

CORRELATION BETWEEN COVID – 19 AND EQUITY MARKETS

Student: Carlos Jose Calvo Vidal. <u>al205408@uji.es</u> Research in financials economics and accounting Course 2020-2021. Supervisor: Luisa Nieto Soria. JEL classification: C01,C12, C16,G10.

ABSTRACT:

The equity markets are sensitive to political, social or economic developments. In this case, we focus on a health one, Covid-19. It will be exposed the level at which share prices were exposed , and how it correlates with the spread of the virus . The Pearson coefficient will indicate the C -19 correlation with the return and volatility figures, in the world's main financial indices.. Due to decision-making by Central Banks and governments, the impact was amortised, and indices had upward returns in the period computed : March 2020- March 2021.There were also different yields according to the sector they represented, with the technology being the least affected by the crisis.

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Correlation between C-19 and equity markets : Introduction.

The objective of this dissertation is analyzing how the appearance of the Covid 19 pandemic affected the behavior of equity markets in the world. Although the effects of a disease could be directed towards the health sector, in the current economy, most of its segments are linked, so the significance of this factor can be observed at the global level.

It will comment, in a chronological way, the analogies and differences in the decisions taken by the authorities in economic matters. It will see how each country has a way of dealing with these problems, but in the end, all this activities have common points.

On the other hand, the uncertainty about an event that could paralyze the activity of the companies, is a critical factor affecting fluctuation of the share prices If this situation becomes serious, it could be experienced a growing panic in financial markets and it could lead to a severe crisis.

In this dissertation, it will be investigated to what level the stock losses reached, and it will be compared the different markets, to show the degree of contagion of them. This crisis arose in China, but it did not affect only the markets of Shanghai and Hong Kong, it also expanded to the rest of the world.

Methodology

it will be developed taking into account largest stock exchanges , by market capitalization. It will be obtained the returns and volatility values of their indices, This two variables, will be compared with C-19 cases, aplying the Pearson correlation coefficient, which will also be put into practice in the calculation of the synchronization between the evolution of the disease and the behavior of investors. It has also been checked if the relationship is linear, making a regression analysis and verifying it through the hypothesis contrast.

Financial markets. Definitions and characteristics.

Markets can be defined as the medium where supply and demand exchange goods and services. They were only physical sites in the past, but nowadays there is a tendency to negotiate through the internet. In the financial markets are found different classes of financial assets, according to the information available from them, buyers and sellers must agree on a price. (Court and Tarradellas, 2010).

All markets have these common features :

- Mediate between buyer and seller.
- Ensure the safety of operations.
- Provide liquidity at reasonable prices.
- Provide transparent information on values.
- Create indices that reflect the health of their members.

The different types of assets that are traded may be :

- Fixed income or debt: it is fixed a remuneration until its maturity date. This financial instruments are the obligations, bonds or treasure bills.

- Equity or stocks: Shares, which can pay dividends, but the return is highly associated with the price increases.

- Derivatives: They work from the assets described above, and some others like futures, stock options, swaps, warrants, etc.

According to the moment of acquiring securities, financial markets can be:

- Primary markets: Companies and government offer new debt to investors. Investment banks can buy those securities and renegotiate them in the secondary markets.

- Secondary markets: They form the stock exchanges and allow trading the securities from the primary market in an indefinite way as long as the companies have liquidity.

Companies, issuing shares, and the governments, issuing letters and bonds, seek financing and interact with investors forming financial markets.

In this dissertation we will focus on the stock market, which can be of different types :

Common shares: they represent an aliquot part of the companies.
They are entitle to vote and to receive a remuneration based on the profits of the undertaking : dividends or a number of stocks.
Preference shares: They give preference to repayment of the capital, wich is contributed in case of dissolution of the company and a minimum dividend is received even if the firm does not make profits.

There are different ways of valuing shares:

Par value: corresponds to that one they had when the bussines born.
Book value : Since the company has evolved, now its net worth is different. If it is updated and divided by the number of shares, we get this valuation.

- Market value : It is the quoted price that takes into account the profits generated and the expectations around its potential.

Therefore, it could be said that we have three assessments, one focused on the past, another that refers to the present, and the last one has incorporated a look towards the future.

This disertation seeks to analyze the companies according to the quoted price, because their markets are regulated and highly capitalised, where the available information is varied and they can be considered efficiently.

These markets have common points, but each can develop specific operating rules, so they will be treated separately. In the end, it will be analyzed their yields and volatilities, and how the impact of globalization conditions that the price of some shares may be affected by other markets, especially if they are from the same sector. The evolution of equity markets can be carried out through indices, which are constructed with a representative number of securities, reflecting the treated market. They are indicators that fluctuate according to the prices of the shares listed in them Its value may be affected equally as changes in its shares, but are generally weighted by the capitalization of each quoted component, since when it is higher, its influence on the index will be greater. They are useful for measuring performance on an individual basis, but also across sectors or across the whole market.(Palma, 2020).

When an index is higher than another, does not mean that it has more capitalization, stocks or volume, since they only serve to make comparisons of returns from a number that is taken as a starting point at a given date. Indices can also be more specific and represent only sectors, high - low capitalizations, or dividend yields. They can also be the underlying asset or reference of derivative products.

Market capitalization is obtained by multiplying the number of shares outstanding by the price per share. (Palma, 2020). To do this dissertation, we have chosen the markets that have higher figures, which also correspond to those that are more developed and offer more possibilities of study.

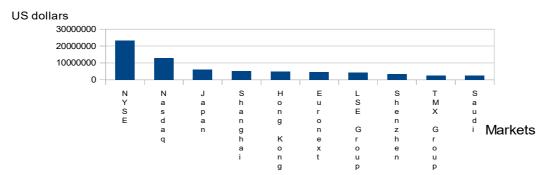


Figure 1 : Capitalization of equity markets

Source: World Federation of Exchanges. Author's own creation

In this figure, it is compared the values in US dollars that "The World Federation of Exchangues" has published by the end of 2019.

The indices of main stocks exchanges.

Each market can develop many indices with different capitalization. Due to globalization, there are indices working with securities that are listed in different markets, such as the Dow Jones, whose majority of components proceed from the New York market "NYSE", but also some of the other electronic market "NASDAQ".

The most common thing aforetime was to invest in portfolios of shares buying each one individually. Nowdays investors can do it buying indices, or finding other finantial tools that replicate them. In addition, the investor will have to pay less fees than buying the securities separately.

When investors make a portfolio, choosing indices that belong to the same market, they should be careful with the incorporation of repeated values, being more thorough with the selection, looking toward different industries.

From now on, it will be presented a description of the 5 most capitalized markets from "figure 1", and their most representative indices, according to their websites, where besides information, investors can operate in their stocks markets:

-NYSE:

.NYSE composite Index: It has about 2000 American components. It is a float adjusted market capitalization weighted index that shows the perfomance of common stocks listed on the NYSE market. It is adjusted to eliminate the effects of capitalization and changes to the list, calculating the price and total return of each stock. It is updated with corporate actions too. There are three subsets associated with this sectors: "Financial", "Health care" and "Energy".

-NYSE US 100 index : It is weighted as the previous index. but selection is made of the 100 securities of greater capitalization, which must reside in the USA.

-Dow Jones Industrial Average: It is formed by 30 companies with great capitalization in the USA. At first, it had only heavy industry sectors, but later it incorporated securities of almost all types, excepting transportation and utilities, which are dealt with in another variant of this index. It is calculated by price weighting and does not take into account shares held by small investors, as is the case with the capitalization method. The industry more represented is "Technology information" (SP global, 2021).

-S&P 500: It has 500 of the largest companies in the country, which, by its size, is used to measure the economy of USA. Each security must exceed four billion dollars of capitalization, representing 80 % of the total NYSE market. It is found some OTC titles. The technological and financial sectors are the most represented. It is updated by capitalization weighting, counting only the shares available in the market. Other conditions are the degree of internationalization, the time it has been listed on the stock exchange and a minimum volume of 250,000 shares traded in the last 6 months.

-NYSE FANG + TM index : it includes technology firms such as Facebook, Apple, Amazon, Netflix , Alphabet's google, and other high-growth titles. It has a minimum number of 10 components, and the weight of them in the index is equitable, because each company participates with a similar volume of investment. Shares of the NYSE and NASDAQ are only chosen, and it is updated according to its price and total return.

-NYSE bitcoin index: It refers to the value that a bitcoin would have in US dollars, taking into account the price and volume of transactions made in US currency.

NASDAQ

It is a three-tier market, with different conditions depending on its capitalization, and having financial and liquidity requirements, being more strict in large-capitalizations. The most exclusive. is the "Global select market", then we find "Global market" and the "Capital market", which has small businesses that need to raise capital.

-NASDAQ 100 index: It includes 100 non-financial securities, both local and foreign, updated according their capitalization, including technology companies, like "Computer hardware and software, Telecommunications or Biotechnology. This industry represents about 57 % of the index. Between the initial and subsequent conditions for listing on the index, they must have an average daily traded volume of 200,000 shares.

-NASDAQ composite index: It is composed by around 2.500 domestic and foreign securities, which are listed on the NASDAQ market. It is updated by capitalization weighting and although it have not geographical, sectoral, capitalization or liquidity conditions, we can invest in eight sub-indices, covering the most important sectors such as "banking", "informatics", "finance", "industrials", "insurance" or "telecommunications and transport".

-NASDAQ 100 technology sector: All their securities have an equal weight in the index, and are chosen according to the classification "industry classification benchmark", where they must appear in the technology sector.

-NASDAQ US multi-asset diversified income index: In addition to common stocks, we find Real Estate Funds, Hight Yield Corporate Bonds, Preferred shares and debt for energy projects "MLPs". Each value is weighted according to index of origin, with the intention that it is equitable, 20% for each of the 5 segments. It only allows US securities.

Japan Exchangue Group :

It is divided into four sections. The first and second ones, are the main in terms of size and liquidity, in that order, and the next is the section "Mothers", with high-growth companies. Last alternative is JASDAQ, which is divided into "Standard", if it has a certain size, or "Growth" if it stands out for its future potential. They will level up if they are successful.

