

## How GRDP and Inflation Affect Unemployment in Lampung Province 2013 – 2024

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### Abstract

In many emerging nations, like Indonesia, unemployment is still a major problem. As the population and labor force grow, unemployment also tends to rise. In Indonesia, this is a critical concern, as the unemployment rate increases annually alongside population growth. Key economic indicators that influence unemployment include economic growth, inflation, and wage levels. This study analyzes the impact of Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) at current prices and inflation on the open unemployment rate in Lampung Province from 2013 to 2024. The research utilizes secondary time series data from the Lampung Province's Central Statistics Agency (BPS) official website. Multiple linear regression analysis was performed on the data using SPSS 26. The results of the study indicate that partially, GRDP has a negative and insignificant effect on open unemployment in Lampung, with a probability value of -1.725. Then inflation has no effect and is not significant on open unemployment in Lampung, with a probability value of 0.791. The determination test (R) shows that 52.9% of the variation in unemployment can be explained by the variables studied, while the remaining 47.1% is influenced by other factors not discussed in this study.

**Keywords:** GRDP, Inflation, Unemployment, Economic growth, Economic Policy

### Abstrak

Pengangguran menjadi permasalahan utama di negara berkembang, termasuk Indonesia. Seiring meningkatnya jumlah penduduk dan angkatan kerja, angka pengangguran pun turut bertambah. Masalah ini dipengaruhi oleh beberapa indikator ekonomi seperti pertumbuhan ekonomi, inflasi, dan tingkat upah. Penelitian ini menganalisis pengaruh Produk Domestik Regional Bruto (PDRB) atas dasar harga berlaku dan inflasi terhadap tingkat pengangguran terbuka di Provinsi Lampung selama periode 2013–2024. Data yang digunakan bersifat sekunder dan diambil dari situs resmi Badan Pusat Statistik (BPS) Provinsi Lampung. Metode yang digunakan adalah regresi linier berganda dengan bantuan software SPSS 26. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa secara parsial, GRDP berpengaruh negatif dan tidak signifikan terhadap pengangguran terbuka di Lampung, dengan nilai probabilitas -1,725. Kemudian inflasi tidak berpengaruh dan tidak signifikan terhadap pengangguran terbuka di Lampung, dengan nilai probabilitas 0.791. Secara simultan, PDRB dan inflasi bersama-sama berpengaruh signifikan terhadap tingkat pengangguran di provinsi tersebut. Uji determinasi (R) menunjukkan bahwa

sebesar 52,9% variasi pengangguran dapat dijelaskan oleh variabel yang diteliti, sementara sisanya 47,1% dipengaruhi oleh faktor lain yang tidak dibahas dalam penelitian ini.

**Kata Kunci:** Inflasi, PDRB, Pengangguran, Pertumbuhan Ekonomi, Kebijakan Ekonomi

## INTRODUCTION

Lampung Province is astronomically located at 103°40'–105°50' E and 6° 45'–3°45' S. Geographically, it is located at the southern tip of Sumatra Island, bordering South Sumatra and Bengkulu Provinces in the north, and surrounded by the Indonesian Ocean, Sunda Strait, and Java Sea. The area of Lampung Province is 33,575.41 km<sup>2</sup> (1.84 percent of Indonesia's territory). The largest area is Central Lampung Regency (4,548.93 km<sup>2</sup>) while the smallest area is Metro City (73.21 km<sup>2</sup>).

Controlling the increase in unemployment is a very complex problem in developing countries (Azaluddin & Hanifa, 2021). Over the past decade, the situation in developing countries has shown that the number of available job opportunities is unable to meet the demands of the growing workforce. The workforce's growth rate outpaces the growth of job opportunities, causing this problem. According to data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), the number of unemployed individuals in Indonesia reached 4.2 million in 2022, illustrating the need to implement effective policies that can stimulate job creation and support workforce development. This disparity affects economic stability and poses significant social challenges that require immediate attention from both government and private sectors. In February 2019, the number of unemployed individuals reached 95 million. This number rose to 5.23 million in August 2019. In 2020, the unemployment rate was 4.94 million in February and increased to 7.07 million in August, indicating a significant rise in unemployment during that period. In response, the Lampung Provincial Government has taken various steps to address this issue, including collaborating with local communities and businesses, offering job training, enhancing workforce productivity, and providing apprenticeship programs.

