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Analysis Of The Effect Of Population Density, GRDP, Unemployment Rate, Government Expenditure, Minimum Wage, And The Proportion Of The Agricultural Sector's Grdp On Poverty Level In West Java For The Period 2016-2021

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to examine the effects of population density, Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP), the open unemployment rate, government expenditure, the regional minimum wage (RMW), and the proportion of the agricultural sector in GRDP on the poverty rate in West Java Province. The study employs panel data regression analysis, combining time series data from 2016 to 2021 and cross-sectional data from 27 regencies and cities in West Java. The estimation results indicate that the Fixed Effect Model (FEM) is the most appropriate model. The findings reveal that all variables in the model have a statistically significant impact on the poverty rate. Population density and the open unemployment rate have positive effects, indicating that increases in these variables are associated with higher poverty levels. In contrast, GRDP, government expenditure, and the proportion of the agricultural sector in GRDP have negative effects, suggesting that increases in these indicators contribute to poverty reduction. Although the regional minimum wage is theoretically expected to alleviate poverty, the results indicate a positive relationship between RMW and poverty. This may be attributed to its potential impact on the informal labor market or reduced employment opportunities. These findings provide important implications for poverty alleviation policies, particularly those that address demographic pressures, labor market dynamics, and the role of local economic sectors.

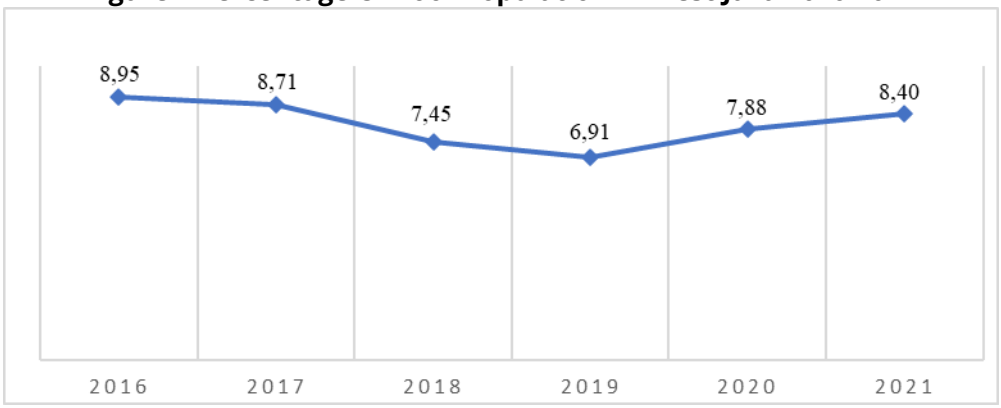
INTRODUCTION

Poverty occurs in almost all developing countries. This condition arises due to the inability of some individuals to sustain a standard of living considered humane. Such circumstances can lead to a decline in the quality of human resources, resulting in very low productivity and income (Lowing et al., 2021). Poverty levels continue to increase because low income prevents access to adequate education, healthcare, and nutrition, which in turn deteriorates the intellectual and physical quality of human resources, leading to low productivity.

The adjustment process cannot be carried out by the poor alone without government involvement through appropriate policies. Government agencies must guide and assist communities in participating in government programs, especially poverty alleviation initiatives in districts and cities (Sriyana, 2015). Therefore, it is better for local governments to encourage local economic change through economic growth to empower the poor.

According to the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), approximately 26.5 million people in Indonesia were classified as poor in September 2021. The majority of the poor population on the island of Java was around 14 million people, accounting for 52% of the national poor population. West Java Province is one of the provinces with a high poverty rate on the island of Java. The level of poverty in West Java Province from 2016 to 2021 is presented in Graph 1.

Figure 1 Percentage Of Poor Population In West Java 2016-2021



Source: BPS, processed

Graph 1 shows that the percentage of poor people in West Java Province has continued to decline, from 8.95% in 2016 to 8.40% in 2021. However, this downward trend has fluctuated in certain years. In 2019, after declining from 7.45% to 6.91%, the poverty rate rose again to 7.88% in 2020 and further increased to 8.40% in 2021. The increase in the poverty rate during 2020 and 2021 was primarily due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which caused many economic activities to halt.

According to Gillin and Gillin, poverty is a condition in which a person is unable to maintain a sufficiently high standard of living to ensure physical and mental efficiency, thus preventing the individual and their family from functioning properly according to societal standards. This may result either from inadequate income or unwise expenditure (Senewe et al., 2021).

