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## Changes in the Gambling Landscape post-Covid-19 – Industry Trends

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#### Introduction

The National Gambling Board is the national gambling regulator in South Africa with its regulatory mandate in terms of the National Gambling Act 7 of 2004.



### MANDATE

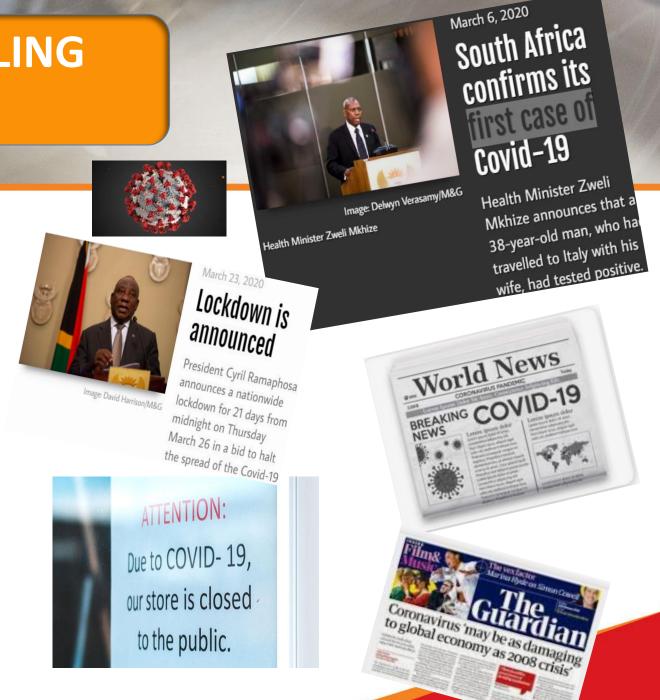
The NGB is a Schedule 3A Public Entity in terms of the PFMA,1999. The NGB is established in terms of the NGA, 2004. In terms of Sections 33 and 65 of the NGA the NGB is mandated to:

- Evaluate the issuance of national licences and the compliance monitoring of licences by the PLAs
- Conduct oversight evaluation of the performance of PLAs to ensure compliance to both the national and provincial legislation, and adherence to national norms and standards
- Assist PLAs to ensure that the unlicensed gambling activities are detected
- Monitor market share and market conduct
- Establish and maintain national registers
- Research the socio-economic impact of gambling
- Conduct public awareness and education programmes
- Advise the Minister, the dtic and any other stakeholder on gambling related matters
- Interact with other jurisdictions that have a common agenda to NGB

# OVERVIEW OF THE GAMBLING INDUSTRY

The financial year FY2020/21

(1 April 2020-31 March 2021) saw the gambling industry in South Africa come to its knees following the outbreak of the global Covid-19 pandemic that led to a complete halt of the land-based industry in the first quarter, with subsequent re-opening of gambling facilities at reduced capacity due to extensive Covid-19 health and safety guidelines adopted by the industry.



# OVERVIEW OF THE GAMBLING INDUSTRY

 Prior to 2020 the gambling industry in SA- made up of Casinos, Betting on horse racing and sport, Limited Payout machines and Bingo reached R32.7 billion in Gross Gambling Revenue (GGR).

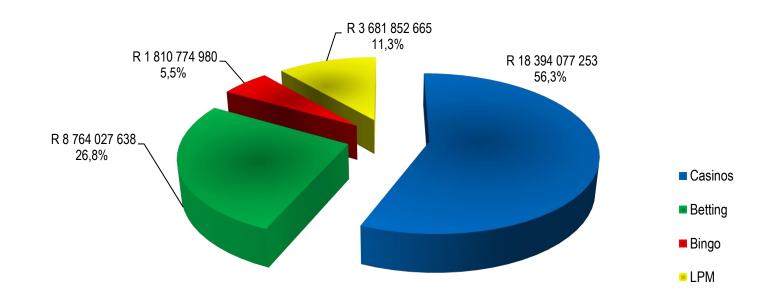
GGR per gambling mode, all provinces, FY2019/20

