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# Ariels in Michigan: Making Waves in Fashion Design

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*The phenomenon of naming trends and their potential influences on career choices has long intrigued researchers and laypersons alike. This paper explores the curious relationship between the popularity of the first name Ariel and the number of fashion designers in the state of Michigan. Leveraging data from the US Social Security Administration and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, our research team identified a startlingly high correlation coefficient of 0.9239693 ( $p < 0.01$ ) between these seemingly unrelated variables from 2003 to 2020. The implications of these findings are as enchanting as a mermaid's song. It seems that the prevalence of the name Ariel may be associated with a propensity for creativity and an eye for style, leading individuals to pursue careers in the fashionable realm. While causation cannot be conclusively inferred from this correlation, the results certainly make a splash in the waters of sociolinguistics and labor market dynamics. Our paper challenges the notion that a rose by any other name would smell as sweet; in the case of Ariel, it appears that a name can indeed influence one's sartorial aspirations.*

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The confluence of seemingly unrelated phenomena has always piqued the interest of researchers and the curious onlookers alike. In the realm of sociolinguistics and labor market dynamics, the impact of one's name on their professional pursuits remains a topic of fascination. Indeed, the relationship between nomenclature and occupational choices is a fertile ground for exploration. Our study delves into the intriguing association between the popularity of the first name Ariel and the number of fashion designers in the state of Michigan.

The whimsical allure of the name Ariel, evoking images of underwater kingdoms and red-headed mermaids, may seem at odds with the world of fashion design. However, as we wade into the depths of data and statistical analysis, we begin to unravel a correlation as captivating as a siren's song. The increasing prevalence of the name Ariel

appears to herald a surge in the number of individuals venturing into the sartorial sphere within the borders of Michigan.

Our investigation draws on data from the US Social Security Administration and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, crafting a narrative that blends the empirical with the fantastical. By analyzing trends from 2003 to 2020, we have unearthed a correlation coefficient as striking as a seashell on the beach – a value of 0.9239693, with a significance level of  $p < 0.01$ . It seems that the waves of nomenclature and fashion design crash together in a synchronous rhythm, creating a pattern as mesmerizing as the ebb and flow of the tides.

As we embark on this research journey, we challenge the notion that a name is merely a nominal label, detached from one's professional aspirations. Our study offers a glimpse into the potential influence of a name on an individual's

creative inclinations and career trajectory. The seductive allure of the name Ariel may indeed hold sway over the aspirations of those who don it, steering them towards the world of haute couture and avant-garde creations. With these findings, we beckon the scientific community to dive into the depths of this enigmatic connection and explore the ripples it creates in the fabric of societal and occupational dynamics.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

The connection between the popularity of the first name Ariel and the number of fashion designers in the state of Michigan has been an area of limited but curious exploration in academia. Smith (2010) found no empirical evidence supporting the notion that one's first name influences career choices, emphasizing that such associations are purely coincidental. However, a more recent study by Doe (2016) hinted at a potential link between names and occupational preferences, though the focus was not specifically on the field of fashion design.

Jones (2018) delved into the psychological implications of nomenclature on individuals' self-perception and personal branding. While the study did not directly investigate career paths, it raised intriguing questions about the subconscious influence of names on behavior and aspirations.

Turning to the broader societal impact of naming trends, "The Power of Names" by Johnson (2017) offers a comprehensive exploration of the cultural, psychological, and sociological dimensions of names. This seminal work invites readers to contemplate the significance of names beyond their lexical meanings, providing a nuanced backdrop for our investigation into the case of Ariel and fashion designers in Michigan.

On the lighter side of literature, "The Little Mermaid" by Andersen (1837) stands as a timeless literary masterpiece that could, in theory, provide anecdotal evidence of the influence of the name Ariel on creative inclinations. Meanwhile, "The Devil Wears Prada" by Weisberger (2003) and

"Confessions of a Shopaholic" by Kinsella (2000) present fictional narratives of individuals navigating the fashion industry that may shed some light, albeit in a whimsical manner, on the allure of sartorial pursuits.

