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Towards a Resilient Organization: Lessons Learned from the Oil and Gas Sector in Qatar

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Abstract: Organizational resilience indicates the capacity of an organization or a system to return to its steady condition, or exceed it, after going through a disruptive event that disrupts its steady condition. Qatar's oil and gas sector has shown remarkable resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic due to its preparedness and readiness to deal with such a disruption. As a lesson learned from the recent COVID-19 pandemic, local governmental institutions need to support national preparedness and resilience to handle emergencies and unpredictable crises by learning from the successful model of Qatar's oil and gas sector. This study presents the key Resilience Engineering Indicators (REIs) that make this sector resilient and validates the six Resilience Engineering indexes or dimensions adopted, which include top management commitment, speaking up culture, learning, awareness, being prepared, and flexibility. The study evaluated the performance of these REIs using a 5-point Likert Scale survey questionnaire based on the relevance to resilience dimensions. The results show ten REIs contributing to the organization's resilience and the top four most important Resilience Dimensions (RDs). Moreover, this is the first study to evaluate and assess the organizational resilience level in Qatar's oil and gas sector. This study's results can be integrated into different organizations' strategies to improve the efforts to enhance the national response to disturbances in governance.

Keywords: resilience; resilience engineering; resilience engineering indicators; resilient dimensions; organizational resilience



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1. Introduction

The state of Qatar is ranked as having the world's 5th (nominal, 2022) Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita with \$118,771 and with a GDP of PPP at \$319 billion (nominal, 2022), which ranks it as 56th in the world (nominal, 2022) GDP [1]. The backbone of Qatar's economy comprises oil and natural gas, contributing to over 70% of the government's total revenue, representing over 60% of the GDP, and making up approximately 85% of export earnings. The State of Qatar is one of the major LNG producers in the world, with a total production capacity of more than 75 million tons/per annum, and is expected to increase to 43%, reaching 110 million tons/annum by 2025 [2,3]. As the oil and gas sector is the most important sector, it is vital to ensure its reliability and protect it from future crises by developing its resilience capacity. Qatar has gone through major challenges in recent years, such as the June 2017 blockade by some of its neighboring countries, mainly Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and Egypt, as well as the global pandemic of COVID-19. The blockade and global pandemic had significant economic consequences on the country. However, the country quickly implemented strategic measures to mitigate the blockade's impact. The oil and gas sector has shown a remarkable resilience during these crises due to its preparedness and readiness to deal with such a disruptive event.

The term resilience has recently gained much attention globally, especially after the recent COVID-19 pandemic and other natural disasters. People have realized the impor-

tance of developing resilient systems and organizations capable of absorbing disruption and returning to a stable state [4]. So, what does resilience mean? Resilience originates from a Latin word that means “bouncing back” and has been used in modern business terms as organizational resilience, which means the ability of an organization or a system to rebound to its steady state conditions after going through a disruptive event that disrupts its normal conditions [5]. The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (2009) defines resilience as “the ability of a system to control internal and external disruptions to continue its operation” [6].

Similarly, the definition used by Wreathall [7], defined organizational resilience as “the ability of an organization (system) to keep or recover quickly to a stable state, allowing it to continue operations during and after a major mishap or in the presence of continuous significant stresses”. Resilience Engineering (RE) concentrates on assessing an organization’s capacity to cope with disruptive occurrences. It is related to the safe approach for systems and organizations to adopt to allow them to deal with complicated and unpredictable working conditions [8]. “RE acknowledges the inability to specify all possible threats and responses; instead, it provides methods and tools to manage safety and productivity” [9]. Wreathall [7] stated that “If resilience is to ensure that the organization keeps (or recovers to) a safe, stable state, there are several processes that must go on to accomplish this goal”. The concept of RE has been rapidly increasing during the last decade analyzing organizations from different perspectives ranging from risks and safety, human, ecology, and others [5,10,11].

Several approaches for assessing organizational resilience have been published which can be categorized into qualitative and quantitative [5], including different methods such as probabilistic, graph theory, fuzzy logic and analytical [12,13]. Others used mathematical approaches as suggested by Vugrin et al. [14], to assess organizational resilience using the concept of system impact and recovery costs. As resilience cannot be implemented through simple policies and procedures “resilience cannot be engineered simply by introducing more procedures, safeguards, and barriers. Resilience engineering instead requires a continuous monitoring of system performance, of how things are done” [15]. The assessment of organizational resilience remains challenging as it attempts to assess a dynamic process of a nonphysical system impacted by how it interacts with disruptions over time given the nature of system performance fluctuations [10,13].

In this study, an attempt is made to use the expertise of oil and gas professionals to assess and develop a set of 24 Resilience Engineering Indicators (REIs) and rank them in importance, which can then be applied to develop organizational resilience. In other words, the study will provide the most important resilient indicators that made Qatar’s oil and gas sector resilient. Furthermore, it will answer the main question of how we can improve organizational resilience by applying the learnings from Qatar’s oil and gas sector. Wreathall [7] defined six themes or resilience dimensions (RDs) which make organizations resilient. These RDs are Management Commitment, Learning Culture, Reporting Culture, Awareness, Preparedness, and Flexibility. This study uses 24 developed REIs derived from published literature [7,14,16] and experts’ opinions from the oil and gas industry to validate these indicators under the umbrella of the six RDs by Wreathall for resilient systems [7].

2. Research Significance and Contribution

The research question focuses on understanding what enabled Qatar’s oil and gas sector to absorb and recover from these events and how other sectors can increase their resilience by learning from the oil and gas experience. Because there is no scientifically accepted method for measuring organizational resilience, it is interesting for this paper to focus on the main factors that describe organizational resilience characteristics, such as resources, strategy [4], human capacity, organizational governance and culture, and processes and systems. Using the judgment of the oil and gas industry professionals, the study provides a ranking of the ten most important REIs and their associated RDs developed by Wreathall [7].

