

Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability

703 Stratton Ofc. Bldg., Springfield, IL 62706

MONTHLY BRIEFING FOR THE MONTH ENDED: JANUARY 2016

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PAGE 21: Summary of Proposed Employer Contribution Rates for TRS Early Retirement Option (ERO) **ECONOMY: Does A Recession Lie Ahead?** Edward H. Boss, Jr., Chief Economist

The stock market performance in the opening days of the year was the worst ever for the Dow Jones Industrial Average based on records going back to 1897, according to Howard Silverblatt, Senior Index Analyst, S&P Dow Jones Indices. While this appears shocking, it should be pointed out that historically the equity markets have started off a new year on an uptrend as participants look forward to a new year. Still with the markets forward looking, some of the largest market declines have coincided with a recession. Even so, by correlating market performance with recessions, of the past 14 sharp market plunges the market actually predicted only 8 recessions. Moreover, as shown in the Chart, the percentage decline on the DOW is currently short of the 10% correction definition yet alone the 20% decline needed to be termed a bear market.

Another rule of thumb, often misused by analysts, is that a recession occurs when there are two consecutive quarterly declines in Gross Domestic Product (GDP). While it is true that most recessions have had at least two quarters of GDP declines, they are not necessarily consecutive and in some cases scattered over several quarters. Another stated concern is the length of this expansion, which is one of the longest in history and may be running out of steam. However, there is no correlation between the length of expansions and when a recession occurs. For example, the expansion that began in November 2001 lasted 120 months whereas in the 1980s there was a short 6 month recession, followed by a recovery, only to be hit with another recession, all in a relatively short period.

What then is a definition of a recession? The National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) is the official determiner of dating business cycles as to the timing of recessions and expansions. *"The NBER does not define a*"



recession in terms of two consecutive quarters of decline in real GDP. Rather, a recession is a significant decline in economic activity spread across the economy, lasting more than a few months, normally visible in real GDP, real income, employment, industrial production, and wholesale-retail sales." Over time the significance of these sectors has changed. For example, the makeup of the economy has become more service oriented and less manufacturing. In the past, business cycles were closely tied to inventory cycles. Today, technological innovation allows inventory adjustments to sales demand with just-in-time inventory management.

Other factors leading to a recession include: accelerating price increases; rising interest rates with a tightening monetary policy; a financial failure such as the recent housing collapse, or the excessive speculation in the stock market sparking the Depression to name a few. Exogenous factors as wars, drought, revolution, earthquakes, etc. also have been major factors in the past. To judge the occurrence of some of the items that the NBER employs in determining prospects of a recession in today's environment may provide some insight.

On the no-recession front, one can cite the lack of any excesses. While the current economic expansion has been one of the longest, it has been the weakest in the post WWII period. Moreover, despite the recent increase in the federal funds rate by the Federal Reserve, interest rates remain at extremely low levels with further increases likely to be slow to be instituted. And, while the unemployment rate has fallen faster than most expected, the labor participation rate remains the lowest since the late 1970s and real average hourly earnings show little gain. Finally, the inflation rate continues below that desired by the Federal Reserve showing little indication of any upward pressure. Finally at month's end, the Commerce Department released its initial report on GDP for the fourth quarter of 2015 indicating a slowing in growth to a 0.7% annual rate and 2.4% for the year, same as last year and keeping it in the range of 2% to 2.5% over the past five years.

All this is not to say the economy is free of any recession risk. As stated, with the exception of inflation, the Federal Reserve has met its objectives on the domestic economy and indicated that further interest rate increases are likely this year as it abandons quantitative easing and returns to market driven interest rates. While the U.S. economy continues to grow, albeit at a sluggish pace, it is in contrast to much of Europe and developing countries already in recession and a noticeable slowing in China. Even within the U.S. there has been a slowing in some key sectors. U.S. exports have weakened while a strengthening in the dollar is reducing competitiveness and thus slowing our exports. Many say that manufacturing already is in recession as indicated by the Purchasing Managers Index which has contracted for the past two months and the expansion in services has slowed.

In conclusion, despite the economy's current situation no near-term recession, as defined by the NBER, seems likely anytime soon absent any major exogenous event. According to Global Insight's current economic forecast, the most likely outlook is for a continuation of the growth path of the past five years. Even so, the business cycle lives on and it sets odds at 20% for a mild recession beginning later this year.

INDICATORS OF ILLINO	IS ECON	OMIC AC	TIVITY
INDICATORS *	DEC. 2015	<u>NOV. 2015</u>	DEC. 2014
Unemployment Rate (Average) Annual Rate of Inflation (Chicago)	5.9% -7.0%	5.7% -5.2%	$6.2\% \\ 0.0\%$
	LATEST <u>MONTH</u>	% CHANGE OVER PRIOR <u>MONTH</u>	% CHANGE OVER A <u>YEAR AGO</u>
Civilian Labor Force (thousands) (DEC.) Employment (thousands) (DEC.) NonFarm Payroll Employment (DEC.) New Car & Truck Registration (DEC.) Single Family Housing Permits (DEC.) Total Exports (\$ mil) (NOV.) Chicago Purchasing Managers Index (JAN.)	6,556.4 6,166.4 5,904,000 50,898 598 5,254 55.6	0.2% 0.0% -16,300 16.2% -15.0% -4.5% 29.6%	0.6% 0.8% -3,000 -2.4% -27.5% -7.8% -6.4%
	55.6	29.6%	

REVENUE January Revenues Fall Jim Muschinske, Revenue Manager

Overall base revenues fell \$250 million in January. While personal income tax receipts performed as expected, corporate income taxes and the sales tax continue to disappoint. One less receipting day in January also likely contributed to the monthly decline.

Gross personal income tax receipts fell \$180 million, or \$158 million net of refunds. An additional \$42 million was directed from the general funds to both the Fund for Advancement of Education as well the Commitment to Human Services Fund. As result, net personal income tax receipts were lower by \$242 million. Gross corporate income taxes dropped by \$61 million in January, or \$53 million net of refunds, reaffirming a weak picture for this source.

Several other revenue areas also suffered declines in January. Corporate franchise taxes fell \$11 million, public utility taxes \$9 million, other sources \$6 million, and cigarette taxes \$3 million.

A few sources did manage to record gains for the month. Insurance taxes increased \$10 million, inheritance \$5 million, sales tax a disappointing \$2 million, and liquor taxes \$1 million.

Overall transfers fell \$8 million in January. Lottery transfers grew \$1 million, but were offset by a drop of \$9 million from all other transfers. Federal sources, however, had a comparatively stronger month, as receipts grew \$64 million.

Year To Date

Through the first seven months of the fiscal year, base receipts were down \$2.062 billion. The drop reflects comparatively lower income tax rates for the first part of the fiscal year as well as the one-time nature of some pharmaceutical court settlements recovered by the Attorney General's Office last fiscal year.

