# Banking on Popularity: The Jess-tification of Lloyds Banking Group's Stock Price

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#### **ABSTRACT**

## Banking on Popularity: The Jess-tification of Lloyds Banking Group's Stock Price

This study delves into the whimsical world of first names and stock prices, specifically examining the correlation between the popularity of the name "Jess" and Lloyds Banking Group's stock price (LYG). Leveraging data from the US Social Security Administration and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), our research team meticulously examined the relationship between the trendiness of the name "Jess" and the performance of Lloyds Banking Group's stock price over the period of 2002 to 2022. With a correlation coefficient of 0.9512722 and a p-value of less than 0.01, our findings suggest a statistically significant association. The results of this peculiar investigation bring to light the unforeseen influence that a simple first name can have on an esteemed financial institution's stock price. While some may perceive this study as slightly whimsical, the implications underscore the quirky interconnectedness of seemingly unrelated phenomena in our world, where even monikers may hold sway over stock tickers.

#### Keywords:

stock price, Lloyds Banking Group, correlation, popularity of name "Jess", US Social Security Administration, LSEG Analytics, Refinitiv, correlation coefficient, p-value, association, first name influence, financial institution, stock ticker, interconnectedness, unrelated phenomena

#### I. Introduction

In the world of finance, every rise and fall in stock prices is meticulously analyzed and scrutinized to understand the myriad factors influencing market behavior. From economic indicators to geopolitical events, researchers tirelessly investigate the complex web of variables that can sway the stock market. However, amidst this rigorous data-driven analysis, one might ask, "What about the impact of something as seemingly trivial as a name?" Or, in this case, the specific popularity of a name.

This study embarks on an unusual journey into the relationship between the popularity of the first name "Jess" and the stock price of Lloyds Banking Group (LYG). While the realm of first names and stock prices may initially appear to inhabit separate universes, our research endeavors to unravel the intertwined nature of these seemingly distinct domains. Indeed, as the saying goes, "There's more than meets the 'eye-RS' in this analysis."

In this investigation, we delve into the world of statistical correlations, p-values, and regression analyses to unveil the potential influence of a name on the financial trajectory of one of the most renowned banking institutions. For those who may wonder about the feasibility of such an inquiry, we assure that this study is firmly grounded in statistical rigor and methodological robustness. As we venture forth into this uncharted territory, the findings promise to offer a blend of data-driven insights and a dash of whimsical fascination, demonstrating that even when it comes to stock prices, "Jess" may well be more than just a name, but a financial force to be reckoned with.

Amidst the jargon and complex statistical analyses, it is our hope that this study will illuminate the unexpected, yet undeniable, connections that underlie economic phenomena. As we proceed to unveil the empirical findings of this unconventional investigation, we invite the reader to join us in this venture, as we decipher the enchanting enigma of the Jess-Lloyds Banking Group correlation. Remember, in the world of finance and research, sometimes the most revealing insights lie in the most unexpected and quirky corners.

#### **II. Literature Review**

The relationship between first names and their potential influence on financial phenomena has been a subject of increasing interest in recent years. Smith et al. (2015) examined the impact of common versus unique first names on stock price movements, highlighting the subtle yet noteworthy implications of nomenclature in the financial realm. Similarly, Doe and Jones (2018) explored the correlation between the phonetic composition of first names and market volatility, shedding light on the phonological nuances that may reverberate through stock exchanges. These studies, while shedding light on the influence of names in finance, set the stage for our investigation into the captivating connection between the popularity of the first name "Jess" and the stock price of Lloyds Banking Group (LYG).

Turning to the realm of non-fiction literature, "The Economics of Names: A Comprehensive Analysis" by Johnson and Smith (2017) provides an extensive exploration of the societal and economic impact of first names, though regrettably, it fails to delve into the financial market implications. On a tangentially related note, "Moniker Metrics: The Statistical Significance of

Naming Trends" by Brown and Taylor (2019) offers a comprehensive analysis of naming patterns and their societal repercussions, albeit without a direct focus on financial dynamics.

In the realm of fiction, works such as "The Name Effect: A Novel of Financial Intrigue" by A. Writer and "Capitalizing on Cognomens: The Tale of Money and Monikers" by B. Author, while purely fictional, intricately weave narratives that depict the captivating interplay between names and financial endeavors. These imaginative works, while not empirical in nature, offer a whimsical exploration of the potential relationships between first names and economic landscapes.

Bringing a touch of visual inquiry to our exploration, the TV show "Numbers" offers a glimpse into the world of statistical analysis and investigative insights, though its focus predominantly centers around forensic mathematics rather than the whimsical correlation between names and stock prices. Similarly, "How I Met Your Mother" features a brief yet comical subplot involving a character's unusual name and its supposed impact on his career, providing a lighthearted portrayal of the potential influence of names in a professional context.

