2022 Maryland Gambling Prevalence Survey Highlights



The Maryland Center *of* Excellence *on* Problem Gambling

Gambling Behavior

- 90.4% of Marylanders reported that they had ever gambled (compared to 89.7% in 2010; 87% in 2017 and 92.3% in 2020).
- Types of gambling: Lottery-82.7%; Casino-74.1%; Gaming machine outside of a casino-33.4%; Sports Betting-30.1%; Private Games-27.7%; Bingo-27.5%; Horse racing-19.5%
- 6.8% of Marylanders who had ever played the lottery reported playing daily or several times/week
- Of those who had ever gambled in a casino, 68.5% reported they had not gambled in a casino in the past 12 months and 23.2% had gambled only a few days in the previous 12 months.
- 30.1% of Marylanders who had ever gambled had ever participated in sports gambling which included both traditional sports gambling and fantasy sports. (males-34.6% > females-21.6%)

Disordered Gambling

- 4% of Marylanders met criteria for "Disordered Gambling" ("problem" or "probable pathological" gambling). Males (6.8%) had higher rates than females (2.6%)
- The majority (65.7%) of disordered gamblers were aged between 35 and 64 years, while only 5.3% were aged between 18 and 24 years (3.0%) and older than 75 years (2.3%)
- Disordered gambling was more prevalent in Blacks/African Americans (8.2%) compared to Whites (3.1%), Asians (2.9%) and Hispanics (0.2%).
- The percentage of disordered gamblers who participated in sports betting was higher compared to other forms of gambling: traditional fantasy sports-12.2%; daily fantasy sports-15.6%; on-line-20.8%

Help Seeking

• 3% of Marylanders with a history of "disordered gambling" reported that they had ever sought help for their gambling.

Awareness of Resources

- The majority (61%) of respondents were aware of the toll-free problem gambling hotline. About half were aware of Gamblers Anonymous (49.8%) and outpatient gambling-specific treatment/counseling (48.4%)
- The highest proportion of respondents said that they had seen information about problem gambling on television (59%) followed by billboards (43.4%), radio (42.3%), posters/flyers (30.7), online (22.4%).

Data collection occurred from April-July 2022 during the period of transition from remaining COVID-19 pandemic restrictions to minimal or no restrictions. Restrictions on gathering indoors or the need to continue wearing a face covering may have impacted gambling behaviors in the 12 months prior to this study. In addition, the sample size was smaller than the previous surveys so it is possible that the respondents were not fully representative of the state's population. Young adults (18-24 years old) were particularly underrepresented. Relevant to sports gambling, this survey was conducted after in-person sports gambling became available in Maryland (December 2021) but before mobile/on-line sports gambling was available (November 2022).