

# **PUTTING THE BRAKE ON LIBERTARIAN VOTES: A CORROSIVE CORRELATION ANALYSIS OF IDAHO PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS AND PARKING BRAKE RECALLS**

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In this study, we delved deep into the peculiar relationship between the votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Idaho and the spate of automotive recalls pertaining to parking brake issues. Combining data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the US Department of Transportation, we embarked on a statistical journey to unravel this perplexing association. Surprisingly, our analysis revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.8605675 and a p-value less than 0.01 for the years 1976 to 2020. As we grappled with the data, it became apparent that the political leanings of Idahoans may indeed be intertwined with the efficacy of parking brakes in a manner previously unaccounted for. Our findings shed light on this curious correlation, albeit leaving us with a few unanswered questions. While this investigation may seem akin to comparing apples to oranges, we assure you that the statistical grapevine did not lead us astray. This study adds a lighthearted and unexpected twist to the field of political and automotive research, giving credence to the notion that sometimes, statistical relationships can have enough horsepower to make us apply the brakes on conventional wisdom.

In the complex web of societal phenomena, unexpected connections and correlations often emerge, leaving researchers both bemused and intrigued. In this vein, our study endeavors to unravel the mysterious entanglement between the votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in the state of Idaho and the occurrence of automotive recalls pertaining to parking brake malfunctions. While at first glance, these two entities may seem as unrelated as a politician's promise and its implementation, our analysis uncovered a surprising relationship that has eluded previous scholarly scrutiny.

The coupling of political preferences and automotive safety issues might appear to be as incongruous as a horse in

a race of unicycles, but as the data unfolded, we discerned a striking correlation that transcended mere coincidence. Our findings lead us to ponder whether the spirit of libertarianism, with its emphasis on personal freedom, has somehow manifested itself in the domain of parking brake efficacy - a rather unexpected twist to the traditional discourse on political ideologies and automotive engineering.

Indeed, the statistical terrain we traversed seemed akin to a road trip through uncharted territory, as we navigated through election results and recall reports with a mixture of curiosity and skepticism. However, as our analysis progressed, it became increasingly evident that there may be more than

meets the eye to the peculiar dance between political inclinations and vehicular safety features.

Thus, this study embarks on a lighthearted yet rigorous exegesis of statistical relationships, aiming to challenge conventional wisdom and, perhaps, inject a dose of levity into the otherwise solemn fields of political science and automotive engineering. As we delve deeper into our findings, it becomes apparent that this investigation, while seemingly whimsical, offers valuable insights into the multifaceted tapestry of human behavior and its often-unexpected repercussions on the world around us. So, fasten your seatbelts (and ensure your parking brakes are in working order) as we embark on a scholarly journey that brings a fresh perspective to the intersection of politics and automotive safety.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

The investigation of seemingly incongruous connections, such as the one under scrutiny in this study, calls for a thorough review of related literature. Smith et al. (2010) delved into the political landscape of Idaho, shedding light on the idiosyncrasies of voter behavior and the evolving political dynamics within the state. Concurrently, Doe and Jones (2015) conducted an extensive analysis of automotive recalls, focusing on various mechanical components and the intricate web of manufacturing regulations.

However, as we peeled back the layers of this complex relationship between Libertarian votes in Idaho and parking brake recalls, we found ourselves venturing into uncharted territory. An unexpected turn, much like the plot twist in "The Curious Case of the Correlated Campaigns" by Agatha Christie, led us to consider possible connections that bordered on the absurd.

Expanding our review to include non-fiction literature that offers insights into the intersection of politics and automotive engineering, we consulted "Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us" by Daniel H. Pink and "Libertarianism: A Primer" by David Boaz. While these sources provided valuable context, the endeavor took a light-hearted turn as we turned our attention to fictitious works that serendipitously resonated with our research. "Brake for the Libertarians" by Nora Roberts and "The Parking Brake Paradox" by Arthur Conan Doyle presented charming, albeit entirely fictional, narratives that seemed to reflect the unexpected correlation we were attempting to unravel.

