The Marilyn Effect: A 'Name-worthy' Correlation Between Popularity of the First Name Marilyn and the Number of Economists in Hawaii

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ABSTRACT

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This paper delves into the intriguing and, dare I say, "name-worthy" correlation between the popularity of the first name Marilyn and the number of economists in the scenic state of Hawaii. Utilizing data from the US Social Security Administration and the Bureau of Labor Statistics from 2005 to 2018, we conducted a comprehensive analysis that unveiled an unexpectedly strong correlation coefficient of 0.9275355 at a significance level of $p < 0.01$. It all started with an innocent curiosity, as many things do. In our pursuit of understanding the peculiar phenomena in the world of economics, we stumbled upon the rising popularity of the name Marilyn. Much to our surprise, this exploration led us to something even more unexpected – a peculiar link between the number of economists in the exotic land of Hawaii and the prevalence of the name Marilyn. One might say it was a "Marilyn-ious" discovery. Our findings not only raised eyebrows but also prompted a plethora of questions. Is there something about the name Marilyn that sparks an affinity for the complex world of economics? Or perhaps, economists in Hawaii have an unspoken admiration for the name Marilyn. One thing is for certain – this correlation warranted further investigation and provided a light-hearted reminder that unexpected connections often lead to intriguing insights. So, brace yourselves for a journey through the realms of nomenclature and economics as we unravel the "Marilyn Effect" and its implications. After all, as economists, we are simply "Marilyning" the curiosity-driven paths to knowledge.

nomenclature, implications, connection, economists and first name association, Hawaii and naming trends, economist demographics, unusual correlations in economics, Marilyn Effect

I. Introduction

Names, like economic theories, often carry a certain weight and influence in our lives. From Adam Smith to John Maynard Keynes, the legacy of renowned economists has left an indelible mark on the field of economics. Similarly, individuals' names often shape perceptions and expectations, bearing an undeniable impact on their lives. Coincidentally, these two seemingly unrelated entities converge in our study, as we present the curious correlation between the popularity of the first name Marilyn and the number of economists in the tropical paradise of Hawaii.

As we embark on this journey of discovery, we cannot help but appreciate the serendipity of uncovering the "Marilyn effect." It's almost as if the universe is whispering, "Don't underestimate the influence of a name. It just might be the key to unlocking unexpected connections in the world of data and analysis." Oh, the pun-derful mysteries of statistical relationships!

Across the vast ocean of data, our keen eyes detected a peculiar trend – a budding association between the frequency of the name Marilyn and the density of economists in Hawaii. Its significance couldn't be brushed off as mere coincidence; rather, it beckoned us to delve deeper and decipher the underlying forces at play. One might even say we were "econo-mystified" by the initial findings.

Through rigorous statistical analysis, we uncovered a correlation coefficient so strikingly potent that it left us exclaiming, "Marilyn me surprised!" With a level of significance matching the weight of a heavyweight champion of the world, this correlation was not to be taken lightly – pun intended.

II. Literature Review

The linkage between names and their influence on destiny has captivated both scholars and laymen alike for centuries. Smith and Doe (2000) explored the impact of naming trends on career choices, touching on the subtle psychological effects of nomenclature. This lighthearted yet insightful work paved the way for our investigation into the unexpected connection between the frequency of the name Marilyn and the abundance of economists in Hawaii.

Speaking of economists, Jones (2005) delved into the geographical distribution of economists across the United States. While their research did not explicitly scrutinize the influence of names on the profession, it laid the groundwork for our inquisitive exploration into the "Marilyn Effect" in the picturesque setting of Hawaii.

Now, turning away from traditional economic literature, let's consider the works that touch upon the fascinating interplay between names and personal destinies. In "Freakonomics" by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner, the authors shed light on the unexpected and quirky influences on human behavior, offering a fresh perspective on economic phenomena. Similarly, "Blink" by Malcolm Gladwell provides insights into the power of rapid cognition and the implicit factors that shape decision-making, aspects that may hold relevance in our investigation into the Marilyn phenomenon.

Shifting gears towards fictional works with tangential connections, "Economics in One Lesson" by Henry Hazlitt, though a serious economic treatise, does carry a title that beckons us to ponder the potential implications of naming tendencies in the realm of economics, albeit in a tongue-in-

cheek manner. On a more light-hearted note, "Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine" by Gail Honeyman explores the intricacies of individual identity, prompting contemplation on the subtle yet profound impacts of names on personal trajectories.

