Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling

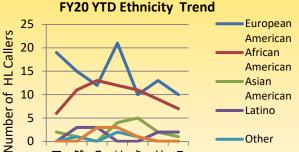
Helpline Report January 2020 Call Data

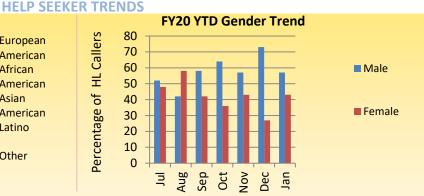


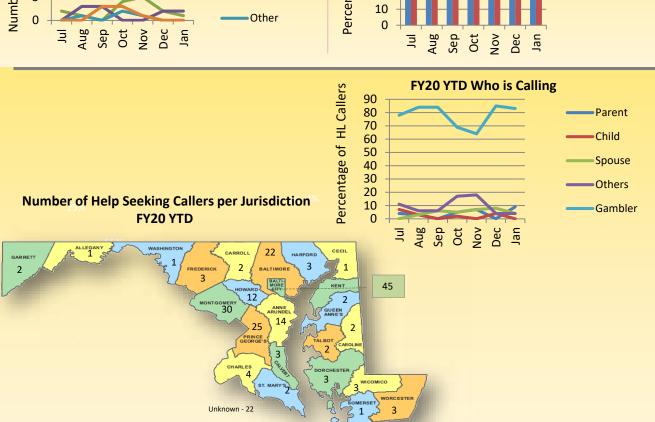
FY20 YTD WEB CLICKS



* Transition to new Web Management Service, limited Google Ads may affect traffic statistics







Summary

January Help seeker outreach (n=23) decreased slightly (10%) over December (n=26); decrease may be attributed to trend for lower calls during the holiday season (December and January). Overall web traffic decreased slightly (18%) over the prior month. Help seeker calls from Baltimore County increased 5% in January. No callers were reported in the West region. Casino slot machines as main gambling problem increased 8% in January. Requests for Maryland Lottery Self-Exclusion increased for second straight month, reporting a 9% increase this month; referrals to a "no cost" Treatment Provider also increased (4%). Friends/Family members as source of the helpline number increased (4%) over the previous month.

Gender: 57% male (n=13); 43% female (n=10).

Ethnicity: European American callers comprised 43% (n=10) of helpline callers in January. African 9% (n=2). Asian American callers comprised 4% (n=1). No other ethnicities were recorded this month.

Who is Calling: Gamblers comprised 83% (n=19) of total help seeking calls in January. Calls from a parent comprised 9% (n=2). Calls from a spouse/significant other and others (friend, family member) each comprised 4% (n=1). No calls from a child were recorded.

Primary Gambling Problem:

- 65% (n=15) of help seekers reported casino-based gambling as the primary gambling problem. Of those help seekers, 67% reported slot machines (n=10), and 33% reported other casino games (n=5) as most problematic.
- Lottery totaled 9% (n=2)
- Internet totaled 4% (n=1)
- Race track/horse racing totaled 4% (n=1)
- Non Casino sports 4% (n=1)

TREATMENT REFERRALS

23 help seeking calls:

- **Referrals:** were given 21 help seeking callers (91%) and most received multiple referrals:
 - Treatment Providers: 81% of callers were referred to trained behavioral health providers providing no cost treatment (n=17).
 - **G.A.: 67**% of callers were given information about Gamblers Anonymous meetings (n=14). 19% were referred to **other support groups** (n=4).
 - Peer Support: 57% were referred to telephonic support with a trained person in recovery (n=12).
 - **Internet:** 29% were given internet resources (n=6).
 - Lottery Self-Exclusion: 24% were referred to the Maryland voluntary self exclusion program (n=5).
 - Referrals to Maryland Coalition of Families/MCF represented 5% (n=1).
- Refused: 10% of callers refused any referrals (n=2).

Analysis

CALLER PROFILE

83% of total help seeking callers in January were Gamblers; calls from a Parent increased 9% over the previous month. European American callers this month exceeded other ethnicities; Latino callers recorded a slight relative percentage increase (1%). Although Male callers exceeded Female callers in January, Female callers reported a 16% increase this month over December relative percentage. Help seekers in age group 18-24 reported the highest increase in January (4%). Data is analyzed on a monthly and quarterly basis to identify any help seeking call trends.

SOURCE OF HELPLINE INFORMATION

- 43% Electronic media (internet) (n=10)
- 22% Casino (n=5)
- 9% Lottery (n=2)
- 4% Friends/Family Members (n=1)
- 22% Unwilling (n=5)

WEBSITE TRAFFIC

Overall web traffic in January (22,300 sessions) decreased slightly (18%) over December (26,948 sessions). Limited reporting is available during the transition to new web management service (new service in place in 3rd Quarter).

- Promotion of help seeker website –
 helpmygamblingproblem.org continues to be a priority and is
 included in all outreach.
- Find a Counselor page continues to be the most visited page.
- Five (n=5) Chat intakes were recorded this month.
- · No text intakes were recorded.

AGE

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

