GAMBLING COMMISSION

Gambling Industry Statistics

April 2015 to March 2021

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Executive Summary

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Gambling Industry Statistics report on the size and shape of the gambling industry in Great Britain.

This report provides an overview of business to customer Gross Gambling Yield (GGY) made by licensed gambling operators from GB gambling customers, by sector, along with the numbers of licensed operators and premises. It is based on data reported to us by the operators we license and regulate.

This is a revision of the data published in November 2021, in which the inclusion of figures for the most recent period, April 2020 to March 2021, was affected by the impact of restrictions during the pandemic of Covid-19. The lack of and quality of data submissions from some operators and resource required for the consequential quality assurance resulted in a reduced publication which only covered Remote Casino, Betting and Bingo (RCBB), the National Lottery, and the numbers of operators and licences held for this period. This revision includes data from all the land based non-remote sectors and the society lottery sector which were omitted from the last reporting period of the original publication.

The following report includes figures for all sectors, based on data from April 2020 to March 2021, as well as historical data back to 2016.

The various lockdown rules and restrictions throughout the latest reporting period have significantly impacted the gambling industry. This mainly involved land-based sectors of the industry, but the restrictions also affected live sporting events which may have impacted the remote sector. Therefore, we have not included estimated figures where returns have either been late or are not yet due, as we would not expect the previous period's figures to be comparable to the figures from the pandemic affected period. We accept that this may result in some figures which underestimate the actual totals. The methodology we use for estimations is explained here.

RCBB accrued £6.9bn GGY which can be broken down into 3 individual areas:
- Online casino games dominate the sector, generating £4.0bn in GGY, £2.9bn of which was from slots games.
- GGY for remote betting totalled £2.6bn, led by football (£1.2bn) and horse betting (£0.9bn).
- GGY for remote bingo totalled £189.1m.

This reporting period saw an increase in the number of active accounts with RCBB operators (up 7.6% to 32.0m), though this figure is still lower than the peak of 34.2m in 2017/18. The number of new account registrations went up 10.2% to 33.0m (0.9% lower than the peak in 2018/19). The total funds held in customer accounts went up 31.1% £893.8m, though this figure is still 0.9% lower than the peak in 2018/19.

Non-remote betting GGY was the third largest sector by GGY with £1.0bn (a 57.1% reduction on the previous period). GGY at venues (on-course), at betting shops (off-course), and pool betting all decreased. Within off-course data, machines GGY decreased by £604.3m to £472.9m. Machines represented 45.6% of total GGY in the non-remote betting sector. Total numbers of betting premises have continued to decline for the seventh consecutive reporting period to 6,462 (15.9% down on the previous period).

The non-remote casino sector saw a decrease of £900.9m in GGY to £116.7m. There was a decrease in GGY from casino games of £718.1m (89.7%). GGY from casino-based machines decreased by £182.7m (84.3%).

Non-remote bingo GGY decreased to £246.3m (down 57.3%), There was a decrease in GGY from bingo games of £170.0m (down 60.1%). GGY from bingo-based machines decreased by £160.0m (down 54.5%).

In the arcades sector, adult gaming centres showed a GGY decrease of £148.9m (39.0%), to £233.0m. GGY for licensed family entertainment centres GGY also decreased, by 43.8% to £34.1m. Note that this data does not include family entertainment centres which operate using a permit from a local authority.

April 2020 to March 2021 saw increases in total sales, prizes, and contributions to good causes in the lotteries sector for both the National Lottery and the other lotteries on which we report figures:
- This period saw the highest annual National Lottery sales since we started reporting these statistics, along with strong levels of Returns to Good Causes. National Lottery ticket sales totalled £8.4bn, of which £4.9bn was returned as prizes. Over the same period, the primary contribution to good causes totalled £1.7bn.
- Lotteries (excluding the National Lottery and small society lotteries) ticket sales totalled £871.7m, of which £236.7m was returned as prizes. Over the same period, the contribution to good causes totalled £401.9m. This is the highest contribution figure reported to date.

This publication is primarily for anyone who has an involvement or interest in the gambling industry including government, licensed operators, trade bodies, international regulators, journalists, academic researchers, financial institutions, statisticians, consumers, and local authorities.

About the status of official statistics.
Read about how we prepare our industry statistics.

Gambling Industry Overview

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Gross gambling yield

During the period April 2020 to Mar 2021, the regulated gambling industry in Great Britain generated a gross gambling yield (GGY) or equivalent* of £12.7bn, an 11.0% decrease compared with the previous reporting period.

Industry GGY by sector (£m)

Sector	Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Apr 2018 - Mar 2019R	Apr 2019 - Mar 2020R	Apr 2020 - Mar 2021P	% Change
Arcades (non-remote)	424.81	446.50	442.59	267.13	-39.6%
Betting (non-remote)	3,268.26	3,261.86	2,416.09	1,037.43	-57.1%
Betting (remote)	2,251.61	2,020.86	2,329.93	2,645.33	13.5%
Bingo (non-remote)	680.01	674.05	576.30	246.27	-57.3%
Bingo (remote)	163.93	176.19	178.66	189.07	5.8%
Casino (non-remote)	1,180.72	1,058.82	1,017.59	116.70	-88.5%
Casino (remote)	2,931.13	3,108.43	3,278.97	4,015.62	22.5%
Lotteries* (remote and non-remote)	502.29	540.59	612.73	634.92	3.6%
The National Lottery* (remote and non-remote)	3,007.80	3,079.30	3,399.21	3,531.65	3.9%
Total	**14,410.55**	**14,366.60**	**14,252.06**	**12,684.13**	**-11.0%**

Notes:
* GGY equivalent for the National Lottery and large society lotteries is total proceeds minus total prizes. This data includes both non-remote and remote GGY.
R - Previously published data revised.
P - Provisional new data.

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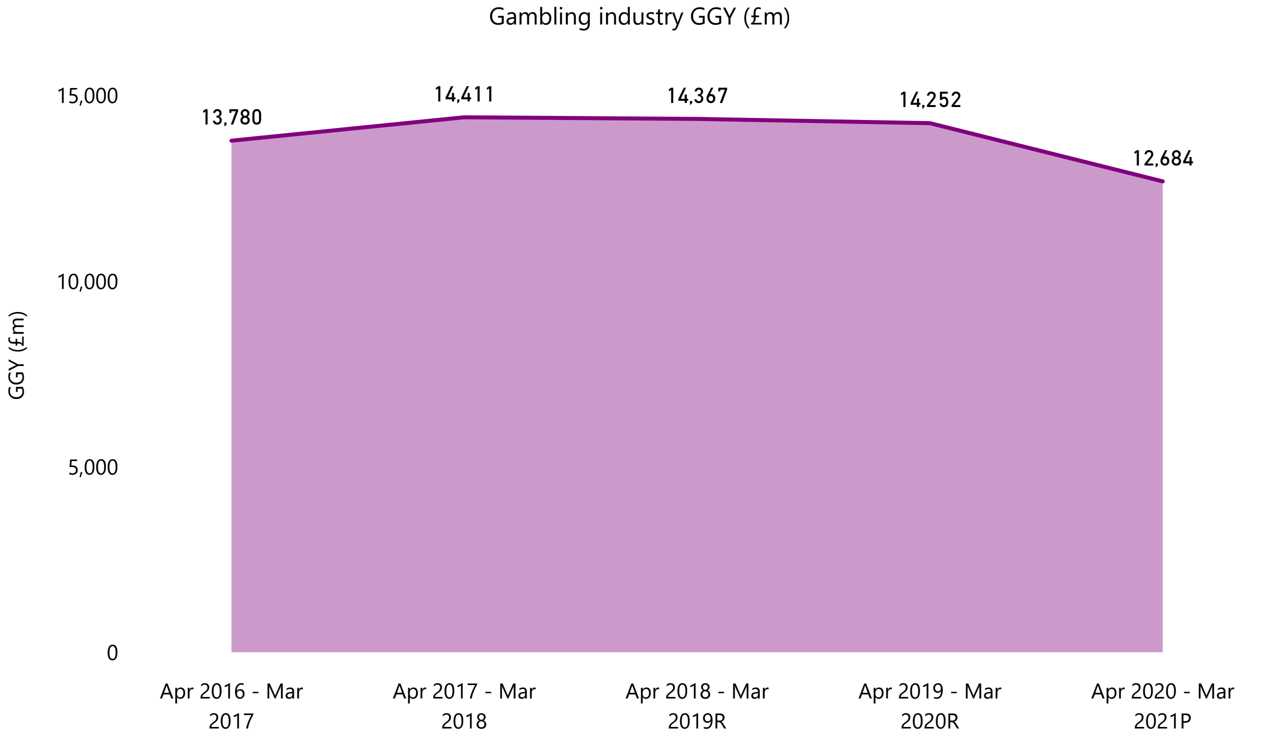
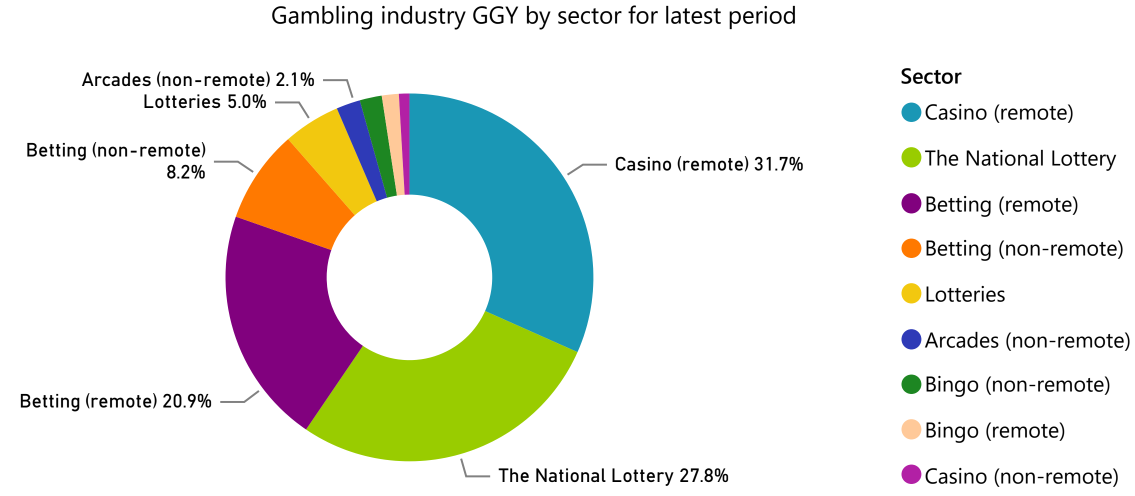


£12,684M

Industry GGY

-11.0%

Change from previous period



Key Points:

Overall industry GGY decreased by £1,567.9m (-11.0%) from £14,252.1m to £12,684.1m between periods April 2019 - March 2020 and April 2020 - March 2021.

