### Gambling in Delaware

**Age Restrictions**

Delaware residents must be 21 or older to **gamble in casinos, with slot machines, or on the internet.**

**Youth Gambling**

In recent surveys, **42% of 5th graders and 51% of 11th graders reported gambling in the past year.**

**Gender Differences**

In 2020, among 8th grade students in Delaware, **males (55%) gambled more than females (47%).**

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**Substance Use and Gambling**

The Delaware School Survey (DSS) includes several questions about gambling. In 2020, 8th graders who reported gambling in the past year **also reported higher rates of substance use** than those who did not gamble.

- **Alcohol:**
  - Did not gamble: 8
  - Gambled: 25

- **Marijuana:**
  - Did not gamble: 6
  - Gambled: 18

- **Prescription painkillers misuse:**
  - Did not gamble: 6
  - Gambled: 20

In 2020, more than **three times as many** 8th grade students who reported gambling also reported a lifetime misuse of prescription pain medicine compared to students who did not report gambling.

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**Source(s):**