

New Study Finds Increase in Iowa Gambling Prevalence

A new Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) study, Gambling Attitudes and Behaviors: A 2018 Survey of Adult Iowans, estimates over 1.7 million (73.8%) adult Iowans gambled during the past 12 months. Of that number, about 315,000 (13.6%) are classified as “at-risk,” meaning they are experiencing some symptoms of problem gambling. These figures are up from the 2015 survey, which found 68.1% of adult Iowans had gambled during past 12 months and 12.6% classified as at-risk.

The report, prepared by the University of Northern Iowa Center for Social and Behavioral Research, includes a companion document titled Sports Betting and Fantasy Sports, which found about 9% of adult Iowans either bet on sports or played fantasy sports. In this combined group, 23% were classified as at-risk gamblers, higher than the overall gambling at-risk percentage of 13.6%

IOWA GAMBLING TREATMENT PROGRAM

I-800-BETS OFF

The IDPH Problem Gambling Treatment and Prevention program works to reduce the harm caused by problem gambling by funding a range of services for Iowans. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, call 1-800-BETS OFF, go to <https://www.1800BETSOFF.org> or visit Your Life Iowa at <https://yourlifeiowa.org/gambling>.

Click the following link to download the entire report [Gambling Attitudes and Behaviors: A 2018 Survey of Adult Iowans report](#), or visit <http://www.idph.iowa.gov/igtp/reports>.

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Protecting and Improving the Health of Iowans