# **Educational Administration: Theory and Practice**

2024, 30(4),1175-1187 ISSN: 2148-2403

https://kuey.net/

#### **Research Article**



# The impact of job stress on employee performance of Fenaka Fuvahmulah

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Citation: Toong Hai Sam, et al (2024), The impact of job stress on employee performance of Fenaka Fuvahmulah, , Educational Administration: Theory and Practice, 30(4), 1175-1187

Doi: 10.53555/kuey.v30i4.1631

#### ARTICLE INFO ABSTRACT

# This study focuses on how job stress affects workers' efficiency in a workplace setting. Job stress is one of the most crucial aspects of an organization's performance. The most urgent problem facing most businesses is the effect that workrelated pressures have on employee performance. Fenaka Fuvahmulah is one of the businesses that has dealt with the issue of decreasing employee performance. The present research investigates how employee performance at Fenaka Fuvahmuleh is affected by occupational stress. The investigation examines the connection between stress factors & a change in worker performance. To determine the stress-related causes, four major factors are utilized. They work in environments with job overload, conflict, and ambiguous roles. Quantitative methodology & descriptive statistics are employed to conduct this investigation. This study made use of initial information. The sample size for this study was 51 Fenaka Fuvahmulah employees, and an organized survey was used to obtain the information; however, only 36 employees answered the survey. This study's results demonstrated the connection among employee performance & job stress. According to the analysis of the data, employee performance decreases by 20.6% for every percentage point rise in job stress. In addition, it is hoped that other researchers would make use of this data to support the assertion that employee performance is adversely impacted by stress at work.

#### 1 Introduction

In the last few years, stress has become a constant part of existence,

particularly among professionals at various levels, as it affects them directly and indirectly (Boon et al., 2019). Many stressors have an impact on the employee's performance. Sharmilee (2017) states that time pressure and position uncertainty negatively affect employee performance. In addition, Yahaya et al. (2019) found that when employees experience task overload, role conflict, and a lack of manager support, their stress levels and job performance suffer. To reach the corporate goal, it is essential to reduce workplace stress (Boon et al., 2019). Gandham (2020) recommended that employees and management collaborate to reduce workplace stress. Therefore, it is crucial to comprehend what creates stress. Employees endure stress when they are unable to meet the designated demand, as stated by Kazmi, Amjad, and Khan (2008). Yet, these demands have both beneficial and harmful effects on the performance of employees (Yong et al., 2020). As long as an employee can handle stress, it has a beneficial impact on their performance. Although some forms of positive stress are motivating factors in achieving a company's aims, when stress becomes intolerable, it harms work performance (Sedyastuti et al., 2021). According to Dean (2002), Workplace stress is a factor in poor performance. And to back this up, DCS Gaumail (2003) discovered that stress had a significant detrimental impact on employee performance, as well as a rise in absenteeism and staff churn.

The Fenaka Fuvahmulah, has observed a decline in employee performance

over the past few years. In the words of Jehangir (2011), Employee performance suffers as a result of stress since it lowers performance. Ullah (2017), however, stated if a

business maintains a specific amount of stress, Employee performance & stress are positively correlated. Understanding the causes of stress, such as work pressure, subpar working environment, bad employee relations, & role conflict, is crucial (Stevi, 2020). Additionally, it is important to assess how stress affects worker performance and put coping mechanisms in place to keep stress at a manageable level while still having a good impact (Dirani et al., 2020). This study's objective is to ascertain the origins of stress and how it affects worker performance. And the study is founded on earlier research on the subject as well as the study's conclusions.