3. Research Methodology

This section presents the methodology used in this study. Figure 1 below depicts and explains the steps involved in the methodology applied in this study. This study has employed a qualitative research approach by first developing a draft list of REIs gathered from literature relevant to resilience and complying with the RDs developed by Wreathall [7]. Then, a survey questionnaire assesses these indicators' importance and relevance in building organizational resilience capacity.

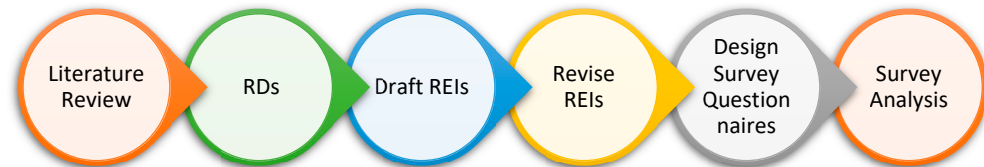


Figure 1. Methodology of the research.

To validate these REIs and their relevance to the RDs along with the rating questions, a smaller focus group of industry experts from the oil and gas sector in Qatar was selected for this validation process. The survey questionnaire was first sent in May 2022 to this focus group of 13 experts, mostly from the oil and gas and academic sectors. This validation process aimed to ensure that these questions are clearly understood, and it assesses the REIs and their impact on organizational resilience. The proposed 24 REIs were accepted by the experts, however, the relation of these REIs to the RDs were modified based on their feedback, and the survey questionnaire was finally modified and updated. As a result, a recommendation of 24 REIs was considered for this study.

The final survey questionnaire was designed with 34 questions, with six general questions about participants and their organization's demographic information. It was followed by 24 ranking-based questions for the REIs, including general questions related to resilience management. Developing the questionnaire was through an online website tool called the Survey Monkey website (2023). The survey questionnaire was distributed to participants via the Survey Monkey website link. The survey questionnaire was sent in January 2023 to a larger sample, and 113 responses were collected. The survey result was then analyzed using statistical methods, which will be discussed in the subsequent sections.

4. Case Study: Organizational Resilience: Lessons Learned from the Oil and Gas Sector in Qatar

4.1. Survey Structure

This study uses 24 developed REIs derived from the six RDs to assess the main drivers for organizational resilience in Qatar's oil and gas sector, as listed in Table 1. The six RDs and some indicators are referred to in research performed by [7,8,16,17] and as listed below:

1. **Top Management Commitment:** This dimension covers top management commitment-related indicators, as shown in Table 1. Providing continuous monitoring for all human performance-related issues demonstrates the importance of human performance to the organization [7,8,16,17].
2. **Speaking-Up culture:** It covers speaking-up culture-related indicators, as shown in Table 1, for creating a culture that allows reporting issues and concerns throughout the organization without fearing punishment. Such a culture allows the organization to recognize and learn from its weaknesses [7,8,16,17].
3. **Learning:** It covers learning-related indicators as shown in Table 1 and indicates how much the organization learns from disruptive accidents and its own mistakes [7,8,16,17].
4. **Awareness:** This part covers awareness-related indicators, as shown in Table 1. Collecting data that provides the management with insights into what is going on with a plan by analyzing the quality of human performance, the extent to which it is a problem, and the actions taken to defeat the problems [7,8,16,17].

5. Being Prepared: It covers “Being prepared” related indicators as shown in Table 1. Being on top of issues concerning human performance and making sure that the organization is alerted and actively engaged in resolving these issues [7,8,16,17].
6. Flexibility: This dimension covers flexibility-related indicators, as shown in Table 1. This deals with the capability of an organization to cope with disruptive problems and to be able to resolve problems without impacting its functionality. Front-line supervisors must be given the authority to make necessary decisions to deal with situations during disruptive events without having to wait for approval from top management [7,8,16,17].

Table 1. The list of questions, REIs, and their relevant RDs.

Description	No	REIs	RDs
Your organization has a strong training program for professional development.	I01	Strong Training Program	D06-Learning
Your organization has a healthy working culture and good teamwork spirit	I02	Healthy Working Culture	D02-Speaking-up Culture
Speed of decisions and transparency is part of your company’s culture	I03	Speed and Transparency of Decisions	D02-Speaking-up Culture
You are empowered to make decisions during emergencies without waiting for permission.	I04	Making During Emergency	D01-Top Management Commitment
Your organization has a very well-developed organizational governance	I05	Organizational Governance	D05-Being Prepared
Your organization has a very well-developed risk management system.	I06	Risk Management System	D05-Being Prepared
COVID-19 was part of your organization’s pre-identified risks and was dealt with efficiently.	I07	Risk Identification	D05-Being Prepared
Does your organization have a designated core crisis response team?	I08	Crisis Response Team	D04-Awareness
Did you have a clear role and responsibility during the COVID-19 crisis?	I09	Role and Responsibility During Crisis	D04-Awareness
Pre-COVID-19, Your organization has a very well-developed Information Technology system, i.e., ERP, email system, Work Remote Access Systems, etc.	I10	Information Technology System	D03-Learning
Your company has in-house expertise to fix and maintain all your critical equipment.	I11	Inhouse Maintenance Team	D03-Flexibility
Your organization relies heavily on external (outside Qatar) vendors and the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) to maintain its critical equipment.	I12	Outsourced Maintenance Team	D03-Flexibility
Your organization relies heavily on local vendors (within Qatar) to maintain its critical equipment.	I13	Local Maintenance Team	D03-Flexibility
All licensed technologies in your company are maintained only by the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM)	I14	Services of Original Equipment Manufacturer	D03-Flexibility
Your organization has an effective equipment and materials-sparing philosophy tested during COVID-19.	I15	Effective Sparing Philosophy During Crisis	D05-Being Prepared
Most of the critical equipment for your company’s operations was readily available as spares in the warehouse.	I16	Warehouse Spare Capacity	D05-Being Prepared
Most of your company’s suppliers and vendors are available in Qatar	I17	Availability of Suppliers and Vendors	D03-Flexibility

Table 1. Cont.

