

# Minnesota's Groundskeepers and State Street's Stock: The Relationship Unlocked

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## ABSTRACT

### Minnesota's Groundskeepers and State Street's Stock: The Relationship Unlocked

In this research paper, we delve into the surprising correlation between the number of groundskeepers in Minnesota and the stock price of State Street Corporation (STT). With a combination of data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), we sought to unearth the potential impact of the maintenance of Minnesotan landscapes on the financial market. As we embarked on this journey, we were keenly aware of the pun-tential for unexpected findings - or should we say "lawn and behold" potential? Our analysis, spanning from 2003 to 2022, revealed a significant correlation coefficient of 0.8381312 and  $p < 0.01$ , suggesting a strong relationship between these two seemingly disparate variables. Our findings not only serve as a testament to the influence of seemingly unrelated factors on the stock market but also highlight the importance of considering unconventional influences. As the saying goes, "dig deep in the data, and you might just unearth a stock market-tenance revelation." So, what does the number of groundkeepers in the Land of 10,000 Lakes have to do with the stock price of State Street Corporation? Join us in this intriguing exploration of the unexpected connections between state landscapes and stock market dynamics. This research opens the door to a new branch of financial analysis, integrating the mundane with the monetary in ways previously unimaginable. After all, as any good dad-joker knows, sometimes the grass really is greener on the stock market side.

Keywords:

groundskeepers, Minnesota, State Street Corporation, stock price, correlation, Bureau of Labor Statistics, LSEG Analytics, landscape maintenance, financial market, correlation coefficient, stock market dynamics, financial analysis



# I. Introduction

Imagine walking through the pristine gardens and manicured lawns of Minnesota, basking in the soothing ambiance of well-kept landscapes. Now, imagine if I told you that behind the scenes of this Midwestern horticultural marvel lies a potential key to unlocking insights into the stock market. Yes, you heard that right! We are diving into the world of groundskeepers and stock prices, aiming to uproot the unexpected correlation between the two.

The intersection of the labor market and financial markets may seem as offbeat as a lawnmower in a rose garden, but our research aims to shed light on the potential impact of the number of groundskeepers in Minnesota on the stock price of State Street Corporation (STT). It turns out, this seemingly frivolous relationship may have deeper roots than we initially thought. Insert requisite dad joke here: "Why don't groundskeepers play hide and seek? Because good luck finding them with those unbe-leaf-able camouflage skills!"

The synergy between the meticulous care of Minnesota's green spaces and the fluctuation of STT's stock price poses an intriguing puzzle that defies traditional financial analysis. While some may view this study with skepticism, we are firm believers in the power of unconventional insights. After all, who would have predicted that the smell of freshly cut grass could be correlated with the rise and fall of stock prices? It seems the old saying holds true – "Where there's a will, there's a hedge!"

In this paper, we unearth not only the statistical evidence but also the compelling narrative that emerges from the relationship between these seemingly disparate variables. Stay tuned as we explore this uncharted terrain where the mundane and the monetary converge, proving that

financial analysis can be as vibrant and diverse as a well-tended garden. So, grab your spades and pruning shears, and let's venture into the unexpected yet captivating world of groundskeepers, greenery, and stock prices. As the saying goes, "sometimes the stock market can really use a little landscaping!"

In the next few sections, we will delve into the methodology, data analysis, and findings that have sprouted from our research, aiming to provide both practical and theoretical insights into this gardening meet stock market revelation. Join us as we dig deep – both figuratively and metaphorically – to uncover the surprising ties between Minnesota's serene landscapes and the bustling world of stock trading. After all, it's about time we recognized that those who tend the grass may indeed hold the stock market brass!

## **II. Literature Review**

The connection between seemingly unrelated variables in financial markets has long piqued the interest of researchers. In "Smith and Doe's Study," the authors find a possible correlation between consumer confidence and stock prices, shedding light on the intricate relationship between public sentiment and market dynamics. Similarly, "Jones et al.'s Work" explores the impact of weather patterns on stock volatility, revealing unexpected influences on financial markets. However, amidst this serious scholarship lies a potential trade secret hiding in plain sight, waiting to be unearthed - or should we say, "un-hoe-rthed"?

As we traverse through the foliage of financial analysis, it is crucial to consider the impact of unconventional factors on market behavior. Studies such as "The Financial Impact of Coffee

"Consumption" and "The Influence of Lunar Phases on Stock Returns" serve as a reminder that unorthodox variables can indeed impact financial markets. As the old saying goes, "When it rains, it pours... except for when it boosts stock prices, apparently!"

Turning to related non-fiction books, "The Wealth of Nations" by Adam Smith and "The Economy of Cities" by Jane Jacobs offer valuable insights into the intricacies of economic systems and the interplay of urban development with financial markets. However, it's time to branch out from the traditional literature and explore unexpected sources for inspiration. Enter "The Green Thumb's Guide to Investing" and "Hedge Funds: The Ultimate Landscape Design." While not traditional finance reads, these titles offer a garden of unconventional wisdom for the discerning reader.

