



GAMBLING INDUSTRY OVERVIEW 2022



Washington State
GAMBLING
COMMISSION

Protect the public by ensuring that gambling is legal and honest.

P.O. Box 42400 Olympia, WA 98504 | www.wsgc.wa.gov

About the Washington State Gambling Commission

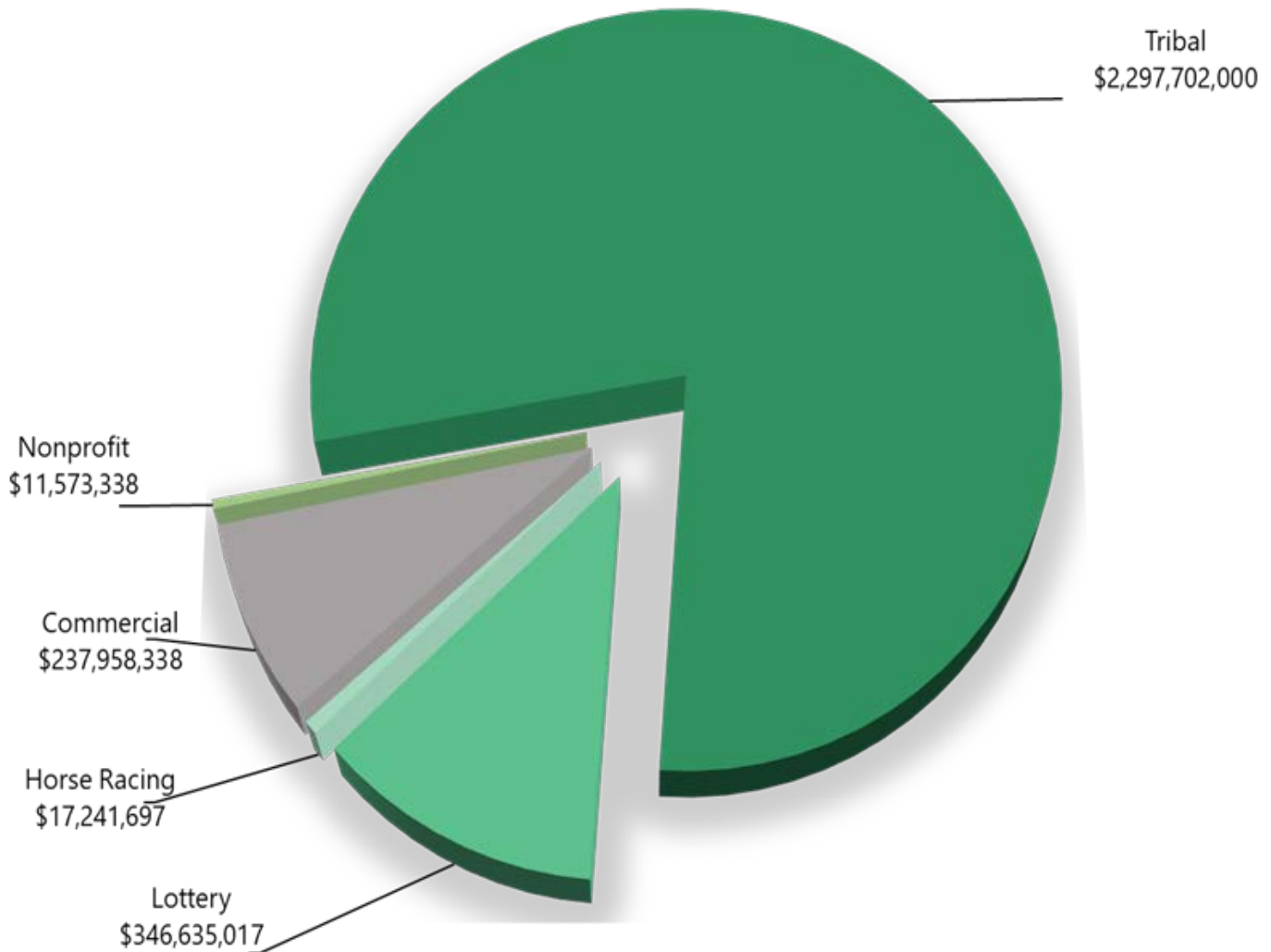
We are an accredited, limited-jurisdiction law enforcement agency, and the only statewide agency devoted to gambling licensing, regulation and enforcement. Our special agents are commissioned law enforcement officers who attend the Basic Law Enforcement Academy and receive the same training as other police officers. Many agents are certified fraud examiners and some are certified public accountants.

