Spurious correlations



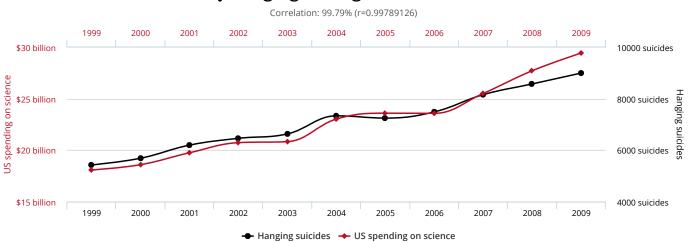
Now a ridiculous book!

- Spurious charts
- Fascinating factoids
- Commentary in the footnotes

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US spending on science, space, and technology correlates with

Suicides by hanging, strangulation and suffocation



Data sources: U.S. Office of Management and Budget and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

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Number of people who drowned by falling into a pool correlates with = Films Nicolas Cage appeared in Correlation: 66.6% (r=0.666004) 1999 2000 2002 2007 2008 2009 2001 2003 2004 2005 2006 140 drownings 6 films Swimming pool drownings 120 drownings Nicholas Cage 100 drownings 80 drownings 0 films 2003 2004 2007 Nicholas Cage Swimming pool drownings tylervigen.com Data sources: Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and Internet Movie Database Per capita cheese consumption correlates with = Number of people who died by becoming tangled in their bedsheets Correlation: 94.71% (r=0.947091) 2001 2003 2004 2006 2007 2008 2009 800 deaths 33lbs Bedsheet 600 deaths eat tanglings 400 deaths gs Cheese consumed 31.5lbs 30lbs 28.5lbs 200 deaths 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2007 2008 2009 ◆ Bedsheet tanglings ◆ Cheese consumed

Data sources: U.S. Department of Agriculture and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

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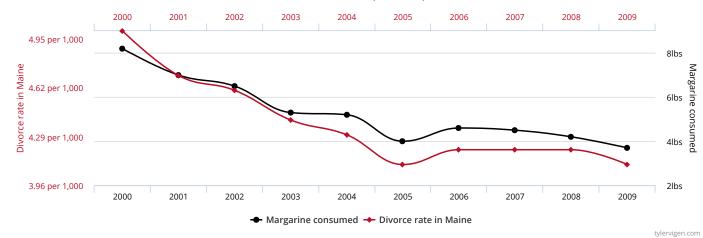
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correlates with

Per capita consumption of margarine

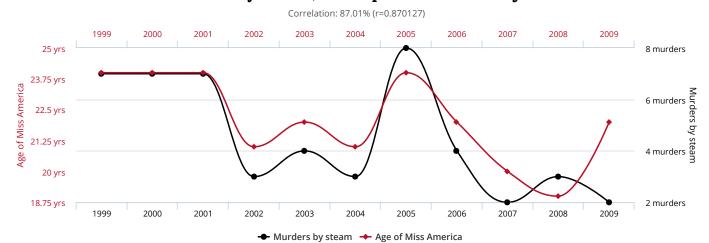
Correlation: 99.26% (r=0.992558)



Data sources: National Vital Statistics Reports and U.S. Department of Agriculture

Age of Miss America correlates with

Murders by steam, hot vapours and hot objects

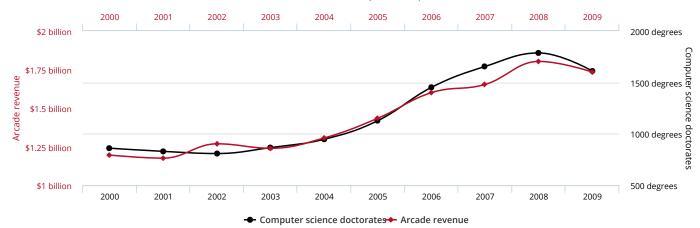


Data sources: Wikipedia and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Total revenue generated by arcades correlates with

Computer science doctorates awarded in the US

Correlation: 98.51% (r=0.985065)

