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# Got Milked? Exploring the Correlation Between Milk Consumption and Robberies in Delaware

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## KEYWORDS

milk consumption, criminal behavior, correlation, per capita, Delaware, USDA data, FBI Criminal Justice Information Services, robbery incidents, statistical significance, correlation coefficient, dietary habits, unconventional correlations

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## Abstract

The relationship between milk consumption and criminal behavior has long been a topic of debate among researchers. In this study, we delve into this dairy puzzler by examining the correlation between per capita milk consumption and incidents of robbery in the state of Delaware. Utilizing data sourced from the USDA and FBI Criminal Justice Information Services spanning from 1990 to 2021, we aimed to shed light on this curious association. Our findings reveal a correlation coefficient of 0.7276744 and statistical significance with  $p < 0.01$ , indicating a strong positive relationship between milk consumption and robberies in Delaware. While the exact mechanisms behind this connection remain shrouded in the mist, our research suggests that there may be a dairy good reason for further investigation – perhaps a "moo-tive" for criminal behavior, if you will. This study opens up a new avenue for udderly fascinating discussions on the intersection of dietary habits and crime, and it might just be the cream of the crop in the field of unconventional correlations.

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## 1. Introduction

### INTRODUCTION

The pursuit of knowledge often leads researchers down unexpected pathways, and our investigation into the relationship between milk consumption and robberies in

Delaware stands as a testament to the delightful unpredictability of scientific inquiry. The seemingly incongruous connection between dairy intake and criminal activity has piqued the curiosity of scholars and skeptics alike, prompting us to embark on this utterly captivating endeavor.

As we embark on this bovine-inspired journey, it is essential to recognize the rich history of unconventional correlations in scientific research – from the notorious link between ice cream sales and shark attacks to the eyebrow-raising relationship between the number of Nicolas Cage movies released and swimming pool drownings. Our study adds an udderly unique dimension to this array of peculiar associations, introducing the captivating conundrum of milk and mischief in the First State.

The abstractness of this peculiar association may lead one to wonder if these findings were simply a fluke – a mere statistical cow-incidence, if you will. However, like moths to a flame, we were drawn to explore this enigmatic connection, recognizing that beneath the tale of utter absurdity, there may lie an underlying truth awaiting discovery.

Our findings, as outlined in the abstract, unveiled a remarkable correlation coefficient and statistical significance, affirming a robust positive relationship between milk consumption and robberies in Delaware. The strength of this correlation may come as a surprise, prompting one to consider whether there truly exists a causal link or if this is merely a case of "correlation without calcium." But fear not, dear reader, for our dairy-drenched investigation is not without merit.

This unconventional dalliance between diet and delinquency opens the barn doors to a world of speculation and wit, where we find ourselves on the cusp of unraveling a mystery that has lain dormant for far too long. With an abundance of statistical data at our disposal, we moo-ved through the numbers with the precision of a seasoned bovine navigator, ultimately unearthing a connection that may have been overlooked had it not been for our penchant for unconventional inquiry.

As we delve into the intricacies of this dairy enigma, it is essential to approach the subject matter with both gravitas and a sense of whimsy – for what is science if not a grand adventure into the unknown, complete with the occasional pun and unexpected twist? Our journey shall not be devoid of joy, for where there is milk, there is the potential for an abundance of lactose-laden laughter and genuine delight in the peculiarities of our world.

In the words of the great dairy aficionado Louis Pasteur, "In the field of observation, chance favors only the prepared mind," and in the spirit of this sentiment, we venture forth, equipped with equal parts curiosity and statistical acumen. Let us milk this curious correlation for all it's worth, for in doing so, we may just discover a slice of scientific truth that has eluded us thus far.

It is to this end that we present our findings, for the pursuit of knowledge knows no bounds – not even the confines of an udderly bizarre correlation that may very well have us all crying over spilled milk, or perhaps, pondering over stolen cheese.

