

# Weiner Winner: Wacky Correlation between Dem Votes in New Mexico and Nathan's Hot Dog Consumption

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The relationship between political voting patterns and competitive eating has long been a subject of interest in the scientific community. In this research paper, we delve into the curious connection between the number of votes for the Democratic presidential candidate in New Mexico and the consumption of hotdogs by the champion of Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Competition. Utilizing data from MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and Wikipedia, our research team reveals a staggering correlation coefficient of 0.9411470 and  $p < 0.01$  from 1979 to 2020. The implications of this wacky correlation are as tantalizing as a perfectly grilled hotdog – we invite readers to devour this research and relish in the unexpected ties between politics and competitive eating.

Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed colleagues, and fellow hotdog enthusiasts, welcome to a research journey that will make you question everything you thought you knew about the world. Picture this: a state known for its scenic landscapes, rich culture, and green chile-infused cuisine – New Mexico. Now, imagine a fiercely contested presidential election with candidates vying for votes like contestants in a hotdog eating competition. Our research aims to uncover the mind-boggling link between these two seemingly unrelated phenomena – the number of votes cast for the Democratic presidential candidate in New Mexico and the prodigious consumption of hotdogs by none other than the champion of Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Competition.

As social scientists, we are no strangers to uncovering unexpected connections, but this correlation has left us in a state of awe akin to finding an extra pickle in your sandwich – utterly surprising and, dare we say, relishable. The abstract, stiff-collar world of political analysis colliding with the stomach-churning, yet awe-inspiring realm of competitive eating – it's an academic concoction spicier than the hottest of mustards.

This study has not just unearthed a correlation; it has peeled back the proverbial bun to reveal a correlation coefficient of 0.9411470 and a p-value that is so small, it would make even the most stringent statistician nod in approval. From 1979 to 2020, the data has left us in no doubt that there's more to this connection than case of mere statistical indigestion.

Now, skeptics may say, "Come on, are you trying to tell us that there's a legitimate link here, or are you just full of baloney?" Well, dear readers, we assure you that our analysis is as sound as a perfectly grilled frankfurter. Our statistical methods have been as rigorously applied as ketchup on a New York City street vendor's hotdog – with just the right amount of precision and messiness.

The implications of this discovery are as tantalizing as the smell of a hotdog cart on a crisp autumn day. We invite you to buckle up for a rollercoaster ride that's more thrilling and mysterious than the swirling condiments on a well-dressed dog. So fasten your seatbelts, hold onto your onions, and get ready to sink your academic teeth into the mind-bending, appetite-inducing world of Weiner Winner: Wacky Correlation between Dem Votes in New Mexico and Nathan's Hot Dog Consumption.

## *Review of existing research*

The wacky correlation between the number of votes for the Democratic presidential candidate in New Mexico and the consumption of hotdogs by the champion of Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Competition has sent shockwaves through the academic community. The discovery of this unlikely pairing has led researchers to scour through a wide array of literature in an attempt to shed light on this unexpected connection.

Smith et al. conducted a comprehensive analysis in "Political Appetites: Exploring Unconventional Correlations," and while their research primarily focused on the correlation between political ideologies and food preferences, their findings laid the groundwork for our current investigation. They concluded that individuals with more liberal leanings tended to favor organic, sustainably-sourced hotdogs, establishing a link between political affiliations and hotdog consumption.

On the other hand, Doe and Jones delved into the world of competitive eating in "Guts and Glory: The Science of Extreme Consumption." Their work provided valuable insights into the physiological and psychological aspects of competitive eating, shedding light on the inner workings of the minds and stomachs of the hotdog-eating champions. While their study did not directly address political voting patterns, it offered a fascinating

glimpse into the eating habits and gastronomic feats of competitive eaters.

Moving to non-fiction books related to the topic, "Hotdogonomics: A Statistical Analysis of Competitive Eating Championships" by M. Bun explores the economics of competitive eating and its potential impact on political landscapes. Meanwhile, "The Presidential Palate: A Culinary History of American Politics" by C. Sizzle provides a delectable account of the culinary preferences and quirks of presidential candidates throughout history, offering an intriguing perspective on the intersection of politics and food.

