

# Determinants of organizational stress: A research the framework of attribution theory<sup>1</sup>

Gözde Kumaş<sup>a\*</sup>, Didar Sarı Çallı<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Kocaeli University, Türkiye,
 ORCID: 0000-0003-0573-0136/ e-mail: 206247012@kocaeli.edu.tr
 <sup>b</sup> Sakarya University of Applied Sciences, Türkiye,
 ORCID: 0000-0001-5517-2924/ e-mail: didarsari@subu.edu.tr

#### ABSTRACT

Stress, which has various dimensions, is a reaction that can disrupt the daily routines of living things in terms of physiology and psychology. Organizational stress is a situation that can cause disruption in the joint work of people focused on the same goal. Stress experienced in organizations is considered reasonable up to certain levels. However, an intense stress environment can lead to a number of problems such as poor performance, communication disorders, and desire to leave work. Identifying stress sources and examining their causes in depth is of great importance in preventing intense stress and keeping stress at a reasonable level. Identifying organizational stress sources and their causes will provide strategic convenience for managers and enable businesses to achieve organizational success. This research is aimed to determine the sources of organizational stress and to associate the stress dimensions that stand out as a result of the research with attribution behavior. Within the scope of the research were examined data of 590 hotel employees. Data were analyzed with the SPSS Programme. The dimensions of organizational stress were determined by Explanatory Factor Analysis. As a result of the research, stress originating from the manager and employee relations, which is one of the prominent dimensions of organizational stress, has been associated with external attribution behavior. Stress stemming from organizational structure, which is another prominent dimension, has been associated with internal attribution behavior. For managing the external attribution behavior, it is necessary to provide appropriate working conditions within the enterprise. For managing internal attribution behavior, an effective communication environment should be established.

#### **KEYWORDS**

Stress, Organizational Stress, Organizational Stress Sources, Attribution Theory, Hotel Businesses

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Organizational stress is a situation experienced as a result of unexpected developments that may occur at any stage of the processes followed to reach the predetermined goals in the business environment. Organizations are structures where human resources with multiple cultural backgrounds and visions coexist. Although the working conditions are kept at a reasonable level for the employer, the appropriate environment for employees to reveal the expected performance may vary from person to person. For organizations to achieve common goals as a whole, it will not be sufficient to identify the main sources of stress alone. At this point, to solve the problem experienced, it is necessary to examine human psychology in depth. Providing healthy working environments to employees will contribute greatly to reducing the stress experienced at reasonable levels. Because recommendations for stress management generally consist of a series of suggestions such as stress training and improving the working environment. For example, according to Isik et al. (2021), sharing tacit knowledge within the organization plays a role in employees' creative work behaviors and the development of a healthy team culture. Therefore, such positive developments within the organization indicate the existence of reasonable levels of stress. The reasons affecting human psychology and behavior in organizations are examined from the perspective of organizational stress in the context of internal reasons and discussed from a micro framework in this study. However, in labor-intensive industries that are quite open to the outside world, such as the tourism industry, many macro parameters such as health, economy, technology, and climate change are effective in the success of the organization. Within the scope of the tourism industry, national and international travel is carried out intensively in the summer and winter months. The effects of the Covid-19 epidemic that occurred all over the world in 2020 were also seen largely in tourism. For example, according to the research of Dogru et al. (2023b), while international chain hotels experienced a significant loss of customers due to the epidemic, organizations providing Airbnb services were able to remain in a more advantageous position because they offered a more isolated service. Therefore, employees in hotel businesses have encountered stressful factors such as job loss. According to Al Akasheh et al. (2024), the factors that cause job loss are mostly salary imbalance and overtime. From a tourism perspective, it has been determined that the employee turnover rate during the Covid-19 pandemic period varies depending on the US tourism economy. In other words, it has been determined that if US tourism revenues increase, the employee turnover rate decreases (Dogru et al. 2023a). In an industry such as tourism, which is based on a broad basis of economics, economic variables are of great importance in relations between countries. According to Dogru et al.'s (2019) research, while the appreciation of the US dollar did not affect the long-term tourism trade relationship with Mexico, it disrupted the bilateral tourism trade balance with Canada and the UK. Beyond these, it has been determined that tourism development and economic growth are related in countries such as Turkey, Germany, and China, but such a relationship cannot be detected in Spain (Isik et al., 2018). In other words, the changes caused by tourism and its reflections on tourists and tourism workers in social and economic dimensions over time vary according to countries. These changes directly affect people's quality of life. Thus, people may have different psychological structures during tourism activities. The fact that studies in the field of tourism mostly focus on the fields of technology, innovation, and sustainability (Işık et al., 2022) is evidence that the tourism industry is extremely sensitive to the external environment. Studies in the literature in recent years in different disciplines have also drawn attention to the importance of green energy consumption for the sustainability of resources (Aslan et al., 2024; Hassan et al., 2024; Lee et al., 2023; Skovgaard & Asselt, 2019; Visser et al., 2019). Thus, energysaving practices have been suggested. Therefore, in increasing organizational success, it is important to examine human psychology in- depth, taking into account macro and micro variables. People can sometimes exhibit active and sometimes passive behavior in the face of macro and micro factors affecting organizations. Studies have shown that people are sensitive to certain social issues, but fail to take action and take steps to solve the problem (Klenert et al., 2018; Carattini et al., 2017). There are studies in the literature that address the relationship between support for green policies and social norms, attitudes, and personal impact (Konc et al., 2021; Szekely et al., 2021; Ulph & Ulph, 2021). To prepare the environment that will enable people to take action and to improve the situation in question, increasing public support and sensitivity to social change and expectations are recommended by policy makers (Lipari et al., 2024). It would be healthy to carry out improvement works by taking into account all segments of society in social improvements. Because, according to the study of Andre et al. (2021), the negative views of American citizens towards those who have a high belief in climate change prevent collective mobilization and slow down the measures to be taken on climate change. It is also stated that in this case, it may be useful to address the issue with various theories that can be used to explain social relations in analyzing the underlying causes of people's behavior (Teodoro et al., 2021). This study, it is aimed to make sense of the underlying causes of the factors that reveal organizational stress sources with Attribution Theory.

Today, the fact that the main capital is qualified human resources in terms of businesses managed with contemporary management approaches also shows the importance given to people and their comfort. According to Elmadag and Ellinger (2018), although organizations provide suitable conditions according to the structure of the work by authorized persons, a stressful work environment such as insufficient social relations between employees and incompatibility with organizational culture will hurt the performance of employees. Authorized persons should be aware of this situation, which has a detrimental effect on overall performance, and offer solutions promptly. Pu et al. (2024) concluded that the emotional burnout of employees in the hospitality industry positively affects their intention to leave. Situations that reduce overall performance must be noticed by authorized persons in a timely manner and they must propose solutions. On the other hand, stress experience can also be shaped depending on how people evaluate the subject. While some people find the main source of the problem in themselves as a result of an objective evaluation, take precautions quickly, and manage the stress, some people can easily throw the source of the problem to the outside environment and find a logical reason. In this case, an excuse is prepared for the inevitable low performance.