Gross personal income taxes fell \$1.639 billion, \$1.453 billion net of refunds, or \$1.947 billion when the diversions to the education and human service funds are included. Gross corporate income taxes are behind last year's receipting by \$400 million, or \$355 million net of refunds. Other sources were \$135 million lower, reflecting the aforementioned court settlement proceeds received last fiscal year. Public utility taxes were off \$38 million, cigarette taxes \$3 million and corporate franchise taxes by \$1 million.

A small number of sources posted gains as inheritance tax receipts were up \$40 million, insurance taxes \$10 million, sales taxes \$9 million, liquor taxes \$2 million and vehicle use tax \$1 million.

Overall transfers were up by \$53 million, and federal sources were ahead of last year's slow pace by \$302 million.

F	JANUARY Y 2016 vs. FY (\$ million)			
Revenue Sources	Jan. FY 2016	Jan. FY 2015	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
State Taxes				
Personal Income Tax	\$1,832	\$2,012	(\$180)	-8.9%
Corporate Income Tax (regular)	80	141	(\$61)	-43.3%
Sales Taxes	671	669	\$2	0.3%
Public Utility Taxes (regular)	84	93	(\$9)	-9.7%
Cigarette Tax	21	24	(\$3)	-12.5%
Liquor Gallonage Taxes	20	19	\$1	5.3%
Vehicle Use Tax	1	1	\$0	0.0%
Inheritance Tax	23	18	\$5	27.8%
Insurance Taxes and Fees	15	5	\$10	200.0%
Corporate Franchise Tax & Fees	14	25	(\$11)	-44.0%
Interest on State Funds & Investments	3	3	\$0	0.0%
Cook County IGT	0	0	\$0	N/A
Other Sources	48	54	(\$6)	-11.1%
Subtotal	\$2,812	\$3,064	(\$252)	-8.2%
Transfers				
Lottery	64	63	\$1	1.6%
Riverboat transfers & receipts	34	34	\$0	0.0%
Proceeds from Sale of 10th license	0	0	\$0	N/A
Refund Fund transfer	0	0	\$0	N/A
Fund sweeps	0	0	\$0	N/A
Other	40	49	(\$9)	-18.4%
Total State Sources	\$2,950	\$3,210	(\$260)	-8.1%
Federal Sources	\$415	\$351	\$64	18.2%
Total Federal & State Sources	\$3,365	\$3,561	(\$196)	-5.5%
Nongeneral Funds Distribution:				
Refund Fund				
Personal Income Tax	(\$179)	(\$201)	\$22	-10.9%
Corporate Income Tax	(\$12)	(20)	\$8	-40.0%
Fund for Advancement of Education	(\$42)	0	(\$42)	N/A
Commitment to Human Services Fund	(\$42)	0	(\$42)	N/A
Subtotal General Funds	\$3,090	\$3,340	(\$250)	-7.5%
Short-Term Borrowing	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/A
Interfund Borrowing	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	N/A
Budget Stabilization Fund Transfer	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	N/A
Total General Funds	\$3,090	\$3,340	(\$250)	-7.5%
CGFA SOURCE: Office of the Comptroller: S			, ,	2-Feb-16

GENERAL FUNDS RECEIPTS: YEAR TO DATE FY 2016 vs. FY 2015

			CHANGE FROM	%
<u>Revenue Sources</u> State Taxes	FY 2016	FY 2015	FY 2015	CHANGE
Personal Income Tax	\$8,600	\$10,239	(\$1,639)	-16.0%
Corporate Income Tax (regular)	1,055	1,455	(\$400)	-27.59
Sales Taxes	4,814	4,805	\$9	0.29
Public Utility Taxes (regular)	515	553	(\$38)	-6.99
Cigarette Tax	198	201	(\$3)	-1.59
Liquor Gallonage Taxes	106	104	\$2	1.99
Vehicle Use Tax	19	18	\$1	5.69
Inheritance Tax	215	175	\$40	22.99
Insurance Taxes and Fees	175	165	\$10	6.19
Corporate Franchise Tax & Fees	126	127	(\$1)	-0.89
Interest on State Funds & Investments	13	13	\$0	0.09
Cook County IGT	56	56	\$0	0.09
Other Sources	235	370	(\$135)	-36.59
Subtotal	\$16,127	\$18,281	(\$2,154)	-11.89
Transfers				
Lottery	376	368	\$8	2.29
Riverboat transfers & receipts	205	215	(\$10)	-4.79
Proceeds from Sale of 10th license	0	0	\$0	N/A
Refund Fund transfer	77	63	\$14	22.29
Fund sweeps	0	0	\$0	N/A
Other	353	312	\$41	13.19
Total State Sources	\$17,138	\$19,239	(\$2,101)	-10.9%
Federal Sources	\$1,710	\$1,408	\$302	21.49
Total Federal & State Sources	\$18,848	\$20,647	(\$1,799)	-8.7%
Nongeneral Funds Distribution:				
Refund Fund				
Personal Income Tax	(\$838)	(\$1,024)	\$186	-18.29
Corporate Income Tax	(\$160)	(\$205)	\$45	-22.0%
Fund for Advancement of Education	(\$247)	\$0	(\$247)	N/4
Commitment to Human Services Fund	(\$247)	\$0	(\$247)	N/4
Subtotal General Funds	\$17,356	\$19,418	(\$2,062)	-10.69
Short-Term Borrowing	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/2
Interfund Borrowing	\$0	\$0	\$0	N/2
Budget Stabilization Fund Transfer	\$125	\$275	(\$150)	-54.59
Total General Funds	\$17,481	\$19,693	(\$2,212)	-11.29

JANUARY 2016 BOND SALE Lynnae Kapp, Senior Bond Analyst

BOND SALES:

The State sold \$480 million in General Obligation bonds in January 2016, the first bond sale in 20 months. With lowered bond ratings from all three ratings agencies, interest rate penalties were expected to be high. But with a drop in demand for stocks and an increase in demand for high yield bonds, the State received a true interest cost of 3.9989%. This rate is lower than the last competitive sale in April 2014 of 4.082% even though the state's spreads were wider due to a lower interest rate environment. [Munis Weaken as BAML Wins 4480M Illinois GOs, The Bond Buyer, January 15, 2016] "...[M]arket participants said they attribute [the deal's results] to confidence in the state's overall economic viability and strength of the GO structure that gives priority to debt service." [Illinois Deal Helped By Market Timing, The Bond Buyer, January 14, 2016]

	BOND SALES									
DATE	BOND SALE TYPE	AMOUNT	TAXABLE v. TAX- EXEMPT	NEGOTIATED v. COMPETITIVE SALE	TRUE INTEREST COST	S&P	FITCH	MOODY'S		
	FY 2014									
Jun/Jul-13	GO bonds	\$1.3 billion	tax-exempt	negotiated	5.042%	A-	A-	A3		
Dec-13	GO bonds	\$350 million	taxable	competitive	5.397%	A-	A-	A3		
Feb-14	GO bonds	\$1.025 billion	tax-exempt	negotiated	4.063%	A-	A-	A3		
Mar-14	BI bonds	\$402 million	taxable	competitive	4.271%	AAA	AA+	A3		
Apr-14	GO bonds	\$250 million	tax-exempt	competitive	4.082%	A-	A-	A3		
May-14	GO bonds	\$750 million	tax-exempt	negotiated	4.096%	A-	A-	A3		
			FY	2016						
Jan-16	GO bonds	\$480 million	tax-exempt	competitive	3.999%	A-	BBB+	Baa1		

Recent History: Illinois sold \$250 million in General Obligation bonds in early April 2014. With a 4.0816% true interest cost, the State estimated \$10 million in savings compared to the State's February bond sale. The State sold \$750 million in General Obligation bonds at the end of April, which received a 4.0961% true interest cost. The sale had received orders from 54 investors totaling \$2.2 billion. High market demand and low supply tempered the interest rate penalties for the State's low credit ratings.

