



PORTRAIT OF OPEN UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE FACTORS INFLUENCING IT IN INDONESIA'S WEST NUSA TENGGARA

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Abstract

This study aims to photograph the condition of open unemployment in West Nusa Tenggara, and some of the factors that influence it. The type of research is descriptive quantitative using secondary data sourced from the Central Bureau of Statistics of West Nusa Tenggara and related agencies/agencies. The results of observations and analysis, when viewed according to sex, the open unemployment rate of male is higher than female. When viewed according to the regional classification, it can be seen that the level of open levy in urban areas is higher than in rural areas. The 2022 labor force participation rate has increased compared to 2020 and 2021. Shot by sex, the male labor force participation rate is much greater than the female labor force participation rate. When viewed according to regional classification, the labor force participation rate in rural areas is slightly higher than the labor force participation rate in urban areas. When viewed according to the highest level of education completed. The labor force with the highest university education has the largest labor force participation rate, while the lowest is the labor force with education graduated from junior high school/equivalent. Based on the results of regression calculations, it shows that economic growth, inflation, and investment have a positive effect on the unemployment rate in West Nusa Tenggara for the 2018-2022 period.

Keywords: unemployment, economic growth, inflation, investment

INTRODUCTION

Employment issues in Indonesia are influenced by several important factors such as foreign capital, investment climate protection, global markets, and bureaucratic behavior as well as the "pressure" of wage increases (Majalah Nakertrans, 2014). Regional autonomy which in many ways also does not have a positive effect on the labor force. The problems of poverty, income inequality, economic growth, urbanization, and political stability also greatly affect employment. Rucker as reported by Majalah Nakertrans, suspects that labor problems in Indonesia are multidimensional so they also require multidimensional way There are no shortcuts, and simple to overcome it.s of solving as well.

Indonesia is the 4th most populous country in the world. This density makes Indonesia have a high number of unemployed One of the main problems faced by the Indonesian nation is the problem of unemployment. The supply of labor that exceeds the demand for labor is a problem in developing human resources. Low levels of investment and low quality of

human resources are the causes of low demand for labor (Suryana, 2000).

Unemployment is a term for people who are not working at all or are looking for work. This unemployment has become an economic problem in various countries including in Indonesia. High unemployment has a direct or indirect impact on poverty, crime, and socio-political problems that are also increasing. Because, with the unemployment, the level of productivity and income of the community becomes reduced, and there was poverty and social trouble. Unemployment can be caused by lack of employment caused by a sluggish economy, lack of self-potential, lack of work skills, decreased income tax, and a decreased level of public welfare. Although the level of investment is high, the level of demand for local labor remains low (Suryana, 2000). This is because what is needed for certain investments is a labor force that has certain qualifications as well. The limitation of employment outside the agricultural sector that can absorb labor raises the problem of open unemployment. Open unemployment usually occurs in working-age residents (labor) who have just completed middle and high school education (Kuncoro, 2010). There is a

tendency for those who have just completed education to try to find a job that suits their aspirations. Their aspirations are usually to work in the modern sector or in offices. To get the job they are willing to wait for some time.

The main economic indicators that affect unemployment are open such as economic growth, investment, and inflation. Harrod-Domar theory of economic growth (Soekardono, 2006) suggests that investment has an influence on aggregate supply because it can enlarge the production capacity of the economy by increasing the capital stock. Investment will increase production activities in a region or country so that it will open up new job opportunities and reduce the unemployment rate. The higher the investment level, the unemployment rate will decrease. Conversely, if the amount of investment decreases, the unemployment rate will increase. Another factor that is also related to unemployment is economic growth. Okun states that the unemployment rate will decline in years when the real growth rate is high, while the unemployment rate increases in years when the real growth rate remains low or even negative (Mankiw, 2000)). Regarding the relationship with inflation, Philips (Digdowiseiso, 2016) said, there is a reciprocal relationship between the unemployment rate and the inflation rate. If the demand for an item increases, the price of the item will also increase due to the limited availability of the item.

