



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF DRUG AND
ALCOHOL PROGRAMS

**Pennsylvania Department of
Drug and Alcohol Programs**

**Compulsive and Problem
Gambling Annual Report**

2021

About This Document

The Pennsylvania Racehorse Development and Gaming Act requires the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) to develop an annual report on the impact of the programs funded by the Compulsive and Problem Gambling Treatment Fund (CPGT). This report fulfills these requirements for the State Fiscal Year (SFY) of July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021. This document also includes information on the State Gaming Fund which is allotted to the Single County Authorities (SCA) for SUD assessments that are associated or related to problem gambling and SUD treatment.

Compulsive and Problem Gambling Treatment Fund

Act 71 of 2004, the Pennsylvania Racehorse Development and Gaming Act, establishes the CPGT as a mandated annual transfer of dollars from the State Gaming Fund to DDAP. Act 1 of 2010 specifies that the amount transferred annually be \$2,000,000 or an amount equal to .002 multiplied by the total gross terminal revenue of all active and operating licensed gaming entities, whichever is greater. DDAP uses CPGT funds to maintain a crisis counseling and referral helpline, promote awareness regarding recognition and prevention of compulsive and problem gambling, facilitate the availability of effective assistance programs for individuals with a gambling problem and affected family members, and conduct studies to identify Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (commonwealth) citizens at risk of developing a gambling disorder. Act 42 of 2017 expanded gaming to include a new category of mini casino licenses, interactive gaming, fantasy gaming, sports betting, truck stop and airport gaming terminals.

Each year an amount is transferred into the CPGT fund and the balance is monitored to maintain ongoing gambling prevention and treatment services. During the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 (SFY 2020-21), over \$2.6 million was transferred to the CPGT fund. DDAP distributed approximately \$4.3 million of the CPGT fund for compulsive and problem gambling prevention and treatment for SFY 2020-21. Approximately 68 percent of the total was provided to the Single County Authorities (SCAs) for the purpose of problem gambling needs assessments, prevention programs, outreach programs, education programs, and other DDAP-approved services. Fourteen percent was distributed directly to gambling treatment providers to provide outpatient gambling counseling to residents of the commonwealth. The remaining 18 percent was used for administration, oversight of the programs, trainings, and helpline services associated with problem gambling.

The Problem Gambling Helpline

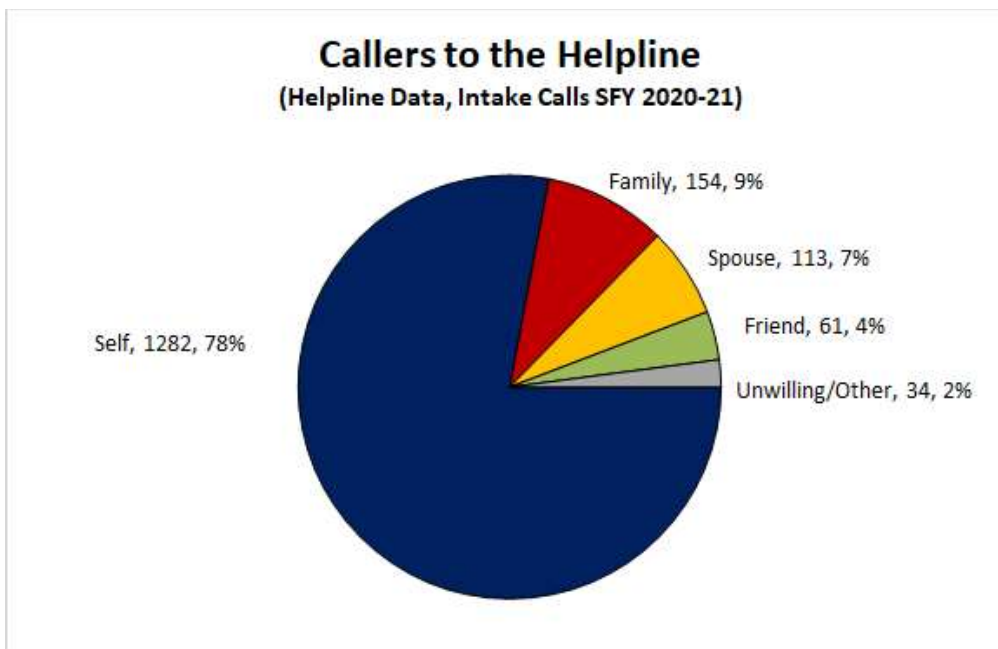
DDAP contracts with the Council on Compulsive Gambling of Pennsylvania, Inc. (CCGP) to manage its toll-free Pennsylvania Gambling Helpline, 1-800-GAMBLER.

The helpline provides confidential crisis counseling and referral services for problem gamblers and their family members who may be affected by problem gambling. Calls to the helpline are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, by professionally trained operators and includes an option for internet chat and texting.

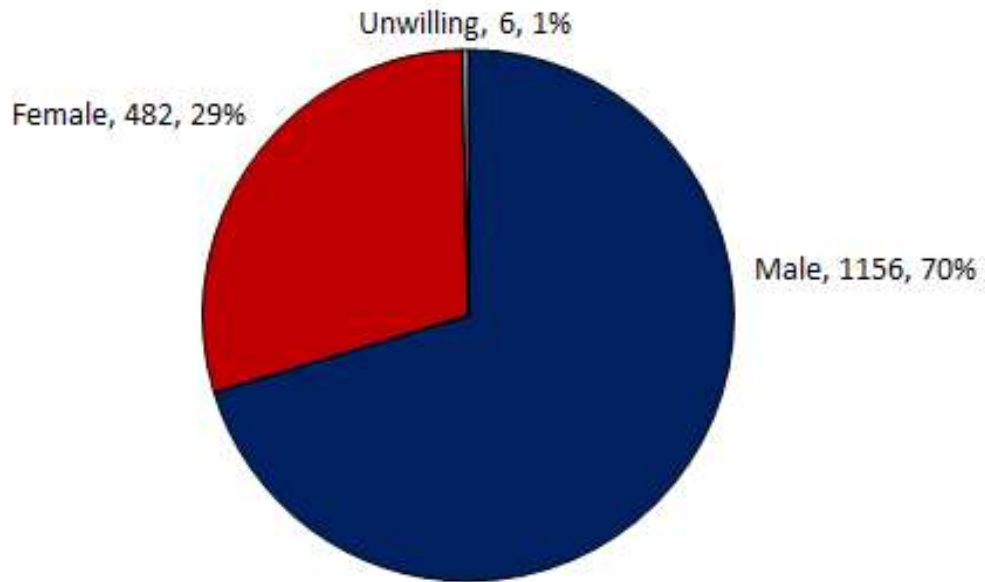
The helpline provides translation services with over 60 languages, and operators collect as much data as the context of the call allows, including demographics and gambling related data. Resources given from the helpline include referrals to treatment providers, Gamblers Anonymous (GA) and Gam-Anon meetings, financial aid services, and informational handouts.

