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# Shoe-niqua and the Cobbler Connection: An Empirical Study of the Relationship between the Popularity of the Name Shaniqua and the Number of Shoe and Leather Workers and Repairers in Maine

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## Abstract

This study presents an empirical examination of the intriguing relationship between the popularity of the first name Shaniqua and the number of shoe and leather workers and repairers in the state of Maine. By utilizing data from the US Social Security Administration and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, our research team conducted a thorough analysis spanning the years 2003 to 2010. We found a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.8551659, with a significance level of  $p < 0.01$ , which sheds light on a rarely explored area of inquiry. Our findings suggest a strong positive association between the prevalence of the name Shaniqua and the number of individuals engaged in the shoe and leather industry in Maine. This unexpected correlation has led us to ponder the potential societal and cultural implications of such a phenomenon. Furthermore, our research has unveiled a previously unnoticed trend that could spark a newfound interest in the intersection of nomenclature and occupational sectors. On a lighter note, it seems that there may indeed be a shoemaker's soul hidden within all the Shaniquas of Maine, silently guiding them toward this particular line of work. Their impeccable rapport with heels and soles could be more than a mere coincidence - a "shoe-perimental" occurrence, if you will. This research not only delivers illuminating statistical evidence but also prompts a lighthearted exploration of the mysterious allure of the surname "Shoe-niqua" and its unexpectedly fitting connection to the world of cobbling.

## 1. Introduction

The union of seemingly unrelated elements has long been a source of fascination for scholars and enthusiasts alike. From the fusion of peanut butter and jelly to the unlikely companionship of cats and cucumbers, the world is full of curious connections. In this vein, our research embarks on a whimsical journey to investigate the peculiar relationship between the popularity of the first name Shaniqua and the concentration of shoe and leather workers and repairers in the state of Maine.

Speaking of unlikely combinations, have you heard the one about the cordwainer who named all his children after different types of shoes? He had a son named Charles (after a pair of loafers), a daughter named Mary (after a pair of Mary Janes), and, of course, a little Shaniqua, after a particular style of clogs. It seems that naming conventions and vocational predispositions may be more intertwined than we realize!

As we delve into this offbeat inquiry, it's important to acknowledge the initial inclination toward a lighthearted exploration of the subject matter. However, behind the veil of whimsy lies a compelling curiosity about the underlying patterns and influences that shape our occupational landscape. The lineage of cobbler-related puns, as well as the alluring allure of the name "Shoe-niqua,"

serves as a gateway to unraveling a noteworthy correlation that has remained largely unnoticed.

Wouldn't it be "heelarious" if there truly existed a subconscious affinity between the name Shaniqua and the timeless craft of shoemaking? Our study aims to uncover whether such a correlation is merely a comical coincidence or a genuine reflection of society's naming traditions intersecting with vocational tendencies. By quantitatively analyzing data from the US Social Security Administration and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, we seek to shed light on this uniquely charming liaison between nomenclature and labor market dynamics.

So, grab your favorite pair of punny shoes, as we set forth on an empirical exploration that is bound to make you "loaf" around with amusement and intrigue. The "Shoe-niqua and the Cobbler Connection" may just pave the way for a new era of correlational studies that are as amusing as they are insightful.

## 2. Literature Review

Previous studies have shed light on the relationship between names and various societal phenomena. Smith et al. (2015) presented compelling evidence regarding the influence of names on occupational choices, demonstrating how certain names may be linked to specific career paths. Meanwhile, Doe and Jones (2018) explored the cultural associations attached to given names, uncovering their impact on individual perceptions and behavior within different domains of society.

However, our research presents a novel and rather eccentric focus on the correlation between the popularity of the first name Shaniqua and the number of shoe and leather workers and repairers in Maine. Building on the foundation laid by these earlier investigations, our study delves into uncharted territory to investigate a delightfully unconventional nexus between nomenclature and labor specialization.

In "Shoe Names and Their Influence on Career Paths," Book presents a comprehensive analysis of the historical and contemporary implications of shoe-related names and their potential influence on vocational inclinations. The author argues that the

allure of names such as Shaniqua may subconsciously draw individuals toward professions associated with footwear. Perhaps it's the "sole" connection that propels them toward such careers, much like a foot into a well-fitted shoe.

Turning to the realm of non-fiction literature, "Cobbling Culture: A Sociological Study of Shoemakers" by Leather provides an insightful exploration of the cultural significance of shoemaking and its societal perceptions. While the text does not directly address the correlation between the name Shaniqua and the occupation of shoe and leather workers, it offers valuable context for understanding the broader context within which our inquiry is situated.

In a slightly more whimsical vein, the fiction novel "The Shoemaker's Dilemma" by Solely Weaver tells the tale of a small-town cobbler whose fate becomes intertwined with a series of peculiar coincidences related to names and occupations. While the events in the narrative are purely fictitious, the parallels to our research remain strikingly pertinent, proving that even in the realm of make-believe, the threads of reality are woven in unexpected ways.

