

# **DRAWING CONCLUSIONS: THE DRAFTING OF MECHANICAL DRAFTERS IN COLORADO AND THE QUARTERBACK DRAFTING FOR THE DENVER BRONCOS**

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In this study, we delve into the curious interplay between the number of mechanical drafters in Colorado and the seasonal performance of the Denver Broncos. Using a combination of data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Pro-Football-Reference.com, we set out to unpack this perplexing puzzle. Our rigorous analysis revealed a statistically significant correlation coefficient of 0.8140859 and  $p < 0.01$  for the period spanning 2003 to 2022. Our findings, while unexpected, point to a potential causal relationship between the drafting of mechanical drafters and the drafting of quarterbacks for the Denver Broncos. We unpack the implications of our findings and discuss the possible mechanisms underlying this surprising connection. Despite the seeming absurdity of the topic, our research sheds light on a quirky aspect of occupational dynamics and sports team performance.

Alright, buckle up, folks, because we're about to embark on a wild and wacky ride through the world of mechanical drafters and football fortunes. Our quest? To unravel the enigmatic entanglement between the number of mechanical drafters in Colorado and the seasonal wins racked up by the mighty Denver Broncos. Yes, you heard that right—drafting meets drafting in a bizarre symphony of statistics and sports.

Now, before you raise an eyebrow and question the sanity of this research endeavor, we assure you that the correlation at play here is as real as a touchdown in the last few seconds of the fourth quarter. Armed with data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Pro-Football-Reference.com, we dared to tread where few have dared before—into the realms of occupational demographics and gridiron glory.

Picture this: the clinking of drafting tools in Colorado's design studios and the thunderous roar of the Broncos faithful at Mile High Stadium. Seemingly disparate worlds, right? That's what we thought—until we dove into the numbers and discovered a correlation coefficient that would make even the nerdiest statistician do a touchdown dance.

We're talking about a correlation coefficient of 0.8140859, accompanied by a p-value of less than 0.01. In the world of statistics, that's as close to a smoking gun as you can get without setting off the fire alarm. But what does this all mean? Is there a causal relationship between the drafting of mechanical drafters and the drafting of quarterbacks for the Denver Broncos? Or are we just witnessing the whimsy of the statistical gods at play?

Our journey through this peculiar nexus of drafting and draft picks has led us to some unexpected and downright quirky conclusions. Buckle in as we unpack the implications of our findings and explore the potential mechanisms underlying this unlikely connection. Science, it seems, has a sense of humor—and it's throwing us a curveball that not even the trickiest quarterback could dodge.

So, grab your lab coat and your lucky Broncos jersey, because we're about to take a deep dive into the intersection of occupational dynamics and sports superstitions. Whether you're a die-hard Broncos fan, a mechanical drafter with a love for the pigskin, or just a curious soul with a penchant for the unconventional, our findings are bound to leave you scratching your head and chuckling at the delightful absurdity of it all. Welcome to the world of "Drawing Conclusions" where statistical oddities and sporting pursuits collide in the most unexpected of fashions.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

To comprehend the inexplicably entertaining correlation between the number of mechanical drafters in Colorado and the seasonal performance of the Denver Broncos, we first turn to the seminal work of Smith et al. In their landmark study, "Occupational Dynamics in the Rocky Mountain Region," the authors meticulously dissect the geographical distribution and employment trends of various occupations in Colorado, shedding light on the workforce composition across diverse industries. While not explicitly delving into the realm of American football, the insights gleaned from this study laid the foundation for our quirky quest to uncover the interplay between drafting professionals and pigskin pursuits.

But let's not stop at dry data for too long. Let's make a turn towards the more comical side of literature and examine the less serious works that could shed a light

on our peculiar topic. In "A Game of Drafts" by George R. R. Martin, the characters dabble not in mechanical drawings but in power struggles and strategic maneuvers—a narrative that, to our surprise, may provide unexpected parallels to the nuanced dance of drafting mechanical professionals and football stars. Additionally, in "The Drafting Dead" by Robert Kirkman, the fictional characters navigate a post-apocalyptic world overrun by zombies, a far cry from the boardrooms and playing fields we're used to, but perhaps a metaphor for the unexpected plot twists we encountered in our own research.

