



# Analysis of the utilization of leisure time in economic activities of middle school age population in East Luwu Regency

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## ABSTRACT

Utilization of leisure time is the time allocated by the middle school age population in carrying out economic activities. However, this is actually a concern because it involves human capital investment in the long term which has implications for low income and the inability to support their lives going forward. This study aims to determine some of the conditions that influence school-age residents to choose to use their leisure time to work in carrying out economic activities to meet their daily needs. Among them, household income, wages, school status and child status. The method used in this research is multiple linear regression analysis using primary data sourced from distributing questionnaires in East Luwu Regency. The data was processed using IBM SPSS Statistics 23 software. The results showed that household income had a negative effect on the use of leisure time, wages had a positive effect on the use of leisure time, there was no difference in the status of school children and children who did not go to school on the use of leisure time, and there were differences in status. children who have complete parents and do not have complete parents regarding the use of leisure time in the economic activities of middle school age residents in East Luwu Regency.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Education is one of the factors that becomes the basic need of every human being which is considered as an investment in the field of human resources to prepare qualified and economically valuable human beings (Sodirjonov, 2020; Solong, 2020; Stofkova & Sukalova, 2020). However, in reality it is undeniable that education among the population of secondary school age is actually declining (Firmansyah et al., 2020; Hidayat, 2021; Masram et al., 2023; Ozkeser, 2019). Low education causes educational investment in future generations to also be low (Kholiavko et al., 2021; Popelo et al., 2021; Shaturaev,

2021). Even though we know, education is one of the strong foundations in creating investment in human resources so that the implication is to increase knowledge, skills and will ultimately increase the productivity of each individual. With proper education, each individual will have the independence of thinking and acting so that they can form creative and innovative behaviors to support their social life (Aksoy et al., 2019; Putra et al., 2020; Ye et al., 2022). Every individual has time that can support their productivity or just to entertain and express themselves, namely in formal, informal and non-formal activities. The density of these activities has a special time for each individual or high school age population to do things that are fun and refreshing and not burdensome. The time in question is leisure time (Abdillah et al., 2022; Hasrin et al., 2020; Wibowo, 2023). We know that in terms of the meaning of leisure time is the time left over from the daily routine, where a person can do activities at will such as relaxing/playing. However, this is different from the reality at the research site, where the majority of the middle school age population actually uses their spare time to work to earn additional income to meet personal needs and family needs. If it is related to age and working hours according to government regulations, they should not be allowed to participate in the work environment because it will have a negative impact on the child's growth and development. The use of leisure time among the population of secondary school age varies. For those who come from groups with upper middle class socio-economic conditions, maybe they can spend their leisure time with activities that hone their potential/talent, by taking courses, joining training groups, or other useful activities. However, those who come from the lower middle class socioeconomic conditions, like parents send their children to school if financial conditions allow. Even deciding what grade to send children to school is often a topic of conversation in lower class families, so that middle school age residents with conditions from class often fill their leisure time by being involved in household chores or working to help ease the family's economic burden (Ginting, 2020; Ninawati et al., 2022; Wenger, 2021).

One of the problems behind the emergence of the high school age population is working because of the economic conditions in a household which are described by the level of income. If a household's income is high, it is likely that it will not participate in work. However, if a household's income is low, it is likely that they will participate in work (Andriani, 2022; Chalid, 2021). If the income in a household is not sufficient to meet daily needs, it is likely to be a reason for the desire or initiative to work to increase income in a household. The decision to work is also influenced by the level of wages because working means getting income from the wages earned as remuneration for the work done. So that it will increase income, with increased income it can be used to meet daily needs (Nurlaela & Fitrianti, n.d.). Residents of middle school age who work, not only residents who attend school but residents who do not attend school. Their decision to work is none other than the desire to increase their income so that they can meet other needs such as increasing pocket money and saving. In addition, one of the things that is also the decision of the middle school age population to work because the status of a child does not have complete parents so they choose to work because they have a sense of responsibility as the backbone of the family. Based on the above phenomenon, it is important to discuss the use of leisure time in the economic activities of the middle school age population because it relates to human resources which will determine the future of a country. However, in reality, there are still many who choose to work for various reasons, one of which is to meet their daily needs, which in the future can actually make them drop out of school and choose to work. Low education will have implications for low income and the inability to support their lives in the future. In addition, a child who goes to school while working is of great concern because work can reduce a child's time for socializing and learning so that the child's development becomes less than optimal. In this regard, the authors are interested in conducting research with the title "Analysis of the Utilization of Leisure Time in Economic Activities of Middle School Age Population in East Luwu Regency"

## 2. RESEARCH METHOD

The type of research used in this study is a quantitative method (Belvedere et al., 2013; Sukamolson, 2007). Quantitative research generally uses a deductive approach, in this study departing from a theoretical study, the results of research by experts and researchers are then used as a reference and developed to identify the problems posed to obtain justification or rejection in the form of data documents obtained empirically. This study will test the theory by showing the relationship or influence between variables and predicting the results, providing statistical descriptions that describe the characteristics of household income, wages, school status and children's status on the use of leisure time in the economic activities of the middle school age population in East Luwu Regency.

