

## Major Findings

There are eight tribes operating nine gaming establishments in Oregon. Seven ran one casino. The other operated both a casino and a class-II (video bingo machine) facility.

Besides gaming, the casinos operated a mix of hotels, restaurants, RV parks, golf courses, shops, conference centers, entertainment venues, and other amenities.

In 2017, Tribal casinos and resorts employed 4,514 workers and paid them \$209.1 million in wages and benefits. In addition, earnings from gaming were used by tribal governments to pay the salaries of 646 employees and the operating expenses for tribal healthcare, education, housing, and public safety. These were the direct employment impacts of tribal gaming in Oregon.

Since tribes employ almost exclusively Oregonians and mostly buy goods and services from Oregon businesses, tribal gaming had major indirect impacts on the rest of the state economy. In addition to their direct impacts, in 2017 tribal gaming positively influenced many aspects of the local economy:

- Tribal gaming directly and indirectly supported 11,262 jobs statewide earning \$550.6 million in wages, benefits, and self-employment earnings.
- Tribal gaming indirectly supported businesses and governments in Oregon by an amount totaling \$760.3 million in output—not counting what the tribes made.
- Their impacts included \$27.7 million in taxes and fees for the state of Oregon, \$17.7 million in local government taxes and fees, and \$88.9 million in federal taxes.
- Tribal casinos generated \$499.3 million in gaming revenues and spent \$14 million on regulation. Tribes paid \$1.5 million to the Oregon State Police and almost \$300,000 to federal gaming regulators.
- Including their hotels, restaurants, and other amenities, revenues at tribal gaming businesses were \$602.4 million. From that, they provided \$131.5 million to their tribes; much of it paying for member healthcare, education, and housing.
- Tribal casinos donated and granted \$8.6 million to local charities in 2017 and \$134.1 million since 1992—the year the first casino opened in Oregon.
- Their casinos sold over 427,746 room nights to guests visiting the rural Oregon communities where their hotels are located.
- While successful, the growing dominance and competitive advantages of the Oregon Lottery eroded the market share of tribal casinos, which fell to its lowest point in over 20 years.