• Casino: 56,3%

• Betting: 26,8%

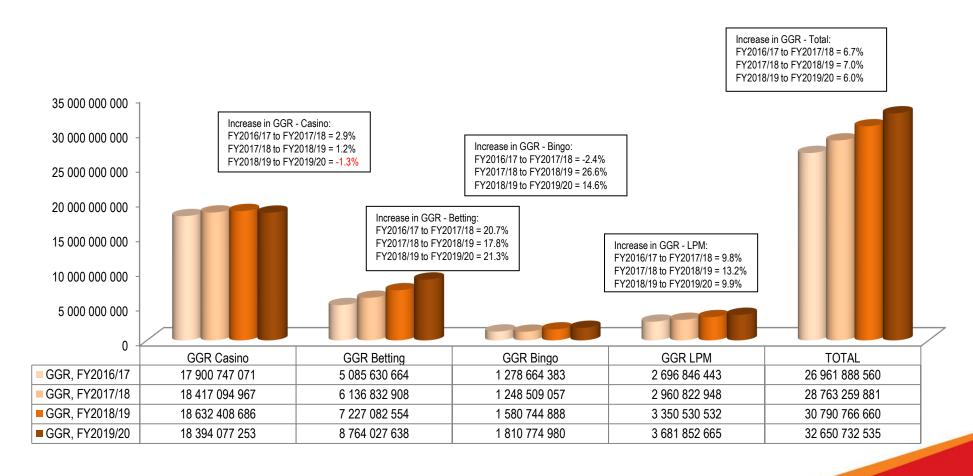
• LPM: 11,3%

• Bingo: 5,5%

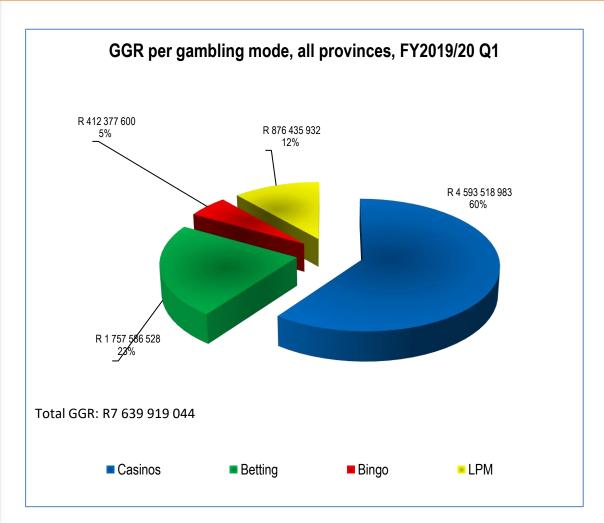


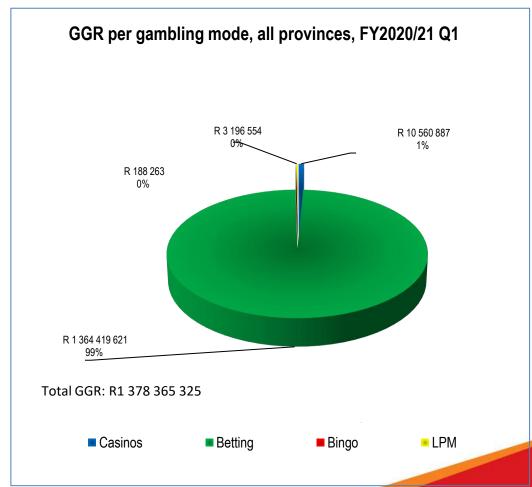
# OVERVIEW OF THE GAMBLING INDUSTRY

#### Growth in GGR (all modes): FY2016/17 - FY2019/20

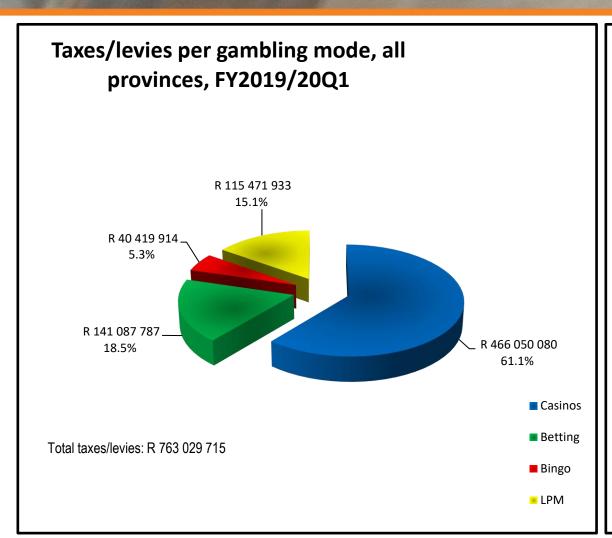


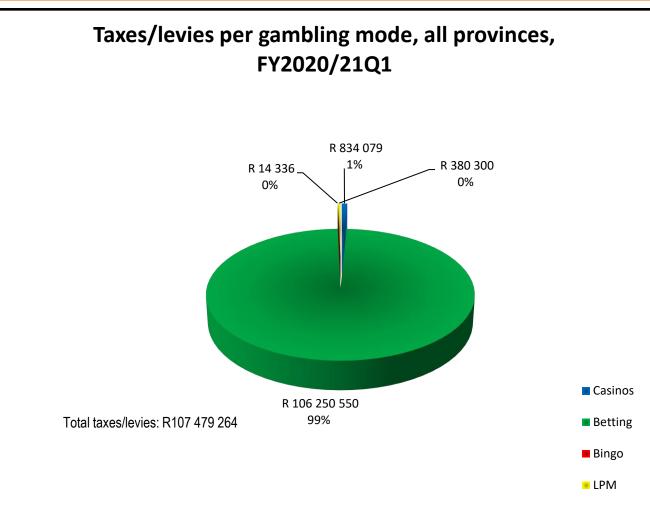
The share of casino revenue in total revenue fell to less than 50% in terms of market share for GGR due to Covid-19. During FY2020/21Q1, the greatest share of the market in gambling revenue was derived from the betting sector because betting was accessible online during lockdown.



