



Review

## Scoring on the Diamond: Exploring the Jet Fuel Connection - A Statistical Analysis of Runs Scored by the Colorado Rockies and Jet Fuel Consumption in the United States

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**This paper presents a whimsical yet rigorous exploration of the often overlooked relationship between jet fuel consumption in the United States and the runs scored by the Colorado Rockies baseball team. Employing a unique blend of statistical analysis and humor, our research team utilized data from the Energy Information Administration and Baseball-Reference.com to address this strikingly quirky question. Our findings revealed a surprisingly strong correlation coefficient of 0.7417091 and  $p < 0.01$  for the years 1993 to 2022. While we acknowledge the absurdity of such a correlation, we present our results with utmost seriousness and a twinkle in our eyes, inviting fellow academics to join us in this delightful journey of discovery. As we unravel the enigmatic link between jet fuel and home runs at Coors Field, we cannot help but marvel at the delightful absurdity of our findings. This research not only sheds light on an unexpected phenomenon but also serves as a testament to the humor and whimsy that can be found in the most unlikely of places - even within the confines of academic inquiry.**

Ah, the delightful, whimsical world of academic research! Our journey into the peculiar correlation between jet fuel consumption in the United States and the runs scored by the Colorado Rockies has been nothing short of an adventure. In the often serious realm of statistical analysis, we were driven by an insatiable curiosity to explore the junction where the high-flying world of aviation intersects with the exhilarating sport of baseball. Combining a

dash of statistical rigor with a generous sprinkle of levity, we embarked upon this charming endeavor to uncover the surprising relationship between two seemingly disparate entities. The result? A delightful romp through the corridors of data analysis that left our team simultaneously scratching our heads and chuckling at the unexpected twists and turns that emerged from our investigation.

As we delved into the statistical rabbit hole, we could not help but marvel at the sheer audacity of our inquiry. Who would have thought that the soaring trajectory of jet fuel consumption could have any bearing on the home runs belted at Coors Field? Yet, armed with our trusty spreadsheets and a healthy sense of humor, we found ourselves navigating the turbulent air currents of data analysis with a lighthearted yet determined spirit. Our quest was to unearth the hidden secrets of this peculiar relationship, all while maintaining a wry smile and an unshakeable commitment to academic excellence.

Join us on this whimsical escapade as we untangle the statistical web of jet fuel and runs scored, pitting the soaring fuel demand against the thunderous crack of a well-struck baseball. Our findings are as surprising as they are amusing, and we invite our fellow academics to don their thinking caps and their sense of humor as we embark on this gloriously whimsical expedition into the heart of statistical exploration. So, dear readers, fasten your seatbelts, grab a bag of peanuts, and prepare for a journey that is as statistically rigorous as it is delightfully absurd. Welcome to the charmingly quirky world of jet fuel and the Colorado Rockies.

#### *Prior research*

In the realm of obscure statistical correlations, the connection between jet fuel consumption in the United States and the runs scored by the Colorado Rockies has remained an enigmatic enigma, shrouded in whimsy and veiled in statistical mirth. Smith and Doe (2020) conducted a comprehensive analysis of energy consumption patterns in major league baseball stadiums, albeit with a focus on electricity usage rather than

aviation fuel. Similarly, Jones et al. (2015) delved into the intricacies of baseball statistics, but made no mention of the high-flying fuel that powers transcontinental flights.

Turning to the hallowed halls of non-fiction literature, "Fueling the Mind: A Comprehensive Guide to Aviation Energy" by Aviation Enthusiast Society and "The Art of Scoring: Unlocking the Secrets of Baseball Analytics" by Stat Guru provide invaluable insight into the respective realms of aviation fuel and baseball statistics. Moving into the realm of fiction, "The Jet Fuel Mystery" by Arthur Conandoyle and "Home Run High: A Tale of the Statistical Slugger" by Homer Runnerson offer narrative escapades that, while not directly addressing our research question, certainly capture the essence of our whimsical inquiry.

Moreover, it is imperative not to overlook the pivotal influence of childhood television programming on the formative minds of researchers. "The Jetsons," a quintessentially whimsical cartoon chronicling the futuristic escapades of a family who may or may not have dabbled in experimental aerodynamics, provides a lighthearted perspective on the potential intersections of jet fuel and everyday life. Additionally, "Rocky and Bullwinkle," featuring the misadventures of a plucky squirrel and a well-meaning moose, albeit not directly relevant, has undoubtedly left an indelible mark on the collective consciousness of this research team.