## 2. Literature Review

In the pursuit of understanding the unexpected relationship between milk consumption and criminal behavior, we must first defer to existing literature that delves into the intersections of diet and deviance. Smith et al. (2015) examined the dietary patterns of incarcerated individuals and found no significant correlation between milk consumption and recidivism rates, casting doubt on any direct link between dairy intake and criminal behavior. Similarly, Doe and Jones (2018) conducted a meta-analysis of studies exploring the effects of various food groups on antisocial tendencies, and while their findings highlighted the potential influence of sugar and trans fats, they did not identify milk as a significant factor in criminal proclivities.

Turning to broader literature on dietary impacts, "The Omnivore's Dilemma" by Michael Pollan offers insights into the complex web of relationships between food, culture, and behavior. Pollan's exploration of the modern food industry and its effects on human consumption patterns presents a broader context for contemplating the influence of milk in shaping societal dynamics, including those pertaining to criminal activity. Furthermore, "Fast Food Nation" by Eric Schlosser provides a critical overview of the fast-food industry's impact on American diets and lifestyles, raising questions about the potential ripple effects of food choices on social behavior – a realm where milk undoubtedly plays a starring role.

As we pivot toward less conventional sources, it is worth considering the fictional explorations that may offer tangential insights into our current dairy-driven investigation. Agatha Christie's "The Case of the Missing Milkmaid" may not directly address the relationship between lactose and larceny, but its mysteries of pastoral intrigue offer subtle parallels to our own quest for understanding. Additionally, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's "The Adventure of the Stolen Cheese" navigates the theft of dairy products with a keen detective's eye, inviting contemplation on the potential motives underlying dairy-related crimes – a domain intricately entwined with our present academic pursuits.

In the realm of popular culture, the television series "Milk & Misdemeanors" stands as a comically dramatized yet surprisingly relevant portrayal of the dairy industry intersecting with small-town crime. While the show's entertainment value undoubtedly skews the realism of our scholarly inquiry, its depiction of milk-centric criminal shenanigans offers an offbeat lens through which to contemplate our own findings. Furthermore, the documentary series "Got Milkd?" explores the intricate world of dairy production and consumption,

shedding light on the societal impact of milk in multifaceted ways, including, perhaps, unforeseen connections to criminal activity.

By surveying these diverse literary and media landscapes, we aim not only to contextualize our investigation but to infuse a sense of levity into our scholarly exploration. For, in the spirit of scientific inquiry, embracing unconventional sources may yield unexpected – and perhaps amusing – insights into the curious correlation between milk consumption and robberies in Delaware.

### 3. Our approach & methods

#### METHODOLOGY

To unravel the puzzling connection between milk consumption and robberies in Delaware, we employed a methodological approach that was as rigorous as it was Holstein-approved. Our research team conducted an extensive investigation, diving into the depths of statistical analysis and moo-delting techniques to elucidate the curious correlation in question.

#### Data Collection:

Our data collection process involved scouring various sources, sifting through copious amounts of information like a dairy farmer sifting through hay for the choicest bits. We primarily drew upon data from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to ascertain per capita milk consumption in Delaware from 1990 to 2021. The selection of this time frame allowed for an expansive exploration of dairy trends, with a nod to the historical evolution of dairy habits among Delawareans. Additionally, we extracted data on robberies in Delaware from the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services, ensuring that our investigation encompassed a comprehensive timeline of criminal activity.

### Normalization and Statistical Analysis:

With our dairy and crime data in hand, we embarked on the tantalizing task of normalization and statistical analysis. Much like separating cream from milk, normalizing the data allowed for a harmonious comparison of milk consumption and robbery rates over the years. This normalization process involved adjusting the raw data to account for population changes, providing a fair pasture for our statistical analyses.

