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Analysis of Coronavirus Data Using a Randomized Complete Block Design and Tukey's Honest Significance Test



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ABSTRACT

In this research, medical data was used representing the incidence of coronavirus infections for a few of the selected Arab nations under investigation (Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen, Syria, UAE), where the data was analyzed using two statistical methods, the first is to design a randomized controlled trial to determine the significant differences between the quantity of coronavirus cases in the chosen Arab nations. Also, knowing the presence or absence of a clear moral difference in the number of infections between the different months of the year in 2020 and for each selected Arab country separately. The second statistical method was Tukey's test to answer the following question: Is there a clear significant difference in whichever diseases there are in each of the two nations individually or not, and which Arab countries have a higher number of infections compared to the rest of the selected countries under study.

1. INTRODUCTION

In this paper the theoretical background on how to design a randomized trial will be discussed, which design a complete block randomized trial and how to obtain an analysis of variance table for this experiment? In addition to discussing the way Tukey's test helps in comparing the number of significant differences of the variables in question, this also. For the number of cases of the Coronavirus for the year 2020, obtained data were analyzed through the two methods described above, and the results of the two analyses were as follows, which can be viewed in the body of the current study below.

The concept of a randomized complete block design is considered one of the widely used layouts in many fields such as agricultural, engineering, medical, and other fields. Besides the chance that the design helps decrease random error, the final character broadens the scope of the generalizable study findings. The complete block means that each treatment is applied on all the blocks, while an incomplete randomized block design means that if a block misses one or more treatment groups. The designation of randomness will therefore stay because the treatment group will be randomly assigned to the experimental units within the blocks. Regarding the Tukey test, it is understood as being the posthoc test that is built when making comparison between the variables that have been chosen and collected data beforehand. This test tells dividing difference between the arithmetic mean of each of two values as opposed to comparing the values in pairs. The value of the Tukey test, in simple terms, is the arithmetic difference between the mean of each two values The above absolute difference is further divided by the standard error of the means (SE) as determined from thee one way ANOVA test. The SE is the square root of Variance/sample size [1, 2]. As it will be shown in this section, there is a vast literature focused on statistical analyses of medical data and many of those analyses include data on the corona virus Such vast literature actually includes many studies on the use of experimental design including a completely randomized design. However, the following tests associated with finding multiple comparisons between each two variables separately include - Tukey test, Scheffé, etc. In this research we will discuss some of these studies as below.

Alkutubi [2] analyzed twenty types of cancer at Tikrit General Hospital in Salah al-Din Governorate during the years 1995-2005 where the researchers employed a randomized trial design, among three statistical methods, to find out the significant differences in the number of cases of any of the twenty cancer categories, for both males and females.

Cancer types prevalent in the hospital settings were examined and authors introduced various statistical approaches employed in the analysis of data collected from the previous studies [3, 4]. A completely randomized trial design was used in the realization of the distinctions between the male and female individuals and the age distribution of the various types of cancers registered in the hospital setting [5, 6]. They presented the number of HIV infections from 1990 to 2008 based on three variables: age, sex, and race. In addition to a completely randomized trial design a factorial experiment design was used to establish significant differences of this

however there were large differences with quantity of infections with this disease in different age groups and also between genders. The affected person, in addition to the type of race [7-9]. They assessed the trend of breast cancer patients in Al-Sadr Teaching Hospital in Najaf Governorate in Iraq during the period between 2005 and 2009 where the authors had planned to carry out a complete randomized trial to detect difference in number of occurrences of the event in relation to different research parameters including age and tumour stage, occupation and SES. And last not the least his level of education.