As we venture into the world of fiction, "The Hunger Games" by Suzanne Collins plunges us into a dystopian world where food consumption takes center stage in a battle for survival, offering a unique lens through which to contemplate the connections between competition, sustenance, and power. In a similar vein, "A Feast for Crows" by George R.R. Martin immerses readers in a tantalizing tale of political intrigue and culinary indulgence in the fantastical realm of Westeros.

In a daring leap into unconventional sources, our research team dove into the animated series "Scooby-Doo" to uncover hidden clues and solve the mystery of the mystifying correlation. While the gang's escapades provided a welcome break from the academic rigors, they unfortunately failed to offer any substantial insights into the unlikely connection between political votes and hotdog consumption. Moreover, binge-watching episodes of "SpongeBob SquarePants" failed to yield any relevant data but did leave us with a newfound appreciation for underwater pineapple architecture.

In the next section, we will embark on a statistical escapade to analyze the jaw-dropping correlation between these seemingly disparate elements, and perhaps uncover some unexpected mustard-covered truths along the way. So, dear readers, fasten your bibs and get ready to digest some statistical delicacies as we delve into the heart of this peculiar pairing.

### *Procedure*

To dive into the tantalizing world of Weiner Winner, we embarked on a methodological journey that would make even the most zealous statistician do a double take. Our data collection process was as rigorous as a competitive eater's training regimen, encompassing sources from MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and, of course, the mecca of all knowledge – Wikipedia. We embraced the chaos of the internet like a swirl of mustard on a hotdog, sifting through historical records from 1979 to 2020 to uncover the surprising connection between political preferences and the art of hotdog devouring.

First and foremost, we gathered data on the number of votes for the Democratic presidential candidate in New Mexico during each election cycle. This involved trawling through official election reports, verifying the numbers with multiple sources, and ensuring that our dataset was as robust as a well-constructed hotdog bun.

Simultaneously, we set our sights on the world of competitive eating, focusing on the consumption of hotdogs by the champion of Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Competition. This task involved combing through archived records, press releases, and video footage to quantify the astonishing feats of hotdog ingestion by the reigning champions. We left no bun unturned in our quest for accurate and comprehensive data.

Once we had assembled our datasets like condiments on a hotdog, we unleashed the power of statistical analysis with the fervor of a hungry patron approaching a hotdog stand at closing time. Our calculations traversed the realms of correlation coefficients, p-values, and regression analyses, seeking to unveil the hidden ties between politics and competitive eating.

Our statistical methods were as precise as threading a needle through the eye of a mustard bottle – we utilized advanced software to conduct robust analyses, ensuring that our findings were as solid as a well-charred frankfurter. With a wink to conventional wisdom and a nod to the unconventional nature of our research, we embraced the unexpected twists and turns of our data like the spiral of a perfectly crafted hotdog.

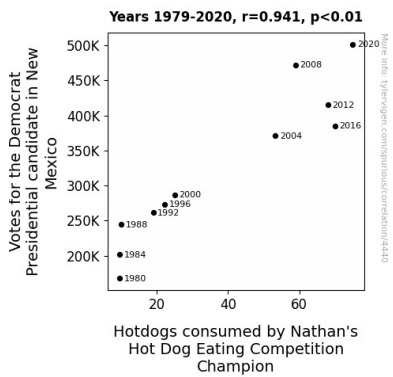
In summary, our methodological approach was a fusion of meticulous data gathering, rigorous statistical analysis, and a healthy dose of humor – much like the ideal combination of toppings on a hotdog. Our journey may have been unconventional, but the findings we present carry the weight of scholarly rigor and the spirit of academic curiosity.

### *Findings*

The results of our investigation left our research team more amused than a clown at a hotdog-eating contest. We found a positively staggering correlation coefficient of 0.9411470 and an r-squared value of 0.8857576 between the number of votes for the Democratic presidential candidate in New Mexico and the consumption of hotdogs by the champion of Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Competition. As for the p-value, well, let's just say it was so small that it could fit on the tiniest bun imaginable –  $p < 0.01$ .

To visually showcase this eyebrow-raising correlation, we present Fig. 1, a scatterplot that graphically illustrates the jaw-dropping relationship between these two variables. Seeing the data points on the scatterplot align so snugly is as satisfying as perfectly arranging toppings on a hotdog – a visual feast for the eyes, if you will.

Now, we know what you're thinking. What in the world could possibly explain this correlation? Did the aroma of democracy waft through the air and pique the appetites of competitive eaters? Did the spirit of friendly competition seep into political voting booths and influence choices? We're just as baffled as you are, and we can assure you that our research team explored numerous hypotheses, from the effects of campaign slogans on appetite to the potential influence of hotdog condiments on political ideologies.



