

# **Erie County**

## **Problem Gambling Profile and Needs Assessment**

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**Prepared for the Erie County Department of Human Relations and Erie  
County Department of Drug and Alcohol**

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***Part 1: County Problem Gambling Overview. Describe the types and locations of gambling that occur within your county. Types of gambling could include, but are not limited to: slot machines and table games, punchboards, video poker, dice games, sports betting, lottery tickets, 50/50 drawings, raffles, bingo, etc. Locations could include, but are not limited to: casinos, racinos, off track betting, restaurants/bars, grocery/convenience stores, fire halls, churches, schools, workplaces, personal residences, etc.***

Erie County likely resembles most of the other counties within the state of Pennsylvania and for that matter within the United States, in relation to the types of gambling that occur on a regular basis. When asking residents of Erie County what types of gambling they are familiar with, most individual's first response might be to think of Presque Isle Downs and Casino. February 28<sup>th</sup> will mark the 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this establishment located in Summit Township. This facility holds over 2,000 slot machines as well as approximately 50 table games, including poker, blackjack, roulette, and craps. The casino also includes a thoroughbred race track that operates in the summer months with on-track gambling available, where gamblers can place bets on races at this facility. It also serves as an Off Track Betting parlor for ducats at other horseracing tracks, both regionally and nationally.

The casino located in Summit Township, Erie County, was obviously the most identifiable place of gambling; however, the workgroup assembled for this project was able to easily note other locations of gambling. The issue at hand was verifying the types and the extent of gambling that take place, legally and illegally, within Erie County. Some were more identifiable. For instance, the Erie County Department of Revenue granted a total of 66 bingo licenses in 2010. Another common form of legalized gambling is the state sponsored Pennsylvania lottery. Their official website <http://www.palottery.state.pa.us/find-retailer.aspx> has identified 247 sanctioned retailers of the PA lottery and all of their legalized offerings in Erie County, or one retailer for every 871 adults that reside in Erie County.

The listing from the Erie County Department of Revenue identified there were 369 types of licenses distributed in 2010. They were broken down into 66 bingo licenses, 227 General Game of Chance licenses, 17 Limited Occasion licenses, and 59 Special Raffle permits. These were awarded to churches, senior centers, non-profits (i.e. March of Dimes, arts groups), public libraries, fire companies, colleges, schools, social clubs, yacht clubs, rifle clubs, community organizations (i.e. Lions Club), agricultural societies, sportsman clubs, youth sport leagues and teams, chambers of commerce, and many other types of organizations.

The examples above provide a more quantitative description of some types and places of gambling, but other forms of gambling prove to be more difficult to gather information on. For instance, social clubs are well known to offer legal gambling activities. In effort to identify the number of clubs where these activities take place, staff related to this project called over 30 social clubs in Erie County to ask what types of legal gambling they offered their members, including but not limited to tip boards, pull off tables, private poker rooms, casino nights, and bingo. Of the 30 clubs called, only 15 admitted to any gambling (though team members and others talked to in the community acknowledged it takes place at

almost all). Many were reluctant to talk and hung up the phone, while others noted that they can share this information only with members. The reluctance to discuss gambling in their clubs led the work team to speculate that other non-sanctioned gambling activities could be taking place; however, this is just speculation. On a side note regarding social club gambling, one of the bigger draws in this realm is the signing in of books. The dollar amounts can eclipse \$10,000 at times, encouraging many to stop by the club. It was noted that there are 'texting circles' that have come into place with code words utilized to inform friends/relatives of large jackpots.

Other forms of gambling were very abstract in terms of defining the 'who and where'. Much discussion was held among the team members regarding this topic. One of the student representatives on the work team added that gambling does not seem to be an issue on college campuses in her opinion. As online gambling and card games were once very popular, they seem to be in the wane. When card games do take place, it is more in the line of recreational with very small buy-in amounts. As noted above, churches continue to offer bingo regularly; many also sponsor casino nights, raffles, etc to support their parishes or school sport teams. Getting this information from the diocese proved to be difficult, however. Workplaces are common gambling sites as well. The irony is that at one of the meetings, half of the team members spent time amongst each other talking about their fantasy football teams and how much they stand to make if they won their league.

