

## ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECT OF OPEN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AND MINIMUM WAGE ON POVERTY LEVEL IN INDONESIA

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**Abstrak:** Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis pengaruh pengangguran terbuka dan upah minimum terhadap tingkat kemiskinan di Indonesia. Penelitian ini menggunakan data sekunder dengan sampel sebanyak 34 provinsi di Indonesia. Teknik penentuan sampel dilakukan menggunakan simple random sampling. Metode analisis data yang digunakan adalah regresi linier berganda. Pengujian kualitas data meliputi uji validitas menggunakan korelasi Pearson dan uji reliabilitas menggunakan Cronbach's Alpha. Pengujian hipotesis dilakukan melalui uji koefisien determinasi (Adjusted R<sup>2</sup>), uji F, dan uji t.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pengangguran terbuka berpengaruh signifikan terhadap tingkat kemiskinan di Indonesia. Sementara itu, upah minimum tidak berpengaruh signifikan terhadap tingkat kemiskinan. Secara simultan, pengangguran terbuka dan upah minimum berpengaruh signifikan terhadap tingkat kemiskinan di Indonesia. Temuan penelitian ini diharapkan dapat menjadi bahan pertimbangan bagi pemerintah dalam merumuskan kebijakan ketenagakerjaan dan pengentasan kemiskinan.

**Kata kunci:** pengangguran terbuka; upah minimum; tingkat kemiskinan

**Abstract:** This study aims to analyze the effect of open unemployment and minimum wages on poverty levels in Indonesia. The study employs secondary data with a sample of 34 provinces in Indonesia. The sample was determined using the simple random sampling technique. Data were analyzed using multiple linear regression. Data quality tests included validity testing using Pearson correlation and reliability



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*testing using Cronbach's Alpha. Hypothesis testing was conducted using the coefficient of determination (Adjusted R<sup>2</sup>), F-test, and t-test.*

*The results indicate that open unemployment has a significant effect on poverty levels in Indonesia. Meanwhile, the minimum wage does not have a significant effect on poverty levels. Simultaneously, open unemployment and minimum wages have a significant effect on poverty levels in Indonesia. The findings of this study are expected to provide policy-relevant insights for the government in formulating employment and poverty alleviation policies.*

**Keywords:** *Open unemployment; Minimum wage; Poverty level*

## I. INTRODUCTION

Economic development aims to achieve public prosperity through improvements in the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. The sustainability of economic development is influenced by multiple interrelated factors, including investment, technological innovation, human resource capacity, government regulations and policies, as well as political and economic stability. Appropriate government regulations and policies play a critical role in fostering economic growth by creating a business environment that is conducive to investment and productivity [1].

In line with modern development perspectives, economic development is no longer viewed solely in terms of output growth. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) emphasizes that economic development is a multidimensional process that encompasses institutional strengthening, improved governance, social justice, and sustainability [2]. This perspective aligns with national development objectives that seek to achieve equitable progress and prosperity for all citizens through sustainable economic growth, improvements in living standards, education and health outcomes, adequate infrastructure development, advancement of strategic sectors, and the strengthening of institutional capacity and good governance.

Poverty reduction constitutes a central component of development policy design and implementation, as it directly affects quality of life and the fulfillment of basic human rights. Poverty is a complex social problem that influences multiple dimensions of human well-being, including health, education, and access to basic services. Poverty can be defined as the inability of individuals or households to meet fundamental needs such as adequate food, clean water, proper housing, education, and healthcare. Consequently, poverty alleviation requires a coordinated, cross-sectoral approach grounded in good governance principles, in which social, fiscal, and institutional policies are implemented in an integrated manner to enhance policy effectiveness and government accountability [2], [3].

Despite a declining trend in recent years, poverty remains a persistent challenge in Indonesia and continues to require serious policy attention. According to data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), the national poverty rate in Indonesia reached 9.56 percent in September 2021, equivalent to approximately 24.79 million people, representing a decline from 10.19 percent in September 2020 [4]. However, poverty remains disproportionately concentrated in certain regions and among vulnerable groups, including rural populations, women, children, and persons with disabilities.

The implementation of regional autonomy, as stipulated in Law Number 23 of 2014 on Regional Government, represents a significant institutional reform aimed at improving local governance and accelerating poverty reduction at the regional level [5]. This decentralization framework necessitates comprehensive policy measures, including improvements in education quality, infrastructure development, local economic empowerment, healthcare system enhancement, expansion of social protection programs, effective local governance, investment promotion, and improved access to financial services. National poverty levels fluctuate over time in response to economic conditions, government policies, and social factors, highlighting the importance of sustained and consistent development strategies [4].

