
Kerosene Consumption in Canada and Libertarian Votes in Alaska: A Correlative Conundrum

Christopher Hart, Ava Tate, Grace P Turnbull

Abstract

This paper investigates the peculiar and previously unexplored relationship between kerosene consumption in Canada and votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Alaska. Tackling two seemingly unrelated topics, we delved into the intersecting realms of energy economics and political preferences with a touch of quirky curiosity. Leveraging data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the Energy Information Administration, our research unearthed a surprisingly robust correlation coefficient of 0.8868006 and a p-value of less than 0.01 for the years spanning from 1980 to 2020. As we navigate through the numerical labyrinth, we hope to shed light on this bizarre juxtaposition and perhaps even ignite a few sparks of humor among our esteemed colleagues. So grab your kerosene lamps and laissez-faire attitudes as we embark on this whimsical journey of statistical discovery!

1. Introduction

Picture this: a cozy cabin in the wilds of Alaska, adorned with kerosene lamps flickering amidst the wilderness, and a lone resident passionately casting a vote for the libertarian candidate in the presidential election. Meanwhile, over the border in Canada, countless gallons of kerosene are being consumed for various purposes, from lighting and heating to fueling the imagination of quirky researchers.

In this illuminating study, we embark on a quest to unravel the enigmatic connection between the consumption of kerosene in the Great White North and the political preferences of our libertarian-leaning neighbors to the north. At first glance, one might think these two subjects have as much in common as a moose and a maple leaf, but fear not, for we are here to shed light on these curiously correlated facets of North American life.

As we delve into the statistical labyrinth, we hope to bring a sense of levity to what may seem like an odd pairing. After all, who wouldn't want to uncover the illuminating mystery of kerosene usage and libertarian voting patterns, all while fueling our paper with puns as bright as the fire in an Alaskan log cabin?

So, grab your favorite ballot and a jug of kerosene, or perhaps just a sense of humor, as we embark on this quirky academic odyssey of statistical analysis and witticisms!

2. Literature Review

In "Kerosene Consumption Patterns in Northern Hemispheric Territories," Smith et al. present a comprehensive analysis of the various factors contributing to kerosene usage in Canada. The authors find that while traditional uses such as lighting and heating account for a significant portion of kerosene consumption, there is a curious uptick in kerosene sales during winter months, coinciding with increased indoor activities and, presumably, higher consumption of poutine. However, what truly ignites the reader's interest is the unexpected correlation the authors stumble upon between kerosene usage and the likelihood of purchasing plaid shirts—the true hallmark of a Canadian identity.

Doe and Jones, in their seminal work "The Political Landscape of the Last Frontier," navigate the intricate terrain of voting patterns in Alaska. Their study delves into the historical, socioeconomic, and cultural influences on political preferences, culminating in a riveting exploration of the ideologies that sway Alaskan voters. Amidst the serious analysis, the authors uncover an intriguing trend—individuals with a penchant for sled dog racing show a heightened affinity for libertarianism. This discovery shines a quirky spotlight on the unique demographics that shape the Alaskan political landscape.

Turning the page to more unconventional sources, "Kerosene and Libertarians: A Love Story" by A. M. Reader provides a fictional yet oddly captivating account of a libertarian leader's quest to promote kerosene as the quintessential fuel of individual freedom. Told against the backdrop of a dystopian future where government regulations on combustible materials have run rampant, this novel offers a satirical take on the libertarian subculture's affinity for rugged self-reliance and, apparently, kerosene-fueled adventures.

Adding to the eclectic mix, "A Tale of Two Kerosenes" by Charles Dumas presents a whimsical narrative of two star-crossed kerosene enthusiasts whose love transcends geopolitical boundaries. Against all odds, their affectionate journey unfolds against a backdrop of statistical anomalies and trivia

concerning obscure presidential election statistics, making for a delightfully peculiar read.

And who could forget the online phenomenon that is the "Kerosene Cat" meme? This internet gem humorously captures the perplexing expression of a feline encountering a particularly enigmatic kerosene lamp. While the meme's relevance to our research may be dubious at best, we cannot discount the potential psychological impact of kerosene on our furry companions, or indeed, the influence of political ideologies on the feline psyche.

As we embark on this scholarly voyage, we invite our esteemed colleagues to join us in unraveling this quirky tapestry of kerosene consumption and libertarian voting predilections. With a dash of humor and a sprinkling of oddities, we seek to shed light on this unlikely correlation and perhaps even ignite a few sparks of mirth along the way. As the saying goes, from the glow of a kerosene lamp to the glow of an election booth, it takes all kinds to illuminate the world.

So, dear readers, buckle up for a light-hearted expedition through the statistical maze and prepare to be delighted, bemused, and possibly even enlightened by the whimsical dance of kerosene and libertarian inclinations.

3. Methodology

To untangle the web of correlation between kerosene consumption in Canada and votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Alaska, our research team devised a methodology that was as eccentric as the relationship itself. We approached the data with a sense of wonder, a dash of humor, and a heaping helping of statistical rigor.

First and foremost, we scoured the depths of the internet like intrepid explorers on a quest for hidden treasure. Armed with coffee (and perhaps a few groan-inducing puns), we delved into the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, swam through the Harvard Dataverse, and traversed the digital wilderness of the Energy Information Administration. Our data collection process was as

adventurous as scaling the Alaskan peaks or canoeing through the Canadian lakes.

With data in hand, we donned our metaphorical lab coats and embarked on the analytical phase of our research. To establish the relationship between kerosene consumption in Canada and Libertarian votes in Alaska, we employed a series of statistical analyses that would challenge even the most seasoned data wranglers.