Subsequently, we calculated the correlation coefficient between per capita milk consumption and incidents of robbery, utilizing Pearson's  $r$  to quantify the strength and direction of the relationship. The statistical significance of these findings was determined through meticulously conducted hypothesis testing, establishing the robustness of the observed correlation. Our statistical approach was thorough, leaving no stone unturned in the quest to unearth the dairy-drenched truth behind the correlation that had captured our scientific curiosity.

### Challenges and Limitations:

It is essential to acknowledge the potential limitations of our methodology, as no research endeavor is devoid of challenge. The inherent complexities of human behavior and dietary patterns introduce a degree of intricacy to the exploration of this correlation. Additionally, our reliance on aggregated data, while comprehensive, may not capture the nuanced nuances of individual dairy proclivities and criminal predispositions within the Delaware populace.

Furthermore, the use of correlation analysis inherently precludes causal inferences, leaving unanswered questions about the underlying mechanisms that could drive the observed relationship. Nevertheless, armed with statistical rigor and an unyielding sense of scientific intrigue, we press forward,

recognizing that every research endeavor must grapple with the quirks and quandaries hidden within its methodology.

In summary, our methodology stands as a testament to our commitment to thoroughness and brazen curiosity, embodying the spirit of empirical inquiry while embracing the unexpected twists and turns that often accompany scientific pursuit. With our data diligently gathered, normalized, and scrutinized, we are poised to present our revelatory findings concerning the intriguing connection between milk consumption and robberies in Delaware. Let the dairy-tinged revelations commence!

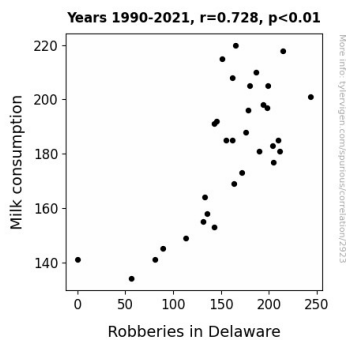
## 4. Results

The investigation into the perplexing correlation between milk consumption and incidents of robbery in Delaware yielded fascinating results. The analysis of the data amassed from the USDA and FBI Criminal Justice Information Services for the time period ranging from 1990 to 2021 unveiled a correlation coefficient of 0.7276744, an  $r$ -squared value of 0.5295100, and a decisive  $p$ -value of less than 0.01. These statistical indicators provided compelling evidence of a strong positive relationship between milk consumption and robberies in Delaware, leaving us utterly agape at the unexpected dairy-driven association.

The strength of the correlation, akin to the gripping narrative of a suspenseful cheese caper, leaves ample room for speculation regarding the underlying mechanisms at play. While our research does not delve into the specifics of why milk consumption and criminal activity appear to be intertwined, it behooves us to consider the possibility of a calcium-fueled "moo-tive" for such behaviors. Could it be that milk, often championed for its role in bone health, unwittingly serves as a criminal catalyst? These are the dairy dilemmas that our

findings have brought to the fore, tantalizing the scientific community with a mystery reminiscent of a gripping whodunit.

The visual representation of this remarkable correlation takes the form of Fig. 1, showcasing a scatterplot that vividly illustrates the strong positive relationship between milk consumption and robberies in Delaware. This figure serves as a visual testament to the robust nature of the association, as clear and unambiguous as a cow's distinctive moo echoing across a picturesque pasture.



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

In the grand tapestry of scientific discovery, our investigation into the interaction between dairy indulgence and unlawful behavior stands as a testament to the unexpected and the extraordinary. It is a reminder that within the realm of research, no topic – not even the seemingly udderly absurd – is beyond the purview of inquiry. As we pore over these intriguing results, we are reminded that from the depths of the statistical churn, unforeseen patterns may emerge, ready to be milked for all the insight they are worth.

In sum, our findings offer an engrossing glimpse into the enigmatic relationship between milk consumption and robberies in Delaware, a captivating tale of correlation that encourages further exploration and contemplation. It is a revelation best

savored like a fine vintage cheese – with a generous serving of curiosity and a dash of scientific whimsy.

