

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]@thetimes.co.uk
Subject: Misuse of statistics
Date: 17 October 2024 14:55:00
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Hi [REDACTED],

I'm writing to let you know that your piece entitled 'A hike in gambling taxes would be a win-win you state' contains a misuse of our statistics.

In your copy you state 'according to the Gambling Commission a million adults and 55,000 children have an out-of-control addiction'.

There are no statistics published by us on the rate of gambling addiction and we are not aware of any other data that seeks to measure addiction at a population level rather than in an individual clinical setting.

Statistics that use the [Problem Gambling Severity Index](#) are unable to provide a measure of addiction and therefore those scoring 8 or more (the threshold used by the index to define problem gambling) cannot automatically be classified as being addicted.

Any attempt to suggest that this data can give a measure of addiction levels would be a misuse of our data.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]



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Phone: [REDACTED]
www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk

Making gambling safer, fairer and crime free

