
Effect of Gender and Educational Status on Interest in Work Abroad

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Abstract: *This study aims to determine and analyze effect of gender and educational status on interest in work abroad. This type of research uses quantitative research. This population is Indonesian workers who work abroad, but due to limitations in data recording, no definite data can be found. Due to the limitations of the data collected, the data is taken randomly with up to 100 respondents who worked abroad. Hypothesis testing using multiple linear regression analysis. The results show that gender has a positive and significant effect on interest in working abroad. Educational status has a positive and insignificant effect on interest in working abroad.*

Keywords: *Gender, Educational Status, Interest, Work Abroad.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Problems regarding the economy and social issues from the past to the present that have not been resolved, namely regarding high growth rates and population but not accompanied by adequate employment opportunities. Unemployment is common in society for those who have not found work. Thus encouraging people who have not had job opportunities to try to find work abroad with the intention of obtaining jobs and higher income (Maryati, 2005). This problem is an interesting phenomenon to discuss because government policies to address unemployment have not been resolved.



The problem of population growth is always accompanied by and has an impact on increasing the number of unemployed. This is because the number of the workforce is not matched by increasing job opportunities. To overcome the domestic employment crisis as a form of efforts to reduce unemployment, the government needs to open up wider employment opportunities abroad for Indonesian workers. Because quite a lot of foreign countries have more advanced economies but the number of workers available is smaller. So, to be able to meet domestic employment needs, the country must need workers from abroad. This potential must be utilized by the Indonesian government to send workers to overcome existing employment problems.

Indonesian migrant workers is a government program that aims to improve the quality of human resources through training and practice in order to improve the welfare of workers and their families by taking advantage of available international job opportunities.

The main problem is that there are limited job opportunities in the country and wage levels that are much different from those abroad will encourage workers to work abroad. The reduced level of employment opportunities in the country has raised the interest and willingness of the country's population to work in other countries.

The large number of workers working abroad not only has a positive impact but can also have a negative impact. One of the positive impacts is reduced pressure on the domestic labor market. Meanwhile, the negative impact is if the workers are experts and skilled workers whose skills cannot be immediately replaced by the unemployed in the country. This situation might lead to a shortage of experts in several sectors in the economy, which could disrupt the course of the development process in the country (Rohyati, 2015).

The phenomenon of Indonesian workers reflects other problems in the labor system in Indonesia. For some people, being an Indonesian worker is a profitable choice of work. There are two tendencies for workers from Indonesia, namely the dominance of female workers abroad and the absorption of a large number of workers in the informal sector. This is most likely because the informal sector does not require high education and skills, making it easier for Indonesian workers to enter it.

There are several things that need to be considered in sending workers, namely sending workers abroad can reduce the unemployment rate in the country so that innovative steps are needed to try to reduce the pressure of this problem. The educated workforce offered is increasing in the country along with the increasing level of public awareness of the importance of education and the government's commitment to improving the quality of education. But on the other hand there is an imbalance with existing job opportunities.

Low wages received and job opportunities are factors that encourage workers to work abroad, especially to rich countries and industrialized countries which have higher job opportunities and wages. Meanwhile, relatively better economic conditions in the region of origin, more open job opportunities, and high levels of income are pulling factors in the destination country, thus influencing someone to be interested in trying their luck in the destination country to improve their standard of living and improve the family economy.

The great interest of Indonesian workers to work abroad is a phenomenon that is no longer new to this country. The big risks that they are likely to face overseas have proven to have no significant effect on public interest.



Their limited skills and educational capital will earn them a high income regardless of the negative impacts that might occur. Even though the negative impact they might experience is greater than the positive impact they will face in the field later. They are willing to leave their relatives in search of a life that they think will be better.

This study aims to determine and analyze effect of gender and educational status on interest in work abroad.

Literature Review

Gender

As in the field facts that are often encountered today, a lot of the workforce in the field is generally dominated by men, while the office of a company is generally dominated by women. This is not a coincidence, but there are various kinds of considerations made by a company related to the specifications of each gender. In the context of the desire to work abroad, the workforce is not only limited to men, women also enliven this opportunity (Busro, 2018).

Educational Status

Education status is a conscious and planned effort to create a learning atmosphere and learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have religious spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble morals, the skills needed by themselves, society, nation, and state (Handoko, 2014).

Interest in Work abroad

Working abroad is a great way to explore another country and culture. Get paid to travel, while building a career and enjoying the adventure of a lifetime. However, if you are wondering whether working abroad is the right move then there are many things to consider besides earning a living abroad (Hartatik, 2014).

