



Relationship between digital personalization in services and customer retention in the Tarapoto Multiple Bank, period 2022

Relación entre la personalización digital en servicios y la retención de clientes en la Banca Múltiple de Tarapoto, periodo 2022

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ABSTRACT

Digital personalization has revolutionized how companies interact with customers. This change ranges from internal processes to user experiences. Customer retention, driven by digital personalization, has become essential to success as consumer expectations evolve alongside technology. Therefore, the main objective of this study in 2022 is to investigate the relationship between digital personalization in services and customer retention in multiple banking in Tarapoto. In methodological terms, this study is based on an applied approach, uses quantitative methods, focuses on correlation and follows a non-experimental design subject to the help of two questionnaires to measure the variables in a sample of 384 clients of the Commercial Bank of Tarapoto. Regarding the main result, it is observed after the application of the correlation analysis that there is a significant relationship between the digital personalization variable and customer retention, this demonstrates the great importance of digital personalization, because it plays a crucial role in the contemporary world. It is essential for brands to distinguish themselves from others, because one strategy to achieve this is by personalizing the products and services they provide, which establishes an emotional bond between the customer and the brand. In conclusion, regarding the behavior of the digital personalization variable, it is shown that it is at a poor level due to the fact that the variable does not cover various fields, from product recommendation in electronic commerce to the adaptation of content on social networks. transforming the way companies relate to their audiences in the digital age. At the same time, regarding the results of the customer retention variable, it is observed that it is at a low level, this is due to the fact that there is no high customer retention since it reduces the costs of acquiring new customers and increases revenues. long term. Therefore, retention is key to the profitability and sustained growth of any institution or company.

Keywords: Digital Personalization; Customer Retention; Personalized Offers; Device Adaptation; Cross-Platform.

RESUMEN

La personalización digital ha revolucionado cómo las empresas interactúan con los clientes. Este cambio abarca desde procesos internos hasta experiencias de usuario. La retención de clientes, impulsada por la personalización digital, se ha vuelto esencial para alcanzar el éxito, ya que las expectativas de los consumidores evolucionan junto con la tecnología. Por lo tanto, el objetivo principal de este estudio en 2022 es investigar la relación entre la personalización digital en los servicios y la retención de clientes en la banca múltiple de Tarapoto. En términos metodológicos, este estudio se basa en un enfoque aplicado, utiliza métodos cuantitativos, se centra en la correlación y sigue un diseño no experimental sujeto a la ayuda de dos cuestionarios para medir las variables en una muestra de 384 clientes de la Banca Múltiple de Tarapoto. En cuanto al resultado principal se observa tras la aplicación del análisis de correlación que existe una relación significativa entre la variable personalización digital y la retención de clientes, esto demuestra la gran importancia de la personalización digital, porque juega un papel crucial en el mundo contemporáneo ya que es esencial para las marcas distinguirse de otras, debido a que, una estrategia para lograrlo es personalizando los productos y servicios que brindan, lo cual establece un lazo emocional entre el cliente y la marca. Como conclusión fue en cuanto al comportamiento de la variable personalización digital se muestra que se encuentra en un nivel deficiente debido, a que la variable no abarca diversos campos, desde la recomendación de productos en el comercio electrónico hasta la adaptación de contenido en redes sociales, transformando la forma en que las empresas se relacionan con sus audiencias en la era digital. Al mismo tiempo en cuanto a los resultados de la variable retención de clientes, se observa que se encuentra en un nivel bajo, ello debido que no existe una alta retención de clientes pues esta reduce los costos de adquisición de nuevos clientes y aumenta los ingresos a largo plazo. Por eso, la retención es clave para la rentabilidad y el crecimiento sostenido de cualquier institución o empresa.

Palabras clave: Personalización Digital; Retención de Clientes; Ofertas Personalizadas; Adaptación al Dispositivo; Multiplataforma.

