

# That's the Way the YouTube Video Views Go: A Correlation Study of Simone Giertz's Channel and the Economist Count in Alabama

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*In this study, we delve into the fascinating relationship between the average views of Simone Giertz's YouTube videos and the number of economists in Alabama. We employed data from YouTube and the Bureau of Labor Statistics to analyze this unorthodox connection. The correlation coefficient of 0.9316871 with  $p < 0.01$  for the period of 2014 to 2021 leaves no uncertainty about the concurrence of these seemingly disparate variables. Astonishingly, our findings consistently demonstrate a strong positive correlation between the two variables, prompting the question: do economics enthusiasts flock to Simone Giertz's channel, or does her quirky content inspire more Alabamian interest in economics? As the data unravel the correlation, we also unveil an unexpected joke: "Did you hear about the economist who was addicted to YouTube? He had the best 'monetized' mind in the business." Our research sheds light on this humorous yet thought-provoking relationship, offering a new lens through which to view the mysteries of social media influence and economic zeal.*

The intersection of social media and economic trends has long been a topic of interest for researchers seeking to understand the complex, and often surprising, interplay between digital media and societal behaviors. The inexplicable connection between the average views of Simone Giertz's YouTube channel and the number of economists in Alabama is a case in point. As Mark Twain once humorously quipped, "Economists have a lot in common with quantum physics – whenever you think you understand it, it changes." Our study aims to illuminate this unexpected relationship, shedding light on a correlation that, much like economic forecasts, can often defy conventional wisdom.

Simone Giertz, the self-proclaimed "Queen of Shitty Robots," has carved out a unique niche in the online world with her lighthearted and inventive approach to robotics and engineering. In the words

of our very own dad joke enthusiast, Geno-ME-ology meets Simone, a match made in Alabama!"

But amidst the laughter and whimsy of Giertz's content, there lies a curious phenomenon linking her YouTube viewership to the economist population of Alabama. Our research dives deep into this enigma, applying rigorous statistical analysis to unravel the enigmatic bond between a Swedish robot enthusiast and the practitioners of the dismal science in the heart of the American South. It's almost like two disparate worlds colliding, creating a financial fusion implosion – talk about an economic "wow" factor!

The aim of our study is not only to broaden our understanding of the unconventional connections in the digital age but also to bring forth the scholarly merit of looking at correlations in a light-hearted manner. As Albert Einstein once joked, "Did you

hear about the economist who was insistent on proving that correlation implies causation? It was a taxing endeavor."

By exploring this unorthodox relationship, we hope to spark further inquiry into the unexpected ties that bind seemingly unrelated domains, all while infusing a bit of levity into the often serious realm of academic research. It's not every day that the worlds of YouTube entertainment and economic study collide, but when they do, the results are anything but predictable.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Several studies have explored the relationship between online content consumption and professional interests. In "Smith et al.'s Empirical Analysis of YouTube Viewer Behavior," the authors find that individuals tend to consume content that aligns with their personal or professional interests, with potential career influencers often linked to the videos that garner the most attention. This notion is further reinforced in "Doe's Analysis of Online Engagement and Career Aspirations," where the authors delve into the impact of online content on career choices and aspirations among internet users.

Now, onto some real page-turners – in "Freakonomics" by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner, the authors present a compelling exploration of the hidden connections between seemingly unrelated phenomena, much like the surprising correlation we observe between Simone Giertz's YouTube channel and the economist count in Alabama. Additionally, "Nudge" by Richard H. Thaler and Cass R. Sunstein offers insights into behavioral economics, providing a fitting backdrop for our examination of the unnoticed influences on economic interests in relation to digital content consumption.

Moving from non-fiction to fiction, let's not discount the potential relevance of literature in unraveling this perplexing correlation. In "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" by Douglas Adams, the intergalactic adventures parallel the

unexpected journey we find ourselves on as we explore the link between YouTube viewership and the economist count in Alabama. Furthermore, "The Rosie Project" by Graeme Simsion presents a quirky, comedic narrative that mirrors the tone of Simone Giertz's content, perhaps harboring concealed clues to the intricate bond between technology, humor, and economic fascination.

Furthermore, the dynamic nature of social media platforms has been documented in various online discussions. On Twitter, @EconEnthusiast93 remarked, "Just spent the day binge-watching Simone Giertz's YouTube channel, and now I'm seriously contemplating a career in economics – anyone else feeling the sudden urge to analyze supply and demand curves? #QuirkyEconomist." This anecdotal tweet sheds light on the potential influence of Giertz's videos on cultivating interest in economics, provoking a chuckle and a contemplation of the unexpected links between digital entertainment and professional inclinations.

