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The impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on the performance of the financial market: The case of the Sector indices in the Egyptian Stock Exchange

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الملخص Abstract

This paper aims to study the effect of coronavirus pandemic on the performance 0f the financial market in the Egyptian Stock Exchange, Coronavirus spread has been measured by "Total cases, daily cases, Total deaths and Daily deaths" on daily basis. The dependent variable reflects the response of the Egyptian sectorial indicators to the spread of the Coronavirus and is measured by the returns of the daily sectorial indicators for the Egyptian stock market; this has been applied on daily basis over the period from March 1, 2020 till October 31, 2021.

Results indicate that the returns of the stock market sectors seems to be more sensitive to total indicators of mortality than daily deaths from coronavirus, and daily cases more than total cases of coronavirus. The coefficient of determination between the independent variables and the variable belonging to 4 sectors is (IT, Media & Communication Services 0.393, Industrial Goods, Services and Automobiles 0.470, Health Care & Pharmaceuticals 0.327, Basic Resources 0.266), While the correlation coefficient and the coefficient of determination between the independent variables and the dependent variable reached strong correlation ratios for 13 sectors of the stock exchange.

تهدف الدراسة الحالية إلى دراسة تأثير جائحة فيروس كورونا على أداء السوق المالية في البورصة المصرية، وقد تم قياس انتشار فيروس كورونا من خلال "إجمالي الحالات ، والحالات اليومية ، وإجمالي الوفيات والوفيات اليومية" على أساس يومي. ويعكس المتغير التابع المتعلق بأداء السوق المالي استجابة مؤشرات القطاعات المصرية لانتشار فيروس كورون، اوتقاس مؤشرات القطاعات بعوائد جميع مؤشرات القطاعات لسوق الأسهم المصرية والمتمثلة في 17 قطاعا. تم تطبيق هذا على أساس يومي على مدار الفترة من 1 مارس 2020 حتى 31 أكتوبر 2021.

تشير النتائج إلى وجود علاقة ذات دلالة إحصائية بين جائحة كورونا وأداء السوق المالى، كما وجدت أن عوائد قطاعات البورصة المصرية أكثر حساسية لمؤشرات الوفيات الإجمالية عن الوفيات اليومية للحالات، وللحالات اليومية أكثر من إجمالي حالات الإصابة بفيروس كورونا. ويتمثل معامل التحديد بين المتغيرات المستقلة والمتغير الذي ينتمي إلى (4) قطاعات هي (الااتصالات وخدمات الإعلام وتكنولوجيا المعلومات 0.393، الخدمات والمنتجات الصناعية والسيارات 0.470، الرعاية الصحية والأدوية 0.327، الموارد الأساسية 0.266)، بينما حقق معامل الارتباط ومعامل التحديد بين المتغيرات المستقلة والمتغير التابع نسب ارتباط قوبة لـ (13) قطاعاً في البورصة المصربة.

Keywords: Coronavirus, Stock Market Sectors, – الأداء – الأداء – Performance. Egyptian Stock Exchange,

1. Introduction:

The World Health Organization declared on March 11 that COVID-19 is a pandemic; the Coronavirus (Covid-19) has spread to more than 180 countries around the world, on six continents. The total number of cases of coronavirus illness more than 248 million, and the total deaths reached nearly five million cases and nearly 225 million cases of recovery in October 2021 (Ajayi et al., 2020).

Since March 2020, Egypt has been affected, like much of the world, by the COVID-19 pandemic. The toll of the coronavirus emergency in Egypt has exceeded the threshold of 150 thousand cases. According to reports from the Ministry of Health and Population of Egypt, the number of cases in Egypt has reached 333,000, while the deaths caused to date by the virus total 18.827, which is reflected in the sales of various sectors in the Egyptian market (www.worldometers.com).

The impact of economic and social Coronavirus (Covid-19) was essential to attract everyone's attention. As the health crisis turned into a financial crisis, investors suffered huge losses in quick time, risks increased dramatically (Zhang et al., 2020), and the level of market volatility reached almost unprecedented levels (Baker et al., 2020). This requires the government to take many monetary and financial measures to contain the impact of the pandemic and to overcome these difficult times (Smales, 2020).