According to Lewis, poverty is not merely viewed as an economic problem-such as the lack of control by the poor over the sources of production and the distribution of economic goods and services. Nor is it solely seen from a macro perspective, such as in the context of inter-state dependency theory, or as a result of class conflict. Instead, Lewis conceptualizes poverty as a way of life or a culture, with its focus at the micro level, namely the family. This is because the family is regarded as the smallest social unit and as a key institution that sustains the culture of poverty (Palikhah et al., 2016).

Poverty in developing countries is the result of an interaction among six main characteristics: (1) The national income level in developing countries is relatively low, and the economic growth rate is slow; (2) Per capita income remains low and its growth is very sluggish; (3) Income distribution is highly unequal; (4) A majority of the population in Third World countries lives under the pressure of absolute poverty; (5) Health facilities and services are inadequate, nutrition is poor, and disease outbreaks are common; (6) Educational facilities are underdeveloped, and the curriculum content is often irrelevant or inadequate (Todaro & Smith, 2015).This study aims to analyze the influence of population density, Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP), open unemployment rate, government spending, regency/city minimum wage, and the proportion of GRDP in the agricultural sector on the poverty rate in West Java Province during the 2016–2021 period.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Mukhtar et al. (2019), using panel data regression analysis in Indonesia during the period 2011–2014, found that the Human Development Index (HDI) and the Open Unemployment Rate (TPT) had a negative effect on poverty rates, with regression coefficients of -2.717184 and -0.123035, and t-statistics of 0.0003 (< 0.05) and 0.0526 (< 0.1), respectively. The Random Effects Model (REM) was selected as the best estimation model.

Using panel data regression analysis on data from 33 Indonesian provinces during the period 2011–2015, Zuhdiyati et al. (2017) found that HDI had a significant effect on poverty levels, with a regression coefficient of -0.289890 and a t-statistic of 0.0202 (< 0.05). Meanwhile, economic growth and the open unemployment rate were found to have no significant effect on poverty, with t-statistics of 0.5791 (> 0.10) and 0.9824 (> 0.10), respectively. The Fixed Effects Model (FEM) was selected as the most appropriate estimation model.

Prasada et al. (2020), using panel data regression in Java for the period 2004–2018, found that the Inflation Rate (INF) and the Human Development Index (HDI) had a significant effect on the poverty rate, with regression coefficients of 0.1210 and -1.1178, and t-statistics of 0.0015 (< 0.01) and 0.0004 (< 0.01), respectively. Meanwhile, the Open Unemployment Rate (OUR) and the Regional Minimum Wage (RMW) had no significant effect on the poverty rate, with t-statistics of 0.1436 (> 0.10) and 0.3221 (> 0.10), respectively. The Fixed Effects Model (FEM) was selected as the most appropriate estimation model.

Using Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression analysis on data from Jambi City during the period 2000–2011, Harlik et al. (2013) found that population density had no significant effect on poverty rates, with a t-statistic of 0.569 (> 0.10). However, the level of education and the unemployment rate had significant effects on poverty rates, with coefficients of 5.186 and 0.849, and t-statistics of 0.004 (< 0.01) and 0.058 (< 0.10), respectively.Giovanni (2018), using panel data regression analysis in Java for the period 2009–2016, found that education and unemployment had no significant effect on poverty rates, with t-statistics of 0.7008 (> 0.1) and 0.4226 (> 0.1), respectively. Meanwhile, GDP was found to have a significant effect on the poverty rate, with a coefficient of 6.689445 and a t-statistic of 0.0021 (< 0.05). The Fixed Effect Model (FEM) was identified as the most appropriate estimation model.Susanti and Sartiyah (2019), using the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression method in Riau Islands Province during the 2012–2018 period, found that GDP, unemployment, and regional government spending (APBD) in the education, health, and infrastructure sectors significantly affected the number of poor people, with coefficients of -0.362, 1.015, and -0.513, and t-statistics of 0.010 (< 0.05), 0.000 (< 0.05), and 0.022 (< 0.05), respectively. Meanwhile, APBD for social protection had no significant effect on the number of poor people, with a t-statistic of 0.067 (> 0.05).