## 2 Literature Review

Employee conduct at work includes all aspects of an employee's performance (Jex, 2002). Additionally, Mangkunegara (2009) defined employee performance as the effectiveness and effectiveness attained when doing work-related duties. Wang et al. (2020) emphasized that the accomplishments of the personnel measure performance. Moreover, according to Saeed et al. (2019), work performance is the assigned task and how management aids the employee in performing their job. In the words of Dirani et al. (2020), among the most important variables in achieving the organization's predefined goal is the employee's job performance. In support of this, Qureshi and Ramay (2006) found that employees are regarded as a vital resource for their business because employee performance directly affects how well an organization performs on all fronts, both positively and negatively. (Gong and others, 2022). The degree of goal setting has a substantial impact on how well diverse personnel perform at work (Pantang, 2007), as defining similar goals inspires workers to work toward a common objective, which leads to their success over the long run. Consequently, it may be argued that having loftier goals significantly impacts job performance.

The performance of an employee falls into two areas. Task performance and contextual performance were the two categories into which performance was divided by Borman and Motowidlo (1993). According to Borman and Motowidlo (1997), task performance refers to the efficiency of staff members' contributions to a company's technological foundation. Additionally, contextual performance was defined as a jobrelated performance that is not absolutely necessary but nonetheless helps to shape the social and psychological climate of the business. (Borman and Motowidlo, 1993). Two additional areas' contextual performance: interpersonal facilitation & job commitment. Interpersonal facilitation is the term for helpful, kind, & cooperative behaviors that improve team members' performance. Conversely, self-discipline and motivation show a commitment to the profession by working hard, taking initiative, and following rules in order to forward organizational goals. (Scotter and Motowidlo, 1996).

When employees are under stress, their task, and contextual performance suffers. According to Kloutsiniotis et al. (2022), stressed employees cannot meet the organization's goals, decreasing employee performance. Workers in the service industry, according to Ismail and Hong (2011), endure stress related to their jobs, which lowers employee performance. In a similar vein Stankeviči (2019) concurred that people with stressful professions are likely to see a decline in performance. Stress develops when a person perceives that they cannot adjust adequately to a demand (Lazarus, 1966). According to Palm et al. (2020), stress is a worker's response when specific requirements, weights, and expert or employer opinions need to be taken into account when working on tasks that don't match their degrees of insight (knowledge and abilities). Therefore, making the employee's skills a challenge would make doing that job challenging. Additionally, Asra et al. (2020) implies that stress is a product of a person's interaction with their environment, creating emotional pressure that has an effect on the individual's physical and mental health. Giauque et al. (2019) have verified them definition of stress as anything that interferes with an individual's capacity to maintain psychological, social, or biological components within an adequate range. It is evident from these definitions that stress is an emotional strain. Distressing physiological and emotional responses happen when a worker's abilities, needs, and assets are incompatible with the requirements of their position.

#### 2.1 Hypothesis Development

Numerous empirical and conceptual studies have shown that employee

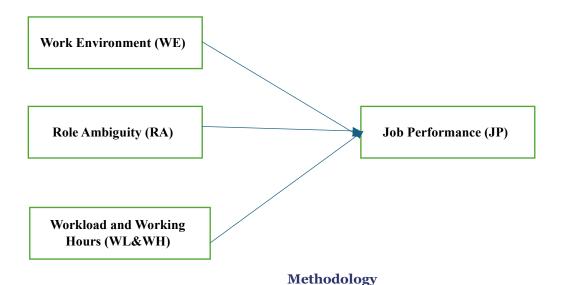
performance is impacted by work related stress in both direct & indirect ways. This notion was put out for examination:

H1: Work Environment has a substantial improvement in staff performance.

H2: Role Ambiguityjob stress has a very good effect on worker performance.

H3: The volume of the work and the number of hours worked both significantly improve employee performance.

## 2.2 Theoretical Framework



The quantitative inquiry that served as the foundation for the current study used a single data collection technique. The study is condensed, as only limited time is allocated. Due to time constraints, cross-sectional research employs survey strategies and quantitative methods, according to Saunders et al. (2009). In addition, this investigation is based on a questionnaire survey employing quantitative data. According to Saunders et al. (2009), a cross-sectional study is preferable.

