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The _____ MICHIGAN GAMING _____ Newsletter



MICHIGAN GAMING CONTROL BOARD RELEASES DETROIT CASINO REVENUES & WAGERING TAXES FOR MAY 2019

In a [press release](#) dated June 11, 2019, the Michigan Gaming Control Board ("MGCB" or "Board") released the May 2019 revenue figures for the three Detroit casinos – MGM Grand Detroit Casino, MotorCity Casino and Greektown Casino. The MGCB also announced the fourth consecutive month of growth for Detroit casinos in 2019.

The three Detroit casinos reported \$125.7 million in aggregate revenue for May 2019, a 0.9% increase from the same month last year. The results were 0.6% above the monthly revenue in April 2019. Year-to-date aggregate revenue was 1.5% higher than in the first five months of 2018.

Please see the linked [State of Michigan official financial report](#).

Revenue increased at MGM by 0.1% to \$54.4 million. MotorCity recorded a revenue increase of 0.9% to \$41.9 million. Greektown revenue increased by 2.4% to \$29.4 million compared with May 2018 results.

The May 2019 market shares for MGM Grand Detroit, MotorCity Casino and Greektown Casino were 43%, 33% and 24% respectively.

During May 2019, the three Detroit casinos paid \$10.2 million in gaming taxes to the State of Michigan, compared with \$10.1 million for the same month last year. The three casinos reported submitting \$14.97 million in wagering taxes and development agreement payments to the City of Detroit in May.

All three casinos are subject to a wagering tax of 19%, with 10.9% of this levy payable to the City of Detroit and 8.1% payable to the State of Michigan.

The figures released by the Board are the gross receipts less winnings paid to

wagerers. The figures do not include: 1) any fees or other relevant city, state or federal taxes; 2) wages and benefits paid to casino employees; 3) payments to suppliers, services providers or vendors; nor 4) other normal business expenses.

NOTTAWASEPPI HURON BAND OF THE POTAWATOMI TO CELEBRATE GROUNDBREAKING FOR EXPANSION OF FIREKEEPERS CASINO HOTEL

Leaders of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi (“Tribe”) and FireKeepers Casino Hotel will be celebrating a groundbreaking ceremony for tower two at FireKeepers Casino Hotel. A special ceremony for the ground breaking for the construction of a second hotel tower will take place Monday, June 17 at 11 a.m. at the entrance of the FireKeepers Casino Hotel.

This expansion comes as FireKeepers is just weeks away from celebrating its 10th Anniversary. According to the Tribe, “the first tower is filled to capacity on an almost daily basis and for five years has been a AAA-rated Four Diamond hotel, one of 18 in Michigan for 2019. This project will also create new food and beverage amenities plus a new gaming footprint for high limit games.”

The FireKeepers Casino Hotel is located at 1177 E. Michigan Avenue in Battle Creek. Photo and interview opportunities will take place after the ceremony.

THE AGA ANNOUNCES FOURTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR OF REVENUE GROWTH FOR COMMERCIAL GAMING INDUSTRY

In a press release dated June 11, 2019, the American Gaming Association (AGA) announced that gaming revenue for the U.S. commercial casino industry reached an all-time high of \$41.7 billion in 2018, up 3.5 percent from the previous year. This data was compiled according to the

AGA’s [State of the States 2019: The AGA Survey of the Commercial Casino Industry](#).

Key findings from the State of the States 2019 report include:

- The commercial casino sector—with 465 casinos—logged its fourth consecutive year of gaming revenue growth and outpaced the national economic growth rate in 2018;
- The industry generated \$9.7 billion in gaming taxes for state and local governments, a number that does not account for the billions more in sales, income and other taxes that benefit communities; and
- Half of the 24 states with commercial casinos reported record annual gaming revenue with nearly every state seeing gains in 2018, contributing to the strength of local economies across the country.

“Year after year, the commercial casino industry has reaffirmed its role as an economic powerhouse in the United States,” said Bill Miller, president and CEO of the American Gaming Association. “More people than ever are experiencing the economic and social benefits of gaming in their communities, due in part to the expansion of legal sports betting across the country.”

Part of the 2018 success can be attributed to the expansion of legal sports betting across the U.S., with consumers in eight states able to place a legal sports wager by the end of 2018. Total industry-wide revenue from sports betting grew to \$430.2 million in 2018, up from \$261.3 million in 2017. The AGA anticipates this growth to dramatically ramp up as additional states legalize and regulate sports wagering.

For more information on the AGA Survey or to learn more about the American Gaming Association, please visit the [AGA website](#).

PATRICK RODEMEYER JOINS MOTORCITY CASINO HOTEL AS IRIDESCENCE CHEF DE CUISINE

In a press release, MotorCity Casino Hotel announced yesterday that Patrick Rodemeyer has joined its fine dining restaurant Iridescence, the only AAA-Four Diamond restaurant in the city of Detroit. "In his new position, Rodemeyer will be responsible for creating new recipes, managing future menu development, and contributing to the award-winning Iridescence dining experience," the press release noted.

Rodemeyer will be rolling out a new menu on Wednesday, June 12, which will include new offerings along with twists to some Iridescence favorites. He draws inspiration from the seasons, culinary trends, and his own experiences. In addition to the new menu, the Wine and Dine and 5-Course Tour will still be available for guests to enjoy.

"When creating the new menu, I wanted to take ingredients and techniques of fine dining and present them in a fun and different way," says Rodemeyer. "I want our guests to have a multi-sensory dining opportunity that engages their emotions."

"Patrick has already taken Iridescence to new levels," says Vice President of Food and Beverage, Ray Bertschy. "We're looking forward to having our guests experience his talents!"

Rodemeyer has received degrees from Schoolcraft Culinary Arts College and Michigan State University. Rodemeyer is a Michigan native and has spent the past ten years in New York City working at several Michelin starred restaurants.