

Eisenhower State Office Building
700 SW Harrison, Suite 500
Topeka, KS 66603



Phone: (785) 296-5800
Fax: (785) 296-0900
krge@krge.ks.gov
krge.ks.gov

Richard Petersen-Klein, Executive Director

Sam Brownback, Governor

Committee of Federal and State Affairs
February 02, 2012

Problem Gambling Services and the Problem Gambling and Other Addictions Grant Fund

Chairman Brungardt and Committee members, I am Carol Spiker, the Responsible Gambling Program Coordinator and Voluntary Exclusion Program Coordinator with the Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission. Thank you for the opportunity to speak regarding problem gambling in Kansas and the Problem Gambling and Other Addictions Grant Fund.

As you are probably aware, most can gamble solely as a source of entertainment providing them an opportunity to socialize in a safe and fun atmosphere. For some however, gambling can become problematic. According to a Harvard Medical School study, 1.6% of adults are pathological gamblers and an additional 4% will experience mild to moderate problems with gambling. Based on this data, upwards of 100,000 adult Kansans may experience mild to severe problems with gambling in their lifetime.

With the passage of SB66 in 2007, Kansas had already begun to plan for state-owned casinos, one in each of the four Lottery gaming zones (NE, SE, SW and SC). A provision in that Bill allowed for 2% of the gaming facility revenue to be paid to the Problem Gambling and Other Addictions Grant Fund which would be managed by Social and Rehabilitation Services. Although the new PGAF fund was designed to support all addiction programs, SRS began a strategic planning process in August 2007 aimed at infrastructure development to address problem gambling. Service areas included prevention, research and evaluation, crisis intervention and assessment, treatment, public awareness and marketing.

In December 2009, Kansas opened its first state-owned casino - the Boot Hill Casino and Resort in Dodge City. In December 2011 the Kansas Star opened in Mulvane and tomorrow, Hollywood Casino at Kansas Speedway in Wyandotte will open.

I have been asked to provide you with data that is collected by Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission which may assist you in outlining what Kansas has in place regarding some of the problem gambling services. The following table contains FY2011 actuals and the FY2012 budget for the PGAF. These are the numbers that were shared with me last week by Paul Hahn, SRS Problem Gambling Services Coordinator.

Sn Fed & State
Attachment 19

2-2-12

PGAF 2%		\$806,747 (Actual)	\$3,570,000 (Projected)
Service Area		FY2011 Actuals	FY2012 Budget
Awareness	Prevention and Awareness	25,000	** 115,818
	Clearinghouse	4,950	4,850
	Community Mini-Grants	106,400	-----
	PG Specialist	35,450	179,450
	Printing of Resource Materials	14,665	** 23,280
	Taskforces (3)		** 29,100
Crisis/Intervention	PG Helpline (KHS)	24,173	27,160
Research/Evaluation	Consultant	50,000	29,100
Treatment	Administration (VO)	60,000	38,000
	PG Treatment Services (36 clients treated)	29,794	156,000
Workforce Development	Workforce Development	17,018	** 47,142
	PG Services Coordinator	(no actuals available)	67,900
Other Additions	Treatment Services	370,000	-----
Total Expenditures PG		367,450	717,800
Total Expenditures 2%		737,450	717,800

** Dollars have not yet been allocated, to my knowledge.

Clearinghouse for Problem Gambling Resource Materials

Problem gambling resource materials are available at no cost to any Kansan. These materials include informational brochures, Helpline cards, videos and training curriculum. Materials are warehoused at the RADAR Network of Kansas Family Partnership.

Regional Problem Gambling Taskforces

A problem gambling task force is to be established in each of the three gaming zones in which a casino exists. Currently a problem gambling task force exists in SW Kansas (Dodge City) and SC Kansas (Wichita). One has yet to be established in NE Kansas (Wyandotte). The task forces are a small cadre of community volunteers whose purpose is to educate and raise awareness about problem gambling at the local community level. They are neither for nor against gambling but rather serve the purpose of addressing the harm caused by problem gambling.