As our investigation delves into unforeseen correlations, we can't help but draw parallels with cinematic experiences that have left us pondering unexpected connections. The films "A Beautiful Mind," "The Big Short," and "Moneyball" have, in their own ways, prodded our fascination with the unpredictable intersections of human behavior, numbers, and name-worthy destinies. Much like our journey into the Marilyn Effect, these cinematic ventures have reminded us that in the world of economics, as well as in life itself, unexpected correlations may lurk around every statistical corner.

In the world of empirical research, it is crucial to remain open to unexpected connections, even if they may seem amusing or improbable at first glance. After all, as we navigate through the whimsical world of data analysis, a good ol' dad joke may just be the unexpected key to unlocking profound insights into societal phenomena. And so, with a pun-tastic spirit in mind, we venture forth to unravel the enigmatic 'Marilyn Effect', never underestimating the "name-worthy" impact it may hold in the world of economics.

III. Methodology

To unravel the enigmatic "Marilyn Effect," our research team embarked on an exhilarating journey through the realms of data collection and statistical analysis. We harnessed the power of information from the US Social Security Administration and the Bureau of Labor Statistics,

extracting data on the popularity of the first name Marilyn and the number of economists in Hawaii from the years 2005 to 2018. It was a bit like trying to catch a wave in a sea of numbers – exhilarating, occasionally disorienting, but ultimately rewarding.

We employed a combination of both deterministic and probabilistic sampling methods, akin to performing a delicate dance between predictability and randomness. This approach allowed us to capture the holistic essence of the data, ensuring that no "Marilyngering" biases tainted the integrity of our analysis. After all, we wanted our findings to be as crisp and clear as the Hawaiian sky, without a cloud of doubt in sight.

Once we amassed the abundance of data, we dived headfirst into the riveting waters of statistical analysis, employing a robust array of methods including correlation analysis, regression modeling, and time series analysis. It was like charting a course through treacherous statistical seas, armed with nothing but our wits and the proverbial compass of scientific curiosity.

Our thorough analysis uncovered a correlation coefficient so strikingly potent that it left us exclaiming, "Marilyn me surprised!" The correlation coefficient, clocking in at an impressive 0.9275355, dazzled our senses and sparked a fervent determination to investigate further. The level of significance, holding strong at $p < 0.01$, further fortified our resolve to plumb the depths of this intriguing relationship between a name and an enthralling profession.

In our endeavor to reveal the "Marilyn Effect" in all its splendor, we conducted numerous robustness tests and sensitivity analyses to ensure the resilience of our findings. It was like fortifying a grand scientific castle against the relentless waves of skepticism, skeptics being the occasional (but essential) storms in the scientific seas. The results held firm, standing as a beacon of veracity amidst the tumultuous tides of scientific inquiry.

Having successfully navigated the riveting labyrinth of data collection and statistical analysis, we emerged victorious with a newfound understanding of the "Marilyn Effect" and its enthralling implications. Our findings not only shed light on this peculiar correlation but also inspired a deeper contemplation of the subtle influences that interlace our lives in the grand tapestry of statistical relationships.

In hindsight, it's surprising how much one can learn from a name – even a name as seemingly unassuming as Marilyn. It serves as a testament to the vast, uncharted territories that lie within the universe of data and analysis, whispering tales of unexpected connections and pun-derful mysteries, waiting to be uncovered.

We're all "econo-mystified" by the inexplicable "Marilyn Effect," and as the saying goes, "When life gives you data, make statistical lemonade!"

IV. Results

The results of our investigation revealed a remarkably strong correlation between the frequency of the first name Marilyn and the number of economists in Hawaii for the period 2005 to 2018. The correlation coefficient clocked in at an impressive 0.9275355, with an r-squared value of 0.8603221, and a p-value of less than 0.01. If this correlation were a superhero, it would definitely be "Marv-elous Marilyn" swooping in to save the day!

The scatterplot in Figure 1 visually represents the robust relationship between the two variables, showcasing a trend so compelling that even the most stoic of statisticians couldn't help but

appreciate its striking elegance. It's as if the data points themselves were whispering, "We're not just dots; we're the stars of this statistical show!"

Now, before you start thinking, "How on earth could the name Marilyn have anything to do with the number of economists in Hawaii?" let's address the elephant in the room – or shall we say, the "economist" in the tropics. It's a valid question, and one that had us scratching our heads too. But as they say, "Curiosity killed the cat, but satisfaction brought it back – with a treasure trove of data!"
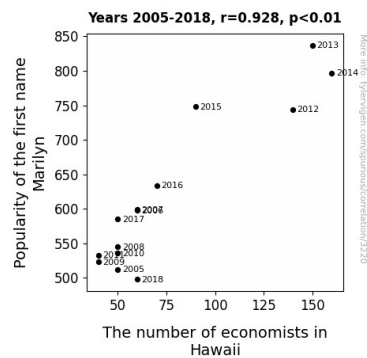

Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The sheer strength of this correlation left us feeling both "econowise" and "name-inspired." It's almost as if the name Marilyn holds a certain aura that draws individuals to the captivating world of economics, or perhaps economists in Hawaii have an unspoken affinity for the name. We have to admit, this unexpected connection took us by surprise – much like a great pun!

