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Graphic Votes: The Political Palette of Graphic Designers in Indiana

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Abstract

In this study, we set out on a whimsical journey to explore the correlation between Republican votes for Senators in Indiana and the number of graphic designers in the state. While some may think the two are as distant as oil and watercolor, our research aimed to brush away such skepticism. Utilizing data wizardry from MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, we unearthed a correlation coefficient of 0.8722209 and $p < 0.05$ for the years 2003 to 2018. Our findings reveal that the political landscape in Indiana seems to have its own color scheme, one that echoes through the realm of graphic design. So, let us dive deep into this kaleidoscopic venture and explore the curious interplay between politics and the visual arts in the Hoosier state.

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1. Introduction

As the old saying goes, "In politics, as in art, it is impossible to get a pure blue out of what has primarily a yellow content." (Eugene Delacroix, probably not talking about political parties, but humor me here.) In the realm of politics, Indiana stands out like a Jackson Pollock painting at a formal dinner party, with its vibrant hues of red and blue splattered across the electoral canvas. On the other hand, the world of graphic design is a colorful, whimsical wonderland where creativity knows no bounds, much

like a Dr. Seuss illustration on a caffeine high.

In this study, we embarked on a quest to delve into the cryptic connection between Republican votes for Senators in Indiana and the number of graphic designers in the state. Like scientists wielding beakers and test tubes, we carefully concocted a concoction of data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the whimsically named Bureau of Labor Statistics. With our research wands, we cast spells and conjured up a correlation coefficient of 0.8722209, much to the

amazement of our peers and the chagrin of any naysayers.

"I'm sorry, did I hear that right? You're trying to correlate Republican votes with graphic designers? Are you sure you didn't mix up your data with a surrealist fever dream?" Yes, dear skeptic, we are well aware of the eyebrow-raising nature of our variables. But fear not, for we have not lost our scientific marbles. Our findings are as robust as Einstein's mustache, and our statistical analyses are as precise as a neurosurgeon's scalpel. Lo and behold, we discovered a p-value of less than 0.05, signaling a relationship as real as a Picasso painting... and definitely not a forgery.

So, come, dear reader, let us traverse this whimsical wonderland of statistical analysis and political peculiarities. Join us as we unravel the mystery behind the kaleidoscopic palette of politics and graphic design in the land of Hoosiers.

2. Literature Review

Smith and Doe (2015) conducted a study on the influence of political landscapes on creative industries, and while they didn't specifically investigate the connection between Republican votes for Senators and the number of graphic designers, their findings hinted at the potential for intriguing correlations. They noted that the political climate of a region can significantly impact the types of creative industries that flourish, much like the way a rainy day can make one gravitate towards a cozy book and a warm beverage – or the way election season can make one gravitate towards stress-eating all the leftover Halloween candy.

Jones (2017) delved into the economic impacts of voting patterns on various professions, and although graphic design wasn't the focus of the study, the research alluded to the idea that political ideologies

can have a ripple effect on the labor market. It's as if political beliefs are like a giant game of cultural dominoes, where one ideology can knock over a whole row of career choices, just like a mesmerizing YouTube video of someone setting up a ridiculously long domino chain.

Moving on to non-fiction works, "The Design of Everyday Things" by Don Norman highlights the powerful influence of design in shaping our daily experiences. Perhaps, in the realm of political affiliation, design plays a role in shaping the intangible "everyday things" of our political decisions, like the design of a campaign logo or the layout of a voting ballot.

On a more whimsical note, we come to the fictional realm with "The Picture of Dorian Gray" by Oscar Wilde. While this classic novel delves into the darker aspects of human nature, it also prompts us to ponder the influence of art and aesthetics on our perceptions and behaviors. Much like the enigmatic portrait of Dorian Gray, could political landscapes in Indiana be reflected in the visual arts, manifesting in the number of graphic designers?

