

COVID-19 OUTBREAK AND DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION SECTOR IN UGANDA. A CASE STUDY OF MAKINDYE S. S, MAKINDYE.

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ABSTRACT

The study aimed at covid-19 outbreak and development of education sector in uganda with a case study of Makindye s. s, Makindye and it was guided by the following objectives; To determine the effects of Corona Virus outbreak on the development of Education sector, to find ways of strengthening Education sector though in COVID-19 pandemic and to find ways how the education beneficiaries will operate in corona virus pandemic. The research used qualitative and quantitative research design. And it was so because the research was both qualitative and quantitative in nature for showing the impact of COVID-19 outbreak on the development of the education sector of Uganda. The research covered a population of 200 people in a category of teachers, students, parents and school heads because helped to give a clear picture of what was affecting the people during and after the outbreak of Corona Virus Disease 2019. The findings showed that the respondents who believed that the information circulated frequently were 75(78.9%) respondents, those who believed that the information about corona virus circulated occasionally were 15(15.8%) respondents and those who believed that the information never circulated properly were 05(5.3%) respondents. The study recommends that some preventive measures such as wearing masks, immunization and washing of hands should be highly advised by the government of Uganda to help in combating corona virus disease.

Key words: covid-19 outbreak, development and education sector

Background of study.

According to the ministry of World Health Organisation Corona Virus are a big family of different viruses. The virus was first detected in Wuhan, China, in late 2019 and has set off a global pandemic (Oromo et al., 2023). In East African Community heads of state, their Excellences like President Paul Kagame of the republic of Rwanda, President Uhuru Kenyatta of the Republic of Kenya, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of the republic of Uganda and President Salvar Maryardit Kiir of the republic of South Sudan held a consultative meeting of the East African Community heads of states through video conference on 12th may, 2020 (Brighton, Deus, Kazaara, Nelson, Catherine, et al., 2023). The heads of state took note of the current status of the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in the region and commended the ministers responsible for health, trade, transport and EAC affairs for their initiative in adopting a regional. As of September 6, 2021, the cumulative number of Corona virus (COVID-19) cases in East Africa amounted to 891,393. Ethiopia and Kenya were the most affected countries in the Eastern area of the African continent, registering 316.2 thousand and 240.4 thousand cases, respectively (Oromo et al., 2023). The COVID-19 pandemic in Uganda is part of Corona Virus Disease 2019(COVID-19 caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome Corona Virus 2 (SARS-COV-2)). The Virus was confirmed to have reached Uganda in March 2020 and the details of Corona Virus by March were as follow; Disease - COVID-19, Virus strain -

Received: 15.10.2023

Accepted: 20.10.2023

Published on: 30.10.2023

Corresponding: Author: research.miu.ac.ug/publications

SARS-CoV-2, Location - Uganda, First out break - Wuhan, Hubei, China, Arrival date - 18 March 2020 which is one year and five months, confirmed cases as of 2 August were 94,425 people, Active cases - 6,756, Recovered - 84,959, Deaths - 2,710 and fatality rate - 2.41% but to date a thousands of people have contacted the disease, some dying others recovering among others (Davids et al., 2023). The Health Minister John Ruth Acheng stated that the measures for combating Corona Virus will include avoiding hand shaking, hugging and calling toll free telephone numbers to report suspected cases of COVID-19 or to inquire information, Uganda's borders remain closed to those traveling from countries and furthermore the deaths and confirmed cases by 3 January 2020 to 16 September 2021 may be approximately 99,701 COVID-19 confirmed cases with 3,031 deaths reported to World Health Organisation. Thus, this research study aims to show the impact of Corona Virus on the development of the education sector of Uganda (Suzan & Kazaara, 2023).

Statement of problem

After the COVID-19 outbreak, the day-to-day reality has created a night marish situation in developed and developing countries (Brighton, Deus, Kazaara, Nelson, Alex, et al., 2023). To date Uganda has a lot of confirmed cases with much deaths, the number of those acquiring the Virus and associated death globally is alarming. The impact of the pandemic is already taking a toll on communities already Vulnerable or marginalized- the poor, the rural, the illiterate, women and girls, men and boys (Zowena et al., 2023).

Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, government of Uganda closed all schools and other educational institutions to minimize the spread of the Corona Virus (Victoria et al., 2023). This has affected more than 36,314 primary schools, 3129 secondary schools, 430,778 teachers and 12,777,390 learners (Victor et al., 2023). The COVID-19 outbreak and subsequent closure of every education institution has had drastically impacted on the learning especially curriculum coverage, loss of interest in education and learner's readiness in case schools open. This could result in massive rates of learner dropout due to unwanted pregnancies and lack of school fees among others (Anthony et al., 2023). So this research will aim at the showing the impacts of COVID-19 outbreak on the education sector of Uganda and also to show how to combat it from negatively affecting the education sector (Godfrey et al., 2023).

Objectives of the study

1. To determine the effects of Corona Virus out break on the development of Education sector.
2. To find ways of strengthening Education sector though in COVID-19 pandemic.
3. To find ways how the education beneficiaries will operate in corona virus pandemic.

Methodology**Research design.**

The research used qualitative and quantitative research design. And it was so because the research was both qualitative and quantitative in nature for showing the impact of COVID-19 outbreak on the development of the education sector of Uganda.

Study population.

The research covered a population of 200 people in a category of teachers, students, parents and school heads because helped to give a clear picture of what was affecting the people during and after the outbreak of Corona Virus Disease 2019.

Sample size.

The sample size was 100 respondents and was got from teachers, parents and learners regardless of any level in Makindye Division because every person had information he knew and carried about COVID-19 and it was helpful during research.

Sampling method.

The research used sample random methods where all the participants had equal chances of being selected to be part of research because through using sample random methods i got on spot information which was compared to other information and acquired the rightful research.

Data analysis

Data collected was analysed using a software package called statistical package for social scientists and it was presented using tables and graph to make it easily understandable to the user (Nelson et al., 2022). It contains a variety of statistical techniques to manipulate, explore and generate insights because it contains multiple programming languages to make things work easier and more effective.

RESULTS**Table 1 Platform on which COVID-19 information was acquired.**

Platforms	Frequency	Percentage
Social media	25	26.3
Television	15	15.8
Radio stations	25	26.3
News papers	30	31.6
Total	95	100

Source: Primary data (2022).

The finding showed that people majorly used the following platforms to get to know about the information concerning Corona Virus and they were social media which was covered 25(26.3%) respondents, television covered 15(15.8%) respondents, radio stations covered 25(26.3%) and newspapers covered 30(31.6%) respondents. This meant that newspapers were highly trusted and it circulated information highly compared to other platforms.

Types of school's respondents went through.

The respondents had only two options to choose and these were either mixed schools or Single sex schools as shown below.

Table 2 Types of school's respondents went through.**Received: 15.10.2023****Accepted: 20.10.2023****Published on: 30.10.2023**

Types of schools	Frequency	Percentage
Mixed school	95	100.0
Single sex school	0	0.0
Total	95	100

Source: Primary source (2022)

The study confirmed that most of the respondents never acquired their education in single sex schools as it is indicated that mixed schools covered 95(100.0%) of the respondents and single sex school covered no respondents as shown from the table above.

Information about COVID-19.

The respondents were asked about whether they knew about Corona virus they had two options to answer, they had to answer either Yes or No.

Table 3 Information about COVID-19.

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	90	94.7
No	5	5.3
Total	95	100

Source: Primary Source (2022).

According to the data which was collected it reviewed that most of the people had knowledge about COVID-19 because 90(94.7%) respondents knew about Corona Virus and those who knew not about COVID-19 pandemic covered 5(5.3%) respondents as shown above.

Medical personnel at school.

The study also focused on the availability of medical personnel at schools since they help a lot in stopping this disease, the answers to the question were two either Yes or No.

Table 4 Medical personnel at school.

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	50	47.4
No	45	47.4
Total	95	100

Source: Primary source (2022).

In the study it was reviewed that 50(52.6%) of the respondents had medical personnels at their school and those who had who had no medical personnel covered 45(47.4%) respondents as shown above.

How friendly the school doctors are.

Those who responded that they had school medical personnel were asked to show how they found their school medical personnel and I had only three responses; Cruel, medium and friendly as shown below.

Table 5 How friendly the school medical personnel are?

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Cruel	5	10.0
Medium	25	50.0
Friendly	20	40.0
Total	50	100

Source: Primary source (2022).

Those who accepted that they had their school medical personnel were 50 respondents and they were further asked to show how their school medical personnel and those who replied Cruel covered 5(10.0%), medium covered 25(50.0%), and those that covered friendly were 20(40.0%) respondents as shown above.

