

# TimingResearch.com Newsletter BETA

## Week 1 - 09/28/13 Report

Week 1 of this experiment went well. The survey was emailed out to a relatively small group of a few thousand people interested in trading and 45 responses were received before the deadline. Results and analysis of this first week are below. Next Saturday we will be able to compare what the market actually did with what the survey responses forecasted and analyze a new round of surveys.

While this exercise is not rigorously "scientific," the hypothesis for this project is that a large, diverse group of independent traders and investors, each working from their own personal knowledge based on whatever they feel is most important, can collectively come up with a forecast for the markets that will be useful to the participants once aggregated and reported.

Please feel free to email me with any and all feedback.

Thank you,  
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*Below are the questions, some thoughts about several of them, and the results. You can also download the raw data for yourself at [TimingResearch.com/rawdata](http://TimingResearch.com/rawdata).*

**#1: Would you guess that the Dow Jones Industrial Average (Dow 30) index will move higher or lower next week? (from Monday's open to Friday's close)**

Higher: 57.78%  
Lower: 42.22%

*So the consensus is fairly strongly in favor of the Dow index going up next week. This breakdown held up pretty similarly no matter how the results were grouped according to the demographic data in the last section of the survey.*

**#2: How many percentage points would you guess that this move will end up being?**

*In the future I will provide some "calibrating" data with this question, historically the average absolute move for this length of time on the Dow is about 1.7%, while the largest ever was about 18%. However, several people answered in the 10-15% range and one answered as high as 40%. With the 40% answer removed, the results are as follows...*

Total Average: 3.44%  
Higher Average: 3.98%  
Lower Average: 2.66%

**#3: If you were given \$100 and allowed to keep as much of it as you want or bet part of it, at 2-1 odds, on your answer to Question #1 being correct, how many dollars would you bet?**

*This was meant to be a proxy for the guesser's confidence in their forecast, I thought that this question would work better if asked in terms of a betting game, rather than simply asking people to rate their confidence 0-100. Maybe we'll test both methods in the future.*

Total Average: 67.84  
Higher Guess Average: 67.69  
Lower Guess Average: 68.06

*So the majority of respondents think the market index value is going to go up, and they think that move will be more than the lower guessing respondents, however the people guessing lower are just slightly more confident in their guess.*

**#4: Which Dow 30 stock do you think will have the largest percentage gain next week? (ticker symbol only please)**

*Number of mentions and symbol...*

3: BA	2: KO	1: HD
3: GS	2: MSFT	1: JPM
2: AAPL	2: VZ	1: NKE
2: CSCO	2: WMT	1: T
2: GE	1: AMY	1: UNH
2: IBM	1: DNR	1: V

**#5: Which Dow 30 stock do you think will have the largest percentage loss next week? (ticker symbol only please)**

*Number of mentions and symbol...*

4: GS	1: BAX	1: MDLZ
4: JPM	1: BBRY	1: MMM
2: INTC	1: CAT	1: WMT
2: UNH	1: GE	1: X
2: V	1: GOOG	1: XOM
1: AXP	1: HPQ	
1: BA	1: MCD	

*These two questions are the main reason I chose to focus on the Dow 30 instead of other indexes, so there would be a smaller group of stocks to focus on. I am hoping that these questions will provide a good "watchlist" each week. In the future I will try to provide a better way for people to see what stocks are on the Dow 30 list; some of the ones listed above are not. Some people apparently didn't realize they could copy and paste the URL provided at the top of the page into a new browser tab to see the list. Of course, you could also open a new browser tab and just search*

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*"dow 30 components" to find a list.*

**#6: Your level of formal education?**

None: 2.70%  
High School: 18.92%  
Bachelors Degree: 43.24%  
Masters Degree: 21.62%  
Doctorate: 13.51%

**#7: Your level of trading experience?**

None: 0.00%  
Beginner: 13.16%  
Intermediate: 60.53%  
Advanced: 26.32%

**#8: You prefer which of the following?**

Short term trading: 57.89%  
Intermediate term trading: 39.47%  
Long term investing: 10.53%  
None of the above: 2.63%

**#9: You are trade or invest in which of the following asset types?**

Stocks/ETFs: 81.58%  
Options: 81.58%  
Futures: 26.32%  
Currencies: 23.68%  
Bonds: 10.53%  
Real Estate: 21.05%  
None of the above: 0.00%

**#10: Comments/Questions/Suggestions?**

"I like this idea!"

"Let's see how good."

"ask about sectors not Dow stocks" - *Thank you for the suggestion, I might incorporate that into future surveys.*

"Give a large prize to the winner and runner-up." - *We wouldn't be able to do purely anonymous responses then, but I will keep this in mind, maybe we can figure out some way to do a contest in the future.*

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"I have confidence in the market as a long term investment into next year with ups and downs along the way"

"I am 88 Years young. Still good for at least 10 more. But I am learning to trade daily. Don't want to leave any loose ends for my wife to have to handle when the time comes."

"arbitrage" - *Not sure what you mean by this, please email me if you'd like to further explain this comment.*

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Thank you to everyone for participating, please watch your email for notification of when the next survey is ready. You will be able to find a link to the new survey each week by visiting [TimingResearch.com/currentsurvey](http://TimingResearch.com/currentsurvey). Next Saturday's report will analyze how this week's forecast worked out as well as the new survey results.

Email me with any feedback: [news@timingresearch.com](mailto:news@timingresearch.com)

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