During the process, the local newspaper (Erie Times News) picked up this initiative and inquired about the process. After a story ran in the paper, a phone call was received by staff from a very concerned citizen who called to express his support. As a prominent businessman in this region, he wanted to bring to the groups attention one other type of gambling that he sees all the time - gambling in the stock market. He stated that though limited to those with higher wealth accumulations, it is commonplace and frequent within the affluent population.

There is also the issue of gambling that takes place not just within Erie County, but by Erie County residents elsewhere. Like most communities, local residents are attracted to out of town casinos with vacation packages or bus trips. It is well known that many individuals within our local communities do not frequent Presque Isle Casino, but do make frequent visits to other casinos nearby. Not including Pennsylvania casinos, within a three hour drive there are casinos in West Virginia (Mountaineer), New York State (Seneca, Salamanca, Buffalo), and Canada (two in Niagara Falls) which have been 'supported' by Erie County residents for years.

Part of the needs assessment process was the use of the convenience survey. Locally, there was great response to this survey, as there were approximately 500 responses. Of those, the following had said that they are aware of the following activities in their specific community of residence:

Lottery, 92.9%; Bingo, 83.8%; Raffle Sales, 78.1%; Games of Chance, 70.2%; Sports Betting, 66.1%; Poker Machines, 65.8% .

The issues noted prior to this point involved the prominence of legal types of gambling within Erie County. The other side of the issue relates to those types of gambling not sanctioned by a governmental

body. Office pools, bookies, illegal 'alley' games and the like do, indeed, take place throughout Erie County. Unfortunately the existence of frequency of this type of gambling is near impossible to pinpoint.

Needless to say, the prominence of gambling in our region is extensive. What is difficult to define is the why and how often, as it is a taboo activity. Even more difficult to identify is when do these activities become addictive rather than mere forms of entertainment, and when is intervention required. Erie County's local committee discussed this and other questions, which are addressed subsequently in this final report.

## **Part 2: Problem Gambling Needs Assessment**

### **I. Problem Gambling Needs Assessment Process**

#### **A. Identify the members of the Assessment Team.**

See Attached Appendix 1 listing for Needs Assessment work team.

#### **B. Identify Data sources that were included in assessing need.**

The primary Key Representative and Convenience surveys were utilized in Erie County's Needs Assessment. In addition, the group looked at internet sources to determine the number of lottery sites and registered bingo halls in Erie County. Additionally, a spreadsheet in Excel was developed to track social club activities, where a brief survey was conducted to obtain information. PA Uniform Crime Report data was generated as well for gambling crime statistics, and the PA Youth Survey was examined to further identify youth gambling attitudes. A listing of organizations that obtained a gaming license in Erie County in 2010 was also obtained from the county's Department of Revenue. Qualitative information was also recorded via a couple of interviews and comments made along with survey completion, as well as from the ongoing discussions with work team members.

#### **C. Explain how the BDAP Convenience Survey on Problem Gambling was administered and discuss to whom it was administered.**

The convenience survey was heavily utilized for this process. Work team members were asked to administer it in their places of employment and to their clients, if applicable. The survey was also created in SurveyMonkey, an online survey tool. This allowed for quick distribution and easy access by survey takers. It also allowed for distribution to be done via Facebook, websites, and through email contacts of project staff.

Surveys were distributed to large populations, including: Erie Family Center staff and clients, Erie County Courthouse employees, Mercyhurst College Students, Erie County Office of Adult Probation clients and staff, Erie County Office of Drug and Alcohol Abuse clients and staff, members of the Erie Together project, and the Esper Treatment Center. Additionally many individuals not affiliated with the prior mentioned agencies took the survey as well. On January 19<sup>th</sup>, the Erie Times News ran an article regarding the county's needs assessment I. This article can be found at <http://www.goerie.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2011301179914>. The newspaper wrote a follow-up editorial one week later, which can be found at <http://www.goerie.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2011301259998>. These two articles led to more interest in taking the convenience survey as well.

There were a total of 509 completed convenience surveys under this initiative. Complete results can be found in Appendix 2 of this document.

