

## The Economic Effects of Coronavirus (COVID-19) on Jordan

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**Abstract:** COVID-19 is observed as a significant economic threat for the economies across the globe. This research paper specifically focuses on the case of Jordan. It evaluates whether COVID-19 crisis has significantly affected the country's economy. Based on the objective, the study applies a quantitative methodology to assess the problem. It assumes stock market performance as a representation of economic performance and examines the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) on the Jordan's Amman SE General Index price and returns. Considering the sample periods before and during the COVID-19 outbreak, the study finds that the COVID-19 period exhibit both lower index price and index returns at 0.01 level. Similarly, the impact of COVID-19's new cases is significant and negative on the performance of the stock market. Based on the findings, this research recommends to focus on COVID's negative economic implications.

**Keywords:** Economics, market performance, COVID-19, Jordan

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### Introduction

Referred to as a black swan event and compared to the economic scene of WW2, the outbreak of COVID-19 has not only impacted the global healthcare systems but with a ripple effect has targeted almost every developed and developing economy severely (Nicola et al., 2020). Out of the two, developed countries are still better off than the impact COVID-19 outbreak has on developing economy. In an attempt to understand the turmoil economic effects of the border shut down, travel restrictions, and a full-fledge quarantine the current research aims to investigate the economic effects of COVID-19 on Jordan's economy and how has the situation spread fears of impending economic crisis and recession among the Jordanians.

Reports advocate Jordan experiencing an amplified impact of COVID-19 due to its economy, which was already moving along a low growth route amidst the unemployment rates among its youth and women (World Bank, 2020). According to the report of World Bank, the economy is expected to contract for the first time in decades by 3.5% in 2020, as compared to the 4.2% contractions in MNA Region and a contraction of 5.2% for the World Economy (Amman, 2020). It particularly concerns for the economists and government of the economy. Since Jordan has managed to keep itself at a consistent growth rate of 2%, absorbing the international and regional shocks to the economy, making it reach to the point of 44% GDP while following a massive fiscal consolidation strategy (Amman, 2020). Thus, the contraction within the economy itself signals the massive impact of COVID-19.

The inactive economy of Jordan is also foreseeing reduction within foreign direct investments (FDI), remittances, trade and tourism, the latter which contributed to almost 10% of the overall economy's GDP before COVID-19 was announced as a pandemic (IMF, 2020). Besides, 250,000 daily wage workers in Jordan were affected by the month's long lockdown, and businesses' liquidity faced a crunch. However, the government took several immediate initiatives to withstand the economy from the after-effects of the lockdown. These include; responding to the crisis with a change in fiscal and monetary policies coupled with robust underlying economic support such as sustainable debt, and a healthy financial system and maintaining the confidence of investors in the economy (EBRD, 2020). It resulted in the issuance of double-tranche Eurobonds that were highly overpriced at a competitive interest rate of 49.5% spread over a five-year-long maturity and 5.85% having a ten-year-long maturity period (IMF, 2020). Thus, it is safe to say that Jordan is trying to turn the adversity of COVID-19 into an opportunity.

The economy seems to adapt well given Jordan's stock of vibrant tech start-ups tapping into enabling business activities within its commercial regions, keeping in mind the restrictions imposed by cross-border travelling (IMF, 2020). Furthermore, the economy is seen to be embarking the category of a self-sufficient economy by entering the global supply chain of producing and exporting masks.

Keeping in mind the challenges faced by the economy and Jordanian government response to COVID-19, the research aims to investigate whether the conditions of the pandemic has been opportunistic for the economy or has had adverse effects like all other developing economies.

### ***Significance of the Study***

Covid-19 has taken the global economy by the storm, as countries have limited their operations due to the contagious form of the virus (McKibbin & Fernando, 2020). Developed countries have struggled in economic terms, as many have shown negative growth rates such as the UK, New Zealand, and the USA (Assessment, 2020). At the same time, the developing countries have

experienced more damage by the COVID-19 outbreak, including Jordan. Therefore, the economic effects of Covid-19 on Jordan must be explored in detail to get a clear idea of the impact and also identify valuable solutions.