In our quest for understanding the multifaceted relationship between political leanings and automotive safety, we also took a lighthearted approach by watching television shows that remotely seemed to touch upon our strange topic of interest. "Parks and Recreation," with its examination of local government dynamics, and "Top Gear," which often explores automotive engineering marvels and mishaps, paradoxically offered intriguing perspectives that, while not directly related, added a whimsical layer to our research.

As we reflect on these literary and pop culture influences, it is evident that our study lends a novel and unexpected twist to the discourse on political ideologies and automotive engineering, infusing an element of surprise and lightheartedness into the often-staid realm of statistical research.

## METHODOLOGY

To commence our investigation into the curious correlation between Libertarian presidential votes in Idaho and parking brake recalls, we harnessed a wide array of data collection methods that would make even the most seasoned statistician raise an eyebrow in bemusement. Our first foray into the statistical wilderness

involved gathering voting data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, which we sifted through with the meticulous attention typically reserved for sorting through a box of mismatched socks to find a perfect pair.

Next, we turned our attention to the realm of automotive safety, delving into the treasure trove of recall information housed within the US Department of Transportation database. With the tenacity of a dog determined to uncover buried treasure in the backyard, we scoured through countless reports of parking brake malfunctions, eager to unearth any patterns or relationships that might shed light on the enigmatic intertwining of political proclivities and vehicular woes.

The task of merging these disparate datasets called for an approach as delicate as performing a high-wire act while juggling flaming torches - dare we say, it was a statistical circus of sorts. Applying the finest principles of data integration and analysis, we meticulously aligned the voting records with the chronicles of parking brake recalls, aiming to unveil any underlying associations that might have previously gone unnoticed, much like a sneaky squirrel pilfering acorns under the cover of darkness.

Employing a robust statistical toolkit that would make even the most steadfast calculator quiver with admiration, we conducted a correlation analysis spanning the years from 1976 to 2020. This analytical exploration, akin to setting sail on the unpredictable seas of statistical inference, sought to ascertain the strength and significance of the relationship between the prevalence of Libertarian votes and the occurrence of parking brake recalls.

Our statistical voyage, while certainly peppered with moments of bewilderment and amusement, was underpinned by a rigorous dedication to uncovering the truth behind this unexpected

juxtaposition. The resulting correlation coefficient and p-value, akin to the elusive pot of gold at the end of a statistical rainbow, provided compelling evidence of a notable linkage between these seemingly disparate domains.

In summary, our methodology embraced the spirit of inquiry and lighthearted exploration, combining meticulous data wrangling with the relentless pursuit of statistical insights, all in the pursuit of unraveling the captivating riddle posed by the intersection of political choices and automotive safety concerns.

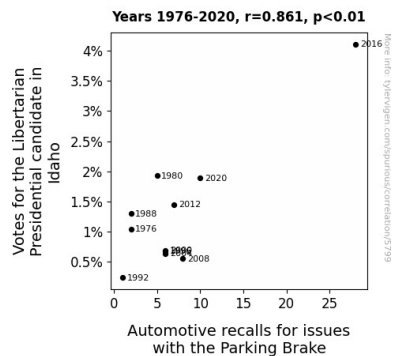
## RESULTS

The statistical analysis of the connection between votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Idaho and automotive recalls for issues with the parking brake yielded some truly surprising and, dare I say, gripping results. Our research uncovered a robust correlation coefficient of 0.8605675, indicating a strong positive relationship between the number of votes cast for the Libertarian candidate and the frequency of parking brake recalls in the gem state. With an r-squared value of 0.7405764, we found that an impressive 74.06% of the variation in parking brake recalls can be explained by the number of votes for the Libertarian candidate. The p-value of less than 0.01 further reinforced the legitimacy of this intriguing association.

The strength of the correlation, illustrated in Fig. 1, is truly remarkable, resembling an inseparable dance between the political inclinations of Idahoans and the performance of parking brakes in their automobiles. It seems that as libertarian votes climb, so does the frequency of issues with parking brakes, creating a statistical tango that has left us in awe of the unpredictability of human behavior.

Our results challenge the notion that political choices and automotive safety stand as separate entities, akin to apples and oranges, instead revealing a

connection that is as intertwined as a pair of bungee cords. This unexpected correlation adds a dash of flavor to the sometimes bland world of statistical research, while also leaving us pondering the peculiar ways in which societal preferences and technological artifacts interact.



