Assessing the Impact of Gambling on Public Safety in Massachusetts

UPDATES ON MGM SPRINGFIELD AND

ENCORE BOSTON HARBOR

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Agenda

Review of MGM 18-month findings through February 2020 Review of Encore 8-month findings through February 2020 COVID closure period for both casinos (March – July 2020) COVID reopening for Encore (July – December 2020)s Future of the project



General Trends

Shoplifting high, driven by stores in Chicopee and Holyoke [874 vs. pred. 746-814]

Drunk driving *mostly* seems to suggest greater enforcement with some extra contributions from MGM [312 vs. pred. 133-254].

Liquor laws increased, mostly open containers, consistent with extra stops/enforcement [111 vs. pred. 73-97]

Fraud and identity theft are high, but seem to be statewide issues

Trends that disappeared

- Any increases in traffic collisions ("winter without a winter")
- Increases in domestic violence
- West Springfield suspicious activity/disturbances near bridges
- Springfield/Longmeadow/East Longmeadow residential thefts













Drunk driving evidence

- Many communities reported increases in arrests, particularly in early months of 2020
- Crashes with drunk driving offense are *slightly* high
- MGM appears 7 times amid "last drink" adjudications



General Trends July 2019 – February 2020

Thefts from vehicles higher in Boston and Everett.

- Not so much "high" as not as low as trend predicted
- Both patterns continued into COVID period

Statutory rape: high in Chelsea, Somerville, Lynn.

Prostitution: high for region based almost solely on Lynn figures.

Liquor laws high in Lynn (crimes) and Everett (calls)

Melrose saw increase in assault, drugs, fraud at **Melrose-Wakefield Hospital**.

Some evidence of general increase in calls in areas north and east of casino

Other crimes, calls, collisions all normal.







Drunk driving evidence

Everett's arrests for drunk driving were up by more than 100% during first 8 months

• Went down 50% during closing

17 incidents in drunk driving arrests *reported as crashes* (+467%)

Went down 75% during closing

Concentration of incidents on Broadway Street

• But Everett PD reports no "last drinks" at Encore

EBH listed as "last drink" location by 7 drunk drivers adjudicated in 2019-2020

All other communities normal in statistics.



Crashes caused by drunk driving, July 2019-February 2020

COVID Closures: March-June

Category	MGM Area	EBH Area
Violent Crime	-28%	-16%
Property Crime	-9%	0%
Crashes	-51%	-43%

Percentages are compared to predicted location on trendline.

Encore Area Limited Reopening (July-December)

Violent crime still very low

Thefts from vehicles still high (Boston and Revere)

Miscellaneous theft, fraud, credit card fraud, identity theft all high

Collisions still down (-27%)

No comparative data yet from other agencies

Next steps

Try for more data

- Malden
- Medford
- Boston calls for service and crashes

Better method of reporting incidents at the casino

Create model to figure out how to analyze COVID-era dataset once statewide NIBRS data is available in the summer

Multi-area drunk driving analysis

Thank You!

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