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كلية التربية الاساسية



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## The impact of social, economic and health factors on the employment of the elderly in the center of Amara district

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### Abstract:

Al-Amarah District Center is considered to be one of the Iraqi districts where the phenomenon of elderly labor is widespread. The serious phenomenon has unsatisfactory consequences at both the family and societal levels. It is distributed in varying numbers depending on the type of work performed by the elderly within the neighborhood of the study .

The research aims to identify the demographic, residential, and educational characteristics of the elderly sample that led to their entry into labor market. The findings indicate that 68% live in rented or informal (encroached) housing, 92% fall within the age group of 65-74 years, and 72% have an educational level of primary school or below.

The study also examined the economic impacts, represented by wages insufficient to meet family needs (90%); the social impacts, with 84% frequently visiting cafes, smoking, and engaging in quarrels; and the health impacts, as 42% are exposed to bruises and fractures resulting from their work .

The research relied on a sample of 50 elderly individuals, equally distributed between males and females, aged 65 years and above. Data were collected through responses to a questionnaire addressing the phenomenon of elderly labor. Accordingly, recommendations were developed based on the study's conclusions to help reduce this phenomenon .

**Keywords:** social factors, standard of living, labor, family disintegration, elderly.

### Introduction:

The phenomenon of old age labor is regarded as one of the most glaring social phenomena in Iraq especially in the sphere of study. It is pegged on the ratio of non-labor force people aged above sixty-five years. Because of the disastrous conditions the province and the study area have

been facing since the events of 2003 to the current time, such as wars, the migration of other provinces and rural population, the worsening of families living standards, studying standards, and social standards, the COVID-19, and the increase in food prices and rental rates, all these factors have led to the entry of elderly people into the labor market in search of paid employment to take care of their families. This was the reason why this topic was chosen.

**Research Problem:**

The problem of the research is expressed by the following questions:

What do the consequences of the elderly work in the study community entail? What are the causes that result into elderly labor? What problems do they face? What are the types of jobs that are done by the old people and the risks of such jobs?

**Research Hypothesis:**

The hypothesis is a tentative answer to the research problem, which is: There are numerous factors that give rise to the spread of the elderly labour. There are also some families with poor economic and social issues. Also, there is occupational diversity in old age, which subjects the elderly to social, health, and psychological issues.

**Research Aim:**

The study will focus on determining the concept of elderly labor in the center of the Al-Amarah district, the social, economic, and health impacts caused due to elderly labor, the nature of job done by the elderly, and the dangers occasioned by the job.

**Research Significance:**

The significance of the study is that it discusses a highly relevant topic, which is elderly work and the consequences following the increase of the spread of the phenomenon in the research region since 2003, such as wars, population increase, the spread of COVID-19, and others, which have led to the high prevalence of this phenomenon.

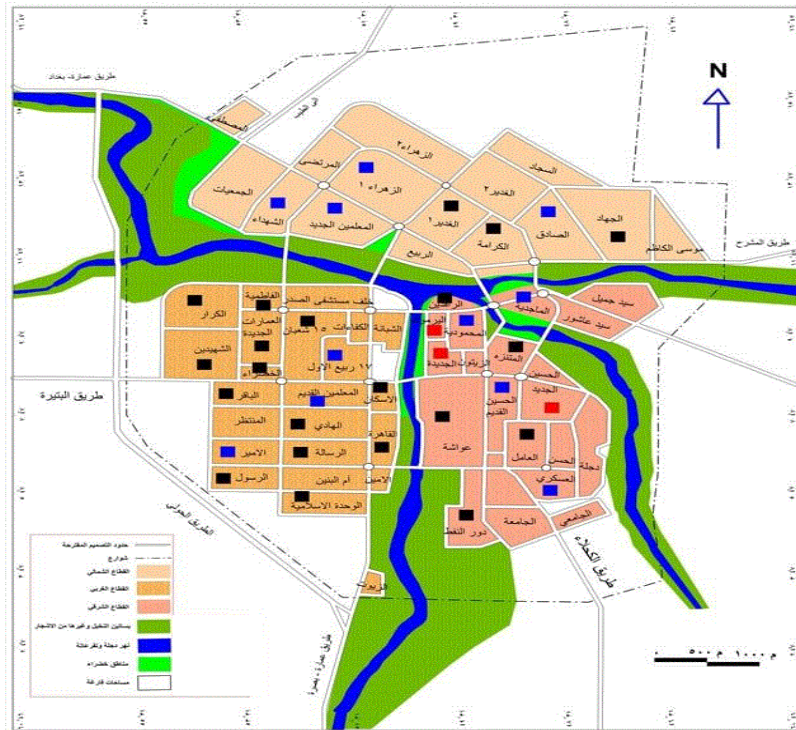
**Research Methodology:**

The research was based on the descriptive and field methodology to define the studied phenomenon and obtain the data and information concerning this phenomenon with the help of the survey method (observation) and its analysis. Fifty forms in the form of a questionnaire were also used.

**Study Limits:**

The spatial scope of the current research is the centre of Al-Amarah district featuring three sectors, and each sector of the district has a number of residential areas of 54 residential areas whose total area is estimated to be 48.5 km<sup>2</sup> of the total area of the province (see Map 1). The 2024 population estimates of the city of Al-Amarah give a population of 691,181. The time restrictions are limited to the year 2024.

**Map(1)** the study area is found within the Maysan Governorate



Source: Based on the map of the Master Plan of the city of Al-Amarah (2002), using the ARC GIS 10 software.