Through collaboration with local, state, federal, tribal and international law enforcement agencies, we work to fulfill our legislative declaration of:

- (1) Keeping the criminal element out of gambling, and
- (2) Promoting social welfare through strict regulation and control.

We are a non-appropriated agency, funded through licensing and regulatory fees paid by licensees and tribal governments.

2021 NET GAMBLING RECEIPTS \$2.911 Billion



2021 Gambling Gross Receipts

\$643,351,594

2021 Gambling Tax (Local)

\$27,978,274

LICENSING

Our Licensing Division processes more than 20,000 gambling licenses and certifications each year. We conduct thorough background investigations and source funds to ensure crime does not gain a foothold in gambling operations.

REGULATION & ENFORCEMENT

We enforce state gambling laws and rules for licensed activities such as: card games, bingo, amusement games, pull-tabs, punchboards, raffles and fundraising events. We conduct in-depth audits and on-site “spot” checks to ensure licensees are in compliance with rules and laws. Our Electronic Gambling Lab is responsible for testing equipment for compliance before it is installed. We also enforce laws for gambling activities that don’t require a license, including sports pool boards and small raffles.

Agents often conduct undercover investigations to ensure that gambling is legal and honest. They investigate crimes including: theft, fraud, Internet gambling, cheating, bookmaking, animal fighting, embezzlement, money laundering and loansharking.

TRIBAL GAMING

The federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) requires states to negotiate gaming compacts with tribes for gambling activities that are authorized under state law. The Gambling Commission’s director is delegated the responsibility of negotiating Class III gaming compacts. All 29 federally recognized tribes in Washington have a gaming compact.

Regulatory Partnerships

We have a cooperative regulatory partnership with tribes. Additionally, we certify tribal gaming employees, who are also licensed by the tribes. Our Electronic Gambling Lab tests Class III gaming machines for compliance and integrity.

Tribal Lottery System

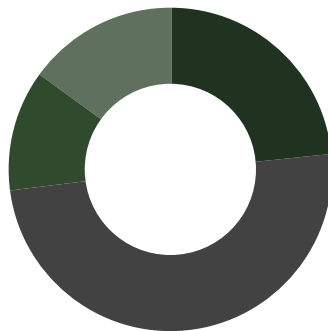
The system is modeled after the Washington State Lottery’s Scratch ticket games. Each tribe is allotted 1,125 machines. Tribes may lease or purchase the rights for additional machines from other tribes, up to 2,500 per facility. The maximum number of machines allowed in the state is 32,625.



2022 Tribal Contributions

\$25,744,687*

*Estimated Revenues accrued in 2019.
Contribution payments made in 2020.
Verified by WSGC in 2021.



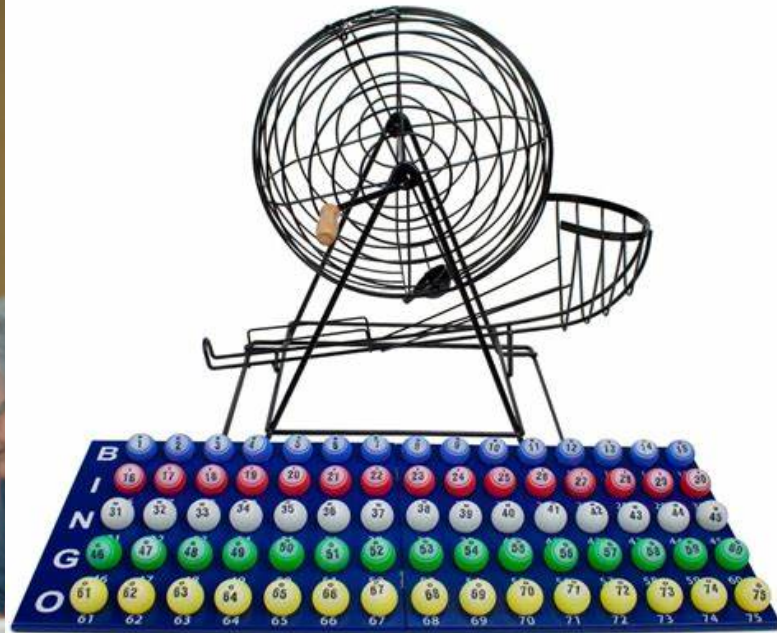
\$8.0 million Government agencies, fire, police