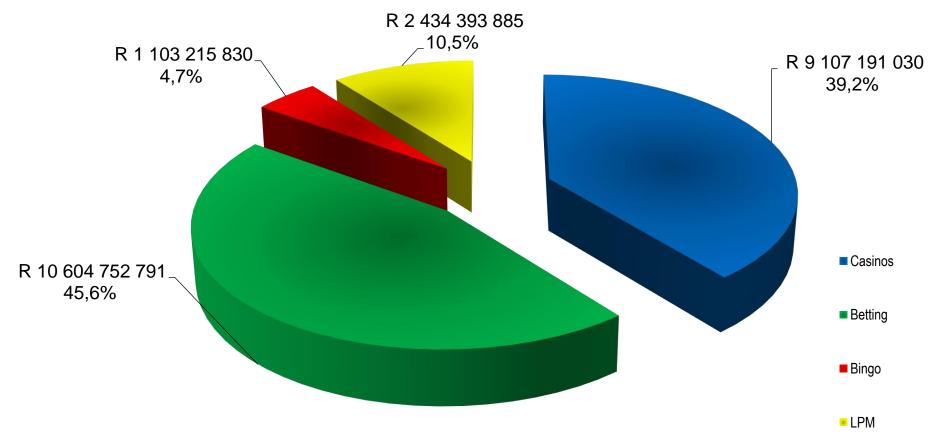


## During FY2020/21Q1, the greatest share of the market in taxies/levies was also derived from the betting sector



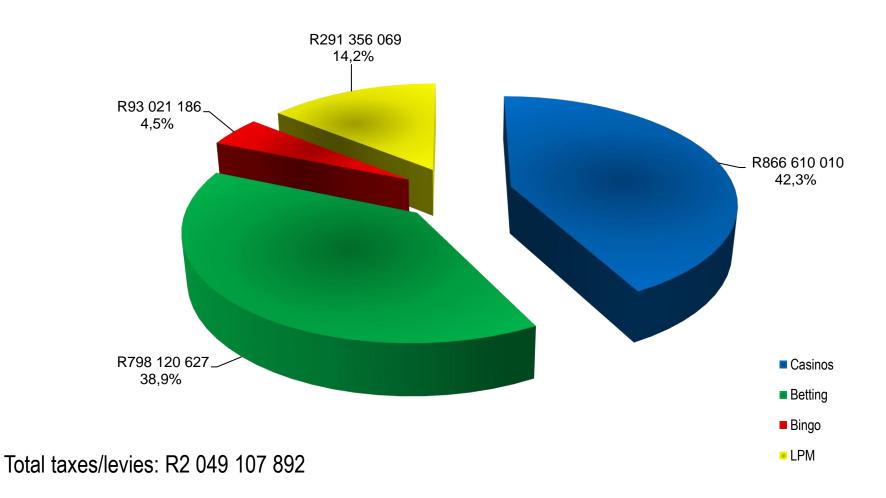


# GGR per gambling mode, all provinces, FY2020/21



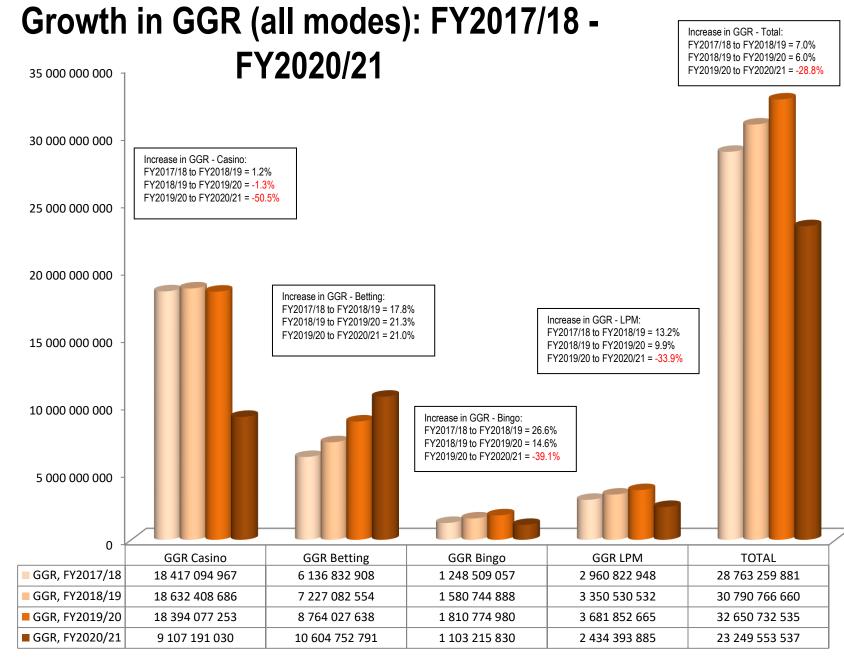
Total GGR: R23 249 553 537

## Taxes/levies contribution per gambling mode – FY2020/21



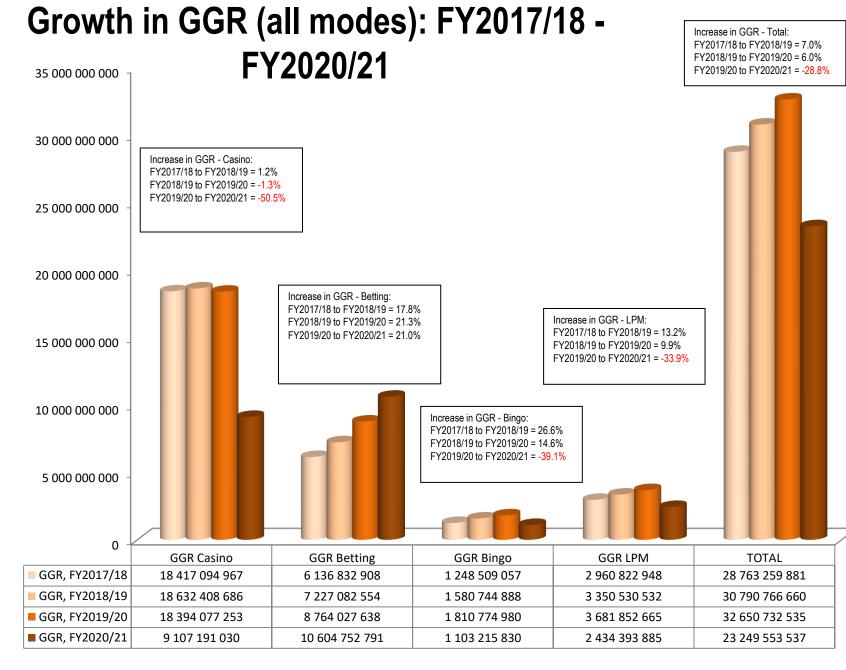


- Overall, the industry had been on an upward trajectory, growing by 7% and 6% in FY2018/19 and FY2019/2020 respectively. In FY2020/21, the year the Covid-19 pandemic hit, GGR fell by 29%, falling from R32.7 billion to R23.2 billion.
- Analysis per mode of gambling however shows that GGR fell in the casino, bingo and LPM sectors, but rose in the betting sector.





- Casino industry growth had flattened out in the years leading up to the pandemic. In FY2020/21, the sector was the hardest hit with GGR falling by 50%.
- The betting industry had been on an upward trajectory, growing steadily each year. When the lockdowns were instituted, growth continued, with the industry growing by 21% in FY2020/21.
- The bingo industry had experienced positive growth before the pandemic, falling 39% in FY2020/21.
- The LPM sector had grown by 13% and 10% respectively in the two years before the pandemic, before falling by 34% in FY2020/21.



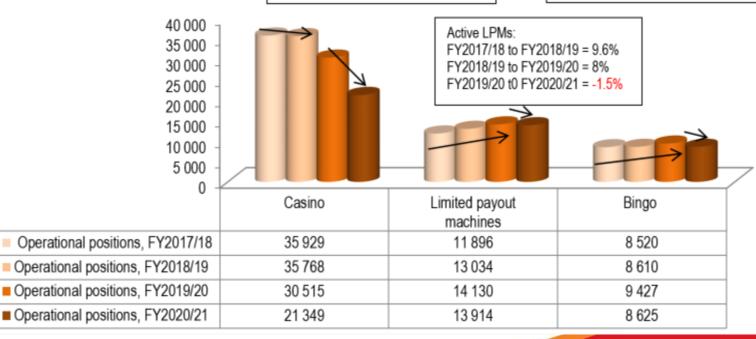
## Operational Gambling positions

- The number of operational positions in casinos had already been on a negative growth path prior to the pandemic, however as illustrated in figure 3, FY2020/21 led to a sharp decline in operational positions. The industry reduced the number of operational positions by 30% from 30 515 to 21 349 positions.
- The LPM sector had been growing modestly prior to the pandemic, with the number of operational gaming machines falling to 13 914 in FY2020/21 compared with 14 130 in the previous year.
- Bingo terminals had also been increasing prior to the pandemic, losing 8.5% of operational terminals in FY2020/21.

### Number of operational gambling positions in the casino, LPM & bingo sectors: FY2017/18 - FY2020/21

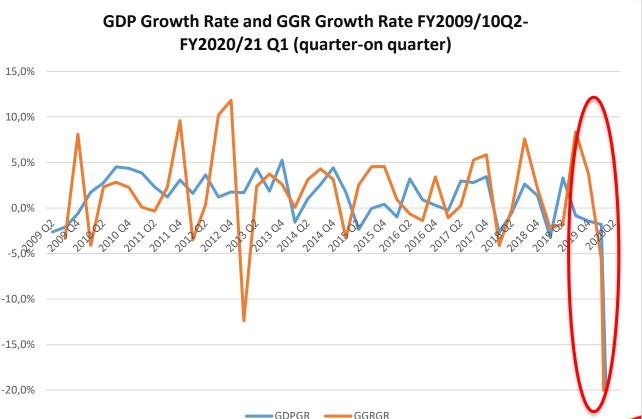


Operational bingo positions: FY2017/18 to FY2018/19 = 1.1% FY2018/19 to FY2019/20 = 9% FY2019/20 to FY2020/21 = -8.5%



In FY2020/21 the gambling industry lost about R10 billion in gambling revenue generating R23.3 billion in comparison to the previous year, with casino GGR declining the most by 50% from FY2019/20 owing to the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.



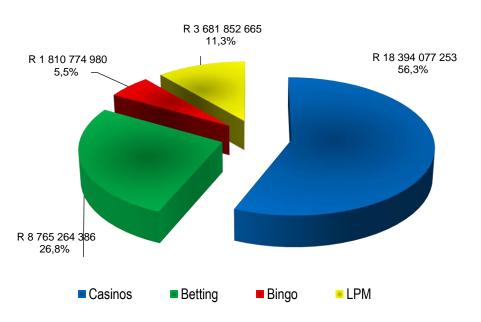


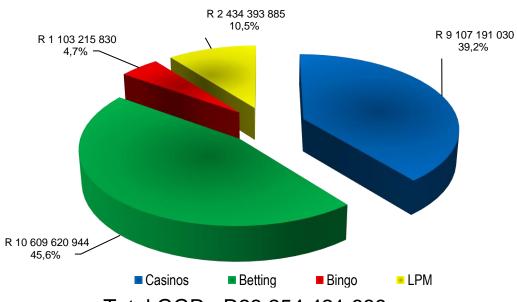
#### FY2021/22

- FY2021/22, the second year of the Covid-19 pandemic, saw the gambling industry rebound. Overall, GGR in FY2021/22 totalled R34.4 billion, a figure above that of the preceding year of R23.4 billion and the year before the pandemic hit of R32.7 billion. The betting industry performance skyrocketed in FY2020/21 and this trend continued unabated in FY2021/22 as revenues increased almost 50%.
- At present, the betting industry generates 44.9% of total industry GGR, followed by the casino (39.9%), LPM (10.7%) and bingo (4.4%) sectors. This is a starkly different picture to just 10 years ago when casinos held 80% of market share of the total gambling industry.

