



# Analysis of the independence of regional financial management after and after covid-19 a case study of South Sumatra Province Districts

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## ABSTRACT

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The Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the economic sector, especially in the Province of South Sumatra, which has caused a decrease in regional financial income. This study aims to analyze the comparison of effectiveness, efficiency and regional financial independence before and during the Covid-19 pandemic in regencies/cities in South Sumatra Province. In this study, there were 17 district/city governments in South Sumatra Province which were sampled using the saturated sampling method. The data totaled 34 for each variable before and during Covid-19. The analytical tool used in this study is the Difference Test. The results of this study indicate that there are significant differences in the effectiveness and efficiency of regional finances before and during Covid-19).

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## INTRODUCTION

State financial management has an important role, namely to maintain, guarantee existence, and finance state management to achieve prosperity. A good government system can be achieved if the government can guarantee public interests or services in a balanced manner by involving cooperation between the state, society, government and the private sector (Priharjanto & Hadiwibowo, 2021). One of them is the regional government whose role is to manage sources of income, allocate funds sourced from the Regional Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBD) for development costs, obtain other sources of income in accordance with the law to accelerate development (Mardiasmo, 2018).

The effectiveness ratio is the ratio that shows the ability of local governments to realize the planned Local Original Revenue (PAD) compared to the target Regional Original Revenue (PAD) which is set based on the real potential of a region (Mardiasmo, 2018). based on Amin & Yunita (2022) The greater the actual receipt of Regional Original Revenue (PAD) compared to the target of receipt of Regional Original Revenue (PAD), the more effective it will be. Efficiency is the comparison between the input and output of the existing plan. The efficiency ratio is the comparison between the realization of spending and the realization of regional income received (Mardiasmo, 2018). The

smaller the efficiency ratio, the better regional financial management. The regional financial independence ratio is a comparison between regional original income and total regional income (Mardiasmo, 2018).

Regional financial management must be carried out in accordance with effectiveness, efficiency and independence which is carried out optimally, because it relates to the target and realization of regional income (Khaerati, 2018). If financial management is not yet effective, efficient and independent, it is necessary to improve the implementation of financial management. This aims to improve the management and availability of funds for development so that regional independence is guaranteed Arif & Tania (2022) The Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the surrounding community and globally. One of them is in the economic sector, especially in South Sumatra Province. According to data processed by DJPK from district and city budgets throughout Sumatra in 2021, it shows that out of 17 regencies/cities in South Sumatra Province, there are 10 regions that have experienced a decline in the effectiveness of regional finances. Then, there are 13 regions whose regional financial efficiency has decreased. For regional financial independence, there are 5 regions that have experienced a decline (djpk ministry of finance, 2022).

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the economy in Indonesia according to research by Yamali & Princess (2020), namely: the problem of layoffs that are rife in large companies, 90% of employees are laid off and 10% of employees are laid off; Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) fell 45.3% in March 2020; Imports fell 3.7% in the first quarter of 2020; inflation of up to 2.96% (yoy) for gold and commodity prices in March 2020; there was a decline in the aviation, tourism, hotel and trade sectors by up to 50% (djpk ministry of finance, 2022). The government issued the Presidential Instruction of the Republic of Indonesia no. 4 of 2020 concerning refocusing activities, budget reallocation, and procurement of goods and services to accelerate the handling of the Covid-19 pandemic (Andriyani, 2022).