The sampling and sampling procedure vary depending on the specified

research topic. According to Saratankos (2005), adopting the most appropriate sampling strategy assists the researcher in selecting participants from the total population to collect information to resolve the study question. Every respondent & employee are equally likely to be selected from the population using simple random sampling (Philiphs, 2009). In addition, he has advocated this strategy since using the Raosoft sample calculator, 51 people were selected for the sample size, which was estimated with a 10% margin of error & a 90% confidence level. 71% of the sample population, however, participated in the survey.

In addition, the questionnaire only contained closed items. In the opinion of Aanensen et al. (2009), the questionnaire is the most appropriate and economical method for gathering data from big groups. Closed-ended questions were employed to limit respondents' responses to the research objectives The questionnaire's first section comprises demographic information. Second section includes the occupational stress inventory and the occupational role questionnaire. The third section contains questions regarding performance. The final section contains closed-ended questions regarding coping strategies and other pertinent questions.

The initial step in collecting data was obtaining authorization from Fenaka Company. Fenaka's authorization, which served as reassurance, reduced the participant's reluctance to submit information. In addition, individuals' agreement was obtained before completing the questionnaire. And because they provide standardized data gathering and objectively constructed questions, questionnaires are employed to gather data. In addition, it expedites the collection of data from a significant population. The questions were created using Google forms, and 210 web links containing the questionnaires were delivered to the contestants. 100 replies were eventually gathered.

## 3 Result Analysis

**Table 1:** Demographic Profile

Gender	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Male	39	39.0	39.0	39.0
Female	61	61.0	61.0	100
Total	100	100	100	
Age	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
18-25	4	4.0	4.0	4.0
26-33	29	29.0	29.0	33.0
33-41	40	40.0	40.0	73.0
42-49	16	16.0	16.0	89.0
50 above	11	11.0	11.0	100
Total	100	100	100	
Work Industry	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Government Sector	2	2.0	2.0	2.0
Private Sector	79	79.0	79.0	81.0
Own/Family Business	8	8.0	8.0	89.0
Others (Freelancer)	11	11.0	11.0	100
Total	100	100	100	

Male and female respondents are classified into categories based on their gender, and 39% of female respondents, or 31 out of 100 respondents, participated in the survey. Following this are 61% of the population, or 61 out of 100, men. The respondent's age is broken down into five groups, with age ranges of 18 to 25 years, 36 to 33 years, 33 to 41 years, 42 to 49 years, and over 50 years. 40 out of 100 respondents that completed the questionnaire, or 40% of all respondents, fall between the age range of 33 to 41. This will be followed by a 29%, or 29 out of 100 respondents, who are between the ages of 26 and 33, a 16%, or 16 out of 100 respondents, who are between the ages of 42 and 49, an 11%, or 11 out of 100 respondents, who are between the ages of 50 and plus, and finally, a 4%, or 4 respondents, who are between the ages of 18 and 25. The respondents' industries of employment are broken down into the public sector, the private sector, their own or family business, and freelancers. 79% of respondents, or 79 out of 100, come from the private sector, which represents a sizable portion of the sample. 11 respondents, or 11% of them, who work as freelancers, come in second.

Eight respondents, or 8% of them, are from their own or family businesses, while just two of the 100 respondents—or a very small percentage—come from the government sector. The majority of respondents (79%), who are paid workers, may be influenced by financial or economic hardship.

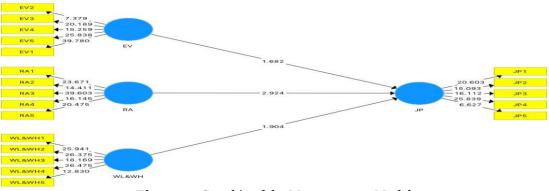
Table 2: Construct Reliability and Validity						
	Cronbach's Alpha	rho_A	Composite Reliability	Average Variance Extracted (AVE)		
EV	0.905	0.914	0.930	0.727		
JP	0.873	0.878	0.908	0.666		
RA	0.908	0.912	0.932	0.733		
WL&W	0.905	0.910	0.930	0.726		

