

Shippensburg Township—Is a small Class 2 Township.

Our Budget funding comes from various Taxes, and our Budget is always tight, we struggle each year to control expenses but, we have not raised taxes for Six years.

As far as I know we are the only Municipality in Cumberland County that has its own Real-estate Tax on its Residents, In addition to the Cumberland County Real-estate Tax. That is Because we have such a small Tax base with less than a thousand taxable properties.

Even with these financial challenges we still manage to provide the community with a sixty-acre Township Park with, Pavilions, Three ball fields, Cumberland Valley Rail-Trail Head with equestrian access, Kiddie Water Park, Dog Park, Disc golf course, walking trail, and, last year we added a new Restroom Comfort Station at Fort & Earl Street, that connects the Trail to Downtown Shippensburg. The cost of maintenance to these facilities are not cheap.

Over a year ago, Pennsylvania passed legislation on the new Mini-Casino Bill to raise additional Tax income, help fund Education across the state and, work to lower School real-estate taxes.

At that time, Shippensburg Township Supervisors discussed our options and decided not to opt out of hosting a Casino. **It Was Unanimous.**

We felt that we had land zoned Industrial at exit 29, Interstate 81, that could be a possible location for a Mini Casino. The Location seemed ideal, because it was right at interstate I-81 was zoned industrial, and had no Residential development nearby.

Now, I'm not much of a gambler, never been to the Hollywood Casino. On occasion will play the Power Ball when it gets large POT, and always buy tickets for drawings from the local Fire and EMS fund raisers. Never seem to win though.

But we did take time to visit the Parx Casino in Philly to Observe their facility and was impressed, they have a very professional operation, and a strong community reputation.

From what we saw we believe this new proposed Mini Casino with its internal Security will, from a Crime perspective, be one of the safest places in Shippensburg.

Also, the Borough Mayor and the Township have already discussed a possible new intermunicipal Police force after the Casino is up and running that would be beneficial to the Shippensburg area.

We at the Township believe that the development of a Mini Casino at this location would be a positive financial benefit to our Township Residents by allowing the Township to lower Real-estate taxes.

We also believe the additional financial benefit will help us to better fund our Volunteer First responders, both Fire and EMS.

The Casino when completed would add 150 new jobs to help support the economy in the Shippensburg.

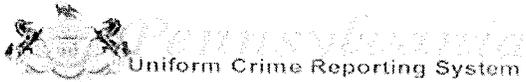
Additionally, we believe it will help to attract other shops and business' to Downtown Shippensburg, like the recent new Starbucks drive-up being proposed on Walnut Bottom Road.

Overall, we believe the potential gains of the Casino project far outweigh the marginal risk, and, will provide a long-term economic benefit for the greater Shippensburg Area.

Thank You!!

Steve Oldt Shippensburg Township Supervisor/Chairman

Documents submitted  
with comment by  
Steve Oldt of Shippens-  
burg  
Twp



Arrests By Age/Sex  
Report For Station : CARLISLE PSP  
Return B  
For The YTD of January , 2018

Classification Of Offenses	2018			2017			Male			Female			Adult			Juvenile		
	YTD	YTD	Pct	YTD	YTD	Pct	2018	2017	Pct	2018	2017	Pct	2018	2017	Pct	2018	2017	Pct
030-Robbery	0	2	-100.00	0	2	-100.00	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0	2	-100.00	0	0	N/A
040-Aggravated Assault	2	6	-66.67	2	5	-60.00	0	1	-100.00	2	5	-60.00	0	1	-100.00	0	1	-100.00
050-Burglary	2	3	-33.33	1	3	-66.67	1	0	N/A	0	3	-100.00	2	0	N/A	2	0	N/A
060-Larceny-Theft	16	13	23.08	11	7	57.14	5	6	-16.67	12	12	.00	4	1	300.00	4	1	300.00
070-Motor Vehicle Theft	0	3	-100.00	0	2	-100.00	0	1	-100.00	0	2	-100.00	0	1	-100.00	0	1	-100.00
<b>Total Part I</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-25.93</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>-26.32</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>-25.00</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>-41.67</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100.00</b>
080-Other Assaults - Not Aggravated	28	31	-9.68	13	22	-40.91	15	9	66.67	24	25	-4.00	4	6	-33.33	4	6	-33.33
100-Forgery and Counterfeiting	0	1	-100.00	0	0	N/A	0	1	-100.00	0	1	-100.00	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
110-Fraud	2	6	-66.67	1	1	.00	1	5	-80.00	2	6	-66.67	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
130-Stolen Prop., Rec., Posses., Buying	2	4	-50.00	1	4	-75.00	1	0	N/A	2	2	.00	0	2	-100.00	0	2	-100.00
140-Vandalism	4	2	100.00	3	1	200.00	1	1	.00	2	1	100.00	2	1	100.00	2	1	100.00
150-Weapons, Carrying, Posses, Etc.	0	1	-100.00	0	1	-100.00	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0	1	-100.00	0	1	-100.00
170-Sex Offenses (Except 02 and 160)	1	1	.00	1	1	.00	0	0	N/A	1	0	N/A	0	1	-100.00	0	1	-100.00
18B-Drug Sale/Mfg - Marijuana	1	1	.00	0	1	-100.00	1	0	N/A	1	1	.00	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
18E-Drug Possession - Opium - Cocaine	1	3	-66.67	1	1	.00	0	2	-100.00	1	3	-66.67	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
18F-Drug Possession - Marijuana	8	13	-38.46	5	12	-58.33	3	1	200.00	8	13	-38.46	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
18H-Drug Possession - Other	2	5	-60.00	2	3	-33.33	0	2	-100.00	2	5	-60.00	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
210-Driving Under the Influence	26	35	-25.71	20	26	-23.08	6	9	-33.33	26	35	-25.71	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
220-Liquor Law	2	0	N/A	1	0	N/A	1	0	N/A	1	0	N/A	1	0	N/A	1	0	N/A
230-Drunkenness	4	3	33.33	2	3	-33.33	2	0	N/A	4	3	33.33	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A
240-Disorderly Conduct	5	2	150.00	4	0	N/A	1	2	-50.00	3	1	200.00	2	1	100.00	2	1	100.00
260-All Other Offenses (Except Traffic)	9	7	28.57	6	6	.00	3	1	200.00	9	5	80.00	0	2	-100.00	0	2	-100.00
290-Runaways	0	1	-100.00	0	1	-100.00	0	0	N/A	0	0	N/A	0	1	-100.00	0	1	-100.00
<b>Total Part II</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>-18.10</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>-27.71</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>6.06</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>-14.85</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>-40.00</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>-40.00</b>
<b>Total CARLISLE PSP</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>-19.58</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>-27.45</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>-20.00</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>-16.67</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>-16.67</b>

\* Information on this system is subject to continual edit, \*  
\* and should not be considered complete until the Annual \*  
\* Report is compiled. \*

*EXECUTIVE SUMMARY*  
*CRIME IN PENNSYLVANIA*

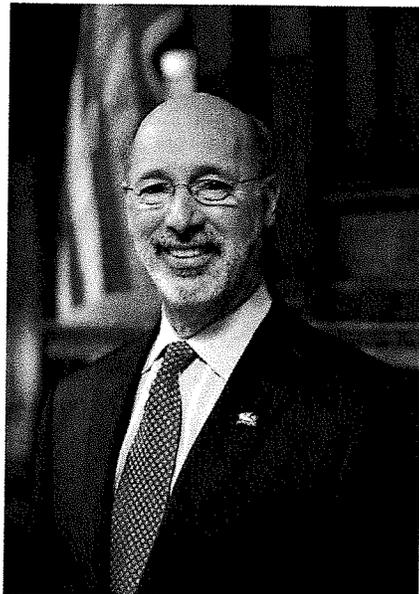
*2016*

*ANNUAL UNIFORM CRIME REPORT*

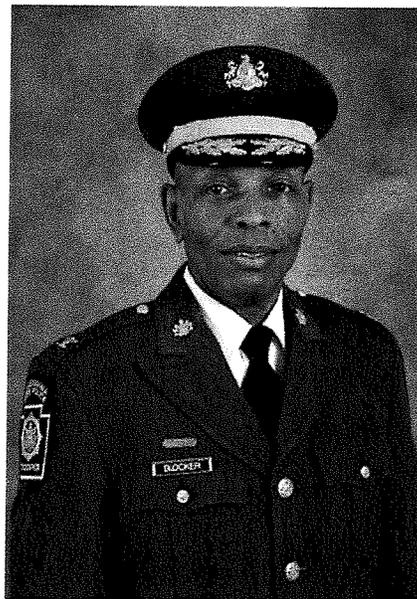


Tom Wolf  
Governor  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Colonel Tyree C. Blocker  
Commissioner  
Pennsylvania State Police



TOM WOLF  
GOVERNOR  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



COLONEL TYREE C. BLOCKER  
COMMISSIONER  
PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE

## DEDICATION

*This report is dedicated to all law enforcement officers, and in particular to the police officers who lost their lives in the performance of duty while endeavoring to uphold the laws of this Commonwealth.  
The following officers gave their lives to this cause in 2016 on the date specified.*

**CORRECTIONAL OFFICER KRISTOPHER D. MOULES  
LUZERNE COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY  
JULY 18, 2016**

**POLICE OFFICER SCOTT LESLIE BASHIOUM  
CANONSBURG BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT  
NOVEMBER 10, 2016**

**TROOPER LANDON EUGENE WEAVER  
PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE  
DECEMBER 30, 2016**

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## INTRODUCTION

This Executive Summary of the 2016 Annual Uniform Crime Report, Crime in Pennsylvania, is intended to provide readers with a high-level overview of the nature of crime in Pennsylvania. This summary highlights statewide statistics and topics of interest. Detailed statistics and analysis are contained in the complete 2016 Annual Uniform Crime Report, Crime in Pennsylvania, which is available for review online through the Pennsylvania Uniform Crime Reporting System (PAUCRS), at <http://www.paucrs.pa.gov>.

