PREDICTING CUSTOMER CHURN FOR SYRIATEL: IDENTIFYING PATTERNS TO IMPROVE RETENTION

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Project Overview

SyriaTel, a telecommunications company, is experiencing a significant loss of valuable customers to competitors. Predicting and understanding customer churn is crucial for evaluating the effectiveness of its marketing strategies and enhancing customer satisfaction. In the telecom industry, customer acquisition and retention are major challenges. As the market rapidly expands, the number of subscribers continues to grow, making customer retention more critical than ever. Service providers must minimize churn rates, as failing to do so can negatively impact profitability. Churn prediction enables companies to identify customers who are most likely to switch to a competitor, allowing for proactive retention strategies.

1. Business Understanding

- Stakeholder: SyriaTel's business team.
- Business Problem: Customer churn leads to revenue loss. Identifying at-risk customers allows the company to implement retention strategies. This project involves predicting customer churn for SyriaTel using a binary classification modeling approach.
- Key Questions:
 - What factors influence churn?
 - Which model can predict churn with high accuracy?
 - What strategies can Syriatel implement to retain customers and reduce churn rates?

2. Data Understanding

The **Churn in Telecom** dataset from Kaggle provides valuable insights into customer behavior and their likelihood of canceling their subscription with a telecom company. The goal of analyzing this dataset is to develop predictive models that can help the company reduce financial losses associated with customer churn.

- Dataset Overview: This dataset consists of 3,333 rows and 21 columns.
- Target Variable: churn (binary classification: True/False)
- Feature Categories:
 - Customer Demographics: state, account length, area code, phone number
 - Service Plans: international plan, voice mail plan
 - Usage Behavior: total minutes, total calls, total charges across different time periods (day, evening, night, international)
 - Customer Support Interaction: customer service calls

Summary of all Features in the Dataset

- State: The state where the customer resides.
- Account Length: The duration (in days) the customer has maintained their account.
- Area Code: The customer's area code.
- Phone Number: The customer's phone number.
- International Plan: Indicates whether the customer has an international plan (True/False).
- Voice Mail Plan: Indicates whether the customer has a voice mail plan (True/False).
- Number Vmail Messages: The count of voicemail messages sent by the customer.
- Total Day Minutes: The total duration (in minutes) of calls made during the day.
- Total Day Calls: The total number of calls made during the day.
- Total Day Charge: The total charges incurred for daytime calls.
- Total Eve Minutes: The total duration (in minutes) of calls made in the evening.
- Total Eve Calls: The total number of calls made in the evening.
- **Total Eve Charge**: The total charges incurred for evening calls.
- **Total Night Minutes**: The total duration (in minutes) of calls made at night.
- Total Night Calls: The total number of calls made at night.
- Total Night Charge: The total charges incurred for nighttime calls.
- **Total Intl Minutes**: The total duration (in minutes) of international calls.
- Total Intl Calls: The total number of international calls made.
- Total Intl Charge: The total charges incurred for international calls.
- Customer Service Calls: The number of times the customer contacted customer support.
- Churn: Indicates whether the customer has canceled their subscription (True/False).

3. Data Preparation

In this section, I will take several steps to prepare our data for exploratory data analysis and modeling.

To start, I import all the required libraries and load the dataset into a pandas DataFrame.

```
In [1]: import numpy as np
        import pandas as pd
        import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
        import seaborn as sns
        from sklearn.model selection import train test split
        from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler, LabelEncoder
        from sklearn.linear model import LogisticRegression
        from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeClassifier
        from sklearn.model selection import GridSearchCV
        from sklearn.metrics import accuracy_score, classification_report, roc_curv
        from sklearn.metrics import precision score, recall score, f1 score, roc au
        from imblearn.over sampling import SMOTE
        from imblearn.over sampling import RandomOverSampler
        from imblearn.under_sampling import RandomUnderSampler
        from collections import Counter
        from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier
```

```
In [2]: # Loading the dataset
    df = pd.read_csv('Data/bigml_59c28831336c6604c800002a.csv')
    df
```

Out[2]:

	state	account length	area code	phone number	international plan	voice mail plan	number vmail messages	total day minutes	total day calls	total day charge
0	KS	128	415	382- 4657	no	yes	25	265.1	110	45.07
1	ОН	107	415	371- 7191	no	yes	26	161.6	123	27.47
2	NJ	137	415	358- 1921	no	no	0	243.4	114	41.38
3	ОН	84	408	375- 9999	yes	no	0	299.4	71	50.90
4	OK	75	415	330- 6626	yes	no	0	166.7	113	28.34
3328	AZ	192	415	414- 4276	no	yes	36	156.2	77	26.55
3329	WV	68	415	370- 3271	no	no	0	231.1	57	39.29
3330	RI	28	510	328- 8230	no	no	0	180.8	109	30.74
3331	СТ	184	510	364- 6381	yes	no	0	213.8	105	36.35
3332	TN	74	415	400- 4344	no	yes	25	234.4	113	39.85
3333 rows × 21 columns										

3333 rows × 21 columns

<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>

RangeIndex: 3333 entries, 0 to 3332 Data columns (total 21 columns): Non-Null Count Dtype # Column -------------3333 non-null 0 state object account length 3333 non-null int64 1 2 area code 3333 non-null int64 3 phone number 3333 non-null object international plan 3333 non-null object voice mail plan 3333 non-null object 4 5 number vmail messages 3333 non-null int64 6 7 total day minutes 3333 non-null float64 3333 non-null int64 3333 non-null float64 3333 non-null int64 8 total day calls total day charge 9 10 total eve minutes 11 total eve calls 12 total eve charge 3333 non-null float64
13 total night minutes 3333 non-null float64

