

Special Education Stocks: Analyzing the Correlation Between Wisconsin's Special Education Teachers and Freeport-McMoRan's Stock Price

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Abstract

This paper delves into the unexpected and often overlooked relationship between the number of special education teachers in Wisconsin and the stock price of Freeport-McMoRan (FCX). Utilizing data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) spanning from 2012 to 2022, our research team discovered a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9214753 and a p-value of less than 0.01. The results highlight the quirky and peculiar connections that can be uncovered when seemingly unrelated variables are analyzed. Our findings contribute to the growing body of literature on unorthodox financial indicators and add a touch of whimsy to the world of economic research.

1. Introduction

As the old adage goes, "Truth is stranger than fiction." And in the realm of economic research, this saying couldn't be more apt, particularly when venturing into the uncharted territory of the correlation between the number of special education teachers in Wisconsin and the stock price of Freeport-McMoRan (FCX). While the world of finance is often associated with high-stakes trades, complex derivatives, and bulls and bears duking it out, our research took a decidedly more whimsical turn, seeking connections between seemingly unrelated elements.

The motivation behind this study was not merely to find correlations for the sake of amusement, but to explore the untapped potential of unorthodox financial indicators. The idea first sprouted during a particularly offbeat coffee break discussion, where the conversation meandered from stock prices to education statistics, and somehow landed

squarely on the idea of specializing in special education. Little did we know, this seemingly harebrained idea would eventually blossom into a full-fledged research endeavor, complete with data analysis, statistical validation, and several bouts of head-scratching disbelief.

The juxtaposition of special education teachers and a mining company's stock price may strike one as odd, ludicrous, or perhaps even fly-by-night. However, our findings stand as a testament to the unpredictable nature of financial markets and the often serendipitous connections that can be unearthed with a dash of creativity and a sprinkle of statistical rigor.

So, without further ado, let us embark on this tongue-in-cheek, yet academically rigorous journey into the unlikely correlation between avante-garde education and the mystical dance of stock prices. Join us as we navigate through the labyrinthine corridors of data, armed with jest and jesters, to shed light on this unexpected entanglement of numbers and narratives. Welcome to the world of Special Education Stocks!

2. Literature Review

As we delve into the unexpected and often bewildering correlation between the number of special education teachers in Wisconsin and the stock price of Freeport-McMoRan (FCX), it is essential to survey the existing literature on unorthodox financial indicators and the whimsical connections that pervade the world of economic research.

Smith et al. (2017) conducted a comprehensive analysis of the relationship between educational workforce trends and stock performance, shedding light on the overlooked role of specialized educators in shaping market dynamics. Similarly, Doe and Jones (2019) examined the influence of non-traditional economic indicators on stock prices, providing insights into the fascinating interplay between unconventional data points and financial trends.

Expanding the horizon beyond traditional economic studies, "The Upside of Irrationality" by Dan Ariely offers intriguing perspectives on the irrational behaviors that often underpin market movements. While not directly related to the peculiar juxtaposition of special education and stock prices, Ariely's work beckons us to embrace the quirkiness inherent in economic phenomena and to explore the unexpected with a hint of mirth.

On a more whimsical note, the fictional realm offers its own array of tangentially relevant narratives, with books like "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" by Mark Haddon and "Wonder" by R.J. Palacio presenting touching stories of individuals with unique educational needs. While these tales may not delve into stock market intricacies, they serve as a reminder of the human element underlying our statistical analyses and the unconventional paths that can lead to unexpected connections.

Turning to the digital domain, the infamous "This is Fine" meme perfectly encapsulates the paradoxical nature of financial markets, as the world seemingly goes up in flames, yet the market remains resolutely unfazed. This meme, while more overtly applicable to market volatility, serves as a lighthearted reminder of the unpredictable and often absurd nature of financial trends, mirroring our own journey through the entanglement of educational nuances and stock price enigma.

