

Nevada Department of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public and Behavioral Health  
Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention



Department of Health and  
Human Services

*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*

# PROBLEM GAMBLING SERVICES

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&

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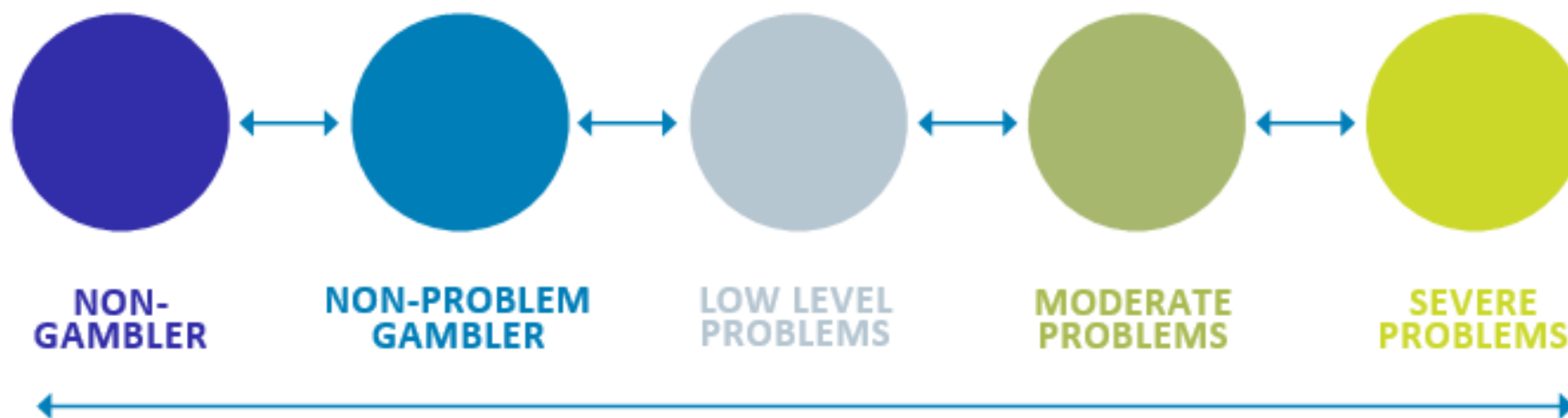
*Fourth Annual Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency (SAPTA), Statewide Epidemiology Organization Workgroup (SEOW), and Evidence Based Practices, Programs, and Policies Active Workgroup (EBPPPAW) Collaborative Meeting*

*January 19, 2023*

# Problem Gambling Prevalence

Nationally, approximately 2.2% of the adult population is estimated to manifest moderate to severe gambling problems.

In Nevada, that rate is between 2.7% and 4.3% or an estimated 65,000 to 103,000 adults.



# Problem Gambling Services: Overview

Funding Source	Target Populations	Key Activities	Funding Jurisdictions	Restrictions	Project/ Budget Period
<i>BA3200</i>  <i>Revolving Account for the Prevention and Treatment of Problem Gambling</i>  <i>NRS 458A</i>	<i>All Nevada residents</i>	<i>Treatment</i> <i>Prevention</i> <i>Public Awareness</i> <i>Workforce Dev.</i> <i>Research</i>	<i>Statewide</i>	<i>For treatment, payer of last resort</i>	<i>\$2.1 Million (SFY2023)</i>

# Nevada Problem Gambling Services:

Established in  
2005

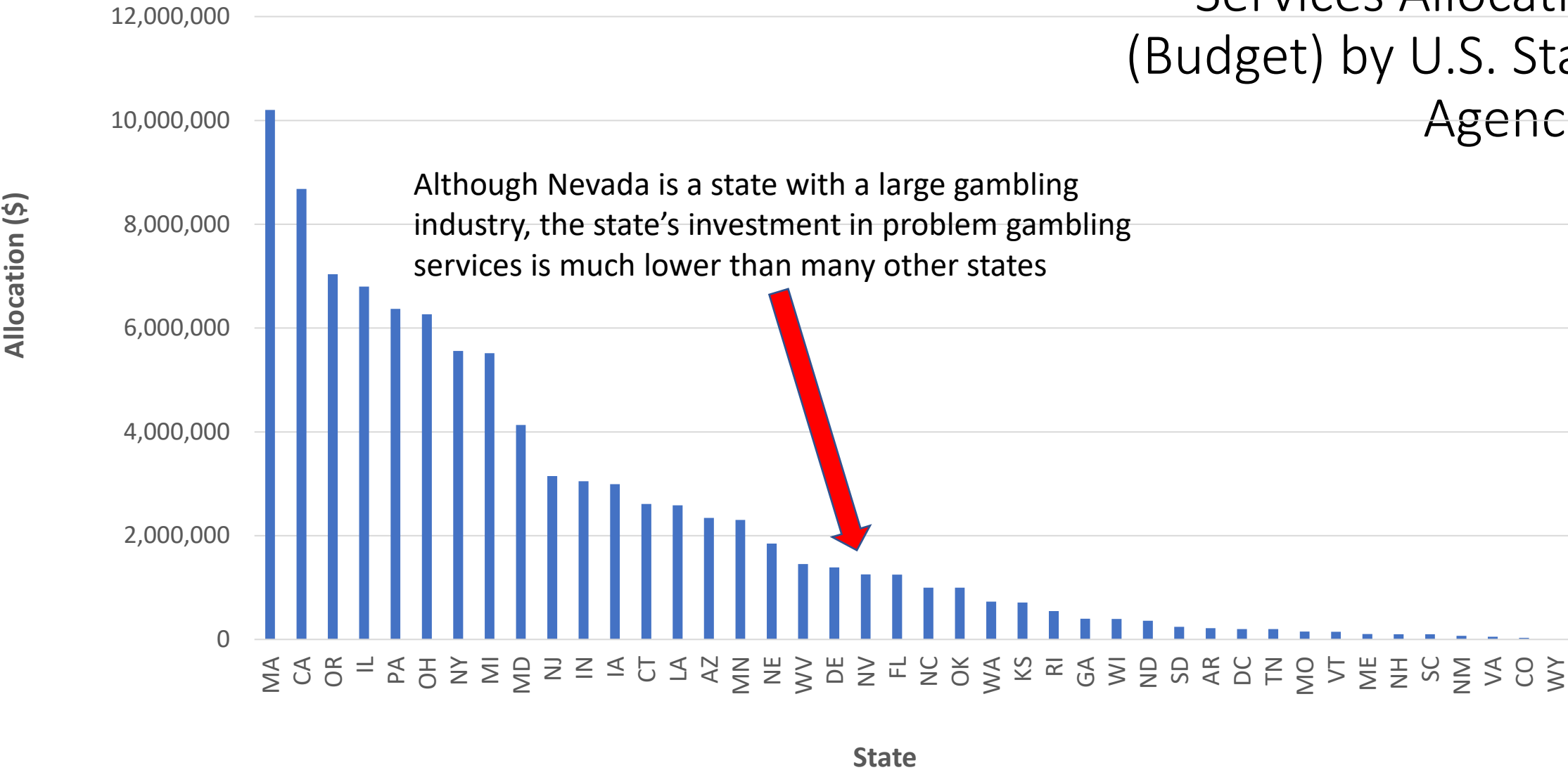
## Funded by:

- Revolving Account for the Prevention and Treatment of Problem Gambling
- Approximately \$2.1M SFY 2023
- NRS (458A.2) includes only state in country to statutorily authorize “civil commitment of person with an addictive disorder related to gambling who have been convicted of crime”

## Advised by:

- Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling (ACPG)
- Governor appointed