· .. + ~ 1

```
In [4]: #Checking for the number columns and rows
       df.shape
Out[4]: (3333, 21)
In [5]: #Checking for missing values in each column
       df.isna().sum()
Out[5]: state
                                0
       account length
                                0
       area code
                                0
       phone number
                               0
       international plan
                              0
       voice mail plan
                                0
       number vmail messages 0
       total day minutes
                              0
       total day calls
                              0
                              0
       total day charge
       total eve minutes
                              0
       total eve calls
                              0
       total eve charge
                              0
       total night minutes 0
       total night calls
       total night charge
                              0
       total intl minutes
       total intl calls
                              0
       total intl charge
                             0
       customer service calls 0
       churn
                                0
       dtype: int64
In [6]: | # Removing whitespaces in the column name and replacing with '_'
       df.columns = df.columns.str.replace(' ', '_')
```

```
Value Counts for 'state':
state
WV
        106
MN
         84
NY
         83
AL
         80
WΙ
         78
OH
         78
OR
         78
WY
         77
         77
VA
\mathsf{CT}
         74
ΜI
         73
ID
         73
VT
         73
\mathsf{TX}
         72
UT
         72
{\sf IN}
         71
         70
MD
KS
         70
NC
         68
NJ
         68
ΜT
         68
         66
CO
NV
         66
WΑ
         66
RΙ
         65
MΑ
         65
MS
         65
ΑZ
         64
\mathsf{FL}
         63
MO
         63
NM
         62
ME
         62
ND
         62
\mathsf{NE}
         61
OK
         61
DE
         61
SC
         60
SD
         60
         59
ΚY
{\tt IL}
         58
NH
          56
          55
\mathsf{AR}
\mathsf{G}\mathsf{A}
          54
DC
         54
{\sf HI}
         53
TN
          53
\mathsf{AK}
         52
LA
         51
PΑ
         45
         44
IΑ
\mathsf{C}\mathsf{A}
         34
Name: count, dtype: int64
Value Counts for 'account_length':
account_length
105
         43
87
         42
101
         40
93
         40
```

```
90
    39
     . .
    1
243
200
      1
232
     1
5
      1
221
      1
Name: count, Length: 212, dtype: int64
-----
Value Counts for 'area_code':
area_code
415
     1655
510
     840
408
     838
Name: count, dtype: int64
-----
Value Counts for 'international_plan':
international_plan
     3010
no
yes
      323
Name: count, dtype: int64
-----
Value Counts for 'voice_mail_plan':
voice_mail_plan
no
    2411
yes
     922
Name: count, dtype: int64
-----
Value Counts for 'number_vmail_messages':
number_vmail_messages
   2411
31
      60
29
      53
28
      51
33
      46
27
      44
30
      44
24
      42
26
      41
32
      41
25
      37
23
      36
36
      34
22
      32
35
      32
39
      30
34
      29
37
      29
21
      28
38
      25
20
      22
19
      19
40
      16
42
      15
17
      14
      13
16
41
      13
43
      9
      9
15
      7
18
      7
44
```

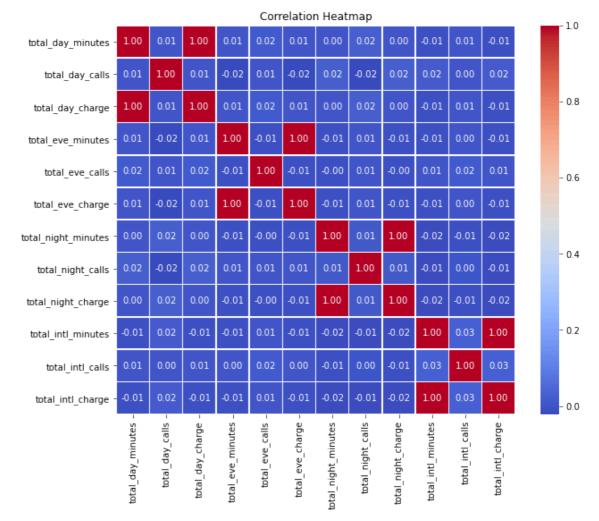
```
14
        7
45
        6
12
        6
46
        4
13
        4
47
        3
        2
50
9
        2
8
       2
       2
11
48
        2
49
        1
4
        1
10
        1
51
        1
Name: count, dtype: int64
Value Counts for 'customer_service_calls':
customer_service_calls
1
    1181
2
     759
0
    697
3
    429
    166
4
5
     66
     22
6
     9
7
9
      2
      2
Name: count, dtype: int64
Value Counts for 'churn':
churn
False 2850
       483
Name: count, dtype: int64
```


Out[8]:

	account_length	area_code	number_vmail_messages	total_day_minutes	total_day_ca
count	3333.000000	3333.000000	3333.000000	3333.000000	3333.000
mean	101.064806	437.182418	8.099010	179.775098	100.4350
std	39.822106	42.371290	13.688365	54.467389	20.0690
min	1.000000	408.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.0000
25%	74.000000	408.000000	0.000000	143.700000	87.0000
50%	101.000000	415.000000	0.000000	179.400000	101.0000
75%	127.000000	510.000000	20.000000	216.400000	114.0000
max	243.000000	510.000000	51.000000	350.800000	165.0000

Numerical feature analysis

- Here we'll analyze numerical features variables simultaneously. In this case, we
 explore the relationship between numerical continuous features to know if there is any
 multicollinearity amongest them.
- I used a correlation matrix to identify the correlation between them.



From the correlation matrix heat map, columns that are highly correlated (close to 1) and redundant include:

- 1. total day minutes and total day charge
- 2. total eve minutes and total eve charge

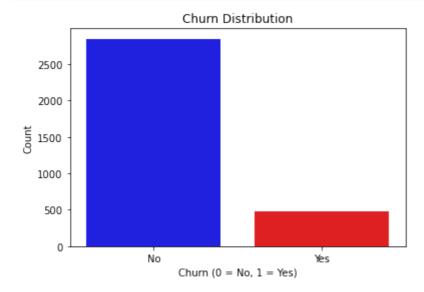
- 3. total night minutes and total night charge
- 4. total intl minutes and total intl charge

We'll drop minutes columns in order to prevent multicollinearity amongest those features

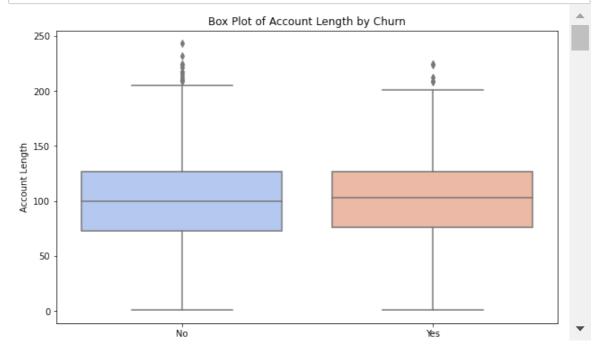
```
In [10]: df = df.drop(columns=['total_day_minutes', 'total_eve_minutes', 'total_nigh')
             df.info()
              <class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
             RangeIndex: 3333 entries, 0 to 3332
             Data columns (total 17 columns):
               # Column
                                                      Non-Null Count Dtype
              ____
                                                        -----
                                                        3333 non-null object
               0
                     state
               1 account_length
              1 account_length 3333 non-null int64
2 area_code 3333 non-null int64
3 phone_number 3333 non-null object
4 international_plan 3333 non-null object
5 voice_mail_plan 3333 non-null object
6 number_vmail_messages 3333 non-null int64
7 total_day_calls 3333 non-null int64
8 total_day_charge 3333 non-null float64
9 total_eve_calls 3333 non-null int64
10 total_eve_charge 3333 non-null float64
11 total_night_calls 3333 non-null int64
12 total_night_charge 3333 non-null float64
13 total_intl_calls 3333 non-null int64
14 total_intl_charge 3333 non-null float64
15 customer service calls 3333 non-null int64
                                                     3333 non-null int64
               15 customer_service_calls 3333 non-null int64
               16 churn
                                                        3333 non-null
                                                                                bool
              dtypes: bool(1), float64(4), int64(8), object(4)
              memory usage: 420.0+ KB
In [11]: #Checking the count of unique values in each column
             df.nunique()
Out[11]: state
                                                       51
              account_length
                                                     212
              area code
                                                        3
             phone_number
                                                    3333
             international plan
                                                   2
             voice_mail_plan
                                                        2
             number_vmail_messages
                                                      46
             total_day_calls
                                                     119
             total_day_charge
                                                 1667
             total_eve_calls
                                                   123
             total_eve_charge
                                                    1440
             total_night_calls
                                                   120
             total_night_charge
                                                    933
              total_intl_calls
                                                      21
             total_intl_charge
                                                     162
              customer service calls
                                                    10
                                                        2
              churn
              dtype: int64
```

Churn Distribution - Bar Chart

• This is an imbalanced dataset which needs to be addressed before modeling it can cause the model to make false predictions.