On the other hand, the Tokio Commodity Exchange became into a whollyowned subsidiary of Japan Exchange Group in 2019. -Topix: It has around 2200 securities and it is used as a benchmark for securities traded across the market. The index is weighted on the basis of free float capitalization. Due to its high number of securities, it is used as a guide for investors. This index belongs to the first section, which is the one that demands more conditions in revenue, ordinary profit and capitalization to quote inside. All the firms are Japanese.

-Nikkei 225 index: It also belongs to the first section, where are found 225 components. It is adjusted by the price of its components, which are reviewed periodically to guarantee liquidity, according to the negotiated value of each security and the fluctuation of its price. An attempt is also made to maintain a balanced number of values belonging to 6 sectors into which the industry is divided: "technology", "financials", "consumer goods", "materials" "capital goods/others" and "transportation and utilities". The first one represents more than half of the industry breakdown. This index is a reference for measuring changes in all of them.

-Jasdaq index: Initially it belonged to the Osaka Stock Exchange, which, after merging with the Tokyo Stock Exchange, became in "Japan Exchangue Group". The weighting of each security is adjusted just like Topix, but the conditions to quote are more flexible. It is focused on companies with a contrasted size or in growth phase, which cannot be located in the "main market" (first and second section). In 2020, it had 699 components: 662 of them belonged to the sub-index "Standard" and 37 to the "Growth".

Shangai stock exchange:

All indices of this market are weighted by free float capitalization.

-SSE composite index : It measures the entire Shanghai market, both the "A" shares, which are quoted in Chinese currency, and the "B" shares that are quoted in foreign currency. At the beginning of this century an institution was created for negotiate "A" shares with foreign investment, but historically those flows were directed to "B" shares. "Financials" is the most represented industry, covering about 28%. -SSE 180 index: It offers the 180 most representative securities. It is an indicator of the "blue chips" and their derivatives.

-SSE 50 index: It is built by the companies with the most market influence, which have great liquidity and capitalization.

-SSE 380 index: Indicator of the national economy with developing and profitable enterprises, and excluding those that have losses and do not offer dividends, or are listed in SSE 180 index.

-SSE 100 index: It concentrates the best securities of the SSE 380 Index, in terms of increase rate of revenue, net profit and ROE.

-SSE 150 index: It comprises the best firms in terms of increase rate of revenue, net profit and ROE, excluding SSE 180 Index and SSE 380 Index.

-SSE 150 and SSE 180 are focused on older sectors such as "finance", "energy", "raw materials" and "heavy industry", while SSE 380, SSE 100 and SSE 150, covers new sectors such as "renewable energy", "biotechnology" or "consumer markets".

Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing:

In addition to securities, it offers listed derivaties and OTC derivaties.

-Hang Seng index: It works as a benchmark for the entire Hong Kong market. Currently, about 40% of it are financial firms. It is weighted by free float adjusted capitalisation, and it includes the most liquid and capitalised companies in Hong Kong. It is possible to invest in 4 sub-indices: "financial", "utilities", "properties" and "industry". It has 50 components, although in the near future they want to increase that number. Since 2006, the "H shares", which are from Mainland Chinese companies, are quoted in Hong Kong dollars It excludes, among others, "B" Biotech firms and foreign companies. -Hang Seng composite index : It includes 95% of the capitalization in the Hong Kong market. It has no limit on the number of components, and now it is around 500. It demands conditions to quote according to the monthly market value of the last 12 months, and the monthly turnover velocity of the traded / issued shares in the last year. It has two series of sub-indices: "size" (large, medium and small capitalization), and "industry" (12 indexes). It is weighted by free float adjusted capitalization. It includes voting shares of foreign companies that have the majority of commercial transactions outside Great China.

-Hang Seng TECH index : 30 largest technology companies listed in Hong Kong Market. Includes Great China securities and some foreign firms, under certain rules. The most important criterion for entering this index is market value. In addition, companies must meet criteria of belonging to this industry classification and have a certain commercial exposure oriented towards various branches of the sector. It operates with the same weighting as the previous two indices.

-CES Gaming Top 10 Index: The index is oriented towards the sector of "Casino", "lottery" and "betting services". They must meet liquidity conditions such as a daily traded average of at least 20 million Hong Kong dollars in the last 6 months. The 10 companies are chosen by capitalization and are also weighted as the previous indices.

Indices quoted in this market are classified according to whether they are listed in Hong Kong, Mainland China or both. The indices described above are listed in Hong Kong. The last index treated, however, does not belong to the Hang Seng indices of the Hong Kong market, because it is created by "China Securities Index co.", which is a supplier of indices of the Shanghai and Shenzhen Exchanges, but the "CES Gaming Top 10 Index" refers to the Hong Kong Market.

Euronext :

It is an European stock exchange, that includes 400 indices, among which investors can distinguish 6 of the main national indicators of the continent, each with a family of other indices that have been created in sectors or different investment strategies. Milan Stock Exchange are pending to be incorporated. The following indices are weighted by free float capitalization

-AEX Index, in The Netherlands: index that contains the 25 best companies in capitalization of Euronext Amsterdam. They must meet the criterion of negotiated volume above 25% of quoted shares, in the last 12 months. Otherwise they will contribute in other family indices with less conditions. Non-market securities may be quoted if they have a significant number of assets: 33 %, or employees: 15 %, in the Netherlands.

-Bel 20 Index, in Belgium: index with the top 20 of companies with better capitalization in the EURONEXT Brussels market, genarating a traded volume greater or similat to 25 % of the outstanding shares in the last year. Companies with another relevant market can be quoted here, if they have a staft of at least 15 % in this country.

-CAC 40, in France: It is composed by the 40 leading securities in terms of free float adjusted capitalization. with a traded volume, in the last year, of at least 20% of the issued shares in the Euronext Paris Market . If they come from another relevant market, they are admitted here, having a significant presence of assets or employees in France, or derivate instruments trading in Paris.

-ISEQ 20, in Ireland : 20 applicants of this index must have a high ranking in the value of regulated turnover and free float adjusted capitalization. In adittion of Dublin securities, It admitts firms incorporated from Norh Ireland, Republic of Ireland or if they have its centre of economic interest there. -OBX, in Norway : index where are selected the 25 securities with the best volume traded last 6 months, listed in Euronext Oslo. There are revisions every 6 months, and among others, there are conditions about the size and the presence of values coming from outside of the European Economic Area. No component in this index is listed in EURONEXT 100 or NEXT 150.

-PSI 20, in Portugal: It is calculated by free float ajusted capitalization, which must be at least of 100 million euros. There are present the 20 most brilliant securities, that also have a daily turnover of at least 15 % of the shares issued in the last 12 months. Only shares listed in Euronext Lisboa are supported.

EURONEXT also developes international indices, showing a combination of securities from those countries:

-EURONEXT 100:

The index is calculated on the basis of free float ajusted capitalization. Securities must have been traded at least 20 % in the last 12 months. If that time has not elapsed, an extrapolation will be made. The "CAC-40 market" is represented with about 63 %.

-NEXT 150: It is similar to the previous index, not chosing componets listed in "EURONEXT 100". The CAC-40 market is represented with about 44 %.

-Euronex France Germany leaders 50 Index: This index has two versions, where the components weighting can be different or equal, including in the latter case, the letters "EW" in its definition. The 25 most capitalized values of each country, the CAC 40 and the main German Market, are chosen by Euronext. It is an interesting index, because it includes stock quotes from Germany, which together with France define the axis of the European Union, and is not elaborated with the typical 6 countries that appears in the other indices.

LSE Group:

This equity markets are divided into four index families, according to the region: "Russel US" (America), "FTSE Global Equity" (Global), "FTSE UK" (Europe, Africa and Middle East) and "FTSE China" (Asia Pacific). All of them are free float capitalization-weighted indices. European indices also adjusted for dividends. We are going to focus on this last group, which is the closest to the geographical environment of London, where it is found the headquarters of this market. Within it we can find the following indicators:

-FTSE 100 index : The constiuents traded are the 100 higher capitalization securities on the London Stock Exchange. "Financial services" and "Industrial goods/services" lead the sector brakdown, with values of around 11 %.

-FTSE 100 total return index : In addition to capital, it takes into account dividends.

-FTSE 100 equally weighted net of tax index: Applies dividend tax when it is calculated.

-FSE 250 index: We find mid-caps companies, covering 15% of the market, and not listed in "FTSE 100".

-FTSE all share index: it is added "FTSE 100", "FTSE 250" and small capitalization values. It is covered 98-99% of the market, with around 600 securities.

Measures to tankle the crisis

Due to the special situation created by the C-19, the different Central Banks and State Gobernments faced a new crisis that did not happen in a long time. It demanded to take measures as quicly and as effectively as possible. According to CNMV, it will be analized some of the most important decisions taken by the different authorities in economic matters. It will explained, in chronological order , what could have been their effect on the markets previously treated :

USFederalReserveIoweredFixed Income securities is beinterest rates twice in March, from aless attractive and investorrange of 1,50% -1.75% to a drasticbe focused on equitiy market0%-0,25%.the health-economic crisis.USFederalReserve:PurchaseofThismeasureprovidesin thesecondarycompanies in the primary market	rs could ts due to
range of 1,50% -1.75% to a drasticbe focused on equitiy market0%-0,25%.the health-economic crisis.US Federal Reserve: Purchase of This measure provides liquidity	ts due to
0%-0,25%.the health-economic crisis.US Federal Reserve: Purchase of This measure provides liquidity	
US Federal Reserve: Purchase of This measure provides liquidity	[,] both. to
	[,] both. to
corporate bonds in the secondary companies in the primary marke	,
	et, and to
market, which then extends to the investors in the stock exchange r	narket.
primary market: Those programmes were	
"Secondary Market Corporate Credit	
Facility" and "Primary Market Corporate	
Facility". In addition 700.000 million	
dollars of asset purchases entailing	
treasurys and mortgage-backed	
securities.	
US Federal Reserve: Cash injection of It restores confidence to invest	stors and
USD 2,3 billions, destined for households companies.	
and small businesses.	
US Federal Reserve forecast a GDP Unexpected negative information	on due to
contraction of 6,5% for 2020. the appearance of the sudden p	bandemic,
affecting equity prices.	
Threat of Tariffs to other countries. These protectionist measured	res are
negative for the equity market,	especially
in the sectors involved.	

