

FACT SHEET 6

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF GAMBLERS

BACKGROUND

All gamblers in this study were administered the nine scored questions from the Problem Gambling Severity Index (PGSI), which is a subscale of the Canadian Problem Gambling Index (CPGI). There were approximately 11,000 gamblers identified from the total study sample of 15,000.

The PGSI categorises gamblers into the following risk segments: problem gamblers; moderate risk gamblers; low risk gamblers; and non-problem gamblers.

PROFILES

Profiles were developed to compare key risk segments with the Victorian adult population on a range of demographics and other variables. The Victorian adult population information was derived from the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006 Census Data (and where available, 2007 ABS estimated adult population projections). Where data was not available, segments were compared with the overall study sample, taken as representative of the Victorian adult population.

GENDER

There is a significantly higher proportion of females in the non-problem gambling segment (52.57%) than females in the Victorian adult population (51.07%).

There is a significantly higher proportion of males in the following risk segments compared to males in the Victorian adult population (48.93%):

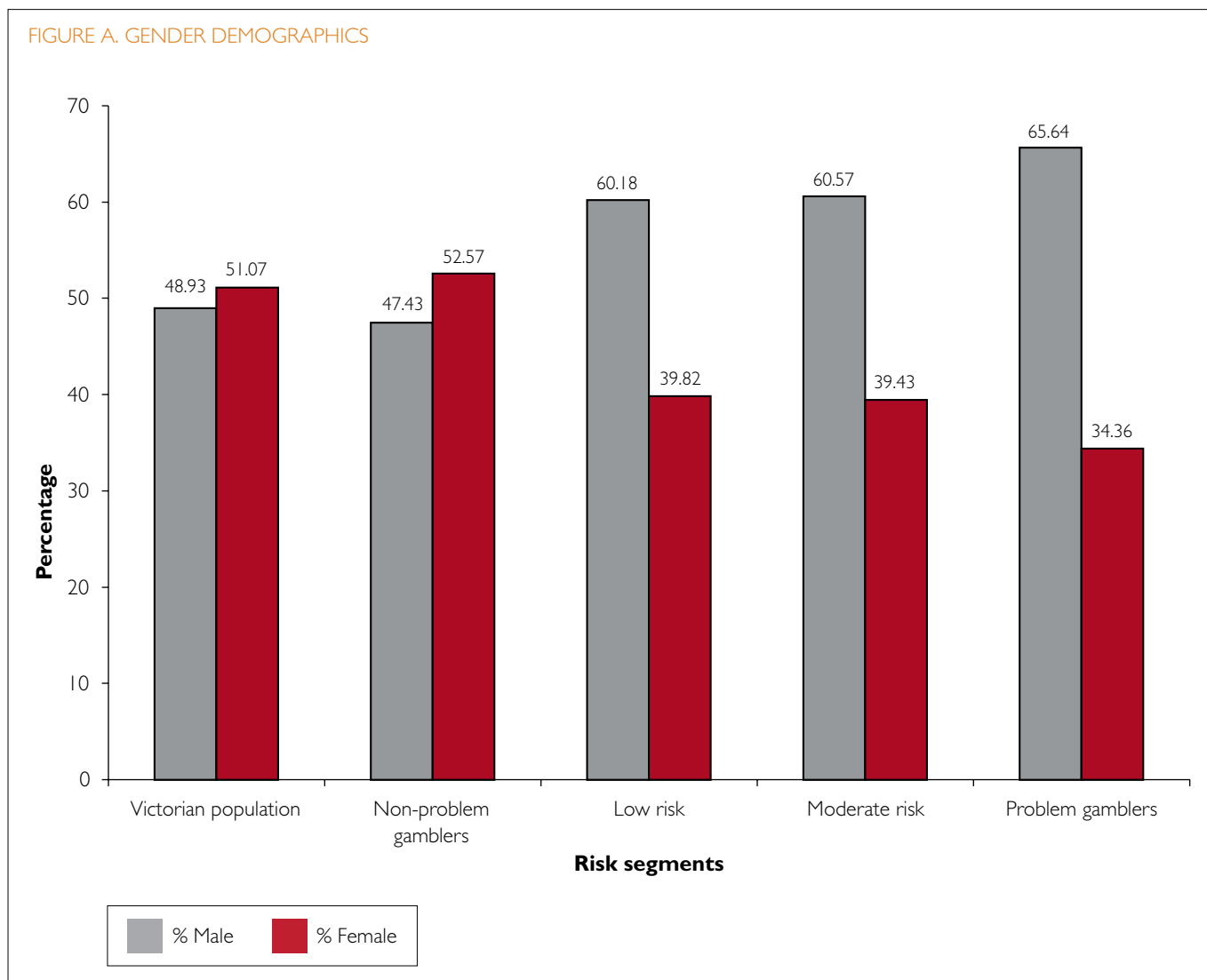
- problem gamblers (65.64%)
- moderate risk gamblers (60.57%)
- low risk gamblers (60.18%).