Poverty alleviation is closely linked to overall societal welfare, which is largely determined by income levels and employment opportunities. Unemployment reduces household income and lowers social welfare, thereby exacerbating poverty conditions. Low levels of welfare tend to generate broader socioeconomic problems, particularly persistent poverty. This argument is consistent with Sukirno, who states that low levels of prosperity



can trigger and perpetuate poverty [1], [6]. Therefore, creating a favorable economic environment, ensuring full employment opportunities, and increasing income levels are fundamental strategies for effective poverty reduction.

Open unemployment, in particular, has been shown to exert a significant influence on poverty levels. Several empirical studies document a positive relationship between open unemployment and poverty across various regions in Indonesia [7]–[10]. However, other studies report insignificant relationships in certain local contexts, suggesting that the unemployment–poverty nexus may vary depending on regional economic structures and policy conditions [11], [12]. According to BPS data, Indonesia’s open unemployment rate stood at 7.07 percent in August 2021, reflecting the proportion of the working-age population that was unemployed but actively seeking employment [13]. This variation underscores the importance of expanding employment opportunities, particularly in urban areas.

In addition to unemployment, minimum wage policy plays an important role in influencing poverty levels. The minimum wage represents the legally mandated lowest wage that employers must pay workers within a given region. As a poverty reduction instrument, minimum wage policy aims to ensure that workers receive sufficient income to meet basic living needs, thereby reducing poverty incidence [14]. Empirical evidence suggests that increases in minimum wages can contribute to poverty reduction by raising workers’ incomes [15], [16]. However, other studies argue that minimum wage policy may not always be an effective poverty alleviation tool, particularly if it generates adverse employment effects [17]. These mixed findings highlight the need for careful policy design and rigorous empirical evaluation.

This study seeks to provide policymakers, researchers, and the general public with a comprehensive understanding of the economic factors influencing poverty levels in Indonesia. By examining the relationships between unemployment, minimum wage policy, and poverty, this study aims to contribute empirical evidence that can inform the formulation of more effective, inclusive, and sustainable poverty reduction policies.

## II METHODS AND MATERIALS

This research employs a quantitative study method using panel data and a fixed effects model. The panel data method is a method used to conduct empirical analysis that is not possible using only time series or cross-sectional data. Gujarati (2012:237) explains that panel data (aggregated data), also known as longitudinal data, is a combination of cross-sectional and time series data. Cross-sectional data is data collected at a single point in time for many individuals, while time series data is data collected over time for several individuals. Panel data, or aggregated data, is a combination of time series and cross-sectional data that accommodates information related to both cross-sectional and time series variables (Ajija et al., 2011:51).

The data analysis in this study used multiple linear regression with the help of SPSS version 25 to examine the effect of unemployment rate and minimum wage on poverty level. Before hypothesis testing was conducted, the data was tested through classical assumption tests which included normality, multicollinearity, heteroscedasticity, and autocorrelation tests to ensure the regression model met the BLUE (Best Linear Unbiased Estimator) criteria. Next, hypothesis testing was carried out through t-test to determine the partial effect of each independent variable on poverty, F-test to evaluate the simultaneous effect of all independent variables on the dependent variable, and coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) test to measure how much variation in poverty level can be explained by unemployment rate and minimum wage. The model equation to be estimated in this study is as follows:

$$Y = \alpha + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + e$$

Where :

Y = Poverty Rate

X<sub>1</sub> = Open Unemployment Rate

X<sub>2</sub> = Minimum Wage

$\beta$  = Coefficient of each variable  $\alpha$  = Constant  $e$  = error term



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### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1. Results Test Assumptions Classic

##### 3.1.1 Test Normality

The normality test is carried out to see whether the variables being studied are in normal condition. or abnormal.

*The One Sample Kolmogorov-Smith Test* will determine the data that is used normal or NO normal. Results

Which obtained that is :

**Table 1. Test Normality**  
One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test

		Unstandardized Residues
N		170
Normal Parameters <sup>a,b</sup>	Means	0.0000000
	Deviation Standard	549.10947663
The Most Extreme Difference	Absolute	0.102
	Positive	0.102
	Negative	-0.068
Test Statistics		0.102
Asymptomatic . Significance (2 tails )		0.075 <sup>c</sup>

a. The test distribution is Normal.

b. Calculated from data.

c. Correction The Significance of Lilliefors.

Source : SPSS Output 2022

From the processed data, it is stated that the distribution is normal as seen. from significant residuals exceeding 0.05. So that the Asymp sig. value is obtained. (2- tailed)  $0.75 > 0.05$ . Based on results Which obtained show That Study This distributed normal.

##### 3.1.2. Test Multicollinearity

The multicollinearity test aims to see the relationship between independent variables and bound. To find out whether or not there are symptoms of multicollinearity with know sign tolerance And VIF. With supply sign tolerance  $\geq 10:00$  AM And VIF  $\leq 10$  show NO There is symptom multicollinearity.