INTRODUCTION

The digital revolution has generated significant changes in consumer behavior and in their expectations toward financial institutions worldwide. Technology has facilitated interaction between customers and banks, allowing service to be more direct and personalized. However, this brings a challenge: ensuring that digital services are aligned with the individual needs and desires of each customer. Digital personalization has gained relevance as a crucial tool for maintaining and improving customer retention.(1)

Toloba (2) mentions that facing the challenge of finding a balance between personalization, privacy, and security is a challenge of monumental proportions for financial institutions globally. These entities must ensure that the pursuit of personalization does not endanger customers' privacy or the integrity of their data. The connection between digital personalization and customer retention is an undeniable fact worldwide (3,4,5,6,7,8,9).

According to one recent international study, 75 % of consumers in several countries consider that a personalized experience is essential for their banking satisfaction. The reason is evident: a tailored experience can make customers feel appreciated, understood, and more inclined to continue using banking services.(10,11,12,13,14,15) However, it is crucial to keep in mind that, according to data provided by a leading cybersecurity organization, 68 % of consumers worldwide stated that they would switch banks immediately if their personal data were compromised due to poor information management. Therefore, proper data management becomes a fundamental pillar, since an error in this aspect could generate distrust and, as a result, a significant decrease in customer retention globally.(3)

With regard to digital development, Latin America is at an intermediate level with an index of 49.92 on a scale from 0 to 100.(16,17,18) This places it above the region of Africa, which has an index of 35.05, and Asia-Pacific, with an index of 49.16. However, Latin America shows a lag compared with Eastern Europe, which has an index of 52.90, as well as with Western Europe and North America, which have much higher indices of 71.06 and 80.85, respectively. Latin America, as part of the emerging economies, experiences moderate growth in terms of digitalization compared with other regions of the developed world.(4)

In Peru, the financial environment has undergone a significant transformation in recent years, in which the banking sector has followed the path of digitalization to adapt to an increasingly interconnected market. Although this technological transition has expanded access to banking services for numerous Peruvian citizens, it has also underscored the need to provide more personalized attention. National financial institutions, seeking to differentiate themselves in a competitive market, have begun to invest in digital personalization tools and strategies.(5)

Within the context of Tarapoto, banking entities face a duality characteristic of a growing city. There is a growing demand for digital financial services, in line with global and national trends. (19,20,21,22) Conversely, the local idiosyncrasy and cultural particularities may influence the perception of personalization. It is here that a crucial relationship is identified between the provision of personalized digital services and customer loyalty. A system that fails to adapt to the specific needs of the Tarapoto user could be perceived as alien or impersonal. Connectivity, infrastructure, and digital financial education problems in Tarapoto may be factors that hinder effective personalization.(23,24,25,26,27,28) Although a deficiency in personalization or low retention cannot be explicitly asserted, it is evident that inadequate adaptation can have consequences for customer perception and satisfaction. It is essential that banks in Tarapoto understand and adapt to the particularities of their clientele. If these challenges are not addressed, the banking sector could not only lose customers, but also the opportunity to strengthen ties with the community and contribute to the city's economic development. In this context, it is imperative that banking entities invest in understanding the needs and expectations of their customers in order to offer a service that is not only digital and personalized, but also contextualized and relevant.(29,30,31,32,33,34,35)

What is the relationship between digital personalization and customer retention in Multiple Banking in Tarapoto, period 2022?

Objective

To determine the relationship between digital personalization in services and customer retention in multiple banking in Tarapoto, period 2022.

METHODS

Scope and conditions of the research

Research context

The San Martín Region is located in the northern sector of Peru, bordering to the north with the regions of Amazonas and Loreto, to the east with Colombia, to the south with Huánuco, and to the west with La Libertad. Due to its location, it occupies a key place in the Peruvian Amazon, standing out for its broad biodiversity and its relevance for environmental protection and sustainable progress in the national Amazonian area. San Martín is located in the northern zone of Peru, in the heart of the Amazon rainforest. It lies between the coordinates 5° 37' and 8° 45' south latitude, and 75° 54' and 77° 27' west longitude. It borders to the north with Amazonas and Loreto, to the east with Colombia, to the south with Huánuco, and to the west with La Libertad. Thanks to its location in the heart of the Amazon, it is characterized by its rich biological diversity and plays a crucial role in the protection of the jungle and its surrounding ecosystems.