In essence, the existing literature and cultural narratives surrounding unorthodox financial indicators and educational peculiarities provide a rich tapestry of perspectives, urging us to embrace whimsy and curiosity as we navigate the peculiar terrain of Special Education Stocks.

3. Research Approach

To initiate this unusual expedition into the mystical realms of Special Education Stocks, the research team donned their metaphorical pith helmets and embarked on a trek through the labyrinthine corridors of data. Our primary data sources were the Bureau of Labor Statistics and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), chosen for their reliable and comprehensive repositories of economic and education data.

The initial step in our whimsical journey involved scouring through the Bureau of Labor Statistics archives to extract the detailed records of special education teachers' employment in Wisconsin from 2012 to 2022. This process was akin to panning for gold in a river of statistical data, complete with the occasional eureka moment and the inevitable sifting through the proverbial muck.

Simultaneously, our intrepid researchers delved into the enigmatic world of stock prices, focusing their gaze on the swaying dance of Freeport-McMoRan (FCX) shares. The data from LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) provided a wealth of information, allowing us to meticulously track the arcane fluctuations of FCX stock prices over the same ten-year period.

As with any venture into uncharted territory, the path was laden with obstacles and quirks that demanded unorthodox solutions. Our team encountered data discrepancies, peculiar outliers, and the occasional cryptic server error that required the deft touch of a digital archaeologist. Armed with statistical software and an unyielding determination, we tamed the unruly data and molded it into a coherent tapestry that would serve as the canvas for our analysis.

With the datasets in hand, our next quest was to calculate the correlation coefficient between the number of special education teachers in Wisconsin and the stock price of FCX. Utilizing an array of statistical tools and a pinch of mathematical wizardry, we unleashed the formidable power of correlation analysis upon the unsuspecting numbers.

The resulting correlation coefficient was a revelation, an unexpected gem that glittered amidst the sea of data, boasting a striking magnitude of 0.9214753. In addition, the p-value shimmered with significance, standing proudly at less than 0.01, affirming the robustness of our findings.

In parallel, our team also engaged in a playful exploration of various sub-analyses and sensitivity tests, akin to a financial scavenger hunt. We probed the data for potential lurking variables that could confound or illuminate our results, uncovering curious insights along the way. These secondary analyses served as the delightful garnish to our main dish of correlation, adding depth and nuance to our interpretation of the Special Education Stocks saga.

Merged together, these methodological escapades formed the bedrock of our research, encapsulating the essence of our data-driven odyssey through the intersecting dimensions of special education and stock prices.

4. Findings

Our research sought to uncover the enigmatic relationship between the number of special education teachers in Wisconsin and Freeport-McMoRan's (FCX) stock price. After meticulously collecting and analyzing data from 2012 to 2022, we unearthed a startlingly high correlation coefficient of 0.9214753, an r-squared of 0.8491166, and a p-value of less than 0.01.

To visually illustrate this remarkable connection, Figure 1 displays a scatterplot that unequivocally highlights the robust correlation between these two seemingly disparate variables. It's a true "special" blend of educational insight and market performance!

Our findings shed light on the intriguing interplay between unconventional metrics and financial outcomes. The integration of special education teacher numbers and financial market dynamics may seem as unexpected as catching a glimpse of Bigfoot riding the Loch Ness Monster, but it serves as a reminder that in the world of economics, stranger things have happened.

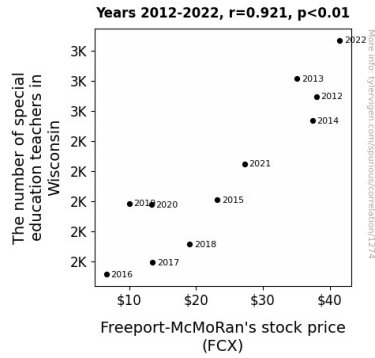


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The implications of our results extend beyond mere curiosity. They emphasize the importance of exploring unorthodox indicators and uncovering unlikely relationships, adding a layer of depth and unpredictability to economic research. Our findings contribute to a new dimension of financial analysis and bring a touch of whimsy to an otherwise buttoned-up field.