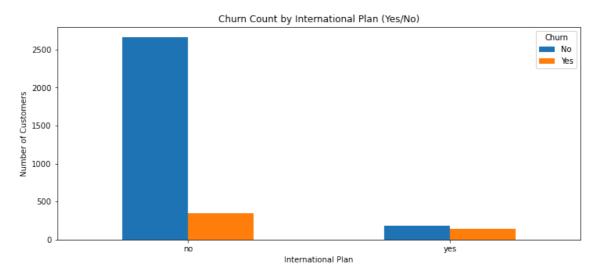


Box plot showning Numerical columns churn count



Churn Count by International Plan

<Figure size 864x360 with 0 Axes>



Key findings

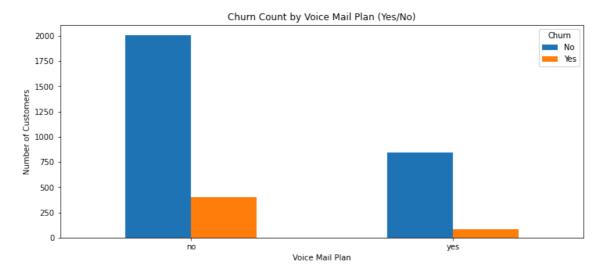
- The majority of retained customers do not have an international plan.
- Among customers with an international plan, those who churn are fewer than those who remain.

Churn Count by Voice Mail Plan

```
In [15]: # Grouping by Voice Mail Plan
    churn_by_voice_mail_plan = df.groupby(['voice_mail_plan', 'churn']).size().

# Plot for Voice Mail Plan
    plt.figure(figsize=(12, 5))
    churn_by_voice_mail_plan.plot(kind='bar', figsize=(12, 5))
    plt.xlabel("Voice Mail Plan")
    plt.ylabel("Number of Customers")
    plt.title("Churn Count by Voice Mail Plan (Yes/No)")
    plt.legend(title="Churn", labels=["No", "Yes"])
    plt.xticks(rotation=0)
    plt.show()
```

<Figure size 864x360 with 0 Axes>

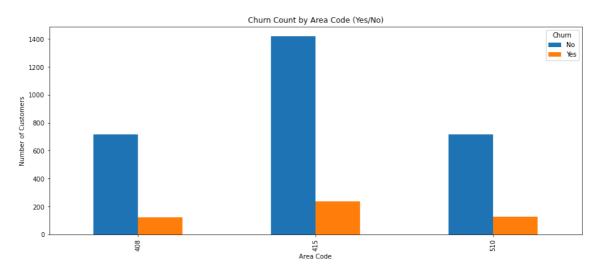


Key findings

- The majority of retained customers do not have an voicemail plan.
- Among customers with an Voicemail plan, those who churn are fewer than those who remain.

Churn by Area code

<Figure size 1080x432 with 0 Axes>



Dropping irrelevant columns

• Dropping **state**, **area_code**, and **phone_number** is a necessary step because these columns do not contribute meaningful patterns or predictions. This ensures the model focuses on the most relevant features for predicting customer churn.

Label Encoding

• Transforming categorical features into 0 and 1 to be able to use them in classification models.

```
In [18]: # Making a copy of the data frame
         df1 = df.copy()
         # Convert 'churn' to numerical
         le = LabelEncoder()
         df1['churn'] = le.fit_transform(df1['churn']) # 1 for churned, 0 for No Ch
         df1[['churn']]
Out[18]:
               churn
                  0
            1
                  0
            2
                  0
            3
                  0
            4
                  0
          3328
          3329
          3330
          3331
                 0
          3332 0
```

	account_length	international_plan	voice_mail_plan	number_vmail_messages	total_
0	128	0	1	25	
1	107	0	1	26	
2	137	0	0	0	
3	84	1	0	0	
4	75	1	0	0	
3328	192	0	1	36	
3329	68	0	0	0	
3330	28	0	0	0	
3331	184	1	0	0	
	7.1	^		25)

In [20]: # Checking the data frame information. df1.info()

```
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 3333 entries, 0 to 3332
Data columns (total 14 columns):
```

#	Column	Non-Null Count	Dtype
0	account_length	3333 non-null	int64
1	international_plan	3333 non-null	int32
2	voice_mail_plan	3333 non-null	int32
3	number_vmail_messages	3333 non-null	int64
4	total_day_calls	3333 non-null	int64
5	total_day_charge	3333 non-null	float64
6	total_eve_calls	3333 non-null	int64
7	total_eve_charge	3333 non-null	float64
8	total_night_calls	3333 non-null	int64
9	total_night_charge	3333 non-null	float64
10	total_intl_calls	3333 non-null	int64
11	total_intl_charge	3333 non-null	float64
12	customer_service_calls	3333 non-null	int64
13	churn	3333 non-null	int64
dtvp	es: float64(4), int32(2)	. int64(8)	

dtypes: float64(4), int32(2), int64(8)

memory usage: 338.6 KB

4. Modeling

My aim is to find a model that balances a good recall (identify actual churners) and good precision (reducing false alarms).

Model 1: Logistic Regression

My first approach utilizes a **Logistic Regression Model**, a type of generalized linear model designed to predict the probability of a binary outcome—such as whether a customer will churn.

In this case, we apply logistic regression to analyze the relationship between our features

```
In [21]: # Define feature set (X) and target variable (y)
         X = df1.drop(columns=['churn'])
         y = df1['churn']
         # Split data into training and testing sets
         X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(X, y, test_size=0.2, ra
In [22]: # Standardize numerical features
         scaler = StandardScaler()
         X_train_sc = scaler.fit_transform(X_train)
         X_test_sc = scaler.transform(X_test)
In [23]:
         # Initialize and train logistic regression model
         log_reg = LogisticRegression(random_state=42)
         log_reg.fit(X_train_sc, y_train)
Out[23]: LogisticRegression(random_state=42)
In [24]:
         # Make predictions
         y_pred = log_reg.predict(X_test_sc)
         y_pred_proba = log_reg.predict_proba(X_test_sc)[:, 1] # Probability of po
         # Predict churn for the train
         y_train_pred = log_reg.predict(X_train_sc)
```

```
In [25]: |# Evaluate model performance
         test_accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred)
         train_accuracy = accuracy_score(y_train, y_train_pred)
         precision = precision_score(y_test, y_pred)
         recall = recall_score(y_test, y_pred)
         f1 = f1_score(y_test, y_pred)
         roc_auc = roc_auc_score(y_test, y_pred_proba)
         conf_matrix = confusion_matrix(y_test, y_pred)
         # Print results
         print(f'Test Accuracy: {test_accuracy:.4f}')
         print(f'Train Accuracy: {test_accuracy:.4f}')
         print(f'Precision: {precision:.4f}')
         print(f'Recall: {recall:.4f}')
         print(f'F1 Score: {f1:.4f}')
         print(f'ROC AUC Score: {roc_auc:.4f}')
         print('Confusion Matrix:\n', conf_matrix)
```

