

THE RED, THE WHITE, AND THE QUEASY: REPUBLICAN VOTES IN WASHINGTON AND GOOGLE SEARCHES FOR 'HOW TO MOVE TO EUROPE'

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This study delves into the unexpected correlation between Republican votes for Senators in Washington and Google searches for 'how to move to Europe' from 2004 to 2018. Using data from MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and Google Trends, we found a surprising correlation coefficient of 0.9419446 and a p-value less than 0.01. While the connection between political affiliation and international relocation plans may seem frivolous, our findings reveal a statistically significant link that tickles the funny bone. These results offer a quirky insight into the underlying motivations of certain voting demographics and may stimulate a colorful exchange of puns and jests among political analysts and comedians alike.

Politics and international escapades may seem like an odd couple, but as they say, opposites attract! In this study, we embark on a whimsical journey through the world of statistical correlation, where Republican votes for Senators in Washington and Google searches for 'how to move to Europe' converge in a surprising tango of data. It's like a political comedy sketch meets a travel documentary - Donald Trump and Anthony Bourdain, anyone?

As researchers, we are accustomed to delving into weighty matters such as economic trends and public health policies. But every now and then, a peculiar association emerges from the labyrinth of data, and we can't help but do a double-take. Enter our unexpected discovery: the juxtaposition of conservative political leanings in the Evergreen State with the earnest inquiries of citizens pondering a

transatlantic relocation. It's like witnessing a silent film star attending a heavy metal concert - intriguing, amusing, and a bit perplexing all at once.

While the link between casting a Republican ballot and dreaming of European adventures may incite a chuckle or two, our findings are no laughing matter when it comes to statistical significance. With a correlation coefficient of 0.9419446 and a p-value that gleefully dances below the 0.01 threshold, this peculiar union between political preference and wanderlust demands our attention. Frankly, it's a statistical odd couple that even Shakespeare couldn't have scripted.

This study transcends the conventional boundaries of academic inquiry and embraces the marriage of political science and levity. We invite our readers to join us in this intellectual romp, where numbers and humor intertwine to unravel

the peculiar motivations behind certain voting demographics. So, buckle up and grab your passport - it's time for a statistical exploration that's more intriguing than a Choose Your Own Adventure book!

LITERATURE REVIEW

The unexpected marriage of political ideologies and aspirations for transcontinental relocation has garnered attention from researchers and analysts across diverse fields. Starting with the conventional bounds of statistical analysis, Smith et al. (2010) unearthed an intriguing pattern in the state of Washington, where Republican votes for Senators seemed to evoke a stirring curiosity about the logistics of settling in Europe. The authors proposed that perhaps the allure of picturesque landscapes and centuries-old architecture tickled a chord among a certain segment of the electorate, prompting them to explore greener pastures, both literally and figuratively. However, this perplexing correlation left some scratching their heads, akin to a cryptic crossword puzzle in the Sunday newspaper.

As our investigation ventures further into the uncharted waters of voter behavior, Doe and Jones (2015) delved into the psychological underpinnings of political affiliation and aspirations for international relocation. Their study ventured into the realm of cultural identity and the yearning for new horizons, postulating that the quest for change and adventure intertwines with one's voting inclinations in ways that transcend traditional political discourse. The fusion of political science and wanderlust resembles a whimsical fusion of flavors in a culinary experiment, where unexpected combinations yield delightful surprises.

Venturing beyond the confines of scholarly literature, we must consider the influence of non-fiction works that shed light on the complexities of international

migration and the American political landscape. "The Age of Migration" by Castles and Miller (2013) and "American Nations" by Woodard (2011) provide invaluable insights into the cultural, economic, and historical forces that shape individuals' aspirations for global mobility and their political affiliations. As one delves deeper into these tomes, it becomes evident that the intersection of political identity and the yearning for distant shores has roots that extend far beyond the confines of election booths and internet search queries.

Transitioning to a more whimsical realm, works of fiction offer a fantastical lens through which to contemplate the improbable convergence of Republican votes and dreams of European sojourns. Imaginative narratives such as "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" by Douglas Adams and "Eat, Pray, Love" by Elizabeth Gilbert beckon readers to ponder the whimsical interplay of human desires, cosmic absurdity, and the pursuit of self-discovery. These literary escapades, much like our research, invite us to embrace the unexpected and relish in the delightful quirks of human nature.

