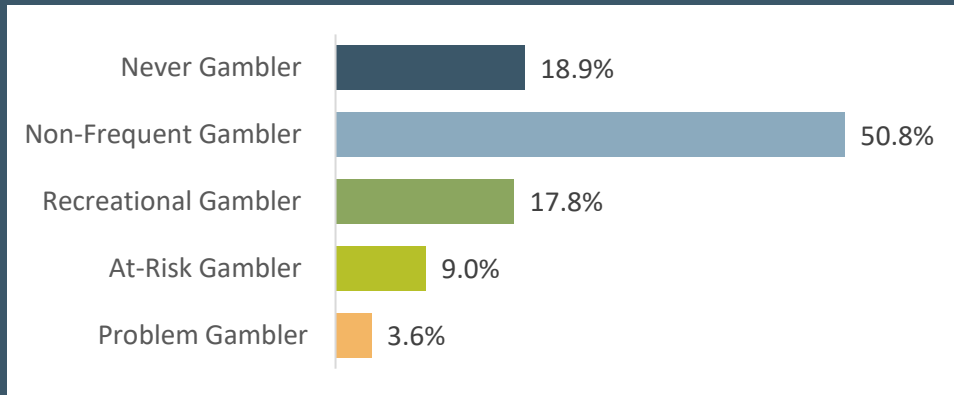


Problem Gambling in Black/African American Communities

In the U.S., 8.3% of Blacks meet the criteria for a gambling problem, the highest prevalence by race/ethnicity [1]. Those experiencing other mental health issues, poverty, or neighborhood disadvantage may be at heightened risk for developing a gambling problem [2-4].

An estimated 3.6% of Black Illinoisans have a gambling problem. An additional 9.0% of Black Illinoisans are at-risk of developing a gambling problem.

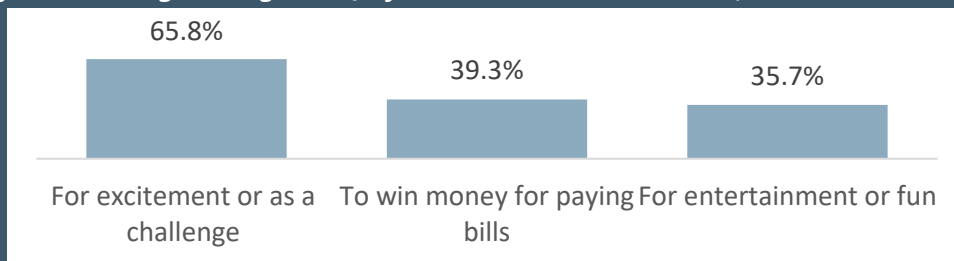
Gambler Type among Black/African American Illinoisans, 2021



DATA SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2015-2019; IL Problem Gambling Assessment, Representative Population Sample, Weighted %s, 2021

- Black Illinoisans largely held positive perceptions of gambling as something “good for the economy” (62.2%) and that “casinos are a good place to socialize” (63.3%).
- A nationally representative survey also found that Black women (49%) were more likely than white women (34%) to have experienced problem gambling symptoms [2].
- The following graph shows the top reasons for gambling among Black Illinoisans. The motive to gamble “to win money for paying bills” has also been documented in MA where Black participants saw gambling as a way to escape poverty brought about through structural racism and discrimination [4].

Top Reasons for Gambling among Black/African American Illinoisans, 2021



DATA SOURCE: IL Problem Gambling Assessment, Representative Population Sample, Weighted %s, 2021

If you or someone you know is experiencing problems with gambling, contact the State's Gambling Hotline at: **1-800-GAMBLER, weknowthefeeling.org, or Text: "ILGamb" to 833234**