Declines by sector were seen in betting (non-remote) by £1,378.7m (-57.1%), casino (non-remote) by £900.9m (-88.5%), bingo (non-remote) by £330.0m (-57.3%) and arcades (non-remote) by £175.5m (-39.6%). Between the same periods GGY increased in casino (remote) by £736.7m (22.5%), betting (remote) by £315.4m (13.5%), National Lottery (non-remote and remote) by £132.4m (3.9%), lotteries (non-remote and remote) by £22.2m (3.6%) and bingo (remote) by £10.4m (5.8%).

Between periods April 2016 - March 2017 and April 2020 - March 2021 industry GGY decreased by £1,095.7m (-8.0%) from £13,779.8m to £12,684.1m.

Notes:

For The National Lottery and lotteries, figures are a GGY equivalent. For lotteries, this includes any GGY equivalent raised through external lottery managers.

Sales from operators with gaming machine technical, trading rooms only and gambling software licensed activities are not included in these charts.

Gambling Industry Overview (continued)

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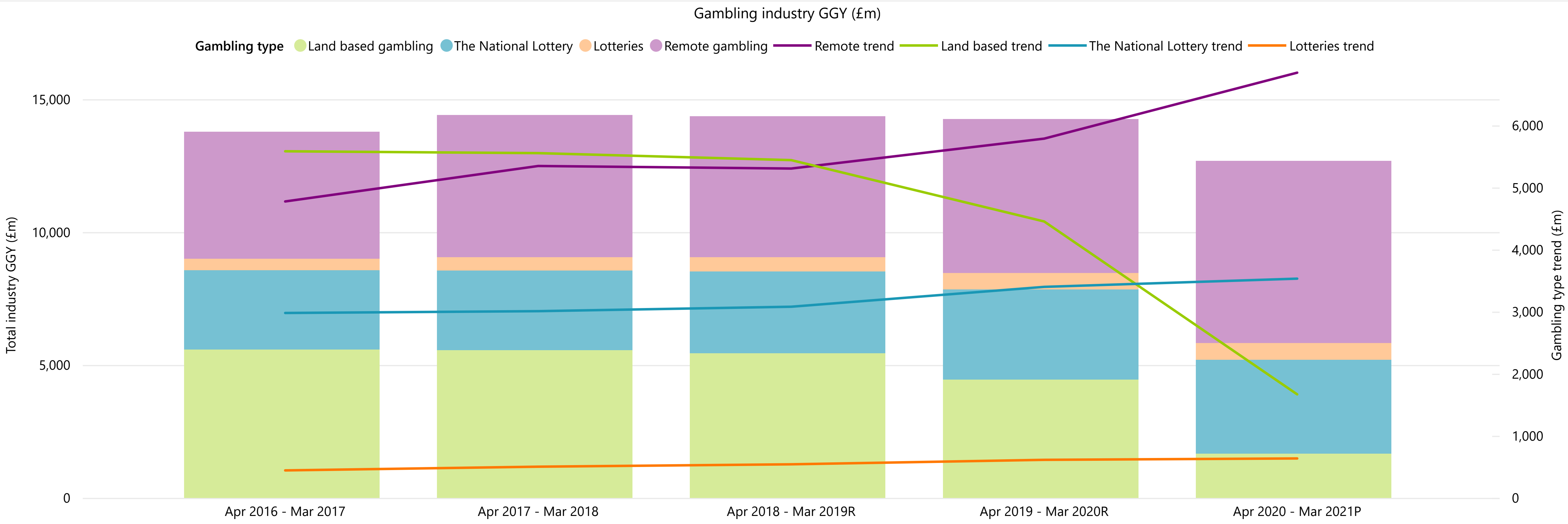
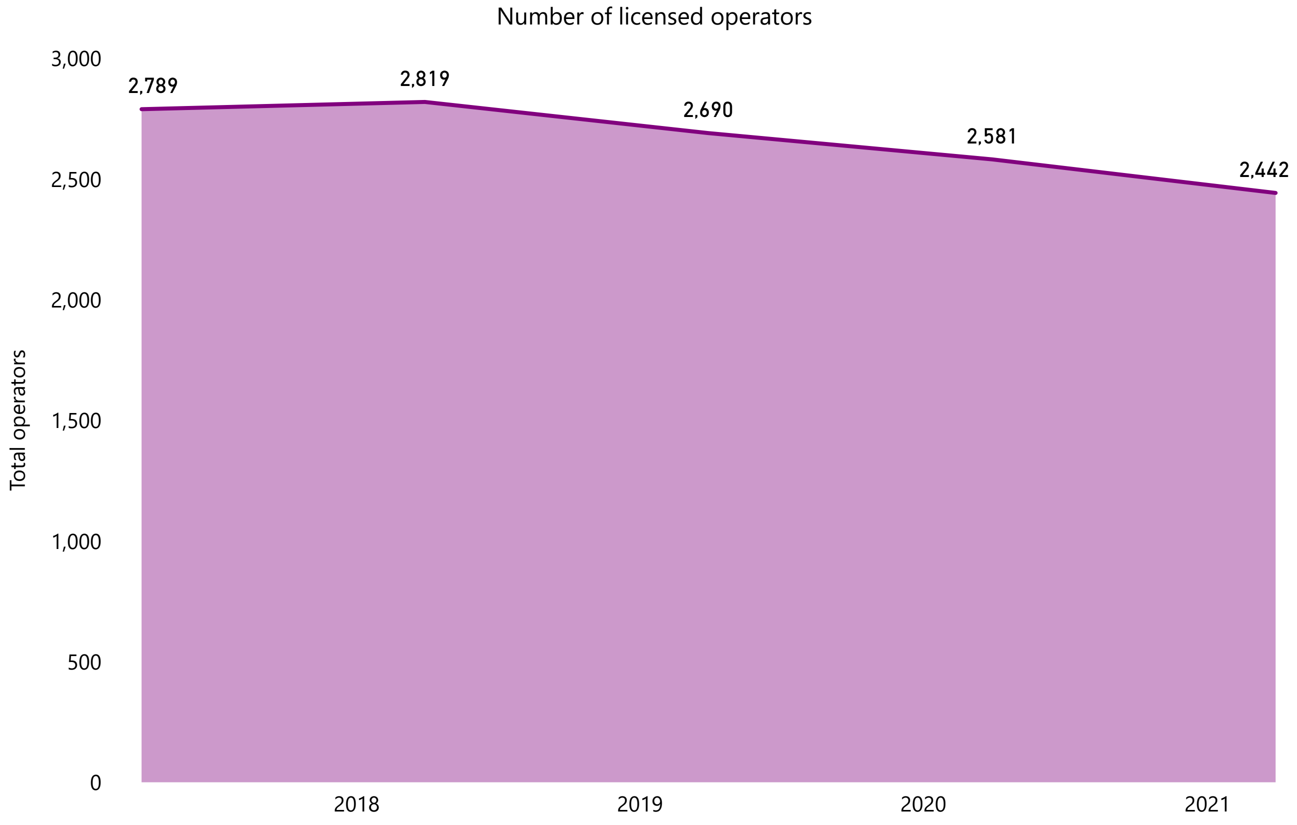


Key Points:

Between April 2020 - March 2021, gambling industry GGY comprised of £6,850.0m (54.0%) remote gambling, £1,667.5m (13.1%) land based gambling, £3,531.7m (27.8%) National Lottery and £634.9m (5.0%) lotteries.

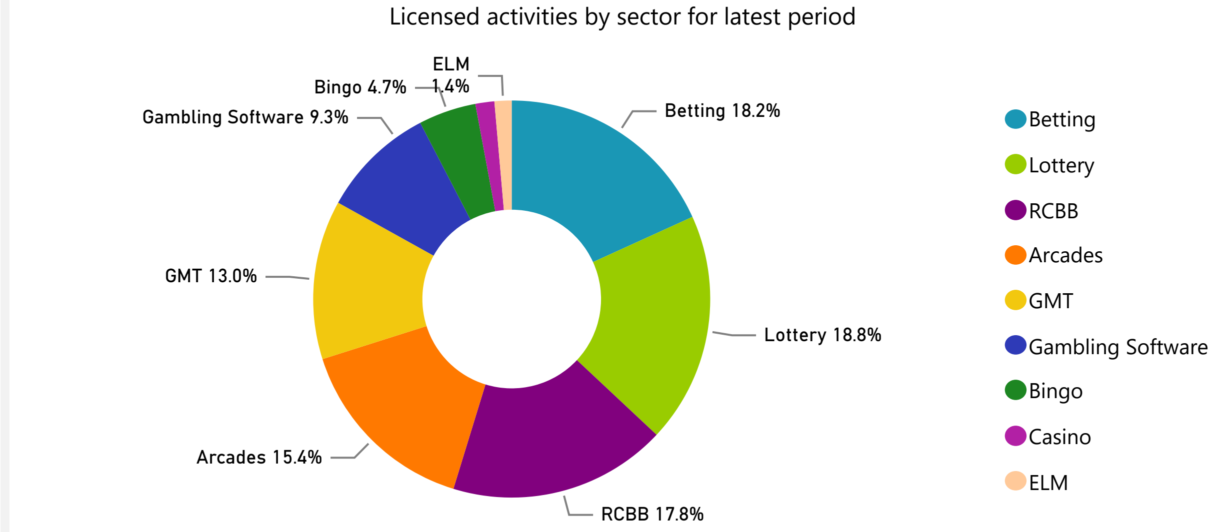
Between periods April 2016 - March 2017 and April 2020 - March 2021, Remote gambling increased by £2,074.8m (43.5%) from £4,775.2m to £6,850.0m, Land based gambling decreased by £3,916.1m (-70.1%) from £5,583.6m to £1,667.5m, The National Lottery GGY equivalent increased by £553.05m (18.6%) from £2,978.6m to £3,531.7m and Lotteries GGY equivalent increased by £192.5m (43.5%) from £442.4m to £634.9m.