Indonesia is a developing country that has a problem regarding labor, namely the high number of unemployed, where it is known that unemployment is a problem that hinders the development process (Rahmawati, 2023). This issue is also prevalent in Lampung Province, where the unemployment rate continues to be a significant challenge for regional development. Unemployment is a condition where someone who is included in the workforce wants to get a job but has not been able to get it (Widayati, 2021). Continuously increasing unemployment will certainly increase the burden on the regional economy and reduce people's welfare (Mulyadi, 2017). The state's inability to reduce the increase in unemployment is a serious problem for the government and also for society (Sinaga, 2020). The formulation of policies that can provide encouragement for the expansion of employment opportunities needs to be carried out so that the tools in economic policy can effectively reduce unemployment (Panigrahi et al., 2020). The persistent rise in unemployment is weighing heavily on the economy and public welfare. The government's inability to address this issue has become a serious problem, requiring effective policies to expand employment opportunities and reduce unemployment. The following is unemployment data for Lampung Province for the period 2013-2024.

**Table 1.**  
**Unemployment Rate of Lampung Province 2013 – 2024**

Year	Unemployment Rate
2013	5.69
2014	4.79
2015	5.14
2016	4.62
2017	4.33
2018	4.04
2019	4.03
2020	4.67
2021	4.69
2022	4.52
2023	4.23
2024	4.19

Source : Lampung (2024)

Based on the data in the table, the open unemployment rate in Lampung Province fluctuated during the period 2013 to 2024. In 2013, the unemployment rate was recorded at 5.69% and gradually decreased to reach its lowest figure of 4.03% in 2019. However, there was an increase in 2020 and 2021 which was thought to be due to the impact of the pandemic, before decreasing again in the following years to reach 4.19% in 2024. Overall, the long-term trend indicates a decrease in the open unemployment rate, despite experiencing several years of temporary increases.

Lampung Province, located at the southern tip of Sumatra, Indonesia, has a population of approximately 9 million residents. Lampung continues to face a relatively high unemployment rate. In 2019, data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) showed that the open unemployment rate in the province rose to 5.23 percent of the workforce participation. If this issue remains unaddressed, we expect the unemployment rate to persist, reaching 6.49 percent in 2021. A key indicator of regional welfare is the Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP). Gross Regional Domestic Product by expenditure (GRDP Expenditure) is one form of displaying economic data for a region, in addition to other forms of display such as GRDP by business field, Input-Output Table, Socio-Economic Balance System, and Cash Flow Balance. In the economic data framework system of a region, GRDP Expenditure is a basic measure that describes the use of goods and services (products) produced through production activities (Statistics, 2018).

GRDP influences the number of workers employed, based on the assumption that an increase in GRDP leads to a higher value of goods and services produced across all economic sectors in a region (Mohseni & Jouzaryan, 2016). As the production of goods and services rises, the demand for labor also increases. Generally, economic growth is understood as the expansion of an economy's ability to produce goods and services. This growth typically focuses on quantitative changes, and it is measured using gross domestic product (GDP), which represents the total income generated by an economy within a given year. To calculate economic growth in nominal terms, Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) is often used. GRDP serves various purposes, with its primary function being to assess the overall performance of a region's economy. It reflects the nominal value of consumption, investment, government spending on goods and services, and net exports. GRDP at constant prices is employed to track economic growth between 2013 and 2024.