During 2016, the Pennsylvania Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program received data for 1,920 jurisdictions. Contributions to the Program may range from the submission of data for one month to the submission of data for the entire year. Individual agencies may have submitted data for multiple jurisdictions. Contributing jurisdictions and the corresponding number of submissions are identified in the complete report.

Prior to June 1, 2005, reporting of UCR data by Pennsylvania law enforcement agencies was not mandatory. However, on that date, Act 180 of 2004 became law, mandating UCR for all state, county, and local law enforcement agencies within the Commonwealth.

Information contained in this report is based on actual data submitted as of the date of compilation. Analysis is based on data that may have been updated after release of proceeding years' reports.

# SUMMARY OF CRIME IN PENNSYLVANIA

There were 815,701 actual crimes of all types reported to the UCR Program by Pennsylvania law enforcement agencies in 2016. This represents a rate of 6,380.5 crimes per 100,000 population, a decrease of 3.7 percent from the previous year's total of 846,706 actual crimes.

Crime Index offenses are considered to be both the most serious and most likely to be reported, and are used nationally as the standard base for comparisons. They include: murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Manslaughter by negligence is a Part I offense, but is not considered part of the Crime Index.

In 2016, 263,821 Crime Index offenses were reported and confirmed by Pennsylvania police after investigation. Overall, 270,197 Crime Index offenses were reported, but 2.4 percent or 6,376 were unfounded following investigation, ranging from 11.0 percent unfounded for attempts to commit rape to 1.3 percent unfounded for assault knife or cutting instrument. Crime Index offenses decreased by 3.4 percent from last year's total of 273,199. The Crime Index rate in 2016 was 2,063.6 per 100,000 population.

In addition, 551,846 Part II offenses were reported in 2016, with a rate of 4,316.6 per 100,000 population. This is a decrease of 3.8 percent from the 573,480 Part II offenses reported the previous year. Part II offenses include: other assaults, forgery and counterfeiting, fraud, embezzlement, stolen property, vandalism, weapons, prostitution, other sex offenses, drug abuse violations, illegal gambling, offenses against the family, driving under the influence, liquor law violations, drunkenness, disorderly conduct, vagrancy, and all other offenses.

In 2016, 48.2 percent of all offenses were cleared (31.2 percent of the Crime Index offenses, and 56.3 percent of all Part II offenses). An offense is considered cleared when at least one person involved in the commission of the offense has been arrested, charged, and turned over to the court for prosecution. An offense can be cleared by exceptional means when an element beyond law enforcement control prevents filing of formal charges against the offender.

## Crime Reported to Police

<u>Offense Category</u>	<u>Offenses</u>	<u>Percent Distribution</u>	<u>Rate per 100,000 Population</u>	<u>Percent Change From 2015</u>	<u>Clearances</u>	<u>Percent Cleared</u>
Part I Offenses	263,855	32.3	2,063.9	-3.4	82,361	31.2
Part II Offenses	551,846	67.7	4,316.6	-3.8	310,594	56.3
Statewide Total	815,701	100.0	6,380.5	-3.7	392,955	48.2
**Crime Index Offenses	263,821	32.3	2,063.6	-3.4	82,327	31.2

## Crimes Reported by Population Grouping

<u>Population Group</u>	<u>Estimated Population 2016</u>	<u>Crime Index Offenses</u>	<u>Rate per 100,000 Population</u>	<u>Percent Distribution</u>	<u>Part II Offenses</u>	<u>Rate per 100,000 Population</u>	<u>Percent Distribution</u>
MSA Core Cities	2,724,372	103,100	3,784.4	39.1	164,899	6,052.7	29.9
MSA Suburban	8,036,890	131,024	1,630.3	49.7	307,765	3,829.4	55.8
MSA Total	10,761,262	234,124	2,175.6	88.7	472,664	4,392.3	85.7
Non-MSA	983,447	16,558	1,683.7	6.3	46,387	4,716.8	8.4
Rural/State Police	1,039,518	13,139	1,264.0	5.0	32,795	3,154.8	5.9
Non-MSA and Rural Total	2,022,965	29,697	1,468.0	11.3	79,182	3,914.2	14.3
Statewide Total	12,784,227	263,821	2,063.6	100.0	551,846	4,316.6	100.0

A Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is composed of an entire county or group of counties that include at least one core city, with the entire area meeting criteria of certain metropolitan characteristics established by the United States Census Bureau. In 2016, the overall volume of offenses was highest in MSA Suburban jurisdictions; however, the crime rate of MSA Core City jurisdictions continued to be much higher than the MSA Suburban jurisdictions during this period. It should be noted that no attempt is made throughout this report to correct for the influx of seasonal/temporary residents and tourists during the year. Crime rates are based upon the permanent population.

## Arrests

Arrests are primarily a measure of success by police in relation to the criminal offenses taking place within a community. Arrest practices, policies, and enforcement emphasis will vary from place to place and from time to time within a community. Arrests do, however, provide a useful indicator as to the age, sex, and race of persons involved in criminal acts, especially for crimes that have high solution rates.

A total of 379,941 arrests were made in Pennsylvania in 2016, a 6.2 percent decrease from the previous year. As indicated in the following table, Part II offense arrests totaled 306,202 or 80.6 percent of all arrests, a 6.2 percent decrease from last year. Part I offense arrests numbered 73,739 or 19.4 percent of all arrests, decreasing by 6.5 percent from the previous year.

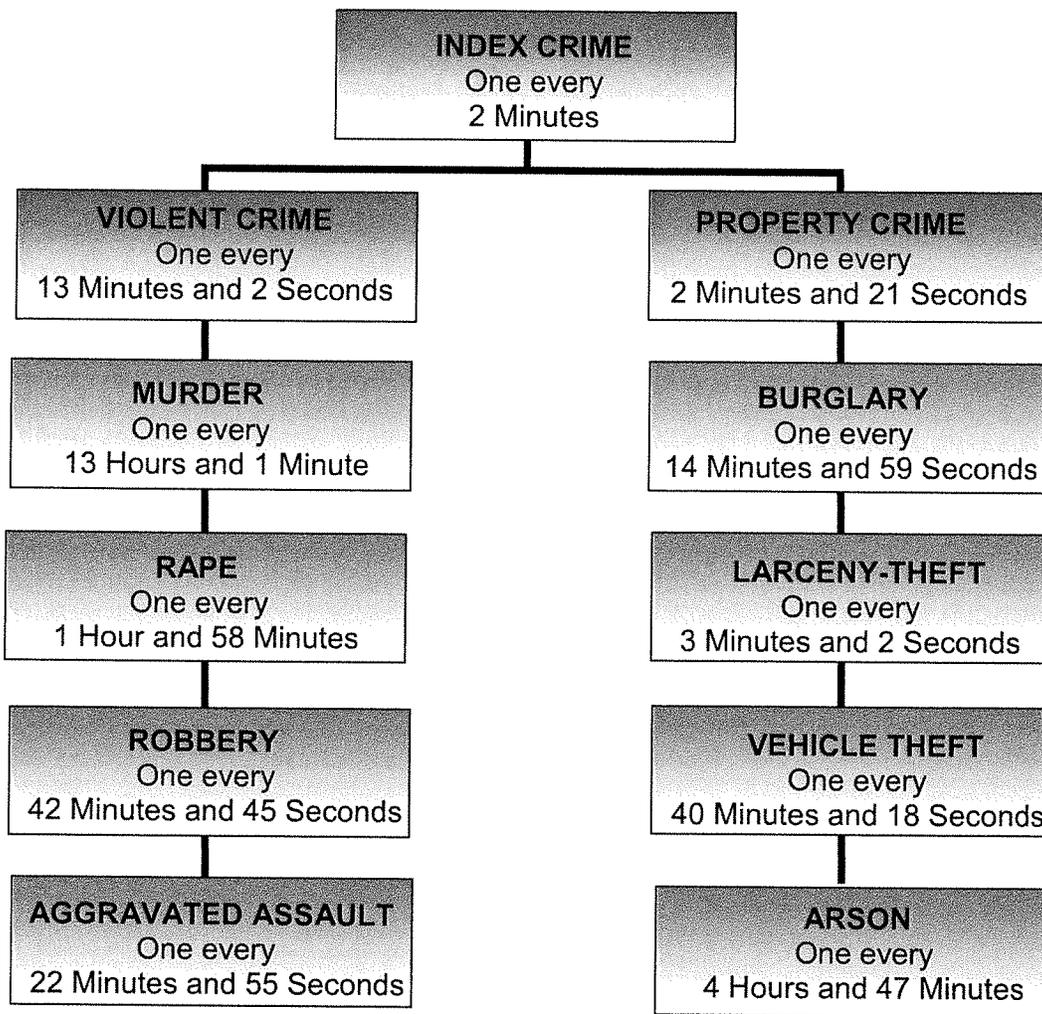
### Arrests by Offense Category

<u>Offense Category</u>	<u>Arrests</u>	<u>Percent Distribution</u>	<u>Rate per 100,000 Population</u>	<u>Percent Change From 2015</u>
Part I Offenses	73,739	19.4	576.8	-6.5
Part II Offenses	306,202	80.6	2,395.2	-6.2
Statewide Total	379,941	100.0	2,972.0	-6.2
Crime Index Offenses	73,683	19.4	576.4	-6.5

Analysis revealed that 72.7 percent or 276,374 arrestees were male; 27.3 percent or 103,567 were female; 69.8 percent or 265,146 were White; 29.3 percent or 111,251 were Black; 0.9 percent or 3,517 were Other Races; 11.8 percent or 44,976 were under 18 years old; and 38.0 percent or 144,288 were under 25 years old. Arrests of males decreased by 6.9 percent, and arrests of Whites decreased by 4.4 percent, while arrests of juveniles decreased by 14.7 percent.