How preventive measures are used at school.

The respondents were asked how they use preventive methods about COVID-19 and three questions were raised and they included frequently, occasionally and never.

Table 6 Use of preventive measures at school.

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Frequently	50	52.6
Occasionally	45	47.4
Never	0	0.00
Total	95	100

Source: Primary source (2022).

The findings showed that those who frequently showed that those who frequently used preventive measures for COVID-19 covered 50(52.6%), those who used the COVID-19 preventive measures occasionally covered 45(47.4%) respondents and those that have never used were not seen as everyone was aware of the danger of COVID-19.

How studying is during COVID-19 pandemic.

The research was made and respondents were asked on how they feel about studying during the COVID-19 pandemic, the following questions were asked ie; Kind, Cruel and Well.

Table 7 How studying is during COVID-19 pandemic.

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Kind	20	21.1
Cruel	75	78.9

646

Well	0	0.00
Total	95	100

Source: Primary source (2022).

The findings showed that the respondents who found studying during COVID-19 medium were 20(21.1%) respondents, those who found studying during COVID-19 Cruel were 75(78.9%) respondents and those who found study during COVID-19 Well were not because most of the respondents were affected by COVID-19 pandemic as shown from table above.

How COVID-19 information is circulating to the respondents.

The study focused on how the information about COVID-19 pandemic circulates among people, different questions were raised ie; Frequently, Occasionally and Never.

Table 8 How the COVID-19 information is circulating to the respondents.

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Frequently	75	78.9
Occasionally	15	15.8
Never	05	5.3
Total	95	100

Source: Primary source (2022).

The findings showed that the respondents who believe that the information circulated frequently were 75(78.9%) respondents, those who believe that the information about corona virus circulated occasionally were 15(15.8%) respondents and those who believe that the information never circulated properly were 05(5.3%) respondents as shown above.

Space for people suspected of COVID-19.

The research asked whether they had of places where they put those who had contracted COVID-19 pandemic they had only two answers whether: Yes or Not.

Table 9 Space for people suspected of COVID-19.

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	80	84.5
No	15	15.8
Total	95	100

Source: Primary source (2022).

The findings showed that most of the respondents had space for separation when suspected of COVID-19 disease because they 80(84.2%) respondents and those who had no separate room for people suspected of COVID-19 disease covered 15(15.8%) and it meant that most of the respondents had separate rooms for the individuals are suspected of COVID-19.

Curriculum coverage during COVID-19 pandemic.

The study also put emphasis on the curriculum coverage and the respondents were asked show whether the curriculum coverage was affected or no and they had only two answers whether to say; Yes or Not as shown below.

Table 10 curriculum coverage during COVID-19 pandemic.

Variables	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	89	93.7
No	6	6.3
Total	95	100

Source: Primary Source (2022).

The findings showed that those whose curriculum coverage was affected by COVID-19 were 89(93.7%) respondents and those whose curriculum coverage was not affected were 6(6.3%) respondents and that meant that those whose curriculum coverage was affected had the highest number of respondents.

Fitting in class during COVID-19 pandemic.

The study also wanted to find out whether the students fitted in class following the standard operating procedures set by the government and the respondents were give two other answers to pick from either answer Yes or Not.

Table 11 fitting in class during COVID-19 pandemic.

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	25	26.3
No	70	73.7
Total	95	100

Source: Primary Source (2022).

The findings from the respondents reviewed that those who did not fit in class following the standard operating procedures set up for COVID-19 prevention were 70(73.7%) respondents and those who fitted in class following the standard operating procedures set up for COVID-19 prevention were 25(26.3%) respondents and that showed that those who had did not fit in class following the standard procedures took the highest number as shown from the above.

Effects of COVID-19 pandemic on Education.**Table 12 COVID-19 pandemic on Education sector.**

Beneficiaries which were affected.	Frequency	Percentage
Teachers and support staff	25	26.3
Public	15	15.8
Schools	20	21.1

Learners	35	36.8
Total	95	100

Source: Primary source (2022).

The effects of COVID-19 pandemic on Education.

The finding of the study revealed that the following beneficiaries and stakeholders were affected in this category ie teachers and support staffs covered 25(26.3%), public covered 15(15.8%) and learners covered 35(36.8%) and the research showed that the highest level of percentage was for learners and it showed that learners were the highly affected beneficiaries.