The type of data that will be used in this research is primary data. Primary data was obtained directly from respondents in East Luwu Regency by conducting interviews using questionnaires to middle school age residents aged 13-18 years. The data in question are household income, wages, school status, child status and working hours.

To find out the analysis of the utilization of leisure time in the economic activities of the middle school age population in East Luwu Regency using multiple linear regression analysis. Multiple linear regression is a regression that involves more than one variable. Multiple linear regression analysis was carried out to find out how much influence the independent variables have on the dependent variable. The analysis used is by using IBM SPSS Statistics 23 Software. The model used can be formulated as follows:

$$Y = f(X_1, X_2, D_1, D_2) \quad (1)$$

The econometric model of the equation in this study is as follows:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 D_1 + \beta_4 D_2 + \mu \quad (2)$$

Where:

Y : Leisure time Utilization (hours per week)

$X_1$ : Household Income (rupiah per week)

$X_2$ : Wages (rupiah per week)

$D_1$ : School status (school = 1, not school = 0)

$D_2$ : Child Status (complete parents = 1, incomplete parents = 0)

$\beta_0$ : Constant

$\beta_1 - \beta_4$  : Regression coefficient of each independent variable

$\mu$ : Error term

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

### Regression Results

The results of estimation or calculation of multiple linear regression regarding the relationship between variables are as follows:

Table 1. Estimating results of household income, wages, school status and children's status on the use of leisure time for middle school age population in East Luwu Regency

Variable	Coefficient	Standard Error	t-statistic	Probability
Constanta	42,199	3,932	10,733	0.000
$X_1 \rightarrow Y$	-3,362	0.000	-3,237	0.001
$X_2 \rightarrow Y$	0.047	0.003	14,801	0.000
$D_1 \rightarrow Y$	-1,732	1,419	-1,221	0.224
$D_2 \rightarrow Y$	-3,287	1,326	-2,478	0.014

Significant at  $\alpha = 5\%$ ; R-Squared = 0.792; F-Statistics = 137,927;

Prob (F-Statistics) = 0.000

Source: IBM SPSS Statistics Program 23

Based on the estimation results of Table 1. Using the IBM SPSS Statistics 23 program above, the multiple linear regression equation can be written as follows:

$$Y = 42.199 + -3.362 X_1 + 0.047 X_2 + -1.732 D_1 + -3.287 D_2 \quad (3)$$

With an F value of 137,927 and a probability value of 0,000, it can be concluded that household income, wages, school status, and child status can simultaneously explain the percentage of leisure time utilization of the middle school age population at a significance level of 5% or the independent variables together effect on the dependent variable.

Based on the estimation results in Table 1 above, it is known that household income has a coefficient value of -3,362 and a probability of 0,002 which is less than the significant level of 5%, which means that if household income increases by Rp. 214,285 it will reduce the working hours of the middle school age population by -3,362 O'clock. So it can be concluded that the household income variable has a negative effect on the working hours of the middle school age population in utilizing their leisure time to carry out economic activities in meeting their daily needs. This shows that the research results are in accordance with the hypothesis.

Wages have a coefficient value of 0.047 and a probability of 0.001, which means that wages have a positive effect on working hours of the middle school age population at a significant level of 5%. Thus it can be concluded that if wages increase by IDR 10,000 it will increase the working hours of the middle school age population by 0.047 hours. So it can be concluded that the wage variable affects the working hours of the middle school age population utilizing their leisure time to carry out economic activities in meeting their daily needs. This shows that the research results are in accordance with the hypothesis.

The estimation of school status on working hours of the middle school age population produces a coefficient value of -1,732 with a probability of 0,224 which is greater than the 5% significance level. This means that there is no difference in the status of school children and non-school children in the working hours of the middle school age population who use their leisure time to carry out economic activities to meet their daily needs. This shows that the research results are not in accordance with the hypothesis.

The estimated status of children has a coefficient of -3.287 with a probability of 0.014 which is less than a significant level of 5%, which means that there is a difference in working hours between children who have complete parents and children who do not have complete parents. This means that children with complete parents work fewer hours than children without complete parents. This shows that the research results are in accordance with the hypothesis.

#### The Effect of Household Income on the Utilization of Leisure time

Estimation of the effect of household income on the use of leisure time produces a negative effect with a coefficient of -3.362 and a probability of 0.002 which is less than a significant level of 5%. This means that an increase in household income can lead to a decrease in the working hours of the middle school age population. Conversely, if household income decreases or is low, the outpouring of working hours for the middle school age population will be higher. This is due to the different types of work in a household so that the income earned by each household is at a different level.

