# Crime & Weather

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### **Our Motivation**

The Effect of Weather on Crime: An Investigation of Weather and Annual Crime Rates

# High temperatures can lead to more violent crime, study finds

8, 2019 | 11:39am

# A Rise in Murder? Let's Talk About the

Weather

The relationship between tree canopy and crime rates across an urban–rural gradient in the greater Baltimore region

# Can Trees Actually Deter Crime?

ERIC JAFFE MAY 25, 2012

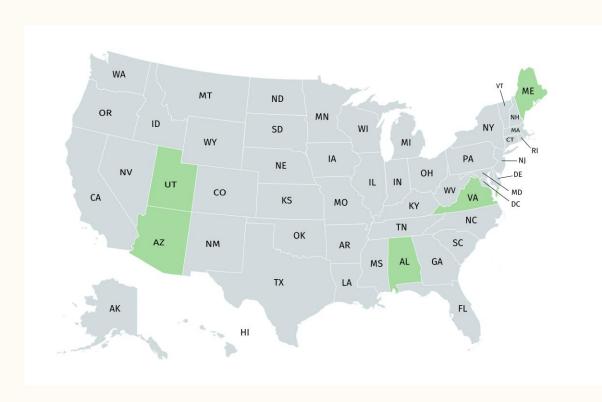


# **Our Questions**

- Do rates of violent and non-violent crime increase with temperature?
- Do states with more forest cover experience lower crime rates?
- As temperatures continue to increase due to anthropogenic climate change, does our data predict that we can expect a rise in crime?

# **Our Focus**

#### THE STATES



#### THE DATA WE COLLECTED

- Crime
  - Sourced from state government websites
- Weather
  - National Centers for Environmental Information
- Tree Cover
  - i-Tree Canopy