Using the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression analysis in Bitung City for the period 2012–2021, Tuwonaung et al. (2022) found that population size, unemployment, GDP, and government expenditure had significant effects on poverty, with coefficients of 4.169, 1.014, -

8.796, and -3.011, respectively. The corresponding t-statistics were 0.003 (< 0.01), 0.000 (< 0.01), 0.000 (< 0.01), and 0.004 (< 0.01).

Using the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression analysis in Papua Province from 2002 to 2017, Marlina and Usman (2020) found that GDP had a significant effect on poverty, with a coefficient of 4.839351 and a t-statistic of 0.0303 (< 0.05). Meanwhile, government expenditure had no significant effect, with a t-statistic of 0.9890 (> 0.05).

Lowing et al. (2021), using the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression analysis on data from Minahasa Regency for the period 2010–2019, found that GDP had a significant effect on the poverty rate, with a coefficient of -9.838 and a t-statistic of 0.008 (< 0.01). Meanwhile, the unemployment rate and population size had no significant effect on the poverty rate, with t-statistics of 0.264 (> 0.10) and 0.282 (> 0.10), respectively.

Using panel data regression analysis on data from districts and cities in West Java from 2013 to 2020, Fitria et al. (2021) found that GDP, the Human Development Index (HDI), and the Open Unemployment Rate (TPT) significantly affected the poverty rate, with coefficients of -0.248, -2.228, and 0.093, and t-statistics of 0.012 (< 0.05), 0.000 (< 0.05), and 0.007 (< 0.05), respectively. The Fixed Effects Model (FEM) was selected as the best-fitting model.

Dama et al. (2016) used the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression analysis in Manado City for the period 2005–2014 and found that GDP had a negative effect on the poverty rate, with a coefficient of -0.151 and a t-statistic of 0.104 (> 0.10).

Padriyansyah et al. (2022) used panel data regression analysis in South Sumatra Province during 2016–2018 and found that HDI and population had significant effects on poverty, with coefficients of -12.82782 and 0.108607 and t-statistics of 0.0100 (< 0.05) and 0.000 (< 0.01), respectively, while GDP had no significant effect on poverty, with a t-statistic of 0.1165 (> 0.10). The Fixed Effects Model (FEM) was selected as the best estimated model.

Using panel data regression analysis in Indonesia during 2011–2017, Leonita and Kurnia Sari (2019) found that the GDP growth rate and the unemployment rate had significant effects on the poverty rate, with coefficients of 0.188819 and 0.170801, respectively, and t-values of 0.0392 (< 0.05) and 0.0095 (< 0.05). Meanwhile, HDI had no effect on the poverty level, with a t-value of 0.2636 (> 0.05). The Fixed Effects Model (FEM) was selected as the best estimated model.

Priseptian et al. (2022), using the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression analysis in East Java Province from 2005 to 2020, found that the UMP and unemployment had significant effects on poverty, with coefficients of -6.584 and 6.993 and t-values of 0.0000 (< 0.01) and 0.0000 (< 0.01), respectively. Meanwhile, HDI and economic growth had no effect on poverty, with t-values of 0.061 (> 0.05) and 0.775 (> 0.10), respectively.Using panel data regression analysis on regencies/cities in Sumatra during 2013–2015 and 2017–2018, Purmini and Rambe (2021) found that agricultural workers, education level of workers, female workers, and government spending had significant effects on the poverty rate, with coefficients of 0.040, -0.022, 0.003, and -0.333, respectively, and t-values of 0.006 (< 0.05), 0.007 (< 0.05), 0.007 (< 0.05), and 0.0056 (< 0.05). The Random Effects Model (REM) was selected as the best estimated model.

METHODS

The analysis tool used in this study is panel data regression analysis with the following econometric model:

$$POV = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \log PD_{it} + \beta_2 \log GRDP_{it} + \beta_3 OUR_{it} + \beta_4 \log GE_{it} + \beta_5 \log RMW_{it} + \beta_6 PGRDP_{it} + \varepsilon_{it}$$

Information:

POV = Poverty (%)
PD = Population Density (people/km)
GRDP = Gross Regional Domestic Product on a constant price basis (billion rupiah)
OUR = Open Unemployment Rate (%)
GE = Government Expenditure (thousand rupiah)

