

ONLINE GAMBLING FACTS

SOURCE - <http://www.techaddiction.ca/online-gambling-statistics.html>

- "Pathological Gambling" was officially recognized as a clinical disorder in 1980 when it was first included in the DSM-III.
- Although most people are able to gamble responsibly, it is estimated that 3% of the population struggles with pathological gambling.
- The first online casino launched in August of 1996 (InterCasino, based in Antigua). Eighteen games were available at the time. There are now thousands of internet gambling websites and new online gambling businesses appear every day.
- Most online gambling websites are not affiliated with land-based casinos. This is widely thought to be because traditional casinos did not want to get involved with a business model that would take away from traditional sources of revenue. This policy appears to be changing as traditional casinos are now developing their own online gambling websites.
- There are no official product safety standards and regulations for online casinos. Players who choose to wager at online gambling websites essentially do so at their own risk.
- Playing on "free" internet gambling websites is a common activity for teenagers and young adults.
- Research suggests that young males are most likely to engage in online gambling.
- The first internet Bingo site went online in 1998.
- The first online poker site (PlanetPoker) also started in 1998
- The number of online poker websites dramatically increased in 2003 when the World Series of Poker became a popular television program.
- Total revenues from online casinos are difficult to pinpoint but have been estimated at \$12 billion in 2005 and 15.2 billion in 2006. In 2010, revenues were 29.3 billion.
- One in five online gamblers may be pathological gamblers
- Approximately 4% of teenagers have a gambling problem.