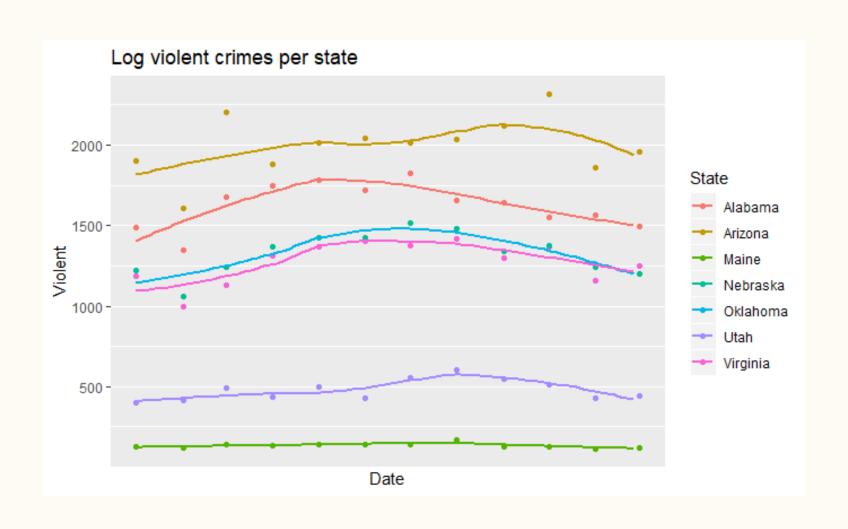
ARIZONA, UTAH, MAINE, VIRGINIA, ALABAMA

# The Data

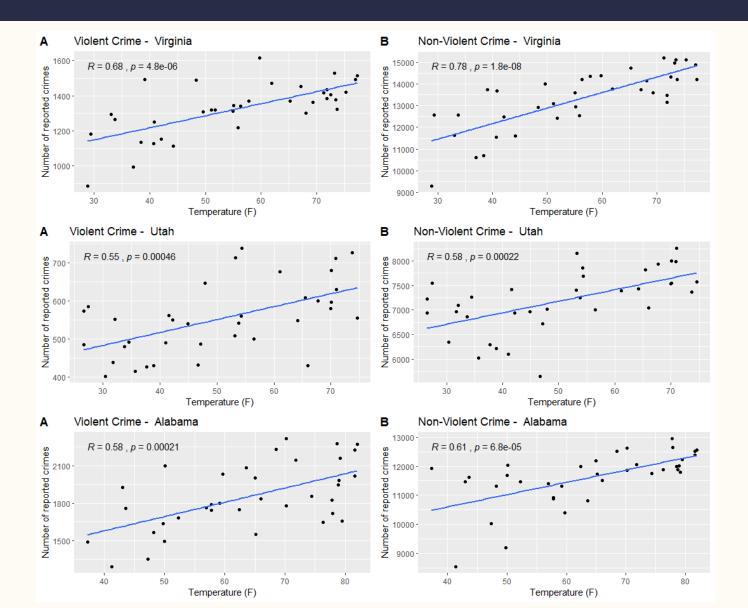
Date <sup>‡</sup>	Year <sup>‡</sup>	State <sup>‡</sup>	Violent <sup>‡</sup>	Nonviolent •	F_temp	Date <sup>‡</sup>	Year <sup>‡</sup>	State <sup>‡</sup>	Violent <sup>‡</sup>	Nonviolent <sup>‡</sup>	F_temp	Date <sup>‡</sup>	Year <sup>‡</sup>	State <sup>‡</sup>	Violent <sup>‡</sup>	Nonviolent <sup>‡</sup>	F_temp
2020-01-14	2014	Maine	124	1950	14.2	2020-01-15	2015	Utah	552	7090	32.1	2020-01-16	2016	Alabama	1925	11463	43.0
2020-02-14	2014	Maine	120	1550	15.7	2020-02-15	2015	Utah	431	6215	38.9	2020-02-16	2016	Alabama	1635	9200	49.8
2020-03-14	2014	Maine	139	1725	18.1	2020-03-15	2015	Utah	540	6965	44.9	2020-03-16	2016	Alabama	2034	10393	59.7
2020-04-14	2014	Maine	132	2125	38.7	2020-04-15	2015	Utah	487	6725	47.1	2020-04-16	2016	Alabama	2085	10824	63.6
2020-05-14	2014	Maine	140	2300	51.7	2020-05-15	2015	Utah	542	7254	53.8	2020-05-16	2016	Alabama	2318	11859	70.2
2020-06-14	2014	Maine	141	2450	61.6	2020-06-15	2015	Utah	581	7539	70.0	2020-06-16	2016	Alabama	2159	11798	79.2
2020-07-14	2014	Maine	143	2875	67.2	2020-07-15	2015	Utah	597	8004	70.1	2020-07-16	2016	Alabama	2274	12565	82.0
2020-08-14	2014	Maine	167	2700	64.4	2020-08-15	2015	Utah	630	8258	71.0	2020-08-16	2016	Alabama	2224	12509	81.6
2020-09-14	2014	Maine	125	2350	56.4	2020-09-15	2015	Utah	609	7814	65.5	2020-09-16	2016	Alabama	2277	11989	78.6
2020-10-14	2014	Maine	125	2300	48.5	2020-10-15	2015	Utah	560	7852	54.3	2020-10-16	2016	Alabama	2231	12506	68.5
2020-11-14	2014	Maine	113	1800	31.8	2020-11-15	2015	Utah	492	7262	34.5	2020-11-16	2016	Alabama	1790	10880	57.8
2020-12-14	2014	Maine	121	1850	26.0	2020-12-15	2015	Utah	485	7225	26.6	2020-12-16	2016	Alabama	2100	12030	50.1

- Working with data over a 3-year period by each month from 2014 to 2016
- Crime data has been separated into Violent and Nonviolent offenses

