



COVID-19 ISSUES: CASINOS FACT SHEET

Reopening of casinos

- Casinos are be allowed to reopen under the Advanced Alert Level 3 regulations under the Disaster Management Act.
- The sectors opening is done in tandem with the implementation of preventative measures to reduce transmission of the virus.
- The existing stringent access control at casinos make it easier to check patrons for COVID-19 symptoms.
- The pervasive surveillance and heavy security ensures limits on the number of people on a gambling floor is adhered to.
- The number of persons entering a casino shall not be more than 50 per cent based on the available floor space of the gambling floor.
- There must be record-keeping of all employees, delivery agents and customers at all times.
- Gambling machines and all surfaces touched must be sanitised after every use, and sanitisers must be made available for this purpose

Saving jobs

- In restarting the casino sector we aim to minimise the hardship, hunger and desperation of many South Africans employed in the sector.
- A prolonged closure of the sector means that close to 40 000 people it employs would be unable to provide for themselves and their families.
- In reopening casinos we can ensure we can save jobs that have been at risk from the impact of COVID-19.
- The continued impact of the lockdown on the economy threatens to outweigh the damage wrought by the coronavirus.
- Our nation's return to work can create the necessary impetus to reverse the downward trend of the economy.

Supporting the economy

- The reopening of casinos is part of the national effort to steadily increase economic activity.
- The industry is the largest and most prominent component of the local gambling sector with 39 casinos.
- Casinos contribute R1.9 billion through taxes and levies (2018/19) and its reopening will help lessen the devastating economic fallout of COVID-19.

- We can uplift economic activity so that our economy can once again function as normal.
- Growing the economy enhances the financial and material resources that we need to continue to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.