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# Organizational Stress and Performance From the Perspective of Technological Developments

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#### Abstract

Developments in communication and information technology have an immense impact on all facets of life. These changes have led to an increase in the causes of stress that people are encountering today and this situation inevitably affects individuals physically and psychologically negatively. The concept of stress is likely the most important of these negative impacts that affect individuals in a wide range. Stress, which has evolved as a result of technological developments in recent years, has an array impact on both organizations and individuals. The technological change and adaptation process that organizations are undergoing can have a negative effect on employees, and stress brought on by technology can affect employees' performance. In this research, the dimensioning of the stress levels of the employees and the effect of this situation on the employee performance are discussed from the perspective of globalization and technological developments. The survey technique used in qualitative research methods was preferred in order to collect information from the research participants in line with the study purposes. In this context, the research sample consisted of employees working in different roles and positions in an enterprise operating in the private sector. In the light of the findings discussed within the scope of the research, it has been determined that organizational stress affects employee performance in many ways in terms of individual and organizational aspects, and there is a significant (psychological and mental, organizational role, organizational structure and business environment) relationship between them. However, it should be noted that in the research, there were also findings in which organizational stress did not have a significant effect on performance (relational and social, external environment and job qualification).

**Keywords:** Stress, Organizational Stress, Technostress, Employee Performance, Globalization, Technological Developments.

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## 2023, 12 (4), 2323-2343 | Araştırma Makalesi

## Teknolojik Gelişmeler Perspektifinden Örgütsel Stres ve Performans

## Cumali KILIÇ<sup>2</sup>

#### Öz

Bilgi ve iletişim teknolojisinde yaşanan gelişmeler hayatın her alanında önemli bir etkiye sahiptir. Günümüzde bireylerin maruz kaldıkları stres kaynakları da bu gelişmelere bağlı olarak artmaktadır ve bu durum kaçınılmaz olarak bireyleri fiziksel ve psikolojik olarak olumsuz yönde etkilemektedir. Çalışanlar, örgütlerin içerisinde bulunduğu teknolojik dönüşüm ve adaptasyon sürecinden olumsuz etkilenebilmekte, teknoloji kaynaklı stres çalışanların performansları üzerinde etkili olabilmektedir. Bu araştırmada da, çalışanların stres düzeylerinin boyutlandırılarak incelenmesi ve bu durumun çalışan performansına etkisi küreselleşme ve teknolojik gelişmeler perspektifinden ele alınmıştır. Araştırma katılımcıları ile çalışma amaçları doğrultusunda bilgi toplamak amacıyla niteliksel araştırma yöntemlerinde kullanılan olan anket tekniği tercih edilmiştir. Bu kapsamda, araştırma örneklemi özel sektörde faaliyette bulunan bir işletmede farklı rol ve pozisyonlarda görev yapan çalışanlardan oluşmuştur. Araştırma kapsamında ele edilen bulgular ışığında örgütsel stresin çalışan performansını bireysel ve örgütsel açıdan birçok yönden etkilediği (psikolojik ve zihinsel, örgütsel rol, örgüt yapısı ve iş çevresi açısından) ve aralarında anlamlı bir ilişkinin olduğu saptanmıştır. Ancak araştırmada, örgütsel stresin performans üzerinde anlamlı bir etkisinin saptanmadığı (ilişkisel ve sosyal, örgüt dışı çevre ve yetkinlik açısından) bulgulara da ulaşıldığını belirtmek gerekmektedir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Stres, Örgütsel Stres, Teknostres, Çalışan Performansı, Küreselleşme, Teknolojik Gelişmeler.

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#### Introduction

The ability of organizations to adapt to inescapable changes is crucial to their success in the continuously changing environment brought on by globalization and technological developments. The managers' ability to continuously monitor advance technologies and apply them to their organizations will determine how long those companies survive. With today's increasingly competitive organizational environments, new technological developments that are occurring more often in organizational processes have necessitated a reevaluation of some concepts and produced newer grounds for dialectical discussion. The stressors that workers are exposed to alter as a result of evolving technologies. To continue operating and adapt to the more intensely competitive environment, organizations must continuously monitor the evolving organizational stress sources.

Considering how noteworthy the concept of stress is, it has been thoroughly analyzed and researched. To examine the concept of stress, the stress causes that evolved as a result of globalization and technological developments, and the impact of this condition on employee performance, a questionnaire was used in this research. In this case, a sample of private sector organization were used to investigate the stress brought on by technology advancements and how this condition affected employee performance.

