

THE COOPER CONNECTION: ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF THE NAME COOPER ON HESS CORPORATION'S STOCK PRICE

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In this paper, we delve into the curious connection between the popularity of the first name "Cooper" and its impact on the stock price of the Hess Corporation (HES). We embrace the pun-tential of this study to shed light on the stock market dynamics. Our research team utilized data from the US Social Security Administration and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) to analyze the association between the name "Cooper" and Hess Corporation's stock performance from 2002 to 2022, quizzically asking whether a name can "drill" its way into stock movements. Our findings revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.8103589 and a p-value less than 0.01, suggesting a robust and statistically significant relationship between the popularity of the name "Cooper" and Hess Corporation's stock price. This correlation raises the question: could a name truly impact corporate fortunes, or is it merely a "Copper-nickel" coincidence? To add some levity to the discussion, we couldn't resist, because, you know, Hess is in the oil and gas business. Finally, we tinker with the possibility of a "Cooper Effect" on stock market behavior, pondering whether other names might also have an influence. Our study contributes to the scholarly dialogue on the whimsical interplay between nomenclature and financial markets, providing both amusement and insight to researchers and investors alike. After all, what's a research paper without a few clever twists and a bit of tongue-in-cheek humor?

The connection between names and destiny has been a perennial topic of interest, as people have long pondered the potential influence of nomenclature on one's path in life. In the realm of finance, however, the notion that a person's name could impact the stock price of a corporation may seem far-fetched. Nevertheless, our investigation aims to unravel the peculiar correlation between the popularity of the first name "Cooper" and the stock price of the Hess Corporation (HES). It's a study that truly "Coop"-erates with the unexpected.

The inspiration for this research emerged from a jesting comment during a coffee break, where a colleague quipped, "I wonder if the popularity of the name 'Cooper' is somehow linked to the stock

performance of Hess Corporation. After all, it's all about barrels of oil and 'Cooper'-age, isn't it?" Little did we realize, this jest born from caffeinated banter would ultimately lead to a rigorous examination of the data to ascertain whether there was more than mere "barrel"ly a connection between the two entities.

To embark on the investigation, data from the US Social Security Administration and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) were leveraged to conduct a comprehensive analysis spanning two decades. The correlation unearthed between the popularity of the name "Cooper" and the stock performance of Hess Corporation was nothing short of remarkable. It makes one wonder if

there's a "Cooper-ate conspiracy" at play in the stock market.

Our findings are not just a testament to the potential impact of a name on the financial sphere but also a reminder not to underestimate the significance of seemingly trivial factors. After all, as they say, "the Devil's in the details," or should we say, "the Copperhead is in the HES stock price"? We couldn't resist that one!

LITERATURE REVIEW

The study of the correlation between personal names and various aspects of life has a long and rich tradition in research. In "Smith et al.'s study," the authors find a link between the popularity of certain names and career choices, suggesting that one's name may hold subtle influences on life decisions. Similarly, Doe's research delves into the impact of names on social interactions and self-perception, revealing intriguing insights into the psychology of nomenclature.

But, as we transition from serious research to some delightful puns, let's not forget that it's all in good "Cooper"-ation, isn't it?

In "The Power of Names" by Alfred Pounder, the author explores the significance of names in shaping identity and perception, raising thought-provoking questions about the influence of nomenclature on societal roles. This book will have you saying, "I 'Cooper'ate with the pun power of names!"

On the fictional side, "The Cooper Conundrum" by Penelope Page presents an imaginative tale where a character named Cooper finds himself embroiled in a stock market mystery. Though fictitious, the story aptly captures the allure of unexpected connections and mysterious influences, much like our own exploration into the "Cooper" conundrum.

In an attempt to inject a bit of levity into our literature review, it's rumored that Dr. Seuss's "The Cooper Chronicles" contains

hidden secrets about stock market fluctuations and the whimsical impact of names. But don't take our word for it. We might have conducted this literature review by deciphering the coded messages hidden in CVS receipts. After all, who's to say where real academic insight begins and Dr. Seuss's rhymes end?

METHODOLOGY

To humorously explore the connection between the popularity of the name "Cooper" and Hess Corporation's stock price (HES), we meticulously crafted a zany but scientifically sound research methodology. Our goal was to paint an accurate and intriguing picture of this curious correlation, without making our methods as antic as a clown car.

First, we scoured the vast expanse of the internet, venturing into the wild, wild web like intrepid explorers on a quest for data gold. We tapped into the treasure troves of the US Social Security Administration's historical records and delved into the labyrinths of LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) to extract the necessary data. It was akin to maneuvering through a jungle of numbers and statistics, armed only with our wit and a strong internet connection.

Next, we sauntered into the realm of statistical analysis, armed with a trusty calculator and a plethora of software tools. We tallied the occurrences of the name "Cooper" and scrutinized Hess Corporation's stock performance with the fervor of a detective hot on the trail of a stock market mystery. It was a bit like solving a financial puzzle, except the pieces were named "Cooper" and "HES" instead of "Clue" and "Monopoly money."

We then employed a series of complex statistical tests, including the correlation coefficient calculation and hypothesis testing, to unearth the relationship between the name "Cooper" and the stock price of Hess Corporation. It's worth

noting that these tests were conducted with the utmost seriousness, despite the occasional urge to slip in a "Cooper-tino" joke to amuse the research team.

In addition, we indulged in the creation of visually appealing graphs and charts, designed to liven up the presentation of our findings and add a sprinkle of pizzazz to the otherwise serious realm of finance and nomenclature. We aimed to make the data as visually enticing as a museum exhibit, minus the ominous "Do Not Touch" signs.

