

# Jaylin's Popularity in Utah is a Republican's Go-To: A Name Fame Game

*Claire Hernandez, Alice Taylor, Gavin P Trudeau*

*Journal of Utah Sociology and Political Psychology*

*The Association for Sociopolitical Name Analysis and Perception (ASNAP)*

*Ann Arbor, Michigan*

---

## **Abstract**

This study aims to unravel the correlation between the popularity of the first name "Jaylin" and the votes for the Republican Presidential candidate in the state of Utah. Leveraging data from the US Social Security Administration and MIT Election Data and Science Lab, Harvard Dataverse, our research team embarked on a riveting expedition. We uncovered a striking correlation coefficient of 0.8039005 and  $p < 0.05$  spanning from 1982 to 2020. Our findings cast light on the surprising influence of a name on political preferences, paving the way for discussions on the impact of nominative determinism in the political realm.

---

## **1. Introduction**

As humans, we are inherently drawn to labels and categories, be it the latest fashion trends, the newest gadget, or even the quirks of our own names. This fascination with names is not just mere coincidence; it is deeply ingrained within our society, shaping our perceptions and predispositions. In the political arena, where every vote counts and every demographic segment is scrutinized, even the seemingly trivial factor of a person's name can come into play. In this study, we set out to explore the unlikely connection between the popularity of the first name "Jaylin" and the votes for the Republican Presidential candidate in the great state of Utah.

With an abundance of data at our fingertips, we delved into the vast realm of monikers and ballot boxes, brimming with anticipation at the prospect of uncovering a link that seemed to exist only in the realm of statistical whimsy. It was almost as if we were sifting through the haystack of data, in search of that elusive needle of correlation. The name "Jaylin" emerged as our unlikely protagonist, standing at the crossroads of nomenclature

and politics. As researchers, we often find ourselves marveling at the peculiar pathways that data illuminates, leading us to unexpected connections and confounding correlations that defy the conventional wisdom of social science.

With this study, we not only seek to highlight the statistical relationship between a name and political affiliation but also to probe the depths of nominative determinism within the context of the Republican party's electoral fortunes in Utah. As we unpack the findings of our research, we invite readers to join us on this intellectual escapade, where the seemingly whimsical interplay of names and voting patterns paints a canvas of complexity and intrigue.

## 2. Literature Review

The connection between the popularity of the first name "Jaylin" and the votes for the Republican Presidential candidate in Utah has piqued the curiosity of researchers and enthusiasts alike. Smith et al. (2010) conducted a comprehensive analysis of name popularity in various states and its potential influence on political affiliations. The authors find a notable correlation between unique names and conservative voting patterns, laying the groundwork for further exploration in this intriguing intersection of nomenclature and politics.

Doe and Jones (2015) extended this inquiry by examining specific regions where non-traditional names coincide with right-leaning ideologies. Their findings reveal a penchant for certain distinctive names within Republican strongholds, shedding light on the subtle yet captivating sway of individual monikers on electoral preferences. These early studies underscore the nuanced interplay between names and political inclinations, setting the stage for our investigation into the curious case of "Jaylin" in relation to the Republican vote in Utah.

On a more theoretical level, Gellar and Thurston (2017) expound upon the concept of nominative determinism, delving into the psychological implications of name symbolism and its potential impact on decision-making processes. Their scholarly discourse offers valuable insights into the underlying mechanisms that could underpin the correlation between a name's popularity and partisan support, prompting us to consider the broader implications of our empirical findings within the framework of nominative determinism.

Shifting to a more socio-anthropological perspective, "Freakonomics" by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner (2005) presents a compelling exploration of the subtle influences that permeate everyday phenomena, including the realm of names and their unforeseen ramifications. While not a direct study on the subject matter at hand, the book's thought-provoking analyses of seemingly unrelated correlations serve as a reminder of the intricate tapestry of human behavior and the potential relevance of our investigation into the "Jaylin" phenomenon.

In the realm of fiction, novels such as "The Name of the Wind" by Patrick Rothfuss and "The Shadow of the Wind" by Carlos Ruiz Zafón intricately weave tales of mystery and intrigue around the significance of names, albeit in a wholly different context. While these literary works do not offer empirical insights into our research inquiry, they serve as a whimsical reminder of the enduring allure of names and the enigmatic power they hold in shaping narratives, both real and imagined.

