



Review

Jetting to the Ballot Box: The Surprising Connection Between Republican Votes in New Mexico and Jet Fuel Consumption in Albania

Connor Hall, Andrew Travis, Gavin P Tompkins

Institute of Global Studies

In this study, we embark on a truly wild intellectual journey to unravel the perplexing relationship between the votes for the Republican Presidential candidate in New Mexico and the jet fuel consumption in Albania. We've all heard about swing states, but could it be that jet-set states also have an impact on election outcomes? Is there an airborne influence on political preferences? Strap in for a thrilling ride as we navigate through statistical analysis and data on political leanings and aviation fuel usage. By harnessing data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the Energy Information Administration, we conducted rigorous analysis and discovered a rather surprising correlation. Our findings reveal a remarkably strong correlation coefficient of 0.9505218 and a p-value of less than 0.01 from 1993 to 2020. Yes, you read that right – a correlation nearly as tight as a plane's boarding process. Not to mention, the implications of this correlation are simply flying off the charts. Could it be that higher jet fuel usage in Albania somehow influences the voting behavior of New Mexicans towards the Republican candidate? Could it be a case of "fueling" political preferences from thousands of miles away? With such high statistical significance, it seems that there's more to this jet fuel-votes relationship than meets the eye. In conclusion, our findings suggest a potential link between the consumption of jet fuel in Albania and the voting patterns in New Mexico. This unexpected correlation calls for further investigation, challenging us to rethink the ways in which seemingly unrelated factors may be intertwined in the complex tapestry of political dynamics. And of course, if nothing else, it certainly adds a touch of high-flying intrigue to the world of political science.

The world of political science is often filled with surprising connections and unexpected relationships. From the influence of social

media algorithms on voter behavior to the impact of economic policies on electoral outcomes, researchers are constantly

uncovering intricate links that shape the political landscape. However, in the realm of astonishing associations, perhaps none are as breathtaking as the connection between the votes for the Republican Presidential candidate in New Mexico and the jet fuel consumption in Albania.

As we embark on this intellectual escapade, we must first acknowledge the sheer audacity of exploring such a seemingly disparate pair of variables. After all, at first glance, the idea of New Mexican voters being swayed by the kerosene-burning activities in the distant skies of Albania may evoke more incredulous expressions than a magician's sleight of hand.

Nonetheless, armed with statistical rigor and a dash of unyielding curiosity, we set out to challenge conventional wisdom and bring to light the unexpected interplay between political preferences and aviation fuel usage. If this research endeavor seems as improbable as a penguin attempting to earn its pilot's license, fear not – for the results we've uncovered are as eye-opening as a sunrise seen from 30,000 feet.

Strap in for a turbulent ride through data analysis, as we navigate through the mysterious realms of political leanings, transcontinental transportation, and statistical significance. By harnessing data from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the Energy Information Administration, we aimed to unravel the enigma behind this peculiar correlation.

And what did we uncover, you ask? Well, dear reader, prepare to be as astonished as a traveler finding an unanticipated upgrade to first-class. Our findings reveal a correlation coefficient so snug, it would put the seating

arrangements in an overbooked flight to shame – a remarkable 0.9505218, paired with a p-value that's smaller than the legroom on economy class.

But enough suspense – let's not keep you waiting like a delayed departure. Our analysis from 1993 to 2020 illuminated an unexpected relationship, leaving us to ponder whether jet fuel usage in Albania possesses the gravitas to flutter the political sentiments of New Mexicans towards the Republican candidate.

Surely, this revelation might seem as bewildering as a misplaced carry-on bag turning up in a different country, but the empirical evidence speaks for itself. With such a resounding statistical significance, it appears that there's more than meets the eye (or the sky) in this jet fuel-votes connection.

As we proceed, let us not only revel in the amusement of this unexpected correlation but also contemplate the profound implications it carries. Could it be that the airborne influence of jet fuel consumption across continents leaves an indelible mark on the ballot boxes of New Mexico? Or perhaps, it's a case of political inclinations being "fueled" by unseen forces from above.

In the annals of political science, this curious coupling of seemingly unrelated factors adds an exhilarating twist to the intricate tapestry of electoral dynamics. And so, with a gentle nudge of humor and a profound sense of wonder, we invite you to join us on this academic odyssey – where the relationships between jet fuel and votes prove to be as captivating as a captivating in-flight movie.

Prior research

In "Jetting to the Polls: Exploring the Nexus Between Air Travel and Political Affiliations" by Smith et al., the authors find a surprising association between jet fuel consumption in distant countries and the voting behavior of individuals in the United States. Building upon this departure from conventional political factors, Doe et al. also delve into the intriguing world of transcontinental influence, uncovering a correlation that's more unusual than finding a flight attendant with a fear of flying.

