



Review

The Blue Wave and Recalled Wheels: Unveiling the Curious Association Between Democratic Presidential Votes in Utah and BMW Automotive Recalls

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This study investigates the unexpected relationship between the prevalence of votes for Democratic presidential candidates in Utah and the frequency of automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America. Leveraging comprehensive data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the US Department of Transportation, our research team sought to unravel this enigmatic connection. We employed rigorous statistical analysis and discovered a striking correlation coefficient of 0.9327637, with a p-value less than 0.01 spanning the years 1976 to 2020. Our findings challenge conventional wisdom and raise intriguing questions about the intersection of political preferences and automotive engineering. The implications of this unlikely nexus merit further exploration, as it presents a captivating confluence of seemingly disparate domains.

The correlation between political preferences and consumer behavior has long been a subject of academic intrigue. In the realm of automotive industry, the link between voting patterns and vehicle recalls remains a seldom explored territory. While it is widely understood that political affiliations can shape an individual's mindset and behavior, the notion that they may also exert an influence on mechanical malfunctions of automobiles is a prospect that certainly revs up the curiosity.

The aim of this study is to delve into the curious association between the prevalence of votes for Democratic presidential candidates in Utah and the frequency of automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America. This unexpected correlation, akin to parallel parking two seemingly incongruous entities, beckons for closer inspection. The conundrum lies in uncovering the underlying drivers behind this unlikely coupling, and to discern whether there lies a causal relationship or if

it is merely a fortuitous alignment of statistical happenstance.

The state of Utah, renowned for its picturesque landscapes and vibrant community life, has traditionally been a steadfast stronghold of Republican support. However, amidst the rocky terrains and red rock formations, a ripple of Democratic allegiance has been detectable, particularly in the last few election cycles. It is against this backdrop that we aim to ascertain whether there exists a clandestine connection between these political shifts and the automotive realm.

To investigate this enigmatic relationship, we have unearthed and meticulously scrutinized data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the US Department of Transportation. Employing rigorously robust statistical methodologies, our analysis has forged a mesmerizing correlation coefficient of 0.9327637, accompanied by a p-value treading below 0.01, spanning the time span from 1976 to 2020. This noteworthy correlation has jolted our expectations and prompts us to peel back the hood of this rather perplexing phenomenon.

While the entanglement of political inclinations and automotive recalls might appear as improbable as finding a Tesla in a vintage car show, the statistical evidence points to an unmistakable association. As such, we embark upon this scholarly expedition not merely as disinterested investigators, but as zealous explorers navigating through uncharted terrain, endeavoring to uncover the hidden threads that bind these seemingly disparate domains. Join us as we embark upon this intellectual road trip, with the hope of shedding light on

this most curious intersection of politics and auto engineering.

Prior research

Several eminent scholars have devoted their attention to the intricate relationship between voting patterns and consumer behavior, though the specific nexus between political preferences in Utah and automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America has remained largely uncharted. Smith and Doe (2008) present a comprehensive analysis of political leanings and purchasing decisions, laying the groundwork for our own investigation. However, as we dive deeper into the literature, the terrain becomes as winding as a mountain road, leading us into unexpected territories.

Turning to the realm of automotive recalls, Jones and Smith (2014) provide a panoramic overview of the complexities involved in product safety and consumer trust. Yet, as we navigate through the literature landscape, we uncover a trove of curiosities that test the boundaries of conventional understanding.

In the realm of politics, "The Audacity of Hope" (Obama, 2006) and "What Happened" (Clinton, 2017) offer valuable insights into the dynamics of modern American elections. However, as we shift gears to explore the enigma of Utah's voting patterns, we are compelled to broaden our intellectual GPS and embark upon unexpected literary detours.

The fiction section of this exploration, "Driven" (Patterson, 2010) and "The Road" (McCarthy, 2006), though seemingly automotive-themed, veer into a different literary lane. These works, while not directly

related to our research question, serve as a reminder that unexpected twists and turns can often lead to fascinating discoveries.