Execution period

The research was conducted during the months of January–April of the present year.

Authorizations and permits

Not applicable.

Environmental control and biosafety protocols

Not applicable.

Application of international ethical principles

In any research, 3 key principles must be followed: respect, justice, and beneficence. According to these criteria, it is vital that participants can decide whether they want to participate and are fully informed of the risks and benefits of their participation. Therefore, in this study, full adherence to these principles was guaranteed. This means fully respecting each individual's choice regarding their inclusion in the research and providing detailed and clear information about the process. It is argued that the advantages of the results obtained outweigh any possible risk, since the technological area concerned can obtain an adequate diagnosis. Furthermore, we have used APA 7 standards to give credit to all cited authors, ensuring recognition of their contributions without compromising the content of the study.

System of variables

Independent variable: digital personalization

Empirical variable 1: content customization; relevant content, personalized offers, adaptable recommendations

Empirical variable 2: device adaptation; responsive design, multiplatform, omnichannel experience

Empirical variable 3: intelligent interaction; virtual assistants, chatbots, instant messaging

Dependent variable: customer retention

Empirical variable 1: satisfaction; met expectations, perceived value, recommendation

Empirical variable 2: loyalty; repurchase, preference, immunity
 Empirical variable 3: emotional bond, trust, attachment, identification

Table 1. Description of variables by specific objective 1

Specific objective No. 1: To describe the level of the multiple person in Tarapoto for the period 2022.	Digital application in banking services	
Abstract variable	Concrete variable	Medium of measurement unit record
Personalization digital	Relevant content Personalized offers, adaptable recommendations, responsive design, multiplatform Omnichannel experience, virtual assistants, chatbots, instant messaging	Ordinal questionnaire

Table 2. Description of variables by specific objective 2

Specific objective No. 2: Describe the level of customer retention in multiple banking in Tarapoto, period 2022.			
Abstract variable	Concrete variable	Recording medium	Unit of measurement
Customer retention	Expectations met Perceived value Recommendation Repurchase Preference Immunity Trust Attachment Identification	Questionnaire	Ordinal

Table 3. Description of variables by specific objective 3

Specific objective No. 3: Establish the relationship between content customization and customer retention in multiple banking in Tarapoto, period 2022.			
Abstract variable	Concrete variable	Recording medium	Unit of measurement
Content customization	Relevant content Personalized offers Adaptable recommendations	Questionnaire	Ordinal

Table 4. Description of variables by specific objective 4

Specific objective No. 4: Analyze the relationship between device adaptation and customer retention in multiple banking in Tarapoto, period 2022.			
Abstract variable	Concrete variable	Recording medium	Unit of measurement
Device adaptation	Responsive design Cross-platform Omnichannel experience	Questionnaire	Ordinal

Research procedures

Cisneros et al. (6) highlight that, in both quantitative and qualitative research, the survey is the most prevalent technique compared with other methodologies. This is applicable in both online and offline environments and is usually supported by a well-structured and automated questionnaire to ensure the efficient management of large volumes of data almost in real time. Therefore, in this study, the survey technique was used, with a questionnaire as the instrument for collecting information. To measure the study variables, 2 separate questionnaires were created. The questionnaire related to digital personalization consisted of 27 statements or items, distributed across 3 dimensions and 9 indicators. Each statement presented 5 response options on a Likert-type scale (Strongly disagree, Disagree, Neutral, Agree, and Strongly agree). In addition, the customer retention questionnaire was composed of 27 statements or items, covering 3 dimensions and 9 indicators. Each item also had 5 response options.