Test Accuracy: 0.8591
Train Accuracy: 0.8591
Precision: 0.5333
Recall: 0.2474
F1 Score: 0.3380
ROC AUC Score: 0.8169
Confusion Matrix:
[[549 21]
[73 24]]

```
In [26]: # Generating the classification report
    class_report = classification_report(y_test, y_pred)

# Print results
    print("Classification Report:\n", class_report)
```

Report: precision	recall	f1-score	support
0.88	0.96	0.92	570
0.53	0.25	0.34	97
		0.86	667
0.71	0.61	0.63	667
0.83	0.86	0.84	667
	<pre>precision 0.88 0.53 0.71</pre>	precision recall 0.88 0.96 0.53 0.25 0.71 0.61	precision recall f1-score 0.88 0.96 0.92 0.53 0.25 0.34 0.86 0.71 0.61 0.63

Interpretation of the Classification Report:

The classification report provides key performance metrics for both classes (0 and 1).

Class 0 (Non-Churned Customers)

- Precision: 0.88 → When the model predicts "Not Churn" (0), it is correct 88% of the time.
- Recall: 0.96 → The model correctly identifies 96% of all actual non-churned customers.

 F1-Score: 0.92 → A balanced measure of precision and recall, meaning the model performs very well in identifying non-churned customers.

Class 1 (Churned Customers)

- Precision: 0.53 → When the model predicts "Churn" (1), it is correct 53% of the time.
- Recall: 0.25 → The model only catches 24% of actual churned customers (meaning it misses a lot of them).
- F1-Score: 0.34 → A low score due to poor recall, indicating that the model struggles to detect churn.

Overall Model Performance

• Accuracy: 0.86 (86%) → The model correctly classifies 86% of total customers.

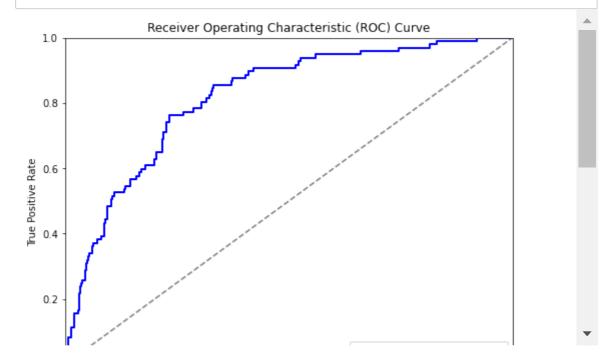
Key Insights:

- 1. Model is biased toward predicting "No Churn" (0).
 - High recall for class 0 (96%) but very low recall for class 1 (25%).
 - This suggests the model is **not identifying enough churned customers**.
- 2. False Negatives are high (many churners are misclassified as non-churn).
 - This is **risky** for businesses because missing churners means they cannot take proactive action to retain them.

3. This model is likely underfitting because:

- Low recall (25%) suggests the model is too simple and fails to capture churners properly.
- F1 Score is low (34%), which means the model does not generalize well to the test data.
- High accuracy but poor recall indicates that the model is biased towards predicting customers as non-churners, potentially due to class imbalance.

```
In [27]: # Plot the ROC curve for test data
         fpr, tpr, thresholds = roc_curve(y_test, y_pred_proba)
         roc_auc = roc_auc_score(y_test, y_pred_proba)
         fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(8, 6))
         ax.plot(fpr, tpr, color='b', lw=2, label=f'ROC curve (AUC = {roc_auc:.2f})'
         ax.plot([0, 1], [0, 1], color='gray', linestyle='--')
         ax.set_xlim([0.0, 1.0])
         ax.set_ylim([0.0, 1.0])
         ax.set_xlabel('False Positive Rate')
         ax.set_ylabel('True Positive Rate')
         ax.set_title('Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) Curve')
         ax.legend(loc="lower right")
         plt.show()
         # Display the confusion matrix
         disp = ConfusionMatrixDisplay(conf_matrix, display_labels=['No Churn', 'Chu
         disp.plot(cmap='viridis')
```



Interpretation:

- True Negatives (TN) = 549 → Customers correctly predicted as not churning
- False Positives (FP) = 21 → Customers incorrectly predicted as churning (but they didn't)
- False Negatives (FN) = 73 → Customers incorrectly predicted as *not churning* (but they did)
- True Positives (TP) = 24 → Customers correctly predicted as *churning*

Therefore, the first model it fails to predict churned customers. We'll need to deal with class balance with SMOTE.

MODEL 1.2 LOGISTIC MODEL - DEALING WITH CLASS IMBALANCE WITH SMOTE

Adjusting the model to adjust for class imbalance in the target variable to see if there
are resonable improvements.

```
In [30]: # Get predictions for both test and train sets
         y_train_pred = log_reg2_smote.predict(X_train_sc)
         y_pred = log_reg2_smote.predict(X_test_sc)
         y_pred_proba = log_reg2_smote.predict_proba(X_test_sc)[:, 1] # Extract pro
         # Evaluate performance
         train_accuracy = accuracy_score(y_train, y_train_pred)
         test_accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred)
         precision = precision_score(y_test, y_pred)
         recall = recall_score(y_test, y_pred)
         f1 = f1_score(y_test, y_pred)
         roc_auc = roc_auc_score(y_test, y_pred_proba)
         conf_matrix = confusion_matrix(y_test, y_pred)
         # Print results
         print(f'Train Accuracy: {train_accuracy:.4f}')
         print(f'Test Accuracy: {test_accuracy:.4f}')
         print(f'Precision: {precision:.4f}')
         print(f'Recall: {recall:.4f}')
         print(f'F1 Score: {f1:.4f}')
         print(f'ROC AUC Score: {roc_auc:.4f}')
         print('Confusion Matrix:\n', conf_matrix)
         Train Accuracy: 0.7757
```

Train Accuracy: 0.7757
Test Accuracy: 0.7616
Precision: 0.3465
Recall: 0.7216
F1 Score: 0.4682
ROC AUC Score: 0.8095
Confusion Matrix:
[[438 132]
[27 70]]

```
In [31]: # Classification Report
    y_pred = log_reg2_smote.predict(X_test_sc)
    print(classification_report(y_test, y_pred))
```

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
0	0.94	0.77	0.85	570
1	0.35	0.72	0.47	97
accuracy			0.76	667
macro avg	0.64	0.75	0.66	667
weighted avg	0.86	0.76	0.79	667

Interpretation of Classification Report:

This classification report summarizes the model's performance across different evaluation metrics for **churn prediction**.

