

Title of proposed paper

Measuring gambling: Prevalence of at risk and problematic gambling in Chile 2015-2018.

An abstract (not to exceed 200 words)

This study reports the prevalence of problematic gambling in Santiago de Chile for the period 2015-2018. Two household-based surveys were implemented in the metropolitan area of Santiago de Chile in 2015 and 2018 in order to assess changes on the prevalence, characteristics and severity of gambling (n=1030 each; SE=2,2% for a CI=95%). Severity of gambling was measured using the NODS scale.

Results show that during the analysed period the percentage of at-risk players has increased, passing from 14,3% to 16,1%, among them, we identified a decrease in the prevalence of pathological gamblers, passing from 2,4% to 1,4%. We also identify a change in the type of pathological gambler: while in 2015, the main pathological gamblers were women, in 2018, most pathological players were men. In both years, most pathological gamblers came from lower social strata.

In both years, the most played games were bingo and lottery, scratch cards and nonregulated slot machines. In 2015, most people declared to play solo, while in 2018, most people declare to play with friends and family. There are significant differences between at risk and not at-risk gamblers in satisfaction with life and other psychosocial indicators.

Full paper is available on request.

A clear statement of the implications of the material to be presented, i.e., the “so what?” of the presentation (not to exceed 50 words)

Gambling in Latin America is under-researched. Using household surveys in Santiago de Chile we can say that problematic gambling has damaging social effects. Middle aged women are more at risk of problematic gambling. Illegal gambling is a main source of problematic gambling, mainly because it affects more vulnerable populations.

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Brief author bios for each author (not to exceed 75 words per bio)

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