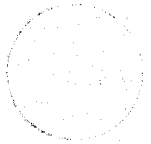


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Political and Social Research



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Impact of Casino Gambling on Crime  
in the Atlantic City Region, 1970-1984

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Simon Hakim

ICPSR 9237

IMPACT OF CASINO GAMBLING ON CRIME IN THE ATLANTIC  
CITY REGION, 1970-1984

(ICPSR 9237)

Simon Hakim

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DATA COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Simon Hakim

IMPACT OF CASINO GAMBLING ON CRIME IN THE ATLANTIC CITY REGION,  
1970-1984 (ICPSR 9237)

SUMMARY: The aim of this data collection was to gauge the impact of legalized casino gambling on the level and spatial distribution of crime in the Atlantic City region by comparing crime rates before and after the introduction of this type of gambling in the area. Data for the years 1972 through 1984 were collected from various New Jersey state publications for 64 localities and include information on population size and density, population characteristics of race, age, per capita income, education and home ownership, real estate values, number of police employees and police expenditures, total city expenditure, and number of burglaries, larcenies, robberies and vehicle thefts. Spatial variables include population attributes standardized by land area in square miles, and measures of accessibility, location, and distance from Atlantic City. For the 1970/1980 data file, additional variables pertaining to population characteristics were created from census data to match economic and crime attributes found in the 1972-1984 data. Data on eight additional locations are available in the 1970/1980 file.  
CLASS IV

UNIVERSE: Cities and towns in Atlantic County, Cape May County, and Ocean County in New Jersey.

SAMPLING: All cities and towns in Atlantic, Cape May, and Ocean counties in New Jersey (72 localities) for which 1970 and 1980 census data were available.

EXTENT OF COLLECTION: 2 data files

DATA FORMAT: Logical Record Length

Part 1: 1972-1984 File

File Structure: rectangular

Cases: 832

Variables: 20

Record Length: 188

Records Per Case: 1

Part 2: 1970/1980 File

File Structure: rectangular

Cases: 144

Variables: 25

Record Length: 208

Records Per Case: 1

RELATED PUBLICATION:

Hakim, S. THE IMPACT OF CASINO GAMBLING ON CRIME IN ATLANTIC CITY AND ITS REGION. Unpublished final report submitted to the National Institute of Justice, Washington, DC, 1985.

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Part 1: 1972-1984 file	1
Part 2: 1970/80 file	3

1972-1984 FILE

1972-1984 DATA: 20 variables, 832 cases, record length=188

Note: Missing data are represented in all variables as "-1".

Sources are indicated within brackets and are listed at the end of the codebook.

Variable Name	Position	Width
1.Place ID	6-8	3
101 - 117: Places in Atlantic County		
201 - 230: Places in Cape May County		
301 - 331: Places in Ocean County		
2.Year (Last two digits)	16-17	2
3.Crime index-total [1]	22-26	5
4.Crime rate/1,000 population [1]	32-35	4
5.Violent crime rate/1,000 pop. [1]	40-44	5
6.Nonviolent crime rate/1,000 pop. [1]	51-53	3
7.Number of burglaries [1]	61-62	2
8.Number of larcenies [1]	70-71	2
9.Number vehicle thefts [1]	78-80	2
10.Number of arsons [1]	85-89	5
11.Population (in thousands) [3]	95-98	4
12.Area (in square miles) [3]	103-107	5
13.Density (pop. per square mile) [3]	114-116	3
14.Number of police [4]	124-125	2
15.Mileage from Atlantic City [5]	133-134	2
16.Travel time from Atlantic City [5]	141-143	3
17.Police expenditures [2]	150-157	8
18.Value of commercial real estate [2]	159-168	10
19.Value of residential real estate [2]	171-179	9
20.State equalization ratio [2]	183-188	6

Sources:

- [1] New Jersey Attorney General, *Uniform Crime Reports*, 1970-1984.
- [2] Division of Local Government Services, 1970 to 1984, *Statements of Financial Conditions of Counties and Municipalities* (annual reports), New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.
- [3] Bureau of the Census, *1970, 1980 Census of Population and Housing*, U.S. Department of Commerce.
- [4] Division of Planning and Research, *Manpower Statistics and Analysis*, New Jersey Department of Labor.
- [5] New Jersey Department of Transportation, *Time and Distance Matrices*.