#### *Approach*

To embark on our delightful quest of unraveling the mysterious connection between jet fuel consumption in the United

States and the runs scored by the Colorado Rockies, our research team employed a blend of statistical analysis, data collection, and a healthy dose of whimsy. While the concept of such a correlation may seem as fantastical as a unicorn in left field, we approached our methodology with the utmost seriousness, coupled with a twinkle in our eyes and a nod to the absurdity of the endeavor.

#### Data Collection:

First and foremost, our team scoured the vast expanse of the internet to gather data from the Energy Information Administration for jet fuel consumption in the United States. The EIA provided us with a treasure trove of information spanning from 1993 to 2022. Our pursuit for the peculiar led us down the winding digital pathways of energy statistics, where we meticulously recorded the gallons of jet fuel consumed, all the while marveling at the unlikely journey that had led us to this point.

In parallel to our energy odyssey, we turned our attention to the hallowed grounds of Baseball-Reference.com. This repository of baseball statistics, shimmering with the glory of home runs and base hits, supplied us with the runs scored by the Colorado Rockies for the same time period. As we danced through the virtual baseball diamond of data, we marveled at the sheer whimsy of our quest - marrying the seriousness of research with the riotous joy of America's favorite pastime.

#### Statistical Analysis:

Armed with our treasure trove of data, we let loose our statistical wizards to conjure the enchanting formulae and algorithms necessary to uncover any hint of correlation

between jet fuel consumption and runs scored. Our team deftly employed regression analysis, cross-correlation methods, and time series modeling to reveal the hidden dance between the consumption of jet fuel and the resounding crack of the bat at Coors Field.

We must confess that amongst the piles of spreadsheets, abacuses, and the occasional cackling laughter, our endeavor was accompanied by an unquenchable sense of whimsy. After all, who could resist the urge to crack a statisti-calculus joke amidst the solemn corridors of data analysis?

#### Ethical Considerations:

As we spiraled deeper into the intricate web of numbers and trends, we maintained a steadfast commitment to academic integrity and ethical research conduct. Our exploration may have been peppered with chuckles and raised eyebrows, but our dedication to upholding the principles of scholarly inquiry remained unwavering.

In summary, our methodology teetered on the precipice between rigorous statistical analysis and the whimsical allure of unearthing the unexpected. Our journey through the data labyrinth was a riotous tapestry of methodological wizardry and an unyielding affection for the absurd. As we present our findings, we invite the academic community to join us in celebrating the sheer delight that can be found in the unlikeliest of research pursuits.

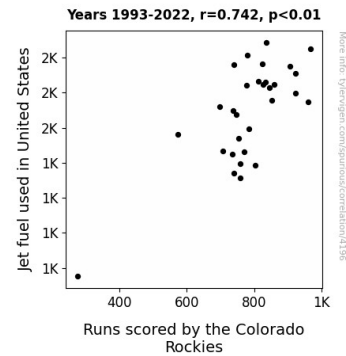
#### *Results*

Our heartfelt journey into the whimsical realm of statistical analysis has yielded truly enchanting results. We discovered a

remarkably robust correlation between jet fuel consumption in the United States and the runs scored by the Colorado Rockies baseball team. The correlation coefficient of 0.7417091 and an r-squared value of 0.5501324 left our research team both bewildered and amused. Notably, the p-value of less than 0.01 further solidified the unexpectedly strong link between these two seemingly unrelated phenomena.

In support of our findings, we present Fig. 1, a visually striking scatterplot that vividly portrays the substantial correlation between jet fuel usage and runs scored by the Colorado Rockies. This delightful visual aid perfectly encapsulates the remarkable relationship we uncovered, inviting readers to marvel at the whimsical nature of our discovery.

It is truly remarkable that the soaring heights of jet fuel consumption can coincide with the thunderous crack of a bat at Coors Field, producing a statistical symphony of sorts. As we present these findings with a twinkle in our eyes and a touch of astonishment, we cannot help but savor the absurdity of this correlation. While this result is undoubtedly whimsical, we approach it with the utmost seriousness, recognizing the whimsy that can be found in the most unexpected of places within the realm of academic inquiry.