### Previous Studies:

The paper by Mustafa (2020) called Characteristics and Trends of the Elderly in Ismailia Governorate investigated the magnitude of the issue of old age working according to the age category and discussed the phenomenon in terms of space regarding the administrative centers of the governorate. It also observed the demographic, economic, social and educational issues and outlined the key causes which contributed to pushing old people into the working market.

The article by Karadsheh (2021) entitled Economic Problems among the Elderly in Muscat Governorate was developed to determine the most significant economic issues and challenges among the elderly with a questionnaire of 2,332 forms sent to the male and female elderly citizens. The study came up to a number of findings among them being that the proportion of elderly people that were languishing in financial difficulty was low, there was a high level of coverage of the elderly to the cost of medical treatments after retirement and the elderly women were more susceptible to financial difficulty than the elderly men.

Meanwhile, the article Ali and Hussein (2021) called Societal Factors of Elderly Labor: A Field Study tested the reasons behind elderly labor and diagnosed them, finding the role of the social care given to them, using a random sample of 50 respondents. The research concluded that old working has statistically significant relationship with how they support their families and also their social status.

Conversely, Abu Jadallah (2024) was a study that centered on the geographic distribution of the elderly population size, their distribution and concentration in areas through the application of

the Geographic Information Systems (GIS). It also analyzed most of the variables influencing their distribution in the governorate, determined the gender, age, education, marital and economic status of the elderly and estimated the numbers of the elderly in the period (2027-2047).

**First:** Demographic, Social, Residential and Occupational features of Elderly Labor in the center of Al-Amarah District:

The elderly population problem is extremely popular on the global level because it has grown immensely during the last several decades. The reason is that it has become a significant issue due to its significant human and social aspects in most nations, disregarding their status of development (AL-Rubaie, 2024).

Population issues, especially the elderly labor, have received a lot of attention by the United Nations and the population studies, as it is a societal problem and a worldwide phenomenon that is observed in almost all countries of the world (Philip, 1960). It is not satisfactory in both the family and community level in the area of study. Conflict or tension between spouses or even between children happens to many families resulting in the loss of love and harmony, and further breakdown of marital and family bonds and disturbance of the social fabric. This can also be in the form of death of one or both parents and the lack of the family head. All these factors have subjected the elderly to some negative behavioral traditions like smoking, tribal fights, proliferation of moral decadence and higher levels of crimes. This has encouraged all governmental agencies to research the demands of this group so that they can offer social, economic, health, and psychological services (Omar, 1991).

The Arabic term that is used to denote an elderly man is *lmusinW*. It is said: *Asana al-rajul al-matakir*, that is, the man grew old, and *kaburat sinnuhu*, that is, his age advanced. The Arabs have also synonymous words like *sheikh* (*shykh*) which means a person whose old age is conspicuous and whose hair has turned gray; some use it to refer to a person who is above fifty years. The other one is *harim* (*hrm*), that is, extreme old age, and *kahl* (*khl*). All these words represent old age (Ibn Manzur, 1410).

This population is the highest stratum of the population. It is significant to have information on the population of the aged and their gender distribution in any given society. The elderly men, widowed women and others are in this group. In most cases, this category has more women than men since females live longer than males and due to the increased workload of males who carry the major work responsibility (AL-Khaffaf, 1986)

The percentage of this group registered a comparative drop to rates of (3.8%-4%) of the total population of the district center at the period (1997-2024). This is the same case with males and females whose percentages varied between a decline and an upward trend. This is because of circumstances during wars, bad economic situations, and health conditions that caused many to die particularly the males besides the fact that the birth rates had continued increasing due to the state population policies that promoted child bearing. This can be observed in Table (1).

**Table (1)** The population of the center of Al-Amarah district in terms of age (65 years and above) in the period (1997-2024).

Category	1997 Number	%	2016 Number	%	2024 Number	%
65 years and over						
<b>Males</b>	4,042	41	8,645	42.8	11,370	42.8
<b>Females</b>	5,868	59	11,548	57.2	15,207	57.2
<b>Total</b>	9,910	4	20,183	3.8	26,577	3.8
District Center Population						
<b>Males</b>	134,166	49	262,624	50.03	345,825	50.03
<b>Females</b>	138,120	51	262,267	49.97	345,355	49.97
<b>Total</b>	272,286	100	524,891	100	691,181	100

Source: Ministry of Planning, Republic of Iraq, Central Statistical Organization, findings of the 1997 Population Census. Republic of Iraq, Ministry of Planning, Central Statistical Organization, the Maysan Statistics Directorate, population estimates, unpublished data, 2016 and 2024.

Thus, it is extremely important to study these characteristics, which will allow the participants of the population policy to determine which issues this age group has the most serious problems within the society, and create the plans providing this category of the population with the necessary economical, social, and health care services (Hussein, Mahmoud, 2024).