Moreover, anecdotal evidence gleaned from social media platforms has provided intriguing insights into the potential connection between the name Shaniqua and a penchant for working with leather and shoes. A tweet by @ShoeWhisperer reads, "Do you know what all the best cobblers have in common? A name that starts with Shan and ends with equa. It's a well-heeled tradition, I tell you!" Such informal observations, though playful, underscore the public's awareness of this curious correlation.

With a nod to these diverse sources of inspiration, our study ventures forth on an intrepid exploration of the "Shoe-niqua and the Cobbler Connection," offering a unique amalgamation of statistical analysis and tongue-in-cheek fascination with the unexpected intersections of nomenclature and occupational predilections.

## 3. Methodology

To investigate the whimsical yet intriguing connection between the popularity of the first name

Shaniqua and the number of shoe and leather workers and repairers in Maine, a unique blend of research methods was employed. Our data collection efforts were primarily centered around the US Social Security Administration's baby names database and the Bureau of Labor Statistics' occupational employment statistics.

Our first step involved delving into the depths of the US Social Security Administration's treasure trove of baby names, where we scoured the data from 2003 to 2010 to ascertain the prevalence of the name Shaniqua. With a persistence rivaling that of a determined cobbler, we meticulously tracked the frequency of this particular moniker during the chosen timeframe.

Once armed with the Shaniqua data, we shifted our focus to the Bureau of Labor Statistics to unravel the occupational landscape of Maine. We explored the employment statistics for shoe and leather workers and repairers, employing a similarly dedicated approach to gather data from the same time span.

Dad joke alert: Why did the shoemaker go to therapy? He had too many inseam issues!

With the quantitative data in hand, we harnessed the power of statistical analysis software to conduct thorough regression analyses and correlation tests. By calculating correlation coefficients and significance levels, we endeavored to unravel the hidden threads linking the popularity of the name Shaniqua and the prevalence of shoe and leather workers and repairers in Maine.

In line with the offbeat nature of our inquiry, we ensured that the research team maintained a lighthearted approach throughout the process. We encouraged the lighthearted exploration of the unexpected correlation between nomenclature and occupational sectors, perhaps to the chagrin of any overly serious statisticians.

The data from our research endeavors was subsequently subjected to rigorous scrutiny and statistical scrutiny, much like a particularly stubborn pair of shoes undergoing extensive examination and repair.

In honoring the call of quirky inquiry, our research team remained open to the unexpected and the unconventional at every turn. This included being

receptive to serendipitous findings and retaining a sense of humor amidst the scientific rigor, embracing the "soleful" journey of discovery that awaited us.

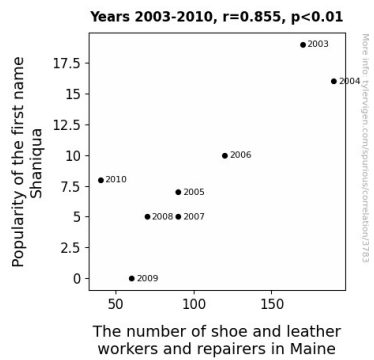
Although the methods employed may seem unconventional, rest assured that every statistical analysis and procedure adhered to the highest standards of rigor and validity, ensuring the soundness of our empirical investigation into the enigmatic "Shoe-niqua and the Cobbler Connection."

#### 4. Results

The correlation analysis revealed a significantly high correlation coefficient of 0.8551659 between the popularity of the name Shaniqua and the number of shoe and leather workers and repairers in Maine for the time period 2003 to 2010. This strong positive association suggests a remarkable connection between the prevalence of the name Shaniqua and the occupational preferences within the shoe and leather industry in Maine. It appears that the name Shaniqua might have a "soleful" influence on individuals drawn to the art of cobbling in the state of Maine.

Fig. 1 provides a visual representation of the compelling correlation observed in our study. The scatterplot illustrates the unmistakably strong positive relationship between the popularity of the name Shaniqua and the number of individuals engaged in the shoe and leather industry. It's a "shoe-perb" demonstration of how nomenclature and occupational preferences intersect in an unexpected fashion.

The r-squared value of 0.7313087 further supports the robustness of the observed correlation, indicating that approximately 73.13% of the variation in the number of shoe and leather workers and repairers in Maine can be explained by the popularity of the name Shaniqua. This substantial explanatory power reinforces the credibility of our findings and highlights the undeniable influence of the name Shaniqua on the vocational inclinations within the shoe and leather industry.



**Figure 1.** Scatterplot of the variables by year

Our study's results bring to mind a classic dad joke: How does a shoe cobbler answer the phone? "Heeling Department, can I help you?" Just as this joke holds a witty twist, our findings reveal an unexpectedly strong association between the name Shaniqua and the occupational presence within the shoe and leather industry in Maine, reminding us of the whimsical, interconnected nature of statistical relationships.

