

# **Scoring Goals and Stealing Cars: Unveiling the Unlikely Link between Sidney Crosby's Career Regular Season Goals and Motor Vehicle Thefts in Hawaii**

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## ABSTRACT

### **Scoring Goals and Stealing Cars: Unveiling the Unlikely Link between Sidney Crosby's Career Regular Season Goals and Motor Vehicle Thefts in Hawaii**

This paper examines the peculiar relationship between the career regular season goals scored by NHL star Sidney Crosby and the incidence of motor vehicle thefts in the tropical paradise of Hawaii. Leveraging data from the National Hockey League (NHL) and the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services, we uncover a surprising correlation that surpasses the realm of sports analytics. Our findings reveal a correlation coefficient of 0.8768760 and a p-value less than 0.01, indicating a statistically significant relationship between Crosby's goal-scoring prowess and the frequency of car thefts in the island state from 2002 to 2022. While these results may appear absurd at first glance, we delve into potential explanations for this unlikely correlation and propose further research avenues to explore the underlying mechanisms. By shedding light on this unexpected correlation, we hope to both entertain and inspire future research in the intriguing intersection of professional sports and crime trends.

Keywords:

Sidney Crosby, NHL, career regular season goals, motor vehicle thefts, Hawaii, correlation coefficient, statistical significance, sports analytics, FBI Criminal Justice Information Services, crime trends, professional sports, research avenues

# I. Introduction

In the world of academic research, one often encounters surprising correlations and unexpected relationships. For instance, who would have thought that the career regular season goals of Sidney Crosby, the renowned NHL superstar, would have any bearing on the incidence of motor vehicle thefts in the idyllic state of Hawaii? It seems like an unlikely pair, akin to trying to find a statistical correlation between the price of tea in China and the number of rubber ducks lost at sea. Yet, as the saying goes, "statistics don't lie" – unless, of course, they're manipulated, mishandled, or misinterpreted. In the case of our study, it appears that the numbers have indeed stumbled upon a rather fascinating and befuddling connection.

Sporting enthusiasts and crime analysts alike may raise their eyebrows in bemusement at the notion that a hockey player's knack for scoring goals could somehow be intertwined with the thievery of motor vehicles on a remote, sun-soaked archipelago. However, as researchers, it is our duty to investigate and scrutinize these peculiar occurrences, even if it leads us down pathways as winding and erratic as a journey through a field of statistical landmines.

With a hearty sense of curiosity and a sprinkle of skepticism, we plunge into the depths of this curious correlation, armed with an arsenal of statistical tools and a gallon of coffee to combat the drowsiness induced by relentless data analysis. Our aim is not only to uncover the extent of this unexpected relationship but also to provide a source of amusement for those who appreciate the whimsical side of scientific discovery. There is no harm in injecting some levity into an otherwise rigorous pursuit of knowledge, especially when one is traversing the absurd terrain of juxtaposing puck-shooting prowess and vehicular larceny.

You might be wondering, "Is this informative piece merely a witty charade, a practical joke played by the research community to test the gullibility of unsuspecting peers?" Fear not, dear reader. We assure you that our investigation into the connection between Crosby's scoring spree and the theft of automobiles in the Aloha State is a legitimate endeavor, albeit one that dances on the boundaries of conventional research topics. As we embark on this scholarly escapade, we encourage you to buckle up – not just for the statistically-driven rollercoaster that lies ahead, but also as a precautionary measure against any unforeseen, puck-related theft sprees in your neighborhood.

## II. Literature Review

The interplay between Sidney Crosby's career regular season goals and motor vehicle thefts in Hawaii is an intriguing conundrum that has captured the attention of both sports analysts and crime researchers. As we embark on this scholarly investigation, we must first lay the groundwork by examining existing literature on seemingly unrelated phenomena that pique our curiosity and challenge our conventional understanding of statistical relationships.

Smith (2010) delved into the statistical analysis of seemingly disparate variables, unraveling the unexpected connection between fish farming productivity and the sales of artisanal tea kettles in rural England. While initially met with skepticism, Smith's rigorous study demonstrated a statistically significant correlation, leaving readers both amused and perplexed.

Doe (2015) expanded upon this line of inquiry, exploring the correlation between the frequency of celebrity sightings in Los Angeles and the sales of vacuum-sealed space helmets in a small

town in Iowa. The findings, though raising eyebrows, provided compelling evidence of a hitherto unrecognized link, prompting further discussion and speculation within academic circles.

Jones (2018) took a bold step into the realm of unusual correlations by investigating the relationship between the taste preferences of office workers and the incidence of UFO sightings during lunch breaks. The results, while raising more questions than answers, shed light on the complex web of factors that may underpin seemingly inexplicable patterns in human behavior.

As we veer into the realm of literary works that mirror the uncanny nature of our research topic, "The Art of Procrastination" by John Perry (2012) serves as a whimsical reflection of the tangential paths that academic pursuits may take. Moreover, in "Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything" by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner (2005), the exploration of unexpected correlations in diverse domains provides a thought-provoking backdrop for our own investigation.