AGE

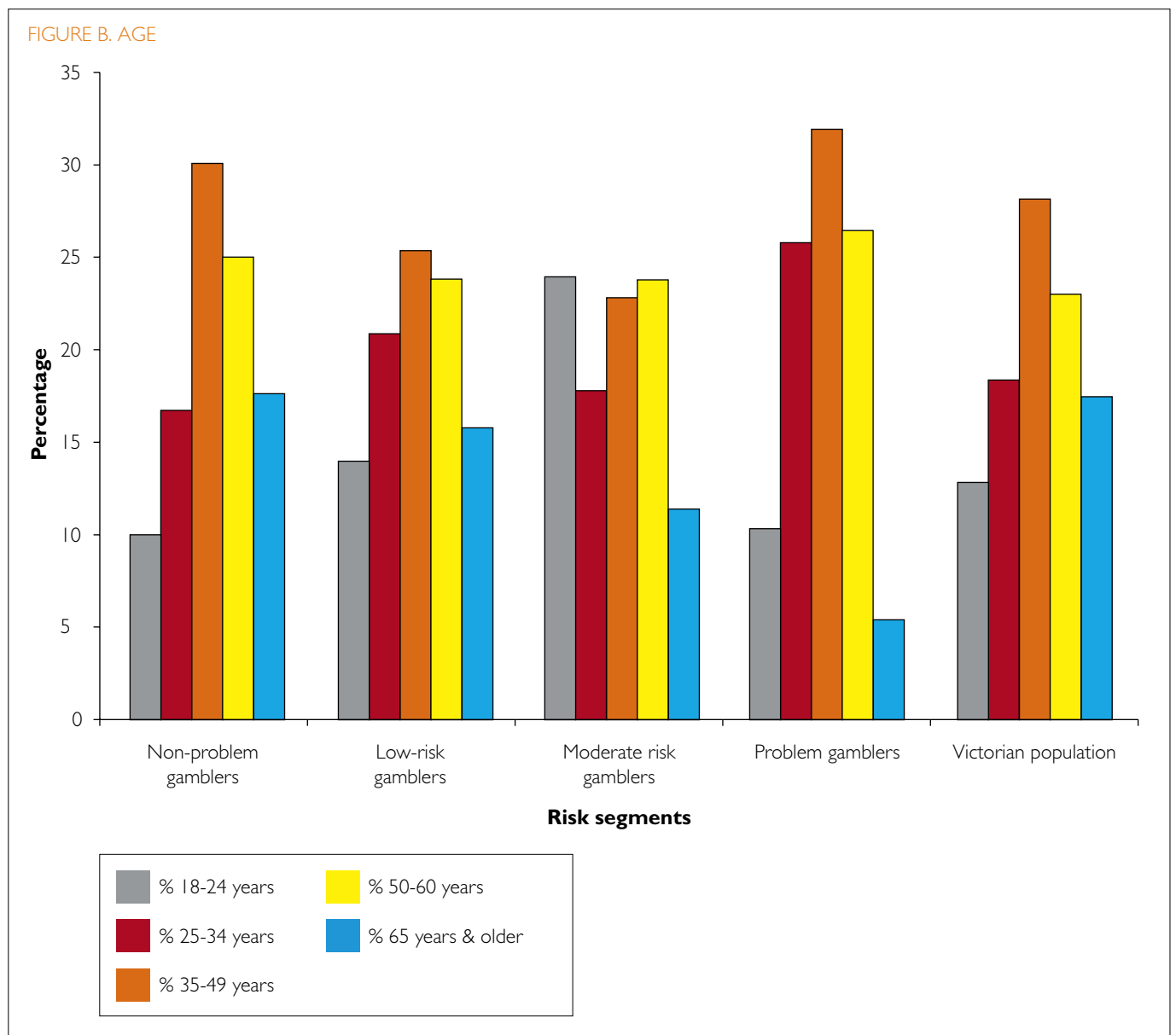
When compared with the Victorian adult population, findings showed that there is:

- a significantly lower proportion of problem gamblers (5.44%) and moderate risk gamblers (11.44%) in the 65 years and older age group
- a significantly higher proportion of moderate risk gamblers in the 18 to 24 year age group (23.94%)
- a significantly higher proportion of non-problem gamblers in the 35 to 49 years (30.11%) and 50 to 64 years (25.04%) age groups.

