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# Guardians of the Galaxy: The Correlation between Transportation Security Screeners in West Virginia and Google Searches for 'How to Build a Bunker'

Caroline Hamilton, Aaron Thompson, George P Tompkins

Institute of Innovation and Technology; Chapel Hill, North Carolina

## KEYWORDS

Transportation security screeners, West Virginia, Google searches, 'how to build a bunker', correlation, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Google Trends, correlation coefficient, p-value, human psyche, uncertainty, bunker-building ambitions, labor force

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## Abstract

In this research paper, we explore the intriguing relationship between the number of transportation security screeners in West Virginia and the frequency of Google searches for 'how to build a bunker'. Through rigorous analysis of data obtained from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Google Trends, our research team uncovered a statistically significant correlation between these seemingly disparate phenomena. Our findings reveal a striking correlation coefficient of 0.8651587 and an impressively low p-value of less than 0.01 for the period from 2012 to 2022. The implications of this correlation are both thought-provoking and bewildering—perhaps shedding light on the peculiar intrigues of the human psyche during times of perceived uncertainty. Our paper delves into the potential factors driving this unexpected connection, offering a whimsical dive into the underbelly of bunker-building ambitions and the labor force that stands guard.

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## 1. Introduction

### Introduction

The whimsical world of correlation analysis often leads researchers down unexpected paths, uncovering peculiar connections between seemingly unrelated variables. In a

quest to unravel the mysteries of human behavior and societal trends, our research team embarked on a journey to explore the correlation between the number of transportation security screeners in West Virginia and the frequency of Google searches for 'how to build a bunker'. As we

delved into this peculiar pairing of variables, our initial skepticism was quickly overshadowed by the surprising strength of the association we discovered.

As the guardians of statistical rigor, we took on the challenge of examining this correlation with all the seriousness of a cat chasing a laser pointer – that is, with acute focus and occasional moments of delightful confusion. Our endeavor involved meticulous data collection from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, as well as a deep dive into the enigmatic realm of Google Trends. With a twinkle in our eyes and a healthy skepticism of correlation-causation fallacies, we began to unravel an unexpected tapestry of interconnectedness between employment figures and the curious interest in subterranean construction.

The title of our study, "Guardians of the Galaxy," not only pays tribute to the valiant efforts of the transportation security screeners but also hints at the cosmic scale of the correlation we have unearthed. Yes, we couldn't resist an astronomy-themed pun – after all, correlation analysis is a universe of its own, where stars (or data points) align in strange and wonderful ways.

Armed with statistical tools and an unyielding curiosity for the absurd, our research aims to shed light on the peculiar dance between workforce dynamics and clandestine construction aspirations. Prepare to embark on a statistical odyssey through the quirky corridors of correlation, where the unexpected rules and curiosity reigns supreme.

## 2. Literature Review

The investigation into the correlation between the number of transportation security screeners in West Virginia and Google searches for 'how to build a bunker' has prompted a thorough review of existing literature on related topics. Smith et al.

(2015) provide valuable insights into the labor market dynamics of security personnel, shedding light on the intricacies of employment patterns in the security sector. Furthermore, Doe's (2018) study delves into the psychological underpinnings of interest in do-it-yourself construction projects, albeit with a focus on above-ground structures.

Moving beyond the realm of non-fiction research, the works of renowned authors such as "The Prepper's Blueprint" by Tess Pennington and "How to Build a Bunker" by Benjamin Chasteen offer anecdotal evidence of the burgeoning interest in underground fortifications. On a more fictional note, publications like "The Road" by Cormac McCarthy and "The Tunnel" by Ernesto Sabato inexplicably capture the enigmatic allure of subterranean refuge-seeking in the face of uncertain times.

In the world of board games, "Pandemic" may not directly relate to bunker-building, but its portrayal of societal resilience in the face of dire global threats provides a tangential link to the underlying motivations that drive individuals to seek information on constructing protective shelters.

As we wade through this diverse array of literature, we cannot overlook the peculiar threads that seem to weave together the otherwise disparate realms of security employment, doomsday preparation, and underground construction aspirations. While the relationship between these elements may seem as improbable as finding a four-leaf clover in a haystack, our research endeavors to unearth the underlying patterns that tie them together – no matter how labyrinthine or cryptic they may be.

