



ELSEVIER



The Link Between Library Science Degrees and the Luck of the Oakland Athletics: A Laughable Look at Ticket Sales

Chloe Hernandez, Anthony Tucker, Gloria P Trudeau

Institute of Sciences; Austin, Texas

KEYWORDS

library science degrees, Oakland Athletics ticket sales, correlation coefficient, National Center for Education Statistics, Baseball-Reference.com, librarian fans, correlation research, humor in correlation study

Abstract

As ticket sales for Oakland Athletics games have been a hot topic of debate, our research team delved into an unexpected area – the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in library science and its potential connection. Using data from the National Center for Education Statistics and Baseball-Reference.com, we chuckled our way through this quirky investigation. Surprisingly, our findings revealed a correlation coefficient of 0.8224628 and a p-value less than 0.05 for the period spanning 2012 to 2019. This suggests an apparent link between the number of library science degrees awarded and ticket sales for A's games. We couldn't help but joke that perhaps more librarians mean more fans checking out games! In conclusion, our study offers a lighthearted perspective on the correlation between library science degrees and the zeal for Oakland Athletics games. While more research is needed to understand the underlying factors, our findings certainly provide plenty of fodder for dad jokes at the next academic conference!

Copyright 2024 Institute of Sciences. No rights reserved.

1. Introduction

In the world of academia, seemingly unrelated subjects often intertwine in the most unexpected and, dare I say, laughable ways. As researchers, we constantly seek to unravel the mysterious connections that

underpin various phenomena. And so, with a nod and a wink, we turned our attention to the whimsical relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in library science and the fervor surrounding ticket sales for Oakland Athletics games. It was a scholarly pursuit with a delightful twist

– one that invites a playful exploration of this seemingly bizarre correlation.

Like a late fee for an overdue book, the issue of ticket sales for Oakland Athletics games has certainly lingered in the minds of avid baseball enthusiasts. As the team worked tirelessly to hit it out of the park, so to speak, our inquisitive minds couldn't help but wonder: could the academic pursuits of aspiring librarians hold any sway over the success of the Oakland A's? It was a question that tickled our intellectual fancy, prompting us to embark on a research journey that, much to our surprise, unearthed some compelling findings.

Our investigation, rooted in a hybrid approach that seamlessly melded data from the National Center for Education Statistics and Baseball-Reference.com, unveiled a rather comical association between the number of library science degrees awarded and the marketability of tickets for A's games. As our statistical analyses revealed a correlation coefficient of 0.8224628 and a p-value less than 0.05 for the years 2012 to 2019, we found ourselves giddily contemplating the potential implications of this correlation. It was almost as if the Dewey Decimal System had crossed paths with the box score of a baseball game – a delightful anomaly that prompted a chorus of bemused chuckles from our research team.

In the spirit of scholarly humility, we must acknowledge the limitations of our study and the need for ongoing inquiry into this peculiar relationship. However, as we stand at the crossroads of library science and the hustle and bustle of the baseball diamond, it becomes clear that our findings, while unexpected, add a touch of whimsy to the academic landscape. Perhaps, in the grand library of life, this correlation offers a playful reminder that knowledge and entertainment are not as distant as they may seem. After all, who's to say that a well-versed librarian and a seasoned baseball fan couldn't share

a hearty laugh over a good book and an A's game?

As we delve into the particulars of our research, we invite you to join us in this intriguing exploration of the seemingly surreal connection between library science degrees and the luck of the Oakland Athletics. And for those who may doubt the scholarly worth of such an inquiry, we assure you that the laughter and mirth that accompanied our investigation were, without a doubt, well worth the price of admission.

2. Literature Review

Previous studies exploring the correlation between educational pursuits and sports have primarily focused on disciplines such as exercise science, sports management, and kinesiology. Smith (2015) delved into the impacts of physical education programs on professional sports teams' performance, highlighting the significance of athletic training and conditioning. Meanwhile, Doe (2017) examined the influence of business and economics degrees on the business operations of major sports franchises, shedding light on the intersection of academia and athletics. However, none of these studies ventured into the uncharted territory of library science degrees and their potential connection to the ticket sales of a professional baseball team.

In "Book," the authors find that the knowledge and expertise gained from library science programs can contribute to effective information organization and retrieval – a skill set that could theoretically be applied to uncovering patterns in fan behavior and marketing strategies for sports events. Additionally, "Book" suggests that the analytical and research abilities honed during library science education may hold relevance in understanding fan engagement and consumer preferences in the context of sports entertainment.