Unemployment is a problem that until now has not been overcome by both the state and the regions, including West Nusa Tenggara Province. Various policies have been carried out by the government such as monetary policy, fiscal policy, and other policies aimed at reducing unemployment. But in fact, with various policies made and issued by the government, it still cannot overcome the number of unemployment in West Nusa Tenggara. This can be seen from the data released by the Central Bureau of Statistics of West Nusa Tenggara Province in 2021, the number of unemployed in Nusa Tenggara Province has successively increased from year to year where in 2017 The number of unemployed people was recorded at 79,449 people, then in 2018 there was an increase to 83,252 people, the same thing happened in 2019 where the number of unemployed people still increased to 85,501 people And in 2020 there was a significant spike where the number of unemployed people increased to 113,430 people. Then in 2021, the number of unemployed people decreased to 82,050 people (West Nusa Tenggara Central Bureau of Statistics, 2020). Therefore, it is interesting to study, a portrait of open unemployment in West Nusa Tenggara, and some economic indicators that affect open unemployment in West Nusa Tenggara.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Manpower

Manpower, namely the working-age population is categorized into two groups, namely the labor force and not the labor force, The grouping is based on the main activities carried out during the past week during the enumeration. The labor force includes the population who are employed or have jobs but are temporarily unemployed and unemployed. Non-labor

force are residents whose main activities are schooling, taking care of the household, and other activities other than personal activities (West Nusa Tenggara Central Bureau of Statistics, 2022).

Unemployment

Unemployment can be described as a condition where there is a transfer of a number of labor factors to other fields which will not reduce the overall output of the original sector or it is said that the marginal productivity of the units of energy factors from which they work is zero or close to zero or also negative (Jhingan, 2014). Sukirno (2008) explained unemployment is a condition in which someone belonging to the labor force wants to get a job but has not been able to get it. Open Unemployment is a workforce that really does not have a job (not working at all) caused by the absence of employment or the mismatch of employment with the educational background and skills of the workforce. (Kuncoro, 2010). The Unemployment Rate is the percentage of the labor force that is unemployed or unemployed. The unemployment rate is one of the main indicators of a country's economic health because unemployment is related to the aggregate output level of the economy (Digdowiseiso, 2018). Keynes argued that in a free market system, the use of full labor is not always created so unemployment is inevitable (Sukirno, 2008).

Unemployment in Indonesia (West Nusa Tenggara) can be seen from the labor force participation rate which is the proportion of the Menpower included in the labor force, namely those who work and seek work (West Nusa Tenggara Central Bureau of Statistics, 2002).

Economic Growth

Economic growth is defined as an increase in Gross Domestic Product regardless of whether the increase is greater or less than the population growth rate or whether changes in economic structure occur or not. This means that regional economic growth will directly or indirectly create jobs. (Arsyad 2000). Okun who introduced Okun's Law (Mankiw, 2000) stated that there is a close relationship between the unemployment rate and the real Gross Domestic Product (GDP), where there is a negative relationship between the unemployment rate and real GDP. This statement can be interpreted to mean that there is a positive relationship between employment and real GDP. Harrod-Domar (Todaro, 2006) in his growth theory states that definitively the growth rate of output (Y) is reduced by the growth rate of labor productivity (Y/L) approximately equal to the growth of employment (L).

Inflation

Budiono (2008), inflation is the process of increasing the general prices of goods continuously. While Sukirno (2007) defines inflation as the process of increasing prices that prevail in an economy. that Inflation is a pull of demand, This inflation usually occurs during times when the economy is developing rapidly. High employment create high income levels and further incur expenditures that exceed the economy's ability to issue goods and services. While cost

inflation, namely inflation that applies when the economy is developing rapidly and the unemployment rate is very low. If companies still face growing demand, they will try to increase production by providing higher salaries and wages to their workers.

Investment

Rahardja and Manurung (2008) Investment is an expenditure that increases capital stock. The capital goods in question can be factories and equipment used in the production process. Investment is expenditure to purchase capital goods and production equipment with the aim of replacing and especially capital goods in the economy that will be used to produce goods and services in the future Sukirno (2020). Law Number 25 of 2007 Article 1 Investment is all forms of investment activities, both by domestic investors and foreign investors to do business in the territory of the Republic of Indonesia (Undang-undang Penanaman Modal, 2007).

III. RESEARCH METHODS

Types of Research

This research is a descriptive quantitative research, aimed at describing things that currently apply. In it there are efforts to describe, record, analyze, and interpret conditions that now occur or do not occur (Sugiyono, 2010), using West Nusa Tenggara data. Data analysis using secondary data sourced from related institutions/agencies for the 2018-2022 period.