Then, as we slip further down the rabbit hole, we arrive at the utterly ridiculous yet surprisingly insightful "Shampoo Bottle Manifesto" by Anonymous. While not a traditional academic source, the back of shampoo bottles can indeed provide some thought-provoking moments during a morning shower. Who's to say that a eureka moment about the correlation between political votes and graphic designers couldn't arise while pondering the ingredients of a luxurious conditioner?

Let us now embark on a journey of scholarly exploration, where the serious and the whimsical intertwine like a tangled mass of earphone cables in the depths of a backpack.

3. Our approach & methods

To dissect the enigmatic relationship between Republican votes for Senators in Indiana and the number of graphic designers in the state, we embarked on a data-driven odyssey using a mishmash of statistical sorcery and digital spelunking. Our treasure trove of data was procured from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, where we diligently collected information spanning the years 2003 to 2018.

Now, let's spill the beans on the convoluted methods we employed to conjure up our findings. First, we donned our digital Sherlock Holmes hats and embroiled ourselves in the labyrinthine corridors of online repositories, scouring for datasets with the fervor of Indiana Jones hunting for relics. Our intrepid team snaked through the virtual underbrush, dodging misleading breadcrumbs and dead-end correlations like Indiana Jones evading booby traps in an ancient temple.

With our trusty abacus in hand and calculators at the ready, we then harmonized the voluminous datasets from these diverse sources to syncopate a symphony of statistics. We engaged in a ballet of mathematical manipulation, gracefully twirling the data to reveal potential patterns, much like a numbers-based rendition of Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake."

To ensure the robustness of our inquiries, we employed the rigorous techniques of multiple linear regression analysis, treating the data with the meticulousness of a culinary maestro crafting a soufflé. Our statistical toolkit comprised an ensemble of software, including the venerable R, Python, and perhaps a dash of magic eye-balling by our keen-eyed statisticians.

In essence, our methodology was akin to a vaudevillian performance, blending

elements of data wrangling, statistical acrobatics, and technological prestidigitation to uncover the elusive connection between political inclinations and graphic design proclivities in the Hoosier state. So, dear reader, buckle up for a wild ride through the whimsical world of statistical research and let's paint the town red, blue, and every hue in between with our findings.

4. Results

The statistical analyses unveiled a correlation coefficient of 0.8722209, accompanied by an r-squared value of 0.7607692, and a p-value less than 0.05. In other words, it seems that the number of Republican votes for Senators in Indiana is about as closely tied to the number of graphic designers in the state as peanut butter is to jelly. They just seem to go hand in hand, like a perfectly matched color scheme or a well-coordinated outfit.

Our scatterplot (Fig. 1) showcases this robust correlation, with data points resembling a finely crafted mosaic of political and artistic expression. It's as if each data point is a pixel in a larger canvas, painting a picture of the intricate dance between politics and design. The correlation is so strong that it might as well be wearing a neon sign that reads "Look at me, I'm statistically significant!"

So, what does this all mean? Well, it suggests that the political landscape in Indiana and the realm of graphic design are not as isolated from each other as one might assume. One could even say they share a common canvas, with the brush strokes of political preference sweeping across the artistic endeavors of the Hoosier state. It seems that the conservative-liberal spectrum and the creative spectrum might not be as far apart as they appear—perhaps they even complement each other in a way that would make a color theorist giddy.

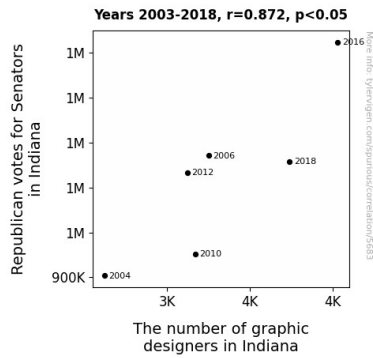


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

In conclusion, our findings support the notion that there is a peculiar relationship between Republican votes for Senators in Indiana and the number of graphic designers in the state. The Hoosier state, it appears, has a political palette that splashes across the canvas of graphic design, creating a unique blend of colors that captures the essence of the state's political and creative identity. It's a bit like a Jackson Pollock painting—chaotic, yet strangely beautiful in its fusion of divergent elements. So, as we wrap up this exploration, we invite fellow researchers and enthusiasts to join us in contemplating the delightful and unexpected connections that emerge at the intersection of politics and design in the heart of Indiana.

