

*Full length Research paper*

# Coronavirus, Covid-19 and its centrifugal effects

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Although the novel coronavirus, covid-19, had its inception in the latter part of the year 2019, its accelerated divergence at the initial commencement of the year 2020 into every cranny of our global spatial habitation, particularly, in the first set of the countries to feel the impact as at April 2020 calls for attention as it affects economies and nations at this initial stage, and these are the foremost affected nations at the initiation of the viral divergence in the first-quarter of the year 2020. The work stipulated the economic implications, benefits and characteristics of the virus, the article further submitted the post-economic effects and the aftermath of the supposed eradication of the pandemic. This work uses facts and figures from World Health Organization, WHO and Worldometer to juxtapose its position cum submission with the prevalent data relative to the affected, who are those infected, the death arising from infection and those who survived the pandemic by responding positively to treatment. More so, the article examines the impact of global shutdown as it affects economic activities across the globe and enunciates the caveats that support some corporations, societies cum nations with formidable structures to sustain their continued existence, economies and the citizens respectively during the pandemic.

**KeyWords:** The divergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, economic effects of coronavirus, aftermath of the coronavirus, the centrifugal impact of the pandemic on the globe, economic impacts of the pandemic on nations affected, Global shutdown and its consequences.

## INTRODUCTION

The coronavirus has portrayed the efficacy of the known medical and biological knowledge of virology as the organism or disease-enabled effect that spreads uncontrollably and with an ability to be resilient to cure or eradication<sup>[19]</sup> just as seen in flus, HIV and virus-engendered diseases or epidemics. However, as much as the virus is a global issue and highly pandemic in nature as a result of its drastic spread to nooks and crannies of this spatial global habitation, the virus-intensified disease has also enabled particular caveats. More so, it has spurred a lot of researches and the academic society into search for the cure, and this is actively ongoing. A lot of insinuations, unrealistic and unfounded speculations have been engendered from different corners. The global epidemic has proved to be more potent than global recession. Global recession was not felt by certain societies and personalities, but this has proved to be widely felt. The epidemic turned pandemic<sup>[14]</sup> has affected and almost grounded tourism across nations, denigrated global transportation, immigration, modes of local transportation, reduced business activities and ventures including economic activities.

Emanating from the near-market laboratory in Wuhan-China, the newly emerged coronavirus code-named Covid-19 was first discovered in 1960s<sup>[9]</sup>. Apart from HIV that is a sexually transmitted viral-disease in the last millennial<sup>[17]</sup>, the 2019-discovered coronavirus has proved more viral in this millennium cutting across borders drastically in few months than any other diseases in history. This unprecedented effect is what has engendered global lockdown. No epidemic in the last or penultimate decade which marks the end of the former millennium or in the new third decade of this nascent millennial has proved very rapid, resilient or abortive. However, the migration-intensified disease has its merits and demerits as it has come to plague our world. Although, there have been some pandemics in the past<sup>[12]</sup> which were smallpox, bubonic plague, tuberculosis and black death even as far as 1930, flu pandemic of 1968, while there have also been widely-felt epidemics like Spanish flu in 1918, measles outbreak spanning 1981 to 1991, it was also stated that 14 epidemics have existed between the beginning of the second and start of this third decade (2010-2020) including Ebola from West Africa, but none of these

outbreaks has been fast-tracked like the bat-source virus, CoVid-19<sup>[8]</sup>.

The virus is said to have peculiar characteristics that makes it different from other viruses, epidemics or viral diseases existing or existed, as it is said not to survive in a temperature above 26°C, effective and dangerous when it affects the trachea system, acutely lethal when it passes to the lungs, can only travel 10 feet far, but can survive at least 12 hours on metals and fabrics, can be killed by stomach acid, hence water gagging and drinking can prove to be a potent cure or prevention as they can wash it down the stomach, a thorough hand-washing and use of sanitizers or disinfectants can prevent its expansion, it does not survive in concentrated alcoholic solution or in a medium of high temperature, it attacks the lower and upper respiratory system or organs, causes severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), making it of two types, which are SARS-CoV and MERS (Middle-East Respiratory Syndrome)<sup>[10]</sup> these peculiarities and the pandemic divergence have made the virus have attendant merits and demerits as it comes to invade the rotating cum revolving inhabited atmospheric-covered globe.