USA

US Federal Reserve: Do not plan to	Initially it is positive for equities, because it
raise interest rates for a long time.	was expected that they could rise after the
	last falls in share prices, although it can be
	interpretated as the economy does not
	take off.
Corporate debt risk premium rose 400	The fact that fixed income investments
fundamental points in March, but there	offers higher interest payments does not
was a decline in the corporate bond yield	favor equities markets.
in the third quarter of 2020, although	
during the year there were increases in	
the three ratings : high yield, AAA y BBB.	
IMF forecasts US GDP growth at 3,1% in	Negative news that could affect equities
2021, worsening its latest forecast by	investments became in information well
1,4%. It was comunicated in October, but	received by the market.
at the end of 2020, the IMF improved	
its growh predictions in 2021 and	
2022. In both cases, this rise was	
about 1%.	
Rise of Corporate non-finantial bonds	It affects little, but is negative, because
issued, taking advantage of low interest	there are more posibilities for investors to
rates.	go to another market.
	Positive information that can reactive the
the upcoming US elections.	economy.
	This data, accompanied by an upward
doubled in 2020.	trend in trading volume, indicates the US
	market recovery.
	Favorable data to invest in shares,
	although in a sligh way, because in a
· ·	stock market a long term investments is
previous year.	thought by investors
	If it continues to rise, it may affect the
premium during the year 2020.	interest rate charged by banks, to help the
	financing of projects.

Corporate debt risk premium It is positive that the interest rate and continues to fall, finishing the year investor remuneration of the corporate 6 fundamental points lower than the previous year. In the other hand, the US bond yield drops 100 fundamental points in this period.

EUROPEAN UNION

Event	Effects
Monetary policy in March: ECB purchases	Banks will be able to finance bussines and
of assets, valued in 120.000 millions Euro,	this favoured both, equity returns and
for example, to finance banks, eliminating	fixed income .
their stress tests. It were later added	
750.000 million Euros, throught of the	
"Pandemic Emergency Purchase	
Programme ".	
Tax measures: Cancellation or delay of	It generates less presure on the public
tax collection and lendings to the public	debt and the country risk premium. It has
sector.	less repercussion on the stock market.
EU approved aid programmes for States	Another measure providing liquidity in a
and companies, close to 1.5 % of GDP,	global level on European markets, having
mostly through the "European Stability	a positive impact on equity investments.
Mechanism", 240.000 millions Euro of	
550.000 million Euro.	
Brexit.	It is negative, but it has been discounted
	by stock market for a long time.
Interest rates on long-term public debt fell	It can create differences in the markets
in countries like France or Germany, but	synchronization in the EU, because the
not in peripheral economies. The first	peripheral economies could have more
ones were safe assets in the first quarter	problems.
of 2020.	

Increase of the risk premium for corporate	In times of crisis such as the Covid-19,
fixed income, very noticiable for bonds	companies with fewer guarantees and
with low ratings. It was about 10 %.	liquidity still suffer more than others. The
	investments are targeted mainly to the
	most qualified fixed income, and the
	equity markets are not benefied.
Government gross debt issuances fall by	Markets are paralyzed by the effect of the
12 %, and private debt by 4,5 %, in the	pandemic on it.
first quarter of 2020.	
USA threat to apply new tariffs to Spain,	The lack of commercial freedom harms
France and Germany in June of 2020.	the development of companies and
	damages the investor confidence in
	equities.
The IMF forecast that French GDP will fall	The above news and the progress of the
by 12,5 % in 2020, and Germany 7,8%. It	crisis worsen the forecast for the most
was communicated in the second quarter	critical PIBs in the EU.
of 2020.	
ECB: Asset Purchase Programmes	It generates liquidity, improving the health
widened to 2,77 billion euros, including	of markets and countries. In addition it
public debt (2,24 billion euros), and	slows the rise of market interest rates.
private debt (220,000 million euros). On	
the other hand, The "Pandemic	
Emergency Purchase" reached 345.000	
million Euros, but It would be increased	
to 600,0000 million Euros soon.	
Public and corporate debt offer less	This benefits the equity market, as an
interest rates, since bonds purchases by	investment with more risk, but looking for
ECB.	more profit.
GDP falls in EU by 14,7%, in second	News like this, is a reflection that the
quarter of 2020, compared with the same	economy is badly damaged and it affects
period in the previous year. The IMF	credibility in the equity markets.
forecasts GDP increases by 4,2 % in	
Germany , by 6 % in France, worsening	
by more that of one point last forecast.	

ECB creates "TLTRO III", a financing	This measure will impact in the
program for credit institutions. It offers	development of investments.
favorable conditions.	
Interest rates are maintained in the last	The money supply growth can generate
quarter of 2020. In the other hand	inflation.
purchasing programms will continue until	
2022.	
Return on 10-year bond for EU continues	There is a continued pressure on the ECB
to fall due to positive developments such	to financing the most needy sectors.
as "not hard" Brexit deal or "European	
Recovery Fund" approval for Covid-19.	
Slight decrease in bank risk premium	The banking sector also needs to be
during 2020, and decline of bank debt due	driven by the ECB to correct the damage
to Central Bank financing.	caused by a collapse in its operation.
The corporate debt in 2020 is 30	Fixed income was, in general, less
fundamental points lower than the	attractive than the equities in 2020.
previous year.	
Volume of equity issuance rose by 63 %.	Market return was higher than other
	alternatives
6-month and 12-month interest rates	This figures were much lower than US
ended the year close to -0,50 $\%$. It	ones at the beginning of 2020. ECB
lowered about 20 fundamental points in	focused in other monetary policy
2020.	instruments.

CHINA

Event	Effects
Equity issuances fell by 5.1 % in the first	Equity is not a refuge for investors in
quarter of 2020.	this period of uncertainly.
The Chinese Popular Bank lowers interest	This bank applies the same policies of
rates several times, to a minimum of 2.95 %,	monetary expansion as in other
and injects liquidity into market.	countries, confirming that the crisis is
	global.

In the second quarter of 2020, China is the	In China the C-19 crisis appeared
only large economy for which the IMF	earlier than in the rest of the world, and
forecasts a GDP growth in 2020 : 1 %.	in the first quarter of 2020 it was
	already more treated than in other
	countries.
In the third quarter of 2020, the IMF expects	This predictions continues to improve,
a GDP growth by 2% over the year.	being good for stock market investment.
Equity issuances increase about 80 % in	Confidence returns to stock markets at
2020.	the end of the year.

JAPAN

Event	Effects
Gross sobereign debt issuance fell 1,8%	Market conditions were not the best in
in the first quarter of 2020.	obtaining financing
Interest rates remain unchanged since	It is a economic culture of inflation control
2016.	since Japan anf Germany have
	experienced a rise in the prices of goods
	after the Second World War. That is why
	the way of proceeding is different of other
	countries, which change their interest
	rates to face the C-19 crisis.
The Bank of Japan creates a financing	Since the interest rates are not used as
program for companies affected by Covid-	monetary strategy, there are few more
19, without charging interest. It also buys	tools to improve this serious economic
public and corporate bonds. It is decided	situation.
to doubled ETF purchases, to 12 million	
yen a year. On the other hand, it is	
increased the J-REITs purchases to	
180.000 million yen a year.	
The volume of equity issuance decreases	The lack of confidence of the securities
by 24.3% in the first quarter of 2020.	issuer and the investors's distrust lead to
	a sharp drop in market indices.

The IMF forecast that GDP will fall by	The stock prices will be adversely
5.8% in the entire year. In addition, GDP	affected, due to negative and unexpected
reduction of 10,1 % in the second quarter	information.
of 2020.	
The bank of Japan holds interest rates at	Policy of keepeng interest rates low, to
0.1% in the third quarter of 2020. The 3-	facilite the financing of investments.
year interest rates fall by 6 fundamental	
points during the year.	
Equity issuance registred a rise by 31% in	An economic recovery is being observed
the third quarter of 2020, and 80% in the	in the second half of the year, like other
entire year, over the same period of the	countries.
previous year.	
Rise of non-finantial private debt issuance	Fixed income also recovers and attracts
to take advantadge of low rates in the	more conservative investors.
third quarter of 2020.	
IMF forecast of GDP rise by 2.3 % in	It is one of the lowest forecast of the big
2021, worsening 0.1% latest prediction.	countries, so it should not be received well
	in equities market.
The 3-month, 6-month and 12-mont	It is observed the slow pace of changes in
interest rates drops slighly during the year.	interest rates, which on the other hand, is
For example, the first one falls about 4	also what the investors expects, based on
fundamental points.	historical data.
Debt issuance decline by 40% during the	It contrasts with the rise in equities
year, including sovereign debt. The latter	issuance.
only rose 4 fundamental points in 2020.	

UNITED KINGDOM

Event	Effects		
It was created The "TFSME" scheme , to	This time, this measure was focused on		
help small and medium-sized enterprises	the public sector, and to a greater extend,		
with favourable credit conditions. In it will afect only its distinc area. On th			
addition, private and public asset	other hand, if the companies have		
purchases were increased to 645.000	cashflow deficit, they will not easily find		
million pounds in March.	investors .		