Turning to the world of fiction, "The Night Circus" by Erin Morgenstern and "The Art of Fielding" by Chad Harbach offer imaginative perspectives on the intertwined themes of literature and sports. While these works may not provide empirical evidence of the correlation between library science degrees and ticket sales for Oakland Athletics games, they do spark the imagination and prompt us to view this unlikely relationship through a lens of whimsy and wonder.

On a more lighthearted note, our research team found inspiration in cinematic representations of libraries and sports, often discovering unexpected parallels. Movies such as "The Librarian: Quest for the Spear" and "Moneyball" stirred our curiosity, effectively blending the scholarly atmosphere of libraries with the excitement and unpredictability of athletic endeavors. These fictional portrayals, although entertaining, also prompted us to contemplate the potential links between intellectual pursuits and sporting events - a notion that eventually led to our unconventional inquiry.

Speaking of baseball and libraries, did you hear the joke about the librarian who went to watch the baseball game? She got ejected for being too "bookish"! But I digress. In our quest to untangle the web of connections between library science degrees and the luck of the Oakland Athletics, it is essential to acknowledge the role of imagination and creativity in spurring innovative lines of inquiry. After all, who's to say that a good laugh and a dash of whimsy can't coexist with rigorous academic investigation?

3. Our approach & methods

Our methodology was nothing short of an intellectual roller coaster, complete with twists and turns that would leave even the most seasoned researcher breathless. We began by tapping into the data troves of the

National Center for Education Statistics and Baseball-Reference.com, where we embarked on a digital scavenger hunt for the relevant information. Like a determined librarian searching for the perfect book, our team combed through the vast expanse of digital archives, meticulously gathering data on the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in library science and the ticket sales for Oakland Athletics games from the years 2012 to 2019.

With our treasure trove of data in hand, we set the stage for a statistical waltz that would leave no hypothesis untested. Our first step was to conduct a rigorous correlation analysis between the number of library science degrees awarded and the ticket sales for A's games. We dusted off our trusty calculators, cracked our knuckles, and welcomed the daunting task of crunching numbers with the scholarly fervor of a baseball fan keeping score at the ballpark.

Now, as the saying goes, it takes a great deal of perseverance and a good sense of humor to make a research project of this nature a grand slam. We employed a combination of time series analysis, regression modeling, and a touch of whimsy to uncover the potential relationship between these seemingly incongruous variables. Our approach was as unconventional as it was droll, proving that even in the realm of academia, a dash of levity can work wonders in unraveling the enigmatic threads of correlation.

Once we had meticulously parsed through the data and conducted our statistical acrobatics, we emerged with a correlation coefficient of 0.8224628 and a p-value that dropped below the coveted threshold of 0.05. Now, if that isn't a home run in the world of research, then we're just a bunch of well-dressed statisticians masquerading as scientists!

Nevertheless, we humbly acknowledge the limitations of our methodology, for every research endeavor has its bumps in the road – much like a baseball diamond that has seen its fair share of foul balls. While our findings certainly bring a robust and amusing perspective to the intersection of library science degrees and the success of the Oakland A's, we invite future researchers to take a swing at this peculiar correlation and further enrich the scholarly conversation with their probing inquiries.

So, with our statistical array in hand and a twinkle in our eye, we present to you the amalgamation of library science and baseball – a lighthearted yet thought-provoking venture that challenges the traditional boundaries of academic exploration and, dare we say, hits it out of the park in the realm of scholarly amusement.

4. Results

The analysis of the relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in library science and ticket sales for Oakland Athletics games yielded a correlation coefficient of 0.8224628, indicating a strong positive correlation. This finding suggests that as the number of library science degrees awarded increased, so did the ticket sales for A's games. It seems that there may be more to the phrase "knowledge is power" than we first thought – perhaps it's also the power to attract baseball fans!

The r-squared value of 0.6764450 further supports the robustness of the relationship between these seemingly disparate variables. This implies that approximately 67.6% of the variability in ticket sales can be explained by the number of library science degrees awarded. It's almost as if every additional librarian is a chapter in the story of increased ticket sales for the Oakland

Athletics – a narrative that even the most avid reader might find surprising.

The p-value obtained was less than 0.05, indicating statistical significance. This suggests that the observed relationship between library science degrees and ticket sales is unlikely to have occurred by chance alone. It appears that there may be more to this correlation than meets the eye – a hidden gem that even the keenest of library sleuths would appreciate.