**Merits of the viral pandemic**

The pandemic situation has been enabling in certain perspectives. This highly contagious disease has its merits, however, many schools have been subjected to strictly online lecture dispensation as universities and schools across the globe were forced to shut down and to embrace online learning, prompting many universities to approach a full online academic dispensing obligation to meet up with sessional and semester targets. Families are forced to stay together for the fear of contacting the disease or carrier, the ever-busy CEOs, Presidents and investors are forced to stay home<sup>[4]</sup>, thereby spending time with their families and at local

jurisdictions. As much as there is no standing or potent elixir for the disease, everyone has to abide strictly and those going about are doing it at their own risks. Many organisations and philanthropists are dishing out grants to affected and vulnerable societies. More importantly, the quest for lasting solution and data collection has prompted collation within academics and the medical scene, while the move for the cure and data analysis has prompted quantum of research within academics and healthcare practitioners. Financial houses and banks promise to continue to serve customers especially by facilitating online transactions without delay for the lockdown period, so people can be rest assured of financial safety and fast-track during the shutdown.

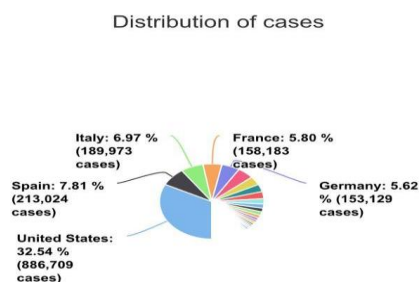
Some set of people are more affected than others, those working in a sole proprietorship organization with no adequate job security suffer from loss or cut in salary or wage. While those working with viable private organizations may have full or half salary depending on the capacity of the company or whether they were working remotely or actively in the lockdown. While those working for the government will undoubtedly be getting a full salary. Landlords and tenants are not sure of rent payment.

More so, a lot of sectors, organizations, NGOs, societies and personalities who were redundant have been engaged in this situation, while some employ new hands, quantum were functional prior to the outbreak and remain active to the new cause of the outbreak even as they maintain social distancing.

Globalisation has also enabled the disease. As globalisation is transforming the world into a global village, this has enhanced the virus-enabled pandemic accelerate to every facet of global spatial habitation and continents. That was why WHO on March 11<sup>th</sup> 2020 declared the disease a pandemic from epidemic<sup>[21]</sup>.

	Europe	North America	Asia	South America	Africa	Oceania						
Country, Other	Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths	Total Recovered	Active Cases	Serious, Critical	Tot Cases/ 1M pop	Deaths/ 1M pop	Total Tests	Tests/ 1M pop	
World	2,710,294	+78,509	190,110	+6,044	743,567	1,776,617	58,675	348	24.4			
USA	876,174	+27,457	49,651	+1,992	85,010	741,513	14,994	2,647	150	4,489,618	13,564	
Spain	213,024	+4,635	22,157	+440	89,250	101,617	7,705	4,556	474	930,230	19,896	
Italy	189,973	+2,646	25,549	+464	57,576	106,848	2,267	3,142	423	1,579,909	26,131	
France	158,183	+2,239	21,856	+516	42,088	94,239	5,053	2,423	335	463,662	7,103	
Germany	151,784	+1,136	5,404	+89	103,300	43,080	2,908	1,812	64	2,072,669	24,738	
UK	138,078	+4,583	18,738	+638	N/A	118,996	1,559	2,034	276	583,496	8,595	
Turkey	101,790	+3,116	2,491	+115	18,491	80,808	1,816	1,207	30	791,906	9,390	
Iran	87,026	+1,030	5,481	+90	64,843	16,702	3,105	1,036	65	389,507	4,637	
China	82,798	+10	4,632		77,207	959	63	58	3			
Russia	62,773	+4,774	555	+42	4,891	57,327	2,300	430	4	2,401,616	16,457	
Brazil	49,492	+3,735	3,313	+407	26,573	19,606	8,318	233	16	291,922	1,373	
Belgium	42,797	+908	6,490	+228	9,800	26,507	993	3,693	560	179,666	15,502	
Canada	41,791	+1,601	2,141	+167	13,986	25,664	557	1,107	57	620,101	16,430	

