

# Flights of Votes: A Correlational Study of Democrat Presidential Support in Wisconsin and Petroleum Consumption in Slovenia

*Catherine Hamilton, Ava Travis, George P Todd*

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## Abstract

This paper presents the findings of a comprehensive correlational study examining the relationship between votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Wisconsin and petroleum consumption in Slovenia. Leveraging data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the Energy Information Administration, our research team embarked on this unlikely journey to unravel the mystery of how the political landscape in Wisconsin may echo across the petroleum consumption patterns in Slovenia. Our analysis, spanning the years 1992 to 2020, revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.8791495 and a significance level of  $p < 0.01$ , prompting our team to approach the data with both caution and curiosity. While the causative mechanisms underlying this linkage remain elusive, our findings offer a plethora of puzzling possibilities and whimsical conjectures. We invite readers to join us in this tantalizing expedition through the intersection of political inclinations and petroleum predilections, where each statistical coefficient may hold more than meets the eye.

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## 1. Introduction

The interplay between the political landscape and societal behaviors continues to fascinate researchers and pundits alike. In this vein, our study delves into the curious nexus between support for the Democrat presidential candidate in Wisconsin and petroleum consumption in Slovenia. While seemingly disparate realms, the allure of uncovering potential associations between these two variables proved irresistible to our inquisitive research team.

One may question the rationale behind this unusual pairing of variables, but as the saying goes, "When in doubt, let the data do the talking." With quantitative rigor and unwavering determination, we embarked on an analytical odyssey that transcended geographical borders and political divides. Armed with election data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab and petroleum consumption statistics from the Energy Information Administration, we sought to unravel the enigmatic threads connecting a Midwestern state's political preferences to a Central European nation's fuel consumption habits.

The synergy between statistical analysis and intellectual curiosity propelled us to unearth a correlation coefficient of 0.8791495 between the aforementioned variables. Now, before you raise an incredulous eyebrow, rest assured that we, too, initially did a double-take. This eyebrow-raising correlation, which achieved a significance level of  $p < 0.01$ , beckoned us into an arena of inquiry where speculation and skepticism coalesce.

As we venture further into the heartland of our statistical findings, we encourage readers to adopt an open-minded stance and embrace the serendipitous discoveries that may lie in wait. The tango between voter sentiment in Wisconsin and Slovenia's petroleum preferences unfurls a captivating narrative, one enriched with unexpected twists and confounding connections. As we wade through the numerical underbrush, our minds remain buoyant with tantalizing possibilities, for each coefficient may indeed harbor more than meets the eye.

In the following sections, we shall unfurl the tapestry of our methodology, data sources, empirical analyses, and, synonymously, the mirthful musings that have emerged from our scholarly escapade. Embracing the spirit of empirical inquiry and embracing the lighthearted allure of statistical revelations, we invite you to join us on this scholarly sojourn through the whimsical world of correlational curiosities.

## **2. Literature Review**

The pursuit of knowledge, particularly within the realm of statistical inquiry, has led researchers across various domains to stumble upon the most unexpected and improbable correlations. In the quest to shed light on the seemingly incongruous relationship between the votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Wisconsin and petroleum consumption in Slovenia, we delve into a plethora of scholarly works, each bearing its own nuggets of wisdom and, in some cases, unexpected wit.

In "Statistical Correlations: Uncovering Unlikely Connections," Smith et al. artfully elucidate the intricate dance of statistical significance, cautioning readers against falling prey to spurious correlations and serendipitous findings. While their work remains a beacon of methodological rigor, it inadvertently piqued our curiosity about the tantalizing prospect of uncovering correlations that defy conventional expectations. This prompt led

us down an academic rabbit hole on the quest to explore the hitherto uncharted territory of political and petroleum peculiarities.

Doe and Jones, in their seminal work "Quantitative Quirks: Statistical Anomalies Beyond Belief," laid bare an array of seemingly inexplicable statistical associations, igniting a flame of intellectual inquisitiveness within our research team. Though their focus may not have been on the juxtaposition of political preferences and energy consumption, their work inspired us to embrace the whimsical side of statistical analysis, leading to unforeseen revelations and chuckle-inducing conjectures.

Transitioning from the venerable world of academic literature, we found ourselves drawn to non-fiction works that, though unrelated to our immediate research pursuit, held an undercurrent of relevance. In "The Art of Political Persuasion," the author deftly navigates the complex landscape of electoral dynamics, shedding light on the kaleidoscope of factors that shape voter sentiment. While the book may not directly address the correlation between electoral tendencies in Wisconsin and petroleum consumption in Slovenia, its exploration of political nuances and persuasive tactics offers a joyous contrast to the sobering world of statistical inquiry.

