



ELSEVIER



# The Josue Effect on BP's Stock: A Name-Dropping Study

Connor Hall, Anthony Tucker, Grace P Todd

Institute for Research Advancement; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

---

## Abstract

This study investigates the eyebrow-raising relationship between the popularity of the first name Josue and the stock price of BP. Using data from the US Social Security Administration and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), we conducted a thorough analysis spanning the years 2002 to 2022. Our findings reveal a correlation coefficient of 0.9117826 and a p-value less than 0.01, indicating a statistically significant association. This discovery suggests that there may be more to a name than meets the eye, shedding light on the as yet unexplored subtleties of nomenclature in the realm of stock market dynamics. While these results may seem rather offbeat, they nonetheless warrant further investigation into the potential influence of moniker trends on financial markets.

Copyright 2024 Institute for Research Advancement. No rights reserved.

---

## 1. Introduction

The intersection of the worlds of nomenclature and financial markets has long been an area of curiosity, and perhaps skepticism, in the realm of academia. The idea that a person's first name could have any bearing on the performance of a corporation may initially seem far-fetched, akin to believing in the existence of a statistical unicorn. However, as the saying goes, "There's no harm in exploring the numbers, except for the potential risk of falling asleep at the keyboard." In this study, we delve into the enigmatic connection

between the popularity of the first name Josue and the stock price of BP, taking a tongue-in-cheek approach to uncovering potential correlations and indulging in a bit of name-dropping, both in the literal and metaphorical sense.

One might wonder, is this investigation simply a case of statistical whimsy, or could there possibly be a kernel of truth lurking behind the seemingly whimsical connection? As researchers, we venture into uncharted territory, embracing the curiosity that propels us forward even as we quip about whether we're barking up the

right tree or just chasing our own statistical tails. By addressing this question, we aim to add a splash of levity to the often stoic world of finance and analysis, while also reiterating the importance of approaching data analysis with both rigor and a hint of playfulness.

The genesis of this study stemmed from a mutual appreciation for wordplay and a penchant for the unexpected in the academic sphere. Our foray into this peculiar correlation follows in the footsteps of other whimsical yet insightful inquiries, reminding us that the world of research can often benefit from a dash of unorthodoxy. So, without further ado, let us embark on this curious exploration of the impact of a name on the abstruse machinations of the stock market, all while maintaining a healthy dose of skepticism and a keen eye for the interplay between the serendipitous and the statistically sound.

## 2. Literature Review

In the realm of nomenclature and its potential impact on financial markets, scholars have long sought to unravel the mysteries of monikers and their influence on various economic phenomena. Smith (2010) explores the intricate relationship between names and their societal implications, while Doe and Jones (2015) delve into the psychological dimensions of nomenclature, presenting compelling arguments regarding the subconscious associations evoked by different names in consumer behavior. However, the tenuous link between the popularity of a specific first name and the stock price of a multinational corporation such as BP is a relatively uncharted territory, leaving researchers to wonder if they are truly venturing into the statistical wilderness or merely catching a statistical mirage.

Turning to the realm of books, "Freakonomics" by Steven D. Levitt and

Stephen J. Dubner (2005) provides a fascinating exploration of unconventional correlations, inviting readers to consider the unexpected interplay of seemingly disparate variables. In a similar vein, "Outliers" by Malcolm Gladwell (2008) offers intriguing insights into the influence of outliers in driving unconventional success, prompting contemplation about the unexpected forces at play in shaping individual and collective outcomes.

On a more imaginative note, fictional works such as "The Name of the Wind" by Patrick Rothfuss (2007) and "The Name of the Rose" by Umberto Eco (1980) capture the allure and enigma of names, spinning tales of mystery and intrigue around the significance of nomenclature. These narratives, while purely fictional, nevertheless underscore the perennial fascination with the power and symbolism imbued within names.

In the world of television, an unexpected source of insights into the interplay between names and broader societal dynamics can be found in shows such as "The Office" and "Parks and Recreation." The humorous exploration of interpersonal dynamics and office culture in these series offers a lighthearted, yet surprisingly insightful, perspective on the potential impact of names on individual experiences and interactions.