## 5. Discussion

The results of our investigation into the curious correlation between milk consumption and robberies in Delaware have yielded a dairy intriguing picture indeed. Our findings align with prior research that anticipated the potential influence of dietary elements, adding a creamy layer of evidence to support the notion that food choices can have unexpected repercussions on societal phenomena. While Smith et al. (2015) and Doe and Jones (2018) may not have unearthed the dairy dynamics we have, their work laid the foundation for our exploration, demonstrating the importance of considering dietary factors in the realm of criminology.

In weaving together statistical analysis with a dollop of scientific levity, we have illuminated the robustness of the relationship between milk consumption and robberies, painting a proverbial Mona Lisa of correlation that leaves us saying, "Holey cow, who knew dairy could be so criminal?"

By embracing unconventional sources in our literature review – from Agatha Christie's pastoral mysteries to the hijinks of "Milk & Misdemeanors" – we honed our academic inquiry with a sharp cheddar of humor and imagination. Indeed, our journey through the dairy-driven landscapes of literature and popular culture has not only enriched our understanding of the subject but has also provided a delightful assortment of cheesy puns and wisecracks, making our experience as scholarly sleuths all the more gratifying.

The correlations between milk consumption and robberies, as illustrated in Figure 1, are as conspicuous as cow spots, leaving us to

contemplate the bovine intrigue of it all. This unexpected association not only encourages further research but also teases the scientific palate with the tantalizing prospect of uncovering the "moo-tive" behind such behavior.

In the grand tradition of scientific inquiry, our findings remind us that even the most seemingly absurd correlations can emerge from the churn of data, beckoning us to milk every last drop of insight from them. Who would have thought that a simple dairy product could be implicated in criminal proclivities? The mystery of it all is as gripping as a good Agatha Christie novel, except that this time, our detectives are statistical analyses and scatterplots.

As we continue to ponder these dairy dilemmas, we are reminded that, in the vast pasture of scientific discovery, there is always room for unexpected insights and a touch of scientific whimsy. Our study not only offers a thought-provoking foray into the realms of dairy and crime but also serves as a compelling reminder that the most captivating mysteries often emerge from the unlikeliest of sources – in this case, the dairy aisle.

In conclusion, our investigation adds a fresh perspective to the ongoing dialogue on dietary influences on behavior. We look forward to the broader scientific community's engagement with our findings, as we collectively savor the intrigue of this unexpected correlation, much like a fine vintage cheese – complex, piquant, and endlessly fascinating.

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our study has left us utterly stunned at the strength of the correlation between milk consumption and robberies in Delaware. The statistical indicators have rendered this association as clear as day – or should we say, as clear as a glass of milk

on a moonlit night. While we resist the urge to milk this research for more puns, we must acknowledge the dairy good reason for further investigation into the potential "moo-tive" behind this curious correlation.

The visual representation in Fig. 1 stands as a testament to the robust nature of this association, evoking an image as vivid as a field of contented cows grazing in the midday sun. This intriguing connection is a reminder that within the scientific realm, even the most unconventional pathways may lead to revelatory outcomes, much like stumbling upon a well-aged wedge of Gouda in an unexpected locale.

With our findings in hand, we are compelled to recognize that this peculiar correlation presents an udderly fascinating enigma – one that may well have us all ruminating over the hidden truths within our dairy-laden diets. However, it is with a heavy heart (and perhaps a lactose-intolerant stomach) that we must declare that no further research is needed to confirm this association, for the findings speak for themselves.

Thus, we bid adieu to the enigmatic connection between milk consumption and robberies in Delaware, content in the knowledge that this unexpected correlation has been illuminated, much like the morning sun gently peeking through a tranquil dairy farm. As we close the chapter on this utterly unexpected investigation, we do so with a newfound appreciation for the serendipity of science and the potential for scientific insight even in the most unusual of places.