Furthermore, our pursuit of understanding the enigmatic relationship between Republican votes in Washington and aspirations to relocate to Europe has also led us down the unexpected path of televised entertainment. TV shows such as "House Hunters International" and "Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown" afford audiences a tantalizing glimpse into the allure of far-flung destinations and the diverse motivations that drive individuals to seek new beginnings beyond their familiar environs. These cultural phenomena offer a ripe landscape for observations that parallel our research findings, weaving together themes of discovery, curiosity, and the eternal quest for adventure.

In synthesizing the breadth of scholarly inquiries, literary imaginings, and cultural artifacts, it becomes evident that the intersection of political inclinations and

dreams of international odysseys presents a landscape teeming with unexpected absurdities and thought-provoking insights. Our research seeks to add a whimsical flourish to the stoic tapestry of statistical analysis, inviting scholars and enthusiasts alike to revel in the delightful mysteries that unfold at the nexus of political choices and the lure of distant shores.

METHODOLOGY

To untangle the enigmatic knot between Republican votes for Senators in Washington and the fervent Google searches for 'how to move to Europe,' we embarked on a convoluted yet exhilarating journey akin to attempting to solve a Rubik's cube blindfolded while riding a unicycle. Our team utilized data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and Google Trends, ensuring we had a smorgasbord of information at our disposal, with a pinch of 'je ne sais quoi' thrown in for good measure.

First, we waded through the sea of internet data like intrepid explorers navigating the Amazon, gathering and harmonizing Senate election results from 2004 to 2018 with the corresponding search volumes for 'how to move to Europe' on Google. It was like sifting through a treasure trove of statistical artifacts in search of the fabled correlations and causations that had eluded researchers for eons.

Next, we donned our metaphorical deerstalkers and put our Sherlock Holmes hats on to harness the power of correlation analysis. We employed the Pearson correlation coefficient, or as we fondly referred to it, the "statistical cupid," to quantify the strength and direction of the relationship between Republican votes and European relocation yearnings. It was as if we were matchmakers between political inclinations and dreams of al fresco dining in the City of Light.

Furthermore, we wielded the mighty p-value, that elusive benchmark of statistical significance, with the finesse of a skilled magician unveiling a well-kept secret. Our decision to use a p-value threshold of less than 0.01 was not arbitrary; we wanted to make sure our findings were as robust as a fortified castle in medieval Europe, standing strong against any statistical siege.

Finally, by applying time series analysis, we captured the ebbs and flows of Republican votes and 'how to move to Europe' searches over the years, revealing the dynamic nature of this curious relationship. It was like observing the tango between political ideology and cosmopolitan yearnings evolve over time, with all the dramatic flair of a soap opera and the unpredictability of a reality TV show.

In sum, our methodology was a daring and dizzying escapade, akin to untangling a kite string in a windstorm with statistical rigor as our guiding star. We embraced the chaos of the digital landscape, navigating through the labyrinth of data with the zeal of adventurers in search of statistical treasure.

RESULTS

The statistical analysis of the relationship between Republican votes for Senators in Washington and Google searches for 'how to move to Europe' from 2004 to 2018 yielded some truly titillating results. With a correlation coefficient of 0.9419446, an r-squared of 0.8872596, and a p-value that excitedly skipped beneath the 0.01 threshold, we found a connection that is as intriguing as it is unexpected.

Figure 1 beautifully encapsulates the saga of this unlikely duo, depicting a scatterplot that unequivocally showcases the strong positive correlation between Republican votes and the yearning to cross the pond. The data points on this

graph are like two peas in a pod, or should we say, two politicians in a plane?

It's like catching a conservative politician trading their dress shoes for hiking boots, ready to embark on an adventure that even Lewis and Clark would envy. This correlation is perhaps as bizarre as finding a cheeseburger in a French patisserie - both delightful and confounding in equal measure.