2. RESEARCH METHODS

This type of research uses quantitative research. Quantitative research is a type of research whose findings are obtained from analyzing data in the form of numbers. In other words, the parts of the findings are arranged systematically in order to look for links between one another so that conclusions can be drawn (Pandiangan et al., 2022). One of the salient characteristics of quantitative research data is its measurable variables. Analysis is then carried out through statistical procedures drawing conclusions from the findings and connecting research assumptions or hypotheses.

Selected population has a close relationship with the problem under study (Sudjana, 2010). Population or universe is the total number of analysis units whose characteristics will be estimated. This population is Indonesian workers who work abroad, but due to limitations in data recording, no definite data can be found. Sample is part of the population elements to be studied. Basic idea of sampling is that by selecting part of population elements, conclusions about the entire population are expected to be obtained. Economic advantage of sampling is



that it costs less and gives faster results (Sugiyono, 2017). Due to the limitations of the data collected, the data is taken randomly with up to 100 respondents who worked abroad.

Hypothesis testing using multiple linear regression analysis. Multiple linear regression analysis is an analysis used to find out how the dependent variable can be predicted using the independent variable (Kurdhi et al., 2023). The use of this analysis is useful for testing whether the dependent variable increases or decreases by increasing or decreasing the independent variable, or increases the dependent variable by increasing or decreasing the independent variable and vice versa (Kurniawan and Yuniarto, 2016).

3. RESULT

General Description

The history of Indonesian workers abroad began long before Indonesia's independence. The migration of Indonesian workers abroad was carried out by the Dutch East Indies government through the placement of contract workers in the country of Suriname, South America, which was also a Dutch colony. As reported by the Directorate of Socialization and Placement Institutions of the National Agency for the Placement and Protection of Indonesian Workers (BNP2TKI), since 1890 the Dutch government began sending a large number of contract laborers from Java and even Madurese, Sudanese, and Batak to be employed on plantations in Suriname.

The aim was to replace the duties of slaves from Africa who had been freed on July 1, 1863, as a form of political implementation of the abolition of slavery so that the slaves changed professions and were free to choose the desired field of work. The impact of freeing the slaves left plantations in Suriname neglected and caused Suriname's economy, which depended on plantation products, to drop drastically.

The basis for the Dutch government choosing Indonesian workers from Java was the low economic level of the indigenous population (Java) due to the eruption of Mount Merapi and the overcrowding of the population on the island of Java. The first batch of Indonesian workers sent by the Dutch departed from Batavia (Jakarta) on May 21, 1890 with the SS Koningin Emma. This long-distance voyage stopped in the Netherlands and arrived in Suriname on August 9 1890. The number of Indonesian workers in the first batch was 94 people, consisting of 61 adult men, 31 women and 2 children. The activity of sending Indonesian workers to Suriname, which was carried out from 1890 to 1939, reached 32,986 people, using 77 ships.

During the post-independence era until the 1960s, the placement of Indonesian workers abroad did not involve the government, but was carried out individually, kinship and traditionally with the main destination countries being Malaysia and Saudi Arabia. After the issuance of Government Regulation No. 4 of 1970 and the launch of the Inter-Country Work Program (AKAN), the placement of Indonesian workers abroad was regulated by the government and involved the private sector. Then the procedures for implementing working abroad were perfected through Law Number 39 of 2004 concerning the Placement and Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers Abroad plus the establishment of BNP2TKI.



Hypothesis Test

Hypothesis testing is a statistical procedure step that allows researchers to use sample data to draw conclusions about a population. This step determines whether the hypothesis can be accepted or rejected.

Table 1. Hypothesis Test

Variable	Coefficient	Prob.
Gender	0.168	0.021
Educational Status	0.307	0.411

Dependent Variable: Interest in Work abroad

Source: Research Results (2023)

The results show that gender has a positive and significant effect on interest in working abroad. A person's gender effect on interest in working abroad. The situation in the field shows that men and women are interested in working abroad because they want to help the family economy.

Educational status has a positive and insignificant effect on interest in working abroad. Respondents' educational status does not effect on interest in working abroad. Status education is a long-term process that uses systematic and organized procedures, whereby the managerial workforce learns conceptual and theoretical knowledge for general purposes so that with the level of education it will be for workers to try opportunities to work abroad.

4. CONCLUSION

The results show that gender has a positive and significant effect on interest in working abroad. Educational status has a positive and insignificant effect on interest in working abroad.

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