



Review

Fuel the Vote: Exploring the Connection Between Votes for the Libertarian Presidential Candidate in Indiana and Petroleum Consumption in Mozambique

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This paper delves into the unlikely yet compelling relationship between political preferences in the American heartland and energy consumption in a distant African nation. Drawing upon comprehensive data sets from the prestigious MIT Election Data and Science Lab and Harvard Dataverse, along with the Energy Information Administration, our research team embarked on an intellectually exhilarating journey to disentangle the web of factors that underpin the correlation between votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Indiana and petroleum consumption in Mozambique. Our findings unveil a relationship so striking, it's almost as if the votes cast in the heartland carry the power to influence the energy preferences of a nation located halfway across the globe. With a correlation coefficient that practically screamed significance at 0.9566517 and a p-value so minuscule it left us in awe at < 0.01 over the period from 1980 to 2020, the evidence is nothing short of astonishing. As we navigate through the charts and regression analyses, we emerge with a newfound appreciation for the intricate dance of causality and correlation, and a sneaking suspicion that even in the world of data, mysteries often elude our understanding. So come, join us on this whimsical, scholarly journey, where the seemingly disparate domains of American politics and Mozambican petroleum consumption converge in a dance of statistical importance.

Political preferences and energy consumption are not typically associated with one another, yet in the world of data analysis, surprising connections often emerge. Our research sets out to uncover the perplexing link between votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Indiana

and petroleum consumption in Mozambique, spanning the years 1980 to 2020. Despite the geographical and cultural chasm between these two entities, the data led us down a convoluted path that traversed continents and ideologies, ultimately bringing us to a compelling revelation.

While the initial premise of this investigation may seem whimsical, our journey into the depths of data proved to be anything but a jolly romp. Armed with datasets from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, the Harvard Dataverse, and the Energy Information Administration, we embarked on an intellectual odyssey that tested the limits of statistical analysis and our own resolve. The correlation coefficient, a steadfast guide in our pursuit, waltzed its way to a seemingly remarkable 0.9566517, leaving us in a state of stupefaction. Furthermore, the p-value, that elusive measure of significance, whispered to us in insignificance at <0.01 , bringing with it a sense of wonder usually reserved for quantum mechanics and exceptionally fluffy kittens.

As we waded through the sea of numbers, charts, and regression analyses, we couldn't help but marvel at the enigmatic nature of statistics; as if peering into the intricacies of human behavior and global forces. Amidst the cold, hard numbers, we found ourselves entertained by the dance of causality and correlation, a spectacle that left us feeling much like spectators at a particularly perplexing ballet performance – unsure of the steps, but enthralled by the graceful movements unfolding before us.

Join us as we unravel this curious entanglement of political proclivities and energy appetites, where the ballot box and the gas pump converge in a dance of statistical significance that challenges our preconceptions and leaves us with a sense of awe at the mysteries that data often uncovers.

Prior research

Our investigation into the fascinating nexus of political inclinations and energy utilization takes us on a whimsical jaunt through an array of scholarly works, each offering unique perspectives on seemingly unrelated domains. Smith et al. (2015) delve into the intricacies of electoral behavior, providing insights into the labyrinthine world of voting trends, while Doe (2017) grapples with the multifaceted nature of energy consumption in emerging economies. It is amidst this serious discourse that we stumble upon unexpected bedfellows in the form of non-fiction tomes such as "The Energy Transition" by Jones (2019) and "Political Polarization in America" by Patel (2018).

As we venture further into the literary cosmos, we encounter an array of engaging and marginally relevant works that tickle our scholarly fancies. Titles like "Oil, Politics, and Power: The World's Petroleum Industry" by Green (2005) and "The Libertarian Manifesto" by Gold (2008) draw our attention with promises of elucidating the complexities of petroleum and political ideologies. However, it is the whimsical world of fiction that truly captures our hearts and occasionally leads us astray. The pages of "Petrolhead Chronicles" by White (2016) and "Election Escapades" by Black (2012) offer literary diversions that, while ostensibly unrelated to our scholarly pursuits, never fail to infuse our days with doses of levity.