#### GGR per gambling mode, all provinces, FY2019/20

#### GGR per gambling mode, all provinces, FY2020/21

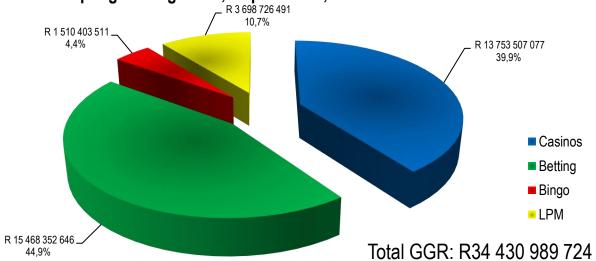




Total GGR: R23 254 421 689

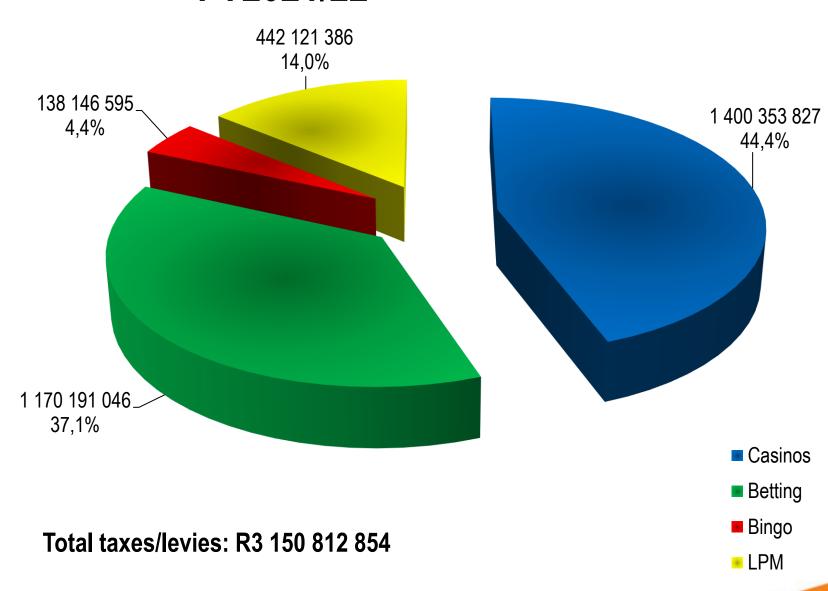
Total GGR: R32 651 969 283



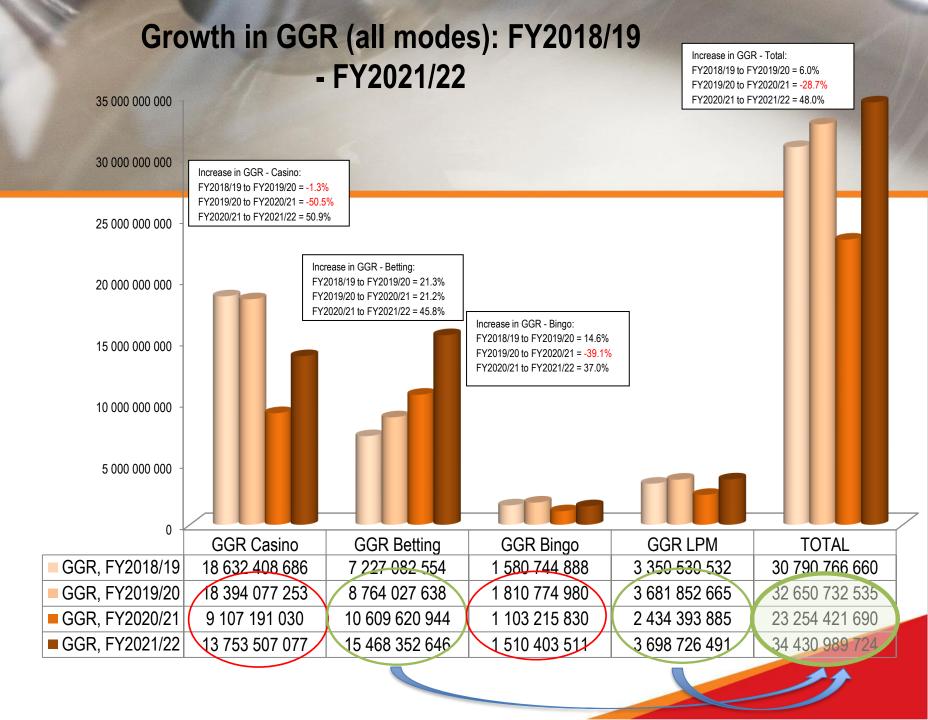


# Taxes/levies contribution per gambling mode – FY2021/22

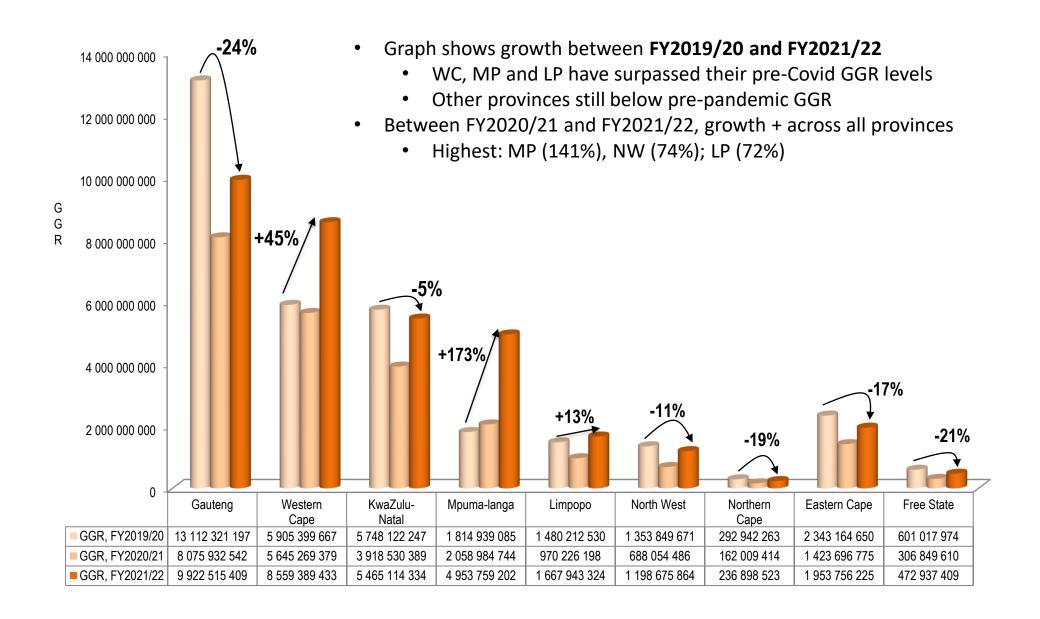
The industry collected R3.2 billion in taxes/levies in FY2021/22, matching the pre-pandemic level of R3.2 billion in FY2019/20. This figure was a 53.8% increase compared to the previous year FY2020/21 of R2.0 billion. While the betting industry generated the largest amount of revenue, casinos (44.5%) continue to contribute the larger share in taxes/levies relative to the betting (37.1%), LPM (14%) and bingo (4.4%) sectors.