From environmental sources from the South Sumatra Regional Government and the 2021 Regional Fiscal Study, comparative information was obtained between the realization of APBD revenues for the South Sumatra Province. In 2019 the total realization of regional income is Rp. 8.87 trillion, then decreased drastically by 5.86 trillion in 2020. Then increased again in 2021 to Rp. 6.87 trillion. The decline in the realization of regional revenues in 2020 was due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Revenue recovery in 2021 due to realization of transfer income increased by Rp. 0.82 trillion compared to 2020 to Rp. 5.70 trillion. Furthermore, the realization of regional original income has increased from 2020, namely Rp. 936 billion to Rp. 1.17 trillion in 2021. Meanwhile, the sources obtained are based on a comparison between the realization of APBD spending in South Sumatra Province (djpk ministry of finance, 2022). In 2019 the total regional expenditure realization was Rp. 4.44 trillion, and experienced a drastic decrease in 2020, namely Rp. 3.56 trillion. Then, it will decrease again in 2021 to reach 3.12 trillion. The decrease in total regional financial spending in 2021 came from transfer spending, the realization of which was only 1.9 percent of the ceiling of Rp. 6.167 trillion, in contrast to the 2020 and 2021 periods which reached 5 percent and 21 percent. Then, the realization of operational expenditure for the Province of South Sumatra in 2021 has decreased by 9.90 percent from the ceiling of Rp. 26.53 trillion. Meanwhile, the realization of capital expenditure in 2021 increased to Rp. 378 billion (djpk ministry of finance, 2022).

According to Yufifi et al (2022) revealed that the Indonesian government implements policies for national economic recovery, there are three policies namely increasing domestic consumption, increasing business activities, and maintaining economic stability, and monetary expansion. The government has formed a special agency to handle economic recovery called the 2021 PEN Task Force. One of the drivers of the national economy is domestic consumption, the more consumption, the more moving the economy will be (Fahraka & Roy, 2020). The government has allocated a budget of IDR 172.1 trillion to increase public consumption/purchasing power (djpk ministry of finance,

2022). These funds are channeled through direct cash assistance, pre-employment cards, electricity exemptions, and others.

The government is trying to move the business world by providing incentives/stimuli to MSMEs and corporations (Galuh et al., 2022), other than that according Ketaren & Haryanto (2020). To support national economic recovery, Bank Indonesia maintained stability in the rupiah exchange rate, lowered interest rates, purchased state securities, as well as macroeconomic and financial system stability. The aim of reducing interest rates is to increase financial liquidity to encourage business activities (Zahra & Rizal, 2020) this agrees with Demiralp & Eisenschmidt (2021) liquidity can increase bank response, which means that MSME business activities can increase.

Research conducted by Vebiani et al (2022) stated that the level of financial independence of Regency/City governments in West Java Province during Covid-19 had increased by 0.003 compared to before Covid-19. Then, the level of financial efficiency during the Covid-19 pandemic increased by 0.05 compared to the previous time. Meanwhile, the level of financial effectiveness decreased by 0.093 when Covid-19 became less effective. This is in line with other researchers who provide an explanation that the level of regional financial independence in each region is trying to be able to overcome the impacts or problems faced by each region (Riyadi (2022); Marcelina & Herianti (2022); Sulangi et al (2022); Muzaki & Hapsari (2022); Laraga et al (2022) and Karina & Wibowo (2022).

The Covid-19 pandemic which began in the middle of 2019 is a matter of regional financial performance (Suparman, 2021). So that the effectiveness, efficiency and independence of regional financial management have an important role in supporting the success of development and the regional economy. According to Hatta (2020) and Suparta et al (2022) South Sumatra Province is one of the regions that has a lot of regional potential that can be optimized as a source of regional income, so researchers took districts/cities in South Sumatra Province as research objects to determine the effectiveness, efficiency and independence of regional finances. before and after the Covid-19 pandemic. So that in this case the researcher provides a literature review or theoretical basis to help and strengthen the discussion which will be the answer to the existing results, where the study is discussed as follows;

**Agency Theory**, Agency theory according to Jensen (1986) explain agency theory as the relationship between agents and principals. In an agency relationship, there is a contract between one or more people (principal) who gives orders to another person (agent) to do a job on behalf of the principal and authorizes the agent to make the best decision for the principal (Jensen & Meckling, 1976). In government, especially local government, in this case what is meant by principals are people represented by DPRD who entrust the management of their regional assets to agents, in this case governors/mayors/regents (Oktaviani & Sari, 2020). According to Devella & Abdullah (2021) The relationship with agency theory and this research is that local governments have an important role to play in managing existing regional finances to meet the needs of facilities and infrastructure for the community by carrying out regional development both physically and non-physically to improve people's welfare. **Regional Financial Control**, One of the important elements in governance and development in the regions is the regional financial management system. Based on the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs Number 77 of 2020 concerning technical guidelines for managing regional finances, it is stated that what is meant by regional finance are all regional rights and obligations in the context of administering regional government which can be valued in money and all forms of wealth that can belong to the region in relation to rights and regional obligations (Permendagri, 2020).