Table 13 Effects of COVID-19 pandemic on Education sector.

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
Teachers and support staff	8	11	11	25	40
Percentage	8.4	11.6	11.6	26.3	42.1
Public	6	9	10	30	40
Percentage	6.3	9.5	10.5	31.6	42.1
Schools	9	9	13	25	39
Percentage	9.5	9.5	13.7	26.3	41.0
Learners	10	11	14	20	40
Percentage	10.5	11.6	14.7	21.1	42.1

Source: Secondary source (2022).

The effects of COVID-19 pandemic on the education sector were seen when the respondents agreed that there are mainly four groups of people which are the beneficiaries of education sector and they were teachers and support staffs, public, schools and learners as shown below

At first the respondents strongly agreed that teachers and support staffs were very greatly affected by COVID-19 which covered 42.1% and some of the respondents which greatly thought that COVID-19 affected were 26.3% respondents (Moses, 2022).

Some of the respondents who covered 42.1% very greatly thought that public was affected by corona virus, 31.6% of respondents believe that COVID-19 greatly believed the same thing as shown above.

Effects of COVID-19 on teachers and support staff.

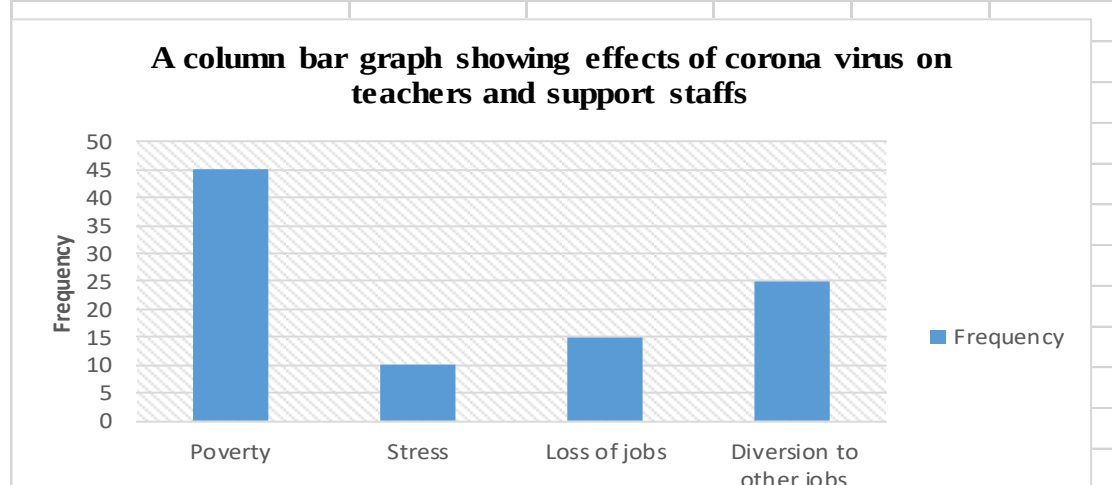
Table 14 Effects of COVID-19 on support staff and teachers.

During the study some of the major effects of COVID-19 pandemic on teachers were raised and they included; Poverty among teachers, stress due to Corona virus, loss of jobs and diversion to other jobs (Christopher & Micheal, 2022).

Figure 1 Corona virus on teachers and support staffs.

Effects	Frequency	Percentage
Poverty	45	47.4
Stress	10	10.5
Loss of jobs	15	15.8
Diversion to other jobs	25	26.3
Total	95	100

Source: Primary source (2022)



The findings of the study showed and revealed major effects of COVID-19 to both teachers and support staffs and they included as follows poverty among teachers, loss of their jobs, deaths and diverting to other-to-other jobs. The survey showed that 10(10.5%) of teachers and support staffs lost their jobs, 10(10.5%) had stress due to Corona virus, 45(47.4%) suffered poverty due to the COVID-19 and 25(26.3%) diverted to other jobs due to Corona Virus pandemic as shown from the above table (Christopher et al., 2022).

Table 15 Effects of COVID-19 pandemic on teachers and support staffs.

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
Poverty among teachers	10	10	15	20	40
Percentage	10.5	10.5	15.8	21.1	42.1
Loss of jobs	6	9	10	27	43
Percentage	6.3	9.5	10.5	28.4	45.3
Stress	6	8	20	23	38
Percentage	6.3	8.4	21.1	24.2	40.0

diversion to	5	10	20	20	40
other jobs	5.2	10.5	21.1	21.1	42.1
Percentage					

Source: Secondary source (2022).

