"[Pokies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gambling_in_New_Zealand)"[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Gambling_in_New_Zealand&action=edit&section=3)] – **New Zealand**

Introduced in 1987, [slot machines](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slot_machine), commonly known as "pokies", are operated by charitable foundations and are mostly placed in hotels and bars. Maximum jackpots are regulated. In the year ending 30 June 2008, turnover was $10.096 billion, of which $9.158 billion was returned as prizes (player losses were $938 million). These figures represent a 9% decrease from the peak year of 2004. Pokies accounted for 46.1% of gambling expenditure (losses) in 2008.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gambling_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-stats-1) The year to 30 June 2009 saw a further 5% fall in expenditure, to $889 million. There were 19,479 machines in 1,501 venues operated by 384 licensees, all of these figures being a decrease from 2008.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gambling_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-stuff-6)

Since 1 July 2009, all machines must have Player Information Displays, which inform the gambler how long they have been playing, how much they have lost, and which encourage them to take breaks.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gambling_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-stuff-6)

In May 2013 the Government announced it would allow casino [SkyCity Auckland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SkyCity_Auckland%22%20%5Co%20%22SkyCity%20Auckland) to install an additional 230 pokie machines and 40 new gambling tables, in exchange for a $402 million convention centre.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gambling_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-7)[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gambling_in_New_Zealand#cite_note-8)

Online pokies, also commonly referred to as online slots, are digital adaptations of traditional slot machines that can be played via the internet. They have gained substantial popularity in the world of online gambling, providing players with convenient access to a diverse range of casino games.