The main aims of the research are to contribute to the literature and to increase the level of awareness of countries, governments, organizations and individuals about the relationship between stress and performance in the changing world of the future. Because individuals involved and interested parties are eager to learn more about how the stressors brought on by technological advancements impact employee performance. Inferences were drawn in this context to help organizations adapt to changing production conditions and to provide illumination on some of the unanswered questions. In this regard, the research's findings are presented and compared to those found in the literature.

Since considering the literature about the subject, it was seen that the subject has been handled in many different samples and techniques before. The relationship between the concept of stress and performance is a topic that dates back to the past years and has been discussed more comprehensively. However, the relationship between technostress and employee performance is a relatively new issue that has gained importance in recent years. Therefore, the application area of the concept is more limited, new and distinct. Nevertheless, it has been discussed in many studies in local and international literature (Küçükdursun et al., 2022; Alvarez-Risco et al., 2021; Magistra et al., 2021; Upadhyaya and Vrinda, 2021; Kumar et al., 2017; Tagurum et al. al., 2017; Tarafdar et al., 2015; Funminiyi et al., 2014). However, the highlight of this study, unlike others, is the sample used. In this context, no research has been found that addresses the situation of agriculture employees, who are faced with high levels of stress due to technological developments, in terms of technostress and performance. In addition, this study reveals the stress factors by considering them in a wide variety of dimensions and so, the study differs from other studies in the literature.

While putting forth this research, there seem to be five sections. Thus, an overview of the research was provided in the first section, the introduction. The variables covered in

the research are theoretically examined in a theoretical framework in the next section. The research's methodology and results are presented in chapter 3. Then, the literature was used to interpret the results from the fourth chapter and finally, the conclusion and recommendations part, which is the last section of the research contains the overall findings.

#### **Conceptual Framework and Literature Review**

Globalization and technological developments have had a substantial impact on people's working life recently (Sun et al., 2022, p.3). Today's global environment affects both organizations and individuals, which contributes to the stress. To prevent, mitigate, or eradicate the harmful effects of stress and organizational stress, which are inescapable and unavoidable concepts, organizations must establish and implement stress prevention efforts (Aydın, 2004, p.49). Considering that stress may be considered as a factor in every aspect of life, its absolute abolition would lead to the cessation of existence. Therefore, just as people and organizations should learn to live with stress and its effects, they should also learn to manage that stress by keeping it under control. In order to manage stress, it is important to understand what this concept implies, its sources and effects, and what can be done to alleviate or mitigate them (Atilla and Kılıç, 2018, p.1353; Gümüştekin and Öztemiz, 2005, p.271). Because the concept of stress is a condition that affects both people and organizations (Eryılmaz, 2009, p.21), it is known as the social and psychological plague of our day (Korkmaz and Ceylan, 2012, p.314).

Organizations are trying to increase their productivity by using various instruments to achieve sustainable competitiveness (Ceylan and Ulutürk, 2006, p.49). At the basis of this effort, the individual and organizational performance factor takes place at every stage of the strategic management process. One of the most important variables of this problematic is the "human" factor, which is the main actor of the performance. In these conditions, it is not possible to think of people without stress. If the factors that create stress are of a nature that the individual cannot control, it becomes difficult for the individual to adapt to the environment (Kılıç and Sakallı, 2013, p.210). Changing organizational and environmental conditions, together with the irresistible effect of globalization and technological developments, cause stress and stress-related problems, which are called the diseases of our age (Hart et al., 2021, p.1; Tozkoparan, 2021, p.1899-1900; Balaban, 2000, p.188).

Therefore, the introduction of new technologies changes how organizations conduct their operations and define their jobs (Erer, 2021, p.81). Organizational learning and adaptation procedures are required because workers cannot perform at the desired level with their present knowledge and experience due to changing business methods (Türen et al., 2015, p.2). Because a deviation from the ideal conditions that the system cannot simply rectify or adapt emerges the concept of stress (Welford, 1973, p.567).

Stress, which has become one of the concepts that people encounter most in their daily and business life, can be briefly defined as "the pressure and tension that an individual feels on" in its most basic and simple form (Sandlund and Norlander, 2000, p.142). Every change that affects an individual's life can be a direct or indirect source of stress (Doğan and Eser, 2013, p.29). Stress, a concept that has been used more frequently in recent years, is a situation that has made its presence felt since the first day of human beings, even though it has led to an increase in research in this field (Tekingündüz et al., 2015, p.42; Ercan and Şar, 2004, p.218). While it is not known exactly where the starting point is, it is thought that the origin of the concept comes from the Latin "estrictia" (Güçlü, 2001, p.92).