Gender demographics are shown in Figure A.

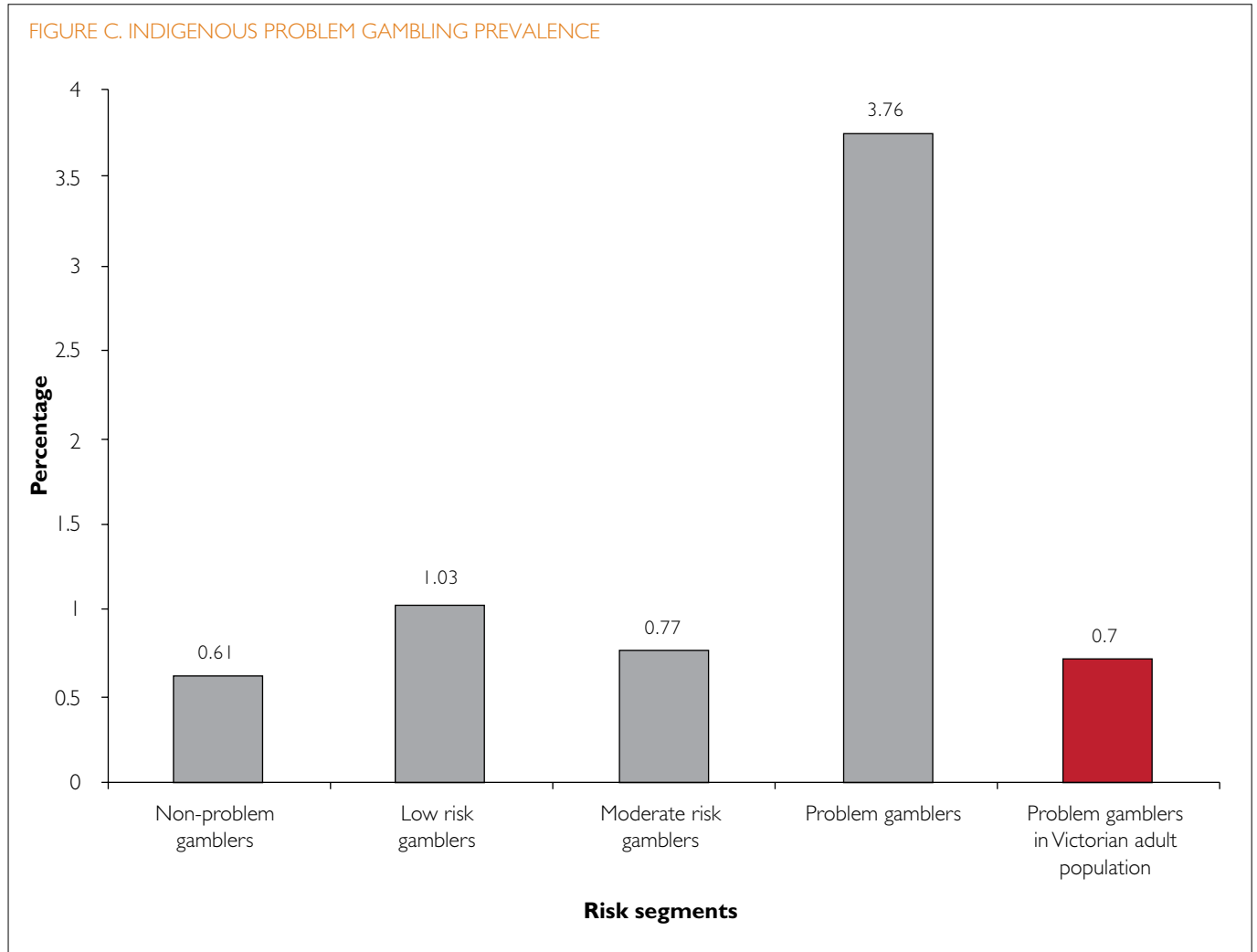


The results are shown in Figure B.