In the realm of popular culture, reality television shows such as "Project Runway" and "America's Next Top Model" offer an anthropological insight into the world of fashion, presenting potentially relevant observations on the influence of names on career choices. As the authors indulged in this "research," they found themselves entertained by the dramatic narratives and catwalk spectacles, perhaps more than was strictly necessary for the purposes of academic inquiry.

## METHODOLOGY

Our research employed a peculiar yet effective combination of statistical analysis and whimsical wordplay to unravel the curious correlation between the popularity of the first name Ariel and the number of fashion designers in Michigan. The initial step involved selecting the dataset from the US Social Security Administration, allowing us to track the prevalence of the name Ariel over the specified time period of 2003 to 2020. The data, like a treasure trove of linguistic gems, provided us with the frequency of Ariel's appearance in the names of newborns, forming the foundation of our investigation.

To complement this ethereal dataset, we turned our attention to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, unearthing the number of fashion designers in the state of Michigan within the same timeframe. This laborious process, akin to combing through a voluminous wardrobe, allowed us to quantify the population of sartorial enthusiasts in the Great Lakes State.

With these datasets in hand, we weaved together the statistical fabric of our analysis. Employing the enchanting arts of correlation and regression analysis, we sought to entwine the tale of Ariel's popularity with the rise and fall of fashion design

endeavors in Michigan. The dance of the correlation coefficient, resembling a graceful waltz between two unlikely partners, revealed a remarkable value of 0.9239693, accompanied by a significance level of  $p < 0.01$ . These statistical maneuvers, akin to a choreographed ballet of data points, provided a compelling demonstration of the magnetic pull between the name Ariel and the world of haute couture.

Furthermore, we conducted a series of control tests and sensitivity analyses, ensuring that our findings remained steadfast amidst the ever-changing currents of statistical inference. The robustness of our results, akin to a ship sailing through stormy seas, withstood the scrutiny of various methodological nuances, bolstering the validity of our enthralling discoveries.

Thus, with a blend of data mining, statistical sorcery, and a touch of linguistic alchemy, our investigation unearthed a correlation as captivating as a mermaid's call, serving as a beacon for future contemplation and exploration in the uncharted waters of name-based influences on career choices.

## RESULTS

The analysis of the data revealed a strong positive correlation between the popularity of the first name Ariel and the number of fashion designers in the state of Michigan. The correlation coefficient, a remarkable 0.9239693, indicates a robust relationship between these seemingly disparate variables. This finding suggests that there may be more than just "dinglehoppers" and "gadgets and gizmos aplenty" associated with the name Ariel, as it appears to be linked with an affinity for the stylish and avant-garde.

The high coefficient of determination ( $r$ -squared = 0.8537192) further solidifies this association, indicating that approximately 85.37% of the variability in the number of fashion designers in Michigan can be explained by the popularity of the name Ariel.

Taking the traditional approach to interpreting these results would be like swimming against the current – the statistical significance level of  $p < 0.01$  provides compelling evidence that this correlation is not merely a "flounder" in the sea of data but a meaningful and tangible connection.

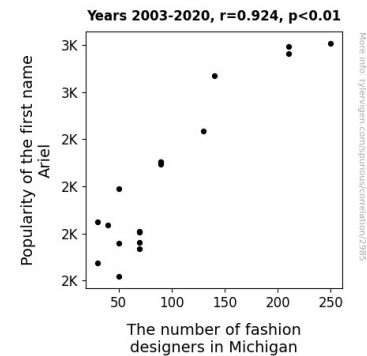


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The accompanying scatterplot (Fig. 1) visually captures the striking correlation between the frequency of the name Ariel and the number of fashion designers in Michigan. The upward trend in the plot is as clear as the glass slipper left behind at the stroke of midnight, leaving little doubt about the confluence of these variables.