1970/80 FILE

### The Impact of Casino Gambling in Atlantic City, NJ and Its Region

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 Temple University  
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1970/1980 DATA: 144 cases, 25 variables, record length=208

The first 72 cases represent 1980 observations, the last 72 cases represent 1970 observations.

Note: Missing data are represented in all variables as "-1".

Values to the right of the decimal in the Width column (below) indicate the number of implied decimal places in the variable. Values to the left indicate the total width of the variable.

Variable Description	Position	Width
1 County Identification No. 101-123: Places in Atlantic County 501-516: Places in Cape May County 1501-1533: Places in Ocean County (see appendix for complete list)	1-4	4
2 Locality (1=Urban, 2=Suburban, 3=Rural)	6	1
3 Population size	8-12	5
4 Population per sq. mile	14-19	6.1
5 Percent unemployment of labor force	21-24	4.1
6 Percent blacks in total population	26-36	11.9
7 Percent males aged 16-24 of tot. pop.	38-46	9.7
8 Real per capita income, 1970 prices	48-55	8.2
9 Percent high school graduates of adults 25+ years old	57-60	4.1
10 Percent single-family homes of total housing stock	62-69	8.5

11 Distance in miles from Atlantic City	71-72	2
12 Accessibility (1=located on major arterial road to Atlantic City, 0=otherwise)	74	1
13 Land area (square miles)	76-81	6.2
14 Per capita robberies	82-94	13.10
15 Per capita burglaries	95-106	12.9
16 Per capita larcenies	107-118	12.9
17 Per capita vehicle thefts	119-130	12.9
18 Percent families below poverty level	132-136	5.2
19 Per capita total crime	138-148	11.8
20 Per capita violent crime	150-162	13.10
21 Per capita state equalized value of commercial real estate. 1980 values expressed in 1970 prices.	164-173	10.7
22 Police expenditures in 1970 prices	175-185	11.6
23 Number of police employees	187-189	3
24 Total city expenditures in 1970 prices	191-200	10.4
25 State equalization ratio	201-208	8.4

IDENTIFICATION

Codebook: 1970/80 Data

Atlantic County

101	Absecon City
102	Atlantic City
103	Brigantine City
104	Buena Boro
105	Buena Vista Twsp.
106	Corbin City
107	Egg Harbor City
108	Egg Harbor Twsp.
109	Estell Manor City
110	Folsom Boro
111	Galloway Twsp.
112	Hamilton Twsp.
113	Hammonton Town
114	Linwood City
115	Longport Boro
116	Margate City
117	Mullica Twsp.
118	Northfield City
119	Pleasantville City
120	Port Republic City
121	Somers Point City
122	Ventnor City
123	Weymouth Twsp.

Cape May County

501	Avalon Boro
502	Cape May City
503	Cape May Point Boro
504	Dennis Twsp.
505	Lower Twsp.
506	Middle Twsp.
507	North Wildwood City
508	Ocean City
509	Sea Isle City
510	Stone Harbor Boro
511	Upper Twsp.
512	West Cape May Boro

IDENTIFICATION

Cape May County Cont'd

513	West Wildwood Boro
514	Wildwood City
515	Wildwood Crest Boro
516	Woodbine Boro

Ocean County

1501	Barnegat Light Boro
1502	Barnegat Twsp.
1503	Bay Head Boro
1504	Beach Haven Boro
1505	Beachwood Boro
1506	Berkeley Twsp.
1507	Brick Twsp.
1508	Dover Twsp.
1509	Eagleswood Twsp.
1510	Harvey Cedars Boro
1511	Island Heights Boro
1512	Jackson Twsp.
1513	Lacey Twsp.
1514	Lakehurst Boro
1515	Lakewood Twsp.
1516	Lavalette Boro
1517	Little Egg Harbor Twsp.
1518	Long Beach Twsp.
1519	Manchester Twsp.
1520	Mantoloking Boro
1521	Ocean Twsp.
1522	Ocean Gate Boro
1523	Pine Beach Boro
1524	Plumsted Twsp.
1525	Point Pleasant Boro
1526	Point Pleasant Beach Boro
1527	Seaside Heights Boro
1528	Seaside Park Boro
1529	Ship Bottom Boro
1530	South Toms River Boro