The data provided on pages 5-7 reflect the helpline data for SFY 2020-21. During this time, a total of 1,644 calls to the helpline were intakes for problem gambling treatment resources. Calls to the helpline come from the counties across the commonwealth with the highest numbers from Philadelphia and Allegheny counties. The most frequent demographic of callers was Caucasian men calling for themselves. The callers' most frequent precipitating problem was financial hardships due to gambling (59%) and the most frequently identified type of problematic gambling was online gaming (20%).

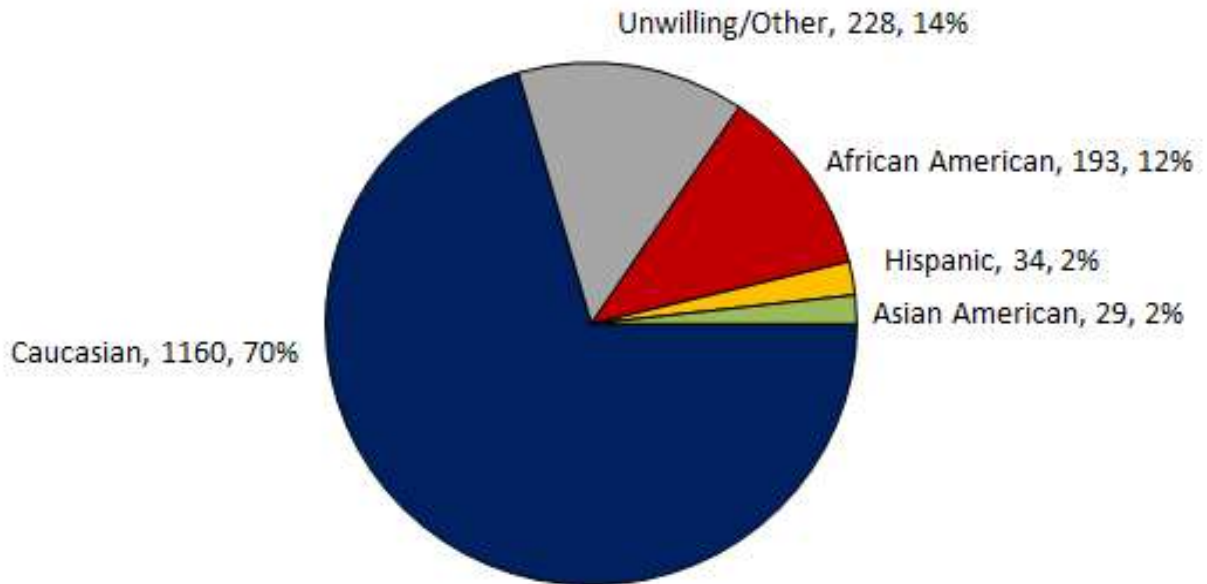
During SFY 2020-21 the impact of COVID-19 closed brick and mortar gambling venues in the commonwealth for a period of months. Due to limited access to these venues and the increased stress of the COVID-19 pandemic, more individuals steered to interactive gaming. The results of this are shown in the increase of younger individuals participating in gambling and the increase in problem gambling resulting from interactive gaming.



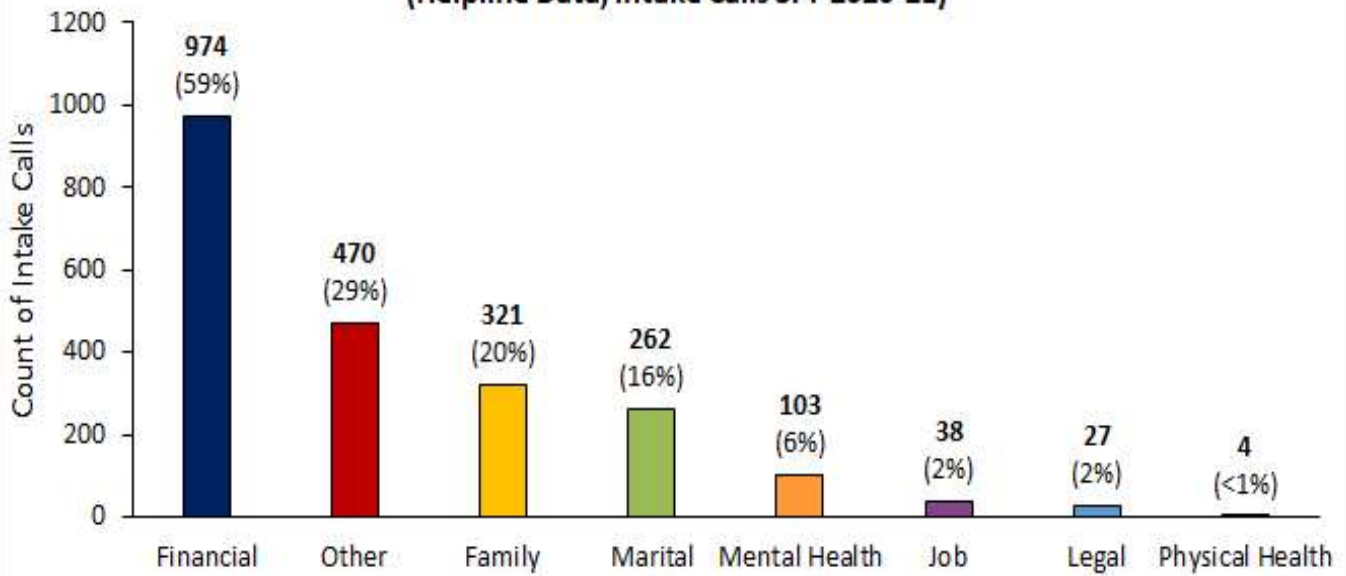
Gender of Caller (Helpline Data, Intake Calls SFY 2020-21)