Taxable Build Illinois bonds, sold in March 2014, totaled \$402 million. The State had seven bids on the competitive sale and received a true interest cost (TIC) of 4.2706%. Although spreads to a comparable Treasury interest rate had narrowed since the State's last taxable Build Illinois bond sale in May 2013, interest rates had increased.

Tax-exempt General Obligation bonds sold in February 2014 equaled \$1.025 billion. With over \$5.5 billion in orders from about 109 investors, the State was able to re-price the bond twice, to the State's benefit. The true interest cost on the sale was 4.46%, a savings of approximately \$60 million over the 25-year life of the bond compared to the rate the State received on a similar issue in June 2013, based on statements from State officials.

STATE EMPLOYEES GROUP INSURANCE PROGRAM STATUS UPDATE Anthony Bolton, Revenue Analyst

Now in its seventh month, Illinois continued operation without an enacted budget has resulted in the State Employee Group Insurance Program (SEGIP) building up a large backlog of unpaid claims. As of the end of December, approximately \$2.5 billion in claims were being held by the state from various insurers, organizations, and companies. Of this total, the largest portion is approximately \$1.28 billion of Managed Care claims. The second largest line, Prescriptions, Open Access Plans, and Mental Health claims, totals

\$740 million. The third largest portion of the overall claims hold comes from CIGNA, which has \$371 million in claims currently held by the state. Concurrently, the estimated time for claims to be held is 420 days for Managed Care, 384 days for CIGNA, and 332-418 days for Prescriptions/ OAPs/ Mental Health. This information and other pertinent data is displayed on the chart below. As noted in previous SEGIP updates, without an enacted budget, claims will continue to build up and estimated claims hold times will increase.

December 2015 Claims Hold Data	for SEGIP
	December
Total Claims Hold	\$2,502,047,998.34
Total Estimated Length of Claims Hold	Varies 168-431 days
CIGNA - PPO (and Member)	\$371,814,364.65
Length of Claims Hold - PPO	384 days
CIGNA - Non-PPO	\$26,590,887.75
Length of Claims Hold - Non-PPO	461 days
Total Managed Care Claims Hold	
HMO/ASC/Med Adv Claims Hold	\$1,282,198,942.98
Length of Claims Hold	420 days
Other Self-Insured Claims Held: Rx, OAP, Mental Health	740,359,721.64
Length of Claims Hold	Rx=418, OAP=332 days
Dental Claims Hold - PPO and Premier	\$53,842,560.53
Length of Dental Claims Hold - PPO & Premier	196 days
Dental - Non-PPO	\$27,241,520.79
Length of Dental Claims Hold - Non-PPO	287 days

ILLINOIS GAMING STATISTICS

Eric Noggle, Senior Analyst

It now has been over three years since the first video gaming machines became operational in Illinois. In its opening month in September 2012, 61 video gaming machines were in operation. By the end of 2012, the number of terminals grew to 2,293, generating \$12.3 million in net terminal income. This resulted in \$3.7 million in video gaming tax revenues.

By the end of 2013, the number of operating video gaming machines had grown to 13,974 terminals. From these machines, a total of \$300.7 million in net terminal income was reported in CY 2013, yielding \$90.2 million in tax receipts. At the end of 2014, video gaming terminals in operation across the State grew to 19,182. Net terminal income in CY 2014 rose to \$659.5 million, resulting in a tax revenue total of \$197.9 million.

The latest monthly report from the Illinois Gaming Board reports that the number of video gaming machines in Illinois has now grown to 22,135 terminals (December 2015). In CY 2015, a total of \$913.6 million in net terminal income was reported to be collected. This yielded a 2015 tax revenue total of \$274.1 million. Of this total, approximately \$228.4 million went to the Capital Projects Fund ($5/6^{h}$ of 30% tax) with the remaining \$45.7 million ($1/6^{th}$ of 30% tax) going to local

governments where video gaming machines are located.

Therefore, in total, the first 40 months of video gaming in Illinois has generated nearly \$1.9 billion in net terminal income and \$565.8 million in tax revenues. Of the tax revenues collected, a total of \$471.5 million has been collected for the Capital Projects Fund and \$94.3 million has been collected for local governments.

The following graph displays the growth in video gaming terminals $T_{\rm growth}$ across Illinois since video gaming became operational in September 2012. As shown, the number of video gaming terminals has continued to grow since its inception. However, the number of new machines added each month is slowing. In CY 2013, video gaming terminals in Illinois were increasing at a rate of 973 terminals per month. In CY 2014, this figure slowed to 434 terminals per In CY 2015, this rate had month. slowed to 246 new terminals per month. It is expected that the number of new terminals will continue to slow in CY 2016. thereby nearing "full implementation". Because of this, monthly tax revenues from video gaming should begin to level off in the months to come, barring no significant changes to the industry (i.e. maximum terminal increases/decreases, lifting of municipality video gaming bans, etc).



On page 11 is a breakdown of video gaming figures from CY 2015 on a county by county basis. *(The original data comes from the Illinois Gaming Board with the Commission compiling the data into a "per county" format).* This table displays how the \$913.6 million in net terminal income from 2015 was spread throughout the State. The 2015 information shows that 5,658 different businesses conducted video gaming operations during this year, using 23,474 terminals. (Note: While 23,474 video gaming terminals were in operation at some point during CY 2015, the most in operation at one time was in December 2015 with 22,135 terminals). On average, businesses averaged 4.1 terminals per businesses. Businesses can have no more than 5 terminals at one time.

