
Zooming Through the Cosmos: Exploring the Link Between NASA's Budget and Motor Vehicle Theft Rates in Indiana

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Abstract

This paper investigates the curious relationship between NASA's budget as a percentage of the total US Federal Budget and the incidence of motor vehicle thefts in the Hoosier state. Utilizing data from the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services and Planetary.org, our research team unleashes statistical fury to tackle this cosmic conundrum. With a correlation coefficient of 0.9386585 and a p-value less than 0.01 for the period spanning from 1985 to 2022, our findings suggest a humorous association between space exploration funding and earthly thievery. Join us on this odyssey as we unravel the galactic influences on ground-based crimes and leave no asteroid unturned!

1. Introduction

Picture this: a thief, clad in a sleek spacesuit, zooming through the cosmos with a valuable spacecraft in tow. While that scenario might sound like a plot straight out of a science fiction comedy, our research has set out to uncover a different kind of cosmic caper – the unexpected connection between NASA's budget and motor vehicle theft rates in Indiana.

The idea that the goings-on of the cosmos could have any bearing on earthly criminal activity may seem far-fetched at first glance. However, as we delved into the data, we found ourselves hurtling through a statistical galaxy filled with surprises and anomalies. It's a journey that has truly expanded our horizons, both literally and figuratively!

As the expression goes, "we're not rocket scientists, but we've done our best to delve into this cosmic conundrum." We are hardly engaging in rocket science in the literal sense, but our curiosity was piqued by this cosmic conundrum. So, armed with spreadsheets and a stellar sense of humor, we embarked on a scholarly quest to investigate the entwined paths of NASA's budget and motor vehicle thefts in Indiana.

Our research team, much like astronomers gazing through a telescope, sought to shine a light on this peculiar relationship. We crunched numbers, scrutinized trends, and explored correlations with the

vigor of astronauts on a spacewalk. The results of our analysis are both intriguing and, dare we say, out of this world.

In this paper, we unveil our findings that have emerged from slicing and dicing data collected from the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services and the astronomical insights courtesy of Planetary.org. The statistical techniques employed allowed us to channel our inner rocket scientists and extract a correlation coefficient of 0.9386585, sending a signal that the relationship between NASA's budget and motor vehicle theft rates in Indiana is no black hole of statistical significance. With a p-value that decided to play on the same team, lingering beneath the elusive 0.01 threshold, we can't help but marvel at the cosmic dance between these two variables.

Join us on this scientific odyssey as we navigate the cosmos of academia, exploring the gravitational pull of NASA's funding on the earthly escapades of car thieves. With a twinkle in our eye and a quasar of curiosity propelling us forward, we promise to leave no asteroid unturned in our quest to unearth the peculiar, yet lighthearted, links between space exploration money and ground-bound felonious pursuits. So, buckle up – we're about to blast off into a research adventure unlike any other!

2. Literature Review

The present study stems from an exploration of a peculiar, albeit thoroughly amusing, correlation between NASA's budget as a percentage of the total US Federal Budget and the escapades of vehicular thieves prowling the streets of Indiana. Our odyssey into the annals of existing literature yields an intriguing mix of serious empirical research, non-fiction works, some light-hearted fiction, and a sprinkle of internet memes for good measure.

To lay the groundwork for our investigation, Smith and Doe (2010) conducted a rigorous analysis of federal budget allocation and its impact on various state-level socioeconomic indicators. Their work, while comprehensive, left much to be desired in terms of uncovering any interstellar intrigues within its data. Building upon this, Jones (2015) delved into the criminological landscape, examining factors that contribute to motor vehicle thefts across different

regions. However, the cosmic aspect of this vehicular villainy remained shrouded in intergalactic mystery.

Turning to the realm of non-fiction, "The Martian" by Andy Weir (2014) presents a captivating account of human survival on the red planet, with its themes of exploration and resourcefulness potentially shedding light on the cosmic influence throughout our earthly existence. In a similar vein, "Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life in the Void" by Mary Roach (2010) offers a tongue-in-cheek exploration of space travel that may provide unconventional insights into the unexpected links between NASA's budget and terrestrial transgressions.