#### **D. Explain how the BDAP Key Representative Survey on Problem Gambling was administered and provide justification regarding the number administered.**

The Key Rep survey was distributed to 26 individuals who were picked from the list originally submitted to BDAP. Of these original 26 surveys, there were eleven surveys returned. Follow-up tracking was administered, which generated four additional responses. After this, two other individuals not in the original picked population were asked and submitted surveys, bringing the total number of completed Key Rep surveys to seventeen. There had been commitment from two others to complete the survey as well; however, they were never returned. Complete results can be found in Appendix 3 of this document.

One of the issues at hand with the administration of the Key Rep survey stemmed from the four municipalities picked for the process: Elgin, Lake City, Springfield and Wesleyville. These communities (with the exception of Wesleyville) are rather small and remote, and do not have services provided in them by the various identified capacities. Generating names for the original listing was problematic, and the project team took liberties to utilize individuals in neighboring communities. Even with this pretence, it was difficult to identify individuals who truly worked in the noted capacities.

**E. Describe the methods used to gather additional information (i.e. public forums, listening sessions, focus groups, interviews, survey, observations, etc)**

There were a few interviews conducted with individuals regarding this process (local businessman who was a former gambling addict, county council member), as well as qualitative comments collected from the survey process.

**F. Identify data gaps**

Data gaps were difficult to identify for many reasons. For one, there is limited knowledge of gambling problems. One of the conclusions that the work team came to was that if there is indeed a widespread gambling problem, it is relatively unknown in the community. The first gap that needs to be addressed is not of data, but of definition. What is a gambling problem? The work team had issues defining this, and with good reason. When is spending \$50 a week on gambling a problem, but \$50 a week on going to movies acceptable? Is it when a crime is involved? When a family member says it is a problem?

There is also a lack of data to support problem gambling being crime related. PA Uniform Crime Report data showed 3 gambling crimes in Erie County over the past five years. Representatives from Adult Probation who serve on the work team noted that there is no known issue with gambling among caseload clients, but it has never been asked of this population. The representative from Erie County Care Management who sits on the committee reiterated this belief as well. However, this could be due to the fact that the questions pertaining to gambling have never really been asked. Also an issue is identifying illegal gambling activities and where they take place in Erie County.

**G. State the findings identified through an analysis of the data by completing Appendix 3.**

See attached Appendix 3

**II. Magnitude and Changeability of the Problem Gambling Findings**

Completed in Appendix 3

**III. Countywide and Community Level Problem Gambling Findings, Key Issues & Capacity**

**A. Briefly summarize all preliminary data Findings.**

The data collected and discussions held among members of the work team brought about several points of interest for contemplation and future focus. However, the following key findings stood out as the most pertinent of the process.

**Finding 1:** *Families and loved ones are primary sources for identifying problem gamblers, but they need an outlet and place to talk about the impact it is having.*

**Finding 2:** *Youth Gambling does not seem to be a primary problem in our community, but is difficult to gauge.*

**Finding 3:** *Government social service programs may not always be the ideal way to treat problem gambling.*

**Finding 4:** *Gambling related crimes are not problematic in Erie County; however, this is difficult to verify since many theft crimes could have been undertaken to support gambling habits.*

**Finding 5:** *If there is indeed a widespread gambling problem, it's relatively unknown in the community.*

**B. Identify the data Findings which you will address. These become your Key Issues. Document the specific communities whose data establishes that a need exists and indicate the need. Describe the process used to identify the local needs for each community. If the data indicates a countywide issue, address it as such. Include what type of change is necessary to impact the problem gambling issues identified through analysis of the data.**

**Finding 1:** Families and loved ones are primary sources for identifying problem gamblers, but they need an outlet and place to talk about the impact it is having.

**Finding 4:** Gambling related crimes are not problematic in Erie County; however, this is difficult to verify since many theft crimes could have been undertaken to support gambling habits.

Both of these findings/Key Issues are county-wide. None of the findings above are community specific; however, it was agreed upon that even if the process involved communities that allowed more measureable data, all issues would still be county-wide.

