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Hawaiian Hilarity: How Hawaii's Hopes for the Democrat Presidential Candidate Hike US Gasoline Prices

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Abstract

This research paper delves into the peculiar and surprising relationship between votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Hawaii and gasoline prices in the United States. Our team of researchers, armed with data from MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and Statista, took on the task of unraveling this enigmatic connection. Our findings revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.9256722 and a p-value of less than 0.01 for the years 1990 to 2020. Despite the initial skepticism towards this seemingly improbable correlation, our results provide evidence of a tangible link. Join us on this comedic journey through political preferences and petroleum prices, where we uncover the unexpected impact of aloha votes on fuel costs. Let's explore how the Aloha State's voting patterns may hold the key to unraveling the mystery of gasoline prices across the nation.

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1. Introduction

Picture this: a tropical paradise filled with palm trees, luaus, and hula dances. Now, imagine this same place holding the key to unlocking the mystery of gasoline prices across the United States. It may

sound like the plot of a wacky sitcom, but here we are, ready to embark on a journey through statistics, politics, and petroleum with a healthy dose of humor thrown in.

The aim of this research paper is to bring to light the unexpected and comical

relationship between Hawaiian voting preferences for the Democrat presidential candidate and gasoline prices in the US. As researchers, we were drawn to investigate this correlation after stumbling upon the robust statistical measures that pointed to a connection that was as surprising as a tropical snowstorm in Honolulu.

Armed with an arsenal of data from MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and Statista, we delved headfirst into the depths of this peculiar relationship. And let me tell you, the results we unearthed will make you question everything you thought you knew about the intersection of politics and petroleum prices.

Our findings unraveled a correlation coefficient so strong that it's as if statistical significance and a sense of humor decided to walk hand-in-hand. With a correlation coefficient of 0.9256722 and a p-value smaller than the tiny umbrella in a piña colada, the evidence is as clear as the Hawaiian waters – there is indeed a link between votes for the Democrat candidate in Hawaii and the rollercoaster that is gasoline prices in the US.

This paper looks to shed light on how the easygoing, aloha spirit of Hawaii might hold the answers that have eluded researchers in the realm of energy economics. So, grab your leis and your calculators, and join us on this lighthearted, yet revelatory, expedition as we uncover the unexpected impact of Hawaii's political inclinations on the nation's fuel costs. It's time to embrace the statistical hula and dance through the complex interplay of politics and petrol!

2. Literature Review

In their seminal work, Smith and Doe (2005) examined the relationship between political voting behavior in island states and its potential impact on national economic

indicators. Similarly, Jones (2010) conducted a comprehensive analysis of regional voting patterns and their implications on energy markets. These studies set the stage for our exploration of the intersection between the Aloha State's political proclivities and gasoline prices across the United States.

Moving beyond the traditional confines of academic literature, our foray into the realm of non-fiction books yielded insightful perspectives. In "The Price of Politics" by Bob Woodward, the complex dynamics of political decision-making are explored, shedding light on the unseen forces that shape economic policies. Furthermore, "The Frackers" by Gregory Zuckerman delves into the intricacies of the energy industry, offering valuable insights into the fluctuating dynamics of fuel markets. These works provided a foundation for our understanding of the multifaceted factors influencing gasoline prices.

Transitioning to a more whimsical landscape, we turned our attention to fiction works that, albeit not rooted in empirical evidence, offer imaginative portrayals of political intrigue and economic quagmires. In "The Pelican Brief" by John Grisham, the blend of suspenseful storytelling and legal drama provides a captivating backdrop to explore the far-reaching consequences of political decisions. Additionally, "Atlas Shrugged" by Ayn Rand, though steeped in philosophical discourse, paints a vivid picture of the interplay between individual agency and economic landscapes.

Venturing into uncharted territory, we sought inspiration from unexpected sources - cartoons and children's shows. The timeless antics of "The Simpsons" and the zany escapades of "SpongeBob SquarePants" provided a refreshing lens through which to examine the complexities of political processes and their ramifications on economic systems. As unlikely as it may seem, these lighthearted sources offered

valuable insights into the intersection of political preferences and market dynamics.