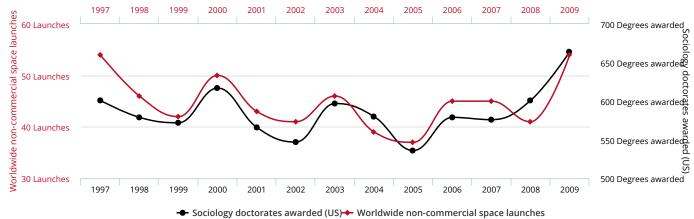


Data sources: U.S. Census Bureau and National Science Foundation

Worldwide non-commercial space launches correlates with

Sociology doctorates awarded (US)

Correlation: 78.92% (r=0.78915)

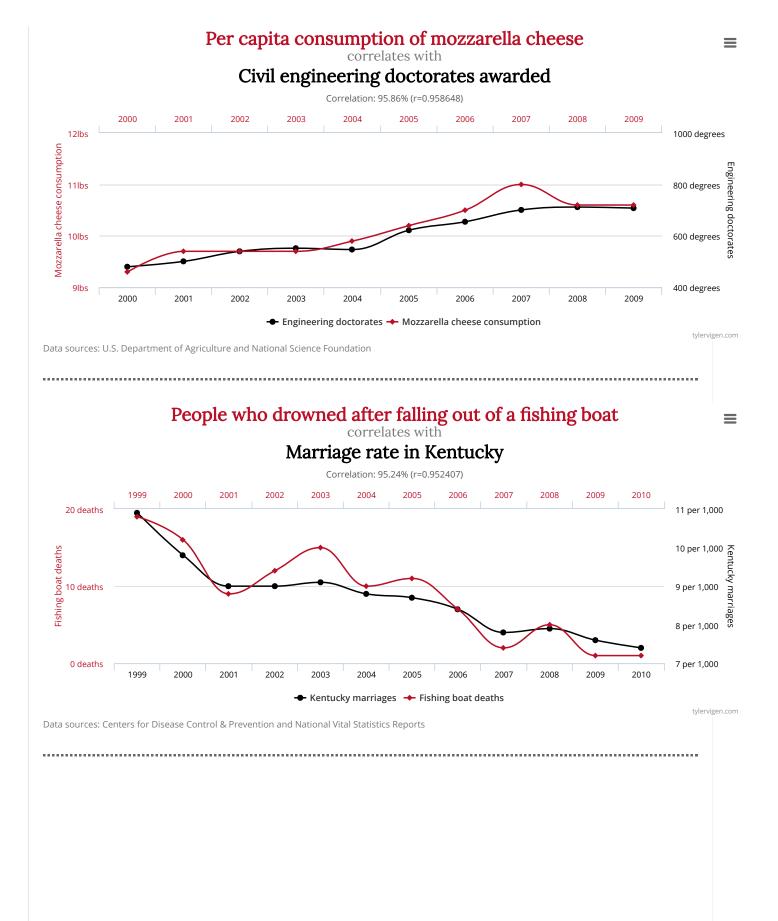


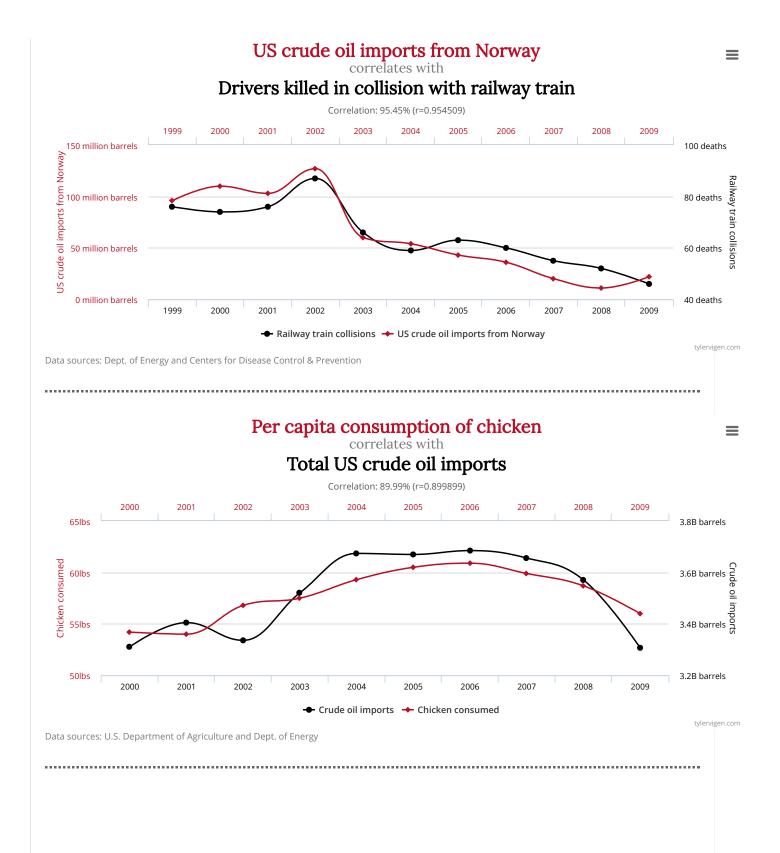
Data sources: Federal Aviation Administration and National Science Foundation