Ethnicity of Caller (Helpline Data, Intake Calls SFY 2020-21)

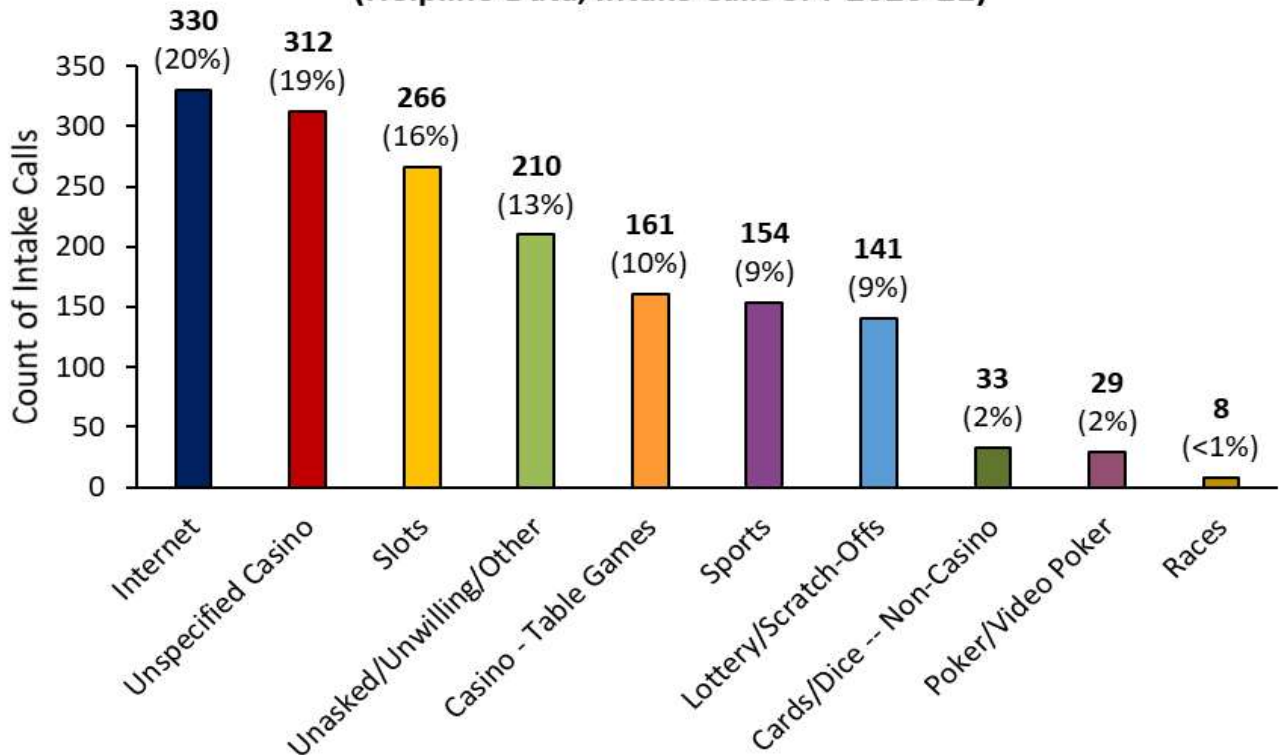


Precipitating Problem(s) (Helpline Data, Intake Calls SFY 2020-21)



Caller's Most Problematic Type of Gambling

(Helpline Data, Intake Calls SFY 2020-21)



Problem Gambling Treatment Providers

As of June 30, 2021, DDAP entered into contracts with 54 agencies to provide problem gambling treatment services. DDAP conducts continuous recruitment activities to engage counselors available to provide treatment services throughout the commonwealth. DDAP maintains information regarding the number of contracted providers and counties on the DDAP website at: [Gambling Providers or Agencies in PA.](#)

DDAP annually monitors its contracted gambling treatment providers for compliance with the provisions in the Gambling Treatment Services Manual. The monitoring process includes onsite or offsite visits depending on the number of clients each provider served in the previous fiscal year.

During SFY 2020-21, CDC guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic that limited in-person treatment options for health and safety reasons reduced treatment providers' ability to reach clients. DDAP issued emergency exceptions that permitted the use of telehealth services by to allow gambling treatment providers to continue services uninterrupted during the pandemic. This flexibility also allowed individuals to enter treatment regardless of other common barriers such as a lack of transportation, parking fees, disabilities, or travel distance to a provider.

Impact of Problem Gambling Treatment

The following data were collected by outpatient problem gambling treatment providers on clients that were treated for a gambling disorder using the CPGT funds. A total of \$591,642 was expended in SFY 2020-21. For this report, an admission is counted when a client enters treatment and is paid for using CPGT funding. A discharge is counted when CPGT funding is no longer being used, even if the client remains in treatment.