Description	No	REIs	RDs
Developing local expertise and R&D capabilities in your organization is important to sustain business continuity during a crisis.	I18	Availability of Local Expertise and R&D Capabilities	D01-Top Management Commitment
COVID-19 had an impact on the productivity of your organization	I19	Productivity Level During Crisis	D04-Awareness
COVID-19 had a financial impact on your organization	I20	Financial Arrangement During Crisis	Awareness
COVID-19 had an impact on the supply chain of your company	I21	Supply Chain Continuity During Crisis	Awareness
Your company has adopted new practices from learnings from COVID-19	I22	Lessons Learnt-Based Practices	Learning
As a result of the recent crisis, your company has redesigned its operations and supply chain philosophies.	I23	Change Strategies Upon Crisis	Top Management Commitment
In the aftermath of the recent crisis of COVID-19, your organization has become more innovative with solutions addressing the business challenges.	F24	Innovative Solutions for Business Challenges	Learning

The survey participants were asked to assess the importance of the 24 REIs affecting organizational resilience within the oil and gas sector as identified from the literature review. The 24 quantitative questions and their related RDs are listed in Table 1, namely (D01-Top Management Commitment, D02-Speaking-up Culture, D06-Learning, D04-Awareness, D05-Being Prepared, and D03-Flexibility). For the 24 REIs, the participants were requested to evaluate the attributes based on a 5-point Likert Scale (1 = Strongly agree, 2 = Agree, 3 = Neither agree nor disagree, 4 = Disagree, 5 = Strongly disagree). For example, Q08. Does your organization have a strong training program for professional development? The participant was asked to use the 5-point Likert Scale to answer this question.

4.2. Target Sample and Sample Size

The research questionnaire targets professionals and leaders of the oil and gas sector in the State of Qatar and other organizations (i.e., government employees of the Qatar Ministry of Energy and Qatar Energy, private sector, and academic institutions). The survey was circulated to around 200 practitioners and experts in the oil and gas industry. A total of 113 responses were received, which is an acceptable sample size, according to Azadeh et al. [8], wherein the sample size was 99 participants.

4.3. Data Analysis

Data cleaning and preparation is a very important step to ensure that the results are not biased, and the data quality is not compromised. Before the analysis, the data was reviewed for unengaged responses, outliers, and data normality. The design of the questionnaire, nonetheless, permits certain values to be missing.

4.3.1. Data Screening for Careless Responses and Outliers

All the inputs by respondents were checked against outliers and careless responses. We examined participants' responses to assess their level of attentiveness. The participants' response patterns were analyzed to identify careless responses, where a respondent might repeatedly select the same response option for consecutive items, and outliers, which may indicate observations that significantly differ from the normal [18]. Within the scope of this study, we measured careless responses by considering both the standard deviation and dimension ratings compared to the average factor ratings. Specifically, we found that

two participants consistently provided identical answers, resulting in a standard deviation of zero.

Additionally, the two participants' group ratings deviated significantly from the average factor ratings within their respective factors. We employed the Mahalanobis distance metric to identify potential multivariate outliers using multiple regression analysis within the SPSS Version 29 software. In standard units, the Mahalanobis distance measures the squared distance between an observation's vector and the vector of sample means for all variables [18]. Notably, the probability associated with the Mahalanobis distance fell below 0.001 for four responses. Consequently, these four responses were removed from the dataset [19], leaving us 109 out of the original 113 responses for further analysis.

4.3.2. Normality Test

The normality of the data can be assessed through two main approaches: visual methods (utilizing data histograms, box plots, and Q-Q plots) or numerical techniques (employing measures such as skewness, kurtosis, the Kolmogorov–Smirnov test, or the Shapiro–Wilk normality test). Therefore, the data collected underwent scrutiny for normality distribution using SPSS V29 software. We specifically examined skewness and kurtosis to evaluate the univariate normality of the data for each indicator. As per Pallant [20], skewness reflects the symmetry of the distribution, while kurtosis describes the distribution's peaks (distribution picks). A skewness and kurtosis value of zero signifies that the data is perfectly normal. However, it is worth noting that different authors have differing criteria for acceptable skewness and kurtosis values to ensure adherence to normality assumptions, as observed by Byrne [21]. As Kline [22] suggests, absolute values exceeding 3 for skewness and 8 for kurtosis indices indicate severe deviations from normality. Additionally, as per the findings of Xiong et al. [23], skewness and kurtosis values exceeding extreme thresholds serve as clear indications of non-normality. The normality tests for this study show that the absolute skewness values ranged from 0.009 to 2.468 for indicators Q24 and Q18, respectively. The absolute kurtosis values ranged from 0.057 to 8.915 for factors Q36 to Q18. Both results are not within [23] criteria. Moderate to severe skewness were observed for six indicators (i.e., Q8, Q15, Q17, Q18, Q19 and Q21). Moderate to severe kurtosis were observed for ten indicators (i.e., Q8, Q9, Q14, Q15, Q17, Q18, Q19, Q21, Q27 and Q34).

In a Likert-scaled questionnaire, it is common that most respondents select the same scale point, leading to an extremely peaked distribution, resulting in a multivariate positive kurtotic distribution [21]. We employed Maria's coefficient along with its critical ratio to assess the multivariate kurtosis of the dataset. The dataset is considered to meet the assumption of multivariate normality when the critical ratio (c.r.) falls below 1.96 at a significance level of 0.05. Consequently, the coefficient of multivariate kurtosis approaches nearly zero. A high-value in Maria's coefficient suggests significant positive kurtosis [21]. However, in the present dataset, the z-statistic (c.r.) of 9.85, as depicted in Table 2, strongly suggests non-normality within the dataset.

Table 2. Examination of the normality of indicators by the skewness, Kurtosis values, and Shapiro–Wilk test.

Code	Skew and Kurtosis				Shapiro–Wilk	
	Skew	c.r.	Kurtosis	c.r.	Statistic	p-Value
I01	−0.808	−3.444	0.131	0.279	0.857	0.000
I02	−0.963	−4.106	1.041	2.218	0.814	0.000
I03	−0.776	−3.308	0.107	0.227	0.836	0.000
I04	−0.471	−2.007	−0.357	−0.761	0.885	0.000
I05	−0.984	−4.196	1.05	2.238	0.771	0.000
I06	−1.234	−5.261	2.252	4.799	0.771	0.000

Table 2. Cont.