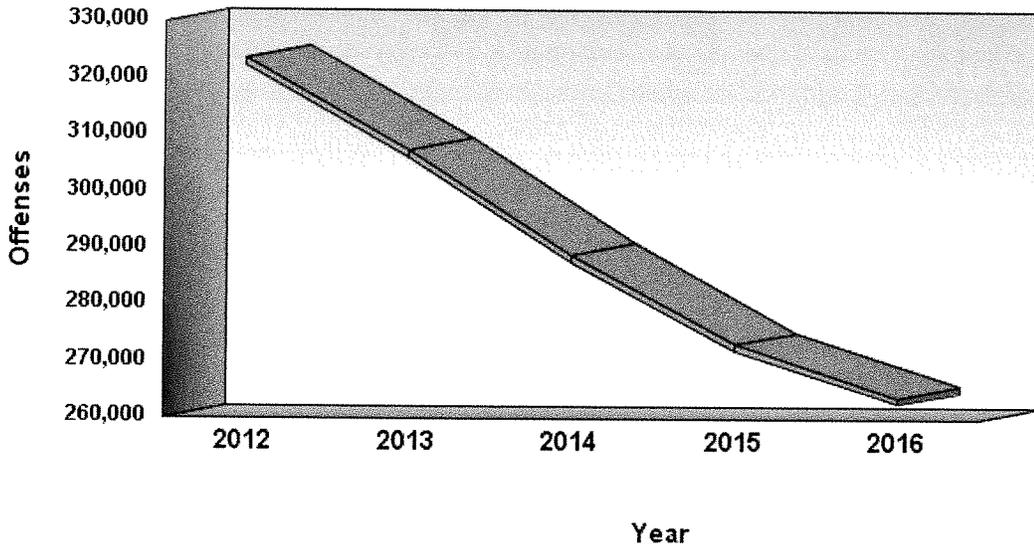
For UCR purposes, an adult arrest is counted for each adult processed by arrest, citation, or summons, including those individuals arrested and released without a formal charge being placed against them. Crime suspects who are questioned and released are not counted as an arrest. A juvenile arrest occurs when a juvenile is taken into custody for committing an offense under circumstances such that if they were an adult, an arrest would be tallied. Juveniles arrested or taken into custody, but merely warned and released without being charged, are also counted as an arrest. The UCR Program considers a juvenile to be an individual under the age of 18, regardless of the state definition.

# FREQUENCY OF CRIME



NOTE: This information is not intended to suggest Crime Index offenses occur at regular intervals, but represents an average rate of occurrence.

# CRIME INDEX OFFENSES



**Definition:** Crime Index offenses are crimes that are considered by law enforcement to be the most serious crimes that readily come to the attention of police and occur with a frequency great enough to be reported as a separate classification. Crime Index offenses are used nationally as a basis for comparison of criminal activity.

<u>Crime Index Offenses</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Number Of Offenses	323,588	307,321	288,884	273,199	263,821
Percent Change from Previous	0.0	-5.0	-6.0	-5.4	-3.4
Percent Change from Base	0.0	-5.0	-10.7	-15.6	-18.5

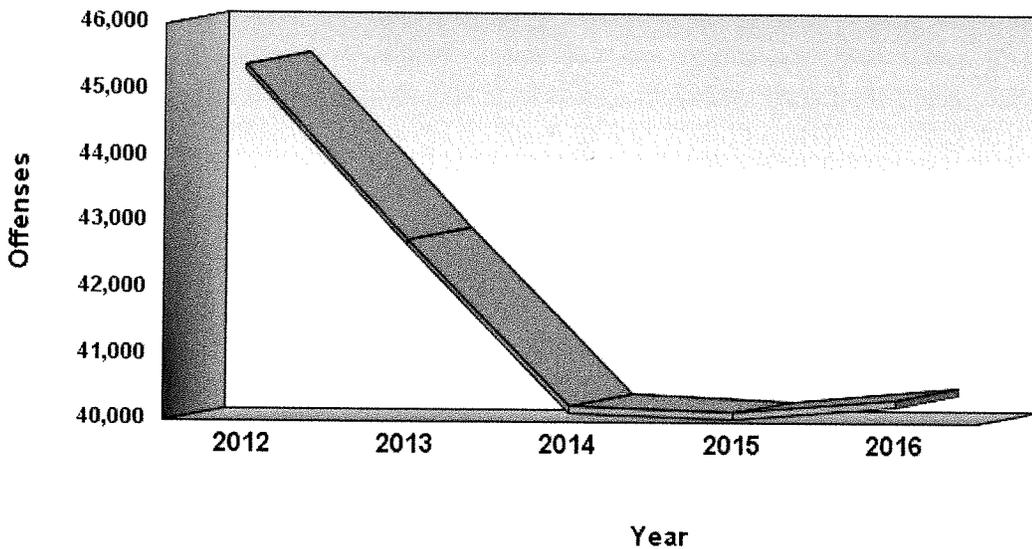
## Summary

There were 263,821 Crime Index offenses reported to Pennsylvania police agencies in 2016, an average of 723 each day, or one every 2 minutes. This is a 3.4 percent decrease from the 273,199 Crime Index offenses reported the previous year. The Crime Index rate in 2016 was 2,063.6 per 100,000 population.

## Arrests

There were 73,683 arrests for Crime Index offenses in 2016. This is a 6.5 percent decrease from the 78,807 arrests the previous year. Persons arrested for Crime Index offenses in 2016 were predominantly male (67.6 percent), White (64.7 percent), and 25 years of age and older (63.5 percent).

# VIOLENT CRIME



**Definition:** The Crime Index offenses of murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault comprise the general category of Violent Crime.

<u>Violent Crime Offenses</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Number Of Offenses	45,400	42,763	40,239	40,146	40,352
Percent Change from Previous	0.0	-5.8	-5.9	-0.2	0.5
Percent Change from Base	0.0	-5.8	-11.4	-11.6	-11.1

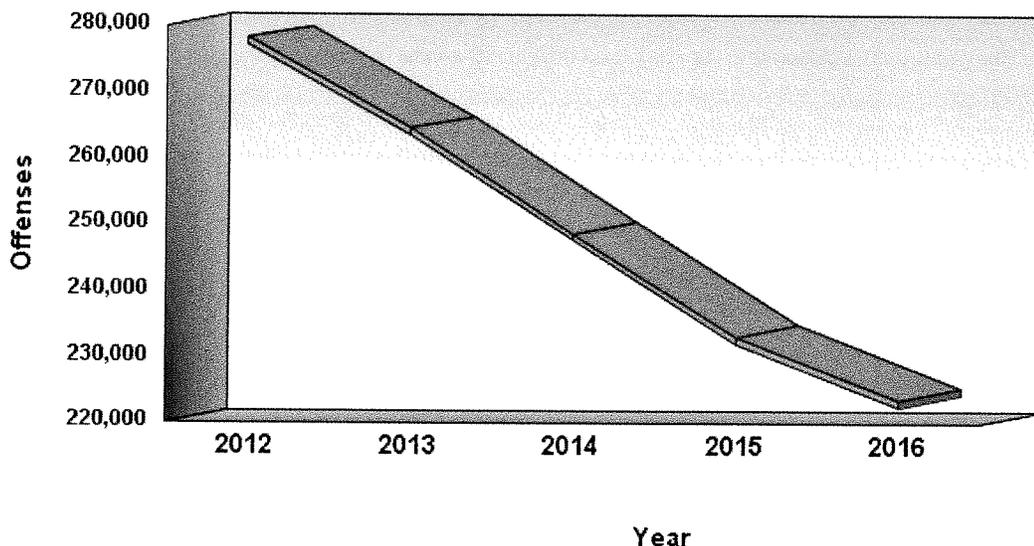
## Summary

There were 40,352 Violent Crime offenses reported to Pennsylvania police agencies in 2016, an average of 111 each day, or one every 13 minutes and 2 seconds. This is a 0.5 percent increase from the 40,146 Violent Crime offenses reported the previous year. The Violent Crime rate in 2016 was 315.6 per 100,000 population.

## Arrests

There were 19,602 arrests in 2016 for Violent Crime offenses. This is a 2.8 percent decrease from the 20,159 arrests the previous year. Persons arrested for Violent Crime offenses in 2016 were predominantly male (77.9 percent), Black (49.7 percent), and 25 years of age and older (59.2 percent).

# PROPERTY CRIME



**Definition:** The Crime Index categories of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson comprise the general category of Property Crime.

<u>Property Crime Offenses</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Number Of Offenses	278,188	264,558	248,645	233,053	223,469
Percent Change from Previous	0.0	-4.9	-6.0	-6.3	-4.1
Percent Change from Base	0.0	-4.9	-10.6	-16.2	-19.7

## Summary

There were 223,469 Property Crime offenses reported to Pennsylvania police agencies in 2016, an average of 612 each day, or one every 2 minutes and 21 seconds. This is a 4.1 percent decrease from the 233,053 Property Crime offenses reported the previous year. The Property Crime rate in 2016 was 1,748.0 per 100,000 population.

## Arrests

There were 54,081 arrests in 2016 for Property Crime offenses. This is a 7.8 percent decrease from the 58,648 arrests the previous year. Persons arrested for Property Crime offenses in 2016 were predominantly male (63.8 percent), White (70.1 percent), and 25 years of age and older (65.1 percent).

# ETHNIC INTIMIDATION AND HATE CRIME

**E**thnic intimidation is defined by Title 18 Pa. C.S., Subsection 2710, as any crime against the person or an arson, criminal mischief, and other property destruction (except institutional vandalism), or criminal trespass that is committed “. . . with malicious intention toward the actual or perceived race, color, religion or national origin, of another individual or group of individuals. . . .”

## Summary

A total of 65 persons were the victims of 70 hate crime incidents in 2016. Multiple victims and/or offenses may be reported within a single incident. The following tables depict hate crime data by victim and bias motivation.