The academia would benefit from this research as it would give them an enhanced knowledge about the true impact of Covid-19 on developing countries such as Jordan. Furthermore, this study would help in filling the gaps of the research which have not been explored extensively to date. Additionally, the points for future studies recommendations are identified, which would further enhance the knowledge on the topic and help researchers in identifying the key issues.

Further, this study is relevant to multiple industries, as Covid-19 has impacted many business sectors in the economy, such as manufacturing, agriculture, and service sectors. Thus, the knowledge gained from the study can be applied to the relevant industries to seek ideal solutions which can help minimise the impact of a pandemic in the future and present times. In addition to this, the study is significant for regulatory purposes to government officials as well, as it aims to assess that whether the response of Jordan's government has been effective till yet, or the economy entails new preventative measures. Also, a healthy economy is imperative, especially for developing countries like Jordan, as they are usually under a high amount of debt and struggle from elements such as poverty. Therefore, with the help of present study's results, government officials can identify the true impact and also gain knowledge about the relevant solutions to help multiple industries of Jordan to escape the negative impact of Covid-19.

### ***Aim and Objectives***

The study aims to assess the economic effects of coronavirus (COVID-19) on Jordan. It focuses on stock performance as a proxy to measure economic effects and formulates the following objectives:

1. To determine the impact of coronavirus (COVID-19) on the Jordan's Amman SE General Index price and returns.
2. To measure the difference in Jordan's Amman SE General Index price and returns between COVID-19 and prior-COVID-19 periods.
3. To examine the impact of COVID-19's new cases on the stock market's performance.

Following is the research question of the study:

*What is the effect of coronavirus (COVID-19) on Jordan's economy?*

Following are the sub-questions that are assessed in this study:

1. Do Amman SE General Index price and returns differ with respect to COVID-19 crisis and the prior period?
2. What is the impact of COVID-19's new cases on the stock market performance?

## **Literature Review**

According to Cascella et al. (2020), Coronavirus Disease – 2019 (COVID – 19) is an infectious disease that is caused by a unique virus named as *SARS-CoV-2*. Being easily transmitted through tiny droplets when infected individual sneezes or coughs and then affecting the respiratory system of the host, COVID-19 has spread all over the world at a rapid pace. As of late August 2020, the total number of affected cases has been raised to more than 24 million around the globe from which nearly 827,000 patients have lost their precious lives (Worldometer, 2020). Besides the fact that COVID-19 is affecting the health of the individuals, it is also evident that it is highly devastating for the entire world economically. Every country has adopted safety protocols and also provided appropriate guidance to the citizens regarding the preventive measures of the spread of coronavirus. Preventive guidance primarily includes promoting social distancing, self-isolation, and restricting all leisure and travel activities. Adoption of strict law and order conditions has severely affected the economies of the countries.

Baldwin and Mauro (2020) highlighted that the world had previously observed many other pandemics as well such as Asian flu in 1957, Hong Kong Flu in 1968, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SAARS) in 2002, 2009 Avian Flu, and Ebola Virus in 1976, 2014, and 2016. However, from an economic perspective, COVID-19 is relatively different from all of the previous pandemics. Previously, the pandemics had hit the countries that were not highly dominant in economies. Moreover, the rapidity of transmission of those viruses was very small than the COVID-19. COVID-19 is almost 8 to 9 times larger than the previous pandemics and is still affecting people around the world.

Another significant point to review is that COVID-19 has also majorly affected the G7 countries (seven of the world's largest countries with advanced economies). Out of this G7, five countries, including the United States, United Kingdom, France, Italy, and Germany, are among the top 20 Coronavirus-affected countries of the world. Considering only these five countries altogether, it is estimated that they account for nearly 60% of the world's GDP, 40% of the global manufacturing exports, and approximately 65% of the international manufacturing (Baldwin & Mauro, 2020). Thus, the sneezing economies of these countries have critically led the rest of the world to catch a cold in terms of global economics deficit.