**Family Size:**

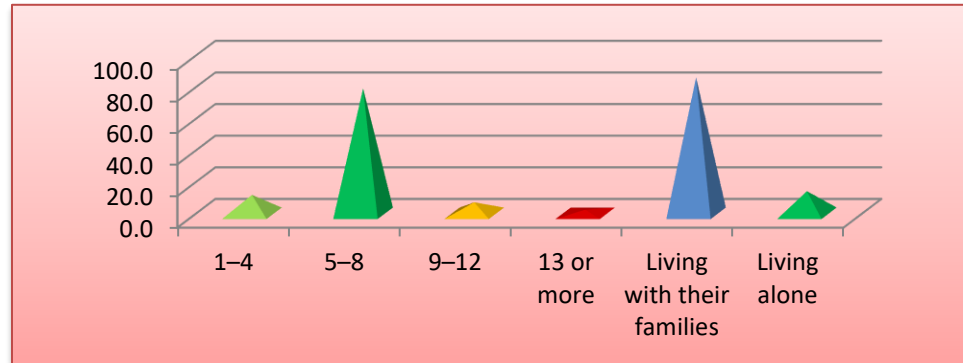
The family size depends on the consciousness of the head of the household and the choice that he or she makes and the level to which the family will be benefiting by keeping the family small or expanding (Hopkins, 1965). According to the sample, it was established that 86% of the old respondents are co-residing with their families, with the remaining 14% living on their own. Table (2) and Figure (1) indicate that those families with 5-8 member had highest rate of elderly labor as 79.1 and totaled 34 cases. This is then followed by 11.6% of families of 1-4 members with the highest number of 13 members and above making the lowest percentage of 2.3% of the complete sample.

**Table (2):** Distribution of the family members in the sample numerically and as a percentage.

Family Members	Number	%
<b>1-4</b>	5	11.6
<b>5-8</b>	34	79.1
<b>9-12</b>	3	7.0
<b>13 or more</b>	1	2.3
<b>Living with their families</b>	43	86
<b>Living alone</b>	7	14
<b>Total</b>	50	100

Source: Field study.

**Figure (1):** Percentage distribution of the sample’s family members.



Source: table (2)

**2-Housing Tenure:**

Housing is the major issue that any family would seek to obtain. Thus, the families dwell in various forms of shelters depending on their economic status (Shelesnyak, 1969). There is also a social and economic consequence of housing to the family and the community (Hashem, 2024).

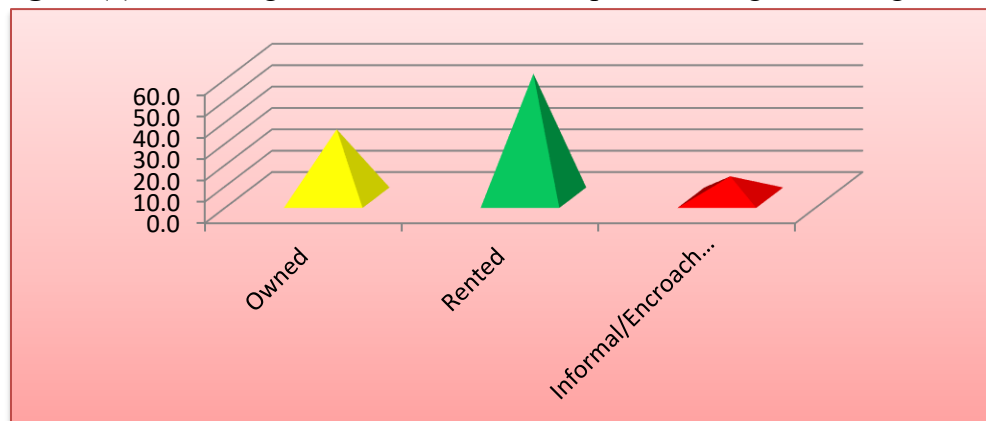
Table (3) and Figure (2) indicated that among the elderly, 58% (29 respondents) stay in the rented houses. This is preceded by 32 percent (16 respondents) that dwell in owner houses, 10 percent that dwell in informal (encroached) houses. This implies that 68 percent of the senior citizens lack house ownership in the overall sample forcing the head of the household or both marriage mates to work to settle the household expenses and basic family requirements.

**Table (3):** Distribution of the sample numerically and as a percentage depending on the tenure of housing.

Housing Tenure	Number	%
Owned	16	32.0
Rented	29	58.0
Informal/Encroached	5	10.0
Total	50	100

Source: Field study

**Figure (2):** Percentage distribution of the sample according to housing tenure



Source: table (3):

### 3-Duration of Work:

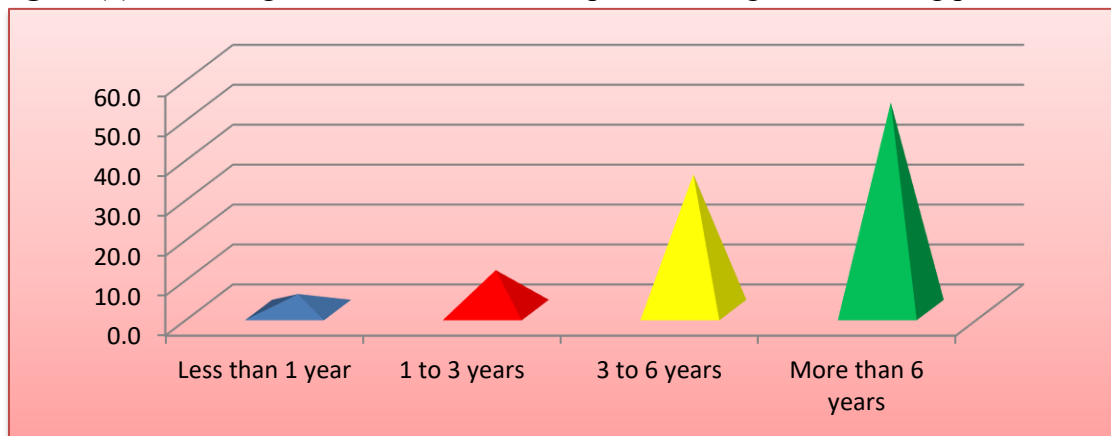
The persistent population increase without relent is one of the issues that have deteriorated in the developing nations, a situation that is accompanied by insufficient production resources. Consequently, inadequate living standards have greatly contributed to the tendency of pushing the older citizens into the workforce in order to enhance their living and health situation (AL-Adl, 1987). This can be seen in the study area as presented in Table (4) and Figure (3). The highest work period in the age group of the elderly started over 6 years ago with 26 respondents constituting 52%. This is succeeded by 34% (17 respondents) whose work experience falls in the range of 3-6 years with 4 percent respondents falling under the range of less than one year within the entire sample. This is because of the pressing necessity to work because of the economic status of sampled families.

