

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

*Source: N.J. Division of Gaming Enforcement*

Monthly Revenue (Industry, \$ In Thousands)	% Change from Prior	
	March 2019	Year March 2018

**In LIGHT of the data above...** March continued a positive trend for Atlantic City with double digit percentage gains in internet and land-based gaming and a strong month-to-month increase in revenue from sports wagering. Total gaming revenue in March 2019 increased 34.5 percent over March 2018 and is 28.6 percent ahead for the year to date. With the popularity of March Madness, we should expect to see sports betting revenues continue to rise into April contributing to overall growth in the Atlantic City Market.

Atlantic City's strong gaming revenue performance is a trend we should expect to see through 2019 and beyond, however year-over-year comparisons may be less pronounced after June 2019, the first month when year-over-year sports betting and nine casino operator data will be available.

Casino Licensees Total Revenue finished out 2018 w toi 8

**New Jersey Transit announces May 12 opening of Atlantic City Rail Line-** As reported by **The Press of Atlantic City**, NJ Transit will reopen the Atlantic City Rail Line on May 12, almost two weeks prior to the previously announced May 24 date and with expanded service.

**Open Container Law could become reality for Atlantic City -** As reported by **The Press of Atlantic City**, a bipartisan bill allowing the open consumption of alcoholic beverages within Atlantic City's Tourism District was introduced to the state Senate on March 4. A companion Assembly bill was expected.

**New bar and restaurant latest small business looking to build on Stockton University's presence in Atlantic City -** As reported by **The Press of Atlantic City**, a new bar and restaurant, Ryfe, is expected to open on Atlantic Avenue this summer. Owner, John Murphy, told The Press that extra foot traffic generated by the presence of Stockton University's Atlantic City campus factored into his decision to buy and convert a long-vacant property into a bar and casual dining restaurant.

**Stockton University forms partnership with Ørsted U.S. Offshore Wind to support research, academic programs and events -** According to a press release published by **Stockton University**, Ørsted and Stockton signed a Memorandum of Understanding in early April. Ørsted will provide funding to assist in promoting educational programming related to alternative energy, climate change and resiliency. Stockton students and faculty may have the opportunity to assist with the development of Ørsted's

following the launch of a new marketing and rebranding campaign. The property will now be known as Ocean Casino Resort.

**PokerStars fined \$10,000 for taking illegal sports bets** – as reported by [Calvin Ayre](#), New Jersey gaming regulators fined PokerStars \$10,000 for accepting wagers on two college-level sports teams in the state. In New Jersey it is illegal to wager on collegiate sports taking place in New Jersey or involving New Jersey-based teams. In November PokerStars accepted 216 bets worth \$2,756 on a basketball game between Rutgers University and Eastern Michigan University and on New Year's Eve accepted one bet on a basketball game between Monmouth University and University of Pennsylvania. Other gaming operators have been fined in recent months for similar offenses leading some legislators to recommend that the financial penalty for violating the law be increased to serve as a more effective deterrent.

## **National Gaming News**

**Competitive Arkansas casino market leads to closure of Penn National Casino in Tunica, Mississippi** - As reported by [Calvin Ayre](#), Penn National has decided to close one of the company's three properties near Tunica, Mississippi due to regional competition. Resorts Casino Tunica, which Penn National purchased in March 2017, is scheduled to close June 30. Penn National will continue to operate Bally's Casino Tunica and Hollywood Casino Tunica. Three casinos in the area have closed since 2014, reducing the number of properties from nine to six.

**Maryland Casinos generate record gaming revenue in March**- As reported by the [Baltimore Business Journal](#) - **Nhp(i)-16 4**

**Tony Rodio named CEO of Caesars Entertainment** – According to an April 16 **press release** from Caesars Entertainment, Tony Rodio has been named CEO by the company’s Board of Directors. Mr. Rodio who is currently CEO of Affinity Gaming previously served as President, CEO and a member of the Board of Directors of Tropicana Entertainment, Inc.

## **Regional Hospitality**

**Marriott International to launch home-sharing program in May** - As reported by **Hotel Management**, Marriott International which released a beta home-sharing program last year, Tribute Profile Homes, will launch a full home-sharing program in May to compete with home-sharing services like Airbnb and VRBO. The program will be run in partnership with several rental property-management firms and members of Marriott's loyalty program, Bonvoy, will be allowed to redeem rewards points on stays at more than 2,000 homes.

**Restaurant industry sales to reach record \$863 billion in 2019**, As reported by **Nation's Restaurant News**, the National Restaurant Association **State of the Industry Report** predicts a 3.6% year-over-year increase in restaurant sales in 2019 to reach a record \$863 billion.

**Same-store restaurant sales grow 1.2 percent in March and 1 percent for the first quarter** – As reported by **Nation's Restaurant News**, better weather and consumer confidence fueled a 1.2 percent increase in same-store sales in March. Same-store sales, except for