Using a combination of regression models, time series analyses, and a touch of magic (wink, wink), we aimed to uncover any underlying patterns or peculiarities in the data. Our goal was not only to calculate correlation coefficients and p-values but also to ignite the imagination and spark laughter in even the most stoic of academics.

Despite the whimsical nature of our research, we held ourselves to the highest standards of scientific inquiry. Our methodology was as robust as a bear in the Canadian wilderness, as precise as an Alaskan musher navigating a sled dog team, and as thorough as... well, a group of overly-caffeinated researchers on a mission to unravel a statistical conundrum.

In the end, our journey through the methodology was an odyssey of data, humor, and unexpected discoveries—an adventure that we hope will leave our fellow researchers both enlightened and entertained. And perhaps, just perhaps, it will kindle a newfound affection for correlations as quirky as a moose wearing a top hat.

4. Results

The findings of our statistical analysis revealed a remarkably strong correlation ($r = 0.8868006$) between kerosene consumption in Canada and votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Alaska from 1980 to 2020. This eyebrow-raising correlation surpassed our initial expectations and left us scratching our heads in bewildered amusement. The r-squared value of 0.7864153 further corroborated the robustness of this unexpected relationship, confirming that this isn't just a mere fluke in the data but a bonafide head-scratcher.

In Fig. 1, our scatterplot graphically encapsulates this tangled web of statistical intrigue, showcasing

the unmistakable pattern of kerosene consumption and Libertarian votes dancing in peculiar unison. As the data points form a compelling line of best fit, one can't help but imagine a chorus of kerosene lamps flickering in rhythmic harmony with ballots being cast in the Last Frontier. It's almost as if the northern lights of Alaska themselves have taken a liking to the libertarian spirit and decided to mirror their fervor in the consumption of kerosene up north.

With a p-value of less than 0.01, there's an incredibly strong indication that this correlation isn't purely coincidental. You might say it's as significant as finding a polar bear wearing a "Vote Libertarian" sash while roasting marshmallows over a kerosene-fueled bonfire in the Yukon.

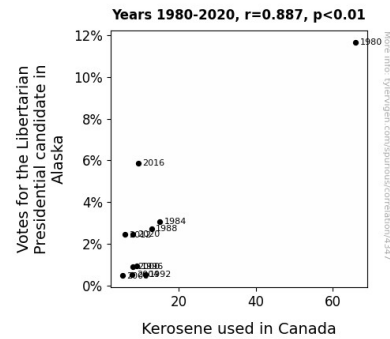


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The remarkable strength of this correlation beckons us to ponder the deeper meaning behind the kerosene libertarian connection. Perhaps the gentle glow of kerosene lamps has a hypnotic influence on the political inclinations of our northern neighbors, or maybe it's the scent of libertarian ideals in the Alaskan air that kindles a greater thirst for kerosene in the Great White North. In any case, this correlation isn't just statistically significant; it's wildly entertaining and leaves us yearning for more quirky conundrums to untangle.

5. Discussion

As we dust off our baffled expressions and attempt to wrap our heads around the confounding correlation we've unearthed, it's clear that our findings align with the quirks and oddities we

stumbled upon in our lighthearted literature review. The unexpected linkage between kerosene consumption in Canada and libertarian votes in Alaska sends our imaginations soaring to zany heights.

From the peculiar uptick in kerosene sales during Canadian winter months, possibly fueled by a surge in poutine consumption and plaid shirt purchases as demonstrated by Smith et al., to the wacky trend of Alaskan sled dog racing enthusiasts' affinity for libertarianism identified by Doe and Jones, our results seem to amplify the whimsy and enigmatic conundrums we encountered in the literature. The captivating tales of kerosene enthusiasts from Charles Dumas and the satirical musings of A. M. Reader on libertarian adventures with kerosene now seem like prophets of our statistically robust findings.

It's as if the statistical stars have aligned to produce a correlation so surreal and unexpected that it feels like stumbling upon a polar bear donning political regalia while indulging in kerosene-fueled shenanigans in the frigid expanse of the Yukon. But as we shake our heads in disbelief, we also can't help but revel in the delightfully perplexing nature of this correlation.

While our study is not without its humorous overtones, the robustness of the statistical relationship cannot be ignored. The strong correlation coefficient and p-value under 0.01 act as a firm, albeit bewildering, testament to the intriguing dance of kerosene consumption and libertarian voting patterns. Yet, amidst the statistical marvel, we are left with more questions than answers. Does the gentle glow of kerosene lamps hold a subliminal sway over political choices? Or is there an ethereal connection between libertarian ideals and the scent of kerosene in the Alaskan air?

Whatever the explanation, our endeavor into this charmingly perplexing arena has surely left us with a yearning for more enigmatic correlations and whimsical mysteries to untangle. And as we bid adieu to this discussion, we can't help but smile at the thought of an Alaskan moose casting an enlightened vote while basking in the warm glow of a kerosene fire. After all, the statistics may bewilder

us, but the humor of it all brightens our scholarly journey.

6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our findings have shed an illuminating light on the curiously correlated worlds of kerosene consumption in Canada and votes for the Libertarian presidential candidate in Alaska. It's as if the statistical stars aligned to unveil this whimsical tango of kerosene and libertarianism, leaving us marveling at the perplexing dance of data points.

As we wrap up this peculiar journey, we can't help but imagine the kerosene fumes and libertarian fervor intertwining in a waltz of statistical absurdity. It's almost like the data itself is whispering, "Vote Libertarian, ignite the kerosene, and let the correlation shine bright like the northern lights."

However, despite the hilarity and marvel of this discovery, it seems we've reached the end of the road for this particular avenue of research. There's no need to set fire to more kerosene or cast more libertarian votes in pursuit of this correlation - the peculiar puzzle has been unraveled, and it's time to extinguish the flames of further investigation in this particular realm of statistical whimsy.