**Countries cases distribution**



Source: Worldometer - [www.worldometers.info](http://www.worldometers.info)

**Picture 1:** A table showing countries with total cases above 40,000 and a pie chart showing five most affected countries globally as at April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2020, Source: Worldometers)

To a certain extent, the lockdown has been relaxed against restaurants, marts, eateries and supermarkets or departmental stores across nations to help people survive so they can get food and goods supplies even with physical representation but social distancing at points of sale. Hence, these favour not only local providers but the MNCs, and TNCs (Multinational and Transnational Corporations), as they are largely into this sector of business across countries of the globe.

### Demerits of the divergence of the new coronavirus

The virus-intensive disease has affected different sectors, economies and businesses. Universities in third world or underdeveloped nations which do not have structures for online teaching are forced to lockdown for the session. Tourism and airlines are losing lump sum income<sup>[16]</sup>. Governments of susceptible economies have even placed sanctions for those planning on moving around. Banks are forced to give maintenance loans to individuals and households to sustain them. As much as some governments are planning aids to the citizenry for the stay-home policy while sanctions on disobedient businesses or personalities, other governments cannot afford palliative programs. The widely spread illness<sup>[8]</sup> is coming very transcendental as it is fast travelling and almost every nation of the globe are feeling the effect. Churches or mosques are never shut even in the midst of crisis, but

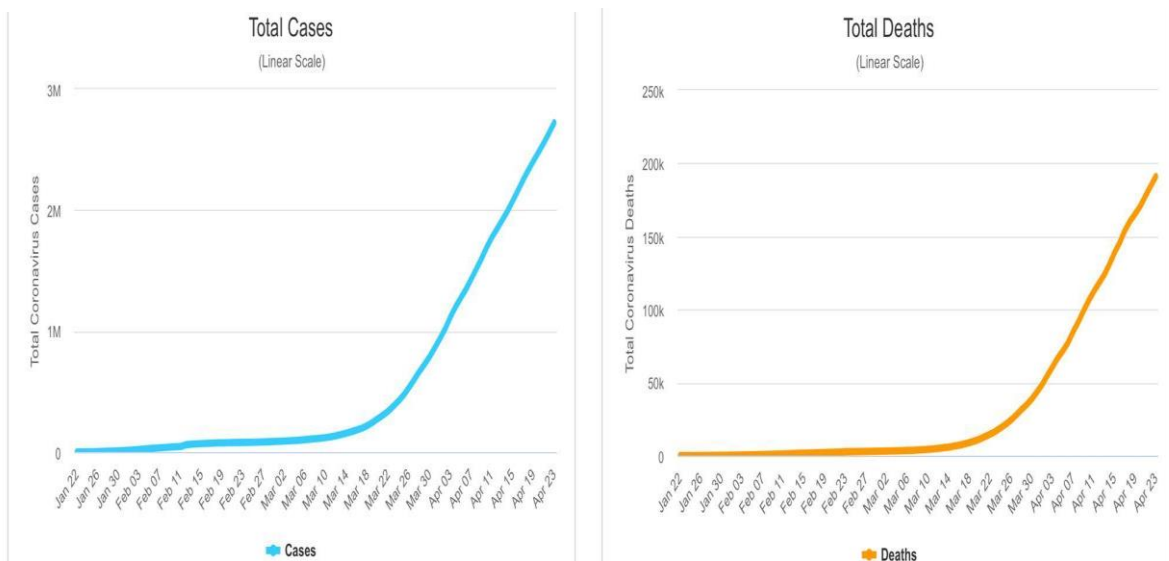
the contagion has subjected large denominations and churches to no-open caveat<sup>[23]</sup>. While people are contracting the disease daily as shown in the representations above and below, governments are spending more than budgeted on medical facilities and their health sectors as a cushion effect for the pandemic. Inadvertently, funds that should have been used for capital accumulation expenditures are appropriated to curb, prevent, cater and care for victims cum the potentials or vulnerable, even in the face of grants and fundraising. While in the international scene, World Health Organization (WHO) and similar organizations are engaged with possible solutions to the epidemic and disbursement of funds and medical personnel to suffering and diverse nations to curtail the plague<sup>[24]</sup>.