RMW = Regency/City Minimum Wage (rupiah)
PGRDP = Proportion of Gross Regional Domestic Product of the Agricultural Sector (%)
ε = *Error term*
β_0 = Constant
$\beta_1 \ldots \beta_6$ = Independent variable regression coefficient
i = Number of observation
t = Year to
log = Natural logarithm operator

The econometric model above is a combination of the econometric models of Mukhtar et al. (2019), Prasada et al. (2020), Harlik et al. (2013). The Open Unemployment Rate (OUR) is expected to have a positive effect on the poverty rate, while the minimum wage and population density are expected to have a negative effect on the poverty rate.The data used in this study is panel data, which combines time series and cross-sectional data. The time series data covers the observation period from 2016 to 2021, while the cross-sectional data covers 27 districts/cities in West Java Province.The estimation stage of the panel data regression analysis includes estimating econometric model parameters using the Pooled Least Squares (PLS), Fixed Effect Model (FEM), and Random Effect Model (REM) approaches; selecting the best estimated model using the Chow test, Hausman test, and if necessary, the Lagrange Multiplier test; testing the goodness of fit of the selected model; and testing the significance of the independent variables on the selected model.

RESULTS

The estimation results of the econometric model above, using the Pooled Least Squares (PLS), Fixed Effect Model (FEM), and Random Effect Model (REM) approaches, along with the results of the model selection tests, are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1 Estimation Result of the Econometric Model Data Regression Panel – Cross section

Variable	Regression Coefficients		
	PLS	FEM	REM
C	83,9791	106,8243	69,1314
log*PD*	-0,9262	2,9340	-0,3908
log*GRDP*	0,1705	-14,0822	-0,3058
OUR	0,4162	0,1372	0,2510
log*GE*	-0,9467	-1,1129	-0,7143
log*RMW*	-3,6517	3,6044	-2,8584
PGRDP	0,0458	-0,3039	0,0762
R^2	0,5340	0,9573	0,3119
Adjusted. R^2	0,5159	0,9467	0,2854
Statistics F	29,6054	90,3756	11,7146
Prob. Statistics F	0,0000	0,0000	0,0000
Model Selection Test (1) Chow Cross-Section *F*(26,129) = 49,1820; Prob. *F*(26,129) = 0,0000 (2) Hausman Cross-Section random $\chi^2(6)$ = 32,4127; Prob. χ^2 = 0,0000			

Source: BPS, processed

The Chow test and the Hausman test indicate that the Fixed Effect Model (FEM) is selected as the best estimated model, as evidenced by the probabilities (empirical significance) of the F-statistic and the χ^2 statistic, both of which are 0.0000 (< 0.01). The complete estimation results of the FEM model can be seen in Table 2 and Table 3.

Table 2 Fixed Effect Model (FEM) Estimation Model

$POV = 106{,}8243 + 2{,}9340 \log PD_{it} - 14{,}0822 \log GRDP_{it} + 0{,}1372\ OUR_{it} - 1{,}1129 \log GE_{it}$
(0,0781)*** (0,000)* (0,0268)** (0,0522)***
$+ 3{,}6044 \log RMW_{it} - 0{,}3039\ PGRDP_{it}$
(0,0162)** (0,0785)***

R^2 = 0,9573; *DW* = 1,4218; *F.* = 90,3756; Prob. *F* = 0,0000

Source: BPS, processed. Information: *Significant at α = 0,01; **Significant at α = 0,05; ***Significant at α = 0,10; The number in parentheses is the probability of the statistical value t.

Table 3 Effect and Region Constants

No.	Region	Effect Region	Constants
1.	Bogor Regency	20,2735	127,0978
2.	Sukabumi Regency	9,1435	115,9678
3.	Cianjur Regency	10,6256	117,4499
4.	Bandung Regency	9,1432	115,9675
5.	Garut Regency	15,3754	122,1997
6.	Tasikmalaya Regency	8,7696	115,5939
7.	Ciamis Regency	0,1696	106,9939
8.	Kuningan Regency	-0,4089	106,4154
9.	Cirebon Regency	4,0907	110,915
10.	Majalengka Regency	3,1533	109,9776
11.	Sumedang Regency	0,5859	107,4102
12.	Indramayu Regency	17,6527	124,477
13.	Subang Regency	5,5503	112,3746
14.	Purwakarta Regency	1,7493	108,5736
15.	Karawang Regency	18,6880	125,5123
16.	Bekasi Regency	18,2384	125,0627
17.	Bandung Barat Regency	1,4672	108,2915
18.	Pangandaran Regency	-10,2806	96,5437
19.	Bogor City	-13,0369	93,7874
20.	Sukabumi City	-27,5753	79,249
21.	Bandung City	9,6688	116,4931
22.	Cirebon City	-17,7606	89,0637
23.	Bekasi City	-5,0588	101,7655
24.	Depok City	-11,3731	95,4513
25.	Cimahi City	-20,6220	86,2023
26.	Tasikmalaya City	-10,3623	96,462
27.	Banjar City	-37,8668	68,9575