The data collected through these questionnaires were recorded in Microsoft Excel spreadsheets for descriptive statistical analyses. These analyses included the creation of frequency tables and bar charts to present the results obtained. These tools were used to evaluate the dimensions and variables, and the visual results were included in the results section of the report.

Table 5. Description of variables by specific objective 5

Specific objective No. 5: Evaluate the relationship between intelligent interaction and customer retention in multiple banking in Tarapoto, period 2022.			
Abstract variable	Concrete variable	Recording medium	Unit of measurement
Intelligent interaction	Virtual assistants Chatbots Instant messaging	Questionnaire	Ordinal

Specific objective 1

In this case, data collection was carried out through the questionnaires, and the findings were processed using Microsoft Excel for descriptive statistical analyses, through which the level of digital personalization in multiple banking services in Tarapoto was determined for the 2022 period.

Specific objective 2

In this case, data collection was carried out through the questionnaires, and the findings were processed using Microsoft Excel, through which the customer retention level of the multiple banking sector in Tarapoto was determined for the 2022 period.

Specific objective 3

In this case, data collection was carried out through questionnaires, and the findings were processed using a program called SPSS, through which the connection between content customization and customer retention in multiple banking in Tarapoto for the 2022 period was determined.

Specific objective 4

In this case, data collection was carried out through the questionnaires, and the findings were processed using a program called SPSS, through which the relationship between device adaptation and customer retention in multiple banking in Tarapoto for the 2022 period was determined.

Specific objective 5

In this case, data collection was carried out through questionnaires, and the findings were processed using a program called SPSS, through which the relationship between intelligent interaction and customer retention in multiple banking in Tarapoto, period 2022, was found.

Type and level of research

Jiménez (7) indicates that quantitative research remains fundamental in research studies that require a systematic, detailed, and evident approach, with various criteria for evaluating its contribution to the academic world, and that the relevance of the quantitative approach lies in its capacity to adopt a distinct perspective; therefore, this research study will be quantitative.

In addition, it has been of an applied type. Mamani (8) indicates that applied research is distinguished by its focus on the use, implementation, and real results of knowledge; that is, directed toward a specific practical purpose that leads to the invention of new devices, products, and methods.

This analysis is situated at a correlational level; according to Rivero et al. (9), this refers to establishing the level of connection or link between 2 or more factors or categories in a specific context. These analyses can establish relationships between 2 or more factors, depending on the depth and complexity of the study.

Population and sample

Population

According to Condori (10), it refers to the components or aspects that can be examined in the specific context in which the research is carried out. In this particular study, the population consisted of 384 customers of multiple banks in the city of Tarapoto, such as BBVA, BCP, Interbank, Scotiabank, and Banbif.

Inclusion criteria

Customers of Multiple Banking in Tarapoto

Exclusion Criteria

Multiple Banking clients who do not belong to the San Martín region

Sample

In other words, as indicated by Condori (10), the sample is a group of people who share the same general characteristics as the total population and that serves as a significant representation of that population. In this specific research study, the sample is composed of 384 customers of multiple banking in Tarapoto, the formula that was applied for the calculation of the sample is detailed below:

$$N = \frac{Z_{\alpha}^2 * PQ}{e^2}$$

Where:

n: sample

Z: Z value at 95 % confidence (1,96)

q: odds of failure

p: proportion of probability of success (0,50)

e: maximum error of the estimator (0,05)

$$n = \frac{1.96^2 * 0.5(0.5)}{0.05^2}$$

$$n = \frac{3.8416 * 0.25}{0.0025}$$

$$n = \frac{0.9604}{0.0025}$$

$$n = 384$$

Analytical, sampling, and experimental design

The present research study will have a non-experimental, cross-sectional, correlational design, according to Mamani (8); in other words, its main objective is to determine the relationship or association between two or more factors measured in a single group or in several groups at a single point in time. On some occasions, this type of analysis can be extended to identify cause-and-effect relationships.

RESULTS

General result

Before the Pearson correlation was performed, a data normality test was conducted, which indicated a normal distribution of the data; therefore, the corresponding parametric test was applied.