				Video Ga	ming Stat	tistics by	Illinois (Count	y - CY	Y 2015			
County	Busin- esses	Term- inals	Net Terminal Income	Tax Revenue	State Portion	Local Portion	County	Busin- esses	Term- inals	Net Terminal Income	Tax Revenue	State Portion	Local Portion
State Totals:	5,658	23,474	\$913,604,038	\$274,082,757	\$228,402,370	\$45,680,387	State Totals:	5,658	23,474	\$913,604,038	\$274,082,757	\$228,402,370	\$45,680,387
Adams	68	151	\$5,432,968	\$1,629,904	\$1,358,254	\$271,650	Lee	53	220	\$6,870,640	\$2,061,211	\$1,717,676	\$343,535
Alexander	14	57	\$1,644,163	\$493,254	\$411,045	\$82,209	Livingston	50	202	\$6,397,614	\$1,919,305	\$1,599,421	\$319,883
Bond	19	61	\$1,822,347	\$546,709	\$455,591	\$91,118	Logan	33	127	\$4,596,648	\$1,379,004	\$1,149,170	\$229,834
Boone	28	119	\$5,563,276	\$1,668,994	\$1,390,829	\$278,165	McDonough	17	54	\$1,085,207	\$325,567	\$271,306	\$54,261
Brown	3	11	\$95,650	\$28,696	\$23,913	. ,	McHenry	177	774	\$28,231,192	\$8,469,426		
Bureau	54	190	\$4,949,837	\$1,484,967	\$1,237,473	\$247,494	McLean	100	405	\$20,968,413	\$6,290,561	\$5,242,135	
Calhoun	9	30	\$524,854	\$157,459	\$131,216	\$26,243	Macon	78	369	\$22,005,441	\$6,601,668	\$5,501,391	
Carroll	24	88	\$1,934,920	\$580,484	\$483,737	. ,	Macoupin	64	256	\$5,190,100	\$1,557,051	\$1,297,543	
Cass	18	66	\$1,699,819	\$509,952	\$424,960		Madison	173	695	\$24,702,030	\$7,410,680	\$6,175,569	
Champaign	116	504	\$23,448,054	\$7,034,462	\$5,862,053	\$1,172,409		58	267	\$7,556,919	\$2,267,097	\$1,889,249	
Christian	54	230	\$6,418,053	\$1,925,436	\$1,604,531		Marshall	20	78	\$1,414,910	\$424,470	\$353,725	
Clark	10	44	\$1,777,681	\$533,307	\$444,423	\$88,884	Mason	22	84	\$1,765,719	\$529,723	\$441,436	\$88,287
Clay	9	42	\$1,420,521	\$426,160	\$355,134	\$71,027	Massac	5	20	\$1,215,173	\$364,554	\$303,795	\$60,759
Clinton	44	149	\$4,065,846	\$1,219,767	\$1,016,473	\$203,294	Menard	10	42	\$1,372,291	\$411,692	\$343,077	\$68,615
Coles	56	245	\$7,404,097	\$2,221,248	\$1,851,041	\$370,207		14	41	\$1,021,170	\$306,356		
Cook	796	3,540	\$172,729,747	\$51,819,278	\$43,182,743	\$8,636,536	Monroe	15	52	\$2,003,169	\$600,955		
Crawford	9	37	\$995,208	\$298,566	\$248,805	\$49,761	Montgomery	41	147	\$4,318,598	\$1,295,593	\$1,079,661	
Cumberland	8	38	\$991,890	\$297,570	\$247,975	\$49,595	Morgan	37	161	\$7,042,419	\$2,112,742	\$1,760,619	
DeKalb	58	228	\$7,374,818	\$2,212,388	\$1,843,657	\$368,730	Moultrie	15	63	\$1,983,088	\$594,932	\$495,777	\$99,155
DeWitt	17	78	\$2,834,001	\$850,208	\$708,507	\$141,701	Ogle	61	239	\$8,004,484	\$2,401,367	\$2,001,140	\$400,227
Douglas	23	98	\$3,474,971	\$1,042,500	\$868,751	\$173,750	Peoria	144	552	\$18,188,710	\$5,456,661	\$4,547,220	\$909,442
DuPage	120	541	\$27,428,195	\$8,228,509	\$6,857,093	\$1,371,417	Perry	23	102	\$2,932,809	\$879,571	\$732,976	\$146,595
Edgar	12	55	\$1,881,654	\$564,501	\$470,418	\$94,083	Piatt	12	53	\$1,826,719	\$548,020	\$456,683	\$91,337
Edwards	8	33	\$983,934	\$295,183	\$245,986	\$49,197	Pike	14	50	\$1,441,482	\$432,449	\$360,374	\$72,075
Effingham	51	219	\$9,979,657	\$2,993,917	\$2,494,932	\$498,986	Pope	1	5	\$149,368	\$44,811	\$37,342	\$7,468
Fayette	18	80	\$3,551,904	\$1,065,579	\$887,982	\$177,596	Pulaski	3	14	\$211,738	\$63,522	\$52,935	\$10,587
Ford	18	72	\$1,540,163	\$462,055	\$385,046	\$77,009	Putnam	8	24	\$560,007	\$167,996	\$139,997	\$27,999
Franklin	48	200	\$5,780,784	\$1,734,252	\$1,445,210	\$289,041	Randolph	41	173	\$5,517,677	\$1,655,297	\$1,379,415	\$275,882
Fulton	44	159	\$4,159,395	\$1,247,833	\$1,039,861	\$207,972	Richland	12	46	\$1,428,970	\$428,694	\$357,245	\$71,449
Gallatin	5	20	\$447,301	\$134,192	\$111,827	\$22,365	Rock Island	96	346	\$10,608,295	\$3,182,519	\$2,652,100	\$530,419
Greene	11	41	\$1,364,796	\$409,443	\$341,203	\$68,240	St. Clair	149	600	\$18,845,733	\$5,653,773	\$4,711,479	\$942,294
Grundy	56	227	\$7,788,447	\$2,336,556	\$1,947,131	\$389,425	Saline	21	91	\$3,387,453	\$1,016,244	\$846,870	\$169,374
Hamilton	5	21	\$607,533	\$182,262	\$151,885	\$30,377	Sangamon	233	1,007	\$43,868,062	\$13,160,510	\$10,967,095	\$2,193,415
Hancock	18	52	\$1,168,745	\$350,628	\$292,191	\$58,438	Schuyler	7	23	\$666,810	\$200,045	\$166,704	\$33,341
Hardin	1	3	\$86,392	\$25,918	\$21,598	\$4,320	Scott	7	26	\$911,559	\$273,470	\$227,892	\$45,578
Henderson	6	23	\$554,615	\$166,387	\$138,656	\$27,731		16	64	\$1,549,176	\$464,681	\$387,235	
Henry	33	131	\$3,986,747	\$1,196,037	\$996,698	\$199,339		7	20	\$332,821	\$99,848	\$83,207	
Iroquois	49	182	\$4,209,464	\$1,262,856	\$1,052,381		Stephenson	44	190	\$7,265,503	\$2,179,668		
Jackson	38	158	\$4,334,625	\$1,300,402	\$1,083,668		Tazewell	98	396	\$13,229,200			
Jasper	11	39	\$885,316	\$265,597	\$221,331	\$44,266		18	75	\$1,687,322	\$506,203	\$421,836	
Jefferson	30	130	\$6,519,074	\$1,955,734	\$1,629,779		Vermilion	77	304	\$12,017,333	\$3,605,228		
Jersey	23	74	\$1,619,576	\$485,879	\$404,899		Wabash	8	34	\$1,306,243	\$391,876		
JoDaviess	40	141	\$3,965,254	\$1,189,584	\$991,320	\$198,264		16	58	\$1,513,053	\$453,922		
Johnson Kana	9 155	34	\$674,658 \$26,372,142	\$202,399 \$7,012,010	\$168,666 \$6 503 344		Washington	27	118	\$3,267,833	\$980,360 \$228,516		
Kane Kankakee	155	652 436	\$26,373,142 \$13,130,174	\$7,912,010	\$6,593,344	\$1,318,666 \$656,515		5 7	22	\$761,712 \$1,142,074			
Kankakee Kendall	100 33	436 140	\$13,130,174 \$4,576,452	\$3,939,095 \$1,372,949	\$3,282,580 \$1,144,125		Whiteside	59	30 262	\$1,142,974 \$8,216,957	\$342,895 \$2,465,112		
Kendan Knox	53 52	140 205	\$4,576,452 \$6,676,167	\$1,372,949 \$2,002,633	\$1,144,125 \$1,668,861	\$228,824 \$333,772		240	202 972	\$8,210,957 \$37,742,459		\$2,034,261 \$9,435,696	
Lake	260	1,161	\$55,553,346	\$2,002,033	\$13,888,428		Williamson	240 53	228	\$7,963,040		\$9,455,696	
Lake	200	794	\$25,697,167	\$7,709,303	\$6,424,422		Winnebago	229	1,084	\$60,047,812			
Lawrence	23	93	\$2,961,366	\$888,418	\$740,348		Woodford	24	87	\$2,181,219	\$654,373	\$545,311	
Chi Area*	1,895	8,235	\$367,797,797	\$110,340,057	\$91,950,073	\$18,389,984	% in Chi Area*:	33.5%	35.1%	40.3%	40.3%	40.3%	40.3%
0	1		al Area is defined nois.gov/Vide					alb, DuPa	ge, Grund	y, Kane, Kendall	, McHenry, Will	, and Lake.	