The Bank of England lowered interest	This is done in order to reactivate the			
rates twice, from 0.75 % to 0.10%.	economy and financings.			
The UK government is financed by the	Measure that affects not directly to the			
program "Ways and Means Facility",	equity markets, although an investor			
thanks to which, it can borrow from the	usually looks for countries with high			
Bank of England, without having to issue	ratings.			
more debt in the market.				
GDP fell about 21,5% in the second	It was influenced by the Covid-19 and			
quarter of 2020.	Brexit.			
There was a threat of Tariff increases from	Negative decision for the stock market			
USA to some English goods, in the	progress, by the comercial blockade.			
second quarter of 2020.				
The uncertainly of BREXIT, in the third	Another information that causes unrest			
quarter of 2020, because there is no	and possible capital flight from markets			
agreement on this matter.	with higher risk profiles.			
The IMF forecast a GDP rise by 5.9% in	If this predictions continues to worsen, it			
2021, which is worse than the last one by	will be unwelcome by the stok market, and			
0.4%.	will be more harmful by the current crisis			
	situation.			
The oficial interest rates remain at 0.1%,	Due to these figures, investors can only			
but the Bank of England considered to	find moderate gains on equity			
enter negative figures in the last quarter of	investments, but a marked stagnation of			
2020.	interest rates can mean that the economy			
	remain damaged.			
Sovereign bond interest rates decreased	The initial decrease in March was			
about 60 bp, and the sovereign risk	compensated as the year progressed.			
premiun practically did not change in				
2020.				
3-month, 6-month and 12-month interest	They were close to 0%, making			
rates lowed about 80 bp in 2020	investments less costly.			
The IMF forecasted a GDP increase	That were great news to finish 2020.			
about 5,3 % in 2021. It was higher than				
the last predicted: 4.5% in October.				

This graph shows the evolution of 6 indices, to check how they responded to these 8 decisions of the ECB in this month, which are represented by the vertical red lines, with their number.

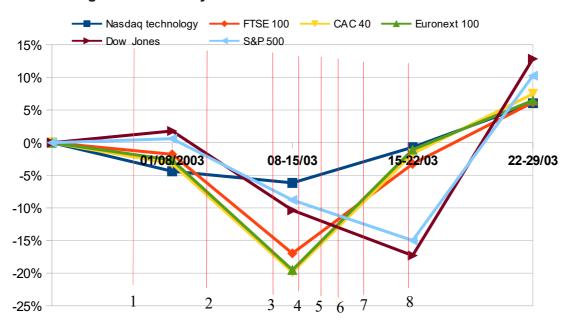


Figure 2 Weekly Indices returns in March 2020.

Source: Investing.com. Author's own creation.

1 3 March : FED lowered interest rates: 50 bp.

2 12 March: BCE :purchases of assets (APP): 120.000 millions euro.

3 15 March :FED lowered interest rates: 100 bp. It began the Assets purchasing : 700.000 million dollars.

4 17 March: FED created the "CPFF", to support the flow of credit to households and businesses.

5 18 March: ECB established a new purchases program: 750.000 million euros.(PEPP). The FED creates "MMLF" to assistance Mutual funds.

6 19 March:FED announced temporary liquidity arrangements with other Central Banks.

7 20 March: FED extended last program to other Central Banks.

8 23 March: FED established the "ESF" to support employers, consumers and bussines: 30 billion dollars. On the other hand, it is created the "PMCCF" and the "SMCCF" to support primary and secondary markets.

Stock index return and risk analysis.

Table 1 shows index performance between 8 March 2020 and 7 March 2021

Index	Standard deviation	Weekly Return (mean)	Annual return
NYSE composite	4,58%	0,51%	26,59%
NYSE US 100	4,31%	0,41%	21,46%
Dow Jones	4,60%	0,49%	25,27%
S&P 500	4,13%	0,58%	30,15%
NASDAQ 100	4,01%	1,01%	51,56%
NASDAQ composite	4,10%	1,03%	52,66%
NASDAQ technology	4,65%	1,10%	55,96%
NASDAQ Multiasset diversified	5,64%	0,12%	6%
SSE composite	2,47%	0,31%	16%
Nikkei 225	4,48%	0,74%	38,27%
JASDAQ	3,45%	0,48%	25,17%
ΤΟΡΙΧ	3,92%	0,57%	29,38%
Hang Seng	3.03%	0,25%	13,07%
Hang Seng composite	3,28%	0,49%	25,35%
Hang Seng tech	5,43%	1,13%	58,87%
CAC 40	4,71%	0,34%	17;72%
AEX	3,99%	0,30%	25,04%
BEL 20	4,84%	0,48%	15,49%
ISEQ 20	4,74%	0,56%	29,24%
PSI 20	4,27%	0,09%	4,88%
Euronext 100	4,32%	0,35%	18,02%
Next 150	4,59%	0,52%	27,28%
FTSE 100	3,95%	0,13%	6,72%
FTSE 100 Total Return	3,96%	0,18%	9,54%
FTSE 100 Net of tax	4,40%	0,33%	17,34%
FTSE 250	4,89%	0,33%	17,40%

Table 1: Return-risk figures of each stock index

Source: Investing.com. Author's own creation

The best behavior of the total period corresponds to the NASDAQ market, with profitability values around 55%, and 4% of risk, only surpassed by the Hang Seng Tech Index of Hong Kong with profits of 59% and standard deviation close to 5,5%.

The NYSE market obtained returns of 25%. Risk was about 4,25 %.

On the other hand, we find the FTSE 100 index, with returns of less than 10 %, accompanied of risk slightly higher than 3,90 %.

The Chinese indices obtained profits over 15%. The risk was a little lower than 2,5%.

The Japanese indices made a return close to 30 %. It was associated with a risk from 3,5 % to 4,5 %.

In the European indices, returns were about 15-25%. Risk was similar to Japanese and FTSE 100 indices

Finally, in Hong Kong, the market indices offers a great variaty of results, finding returns of 13%, 26% and 60%. Standard deviations were around 3%, except for the highest return, wich shows a risk that exceeds 5%.

In general, technological sector stood out above the others, driven by firms looking for on line solutions to their works.

In the following graph it is presented the annual performance and the breakdown sector of six of the most representative indices . The FTSE 100 index classification was more extensive than the other five, so it has been included "media" in the sector "communication". In the other hand, "travel","food beverage and tobacco" and "retailers" have been considered as "consumer goods/services". Finally "basic resources" has been incorporated in "materials". In the other index, Hang Seng, "properties & construction" was integrated in "materials".

According to the table in Appendix 2, this data were extracted from the factsheets of the main indices.

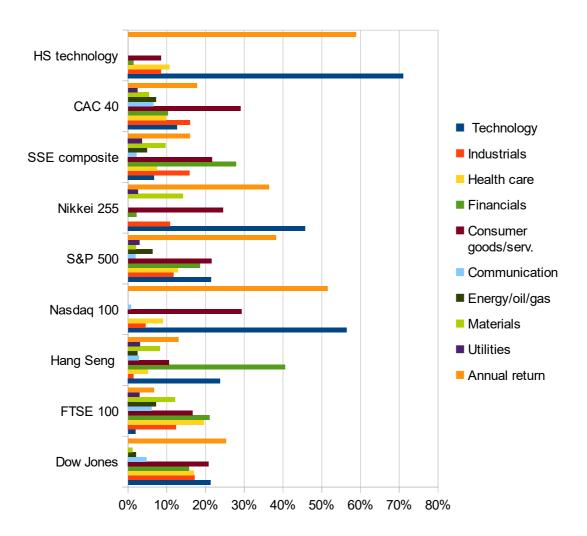


Figure 3 : Sector breakdown and annual return of main Indices

Source: S&P Global, FTSE Russell, Hang Seng indexes, NASDAQ global information services, Nikkei indexes, China securities index co., Euronext. and investing.com. Author's own creation.

The indices with higher yields had a large presence of technological companies.

In these graphs it can be detected that only the technology sector has an upward trend, with high reliability in the linear regression model. Among the bearish sectors, "financials" and "materials", both also have an acceptable R² coefficient, while in "industrials" and "health care" we can appreciate the downward trend, but the linear model has less precision.

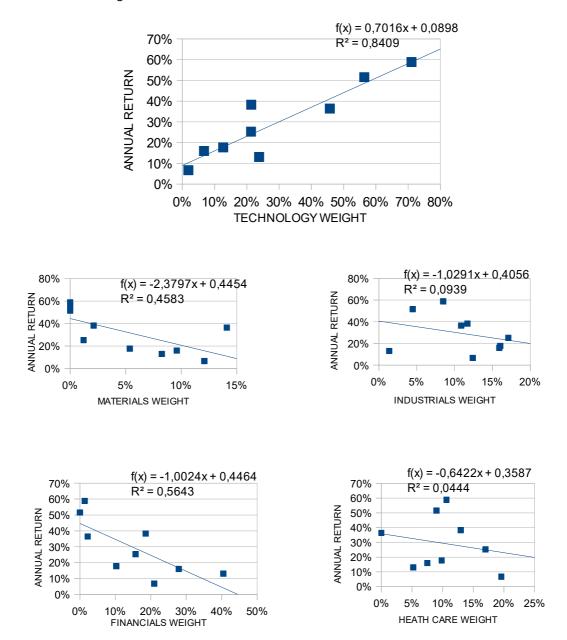


Figure 4: linear relattion sector-annual return

Source: Figure 3. Author's own creation.

Correlation between Covid-19 and financial markets.

Despite the fact we are in an increasingly globalized market, we will investigate how the presence of Covid-19 has affected the performance of the shares of the world's main stock exchanges.

To carry out this study, we will use different mathematical tools .It will indicate how this economic environment has developed in the last year.

