

ABSTRACT

Poverty remains one of the major development challenges in Indonesia. One of the government's efforts to reduce poverty is through the Non-Cash Food Assistance (BPNT) Program. This study aims to analyze the effect of the BPNT budget allocation on poverty levels across provinces in Indonesia by including Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) per capita, Mean Years of Schooling (MYS), the Open Unemployment Rate (OUR), and the Gini Ratio as control variables. This study employs panel data from 34 provinces in Indonesia covering the period of 2018–2024, consisting of 238 observations. The analysis is conducted using the Pooled Ordinary Least Squares (Pooled OLS) method with White Cross-section (Period Cluster) Robust Standard Errors. The results indicate that the BPNT budget allocation has a negative and statistically significant effect on poverty. In addition, GRDP per capita and Mean Years of Schooling have negative and significant effects, while the Gini Ratio has a positive and significant effect on poverty. Meanwhile, the Open Unemployment Rate has a positive but statistically insignificant effect on poverty.

Keywords: *Non-Cash Food Assistance (BPNT), poverty, Pooled Ordinary Least Squares, panel data.*