Problem Gambling Prevention Specialists

Each gaming zone in which a casino exists will have a PG Prevention Specialist assigned to spearhead prevention efforts for that area. Currently SW and SC Kansas have a specialist in place. One has yet to be assigned to NE Kansas. This individual will work at the local level and serve as the spokesperson for the problem gambling services, initiate treatment outreach, collaborate with other service providers, raise awareness, secure resources and provide technical assistance to the task force.

The Problem Gambling Helpline (attachment 1)

The helpline is a crisis intervention and assessment service answered 24/7 by Kansas Health Solutions. The data that you have is a 10 year compilation of the problem gambling helpline calls. A problem gambler or concerned other may call the helpline for numerous reasons but most (48%) are calling because they want help with problem gambling. That help can be in the form of a referral to GA, AA, mental health services, alcohol and drug services, or a referral for further evaluation/treatment by a Kansas Certified Gambling Counselor. Others may call for general information on problem gambling and services (25%), or information on Gamblers Anonymous meetings (18%).

Treatment for Problem Gamblers and Concerned Others

Kansas has approximately 80 certified gambling counselors located throughout the state. Kansas provides no-cost treatment to problem gamblers or concerned others whose private insurance will not

cover this cost. SRS has a treatment contract with Value Options and the providers bill VO for the services they provide to problem gamblers or concerned others. No-cost treatment became available February 01, 2011.

Other problem gambling programs and services that are not supported by the PGAF:

The Voluntary Exclusion Program (attachment 2)

This program is coordinated and monitored by the Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission. It is a program that is self-initiated by an individual and serves as a voluntary intervention for problem gamblers. An individual may choose to exclude themselves from the Kansas state-owned casinos for a period of 2 years or a lifetime. Attachment 2 is the data that has been collected since the first exclusion occurred January 2010. There are currently 79 participants in the VEP. When BHCR completed its first year of operation, we had 20 in the VEP. That doubled the second year (2011) with 40 VEPs from BHCR and 3 from Kansas Star (after only being open 6 partial days). In the month of January 2012, we have added 16 VEPs. I am not a statistician but my instincts tell me that we may likely add one VEP per day for at least the next several months.

Responsible Gambling Plan for Casino Operations

This function is also coordinated and monitored by the Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission. Each casino is required to have a Responsible Gambling Plan in place prior to opening. Their plan must include training and standard operating procedures to address problem gambling, underage gambling, and alcohol service and use. Their plan must include approval processes for all promotion and marketing materials. These promotions and marketing materials must include the Kansas problem gambling tagline, helpline number and problem gambling website. (See attachment 1 for the tagline)

The Kansas Responsible Gambling Alliance

The Kansas Responsible Gambling Alliance is a state-wide collaborative effort to coordinate and maximize resources to address problem gambling in Kansas. The Alliance was formed in 2008 and is comprised of voting members from the Kansas Lottery, Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, Kansas Coalition on Problem Gambling and the Kansas Department of Corrections. It also includes members representing the local gaming communities and casino operators. The Alliance was responsible for developing and integrating the problem gambling branding of "Getting Help is your Best Bet" and for the development of the Kansas Responsible Gambling Alliance website www.ksgamblinghelp.com Members of the Alliance believe that by joining together with a single voice, organizations can maximize problem gambling resources.

The Kansas Coalition on Problem Gambling

The Kansas Coalition on Problem Gambling was founded in 1998 with the mission of reducing the onset and progression of problem gambling in Kansas. It is a state-wide organization that is represented by stakeholders from both the local and state sector. It is the voice of the problem gambler and the advocate for problem gambling services.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today. I would be happy to entertain any questions you may have.



Problem Gambling in Kansas

For most adults, gambling is a source of entertainment, a chance to socialize with others in a fun, safe and exciting atmosphere – and perhaps, to win some money. For some, gambling can become problematic.

A 1999 National Prevalence Study revealed that .9% of the adult population, which would be approximately 18,614 Kansans, are pathological gamblers.

Mitigating the harm caused by problem gambling can be accomplished by understanding problem gambling issues and knowing how to access help.