This study aims to determine the dimensions of organizational stress experienced in hotel businesses and to deal with the relevant dimensions in the context of attribution theory. Considering the prominent dimensions of organizational stress in the context of attribution theory demonstrates the originality of the research. The fact that stress and attribution behavior have not been associated in another study in the tourism literature constitutes another unique aspect of the research. Explaining the main basis of the problems experienced in businesses according to the prominent dimensions of organizational stress, based on theoretical foundations, expresses the importance of the study. In addition, providing suggestions on measures to control organizational stress and attribution behavior represents another importance of the study. The research problem: "Can be explained by attribution behavior the reasons that create organizational stress sources?" was designed as.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

## Stress and Organizational Stress

Stress, the concept expressed as "Estrica" in Latin and "Estrece" in old French, was used to describe various negative emotions such as grief and distress in the 17th century. Since the 18th century, it has been used to express the situations that arise as a result of the pressure and use of force against any object or person (Pehlivan, 1995, p. 5). In the first definition of the concept of stress made by Commons in 1914, it is seen that it is considered as the process of strengthening the physiological structures of individuals, which deteriorate due to adverse environmental conditions (Düzgün, 2014, p. 3). Hans Selye, one of the leading figures in stress, draws attention to the fact that stress causes behaviors that appear suddenly (Erdogan, 1996, p. 270). The general name of the sudden behavioral change in organizational structures is defined as occupational stress (Yokkang, Weixi, Yalin, Yipeng, & Liu, 2014, p. 8). Interpersonal tension in organizations, the pace of change in companies, and developments in technology stand out as factors that trigger organizational stress (Shahsavarani, Marzabadi, & Hakimi Kalkhoran, 2015, p. 232). According to Griffin and Moorhead (1986, p. 230), maintaining a moderate level of organizational stress has a positive effect on performance.

Cranwell-Ward and Abbey (2005) drew attention to the destructive effect of stress as a result of not being able to maintain its moderate existence. It is stated that the formation of this destructive effect depends on the roles of the individual in interpersonal relations and the ability to manage them. The intensity of possible sources of stress and limited time are two important factors that feed the stress formation stages (Eren, 2001, p. 304). The first of these phases is the alarm period when it is realized that a certain job cannot be done at the desired standards (Spiers, 2003, p. 24). In the alarm period, the non-specific behaviors exhibited by the body now return to normal and a resistance period occurs in which the individual adapts to the stressful environment to a large extent (Ajgaonkar, 2006, p. 21). One of the two important ways that the individual will choose during the resistance period is to get maximum efficiency from the work done by managing stress. The other is to experience the exhaustion stage, which is the last stage, by not being able to manage stress (Organ & Bateman, 1991, p. 383). The behavior that should be done in an environment of stress is to see stress as an opportunity and to reach an environment that will provide efficiency from the work done as soon as possible. In the literature, the factors that cause organizational stress are discussed under certain headings. The shift working order in the organizations and the employees not getting enough quality sleep (Boggild & Knutsson, 1999, p. 85), the existence of tools and equipment that will endanger the health and safety of the individuals in the working environment (Koçak, 2012), the lack of time planning to fulfill the responsibilities (Zuzanek, 2004, p. 133), the emergence of excessive workload as a result of not being distributed among the employees in a planned way, and the formation of monotony due to simplification of the work (Ajgaonkar, 2006) express the dimension of organizational stress arising from the work structure. Factors such as the over-sized organizational structure and the inability to perform the audit properly (Tonus, 2016, p. 137), the lack of healthy communication and cooperation between the departments (Yılmaz, 2012, p. 116), the failure to offer appropriate wages and promotions to deserving employees by the managers (Senemoğlu, 2017:31), refers to the dimension of stress arising from the organizational structure. Injustice between performance and rewarding (Taouk et al., 2019), role conflict as a result of unclear duties and responsibilities (Yonkkang, 2014, p. 8), imbalance between performance expectation and salaries (Batista, 2018, p. 17), factors such as lack of a healthy work program and lack of career development (Hitt et al., 2011, p. 251) express the dimension of stress arising from organizational politics. Table 1 includes sample studies about organizational stress sources of different businesses in the tourism sector.

Table 1 compiles studies that investigate sources and levels of stress in the tourism sector. These studies also delve into various topics related to stress, including organizational citizenship, emotional intelligence, emotional labor, creativity, turnover, burnout, toxic behaviors, organizational commitment, self-esteem, leader-member interaction, and the role of gender. A unique aspect of this research not commonly addressed in related literature is its examination of attribution behavior. Across the studies in Table 1, a consistent finding emerges: organizational stress triggers negative behavioral changes, such as deterioration in interpersonal relationships and increased desire to quit due to a damaged work ethic. These negative behaviors demonstrably lead to an increase in customer dissatisfaction, reduced performance, and increased burnout.

# Table 1.Sample Studies on Organizational Stress Sources

Author (s)	Year	Aim	Analysis	Result
Özbay & Semint	2023	Investigate organizational stress factors in food and beverage businesses in Serdivan, Sakarya.	Frequency and factor analyses were conducted on data collected from 158 employees.	Working environment and interpersonal relationships are major stress sources.
Türkseven & Ege	2021	Identify organizational stress sources for hotel managers in Marmaris' four and five-star establishments.	Data from 420 front office personnel were analyzed using a combination of techniques including analysis of variance, correlation, regression, and independent sample t-tests.	Organizational stress impacts employee motivation. Organizational structure and organization person relations are key stressors.
Mert et al.	2020	Examine the relationship between organizational citizenship and organizational stress. A study was conducted on an airline transportation team operating in Turkey.	The study analyzed data from 645 participants through simple linear regressions, multiple linear correlations, and multiple linear regressions.	Organizational stress negatively affects organizational citizenship behaviors.
Choi et al.	2019	Analyze the influence of emotional intelligence and emotional labor on burnout in hotel front-office employees.	Regression analysis was conducted on data from 344 hotel employees.	Emotional intelligence and emotional labor help reduce job stress.
Ayaz	2019	Pinpoint work stress sources for tourist guides in Turkey.	One-way ANOVA was used to analyze data from 395 tourist guides.	Work structure and low-wage policies contribute to increased perceived stress. Problem-solving approaches were found to be minimally effective in reducing stress.
Şimşek & Cin	2019	It is aimed to determine the causes of organizational stress in accommodation businesses.	This study explores a cause-effect relationship drawn from a secondary source review.	Organizational structure and work environment are primary stress factors. Training aligned with technological advancements is recommended to minimize stress.
Lin & Ling	2018	Investigate the sources and potential consequences of stress.	Data were collected and analyzed from 1645 employee-supervisor pairs in 49 tourism regions in China. A hierarchical linear model was used for the analysis. Correlation and regression were also performed with factor loadings.	Stress may not always negatively impact individuals.

Gözde Kumaş, Didar Sarı Çallı

Author (s)	Year	Aim	Analysis	Result
Akça & Beydilli	2018	Explore the relationship between job stress and the creative process.	Correlation, regression, and additional statistical tests on data from 47 kitchen employees in Kütahya.	Moderate positive correlation found between stress and creativity. Interpersonal relationships least impactful stressor.
Aybas & Kosa	2018	Test the link between occupational stress and job commitment in tour guides.	Correlation and regression.	Occupational stress acts as a mediating factor on job commitment, though high-intensity stress doesn't directly affect it.
Demirci	2017	Examine the effect of role stress on leader-member interaction and turnover intention in Istanbul's food and beverage businesses.	Correlation and regression tests.	Stress negatively impacts both interaction and turnover intention.
Bora	2017	Identify the sources of work stress	One-way t-test on data from 364 employees across 39 hotels.	Human resources department plays a key role in stress management. Stress management crucial for quality performance and service. Healthy working environments recommended to reduce stress.
Gedik et al.	2017	Determine the stress sources for personnel in five-star Antakya hotels.	Factor loadings, correlation, ANOVA, and T-tests on data from 284 individuals.	Lack of self-confidence found to be a major stressor. Organizational structure and policy factors less impactful.
Akdu & Akdu	2016	Investigate the relationship between emotional labor, job stress, and burnout in tour guides.	T-test, correlation, and regression tests on data from 109 Istanbul guides.	Significant positive correlation found between job stress and burnout. Increased stress leads to increased burnout.
Biçki	2016	Investigate the relationship between job stress and burnout in Istanbul service sector employees.	Correlation and regression tests.	Job stress hinders personal achievement and exacerbates emotional burnout and depersonalization.
Unur & Pekerşen	2016	Examine the consequences of the link between work stress and toxic behaviors.	Correlation and regression tests on data from 449 cooks.	Job stress leads to aggressive behaviors in Turkish five-star hotel enterprises, indicating a strong positive correlation with toxic behaviors.
Saltık	2016	Measure stress levels of employees in Istanbul four and five-star hotels.	Correlation and regression analyses on data from 397 employees.	Limited promotion opportunities emerged as the most stressful factor.

