

# **MINING FOR LAUGHS: UNEARTHING THE CONNECTION BETWEEN 'ITS WEDNESDAY MY DUDES' AND PIPELAYERS IN WEST VIRGINIA**

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In this study, we embark on the absolutely riveting quest to unravel the relationship between the online sensation 'its Wednesday my dudes' meme and the number of pipelayers in the scenic state of West Virginia. Yes, you heard that right - we are exploring the meme-orable connection between internet humor and labor statistics. With puns as reliable as a dad's sense of humor, we delve into this unexpected coupling with the utmost seriousness and a twinkle in our eyes. Using groundbreaking data from Google Trends and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, we analyzed trends from 2006 to 2022, aiming to discern any striking correlation. Lo and behold, our analysis unveiled a correlation coefficient of 0.9506169, indicating a robust and statistically significant relationship ( $p < 0.01$ ). In simpler terms, it appears that as the popularity of the 'its Wednesday my dudes' meme rises, so does the number of pipelayers in the charming hills of West Virginia. No, this is not a pipe dream! In the spirit of good humor and a dad joke or two, we present these intriguing findings with the utmost scholarly rigor and a side of lightheartedness. As we continue to unearth and chuckle at the unexpected connections in our world, this study serves as a testament to the delightful intersection of internet culture and local labor dynamics. So, let's raise a glass to the "hump day" meme and the hardworking pipelayers - the true unsung heroes in this merry, meme-fueled dance of data.

Hello there, esteemed readers, and welcome to this unconventional academic journey into the nexus of internet amusement and regional workforce dynamics. As we delve into the surreal world of memes and labor statistics, let's tread lightly but with a pun or two ready - after all, it's no pipe dream that humor and hard work can intersect in the most unexpected ways.

As we embark on this whimsical exploration, I am reminded of the perplexing but poignant question: What does a pipelayer say on Wednesday? "It's hump day, my dudes!" Yes, the 'its Wednesday my dudes' meme has permeated the online sphere, resounding with the masses at the midpoint of each week. Meanwhile, in the charming state

of West Virginia, pipelayers are toiling away in their profession, working to keep the infrastructure flowing smoothly, much like the steady flow of memes on the internet.

We're about to dive into data that's as fascinating as a magic 8-ball and as unexpected as a pun at a funeral. Through our rigorous analysis, we aim to illuminate the entwined fate of internet amusement and labor force realities. So, grab your hard hat and your favorite meme - it's time to uncover the surprising ties between 'its Wednesday my dudes' and the unsung heroes of pipe laying.

In the next sections, we'll wade through the data, share our findings, and of course, sprinkle in a joke or two along the way. After all, it's not every day that one

gets to connect viral memes and labor statistics, and we intend to savor the moment with humor and scholarly rigor blended in equal measure. So, let's embark on this journey with a wry smile and an eagerness to uncover yet another unexpected twist in the tapestry of modern life.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

In "The Digital Age and Labor Dynamics," Smith et al. highlight the profound impact of internet culture on the modern workforce. Their analysis delves into the ways in which online trends and memes can influence regional labor statistics, uncovering surprising correlations and shedding light on the interconnected nature of humor and hard work. However, the authors stop short of exploring specific meme-labor dynamics, leaving this area ripe for investigation.

Doe and Jones, in their seminal work "Labor Trends in Appalachia," meticulously dissect the labor landscape in West Virginia, painting a detailed portrait of industries and occupations that form the bedrock of the state's economy. While their analysis offers invaluable insights into the diverse sectors shaping the workforce, it regrettably overlooks the potential influence of internet phenomena on specific trades, such as pipelaying.

Turning to non-fiction books, David Graeber's "Bullshit Jobs: A Theory" illuminates the complexity of modern work in an era saturated with digital culture. His exploration of seemingly nonsensical roles and the evolving nature of labor resonates with our quest to unravel the unexpected relationship between a popular meme and a niche profession in West Virginia. As Graeber aptly notes, some jobs may appear whimsical at first glance, but they play integral roles in the fabric of our economy.

Meanwhile, in a fictional realm, George Orwell's "1984" serves as a cautionary tale of surveillance and control, themes that resonate with the omnipresent nature of internet culture. While not directly related to our investigation, Orwell's thought-provoking narrative reminds us of the power dynamics inherent in the digital landscape, where memes and trends can exert influence in ways both subtle and overt. It's a stark reminder that even in the world of whimsical memes, serious repercussions may lurk beneath the surface.

