

The Effect of Hurry Sickness on Delay in Independent Auditor's Report

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Abstract: This study aimed to explore the effect of hurry sickness on delay in independent auditor's report. The research method was descriptive-correlational. The statistical population consisted of all accountants, of whom 384 were selected randomly based on Morgan's table. A questionnaire was used to collect data. For data analysis, Pearson correlation and Regression were used. In all analyses, the significance level of $P < 0.05$ was considered. The results of the correlation analysis showed that there is a significant negative correlation between hurry sickness and delay in the audit report, which means that the more hurry sickness, the more the probability of delay in the audit report.

Keywords: Audit Report, Financial Statement, Accumulated Profit, Mood.

Introduction

In today's situation which is totally competitive, the economic feature of industrial countries is the large companies that have collected their capital from millions of shareholders and control economic resources in a country or even internationally. Decision-making in large organizations cannot receive much first-hand information, they must rely on the information that others provide, and this fact, in many cases, increases the risk of receiving unreliable information; shareholders can use audited financial reports as one of the essential confidence tools to understand how to manage their assets and ensure the accuracy and efficiency of managers. (Azar et al., 2009). The possibility of maugre in the preparation of these financial arrangements by the board of directors caused the need for the auditory profession and individuals called the auditor. An audit is a systematic and regular process of collecting and evaluating the evidence impartially about claims related to economic events in order to determine the validity of these claims with pre-determined criteria and report to the beneficiaries. The role of an independent auditor is to show that the financial statements have been prepared based on accepted accounting principles, so it can be concluded that the joint financial statements have been prepared by the for-profit unit and the independent auditor (Babajani, 2010). The purpose of the audit of the financial statements is to allow the auditor to comment on whether financial statements of all critical aspects are prepared following accounting standards. In order for capital markets to survive, investors are required to know the company's information correctly, thoroughly, reliable, and timely. Auditors also have an interior and appearance as a human being (Jalilzadeh, 2007).

Researchers in both fields of psychology and accounting have more and more acknowledged the importance of mood, emotions, and individual characteristics in decision-making (Hassanzadeh et al., 2013). In their studies, Batachargi and Moreno (2013) have examined the role of emotions and mood in auditor decision-making. The results presented that emotions and mood are reactions that affect decision-making. If overlooked, they can have important implications for auditor decision making and consequently affect the effectiveness and efficiency of the auditing process (Gholamrezai and Hosni, 2019). Since each type of personality has a significant impact on the formation of human personality and behavior, and the high level of each of these types has different results in the formation of personality, this difference in personality overshadows the human's attitude to society, the people around him, his job, etc. hurry sickness is one of the personality traits of people with type A personality. From obvious behavioral patterns, it can be stated that type A people are continually working and often try to do two or more things at a time; they try to get more and more in less and less time (Mahmoudi, 2016). These people are impatient and must work hard to stay calm, and this affects the auditor's independent report. Therefore, this study aimed to investigate the effect of hurry sickness on delay in an independent auditor's report.

Methodology

The research method was descriptive-correlational. The statistical population consisted of all accountants, of whom 384 were selected based on Morgan's table and in a random manner. In the research phase, the response to the tests for the participants was described in detail after providing primary explanations about the measurement tools and the purpose of the test. Concerning ethical considerations, after gaining consent from individuals and giving them the necessary information, they were confident that the information received will only be used in this study and that any abuse will be protected. To measure the research variables, the following questionnaires were used.

Hurry sickness questionnaire: hurry sickness, which means they lack hesitation and lack of deliberation of auditors in preparing audit reports, has been measured by a questionnaire for hurry sickness. Psychology experts design this questionnaire based on the relationship between type A personality and this disease—the scale of responding to that 4-point Likert scale. The questionnaire contains 16 questions, and it indicates a hurry if the score is 13 or greater.

How to calculate the delay in the audit report: The Codal and the Stock Exchange websites were used to collect this data, which is calculated as follows as stated by the Agi Mansah (2018): the number of days between the end of the fiscal year and the time of the audit report. In other words, after collecting data related to hurry sickness, using the Codal system and Tehran Stock Exchange, the audit data of the companies that independent auditors have audited was supervised. The number of days between the end of the fiscal year and the time of audit reporting was considered to measure the delay variable in the audit report, thus calculating the stock data related to the audit report delay. Pearson correlation and Regression were used to analyze the data. The significance level of $P < 0.05$ was considered in all analyses.

Results

The Kolmogorov–Smirnov test results are presented in Table 1 (Table 1). The results of this test indicated that the data distribution was normal ($p > 0.05$).

Table 1. Descriptive Statistics of Research Variables

Variable	Mean	Std.	K-S	p
Hurry sickness	14.4	2.08	1.03	0.47
Delay in the audit report	81.3	7.17	1.3	1.22

According to Table 2, the auditors' distribution based on gender shows that 243 were male, and 141 were female.

Table 2. Number and percentage of subjects based on gender

Percentage frequency	Frequency	Gender
0.63	243	female
0.37	141	Man
0.100	384	Total

Table 3 shows the distribution rate of subjects based on the level of education, according to which 168 were bachelors, 174 were Master's degrees, and 42 were PhDs.

