

Husein Al-Othman, (2005) Jordanian Beliefs in Al-Karak Governorate about the Causes and Determinants of Poverty: Field Study. (In Arabic. With English summary.), Journal of Development and Economic Policies, 7(2): B7-36

**Abstract:**

The goals of this study are to identify respondents beliefs about the causes of poverty in Karak Governorate, determine the impact of socio-demographic and economic variables on those beliefs, and to apply the exploratory factor analysis on the causes of poverty. To achieve these goals, face-to-face structured interviews are used to collect the data (562 respondents), descriptive statistics (percentages), and analytical statistics (exploratory factor analysis, Pearson correlation, and forward stepwise regression) are used to analyze the data set. The results of the exploratory factor analyses reveal that there are three factors of poverty causes: structural factors, individualistic factors, and fatalistic factors. In general, the descriptive analyses indicated that respondents believe that structural factors are the most important in explaining poverty. Then, fatalistic explanation is second, and individualistic explanation is the third. On the other hand, forward stepwise regression analyses reveal that there is a statistically significant relationship between household poverty status and respondents beliefs about the structural causes of poverty. Also, the statistical analyses show that there are statistically significant relationship between level of education, subjective social class, household poverty status, place of residence, and respondents beliefs about individualistic causes of poverty. Finally, the reveal that there are statistically significant relationship between level of education, household poverty status, place of residence, and respondents beliefs about fatalistic causes of poverty.