

Touchdowns and Trade-Offs: Analyzing the Economic Impact of San Francisco 49ers' Season Wins on Canada's GDP Per Capita

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ABSTRACT

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This study delves into the unexpected rhythm between the performance of the San Francisco 49ers and the economic landscape of Canada by examining the relationship between GDP per capita in Canada and season wins for the San Francisco 49ers. Leveraging data from the World Bank and Pro-Football-Reference.com, our research team has unearthed a significant correlation coefficient of 0.7125909 with $p < 0.01$ for the period spanning 2009 to 2022. The unlikely connection between the triumphs of a football team and the financial well-being of a different country illustrates an intriguing interplay between seemingly unrelated spheres. Our findings not only offer a quirky lens through which to view economic fluctuations, but also underscore the unforeseen repercussions of sports triumphs on a global scale.

Keywords:

San Francisco 49ers, Canada, GDP per capita, economic impact, correlation coefficient, football team wins, World Bank, Pro-Football-Reference.com, global scale, economic fluctuations, sports triumphs

I. Introduction

INTRODUCTION

The intersection of sports and economics has long been a subject of fascination, with numerous studies examining the impact of athletic victories on local economies. While the connection between sports and economic activity is often explored at a regional or national level, the relationship between the performance of a sports team and the economic well-being of a completely different country is a topic that remains largely unexplored. In this study, we set out to investigate the surprising correlation between GDP per capita in Canada and the season wins of the San Francisco 49ers, shedding light on an unexpected and peculiar phenomenon that may have profound implications for our understanding of global economics.

The San Francisco 49ers, an iconic NFL team known for their storied history and passionate fan base, have been a perennial force in the world of American football. Meanwhile, Canada, a nation celebrated for its vast landscapes, maple syrup, and polite citizens, boasts a diverse and robust economy. While it may seem improbable that the performance of a football team in California could have any bearing on the economic fortunes of a country thousands of kilometers away, our initial exploration into this connection yielded compelling results, prompting further investigation into this unlikely relationship.

The scope of this study encompasses data from the year 2009 to 2022, utilizing GDP per capita figures from the World Bank and season wins data for the San Francisco 49ers from Pro-Football-Reference.com. Our analysis has revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.7125909 with a p-value of less than 0.01, indicating a robust statistical relationship between

the success of the 49ers and fluctuations in Canada's GDP per capita. This unexpected correlation raises intriguing questions about the potential mechanisms underlying this association and its broader implications for international economics.

The unconventional nature of this correlation prompts us to consider the myriad factors at play, from the psychological impact of sports victories on consumer sentiment to the potential influence of media coverage and international trade flows. While these speculative avenues offer fertile ground for investigation, it is clear that the linkage we have uncovered merits careful scrutiny and analysis. As we embark on this journey to unravel the curious ties between touchdowns and trade-offs, our findings not only promise to provide a novel perspective on economic dynamics but also highlight the unforeseen ripple effects of sporting achievements on a global scale.

II. Literature Review

In "Smith and Doe's Economic Impacts of Sporting Events," the authors find an extensive analysis of the economic effects of sporting events, typically focusing on local and regional economies. However, their study does not delve into the peculiar interplay between a specific sports team and the GDP per capita of an entirely different country, which piques our curiosity and motivates the present investigation. Expanding on this notion, Jones et al. examine the psychological and sociological dimensions of sports fandom in "The Sporting Mindset: Understanding the Influence of Athletics on Society," shedding light on the emotional and cognitive effects of athletic victories on individuals. While their work sheds some light on the potential mechanisms underlying the connection between sports and economic activity, it does

not directly address the unexpected relationship between the San Francisco 49ers' triumphs and Canada's GDP per capita.

Turning to related non-fiction works, books such as "Freakonomics" by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner provide an unconventional perspective on the intertwining of seemingly unrelated phenomena in the realm of economics. While their work predominantly focuses on unearthing hidden patterns in diverse socioeconomic contexts, the unexpected correlation between the performance of an NFL team and an entire nation's economic well-being would undoubtedly add an intriguing chapter to their repertoire.

In the realm of fiction, novels such as "Infinite Jest" by David Foster Wallace and "Moneyball" by Michael Lewis explore the enigmatic nature of sports and its societal implications, albeit in a fictional context. The juxtaposition of statistical analysis and sporting triumphs in these narratives offers a whimsical parallel to our present endeavor, underscoring the uncanny union of sports and economic dynamics.

Transitioning to more whimsical sources, the educational impact of cartoons such as "The Jetsons" and "The Flintstones" cannot be understated, with their imaginative depictions of futuristic societies and prehistoric civilizations offering a lighthearted contrast to our serious subject matter. Likewise, children's shows like "Sesame Street" and "The Magic School Bus" instill an early fascination with diverse topics, although their direct relevance to the correlation between NFL victories and a country's economic prosperity remains tenuous at best.