Operators and Licensed Activities



2,442
Licensed operators

-5.4%
Change from previous period



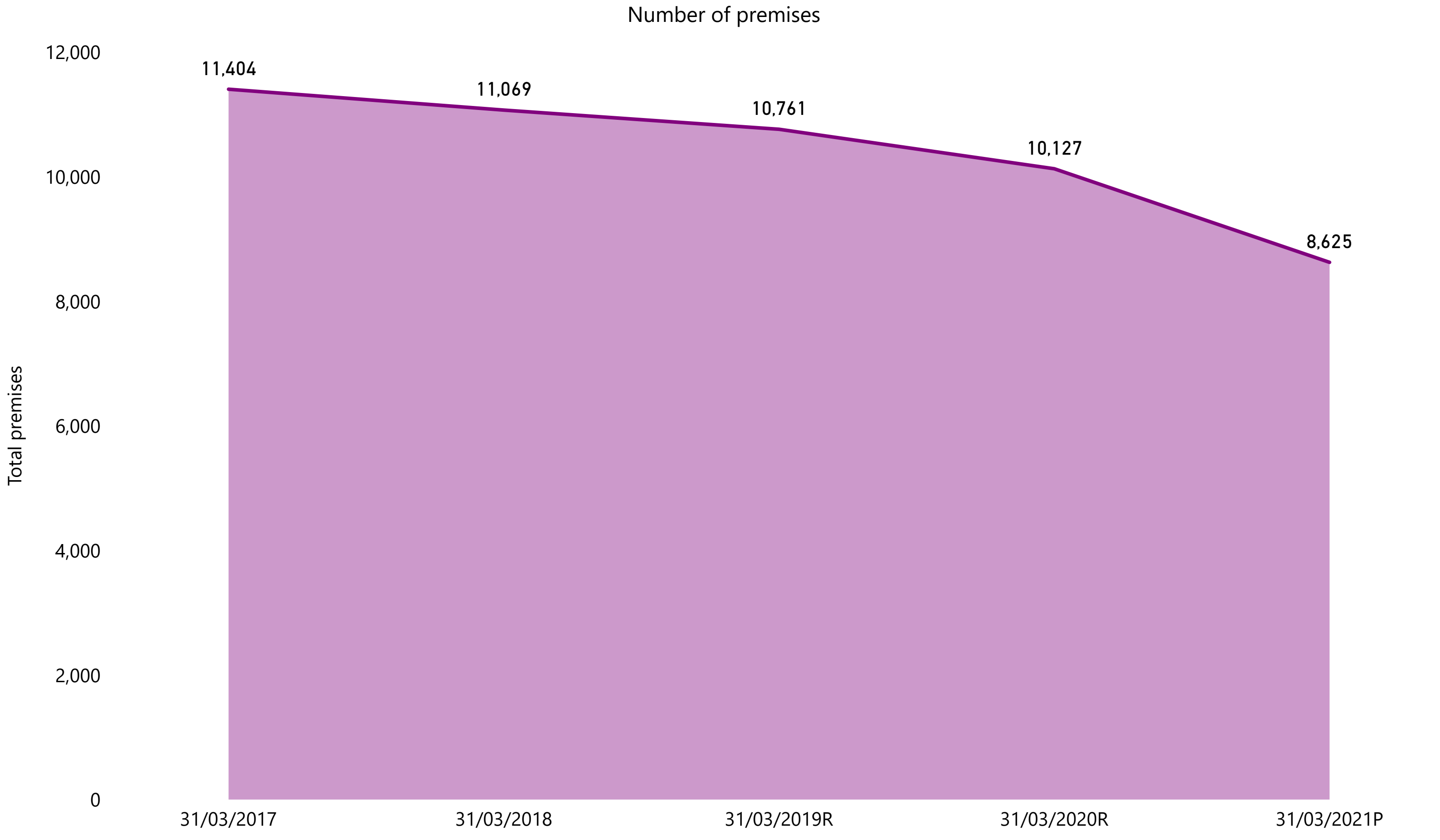
Key Points:

The total number of licensed operators decreased by 139 (-5.4%) from 2,581 to 2,442 between March 2020 and March 2021.

Between March 2017 and March 2021, the total number of licensed operators decreased by 347 (-12.4%) from 2,789 to 2,442.

Between March 2020 and March 2021, the total number of activities operators are licensed for decreased in non-remote betting by 52 (-7.8%), gaming machine technical (GMT) by 41 (-8.6%), arcades by 23 (-4.3%), non-remote bingo by 16 (-9.2%), society lotteries by 16 (-2.5%), gambling software by 8 (-2.5%), non-remote casino by 4 (-7.1%), and external lottery manager (ELM) by 2 (-4.1%). There was an increase in remote casino, betting and bingo (RCBB) by 2 (0.3%).

Premises

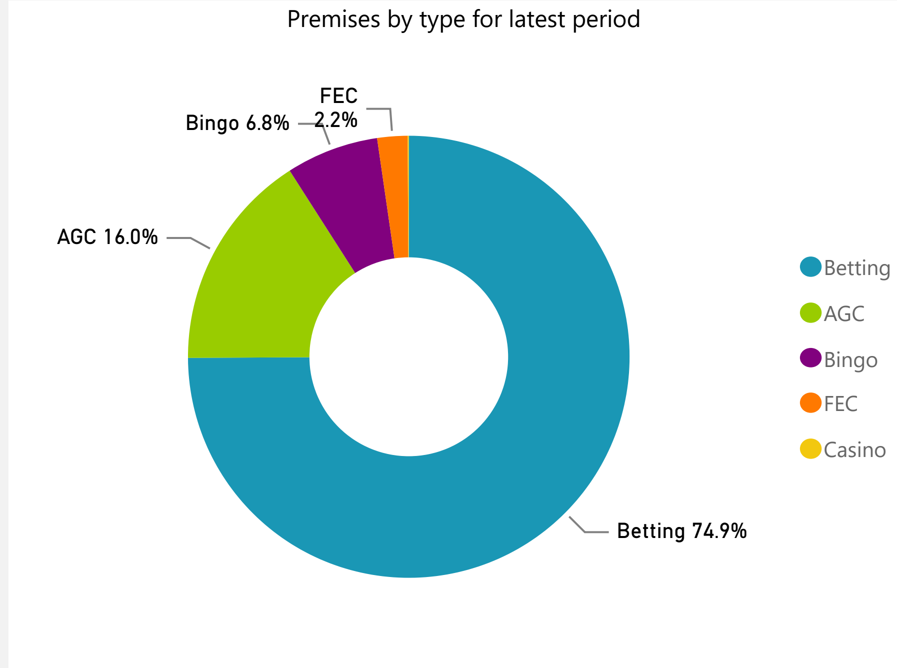


8,625

Premises

-14.8%

Change from previous period



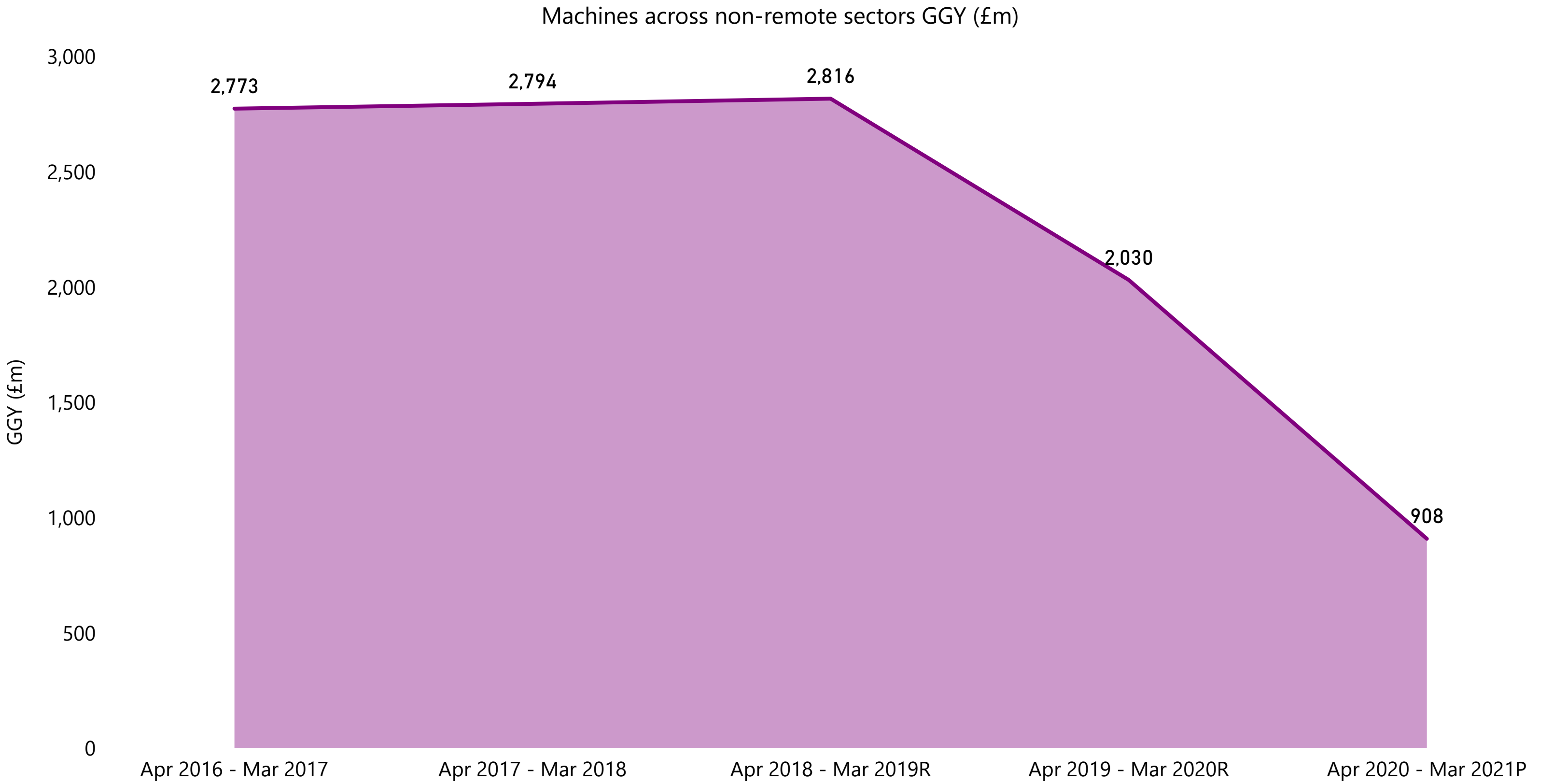
Key Points:

Between March 2020 and March 2021, the overall number of premises decreased by 1,502 (-14.8%) from 10,127 to 8,625.

By sector, there was a decline in non-remote betting by 1,221 (-15.9%), non-remote casino by 149 (-95.5%), arcades by 82 (-5.0%) and bingo by 50 (-7.9%).

Between March 2017 and March 2021, the total number of licensed premises decreased by 2,779 (-24.4%) from 11,404 to 8,625.

Machines across non-remote sectors

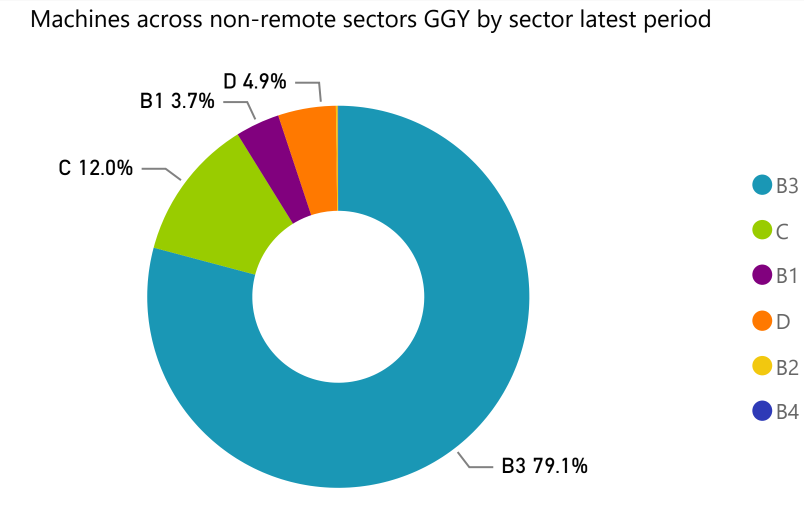


£908M

Machines GGY

-55.3%

Change from previous period



Key Points:

Between periods April 2019 - March 2020 and April 2020 - March 2021, GGY for machines across non-remote sectors decreased by £1,122.5m (-55.3%) from £2,030.0m to £907.5m.

