

The **Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board** released its [2019-2020 Annual Report](#). The in-depth report details all aspects of the gambling industry in the state including:

- **Revenue figures** for slot machine, table games, sports wagering, internet gaming, fantasy sports contests and video gaming terminal gross revenue
- Up-to-date status on **gaming expansion initiatives** including casino construction
- A year in review report with statistical figures from the PGCB's key bureaus
- PGCB revenue, expenditures, and employment breakdown
- Stats on problem gaming and the self-exclusion program.

Of course, like every other industry, casinos in Pennsylvania were [hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic](#). All twelve brick-and-mortar [casinos closed for about three months](#) to slow the spread of the virus. The PGCB added a special report to this year's edition to detail the impact of COVID-19 on PA's casinos.

PA online gaming surge amid land-based shutdowns

Pennsylvania, only one of **three states** with **iGaming**, saw a [surge in online play](#). The loss of revenue from brick-and-mortar closures was devastating but it could have been much worse without iGaming and the growth of **sports betting**.

David Barasch, PGCB Chairman, said in the Report's "Chairman's Message:"

"To describe Fiscal Year 2019-2020 as different would be a massive understatement. The health and safety restrictions needed to fight the COVID-19 pandemic were debilitating for Pennsylvania's land-based gaming industry. This led to significant revenue loss and temporary unemployment for thousands of industry workers."

He continued by saying that the good news came in the form of [online casinos](#) and **sports wagering** which provided people a legal way to gamble beyond the casinos.

Historical year for gambling in Pennsylvania

The 2019/2020 fiscal year proved to be a **historic** one for gambling in Pennsylvania. The **first iGaming site** launched in July 2019 ([SugarHouse](#)) and was followed by **eight** more operators throughout the fiscal year. Sports betting had already started prior to FY 2019/2020 but beefed up its roster with **six new online sportsbooks** and four retail spots.

[Video Gaming Terminals](#) (VGT's) also arrived in Pennsylvania at qualified truck stops throughout the state. Currently they are **28** VGTs.

PGCB busy

Most of the PGCB staff have **returned to work** after coronavirus shutdowns led to **layoffs** or temporary furloughs. The PGCB ensures the integrity of gaming in the Commonwealth.

Here are some figures about the PGCB's work this FY:

- 800 patron complaints investigated
- 1,000 people signed up to the Self-Exclusion Program
- 8,000 credentials issued to individuals working in varying aspects of the casino industry. All applicants have to meet the requirements of the Gaming Act.
- 5,529 Pay tables reviewed
- 9,142 sports wagering types reviewed
- 8 monthly public meetings held virtually since March. You can watch them [here](#).

The following are statewide revenue breakdowns for FY 2019/2020.

Slot revenue	FY 2019/2020	FY 2018/2019	% Change	Slot Revenue	\$1.70 billion	\$2.38 billion	-28%
Tax revenue	\$875.3 million	\$1.24 billion	-29%	Slot win per day	\$227	\$252	-11%
# of machines	23,404	24,869		Table games revenue	FY 2019/2020	FY 2018/2019	% Change
Table Games Revenue	\$644.5 million	\$885.6 million	-27%	Tax revenue	\$103.6 million	\$142.4 million	-27%
Total table games	1,273	1,286		Sports betting revenue	FY 2019/2020	FY 2018/2019	% Change
Handle	\$2.29 billion	\$244.7 million	834%	Online revenue	\$85.3 million	\$408,000	

20,825% Retail revenue \$28.4 million \$21.3 million 33% Tax revenue \$41 million \$7.8 million
423% iGaming revenue FY 2019/2020 FY 2018/2019 iGaming Revenue \$240.9 million n/a
Online Slot revenue \$153.6 million n/a Online Table revenue \$62.6 million n/a Online Poker
revenue \$24.6 million n/a iGaming tax \$97.2 million n/a Slot Revenue by operators in PA
Operator Slot Revenue Parx Casino \$300.4 million Rivers Casino Pittsburgh \$226.4 million
Wind Creek \$187.9 million Hollywood Casino \$147.7 million The Meadows \$144.9 million
Mohegan Sun Pocono \$140.9 million Harrah's Philadelphia \$136.1 million Rivers Casino
Philadelphia \$123.6 million Mount Airy Casino \$109.4 million Presque Isle Downs \$80.9 million
Valley Forge Casino \$75.1 million Lady Luck Nemaquin \$24.5 million

The following are breakdowns by operator for each form of gaming for FY 2019/2020.

Table games revenue by operator in PA Operator Table Games Revenue Wind Creek Casino
\$160.8 million Parx Casino \$137.9 million Rivers Casino Philadelphia \$94.5 million Rivers
Casino Pittsburgh \$63.7 million Harrah's Philadelphia \$42.4 million Mount Airy Casino \$28.2
million Hollywood Casino \$27.6 million Valley Forge Casino \$26.6 million Mohegan Sun Pocono
\$24.6 million The Meadows \$24.5 million Presque Isle Downs \$10.9 million Lady Luck
Nemaquin \$3 million Sports betting online revenue by operator Operator Online Sports Betting
Revenue FanDuel (Valley Forge Casino) \$39.5 million BetRivers (Rivers Casino Philadelphia)
\$12.1 million DraftKings (The Meadows) \$10.1 million Parx Casino \$10 million BetRivers (Rivers
Casino Pittsburgh) \$8.1 million FoxBet (Mount Airy Casino) \$5.3 million Unibet (Mohegan Sun
Pocono) \$228,000 BetAmerica (Presque Isle Downs) \$153,000 Caesars (Harrah's Philadelphia)
-\$17,000 iGaming revenue by PA operator Operator Online Casino Revenue BetRivers (Rivers
Casino Philadelphia) \$73.2 million PokerStars (Mount Airy Casino) \$48.8 million Hollywood
Casino \$38.4 million FanDuel (Valley Forge Casino) \$37.5 million Parx Casino \$30.2 million
DraftKings (The Meadows) \$24.5 million Unibet (Mohegan Sun Pocono) \$9.6 million
BetAmerica (Presque Isle Downs) \$1.4 million Caesars (Harrah's Philadelphia) \$1.9 million
Impact on PA casinos

For gaming in Pennsylvania, it's a tale of **two calendars**. The 2019 calendar year [set a record for overall gambling revenue](#) hitting **\$3.4 billion**, 4.5% more than 2018. However, due to the coronavirus closures, 2019/2020 FY resulted in an **18% drop** in revenue.

The PGCB reported that the two-and-a-half month closures of casinos **subtracted \$265 million** in anticipated [tax revenue](#).

In addition to the loss of revenue for casinos and tax coffers, most of Pennsylvania's **16,000** casino workers were furloughed.

Casinos are slowly returning to capacity, but [COVID-19 safety guidelines](#) and limited capacity will continue to affect **land-based revenues** into the next fiscal year.

Lead image credit: Charles Sykes/Invision/AP

The post [iGaming and Sportsbooks Are Heroes of 2019-20 PA Revenue Report – And We All Know the Villain](#) appeared first on [Play Pennsylvania](#).

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