### Victim Data

	<u>Victims</u>	<u>Number of Victims Percent</u>	
<b>RACE</b>	Asian/Pacific Islander	2	3.1
	Black	24	36.9
	Unknown	4	6.2
	White	35	53.8
<b>Total RACE</b>		65	100.0
<b>ETHNICITY</b>	Hispanic	7	10.8
	Not of Hispanic Origin	56	86.2
	Unknown	2	3.1
<b>Total ETHNICITY</b>		65	100.0
<b>SEX</b>	Female	25	38.5
	Male	39	60.0
	Unknown	1	1.5
<b>Total SEX</b>		65	100.0

### Bias Motivation Data

<u>Code</u>	<u>Bias Motivation</u>	<u>Number of Incidents Percent</u>	
11	Anti-White	7	10.0
12	Anti-Black or African American	27	38.6
13	Anti-American Indian/Alaska Native	1	1.4
15	Anti-Multiple Races, Group	2	2.9
21	Anti-Jewish	8	11.4
24	Anti-Islamic (Muslim)	2	2.9
32	Anti-Hispanic or Latino	7	10.0
33	Anti-Other Race/Ethnicity/Ancestry	1	1.4
41	Anti-Gay (Male)	7	10.0
43	Anti-LGBT (Mixed Group)	6	8.6
52	Anti-Mental Disability	1	1.4
84	Anti-Hindu	1	1.4
<b>TOTAL</b>		70	100.0

# DEATHS OF AND ASSAULTS ON PENNSYLVANIA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

<b>Assaults on Officers</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Number Of Offenses	2,412	2,245	2,217	2,066	2,118
Percent Change from Previous	0.0	-6.9	-1.2	-6.8	2.5
Percent Change from Base	0.0	-6.9	-8.1	-14.3	-12.2

## Summary

A total of 3 Pennsylvania law enforcement officers were killed while performing their official duties in 2016. During the 5-year period from 2012 to 2016, a total of 18 Pennsylvania law enforcement officers were killed while performing their official duties.

There were 2,118 assaults on Pennsylvania law enforcement officers in 2016, representing a 2.5 percent increase from the 2,066 assaults reported the previous year. The assault rate per 100 officers decreased to 2.4 from 6.8 the previous year.

Jurisdictions with populations of 100,000 to 249,999 experienced the highest assault rate on law enforcement officers (39.0 per 100 officers) in 2016.

**THE PENNSYLVANIA UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING SYSTEM (PAUCRS)  
IS ADMINISTERED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE,  
BUREAU OF RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT**



***AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY***

**1800 ELMERTON AVENUE • HARRISBURG, PA 17110 •  
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HTTP://WWW.PAUCRS.PA.GOV**



The development of a licensed casino in a municipality often elicits comments from residents that are sincere, well-intentioned, and reflect the passion of those making the comments. In our experience, however, many frequently raised issues reflect a misunderstanding of Pennsylvania gaming operations and are inconsistent with the experiences of Parx Casino. These oft-raised concerns typically involve fears of increased crime, addiction, and traffic congestion. Our research and experience demonstrate that these concerns are unfounded.

Perhaps the most telling and pertinent data point comes from a survey of Pennsylvania elected and civic leaders conducted in 2012, some eight (8) years after the authorization of gaming in the state. In that survey, more than three-quarters of the elected and civic leaders surveyed indicated that, if they were given the chance to go back and cast the deciding vote to allow or reject casinos in their communities, they would choose to vote “yes” to introduce casinos.<sup>1</sup> As the leaders of Bensalem Township made clear in their testimonials during our presentation, they feel the exact same way about having Parx in their community – and this survey shows their sentiments are not unique.

One of the common misconceptions surrounding the location of a casino is notion that having a casino within a municipality will automatically lead to an increase in crime. Simply stated, Pennsylvania’s experience over the past 12 years of active casino operations unequivocally refutes this misassumption. Indeed, almost nine (9) out of ten (10) community leaders disagree that casinos bring major problems, such as crime, to a host community.<sup>2</sup>

Studies have shown – and law enforcement and community leaders agree – that crime does not inevitably increase with the introduction of a casino and there is evidence that, in some cases, crime has actually decreased.<sup>3</sup> Pennsylvania has one of the most, if not the most, rigorous regulatory regimes of any gaming jurisdiction in the world. The presence of enforcement and

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<sup>1</sup> The American Gaming Association State of the States 2012 Survey of Casino Entertainment at 27, available at [https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research\\_files/aga\\_sos\\_2012\\_web.pdf](https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research_files/aga_sos_2012_web.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> The American Gaming Association State of the States 2012 Survey of Casino Entertainment at 27, available at [https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research\\_files/aga\\_sos\\_2012\\_web.pdf](https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research_files/aga_sos_2012_web.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> G Stitt, M Nichols and D Giacomassi, *Does the presence of casinos increase crime? An examination of casino and control communities*, *Crime & Delinquency* (2003) 49(2) 253–284; National Gambling Impact Study Commission, Testimony of Peter Verniero. Atlantic City, N.J., site visit, Jan. 21, 1998; *Casino Gaming in America: Key Findings of the National Gambling Impact Study Commission (1997-99)*, American Gaming Association, at 15-16, available at [https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research\\_files/aga\\_casino\\_gaming\\_2005.pdf](https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research_files/aga_casino_gaming_2005.pdf); National Gambling Impact Study Commission, Testimony of Alton, Ill., Mayor Donald Sandridge. Chicago site visit, May 20, 1998; *Casino Gaming in America: Key Findings of the National Gambling Impact Study Commission (1997-99)*, American Gaming Association, at 15-16, available at [https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research\\_files/aga\\_casino\\_gaming\\_2005.pdf](https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research_files/aga_casino_gaming_2005.pdf); Steve. Ruddock. “No, The Introduction of Casino Gambling in Massachusetts Hasn’t Sparked A Massive Crime Wave,” *Online Poker Report*. December 22, 2016, available at <https://www.onlinepokerreport.com/23232/casino-massachusetts-crime-data/>; National Gambling Impact Study Commission, Testimony of Bob Waterbury, Biloxi, Miss., site visit, Sept. 10, 1998. 249; *Casino Gaming in America: Key Findings of the National Gambling Impact Study Commission (1997-99)*, American Gaming Association, at 15-16, available at [https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research\\_files/aga\\_casino\\_gaming\\_2005.pdf](https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research_files/aga_casino_gaming_2005.pdf); Jay Albanese, *Casino Gambling and Crime*, in *Gambling: Who Wins? Who Loses?* 149, 150 (Gerda Reith ed., Prometheus Books 2003) (documenting a decrease in Atlantic City’s crime rate after the addition of casinos, offset by the population increase); *Gambling with Philadelphia: Examining the Impacts of Commercial Casinos in a Large American City*, *The Journal of Gambling Business and Economics* 2016 Vol. 10 No. 3 p. 43.

regulatory personnel in Pennsylvania casinos is significantly higher than most other states.<sup>4</sup> Moreover, casino surveillance is extensive, and facility security personnel are well-trained and professional, working closely with Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board staff and other law enforcement agencies.

Pennsylvania's model has been evaluated in multiple casino locations across the Commonwealth and the results have been consistent – crime has not increased due to a casino's presence. For example:

- In 2014, the police department surrounding the Sands Casino and Resort in Bethlehem reported that there has been no major rise in crime since the casino opened its doors in May 2009;<sup>5</sup>
- A 2014 study, conducted by researchers at Temple and Drexel Universities, revealed that concerns of an increase in neighborhood crime as a result of Philadelphia's SugarHouse Casino were unfounded;<sup>6</sup> and
- A 2014 article addressing the impacts of Valley Forge Casino Resort on Upper Merion Township indicated that cooperation by the Pennsylvania State Police, casino security, and local authorities had substantially prevented criminal activity and mitigated the effects of casino-related crime on the surrounding community.<sup>7</sup>

While Pennsylvania's regulatory scheme is uniquely robust, its experience that licensed commercial casinos do not generate increases in crime has been shared by other states. Government officials in Illinois, Massachusetts, Mississippi, and New Jersey have all reported that the introduction of casino gambling has not led to an increase in crime. In fact, the New Jersey Casino Control Commission reported that there has been a reduction of crime since 1977.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> See Section 4.1.4 and Table 4.9 of the May 2014 Econsult Solutions Report to The Pennsylvania Legislative Budget and Finance Committee entitled "The Current Condition And Future Viability Of Casino Gaming In Pennsylvania," available at [https://www.econsultsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/PA-Gaming-Report-from-ESI\\_May-6.pdf](https://www.econsultsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/PA-Gaming-Report-from-ESI_May-6.pdf).

<sup>5</sup> Wojcik, Sarah. "Five Years After Opening, Crime From Sands Casino Resort Bethlehem Isn't the Factor Some Feared," *LehighValleyLive*. May 22, 2014, available at [https://www.lehighvalleylive.com/breaking-news/index.ssf/2014/05/crime\\_not\\_a\\_major\\_factor\\_five.html](https://www.lehighvalleylive.com/breaking-news/index.ssf/2014/05/crime_not_a_major_factor_five.html).

<sup>6</sup> Johnson, L. and Ratcliffe, J., "A Partial Test of the Impact of a Casino on Neighborhood Crime," *Security Journal* advance online publication, 30 June 2014; doi:10.1057/sj.2014.28; see also McKechnie, Alex. "Philadelphia's SugarHouse Casino Does Not Contribute to Neighborhood Crime, According to New Study," *DrexelNow*. July 16, 2014, available at <http://drexel.edu/now/archive/2014/July/Casino-Crime/>.

<sup>7</sup> Gamble, Oscar. "Crime Not an Issue at Valley Forge Casino Resort," *Daily Local News*. March 30, 2014, available at <http://www.dailylocal.com/article/DL/20140330/NEWS/140339986>.

<sup>8</sup> National Gambling Impact Study Commission. Testimony of Alton, Ill., Mayor Donald Sandridge, Chicago site visit, May 20, 1998; *Casino Gaming in America: Key Findings of the National Gambling Impact Study Commission (1997-99)*, American Gaming Association, at 15-16, available at [https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research\\_files/aga\\_casino\\_gaming\\_2005.pdf](https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research_files/aga_casino_gaming_2005.pdf); Steve, Ruddock. "No, The Introduction of Casino Gambling in Massachusetts Hasn't Sparked A Massive Crime Wave," *Online Poker Report*. December 22, 2016, available at <https://www.onlinepokerreport.com/23232/casino-massachusetts-crime-data/>; National Gambling Impact Study Commission, Testimony of Bob Waterbury, Biloxi, Miss., site visit, Sept. 10, 1998, 249; *Casino Gaming in America: Key Findings of the National Gambling Impact Study Commission (1997-99)*, American Gaming Association, at 15-16, available at

A related concern often raised in relation to the siting of a casino involves the misperceptions over the potential need for the municipality to have its own police force. Based on the foregoing and GGE’s experience in Bensalem Township, any such need would not arise as a result of a Category 4 casino. Other municipalities hosting Pennsylvania casinos do not have their own police force and yet have not been compelled to initiate such a force over the past approximately 12 years of casino operations in Pennsylvania.