Besides the devastating impacts of the coronavirus affecting the world economy, Jordan has combatted greater economic threats due to the pandemic comparing to the other countries. Prior to understanding the economic shift for Jordan, it is substantially important to examine the condition of Jordan at the time of the emergence of the pandemic when the country had just recovered from a threatening economic crisis. CSIS (2020) interviewed with the Finance Minister of Jordan regarding the economic impacts of COVID-19. The interview highlighted that the country has been suffering for more than a decade of severity and shocks that accounted for about 45% of their entire GDP. At the time of COVID-19 emergence, the per capita GDP of Jordan had declined to 14%. The national economy was already being declined due to multiple factors such as the exaggerating war in Syria that led Jordan to deal with a high number of refugees. Moreover, the international challenges between Iraq and Syria have forced the country to close the routes of international trade, further leading to economic scarcity.

Up till now, the total number of affected cases in Jordan has raised to more than 1,700 out of which 40 people have died (Worldometer, 2020). Even though the numbers are less, but still, the government has regulated strict guidelines to stop the spread of the virus further. In this regard, the country has practised strict lockdown measures, mandatory curfews, and the force shuttering of the major businesses inside the country, whether it is travelling or the food industries.

*Al-Ississ*, the Finance Minister of Jordan reported a loss of around \$849 million to the country's revenue within the first three months of the pandemic (CSIS, 2020). It has raised the probability of high budget discrepancy for this year of 2020. The minister also has anticipated a 3.4% contraction in the national economy in comparison to the previous years.

The government has been struggling to secure additional lending from the global financial institutes to overcome the unanticipated shocks of the COVID-19. In this regard, the country has been supported by the International Monetary Funds (IMF) with a funding of \$1.3 billion in March 2020 due to the pandemic emergency in the country. Furthermore, the IMF also has permitted the request to lend \$396 million to Jordan for emergency support (The World Bank, 2020).

Studies revealed that four significant sectors in a country help in economic growth, which are primary, secondary, tertiary, and quaternary (Daubaraitė & Startienė, 2015; Iamsiraroj, 2016). The primary sector is the most substantial sector that can transform the economy of the country. It is often known as the extraction sector because it involves the extraction of raw materials. These materials can be in the form of renewable (fishes, wind power, and etcetera) and non-renewable (coal mining and extraction of oil) resources. Similarly, the secondary sector (also called as the manufacturing sector) is primarily concerned with the production of finished goods. The secondary sector helps in manufacturing goods such as the production of better-quality wool from raw sheep wool and construction areas such as to build factories and houses. Utility

services also come under the secondary sector that involves providing citizens with electricity, gas, and other goods (Iamsiraroj, 2016).

On the other hand, a significant sector that equally affects the national economy is the tertiary or servicing sector. This sector is primarily associated with the intangible domain of providing services to the citizens and businesses of a country. The prominent examples of these services may include but not limited to the financial services (investments, funds, insurance, etc.), communication services, leisure and hospitality services, transportation services, and retail services. The last sector is the quaternary sector that involves educational, training, research and development services to the citizens. It is also known as the intellectual sector of the economy of a country (Daubaraitė & Startienė, 2015).

The above-mentioned economic sectors of the countries hold a prospective resemblance with the economic sectors of Jordan. These sectors play a significant role in the progressive economic stability of Jordan. In this regard, a statistical report by the Statista (2020) highlighted that the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country between the years of 2008 and 2018 was considerably dependent on the three prominent sectors involving services sector, industrial manufacturing sector, and the extraction sector. The breakdown of the GDP further revealed that the services sector contributed 62% of the GDP, the manufacturing sector contributed 27.5%, and approximately 6% was contributed by the extraction/agricultural sector of Jordan (Statista, 2020).