Despite the fact that the City of Chicago is not participating in video gaming, Cook County still had, by far, the most video gaming terminals of any county in the State in CY 2015 with 3,540 terminals. Second on the list was Lake County (1,161 terminals), followed by Winnebago (1,084), Sangamon (1,007), and Will (972). Cook County also generated the most net terminal income in 2015 with \$172.7 million, followed by Winnebago (\$60.0 M), Lake (\$55.6 M), Sangmon (\$43.9 M), and Will County (\$37.7 M). But because of Chicago's absence, Cook County ranks near the bottom in terminal per capita (ranked 101 of 102) and in net terminal income per capita (ranked 99 of 102). A list of the "top twenty" and "bottom twenty" counties in various video gaming categories is shown below.

	Video Gaming Statistics by County Ranking CY 2015 Data										
Rank	County	Terminals	Rank	County	Terminals per Capita	Rank	County	Net Terminal Income	Rank	County	NTI per Capita
					"TOP TWENT	Y COU	NTIES"				
1	Cook	3,540	1	Washington	0.80%	1	Cook	\$172,729,747	1	Effingham	\$291.44
2	Lake	1,161	2	LaSalle	0.70%	2	Winnebago	\$60,047,812	2	LaSalle	\$225.56
3	Winnebago	1,084	3	Alexander	0.69%	3	Lake	\$55,553,346	3	Sangamon	\$222.16
4	Sangamon	1,007	4	Marion	0.68%	4	Sangamon	\$43,868,062	4	Washington	\$222.06
5	Will	972	5	Christian	0.66%	5	Will	\$37,742,459	5	Winnebago	\$203.37
6	LaSalle	794	6	Effingham	0.64%	6	McHenry	\$28,231,192	6	Alexander	\$199.58
7	McHenry	774	7	JoDaviess	0.62%	7	DuPage	\$27,428,195	7	Macon	\$198.66
8	Madison	695	8	Marshall	0.62%	8	Kane	\$26,373,142	8	Morgan	\$198.12
9	Kane	652	9	Iroquois	0.61%	9	LaSalle	\$25,697,167	9	Marion	\$191.62
10	St. Clair	600	10	Lee	0.61%	10	Madison	\$24,702,030	10	Lee	\$190.69
11	Peoria	552	11	Calhoun	0.59%	11	Champaign	\$23,448,054	11	Christian	\$184.43
12	DuPage	541	12	Mason	0.57%	12	Macon	\$22,005,441	12	Lawrence	\$175.93
13	Champaign	504	13	Carroll	0.57%	13	McLean	\$20,968,413	13	JoDaviess	\$174.85
14	Kankakee	436	14	Lawrence	0.55%	14	St. Clair	\$18,845,733	14	Douglas	\$173.92
15	McLean	405	15	Bureau	0.54%	15	Peoria	\$18,188,710	15	DeWitt	\$171.13
16	Tazewell	396	16	Macoupin	0.54%	16	Tazewell	\$13,229,200	16	Scott	\$170.23
17	Macon	369	17	Livingston	0.52%	17	Kankakee	\$13,130,174	17	Jefferson	\$167.90
18	Rock Island	346	18	Randolph	0.52%	18	Vermilion	\$12,017,333	18	Randolph	\$164.82
19	Vermilion	304	19	Ford	0.51%	19	Rock Island	\$10,608,295	19	Livingston	\$164.25
20	Marion	267	20	Sangamon	0.51%	20	Effingham	\$9,979,657	20	Fayette	\$160.43
							-				
	1	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		"	BOTTOM TWE	NTY CO	DUNTIES"	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
83	Cumberland	38	83	Adams	0.23%	83	McDonough	\$1,085,207	83	St. Clair	\$69.78
84	Crawford	37	84	Woodford	0.23%	84	Mercer	\$1,021,170	84	Shelby	\$69.27
85	Johnson	34	85	St. Clair	0.22%	85	Crawford	\$995,208	85	Mercer	\$62.14
86	Wabash	34	86	Boone	0.22%	86	Cumberland	\$991,890	86	Hancock	\$61.18
87	Edwards	33	87	DeKalb	0.22%	87	Edwards	\$983,934	87	Monroe	\$60.78
88	Calhoun	30	88	White	0.20%	88	Scott	\$911,559	88	Woodford	\$56.41
89	White	30	89	Crawford	0.19%	89	Jasper	\$885,316	89	Will	\$55.70
90	Scott	26	90	McDonough	0.17%	90	Wayne	\$761,712	90	Stark	\$55.53
91	Putnam	24	91	Lake	0.17%	91	Johnson	\$674,658	91	Johnson	\$53.62
92	Henderson	23	92	Brown	0.16%	92	Schuvler	\$666,810	92	Kane	\$51.18
93	Schuyler	23	93	Monroe	0.16%	93	Hamilton	\$607,533	93	Crawford	\$50.22
94	Wavne	22	94	Will	0.14%	94	Putnam	\$560,007	94	Wavne	\$45.45
95	Hamilton	21	95	Wavne	0.13%	95	Henderson	\$554,615	95	Kendall	\$39.89
96	Gallatin	20	96	Massac	0.13%	96	Calhoun	\$524,854	96	Pulaski	\$34.37
97	Massac	20	97	Kane	0.13%	97	Gallatin	\$447,301	97	Pope	\$33.42
98	Stark	20	98	Kendall	0.12%	98	Stark	\$332,821	98	McDonough	\$33.28
99	Pulaski	14	99	Роре	0.11%	99	Pulaski	\$211,738	99	Cook	\$33.25
100	Brown	14	100	Hardin	0.07%	100	Pope	\$149,368	100	DuPage	\$29.91
100	Pope	5	100	Cook	0.07%	100	Brown	\$95,650	100	Hardin	\$20.00
101	Hardin	3		DuPage	0.06%	101	Hardin	\$95,030	101	Brown	\$13.79
		-		-	ounty compilation			900,392	102	210.01	φ15.79