Code	Skew and Kurtosis				Shapiro–Wilk	
	Skew	c.r.	Kurtosis	c.r.	Statistic	<i>p</i> -Value
I07	−1.392	−5.933	2.052	4.372	0.760	0.000
I08	−2.434	−10.375	8.457	18.023	0.609	0.000
I09	−1.144	−4.875	1.185	2.525	0.733	0.000
I10	−1.16	−4.942	1.128	2.404	0.744	0.000
I11	−0.542	−2.31	−0.461	−0.981	0.868	0.000
I12	−0.192	−0.817	−0.443	−0.944	0.855	0.000
I13	−0.009	−0.04	−0.459	−0.979	0.863	0.000
I14	−0.396	−1.689	−0.346	−0.737	0.856	0.000
I15	−0.97	−4.132	1.159	2.47	0.807	0.000
I16	−0.504	−2.15	−0.275	−0.586	0.848	0.000
I17	−0.021	−0.091	−0.382	−0.815	0.879	0.000
I18	−0.624	−2.66	−0.477	−1.017	0.792	0.000
I19	−0.186	−0.795	−1.045	−2.227	0.890	0.000
I20	−0.544	−2.318	−0.255	−0.544	0.877	0.000
I21	−0.471	−2.007	−0.109	−0.232	0.868	0.000
I22	−0.81	−3.453	0.383	0.816	0.794	0.000
I23	−0.261	−1.113	−0.202	−0.431	0.880	0.000
I24	−0.651	−2.776	0.353	0.752	0.853	0.000

Considering the uncertainty arising from the skewness and kurtosis tests, we further investigated the univariate normality of the data using the Shapiro–Wilk normality test (Ws) within SPSS. As recommended by [24], nonparametric statistical methods are advisable when dealing with fewer than 30 experts or when responses exhibit non-normal distribution, as indicated by skewness. The Shapiro–Wilk Test is particularly well-suited for assessing normality in small sample sizes. A data distribution significantly deviates from normality if the *p*-value is less than 0.05 [25,26]. The Shapiro–Wilk test (Ws) evaluates the correlation between the provided data and the ideal normal scores. A test value closer to one signifies that the data approximates a normal distribution and supports accepting the null hypothesis, indicating that the data is normally distributed. The formula for the *W* value is:

$$W = \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_{(i)})^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \quad (1)$$

where:

a_i —constants generated from the covariances, variances, and means of the sample from a normally distributed sample

$x_{(i)}$ —order statistic of a statistical sample

x_i —sample values

n —sample size

\bar{x} —sample mean

As shown in Table 3, The outcome of the Ws test showed that for all indicators, i.e., 24 out of 24 indicators, *p*-values were consistently below 0.05 and thus is evidence of data non-normality [26,27]. Based on the preceding information, nonparametric estimates are employed in the subsequent sections.

Table 3. Cronbach’s Alpha Values for Indicators.

Indicator	Cronbach’s Alpha Values (If the Item Is Deleted)
I01	0.862
I02	0.858
I03	0.858
I04	0.863
I05	0.860
I06	0.860
I07	0.867
I08	0.860
I09	0.860
I10	0.860
I11	0.860
I12	0.869
I13	0.868
I14	0.869
I15	0.856
I16	0.861
I17	0.867
I18	0.869
I19	0.881
I20	0.877
I21	0.875
I22	0.862
I23	0.859
I24	0.857
Overall	0.869

4.3.3. Cronbach Alpha

When developing research using Likert Scale data, an important consideration is the questionnaire’s internal consistency. To assess this internal consistency, researchers commonly rely on a widely recommended method, the application of Cronbach’s Alpha coefficient of reliability [20]. In this research, we employ Cronbach’s Alpha coefficient to validate that the Likert Scale measures align with the hypothesis, in line with the REIs within the oil and gas sector we intend to assess. Cronbach’s Alpha values range from 0 to 1, “A value of 0.7 is considered acceptable, and 0.8 or higher indicates good internal consistency” [20]. The Cronbach’s Alpha coefficient formula is:

$$\alpha = \frac{k.r}{1 + (k - 1).r} \quad (2)$$

where:

k = the number of items (factors)

r = correlation between the items

The alpha value (α) increases as the value of k rises. Additionally, a higher alpha is observed when the items have substantial inter-correlation. The general guideline for alpha values that typically applies in most situations is as follows:

- The reliability can be considered as excellent when, $0.9 \leq \alpha \leq 1.0$
- The reliability can be considered as good when, $0.8 \leq \alpha < 0.9$
- The reliability can be considered as acceptable when, $0.7 \leq \alpha < 0.8$
- The reliability can be considered as questionable when, $0.6 \leq \alpha < 0.7$
- The reliability can be considered as poor when, $0.5 \leq \alpha < 0.6$
- The reliability can be considered as unacceptable when, $0.0 \leq \alpha < 0.5$

We calculated the Cronbach Alpha value for the survey data using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS v.29). The obtained coefficient value, which is 0.869, demonstrates a high level of consistency, as indicated in Table 3.

We employed the reliability coefficient, Cronbach's alpha (α), from the SPSS package to evaluate the overall scale's consistency, with a predefined threshold of 0.7 [18]. The reliability analysis results for all variables in this study are presented in Table 3, where all values exceed 0.857. Therefore, the data provided by the respondents exhibit both consistency and reliability, making them suitable for further analysis [26]. Additionally, the alpha value for the entire dataset, measuring 0.869, indicates that the questionnaire scale has achieved acceptable internal consistency and reliability.

5. Results and Discussion

The data was collected from the Survey Monkey website, which was reviewed and analyzed. Incomplete responses were discarded, and only the complete responses were selected for the analysis, leading to 113 completed questionnaires. IBM SPSS software version 29 was used for statistical and data analysis.