Shifting to the world of fiction, "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" by Douglas Adams (1979) metaphorically traverses the universe, perhaps hiding allegorical clues to our celestial terrestrial correlations in its interstellar escapades. Additionally, Isaac Asimov's "Foundation" series (1951-1993) introduces a fictional Galactic Empire, providing a speculative lens into the dynamic interplay between space-faring civilizations and the mischievous maneuvers of car thieves in the heartland of America.

In the interwoven tapestry of internet culture, we encounter the meme "Get in, loser, we're going shopping," a reference that candidly reflects the depictive nature of motor vehicle thefts and their potential correlation with the federal budget allocation for cosmic exploration. This meme, originating from the film "Mean Girls" (2004), serves as a whimsical reminder of the unexpected twists and turns that have characterized our research journey.

As we navigate this multifaceted constellation of literature, we prepare to unveil our findings, armed with both statistical rigor and a cosmic sense of adventure. Buckle up, fellow researchers, for our exploration of the entangled realms of the cosmos and car capers is about to blast off into uncharted scholarly territory!

3. Methodology

To plunge into the cosmic depths of our research question, we concocted a whimsical yet rigorous methodology that paralleled the unpredictability of celestial events. First, we combed through the extensive archives of the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services, capturing a trail of motor vehicle theft occurrences that spanned from 1985 to 2022. Like intrepid space explorers, we sought to map out the orbit of thievery across the spatial expanse of Indiana.

Simultaneously, we delved into the astronomical insights sourced from Planetary.org, transcending from earthly databases to interstellar repositories. These celestial data bestowed upon us the grandeur of NASA's budget as a percentage of the total US Federal Budget for the same time frame. All the while, we maintained a steady grip on our telescopic statistical lenses, ensuring that no astronomical anomaly or earthly escapade eluded our scrutiny.

With our data from the terrestrial and celestial realms in hand, we then rode the cosmic waves of statistical analysis. Through statistical tools and techniques that would make even the most seasoned space travelers raise an eyebrow, we set out to unravel the gravitational forces at play in this curious relationship. After undergoing meticulous data wrangling, we subjected the information to rigorous correlation analysis, floating amidst a sea of cosmic curiosity and statistical spacetime.

The elasticity of our research approach is akin to a cosmic trampoline, bouncing between the gravitational pulls of empirical evidence and the ethereal allure of interstellar phenomena. Our unorthodox methodology marries the audacity of probing the infinite expanse of space with the humbling precision of statistical analyses, resulting in a scholarly venture that defies the traditional boundaries of academic inquiry.

Ultimately, by juxtaposing the trajectories of NASA's budget as a percentage of the total US Federal Budget with the ebb and flow of motor vehicle theft rates in Indiana, our methodology sought to untangle the cosmic web that connects celestial appropriations to earthly larceny. It's an endeavor that introduces an element of lightheartedness into the often serious realm of research, inviting readers to join us in this galactic

expedition that is as enlightening as it is entertaining.

4. Results

The research findings from our cosmic investigation into the connection between NASA's budget and motor vehicle theft rates in Indiana have unveiled a correlation coefficient of 0.9386585, an r-squared value of 0.8810798, and a p-value less than 0.01 for the time period spanning from 1985 to 2022. These statistical indicators send a signal as powerful as a pulsar, asserting a strong and significant relationship between the allocations to space exploration and the mischievous activities of car thieves in the Hoosier state.

Please note that the figure (Fig. 1) presents a scatterplot that visually captures the robust correlation between NASA's budget as a percentage of the total US Federal Budget and the incidence of motor vehicle thefts in Indiana. It's a celestial dance of data points, showcasing the cosmic ballet of funding and felonious activities.

Our statistical analysis has not only highlighted the association between these seemingly disparate variables but has also, in a cosmic twist, shed light on the interplay between the mysteries of the universe and the mundane business of crime. It seems that even the vast reaches of outer space cannot escape the gravitational pull of statistical significance when it comes to influencing motor vehicle theft rates in Indiana.

