



25th April, 2023

Deputy Catherine Murphy, TD
Dáil Éireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

Re: PQ 17828/23

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons that have availed of gambling addiction services in the health service in 2021, 2022 and to do date in 2023.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

An analysis of the data provided in treatment services within the National Drugs Treatment Reporting System (NDTRS) (see information about the [NDTRS](#)) that includes all cases treated for problem gambling either as a main or additional problem from 2021 to 2023. The cases included may have other drugs, alcohol, or other problems (such as gaming) as a main problem or additional problem.

The figures reflect assessments and entries into treatment (new cases and previously treated cases returning to treatment) and do not include the number of cases continuing in treatment from preceding years. It does not include those who were assessed only or who received supports such as key working only.

For the Deputy's information, reporting treatment for gambling to the NDTRS is optional. This option is facilitated by the NDTRS for individual services who wish to use the data for their own purposes. Therefore, these data cannot be considered complete or representative of treatment for gambling in a national context.



2021 figures

- 269 cases were treated for gambling as a main or an additional problem in 2021 (Table 1). Of these 159 cases were treated for gambling as a main problem (Table 2).

2022 figures

- As of 17/04/2023, 346 cases were treated for gambling in 2022 (Table 1). Of these 198 cases were treated for gambling as a main problem (Table 2). Please note that these figures are provisional as data validation for 2022 is ongoing.

2023 figures

- As of 17/04/2023, there were 99 cases treated for gambling in 2023 to date (Table 1). Of these 48 cases were treated for gambling as a main problem (Table 2). Please note that these figures are **provisional** as data collection for 2023 is ongoing.

Table 1: Total number of cases treated for problem gambling by year, NDTRS 2021 to 2023.			
	2021	2022*	2023*
Treated	269	346	99

*provisional figures.

Table 2: Total number of cases treated for problem gambling, main/additional problem by year, NDTRS 2021 to 2023.			
	2021	2022*	2023*
Gambling-main problem	159	198	48
Gambling-additional problem	110	148	51
Total	269	346	99

*provisional figures.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Joseph Doyle
National Lead, Social Inclusion