

G3-247 Report  
INDIAN GAMING

Gaming with reservations

There is a sacred Dakota Sioux tribal proverb which says: "We will be known forever by the tracks we leave." Indeed the path created by the Indian gaming sector has been a unique story of development and growth and one which mixes old world culture with modern technology. It's a joining of two worlds which has not only benefited many tribal nations but also brought gaming to US jurisdictions where otherwise it would not be permitted.



- 01 The Mohegan Sun Casino, Connecticut.
- 02 The Little Creek Casino Resort, Michigan.

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dents and there are some 28 tribal colleges. Indian tribes hold more than 55 million acres of land today, around two per cent of the US total land mass. Most lands are arid and in remote regions. The largest reservation, the Navajo Nation, covers an area as large as West Virginia whilst others are a few acres whilst some tribes have no land at all.

Indian nations, tribes and other indigenous communities are afflicted by poverty, poor health and discrimination throughout the world. The Resource Centre has been working in north, central and south America to protect the rights of indigenous people.

*By 1989 the average median family income on Indian reservations was \$13,500 compared to \$34,200 in the rest of the country.*

Federal law concerning Indian and Alaskan native nations is, according to the centre, 'terribly unjust' and they are campaigning to change this.

In 2007 the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was adopted by the UN General Assembly. The US was one of a handful of countries which refrained from backing the declaration initially but in 2010 President Obama announced the American's support.

The tribes have the right to form their own governments and enforce laws within the land, to tax and to license and regulate activities.

The Declaration is a culmination of over 30 years work by various advocates and for the first time gives international recognition to the individual rights of over 370 million native people worldwide.

However the Native Americans still struggle with poverty both on the reservations and in urban life and still face prejudice, mistreatment and inequality. Around 400,000 still live on reservation land and about a quarter of Indian people live in poverty whilst unemployment on reservations is high.

It is a long and complex document with 46 articles but basically looks at the human rights and fundamental freedom of indigenous people such as religion, health issues, infrastructure, politics, culture, education, economy and land rights.

By 1989 the average median family income on reservations was \$13,500 compared to \$34,200 in the rest of the country. Some 47 per cent of families lived in poverty and alcoholism was very high. However they have faced centuries of economic, political and cultural changes and have managed to survive and continue to persevere bound together by family, history and culture.

The President has since outlined a number of programmes to be implemented to improve conditions for Native Americans and their relationship with the government.

Today the main challenges are rooted in economic conditions and those American Indians living on the 300 or so reservations are among the poorest people in the US.

It now opens up an opportunity for native nations to correct the present law such as the taking of Indian lands and property without compensation, violation of treaty obligations, stripping of inherent tribal government powers, elimination of long standing hunting and fishing rights, mismanagement of tribal trust funds by the federal government and the unjustifiable level of federal control over tribal lands and resources.

According to the Indian Law Resource Centre,

Native American Indians are the indigenous people in North America comprising of numerous native American tribes and ethnic groups and are independent sovereigns which existed long before Columbus ever set foot on American soil.

The migration of Europeans to the Americas in the 15th century and their importation of Africans as slaves saw centuries of conflict between the two societies. Many Native Americans lived a hunter-gatherer type existence occupying their lands for hunting or agriculture. Europeans had different ideas about land property rights and over the centuries this has often been the cause of political and social tensions.

Between the 16th and 19th centuries the population of Indians rapidly declined. Many Native Americans were wiped out after contact with Europeans and infectious diseases such as small pox and measles epidemics spread. By 1800 the population had declined to around 600,000 and dropped to around 250,000 by 1890.

When the United States of America was established the idea of 'civilising' the Native Americans was introduced and assimilation whether volun-

tary or forced became a consistent policy through American administrations.

During the 19th century the growth of the European- American population meant increased pressure on the Native American lands and warfare between the groups increased. By 1830 the US Congress had passed the Indian Removal Act which authorised the government to relocate tribes from their homelands to established states to lands west of Mississippi River and as many as 100,000 were relocated to the west.

Indian Wars continued into the 20th century and as more and more non-natives arrived, the US was eager to expand and develop farming for the new immigrants and the government began to force the purchase Native American land by treaties and land cessions which caused huge tensions. More than 90 million acres (around two thirds of reservation land) were taken from tribes and given to settlers.

In 1924 the US signed the Indian Citizenship Act which enabled the Native Americans to become citizens of the US and so began a plan to restore Indian lands to tribes and various rehabilitation

01 Of the 308 million people in the US around 4.1 million (1.5 per cent) are said to American Indian or Alaska Native or a mix of other indigenous races. There are in total 562 federally recognised Indian Nations in the United States of which 229 are located in Alaska and the rest are located in 33 other US states with the majority in Alaska, New Mexico, South Dakota, Oklahoma and Montana.

programmes were set up. Today Native Americans have a unique relationship with the US and are recognised as Sovereign governments just like Canada and California. After ceding millions of acres of land to the US, in return they received the right of continued self government on their own lands.

The self government system serves the same purpose it always has which is to ensure that Indian Nations remain viable as distinct groups of people. They have dedicated reservations throughout the

US which have been declared protected land. Since the 1960s they have founded newspapers and online media, television channels, community schools, museums and language programmes whilst cultural activism had led to a huge expansion to preserve the indigenous language for the younger generation.

Migration to urban areas continues to grow with around 70 per cent of Native Americans living in urban areas in 2012 up from 45 per cent in 1970. The largest Indian tribes include the Navajo, Cherokee, Choctaw, Sioux, Chippewa, Apache and Blackfeet.

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The total population of the tribes is around 1.9 million whilst they supply 183 schools which educate around 42,000 elementary and secondary stu-





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**THE TRIBAL GAMING STORY**

Since 1832 the US Supreme Court has upheld the rights of the Native American to self rule allowing them to control elements such as fishing, hunting and mineral rights. In the 1960s there were no lotteries in the US and only one state, Nevada, was permitted casinos. This all began to change in the 1970s.

Story has it that in the early 1970s a Chippewa couple Russell and Helen Bryan, who were living in a mobile home on Indian lands in Minnesota, received a property tax bill from the local Itasca County. They appealed and the lawsuit to challenge the tax ended up in the state courts.

The Bryans lost their case so they then took the issue to the Minnesota Supreme Court where they lost again. Undeterred they finally took the case to the United States Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court granted a review and announced that states did not have the authority to tax Indians on Indian reservation lands. They also announced that the state did not have the authority to regulate Indian activities by Indians on Indian reservation land.

This sparked a few ideas and the stage was now set for the arrival of Indian gaming and within a few years many enterprising tribes began to operate bingo in various locations around the US.

A few years down the line in 1979 Howard Tommie, leader of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, opened a large high stakes bingo venue on their reservation land in Fort Lauderdale. The tribe planned to open the venue six days a week which



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- 01 The Wild Horse Casino, Oregon.
- 02 The Kickapoo Lucky Eagle Casino, Texas.
- 03 The WinStar Casino, Oklahoma.
- 04 Sky Ute Casino, Colorado.
- 05 Snoqualmie Casino, Washington.
- 06 Muckleshoot Casino, Washington.

*In 1988 Congress recognised but limited the right of Indian Nations to conduct gaming and the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) was created.*

was contrary to Florida laws which only permitted bingo halls to be open for two days a week. Jackpot levels were also higher than the \$100 maximum permitted.

Arrests were made when it opened and the tribe sued the county claiming Indian tribes had sovereignty rights and the district court ruled in favour of the Indians. At the time only five states prohibited all types of gambling and this gave the Indian tribes a great deal of latitude to expand. By 1988 over 100 tribes were engaged in bingo with revenues of around \$100m.

Other tribes began to open bingos and casinos on reservation lands and set higher gaming prizes arguing their sovereignty made them immune from state laws. In the late 1970s and all through the 1980s the question over the legality of tribal gaming and immunity from the state was tackled repeatedly in the courts.

Then along came the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians near Indio in California. This tribe was extremely poor and turned to casino operations, bingo and poker halls in a bid to raise funding. The police shut down their gambling halls and made numerous arrests. The Cabazon Band sued the federal courts (California v Cabazon Band) and won. The case was reviewed in the Supreme Courts and the court ruled that Indian gaming was to be regulated exclusively by Congress and the federal government, not the state government, with tribal sovereignty upheld.

It was stated that if the state merely regulated, but does not criminally prohibit a form of gambling,

- 01 Today, Indian gaming exists in 28 states: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.
- 02 Some 65 per cent of the tribal casinos saw their revenues increase last year whilst 35 per cent saw declines or no growth.

then the tribes in that state may engage in gaming free of state control.

In 1988 Congress recognised but limited the right of Indian Nations to conduct gaming and the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) was created by the

*There are a total of 853,000 slot machines in commercial and tribal casinos in the US market. More than half are located in commercial casinos.*

National Indian Gaming Commission and passed.

However the expansion of Indian gaming was not welcomed from all quarters as many were worried about organised crime whilst non gaming operations were worried about competition.

Tribal gaming is now regulated at four levels – tribal government, state government, NIGC and federal government agencies.

When IGRA was introduced there were 80 Indian Tribes engaged in some form of gaming. Today that

figure is up to 240 tribes which operate gaming facilities.

The National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) was created in 1988 to regulate high stakes from Indian gaming and the commission is headed by Chairwoman Tracie Stevens and two commissioners. The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act was enacted in October 1988 and the law states the following:

- The establishment of the National Indian Gaming Commission comprising of three full time members. These will issue orders of temporary closure of gaming activities, levy and collect civil fines, approve tribal ordinances or resolutions regulating Class II and III gaming and approve management contracts for Class II and III.
- There are three types of gaming permitted in Indian gaming:

1. Class I consists of social games, traditional and cultural forms of Indian gaming (ie: contests and games of skill) for minimal value prizes and this is solely regulated by the Indian tribes.
2. Class II includes limited card games, lotto and non-electronic bingo (ie: pull-tabs, punch boards, instant bingo) if lawful in the respective states. Class II games are within the jurisdiction of the tribes but under the oversight of NIGC.





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- 01 The Dancing Eagle Casino, New Mexico.
- 02 The Akwesasne Mohawk Casino, New York.
- 03 Riverwind Hotel and Casino, Oklahoma.
- 04 Potawatomi Bingo Casino, Wisconsin.

- 01 The total annual revenue in 2011 for all Indian Gaming amounted to \$27.2bn compared to \$26.5m in 2010 and \$14.7m back in 2002. The growth has been steady. Of the total gaming revenues last year 23 gaming operations had revenues of over \$250m, 55 operations had revenues of between \$100 and \$250m, 52 with \$50 to \$100m, 98 with \$25 to \$50m, 70 with \$3 to \$10m revenues and 68 tribes had revenues under \$3m.
- 02 Tribal gaming is responsible for around 43.5 per cent of all US casino gaming revenue compared to commercial casinos which gathers around 45 per cent whilst racinos account for the remaining 11.5 per cent.

There are 135 tribal gaming commissions in operation nationwide.

ing will be monitored under existing law and by the NIGC.

3. Class III includes all other gaming activities such as slot machines and other games usually operated by Nevada or Atlantic city casinos, lotteries or pari-mutuel facilities. They are subject to negotiation between the state and tribe. Official tribal gaming commissions possess onsite regulatory responsibility.

- The commission establishes fees to be paid annually to the commission by each Class II and III gaming operation this includes.

1. No more than 2.5 per cent of the first \$1,500,000
2. No more than five per cent of amounts exceeding \$1,500,000 of the gross revenues from each activity.
3. If a tribe has a self-regulation certificate the rate of fees is no more than 0.25 per cent of gross revenues from self regulated class II gaming operations.

- Net revenues from tribal gaming should be used to fund tribal government operations or programmes or welfare of the Indian tribe, promoting tribal economic development, donated to charity or help fund operations of local government agencies.

- Any state and tribe may enter into a compact but this compact only takes effect when notice of approval by the Secretary of such compact is published in the Federal Register.

- If a tribe wishes to make per capita payments to its members they must have a Tribal Revenue Allocation Plan (RAP) approved by the Secretary of the Interior which is basically a document which describes how the tribe will allocate net gaming revenues. This will be

reviewed and approved. The Plan will include various information, such as a breakdown of the uses for the allocation of the funds.

- IGRA prohibits gaming on lands that the Secretary of Interior acquired in trust for an Indian tribe after October 1988.

There are three class types of gaming set out by the IGRA. The above table is a shortened list of the classified games.

#### WHERE AND WHAT

Gambling has now become a leading industry for the Native Americans and creates a stream of revenue which some communities are using to build diversified economies. The tribes invest around \$300m annually on the regulation of their operations. When President Ronald Reagan initially signed the IGRA Indian gaming revenue shot up from \$100m in 1988 to \$16.7bn in 2006.

Today Indian gaming exists in 28 states: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

There are 460 Indian Gaming establishments in these 28 states which are operated by 242 tribes (40 per cent of the total 562 tribes).