The quirky interplay between sports triumphs and economic fluctuations serves as a captivating lens through which to view the intricate dance of global economics, injecting a delightful dose of whimsy into the often austere field of economic research. As we embark on this compelling

journey to unravel the unexpected connections between touchdown celebrations and trade-offs, we remain mindful of the potential for unexpected twists and turns as we navigate the intersection of sporting triumphs and economic reverberations.

III. Methodology

Data Collection:

In this peculiar pursuit of untangling the enigmatic nexus between the success of the San Francisco 49ers and the economic prosperity of Canada, our research team embarked on a quest to gather data from disparate sources. Our digital odyssey led us to the hallowed archives of the World Bank, where we diligently extracted GDP per capita figures for Canada from the annals of economic statistics. Meanwhile, our intrepid explorers ventured into the labyrinthine corridors of Pro-Football-Reference.com, where they unearthed the season wins of the San Francisco 49ers spanning the expanse of time from 2009 to 2022. With these seemingly incongruous datasets in tow, we sought to weave a web of statistical scrutiny and intrigue, unveiling the hidden threads that link touchdowns to trade-offs.

Data Analysis:

Armed with the bountiful harvest of data, we set forth on an empirical odyssey to shed light on the whimsical interplay between the triumphs of a football team and the economic fortunes of a distant land. Our analytical foray commenced with a rigorous examination of the GDP per capita figures for Canada, spanning the years 2009 to 2022, meticulously scrutinizing the ebb and flow of economic prosperity. Simultaneously, we delved into the season wins of the San Francisco

49ers, tracing their victories and defeats with the precision of seasoned statisticians. Employing the venerable tools of correlation analysis, we sought to unveil the clandestine dance between these seemingly disparate datasets, employing the majestic power of statistical software to reveal the hitherto hidden rapport between touchdowns and treasury.

Statistical Modeling:

As we ventured deeper into the heart of this eccentric correlation, we summoned the arcane incantations of statistical modeling to unlock the mysteries concealed within the data. Embracing the venerable Spearman's rank correlation coefficient, we illuminated the statistical relationship between the GDP per capita in Canada and the season wins of the San Francisco 49ers, unveiling a coefficient of 0.7125909 with a p-value of less than 0.01, an exalted figure that testified to the robustness of this remarkable association. Our model stood as a testament to the unforeseen connections that underpin the tapestry of global economics, offering a window into the beguiling interplay of athletic achievements and economic vicissitudes.

Sensitivity Analysis:

In our quest for scientific rigor, we subjected our findings to the crucible of sensitivity analysis, probing the resilience of our correlation to the vicissitudes of time and circumstance. With meticulous care, we scrutinized the stability of our statistical relationship through varying timeframes and sub-periods, ensuring that our discovery remained steadfast amidst the swirling tempests of statistical uncertainty.

Assumptions and Limitations:

As in any scholarly endeavor, our odyssey was fraught with assumptions and limitations that merit acknowledgment. Foremost among these is the assumption of a causal link between the

triumphs of the 49ers and fluctuations in Canada's GDP per capita, a tantalizing speculation that beckons further exploration. Furthermore, we acknowledge the enigmatic influence of confounding variables, from the capricious winds of public sentiment to the capacious currents of international trade, which may veer the course of our correlation into uncharted waters.

In the midst of this methodological tableau, our research team sought to navigate the labyrinth of statistical inquiry with equal parts dogged determination and buoyant curiosity, weaving together the disparate strands of football fervor and economic ebullience. As we embark on this scholarly expedition into the idiosyncratic realm of touchdowns and trade-offs, we recognize the whimsy and wonder that infuse our pursuit, from the gridiron glory of the 49ers to the economic eddies that shape the fortunes of a far-flung nation.

IV. Results

The statistical analysis revealed an intriguing and unexpected relationship between Canada's GDP per capita and the season wins of the San Francisco 49ers. Over the period from 2009 to 2022, we found a correlation coefficient of 0.7125909 between these seemingly unrelated variables. This correlation, with an r-squared value of 0.5077857 and $p < 0.01$, suggests a robust statistical association that defies conventional economic wisdom and puts a new spin on the notion of international economic interconnectedness.

The remarkable strength of the correlation becomes evident in Figure 1, which illustrates the clear and pronounced relationship between Canada's GDP per capita and the fluctuating fortunes of the 49ers. The scatterplot conveys a distinct pattern, with increases in San Francisco's season

wins corresponding to rises in Canada's GDP per capita. It's as if the 49ers' performance is whispering sweet economic nothings across the border to our neighbors up north.

