



Virginia Partnership
FOR GAMING & HEALTH

Virginia Problem Gambling Helpline

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Today's Objectives

- Introduction to VACPG and VA PG Helpline
- Overview of Gambling in VA
- Introduction to a Collaborative Multi Agency Partnership for PG Treatment & Recovery Services



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VIRGINIA COUNCIL on PROBLEM GAMBLING

Mission:

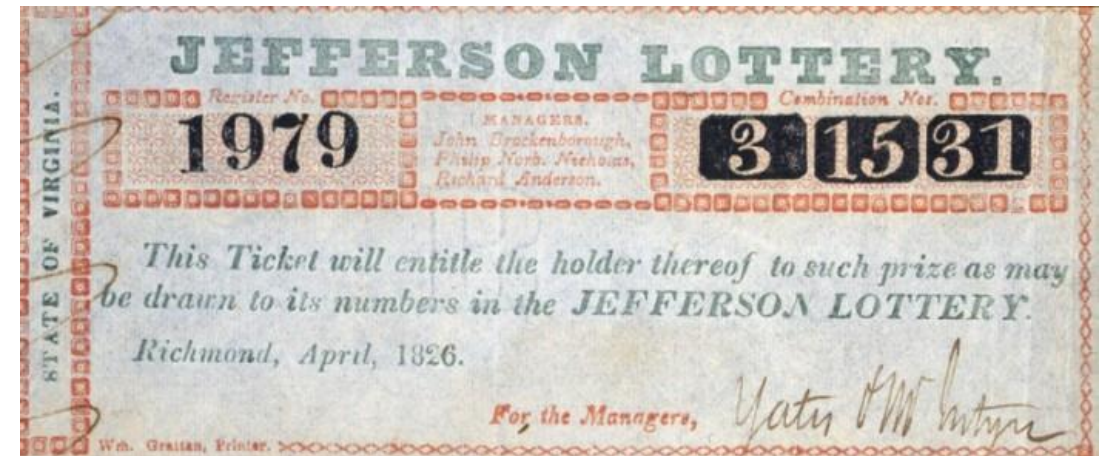
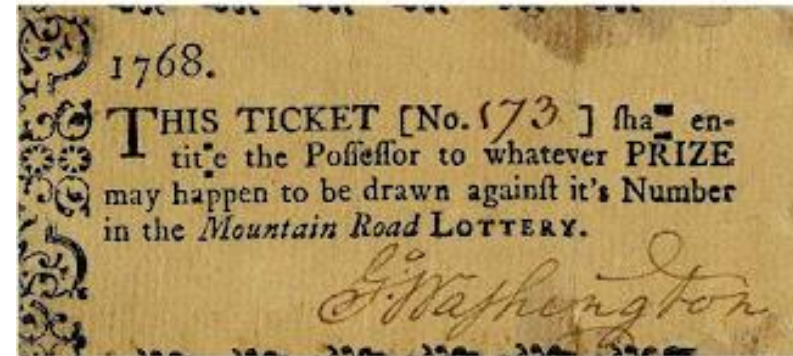
The Virginia Council on Problem Gambling (VACP9) aims to increase **public awareness** of problem gambling, ensure the widespread availability of **treatment** for problem gamblers and their families, and to encourage **research** and programs for **prevention** and **education**.

VACP9 maintains a neutral stance on gambling.



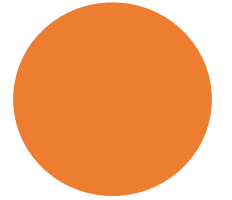
History of Gambling in Virginia - Lottery

- 1612 Virginia Company of London hold a lottery to fund settlement of Jamestown. Prize 4,000 crowns
- 1616 developed “instant” lotteries.
- Used in the colonies to fund community (e.g College of William & Mary) and personal projects.
- George Washington held a lottery in 1730 at the age of 21.
- Thomas Jefferson scheduled a lottery for April of 1826, to pay off debts.
- Lottery used to fund American Revolution
- 1987 VA Lottery approved



History Gambling in Virginia – Horse Racing

- Colonists brought the first horses in 1609. Unlike Puritans in Massachusetts, Virginia colonists maintained English gambling traditions, including betting on horses.
 - Horse racing identified as the "Sport of Kings"
 - only wealthy could afford to import horses for breeding or to maintain a horse for no productive use other than racing.
- Bulle Rock (foaled c. 1709), first Thoroughbred stallion brought to America for breeding in VA.
- 1973 Secretariat wins Triple Crown – creates renewed interest in horse racing and gambling legalization.
- 1988 Legalized horse track with pari-mutuel gambling
- 1997 Colonial Downs Race Track opens
- 2013 Dispute ends racing at the track.



Rapid Gambling Expansion

- 2019 – Horse racing returns and Historical Horse Racing (HHR) machines go live in April
 - *Race tracks can't make it on live racing anymore... We've got this wonderful world-class facility down there at Colonial Downs that's basically sitting there rotting – Head Equine Alliance*
- Advocates for the horse-raising industry, made the case successfully that:
 - commercial horse farming in Virginia required a commercial opportunity for horse racing
 - a viable horse racing business required loosening the restrictions on gambling
- Because the payout based on pari-mutuel odds, the General Assembly does not consider it to be casino gambling
- *6 Rosie Emporiums with 2700 HHR machines (can add 5 more)*
- Creates legal loophole defining machines as skill based machines versus gambling.



Skill Based Gambling Machines

- Thousands of unregulated machines operating in facilities that sell alcohol: convenience stores, gas stations, bars and other local businesses across the commonwealth
- 2019 VA ABC opinion: games don't meet Virginia's definition of gambling and, a game of skill (hand eye coordination / memory) so not going to regulate them:
 - An individual must place a bet or wager (Consideration)
 - There must be an opportunity to win a prize (Prize)
 - Chance must be a predominant factor (Chance, NOT skill)
- 2020 General Assembly bans them.
- Governor Northam allows regulated operation for 1 year to support COVID relief.
- December 2021, a VA Judge temporarily bars state from banning them. Hearing set for May, now November.