Source: BPS, processed

From Table 2, it can be seen that the FEM estimated model is statistically significant, with an F-statistic probability (empirical significance) value of 0.0000 (< 0.01) and a coefficient of determination (R^2) of 0.9573, indicating that the model has very high predictive power. All variables in this econometric model significantly influence the poverty level, including population density (PD) with an empirical significance of 0.0781 (< 0.10), gross regional domestic product

(GRDP) with 0.0000 (< 0.01), open unemployment rate (OUR) with 0.0268 (< 0.05), government expenditure (GE) with 0.0522 (< 0.10), regional minimum wage (RMW) with an empirical t-value significance of 0.0162 (< 0.05), and the proportion of gross domestic product from the agricultural sector with an empirical t-value significance of 0.0785 (< 0.10).

The population density variable has a coefficient value of 2.9340, with a lin-log relationship pattern. This means that if the population density increases by 1%, then the poverty rate will increase by 2.9340: 100 = 0.029340%. On the other hand, if the population density decreases by 1%, then the poverty rate will decrease by 0.029340%.

The *GRDP* variable has a coefficient value of -14.0822, with a lin-log relationship pattern. This means that if *the GRDP* increases by 1%, then the poverty rate decreases by 14.0822: 100 = 0.140822% and vice versa if *the GRDP* decreases by 1%, then the poverty rate will increase by 0.140822%.

The Open Unemployment Rate (OUR) variable has a coefficient of 0.1372, with a lin-lin relationship pattern. This means that if the Open Unemployment Rate increases by 1%, the poverty rate increases by 0.1372%; conversely, if the Open Unemployment Rate decreases by 1%, the poverty rate decreases by 0.1372%.

The government expenditure variable has a coefficient value of -1.1129, with a lin-log relationship pattern. This means that if government expenditure increases by 1%, it will cause a decrease in the poverty rate by 1.1129: 100 = 0.011129%, on the other hand, if government expenditure decreases by 1%, then the poverty rate will increase by 0.011129%.

The Regency/City Minimum Wage has a coefficient of 3.6044, with a lin-log relationship pattern. If the minimum wage of the district/city increases by 1%, it will cause an increase in the poverty rate of 3.6044: 100 = 0.036044%, on the other hand, if the minimum wage of the district/city decreases by 1%, the poverty rate will decrease by 0.036044%.

The variable proportion of *GRDP* in the agricultural sector has a coefficient value of -0.3039, with a lin-lin relationship pattern. This means that if the proportion of *GRDP* in the agricultural sector increases by 1%, the poverty rate will decrease by 0.3039, on the other hand, if the proportion of *GRDP* in the agricultural sector decreases by 1%, then the poverty rate will increase by 0.3039%.

In Table 3, it can be seen that the highest constant value is for Bogor Regency, at 127.0978. This suggests that, holding the influences of Population Density, Gross Regional Domestic Product, Open Unemployment Rate, Government Expenditure, Regency/City Minimum Wage, and the Proportion of GRDP in the Agricultural sector constant, Bogor Regency tends to have a higher poverty level compared to other regencies and cities in West Java Province. Following Bogor Regency, the regencies with the next highest constant values are Karawang Regency and Bekasi Regency.

The lowest constant value is for Banjar City, at 68.9575. This suggests that, under the same conditions, Banjar City tends to have a relatively lower poverty level compared to other regencies and cities. Following Banjar City, the two regencies/cities with the lowest constants are Sukabumi City and Cimahi City.

DISCUSSION

The poverty rate in various districts and cities in West Java Province during the 2016–2021 period was influenced by Population Density, Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP), Open Unemployment Rate, Government Expenditure, Regency/City Minimum Wage, and the Proportion of Gross Regional Domestic Product in the Agriculture sector.