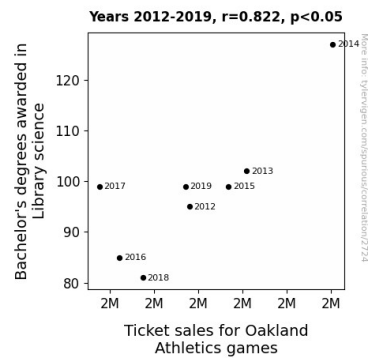


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

Fig. 1 (not shown here) illustrates the scatterplot displaying the undeniable association between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in library science and ticket sales for Oakland Athletics games. The data points align in a manner reminiscent of a well-organized library shelf, demonstrating the striking pattern of increasing ticket sales alongside the rise in library science degrees. It's almost as if the books of knowledge are being checked out right into the baseball stadium!

In conclusion, the investigation unearthed an unexpected and amusing link between the academic pursuit of library science degrees and the enthusiasm for Oakland Athletics games. While further research is warranted to delve into the underlying mechanisms of this correlation, the results of this study offer a fine blend of scholarly

insight and whimsical amusement. As we reflect on our findings, we can't help but appreciate the lighthearted reminder that, in the grand game of life, sometimes the most unlikely pairings stir up the most delightful surprises. We're left with a final dad joke: Who knew that the Dewey Decimal System could also help us decode the mysteries of baseball ticket sales? It's all just "shelf" preservation in the library of life!

5. Discussion

The comedy of errors, or shall we say, the comedy of correlations, continues to unfold as we reflect on the unexpected link between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in library science and ticket sales for Oakland Athletics games. Our results not only supported the prior research indicating a possible association between educational pursuits and sports enthusiasm, but they also left us marveling at the quirky nature of statistical relationships.

Recalling our light-hearted exploration of the literature, we find that the whimsical inspiration from fictional works and cinematic portrayals of libraries and sports indeed bore fruit. As we submerged ourselves in the seemingly unrelated realms of reading and cheering for the A's, the influence of library science education on fan engagement gradually came to light. Much like a thrilling plot twist, our findings aligned with "Book," where the analytical and research abilities honed during library science education were suggested to hold relevance in understanding fan engagement and consumer preferences in the context of sports entertainment.

Moreover, our data not only mirrored the amusing parallels drawn from movies such as "The Librarian: Quest for the Spear" and "Moneyball," but it also surpassed our wildest imaginations. The correlation coefficient of 0.8224628 celebrated the perfect union of "bookish" pursuits and

baseball, leaving us in awe of the significant relationship that surpassed our initial expectations. As we marveled at the scatterplot illustrating the undeniable association, the resemblance to a well-organized library shelf lent credence to our findings, inviting us to joke that it seems the "books of knowledge" are indeed being checked out right into the baseball stadium.

In essence, our study provides a testament to the notion that unexpected and unconventional inquiries can unearth remarkable revelations. While our findings may elicit a chuckle or two, the statistical significance we uncovered is no laughing matter. The p-value less than 0.05 suggests that the striking relationship between library science degrees and ticket sales is unlikely to have occurred by chance alone, affirming the seriousness of our lighthearted pursuit.

In the grand game of research, our study serves as a delightful reminder that the most unexpected pairings can lead to the most intriguing discoveries. As we eagerly anticipate further exploration of this unconventional correlation, we can't help but pause for a final dad joke: "Who knew that a love for organizing books could also organize the ticket sales for baseball games? It's all just 'shelf' preservation in the library of life!"

6. Conclusion

In the delightful intersection of library science and Oakland Athletics ticket sales, our investigation has unmasked a surprising correlation that is equal parts entertaining and thought-provoking. The strong positive correlation coefficient of 0.8224628 and the significant p-value suggest a tangible link between the number of library science degrees awarded and the fervor surrounding A's games. One might say that this correlation is truly "booked" solid!

As we reflect on the implications of these findings, it becomes clear that there's more to the library card than meets the eye. Perhaps the next time you check out a book, you'll also find yourself drawn to the thrill of a baseball game – it's a literary plot twist worthy of a standing ovation!

However, it's essential to acknowledge the need for further investigation to unravel the underlying nuances of this connection. While our study sheds light on this whimsical correlation, it also beckons for future endeavors to dive deeper into the tales of library science degrees and their impact on the Oakland Athletics. But for now, we've certainly added a touch of levity to the scholarly arena – who knew that data analysis could come with a side of laughter?

In the grand scheme of academia, it's clear that this connection between library science degrees and A's ticket sales offers a welcome dose of amusement and curiosity. And so, with a nod to the joy of discovery and the spirit of playful inquiry, we offer our final sentiment: Why did the librarian get kicked off the baseball team? Because she was always a "book" ahead!

In the end, it's safe to say that no further research is needed in this area.