**Table 2.**  
**GRDP of Lampung Province 2013 – 2024 (In Billions)**

Year	GRDP Value
2013	180.62
2014	180.62
2015	199.53
2016	209.79
2017	220.62
2018	232.16
2019	244.37
2020	240.31
2021	246.96
2022	257.53
2023	269.24
2024	281.55

*Source : Lampung (2025b)*

The economy of Lampung Province, as measured by Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP), shows an increasing trend from 2013 to 2024. Starting with a value of 180.62 in 2013 and 2014 (the same value), GRDP continues to increase every year, reaching 281.55 in 2024. This increase reflects stable economic growth in Lampung, although there was a slight decline in 2020, possibly due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Overall, the GRDP data shows that Lampung's economy continues to grow during the period observed. However, along with the increase in GRDP, inflation in Lampung Province also showed an upward trend, which could affect people's purchasing power and worsen socio-economic inequality if not managed properly.

Inflation can be understood as a process where prices rise in an economy. The inflation rate is the percentage increase in the prices of goods over a specific period (Sukirno, 2021). High inflation rates in the economy cause changes in output and employment opportunities. If the inflation rate increases, then the prices of goods and services will also increase, then the demand for goods and services will fall and will reduce the demand for the required workforce, this will increase the number of unemployed (Radhyanti et al., 2020). The inflation rate is also one of the determinants of the unemployment rate (Prayitno & Kusumawardani, 2022). Inflation is a symptom that shows a continuous increase in the general price level. All countries in the world always face this inflation problem (Rozeqqi & Asriati, 2024). Therefore, the inflation rate that occurs in a country is one of the benchmarks for assessing the good or bad economic problems faced by a country.

**Table 3.**  
**Inflation Rate of Lampung Province 2013 – 2024**

Year	Inflation Rate
2013	7.56
2014	8.06
2015	4.34
2016	2.78
2017	3.02
2018	2.73
2019	3.44
2020	2.00
2021	2.19
2022	5.51
2023	3.47
2024	1.57

*Source : Lampung (2025a)*

The inflation rate in Lampung Province showed variations during the 2013-2024 period. The highest inflation occurred in 2014 at 8.06%, followed by a significant decline to reach its lowest point in 2021 at 2.19%. After experiencing an increase in 2022 to 5.51%, inflation was back under control and reached 1.57% in 2024. This fluctuation reflects economic dynamics influenced by various factors, such as monetary policy, commodity prices, and global conditions. In general, inflation in Lampung has tended to be stable in recent years, although it is still necessary to be aware of the potential for an increase in the future.

In macroeconomics, unemployment rates are often influenced by fundamental variables such as Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) and inflation. The theory of economic growth states that an increase in a region's output (reflected in GRDP) has the potential to create more jobs, thereby reducing the unemployment rate (Todaro & Smith, 2009). In other words, when a region experiences economic expansion, the demand for labor also increases, so that unemployment tends to decrease. This is known as the negative relationship between economic growth and unemployment.

Meanwhile, inflation has a more complex relationship with unemployment. Based on the Phillips Curve, there is a trade-off relationship between inflation and unemployment in the short term: when inflation increases, unemployment tends to decrease because companies increase production and recruit more workers. However, in the long term, this relationship is not always stable and can be influenced by the type of inflation that occurs (Mankiw, 2021).

This study is necessary to understand the relationship between economic growth (GRDP), inflation, and unemployment rates in Lampung Province during the period 2013–2024. Although Lampung's economy has shown a stable growth trend, the impact of inflation on people's purchasing power and its effect on unemployment rates has not been extensively explored. This study is significant as it combines interrelated economic factors GRDP and inflation to provide a more comprehensive understanding of labour market dynamics in Lampung. The findings are expected to offer new insights for policymakers in designing more effective economic strategies to reduce unemployment in the future.