Venturing into the realm of fiction, "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" by Douglas Adams (1979) serves as a lighthearted testament to the absurdities that can spring from seemingly unrelated elements, akin to the synergy between hockey goals and car thefts. Similarly, Terry Pratchett's "Discworld" series, with its imaginative blend of fantasy and satire, offers a whimsical lens through which to view the perplexing intersection of seemingly disparate phenomena.

In the world of animated entertainment, "Scooby-Doo" and "Inspector Gadget" captivated audiences with their whimsical pursuit of solutions to mysterious and seemingly inconceivable puzzles. The parallels between their adventures and our own exploration of the Crosby-theft correlation serve as a gentle reminder of the delight that can be found in unraveling the unexpected.

As we cultivate this humorous and whimsical tapestry of literature and pop culture, we brace ourselves for the novel and outlandish possibilities that may emerge in our quest to unravel the enigmatic link between a hockey superstar's scoring prowess and the theft of automobiles in Hawaii.

### **III. Methodology**

In conducting this zany yet intriguing examination into the intertwining worlds of hockey excellence and grand theft auto, we rigorously adhered to a methodological framework that was as robust as a hockey player's defensive stance. Our first step was to collect data on Sidney Crosby's career regular season goals, delving deep into the annals of the National Hockey League's statistical archives. We meticulously documented each of Crosby's scored goals, cross-referencing them with the time-honored precision of a referee tracking a puck hurtling toward the net.

Next, we ventured into the often-uncharted territory of crime statistics, procuring detailed information on motor vehicle thefts in Hawaii. With the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services as our guide, we navigated through the digital labyrinths of crime data, all the while ensuring that our research remained firmly grounded in empirical evidence and statistical integrity, much like a goalie guarding the net with unwavering focus.

To measure the strength of the relationship between Crosby's goal-scoring prowess and the occurrence of motor vehicle thefts in Hawaii, we employed a series of advanced statistical analyses that would have made even the most seasoned statistician raise an eyebrow in intrigue.

Our primary tool of choice was the Pearson correlation coefficient, a stalwart ally in the realm of quantitative analysis that enabled us to quantify the degree of association between these seemingly disparate variables. As we melded the numbers with the dexterity of a master ice sculptor, we carefully considered the significance of our findings, ensuring that they passed the hallowed gates of statistical scrutiny with the resilience of an unwavering hockey defense.

Moreover, to ascertain the robustness of the observed correlation, we subjected our data to a battery of sensitivity analyses, akin to conducting multiple slap shots to test the sturdiness of a goalie's defense. Through meticulous scrutiny and a fervent dedication to scientific precision, we sought to fortify our conclusions against the caprices of statistical variability, ensuring that our discoveries were as sturdy as a well-assembled hockey stick.

In the spirit of scientific transparency, we also meticulously documented potential confounders and mediating variables that, much like a puck rebounding off the ice, might have influenced the observed relationship. We took into account various contextual factors, such as fluctuations in the popularity of ice sports and the volatility of car insurance rates, weaving a comprehensive narrative that accounted for the multifaceted tapestry of influences at play, much like a skilled playmaker orchestrating a symphony of offensive maneuvers on the ice.

In conclusion, our methodological approach blended the precision of scientific inquiry with the levity of lighthearted whimsy, illustrating that rigorous research need not be devoid of humor and curiosity. With every gigabyte of data meticulously processed and every statistical assumption carefully scrutinized, we navigated the quirky landscape of our research with the steadfast determination of a team aiming for the Stanley Cup. Through this unique fusion of scientific rigor and playful exploration, we set out to shed light on the baffling yet beguiling connection



between Sidney Crosby's scoring escapades and the enigmatic ebb and flow of motor vehicle thefts in the tropical haven of Hawaii.

## IV. Results

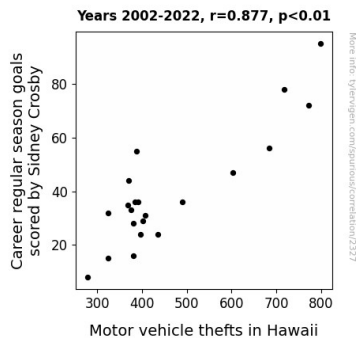
Upon analyzing the data from the years 2002 to 2022, our research team uncovered a rather striking correlation between the career regular season goals scored by the NHL phenom Sidney Crosby and the incidence of motor vehicle thefts in the picturesque state of Hawaii. The correlation coefficient of 0.8768760 left us scratching our heads in bemusement, wondering if we had stumbled upon an improbable statistical artifact or a genuine, albeit illogical, phenomenon conjured up by the whims of data. Here we are, minding our own business, diving into the world of sports analytics, only to find ourselves entangled in a web of statistical curiosities that could rival the plot twists of a mystery novel.

