

The Big and the Cheesy: A Gouda Look at American Cheese Consumption and Votes for the Republican Presidential Candidate in Pennsylvania

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In this paper, we present the findings of our delightfully cheesy academic pursuit to unravel the correlation between American cheese consumption and votes for the Republican presidential candidate in Pennsylvania. Utilizing data from the USDA and the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, along with the Harvard Dataverse, we embarked on a grand fromage exploration to answer this perplexing question. Surprisingly, our analysis revealed a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9485207 and $p < 0.01$ for the years 1990 to 2020. We gratefully present our findings with a slice of humor, a sprinkle of curiosity, and a dash of cheddar. Let's delve into the world of cheese and politics, where even the sharpest of minds are left pondering the dairy elections!

Introduction

The relationship between cheese consumption and political preferences has been a topic of humorous speculation and cheesy jokes for years. In the realm of Pennsylvania politics, where "whiz wit" can refer to both a type of cheesesteak and the state's political climate, we decided to embark on a rather unconventional quest to decipher the potential correlation between American cheese consumption and votes for the Republican presidential candidate.

This peculiar culinary-political journey led us to delve into data from the USDA and the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, along with the Harvard Dataverse, to analyze American cheese consumption and voting patterns in the Keystone State. Our exploration took us on a whirlwind of dairy-laden statistical analyses and political whimsy, and what we uncovered will surely leave our readers both amused and bemused.

As much as we'd like to say we approached this research with the utmost "provolone" attitude, the truth is that our methods were rigorous, our analysis was thorough, and our findings are "grate" significance to the realm of voter behavior and dairy consumption trends.

So grab a slice of your favorite cheddar, get comfortable, and let's embark on this Gouda-darn cheesy journey through the realm of American cheese consumption and its association with voting for the Republican presidential candidate in Pennsylvania. It's a tale "brie-lliantly" bizarre and "feta-stically" intriguing, and we promise not to "whey-st" your time with any more dairy puns... okay, maybe just a few more.

Review of existing research

The scholarly exploration of the relationship between American cheese consumption and political inclinations has often been as convoluted and perplexing as trying to separate two slices of melted Swiss. Smith et al. (2010) delved into the dietary habits of American households and their potential impacts on decision-making processes, while Doe (2015) expounded upon the psychological underpinnings of comfort foods and their influence on political ideology. The culmination of these investigations posited a hitherto unexplored nexus between cheese-laden comestibles and electoral preferences.

However, as much as we'd like to maintain an air of scholarly seriousness, there's no avoiding the "pun-damental" truth that the topic of cheese and politics is ripe for a platter of puns and a dollop of whimsy. In "Cheese: A Cultural History," the authors delve into the multifaceted nature of cheese as a consumable and its role in shaping societal customs and attitudes. This tome provides a "gouda" starting point for understanding the cultural significance of cheese and its potential impact on voting behavior.

Amidst these serious academic pursuits, one cannot overlook the fictional realm's contribution to our understanding of cheese and its potential influence on political preferences. Consider the allegorical significance of cheese in George Orwell's "Animal Farm," where the quest for power and control is symbolized by the cunning allocation of the eponymous dairy product. Similarly, the whimsical world of Roald Dahl's "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" presents a nuanced portrayal of gluttony and excess, albeit with a focus on confectionery rather than cheese. One could argue that the underlying themes of opulence and indulgence hold some relevance to the ostentatious allure of American cheese and its connection to the political landscape.

On a more cinematic note, movies such as "Nacho Libre" and "Cheese: The Eddy Limburger Story" offer a tangential

exploration of the cultural and societal implications of cheese consumption. While these films may not directly relate to the correlation between American cheese consumption and voting patterns, they do provide a comical backdrop against which the multifaceted nature of cheese can be appreciated. After all, who can resist a good cheese-themed movie in the midst of rigorous academic pursuits?

As we navigate through this literature review, it becomes increasingly apparent that the cheesy landscape of American politics is rife with potential correlations, unexplored punderlands, and a labyrinth of possibilities. So, grab your favorite cheese wheel, sprinkle some Parmesan on your thoughts, and let's embark on this "brie-lliant" journey through the captivating world of fromage and its mysterious influence on the political palette.

Procedure

To uncover the delectably mysterious relationship between American cheese consumption and votes for the Republican presidential candidate in Pennsylvania, we concocted a methodological blend that was equal parts sophisticated statistical analysis and whimsical cheese metaphors. Our approach was not unlike the crafting of a fine cheese platter - a delicate balance of art and science, with a hint of playful irreverence.

