

Ideas for my Master Thesis

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Idea

Exploit the 2021 heatwave on the North American west coast

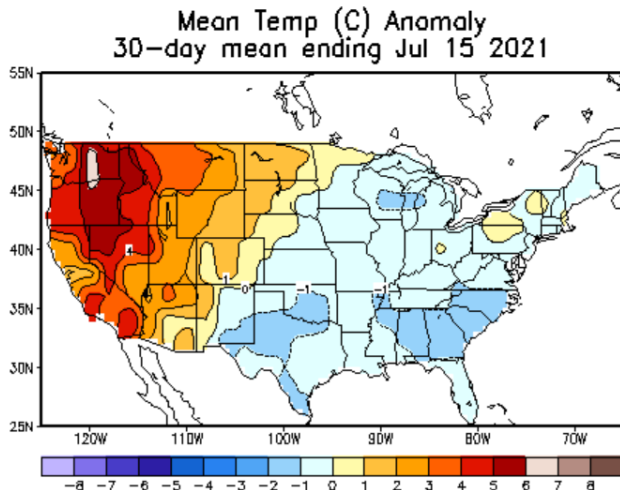


Figure 1: Temperature Anomalies in June/July 2021

Sick leave data

- ▶ **Current Population Survey (CPS):**
 - ▶ Available monthly (refers to the week containing the 12th day of the month)
 - ▶ Includes state and county information, but county is often missing due to confidentiality laws
- ▶ **Small Business Pulse Survey:**
 - ▶ Includes questions about workers' availability to work
 - ▶ Weekly data
 - ▶ Available by state or by metropolitan area

Commuting data

- ▶ [American Community Survey \(ACS\)](#): Yearly survey including questions about commuting habits
- ▶ [Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics \(LEHD\)](#): Includes geographic information on workplace and residency, but only yearly as well
- ▶ Maybe fuel consumption could be a good proxy for commuting behavior? That is available monthly from the [EIA](#), but only for PADD regions

Crime Data

- ▶ Data of all recorded incidents (> 5 Mill.) in a given year is available from the FBI ([here](#) or [here](#)):
 - ▶ Includes the exact date
 - ▶ Includes state and county numbers
 - ▶ 2021 is not yet available. But there was another big heatwave in 2016, which could work as well (see [here](#))

Another idea: Data from business tool providers

- ▶ The FED St. Louis uses high frequency data from business tool providers (e.g. [here](#))
- ▶ One such provider is [Homebase](#), they provide daily data on hours worked or the number of employees working.
- ▶ Such tools are mainly used by restaurants & retailers