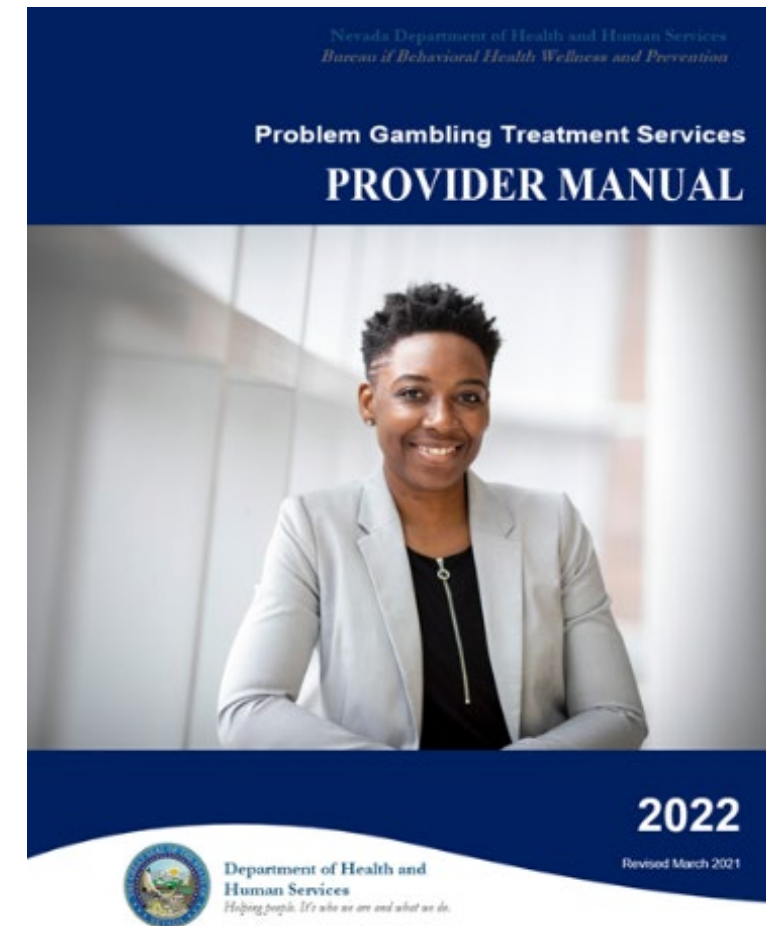
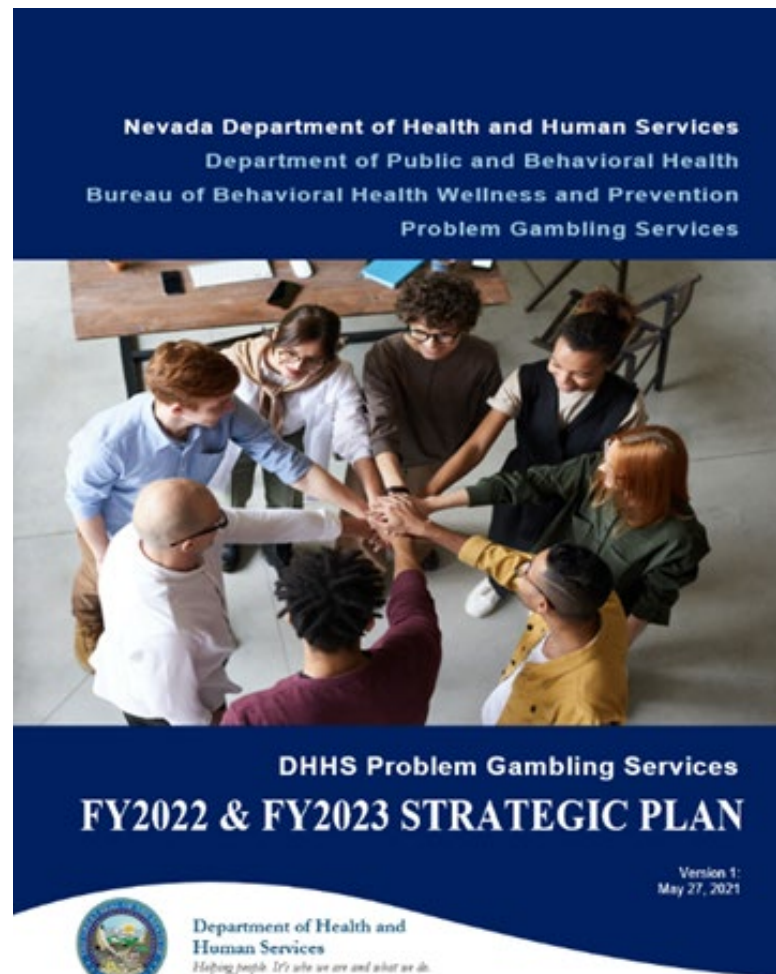
# 2021 Problem Gambling Services Allocation (Budget) by U.S. State Agencies



Note, 9 states (AK, AL, HI, ID, KY, MS, MT, TX, and UT) with \$0 allocation amounts have been excluded. The District of Columbia is included.

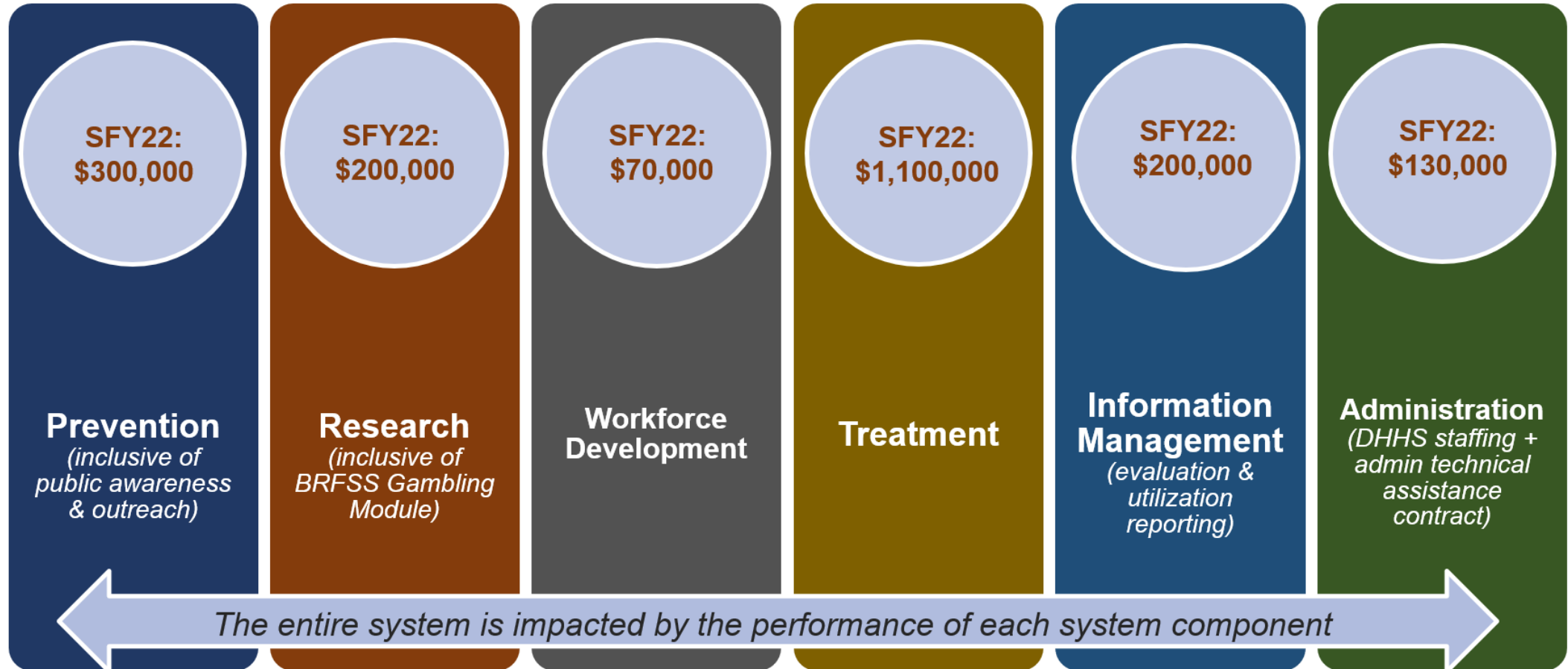
Although arguably underbudgeted, Nevada's problem gambling system is among the best.