By category there was a decrease of GGY for B3 by £782.6m (-52.1%), B1 by £182.3m (-84.3%), C by £110.3m (-50.3%), D by £40.6m (-47.8%), B2 by £6.1m (-81.0%) and B4 by £0.6m (-60.2%).

Between periods April 2016 - March 2017 and April 2020 - March 2021 machines across non-remote sectors GGY decreased by £1,865.4m (-67.3%) from £2,773.0m to £907.5m.

Notes:

A change in regulations reducing maximum stakes from £100 to £2 for Category B2 machines took effect in April 2019.

Arcades (non-remote)

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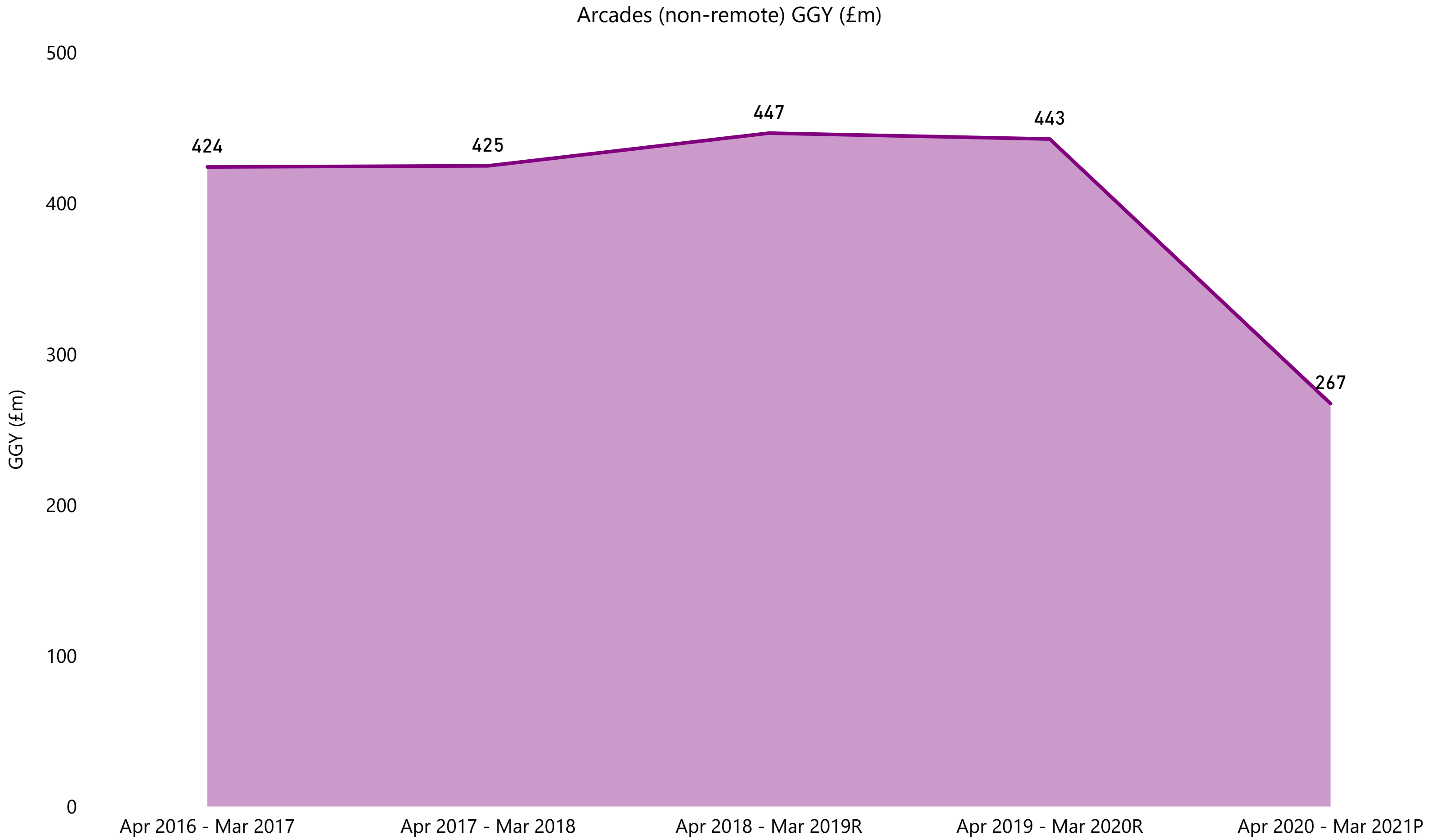
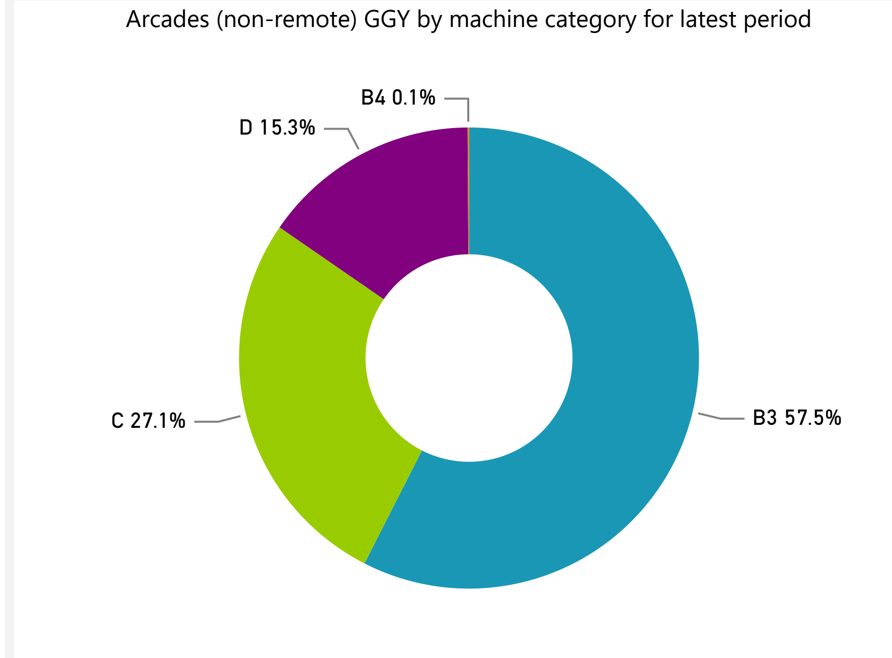


£267M

Arcades (non-remote) GGY

-39.6%

Change from previous period



Key Points:

Between periods April 2019 - March 2020 and April 2020 - March 2021, GGY for Arcades (non-remote) decreased by £175.5m (-39.6%) from £442.6m to £267.1m.

By category, there were decreases for B3 by £83.4m (-35.2%), C by £57.0m (-44.1%), D by £34.8m (-46.0%) and B4 by £0.3m (-52.5%).

Between periods April 2016 - March 2017 and April 2020 - March 2021 Arcades (non-remote) GGY decreased by £156.9m (-37.0%) from £424.1m to £267.1m.

Betting (non-remote) 2019/20

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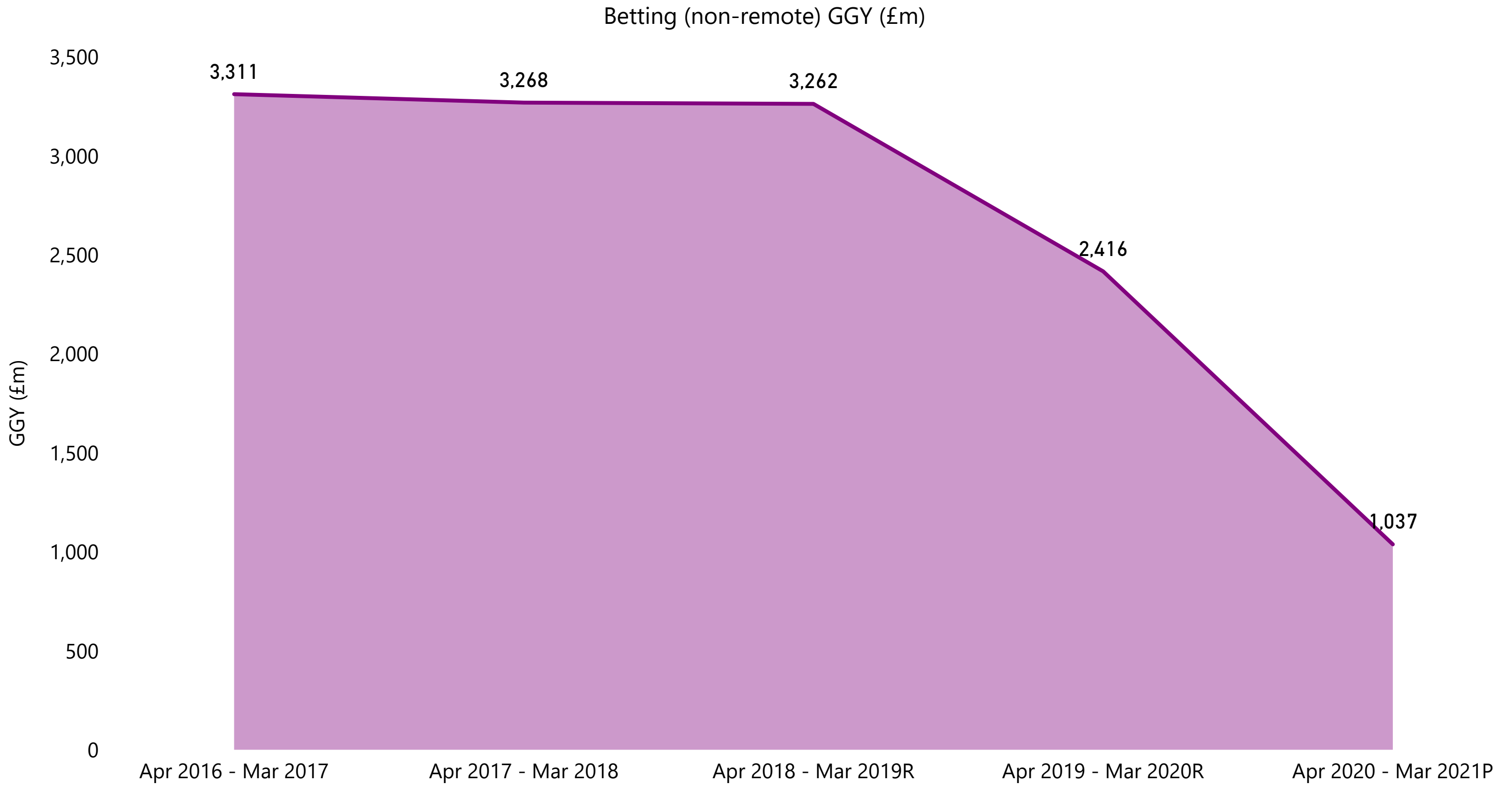
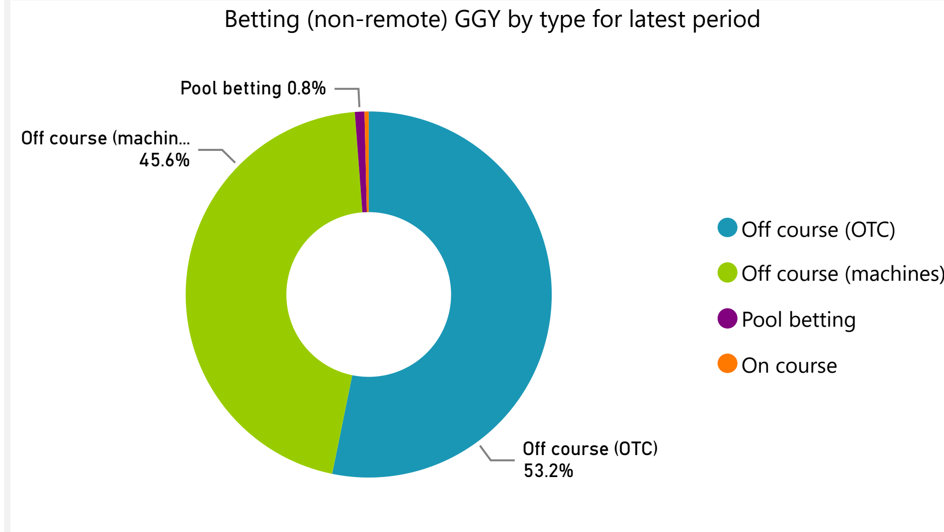