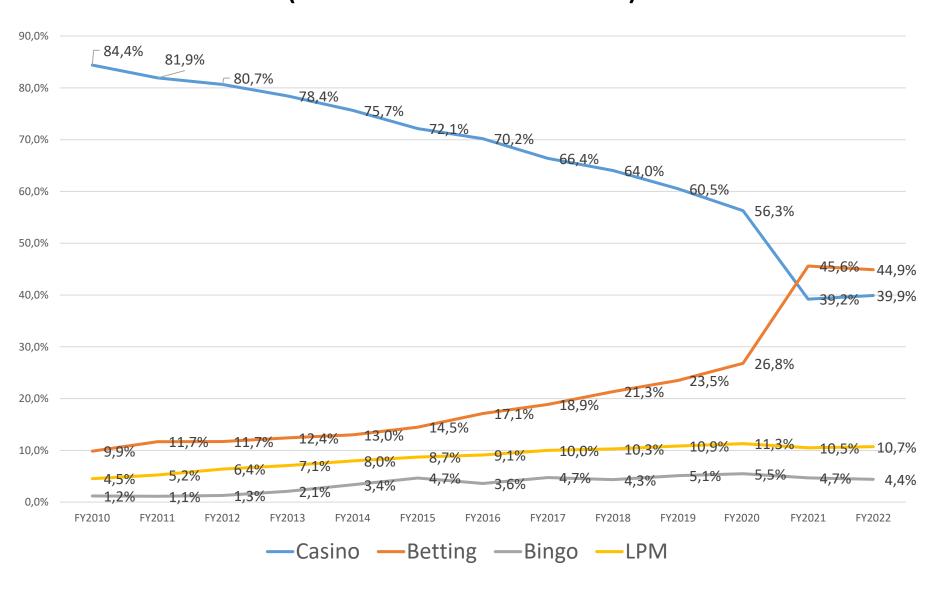
- While FY2020/21's restrictive coronavirus measures lowered industry gross gambling revenue (GGR) by about 30%, the easing of restrictions and general recovery across the economy led to overall growth of 48% in FY2021/22.
- The betting industry has almost doubled its pre-crisis figure, casino and bingo GGR are still below their FY2019/20 sums. The LPM industry matched its FY2019/20 performance.
- Overall industry recovery has been driven largely by the stellar performance of the betting industry.



#### **GGR Per Prvince – FY2021/22**



## Trend in share of total GGR, comparison all modes (FY2009/10 – FY2021/22)





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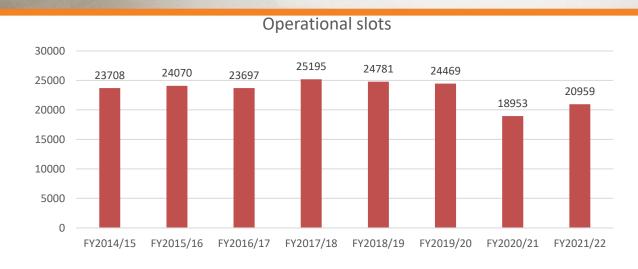
### Overview of the Casino Industry



### Casino Slots

 Number of operational slots since almost a decade ago have remained stable peaking at 25195 in FY2017/18 and dropping below 20000 due to Covid-19.

• Growth rate, like wise, has been slow with last two years before Covid-19 already exhibiting a decline (negative) in operational slots growth.



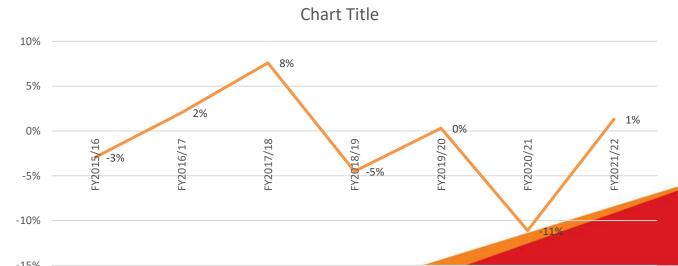




### Casino tables

- Number of operational tables peaked at 976 nationally, dropping to 831 due to effect of Covid-19.
- Over last three financial years, there has been negative growth in operational tables





## Casino industry performance

- Prior to the pandemic, casino industry growth had been relatively flat.
- As shown in figure, before Covid-19, the industry's growth peaked at 10% (YoY) in FY2012/13. However, by FY2018/19 annual growth was just 1.2%, turning negative in FY2019/20 (-1.3%).

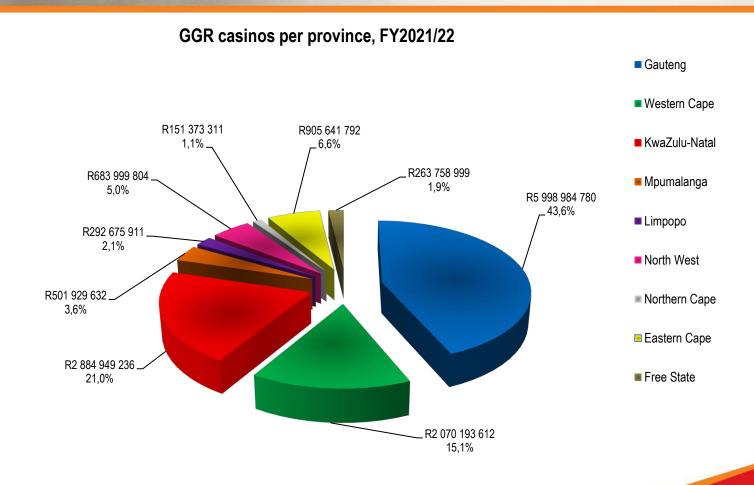






### Casino GGR per province

- Largest share of casino revenue between provinces - in Gauteng, Western Cape and KZN
- Provinces where casinos generate the largest proportion of GGR relative to other modes within the province are Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape, North West, Northern Cape and Free State.





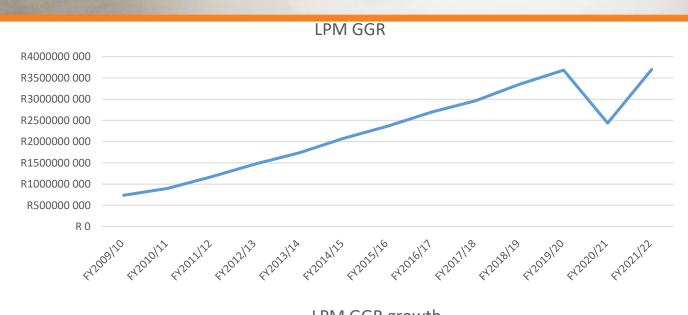
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### Overview of the LPM Industry



#### LPM GGR growth and phase 1 allocation

- Pre-pandemic trend: LPM GGR growth has been positive, higher than casino growth but growing at a declining rate
- Fell by 33.9% due to Covid-19 and bounced back by 51.9%
- LPM slow rollout most provinces have not reached phase 1 allocation







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### Overview of the Bingo Industry