The objective of the study is to determine the impact of COVID-19 on the performance of financial market to analyze financial sector's' response to novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

After this introduction, section 2 illustrates the related literature. Section 3 explains how to develop hypotheses and measure variables. Section 4 presents descriptive and diagnostic statistics. Section 5 is for testing hypotheses and section 6 is for robustness checks. Section 7 summarizes the paper and provides remarks about conclusions.

Reported Cases and Deaths:

At present the world is facing an unprecedented crisis; investors are rapidly changing their directions, which are reflected in their transactions (Bucciol and Miniaci, 2012). It is interesting to link the crisis with the reaction of investors at the time of the crisis by focusing on the trends of investors' trading on the performance of financial markets in times of crisis, by focusing on the repercussions of the investors' reaction through buying and selling transactions in the time of the Coronavirus (Covid-19) (Allam et al., 2020).

The spread of the Corona virus cannot be considered an "event", because it is not dated with the informational content, which can be used to define the window of the event in terms of the methodology of studying the event. Besides, the difference is still ongoing, which is why the event period is still unknown. (Alber, 2020).

Figure (1): Daily New Cases in Egypt

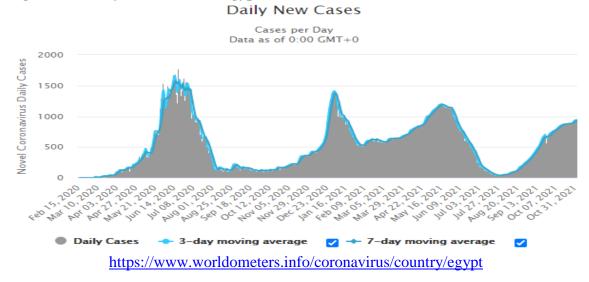
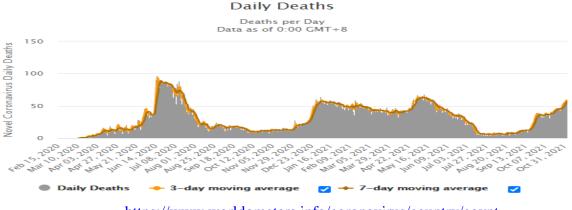


Figure (2): Daily New Deaths in Egypt

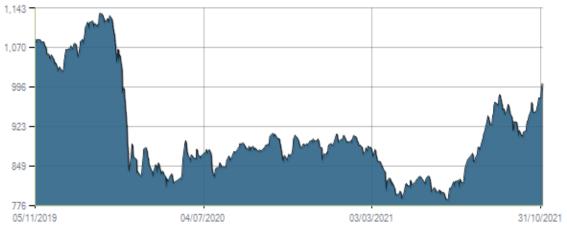


https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/country/egypt

Selecting a research sample

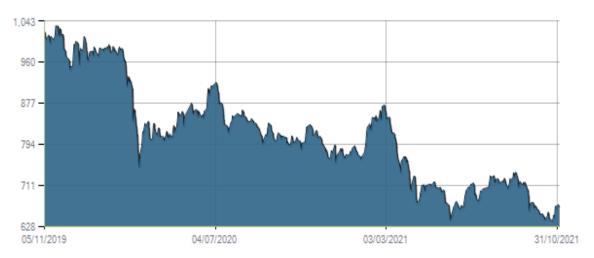
The sample was selected from all the indicators of the financial sectors in the Egyptian Stock Exchange, which are represented in 17 sectors from the date of 1/3/2020 to 31/10/2021. The most important of these sectors can be presented as shown in Figure No. (3). (4) and (5) the following:

Figure (3): Banking sector index from 1/3/2020 to 31/10/2021.



Source: https://www.egx.com.eg/ar/Indices.

Figure (4): Health care and medicine sector index from 1/3/2020 to 31/10/2021.