INDIGENOUS DEMOGRAPHICS

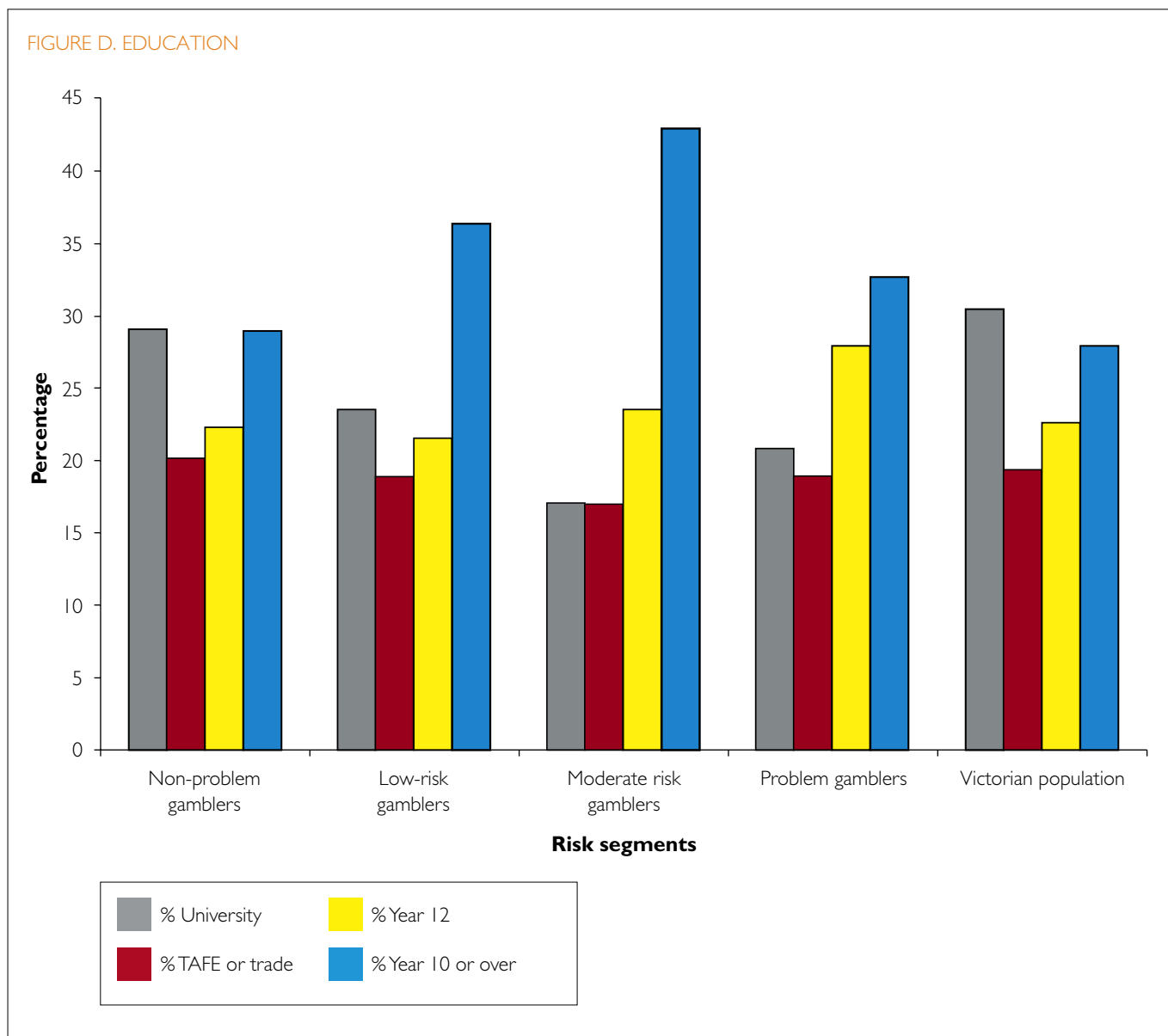
There are a significantly higher proportion of people of Indigenous backgrounds who are classified as having a gambling problem (3.76%) relative to the proportion of the Victorian adult population (0.70%) (including people of Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or South-sea Islander backgrounds).



