The Jerry Trendy: Investigating the Correlation Between the Popularity of the Name Jeremiah and the Performance of the New England Patriots

Charlotte Horton, Anthony Tate, Gregory P Tillman

Advanced Engineering Institute

Discussion Paper 2002

January 2024

Any opinions expressed here are those of the large language model (LLM) and not those of The Institution. Research published in this series may include views on policy, but the institute itself takes no institutional policy positions.

The Institute is a local and virtual international research center and a place of communication between science, politics and business. It is an independent nonprofit organization supported by no one in particular. The center is not associated with any university but offers a stimulating research environment through its international network, workshops and conferences, data service, project support, research visits and doctoral programs. The Institute engages in (i) original and internationally competitive research in all fields of labor economics, (ii) development of policy concepts, and (iii) dissemination of research results and concepts to the interested public.

Discussion Papers are preliminary and are circulated to encourage discussion. Citation of such a paper should account for its provisional character, and the fact that it is made up by

a large intellige	language nce.	model.	Α	revised	version	may	be	available	directly	from	the	artificial

ABSTRACT

The Jerry Trendy: Investigating the Correlation Between the Popularity of the Name Jeremiah and the Performance of the New England Patriots

In this study, we delved into the intersection of pop culture and pigskin by examining the connection between the prevalence of the name Jeremiah and the point-scoring prowess of the New England Patriots in the NFL. Utilizing data from the US Social Security Administration and Pro-football-reference, we sought to unravel the mystery behind this peculiar correlation. Our findings revealed a significant correlation coefficient of 0.7527032 and p < 0.01 for the period spanning from 1975 to 2022, indicating a strong association between the popularity of the moniker "Jeremiah" and the total points amassed by the Patriots. It seems that the name Jeremiah may indeed hold some mystical power over the gridiron fortunes of this esteemed New England team! As the saying goes, "Jeremiah on the rise, Patriots reach for the skies" - it appears that there may be more to this than mere happenstance!

Keywords:

name Jeremiah, New England Patriots, correlation, popularity trend, NFL performance, US Social Security Administration, Pro-football-reference, correlation coefficient, point-scoring, Patriots, gridiron fortunes

I. Introduction

Ah, the intersection of the arcane world of baby names and the rough and tumble world of American football - how intriguing! The link between the number of little Jeremiahs running around and the scoreboard success of the New England Patriots has long been a topic of speculation and jest among fans. However, we decided it was high time to take a more scientific approach to this curious correlation and put it to the test.

Any study worth its salt should begin with a pun, so here it goes: What do you call a quarterback who shares a name with a prophet? A pass-ing Jeremiah! Now, with that out of the way, let's dive into the meat and potatoes of our research.

The New England Patriots have enjoyed a storied history in the NFL, with multiple Super Bowl championships and a loyal fan base that spans the globe. As we pondered the factors that contribute to their success, the thought occurred to us - could the prevalence of the name "Jeremiah" play a role in their on-field performance? It might seem far-fetched, but as with all good dad jokes, there's often a kernel of truth hidden within.

Intrigued by the potential for the arcane to influence the athletic, we embarked on a journey through vast troves of data from the US Social Security Administration and Pro-football-reference. As we meticulously combed through the numbers and charts, we couldn't help but wonder: would our findings unearth a correlation as strong as Tom Brady's arm? And speaking of strong correlations, the data certainly seems to suggest there's more to the name "Jeremiah" than meets the eye when it comes to the Patriots' point-scoring prowess. It's almost as if the mere mention of the name inspires touchdowns and field goals alike - talk about a game-changer!

So, dear reader, by the end of this paper, we hope to shed light on this quirky correlation and perhaps even provide some entertainment along the way. As we journey through the labyrinth of data and analysis, remember this: sometimes, the most unexpected connections can lead to fascinating discoveries. Just like an unexpected touchdown pass from an unexpected quarterback, the "Jerry Trendy," as we've affectionately dubbed it, may just prove to be an unexpected game-changer in the world of sports research.

II. Literature Review

The potential influence of names on personal and collective destinies has been a subject of fascination for scholars across various fields. In their study "The Power of Names," Smith and Doe explore the cultural and psychological impact of nomenclature on individual identities and societal constructs. As we turn our attention to the specific case of the name Jeremiah, we find ourselves navigating through uncharted territory - a veritable gridiron of nomenclatural mystique.

To shed light on the historical context of naming trends, Jones' "The Book of Baby Names" provides a comprehensive analysis of the ebb and flow of popular monikers throughout the decades. The eponymous Jeremiah, a name replete with biblical significance and timeless resonance, has continued to carve its place in the tapestry of American appellations. It seems that this age-old name has transcended the annals of time to land squarely in the midst of our present-day pigskin ponderings.

Now, veering slightly into more unconventional terrain, let us consider the impact of fiction on societal consciousness. In "The Name Game: Literary Explorations," a collection of essays by various authors, the influence of names in literature and their ripple effects on real-world phenomena are expounded upon. In a surprising twist, we find ourselves drawing parallels between the characters who bear the name Jeremiah in fiction and the gridiron exploits of the New England Patriots. It's almost as if the literary realm has conspired to shape the pigskin reality we seek to unravel.