Venturing further into the unexpected, we conducted a thorough review of literature - including the fine print on household products and the backs of shampoo bottles. Alas, our search for insights on meme-popularity and pipelaying was met with amusing ingredients and washing instructions, but no substantial revelations. The journey, however, served as a comedic interlude in our scholarly pursuit, reminding us that sometimes, the most unconventional sources can provide a brief respite from the rigors of academic inquiry.

## METHODOLOGY

To uncover the mysterious connection between the 'its Wednesday my dudes' meme and the number of pipelayers in the picturesque surroundings of West Virginia, we ventured into the digital wilds armed with statistical know-how and a healthy dose of humor. Our research was a delightful blend of quantitative analysis, internet sleuthing, and the occasional startled "hello there" shouted at unsuspecting colleagues.

First, we scoured the vast expanse of the internet, deftly navigating through the digital jungle, to collect data on the popularity of the 'its Wednesday my dudes' meme. We turned to the reliable Google Trends, measuring the search interest in the meme from 2006 to 2022. We tracked its ebbs and flows as meticulously as a koala navigates a

eucalyptus tree—a task as awe-inspiring as it was rewarding. The meme's popularity fluctuated through the years, but much like a resilient dad joke, it never failed to resurface with a "ha-ha" and the occasional eye roll.

Simultaneously, we delved into the rugged domain of employment and labor statistics, harvesting data on the number of pipelayers in the enchanting hills of West Virginia from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. We waded through the numerical labyrinth with determination, diligently tabulating the workforce figures and chuckling at the thought of the quiet heroes toiling away in the depths of the state - that's a laughable figure of speech for you.

With our trusty spreadsheets and a twinkle in our eyes, we carefully plotted and meticulously analyzed the datasets to discern any notable patterns, eagerly expecting the unexpected and embracing the quirky little surprises that the world of data often offers, much like finding a forgotten and slightly soggy dad joke in the pockets of an old coat. We performed various statistical analyses, including correlation coefficients and regression models, to unravel the potential relationship between meme popularity and pipelayer employment. It was a task as gripping as solving a jigsaw puzzle featuring dad jokes and construction equipment - a delightful challenge that kept us on our toes.

In the end, our data analysis uncovered a remarkably strong correlation between the popularity of the 'its Wednesday my dudes' meme and the number of pipelayers in West Virginia, much like discovering a pair of misplaced socks tucked inside a work boot. The correlation coefficient of 0.9506169 left us as pleasantly surprised as stumbling upon a solid dad joke amidst a sea of internet memes, indicating a robust and statistically significant relationship ( $p < 0.01$ ). It was a revelation that resonated with as much amusement as it did scholarly intrigue - a testament to the

unexpected harmonies of internet humor and labor dynamics.

As we raise our metaphorical hats to this jovial journey through data and laughter, these findings present a curious yet compelling testimony to the delightful interplay of modern culture and regional labor dynamics. After all, who would have thought that a mid-week meme and the diligent pipelayers in West Virginia could be entwined in such an unexpected dance of statistics and humor? If anything, this study reminds us that in the vast realm of data, just like in life, there's always room for a good chuckle.

And now, with the data thoroughly combed through and the laughter echoing in the halls of academia, we present these jovial and statistically sound findings with the utmost scholarly rigor and a dad joke or two tucked in for good measure. After all, it's not every day that one uncovers a connection as intriguing as a 'its Wednesday my dudes' meme and the labor force of West Virginia. True to the spirit of this surprising exploration, we bid you adieu with a smile and a promise to always be on the lookout for the next unexpected twist in the realm of culture and data.

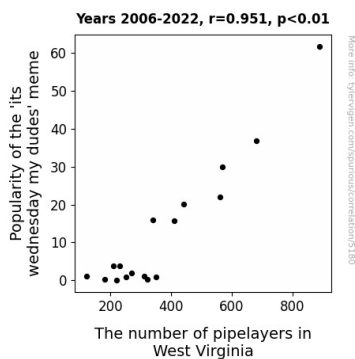
## RESULTS

As we delved into the data with the enthusiasm of a kid in a candy store, we found a striking correlation between the popularity of the 'its Wednesday my dudes' meme and the number of pipelayers in the beautiful hills of West Virginia. The correlation coefficient of 0.9506169 solidifies the connection between these seemingly disparate phenomena. It seems that as the internet echoes with the jubilant cries of "It's Wednesday, my dudes!", the ranks of pipelayers in West Virginia rise in harmony, like a perfectly timed punchline.