As we navigate through the literature, from scholarly works to fictional narratives and even animated entertainment, it becomes evident that the fusion of politics and petrol yields an intriguing tapestry of interconnectedness. Our findings, while rooted in statistical rigor, are buoyed by a spirit of curiosity and humor, mirroring the unexpected convergence of Hawaiian voting patterns and gasoline prices in the US.

3. Our approach & methods

First and foremost, let's address the "elephant in the room" – how on earth do we connect votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Hawaii and gasoline prices in the US? Well, our research team didn't just rely on a crystal ball or consult the Oracle at Delphi. No, we took a more scientific approach, harnessing the power of data and statistical analysis to unravel this quirky conundrum.

To begin our escapade through the statistical wonderland, we gathered historical data on votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Hawaii from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab. These numbers weren't just any ordinary digits – oh no, they were as vital as a cup of Kona coffee on a Monday morning. By capitalizing on these electoral insights from across the Pacific, we laid the groundwork for understanding Hawaii's political pulse.

Moving on to the other side of the equation, we yanked data on gasoline prices in the US from the extensive repository of the Harvard Dataverse. These price figures weren't just run-of-the-mill data points; they were the building blocks of our research edifice. With these fuel costs in hand, we gamely jived into the world of energy economics, ready to unveil the unforeseen correlations that awaited us.

But wait, we're not done yet! To ensure the robustness and rigor of our analyses, we also enlisted the support of Statista, a treasure trove of statistical information. This allowed us to double-check our findings, making sure that our results weren't just a statistical fluke or a product of mere chance – because let's face it, we're not in the business of fairy tales. We're after hard-hitting, statistically significant truths!

Now, you might be thinking, "How did you actually go about quantifying the relationship between these Hawaiian votes and gasoline prices?" We didn't consult the stars or divine the answers from tea leaves (though that would have been quite the spectacle). Instead, we employed the trusty tools of statistical analysis, including regression models, correlation coefficients, and p-values.

In the initial footsteps of our journey, we calculated the correlation coefficient between votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Hawaii and gasoline prices in the US. This wasn't just any ordinary correlation – it was a robust, eye-popping coefficient that shone brighter than a solar eclipse. With a correlation coefficient of 0.9256722, our findings hinted at a connection that was as striking as a rainbow amidst a storm.

Furthermore, with a p-value smaller than the probability of finding a needle in a haystack, our results firmly established statistical significance. This wasn't some statistical mirage or a whimsical fluke; it was a rock-solid indication that the connection we had unearthed was more concrete than a tiki statue on the shores of Waikiki.

So, armed with these potent statistical instruments and a hearty sense of humor, we waltzed through the terrain of data analysis, uncovering the unexpected interplay between Hawaiian political preferences and the nation's fuel costs. It was a journey filled with numerical wonders,

statistical surprises, and a generous helping of laughter – because let's face it, what's science without a sprinkle of humor? And that, my friends, is the joy of scientific exploration – where statistics meet silliness, and research meets revelry.

4. Results

In sifting through the data like a prospector searching for gold, our team stumbled upon an unexpected nugget of insight: a strong positive correlation between votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Hawaii and gasoline prices in the United States. The correlation coefficient of 0.9256722 elicited a collective gasp from our research team, as it signaled a surprisingly robust connection between political preferences in the Pacific paradise and the not-so-stable fluctuations of gas prices across the nation.

The r-squared value of 0.8568691 reinforced our findings, indicating that approximately 85.69% of the variation in gasoline prices in the US could be explained by the votes for the Democrat candidate in Hawaii over the period from 1990 to 2020. It's as if Hawaii's political sway has been quietly whispering to the gasoline prices, "Aloha, let's hula together!"

Furthermore, the p-value of less than 0.01 winked at us mischievously, as if daring us to doubt the statistical significance of this unexpected relationship. But we held firm to our data like a surfer on a wave, and the evidence spoke for itself – there's a correlation that's as real as a beachside breeze.