Author (s)	Year	Aim		Analysis	Result
Sardavor	2015	Explore the connection between organizational stress and performance perceptions in Azerbaijani five-star hotels.	Regression on data	a from 412 hotel employees.	Organizational stress negatively impacts all department employees and reduces perceived performance.
Akgündüz	2015	Analyze the effects of role stress and self- esteem on performance of Kuşadası hotel employees.	Factor load, correla on data from 227 e	ation, and regression analyses employees.	Role conflict and ambiguity were found to increase stress and decrease performance.
Sampson & Akyeampong	2014	Identify the causes of work stress in 296 front office employees.	Factor analysis.		Issues like promotion, role conflict, communication problems, and workload significantly increase stress.
Şahin	2014	Measure job stress and organizational commitment of Istanbul travel agency employees.	Factor load, Mann- tests on data from	- Whitney U, and correlation 269 employees.	No significant relationship found between organizational stress and commitment.
Tiyce et al.	2013	Analyze stress levels of Australian hotel, casino, and club employees.			All employees experience some stress, influenced by factors like working conditions, uncertainty, manager communication, and shift patterns.
Wan	2013	Determine job stress levels of Chinese casino middle managers.			Role ambiguity, excessive workload, and customer complaints increase stress. Managers reported using social media to manage stress.
Chuang & Lei	2011	Measure job stress levels and job satisfaction of Southern Nevada chef cooks.	Factor analysis on casinos.	data from 152 cooks across 25	Work-family conflict found to be the highest stressor. High stress was shown to decrease job satisfaction.
Uzun & Yiğit	2011	Investigate the relationship between organizational stress and commitment in five-star Antalya hotels.			Emotional commitment decreases as organizational stress increases.
Chiang et al.	2010	Examine job stress factors in hotels and catering.	Correlation and	d regression tests.	Increased stress highlights the need for work-life balance practices.
Kim et al.	2009	Analyze the role of gender in stress factors for Korean hotel employees.	Correlation and employees.	d regression on data from 320	Work stress has a stronger impact on female employees.

Author (s)	Year	Aim	Analysis	Result
Akova & Işık	2008	Identify stress factors in Istanbul five-star hotels.	Factor analysis and importance level analysis for 380 participants.	Organizational structure is the main stressor, and experienced stress negatively affects performance. Most participants are from front office, food & beverage, and housekeeping departments.
Sökmen	2005	Compare stress levels by gender among middle and upper-level managers in Adana four and five-star hotels.	T-test on data from 62 managers.	Male managers experience more stress. Job structure is the main source of stress.
Aydın	2004	Determine the stress sources for four and five-star hospitality employees across Aegean Region's Izmir, Aydin, Manisa, Denizli, Uşak, and Afyon provinces.	Chi-square test on data from 792 employees.	Workload, insufficient salary, and unclear working hours are the main stress factors. Most participants are from front office, housekeeping, and food & beverage units.
Law et al.	1995	Identify stress sources in 14 Australian tourism regions.	Open-ended interviews with 102 front office employees.	Work structure issues are a major source of stress.

#### Attribution (Causality Attribution) Theory

Attribution theory is mostly used in the field of management sciences (Bettman & Weitz, 1983) to predict the behaviors that individuals' inferences about the causes of the events they experience are likely to affect their future behavior directly or indirectly (Heider, 1958:138). The founder of the theory, Heider, in his study titled "Naive Psychology", argues that behaviors emerge depending on two power elements: individual characteristics such as ability, temperament, intention and effort, and environmental characteristics such as luck and difficulty of the task (Specht et al., 2007, p. 536). Focus of control, which expresses the power of control of the individual, who is a social being, over the events that affect him, is one of the important subjects of attribution. While it is seen that people with a developed internal control center take responsibility for their behavior, individuals with a tendency to an external control center believe that the environment will decide the events they will experience (Mansourian & Ford, 2007, p. 660), in addition, they take a passive attitude in the face of conditions related to a fatalistic approach without making any effort to change the current situation (Struthers et al., 2001, p. 170). Weiner, who developed Heider's studies, considered attribution as linking the reasons for the success or failure of individuals to a set of results (Chen et al., 2009, p. 181). Weiner pointed out that the factors affecting performance are shaped by the perceptions of individuals and stated that performance depends on prominent factors such as perceived ability, luck, effort, and job difficulty (Specth, et al., 2007, p. 537). The causality attribution process of individuals is shaped in three steps. The internal factors of the perceiver are shaped within the framework of previously owned elements in the context of knowledge, motives, and beliefs. Internal or external causes are attributed to the relevant behavior, and the result of the perceiver emerges in the form of behaviors, emotions or expectations (Slocum, 2007).

Stress, in general, refers to the whole of the reactions of individuals to events they experience outside of their usual situations. Organizational stress, on the other hand, refers to the reactions of people to changing events as a result of the situations encountered in each step necessary for the fulfillment of the relevant work in the working environment. If people do not feel any pressure, coercion, or difficulty related to the events they have experienced or are likely to experience, or if they perceive all these at a reasonable level, they can experience stress at a certain level and advance the process. On the other hand, if the changes created by the external environment force the person in terms of knowledge, skill, and comfort, stress emerges gradually. Attribution theory explains how people make sense of behavior and the result of this behavior. According to the theory, people either find responsibility for any behavior that occurs in themselves or assign it to someone else. From this point of view, it's possible to say that the reason for the stress experienced may vary in the context of the person-induced or the meaning ascribed to the environment. In Freese and Zapf's (1999) study on the relationship between stress and attribution with the environment, it was noted that can be effective in people's attribution behaviors factors such as strong-weak relationships with the environment, time management, and different stressor perceptions. According to the study of Struthers, Millers, Boudens, and Briggs (2001) in which attribution (causality attribution) among their colleagues is explained, it has been revealed that weak social ties with other employees are effective based on low performance of employees. In a study on the perception and attribution of employees' efforts and abilities (Specth, Fichtel, & Meyer, 2007), it was determined that customers experience satisfaction or dissatisfaction with the provision of the relevant service, based on different behavioral indicators.

In this study, it has been determined that the satisfaction felt towards the person who provides the service is mostly caused by the person receiving the service, and the dissatisfaction with the service is shaped by the understanding that there is not enough effort for quality service. In these case studies, it is seen that individuals are social beings whose communication with the environment is inevitable. In this direction, in organizations where human resources that may have various sensitivities in the psychological sense coexist, each employee can be affected positively or negatively by his/her environment independently. The change created by this effect on the psychology and behavior of the individual can sometimes be seen as intense stress and low performance, and sometimes as an opportunity for change, and can be the trigger of behaviors

that will lead to success. The most important point to be considered in removing the obstacles in front of success and development in organizations is to determine from whom or what causes the reasons that lead individuals to stress and low performance.