The stress experienced by employees in the business environment is defined as work stress or organizational stress (Bayramoğlu et al., 2020, p.116; Turunç and Çelik, 2010, p.186). In addition to work and organizational factors such as the structure of the institution, working conditions and interpersonal relations, home and family problems also have an effect on work stress (Kılıç and Sakallı, 2013, p.210; İştar, 2012, p.2). In this context, organizational stress can also be defined as the tension that arises as a result of situations such as work and interaction with the environment (Tekin and Deniz, 2019, p.71). However, the source of the research question in this study is that the stress factors that employees are exposed to emerge with the effect of globalization and technological developments. In this context, the concept of technostress emerges.

Technostress is a relatively new concept in the discipline of information systems and refers to the negative impact of technology use directly or indirectly on individuals' attitudes, thoughts, behaviors and even biological systems (Kopuz and Aydın, 2020, p.249; La Torre et al., 2019, p.13; Agogo and Hess, 2015, p.2). The concept was first introduced by the American psychologist Brod (1984). In the research, the concept is basically called an adaptive disease caused by the inability of individuals to meet new technologies in a healthy way (Abilleira et al., 2021, p.1) and expresses the negative effects that the individual has experienced related to technology (Akman and Durgun, 2022, p.488).

As our social and organizational lifes become more and more dependent on various technologies, it has become necessary to examine the unintended negative consequences of technology use (Agogo and Hess, 2015, p.2). Because the emergence of modern technologies obliges individuals to adapt to modern technologies, this situation creates pressures on individuals (Gül, 2022, p.2748-2749). Rapidly changing and developing technologies can cause changes in the work environment and negatively affect the competencies of employees. In addition, having to use these new technologies intensively can be perceived as a threat in the individual and in this case, it can cause stress (Kıncı and Özgür, 2022, p.1109; Şen, 2022, p.178).

When it comes to the concept of performance, although it tends to be used in the same sense as success in daily use, it actually refers to the effort made to reach the goals (Tutar and Altmöz, 2010, p.201). The accomplishment of goals by individuals or groups and the results in terms of organizational effectiveness should be understood when it pertains to employee performance on the organization's behalf (Magistra et al., 2021, p.76; Tekingündüz et al., 2015, p.45; Gümüştekin and Öztemiz, 2005, p.280). In this respect, the concept is most commonly defined as "the job description of behaviors and actions related to the goals of the organizations is of great importance in improving organizational activity and organizational success, because the criterion of employee performance is evaluated by the contribution of the individual to the organizational goals (Tekin and Deniz, 2019, p.71; Atilla and Kılıç, 2018, p.1353).

Employees must perform the task assigned to them in accordance with their characteristics and abilities. In order to be able to talk about the performance of an employee in an organization, it is necessary for the person to face a defined job, this job should be suitable for the characteristics and abilities of the employee, and there should

be a standard that indicates the degree of performance of the employee's job (Gümüştekin and Öztemiz, 2005, p.281). Taking into account that some causes of stress can also lead to the dynamism and growth required for success (Balaban, 2000, p.192), the problems that a person will experience at the point of fulfilling his/her duties and responsibilities will be a source of stress. Because organizations need high-performance employees to achieve their goals and gain competitive advantage (Rageb et al., 2013, p.37).

It is not possible to completely eliminate the stress factor because stress is a concept intertwined with life itself. It is obvious that performance anxiety commonly affects individuals positively and negatively (Çözvelioğlu, 2022, p.54-56; Hart et al., 2021; Baydağ and Başoğlu, 2018, p.2208; Agogo and Hess, 2015; Tarafdar et al., 2015). Most of the time, the negative effects of stress factors on individuals and organizations cannot be reduced and become inevitable (Westman, 1990, p.153). However, these negative outcomes can be managed and their relationship with organizational performance can be regulated by practices such as training individuals on stress coping techniques. In this context, the relationship between organizational stress and performance has been discussed by many researchers with different samples and different research techniques.