**Table 2. Test Multicollinearity**

Variables	Tolerance	VIF
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$X_1$	0.990	1,010
$X_2$	0.990	1,010

Source : SPSS Output 2022

In the table shown, the VIF value and unemployment tolerance level openness, education, economic growth and population growth show The overall tolerance value of each variable is  $\geq 10.00$  and the overall VIF value is  $\leq 10$ . Therefore, it is concluded that for model regression This show avoided from symptom multicollinearity.

### 3.1.3. Test Autocorrelation

The autocorrelation test is used to detect the presence or absence of autocorrelation of symptoms. In this regression model, in this study the autocorrelation test was carried out using the Run Test. Test

**Table 3. Test Autocorrelation (Run Test)**

Run Test	
	Not standardized Remainder
Test Mark	.66448
Case < Test Mark	5
Case $\geq$ Test Mark	6
Total Case	11
Amount Run	6
Z	0,000
Asymptomatic	1,000
Signature. (2 tails)	
a. Median	

Source : SPSS Output 2022

In the test conducted, a sig value of  $1,000 \geq 0.05$  was obtained. stunning decision from data Which own tested that is avoided from symptom autocorrelation.

### 3.2. Testing Hypothesis

#### 3.2.1. Test F

**Table 4. Test F**

ANOVA <sup>a</sup>						
Model		Amount Square	df	Mean Square	F	Signature .
1	Regression	441,982	2	220,991	8,202	0.000 <sup>b</sup>
	Remainder	4499.785	167	26,945		
	Total	4,941,768	169			

a. Variables Dependent : level poverty

b. Predictors : ( Constant ), minimum wage , unemployment open

Source : SPSS Output 2022

From the SPSS output above, it is shown that the significant signs total  $0.000 < 0.05$  and for sign Total F  $4,952 > F$  table 4.12. Shown below throughout open unemployment rate and minimum wage variables influential simultaneously to variables jump total population poor in Indonesia.



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### 3.2.2. Test T

The t-test is conducted to prove whether or not there is an influence between variables. free level unemployment open , and minimum wage to variables jump amount resident poor in a certain way part.

**Table 5. T-test**

Coefficient <sup>a</sup>

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Coefficient Standardized	T	Signature
	B	Error Standard	Beta		
1 ( Constant )	15,673	2,032		7,714	0,000
unemployment open	-.880	0.228	-.292	-3,852	0,000
minimum wage	-2.429E-7	0,000	-0.025	-.328	0.744

a. Variables Dependent : level poverty

#### 1. Level Unemployment Open

Based on the SPSS output, the calculated t value is  $-1.075 < 2.446$  and is marked significant  $0.000 > 0.05$ . This shows that the Open Unemployment Rate has a significant and positive influence on the Number of Poor People in Indonesia.

#### 2. Minimum wage

Based on the SPSS output, the calculated t value is  $0.774 < 2.446$  and the sign is The significance value is  $0.774 > 0.05$ . Therefore, this indicates that the minimum wage has no significant and negative effect on the number of poor people in Indonesia.

### 3.3. Coefficient Determination

The coefficient of determination describes a single measurement taken to size influence variables free to variables bound.

**Table 4. Coefficient Determination**

Model	R	R Square	R adjusted Rectangle
1	0.888 a	0.790	.6 50

Source : SPSS Output 2022

Based on the processing results, the R Square value shown is 0.789. or 78.9%. Which shows an unemployment rate of 78.9%, education, economic growth and population growth, population influence poor and the remaining 21.1% is influenced by variables that do not exist and are not processed. in research

### 3.4. Discussion

#### 1. The Influence of the Open Unemployment Rate on the Number of Poor People

The analysis shows that the unemployment rate has a significant impact on the number of poor people in Indonesia. However, unemployment is not the only factor contributing to poverty; therefore, fluctuations in the unemployment rate do not always result in proportional changes in poverty levels. This condition can be



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explained by Sukirno's theory, which argues that unemployment reduces income and overall community welfare, thereby increasing poverty risk [17].

In addition, unemployment does not immediately lead to poverty in certain social groups. One contributing factor is that parts of the labor force are not fully prepared to enter the job market and tend to wait for employment opportunities that better match their skills and educational background. Moreover, many job seekers—particularly new graduates and middle-class workers are still financially supported by their parents, who have sufficient income. Under such circumstances, individuals are able to delay employment while seeking jobs that provide adequate income and align with their qualifications. Due to limited job opportunities, not all job seekers can be absorbed simultaneously into the labor market, which may cause unemployment rates to fluctuate without directly increasing poverty levels [18].