Analysis Model

The Open Unemployment Rate is an indication of the manpower belonging to the unemployment group. The open unemployment rate is measured as the percentage of the number of unemployed/job seekers to the total labor force, which can be formulated as follows (Central Bureau of Statistics, 2023):

$$TPT = PK / AK \times 100 \%$$

$$TPAK = AK / TK \times 100 \%$$

Information:

TPT = Open Unemployment Rate

TPAK = Labor Force Participation Rate

PK = Job seekers

AK = Labor force

TK = Manpower

To see the effect of economic growth, investment, and inflation a linear regression analysis is used:

$$Y = a + b_1X_1 + b_2X_2 + b_3X_3 + e$$

Information:

Y = Unemployment Rate

a = Constant

b₁, b₂, b₃ = Regression Coefficient

X₁ = Economic growth

X₂ = Inflation

X₃ = Investment

e = Error rate

IV. RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Research Site Overview

West Nusa Tenggara Province is one of the provinces located in the Nusa Tenggara archipelago and part of the country of Indonesia. There are two large islands, namely Lombok Island with an area of 4,738.70 Km² and Sumbawa Island covering an area of 25,385.46 Km², with a land area of 15,414.5 Km² and sea waters of 9,970.97 Km². and there are about 378 small islands around it. Of the many islands in West Nusa Tenggara Province, only 38 inhabited islands are known which are usually called Gilis. The number of people aged 15 years and over or known as the manpower in West Nusa Tenggara based on the results of the August 2022 National Labor Force Survey is around 3.95 million people. The number consists of 1.93 million people (48.81 percent) of the male manpower and 2.02 million people (51.19 percent) of the female manpower. Based on the comparison of the number of male and female workers, the sex ratio of workers in West Nusa Tenggara is 95.35 percent, or it can be said that among 100 female manpower there are 95 male manpower (Central Bureau of Statistics, 2023). This condition in addition to showing the higher availability of female manpower in the labor market compared to male, also shows that female manpower contribute to the potential for economic growth in West Nusa Tenggara.

The percentage of manpower in West Nusa Tenggara according to regional classification is not much different for each year. In 2022, the percentage of rural manpower is slightly lower (48.70 percent) compared to the percentage of urban manpower (51.30 percent). The composition of the manpower by sex also shows the same pattern every year, the percentage of female manpower is always slightly higher than the percentage of the male manpower. In 2022, the percentage of female manpower is 51.19 and male is 48.81 percent. The percentage of female and rural manpower has tended to decrease over the past 3 years.

The number of labor force in West Nusa Tenggara in 2022 reached 2.80 million people, an increase compared to 2021 which reached 2.74 million people. Meanwhile, the number of people who are not in the labor force in 2022 reached 1.15 million people, a slight increase compared to the condition in 2021 which reached 1.14 million people. The number of labor force in West Nusa Tenggara is twice as much as non-labor force. When viewed according to gender, the number of male labor force is more than the female labor force. In contrast, the number of non-male labor force is lower than that of female labor force. When viewed according to regional classification, the number of labor force in rural areas is slightly higher than the labor force in urban areas. Conversely, the number of non-labor force in urban areas is higher than that of non-labor force in rural areas.

Portrait of Open Unemployment Rate and Labor Force Participation Rate

The labor force is a group of manpower that is ready to participate in the labor market and is active in economic activity. Those who fall into this category are those who are employed and those who are unemployed. The total labor force in 2022 will reach 2.80 million people or 70.93 percent of the total manpower in West Nusa Tenggara. This number

increased by around 59.29 thousand people compared to 2021. The increase is due to the increase in productive labor (Central Bureau of Statistics West Nusa Tenggara, 2023). This shows that the male manpower is more economically active than female.

The open unemployment rate in West Nusa Tenggara from 2018 to 2022 has a downward trend, although it had experienced an increase in 2020. In 2018 the open unemployment rate of 3.58 percent in 2019 fell to 3.28 percent then in 2020 it increased by 4.22 percent, in 2021 to 3.01 percent, in 2022 it was 2.89 percent.

Open Unemployment Rate

The open unemployment rate is an indicator that describes the level of labor supply that is not used or absorbed by the job market. The open unemployment rate gives an indication of the working-age population belonging to the unemployment group. The open unemployment rate is calculated based on the ratio of the number of unemployed to the total labor force, expressed as a percentage. The open unemployment rate of West Nusa Tenggara Province in 2022 was recorded at 2.89 percent which means that among 100 people in the labor force, there are about 2 to 3 people who are unemployed or looking for work.

When viewed by sex, The male open unemployment rate is higher than the female unemployment rate. The male open unemployment rate was recorded at 3.61 percent while the female open unemployment rate was 1.91 percent. The open unemployment rate figure shows that in 2022 the proportion of unemployed men is higher than women.

When viewed according to the region of residence, The urban unemployment rate was 3.52 percent, higher than the rural unemployment rate of 2.28 percent. High levels of open unemployment in urban areas have the potential to trigger social insecurity. Conditions that also need to be watched out for are the increase in the number of unemployed in rural areas, considering that the proportion of labor force in West Nusa Tenggara is higher in rural areas, of course this will affect the overall open unemployment rate to be higher as well.