**Table (4):** The sample distribution in terms of the beginning of elderly labor in numerical and percentage

Duration of Work	Number	%
<b>Less than 1 year</b>	2	4.0
<b>1 to 3 years</b>	5	10.0
<b>3 to 6 years</b>	17	34.0
<b>More than 6 years</b>	26	52.0
Total	50	100

Source: field study

**Figure (3):** Percentage distribution of the sample according to the starting period of elderly labor.



Source: Table (4)

### Marital Status:

Marital status is a wide-spread demographic phenomenon in every society since it is an important element that reflects the circumstances of an individual (Derjal, 2022). As indicated in table (5) and Figure (4), married is the largest percentage of marital status among the elderly with the highest percentage of 66 percent having 33 respondents. This is succeeded by divorced at 26% with 13 respondents and both single and widowed at the most insignificant 4% of the whole sample. This disparity between the percentage of married and widowed people is usually

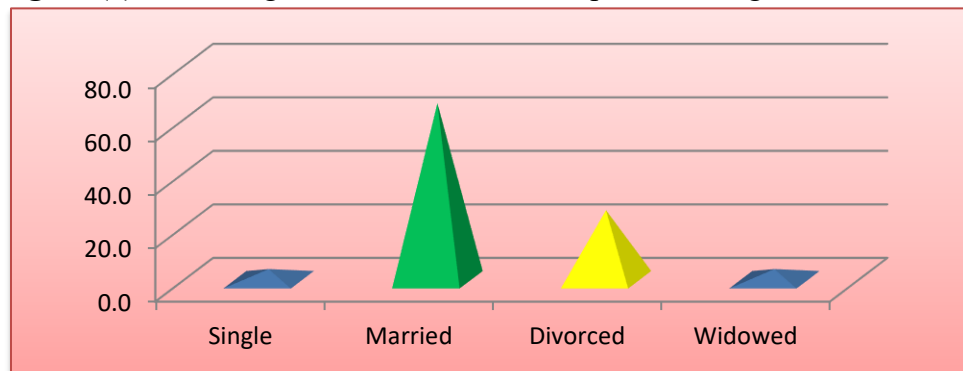
occasioned by the higher life expectancy of females than that of males and also because of the likelihood of males to remarry after their wives have passed away as opposed to males. One can deduce that married elderly have the burden of supporting their families, whilst divorced elderly go to work to support themselves or alimony. The proportion of the single elderly is less; generally, the elderly are not much concerned with the family responsibilities. Due to the loss of breadwinner in the family, widowed old people take up the role of sustaining the family by sustaining their life (Pollard, 1974).

**Table (5):** Marital status of the sample in numerical and percentage

Marital Status	Number	%
Single	2	4.0
Married	33	66.0
Divorced	13	26.0
Widowed	2	4.0
Total	50	100

Source :field study

**Figure (4):** Percentage distribution of the sample according to marital status.



Source: Table (5)

**Age Group for Work:**

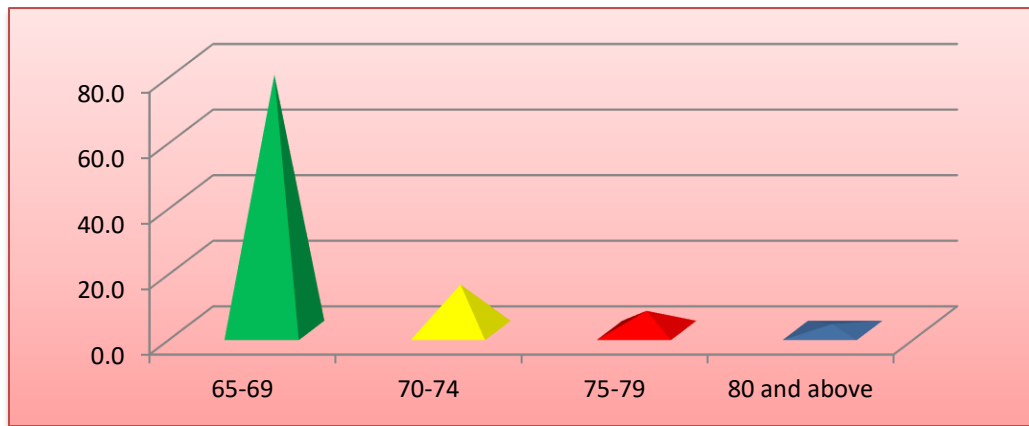
The age structure is a highly important study to any population because it defines the ability to work and the activity of the population and how they are distributed which is a factor in the planning of most developmental projects (Najm & Kazem, 2024) .This is true in the case of the elderly since the group can be subdivided into various age groups in the research area. Table (6) and Figure (5) showed that there was a variation in the age groups of both genders (65-80 years and above). The percentage was the highest in the first age group (65-69 years) which was at 78% and had 39 respondents, the second age group was 70-74 years having 7 respondents or 14% of the total respondents. The third and fourth age groups (75-80 years and above) recorded the lowest percentages of 6%-2% of the total sample .Based on this, it can be concluded that the old working population (92% of the working population in the population) is in the age bracket of 65-74 years, which implies low standards of living which force them to go to work in the labor market because of the needs of their families.