Some foreign residents are facing repatriation, whereas some are stuck in places far away from their homes or comfort zones.

Others are stranded away from their loved ones and had to be rescued by evacuation moves. Many functions and ceremonies have been cancelled or shifted indefinitely.

Although people are allowed to get goods and foods but maintaining social distance which has culminated into complaints of long queues at points of sale and longer wait times to get supplies.

Also, carriers and victims are quarantined, but that as it may, is for prevention and people have to abide.



Picture 2: Showing total cases and total deaths across countries globally as at April 23<sup>rd</sup> 2020. (Source: Worldometers)

Meanwhile, many financial institutions that promised to be efficient and co-ordinating have been falling short of expectations in their services to their numerous customers. Clients are complaining that cash flow, transfer and transaction ratification are slower as against their promises for Covid-19 stay-home period or as opposed to when they were fully operational. Christians were made to celebrate Easter solemnly<sup>[23]</sup>, same as many churches have lost a lot from no-service stipulated measures which do not give opportunity for income from tithe and offering collection or submission. In all these, some capable churches and denominations still cater for their members and needy, with provision of goods, foods and pecuniary palliatives. The lockdown extends to Muslims' Ramadan. Same is reflective in the situation of some ventures or organizations who do not operate online business but abiding by shutdown directives as they are losing quantum of income.

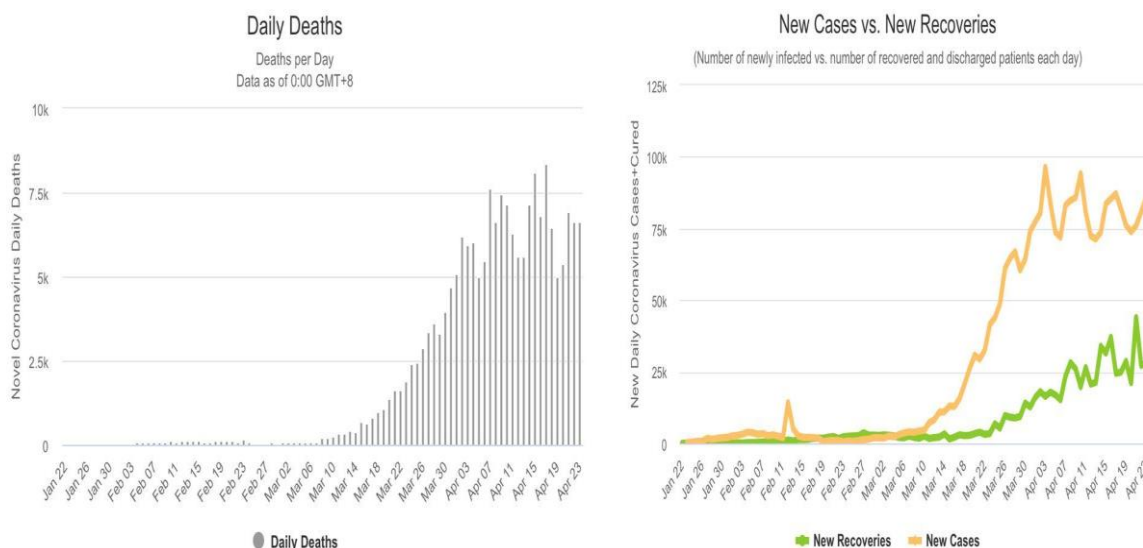
**The coronavirus, Covid-19 and its divergent consequences**

The China-emerged diseases has had a strong and far reaching ripple effect from the source<sup>[15]</sup>. Surprisingly is that it has travelled far and faster than any disease, epidemic or virus in history, from far East-Asia to corners of Europe and far North America to even the crannies of Africa, Covid-19 has been far-reaching than any virus-intensified disease that has ever existed, particularly, faster<sup>[10]</sup>.

This is actually possible because of further globalisation, China is the most populous country globally<sup>[13]</sup>, and their population is 19.48% of the world's total population, while their ratio to the world populace is said to be 1:5<sup>[22]</sup>.

One of the fastest growing economies with constant economic and GDP growth of over 6% for every year for more than 30 years now<sup>[5]</sup>, a very industrialised and globalised nation. Hence, they have connections and proxies in every country.

