

ABSTRACT

Poverty remains a major development issue in Central Java Province, with varying levels across regencies and cities. This study aims to analyze the effects of the Human Development Index (HDI), population size, minimum wage, and social assistance on poverty levels across regencies/cities in Central Java during the 2018–2023 period. The study employs secondary data obtained from the Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS), organized as panel data covering 35 regencies/cities. Panel data regression is used as the analytical method with data processing conducted using EViews software, while the most appropriate model is selected through the Chow test and Hausman test. The results indicate that social assistance has a significant effect on poverty levels in Central Java, whereas HDI, population size, and minimum wage do not show a significant effect during the study period. These findings suggest that social assistance continues to play an important role in poverty reduction, while improvements in human development and economic policies have not yet produced significant short-term impacts. Therefore, this study recommends enhancing the effectiveness and targeting accuracy of social assistance programs, alongside strengthening human development and employment policies to achieve sustainable poverty reduction in Central Java.

Keywords: poverty, Human Development Index, social assistance, population, minimum wage, Central Java.