IDENTIFICATION

Ocean County Cont'd

1531	Stafford Twsp.
1532	Surf City Boro
1533	Tuckerton Boro

Table 1-2

## Description of the Variables Analyzed in this Study

Symbol	Description	Source
<u>Crime Variables</u>		
TCP	Per capita total crime	1
ROBP	Per capita robberies	1
BURP	Per capita burglaries	1
LARP	Per capita larcenies	1
VEHTP	Per capita vehicle thefts	1
VIOLP	Per capita violent crimes	
TCA, BURP, LARA VEHTA, VIOLA	All above types of crime standardized by land area in square miles.	1
LTCA, LROBA, LBURP, LLARA, LVEHTA, LVIOLA	The natural logarithmic of all types of crime standardized by the land area in square miles	1
Symbol	Description	Source
ATYP	ATYP. AT=dummy variable for localities surrounding Atlantic City and along the Garden State Parkway toward New York. AT = $\begin{cases} 1 & \text{for above localities} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$	
$C_i, CP_i, CA_i$	Notation for crime type i: total, per capita and per square miles respectively	
DEN	Population per land area in square miles	1
DIS	Distance in miles between the centroids of Atlantic City and the locality along major arterial roads	NJ DOT Time Distance Matrices
DISAC	DIS accessibility. AC is a dummy variable where AC = $\begin{cases} 1 \\ 0 \end{cases}$ 1 - if along arterial road to NY or Philadelphia 0 - if otherwise	

Symbol	Description	Source
DISAC x DUMYR	Isolates the distance in miles from Atlantic City of accessible localities	
DUMRUR	Dummy variable indicating rural localities. DUMRUR = 1 - if rural and 0 - if otherwise	1
DUMSUB	Dummy variable indicating suburban localities. DUMSUB = 1 if suburban, 0 if otherwise	
DUMYR	A dummy variable for the year. DUMYR = 1 if 1980, and 0 if 1970	1
ED	Percent of population 25 and over with high school education	3
EDD	ED expressed as dummy variable EDD = 1 if ED $\geq$ 50%, and 0 if ED < 50%	3
POP	Population size	
POV	Percent of population below poverty level as determined differently in 1970 and 1980 by the census bureau	3
PXDU	PXP multiplied by DUMYR to isolate the effect of policing in 1980	2
PXP	Per capita police expenditure	
UN	Percent unemployment for models 1,2.	3
VCA	State equalized commercial real estate valuation per square miles: 1970, 1980.	2
VCDU	VCA multiplied by DUMYR to isolate the effect in 1980.	2



Symbol	Description	Source
VCP	Per capita state equalized commercial real estate valuation per square mile: 1974 through 1983. All values are expressed in constant dollars of 1974.	2
WL	State equalized valuation of residential and commercial real estate per square mile.	2,1
YP	A dummy variable 0,1 for the year. YP = 1 if 1978,79,80,81,82,83; 0 if 1974,75,76,77	

Symbol	Description	Source
POV	Percent of population below poverty level as determined differently in 1970 and 1980 by the census bureau	3
PXDU	PXP multiplied by DUMYR to isolate the effect of policing in 1980	2
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WL	State equalized valuation of residential and commercial real estate per square mile.	2,1
YP	A dummy variable 0,1 for the year. YP = 1 if 1978,79,80,81,82,83; 0 if 1974,75,76,77	

### Sources

1. New Jersey Attorney General, Uniform Crime Reports, 1970 - 1984.
2. Division of Local Government Services, 1970 to 1984, Statements of Financial Conditions of Counties and Municipalities (annual reports), New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.
3. Bureau of the Census, 1970, 1980 Census of Population and Housing, U.S. Department of Commerce.
4. Division of Planning and Research, Manpower Statistics and Analysis, New Jersey Department of Labor.