Pearson's correlation coefficient

It is used to know how intense is the association between two quantitative and continuous variables. Its value ranges between 1 and -1.The relation will be direct if it is positive, while if it is negative, the relation would be inverse. When it is close to zero, although there is no linear relationship, this one could be exponential or logarithmic. If this coefficient adopts the values of 1 and -1, indicates perfect correlation, both in one sense and the other. It is based on the use of typified values, that is the deviations of each observation from its mean taking into account the standard deviation.(Camacho, 2018)

 $r_{x,y} = \sum (Z_x \times Z_y) / N$

$$Z_x = (X - X)/S_x$$
 $Z_y = (Y - Y)/S_y$

r _{x,y} = Pearson's correlation coefficie	ent X = mean of "x"
Z_x = standardized score of "x"	\overline{Y} = mean of "y"
Z_y = standardized score of "y"	S _x = standard deviation of "x"
X = value of "x"	Sy = standard deviation of "y"
Y = value of "y"	N = number of values of each variable

From this formula it is deduced that the linear correlation would be defined by the covariance between the two variables, adjusted by the standard deviation of each one of them: But, unlike covariance, this measure does not depend on the scale in which it was computed.

$$r_{xy} = S_{xy} / S_x \times S_y$$

r_{x,y} = Pearson's correlation coefficient
S_x = standard deviation of "x"
S_y = standard deviation of "y"
S_{xy} = covariance

We must bear in mind that it is not comparing the relationship with two yields, but between a yield and a disease, which have different forms of development. For example, if the disease variation changes by 200% in a period, it would not be reasonable for the index to replicate the same amount. This is why these values are useful for establishing comparisons, but not for drawing specific conclusions.

In the next table, it is compared correlation of the index weekly return and weekly volatility with the percentage of weekly variation of C-19 cases per 100.000 population.

In the case of the European indices, as they are composed by values of 5 countries, to calculate the figures of C-19, we have transferred the proportion of variation of C-19 cases in each country, according to the proportion of shares of the country present in the index.

The period runs from 15 March 2020 to 7 March 2021:

Index	Covariance	Correlation	Index	Covariance	Correlation
NYSE composite	-0,0176	-0,3285	HS composite	-0,0010	-0,0581
NYSE US 100	0,0177	-0,3419	HS tech	0,0005	0,0180
Dow Jones	0,0188	-0,3419	CAC 40	-0,0009	-0,0520
S&P 500	0,0173	-0,3473	AEX	-0,0005	-0,0395
NASDAQ 100	0,0018	-0,0353	BEL 20	-0,0013	-0,0770
NASDAQ composite	0,0013	-0,0243	ISEQ 20	-0.0045	-0,1240
NASDAQ technology	0,0034	0,0579	PSI 20	-0,0014	-0,0421
NASDAQ Multiasset div.	0,0019	0,0273	Euronext 100	-0,0009	-0,0627
SSE composite	0,0007	-0,0521	Next 150	-0,0030	-0,1824
Nikkei 225	0,0040	0,2356	FTSE 100	0,0013	0,0862
JASDAQ	0,0020	0,0363	FTSE 100 Total Return	0,0013	0,0830
ΤΟΡΙΧ	0,0004	0,1313	FTSE 100 Net of tax	-0,0002	-0,0102
Hang Seng	0,0009	-0,0559	FTSE 250	-0,0014	-0,0677

 Table2: Return correlation with C-19.

Source : Investing.com. Author's own creation

Table 3: volatility correlation with C-19.

Index	Covariance	Correlation	Index	Covariance	Correlation
NYSE composite	0,0149	0,3420	HS composite	-0,0003	-0,0270
NYSE US 100	0,0185	0,4378	HS tech	0,0014	0,0791
Dow Jones	0,0205	0,4433	CAC 40	0,0027	0,1817
S&P 500	0,0166	0,4117	AEX	0,0041	0,3560
NASDAQ 100	-0,0033	-0,0955	BEL 20	0,0008	0,0642
NASDAQ composite	-0,0034	-0,0950	ISEQ 20	0,0023	0,0899
NASDAQ technology	-0,0019	-0,0454	PSI 20	0,0104	0,4532
NASDAQ Multiasset div.	-0,0112	-0,1926	Euronext 100	0,0031	0,2571
SSE composite	0,0008	0,0887	Next 150	0,0028	0,2343
Nikkei 225	0,0084	0,5194	FTSE 100	0,0032	0,2750
JASDAQ	0,0049	0,4233	FTSE 100 Total Return	0,0033	0,2758
ΤΟΡΙΧ	0,0067	0,4702	FTSE 100 Net of tax	0,0038	0,2712
Hang Seng	-0,0005	-0,0489	FTSE 250	0,0047	0,28

Source : Investing.com. Author's own creation

In general, the different return-C-19 coefficients are very low, indicating that there is a small linear relationship between the variables. The only market that shows higher return correlations is the NYSE, with values around 0,3, and not even the other large US market, the NASDAQ, approaches those values. The volatility-C-19 correlations show greater figures, finding another markets, such as the Japanese case, that surpasses NYSE, with figures about 0,5. In addition the European indices reach coefficients of more than 0,2, but in the remaining cases this coefficient is lower. NASDAQ values are even negative.

To show this data visually, it is plot the scatter graphics of the some indices evolution in relation to Covid-19 variation, from 22 March to 31 May 2020. On the left side of the page, it is represented the weekly return. The index volatility is on the right. It has been computed the first weeks of the period, because there was more impact in financial markets, although below of each graph are the determination coefficients of the total period.(15 March 2020 to 7 March 2021).

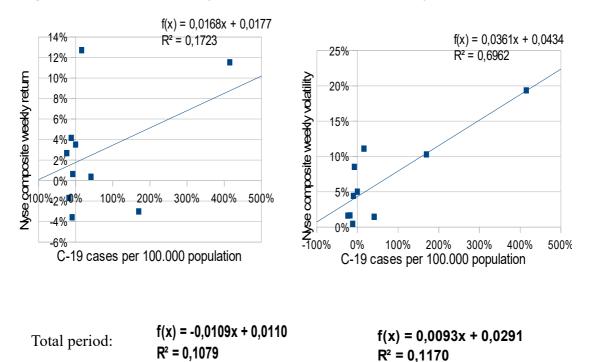


Figure 5 :Scatter splot: Nyse composite return/volatility - C-19

Source: Investing.com and WHO. Author's own creation.

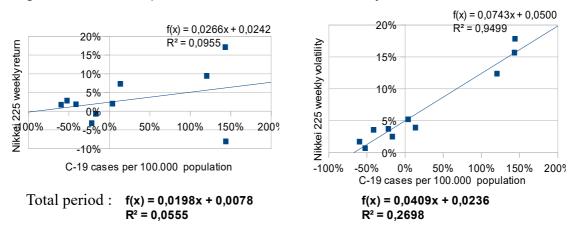


Figure 6: Scatter splot: Nikkei 225 return/volatility - C-19

Source: Investing.com and WHO. Author's own creation.

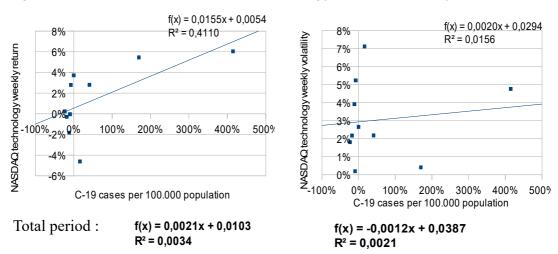
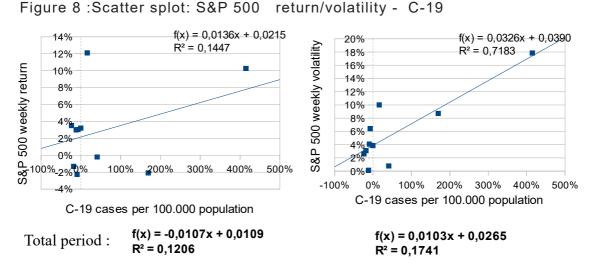


Figure 7: Scatter splot:NASDAQ technology return/volatility - C-19



Source: Investing.com and WHO. Author's own creation.

Source: Investing.com and WHO. Author's own creation.

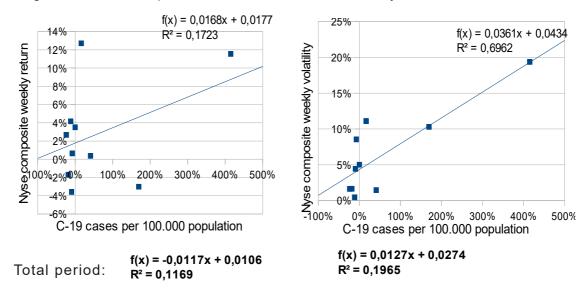


Figure 9 :Scatter splot: Dow Jones return/volatility - C-19

Source: Investing.com and WHO. Author's own creation.

In these graphs has been made a linear regression, and from then, the coefficient of determination " R^2 " has been calculated. It reflects the variability of the index return or index volatility that is explained by the variable "C-19". (Orellana, 2008).

 $\hat{Y}_{i} = \hat{\beta}_{0} + \hat{\beta}_{1} X_{i}$ Estimated linear regression equation $\hat{\beta}_{1} = Cov(x,y) / S^{2}x$ $(Y_{i} - \overline{Y}) = (Y_{i} - \hat{Y}_{i}) + (\hat{Y} - \overline{Y}) \implies \sum (Y_{i} - \overline{Y})^{2} = \sum (Y_{i} - \hat{Y}_{i})^{2} + \sum (\hat{Y}_{i} - \overline{Y})^{2}$ $R^{2} = \sum (\hat{Y}_{i} - \overline{Y})^{2} / \sum (Y_{i} - \overline{Y})^{2}$ $\hat{Y}_{i} = \text{ predicted values of "Y"} \qquad \hat{\beta}_{0} = \text{ constant/ intercept}$ $\hat{Y}_{i} = \text{ mean of "Y"} \qquad Cov = \text{ Covariance}$ $Y_{i} = \text{ value of "Y"} \qquad Sx = \text{ variance of "x"}$ $X = \text{ value of "x"} \qquad X_{i} = \text{ mean of "x"}$

These representations suggest that equity volatilities were much more explained by C-19, with "R²" figures over 69 %, excluding all the Nasdaq technology correlations. When we take into account the total period, the determination coefficients obtained are lower. In the cases of the return correlation, the results are not the expected, because they were positive, when the typical evolution would have been to obtain losses.