Casino	Host Municipality	Population	Police Yes/No
Hollywood Casino Approx. 2,091 slots & 75 tables	East Hanover Twp.	5,871	No
Presque Isle Downs Casino Approx. 1,593 slots & 40 tables	Summit Twp.	6,916	No
Mt. Airy Resort and Casino Approx. 1,868 slots & 81 tables	Paradise Twp.	3,912	No (regional)
Lady Luck at Nemacolin Approx. 600 slot machines & 27 table games	Wharton Twp.	3,482	No

Understandably, compulsive gambling issues are also a focal point of the public concerns and comments on this topic. GGE takes the issues of problem and compulsive gambling very seriously, and dedicates substantial resources to their prevention and treatment. This commitment is shared across Pennsylvania’s gaming industry, as well as with the PGCB and the Pennsylvania Department of Health. These state agencies have worked with Pennsylvania’s casinos to effectively address this issue. For instance, a 2017 article in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reported that, despite casino accessibility, there has not been a sharp rise in reports of compulsive gambling in Western Pennsylvania over the past ten (10) years.<sup>9</sup> In fact, Gamblers

[https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research\\_files/aga\\_casino\\_gaming\\_2005.pdf](https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research_files/aga_casino_gaming_2005.pdf); National Gambling Impact Study Commission, Testimony of Peter Verniero, Atlantic City, N.J., site visit, Jan. 21, 1998; *Casino Gaming in America: Key Findings of the National Gambling Impact Study Commission (1997-99)*, American Gaming Association, at 15-16, available at

[https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research\\_files/aga\\_casino\\_gaming\\_2005.pdf](https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research_files/aga_casino_gaming_2005.pdf); New Jersey Casino Control Commission, *A Report to the National Gambling Impact Study Commission*, 29; *Casino Gaming in America: Key Findings of the National Gambling Impact Study Commission (1997-99)*, American Gaming Association, at 15-16, available at

[https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research\\_files/aga\\_casino\\_gaming\\_2005.pdf](https://www.americangaming.org/sites/default/files/research_files/aga_casino_gaming_2005.pdf).

<sup>9</sup> Rotstein, Gary. “Despite Casino Accessibility, No Sharp Rise in Reports of Compulsive Gambling,” *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. March 20, 2017. available at <http://www.post->

Anonymous meetings and attendance in the Pittsburgh region *were down* from levels prior to the opening of casino operations.<sup>10</sup>

This trend was also confirmed by the clinicians attending the 2017 conference held by the private, nonprofit Council on Compulsive Gambling in PA. The clinicians dispelled the claims made prior to the start of casino gaming in Western Pennsylvania, over a decade ago, that they would see rampant increases in gambling addiction.<sup>11</sup> Likewise, therapists in the Pittsburgh region reported that there has been no sharp increase in patients with gambling addictions since casinos have become more accessible.<sup>12</sup>

Ultimately, with the state's authorization of Internet gaming in Act 42 of 2017, gaming will be accessible to and present in every municipality in Pennsylvania regardless of the location of a Category 4 casino. Having such a facility in a municipality, however, will actually increase the effort, resources and response to addressing compulsive gaming issues, as a responsible casino operator will be physically present, implementing a PGCB-monitored compulsive gambling plan, and working and partnering with county agencies and private service providers. Hosting a Category 4 casino should also enable the Cumberland-Perry Drug and Alcohol Commission to secure enhanced funding from the Department of Health's Compulsive Gambling Treatment Fund, as well as from \$3 million transferred annually from the State Gaming Fund to the Department to address drug and alcohol addiction.

Finally, the issues of economic impact on and economic development in the surrounding community deserve brief comment. Many gaming opponents will reference a National Association Realtors' study for the proposition that casinos cause a drop in property value for surrounding properties. This study, however, was purely and literally speculative. The study was conducted in 2013 and pertained solely to a proposed casino in Western Massachusetts.<sup>13</sup> However, casino gaming – anywhere in Massachusetts – had not even begun in 2013, and the specific casino featured in the study is only to open in the coming weeks, some five years after the period studied.

Notably, claims of depressed property values are not applicable to casino communities in Pennsylvania. Bensalem housing values have *increased by 73.22%* since the year 2000, with an average annual rate of 3.06%. That is much higher than the 51.43% change nationwide and average annual rate of 2.33% nationwide.<sup>14</sup> Further, since 2004 (when gaming was enacted), the average home price in Bensalem rose from \$189,900 to \$256,450, an increase of 74.04%.<sup>15</sup>

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[gazette.com/life/recreation/2017/03/20/Gambling-problem-Compulsive-Gambling-of-Pennsylvania-report-Rivers-Casino-meadows-Pittsburgh/stories/201703200020](http://www.pennsylvania-gazette.com/life/recreation/2017/03/20/Gambling-problem-Compulsive-Gambling-of-Pennsylvania-report-Rivers-Casino-meadows-Pittsburgh/stories/201703200020).

<sup>10</sup> *Id.*

<sup>11</sup> *Id.*

<sup>12</sup> *Id.*

<sup>13</sup> See Kinney, Jim. "Realtors: Western Massachusetts Casino Would Hurt Home Values in Host Community" *Mass Live*. July 2, 2013. available at [https://www.masslive.com/business-news/index.ssf/2013/07/realtors\\_sav\\_casino\\_would\\_hurt\\_home\\_val.html](https://www.masslive.com/business-news/index.ssf/2013/07/realtors_sav_casino_would_hurt_home_val.html).

<sup>14</sup> [neighborhoodscout.com](http://neighborhoodscout.com)

<sup>15</sup> *Id.*

# Letters to the Editor

## I fully support mini-casino in Shippensburg Township

-Alfred L. Whitcomb, Cumberland County Controller

### Board Clerk - PA Gaming Control Board:

If Shippensburg Township, Cumberland County, opts to site a mini-casino within their municipality, after exploring the development's financial and related impacts on their township, I would fully support their decision for the following reasons:

- Local real estate tax reduction is the primary use of Pennsylvania gaming taxes.

In Pennsylvania, the vast majority of gaming taxes (68 percent of Pennsylvania gaming taxes on slot machine revenues) are legislatively mandated to provide local real estate tax relief. For example, Cumberland County residents are receiving \$6.1 million of local real estate tax reductions this year. In accordance with Pennsylvania's gaming legislation, such reductions are realized on the school district real estate tax bills of those enrolled in either the Homestead or Farmstead Exclusion Program.

- Shippensburg Township has limited alternative economic development opportunities on the scale proposed for the casino. As proposed, the casino would represent a substantial increase in the township's and county's tax base. This increase in the tax base, in addition to the annual local share assessment to be received by the township will afford meaningful increases in the township's

public services to its residents, if accepted.

- Situated, on the proposed site in Shippensburg Township, on the far-western edge of Cumberland County, abutting Franklin County, a substantial share of visitors to the proposed casino can be expected to be from the Chambersburg and Hagerstown, Maryland, areas. Gaming taxes from such out-of-town visitors would fund a substantial share of the tax revenues that are projected to be generated for the benefit of both the township and Cumberland County.

- A recent report prepared by Moody's Investor Services concludes that the new mini-casinos, such as the one proposed for Shippensburg Township, are likely to siphon gaming dollars from current gaming facilities located elsewhere in the state. The casino planned for Shippensburg Township would compete most directly for visitors with Hollywood Casino in Grantville. It should be noted that the parent company of Hollywood Casino is moving forward with plans to open a mini-casino in neighboring York County in 2020.

If Moody's projection proves true, siting a mini-casino in Cumberland County will allow a significant amount of gaming dollars to remain here to benefit our own local economy, expand our tax base and, importantly, provide \$1.8 million annually initially,

or an estimated \$20 million in the 10 years after the casino's opening, to be split between the host municipality (Shippensburg Township) and Cumberland County.

- Cumberland County's share, in accordance with Pennsylvania Act 42 of 2017, would be deposited into a restricted account at the Commonwealth Finance Agency, an independent agency of Pennsylvania's Department of Community and Economic Development. Cumberland County's share of gaming revenue would be restricted to grants to be spent on projects in the public interest within Cumberland County. Eligible to apply for such grants of the county's gaming share would be: Cumberland County; Cumberland County municipalities; Cumberland County municipal authorities; the Cumberland County Redevelopment Authority; and the Cumberland County Industrial Development Authority.

In summary, siting a casino in Shippensburg Township will enhance development and recreation spending in Cumberland County, helping to further fund local real estate tax reductions for our residents while providing significant direct, as well as indirect, economic impact.

I support keeping more of our residents' gaming and entertainment dollars here - locally - to benefit taxpayers and residents of Cumberland County.

*Ship News Chronicle  
March 21st  
2019*

## Bollinger Foundation seeks

*nomination for a chair*



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Mark S. Stewart  
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February 27, 2019

The Honorable Stephen Oldt, Chairman  
Board of Supervisors  
Shippensburg Township  
81 Walnut Bottom Rd.  
Shippensburg, PA 17257

**RE: GW Cumberland Op Co. Local Impact Report**

Dear Chairman Oldt:

We represent GW Cumberland Op Co. ("GWC") in its efforts to establish a Category 4 Casino in Shippensburg Township. Pursuant to the regulations of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board, GWC hired Econsult Solutions, Inc. to conduct a local services and economic impact analysis for the proposed casino, which details impacts on Shippensburg Township. Enclosed please find a copy of the Local Impact Report in support of the proposed Category 4 facility. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Stewart".

