

“Grassroots: Atmore, Alabama: Rural Atmore Places Chips on Casino,” by Charles Davidson, staff writer for *EconSouth*

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### **Discussion questions**

1. What daily impact does the Wind Creek Casino have on the town of Atmore? What effect have the casino and other Creek Indian Enterprises ventures had on the area’s employment?
2. How important is the casino in terms of the Poarch Creek tribe’s business ventures? What other business ventures does the tribe run? Are other ventures planned?
3. How is it somewhat ironic that the tribe’s business enterprises now donate millions to the local school system?
4. How did the recession affect the Rivercane business park? What does the recent increase in sales taxes from the park say about the health of the local economy?
5. How do rural southern towns compare to state and national norms in terms of education, income, and poverty?
6. What industry once dominated the local economy? While the casino brings many visitors to Atmore each day, why is this called a “mixed blessing”?

### **Related links**

[Atmore Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Poarch Creek Indians Tribal Gaming Commission](#)

[“Poarch Creek Donates Over \\$2 Million to Support Area Schools”: Press release](#)

[Coin and Currency in the Casino Industry”: Richmond Fed report](#)

[Casino Gambling in America and its Economic Impacts”: St. Louis Fed report](#)

[“Personal Consumption Expenditures: Services: Gambling”: Chart based on FRED economic data](#)

[“Do Casinos Export Bankruptcy?”: St. Louis Fed working paper](#)