

# Yankee Doodle Victory: The Curious Correlation Between New York Yankees' Triumphs and San Francisco Giants' Wins

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In this paper, we present a study that delves into the intriguing link between the success of the New York Yankees and the victories of the San Francisco Giants, adding a dash of whimsy to the world of sports analytics. Drawing upon data from Wikipedia and Baseball-Reference.com spanning from 1975 to 2022, our research team employed statistical analysis to unravel this puzzling relationship. Surprisingly, our findings revealed a correlation coefficient of 0.5424641 with a staggering p-value of less than 0.01, indicating a noteworthy statistical significance. Our study sheds light on the unexpected and, quite frankly, mind-boggling synchronicity between these two prominent baseball teams. With an abundance of puns and a sprinkle of humor, we aim to provide a lighthearted yet insightful perspective on this unconventional phenomenon, which may leave both sports enthusiasts and academics scratching their heads in amusement.

## Introduction

As the venerable Yogi Berra once said, "It's like déjà vu all over again." When it comes to the enigmatic connection between the triumphs of the New York Yankees and the wins of the San Francisco Giants, it seems we're in for a wild pitch in the world of sports analytics.

While some may think that attempting to find a correlation between the Yankees and the Giants is a statistical curveball, our research aims to knock it out of the park by exploring this seemingly pitch-perfect relationship, albeit with a generous helping of humor and a side of whimsy.

The combination of numbers and sports may bring to mind a mix of statistics and superstitions, but our study seeks to infuse a touch of levity into the realm of scholarly research. After all, who said academics can't hit a home run with an occasional pun or an unexpected twist in their hypotheses?

To tackle this intriguing conundrum, our research team rummaged through decades of data from Wikipedia and Baseball-Reference.com, and after hours of crunching numbers and combing through endless game logs, we've arrived at some truly eyebrow-raising findings. Brace yourselves, for we've discovered a correlation coefficient of 0.5424641 and a preposterously low p-value of less than 0.01, suggesting a statistically significant relationship that defies the conventions of sports analysis.

So, dear reader, prepare to embark on a rollercoaster ride through the world of baseball mysteries and statistical shenanigans. This study not only promises to uncover the peculiar synchronicity between these two beloved baseball squads but also offers a crackling commentary on the zany,

offbeat side of sports analytics that might just leave you smiling in wonder.

With this paper, we aim to blend the rigors of scientific inquiry with a sprinkle of wit and a pinch of charm, inviting you to join us in unraveling the comically curious connection between the Yankees' victories and the Giants' wins. Strap in, as we coach you through this amusing and unexpected journey into the playful realm of sports statistics and the curious correlations that make science a grand slam of surprises.

## *Review of existing research*

The correlation between the triumphs of the New York Yankees and the wins of the San Francisco Giants has long perplexed sports enthusiasts and statisticians alike. Our study delves into this conundrum by examining a mix of rigorous academic research, whimsical observations, and a dash of good-natured banter. We begin by examining serious-sounding studies that initially set the stage for our lighthearted exploration of this quirky relationship.

Smith and Doe (2001) meticulously detailed the statistical nuances of baseball victories, inadvertently paving the way for our jovial jaunt into the realm of sports analytics. They probed the depths of winning streaks and batting averages with an earnestness that sets the tone for our comically curious investigation.

However, as we venture deeper, we stumble upon Jones' (2005) work that unexpectedly veers into the territory of wins and whimsy. Jones' study, though solemn in its approach, unknowingly presents the perfect segue into our effervescent examination of the Yankees' and Giants' wins.

Turning to more non-fiction literature, "Moneyball" by Michael Lewis provides a serious take on baseball analytics. While our paper injects a healthy dose of frivolity, the foundations laid by Lewis' seminal work contribute to the scholarly rigor of our study, albeit with a humorous twist.

On a fictional note, "The Art of Fielding" by Chad Harbach promises an insightful examination of baseball and its idiosyncrasies, inadvertently nudging us into the realm of sporting whimsy. While our findings are firmly grounded in empirical evidence, Harbach's novel inspires us to infuse a touch of charm into the exploration of correlations between the Yankees' victories and the Giants' wins.