### Bingo GGR and EBT growth

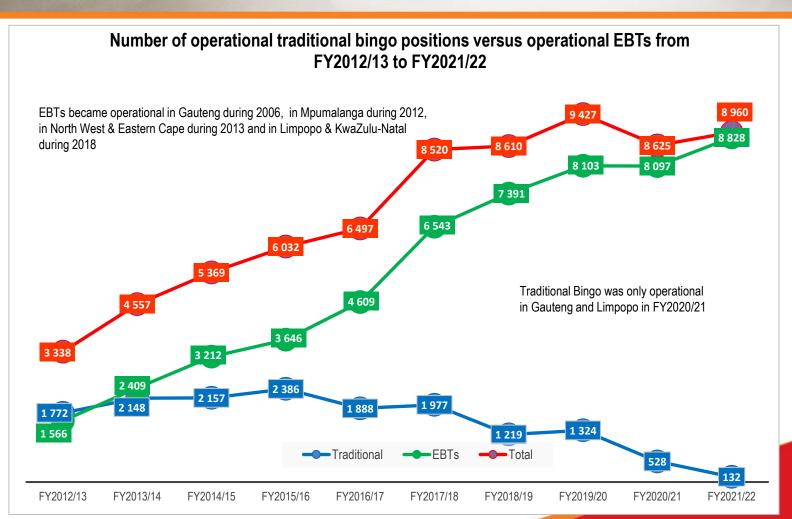
- Pre-pandemic trend: Bingo had periods of high growth (52.5% in FY2014/15), significantly higher than the other modes, but this has fluctuated over the years.
- Fell by 39.1% due to Covid-19, grew by 36.9% the following year
- EBTs experiencing significant growth;
   traditional bingo declining





#### Bingo GGR and EBT growth

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- Fell by 39.1% due to Covid-19, grew by 36.9% the following year
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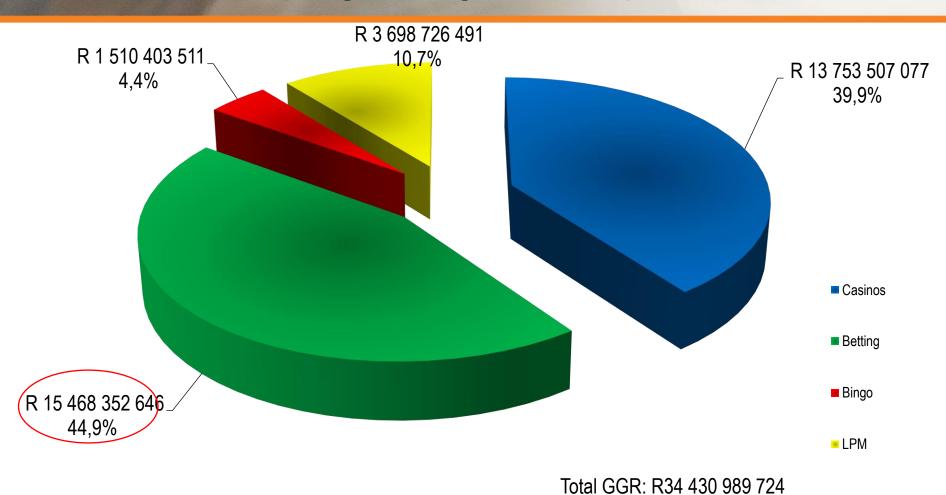


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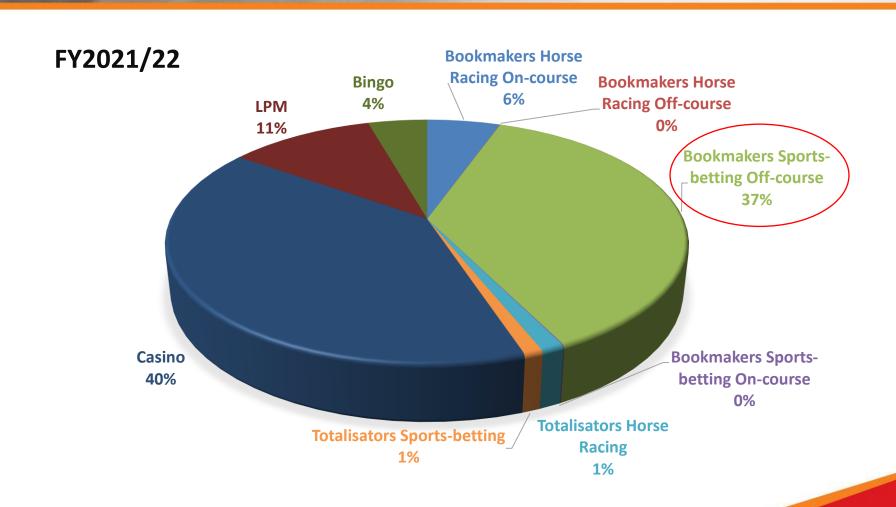
### Overview of the Betting Industry

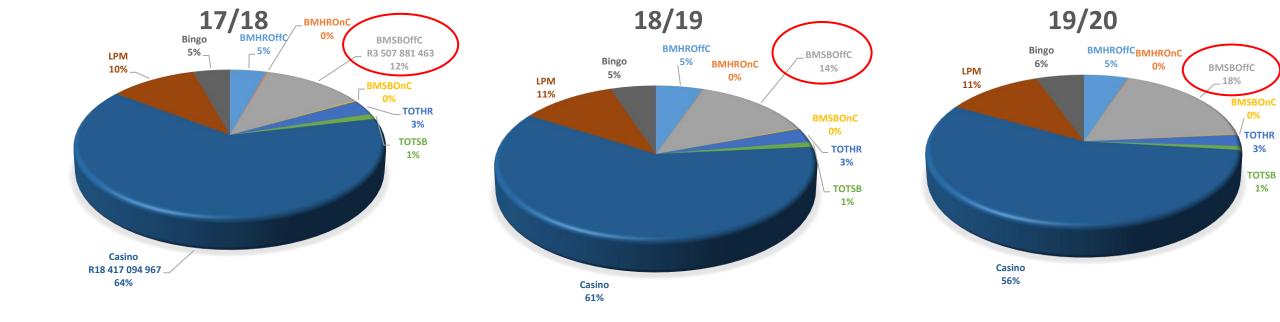


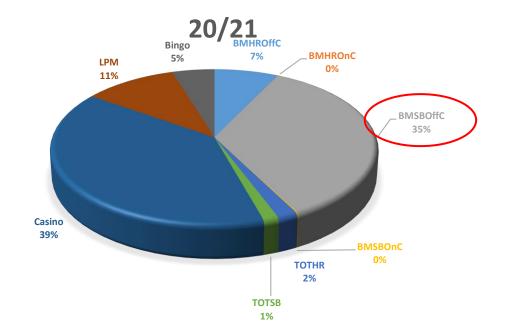
#### GGR per gambling mode, all provinces, FY2021/22