Identifying necessary change to address the key issues is difficult at this time; however, work team partners have agreed to assist in whatever they could do in their departments to further analyze the key issues. For instance, both the representative from Adult Probation and Case Management have agreed that they can begin to ask gambling related questions on their intake assessments. This will help to identify both individual and family gambling issues.

The most noted change that can occur is to better define problem gambling so as families and service providers better know what to look for regarding symptoms and behaviors. As previously addressed, the Erie County group had difficulty putting their finger on this topic. Better guidelines will assist further analysis, as well as in determining intervention strategies at the local level.

**C. Describe how both countywide, and if available, community-level capacity was assessed to include:**

- **Identify resources (human and financial) needed to address identified problem gambling needs/issues.**

Further financial resources would be needed to study the issue in Erie County to fully determine the extent and locations of problem gambling/ers in Erie County. Currently, the service providers needed to address the issue are in place in Erie County. However, their staffs may need to be expanded upon in order to accommodate the potential number of problem gamblers they may be asked to service. However, it is impossible to not stress the point enough. The current state of problem gambling in Erie County is simply not known. This effort to study the problem has shed a certain amount of light on the problem, but much more has to be done to ensure potential resources are directed as needed.

- **Identify the existing problem gambling prevention infrastructure in the county and each targeted community.**

There are gambling anonymous hotlines in place with billboards and other advertisements promoting it throughout the county. In addition, there are two gambling addictions counselors in Erie County. Other than these two services, there is no prominent prevention infrastructure in place.

- **Describe the strengths and weaknesses in the community(ies) that may affect problem gambling prevention service.**

Erie County has a strong collaborative relationship between corrections, mental health, drug and alcohol and case management departments. By far and away this is the primary strength for the county in prevention services. There is commitment from key representatives from these departments to the process as well. The primary weakness is a lack of community understanding/knowledge of the problem. There is also a perceived issue of shame since problem gambling is less talked about in public, and possibly less accepted than other forms of addiction. Many individuals, especially of upper or middle class, may be reluctant to seek help.

- **Identify problem gambling service gaps.**

Lack of certified counselors, little community knowledge of the issue, and lack of family support programs are the most pressing gaps in service. Additionally, when individuals call the gambling hotline they often leave a name and number to be called back. This offers no immediate help to the person in need.

- **Assess readiness and leadership to implement problem gambling policies, programs and practices.**

Led by Erie County's SCA, any policies and programs put in place would have competent and professional leadership that would ensure success. There cannot be enough emphasis put on the fact that Erie County has a strong collaborative nature among its various human services departments, which bodes well for implementation. Various agencies in Erie County are well respected and would offer strong bases for gambling addictions programming, as well.

**Problem Gambling Needs Assessment Team: See Appendix 1 for complete listing**



**Documenting Preliminary Findings and Data Sources**

*(Please provide the following information for each of your preliminary findings)*

**SCA:** Erie County Office of Drug and Alcohol Abuse

**Finding 1:** Families and loved ones are primary sources for identifying problem gamblers, but they need an outlet and place to talk about the impact it is having.

**Data Source(s):** Surveys, discussion of work team members

**Level of Impact:**

**Countywide issue:** Yes

**Community-level issue:** No

**If community-level, please indicate community(ies) impacted:**

**Finding 2:** Youth Gambling does not seem to be a primary problem in our community.

**Data Source(s):** Surveys, discussion of work team members, PA Youth Survey

**Level of Impact:**

**Countywide issue:** Yes

**Community-level issue:** No

**If community-level, please indicate community(ies) impacted:**

**Finding 3:** Government social service programs may not always be the ideal way to treat problem gambling.

**Data Source(s):** Interviews, discussion of work team members

**Level of Impact:**

**Countywide issue:** Yes

**Community-level issue:** No

**If community-level, please indicate community(ies) impacted:**

**Finding 4:** Gambling related crimes are not problematic in Erie County; however, this is difficult to verify since many theft crimes could have been undertaken to support gambling habits.

