

# Massachusetts Gambling Screen (MAGS)

Please circle the response that best represents your answer.

<i>Questions</i>	<i>Responses</i>	
1. Have you ever gambled (for example, bet money on the lottery, bingo, sporting events, casino games, cards, racing or other games of chance)? .....	1. No	Yes
2. Have you ever experienced social, psychological or financial pressure to start gambling or increase how much you gamble? .....	2. No	Yes
3. How much do you usually gamble compared with most other people? .....	3. Less	About the same    More
4. Do you feel that the amount or frequency of your gambling is "normal"? .....	4. Yes	No
5. Do friends or relatives think of you as a "normal" gambler? ...	5. Yes	No
6. Do you ever feel pressure to gamble when you do not gamble? .....	6. No	Yes

*If you never have gambled, please skip to question #29 now.*

7. Do you ever feel guilty about your gambling .....	7. No	Yes
8. Does any member of your family ever worry or complain about your gambling? .....	8. No	Yes
9. Have you ever thought that you should reduce or stop gambling? .....	9. No	Yes
10. Are you always able to stop gambling when you want? .....	10. Yes	No
11. Has your gambling ever created problems between you and any member of your family or friends? .....	11. No	Yes
12. Have you ever gotten into trouble at work or school because of your gambling? .....	12. No	Yes
13. Have you ever neglected your obligations (e.g., family, work or school) for two or more days in a row because you were gambling? .....	13. No	Yes
14. Have you ever gone to anyone for help about your gambling?	14. No	Yes
15. Have you ever been arrested for a gambling related activity?..	15. No	Yes
16. Have you been preoccupied during the past 12 months with thinking of ways to get money for gambling or reliving past gambling experiences (e.g., handicapping, selecting a number)? .....	16. No	Yes
17. During the past 12 months, have you gambled increasingly larger amounts of money to experience your desired level of gambling excitement? .....	17. No	Yes
18. During the past 12 months, did you find that the same amount of gambling had less effect on you than before? .....	18. No	Yes
19. Has stopping gambling or cutting down how much you gamble made you feel restless or irritable during the past 12 months? .....	19. No	Yes



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<i>Questions</i>	<i>Responses</i>	
20. During the past 12 months, did you gamble to reduce any uncomfortable feelings (e.g., restlessness or irritability) that resulted from having previously stopped or reduced gambling? .....	20. No	Yes
21. Have you gambled as a way of escaping from problems or relieving feelings of helplessness, guilt, anxiety or depression during the past 12 months? .....	21. No	Yes
22. During the past 12 months, after losing money gambling, have you returned to gambling on another day to win back your lost money? .....	22. No	Yes
23. Have you lied to family members or others to conceal the extent to which you have been gambling during the past 12 months? .....	23. No	Yes
24. Have you committed any illegal acts (e.g., forgery, fraud, theft, embezzlement, etc.) during the past 12 months to finance your gambling? .....	24. No	Yes
25. During the past 12 months, have you jeopardized or lost a significant relationship, job, educational or career opportunity because of your gambling? .....	25. No	Yes
26. During the past 12 months, have you relied on other sources (e.g., family, friends, coworkers, bank) to provide you with money to resolve a desperate financial situation caused by your gambling? .....	26. No	Yes
27. During the past 12 months, have you made efforts unsuccessfully to limit, reduce or stop gambling? .....	27. No	Yes
28. How old were you when you placed your first bet? .....	28. <input style="width: 100px; height: 15px;" type="text"/>	
29. What is your sex? .....	29. Female	Male
30. What is your age as of your last birthday? .....	30. <input style="width: 100px; height: 15px;" type="text"/>	
31. How honest were your responses to each of the questions on this survey? .....	31. Not at all honest Somewhat dishonest Somewhat honest Very honest	

*Thank you for your cooperation!*

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 An affiliate of The National Council on Problem Gambling Inc.  
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# Massachusetts Gambling Screen (MAGS)

## Scoring Guide Instructions

### *Step One*

- Administer the Massachusetts Gambling Screen<sup>1</sup> (MAGS) to the respondent.

### *Step Two*

- On the Scoring Guide, indicate the respondent's survey answers by circling the appropriate response option for each of the specified questions. The question numbers on the Scoring Guide refer to the question numbers on the MAGS survey.

*Not all of the MAGS survey items are used on the Scoring Guide.*

### *Step Three*

- For each question, write the selected value on the corresponding line.

### *Step Four*

- Add the seven (7) scores for the MAGS items.
- Enter the sum on the Subtotal line.
- Next, *subtract* the value .62. Enter the resulting value on the TOTAL 1 line.
- To classify the respondent according to MAGS criteria, refer to the MAGS Classification Key and select the category that corresponds to the value on the TOTAL 1 line.

### *Step Five*

- Add the twelve (12) scores for the DSM-IV items.
- Enter the sum on the TOTAL 2 line.
- To classify the respondent according to the DSM-IV criteria, refer to the DSM-IV Classification Key and select the category that corresponds to the value on the TOTAL 2 line.

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<sup>1</sup> Shaffer, H.J., LaBrie, R., Scanlan, K.M. & Cummings, T.N. (1994). Pathological Gambling Among Adolescents: Massachusetts Gambling Screen (MAGS). *Journal of Gambling Studies*, 10(4), 339-362.

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## Scoring Guide

*To classify according to the MAGS:*

(6) no = 0	yes = .63	_____
(8) no = 0	yes = .91	_____
(10) yes = 0	no = .56	_____
(11) no = 0	yes = .93	_____
(12) no = 0	yes = 1.51	_____
(13) no = 0	yes = 1.53	_____
(15) no = 0	yes = 1.63	_____
	Subtotal =	_____
	subtract	0.62
	<b>Total 1</b>	_____

### MAGS Classification Key

- If the value on the Total 1 line is a negative number, the respondent is classified as: Nonpathological.
- If the value on the Total 1 line is between 0 and 2 (including 0 and 2), the respondent is classified as In Transition.
- If the value on the Total 1 line is *greater than 2*, the respondent is classified as Pathological.

*To classify according to DSM-IV:*

(16) no = 0	yes = 1	_____
(17) no = 0	yes = .5	_____
(18) no = 0	yes = .5	_____
(19) no = 0	yes = .5	_____
(20) no = 0	yes = .5	_____
(21) no = 0	yes = 1	_____
(22) no = 0	yes = 1	_____
(23) no = 0	yes = 1	_____
(24) no = 0	yes = 1	_____
(25) no = 0	yes = 1	_____
(26) no = 0	yes = 1	_____
(27) no = 0	yes = 1	_____
	<b>Total 2</b>	_____

### DSM-IV Classification Key

- If the value on the Total 2 line is less than 5, the respondent is classified as: Nonpathological.
- If the value on the Total 2 line is 5 or greater, the respondent is classified as Pathological.