HIGHEST LEVEL OF COMPLETED EDUCATION

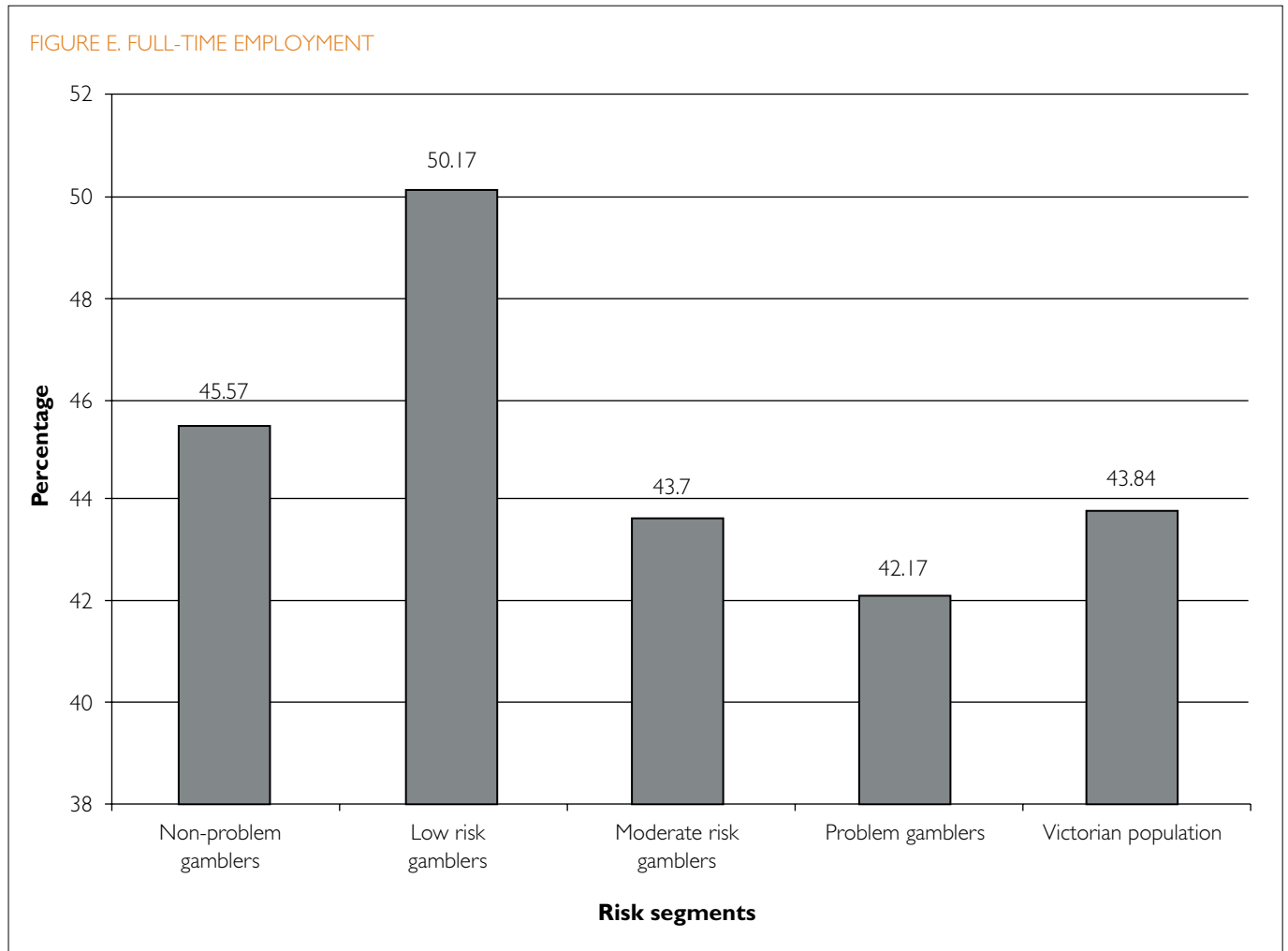
Compared to the Victorian adult population, a significantly higher proportion of low risk (36.27%) and moderate risk gamblers (42.79%) have Year 10 as their highest education level. In addition, a significantly lower proportion of both low risk gamblers (23.49%) and moderate risk gamblers (16.99%) have a university education.

Non-problem and problem gamblers do not differ significantly from the Victorian adult population in terms of highest level of completed education.



EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Compared to the Victorian adult population (43.84%), a higher proportion of low risk gamblers are in full time employment (50.17%).