Guided By:



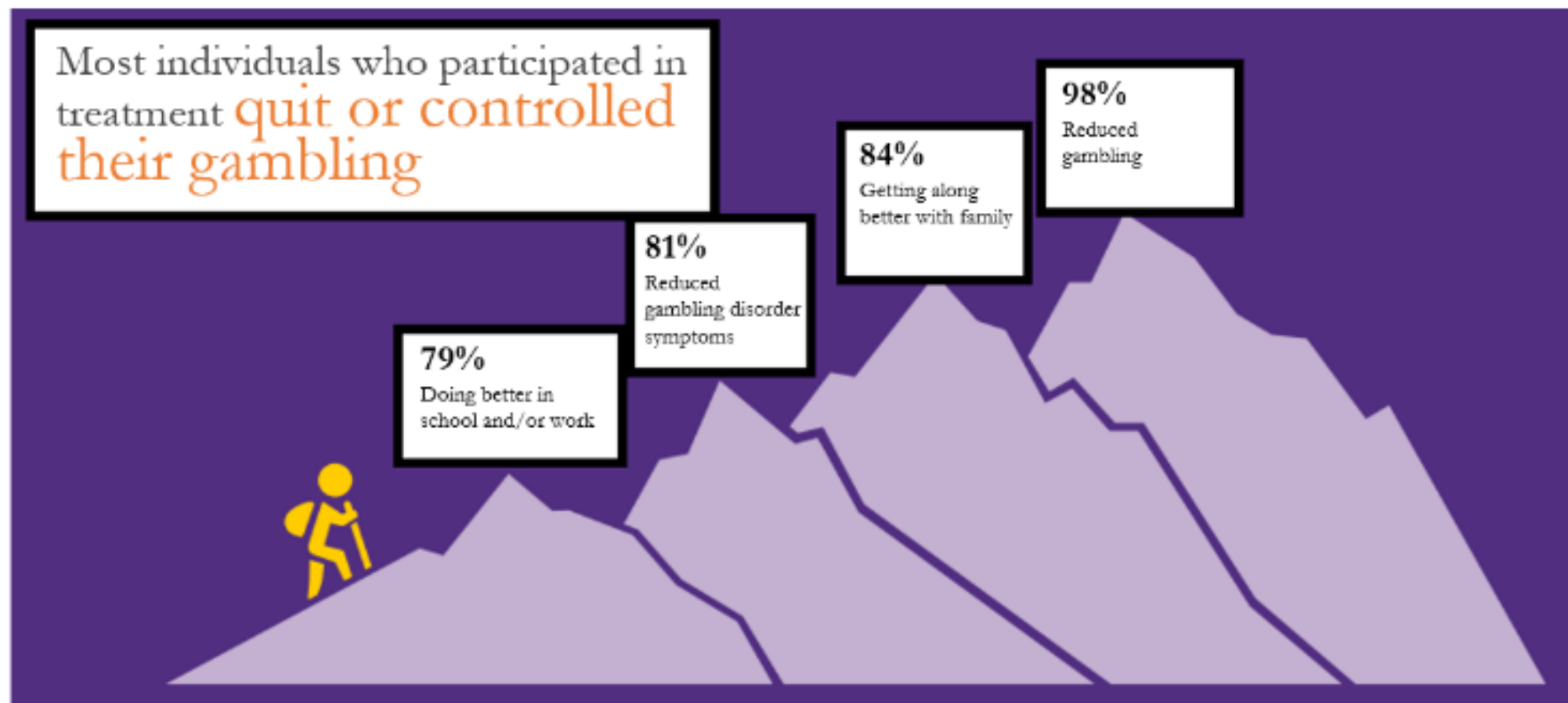
# Problem Gambling Service Components

*Approximate Appropriations by Category*





# Treatment Works\*

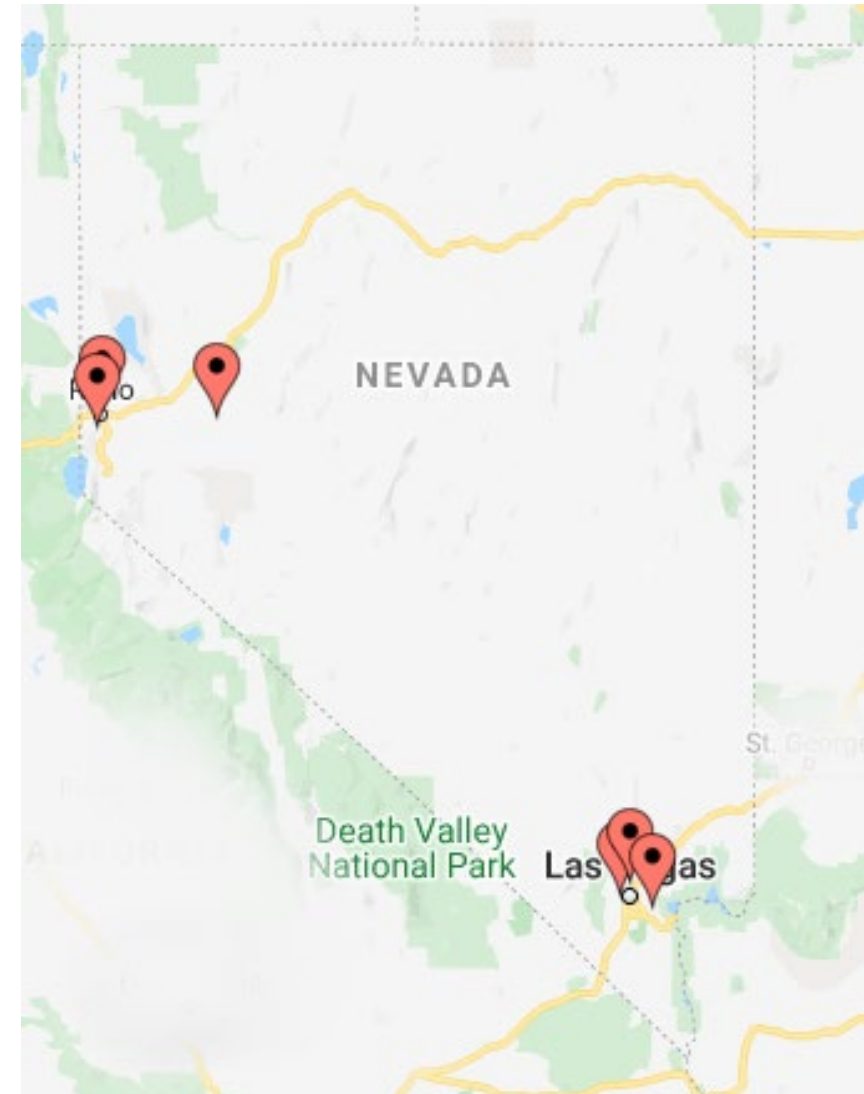


**81% of individuals** with problem gambling reported reduction in symptoms and improved quality of life with treatments and supports (at 12-months post enrollment).



# FY23 Treatment Providers

- Dr. Robert Hunter  
International Problem  
Gambling Center, Las Vegas
- Mental Health Counseling  
and Consulting, Henderson
- Bristlecone Family  
Resources, Reno
- UNR Downing Center, Reno  
(training program)
- Churchill Council on  
Alcohol and Other  
Drugs/New Frontier, Fallon





# Gambling Treatment Outcome Data

Find the 2022 Nevada Problem Gambling  
Treatment Report at:

[https://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/ProblemGambling/  
Problem\\_Gambling\\_Services\\_\(PGS\)/](https://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/ProblemGambling/Problem_Gambling_Services_(PGS)/)