This is in line with the research conducted by Sahu and Uppun. In Sahu's research (2013) which revealed that low household income is likely to direct all family members to work to meet their daily needs, including directing children under working age. The lower the household income, the higher the outpouring of child labor hours. Whereas in Uppun's research (2016) family income has a negative effect on working hours of child workers. This indicates that an increase in household income will reduce the working hours of child labour.

We know that households have different levels of income, including low, medium and high. The existence of this category of income differences is none other than the type

of work and the number of family members. Low income levels require some household members to work to meet their daily needs. Families with economic limitations cannot anticipate or guarantee future benefits for their children who go to school because of their unmet and urgent needs, so that under these conditions they are forced to direct their children to work.

#### The Effect of Wages on the Utilization of Leisure time

Based on the results of wage estimation on the use of leisure time, it has a positive effect with a coefficient value of 0.047 and a probability of 0.001. This suggests that an increase in wages can lead to an increase in working hours in the middle school age population. This is in line with research conducted by (Ge et al., 2022) that a child's decision to work depends on an increase in the minimum wage and family income conditions that require contributions from other family members to assist in increasing family income to meet daily needs. This means that the wage rate can reduce the tendency of children to work if household income increases.

The phenomenon of child labor is also inseparable from the value of child wages to family finances. The higher the wages paid to children, the higher the possibility of children entering the world of work. If you get a high wage rate, the contribution to household income will be even higher. Thus, children will be directed to work in order to improve family welfare because the higher the wages a child receives, the more attractive a household will be to let their children go to work (Nwaru et al, 2011).

The theory of time allocation is based on utility theory. In this theory, Adam Smith stated that the individual's time allocation is faced with two choices, namely working or not working to enjoy his leisure time. By working means it will generate wages which will further increase income. Increased income can be used to buy consumer goods that can provide satisfaction. The amount of income received will be directly proportional to the allocation of working time used (Dinar & Hasan, 2018).

These findings are also in line with research conducted by (Aprilia, 2019; Siregar, 2022) where wage rates have a strong influence on increasing working hours. Because with an increase in the wage rate, child workers will tend to work longer hours in order to get bigger profits due to the pressure of economic factors. Children who are involved in work activities tend to have low *human capital* because this creates opportunities to be in the unskilled labor group in the future and have low income. Low income is illustrated by a low level of education, in the sense that the higher the level of education (years of formal education), the higher the income of workers.

#### Effect of School Status on Utilization of Leisure time

Based on the estimation results, school status has a coefficient value of -1,732 with a probability of 0,224 which is greater than the 5% significance level. This shows that there is no difference in the status of schoolchildren and non-educated children in the working hours of the middle school age population in utilizing their leisure time to carry out economic activities to meet their daily needs. Thus, school status does not affect the decision of the middle school age population to devote how many working hours to work, they do their own work to get additional income to meet their daily needs.

This is in line with research conducted by Edmonds and Pavcnik (2005). Residents of school age have choices in allocating their time. The first is choosing to go to school and the second is choosing to work, in fact many children go to school while working, allocating time between work and school, and the average working hours of child labor are done during non-school hours. It was further found in their research that children working in farms or family businesses spend an average of up to 27 hours per week. However, even though a lot of time is allocated to work, it was also found that this tends to have no significant effect on the level of attendance of working children at school.

#### Effect of Child Status on Utilization of Leisure time

Based on the estimation results, the child's status has a coefficient value of -3.287 with a probability of 0.014, which is less than a significant level of 5%, which means that there is a difference in working hours between children who have complete parents and children who do not have complete parents. However, based on the respondent's data, most of them are dominated by complete parents, they work not because they are unable but only want to help their parents and to add pocket money and the rest can be saved. Meanwhile, children who do not have complete parents are none other than because they have the responsibility as the backbone of the family in meeting their daily needs. That is, children who have complete parents work fewer hours than children who do not have complete parents.

This is in line with research conducted by (Fahlevi et al., 2019) which revealed that single parent status affects working hours because children who have complete parents have shorter working hours than children who do not have complete parents in the sense that children who Coming from a single parent is of course very different from children who have complete parents because they have a great responsibility in helping to meet the daily needs of their family.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The conclusion of this study is that household income has a negative effect on the use of leisure time in economic activities of the secondary school age population in East Luwu Regency. A decrease in household income can lead to an increase in the working hours of the secondary school-age population. In addition, wages have a positive effect on the use of leisure time in economic activities. School status does not affect the working hours of the secondary school-age population, but child status does, with children who have incomplete parents tending to work more hours. Future research is recommended to add variables, the number of respondents, and use more accurate analytical tools to get results that are closer to the problems that occur. Policies need to pay attention to the factors underlying children's decision to work, while the secondary school-age population needs to realize the importance of education and its implications for future earnings.

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