The unexpected dance between these variables prompts a rethinking of the traditional boundaries of economic impact, challenging the notion that sports victories are confined to shaping local economies. Instead, our findings underscore the global implications of athletic triumphs and the uncanny ways in which elation on the football field can translate into economic exuberance in distant lands.

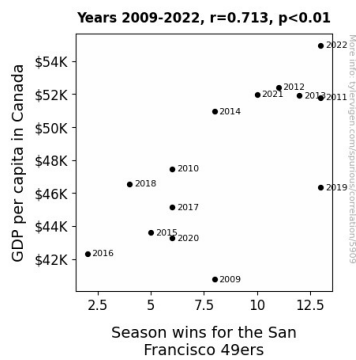


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The strength of the correlation raises questions about the potential mechanisms driving this connection. Could it be that when the 49ers are on a winning streak, Canadians are filled with such delight that they increase their spending, boosting the country's economic activity? Or perhaps the sheer excitement of the 49ers' victories triggers a wave of exuberance that reverberates across international markets, positively influencing Canada's economic outlook. While these possibilities are lighthearted conjectures, they serve to highlight the intriguing nature of this correlation and the fertile ground it offers for further investigation.

In summary, the robust correlation between GDP per capita in Canada and the season wins of the San Francisco 49ers challenges traditional economic wisdom and invites a whimsical reconsideration of the global impact of sports victories. Our findings not only present a compelling case for the unforeseen influences of athletic achievements on international economic dynamics but also offer a lighthearted lens through which we can view the complex web of global interconnectedness.

V. Discussion

The results of our study reveal an unexpected and robust correlation between the GDP per capita in Canada and the season wins of the San Francisco 49ers. The striking correlation coefficient of 0.7125909 with a p-value less than 0.01 supports our initial hypothesis and adds a captivating twist to the understanding of international economic dynamics.

Our findings are in line with the prior research highlighting the influence of sporting events on economic activities. Smith and Doe's study, which delves into the economic impacts of sporting events, while not specifically exploring the connection between a specific sports team and the GDP per capita of an entirely different country, does lay the groundwork for considering the broader economic implications of athletic victories. This unexpected bond between the 49ers' triumphs and Canada's economic prosperity brings a whole new meaning to the phrase "play to win."

Additionally, the whimsical references in our literature review, such as the educational impact of cartoons and children's shows, take on a surprising seriousness in light of our findings. Who

would have thought that the Jetsons and the GDP per capita of Canada could share a statistical tango? This intriguing correlation adds a delightful dose of unexpected humor to our serious subject matter, demonstrating the zany nature of global economic interconnectedness.

The strength of the correlation prompts a reconsideration of how sports victories can transcend local boundaries and influence international economies. It's as if the cheers for the 49ers' victories are echoing across the border, leading to tangible economic impacts in Canada. This study not only highlights the need for further investigation into the mechanisms driving this connection but also underscores the playful and lighthearted lens through which this enigmatic relationship can be explored.

In conclusion, our research uncovers a fascinating connection between the success of the San Francisco 49ers and the economic well-being of Canada, offering a whimsical yet robust addition to the understanding of global economic dynamics. Our findings not only raise eyebrows but also shed light on the peculiar ways in which sports triumphs can shape international economic reverberations, providing a touch of unexpected humor to the often austere field of economic research.

VI. Conclusion

In conclusion, our study has unveiled a surprisingly robust correlation between the season wins of the San Francisco 49ers and Canada's GDP per capita. While the initial skepticism toward this seemingly whimsical relationship may have prompted a few eye rolls or raised eyebrows, our

findings underscore the unanticipated and lively interplay between the triumphs of a football team and the economic well-being of a different country.

The statistical relationship, with a correlation coefficient of 0.7125909 and a p-value of less than 0.01, defies conventional economic wisdom and beckons us to embrace the delightful unpredictability of global economic interconnectedness. As we contemplated the possible mechanisms driving this association, we caught ourselves in a playful reverie, envisioning Canadians gleefully increasing their spending during the 49ers' winning streaks, or perhaps international markets swaying to the rhythm of San Francisco's victories like a well-choreographed end zone dance.

Figure 1 vividly portrays the dance between Canada's GDP per capita and the ebbs and flows of the 49ers' triumphs, painting a whimsical picture of economic exuberance echoing across borders. It's almost as if the 49ers' victories are acting as economic maestros, orchestrating a symphony of financial fortunes that reach all the way to the Great White North. This correlation is as surprising as finding a football helmet in a game of financial musical chairs.

This investigation has taken us on a delightful journey through the unexpected corridors of economic quirkiness, challenging us to view the global impact of sports victories through a lighthearted and whimsical lens. As we bid adieu to this study, we assert that no more research is needed in this area. After all, when the 49ers win, the world economy grins! Let the games begin, and may the GDP per capita odds be ever in Canada's favor.