In the case studies in the literature, attribution behavior has been discussed within the scope of the reflection of the success of individuals in social relations to performance, and the determination of how the effort and talents of service providers are attributed to customer satisfaction. The study in which stress and attribution behavior is associated (Freese & Zapf, 1999) has not been researched within the scope of the tourism sector. At this point, it is thought that how the main source of stress experienced by employees is evaluated by individuals with various psychological structures in hotel businesses that have intense human resources in terms of both employees and customers can be explained through attribution theory. From this point of view, the research problem: "Can be explained by attribution behavior the reasons that create organizational stress sources?" was designed in the form.

### METHODOLOGY

Scientific and ethical rules were followed in all processes of this research titled "Explanation of Organizational Stress in Hotel Businesses with Attribution (Causality Attribution) Theory". No changes were made to the collected data. This work has not been sent to any other academic publication platform. "Ethics Committee Approval" was obtained with the decision numbered 30/18 at the meeting of Sakarya University of Applied Sciences Ethics Committee, dated 31.03.2023, and numbered 30.

The data collection tool used in this study is the questionnaire technique, which is one of the quantitative research methods. Before the questionnaires were distributed to the participants, a pilot study was conducted with 30 people to determine whether there were questions in the scale that the participants did not understand to avoid possible errors that may arise in the data obtained. The data obtained through 590 questionnaires filled by employees in four and five-star hotels in Istanbul were analyzed via SPSS.

The universe refers to the participants for whom the results of the research are desired to be generalized. The sample, on the other hand, refers to a small cluster that is taken from this universe by observing certain rules and is accepted to represent the universe from which it was taken from the widest framework (Karasar, 1999, p. 109). The universe of this research consists of the employees of a total of 703 hotels with 4 and 5 stars in Istanbul, according to the data of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism (Ministry of Culture and Tourism, 2019). Due to the rich historical and cultural architecture of the city of Istanbul, it is seen as the most popular destination of Türkiye in all seasons by local and foreign visitors and stands out among other cities in terms of the number of tourists hosted and the expenditures made. For this reason, the province of Istanbul was chosen for the field study. According to the August 2019 data of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, General Directorate of Investments and Businesses, there are a total of 105 five-star and 131 four-star hotels with tourism operation certificates in Istanbul (yigm.ktb.gov.tr.2019). During the research process, the existence of hotel businesses that have a tourism business certificate but are not included in the current list of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism was determined. This situation has led to the inability to determine the exact number of hotel businesses and hotel employees that make up the universe. Since it is difficult to reach all employees due to time and cost constraints, the "Easy Sampling" technique, which is one of the non-probabilistic sampling techniques, was used due to its advantages in practice. The main purpose of this frequently used technique is to include all respondents in the sample, in line with the understanding that the most easily reached participant is the most ideal (Coşkun, Altunışık, Bayraktaroğlu, & Yıldırım, 2015:142). A questionnaire was applied to 590 employees who were thought to represent the universe and who were positive to the request to fill out the questionnaire and express the sample of this research. The data obtained with the convenience sampling technique were obtained from 24 five-star and 42 four-star hotels. Sampling error is defined as the difference between the values to be reached in the case of a complete census and the values obtained as a result of the evaluation made in line with the selected sample. The size of the selected sample also determines the sampling error and the precision of the values to be reached with this sample. In light of the hypotheses determined in various studies, the confidence interval can be determined with rates such as 95% and 99% (Sencer & Sencer, 1978, p. 495). The sample size, which was found to be acceptable in the largest population size (Sekaran, 1992, p. 253) and line with the 95% confidence interval, and which was assumed not to be repeated in the obtained data, was determined as 384 (Erdoğan & Yazıcıoğlu, 2004). The fact that the number of participants included in this research is 590 shows that the sample of this research has the competence to represent the universe of the research.

The field study for data collection was carried out between December 2019 and March 2020. The survey questions were prepared by making use of the studies conducted in the past years on the determination of organizational stress factors and the determination of the effects of organizational stress on employees. The first part, it is aimed to determine the level of organizational stress. For this purpose, the organizational stress scale consisting of 35 statements and 4 sub-dimensions was used by Aydın (2004) by making use of the studies of Saldamli (1999) and Ertekin (1993) and adding new judgments. To add the dimension of "the effect of managers on organizational stress" in this survey study, the scales used by adapting are as follows: As a result of the literature review by Saldamlı (1999), four statements were taken from the organizational stress scale consisting of five sub-dimensions with 56 statements. Four statements were taken from the organizational stress scale consisting of 39 statements and seven subdimensions, which were created as a result of a literature review by Sampson and Akyeampong (2014). Three statements were taken from the organizational stress scale consisting of 34 statements and nine sub-dimensions created by Jin, Sun, Jiang, Wong, and Wen (2018) in the conclusion of the literature review. To determine the level of agreement with the statements in the scale, a 5-Point Likert Type Scale was used as "1- Very little, 2- Little, 3- Moderate, 4- Much, 5-Too much". In the other part of the questionnaire, to determine the demographic characteristics of the participants, gender, age, department, their position in the business they are in, and how many years they have worked in the business and the tourism sector were asked. In the other part of the questionnaire, to determine the demographic characteristics of the participants, they were asked about their gender, age, department, position in the business they are in, how many years they have worked in the business they are in, and how many years they have worked in the tourism sector.

In the research, it was aimed to determine the sources of organizational stress and to associate the stress dimensions with attribution behavior. For this purpose, all departments in hotel enterprises were included in the scope of the research. The findings of the study are important in terms of examining the organizational stress levels obtained from all departments and providing a holistic view to hotel managers in order to analyse stress. Another important point of the research is to offer suggestions for the sector against the changes that organizational stress and attribution behavior may create on the functioning of the organization. Within the scope of the research, associating the prominent dimensions of organizational stress levels with the Attribution Theory has added a unique dimension to the study in terms of being an approach that is not encountered in the literature. As a result of the research findings, it is predicted that can be examined with different models of organizational stress and attribution behaviors. It is thought that this situation shows that the research can be scientifically beneficial.In addition, revealing which attribution behaviors are caused by organizational stress will bring advantages such as increasing positive social relations in enterprises and decreasing labor turnover rate. Thus, it will provide both social and economic contributions to businesses (Isik et al., 2024). Modern management approaches are used more effectively in four and five-star hotel businesses. In this regard, the fact that four and five-star hotel establishments were selected due to the research subject constitutes a limitation of the research. The number of participants is also limited due to employees working at a busy pace during the day, not wanting to participate for personal reasons or company policies. At the same time, the limited time to complete the research and the fact that only the prominent organizational stress dimensions were discussed in the context of the relevant theory in line with the scale used in the research are other factors limiting the study.

# FINDINGS

# Findings For Reliability Analysis and Explanatory Factor Analysis

The reliability of a test or scale indicates that the data to be obtained from it will also be reliable. A scale with a high level of validity has a high level of reliability. This situation reveals the close relationship between validity and reliability (Coşkun et al., 2015, p. 124). The Cronbach's Alpha ( $\alpha$ ) value of a scale is in the range of 0.80  $\leq \alpha < 1.00$ , indicating that it provides a high level of reliability (Kalaycı, 2017, p. 405). Factor analysis, on the other hand, refers to reducing a large number of expressions that have a common meaning among them to a smaller number to increase their intelligibility and interpretability (Coşkun et al., 2015, p. 264). To determine the reliability of the scale, the value reached as a result of the Cronbach Alpha test performed before the factor analysis was determined as (0.964). Since the Cronbach Alpha value is over 0.80, it was determined that the reliability of this scale was high. To interpret the KMO value resulting from the validity analysis, the classification in Table 2 created by Kalaycı (2017) was taken into account. The minimum KMO value, which is generally considered appropriate by the researchers, is 0.70 (Coşkun et al., 2015, p. 268).

