

## Rockefeller Institute Fiscal Features

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# From a Bonanza to a Blue Chip? Gambling Revenue to the States

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### **Highlights**

- ❖ State revenues from gambling have risen steadily over the past decade, reaching \$23.3 billion in fiscal 2007. Ten states now collect more than \$1 billion a year in gambling revenue, and another seven states collect more than \$500 million a year.
- Gambling revenue plays a consistently important role in state finances, representing 2.1 to 2.5 percent of states' own-source revenues each year from 1998 through 2007.
- ♦ However, resistance to further expansion of state-sanctioned gambling may be increasing, and revenue growth has slowed. For the first nine months of the fiscal year 2008, state revenues from casinos rose only 0.7 percent.

#### Introduction

For more than two decades, states saw lotteries and casinos as a bonanza of new dollars for education and other programs. Gambling revenue is now at an all-time high, but growth is slowing due to objections about social impacts and broader economic trends. From a fiscal perspective, state-sponsored gambling now resembles a blue-chip stock — reliably generating large amounts of cash, but no longer promising dramatic growth in revenue.

Lotteries — Lotteries allow patrons to guess winning numbers, or otherwise draw "lots" (such as those on scratch-off tickets) for cash prizes. Revenue is often dedicated under law to programs such as education or transportation, although some researchers argue that such revenue can more accurately be described as increasing overall resources for general state purposes. State administration of a lottery was first legalized in 1964 in New Hampshire.

Commercial casinos — Commercial casinos are land-based or riverboat private facilities that house and accommodate activities such as table games, slot machines, cards, etc. The first commercial casino was opened in 1931 in Nevada.

Racino — Racino refers to a combined racetrack and casino. In addition to racing, racinos may host gambling activities such as video lottery, slot machines, and table games. The first racino emerged in 1992, when Rhode Island legalized placement of video lottery terminals at racetracks.

**Pari-mutuel wagering** — Pari-mutuel wagering usually refers to gambling on an event such as horse racing, dog racing, jai-alai, or other sporting event with a relatively short duration in which participants finish in a ranked order.

Native American Casinos — Such casinos comprise gambling businesses that are run by tribes and operate on Indian reservations. In 1987, the U.S. Supreme Court recognized that Native American tribal entities could operate gaming facilities free of state regulation. A year later, in 1988, the Congress enacted the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) to provide terms and conditions for gambling on Indian reservations. States usually do not have authority to regulate or profit from these Indian casinos. However, some states such as Connecticut have negotiated special revenue sharing agreements with the tribes.

Controversial in many areas of the United States just a decade or two ago, state-sponsored and state-approved gambling now provides a consistently important source of revenue for the majority of states.

For all 50 states, revenues from lotteries, casinos, racinos, and pari-mutuel betting totaled an estimated \$23.3 billion in fiscal year 2007, an increase of 4.6 percent from fiscal year 2006. For purposes of comparison, such revenue represents the equivalent of nearly half of the amount that states collect in corporate income taxes, and about 2.3 percent of overall state government own-source revenue.

All states except Hawaii and Utah collect revenue from lotteries, casinos, or pari-mutuel wagering. (In Alaska, legal gambling occurs only where sponsored by Native American tribes.) When normal revenue growth softens during economic downturns, states often consider expanded gambling operations among other options for balancing budgets. Such proposals, though, continue to arouse opposition based on potential financial and social harm to individuals and communities. For example, proposals to create a state lottery in Arkansas and to legalize casinos in Massachusetts have run into opposition this year. At the same time, several other states — including Indiana, New York, and Pennsylvania — are moving ahead with plans to expand racino operations.

# Types of Gambling Examined in This Report

The gambling industry saw significant growth in the last four decades across the nation. Analysts have pointed to new technology and economic trends, as well as government support, in explaining such growth. Others note that gambling opportunities now are readily available not only in Las Vegas-style casinos but in bars, restaurants, and convenience stores. <sup>2</sup>

- See Donald Siegel and Gary Anders, "The Impact of Indian Casinos on State Lotteries: A Case Study," *Public Finance Review* (2001): 139-147.
- 2 See Rachel A. Volberg and Matt Wray, "Legal Gambling and Problem Gambling as Mechanisms of Social Domination? Some Considerations for Future Research," *American Behavioral Scientist* (2007): 56-85.

This report examines the four major types of legalized gambling from which states earn significant revenues — lotteries, casinos, racinos, and pari-mutuel wagering. Lotteries and pari-mutuel wagering are legal in most of the states, while 12 states have casinos and 11 states include racinos. Thirty-two states have some type of Native American casinos, but generally collect little or no revenue from them. Comprehensive data on revenue from Native American casinos are not available.

States derive the bulk of gambling-related revenues from two major sources — lotteries and casinos. Casinos experienced dramatic growth during the 1990s. Today, considerable growth is seen in gambling at racinos, and they represent the third biggest source of gambling revenue. Pari-mutuel betting, once the major source of gambling revenue for states, now represents less than 2 percent of such revenue.

#### **Revenue Trends in Major Categories of Gambling**

The Rockefeller Institute of Government collected and analyzed data for fiscal years 1998-2007 from four major types of gambling: lotteries, casinos, racinos, and pari-mutuel wagering. We use 1998 as the starting point, given that comparable state-level data on casino revenues were not readily available before that year. Lottery revenue data for fiscal years 1998-2006 were obtained from the North American Association of State and Provincial Lotteries (NASPL).<sup>3</sup> Fiscal year 2007 lottery revenue data are based on NASPL's unaudited numbers as well as data obtained from individual state lottery agencies. Casino and racino revenue data for fiscal years 1998-2007 and the first three quarters of fiscal 2008 were collected from individual state gaming regulatory agencies. Separate racino data for four of 11 states — Delaware, New York, Rhode Island, and West Virginia — were unavailable. The racinos in all these four states host video lottery terminals (VLTs) only. These video lottery terminals are considered part of the state lottery system, and revenues to state and local governments from video lottery terminals are counted in lottery revenues reported by the NASPL. Finally, pari-mutuel wagering data for fiscal years 1998-2007 were obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau.<sup>4</sup>

#### Lotteries

Currently, 42 states have legalized state lotteries to raise revenues. New Hampshire was the first, in 1964, followed by New York in 1967. As shown in Figure 1, all the New England and Mid-Atlantic states adopted lotteries relatively early, and the trend moved slowly to most of the rest of the states. By 2000, 37 states had legalized lotteries, and another 5 states did so between 2001 and 2006.