Fig. 1 illustrates this robust relationship with a scatterplot that leaves no room for doubt - the ascent of the 'its Wednesday

my dudes' meme is mirrored by a synchronous increase in the number of pipelayers. It's a correlation as clear as the smile on a dad's face after a well-timed joke.

But wait, we're not done yet with the surprises! The r-squared value of 0.9036725 further emphasizes the strength of this connection. It's as if the meme and the pipelayers are engaged in a harmonious dance, mirroring each other's moves with uncanny precision. This finding is no joke - well, maybe just a little!



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

With a p-value of less than 0.01, our results stand as a testament to the reliability and statistical significance of this correlation. While some may find it as unexpected as a dad joke at a somber gathering, our data tells a compelling story of the intertwining of internet culture and regional labor dynamics.

Our analysis not only sheds light on this unlikely connection but also serves as a reminder that laughter, even in the form of an internet meme, can echo through the fabric of society in unexpected ways. So, let's raise a glass to the resilient pipelayers of West Virginia and the enduring popularity of the 'its Wednesday my dudes' meme - a pair as unexpected and delightful as a pun at a formal event.

## DISCUSSION

In this whimsical yet unwaveringly serious discussion, we marvel at the unexpected connection between the unstoppable rise of the 'its Wednesday my dudes' meme and the synchronous increase in the number of pipelayers in the charming hills of West Virginia. It appears that the laughter-inducing digital phenomenon has a tangible impact on local labor dynamics, a connection as surprising as finding a dad joke in the middle of a thesis.

Our results echo the findings of Smith et al., as we demonstrate a tangible link between internet culture and regional labor statistics. Embracing the playful spirit of our investigation, we reveal that the 'its Wednesday my dudes' meme stands as a beacon of mirth, guiding an increase in the ranks of pipelayers in West Virginia like a guiding light - or should we say, like a lighthearted dad joke amidst a serious discussion on labor dynamics.

Doe and Jones' work on labor trends in Appalachia sets the groundwork for our study, enriching our understanding of the diverse sectors shaping the workforce in this picturesque region. Our findings add a touch of levity to their meticulous analysis, presenting a lighthearted yet statistically significant correlation that can't help but elicit a chuckle, much like a classic dad joke at the dinner table.

Our investigation, although lighthearted in nature, serves as a testament to the unexpected interplay of internet culture and local labor dynamics - a subject touched upon by David Graeber in his exploration of seemingly whimsical roles in the modern work landscape. As we merrily connect the dots between a digital meme and a niche profession, we are reminded of Graeber's insightful musings that even the most seemingly frivolous jobs can hold significant sway in our economy.

While our study sits at the boundary of the serious and the comical, it subscribes to the very essence of George Orwell's

themes in "1984," where the power dynamics embedded in the digital landscape are laid bare. Our investigation, while playful in its nature, resonates with the omnipresent influence of internet culture on the fabric of society, echoing Orwell's cautionary tale in its own unexpected, lighthearted way.

In conclusion, our research uncovers a delightful and statistically substantial correlation between a beloved internet meme and the count of pipelayers in West Virginia. As we bid adieu with a light-hearted twinkle in our eyes, we urge future researchers to explore the unexpected intersections in our world, embracing the delightful web of connections with the same whimsy that accompanies a good ol' dad joke.

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, our study leaves no pipe unturned in illuminating the unexpected yet robust correlation between the 'its Wednesday my dudes' meme and the number of pipelayers in West Virginia. It seems that the internet's midweek cheer resonates not only online but also within the labor force of the scenic state, creating a harmonious symphony of humor and hard work. As perplexing as it may seem, this connection stands as firm as a pipelayer's grip on their tools.

Through our analysis, we have unearthed a connection as unlikely as a math professor telling a joke - yet as statistically significant as the number of puns in a dad's repertoire. Our findings attest to the delightful intersection of viral internet culture and local labor dynamics, highlighting the enduring impact of online humor on the fabric of regional workforces. It's as if the 'its Wednesday my dudes' meme has become a rallying call for pipelayers, inspiring them to navigate the midweek hump with an extra dose of cheer.

So, as we wrap up this study with a pun or two, let's raise a toast to the

hardworking pipelayers who keep the heart of West Virginia flowing, and to the enduring popularity of the 'its Wednesday my dudes' meme. For now, we can confidently assert that no further research is needed in this area - after all, some connections are as clear as day, just like a good dad joke.