Table 2 displays the findings of The Smart PLS assessment model, which incorporated average variance extraction, composite reliability, and Cronbach's Alpha. CB alpha was between 0.908 and 0.932, and CR went from 0.865 to 0.925. Both tests' findings were much better than the 0.70 cutoff value proposed by Nunnally & Bernstein (1994). The constructs of the measurement models were all found to be valid. confirmatory factor analysis CFA examined the two-dimensional validity of convergence and discrimination. The average variance extracted (AVE) values were used to test the constructs' convergent validity.

The AVE values ranged from 0.666 to 0.733, as shown in Table 2. These values were far higher than the required threshold of 0.50, demonstrating the validity of all constructs. Discriminant validity was assessed using the Fornell-Larcker criteria (Fornell and Larcker, 1994). It was necessary to use inter-construct correlation to compare the square-rooted values of AVE. Each of the square-rooted AVE values are higher than the equivalent inter-construct correlations, as seen in Table 3. Each construct's discriminant validity is enough to be helpful (see Table 4.2).

	EV	JP	RA	WL&WH
EV	0.852			
JP	0.900	0.816	·	
RA	0.894	0.907	0.856	
WL&WH	0.887	0.898	0.883	0.852

Table 3: Discriminant Validity Fornell-Larcker Criterion



**Figure 1-** Graphic of the Measurement Model

Table 4 displays the results of the path analysis. Work Environment (WE) is the first IV, and it demonstrates that there are no immediate effects on Job Performance (JP) ( = 0.296, t = 1.604, p = 0.109). Job Performance (JP) is significantly and directly impacted by the second IV, Role Ambiguity

1.604, p = 0.109). Job Performance (JP) is significantly and directly impacted by the second IV, Role Ambiguity (RA) ( = 0.373, t = 2.966, 0.003). The third IV, Workload and Working Hours (WL&WH), shows there is no direct impact on JP ( $\beta$ 

= 0.306, t = 1.811, p = 0.071).

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Ianie	<i>1</i> •	Path	Coefficients

'-	Original Sample	Sample Mean	Standard Deviation	T Statistics	P
	(O)	(M)	(STDEV)	( O/STDEV )	Values
EV -> JP	0.296	0.313	0.184	1.604	0.109
RA -> JP	0.373	0.370	0.126	2.966	0.003
WL&WH -> JP	0.306	0.293	0.169	1.811	0.071

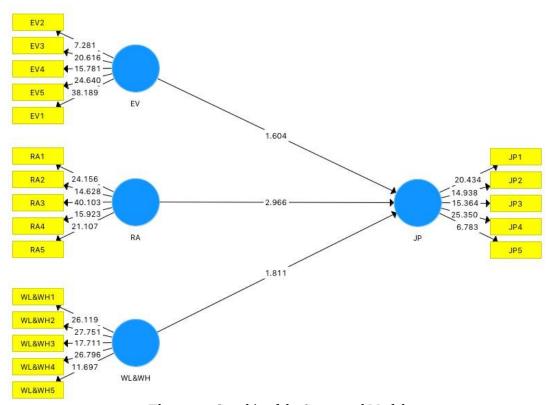


Figure 2- Graphic of the Structural Model

## 4 Discussion

Employees experience stress due to a variety of circumstances. According to this study, the four main pressures are the working environment, role conflict, role ambiguity, work overload, and working hours. Initially the majority of workers concurred that Stress is brought on by a number of factors, including an unfavorable work environment (poor ventilation, lighting, and noise), a rigid work environment, a lack of resources to finish the task, a lack of privacy, & a job that is irrelevant to the employee's skills. Second, the majority of workers in Fenaka, Fuvahmuleh agree that there is role ambiguity. Employees lacked the knowledge required to do the project Because of a shortage of knowledge to carry out the work, a hazy job description, & confusion over the supervisors' tolerance for job performance. Finally, most employees concur that they are working longer hours and experiencing job overload. As evidenced by the data, employees were in a rush to complete their work, were overburdened, faced unrealistic deadlines, worked under pressure, and put in longer hours. Most employees concurred that they were unsure of their authority, met contradictory policies and procedures, received contradicting requests from multiple individuals, and were required to work in groups that operated in various ways. Additionally, it is proven that work-related anxiety and productivity are related. It negatively influences employee performance. As employee stress increases, their performance declines.

