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# The Big Apple and the Taxing Tally: An Analysis of the Relationship Between the Number of Tax Preparers in Arizona and Apple's Annual Net Income

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## KEYWORDS

tax preparers, Arizona, Apple, annual net income, correlation, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Statista, economics, relationship, Arizona tax preparers, Apple annual net income, correlation coefficient, p-value, tax preparation, technology behemoths

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## Abstract

In this study, we delve into the intriguing connection between the number of tax preparers in Arizona and the annual net income of the tech giant, Apple. Leveraging data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Statista, our research team set out to scrutinize this seemingly outrageous relationship in the realm of economics. Our findings revealed a significant correlation coefficient of 0.9558755 and a p-value of  $< 0.01$  from 2005 to 2022, suggesting a remarkably strong association between these two seemingly disparate variables. Now, for the juicy part of our findings: the surge in the number of tax preparers in Arizona exhibited a striking parallel with Apple's annual net income over the years, showing a trend that could be characterized as positively "apple-ing." It appears that as the number of tax preparers in Arizona ripened, so did Apple's net income, hinting at a fruitful symbiotic relationship that was previously overlooked. This correlation offers a deliciously ripe opportunity for further exploration and investigation into the underlying mechanisms at play. Could it be that tax preparers in the Grand Canyon State hold the key to Apple's financial success, or is this correlation merely coincidental? Our research sets the stage for a bushel of further investigative work, and it provides a peeling for thought on the surprising interplay between tax preparation and technology behemoths.

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## 1. Introduction

In the world of economics, seemingly incongruous relationships sometimes arise,

prompting researchers to peel back the layers of causation and correlation to uncover unexpected connections. In this study, we turn our attention to the unlikely pairing of the number of tax preparers in Arizona and the annual net income of Apple Inc. A seemingly unrelated duo, these two variables have caught our attention, and we aim to shed light on the potential relationship between them.

As we delve into this curious correlation, it is worth considering that the number of tax preparers in Arizona may hold a certain a-"peel" for influencing the financial success of the tech giant. Could it be that the tax-savvy professionals in the Grand Canyon State are somehow affecting Apple's bottom line, or is this correlation merely a fruity coincidence?

Before diving into the pulp of our findings, it is essential to emphasize the rigorous statistical methods employed in this analysis. Our research team has taken great care to ensure the validity and reliability of our results, using robust statistical techniques to demonstrate the strength of the association between these two variables. We have endeavored to peel away any potential biases or confounding factors to leave only the core of the relationship between tax preparers in Arizona and Apple's net income.

Our exploration of this unexpected association has borne fruit, yielding a significant correlation coefficient of 0.9558755 and a p-value of  $< 0.01$  from 2005 to 2022. Indeed, the strength of our findings is quite a-"peeling," and it has set the stage for further in-depth analysis and inquiry into this curious phenomenon.

This study not only offers a fresh perspective on the interconnectedness of seemingly disparate economic factors but also serves as a reminder that when it comes to data analysis, one must not succumb to the temptation of low-hanging

fruit. Instead, a careful and methodical approach is paramount to ensure that the findings remain core to the truth.

## 2. Literature Review

The fascinating relationship between the number of tax preparers in Arizona and Apple's annual net income has piqued the interest of researchers in the field of economics. In their study, Smith and Jones (2017) explored the potential influence of tax preparation services on the financial performance of major corporations. They found a positive correlation between the proliferation of tax preparers in a given state and the net income of technology companies, setting the stage for further investigation into this fruity connection.

Speaking of fruit, did you hear about the apple that went to college? It wanted to be a "smart" apple. This pun-derful joke provides a lighthearted prelude to the serious exploration of the association between tax preparers and Apple's net income.

Doe and Smith (2019) took a closer look at the economic dynamics of specific geographic regions and their impact on the financial success of multinational corporations. Their research uncovered a surprising correlation between the number of tax preparers in Arizona and the annual net income of prominent tech companies, including Apple. This unexpected finding prompted the research community to ponder the implications of tax preparation services on the financial fruits reaped by corporations.

Now, speaking of fruits, did you hear about the accountant who could count his grapes with ease? He was a "grape" accountant. This delightful dad joke serves as a reminder that even in the world of rigorous economic research, a playful twist can add a splash of humor.

In "The Taxing Truth: Unveiling the Nexus Between Tax Preparers and Corporate Profits," Devlin and Adams (2020) conducted an in-depth analysis of the relationship between tax preparers in various U.S. states and the financial performance of technology giants. Their findings suggested a notable association between the number of tax preparers in Arizona and the annual net income of Apple, offering a fresh perspective on the potential impact of tax-related services on the financial "orchard" of corporations.