Mark S. Stewart

MSS/KEM  
Enclosure

# MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mark Stewart, Esq., Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC  
**FROM:** Econsult Solutions, Inc.  
**DATE:** February 26, 2019  
**RE:** Economic and Fiscal Impact in Support of PGCB Application and Disclosure Form

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## Background

Greenwood Gaming and Entertainment, Inc. ("Greenwood"), as part of its application for a Category 4 Casino located in Shippensburg Township ("Shippensburg"), hired Econsult Solutions, Inc. ("ESI") to conduct local services and economic impact analyses. The proposed Pennsylvania Licensed Mini Casino would be a new build, 63,000 sq. Ft. single-phase construction site, near Exit 29 off Interstate 81 ("I-81"). The site is zoned industrial and has no adjacent housing developments.

This memo details our analysis in support of Appendix 33 and Appendix 37 (Sections 7 and 9) of Greenwood's application to the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB). Our analysis includes a local impact report and an economic and fiscal impact report for the site, detailing its impacts on both Shippensburg Township and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

## **Appendix 33**

### **Methodology**

To evaluate the potential impact of the proposed casino on Shippensburg Township, ESI undertook a two-part analysis. First, we consulted Steve Oldt, Shippensburg Township Supervisor, to understand the baseline services levels in the township. Second, we evaluated the estimated impacts that the casino would have on applicable Township services. The local services impact enables us to assess the relative cost to the Township against the estimated new tax revenue generated by the proposed casino (see Table 12).

**Public Works Department:**

**Street Maintenance:**

Due to the nature of the proposed casino location site, we anticipate negligible impacts on street maintenance. We expect that casino visitors will have minimal travel on township roads because the site is located immediately off I-81. Also, the site location is off Exit 29, which is currently undergoing upgrades for a new warehouse facility. From this, the Exit will not require any additional new lanes or adjusted traffic patterns.

**Public Safety:**

**Police:**

Shippensburg Township is under the jurisdiction of the state police force. We do not anticipate the casino itself would necessitating the addition of a locally-controlled police force, but it could help local officials take action on addressing an existing concern about local ordinance enforcement. Shippensburg Township has identified that the tax revenues from the casino may enable the Township to re-institute a local or regional police force. A local or regional police force would allow the township to enforce local ordinances.

**Fire and EMS:**

The Vigilant Hose Company ("the Company") serves Shippensburg Township. The Company is an all-volunteer fire company that provides fire and emergency medical services ("EMS") to the Borough of Shippensburg, Shippensburg Township, Shippensburg University, and Southampton Township Cumberland County. The Company is currently below maximum capacity. We anticipate that the casino would have a negligible impact on fire and EMS service demands, while significantly increasing the Company's budget. The Company expects that the increased tax revenue from the proposed casino will reduce its need to fundraise and allow it to focus more on recruitment and training.

**Other Municipal Services and Resources:**

**Zoning**

Due to recent amendments to the Shippensburg Township Zoning Ordinance, "Casino / Gambling Facility" uses are expressly permitted as "Conditional Uses" in the Industrial District ("I") at the proposed site. The Township's Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors will need to hold public proceedings in connection with the Conditional Use approval. However, most, if not all, of the costs to the Township should be accounted for by the applicable zoning hearing and permit application fees. Similarly, the land development and construction phases of the project will create a neglig the Township.

During the land development and construction phases, there would be some administrative work typical for all construction projects of this size. The burden to the Township from the administrative work will

be minimal. The bulk of such work will be performed primarily by third-party services contracted by the Township for local engineering reviews and inspections and Uniform Construction Code ("UCC") building permit plan reviews and ongoing project inspections during the construction. Consequently, there is not anticipated to be a material burden on the staff time of the municipality. Also, the costs of such plan reviews, inspections, and related administrative work should generally be covered by the land development fees charged under the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code and the Township's Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance and by the building permit fees under the UCC.

The ongoing operations of the casino are expected to have a minimal impact on the permits office and should not produce any significant adverse increases in workload in other government departments. Non-municipal utility companies provide gas, electric, and telecommunications services. Greenwood does not anticipate that these services will have any impact on Shippensburg Township.

#### Water/Sewer

Applicant's engineers have determined that there are appropriate water and sewer capacity for the proposed facility at the Shippensburg Township site and that there will be no detrimental impact on groundwater or wells on other properties from the intended use.

Greenwood has initially prepared alternative designs for the proposed facility so that it could either be operated using public water if a line with sufficient pressure can extend to the property. Greenwood's engineers are currently exploring an extension or on-site well water with a water tank for proper pressure (of 250 gpm for a minimum duration of 90 seconds per NFPA Code requirements) to meet or exceed not only the regular operational specifications of the casino but all potential fire-fighting needs.

Advantage Engineers released a preliminary hydrogeological study on February 13, 2019. The study confirms that it is feasible to develop a well system with sufficient yield for adequate quality potable water to support the operational needs of the proposed facility plus also all potential fire-fighting needs and that such system would not have a detrimental effect on groundwater or other wells.

Greenwood understands from the Cumberland Franklin Joint Municipal Authority that the site will have sufficient public sewer capacity available to support the proposed facility. Greenwood's engineer's have requested written confirmation of the availability of the requisite number of equivalent dwelling units ("EDUs") of sewer capacity for a connection for the facility from the Authority. This information will be supplemented with a copy of that written confirmation when it is available.

#### Conclusion

Greenwood will act as an economic engine and community partner, bringing jobs and tax revenues to the community. In total, the casino development is expected to have no negative impact on the Township.

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House of Representatives  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg  
**MARK K. KELLER**  
86th Legislative District

COMMITTEES  
MAJORITY CHAIRMAN,  
COMMERCE  
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS  
VICE CHAIR

March 5, 2019

PA Gaming Control Board  
P.O. Box 69060  
Harrisburg, PA 17106  
Attention: Board Clerk

To Whom It May Concern:

As State Representative of the 86<sup>th</sup> District, I offer these written comments in support of the Greenwood Gaming and Entertainment, Inc. (Parx Casino) mini-casino project proposed for Shippensburg Township, Cumberland County.

In my opinion, the potential gains from a project of this magnitude simply outweigh the marginal risks. This casino will become a strong economic driver in this region and promises good-paying jobs for local residents. In addition, revenues from the casino will bolster this community's compromised tax base and will surely enhance local non-profit organizations, particularly our emergency service providers.

I believe this project promises tremendous, long-term economic gain for Shippensburg and its neighboring communities. I urge your careful consideration of Greenwood Gaming and Entertainment, Inc's bid for approval for this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark K. Keller".

Mark K. Keller  
State Representative  
86<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Welcome to Shippensburg - the oldest community in the Cumberland Valley and the second oldest west of the Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania. We are a small community of approximately 5,500 residents and approximately 6,400 university students. Shippensburg is unique by sitting in both Cumberland and Franklin counties and is a combination of multiple municipalities: Shippensburg Borough, Southampton Cumberland, Southampton Franklin and Shippensburg Township. Besides our residents we are the home of many large businesses: Shippensburg University, Volvo, JLG Industries, Schreiber Foods and Beistle Company just to name a few. We also have 31 churches nestled among this beautiful community.

My point of speaking today is not to state for or against Parks Casino but to address the needs of Shippensburg as a whole. Decisions made in one area of Shippensburg will truly have a major effect on the community as a whole. The downtown historic section of Shippensburg is becoming abandon and in dismay. Years of student rentals are left empty as new and more updated facilities are built on campus. Street front buildings are too costly for small businesses to rent. There is no room for expansion and buildings are older and too expensive to update. Like many small towns business opportunities have been declining - businesses that make a healthy tax base. Surrounding municipalities appear to be thriving as it is easier to buy land and build than to buy an older building and do renovations.

The Franklin County side of Shippensburg is almost at the maximum general millage of 30.00, currently the millage is 26.2. The additional tax available to collect is \$51,000 from Franklin County and from Cumberland County side the comparable increase would bring in an additional tax of \$122,120. That is maximizing taxes to our residents. Plus- the General Borough Budget is stretched as far as it can go. There are no ways to offset additional funding for the services offered by our police department. In 2018 real estate taxes (general street, fire & recreation plus delinquent) is \$1,128,278. The police expenses = \$1,519,243. A negative balance of -390,965. Even with major cut backs this projected year we will be a deficit of 311,160 in 2019. As you will hear from our Chief of Police – funds to support the safety of our citizens is in a critical state. We need an increase of funding annually to increase the number of officers that are currently overworked. There has been thought of opening discussions of entering into an inter-municipal agreement for police services, but it is only in the beginning talks.

Volunteers are declining as our fire and EMS first responders struggle to provide services to our residents without paid employees - paid services that would have a devastating financial burden on our residents.

If we are excluded from future planning as a whole community it could place a heavier burden on our community residents. I ask you to remember all of Shippensburg when making decisions going forward. All the municipalities make up the town of Shippensburg and when something happens in one municipality it becomes a regional issue.

Thank you for your time.



# Vigilant Hose Company No. 1

20 Walnut Bottom Road

Shippensburg, Pa. 17257

[www.vigilanthose.com](http://www.vigilanthose.com)

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
Registrant control # 5468

Good Afternoon, I am J. Daniel Byers, President Emeritus of the Vigilant Hose Company of Shippensburg. I am speaking on behalf of the department and thank you for allowing me to do so.

The Vigilant Hose Company is Shippensburg's oldest fire department organized in 1843. Last year we celebrated our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of active service to the community. We are an all-volunteer department and one third of the Shippensburg Fire Department. Presently we have 35 active members that aid in one form or another in support of our activities.

During my 47 years of active membership, I have seen memberships throughout the volunteer fire departments steadily decrease. This includes the Shippensburg community. This is a well-known and highly publicized issue throughout Pennsylvania and the United States. I contribute the decline in memberships due to increased firefighter training and fundraising requirements.

Vigilant members responded to 528 emergency calls in 2018. Our average responders per call is 7.1 and we expended 1,131 manhours handling these calls.