The services sector of Jordan holds the most significance in the national economy. With the emergence of COVID-19 in the country, the travel and tourism sector of Jordan is severely affected. Santucci (2020) reports that the travel and tourism sector of services economy individually comprises about 13.8% of the total GDP. However, the country has faced a threatening 56.5% of revenue declination in March 2020. Moreover, the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, *Majid Sweikeh*, also predicted that the tourism sector of the country would be the last sector that would be recovered from a significant loss since all of the international travellings have been paused (Santucci, 2020). In addition to the services sector, the participatory rates of the labour force are also expected to continue in the downward trajectory. It would eventually raise unemployment in the country.

To examine and investigate the impacts of COVID-19 and the lockdown, the International Labour Organization (2020) has conducted an interview-based assessment among 1,190 enterprises of the country. The findings of the assessment indicate that enterprises combat substantial challenges in terms of cash flow, less demand and supply, and extreme disruption of the supply chain. The threatening impacts of COVID-19 have also been extremely difficult for the micro and home-based businesses. Same challenges of reduced financial resources and lack of cash reserves and assets caused the crisis. On the other hand, the manufacturing sector of

Jordan is apparently not much affected than the services sector after the impacts of COVID-19. A country where the strict lockdown has increased the complexity of most economic activities, the essential agricultural sector of Jordan did not get extremely affected by it (International Labour Organization, 2020). The agricultural sector of the country continued to work accordingly to ensure that the food supply of the country does not get scarce.

Nevertheless, the impacts of this pandemic have made the road to economic recovery extremely difficult for Jordan. According to Singh (2020), the economy of Jordan is now predicted to go down with a negative 3.5% of the net GDP in the latter year. The overall economic crisis of Jordan is a challenging facet for the government because approximately 97% of the GDP is additionally strained into the public debt comprising about \$42 billion.

### **Methodology**

The current study emphasising on the case of Jordan pursues the topic under consideration via quantitative methodology guided by positivist philosophy. The approach and philosophy rely on structured tools and causal relationships between two or more variables (Saunders, Lewis and Thornhill 2009). The quantitative approach deems more suitable in case of identifying the economic impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak. It enables systematic structuring of raw datasets, to find out the difference in the macro-economic variables of Jordan, during and before the pandemic or lockdown was announced by the government and the WHO. Additionally, this quantitative approach is based on the parameters of deductive logic whereby the researcher can follow a path of logical reasoning, generated from existing theories to formulate several hypotheses that can be tested through statistical methods (Snieder & Lerner, 2009). In this manner, the quantitative research approach is beneficial in providing empirical results confirming the effects of COVID-19 on Jordanian economy rather than opting for an in-depth textual analysis guided by qualitative approach.

With regards to the quantitative approach, the study uses a correlational research design as a precursor to quantitative studies (Taylor, Bogdan & DeVault, 2015). The correlation research would not only exhibit the trends of macroeconomic variables after and before the pandemic announcement but also help to measure the central tendency and variance of rates within each macro-economic variable. Moreover, the correlational research design would enable the determination of direction and degree of significance exists in the relationship within the econometrics data of the study (Hughes, 2006).

The term econometrics is used for the current study as it uses quantitative applications (statistical and mathematical models) to study economics data to test the formulated hypotheses within the domain of economics (Sameulson, Koopmans and Stone, 1954). It helps to forecast future trends concerning macro-economic variables from historical data. The current study interprets the

impact of COVID-19 outbreak on macro-economic variables of Jordan using the past and current economic data.

The study measures the Jordanian economy using two economic indicators: stock market returns and exchange rate. These two variables are considered as a valid indicator of the country's economy (Olokoyo et al., 2020). These two macroeconomic variables are selected since their daily recorded data is publicly available and accessible for the current analysis. The COVID-19 outbreak is a recent phenomenon; thus, the annual evaluation would not be possible. Furthermore, the COVID-19 outbreak is measured via a categorical variable, and the number of corona cases reported in the economy. The frequency of corona case is represented by several new cases per day and new cases per million population.

