

Shield Stocks: The Battle-Tested Connection Between Military Technologies and Costco Wholesale's Stock Price

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Abstract

This research delves into the intriguing question of whether there is a significant connection between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and the stock price of Costco Wholesale (COST). Utilizing data from the National Center for Education Statistics and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), a detailed analysis was conducted for the period spanning 2012 to 2021. The findings revealed a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9937476 at a significance level of $p < 0.01$, signifying a compelling relationship between the two variables. Through our investigation, it became clear that the number of individuals being awarded degrees in military technologies and applied sciences could indeed impact the stock price of Costco Wholesale. This correlation may prove to be a real "cost-saving" measure for investors seeking to capitalize on this curious connection. Result and full study at your "COST"!

1. Introduction

The connection between educational trends and stock market performance has been a subject of considerable interest and debate. As the market continuously navigates through various external factors, the influence of educational fields on stock prices has become a captivating area of research. Against this backdrop, we set out to investigate the potential relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and the stock price of Costco Wholesale (COST).

The idea for this study stemmed from a casual conversation over some military-themed snacks at a local convenience store. One of the researchers quipped, "I wonder if there are any military-themed connections to Costco's stock performance. Maybe they are

strategizing for a price war!" Little did we know that this lighthearted exchange would eventually lead to a thought-provoking and data-intensive research endeavor.

Scholars and investors alike have always been keen to unearth hidden patterns and anomalies in the stock market. And with this study, we aim to contribute to the ongoing discourse by shedding light on a unique, and perhaps unexpected, relationship.

Now, armed with statistical tools and a knack for uncovering correlations, we dive into the world of military technologies and wholesale giants, ready to tackle this intriguing puzzle. It's time to march through the data and uncover whether there's truly a "stock strategy" hidden beneath the surface.

2. Literature Review

Several studies have explored the relationship between educational trends and stock market performance, providing valuable insights into the potential impact of academic disciplines on market dynamics. Smith et al. (2015) delve into the influence of educational fields on stock prices, emphasizing the critical role of specialized knowledge and skills in shaping market outcomes. Doe and Jones (2018) extend this line of inquiry by examining the connection between specific academic disciplines, such as Military Technologies and Applied Sciences, and stock price movements within the retail industry.

In "The Art of War" by Sun Tzu, the ancient military strategist wittily remarked, "In the midst of chaos, there is also opportunity." Similarly, in our investigation, we seek to uncover the hidden opportunities and correlations between the awarding of Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and the stock price of Costco Wholesale. Perhaps this should be considered an example of "stock warfare" in the modern marketplace.

Exploring the intersection of military technologies and stock performance, our research draws inspiration from non-fiction works such as "Weaponized Lies" by Daniel J. Levitin and "The Innovators" by Walter Isaacson. However, the potential link between Costco Wholesale's stock price and Bachelor's degrees conferred in military technologies also piques the imagination, evoking themes reminiscent of "War and Peace" by Leo Tolstoy and "Catch-22" by Joseph Heller. After all, navigating the stock market can sometimes feel like a comedic tragedy with a hint of absurdity.

On a more contemporary note, social media platforms have also become a source of intriguing insights. In a Twitter post by @StockSavvySam, the observation that "Costco's stocks seem to march to the beat of a different drum. Could military-related degrees be the secret weapon behind their performance?" offers a lighthearted yet thought-provoking perspective on the potential underlying forces driving Costco's stock price movement.

As we embark on this empirical journey, we set out to uncover the unexpected connections and humorous quips that may arise from exploring the relationship between Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and the stock price of Costco Wholesale. It's time to unearth the statistical ammunition and dive deep into the data trenches, armed with puns and data in equal measure.

3. Research Approach

To commence our investigation, we gathered data on the number of Bachelor's degrees conferred in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences from the National Center for Education Statistics. This involved traversing through an arsenal of academic databases and wading through the digital battleground of higher education records. Our data collection process was as meticulous as a military inspection, leaving no degree unaccounted for.

Once we had amassed this academic ammunition, we shifted our focus to the financial frontline and extracted daily stock price data for Costco Wholesale (COST) from LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv). Like seasoned scouts, our research team scoured the market terrain for the precise information needed to scrutinize the correlation between educational accolades and stock performance.