Rapid Gambling Expansion: Casinos

- 2016 Pamunkey Tribe received federal recognition opening doors to casino gambling
 - 6 other tribes receive recognition in 2018 but prohibited from gaming due to 2017 VA law.
- 2019 General Assembly orders study of casino gambling in VA in lieu of legislation proposing 5 casinos (approved 2020):
 - Bristol – Hard Rock 2022
 - Danville – Caesars 2024
 - Norfolk – Headwaters (Pamunkey),
 - Portsmouth Rivers Casino (Seminole),
 - Richmond.



Gambling Good for Business?

• *Alas, not even Harry Houdini can spend the same dollar two places. When community spending is reoriented toward the casinos, already struggling regional businesses such as those in MacArthur Center and restaurants along High Street in Portsmouth are likely to suffer. Some will go belly up.*

• *James Koch, 2015 State of the Region Report*

A WIN FOR NORFOLK



Jobs

2,480 permanent jobs and 2,000+ construction jobs



Education

\$50 million annually for school construction



Tourism

Estimated 6.2 million visitors each year



Entertainment

Table games, spa, sports book, restaurants, bars and shows



Community Support

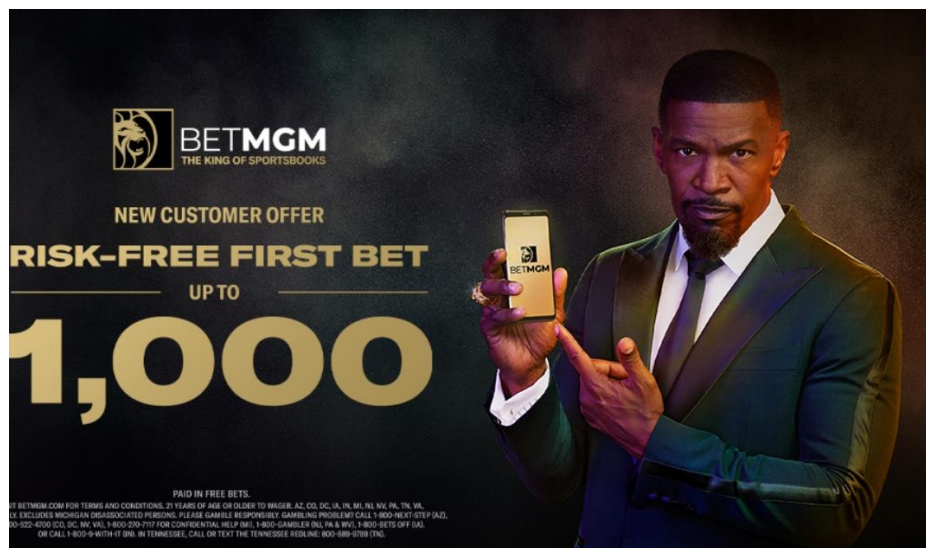
Funding for flood resiliency and other community programs

We need you to help bring this exciting destination to Norfolk.

VOTE YES ON THE REFERENDUM ON NOVEMBER 3RD!

Go to ALLINNORFOLK.COM to learn more and get involved!

VOTE NO
CASINO it's a bad deal.
NORFOLK



Sports Betting

- Signed into VA law 2020
- Went live January 2021
- Prohibits betting on Virginia college sports and youth sports and proposition bets on all college sports.
- Fastest state to wager over 1 billion

VA Legal Gambling

Available Gambling Pre 2019

- Lottery
- Charitable
- Horse Racing

Post 2019

- Historical Horse Racing- Regulated/ operational (2019)
- Online Gambling Regulated/operational (2020)
- Skill-based slot machines - Unregulated/operational
- Sports- Regulated/operational 2021
- Casino- (2020) Regulated/ not operational

Prohibited

- Tribal Gaming

An Example of Gambling's Popularity: Gambling in the USA

- 86%-90% of US adults gamble
- Americans annually spend more money on legal forms of gambling than on movies, music, sporting events, theme parks and video games combined.
- All but two U.S. states (Utah and Hawaii) have legalized gambling.
- Gambling revenue projected to be \$876 billion+ industry nationwide by 2026.



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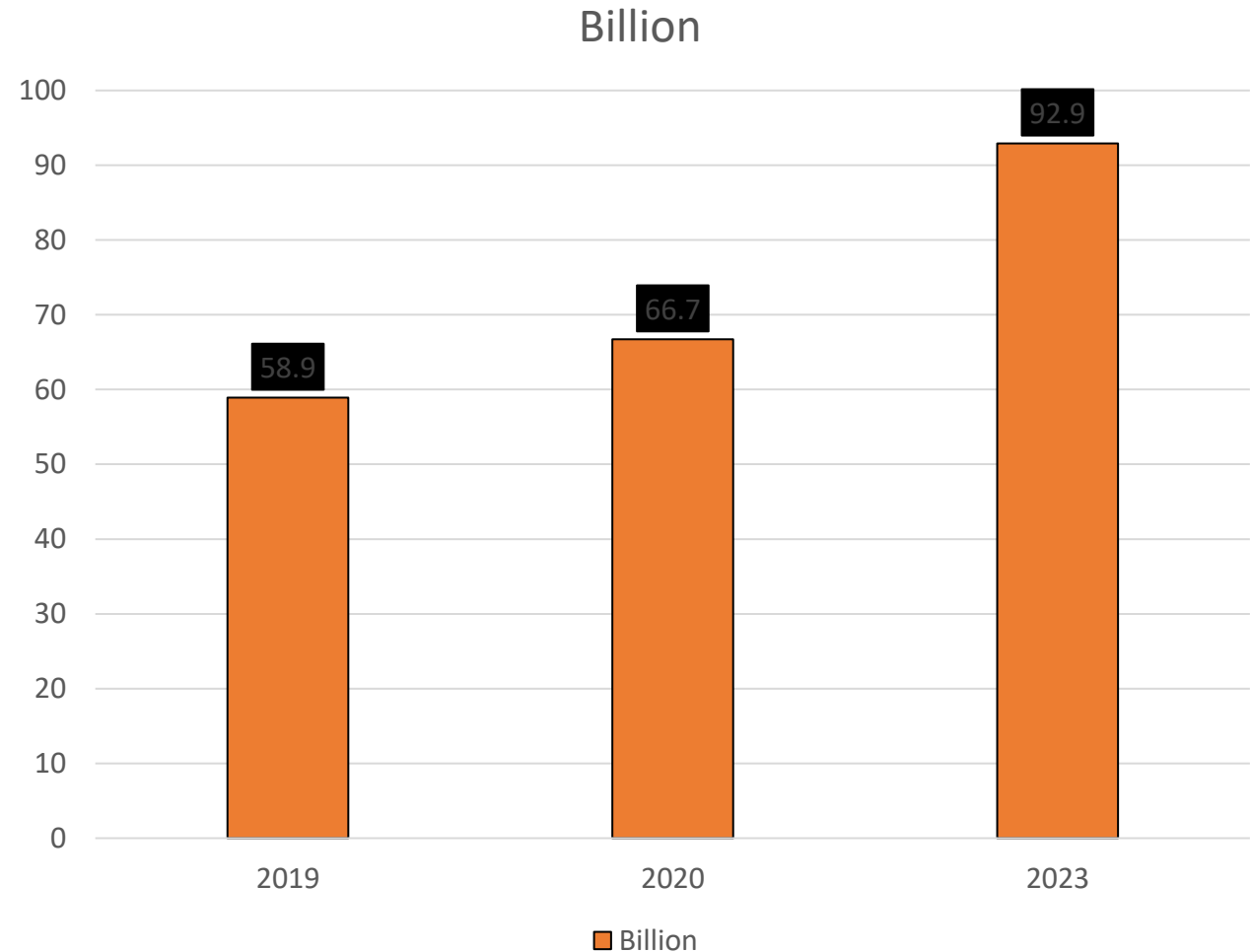


