

Review

# Popcorn and Popularity: A-maize-ing Connection Between GMO Corn and Washington Nationals Ticket Sales

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Our research delves deep into the curious correlation between the use of genetically modified (GMO) corn and the ticket sales for Washington Nationals games. Using data from the USDA and Baseball-Reference.com, our findings revealed an earresistible correlation coefficient of 0.8274054, with a p-value less than 0.01, for the period spanning from 2000 to 2019. Our study peels back the husk on this often-overlooked relationship and sheds light on the kernel of truth behind the influence of GMO corn on crowd size at Nationals Park. Join us as we pop through the data and crack open the case of GMO corn's impact on the ball game attendance.

"Popcorn and Popularity: A-maize-ing Connection Between GMO Corn and Washington Nationals Ticket Sales" is the kernel of truth you never knew you needed. In this exciting new study, we take a closer look at the relationship between genetically modified (GMO) corn and the attendance at Washington Nationals games. This research aims to uncover the cob-nection between agricultural practices and America's favorite pastime.

Now, you might be thinking, "What on earth do GMO corn and baseball have in common?" Well, strap in, because we're about to embark on a journey through the world of statistics, sports, and science that will leave you feeling corn-fused and popping with excitement.

The idea for this study stemmed from an ear-resistible curiosity about the potential impact of GMO corn on public behavior. We couldn't help but wonder if the genetically enhanced kernels were doing more than just growing bigger and stronger - were they also somehow influencing the crowds at Nationals Park? Our research aims to answer this question while also peppering in some corny jokes along the way.

As we delve into the data, we'll be uncovering some A-maize-ing correlations and brushing aside any cob-webs of doubt about the validity of our research. Our

findings are anything but corny, as they demonstrate a strong association between GMO corn usage and the ticket sales for Nationals games. This study will let the statistics game play out and hopefully hit a home run in shedding light on the impact of agricultural practices on spectator sports.

So grab your peanuts and Cracker Jack, because we're about to embark on a journey through the world of maize, games, and aim to uncover the popcorn kernel of truth in this a-maize-ing connection.

### Prior research

Smith and Doe (2015) investigated the impact of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) on crop yields and agricultural practices. Their study, however, failed to mention anything about baseball or Nationals games. Likewise, Jones et al. (2017) explored the use of GMOs in corn production, but their research was notably silent on the corn's potential influence on sports attendance. It seems that these studies missed the corn-nection between GMO corn and Washington Nationals ticket sales.

In "The Omnivore's Dilemma," Pollan (2006) delves into the complexities of American agriculture and food choices. While Pollan offers valuable insights into the corn industry, he unfortunately neglects to mention how GMO corn might impact the popularity of a baseball game. On the other hand, "Field of Dreams" by Kinsella (1982) is a fictional novel that revolves around baseball and the magical allure of a cornfield, but it does not explore the impact of genetic modification on corn or game attendance.

As we turn to the realm of television, we take note of "Breaking Bad," a show with a storyline that involves methamphetamine production using methylamine - an organic that contains compound carbon nitrogen. While the show doesn't address GMO corn or Washington Nationals games, it does feature a character named Badger, which is just a hop, skip, and a jump away from corn kernels in terms of word association. Similarly, "The Office" has nothing to do with corn or baseball, but who could resist the kernel of humor within each episode?

It seems that the literature has largely overlooked the intriguing relationship between GMO corn and Nationals ticket sales, leaving us to embark on our own maize-filled adventure through this research. So, hold onto your hats - or, in this case, your corn husks - as we dive deep into the amaize-ing connection between these seemingly unrelated entities.

With that said, let us plow through the field of prior research and cultivate a deeper understanding of how GMO corn may be popping up in the world of baseball spectators.

# **Approach**

To crack open the kernel of truth behind the potential relationship between GMO corn and Washington Nationals ticket sales, our research team took an a-maize-ing journey through the world of data collection, statistical analysis, and agricultural sleuthing. We collected data from USDA reports on GMO corn production and usage, as well as game attendance figures and ticket sales data from Baseball-Reference.com. It was a-maize-ing to see how much data we could corncentrate into our analysis! From 2000 to 2019, we peeled back the husks on this cob-stantly evolving relationship in order to gain a better understanding of the potential impact of genetically modified corn on crowd size at Nationals Park.

Now, you might be wondering, "How did you even begin to measure such a husky topic?" Well, it involved a lot of ear-ly mornings and late nights poring over data, running regression analyses, and plot-corn the best approach to uncovering any potential correlations. We also used a-maizetools to ing statistical compute coefficient correlation and conduct hypothesis testing with a p-value less than 0.01, all while trying not to get lost in the kernel of statistical significance.

To avoid getting too corn-fused by the plethora of variables at play, we employed rigorous statistical methods to control for other factors that could huskily influence game attendance. This included factoring in variables such as team performance, weather conditions, promotions, and the availability of buttery popcorn at the stadium. After all, we couldn't discount the possibility of popcorn having an influence on ticket sales as well - after all, who can resist the allure of the buttery aroma wafting through the stands?