Key Observations:

Class 0 (Not Churn):

- Precision (94%): When the model predicts "Not Churn," it is correct 94% of the time.
- Recall (77%): It correctly identifies 77% of actual non-churners.
- F1 Score (85%): A good balance between precision and recall.

Class 1 (Churn):

- Precision (35%): When the model predicts "Churn," it is correct only 35% of the time (low precision).
 - Many non-churners are mistakenly classified as churn (high false positives). If we target customers predicted to churn with special offers, a low precision means we'll spend resources on many customers who were not actually at risk of leaving.
- Recall (72%): The model catches 72% of actual churners.
 - This is **good** but still misses **28% of real churners** (false negatives) meaning some customers at risk are not being identified. Since recall is prioritized in churn prediction, the model does a fair job of identifying at-risk customers.
- F1 Score (47%): Since recall is higher than precision the model is biased toward recall, which is better in churn prediction because missing churners (false negatives) is worse than mistakenly identifying non-churners as churners (false positives).

Overall Model Performance

• Accuracy: 0.76 (76%) → The model correctly classifies 76% of total customers.

Business Impact Analysis

- Low precision for churners (35%) means many customers are falsely flagged as "at risk" of leaving.
- This could lead to **wasting retention offers/resources** on customers who were not going to leave.

```
In [32]: # Plot the ROC curve for test data
         fpr, tpr, thresholds = roc_curve(y_test, y_pred_proba)
         roc_auc = roc_auc_score(y_test, y_pred_proba)
         fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(8, 6))
         ax.plot(fpr, tpr, color='b', lw=2, label=f'ROC curve (AUC = {roc_auc:.2f})'
         ax.plot([0, 1], [0, 1], color='gray', linestyle='--')
         ax.set_xlim([0.0, 1.0])
         ax.set_ylim([0.0, 1.0])
         ax.set_xlabel('False Positive Rate')
         ax.set_ylabel('True Positive Rate')
         ax.set_title('Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) Curve')
         ax.legend(loc="lower right")
         plt.show()
         # Display the confusion matrix
         disp = ConfusionMatrixDisplay(conf_matrix, display_labels=['No Churn', 'Chu
         disp.plot(cmap='viridis')
                           Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) Curve
            1.0
             0.8
          frue Positive Rate
             0.6
             0.4
```

Interpretation of the confusion matrix:

- True Negatives (TN) = 438 → Customers correctly predicted as not churning
- False Positives (FP) = 132 → Customers incorrectly predicted as *churning* (but they didn't)
- False Negatives (FN) = 27 → Customers incorrectly predicted as *not churning* (but they did)
- True Positives (TP) = 70 → Customers correctly predicted as *churning*

Key Takeaways

0.2

• SMOTE increased recall from 25% to 72% (Better at identifying churners).

- Precision dropped from 53% to 35% (More false positives → higher cost of retention efforts).
- Accuracy and ROC AUC decreased, showing that the model now prioritizes finding churners rather than overall correctness.
- **F1 Score improved**, meaning the model is more balanced in handling both churn and non-churn predictions.

Alternative Models

Since we want a model that balances high recall (finding churners) and good precision (reducing false alarms), we can try: Random Forest Classifier, DecisionTreeClassifier

Model 2: Decision Tree Classifier

Based on the initial data split, we will train, test, and evaluate the model using a
 Decision Tree Classifier. We will begin by training the model using the X_train and
 y train datasets.

```
In [33]: # Initialize the Decision Tree Classifier
    dtclf = DecisionTreeClassifier(random_state=42)

# Train the classifier on the encoded training data
    dtclf.fit(X_train, y_train)

# Make predictions on the encoded testing data
    y_pred = dtclf.predict(X_test)
```

```
In [34]: # Evaluate the model's performance
    dtclf_accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred)
    dtclf_precision = precision_score(y_test, y_pred)
    dtclf_recall = recall_score(y_test, y_pred)

    dtclf_f1 = f1_score(y_test, y_pred)

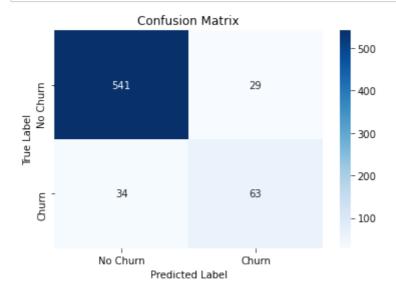
    print('Accuracy ', dtclf_accuracy)
    print('Precision ', dtclf_precision)
    print('Recall ', dtclf_recall)
    print('f1_Score ', dtclf_f1)

#Calculate train and test scores
    train_score = dtclf.score(X_train, y_train)
    test_score = dtclf.score(X_test, y_test)

print('train score ', train_score)
    print('test score ', test_score)
```

```
In [35]: # Compute confusion matrix
cm = confusion_matrix(y_test, y_pred)

# Plot confusion matrix
plt.figure(figsize=(6,4))
sns.heatmap(cm, annot=True, fmt='d', cmap='Blues', xticklabels=['No Churn', plt.xlabel('Predicted Label')
plt.ylabel('True Label')
plt.title('Confusion Matrix')
plt.show()
```



Interpretation of the Decision Tree Classifier Results

1. Accuracy (90%)

- The model correctly classified approximately 90% of the test samples.
- This suggests the model performs well overall but does not necessarily indicate balanced performance across all classes.

2. Precision (68%)

 A precision of 68% suggests that when the model predicts a positive class, it is correct about 68% of the time.

3. Recall (64.94%)

• With **64.94**% recall, the model captures a majority of actual positive cases but misses some (false negatives).

4. F1-Score (66.6%)

• 66.6% indicates a trade-off between precision and recall.

5. Train Score (1.0 or 100%)

 The model perfectly classified all training data, which is a strong indicator of overfitting which suggests that the model memorizes the training data instead of generalizing well.

6. Test Score (90%)

• The drop from **100%** (**train**) to **90%** (**test**) shows that the model generalizes fairly well but might still be slightly overfitting.

Next Steps to Improve Performance:

• Pruning the decision tree (reduce depth to prevent overfitting).

