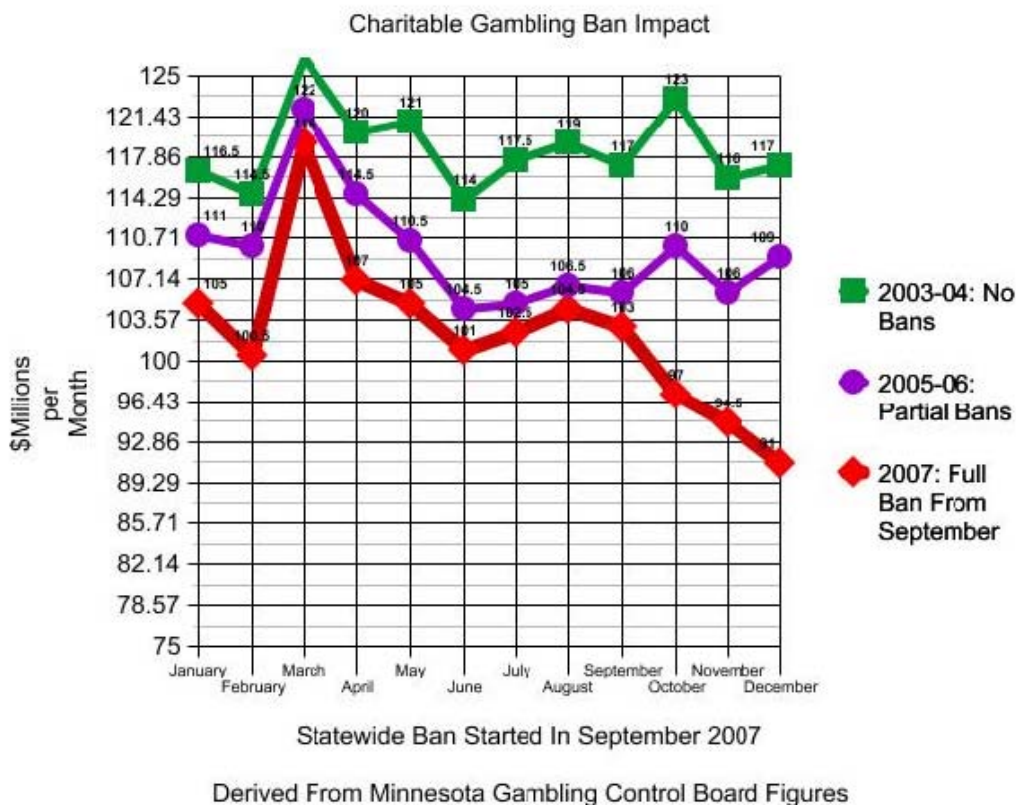


A well documented specific example of what smoking bans do to casinos has recently been provided in the 2008 Report of the State of Minnesota Charitable Gambling Commission. The graph below is a refinement of one presented within that report. The original is available online at:

[http://www.gcb.state.mn.us/PDF\\_Files/Smoking%20ban%20study.pdf](http://www.gcb.state.mn.us/PDF_Files/Smoking%20ban%20study.pdf)

The refinement does not change the actual figures in any way: it simply separates the periods so as to clearly show the periods before the ban, during a partial ban, and after a total ban.



Note the effect of the partial ban in 2005 and 2006. Note the lack of any bounceback in the first nine months of 2007. Note that the losses in those months even continued to increase over the initial year of the partial ban. And finally, note what happened three months after a total ban was imposed: 91 million dollars instead of the 117 million from five years earlier. That's a raw 22% loss. Once one factors in both the general inflation of the dollar and expected industry economic growth compared to

industries in non-banned states the real loss approaches 30%. The monetary losses of course are also reflected in job losses and in necessary tax increases to balance both those losses and expenses. If cities like Las Vegas and Atlantic City are conquered by the antismoking Huns and are forced to impose total smoking bans on their casinos we are liable to see entire thriving cities virtually destroyed. The poverty and crime that will accompany that destruction will kill far more people than any smoking ban could conceivably save even if the Antismokers were telling the truth.

Which, of course, they never do.

Michael J. McFadden  
Mid-Atlantic Director, Citizens Freedom Alliance  
Director, Pennsylvania Smokers Action Network  
Author of Dissecting Antismokers' Brains

[Return to the Ban the Ban Wisconsin site](#)