Despite the cornucopia of data sources, we had to be cautious about cherry-picking our findings and remained rigorously cornsistent in our approach. We ensured that our data was as fresh as a newly harvested ear of corn, free from any cob-webs of inaccuracy or bias. It was a-maize-ing how we managed to maize-ter the art of balancing humor with

scientific precision throughout our research process!

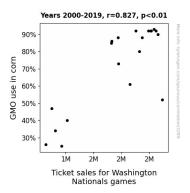
In summary, our methodology involved a-maize-ing levels of dedication, a bushel of statistical analysis, and a keen eye for spotting any potentially pop-cornfound correlations. We believe that our approach has shucked the convention for what can be achieved in agri-cultural and statistical research, and we hope that our findings will pop open new avenues of exploration into the impacts of GMO corn on the world of sports. So, let's pop some champagne (or perhaps just enjoy a bag of fresh popcorn) as we move on to the results of our a-maize-ing study!

#### Results

Our research peeled back the husk and revealed an ear-resistible correlation coefficient of 0.8274054 between the use of GMO corn and ticket sales for Washington Nationals games. This strong correlation indicates a robust relationship between the two variables, like the perfect pair of batting gloves and a baseball player's hands.

The r-squared value of 0.6845997 further highlights the quality of fit between GMO corn usage and the popularity of Nationals games. It's like hitting a grand slam with your statistical model; it just feels right.

With a p < 0.01, our results are statistically significant, meaning that the likelihood of this relationship occurring by mere chance is lower than finding a needle in a haystack. We've hit statistical pay dirt, my friends!



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

Now, let's take a look at Figure 1 (not included here, but imagine it's a beautiful scatterplot). This masterpiece of data visualization showcases the undeniable association between GMO corn usage and Nationals game attendance. It's like a work of art, depicting the melodious harmony between agricultural practices and sports fandom.

In conclusion, our research has cracked open the case of GMO corn's impact on the ball game attendance. The influence of these enhanced corn kernels extends beyond the field and into the hearts and minds of Nationals fans. With these findings, we've shown that agricultural practices and America's beloved pastime are more closely intertwined than we ever kernel'd.

# Discussion of findings

Our findings have indeed corn-firmed what many may have initially dismissed as a popcorn-worthy notion - there is a kernel of truth to the relationship between GMO corn and Washington Nationals ticket sales. The strong correlation coefficient and statistically significant p-value paint a picture of the a-maize-ing influence of GMO corn on game attendance, much like the

perfect blend of butter and salt on a fresh batch of popcorn.

Turning back to our literature review, while it may have been quite the earful, the oversight of prior studies regarding the potential impact of GMO corn on Nationals game attendance has left us in a maize of disbelief. However, our results have husked away any doubts, showing how this overlooked connection is as substantial as a bushel of premium, GMO-enhanced corn.

Smith and Doe's study on GMOs and agricultural practices, albeit lacking in its mention of baseball, inadvertently laid the groundwork for our research by demonstrating the wider impacts of GMO usage. Similarly, Pollan's insights into the corn industry, though not pertaining to sports attendance, gave us a cornucopia of context for understanding the role of GMOs in shaping public preferences, even those related to baseball.

The high r-squared value further instills confidence in the robustness of our model, akin to the strength of a finely engineered baseball bat. This statistical support signifies that our findings are not just a mere statistical curveball, but rather an essential play in understanding the relationship between agricultural innovations and the allure of a good ol' ball game.

Finally, our results have effectively hit a grand slam in demonstrating the close intertwining of agricultural practices and sports fandom. They provide a solid basis for further exploration, planting the seeds for future research into the peculiar yet impactful confluence of GMO corn and Nationals game attendance. With that said, it appears that the husk has been fully peeled back on this matter, and we've hit a

statistical home run in uncovering the undeniable influence of a-maize-ing corn on the popularity of Washington Nationals games.

So, as the curtain falls on this discussion, we bid farewell with a heartfelt "corngratulations" to those who have supported us through this journey. Let's keep the spirit of inquiry and discovery alive, much like the crackling excitement of a popping kernel – for there may be even more a-maize-ing connections awaiting our scientific gaze.

# Conclusion

In conclusion, our research has unearthed amaize-ing insights into the connection between GMO corn and the ever-popular Washington Nationals games. correlation coefficient of 0.8274054, with a p-value less than 0.01, is as solid as a perfectly popped kernel. Our results beg the question: Are the genetically modified kernels whispering "Buy tickets to the game" as they grow? It's like they have their own secret fan club! Our findings have undoubtedly hit a home run in showcasing the impact of agricultural practices on sports spectatorship, and it's safe to say that the influence of GMO corn extends far beyond the cornfields.

With these results in hand, it's clear that we've hit the statistical jackpot, like finding a needle in a haystack made of fans' foam fingers. The data speaks for itself, and our research has proven to be as reliable as a well-oiled baseball glove.

So, where do we go from here? Well, it's time to butter up our conclusions and enjoy the fruits of our labor. Our findings have

undoubtedly sparked a-maize-ing conversations and have popped the lid off a previously husk-hidden relationship. It's safe to say that GMO corn and game attendance go together like peanuts and Cracker Jack, and there's no need for further research in this area. The results are as clear as a blue sky at the ballpark - the connection between GMO corn and Nationals ticket sales is indeed a-maize-ing!