



Overview of the 2022 Ohio Gambling Survey

Every five years since 2012, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, in partnership with Ohio for Responsible Gambling, has distributed a survey designed to gather information about how adults are gambling; how often they are gambling, what characteristics they have; and what characteristics may relate to gambling behaviors. This survey was completed in 2012, 2017 and most recently in 2022. The current survey was done with the Ohio State University CHRR research group after a competitive Request for Proposals process.

How the Data Will Be Used

This data informs the Ohio behavioral health system of care on strategies for awareness, prevention, clinical care and recovery support related to problem gambling and the Gambling Disorder diagnosis for those experiencing serious consequences from their gambling. The statewide data summary helps to distinguish appropriate messages for different age groups, race or ethnic groups, gender, and status as a parent/caregiver, employer, spouse, etc. Along with the statewide highlights, each of the 50 County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Boards receives its own summary of data and a slide deck for community education.

Ohio for Responsible Gambling and Awareness, Prevention, Treatment and Recovery

Ohio for Responsible Gambling (ORG) was formed in 2013 to bring together the agencies most involved in ensuring consumer protections and providing resources and education for anyone engaged in gambling activities. ORG includes the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS), Ohio Casino Control Commission (OCCC), and Ohio Lottery Commission (OLC), and works in conjunction with prevention and treatment specialists, individuals in recovery, and industry professionals to inform education, prevention, and treatment programs. This voluntary cooperation across diverse perspectives is nationally recognized as the “Ohio Model.”

ORG Efforts to Support Ohio Adults and Youth Affected by Gambling and Gaming

Awareness and Prevention:

- Award-winning prevention and responsible gambling campaigns reach many millions of Ohioans annually.
- “[Pause Before You Play](#),” Ohio’s latest statewide awareness campaign is geared toward sports gaming and encourages individuals to set limits on time and money spent when betting on sports.
- School-based gaming/gambling prevention offered via multiple strategies throughout the state.
- Growing the Problem Gambling workforce regularly with 30 required hours of clinical training offered virtually four times every year.
- In SFY 2023, 9,448 calls came to the Problem Gambling Helpline, an increase of 66 percent over SFY 2022.

Responsible Gambling:

- With the introduction of mobile sports betting, the Casino Control and Lottery Commissions developed a fully online version of the Voluntary Exclusion Program, [TimeOutOhio.com](https://www.timeoutohio.com). Anyone wanting to be excluded from Ohio gambling sites may self-ban from their computers or mobile phones, or sign-up in person at a venue.
- [Gamban](#), now available to all Ohioans, is a downloadable application that once activated prevents a device from accessing more than 60,000 gambling websites and apps (legal and illegal) worldwide. It is being offered at no cost to anyone looking for protection from online gambling.

Clinical Care:

- In SFY 2023, 67,713 Ohioans were screened for Gambling Disorder and 1,139 received treatment.
- With access to sports betting now 24/7 in the palm of one’s hand, clinical care must also be accessible. In the past three months, the Ohio Gambling Telehealth Network was created to make care available to anyone who does not have access to a behavioral health agency in their area.
- [Gamfin](#) is a group of financial specialists now collaborating with gambling clinicians to provide financial training and case counseling to help clinicians better support clients’ needs. GamFin will provide two webinar training sessions and 100 licenses for their online course list on behalf of ORG.

2022 Ohio Gambling Survey

Highlights



Amid the rapid expansion of the sports gambling and gaming industry, Ohio has established itself as a national leader in promotion of responsible gaming and the prevention and treatment of gambling disorders. The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) partners with the Ohio Casino Control Commission, Ohio Lottery Commission, and Ohio State Racing Commission in Ohio for Responsible Gambling (ORG) to ensure these services are in place.

Since 2012, a statewide gambling survey has been undertaken every five years. Thus, the 2012, 2017, and 2022 surveys provide a 10-year perspective on the state's gambling prevalence landscape. The new survey analysis describes Ohio adult survey participants' gambling behaviors through December 31, 2022 – the eve of Ohio's legalization of sports gambling. Below are some of the survey's most compelling statistics, and the picture they provide.

Table 1. Prevalence of Gambling in Population

	Do Not Gamble	Non-Problem Gambler	Low Risk	Moderate Risk	Problem Gambler
2022 Ohio %	17.2%	63.0%	10.9%	6.1%	2.8%
2022 Ohio Pop. Est.	1,573,094	5,758,463	991,513	560,248	254,729
2017 Ohio %	25.1%	64.4%	6.4%	3.0%	0.9%
2012 Ohio %	41.4%	53.0%	4.2%	1.1%	0.4%

An estimated **1,806,490** adult residents in Ohio can be categorized as low-risk, moderate-risk, or problem gamblers (or **19.8%** of the general adult population).

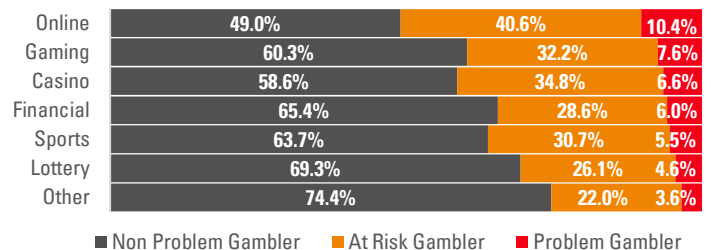
The prevalence of problem gambling in Ohio is **2.8%**, which is an estimated **254,729** individuals among the Ohio adult population of 9,193,508.

Table 2. Demographics and Gambling Type

	% of Pop.	GAMBLING TYPE		
		Non-Gambler	Non-Problem Gambler	At-Risk/Problem Gambler
SEX				
Men	47.6	15.9	63.7	20.4
Women	52.4	17.3	63.5	19.2
RACE				
White	83.9	16.9	64.7	18.4
African American	9.3	16.3	51.6	32.1
Other Race	6.8	18.7	55.9	25.4
ETHNICITY*				
Hispanic	3.6	9.9	60.5	29.6
Non-Hispanic	96.4	17.3	63.1	19.6
AGE				
18 - 24	11.5	19.7	56.1	24.1
25 - 44	39.7	15.1	62.7	22.2
45 - 64	30.9	14.2	66.1	19.7
65+	17.9	25.6	62.8	11.6
VETERAN				
Non-Veteran	93.1	17.0	63.0	20.0
Veteran	6.9	19.0	62.3	18.7

*Due to a small representation in our sample, results for Hispanics should be interpreted with caution.

Figure 1. Percentage of at-risk/problem gambling by game type.



Note. Online consists of using gambling websites or apps and playing games in an app. Gaming consists of betting on eSports, arcade or video games, and in-app or in-game items (including purchases). Other consists of betting on card or board games, bingo, and raffles or fundraising tickets.

Risk Factors: Based on survey data, problem gambling is often related to a higher co-occurrence of risk factors, including a family history of gambling problems, using alcohol or drugs, gambling while intoxicated, experiencing serious depression, and experiencing serious stress.