

More and more illegal gambling sites are being blocked

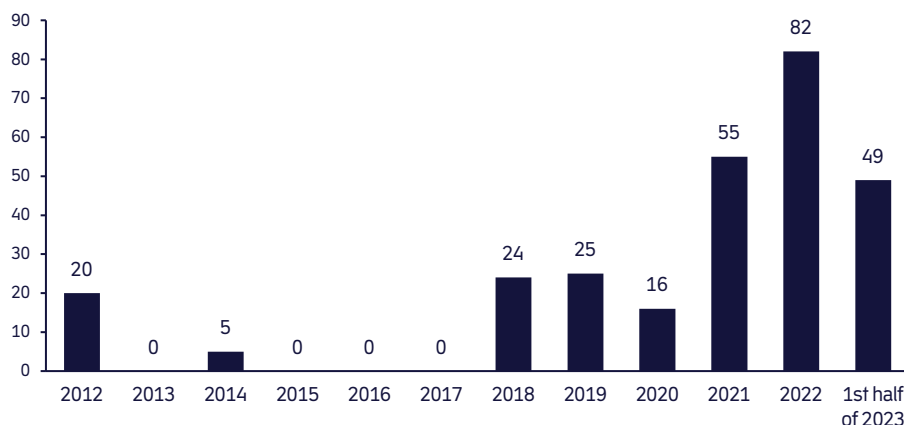
The Danish Gambling Authority's increased focus on illegal gambling sites pays off. Since 2012, 276 illegal gambling sites have been blocked, and more than half have been blocked in the last three years.

The Danish Gambling Authority's core task is to ensure a proper and regulated gambling market in Denmark, where players are protected against unfair and illegal gambling. In order to provide legal gambling in Denmark, gambling operators must have a licence from the Danish Gambling Authority.

The Danish Gambling Authority continuously monitors the Danish gambling market to prevent illegal gambling. If the Danish Gambling Authority assesses that a website offers gambling aimed at Denmark without a licence, the Danish Gambling Authority asks the provider to stop the illegal offer. If this does not happen, the Danish Gambling Authority will continue with the case and ask the district court to order the Danish ISPs to block the website.

In the first half of 2023, the Danish Gambling Authority has blocked 49 illegal gambling sites. Since 2012, these efforts have resulted in the blocking of a total of 276 websites. 67 percent of the total number of blockages have occurred in the last three years, see *figure 1*.

Figure 1. Number of blocked websites, 2012- 1st half of 2023



Source: The Danish Gambling Authority.

276

Blocked websites

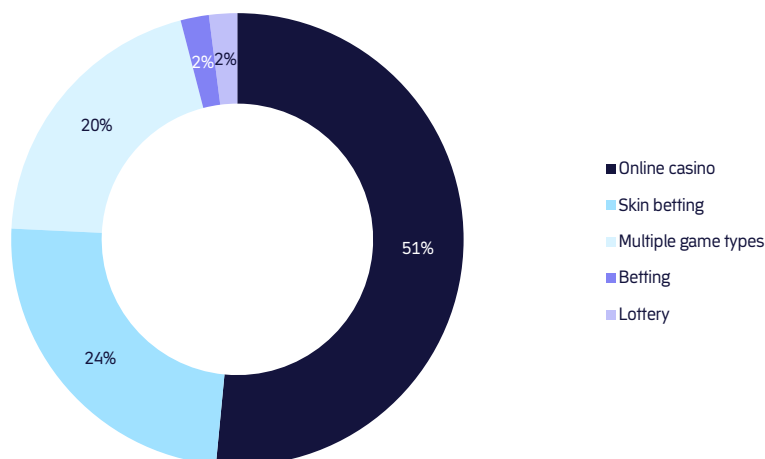
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The large increase in the number of blockings in recent years can, among other things, be attributed to the Danish Gambling Authority prioritising the area. This means that more resources have been allocated to searching for illegal sites, following up on reports from citizens and businesses, and preparing evidence for court cases. Since 2018, the Danish Gambling Authority has blocked websites that offer illegal gambling in Denmark once a year, but from 2023, the Danish Gambling Authority expects to be able to block websites twice a year.

Illegal online casino supply is the largest

Of the 49 websites blocked in 2023, 51 percent of the websites offered only illegal online casino, while 24 percent offered illegal skin betting, where virtual items from video games are gambled instead of money. 20 percent of websites offered multiple types of games, see figure 2.

Figure 2. Blocks by game type, 1st half of 2023



Note: The category "Multiple game types" covers offers of both betting and online casino or betting, online casino and lottery. Due to rounding, the figure sums to 99%.

Source: The Danish Gambling Authority.

When a page is blocked, the user cannot access the page. Instead, the user is greeted by a page with information that the site is illegal and blocked by the Danish Gambling Authority.

Collaboration with Facebook and Google

The Danish Gambling Authority also focuses on websites that provide access to illegal gambling. In 2022, the Danish Gambling Authority reported 27 websites for providing access to illegal gambling. The websites are all aimed at the Danish market and provide access to gambling on websites without a licence. What the websites also have in common is that they tell players how they can gamble even if they are registered with ROFUS (register of self-excluded players).

The dissemination of illegal gambling is also largely found on social media. Therefore, in recent years, the Danish Gambling Authority has collaborated with Facebook to remove illegal gambling content from their service by closing groups, removing posts, etc. The Danish Gambling Authority is also in the process of establishing a similar collaboration with Google to remove illegal gambling-related content on their service.