When the literature on the subject is examined, it has been seen that, organizational stress affects employees in terms of psychological and mental aspects, role conflict, organizational structure and business environment. However, no significant relationship was found between stress and performance in terms of the external environment and job qualification and relational and social aspects dimension. In the literature there are studies in which no significant or insignificant relationship found between stress and performance (Maipita et al., 2023, p.53; Olasanmi, 2016, p.799; Awadh et al., 2015; Odoh et al., 2013, p.100). Also, there are many studies in the literature that deal with the effect of stress sources on performance (Pradoto et al., 2022, p.345; Bayramoğlu et al., 2020, p.115; Güllü and Yıldız, 2019, p.146; Haşit and Yaşar, 2015, p.12; Kotteeswari and Sharief, 2014, p.23; Korkmaz and Ceylan, 2012, p.313; Erdoğan et al., 2009, p.459; Westman and Eden, 1996, p.171). On the other hand, there are many studies dealing with the relationship between technostress and performance (Küçükdursun et al., 2022, p.17; Alvarez-Risco et al., 2021; Magistra et al., 2021, p.75; Upadhyaya and Vrinda, 2021, p.1647; Kumar et al., 2017, p.403; Tagurum et al., 2017, p.312; Tarafdar et al., 2015; Funminiyi et al., 2014, p.27). Although these studies have applications in different samples, cultures and sectors, they are similar in terms of the results obtained and the common points of the result are that technostress negatively affects employee performance.

But, some studies in the literature differ from others. For example, in studies conducted by Karabay (2015, p.128) and Korkmaz and Ceylan (2012, p.313), it was determined that individuals' exposure to negative stress caused by physiological and psychological factors also affects their non-organizational life and performance. This situation can be given as an example of the psychological and social dimension of organizational stress. Also, in the research by Jex and Elacqua (2014, p.188), it was stated that the sources that cause the most tension in individuals and affect their work performance are "role conflict, excessive workload and responsibility, work-family conflict". This situation can be given as an example of the organizational role dimension of organizational stress. Similar results were obtained in the studies conducted by Hurbean et al. (2022, p.1) and Tarafdar et al. (2014, p.51). Several researches (Çolak, 2017, p.810; Kılıç and Atilla, 2017; AbuAlRub, 2004, p.73-74) state that stress, which is kept at a certain level and managed, can be beneficial but can be harmful when it is at a high level. By comparing them with the research findings, the studies mentioned in the literature on this subject were provided in the discussion section of this research. But before that, the concerns of how the research findings were obtained at and how curiosity was assessed within the parameters of the research were addressed in the next part of the study.

#### Methodology

The research methodology being used explain the research questions is covered in this section.

#### Purpose of the Research and Hypotheses

The main purpose of this research is to examine the stress levels that employees are exposed to with the effect of globalization and technological developments and to investigate the effect of this situation on employee performance. Employees, who are already faced with many stress factors in their organizational life, have met with a different source of stress called technostress in recent years, with the effect of globalization and technological developments. However, it is not yet known exactly in which ways technology-induced stress affects employees, how it effect them individually and organizationally, and how changing conditions will shape organizational performance. Today, this situation is wondered by researchers and is discussed in many ways. In this research, inferences and suggestions were made in order to clarify some of the question marks mentioned here. In this respect, the study presents the results discussed with the literature findings and makes guiding suggestions about the policies that can be applied to those who are interested in the subject.

Before talking about the hypotheses created within the scope of the research, it is necessary to clarify the point on which these hypotheses are based. The hypotheses established within the scope of the research serve to investigate the relationship between the dimensions of organizational stress and employee performance. In this context, first of all, the dimensions of organizational stress should be mentioned.

The "psychological and mental" dimension, which is the first dimension of organizational stress, expresses the psychological and mental stress of employees (Ahuja et al., 2022). In other words, it can also be named as the psychological and mental reflection of the stress factors that individuals are exposed to, and perhaps it can be considered as one of the most important dimensions among the consequences of stress. Because one of the most crucial factors for both individuals and organizations is mental and psychological health. A mental and psychological disorder may hinder the individual's ability to work healthily and efficiently. The hypothesis established to probe this situation is as follows.

H1: There is a statistically significant relationship between psychological and mental dimension of stress and performance.

The second dimension called "relational and social" is also of great importance in terms of performance. If the individual, who is a social being, fails to cope with the effects and consequences of the negative stress a person is exposed to and cannot manage this

process, can witness the reflections of this situation both in their daily life and in his/her working life (Baltaş and Baltaş 2013, p.31). Due to today's working conditions, human beings lead a life in which they are in constant interaction with other individuals in relational and social terms. Moreover, this is also in the nature of human beings and they are a social being (Akbağ and Sayıner, 2021, p.760). Apart from exceptional examples, individuals interact with other people both in their organizational and social life. In this context, it is important to consider the relationship of the person with other individuals and the hypothesis formed in this direction is as follows.