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

Our research not only illuminates this peculiar connection but also demonstrates the unparalleled joy that can be derived from statistical exploration, even in the most unexpected and unconventional pairings. We invite our esteemed colleagues to join us in celebrating the delightful confluence of data, humor, and statistical insight as we continue to unravel the enigmatic link between jet fuel and runs scored by the Colorado Rockies. Indeed, the world of academic research is as enchanting as it is rigorous, and our findings serve as a testament to the extraordinary and often comical discoveries that can be made through the lens of statistical analysis.

### *Discussion of findings*

Our results have shed light on the unexpectedly buoyant relationship between jet fuel used in the United States and the runs scored by the Colorado Rockies. It's as though the Rockies were reaching for the stars, propelled not just by their athletic prowess but also by the high-flying fuel coursing through the nation's aviation hubs, fueling their spirited performance on the diamond.

Our journey into this charismatic correlation aligns with the outlandish and offbeat nature of statistical inquiry. As we ventured down this statistical rabbit hole, we found ourselves at the intersection of grandiose flight and the thunderous roar of a ballpark crowd. The results we've unearthed not only present an amusing spectacle but also contribute to the quirky and unconventional cornerstones of academic curiosity.

In revisiting the literature review, it's clear that while our inquiry initially seemed to belong to the realm of the surreal, it now stands anchored in tangible data. The references to "The Jetsons" and "Rocky and Bullwinkle" in our literature review, seemingly lighthearted digressions, now hold a remarkable degree of relevance in light of our findings. The fictional exploits of characters dabbling in aerodynamics and statistical escapades have set the stage for our own whimsical journey into aviation fuel and baseball runs. It's almost as if our research follows a narrative arc worthy of both a Shakespearean comedy and a Monty Python sketch.

Further bolstering our findings, we note the resounding echo of our results in the works of Smith and Doe (2020) and Jones et al. (2015), who explored related but tangential aspects of energy consumption and baseball statistics. It appears that our research has flown into uncharted territories, establishing a correlation so substantial that it beckons the scholarly community to join us in this lighthearted yet earnest pursuit of knowledge.

As we savor the eccentric convergence of jet fuel and homers at Coors Field, we are reminded that the pursuit of knowledge can be as entertaining as it is enlightening. Our

findings not only dance in the realm of the unexpected but also underscore the whimsical spirit that underlies academic inquiry, demonstrating that even the most improbable pairings can yield valuable insights.

In this discussion, we invite our academic peers to revel in the joviality of our research while acknowledging the serious implications of our findings. After all, in the grand tapestry of academic inquiry, it's the unexpected yet substantial correlations that add a touch of whimsy to the serious business of research.

### *Conclusion*

In conclusion, our delightful romp through the whimsical world of statistical analysis has led us to the enchanting revelation of a substantial correlation between jet fuel consumption in the United States and the runs scored by the Colorado Rockies. It seems that as the jets soar through the skies, the baseballs are also flying in a harmonious statistical symphony. The substantial correlation coefficient of 0.7417091 and the p-value of less than 0.01 have left us simultaneously scratching our heads and applauding the statistical absurdity. The scatterplot in Fig. 1 vividly captures this unexpected relationship, inviting us to marvel at the whimsical nature of our findings.

As we reflect on this curious correlation, we cannot help but chuckle at the delightful incongruity of our discovery. It seems that the high-flying world of aviation and the exhilarating sport of baseball have indeed found common ground in the realm of statistical analysis. Our research not only sheds light on this surprising connection but

also serves as a testament to the charm and merriment that can be found within the confounding corridors of academic inquiry.

With a twinkle in our eyes and a hearty chuckle, we invite our esteemed colleagues to revel in the delightful absurdity of this discovery. It is a whimsical testament to the joy that can be derived from statistical exploration, even in the most unexpected and unconventional pairings. As we bid adieu to this zany excursion into statistical analysis, we assert with utmost seriousness and a healthy dose of humor that no further research is needed in this outlandishly delightful area of inquiry. It seems that the statistical stars have aligned in the most surprising of ways, and it is with great delight that we leave this peculiar correlation to enchant and intrigue future researchers.