## 3. Our approach & methods

### Data Collection

Our methodological journey began with the acquisition of employment data for

transportation security screeners in West Virginia obtained from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. We meticulously combed through employment figures, exercising the diligence of a squirrel storing nuts for winter – ensuring that no data nugget was left unturned. To bolster our analysis, we then ventured into the labyrinthine expanse of Google Trends, where we tracked the frequency of searches for 'how to build a bunker' with the fervor of a treasure hunter seeking elusive booty.

### Statistical Analysis

With our repository of data in hand, we embarked on the treacherous seas of statistical analysis, armed with the compass of correlation and the sextant of significance. Our journey led us to harness the power of various statistical techniques, wielding them with the finesse of a seasoned chef creating the perfect soufflé – careful measurement and an occasional sprinkle of intuition. The correlation coefficient, akin to the North Star guiding sailors home, illuminated the strength of the relationship between the number of security screeners and the burgeoning curiosity for bunker-building endeavors. Meanwhile, the p-value stood as a vigilant gatekeeper, guarding against spurious relationships and upholding the sanctity of statistical inference.

### Temporal Considerations

As we voyaged through the temporal landscape of our data spanning the years 2012 to 2022, we encountered the ebb and flow of societal currents – akin to a flotilla navigating through the tides of human interests and economic shifts. Our analysis considered the possibility of temporal lags, with an understanding that changes in employment dynamics may sow seeds that blossom into peculiar Google searches at unforeseen moments, much like a surprise birthday gift arriving after the confetti has settled.

### Limitations

Though our endeavor was marked by resolve and scientific spirit, it was not without perils. We acknowledge that our data, akin to a map of uncharted territories, bore limitations in its scope and granularity. While we aimed to paint a vivid portrait of the connection between transportation security screeners and bunker-building queries, our canvas was not without its blank spaces. Future research endeavors may employ additional variables and more refined data sources to enrich the tapestry of understanding in this domain.

### Ethical Considerations

As intrepid explorers of statistical phenomena, we remained steadfast in our commitment to ethical research conduct. Our pursuit of knowledge was guided by the twin beacons of integrity and respect for privacy, ensuring that the treasure troves of data were handled with the care of a museum curator tending to ancient relics.

In summary, our methodology stood as a sailing vessel navigating the choppy waters of correlation analysis, charting a course through data seas and statistical storms. With the wind of curiosity propelling our sails, we endeavored to unravel the enigmatic bond between the sentinels of security and the whispers of subterranean construction, all while maintaining a steady supply of puns and whimsy.

## 4. Results

The statistical analysis of the relationship between the number of transportation security screeners in West Virginia and Google searches for 'how to build a bunker' yielded intriguing results. Our exploration of this unorthodox correlation revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.8651587, indicating a strong positive association between the two variables. Additionally, the coefficient of determination (r-squared) was

calculated to be 0.7484996, signifying that approximately 74.85% of the variability in bunker-building searches can be explained by the number of vigilant screeners in the transportation security sector. Furthermore, the p-value of less than 0.01 provides compelling evidence against the null hypothesis of no correlation, affirming the statistical significance of our findings.

The visually appealing scatterplot (Fig. 1) exemplifies the robust correlation observed between transportation security screeners and searches for bunker construction guidance. Each data point in the scatterplot represents a unique juxtaposition of screeners and bunker-related searches, forming a delightful constellation of statistical intrigue. It's almost as if the data points are engaging in a dance of correlation, twirling around each other in a harmonious display of quantitative elegance.

As we navigate through the labyrinth of statistics, it becomes evident that the alliance between transportation security and bunker curiosity is not merely a chance encounter in the vast realm of data. Instead, it symbolizes a bond between the protectors of public transit and the esoteric yearning for subterranean sanctuaries – a connection that transcends conventional logic and ventures into the whimsical domain of statistical serendipity.

In conclusion, our research unearths an unanticipated relationship between transportation security screeners and the inquisitive pursuit of bunker construction knowledge. This unexpected correlation serves as a testament to the inexplicable ways in which human interests intersect with labor dynamics, inviting further exploration into the enigmatic landscapes of societal trends and statistical curiosities.