#### IGRA CLASSIFIED GAMES

Game Title	Class II or III	Type of Game	State (Cards)	Date Issued
Action Jack	II	Card game		1996
Apache 21	III	Card game	Arizona	1995
Asian Bingo	II	Card game	Arizona	1998
Break the Bank	III	Pull tabs		2001
Cadillac Jack Triple Threat Bingo	II	Bingo		2004
Cherokee Blackjack Tournament	III	Card game	Oklahoma	2003
Coeur d'Alene National Indian Lottery	III	Internet gaming		1999
Crazy Reels	III	Other		1999
Dice Games	III			1995
Digideal Digital Card System	III	Card game	Florida, Idaho, Washington,	2004
Evergreen Bingo	III	Bingo		1999
Interblock Gaming Machines	III			2003
Interblock Roulette and Dice Games	III			2005
Keno	III			2005
Lucky Lotto	III	Other		2005
Mega Bingo	II	Bingo		1995
Megamania System	II	Bingo		1995
National Indian Bingo	II & III	Bingo		1999/2000
National Indian Lottery	III	Internet Gaming		1999
Nova Bingo Systems	II	Bingo		2005
Pachinko Machines	III	Other		2005
Pai Gow	II	Card game	California	1995
Tournament Blackjack	II	Card game	Oklahoma	2003
Trips or Better Poker	II	Card game	Florida, Idaho, Washington	2004
Win Sports Betting	III	Internet gaming		2001

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There are a total of 853,000 slot machines in com-

mercial and tribal casinos in the US market. More than half are located in commercial casinos whilst 38.5 per cent are in tribal casino properties.

Tribal gaming is responsible for around 43.5 per cent of all US casino gaming revenue compared to commercial casinos which gathers around 45 per cent whilst racinos account for the remaining 11.5 per cent.

The Indian casinos, including their non gaming



- 01 The Turning Stone Casino, New York
- 02 Seneca Allegany Casino, New York
- 03 Sac & Fox Casino, Kansas.
- 04 The Turning Stone Casino, New York.
- 05 Northern Edge Navajo Casino, New Mexico.
- 06 Sky Dancer Casino & Hotel, North Dakota



operations generated around \$29.6bn in output and paid non tribal governments more than \$1.4bn in taxes in 2011.

Some 65 per cent of the tribal casinos saw their revenues increase last year whilst 35 per cent saw declines or no growth. California, Oklahoma, Washington, Florida and Connecticut are the top five Indian gaming states accounting for 61 per cent of total gambling revenue.

Some states such as Alabama and Oklahoma saw considerable growth. Alabama's tribal gaming growth grew by 24.6 per cent in 2011 whilst Oklahoma saw a 7.7 per cent gain. Florida also saw a 4.6 per cent growth.

Wisconsin, however, has declined by five per cent which is the fourth year of falling revenues whilst Connecticut also saw revenue drops of 2.3 per cent. California remains the largest Indian gaming state with \$6.8bn in revenues in 2011 followed by Oklahoma with \$3.23bn.

*Some states prohibit gaming whilst others limit it to bingo only. Some tribes, such as the Winnemem Wintu in California, refuse to participate in gambling*

Successful tribes enjoy various benefits in offering gaming and revenues support governmental and economic developments, employment for tribal members, reduction in public assistance expenditures, increased spending on the reservation and increased tourism.

However American Indian gaming in reality only represents eight per cent of the US gaming market. The rest is made up of governmental gaming (42 per cent) and commercial gaming (50 per cent).

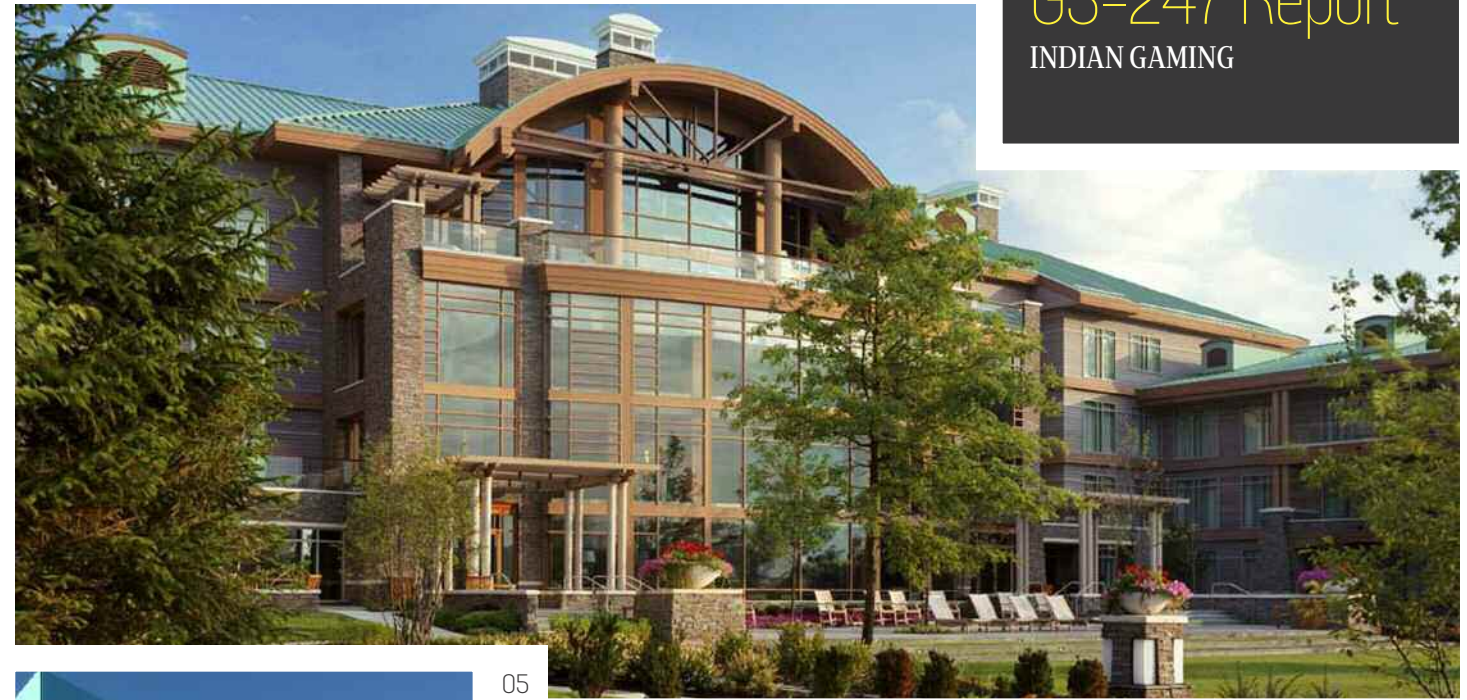
Meanwhile not all tribes have had great success

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01 Compacts vary. For example the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma signed a compact with the state in 2005 for the operation of Class III gaming. The tribe agreed to pay an annual fee to the state of four per cent of the first \$10m, five per cent on the next \$10m and six per cent on anything thereafter of gross revenues as well as a monthly 10 per cent payment of the net win from the non house banked card games.

rates with gaming and several factors have restricted the growth of tribal gaming including many being in remote areas while state laws have failed to allow compacts to be negotiated successfully.

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At least 10 states have compacts without termination dates (perpetual) including Minnesota, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, Oregon and Washington.

Some states prohibit gaming entirely whilst others limit it to bingo only. The impact of casinos is widely debated however and some tribes such as the Winnemem Wintu in California refuse to participate in the gambling industry.

Media coverage may give the impression that tribal nations have become rich on casino money but in fact only a small number have found economic success via gambling and those that have, have

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**REGIONAL GAMING FIGURES**

REGION	NUMBER OF OPERATIONS 2011	GAMING REVENUES 2011	NUMBER OF OPERATIONS 2010	GAMING REVENUES 2010
Portland	49	\$2.7bn	50	\$2.6bn
Sacramento	63	\$6.9bn	62	\$6.7bn
Phoenix	48	\$2.6bn	48	\$2.5bn
St Paul	119	\$4.5bn	119	\$4.4bn
Tulsa	64	\$1.8bn	65	\$1.7bn
OK City	51	\$1.7bn	51	\$1.5bn
Washington DC	27	\$6.7bn	27	\$6.7bn
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>\$27.1bn</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>\$26.5bn</b>

- Portland:** Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington
- Sacramento:** California & Northern Nevada
- Phoenix:** Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Southern Nevada
- St Paul:** Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Wyoming
- Tulsa:** Kansas, Eastern Oklahoma
- OK City:** Western Oklahoma, Texas
- Washington DC:** Alabama, Connecticut, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, New York



been able to improve their infrastructure and educational facilities. Like state and local governments, the tribes use revenues from gaming as a tax base to fund services such as education, law enforcement and health care. Indian tribes are required by federal law to use their gaming revenues for such purposes.

The Indian Gaming Working Group was set up to identify and direct resources to Indian gaming matters and look at violations in this area. The group looks at criminal activities and established a liaison with the NIGC.

To operate a gaming facility the tribe must first determine whether the state in which they wish to operate permits such gaming. If the state permits gaming by any person or entity then Class II gaming activities can be conducted without state approval. If the tribe wishes to conduct Class III gaming then a tribal-state compact must be negotiated.

Indian gaming must be conducted on Indian lands within a tribe's jurisdiction and then the tribe must then submit a tribal gaming ordinance to the commission. This must provide information such as proprietary interest, source for net revenues, outside audit information and a process for licensing and background checks.

Net revenues from Indian gaming operations should be used to fund tribal government operations or programmes, provide for general welfare of the tribe and members, promote tribal economic development, donated to charitable organisations or to fund operations of local government agencies. If a tribe wishes to distribute net revenue as per capita payments to members of the tribe they must have a Revenue Allocation Plan.

### TRIBAL GAMING - STATE BY STATE

#### ALABAMA

Gaming tribes:	1 – Poarch Band of Creek Indians of Alabama
Tribal casinos:	3 – Creek Casino Montgomery, Creek Casino Wetumpka and Wind Creek Casino
Type of Gaming:	Class II only

#### Notable Casinos:

- The Poarch Band of Creek Indians are descendants of the original Creek Nations which once covered much of Alabama and Georgia. The Poarch Creeks have not been removed from their tribal lands like other tribes and have lived together for 200 years around the reservations in Poarch, Alabama. This nation is the only federally recognised Indian Tribe in this state.

The tribe operates three gaming facilities including the Creek Casino in Montgomery which opened in 2003 and has over 500 Class II electronic bingo games and is located behind the River Run Golf Course. The Wind Creek Casino and Hotel in Atmore (formerly known as Creek Bingo Palace) opened in 1991 and has hotel and restaura-

- 01 The Seneca Niagara Casino, New York.
- 02 Foxwoods Casino, Connecticut.
- 03 Moapa Tribal Casino, Nevada.
- 04 Meskwaki Bingo & Casino Hotel, Iowa



rant facilities. It houses a 17 storey 236 room hotel and the casino is 57,000 sq.ft with 1,600 gaming machines. The Creek Casino in Wetumpka opened in 2005 and is located on Highway 231 and has 16,000 sq.ft of gaming space with 550 Class II electronic bingo games. All three casinos provide 1,600 jobs at these locations.

#### Information:

The gaming market in Alabama is a little disorientated and the State Constitution of Alabama includes many provisions relating to games of chance and despite bingo games is pretty much banned. Some operators took advantage of the vague definition of bingo and gambling halls have opened. Many now argue that it is unfair that tribal operators can benefit from a virtual gambling monopoly in the state. Revenue from casino operations pays for health care at tribal clinics, a senior centre, assisted living home care for the elderly and other facilities. In February this year the state filed a suit to shut down their three tribal operations plus seized machines and closed down the VictoryLand dog racing track and racino in Shorter, Macon County. The track was reopened in December last year after being closed for two

years. Federal law doesn't allow state police to close the tribal casinos but they have said the tribe cannot operate slot machines or lotteries.

#### ALASKA

Gaming tribes:	2 – Klawock Cooperative Association and Metlakatla Indian Community
Tribal casinos:	2 – Klawock Bingo and Metlakatla Bingo
Type of Gaming:	Class II only

#### Notable Casinos:

- Klawock Bingo is located in Klawock and Metlakatla Bingo is located in Metlakatla. The Klawock.

Cooperative first settlers were called Tlingit who came from the northern village of Tuxekan and used the area as a fishing camp. The Metlakatla is an Alaskan community of Tsimshian people who followed a missionary to their new home on Annette Island. The bingo hall has 70 seats.

#### Information:

The Alaska region involves a diverse mix of tribes

and with the exception of the Annette Island Reserve, which falls under the Northwest region, the entire state of Alaska falls under the jurisdiction of the Alaska region. Nearly 80,000 members make up the 229 tribes in Alaska.