Overall state revenues from lotteries, including revenues from video lottery terminals, increased by 45 percent in the last decade, from \$12 billion in fiscal 1998 to \$17.4 billion in 2007. After adjusting for inflation, revenues from lotteries increased by nearly 17 percent. This large increase in revenues from lotteries increased by nearly 17 percent.

The Census Bureau also reports annual data on lottery revenues; its figures and NASPL's track closely in most years. As of this writing, NASPL has data available for 2007, while the Census Bureau does not.

<sup>4</sup> The Census Bureau does not report revenue from pari-mutuel wagering for six states — Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, Tennessee, Vermont, and Virginia. We estimate that total pari-mutuel revenue from these states would not exceed \$10 million.

Inflation adjustments are based on the Bureau of Economic Analysis's Price index for Gross Domestic Product (NIPA Table 1.1.4).

nues is mostly attributable to the emergence of video lottery terminals since the early 1990's in states such as Delaware, New York, Rhode Island, and West Virginia. More than 50 percent of all lottery revenue is generated in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast regions, with over 10 percent collected by New York alone. States in the Rocky Mountain and Plains regions collect the smallest regional proportions of nationwide lottery revenue at about 0.9 and 3.8 percent, respectively.

Looking at the last two years for which data are available, net revenue to all states from lotteries (after accounting for prize payouts and other costs) increased 2.8 percent from fiscal 2006 to 2007, reaching \$17.4 billion (see Table 1). The strongest growth was in the Southeast region, where collections grew 6.8 percent, followed by the Far West states, at 6.0 percent. Of the 42 states with lottery revenue, 19 states reported growth over the year, with three states — Montana, Oregon, and North Carolina — seeing double-digit increases. (North Carolina's lottery began operating in fiscal 2006.) However, 23 states showed a decline in lottery revenues, the largest being 28.1 percent for Iowa.

#### Commercial Casinos

Commercial casinos are operated by businesses and taxed by the states. Currently, 12 states have legalized commercial casinos. Nevada was the first to legalize the operation of casinos in 1931, followed by New Jersey in 1976. Another 10 states have legalized casinos since 1989 (see Table 2). Leaders in states such as California and Massachusetts have recently discussed allowing casinos as part of their efforts to eliminate budget gaps, but have encountered resistance based on concerns about pathological gambling and other social ills.

6 A VLT allows a gambler to bet on a computerized video form of scratch-off lottery tickets.

| Table 1: State Lottery Revenue                         |                       |  |  |
|--|-----------------------|--|--|
| S tate   | FY 2007 (\$ Millions) |  |  |
| New York /1  | 2,358                 |  |  |
| Florida  | 1,263                 |  |  |
| C a lifornia   | 1,177                 |  |  |
| Texas  | 1,034                 |  |  |
| P enns ylvania   | 950                   |  |  |
| Massachusetts  | 892                   |  |  |
| G e orgia  | 854                   |  |  |
| New Jersey   | 826                   |  |  |
| Michigan   | 749                   |  |  |
| Ohio   | 669                   |  |  |
| Oregon   | 656                   |  |  |
| West Virginia /1                                       | 639                   |  |  |
| Illinois   | 631                   |  |  |
| Maryland   | 494                   |  |  |
| Virginia   | 437                   |  |  |
| R hode Island /1                                       | 321                   |  |  |
| North Carolina   | 314                   |  |  |
| Connecticut  | 279                   |  |  |
| S outh Carolina  | 277                   |  |  |
| Tennessee  | 272                   |  |  |
| Missouri   | 258                   |  |  |
| Delaware /1  | 257                   |  |  |
| Indiana  | 216                   |  |  |
| Kentucky   | 196                   |  |  |
| Wisconsin  | 155                   |  |  |
| Arizona  | 140                   |  |  |
| Louisiana  | 128                   |  |  |
| S outh Dakota  | 121                   |  |  |
| Colorado   | 119                   |  |  |
| Washington   | 118                   |  |  |
| Minnesota  | 112                   |  |  |
| New Hampshire  | 79                    |  |  |
| Kansas   | 71                    |  |  |
| O kla homa   | 69                    |  |  |
| lowa   | 58                    |  |  |
| Maine  | 51                    |  |  |
| New Mexico   | 35                    |  |  |
| Idaho<br>Nahasaka                                      | 34                    |  |  |
| Nebraska   | 29                    |  |  |
| Vermont  | 23                    |  |  |
| Montana<br>North Dakota                                | 11<br>7               |  |  |
|  | 17,383                |  |  |
| United States  1/ Data for DE, NY, RI, and WV included |                       |  |  |
| TI Data 101 DE, NI, NI, Allu WV MCIUC                  | JE VLIS.              |  |  |

Total state revenues from casinos increased by 108 percent, from \$2.4 billion to \$5 billion, between 1998 and 2007. After adjusting for inflation, such revenue rose 67 percent. As Figure 2 shows, the year-over-year growth rate in revenues from casinos has slowed since 2004 both in nominal and real terms.

One state, Nevada, is home to 60 percent of U.S. casino facilities and collects more than 20 percent of all state revenue from casinos nationwide (its tax on casino activity is relatively low, at 6.75 percent). Indiana and Illinois also collect relatively large shares of overall casino revenue, at 16.9 and 16.3 percent, respectively.