The positive influence of Population Density shows that the more densely populated an area is, the more likely it is to experience higher poverty. High population density often leads to limited access to jobs, public facilities, and natural resources, resulting in inequality and increased vulnerability to poverty. An increase in GRDP per capita significantly reduces poverty.

This result aligns with the research of Leonita & Sari (2019), who stated that GRDP has a strong positive effect on reducing the poverty rate. Higher GRDP reflects a stronger economy and provides more opportunities for people to increase their incomes and reduce poverty.

The unemployment rate, which has a positive effect on the poverty rate in West Java, indicates that increases in poverty levels are influenced by high unemployment. The results of this study align with previous research by Kurniawan (2018), confirming that the unemployment rate has a positive effect on poverty. This suggests that high unemployment worsens household economic conditions, causing more people to become trapped in poverty.

Government spending has a negative effect on poverty levels. The findings of this study are consistent with research conducted by Fithri and Kaluge (2017), which states that increased government spending reduces the poverty rate. This shows that government budget allocations for social and development programs focused on empowering poor communities are effective in reducing inequality and improving welfare.

A higher Regency/City Minimum Wage, while increasing workers' incomes, is positively correlated with poverty in this model. This may be due to its negative impact on employment or certain sectors of the economy, which reduces people's access to jobs and exacerbates poverty. The results of this study do not align with the research conducted by Chairunnisa & Qintharah (2022), which states that the Regency/City Minimum Wage has a negative effect on poverty.

This econometric model emphasizes the importance of inclusive economic growth, reducing unemployment, and allocating government spending efficiently to reduce poverty. Sectors such as agriculture also play an important role in these efforts. Constant differences between regions reflect variations in poverty levels influenced by structural and socio-economic factors, such as social conditions, economic development, demographics, population density, and access to infrastructure and markets. Regions with development policies focused on specific sectors, such as industry, tend to experience faster poverty reduction compared to regions dependent on the agricultural sector, which are more susceptible to market and weather fluctuations.

The differences in poverty levels between regions are also reflected in the constant terms. More economically developed areas, such as Banjar City, with better market access and job opportunities, tend to have lower poverty rates. In contrast, areas with high constant values, such as Bogor Regency, may face greater challenges in reducing poverty, especially if they rely on underdeveloped or vulnerable sectors. Inequality between big cities and rural areas also persists, despite economic growth in certain regions.

CONCLUSION

The Fixed Effect Model (FEM) was selected as the best model, with an R^2 value of 0.9573. The estimation results show that Population Density, Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP), Open Unemployment Rate (OUR), Government Expenditure, Regency/City Minimum Wage (RMW), and the Proportion of GRDP from the Agricultural Sector (PGRDP) have a significant effect on the poverty rate in West Java during the 2016–2021 period. Population density has a positive effect on poverty, meaning that an increase in density leads to a higher poverty rate. GRDP, Government Expenditure, and the Proportion of GRDP from the agricultural sector have negative effects, indicating that increases in these variables contribute to reducing the poverty rate. The Open Unemployment Rate (OUR) shows a positive relationship, implying that higher unemployment is associated with higher poverty levels. Although the Regency/City Minimum Wage is intuitively expected to reduce poverty, the model results indicate a negative relationship with poverty, suggesting that an increase in RMW is associated with an increase in the poverty rate.

Overall, the results of this study provide an in-depth understanding of the factors that influence the poverty rate in West Java Province. Policies aimed at reducing the unemployment

rate, increasing GRDP, and improving the effectiveness of government spending have the potential to lower poverty levels. In addition, the findings highlight the importance of taking regional characteristics into account when formulating targeted poverty reduction policies. They also emphasize the critical role of economic and demographic factors in shaping poverty levels, reinforcing the need for region-specific strategies to address poverty in West Java Province.

SUGGESTION

Based on this study, the West Java regional government should strengthen job creation programs, especially in labor-intensive sectors or creative industries that can absorb local workers, particularly in areas with high unemployment rates. To ensure effective utilization of government spending, it is recommended that APBD allocations focus on programs that have a direct impact on improving the welfare of the poor. The minimum wage policy should be synergized with protection measures for the informal sector and small businesses, in order to avoid unintended side effects such as workforce reduction. Controlling population density requires efforts to manage urbanization and promote sustainable development in suburban areas, so that the burden on metropolitan regions can be reduced.

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