Based on Government Regulation Number 12 of 2019, regional financial management is all activities that include planning, implementation, administration, reporting, accountability, and supervision of regional finances (Government of the Republic of Indonesia, 2019). Regional financial management must be carried out in an orderly manner, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, efficiently, effectively, transparently and responsibly with due observance of the

principles of fairness and decency. Principles of financial management to control regional finances (Sinulingga et al., 2022) as follows: 1. Responsibility (Accountability), 2. Value for money, 3. Honesty in managing public finances (Probity), 4. Transparency and 5. Control.

**Regional Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBD)**, The Regional Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBD) is the regional annual financial plan stipulated by regional regulations. In a broad sense, the Regional Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBD) is a budget plan consisting of revenue, expenditure and financing budgets designed by the Regional Government for one year with the approval of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) (Permendagri, 2020). All regional revenues and regional expenditures in the form of money are budgeted in the APBD. Regional revenues consist of regional revenues and regional financing receipts. Regional expenditures consist of regional expenditures and regional financing expenditures (Permendagri, 2020). Taking local revenue in order to fulfill the APBD target. Likewise regional and other regional expenditures so that the implementation of regional decentralization is carried out in accordance with the amount and according to the objectives in the APBD. As the basis for regional financial management, APBD is determined as the basis for controlling, auditing and supervising regional financial activities (Sabaruddinsah, 2020).

**Regional Financial Performance Measurement**, Performance measurement according Ayu & Astuti (2022) performance is a system that is used to assess the level of achievement of organizational progress, quality of decision-making, and public accountability, in addition to the ability of the region to meet regional needs by managing and exploring regional revenue sources in implementing government systems, community services, and regional development (Novita Anjarsari et al., 2021). Benefits of measuring regional financial performance (Soraida, 2023) that is:

1. Provides an understanding of the measures used in assessing management performance;
2. Provide guidelines for achieving predetermined performance targets;
3. To monitor and evaluate performance achievements and compare them with performance targets, corrective actions are then taken to improve performance;
4. As a basis for giving rewards and punishments (reward and punishment) objectively;
5. As a communication tool for subordinates and leaders to improve organizational performance;
6. Helps determine whether customer satisfaction is met;
7. Help understand the process of activities of government agencies and
8. Ensure objective decision making (Mardiasmo, 2010).

According to the Directorate General of Treasury of the Ministry of Finance in the 2020 Regional Finance Study, the economic challenges of the South Sumatra Province are internal factors that affect the measurement of regional financial management performance (Directorate General of Treasury, Ministry of Finance, 2020).

1. Global economic uncertainty is affected by the possibility of the continued spread of the Covid-19 outbreak;
2. It is predicted that regional own-source revenue will not decrease from the 2020 APBD projection so that the consumption side of local governments will experience a decline.

## RESEARCH METHOD

This study discusses financial management in government in 17 regencies and cities in the province of South Sumatra where their performance is compared to cases before and after the presence of Covid-19 as seen from the level of effectiveness, efficiency and independence in management. The data used as material for analysis is the APBD budget which has been collected and analyzed using SPSS to see budget comparisons where the analysis is with the Shapiro Wilk normality test, and different tests. The population in this study is all local government districts and cities in South Sumatra Province, totaling 17 consisting of 13 regencies and 4 cities. The sampling method used in this study is saturated sampling method, so that all populations are used as samples. The data used

in this study totaled 34 for each variable before and during Covid-19. This study uses secondary data in the form of APBD and APBD realization reports obtained from the Directorate General of Financial Balance website via the [www.djpk.kemenkeu.go.id](http://www.djpk.kemenkeu.go.id) page.