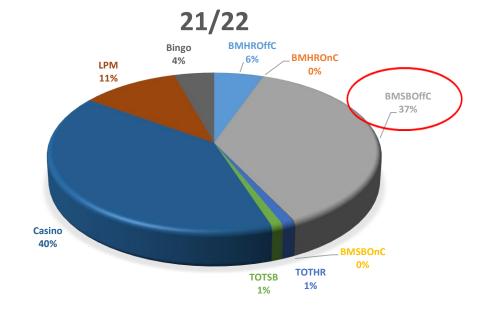


# In FY2021/22, Bookmakers offering Sports-betting Off course had 37% share of the total market in terms of GGR



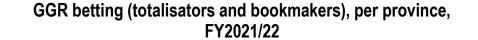


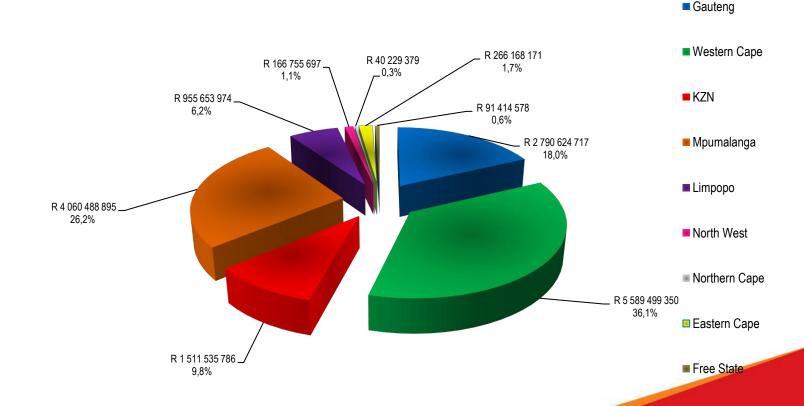




### Betting GGR per province

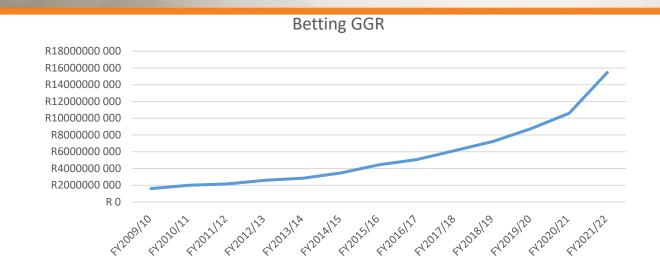
- Largest share of betting revenue between provinces - in the Western Cape, Mpumalanga and Gauteng
- In Mpumalanga (82.5%), the Western Cape (65.2%) and Limpopo (57%), the largest proportion of GGR is generated by the betting industry.





## Betting industry performance

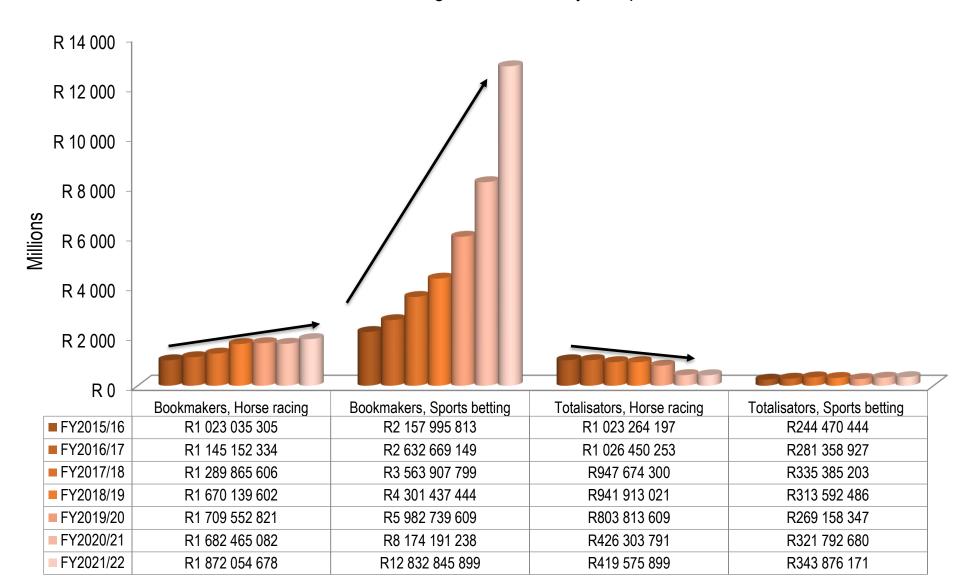
- Prior to the pandemic, betting industry revenue was steadily growing and particularly started growing fast from FY2016/17.
- As shown in figure below, the industry growth rate has maintained double digits since FY2014/15, peaking at 45,9% in FY2021/22 becoming the fastest growing mode of gambling in the last decade.





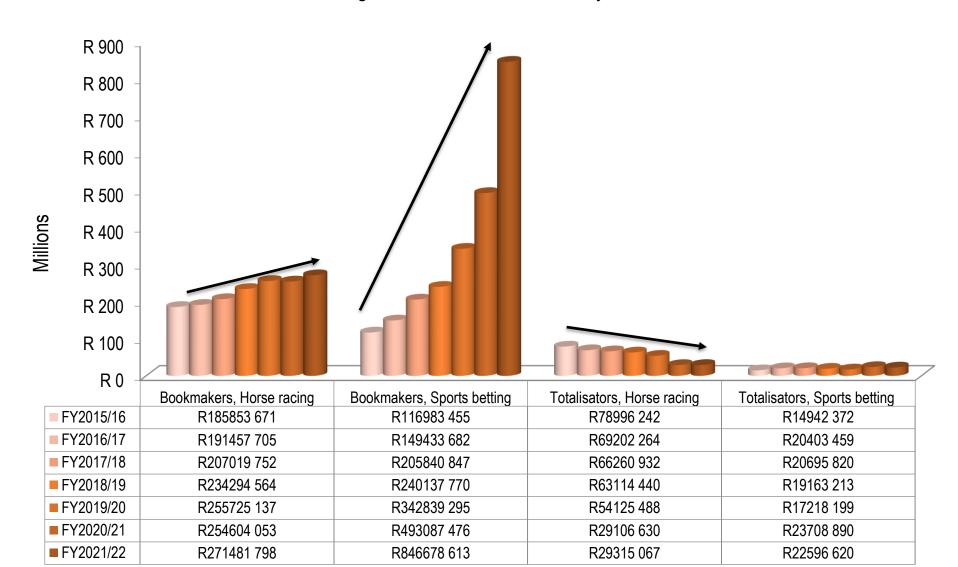
## Trend in GGR, bookmakers & totalisators FY2015/16 to FY2021/22

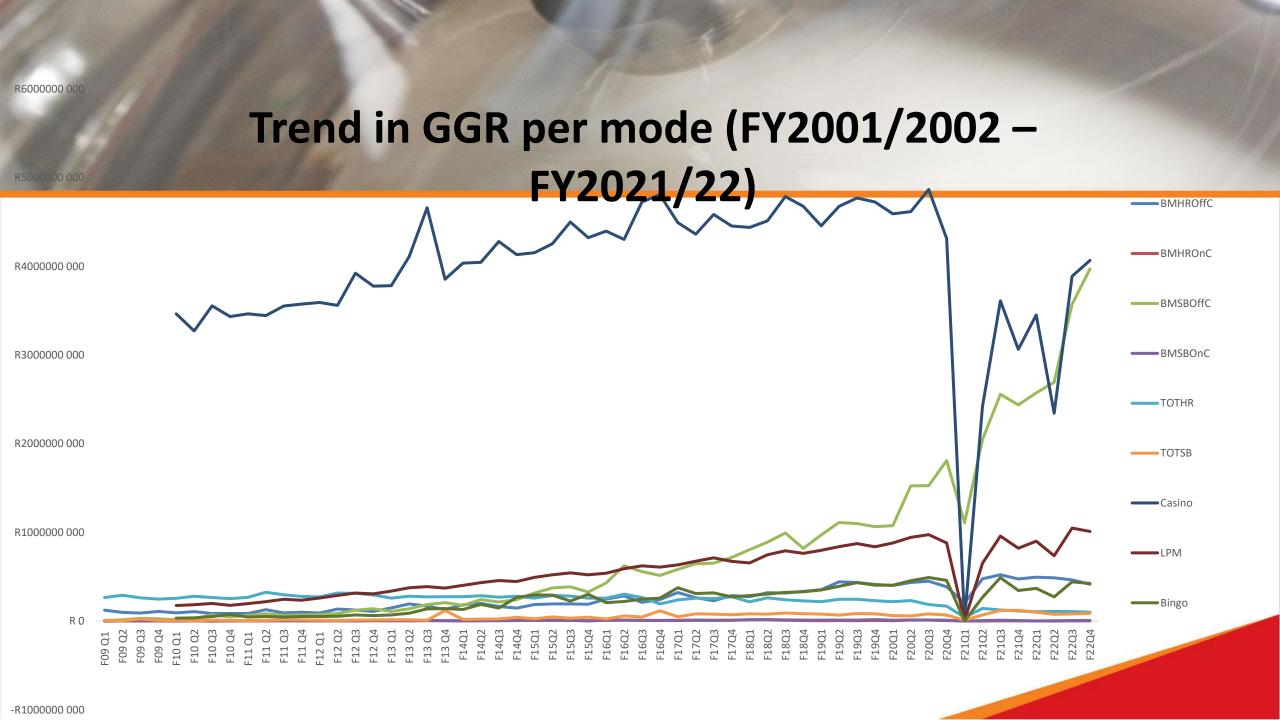
Rand value of the gross revenue by an operator