Model 2.1: Decision Tree Classifier

Improving the Decision Tree model using GridSeachCV

I'll use grid search to identify the best model parameters that improve performance.

```
In [36]: # Define hyperparameter grid
         param_grid = {
             'max_depth': [3, 5, 10],
             'min_samples_split': [2, 5, 10],
             'min_samples_leaf': [1, 2, 5],
             'criterion': ['gini', 'entropy']
         }
         # Initialize Decision Tree Classifier
         dtclf = DecisionTreeClassifier(random_state=42)
         # Perform Grid Search with Cross Validation
         grid_search = GridSearchCV(dtclf, param_grid, cv=5, scoring='accuracy')
         grid_search.fit(X_train, y_train)
         # Best model
         best_dtclf = grid_search.best_estimator_
         print(f"Best Parameters: {grid_search.best_params_}")
         # Making predictions
         y_pred = best_dtclf.predict(X_test)
         # Computing training score
         train_score = best_dtclf.score(X_train, y_train)
         # Computing testing score
         test_score = best_dtclf.score(X_test, y_test)
         # Evaluate model performance
         accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred)
         print(f"Accuracy: {accuracy:.4f}")
         print("Classification Report:")
         print(classification_report(y_test, y_pred))
         print("Confusion Matrix:")
         print(confusion_matrix(y_test, y_pred))
         print(f"Train Score: {train_score:.4f}")
         print(f"Test Score: {test score:.4f}")
```

Best Parameters: {'criterion': 'gini', 'max_depth': 10, 'min_samples_lea

f': 2, 'min_samples_split': 10}

Accuracy: 0.9370

Classification Report:

support	f1-score	recall	precision	
570	0.96	0.98	0.95	0
97	0.76	0.68	0.86	1
667	0.94			accuracy
667	0.86	0.83	0.90	macro avg
667	0.93	0.94	0.93	weighted avg

Confusion Matrix:

[[559 11] [31 66]]

Train Score: 0.9700 Test Score: 0.9370

Interpretation of the Improved Decision Tree Classifier Results

Best Model Parameters

The best hyperparameters selected via **GridSearchCV**:

- Criterion: gini → The tree splits nodes based on the Gini impurity.
- Max Depth: 10 → Limits the tree's depth to prevent overfitting.
- Min Samples Leaf: 2 → Ensures each leaf node has at least two samples, improving generalization.
- Min Samples Split: 10 → A node must have at least 10 samples to split, reducing unnecessary splits.

These parameters indicate a **well-optimized tree that balances complexity and performance**.

Model Performance Metrics

- The high accuracy (93.7%) suggests the model performs well on unseen data.
- The **train score (97%)** is slightly higher than the test score, but not excessively, meaning **minimal overfitting**.

Classification Report Analysis

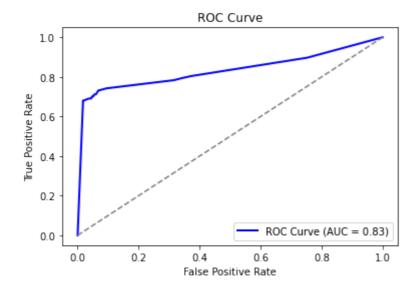
- Precision for Class 0 (Majority Class) is 0.95, meaning 95% of predicted Class 0 instances were correct.
- Recall for Class 0 is 0.98, indicating that 98% of actual Class 0 instances were correctly identified.
- Precision for Class 1 (Minority Class) is 0.86, which means some false positives
 exist.
- Recall for Class 1 is 0.68, meaning only 68% of actual Class 1 instances were correctly classified.
- The **F1-score for Class 1 is 0.76**, which is lower than Class 0, indicating room for improvement in detecting minority class cases.

 \blacktriangleleft

```
In [37]: # Get probability estimates for the positive class
y_prob = best_dtclf.predict_proba(X_test)[:, 1]

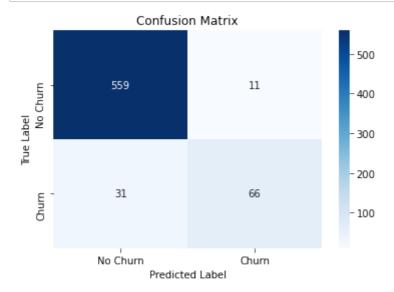
# Compute ROC curve
fpr, tpr, thresholds = roc_curve(y_test, y_prob)
roc_auc = auc(fpr, tpr)

# Plot ROC curve
plt.figure(figsize=(6,4))
plt.plot(fpr, tpr, color='blue', lw=2, label=f'ROC Curve (AUC = {roc_auc:.2 plt.plot([0, 1], [0, 1], color='gray', linestyle='--') # Random classifier
plt.xlabel('False Positive Rate')
plt.ylabel('True Positive Rate')
plt.title('ROC Curve')
plt.legend(loc='lower right')
plt.show()
```



```
In [38]: # Compute confusion matrix
cm = confusion_matrix(y_test, y_pred)

# Plot confusion matrix
plt.figure(figsize=(6,4))
sns.heatmap(cm, annot=True, fmt='d', cmap='Blues', xticklabels=['No Churn', plt.xlabel('Predicted Label')
plt.ylabel('True Label')
plt.title('Confusion Matrix')
plt.show()
```



Confusion Matrix Analysis

- True Positives (TP) = 66 → Correctly predicted Class 1.
- True Negatives (TN) = 559 → Correctly predicted Class 0.
- False Positives (FP) = 11 → Class 0 wrongly classified as Class 1.
- False Negatives (FN) = 31 → Class 1 wrongly classified as Class 0.

Low False Positives (11) \rightarrow Good at avoiding unnecessary misclassification of Class 0. **Higher False Negatives (31)** \rightarrow Some Class 1 instances are being misclassified as Class 0.

Overall Interpretation:

Strengths:

- High accuracy (93.7%) with minimal overfitting.
- Great performance on the majority class 0 (No Churn).
- Well-balanced precision and recall for Class 0.

Areas for Improvement:

- Recall for Class 1 (68%) is lower, meaning some minority class instances are
- 31 false negatives indicate the model sometimes fails to detect the minority class.

Next Step:

. Use Ensemble Methods: i.e. Random Forest that oould improve minority class recall.

Model 3: RandomForestClassifier

```
In [39]: # Initialize a baseline Random Forest model
         rf_clf = RandomForestClassifier(n_estimators=100, random_state=42)
         # Train the model
         rf_clf.fit(X_train, y_train)
         # Make predictions
         y_pred = rf_clf.predict(X_test)
         # Compute training and testing scores
         train_score = rf_clf.score(X_train, y_train)
         test_score = rf_clf.score(X_test, y_test)
         # Evaluate model performance
         accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred)
         print(f"Accuracy: {accuracy:.4f}")
         print("Classification Report:")
         print(classification_report(y_test, y_pred))
         print("Confusion Matrix:")
         print(confusion_matrix(y_test, y_pred))
         print(f"Train Score: {train_score:.4f}")
         print(f"Test Score: {test_score:.4f}")
         Accuracy: 0.9325
         Classification Report:
```

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
0 1	0.94 0.89	0.99 0.61	0.96 0.72	570 97
accuracy macro avg weighted avg	0.92 0.93	0.80 0.93	0.93 0.84 0.93	667 667 667

Confusion Matrix:

[[563 7] [38 59]]

Train Score: 1.0000 Test Score: 0.9325

Interpretation of the Random Forest Model Results

Accuracy: 0.9340 (93.4%)

- The model correctly classifies 93.4% of the test samples.
- This indicates strong overall performance.

Classification Report Analysis

- Precision (0.89 for Class 1) → When the model predicts Class 1 (positive), it is correct 89% of the time.
- Recall (0.61 for Class 1) → The model only identifies 61% of actual Class 1 cases.
 This suggests many false negatives (misclassifying actual Class 1 as Class 0).
- F1-score (0.72 for Class 1) → A balance between precision & recall, but lower than Class 0 due to recall issues.

