

## Now a ridiculous book!

- Spurious charts
- Fascinating factoids
- Commentary in the footnotes

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Hanging suicides

US spending on science

# US spending on science, space, and technology correlates with Suicides by hanging, strangulation and suffocation

Correlation: 99.79% (r=0.99789126)

Hanging suicides

US spending on science

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005  
2006  
2007  
2008  
2009  
6000 suicides  
8000 suicides  
4000 suicides  
10000 suicides  
\$15 billion  
\$20 billion  
\$25 billion  
\$30 billion

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Data sources: [U.S. Office of Management and Budget](#) and [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#)

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Nicholas Cage  
Swimming pool drownings

# Number of people who drowned by falling into a pool correlates with Films Nicolas Cage appeared in

Correlation: 66.6% (r=0.666004)

Nicholas Cage  
Swimming pool drownings

1999  
2000  
2001  
2002  
2003  
2004  
2005  
2006  
2007  
2008  
2009  
1999  
2000  
2001  
2002  
2003  
2004  
2005

2006  
2007  
2008  
2009  
0 films  
2 films  
4 films  
6 films  
80 drownings  
100 drownings  
120 drownings  
140 drownings

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Data sources: [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#) and [Internet Movie Database](#)

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Bedsheet tanglings  
Cheese consumed

Per capita cheese consumption correlates with  
Number of people who died by becoming  
tangled in their bedsheets

Correlation: 94.71% (r=0.947091)

Bedsheet tanglings  
Cheese consumed

2000  
2001  
2002  
2003  
2004  
2005  
2006  
2007  
2008  
2009  
2000  
2001  
2002  
2003  
2004  
2005  
2006  
2007  
2008  
2009

200 deaths  
400 deaths  
600 deaths  
800 deaths  
28.5lbs  
30lbs  
31.5lbs  
33lbs

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Data sources: [U.S. Department of Agriculture](#) and [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#)

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Margarine consumed  
Divorce rate in Maine

# Divorce rate in Maine correlates with Per capita consumption of margarine

Correlation: 99.26% (r=0.992558)

Margarine consumed  
Divorce rate in Maine

2000  
2001  
2002  
2003  
2004  
2005  
2006  
2007  
2008  
2009  
2000  
2001  
2002  
2003  
2004  
2005  
2006  
2007  
2008  
2009  
2lbs  
4lbs  
6lbs  
8lbs  
3.96 per 1,000

4.29 per 1,000  
4.62 per 1,000  
4.95 per 1,000

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Data sources: [National Vital Statistics Reports](#) and [U.S. Department of Agriculture](#)

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Murders by steam

Age of Miss America

# Age of Miss America correlates with Murders by steam, hot vapours and hot objects

Correlation: 87.01% (r=0.870127)

Murders by steam

Age of Miss America

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2 murders

4 murders

6 murders

8 murders

18.75 yrs

20 yrs

21.25 yrs

22.5 yrs

23.75 yrs

25 yrs

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Data sources: [Wikipedia](#) and [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#)

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Computer science doctorates

Arcade revenue

# Total revenue generated by arcades correlates with Computer science doctorates awarded in the US

Correlation: 98.51% (r=0.985065)

Computer science doctorates

Arcade revenue

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

500 degrees

1000 degrees

1500 degrees

2000 degrees

\$1 billion

\$1.25 billion

\$1.5 billion

\$1.75 billion

\$2 billion

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Data sources: [U.S. Census Bureau](#) and [National Science Foundation](#)

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Sociology doctorates awarded (US)

Worldwide non-commercial space launches

# Worldwide non-commercial space launches correlates with Sociology doctorates awarded (US)

Correlation: 78.92% (r=0.78915)

Sociology doctorates awarded (US)

Worldwide non-commercial space launches

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

500 Degrees awarded

550 Degrees awarded

600 Degrees awarded

650 Degrees awarded

700 Degrees awarded

40 Launches

50 Launches

30 Launches

60 Launches

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Data sources: [Federal Aviation Administration](#) and [National Science Foundation](#)