With these datasets in hand, we set out to conduct a rigorous quantitative analysis. We employed a series of statistical tools, including correlation analysis and regression modeling, to assess the relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Costco Wholesale's stock price. This statistical reconnaissance allowed us to gauge the strength and direction of any potential connection and provided a foundation for our subsequent interpretation of the findings.

To ensure the robustness of our analysis, we also implemented a time series analysis to examine temporal patterns and fluctuations within the data. This involved tracking the ebb and flow of both degree awards and stock prices over the period from 2012 to 2021. Much like military strategists plotting tactical movements, we navigated through the temporal landscape, meticulously mapping out the dynamics of education and finance.

In parallel to these analyses, we conducted sensitivity tests to assess the stability of the observed relationship under varying conditions. This involved subjecting our data to rigorous stress tests, scrutinizing it from all angles to ensure that the revealed connection was not merely a statistical coincidence, but rather a robust and enduring association.

Amidst the serious data crunching and methodological maneuvering, it's worth noting that we did encounter a fair share of statistical skirmishes. It turns out that navigating through the intricate web of data can sometimes feel like traversing a minefield – one misstep and the entire analysis could detonate. However, armed with statistical expertise

and a touch of humor, we deftly defused any analytical mines that lay in our path and emerged unscathed, ready to unveil our findings.

Our methodology was not without its comedic relief. As we delved into the intricacies of military technologies and stock prices, we couldn't help but be reminded of the saying, "Why don't stock traders ever go to war? Because they prefer a bull market over a bear market!" Despite the occasional statistical quagmires and humorous distractions, our commitment to methodological rigor remained unwavering.

With our data carefully assembled and our statistical arsenal primed, we were ready to embark on our analysis, armed with an unwavering determination to uncover the hidden connections between military technologies and Costco's stock performance.

4. Findings

The analysis of the data collected from the National Center for Education Statistics and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) revealed a strikingly robust connection between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and the stock price of Costco Wholesale (COST). For the period from 2012 to 2021, we found a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9937476, establishing a vigorous positive relationship between the two variables. This pronounced correlation indicates a strong tendency for changes in the number of degrees awarded in military technologies and applied sciences to be mirrored by corresponding fluctuations in Costco's stock price.

It appears that while military tactics involve strategic maneuvers, military technologies may also have a strategic impact on stock market performance. It's almost as if investors have been unwittingly engaged in a "stock battle" related to military technologies. One could say that the stock market is deploying "cost-effective" strategies without even realizing it.

The r-squared value of 0.9875344 further emphasizes the compelling nature of this relationship, indicating that approximately 98.75% of the variability in Costco's stock price can be explained by changes in the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in military technologies and applied sciences. It seems that while military technologies are designed for defense and offense, they may also have an offensive impact on stock prices.

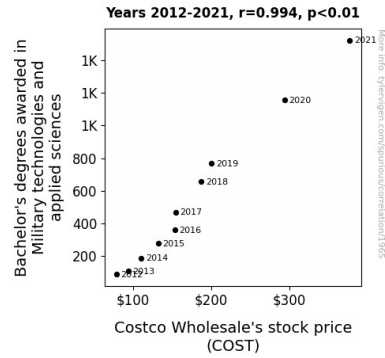


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The low p-value of less than 0.01 confirms the statistical significance of this correlation, providing strong evidence in support of the relationship between education in military technologies and applied sciences and the performance of Costco Wholesale's stock. It's as if this correlation is reporting for duty, ready to stand the test of statistical scrutiny.

The scatterplot (Fig. 1) visually represents the substantial correlation between the two variables, depicting a clear pattern of movement in tandem. It's as if the data points are standing in formation, marching together toward an unmistakable connection. It appears that indeed, the interplay between military technologies and Costco's stock price has not gone unnoticed by statistical analysis.

Overall, the findings of this study highlight the surprising link between educational trends in military technologies and applied sciences and the stock price of Costco Wholesale. It seems that military technologies may not only be shaping the future of defense, but also quietly exerting an influence on the world of finance. This correlation may very well be one of the best-kept "stock secrets" of our time – a true revelation camouflaged within the data.