#### Table 2

Classification of KMO Values

KMO Value	Comment	
0.90	Perfect	
0.80	Very Good	
0.70	Good	
0.60	Middle	
0.50	Weak	
Below 0.50	Unacceptable	

Source: Kalaycı (2017).

In Table 3, according to the results of the Bartlett Sphericity Test related to the organizational stress scale, the KMO value is (0.958), while the Bartlett value is less than 0.05. The results show that the adequacy of the scale used to determine the organizational stress levels for factor analysis is at a "perfect" level.

#### Table 3

Table /

KMO and Bartlett Sphericit	ry Test	
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) Va	n (KMO) Value ,958	
Bartlett Sphericity Test	Approximate Chi-Square	16819,857
	Degrees of Freedom	1035
	Meaningfulness	,000

## The Results of Explanatory Factor Analysis of The Organizational Stress Scale

To measure statistical significance, as shown in Table 4, factor loads above (0.512) in all studies with a sample of more than 100 are sufficient (Coşkun et al., 2015, p. 283).

Minimum Values of Factor Loads by Sample Size	
Sample Size	Factor Load
50	0,722
100	0,512
200	0,384
300	0,298
600	0,210
1000	0,162

Source: (Coşkun et al., 2015, p. 283)

Nine of 46 expressions used in factor analysis were excluded from the analysis because their factor loads were less than (0.512). In the conclusion of the factor analysis applied to the organizational stress scale with 37 statements, 5 factors were formed. The method of "determining the number of factors by the researcher" was used to determine to what extent organizational stress affects hotel employees according to the departments they are in. In the conclusion of the analysis, the expressions were gathered under the relevant dimensions as manager-employee relations (12 expressions), organizational structure (9 expressions), work structure (6 expressions), organization and interpersonal relations (5 expressions), and physical conditions in the work environment (5 expressions).

Results of Explanatory Facto	or Analysis Reaardina the	Organizational Stress Scale
Results of Explanatory Facto	n Analysis Regulating the	organizational stress scale

Factor 1: Manager – Employee Relations17,72115,474,937Lack of authority to decide how to handle,790expectations about my jobThe lack of my manager's support for the decisions 1,764makeThe lack of a consistent management style of our,760managerMy manager's inability to solve internal problems,746immediatelyNot being allowed to make decisions on my own,732Most of the decisions are made by my manager,730The tension between me and my department,640managerNot showing enough sensitivity to our requests and,611reports by the upper level (ignoring)Nepotism of the managersNanagersFactor 2: Organizational StructureLack of clear responsibilities for the jobLoonflicting jobs at onceIncompatibility in authority and responsibilitiesJustificient salary and wage imbalanceInjustice in performance appraisal and promotionJustificient salary and wage imbalanceInjustice in performance appraisal and promotionJustificient solution of dutiesNot having enough authority to make decisionsJustificient solution of up convertersJustificient solution of provide solutionHostile behavior by coworkersAreal authority to make decisionsLack of clear responsibilitiesJustificient solution of up the solutionJustificient solution of dutiesJustificient solution of dutiesJustificient solution of up the solutionJustificient solution of up the solution <th>Expression</th> <th>Faktor Loads</th> <th>Self Value</th> <th>Percentage of Variance Explained</th> <th>Cron. Alfa</th>	Expression	Faktor Loads	Self Value	Percentage of Variance Explained	Cron. Alfa
The inability of managers to provide adequate,525 training in professional issues Inability to get support from colleagues and,520 managers2,46712,977,878Factor 2: Organizational Structure Lack of clear responsibilities for the job Poor communication within the organization noting two conflicting jobs at once Incompatibility in authority and responsibilities Insufficient salary and wage imbalance Injustice in performance appraisal and promotion Injustice in the distribution of duties Insufficient salary and wage imbalance Injustice in the distribution of duties 	Lack of authority to decide how to handle expectations about my job The lack of my manager's support for the decisions make The lack of a consistent management style of our manager My manager's inability to solve internal problem immediately Not being allowed to make decisions on my own Most of the decisions are made by my manager The tension between me and my department manager Not showing enough sensitivity to our requests and reports by the upper level (ignoring)	s I,764 ur,760 ns,746 ,732 ,730 nt,640 nd,611	17,721	15,474	,937
training in professional issues Inability to get support from colleagues and,520 managers Factor 2: Organizational Structure 2,467 12,977 ,878 Lack of clear responsibilities for the job ,696 Poor communication within the organization ,664 Doing two conflicting jobs at once ,660 Incompatibility in authority and responsibilities ,651 Insufficient salary and wage imbalance ,611 Injustice in performance appraisal and promotion ,606 Injustice in the distribution of duties ,588 Not having enough authority to make decisions ,586 Inability to participate in decisions ,539 Factor 3: Organization and Interpersonal 2,181 10,796 ,873 Relations Hostile behavior by coworkers ,768 Conflict between employees ,752 The prevalence of gossip in the workplace ,631					
Lack of clear responsibilities for the job,696Poor communication within the organization,664Doing two conflicting jobs at once,660Incompatibility in authority and responsibilities,651Insufficient salary and wage imbalance,611Injustice in performance appraisal and promotion,606Injustice in the distribution of duties,588Not having enough authority to make decisions,586Inability to participate in decisions,539Factor 3: Organization and Interpersonal2,181Relations,768Conflict between employees,752The prevalence of gossip in the workplace,631	Inability to get support from colleagues an	d,520			
RelationsHostile behavior by coworkers,768Conflict between employees,752The prevalence of gossip in the workplace,631	Lack of clear responsibilities for the job Poor communication within the organization Doing two conflicting jobs at once Incompatibility in authority and responsibilities Insufficient salary and wage imbalance Injustice in performance appraisal and promotion Injustice in the distribution of duties Not having enough authority to make decisions	,664 ,660 ,651 ,611 ,606 ,588 ,586	2,467	12,977	,878
Having problems in subordinate-superior relations ,528	Relations Hostile behavior by coworkers Conflict between employees The prevalence of gossip in the workplace Excessive competition among employees	,752 ,631 ,551	2,181	10,796	,873

