



TWG07:Adults Learning Maths (AME) CERME12

**Twelfth Congress of the European Society for Research in Mathematics
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Research contributions to adults learning mathematics in the field of numeracy in the last twenty years

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- *Paper Title:* Research contributions to adults learning mathematics in the field of numeracy in the last twenty years
- *Central Message of the Paper:*

The objective of this paper is to review what research is being carried out in the last twenty years in the field of ALM, to identify what are the topics that are being investigated, and where there are gaps that would open new lines of research in the future on how adults learn mathematics.

A total amount of 843 articles have been collected using WoS (from 01/01/2000 to 01/06/2021). The main findings suggest that: articles about health and care are the most common a high cited, followed by articles about everyday life. The most common focus in terms of higher order skills are processing information, critical thinking and problem solving. Not much research on mathematising. Almost all studies are based on quantities and numbers. Few studies on using apps or digital skills. Regarding dispositions, the majority of the studies focus on self-confidence.

Points for consideration in future research based on *AME CERME12 group discussion*....

- This literature review reveals that there is a lack of visibility of the contributions of our research field, which may be well-known within our community of practice, but relatively unknown out of it.
- This little attention to our research effort suggests that we probably need to encourage further dissemination / visibility of our contributions.
- That discussion is relevant, in the sense that making our research more visible also increases the chances to reach other targets, such as policymakers. This could be a way to feed into policy and practice.
- We also need to be careful with what we consider as part of our research domain (i.e. what does it mean numeracy; because “numeracy”, for instance, is a multifaceted concept).