Data management techniques in this study used descriptive statistical analysis, the normality test of the Shapiro Wilk, and different tests, namely the paired t-test and the Wilcoxon test. In this study, descriptive statistical analysis was carried out to determine the circumstances and conditions of the research, the results of which will be explained in the form of a research report. Then a Normality test is carried out to test whether the data distribution is normal or not. The data in this study amounted to 34 for each variable so that the normality test was carried out using Shapiro Wilk to find out the distribution of the data. After knowing whether the data is normally distributed or not, then a hypothesis test or different test is carried out. The different tests used were the paired t-test and the Wilcoxon test. If the results of the data normality test show that the research results are normally distributed, the paired t-test is used. However, if the results of the data normality test show that the research results are not normally distributed, then the Wilcoxon test is performed.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The first analysis to be carried out was to calculate descriptive statistics from the effectiveness, efficiency and regional financial independence data with the help of the IBM SPSS Statistics 23 data processing program. The statistics calculated in this analysis include the average, median and standard deviation. The results of the analysis are shown as follows;

**Table 1** Descriptive statistics

	Effectiveness		Efficiency		independence	
	Before Covid-19	Moment Covid-19	Before Covid-19	Moment Covid-19	Before Covid-19	Moment Covid-19
Average	0.9723	0.7829	1.0026	0.9602	0.0822	0.0846
Median	0.9510	0.8145	0.9955	0.9620	0.0740	0.0710
Standard Deviation	0.32283	0.25161	0.05628	0.08135	0.05331	0.06591

Source :djpk ministry of finance (2022). Processed Data, Spss (2023)

The first analysis to be carried out is to calculate descriptive statistics from the effectiveness, efficiency and regional financial independence data. The descriptive statistics calculated in this analysis include the mean, median, and standard deviation. Based on Table 1; regional financial effectiveness before Covid-19 had an average value of 0.9723 and regional financial effectiveness after Covid-19 had an average value of 0.7829. This shows that the variable data on regional financial effectiveness before Covid-19 was classified as quite effective and during Covid-19 the status was less effective. Furthermore, regional financial efficiency before Covid-19 had an average value of 1.0026 and regional financial efficiency after Covid-19 had an average value of 0.9602. This shows that the regional financial efficiency variable data before Covid-19 was classified as quite efficient and balanced and during Covid-19 it had an efficient status. Then at the level of regional financial independence before Covid-19 it had an average value of 0.0822 and regional financial independence during Covid-19 had an average value of 0.0846. This shows that the regional financial independence variable data both before and during Covid-19 had very low status or was instructive.

**Table 2.** Average effectiveness, efficiency, and regional financial independence before and during the covid-19 pandemic

No	Regency/City	Effectiveness			Efficiency			Independence		
		Average Before Covid-19	Average During Covid-19	Average amount	Average Before Covid-19	Average During Covid-19	Average amount	Average Before Covid-19	Average During Covid-19	Average amount