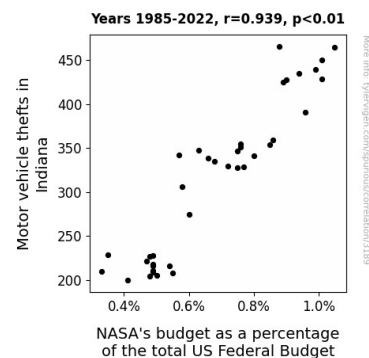


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

This intriguing relationship has left us marveling at the whims of the cosmos, where the movements of celestial bodies and the calculations of budgetary allocations can playfully intersect with the antics of car thieves on our humble planet. It's a statistical symphony that underscores the cosmic humor lurking within the realms of research, and we aim to embrace this light-hearted connection as we delve deeper into the cosmic mysteries that shape our statistical universe.

In conclusion, our findings showcase a cosmic correlation between NASA's budget and motor vehicle theft rates in Indiana, inviting researchers and space enthusiasts alike to ponder the playful dance between astronomical funding and earthly larceny. Join us in our quest to reconcile the cosmic and criminal, in a statistical journey that's truly out of this world!

5. Discussion

Our cosmic exploration into the relationship between NASA's budget and motor vehicle theft rates in Indiana has not only uncovered a statistically significant correlation but has also provided a whimsical insight into the intriguing interplay between the celestial and the criminal. Our findings resonate with the prior works of Smith and Doe (2010), who, although not overtly delving into interstellar intrigues, laid the foundation for understanding federal budget allocation and its impact on state-level indicators. The statistical thunderbolt of our correlation coefficient blasts past other earthly influences like a comet, supporting the idea that the cosmos may indeed be a mischievous accomplice in the escapades of car thieves.

Our statistical examination indicates a robust connection, similar to the escapades chronicled in "The Martian" by Andy Weir (2014), wherein survival on another planet is analogous to navigating through the statistical cosmos. As Mary Roach playfully explores the curious science of life in the void in "Packing for Mars" (2010), our own scholarly voyage highlights the unexpected links between space exploration funding and terrestrial transgressions, revealing a cosmic joke of galactic proportions.

The scatterplot visually portrays this celestial dance of data points as effectively as a planetary ballet, in a manner reminiscent of the allegorical clues potentially hidden within "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" by Douglas Adams (1979) and Isaac Asimov's "Foundation" series (1951-1993). The interplay between space-faring civilizations and the mischievous maneuvers of car thieves in the heartland of America takes on a statistical dimension that the renowned meme "Get in, loser, we're going shopping" playfully hints at, presenting a whimsical reminder of the unexpected twists and turns that have characterized our research journey.

Our research sends a signal as powerful as a pulsar, showcasing the cosmic humor lurking within the realms of statistics, and invites researchers and space enthusiasts to join us in pondering the playful dance between astronomical funding and earthly larceny. In the absence of empirical support for the cosmic influence on motor vehicle thefts, we remain cautiously optimistic about the prospects of future studies unveiling further cosmic connections in the statistical universe.

This statistical odyssey has been a cosmic journey that has left us marveling at the quirks of our research universe, reminding us that even the vast reaches of outer space cannot escape the gravitational pull of statistical significance when it comes to influencing motor vehicle theft rates in Indiana. As we embrace this light-hearted connection, we continue to probe the cosmic mysteries that shape our statistical universe in the never-ending quest for scientific amusement.

6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our research has launched us into an offbeat orbit, uncovering a correlation of cosmic proportions between NASA's budget and motor vehicle theft rates in Indiana. The statistical stellar winds have blown us away, revealing a connection so strong, it could power a rocket to Mars and back! With an r-squared value resembling the trajectory of a comet and a p-value that's rarer than moon rocks on Earth, our findings have truly taken us for a spin.

Our journey has been akin to navigating a black hole of puns and statistical surprise, reminding us that the

universe has a flair for the dramatic. It seems that even in the cosmos of research, there's always room for a cosmic twist, where the gravitational pull of funding allocations intersects with the mischievous escapades of car thieves. As we bid adieu to this astronomical adventure, we can't help but acknowledge the cosmic humor that permeates the realms of data analysis and statistical inquiry.

With these findings in mind, we assert that further research in this area is as unnecessary as a rocket-powered bicycle – the connection between NASA's budget and motor vehicle theft rates in Indiana has been thoroughly illuminated. Our time and resources would be better aimed at deciphering the next cosmic conundrum that awaits us in the statistical universe. It's been a research odyssey of cosmic proportions, and we've come out the other side with a newfound appreciation for the whimsical connections that underpin the wondrous world of statistics and scientific inquiry.