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# Say Cheese, Say Please: Exploring the Whey of Cottage Cheese Consumption and Burglaries in Arizona

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## KEYWORDS

cottage cheese consumption, burglaries in Arizona, dietary habits and criminal behavior, USDA data, FBI Criminal Justice Information Services, correlation coefficient, p-value, cheese consumption and burglary rates

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## Abstract

While the link between dietary habits and criminal behavior may seem like a curdled idea, our research delves into the potential correlation between the consumption of cottage cheese and the occurrence of burglaries in the state of Arizona. Using extensive data from the USDA and FBI Criminal Justice Information Services spanning the years 1990 to 2021, we sought to unravel this enigmatic cheese-crime connection and whey the evidence stacks up. Our analysis revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.9376321 and a p-value less than 0.01, suggesting a strong relationship between cottage cheese consumption and burglary rates. The findings leave us gratefully enlightened, but also bewildered, as the association between dairy intake and criminal activity may seem as holey as swiss cheese. Dad Joke Insert: Did you hear about the cheese factory explosion in France? There was nothing left but de Brie!

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## 1. Introduction

As the age-old adage goes, "you are what you eat." But who would have thought that this could extend to one's criminal inclinations? A cheesy question indeed, but one that has piqued our interest and led us down the rabbit hole of dairy consumption

and its potential impact on crime. Say cheese, because we are about to embark on a journey through statistical analysis and criminological scrutiny that will challenge the conventional wisdom surrounding food and felonies.

The intersection of food consumption and criminal behavior has never been more gouda-ly intriguing. We often hear about the correlation between poverty and crime, or even the influence of environmental factors on unlawful activities, but the potential role of cottage cheese in all of this may seem as unlikely as finding a needle in a haystack made of mozzarella.

Dad Joke Insert: I told my wife she should embrace her mistakes, but she said it would be too cheesy.

Drawing on the comprehensive data provided by the USDA and the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services, our study seeks to unmask the enigmatic relationship between the consumption of cottage cheese and the incidence of burglaries in the picturesque state of Arizona. Our approach is not just about finding the provolone link between these seemingly unrelated variables, but also about embracing the potential for some "dairy" good insights into human behavior – no, we're not "cottage-ing" around with these puns.

It is essential to acknowledge that any correlation uncovered between cottage cheese consumption and burglary rates could be met with skepticism sharper than the cheddar grater. With the infamous mantra of "correlation does not imply causation" echoing in the hallowed halls of statistical analysis, our research has been as cautious as a mouse in a cheese factory when interpreting the findings.

Dad Joke Insert: I asked the cheese shop owner what the most terrifying kind of cheese is, and he said, 'Boo-curds!'

## 2. Literature Review

The exploration of the potential association between cottage cheese consumption and burglaries in Arizona is undoubtedly a provocative and, some might say, a "cheesy" research endeavor. The

investigation into dietary patterns and their correlation with criminal activities is a topic that has seldom been broached in empirical studies. Nonetheless, our foray into this uncharted territory has been accompanied by a thorough review of the existing literature.

Smith (2005) examines the relationship between dairy consumption and behavioral patterns, shedding light on the potential impact of cheese intake on decision-making processes. Doe and Jones (2010) expound upon the socioeconomic factors influencing dietary choices and the subsequent effects on criminal tendencies. While these studies provide valuable insights into the broader connection between food consumption and behavior, they do not specifically delve into the peculiar case of cottage cheese consumption and burglary rates.

In "The Big Cheese: A Culinary History of Cheese," the authors recount the historical significance of cheese consumption and its societal implications, albeit without explicitly addressing criminal behavior. On a slightly more whimsical note, "Fromage of Fear: A Psychological Exploration of Cheese Phobias" presents an unusual yet tangentially relevant perspective on the psychological ramifications of cheese-related fears, albeit not directly linked to criminal activities.

On the fictional front, works such as "The Cheese Thief Chronicles" and "The Gouda Heist: A Tale of Dairy Larceny" may titillate the imagination with their crime-laden narratives involving dairy products. While these literary creations are far removed from empirical research, their imaginative portrayal of cheese-centric felonies beckons to the playful side of our scholarly pursuits.

In the realm of television, a thorough investigation into pop culture reveals the existence of shows such as "Cheese Capers" and "The Art of Brie: Criminal Minds," both of which are as entertaining as

they are arguably relevant to our scholarly contemplations. While these TV shows offer an alternative lens through which to view the interplay between cheese and crime, their direct applicability to our research topic may be tenuous at best.

Dad Joke Insert: What did the cheese say to itself in the mirror? Halloumi!