Lynd and O'brien [10] found out the significance of the age and sex factors in the case of COVID-19 deaths in the United States, analysis of variance test is carried out [11-13]. These data were extracted from the "Provisional COVID-19 Deaths by Sex and Age" files that are in data.gov and CDC's website. This information includes Daily COVID19 deaths, breakdown of fatalities by age, sex of the deceased, and jurisdiction where the death occurred as well as other diseases reported from individuals to the NCHS, like pneumococcal pneumonia and influenza. COVID-related deaths from January 1, 2020-November 9, 2022. There are eleven subgroups in the age; (0 -1), (1-4), (5-14), (15-24), (25-34), (35-44), (45-54), and (55 – are these subcategories. Age group has a statistically significant influence on COVID deaths, and the only component derived from the data. The estimates do not show a strong relationship between the sex and interaction term in the COVID deaths. Finally, the results of the analysis provided support for the ANOVA assumptions of homogeneity of variance, normality, and independence of observations after testing. Where there were significant pairwise groupings, a post hoc Tukey HSD test was conducted to determine which of these would affect COVID deaths.

Regardless the age range the Tukey test results revealed that

all together there were 26 significant within pairs in the data. Furthermore, the findings of the ANOVA test also refute the fact that everyone had been operating under the thought process that men are more vulnerable to COVID-19 fatalities than women. The analysis of COVID-19 [14-16] and labour show that the employment kinds did not greatly differ by gender. There could also be some truth in the stands that female organisms are generally healthier than male ones. Besides, men are inclined to pay no attention to the physical distance and engage in risk-taking behaviors. They may also be more careless on symptoms of Coronavirus or less worried about them. This comprises activities that relate to lung health as supported by the findings of the statistical analysis discussed above and human health [17-22].

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 The randomized complete block design

The randomized complete block design (RCBD) is perhaps the most commonly encountered design that can be analyzed as a two-way ANOVA. An experimental unit set is arranged (blocked) in this design in a manner that reduces the variability between units within groups (blocks). Maintaining as little experimental error as feasible inside each block is the goal. The variability across blocks may be approximated as a distinct source of variation since each block comprises the whole set of treatments; so, differences between blocks are not caused by treatments. Treatments are allocated at random inside a block after experimental units have been organised into blocks; distinct randomizations are created for each block. Table 1 displays an ANOVA's generalised framework for an RCBD. Testing the equity of treatment methods is our primary focus in this approach.

Table 1. Analysis of variance table for a randomized complete block trial design

Sources of Variation (S.O.V.)	Degrees of Freedom (df)	Sum of Square (SS)	Mean Sum of Square (MS)	F-Test F _{calcu} .
Block	r-1	SSB	MSB	MSB MSE
Treatment	<i>t</i> -1	SSt	MST	MSt
Error	(t-1)(r-1)	SSE	MSE	$\frac{MSE}{MSE}$
Total	<i>tr</i> -1	SST	MSE	MSE

2.2 Practical application

In this research, real data was used signifying the quantity of infections with the Corona virus for the year 2020, classified according to the twelve months and for some of the selected Arab countries under study (Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar), where an experimental analysis was applied. Randomized complete blocks to determine whether or if the frequency of coronavirus infections in the chosen Arab nations varies significantly from one another. Tukey's analysis was then used to determine the accuracy of the notable variations between the infection rate between each two countries separately. After that, and again, a completely randomized block design and Tukey's analysis were applied to find significant differences between the number of Coronavirus infections among a number of other selected Arab countries (Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen, Syria, and the Emirates).

• The following are steps to apply a completely randomized block experiment to real data in Table 2 and Table 3.

Step 1. Statistical hypothesis for replications:

 H_0 : All replicate (the number of infections in different months of the year) means are equal.

 H_A : At least one of the replicates (the number of infections in different months of the year) means is different from the others.

Step 2. Statistical hypothesis for treatments:

 H_0 : All treatment (the infections of selected countries are being studied) means are equal.

 H_A : At least one of the treatments (the infections of selected countries are being studied) means is different from the others.