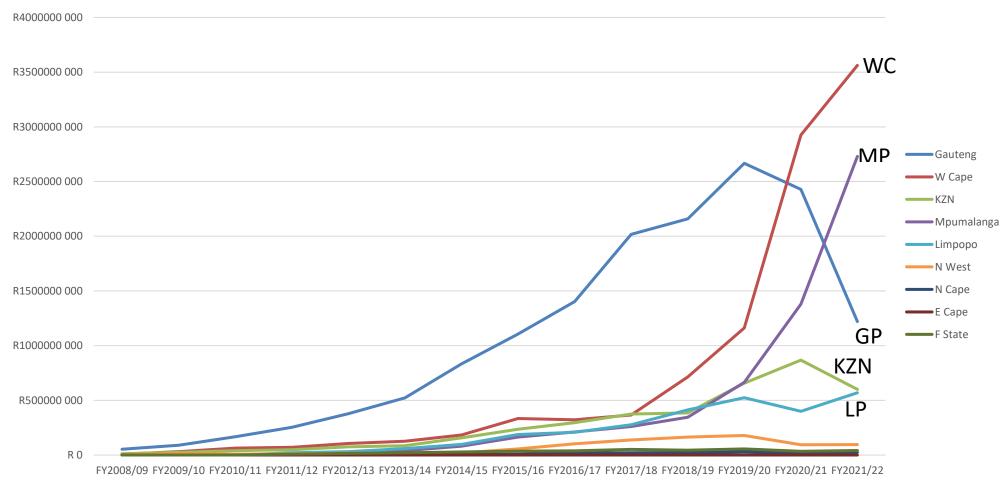
## Trend in taxes/levies, bookmakers & totalisators, FY2015/16 to FY2021/22

Gambling tax levied and collected by PLAs





#### **SPORTS BETTING-OFF COURSE per province**



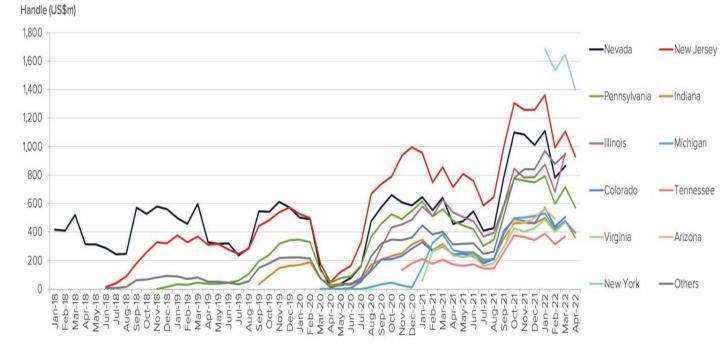
### **Betting industry - Broad trends**

- Overall, the Totalisator sector has not grown within South Africa for the last decade. GGR
  has declined for Tote Horse Racing and so have taxes. GGR for Tote Sports Betting has
  also had low growth rate.
- Bookmakers growth on the other hand has sky-rocketed within South Africa. The Bookmaker Sports Betting GGR has reached almost R12,8 billion, and taxes have followed a similar trend
- In FY2008/09 horse racing generated larger GGR compared to sports betting for all provinces.
- Sports betting overtook horse racing, and by FY2021/22 all provinces generated a larger proportion of their total betting GGR from sports betting.
- Until the pandemic hit, sports betting GGR for all provinces was on an upward trend.
- While the betting sector's performance has been positive on the whole during the era of the pandemic, analysis at the provincial level reveals that most provinces experienced declines in revenues as a result of the pandemic and have not recovered to prepandemic levels. The increase that occurred in the betting industry during the pandemic has thus been driven by the performance of three provinces sports betting sectors; namely, Mpumalanga, KZN and the Western Cape.

Research shows that the betting industry has experienced rapid growth across the world, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The United States betting industry experienced a sharp upward turn in 2020.

#### United States: Monthly Regulated Sportsbook Handle (US\$m)



Source: Vixio



#### **Drivers of Global betting industry growth:**

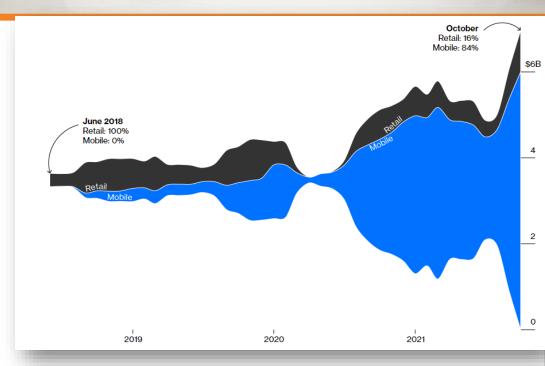
**Technology**: Industry analysts view the digital revolution as a key driver in the sports betting market. Consumers have simple access to online sports betting platforms due to the rise of digital platforms and internet penetration.

**Changing preferences following Covid-19**: Consumers changing preferences for transacting online has also impacted the betting industry. Figure shows the proportion of bets placed in retail and mobile platforms in the United States between 2018 and 2021. It is evident that mobile wagering has increasingly become the preferred method of sports gambling.

*Marketing*: Increased advertising.

#### Number of fixtures and variety of games available:

Another factor cited is that there are more sports fixtures available to place bets on today, relative to previous periods



Source: Sportshandle.com



#### **Drivers of Africa betting industry growth**

- Popularity of Football in Africa more than other sports fixtures- According to a survey by Geopoll, football betting ranks highest in Africa (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa). Bookmakers investing in sports-betting in Africa through strategic partnerships e.g Multichoice (DSTV) that most Africans rely on to watch football and team sponsorships
- **High mobile phone penetration-** Nigeria Kenya and South Africa reporting more than 90% mobile penetration- recipe for betting environment- More than 50% of digital sports bets are now made through mobile
- Young Population and high levels of poverty- Africa's young population (20% of Africa's population between 15 and 24 years) is young and prime for engaging in the betting industry. About 2 in 5 people live below poverty line which creates bigger appetite for gambling in the hopes of winning big.
- Access to mobile money and digital lending APPS



#### **Looking Ahead for South Africa**

These industry trends and drivers will continue to shape the landscape of gambling in South Africa



