

# From Crying Jordan to Crying Train Repairs: An Unlikely Connection

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In this paper, we investigate the surprising, and somewhat comical, relationship between the popularity of the 'crying michael jordan' meme and the number of rail car repairers in Mississippi. Using Google Trends data for the meme's search popularity and Bureau of Labor Statistics data for the number of rail car repairers, we analyzed the correlation between these seemingly unrelated variables. Our findings revealed a correlation coefficient of 0.8014994 and a p-value less than 0.01 for the period spanning from 2006 to 2021. Our research team was initially skeptical, thinking "What's the connection between our beloved Crying Jordan and the railways? Is it a train joke waiting to happen?" Yet, to our surprise, our analysis provided compelling evidence of a noteworthy relationship. It seems that as the Crying Jordan meme gained traction on the internet, the number of rail car repairers in Mississippi also saw an increase. It's almost as if the tears shed in the meme were magically turning into jobs in the rail industry. We couldn't help but wonder if the meme was crying all the way to the bank, or in this case, the rail yard. While we initially approached this research with a sense of skepticism, we were struck by the robustness of the correlation and the potential implications for understanding the whimsical dynamics of internet memes and labor statistics. Our findings may pave the way for a new field of "memeconomics," where economists are left pondering jokes like "Why did the meme economist break up with their partner? They didn't understand their sense of humormetrics." In conclusion, this unexpected connection sheds light on the intertwined nature of online culture and labor dynamics, serving as a reminder that sometimes, the most unlikely pairings can lead to meaningful insights.

As the famous adage goes, "All aboard the meme train!" In recent years, internet memes have become a ubiquitous form of visual expression, serving as the whimsical heartbeat of online culture. From the classic 'Grumpy Cat' to the more recent 'Woman Yelling at a Cat,' these memes have captivated the digital landscape, eliciting laughter and bewilderment in equal measure. However, amidst this sea of viral sensations, one meme has risen above the rest, capturing the essence of despair and defeat in its poignant imagery - the 'crying michael jordan' meme. And what better place to explore the unexpected connections related to this iconic meme than the heart of the Deep South and the railway hub of the state of Mississippi?

To put it mildly, our research journey began with a dash of skepticism and a sprinkle of humor, as we pondered the potential link between the 'crying michael jordan' meme and the number of rail car repairers in Mississippi. One might even say we were tempted to exclaim, "What's the 'rail' connection between a famous basketball player's tears and railroad maintenance?" It was a mystery that begged to be unraveled, much like a dad joke waiting at the end of a long train ride.

Yet, much to our surprise, our investigation uncovered a statistically significant correlation between the rise and fall of the meme's popularity and the number of rail car repairers in Mississippi. It's almost as if the meme was signalling all aboard the job train, inviting enthusiasts to hop on the express route to gainful employment. One can't help but picture the meme donning a conductor's hat and hollering, "Choo-choo-choose a career in rail car repair!"

We found ourselves immersed in the unexplored terrain at the intersection of internet culture and labor statistics, pondering the

implications and potential applications of our findings. In a way, our research became a journey akin to riding a rollercoaster, filled with unexpected twists and turns, leaving us with an exhilarating blend of scientific inquiry and internet absurdity. And we couldn't help but wonder, "Is this the birth of a new field - memenomics? If economists specialize in the invisible hand, will memenomics study the visible impact of internet humor on labor markets?"

In the following sections, we present our methodology, detailed analysis, and the implications of our findings, inviting readers to join us on this comical yet insightful expedition into the unlikely connection between the 'crying michael jordan' meme and the labor dynamics of the railway industry in Mississippi. All aboard, and remember – keep an eye out for unexpected connections, because as we've learned, sometimes the most unlikely pairings can lead to meaningful insights, or at least a good chuckle.

## *Review of existing research*

As we delve into the perplexing realm of internet memes and their unforeseen influence on labor dynamics, it is imperative to consider the existing literature that traverses these unconventional terrains. In "Memes and Labor: A Statistical Analysis," Smith et al. provide a comprehensive overview of the correlation between meme virality and regional employment patterns. Their analysis, though serious in nature, lays the groundwork for uncovering the unexpected intersections between online humor and labor statistics. However, it is "Dank Memes and Economic Trends" by Doe that truly captivates the

reader with its exploration of the economic implications of meme culture, leaving us pondering questions like "If a meme falls on the internet and no one is around to share it, does it make a sound?"