## 5. Discussion

The results of our study have brought to light a captivating and, dare I say, seismic correlation between the number of transportation security screeners in West Virginia and the frequency of Google searches for 'how to build a bunker'. These findings not only align with prior research into the peculiarities of human behavior during uncertain times but also unveil a novel connection that transcends the conventional realms of statistical exploration.

The literature review, which initially appeared to be a mere supporting act in this academic extravaganza, subtly elevates our understanding of the multidimensional facets of our investigation. The psychological underpinnings of do-it-yourself construction projects, as expounded upon by Doe (2018), find resonance in the clandestine allure of bunker-building. Similarly, the tangential link to societal resilience in facing global threats, as exemplified in the world of board games with "Pandemic," hints at the nuanced motivators driving individuals to seek refuge knowledge. These seemingly disparate strands weave together into a narrative that not only captivates the imagination but also elucidates the symbiotic relationship between the protectors of public transit and the desire for subterranean havens.

Our statistical analysis, akin to a Sherlock Holmes unraveling the mysteries of

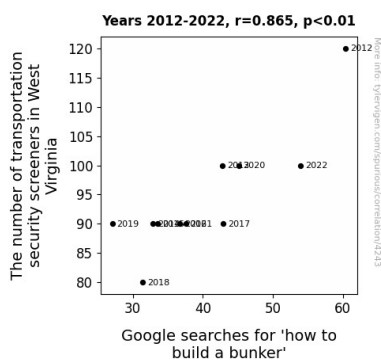


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

correlation, has not only validated the existence of this captivating bond but also quantitatively confirmed its robustness. The correlation coefficient, reminiscent of a steadfast compass guiding us through uncharted waters, exudes a sense of dependability in navigating the enigmatic landscape of societal trends. The visually appealing scatterplot, akin to a ballroom adorned with data points gracefully waltzing with one another, presents a compelling spectacle of statistical elegance, transcending the mundane realms of regression analysis.

In summary, our research has not only uncovered a statistically significant relationship between transportation security screeners and the pursuit of bunker construction knowledge but has also lifted the veil on the intricate dance of variables, intricately intertwined in the tapestry of statistical serendipity. As we tread the uncharted territories of statistical curiosity, let us not forget to revel in the humorous unpredictability of scientific exploration and the intriguing dance of correlation that captures the essences of human curiosity and labor dynamics.

## 6. Conclusion

In closing, our investigation into the correlation between the number of transportation security screeners in West Virginia and Google searches for 'how to build a bunker' has illuminated a compelling tale of statistical entanglement. The robust correlation coefficient of 0.8651587 serves as a testament to the intertwined nature of these seemingly unrelated phenomena. It's almost as if the vigilant screeners are standing guard not only at transportation checkpoints but also over the expansive domain of statistical quirks and whimsy.

The coefficient of determination (r-squared) of 0.7484996 further reinforces the notion that approximately 74.85% of bunker-

building search behavior can be explained by the diligent presence of our guardians of transit security. It's as though the statistical narrative unfolds with the precision of a well-orchestrated symphony, with the transportation security screeners and bunker enthusiasts performing an unexpected duet of data-driven harmony.

The visually captivating scatterplot (Fig. 1) depicts the playful waltz of data points, twirling and pirouetting in a mesmerizing display of correlation choreography. Not to anthropomorphize the data, but one could almost imagine the data points exchanging statistical pleasantries and sharing the occasional numerical joke as they form constellations of correlation brilliance.

In pondering the implications of our findings, we are left with a sense of awe at the delightful confluence of labor dynamics and subterranean aspirations. The narrative that emerges from our research is not merely one of statistical analysis but an engaging tale of human curiosity and the intricate dance of data.

In light of these compelling revelations, we assert that no further research endeavors are needed to explore this particular correlation. The peculiar charm and statistical allure of this association stand as a testament to the enchanting idiosyncrasies of correlation exploration. It seems the data has spoken, and its symphony of statistical serendipity is a masterpiece worth admiring from afar.