**UNLV** | INTERNATIONAL  
GAMING INSTITUTE

## **Nevada Problem Gambling Study**

Annual Report, Fiscal Year 2022



Prepared for the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

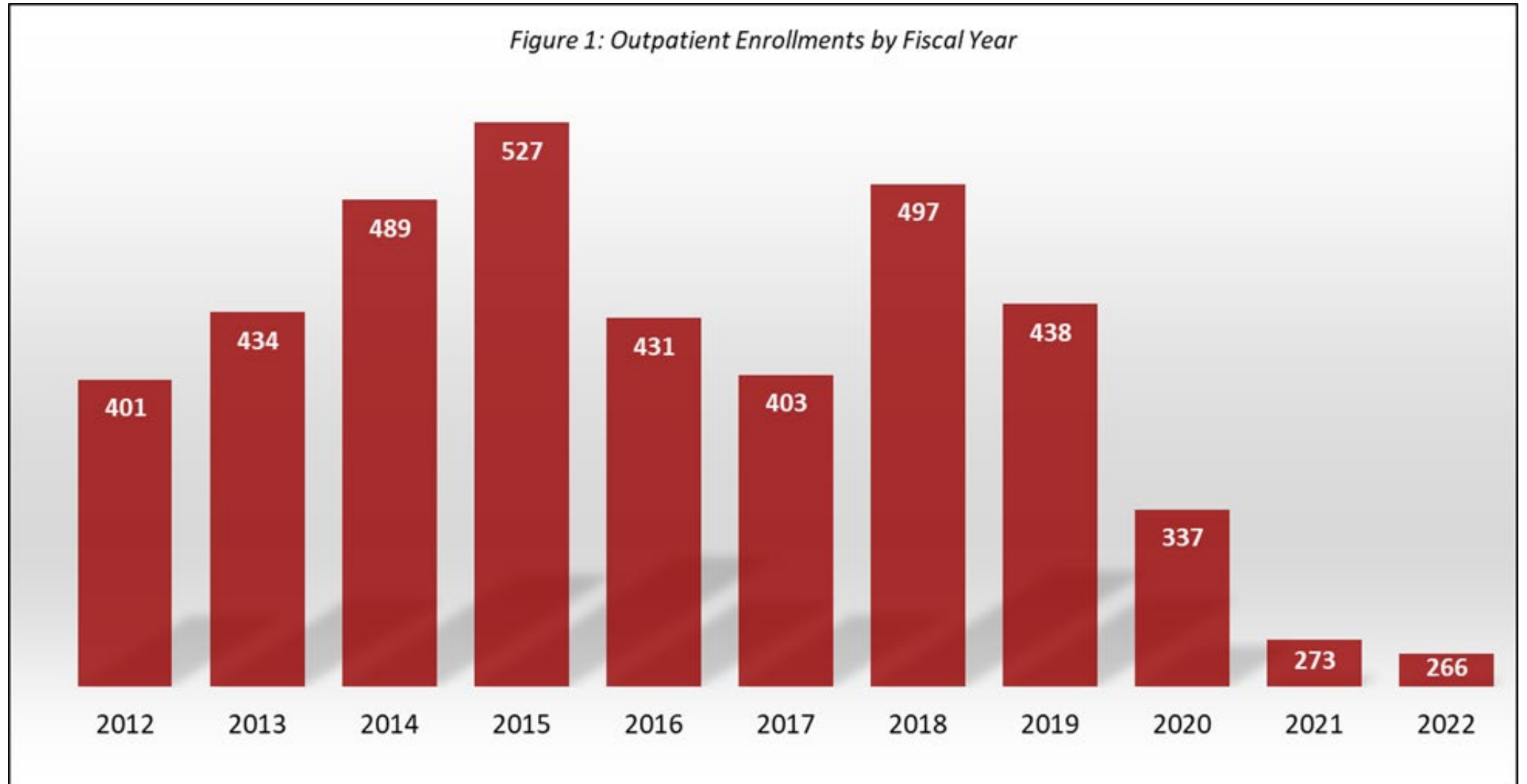
Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention |

November 28, 2022 Andrea Dassopoulos; Marta Soligo, Ph.D.; Jared

Weissman; Bo J. Bernhard, Ph.D.

