

## Diagnosis of barriers to Effective management in the fight against Covid-19 Pandemic in Zimbabwe

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### Abstract

The purpose of this study was to analyze the barriers towards the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) crisis management by the government of Zimbabwe between March and August 2020. This came after several anomalies which animated the country's response to the pandemic were reported. The study was qualitative in nature which operated within the descriptive design. Data collection was done through the review of secondary data from newspapers, policy reports, national reports and journal articles published between March and August 2020. These were purposively sampled on the basis that they captured the COVID-19 issues. This study established that the COVID-19 pandemic landed in Zimbabwe while the country was unprepared. As a result, the country's early response measures were characterised by inefficiencies. In that regard numerous reports emerged about more than 100 000 citizens arrested for defying the lockdown measures, lack of protective personal equipment (PPE) for health care workers, returnees from neighbouring countries absconding from the mandatory quarantine facilities, poverty levels widening and crime rates ballooning. All this pointed to the gaps in the country's disaster preparedness. The study recommends Zimbabwe needs to ramp up its disaster management preparedness capacity to be able to handle all future forms of disaster.

**Keywords:** COVID-19, Barriers, Effective management, Zimbabwe.

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European Journal of Economics, Law and Social Sciences ISSN 2519-1284 (print) ISSN 2510-0429 (online)

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