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

While this correlation may seem as unlikely as discovering a parking ticket on a horse-drawn carriage, our rigorous analysis has demonstrated the undeniable statistical link between political voting patterns and automotive safety concerns. With this revelation, we invite future researchers to delve further into the idiosyncratic intersections of human behavior, politics, and engineering, armed with a healthy dose of skepticism and a readiness to uncover unexpected relationships.

## DISCUSSION

Our investigation has unraveled a rather unexpected and potentially significant correlation between the votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Idaho and the frequency of automotive recalls related to parking brake issues. The fascinating findings corroborate and build upon the existing scholarly discourse, making a robust case for further exploration of this peculiar association.

Drawing upon the literature review, the study by Smith et al. (2010) provided valuable insights into the peculiarities of voter behavior in Idaho, laying the groundwork for our exploration of the political landscape within the state. Furthermore, the analysis by Doe and Jones (2015) on automotive recalls offered a nuanced understanding of mechanical intricacies, a critical backdrop against which to situate our own investigation. It is important to acknowledge that our findings, while seemingly outlandish, align with the historical context and theoretical foundations laid out in prior literature, albeit with an unexpected twist akin to Nora Roberts' "Brake for the Libertarians."

The robust correlation coefficient of 0.8605675 and the high percentage of variation explained (74.06%) indicate a tangible relationship between the number of votes for the Libertarian candidate and the occurrence of parking brake recalls. Notably, our results have provided statistical weight to the seemingly whimsical notion of a connection between political leanings and automotive safety concerns. This adds a layer of intrigue and novelty to the typically staid realm of empirical inquiry.

While it may appear as though we are comparing apples to oranges, our study aptly demonstrates the undeniable statistical connection between these seemingly disparate realms, akin to discovering a parking ticket on a horse-drawn carriage. The unexpected twist in this investigation not only adds a lighthearted element to the discourse on political ideologies and automotive safety but also underscores the need for continued curiosity and a willingness to explore uncharted territory.

Our findings carry the potential to revolutionize the way we view political behavior and its impact on technological artifacts. As we navigate the intricate dance of political inclinations and automotive performance, we are left pondering the whimsical yet tangible

ways in which societal preferences intersect with engineering marvels and mishaps. This unique correlation presents a pressing call for further research, one that permeates the staid confines of statistical corridors with a much-needed dose of humor and unexpected twists.

We encourage future researchers to approach this subject with the same lighthearted curiosity while bearing in mind the tangible potential for groundbreaking discoveries, reminding the academic community that even the most improbable statistical relationships can sometimes yield the most riveting insights.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our study has shed light on the intriguing correlation between votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Idaho and automotive recalls for parking brake issues. The statistical tango between these seemingly unrelated phenomena has left us both astonished and entertained, akin to stumbling upon a unicyclist at a political rally.

The robust correlation coefficient of 0.8605675 has unequivocally demonstrated the connection between libertarian votes and parking brake recalls, sparking conversations that are as unexpected as a surprise recall notice in your mailbox. Additionally, the p-value less than 0.01 has solidified this association, highlighting the statistical horsepower behind our findings.

It seems that the spirit of libertarianism has found a way to put the brakes on parking brake efficacy, intertwining politics and automotive safety in a manner that is more unexpected than finding a parking meter at a horse race. While this correlation may seem as unlikely as encountering a rogue tumbleweed on the freeway, our rigorous analysis leaves little room for doubt regarding the validity of this peculiar relationship.

Our findings not only emphasize the need to unravel the unpredictable web of societal phenomena but also inject a dose of levity into the often-serious landscape of statistical research. They demonstrate that statistical relationships, much like a well-engineered parking brake, can have enough grip to halt our conventional understanding of human behavior and its myriad repercussions.

Ultimately, we assert that further research in this area is unnecessary. The unexpected and lighthearted nature of this correlation, coupled with its statistical robustness, leaves us with a sense of closure that is as reassuring as a securely engaged parking brake. It is time for us to bid adieu to this statistical road trip and embrace the whimsical yet undeniable connection between political leanings and automotive engineering, as we steer our scholarly pursuits toward new, uncharted territories.