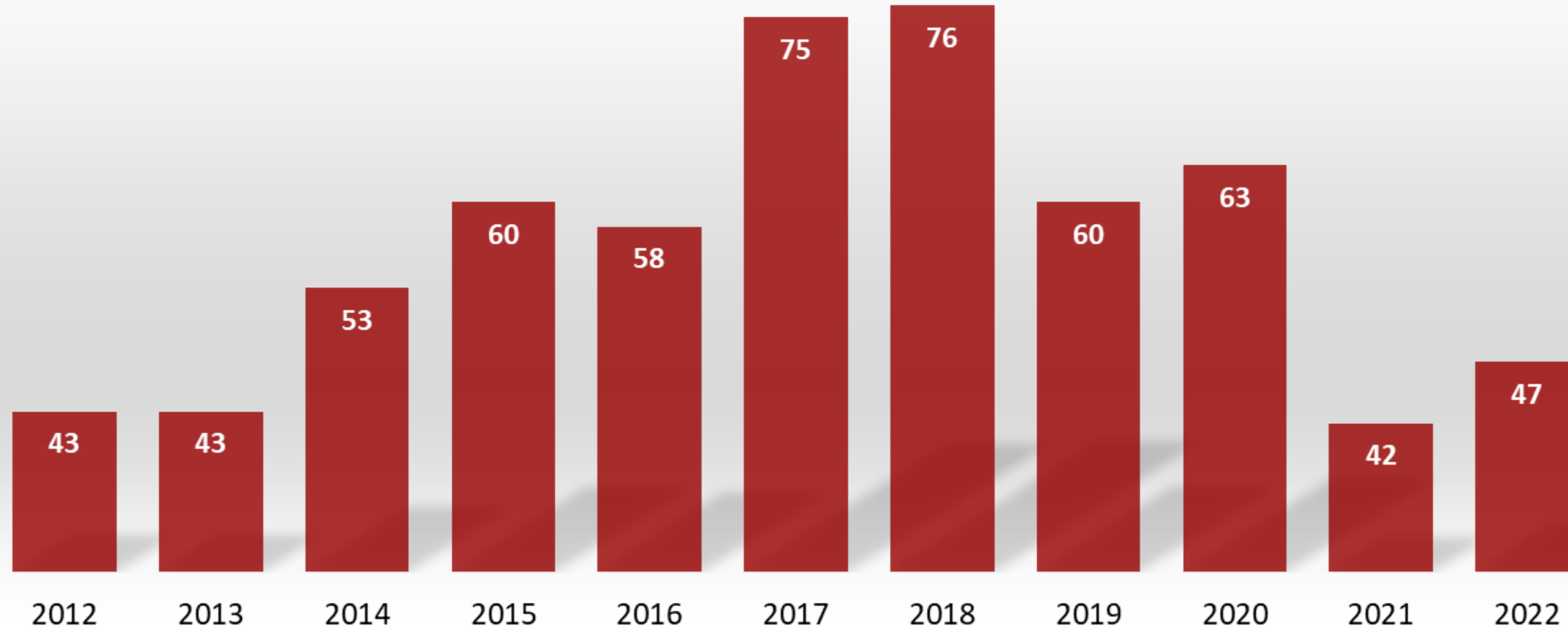
**igi.unlv.edu**  
**@UNLVigi**

# Outpatient Enrollments by Fiscal Year

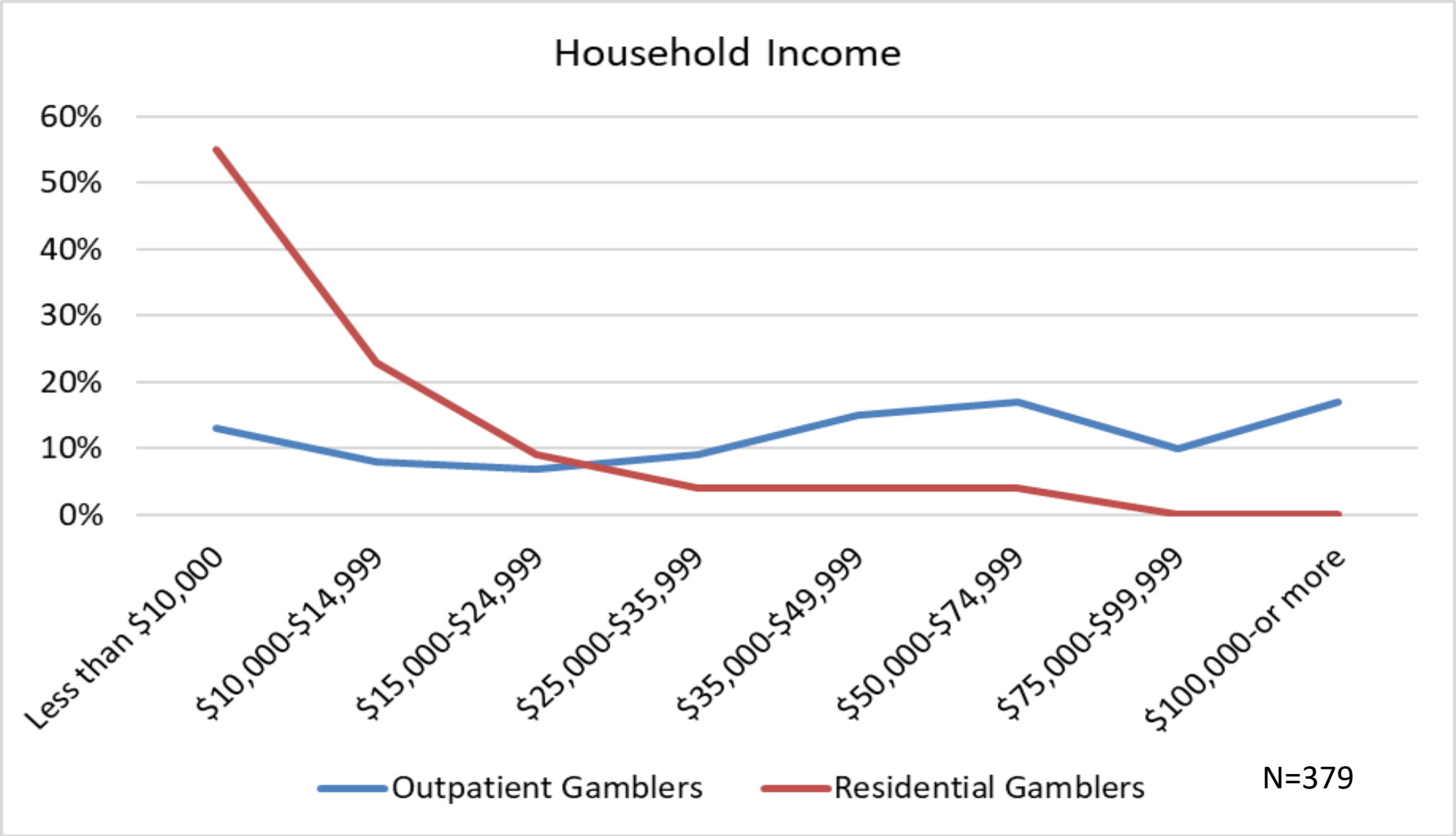


# Residential Enrollments by Fiscal Year

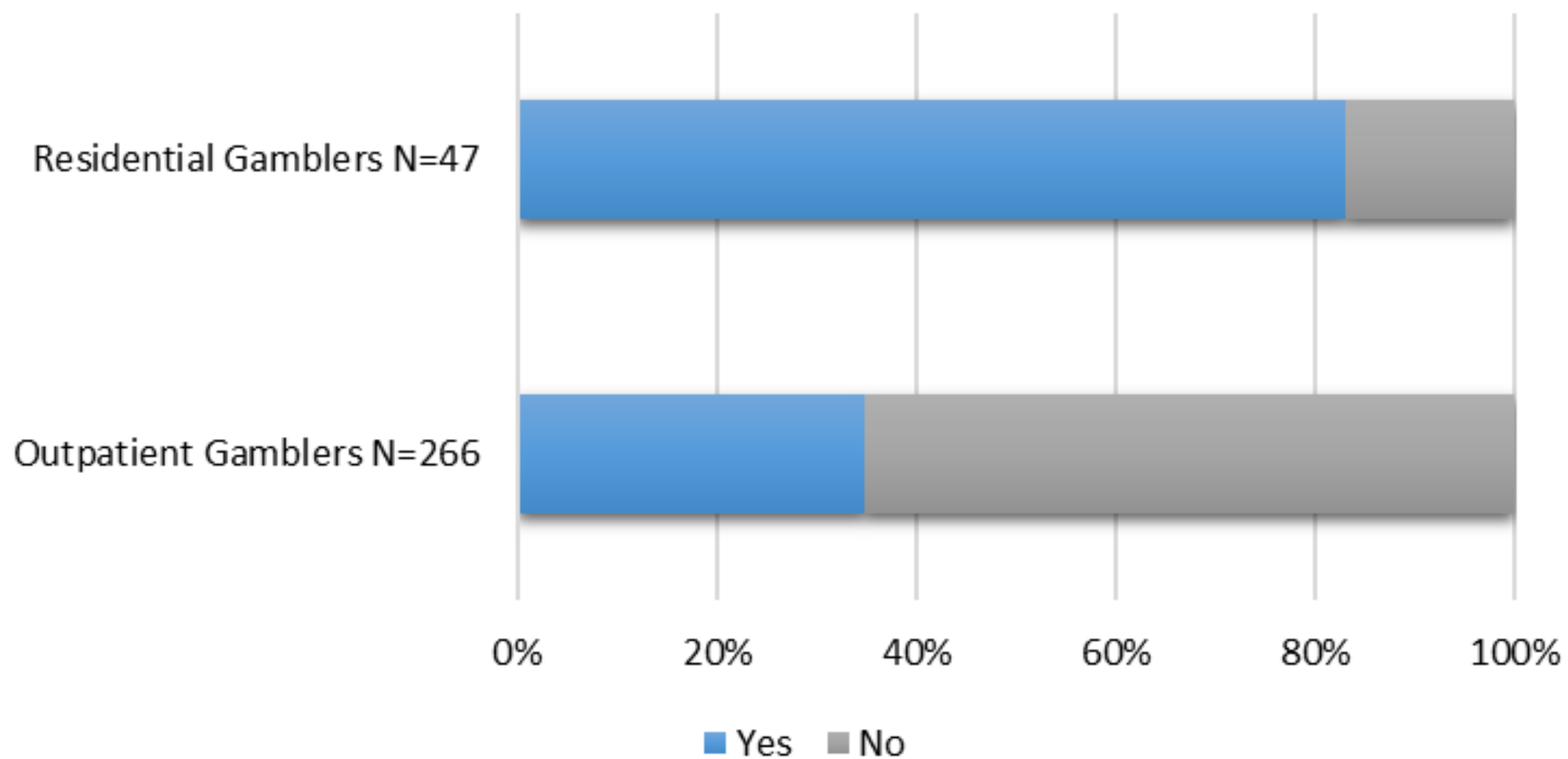
*Figure 2: Residential Enrollments by Fiscal Year*