# **Exploratory Data Analysis – Discovering Patterns**

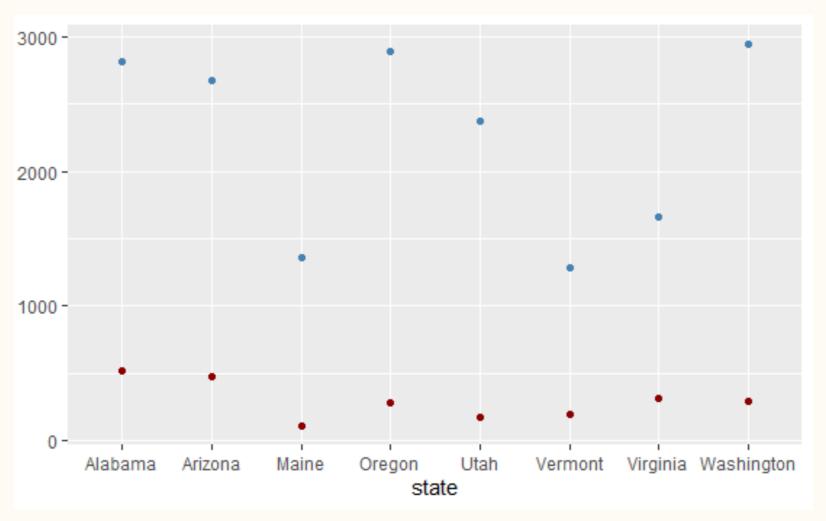


# **Exploratory Data Analysis - Discovering Patterns**



# **Exploratory Data Analysis – Discovering Patterns**

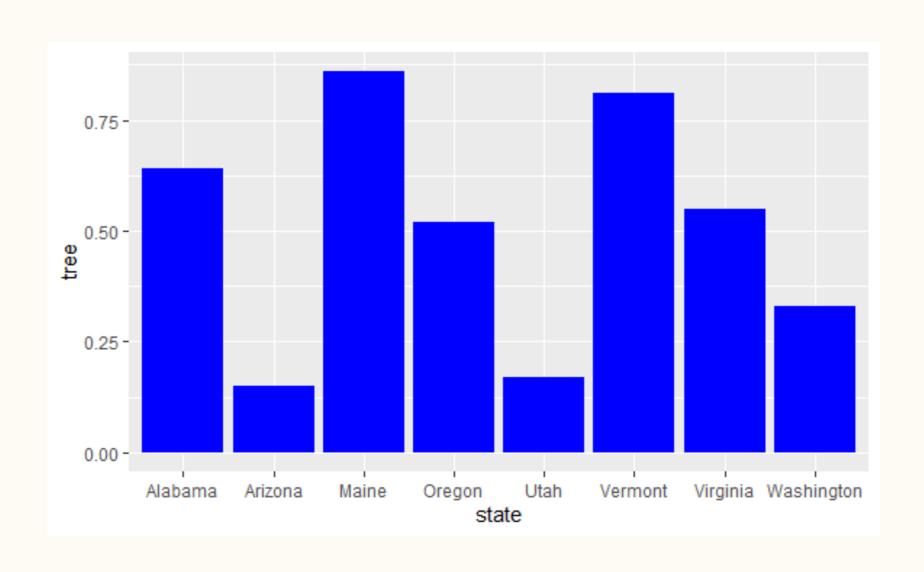
#### AVERAGE ANNUAL CRIME RATE BY STATE (PER 100K PEOPLE IN 2018)



**BLUE: NONVIOLENT CRIMES** 

**RED: VIOLENT CRIMES** 

# **Exploratory Data Analysis – Discovering Patterns**



# **Linear Regressions**

#### **VIOLENT CRIME**

- Explanatory Variables
  - Temperature
  - Tree cover
- Dependent Variable
  - Violent crime

$$ViolentCrime = \beta 0 + \beta 1 * TreeCover$$

$$ViolentCrime = \beta 0 + \beta 1 * Temperature$$

#### **NONVIOLENT CRIME**

- Explanatory Variables
  - Temperature
  - Tree cover
- Dependent Variables
  - Nonviolent crime

$$NonviolentCrime = \beta 0 + \beta 1 * TreeCover$$

$$NonviolentCrime = \beta 0 + \beta 1 * Temperature$$

# **Violent Crime**

#### TREE COVER VS VIOLENT CRIME

#### Call:

lm(formula = violcrime ~ tree, data = df)

#### Residuals:

Min 1Q Median 3Q Max -179.32 -64.53 -21.11 47.70 246.62

#### Coefficients:

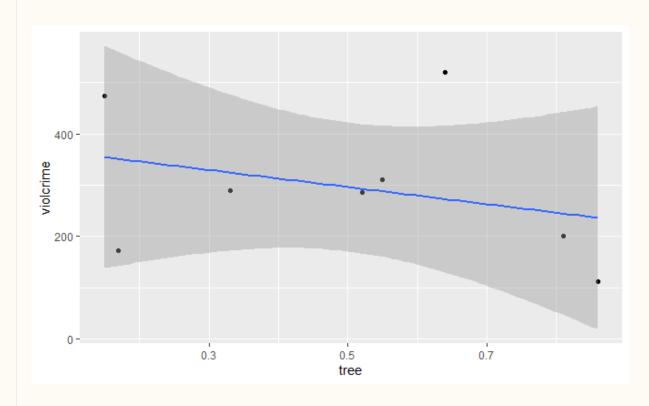
Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept) 379.7 114.8 3.307 0.0163 \* tree -166.7 203.8 -0.818 0.4446

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Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 145.3 on 6 degrees of freedom Multiple R-squared: 0.1003, Adjusted R-squared: -0.04962