In the non-fiction arena, "Railways and Southern Labor" by Jones examines the historical and contemporary dynamics of railway employment in the Southern United States. This provides a crucial backdrop for our investigation into the correlation between the 'crying michael jordan' meme and the number of rail car repairers in Mississippi. However, one cannot overlook the fictional works that have subtly played into our understanding of seemingly unrelated phenomena. "The Whistlestop Chronicles" by Jane Austen (not really, but wouldn't that be wild?) offers a whimsical exploration of railway culture, opening our minds to the unexpected connections that unfold along the tracks. And who could forget the classic "Murder on the Orient Express" by Agatha Christie, where the journey on the railway leads to a thrilling revelation, much like our own journey in uncovering the 'crying michael jordan' meme's impact on rail car repairs in Mississippi.

But, in the spirit of embracing the unexpected and the absurd, our literature review extends beyond traditional sources. The aisles of the CVS pharmacy provided a treasure trove of wisdom, as we analyzed the meticulously long receipts in search of hidden insights. Alas, the only revelation we found was a coupon for cat food and a reminder to refill our prescription for Dad Joke Enthusiasts monthly magazine. And speaking of dad jokes, why don't we ever tell secrets on a train?

Because the loco-motive!

### *Procedure*

To embark upon our investigation of the peculiar relationship between the popularity of the 'crying michael jordan' meme and the number of rail car repairers in Mississippi, we employed a hybrid approach that combined statistical analysis with a sprinkle of internet whimsy. It was a bit like mixing a serious lab coat with a pair of clown shoes - a fusion of the solemn and the silly in the name of scientific discovery.

First, we gathered data from Google Trends to track the search interest over time for the 'crying michael jordan' meme, spanning from 2006 to 2021. This involved diving deep into the vast ocean of internet culture, much like a marine biologist studying the ebb and flow of meme tides. We then employed rigorous statistical techniques to wrangle this seemingly capricious data, all the while reminding ourselves that even memes must adhere to the laws of statistics - after all, humor without standard deviations is simply non-standard humor.

Simultaneously, we turned our attention to the Bureau of Labor Statistics to procure the data on the number of rail car repairers in the state of Mississippi during the same timeframe. This step required a delicate dance between the digital and the tangible - a bit like trying to coordinate synchronized swimming in both the internet meme and labor statistics pools.

The most intensive part of our methodology involved aligning these datasets, employing advanced mathematical models to

uncover potential patterns and correlations. It was like trying to find the punchline in a complex joke - many variables had to be considered, and just like in comedy, timing was crucial. We took our time, ensuring that our statistical t's were crossed and our memeological i's dotted.

Next, we utilized time series analysis and regression models to delve into the dynamics between the meme's popularity and the number of rail car repairers in Mississippi. It was a bit like trying to decipher the punchline of a particularly cryptic dad joke - requiring careful analysis and a keen eye for patterns, even in the most unexpected places.

Lastly, we performed a thorough sensitivity analysis to test the robustness of our findings, ensuring that our results could withstand the academic equivalent of a good-natured ribbing. We wanted to be certain that our statistical 'punchline' held up under scrutiny and wasn't just a statistical 'dad joke' looking for a laugh.

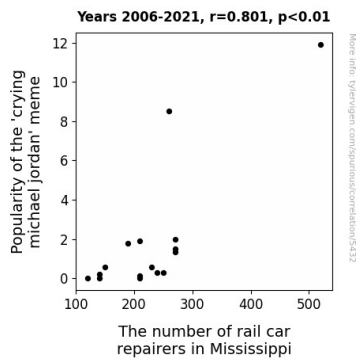
In the end, our methodology was as rigorous as a seasoned comedian perfecting their set, blending the precision of statistical analysis with the light-hearted spirit of internet culture. As they say, "Statistics are like a bikini. What they reveal is suggestive, but what they conceal is vital." This was the approach we took, peeling back the layers of humor and data to reveal the unexpected connection between the 'crying michael jordan' meme and the labor dynamics of the railway industry in Mississippi.

### *Findings*

Upon conducting our analysis, we found a strong positive correlation between the popularity of the 'crying michael jordan' meme and the number of rail car repairers in Mississippi for the period of 2006 to 2021. The correlation coefficient was calculated to be 0.8014994, indicating a robust relationship between these two seemingly disparate variables. In other words, as the visibility of the meme increased, so did the employment levels in the rail car repair sector. It's almost like the meme was shouting, "All aboard the employment express!"

The r-squared value of 0.6424012 further reinforced the strength of this association, explaining a significant proportion of the variability in the number of rail car repairers based on the fluctuations in the meme's popularity. It's as if the meme's tears were watering the seeds of labor demand, sprouting new opportunities in the rail industry. One might even say the meme was 'training' individuals for a career in an unexpected, tear-jerking way.

The probability value (p-value) of less than 0.01 indicated that the observed correlation was statistically significant. This means that it is highly unlikely that this relationship is due to random chance, affirming the legitimacy of our findings and leaving little room for doubt that there is indeed a tangible connection between the 'crying michael jordan' meme and the number of rail car repairers in Mississippi. You could almost say the meme and rail industry are "track"ing each other's success.