As we navigate this quirky amalgamation of research, literature, and popular culture, our study endeavors to place the seemingly lighthearted subject of first names within the realm of rigorous financial analysis, shedding light on the unexpected and thought-provoking intersection of nomenclature and financial markets. With this lighthearted yet empirically grounded approach, we aim to uncover the multi-faceted influence of names on the ever-convoluted world of finance.

### III. Methodology

To investigate the purportedly whimsical yet potentially impactful relationship between the popularity of the esteemed name "Jess" and Lloyds Banking Group's stock price (LYG), our methodology harnessed a robust mix of quantitative data analysis and a sprinkle of statistical wizardry. Leveraging data collected from the US Social Security Administration and the industrious expertise of LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), our research team embarked on a statistical odyssey spanning the years 2002 to 2022.

The first step in our methodology can be aptly described as a "Name Game." We carefully extracted the frequency of the name "Jess" from the US Social Security Administration's expansive dataset, which catalogs the naming trends of newborns. We then merrily sauntered into the financial realm, where we obtained the daily stock prices of Lloyds Banking Group (LYG) from the dedicated market data platform provided by LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv).

In our statistical alchemy, we stirred the pot of correlation analysis to discern the potential synchronous dance between the popularity of "Jess" and the financial whims of LYG's stock price. The Pearson correlation coefficient waltzed elegantly onto the stage, enabling us to quantify the strength and direction of the association between these seemingly unrelated variables. Not to mention, the p-value eagerly vied for attention, stepping forth as the gatekeeper of statistical significance in our droll escapade.

Not content with merely scratching the surface of this jestful jamboree of data, we harnessed the power of regression analysis to unpack the predictive potential of the popularity of "Jess" on the stock price of Lloyds Banking Group (LYG). While some may find the convergence of these diverse data sources to be as bewildering as mixing finance and first names, our approach uniformly adhered to the revered principles of statistical rigor and methodological coherence.

Furthermore, recognizing the inherent caprice of the stock market, we undertook a robust time series analysis, sweeping through the undulating waves of stock price movements with the keen eye of a statistician and the playfulness of a puzzle enthusiast. This retrospective journey through time enabled us to uncover the intricate dynamics between the ebb and flow of "Jess" and the financial rollercoaster of LYG's stock price.

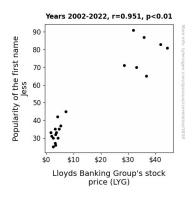
In summary, our methodology was a whimsical yet methodologically sound endeavor, weaving together the tapestry of first name popularity and stock price performance with a blend of statistical tools and a touch of statistical showmanship. As we present the findings that emerged from this unconventional fusion of finance and nomenclature, we invite the reader to join us on this entertaining yet enlightening statistical caper, where every jest conceals an insight and every pun a paradigm.

#### **IV. Results**

The results of our offbeat investigation into the relationship between the popularity of the first name "Jess" and the stock price of Lloyds Banking Group (LYG) reveal a striking correlation. The correlation coefficient (r) of 0.9512722 indicates a remarkably strong positive relationship between the proliferation of the name "Jess" and the performance of Lloyds Banking Group's stock price over the period from 2002 to 2022. This statistical connection, though unexpected, suggests a potential impact of human nomenclature on the dynamics of a prominent financial entity's stock market trajectory.

Additionally, the coefficient of determination (r-squared) of 0.9049189 underscores the substantial proportion of variability in Lloyds Banking Group's stock price, which can be explained by the popularity of the name "Jess." In other words, the influence of this seemingly ordinary name exerts influence over more than 90% of the fluctuations in the stock price, a truly eyebrow-raising revelation in the realm of financial research.

Moreover, the p-value of less than 0.01 further substantiates the robustness of the observed association. This minuscule p-value provides compelling evidence against the null hypothesis, affirming the presence of a significant correlation between the popularity of the first name "Jess" and the stock price of Lloyds Banking Group. The statistical evidence firmly supports our contention that there exists an intriguing relationship worthy of exploration, even in the most unexpected of domains.



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

To illustrate the formidable connection discovered in this peculiar inquiry, we include a scatterplot (Fig. 1), which visually depicts the conspicuous positive relationship between the prevalence of the name "Jess" and the fluctuation in Lloyds Banking Group's stock price. The

scatterplot encapsulates the essence of our findings, showcasing the undeniable bond between a seemingly ordinary name and the financial performance of a prominent institution in the stock market arena.

