



## The Effect of Economic Growth, Population, Minimum Wage, and HDI on Poverty

Zaki Alma'ruf<sup>✉</sup>

Development Economic Study Program, Economics Faculty, Universitas Negeri Semarang

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### Abstract

The purpose of this study was to analyze the effect of economic growth, population, minimum wage, and human development index on poverty rates in Central Java Province. This study uses quantitative methods with panel data, which is a combination of cross-section data from 35 districts/cities in the Central Java Province and time series data for the period 2015-2019. Tests in did study with the Fixed Effect Regression analysis method with the Generalized Least Square (GLS). The results showed that the variable of economic growth and human development index had a negative and significant effect, the population variable had a positive and significant effect, and while poverty rate variable had a positive and not significant effect. Suggestions from the results of this study are: (1) The Local Government should try to push the equal whole infrastructure. (2) KB (Family Plan) Program should be focused in every area of villages. (3) Every regency needs to set the value of minimum paid based on worth life's standard. (4) Increase the level of education in every village by repairing and adding more devices that support making education better.

**Keywords:** Level of Poverty, Economic Growth, Population, Minimum Wage, HDI

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<sup>✉</sup> Correspondence Address :

Address: Gedung L2 Lantai 2 FE Unnes  
Kampus Sekaran, Gunungpati, Semarang, 50229  
E-mail : [zakialmaruf@students.unnes.ac.id](mailto:zakialmaruf@students.unnes.ac.id)

### INTRODUCTION

The problem of poverty has become a serious concern in various countries, especially in developing countries. This can be seen from the large number of people who still live below the poverty line and most of them are in rural

areas that have limited access. Poverty can be interpreted as a condition where the minimum living needs are not fulfilled due to various factors such as low-income levels, low quality of life, minimum wages that are not able to meet the minimum living needs, and the increasing

number of poverty every year. The poverty that occurs will result in limited opportunities for the community to gain access to meet various basic needs.

Lewandowski (2008) explains that Poverty is a multidimensional problem that can affect

various dimensions. Both the social and economic dimensions. The social dimension here relates to differences in social status in society, while the economic dimension relates to the acquisition of income or economic conditions of a country.

**Table 1.** Poverty Rate in Java Island in 2015-2019 (Percent)

Province	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
DKI Jakarta	3,61	33,75	3,78	3,55	3,42
West Java	9,57	8,77	7,83	7,25	6,82
Central Java	13,32	13,19	12,23	11,19	10,58
DI Yogyakarta	13,16	13,1	12,36	11,81	11,44
East Java	12,28	11,85	11,20	10,85	10,20
Banten	5,75	5,36	5,59	5,25	4,94
Java Island	57,95	56,02	52,99	49,90	47,4
National	11,13	10,70	10,64	9,66	9,22

Source: Badan Pusat statistik, Processed 2021

The new economic view explains that the goals in economic development are not seen only from GDP development alone, but are also related to poverty alleviation, income inequality, and the availability of job opportunities in the context of an ever-evolving economy. (Todaro and Smith, 2011).

According to BPS (2021), Poverty is a condition of not meeting basic needs, both food and non-strive food which can be seen in terms of expenditure. In addition, Inegbedion (2021) explains that poverty is a consequence of unemployment because one of the main goals of the macroeconomy is the achievement of income levels and full employment opportunities.

Kathuria (2015) explains that the differences in poverty levels between rural and urban areas tend to be different. In rural areas poverty occurs due to isolation, lack of roads, poor infrastructure, and limited institutions,

while in urban areas poverty occurs due to low-quality housing, and overcrowded slums.

Poverty is a complex and multidimensional problem that in its handling needs to be implemented properly and correctly because based on the 1945 Constitution Article 34 paragraph 1 explains that "the poor and neglected children are cared for by the government". This means that the problem of poverty is the responsibility of the government that needs to be resolved immediately and cannot be ignored.

Economic development, which has tended to be centered on the island of Java, has not always been a benchmark in looking at the welfare of the people there, this fact can be seen from the emergence of poverty problems centered on the island of Java, especially the provinces of DIY, Central Java, and East Java. Based on data on the development of poverty rates in Java.