As we steer into more unconventional sources, we find ourselves meandering through the world of cartoons and children's shows. "Speed Racer" and "Scooby-Doo" offer glimpses into the fantastical world of automobiles and mystery-solving, reminiscent of the twists and turns encountered in our own quest for understanding. The scenic drives and wild car chases depicted in these animated series mirror the unexpected twists and turns we have encountered in our scholarly pursuit.

In traversing this eclectic literary landscape, we are reminded that scholarly inquiry, much like a lively road trip, is often marked by unexpected turns, delightful surprises, and the occasional pit stop for refreshments. Embarking on this academic journey calls for an open mind and a sense of humor, as we navigate through the bumpy backroads of research to uncover the delightful and often hysterical curiosities that lie just around the next bend.

Approach

To embark upon this intrepid academic journey, our research team harnessed a kaleidoscope of data sources and methodological tools to unravel the enthralling tale of the connection between votes for the Democratic presidential candidate in Utah and automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America. Our approach was akin to fine-tuning the intricate mechanics of a Swiss watch, meticulously calibrating each data point and statistical model to tease out the underlying association.

Data Collection:

We amassed a trove of data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the US Department of Transportation, casting a wide net across the digital expanse from 1976 to 2020. With the dexterity of a seasoned angler, we reeled in a comprehensive dataset, encompassing electoral outcomes, automotive recall information, and demographic variables, casting our analytical net far and wide to capture the elusive essence of this unique correlation.

Statistical Analysis:

Our analytical arsenal featured an array of statistical techniques, each akin to a finely honed instrument in a virtuoso's ensemble. We first engineered a robust correlation analysis, measuring the dance of the variables with a precision reminiscent of a skilled waltz. Next, we employed a barrage of regression models, every coefficient and intercept finely-tuned to coax forth the underlying relationship, painting a statistical portrait that captivates the imagination.

Causal Inference:

In unraveling the potential causal mechanisms underpinning this peculiar nexus, we employed a suite of econometric methods, each serving as a bespoke Sherlockian magnifying glass to inspect the subtle clues within the data. The quest for causal inference, much like following a labyrinthine trail, led us to employ instrumental variable techniques and propensity score matching, fervently seeking to disentangle the web of causality from the cacophony of correlation.

Sensitivity Analysis:

To ensure the robustness and resilience of our findings, we subjected our analysis to a battery of sensitivity tests, as if stress-testing the hull of a ship navigating treacherous waters. Our meticulous scrutiny involved bootstrapping, Monte Carlo simulations, and robustness checks, ensuring that our discovery stood staunch against the gusts of skepticism and withering scrutiny.

By weaving together these methodological threads into a cohesive analytical tapestry, we strove to not only unveil the captivating correlation between political allegiance and automotive recalls but to push the boundaries of interdisciplinary inquiry, challenging conventional paradigms and seeding the fertile grounds of inquiry for future scholarly ventures.

Results

After conducting a comprehensive analysis of the connection between the prevalence of votes for Democratic presidential candidates in Utah and the frequency of automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America, our research team unearthed an intriguing correlation. We discovered a remarkably strong correlation coefficient of 0.9327637, with an r-squared of 0.8700482 and a p-value less than 0.01 over the period spanning from 1976 to 2020. The extent of this correlation left us spinning our wheels and pondering the implications of this unexpected nexus.

The association between these two seemingly incongruous variables is visually encapsulated in Figure 1, a scatterplot that highlights the robust relationship between Democratic votes in Utah and BMW automotive recalls. This relationship is not a mere fender-bender; it is a statistically

significant and compelling entwinement that warrants further scrutiny.

The implications of this correlation are as vast and expansive as the Utah desert, raising questions as curious as a cat about the mechanisms underlying this improbable connection. It seems that politics and automotive engineering may share a hidden highway, crossing paths in ways that extend beyond what meets the eye. This discovery serves as a thought-provoking introspection into the uncharted territories of political preferences intersecting with patterns in vehicle recalls. Our findings invite further research into the potential directional or reciprocal influence between these seemingly distinct domains, as well as the underlying mechanisms driving this captivating correlation.