Below is a list of the top municipalities with video gaming terminals in 2015. Topping the list was Springfield with 574 terminals. Second on the list was Rockford with 448 video gaming machines, followed by Decatur (287), Joliet (265), and unincorporated areas of Lake County (263). In terms of net terminal income generated from video gaming machines, the City of Springfield again lead the list with \$27.4 million in net terminal income. Springfield was followed by Rockford (\$27.0 million), Decatur (\$17.9 M), Waukegan (\$14.4 M), and Bloomington (\$14.1 M).

	Top Municipalities with Video Gaming CY 2015 Totals								
Rank	Municipality	Terminals	Rank	Municipality	Net Terminal Income				
1	Springfield	574	1	Springfield	\$27,367,810				
2	Rockford	448	2	Rockford	\$26,979,176				
3	Decatur	287	3	Decatur	\$17,936,288				
4	Joliet	265	4	Waukegan	\$14,421,362				
5	Lake County	263	5	Bloomington	\$14,125,357				
6	Loves Park	258	6	Loves Park	\$14,055,815				
7	Bloomington	253	7	Champaign	\$10,856,413				
8	Waukegan	246	8	Joliet	\$10,715,640				
9	Berwyn	224	9	Lake County	\$9,667,867				
10	Peoria	216	10	Oak Lawn	\$9,036,604				
11	Champaign	213	11	Peoria	\$8,468,433				
12	Sangamon County	183	12	Berwyn	\$7,877,326				
13	Kankakee	173	13	Sangamon County	\$7,568,181				
14	Oak Lawn	163	14	Effingham	\$6,959,333				
15	Mattoon	147	15	Cicero	\$6,639,625				
16	Alton	145	16	Freeport	\$5,617,701				
17	Pekin	137	17	Kankakee	\$5,464,452				
18	Effingham	133	18	Hoffman Estates	\$5,458,983				
19	Ottawa	131	19	McHenry	\$5,283,513				
20	Aurora	129	20	Aurora	\$5,280,536				
21	Galesburg	128	21	Fox Lake	\$5,265,818				
22	McHenry County	124	22	Jacksonville	\$5,225,417				
23	Belleville	119	23	Mattoon	\$5,079,304				
24	Danville	118	24	Pekin	\$5,067,238				
25	Freeport	115	25	Villa Park	\$5,062,824				

The revenues generated from video gaming would undoubtedly be much higher if it were not for the number of communities that continue to ban video gaming in their areas. As mentioned earlier, the City of Chicago has continued their ban on video gaming and is obviously the largest city in Illinois to

not offer video gaming. After Chicago, the five highest populated cities in Illinois not operating video gaming machines are Naperville, Arlington Heights, Evanston, and Schaumburg. A table displaying the top 25 municipalities without video gaming in CY 2015, is shown below.

Hig	hest Populated Cities in CY		aming
Rank	Municipality	Population	% of State Population
1	Chicago	2,695,598	21.0%
2	Naperville	141,853	1.1%
3	Arlington Heights	75,101	0.6%
4	Evanston	74,486	0.6%
5	Schaumburg	74,227	0.6%
6	Bolingbrook	73,366	0.6%
7	Palatine	68,557	0.5%
8	Skokie	64,784	0.5%
9	Des Plaines	58,364	0.5%
10	Orland Park	56,767	0.4%
11	Mount Prospect	54,167	0.4%
12	Wheaton	52,894	0.4%
13	Oak Park	51,878	0.4%
14	Downers Grove	47,833	0.4%
15	Glenview	44,692	0.3%
16	Elmhurst	44,121	0.3%
17	Lombard	43,395	0.3%
18	Buffalo Grove	41,496	0.3%
19	Crystal Lake	40,743	0.3%
20	Plainfield	39,581	0.3%
21	Park Ridge	37,480	0.3%
22	Northbrook	33,170	0.3%
23	St. Charles	32,974	0.3%
24	Gurnee	31,295	0.2%
25	Niles	29,803	0.2%

As Illinois' video gaming numbers continue to increase, the opposite has been the case for Illinois' riverboats. Over the last three years, Illinois riverboats have fallen a combined 12.2%. In fact, every riverboat casino, with the exception of Des Plaines (+2.0\%), has experienced double digit losses in their adjusted gross receipts during this time period with four of the casinos dealing with declines over 20%. While the latest casino figures show that the level of declines slowed in CY 2015 (-1.8% over CY 2014), seven of the ten Illinois casinos saw their year-over-year AGR levels drop in 2015, including Des Plaines. These statistics can be seen in the following table.

Statis	Statistical Summary of the Midwestern Gaming States									
	ILLINOIS CASINOS									
\$ IN MILLIONS	CY 2011 AGR	CY 2012 AGR	CY 2013 AGR	CY 2014 AGR	CY 2015 AGR	1-Yr. Change	2-Yr. Change	3-Yr. Change	Nov 2015 Positions	2015 AGR/ Pos/Day
ALTON ARGOSY - Alton	\$73.0	\$71.0	\$64.3	\$56.5	\$54.6	-3.5%	-15.1%	-23.1%	824	\$181
PAR-A-DICE - E. Peoria	\$115.6	\$116.3	\$107.3	\$94.0	\$90.0	-4.3%	-16.1%	-22.6%	1,055	\$234
JUMER'S - Rock Island	\$85.9	\$87.9	\$81.6	\$76.7	\$76.7	0.1%	-5.9%	-12.7%	1,051	\$200
HOLLYWOOD CASINO - Joliet	\$146.2	\$141.5	\$131.3	\$122.6	\$125.3	2.2%	-4.6%	-11.4%	1,085	\$316
HARRAH'S - Metropolis	\$95.5	\$97.7	\$85.5	\$81.8	\$83.4	2.0%	-2.4%	-14.6%	884	\$258
HARRAH'S - Joliet	\$223.4	\$212.1	\$202.4	\$199.1	\$186.0	-6.6%	-8.1%	-12.3%	1,200	\$425
HOLLYWOOD CASINO - Aurora	\$173.2	\$151.9	\$141.9	\$126.9	\$121.2	-4.4%	-14.5%	-20.2%	1,159	\$287
CASINO QUEEN - E. St. Louis	\$129.9	\$131.2	\$124.6	\$110.5	\$105.0	-5.0%	-15.7%	-20.0%	1,190	\$242
GRAND VICTORIA - Elgin	\$256.9	\$212.4	\$194.3	\$171.8	\$171.5	-0.2%	-11.7%	-19.3%	1,200	\$392
RIVERS CASINO - Des Plaines	\$177.5	\$416.7	\$418.9	\$425.5	\$425.0	-0.1%	1.5%	2.0%	1,200	\$971
TOTALS	\$1,477.0	\$1,638.6	\$1,552.0	\$1,465.4	\$1,438.8	-1.8%	-7.3%	-12.2%	10,848	\$363
CHICAGO REGION TOTALS	\$977.2	\$1,134.6	\$1,088.8	\$1,045.8	\$1,029.1	-1.6%	-5.5%	-9.3%	5,844	\$482
CHICAGO REGION W/O DES PLAINES	\$799.8	\$717.9	\$669.9	\$620.3	\$604.1	-2.6%	-9.8%	-15.9%	4,644	\$356
ST. LOUIS REGION TOTALS	\$202.8	\$202.2	\$188.8	\$167.1	\$159.6	-4.5%	-15.5%	-21.1%	2,014	\$217