Table 2. General correlation test

		Customer retention
Digital personalization	C. Pearson	0.741**
	Sig.	0,000

Interpretation

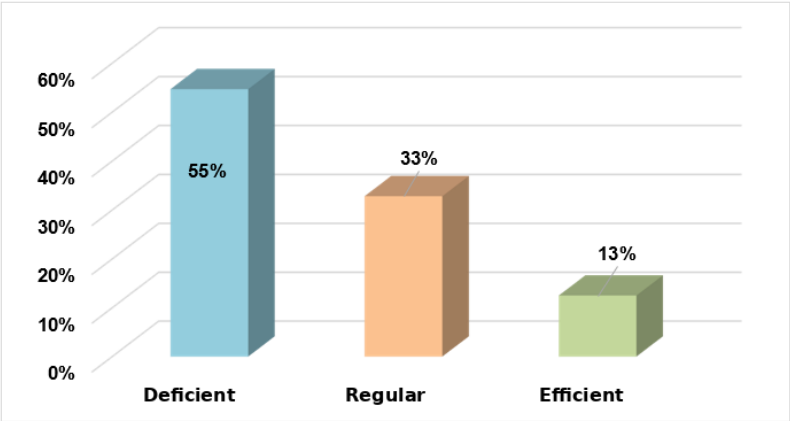
Regarding the general objective, the Pearson correlation test was applied to measure the relationship between the study variables. Likewise, a relationship between the variables was indeed identified, with a value of 0.741, and it was also significant, with a value of 0.000. Therefore, the research hypothesis was accepted, which states the existence of a significant relationship between digital personalization and customer retention.

Specific result 1

Table 3. Descriptive analysis of digital personalization

Rating	Range from	Up to	Freq.	%
Deficient	27	62	210	55
Regular	63	98	126	33
Efficient	99	135	48	13
Total			384	100

Figure 6. Descriptive analysis of digital personalization



Interpretation

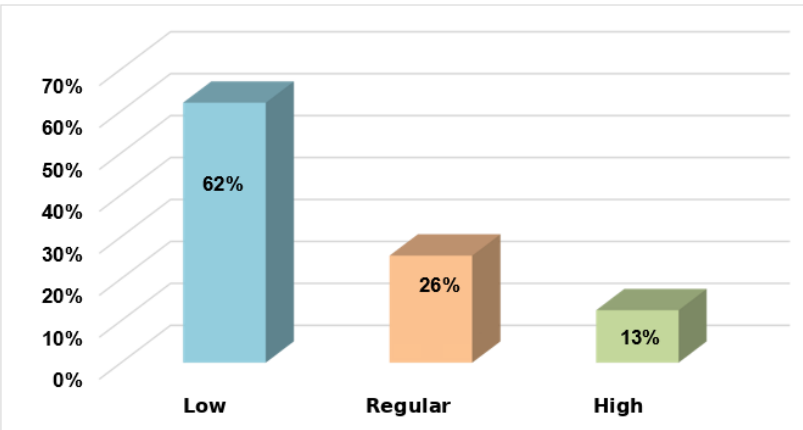
The table shows the behavior of the digital personalization variable, where it is observed that 55% of customers stated that it is at a deficient level, 33% at a regular level, and only 13% at an efficient level.

Specific result 2

Table 4. Descriptive analysis of customer retention

Rating	Range from	Up to	Freq.	%
Low	27	62	238	62
Regular	63	98	98	26
High	99	135	48	13
Total			384	100

Figure 7. Descriptive analysis of customer retention



Interpretation
The table shows that 62% of customers mentioned that they are at a low level regarding customer retention, 26% at a regular level, and only 13% at a high level.
Specific result 3

Figure 8. Correlation between content customization and customer retention

	Customer retention	
Content customization	C. Pearson	0.689**
	Sig.	0.000

Interpretation
To determine the relationship between the content customization dimension and the customer retention variable, a significant relationship is observed between them, which allows specific research hypothesis 3 to be accepted, since the correlation value is 0.689.
Specific result 4
Interpretation
The table shows that, according to the correlation analysis performed, there is a significant relationship between the device adaptation dimension and the customer retention variable, with a value of 0.663; therefore, specific hypothesis 4 is accepted.