**Table (6):** Descriptive statistics of the sample in terms of age group of work expressed as numerical and percentage distribution.

Age Group	Number	%
<b>65–69</b>	39	78.0
<b>70–74</b>	7	14.0
<b>75–79</b>	3	6.0
<b>80 and above</b>	1	2.0
Total	50	100

Source: Field study.

**Figure (5):** Percentage distribution of the sample according to the age group for work.



Source: table (6)

### 6- Educational Level:

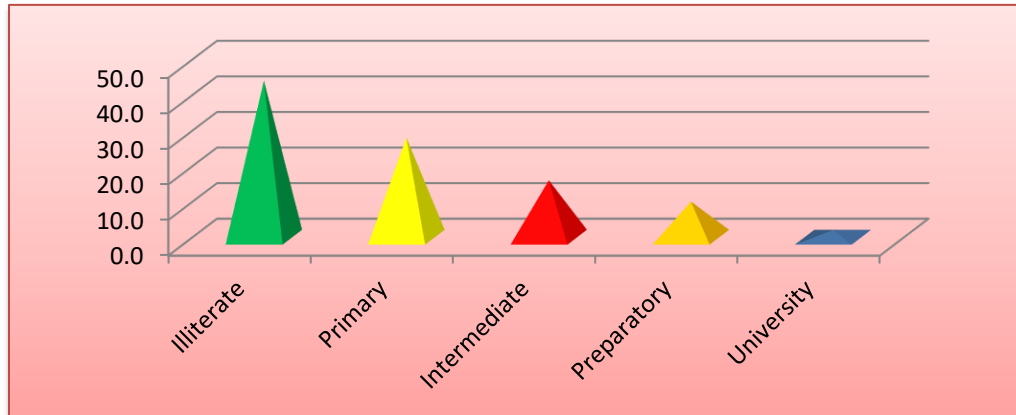
The concentration of population in terms of educational level is a significant parameter that shows the rate of human development within society. It is also a good indication of how the state is capable of addressing the needs of the population. In most cases, the low level of education leads to low level of living especially given the high illiteracy levels in the study area (Othman, 2005) . Table (7) and Figure (6) indicate that the elderly in the sample are most educated with the highest number of the illiterate, unable to read or write and making 22 respondents (44%). It is the turn of 14 respondents (28) with a primary education then 16% with intermediate education, and 10% have a preparatory education. The 2 percent is the lowest percentage that denotes those having university education among the total sample .This shows the low income rate of the seniors through government allowances and this forces them to turn to work or self employment to afford the basic needs of their families.

**Table (7):** Percent and numerical distribution of the sample based on the level of education.

Educational Level	Number	%
Illiterate	22	44.0
Primary	14	28.0
Intermediate	8	16.0
Preparatory	5	10.0
University	1	2.0
Total	50	100

Source: Field study.

**Figure (6):** Percentage distribution of the sample according to educational level.



Source: Table (7)

### 7-Type of Activity:

The kind of activities or work that the elderly men and women engage in does depend on the choice of activity they wish to carry out, as it assures continuation of their own life and the lives of their families (Al-Mousawi, 2019). They also practice various careers that are within their physical and health abilities since some occupations might need repetitive and laborious work (Younis, 2011). Table (8) and Figure (7) indicate that 14 percent of the sample (7 respondents) are not working. The motivations not to work are the adequate income, rest, or the health issues. In the meantime, 86 percent of the sample (43 respondents) are employed. This group is distributed in the following way: Street vendors: 25.6% (11 respondents) Sewing workshop employees / vendors of food and vegetables: 16.3% (7 answers) Begging: 11.6% (5 respondents)

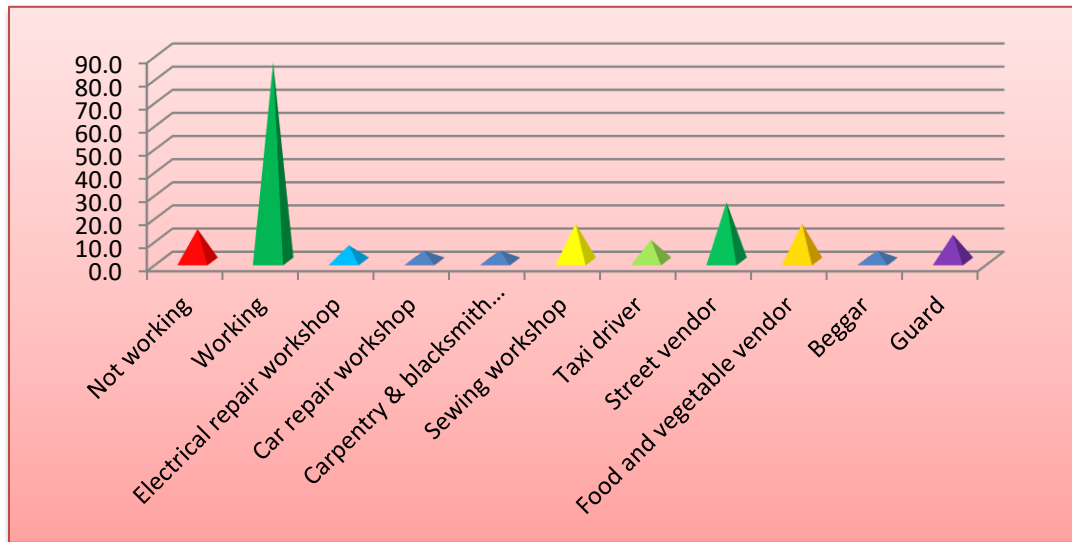
Electrical workshop: 7 percent (3 respondents) Automobile workshop, blacksmithing, carpentry and security work registered the lowest percentage at 4.7% (2 respondents) of the number of respondents.

