

PS 81: Coronavirus vs. Casinos (YouTube Live) | Massachusetts Slots in 2020

Opening

Hello! Today's episode #81 of the Professor Slots podcast discusses the coronavirus versus casinos. Plus, in this episode I'll be covering the current state of slot machine casino gambling in the great U.S. state of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Thank you for joining me for the Professor Slots podcast show. I'm Jon Friedl and this is the podcast about slot machine casino gambling. It is where I provide knowledge, insights, and tools for helping you improve your slot machine gambling performance.

On Last Week's Episode...

In case you missed it, on my last episode I went over slot machine malfunctions.

Further, I reviewed Maine slot machine casino gambling in 2020.

I hope you enjoyed listening to my last episode as much as I enjoyed making it for you.

Call to Action #1 (add sound effect afterward)

Remember to visit professorslots.com/subscribe to get my Free Report Revealing ... The top 7 online resources for improving your gambling performance, including the one I've used as a top-tier slot machine casino gambler.

YouTube Q&A Session from March 7, 2020

Here's the audio recording of my latest live Q&A session.

Call to Action #2 (add sound effect afterward)

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Introduction

This is the second segment of the show on slot machine casino gambling. Here, I provide a brief overview of the current state of gambling in a U.S. state, territory, or the federal district emphasizing, by far, anything of interest to slot machine casino gamblers.

Up next is Massachusetts slot machine casino gambling in 2020. Here goes!

Massachusetts slot machine casino gambling consists of two large Category One resort casinos, one small Category Two slots parlor, and a cruise ship with an onboard casino sailing to international destinations.

Massachusetts has set a minimum theoretical payout limit and monthly return statistics are publicly available.

Relevant Legal Statutes on Gambling in Massachusetts

The minimum legal gambling age in Massachusetts depends upon the gambling activity:

- Land-Based Casinos: 21
- Poker Rooms: 21
- Bingo: 18
- Lottery: 18
- Pari-Mutuel Wagering: 18

Since 2011, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has had three gaming regions, each with one casino resort gaming license:

- Eastern Region A: This license went to MGM, who constructed a casino in downtown Springfield. It opened on August 24, 2018.
- Western Region B: This license went to Wynn Resorts, who constructed Encore Boston Harbor in Everett. It opened on June 23, 2019.
- Southeastern Region C: No license awarded.

Massachusetts gaming regulations define large Category 1 casino resorts and small Category 2 slots parlors as follows:

- Category One casino:
 - Pay a daily tax of 25% of gross gaming revenue
 - Appropriate documentation of infrastructure improvements onsite and around the vicinity of the gaming establishment
- Category Two casino:
 - Pay a daily tax of 40% of gross gaming revenue
 - Pay an additional daily assessment of 9% of its gross gaming revenue
 - Appropriate documentation of infrastructure improvements
 - Limited to 1,500 gaming positions

Slot Machine Private Ownership in Massachusetts

Next up is a usually short statement about slot machine private ownership, which I have included in case you live in this U.S. state and are considering owning a slot machine. Here it is:

In Massachusetts, it is legal to own a slot machine privately if it is 30 years old or older.

Gaming Control Board in Massachusetts

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission, known as Mass Gaming, became law on November 22, 2011 when Governor Deval Patrick signed the Expanded Gaming Act.

Casinos in Massachusetts

In this section, I'll discuss Massachusetts gambling establishments.

There are three non-tribal casinos and one cruise ship based in Massachusetts.

The largest casino in Massachusetts is Encore Boston Harbor with 2,800 gaming machines.

The second-largest casino is MGM Springfield with 2,550 gaming machines.

Non-Tribal Casinos in Massachusetts

Massachusetts has three land-based casinos including:

1. Encore Boston Harbor in Everett located 5 miles north of downtown Boston.
2. MGM Springfield located 92 miles west of Boston and 26 miles north of Hartford, Connecticut.
3. Plainridge Park Casino in Plainville located 36 miles southwest of Boston and 22 miles northeast of Providence, Rhode Island.

A cruise ship sailing out of the Port of Boston is the NCL Dawn. The ship offers onboard gambling via slot machines and table games when traveling in international waters.

American Indian Casinos in Massachusetts

In 2012, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe have an approved tribal-state gaming compact to offer tribal gaming in Southeastern

Massachusetts. This Region C includes the counties of Bristol, Plymouth, Nantucket, Dukes, and Barnstable.

Subsequently, construction started on The First Light Resort & Casino in Taunton. However, progress has slowed due to lawsuits. Construction has been on hold since mid-2016. It is uncertain whether the casino will ever open.

Another tribal casino may yet open in Massachusetts as it would not require a state gaming license but instead be subject to the federal IGRA. The Aquinnah Cliffs Casino located in Martha's Vineyard would offer 250 Class II, bingo-style competition games. However, it, too, has also been subject to lawsuits which has delayed its completion.

Other Gambling Establishments

As an alternative to enjoying Massachusetts slot machine casino gambling, consider exploring casino options in a nearby state. Bordering Massachusetts is:

- North: New Hampshire and Vermont
- East: The Atlantic Ocean
- South: Connecticut and Rhode Island
- West: New York

To visit any of my articles on these U.S. states, simply visit ProfessorSlots.com followed by its two-letter postal designation. For example, my New Hampshire slots article is available at ProfessorSlots.com/NH.

Our Massachusetts Slots Community Facebook Group

Are you interested in sharing and learning with other slots enthusiasts in Massachusetts? If so, join our Massachusetts slots community on Facebook at [professorslots.com/FBMA](https://www.facebook.com/professorslots.com/FBMA). All you'll need is a Facebook profile to join this private Facebook Group freely.

There, you'll be able to privately share your slots experiences as well as chat with players about slots gambling in or near Massachusetts. Again, use this convenient link I've created to go directly to our Group on Facebook: [professorslots.com/FBMA](https://www.facebook.com/professorslots.com/FBMA). Join us!

Payout Returns in Massachusetts

Massachusetts law has set a minimum theoretical payout of 80% for gaming machines.

Monthly revenue reports for each casino are publicly available from Mass Gaming. These reports offer monthly casino hold percentages as well as player win percentages. Note that these return statistics are referred to, somewhat misleadingly, as payout%.

The January 2020 player win percentage for each casino is:

- Encore Boston Harbor: 92.63%
- MGM Springfield: 91.60%
- Plainridge Park: 92.37%

In January 2020, Encore Boston Harbor has the highest player win percentage. However, for the prior five months, Plainridge Park had the highest payout win percentage.

Summary of Massachusetts Slots in 2020

In summary, Massachusetts slot machine casino gambling consists of two casino resorts, a slots parlor, and a cruise ship offering an onboard casino when traveling to international destinations.

The minimum theoretical payout for slot machines is 80%. Monthly actual return statistics are publicly available for each casino.

Annual Progress in Massachusetts Slot Machine Casino Gambling

In the last year, Encore Boston Harbor opened in Everett. This is the second year in a row that a large casino resort has opened in Massachusetts.

Call to Action #3 (add sound effect afterward)

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On the Next Episode of Professor Slots

Part I of the next episode of the Professor Slots podcast is a live Q&A session on YouTube.

Remember, my weekly Q&A session on YouTube is on Saturdays from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. ET. Bring whatever slots questions you have, and I'll do my best to answer them. An