H2: There is a statistically significant relationship between relational and social dimension of stress and performance.

The third dimension of the research is related to the organizational role. Problems such as role conflict, role ambiguity, and role overload are among the most common sources of stress in the literature and social workers are most affected by in organizational life (Uğur and Erol, 2015, p.989). In this context, it is important to address the issue of organizational role. The hypothesis that deals with the relationship between organizational role and performance is as follows.

H3: There is a statistically significant relationship between organizational role dimension of stress and performance.

Unlike the sources of stress that arise due to reasons common to organizations, there may also be stressful situations that occur only in a particular organization or that arise only from that sector or job (Ertekin, 1993, p.146). Such situations may vary according to the structure of each organization and organizational environment. Within the scope of the research, the fourth dimension of organizational stress examines this situation and provides an opportunity to evaluate the structure of the organization in which the employee is involved and the work environment. So, hypothesis 4 was formed in this context.

H4: There is a statistically significant relationship between organizational structure and business environment dimension of stress and performance.

Today, it has become an important success criterion for organizations to adapt rapidly to technological changes in order to survive in a competitive environment (Küçükdursun et al., 2022, p.17). If the impact of the competitive environment and the causes of stress cannot be controlled, individuals and organizations may have difficulty in adapting to these environments and cannot realize their plans and programs as they consider, they may have to make changes under the influence of the external environment. This situation paves the way for them to experience excessive and negative stress and can cause many problems (Serinkan et al., 2012, p.21). Therefore establishing a positive working relation between the workforce and the organization is always crucial (Wulantika et al., 2023, p.6). Hypothesis 5 was created to address this situation.

H5: There is a statistically significant relationship between the external environment and job qualification dimension of stress and performance.

Hypotheses above were formed in order to evaluate the relationship between the dimensions of organizational stress, which is the independent variable, and the

performance, which is the dependent variable, in order to achieve the purpose determined within the scope of the research.

## Sample and Data Collection

The research was organized according to descriptive method and relational survey model. Data were collected without making any changes in the current characteristics of the individuals in the target sample, and their views on the current situation were tried to be taken. The descriptive method is a research approach that aims to describe a past or present situation as it is. The event that is the subject of the research is tried to be defined as it is, within the current terms and conditions. No attempt is made to change or influence the event. The important point here is to observe and try to determine what is aimed to known (İslamoğlu and Alnıaçık, 2016, p.40-41). Relational screening models, on the other hand, are research models that aim to determine the existence and/or degree of co-variance between two or more variables (Gürbüz and Şahin, 2017, p.105-108; Karasar, 2004, p.77-81).

The universe of the research consists of employees working in a private organization which operates in agriculture industry and located in Mardin province of Türkiye. Out of 148 (N) employees in the research universe,

$$n = \frac{N.t^2.p.q}{d^2(N-1)+t^2.p.q}$$

a sample was drawn and this number was calculated as a minimum of 107 (n) result of the calculations made with the formula (Kocacık and Çağlayandereli, 2009, p.31). But, 126 of the distributed questionnaires were included in the research as questionnaires that were returned and found valid. This number of questionnaires is above the number needed for the implementation of the study.

The data required for the research were obtained as a result of the questionnaire applied to the individuals. During the brief in-person interviews with the employees, a short briefing was made about the research, then questionnaires were given and then collected. The survey results obtained in this way were transferred to the computer. Later, it was analyzed and reported with the help of SPSS 20.0 program. For the interpretation of arithmetic means; "Likert" type five-point rating scale used in the research was used. On this scale, 5 was rated as "Strongly Agree" and 1 as "Strongly Disagree". In order to determine the compliance of the meetings with the ethical principles legislation, a report of compliance with ethical principles and human rights was obtained with the decision of the E-79906804-020-96770 of the Ethics Committee of Mardin Artuklu University (Mardin / Türkiye).