**Table (8):** The numerical and percentage distribution of the sample based on the type of work activity.

Activity	Number	%
Not working	7	14
Working	43	86
Electrical repair workshop	3	7.0
Car repair workshop	2	4.7
Carpentry & blacksmith workshop	2	4.7
Sewing workshop	7	16.3
Taxi driver	4	9.3
Street vendor	11	25.6
Food and vegetable vendor	7	16.3
Beggar	5	11.6
Guard	2	4.7
Total (working)	43	100

Source: Field study.

**Figure (7):** Percentage distribution of the sample according to type of work activity.



Source: Table (8)

### 8-Family Income Level:

The family size has a positive and negative impact on family income. In order to fulfill family demands, the aged people are usually forced to seek employment to make some money (Simon, 1977) .As illustrated in Table (9) and Figure (8), a majority of the people who responded on the issue of income stated that they do not feel that their income will support their needs (90% of the respondents, 45 individuals) whereas 8% of those who responded on the issue that their income meets their needs (8% and 4 respondents). The total sample of the study area only 2 percent of the respondents stated that their income was greater than their needs.

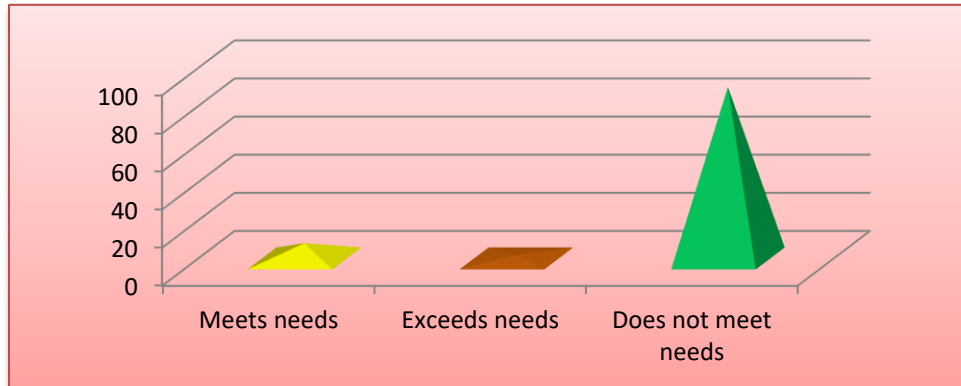
The reason why the elderly have to work is that the percentage of those whose income fails to meet their needs is high. This could be as a result of a number of factors which include the absence of any main breadwinner in the family, the small earnings that the family breadwinner gets out of a pension scheme or social welfare allowance and family structure, including the young children or female members of the family, who would have their work conflicting with the social and tribal requirements in the research site.

**Table (9):** The distribution of the sample based on the level of family income numerically and percentage.

Income Level	Number	%
Meets needs	4	8
Exceeds needs	1	2
Does not meet needs	45	90
Total	50	100

Source: Field study.

**Figure (8):** Percentage distribution of the sample according to income level.



Source: Table (9)

**Second: Social, Economic, and Health impacts of elderly work in Al-Amarah District Center:**

Aging among the elderly is one of the most significant concerns of the society, both developed and developing, and the concern of the researchers in a wide range of social and demographic sciences.

The elderly have socio-economic and health impacts such as feelings of social isolation, poor social adjustment, withdrawal tendencies, inability to work, low income (Abdul Latif, 2001). The effects of this can adversely affect the life of an aged individual be it a man or a woman, sensory impairment especially hearing and sight, bone frailty, walking, joint diseases, muscle atrophy, arterial and heart diseases, urinary system, diabetes and its associated conditions, psychological problems related to organic changes such as a sense of aging, frequent worries, hypersensitivity to anxiety and stress, and worry about the attention of others (Fahmy, 2000).

**Social Effects:**

The social impact on the old people is most noticeable in terms of the diminished social relationship among them, that is, restricted to old friends and immediate neighbors. This impact introduces a different dimension in the life of the elderly, where there is emptiness and isolation, which is brought about by the mutual withdrawal of the elderly and the society. The result is less interaction with the community and worsening social activities (AL-Omran, 1992), anxiety, depression, and boredom.

The other related effects are hypochondria, constant complaints, high sensitivity, past nostalgia, stubbornness, lack of trust in others, and due to environmental, social, and economic pressures, the behaviors may lead to the development of deviant ethics, which cause the elderly to be more aggressive in their actions to meet their goals (Shaaban, 2020).

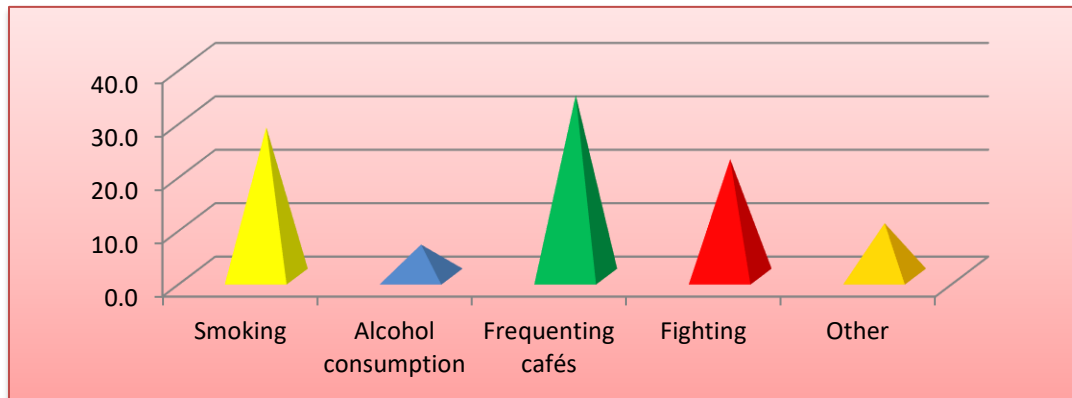
As Table (10) and Figure (9) demonstrate, the kind of behavior that the elderly engage in is dependent on the social impact that work has in the study area. Those aged over 65 who go to the cafe took 34 percent (17 respondents), then 28 percent (14 respondents) smokers. The 11 respondents (22%), reported fighting, and the 10% poultry and bird rearing. The highest percentage was that of the people who take alcohol which was 6 percent of the total sample.