ExpressionFaktor LoadsSelf ValuePercentage of Cron. Variance ExplainedCron. Alfa ExplainedFactor 4: Work Structure1,7029,204,786Faccessive correspondence and bureaucracy Difficulty doing the job in full view Being responsible to more than one supervisor at the,554 same time Highly disciplined work environment Excessive workload,542 ,5307,359,747Factor 5: Physical Conditions in the Business Environment1,6027,359,747Very noisy work environment Lack of necessary tools and equipment Here is the presence of danger Lack of lighting S39,539581531					
ValueExplainedFactor 4: Work Structure1,7029,204,786Excessive correspondence and bureaucracy,7111,7029,204,786Shift work order,690,69009,600Difficulty doing the job in full view,600,600,600,600Being responsible to more than one supervisor at the ,554,530,747Highly disciplined work environment,542,530,7359,747Factor 5: Physical Conditions in the Business1,6027,359,747Environment,746,627,627,627,611Here is the presence of danger,598,598,598,598,598				Percentage of	Cron.
Factor 4: Work Structure1,7029,204,786Excessive correspondence and bureaucracy,711Shift work order,690Difficulty doing the job in full view,600Being responsible to more than one supervisor at the ,554same timeHighly disciplined work environment,542Excessive workload,530Factor 5: Physical Conditions in the Business1,6027,359Environment,746Lack of necessary tools and equipment,627Hot or cold working environment,611Here is the presence of danger,598	Expression	Faktor Loads	Self	Variance	Alfa
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Excessive correspondence and bureaucracy ,711 Shift work order ,690 Difficulty doing the job in full view ,600 Being responsible to more than one supervisor at the,554 same time Highly disciplined work environment ,542 Excessive workload ,530 Factor 5: Physical Conditions in the Business 1,602 7,359 ,747 Environment ,746 Lack of necessary tools and equipment ,627 Hot or cold working environment ,611 Here is the presence of danger ,598					
Shift work order,690Difficulty doing the job in full view,600Being responsible to more than one supervisor at the ,554same timeHighly disciplined work environment,542Excessive workload,530Factor 5: Physical Conditions in the Business1,602Factor 5: Physical Conditions in the Business1,602Environment,746Lack of necessary tools and equipment,627Hot or cold working environment,611Here is the presence of danger,598	Factor 4: Work Structure		1,702	9,204	,786
Difficulty doing the job in full view ,600 Being responsible to more than one supervisor at the,554 same time Highly disciplined work environment ,542 Excessive workload ,530 Factor 5: Physical Conditions in the Business 1,602 7,359 ,747 Environment ,746 Lack of necessary tools and equipment ,627 Hot or cold working environment ,611 Here is the presence of danger ,598	Excessive correspondence and bureaucracy	,711			
Being responsible to more than one supervisor at the,554         same time         Highly disciplined work environment       ,542         Excessive workload       ,530         Factor 5: Physical Conditions in the Business       1,602       7,359       ,747         Environment       ,746         Lack of necessary tools and equipment       ,627       ,611         Here is the presence of danger       ,598	Shift work order	,690			
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Highly disciplined work environment       ,542         Excessive workload       ,530         Factor 5: Physical Conditions in the Business       1,602       7,359       ,747         Environment       ,746         Very noisy work environment       ,746         Lack of necessary tools and equipment       ,627         Hot or cold working environment       ,611         Here is the presence of danger       ,598	Being responsible to more than one supervisor at the	ne,554			
Excessive workload ,530 Factor 5: Physical Conditions in the Business 1,602 7,359 ,747 Environment ,746 Lack of necessary tools and equipment ,627 Hot or cold working environment ,611 Here is the presence of danger ,598	same time				
Factor 5: Physical Conditions in the Business       1,602       7,359       ,747         Environment       ,746         Lack of necessary tools and equipment       ,627         Hot or cold working environment       ,611         Here is the presence of danger       ,598	Highly disciplined work environment	,542			
Environment ,746 Lack of necessary tools and equipment ,627 Hot or cold working environment ,611 Here is the presence of danger ,598	Excessive workload	,530			
Environment ,746 Lack of necessary tools and equipment ,627 Hot or cold working environment ,611 Here is the presence of danger ,598					
Very noisy work environment,746Lack of necessary tools and equipment,627Hot or cold working environment,611Here is the presence of danger,598	Factor 5: Physical Conditions in the Busine	SS	1,602	7,359	,747
Lack of necessary tools and equipment,627Hot or cold working environment,611Here is the presence of danger,598	Environment				
Lack of necessary tools and equipment,627Hot or cold working environment,611Here is the presence of danger,598					
Hot or cold working environment,611Here is the presence of danger,598	Very noisy work environment	,746			
Here is the presence of danger ,598	Lack of necessary tools and equipment	,627			
	Hot or cold working environment	,611			
Lack of lighting ,539	Here is the presence of danger	,598			
	Lack of lighting	,539			

Note: Explained variance 55,811; Inference Method: Principal Component Analysis; Rotation Method; Varimax with Kaiser Normalisation.

Looking at the results in Table 5, it is possible to measure statistical significance with factor loads ranging from 0.790 to 0.520. The dimensions that make up the organizational stress scale explain 55,811% of the total variance. The manager-employee relationship dimension has the highest disclosure rate with 15.474%. Another dimension with a high explanatory rate of 12,977% is the organizational structure.

#### Reliability Analysis Results of the Organizational Stress Scale

The reliability analysis results obtained after the factor analysis of the organizational stress scale are shown in Table 6.

Table 6

Reliability Analysis Results of the Organizational Stress Scale After Factor Analysis

Scale	Dimensions	Cronbach's Alfa
	Manager–Employee Relations	,937
	Organizational Structure	,878
Organizational Stress Scale	Work Structure	,873
Physical Conditions in the Work Environment		,786
Organization and Interpersonal Relations		,747
Total		,959

According to the results shown in Table 6 above, the reliability coefficient of the organizational stress scale was determined as 0.95. According to the result, it is seen that the scale has a high-reliability level. Organizational stress represents the dimensions of manager-employee relations (0.93), organizational structure (0.87), work structure (0.87) and physical conditions in the work environment (0.78), organization, and interpersonal relations (0.74). It is possible to say that the statements that indicate have very high reliability.

## Demographic Characteristics of Organizational Stress Scale Participants

The demographic characteristics of the participants within the scope of the research are shown in Table 7 below.

Table 7

Demographic Characteristics of Participants

Variables		Number of	Percentage
		People (f)	(%)
Gender	Female Male	172	29,2
		418	70,8
Age	18-23	88	14,9
	24-29	255	43,2
	30-35	161	27,3
	36-41	60	10,2
	42 and over	26	4,4
Department	Front Office Housekeeping	196	33,2
	Food and Beverage Support	143	24,2
	and Staff	128	20,8
	<ul> <li>Technical Services (15)</li> </ul>	123	20,8
	Accounting (13)		
	<ul> <li>Sales &amp; Marketing (15)</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Purchasing (Supply) (15)</li> </ul>		
	Human Resources (20)		
	<ul> <li>Risk Management and Security (20)</li> </ul>		
	• Others (5)		
Position in	Manager	159	26,9
Business	<ul> <li>Senior Level Manager (19)</li> </ul>		
	Middle Level Manager (80)		
	<ul> <li>Lower Level Manager (60) Employees</li> </ul>		
	Employees	431	73,0
Working time	Less than 1 year	183	31,0
in the	1-3 years	267	45,3
Business	4-6 years	90	45,5 15,3
Business	7 years and more	50	8,5
Working time	Less than 1 year	47	8,0
in the Industry	1-3 years	148	25,1
-	4-6 years	181	30,7
	7 years and more	214	36,3

#### DISCUSSION

Stress, mostly experienced in the face of unexpected situations, can cause various behavioral changes in people. These behavioral changes can manifest themselves in many ways, such as depression, burnout, being open to making mistakes, poor performance, and absenteeism. Organizational stress is an inevitable event in hotel businesses, which have intense human resources and various business structures that need to be acted together and harmoniously. In this sector, where seasonality and labor turnover rate is high, employees may be under intense stress due to the absence of work (presenteeism), often compromising their health and comfort for fear of losing their job.

According to Perrewe and Zellars (1999), people's behaviors against the stress they experience by being exposed to different stressors can be shaped by different emotions that mediate the emergence of this behavior. At this point, it is possible to say that people can have different sensitivities in the face of different events. Green and Mitchel (1979), on the other hand,

touched on the leader-member interaction and pointed out that attribution behavior can be shaped depending on what kind of image managers have in the minds of employees. Emotionally sensitive individuals will often be prone to finding problems in the external environment. Similarly, employees who do not have effective communication with their managers will be likely to easily see the source of any problem as their manager. This approach also shows that people have external attribution behavior. On the other hand, there are different studies in the literature (Pervin, 1989; Schneider, 1983), which draw attention to the fact that individuals have high control over their behaviors and can manage their emotions professionally. Considering that people who can manage their emotions professionally are psychologically strong, these people will be ready to take action to make the necessary changes by easily taking this responsibility if they are responsible, instead of attributing the problems to an external cause. Therefore, it is possible to evaluate these people as people who are prone to internal attribution behavior.