5.1. Respondents Profile

Respondents' profiles are provided based on numerous classification factors such as sector, job family, experience, and level of resilience. A breakdown of the respondents' profiles is presented in Table 4, and their details are covered in the following sections.

Table 4. Summary of respondents' profile.

Profile	Freq.	%	Profile	Freq.	%
Sector			Level of Resilience		
Oil and Gas	88	78.6%	High level of Resilience	69	70.4%
Government/Public Sector	4	3.6%	Moderate level of Resilience	24	24.5%
Semi-Government	5	4.5%	Low level of Resilience	2	2.0%
Private Sector	7	6.3%	No Resilience	3	3.1%
Academic	14	12.5%			
Other	3	2.7%			
Job Family			Experience		
Management/Leadership	62	55.4%	Less than five years	2	1.8%
Operation	22	19.6%	5–10 years	7	6.3%
Technical Supervisory Support	12	10.7%	10–15 years	16	14.3%
Administration Support	8	7.1%	15–20 years	19	17.0%
Other	8	7.1%	More than 20 years	68	60.7%

5.2. Ranking Approach

5.2.1. Relative Importance Index (RII)

One of the aims of this study is to gather insights from professionals in the oil and gas industry regarding the most notable REIs. Participants in the survey assessed each REI using a 5-point Likert Scale. The collected data was then analyzed to compute the RII values for each factor. These REIs were subsequently organized in ascending order based on their RII values. To illustrate, an REI with a ranking of 1 signifies the highest level of agreement regarding its impact on organizational resilience. At the same time, the REI ranked 24th is perceived as the least significant by the participants.

The Relative Importance Index (RII) is employed to establish rankings based on the degree of agreement for each REI. To assess the importance of these resilient indicators and dimensions, a 5-point Likert Scale was utilized. The RII value falls from 0 to 1, with a higher value signifying greater agreement. The RII has been widely adopted in various studies to rank dimensions, including several studies in Engineering Management. This method is commonly used to investigate and establish rankings for indicators based on their relative significance [27]. The authors employed the RII to assess and arrange the data

gathered from the questionnaires. Thus, the calculation of RII can be performed according to the formula presented in Equation (3) below:

$$RII = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n W}{A.N} \quad (3)$$

where:

W = The weight given to each factor by the respondents (1 to 5)

A = The highest weight (in this case, the highest weight is 5)

N = The total number of responses

RII value ranges from 0 to 1, with a value approaching 1 given more importance than the others lesser than that. According to [28], the RII ranking is as follows:

- The RII can be considered as high when, $0.8 \leq RII \leq 1.0$
- The RII can be considered as High-Medium when, $0.6 \leq RII < 0.8$
- The RII can be considered as Medium when, $0.4 \leq RII < 0.6$
- The RII can be considered as Medium-Low when, $0.2 \leq RII < 0.4$
- The RII can be considered as Low when, $0.0 \leq RII < 0.2$

The results indicate that the REIs affecting organizational resilience have different significance levels, as listed in Table 5. The list of REIs is associated with building organizational capacity (human and systems) and developing the right culture to deal with crises. It is important to note that organizational resilience can be built by effectively implementing these REIs through a competent team working towards achieving the organization's objectives. Table 5 below displays the RII values and the rankings of the proposed REIs, determined through the agreement scale values provided by all the survey respondents.

Table 5. Relative effects and ranking of REIs.

Indicators	Dimensions	Description	RII	Overall Rank
I08	D04	Crisis Response Team	0.910	1
I09	D04	Role and Responsibility During Crisis	0.886	2
I10	D06	Information Technology System	0.877	3
I18	D01	Availability of Local Expertise and R&D Capabilities	0.855	4
I07	D05	Crisis Risk Identification	0.853	5
I05	D05	Organizational Governance	0.851	6
I06	D05	Risk Management System	0.848	7
I22	D06	Lessons Learned Best Practices	0.848	8
I02	D02	Healthy Working Culture	0.824	9
I15	D05	Effective Sparing Philosophy During Crisis	0.794	10
I16	D05	Warehouse Spare Capacity	0.785	11
I24	D06	Innovative Solutions for Business Challenges	0.778	12
I03	D02	Speed and Transparency of Decisions	0.771	13
I21	D04	Supply Chain Continuity During Crisis	0.769	14
I14	D03	Services of Original Equipment Manufacturer	0.763	15
I12	D03	Outsourced Maintenance Team	0.760	16
I11	D03	Inhouse Maintenance Team	0.758	17
I01	D06	Strong Training Program	0.758	18
I20	D04	Financial Arrangement During Crisis	0.754	19
I04	D01	Making Decisions During Emergency	0.738	20
I23	D01	Change Strategies Upon Crisis	0.730	21
I13	D03	Local Maintenance Team	0.697	22
I19	D04	Productivity Level During Crisis	0.670	23
I17	D03	Availability of Suppliers and Vendors	0.650	24

The result of the RII revealed the relative impact of 24 REIs as distributed in six dimensions (i.e., D01-Top Management Commitment, D02-Speaking-up Culture, D03-Flexibility, D04-Awareness, D05-Being Prepared, and D06-Learning) as shown below in Figure 2. It also highlights the top 10 REIs based on their RII values along with their ranks.