It can be seen that in 2015 the development of the national poverty rate was in the position of 11.13% then decreased again in 2016 by 10.70% and in the following three years to 10.64% in 2017, then in 2018 it was at 9.66% and in 2019 it decreased again to 9.22%. Based on table 1, it can be seen that the development of the poverty rate in Java is still uneven. Until 2019, the

development with the highest poverty rate was occupied by the DIY province with a percentage of 11.44% followed by Central Java Province in second place with a percentage of 10.58%. Then in third place is occupied by East Java Province at 10.20%. This figure is still much higher when we compare it with the development of the national poverty rate which is only at 9.22%.

**Table 2.** Gross Regional Domestic Product of Provinces in Java at Constant Prices 2015 – 2019 (Billion Rupiah)

Province	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
DKI Jakarta	1.454.563,9	1.539.916,9	1.635.359,2	1.736.291,1	1.838.500,7
West Java	1.207.232,3	1.275.619,2	1.343.662,1	1.419.689,1	1.491.705,8
Central Java	806.765,0	849.099,4	893.750,3	941.164,1	992.105,8
DI Yogyakarta	83.474,5	87.685,8	92.300,2	98.024,3	104.489,7
East Java	1.331.376,1	1.405.563,5	1.482.299,6	1.563.769,1	1.650.143,2
Banten	368.377,2	387.835,1	410.136,9	434.014,6	458.022,7

Source: Badan Pusat statistik, Processed 2021

Based on the agreement made by the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2015 it was explained that the development of the poverty rate should strive for less than 10%. However, if we look at the development of the poverty rate from 2015 to 2019 it shows that Central Java Province is still in the range of 10.58% or still above 10% so it is still hardcore poverty. The problem of poverty which is still relatively high needs to be considered because the impact of poverty itself can affect regional development.

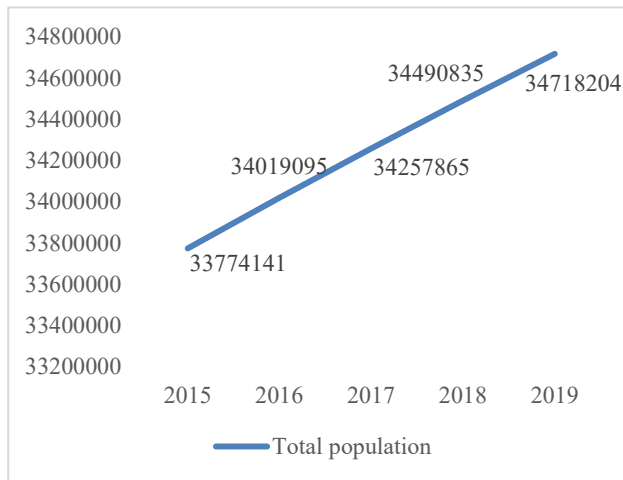
According to Todaro and Smith (2011), several factors can influence the emergence of poverty problems including low income, limited employment opportunities, slow economic growth, income inequality, and inadequate education and health facilities. Meanwhile, research conducted by Azizah (2018); Octasari (2016); Sofilda, et al (2013) explains that several

factors can influence the occurrence of poverty problems, namely economic growth, population, minimum wages, and HDI.

Tambunan (2011) explains that if economic growth has a very close relationship with poverty, wherein the first stage in the development process, the problem of poverty will tend to be higher and will gradually continue to decline in the final stage. In many countries, economic growth is the most important condition in promoting poverty reduction. Hirschman (1958) in the Trickle-down effect argues that the development of economic growth can have an impact on reducing poverty.

Economic growth is often used as one of the benchmarks used in seeing the extent to which economic development policies and programs can work. In general, the economic condition of a country can be described by the

country's GDP growth rate. Meanwhile, to see how much the regional economic performance can run well, it can be seen from the regional GRDP.



**Figure 1.** The population of Central Java Province

Source: Badan Pusat statistik, Processed 2021

In table 2 it can be seen that the GRDP development of each province in 2015-2019 always increases. The area with the highest GRDP is occupied by DKI Jakarta Province, then in the next position, it is occupied by the Provinces of East Java, West Java, and Central Java. DKI Jakarta's high GRDP growth is due to its position as the center of government and the center of the economy which attracts people to get jobs.