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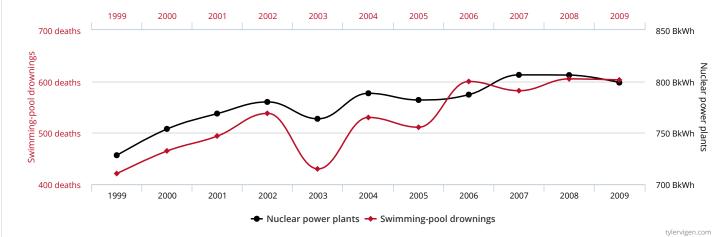




Number people who drowned while in a swimming-pool correlates with

Power generated by US nuclear power plants

Correlation: 90.12% (r=0.901179)



Data sources: Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and Dept. of Energy

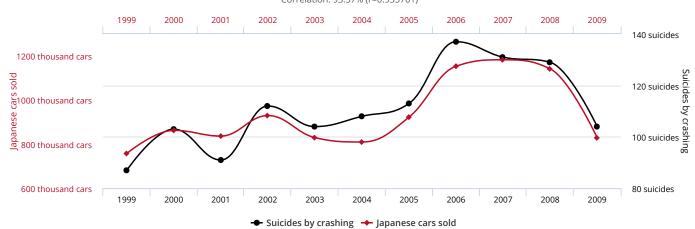
Japanese passenger cars sold in the US correlates with

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Suicides by crashing of motor vehicle

Correlation: 93.57% (r=0.935701)

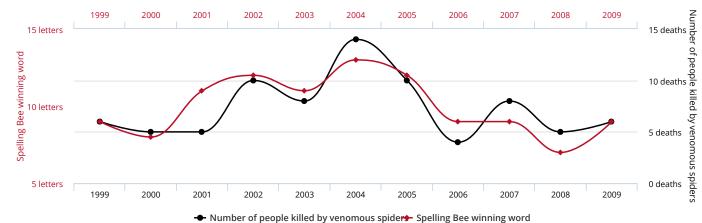


Data sources: U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention



Number of people killed by venomous spiders





Data sources: National Spelling Bee and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Math doctorates awarded

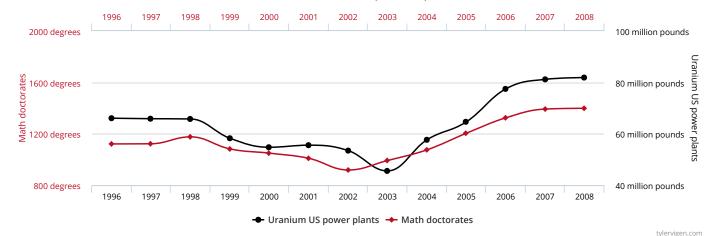
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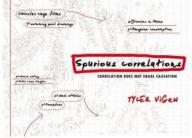
correlates with

Uranium stored at US nuclear power plants

Correlation: 95.23% (r=0.952257)



Data sources: National Science Foundation and Dept. of Energy



More? Check out the book!

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Other spurious things

- The old version of this site.
- Discover a correlation: find new correlations.
- Go to the next page of charts, and keep clicking "next" to get through all 30,000.
- View the sources of every statistic in the book.
- Or for something totally different, here is a pet project: When is the next time something cool will happen in space?

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