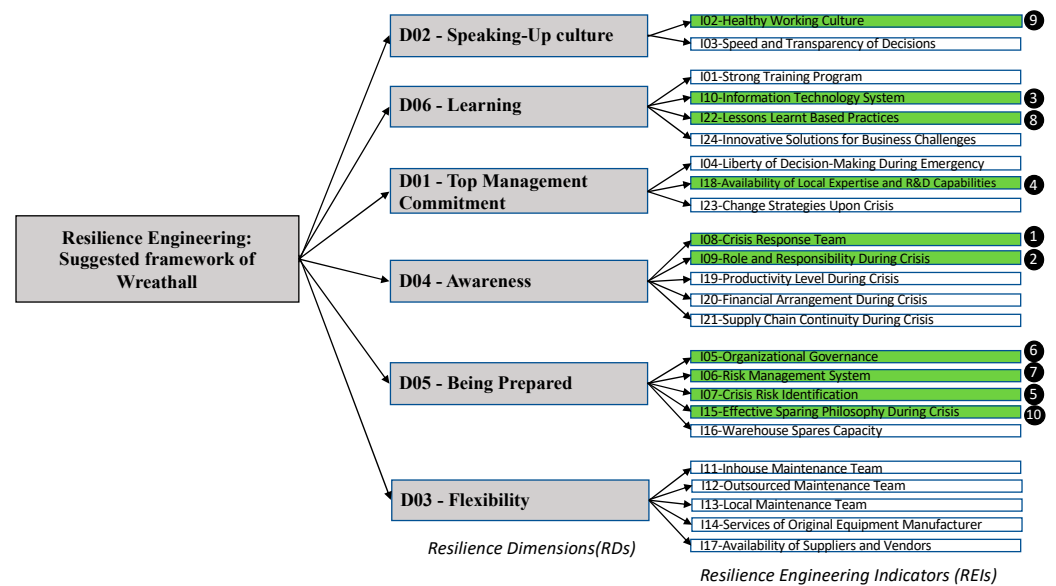


Figure 2. REIs and RDs.

It is worth noting that the resilience dimension (D03-Flexibility) did not include any REIs. This might indicate that this dimension is not an important one for the oil and gas sector which is known for its structured approach.

5.2.2. Resilience Performance Index (RPI)

The main finding of this study was that the REIs could be represented by a single figure, the Resilience Performance Index (RPI). RPI was calculated using the weighted average of RII of the 24 REIs. It is important to note that the weight of each resilience factor shall play a role in the overall performance. Therefore, the RPI represented the average percentage of the relative importance of the 24 REIs.

The formula expressed for RPI calculation is shown in Equation (4).

$$RPI = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n RII_i}{n} \quad (4)$$

where:

RII = Relative importance index of indicator

n = Number of indicators under consideration

The weight of these 24 Indicators and the RPI are shown below in Figure 3, which shows an almost balanced disruption of these indicators on the radar chart. This depicts the importance of these REIs collectively on organizational resilience.

The relative contribution of each indicator to the RPI was calculated according to the formula presented above, and the RPI for the resilience level of the oil and gas sector in Qatar is 78.9% or almost 80% as indicated in Figure 4. which according to Rooshdi et al. [28] can be considered as high level. In other words, Qatar's oil and gas sector showed a high resilience level based on the level of calculated RPI, almost 80%.

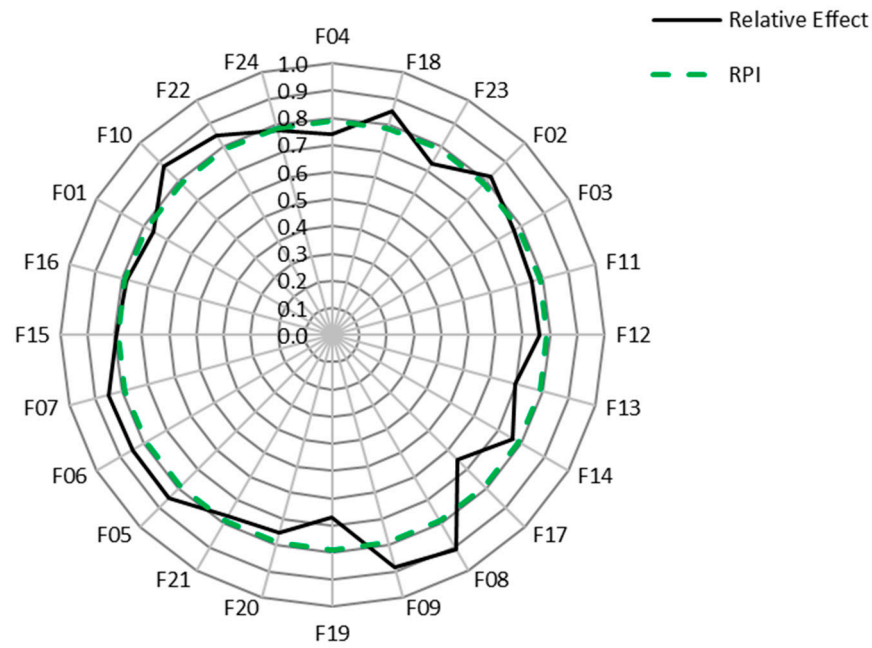


Figure 3. Resilience performance index radar chart.

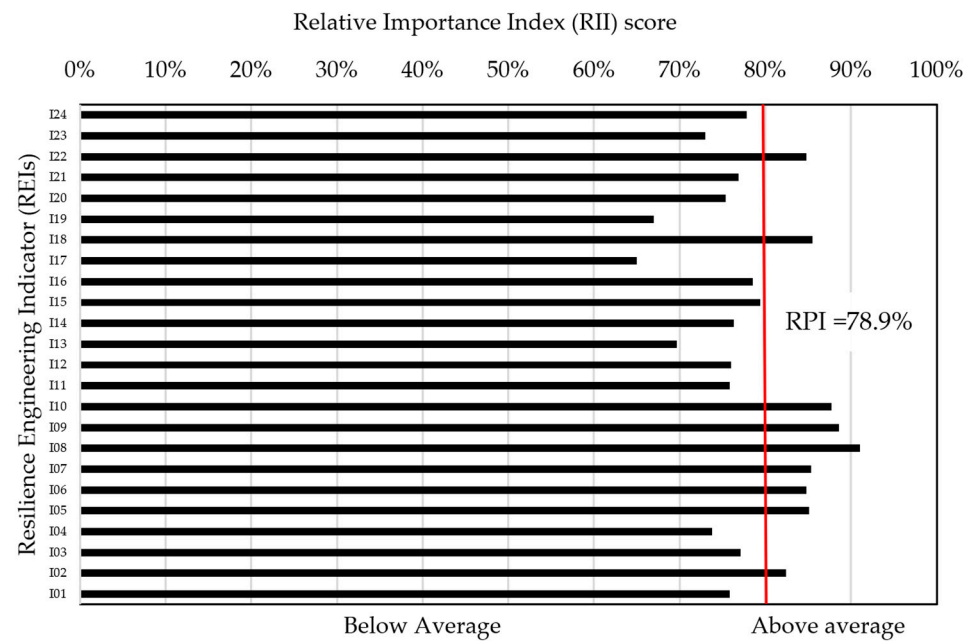


Figure 4. REIs RII score and RPI.