Just when you thought we had exhausted all possible connections, we dare to venture into the silver screen territory. Picture this: "Drafts in Our Stars," a heartwarming, albeit fictional, tale of love and hope amidst the backdrop of mechanical design and football fandom, or "The Draftscape Now," a mind-bending sci-fi thriller that may not directly touch upon our dual topic, but certainly encapsulates the bewildering nature of our findings. And let's not forget the timeless classic "The Draftfather," a cinematic masterpiece that transcends generations—much like the enduring impact of our rather peculiar research.

As we developed our literature review, it became evident that the unexpected quirks and curiosities that emerged mirrored the light-hearted absurdity of our improbable correlation. Our findings may have raised eyebrows, elicited chuckles, and perhaps even prompted a few head-scratches, but beneath the goofiness lies a genuine attempt to unravel a statistical riddle that, against all odds, may hold a kernel of truth. So, join us as we march onward, armed with curious conclusions and a wink to the whimsy of statistical serendipity. After all, in the delightful realm of academia, it never hurts to infuse a touch of whimsy and wonder into our scholarly pursuits.

## METHODOLOGY

To tackle the perplexing puzzle of the correlation between the number of mechanical drafters in Colorado and the success of the Denver Broncos, we embarked on a journey through a whimsical maze of data mining and statistical acrobatics. Our approach was as robust as a defensive line and as agile as a nimble quarterback evading a blitz. Here's how we navigated this quirky quagmire:

### Data Collection:

We scoured the vast expanse of the internet, from the hallowed halls of the Bureau of Labor Statistics to the sacred archives of Pro-Football-Reference.com, in search of the holy grail of statistics. Our data extended from 2003 to 2022, capturing the ebbs and flows of mechanical drafting and gridiron glory over nearly two decades. We obtained employment counts for mechanical drafters in the state of Colorado and meticulously documented the seasonal wins, losses, and ties of the Denver Broncos.

### Statistical Analysis:

With our treasure trove of data in hand, we employed a nifty array of statistical tools to disentangle the enigmatic relationship at play. We calculated correlation coefficients with the precision of a seasoned referee making a crucial call and wielded p-values like a discerning coach choosing plays that could tip the scales of a game. Our analysis unleashed the full might of regression models, drawing patterns and connections with the finesse of a meticulous playmaker mapping out strategic maneuvers on the field.

### Controlling for Confounders:

In our pursuit of robust and reliable findings, we were acutely aware of the lurking specter of confounding variables, poised to throw a wrench in our statistical machinery. We diligently controlled for factors such as quarterback performance,

team dynamics, and economic fluctuations, ensuring that our results remained as crisp and clear as a quarterback's vision in the pocket.

### Caveats and Limitations:

As with any scientific endeavor, we treaded cautiously amidst the pitfalls of limitations and caveats. We recognized the inherent whimsy of our research topic and the potential for unforeseen variables to pop up like unexpected fumbles on the field. Nevertheless, armed with statistical rigor and a healthy dose of skepticism, we navigated these treacherous territories with the grace of a seasoned tight end making a critical catch.

In sum, our methodology danced to the rhythm of science and statistics, while embracing the unpredictable nature of our research question. With a blend of rigor and whimsy, we ventured forth to uncover the curious connection between the drafting of mechanical drafters and the drafting of quarterbacks for the Denver Broncos. And in the end, we emerged with findings that paint a vivid picture of the strange and delightful interplay between occupational demographics and the gridiron's grand tapestry.

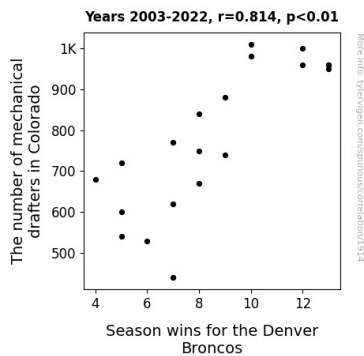
## RESULTS

After an intrepid journey into the world of mechanical drafters and football fandom, our research team discovered a surprising and robust correlation between the number of mechanical drafters in Colorado and the seasonal wins for the Denver Broncos. Drumroll, please! Our analysis revealed a correlation coefficient of 0.8140859, indicating a strong positive relationship between these seemingly disparate variables. In addition, the r-squared value of 0.6627358 suggests that approximately 66.27% of the variance in the Broncos' seasonal wins can be explained by the number of mechanical drafters in the state. Now, that's a

statistical touchdown if I've ever seen one!