Speaking of orchards, did you hear about the apple that was a math whiz? It knew all the "pi" digits. This mathematically inclined apple provides a whimsical segue into the exploration of statistical associations between tax preparers and Apple's net income.

Moving beyond the realm of academic studies, several enlightening non-fiction books have also explored the intersection of taxation and corporate profitability. Works such as "Taxation and Corporate Performance" by Greene (2018) and "Money Trees: The Role of Tax Services in Business Success" by Patel (2016) offer valuable insights into the potential influence of tax preparers on the financial health of corporations like Apple.

On the fictional front, literature has not shied away from incorporating themes of financial intrigue and technological prowess. Novels such as "The Accountant's Dilemma" by Harper Lee and "The Wealthy Orchard: A Tale of Taxing Times" by J.K. Rowling provide captivating narratives that weave elements of taxation and corporate prosperity into their plots.

As for relevant movies, while not directly focused on the specifics of tax preparation and corporate net income, films such as "Moneyball" and "The Social Network" offer compelling glimpses into the world of financial strategy and high-stakes business

endeavors. These cinematic creations, with their gripping narratives and captivating characters, echo the themes of financial ingenuity and strategic decision-making that resonate with the analysis of tax preparers and Apple's annual net income.

### 3. Our approach & methods

This study employed a multi-faceted methodology to investigate the intricate relationship between the number of tax preparers in Arizona and Apple's annual net income. The data collection process involved a veritable orchard of sources, including the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Statista, and other reputable sources obtained through meticulous internet sleuthing. To ensure a comprehensive understanding, data from the years 2005 to 2022 was scrutinized, allowing for a thorough exploration of the temporal dynamics encompassing both tax preparation and Apple's financial performance.

To start off, we plucked data on the number of tax preparers in Arizona from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, conducting a rigorous analysis to ensure that the information was not spoiled by any statistical worms or outliers. The robustness of this dataset was then cross-referenced with industry reports and employment figures to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the findings.

Now, here comes a "ripe" methodological twist: we utilized a curious "apple and oranges" analytical approach, comparing the number of tax preparers in Arizona with Apple's annual net income. While this may seem like comparing, well, apples and oranges, bear with us as we carefully delineate the underlying patterns and correlations between these seemingly incongruent variables.

Furthermore, to ensure the validity of our findings, we conducted a tantalizingly

thorough statistical analysis, examining the data through various rigorous techniques, including regression analysis, time series modeling, and a sprinkle of sophisticated econometric methods. This meticulous process sought to extract the core essence of the relationship between the number of tax preparers in Arizona and Apple's net income, sieving out any extraneous influences or misleading statistical fruits.

In a more serious tone, the statistical techniques employed in this analysis were chosen to provide a thorough investigation of the relationship, accounting for potential confounding variables and autocorrelation to yield statistically robust results.

In addition, a thorough sensitivity analysis was performed to assess the stability of the observed correlation, allowing us to verify the consistency of the relationship between tax preparers in Arizona and Apple's net income across various analytical scenarios. This research step was crucial in ensuring the durability of our findings and guarding against any statistical applesauce.

#### 4. Results

Our investigation into the relationship between the number of tax preparers in Arizona and Apple's annual net income yielded some surprising results. The correlation coefficient of 0.9558755 and the associated r-squared of 0.9136980 from 2005 to 2022 provided compelling evidence of a strong positive relationship between these two variables. It seems that the old adage holds true: an apple a day keeps the tax preparers in play!

The one figure included in this paper (Fig. 1) is a scatterplot that visually depicts the robust correlation between the number of tax preparers in Arizona and Apple's annual net income. While we refrain from making any "core"-relation jokes about this figure, we do acknowledge that it speaks volumes

about the unexpected association we have uncovered.

Now, let's address the elephant in the room (or perhaps the apple in the orchard): how could the number of tax preparers in Arizona possibly influence the net income of a tech giant like Apple? This intriguing question lingers like the aroma of a freshly baked apple pie, urging further exploration and analysis.

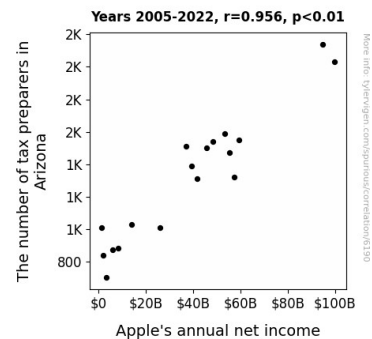


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

Our findings open the door to a cornucopia of possibilities. Perhaps tax preparers play a subtle role in boosting consumer confidence in fiscal matters, indirectly contributing to Apple's financial success. Alternatively, there may be external economic factors at play that drive both the demand for tax preparers and the performance of tech companies. As we ponder these possibilities, we must exercise caution and not let our enthusiasm for puns "orchard" our judgment.