Step 3. Calculate the Correction Factor (CF):

$$CF = \frac{(Y_{..})^2}{rt} = \frac{(1695237)^2}{9*12} = 26609523020$$

Step 4. Calculate the Total SS (SST):

$$SST = \sum Y_{ij}^2 - CF = (2313)^2 + \dots + (0)^2 - CF = 75894543465$$

Step 5. Calculate the Block SS (SSB):

SSB =
$$\frac{\sum Y_{,j}^2}{t} - CF = \frac{(114682)^2 + ... + (100)^2}{9} - CF = 17234158790$$

Step 7. Calculate the Error SS (SSE):

SSE = SST - SSB - SSt = 43015337905

Step 6. Calculate the Treatment SS (SSt):

$$SSt = \frac{\sum Y_i^2}{r} - CF = \frac{(88964)^2 + \dots + (140961)^2}{12} - CF = 15645046770$$

Step 8. Complete analysis of variance table for this experiment (explained in the Results section)

Table 2. Actual information on the number of coronavirus infections for the year 2020 for some Arab countries (Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan)

Replication R=N	Bahrain A	Iraq B	Kuwait C	Egypt D	Jordan E
1	2356	24199	3792	6034	45307
2	5142	79802	17089	8165	145001
3	11044	112343	20769	4297	59257
4	18848	127113	19932	4352	8083
5	10819	109914	18107	4970	775
6	14516	74112	21005	27003	63
7	15446	40972	19332	43305	394
8	7872	4176	22452	18181	283
9	2406	1373	3474	4659	183
10	477	623	221	608	0
11	38	7	45	1	0
12	0	0	0	0	0
Total	88964	574634	146218	121575	259346
Mean	7,413.7	47,886.2	12,184.8	10,131.25	21,612.2

Table 3. Actual details on the quantity of coronavirus infections in 2020 for some Arab countries (Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar)

Replication R=N	Lebanon F	Libya G	Oman H	Qatar K	Total
1	19576	8349	2756	2313	114682
2	47415	21802	9050	6305	339771
3	41152	26614	15849	6810	298135
4	21507	20591	13041	6958	240425
5	12536	10201	6385	8115	181822
6	2589	2460	40099	15354	197201
7	554	632	28637	39844	189116
8	470	69	8149	42698	104350
9	275	53	2095	11871	26389
10	443	8	173	693	3246
11	3	0	6	0	100
12	0	0	0	0	0
Total	146520	90779	126240	140961	1695237
Mean	12,210	7,564.9	10,520	11,746.75	

Table 4. Actual information on the number of coronavirus infections for the year 2020 for some Arab countries (Morocco, Palestine, Saudi – Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia)

Replications R=N	Morocco A	Palestine B	Saudi Arabia C	Sudan D	Tunisia E
1	45806	27869	2760	3759	15110
2	138509	32046	10248	3862	36438
3	94111	14627	12693	159	42408
4	59784	21052	19366	417	13720
5	38140	14225	40602	1693	2171
6	10969	12395	87783	2238	342
7	4510	1817	103052	4458	96
8	3459	119	61982	4425	96
9	3765	392	19949	369	668
10	556	115	1453	6	312
11	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0
Total	399609	124657	359888	21386	111361
Mean	33300.75	10388.08	29990.66	1782.16	9280.08

Table 5. Actual information on the number of coronavirus infections for the year 2020 for some Arab countries (Yemen, Syria, United Arab – Emirates)

Replications R=N	Yemen F	Syria G	United Arab Emirates H	Total
1	6	1369	17196	113875
2	14	2114	36245	259476

3	28	1535	38418	203979
4	82	1445	23400	139266
5	227	1965	9184	108207
6	598	469	12260	127054
7	818	147	14350	129248
8	304	79	21967	92431
9	6	33	11318	36500
10	0	10	590	3042
11	0	0	17	17
12	0	0	0	0
Total	2083	9166	184945	1213095
Mean	173.58	763.8	15,412.08	1213093

 The following are steps to apply a completely randomized block experiment to real data in Table 4 and Table 5.

Step 1. Statistical hypothesis for replications:

 H_0 : All replicate (the number of infections in different months of the year) means are equal.

 H_A : At least one of the replicates (the number of infections in different months of the year) means is different from the others

Step 2. Statistical hypothesis for treatments:

 H_0 : All treatment (the infections of selected countries are being studied) means are equal.

 H_A : At least one of the treatments (the infections of selected countries are being studied) means is different from the others.