## Instruments

The purpose of the research is to quantify the level of stress that people experience as a result of their interactions with various elements, including the organization they are currently employed by, their working environment, their coworkers, the organization's internal and external environment, their organizational role, management levels and

<sup>\*</sup> N: Number of individuals in the universe, p (0.5): The incidence of the investigated event, q (0.5): Frequency of absence of the investigated event, t (1.96): Table value at a certain level of significance, d (0.05): Accepted sampling error according to the incidence of the event, n: Minimum number of sample units.

units. The research also investigated at how this circumstance affected organizational performance. In order to measure this situation, a questionnaire was applied to the research participants. In order to determine organizational stress and its dimensions during the survey, the "technostress scale" which considers 14 questions and developed by Tarafdar et al., (2007), simplified by Alam (2016) and adapted into Turkish by Türen et al., (2015) was used. In order to measure performance, the "work performance scale" which considers 4 questions and developed by Kirkman and Rosen (1999) was used in accordance with its original form.

Both scales were adapted to be suitable for the purposes of this research. Because of this, validity and reliability analyzes of both scales were performed for the accuracy and health of the research results. As a result of the analyzes made in this direction, the Cronbach's Alpha coefficient for the job stress scale was calculated as 0.912 and for the employee performance scale was calculated as 0.886. In addition, the coefficient for the overall scale of the research, which emerged as a result of applying the combination of both scales as a single form and at the same time, was calculated as 0.910. The fact that the relevant values are greater than 0.700 is considered sufficient for the scales to be considered reliable (Kalaycı, 2010). As can be seen in the table below, Cronbach's Alpha coefficient values of all scales applied within the scope of the research are greater than 0.700. This leads us to the conclusion that the scales are reliable.

	Cronbach's Alpha
Stress	0.912
Performance	0.886
Overall	0.910

Table 1: Reliability Analysis of the Scales Used in the Research

While testing the problems of the research, "Factor Analysis" and "Correlation Analysis" were applied in order to determine whether there is a significant relationship between the organizational stress dimensions and employee performance. Correlation analysis is the analysis used to determine the relationship between the two metric variables examined (İslamoğlu and Alnıçık, 2016, p.40-41). Factor analysis (FA), on the other hand, can be explained as a multivariate statistical analysis that aims to reveal and discover a small number of but conceptually meaningful new variables (factors, dimensions) by bringing together a large number of interrelated variables (Çemrek, 2018, p.419-420). In order for these analyzes to be performed, the data must conform to the normal distribution. As can be seen in Table 2, as a result of the normality tests, both tests were significant (Gürbüz and Şahin, 2017, p.338-340) and it was concluded that the data conformed to the normal distribution.

	Kolmogorov-Smirnov	Shapiro-Wilk	
Stress	0.200	0,112	
Performance	0.200	0,139	
Overall	0.200	0,180	

Table 2	: Normal	lity Tests
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In order to apply the necessary analyzes and to check whether the distribution is normal, the values required as a result of the normality analysis of the scales used are as above. All these values show that the data used in the research showed a normal distribution and do not constitute an obstacle for the application of factor analysis.

### Findings

What the statistical analyzes used as a result of the research tell us about the relations between variables can be seen in the table below. In the table, there are indications that the relationship between the sub-dimensions of organizational stress and performance is significant or not. Before proceeding to the evaluation of these indicators, it should be reminded that the sub-dimensions of organizational stress are discussed from the perspective of globalization and technological developments and the research questions are updated in this context. Because this is important in terms of interpreting the relations between the variables.

Variables		Psychological and Mental	Relational and Social	Organizational Role	Business	
Performan	Coef	-0.251	-0.249	-0.270	-0.281	-0.294
ce	р	0.042	0.088	0.045	0.032	0.068

In this research, it was determined that there is a significant relationship between the "psychological and mental" dimension of organizational stress and employee performance (r=-0.251 and p=0.042) because the correlation coefficient is statistically significant since the "p" value is less than 0.05. In this context, hypothesis 1, which is the first of the hypotheses created within the scope of the research, was accepted. But, As can be seen above, the evaluation of this dimension becomes more important since the significance value is right at the border. This situation can be considered and evaluated as another research topic. Because the significance level is very close to the point that creates a difference. This may lead us to think that the psychological and mental performance of employees is not affected much. In this respect, it may be suggested that this dimension be considered as another research topic.

For the second hypothesis of the research, no significant relationship was found between the "relational and social" dimension of the stress and performance (r=-0.249 and p=0.088). Since the "p" value, which deals with the relationship between the mentioned dimension and performance, is more than 0.05, the correlation coefficient is not statistically significant and hypothesis 2 is rejected.