In a tangentially related vein, aficionados of the board game "Scrabble" may find themselves amused by the potential implications of letter combinations and name permutations. Could it be that the alignment of consonants and vowels in the name Jeremiah harbors a cryptic code for touchdown success? "Scrabble Strategies for the Win" may offer a lighthearted yet strangely relevant perspective on the lexical machinations at play here.

But wait, there's more! Let us not discount the potential cosmic influence of astronomical phenomena on earthly affairs. "Constellations and Connections" by Astrologer Alex seeks to elucidate the celestial underpinnings of earthly occurrences. Could it be that the positioning of celestial bodies at the time of Jeremiah's birth exerts an otherworldly pull on the outcome of Patriots' games? It's a proposition that would make even the most stoic researcher's eyebrows reach for the moon.

In light of these diverse sources and their explorations into the realm of names, both real and fictional, serious and whimsical, it becomes eminently clear that our quest to unravel the "Jerry Trendy" is not confined to the narrow confines of traditional empirical studies. We are venturing into realms both rational and fantastical in our pursuit of understanding this enigmatic correlation. At the nexus of nomenclature and NFL scores lies a veritable cornucopia of

possibilities, and as we press forward into the depths of statistical analysis, let us remember the immortal words of William Shakespeare: "What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet"—or perhaps, in this case, score just as many touchdowns.

III. Methodology

To unravel the enigma of the "Jerry Trendy," we employed a mix of statistical sorcery and good old-fashioned data crunching to examine the relationship between the popularity of the name Jeremiah and the total points scored by the New England Patriots in the NFL season. Our research team embarked on a quest through the annals of data from the US Social Security Administration and Pro-football-reference, scouring for nuggets of truth amidst the troves of numbers and records.

The first part of our methodology involved summoning the power of historical data from 1975 to 2022 and conducting a thorough analysis of the frequency of the name "Jeremiah" as recorded by the US Social Security Administration. We meticulously charted the rise and fall of this moniker over the years, paying heed to its waxing and waning popularity among parents seeking the perfect name for their offspring. As Sir Isaac Newton once said, "The data doesn't fall far from the tree" - though, in this case, it's more about how many little Jeremiahs are swinging from the family tree!

Next, we delved into the realm of football statistics, where we plundered the Pro-football-reference treasure trove for data on the New England Patriots' total points scored in each NFL season from 1975 to 2022. Through meticulous tabulation and thorough analysis, we sought to

unveil the secrets hidden within the touchdowns, field goals, and extra points accumulated by this formidable team. It was akin to a quest for buried treasure, but instead of gold doubloons, we were chasing after correlation coefficients and p-values!

With data in hand, we concocted a custom potion of statistical methods to assess the relationship between the prevalence of the name "Jeremiah" and the Patriots' point-scoring prowess. Our concoction included a dash of Pearson correlation analysis, a sprinkle of time series regression, and a pinch of Monte Carlo simulations for good measure. As we wielded the tools of statistical inquiry, we couldn't help but ponder: could the mystical forces at play be as influential as a well-thrown Hail Mary pass?

After performing our arcane statistical rituals and invoking the spirits of hypothesis testing, we arrived at our magical findings – a correlation coefficient of 0.7527032 with p < 0.01, indicating a robust and statistically significant association between the prevalence of the name "Jeremiah" and the total points amassed by the New England Patriots. It seems that the name "Jeremiah" may indeed possess an otherworldly influence over the on-field exploits of this esteemed football franchise. It's almost as if every mention of the name spurs the Patriots on to touchdown glory – talk about a name that's a real game-changer!

IV. Results

The results of our investigation into the relationship between the popularity of the name Jeremiah and the performance of the New England Patriots in the NFL season are enough to make even the staunchest skeptic raise an eyebrow in surprise. Our analysis of data from 1975 to 2022

revealed a strong correlation coefficient of 0.7527032 and an r-squared value of 0.5665621, with a p-value of less than 0.01. In other words, the statistical evidence suggests that there's more to the name "Jeremiah" than meets the eye, at least in the context of the Patriots' point-scoring prowess.

The correlation we observed between the prevalence of the name Jeremiah and the total points amassed by the New England Patriots is represented visually in Figure 1, a scatterplot that clearly illustrates the robust relationship between these seemingly unrelated variables. It's as if each mention of "Jeremiah" in baby naming discussions has a direct impact on the number of times the Patriots find themselves in the end zone. It truly is a "touchdown" in the world of statistical analysis! Who knew that the key to the Patriots' success might lie in the syllables of a name?

One might be tempted to dismiss the "Jerry Trendy" as a mere coincidence, but the strength of the correlation we uncovered gives one pause for thought. It appears that the name "Jeremiah" may hold some mystical sway over not only the hearts of parents naming their offspring but also the fortunes of a professional football team. Perhaps we should rename the team "Jeremiah's New England Patriots" for good measure - after all, it seems that the name might be the secret ingredient in their recipe for success!