The survey also had to put emphasis on how really COVID-19 pandemic had affected the teachers and support staffs and various effects of COVID-19 pandemic were brought forward and they were; Poverty among teachers, loss of jobs, stress among teachers and diversion to other jobs. In the results Poverty among teachers showed that those who thought COVID-19 had very greatly affected teachers were 42.1% and those who think COVID-19 had greatly affected teachers and support staff were 21.1% respondents. Loss of jobs took these percentage as follows 45.3% respondents think teachers were very greatly affected, 28.4% respondents think COVID-19 greatly affected teachers and support staffs (Victoria et al., 2023).

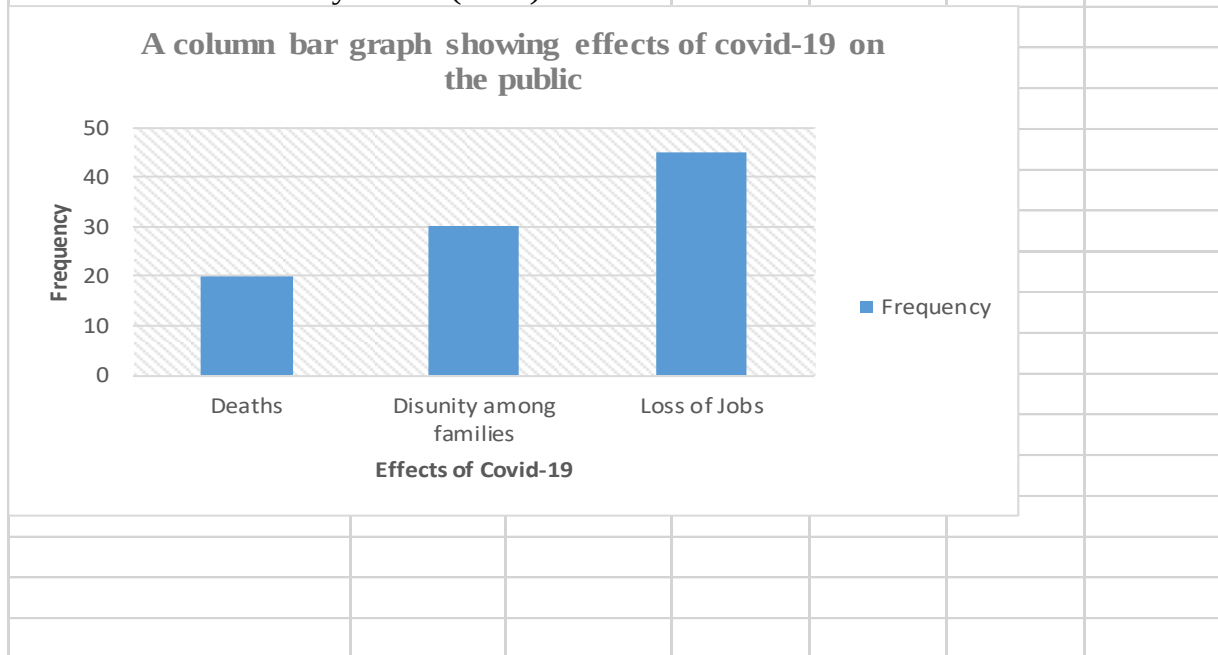
Stress among teachers also took the following pattern 40.0% respondents thought teachers were very greatly affected by COVID-19 pandemic, those who think teachers were greatly affected by corona virus were 24.2% respondents as shown. Diversion of teachers to jobs showed that those who very greatly think that COVID-19 led to the diversion of teachers to other jobs were 42.1% and those who greatly thought that teachers and support staffs were 21.1% of the respondents (Christopher et al., 2022).

Effects on covid-19 on the public.

Table 17 Effects of COVID-19 on the public.

Effects	Frequency	Percentage
Deaths	20	21.0
Disunity among families	30	31.6
Loss of Jobs	45	47.4
Total	95	100

Source: Primary source (2022)



The finding of the study showed that Corona virus affected the public in three major categories i.e., death, disunity among families and loss of jobs. In that death covered 20(21.0%), disunity among families covered 30(31.6%) and loss of jobs covered 45(47.4%) and meant that the loss of jobs was the major problem for jobs since it covered the highest percentage as shown above.

