

PROBLEM GAMBLING: CLOSE CONNECTIONS

PROBLEM GAMBLING NEW YORK STATE RESOURCE CENTERS *— Here to Help —*

Poverty & the Unhoused Population

Research shows individuals with the lowest socioeconomic status and neighborhoods with concentrated poverty are both significant risk factors for frequent gambling and problem gambling (PG).

All facts sourced from the following unless otherwise noted: Barnes, G. M., Welte, J. W., Tidwell, M. C., & Hoffman, J. H. (2013). Effects of Neighborhood Disadvantage on Problem Gambling and Alcohol Abuse. *Journal of behavioral addictions*, 2(2), 82–89. <https://doi.org/10.1556/JBA.2.2013.004>

4-6M

About 4-6 million Americans have a gambling problem; another 2 million have a gambling disorder (GD).
(National Council on Problem Gambling)



2X

PG is twice as likely in neighborhoods with high levels of concentrated poverty, as compared to the lowest poverty levels.



12%

Twelve percent of people experiencing homelessness meet diagnostic criteria for GD, a lifetime prevalence of nearly 12 times that found in the general population.
(Gerstein et al. 1999)



Lower income neighborhoods have a disproportionately higher number of gambling opportunities and access as compared to more affluent areas.



If you are interested in more information about this topic, you can reach out to your Regional Problem Gambling Resource Center (PGRC).

**Regional PGRC information can be found at
[NYProblemGamblingHELP.org](https://www.nyproblemgamblinghelp.org)**

PROBLEM GAMBLING WARNING SIGNS:

- Constant thoughts of gambling
- Borrowing money
- Irritability, restlessness, withdrawal
- Delay payment of bills
- Neglecting household duties
- Decline in personal hygiene
- Decline in health or hygiene
- Alienation from family and friends
- Inability to cut back / stop gambling
- Extreme guilt or shame
- Disappear for long periods of time
- Suicidal thoughts

Ask Yourself:

Have you ever felt the need to bet more and more money?

Have you ever lied to people who are important to you about how much you're gambling?



**Scan the QR code or visit
[NYProblemGamblingHELP.org/e-screener](https://www.nyproblemgamblinghelp.org/e-screener)
for personalized feedback & info.**

If you or someone you know are experiencing any of these warning signs, reach out to your local Problem Gambling Resource Center (PGRC) for confidential help and support.

**Local PGRC contact info can be found at
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