Source: https://www.egx.com.eg/ar/Indices.

31/10/2021. ,122 952

Figure (5): Transportation and Shipping services sector index from 1/3/2020 to 31/10/2021.

Source: https://www.egx.com.eg/ar/Indices

03/03/2021

31/10/2021

This paper addresses a main question about the financial market reaction to Coronavirus spread. This has been applied on the Sector indices in the Egyptian Stock Exchange, on daily basis over the period from March 1, 2020 till October 31, 2021.

So, this paper tries to address the following questions:

04/07/2020

- 1. Do new coronavirus cases affect the performance of the Egyptian financial market?
- 2. Does the total number of coronavirus cases affect the performance of the Egyptian financial market?
- 3. Do deaths from the emerging coronavirus affect the performance of the Egyptian financial market?
- 4. Does the total number of deaths from the Corona virus affect the performance of the Egyptian financial market?
- 5. Are there significant differences between the indicators of the Egyptian financial market sectors?

2. Literature Review:

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05/11/2019

In this section, we try to present some of the previous literature for this research. The first section deals with some recent literature on the economic and financial effects of COVID-19, while the second section deals with some literature related to the performance of financial markets, and finally the third section deals with literature related to the relationship between COVID-19 and financial markets.

2.1. Literature Review about COVID-19:

(Alber, 2013b) aims to analyze the effects of quality declaration on the performance of listed Egyptian companies. This was performed using a sample of 11 events, covering

international and national quality certification declarations over the period from 2006 to 2012. Using the With the spread of COVID-19 from China to most of the countries of the world, this resulted in the restriction of activities such as travel, transportation, labor mobility and reduced working hours in February, thus production decreased, which led to global financial uncertainty (Alber, 2020).

The Covid-19 pandemic has caused a complex valuation problem for investors. As the first sign of community spread emerged in the United States, investors were faced with a series of questions: How quickly could the virus spread? How would it be fatal? How will the government respond? How long will the epidemic last? How quickly will the economy recover? Could the pandemic provide opportunities for some companies? With fundamental uncertainty about each of these factors, even among experts, investors have had to update their expectations about the company's outlook (Cookson et al., 2020).

Regarding the economic impacts of the spread of the coronavirus, (Mele & Magazzino, 2021) used two different methods to explore the relationship between pollution emissions, economic growth and COVID-19 deaths in India. Use the time series approach. The results highlight the causal relationship between economic growth and pollution. We use data (from January 29 to May 18, 2020) on confirmed deaths and air pollution concentration levels in 25 major Indian cities.

(Allam et al., 2020) aims to study the impact of the Coronavirus on the trading behavior of individual and institutional investors in the Egyptian Stock Exchange. Applied daily from March 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020, the results indicate that the trading behavior of individual and institutional investors for Egyptians, Arabs, and foreigners appears to be sensitive to the spread of the coronavirus. And the variable (total cases) was more sensitive to the behavior of the trading of Arab institutions, and for foreign investors, the variable (daily deaths) was more sensitive to the behavior of individual foreign investors, and it was the variable (total deaths), More sensitive to the behavior of foreign institutions.

(McKibbin & Fernando, 2020) Review some preliminary cost estimates for the COVID-19 outbreak under seven different scenarios for how the disease might develop. The goal is not to be critical about the virus outbreak, but rather to provide information about a range of potential economic costs of the disease.

2.2. Literature related to the performance of financial markets:

The reaction of governments through their policies can lead to economic depression (Barro et al., 2020), and, as a consequence, rapidly infect financial markets (Ramelli & Wagner, 2020). As noted (Malec et al., 2018), excessive regulation of financial markets is

likely to result in more costs than benefits. Therefore, it is important to apply a balanced set of measures. Unfortunately, many decisions made during the current crisis focus too much on political and economic considerations rather than public safety and security, which has resulted in many cases of infection (Goniervicz et al., 2020).