Table 18: The effects of COVID-19 on public.

The study employed the following ratings; 1=Not At All, 2=Little Extent, 3=Moderate Extent, 4=Great Extent and 5=Very Great Extent.

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
Death	20	10	15	20	30
Percentage	21.1	10.5	15.8	21.0	31.6
Disunity among families	7	15	10	20	43
Percentage	7.4	15.8	10.5	21.0	45.3
Loss of jobs	5	5	20	20	45
Percentage	5.3	5.3	21.0	21.0	47.4

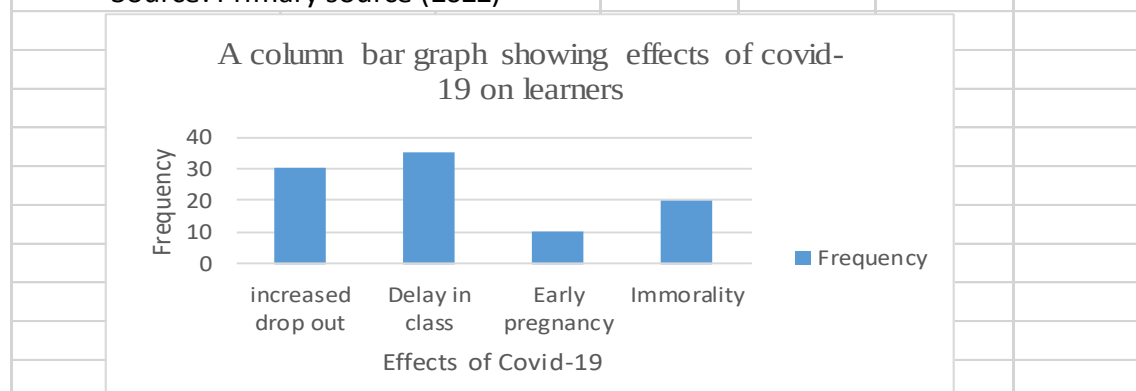
Source: Secondary source (2022).

Effects of COVID-19 on learners.

Table 19 Effects of COVID-19 on learners

Effects	Frequency	Percentage				
increased drop out	30	31.6				
Delay in class	35	36.8				
Early pregnancy	10	10.5				
Immorality	20	21.1				
Total	95	100				

Source: Primary source (2022)

**Table 20 Effects of COVID-19 on learners.**

Statements	1	2	3	4	5
Increased dropout	9	11	16	19	40

Received: 15.10.2023

Accepted: 20.10.2023

Published on: 30.10.2023

Percentage	9.5	11.6	16.8	20.0	42.1
Delay in class	8	10	19	20	38
Percentage	8.4	10.5	20.0	21.1	40.0
Immorality	8	10	17	19	41
Percentage	8.4	10.5	17.9	20.0	43.2
Early pregnancy	38	23	20	8	6
Percentage	40.0	24.2	21.1	8.4	6.3

Source: Secondary source (2022).

According to the results it showed increased drop out of learners from school having different ranking for example it had 31.6% at very great stage and 21.0% was greatly ranked because many students drop out of schools (John et al., 2023).