There are several types of gaming permitted in Alaska but this is limited to bingo, raffles, lotteries and pull tab games. The Indian tribes are the only ones permitted to run Class II gaming facilities which include pull tab and bingo games. One problem facing the Alaska tribes in developing casinos is that the land they are constructed on must be trust or restricted land which is limited in the state.

#### ARIZONA

Gaming tribes:	15
Tribal casinos:	27
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

#### Notable Casinos:

- Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino Resort is operated by the Ak-Chin Indian Community of the Maricopa Indian Reservation. This community can be found nestled in the Santa Cruz Valley of south-

ern Arizona some 58 miles south of Phoenix. The word Ak-Chin translates to mean 'mouth of the wash' referring to a type of farming. The tribe's government was formally organised in 1961 and the tribe has 770 members. They have a huge farming community and also have the Eco-Museum which is the first of its kind in America. Ak-Chin entered the gaming industry in 1994 with Promus/Harrahs management for a 40,000 sq.ft casino. This expanded to include a 300 room resort hotel and new bingo facility employing 850 people. The casino has 1,089 video poker and slots, 16 poker tables, 12 table games and keno. Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino resort generated more than \$205m in economic activity last year making it Pinal County's largest economic engine with nearly 1,100 jobs.

- Blue Water Resort & Casino offers a 200 room hotel, three swimming pools, water park, and golf course located on the shores of the Colorado River in Parker, Arizona. The casino has 475 slots plus eight table games, five poker tables and a 10,000 sq.ft bingo Hall with 400 seats. The casino is operated by Colorado River Indian Tribes of the Colorado River Indian Reservation which includes



four distinct tribes – the Mohave, Chemehuevi, Hopi and Navajo. There are around 3,500 active tribal members. The reservation stretches along the Colorado River on both the Arizona and California side covering almost 300,000 acres.

- The Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona operates two casinos – Casino del Sol Resort, Spa and Conference Centre which is nestled in the high desert and 15 minutes from Tucson Airport. The hotel has 215 rooms and the conference centre houses 2,000 guests. The 240,000 sq.ft casino has over 955 slots and video poker games, 694 bingo seats and 16 poker tables and 22 table games. Casino of the Sun is 50,000 sq.ft and just houses 388 slots and two restaurants. The Yaqui people

*In the 10 years since Arizona tribes signed gaming compacts with the state they have contributed \$820m from gaming revenue to their tribes.*

are descendants of the Uto-Aztec people with homelands in Mexico. They settled in Arizona in the 1800s and in 1978 were federally recognised as a sovereign nation. Today they have a reservation southwest of Tucson at New Pascua and 17,000 members.

#### Information:

Arizona has more Indian land than any other US state and tribal lands comprise of 27 per cent of Arizona's land base or a total of 20 million acres. At the moment 15 tribes out of a total of 22 tribes (296,000 people) operate 22 Class II casinos.

Six tribes do not have casinos, but have slot machine rights which they lease to other tribes with casinos. In the 10 years since Arizona tribes signed gaming compacts with the state they have contributed \$820m from gaming revenue to their tribes. The compacts fix the number of slot machines permitted per casino located and is based on the location size. If tribes do not use their full allocation they can lease or sell devices to other tribes. The compacts currently permit 18,158 gaming devices and as of 2012 only 14,535 were deployed. Arizona also has a total of 304 table games and 202 poker tables and 7,224 bingo seats in operation. Tribes such as Ak-Chin, Gila River and Salt River are tribes close to Phoenix and have used 100 per cent of their slot quote whilst other remote tribes have only used a percentage. In 2012 the Arizona gaming tribal revenues reached \$1.8bn with the majority of this coming from Pima and Maricopa Counties.

Meanwhile new projects include the Salt River Tribes 35 acre development east of Scottsdale which is a \$170m entertainment complex to include a butterfly pavilion, aquarium and museum and will provide extra facilities to the Salt River Reservation which already hosts the Talking Stick Resort and Casino.



### CALIFORNIA

Gaming tribes:	61
Tribal casinos:	70
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

#### Notable Casinos:

- Pechanga Resort and Casino in Temecula was opened in 2002 and has earned the AAA Four Diamond rating award. The hotel has 517 rooms and suites and there is a golf course, spa, restaurant and entertainment facilities. The casino is 200,000 sq.ft and makes it California's biggest casino and it houses 3,000 plus slot and video machines and over 130 table games. The resort is operated by the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians and this is their only operation. They are located in the Temecula Valley which has been their home for over 10,000 years on a 5,500 acre reservation.

- Chumash Casino in Santa Barbara County is operated by the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians and they first built their venue in 1994 but this has expanded and grown to three large temporary rooms. The casino services 3,500 people a day and employs 750. The hotel is 6,700 sq.m and the casino is 14,400 sq.m and plans are to expand further.

- Agua Caliente Casino and Spa Resort Casino are both operated by the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians. This tribe settled in the Palm Springs area centuries ago and develop complex communities in the area. Today they represent the largest single landowner in Palm Springs with a total of 31,500 acres of reservation land. In 1995 they opened their first casino in a tent next to the Spa Resort Hotel in Palm Springs. Today they have two hotels, two casinos, a golf resort and theatre.

*The Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation has become an economic growth marvel for the state of Connecticut and since the opening of Foxwoods casino has created 13,000 jobs*

#### Information:

California was where it really all began in 1987 with the California v Cabazon case. After this the IGRA was passed and so began Indian gaming. In 1999 some 58 tribal governments signed tribal state gaming compacts with the state of California. Since this time three further tribes have signed bringing the number of tribal gaming nations to 61. Tribal gaming in California supports 52,000 jobs and \$2.7bn in income for Californians. California is said account for 26 per cent, or \$7.5bn, of the total tribal gaming revenues (\$27.2bn) in the US. It is the only casino gaming permitted in the state.

Meanwhile the Jamul Indian Village plans to build a \$360m 200,000 sq.ft facility on its reservation land with Penn National Gaming despite opposi-



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- 01 Foxwoods Casino, Connecticut.
- 02 Harrah's Cherokee Casino & Resort, North Carolina
- 03 Gray Wolf Peak Casino, Montana
- 04 Agua Caliente Casino, California.

tribe's other business include pharmaceuticals. The tribe has raised real gross state product by \$1.2bn on average with a yearly average increase of 8.5 per cent for New London County's gross regional product and one per cent for the state's GSP.

- The Mohegan Sun Resort and Casino opened in 1996 and is operated by Mohegan tribe and the South African Sun conglomerate. The resort is 54,000 sq.m and the casino has 6,500 slots and 180 tables. It is the second largest casino after Foxwoods. The tribe received recognition in 1994 and then negotiated its compact with the state of Connecticut and purchased the property with trust funds. The casino opened in 1996 followed by the Sky Casino in 2002.

#### Information:

The two tribal gaming facilities are the only two casinos permitted in Connecticut. Foxwoods is the largest in the country and the two casinos together generated just over \$2bn in 2011. This was a decline from previous years attributed to the downturn in the economy and increased competition from the northeast region from commercial casinos and racinos in Pennsylvania, New York and Atlantic City plus further competition expected from neighbouring Ohio, Massachusetts and New Hampshire in the future.

The state recently added keno to its lottery portfolio and is hoping it will be as successful as Massachusetts with the game which introduced keno in 1993 and saw \$768m in sales last year. However Connecticut's compacts with the Mashantucket and Mohegan tribes preclude additional non-Indian Las Vegas style gaming unless the state is prepared to forgo its 25 per cent share of the two casino's slot revenue. Connecticut's lottery saw sales of \$1.082m in 2012 returning \$310m to the state. The state is expecting to raise \$28m from keno in its second year.

#### FLORIDA

Gaming tribes:	2 – Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida and Seminole Tribe of Florida
Tribal casinos:	8
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

#### Notable Casinos:

- The Seminole Tribe operates seven of the eight tribal casinos in Florida including the two Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casinos based in Hollywood and Tampa. The other five are casinos located in Big Cypress, Brighton, Coconut Creek, Hollywood and Immokalee. The tribe first opened a high stake bingo hall and casino in the US in 1979 and they were considered the forerunners of the Indian gaming movement in North America. Today it is said they operate one of the most profitable gaming enterprises in the world. In 2007 the tribe acquired Hard Rock International and this was the first transaction of its kind by an Indian tribe. Hard Rock Florida has a three acre gaming floor with 2,500 slots. The Tampa Hard Rock is one of the largest in the world with 118 table games and 5,000 slots.

tion from locals. The casino could have 1,700 slots, 50 tables games and restaurants if it's given the go-ahead.

#### COLORADO

Gaming tribes:	2 – Southern Ute Indian Tribe and Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
Tribal casinos:	2 – Sky Ute Casino Resort and Ute Mountain Casino
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

#### Notable Casinos:

- The Southern Ute Indian Tribe is in Ignacio and operates the Sky Ute Casino Resort. The tribe is located in southwest Colorado on reservation land covering over one million square miles in three counties. The casino resort opened in 1993 and offers hundreds of slots, table gaming and a poker room and 200 seat bingo hall.

- The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe also lies in southwest Colorado, southeast Utah and northern New Mexico. There are two communities on the reservation where they have lived for over 100 years. The Ute Mountain Casino opened its venue in 1992 in Towaoc and created 270 jobs. Today 78 per cent of employees are Native Americans. The casino houses over 700 slots and is the largest casino in the Four Corners region and is nestled at the base of the Sleeping Ute Mountain. There are table games, keno and bingo.

#### Information:

The state of Colorado also has commercial operations and there are currently 41 land based casinos in the state in the mountain towns of Black Hawk, Central City and Cripple Creek which first opened in 1991 and sees around \$766.25m in gaming revenue with a total of 14,744 slots. Indian gaming runs alongside this sector in southwest Colorado via

compacts with two tribes. The tribes have agreed to conduct limited gaming with the same \$100 bet limits imposed on the other casinos however the compacts allow the tribe to litigate possible higher stakes and increased scope of games. They may also offer live keno in addition to the slots and table games. Both tribes signed compacts in 1995.

#### CONNECTICUT

Gaming tribes:	2 – Mashantucket Pequot Tribe of Connecticut and Mohegan Indian Tribe of Connecticut
Tribal casinos:	2 – Foxwoods Resort & Casino and Mohegan Sun Casino
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

#### Notable Casinos:

- Foxwoods Resort Casino opened in 1992 in

Ledyard and is operated by the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe and with earnings over \$1.5bn is more profitable than some casinos in Las Vegas. It has 7,200 slots and 380 table games and the casino is 29,200 sq.m. It is the largest casino in the US and second largest in the world. The tribe pays the state \$80m or 25 per cent of their annual slot revenue.

The Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation has become an economic growth marvel for the state of Connecticut and since the opening of Foxwoods casino has created 13,000 jobs and played a leading role in revitalizing the Connecticut economy in the early 1990s. Before Foxwoods opened eastern Connecticut was a rural area with local economic activity bar two or three pockets of industry such as the defence industry.

The Mashantucket Tribe was the state's poorest group and was consistently ignored by the state government. In the early 1990s the region saw a contraction of the defence sector and around 10,000 jobs were lost between 1988 and 1993. With law changes and a unique geographical location the tribe saw an opportunity to open a casino. Today the casino sees around 41,000 visitors per day with 73 per cent from outside of the state. In 1998 the tribe opened the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Indian Research Centre which now attracts more than 250,000 people per year. The



The Seminole Tribe can be traced back at least 12,000 years and today is a federally recognised tribe and is the only tribe in American which never signed a peace treaty. Today they are one of the most successful native business tribes in the US and employ 7,000 in their casinos, hotels and other enterprises. Nearly 3,300 Indians live on and off reservations throughout Florida and more than 90 per cent of its budget is derived from gaming revenue.

- The Miccosukee Tribe operates the Miccosukee Resort and Gaming in Miami. The Miccosukee reside in the Florida Everglades and has four distinct reservation areas in Tamiami Trail, Alligator Alley and two at Krome Avenue and US 41. The casino operates 1,900 slots, table games, 32 poker tables and 1,000 seat bingo hall. The resort is just 15 minutes from the Florida Turnpike with 302 rooms and suites.

*The Seminole Tribe can be traced back at least 12,000 years and is the only tribe in American which never signed a peace treaty.*

**Information:**

In 1979 the Seminole tribe first opened a high stakes bingo parlour which didn't comply with many of the state laws. They were the first federally recognised tribe in the US to operate a bingo operation on a reservation. The bingo parlour faced closure and the tribe sued to prevent action. It was one of the most important decisions in modern Indian gaming and the tribe was allowed to continue its operation. Class II gaming began in 1988 and Class III at tribal casinos began in 2007.