# 5 Implications

The goals of the investigation are to pinpoint the causes of workplace stress, how it affects employees' performance at Fenaka Fuvahmulah, and the way stress and performance at work are related. Although Occupational stress impacts life and functioning and is a common complaint among workers globally (Taylor et al., 2014), there has been an increase in interest in stress as a research issue (Abdollahi, 2002). However, in the Maldives context and Fenaka, Fuvahmulah, it is ignored. In addition, it is challenging to comprehend stress management and the relationship link employee performance & stress. Additionally, Fenaka Fuvahmulah's staff and management can apply stress-reduction strategies that improve worker performance. This study's discovery of the connection allows management to concentrate more on reducing stresses having a more pronounced detrimental effect on performance. Future decisionmaking may benefit from these data. Consequently, this work contributes to the body of prior research. Similarly, this research will aid future researchers in identifying the causes of stress among Fenaka Fuvahmulah personnel.

## 6 Limitations, Recommendation for Future Works, and Conclusion

## 6.1 Limitations

In addition to occupational stress, there are a variety of other factors that may

impact a worker's performance. Employee performance is influenced by factors such job satisfaction, motivation, salary, job development, and training (Sultana, 2013; Ittner et al., 2007). Due to time constraints, further aspects are not considered in the research. The staff of Fenaka Corporation's Fuvahmulah branch is the focus of this study. This study will concentrate on how stress affects worker performance in a particular branch. Not every branch of the Fenaka Corporation is examined in this study. As a result, it might not offer a thorough understanding of the subject.

#### 6.2 Recommendation

The stress that employees of Fenaka Corporation in this field in the Maldives suffer has also not been the subject of published research. As a result, previous study by the authors' team was unable to provide data on stress at Fenaka Corporation. A substantial amount of effort is required to conduct an effective investigation. According to the research, Fenaka, Fuvahmulah does not employ stress-reduction techniques. According to the research findings, the causes of stress and the necessity to implement coping methods to reduce stress have been identified. Examples of applicable measures include:

The managers and supervisors are responsible for creating an environment

where employees may do their duties effectively and efficiently. And must pay focus specifically to improving the physical work environment. Supervisors must evaluate their staff's performance, skills, and knowledge to ensure they can complete the assignment by the deadline. The supervisor's position must be made clear to the employee, and if there is a dispute between the responsibilities, it must be discussed with the employee and resolved. In addition, managers must design work plans to ensure employees are aware of their responsibilities. Management must offer a detailed job description that includes duties and roles. Regular training in time management must be provided to staff so they can complete their work by the deadline. Managers must redesign work environments, so employees do not feel overburdened, under pressure, and work longer hours. In addition, supervisors should anticipate obstacles and by distributing work evenly, you'll be able to handle a heavy workload and satisfy high demands on absence and busy days. In addition, managers must evaluate the working hours and shift work structure to ensure that employees are equitably assigned shift assignments. Supervisors must provide assistance and communicate with staff or arrange weekly meetings if necessary.

## 6.3 Further studies & limitations

This study is based on the perspectives of employees. In addition, it assesses

the stressors that influence the performance of an organization's branch employees. But when discussing the result, four criteria are taken into account. Further research may concentrate on the entire island or encompass the organization's branches. In addition, stress is not the only factor that affects employee performance. Thus it is vital to integrate additional variables and take this into account. Other aspects include compensation, leadership style, and motivation, among others. Include also the mediating variables, as they substantially impact the study's outcome.

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