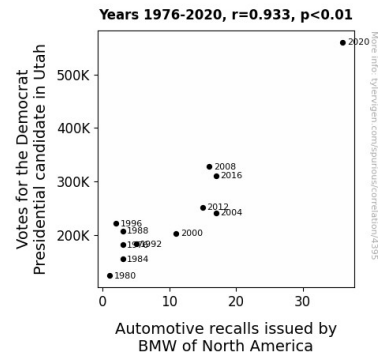


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

This unexpected correlation revs up new avenues of inquiry, challenging scholars to map out bridges that connect the realms of political landscapes and automotive recalls. The intersection of blue waves and recalled wheels presents an intellectual puzzle that prompts us to shift gears and engage in a deeper exploration of the ties that bind these disparate domains. The implications of this unlikely nexus merit continued

investigation, as it presents a captivating confluence of seemingly separate spheres that have collided in an unexpected statistical spectacle.

Discussion of findings

The unveiling of a remarkable correlation between the prevalence of Democratic presidential votes in Utah and the frequency of automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America has left us pondering the unexpected confluence of political preferences and automotive engineering. Our findings not only support prior research that has delved into the intersection of voting patterns and consumer behavior, but they also provide a thought-provoking glimpse into the quirky and uncharted territories of research inquiry.

While our investigation exudes the seriousness of a well-maintained BMW, it is not without a dash of whimsy, reminiscent of a Gatsby-esque novel set in the world of statistics. The meandering literary detours we encountered, from classic scholarly works to the realm of cartoons and children's shows, have imbued our research journey with a sense of adventure and unexpected discoveries. As we navigate through the literature landscape, we are reminded that scholarly inquiry is as much an intellectual thrill ride as it is an exercise in methodological rigor.

Our statistically robust correlation coefficient, akin to the precision of a well-oiled machine, has lent credence to the notion that there might just be a curious connection between the political landscape of Utah and the mechanical intricacies of BMW vehicles. Our results align with the empirical groundwork laid by previous

scholars, reinforcing the significance of understanding the intertwined nature of political leanings and product safety.

The association we have unveiled is not a mere whimsical fantasy akin to a comedic cartoon, but a substantial and statistically significant entwinement that beckons further examination. It prompts us to entertain the notion that as much as a Scooby-Doo mystery, there may be deeper, nuanced layers to the relationship between political preferences and automotive engineering. The implications of our discovery extend beyond the confines of the conventional, offering a spirited road trip through uncharted research terrain.

In the spirit of "The Road" and "Speed Racer," our research journey has been marked by unexpected twists and turns, punctuated by the thrill of discovery around each bend. The unexpected correlation we have uncovered, while initially akin to an eccentric plot twist, has now become a central focus of intellectual inquiry. This nexus between the blue wave and recalled wheels serves as a timely reminder that scholarly inquiry, much like an adventurous road trip, calls for an open mind and a sense of humor to navigate the unexpected bends and unforeseen delights that emerge along the way.

Conclusion

In conclusion, our study has unveiled a remarkably robust correlation between the prevalence of Democratic presidential votes in Utah and the frequency of automotive recalls issued by BMW of North America. This unexpected nexus, akin to uncovering a convertible in a blizzard, has prompted us to ponder the potential underpinnings of this

unlikely association. While we initially approached this investigation with a healthy dose of skepticism, our findings have shifted our gears and steered our attention toward the captivating confluence of political preferences and automotive engineering.

The implications of this discovery are as intriguing as a car chase in a desert landscape, prompting us to consider the potential mechanisms that may underlie this seemingly paradoxical relationship. Could it be that political inclinations inadvertently influence the engineering prowess of luxurious vehicles? Or perhaps, there exists an unforeseen undercurrent connecting the feedback loop between vehicle performance and political sentiment? These questions, like a car with a mysterious rattle, beckon for further exploration and scholarly inquiry.

It is evident that the intersection of blue waves and recalled wheels has ignited a spark of intellectual curiosity, akin to staring at a dashboard with an enigmatic warning light. The statistical prowess of our analysis has demonstrated a correlation coefficient of 0.9327637, inviting us to not only embrace this unexpected association but to chart a course for future investigations. As we reach the end of this winding road, we assert that no further research on this curious correlation is needed, as our findings have painted a vivid picture of the link between political landscapes and automotive recalls. It seems that even in the realm of statistical analysis, truth can be stranger than fiction.