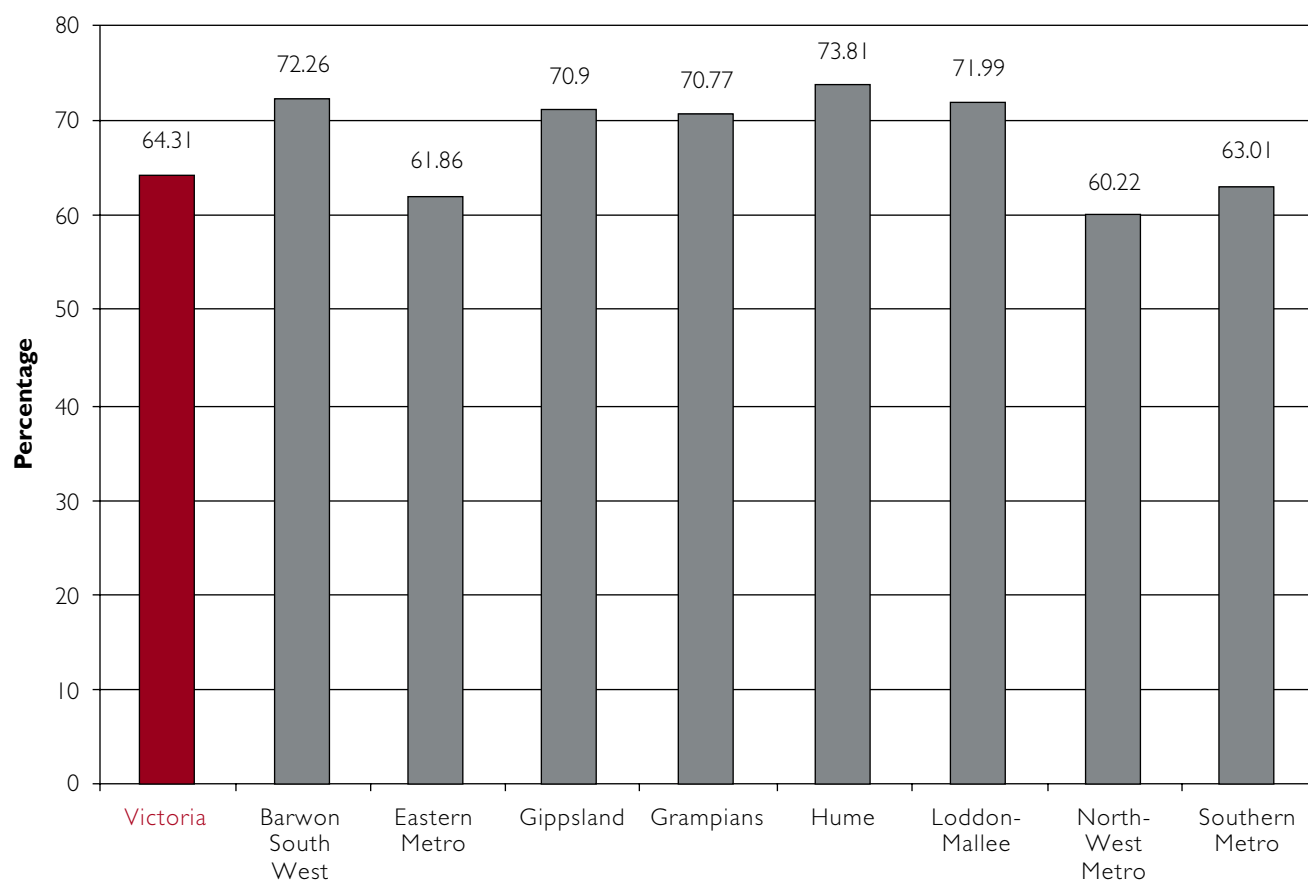


REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

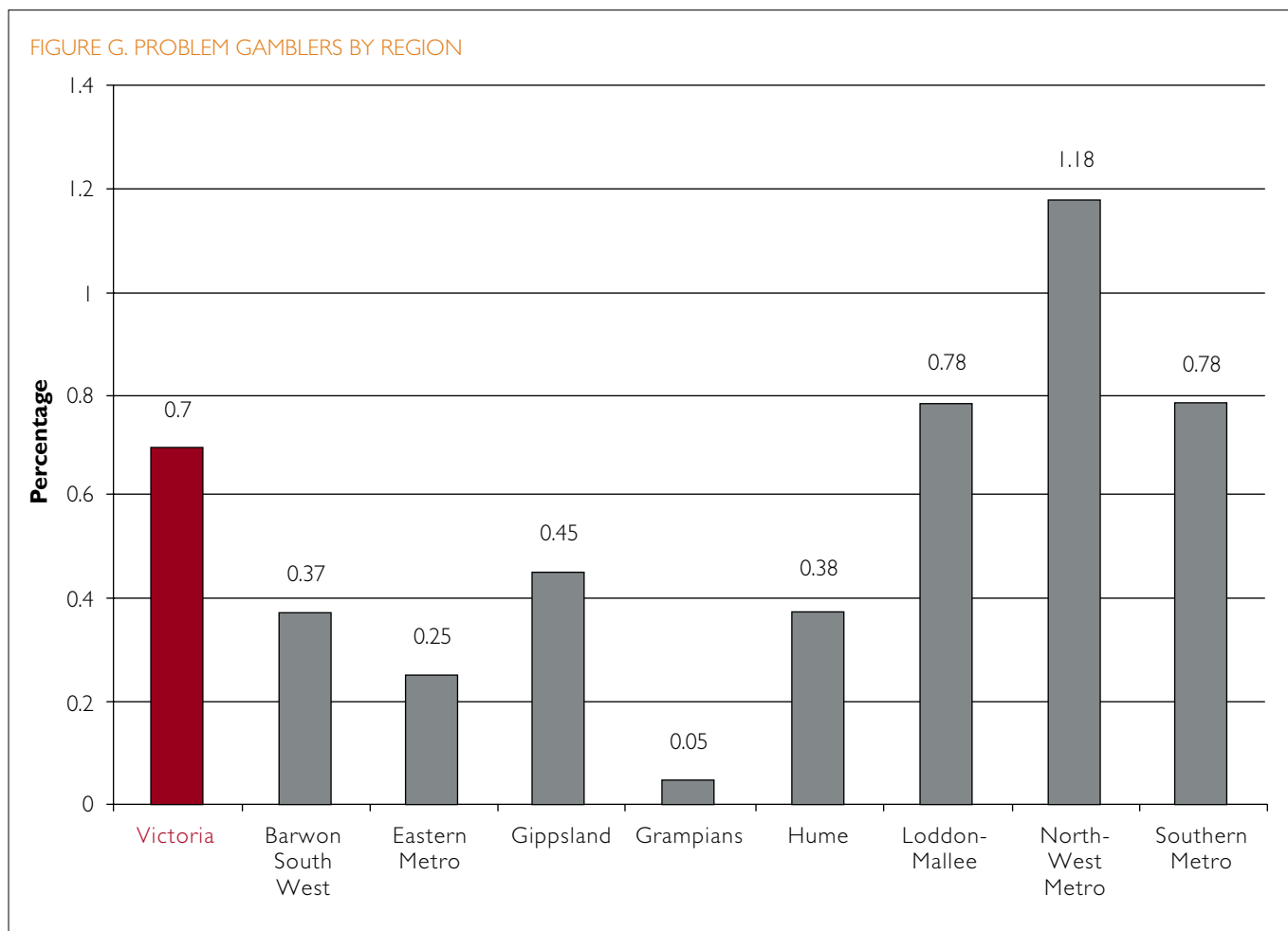
Comparisons with the Victorian adult population show the following:

- There was a significantly higher proportion of non-problem gamblers in the following regions:
 - Barwon South West
 - Gippsland
 - Grampians
 - Hume
 - Loddon Mallee
- A significantly lower proportion of non-problem gamblers in North West Metropolitan region.

FIGURE F. NON-PROBLEM GAMBLERS BY REGION



A significantly lower proportion of problem gamblers are from the Eastern Metropolitan and Grampians regions.