Table 5. Correlation between device adaptation and customer retention

		Customer retention
Device adaptation	C. Pearson	0.663**
	Sig.	0,000

Specific result 5
Interpretation
It is very important to point out that when performing the correlation analysis between the intelligent interaction dimension and the customer retention variable, it is observed that there is a significant relationship with a value of 0.853, thus accepting specific hypothesis 5.

Table 6. Correlation between intelligent interaction and customer retention

		Customer retention
Intelligent interaction	C. Pearson	0.853**
	Sig.	0,000

DISCUSSION

It is important to note that the concept of digital personalization is subject to the author Vargas (5), who mentions that digital personalization attempts to establish a link between the company and the customer. Essentially, this strategy aspires to view people as individual beings, rather than mere consumers represented by an economic figure. Furthermore, it is the process of adapting a user's online experience based on their behaviors, preferences, interests, and demographic data through advanced technologies and algorithms; digital platforms and services can offer content, advertising, products, and recommendations specific to each individual user.(36,37,38,39,40,41,42)
When comparing the results of the variable's behavior, it is observed that it is at a deficient level, and when these are compared with Coloma (11), he states that the findings reveal that most participants have a bank account or two at different institutions. Likewise, 96 % have a mobile phone with internet connection and 92 % have used online banking services. These data suggest that Ecuador has a favorable environment for introducing a fully digital bank.(43,44,45,46,47,48,49)
A large part of the population is already familiar with online banking services and has internet access. Although only 57 % are willing to use a bank without physical offices, this figure is likely to increase if a social media campaign is launched that highlights the security and reliability of the service.(50,51,52,53,54,55,56)

Likewise, regarding the customer retention variable, the concept refers to the business strategy focused on retaining customers who are already using a company's products or services instead of losing them to competitors or other alternatives. This entails implementing actions and policies aimed at building lasting relationships with existing customers, fostering their loyalty, and ensuring that they continue to purchase the company's products or services on an ongoing basis.(12) Regarding the results of this variable, it is observed that it is at a low level, and these results, when compared with Chávez et al.(13), mention that the data suggest that the work of supervisors is not viewed favorably by customers due to problems such as lack of inventory and inattention. Supervisors, being the direct responsible parties, should address these issues. In summary, the proposed marketing approach seeks to ensure adequate inventory to satisfy the customer and prevent them from turning to the competition. It is relevant to add that this project is feasible because it promises to be profitable and sustainable, with an investment recovery in the following three years after its implementation.(57,58,59,60,61,62,63)

Regarding the analysis of the behavior of the relationships between the dimensions of the digital personalization variable and the customer retention variable, it is observed that the intelligent interaction dimension obtained the highest correlation index, and when these results were compared with Suarez (14), the hypothesis test results, using Spearman's Rho, indicated a correlation coefficient of 0,481 and a Sig. (Bilateral) = 0,001 for the general hypothesis, which leads to rejecting the null hypothesis and accepting the alternative. For the first three specific hypotheses, the correlation coefficients were 0,452, 0,484, and 0,570, respectively, all with a Sig. (Bilateral) = 0,000, resulting in the rejection of the null hypotheses and acceptance of the alternatives. For the last specific hypothesis, the coefficient was 0,407 with a Sig. (Bilateral) = 0,000, which also confirmed the rejection of the null hypothesis and acceptance of the alternative. In conclusion, a relationship between loyalty strategies and customer retention is evidenced.(64,65,66,67,68,69,70)

Likewise, Pérez (15), the findings revealed that the typical profile of a digital banking user is a young person, since this population adapts more rapidly to technological innovations. In summary, through adequate financial education, people can appropriately use the digital tools that banks provide, thus favoring effective financial inclusion, especially when digital banking in Peru is on the rise.(71,72,73,74,75)

