

Investigator Gazetteer Report – Covid-19 Trial Effect - Mar 2021

Covid-19 Trial Effect

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<https://www.clinicaltrialmagnifier.org/>

Objective and Material

The objective of this report is to display the number of trials and study sites of industry-sponsored clinical trials in relation to the year prior to the Covid-19 Pandemic (year 2019) and during the first year of the Covid-19 Pandemic (year 2020).

The data represent industry-sponsored clinical trials for two full years, i.e. for trials registered with the US trial registry (clinicaltrials.gov) between (a) January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019, and (b) January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.

Results

Number of Trials and Sites by Study Phase

The results are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Number of trials and sites by study phase and the year prior to the Covid-19 Pandemic (year 2019) and during the first year of the Covid-19 Pandemic (year 2020).

Global Trials	(n)	(n)	(n)	(n)	(n)	(n)
Year	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV	N/A	Total
2019	1,735	985	799	182	1,120	4,821
2020	2,130	1,248	880	192	1,271	5,721
<i>Difference (n)</i>	395	263	81	10	151	900
<i>Difference (%)</i>	22.8	26.7	10.1	5.5	13.5	18.7

Global Sites	(n)	(n)	(n)	(n)	(n)	(n)
Year	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV	N/A	Total
2019	7,118	21,261	41,195	2,804	5,144	77,522
2020	6,491	17,252	31,506	1,545	3,670	60,464
<i>Difference (n)</i>	-627	-4,009	-9,689	-1,259	-1,474	-17,058
<i>Difference (%)</i>	-8.8	-18.9	-23.5	-44.9	-28.7	-22.0

US Sites	(n)	(n)	(n)	(n)	(n)	(n)
Year	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV	N/A	Total
2019	3,612	9,214	13,760	1,152	2,598	30,336
2020	2,985	7,412	10,816	541	2,030	23,784
<i>Difference (n)</i>	-627	-1,802	-2,944	-611	-568	-6,552
<i>Difference (%)</i>	-17.4	-19.6	-21.4	-53.0	-21.9	-21.6

Non-Us Sites	(n)	(n)	(n)	(n)	(n)	(n)
Year	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV	N/A	Total
2019	3,506	12,047	27,435	1,652	2,546	47,186
2020	3,506	9,840	20,690	1,004	1,640	36,680
<i>Difference (n)</i>	0	-2,207	-6,745	-648	-906	-10,506
<i>Difference (%)</i>	0.0	-18.3	-24.6	-39.2	-35.6	-22.3

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- There was an **increase** (18.7%) in the **total number of trials** between the two year of observation, i.e. an increase during the Pandemic year; phase I and phase II trials showed the largest increase.
- There was a **decrease** (22.0%) in the **total number of global study sites** between the two year of observation, i.e. a decrease during the Pandemic year; phase III and phase IV trials showed the largest decrease.
- US versus Non-US sites show about the same decrease in the number of sites over the two year of observation especially for phase II/III trials.

Conclusion: We can note an increased activity by means of the number of industry sponsored trials during the first Covid-19 Pandemic year. The number of study sites have however showed the reverse development, i.e. a decrease. The industry is predictably preparing for a strong increased site activity once the Pandemic situation has improved.