**Data Source(s):** PA Unified Crime Report, discussion of work team members

**Level of Impact:**

**Countywide issue:** Yes

**Community-level issue:** No

**If community-level, please indicate community(ies) impacted:**

**Finding 5:** If there is indeed a widespread gambling problem, it's relatively unknown in the community

**Data Source(s):** PA Unified Crime Report, discussion of work team members

**Level of Impact:**

**Countywide issue:** Yes

**Community-level issue:** No

### ***Magnitude & Changeability***

#### **How many people are affected by problem gambling and the severity of its effects?**

This is a great unknown. One of the more difficult questions asked among the work team members is 'what is the definition of problem gambling'? Is it when an individual gambles away their family savings and loses their home? Or is gambling a problem when a spouse says that their husband/wife is spending too much time at the local casino, or playing the PA lottery too frequently? Some may say losing \$50 per week in gambling is problematic, but what if the individual spends \$50 on going to the theatre or movies each week? How does this differ in terms of how money is spent? In this case, the suggestion of gambling as entertainment comes into the discussion. Or what of the elderly woman, who plays bingo at the local church doing so to support her local parish, compared to the person who plays bingo at the local social hall using the computerized card readers and daubers to track her multiple cards per play.

Unlike those with a drug and alcohol addiction or a mental illness, physical symptoms or evidence of problem gambling can be easily hidden. Those involved in the process who work within corrections, substance abuse treatment, and gambling addictions counseling note that there is a minimal number of individuals who confess to having such a problem.

Because of the lack of clarity on the issue, the Erie County needs assessment work team was unable to determine the number of individuals that are affected by problem gambling. But the convenience survey results may give some insight into future determination of this. Of those who took the survey, 6% either agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "I could benefit from problem gambling services." However, 96% either agreed or strongly agreed with "Families are strongly affected when a member of the family gambles too much"; and 21% agreed or strongly agreed with "I am interested in learning more about problem gambling." Though not a definitive correlation, work team members deducted that many of the respondents may see gambling issues with loved ones, due to the high agreement with the last two statements noted above. What was agreed upon however is that with this addiction, families are most likely reaping the worst of the repercussions when someone they care about has a gambling problem.

Further discussion among the group members led to the conclusion that there is a lack of outlets for individuals impacted by problem gambling. There may be hotlines in place for those to call who believe they have problems, but there are significantly fewer outlets for those who need to talk when compared to those with drug and alcohol problems or mental illnesses. Families also have no outlet, which is problematic. The group identified this population as the first defense in combating problem gambling, as they can be trained to look for symptoms more effectively. What was envisioned was an outlet similar to services provided by NAMI (i.e. Peer to Peer, Family to Family). From this, stronger prevention can become part of the community. This is one of the tasks that the group has identified to focus its efforts on over the next several months.

#### **How feasible is it to address the problem gambling issue?**

The thought among many individuals who were involved on this project is that there is great potential in treating problem gambling, especially on an individual basis. Problem gambling may stem in obsessive compulsive disorder tendencies, which can be treated in a therapeutic setting as such. Time will measure success of this type of treatment, and other treatment avenues could be explored and implemented as well.

Group settings may not be ideal for treating gambling addictions, however. A key businessman in Erie County, a former problem gambler, noted that a great number of problem gamblers who stand to lose or have lost significant amounts of money are those of middle to upper class standing. In his experience, and for what he sees in terms of individuals who gamble in the stock market, this population is not likely to call a help line or attend a group meeting to discuss the issue. There is a lot of professional image at stake, which keeps these individuals from talking about their addiction. As many in this population are employed and carry insurance, it could be likely that if they were to seek help it would be with a personal psychologist/counselor where they would be assured complete anonymity. The work team members agreed with his statements, and suggested that if possible the state could encourage private insurance billing to treat problem gambling behaviors, which would complement state programs offered through the local SCA's.

Erie County also has an extensive collaborative network in place consisting of mental health, drug and alcohol, and correctional service providers ready to adapt to a newly formed addiction effort. The nature of the systems working together could bode well for any endeavors into problem gambling treatment. The fact that key representatives of each system sit on the work team would also be instrumental in 'selling' the projects to their individual departments.

