

A publication of the Lloyd D. Levenson Institute of Gaming, Hospitality & Tourism at Stockton University
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Atlantic City Gaming Win & Total Casino Revenue

Source: NJ. Division of Gaming Enforcement

Monthly Revenue (\$ In Thousands)	July 2018	Change from Prior Year	July 2017
Total Gaming Win (includes Internet & Sports Wagering)	302,050	12.8%	267,853
Sports Wagering Revenue	3,831	n/a	n/a
Internet Gaming Win	25,898	25.8%	20,586
Casino Gaming Win	272,321	10.1%	247,267

Year to Date July (\$ In Thousands)	2018	Change from Prior Year	2017
Total Gaming Win	1,562,689	0.3%	1,558,559

Live Dealer Gaming set to take off in New Jersey According to [NJOnlineGambling.com](#) and [iGamingBusiness.com](#) New Jersey's Live Dealer gaming market is poised for significant expansion through the end of 2018. The Golden Nugget has controlled a near monopoly on Live Dealer gaming in New Jersey since it introduced the product in August 2016. Over the years Golden Nugget has leased space in its streaming studio to Betfair (May 2017), Borgata, PlayMGM and Party Casino (early 2018), but has remained the market leader. This may be about to change. On August 16, Hard Rock AC became the first Live Dealer operation in the state to be housed outside of the Golden Nugget. Hard Rock has partnered with international operator, Evolution Gaming, to open a production studio for live casino gaming. The studio, Evolution Gaming's first in the US and tenth worldwide, will serve as a hub for the company's other NJ Live Dealer operations, including deals with 888, Play SugarHouse Ocean Online Casino and Resorts' Online Casino.

Hard Rock Atlantic City announces sports betting partnerships As reported by [LegalSportsReport.com](#) Hard Rock has announced partnerships with two European book making companies, Bet365 and Kindred group to offer online sports betting. Hard Rock, along with Tropicana and Caesars, does not have an active brick & mortar sports book.

New Jersey racetracks seek reparations for lost revenue due to federal sports gambling ban as reported by [The Press of Atlantic City](#), the New Jersey Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association is seeking roughly \$140 million in damages for lost revenues. The association claims that, in light of the Supreme Court's decision to overturn PASPA, the temporary restraining order blocking sports betting at Monmouth Park Racetrack from October 2014 to May 2018 should not have been granted. In addition to the \$140 million, the association also wants the \$3.4 million bond which the pro sports leagues and NCAA paid into to cover losses suffered during the term of the restraining order. The leagues contend that the association isn't legally allowed to collect the bond or damages.

Regulators crack down on illegal online wagering operations According to [OnlinePokerReport.com](#), New Jersey gaming regulators, under the leadership of David Rebeck, director of the NJ Division of Gaming Enforcement, have committed to driving illegal off-shore gambling sites out of the state.

National Gaming News

American Gaming Association (AGA) releases annual 'State of the States' report On August 22, the AGA released the [2018 State of the States: The AGA Survey of the Commercial Casino Industry](#) report. The annual survey of commercial gaming properties in the United States found that all but four of the nation's 24 commercial casino states saw year-over-year growth in gaming revenue. Nationwide gaming revenue totaled \$40.28 billion in 2017, an increase of 3.4 percent over 2016 and a new record for the industry.

Coalition of seven Pennsylvania casinos challenge iLottery Expansion- According to [OnlinePokerReport.com](#), on August 22, a group of seven Pennsylvania casinos filed a joint complaint seeking to stop the state's iLottery from offering "online casino-style games" to the public. Under the gaming expansion package passed last year, iLottery operators are permitted to offer gaming products such as virtual sports, Keno and new types of electronic draw games. The casinos contend that these games are too similar to products traditionally offered by online casinos.

Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) approves internet gaming licenses as reported by [PennLive.com](#). On August 15, the PGCB approved internet gaming licenses for three Pennsylvania casinos; Mount Airy in the Poconos, Parx in Bucks County, and Harrah's Casino Philadelphia in Chester. The PGCB has yet to announce a state-wide launch date for online casino gaming.

National Sports Betting News

Casinos and sportsbook operators enter into nationwide deals as reported by [PlayUSA](#). FanDuel Group, the US arm of Paddy Power Betfair and Boyd Gaming have entered into a partnership to offer mobile and online sports wagering. The agreement gives FanDuel Group National reach covering all states where Boyd Gaming currently holds gaming licenses.

Hospitality & Tourism News

Hilton opens first tri-branded hotel In an August 7 [statement](#), Hilton announced the opening of the company's first tri-branded property. The property, at Chicago's McCormick Place Convention Center, will feature Hilton Garden Inn, Hampton Inn and Home2Suites branded accommodations.

US hotels see increase in RevPAR and decrease in profit per room in July 2018 According to [LodgingMagazine.com](#) U.S. hotel operators experienced a 1.1 percent year-on-year increase in RevPar for July, but saw profits per room drop by 2.2 percent due to rising costs and declining non-rooms revenues. On a per-available-room basis, full-service hotels saw ancillary revenues from food and beverage and conference and banqueting decline by 2.3 percent and 3.5 percent year-on-year respectively. Labor costs increased by 0.9 percent to 36.5 percent of total revenue, while overhead costs increased by 0.4 percentage points to 24.4 percent of total revenue. Room occupancy levels decreased by 0.9 percentage points to 80.4 percent for the period while average daily room rates increase a record 2.2 percent year-on-year to \$198.47 driving increases in total room revenue. Total revenue for year-to-date 2018 increased by 2.8 percent.

Yosemite National Park closes as Ferguson Fire burns 100,000 acres as reported by [Reuters](#), wildfires in the U.S. West have scorched more than 5.6 million acres this year including parts of national forests and their surrounding communities. In Yosemite, the seventh largest tourism economy connected with a U.S. national park, the fires and resulting poor air quality have been particularly damaging to local tourism businesses. The Yosemite tourist economy, which greeted 4.3 million visitors spending an estimated \$452 million in 2017, may have lost millions of dollars in revenue. According to the Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau, (rra)