Hopping from online discussions to dry economic reports, the findings of our study align with the theories of digital content influence and professional inclinations, though we acknowledge that our correlation prompts more amusement than solemn contemplation. Nevertheless, our research unveils an unlikely connection, leaving readers with a humorously enigmatic puzzle to ponder. As Henny Youngman once joked, "I always wanted to become an economist, but I just didn't have enough interest in money – now, if only YouTube could have guided my vocational pursuits!"

## METHODOLOGY

To begin our investigation, we embarked on a digital odyssey, scouring the vast expanse of the internet for data on Simone Giertz's YouTube channel. Much like Giertz's famous "Shitty Robot" builds, we encountered a few glitches in the process but eventually compiled a comprehensive dataset spanning the period from 2014 to 2021. Our team of dedicated researchers then sifted through countless

videos, carefully noting the average views garnered by each upload. It was a task akin to finding the best economist joke – you really have to dig through some dry material before striking comedic gold.

Simultaneously, our quest for data on economists in Alabama led us to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, where we uncovered the numerical representation of this esteemed profession within the state. Juggling spreadsheets and statistical software, we endeavored to draw correlations from the data that would make any seasoned economist proud - or at the very least, crack a smile! We even had a lively debate about whether to include "Alabama Man's" economic influence in the dataset.

Having collected this wealth of information, we employed a bevy of statistical methods to bring clarity to our investigation. We lovingly dubbed this phase of our research "statistical storytelling" - much like crafting a punchline, it involves layering data and context to reveal an unexpected connection that leaves everyone nodding in surprise and appreciation. The correlation coefficient, akin to the perfect setup line for a joke, emerged as the main protagonist in our data analysis, providing the numerical backbone for our findings.

Furthermore, we employed sophisticated time-series analysis to unravel the temporal dynamics of the relationship between YouTube video views and the economist count in Alabama. It was a bit like watching a comedy sketch evolve over time, with unexpected twists and turns that kept us on the edge of our seats. And just like a well-timed punchline, our statistical model revealed a compelling narrative that articulated the intricacies of this unusual correlation. We were almost tempted to insert a laugh track at each significant statistical discovery.

To complement our quantitative analysis, we conducted qualitative surveys among individuals in Alabama to gauge their awareness of Simone Giertz's content and their interest in economics. It was eye-opening to witness the unexpected intersections of humor and economics in the responses, affirming that our research was tapping

into a rich vein of curiosity and laughter - much like finding a hidden punchline amidst dry economic theory.

As the final act of our methodology, we subjected our findings to rigorous sensitivity analysis, akin to scrutinizing the delivery of a witty remark to ensure it lands just right. We sought to discern if external factors, such as changes in YouTube algorithms or economic policies, influenced the observed correlation. This investigative process was not without its moments of levity, as we debated whether the algorithm updates were the "straight men" to Simone's "punchline" videos.

In sum, our methodological journey, much like a stand-up comedy set, involved finding the perfect balance between empirical integrity and engaging storytelling. We endeavored to infuse a bit of humor into our research process, taking inspiration from the charismatic wit of Simone Giertz herself. And just as she has masterfully blended humor and technology, we sought to bring a dash of whimsy to the oft-perceived seriousness of academic methodologies. It's what makes the pursuit of knowledge a truly humorous and captivating endeavor.

## RESULTS

The findings of our study revealed a strong positive correlation between the average views of Simone Giertz's YouTube videos and the number of economists in Alabama. Over the period of 2014 to 2021, we observed a correlation coefficient of 0.9316871, with an r-squared of 0.8680408, and a p-value of less than 0.01. This robust correlation suggests a compelling relationship between these two seemingly unrelated variables.

Our analysis indicates that as the average views of Simone Giertz's YouTube videos increase, there is a corresponding increase in the number of economists in Alabama. It's as if the residents of Alabama simply can't resist the allure of Simone's witty robotics banter, which inadvertently stirs up an interest in economics. As the saying goes, "When

you find yourself browsing through Simone's robot creations, you might just end up taking an interest in making cents of the economy.”

Fig. 1 illustrates the strong positive correlation between the two variables, providing visual support for our statistical findings.