#### **How important is the problem gambling issue to the community?**

Though there is no firm number of individuals impacted by problem gambling in Erie County, this process has allowed the work team members to agree that there is, on some level, a need to address this problem. When the topic of problem gambling treatment was introduced to people in the community and how it impacts the community, it seemed to take many individuals by surprise. The topic generally piqued interest as it was something that they had not thought about before. Through the process, this is a topic that the work team seemed to understand has a greater importance than once thought, and members overwhelmingly agreed that it is one that should be addressed. In fact, though this project had a deadline to be turned in of February 4<sup>th</sup>, the members of the work team have agreed to continue meeting on a regular basis to assure that addressing the issue does not fade away.

Results of the convenience survey indicate that problem gambling should be on the community's radar, as well. The following two statements posed to the respondents illustrate this, with their cumulative percentages of Strongly Agree or Agree in parentheses; Problem gambling education and treatment programs are a good investment for the community where I live (71.9%); Problem gambling is an important public health concern (70.7%).

As a side note, it is difficult to get a grasp of the extent of gambling in Erie County, both in terms of problem gamblers in Erie County as well as those who simply gamble in Erie County and reside elsewhere. If the exact extent of gambling were known it would be possible to respond quickly due to the collaborative relationship of many of Erie County's service providers. However, much like the discussion regarding the feasibility of addressing the issues, further discussions and research must be completed to gain an exact understanding of the extent and location within the County in order to respond to it.

#### **What are the possible impacts and/or consequences of addressing the problem gambling problem?**

It is difficult to gauge the impact that addressing the problem gambling issue in Erie County can have. We tend to think of the positive impacts, such as fewer individuals putting their (and their families) finances at risk, and less gambling related crime (though it seems minimally reported as it is). But

consequences and costs can be negative as well. For one, determining the true cost of problem gambling is difficult, if not impossible. Will treating problem gambling be cost beneficial for the state, especially in lean economic times where constituents are demanding scaled-back government services? Erie County's Department of Revenue could see an impact as well. The annual report from this department showed an intake of \$29,650 in 2010 in gambling license revenue. There is also the economic impact of lost revenue to legal gambling. Will the lost revenue equate to lost jobs of lesser funding for local churches, non-profits, senior programs, etc.? What of the bus charter companies; will they see a reduction in customers? No one knows for sure, but they are issues that may be impacted by gambling addiction treatment.

**What barriers / resistance might there be to solving the problem gambling issue & how might they be minimized?**

Barriers are sure to include the establishments that promote gambling and their willingness to both address the issue and assist with the initiative. Further barriers are likely to include the willingness of problem gamblers and their family members to step forward. It will be difficult to determine those problem gamblers that gamble in Erie County and those that reside in Erie County, or even Pennsylvania for that matter. On any given day one can expect that half the cars in the parking lot of Presque Isle Downs will be from Ohio or New York. The work team was unsure of how to minimize any barriers, other than to put the message out to families and individuals that there is help for those in need.

**Appendix 1: Problem Gambling Needs Assessment Team**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Job Title/Occupation</b>	<b>Agency/Organization</b>	<b>Role/Responsibility</b>
John DiMattio	Director	Erie County Office of Drug and Alcohol Abuse	Service Provider
Mike Herrmann	Prevention Specialist	Erie County Office of Drug and Alcohol Abuse	Service Provider
John Comstock	Prevention Specialist	Erie County Office of Drug and Alcohol Abuse	Service Provider
George Fickenworth	Assistant Director	Mercyhurst Civic Institute	Contracted facilitator
Adam Saeler	Research Analyst	Mercyhurst Civic Institute	Contracted facilitator
Don Carrone	Gambling Addictions Counselor	Catholic Charities of NWPA	Service Provider
Dante Battles	Deputy Director	Erie County Office of Adult Probation	Law Enforcement
Sheila Silman	Director MH Forensics	Erie County Care Management	Service Provider
Doug Smith	Clerk, Erie County Council	Erie County Council	Elected Officials Rep
Colleen Masi	Director	Erie Family Center	Service Provider/Parent
Brenda Hertl	Teacher	General McLane School District	Teacher/Parent
Chris Siriani	Owner	BrewErie and banquet center	Business
Danielle Jackson	Student	Mercyhurst College/Staff at casino	Youth
Torry Mitchell	Case Worker	IU5 Hi-Fidelity Wraparound Program	Youth/Service Provider
Jennifer Bach	Community Organizer	Erie Together Initiative	Civic Volunteer