The data of Amman SE General (AMGNRLX) index and USD-JOD exchange rate (returns) are collected from Investing.com, for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 (1-year). Since Jordan pegs the local currency with the USD, this variable is not used in regression analysis. The data of the number of COVID-19 cases are extracted for the period 1 February 2020 to 30 June 2020. These variables represent the economy of Jordan and therefore, would be considered as dependent variables of the current study since the research aims to find the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on these variables (i.e., stock market returns and exchange rate). The COVID-19 outbreak, on the other hand, would be the independent variable of the study.

Finally, the collected secondary data would then be analysed using E-Views software of statistical analysis, which generally investigates economic data. The study applies a variety of techniques to assess the data, which includes descriptive statistics, independent samples t-test, correlation, and OLS regression.

While conducting the study, the researcher has taken into account all ethical principles, including the protection of data, transparency, credibility, integrity, originality, honesty, and truthfulness.

## Results and Analysis

This chapter of the study applies various techniques to address the research problem, i.e. evaluating the economic effects of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Jordan statistically.

Table 1. Descriptive statistics

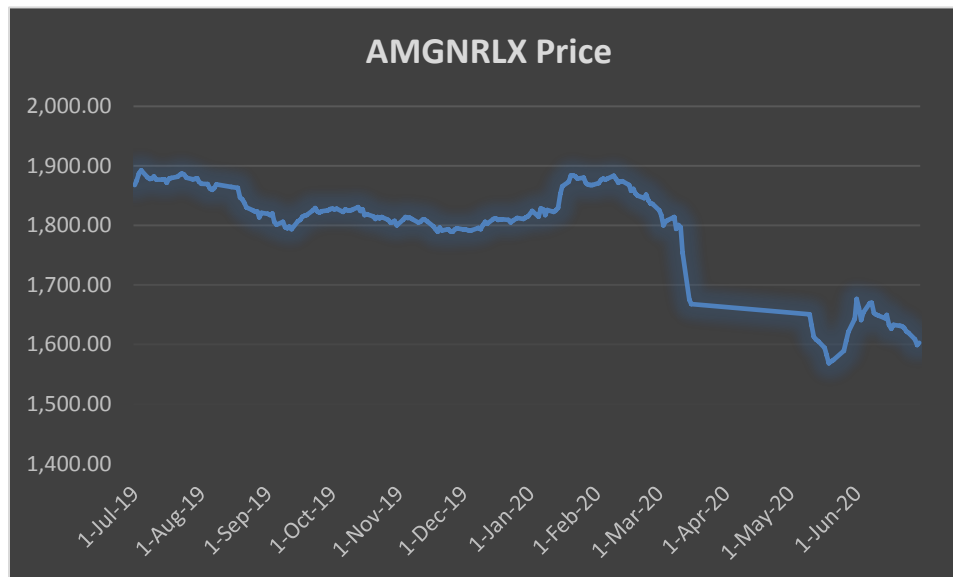
	<b>Index Price</b>	<b>Ind. Returns</b>	<b>Exchange Rate</b>	<b>Ex. Returns</b>	<b>New Cases</b>	<b>Cases per Million</b>
Mean	1796.688	-0.001	0.709	0.000	11.615	1.138
Median	1814.830	0.000	0.709	0.000	9.000	0.882
Maximum	1892.680	0.020	0.710	0.003	27.000	2.646



Minimum	1568.600	-0.045	0.707	-0.003	0.000	0.000
Std. Dev.	84.183	0.006	0.000	0.001	7.676	0.752
Skewness	-1.331	-2.375	-2.827	-0.507	0.368	0.368
Kurtosis	3.628	22.739	11.783	12.415	1.942	1.942
Jarque-Bera	67.352	3709.588	982.032	806.987	2.697	2.697
Probability	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.260	0.260
Sum	388084.700	-0.157	153.121	0.000	453.000	44.394
Sum Sq. Dev.	1523664.000	0.007	0.000	0.000	2239.231	21.506
Observations	216	216	216	216	39	39