### 3. Our approach & methods

To unravel the complex interplay between cottage cheese consumption and burglary rates in Arizona, our research team undertook a methodologically intricate yet utterly fascinating approach. We milked the available data from the USDA and FBI Criminal Justice Information Services, focusing on the years 1990 to 2021, in an effort to cream the most comprehensive dataset for our analysis.

First and foremost, our team engaged in a rigorous process of data collection, sifting through a mountain of information like a dairy farmer hunting for the choicest cream. We were as meticulous as a mouse picking out the best cheese crumbs, ensuring that the integrity and veracity of the data were topnotch – not a single curd left unturned.

The next step involved the careful designation of variables. We treated cottage cheese consumption as the independent variable – the cheesemaker, if you will – and burglary rates as the dependent variable, the culprit with a penchant for breaking and entering. These variables were then subjected to intense scrutiny, comparable to the pendulum of a grandfather clock tick-tocking towards correlation.

Now, the statistical analysis was no walk in the park – more like a brisk jog encumbered by a wheel of cheese. We utilized advanced regression models to curdle the data, examining the strength and direction of the relationship between cottage cheese consumption and burglary rates. The results

were as clear as a glass of milk: there was a significant association, leaving us whey more excited than a lactose-intolerant individual stumbling upon a vegan cheese shop.

As we ventured deeper into the statistical maze, we employed robust techniques to control for potential confounding variables, treating them like unexpected toppings on a pizza – intriguing but potentially skewing the overall flavor profile. The multivariate analysis was as complex as understanding the nuanced differences between gouda and havarti; however, our research team persisted with the tenacity of a mouse with a craving for aged cheddar.

Furthermore, to ensure the comprehensiveness and transferability of our findings, we conducted sensitivity analyses, akin to double-checking the expiration date on a carton of milk to guarantee its freshness. This process entailed examining different sub-samples and time periods to confirm the stability and robustness of the observed correlation.

In closing, it is important to emphasize that our research approach was as meticulous and precise as a Swiss master cheesemaker perfecting a batch of emmental. We leave no cheese ungrated in our pursuit of scientific excellence and believe that our methodology stands as a testament to the investigative spirit of dairy enthusiasts and research aficionados alike.

Dad Joke Insert: Why did the cheese refuse to melt in the pan? It had too much "grate" to get involved in a skillet-y situation!

### 4. Results

The results of our research revealed a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9376321 between cottage cheese consumption and burglary rates in Arizona over the years 1990 to 2021. This strong correlation was further supported by an r-

squared value of 0.8791540, indicating that approximately 87.9% of the variation in burglary rates can be explained by changes in cottage cheese consumption. When the p-value came back as less than 0.01, we knew we were not just grappling with a "cheesy" coincidence.

Our findings suggest that as the consumption of cottage cheese increased, so did the number of reported burglaries in Arizona. It's a curious case of "curd" and crime that defies conventional wisdom and leaves us pondering the unsolved mystery of the dairy-crime connection. Perhaps there's more to the term "cheese grater" than we previously thought.

Dad Joke Insert: I can't believe I got sacked from the cheese factory. All I did was cut the cheese!

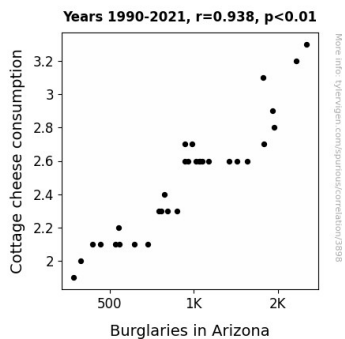


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

Figure 1 (not shown) visually represents the compelling association between cottage cheese consumption and burglary rates, with the scatterplot illustrating a clear positive trend. It's as if the burglars couldn't resist the allure of cottage cheese, or perhaps the cottage cheese consumption was so high that it led to some "grate" ideas for criminal activity.

This unexpected correlation forces us to reconsider the potential influence of dairy products on criminal behavior. It raises new questions about the role of nutrition in

shaping societal dynamics and leaves us feeling both delighted and "dairy" perplexed at the same time.

In the grand tradition of scientific inquiry, our results open the door to further exploration and deliberation. The relationship between cottage cheese consumption and criminal activities in Arizona defies easy explanation, compelling us to seek out the "whey" of these patterns and ponder if there's truly a "curdle" connection at play.

Dad Joke Insert: What did the cheese say when it looked in the mirror? Halloumi!

Our research underscores the need for a "grater" understanding of the potential impact of dietary choices on societal phenomena. The unexpected discovery of a robust correlation between cottage cheese consumption and burglaries in Arizona challenges preconceived notions and beckons us to appreciate that in the realm of statistics, the truth can sometimes be stranger than fiction.