Based on the contribution of each province to the development of GRDP in Java, it can be seen that Central Java Province is the fourth largest contributor to GRDP in Java. and is included in one of the five largest GRDP contributor provinces nationally. However, on closer inspection, there are indications that the economic growth that has occurred is false. This can be seen from the high poverty problem in Central Java Province, although the GDP growth

can be said to be good. Poverty is still a problem that has yet to be resolved.

The poverty rate of Central Java Province which is still quite high is thought to be influenced by several factors, including the number of people, high population growth will be very meaningful in encouraging economic development if it is accompanied by an increase in the quality of its human resources. However, this will be different when the increase in the number of people has inadequate quality because the uncontrolled development of the population will result in hampering the goals of economic development in realizing prosperity and reducing poverty.

**Table 3.** Provincial Minimum Wage in Central Java Province 2015-2019 (IDR)

Year	UMP
2015	910.000
2016	-
2017	1.367.000
2018	1.486.065
2019	1.605.396

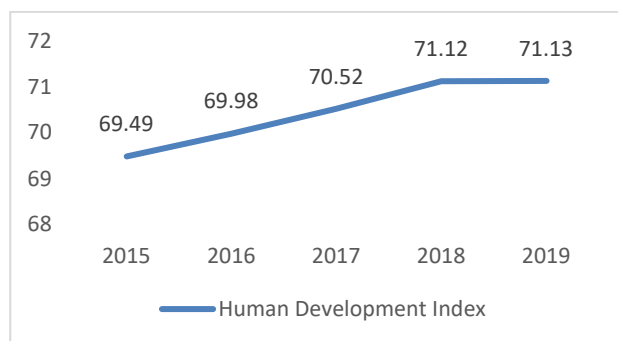
Source: Badan Pusat statistik, Processed 2021

Sofilda, et al (2013) in their research explain if there is a positive and significant influence between the population on the poverty level. So that an increase in the population will lead to an increase in the level of poverty that occurs. A similar study by Aziza, et al (2018) explains that the population variable has a positive and significant influence on the development of the poverty level.

Figure 1 is data on population development in 2015-2019. Figure 1 shows that the population growth from 2015 to 2019 always shows an increase. although the rate of population development always increases, the population

increase in 2019 tends to be lower when compared to the population increase in 2018.

Another factor that is thought to influence the poverty rate here is the minimum wage. According to Rossi & Curtis (2013), the use of a living wage benchmark in seeing low incomes should be able to better describe the size of poverty from all the poorest households to households that at least have been able to meet the minimum needs. The determination of wages itself has been regulated by the ministry of manpower and transmigration through regulation no. Kep-226/Men/2000 related to changes to the Minister of Manpower Regulation No. 1 in 1999.



**Figure 2.** Human Development Index of Central Java Province for the 2015-2019 Period

Source: Badan Pusat statistik, Processed 2021

The low wages that have been set will affect the amount of income that can be obtained by the community in an area. The lower income earned by the community will have an impact on not meeting the minimum living needs (KHM) of the workforce. Octasari (2016) explains that the minimum wage has a negative and significant relationship with the poverty level. In addition, Atkinson et al. (2017) in their research explain that the minimum wage substantially has a large enough impact on changes in poverty reduction.

The determination of the minimum wage every year tends to always increase due to the standard application of the Central Java Governor's Decree. However, each city/district has a minimum wage that is not the same because the number of wages given will be adjusted to the conditions of each region. The distribution of the minimum wage can be seen in table 3.

The Provincial Minimum Wage is the basis used by regencies/cities that have not been able to determine the amount of the minimum wage in their area. Based on the data on the development of the minimum wage over the last 5 years, it has always increased in line with the development of the standard of Decent Living Needs (KHL) which is increasing.

Although the minimum wage continues to increase from year to year, the amount of the minimum wage that has been determined by each region must be far greater than the needs of a decent living community. Because the increase in wages that occurs will be very meaningless if the value of the *Kriteria Hidup Layak/KHL* (Decent Living Needs) is much greater than the minimum wage given. The new paradigm that is currently being developed is economic growth which is measured based on the quality of human development it has.