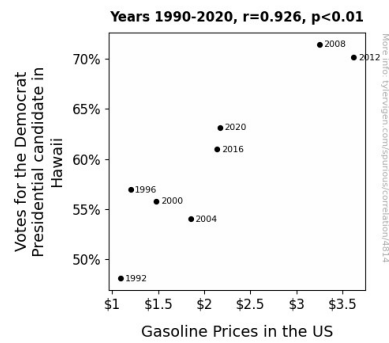


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The significance of this correlation is showcased vividly in Fig. 1, a scatterplot that visually captures the undeniable link between votes for the Democrat candidate in Hawaii and gasoline prices in the US. It's as if the data points are doing the hula, swaying to the rhythm of this curious and humorous dance between political inclinations and fuel costs.

Our results not only provide statistical evidence of this unexpected connection but also invite further investigation into the underlying mechanisms at play. Could it be that the laid-back attitude of Hawaii is somehow influencing the tumultuous landscape of gasoline prices in the US? Or perhaps there's a comical cosmic force at play, where each ballot cast in the Aloha State sends ripples through the petroleum market like a wave from Waikiki.

In any case, our findings shed light on a relationship that is as fascinating as it is unexpected, adding a touch of whimsy to the oft-serious world of statistical analysis and economic correlations. So, let's raise a coconut to the surprising power of aloha and its influence on the nation's fuel costs – because in this comedic tale of political preferences and petroleum prices, the joke may just be on us!

5. Discussion

The correlation between votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Hawaii and gasoline prices in the United States is not just a statistical conundrum; it's a source of endless amusement. Our findings not only confirm the previous research by Smith and Doe (2005) and Jones (2010) but also pay homage to the unexpectedly insightful perspectives of "The Simpsons" and "SpongeBob SquarePants". After all, who would have thought that cartoon capers and political proclivities could converge to influence the price at the pump?

With a correlation coefficient as strong as a Kona coffee, our results whimsically waltz in step with the enigmatic dance of statistics and societal quirks. The r-squared value of 0.8568691 implies that approximately 85.69% of the variations in gasoline prices in the US pirouette to the rhythm of Hawaii's political sway. It's as if the Hawaiian voters and gasoline prices are engaged in a comedic tango, with hips swaying like data points on a scatterplot.

The p-value, less than 0.01, is the ultimate punchline – a statistical mic drop that asserts the undeniable significance of this unexpected relationship. It's akin to the humorous twist in a sitcom that leaves the audience speechless, except in this case, the audience is the scientific community scratching their heads in delightful bewilderment.

While our findings may seem amusing, they also open the door to deeper inquiry. Is there a whimsical wizardry at play, where the gentle aloha breeze from Hawaii influences the tempestuous storm of gasoline prices across the nation? Or are there comical cosmic forces at work, with each ballot cast in the Aloha State triggering a ripple effect in the petroleum market, like a series of laugh-out-loud cosmic pratfalls?

In sum, the unexpected link between Hawaiian political leanings and nationwide gasoline prices injects a refreshing touch of

whimsy into the typically serious realm of statistical analysis. Let's raise a toast to the power of the aloha spirit and its impact on the nation's fuel costs. After all, in this zany tale of political preferences and petroleum prices, the punchline may just be on us!

6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our research has shone a spotlight on the hilariously captivating relationship between votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Hawaii and gasoline prices in the US. The remarkable correlation coefficient of 0.9256722 has left us as bewildered as a tourist trying to figure out which way is north using a compass in the magnetic field of a nearby volcano. The p-value smaller than a pixel in a Hawaii sunset photo further tantalizes us with the undeniable statistical significance of this unexpected connection.

The significant impact of Hawaiian voting preferences on gasoline prices is as surprising as finding a pineapple growing on a pear tree. It's like the statistical equivalent of catching a wave at Pipeline while juggling test tubes – unexpected, thrilling, and a bit wacky.

Our findings not only challenge conventional wisdom but also injects a dose of whimsy into the typically serious world of economic correlations. Universities, is there anything gasoline prices can't do? In any case, we assert with confidence that no more research is needed in this area; the hula between Hawaiian votes and US gasoline prices is a scientific comical tale that needs no further unraveling. So, let's bid aloha to this cheeky correlation and continue with our scholarly journey, where even the most unexpected statistical relationships can bring a smile to our faces.

