

Percent Change Project 2017 (Int 1)

Math is everywhere! You use Math everyday and you do not even realize it. For this project you will explore one of the greatest uses of math in the real world, the stock market! You will track one of the companies of the Dow Jones Industrial Average for a week, create a chart of closing values of the stock, and calculate the percent increase or decrease by day as well as the overall percent increase or decrease for the week. You will then create a graph to illustrate the changes. Data and research for this project will be gathered outside the class.

Research, Part A: Gather data and information about your company. Who founded it? When? When did it become a public company? What does it do primarily? In the last year, what was its highest stock value (52 week high)? What was its lowest stock value (52 week low)? Do some investigating to figure out what may have happened in the world that caused the spike or the trough. Explain the behavior of your stock historically.

Gather Data and Record on a Handwritten Chart:

On a piece of graph paper, neatly create a chart (sample below) and record the closing value of the Dow Jones Industrial Average Company selected for the next five business days. Follow the example and include all columns shown. Leave enough room in your percent change as a decimal column to show your set up for your calculated work. Be prepared with this information for class each day throughout the week. You will receive my initial each day on the chart that equates to points in your project grade, so it is important to be prepared. This section that must be done prior to arriving to class.

Go to one of the following listed sites or any others you prefer and find the closing value/price for your company. Remember the stock market is in New York and they are three hours ahead, so if you choose to collect the data in the morning, make sure it is the closing number from the previous day. Also, the stock market is closed on holidays.



<http://www.cnbc.com/dow-components/>
<http://finance.yahoo.com/>
<http://moneycentral.msn.com/home.asp>
<http://money.cnn.com/data/dow30/>

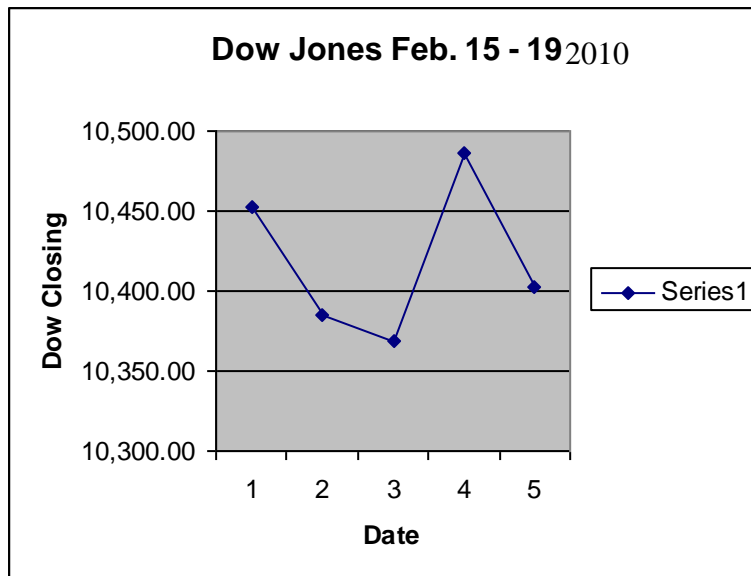
Title

Date	Company Price	Change	% Change as a decimal	% Change as a percent	Increase or Decrease
2/15/2010	10,452.36		0.0000	0%	0
2/16/2010	10,385.42	-66.94	0.0064	-0.64%	Decrease
2/17/2010	10,369.12	-16.30	0.00156	-0.16%	Decrease
2/18/2010	10,485.78	116.66	0.01125	1.12%	Increase
2/19/2010	10,402.34	-83.44	0.00795	-0.80%	Decrease
Overall Change		-50.02	0.00479	-0.48%	Decrease

$$\text{Percent Change} = \frac{\text{New Amount} - \text{Original Amount (Previous day's closing)}}{\text{Original Amount (Previous day's closing)}}$$

Create a Graph (you may do this by hand or digitally):

Once you have collected all of your data, using a graph, you will illustrate the changes that took place over the last five business days. Be sure to label the axes next to the values, choose an appropriate scale, and include a title. See the example below. Where is says date on the x axis, please use the calendar date rather than numbered days.



Research Part B: Describe your company's stock performance over the week. Is the data you gathered over the course of the week a good representation about how this stock/company performs and behaves in general? Why or why not? What type of data may be more useful? If you were investing your money in the stock market, would you invest in this stock? Why or why not? What trends might you look for when deciding where to allocate your money?