Statistical inference: According to "F" distribution, we can reject the null hypotesis, **Ho:** $\hat{\mathbf{B}}_1 = \mathbf{0}$, comparing "F" statistic with "F" distribution table. (appendix 4):

"F" > F α, κ, n-k-1, F=
$$(\sum (\hat{Y}_i - Y)^2 / n) / \sum ((Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2 / n-k-1))$$

k= degrees of freedom.

n= number of values of each variable.

 α = level of significance.

"F" = "F" statistic. (Using "R studio" program, it can be obtained this data).

"F"statistic	F0,05,1,8
1,66	5,32
18,34	5,32
0,84	5,32
151,60	5,32
5,58	5,32
0,12	5,32
1,35	5,32
20,40	5,32
2,23	5,32
27,63	5,32
	1,66 18,34 0,84 151,60 5,58 0,12 1,35 20,40 2,23

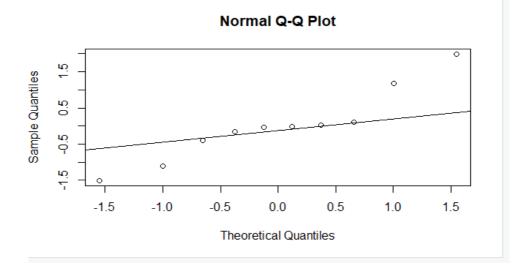
Table 4 : Correlation hypotesis testing. (n= 10, α = 0,05).

Source : Author's own creation

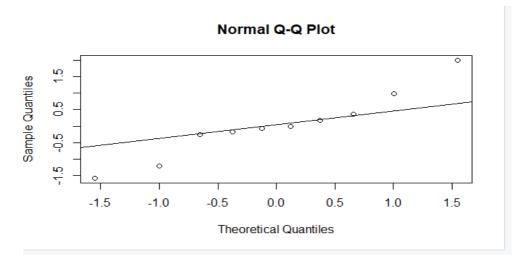
There are five cases where we cannot reject "Ho". Only one of them is a return correlation. (Nasdaq Technology).

In order to accept the results of the statistical inference, focusing on three cases where R² is greater, the criteria of linearity, homoscedastity, normality and analysis of outliers must be met. The linearity criterion can be measured with the goodness of fit: R². Normality can be checked by analyzing the residual quantiles ,($\hat{Y}i - Yi$), against the theoretical quantiles of the normal distribution. It will be calculated with the program "R studio". Here are the graphs of Dow jones , S&P 500 and Nikkei 225 volatility:

Figure 10 : Normal Q-Q plot : Dow jones volatility- C-19

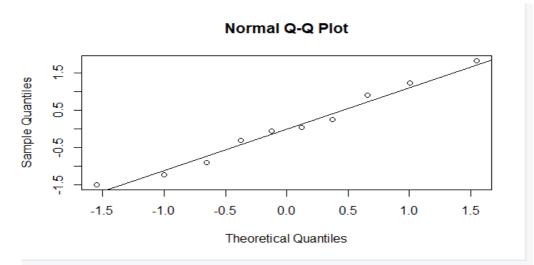


Source:Investing.com. Author's own creation. Figure 11 : Normal Q-Q plot : S&P 500 volatility- C-19



Source:Investing.com. Author's own creation.

Figure 12: Normal Q-Q plot : Nikkei volatility- C-19

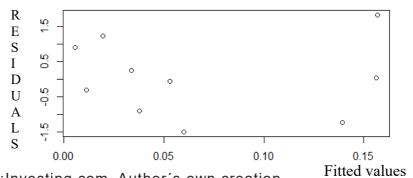


Source:Investing.com. Author's own creation.

The quantiles tested are close to the normal distribution, which should give a straight line, except for the outliers of the tails in Dow Jones and S&P 500.

Homoscedastiy is analyzed in the graphs, checking that fitted values and residuals do not follow any pattern, and they are uniformly distributed. The graphics of the 3 indices are very similar. Therefore, only the Nikkei 225 figure is shown:

Figure 13 :Fitted values-residuals plot :Nikkei volatility-C 19



Source:Investing.com. Author's own creation.

No definite pattern is observed in the represented area, but once again the outliers question the statistical inference.

But, why is the correlation NYSE return - Covid-19 higher than the other ones ?

On the one hand, we have that the standard deviations of the US indices are slightly greater than those of the majority of the other indices. (Table1). In addition, the standard deviation of C-19 is more than twice greater in the USA than in other countries, with the American figures being about 128% and the other ones below 50%. (Table5).

This conclusions do not explain the question, because they would make this correlation lower.

Table 5 :Standard deviation of C-19 variation.

Country	USA	CHINA	JAPAN	EU	UK
C-19 standard deviation	128,17%	59,92%	45,79%	45,65%	49,36%

Source: WHO. Author's own creation.

But we still have to analyze the index returns -C-19 covariances. Looking at table 2, the main difference is the covariance between the markets and covid-19, which are still much lower in the other countries. However, if we eliminate the first three weeks of the period, the covariance of the NYSE with the Covid_19 decreases considerably, being very similar to the values of the other indices. Therefore, what has happened is that the NYSE showed much more sensitivity to the immense variations of covid-19, but then return to more discrete figures.

As it has seen in this first weeks, the "NYSE market returns - Covid-19" relationship was very negative, which is in accordance to a covariance with red numbers in the full annual period, but much higher in absolute value than the rest of the indices, which are far from equalizing these data.

If we compare both, the evolution of the market indices, through of weekly returns, and the weekly variation of C-19 cases per 100,000 population, in the first three weeks of the period, we obtain this table. There are two different values of C-19 in Europe, according to the proportions of this virus with the proportion of participation of EURONEXT and NEXT 150 in each country.

	,			5			
Index	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	C-19 average	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
NYSE com posite	-15,84%	11,54%	-3,01%				
NYSE US 100	-16,10%	11,14%	-2,16%				
Dow Jones	-17,30%	12,84%	-2,70%				
S&P 500	-14,98%	10,26%	-2,08%	USA	804,80%	414,90%	169,67%
NASDAQ 100	-1,64%	1,50%	5,25% 6,01% 5,46% 2,57% -0,30% CHINA -1,06% CHINA				
NASDAQ composite	-1,57%	1,73%	6,01%				
NASDAQ technology	-0,70%	6,04%	5,46%				
NASDAQ Multiasset d.	-0,75%	1,08%	2,57%				
SSE com posite	-4,91%	0,97%	-0,30%				
Hang Seng	-5,11%	2,98%	-1,06%	CHINA	138,10%	87,33%	-30,13%
Hang Seng composite	-6,23%	3,95%	-1,03%				
Hang Seng tech	-7,77%	4,21%	0,85%				
Nikkei 225	-5,04%	17,14%	-8,09%				
JASDAQ	1,09%	9,26%	-6,31%	JAPAN	-18,15%	143,23%	143,89%
TOPIX	1,71%	13,74%	-9,21%				
Euronext 100	-1,07%	6,47%	-2,78%	UE	207,62%	135,98%	29,19%
Next 150	-4,88%	5,37%	-1,68%		228,63%	139,02%	27,15%
FTSE 100	-3,27%	6,16%	-1,72%				
FTSE 100 Total Return	-3,24%	6,29%	-2,02%	UK	190,49%	195,94%	79,27%
FTSE 100 Net of tax	-6,97%	6,84%	-5,66%				
FTSE 250	-12,65%	8,66%	-4,54%				
				• • • • •			

Table 6: Initial weekly returns and weekly variation of C-19.

Source:Investing.com and WHO. Author's own creation.

We will see graphically how the perfomance of the most representative indices evolved with respect to the percentage of new weekly cases of Covid-19 (cases variation, not average variation.). The period computer is from 12 April 2020 to 7 March 2021.

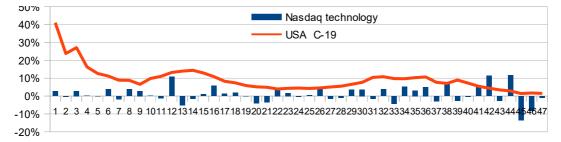


Figure 14: Weekly evolution: NASDAQ technology - Covid-19

Source: WHO and Investing.com. Author's own creation

When the Covid-19 appeared, there was small volatility, being this measure higher at the end of the period.

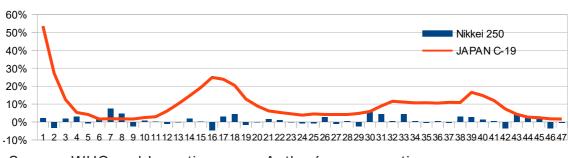


Figure 15 Weekly evolution: Nikkei 225 - Covid-19.

Source: WHO and Investing.com . Author's own creation.

There were more movements on the rise when the Covid-19 began to stabilize, than the downward movements when this virus appeared.



Figure 16: Weekly evolution: FTSE 100 - Covid-19

Volatility delayed in reacting and it is not observed in the first seven weeks. It was also high at the second and third peaks of Covid-19, but majoriy of positive yields were obtained.

Source: WHO and Investing.com. Author's own creation.

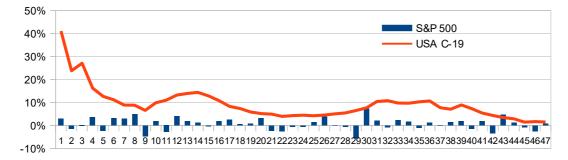


Figure 17: Weekly evolution: S&P 500 - Covid-19

Source: WHO and Investing.com. Author's own creation

When we find downward movements, they are accompanied, even in the first weeks, by higher intensity upwards returns.

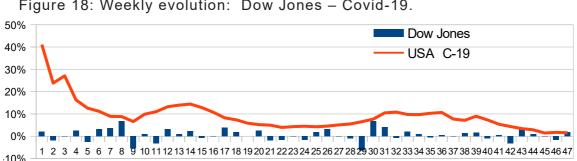


Figure 18: Weekly evolution: Dow Jones - Covid-19.

This return evolution is very similar to the previous index, with slaightly greater movements at the beginning of the period.