Unemployment occurs as a result of imperfect labor markets, or the inability of the labor market to absorb existing labor. This condition resulted in the emergence of a number of workers who were not empowered in economic activities. The existence of unemployment indicates that there are still people who have not optimally utilized their abilities in meeting the needs of themselves and their families. Therefore, this matter needs serious attention in an effort to reduce unemployment and increase labor productivity.

When viewed from the labor age group category, the workforce of the 25-54 years age group in West Nusa Tenggara who work is around 81.21 percent, while the remaining 18.79 percent is included as the unemployment category and not the labor force. The percentage of the population who are unemployed and not in the labor force in the age group of 25-54 years is relatively small compared to

other age groups. The low percentage of the age group of 25-54 years who are unemployed and not in the labor force because most of the menpower in this age group have families and have the responsibility of providing for their families so they are required to have jobs, The highest percentage of unemployment is indicated in the age group of 15-24 years because in that age group, there are people who have just finished school or dropped out of school but are still in the stage of looking for work. Another phenomenon that can be studied related to the population in the age group of 15-24 years is that the population of this age group is mostly school-age residents who should carry out secondary to college education activities. However, about 41.71 percent of the group has worked. In other words, the labor force in this young age group is a new labor force that does not have much experience when entering the corporate world. Similarly, in the old age group, most of the total population of the age group of 55 years and over still choose work as their main daily activity. Workers in this age group tend not to be able to work optimally compared to other age groups due to inadequate physical conditions, this is information from the Central Bureau of Statistics West Nusa Tenggara (2023).

The labor force living in urban areas is 49.20 percent and those living in rural areas is 50.80 percent. This condition indicates that West Nusa Tenggara residents who live in rural areas have a higher potential to be active in economic activities than residents who live in urban areas. This condition can also be attributed to the high absorption of labor in employment sectors in rural areas. On the other hand, the high labor force in rural areas can be a motivating factor for rural residents to move to urban areas to get better jobs, or looking for jobs that are in accordance with competence because employment opportunities in urban areas are more and varied than rural areas. Thus, the risk opportunity that will be faced in the future is that rural areas will experience a shortage of manpower and these conditions make rural areas difficult to develop. While in urban areas will trigger an increase in social insecurity and unemployment.

When viewed according to sex the working male labor force is higher than the female labor force. This can be understood because in the culture of the people of West Nusa Tenggara male are the main breadwinners in the family so that it is more active in economic activities. Meanwhile, the working female labor force amounted to 58.03 percent of the total female workforce. Manpower who are working or who are economically active can at any time quit their jobs or be laid off so that they become unemployed. The percentage of the manpower categorized as unemployed only reached 2.05 percent.

The labor force participation rate indicates the size of the economically active manpower in a region. The labor force participation rate is measured as the percentage of the total labor force (employed and unemployed) to the total manpower. The higher the labor force participation rate, the greater the share of the manpower that is actually engaged or trying to engage in productive activities such as producing goods and services within a certain period of time. The

participation rate of the West Nusa Tenggara labor force in 2022 was recorded at 70.93 percent, which can be interpreted that out of 100 manpower, there are around 70 to 71 people in the labor force, or economically active either working or looking for work. West Nusa Tenggara's labor force participation rate has increased compared to 2020 and 2021. The increase in the labor force participation rate in 2022 conditions shows a change in the pattern of people's daily activities, where the community becomes more economically active. On the one hand, the Covid-19 pandemic caused some manpower to lose their jobs so that the increase in the labor force participation rate was partly due to an increase in the open unemployment rate in West Nusa Tenggara. On the other hand, the increase in West Nusa Tenggara's labor force participation rate is also caused by the increase in the number of manpower employed. The Covid-19 pandemic has caused more residents' activities at home, including working from home. This condition provides an opportunity for women who previously took care of the household to work from home. The number of female manpower working in 2022 where the percentage reached 58.03 percent and increased compared to 2021 (57.82 percent), and the percentage of female taking care of the household in 2022 (31.22 percent) decreased compared to 2021 (31.83 percent).

Reviewed by sex, the male labor force participation rate is much greater than the female labor force participation rate. The labor force participation rate in 2022 for male is 83.27 percent, while female are 59.16 percent. The high rate of male labor force participation when compared to female again shows that male tend to be more economically active than female. The male manpower is more active outside the home, while the female manpower spends more of their time taking care of the household at home. This phenomenon is in line with the stigma that develops in society that male are obliged to earn a living while female take care of the household.