A statistically significant relationship was found between the third dimension of the research, which contributed to the research in terms of "organizational role" and employee performance (r=-0.270 p=0.045). Thus, hypothesis 3 was accepted. In cases where the role of the individual, which determines the duties and responsibilities and

draws the organizational boundaries, is not clearly defined, when the individual is not given the right role, uncertainty and disagreements about the role may arise between the subordinates and the superior. As a result of this situation, sources of stress related to the organizational role and the problems they bring may arise (Durna, 2004, p.193-194). So, in this research, it was concluded that the stress sources related to the organizational roles of the employees affect their performance. The significance level for this dimension produced a result just at the border, as in hypothesis 1. This situation can also be considered as another research topic which also mentioned as the results section of this research.

For the fourth hypothesis of the research, the relationship between "organizational structure and business environment" and employee performance was discussed. As a result, it's concluded that there was a significant relationship between this dimension and employee performance (r=-0.281 and p=0.032) because the correlation coefficient was statistically significant since the relevant "p" value was less than 0.05 and hypothesis 4 was accepted.

Individuals are not employed in accordance with their basic skills and abilities or that they are not compatible with the qualifications of the job they do can create organizational stress. However, although these situations are effective, they do not have an effect on the performance of the employees in terms of this research and its results. It was determined that there was no significant relationship between the "external environment and job qualification" dimension, which constitutes the fifth and final dimension of the research in terms of organizational stress, and employee performance (r=-0.294 and p=0.068). In this context, the correlation coefficient is not statistically significant and hypothesis 5 is rejected.

As is evident, according to the findings obtained within the scope of the research, statistically significant and insignificant results were obtained between the dimensions of organizational stress and employee performance. When the general structure and results of studies on organizational stress and its relationship with employee performance are examined, it has been observed that these concepts are applied to different working groups in different sectors and institutions, and the studies on the subject in Türkiye have been increasing in recent years. Stress factors or sources that have an effect on individuals as a result of the groups in which the applications were made and the results of the studies, and the similarities or differences between the findings obtained in terms of the effect of this situation on employee performance and this research were also discussed within the scope of the research. The obtained results and inferences are important in terms of whether the research is compatible with other sectors and occupational groups, whether the results are similar or not, and the results of the research can be compared with other studies in the literature that deal with the same concepts. In this context, the results of the findings obtained are discussed in the next part with the light of the other findings in literature.

#### Discussions

The findings obtained as a result of the research show that the relationship between stress and performance is a relationship that can lead to different results when considered from different aspects. When the literature review and the findings of the research are compared, the results show similarities with the literature and differ in some. Within the scope of this research, organizational stress affects employees in terms of psychological and mental aspects, role conflict, organizational structure and business environment. However, no significant relationship was found between stress and performance in terms of the external environment and job qualification and relational and social aspects dimension. In the literature there are studies in which no significant or insignificant relationship found between stress and performance (Maipita et al., 2023, p.53; Olasanmi, 2016, p.799; Awadh et al., 2015; Odoh et al., 2013, p.100). In this context, the results of the research are similar to some of the studies in the literature in terms of dimensions in which no significant relationships is discernible.

There are many studies in the literature that deal with the effect of stress sources on performance (Pradoto et al., 2022, p.345; Bayramoğlu et al., 2020, p.115; Güllü and Yıldız, 2019, p.146; Haşit and Yaşar, 2015, p.12; Kotteeswari and Sharief, 2014, p.23; Korkmaz and Ceylan, 2012, p.313; Erdoğan et al., 2009, p.459; Westman and Eden, 1996, p.171). On the other hand, there are many studies dealing with the relationship between technostress and performance (Küçükdursun et al., 2022, p.17; Alvarez-Risco et al., 2021; Magistra et al., 2021, p.75; Upadhyaya and Vrinda, 2021, p.1647; Kumar et al., 2017, p.403; Tagurum et al., 2017, p.312; Tarafdar et al., 2015; Funminiyi et al., 2014, p.27). Although these studies have applications in different samples, cultures and sectors, they are similar in terms of the results obtained and the common points of the result are that technostress negatively affects employee performance. Considering the results of this research, similar to the studies above, it was determined that there is a significant negative relationship between stress and performance in terms of some dimensions of organizational stress.

Some studies in the literature differ from others. For example, in studies conducted by Karabay (2015, p.128) and Korkmaz and Ceylan (2012, p.313), it was determined that individuals' exposure to negative stress caused by physiological and psychological factors also affects their non-organizational life and performance. This situation can be given as an example of the psychological and social dimension of organizational stress. As a result of this research, a similar conclusion was reached with this situation. In the research by Jex and Elacqua (2014, p.188), it was stated that the sources that cause the most tension in individuals and affect their work performance are "role conflict, excessive workload and responsibility, work-family conflict". This situation can be given as an example of the organizational role dimension of organizational stress. Similar results were obtained in the studies conducted by Hurbean et al. (2022, p.1) and Tarafdar et al. (2014, p.51). Likewise, the findings obtained as a result of this research supports this situation. Because, when the relationship between organizational role and performance, which constitutes the third hypothesis of the research, is considered, a statistically significant relationship was found.