\$10.8 million Charities

\$3.2 million Smoking cessation

\$3.5 million Problem gambling

2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



Senior Recreational Bingo Games

In the last three years, we have been responding to a number of complaints regarding where senior recreational bingo games can be played.

We do not actively regulate unlicensed gambling activities such as these low stakes bingos – but respond to complaints Legislators have asked how we can address this problem posed by constituents.

New legislation regulating the games will add the bona fide charitable or nonprofit qualifications to include a specific exception for nonprofit senior housing organizations and community centers offering unlicensed senior bingo under RCW 9.46.0321

MEET OUR COMMISSIONERS



Bud Sizemore

Commission Chair

Appointed April 2014; Term expires June 2025

Commissioner Sizemore is a former mayor pro tempore and member of the Covington City Council, and legislative liaison for the Washington State Council of Fire Fighters. He is a retired fire fighter from the Kent Fire Department Regional Fire Authority.



Julia Patterson

Commission Vice Chair

Appointed July 2018; Term expires June 2024

Commissioner Patterson is a former member of the Metropolitan King County Council, Washington State Senate, Washington State House of Representatives and the SeaTac City Council. Her public service career spans nearly three decades.



Alicia Levy

Commissioner

Appointed March 2018; Term expires June 2023

Commissioner Levy is an attorney who practices business law, estate planning and real estate law. She completed her undergraduate work at Washington State University and graduated from Gonzaga University School of Law. She gained experience working in larger law firms before starting her own firm in Spokane.



Kristine Reeves

Commissioner

Appointed May 3, 2021; term expires June 30, 2026

Commissioner Reeves served as a Washington State Representative from 2017-2019. She was the first African American woman elected to the Washington State House in 18 years. Commissioner Reeves served as the Washington Senior Advisor for the Biden-Harris campaign. She lives with her husband, Camron, and their two elementary age children in Federal Way, WA.



Sarah Lawson

Commissioner

Appointed October 26, 2021; term expires June 30, 2027

Commissioner Lawson is an enrolled member of the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and

Nebraska. She is an attorney with Schwabe, Williamson and Wyatt in Seattle working with tribal governments and tribal entities. Her areas of practice include Native American law.

Ex Officio Members

Members of the Legislature serve as ex officio members and vote to approve or amend tribal-state Class III gaming compacts.

Senator Steve Conway
Senator Jeff Holy
Representative Brandon Vick
Representative Shelley Kloba

MEET OUR STAFF



Tina Griffin

Interim Director | (360) 507-3456 | tina.griffin@wsgc.wa.gov

Tina was appointed Interim Director in April 2021, while the Commissioners seek to fill the position permanently. Prior to this appointment, she served as the agency's assistant director and has held various positions throughout the agency. Tina has a degree from Portland State University, is a graduate of the Basic Law Enforcement Training Academy of the Washington Criminal Justice Training Commission. She is licensed by the State Board of Accountancy and is a certified fraud examiner by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners.



Tommy Oakes

Interim Legislative Liaison | (360) 486-3579 | tommy.oakes@wsgc.wa.gov

Tommy Oakes is the interim legislative liaison for the Gambling Commission. He is also the professional standards and training supervisor, which involves all law enforcement training. He has been with the Gambling Commission for over 4 years. Tommy has a degree from Union Institute & University. Prior to coming to Gambling Commission, Tommy was deputy sheriff in California for over 21 years. There he worked in various assignments such as detectives, SWAT team leader, undercover narcotics, and community policing. Tommy was a firearms instructor, Taser instructor and less lethal instructor in CA.