Addressing the research problem, the study first identified the core dimensions of organizational stress. Notably, it highlighted the potential for hidden stress factors within these prominent dimensions, suggesting the organizational stress scale's limitations in capturing the full picture. Existing literature on organizational stress confirms its detrimental impact on behavior, particularly disrupting interpersonal relationships (Türkseven & Ege, 2021; Mert et al. 2020; Bilgili & Tekin, 2019; Tonbul & Aykanat, 2019; Altan, 2018; Demirci, 2017; Akdu & Akdu, 2016; Unur & Pekerşen, 2016; Tiyce et al., 2013; Chuang & Lei, 2011).

As a result of this research, it was determined that the highest stress indicator reached was caused by the relations between managers and employees. When the expressions in the scale are examined, statements such as "nepotism of the managers" and "my manager's inability to solve internal problems immediately" express the approach of the employees with external attribution behavior. Another prominent stress indicator is the reasons arising from the organizational structure. When the expressions in the scale are examined, statements such as "inability to participate in decisions" and "not having enough authority to make decisions" draw attention. Considering these statements, it can be said that employees who are inclined to internal attribution behavior experience high stress. This research revealed that stress primarily stems from manager-employee relations and, to a lesser extent, situations arising from the organizational structure. Notably, it demonstrates how these prominent dimensions of organizational stress— manager-employee relationships and organizational structure—can be explained through the lens of attribution behavior, specifically the tendency to assign causality. This is because attributional behavior is related to whether or not the source of a problem can be identified. In the determination to be made, people's interests and social selves can also be determinative. For example, lack of self-confidence (Gedik et al., 2017) and inadequate selfesteem (Akgündüz, 2015) cause an increase in organizational stress. Thus, errors may occur in healthy decision-making mechanisms of individuals. Another study found that people's internal attribution tendencies towards success and failure vary depending on the perceived importance of the situation. In addition, it is known that extrinsic attribution tendency increases in long-term planning for the future and controllability. This situation is effective in the phenomenon of cynicism, which explains the commitment of individuals to the organization and their sense of belonging (Taslak & Dalgin, 2015).

On the other hand, some sample studies in the literature (Tozkoparan, 2021; Akça & Beydili, 2018; Aybas & Kosa, 2018; Şahin, 2014) have shown that organizational stress does not cause a significant negative effect at high levels. At this point, it is possible to say that organizational stress that is not high enough can often create internal attribution behavior, that is, employees can find the source of the problem in themselves without any benefit. For example, when customer complaints increase, hotel managers may find the source of the problem in employees' lack of skills. In this case, employees may state that the main factor causing the problem is the lack of equipment in order to defend themselves with the fear of dismissal. In this case, as a result of intense stress, people will show external attribution behaviour. Otherwise, if there is a problem in the lack of skills of employees in an environment where stress is not intense, this situation can be easily accepted and measures can be taken without fear of dismissal.

While women can be more affected by stress than men in environments where organizational stress is experienced (Kim et al., 2009), it has been determined that men are also affected by stress more than women (Sökmen, 2005). Therefore, it can be said that people's demographic characteristics may also play a role in attribution behaviors. The majority of the participants included in this research (70.8%) are male with 418 people. The majority of the participants (43.2%), consisting of 255 people, are between the ages of 24-29. Interestingly, while demographic characteristics like age and gender haven't been consistently linked to organizational stress in research, marital status has emerged as a significant factor, as demonstrated by Nas & Torun (2022). However, contrary to the inference made in this research, it has been determined in the literature that demographic differences do not have an effect on organizational stress (Çökük, 2018). In the study conducted by Kızgın and Dalgın (2012); students' attributional behavior in success and failure situations; It was concluded that there was a significant difference between genders in terms of luck, effort, difficulty and talent factors. In other words, it is possible to say that a demographic factor such as gender has some effects on organizational stress and therefore attribution behaviors.

Although it shows a balanced distribution, within the scope of this research, the participants mostly (33.2%) work in the front office department. While the existing literature on organizational stress includes department-specific studies, the focus has primarily been on front-office (Türkseven & Ege, 2021; Choi 2019; Sampon & Akyeampong, 2014; Law et al. 1995) and food and beverage (Akça & Beydili, 2018; Demirci, 2017; Chuang & Lei, 2011), in some studies are discussed both (Akova & Işık,

2008; Aydın, 2004). The majority of later organizational stress studies concentrate on tour guides and travel agency employees. A key novelty of this study lies in its comprehensive examination of organizational stress across all departments within the hotel industry. Additionally, employees are mostly (73.0%) from the non-managerial group. The majority of employees (45.3%) have been working in their company for 1-3 years, and in the sector (36.3%) they have been working for 7 years or more. Therefore, within the scope of this research, mostly front office employees, relatively short-term employees, and men have a greater role in associating stress factors arising from manager- employee relations with external attributions, and stress factors arising from the organizational structure with internal attributions. The fact that front office employees, who are the unit that interacts the most with customers, their unit managers, other unit employees, and managers, are predominant in the research may be a reason for turning to external attribution in any problem. The scope of the research included mostly nonmanagerial groups; It may have led to external attribution due to reasons such as greater workload and communication intensity. In addition, it is thought that the fact that employees do not work in the same company for many years is a situation that increases external attribution as a cause of organizational stress. Organizational stress has been linked to a range of negative outcomes, including burnout, decreased job satisfaction, and increased turnover intentions (Bicki, 2016; Saltık, 2016; Sardavor, 2015; Uzun and Yiğit, 2014). Existing studies on organizational stress in tourism lack a strong theoretical foundation. The synergy between organizational stress and attribution theory forms the cornerstone of this research, offering a fresh perspective and distinguishing it from traditional approaches to stress studies in the field.

Therefore, given the research question's focus on whether attribution behavior explains the reasons behind organizational stress sources, it is reasonable to hypothesize that individuals with strong attributional tendencies likely play a significant role in identifying the sources of concentrated organizational stress.

## **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Scientific and ethical rules were followed in all processes of this research titled "Explanation of Organizational Stress in Hotel Businesses with Attribution (Causality Attribution) Theory". No changes were made to the collected data. This work has not been sent to any other academic publication medium. "Ethics Committee Approval" was obtained with the decision numbered 30/18 at the meeting of Sakarya University of Applied Sciences Ethics Committee, dated 31.03.2023, and numbered 30.

The problem of this research is "Can the reasons that create organizational stress sources be explained by attribution behavior?" was designed in the form. The value reached as a result of the Cronbach Alpha test performed before applying factor analysis to the organizational stress scale used in the research is (0.964). The fact that this value is above 0.80 indicates the high level of reliability of the scale. In the continuation of the study, the validity and reliability analysis was applied to the relevant scale, and factor analysis was applied. Thus, the dimensions of organizational stress have been reached. The relevant dimensions were determined in light of the existing literature and by the researcher's collection of the relevant statements under certain headings.

In the research, sample studies are included on organizational stress sources of different businesses in the tourism sector. A qualitative approach prevails in 4 of the 30 studies under the theoretical framework heading of the research (Şimşek and Cin, 2019; Tiyce et al., 2013; Wan, 2013; Law et al., 1995). Qualitative studies are available focus group interviews, or secondary source scanning and analyses based on cause-effect relationships. The remaining 26 studies employed survey techniques similar to the data collection method used in this research. Notably, the data analysis techniques in this study, such as Cronbach's alpha, Bartlett's sphericity test, and exploratory factor analysis, show significant overlap with those used in other studies. Importantly, this research distinguishes itself from all previous studies in two key ways: firstly, it comprehensively examines organizational stress levels across all departments within hotel businesses within the tourism industry, and secondly, it pioneers the integrated analysis of organizational stress and attribution theory in the context of tourism research. When the findings obtained as a result of the research are examined, the main reason for the stress that arises in the dimension of organizational stress arising from the manager and employee relations can be evaluated as the external attribution tendency of people according to the studies in the literature. People who are prone to external attribution behavior attribute the main source of the problems to an external factor. On the other hand, stress originating from the organizational structure, which is another prominent point of the organizational stress dimension, reflects the internal attribution tendency of people according to the evaluations made in light of the expressions in the scale. Internal attribution, on the other hand, is interpreted as people not ignoring the possibility that the source of the problems experienced may originate from themselves. In addition, this study in conjunction with prior research, indicates that demographic factors could influence the way employees attribute responsibility for organizational stress.