Gambling activities may include the following:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Bingo | Keno |
| Casinos | Lottery |
| Commodities Market | Sports Betting |
| Dog/Horse Races | Stock Market |
| Internet Gambling | Sweepstakes |

The National Council on Problem Gambling defines problem gambling as:

“...gambling behavior which causes disruptions in any major area of life – psychological, physical, social or vocational.”

Do You or Someone You Know Have A Gambling Problem?

1. Have you ever felt the need to bet more and more money?
2. Have you ever had to lie to people important to you about how much you gamble?

An answer of “yes” to either or both of these questions may indicate a problem with gambling.

Information for this Fact Sheet provided by the Kansas Responsible Gambling Alliance ~ a partnership of Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services, Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission, Kansas Lottery, Kansas Department of Corrections, Kansas Coalition on Problem Gambling, Boot Hill Casino and Resort and Kansas Community Representatives.

Problem Gambling in Kansas

(data derived from the Kansas Problem Gambling Helpline 2001-2010)

Of the individuals that called the Kansas Helpline:

- 3700 calls for help
- 63 of those callers were suicidal
- 14,000 opportunistic calls (those who may have been inquiring but were hesitant to ask for help)
- 52% were male
- 48% were female
- 48% were 26-54 years old
- 68% were inquiring about help for themselves
- 37% and 13% indicated casino slots and casino cards as their gambling choice
- 48% were referred to Gamblers Anonymous, and
- 18% were referred to a service provider

Problem Gambling Warning Signs

1. A preoccupation with gambling.
2. Talking only about wins, not losses.
3. Gambling is a way of escape from problems.
4. Hiding losses from family members.
5. Borrowing money in order to gamble.
6. Gambling results in withdrawal from family and friends.
7. Stopping or cutting back seems impossible.

Getting Help

If you suspect that you or someone you know is a problem gambler, call the Kansas Problem Gambling Help Line. A specially trained counselor will answer your call. Information is provided at no cost.

The call is toll-free and confidential.

Gambling problem?