Event study methodology, the results indicate that hypotheses regarding the significance of differences between ARs can be accepted with an estimation period of 30 days. The results also showed that the informational content of the competitive advantages has a positive impact on the abnormal returns of the companies listed on the Egyptian Stock Exchange.

(Adeyeye et al., 2018) studied the impact of the global financial crisis on the behavior of emerging stock markets by providing evidence of the efficiency and volatility of the Nigerian stock market. The period under review ranges from July 2004 to December 2014. It has been divided into the pre-crisis period (July 2004 - June 2007), the crisis period (July 2007 - November 2011), and the post-crisis period (December 2011 - December 2014). The study showed that the global financial crisis led to a decline in stock prices, but did not have a significant impact on the price volatility in the Nigerian stock market.

2.3. Literature about relationship between COVID-19 and the financial markets:

The rapid spread of the Covid-19 has had significant impacts on financial markets around the world, creating an unprecedented level of risk (Zhang et al., 2020). Globally, the Coronavirus shock serves even compared to the major financial crisis of 2007-2008, but the impact of Covid-19 on financial markets is still under investigation (Allam et al., 2020).

(Singh & Shaik, 2021) aimed to analyze the short-term impact of COVID-19 on global stock market indices. By examining the impact of six different WHO announcements on COVID-19 on five different sectors (pharma, healthcare, IT, hotels and Airline) based on indicators of three different economies. The results of the study indicate a significant impact of COVID-19 on global stock markets. However, the effect is different for advanced and emerging economies.

Another study by (Alber, 2020) attempts to investigate the effects of the coronavirus outbreak on European stock markets. This was applied to the stock markets of Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom, on a daily basis from February 15, 2020 until May 24, 2020. The results indicate that the abnormal return of the stock market appears to be more sensitive to coronavirus cases than deaths. And the cumulative indicators of the Corona virus are more than new cases.

(Alber & Saleh, 2020) investigated the effects of the worldwide spread of COVID-19 on the stock markets of the GCC. The results show that there are significant differences between stock market indices during the research period. Besides, stock market returns appear to be sensitive to new deaths from the coronavirus. Moreover, this was confirmed for the march without any evidence of these effects during April and May 2020.

Several papers also focus on the market's reaction to the spread of the COVID-19 in terms of "industry impact", as (Mazur, Dang & Vega, 2021) investigated the performance of the US stock market during the March 2020 crash due to COVID-19, using 1,500 standard & Poor's during March 2020. The results indicate that stocks of natural gas, food, healthcare and software are achieving high positive returns, while found that stock values in the sectors of petroleum, real estate, entertainment and hospitality decline dramatically.

(Engelhardt et al. 2020) claims that the unprecedented negative consequences of COVID-19 on financial markets indicate broad implications for market participants and policy makers. It was found that the medium-term macroeconomic policy should focus on recovery measures. While (Okorie & Lin, 2021) note that the effects of the COVID-19 on stock markets decline in the medium and long term (Baker et al. 2020). (Sansa, 2020) reveals a significant correlation between confirmed cases of COVID-19 and the Chinese and US stock markets. (He et al., 2020) confirms that the coronavirus pandemic is having a negative but short-term impact on stock markets.

(Sansa & Humanities, 2020) aimed to identify the impact of Covid-19 on the financial markets from March 1, 2020 to March 25, 2020 in China and the USA. Simple regression model and time series data were applied using Shanghai stock exchanges as a sample for China and New York Dow Jones as a sample for the United States of America. The results of the study showed that there is a significant positive relationship between confirmed cases of Covid-19 and all financial markets (Shanghai Stock Exchange and New York Dow Jones) from March 1, 2020 to March 25, 2020. This means: Covid-19 had a significant impact on the financial markets from March 1 2020 to March 25, 2020 in China and the USA.

3. Measuring Variables and Developing Hypotheses:

Coronavirus prevalence was measured by indicators of virus spread in the Arab Republic of Egypt by using (Daily cases, total cases, daily deaths, total deaths) daily as independent variables, And Egyptian Sectorial indicators in the Egyptian Stock Exchange as the dependent variable measured by the returns of the daily sectorial indicators for the Egyptian stock market, through the difference between purchase and sale transactions on

the Egyptian Stock Exchange applied on Daily basis from 1st March 2020 to 31 March 2021.

