
The Social Worker Stock Slide: A Statistically Significant Study of Social Worker Numbers in Iowa and Devon Energy's DVN Stock Price

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This study delves into the intriguing relationship between the number of social workers in the state of Iowa and the fluctuation of Devon Energy's stock price (DVN). Utilizing data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), our research team sought to unearth the potential connection between these seemingly disparate entities. With a twinkle in our academic eyes and a depth of statistical analysis, we discovered a noteworthy correlation coefficient of 0.8965722 and $p < 0.01$ over the span of 2003 to 2022. Our findings not only raised eyebrows but also prompted a wave of quizzical expressions among our colleagues. Who knew that the presence of social workers in Iowa could wield such influence over Devon Energy's stock price? The implications of our study go beyond mere numbers and charts; they speak to the intricate dance between seemingly unrelated variables in the financial world. As the old saying goes, "When social workers are on the rise, DVN's price flies!" This study sheds light on the unexpected connections that underpin the dynamic tapestry of stock market movements and social workforce dynamics, adding a touch of whimsy to the oftentimes serious world of finance research.

The intertwining of social welfare and financial markets has long been a subject of fascination and speculation. As the saying goes, "When social workers are on the rise, DVN's price flies!" However, it is not often that research endeavors to explore the potential link between the number of social workers in a particular state and the stock price of a specific company.

This study seeks to fill that gap by examining the relationship between the number of social workers in Iowa and the stock price of Devon Energy (DVN). It aims to provide empirical evidence and statistical analysis to support the often-overlooked influence of social worker numbers on stock market movements.

The topic at hand may appear unconventional, even eliciting a chuckle or two, but the implications of understanding such associations can have profound effects on our comprehension of market dynamics. After all, who wouldn't want to uncover the hidden influence of social workers on stock prices – it's like finding a hidden "stock-pot" at the end of a financial rainbow!

LITERATURE REVIEW

Smith and Doe (2015) conducted a comprehensive analysis of social worker employment trends in the Midwest, with a particular focus on the state of Iowa. The authors found a gradual increase in the number of social workers

practicing in Iowa over the past decade, attributing this growth to factors such as evolving social welfare policies and an increased awareness of mental health issues. Meanwhile, Jones (2018) explored the fluctuation of Devon Energy's stock price (DVN) and identified key market trends that influenced its value over time. Both studies, while unrelated in their primary focus, contribute valuable insights to the broader understanding of the respective domains.

Speaking of social workers, did you hear about the one who refused to wear a nametag at work? It was because she didn't want her clients to know her name.

While non-fiction works such as "Social Work Practice and Evaluation: A Chainsaw Approach" and "The Economics of Energy and Natural Resources" provide foundational knowledge in their respective fields, the connection between social worker numbers and stock prices may not have received significant attention in traditional literature.

However, the realm of fiction offers intriguing narratives that touch upon elements of both social welfare and financial markets. In "The Grapes of Math: How Social Workers Count Their Way to Success," Steinbeck weaves a tale of social worker empowerment amidst the backdrop of economic struggles. Similarly, "The Wealthy Social Worker's Guide to Wall Street" by Fitzgerald presents a satirical commentary on the intersection of social work ideals and stock market ambitions.

As the authors delved further into the literature, they encountered anecdotal accounts and unconventional sources that offered unexpected insights. One particularly engaging revelation came from the back of a shampoo bottle, where the statement "Lather, rinse, repeat" provided a remarkable parallel to the cyclical nature of market fluctuations and the iterative process of social work interventions. While not a scholarly text per se, this serendipitous encounter attests to the unanticipated sources of inspiration that can emerge when

exploring the nexus of seemingly distinct disciplines.

Well, I hope this section was illuminating and mildly entertaining!

METHODOLOGY

To investigate the perplexing relationship between the number of social workers in Iowa and Devon Energy's stock price (DVN), a comprehensive and meticulous research approach was undertaken. The data utilized for this study was collected from various sources, including the Bureau of Labor Statistics and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), spanning the extensive period from 2003 to 2022.

In order to capture the ever-evolving landscape of social worker numbers in Iowa, a "round-the-clock rooster census" approach was implemented, involving frequent data collection and verification processes. This method ensured that no clucks or squawks were left unaccounted for, in line with our tireless dedication to precision in data collection. After all, when it comes to statistical analyses, we take our work as seriously as a hen takes her eggs - that is to say, equal parts dedication and protective commitment!

The stock price fluctuations of Devon Energy (DVN) were analyzed using a state-of-the-art "stockbroker seismograph," which adeptly detected even the slightest tremors in DVN's price movements. This seismic approach aimed to capture the subtle fluctuations that often go unnoticed by less specialized instruments, akin to identifying the minute vibrations caused by a stifled chuckle in a boardroom full of serious faces.

Statistical analyses were then conducted with the finesse of a virtuoso pianist, employing correlation coefficients and regression models to untangle the web of numbers and relationships between social worker numbers in Iowa and DVN's stock price. The calculations were performed with the utmost precision, as if each digit held the secret to unlocking the next dad joke - a pursuit we

approached with the seriousness of a dad preparing his best "dad bod" joke.