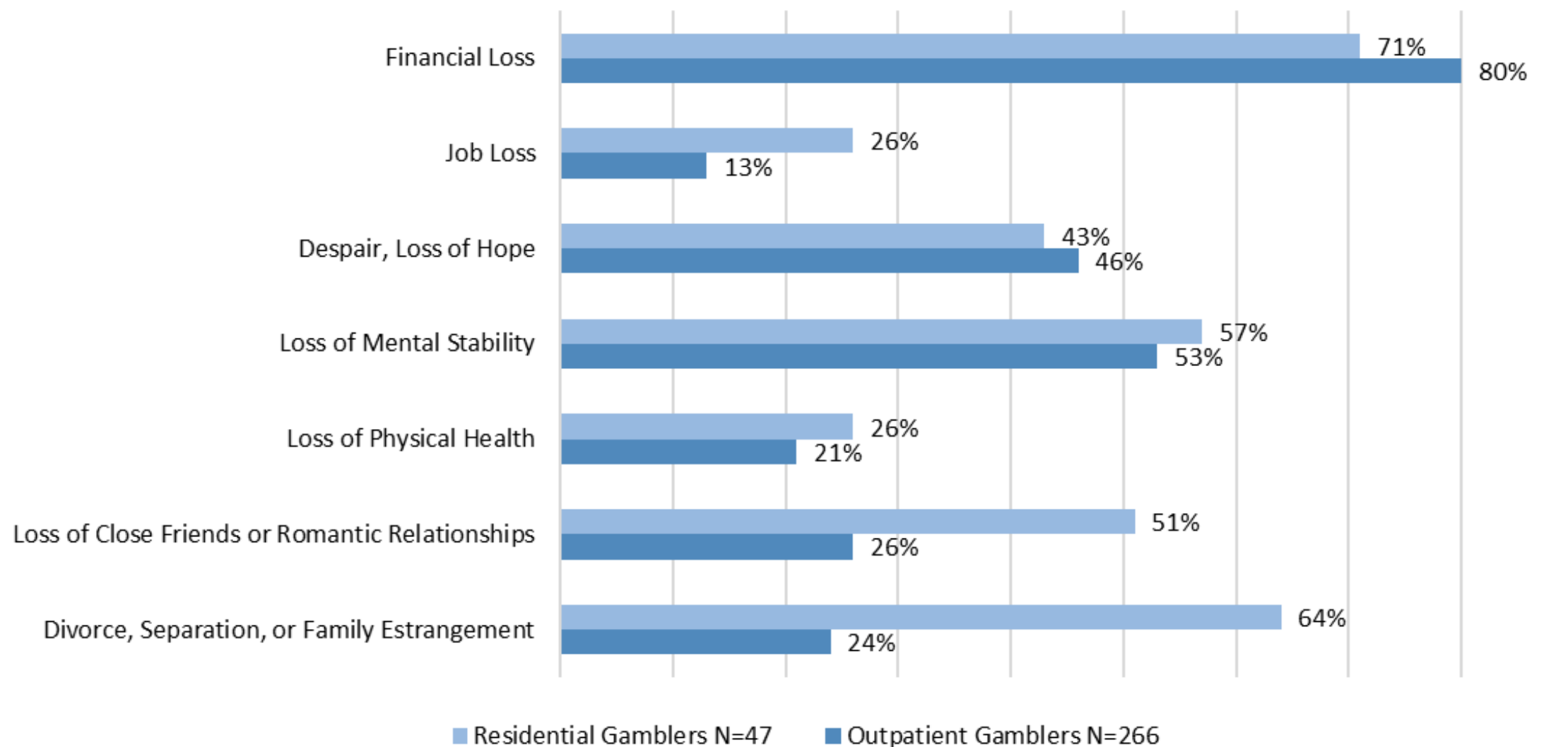
# Demographics of Treatment Population: Income