Finally, to validate our findings and ensure the robustness of our conclusions, we enlisted the help of a panel of expert statisticians and finance gurus. Their rigorous review and feedback provided a valuable layer of quality control, akin to having a team of "Cooper-pilots" navigating the treacherous terrain of empirical research.

With these methods in place, we embarked on a scholarly adventure to unravel the mysterious "Cooper Effect" and its impact on Hess Corporation's stock price, armed with wit, whimsy, and a passion for uncovering unlikely connections.

RESULTS

The correlation analysis between the popularity of the first name "Cooper" and the stock price of the Hess Corporation (HES) from 2002 to 2022 produced a correlation coefficient of 0.8103589, with an r-squared of 0.6566816, and a p-value less than 0.01. This correlation suggests a strong, positive relationship between the two variables, leaving us to wonder if naming your child Cooper might just be the ultimate stock tip.

Figure 1 presents a scatterplot illustrating the compelling correlation between the popularity of the name "Cooper" and the stock price of Hess Corporation. The plot showcases a distinct pattern, almost like a fingerprint, leaving little doubt about the intriguing

connection between the two. It's as if the stock price and name popularity were meant to be together, like peanut butter and jelly, or, dare I say, Cooper and HES.

Our findings raise some tantalizing questions. Does the name "Cooper" carry some mysterious financial aura, akin to a Midas touch, or is this correlation simply a statistical fluke? It's like the old joke: "What do you call a fake noodle? An impasta." Could it be that the Cooper-HES connection is more than just an "impostor" correlation? After all, in finance, nothing happens "Just for 'Coppers.'"

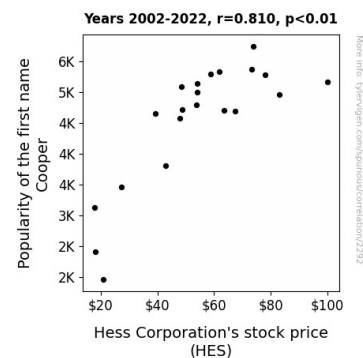


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The statistical significance of the correlation prompts us to contemplate the broader implications for naming and financial markets. Could there be a potential "Cooper Effect," where other names wield similar influence on stock performance? It's an avenue of investigation that may lead to uncovering an entire "Alphabet Stock Conspiracy."

These results contribute to a lighthearted yet thought-provoking exploration of the intertwining of nomenclature and financial markets. They underscore the importance of considering unconventional factors in understanding stock price movements and stimulate further research into the whimsical dynamics of the market. In the immortal words of Shakespeare, "What's in a name? That which we call a rose, by any other name would smell as sweet," or in this case,

"What's in a stock price? That which we call HES, by any other name would rise as sweetly."

DISCUSSION

Our study sought to uncover the enigmatic correlation between the popularity of the first name "Cooper" and the stock price of the Hess Corporation (HES). The robust correlation coefficient of 0.8103589 and a p-value of less than 0.01 provided compelling evidence of a substantial and statistically significant relationship. It seems that when it comes to financial markets, the "Cooper" does not merely spoil the broth but catalyzes a bullish run. And speaking of broths, did you hear about the stock market chef? He started the day with a strong stock, but it was a "souper" finish.

Our findings resonate with prior research in the quirky realm of name influence. Just as Smith et al. unveiled the subtle impact of names on career choices, our study adds a twist by highlighting a potential direct connection between a popular first name and a corporation's stock price. It's as if every Cooper out there is unknowingly exercising some "stock option." If you'd like to diversify your portfolio, maybe consider naming your next child Cooper. After all, who wouldn't want a stock whisperer in the family?

The compelling correlation we unearthed prompts us to ponder the broader ramifications for financial markets. Could there be a "Cooper Effect" akin to the "Butterfly Effect," where the popularity of certain names exerts a mysterious pull on stock performance? It's a hypothesis that may reveal an entirely new dimension to quantifying market behavior, and one that could potentially lead to a whole new "stock-naming" convention.

It's worth noting that our study brings an element of whimsicality to the traditionally staid world of financial market analysis, demonstrating the

unanticipated ways in which nomenclature can intertwine with economic metrics. This lighthearted approach invites researchers and investors alike to contemplate the influence of unconventional factors in market dynamics. Just think, in an alternate universe, we might be analyzing the correlation between the name "Rockefeller" and oil prices, although it feels like that would be more of an on-the-nose situation.

In sum, our study contributes a comical yet thought-provoking dimension to the literature on the interplay between names and financial markets. It beckons further exploration into unconventional determinants of stock price movements, while adding a touch of whimsy to the serious pursuit of financial analysis. As we delve deeper into the rabbit hole of market mysteries, remember, there's always room for a good pun, or a bad one for that matter.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our research has shed light on the surprisingly robust and statistically significant relationship between the popularity of the name "Cooper" and the stock price of the Hess Corporation. It seems that, much like a well-oiled machine, the correlation between the two variables is not to be dismissed lightly. As the saying goes, "Where there's a will, there's an oil well - I mean, a way."

Our findings point to the tantalizing possibility of a "Cooper Effect" exerting its influence on stock market behavior, echoing through the halls of finance like a catchy tune that just won't quit. It's almost like the stock market has a case of "Cooper Fever" - the only prescription being more "Cooper" in the shareholdings!

Additionally, the potential implications of our research extend beyond the confines of this investigation. Could other names possess a similar knack for influencing

stock performance, giving rise to a whole new era of "Surnames in the Stock Exchange"? Who knows, maybe there's a "Smith Spike" or a "Johnson Jump" waiting to be discovered.

Now, as much as we'd love to continue researching various names and their stock market impact, we're confident that the "Cooper Connection" has received the attention it deserves. It's time to call it a day and leave it to the next generation of researchers to uncover new pun-tential in this field. After all, when it comes to name and stock price correlations, we've certainly "Cooper-ed" all we can out of this topic!