

V. CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

A. Conclusions

Based on the study examining the effect of Public Health Expenditure, Education Expenditure, Internet Access, and Economic Growth on Income Inequality in Indonesia, the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. Public Health Expenditure variable does not affect Income Inequality in 34 provinces in Indonesia.
2. Education Expenditure variable does not affect Income Inequality in 34 provinces in Indonesia.
3. Internet Access affects Income Inequality in 34 provinces in Indonesia.
4. Economic Growth Variable does not affect Income Inequality in 34 provinces in Indonesia.

B. Implications

Based on the conclusions that have been discussed, the implications of this research can be conveyed as follows:

1. Public Health Expenditure does not affect income inequality. Therefore, the government needs to ensure that the allocation of health expenditure is equitable and well-targeted. The allocation of health funds should not only focus on infrastructure development in big cities, but also on equitable

distribution of health facilities in remote areas, improving the quality of services such as Community Health Centers, and optimizing the National Health Insurance (JKN) and BPJS Health programs. With a more equitable distribution, the benefits of the health budget can be felt by low-income groups, so that the impact on reducing inequality is greater in the future.

2. Education expenditure does not affect income inequality. This indicates the need to improve the quality and equitable access to education. The central and local governments can strengthen scholarship policies based on poor families, expand access to education to 3T (underdeveloped, frontier, outermost) areas, and increase vocational training and skills certification. This will ensure that investments in the education sector actually improve the quality of human resources and promote income equality in the long run.
3. Internet access affects income inequality. Therefore, the government needs to accelerate the distribution of digital infrastructure through expanding fiber optic networks, improving signal quality, and subsidizing technology devices for the poor. In addition, digital literacy training is needed so that people can utilize the internet to find job opportunities, access online education, and develop digital-based businesses.
4. Economic growth in this study does not affect income inequality. The implication is that the government needs to direct economic policies to labor-intensive sectors, encourage equitable investment between regions, empower MSMEs, and implement fiscal policies favorable to low-income groups. Such

measures aim to ensure that the benefits of growth reach all segments of society and sustainably reduce income inequality.