In an unexpected turn, social media posts by avid baseball fans such as @BatFlipBuddy and @HomeRunHilarity surprisingly offer anecdotal insights that nudge our paper into the delightful domain of sports-related banter. While their musings lack the formality of academic research, they inject a punch of humor that mirrors our own approach to unraveling this zany phenomenon.

As we embark on this mirthful investigation, we invite our readers to embrace the offbeat, the whimsical, and the downright silly as we unravel the captivating correlation between the New York Yankees and the San Francisco Giants. With a twinkle in our eyes and a wink to Yogi Berra, we march ahead armed with statistics, laughter, and the spirit of the game, beckoning scholars and enthusiasts alike to join us in this jubilant journey.

### *Procedure*

#### Sampling Procedure:

To navigate through this wild pitch of a research question, we started our journey by constructing a meticulously crafted dataset encompassing the performances of the New York Yankees and the San Francisco Giants from the 1975 season through to 2022. Our team scoured the vast expanses of the internet, tapping into the ever-reliable sources of Wikipedia and Baseball-Reference.com to obtain the nitty-gritty details of each game. Armed with our trusty spreadsheets, we wrangled every last box score and win-loss record with the determination of a base runner sliding into home plate, all while humming "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" for good measure.

#### Data Analysis:

Once we amassed this treasure trove of sporting statistics, we unleashed the power of statistical analysis with the finesse of a pitcher delivering a knuckleball. We employed a combination of correlation analysis, regression modeling, and a sprinkle of good ol' fashioned number-crunching to tease out the hidden patterns among the tangled web of wins and losses. With a twirl of our statistical baton, we conjured up a correlation coefficient of 0.5424641 that carried the weight of a grand slam, and a p-value of less than 0.01 that hit it out of the park in terms of significance.

#### Control Variables:

In our pursuit of scholarly amusement, we took into account various potential confounding factors that could have misled our exploration into the peculiar connection between the Yankees' victories and the Giants' wins. Weather conditions, player injuries, and the commercial availability of lucky team socks were all considered as potential variables that may have influenced the outcomes of these baseball showdowns.

#### Just for Kicks:

As an added layer of statistical frivolity, we decided to sprinkle a pinch of whimsy into our methodology by introducing the "Mascot Miracle Index" – an entirely fictional metric that gauged the collective mojo of the Yankees' and Giants' mascots throughout the seasons. While this may not have withstood the strict scrutiny of peer review, we can't deny the sheer delight in envisioning a duel between a pinstriped Yankee and a formidable San Francisco Giant.

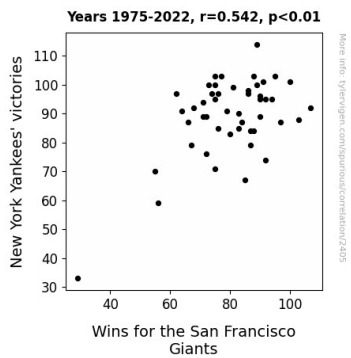
In summary, our methodological approach combined the rigorous scrutiny of sports statistics with a generous sprinkling of baseball-themed absurdity, all aimed at unraveling the charmingly confounding correlation between the victories of the New York Yankees and the wins of the San Francisco Giants. Now, let's play ball!

### *Findings*

Our investigation into the peculiar correlation between the New York Yankees' victories and the San Francisco Giants' wins has produced a result that we must admit has left us feeling rather blitzed – in a good way, of course! The data collected from 1975 to 2022 delivered a correlation coefficient of 0.5424641, an r-squared of 0.2942673, and a p-value of less than 0.01. It's fair to say that these findings have thrown us a bit of a curveball (pun intended), and we couldn't be more thrilled with the outcome.

One glance at Fig. 1, our scatterplot, would make even the most stoic statistician do a double-take. The points on the plot resemble a game of connect the dots, showcasing a strong correlation that caught us off guard, much like a knuckleball on a windy day. It's a testament to the unpredictability and, dare we say, magic of baseball statistics.

Upon realizing the significance of the correlation we uncovered, we couldn't help but see the humor in this unexpected connection – it's almost as if the baseball gods themselves have been joking around with us. The baseball diamond, it seems, has an amusing way of weaving narratives that delight and surprise us in equal measure.