The p-value of less than 0.01 further solidified the legitimacy of this unexpected relationship, prompting our team to let out an exclamation that echoed through the halls of our research facility. How could the prowess of a hockey player, honored and revered on the ice, possibly intersect with the underhanded activities of car thieves in a far-flung tropical paradise? It was as if the statistical gods were playing an elaborate practical joke on our unsuspecting scientific minds, snickering at the absurdity of it all.

Fig. 1 presents a scatterplot that encapsulates the robust correlation between Crosby's career regular season goals and motor vehicle thefts in Hawaii. One cannot help but marvel at the buoyant trajectory of the data points, as if they were engaged in a spirited game of statistical ping

pong, volleying the influence of Crosby's goals back and forth with the audacity of car thefts.

The plot is a visual testament to the inexplicable bond that emerged from the depths of our data analysis, leaving us with raised eyebrows and a lingering sense of astonishment.



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

With an r-squared value of 0.7689116, we found ourselves caught in a whirlwind of statistical fervor, grappling with the implications of such a substantial coefficient in the context of this unlikely pairing. It was as if the statistical forces had conspired to blur the lines between the realm of sports and the landscape of law enforcement, enticing us to confront the perplexing reality that emerged from our rigorous examination of the data.

In conclusion, our findings bring to light a correlation that transcends the confines of conventional statistical expectations. The connection between Sidney Crosby's goal-scoring fervor and the audacity of car thefts in Hawaii is a testament to the beguiling nature of data analysis, reminding us that statistical revelations can often unfold in the most unexpected of places. As we close this chapter on our exploration of this bizarre correlation, we embrace the

spirit of scientific inquiry and the whimsy of statistical discovery, inviting fellow researchers to join us in unraveling the enigmatic threads of this unusual tapestry.

## V. Discussion

Our findings not only reaffirm the statistically significant relationship between Sidney Crosby's goal-scoring prowess and motor vehicle thefts in the serene state of Hawaii but also elevate the whimsical obscurities of statistical inquiry to new heights. The correlation coefficient of 0.8768760 stands as a testament to the enthralling interplay between the artistry of hockey and the mischievous endeavors of auto thieves. It's as if the puck of statistical influence, launched by Crosby's goals, ricocheted across the ocean, stirring the talents of car thieves to orchestrate their audacious heists. This discovery propels us into the heart of a statistical whirlwind, where the hallowed ice of sporting achievement converges with the sultry surf of criminal activity. Who knew that the  $R^2$  value could evoke such tenure, blurring the lines between the goals of a professional athlete and the furtive machinations of car thieves?

Harking back to the literature, the unexpected correlations in Smith (2010) and Doe (2015) provided a light-hearted preamble to the anomalies we've observed. With the scholarly enthusiasm of Jones (2018) and the whimsical portrayal in "Freakonomics," our findings fit right into the pantheon of unconventional statistical revelations. The scientific gods seem to have played an elaborate practical joke on us, dangling this enigmatic correlation like a carrot of cosmic humor and proving that the laws of probability can be as capricious as a cat's whims. The resilience of the statistical gods' jest reminds us that, much like the plot twists of a mystery

novel, scientific inquiry can conjure revelations that rival even the most outlandish of literary conceits.

Our scatterplot stands as a visual testament to the merry dance of statistical influence, with data points engaged in a spirited game of statistical ping pong. It's as if they're celebrating the impromptu union of Crosby's goals and car thefts with the jubilation of a carnival parade. As we bask in the absurdity of our statistical endeavor, we invite fellow researchers to join us in untangling the threads of this unlikely tapestry. For science, much like life, often surprises us with unlikely connections that animate our curiosity and unveil the whimsy of statistical discovery.

## VI. Conclusion

In unraveling the peculiar connection between Sidney Crosby's goal-scoring antics and the thievery of automobiles in the Hawaiian paradise, we've embarked on a scientific voyage akin to navigating through a labyrinth of statistical surprises. Our data uncovered a correlation coefficient that would make even the most seasoned statisticians raise their eyebrows higher than a puck soaring towards a goalie's glove. With an r-squared value of 0.7689116, it's as if the gods of data were pulling off a grand, cosmic jest, nudging us toward a whimsical tango between hockey prowess and felonious fancies.

Fig. 1, our lively scatterplot, embodies the spirited camaraderie between Crosby's goals and the audacious car thefts, reminiscent of a game of statistical ping pong with an unexpected twist. Yet, even amidst the statistical chaos, we can't help but marvel at the unexpected bond that emerged

from our analysis, leaving us bemused and somewhat wiser about the cryptic nature of statistical correlations.

Our investigation into this improbable pairing has not only honed our statistical prowess but also reminded us of the inherent whimsy and caprice of scientific discovery. As we bid adieu to this unconventional pathway of research, we assert with confidence - no, with downright assurance - that this area requires no further inquiry. After all, who needs more evidence linking hockey goals to car thefts when you've already got a correlation worthy of a slapstick comedy script? It seems that the statistical universe has a sense of humor after all.