Step 3. Calculate the Correction Factor (CF):

$$CF = \frac{(Y_{..})^2}{rt} = \frac{(1213095)^2}{(8)(12)} = 15329161240$$

Step 4. Calculate the Total SS (SST):

$$SST = \sum Y^{2}_{ij} - CF = (458062313)^{2} + \cdots (0)^{2} - CF$$

= 56016876687

Step 5. Calculate the Block SS (SSB):

$$SSB = \frac{\sum {Y_j}^2}{t} - CF = \frac{(113875)^2 + \dots (17)^2}{8} - CF = 9138248070$$

Step 6. Calculate the Treatment SS (SSt):

$$SSt = \frac{\sum Y_{L}^{2}}{r} - CF = \frac{(399609)^{2} + \dots (184945)^{2}}{12} - CF = 13995649915$$

Step 7. Calculate the Error SS (SSE):

$$SSE = SST - SSB - SSt = 32882978702$$

Step 8. Complete analysis of variance table for this experiment (explained in the Results section)

Table 6. Tukey's analysis of coronavirus data for some Arab countries (Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar)

The Difference Between the Average Infections	$\overline{M_{\iota}} - \overline{M_{I}}$	Tukey's Statistics T _α	Conclusion
A - G	151.2	29103	Not Sig.
A - D	2717.55	29103	Not Sig.
A - H	3106.3	29103	Not Sig.
A - K	4333.05	29103	Not Sig.
A - C	4771.1	29103	Not Sig.
A - F	4796.3	29103	Not Sig.
A - E	14198.5	29103	Not Sig.
A - B	40472.5	29103	Sig.
G - D	2566.35	29103	Not Sig.
G - H	2955.1	29103	Not Sig.
G - K	4181.85	29103	Not Sig.
[G - C]	4619.9	29103	Not Sig.
G - F	4645.1	29103	Not Sig.
G - E	14047.3	29103	Not Sig.
G - B	40321.3	29103	Sig.
D - H	388.75	29103	Not Sig.
D - K	1615.5	29103	Not Sig.
D - C	2053.55	29103	Not Sig.
D - F	2078.75	29103	Not Sig.
D - E	11480.95	29103	Not Sig.
D - B	37754.95	29103	Sig.
H - K	1226.75	29103	Not Sig.
H - C	1664.8	29103	Not Sig.
H - F	1690	29103	Not Sig.
H - E	11092.2	29103	Not Sig.
H - B	37366.2	29103	Sig.
K - C	438.05	29103	Not Sig.
K - F	463.25	29103	Not Sig.
K - E	9865.45	29103	Not Sig.
K - B	36139.45	29103	Sig.

C - F	25.2	29103	Not Sig.
[C - E]	9427.4	29103	Not Sig.
[C - B]	35701.4	29103	Sig.
F - E	9402.2	29103	Not Sig.
F - B	35676.2	29103	Sig.
E - B	26274	29103	Not Sig.

Table 7. The result of a Tukey test analysis of coronavirus data for some Arab countries (Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar)

Treatments	Means
A (Bahrain)	7413 a
G (Libya)	7564.9 a
D (Egypt)	10131.25 a
H (Oman)	10520 a
K (Qatar)	11746.75 a
C (Kuwait)	12184.8 a
F (Lebanon)	12210 a
E (Jordan)	21612.2 ab
B (Iraq)	47886.2 ь

 Applying the Tukey test to real data reflecting the number of coronavirus cases in a few Arab nations. The test steps are shown in the Tables 6 and 7 in the next section. The Tukey test statistic can be calculated as follows:

$$T_{\alpha} = q_{\alpha}(p, f) \sqrt{\frac{MSE}{r}}$$

$$T_{0.05} = q_{0.05}(9,88) \sqrt{\frac{488810658}{12}} = 29103.28 \approx 29103$$

 Applying the Tukey test to real data representing reflecting the number of coronavirus cases in a few Arab nations.