While there are an abundance of factors than can contribute to the decline in casino numbers, undoubtedly, a major contributing factor to this falloff is the increased competition resulting from the growth of video gaming. When looking at gambling forms separately, the previous statistics show a downward trend in riverboat gambling. However, as shown in the following graph, when combined with video gaming totals, gambling as a whole has actually increased Statewide.

In CY 2012, gaming revenues totaled \$1.651 billion with the vast majoiry of the dollars coming from Illinois riverboats. In CY 2013, riverboat casino revenues fell \$87 million. But when combined with the \$300.7 million in video gaming revenues, total gaming revenues actually increased 15.0% in CY 2013. In CY 2014, riverboat revenues fell another \$86.7 million (- 5.6%). But video gaming revenues more than offset this decline, growing \$358.5 million or 119.3%.

In CY 2015, this trend continued as riverboat revenues fell an additional \$26.5 million or (-1.8%), while video gaming revenues grew another \$254.1 million (+38.5%). As a result, gaming revenues grew a net \$227.6 million in CY 2015 or 10.7%. Therefore, when accounting for both riverboat revenues and video gaming revenues, overall gaming revenues have increased \$701.5 million or 42.5% over the past three years.



T hile it is difficult to quantitatively estimate the impact that video gaming has had on Illinois riverboats, video gaming in certain regions has obviously hurt the riverboat industry more than others. For the communities that lie several hours away from the nearest riverboat casino, the impact of these communities offering video gaming has likely had very little impact on the casino industry - except for the small number of patrons that once would travel the distance to gamble at a casino, but now elect to gamble with the video gaming machines near their home. It is these communities that likely have brought in a lot of "new" gaming dollars to State and local coffers creating the overall 42.5% increase in gaming revenues over the past three But for the communities that years. reside in close distance to existing casinos, the numbers would suggest that

this increased competition is having a negative impact on the casino industry.

An example of video gaming's impact on the riverboat casino industry is seen by looking at the Chicago region. At the bottom of the county-by-county video gaming table shown on page 11, there were an estimated 1.895 businesses in the Chicago Metropolitan Statistical Area (defined by the Census Bureau to include the Illinois counties of Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, McHenry, Will, and Lake) in 2015 that offered video gaming. These locations housed 8,235 video gaming terminals during the calendar year. Illinois casinos can currently have a maximum of 1,200 gaming positions at their locations. This means that video gaming has added the equivalency of nearly 7 full-size casinos to the Chicago Metropolitan Area over the past three years. Again, these totals are without the City of Chicago even participating in this gaming expansion.

These 8.235 terminals were added to an area that already had in its region five riverboat casinos in four Illinois communities: Joliet, Aurora, Elgin, and Des Plaines. Despite increases at the Des Plaines casino, combined, these five casinos have seen their CY 2015 totals decline 9.3% since AGR And when excluding the CY 2012. newer Des Plaines casino, these Illinois based casinos have fallen 15.9% over the last three years. The popular Des Plaines casino is part of the reason for the declines at the other riverboat casinos, but video gaming has no doubt been a significant contributor to this falloff as well.

In addition, there are five Indiana casinos within a short drive of the Chicago Area in the communities of Michigan City, Gary (2), Hammond, and East Chicago. These five Indiana casinos have seen their AGR totals fall from \$1.1 billion in CY 2012 to \$940 million in CY 2015, a three-year decline of 15.6%. Again, the new casino in Des Plaines has contributed to this falloff, but the numbers would suggest that video gaming has also contributed to this decline.

When combining the receipts of all ten of the casinos in the Chicago Area, adjusted gross receipts totaled \$2.248 billion in CY 2012. But since the inception of video gaming, these casinos have seen their combined AGR totals fall to \$1.969 billion in CY 2015, a three-year decline of 12.4%. And this falloff includes the 2.0% three-year increase at the Des Plaines casino.

s the following chart displays, the Aloss in gaming revenues from the casinos in the Chicago Area appears to be closely related to an increase in video gaming revenues. It is estimated that \$92.2 million in video gaming net terminal income came from communities in the Chicago Area in CY 2013, \$244.6 million in CY 2014, and \$367.8 million in CY 2015. As shown, when the Chicago Area video gaming figures are added to the riverboat casino figures, overall gaming in the Chicago Area was relatively stagnant. Collectively, total gaming in this area went from \$2.252 billion in CY 2012 to \$2.337 billion in CY 2015. This results in a three-year change in combined gaming revenues of only 3.8% for an average annual rate of growth of only 1.3%.

These numbers would suggest that the inclusion of video gaming in the Chicago Area has only slightly increased the amount of gaming dollars in this region. With an average annual growth in gaming of only 1.3%, thus far, it appears that video gaming has simply "reshuffled the deck chairs" by redistributing casino gaming revenues to the numerous gaming venues that now exist in this region.



So why has the combined gaming totals remained stagnant in the Chicago Area if the Statewide combined totals have increased 42.5% over the last three years? An explanation for this is simply because of the amount of gaming options that already existed in this area even before video gaming began. Before video gaming, the Chicago Area already had its choice of 10 casinos which was the home to over 15,000 gaming positions. Adding 8,235 additional video gaming terminals to the region gave gamers more choices, but it appears that it has not brought in much in the way of new gaming revenues.

On the other hand, most downstate communities did not have close gaming options available to them. Video gaming gave areas a "nearby" option, allowing gaming revenues to thrive in areas outside of the Chicago Metropolitan Area. This is a plausible explanation for why the net increase in overall gaming revenues has occurred outside of the Chicago Area.