Our members attended 56 training sessions which resulted in 1,357 manhours in training. Members worked 107 fund raising projects including 103 bingos, and 4 drawing raffles. Manhours for fundraising was 6,338. Our fundraising manhours consistently are tripled in comparison to call response and training combined. Fund raising is overtaxing our members.

The Vigilant Hose Company's annual budget is \$389,000 annually. \$187,000 is directly related to day to day operations. Apparatus loans total \$87,000 annually. These loans are all 2% low interest loans through PEMA. We co-own our facility with Shippensburg Area Emergency Medical Services and our portion (61%) of the annual building loan payment is \$115,000.

Our firefighting costs increase annually, and funding has slowly decreased throughout the years. This slow decrease is directly related to bingo income directly related to customer attendance. Our most recent pumper was purchased in 2017 at a cost of \$603,000. 13 years ago, our present 2<sup>nd</sup> line pumper was purchased for \$369,000. The cost to equip 1 firefighter with personal protective equipment is \$7,500.

Our balanced budget funding is obtained by the following means: 7.5% fund drive income, 7.5% grant income, 25% local government contributions and the remainder, **60%** comes from fundraising. Our fund-raising income goes directly towards our building debt payment.



**Vigilant Hose Company No. 1**  
**20 Walnut Bottom Road**  
**Shippensburg, Pa. 17257**  
[www.vigilanthose.com](http://www.vigilanthose.com)

The Shippensburg Emergency Services Building was completed in 2012 at a cost of \$7.6 million dollars. Costs are shared at 61% Vigilant and 39% EMS. The Vigilant Hose Company building debt is \$2,440,000.

Presently we are partnering with the Cumberland Valley Hose Company in a consolidation effort to save money by moving the Cumberland Valley operations into the Shippensburg Emergency Services Building.

In closing, I appreciate your time in allowing me to comment on behalf of the Vigilant Hose Company. We are looking forward with excitement of the possibility of future additional financial support through the gaming operations we are discussing.

Thank you.

Documents submitted  
by public commenter  
at 3/25/19 hearing

The New York Times

The Opinion Pages

Opinionator

A Gathering of Opinion From Around the Web

## Gaming the Poor

By Barbara Dafoe Whitehead June 21, 2014 3:34 pm

The Great Divide is a series about inequality.

In a referendum in November, voters approved as many as seven new casinos to join New York State's existing nine gambling facilities. And New York is hardly alone. In recent years, 23 other states have legalized and licensed commercial (as opposed to Native American) gambling facilities. In the casino-dense Northeast and mid-Atlantic regions, where 26 casinos have opened since 2004 and at least a dozen more are under development, most adults now live within a short drive of one.

Not surprisingly, the closer casinos come to where people live, the more likely people are to gamble at one. As casinos have spread into de-industrialized cities, dying resorts and gritty urban areas, the rate of gambling participation has grown among lower-income groups. ←

In America's increasingly two-tier economy, casino industry leaders realized that they didn't have to cater exclusively to well-heeled consumers in order to rake in profits. Payday lending, rent-to-own stores, subprime credit cards, auto title loans and tax refund anticipation loans all evolved to extract high profits from low-income groups. And the newly established state-licensed casinos have their methods, too.

A research team from the University at Buffalo and SUNY Buffalo State has conducted studies that offer new evidence of the exploitative effects of casino gambling on lower-income Americans. For example, the researchers found that the rates of casino gambling participation and frequency of visits have increased among lower-income groups. Easy access to casinos is a key factor. Living within 10 miles of one or more casinos more than doubles the rate of problems from excessive gambling. Another factor is easy access to slot-machine gambling. Women and the elderly have become more likely to gamble in recent years, partly because of a preference for nonskill slot-machine gambling. ←

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The casinos' method is to induce low-income gamblers to make a huge number of small bets per visit, to visit the casino several times per month, or even per week, and to sustain this pattern over a period of years. The key to executing this method is the slot machine.

Most regional casinos are essentially slot parlors. Slot machines are nowadays sophisticated computerized devices engineered to produce continuous and repeat betting, and programmed by high-tech experts to encourage gamblers to make multiple bets simultaneously by tapping buttons on the console as fast as their fingers can fly. Natasha Dow Schüll, an anthropologist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who has written the definitive work on gambling-machine design, notes that as gamblers deepen their immersion, they become less interested in winning itself than in simply continuing to play.

Slots will accept bets in denominations as small as a penny — one reason they are attractive to small bettors. But even penny bets placed on each of multiple lines for each spin, after hundreds of spins, can result in large losses.

The goal, though, is not to clean out the gambler in a single visit; it's to provide an experience that will induce the gambler to prolong the time spent on the device. The slots achieve this by carefully regulating the rhythm, tempo and sound ambience of the play, while doling out occasional small wins even as the players' losses slowly increase.

One way these computerized pickpockets milk their customers is by generating “near misses,” whereby the spinning symbols on the machine stop just above or below the winning payline. The feeling of having come oh so close to a win prompts further play.

A second goal is to ensure that gamblers visit more often and continue to do so over time. Through player loyalty cards and other marketing programs, casinos collect a vast amount of information on their customers. This enables them to devise customized strategies to get gamblers to adhere to this pattern of frequent play over long duration.

Casinos also gather information on their customers' worth, as well as their “predicted lifetime value.” From this information, we might be able to calculate what percentage of customers come from the bottom half of median income distribution, as well as how much these low-income gamblers lose as a percentage of their income. We might also be able to tell how the regional casinos catering to lower-income gamblers are affecting income inequality in their localities.

The casinos do not, of course, disclose this information, and the states that share in the revenues generated through gambling losses do not press their commercial partners to do so. As

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A large-scale survey of adults, conducted by the Buffalo group in 2000, found that lower socioeconomic and minority groups who visited casinos had more gambling-related problems, including financial difficulties. This suggests that their losses, as a share of their income, were greater than those in the upper income distribution.



Examining 15 types of legal gambling, the researchers came to a striking conclusion: Casino gambling had by far the most harmful effects on people at the lower end of the income ladder.

*Barbara Dafoe Whitehead is the director of civil society initiatives at the Institute for American Values.*

A version of this article appears in print on 06/22/2014, on page SR7 of the New York edition with the headline: Gaming the Poor.

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# How gambling contributes to inequality

Monica Straniero 13 April 2016



Numerous studies tell us that the largest numbers of gamblers come from the the population, who see it as a way of getting out of poverty. This fact contrit inequalities.

There's been lots of discussion about inequality in recent years, but the explanations for the growth in income disparities have focused on two primary factors: structural economic changes, and public policy changes. Recent work raises the issue of the broader relationship between gambling and income inequality.

Gambling is pervasive in the United States. A study conducted from the University at Buffalo and SUNY Buffalo State, published in the Journal of Behavioral Addictions in June 2014, found that casino gambling, slots and lotteries had by far the most harmful effects on people at the lower end of the income ladder. The poorer the neighbourhood, the higher the risk for problem gambling.

In particular, slot machines nowadays are sophisticated computerized devices that dominate the casino scene to such an extent that two -thirds of the profit from the typical American casino now comes from slot machines. Anthropologist Natasha Dow Schüll shows how the mechanical rhythm of electronic gambling pulls players into a trancelike state they call the "machine zone," in which daily worries, social demands, and even bodily awareness fade away.

One thing is for sure: Gambling is a form of economic predation. Today, amid massive budget shortfalls, politicians are scrambling to find new sources of revenue in the hope to solve their economic issues. But while the reality of doing so is far from beneficial, the effects of the expansion of gambling on low-income and disadvantaged individuals have failed to receive adequate consideration.

"Italy is now Europe's biggest gambling market and one of the biggest in the world, undermining consumer spending and destroying lives.", says Luigi Guiso, Professor of Economics. Household Finance, Culture and Economics at the Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance.

The statistics are shocking. Italians spend around 80 billion euro on gambling. This is due to an extremely high density of slot machines especially when compared to the whole Italian population. They are everywhere, in adverts, in films, in games rooms, in bars, on social networks, says

Guiso. In his new book "Attenti ai qui soldi", the Italian economist dedicates an entire chapter to Gambling. "While the GDP value of Italy represents 3 percent of the world economy, the country counts for 22% of total expenditure gambling", Guiso writes.

*Gambling pulls players into a trancelike state they call the "machine zone," in which daily worries, social demands, and even bodily awareness fade away.*

*Natasha Dow Schüll, anthropologist*

In particular, the target market is the poor that can view on gambling as one of the few opportunities for financial advancement. The government is well aware that poor people itch to be rich. ←

Is it the fact that gambling tends to increase income inequalities? Gambling is sometimes called the poor man's stock exchange. "There is no doubt that this is so. When poor people gamble, a larger proportion have serious problems related to their gambling than wealthier people. Also, winnings are distributed more evenly, pushing a great number of gambling addicts onto the streets", says Guiso.

Do states really want to be a party to that? Another interesting consideration for government revenues from legal gambling is that they represent voluntary taxes. Raising more revenues using voluntary taxes is politically easier than cutting spending, (benefits), or raising income taxes, property taxes, general sales taxes, or other unpopular taxes. "A regressive tax on poor people, in that a ticket costs relatively more for a low income person than a rich person", Guiso added.

However, many studies have demonstrated even if the state did recognize economic gains, gambling revenue is unlikely to be a sustainable solution to budget shortfall. "And because almost all gamblers lose more than they win, and because today's slot machines are designed to keep people playing, public gambling has contributed to economic and social inequality". It has also been found that gambling produces no new wealth, only redistribution of currency on an inequitable basis. ←

*Because almost all gamblers lose more than they win, and because today's slot machines are designed to keep people playing, public gambling has contributed to economic and social inequality".*

Can a solution be found to the gambling problem? Casino gambling, the most common form of predatory gambling because of the popularity of slot machines, leads to higher rates of addiction, promotes organized crime, and leads to higher rates of gambling losses. Yet, since the largest proportion of the gambling industry is operated by state-owned, governments have become aggressive gambling promoters.



