

ABSTRACT

Poverty is one of the main challenges faced by governments in many countries, especially in developing countries like Indonesia. Economic growth imbalance leads to income disparities, both between individuals and regions. Central Java, with its large population, faces serious challenges in poverty alleviation. This study employs the Divisive Hierarchical Clustering method to group regencies/cities in Central Java based on poverty indicators. The DHC method groups regions based on certain variables without assigning labels, starting with the assumption that all objects belong to a single cluster, followed by a gradual splitting process until each object forms its own cluster. The analysis results show that the optimal cluster formation consists of 2 clusters, with a Silhouette Coefficient value of 0.3719. Cluster 1 consists of 28 regencies/cities with high poverty levels, while Cluster 2 consists of 7 regencies/cities with low poverty levels.

Keywords : Poverty, Clustering, Divisive Hierarchical Clustering, Central Java