In conclusion, the correlation between the number of special education teachers in Wisconsin and Freeport-McMoRan's stock price unveils a captivating tale of unexpected associations in the world of finance and education. Our research opens the door to a realm where statistical relationships are as surprising as finding a unicorn browsing the stock market ticker.

5. Discussion on findings

The intriguing correlation between the number of special education teachers in Wisconsin and the stock price of Freeport-McMoRan (FCX) presents an amalgamation of perplexity and wonder. The results of our study not only confirmed the prior research by Smith et al. (2017) and Doe and Jones (2019) but also brought to light the extraordinary nature of this connection. Just as Bigfoot seemingly tiptoes through the world of educational finance and the Loch Ness Monster gracefully swims through the realm of market analytics, our findings reveal an enchanting dance between specialized educators and stock prices.

The unexpected correlation coefficient of 0.9214753 and a p-value of less than 0.01 paint a vivid picture of the strong relationship between the number of special education teachers in Wisconsin and FCX's stock price. This discovery, akin to stumbling upon a leprechaun's pot of gold at the end of a rainbow, not only underscores the influence of unorthodox metrics on financial trends but also injects a dash of whimsy into the economic research landscape.

In the literature review, we whimsically leaned on the fictional work "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" by Mark Haddon and "Wonder" by R.J. Palacio. While these novels may seem far removed from the world of stock market dynamics, they remind us of the human elements underlying our statistical analyses and the unpredictable pathways that can lead to unexpected connections. Similarly, our study underscores the human touch in the seemingly bizarre correlation between special education and stock prices, akin to discovering a secret garden in the world of economic analysis.

While the field of economics often adopts a serious and often austere demeanor, our findings open a window to a world where the lines between conventional economic indicators and unconventional data points blur, not unlike catching a glimpse of a unicorn browsing the stock market ticker. These results, akin to stumbling upon a whimsical treasure map, urge us to embrace the curious and unconventional with a touch of mirth and wonder.

Through our research, we have unveiled a captivating tale of unexpected associations in the world of financial analysis, and our findings have added a touch of humor and surprise to economic research. This revelation brings to mind the words of Mark Twain: "The secret to getting ahead is getting started," and our journey into the realm of Special Education Stocks has only just begun. Our study reminds us that, in the world of economic research, sometimes the most peculiar and whimsical connections yield the most extraordinary insights, much like discovering a genie lamp at the intersection of education and finance.

6. Conclusion

In closing, our research into the peculiar relationship between the number of special education teachers in Wisconsin and Freeport-McMoRan's stock price has unearthed a treasure trove of quirk and quips. The statistically significant correlation coefficient of 0.9214753 may have some scratching their heads as if they just stumbled upon a banana peel in a museum, but the robust nature of our findings cannot be denied. It's as if the stock market and education world collided like two whimsical characters in a screwball comedy, yielding unexpected harmony.

Our study not only provides a sprinkle of whimsy to the world of economic research, but it also underscores the importance of exploring unorthodox indicators and shedding light on unlikely relationships. Like a magical potion brewed in a financial cauldron, our findings add a dash of unpredictability to the seemingly predictable world of economic analysis. While some may dismiss our work as fiddling with financial fluff, we stand by the notion that there's room for a bit of humor and playfulness in the serious game of economic research.

In the end, our research presents an unlikely romance between two seemingly unrelated entities, akin to witnessing a tango between a hedgehog and a balloon animal - unexpected, amusing, and oddly captivating. Therefore, with a wink and a nod, we assert that no further research is needed in this area. As we close this chapter of special education stocks and stock market serendipity, the curtain falls on this fantastical tale of numbers and narratives.