

Gross Casino Revenue Tax

Taxpayer

The tax is paid by casino operators of a casino facility at a location authorized by Article XV, Section 6(C) of the Ohio constitution.

Tax Base

The tax applies to the gross casino revenue received by each casino operator. "Gross casino revenue" means the amount of money exchanged for the purchase of chips, tokens, tickets, electronic cards, or similar objects by casino patrons, less winnings paid to bettors.

Rates

The Ohio constitution sets the tax rate at 33 percent of the casino operator's gross casino revenue at the casino facility.

Major Exemptions

None.

Revenue

Revenue collected from the gross casino revenue tax in the 2013 fiscal year was \$225.4 million.

Disposition of Revenue

Revenue from the tax will be distributed as follows:

- 51 percent to the Gross Casino Revenue County Fund, where it is distributed in proportion to the population of each of Ohio's 88 counties. Utilizing the 2000 United States Census Bureau census, in counties whose largest city has a population greater than 80,000, revenue from this fund is split evenly between county government and the largest city. In other counties, all revenue is directed to county government.
- 34 percent to the Gross Casino Revenue County Student Fund, where it is distributed in proportion to counties' respective public school district student populations.
- 5 percent to the host city of the casino.

- 3 percent to the Ohio State Racing Commission. Of this amount, 5 percent may be retained by the commission for operating expenses necessary for the administration of the fund.
- 3 percent to the Ohio Casino Control Commission. Of this amount, one cent of every dollar distributed to this fund is utilized to defray costs incurred in administering this tax.
- 2 percent to the Problem Casino Gambling and Addictions Fund to support efforts to alleviate problem gambling and substance abuse and to fund related research.
- 2 percent to the Ohio Law Enforcement Training Fund. Of this amount, 85 cents of every dollar distributed to this fund is directed to the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy. The rest is directed to the Department of Public Safety's Office of Criminal Justice Services.

Total Casino Revenue Distributions FY 2013	
Host City Fund	\$ 8,727,638
Student Fund	59,347,940
County Fund	89,021,910
Casino Control Comm. Fund	5,236,583
Racing Comm. Fund	5,236,583
Law Enforcement Training Fund	3,491,055
Problem Gambling & Addiction Fund	3,491,055
Total Distributions	\$174,552,764

Payment Dates

Casino operators, each day the banks are open for business, are required to file a daily return before noon. An electronic payment must accompany the return.

Sections of the Revised Code

Chapter 5753 and chapter 3772.

Responsibility for Administration

The Tax Commissioner administers the tax. The Ohio Casino Control Commission regulates casinos.

History of Major Changes

2009 Ohio voters approve an amendment to the Ohio constitution authorizing one casino each in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus and Toledo. The amendment also requires a 33 percent tax on gross casino revenue.

2010 In May, voters approve an amendment to the Ohio constitution that relocates the future Columbus casino from the city's arena district to its west side. In June, the General Assembly passes House Bill 519, implementing the tax on gross casino revenue through a new Chapter 5753 to the Ohio Revised Code.

Comparisons with Other States

(As of July, 2013)

Comparable casinos and casino taxes do not exist in **California, Kentucky, Massachusetts** or **Texas**. For other comparison states, the table below describes the taxes that apply to land-based casinos not located at a racetrack ("casinos"), riverboat casinos ("riverboats"), and casinos located at a racetrack ("racinos").

Other forms of gambling, such as tribal casinos, card rooms, and electronic gaming device facilities, also take place in some comparison states, but these forms of gambling are not included in this comparison.

State	Types of Facilities	Tax Base and Rate
Florida	Racinos (slot machines only)	A 35 percent tax applies to gross gaming revenue.
Illinois	Riverboats	Graduated tax rates from 15 percent to 50 percent apply to gross gaming revenue; a \$2-3 admissions tax also applies.

Indiana	Casinos and racinos (video lottery terminals only)	Graduated tax rates from 15 percent to 40 percent apply to gross gaming revenue; a \$2-3 admissions tax applies; for racinos a graduated tax from 25 to 35 percent of gross gaming revenue.
Michigan	Casinos	A 19 percent tax on gross gaming revenue (10.9 percent to Detroit; 8.1 percent to Michigan); there are state and municipal fees levied annually.
New Jersey	Casinos	An 8 percent tax on gross gaming revenue, plus a community investment alternative obligation of 1.25 percent of gross gaming revenue or an investment alternative 2.5 percent.
New York	Racinos (video lottery terminals only)	No tax, but the state retains 65.10 percent of gross receipts.
Ohio	Casinos and racinos (video lottery terminals only)	A 33 percent tax applies to the casino operator's gross casino revenue at the casino facility; racino revenue retained by operator is 66.5 percent.
Pennsylvania	Casinos and racinos	A 55 percent tax applies to gross gaming revenue and 16 percent on table games.
West Virginia	Racinos (video lottery terminals and table games)	No tax, but the state retains 52.89 percent of gross receipts.

Source: "2013 AGA Survey of Casino Entertainment," American Gaming Association.