3.1. This Paper Aims To Test The Following Hypotheses:

This paper aims at testing the significance of the coronavirus pandemic on the performance of the Egyptian financial market. This has been conducted by testing the following hypotheses:

H1: There is no statistical significance impact of coronavirus daily cases on Stock market return.

H2: There is no statistical significance impact of coronavirus total cases on Stock market return.

H3: There is no statistical significance impact of coronavirus daily deaths on Stock market return.

H4: There is no statistical significance impact of coronavirus total deaths on Stock market return.

This means that alternative hypothesis Ha: $\beta \# 0$ versus null hypothesis Hb: $\beta = 0$, where β is the regression coefficient of the following functions: -

SMR =
$$\alpha + \beta 1$$
 (Daily Cases) + $\beta 2$ (Total Cases) + $\beta 3$ (Daily Deaths) + $\beta 4$ (Total Deaths) + ϵ

The independent variables were measured by 'daily cases', 'total cases', 'daily deaths' and 'total deaths', while the dependent variable were measured by daily financial sectors indices. The data is obtained from Egyptian Stock Exchange on a daily basis during the period from March 1, 2020 to October 31 2021.

3.2. Descriptive and Diagnostic Statistics:

The following tables illustrate the descriptive statistics of the research variables Table 1.Research variable

Table (1): Descriptive statistics of independent variables

Variables	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Std. Dev	Skewness	Kurtosis
Total Cases	248.522	1322	2	9400	2653.49	1.064	0.054
Daily Cases	140.283	112	0	495	134.374	0.921	0.024
Total Deaths	162.119	85	0	525	169.68	0.748	-0.832
Daily Deaths	8	7	0	22	6.7689	0.355	-1.127

^{*} Source: Data Processing output using SPSS v.25.

Table (2): Descriptive statistics of dependent variables from the date of 1/3/2020 to 31/10/2021:

Variables	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Std. Dev	Skewness	Kurtosis
IT, Media &	744.4	745.95	639.95	808.48	42.04	65	.09
Communication							
services							
Food, Beverages	655.3	654.01	590.30	756.27	46.05	.89	.23
and Tobacco							
Banks	886.5	858.00	829.23	1066.16	72.85	1.52	.84
Trade &	762.5	737.86	686.41	908.99	63.22	1.26	.37
Distributors							
Shipping &	611.2	622.65	451.42	697.12	67.15	75	14
Transportation services							
Education services	1429.4	1436.68	1265.39	1549.75	74.67	54	27
Non-bank	623.3	623.82	514.55	772.26	67.24	.62	22
financial services							
Industrial Goods,	569.3	576.41	438.50	640.30	49.86	64	06
services &							
Automobiles							
Health care &	828.57	819.43	748.79	930.25	40.08	1.16	1.42
pharmaceuticals							
Travel & leisure	819.9	823.09	708.20	925.28	55.09	14	34
Energy & support	577.4	577.33	501.33	656.00	38.97	.24	=.58
services							
Real Estate	566.5	556.67	445.04	690.09	56.05	.48	01
Contracting &	655.4	673.45	512.78	746.68	61.62	55	50
construction							
Engineering							
Textile & Durables	726.1	724.99	591.86	849.90	77.26	.00	-1.40
Building Materials	580.4	568.52	523.49	642.12	32.14	.46	79
Basic Resources	495.0	496.84	400.53	565.31	35.61	67	.80
Paper &	555.7	552.37	432.26	659.64	57.95	24	51
Packaging			4i CDC6				

* Source: Data Processing output using SPSS v.25.

3. Testing Hypotheses:

In order to test the validity of the hypotheses or not, a multiple regression test was conducted on all sectors of the stock exchange in order to know the effect of changes in the independent variables of the spread of the Corona virus on the index return values by different type of sector by using the method of ordinary least squares (OLS).

