

ABSTRACT

The high crime rate in Indonesia poses a serious threat to public safety and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) point 16. This condition is influenced by the sub-optimal law enforcement, as reflected in the clearance rate during the 2018–2023 period. This study aims to analyze the effect of law enforcement (clearance rate), socioeconomic factors (GRDP per capita, poor population, underemployment, income inequality, education), demographic factors (population density, sex ratio), and political conditions on crime rates in 34 Indonesian provinces from 2018 to 2023. This study period also covers the COVID-19 pandemic (2020–2022), which is controlled through a dummy variable to identify potential external shocks to crime dynamics.

This study uses the Geographically Weighted Panel Regression (GWPR) approach with an adaptive Bisquare kernel weighting scheme to capture spatial heterogeneity that cannot be explained by the global model. Based on the GWPR estimation results, the local model is shown to be far superior in explaining data variability compared to the FEM, achieving an R^2 value of 0.8149 compared to 0.4381; this result is also supported by a lower AIC value. The clearance rate variable consistently has a negative and significant effect on crime rates in 19 provinces. Meanwhile, all other socioeconomic, demographic, and political variables show directions and magnitudes of influence that vary spatially across provinces. These findings prove that the determinants of crime in Indonesia are highly contextual and cannot be uniformly generalized, thus requiring the formulation of place-based crime reduction policies.

Keywords: *Crime Rate, Clearance Rate, Spatial Heterogeneity, Geographically Weighted Panel Regression (GWPR), Place-Based Policy.*

