. Only 6% of students who reported they had never gambled reported binge drinking in the past year, whereas this percentage climbed to 38% in the lie-bet gambling group.

\(^1\) Binge drinking is defined as three or more drinks at a sitting within the past two weeks.