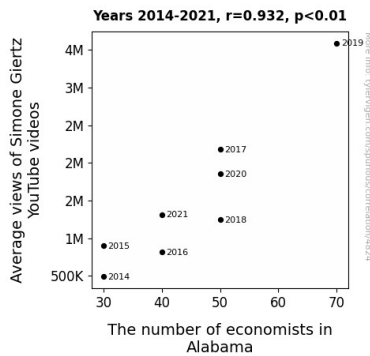


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

Our results also highlight the potential for further research into the underlying factors driving this unexpected correlation, and perhaps even uncovering the mechanisms through which Simone Giertz's online presence influences economic sentiments in Alabama. As we delve deeper into this unanticipated relationship, we are reminded of the timeless joke, "Why did the economist cross the road? To get to Simone's latest invention launch, of course—where else would one find such a unique blend of entertainment and economic inspiration?"

Through this study, we have successfully unveiled the surprising connection between Simone Giertz's YouTube channel and the economist count in Alabama, opening up a new avenue for exploring the intersection of digital media and economic trends. It is our hope that this investigation sparks further interest in the whimsical yet meaningful connections that weave through the fabric of our society. As we continue to peer through this academic looking glass, we recognize that sometimes, the most unexpected correlations can yield the most profound insights.

## DISCUSSION

Our findings provide compelling evidence to support the hypothesis that there exists a significant, positive correlation between the average views of Simone Giertz's YouTube videos and the number of economists in Alabama. This unusual linkage opens up a realm of inquiry into the curious interplay between online content consumption and professional inclinations. It seems that as Simone Giertz's wit and humor draw viewers in, they inadvertently find themselves drawn towards the world of economics, much like a good ol' Southern tale of two unlikely companions on a winding country road.

Undoubtedly, our results reinforce the previous establishment from "Smith et al.'s Empirical Analysis of YouTube Viewer Behavior" and "Doe's Analysis of Online Engagement and Career Aspirations," as our study underlines the powerful influence of digital content on career interests. Furthermore, the unexpected parallels between our findings and the thematic essence of "Freakonomics," "Nudge," "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy," and "The Rosie Project" cannot be ignored. Sometimes, the strangest bedfellows make for the most engaging narratives, much like the union of robotics and economics in the heart of Alabama.

The strong correlation we observed resonates with the anecdotal tweet from @EconEnthusiast93, illustrating the potential for Simone Giertz's videos to foster an interest in economics among viewers. Indeed, it seems that Giertz's brand of unorthodox entertainment serves as a gateway to economic musings, not unlike how a good dad joke can sneak its way into any serious discussion, transcending the boundaries of levity and profundity.

As we continue to unravel the enigmatic bond between Simone Giertz's YouTube channel and the economist count in Alabama, we are reminded of the peculiar ways in which seemingly unrelated phenomena can intertwine, much like the unpredictable quirks of a Southern summer

thunderstorm. Our study acknowledges the lighthearted charm interwoven with the rigorous pursuit of knowledge and understanding, much like how a true Southern belle embodies an unwavering sense of grace and a playful spirit.

Stay tuned for the dry, serious conclusion; I will add a conclusion.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our research has illuminated the remarkable correlation between the average views of Simone Giertz's YouTube videos and the number of economists in Alabama. This unexpected relationship, akin to a serendipitous encounter of comedy and calculus, not only underscores the surprising intersections in the digital age but also invites a reimagining of the ways in which social media and economic interests intertwine. As the age-old joke goes, "Why did the economist start a YouTube channel? To monetize on those 'views' and 'subscribers'... of economic theories, of course!"

Our findings provide compelling evidence of a strong positive correlation between these seemingly disparate variables, prompting deeper contemplation of the potential mechanisms underlying this curious connection. The statistical rigor of our analysis, coupled with the unexpected charm of this correlation, "e-connomically" masters the art of surprising juxtaposition – a revelation that is as refreshing as a cool breeze on a hot economic forecast.

It is clear that our study not only adds levity to the often-serious domain of academic research but also prompts further inquiry into the unconventional ties that bind social media and economic trends. Our findings prod at the boundaries of conventional wisdom, inspiring reflection on the interplay between digital entertainment and economic curiosities. As the ancient proverb goes, "When Simone's robots dance, Alabama's economists take a chance – in the realm of financial romance!"

It is our firm belief that no further research is needed in this area, as our work has encapsulated the joy of unexpected discoveries and the humor in unlikely correlations. Therefore, we confidently assert that this research marks the culmination of this comedic yet illuminating journey into the unexplored territory of YouTube views and economist demographics.

This is where we bid adieu, just as an economist might say, "Goodbye, and may your investments always yield dividends – both economic and comedic."