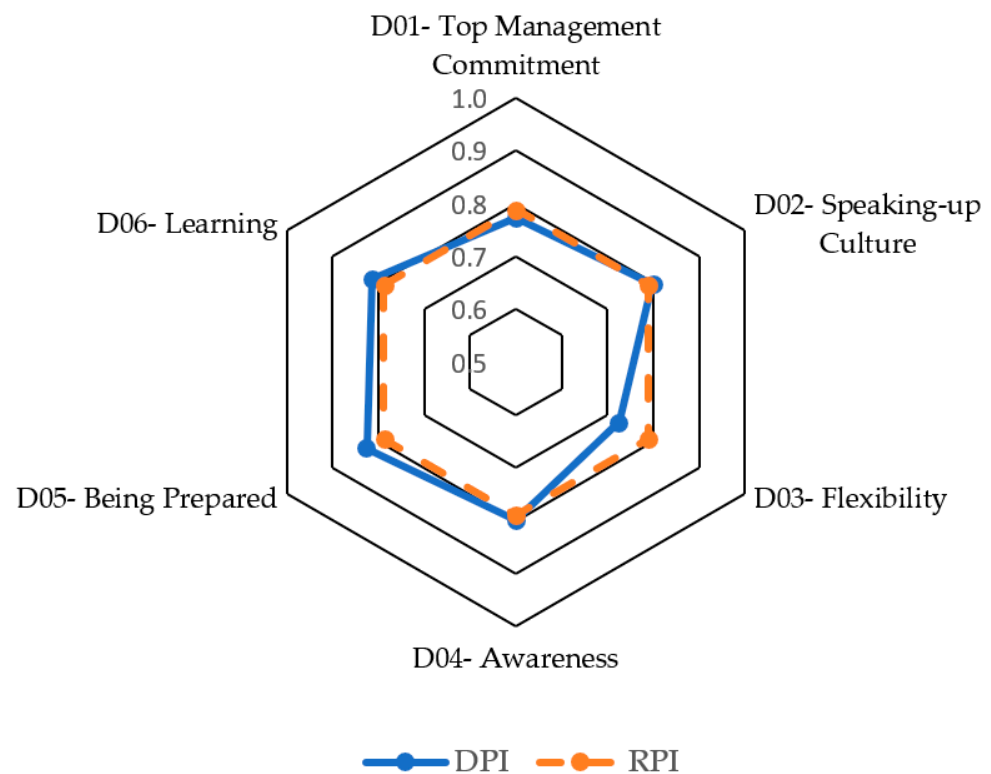
5.2.3. Dimensions Performance Index (DPI)

Following the same concept of RPI as presented in Equation (4) above, the resilience dimensions performance can be presented by a single number, the Dimensions Performance Index (DPI). The DPI was calculated using the weighted average of the six resilience dimensions, namely (D01-Top Management Commitment, D02-Speaking-up Culture, D03-Flexibility, D04-Awareness, D05-Being Prepared, and D06-Learning) which has 1, 1, 0, 2, 4, 2 REIs, respectively, as depicted in Figure 2 above.

The results of the DPI scores are listed in Table 6, and Figure 5 shows the DPI scores and RDs' distribution on the radar chart.

Table 6. Dimension Performance Index Calculation.

Factor	DPI	Rank
D05—Being Prepared	0.826	1
D06—Learning	0.815	2
D04—Awareness	0.798	3
D02—Speaking-up Culture	0.798	4
D01—Top Management Commitment	0.774	5
D03—Flexibility	0.726	6

**Figure 5.** Dimensions Performance Index (DPI) radar chart.

5.3. Discussion of Resilience Indicators and Dimensions

Table 7 provides a detailed listing of the resilience dimensions and their relevant REIs with their ranks. It is worth noting that the top-rated ten REIs are only part of five out of the six RDs: D05-Being Prepared, D06-Learning, D04-Awareness, D02-Speaking-Up Culture, and D01-Top Management. D05-Being Prepared was ranked as the 1st dimension with a DPI score of 0.826 and had four indicators of the top ten rated REIs; these REIs as listed in the table, are I07-Crisis Risk Identification, I05-Organizational Governance, I06-Risk Management System, and I15-Effective Sparing Philosophy During Crisis. The D06-Learning dimension was ranked as 2nd dimension with a DPI of 0.815 and had two of the top ten rated REIs, namely I10-Information Technology System and I22-Lessons Learned Best Practices. D04-Awareness was ranked as the 3rd dimension with a DPI of 0.798 and had two of the top ten rated REIs, which are I08-Crisis Response Team and I09-Role and Responsibility During Crisis. D02 -Speaking-up Culture dimension was ranked as 4th dimension with a DPI of 0.798 and had only one indicator of the top ten rated REIs, which is I02-Healthy Working Culture. The last dimension, ranked 5th, was F01-Top Management Commitment with a DPI of 0.774. This dimension had one indicator of the top ten REIs which was I18-Availability of Local Expertise and R&D Capabilities. The final dimension, D03-Flexibility, did not have any one of the top ten rated REIs.

Table 7. Summary of resilience dimensions and their relevant REIs according to the dimension ranking.