Today Florida also has 28 pari-mutuel wagering facilities and six racetrack casinos with slot machines in the Broward and Miami-Dade Counties and 25 card rooms in the pari-mutuel facilities. Florida is one of the primary pari-mutuel states in the nation and is the leading greyhound racing state as well as a major horse racing state. Florida is also the only state where live jai alai games are conducted. There are 6,390 slots in the racinos.

In May this year the Internal Revenue Services slapped a bill of \$170m in the hands of the Miccosukee Tribe for unpaid taxes after years of fighting with the tribe over unpaid bills. The tribe argues that it does not have to withhold taxes on gaming distributions.

**IOWA**

Gaming tribes:	1 – Sac & Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa
Tribal casinos:	3 – Meskwaki Bingo & Casino, Hotel, WinnaVegas Resort and the Blackbird Bend
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III



- 01 Ute Mountain Casino, Colorado.
- 02 Four Winds Casino, Michigan.
- 03 Agua Caliente Casino, California.
- 04 Sky Ute Casino, Colorado
- 05 Kewadin casino, Michigan



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**Notable Casinos:**

- The Sac & Fox Tribe has settlement lands of over 7,000 acres in two counties. They operate the Meskwaki Bingo & Casino Hotel which has 400 rooms. The casino opened in 1992 has 1,300 slots, table games, bingo, 15 table poker room, racebook and keno.
- The Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska also operates a gaming facility in Iowa called the WinnaVegas Casino Resort, which opened in 1992, and was one of the first casinos in the state. The gaming area is 24,353 sq.ft of gaming with 668 slots, 20 table games and bingo. The tribe will open a 1,500 seat entertainment venue at the site in June and will also expand its gaming floor adding 200 extra slots and add a bistro and sports bar facility. The project is reported to cost \$7m. The casino sees

around 500,000 visitors per year.

- The Blackbird Bend Casino is operated by Blackbird Bend Corporation (owned by the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska) and is located in the former CasinOmaha near Onawa, Iowa. The Omaha Casino was shut down in summer 2011 after the Missouri river flooding. A temporary casino was set up but now the new building under a new name, Blackbird Bend, opened in 2012 at a cost of \$9m. It features a 112 seat restaurant.

**Information:**

Iowa has 15 land based and riverboat casinos plus three pari-mutuel betting facilities. The sector sees \$1.4bn in gaming revenues from these facilities and it all began in 1991. Back in 1992 three tribal gaming compacts were negotiated authoris-

ing casino gaming in Iowa. These were awarded to the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, the Sac and Fox Tribe and the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska who began the operation of CasinOmaha in 1992 which closed and reopened under the name of Blackbird Bend.

**IDAHO**

Gaming tribes:	4 – Coeur d'Alene Tribe of the Coeur d'Alene Reservation (1), Kootenai Tribe of Idaho (1), Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho (2) and Shoshone Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation (3)
Tribal casinos:	7
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

**Notable Casinos:**

- The Coeur d'Alene Tribe has a reservation covering 34,500 acres in north Idaho and its economy is based mostly on its productive agriculture on the tribe's 6,000 acre farm. There are over 2,190 members and its gaming facilities employ 500 people which generates around \$20m in profits annually. Gaming began in 1993 with a small bingo operation and they now operate the Coeur d'Alene Casino which has 1,600 video gaming machines, table games and bingo and is 60,000 sq.ft in size.

**Information:**

There is only tribal gaming in Idaho. The state has seen a lot of opposition against these facilities and gambling opponents have launched attacks on the tribal casinos declaring the machines are uncon-



stitutional. Back in 2002 Idaho voters favoured tribal casinos by 57.8 per cent and passed an initiative declaring them legal. However opposition groups have since tried to change the ruling.

### KANSAS

**Gaming tribes:** 4 – Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, Kickapoo Tribe of Indians, Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation and Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska.

**Tribal casinos:** 4 – White Cloud Casino 777, Golden Eagle Casino, Prairie Band Casino and Resort and Sac & Fox Casino

**Type of Gaming:** Class II & III

### Notable Casinos:

- The Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas has been present in the area since 1832 and have around 150,000 acres of land near the Missouri River. The tribe was the first of three other Indian tribes in north east Kansas to compact with the state for their gaming facility called the Golden Eagle Casino.

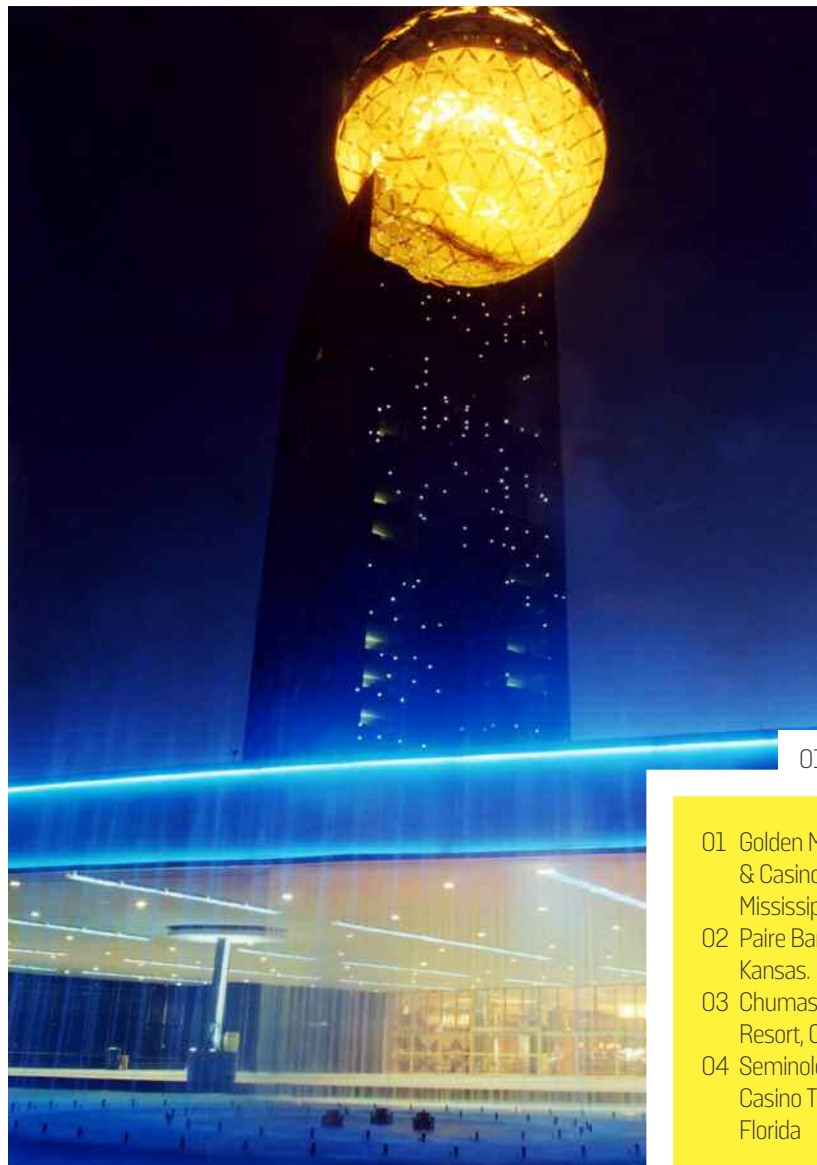
- The Prairie Band of Potawatomi originated in the Great Lakes area. They set up the Prairie Band

*Casinos in Kansas have been permitted since 2007 and today The Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission currently regulate three land based casinos*

Potawatomi Entertainment Corporation to manage the gaming business. The casino complex is 63,000 sq.ft and holds over 1,000 slots, table games and a 297 room hotel and convention centre. It is located in about 15 miles from Topeka, Kansas and employs 80 people with around 120 of these tribal members.

### Information:

Casinos in Kansas have been permitted since 2007 and today The Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission currently regulate three land based casinos – Boot Hill Casino and Resort in Dodge City, Kansas Star Casino in Mulvane and Hollywood Casino at Kansas Speedway. However all horse and dog racing licences for pari-mutuel betting have lapsed or been revoked and no pari-mutuel racing has been conducted in the state since 2009. The state compacts with four Kansas tribes for tribal gaming were approved in 1995 and the Tribal Gaming Oversight Act was adopted in 1996. The first casino opened in 1996 on the Kickapoo Reservation (Golden Eagle Casino) and later that year the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe opened a temporary casino on their reservation with a new casino opening two years later. Sac



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- 01 Golden Moon hotel & Casino, Mississippi.
- 02 Paire Band Casino, Kansas.
- 03 Chumash Casino Resort, California.
- 04 Seminole Hard Rock Casino Tampa, Florida



02



03



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and Fox opened their casino in 1997 and the Iowa Tribe opened a temporary facility in 1998 followed the same year by their permanent casino, Casino White Cloud.

### LOUISIANA

**Gaming tribes:** 4 – Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana, Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana, Jena Band of Choctaw Indians and Tunica-Biloxi Indian Tribe.

**Tribal casinos:** 4 – Cypress Bayou Casino, Coushatta Casino Resort, Choctaw Pines Casino and Paragon Casino and Resort

**Type of Gaming:** Class II & III

### Notable Casinos:

- The Chitimacha Tribe has around 950 members with 350 of these living on reservation land in Charenton. The tribe's largest commercial development was the Cypress Bayou Casino which opened in 1985 and is a 30,000 sq.ft bingo facility. Some 450 slots were later added in 1993 and bingo ended in 1994 and the space was taken

up by table games. In 1995 an expansion programme added 85,000 sq.ft plus a lounge and two restaurants. Meanwhile high stakes bingo returned in 2005. Today there are over 1,300 slot machines, 45 table games, poker room and bingo. The casino employs 1,283 people.

- Back in 1991 the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe saw their vision of becoming self sufficient a reality after the

construction of Louisiana's first land based casino. Working with Grand Casinos of Minnesota the Paragon Casino Resort (formerly Grand Casino Avoyelles) opened its doors in 1994. The casino employs 1,780 people. The casino has over 2,000 slots, table games and poker rooms. There is off track betting and it is the only casino in Louisiana to offer live 'Vegas Style' keno. The tribe has lived on reservation land near Marksville for two centuries.

### Information:

There are 15 riverboat casinos authorised to operate in Louisiana of which 12 are currently operational with the remaining three licences due to open. There is one land based casino in New Orleans (Harrah's) which has seen revenues of over \$75m last year. In addition since 2011 there

are 2,192 video poker outlets and 14,655 devices in the 31 parishes which have approved video poker gaming in bars, restaurants, hotels and betting parlours. There are also slots at the four race-tracks in the state. Indian gaming compacts are with four Indian gaming tribes the latest to open is the Jena Band's Choctaw Pines Casino which offers 700 games.

### MICHIGAN

**Gaming tribes:** 12

**Tribal casinos:** 23

**Type of Gaming:** Class II & III

### Notable Casinos:

- The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians operates five casinos branded Kewadin Casinos. The tribe has 44,000 members with headquarters in Sault Ste. Marie and is also involved in landholdings, businesses and housing. The Kewadin Casinos are nestled in the heart of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

The first casino was opened in 1984. In 2012 the company announced plans to open a sixth casino in Lansing which will cost some \$245m and hold 3,000 slots and 48 table games but have been bat-

01 Indian gaming in Michigan began in 1980 when the Keweenaw Bay Tribe began with bingo games in Upper Peninsula. Today, the operations reported a net win on slots of nearly \$1.5bn attributed mainly to Gun Lake Casino in Wayland and Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians' second facility in Hartford (Four Winds).

ting with councils to win federal approval. In total all five casinos at the moment have a total of 2,100 slots.

- Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe operates three casinos branded Soaring Eagle and they have a total of 5,000 slots.

- Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians is based on lands on the lower Great Lake when they arrived at the beginning of the 19th century. Today they are Indiana's only federally recognised tribe and one of 12 federally recognised

tribes in Michigan. They signed a compact in 1998 and now operate three casinos – Four Winds Casino Resort based in New Buffalo and Four Winds Casino in Hartford, a third in Dowagiac was opened in April 2013 with 4,000 in total slots at all three casinos.

### Information:

The state of Michigan is home to 12 tribes who operate 23 casinos plus three other commercial casinos based in Detroit and one mixed breed track and three harness racing tracks. These were granted approval in 1996 and are called MotorCity casino, Greektown Casino and MGM Grand Detroit. Revenue from these three casinos amounted to \$1.4bn.

Indian gaming in Michigan began in 1980 when the Keweenaw Bay Tribe began with bingo games in Upper Peninsula. Today the operations reported a net win on slots of nearly \$1.5bn attributed mainly to Gun Lake Casino in Wayland and Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians' second facility in Hartford (Four Winds). Under Class III gaming compacts the tribes share between eight and 12 per cent of electronic gaming revenues with the state whilst another two per cent is set aside for local communities. The tribe shared more than \$34m last year.