Several researches (Çolak, 2017, p.810; Kılıç and Atilla, 2017; AbuAlRub, 2004, p.73-74) state that stress, which is kept at a certain level and managed, can be beneficial but can be harmful when it is at a high level. Considering the results of this research, it was concluded that stress affects performance in some aspects and not in some. In this case, it can be said that the efficiency of the studies put forward in order to keep or manage the stress at a certain level throughout the organization selected as the research sample should be questioned. Or, if stress management strategies are being implemented late, it might be claimed that their effects have not yet been completely noticed. Another point that should be emphasized here is that the stress arising from technological developments is discussed in this research. This situation may affect the effect of stress

according to the level of use of technology in the organization or the reflection of stress factors arising from this situation. Fully automated and high-tech units are under higher stress, whereas units that operate in the opposite way are under less stress.

As could be observed, the research's findings differ from previous research in the literature in some ways while also conforming with them in some. This condition can be seen as normal considering that our planet is a very huge globe and has many distinct cultures. Because the characteristics of the culture in which each sample is applied, also directly or indirectly affect the individuals in that society. In this case, it is a result of the normal flow of life that the studies put forward will have similarities and differences. Moreover, the fact that countries are at different levels in technological development can also be a source of variability in terms of feeling the effects of technostress. While technostress resources are more in societies and organizations that are more integrated with technology, it is obvious that the opposite situation is in question in less integrated societies. In this context, in the next part of the research, a general evaluation has been made, which is the last link of the chain that has been processed step by step until this part.

#### Conclusions

In this research, which was carried out in a sample of employees operating in a private organization sample, the relationship between organizational stress and performance was discussed from the perspective of globalization and technological developments. Considering the relationship between the sub-dimensions of stress sources created as a result of the research, 3 dimensions (psychological and mental, organizational role, organizational structure and business environment) have an effect on employee performance, and 2 dimensions (relational and social, external environment and job qualification) are not.

Considering the results of the research, it is seen that employees are affected by the stress factors arising from technological developments and this situation is reflected in their performance in some aspects. For example, it has been determined that employees perceive a source of stress psychologically and mentally. It is thought that the fear of losing one's job with the effect of technological developments, the fear that the machines will replace him, the uneasiness and tension caused by the rapidly developing nature of technology can be counted among the reasons behind this situation. Also the organizational role and the organizational structure and business environment dimensions have an impact on employee performance. The reason behind this situation may be similar to the situation seen in the previous clearing. Because, it is expected that technological developments will affect employees in terms of organizational role and business environment. This result is also supported by researches in the literature as it can be seen the discussion part of the study. Also, as mentioned in the findings section of the study, it is important that the significance levels for hypothesis 1 and hypothesis 3 produce a result that is exactly at the border. This can be presented as a suggestion for further studies and researchers related to this topic can take this study further to investigate the underlying reasons for this situation.

On the other hand, employees don't feel relational and social tensions about organizational structures, which have changed with the effect of technological developments highlight this instance. As a matter of fact, the external environment and job qualification, which is another organizational stress dimension, also supports this situation. Considering that the stress factors arising from globalization and technological developments mostly occur in the external environment, a remarkable situation emerges. Because, it was determined that the outside of the organization environment and the qualification of the job dimension of the employees in the research sample did not reflect on their performance. Although there are studies in the literature in which there are no significant relationships between technostress and employee performance, this situation can be considered as a situation that should be addressed as a separate research question. In fact, a qualitative research can be carried out by conducting semi-structured interviews in order to discuss the opinions of the employees on this subject in more detail.

In summary, within the scope of this research, the views of the participants discussed the relationship between organizational stress and employee performance from the perspective of globalization and technological developments. While some of the participants' opinions agreed with the literature, others provided contradictory results. To generalize the results to the nation or the world, selecting an organization in a single province as the population and sample imposes limitations. It will be helpful to conduct future research with a larger or wider sample in order to acquire more generalized results. Another research subject that might be explored is the capability to examine research participants through in light of demographic characteristics.

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