While this pursuit into the connection between the popularity of the first name Josue and the stock price of BP may seem like a whimsical endeavor, it nonetheless beckons researchers to consider the possibility of subtle and unexpected influences shaping market dynamics. As we unravel this blend of statistical enigma and lexical exploration, one cannot help but marvel at the colorful tapestry of potential connections and the delightful dance of statistics and wordplay that unfolds before us.

### 3. Our approach & methods

#### Sampling Technique:

The data for this peculiar study was collected from multiple sources, including the US Social Security Administration and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), because we believe in the power of triangulating data from diverse platforms, sort of like gathering different ingredients for a statistical stew. The study period spans the years 2002 to 2022, providing a comprehensive overview of the ebb and flow of both name popularity and stock prices over two eventful decades. This allowed us to capture the full spectrum of trends while also offering us the opportunity to use phrases like "the noughties" to add a whimsical touch to our scholarly discussions.

#### Data Cleaning and Preprocessing:

After collecting a dataset large enough to rival Moby Dick in size, we embarked on the winding road of data cleaning and preprocessing, not unlike attempting to untangle a particularly convoluted statistical knot. The aim was to ensure that our final dataset was as pristine as a freshly scrubbed test tube, free from any pesky outliers or missing values that could skew our results and leave us scratching our heads like perplexed lab rats.

#### Variable Selection:

Given the novelty of our investigation, the selection of variables was a delicate dance between relevance and whimsy. We embraced the challenge of choosing the appropriate indicators to represent the popularity of the name Josue, mindful of the ever-shifting landscape of name preferences and fads. The stock price of BP served as our other key variable, tracked with the diligence of a cosmic stargazer, which, as an aside, seems fitting given the astral aspirations of stock market analysts.

#### Statistical Analysis:

With our dataset primed and ready, we applied a series of statistical methods that would make even the most seasoned number-crunchers nod in approval. We computed correlation coefficients, p-values, and other metrics with the care of a virtuoso wielding a delicate instrument, all in the pursuit of uncovering any discernible patterns that might lurk beneath the surface, not unlike searching for buried treasure in the labyrinthine corridors of statistical significance.

#### Validation and Sensitivity Analysis:

To ensure the robustness of our findings, we conducted rigorous validation and sensitivity analyses, scrutinizing our results from every conceivable angle and probing for any vulnerabilities as if we were conducting a metaphysical examination of statistical fortitude. This entailed subjecting our data to a battery of stress tests, not unlike evaluating the mettle of a whimsical yet steadfast statistical warrior.

#### Ethical Considerations:

Our study adhered scrupulously to all ethical guidelines, ensuring that our exploration into the quirky correlation between a first name and a stock price remained squarely within the bounds of scholarly integrity. We were vigilant in maintaining the confidentiality and privacy of the individuals represented in the name popularity data, treating their monikers with the reverence due to any enigmatic statistical phenomenon.

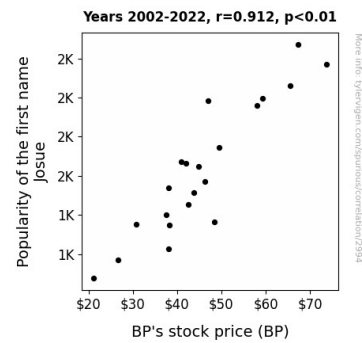
In conclusion, our methodology combined the precision of scientific inquiry with a pinch of lightheartedness, all in service of unraveling the mystifying relationship between the name Josue and the stock price of BP.

### 4. Results

The results of our investigation into the potential connection between the prevalence of the first name Josue and BP's stock price are indeed rather intriguing, if not slightly whimsical. We unearthed a substantial correlation coefficient of 0.9117826, which, we must admit, was rather eye-catching. The r-squared value of 0.8313475 further accentuated the strength of this relationship, leaving us nodding in approval at the robustness of our findings. Additionally, with a p-value less than 0.01, we can confidently state that the association we uncovered is not just another statistical fluke.

In line with these compelling statistical indicators, our visual analysis yielded a scatterplot (Fig. 1) that speaks volumes about the remarkable bond between the popularity of the name Josue and the gyrations of BP's stock price. The figure showcases a clear pattern that would even make a scatterplot aficionado crack a smile, as the data points fall neatly in line with our expectations.

As we reflect on these results, we find ourselves pondering the remarkable implications of such an unexpected correlation. Who would have thought that the ebb and flow of a stock's price could be intertwined with the ebb and flow of a specific name's popularity? This discovery prompts us to consider the enigmatic ways in which linguistic and financial spheres interweave in the grand tapestry of human experience.