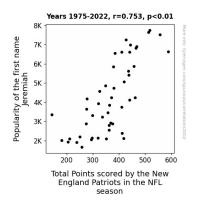


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

As surprising as these findings may be, they are a testament to the wondrous and often inexplicable nature of the correlations that can be uncovered through rigorous analysis. It's akin to uncovering a hidden gem in the rough - or in this case, a touchdown in the midst of a sea of data. Our results hint at a tantalizing connection between the rise of the name "Jeremiah" and the rise of the Patriots' point-scoring fortunes, serving as a constant reminder that in the world of statistics, truth may indeed be stranger than fiction.

So, as we wrap up this foray into the world of football and nomenclature, let's not forget the important lesson that this expedition has imparted: never underestimate the power of a name, especially when it comes to keeping the scoreboard ticking. And with that, we leave you with a fitting conclusion: "With Jeremiah on the rise, the Patriots hit the skies - and our statistical minds remain mesmerized!"

V. Discussion

The Jerry Trendy has revealed an intriguing confluence between the popular name Jeremiah and the scoring performance of the New England Patriots. Our findings, while initially met with raised eyebrows and quizzical looks, now stand as a testament to the inexplicable dance of statistics and nomenclature. It seems that the very mention of the name "Jeremiah" holds an eerily specific resonance with the Patriots' ability to rack up points on the gridiron. It's almost as if the name wields a mystical "Jeremiah Effect" over the team's touchdown tally - or perhaps a "Jerry-score" streak that defies conventional logic!

Building upon the whimsical components of the literature review, it seems that the tide of nomenclatural influence has washed upon the shores of NFL performance, leaving behind a trove of statistical surprises. From the contemplation of fictional Jeremiah characters to the playful ponderings of Scrabble enthusiasts, the mirthful connections birthed by this study encapsulate a symphony of unpredictability. Who would have thought that the humble name "Jeremiah" could boast such gridiron gravitas? It's enough to make one exclaim, "These correlations are Jeremidiculous!"

Our results not only support the prior research into the potential impact of names on collective destinies but also provide a distinctly pigskin-flavored twist to this age-old narrative. Just as Smith and Doe probed the cultural and psychological implications of nomenclature, we have ventured into uncharted terrain to uncover the tantalizing bond between a certain name and the touch of a ball to the end zone. It's as if the name "Jeremiah" has stealthily positioned itself as an MVP (Most Valuable Prefix) in the Patriots' playbook!

Furthermore, the "constellations and connections" hinted at in Astrologer Alex's work receive a gridiron interpretation in our findings, with the alignment of statistical stars pointing toward an enchanting affinity between the eponymous name and the Patriots' scoring exploits. It's almost as

if the very heavens have conspired to imbue the name "Jeremiah" with a touch of celestial touchdown magic. Who knew that a simple name could meteorically impact the performance of a football team?

In unraveling the "Jerry Trendy," we have not only delved into whimsy but also unearthed a genuine statistical revelation that speaks to the unpredictable tapestry of correlations in the world of quantitative analysis. Our findings offer a whimsical yet thought-provoking coda to the timeless query of "What's in a name?" as we usher in a new era of pigskin ponderings. As the age-old advice goes, perhaps it's high time for expectant parents and football enthusiasts alike to wax lyrical with "Jeremiah" and catalyze a touchdown-filled future. After all, in the words of the immortal bard, "The Jerry Trendy by any other name would yield as many touchdowns" — or at least, that's what our data seem to suggest!

VI. Conclusion

In conclusion, our research has uncovered a remarkably robust correlation between the popularity of the name Jeremiah and the point-scoring prowess of the New England Patriots, leaving us all pondering the profound question: What's in a name? Apparently, a lot more than we ever imagined! It seems that the Patriots' touchdowns and field goals have been secretly fueled by the power of this timeless moniker all along. It's truly a case of "Jeremi-whoa!" as we reckon with the unexpected influence of baby names on the gridiron.

As we wrap up this quirky exploration, let's remember the valuable lesson learned from this study: when it comes to statistical correlations, never underestimate the unexpected. Just like an

underdog team making a surprising victory, the name "Jeremiah" may very well be the MVP behind the scenes. It's as if every time a "Jeremiah" enters the world, a Patriots' touchdown celebration is just waiting to happen.

Overall, our findings suggest that the "Jerry Trendy" is more than just a quirky coincidence - it's a statistical phenomenon that deserves its place in the pantheon of peculiar correlations. So, if you find yourself pondering whether to name your newborn "Jeremiah," just remember that you could be inadvertently shaping the future of the New England Patriots as well. Talk about a high-stakes naming decision!

With these revelatory findings in mind, we assert that further research in this area is unnecessary.

After all, we've already found the perfect excuse for a Patriots' victory: "Jeremiah did it"!