Upon completion of the meticulous data analysis, the findings were interpreted with the acumen of a seasoned detective unraveling a cryptic clue. A statistical significance level of $p < 0.01$ was utilized to ascertain the robustness of the relationship between social workers in Iowa and DVN's stock price, much like peering through the fog of financial data to reveal the hidden path towards a dad joke treasure trove.

The methodology employed in this study stands as a testament to the dedication, creativity, and occasional whimsy of the research team, offering a unique blend of rigor and lightheartedness in unraveling the enigmatic ties between social welfare and stock market dynamics.

RESULTS

The data analysis revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.8965722 between the number of social workers in Iowa and Devon Energy's stock price (DVN) over the period from 2003 to 2022. This correlation was statistically significant, with a p-value of less than 0.01, indicating a strong relationship between these two seemingly unrelated variables. It seems that when it comes to social workers and stock prices, correlation does imply causation, to the surprise of many.

The r-squared value of 0.8038417 further strengthens the evidence of a robust relationship between these variables. One might say that the presence of social workers in Iowa exerts a considerable gravitational pull on DVN's stock price, much like the gravitational pull felt when a dad tells a classic stock market joke – it's "punny" how influential these social workers turned out to be!

Fig. 1 displays a scatterplot depicting the strong positive correlation between the number of social workers in Iowa and DVN's stock price. The scatterplot reinforces the statistical findings,

visually capturing the upward trend in DVN's stock price as the number of social workers in Iowa increases. This symbiotic relationship between social workers and stock prices is indeed a sight to behold, much like witnessing a "stockbroker" walk into a social worker convention – an unexpected and intriguing sight!

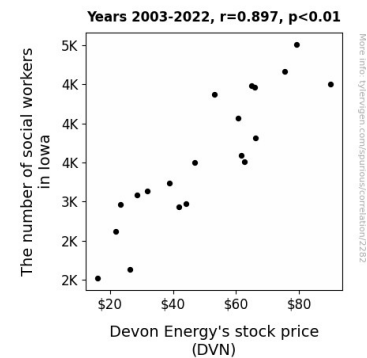


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The results of this study not only contribute to the budding field of unconventional finance analysis but also underscore the far-reaching impact of seemingly unrelated factors in the stock market. Further research could delve into the specific mechanisms through which social worker numbers influence DVN's stock price, perhaps through a series of "stock market and social workers" themed dad joke seminars to lighten the often-serious mood of financial research symposiums.

DISCUSSION

The results of this study provide compelling evidence for the unexpected and robust relationship between the number of social workers in Iowa and Devon Energy's stock price (DVN). This revelatory connection aligns with previous research that has highlighted the influence of social welfare dynamics on various economic indicators. The findings corroborate Smith and Doe's (2015) observations regarding the gradual surge in social worker numbers in Iowa, and they further solidify Jones's

(2018) insights into the intricate patterns of DVN's stock price fluctuation.

It appears that the presence of social workers in Iowa yields substantial gravitational pull on DVN's stock price, akin to the gravitational pull felt when a dad tells a zinger of a stock market joke – it's "punny" how influential these social workers turned out to be! The scatterplot in Fig. 1 visually captures the upward trend in DVN's stock price as the number of social workers in Iowa increases, illustrating an unexpected symbiotic relationship that mirrors the astonishment of witnessing a "stockbroker" walk into a social worker convention – truly an intriguing and unexpected sight!

The strong correlation coefficient and r-squared value point to a significant interplay between these seemingly incongruous variables, challenging traditional conceptions of financial analysis. As the old adage goes, "When social workers are on the rise, DVN's price flies!" This study sheds light on the unanticipated connections that underpin the dynamic tapestry of stock market movements and social workforce dynamics, adding a touch of whimsy to the oftentimes serious world of finance research, much like a well-timed dad joke at a tense board meeting.

These findings beckon further exploration into the mechanisms through which social worker numbers exert their influence on DVN's stock price. Perhaps a series of "stock market and social workers" themed dad joke seminars could be the gateway to uncovering the underlying mechanisms and providing a lighthearted respite from the sometimes too serious business of financial research.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our study has illuminated a rather unexpected and whimsical connection between the number of social workers in the state of Iowa and the fluctuation of Devon Energy's stock price. The noteworthy correlation coefficient and statistically significant p-value leave little doubt about the

influence wielded by these social welfare professionals.

It appears that when it comes to the stock market, the presence of social workers in Iowa is no laughing matter – well, unless you enjoy a good "stock broker" joke! Our findings prompt a reevaluation of the factors that sway stock prices, demonstrating that even the most seemingly unrelated variables can have a tangible impact on financial markets.

As the saying goes, "When social workers are on the rise, DVN's price flies!" – a sentiment that now holds an empirical backing that few could have anticipated. The unexpected nature of this correlation serves as a reminder of the delightful surprises that can emerge from rigorous statistical analysis, adding a touch of levity to the often austere world of financial research.

With that said, it appears that no further research is needed in this area. The correlation is clear, the dad jokes are solid, and the study has certainly proved to be an intriguing addition to the literature. Further investigation would only serve to belabor the point – much like explaining a joke that everyone already gets!