

Youth Gambling in Oregon

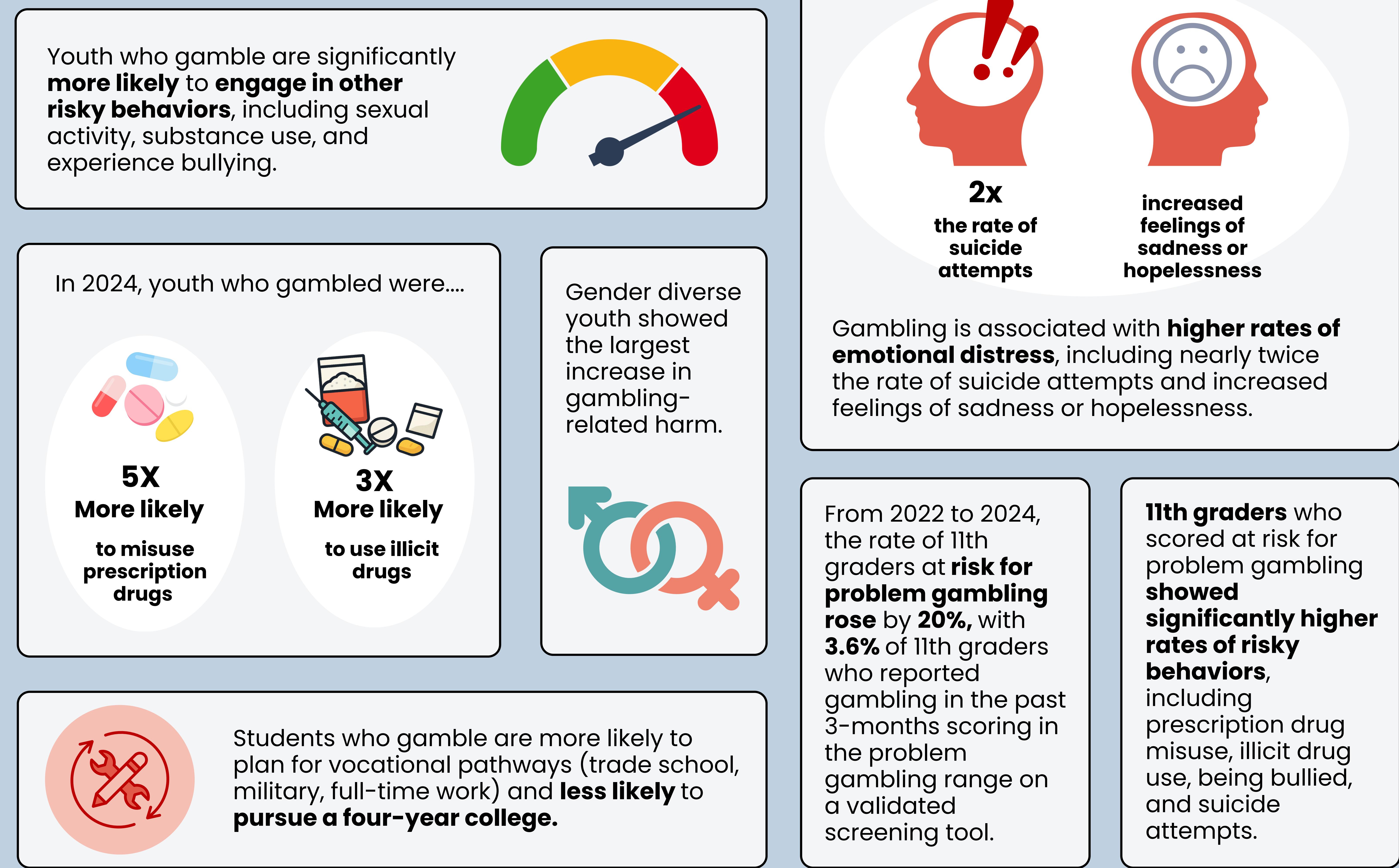
Findings from the 2022 & 2024 Student Health Surveys

Overview

Youth gambling in Oregon is rising, with **23%** of surveyed students reporting gambling in the past three months in 2024, up from **20% in 2022**—a **14% increase**.

Gambling is most common among **8th graders**, but the largest increase was seen among **11th graders**. Boys are more than **twice as likely** as girls to gamble, and online gambling saw the fastest growth (**up 58%**).

Key Findings



Implications

The findings highlight that youth gambling is becoming more normalized and accessible, especially online. Gambling is closely linked to a broader pattern of risk-taking and emotional vulnerability, suggesting the need for integrated prevention strategies that address gambling alongside substance use, mental health, and other risky behaviors. Early intervention is crucial, as greater gambling involvement is associated with more serious harm.

This research brief was based on the below cited companion report. Use the following link to find the full report and take a deeper dive into the content found within this brief: <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HSD/Problem-Gambling/Pages/Data.aspx>

Yamagata, G., Marotta, J. & Vazquez, P. (2025). Understanding Youth Gambling in Oregon: Patterns, Risks, and Prevention Opportunities: A Supplemental Report of the 2022 and 2024 Oregon Student Health Surveys. Oregon Health Authority, Problem Gambling Services. Salem, OR.