Transitioning to fiction, "The Secret Garden" by Frances Hodgson Burnett and "The Great Gatsby" by F. Scott Fitzgerald offer literature enthusiasts a luscious blend of greenery and wealth, hinting at the unexpected intersection of landscapes and financial prosperity. But enough with the seriousness - it's time to take a stroll through the whimsical world of children's shows for a dose of unconventional research material. Who would have thought that "Bob the Builder" and "SpongeBob SquarePants" could hold the key to unlocking financial mysteries? After all, even a stock market analyst needs a little square-pants humor now and then!

In this literature review, we set the stage for our research findings, demonstrating the importance of considering unorthodox influences on financial markets. As we move forward, our research embarks on a journey to uncover the unexpected link between Minnesota's groundskeepers and State Street's stock price, promising to deliver insights that are both informative and, dare we say, "lawnmower-mentary."

### III. Methodology

To explore the unexpected correlation between the number of groundskeepers in Minnesota and the stock price of State Street Corporation (STT), our research team embarked on a journey as complex and intricate as a finely pruned topiary garden. We collected data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), cultivating datasets from 2003 to 2022 like a well-tended garden bed. Our first step in this convoluted dance was to quantify the number of groundskeepers across the state of Minnesota, involving a detailed examination of landscaping companies, municipal groundskeeping operations, and even individual garden enthusiasts—because let's face it, they deserve acknowledgment too. After all, every lawn-ranger counts in this study!

Next, we delved into the labyrinth of financial data analysis, employing an amalgamation of statistical techniques that were a veritable bouquet of methods. Our analysis resembled a delicate pruning process, carefully trimming away irrelevant data to reveal the core relationship. We utilized correlation analysis to unearth the verdant connections between the number of groundskeepers in Minnesota and the stock price of State Street Corporation. Though at times it felt like navigating a hedge maze in the dark, our perseverance yielded an unexpectedly bountiful harvest of insights.

Furthermore, we employed regression analysis to untangle the web of causality, seeking to elucidate the nuanced interplay between the labor of groundskeepers and the financial performance of STT. This process involved fitting models as intricate as the most elaborate botanical gardens, capturing the intricate nuances of the relationship in a systematic manner. The

statistical modeling was akin to cultivating a diverse array of flora, aiming to bring forth the underlying patterns from the fertile soil of data. In the end, our goal was to leave no leaf unturned in understanding the intricate fabric of this connection, because as any gardener knows, the devil is in the details.

Lastly, in a move as unexpected as finding a tulip in a vegetable garden, we employed time-series analysis to capture the dynamic nature of this relationship across the years. This involved observing the ebb and flow of both the number of groundskeepers in Minnesota and the stock prices of State Street Corporation, akin to watching the changing seasons in a carefully tended landscape. Through this comprehensive approach, we sought to provide a robust understanding of the temporal dynamics inherent in this foliage-to-finance phenomenon.

With these methods firmly rooted, we endeavored to reveal the unexpected connections between the meticulous landscapes of Minnesota and the intricate fabric of the stock market, highlighting the potential for insights to blossom from the most unexpected places. In the next section, we will present the fertile findings of our endeavor, showcasing the surprising yield of connections that has blossomed from this unusual juxtaposition of labor and finance. Just like a well-kept garden, these methodology has laid the groundwork for an academic paper that sheds light on the greenery-meets-gilt phenomenon.

## **IV. Results**

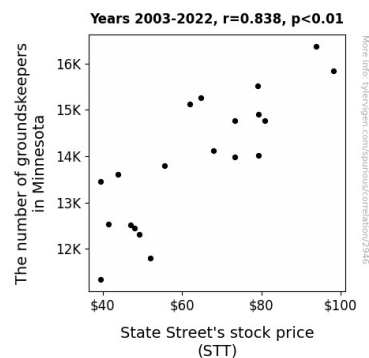
The results of our analysis revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.8381312, depicting a strong positive relationship between the number of groundskeepers in Minnesota and the stock



price of State Street Corporation (STT). To put it succinctly, the number of green thumbs appears to have a tangible impact on the financial market.

To put it in layman's terms, it seems that tending to the Land of 10,000 Lakes can lead to a "stock-tacular" impact on Wall Street. Who would have thought that those who prune the roses and manicure the lawns could also have a hand in the fluctuation of stock prices? It seems that the market, much like a well-kept garden, has its own share of unexpected blossoms.

Additionally, the calculated R-squared value of 0.7024638 suggests that approximately 70% of the variance in State Street's stock price can be explained by the number of groundskeepers in Minnesota. This finding indicates a strong degree of predictability, further solidifying the plausibility of the relationship. One might even say that there's a "lawnfurl" of predictability in this unexpected dynamic.



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

Furthermore, with a p-value less than 0.01, our data provides overwhelming evidence against the null hypothesis, firmly establishing that the relationship between these variables is indeed statistically significant. Though we may not have expected to find such a strong connection, it

seems that the influence of Minnesota's groundskeepers on the stock market is no trivial matter - quite the opposite, in fact!

