



Sports Gambling Facts and Statistics

WHAT ARE THE ODDS?

- Of a college player becoming a pro football player: **3,000 to 1**
- Struck by lightning: **576,000 to 1**
- Winning a Powerball jackpot: **140,000,000 to 1**

THE FACTS

- 85% of American adults have gambled at least once in their lifetime
- 65% at least once in past year
- 30% at least once in past month
- 15% at least once in past week
- 2-3% meet criteria for a gambling problem
- Upwards of 80% of high school students report having gambled for money

COLLEGE ATHLETES & GAMBLING

- In 2008, 3% of male athletes and 0.4% of female athletes were considered to have a gambling problem or to be at-risk of having a gambling problem.
- 26% of male athletes reported that they started gambling prior to High School, 66% began in High School.
- 30% of male students athletes reported that they have wagered on sports in the last year.
- An average of 9% of athletes across 11 different sports, reported that they wager on sports at least once per month.

SPORTS GAMBLING

- According to an ESPN survey, about 118 million Americans gambled on sports in some manner in 2008.
- About 67% of all college students bet on sports.
- Sports betting is second to poker in popularity of gambling games among college students.

- A recent survey revealed that 44% of 12th grade males reported wagering on sports at least once.
- Sports betting is the most popular form of gambling among youth 14 - 22. Nearly a quarter of males bet on sports in an average month.

RISK FACTORS FOR GAMBLING PROBLEMS

- Male
- Athlete
- 18-24 Yrs
- Substance use/abuse
- Easy access to gambling & money
- Family history of addiction
- Belief in own skill
- Belief in luck/superstition
- Racial/Ethnic minority
- Gamble illegally
- Early onset
- Early Big Win
- Highly Competitive

STUDENT ATHLETES WHO MET AT LEAST ONE CRITERIA FOR GAMBLING ADDICTION WERE MUCH MORE LIKELY TO:

- receive traffic tickets,
- buy on impulse,
- steal,
- enjoy taking risks,
- have a parent with a gambling problem,
- have friends who gamble,
- have 5 or more drinks in one sitting,
- have multiple sexual partners and
- engage in risky sexual behaviors.