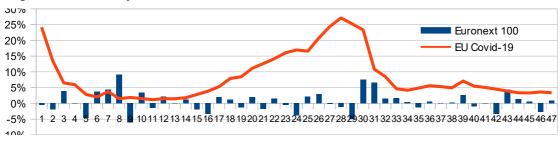


Figure 19 Weekly evolution: Euronext 100 - Covid-19.

There was higher volatility than in the previous indices. The upward reaction was important when the first and second peaks of C-19 stabilized.

Source: WHO and Investing.com. Author's own creation.

Source: WHO and Investing.com. Author's own creation.

Conclusions

It seems that the appearance of Covid-19 leads equity exchanges to a critical crisis, but only in the first weeks, because the authorities early applied a series of monetary policies and programs to activate the economy with Central Banks money injections and interest rate decreases. It had a positive response. In fact, the correlation between the stock markets returns and the advance of the virus is minimal: only make mention of NYSE market, with correlations about 0,3-0,4. In this sense, it would be normal to find negative results, but it were even found positive, at the end of the computed period. That is to say, both rose, the evolution of pandemic expansion and stock returns.

The majority of stock indices ended the year with a positive balance, which is still remarkable, when this health problem has not yet been solved. It's just like the market discounted it.

It is necessary to detail the behavior of the Nasdaq, including the highest return indices: they were revalued close to 50%. The technology sector was therefore less affected. On the other hand, we find the NYSE market, which although at first it was the most penalized market, after they leveled its results with the rest of indices. The european indices were the least yields had in the computed period. The majority of them were below of 20%.

The volatility correlations were higher than return correlations, with the exception of the Chinese indices, whose crisis was already assimilated by the Chinese market at the beginning of the period. If we look only the first weeks of the analyzed period, these correlations and their coefficients of determination grow, especially in the NYSE, in Japan and EU, with "R²" values from 0.7 to 0.9, obtaining satisfactory results in the regression contrast test.

It can be found some limitations in this study: correlation between equity yields is not the same study as between an economic variable and another health variable, so more that find a perfect linear relationship, this dissertation sought to make comparisons of them.

The presence of outliers in the study indicates that a more robust regression could be made. In most cases these influential data distort the homogeneity of variances and normality graphs.

In adition C-19 data was downloaded in March 2021, but have since been updated by WHO.

Finally, regressions were calculated with a reduced dataset.(n=10).

Among future lines of study, it can be found other variables that have influenced the equity markets and try to explain the correlation with other kind of regression.

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Appendix 1: sector breakdown table:

	T e c h n o I o g y	l n d u s t r i a l s	H e l t h c a r e	F i n c i a I s	on su mer go ds / se r v	C o m u n i c a t i o n	E n e r g y / o i I / g a s	M a t e r i a I s	U t i t s	A n u a l r e t u r n
Dow Jones	21,30%	17,10%	17,00%	15,70%	20,80%	4,70%	2,00%	1,20%	0,00%	25,27%
FTSE 100	1,86%	12,39%	19,58%	20,97%	16,59%	6,03%	7,24%	12,09%	2,99%	6,72%
Hang Seng	23,79%	1,37%	5,20%	40,50%	10,50%	2,85%	2,47%	8,26%	3,14%	13,07%
Nasdaq 100	56,41%	4,46%	9,01%	0,00%	29,34%	0,78%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	51,56%
S&P 500	21,36%	11,71%	12,95%	18,56%	21,53%	1,98%	6,30%	2,11%	2,92%	38,27%
Nikkei 255	45,73%	10,87%	0,00%	2,21%	24,50%	0,00%	0,00%	14,11%	2,57%	36,42%
SSE composite	6,70%	15,90%	7,50%		21,70%			9,60%	3,60%	16,00%
CAC 40	12,69%	16,03%	9,84%	10,30%	29,02%	6,51%	7,15%	5,37%	2,42%	17,72%
Hang Seng technology	71,05%	8,49%	10,63%	1,38%	8,45%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	58,87%

Source : Source: S&P Global, FTSE Russell, Hang Seng indexes, NASDAQ global information services, Nikkei indexes, China securities index co. and Euronext. Author's own creation.

Appendix 2: C-19 per 100.000 population. (USA, China, Japan and U.K.)

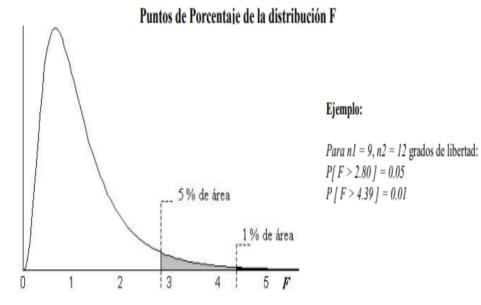
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			5					
01-08/03/2020	217		80859		455		352	
08-15/03/2020	1718	1501	81048	189	780	325	2244	1892
15-22/03/2020	15299	13581	81498	450	1046	266	7740	5496
22-29/03/2020	85228	69929	82341	843	1693	647	24005	16265
29/03-05/4/2020	273808	188580	82930	589	3271	1578	53164	29159
05-12/04/2020	492881	219073	83482	552	6748	3477	85810	32646
12-19/04/2020	695353	202472	84201	719	10361	3613	116695	30885
19-26/04/2020	860772	165419	84338	137	13182	2821	150498	33803
26/04-03/05/2020	1093880		84393	55	14839	1657	182299	182299
		233108						
03-10/05/2020	1271645	177765	84430	37	15628	789	206238	23939
10-17/05/2020	1432265	160620	84494	64	16285	657	226173	19935
17-24/05/2020	1592599	160334	84525	31	16550	265	243085	16912
24-31/05/2020	1734040	141441	84570	45	16851	301	254394	11309
31/05-07/06/2020	1886794	152754	84629	59	17141	290	263242	8848
07-14/06/2020	2010391	123597	84729	100	17429	288	270289	7047
14-21/06/2020	2208829	198438	84997	268	17864	435	277172	6883
21-28/06/2020	2452048	243219	85190	193	18390	526	282450	5278
28/06-05/07/2020	2776366	324318	85306	116	19522	1132	286724	4274
05-12/07/2020	3163581	387215	85522	216	21502	1980	290954	4230
12-19/07/2020	3618497	454916	85937	415	24642	3140	295213	4259
19-26/07/2020	4084043	465546	86839	902	29382	4740	299834	4621
26/07-02/08/2020	4523888	439845	88302	1463	36689	7307	303956	4122
02-09/08/2020	4897958	374070	89149	847	45439	8750	309767	5811
09-16/08/2020	5258565	360607	89761	612	54714	9275	317448	7681
16-23/08/2020	5567217	308652	90141	380	61747	7033	324605	7157
23-30/08/2020	5855521	288304	90351	210	67264	5517	332756	8151
30/08-06/09/2020	6144138	288617	90517	166	71419	4155	344168	11412
06-13/09/2020	6386832	242694	90666	149	75218	3799	365178	21010
13-20/09/2020	6662003	275171	90840	174	78657	3439	390362	25184
20-27/09/2020	6960152	298149	90966	126	81690	3033	429281	38919
27/09-04/10/2020	7256234	296082	91121	155	85339	3649	480021	50740
04-11/10/2020	7583748	327514	91305	184	88912	3573	590848	110827
11-18/10/2020	7966729	382981	91489	184	92656	3744	705432	114584
18-25/10/2020	8403121	436392	91674	185	96534	3878	854014	148582
25/10-01/11/2020	8952086	548965	91921	247	101146	4612	1011664	157650
01-08/11/2020	9636579	684493	92195	274	107086	5940	1171445	159781
08-15/11/2020	10641431	1004852	92428	233	116677	9591	1344360	172915
15-22/11/2020	11789012	1147581	92648	220	130179	13502	1493387	149027
22-29/11/2020	12939666	1150654	93329	681	144653	14474	1605176	111789
29/11-06/12/2020	14191298	1251632	94160	831	160098	15445	1705975	100799
06-13/12/2020	15648098	1456800	94950	790	177287	17189	1830960	124985
13-20/12/2020	17314834	1666736	95716	766	195880	18593	2040151	209191
20-27/12/2020	18648989	1334155	96324	608	217312	21432	2256009	215858
27/12-03/01/2020	19974413	1325424	96894	570	240954	23642	2599793	343784
03-10/01/2021	21761186	1786773	97518	624	280775	39821	3017413	417620
10-17/01/2021	23344423	1583237	98625	1107	322296	41521	3357365	339952
17-24/01/2021	24604325	1259902	99931	1306	360661	38365	3617463	260098
24-31/01/2021	25676612	1072287	100877	946	386742	26081	3796092	178629
31/01-07/02/2021	26547977	871365	101272	395	403435	16693	3929839	133747
07-14/02/2021	27309503	761526	101272	243	403433	11037	4027110	97271
	27309503	392571	101515	154	414472	10035	4027110	78569
14-21/02/2021				209				64844
21-28/02/2021	28174978	472904	101878		431740	7233	4170523	
28/02-07/03/2021	28602211	427233	102064	186	438956	7216	4213347	42824

C-19 cases per 100.000 population in Europe .

