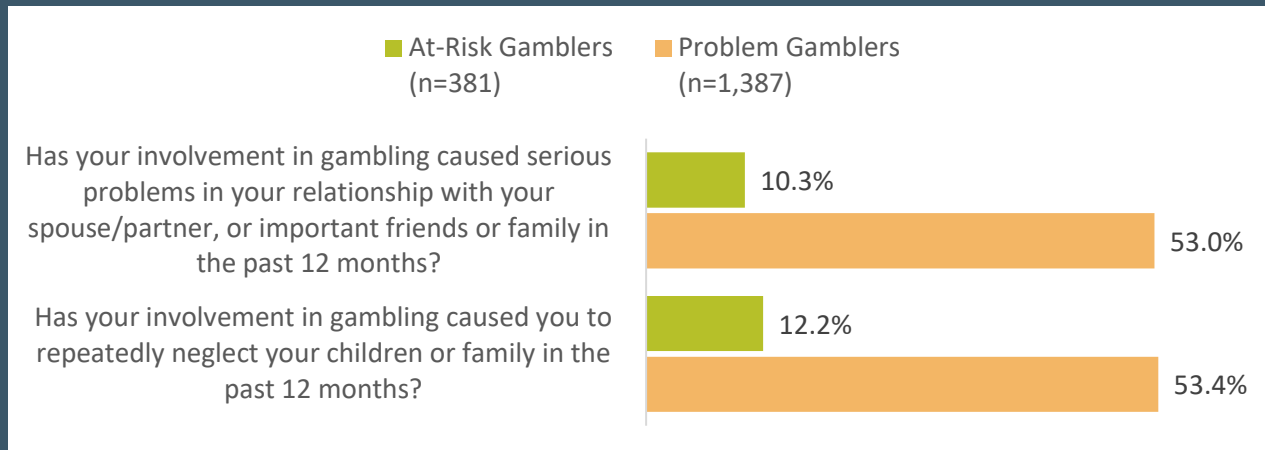


# Problem Gambling & Families

While problem gambling is often considered as an individual issue, it has wide-ranging impacts on families and loved ones. On average, problem gambling affects 6 social ties and 1 to 3 social ties among low to moderate-risk gamblers [1]. In Illinois, this equates to a total of 3 to 4 million Illinoisans being impacted by problem gambling.

**Over half of those with a gambling problem reported serious problems in their relationships or that they neglected their children/family as a result of their gambling.**

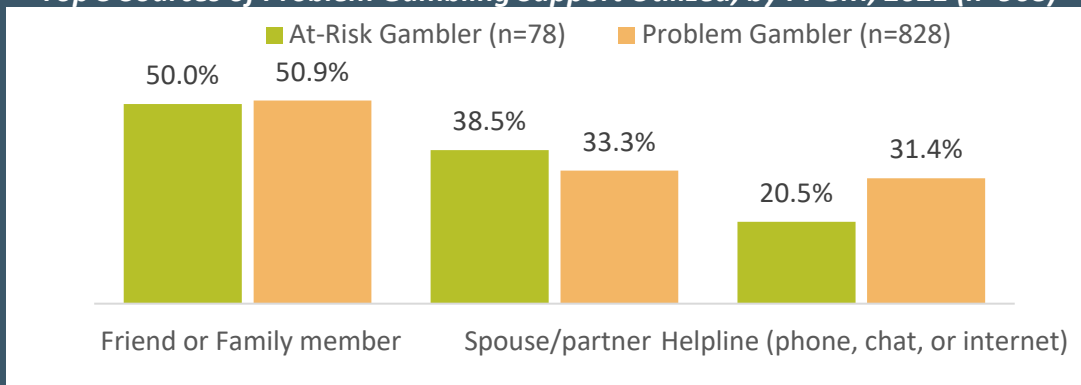
**Problem and Pathological Gambling Measure Symptoms, by Gambler Type, 2021**



DATA SOURCE: IL Problem Gambling Assessment, Frequent Gambler Sample, 2021

- Community discussions highlighted the financial challenges associated with problem gambling on families. One service provider notes that some people are gambling their money away “instead of putting their gambling money into food or diapers”.
- There are numerous social harms families face, which include relationship difficulties, failure to uphold occupational responsibilities, and emotional neglect of children [2-3].
- Families also play an important role in treatment and recovery support. Among those at-risk or with a current gambling problem, friends/family and spouses/partners were the most popular support resource.

**Top 3 Sources of Problem Gambling Support Utilized, by PPGM, 2021 (n=908)**



DATA SOURCE: IL Problem Gambling Assessment, Frequent Gambler Sample, 2021

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