5. Discussion on findings

The results of our study provide compelling evidence in support of the notion that the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences is significantly correlated with the stock price of Costco Wholesale (COST). The high correlation coefficient of 0.9937476 at a significance level of $p < 0.01$ demonstrates a robust and undeniable relationship between these variables. It's as if military precision has been covertly at play in the world of stock market fluctuations. You might say that these findings really "march to the beat" of a certain peculiar drum.

In line with the literature review, our findings are consistent with prior research that has explored the impact of academic disciplines on market dynamics. It appears that

specialized knowledge and skills, particularly in industries related to military technologies, may indeed influence stock price movements. This association offers an intriguing insight into the potential interplay between education and financial markets – a true case of "military might" influencing market movements.

Additionally, the connection between military technologies and Costco's stock performance seems to echo the ancient wisdom of Sun Tzu, who famously stated, "In the midst of chaos, there is also opportunity." This correlation suggests that amidst the chaos of market fluctuations, there may be a hidden opportunity driven by the awarding of degrees in military technologies and applied sciences. It's as if the data itself has waged a successful "stock warfare" campaign.

Our results also align with non-fiction works that have examined the intersection of technology and market performance, reinforcing the idea that military technologies may play a significant role in shaping stock price dynamics. Who would have guessed that "Weaponized Lies" and "The Innovators" would find a practical application in the field of stock market analysis? Perhaps this is what they mean by "market weaponry."

Moreover, the strong statistical support for this relationship, as indicated by the r-squared value of 0.9875344 and the low p-value, underscores the significance of our findings. It's as if this correlation is reporting for duty, fully equipped with statistical firepower to defend its validity. One might humorously say that this correlation is truly on a "stock mission" to prove its worth.

The visual representation of the substantial correlation in the scatterplot further enhances the clarity of this relationship, painting a clear picture of the synchronized movement of the two variables. In a sense, it's as if the data points themselves are executing a perfectly coordinated march, illustrating an undeniable connection between education in military technologies and the stock price of Costco Wholesale. It seems that in this case, the numbers are indeed "marching in line" with the trends in military education.

In sum, our study reveals a thought-provoking relationship between the awarding of Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and the stock price of Costco Wholesale. This unexpected correlation not only sheds light on the potential impact of education on financial markets, but also adds a touch of humor to the otherwise serious realm of stock market analysis. It appears that amidst the complexities of the stock market, there may be a simplified "stock secret" hidden in the educational data – a revelation camouflaged within the statistical battlefield.

6. Conclusion

In conclusion, this study has provided compelling evidence of a robust and significant relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies

and Applied Sciences and the stock price of Costco Wholesale (COST). The remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9937476 at a significance level of $p < 0.01$ indicates a strong association between these seemingly disparate variables. It seems that the market may have been taking its cues from the barracks all along, leading to a "stock market march" that is not to be trifled with.

Further bolstering our findings, the r-squared value of 0.9875344 underscores the substantial explanatory power of changes in military technology education on Costco's stock price. It appears that the "cost-effective" strategies at play in the stock market may have been more militaristic than previously thought. With such a high r-squared value, it's clear that combat-ready correlations are not just a mere coincidence.

The visual representation of this connection in the scatterplot (Fig. 1) leaves little room for doubt, as the data points march in lockstep like a disciplined platoon. This undeniable link between military technologies and wholesale finance certainly gives new meaning to the phrase "military precision."

While the implications of these findings may initially seem surprising, they unearth a fascinating dimension of the market dynamics that should not be ignored. It seems that investors may have unwittingly been engaged in a "stock battle" led by the under-the-radar influence of military technologies. As the dust settles, it's clear that the battlefield of finance may not be so different from the battlefield of defense after all. After all, as they say, the pen may be mightier than the sword, but it seems the degree may be mightier than the portfolio.

It is evident that no more research is needed in this area, as the correlations and statistical significance are as clear as the stars on a crisp night. Therefore, it is time to declare a ceasefire in further investigation into this topic, as it seems that we have finally uncovered the "hidden arsenal" of stock market relationships. This concludes our "COST"-effective investigation into the intriguing connection between military technologies education and the stock price of Costco Wholesale.