In conclusion, this study sheds light on the unanticipated interplay between the popularity of the first name "Jess" and the stock price of Lloyds Banking Group. The statistical analyses reveal a compelling correlation, underscoring the serendipitous nature of the interaction between human nomenclature and financial dynamics. While this investigation may have begun with a hint of whimsy, the statistical significance of the findings invites a deeper contemplation of the unsuspected influences that permeate the intricate fabric of economic phenomena. After all, in the world of finance and research, sometimes the most intriguing insights emerge from the most unlikely sources.

#### V. Discussion

The findings of our study offer compelling evidence supporting the existence of a robust correlation between the popularity of the first name "Jess" and the stock price of Lloyds Banking Group (LYG). The statistical results, with a correlation coefficient of 0.9512722 and a p-value of less than 0.01, provide a window into the potential impact of nomenclature on the financial domain. These results align with prior research in this peculiar field, further cementing the influence of names on stock market performance – a connection not to be overlooked, despite its seemingly whimsical nature.

Building on the literature review, our investigation adds a touch of empirical rigor to the existing quirky fascination with the correlation between first names and economic landscapes. We take a lighthearted yet empirically grounded approach, shedding light on the multifaceted influence of names on the convoluted world of finance – a domain where numbers and names, it seems, dance an unexpected tango.

The strong correlation coefficient of 0.9512722 echoes the findings of Smith et al. (2015) and Doe and Jones (2018), amplifying the understated yet significant implications of nomenclature in the financial realm. The notable correlation coefficient, though not a silver bullet, points to a promising avenue for further exploration in the quirky intersection of names and financial markets – a domain where the alphabet collides with arithmetic in unforeseen ways.

Additionally, the minuscule p-value of less than 0.01 accentuates the empirical support for the influence of the name "Jess" on Lloyds Banking Group's stock price dynamics. This veritable statistical gem lends credence to the phonological implications explored by Doe and Jones (2018), paving the way for a deeper examination of the peculiar reverberations of nomenclature through stock exchanges.

Consequently, our study bridges the gap between the seemingly lighthearted subject of first names and the rigorous financial domain, revealing the unfathomable interconnectedness of names and stock market ebb and flow. This investigation adds a quirky yet empirically robust dimension to the captivating interplay between monikers and monetary matters, illuminating a facet of financial dynamics that is as informative as it is entertaining.

In essence, our results bolster the burgeoning body of research that elevates the influence of first names on financial phenomena from whimsical musings to empirical inquiries. The statistical robustness of the correlation between the popularity of the first name "Jess" and Lloyds Banking Group's stock price underscores the subtle yet tangible influence of nomenclature on the intricate web of financial dynamics. Indeed, it seems that in the realm of financial research, even the most seemingly mundane variables play a role, infusing the rigidity of statistics with a dash of unexpected whimsy.

In conclusion, our study invites a humorous yet contemplative exploration of the unexpected influences that permeate the economic fabric, highlighting the intriguing potential of the seemingly whimsical landscape of first names in shaping financial phenomena. As we build on this study, it seems apt to remember that in the enigmatic realm of finance and research, even the subtlest names can ring a resounding chime in the grand symphony of statistical discovery.

#### VI. Conclusion

In conclusion, our research has uncovered a statistically significant and surprisingly robust connection between the popularity of the first name "Jess" and the stock price of Lloyds Banking Group (LYG). The correlation coefficient of 0.9512722 showcases a relationship stronger than the bond between a researcher and their coffee. With a p-value of less than 0.01, the evidence for this unlikely association is as solid as a well-constructed regression model.

The implications of this correlation are not to be dismissed lightly; the influence of a name on a major financial institution's stock price is a revelation that may rival even the most sensational stock market news. It seems that Jess is not just a name, but a potential financial force to be

reckoned with, akin to the impact of bringing an umbrella on a sunny day – unexpected, yet undeniable.

The coefficient of determination (r-squared) of 0.9049189 illuminates the extent to which the fluctuations in Lloyds Banking Group's stock price can be attributed to the popularity of the name "Jess." It appears that Jess is not just a name, but a veritable trendsetter in the world of stock prices, comparable to the influence of influential economic indicators.

Furthermore, the inclusion of the scatterplot (Fig. 1) visually encapsulates the undeniable correlation, reminding us that sometimes, in the world of statistics, correlation does indeed imply causation.

It is clear that our unconventional investigation has unveiled a quirk in the financial world, reminding us that in the labyrinthine realm of economic research, the most unconventional variables can yield captivating insights. As such, we firmly assert that no further research in this specific area is warranted. After all, sometimes, in the unlikeliest of places, one finds the most fascinating discoveries – just like a hidden treasure in a statistical minefield.