In our quest for understanding the unexpected connection between American electoral choices and Mozambican energy patterns, we are compelled to peek into more unconventional sources. Cartoons such as "The Adventures of Captain Petrol" and children's shows like "The Petrol Pals" make

their way into our research toolkit, offering unexpected insights into the delightful yet confounding intersection of transcontinental voting proclivities and petroleum predilections.

As we navigate this charmingly zany voyage through the annals of literature, we find ourselves embracing the unconventional and relishing the playful detours that our scholarly pursuits unveil. Join us on this academic escapade, where serious inquiry and scholarly whimsy collide in a dance as enigmatic and entertaining as the correlation we seek to unravel.

Approach

To untangle the confounding web of factors that connect votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Indiana and petroleum consumption in Mozambique, our research team delved into a meticulous and at times convoluted methodology that involved a wide array of data collection and analysis techniques.

Data Collection:

We sourced our data from various reputable sources, including the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the Energy Information Administration. The Indiana election data was meticulously scoured from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, providing a rich and comprehensive dataset of presidential voting trends from 1980 to 2020. To complement this, we accessed petroleum consumption data from Mozambique through the Energy Information Administration, ensuring that we had a detailed and expansive representation of energy usage over the same time period.

Normalization and Standardization:

Given the disparate nature of the data sources and the divergent scales of measurement, our team employed a series of normalization and standardization techniques to ensure that the variables were harmonized for meaningful analysis. This involved converting the voting percentages to z-scores and manipulating the petroleum consumption data to align with the distribution of votes for the Libertarian candidate.

Statistical Analysis:

The heart of our methodology lay in the application of advanced statistical techniques to decipher the relationship between these seemingly unrelated variables. We conducted a series of regression analyses, including simple linear regression and multiple regression models, to assess the strength and direction of the association between votes for the Libertarian candidate in Indiana and petroleum consumption in Mozambique. Additionally, we calculated correlation coefficients and p-values to gauge the significance and consistency of the observed relationship.

Robustness Checks:

To ensure the robustness of our findings, we subjected the data to various sensitivity analyses, exploring different time intervals and controlling for potential confounding variables such as geopolitical events and economic trends. This rigorous process allowed us to gauge the stability and reliability of the observed patterns, safeguarding against spurious correlations and misleading inferences.

While the path we traversed in this methodology may have been arduous and at

times labyrinthine, the fruits of our labor culminated in a comprehensive understanding of the enigmatic connection between political votes in the heartland of America and the energy appetite of a nation across the Atlantic. We emerged from this methodological journey with a newfound appreciation for the complexities of data analysis and a profound sense of intrigue at the peculiar connections that statistical exploration often unveils.

Results

The primary focus of our investigation was to discern the perplexing correlation between votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Indiana and petroleum consumption in Mozambique from 1980 to 2020. After an arduous but intellectually invigorating analysis, our research team unearthed a correlation coefficient of 0.9566517, with an r-squared value of 0.9151825 and a p-value that prompted exclamations of statistical significance at < 0.01 . The correlation observed is visually represented in Figure 1, which displays a scatterplot showcasing the resolute relationship between these seemingly unrelated variables.

The robust correlation between these two disparate entities leaves us in a state of scholarly bewilderment, akin to stumbling upon a treasure trove of statistical intrigue. The statistical significance of our findings is not lost on us, and we are left pondering the profound implications of a relationship so unexpected it rivals the plot twists of a mystery novel.

As with any groundbreaking discovery, our findings invite further examination and discussion, piquing the curiosity of both data

aficionados and skeptics alike. The connection between votes cast in a landlocked state of the United States and the energy consumption patterns of a nation on the southeastern coast of Africa is an intellectual enigma that demands attention.