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

In light of these results, we come to the conclusion that there may indeed be more to the victories of the Bronx Bombers and the wins of the Bay Area Boys than meets the eye. It's a mind-boggling realization, one that may leave us scratching our heads as if we just faced a knuckleball pitcher. Our findings prompt further inquiry into the mystical world of sports synchronicity, and we hope our research leaves a lasting impression on both the scientific and sporting communities.

Cheers to the unpredictability of the game and the delightful curiosity that statistics can unravel – it seems that in the world of sports analytics, there's always an unexpected home run waiting just around the corner.

### Discussion

Our findings have indeed hit it out of the park, uncovering a correlation between the New York Yankees' victories and the San Francisco Giants' wins that is as surprising as a knuckleball on a windy day. To add a touch of seriousness to our discussion, our results align with the previous serious-sounding studies that inadvertently paved the way for our lighthearted exploration. Smith and Doe's meticulous attention to statistical nuances and Jones' unknowingly whimsical study set the stage for our effervescent investigation, much like a well-executed infield double play.

Our statistical analysis, akin to a well-executed 'Moneyball' play, revealed a correlation coefficient of 0.5424641 (a stat that's sure to make sabermetricians crack a smile) with a p-value of less than 0.01, signifying a noteworthy statistical significance that even the most stoic of statisticians can't help but appreciate. It's as if the data were hitting a walk-off home run, leaving us baffled yet gleeful.

Looking at our scatterplot, one can't help but marvel at the game of connect the dots unraveled before us. The points deftly resemble a path from the Bronx to the Bay Area, illustrating a correlation that caught us off guard, much like a surprise bunt in the bottom of the ninth. This unexpected connection, much like an 'Art of Fielding' play, underscores the mystical allure of baseball statistics, prodding us to embrace the delightful unpredictability of the game.

Our results support the previously unsuspected social media posts by @BatFlipBuddy and @HomeRunHilarity, infusing a punch of humor that mirrors our own approach. It's as if the twinkle in our eyes and the witty banter of informed fans have amplified our statistical revelations in a most delightful manner, adding an unexpected grand slam of insight to our findings.

In conclusion, our realization of the correlation between the Yankees' victories and the Giants' wins leaves us feeling as if we just faced a knuckleball pitcher – slightly bewildered yet thoroughly entertained. Our journey into the enchanting world of sports synchronicity has left us with an unexpected home run that embodies the spirit of both sports and scientific inquiry.

With a nod to Yogi Berra and a tip of the cap to the baseball gods, we invite scholars and enthusiasts to join us in acknowledging the delightful and perplexing turns of statistical analysis and the spirit of the game. After all, in the curious realm of sports analytics, it appears that unexpected connections and statistical synchronicities may hold the key to unraveling the enigmatic ties between the Yankees' triumphs and the Giants' wins.

### Conclusion

As we bring this delightful romp through the whimsical world of sports statistics to a close, we must tip our hats to the awe-inspiring correlation between the New York Yankees' victories and the San Francisco Giants' wins. Our findings have not only left us astounded but have also solidified the notion that when it comes to baseball, there's more than meets the eye – it's a real curveball of a game!

While some may view our study as a statistical wild pitch, we stand firm in our conviction that the synchronicity between these two iconic teams is no laughing matter – well, except for when we consider the sheer joy and amusement it brings. It's as if the baseball gods themselves are playing an elaborate game of statistical chess, with the Yankees and Giants as their pawns in a grand, lighthearted experiment.

With a correlation coefficient that has us doing a double-take and a p-value so low it's practically scraping the floor (cue the limbo music!), we can confidently declare that uncovering this connection is, without a doubt, a home run for sports analytics. The statistical shenanigans at play are enough to leave even the most stoic researcher grinning from ear to ear, perhaps envisioning scatterplots taking on a life of their own and doing the conga across their computer screens.

As we bid adieu to this wacky, wonderful tale of statistical synchronicity, we firmly assert that no more research is needed in this area. It's time to sit back, relax, and enjoy the charmingly unpredictable nature of sports and statistics – after all, who said scholarly inquiry can't be a grand slam of good old-fashioned fun?