**Table (10):** Sample distribution (Numerical and percent) based on the social impacts of the elderly labour.

Social Effects	Number	%
Smoking	14	28.0
Alcohol consumption	3	6.0
Frequenting cafés	17	34.0
Fighting	11	22.0
Other	5	10.0
Total	50	100

Source: Field study.

**Figure (9):** Percentage distribution of the sample according to the social effects of elderly labor.



Source: Table (10)

## 2-Economic Effects:

The reduction in the income of the aged is commonly because of retirement at the legal age or the death of the breadwinner in the family, which causes them to be unable to cover most of their basic needs, not to mention, the family since they are likely to develop chronic diseases (AL-Douri, 2023). That would usually mean visiting the doctor regularly and buying drugs which would cause loss of income and financial strain accumulated. Further it is costs money to buy enough houses edifice increased expenses, lower buying capacity and demand further amount of money. Retirement pensions in a number of countries are adjusted on a yearly basis in order to accommodate such changes in the economy (Fahmy, 1984).

It is based on this that the family income is also influenced by the quantity of working-age youths in the home. The old are forced to be employed to get money to support the needs of the family. As indicated in Table (11) and Figure (10), the largest percentage (62) or 31 respondents have a salary between 6-10 thousand. This is then followed by 28% (14 respondents) who have incomes less than 5 thousand, 6% (11-15 thousand), and 4 percent (more than 16 thousand). None of the respondents said that they did not have a wage.

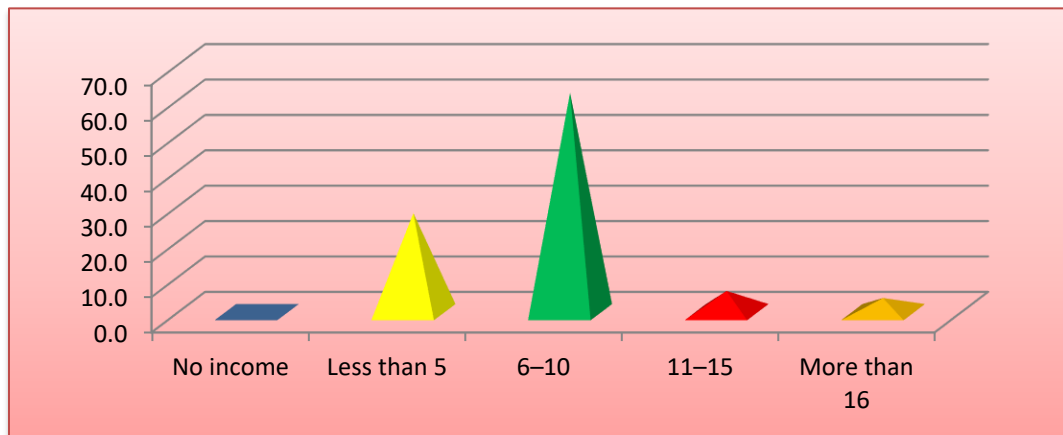
This difference in wages is explained by the nature of work and the number of hours on the one hand, and the level of education and skills of the elderly on the other, according to which the type of work a person can perform is determined.

**Table (11):** Distribution of the sample in terms of the economic effects of the elderly labor in numbers and percentages.

Economic Effects (Monthly Income in Thousands)	Number	%
No income	0	0.0
Less than 5	14	28.0
6–10	31	62.0
11–15	3	6.0
More than 16	2	4.0
Total	50	100

**Source:** Field study.

**Figure (10):** Percentage distribution of the sample according to the economic effects of elderly labor.



Source: Table (11)

**Health Effects:**

Aging does have some visible effects on the human body, like wrinkled and dry skin, hearing loss, poorer vision, weaker sense of smell and other senses, slowness, sagging of the muscles, and a change in the color of hair. Also, there are physiological changes that are not visible like the weakening of the bones, low body temperature as a result of the reduced activity and the susceptibility to some diseases like high blood pressure, chronic diabetes and heart disease (Stephen, 1413).