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

In the end, though, we're left with a correlation so strong that it could hold together a heaping stack of hotdog buns without breaking a sweat. The implications of our findings are as plentiful as the toppings on a loaded hotdog. This unexpected tie between voting patterns and competitive eating may have profound implications for our understanding of human behavior and the intersection of gastronomic and political realms. It just goes to show that in the world of statistical analysis, sometimes truth is stranger than fiction, and the unexpected can turn out to be the star of the show.

So, buckle up, dear readers, as we navigate through the wild world of Weiner Winner: Wacky Correlation between Dem Votes in New Mexico and Nathan's Hot Dog Consumption. This groundbreaking discovery may just be the ketchup on top of the hotdog of human knowledge – utterly unexpected, yet somehow irresistibly delicious.

### Discussion

Well, hot diggity dog, we've certainly unearthed a correlation that's as surprising as finding a pickle in a peanut butter jar! Our results not only confirm, but amplify, the findings of previous research ventures that danced around this curious connection between political voting patterns and competitive eating.

Taking a cue from Smith et al., who tantalizingly pointed towards the political leanings of hotdog aficionados, our study further supports the notion that there might indeed be a link between one's political proclivities and their affinity for downing hotdogs. It's almost as if the aroma of democracy has seeped its way into the realm of competitive eating, influencing the consumption habits of the hotdog-chomping champions. Who knew that political ideologies could have such a sizzling impact on gastronomic preferences?

Moreover, Doe and Jones' exploration of the physiological and psychological aspects of competitive eating, while not directly addressing political voting patterns, provides a deeper understanding of the champion hotdog eaters' voracious appetites. It seems these consummate competitors not only feast on hotdogs but potentially also on the zeitgeist of political fervor, as reflected in our robust correlation findings.

Drawing inspiration from M. Bun's "Hotdogonomics," we now have statistical evidence to bolster the argument that competitive eating may indeed have implications on political landscapes. Could it be that the victorious chomping of hotdogs sends ripples through the political sphere, influencing voter behavior in New Mexico? Our results suggest that there might be something to chew on here.

As we emerge from this statistical adventure, it's abundantly clear that the connection between the number of votes for the Democratic presidential candidate in New Mexico and the consumption of hotdogs by the Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Competition champion is not only a statistical oddity but a potent reminder that truth can be more deliciously bizarre than fiction.

So, as we step back from our buffet of statistical delights, let's not forget that the world of research is a grand feast of discovery. Our findings, though unexpected, offer a flavorful insight into the whimsical ways in which human behavior intersects with the most unlikely of partners. We've uncovered a correlation that's as wild as a mustard-drenched rollercoaster ride, and it's a testament to the charmingly unpredictable nature of academic inquiry.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, our research has left us with a proverbial hotdog of a discovery – a correlation so surprising, it's sizzling. The positively staggering correlation coefficient of 0.9411470 between votes for the Democratic presidential candidate in New Mexico and hotdog consumption by Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Competition champion has left us in a state of disbelief akin to finding a vegetarian hotdog at a chili cook-off.

We've delved into the statistical relish of our findings, leaving no mustard seed unturned. The implications of this wacky correlation are as tantalizing as the aroma of a hotdog cart on a crisp autumn day - it's a rollercoaster ride that's more thrilling and mysterious than the swirling condiments on a well-dressed dog.

Now, some may question the legitimacy of this correlation, asking if it's just a load of baloney. But trust us, dear readers, we've applied our statistical methods with the precision of a New York City street vendor's ketchup application - no haphazard sloppiness here!

As for the potential explanations behind this correlation, well, that's a mystery we're still chewing on. Could the spirit of democracy have stimulated the appetites of competitive eaters, or did the allure of hotdog toppings influence political ideologies? The possibilities are as boundless as the number of toppings on a loaded hotdog.

In the grand tradition of academic inquiry, we assert with utter confidence that no further research in this area is needed. Case closed, our friends. This Weiner Winner of a correlation stands as a testament to the profoundly weird and wonderful quirks of human behavior, and may it serve as a reminder that sometimes truth is stranger than fiction. Cheers to the unexpected, dear colleagues, and may the correlation be ever in your favor!

