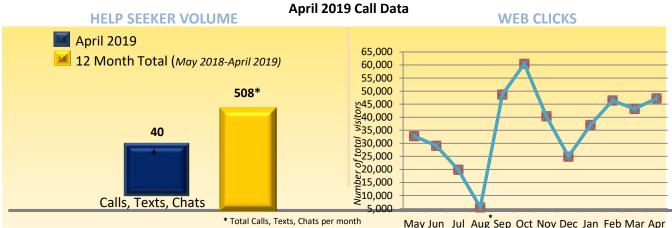
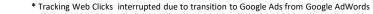


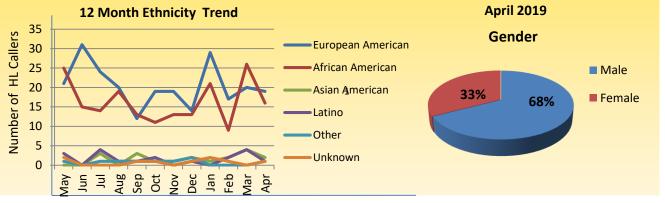
Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling

Helpline Report



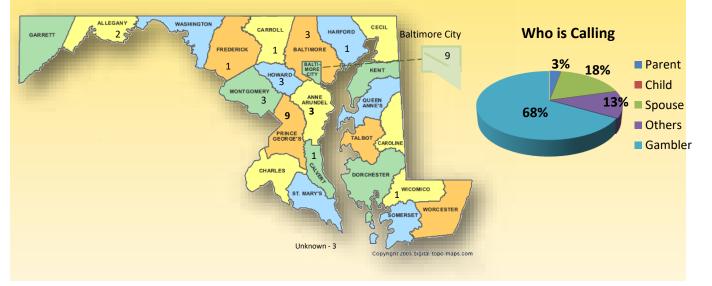
May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr





MARYLAND COUNTY STATISTICS

Number of Help Seeking Callers per Jurisdiction - April 2019





Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling Helpline Report April 2019

Summary

April Helpline call numbers (n=40) decreased 24% from March. April calls also represents total help seeking volume (no texts or chats recorded). Although helpline calls decreased from previous month, overall web traffic in April increased (9%). Callers were reported in every jurisdiction this month within the Central region (Baltimore, Baltimore City, Carroll, Harford, Howard, and Montgomery). Casino as primary gambling problem increased 12% over March. Requests for information on the Maryland Voluntary Exclusion Program (VEP) increased 14% this month. Electronic media as source of Helpline number increased 8% over March; Bill Boards as source also increased (6%).

- Gender: 68% male (n=27); 33% female (n=13).
- Ethnicity: European American callers comprised 48% (n=19) of total helpline callers in April. African American callers comprised 40% (n=16). Asian American comprised 5% (n=2). Latino and other ethnicity callers each comprised 3% (n=1).
- Who is Calling: Gamblers comprised 68% (n=27) of total help seeking calls in April. Calls from a spouse/significant other comprised 18% (n=7). Calls from others (friends, family members) comprised 13% (n=5). Calls from a parent comprised 3% (n=1). No calls from a child (son or daughter) were recorded this month.
- Primary Gambling Problem:
 - 88% (n=35) of help seekers reported casino-based gambling as the primary gambling problem. Of those help seekers, 31% reported slot machines (n=11), and 69% reported other casino games (n=24) as most problematic.
 - Lottery totaled 5% (n=2).
 - Non-casino video poker totaled 3% (n=1).
 - Internet totaled 3% (n=1).
 - 3% (n=1) were unwilling to reveal.

TREATMENT REFERRALS

40 help seeking calls:

- **Referrals:** were given to 37 help seeking callers (93%) and most received multiple referrals:
 - Treatment Providers: 70% of callers were referred to trained behavioral health providers providing no cost treatment (n=26).
 - **G.A.:** 62% of callers were given information about Gamblers Anonymous meetings (n=23). 27% were referred to other support groups (n=10).
 - Peer Support: 59% were referred to telephonic support with a trained person in recovery (n=22).
 - Internet: 38% were given internet resources (n=14).
 - Referrals to Maryland Coalition of Families/MCF represented 38% (n=14).
 - Lottery Self-Exclusion: 27% were referred to the Maryland voluntary self exclusion program (n=10).
 - Requests for Mailed Information comprised 5% (n=2).
 - Referrals to Credit Counseling comprised 5% (n=2).
- Refused: 8% of callers refused any referrals (n=3)

Analysis

CALLER PROFILE

68% of total help seeking callers in April were Gamblers. Calls from others (friends, family members) increased 13% over March. Calls from a spouse/significant other also increased (7%). European American callers increased 11% this month. Relative percentage of male callers increased by 9%. Help seekers in age group 35-44 increased 7% in April. Data is analyzed on a monthly and quarterly basis to identify any help seeking call trends.

SOURCE OF HELPLINE INFORMATION

- 43% Electronic media (internet, radio) (n=17)
- 28% Casino (n=11)
- 8% Billboard (n=3)
- 3% Family, Friends, Therapist (n=1)
- 3% Lottery (n=1)
- 3% Printed materials (brochures) (n=1)
- 15% Did not report how they found the helpline (n=6)

WEBSITE TRAFFIC

Overall web traffic in April (47,216 sessions) increased (9%) from March (43,182 sessions).

- Help seeker website traffic (43,930 sessions) represent 93% of total web traffic.
- Support Groups represented the most visited page (223 views) by help seekers. recorded the most views by help seekers. Find a Counselor was the second most visited (177 views).
- Visits to the Center's main website mdproblemgambling.com increased 29% over previous month due in part to the registration launch for the 7th Annual Maryland Conference on Problem Gambling (June 14, 2019).
- Clicks on Facebook and Instagram Ads recorded over 1,700 clicks.
- Total views to date on YouTube Videos have exceeded 700,000 views.
- No Helpline chat or text intakes were recorded this month.

AGE

In April, relative percentage of callers increased in age groups 35-44 (7%) (n=7) and 65 plus (3%) (n=7). Callers in age groups 18-24 (2%) (n=0), 25-34 (1%) (n=4), 45-54 (5%) (n=6) and 55-64 (5%) (n=4) decreased.