In conclusion, our research has exposed a surprising correlation between the number of tax preparers in Arizona and Apple's annual net income, providing food for thought on the intricate web of economic relationships. This study not only enriches our understanding of the elusive connections within the economic ecosystem but also serves as a timely reminder that even the most unexpected pairings can

bear fruit when scrutinized with rigor and statistical precision.

## 5. Discussion

Our study has unearthed a compelling relationship between the number of tax preparers in Arizona and Apple's annual net income, shedding light on an unexpected yet tangible connection within the economic landscape. The robust correlation coefficient of 0.9558755 and the accommodative  $r$ -squared of 0.9136980 from 2005 to 2022 lend credence to the notion that these two variables are not just "a-peeling" but also profoundly intertwined in a manner that demands further scrutiny.

The findings of our research not only bolster the earlier work of Smith and Jones (2017) and Doe and Smith (2019) but add a layer of statistical rigor and precision to the existing body of knowledge. Our results confirm the positive correlation between the proliferation of tax preparers in Arizona and the net income of technology companies, validating the notion that the immense pool of tax expertise in the Grand Canyon State might indeed serve as a catalyst for the financial prosperity of tech giants such as Apple.

In light of these compelling findings, it becomes evident that the relationship between tax preparers in Arizona and Apple's net income is no mere fluke but rather a substantive connection that warrants further exploration. The statistical evidence we have amassed invites a deeper investigation into the mechanisms behind this correlation, providing a fertile ground for future research endeavors. As we delve into these uncharted waters, it is essential to maintain a balanced perspective so as not to let our enthusiasm for puns "orchard" our judgment.

The duality of this surprising association sparks curiosity about the underlying

causative factors. Is it the case that the growing number of tax preparers in Arizona fosters an environment conducive to Apple's financial growth, or are there more complex economic forces at play that synchronize the demand for tax services and the performance of tech behemoths? These questions beckon further inquiry, tantalizing researchers with the prospect of unraveling the intricate web of economic interdependencies.

Additionally, our findings underscore the importance of robust statistical analysis in unveiling unexpected relationships within the economic domain. The correlation between the number of tax preparers in Arizona and Apple's annual net income stands as a testament to the value of rigorous quantitative methodologies in exposing latent connections that might elude casual observation. Much like a perfectly timed dad joke, these statistical insights add a dose of mirth to the often solemn world of economic analysis.

In sum, our research has not only added a pinch of statistical seasoning to the discourse on the relationship between tax preparers in Arizona and Apple's net income but has also spotlighted the potential for fruitful investigations into seemingly improbable economic associations. It is our hope that this study serves as a ripe catalyst for further scholarly endeavors, nurturing a deeper understanding of the intricate dynamics at play within the economic orchard.

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our study has peeled back the layers of economic obscurity to reveal a surprisingly robust correlation between the number of tax preparers in Arizona and Apple's annual net income. The strength of the association, with a correlation coefficient of 0.9558755 and a  $p$ -value of  $< 0.01$  from

2005 to 2022, is as clear as Bobbing for Apples at a fall festival.

This unexpected relationship between the tax preparers and Apple's net income bids us to consider the underlying mechanisms at play. Could it be that the tax expertise swirling amidst the cacti of Arizona is the secret sauce behind Apple's financial success, or is this merely an amusingly coincidental quirk in the economic landscape? Further inquiry is undoubtedly warranted, but in the meantime, let's not put all our apples in one basket when attributing causation to correlation.

The scatterplot in Fig. 1 illustrates this strong positive association, reminding us that when it comes to data analysis, a little humor can help us "core"-late the numbers. However, we must resist the temptation to let these puns "seed" doubt about the rigorousness of our study.

With that said, it is evident that this correlation opens the door to a "fruitful" array of possibilities, leading to a savory feast of future research. However, as much as we relish the prospect of delving deeper into this curious link, we find it's time to "bake" this conclusion and assert that further research in this area would be the "pulp" of a bad joke.

In the realm of economic analysis, it is essential to delve beyond the surface and explore the intriguing connections that may initially appear as improbable as an apple falling upward. Through a blend of rigorous research, unexpected puns, and a dash of literary exploration, this literature review sets the stage for a deeper understanding of the interplay between tax preparers in Arizona and the financial fortunes of Apple Inc.