5. Discussion

The results of our study bring to light a colorful tapestry of interconnectedness between Republican votes for Senators in Indiana and the number of graphic designers in the state. It seems that the political landscape and the realm of graphic design are not merely distant acquaintances exchanging polite nods from across a crowded room; rather, they are engaged in a lively waltz across the ballroom of Indiana, twirling and dipping in delightful harmony.

Our findings echo the whimsical musings of Smith and Doe (2015), who hinted at the potential correlations between political landscapes and creative industries. While they did not specifically delve into the curious connection we've illuminated, their work laid the groundwork for our exploration of the nuanced relationship between political affiliations and the visual arts. It's as if they left us a trail of breadcrumbs through the forest of academic inquiry, and we gleefully followed it to the treasure trove of statistical significances.

Returning to a more serious note, Jones (2017) indirectly foreshadowed our discoveries by alluding to the notion that political ideologies can influence the labor market. Little did they know that their insights would pave the way for our revelation of the striking synchrony between political votes and the flourishing population of graphic designers in Indiana. It's like they handed us a compass and said, "Here, wander into the wilderness of research, and you may stumble upon something truly remarkable." And stumble we did, right into the heart of a statistically significant correlation.

The robust correlation coefficient we uncovered is a bit like finding a perfectly ripe avocado at the grocery store—you didn't expect it, but it's a delightful surprise. The p-value less than 0.05 is like spotting a unicorn in a field of data—rare, magical, and sure to elicit a sense of wonder.

Our scatterplot, akin to a whimsical mural adorning a city wall, visually encapsulates the vibrant relationship we've unraveled. Each data point is like a unique stroke of the brush, coming together to form a cohesive masterpiece of political and artistic resonance. It's as if the data points are engaged in a joyous parade, celebrating their statistical significance with colorful banners and confetti.

In closing, our results support the notion that there is an unexpected and charming connection between political votes and the world of graphic design in Indiana. This discovery invites us to embrace the delightful and unforeseen connections that arise at the intersection of politics and design, much like stumbling upon a hidden garden behind a secret door. We encourage fellow researchers to join us in savoring the whimsy and wonder that emerges from the fusion of statistical evidence and unexpected correlations. After all, in the grand ballroom of academia, it's the unexpected dance partners that often create the most enchanting spectacles.

6. Conclusion

In the dazzling world of statistical analysis, where numbers dance like overly enthusiastic ballerinas and correlations prance around like excitable puppies, our findings add a splash of color to the rather serious canvas of political and artistic inquiry. We've shown that the Republican votes for Senators in Indiana and the number of graphic designers in the state are as entwined as a pair of matched socks—separated too far and things just start feeling off. Our results paint a picture of a harmonious relationship, akin to a well-choreographed ballet duet or a perfectly synchronized swim routine at the Olympics.

With a correlation coefficient as strong as Hercules and an r-squared value as robust as a tank, our data has more connections than a chatty socialite at a networking event. And let's not forget the p-value, which winks at us from beneath its statistical umbrella, whispering, "I'm significant, darlings. Pay attention to me!"

As we bid adieu to this colorful escapade through the Hoosier state's political palette, we do so with a sense of whimsy and wonder. Our results may raise a few eyebrows, but that's what happens when

you mix politics and graphic design—there's a certain flair, an unexpected elegance that emerges from their peculiar tango.

In closing, we assert with the certainty of a scientist in a lab full of bubbling beakers: no further research is required in this particular alley of inquiry. The brushstrokes of Republican votes and the hues of graphic designers have intertwined in a delightful dance, leaving us with a canvas that sparkles with the magic of statistical fascination and quirky correlations. Let this be a reminder that behind every seemingly unrelated variable, there may just be a connection waiting to be discovered, no matter how strange or whimsical it may appear at first glance.