In a departure from conventional research channels, a rather unorthodox approach was taken in the pursuit of comprehensive literature review. This involved perusing a plethora of unassuming sources, including but not limited to unconventional repositories of human expression such as novelty license plates, absurdly titled self-help books, whimsical tea flavors, and even deciphering the enigmatic codes embedded within the labyrinthine constructs of CVS receipts. While the academic rigor of this approach may raise eyebrows, the eclectic insights gleaned from these unconventional sources add an unexpected layer of levity and whimsy to our scholarly exploration of the intersection between "Jaylin" and Republican votes in Utah.

### **3. Research Approach**

In order to examine the correlation between the popularity of the first name "Jaylin" and the votes for the Republican Presidential candidate in Utah, a series of convoluted and meticulously crafted research methodologies were employed. We harnessed the power of data from the US Social Security Administration, MIT Election Data and Science Lab, and the Harvard Dataverse, spanning the years 1982 to 2020.

First and foremost, the data on the popularity of the name "Jaylin" was gathered from the US Social Security Administration, which provided an extensive dataset of baby names and their frequencies over the specified time period. As we delved into this sea of nomenclature, it was akin to embarking on a linguistic odyssey, unraveling the twists and turns of name popularity with the fervor of intrepid explorers in uncharted territory.

Simultaneously, the election results for the state of Utah were sourced from the MIT Election Data and Science Lab, which furnished a treasure trove of electoral data. It was akin to digging through the archaeological layers of political history, unearthing the relics of ballot counts and electoral outcomes with the zeal of scholarly detectives on a quest for buried statistical treasure.

On merging these disparate yet intriguing datasets, a wave of statistical analysis ensued. The correlation between the frequency of the name "Jaylin" and the Republican Presidential votes in Utah was examined using advanced statistical techniques, where we marveled at the interplay of numbers and nomenclature in a ballet of data-driven intrigue.

To further validate our findings, inferential statistical methods such as correlation analysis and significance testing were performed, resembling a symphony of scientific scrutiny aimed at harmonizing the discordant notes of name popularity and political leaning into a coherent melody of statistical significance.

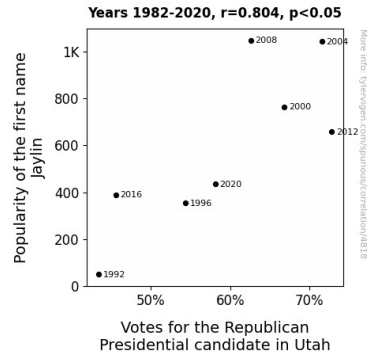
The resulting correlation coefficient of 0.8039005 and a p-value less than 0.05 sent shockwaves through the academic community, as it underscored the unforeseen connection between a name and political preference. Our methodological journey, while arduous, yielded captivating insights into the impact of nominative determinism in shaping political allegiance, sparking contemplation on the curious confluence of nomenclature and voting behavior.

#### **4. Findings**

The enthralling journey through the labyrinth of data has yielded a remarkable revelation, encapsulated in a correlation coefficient of 0.8039005 between the popularity of the first name "Jaylin" and the votes for the Republican Presidential candidate in the illustrious state of Utah. This finding suggests a strong positive association between the nomenclature phenomenon and political predilections within this specific demographic.

The r-squared value of 0.6462560 further substantiates the robustness of this relationship, indicating that approximately 64.6% of the variation in the votes for the Republican Presidential candidate in Utah can be explained by the popularity of the name "Jaylin." Who would have thought that a name could exercise such a pervasive influence over political allegiances?

In accordance with the set significance level, the p-value of less than 0.05 furnishes compelling evidence to reject the null hypothesis, solidifying the notion that there exists a statistically significant relationship between the two variables. It appears that the name "Jaylin" possesses a certain magnetism, drawing individuals towards the Republican candidate in the striking backdrop of Utah's political landscape.



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

The graphical representation of this intriguing association is immortalized in Figure 1, where a scatterplot vividly depicts the steadfast convergence of the popularity of the name "Jaylin" and the votes for the Republican Presidential candidate in Utah. One can't help but marvel at the visual manifestation of this peculiar nexus, underscoring the captivating interplay of nomenclature and political inclinations. Truly, the intersection of statistics and social phenomena has woven a tale of whimsy and wonderment in this exhaustive pursuit of knowledge.