According to the above table, during the sample period (2019-2020), the average Amman SE General (AMGNRLX) index price is equal to JOD 1796.688, with a standard deviation of JOD 84.183. It shows the index has shown variation due the period, with a minimum price recorded on 19 May 2020 (Covid-19 period). Following chart illustrates how the market has declined during the period, which can be apparently attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Figure 1. Stock Index Price



Moreover, it is observed that average stock market returns are negative, with a higher standard deviation than the mean value. The exchange rate, which is another economic indicator, has an average of 0.709 USD/JOD during the period. It has remained fixed, with minor variation, as it is pegged to USD. It suggests that the COVID-19 outbreak has not affected the exchange rate, which is an important macroeconomic indicator for a country. The average new cases per day in

the country has remained low since the inception (03 March 2020), compared to other countries of the world ( $M = 11.6$ ,  $SD = 7.7$ ). Similarly, the average new cases per million are also low, i.e. only 1.138.

COVID		N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
<b>Price</b>	No	169	1834.518	31.140	2.395
	Yes	47	1660.664	73.614	10.738
<b>Returns</b>	No	169	0.000	0.003	0.000
	Yes	47	-0.003	0.010	0.001

To examine the economic effects of COVID-19 in Jordan, the study first applies independent samples t-test. It examines the difference in AMGNRLX's price and returns between COVID-19 and prior-COVID-19 periods. Table 2 reveals that differences in mean scores of price and returns exist.

		Levene's Test for Equality of Variances		t-test for Equality of Means		
		F	Sig.	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
<b>Price</b>	Equal variances assumed	44.192	0.000	24.022	214	0.000
	Equal variances not assumed			15.802	50.658	0.000
<b>Returns</b>	Equal variances assumed	52.507	0.000	2.829	214	0.005
	Equal variances not assumed			1.692	48.373	0.097

To determine whether the above differences are statistically significant, the study applies independent samples t-test. According to the value, there are significant differences in AMGNRLX's price and returns between COVID-19 and prior-COVID-19 periods; where the COVID-19 period exhibit both lower index price and index returns. In other words, COVID-19 outbreak has a significant negative influence on Jordan's stock market performance.

To assess further relationships, the study applies the Pearson correlation.

Table 4. Correlation

Covariance Analysis: Ordinary						
Sample: 171						
216						
Included observations: 39						
Balanced sample (listwise missing value deletion)						
Correlation						
Probability	Price	Returns	Ex price	Ex return	New cases	Case million
Price	1					
	-----					
Returns	0.0431	1				
	0.7945	-----				
Ex price	-0.0847	0.1639	1			
	0.6083	0.3189	-----			
Ex return	-0.0033	0.0892	-0.1270	1		
	0.9841	0.5892	0.4411	-----		
New cases	-0.2725	-0.3422	-0.1395	-0.0320	1	
	0.0933	0.0330	0.3970	0.8466	-----	
Case million	-0.2725	-0.3422	-0.1395	-0.0320	1	1
	0.0933	0.0330	0.3970	0.8466	NA	-----

According to the results, the index price has a significant correlation with new COVID-19 case reported at 0.1 level. Moreover, there is also a significant correlation between stock returns and new cases. The direction of the relationship between both sets is negative. It means that a greater number of new COVID-19 cases results in lower index price and returns. It shows the negative influence of COVID-19 on the economy of Jordan. It validates the previous results with a new set of predictors.

Finally, the study performs an OLS regression to confirm the impact of COVID on the stock market performance, which is an economic indicator in this case.