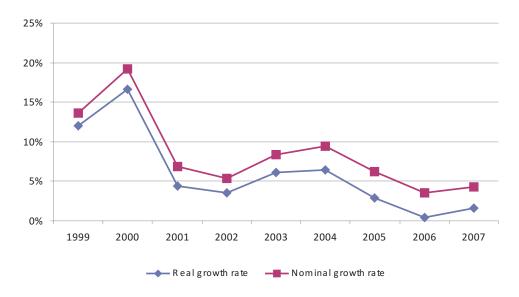
State and local government revenue from casinos increased 4.3 percent from 2006 to 2007, reaching a total of \$5 billion. Mississippi and Iowa saw high levels of growth at 21.5 percent and

| S tate         | Legalization Date | First Casino<br>Opening Date | Current # of<br>Operating<br>Casinos | Casino Format                 |
|----------------|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| C olora do     | 1990              | 1991                         | 45                                   | Land-based                    |
| Illinois       | 1990              | 1991                         | 9                                    | R iverboat                    |
| Indiana        | 1993              | 1995                         | 11                                   | R iverboat                    |
| lowa           | 1989              | 1991                         | 14                                   | Riverboat (10), Land-based (4 |
| Louisiana      | 1991              | 1993                         | 14                                   | Riverboat (13), Land-based (1 |
| Michigan       | 1996              | 1999                         | 3                                    | Land-based                    |
| Mississippi    | 1990              | 1992                         | 29                                   | Dockside, land-based          |
| Mis s ouri     | 1993              | 1994                         | 12                                   | R iverboat                    |
| Nevada         | 1931              | 1931                         | 270                                  | Land-based                    |
| New Jersey     | 1976              | 1978                         | 11                                   | Land-based                    |
| P enns ylvania | 2004              | 2007                         | 1                                    | Land-based                    |
| S outh Dakota  | 1989              | 1989                         | 36                                   | Land-based                    |

15.2 percent, respectively. Of the 11 states with casino revenue, all but New Jersey reported growth. Revenue collections from casinos declined by 0.8 percent in New Jersey in that period.

A Rockefeller Institute survey of state gaming regulatory agencies' financial reports found that states' revenues from casinos softened considerably during the first three quarters of fiscal 2007-08. Overall, casino revenue for the July-March quarters of fiscal 2008 increased by 0.7 percent compared to the same quarters of fiscal 2007 — indicating the likelihood of a sharp drop from the 4.3 percent in the preceding year. A newly opened casino in Pennsylvania produced \$35.6 million in revenue to the state in 2007. If we exclude that amount from the nationwide picture, total casino revenue from the other 11 states shows a decline of 0.3 percent for the year-to-year nine-month period. Four states — Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and New Jersey — saw revenue from casinos decrease. New Jersey's decline of 7 percent was the largest. Officials in the Garden State blame new competition in the form of casino and six racinos in neighboring Pennsylvania. Differences in state tax rates may come into play, as well: New Jersey has a low gambling tax rate of 9.25 percent, com-

Figure 2: Year-Over-Year Growth Rate in Casino Revenue to State-Local Governments



pared to Pennsylvania's 55 percent. New Jersey's competitive position for casino revenue may decline further due to recent enactment of a full smoking ban in casino resorts. Meanwhile, two states — Iowa and Mississippi — continued to see relatively strong growth in revenues from casinos, at 11.4 and 7.2 percent, respectively (see Table 3).

| S tate          | July 2006 -March | July 2007- March | Percent change    |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|                 | 2007             | 2008             | r creent ending e |
| Colorado        | 75,973,637       | 76,196,166       | 0.3%              |
| Illinois        | 566,103,525      | 557,115,514      | -1.6%             |
| Indiana         | 607,664,914      | 579,941,769      | -4.6%             |
| Iowa            | 143,193,089      | 159,452,903      | 11.4%             |
| Louisiana       | 355,632,779      | 364,504,052      | 2.5%              |
| Michigan/2      | 238,511,054      | 229,295,808      | -3.9%             |
| Mississippi     | 244,419,105      | 262,029,435      | 7.2%              |
| Missouri        | 316,850,854      | 316,722,237      | 0.0%              |
| Nevada          | 697,544,597      | 714,455,435      | 2.4%              |
| New Jersey      | 359,973,979      | 334,737,572      | -7.0%             |
| Pennsylvania    | NA               | 35,626,377       |                   |
| S outh Dakota/1 | 11,074,795       | 11,976,962       | 8.1%              |
| Total           | 3,616,942,328    | 3,642,054,229    | 0.7%              |

<sup>1/</sup>Excludes certain fees.

#### Racetrack Casinos or Racinos

Racino is a new term for racetracks that host electronic gaming devices such as slot machines, table games, or VLTs. In other words, racinos are a hybrid of casino and racetrack. Revenue from this source represents the fastest-growing element in states' gambling portfolio. Currently, racinos are operational in 11 states. Rhode Island was the first state to legalize racinos in 1992, followed by five other states between 1994 and 2004 and another five between 2001 and 2006. Currently there are 41 racino facilities in the 11 states, with eight operating in New York (see Table 4).

Seven states report stand-alone figures on revenue from racinos, while three — Delaware, Rhode Island, and West Virginia — include such revenues in their reports on lotteries. Total state revenues from racinos in those seven states increased from \$63 million in fiscal 1998 to \$561 million in fiscal 2007. According to the American Gaming Association, in calendar year 2007 states collected over \$2.2 billion in total revenue from racinos, an increase of over 50 percent compared to the previous calendar year. This large increase is partially due to opening of five racinos in Pennsyl-

| State         | Legalization Date | First Racino Opening Date | Current # of<br>Operating | Racino Format              |  |
|---------------|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Delaware      | 1994              | 1995                      | 3                         | VLTs                       |  |
| F lorida      | 2006              | 2006                      | 3                         | S lot machines             |  |
| lowa          | 1994              | 1995                      | 3                         | S lot machines             |  |
| Louisiana     | 1997              | 2002                      | 4                         | S lot machines             |  |
| Maine         | 2004              | 2005                      | 1                         | S lot machines             |  |
| New Mexico    | 1997              | 1999                      | 5                         | S lot machines             |  |
| New York      | 2001              | 2004                      | 8                         | VLTs                       |  |
| O kla homa    | 2004              | 2005                      | 3                         | S lot machines             |  |
| Pennsylvania  | 2004              | 2006                      | 5                         | S lot machines             |  |
| R hode Island | 1992              | 1992                      | 2                         | VLTs                       |  |
| West Virginia | 1994              | 1994                      | 4                         | VLTs (4), Tables games (2) |  |

<sup>2/</sup>Michigan's state fiscal year runs from October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>. However, for comparative purposes, we report revenues for the July-March period.