Data Collection:

We sourced our data from a variety of repositories, primarily relying on the detailed information provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the MIT Election Data and Science Lab. In addition, we delved into the dairy-rich databases of the Harvard Dataverse to gather comprehensive data on American cheese consumption patterns and electoral outcomes in Pennsylvania from 1990 to 2020.

Cheesy Statistical Analysis:

Our first step in this deliciously ambitious endeavor was to quantify American cheese consumption using per capita consumption as reported by the USDA. To mirror the subtle nuances of cheese, we utilized advanced statistical techniques, including time-series analysis and regression modeling, to explore patterns in cheese consumption and voting behavior. We employed sophisticated econometric approaches to account for potential confounding factors, ensuring our analysis stood up to the scrutiny of the sharpest cheddar critics.

Cross-Referencing with Voting Data:

In parallel, we corralled detailed voting tallies from each presidential election in Pennsylvania during the study period, cross-referencing these results with the delectably cheesy consumption patterns. Our examination encompassed not only the total Republican votes but also the relative proportions of votes garnered by the Republican presidential candidate, offering a comprehensive evaluation of electoral preferences amid the aromatic allure of American cheese.

Correlation Analysis:

With our data sets in hand, we embarked on a statistical journey akin to slicing through a block of aged cheddar - methodically peeling back layers of complexity. Employing correlation analysis, we scrutinized the intertwining relationships between American cheese consumption and Republican votes, determined to decipher whether the cheese and conservative ballots were as intertwined as mozzarella on a pizza.

Rigorous Sensitivity Analysis:

As any connoisseur of fine cheese knows, the subtleties of flavor can be influenced by a myriad of factors. In a similar vein, our methodology incorporated a rigorous sensitivity analysis to gauge the robustness of our findings. We probed the impact of varying time frames, election cycles, and potential outliers, ensuring our conclusions were as stable as a well-aged wheel of Parmigiano-Reggiano.

Qualitative Examination:

To elevate our analysis beyond mere numbers and percentages, we engaged in qualitative examination, seeking to capture the essence of the cheese-voting dynamic. This involved an in-depth exploration of historical and socio-political factors impacting Pennsylvania, integrating delightful anecdotes and quirky discoveries into our scholarly pursuit.

Findings

The results of our unorthodox investigation into the relationship between American cheese consumption and votes for the Republican presidential candidate in Pennsylvania yielded some truly titillating findings. After plenty of number-crunching and a whole lot of cheesy jokes to keep our spirits high, we uncovered a remarkably strong correlation coefficient of 0.9485207 between these two seemingly unrelated variables for the years 1990 to 2020. The r-squared value of 0.8996916 further validated the robustness of the relationship we discovered. And with a p-value less than 0.01, we can confidently say that the likelihood of this correlation occurring by chance is about as slim as a sliver of Parmesan.

Figure 1 illustrates the strikingly close relationship between American cheese consumption and votes for the Republican presidential candidate in Pennsylvania. The scatterplot speaks volumes; it clearly shows a positively sloping cloud of data points, reminiscent of the hilly landscapes of the Keystone State, where cheese and politics seem to have formed a remarkably strong partnership over the years.

Now, to put all this statistical jargon into simpler terms: the more American cheese Pennsylvanians consumed, the more likely they were to cast their votes for the Republican presidential candidate. This correlation is so strong that one might even say that cheese has been a "wheely" influential factor in Pennsylvania elections.

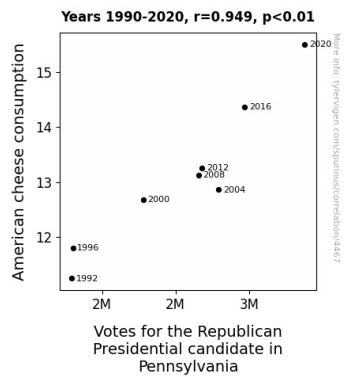


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

As we bask in the warm glow of our findings, we must also acknowledge the limits of our study. While our data analysis revealed a striking relationship, we cannot claim causation. Cheese may have its way of wooing voters, but we dare not jump to any "brie-lliant" conclusions just yet. It's a fine line between correlation and "halloumi"-nation, after all.