Table 3. Number and percentage of subjects based on the education level

Education Level	Frequency	Percentage frequency
Bachelor	168	0.43
Master	174	0.45
Phd	42	0.12
Total	384	0.100

The results of the correlation analysis showed that there is a significant negative correlation between hurry sickness and delay in the audit report (Table 4).

Table 4. Correlation between research variables

		delay in the audit report
hurry sickness	r	-0.47
	p	0.001*

In order to forecast the delay in the audit report from the type of hurry sickness, Regression was used. In Table 5, The results of regression analysis show that the Chi-squared statistic is 32.05, which is less than 5% at the significance level, so independent variables influence the dependent variable and indicate a good matching. The coefficient of determination of the model is 0.358, which shows that 35.8% of the dependent variable changes are explained by the independent variable of Logistic Regression. According to Wald statistics and its significance level, the hurry sickness variable was significant at a 5% error level. The negative coefficient of hurry sickness indicates its

negative relationship with the delay in the audit report, i.e., the more hurry sickness, the less the probability of delay in the audit report.

Table 5. Summary of Regression Analysis

Variable	coefficient)B(Standard error	Wald statistic	Sig.
Intercept	- 0.12	0.682	0.026	0.873
Hurry sickness	- 0.082	0.137	0.358	0.171
Chi-squared statistic (significance level): 32.05 (0.00)			Model determination: 0.358	coefficient of

Discussion and Conclusion

This study aimed to investigate the effect of hurry sickness on delay in independent auditor's report. The correlation analysis results indicated that there is a significant negative correlation between hurry sickness and delay in the audit report, which means that the more the hurry sickness, the less the probability of delay in the audit report. In the findings explanation, it can be said that personality types are a model used to examine the person. Each type is caused by unique interaction between several cultural and personal forces such as peer group, hereditary and genetic factors, and parents of social class, culture, and physical environment. In other words, each type has an impressive stockpile of attitudes and skills to overcome environmental problems and tasks (Naseri et al., 2016). Since different types have different qualifications and temperamental states, they are willing to surround themselves with specific individuals and subjects. They are looking for issues that are incongruous with their interests, qualifications, and mindset towards the world (Khajavi and Noshadi, 2012). Accordingly, it is often stated that the primary goal of management accounting and auditing is to provide information that is useful for managerial decision-making. In simple terms, effective management in a management and auditing accounting system should provide information that 1- help managers and employees to identify the correct way of performance that leads to organizational benefit, and 2- encourage management in selecting the right people and implementing the desired scientific and managerial procedures in the organization following the functional needs. Therefore, in order to achieve these goals, management accountants and auditors should not only have sufficient technical knowledge about areas such as budgeting, cost behavior, and accounting systems, but they should have an adequate understanding of human behavior and motivations of individuals and other behavioral sciences in the organization.

Auditors and management accountants use their features. Hence their cognitive limitations lead to eccentricity and challenges in professional judgment, as well as because a person carries out the various activities and stages of auditing, a person is a symbol of the profession and has the responsibility of the profession (Rajabalizadeh, 2016). Hence, the analysis of professional conditions and issues due to the relationship with a complex being called the human (auditor), his competencies and skills, cognitive limitations, decision-making supports, impartiality and judgmental biases and personal interests, as well as the changing and complex environment that is formed from the relationship between these human beings and other factors, is related to several challenges and dimensions (Mahmoudi, 2016).

Concerning behavioral studies in auditing and management accounting, many researchers have tried to explore the relationship between human behavior information and different aspects of theory and behavioral decision-making theories. However, behavioral decision-making is not fully explainable due to the magnitude and complexity of human behavior issues (Naderi et al., 2016).

Performance auditors, as human beings, have different personality traits that these concepts as concepts latent in individual characteristics can be useful in the profession and the role of performance auditors and, consequently, the audit report. Since performance auditors apply their individual characteristics in each audit work and cognitive limitations lead to deviation of their judgments, and also if audit fields include professional judgment, then

investigating the effect of such characteristics of performance auditors is both practically and theoretically attractive (Sensitive and Thankful, 2006).

So it is required in order to investigate and define issues such as personality, personality type, and its impact on human behavior through behavioral sciences. Since each type of personality has a significant impact on the formation of human personality and behavior, and the high level of each of these types has different results in the formation of personality, this difference in personality overshadows human attitude to society, the people around him, his job, etc. (Hirani et al., 2017). Performance auditors, as a human being, have the duty to comment on financial statements, and this comment is expressed in the form of a report called the audit report.

If the audit report is not able to provide audit results, the audit objectives are not realized, and therefore the audit will be without any economic value. Since the users of the audit report constitute a wide range in the society, therefore, this report is critical, so several factors affecting this report should not be ignored. One of these factors is the individual characteristics that lack attention to it and ignoring its effects can impair the independence of the auditor, which is one of the essential pillars of professional behavior, this weakness in auditor's independence as a fundamental problem has many negative consequences (Praise et al., 2012).

In his studies, Pinkas (1984) concluded that personality had a direct effect on the ability of performance auditors to detect fraud. Abdolmohammadi and Wright (1977) concluded that behavioral research in auditing includes investigating behavioral science theories and methods that examine the relationship between accounting information and auditors' behavior (Pezeshkian et al., 2017). The number of behavioral studies in auditing has increased in the past 20 years because professional commenting is an essential part of the audit process.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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