£1,037M

Betting (non-remote) GGY

-57.1%

Change from previous period



Key Points:

Between periods April 2019 - March 2020 and April 2020 - March 2021, GGY for Betting (non-remote) decreased by £1,378.7m (-57.1%) from £2.4bn to £1.0bn.

By type, there were decreases for Off-course (over the counter) by £738.1m (-57.2%), Off-course (machines) by £604.3m (-56.1%), On-course by £20.4m (-84.2%) and Pool betting by £15.9m (-64.5%).

Between periods April 2016 - March 2017 and April 2020 - March 2021 Betting (non-remote) GGY decreased by £2.3bn (-68.7%) from £3.3bn to £1.0bn.

Notes:

A change in regulations reducing maximum stakes from £100 to £2 for Category B2 machines took effect in April 2019.

Betting (remote)

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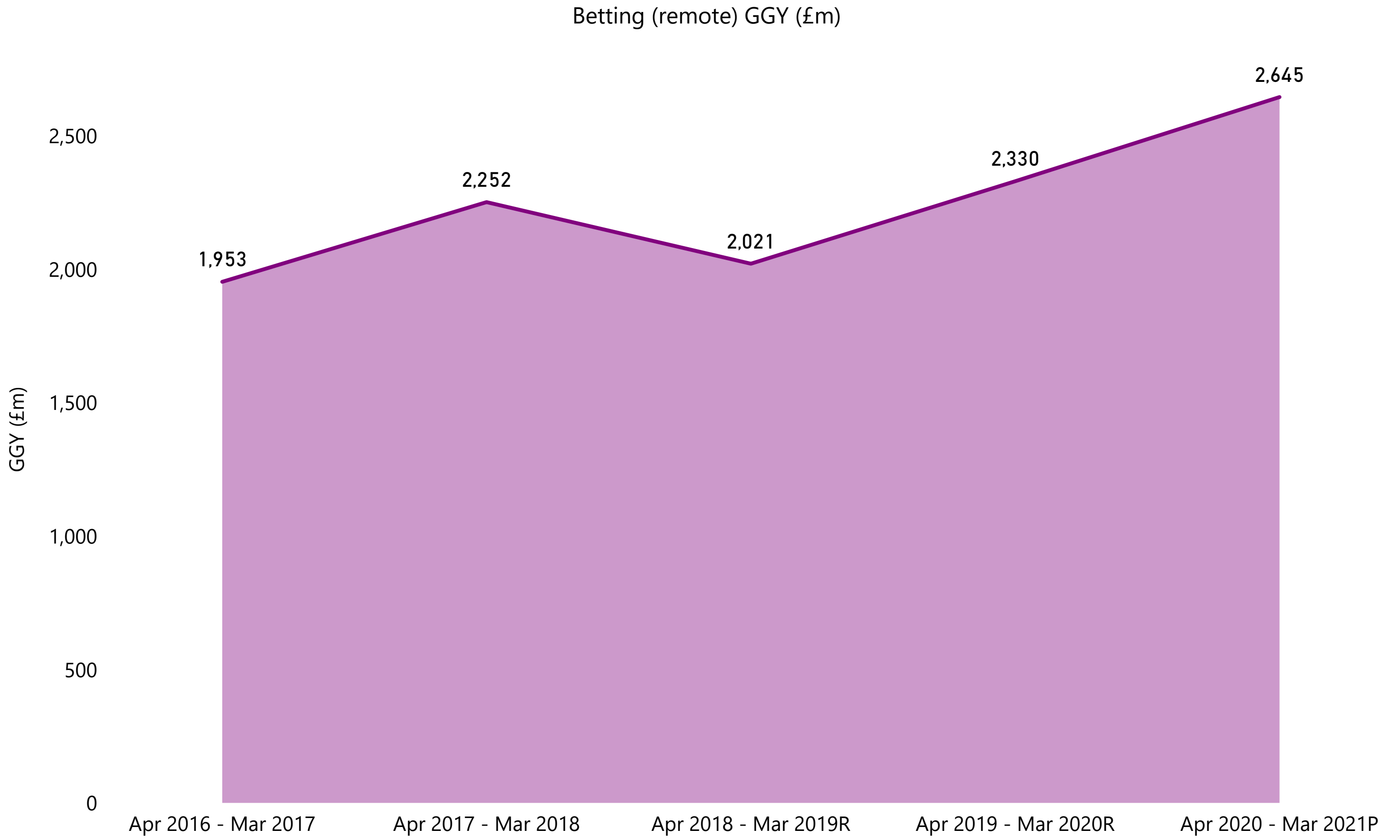
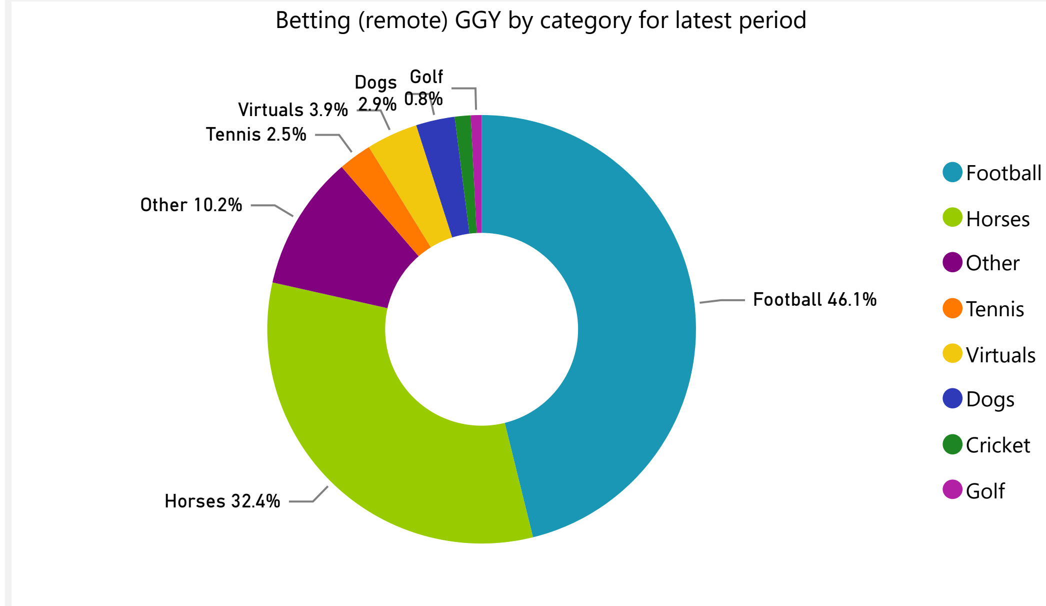


£2,645M

Betting (remote) GGY

13.5%

Change from previous period



Key Points:

Between periods April 2019 - March 2020 and April 2020 - March 2021, GGY for Betting (remote) increased by £315.4m (13.5%) from £2,329.9m to £2,645.3m.

By category, there were increases for Horses by £201.6m (30.8%), Football by £89.4m (7.9%), Other by £51.3m (23.6%), Virtual by £26.2m (34.2%), Golf by £5.0m (30.3%) and Dogs by £4.2m (5.8%). There was a decrease in GGY for Tennis by £50.6m (-43.3%) and Cricket by £11.7m (-26.8%).

Between periods April 2016 - March 2017 and April 2020 - March 2021 Betting (remote) GGY increased by £692.3m (35.5%) from £2.0bn to £2.6bn.

Bingo (non-remote)