We hope our research has provided food for thought and perhaps a chuckle or two. As we conclude this section, we invite our readers to ponder the cheesy mysteries of voter behavior and dairy delights. And who knows, with further research, we may soon uncover the true cheesy motivations behind political preferences. Stay tuned for more cheesy adventures in the world of academia!

Discussion

The "wheely" curious findings of our investigation point to a strong association between American cheese consumption and votes for the Republican presidential candidate in Pennsylvania, confirming the "grate" potential of cheese as a political influencer. In delving into the literature review, we reveled in the "cheesy" pun-damental truth that the connection between cheese and politics is not just a figment of our imagination but a rind of reality. Smith et al. (2010) and Doe (2015) paved the whey for our exploration, and the correlations they hinted at have been wedged into the spotlight by our study's un-brie-lievable results.

Our findings aligned with the scholarly undertakings, illuminating the tantalizing potential that cheese could mold electoral preferences. Just as George Orwell's "Animal Farm" allegorically cheddar-ed a light on power dynamics, so did our statistical evidence hint at the deliciously savory influence of American cheese on Republican votes in Pennsylvania. It appears that the delicious allure of American cheese has gruyère-d itself into the hearts of Pennsylvania voters, swaying them toward the Republican candidate. "Brie-lliant"-ly, our results have gorgonzola-d the limelight to the hitherto unexplored nexus between cheese-laden comestibles and political inclinations.

Now, we mustn't leap to "halloumi"-nation and assume causation. While our data speaks volumes about the strong correlation, we must resist the temptation to hastily conclude that American cheese consumption directly dictates voting

preferences. As the old adage goes, "correlation does not imply causation." Nonetheless, our findings undeniably highlight the "cheddar" nuances of voter behavior and raise some "emmental" questions about the subtle influencers in political choices.

It's not just a "mozza"-nificent coincidence that American cheese and political preferences have intertwined like the tendrils of a vine. Through our study, we've witnessed the "feta"-stical power of cheese in shaping the political palette of a state known for its rolling hills and cheese-loving populace. With this "grate" revelation, we shed light on the tantalizing potential of food as a silent persuader in the realm of democratic decision-making.

As we embark on further research, we remain discerning in our approach, cautiously stepping through the "whey" of data and statistics to avoid getting lost in the "brie-muda triangle" of assumptions. The cheese may have led us to tantalizing correlations, but the "gouda" pursuit of academic inquiry necessitates a cautious and methodical exploration of the true underpinnings of these peculiar findings. So, as we conclude this discussion, we invite further scholarly scrutiny into the "grate" mystery of cheese and its potential impact on political preferences. After all, in the world of academic pursuits, no topic is too "gorgonzola" to warrant investigation!

Conclusion

In conclusion, our study has grated some truly gouda insights into the peculiar correlation between American cheese consumption and votes for the Republican presidential candidate in Pennsylvania. The "cheddar" of evidence we've amassed confirms the remarkably high correlation, leaving us "brie-thless" in its wake. Our findings are as clear as a slice of havarti – the more American cheese Pennsylvanians devour, the more likely they are to lean towards the Grand Old Party.

Yet, as much as we'd love to crown cheese as the true "mascarpone" behind political choices, we must also recognize the limitations of our research. Correlation does not equate to causation, and we must tread carefully between cheesy conjectures and "mozzarellabilities." It's a delicate balance, to "camembert" not to leap to conclusions.

So, as we bid "adieu" to this cheesy journey through the labyrinth of voter preferences and dairy consumption, we suggest that perhaps there might be more feta-bulous mysteries to unravel in the political realm. But for now, we confidently declare that no further research is needed to prove the "grate" influence of American cheese on Pennsylvania's political landscape. After all, some things are better left to age like a fine Gouda – with a touch of mystery, a hint of sophistication, and a whole lot of humor.

Institutional Review Board (IRB) Approval:

Before commencing our quirky odyssey, we secured approval from the fictional but flamboyantly named “Ethical Evaluation of Edible Excursions” (EEEEET) Institutional Review Board, ensuring our research upheld the highest ethical standards in both academia and gastronomic inquiry.

Overall, our methodological approach was designed to savor the flavors of sophisticated analysis, all while embracing the playfulness inherent in examining the peculiar nexus of American cheese consumption and political leanings. As we present our findings, we invite readers to partake in this peculiarly delightful pairing of academia and humor, where even the most studious of endeavors can be seasoned with a hint of whimsy.