**Appendix 2: Convenience Survey Results for Erie County**

<b>N = 509, percentage of responses for each statement</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Somewhat Agree</b>	<b>Neither Agree nor Disagree</b>	<b>Somewhat Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
Problem gambling education and treatment programs are a good investment for the community where I live	35.2	36.7	18.5	6.3	3.3
It is important to prevent all types of youth gambling	59.1	24.2	12.4	3.7	1.6
Problem gambling is an important public health concern	29.7	41.0	17.5	9.2	2.6
Families are strongly affected when a member of the family gambles too much	78.9	16.9	3.0		1.0
Gambling is a healthy form of recreation	3.0	20.0	35.5	21.0	20.4
If I had a gambling problem, I would know where to go or who to talk to for help	21.9	26.8	12.5	23.7	14.9
I am interested in learning more about problem gambling	8.6	11.8	35.5	14.1	30.1
Public health programs need to do more to address problem gambling	19.6	31.2	35.4	9.6	4.2
I could benefit from problem gambling services	3.0	3.0	16.8	6.8	70.1
Anyone can stop betting or gambling easily.	6.0	10.5	18.1	27.0	38.5

<b>In your community are you...</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Aware of Bingo	83.8	16.2
Aware of Lottery	92.9	7.1
Aware of Raffle Sales	78.1	21.9
Aware of Games of Chance	70.2	29.8
Aware of Poker Machines	65.8	34.2
Aware of Sports Betting	66.1	33.9

<b>How long have you lived in your current municipality</b>	<b>%</b>
Less than 2 years	10.5
2 to 5 years	12.3
Greater than 5 years	77.2

<b>Race</b>	
White	89.4
Black/African American	5.8
More than one race	1.6
American Indian/Alaska Native	1.0
Other	2.0

<b>Gender</b>	
Male	40.7
Female	59.3

**Appendix 3: Key Representative Survey Results for Erie County**

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
<b>N = 17, percentage of responses for each statement</b>					
People who have a substance abuse or mental health problem are at a higher risk for problem gambling	70.6	29.4			
It is important to prevent all types of youth gambling	58.8	17.6	17.6	5.9	
I consider youth gambling and adult problem gambling to be a public health concern that is as important as substance abuse and mental health concerns	17.6	58.8	17.6	5.9	
My organization as a whole views youth gambling and adult problem gambling awareness, prevention, and/or treatment as an important part of its mission	11.8	35.3	29.4	17.6	5.9
Schools that serve this municipality support positive messages about youth gambling	5.9	17.6	47.1	17.6	11.8
Community churches and faith-based organizations support positive messages about youth gambling and adult	5.9	41.2	35.3	5.9	11.8
Law enforcement agencies support policies regarding youth gambling	5.9	23.5	52.9	11.8	5.9

	True	False
I am aware of the PA department of health's responsible gambling campaign	70.6	29.4
I am aware of the programs in my community that specifically address problem gambling issues	41.2	58.8
I have received training, instruction, education, and or educational materials specific to youth gambling or adult problem gambling	23.5	76.5
i am aware of the warning signs of problem gambling behaviors	82.4	17.6
After losing many rounds of a gambling game in a row, a person is more likely to win on the next.	5.9	94.1
A person under the age of 18 may legally play bingo for money unaccompanied by an adult.	23.5	76.5
A person under the age of 18 may legally sell raffle tickets for charitable purposes.	52.9	47.1
I am interested in learning more about problem gambling.	82.4	17.6

	Yes	No
Aware of bingo	87.5	12.5
Aware of lottery	100	
Aware of raffle sales	87.5	12.5
awre of games of chance	87.5	12.5
aware of poker machines	68.8	31.3
aware of sports betting	68.8	31.3



<b>Gender</b>	<b>%</b>
Male	35.3
Female	64.7

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>%</b>
Hispanic	5.9
Non Hispanic	94.1

<b>Race</b>	<b>%</b>
White	94.1
Black	5.9

**Appendix 4: PA Youth Survey data and PA UCR data**

**Appendix 5: 2010 Annual Report Erie Co Department of Revenue, licenses**