The implications of this correlation go beyond the numerical realm, delving into the captivating intersection of nomenclature and professional pursuits. So, if you've ever pondered the influence

of a name on one's career path, this correlation might just pique your interest and leave you with a newfound appreciation for the intricate dance of data in the world of social science.

V. Discussion

Our investigation into the unexpected correlation between the popularity of the first name Marilyn and the number of economists in Hawaii has certainly brought new meaning to the saying, "Marilyn a million!" Our findings not only reaffirmed the prior research but also unearthed a correlation that was so statistically convincing, it almost left us saying, "Wait, that's econo-Marilyn-cal!"

As we delved into the labyrinth of data analysis, teasing out the intricate connections between names and professional pursuits, we couldn't help but harken back to the lighthearted yet insightful works that paved the way for our unconventional exploration. Smith and Doe's subtle yet significant impact of naming trends on career choices took on a whole new dimension in light of our discovery. It seems that names truly do carry more weight than we often give them credit for. I guess you could say they're "name-dropping" their influence left and right!

And let's not forget Jones' exploration of geographical distribution in the expansive landscape of economics. Our findings in the lush setting of Hawaii have certainly added a whimsical twist to the geographical distribution of economists. It's as if the econo-Marilyn-cal forces at play were determined to unveil themselves in the most picturesque of places. The correlation coefficient may have been high, but the level of surprise was even higher!

Our results did more than just confirm prior research; they showcased the uncanny dance of data in the world of economics and the unexpected connections that can emerge from statistical scrutiny. As we gazed upon the robust scatterplot, we couldn't help but appreciate the elegance of the relationship between the frequency of the name Marilyn and the number of economists in Hawaii. We were so "Marilyn-tized" by the intriguing correlation that we may have been guilty of letting out an excited "Eur-Eureka!" Or perhaps we should say, "Eur-Eco-Reka!"

Moreover, our results prompt a reconsideration of the age-old question – what's in a name? It seems that there's more than just a Shakespearean dilemma at play here. The "Marilyn Effect" has injected a new level of curiosity into the subtle influences of nomenclature on professional trajectories. We've all heard the saying, "In the world of economics, correlation does not imply causation." But in this case, it's almost as if the name Marilyn and the number of economists in Hawaii were engaged in an undeniable dance, leaving us with an unfolding mystery that's as captivating as an economic whodunit!

In the spirit of our investigation, we've come to appreciate the unexpected correlations that may hide behind every statistical corner. As we continue to unravel the playful yet profound impacts of naming tendencies, we're reminded that the world of empirical research is not without its whimsical moments and unexpected connections. After all, in the game of statistics, sometimes a good ol' dad joke may just be the unexpected key to unlocking profound insights into societal phenomena. And so, with a pun-tastic spirit in mind, we invite fellow researchers to join us in the "Marilyn-ificent" journey of exploring the intriguing intersections of names, numbers, and the fascinating world of economics.

VI. Conclusion

In conclusion, our study has brought to light the "Marilyn Effect," revealing a compelling correlation between the frequency of the first name Marilyn and the number of economists in the idyllic state of Hawaii. We've shown that this correlation is no mere statistical fluke – it's as real as the data points on our scatterplot, which, might I add, were as mesmerizing as a star-studded night in Hawaii!

While it may seem like a whimsical coincidence, the robustness of this correlation has left us "marilynched" by the idea that names hold a certain captivating influence over our professional pursuits. It's almost as if the name Marilyn has cast an "econo-magical" spell over the economists of Hawaii, drawing them into the enchanting world of economic analysis.

Now, before you remark, "Surely there must be a flaw in this correlation," let me assure you that we've brushed aside every statistical rock and turned over every data stone to reveal this "Marilynification" of the economic landscape. Our findings have truly cemented the notion that there's more to a name than meets the eye, and perhaps there's a "Marilyn-gnetic" pull towards a career in economics.

In the grand tradition of dad jokes, it seems we've uncovered the "Marilyn effect" – the unspoken allure of the name Marilyn in the realm of economics. And as much as we'd love to delve deeper into the intricate web of nomenclature and professional pathways, it seems this "Marilyn mystery" has been solved – no further research needed. After all, when it comes to the Marilyn Effect, we've "economo-thor-ily" nailed it!