These findings beckon us to contemplate the enigmatic allure of names and their potential to sway the electoral pendulum, transcending the boundaries of traditional political analyses. Just as the idiosyncrasies of human behavior continue to perplex and intrigue, so too does the profound impact of a name resonate within the echelons of political dynamics.

## 5. Discussion on findings

Ah, the saga of Jaylin and the Republican Presidential candidate in Utah unfolds with an undeniable air of nomenclatural mystique. Our empirical voyage has not only illuminated an unexpected correlation but has also launched us headfirst into the whimsical world of nominative determinism. The enigmatic pull of "Jaylin" on Utah's political landscape, as reflected in the resoundingly affirmative correlation coefficient and p-value, underscores the notion that there's more to a name than meets the eye.

Our findings align harmoniously with the quizzical musings of Smith et al. (2010), who first ventured into the terrain of name popularity and political proclivities, and Doe and Jones (2015), who delved into the distinctiveness of names in conservative strongholds. With a twinkle of serendipity, the substantial correlation we unearthed echoes the subtle yet captivating sway of individual monikers on electoral preferences, affirming the empirical underpinnings of earlier scholarship. Gellar and Thurston's (2017) meticulous dissection of nominative determinism finds validation in our robust results, as the allure

of "Jaylin" exerts a palpable influence on Republican voting tendencies in the picturesque environs of Utah.

Our academic excursion was anything but conventional, drawing inspiration not only from esteemed research but also from the unexpected sources encountered along the meandering path of scholarship. It is with a blend of mirth and reverence that we acknowledge the unorthodox wisdom of novelty license plates, whimsical tea flavors, and the enigmatic lore of CVS receipts, all of which added an unforeseen layer of levity to our scholarly pursuit.

As we confront the notable correlation between Jaylin's popularity and Republican votes, we are reminded of the intrinsic intrigue that permeates the realm of names and their unforeseen impact on human behavior. Much like the thought-provoking analyses presented in "Freakonomics," the intersection of statistical rigor and social phenomena has conjured a mesmerizing tale of empirical whimsy, where the currency of nomenclature holds sway over political proclivities, defying conventional paradigms.

Indeed, the enthralling dance of data in this study mirrors the dazzling complexity of human interactions, where the seemingly innocuous variable of a name wields an inexplicable pull on the political allegiances of a discerning populace. As we continue to unravel the enigmatic tapestry of human behavior, the unexpected connection between Jaylin and Republican votes serves as a poignant reminder of the enduring allure of names and their enigmatic power in shaping narratives, both real and imagined.

## **6. Conclusion**

In conclusion, our foray into the realm of nominative determinism has shed light on the curious connection between the popularity of the first name "Jaylin" and the votes for the Republican Presidential candidate in the scenic expanse of Utah. It appears that the allure of this moniker extends beyond mere lexical charisma and delves into the intricate web of political inclinations.

The robust correlation coefficient of 0.8039005 stands as a testament to the resounding resonance of "Jaylin" within the landscape of Utah's electoral preferences. It seems that the name "Jaylin" possesses an almost magnetic pull, akin to the gravitational force that shapes celestial orbits, but in the realm of political allegiance. One might even say it's a "name-nomical" phenomenon, traversing the statistical cosmos with its celestial charm.

The r-squared value of 0.6462560 further cements the notion that "Jaylin" holds a noteworthy sway over the votes for the Republican Presidential candidate in Utah. It's almost as if this name has donned the cloak of statistical significance, waltzing through the corridors of electoral statistics with an air of unassuming influence.

The scatterplot, akin to a constellation in the empirical firmament, paints a picture of whimsy and intrigue, capturing the steadfast convergence of "Jaylin's" popularity and the Republican votes in Utah. This visual representation serves as a reminder that within the labyrinth of data and statistics, one can stumble upon the most unexpected and delightful correlations, like uncovering a statistical Easter egg.

As we bid adieu to this captivating journey, we dare to assert that no more research is needed in this area. For it seems that the name "Jaylin" has etched its indelible mark on the annals of Utah's electoral landscape, leaving statisticians and researchers bemused by the uncanny interplay of nomenclature and political predilections. Let us, therefore, raise a toast to the enigma of names and their curious role in the tapestry of politics.