1	Lubuk Linggau City	1.42	0.81	1.12	0.96	0.9	0.94	0.09	0.1	0.093
2	Area. Banyuasin	1.28	1.96	1.62	1.07	1	1.03	0.09	0.1	0.096
3	Area. Ogan Ilir	0.62	0.66	0.64	1.01	0.9	0.97	0.06	0.07	0.063
4	Area. OKU East	0.99	1.05	1.02	1	1	0.99	0.05	0.06	0.054
5	Area. OKU South	0.96	0.67	0.82	1.01	1.1	1.04	0.04	0.05	0.041
6	Area. Four Gates	0.7	0.73	0.71	1	1.1	1.03	0.04	0.04	0.04
7	Area. PALI	0.67	0.86	0.76	1.02	0.8	0.93	0.05	0.04	0.048
8	Area. Musi Rawas Utara	0.77	0.63	0.7	1.05	0.9	0.98	0.05	0.04	0.043
9	Area. Wow	1.17	1.01	1.09	0.96	1	0.96	0.06	0.06	0.06
10	Area. Musi Banyuasin	1.02	0.96	0.99	0.94	1	0.96	0.09	0.1	0.093
11	Area. Musi Rawas	1.01	0.73	0.87	1.01	1	1.01	0.08	0.08	0.081
12	Area. Muara Enim	1.16	0.74	0.95	1	1	0.98	0.1	0.07	0.082
13	Area. Okay	0.93	0.43	0.68	1.03	1	1.02	0.08	0.08	0.077
14	Area. OKAY	0.94	0.54	0.74	1.02	0.9	0.96	0.09	0.08	0.082
15	Prabumulih City	0.93	0.54	0.73	1.02	0.9	0.95	0.09	0.07	0.078
16	Fence City	1.35	1.16	1.26	0.95	1	0.97	0.09	0.08	0.082
17	Palembang city	0.61	0.8	0.7	1	0.9	0.97	0.28	0.33	0.301
18	Total	16.53	14.28	15,4	16.03	16.4	16.69	1.43	1.45	1,414

Source :djpk ministry of finance (2022). Processed Data, Spss (2023)

Calculations of effectiveness, efficiency and regional financial independence before and after the Covid-19 pandemic shown in Table 2 state that data processing from table 4.2 can be seen in the level of regional financial effectiveness of 17 districts and cities in South Sumatra Province before the Covid-19 pandemic there were 7 districts and cities which were very effective (> 100%) namely Lubuk Linggau City, Banyuasin Regency, Lahat Regency, Musi Banyuasin Regency, Musi Rawas Regency, Muara Enim Regency, and Pagar Alam City. This shows that 7 districts and cities with very effective criteria (> 100%) succeeded in realizing PAD exceeding the PAD target. The results of the data calculation stated that there were 5 regencies and cities with quite effective criteria (90-99%) namely East OKU Regency, OKU South Regency, OKI Regency, OKU Regency, and Prabumulih City. This shows that the 5 regencies and cities can realize PAD from the PAD target that has been set but have not fully maximized it. The results of the data calculation also show that there are 4 districts and cities with ineffective criteria (<75%) namely Ogan Ilir Regency, Empat Lawang Regency, PALI Regency, and Palembang City. This states that the 4 regencies and cities have not realized PAD from the PAD targets that have been set so that their effectiveness status is less effective. and the City of Palembang. This states that the 4 regencies and cities have not realized PAD from the PAD targets that have been set so that their effectiveness status is less effective. and the City of Palembang. This states that the 4 regencies and cities have not realized PAD from the PAD targets that have been set so that their effectiveness status is less effective.

Based on the results of regional financial independence data calculations in 17 regencies and cities in South Sumatra Province during the Covid-19 pandemic, it can be seen that 8 regencies/cities have experienced a decrease in their level of independence. This means that there has been a decrease

in district and city PAD in South Sumatra Province during Covid-19 due to the Government's PPKM policy which limited activities so that sources of Regional Original Revenue, especially regional taxes and fees, experienced a decrease. Data management from table 2 can be seen from the average figures between before Covid-19 and during Covid-19 districts and cities in South Sumatra Province. From data on the level of regional financial independence before and during Covid-19, the lowest average figure was Empat Lawang Regency of 0.04 (4%) with an instructive status where independence was very low. This means that the government of Empat Lawang Regency in realizing regional original income is smaller than regional income so that its independence status is very low. From the data on the level of effectiveness before and during Covid-19, the largest average was Palembang City with a value of 0.301 (30.1%) with a constructive status where independence was low. The sum of the levels of district/city regional financial independence in South Sumatra Province between before and during Covid-19 was 1.43 and 1.45. From these two data it can be concluded that the average number of all regencies and cities in South Sumatra Province during Covid-19 was greater than before Covid-19. This shows that there are slight differences in regional financial independence