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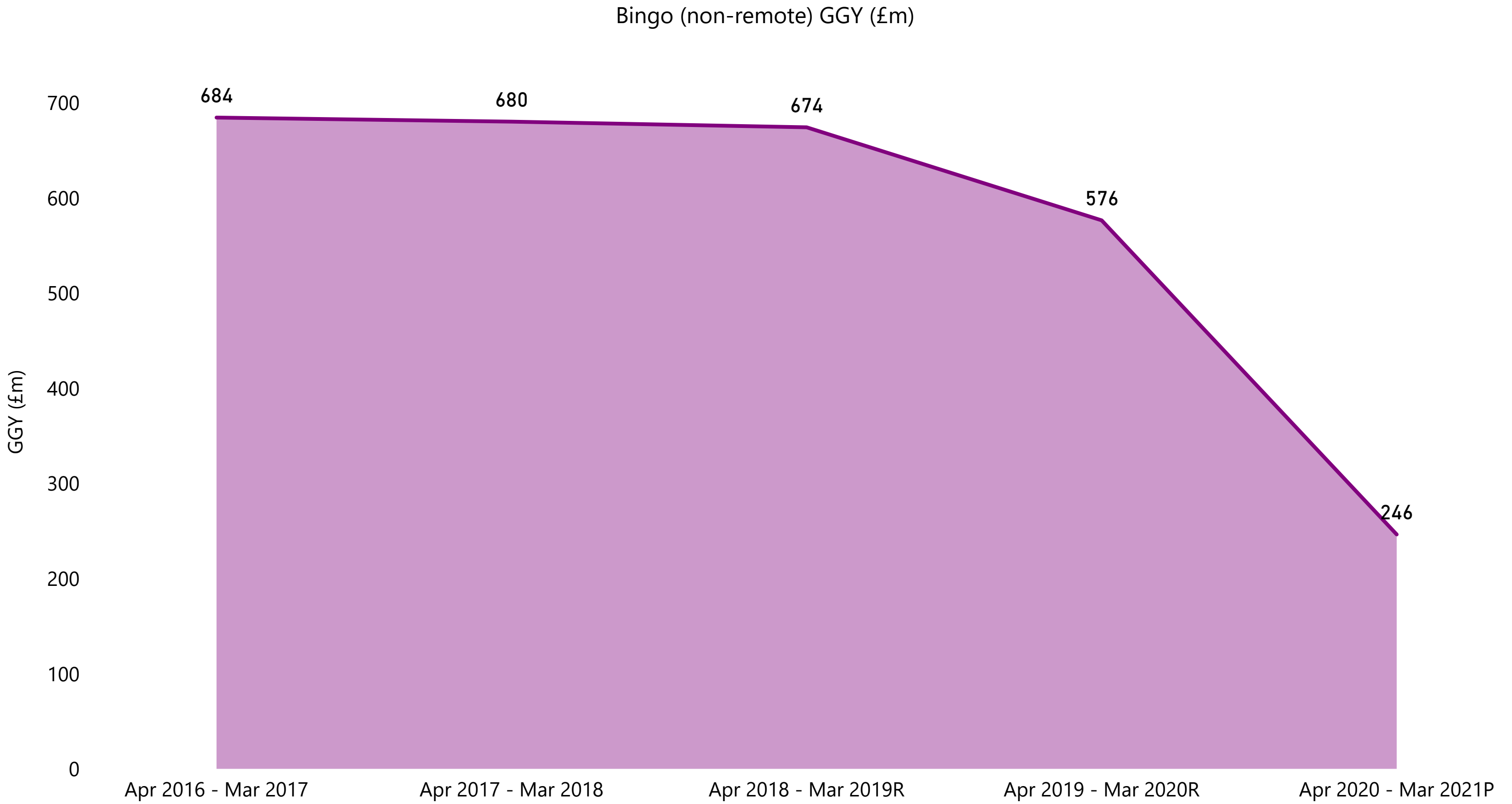
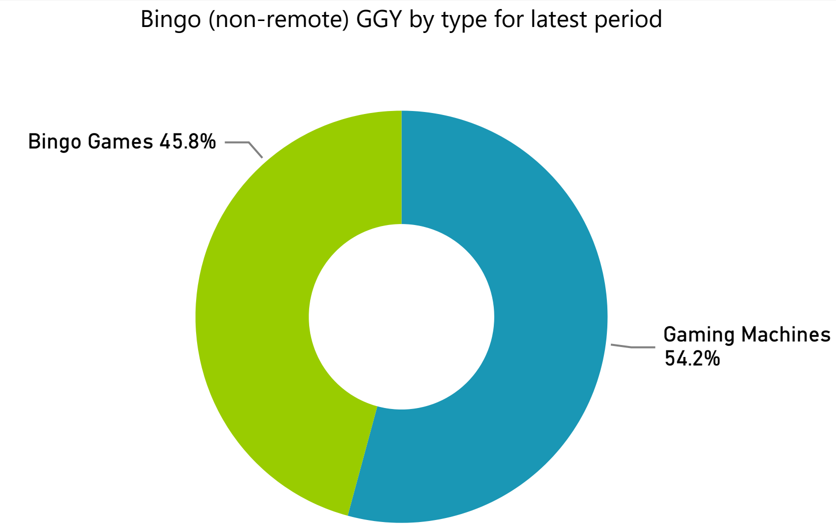


£246M

Bingo (non-remote) GGY

-57.3%

Change from previous period



Key Points:

Between periods April 2019 - March 2020 and April 2020 - March 2021, GGY for Bingo (non-remote) GGY decreased by £330.0m (-57.3%) from £576.3m to £246.3m.

By type, there were decreases in GGY for Bingo Games by £170.0m (-60.1%) and Machines by £160.0m (-54.5%).

Between periods April 2016 - March 2017 and April 2020 - March 2021 Bingo (non-remote) GGY decreased by £438.0m (-64.0%) from £684.3m to £246.3m.

Notes:

Data from electronic bingo terminals (EBTs) is included within bingo games and gaming machines GGY figures.

Bingo (remote)

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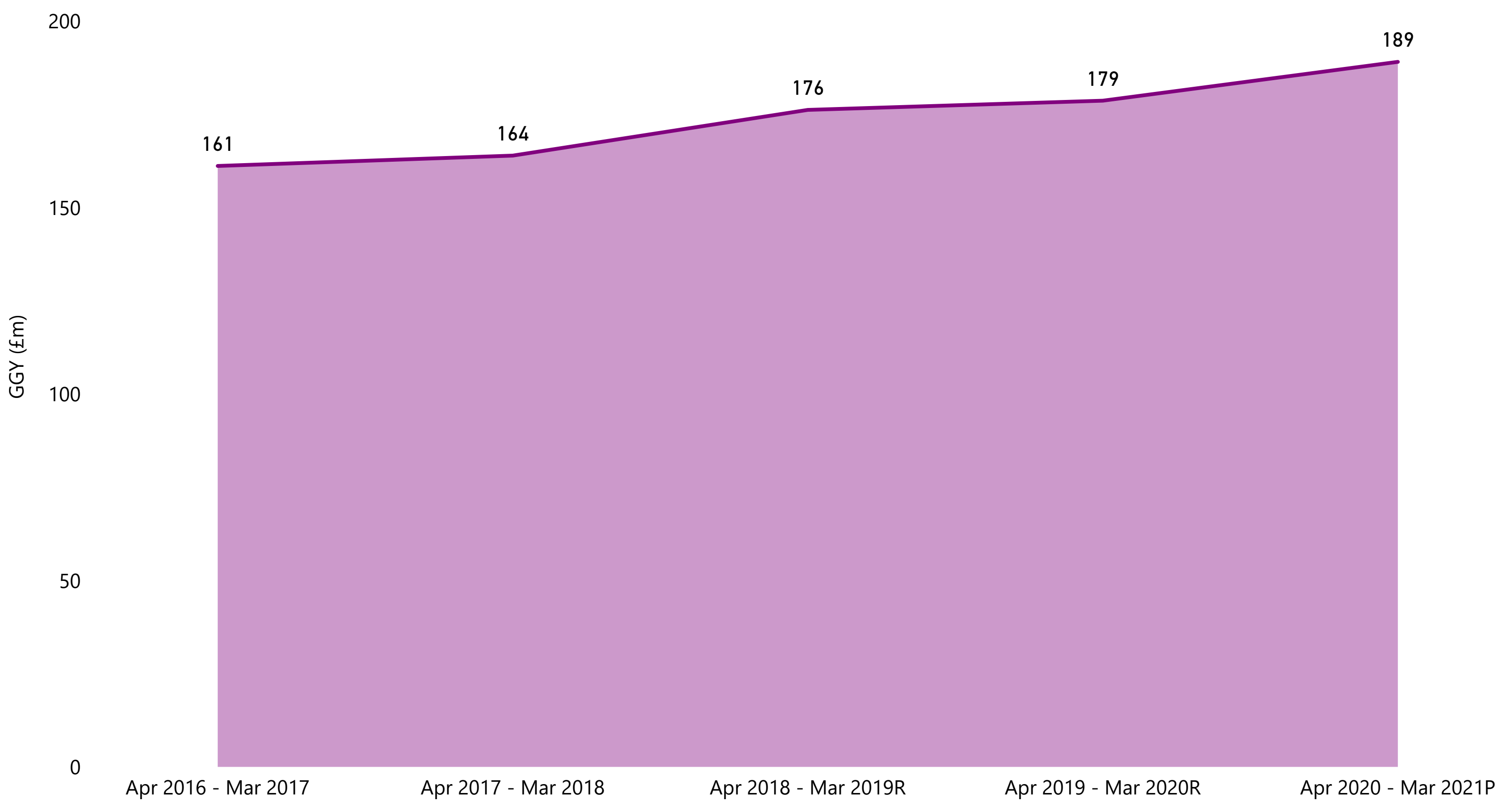
Bingo (remote) GGY (£m)



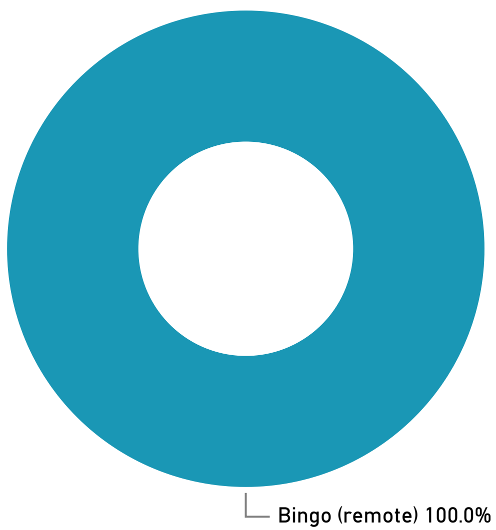
£189M

Bingo (remote) GGY

5.8%

Change from previous period

Bingo (remote) GGY by type for latest period



Key Points:

Between periods April 2019 - March 2020 and April 2020 - March 2021, GGY for Bingo (remote) increased by £10.4m (5.8%) from £178.7m to £189.1m.

Between periods April 2016 - March 2017 and April 2020 - March 2021 Bingo (remote) GGY increased by £27.9m (17.3%) from £161.2m to £189.1m.

Casino (non-remote)