US Gambling Market Growth 2021

- Over 44 billion in Casino revenue!
 - Includes casino & sports wagering.
- US Total Consolidated Lottery revenue 108 billion!
 - Includes traditional lottery, e-lottery, video lottery terminals, sports wagering.
- For comparison: US total professional sports revenue 78 billion

Global Online Gambling Market

- The fastest growing form of gambling in the world. According to the American Gaming Association (AGA), **nearly 3,000** Internet gambling sites offer online wagering.
- Includes online casino games, poker, & sports betting.



GAMBLING IN VIRGINIA

Fiscal Year 2021

- Lottery
 - \$3.26 billion in sales.
- Historical Horse Racing (Rosies)
 - \$3.3 billion total wagers
- Sports Betting
 - \$3.2 billion in total wagers
 - Fiscal year 2021 Virginia is the fastest state to reach \$1 billion in total wagers



VIRGINIA LOTTERY®



Problem Gambling in VA

Services and Supports

VA PG Helpline: Full Range of Services

Telephone Crisis Counseling

Online Text/Chat

Informational mailing

Support Group Referrals

Initial Diagnostic Consult

Referral to Individual Counseling

Weekly Wellness Support Meetings

Follow-up Calls

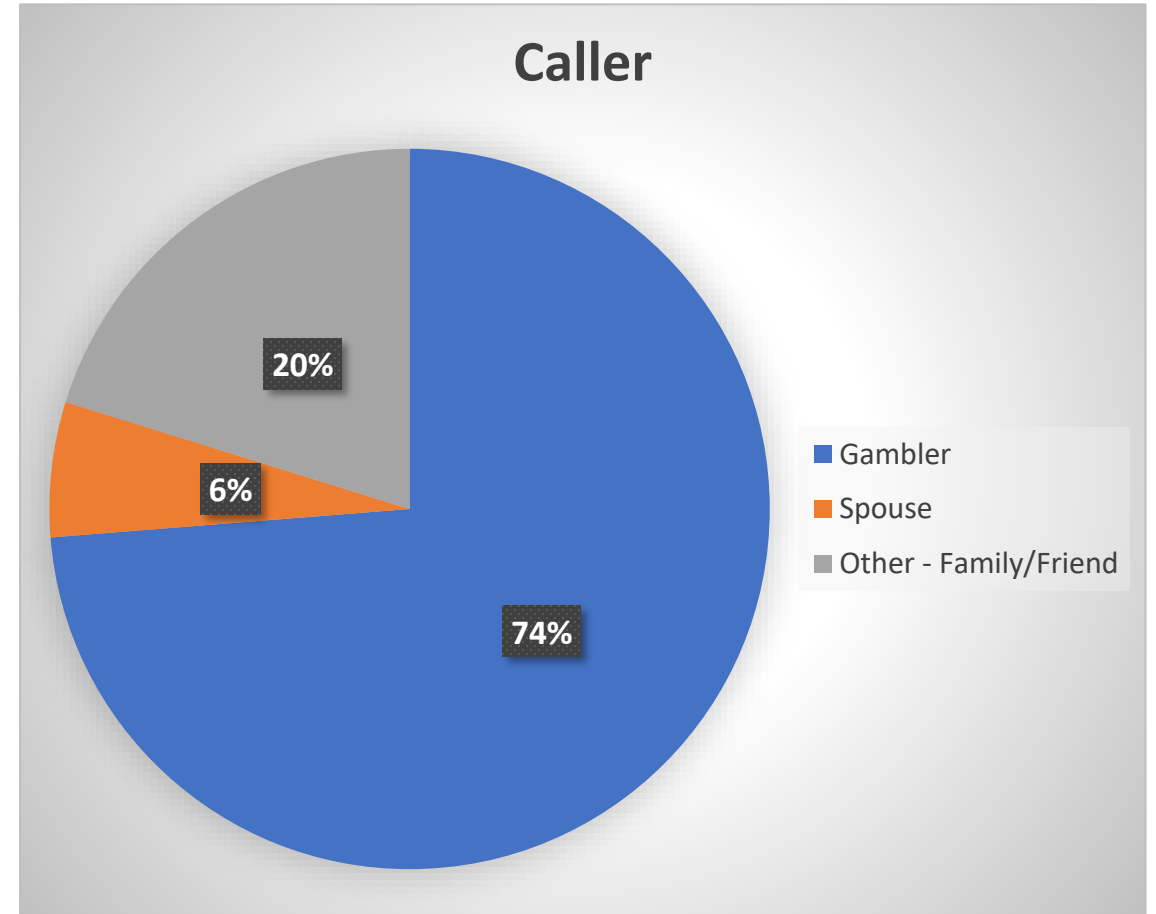
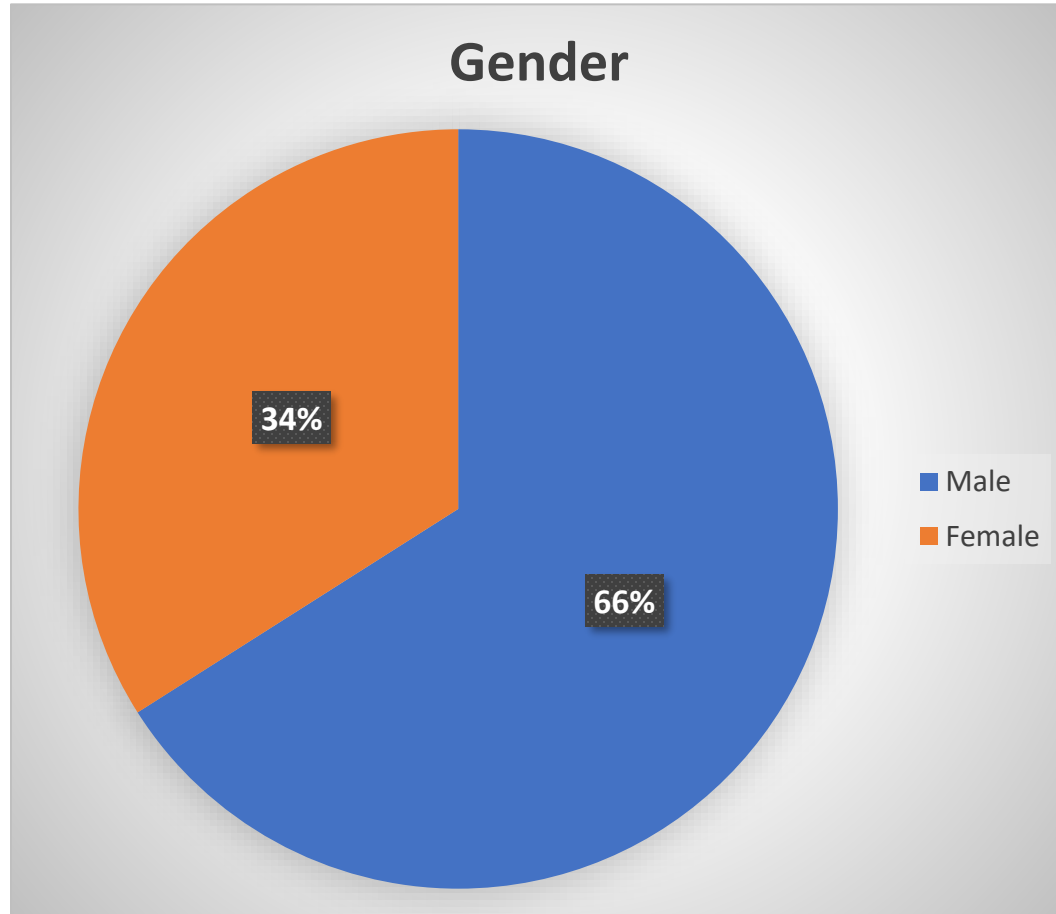