### MINNESOTA

**Gaming tribes:** 11

**Tribal casinos:** 39

**Type of Gaming:** Class II & III

### Notable Casinos:

- White Earth Band of Minnesota Chippewa Tribe operates 21 gaming facilities. The tribe is made up of six Chippewa bands in Minnesota and was created in 1934. Between them there are over 40,000 members and the largest is the White Earth Band with 19,000.



- Leech Lake Band of Minnesota Chippewa Tribe operates three casinos – Northern Light Casino,

Palace Casino and White Oak Casino. The tribe is one of the six Chippewa tribes. Northern Light Casino has over 900 slots, table games and a poker room. The hotel has 105 rooms, Palace Casino has over 500 video slots, table games, poker and bingo whilst White Oak is the newest of the tribe's casinos and opened in 2000. This has 300 slots and table games.

- The Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians operates two Seven Clans Casinos in Red Lake and Thief River Falls. A third in Warroad is due to open this year and will include 600 slots, restaurant and hotel with 60 rooms.

**Information:**

Only bingo, raffles, pull tabs, card rooms and tribal gaming are permitted in Minnesota which brings the state around \$1bn in revenues each year. The sector is governed by the Minnesota Gambling Control Board. Between 1945 and 1981 limited gambling for charity was permitted with no other types. In 1982 the law changed and pari-mutuel betting was allowed whilst the lottery was created in 1989. Meanwhile Minnesota was the first in the nation to sign compacts with a state government as then governor Rudy Perpich wanted to create jobs in rural Minnesota and they agreed to limit their casinos to video games of chance (slots) and blackjack. They signed perpetual compacts and these may not be re-opened or negotiated unless both sides agree to do so. The tribal gaming sector brings in around \$2.75m to the state and creates 41,700 jobs and provides \$150m in health-care benefits. The Minnesota tribes pay the state a fixed fee to cover enforcement costs. The Minnesota tourist board says 12 per cent of visitors include tribal casinos in their travel activities and 71 per cent of visitors came from outside the local area or outside of Minnesota.

**MISSISSIPPI**

Gaming tribes:	1 – Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Tribal casinos:	3 – Bok Homa Casino, Golden Moon Hotel and Casino and Silver Star Hotel and Casino.
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

**Notable Casinos:**

- This tribe received federal recognition in 1945 and today is the only federally recognised tribe living in the state of Mississippi. There are 10,000 members and the Choctaw reservation lands cover 35,000 acres in ten counties. The three casinos operated by the tribe are all located in the Pearl River Resort. Pearl River Resort in Choctaw is a luxury gaming resort which initially housed the Golden Moon and Silver Star casinos with over 2,700 slots and 75 table games. There are over 1,000 hotel rooms and 11 restaurants in the resort. Bok Homa was the latest addition to the resort



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added in 2010 and is 27,000 sq.ft with over 750 slots.

**Information:**

The Mississippi Legislature legalised dockside casino gambling in 1990 and the first bingo hall opened in 1992. Today there are 30 casinos which saw total revenues of \$2.2bn last year with operate a total of 32,000 slots and 966 tables. Although there is only one tribe operating three casinos in Mississippi the tribe was second in terms of revenue growth last year.

**MONTANA**

Gaming tribes:	7
Tribal casinos:	14
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

**Notable Casinos:**

- Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes of Fort Peck Reservation has five gaming facilities. The Fort Peck Reservation is in the northeast corner of Montana is home to the two separate tribes. There are 11,700 plus tribe members of which 6,000

reside on or near the reservation which is around 3,200 sq miles. Of the gaming operations Silver Wolf Casino is located at Wolf Point and has 300 bingo seats and 100 slots. The tribe also operates Tribal Express in Poplar plus three smaller slot halls. The tribe signed a compact for class III gaming in 2012 and this allows up to a total of 750 class III machines with maximum wagers of \$10 and



02

- 01 Praire Band Casino, Kansas.
- 02 Paragon Casino and Resort, Louisiana
- 03 Wind Creek Casino and Hotel, Alabama.



maximum payouts of \$2,500 for regular machines. Some 20 per cent of machines can be high stakes with \$50 maximum wager and payout of \$5,000.

- Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation has two facilities – Gray

Wolf Peak Casino and KwaTaqNuk Resort. The tribe is comprised of the Bitterroot Salish, Pned d'Oreille and Kootenai tribes on the Flathead Reservation of 1.3 million acres in northeast Montana. The tribe operates the two casinos – Gray Wolf Peak is located in North Missoula with 130 slots and the KwaTaqNuk Resort located at the south end of Flathead Lake in Polson. The resort's casino has 200 gaming machines whilst the hotel has 111 rooms.

**Information:**

Gaming in Montana is regulated by the Gambling Control Division which covers all gaming bar lottery and horse racing. Montana has more than 1,600 licensed gambling operations and locations which offer 17,000 video gaming machines. There are some 227 card rooms. Montana has class III



03

*Video poker games were once widespread, but in 2000 laws limited them to three machines per location. A complete ban was introduced in 2007.*

gaming compacts with five of the seven tribes. The government currently has no compact with the Confederation Salish and Kootenai Tribe or the Blackfeet Tribe both of which offer class II gaming. Blackfeet operate the Glacier Peaks Casino and Salish and Kootenai saw their last compact lapse in 2006 and was not renewed.

**NORTH CAROLINA**

Gaming tribes:	1 – Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina
Tribal casinos:	2 – Cherokee Tribal Bingo and Harrah's Cherokee Casino & resort
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

**Notable Casinos:**

- The Eastern Band of Cherokee is the only tribe in North Carolina recognised by the federal government. They operate the Tribal Bingo in the Smoky Mountains in the west of the state and the Harrah's Cherokee resort. This is a 150,000 sq.ft gaming area with table games and 600 slots. The casino recently underwent an expansion programme which began in 2007 and was undertaken by the Cunningham Group who first designed the tribe's original property which opened in 1997. The \$650m renovation was finished this year and includes an additional 180,000 sq.ft of casino floor, a 21 storey hotel called Creek Tower, new restaurants, 8,350 sq.ft of retail space, a VIP lounge and 3,001 seat entertainment centre.

**Information:**

Just the two tribal gaming casinos in North Carolina and only other types permitted are charitable bingo and raffles. Video poker games were once widespread but in 2000 laws limited them to three machines per location. A complete ban was introduced in 2007. Meanwhile there were two greyhound race tracks with pari-mutuel wagering





01

between late 1940s and 1954. In 1948 the Carolina Racing Association opened its greyhound track followed by Cavalier Kennel Club in 1949. Both were closed in 1954. High stake bingo games began in 1982 following a federal court decision to exempt Indian reservations from state limits on bingo prizes. In 1994 the tribe signed a compact to construct a casino. An interim casino opened to the bingo parlour in 1995 and the \$82m permanent casino managed by Harrah's later opened in 1997. A new compact was signed and table games were offered in 2012.

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians contributed around \$300m to the regional economy from gaming operations and the tribes and its enterprises are the largest employers in the western most counties of North Carolina. The Harrah's scholarship fund provides around \$500,000 annually for Cherokee schools and students.

**NORTH DAKOTA**

**Gaming tribes:** 5 – Spirit Lake Tribe, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold Reservation and Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians.

**Tribal casinos:** 11

*North Dakota Gaming Commission regulates charitable gaming and deals with tribal gaming compacts.*

**Type of Gaming:** Class II & III

**Notable Casinos:**

- Turtle Mountain Band have four gaming operations – Painted Pony Casino, Sky Dancer Hotel and Casino, Sky Dancer Mini Casino and Turtle Mountain Bingo Palace. The tribe are primarily members of the Pembina Band of Chippewa and the relatively small reservation of 77,000 acres sits within Rolette County. The tribe has 30,722 members and over 16,500 living on the reservation. The Painted Pony opened in May 2012 and offers a bar, fast food and 152 gaming machines, Sky Dancer Hotel offers 525 video and reel slots plus table games and bingo, the Sky Dancer Mini Casino is located nearby and Turtle Mountain Bingo Palace in Belcourt and employs around 276 staff.

- The Spirit Lake Tribe operates the Spirit Lake Casino and Resort in St Michael. The tribe was

established in 1867 and the 26,283 acre reservation is in east central North Dakota primarily in Benson County with 6,677 enrolled members. The Spirit Lake Casino and Resort initially opened in 1988 and employed 35 people. In 1994 the tribe renovated a gymnasium and added a casino in Tokio. In 1996 the Spirit Lake tribe closed their two casinos and invested \$7m in the construction of a new 49,000 sq.ft casino which now provides 150 jobs. Today the casino offers bingo, table games, poker and 700 slots. The resort has a 124 room hotel, cabins and RV park.

**Information:**

North Dakota Gaming Commission regulates charitable gaming and deals with tribal gaming compacts. Over \$300m was wagered on charitable gaming in 2012, which covers twenty-one and pull tabs. The native Indians in North Dakota are reaping the benefits of an oil boom in the state at the moment. The state has tribal compacts with five tribes, the most recent in March 2013 with the Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe to permit the tribe to engage in sports betting and a casino called Dakota Magic with 900 slots and table games. The tribe was federally recognised in 1993 and has headquarters in Agency Village, South Dakota with over 12,900 members. The tribe has two other casinos – Dakota Sioux Casino and Dakota Connection Casino – both in South Dakota.

- 01 Praire Band Casino, Kansas.
- 02 Prairie Wind Casino, South Dakota.
- 03 Creek Casino Montgomery, Alabama.



02



03

**NORTH DAKOTA**

**Gaming tribes:** 3 – Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, Santee Sioux Nation and Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

**Tribal casinos:** 6

**Type of Gaming:** Class II

**Notable Casinos:**

- The Winnebago Tribe reservation lies in the northern half of Thurston County in north east Nebraska. The reservation is around 120,000 acres and around 2,600 live on the land. The tribe operates the Iron Horse Bar and Casino, Native Star Casino and Rez Line Bingo. The Iron Horse is located in Main Street in Emerson and is a small venue with restaurant and casino housing 54 gaming machines. The Native Star Casino is on Main Street in Winnebago and housed in the Heritage Food and Fuel Plaza with 30 gaming machines. Meanwhile the tribe also operates the WinnaVegas Casino Resort in Iowa which opened in 1992 with 24,353 sq.ft of gaming and 668 slots, 20 table games and bingo.

*Gaming, or games of chance, is pretty much prohibited in Nebraska and the only elements allowed are keno, pickle cards, bingo and lottery.*

- The Santee Sioux Nation operates the Ohiya Casino Resort located just a few minutes east of Niobrara. The tribe were the first to open a casino in Nebraska 17 years ago and in February 2013 they opened the renovated casino with 400 slots and bingo entertainment and dining. The tribe reservation is located along the Missouri River.

- The Omaha Tribe operates the Blackbird Bend Casino and Lucky 77 Casino. The Blackbird Bend Casino is operated by Blackbird Bend Corporation (owned by the Omaha Tribe) and is located in the former CasinOmaha near Onawa, Iowa. Meanwhile the Lucky 77 Casino is located in Walthill, Nebraska and the tribe are due to open a

01 Charitable gaming in the state saw \$247m wagered last year which the lottery (keno) sector saw the largest amount with \$204m and pickle card wagering was \$28m, bingo \$8.1m and lottery/raffle at \$6.8m. Gambling in Omaha has always been controversial and the frontier city is known for its tradition of gambling and prostitution. Today the city is limited to keno and slot machines and many travel across the river to Iowa to play in casinos. Controversy began a few years ago over Ponco Tribe's Carter Lake land in Iowa just across the border from Nebraska. The tribe filed to build a casino on the land which would have brought Nebraska and particularly Omahan players to the border casino.

third casino in Iowa next door to the Blackbird.

- The Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indians of South Dakota also operates one casino in this state called the Rosebud Casino.

**Information:**

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**NEW MEXICO**

**Gaming tribes:** 14

**Tribal casinos:** 21

**Type of Gaming:** Class II & III

**Notable Casinos:**

- The Pueblo of Laguna tribe operates four casinos – Dancing Eagle, Rt 66 Casino and Rt 66 Casino Express in Albuquerque plus one casino Tishomingo Tobacco Games in Oklahoma. The tribe resides in Laguna on a 500,000 acre reservation situated in four counties. The Tribal Gaming Authority looks after the gaming facilities. Dancing Eagle has 100 slots, bingo, café and music lounge and the Rt 66 Casino has 1,700 slots, table games, bingo hall and hotel with 154 rooms.





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- 01 Silver Wolf Casino, Montana.
- 02 Seven Clans Casino, Oklahoma
- 03 Seven Clans Casino, Oklahoma
- 04 Wild Horse Casino, California
- 05 Chumash Casino, California
- 06 Sky Dancer Casino & Hotel, North Dakota



02

01 New Mexico's Gaming Control Board is responsible for the licensed racetrack, veteran and fraternal organisations, bingo, lottery, pull tabs, raffle and sweepstakes and issuing compacts for tribal gaming under the 2001 and also under 2007 amended tribal/state compacts. Last year the five Racetracks saw a gaming machine net win of \$258m with a total of 3,233 machines in operation. There are 14 tribes who pay revenue sharing and report a net win quarterly. The total amount paid to the state treasurer for revenue sharing by the tribes operating casinos for the quarter ending December 2012 was \$16m.