Table 5. Regression Analysis

Dependent Variable: S_RETURNS				
Method: Least Squares				
Sample (adjusted): 171 216				
Included observations: 39 after adjustments				
Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
NEW_CASES	-0.0003	0.000156	-2.2156	0.033

C	0.0027	0.002157	1.2659	0.2135
R-squared	0.1171	Mean dependent var		-0.0013
Adjusted R-squared	0.0933	S.D. dependent var		0.0077
SE of regression	0.0074	Akaike info criterion		-6.9360
Sum squared resid.	0.0020	Schwarz criterion		-6.8507
Log-likelihood	137.2522	Hannan-Quinn criteria		-6.9054
F-statistic	4.9088	Durbin-Watson stat		1.1566
Prob(F-statistic)	0.0330			

According to the OLS table, the model is statistically significant at 0.05 level in predicting stock market returns,  $F = 4.908$ ,  $p < 0.05$ . The r-squared value is equal to 0.117, suggesting that the model is able to explain 11.71 variances in the dependent variable.

Individually, the impact of COVID-19's new case is significant and negative over the stock market's performance. Amman's stock exchange was closed during the lockdown period, which also affected the performance. The coefficient sign suggests that one new case reported, decreases returns by 0.03%.

To validate the results, this research presents findings related to COVID-19's impact on the country's economy. Covid-19 has economic effects; many countries across the globe are affected by the crisis in which Jordan is also included. It is observed that one of the main economic effects of the pandemic on Jordan's economy is the increasing unemployment since people have lost their jobs due to shutdowns which is leading to the bankruptcy of companies and ultimately economic recession. The pandemic is prompting a deep worldwide downturn that might be extended, partially because of the well-being dangers. As per a report, the economy of Jordan is anticipated to decline. The global economy survey done by the World Bank in June 2020 indicated a decline of 4.2% for the region and a contraction of 5.2% (Al-Saeed & El Khalil, 2020). This negative effect is due to declining industries, such as the travel and tourism industry. Moreover, the borders were closed during the period, due to which the country significantly lost in terms of supplies and faced a major breakdown of energy (Al-Saeed & El Khalil, 2020). The stock market of Jordan is operating again after several months of decline and continuous shut down of around 50 days, as a direct consequence of COVID-19.

According to Nordea (2020), GDP growth would decline by 3.7% due to COVID-19 outbreak. Moreover, it is expected that the current account deficit of the country would expand from 2.8% to 5.3% of the GDP. Inflation also fell due to sluggish demand. COVID-19 also have a drastic effect on the companies and enterprises in Jordan. Businesses are lacking financial resources, assets, access to finance, and cash reserves due to the crisis. In short, COVID-19 has disrupted by the economic conditions of the country, which is likely to continue until the world is able to control the threat.

Moreover, the impact of COVID-19 has been recorded in different parts of the world on financial markets (Zhang et al., 2020). It is observed that the immediate effect of COVID-19 was disastrous, which caused crashes in some of the well-performing stock markets. The findings of the current study can be backed by this evidence, where the outbreak had caused a decline in Jordanian stock returns.

## **Conclusion**

The objective of the current research study was to assess the impact of COVID-19 outbreak on the economy of Jordan. For this purpose, the study presented a detailed literature review and designed a methodology to address the research problem. Considering stock market prices and returns as an economic proxy, the study applied a variety of tests to examine relationships under the quantitative research approach. According to the findings of the study, the average stock market returns are negative, with a higher variance than the average value. On the other hand, the mean number of corona cases have remained low in the country when compared to other nations. However, the tests revealed a significant relationship between the number of new cases reported and stock performance. The OLS regression suggests that COVID-19 has a significant influence over the performance of the most famous stock index of the country.

These findings suggest that Jordan needs to focus on countering the COVID-19 threat to save its economy in the long-run. Although this study determined the short-run impact, future studies on the subject may use other variables as well to determine the long-term impact of COVID-19 on the country's economy. This study has emphasised on a limited number of macroeconomic variables due to a lack of economic data for the period under study. Future research on a similar subject is recommended to look for more approaches to extract a greater number of variables and considerably higher sample size, such as conducting primary research. The primary research can benefit from relying on interviews from experts to gain insights and facts in detail.

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