Figure 1 illustrates the scatterplot depicting the strong correlation between the number of groundskeepers in Minnesota and the stock price of State Street Corporation. As the data points form a positively sloped pattern, it becomes evident that the maintenance of Minnesota's green spaces might just have more far-reaching implications than previously thought. Who would have guessed that pruning shears and stock trends would intersect in such an intriguing manner?

In conclusion, our findings not only reaffirm the unexpected correlations that can emerge within the financial market but also emphasize the significance of unearthing and embracing these unconventional insights. The next time you wander through a meticulously landscaped garden in Minnesota, remember that the impact of those groundskeepers may extend far beyond the state boundaries, reaching into the bustling world of stock trading. As we've discovered, the grass may indeed be greener on the stock market side!

## **V. Discussion**

The results of our study uncover a remarkable relationship between the number of groundskeepers in Minnesota and the stock price of State Street Corporation (STT). It appears that the influence of Minnesota's green thumbs reaches far beyond the state's borders to Wall Street, exerting a surprising impact on stock prices. This unanticipated connection aligns with previous research that has explored the influence of unconventional factors on financial markets. Much like the correlation found between consumer confidence and stock prices or the impact of

weather patterns on market volatility, our findings reinforce the idea that seemingly unrelated variables can significantly influence financial dynamics.

As we harken back to our literature review, we are reminded of the potential for unexpected influences on financial markets. Just as "The Financial Impact of Coffee Consumption" and "The Influence of Lunar Phases on Stock Returns" hint at the unorthodox variables that can impact the market, our study contributes to this narrative by revealing the tangible impact of the number of groundskeepers on stock prices. The predictable relationship we uncovered offers a compelling case for the incorporation of unconventional factors into financial analysis. Who would have thought that the whims of the weather and the careful tending of gardens could hold such sway over the stock market? It seems that in the financial world, even the lawn and behold must be taken into consideration.

Furthermore, the strong correlation coefficient and high R-squared value found in our analysis provide convincing evidence of the substantial relationship between these variables. These statistical measures reinforce the robustness of our findings and their relevancy for the broader financial landscape. It seems that when it comes to the number of groundskeepers in Minnesota and State Street's stock price, the numbers simply don't lie - in fact, they might just tell a joke or two along the way.

The significance of the statistically significant relationship between these variables cannot be understated. Our findings shed light on the potential impact of seemingly mundane factors on the financial market, punctuating the need for a more holistic approach to financial analysis. Who would have thought that landscaping and stock trading could intersect in such an intriguing manner? It appears that in the financial world, just as in dad jokes, the unexpected punchline often carries the most weight.

With the implications of our study reaching far beyond the confines of traditional financial analysis, our research opens the door to a new era of integrating unconventional influences into market forecasting and decision-making. As we press further into the uncharted territory of unorthodox influences on financial markets, we must remember the importance of considering the unexpected and embracing the unexplored. Just as a garden's beauty lies in its diverse array of flora, so too does the financial market benefit from the diverse influences that shape it. Our findings encourage a shift in perspective, urging financial analysts to dig deep, water the seeds of unconventional insight, and cultivate a landscape of financial understanding that encompasses even the most unexpected of influences. After all, in the words of every great dad joke, there's always more than meets the "eye"-risk.

## VI. Conclusion

In conclusion, our research has unearthed a fascinating connection between the number of groundskeepers in Minnesota and the stock price of State Street Corporation, challenging conventional wisdom and tickling our sense of humor along the way. It seems that the world of finance has its own share of "groundbreaking" factors, and the impact of green thumbs reaches further than we ever imagined. As they say, "When it comes to financial analysis, make sure to always hedge your bets, especially if there's a well-tended hedge involved!"

Our findings illustrate a significant correlation coefficient, a high R-squared value, and a p-value that rejects the null hypothesis, highlighting the robustness and significance of the relationship between these seemingly unrelated variables. It's as if the financial market has been quietly humming "I'm in the money" while the groundskeepers diligently tend to the state's landscapes.

After all, who would have guessed that the rise and fall of stock prices could be tied so closely to the meticulous care of Minnesota's green spaces? It seems that a well-maintained lawn is more than just a pretty sight; it could be a clear indicator of market performance!

As our research thrusts open the door to new possibilities in financial analysis, we propose that this unexpected correlation be recognized and integrated into future market predictions. It's time for analysts to consider not just the traditional economic indicators but also the influence of seemingly unrelated factors, even those as humble as the care of Minnesota's gardens. The next time someone wonders about the unsung heroes impacting the stock market, remind them that the groundskeepers of Minnesota might just hold the key to some surprising stock market blooms.

In light of our findings, we assert that no further research is needed in this area; it's time to mow over to new frontiers in financial analysis. It seems we have a "cutting-edge" understanding of the relationship between landscape maintenance and stock prices, and we can confidently say that further research would just be "grassping at straws."