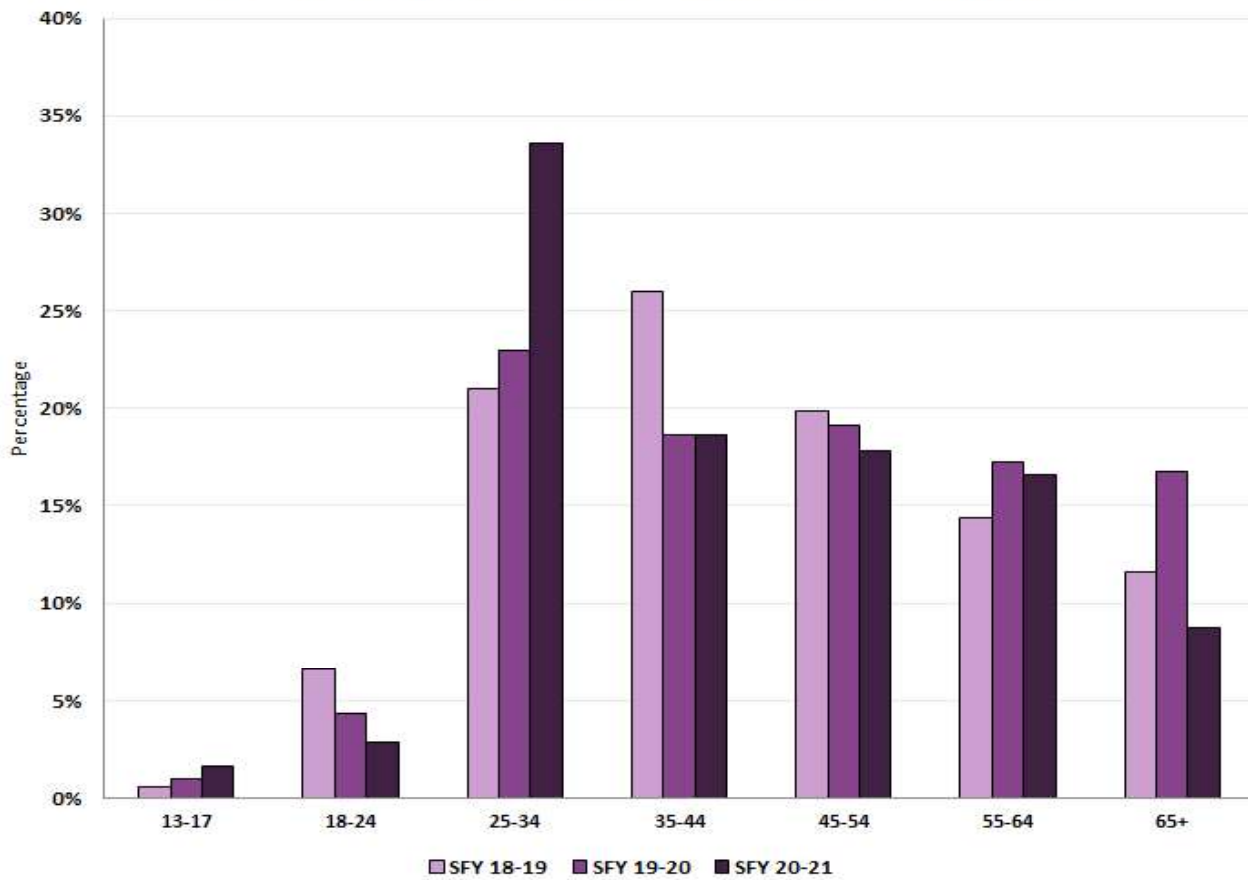
Total Admissions and Discharges

Shown as actual figure, SFYs 18-19 to 20-21

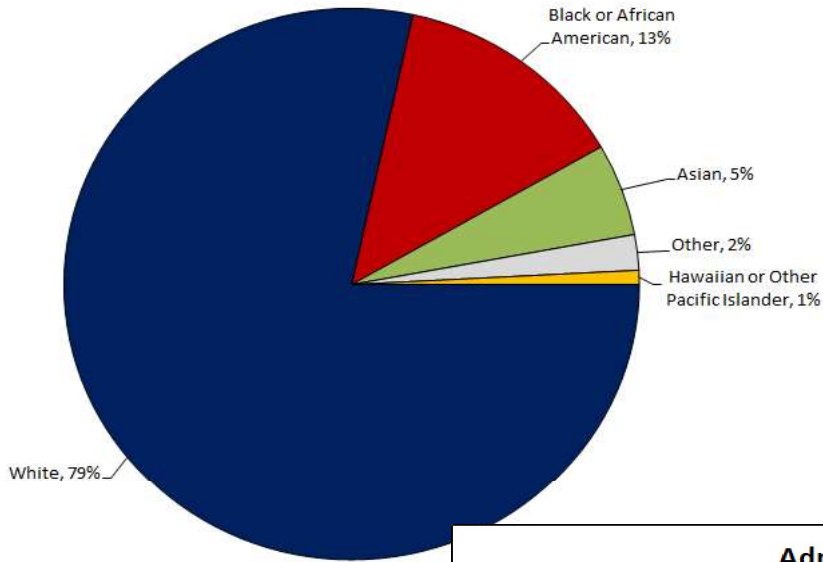


Age Group of Client

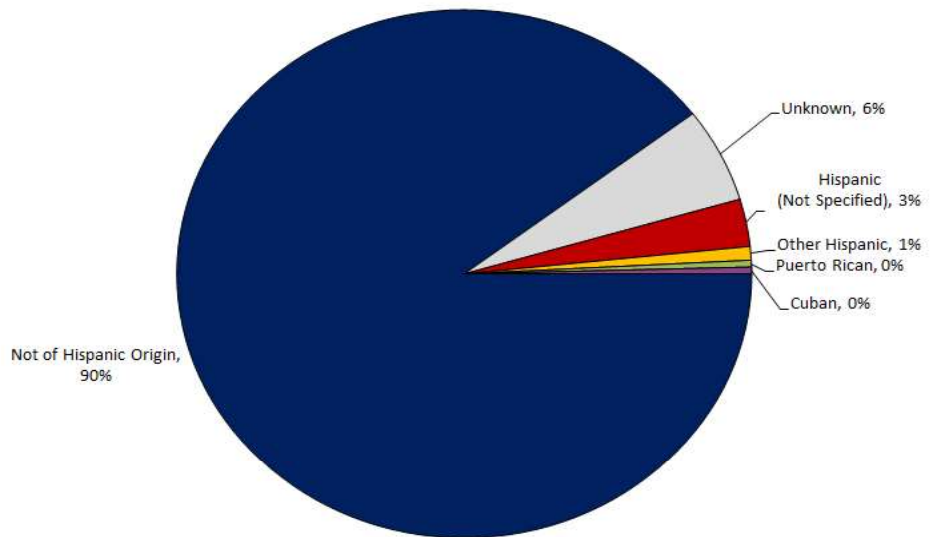
Percentage of Admissions accounted for by age group, SFYs 18-19 to 20-21