**Table 3** Data normality test

Data	Condition	P-value	Decision
Effectiveness	Before the Covid-19 pandemic	0.266	Data is normally distributed
	During the Covid-19 pandemic	0.207	Data is normally distributed
Efficiency	Before the Covid-19 pandemic	0.818	Data is normally distributed
	During the Covid-19 pandemic	0.867	Data is normally distributed
independence	Before the Covid-19 pandemic	0.000	Data is not normally distributed
	During the Covid-19 pandemic	0.000	Data is not normally distributed

Source :djpk ministry of finance (2022). Processed Data, Spss (2023)

Based on Table 3, the results of the normality test show that the effectiveness and efficiency of the data both before and during the Covid-19 pandemic were normally distributed because they produced a p-value  $> 0.05$ . Meanwhile, independent data both on conditions before the pandemic and during the Covid-19 pandemic were known to be not normally distributed because they produced a p-value  $< 0.05$ . Based on the results of the normality test, comparison of the effectiveness and efficiency of the data can be carried out using the parametric statistical method, namely using the paired t test method, while comparing independence data is carried out using non-parametric statistical methods, namely using the Wilcoxon test.

**Table 4** Comparison test of the effectiveness and efficiency of regional finances before and after the covid-19 pandemic

Information	P-value
Effectiveness before the Covid-19 pandemic VSafter the Covid-19 pandemic	0.001
Efficiency before the Covid-19 pandemic VSafter the Covid-19 pandemic	0.033
Independence before the Covid-19 pandemic VSafter the Covid-19 pandemic	0.617

Source :djpk ministry of finance (2022). Processed Data, Spss (2023)

Table 4 shows the effectiveness before the Covid-19 pandemic had a significant difference from the effectiveness after the Covid-19 pandemic. This shows that the Covid-19 pandemic has an effect or influence on the effectiveness of regional financial management. Likewise with efficiency data, it is known that efficiency before the Covid-19 pandemic has a significant difference from efficiency after the Covid-19 pandemic. This shows that the Covid-19 pandemic has no effect or effect on the independence of regional financial management

## CONCLUSION

The level of financial effectiveness of districts/cities in South Sumatra Province before and after the Covid-19 pandemic experienced an Asymp.sig difference of 0.001, where almost all regions after the Covid-19 pandemic experienced a decline. This is due to the long-term impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The level of district/city financial efficiency in South Sumatra Province before and after

the Covid-19 pandemic experienced an Asymp.sig difference of 0.033 where the average regional financial efficiency in many areas was stable but unstable in some areas. The level of district/city financial independence in South Sumatra Province before and after the Covid-19 pandemic did not experience any difference based on the results of the Wilcoxon Asymp.sig 0.617 sign test. This research has a limitation in sampling and the research scope is too narrow, so for further research to strengthen the discussion of issues regarding regional financial management in each district-city, you can add key issues such as indicators of budget planning, budget management as well as the risk of receiving the budget.

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- Dr. Denny Jollyta, SE., S.Kom., M.Kom started a discussion: Article goes to copyediting stage: Dear author, Perbaikan artikel telah disetujui dan akan dilanjutkan prosesnya ke tahap Analysis of the independence of regional financial management after and after covid-19 a case
- Dr. Denny Jollyta, SE., S.Kom., M.Kom started a discussion: Accepted submission with minor revision: Dear author, Artikel telah disetujui untuk diterbitkan pada pada Vol. 13 No. 2 (June, Analysis of the independence of regional financial management after and after covid-19 a case
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Accepted submission with minor revision

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### Messages

Name: denyjol  
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 2023-06-09 04:14 PM

Dear author,

Artikel telah disetujui untuk diterbitkan pada pada Vol. 13 No. 2 (June, 2023) dengan perbaikan. Silahkan melakukan melakukan perbaikan artikel sesuai hasil review (beri font warna merah pada bagian yang diperbaiki).

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Salam  
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*Handwritten signature: Dr. Fhriasarri, SE, M.MM. 21/6 2023*