As globalisation has fast-tracked the spread of the disease, the bat-host pandemic has ground most global activities and national economies<sup>[6]</sup>.



**Picture 3:** Showing daily deaths and new cases relative to new recoveries in countries globally as at April 23rd 2020. (Source: Worldometer)

Actually there has never been a case of this kind of global lockdown in history, such that even national presidents and more so, churches are affected<sup>[7]</sup>, where most churches are not at a flashpoint of terrorist attack or situated close to a warfront.

Financial institutions are operating at low frequency and with the promise of fully operational online to support internet banking in the midst of worldwide gridlock.

The Wuhan-emanated disease has caused an historic global lockdown which no other event, epidemic or disease has ever achieved. Even Nigeria with an acute case of Ebola virus in the last decade never witnessed national gridlock like the China-spread

pandemic virus has caused in the nation<sup>[2]</sup>. Deaths are rising daily in every spatial global location. The virus which has been discovered not to thrive in humid or tropical regions or area<sup>[10]</sup>, has affected temperate while tropical regions domiciled mostly in Africa has had little casualties and recorded low deaths as compared to climate regions in Europe and America where large deaths and victims were recorded and affected respectively. The United States of America is the worst hit with increase in daily deaths and new cases<sup>[25]</sup>, precisely in New York known to be the hub of economic activities in the nation, however, recovery from the disease were recorded with intensive care, preventions were efficient in proactive regions, more so, in Nigeria, after the index case was recorded<sup>[11]</sup>, the daily news of

covid-19 has replaced that of the daily update of terrorism from the residential Boko Haram insurgency<sup>[26]</sup>.

However, the data is alarming as shown in the graphical cum pie-chart illustrations above for within and without china boundary which remains the source and the beginning of the new deadly viral disease. With deaths and casualties rapidly increasing in America, and Italy's supposed jubilation of the outright eradication of the disease in April 5<sup>th</sup> 2020 which was not actualized<sup>[18]</sup>, Spain, the worst hit leading Italy<sup>[3]</sup>, France, Germany, UK and Turkey in Europe as at April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020, China is laying claim to overcoming the disease and the critical situation in Wuhan, now dispensing drugs and medical teams to help fight Covid-19 in nations that are still battling or suffering from combating the global menace.

The date considered as available from pictures span January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 which marks the acute beginning of the epidemic to pandemic situation, is to April 23<sup>rd</sup> as the third month after the outbreak.

### Aftermath of the pandemic viral disease

1. Global recession; if and when the global lockdown is over, the aftermath effect is loss in national income across countries<sup>[1]</sup> and a global recession might be looming around the corner as the covid-19 lockdown intersects all countries' economic activities with the need for social restriction.

2. Loss of income; there will be reduction in sales, profits and mark up resulting in loss of income in both private and public sectors as it is the status quo across countries even MNCs and TNCs (Multi and Transnational Corporations) are affected as global ventures.

3. Migration/Immigration sentiment; There will continue to be migration cum immigration sentiments to the immediate future especially against countries where the pandemic was acute and nations ranking low in visa-and passport credibility.

4. International trade severance; some speculated ideas that social distancing and the need for prevention may hold till 2022 and possibly last 16 months respectively can affect trade especially contact trade or where physical representation is needed<sup>[20]</sup>.

5. Human resources; the contracting and hiring of experts as a form of expatriates may witness dwindling frequency as experts or expatriates cum companies, contractors will not want to jeopardise the lives of their pool of experts to the immediate future.

### CONCLUSION

As the world is on the lookout for possible outcome, cure and outright eradication of the pandemic virus, the spatial globe across societies will continue to maintain social distancing and take preventive measures, even with the speculation of an impending vaccine.

While some are affected and others are not, we shall continue to keep safe and the world will monitor the future effect of the pandemic. However in all these, as some societies continue to effect lockdown to the nearest future, others end the stay-home, while some relaxes the shutdown with some caveats, but the academic continues to collate data and research on the topical virus, the medical homes and practitioners continue to dispense treatment and drugs to victims and carriers, the situation continues and is closely monitored, inadvertently, there is no imminent elixir, we must all keep safe, social-distance and stay safe.

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