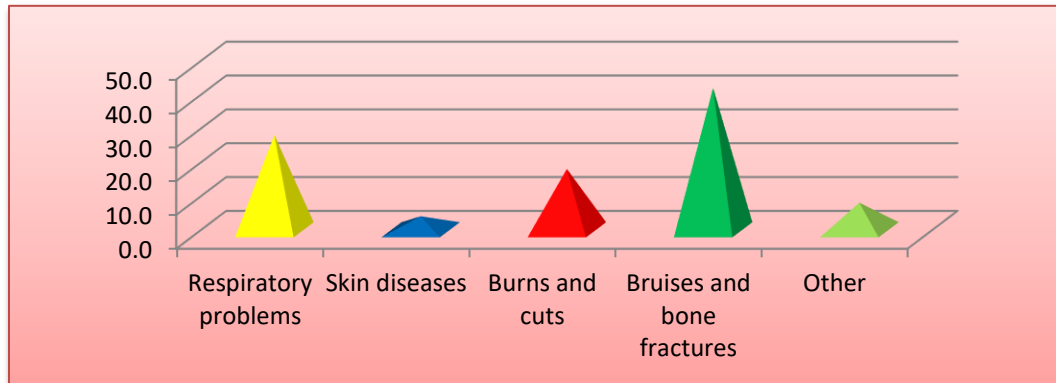
All constitutions assure social protection to people as they are guaranteed of a good life and right to all facilities (Barratt, 1972). But this is not put into actual practice, especially in the study field. Table (12) and Figure (11) reveal the health issues that elderly workers are facing: Bruises and fractures: 21 respondents (42%), which appeared due to activities at car repair workshops, falls at the workplace when performing construction operations, carrying materials, or being involved in road accidents. Respiratory issues: 14 respondents (28%), because of working in a brick factory, wheel painting workshop or street begging in the vehicle exhaust. Burns and cuts: 9 respondents (18%), and other illnesses: 4 respondents (8%), were associated with working in bakeries, gasoline selling in the streets, fights, and animals, respectively. The least reported were skin diseases which were caused by employment in carpentry, blacksmithing and the likes with 2 respondents (4%).

**Table (12):** Distribution of sample in terms of health problems at work in terms of numerical and percentage.

Health Effects	Number	%
Respiratory problems	14	28.0
Skin diseases	2	4.0
Burns and cuts	9	18.0
Bruises and bone fractures	21	42.0
Other	4	8.0
Total	50	100

Source: Field study.

**Figure (11):** Percentage distribution of the sample according to health problems at work.



Source: Table (12)

**Conclusions:**

The survey revealed that families of 5-8 members had the highest working percentage of working elderly at 79.1 percent and families with 13 or above recorded the lowest working percent of the elderly at 2.3 percent.

The elderly live with their families (86%), and alone (14%).

As far as the ownership of the house is concerned 68% (34 respondents) of the aged dwelling in the rental or informal house, 32% (16 respondents) own their houses.

The aged began working above 6 years ago and 52 percent worked above one year, with only 4 percent working less than one year.

Elderly respondents had the highest marital status of married 66% (33 respondents) and the lowest being single or widowed 4%.

The 65-69 age group had the highest population of 78 years and the 80 + age group had the lowest population of 2 of the sample on the working age.

The level of education of the elderly was predominantly primary or illiterate (36 respondents 72%), 14 respondents (28%) represented other levels.

Eighty six percent of the elderly are workers and 14 percent are non-workers.

The biggest in the group of employed elderly was 25.6 percent among street vendors and the lowest were in carpentry, blacksmithing, and security work with 4.7 percent.

The research established that 90 percent of the elderly households lack the income to sustain them with 8 percent earning it.

The elderly social behaviors differed based on the social work impact in that frequenting cafes was the most frequent at 34, smoking, fighting, and least frequent was alcohol consumption (6%).

The economic impact displayed that the majority of the aged income was between 5-10 thousand which was 90 percent and 10 percent between 11-16 thousand and above.

The elderly in the workplace were affected by health issues in the form of bruises and fractures (42%), respiratory issues (28%), and the least (4) were skin diseases.

#### **Recommendations:**

The social protection network of elderly households in need should be reinforced by implementing social care laws, to raise their standard of living and ensure that they do not have to work.

Create awareness among the younger generation on the elderly through strengthening family and social cohesion.

Minimize the participation of the elderly effectively by creating programs that will emphasize the dangers of employment by the family and the society.

Improve the position of civil society organizations by enabling them to police incidences and offer assistance to address the associated problems financially and technically.

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#### **Declaration of Competing Interest:**

The researcher declares that he has no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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### Appendix (1) - Questionnaire

#### University of Misan / College of Basic Education/ Department of Kindergarten.

Greetings,

The proposed study of the researcher is the following: "The Impact of Social, Economic, and Health Relationships on Older Labor in the Center of Amara District." Your information will be utilized in conducting scientific research and it will be value-added to the outcome of this research. Please respond to the following questions. Thank you very much.

Mark: Mark next to the appropriate option.

Gender: Male ..... Female.....

Age..... :

Occupation: Retired ..... Employee ..... Self-employed ..... Unemployed.....

Family size: (1-4) (5-8) (9-12) (13 or more)

Residing with family ..... Alone.....

Housing ownership: Owned ..... Rented ..... Informal/Unauthorized.....

Marital status: Single ..... Married ..... Divorced ..... Widowed.....

Education level: Illiterate ..... Primary ..... Intermediate ..... Preparatory ..... University.....

Work experience: less than 1 year ... 1-3 years ... 3-6 years ... More than 6 years

Age group: 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80+

Activity type: Not working ..... Working.....

Occupation: carpentry and blacksmith shop - sewing workshop - electrical repair shop - automobile repair shop - street vendor - food and vegetable peddler - taxi driver - sentinel - beggar.

Monthly income: Meets needs - Exceeds needs - Does not meet needs

Social effects: Smoking ..... Alcohol consumption ..... Visiting cafes ..... Fighting ..... Other.....

Economic effects: No wage ..... Less than 5,000 ..... 6-10,000 ..... 11-15,000 ..... 16,000..... +

Health effects: Respiratory problems ..... Skin diseases ..... Burns & cuts ..... Bruises & bone fractures ..... Other.....