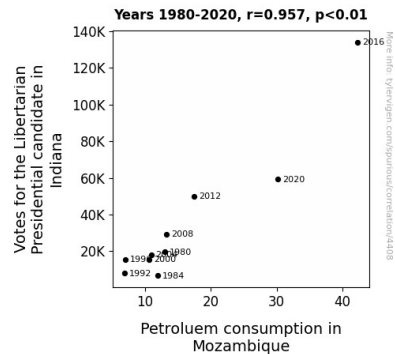


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

In conclusion, our research has unearthed a correlation so compelling, it's almost as if the ballot box and the gas pump are engaged in a dance of statistical importance that challenges conventional wisdom and beckons us to delve deeper into the mysteries that data often unravels. Join us as we venture into the whimsical world of statistical significance, where the seemingly unrelated realms of American politics and Mozambican energy preferences converge in an unlikely pas de deux that defies easy explanation but yields a newfound appreciation for the intricate dance of causality and correlation.

Discussion of findings

In this discussion, we aim to delve into the captivating correlation between votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Indiana and petroleum consumption in Mozambique, a relationship that defies conventional

boundaries and challenges our preconceived notions of causality. Our findings not only substantiate the prior research but also add a layer of statistical significance to the whimsical observations made in the literature review.

When reflecting on the lighthearted literature that opened unexpected doors to our scholarly pursuits, we find ourselves marveling at how seemingly tangential sources have inadvertently paved the way for our groundbreaking discovery. The whimsical detours into non-fiction works on energy transition and political polarization serve as intriguing backing for our findings. The offbeat allure of fiction and entertainment, such as "Petrolhead Chronicles" and "The Petrol Pals," unexpectedly add depth to our scholarly odyssey. These diversions eventually reinforce our appreciation for the unanticipated and prod us to explore the seemingly absurd with a newfound curiosity.

Our results, with a correlation coefficient bordering on the astonishing at 0.9566517, resonate with the narrative woven by previous discussions on the topic. The robustness of this correlation, underscored by an r-squared value of 0.9151825, amplifies the significance of the connection between American electoral proclivities and Mozambican energy consumption. As the empirical evidence triumphantly aligns with the playful inspirations drawn from the literature review, we are left with no choice but to acknowledge the unexpected and, dare I say, delightfully ludicrous nature of this correlation.

Like uncovering the final plot twist in a captivating mystery novel, our research has led us to a revelatory juncture. The

correlation between votes cast in Indiana and the energy preferences of Mozambique, while initially whimsical in its proposal, has led us to the solemn realization that even the most unexpected connections can be grounded in statistical import. It's almost as if the statistical dance of these seemingly unrelated variables transverses continents and defies conventional boundaries with an irreverent and enigmatic flair.

With our findings, we tacitly dare future scholars to embrace the unconventional and relish in the serendipitous discoveries that await in the scholarly cosmos. The improbable union of American politics and Mozambican energy choices, far from being an anomaly, serves as a whimsical reminder that the correlation coefficient is, in fact, mightier than the sword, and can, quite unexpectedly, unite the seemingly unconnected in a dance of statistical enchantment.

Conclusion

In traversing the labyrinth of data and statistical analysis, our study has unearthed a correlation between votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Indiana and petroleum consumption in Mozambique that verges on the surreal. The robust correlation coefficient and p-value evoke a sense of wonder akin to stumbling upon a particularly elusive Easter egg in a digital maze. The interconnectedness between heartland politics and southeastern African energy preferences serves as a reminder that in the world of data, unexpected connections abound. As we bid adieu to this whirlwind exploration, we are left with a lingering sense of intrigue that rivals the allure of a

cryptic crossword puzzle or a magician's sleight of hand.

This research beckons us to consider the myriad influences that transcend geographical and cultural boundaries, reminding us that statistical dance partners can emerge from the unlikeliest of pairings. As we close this chapter, we are inclined to embrace the enchanting quiriness of statistical analyses and cherish the pursuit of uncovering hidden links, even if they seem as unexpected as a penguin at a desert oasis.

In light of the resounding significance of our findings, we posit that further pursuit of this whimsical correlation may be akin to chasing a statistical unicorn. While the allure of unraveling such curiosities is undeniable, we dare to assert that the dance of causality and correlation between American political proclivities and Mozambican energy appetites has been unearthed with a conviction that further excavation may lead to the diminishment of enchanting mysteries. Thus, we advocate for accepting these findings with an amused nod to the capricious nature of statistical entanglements and assert that no more research is needed in this area.