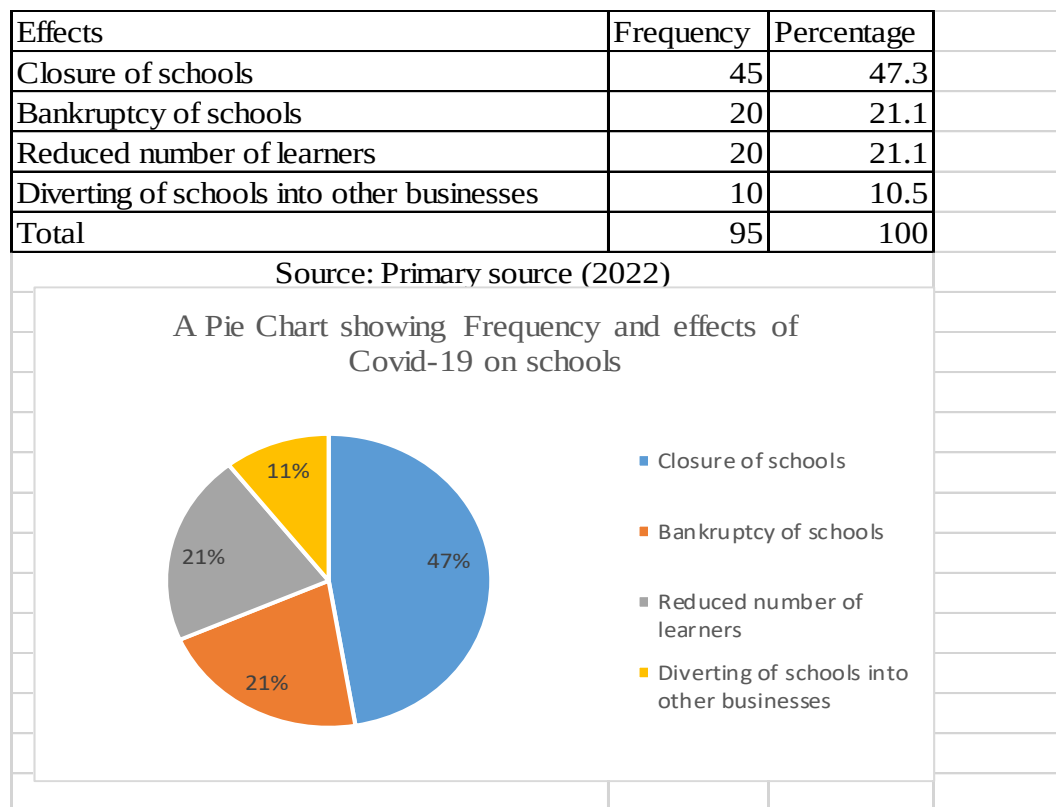
Delay in class covered 40.0% at very great extent and 21.0% respondents thought delay in class was at great extent because it was widely spread in the world.

The results also showed that immorality spread at highest rate showing 43.2% at very great extent and 20.0% at great extent all resulting from the coming and spread of COVID-19 pandemic (John et al., 2023).

Effects of Corona virus on schools.

The finding of the study revealed some of the major effect Corona virus has caused on schools and they included closure of schools, bankruptcy of schools, reduced number of learners and changing of schools into other businesses. Closure of schools covered 45(47.3%), bankruptcy of schools covered 20(21.1%), reduced number of learners covered 20(21.1%) and changing of schools into other businesses covered 10(10.5%) (Victor et al., 2023)

Table 21 Effects of Corona virus on schools.



In the study it was reviewed that the closure of schools covered the highest percentage and showed that COVID-19 pandemic affected mostly the closure of schools as shown above.

Table 21 Effects of corona Virus on schools.

Statements	1	2	3	4	5
Closure of schools	5	10	13	27	40
Percentage	5.3	10.5	13.7	28.4	42.1
Bankruptcy of schools	6	9	12	28	40
Percentage	6.3	9.5	12.6	29.5	42.1
Reduced number of learners	7	8	13	27	40
Percentage	7.4	8.4	13.7	28.4	42.1
Diverting of schools to other businesses	5	8	12	28	42

Received: 15.10.2023

Accepted: 20.10.2023

Published on: 30.10.2023

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Percentage	5.3	8.4	12.6	29.5	44.2
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Source: Secondary source (2022).

According to the results it showed the closure of school has an effect from corona virus on schools covering 42.1% very greatly and 28.4% greatly has it showed and reflected the right scenario of what happened in lockdown.