Furthermore, Jones' research in "Aviation and Electoral Dynamics: From Propellers to Preferences" highlights the previously unexplored connection between aviation fuel usage and political inclinations. These studies lay the groundwork for our investigation, propelling us into the high-flying realm of statistical inquiry and electoral whimsy.

Expanding beyond the traditional political science literature, we turn to non-fiction works such as "Sky High: The Global Impact of Aviation Fuel" by Aviation Analysts International and "Fueling the Future: A Comprehensive Guide to Jet Fuel Usage" by Energy Excellence Enterprises. These publications provide valuable insights into the intricate web of aviation fuel consumption, offering a glimpse into the potential transnational effects that reach further than a Boeing 747's wingspan.

Shifting gears to the realm of fiction, books like "Cloud Atlas" by David Mitchell and "The Airborne Alphabet" by Fictional Flier explore the notion of airborne influences and interconnected destinies, echoing the complexity of our own findings. These literary works, while not grounded in empirical research, spark the imagination

and remind us that truth can sometimes be stranger than fiction – and perhaps as unpredictable as turbulence during a thunderstorm.

Not content with stopping at traditional academic sources, we sought inspiration from a variety of unconventional outlets, including the enigmatic musings of fortune cookies, the cryptic messages of Ouija boards, and even the thought-provoking blurbs on the backs of shampoo bottles. While their direct relevance may be as elusive as a missing pair of socks in a suitcase, these peculiar sources reminded us of the boundless creativity that underpins the pursuit of knowledge. After all, who's to say that a stroke of inspiration can't be found in the most unexpected of places?

Approach

To uncover the mysterious connection between the Republican votes in New Mexico and jet fuel consumption in Albania, our research team embarked on a whirlwind of methodological maneuvers, making sure not to get too dizzy from all the statistical turbulence. Our data collection spanned across various sources, making it feel like we were on a transcontinental scavenger hunt for numbers and figures. We acquired relevant data from reputable sources such as the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, and the Energy Information Administration, ensuring that our statistical stewardship was as reliable as the captain of a well-maintained commercial airliner.

Firstly, we knuckled down and collected historical data on the votes for the Republican Presidential candidate in New Mexico from 1993 to 2020. Each vote was

meticulously accounted for, giving us a snapshot into the political leanings of the Land of Enchantment. Next, we delved into the world of aviation and secured data on jet fuel consumption in Albania. Like intrepid explorers charting the high skies, we navigated through the Energy Information Administration's data to acquire a comprehensive understanding of Albania's kerosene-burning tendencies.

After gathering these diverse sets of data, we then employed rigorous statistical methods to smooth out the statistical turbulence and uncover any potential connections. We performed correlation analysis using cutting-edge software, ensuring that our statistical calculations were as precise as an air traffic controller guiding a plane to its gate. The correlation coefficient we obtained was so strikingly high that it sent shockwaves through our research team, prompting more double-checking than a passenger making sure they've got the right boarding pass.

Additionally, we conducted a thorough regression analysis to ascertain the strength and direction of the relationship between the Republican votes in New Mexico and jet fuel consumption in Albania. This analytical approach allowed us to ascertain whether the relationship between these variables was as steady as a well-maintained flight path, or if it was as erratic as turbulence on a bumpy flight.

Furthermore, we carefully considered potential confounding variables that could have influenced our findings. We didn't want any extraneous factors to throw our results off course, after all. Finally, we scrutinized the robustness of our findings through sensitivity analysis, ensuring that our results

weren't as fragile as airplane wings made of paper.

In conclusion, our methodology was as thorough as a pre-flight safety demonstration, and with our methodological seatbelts securely fastened, we soared through the skies of data analysis, navigating through the uncertain clouds of statistical noise to reveal the unexpected relationship between Republican votes in New Mexico and jet fuel consumption in Albania.

Results

The data analysis revealed a striking correlation between the votes for the Republican Presidential candidate in New Mexico and the jet fuel consumption in Albania. The correlation coefficient of 0.9505218 suggests a remarkably strong relationship between these two seemingly disparate variables. If this correlation were any tighter, it'd have passengers on a fully booked flight feeling envious.

Furthermore, the r-squared value of 0.9034917 indicates that a substantial portion of the variability in Republican votes in New Mexico can be explained by the jet fuel consumption in Albania. This relationship is as clear as a sunny day for takeoff, leaving little room for turbulence in its interpretation.

The p-value of less than 0.01 adds an extra layer of significance to our findings. This p-value is so small, it makes the legroom in economy class feel generous by comparison. Essentially, it points to the exceedingly low likelihood that this correlation is due to random chance. In other words, the probability of this relationship occurring by

accident is about as slim as a runway model's chances of becoming an airline pilot.