Confusion Matrix Analysis

- **563 True Negatives (TN)** → Correctly predicted Class 0.
- **59 True Positives (TP)** → Correctly predicted Class 1.
- 7 False Positives (FP) → Incorrectly predicted as Class 1 when it was Class 0.
- 38 False Negatives (FN) → Missed 38 actual Class 1 cases (misclassified as Class 0).

Overfitting Concern

- Train Score = 1.000 (100%) vs. Test Score = 0.9340 (93.4%)
- The model **perfectly fits** the training data, but slightly drops in the test set.
- This suggests **possible overfitting**, meaning the model memorized training patterns rather than generalizing well.

Key Insights & Recommendations

- The model struggles with **recall for Class 1 (61%)**, meaning many **false negatives**. Therefore we'll need to apply **Random Over-Sampling (ROS)** combined with **Random Under-Sampling (RUS)** to balance the classes.
- Implement Hyperparameter Tuning
 - Increase n_estimators, adjust max_depth.

Model 3.1: RandomForestClassifier

Improving the RandomForestClassifier with ROS AND RUS

```
In [40]:
         # Step 1: Applying Random Over-Sampling (ROS) to balance the minority class
         ros = RandomOverSampler(sampling strategy=0.8, random state=42) # Increase
         X_ros, y_ros = ros.fit_resample(X_train, y_train)
         print("Class distribution after ROS:", Counter(y_ros))
         # Step 2: Applying Random Under-Sampling (RUS) to reduce the majority class
         rus = RandomUnderSampler(sampling_strategy=0.9, random_state=42) # Reduce
         X_resampled, y_resampled = rus.fit_resample(X_ros, y_ros)
         print("Class distribution after ROS + RUS:", Counter(y_resampled))
         # Step 3: Training the Random Forest classifier
         rf = RandomForestClassifier(n_estimators=50, max_depth=10, random_state=42)
         rf.fit(X_resampled, y_resampled)
         # Step 4: Making predictions
         y_pred = rf.predict(X_test)
         # Step 5: Computing training and testing scores
         train_score = rf.score(X_resampled, y_resampled)
         test_score = rf.score(X_test, y_test)
         # Step 6: Evaluating model performance
         accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred)
         print(f"Accuracy: {accuracy:.4f}")
         print("Classification Report:")
         print(classification_report(y_test, y_pred))
         print("Confusion Matrix:")
         print(confusion matrix(y test, y pred))
         print(f"Train Score: {train_score:.4f}")
         print(f"Test Score: {test score:.4f}")
```

Class distribution after ROS: Counter({0: 2280, 1: 1824})

Class distribution after ROS + RUS: Counter({0: 2026, 1: 1824})

Accuracy: 0.9160

Classification Report:

support	f1-score	recall	precision	
570	0.95	0.94	0.96	0
97	0.72	0.75	0.70	1
667	0.92			accuracy
667	0.84	0.85	0.83	macro avg
667	0.92	0.92	0.92	weighted avg

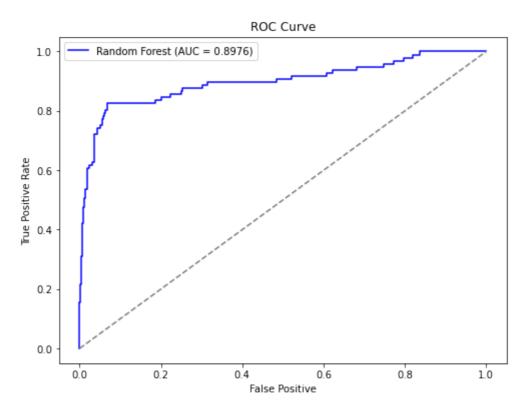
Confusion Matrix:

[[538 32] [24 73]]

Train Score: 0.9784 Test Score: 0.9160

```
In [41]:
         # Plotting ROC Curve
         # Get predicted probabilities for the positive class (class 1)
         y_probs = rf.predict_proba(X_test)[:, 1] # Get probabilities for class 1
         # Compute AUC score
         auc_score = roc_auc_score(y_test, y_probs)
         print(f"AUC Score: {auc_score:.4f}")
         # Step 3: Plot ROC Curve
         fpr, tpr, _ = roc_curve(y_test, y_probs)
         plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
         plt.plot(fpr, tpr, label=f'Random Forest (AUC = {auc_score:.4f})', color='b
         plt.plot([0, 1], [0, 1], linestyle='--', color='gray')
         plt.xlabel('False Positive')
         plt.ylabel('True Positive Rate')
         plt.title('ROC Curve')
         plt.legend()
         plt.show()
```

AUC Score: 0.8976



Interpretation of the Random Forest Model Metrics

Class Distribution After Resampling

- Before ROS + RUS: Imbalance existed with fewer churn cases (Class 1).
- After ROS (Random Over-Sampling): Increased minority class (churn) to 80% of the majority.
 - counter({0: 2280, 1: 1824})
- After RUS (Random Under-Sampling): Reduced majority class (non-churn) to 90% of its original size.
 - Counter({0: 2026, 1: 1824})

• **Impact**: The dataset is now more balanced, allowing the model to better learn from churn cases.

Model Performance (Random Forest with 50 trees, max depth = 10)

- Train Score: 97.53% (good fit, but slightly high—possible overfitting)
- **Test Score: 91.45%** (strong generalization ability)

Accuracy: 91.45%

- This means 91.45% of customers are correctly classified as churn or non-churn.
- High accuracy suggests the model is well-tuned.

Precision & Recall Breakdown

- Precision for Churn (70%)
 - When the model predicts a customer will churn, it is correct **70%** of the time.
 - Some false positives exist (non-churn customers misclassified as churn).
- Recall for Churn (75%)
 - The model identifies **75%** of actual churners.
 - It misses 25% of true churners

```
In [42]: # Generate confusion matrix
          cm = confusion_matrix(y_test, y_pred)
          # Print raw confusion matrix
          print("Confusion Matrix (Raw Values):")
          print(cm)
          # Plot confusion matrix using Seaborn heatmap
          plt.figure(figsize=(6, 5))
          sns.heatmap(cm, annot=True, fmt='d', cmap='Blues', xticklabels=["No Churn",
          plt.xlabel("Predicted Label")
          plt.ylabel("True Label")
          plt.title("Confusion Matrix")
          plt.show()
          Confusion Matrix (Raw Values):
          [[538 32]
          [ 24 73]]
                          Confusion Matrix
                                                          500
                       538
                                          32
            No Churn
                                                          400
                                                         - 300
                                                         - 200
                        24
                                          73
                                                         - 100
```

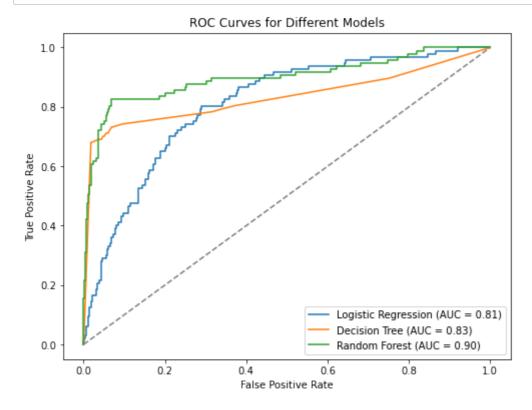
Confusion Matrix

- True Positives (73 customers):
 - These customers were Correctly classified as True churners.
- True Negatives (538 customers):
 - These customers were Correctly classified as Not churners.
- False Positives (32 customers):
 - These customers were wrongly classified as churners instead of Not churners.
- False Negatives (24 customers):
 - These actual churners were missed.

