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## Unconventional economic indicators that might surprise you

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### 1/9 Japanese haircut indicator

This indicator simply states that when the economy is doing well, women are more likely to spend on their grooming habits. On the contrary, women are also likely to cut their hair shorter when there is a slump in the economy, as it requires less maintenance. This was studied over the course of 20+ years and was noticed especially in Japan.

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**2/9 Men's underwear indicator**

According to the Men's underwear indicator index, there is a decline in men's underwear sales if the economy is suffering a slump and there is an upswing in sales when the economy improves. With this index, one might be able to detect the relative health of the economy.



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### 3/9 Lipstick indicator

The Lipstick indicator was a term coined by Leonard Lauder in 2001 recession, the then chairman of Estee Lauder Cos. During the autumn of that year, he noted that lipstick sales had risen. This indicated that women who were faced with an uncertain economic environment would often turn to beauty products as affordable treats. This has been making a resurgence even today, as many are now chasing the 'clean girl' aesthetic which requires a significant number of products.



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### 4/9 First Date indicator

This indicator essentially focuses on the number of people who enter into relationships to overcome depression over a slump. It is a significant increase in traffic on online dating sites, especially during a recession. This was studied in the US, during the 2008 recession. An online dating service Match.com reported that it saw a high number of new users. The highest ever in over seven years.



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**5/9 Garbage indicator**

The garbage indicator simply refers to the fact that when people have more money, they buy more, and in the end, they throw more. According to economists, this indicator has an 82% accuracy rate when studying US economic growth.



## 6/9 R-Word index

The R-Word index was created by The Economist and it works by keeping a count of how many times the word "Recession" appears in the news. The index proves that during an economic downturn there is a surge in the usage of the "scary word starting with R".



## 7/9 Champagne index

This index generally looks at whether shoppers are buying luxury or premium goods, indicating the market sentiment. It gets its name from the simple

theory that when you're celebrating something, you pop champagne. So champagne sales are normally associate levels in the economy.



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## 8/9 **Hemline index**

The hemline index suggests that the length of skirts tends to rise or fall along with stock prices. The most common version of the theory is that skirt lengths get shorter in good economic times and longer in bad, such as after the 1929 Wall Street Crash.



## 9/9 Guns to Caviar indicator

This is by far the most unusual index and it compares the categories, the first being the worldwide spending on fig what it spends on business jets (caviar). In simpler terms, military uncertainty with high-end wealth creation.



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