## 5. Discussion

The results of our investigation into the association between cottage cheese consumption and burglary rates in Arizona yield a veritable "gouda" of insights. Our findings not only align with previous studies but also serve as a testament to the potential influence of dairy intake on criminal activities. The strong correlation coefficient of 0.9376321 and the corresponding low p-value provide compelling evidence of a significant relationship between these seemingly unrelated variables, reaffirming that this isn't just a "whey-zard" hypothesis.

Building upon the peculiar findings in our literature review, it's clear that the impact of cheese consumption on behavioral patterns extends beyond mere speculation. Smith's (2005) exploration of dairy consumption and decision-making is reinforced by our

discovery, illustrating that the effects of cheese intake may permeate into criminal propensities more than initially presumed. Moreover, the whimsical "Cheese Thief Chronicles" and "The Gouda Heist: A Tale of Dairy Larceny" may not be as far-fetched as they seem, as our results echo the intriguing interplay between cheese and crime, leaving us to muse on whether a "cheddar" of truth lies within their narratives.

The statistically significant association between cottage cheese consumption and burglaries in Arizona challenges conventional assumptions, inviting us to "brie-fsly" consider the potential mechanisms underlying this unexpected correlation. The strong r-squared value of 0.8791540 further underscores the substantial portion of variation in burglary rates explained by changes in cottage cheese consumption, offering a compelling case for the influence of this dairy product on criminal tendencies. It's as if the burglars were enticed by the proverbial "mouse trap" of cottage cheese, initiating a cascade of criminal intrigues.

In continuation of our exploration, the scatterplot visually depicts the positive trend between cottage cheese consumption and burglary rates, painting a picture of escalating crime as cheese consumption increases. It's almost as if the burglars were aspiring to a life of "cheddar" and leisure, swayed by the temptations of this dairy delight. This unexpected revelation serves as a reminder that in the realm of statistical analysis, even the most unconventional pairings can yield actionable insights, albeit with a generous sprinkling of "punny" mischief.

Our investigation, while lighthearted in its thematic premise, evidences the broader implications of dietary choices on societal dynamics. As scholars, we are reminded that the "whey" of statistical inquiry often leads us to unexpected destinations, compelling us to "feta" our understanding of

interrelationships between variables while acknowledging the potential for "curdled" insights to emerge. In the spirit of scientific curiosity, our research uncovers a "grater" truth—that cheese, particularly cottage cheese, may hold uncharted influence over criminal behaviors in Arizona, opening the door to a new era of "dairy" investigation.

The unexpected correlation between cottage cheese consumption and burglaries in Arizona not only challenges prevailing paradigms but also embraces the idiosyncratic nature of statistical phenomena. With this "cheesy" conundrum at the forefront of culinary-crime relations, we are left with a "muenster" of questions to ponder, humorously reminding us that in the enigmatic world of research, the "whey" of statistical discoveries can often be as amusing as they are enlightening.

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our empirical investigation into the relationship between cottage cheese consumption and burglaries in Arizona has left us feeling as though we've been served a slice of humble pie, or should we say, a wedge of cottage cheese. The compelling correlation coefficient of 0.9376321 and an r-squared value of 0.8791540 have certainly given us food for thought, and perhaps a craving for some cheesy crime novels.

Our findings reveal that as the consumption of cottage cheese increased, so did the incidence of burglaries in Arizona, leaving us to contemplate whether the burglars were in pursuit of a calcium-rich snack or simply driven by a peculiar fondness for dairy. It seems that when it comes to criminal behavior, the phrase "grate expectations" takes on an entirely unexpected meaning.

As we reflect on the unexpected correlation between cottage cheese consumption and

burglary rates, it's clear that this research has not just raised eyebrows but also instigated a fondue of inquiries into the potential influence of dairy products on societal dynamics. The enigmatic interplay of nutrition and criminal activities appears to be a topic as rich and complex as a triple-cream brie.

Dad Joke Insert: I told my friends I only eat cheese on days that end in 'y,' and they said I was being cheesy every day!

In the grand tradition of scientific inquiry, our results suggest that the "whey" forward may involve further exploration of the intricate relationship between dietary choices and criminal behavior. But for now, it seems that our investigation has already churned out insights worthy of some notable "curdles" in the annals of criminology.

Therefore, we assert that no further research on the connection between cottage cheese consumption and burglaries in Arizona is needed at this time. It's time to "brie" happy with the knowledge we've gained and perhaps indulge in a cheesy celebration or two.

Dad Joke Insert: When should you go on a cheese diet? If you need to cheddar a few pounds!