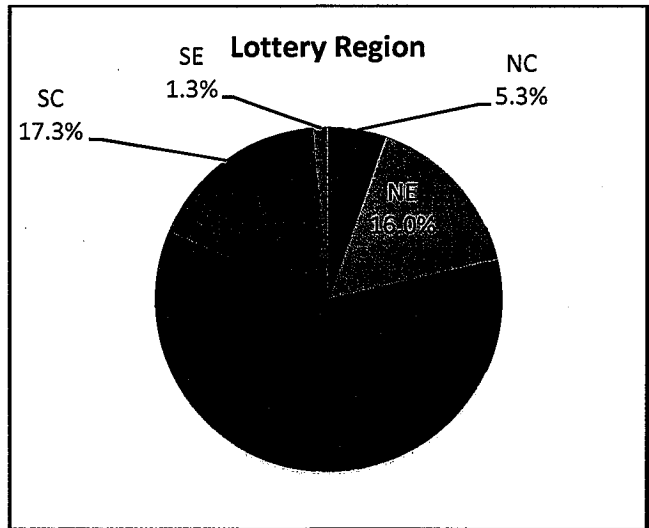
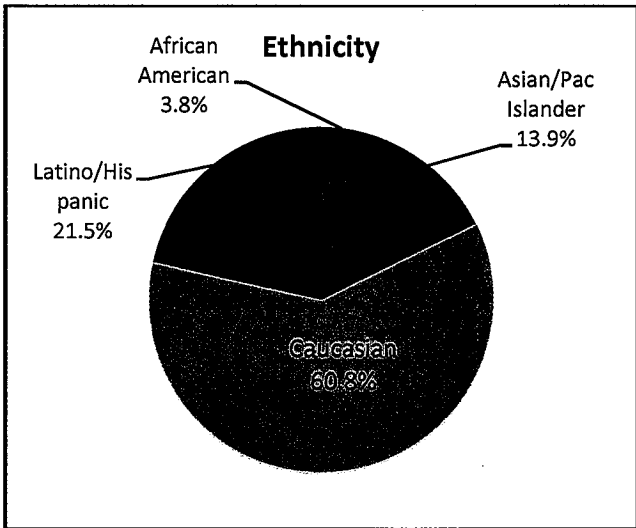
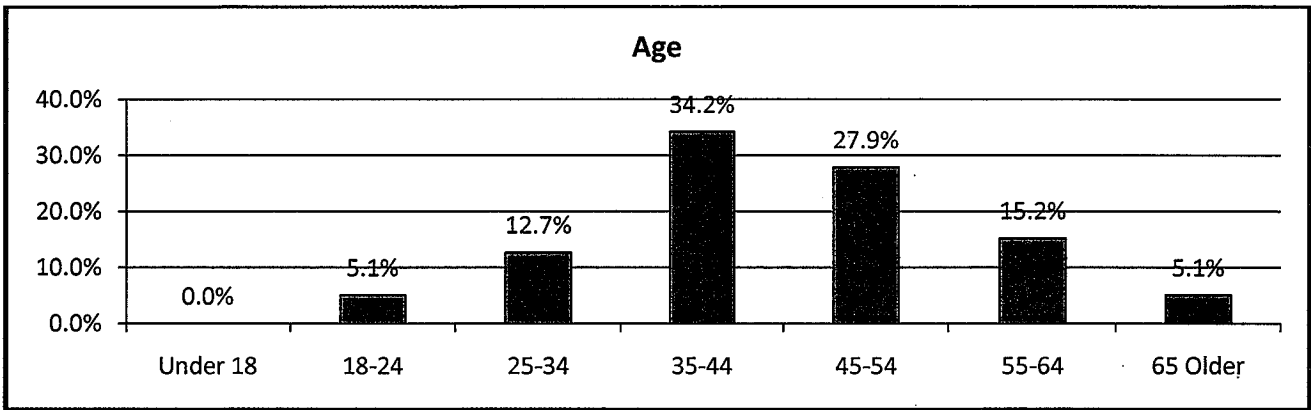
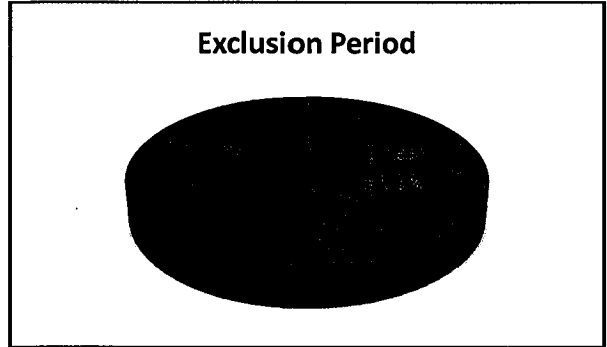
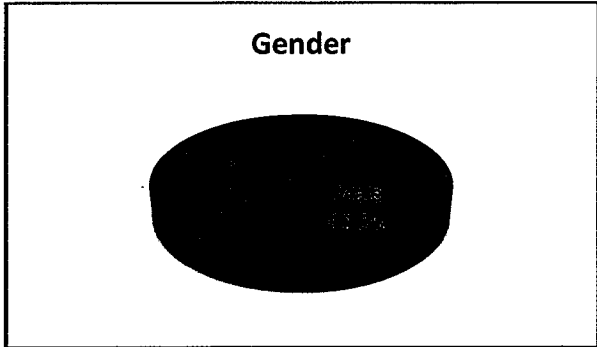
Getting Help is your Best Bet.

800.522.4700 ksgamblinghelp.com



Voluntary Exclusion Program Data January 2010 – January 2012

Voluntary Exclusions = 79



20



Customer Service Phone: 1-888-369-4777
www.srs.ks.gov

Wm. Jeff Kahrs, Interim-Acting Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman Pete Brungardt and Committee Members
Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee

FROM: Paul Hahn, Problem Gambling Services Coordinator

DATE: February 2, 2012

SUBJECT: Problem Gambling Treatment History

The following is the number of unique individuals who have been treated with funds from the problem gambling and addictions grant fund (PGAGF) and the expenditures associated with the treatment. These numbers represent the entire history of the treatment program since its inception on February 1, 2011:

	FY2011	FY2012
Total No. of Unique Persons Treated	43	73
Dollars Spent	\$ 4,594.19	\$ 27,493.39
Dollars Budgeted	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 155,200.00