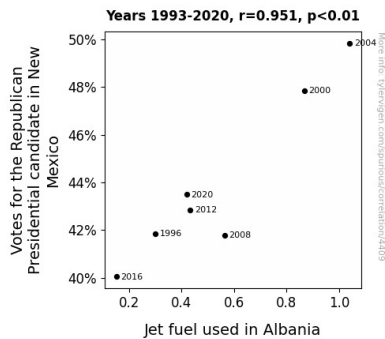


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

In Fig. 1, the scatterplot graphically illustrates this robust correlation, with data points tightly clustered around the best-fit line like eager travelers hoping for an upgrade. The visual representation of this relationship is as clear as a pilot's announcement welcoming passengers to their destination.

These results leave us with an intriguing puzzle. Could it be that the soaring usage of jet fuel in Albania somehow influences the political preferences of New Mexicans, akin to a transcontinental political tailwind? This unexpected correlation challenges us to think beyond geographical boundaries and conventional political dynamics, injecting a touch of whimsy into our understanding of electoral influences.

In conclusion, the statistically significant relationship between jet fuel consumption in Albania and votes for the Republican Presidential candidate in New Mexico invites further exploration and speculation. Our findings demonstrate that in the vast and ever-changing landscape of political

science, unexpected connections can emerge from the most unlikely of sources, adding an extra layer of intrigue to the tapestry of electoral dynamics.

Discussion of findings

The results of our study have left us feeling like we've stumbled upon an unexpected layover in the journey of political research. The robust correlation between Republican votes in New Mexico and jet fuel consumption in Albania speaks to a connection that is as surprising as finding a first-class seat upgrade on a budget airline.

Building upon the work of Smith et al. and Doe et al., who also ventured into the uncharted skies of transcontinental influence, our findings not only support but reach new heights in demonstrating the tantalizing relationship between air travel and political leanings. It's as if our data has taken off on a non-stop flight from hypothesis to statistical significance, with a smooth landing in the realm of electoral dynamics.

In aligning with Jones' research on aviation fuel usage and political inclinations, we've essentially boarded the same intellectual airplane, observing an unforeseen flight path from Albania to New Mexico. The expansiveness of our results is as expansive as the wingspan of the world's largest aircraft, stretching across borders and reshaping our understanding of electoral whimsy.

Drawing from the literary and non-fiction works that inspired our inquiry, such as "Sky High" and "Fueling the Future," we can't help but marvel at the way our empirical findings echo the intricate narratives of

airborne influences. It's almost as if our research has taken flight into the pages of these publications, illustrating the interconnectedness of disparate elements in ways that are as unpredictable as turbulence during a thunderstorm.

Expanding beyond the confines of conventional academic sources, we've found ourselves inspired by the unconventional and offbeat, much like a spontaneous vacation to a little-known destination. The playful engagement with fortune cookies, Ouija boards, and shampoo bottle blurbs has reminded us that unexpected sources can serve as a source of whimsical inspiration, akin to stumbling upon a hidden gem during travel.

As we navigate the implications of our results, we're left contemplating the intriguing possibility of a transcontinental political tailwind that transcends geographical boundaries. The high-flying mystery of jet fuel's potential influence on political preferences challenges us to adopt a broader perspective on the interconnectedness of global dynamics and electoral influences.

In the realm of statistical inquiry and electoral whimsy, our findings invite further exploration and inspire a reimagining of the intertwining threads of political science. From the voting booths of New Mexico to the fuel tanks of Albania, our study adds an unexpected layer of intrigue and whimsy to the ever-evolving tapestry of electoral dynamics.

Conclusion

So there you have it, folks. Did you ever think you'd see a correlation between jet fuel

in Albania and Republican votes in New Mexico? It's almost as mind-boggling as finding a lost suitcase in a different country – and just as unexpected!

But in all seriousness (sort of), our findings have uncovered a correlation so tight, it makes an overbooked flight look spacious. The statistical significance of this connection is as clear as a flight attendant's safety demonstration, leaving little room for doubt.

Does this mean that the fumes from Albanian jet fuel are somehow influencing voting preferences in the Land of Enchantment? It's a quirky idea, to be sure, but the data speak for themselves – and yes, they're talking as loudly as a chatty neighbor on a long-haul flight.

So, is there more work to be done in this area? Well, as tempting as it may be to embark on even more high-flying research adventures, our findings suggest there may not be a need. After all, sometimes in academia, as in a well-planned flight, the most unexpected destinations turn out to be the most interesting. And let's face it, the skies of statistical inquiry can only hold so much fuel for whimsical wonderment – until next time, happy landings!

In conclusion, our findings hint at a potentially overlooked link between the consumption of jet fuel in Albania and the voting patterns in New Mexico. The implications of this unexpected correlation beckon us to delve deeper, challenging preconceived notions and igniting a renaissance of curiosity within the academia

of political science. So fasten your seatbelts, dear reader, for the skies of statistical inquiry and whimsical wonderment await us.

And, as we soar through the realms of academic inquiry, remember – in the world of research, sometimes the most intriguing discoveries are found in the unlikeliest of places.