Lastly, Lodeiros (16) aimed to explore the connection between service quality in digital banking platforms, the level of user satisfaction, and their brand engagement behavior (CEB). An empirical analysis was carried out with users of these platforms. Through data analysis, descriptive statistics were obtained and Spearman's correlation was determined among the aforementioned variables. This inquiry provides insight into the preferences of users of different banking platforms in Latin America. Moreover, it reveals that not all platforms have the same relevance for users and confirms a strong relationship among user satisfaction, digital service quality, and CEB. Finally, it became evident that banking customers often use several digital platforms simultaneously, highlighting the need to comprehensively analyze the service quality of all the digital tools that a bank provides (76,77,78).

CONCLUSIONS

After applying the correlation analysis, it is observed that there is a significant relationship between the digital personalization variable and customer retention; this demonstrates the great importance of digital personalization, because it plays a crucial role in the contemporary world, since it is essential for brands to distinguish themselves from others, because a strategy to achieve this is by personalizing the products and services they offer, which establishes an emotional bond between the customer and the brand.

Regarding the behavior of the digital personalization variable, it is shown that it is at a deficient level because the variable does not cover various fields, from product recommendation in e-commerce to content adaptation on social media, transforming the way companies relate to their audiences in the digital era.

At the same time, regarding the results of the customer retention variable, it is observed that it is at a low level, because there is no high customer retention, since this reduces the costs of acquiring new customers and increases long-term revenues. Therefore, retention is key to the profitability and sustained growth of any institution or company.

Regarding the result of measuring the correlation between the content customization di-

mension, it was possible to identify that there is a significant relationship between the dimension and the customer retention variable; this means that the better the content customization, the better the customer retention.

Likewise, regarding the relationship of the device adaptation dimension, it is demonstrated that there is indeed a significant relationship with the customer retention variable; this demonstrates that the better multiple banking customers adapt to the device, the better customer retention will be.

Lastly, regarding the results of the intelligent interaction dimension, it is observed that there is a significant relationship with the customer retention variable; this demonstrates that the better the intelligent interaction of customers of multiple banking in Tarapoto, the better the customer acquisition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is important for multiple banking in Tarapoto to emphasize digital personalization, since this strategy aspires to view people as individual beings, rather than mere consumers represented by an economic figure. Moreover, it allows adapting to a user's online experience based on their behaviors, preferences, interests, and demographic data; through advanced technologies and algorithms, digital platforms and services can offer content, advertising, products, and recommendations specific to each individual user.

Regarding customers, multiple banking in Tarapoto must carry out actions and policies that seek to build lasting relationships with existing customers, fostering their loyalty and ensuring that they continue to purchase products or services from the company on a continuous basis.

It is important to note that multiple banking that improves content customization, that is, that relevant content is presented, personalized offers are provided, and above all that adaptable recommendations exist, that is, personalized suggestions for customers that are continuously adjusted based on the behavior, interactions, preferences, and/or feedback of these users.

As for device adaptation, the multiple banking sector of Tarapoto must be concerned with implementing the Responsive Design strategy, which focuses on web design and development; at the same time, it must be concerned with improving cross-platform support, that is, software, applications, or content designed to run on multiple operating systems or devices without requiring specific modifications for each of them.

Likewise, multiple banking must engage in intelligent interactions, that is, improve virtual assistants, chatbots, and instant messaging, since these interactions can provide more enriching and contextual experiences for users, anticipating their needs, understanding their intentions, and responding in a more human and natural way.

Lastly, it is necessary that multiple banking thoroughly review how its customers are doing, whether they are satisfied or whether expectations are being met, and, above all, the perceived value they have toward the company; it is therefore necessary; customer retention is incredibly important to grow a sustainable business in a highly competitive environment; marketing specialists are increasingly convinced that it is much more profitable to do

that customers never find themselves on the company's exit path, which leads to more and more retention strategies being implemented.

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