Admissions by Race
Shown as percentage, SFY 2020-21 data

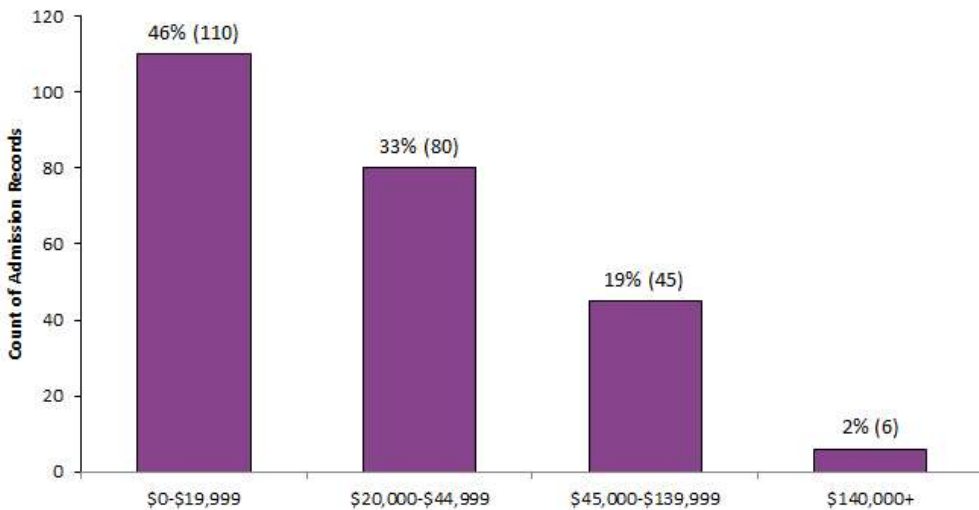


Admissions by Ethnicity
Shown as percentage, SFY 2020-21 data



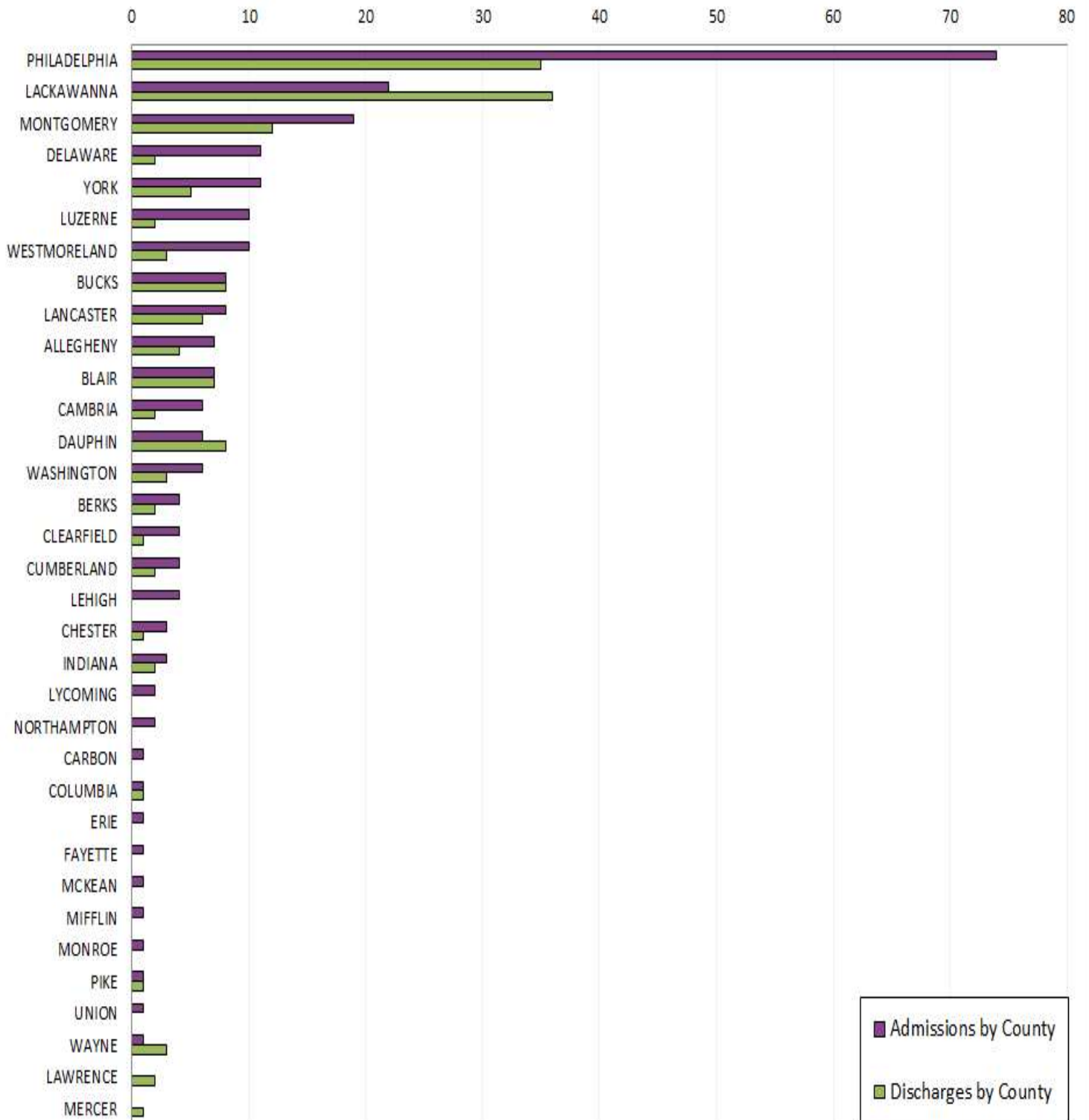
Admissions by Income

Percentage (Count) of admissions reporting income level, SFY 2020-21 data