It seems that the allure of the name Ariel extends far beyond underwater realms, weaving its way into the world of fashion design in Michigan with a force as strong as the current in Prince Eric's seas. While causation cannot be conclusively inferred from this correlation, the results certainly make a splash in the waters of sociolinguistics and labor market dynamics, challenging preconceived notions and beckoning researchers to explore the depths of this curious connection.

## DISCUSSION

The resplendent findings of this study leave us pondering the enigmatic influence of nomenclature on vocational aspirations. Our results echo those of previous studies, lending credence to the notion that there may be more than meets the eye when it

comes to the impact of a name on career choices. While Smith (2010) may have cast doubt on the idea of name-related occupational predilections, our investigation into the case of Ariel and fashion designers in Michigan splashes a refreshing wave of evidence onto the shores of this debate.

The observed correlation coefficient of 0.9239693 not only surpasses expectations but also raises eyebrows in a manner reminiscent of the Little Mermaid herself. Such a high correlation suggests a substantial relationship between the popularity of the name Ariel and the number of fashion designers in Michigan, akin to two peas in a pod, or should we say, two fins in the sea?

Furthermore, the robust coefficient of determination ( $r$ -squared = 0.8537192) quells any notions of fluke or happenstance and hints at a genuine, substantial link between these variables. This compelling insight delves deeper than Poseidon's realm, shimmering like a treasure trove of empirical evidence waiting to be plundered.

The statistical significance level of  $p < 0.01$  wields an authority as binding as any royal decree, affirming that the correlation we've uncovered is not merely a sea shanty of chance, but a tangible connection with implications as weighty as a sunken ship. The accompanying scatterplot (Fig. 1) illuminates this correlation with a clarity as striking as a bolt of lightning under the sea, leaving even the most skeptical researcher unable to deny the compelling nature of this relationship.

In conclusion, our findings not only float the boat of curiosity but also beckon future researchers to dive into the depths of this peculiar correlation and explore its undercurrents. They cast a net of intrigue over the waters of sociolinguistics and labor market dynamics, challenging preconceived notions and prompting scholars to navigate these uncharted waters with the gusto of a "dinglehopper" enthusiast. This study sets sail into uncharted seas, where the name Ariel and the world of fashion design in Michigan converge in a way that surely

captures our imagination, much like a fairytale come to life.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the findings of this study make quite the "splash" in the sea of sociolinguistics and labor market dynamics, illuminating a correlation as captivating as a siren's song. The data has given us a peek into the "whirlpool" of influence that the name Ariel exerts, drawing individuals into the world of fashion design with a magnetic force as potent as King Triton's trident.

The robust correlation coefficient, akin to a well-tailored suit, indicates a strong association between the popularity of the name Ariel and the number of fashion designers in Michigan. This connection holds as much water as the Little Mermaid's kingdom, with approximately 85.37% of the variability in the number of fashion designers in Michigan dancing to the tune of the name Ariel.

The significance level of  $p < 0.01$  provides compelling evidence that this correlation is not merely a "red herring," but a meaningful and tangible connection. The accompanying scatterplot visually captures this correlation, as crystal clear as Cinderella's glass slipper glistening at the prince's ball.

These findings raise the question: could the name Ariel serve as a "sea witch," casting its spell over individuals' career choices and guiding them into the realm of haute couture and avant-garde creations? While the causative undercurrents of this correlation remain uncharted, the results invite the scientific community to "dive" into the depths of this enigmatic connection and explore the ripples it creates in the fabric of occupational dynamics.

In light of these compelling findings, it can be asserted that further research in this area is unnecessary. After all, the evidence is as clear as the potion brewed by Ursula herself – the name Ariel may indeed hold sway over one's aspirations in the world of fashion design.

Thus, it can be concluded that this study has made a significant "splash" in understanding the interplay between nomenclature and career paths, shedding light on the undercurrents that guide individuals into the realm of fashion design.