F-statistic: 0.6691 on 1 and 6 DF, p-value: 0.4446



# **Violent Crime**

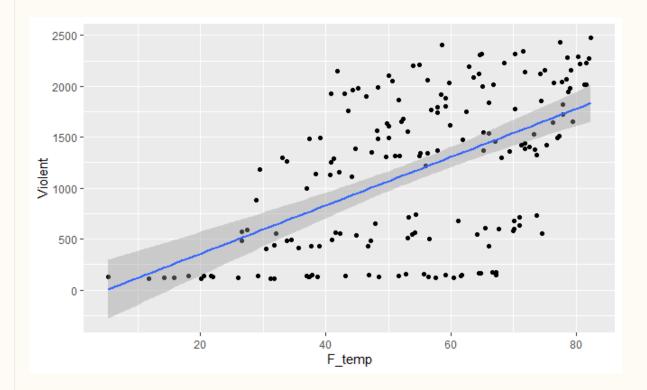
#### TEMPERATURE VS VIOLENT CRIME

# Call: Im(formula = Violent ~ F\_temp, data = STATE\_CRIME\_DATA) Residuals: Min 1Q Median 3Q Max -255.632 -70.307 6.808 39.314 280.416 Coefficients: Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|) (Intercept) 943.436 73.361 12.860 1.29e-14 \*\*\* F\_temp 6.858 1.265 5.423 4.85e-06 \*\*\* --Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1 Residual standard error: 114 on 34 degrees of freedom

(144 observations deleted due to missingness)

Multiple R-squared: 0.4638, Adjusted R-squared: 0.448

F-statistic: 29.41 on 1 and 34 DF, p-value: 4.847e-06



# Nonviolent Crime

#### TREE COVER VS VIOLENT CRIME

#### Call:

 $Im(formula = nonviolcrime \sim tree, data = df)$ 

#### Residuals:

Min 1Q Median 3Q Max -507.8 -444.9 -232.8 465.4 797.5

#### Coefficients:

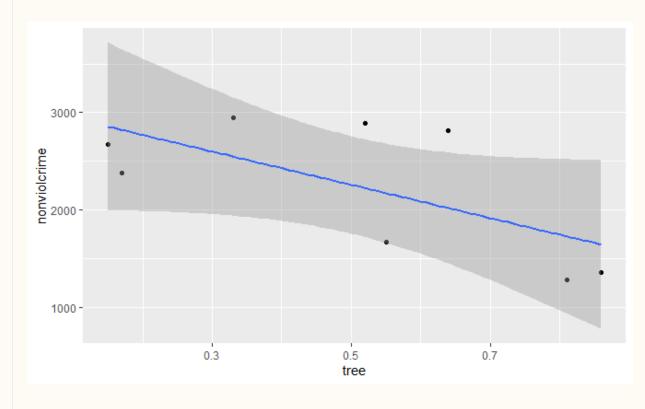
Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|) (Intercept) 3112.1 457.4 6.804 0.000494 \*\*\* tree -1706.9 811.9 -2.102 0.080236 .

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Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 578.9 on 6 degrees of freedom Multiple R-squared: 0.4241, Adjusted R-squared: 0.3282

F-statistic: 4.419 on 1 and 6 DF, p-value: 0.08024



# **Nonviolent Crime**

#### TEMPERATURE VS VIOLENT CRIME

#### Call:

lm(formula = Nonviolent ~ F\_temp, data =
STATE CRIME DATA)

#### Residuals:

Min 1Q Median 3Q Max -2095.62 -638.18 53.61 769.90 1626.45

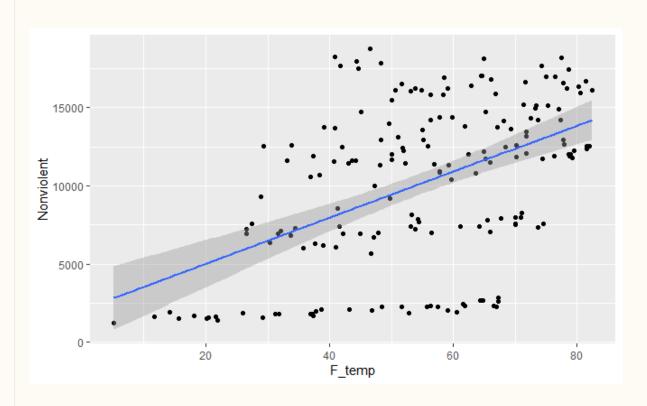
#### Coefficients:

Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|) (Intercept) 9305.820 568.684 16.36 < 2e-16 \*\*\* F\_temp 71.758 9.803 7.32 1.76e-08 \*\*\*

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 883.7 on 34 degrees of freedom (144 observations deleted due to missingness)

Multiple R-squared: 0.6118, Adjusted R-squared: 0.6004 F-statistic: 53.58 on 1 and 34 DF, p-value: 1.765e-08



### Conclusion

- For both Violent and Non-Violent Crimes, increasing temperatures have shown higher rates of crime rates based on data collected. Both linear regressions had a positive correlation between increases in temperature and Violent and Non-violent crime rates.
- While for it was an opposite result for tree coverage, states with higher tree cover coverage showed a lower rate of crime in both Violent and Non-Violent Crimes. Linear regressions for both Violent and Non-Violent crimes with tree coverage supported this claim showing that increased tree coverage decreased the rate of crime.