The development of Human Development Index (HDI) is a benchmark that is often used to see the extent to which the quality of human development is seen based on the quality of health, education, and economic level (purchasing power). The low value of the human development index of an area can affect the work productivity of the community, the lower the productivity of the community will result in low income received. so that the income has not been able to meet the minimum living needs

and will eventually increase the number of poor people (Ardila, 2017)

Ardila (2017) explains that in Indonesia investment in human resources is identical to poverty reduction. Efforts to improve quality in the fields of health and education will be very meaningful for the poor rather than the non-poor because the main capital owned by the poor is their manual labor. The availability of various affordable and adequate health and educational facilities will greatly contribute to the increase in their productivity which in turn affects the increase in income earned.

Samputra & Munandar (2019) in their research explains that HDI has a negative and significant influence on the development of poverty. Similar research conducted by Ardila (2017); Sofilda, et al (2013); shows that there is a negative and significant relationship between HDI and poverty levels. The higher HDI value indicates that the development of the quality of human resources has improved which can encourage an increase in work productivity and will ultimately affect the income received.

In Figure 2, we can see that the growth of the Human Development Index from 2015 to 2019 shows an increasingly improving development. In 2019 the HDI of Central Java Province reached 71.13. This shows that the government's efforts to support the improvement of the quality of human development have been going well. The higher the quality of human development in an area, the more likely it is to reduce poverty.

Referring to the background of the problem, it can be seen that in the 2015-2019 period, the poverty rate in Central Java has decreased, but the average decline in the poverty rate when compared to other regions is still quite high. The development of the poverty rate of Central Java

Province which is still above 10% shows that the problem of poverty in Central Java is still Hardcore poverty so government efforts are needed to reduce poverty problems, especially in the 2018-2023 Central Java *RPJMD* targeting the poverty rate in 2023 to be in the range of 7.48 percent-6.48 percent. Therefore, further research is needed to determine the various factors that can affect the development of poverty levels in Central Java Province so that each district/city can determine various better policies to reduce poverty levels.

## RESEARCH METHODS

This research is a type of quantitative descriptive research using data in the form of numbers which are then processed statistically. The resulting output will then be explained using descriptive analysis both by the theory and deviating from the existing theory.

This study uses panel data, which is a combination of time series data and cross-section. The period used is 5 years, namely in 2015 - 2019 with the object of research being 35 regencies/cities in Central Java Province. Data on poverty rate, economic growth, population, minimum wage, and human development index were obtained from the publication of the Central Java Province Statistics Agency.

The method of data analysis in this research is done by describing the factors that influence the problems used to support the panel data regression results. In this study, the variables used consisted of the dependent and independent variables. The dependent variable (Y) is the level of poverty and the independent variable (x) consists of economic growth, population, minimum wage, and human development index. The objects used in this study are all districts/cities in Central Java

Province. The type of data used in this study is secondary data obtained from the publication of the Central Statistics Agency.

The model used to see the effect of the independent variable on the dependent variable in this study uses a logarithmic (log) model. The use of the logarithmic model (log) aims to equalize units and minimize the possibility of heteroscedasticity because the transformation that places the variable measurement scale and the slope coefficient I can directly show the elasticity of Y to Xi, namely the percentage change in Y due to the percentage change in Xi (Gujarati, 2015). In this study, the model used is as follows:

$$TK_{it} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \log PDRB_{it} + \beta_2 \log P_{it} + \beta_3 \log UMK_{it} + \beta_4 \log IPM_{it} + \mu_{it}$$

Where TK is Poverty Level, logPDRB is Gross Regional Domestic Product at constant 2010 prices used as a proxy economic growth, logJP is Total Population, logUMK is District/City Minimum Wage, IPM is Human Development Index,  $\beta_0$  is Constant,  $\beta_1$ - $\beta_3$  is Regression coefficient for each research variable, log is logarithm,  $\mu_{it}$  is error at time t for cross-section unit i, i is cross-section and t is time series.

Because in this study using secondary data, before testing the hypothesis through the t-test and F test, it is necessary to test the classical assumptions first. Classical assumptions used include normality test, multicollinearity test, heteroscedasticity test, and autocorrelation test.