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01-08/03/2020	19		21		147		131		343		698	
08-15/03/2020	129	110	169	148	907	760	936	805	1635	1292	4436	3738
15-22/03/2020	785	656	1280	1111		1019		2644	5036	3401	14292	9856
					1926		3580					
22-29/03/2020	2415	1630	5170	3890	3845	1919	9650	6070	12969	7933	37145	22853
29/03-05/4/2020	4604	2189	10524	5354	5510	1665	16565	6915	22681	9712	67757	30612
05-12/04/2020	8928	4324	15987	5463	6320	810	24186	7621	33997	11316	92787	25030
12-19/04/2020	14758	5830	19685	3698	6984	664	31398	7212	42041	8044	110721	17934
19-26/04/2020	18561	3803	23683	3998	7467	483	36921	5523	47982	5941	122876	12155
26/04-03/05/2020	21176	2615	25190	1507	7759	292	39980	3059	51142	3160	129458	6582
03-10/05/2020	22760	1584	27406	2216	8069	310	42125	2145	54215	3073	137008	7550
10-17/05/2020	24048	1288	28810	1404	8197	128	43634	1509	56323	2108	140008	3000
17-24/05/2020	24582	534	30471	1661	8309	112	44820	1186	57839	1516	142173	2165
24-31/05/2020	24929	347	32203	1732	8411	102	46027	1207	59009	1170	148436	6263
31/05-07/06/2020	25183	254	34351	2148	8504	93	47091	1064	59852	843	150022	1586
07-14/06/2020	25295	112	36463	2112	8606	102	48391	1300	60554	702	152460	2438
14-21/06/2020	25374	79	38841	2378	8708	102	49264	873	61224	670	154562	2102
21-28/06/2020	25437	63	41189	2348	8815	107	49857	593	61827	603	156156	1594
28/06-05/07/2020	25509	72	43569	2380	8895	80	50334	477	62464	637	158734	2578
05-12/07/2020	25611	102	46221	2652	8965	70	50747	413	63149	685	161275	2541
12-19/07/2020	25750	139	48390	2169	9015	50	51494	747	64513	1364	164247	2972
19-26/07/2020	25869	119	49955	1565	9085	70	52664	1170	66882	2369	169222	4975
26/07-02/08/2020	26109	240	51310	1355	9208	123	54671	2007	70677	3795	175920	6698
02-09/08/2020	26644	535	52537	1227	9468	260	57925	3254	75043	4366	185353	9433
09-16/08/2020	27191	547		1444		382	62419	4494	78784	3741	202118	16765
			53981		9850							
16-23/08/2020	27908	717	55452	1471	10197	347	66022	3603	82254	3470	223419	21301
23-30/08/2020	28720	812	57448	1996	10543	346	69550	3528	85373	3119	256829	33410
30/08-06/09/2020	29534	814	59943	2495	11120	577	73760	4210	88990	3617	300511	43682
06-13/09/2020	30730	1196	63310	3367	11866	746	80915	7155	95002	6012	353986	53475
13-20/09/2020	32538	1808	68025	4715	12645	779	91802	10887	104950	9948	420855	66869
20-27/09/2020	34560	2022	72939	4914	13406	761	105709	13907	116145	11195	503662	82807
27/09-04/10/2020	37768	3208	78247	5308	14149	743	131592	25883	134534	18389	580707	77045
04-11/10/2020	41714	3946	85574	7327	15221	1072	167855	36263	171997	37463	691372	
												110665
11-18/10/2020	48678	6964	98055	12481	16136	915	219431	51576	242312	70315	838149	146777
18-25/10/2020	56108	7430	116109	18054	17232	1096	280298	60867	347039	104727	1055946	217797
25/10-01/11/2020	61456	5348	141279	25170	19563	2331	350206	69908	448816	101777	1331812	275866
01-08/11/2020	64855	3399	173540	32261	23225	3662	403280	53074	504029	55213	1714361	382549
08-15/11/2020	67526	2671	211266	37726	27226	4001	441226	37946	538383	34354	1918345	203984
15-22/11/2020	70143	2617	255970	44704	31438	4212	477979	36753	561157	22774	2089353	171008
22-29/11/2020	71942	1799	290706	34736	34747	3309	512067	34088	577441	16284	2169811	80458
29/11-06/12/2020	73948	2006	318640	27934	37371	2624	549167	37100	592676	15235	2241830	72019
06-13/12/2020	75756	1808	344700	26060	40022	2651	602361	53194	609333	16657	2324603	82773
13-20/12/2020	78776	3020	370787	26087	42775	2753	675467	73106	627105	17772	2418439	93836
20-27/12/2020	85394	6618	392996	22209	44932	2157	752653	77186	639788	12683	2507532	89093
27/12-03/01/2020	96926	11532	423870	30874	48278	3346	812467	59814	650920	11132	2599127	91595
03-10/01/2021	140727	43801	476187	52317	53792	5514	865087	52620	665632	14712	2721692	122565
10-17/01/2021	169780	29053	539416	63229	57734	3942	906007	40920	679842	14210	2846971	125279
17-24/01/2021	186184	16404	624469	85053	60565	2831	943266	37259	695069	15227	2985259	138288
24-31/01/2021	195303						943200					
		9119	711018	86549	62575	2010		30949	711908	16839	3126351	141092
31/01-07/02/2021	202548	7245	761906	50888	64483	1908	1001353	27138	727423	15515	3262505	136154
07-14/02/2021	208796	6248	784079	22173	66236	1753	1025416	24063	740231	12808	3389716	127211
14-21/02/2021	214328	5532	796339	12260	68107	1871	1051554	26138	755576	15345	3521249	131533
21-28/02/2021	218980	4652	803844	7505	70034	1927	1083620	32066	772458	16882	3671208	149959
28/02-07/03/2021	222699	3719	809412	5568	73493	3459	1115117	31497	788949	16491	3814830	143622
	000	0.10	000712	0000		0.00		5.107			55. 1000	

Source: WHO.

Appendix 3: F-Distribution table



5 % (normal) y 1 % (negritas) puntos para la distribución de F																								
n ₂									n1 grad	los delib	ertad (p	oara el n	nayor cu	iadrado	medio)									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14	16	20	24	30	40	50	75	100	200	500	00
1	161	199	216	225	230	234	237	239	241	242	243	244	245	246	248	249	250	251	252	253	253	254	254	254
	4052	4999	5404	5624	5764	5859	5928	5981	6022	6056	6083	6107	6143	6170	6209	6234	6260	6286	6302	6324	6334	6350	6360	6366
2	18.51	19.00	19.16	19.25	19.30	19.33	19.35	19.37	19.38	19.40	19.40	19.41	19.42	19.43	19.45	19.45	19.46	19.47	19.48	19.48	19.49	19.49	19.49	19.50
	98.50	99.00	99.16	99.25	99.30	99.33	99.36	99.38	99.39	99.40	99.41	99.42	99.43	99.44	99.45	99.46	99.47	99.48	99.48	99.48	99.49	99.49	99.50	99.50
3	10.13	9.55	9.28	9.12	9.01	8.94	8.89	8.85	8.81	8.79	8.76	8.74	8.71	8.69	8.66	8.64	8.62	8.59	8.58	8.56	8.55	8.54	8.53	8.53
	34.12	30.82	29.46	28.71	28.24	27.91	27.67	27.49	27.34	27.23	27.13	27.05	26.92	26.83	26.69	26.60	26.50	26.41	26.35	26.28	26.24	26.18	26.15	26.13
4	7.71	6.94	6.59	6.39	6.26	6.16	6.09	6.04	6.00	5.96	5.94	5.91	5.87	5.84	5.80	5.77	5.75	5.72	5.70	5.68	5.66	5.65	5.64	5.63
	21.20	18.00	16.69	15.98	15.52	15.21	14.98	14.80	14.66	14.55	14.45	14.37	14.25	14.15	14.02	13.93	13.84	13.75	13.69	13.61	13.58	13.52	13.49	13.46
5	6.61	5.79	5.41	5.19	5.05	4.95	4.88	4.82	4.77	4.74	4.70	4.68	4.64	4.60	4.56	4.53	4.50	4.46	4.44	4.42	4.41	4.39	4.37	4.37
	16.26	13.27	12.06	11.39	10.97	10.67	10.46	10.29	10.16	10.05	9.96	9.89	9.77	9.68	9.55	9.47	9.38	9.29	9.24	9.17	9.13	9.08	9.04	9.02
6	5.99	5.14	4.76	4.53	4.39	4.28	4.21	4.15	4.10	4.06	4.03	4.00	3.96	3.92	3.87	3.84	3.81	3.77	3.75	3.73	3.71	3.69	3.68	3.67
	13.75	10.92	9.78	9.15	8.75	8.47	8.26	8.10	7.98	7.87	7.79	7.72	7.60	7.52	7.40	7.31	7.23	7.14	7.09	7.02	6.99	6.93	6.90	6.88
7	5.59	4.74	4.35	4.12	3.97	3.87	3.79	3.73	3.68	3.64	3.60	3.57	3.53	3.49	3.44	3.41	3.38	3.34	3.32	3.29	3.27	3.25	3.24	3.23
	12.25	9.55	8.45	7.85	7.46	7.19	6.99	6.84	6.72	6.62	6.54	6.47	6.36	6.28	6.16	6.07	5.99	5.91	5.86	5.79	5.75	5.70	5.67	5.65
8	5.32	4.46	4.07	3.84	3.69	3.58	3.50	3.44	3.39	3.35	3.31	3.28	3.24	3.20	3.15	3.12	3.08	3.04	3.02	2.99	2.97	2.95	2.94	2.93
	11.26	8.65	7.59	7.01	6.63	6.37	6.18	6.03	5.91	5.81	5.73	5.67	5.56	5.48	5.36	5.28	5.20	5.12	5.07	5.00	4.96	4.91	4.88	4.86
9	5.12	4.26	3.86	3.63	3.48	3.37	3.29	3.23	3.18	3.14	3.10	3.07	3.03	2.99	2.94	2.90	2.86	2.83	2.80	2.77	2.76	2.73	2.72	2.71
	10.56	8.02	6.99	6.42	6.06	5.80	5.61	5.47	5.35	5.26	5.18	5.11	5.01	4.92	4.81	4.73	4.65	4.57	4.52	4.45	4.41	4.36	4.33	4.31
10	4.96	4.10	3.71	3.48	3.33	3.22	3.14	3.07	3.02	2.98	2.94	2.91	2.86	2.83	2.77	2.74	2.70	2.66	2.64	2.60	2.59	2.56	2.55	2.54
	10.04	7.56	6.55	5.99	5.64	5.39	5.20	5.06	4.94	4.85	4.77	4.71	4.60	4.52	4.41	4.33	4.25	4.17	4.12	4.05	4.01	3.96	3.93	3.91

Source: UAM