## Has Broken Laws to Finance Gambling

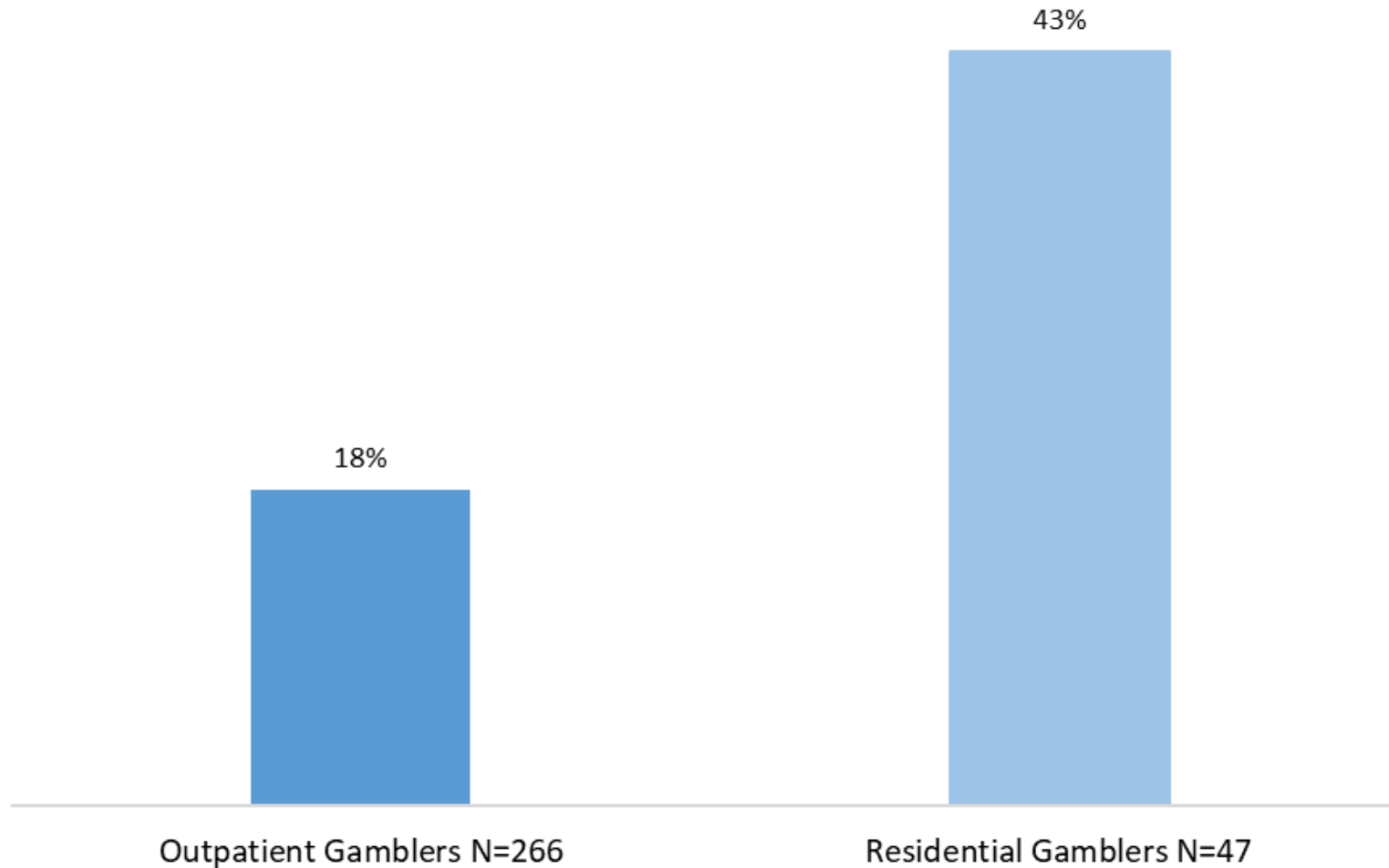


## Personal Loss Experienced as a Result of Gambling





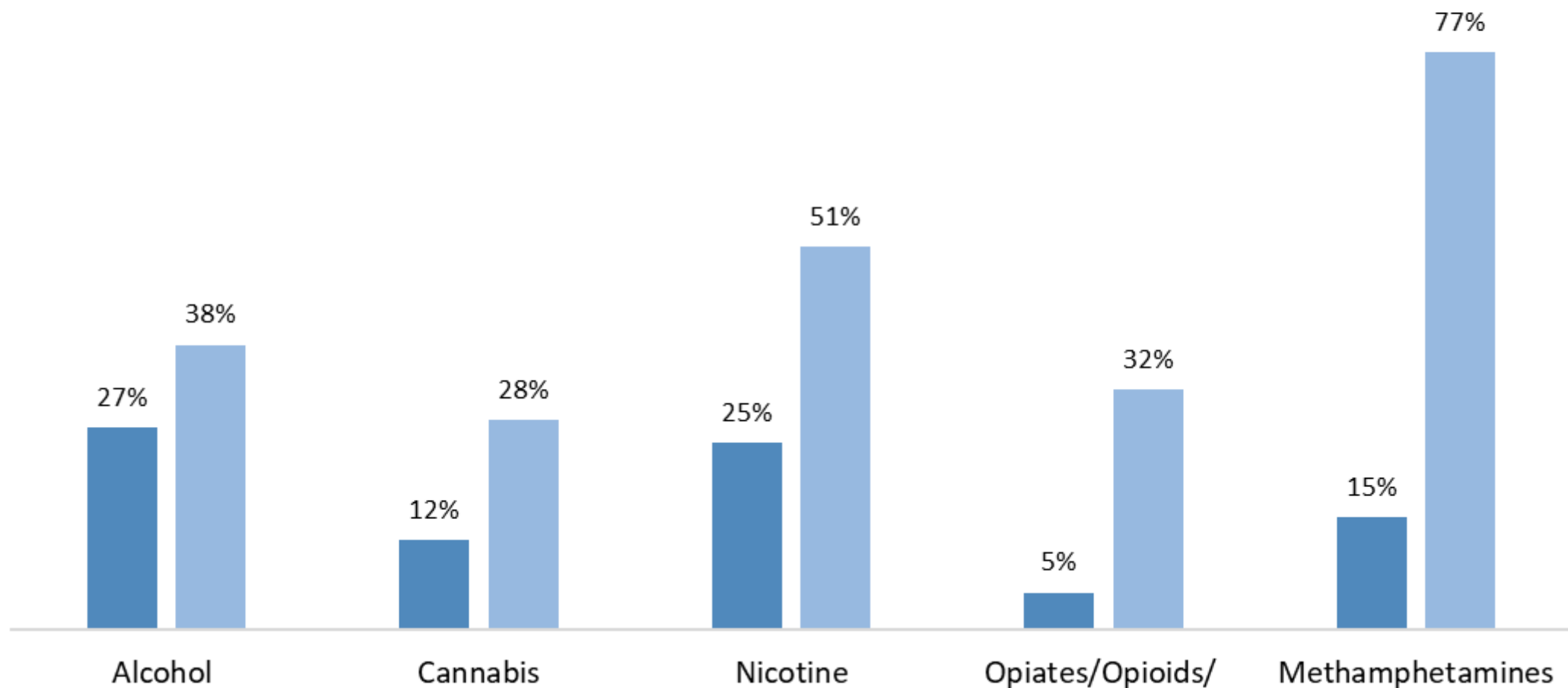
## Has Previously Attempted Suicide



## Problematic Substance Use

■ Outpatient Gamblers N=266 (any substance 41%)

■ Residential Gamblers N=47 (any substance 92%)



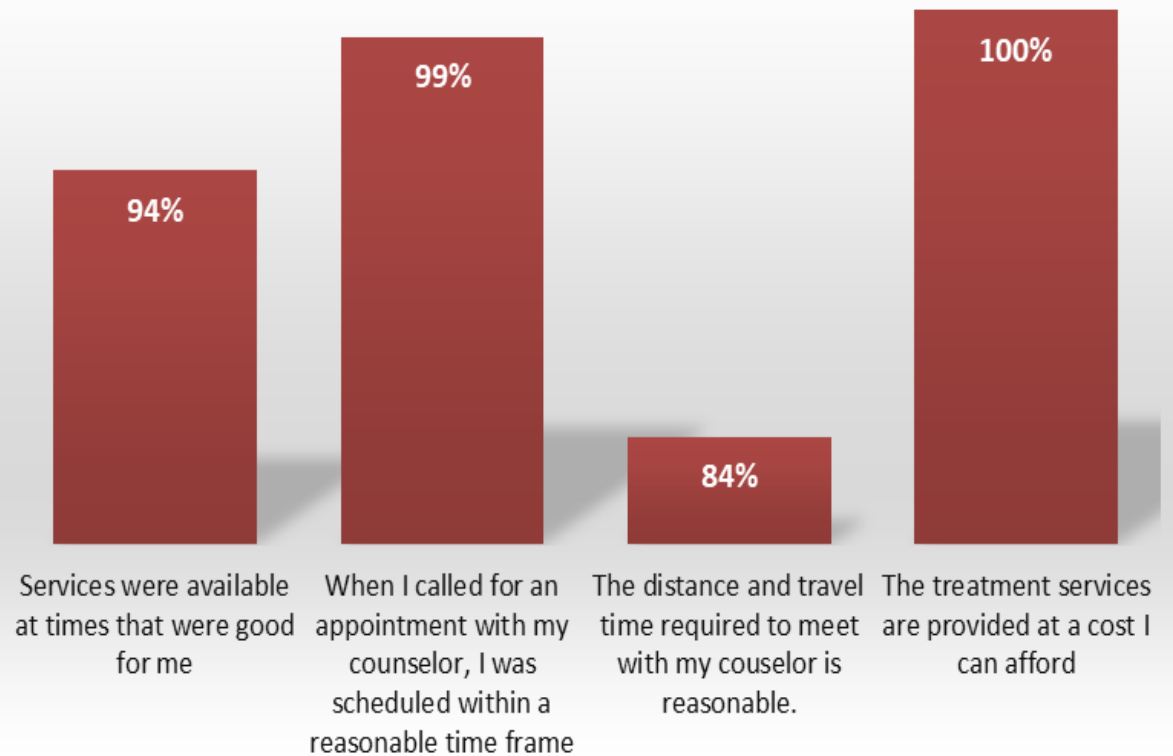
# Problem Severity and Help Seeking

	Outpatient (N=266)	Residential (N=47)
Percent of Clients Enrolling in Treatment for the first time	72%	65%
Previously tried community support meetings	43%	36%
DSM-5 Score (0-9)	7.4 (average)	7.0 (average)
Subclinical	3%	4%
Mild (4-5)	12%	21%
Moderate (6-7)	27%	28%
Severe (8-9)	56%	45%

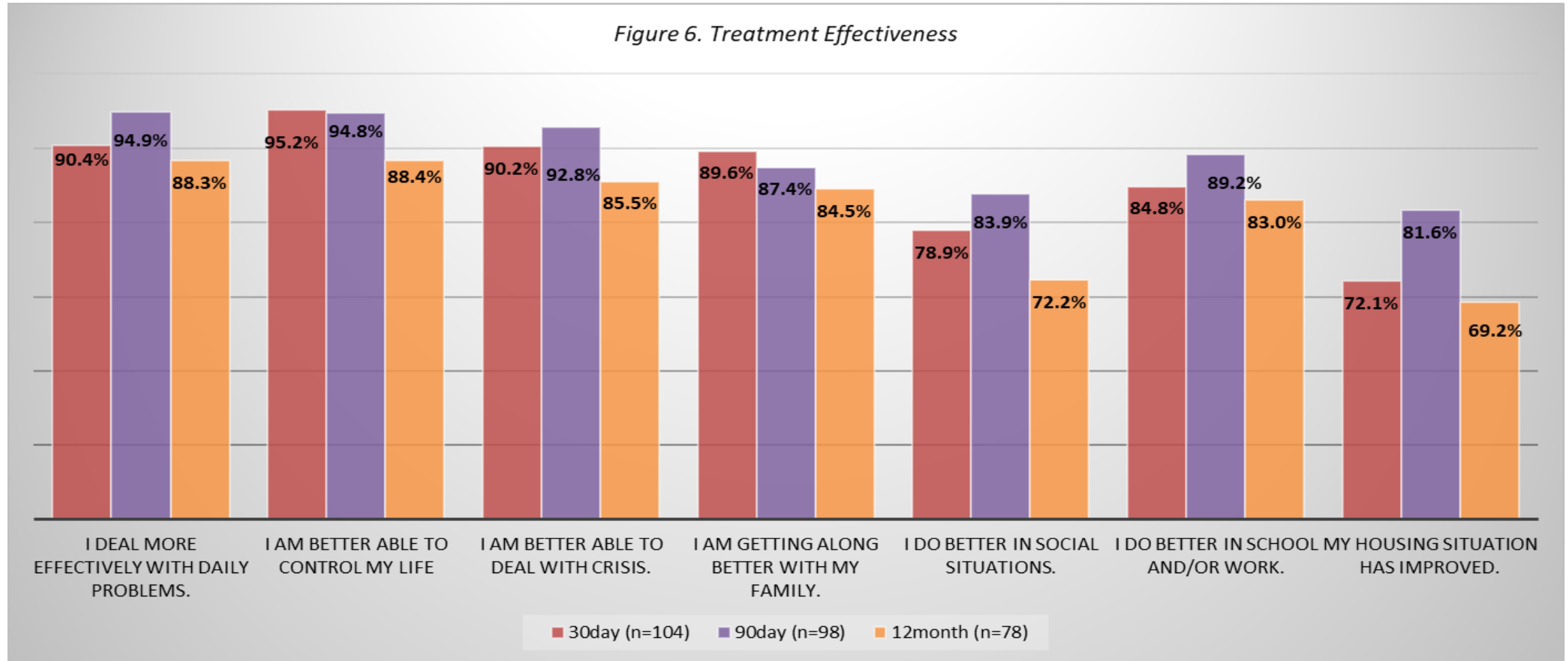
# Treatment Outcomes: Access to Services