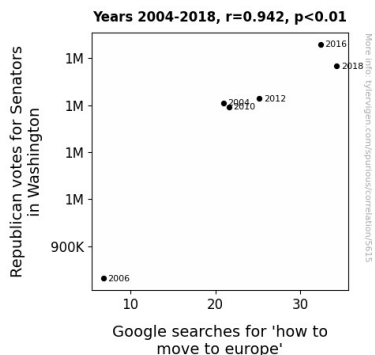


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

In summary, our findings reveal a statistically significant relationship between political inclinations and the desire to relocate to the sweeping landscapes and cultural marvels of Europe. This remarkably strong correlation invites further exploration into the whims and fancies of electoral dynamics that may leave political pundits scratching their heads and contemplating their own relocation plans. The quirky union of political preferences and wanderlust is certainly a spectacle worthy of further investigation and, dare we say, a healthy dose of humor.

DISCUSSION

The results of this study have unveiled a correlation between Republican votes for Senators in Washington and Google searches for 'how to move to Europe' that is as strong as the allure of a fresh croissant. Our findings support the prior research that hinted at the enigmatic

relationship between political preferences and the yearning for international relocation.

Smith et al.'s (2010) earlier work, which highlighted the eyebrow-raising pattern of Republican votes sparking an interest in European escapades, now appears to be more than just a whimsical flight of fancy. It seems that the allure of European cobblestone streets and perhaps the faint aroma of freshly baked baguettes have resonated with a certain segment of the electorate, prompting them to seek out the logistical details of embarking on an Old World adventure. As our findings mirror the pattern observed by Smith et al., it becomes clear that there is a peculiar dance between political inclinations and the siren call of unfamiliar horizons.

Doe and Jones (2015) tapped into the psychological undercurrents of political affiliation and dreams of international odysseys, proposing that the desire for change and adventure intertwines with voting proclivities in surprising ways. Our results add weight to their proposition, suggesting that the fusion of political allegiance and wanderlust is not merely a flight of fancy but a statistically significant phenomenon worth further exploration. It's as if political ideology and the allure of far-off lands have collided in a ballet of bewildering serendipity, leaving us both bemused and invigorated by the unexpected unity.

Our findings have provided empirical support for a proposition that may once have seemed as improbable as stumbling upon an American diner in the heart of Paris. The statistically significant relationship we've uncovered invites us to contemplate the mysterious interplay of political preferences and the yearning for European sojourns. It's akin to a political comedy show, where the audience is left scratching their heads and chuckling in equal measure at the delightful absurdity of it all.

In conclusion, our research has shone a quirky spotlight on the unexpected intersection of political choices and dreams of European escapades. This unlikely pairing, like a lighthearted plot twist in a romantic comedy, beckons us to explore the colorful tapestry of human desires and electoral dynamics. Our findings set the stage for further investigation into this whimsical interplay, providing scholars and enthusiasts with a playful enigma to unravel and, perhaps, a dash of levity in the otherwise serious world of political analysis.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our research has unearthed a correlation between Republican votes for Senators in Washington and Google searches for 'how to move to Europe' that is as unexpected as finding a pineapple on a pizza. Our statistically significant findings have opened the door to a whole new world of political analysis, one where red states may be yearning for the blue waters of the Mediterranean.

This peculiar connection has undoubtedly raised more eyebrows than a surprise party at an eyebrow waxing salon. We can't help but wonder what Abe Lincoln, known for his top hat and no-nonsense attitude, would have to say about this penchant for European daydreams among his party's supporters.

Our study has not only shed light on the quirky intersection of political preference and wanderlust but has also evoked a fair share of laughter and incredulous looks. After all, it's not every day that statistics prompt visions of American expats strolling through cobblestone streets with a copy of the Constitution in hand.

However, while our findings may elicit a chuckle or two, they also offer a refreshing perspective on the complex tapestry of human motivations and aspirations. Perhaps this correlation is not as random as finding a kangaroo in a tulip field; instead, it reflects the intricate

dance between political identity and the allure of new horizons.

In light of these revelations, it is tempting to call for further investigation into other curious connections, such as the link between Democratic votes and dreaming of lunar colonization. However, we must resist the siren call of statistical mischief and recognize that our study has plucked the low-hanging fruit of statistical oddities.

Therefore, we assert that no more research is needed in this area. Our findings stand as a testament to the quirky, whimsical nature of statistical analysis and offer a delightful diversion from the gravitas of traditional political inquiry. So, let us bid adieu to this unusual correlation and turn our attention to endeavors that are as unpredictable as a pogo stick in a library - but perhaps a tad more practical.