Resilience Dimension	Indicator	Indicator Description	RII	REI Rank	D. Wt. (DPI)
D05-Being Prepared	I07	Crisis Risk Identification	0.853	5	0.826
D05-Being Prepared	I05	Organizational Governance	0.851	6	
D05-Being Prepared	I06	Risk Management System	0.848	7	
D05-Being Prepared	I15	Effective Sparing Philosophy During Crisis	0.794	10	
D05-Being Prepared	I16	Warehouse Spare Capacity	0.785	11	
D06-Learning	I10	Information Technology System	0.877	3	0.815
D06-Learning	I22	Lessons Learned Best Practices	0.848	8	
D06-Learning	I24	Innovative Solutions for Business Challenges	0.778	12	
D06-Learning	I01	Strong Training Program	0.758	18	
D04-Awareness	I08	Crisis Response Team	0.91	1	0.798
D04-Awareness	I09	Role and Responsibility During Crisis	0.886	2	
D04-Awareness	I21	Supply Chain Continuity During Crisis	0.769	14	
D04-Awareness	I20	Financial Arrangement During Crisis	0.754	19	
D04-Awareness	I19	Productivity Level During Crisis	0.67	23	
D02- Speaking-up Culture	I02	Healthy Working Culture	0.824	9	0.798
D02- Speaking-up Culture	I03	Speed and Transparency of Decisions	0.771	13	
D01-Top Management Commitment	I18	Availability of Local Expertise and R&D Capabilities	0.855	4	0.774
D01-Top Management Commitment	I04	Making Decisions During Emergency	0.738	20	
D01-Top Management Commitment	I23	Change Strategies Upon Crisis	0.730	21	
D03-Flexibility	I14	Services of Original Equipment Manufacturer	0.763	15	0.726
D03-Flexibility	I12	Outsourced Maintenance Team	0.760	16	
D03-Flexibility	I11	Inhouse Maintenance Team	0.758	17	
D03-Flexibility	I13	Local Maintenance Team	0.697	22	
D03-Flexibility	I17	Availability of Suppliers and Vendors	0.650	24	

6. Conclusions and Recommendations

There is no doubt that Qatar's oil and gas sector demonstrated resilience capacity; this was tested during disruptive events such as the June 2017 blockade by some of the GCC neighboring countries or the recent pandemic of COVID-19. As per Table 4, 70.4% of participating organizations in this study had a high level of resilience, and approximately 25% had a moderate level of resilience. Therefore, measuring REIs for these organizations will lead to a good understanding of what made them resilient. The approach followed in this study is to assess these organizations based on how well they comply with the identified REIs, which were derived from RDs developed by Wreathall [7]. The main interest is identifying the characteristics of resilient organizations, such as resources, strategies, and behaviors that strengthen organizational resilience [4]. Participants were asked to evaluate these REIs based on their importance to their organizations, which resulted in making resilient organizations.

Based on the outcome of this study, the RII values and ranking of proposed REIs were calculated based on agreement scale values from all the participants.

We found that the ten most critical REIs suggest the following course of action: building a crisis response team with defined roles and responsibilities during crisis, developing an Information Technology System (ITS), ensuring the availability of local expertise and R&D capabilities, ensuring the availability of suppliers and vendors, as well as ensuring the support of services of Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM). Furthermore, ensure the supply of materials and spare parts to avoid operation disruptions along with developing risk management systems, and building continues improvements in the system to capture

lessons learned and implement best practices. It also emphasizes making sure that the working environment has a healthy working culture that encourages speaking up and reporting issues and concerns to be addressed in a timely fashion. The following Figure 6 highlights top rated REIs with their relevant RDs.

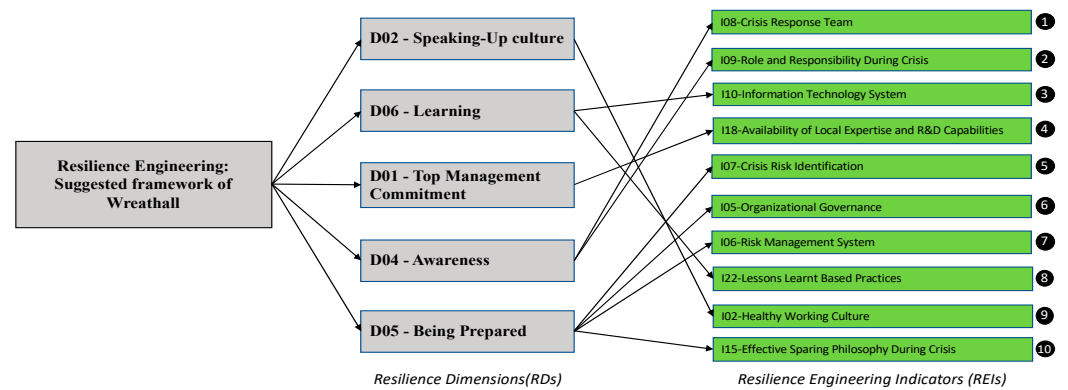


Figure 6. Top ten rated REIs with their relevant RDs.

In conclusion, this research shows the top ten Resilience Engineering Indicators (REIs) contributing to the organization's resilience and the top five most important Resilient Dimensions (RDs). Moreover, this is the first study to evaluate and assess the organizational resilience level in Qatar's oil and gas sector. This study's results can be integrated into different organizations' strategies to improve the efforts to enhance the national response to disturbances in governance. Furthermore, participants in this study provided feedback (as a response to question #29), and as a result, the researchers would recommend the additional following points as suggested to improve the organization's resilience performance:

1. Develop an immediate response plan (IRP) or Be-Well Prepared plans or backup plans as supported by lessons learned and best practices for more flexibility and innovation in managing business with minimal human interference.
2. Adopt fast digital transformation and artificial intelligence digitalization programming.
3. Develop structured training for all employees on crisis management. This also includes the COVID Task Force to mitigate any future threat.
4. Increase investment in internal R&D and Qatari talent to develop local expertise.
5. Implement a more dynamic human resources process.
6. Empower the local market and build relationships with more reliable suppliers.

This study has a limitation in using organizational resilience lagging indicators to build the foundation of organizational resilience. This is an opportunity for future work to analyze leading indicators to build resilience.

The research findings, as well as the limitations of the research, pave the way for future research. The following are the possibilities to extend this research by conducting case studies on specific oil and gas companies to validate these resilience indicators for future applications. Develop a resilience framework using the study outcome of these REIs. Develop organizational resilience assessment tools to measure organizational resilience and identify gaps. Developing a set of tools to help the implementation of resilience for different organizations.

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