5. Evaluation

```
In [43]: # Initialize classifiers and resampling techniques
         classifiers = {
             "Logistic Regression": {
                  "model": LogisticRegression(random_state=42),
                 "resampler": SMOTE(random_state=42)
             "Decision Tree": {
                 "model": DecisionTreeClassifier(random state=42),
                 "grid_search": {
                      "param_grid": {
                          "max_depth": [3, 5, 10],
                          "min_samples_split": [2, 5, 10],
                          "min_samples_leaf": [1, 2, 5],
                          "criterion": ["gini", "entropy"]
                      "cv": 5,
                     "scoring": "accuracy"
                 }
             },
             "Random Forest": {
                 "model": RandomForestClassifier(n_estimators=50, max_depth=10, rand
                 "resampler": (RandomOverSampler(sampling_strategy=0.8, random_state
                               RandomUnderSampler(sampling_strategy=0.9, random_stat
             }
         }
         # Plot ROC curves
         plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
         for name, config in classifiers.items():
             # Resampling if applicable
             if "resampler" in config:
                 if isinstance(config["resampler"], tuple): # ROS + RUS for Random
                     X_resampled, y_resampled = config["resampler"][0].fit_resample(
                     X_resampled, y_resampled = config["resampler"][1].fit_resample(
                 else:
                     X resampled, y resampled = config["resampler"].fit resample(X t
             else:
                 X_resampled, y_resampled = X_train, y_train
             # Grid search for Decision Tree
             if "grid_search" in config:
                 grid_search = GridSearchCV(config["model"], config["grid_search"]["
                                             cv=config["grid_search"]["cv"], scoring=
                 grid_search.fit(X_train, y_train)
                 model = grid_search.best_estimator_
             else:
                 model = config["model"]
                 model.fit(X_resampled, y_resampled)
             # Predict probabilities for ROC Curve
             y_probs = model.predict_proba(X_test_sc if name == "Logistic Regression")
             # Compute ROC curve
             fpr, tpr, _ = roc_curve(y_test, y_probs)
             auc_score = roc_auc_score(y_test, y_probs)
             # Plot ROC curve
             plt.plot(fpr, tpr, label=f'{name} (AUC = {auc_score:.2f})')
         # Plot random classifier line
```

```
plt.plot([0, 1], [0, 1], linestyle='--', color='gray')
plt.xlabel('False Positive Rate')
plt.ylabel('True Positive Rate')
plt.title('ROC Curves for Different Models')
plt.legend()
plt.show()
```



DataFrame compare the models classification metrics

```
In [44]: # Model performance metrics
         data = {
             "Model": [
                 "Logistic Regression (SMOTE)",
                 "Decision Tree (Grid Search)",
                 "Random Forest(ROS & RUS)",
             "Accuracy(Test set)": [0.76, 0.94, 0.92],
             "Precision (Class 1)": [0.35, 0.86, 0.70],
             "Recall (Class 1)": [0.72, 0.68, 0.75],
             "F1-Score (Class 1)": [0.47, 0.76, 0.72],
             "ROC AUC Score": [0.8095, 0.83, 0.8976],
             "False Positives": [132, 11, 32],
             "False Negatives": [27, 31, 24]
         }
         # Creating a DataFrame
         df_results = pd.DataFrame(data)
         # Displaying the DataFrame
         df_results
```

Out[44]:

	Model	Accuracy(Test set)	Precision (Class 1)	Recall (Class 1)	F1- Score (Class 1)	ROC AUC Score	False Positives	False Negatives
0	Logistic Regression (SMOTE)	0.76	0.35	0.72	0.47	0.8095	132	27
1	Decision Tree (Grid Search)	0.94	0.86	0.68	0.76	0.8300	11	31
2	Random Forest(ROS & RUS)	0.92	0.70	0.75	0.72	0.8976	32	24

Interpretation:

- Logistic Regression (SMOTE): Has the lowest precision(35%) and accuracy but achieves high recall(72%), meaning it identifies more actual churners at the cost of more false positives.
- **Decision Tree (Grid Search)**: Has the highest accuracy of the Test set and precision(86%) but lower recall, meaning it misses more actual churners.
- Random Forest (ROS & RUS): Balances precision and recall fairly well with a high AUC score (0.8976), meaning it has a strong overall classification ability.

Model to consider:

Feature importance of the best model

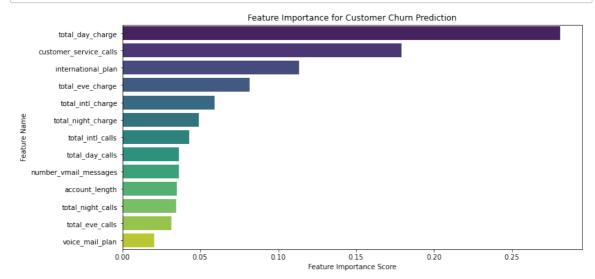
```
In [45]: # Get feature importance scores
    feature_importance = rf.feature_importances_

# Create a DataFrame for visualization
    features_df = pd.DataFrame({'Feature': X_train.columns, 'Importance': featu

# Sort features by importance (descending)
    features_df = features_df.sort_values(by='Importance', ascending=False)

# Plot feature importance
    plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))
    sns.barplot(x='Importance', y='Feature', data=features_df, palette='viridis

# Add LabeLs and title
    plt.xlabel('Feature Importance Score')
    plt.ylabel('Feature Name')
    plt.title('Feature Importance for Customer Churn Prediction')
    plt.show()
```



Conclusions

I recommend that Syriatel adopt the Random Forest Classifier as the primary model for predicting customer churn. This model demonstrates a superior ROC curve and strong overall performance in terms of accuracy, F1-score, recall, and precision on the test set, making it highly effective for distinguishing between customers who are likely to churn and those who are not.

Recommendations for SyriaTel:

- **Improve Customer Support**: Since customer service calls are a top factor, reducing response times and improving service quality can enhance customer retention.
- **Review Pricing Plans**: The strong influence of total day, evening, and international charges suggests that pricing might be a churn driver. Offering better rates or more flexible plans could help.
- Personalized Plan Recommendations: If customers with high usage in specific categories (e.g., international calls) tend to churn, proactive personalized plan recommendations could help keep them.i.e. Offering a Bonus of extra calls when a