Source: Rockefeller Institute review of state gaming regulatory agencies' financial reports

| Table 5: Year-to-Date Racino Revenue for Selected States, |                                 |                          |                    |  |  |  |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|
|   | FY 2007 and FY 2008             |                          |                    |  |  |  |
| S tate  | July 2006 -March<br>2007        | July 2007- March<br>2008 | Percent change     |  |  |  |
| Florida   | 24,616,592                      | 93,336,397               | 279.2%             |  |  |  |
| lowa  | 82,842,985                      | 82,473,262               | -0.4%              |  |  |  |
| Louisiana   | 41,620,548                      | 43,280,095               | 4.0%               |  |  |  |
| Maine   | 14,802,416                      | 15,228,212               | 2.9%               |  |  |  |
| New Mexico  | 48,875,413                      | 49,490,243               | 1.3%               |  |  |  |
| Oklahoma  | 7,945,710                       | 8,335,392                | 4.9%               |  |  |  |
| Pennsylvania  | 115,711,514                     | 506,408,847              | 337.6%             |  |  |  |
| Total   | 336,415,178                     | 798,552,448              | 137.4%             |  |  |  |
| Source: Rockefelle  | r Institute review of state gam | ing regulatory agencies' | financial reports. |  |  |  |

vania, which combined generated about \$460 million in racino revenues in 2007. The Rockefeller Institute racino revenue data are on a fiscal-year basis and exclude racinos that were not operational during fiscal 2007.

Overall revenues from racinos increased dramatically for the period July 2007 through March 2008, compared to the same quarters of fiscal 2007. As in the case of casinos, the increase is mostly due to opening of new racinos, particularly in Florida and Pennsylvania. Iowa is the only state to show a decline in revenues from racinos for the period (see Table 5).

#### Pari-mutuel Wagering

Pari-mutuel wagering is the longest-established form of state-sanctioned gambling. It includes events such as horse racing, dog racing, and jai-alai, where wagers relate to the order in which participants finish. Currently, 43 states have legalized pari-mutuel wagering. However, as other forms of gambling have become more widespread, pari-mutuel wagering has lost popularity, and state revenues have seen a steady decline.

Total state revenues from pari-mutuel wagering decreased 27 percent, falling to roughly \$300 million, from fiscal 1998 to 2007. Of the 37 states where pari-mutuel wagering is allowed and information is available, 28 states reported declining revenues from 2006 to 2007, with 13 states reporting double-digit declines. Only 10 states reported increases in revenues from pari-mutuel wagering. About 50 percent of all revenue from pari-mutuel wagering is generated in four states — California, Louisiana, New York, and Pennsylvania (see Table 7).

### Gambling Revenue From All Major Sources

States' revenues from gambling have risen steadily over the last two decades. Income from lotteries, commercial casinos, racinos, and pari-mutuel wagering combined have increased by over 56 percent, from \$14.9 billion in fiscal year 1998 to \$23.3 billion in fiscal year 2007 (see Figure 3), for an average annual increase of 5.1 percent. After adjusting for inflation, revenues from the major sources of gambling increased by 26 percent from fiscal 1998 to fiscal 2007.

Over the past three years, growth in gambling revenue has slowed. State revenue from all gambling activities rose by 8.7 percent from fiscal 2005 through 2007. In the two preceding years, revenue growth was almost twice that level, at 17.1 percent. As mentioned earlier in this report, during the first three quarters of states' 2007-08 fiscal year, revenue from casinos rose only 0.7 percent compared to the same period of the previous year. To be sure, states have seen periods of slower

| Table 6: States' Reliance on Gambling Revenue |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| S tate  | Change in Gambling<br>Revenue as Share of Own-<br>Source Revenue, 1998-2006 | Gambling Revenue as Share<br>of States' Own-Source<br>General Revenue, FY 2006 |  |  |
| Nevada  | -2.4%   | 13.4%  |  |  |
| West Virginia                                 | 6.4%  | 8.9%   |  |  |
| R hode Island                                 | 3.3%  | 8.1%   |  |  |
| S outh Dakota                                 | -1.3%   | 6.8%   |  |  |
| Delaware                                      | 1.3%  | 5.3%   |  |  |
| Louisiana                                     | 1.3%  | 4.9%   |  |  |
| Missouri                                      | 1.1%  | 4.7%   |  |  |
| Indiana                                       | 0.6%  | 4.6%   |  |  |
| Oregon  | 0.3%  | 4.1%   |  |  |
| Illinois                                      | 0.6%  | 4.0%   |  |  |
| New Jersey                                    | -0.8%   | 3.8%   |  |  |
| Georgia                                       | 0.0%  | 3.8%   |  |  |
| •   | 0.0%  | 3.8%   |  |  |
| lowa<br>Mississiani                           |   |  |  |  |
| Mississippi<br>Massachusetts                  | -1.0%   | 3.6%   |  |  |
|   | -0.7%   | 3.4%   |  |  |
| Michigan                                      | 0.7%  | 3.0%   |  |  |
| New York                                      | -0.5%   | 2.9%   |  |  |
| Florida                                       | -0.3%   | 2.7%   |  |  |
| Maryland                                      | -0.7%   | 2.6%   |  |  |
| South Carolina                                | 2.5%  | 2.5%   |  |  |
| Pennsylvania                                  | -0.2%   | 2.5%   |  |  |
| New Hampshire                                 | -0.6%   | 2.4%   |  |  |
| Connecticut                                   | -0.5%   | 1.9%   |  |  |
| Texas   | -1.6%   | 1.9%   |  |  |
| Ohio  | -1.3%   | 1.9%   |  |  |
| C olorado                                     | -0.2%   | 1.8%   |  |  |
| Tennessee                                     | 1.8%  | 1.8%   |  |  |
| Virginia                                      | -0.3%   | 1.8%   |  |  |
| Kentucky                                      | -0.3%   | 1.5%   |  |  |
| Maine   | -0.2%   | 1.3%   |  |  |
| New Mexico                                    | 0.8%  | 1.2%   |  |  |
| C a lifornia                                  | -0.2%   | 0.9%   |  |  |
| Arizona                                       | 0.0%  | 0.9%   |  |  |
| Kansas  | -0.2%   | 0.9%   |  |  |
| Idaho   | 0.1%  | 0.8%   |  |  |
| Wisconsin                                     | -0.1%   | 0.8%   |  |  |
| Vermont                                       | -0.8%   | 0.7%   |  |  |
| Oklahoma                                      | 0.6%  | 0.7%   |  |  |
| Minnes ota                                    | -0.1%   | 0.6%   |  |  |
| Washington                                    | -0.2%   | 0.6%   |  |  |
| Nebraska                                      | 0.0%  | 0.5%   |  |  |
| North Dakota<br>Montana                       | 0.3%<br>-0.1%   | 0.3%<br>0.3%   |  |  |
| North Carolina                                | 0.2%  | 0.2%   |  |  |
| Arkansas                                      | -0.1%   | 0.1%   |  |  |
| Alabama                                       | 0.0%  | 0.0%   |  |  |
| Wyoming                                       | 0.0%  | 0.0%   |  |  |
| United States                                 | 0.0%  | 2.3%   |  |  |