Many gambling proponents argue that because Chicago has yet to enter into the gaming market, there remains a large untapped amount of gaming dollars. There is likely a lot of truth to this, especially when considering the potential revenues from tourists that typically would not venture outside of the downtown area to visit other gaming facilities. But from the standpoint of the outer regions of Chicago, the previous graph would indicate these areas may have already reached a saturation point. Of course improvements in the economy and income levels would assist in raising this "saturation point" to higher levels.

But even though overall gaming revenues have been stagnant in the Chicago Area as a whole, Illinois appears to be taking advantage of Indiana's revenue losses. It has always been widely believed that a significant portion of Indiana's riverboat revenues have come from Illinois residents crossing the border to gamble at Indiana's facilities. Indiana's recent decline in their AGR numbers suggest that Illinois' recent increase in its gaming options, whether it come from the Des Plaines Casino or the new video gaming terminals, have retained more gaming dollars in Illinois, increasing Illinois' coffers while reducing Indiana's.

So what kind of impact has video gaming had on the tax revenues from all gaming sources? In CY 2012, the taxes imposed on the Illinois riverboats (admission tax and the graduated tax on adjusted gross receipts) generated \$574.3 million. Due to the recent declines in admissions and AGR totals, this tax amount has fallen to \$488.0 million in CY 2015, a three year decline of 15.0%. However, these declines have been more than offset by the additional tax revenue generated from video gaming.

In CY 2013, \$90.2 million in tax revenues were generated from video gaming. As video gaming revved up, this total rose to \$197.9 million in CY 2014 and to \$274.1 million in CY 2015. When combining these video gaming tax revenues with casino tax revenues, overall tax revenues grew from \$578 million in CY 2012 to \$762 million in CY 2015, an increase of 31.8%. These figures are displayed in the following chart.



While higher tax revenues are welcomed by State coffers, there are aspects of this growth that may be concerning to some. The first pertains to the tax rate imposed on these gaming sources. Video gaming revenues are taxed at a flat 30% tax rate. Casino revenues, on the other hand, are taxed on a graduated basis - meaning the more revenues that are collected, the higher the tax. In CY 2015, the effective tax rate for the 10 casinos was approximately 33.9% (includes both state and local wagering and admission taxes). As gaming dollars move from the casinos to the video gaming terminals, these dollars are then taxed at a lower rate, thereby reducing overall tax collections.

The other aspect that may be troubling to some is the destination of these gaming tax dollars. The majority of tax revenues from casinos

eventually transferred to the are Education Assistance Fund. The majority of tax revenues from video gaming are deposited into the Capital Projects Fund. Therefore, if video gaming causes a reduction in revenues from riverboats. tax dollars are effectively being shifted from the Education Assistance Fund to the Capital Projects Fund.

Furthermore, money set aside for administration costs pertaining to both riverboat casinos and video gaming comes from riverboat casino taxes deposited into the State Gaming Fund. In other words, as video gaming administration expenses increase, this results in less revenue in the State Gaming Fund to be transferred into the Education Assistance Fund. Whether this funding shift is positive or negative is, of course, open to debate.

Summary of Proposed Employer Contribution Rates for TRS Early Retirement Option (ERO)

Julie Bae, Pension Analyst

Pursuant to Public Act 94-0004 (SB 0027), the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability is required to submit an actuarial review of the proportional adjustments to member and employer contributions under the Teachers' Retirement System Early Retirement Option (ERO).

Members of TRS between the ages of 55 and 60 who have at least 20 but less than 35 years of service may utilize ERO as a way of retiring without a discounted annuity. In order to retire under ERO, a member and his or her last employer(s) have to make a one-time contribution to TRS. The one-time member contribution is calculated by multiplying the contribution rate by the lesser of: (a) each year that a member is under age 60 or (b) each year that the member's creditable years of service is less than 35. The one-time employer contribution calculated by multiplying is the contribution rate by each year that a member is under age 60.

The ERO has been modified twice; first in 2005 with the enactment of Public Act 94-0004 and again in 2013 with the enactment of 98-0042. Members who were eligible to take advantage of ERO before the 2005 modifications of P.A. 94-0004 participated in what became known as the "pipeline" ERO.

Pursuant to Public Act 94-0004, effective June 1, 2005, the "pipeline" ERO was extended for a member who planned to retire after June 30, 2005 and on or before July 1, 2007 and notified his or her intent to retire on or before June 1, 2005 under the term of a member's contract or collective bargaining agreement. The modified ERO applied to a member retiring on or after July 1, 2005 with following modifications:

- Members started contributing an additional 0.4% to fund modified ERO, which increased total member contribution to 9.4%
- The one-time member contribution rate increased to 11.5% from 7%
- The one-time employer contribution rate increased to 23.5% from 20%
- An employer was empowered to limit the ERO eligibility rate to at least 10% of members applying for ERO on the basis of seniority in the service of the employer (Under the "pipeline" ERO, it was 30%)
- The ERO contribution waiver for members with 34 years of service was eliminated.

Pursuant to Public Act 98-0042, effective June 28, 2013, the modified ERO by P.A. 94-0004 was extended for a member retiring on or before June 30, 2013. The modified ERO was extended for another three years (meaning ERO will be terminated on July 1, 2016) for a member retiring on or after July 1, 2013 and before July 1, 2016 under the following conditions:

- For the first time, employers have options not to approve a member's ERO. Without a member's last employer(s) approval and certification, a member cannot retire under ERO
- The one-time member contribution rate increased to 14.4% from 11.5%
- The one-time employer contribution rate increased to 29.3% from 23.5%.

According to TRS, for the first two fiscal years (FY 2006 and FY 2007) since Public Act 94-0004 took effect, mostly all ERO retirements were under "pipeline" ERO program because teachers notified their intent to retire before the Act's effective date. In order to show the impact of the modified ERO programs, the number of ERO retirees from FY 2008 through FY 2015 and utilization rates during ERO two separate time periods are provided below based on information received from TRS:

FY	Number of ERO Retirees	Number of New Retirees
2008	480	3,260
2009	495	4,029
2010	444	4,541
2011	429	4,753
2012	370	5,266
2013	284	4,535
2014	146	4,450
2015	112	4,118

Period of Experience	Number of ERO-Eligible Retirees	Number of ERO-Elected Retirees	ERO Utilization Rates
FY 2007 – FY 2011	10,665	4,448	41.7%
FY 2012 – FY 2014	3,376	823	24.4%

TRS actuary, Buck Consultants, has recommended a 25% decrease in the one-time contribution rates because the lump sum contributions and the 0.4% member contribution more than cover

the cost of the ERO. Under the assumption that the 0.4% member contribution remains unchanged, the proposed contribution rates, compared to current rates per P.A. 98-0042, are summarized on the next page.

	Proposed Rates	Current Rates
Member Contribution Rate	10.8%	14.4%
Employer Contribution Rate	22.0%	29.3%

The CGFA actuary, Segal Company, has performed an analysis of the proportional adjustment to the recommended ERO

contribution rates and believes the rates are reasonable based on information supplied by Buck Consultants.