The test results in this study indicate that the test data is free from the classical assumption test problem so that the model is feasible to use. In the panel data, there are three models, namely the common effect model, the

fixed-effect model, and the random effect model. Several methods can be used in selecting the best model for panel data, including the Chow test, Hausman test, and LM test.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

To estimate the effect of economic growth, population, minimum wage, and human development index on poverty levels in 2015-2018, it is necessary to first test the model estimation to select the best model using the Chow and Hausman tests. Testing is done to choose the best model that can be used between Fixed Effect and Common Effect. Determination of the best model is based on the probability magnitude of Cross-section F. if the probability of Cross-section F < 0.05. then Fixed Effect is used. Table 4 are the results of the tests that have been carried out.

**Table 4.** Chow Test

Test Effect	Statistik	d.f.	Prob.
Cross section F	84.339287	(34,136)	0.0000
Cross section Chi-square	541.605850	34	0.0000

Source: eviews 10, 2021

Based on table 4, shows that the probability value of the cross-section F in the test is 0.0000 < 0.05 (significance 5%) so that Fixed Effect is the best model chosen. Because the tests that have been carried out show the selected FEM model, the Hausman test needs to be carried out at a later stage.

Hausman test is used in selecting the best model by comparing the Fixed Effect with the Random Effect. Like in the Chow test, decision-making in the Hausman test is based on the

value of the Chi-Squared. If the Chi-Squared is less than 0.05 then Fixed Effect is chosen as the best model. On the other hand, if the Chi-Squared Probability is more than 0.05, then Random Effect is selected. The test results can be seen in table 5.

**Table 5.** Hausman Test

Effect Test	Chi-Sq. Statistic	Chi-Sq. d.f	Prob.
Cross-section random	10.561056	4	0.0320

Source: eviews 10, 2021

Based on the test results show the probability value of Chi-Square <0.05 so that the best model that can be used in data estimation is Fixed Effect. Following the results of selecting the best model in panel data regression analysis, it shows that the Fixed Effect is used in making estimates. The estimation results can be seen in table 6. Based on the estimation results in the fixed effect, the regression coefficients of each variable in the study are as follows:

$$TK = 63.378774 - 10.31241 \text{ Log(PDRB)} + 15.06216 \text{ Log(JP)} + 1.342942 \text{ Log(UMK)} - 40.84415 \text{ Log(IPM)} + \text{eit}$$

Based on the estimation on table 6, it is known that the variable economic growth has a negative and significant influence on the poverty rate. The regression coefficient value shows a negative sign of -10.31241 and a probability of 0.0000 <0.05. This means that if it is assumed that economic growth increases by 1 percent, the poverty rate will decrease by 10,31241 percent, meaning that the problem of poverty will decrease. The estimation results are by the hypothesis in the study which explains that

economic growth has a significant effect on poverty levels.

In addition, the estimation results are also by the trickle-down effect, which explains that the benefits of economic growth will decrease from top to bottom, meaning that the increase in real income levels that occurs will flow from high-income people to low-income people. Economic growth can be very profitable if the growth can be felt by the whole community.

Tambunan (2011) explains that there is a very close relationship between economic growth and poverty, where in the first stage of development the poverty rate will be greater and will gradually decrease in the final stage. In addition, Kuznets believes that the development process will be accompanied by a substantial increase in inequality so that the poor can benefit from economic growth.

In addition, Rusdarti & Sebayang (2013); Megawati & Sebayang (2018) Giovanni (2018); Mansi, et al (2020) in their research show that there is a negative and significant relationship between economic growth and poverty levels. This means that the higher the economic growth of a region will have an impact the greater the reduction in the level of poverty that occurs.

Based on the estimation results above, it is known that the population variable has a positive and significant influence on the poverty level. The regression coefficient value shows a positive sign of 15.06216 and the probability value of 0.0039 < (0.05). so if it is assumed that the population has increased by 1 percent, the poverty rate will increase by 15,06216 percent, which means that poverty will increase.

These results are in line with the hypothesis in the study which explains that the population has a significant influence on the poverty level. This study shows that the



population has a positive influence on the poverty level in Central Java Province. Sofilda, et al (2013) in their research explain if there is a positive and significant influence between the population on the poverty level. so that an

increase in population can affect increasing the level of poverty. In addition, Aziza, et al (2018) in the research conducted explained that there was a positive and significant influence between the number of residents on the poverty level.