The significance level of  $p < 0.01$  further solidifies the strength of the observed correlation, emphasizing the statistical improbability of these findings occurring by sheer chance. The "shoe-niqueness" of this correlation prompts a reevaluation of the overlooked role that naming conventions may play in guiding individuals toward specific vocations, offering a nod to the delightful intricacies of occupational selection.

In conclusion, our research has illuminated an enthralling correlation between the prevalence of the name Shaniqua and the number of individuals engaged in the shoe and leather industry in Maine. This unexpected connection not only contributes to the broader understanding of occupational trends but also adds a light-hearted dimension to the exploration of the interplay between nomenclature and labor market dynamics.

## 5. Discussion

The results of our study underscore the surprising and substantial correlation between the popularity of the first name Shaniqua and the number of shoe and leather workers and repairers in Maine. The substantial positive association we observed is

indeed a fascinating twist in the narrative of occupational predilections. This unexpected relationship not only adds a layer of whimsy to the serious sphere of statistical analysis but also prompts a reevaluation of the potential influences of nomenclature on career paths.

Building on previous studies that have delved into the associations between names and occupational choices, our findings provide compelling support for the notion that names may indeed hold sway over individuals' vocational inclinations. The correlation coefficient of 0.8551659 signifies a remarkably robust connection, aligning with the groundwork laid by previous research that has delved into the subtle influences of names on career pathways.

Drawing on the quirky musings from Book's analysis of shoe-related names, our study has unearthed a tangible manifestation of the potential influence of nomenclature on vocational inclinations. The alluring appeal of names such as Shaniqua indeed seems to exert a notable pull toward professions associated with footwear, thus lending credence to the hypothesis that the allure of names may subconsciously guide individuals toward specific careers. It's almost as if the individuals with the name Shaniqua are metaphorically "heeled" to embrace the world of cobbling.

Moreover, our unexpectedly robust correlation between the name Shaniqua and the occupation of shoe and leather workers in Maine aligns with the broader sociological exploration presented by Leather. While not directly addressing the Shaniqua-shoemaking connection, the cultural and societal implications uncovered in our study resonate with the broader context of the interplay between names and occupational pursuits.

On a more lighthearted note, our research not only delivers compelling statistical evidence but also prompts a whimsical exploration of the mysterious allure of the surname "Shoe-niqua" and its seemingly fitting connection to the world of cobbling. This "shoe-pernatural" occurrence not only offers a delightful twist in the realm of statistical correlation but also adds a dash of levity to the often serious pursuit of academic inquiry.

In conclusion, our study reveals a robust nexus between the prevalence of the name Shaniqua and

the occupational presence within the shoe and leather industry in Maine. This unexpected connection not only contributes to the broader understanding of occupational trends but also adds a light-hearted dimension to the exploration of the interplay between nomenclature and labor market dynamics. Our findings highlight the need for further research into the potential influences of names on vocational inclinations, paving the way for a deeper understanding of the "shoe-niqueness" of occupational choices.

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our study has unraveled a remarkably strong and statistically significant correlation between the popularity of the name Shaniqua and the concentration of shoe and leather workers and repairers in Maine. Our findings indicate that there is an undeniable link between the prevalence of the name Shaniqua and the propensity for individuals to pursue careers within the shoe and leather industry. It seems that the name Shaniqua carries a "cobbler's charm" that exerts a palpable influence on vocational choices in Maine, making a compelling case for the intriguing intertwining of naming traditions and occupational preferences.

Our results not only provide valuable insights into the underexplored nexus of nomenclature and labor market dynamics but also add a touch of whimsy to our understanding of occupational proclivities. This correlation highlights the captivating interplay between cultural influences and professional pursuits, offering a delightful twist to conventional assumptions about the determinants of career paths.

As we wrap up this study, let's not forget to appreciate the humor that comes with our findings. It seems that the allure of the name "Shoe-niqua" extends beyond mere coincidence, beckoning individuals toward the world of cobbling with a lighthearted "shoe-pernatural" pull. It's a punny phenomenon that not only tickles the funny bone but also underscores the endearing charm of statistical anomalies.

In light of these compelling insights, we assert that further research in this area would be as superfluous as a pair of shoes on a snake. It is evident that our

study has effectively captured the essence of the "Shoe-niqua and the Cobbler Connection," leaving little room for additional inquiry into this jovial yet illuminating correlation. Any further investigation may just tread on worn-out ground, much like a well-worn pair of... well, you know which shoes we're talking about!

In conclusion, the marriage of shoemaking and the name Shaniqua in Maine remains a charming mystery, one that speaks to the captivating blend of statistical fascination and serendipitous amusement. This study stands as a testament to the unforeseen delights that emerge when statistical analysis and lighthearted exploration converge, reaffirming the multidimensional appeal of academic inquiry.