The test steps are shown in the Tables 8 and 9 in the next section. The Tukey test statistic can be calculated as follows:

$$T_{\alpha} = q_{\alpha}(p, f) \sqrt{\frac{MSE}{r}}$$

$$T_{0.05} = q_{0.05}(8,77) \sqrt{\frac{427051671.4}{12}} = 26260.3 \approx 26260$$

Table 8. Tukey's analysis of coronavirus data for some Arab countries (Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen, Syria, and the Emirates)

The Difference Between the Average Infections	$\overline{M_{\iota}} - \overline{M_{I}}$	Tukey's Statistics T_{α}	Conclusion
F - G	590.22	26260	Not Sig.
F - D	1608.58	26260	Not Sig.
F - E	9106.5	26260	Not Sig.
F - B	10214.5	26260	Not Sig.
F - H	15238.5	26260	Not Sig.
F - C	29817.08	26260	Sig.
G - D	1018.36	26260	Not Sig.
G - E	8516.28	26260	Not Sig.
G - B	9624.28	26260	Not Sig.
G - H	14648.28	26260	Not Sig.
G - C	29226.86	26260	Sig.
D - E	7497.92	26260	Not Sig.
D - B	8605.92	26260	Not Sig.
D - H	13629.92	26260	Not Sig.
D - C	28208.5	26260	Sig.
E - B	1108	26260	Not Sig.
[E - H]	6132	26260	Not Sig.
E - C	20710.58	26260	Not Sig.
E - A	24020.67	26260	Not Sig.
B - H	5024	26260	Not Sig.
B - C	19602.58	26260	Not Sig.
B - A	22912.67	26260	Not Sig.
H - C	14578.58	26260	Not Sig.
H - A	17888.67	26260	Not Sig.
C - A	3310.09	26260	Not Sig.

Table 9. The result of a Tukey test analysis of coronavirus data for some Arab countries (Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen, Syria, and the Emirates)

Treatments	Means
F (Yemen)	173.58 a
G (Syria)	763.8 ab
D (Sudan)	1782.16 ab
E (Tunisia)	9280.08 ab
B (Palestine)	10388.08 ab
H (Emirates)	15412.08 ab
C (Saudi Arabia)	29990.66
A (Morocco)	33300.75

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this section, we include the results we obtained from the previous section, the randomized complete block design, and Tukey's selection analysis, in addition to the graph of the real data used in the research.

Figure 1 displays the number of coronavirus infections for a few of the chosen Arab nations under investigation., which are Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, and finally Qatar. The country with the highest number of infections with the Corona virus in months (January and February) is Jordan, the country with the highest number of

infections with the Corona virus in months (March, April, May and June) is Iraq, the country with the highest number of infections with the Corona virus in month (July) is Egypt. The country with the highest number of infections with the Corona virus in months (August, September and October) is Qatar and the country with the highest number of infections with the Corona virus in months (November) is Kuwait.

Figure 2 shows the number of infections with the Corona virus for some of the selected Arab countries under study, which are Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen, Syria, and finally the Emirates. The country with the highest number of infections with the Corona virus in months (January, February, March and April) is Morocco, the country with the highest number of infections with the Corona virus in months (May, June, July, August, September and October) is Saudi Arabia, the country with the highest number of infections with the Corona virus in month (November) is United Arab-Emirates.

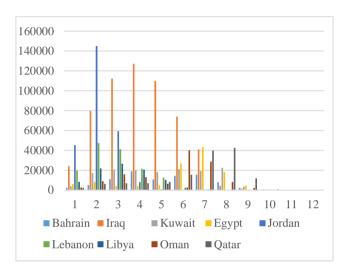


Figure 1. Data on the distribution of coronavirus infections in a few Arab nations (Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar)

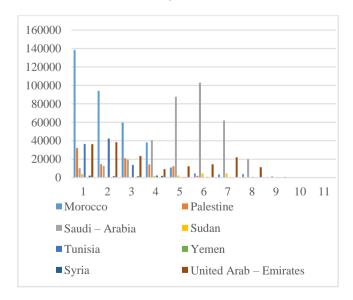


Figure 2. Data on the number of coronavirus infections distributed among some Arab countries (Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen, Syria, and the Emirates)