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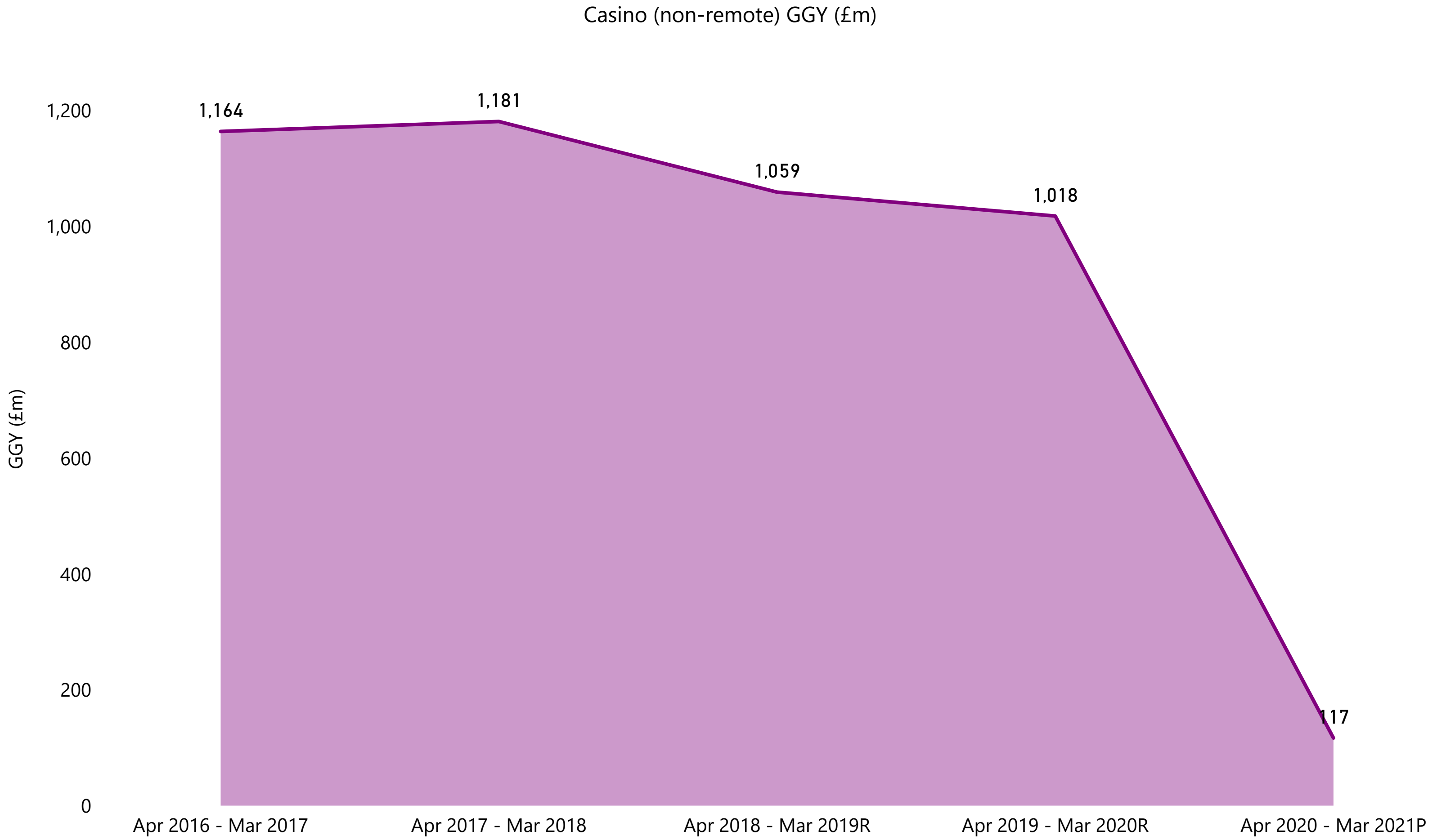
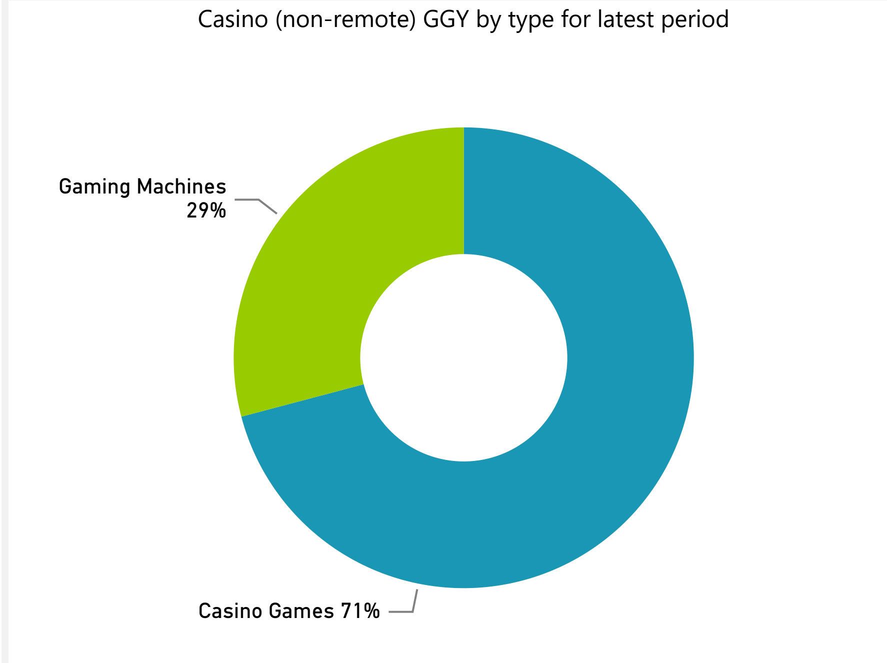


£117M

Casino (non-remote) GGY

-88.5%

Change from previous period



Key Points:

Between periods April 2019 - March 2020 and April 2020 - March 2021, GGY for Casino (non-remote) GGY decreased by £900.9m (-88.5%) from £1.0bn to £116.7m.

By type, there were decreases in GGY for Casino Games by £718.1m (-89.7%) and Machines by £182.7m (-84.3%).

Between periods April 2016 - March 2017 and April 2020 - March 2021 Casino (non-remote) GGY decreased by £1.0bn (-90.0%) from £1.2bn to £116.7m.

Casino (remote)

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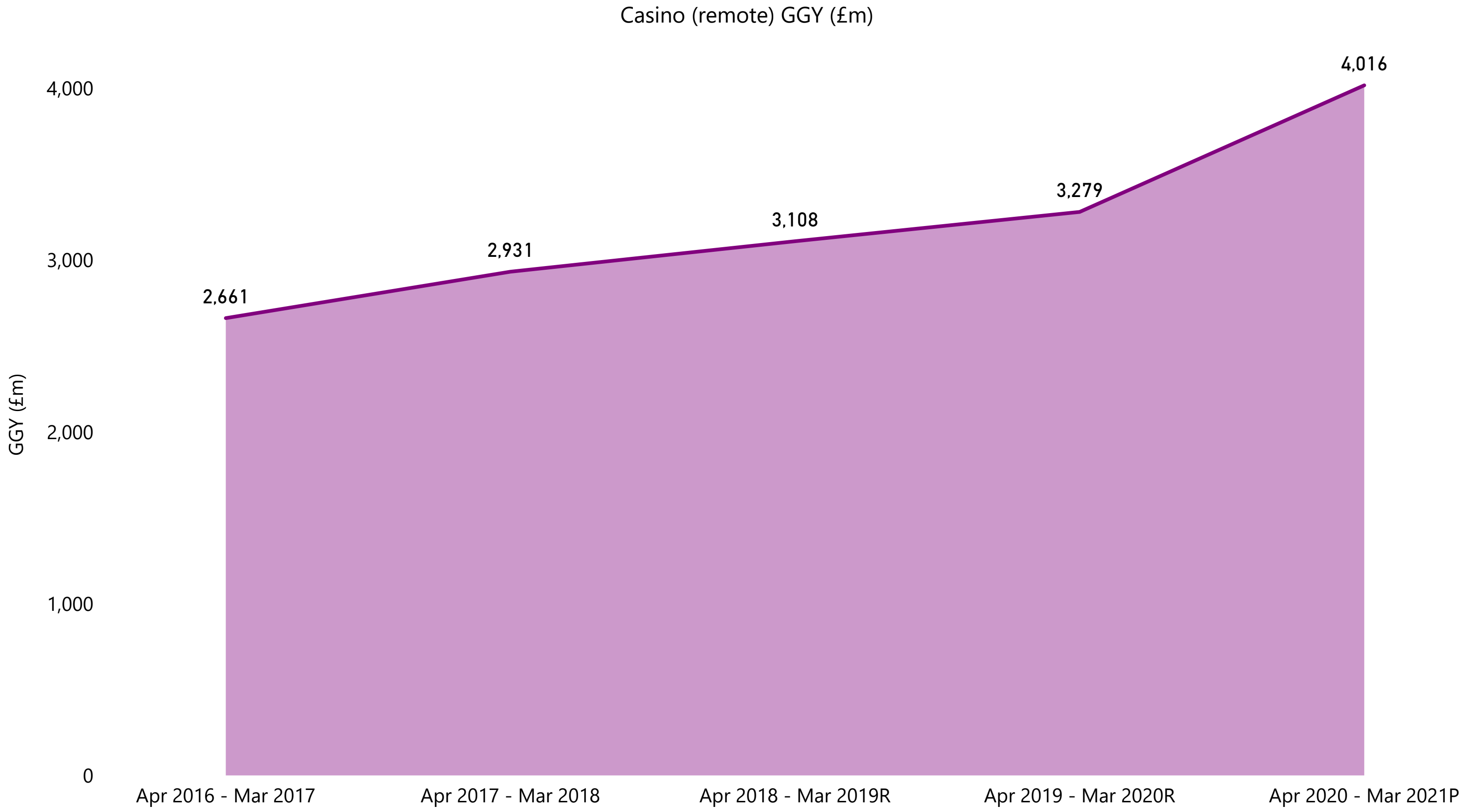
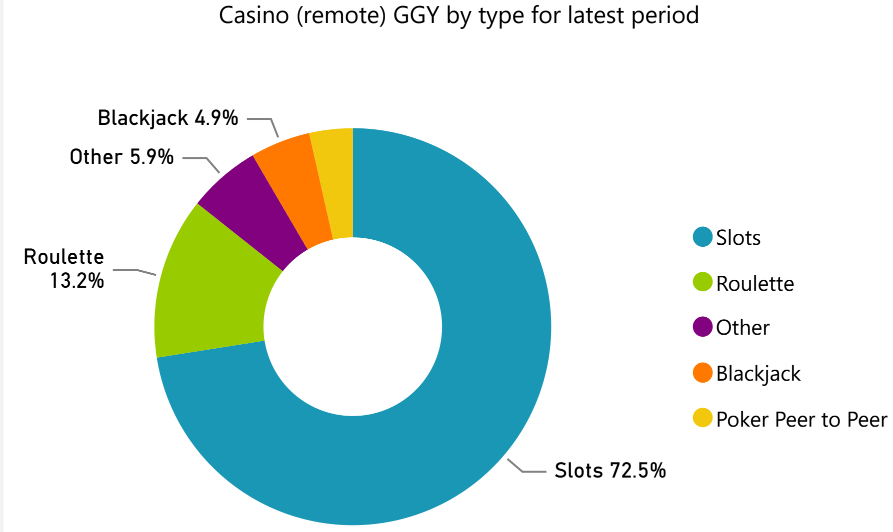