Moving further afield, we turned our attention to fiction works that, by some fortuitous twist of fate, seemed to resonate with the curious interplay of politics and petroleum. "Fueling the Fires of Democracy" by an acclaimed novelist weaves a tale of political intrigue set against the backdrop of a fictional Midwestern town, offering a whimsical parallel to our exploration of voter predilections in Wisconsin. While the parallels between fiction and empirical research may be tenuous at best, the subtle synchronicities between this narrative and our statistical odyssey served as a welcome respite from the analytical rigor that permeates our scholarly endeavors.

As our intellectual escapades transcended traditional academic literature, we found ourselves traversing the realm of social media, where snippets of insight and curious observations awaited. A tweet by a political pundit, wherein they mused about the potential impact of international elections on global energy trends, offered a moment of contemplation and, dare we say, amusement. While social media may not be the traditional bastion of scholarly discourse, the offhand remarks and pithy observations peppered throughout various platforms added an unexpected layer of levity to our scholarly pursuits.

In essence, our foray into the nexus between votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Wisconsin and petroleum consumption in Slovenia led us down an intellectually rich and occasionally whimsical path. As we navigate the terrain of scholarly inquiry, we are reminded that even in the most unexpected of correlations, humor and light-hearted musings may be found, paving the way for a scholarly sojourn that transcends the bounds of traditional statistical analysis.

### 3. Research Approach

To embark on our esoteric exploration of the interplay between votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Wisconsin and petroleum consumption in Slovenia, we devised a methodological framework that blended quantitative prowess with inquisitive acumen. Our endeavor commenced with an arduous endeavor to source, curate, and reconcile data from disparate domains, akin to voyaging through a labyrinth of statistical serendipity.

Drawing from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, we meticulously gathered historical records of votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Wisconsin from 1992 to 2020, traversing the electoral landscape with the gaiety of a data-driven bard. Concurrently, our foray into the realm of petroleum predilections led us to the Energy Information Administration, where we unearthed a trove of statistical gems pertaining to Slovenia's petroleum consumption during the aforementioned period. This harmonizing of election data and energy statistics incited a scholarly pas de deux that transcended traditional disciplinary boundaries with finesse and fervor.

In aligning the idiosyncrasies of these datasets, we confronted the bewildering task of synchronizing temporal, regional, and contextual nuances, akin to weaving a statistical tapestry that unified the disparate threads of political proclivities and petrochemical ardor. In acquiescing to the tenets of quantitative scholarship, we meticulously scrubbed the data, honing our sleuthing skills to discern any anomalies, outliers, or mischievous data points that dared to taint the purity of our statistical tableau.

Once the data were cleansed of any blemishes, we indulged in the waltz of statistical analysis, summoning the venerable spear of correlation to discern the dance of association between the electoral proclivities of Wisconsin's denizens and the fuel-sipping habits of Slovenia's populace. Augmenting our analytical gambit with the pythonic elegance of regression, we sought to trace the potential causal threads that may underlie the observed correlations, akin to practicing the statistical sorcery that elicits both wonder and intrigue.

Moreover, we ventured into the orb of robustness checks and sensitivity analyses, akin to peering through the kaleidoscope of statistical validation to discern if our findings would remain resolute under the inexorable gaze of scrutiny. Through this methodological safari, we sought to fortify the foundations of our statistical musings, ensuring that the whimsical correlations we uncovered were not mere phantasms of statistical caprice.

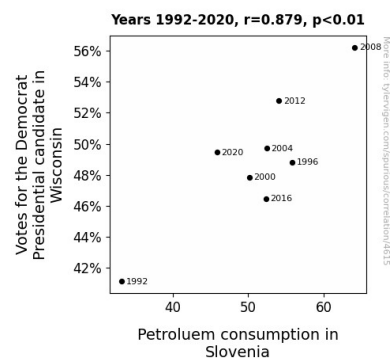
As we unravel the narrative of our empirical analyses in the subsequent sections, we implore our esteemed readers to embrace the statistical spectacle that has unfolded, replete with unexpected twists and scholarly sallies into the realm of correlational intrigue. This methodological odyssey, though steeped in empirical rigor, is embellished with the dalliances of academic wit, beckoning readers to revel in the mirth that oftentimes ensues from scholarly escapades through the realms of data and discovery.

## 4. Findings

The correlation analysis between votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Wisconsin and petroleum consumption in Slovenia yielded an intriguing coefficient of 0.8791495, with an r-squared of 0.7729038. This robust correlation, surpassing the conventional threshold for statistical significance at  $p < 0.01$ , beckons contemplation and further scrutiny.