23,278 22,260 24,000 21,415 22,000 19,809 18,286 20,000 17,400 17,383 16,912 16,268 16,083 18,000 15,710 15,167 14,900 14,949 16,000 13,848 13,255 12,153 12,006 14,000 11,951 11,981 12,000 10,000 8,000 4,830 5,037 4,663 4,392 4,012 6,000 3,512 3,700 3,286 2,757 2,426 4,000 2,000 0 1998 1999 2001 2002 2004 2005 2006 2007 2000 2003 Pari-mutuels Racino Casino Growth Rate in Nominal Gambling Revenue, FY 1998-99 to 2006-07 1998-99 2005-06 2006-07 1999-00 2000-01 2001-02 2002-03 2003-04 2004-05 1.8% 3.6% 2.4% 8.2% 5.1% 8.3% 8.1% 3.9% 4.6%

Figure 3: Trends in State Gambling Revenue, FY 1998-2007

growth before – in fiscal 1999 and 2001, for example. Introduction of new gambling activities has sparked stronger growth in succeeding years. Whether significant further expansion of state-sanctioned gambling will occur in coming years is difficult to predict.

Looking at the last two fiscal years, overall revenue from gambling increased 4.6 percent from fiscal 2006 to fiscal 2007. The strongest growth was in the Southeast, where collections grew 8.2 percent; followed by the Mid-Atlantic states, at 6.3 percent. Of the 47 states with major gambling revenue, 27 states reported growth, with six states — Maine, Pennsylvania, Mississippi, Montana, Oregon, and North Carolina — seeing double-digit increases. However, 20 states showed a decline in gambling revenue collections, the largest being 14.7 percent for Wyoming. Figure 3 shows state-by-state changes in major gambling revenue from fiscal year 2006 to 2007.

State revenues from lotteries, commercial casinos, racinos, and pari-mutuel wagering combined amounted to no less than 2.1 percent and no more than 2.5 percent of state own-source general revenues (taxes, charges, etc.) between fiscal years 1998 and 2006. In fiscal year 2006, Nevada and West Virginia had the highest share of gambling revenue as a percentage of own-source revenue, at 13.4 and 8.9 percent, respectively (see Table 6). Alabama, Arkansas, and Wyoming rely the least on revenue from gambling. As a share of states' own-source revenue, gambling revenue declined in 30 states from fiscal year 1998 to 2006. Ten states increased their dependence on gambling revenue by less than 1 percentage point, while seven saw increases of more than 1 percentage point. West Virginia and Rhode Island experienced the largest increases in dependence on gambling revenue over the period, at 6.4 and 3.3 percentage points, respectively.

<sup>7</sup> Census data on overall state revenues are not available for years after fiscal 2006.

State revenue from gambling also varies widely when adjusted for population. In Wyoming and Alabama, gambling revenue amounts to less than \$1 per resident; the figure is more than \$300 per capita in Rhode Island, West Virginia, and Nevada. State-by-state figures appear in Table 10.

Table 10 shows three related measures of gambling revenue in each state, including the state's share of nationwide gambling revenue to states, gambling revenue per capita, and per capita gambling revenue as a percentage of per capita personal income in the state. Based on the rankings, Wyoming and Alabama are ranked low on all three measures. New York and Illinois are ranked as having the highest share of gambling revenue. Both states are also ranked relatively high in terms of per capita gambling revenue and per capita gambling revenue as percent of per capita personal income.

#### **Conclusions**

States rely on revenue from different gambling sources as a key element in overall revenues, and often consider expansion of such activities during economic downturns. Revenue from all major sources of gambling, except for pari-mutuel wagering, showed strong growth from fiscal year 1998 to 2007.

A number of states — including Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, and Pennsylvania — are considering plans to expand or open new racinos and casinos in 2008. The proliferation of casinos and racinos regionally and nationally has increased overall gambling-related revenue to states, while presenting new competitive pressure on states such as Nevada and New Jersey that were early entrants. Recent softening of growth in gambling revenue generally is likely explained partly by broader economic conditions, as tourists reduce travel to destinations such as Las Vegas, as well as lingering concerns about potential social costs from pathological gambling and other problems.