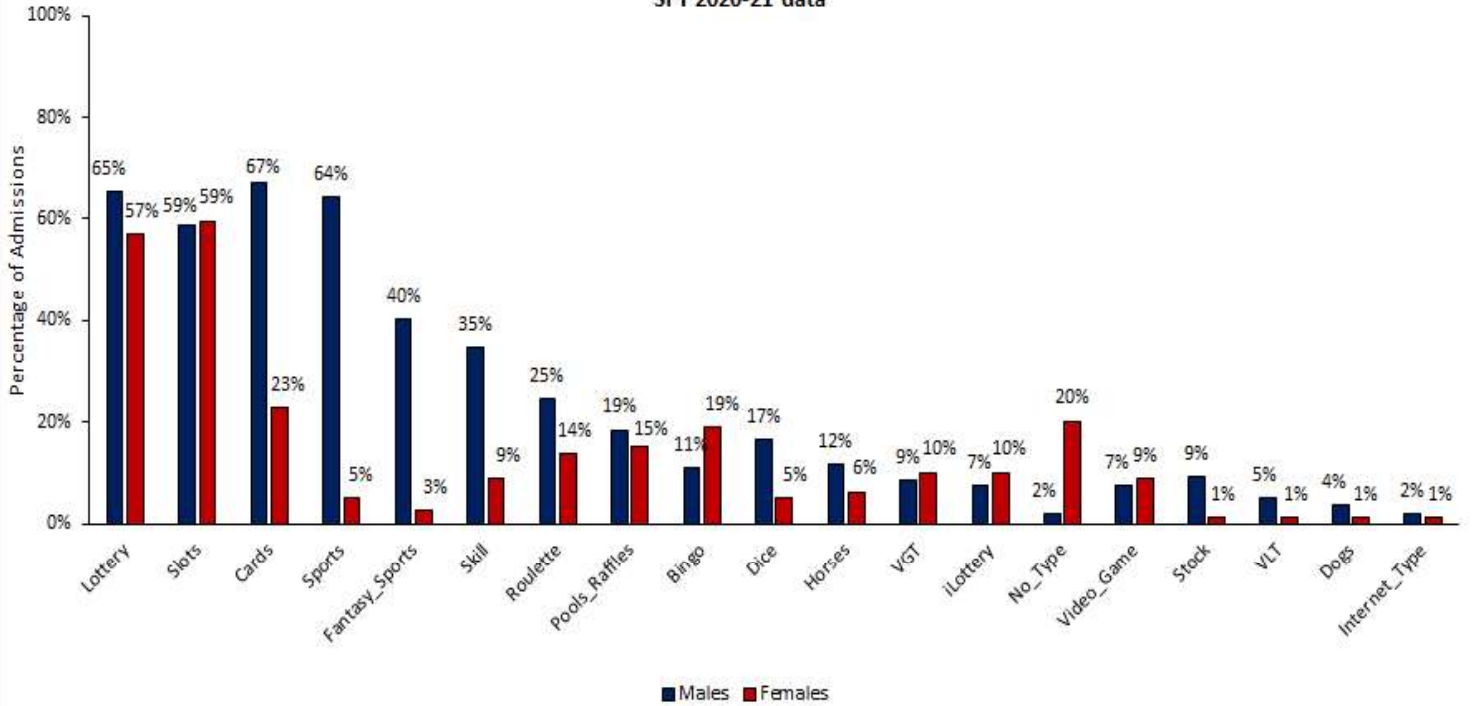
Admissions/Discharges by County of Residence

Shown as actual figure, SFY 2020-21 data



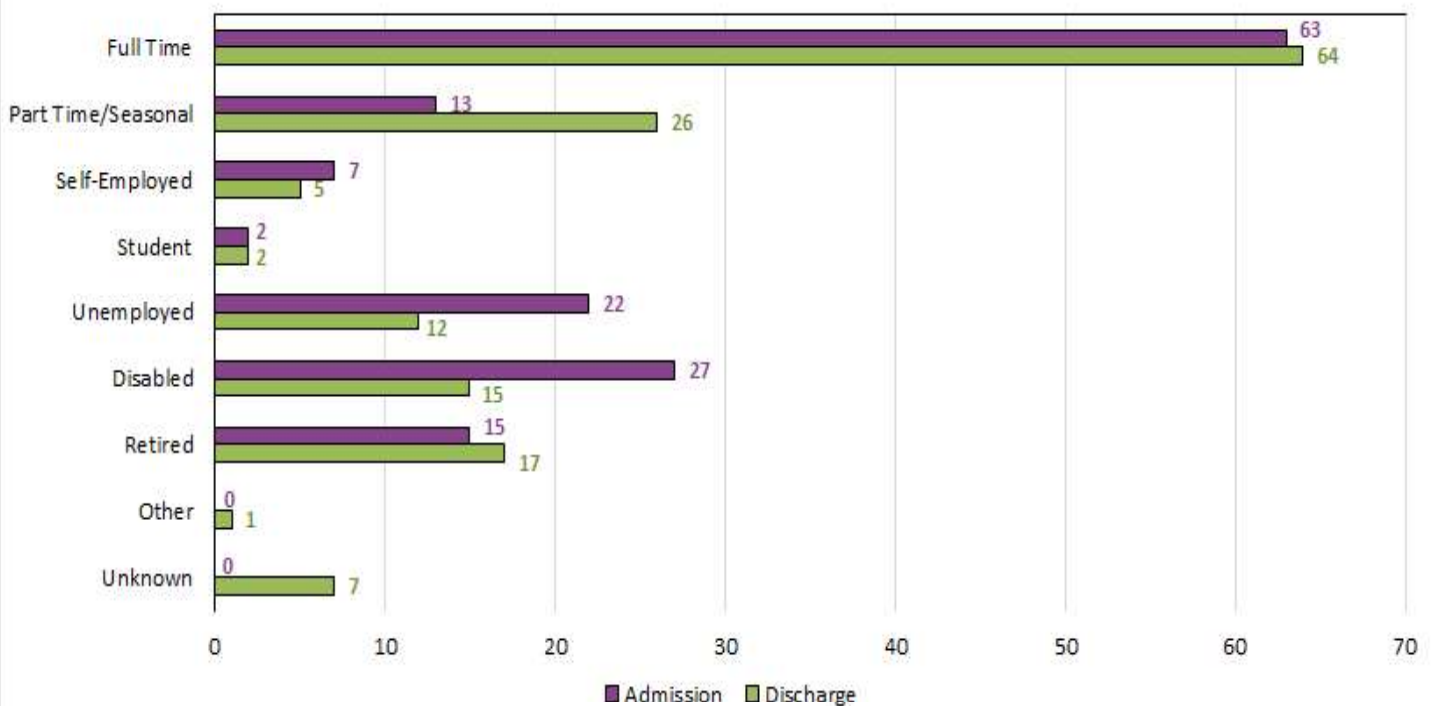
Preferred Gambling Methods by Gender

Percentage of admissions for each gender reporting method, ordered by total admissions reporting method
SFY 2020-21 data