OCCUPATION

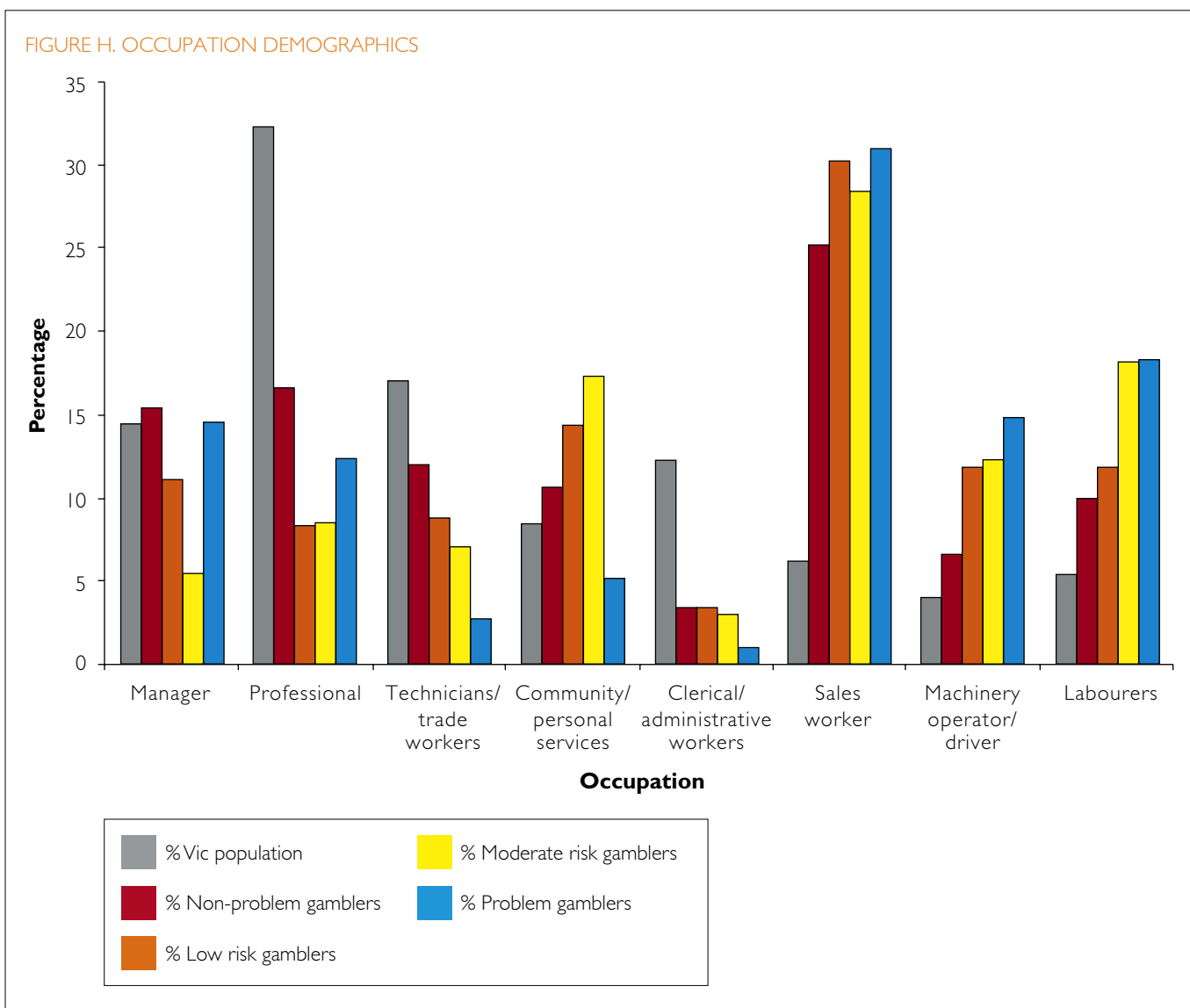
Relative to the Victorian adult population, there is a significantly higher proportion of sales workers, machinery operators/drivers and labourers across low, moderate and problem gambling risk segments and across non-problem gamblers. There is also a significantly higher proportion of community/personal service workers in non-problem, low risk and moderate risk gamblers.

In contrast, professionals, technicians/trade workers and clerical/administrative workers are significantly under-represented across non-problem, low, moderate and problem gambling risk segments.

TABLE A. SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES – ALL RISK CATEGORIES AND OCCUPATION

OCCUPATION	NON-PROBLEM GAMBLERS	LOW RISK GAMBLERS	MODERATE RISK GAMBLERS	PROBLEM GAMBLERS
Manager	-	-	↓	-
Professional	↓	↓	↓	↓
Technicians/trade workers	↓	↓	↓	↓
Community/personal services	↑	↑	↑	-
Clerical/administration worker	↓	↓	↓	↓
Sales worker	↑	↑	↑	↑
Machinery operator/driver	↑	↑	↑	↑
Labourers	↑	↑	↑	↑

FIGURE H. OCCUPATION DEMOGRAPHICS



PERSONAL INCOME

Relative to the Victorian adult population:

- there is a significantly lower proportion of non-problem gamblers earning under \$31,200 and higher proportion earning \$31,200 or higher
- there is a significantly lower proportion of low risk gamblers earning under \$31,200 and higher proportion earning \$52,000 or higher
- there is a significantly higher proportion of moderate risk gamblers earning \$52,000-\$83,199 per year
- there is a significantly lower proportion of problem gamblers earning under \$31,200 and a significantly higher proportion earning \$31,200-\$51,999.

FIGURE I. PERSONAL INCOME OF LOW, MODERATE AND PROBLEM GAMBLERS