Table (3): Summary of the multiple regression tables for the sectors of the Egyptian Exchange:

	Model		odel	ANOVA		Coefficients of			
	Dependent	Summary				Independent			
	Variables	Stilling y				Variables			
	Variables	R	\mathbb{R}^2	\mathbf{F}	Sig	variables	β	t	Sig
						(Constant)	764.257	66.750	.000
						Total Cases	368	-3.610	.001
	IT, Media &					Daily Cases	.183	1.219	.229
(1)	Communication	0.627	0.393	6.969	0.000	Total Deaths	4.939	3.849	.000
	Services					Daily Deaths	-1.251	737	.465
						(Constant)	717.283	65.007	.000
						Total Cases	671	-6.833	.000
	Food, Beverages					Daily Cases	.490	3.381	.002
(2)	& Tobacco	0.728	0.531	12.152	0.000	Total Deaths	8.539	6.905	.000
(-)			*****			Daily Deaths	-3.102	-1.896	.065
						,			
						(Constant)	1006.110	69.332	.000
(2)						Total Cases	907	-7.021	.000
(3)			0 - -	** ***		Daily Cases	.547	2.872	.006
	Banks	0.822	0.676	22.385	0.000	Total Deaths	11.220	6.899	.000
						Daily Deaths	-5.205	-2.429	.020
						(Constant)	863.681	64.289	.000
						Total Cases	792	-6.623	.000
(4)	Trade &					Daily Cases	.481	2.2725	.009
	Distributors	0.794	0.631	18.360	0.000	Total Deaths	9.957	6.613	.000
						Daily Deaths	-5.964	-2.995	.005
						(Constant)	647.401	40.408	.000
						Total Cases	732	-5.132	.000
(5)	Shipping &					Daily Cases	.522	2.481	.017
(-)	Transportation	0.731	0.534	12.341	0.000	Total Deaths	9.592	5.342	.000
	Services					Daily Deaths	-1.026	432	.668
						(Constant)	1407.439	88.138	.000
						Total Cases	310	-2.185	.034
(6)	Education					Daily Cases	.321	1.529	.134
(0)	Services	0.792	0.626	17,992	0.000	Total Deaths	4.586	2.563	.014
	Services	01.72	0.020	1,,,,,,	0.000	Daily Deaths	-1.446	611	.545
						(0	F10 100	45.455	000
						(Constant)	712.182	47.475	.000
	Non bank					Total Cases	-1.019 720	-7.632	.000
(7)	Non-bank financial	0.770	0.593	15.662	0.000	Daily Cases Total Deaths	.720 13.083	3.656 7.781	.001
	services	0.770	0.373	13.002	0.000	Daily Deaths	-4.921	-2.213	.000 .032
	Sei vices					Daily Deaths	-7.741	-4.413	.032
						(Constant)	615.616	48.507	.000
(2)						Total Cases	649	-5.751	.000
(8)	Industrial					Daily Cases	.494	2.963	.005
	Goods, services	0.686	0.470	9.543	0.000	Total Deaths	8.291	5.829	.000
	& Automobiles					Daily Deaths	-1.084	576	.567
						(Constant)	875.635	76,164	.000
						Total Cases	385	-3.763	.001
(9)	Health care &					Daily Cases	.188	1.243	.221
	Pharmaceuticals	0.572	0.327	5.224	0.002	Total Deaths	4.860	3.772	.000