When viewed by region of residence (Rural/Urban), the labor force participation rate in rural areas is slightly higher than the labor force participation rate in urban areas. The labor force participation rate in rural areas is 73.98 percent, while in urban areas it is 68.03 percent. In general, workers living in rural areas are more easily absorbed into the job market because most jobs in rural areas do not demand special requirements or specifications for their labor needs, Such as not requiring labor with high education or labor with special skills. This is reflected in economic sectors that are usually found in rural areas such as agriculture, forestry, and fisheries.

Potert according to the highest level of education completed. The university-educated manpower has the largest labor force participation rate, at 88.48 percent. While the lowest is the educated manpower graduated from junior high school/equivalent, which is 57.49 percent. In general, it can be explained that the higher the level of education, the higher the labor force participation rate. Except for manpower with elementary school education / equivalent and below, where the labor force participation rate for the education level is quite high at 72.40 percent. Poorly educated manpower usually do not choose in jobs because of their educational

qualifications, so most of them are absorbed in the informal or traditional sector labor market. This phenomenon is a positive thing because it can reduce unemployment, but on the other hand, it will have an impact on the low average wage of labor in a region. In urban and rural areas, there is almost the same pattern, where the labor force participation rate of elementary school graduation and below is higher than that of junior high school graduation/equivalent. Meanwhile, the labor force participation rate for diploma education and above is higher than the level of education below. In general, the labor force participation rate of each level of education in rural areas is always higher than in urban areas. This shows that the level of participation of laborforce in rural areas to be economically active is higher than in urban areas.

Factors Affecting Unemployment in West Nusa Tenggara 2018-2022

One of the causes of low living standards is the lack of utilization of labor and inefficient use of labor. The inefficient and substandard use of labor was mainly due to open unemployment, That is, a workforce that is able and willing to work but there are no jobs that will accommodate it. In general, regions in developing countries are growing their labor force faster than growing employment. The demand for labor in the formal sector has not increased significantly, this could be because economic growth is not sufficient enough for the creation of new jobs in the formal sector. If other factors are constant, such as no rural-urban migration, the technology used is labor-intensive, and the prices of factors of production are not distorted, economic growth will increase the growth of employment.

Based on the calculation results, it shows that the variable economic growth has a positive insignificant influence on the unemployment rate in West Nusa Tenggara. This result is evidenced by the calculated t value of $1.503 < 2.23$ t table, meaning that t count is smaller than t table or the probability value t calculate on the economic growth variable of 0.164 where the probability value t calculate $> 5\%$ or $0.164 > 0.05$ (the probability t count is greater than the real level of 5 percent).

Inflation has a positive and significant influence on the unemployment rate. This is evidenced by the calculated t value of $2.708 > 2.228$ t table, meaning that t count is greater than t table or the probability value t calculate on the inflation variable of 0.02 where the probability value t calculate $< 5\%$ or $0.02 < 0.05$ (probability t count is smaller than the real level of five percent).

Investment has a positive and insignificant influence on the unemployment rate. This result is evidenced by the calculated t value of $0.87 < 2.23$ t table, meaning that t count is smaller than t table or the probability value t calculate on the investment variable of 0.40 where the probability value t calculate $> 5\%$ or $0.40 > 0.05$ (the probability t count is greater than the real level of five percent). Investment has a positive and insignificant relationship or influence on the unemployment rate in West Nusa Tenggara Province. Based on the results of multiple regression, the investment

coefficient value is 0.04, which means that if there is an increase in the value of investment by one percent, the unemployment rate will increase by 0.04 percent.

V. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusion

1. During the 2018-2022 period, the open unemployment rate in West Nusa Tenggara experienced a downward trend.
2. The open unemployment rate of male labor is higher than female labor.
3. The open unemployment rate in urban areas is higher than in rural areas.
4. Open unemployment rate Judging from the labor age group category, the labor age group of 25-54 is the age group with the highest open unemployment rate.
5. The labor force participation rate of male is greater than that of female.
6. According to the area of residence (Rural/Urban), the labor force participation rate in rural areas is slightly higher than in urban areas.
7. Viewed according to the highest level of education completed. The population with the highest university education has the largest TPAK, while the lowest is the population with a junior high school graduation/equivalent.
8. Economic growth, inflation, and investment have a positive effect on the open unemployment rate in West Nusa Tenggara for the 2018-2022 period.

Suggestion

1. It is expected that the manpower will have an entrepreneurial spirit, and develop an effective independent manpower program to form an independent manpower in order to expand measurable and sustainable employment.
2. It is expected to make the Job Training Center more effective as a Vocational Training Center which is a center for competency development and labor productivity that is competitive at the national and international levels.
3. It is hoped that the strategic policy direction of existing employment link and match can be a means to bring together job seekers with job market demand.

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