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Engineering doctorates

Mozzarella cheese consumption

# Per capita consumption of mozzarella cheese correlates with Civil engineering doctorates awarded

Correlation: 95.86% (r=0.958648)

Engineering doctorates

Mozzarella cheese consumption

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

400 degrees

600 degrees

800 degrees

1000 degrees

9lbs

10lbs

11lbs

12lbs

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Data sources: [U.S. Department of Agriculture](#) and [National Science Foundation](#)



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Kentucky marriages

Fishing boat deaths

# People who drowned after falling out of a fishing boat correlates with Marriage rate in Kentucky

Correlation: 95.24% (r=0.952407)

Kentucky marriages

Fishing boat deaths

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

7 per 1,000

8 per 1,000

9 per 1,000

10 per 1,000

11 per 1,000

0 deaths

10 deaths

20 deaths

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Data sources: [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#) and [National Vital Statistics](#)

[Reports](#)

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Railway train collisions

US crude oil imports from Norway

US crude oil imports from Norway correlates with Drivers killed in collision with railway train

Correlation: 95.45% (r=0.954509)

Railway train collisions

US crude oil imports from Norway

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

40 deaths

60 deaths

80 deaths

100 deaths

0 million barrels

50 million barrels

100 million barrels

150 million barrels

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Data sources: [Dept. of Energy](#) and [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#)

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Crude oil imports

Chicken consumed

# Per capita consumption of chicken correlates with Total US crude oil imports

Correlation: 89.99% (r=0.899899)

Crude oil imports

Chicken consumed

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

3.2B barrels

3.4B barrels

3.6B barrels

3.8B barrels

60lbs

50lbs

55lbs

65lbs

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Data sources: [U.S. Department of Agriculture](#) and [Dept. of Energy](#).

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Nuclear power plants

Swimming-pool drownings

# Number people who drowned while in a swimming-pool correlates with Power generated by US nuclear power plants

Correlation: 90.12% (r=0.901179)

Nuclear power plants  
Swimming-pool drownings

1999  
2000  
2001  
2002  
2003  
2004  
2005  
2006  
2007  
2008  
2009  
1999  
2000  
2001  
2002  
2003  
2004  
2005  
2006  
2007  
2008  
2009  
700 BkWh  
750 BkWh  
800 BkWh  
850 BkWh  
400 deaths  
500 deaths  
600 deaths  
700 deaths

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Data sources: [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#) and [Dept. of Energy](#)

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Suicides by crashing  
Japanese cars sold

# Japanese passenger cars sold in the US

correlates with **Suicides by crashing of motor vehicle**

Correlation: 93.57% (r=0.935701)

**Suicides by crashing**

**Japanese cars sold**

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

80 suicides

100 suicides

120 suicides

140 suicides

600 thousand cars

800 thousand cars

1000 thousand cars

1200 thousand cars

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Data sources: [U.S. Bureau of Transportation Statistics](#) and [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#)

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Number of people killed by venomous spiders

Spelling Bee winning word

# Letters in Winning Word of Scripps National Spelling Bee correlates with Number of people killed by venomous spiders

Correlation: 80.57% (r=0.8057)

Number of people killed by venomous spiders

Spelling Bee winning word

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

0 deaths

5 deaths

10 deaths

15 deaths

5 letters

10 letters

15 letters

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Data sources: [National Spelling Bee](#) and [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#)

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Uranium US power plants

Math doctorates

# Math doctorates awarded correlates with

# Uranium stored at US nuclear power plants

Correlation: 95.23% (r=0.952257)

**Uranium US power plants**

**Math doctorates**

1996

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

1996

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

40 million pounds

60 million pounds

80 million pounds

100 million pounds

800 degrees

1200 degrees

1600 degrees

2000 degrees

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Data sources: [National Science Foundation](#) and [Dept. of Energy](#)

- Spurious charts
- Fascinating factoids
- Commentary in the footnotes

[Amazon](#) | [Barnes & Noble](#) | [Indie Bound](#)

## 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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