Preliminary Project Proposal

I decided to explore video gambling machine data in my local area. According to the Illinois Gaming Board, Springfield, Auburn, and Sangamon County are all considered different Municipalities. The date ranges I can explore is from 2012-2019 on a monthly, annual, or accumulative for all 7 years (2019 being the information available to date).

There is a few interesting pieces of information here I think would be interesting to analyze. First, would be the number of video gaming establishments that have decided to get a license for video gaming machines over the timeline of information available. Another is if gaming machines pay out more or less during this timeline that we see video gaming increase (I assume it increases). Lastly, one hypothesis I would like to dive into is a theory a friend of mine has told me in past. He believes that video gaming machines do not pay out as well (compare to the amount of funds put in) during the month of December. I would like to see if there is any seasonal affects on the ratio of funds invested in the machines versus funds won. Does that data look relatively the same a crossed all municipalities?

All the information for this project comes from the Illinois Gaming Board’s website. The have reports available to be downloaded as CSV files on a monthly, yearly, and accumulative basis. I attached a couple examples, however, I intend to extract the information for each month, for each municipality, from the data available in 2019 to the data available in 2012.

NTI = difference between cash deposited into the gaming machines and winning paid to the players. 30% of NTI is paid to the state. 70% if shared between the establishment and operator (I assume the operator is like J&J Gaming)