| Table 7: Revenue to States and Localities from Gambling Activities, FY 2007 (\$ in Millions) |             |              |            |        |                | ties, FY 2007                  |
|--|-------------|--------------|------------|--------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| S tate   | Pari-mutuel | Lottery      | Casino     | Racino | Total          | Total revenue,<br>FY 2006-07 % |
| New England  | 22          | 1,645        |            | 20     | 1,687          | -3.5%                          |
| Connecticut  | 9           | 279          |            |        | 288            | -2.2%                          |
| Maine  | 3           | 51           |            | 20     | 74             | 14.1%                          |
| Massachusetts  | 4           | 892          |            |        | 896            | -6.2%                          |
| New Hampshire  | 3           | 79           |            |        | 82             | -1.4%                          |
| R hode Island  | 3           | 321          |            |        | 324            | -1.1%                          |
| Vermont  |             | 23           |            |        | 23             | 2.4%                           |
| Mid-Atlantic   | 55          | 4,885        | 473        | 250    | 5,664          | 6.6%                           |
| Delaware   | 0           | 257          |            |        | 257            | 3.2%                           |
| Maryland   | 2           | 494          | 472        |        | 496            | -1.4%                          |
| New Jersey   | 20          | 826          | 473        |        | 1,300          | -2.0%                          |
| New York<br>Pennsylvania   | 28<br>25    | 2,358<br>950 |            | 250    | 2,386<br>1,225 | 6.9%<br>22.3%                  |
| ,  | 25          | 2 420        | 1.000      |        | 4.442          | 3.6%                           |
| Great Lakes  | 35          | 2,420        | 1,986      |        | 4,442          | 3.6%                           |
| Illinois<br>Indiana  | 9           | 631<br>216   | 818<br>851 |        | 1,458<br>1,072 | 0.7%<br>4.5%                   |
| Michigan   | 9           | 749          | 316        |        | 1,072          | 6.7%                           |
| Ohio   | 12          | 669          | 310        |        | 681            | 3.7%                           |
| Wisconsin  | 1           | 155          |            |        | 156            | 2.7%                           |
| Plains   | 8           | 657          | 631        | 111    | 1,407          | 1.2%                           |
| lowa   | 3           | 58           | 194        | 111    | 365            | 6.3%                           |
| Kansas   | 3           | 71           |            |        | 74             | 5.3%                           |
| Minnes ota   | 2           | 112          |            |        | 114            | -7.3%                          |
| Missouri   |             | 258          | 422        |        | 680            | -0.4%                          |
| Nebraska   | 0           | 29           |            |        | 29             | -3.8%                          |
| North Dakota   | 0           | 7            |            |        | 8              | 1.8%                           |
| S outh Dakota  | 0           | 121          | 15         |        | 137            | 2.7%                           |
| Southeast  | 115         | 4,381        | 799        | 105    | 5,401          | 8.2%                           |
| Alabama  | 3           |              |            |        | 3              | -7.5%                          |
| Arkansas   | 5           |              |            |        | 5              | -1.8%                          |
| Florida  | 28          | 1,263        |            | 50     | 1,341          | 6.6%                           |
| G eorgia   | 6           | 854<br>196   |            |        | 854<br>202     | 3.8%<br>-3.9%                  |
| K entucky<br>Louis iana  | 56          | 128          | 467        | 56     | 706            | 4.0%                           |
| Mississippi  | 30          | 128          | 332        | 30     | 332            | 21.5%                          |
| North Carolina   |             | 314          | 332        |        | 314            | 386.7%                         |
| S outh Carolina  |             | 277          |            |        | 277            | -13.2%                         |
| Tennessee  |             | 272          |            |        | 272            | -2.0%                          |
| Virginia   |             | 437          |            |        | 437            | -3.9%                          |
| W est Virginia   | 17          | 639          |            |        | 657            | 5.3%                           |
| Southwest  | 14          | 1,278        |            | 76     | 1,367          | 0.3%                           |
| Arizona  | 0           | 140          |            |        | 140            | -0.9%                          |
| New Mexico   | 0           | 35           |            | 66     | 101            | 1.8%                           |
| Oklahoma   | 2           | 69           |            | 10     | 81             | 8.1%                           |
| Texas  | 11          | 1,034        |            |        | 1,045          | -0.2%                          |
| Rocky Mountain   |             | 164          | 112        |        | 282            | 1.1%                           |
| Colorado   | 3           | 119          | 112        |        | 234            | -0.5%                          |
| Idaho  | 2           | 34           |            |        | 36             | 5.6%                           |
| Montana  | 0           | 11           |            |        | 12             | 26.4%                          |
| Utah<br>Wyoming  | 0           |              |            |        | NA<br>0        | NA<br>-14.7%                   |
|  |             | 4.0=-        | 4 00-      |        |                |                                |
| Far West   | 42          | 1,951        | 1,035      |        | 3,029          | 4.9%                           |
| Alaska   | 22          | 4 477        |            |        | NA<br>1 214    | NA<br>F 00/                    |
| C a lifornia   | 38          | 1,177        |            |        | 1,214          | -5.0%<br>NA                    |
| Hawaii<br>Nevada   |             |              | 1 025      |        | NA<br>1,035    | NA<br>3.2%                     |
| Oregon   | 3           | 656          | 1,035      |        | 659            | 35.6%                          |
| Washington   | 2           | 118          |            |        | 120            | 0.9%                           |
| United States  | 296         | 17,383       | 5,037      | 562    | 23,278         | 4.6%                           |