VIRGINIA COUNCIL on PROBLEM GAMBLING

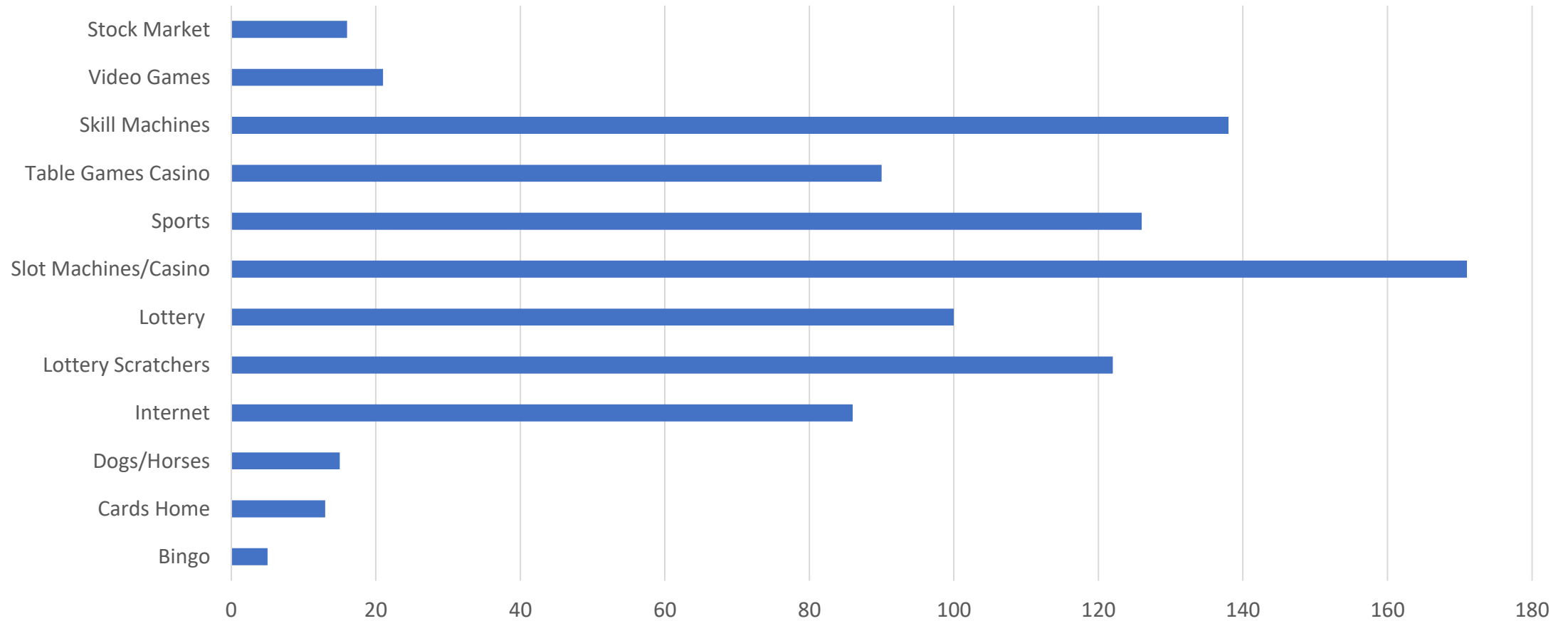
Caller Information Collected

- Demographics
- Gambling
 - Type, Frequency, When became an issue, Reasons for gambling?
 - DSM criteria/symptoms
- Financial Issues/Debt
- Legal Issues
- Comorbidity (Alcohol & Substance Use; MH)
- Safety Concerns
- Referral Services Provided & Response
- Permission for Follow-up (48 hrs, 1 week, 1 month, 3 month, 6 month).