£4,016M

Casino (remote) GGY

22.5%

Change from previous period



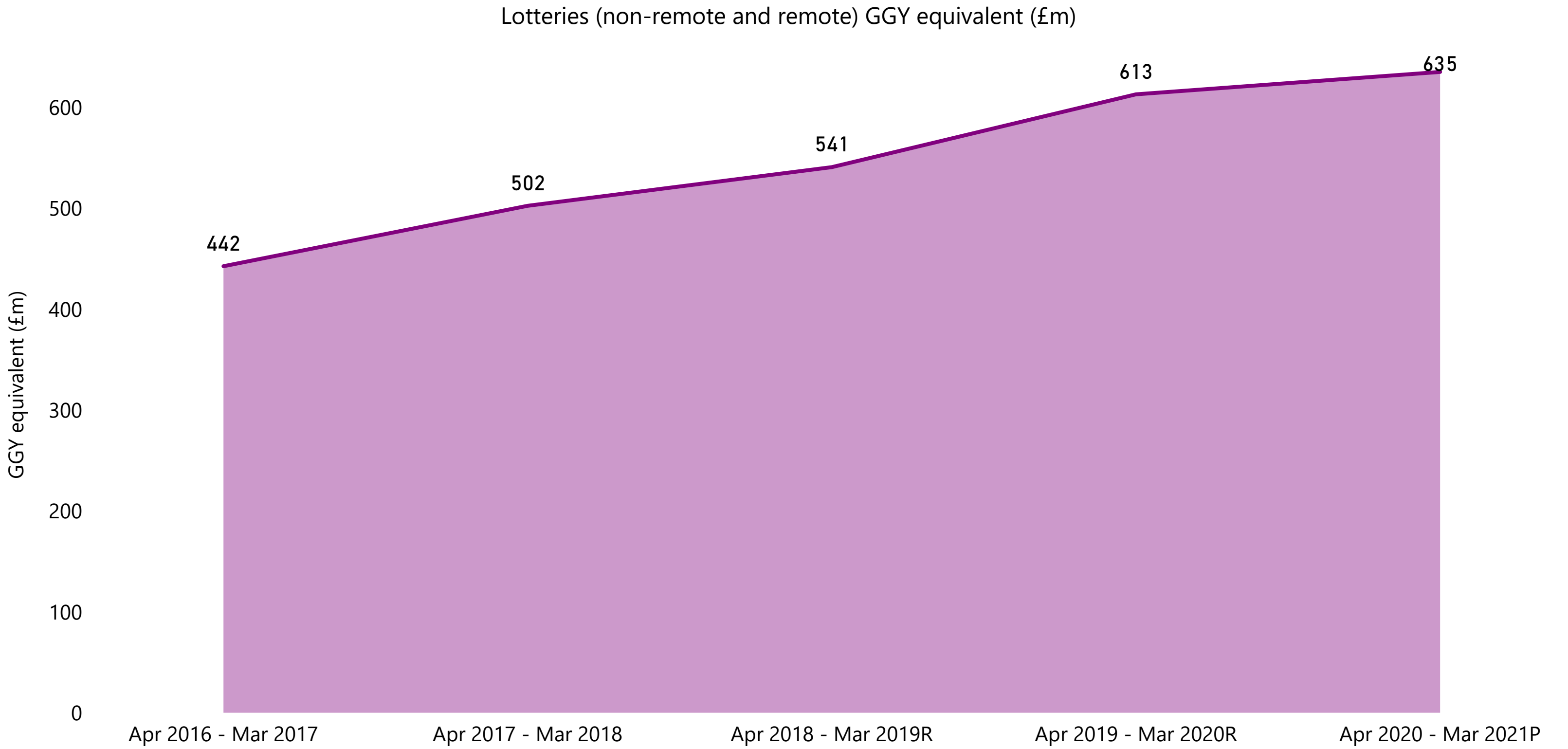
Key Points:

Between periods April 2019 - March 2020 and April 2020 - March 2021, GGY for Casino (remote) increased by £736.7m (22.5%) from £3.3bn to £4.0bn.

By category, there were increases for Slots by £532.4m (22.4%), Roulette by £93.0m (21.4%), Other by £59.7m (33.6%), Poker peer to peer by £43.4m (44.2%) and Blackjack by £8.1m (4.3%).

Between periods April 2016 - March 2017 and April 2020 - March 2021 Casino (remote) GGY increased by £1.4bn (50.9%) from £2.7bn to £4.0bn.

Lotteries (non-remote and remote)

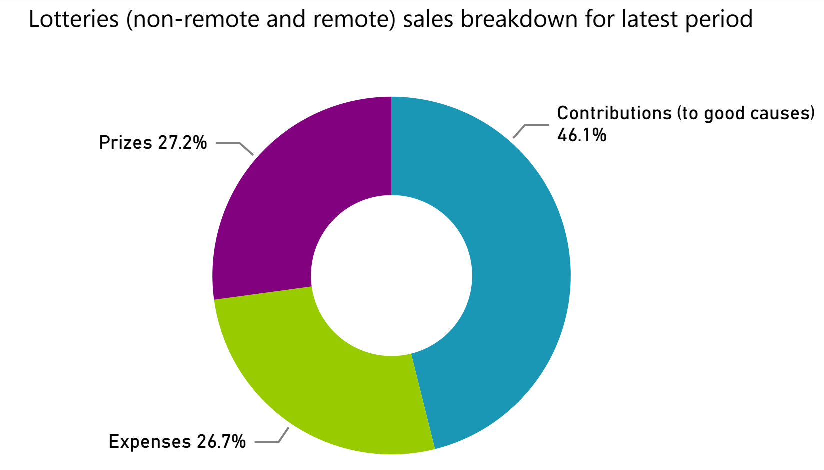


£635M

Lotteries GGY equivalent

3.6%

Change from previous period



Key Points:

Between periods April 2019 - March 2020 and April 2020 - March 2021, GGY equivalent for Lotteries (non-remote and remote) increased by £22.2m (3.6%) from £612.7m to £634.9m.

There were increases in ticket sales by £39.7m (4.8%) from £832.0m to £871.7m, balance (to good causes) by £33.9m (9.2%) from £367.9m to £401.9m and prizes by £17.5m (8.0%) from £219.2m to £236.7m. Expenses decreased by £11.8m (-4.8%) from £244.8m to £233.1m.

Between periods April 2016 - March 2017 and April 2020 - March 2021 the GGY equivalent for Lotteries (non-remote and remote) increased by £192.5m (43.5%) from £442.4m to £634.9m.

Notes:

GGY equivalent for lotteries is total proceeds minus prizes and includes any GGY equivalent raised through external lottery managers.

These charts include data from large society lotteries and local authority lotteries. They do not include figures from small society lotteries or The National Lottery.

The National Lottery (non-remote and remote)

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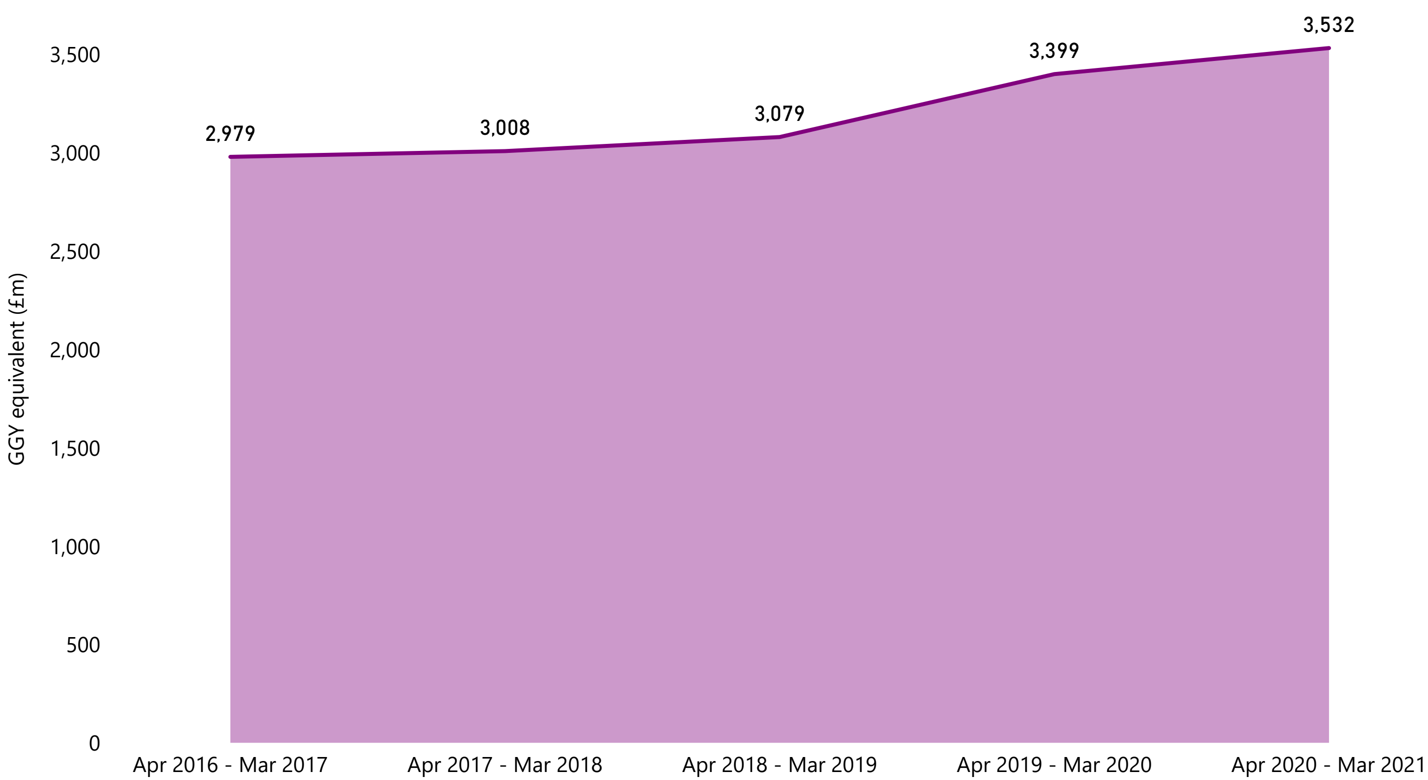
National Lottery (non-remote and remote) GGY equivalent (£m)



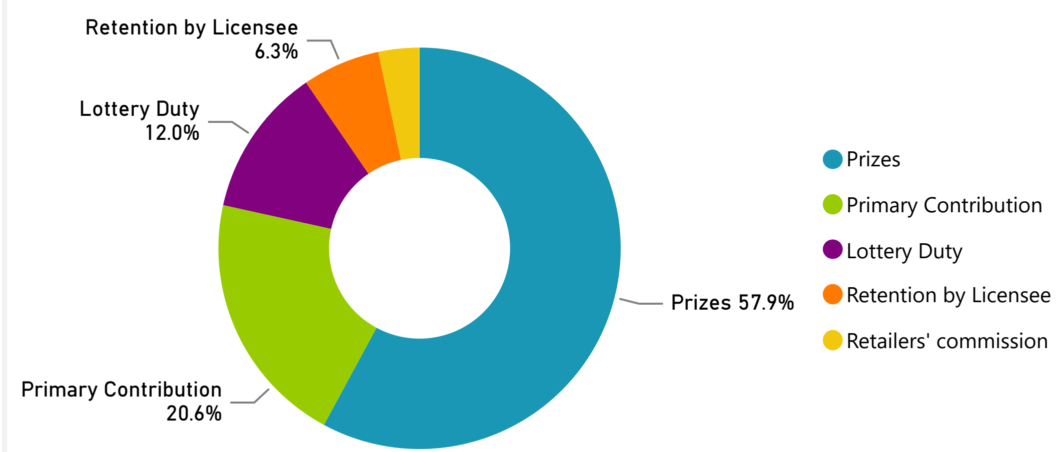
£3,532M

National Lottery GGY equivalent

3.9%

Change from previous period

National Lottery (non-remote and remote) total sales breakdown for latest period



Key Points:

Between periods April 2019 - March 2020 and April 2020 - March 2021, GGY equivalent for The National Lottery increased by £132.4m (3.9%) from £3.4bn to £3.5bn.

There were increases in ticket sales by £482.2m (6.1%), prizes by £349.7m (7.8%), Contributions (to good causes) by £65.8m (4.0%).

Between periods April 2016 - March 2017 and April 2020 - March 2021 the GGY equivalent for The National Lottery increased by £553.1m (18.6%).

Notes:

GGY equivalent for the National Lottery is total proceeds minus total prizes. This National Lottery data includes data from Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Making gambling fairer and safer

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For further data and information on the gambling industry, please visit our website at: www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk

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