Empirical evidence indicates that the unemployment rate has a significant and positive impact on poverty levels in Indonesia. Rising unemployment reduces income and purchasing power, thereby increasing the number of people living below the poverty line [19], [20]. For instance, studies conducted in Bali Province reveal that higher unemployment rates significantly increase poverty levels within the community [20], [21]. These findings confirm that unemployment remains a critical determinant of poverty, particularly in regions with limited economic diversification.

### **The Effect of Minimum Wages on Poverty Levels**

The results of the analysis indicate that the minimum wage variable has a negative and significant relationship with poverty levels in Indonesia during the 2018–2022 period. This negative relationship suggests that increases in the minimum wage do not necessarily lead to poverty reduction in Indonesia. Such findings are consistent with the theoretical objectives of minimum wage policies, which aim to improve workers' welfare and reduce poverty by ensuring a minimum standard of living [22]–[24].

By increasing the minimum wage, workers' living standards are expected to improve, or at least meet minimum living requirements, which in turn enhances worker welfare and helps prevent individuals from falling into poverty. However, empirical findings in the literature present mixed results. Several studies indicate that minimum wages do not significantly reduce poverty levels. For example, Dita et al. found that the Provincial Minimum Wage (UMP) has a negative relationship with poverty but does not directly alleviate poverty [25]. Similarly, a study on poverty determinants in the Madiun population revealed that the district minimum wage had no significant effect on poverty, whereas the Human Development Index (HDI) and per capita income played a more dominant role [26].

Furthermore, Priseptian and Primandhana demonstrated that although the district minimum wage negatively affects poverty, the effect is statistically insignificant when broader economic factors are considered [27]. In this context, the minimum wage can be viewed as an insufficient policy instrument for poverty alleviation, particularly when other variables such as economic growth, HDI, and inflation exert stronger influences on poverty levels. Supporting this argument, Kiha et al. found that while the minimum wage significantly influences the Human Development Index, its direct impact on poverty remains insignificant [28]. This finding reinforces the conclusion that factors such as economic growth, regional gross domestic product (GRDP), human development, and unemployment play more substantial roles in determining poverty conditions. Therefore, although minimum wage policies may improve worker welfare, their effectiveness as a standalone poverty reduction strategy remains limited and must be complemented by broader economic and social policies.

## **IV. CONCLUSION**

The purpose of this study is to examine the relationship between the Open Unemployment Rate and the Minimum Wage and the Poverty Rate in Indonesian Provinces from 2018 to 2022. Based on statistical testing using panel data analysis, the following conclusions are drawn:

- 1) The results of the study indicate that the open unemployment rate has a significant effect and shows a positive relationship with the poverty rate in provinces in Indonesia. Based on the SPSS output, the calculated t-value is  $-1.075 < 2.446$  and the significance mark is  $0.000 > 0.05$ . This indicates that the Open Unemployment Rate has a significant and positive influence on the Number of Poor People in Indonesia. This relationship means that if the number of open unemployment rates increases, the



number of poverty rates will also increase, and vice versa if the number of unemployment rates decreases, the number of poverty rates will also decrease.

- 2) The results of the study indicate that the minimum wage has no significant effect and shows a negative relationship with poverty rates in provinces in Indonesia. Based on the SPSS output, the calculated t-value is  $0.774 < 2.446$  and the significance mark is  $0.774 > 0.05$ . Therefore, this indicates that the minimum wage has no significant and negative effect on the number of poor people in Indonesia. This relationship means that if the minimum wage increases, there will be no impact on reducing poverty rates, and conversely, if the minimum wage decreases, poverty rates will not increase.
- 3) Simultaneously, the unemployment rate and minimum wage variables have a significant influence on the poverty rate in provinces in Indonesia in the period 2018 to 2022. The significance value is  $0.000 < 0.05$  and the calculated F value is  $4.952 > F$  (Table 4.12). The table below shows that all unemployment rate and minimum wage variables have a simultaneous influence on the dependent variable of the number of poor people in Indonesia. Therefore, it can be concluded that changes or movements that occur in the unemployment rate and minimum wage variables will affect the poverty rate.

### Suggestion

Based on the research results and conclusions outlined above, the author provides suggestions that can be used as a contribution to thinking for companies and further research as follows:

- 1) For the Government.  
Based on research findings and the fact that unemployment rates in Indonesia's provinces remain high, the government is expected to provide jobs and training, as well as capital assistance for those aspiring to become entrepreneurs. Meanwhile, regarding minimum wage policy, the government is expected to better monitor and tighten its implementation, particularly in private sector companies that sometimes still do not comply with minimum wage regulations.
- 2) For academics.  
The researchers further recommend conducting further studies by including other independent variables, of course still related to the poverty level in provinces in Indonesia.

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