2021 Caller Demographics



2021 Types of Play



Follow-up Response

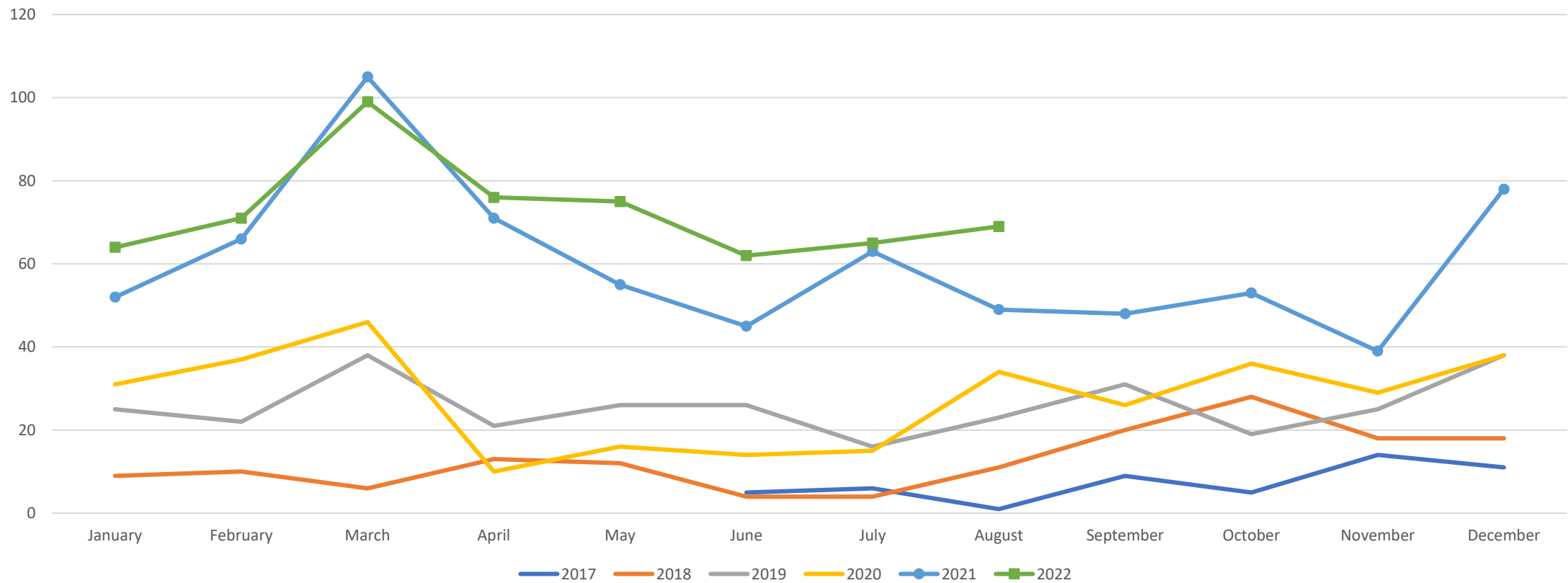


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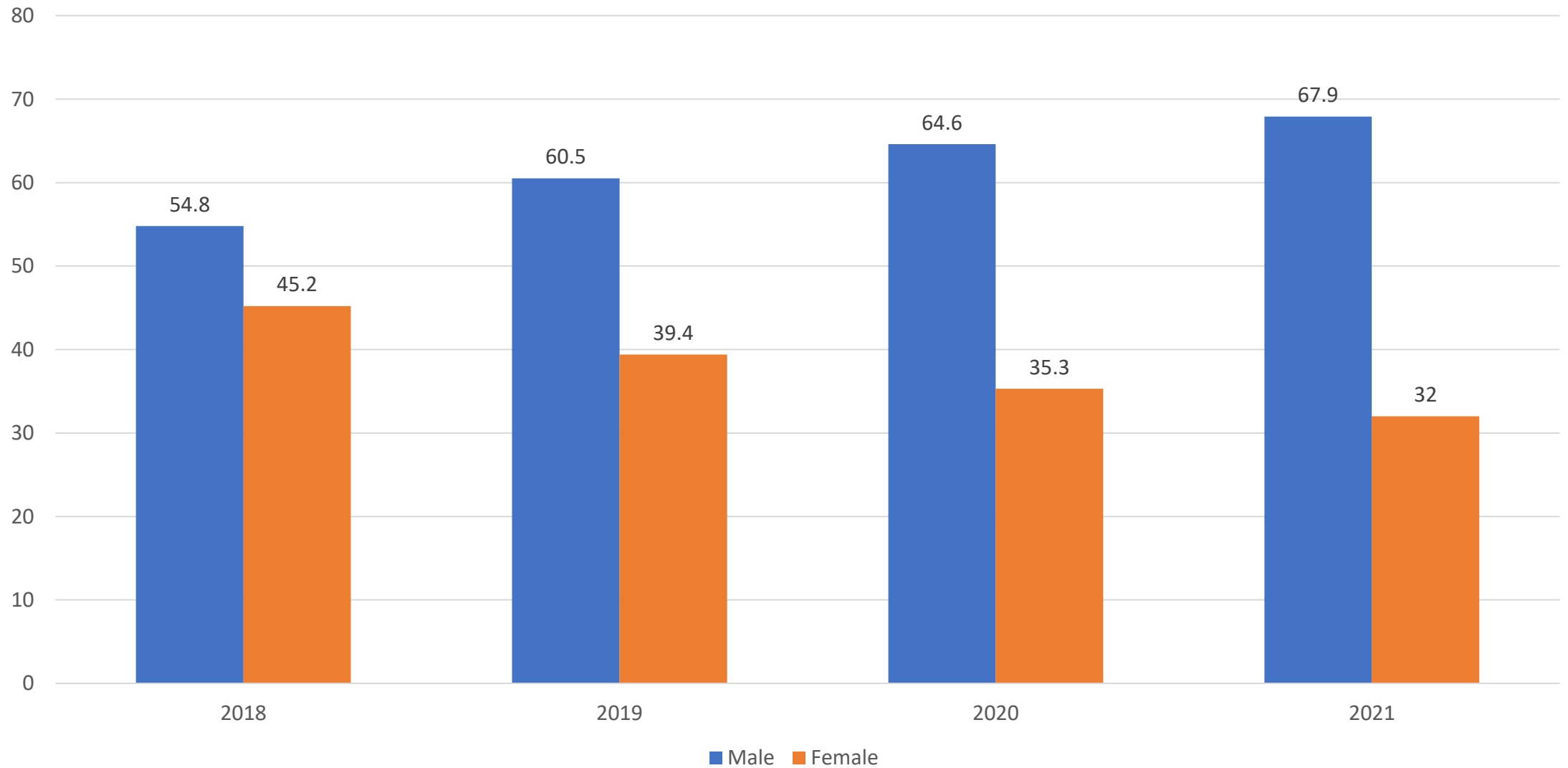
- **CALLERS REACHED AT ONE MONTH FOLLOW-UP**
 - 88% reported none/decreased gambling
 - 71% had reduced their debt
 - 79% have accessed help resources
- **CALLERS REACHED AT SIX MONTH FOLLOW-UP**
 - 74% reported none/decreased gambling
 - 78% had reduced their debt
 - 89% have accessed help resources

