Brazil Betting Tax Revenue Surged 86% to BRL 5.89 Billion in Five Months, CasinoRank’s BettingRanker Data Shows

New York City, New York Aug 13, 2026 (Issuewire.com) - Brazil's regulated sports betting market generated BRL 5.89 billion in tax revenue during the first five months of 2026, according to new analysis published by BettingRanker. The figure, reported by Brazil's Receita Federal (Federal Revenue Service) through a presentation by tax auditors Claudemir Malaquias and Marcelo Gomide to Revenue Secretary Robinson Barreirinhas, represents an increase of 85.88% over the BRL 3.169 billion collected in the same period of 2025. Brazil's full-year 2025 betting tax take was BRL 9.95 billion, meaning the first five months of 2026 alone already exceed 59% of that total.

The growth arrived without Brazil raising its headline betting tax rate. Licensed operators currently pay 12% on gross gaming revenue (GGR) under Law 14.790/2023, the "Lei das Apostas," which took effect on 1 January 2025 and is administered by the Secretaria de Prêmios e Apostas (SPA) under the Ministry of Finance. A proposed increase to 18%, introduced via Provisional Measure 1,303/2025, expired without being brought to a vote. The 12% rate is instead scheduled to rise incrementally under existing law, to 13% in 2026, 14% in 2027, and 15% in 2028.

Brazil's licensed market has scaled quickly since regulation took effect. Licensed operators generated BRL 12.2 billion in revenue during the first four months of 2026, operating under 78 federal licences covering 138 brands as of August 2025. The framework requires a BRL 30 million licence fee covering up to three brands over five years, a BRL 5 million reserve requirement, minimum 20% Brazilian ownership, local incorporation, and biometric identity verification tied to each bettor's CPF. Licensed operators are required to process transactions through Pix and are barred from accepting credit cards or cryptocurrency.

Brazil's illegal betting market remains large relative to the licensed sector's growth:

- **Brazil's unlicensed betting market is estimated at up to BRL 40 billion annually**, a figure that dwarfs the regulated sector's reported tax take even as that tax take nearly doubled.
- **Federal enforcement has scaled in response.** Authorities have blocked an estimated 56,000 illegal betting platforms and froze BRL 951.1 million in a single Federal Police operation targeting unlicensed operators.
- **The 2026 FIFA World Cup added a measurable, one-time boost.** H2 Gambling Capital projected BRL 20 billion to 25 billion in Brazilian betting handle tied to the tournament, a factor likely reflected in the first five months of 2026 tax data.

Brazil's 12% GGR tax rate remains low by international comparison even as it climbs. The United Kingdom's Remote Gaming Duty rose to 40% in April 2026. Germany taxes betting turnover, rather than revenue, at 5.3%. Colombia charges 15% to 17% of GGR, Peru charges 12% plus a contested 1% consumption tax, Italy charges 24.5% on betting GGR, Sweden charges 22%, and Denmark charges 28%.

Emily Thompson, Lead Analyst at BettingRanker, said the tax data shows Brazil's regulated market maturing faster than its enforcement capacity against the illegal sector.

"An 86% increase in tax revenue in five months is the kind of number that normally only shows up when a market is either brand new or badly under-taxed, and Brazil is both. The licensed sector is proving it can generate serious government revenue at a 12% rate, which is exactly why the proposed jump to 18% collapsed politically. Nobody needed to argue for a higher rate when the current one was already producing numbers like this," Thompson said.

"The harder problem is the BRL 40 billion still sitting outside the system. Brazil has built one of the most technically sophisticated licensing frameworks in Latin America, with biometric verification and Pix-only payments, and the illegal market is still roughly three to four times the size of what the tax data shows moving through licensed operators. Enforcement scaling up alongside tax revenue is the right signal, but the gap between those two numbers is still the real story here, not the 86%."

The full analysis is available here.

About BettingRanker

BettingRanker is a sports betting comparison site that reviews and ranks sportsbooks to help bettors make more informed choices. It is part of the CasinoRank network**.**

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