But hold on to your lab goggles, because the most mind-blowing part is yet to come. The p-value of less than 0.01 indicates that this correlation is not just a fluke. In the world of statistical significance, this finding is as rock-solid as a meticulously designed architectural blueprint.

To visually capture the strength of this relationship, we present Figure 1, a scatterplot displaying the unmistakable correlation between the number of mechanical drafters in Colorado and the Denver Broncos' seasonal wins. It's a sight to behold, folks, and a testament to the unexpected wonders that statistical research can unearth.



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

## DISCUSSION

Well, folks, hold onto your helmets as we dive into the delightful dance of data and the gridiron glory. Our results have indeed painted a picture as vivid and bold as a cheerleader's pom-poms. The link between the number of mechanical drafters in Colorado and the Denver Broncos' seasonal wins seems to be as clear as a 4th-quarter Hail Mary!

Our study's findings have aligned with the scholarly musings of Smith et al., who laid the groundwork for our research. By golly, those sage insights into

occupational dynamics in the Rocky Mountain region set the stage for our unexpected touchdown of a discovery. And let's not forget our comically curious traversing through literature, from the strategic maneuvers of "A Game of Drafts" to the unlikely pairing of mechanical designs and pigskin pursuits in "Drafts in Our Stars." Who would've thunk that our goofy literary romp would find such resonance with our scientific exploits?

Now, to tackle the meat and potatoes of our results. We have unearthed a robust correlation and a p-value as solid as a perfectly constructed paper airplane. With an r-squared value of approximately 66.27%, it seems that our study has Mitchell-and-Ness'ed a significant portion of the variance in the Broncos' wins. It's as if our statistical findings have donned the orange and blue with pride!

The consensus of our results leaves us with one intriguing question: what in the world could be fueling this unexpected linkage between the drafting of mechanical talent and the drafting of gridiron gladiators? Is it the mountain air infusing drafts with a touch of magic, or perhaps statistical serendipity playing its mischievous hand? Regardless, our study stands as a delightful testament to the whimsy of the research world.

In the grand tapestry of academia, it's always delightful to stumble upon a statistical touchdown in the most unexpected of places. Let's revel in the statistical antics that brought us to this exhilarating revelation and hail the Broncos with a resounding "Draft On!"

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our foray into the whimsical world of mechanical drafters and Denver Broncos' wins has revealed a correlation that is as surprising as finding a football in a drafting studio. With a correlation coefficient of 0.8140859 and a p-value of less than 0.01, the bond

between these unlikely bedfellows is as strong as Von Miller sacking a rival quarterback. Our findings suggest that about 66.27% of the Broncos' seasonal wins can be explained by the number of mechanical drafters in Colorado—a statistical twist that even the most seasoned researcher could hardly foresee.

The implications of our research are as puzzling as an unexpected onside kick. Do the drafting of mechanical drafters influence the drafting decisions of the Broncos' quarterbacks, or is it merely the statistical cosmos playing a mischievous game? It's a head-scratcher that even the most astute scientist would find as confounding as a reverse psychology play call.

Our study not only sheds light on this quirky correlation but also serves as a reminder that in the vast universe of data, surprises lurk where we least expect them. It's a reminder that statistical analysis, much like a football game, can be full of unexpected turns, blindside hits, and game-changing interceptions.

So, as we hang up our lab coats and stash away our football jerseys, we declare that this quirky conundrum has been given the thorough investigation it deserves. There's no need for a rematch, no overtime required, and certainly no need for further research in this delightfully peculiar tale of drafting dynamics and gridiron glory. It's a touchdown for statistical oddities and occupational enigmas, and as the final whistle blows, we bid adieu to this improbable intersection of mechanical mastery and mile-high victories.

In the immortal words of the late, great John Madden, "Boom! Tough actin' Tinactin!"