Helpline Trends

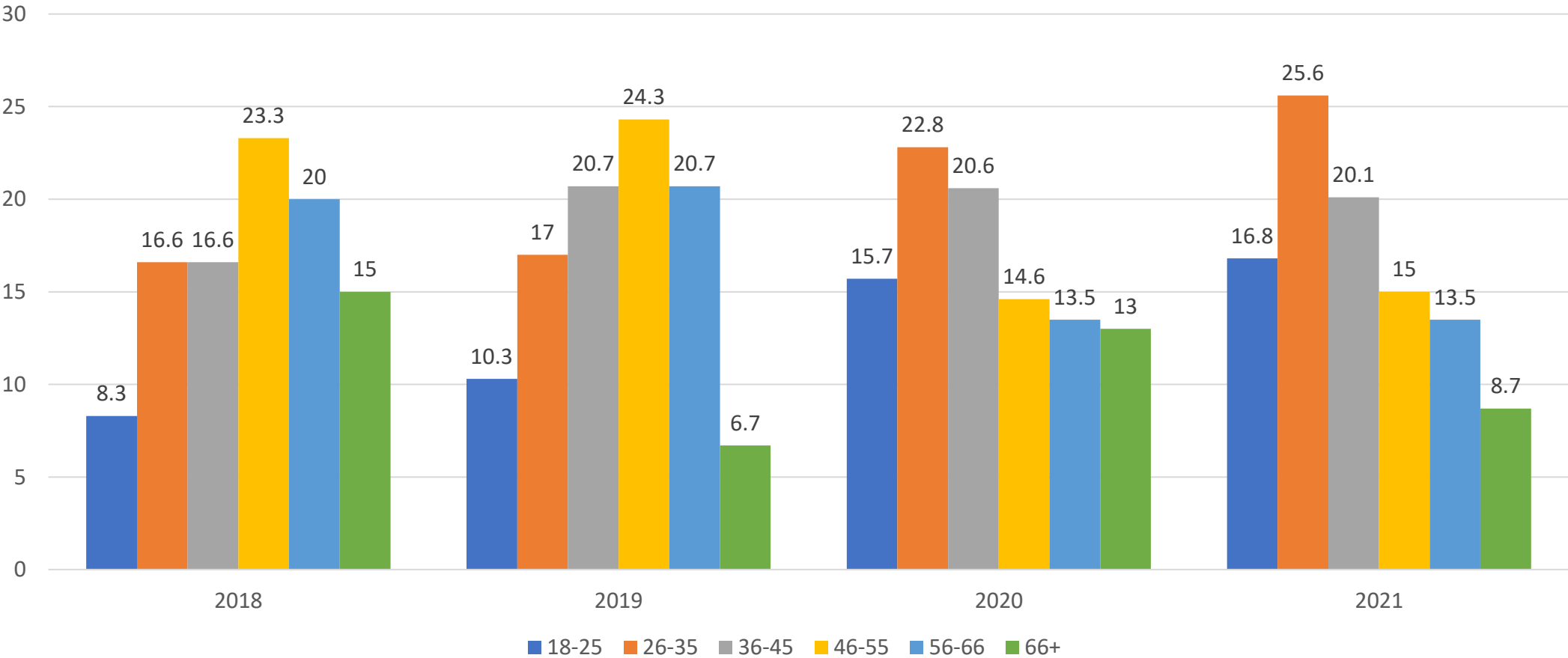
Va. Problem Gambling Helpline Intakes



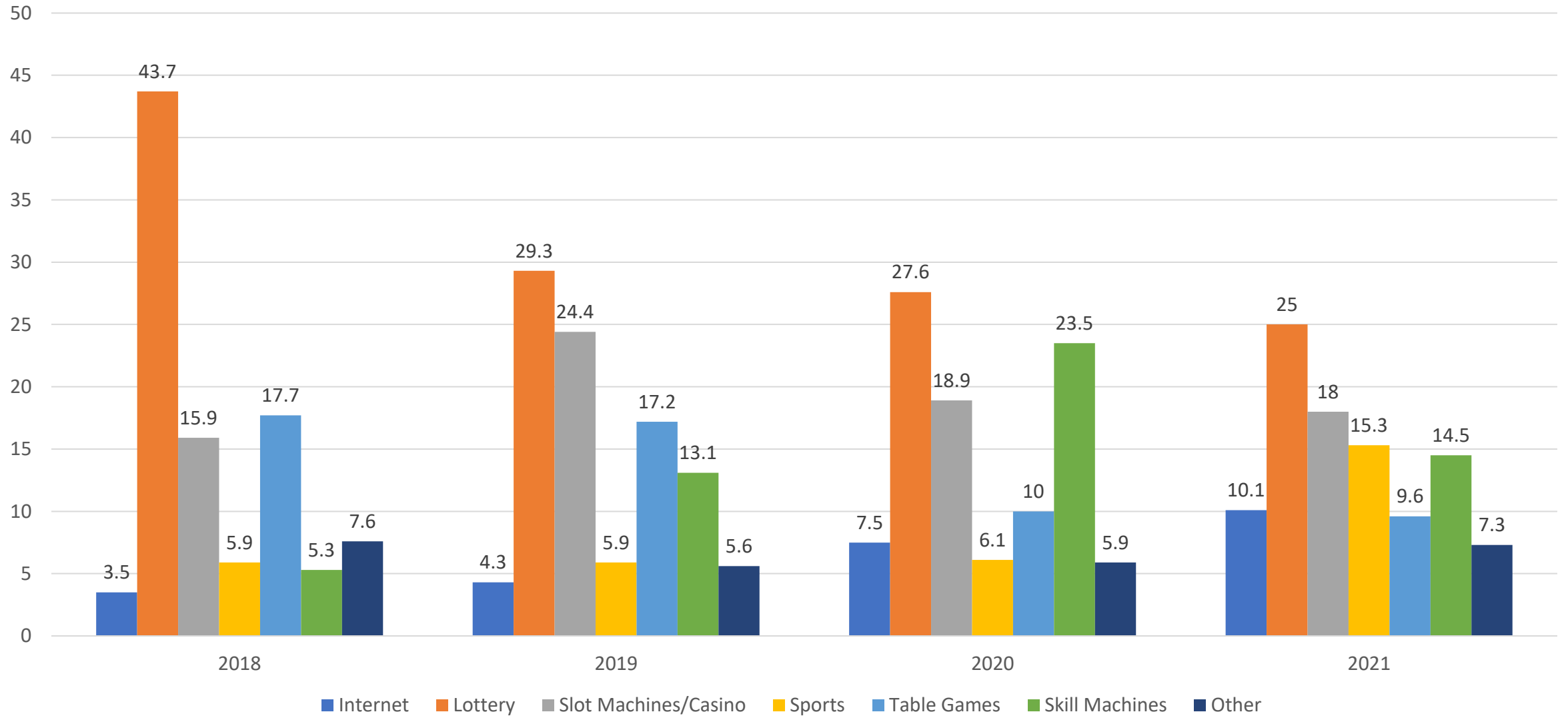
Gender



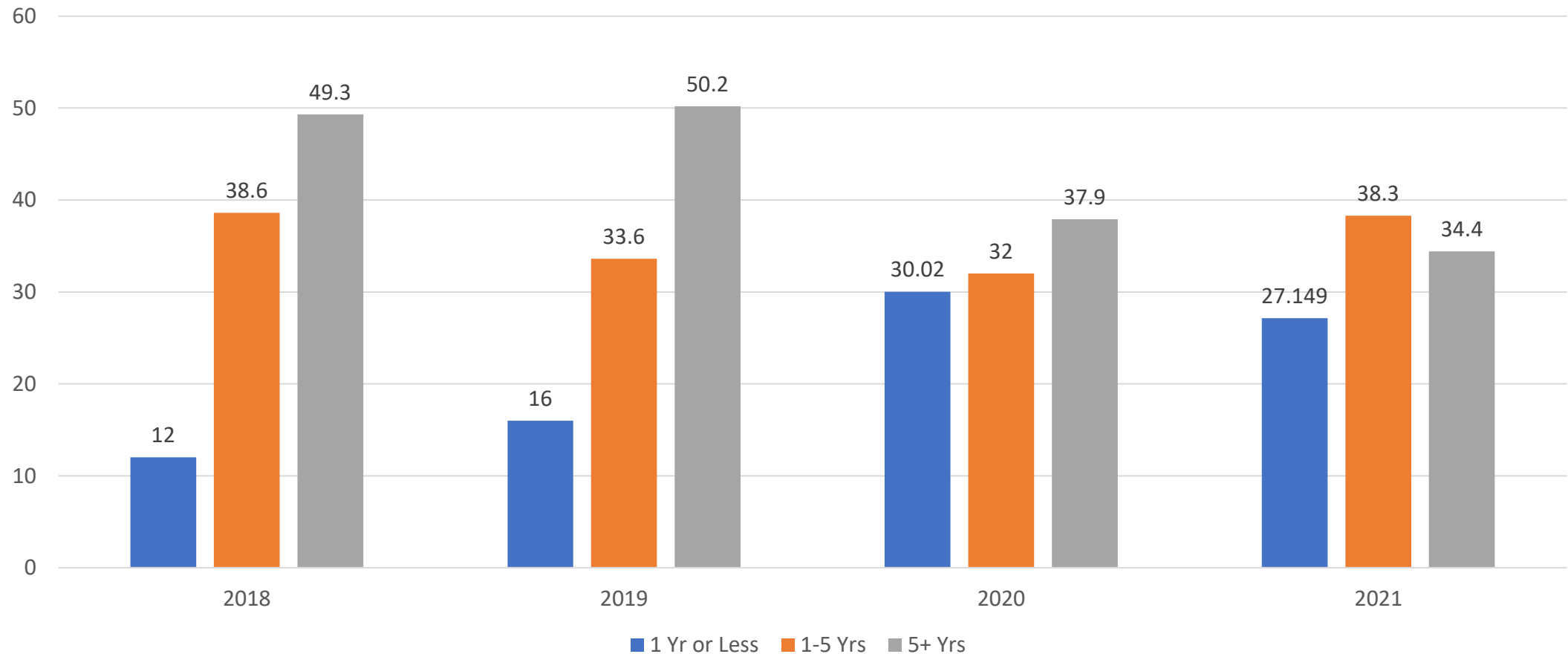
Caller Age Percentage



Gambling Type %



Length of Perceived Gambling Problem %



Problem Gambling Treatment & Support Fund

- 2020 Sports & Casino Laws include PG fund for prevention, treatment & support services.
 - 0.8% Tax revenue of casino gambling
 - 2.5% of adjusted tax revenue of sports betting (has lost 26 million in tax revenue due to operator write off of promotions and bonuses)
 - February 2022
 - Sports Bettors in Virginia wagered a total of \$401 million.
 - 36k went to Problem Gambling Treatment & Support Fund