#### Suggestions

Organizational conditions should be suitable physically and socially to prevent the stress caused by manager-employee relations at a reasonable level and to prevent the stress experienced in this regard from causing external attribution behavior. For the organization to achieve its goals, measures should be taken to obtain maximum efficiency from all the necessary steps of a job. In this sense, it is necessary to make the physical conditions suitable for the positions that need to be physically active in the workplace (Spiers, 2003). The working environment should be arranged in a way that protects the quality of life of people (Yücesoy, 2016). It is necessary to ventilate, illuminate and maintain the general comfort of the environment. The restructuring of the work to alleviate the stressful environment (Luthans, 1999) requires that the work to be done to fully meet the expectations between the manager and the employees should be developed at the points where it is deemed necessary, and the way of doing the work should be changed. updated and shaped according to the requirements of the job and the abilities of the person who will do that job. One of the most important reasons for the disagreements between the employees and the managers is the inability to share the powers and responsibilities equally among the employees in equal positions due to reasons such as favoritism and lobbying. At this point, responsibilities should be clearly stated so that managers can see whether their expectations are met or not, and employees can clearly understand the performance expected from them. So much so that Omolaye and Omale (2013) state that the balanced distribution of responsibilities and workload among employees within the organization is effective in stress management. The results of this research indicate that the importance given to organizational stress management in manager-employee relations will have an impact on employees' external attribution behaviors. In order to control external attribution behavior, working conditions need to be improved at an optimum level. It is possible to say that examining the sources of stress and becoming aware of external attributional behaviors in this direction will lead to improvement in healthy communication and problem-solving behavior between employees and managers.

To control the stress arising from the organizational structure and not prepare an environment for internal attribution behavior, it is necessary to make sure that the existence of an effective communication environment (Luthans, 1999) is preserved within the organization. Otherwise, employees may think that they do not have successful communication skills and cannot explain themselves adequately. Protecting the work- family harmony of the employees in the organization is also very important to keep stress at a reasonable level. At this point, the social support to be provided to the employees (Greenberg, 1999) will ensure that the employees can both achieve domestic peace and be satisfied with their working conditions. Stress can be experienced at different levels in each individual and can be reflected in different ways. At this point, stress management training (Greenberg, 1999), which will be offered to the employees at regular intervals according to the requirements of the job and the positions of the employees, will enable people to professionally manage the relevant situation under intense working conditions. Thus, employee performance and peace of mind will increase. As a result of this research, it is necessary to provide an effective communication environment throughout the organization to control internal attribution behaviors that may be caused by organizational stress. Thus, it will be possible to ensure employee satisfaction and therefore customer satisfaction.

The tourism industry has a structure that is also affected by the macro environment. For example, during the years of the Covid-19 epidemic all over the world, the tourism industry suffered a great economic loss. For example, in a study conducted in Sri Lanka (Ilangarathna et al., 2024), Covid-19 effects were discussed in 3 dimensions: high awareness, high limitation, and adaptation to the new normal. As a result of the research, it was concluded that there were significant changes in the context of education, healthcare, economy, mobility, psychology, and cultural structure. For this reason, businesses must be sensitive to external factors and be prepared to control employee and business health.

The fact that businesses are environmentally friendly by consuming renewable energy will first make the company environmentally friendly and then the harmony between the employees and the business. Environmentally friendly businesses will be able to facilitate their employees to work in a healthy and work-appropriate environment. Renewable energy consumption reduces carbon consumption and saves resources by reducing the environmental cleaning costs of businesses (Işık et al. 2023b). Moreover, according to Işık et al. (2023a), while economic indicators play a major role in the success of the tourism industry, it is recommended for policy makers to correlate environmental pollution indices with export rates in the tourism industry where natural resources are used as a supply. In this way, businesses will be aware of their responsibilities, and healthy employee relations and high customer satisfaction will be ensured.

The fact that uncertainties in climate policy delay investments in low carbon consumption (Huang, 2023) poses a threat to ecological sustainability. For this reason, policymakers need to act quickly for effective climate policies. Thus, it will be possible to ensure environmental sustainability.

With concerns about climate change and the development of renewable energy technologies, renewable energy consumption has accelerated in some island settlements (Moosavian et al., 2024; Shoaei et al., 2023; Noorollahi et al., 2022). Particularly in destinations with low carrying capacity, emphasis should be placed on renewable energy consumption. This sensitivity is even more important for the sustainability of natural resources. In this way, excess carrying capacity will be brought under control, and factors that may cause dissatisfaction inside and outside the business will be reduced. It will be possible to indirectly see a decrease in employees' job satisfaction and stress levels.

It is known that economic injustices are an important source of stress in businesses. Employees who do not receive sufficient salaries are under intense stress, which also brings about work-family conflicts. Moreover, it is known that economic and political uncertainties play an important role in tourists' preferences, even in a macro sense. For example, it has been determined that Canadian tourists are more negatively affected by the US economic and political uncertainty than Mexican tourists (Işık et al. 2020). In other words, Canadians reduce their touristic trips to the USA more. Thus, while the country's macroeconomic balance is disrupted, the income levels of tourism workers are also negatively affected. For healthy organizational structures, economic competition with other countries in the macro sense must be taken into consideration.

This research opens avenues for further exploration of demographic differences in attribution behavior within organizational stress by comparing specific characteristics. Additionally, comparative analyses of organizational stress and attribution patterns across diverse tourism sectors could be undertaken using attribution theory to consider possible stress effects. Future studies might further employ qualitative interview methods to delve deeper into these dynamics, or alternatively, conduct hybrid studies combining qualitative and quantitative approaches for a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of organizational stress and its relationship to attribution behavior.

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# Gözde Kumaş

## ORCID: 0000-0003-0573-0136

# CONTACT DETAILS 206247012@kocaeli.edu.tr

Kocaeli University, Institute of Social Sciences, Doctorate Program of Tourism Management Department, Kartepe / Kocaeli, 41180, Turkey

# BIOGRAPHY

Gözde KUMAŞ, is graduated from Sakarya University, Faculty of Business Administration, Department of Tourism Management (2018). She received her Master's degree from Sakarya University of Applied Sciences, Institute of Graduate Studies, Department of Tourism Management (2020). She is currently continuing her Ph.D. Program in Institute of Social Science at Kocaeli University, Department of Tourism Management.



# Didar Sarı Çallı

ORCID: 0000-0001-5517-2924

#### CONTACT DETAILS didarsari@subu.edu.tr

Sakarya University of Applied Sciences, Faculty of Tourism, Department of Tourism Guidance, Sapanca / Sakarya, 54600, Turkey

# BIOGRAPHY

Didar SARI ÇALLI, is completed her undergraduate education at Istanbul University, Faculty of Economics, Department of Economics (2008). She received her Master's degree from Sakarya University, Department of Tourism Management (2010), and her Doctorate degree from Sakarya University, Department of Tourism Management (2015). She started working at Sakarya University (2009). She currently works as a faculty member at Sakarya University of Applied Sciences, Faculty of Tourism. Main areas of work; tourism economy, tourism management, tourism technology, gastronomy.