| Ctata                | Lottery | Commercial   | Racinos | Pari-mutuel  | Native       |
|----------------------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|--------------|
| State                | (42)    | Casinos (12) | (11)    | (43)         | American     |
| Alabama              |         |              |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| Alaska               |         |              |         |              | Yes          |
| Arizona              | 1981    |              |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| Arkansas             |         |              |         | Yes          |              |
| C a lifornia         | 1985    |              |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| C olora do           | 1983    | 1990         |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| Connecticut          | 1972    |              |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| Delaware             | 1975    |              | 1994    | Yes          |              |
| F lorida             | 1987    |              | 2006    | Yes          | Yes          |
| G eorgia             | 1993    |              |         |              |              |
|                      |         |              |         |              |              |
| daho                 | 1989    |              |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| llinois              | 1974    | 1990         |         | Yes          |              |
| ndiana               | 1989    | 1993         |         | Yes          |              |
| owa                  | 1985    | 1989         | 1994    | Yes          | Yes          |
| Kansas               | 1987    |              |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| Kentucky             | 1989    |              |         | Yes          |              |
| ouis ia na           | 1991    | 1991         | 1997    | Yes          | Yes          |
| Maine                | 1974    |              | 2004    | Yes          | Yes          |
| Maryland             | 1973    |              |         | Yes          |              |
| Mas sachus etts      | 1972    |              |         | Yes          |              |
| Michigan             | 1972    | 1996         |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| Vinnesota            | 1990    |              |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| Mississippi          |         | 1990         |         |              | Yes          |
| Missouri             | 1986    | 1993         |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| Montana              | 1986    | 2000         |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| Nebraska             | 1993    |              |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| Nevada               | 2000    | 1931         |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| New Hampshire        | 1964    | 1331         |         | Yes          | 1 63         |
| New Jersey           | 1970    | 1976         |         | Yes          |              |
| New Mexico           | 1996    | 1370         | 1997    | Yes          | Yes          |
| New York             | 1967    |              | 2001    | Yes          | Yes          |
| North Carolina       | 2006    |              | 2001    |              | Yes          |
| North Dakota         | 2004    |              |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| Ohio                 | 1974    |              |         | Yes          | 1 63         |
| Oklahoma             | 2005    |              | 2004    | Yes          | Yes          |
| Oregon               | 1984    |              | 2007    | Yes          | Yes          |
| Pennsylvania         | 1971    | 2004         | 2004    | Yes          | Yes          |
| Rhode Island         | 1974    | 2004         | 1992    | Yes          | 1 63         |
| South Carolina       | 2001    |              | 1332    | 1 63         | Yes          |
| South Dakota         | 1987    | 1989         |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| Tennessee            | 2004    | 1303         |         | Yes          | 162          |
| Texas                | 1991    |              |         | Yes          | Yes          |
| Jtah                 | 1331    |              |         | 1 62         | 1 62         |
| /ermont              | 1977    |              |         | Yes          |              |
|                      | 1977    |              |         |              |              |
| /irginia             | 1988    |              |         | Y es<br>Y es | Yes          |
| Washington           |         |              | 1004    |              | res          |
| West Virginia        | 1986    |              | 1994    | Yes          | V            |
| Wisconsin<br>Wyoming | 1988    |              |         | Y es<br>Y es | Y es<br>Y es |

| Table 9: Gambling Revenue and Percent Change, FY 1998 to 2007 |                          |                          |                   |  |  |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| S tates   | FY 1998 (\$ in millions) | FY 2007 (\$ in millions) | % change, 1998-07 |  |  |
| Alabama   | 4                        | 3                        | -29%              |  |  |
| Alaska  | NA                       | NA                       | NA                |  |  |
| Arizona   | 82                       | 140                      | 72%               |  |  |
| Arkansas  | 7                        | 5                        | -21%              |  |  |
| C a lifornia  | 887                      | 1,214                    | 37%               |  |  |
| C olora do  | 166                      | 234                      | 41%               |  |  |
| Connecticut   | 275                      | 288                      | 4%                |  |  |
| Delaware  | 126                      | 257                      | 105%              |  |  |
| F lorida  | 861                      | 1,341                    | 56%               |  |  |
| Georgia   | 555                      | 854                      | 54%               |  |  |
| Hawaii  | NA                       | NA                       | NA                |  |  |
| Idaho   | 21                       | 36                       | 75%               |  |  |
| Illinois  | 862                      | 1,458                    | 69%               |  |  |
| Indiana   | 523                      | 1,072                    | 105%              |  |  |
| Iowa  | 202                      | 365                      | 81%               |  |  |
| Kansas  | 64                       | 74                       | 15%               |  |  |
| Kentucky  | 175                      | 202                      | 16%               |  |  |
| Louisiana   | 349                      | 706                      | 103%              |  |  |
| Maine   | 46                       | 74                       | 62%               |  |  |
| Maryland  | 402                      | 496                      | 23%               |  |  |
| Massachusetts   | 799                      | 896                      | 12%               |  |  |
| Michigan  | 629                      | 1,074                    | 71%               |  |  |
| Minnesota   | 88                       | 114                      | 29%               |  |  |
| Mississippi   | 250                      | 332                      | 33%               |  |  |
| Missouri  | 390                      | 680                      | 74%               |  |  |
| Montana   | 7                        | 12                       | 71%               |  |  |
| Nebraska  | 20                       | 29                       | 45%               |  |  |
| Nevada  | 584                      | 1,035                    | 77%               |  |  |
| New Hampshire   | 58                       | 82                       | 40%               |  |  |
| New Jersey  | 1,011                    | 1,300                    | 29%               |  |  |
| New Mexico  | 20                       | 101                      | 399%              |  |  |
| New York  | 1,567                    | 2,386                    | 52%               |  |  |
| North Carolina  | NA                       | 314                      | NA                |  |  |
| North Dakota  | NA                       | 8                        | NA                |  |  |
| Ohio  | 740                      | 681                      | -8%               |  |  |
| Oklahoma  | 5                        | 81                       | 1597%             |  |  |
| Oregon  | 299                      | 659                      | 121%              |  |  |
| Pennsylvania  | 737                      | 1,225                    | 66%               |  |  |
| R hode Island   | 125                      | 324                      | 159%              |  |  |
| S outh Carolina   | NA                       | 277                      | NA                |  |  |
| S outh Dakota   | 107                      | 137                      | 27%               |  |  |
| Tennessee   | NA                       | 272                      | NA                |  |  |
| Texas   | 1,172                    | 1,045                    | -11%              |  |  |
| Utah  | NA                       | NA                       | NA                |  |  |
| Vermont   | 23                       | 23                       | 3%                |  |  |
| Virginia  | 319                      | 437                      | 37%               |  |  |
| Washington  | 117                      | 120                      | 3%                |  |  |
| W est Virginia  | 100                      | 657                      | 555%              |  |  |
| Wisconsin   | 125                      | 156                      | 25%               |  |  |
| Wyoming   | 0                        | 0                        | -16%              |  |  |
| United States   | 14,900                   | 23,278                   | 56%               |  |  |