						Daily Deaths	-2.147	-1.260	.215
						(Constant)	879.799	68.262	.000
						Total Cases	776	-6.768	.000
(10)	Travel &					Daily Cases	.539	3,183	.003
	Leisure	0.743	0.552	13.265	0.000	Total Deaths	10.025	6.940	.000
						Daily Deaths	-2.901	-1.519	.136
						(Constant)	608.996	62.682	.000
						Total Cases	459	-5.304	.000
(11)	Energy &					Daily Cases	.322	2.522	.015
	Support services	0.701	0.492	10.395	0.000	Total Deaths	6.045	5.552	.000
						Daily Deaths	-2.610	-1.812	.027
						(Constant)	638.813-	46.665	.000
						Total Cases	.798	-6.555	.000
(12)	Real Estate					Daily Cases	.553	3.074	.004
		0.716	0.512	11.285	0.000	Total Deaths	10.206	6.652	.000
						Daily Deaths	-3.571	-1.760	.086
						(Constant)	686.977	48.754	.000
						Total Cases	662	-5.298	.000
(13)	Contracting &					Daily Cases	.452	2.453	.018
, ,	Construction	0.758	0.575	14.536	0.000	Total Deaths	8.696	5.522	.000
	Engineering					Daily Deaths	256	123	.903
						(Constant)	787.830	50.710	.000
						Total Cases	-1.029	-7.440	.000
(14)	Textile &					Daily Cases	.765	3.748	.001
, ,	Durables	0.818	0.669	21.765	0.000	Total Deaths	13.488	7.746	,000
						Daily Deaths	-3.877	-1.683	.000
						(Constant)	620.715	81.973	.000
						Total Cases	454	-6.745	.000
(15)	Building					Daily Cases	.325	3.271	.002
	Materials	0.739	0.546	12.9291	0.000	Total Deaths	5.878	6.926	.000
						Daily Deaths	-2.891	-2.576	.004
						(Constant)	522.579	48.967	.000
						Total Cases	360	-3.789	.000
(16)	Basic Resources					Daily Cases	.279	1.993	.053
Ì		0.515	0.266	3.890	0.009	Total Deaths	4.587	3.835	.000
						Daily Deaths	946	598	.553
						(Constant)	568.334	48.435	.000
						Total Cases	493	-4.724	.000
(17)	Paper &					Daily Cases	.279	1.814	.077
(27)	Packaging	0.815	0.665	21.315	0.000	Total Deaths	6.789	5.162	.000
	- uchuşing	0.010	0.302	21.010	0.000	Daily Deaths	-1.632	.938	.353

^{*} Source: Data Processing output using SPSS v.25.

- To explain the results of T able No. (3), we note the following:

1. The results of the multiple regressions for the summary of the multiple regression model for all sectors of the stock exchange were as follows:

- The correlation coefficient between the independent and dependent variables with mean correlation ratios for 4 sectors is (IT, Media & Communication Services 0.627 and the coefficient of 0.393, Industrial Goods, Services and Automobiles. 0.686 and the coefficient of 0.470, Health Care & Pharmaceuticals. 0.572 and the coefficient of determination 0.327, Basic Resources 0.515 and parameter coefficient 0.266).
- While the correlation coefficient and the coefficient of determination between the independent variables and the dependent variable reached strong correlation ratios for 13 sectors of the stock exchange.
- 2. The results of the statistical significance of the multiple regression models for all sectors of the stock market were significant according to (F) test at the level of significance (0.05), where all models were less than the level of significance (0.05), which indicates the significance of the regression models.
- 3. The results of the statistically significant mean of the independent variables identified and influencing the dependent variable were significant according to (T) test at the level of significance (0.05), where all independent variables were less than the significance level (0.05), except for the independent variable Daily Deaths. It had no significant effect on (11) sectors and the independent variable Daily Cases had no significant effect on (5) sectors according to (T) test at a significant level (0.05).

4. Summary and Concluded Remarks:

This paper attempts to verify the effects of Coronavirus pandemic on (17 sectors) sectors of the Egyptian Stock Exchange. Prevalence of coronavirus was measured with Daily Cases, Total Cases, Daily Deaths, Total Deaths, on a daily basis from March 1, 2020 to October 31, 2021.

Most of the previous studies deal with the economic effects of the COVID19 epidemic, while this study studies its effects on the stock market sectors.

The results indicate that the returns of the stock market sectors appear to be more sensitive to Total deaths indicators than daily deaths from Corona virus, and daily cases more than the total cases of Corona virus.

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