Table 10. Variance analysis table for the number of Coronavirus infections for some Arab countries (Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar)

S.O.V.	df	SS	MS	$F_{calcu.}$
Block (reps)	11	17234158790	1566741708	3.205212
Treatment	8	15645046770	1955630846	4.000794
Error	88	43015337905	488810658	
Total	107	75894543465		

Table 11. Variance analysis table for the number of Coronavirus infections for some Arab countries (Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen, Syria, and the Emirates)

S.O.V.	df	SS	MS	F_{calcu} .
Block (reps)	11	9138248070	830749824	1.945314537
Treatment	7	13995649915	1999378559	4.681818836
Error	77	32882978702	427051671.4	
Total	95	56016876687		

Since $F_{calcu.}$ (3.205) > $F_{tab.}$ at the 95% (1.8991) levels of confidence, we reject H_0 (that means there are significant differences between the number of infections in different months of the year) Also $F_{calcu.}$ (4.0008)> F_{tab} At the 95% (2.0454) levels of confidence, we reject H_0 (that means there are significant differences between infections of selected countries are being studied).

Since $F_{calcu.}$ (1.945)> $F_{tab.}$ at the 95% (1.915) levels of confidence we reject H_0 (that means there are significant differences between the number of infections in different months of the year). Since $F_{calcu.}$ (4.681)> $F_{tab.}$ at the 95% (2.13099) levels of confidence, we reject H_0 (that means there are significant differences between infections of selected countries are being studied).

When doing a Tukey test study to ascertain if there are any noteworthy variations in the quantity of coronavirus infections across many chosen nations (Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar), it was found that there is a very a discernible and noteworthy variation in the quantity of coronavirus infections. Iraq's coronavirus infection rate in comparison to that of other nations like Bahrain, Libya, Egypt, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, and Lebanon only.

Once again, Tables 10-11 show that the number of infections in Iraq is clearly significantly different from the rest of the countries under study (Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar). The lowercase letter (a) indicates that there are no significant differences, while the letter (b) indicates that there are significant differences. As for (ab), it indicates that there is a difference in the number of infections from other countries, but it is not significant.

When conducting a Tukey test analysis to determine the presence or absence of significant differences in the number of infections with the Corona virus between a number of selected countries (Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen, Syria, and the Emirates), it was found that there is a very clear significant difference between the number of infections with the Corona virus in Saudi Arabia compared to the number of infections in other countries such as Yemen, Syria, and Sudan only.

Once again, the table above shows that the number of infections in Saudi Arabia and Morocco are clearly significantly different from the rest of the countries under

study (Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen, Syria, and the Emirates). The lowercase letter (a) indicates that there are no significant differences, while the letter (b) indicates that there are significant differences. As for (ab), it indicates that there is a difference in the number of infections from other countries, but it is not significant.

4. CONCLUSION

The conclusions we reached are the following points:

- 1. From the graphs, the total number of coronavirus infections within a given year 2020 in Morocco comes in first place, Saudi Arabia in second place and finally the UAE in third place when compared with the number of infections in a group of selected Arab countries (Palestine, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen, Syria). Also, among the number of infections in Arab countries (Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar), we found that the number of infections with the Corona virus for the year 2020 is the highest and ranked first in Iraq, Jordan ranked second, and Jordan ranked third.
- 2. An analysis of a randomized complete block design of a number of Coronavirus infections in a group of selected Arab countries under study showed, generally, that the number of illnesses in various nations varies significantly. In addition, there are significant differences in the number of infections between the months of 2020 for each of the selected Arab countries under study.
- 3. From the Tukey's honest significance test, there is a very clear significant difference between the number of infections with the Corona virus. Corona in Iraq compared to the number of infections in other countries such as Bahrain, Libya, Egypt, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, and Lebanon only. Also, there is a very clear significant difference between the number of infections with the Corona virus in Saudi Arabia compared to the number of infections in other countries such as Yemen, Syria, and Sudan only.

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