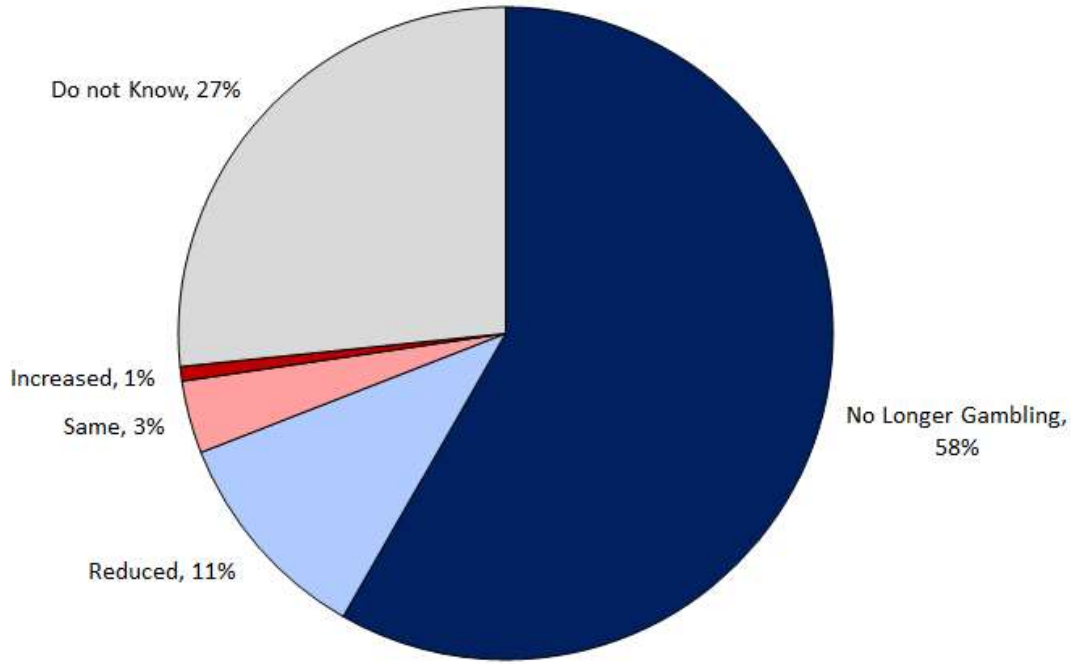
Employment Status at Admission vs. Discharge

Record count with employment status at admission/discharge, for discharges during SFY20-21



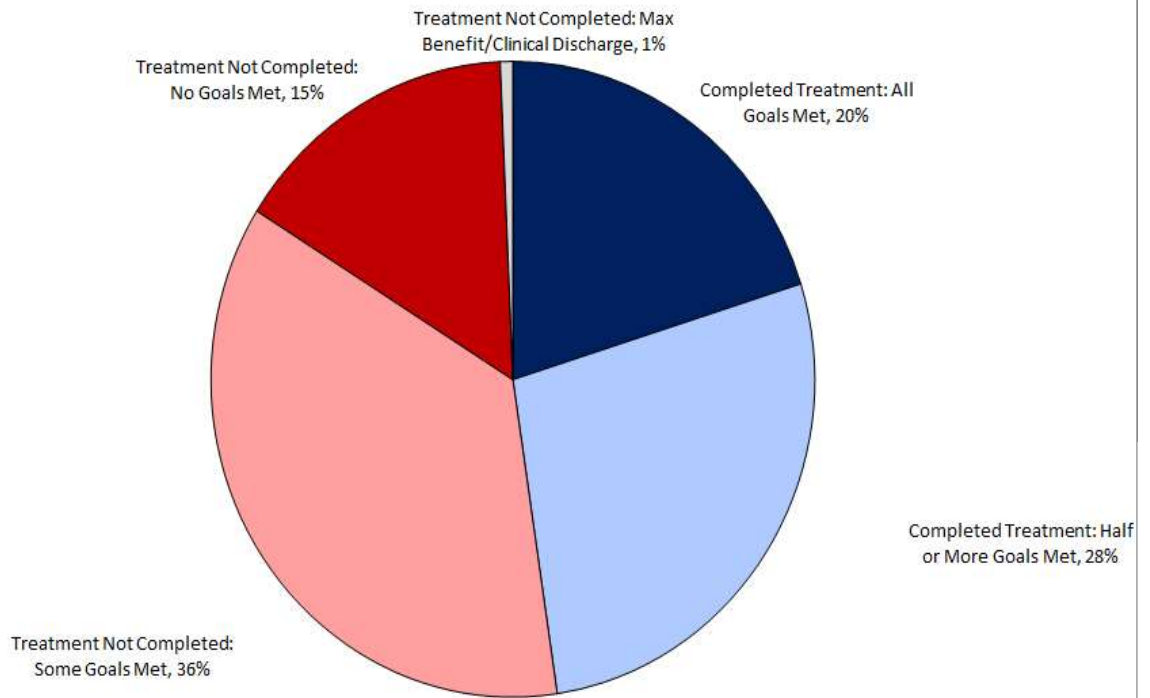
Change in Gambling Frequency from Admission to Discharge

Shown as percentage, SFY 2020-21 data
Discharges for Family of Gambler Omitted



Discharge Status (Goals Met or Unmet)

Shown as percentage, SFY 2020-21 data



Prevention of Problem Gambling

DDAP's problem gambling prevention goals are:

- increase awareness of underage and adult problem gambling / gaming as well as the risk and protective factors that influence problematic behaviors
- increase awareness of resources available to help individuals and family members who are impacted by problem gambling and gaming
- promote the Problem Gambling Helpline
- promote best practices in the prevention of problem gambling and gaming

DDAP seeks to achieve these prevention goals by executing best-practice programming, strategies, and activities at the local, community level in collaboration with contracted SCAs. Funds are provided to SCAs to enhance their ability to:

- assess community needs in the areas of problem gambling and gaming and the associated risk and protective factors
- develop a plan to address identified needs
- implement, monitor, and evaluate problem gambling and gaming prevention programs and services as outlined in the SCA's plan

The following 42 SCAs were awarded \$3,327,764 in SFY 2020-21 as listed below:

SCA	Allocation	SCA	Allocation	SCA	Allocation
Allegheny	\$123,816.00	Clearfield/Jefferson	\$80,644.00	Lebanon	\$73,579.00
Armstrong/Indiana/ Clarion	\$110,577.00	CMSU	\$27,926.00	Lehigh	\$21,252.00
Beaver	\$42,219.00	Crawford	\$39,355.00	Luzerne/ Wyoming	\$78,078.00
Bedford	\$36,260.00	Cumberland/Perry	\$10,724.00	Lycoming/Clinton	\$37,722.00
Berks	\$118,482.00	Dauphin	\$93,031.00	Mercer	\$16,007.00
Blair	\$47,494.00	Delaware	\$155,561.00	Montgomery	\$1,723.00
Bradford/Sullivan	\$5,000.00	Erie	\$363,150.00	Northampton	\$25,000.00
Bucks	\$143,743.00	Fayette	\$113,171.00	Northumberland	\$15,000.00
Butler	\$82,837.00	Forest/Warren	\$52,097.00	Philadelphia	\$643,126.00
Cambria	\$68,730.00	Franklin/Fulton	\$27,115.00	Schuylkill	\$19,772.00
Cameron/Elk/McKean	\$43,836.00	Greene	\$19,187.00	Venango	\$35,426.00
Carbon/Monroe/Pike	\$34,393.00	Lackawanna/ Susquehanna	\$36,000.00	Washington	\$54,155.00
Centre	\$60,401.00	Lancaster	\$174,537.00	Westmoreland	\$65,643.00
Chester	\$35,000.00	Lawrence	\$47,492.00	York/Adams	\$48,503.00

Problem gambling prevention programs, services, and activities served a total of 35,703 people in SFY 2020-21. Media Dissemination activities reached an additional estimated 5,852,556 people.

Prevention Programs/ Services (PG=Problem Gambling)	# of SCAs implementing Program	Number of People Served per Program/Service*
Education Programs		
All Bets Are Off	1	76
Cyber Gambling Awareness/CGAP	2	46
Gambling Away the Golden Years	3	540
In Search of Balance	1	11
Know Limits	3	157
PG Education Activities (Other)	1	9
Leaps and Bounds	1	10
Safe Bet	1	45
Stacked Deck	5	388
Student Assistance Program/SAP	9	2,045
Teens and Technology	1	444
The Council for Boys and Young Men	1	4
Too Much to Lose (2M2L)	1	423
Wanna Bet?	6	860
We Know BETter	11	4,386
Youth Gambling & Prevention Awareness Level I	1	405
Youth Gambling & Prevention Awareness Level II	3	1,452
Other Programs		
PG Prevention Training & Professional Development	1	400
PG Environmental Activities	2	575
PG Community Based Process Activities	18	1,667
PG Speaking Engagements/ Presentations	15	7,409
PG Health Promotion via Community Events	13	12,708
PG Alternative Activities	5	2,503
	Education & Other Subtotal	35,703
Media Dissemination		
PG Media via Radio/TV/Periodical/Billboard	16	4,385,468
PG Printed Material Dissemination (Paper/Email (Flyers, Brochures, Newsletters)	28	947,502
PG Web-based Media Dissemination	32	519,586
	Media Subtotal	5,852,556

*A difference in numbers SFY 2019-20 to 2020-21 can be attributed to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. Examples included prohibited staff travel, statewide bans on in-person events, and schools implementing tele-classrooms which deprioritized prevention programming. In response, prevention providers shifted to convert to virtual programs, where possible, and to build web-based and email social media awareness programs as opposed to billboards, printed materials for in-person events, and radio. **Media reach is based on provider/vendor estimates for territory reached by media.

State Gaming Fund

Act 71 of 2004, the Pennsylvania Racehorse Development and Gaming Act, established the State Gaming Fund to receive gaming license fees and 34 percent of the gross terminal revenue (GTR) generated by licensed gaming facilities. The State Gaming Fund receives 52 percent of gross interactive gaming revenue (GIGR) generated through simulated slot machines and 14 percent of GIGR generated through simulated table games. State Gaming Fund revenues are annually distributed to the programs highlighted on the next pages, and the remainder is transferred to the Property Tax Relief Fund. Also, licensed gaming facilities deposit an additional 4 percent of GTR for slot machines, 2 percent of gross table game revenue, and 2 percent of GIGR in the State Gaming Fund for local share distributions where gaming facilities are located.

The portion of the State Gaming Fund that is allocated to the SCAs is solely for financing Substance Use Disorder (SUD) assessments, including SUD assessments associated or related to compulsive and problem gambling, and for related SUD treatment. This information is included in the table on the following page, which highlights the funding allocated for SFY 2020-21:

SCA	Allocation	SCA	Allocation
Allegheny	\$401,241	Greene	\$ 9,318
Armstrong/ Indiana/ Clarion	\$ 52,479	Huntingdon/ Mifflin/ Juniata	\$ 20,148
Beaver	\$ 49,780	Lackawanna/ Susquehanna	\$ 69,034
Bedford	\$ 10,767	Lancaster	\$116,229
Berks	\$125,652	Lawrence	\$ 34,663
Blair	\$ 34,461	Lebanon	\$ 28,590
Bradford/ Sullivan	\$ 13,788	Lehigh	\$109,646
Bucks	\$122,666	Luzerne/ Wyoming	\$119,809
Butler	\$ 53,261	Lycoming/ Clinton	\$ 36,519
Cambria	\$ 40,004	Mercer	\$ 30,004
Cameron/ Elk/ McKean	\$ 26,225	Montgomery	\$184,503
Carbon/ Monroe/ Pike	\$ 45,840	Northampton	\$ 67,612
Centre	\$ 27,163	Northumberland	\$ 18,418
Chester	\$149,095	Philadelphia	\$ 547,426
Clearfield/ Jefferson	\$ 25,608	Potter	\$ 4,115
Columbia/ Montour/ Snyder/ Union	\$ 31,262	Schuylkill	\$ 47,030
Crawford	\$ 18,877	Somerset	\$ 20,560
Cumberland/ Perry	\$ 53,792	Tioga	\$ 8,606
Dauphin	\$ 59,987	Venango	\$ 16,823
Delaware	\$179,868	Washington	\$ 59,680
Erie	\$119,052	Wayne	\$10,932
Fayette	\$ 32,916	Westmoreland	\$ 66,795
Forest/ Warren	\$ 10,950	York/ Adams	\$ 88,451
Franklin/ Fulton	\$ 28,355		
Grand Total Allocated			\$3,428,000

*Detailed breakout for each county is available upon request