



**If you choose to play, know the rules!**  
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## Fast Facts about Youth Gambling : National Data

- 4-6% of teens experience pathological gambling behavior.
- 10-15% of teens are at risk for experiencing problematic gambling behavior.
- The national average age at which young people have their first contact with gambling is 10, the average age of alcohol first use is 13.

### Youth with a gambling problem are:

- At heightened risk for suicide ideation and attempts.
- At greater risk for developing other addictions.
- Have higher rates of depression, lower self esteem and dissociate more frequently when gambling or when preoccupied with it.
- 25-50% more likely to drink, 2x as likely to binge drink.
- 2-3x more likely to use marijuana.
- 3-4x more likely to get in trouble with the police, 3x more likely to shoplift.

## Fast Facts about Youth Gambling : Nebraska Data

- You must be 18 or 19 to gamble a variety of the legal gaming in Nebraska.
- 11% of Nebraska students reported increase in gambling behavior from 2003 to 2005.
- 20% of Nebraska youth report gambling by the age of 10.
- 15% of 6th graders gambled in last year.
- 21% of 6th graders played bingo for money.
- 4.5% of 6th graders gambled in the past 30 days.
- 42.9% of 12th graders gambled in last year.
- 39.6% of 12th graders bet on cards in the last year.
- 21% of 12th graders gambled in the past 30 days.

\*This data is collected from the Nebraska Risk and Protective Factor Survey 2003-2005