**Table 6.** Fixed Effect Model Results

Variable	Coefficient	t-statistik	Prob.	Results
Economic Growth Log (PDRB)	-10.31241	-4.468359	0.0000	Significant
Total Population (JP)	15.06216	2.632557	0.0095	Significant
Minimum Wage (UMK)	1.342942	1.236959	0.2182	Not Significant
Human Development Index (IPM)	-40.84415	-4198196	0.0000	Significant
R-Square (R <sup>2</sup> )				0.989629
Adjusted R-Square (R <sup>2</sup> )				0.986731
Durbin Watson Stat				1.831652
F-Statistic				341.5198
Probability (f-statistic)				0.000000

Source: eviews 10, 2021

Based on the estimates that have been made, it is known that the minimum wage variable has no significant effect on the poverty level. The value of the regression coefficient shows a positive sign of 1.1.342942 and a probability of 0.2182 > (0.05). These results are not by the research hypothesis. In the estimation results in this study, we can see if the minimum wage variable does not have a significant effect on the poverty level.

Thus, an increase in the minimum wage will not affect the increase in the level of poverty. This is presumably due to several sectors supporting the economy in Central Java, namely the agricultural, services, and trade sectors, where these sectors are the informal sector. In the informal sector, it is still not able to prosper the community, even though the average community works in the sector.

The application of the minimum wage which only applies to the formal sector makes

the benefits of the application of wages only felt by some people. This result is also not in line with the research of Atkinson, et al. (2017) which states that the minimum wage substantially has a large enough influence on changes in poverty reduction.

A similar study conducted by Lutfi, et al (2016) explained that the application of the minimum wage can affect poverty reduction. His research shows that there is a negative and significant effect of the minimum wage on the number of poor people. These results seem to provide greater evidence for the observed effect of Overstreet (2021) that the minimum wage is not an efficient policy tool in reducing poverty.

His research shows that only a small effect is given to the increase in poverty due to the determination of the minimum wage. In addition, Pauw and Leibbrandt (2011) in their research on the effect of the minimum wage on poverty in South Africa show that wage

determination is not an effective policy in overcoming the problem of poverty because of poor policy targeting. impact on the entire workforce may be negative or no impact.

The human development index variable has a negative and significant effect on the poverty level with the regression coefficient showing a negative sign of -0,84415 and a probability value of 0.0000 < (0.05). so if it is assumed that the human development index increases by 1 percent, the poverty rate will decrease by 0,84415 percent. This means that poverty will decrease.

The estimation results are by the hypothesis in the study which explains that HDI has a significant effect on poverty levels. This study shows that HDI hurts poverty levels in Central Java. These results are also in line with the new growth theory which explains that the government has an important role to play in encouraging the development of human capital. The increased quality of human resources can be seen from the increase in one's knowledge and skills.

The development of knowledge and skills can affect increasing a person's productivity and income so that it can have an impact on reducing poverty. HDI as one of the factors of human resource development has a negative relationship to the growth rate of the poor. This can also be seen from the development of HDI which always increases every year.

The estimation results are by the research by Samputra & Munandar (2019) which explains that there is a negative and significant relationship between HDI and poverty. Similar research conducted by Ardila (2017); Sofilda, et al (2013); states that HDI has a negative and significant effect on poverty levels. A high HDI indicates the better quality of human resources

in the area. So that the quality improvement can affect the increase in work productivity and the end can affect the amount of income earned. With an increase in income, people will be able to meet their needs better and in the end, the poverty level will decrease.

However, the results in this study are not in line with the research by Isa, et al. (2019) which explains that the HDI, which is a benchmark for regional achievement in three main things which include life expectancy, education level, and a decent standard of living, has a positive and significant influence on the poverty level.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research and testing, it can be concluded that the variable economic growth has a negative and significant effect on the poverty level of Central Java Province. The population variable has a positive and significant effect on the poverty level of Central Java Province. The minimum wage variable has a positive and insignificant effect on the poverty level of Central Java Province. The human development index variable has a negative and significant effect on the poverty level of Central Java Province.

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