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- Pueblo of Pojoaque operates four casinos – Buffalo Thunder, Cities of Gold Casino, Cities of Gold Casino/Convenience Store and Kicks 66 in Sante Fe.

- Pueblo of Acoma is located 60 miles west of Albuquerque and its gaming commission was set up in 1994 to look after gaming in Acoma. They operate the Sky City Casino in Acoma with a 134 room hotel, snack bar, entertainment and casino with 669 slot machines, table games, live bingo and tournaments.

- The Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise (NNGE) was created in 2006 by the tribe and today has three casinos. The first casino Fire Rock Navajo Casino near Gallup opened in 2008 and has over 740 slots, table games and bingo, Flowing Water Navajo Casino near Shiprock opened in 2010 and the third, Northern Edge Navajo Casino near Flagstaff, has 750 slots and table games. The tribe's newest casino Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort opened in May this year and is a 267,000 sq.ft \$230m facility with 1,089 slots initially, 18 table games and 12 poker tables, keno and a five

storey 90 room hotel. All four are operated by the Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise which is a Navajo wholly owned business entity created by the Navajo Nation in 2006. NNGE's long term plan is to build around five or six casinos within the Navajo Nation to create jobs and revenues.

**Information:**

New Mexico's Gaming Control Board is responsible for the licensed racetrack, veteran and fraternal organisations, bingo, lottery, pull tabs, raffle and sweepstakes and issuing compacts for tribal gaming under the 2001 and also under 2007 amended tribal/state compacts. Last year the five Racetracks saw a gaming machine net win of \$258m with a total of 3,233 machines in operation. There are 14 tribes who pay revenue sharing and report a net win quarterly. The total amount paid to the state treasurer for revenue sharing by the tribes operating casinos for the quarter ending December 2012 was \$16m whilst total net win for all tribes amounted to \$182m.

The Navajo Nation has three casinos in New Mexico which make a \$63m annual economic

impact on the state with a fourth which opened in May. Meanwhile revenues at the New Mexico casinos have returned to pre-recession levels with around \$809m.

**NEVADA**

Gaming tribes:	2 – Las Vegas Paiute Tribe and Moapa Band of Paiutes
Tribal casinos:	3 – Snow Mountain Smokeshop, Moapa Tribal Casino and Moapa Tribal Casino II
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

**Notable Casinos:**

- The Las Vegas Paiute Tribe operates the Snow Mountain Smokeshop in Las Vegas. The tribe's ancestors occupied the territory around the Colorado River and a booming railroad town brought an end to the Paiutes traditional way of life so the tribe established the Las Vegas Paiute colony and they developed a thriving cigarette retail business. The Smokeshop and gas station is operated at the Snow Mountain Reservation and

offers the largest tobacco selection in Nevada with gaming facilities.

- Moapa Band of Paiutes reside on the Moapa River Reservation and was federally recognised back in 1942. The reservation is 71,954 acres and their primary business is the enterprise centre which includes a casino, convenience store, café and gas station. They operate their two casinos in Moapa with 70 slots.

**Information:**

So in the state which is the king of gaming there are some 265 casinos with 164,024 slots and 6,329 gaming tables. Nevada also recently opened its doors to online gambling with a poker launch this year. Total GGR at the state wide casinos is \$10.8bn. However revenues were down in April in the state and much is blamed on the recession whilst the Reno casino market had lost business to North California's Indian casinos. The state offers the biggest gambling market in the US however tribal gaming is only a very small percentage with only two tribes operating three casinos in this state.



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*Nevada offers the biggest gambling market in the US, but tribal gaming is only a very small percentage with only two tribes operating three casinos*

**NEW YORK**

Gaming tribes:	3 – Oneida Nation of New York, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe and Seneca Nation of New York
Tribal casinos:	5 – Snow Mountain Smokeshop, Moapa Tribal Casino and Moapa Tribal Casino II
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

**Notable Casinos:**

- The Oneida Nation is known as the fledging United States' first allies having fought with the

colonists during the American Revolution. In 1993 the tribe signed a gaming compact with the state to open New York's first high stakes casino. The Turning Stone Casino, which celebrates its 20th anniversary this year, operates 80 table games and 2,200 slot machines.

- The Saint Regis Mohawk is located in the north eastern region of New York on 30,000 acre reservation land extending into Quebec and Ontario. They operate the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino and Mohawk Bingo Palace. The casino has 1,800 slots, table games, poker and bingo.

- Meanwhile the Seneca Nation operates the Seneca Allegany Casino, Seneca Buffalo Creek Casino and The Seneca Niagara Casino. The tribe is the largest of the six native Indian nations in New York and are known as the 'Keeper of the Western Door'. Today they have a membership of 8,000 and are also the fifth largest employer in western New York. They signed their first compact in the 1970s with bingo halls and today Seneca Gaming Corporation also operates two bingo halls. In 2002 the tribe signed a compact for class III gaming



facilities and opened three casinos. Seneca Niagara and Seneca Allegany are Las Vegas style facilities with hotels, spa and entertainment whilst Seneca Buffalo is a slots only casino. The nation recently unveiled plans for a redesigned \$130m property at the Buffalo site to add table games and bar/restaurant facilities.

**Information:**

The New York State Gaming Commission looks after the lottery, charitable gaming, VLTs, horse racing, pari-mutuel wagering and Class III Indian gaming. There are four thoroughbred tracks and seven harness tracks in the state whilst races can be bet on remotely at any of the state's five off track betting corporations. There are eight federally recognised tribes in New York and the state has compacts with three of these which began in 1993 with the Oneida Indian Nation and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe. In 1993 Oneida opened the Turning Stone Casino followed by Saint Regis's Akwesasne Mohawk Casino in 1999. In 2002 the Seneca Nation signed a compact and opened its first Seneca Niagara Casino followed by Seneca Allegany in 2004 and Buffalo Creek in 2007.

At the moment Gov. Andrew Cuomo is looking to expand gaming in New York in a bid to resolve long standing issues with the tribes. He signed an agreement in May with Oneida Tribe and St Regis Mohawks to address revenue sharing whilst giving them exclusive regional gaming rights. The plan has been attacked by some who say Cuomo is a bully whilst some say it will bring an end to long standing legal issues over land rights, taxation and regulations. Apparently Mohawk had withheld taxes because another tribe opened a bingo hall and violated their exclusivity agreement whilst Seneca also held back taxes says slots at horse racing tracks also violated an exclusivity clause. Cuomo plans to build three to seven casinos across the state.

**OKLAHOMA**

Gaming tribes:	33
Tribal casinos:	114
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

**Notable Casinos:**

Oklahoma is clearly the largest tribal gaming state with the largest number of tribes and largest number of gaming facilities. The Chickasaw Nation is one of the main tribes operating the biggest number of gaming facilities with 19. The tribe's territory is 7,648 sq.miles of south central Oklahoma covering 13 counties. The tribe was one of many forced to relocate. Today the tribe offers electronic gaming, poker, table games and off track betting in their casinos throughout the state and this includes the Black Gold Casino in Wilson which is 3,744 sq.ft and the 22,000 sq.ft Chisholm Trail with slots and table games. Large Las Vegas style facilities include the Riverwind Hotel & Casino in Norman with 219,000 sq.ft and 2,700 slots, 47 poker and blackjack tables and the WinStar World Casino with 500,000 sq.ft of gaming and 6,700 slots, 80 table games, 46 poker tables and 973 seat bingo hall.



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- The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma also operates 19 gaming facilities. The tribe were farmers in the south east US until the government moved them in 1830 to Oklahoma. The tribe has grown to over 200,000 members and is the country's third largest tribe. They operate seven casinos plus travel companies, 12 smoke shops and gaming facilities at their locations.

- The Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma operates three casinos in Oklahoma on the border with Missouri. Indigo Sky is one of the largest in north east Oklahoma and houses a hotel, slots and RV Park. There are 1,250 gaming machines, bingo, 12 table games, poker room and off track betting.

**Information:**

There are 33 tribes out of 39 total tribes in the state who have compacts with the state of Oklahoma which have a total of 114 casinos. These tribes pay a monthly exclusivity fee to the state to operate their games. This ranges from slots which pay four per cent of the first \$10m of annual adjusted gross revenues to five per cent

01 The New York State Gaming Commission looks after the lottery, charitable gaming, VLTs, horse racing, pari-mutuel wagering and Class III Indian gaming. There are four thoroughbred tracks and seven harness tracks in the state whilst races can be bet on remotely at any of the state's five off track betting corporations. There are eight federally recognised tribes in New York and the state has compacts with three of these which began in 1993 with the Oneida Indian Nation and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe. In 1993 Oneida opened the Turning Stone Casino followed by Saint Regis's Akwesasne Mohawk Casino in 1999.

for next \$10m and six per cent for anything over \$20m and table games pay 10 per cent of the monthly net win. In 2011 tribal gaming fees amounted to a total of \$122m. The Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association was set up in 1986 and represents the industry and the first tribal compact was signed in 1992. The Choctaw tribe is the third



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- 01 Golden Moon Casino, Mississippi
- 02 White Oak Casino, Minnesota
- 03 Foxwoods Casino, Connecticut
- 04 Fire Rock Casino, New Mexico.

largest tribe in the US and operates seven casinos and 12 smoke shops.

**OREGON**

Gaming tribes:	9
Tribal casinos:	9
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

**Notable Casinos:**

There are nine tribes operating one casino each all in Oregon. The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation operate the Wildhorse Gaming Resort and Casino. This tribe is made up of the Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla people and they reside on the Columbia River Plateau in north east Oregon and south east Washington. There are over 2,800 members with 172,000 acres of land. The Wildhorse Resort has a hotel and RV park plus the casino with 1,200 slots, table games, poker, bingo and keno.

- The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians is one of nine federally recognised tribes in Oregon and has 1,594 members and was one of two of the

*There are nine Oregon tribes which operate a gaming location each. This type of gaming is the only one permitted bar the lottery in Oregon.*

first tribes to cede their land to the US government. Today they operate the Seven Feathers Casino Resort which is a 298 room AAA three star hotel and casino in Canyonville. The casino has 1,000 plus slots, table games and keno.

**Information:**

There are nine Oregon tribes which operate a gaming location each. This type of gaming is the only one permitted bar the lottery in Oregon which is governed by the state gaming division. Tribal Gaming compacts are managed by the government gaming division. The tribes are Burns-Pauite Tribe (OldCamp Casino), Confederated Tribes of Coos (Three Rivers Casino), Coquille (the Mill Casino), Cow Creek Band of Umpqua (Seven

Feathers Casino), Grand Ronde Indians (Spirit Mountain), Confederated Tribes of Siletz (Chinook Winds Casino), Warm Spring Tribe (Kahneeta) and Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation (Wild Horse Resort)

**SOUTH DAKOTA**

Gaming tribes:	8
Tribal casinos:	12
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

**Notable Casinos:**

- Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation are located on Lake Traverse in the north eastern part of the state. The reservation stretches across seven counties, two in north and five in South Dakota and there are a total of 12,925 members. The tribe has three casinos – Dakota Connection Casino, Dakota Sioux Casino and Dakota Magic (North Dakota). Dakota Connection is located near Sisseton and offers full service convenience store, restaurant and nightly bingo and slot games. Dakota Sioux is just seven miles north of Watertown and has slot, poker and



01 South Dakota Gaming Commission has two divisions – Enforcement and Operations. There is live horse racing at two racetracks plus simulcast horse and dog racing at Triple Crown Casino and Time Out Lounge. In 1989 limited wage gambling was legalised and the legendary town of Deadwood was revived and today the town houses around 25 low stake casinos with a maximum bet limit of \$1,000. There are just over 3,660 slots in the town. The town has been undergoing a restoration project to transform it back into its former glory frontier town. Total gross revenues from Deadwood amounted to \$104m



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table games and a hotel. Dakota Magic is on the border in North Dakota and has slots, table games and poker with hotel and restaurant and golf course.

- The Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indians is located in south central South Dakota and borders the Pine Ridge Reservation with a total of 922,759 acres. The tribe has two casinos – Rosebud Casino in Nebraska which has slots, poker, table games and bingo and just over the border is Turtle Creek Crossing Casino in South Dakota which is a Class II site and has 26 gaming machines.