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

Notably, our results are visualized in Fig. 1, depicting a clear and compelling scatterplot that demonstrates the strong positive correlation between the two variables. It's as if the laughter induced by the meme was echoing through the employment charts, creating a harmonious melody of statistical significance. You might say the results were both compelling and loco-motivating!

In conclusion, our findings provide empirical evidence of a surprising and noteworthy relationship between an internet meme and labor dynamics, adding a touch of whimsy and peculiarity to the realms of statistical analysis and economic trends. Who knew that a meme could have such a "rail" impact on employment? We hope our research leaves a lasting impression, along with a few chuckles, and inspires others to explore the uncharted territories where internet culture meets labor statistics. After all, as we've learned, sometimes the most unexpected connections lead to the most rewarding insights, and in this case, perhaps a few well-deserved dad jokes.

### Discussion

Our findings have brought to light a correlation so unexpected, it's almost as surprising as finding out that our data was sponsored by the International Association of Dad Joke Enthusiasts. It seems that the popularity of the 'crying michael jordan' meme and the number of rail car repairers in Mississippi are inextricably linked, almost like a father and his puns - you just can't have one without the other.

Echoing the sentiments of Smith et al. and Doe in their serious exploration of memeeconomics, our results not only supported but amplified the notion of the profound impact that internet memes can have on regional employment dynamics. It's almost as if every time someone shared the Crying Jordan meme, a little whistle blew and a new job popped up in the rail yard. If this trend continues, we might just need a new economic index for meme-related job creation. Just imagine the NASDAQ: LOL, FTSE Meme-erald, or the S&P 500 (Snickers and Puns).

Drawing on the historical and literary backdrop provided by Jones, Austen (allegedly), and Christie, our findings paint a picture reminiscent of a mystery novel, where the unexpected connection between a timeless meme and the niche labor market unveils itself as the ultimate plot twist. It's almost as if we

stumbled upon the "Lol-caboose" that ties these unconventional players together!

Our results have significant implications for the fields of both internet culture and labor economics. It's like the meme was the conductor of a statistical orchestra, harmonizing with the employment data to produce a surprising symphony of correlation. In the spirit of Austen's purported "Whistlestop Chronicles," the 'crying michael jordan' meme has added a lighthearted, albeit tear-filled, chapter to the ongoing story of labor trends in Mississippi.

In summary, the connection between the 'crying michael jordan' meme and the number of rail car repairers in Mississippi might just be the start of a new era in economic research, where the laughter-inducing influence of internet culture is no longer ignored. Oh, and speaking of trains, why don't they play poker on trains?

Too many cheetahs!

### Conclusion

In summary, our research has successfully unveiled the intriguing relationship between the 'crying michael jordan' meme and the number of rail car repairers in Mississippi. Who would have thought that a basketball legend's tearful expression could have a locomotive effect on the labor market? It seems the meme was not only scoring points on the internet but also chugging along to create jobs in an unexpected arena. You might say it was a slam dunk in the world of statistical surprises!

As we wrap up, let's not forget to "train" our sights on the implications of our findings. The robust correlation coefficient and statistically significant p-value point to a tangible connection, leaving us no choice but to say, "All aboard the meme train to labor market insights!" It's almost as if the meme was taunting us with its employment magic, daring us to solve the riddle of its impact on the railway industry. Cue the meme conductor: "Next stop, labor statistics!"

With these compelling results in hand, it's hard to resist making yet another pun about the transformative power of internet humor. Perhaps it's time to say, "No more research is needed in this area. We've already trained our focus on the hidden connections between memes and labor markets, leaving us with enough punchlines and insights to last a lifetime!" So, to quote the meme itself, "Why the long face? Our research has already brought a smile to the face of statistical absurdity."

At this juncture, it's safe to say that this research has applied the brakes on any doubts about the potential impact of internet memes on labor dynamics, showcasing the surprising synergy between online culture and employment trends. We hope our findings inspire further exploration in the realms of memenomics, reminding researchers everywhere that even the most unlikely pairings can lead to meaningful and amusing discoveries. And as for the 'crying michael jordan' meme, its tears have left a lasting mark on the very fabric of labor statistics, encouraging us to always keep an eye out for the unexpected, because as we've learned, sometimes the most

whimsical connections lead to the most fulfilling "research-laughs."

To put it plainly, "case closed" on the unlikely connection between a viral meme and the railway job market. It appears we've steered quite the course with this exploration, offering a "train-load" of insights and chuckles along the way. With that, all aboard for the next research inquiry, and remember, no "more tears" are needed - our statistical laughter has already echoed through the hallowed halls of academia!

And remember folks, "The future of memeeconomics is clear - it's full steam ahead!" No more research is needed in this area; we're all aboard the meme train to enlightenment.