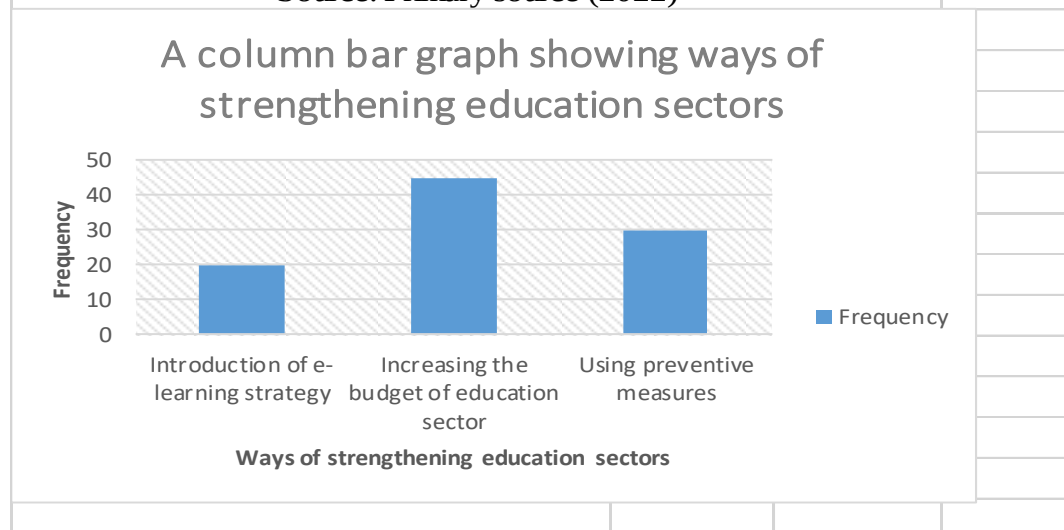
The results showed 42.1% very greatly affected by bankruptcy of schools due to Corona virus and 29.5% respondents greatly showed that bankruptcy of schools affected schools due to the outbreak of corona Virus. The results showed that 42.1% of respondents very greatly believe that Corona virus led to the reduction of learners in schools where as 28.4% of the respondents greatly think corona reduced students' numbers in school (Zulaikah & Rebecca, 2023). Finally, the results showed that 44.2% of the respondents believe that schools were diverted to other businesses like hotels, lodges, rentals, among others where as 29.5% of respondents believe that schools were diverted to other businesses.

Ways of strengthening Education sector though in Corona virus pandemic.

Table 22 Ways of strengthening Education sector.

Ways	Frequency	Percentage
Introduction of e-learning strategy	20	21.0
Increasing the budget of education sector	45	47.4
Using preventive measures	30	31.6
Total	95	100

Source: Primary source (2022)



The findings showed that introducing of e-learning which covered 20(21.0%) carrying out immunisation which covered 45(47.4%) and using preventive measures which covered 30(31.6%) as shown above. The findings revealed increment on the budget of education sector as the best method to use in order to go out of the noble corona virus as shown above when strengthening education sector.

Table 23 Ways of strengthening education sector though in COVID-19 pandemic.

Received: 15.10.2023

Accepted: 20.10.2023

Published on: 30.10.2023

Statements	1	2	3	4	5
Introduction of e-learning strategy	6	13	17	20	39
Percentage	6.3	13.7	17.8	21.1	41.1
Increasing the budget of education sector	10	12	15	19	39
Percentage	10.5	12.6	15.8	20.0	41.1
Using preventive measures	9	10	18	20	38
Percentage	9.5	10.5	18.9	21.1	40.0

Source: Primary source (2022).

The results showed that the introduction of e-learning strategy has a mean of strengthening education sector which stated that 41.1% of the respondents thought e-learning will very greatly strengthen education sector and 21.1% of respondents greatly thought e-learning platforms such as Zoom, google meet, google classroom among others to be good for the work of learning through avoiding physical classrooms (Jac & Kazaara, 2023).

The results showed carrying out budget increments to the education sector to be the most and effective way of strengthening education sector because it gives confidence to all stakeholders of education sector to operate with enough funds and it was seen when 41.1% respondents very greatly agreed upon it and 20.0% respondents greatly agreed upon that.

The results revealed using preventive measures such as wearing face masks, washing hands, social distancing among others as another way of strengthening education sector has it is revealed that 40.0% respondents who very greatly accepted it and 21.1% respondents greatly accepted the same thing.

Conclusions.

Based on the results, COVID-19 pandemic has highly affected the education beneficiaries like learners, teachers, school heads, support staff among others in various ways for example it has led death, Poverty among teachers, loss of jobs, diversion to other jobs, pregnancy among teachers and many other problems which were brought by COVID-19 pandemic.

On the results the strengthening of the education sector should be highly encouraged for example introducing of e-learning strategy, immunisation, encouraging the use of preventive measures to avoid corona virus for example wearing face masks, social distance and many other measures to avoid its impact on the education sector.

Recommendations.

The study recommends that some preventive measures such as wearing masks, immunisation and washing of hands should be highly advised by the government of Uganda to help in combating corona virus disease.

Received: 15.10.2023

Accepted: 20.10.2023

Published on: 30.10.2023

Corresponding: Author: research.miu.ac.ug/publications

The study also recommends some of the e-learning platforms to be used while learning during the period of COVID-19 in order to enable learning to be able to complete the content in the curriculum for the learners during lockdown.

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Received: 15.10.2023

Accepted: 20.10.2023

Published on: 30.10.2023

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