**Information:**

South Dakota Gaming Commission has two divisions – Enforcement and Operations. There is live horse racing at two racetracks plus simulcast horse and dog racing at Triple Crown Casino and Time Out Lounge. In 1989 limited wage gambling was legalised and the legendary town of Deadwood was revived and today the town houses around 25 low stake casinos with a maximum bet limit of \$1,000. There are just over 3,660 slots in the town. The town has been undergoing a restoration project to transform it back into its former glory frontier town. Total gross revenues from Deadwood amounted to \$104m. Meanwhile there are nine tribes recognised for tribal gaming who can operate the same types of gaming as in Deadwood.

**TEXAS**

Gaming tribes:	1 – Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas
Tribal casinos:	1 – Kickapoo Lucky Eagle Casino in Eagle Pass
Type of Gaming:	Class II



- 01 Wind River Hotel & Casino, Wyoming
- 02 Wind Creek Casino, Alabama
- 03 Harrahs Cherokee Casino, North Carolina
- 04 Black Gold Casino, Oklahoma
- 05 Seminole Hard Rock Casino, Florida

**Notable Casinos:**

- The Kickapoo Tribe comes from the meaning 'stands here and there' or 'wanderer' and there are three federally recognised Kickapoo tribes in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. There are some 3,000 members and they have a small community in Douglas, Arizona. They were federally recognised in 1983 and were given land near Eagle Pass. They operate the Kickapoo Lucky Eagle Casino and this is the only casino in Texas. It was recently expanded and now includes a total of 2,700 slots, private poker room, buffet restaurant and opening this summer is a 249 room hotel.

**Information:**

Texas has long been a prime hot spot for resort gaming development. There are proposals in place for up to eight destination resort casinos (six in urban areas and two on islands in the Gulf) plus an additional eight licenses for slots at some of the 13 Texas race tracks. In addition they want to give the three recognised Indian tribes in the state the chance to open a facility each. At the moment there is the lottery, bingo and slot machines so casino players hop over the border to Oklahoma,

Louisiana or New Mexico and it is said Texans are gambling around \$4bn a year, at casinos elsewhere. The lottery has around 16,000 locations with sales totalling \$2.78bn whilst charitable bingo has 416 locations and \$692.9m in wagers. Pari-mutuel wagering saw \$502.3m. Meanwhile there are an estimated 30,000 unregulated Eight Liner slots in the state.

The Kickapoo Tribe is the only casino option and this is a Class II facility however the state gets no tax revenue from this casino. The other two tribes are the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas in Livingstone and the Tigua Indians, Yslete del Sur Pueblo in El Paso. A bill has been filed to let Texans vote on the matter of allowing a number of gaming sites in the state however there are still those opposed for fear of gambling problems. Adding casinos at racetracks could bring an extra \$8.5bn alone in state economic growth.

**WASHINGTON**

Gaming tribes:	21
Tribal casinos:	27
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

**Notable Casinos:**

- The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe of the Muckleshoot Reservation is made up of Duwamish and Upper Puyallup people and became known as Muckleshoot. They operate three casinos in Auburn – the Muckleshoot Indian Bingo which is located across the street from the casino and has over 1,000 bingo seats, 400 slots and restaurants, the Muckleshoot Casino II and Muckleshoot Indian Casino with 3,100 video slots, 70 table games, poker and bingo

- The Quinault Tribe of the Quinault Reservation is made up of the Quinault and Queets tribes and today has 2,800 members on reservation land of 208,150 acres in the south western corner of the Olympic Peninsula. The tribe operates the Quinault Beach Resort and Casino which has slots, table games and poker room.

- The Squaxin Island Tribe of the Squaxin Island Reservation is based in western Washington and were originally based around the narrow inlet of Big Skookum (Hammersley Inlet). Today there are

no members living on the Squaxin Island but it is still used for fishing and hunting. Headquarters are now located in Kamilche where some acres of land have been purchased. The tribe operates the Little Creek Casino Resort which offers accommodation, golf, spa and a casino with slots, table games, poker and keno.

**Information:**

Washington State Gambling Commission was set up in 1973. The commission regulates all gambling except horse racing and lottery. The do however regulate commercial and charitable card games, punch boards, pull tabs and amusement games, bingo, raffles and fund raising events. They also co-regulate 28 tribal casinos. In 2012 the new receipts amounted to \$2.6bn of which tribal casinos saw the bulk with \$2.1bn followed by lottery (\$223m), card rooms (\$222m), horse racing (\$29.4m) and bingo (\$8.8m). There are 29 federally recognised tribes in Washington of which 28 have Class III gaming compacts. Some 21 tribes operate 27 casinos under compacts. The Tribal Lottery System was first introduced in 1999 and today it is seen in all the tribal casinos and

replaced traditional table games. They are a unique game to the state and are basically linked lottery terminals delivering a virtual scratch ticket to a player terminal.

**WISCONSIN**

Gaming tribes:	11
Tribal casinos:	31
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

**Notable Casinos:**

- Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin operates two facilities – the Grindstone Creek Casino and Lac Courte Oreilles Casino. The tribe is one of seven federally recognised Wisconsin bands of Ojibwa and has a main reservation in west central Sawyer County. The land area is 107,912 sq.miles and a membership of 2,900. Grindstone Creek casino is located in the LCO Commercial Centre and has 88 slots whilst LCO Casino Lodge is a convention centre and gaming zone with 600 slots, table games and 300 seat bingo hall.





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- 01 Mohegun Sun, Connecticut.
- 02 Wind Creek Casino, Alabama.
- 03 Sac and Fox Casino, Kansas.



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- 04 Winnavegas Casino Resort, Nebraska.
- 05 Creek Casino Montgomery, Alabama.

STATE BY STATE FIGURES

STATE	NUMBER OF INDIAN GAMING TRIBES	NUMBER OF TRIBAL CASINOS	TUPE OF GAMING PERMITTED	NUMBER OF SLOTS
Alabama	1	3	Class II only	4,200
Alaska	2	2	Class II only	90
Arizona	15	27	II and III	14,530
California	61	70	II and III	68,341
Colorado	2	2	II and III	1,475
Connecticut	2	2	II and III	11,788
Florida	2	8	II and III	13,069
Idaho	4	7	II and III	3,911
Iowa	1	3	II and III	2,022
Kansas	4	4	II and III	3,675
Louisiana	4	4	II and III	6,160
Michigan	12	23	II and III	24,519
Minnesota	11	39	II and III	22,585
Mississippi	1	3	II and III	3,618
Montana	7	14	II and III	1,527
North Carolina	1	2	II and III	3,145
North Dakota	5	11	II and III	3,647
Nebraska	3	6	Class II only	483
New Mexico	14	21	II and III	15,482
Nevada	2	3	II and III	1,134
New York	3	5	II and III	11,934
Oklahoma	33	114	II and III	63,536
Oregon	9	9	II and III	7,373
South Dakota	8	12	II and III	2,461
Texas	1	1	Class II only	1,858
Washington	21	27	II and III	28,007
Wisconsin	11	31	II and III	17,997
Wyoming	2	4	II and III	1,505
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>457</b>		<b>328,284</b>

● Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin operates four casino facilities including Main, IMAC and Mason Street facilities with over 2,000 slots across these. The group operates three small one-stop mini slot halls.

**Information:**

The Department of Administration looks after gaming in Wisconsin and covers charitable bingo and raffle events, bingo and tribal gaming. There are 11 federally recognised tribes which have entered into Class III compacts. Tribal gross handle in 2011 amounted to \$15.3bn whilst net win came to \$1.19bn in the state. The tribes include Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Forest County Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk Nation, Lac Courte Oreilles Band, Lac du Flambeau Band, Menominee Tribe, Oneida Tribe, Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior, Sokaogon Chippewa, St Croix Chippewa and Stockbridge Munsee Band.

The Oneida Tribe is currently working on a \$28m casino expansion at its Main Casino in Ashwaubenon area which will see a new gaming floor and poker room, food court, restaurants and

sports bar. It's the biggest upgrade since the casino opened in 1993. Work began this year and is due to be completed by April next year. The casino sees around two million visitors a year and is a key attraction. The Oneidas are also expanding their Mason Street Casino.

**WYOMING**

Gaming tribes:	2- Northern Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Indian Reservation and Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Indian Reservation
Tribal casinos:	4
Type of Gaming:	Class II & III

**Notable Casinos:**

● Northern Arapaho tribe is one of four groups of Arapaho who originally occupied the headwaters of the Arkansas and Platte Rivers. After signed the treaty in 1851 the Arapaho and Cheyenne shared land which was one sixth of Wyoming, one quarter of Colorado and parts of

01 Sports and horse race wagering in Wyoming dropped by more than 14 per cent in 2010 due to the recession. Horse racing has become a dying industry here and there is just the one track called Wyoming Downs which was purchased by Wyoming Entertainment of California and offers horse racing and pari-mutuel betting. The tribal casinos offer Class II and III slot machines and there are two tribes running four casinos. Wind River is the state's largest casino and opened in 2005 and 600 of the 700 staff are Native Americans

02 The Oneida Tribe is currently working on a \$28m casino expansion at its Main Casino in Ashwaubenon area which will see a new gaming floor and poker room, food court, restaurants and sports bar.

western Kansas and Nebraska. After the treaty in 1868 they were left without a land base and placed with the Shoshone in west central Wyoming on the Wind River reservation. Twenty years ago the tribe opened the 789 Bingo Hall and later followed with the Wind River Hotel & Casino, 789 Smokeshop & Casino and Little Wind Casino. Wind River Hotel

and Casino is a 90 room hotel in Riverton and has the state's largest casino with 800 slots.

● Shoshone Tribe at one time occupied land in California, Idaho, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming. After being removed from their lands they were moved. Today the Shoshone are still waiting to become federally recognised with 200 other Native American tribes. The tribe today operates the Shoshone Rose Casino near Lander which offers 300 slots.

**Information:**

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- 01 Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, Florida.
- 02 Opium Nightclub, Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, Florida.
- 03 Blue Water Resort and Casino, Arizona
- 04 Seminole Paradise Hollywood, Florida.
- 05 Mohegun Sun, Connecticut
- 06 Miccosukee Casino, Florida.

**FUTURE OUTLOOK**

So what does the future hold for Indian gaming?

The sector has struggled like most with the recession but in 2011 with a slow recovery of the economy, the US Indian gaming grew enough to rise above its pre-recession levels with revenues about three per cent higher than the previous year reaching \$27.4bn.

It was the second year of modest growth after a bad year back in 2009 which saw the first declines in this sector since the IGRA was introduced 25 years ago.

Indian casinos, including their non gaming operations, generated around \$29.6bn in output and supported around 339,000 jobs and \$12.3bn in wages and paid non tribal governments \$1.4bn in 2011.

Twelve new gaming facilities opened in 2011 although six which were opened in 2010 have since closed.

With the return of consumer confidence and disposable income the outlook for the short to mid term is fairly positive and many tribes are remodeling and expanding their facilities.

There are new casinos up for consideration. For example a referendum opened in Massachusetts a year ago for a tribal casino in East Taunton. However the tribe has insufficient proof of its land claims and the compact has been rejected. A new compact has been submitted and is now in the courts.

The tribe, Pokanoket Wampanoag tribe, is now challenging the Mashpee tribe's claim to the Taunton land and the Massachusetts Gaming Commission has opened south eastern Massachusetts to commercial bidders. If the Mashpee get the go ahead there is a worry the state will get no revenue. It could take up to seven years to settle this case.

Meanwhile in the long term potential threats to the Indian gaming sector include non-market and market factors such as legal challenges, legisla-

01 More than 70 million adult US citizens engage in gaming annually and although iGaming has flourished internationally in the US it has grown rather slowly and under a blanket of grey areas.

02 iGaming is expected to grow in the US however the bill sponsored by Representative Peter King which would regulated online gaming in the US is missing a key element - tribal gaming interests are against such a bill.

03 Twelve new gaming facilities opened in 2011 although six which were opened in 2010 have since closed.

tion and regulations limiting expansion. There are declines in gaming revenue and federal funding and the idea now is to look at economic diversification

There is also increased competition from commercial casinos opening whilst internet gaming could

also have a severe affect on land based Indian gaming.

The interest in online gaming is growing in the US and the impending legislation of internet gaming in many states is expected to put a major stumbling block in the way of tribal gaming's growth.

More than 70 million adult US citizens engage in gaming annually and although iGaming has flourished internationally in the US it has grown rather slowly and under a blanket of grey areas.

iGaming is expected to grow in the US however the bill sponsored by Representative Peter King which would regulated online gaming in the US is missing a key element - tribal gaming interests are against such a bill.

The problem is under IGRA tribal nations received some leeway in terms of casino operations. They were given the chance to mirror existing gaming laws within a relatively tax free state. The bill now takes away those rights by removing the internet as a potential platform for gambling as it

*The interest in online gaming is growing in the US and is expected to put a major stumbling block in the way of tribal gaming's growth.*

pertains to the IGRA. However they are also shackled somewhat by IGRA territorial restrictions that gaming can only occur on Indian lands, which in theory prevents tribes from operating viable interstate iGaming.