- *"To give me all that help free of charge is amazing. I cannot believe they have a service that is as educational and informative. I voluntarily give what I can give."*
- *I want to thank everyone in the program for giving this free course or free lesson for people to take. I did not spend any money to get help."*
- *"Really the accessibility number one and you know trying to find mental health assistance right now is almost impossible. I made a lot of calls to counselors, they were booked or not taking patients. For me when I called or reached out online for someone to answer my call right away was a relief."*

Figure 3. Access to Treatment Services (n=322)



# Treatment Outcomes: Treatment Effectiveness (1)



*“You get what you put into things. If you just sit there, you get nothing. If you actually do what they say, it’s really going to make a difference.”*

## Treatment Outcomes: Impact on Gambling Behaviors

Which of the following statements best characterizes your gambling since enrolling in the program ....	30 day (n=104)	90 day (n=98)	12 month (n=78)
....I have not gambled since enrolling into the program.	62%	57%	34%
....I had one “slip” where I gambled, then got back on my recovery program.	11%	15%	9%
....I’ve had several “slips” since enrolling in the program and am back on track.	14%	17%	17%
....My goal is controlled gambling, and I am able to gamble without problems.	9%	7%	27%
....I am not meeting my goal to stop or control my gambling.	5%	3%	13%
Thinking back to the period of time when you gambled most heavily, have you reduced your gambling since this time?	97%	98%	92%

# New Efforts





# Problem Gambling Awareness Campaign

PROJECT  
WORTH

If you have a problem with gambling,  
you can overcome it.

**You're Worth It.**



TV Ads, Print, Social Media, Website, Digital Advertising

<https://www.projectworthnv.org/>

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Problem Gambling Services



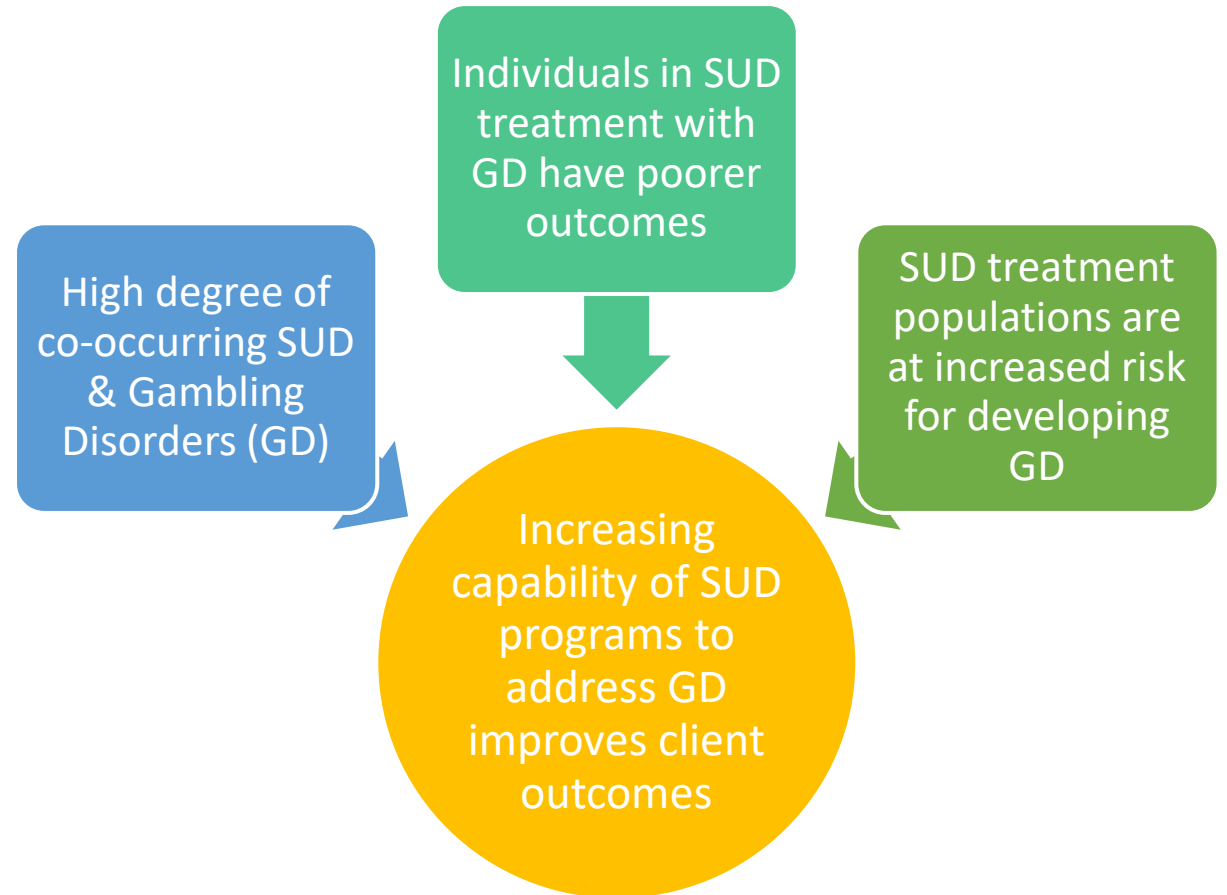
## Gambling Integration Pilot Project Implementation Plan

Version 2:  
February 9, 2022



Department of Health and  
Human Services  
*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*

# Problem Gambling Integration Project





# Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS)

The BRFSS is a national health survey performed annually by CDC with state-specific modules added.

DHHS added the NODS-clip problem gambling screener to the Nevada module, among other gambling questions to the 2021, 2022 versions of the BRFSS.

Provides baseline data on potentially undiagnosed people with gambling disorder in the Nevada population.

Identifies potential partners within the healthcare system, helping the state provide more targeted services.

# Gambling Panel Study

In collaboration with UNLV and University of Chicago, we conducted a statewide representative survey on gambling behaviors and attitudes towards gambling, which included a problem gambling screener.

This data is the first of its kind in the state and will allow us to better understand how to serve the needs of Nevadans.



# Long Term Recovery

We conducted 40 in-depth interviews with clients who self-identified as being in long term recovery (over 12 months). We use the concept of recovery capital to illustrate the unique supportive elements that promote long term recovery.

RECOVERY CAPITAL (RC)		
<i>Personal RC</i>	<i>Social/Family RC</i>	<i>Community RC</i>
Self-accountability	Family-based support	Treatment facilities
Trigger management	Friends' support	Aftercare (GA)
Participants' relationship with casinos	Participants' support	
Religion and spirituality	Leisure time	

# Opportunities to Learn More about Problem Gambling:

May 23-25, 2023



Ongoing: Several Trainings & Courses



<https://casatlearning.org/>

Resources



<http://www.nevadacouncil.org/>

## Quick Links

Problem Gambling Services

## Resources

[State-Supported Treatment & Prevention Programs](#)  
[For confidential help, call or text the National Council on Problem Gambling HelpLine: 1-800-522-4700](#)  
[Nevada Council on Problem Gambling](#)  
[Nevada Problem Gambling Services](#)

**The Revolving Account to Support Programs for the Prevention and Treatment of Problem Gambling** (Problem Gambling Fund) was created by Senate Bill 357 of the 2005 Legislative Session and codified in [NRS 458A](#). The account is funded through slot machine fees that would otherwise go to the State's general fund, and supports Problem Gambling programs including subsidized Problem Gambling Treatment for residents of the State of Nevada.

The **Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling (ACPG)** provides review and recommendations related to

[https://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/ProblemGambling/Problem\\_Gambling\\_Services\\_\(PGS\)/](https://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/ProblemGambling/Problem_Gambling_Services_(PGS)/)



# Questions?

## KEEP IN TOUCH!

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