| 1                | Table 10: Gambling Revenue: Ranking the States |      |            |             |         |                     |  |
|------------------|--|------|------------|-------------|---------|---------------------|--|
| S tate           | State Share o                                  |      | Revenue Pe | er Resident |         | as % of<br>I Income |  |
|                  | Percent  | Rank | Dollars    | Rank        | Percent | Rank                |  |
| Alabama          | 0.0%   | 46   | 0.6        | 46          | 0.0%    | 46                  |  |
| Alaska           | NA   | NA   | NA         | NA          | NA      | NA                  |  |
| Arizona          | 0.6%   | 31   | 22.1       | 39          | 0.1%    | 38                  |  |
| Arkansas         | 0.0%   | 45   | 1.9        | 45          | 0.0%    | 45                  |  |
| C a lifornia     | 5.2%   | 6    | 33.2       | 34          | 0.1%    | 34                  |  |
| C olora do       | 1.0%   | 28   | 48.1       | 28          | 0.1%    | 31                  |  |
| Connecticut      | 1.2%   | 24   | 82.1       | 20          | 0.2%    | 26                  |  |
| Delaware         | 1.1%   | 27   | 297.0      | 4           | 0.7%    | 4                   |  |
| F lorida         | 5.8%   | 3    | 73.5       | 21          | 0.2%    | 21                  |  |
| Georgia          | 3.7%   | 12   | 89.4       | 18          | 0.3%    | 16                  |  |
| Hawaii           | NA   | NA   | NA         | NA          | NA      | NA                  |  |
| Idaho            | 0.2%   | 40   | 24.0       | 37          | 0.1%    | 36                  |  |
| Illinois         | 6.3%   | 2    | 113.4      | 15          | 0.3%    | 15                  |  |
| Indiana          | 4.6%   | 8    | 168.9      | 7           | 0.5%    | 7                   |  |
| Iowa             | 1.6%   | 20   | 122.3      | 12          | 0.3%    | 10                  |  |
| Kansas           | 0.3%   | 39   | 26.6       | 36          | 0.1%    | 37                  |  |
| Kentucky         | 0.9%   | 29   | 47.7       | 29          | 0.2%    | 25                  |  |
| Louisiana        | 3.0%   | 13   | 164.5      | 8           | 0.5%    | 8                   |  |
| Maine            | 0.3%   | 38   | 56.2       | 26          | 0.2%    | 23                  |  |
| Maryland         | 2.1%   | 18   | 88.3       | 19          | 0.2%    | 20                  |  |
| Massachusetts    | 3.9%   | 11   | 138.9      | 10          | 0.3%    | 14                  |  |
| Michigan         | 4.6%   | 7    | 106.7      | 16          | 0.3%    | 13                  |  |
| Minnes ota       | 0.5%   | 34   | 21.9       | 40          | 0.1%    | 40                  |  |
| Mississippi      | 1.4%   | 21   | 113.8      | 14          | 0.4%    | 9                   |  |
| Missouri         | 2.9%   | 15   | 115.7      | 13          | 0.3%    | 11                  |  |
| Montana          | 0.0%   | 43   | 12.1       | 43          | 0.0%    | 43                  |  |
| Nebraska         | 0.1%   | 41   | 16.6       | 42          | 0.0%    | 42                  |  |
| Nevada           | 4.5%   | 10   | 403.6      | 1           | 1.0%    | 2                   |  |
| New Hampshire    | 0.4%   | 36   | 62.4       | 23          | 0.2%    | 27                  |  |
| New Jersey       | 5.6%   | 4    | 149.6      | 9           | 0.3%    | 12                  |  |
| New Mexico       | 0.4%   | 35   | 51.2       | 27          | 0.2%    | 24                  |  |
| New York         | 10.3%  | 1    | 123.6      | 11          | 0.3%    | 17                  |  |
| North Carolina   | 1.4%   | 23   | 34.7       | 33          | 0.1%    | 32                  |  |
| North Dakota     | 0.0%   | 44   | 11.8       | 44          | 0.0%    | 44                  |  |
| Ohio             | 2.9%   | 14   | 59.4       | 24          | 0.2%    | 22                  |  |
| Oklahoma         | 0.3%   | 37   | 22.4       | 38          | 0.1%    | 39                  |  |
| Oregon           | 2.8%   | 16   | 175.9      | 5           | 0.5%    | 6                   |  |
| Pennsylvania     | 5.3%   | 5    | 98.5       | 17          | 0.3%    | 18                  |  |
| R hode Island    | 1.4%   | 22   | 306.2      | 3           | 0.8%    | 3                   |  |
| S outh C arolina | 1.2%   | 25   | 62.9       | 22          | 0.2%    | 19                  |  |
| S outh Dakota    | 0.6%   | 32   | 171.5      | 6           | 0.5%    | 5                   |  |
| Tennessee        | 1.2%   | 26   | 44.2       | 30          | 0.1%    | 29                  |  |
| Texas            | 4.5%   | 9    | 43.7       | 31          | 0.1%    | 30                  |  |
| Utah             | NA   | NA   | NA         | NA          | NA      | NA                  |  |
| Vermont          | 0.1%   | 42   | 37.7       | 32          | 0.1%    | 33                  |  |
| Virginia         | 1.9%   | 19   | 56.7       | 25          | 0.1%    | 28                  |  |
| Washington       | 0.5%   | 33   | 18.5       | 41          | 0.0%    | 41                  |  |
| W est Virginia   | 2.8%   | 17   | 362.3      | 2           | 1.2%    | 1                   |  |
| Wisconsin        | 0.7%   | 30   | 27.8       | 35          | 0.1%    | 35                  |  |
| Wyoming          | 0.0%   | 47   | 0.3        | 47          | 0.0%    | 47                  |  |
| United States    | 100.0%   |      | 77.3       |             | 0.2%    |                     |  |

# About The Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government's Fiscal Studies Program

The Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government, the public policy research arm of the State University of New York, was established in 1982 to bring the resources of the 64-campus SUNY system to bear on public policy issues. The Institute is active nationally in research and special projects on the role of state governments in American federalism and the management and finances of both state and local governments in major areas of domestic public affairs.

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