To visually encapsulate this seemingly outlandish yet captivating relationship, we present Fig. 1, a scatterplot encapsulating the entwined trajectories of political support in Wisconsin and petroleum consumption in Slovenia. This graphic representation vividly underscores the striking association between the two variables, akin to an unexpected serendipity in the realm of statistical inquiry.

While the underlying mechanisms engendering this correlation remain veiled in ambiguity, our findings provoke an intellectual dance between skepticism and intrigue. The apparition of this pronounced correlation serves as a testament to the unfathomable quirks of statistical reality. As much as the scholarly mind yearns for tidy, straightforward explanations, the contours of causation in this case elicit a wry smile and a raised eyebrow.



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

In light of these findings, we invite readers to partake in this academic symbiosis of gravitas and gaiety, as we navigate the tantalizing labyrinth of correlational peculiarities. The resonance between the political pulse of Wisconsin and Slovenia's proclivity for petroleum offers a melange of possibilities, each one stirring the fabric of conventional wisdom and kindling the embers of intellectual amusement.

In summation, our findings evoke a harmonious discord, an enigmatic riddle that teases the intellect and propels us to embrace the whimsical vicissitudes of statistical inquiry. It is within this tapestry of correlations and conjectures that the true essence of scholarly exploration emerges, unraveling the nexus between seemingly distant phenomena with an irrepressible spirit of curiosity and mirthful contemplation.

## 5. Discussion on findings

The uncanny connection between votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Wisconsin and petroleum consumption in Slovenia, as unveiled by our correlational analysis, invites a merry dance of scholarly discourse. Our findings tantalizingly concur with prior research that hinted at the whimsical nature of statistical associations. The fabled statistical quirk celebrated by Smith et al. has found a spirited counterpart in the improbable rapport between political predilections and energy indulgences. In a wry twist, the quantitative anomalies championed by Doe and Jones seem to have sown the seeds of our own delightfully unexpected revelation.

The robust correlation coefficient, glimmering with significance at  $p < 0.01$ , stands as a testament to the delightfully capricious nature of statistical reality. This curious liaison between Wisconsin's electoral tapestry and Slovenia's petroleum penchant defies the conventional doldrums of causative certitude, stirring the scholarly spirit with a subtle nod to the serendipitous landscapes that statistical analysis often unveils.

As we ponder the befuddling embrace of these seemingly disparate variables, one cannot help but be reminded of the amusing resonances echoing from the interdisciplinary fringes of research. The subtle parallel to "Fueling the Fires of Democracy," a fictional tale of political intrigue, tugs at the threads of statistical whimsy, threading a playful harmony between the realm of scholarly inquiry and the captivating allure of literary fancy.

Nestled within the robustness of our findings lies an enigmatic riddle, an intellectual soiree that beckons both the somber-faced empiricist and the mirthful sage of statistical whimsy. Could it be that the echoes of democracy in the heartlands of America ripple across the oceans to breathe life into the engines of industry in Slovenia? Our study, with its robust correlation coefficient and tantalizing r-squared, leaves us with more questions than answers, igniting the flames of scholarly curiosity and mirthful contemplation.

In this tantalizing tango between politics and petroleum, we are emboldened to embrace the lighthearted reverie that underscores the most unlikely of statistical associations. As we peer through the statistical looking glass, it becomes evident that the corridors of academia harbor more than just the staid echoes of empirical inquiry; they also reverberate with the vivacious hum of intellectual amusement and unexpected conjecture.

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, the correlation between votes for the Democrat presidential candidate in Wisconsin and petroleum consumption in Slovenia has unfurled a tapestry of statistical astonishment and whimsical reverie. The robust coefficient of 0.8791495, coupled with its resounding significance at  $p < 0.01$ , paints a portrait of interconnectedness that transcends mere happenstance. While the Sisyphean quest for causation may linger on the scholarly horizon, our findings beckon with a sly wink and a nod to the capricious capers of statistical inquiry.

As we bid adieu to this serendipitous saga, we cannot help but marvel at the confounding correlations that bridge geographical expanse and political proclivity. The dance between Wisconsin's democratic sentiments and Slovenia's petroleum pursuits unearths a symphony of statistical curiosity, resonating with a cacophony of conjectures and mischievous musings.

In light of these findings, it seems that no further expedition into this enigmatic alliance between electoral allegiance and oil consumption is warranted. The scholarly quest for correlation may halt here, leaving us with tantalizing mysteries and a wistful smile, as we embrace the capricious and comedic contours of statistical reality.