VA Partnership for Gaming & Health



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- Collaboration between VA Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities; VCPG; VA Lottery, & Virginia Commonwealth University.
- The **aims** of VPGH are to:
 - Develop and sustain a treatment provider (licensed VA providers) & peer recovery (certified peer recovery specialists) network within local communities;
 - Provide timely reimbursement for a continuum of care;
 - Increase access and utilization of treatment & recovery supports; and
 - Provide problem gambling continuing education and training on evidence-based practices for providers.

Seeking Agencies & Clinicians: Competitive Reimbursement

VPGH Billing Codes and Payment Schedule Clinician Reimbursement

- Diagnosis Code – Gambling Disorder **F63.0**
 - **90791** – Initial Assessment **\$133.35**

Individual

- **90832** – Psychotherapy with patient 30min **\$57.40**
- **90834** – Psychotherapy with patient 45m **\$69.61**
- **90837** – Psychotherapy with patient 60m **\$112.49**

Group

- **90853*** – Group psychotherapy **\$20.35**



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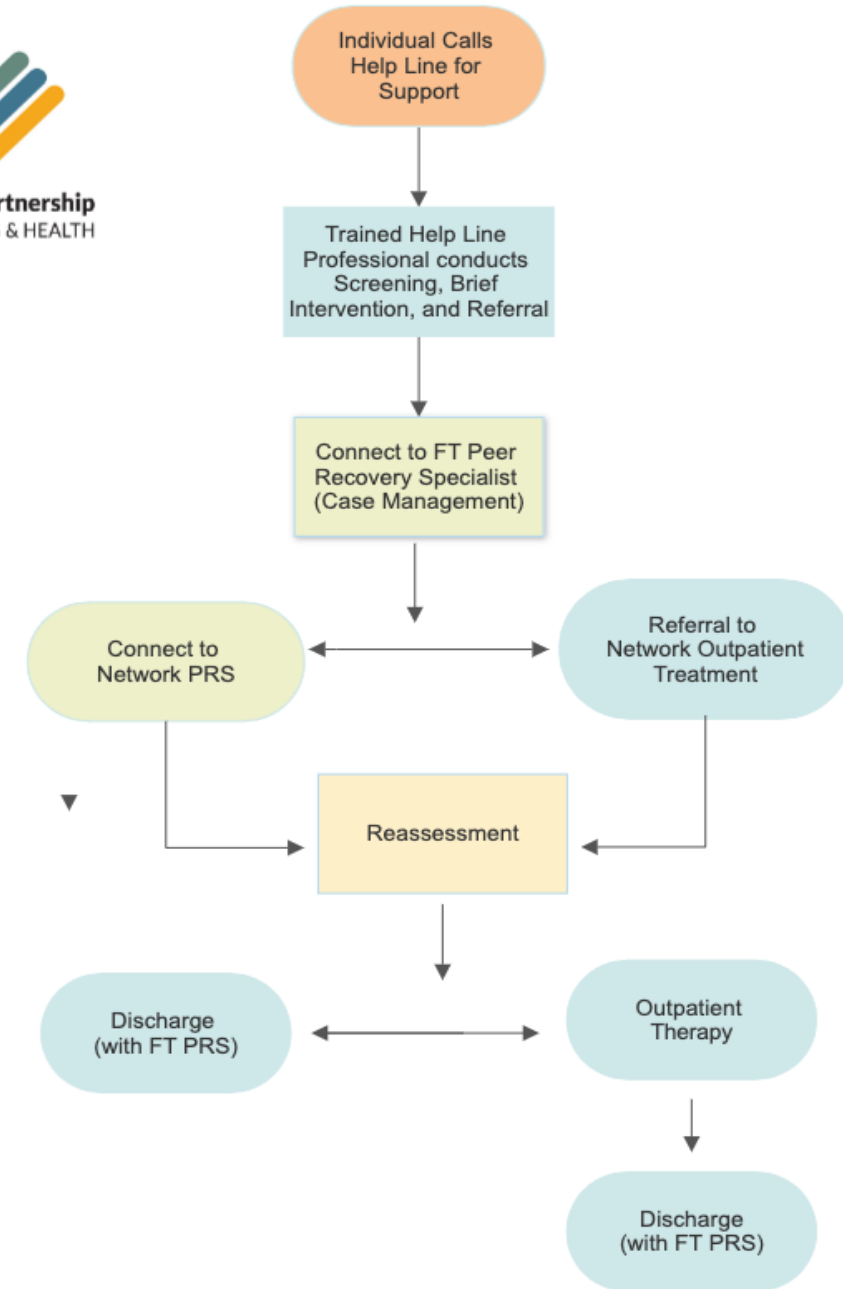
Continuing Education

- Providing a minimum of 30 Free CEUs for Network Providers
 - Problem Gambling Treatment Part I
 - Problem Gambling Treatment Part II



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Partnership Treatment & Recovery Model



Partnership's Key to Success



- Monthly meetings with key stakeholders – Communication!
 - Look at what is working best for now.
 - Envision what might be.
 - Talk about what should be
 - Appreciate and therefore value the best of what is.
 - Innovate by identifying your assets, and then consider the potential and the possibilities.
 - Focus on what works. What we focus on becomes our reality, and there is always something that works.
 - Help people bring out the best and leave the rest behind.
 - Value differences.

-
- When you focus on problems, you get more problems. When you focus on possibilities, you have more opportunities.”

- Zig Ziglar

Thank You!

**If you have
questions about
your gambling.**

**If you think
someone you
know may have
a gambling
problem.**

Help may be just a phone call away:

**Virginia Problem
Gambling Helpline**

888-532-3500