



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

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Gambling Action Alert - Sept. 16, 2021



2021 Wagering in IL - [New Report](#)

Lottery sales in fiscal year 2021 surged 22% to more than \$3.4 billion, the highest total since the Illinois Lottery began operation in 1975. Sales were up by \$600 million over 2020, with instant games accounting for nearly two-thirds of the revenue, according to the report.

By law, Illinois is required to allocate \$66.4 million of the tax money collected annually from Rivers Casino, the state's busiest casino, to the School Infrastructure Fund. When revenues declined in 2020, the state came up about \$16 million short, and made up the difference with a nearly \$83 million distribution to the fund in fiscal year 2021.

A new lower tax rate for all casinos went into effect in fiscal year 2021, reducing the state's share to \$202 million, down from \$329 million the previous year. After all the required distributions were made, including covering the 2020 shortfall and administrative expenses for the gaming board, there was no tax revenue left for the state, Noggle said.

In fiscal year 2021, more than 40,000 video game terminals across the state generated more than \$1.93 billion in net income — **a 58% year-over-year increase**, according to the report. [Read more](#)

July worst IL sports betting month in nearly a year

The state's total handle of \$369 million dollars was down more than 22.5% from June's \$476.5 million. It is the **fourth straight month of sports handle decline**, in line with the rest of the country. [Read](#)

Danville Casino still awaiting approval

Last week, **the board announced the approval process will now go through the administrators rather than the board itself.** Williams said this should mean it will get approved even sooner. [Read](#)

Chicago Sky owner Michael Alter fined by city ethics board for seeking Mayor Lori Lightfoot's help on gambling license without registering as a lobbyist

Alter said he was hopeful that the legislature would pass an amendment giving him the license in January but was trying to “formally rally support now to create the necessary momentum.” [Read more](#)

Odds of Racing back at Arlington Park fading fast

“Roy Arnold, former president of the track and CEO of Endeavor Properties, said he was one of three finalists in the running to purchase the track in Arlington Heights. But since hearing that from track owner Churchill Downs, Inc. more than a month ago, he hasn't heard back, he said. That's a sign to him that they may go with another bidder such as the Chicago Bears,” reported Robert McCoppin at the Tribune. [Read](#)

5 more years of racing at Arlington?

"The McCauley Plan" calls for Churchill Downs, Inc. to get the Bears the parcel of the 326 acres necessary for the billion-dollar George S. Halas Stadium.

While the stadium is being planned, financed and constructed, McCauley said the land owners should lease Arlington Park to a credible, credentialed thoroughbred track management association. That would mean racing through at least 2026. [Read more](#)

For Immediate Action

1. Contact your [State Representative](#) and [Senator](#) and ask them to oppose [SB 2342](#), Instant Online Lottery tickets--scratch-offs.
2. Share this Alert with your faith community and PRAY.
3. Forward to 10 others.

Click here to donate to Illinois Churches in Action (tax deductible)

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