“This also means that it is very difficult to avoid the tendency”, Guiso explained. However, if governments are not interested in introducing effective measures to solve the gambling problem, financial innovation may be the only way to make instruments accessible to the poor enabling them to invest in start-ups. For example, by creating a fund that invests in start-ups through small contributions from a large number of people.

Would it be more effective to stop gambling, or to reduce the harm caused by gambling? Everything depends on how many savers / players see this tool as a substitute for betting.

# The harm that casinos do

By David Frum, CNN Contributor

Updated 8:12 AM ET, Tue September 24, 2013



David Frum says casinos prey on the Americans who can least afford to lose money.

## Story highlights

David Frum says a new report makes clear the damage casinos do

He says they extract earnings from Americans least able to afford it

Casinos are bad for property values, don't revive troubled neighborhoods, he says

Frum: Government benefits from taxes on casinos and officials don't question the harm

## What harm does it do?

That's the challenge the casino industry puts to its critics. A new report by the Institute for American Values presents the answer.

Until the late 1980s, casino gambling was illegal almost everywhere in the country. Today, casinos are allowed in 23 states. These newly authorized casinos are not Las Vegas-style grand hotels. Their customers come from nearby. They don't stay overnight. They don't

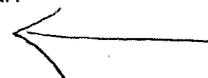
watch a show or eat in a fine restaurant. Perhaps most surprisingly: they don't play cards.

Modern casino gambling is computer gambling. The typical casino gambler sits at a computer screen, enters a credit card and enters a digital environment carefully constructed to keep them playing until all their available money has been extracted.



David Frum

Small "wins" are administered at the most psychologically effective intervals, but the math is remorseless: the longer you play, the more you lose. The industry as a whole targets precisely those who can least afford to lose and earns most of its living from people for whom gambling has become an addiction. The IAV report cites a Canadian study that finds that the 75% of casino customers who play



only occasionally provide only 4% of casino revenues. It's the problem gambler who keeps the casino in business.

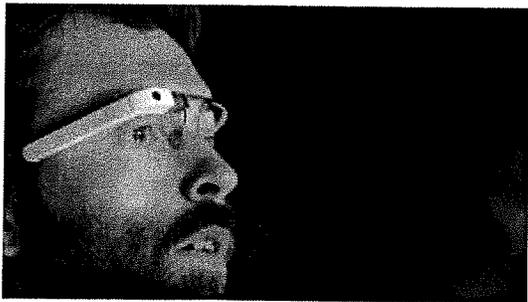
Slot machine payouts vary state by state. Some states set a required minimum: 83% in Arkansas, for example. Others leave that decision up to the casino, as in Georgia and California. Some states require casinos to disclose their payouts. In others, that information is kept confidential. Based on what is published, however, it's a fair generalization that a player can expect to lose 10% to 15% of his or her stake at every session. The cheaper the game, the lower the payout: slots that charge \$5 per round pay better than slots that charge a penny.

When New Jersey allowed casinos into Atlantic City back in 1977, casino advocates promised that gambling would revive the town's fading economy. The casinos did create jobs as promised. But merchants who expected foot traffic to return to the city's main street, Atlantic Avenue, were sorely disappointed. The money that comes to the casinos, stays in the casinos. Liquor stores and cash-for-gold outlets now line the city's once-premier retail strip.

The impact of casinos on local property values is "unambiguously" negative, according to the National Association of Realtors. Casinos do not revive local economies. They act as parasites upon them. Communities located within 10 miles of a casino exhibit double the rate of problem gambling. Unsurprisingly, such communities also suffer higher rates of home foreclosure and other forms of economic distress and domestic violence.

The Institute for American Values is sometimes described as a socially conservative group, but with important caveats. Its president, David Blankenhorn, has publicly endorsed same-sex marriage, and its board of directors is chaired by Bill Galston, a former policy adviser to Bill Clinton. The IAV is as worried that casinos aggravate income inequality as by their negative impact on family stability.

Before the spread of casino gambling, the IAV comments, the typical gambler was more affluent than average: it cost money to travel to Las Vegas. That's no longer true. Low-income workers and retirees provide the bulk of the customers for the modern casino industry. And because that industry becomes an important source of government revenue, the decision to allow casino gambling is a decision to shift the cost of government from the richer to the poorer, and, within the poor, to a subset of vulnerable people with addiction problems.

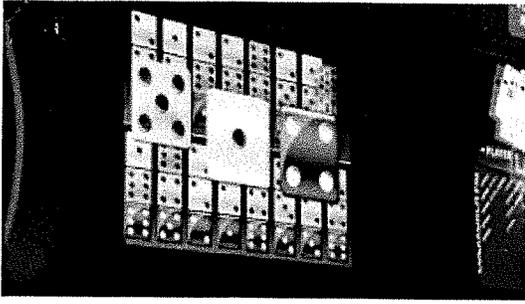


Don't bring Google Glass to Vegas 02:01

From the IAV study:

"Modern slot machines are highly addictive because they get into people's heads as well as their wallets. They engineer the psychological experience of being in the 'zone' - a trance-like state that numbs feeling and blots out time/space. For some heavy players, the goal is not winning money. It's staying in the zone. To maintain this intensely desirable

state, players prolong their time on the machine until they run out of money - a phenomenon that people in the industry call 'playing to extinction.'"



First year boom for New York casino 02:12

How heavily does gambling weigh upon the poor, the elderly, the less educated, and the psychologically vulnerable? It's difficult to answer exactly, because U.S. governments have shirked the job of studying the effects of gambling. Most research on the public health effects of gambling in the United States is funded by the industry itself, with a careful eye to exonerating itself from blame. To obtain independent results, the Institute for American

Values was obliged, ironically, to rely on studies funded by governments in Britain and Canada.

But here's what we can conclude, in the words of the Institute:

"[S]tate-sponsored casino gambling ... parallels the separate and unequal life patterns in education, marriage, work, and play that increasingly divide America into haves and have-nots. Those in the upper ranks of the income distribution rarely, if ever, make it a weekly habit to gamble at the local casino. Those in the lower ranks of the income distribution often do. Those in the upper ranks rarely, if ever, contribute a large share of their income to the state's take of casino revenues. Those in the lower ranks do."

Is this really OK? Are Americans content to allow the growth of an industry that consciously exploits the predictable weakness of the most vulnerable people? 27

states still say "no." If yours is one such state, fight to keep it that way. If not, it's never too late to find a better way. Read the full Institute for American Values study for yourself and see how much is, quite literally, at stake.

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# Atlantic City's Grand Casino Bust

Nearly every American is now within a few hours' drive of a casino. But critics note that casino gambling has not delivered on its economic promises.



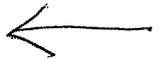
via Flickr/Brian Felix (<https://flic.kr/p/9nQMYw>)

By: [Peter Feuerherd](https://daily.jstor.org/daily-author/peter-feuerherd/) | May 13, 2018 2 minutes

On May 26th, 1978, a grand social experiment began in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The first legal American casino not located in Nevada opened, less than two years after New Jersey voters approved a referendum to allow gambling in the battered resort community.

The politicians supporting casino gambling promoted it as a way to boost the economy and create jobs. Moralists argued that casinos would erode the country's moral fiber. But the jobs argument won out, and by the 1990s, casinos were seemingly everywhere, from Native American reservations to riverboats. Nearly every American is now within a few hours' drive of a casino.

Critics note that casino gambling has not delivered on its economic promises. Robert Goodman, who has been director of the U.S. Gambling Research Institute, notes **that casino gambling increased largely because state officials** wanted to collect tax revenues off gambling. The result was a boon in casino gambling. But Goodman argues that the concept was based on a false hope. The original gambling mecca, Las Vegas, was an isolated locale that became a tourist destination. Its imitators, including Atlantic City, relied on locals and day hoppers, who play at the casinos and then go home, contributing few outside tourist dollars to their localities. In Atlantic City, a third of that town's local businesses closed within four years of the casino openings. As in other casino locales, local restaurants found they could not compete with the cheap grub offered by casinos intent on luring gamblers.



Atlantic City's boardwalk (via Flickr/Luke H. Gordon (<https://flic.kr/p/uGWAus>))

Increased employment failed to materialize. Within fifteen years of the arrival of casino gambling, unemployment in Atlantic City was more than two times the New Jersey average. Legalized casinos resulted in a now-familiar pattern: the impact on local businesses has often been a bust, and the profits from the gaming houses tend to go to outside resort corporate behemoths, not mom-and-pop stores.



The data backs this up; economists who have studied the impact of casino gambling see either modest benefits or regression. *More* jobs are created by casinos, but not *better* jobs.

A study of how residents in counties with casinos view quality-of-life issues indicated that non-gamblers saw the casinos as a cause of increased crime and other social ills. Gamblers, predictably enough, saw no problem. The researchers indicated that casino gambling in its entirety has little positive or negative impact on communities.



Casino critics argue that the promise that casino gambling would create economic opportunity, fill the coffers of local governments, and revive cities at virtually no cost, has proven to be an unfulfilled fantasy. Still, the industry continues to grow. Once established, casinos don't go away, largely because opening new casinos creates interest groups that will defend their presence. As Goodman notes, "The public official who will stand up and say close that casino and put those 4,000 people out of work is somebody I haven't met."

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By: Robert Goodman

The Wilson Quarterly (1976-), Vol. 19, No. 4 (Autumn, 1995), pp. 24-32  
Wilson Quarterly

**Do Casinos Cause Economic Growth? (<https://www.jstor.org/stable/27739653?mag=atlantic-citys-grand-casino-bust>)**

By: Douglas M. Walker and John D. Jackson

The American Journal of Economics and Sociology, Vol. 66, No. 3, Perspectives on Gambling: Lotteries, Wagers, and Casinos (Jul., 2007), pp. 593-608

American Journal of Economics and Sociology, Inc.

**Social Capital and Casino Gambling in U.S. Communities**

**(<https://www.jstor.org/stable/27522588?mag=atlantic-citys-grand-casino-bust>)**

By: Mary Tabor Griswold and Mark W. Nichols

Social Indicators Record, Vol. 77, No. 3 (Jul., 2006), pp. 369-394

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