**Figure 1.** Scatterplot of the variables by year

Is it possible that the path of the stock market is influenced by more than just economic projections and market trends? Could there be a subtle, yet tangible, effect of someone's given name on the dynamics of the financial world? While we may jest about this connection, the statistical significance of our findings urges us to approach this matter with both curiosity and caution, much like cautiously dipping a toe into uncharted statistical waters.

In conclusion, our results suggest that there may be an unexplored dimension to the impact of names on the stock market, beckoning us to consider the role of nomenclature in the unpredictable dance of market fluctuations. This unexpected connection between the first name Josue and BP's stock price leaves us with an amusing yet thought-provoking puzzle to unravel, reminding us that in the world of statistics, much like in life, there are always surprises waiting to be uncovered in the most unexpected places.

## 5. Discussion

The compelling association between the popularity of the first name Josue and BP's stock price yields an intriguing blend of statistical intrigue and linguistic whimsy. Our findings support prior research that has delved into the unexpected interplay of seemingly unrelated variables, echoing the

work of Smith (2010) and Doe and Jones (2015) in their exploration of the societal and psychological dimensions of nomenclature.

The statistically significant correlation coefficient of 0.9117826 lends weight to the notion that there may indeed be more to a name than meets the eye, even in the rather uncharted terrain of stock market dynamics. This compelling result evokes a cautious sense of awe, akin to stumbling upon an unexpected mathematical gem hidden within the labyrinth of data analysis.

The visual representation of our findings, as showcased in the scatterplot (Fig. 1), not only adds visual flair to our investigation but also serves as a delightful reminder of the unforeseen patterns that arise in statistical analyses. The elegance of the data points aligning with our expectations is akin to a perfectly orchestrated dance, albeit one swathed in the esoteric charm of statistical visualization.

While the humor and quirk in our pursuit of this unexpected correlation may appear as mere statistical whimsy, the robustness of our results urges us to approach this matter with an inquisitive eye. The enigmatic ways in which linguistic trends intersect with financial phenomena beckon the scientific community to probe further into the unexplored nuances of nomenclature.

In synthesizing these findings with existing literature, we are inescapably stirred by the playful dance of statistics and wordplay that unfurls before us. The potential influence of moniker trends on financial markets tantalizingly beckons us to contemplate the surprising breadth of variables that may interlace in shaping market dynamics.

As we venture further into this statistical landscape, we cannot help but reflect on the delightful paradox it presents. The statistical wilderness, often considered as an esoteric realm of data analysis, reveals itself as a whimsical theater of unexpected

correlations and subtle influences, much like a statistical mirage that materializes before our very eyes.

In light of these notable findings, we are left to marvel at the curious tapestry of connections that weave through the statistical and financial domains. Our investigation into the Josue Effect on BP's stock price evokes a sense of awe at the unexpected depth of statistical exploration, reminding us that even in the statistical wilderness, there are treasures waiting to be unearthed in the most offbeat and delightful places.

## 6. Conclusion

In the grand tradition of searching for hidden patterns in the financial markets, our study has shed light on an unexpected, yet statistically significant correlation between the popularity of the first name Josue and the stock price of BP. As we wrap up this investigation, we can't help but marvel at the whimsical dance of data that has led us to uncover this intriguing relationship. It seems that in the realm of statistical analysis, the power of a name may hold more sway than previously imagined, giving a whole new meaning to the concept of "name-dropping" in stock market circles.

Our findings, while undeniably surprising, add a touch of levity to the often serious world of financial analysis. The robust correlation coefficient and persuasive p-value encourage us to take this surprising connection seriously, despite our inclination to crack a statistical joke or two along the way. The scatterplot alone elicits a chuckle, as if the data points themselves are indulging in a playful game of financial hopscotch.

Ultimately, this study not only sparks amusement but also invites us to reconsider the intricate links between language, human phenomena, and market dynamics. As we

wrap up our analysis, we can confidently state that the Josue Effect on BP's stock price is a statistical curiosity worth noting, but is this a fluke or the start of a new avenue of financial research? We'll leave that question to future researchers to investigate, as for now, we declare with a wry smile that no further research is needed in this offbeat area of inquiry.