The 28 states which have tribal gaming so far have some form of exclusive agreement for their Class III operations and some like Arizona, Oklahoma, Wisconsin and Wyoming have a monopoly agreement. Some of the nations pay high taxes in lieu of these rights.

Some states such as California, North Dakota and Oregon are allowed to offer gambling on reservations offering class III gaming which might other-

wise be refused at commercial sites. Again tax agreements are negotiated with these states.

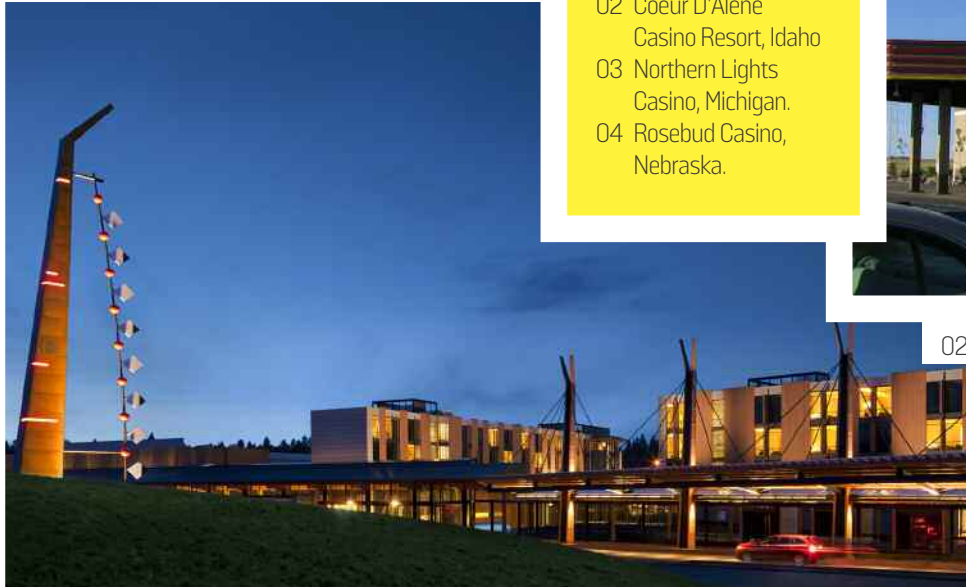
The problem is the tribes believe their rights will be overshadowed by a federal law offering iGaming. A state could also opt out of online gaming altogether even if a compact was in place covering land based casinos. The states are given 120 days to opt out which is not enough time to create a new compact.

This could cause two problems - one the tribe would either be allowed to operate online gaming and potentially pay no taxes or the governor could opt out if a new compact was not reached. The bill does not give the option for tribes to opt in even if the state opts out.

Only three states have approved online gaming at the moment and Nevada, Delaware and New Jersey now have legalised forms of iGaming alongside the US Virgin Islands.

Some tribes are looking at diversifying their economies by partnering with non-Indian such as





- 01 Seminole Hard Rock Casino, Florida
- 02 Coeur D'Alene Casino Resort, Idaho
- 03 Northern Lights Casino, Michigan
- 04 Rosebud Casino, Nebraska

the Seminole tribe did when it acquired the Hard Rock business in 2007 which created a historic precedent for Indian and non Indian commercial transactions.

Meanwhile eight tribes in California including the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians, have joined together to try and legalise online poker. Their bill, Internet Poker Consumer Protection Act 2013, proposes that online poker should be the only form of iGaming permitted in the state and also limits online poker exclusively to the state. It also stated that California could opt out of any federal legislation.

The online poker would be available to tribal governments and existing card rooms and there would be no limit on the number of licences although licensees must have owned their land based venue for five years minimum. Internet cafes would be banned and licences would be for 10 years with a renewal procedure.

In 2010, NIGA member tribes adopted a resolution stating the tribal position on federal internet gam-

bling legislation. This resolution states that any legislation moving through Congress must protect tribal sovereignty and treat Indian tribes on par with other governments. Specifically:

1. Indian tribes are sovereign governments with a right to operate, regulate, tax and licence internet gaming.
2. Internet gaming authorized by Indian tribes must be available to customers in any locale where internet gaming is not prohibited.
3. Consistent with long held federal law and policy, tribal revenues must not be subject to tax.
4. Existing tribal government rights under Tribal State Compacts and IGRA must be respected
5. Federal legislation of internet gaming must provide positive economic benefits for Indian country.

The National Indian Gaming Association was

01 Eight tribes in California including the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians, have joined together to try and legalise online poker. Their bill, Internet Poker Consumer Protection Act 2013, proposes that online poker should be the only form of iGaming permitted in the state and also limits online poker exclusively to the state. It also stated that California could opt out of any federal legislation.

established in 1985 and is a non profit organization of 184 Indian Nations who represents tribes and organisations involved in tribal gaming.

Their mission is to protect and preserve the general welfare of tribes who are striving for self sufficiency through gaming enterprises.

NIGA is now working with the National Congress of American Indians, regional tribal organisations and other tribes to set an agenda for the Indian Country.

NIGA claim Indian gaming generates over \$9bn in Federal taxes and revenue saving through reduced welfare and unemployment benefit payments and in addition has generated over \$2bn in state government revenue and an additional \$100m in local government revenue.



## NO TRIBE SHOULD BE LEFT BEHIND

"The pressure to engage in lawful online gaming has reached a critical boiling point. As states spring forward, tribes are falling behind. The iGaming debate has intensified in recent years.

Gaming, legal or not is a popular pastime for Americans. More than 70 million US citizens engage in gaming annually and 85 per cent of adults admit to gaming sometimes in their lives.

While iGaming has flourished internationally in the past generation, iGaming within the US has grown as an unregulated, rogue black market and an unlawful form of gaming. The threat of the US Department of Justice enforcement of the Wire Act of 1961 drove iGaming offshore. Many believe that the US federal government has no authority to outlaw internet gaming. Historically only the individual states banned or regulated gaming, while Congress acted in aide of state enforcement on an interstate basis, such as with horseracing or tribal gaming following Cabazon decision or combating organised crime.

In one night in 2006 the legal landscape shifted. Congress attached a midnight rider to a must pass anti-terrorist bill called the Safe Ports Act. The attachment was the Unlawful Internet Gambling

*It is estimated that 20,000 to 30,000 iGaming portals are actively available with US citizens wagering an estimated \$4bn in 2011, despite UIGEA.*

Enforcement Act (UIGEA). The rider's author, Sen. Bill Frist, meant to outlaw online gaming by cutting off funding and payment of iGaming wagering. Instead the UIGEA created a legal grey area that required the US Justice Department to clarify the reach of iGaming and limited the reach of federal laws thought to prohibit the same.

UIGEA attempts to follow the money and stop it at the US border. The law prohibits processing payments related to 'unlawful' internet betting. The law does not define what betting, wagering or internet gaming is prohibited. In other words one does not violate UIGEA unless the gaming activity violates some other law such as the Wire Act or a relevant state criminal law.



**D Michael McBride III**  
Chairman of the Indian Law & Gaming Practice Group at Crowe & Dunlevy, Tulsa, Oklahoma. This article was first published in the Indian Gaming Magazine.

According to AGA, it is estimated that 20,000 to 30,000 iGaming portals are actively available in the US from off-shore providers with US citizens wagering an estimated \$4bn in 2011, despite UIGEA.

In 2011 the US Attorney General offered states another hope. Faced with a question regarding the use of third party processors of in-state lottery ticket sales, the Department of Justice opined that the Wire Act of 1961 applied only to sporting events or contests. In response a handful of state jurisdictions are seeking to test iGaming expansion.

Nevada, Delaware, New Jersey and US Virgin Islands now have legalised forms of iGaming. Georgia and Illinois' state lotteries offer ticket sales online with six state permitting participants to subscribe online. State lotteries potentially present a formidable threat to tribal gaming, as the states innovate their game offerings and potentially offer 'instant tickets' online – a game indistin-

**KEY FIGURES**  
Number of Indian Tribes: 562  
Number of gaming sites: 460  
Number of tribal operators: 240  
Number of slots: 328,400  
Total revenues: \$27.2bn

guishable from a video slot machine. All states except Hawaii and Utah have some form of legalised gaming. States such as California, Iowa, Mississippi and Illinois continue to consider legislation similar to that passed in New Jersey.

iGaming will continue to evolve rapidly state by state because of federal gridlock. While the various states attempt to pass laws and venture into

*Tribes are shackled by Reagan-era IGRA territorial restrictions that gaming must occur only on 'Indian lands' and impeded from modernisation.*

iGaming with less fear of federal criminalisation, tribal governments still remain hampered by the uncertainly of the various out of date federal and state laws that were developed in a world of physical and geographically based gambling. Tribes are shackled by Reagan-era IGRA territorial restrictions that gaming must occur only on 'Indian lands' and impeded from modernisation. Under these old world rules IGRA precedent prevents a tribe's ability to reach off of Indian lands and engage in viable interstate iGaming, except for Class II linked games between reservations. Most tribes remain small, isolate and rural cloistered from large metropolitan areas. Who wants to drive hours back and forth to a tribal casino when they could game online at home in their pyjamas. Many tribes could be hampered also by a lack of technical infrastructure and bandwidth by virtue of this geographical isolation.

As 50 "laboratories of democracy" states continue to spring ahead with iGaming, federal paralysis continues to keep tribes digitally isolated under IGRA rules. The iGaming digital divide will continue to widen as tribal governments remain constrained by IGRA while the rules applied to states have relaxed.

If tribes do not learn, adapt and perhaps modernise IGRA, iGaming will thrive in states and internationally but the IGRA tribal government gaming model may wither away. Congress can modernise IGRA in the iGaming age by addressing gaming social responsibilities providing for tribal sovereignty protection and accommodating free market needs.



## KEEPING TRIBAL GAMING ALIVE IN CALIFORNIA

"Support for community is a core value of California's native people. Although each tribal nation takes pride in its unique traditions, we all believe that we have a fundamental responsibility to all our neighbours. Tribal government gaming is central to our relationship with the California community, as gaming enables Indian nations to contribute to the California economy and create good-paying jobs, even as the state struggles to emerge from the nationwide recession.

The California Nations Indian Gaming Association (CNIGA) commissioned Beacon Economics to conduct a study measuring the impact of tribal government gaming on the state and local economies. The Beacon study concludes that tribal government gaming is a powerful economic engine, generating \$7.5 billion for the California economy. Perhaps even more important is the direct impact tribal gaming has on creating jobs. According to Beacon's analysis, California tribal gaming operations generate 52,000 jobs across the state, more than 30,000 directly related to gaming operations and an additional 22,000 in the broader economy. To place those numbers in perspective, gaming

*California tribal gaming operations generate 52,000 jobs across the state, more than 30,000 directly related to gaming operations.*

generates nearly as many jobs in California as non-residential construction and apparel manufacturing.

As many industries are forced to downsize and cut jobs, tribal gaming operations are, hiring and retaining employees up and down the state. These jobs are filled by a broad spectrum of workers, from entry-level to highly-skilled.

These jobs support working families from backgrounds as diverse as the state itself. In fact, more than 80 per cent of casino employees are non-tribal members. Gaming workers earn more than double the average salary of workers in similar



Thunder Valley Resort Casino, California.

fields, receive excellent medical, dental, and life insurance plans, and have access to 401(k) retirement plans.

Still, the positive impact of tribal government gaming goes far beyond the \$2.7 billion in wages paid to Californians. Gaming operations also generate substantial tax revenues that are helping the state regain its financial footing. In a time when lawmakers have been forced to make painful budget cuts and weigh additional tax hikes, Beacon's analysis finds that tribal gaming contributes \$467 million in annual tax revenues to state and local governments. (Non-gaming related business operations contribute an additional \$47 million.) Our state can ill afford any additional lost revenue, and tribal gaming ensures those California dollars stay in California, rather than going to Nevada and other states where gaming is allowed.

In addition, the Beacon study highlights how California's gaming nations have taken responsibility for providing essential public safety, health and education services that support not just tribal members but also their surrounding communities.

The Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation, for example, maintains a Fire Department fully funded by tribal gaming, providing full-time fire and emergency medical services for the 700-square-mile surrounding community. The San Manuel

Band of Serrano Mission Indians recently donated \$3 million to the Loma Linda University Medical Centre for cancer research and \$600,000 to the community hospital of San Bernardino. Other tribes offer similar public health and safety services to their neighbouring communities.

California tribal governments understand that we have a responsibility to help support our surrounding communities. We value our native heritage. But we also value our shared identity as Californians. That is why ensuring that tribal government gaming has such a wide-ranging positive impact is so important to us.

From the North State to the Southland, California's tribes will continue to support the economic recovery, hiring Californians for good-paying jobs and supporting local business partners wherever we operate. We will also continue to foster safe, healthy communities by supporting the essential services and projects that are making California a better place to live for tribal members and non-members alike."

**Susan Jensen**  
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