## **METHODOLOGY**

This study uses secondary data of annual calculations (yearly) from 2013-2024, the type of data used in this analysis is time series data. The population used is data in Lampung Province, including Unemployment, GRDP, and Inflation for the period 2013-2024. The data used to achieve the objectives of this study were obtained entirely from the official website of the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) of Lampung Province in the form of Lampung in Figures and other forms issued by the BPS of Lampung Province for the period 2013-2024. The analysis method employed in this study is quantitative analysis, which utilizes statistical tools for calculation. To examine the relationship between variables, this study applies multiple linear regression.

## **DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS**

The results of the multiple linear regression analysis, which examines the impact of GRDP, and inflation on unemployment in Lampung Province from 2013 to 2024, are shown in the table below:

**Table 4.**  
**Multiple Regression Test**

Test Results Multiple Regression Test	
Consant	6.173
Inflasi	0.056
PDRB	- 0.005

*Source: Author's Processing (2025)*

Based on Table 1, there are two independent variables, namely the Inflation variable and GRDP, so that the multiple linear regression equation is obtained as follows:

$$Y = 6.173 + 0.056 X1 - 0.005X2 + e$$

1. The constant value (a) is 6.173, indicating that when both the values for inflation (X1) and GRDP (X2) are zero, the unemployment (Y) value will be 6.173.
2. The regression coefficient for inflation (X1) is 0.056. This suggests that a 1 percent increase in inflation leads to a 0.056 percent rise in unemployment, assuming the other independent variables remain unchanged. A positive coefficient signifies a direct relationship between inflation and unemployment: as inflation increases, the unemployment rate also rises.
3. The regression coefficient for the GRDP variable (X2) is -0.008. This implies that if the other independent variables stay constant and GRDP increases by 1 percent, the unemployment (Y) will decrease by 0.008 percent. A negative coefficient indicates an inverse relationship between GRDP and unemployment: as GRDP rises, the unemployment rate tends to decrease.

### Classical Assumption Test

**Table 5.**  
**Normality Test**

Test Results One Sample Kolmogorof-Smirnof	
Sig	0,200

*Source: Author's Processing (2025)*

Based on the calculations performed, it can be concluded that this model passes the normality test, as the result from the one-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov examination yields a value of 0.200. Since this value exceeds 0.05, it can be inferred that the residual variables are normally distributed.

**Table 6.**  
**Auto Correlation Test (Durbin Watson)**

Model Summary <sup>b</sup>					
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
1	.728a	0.529	0.425	0.36492	1,798

*Source: Author's Processing (2025)*

Based on the table above, the Durbin-Watson (D) value is 1.798 and it is found that the Durbin-Watson Upper (DU) value is 1.5798 indicating that there are no positive autocorrelation symptoms in the model. This is because the D value (1.798) is between DU (1.5798) and 4-DU (4 - 1.5798 = 2.4202), thus fulfilling the requirements of  $DU < D < 4-DU$ . In other words, the assumption of no autocorrelation in this regression model is fulfilled.

**Table 7.**  
**Multicollinearity Test**

Collinearity Statistics	VIF
Tolerance	
0.539	1,856
0.539	1,856

*Source: Author's Processing (2025)*

Based on the data presented in the table, the results of the multicollinearity test for each independent variable are as follows. For the inflation variable (X1), the tolerance value is 0.539, and the VIF is 1.856. For the GRDP variable (X2), the tolerance value is 0.119, and the VIF is 1.856. Therefore, it can be concluded that the data satisfies the multicollinearity test, as the VIF value does not exceed 10, and the tolerance value exceeds 0.10.

**Table 8.**  
**Heteroscedasticity Test**

Heteroscedasticity Test					
Model		Standardized Coefficients			Sig.
		Beta			
1	(Constant)	7,608	6,708		0.286
	Inflation	-0.253	0.377	-0.257	0.520
	GRDP	-0.043	0.024	-0.677	0.111

*Source: Author's Processing (2025)*

Based on the heteroscedasticity test table above, the significance value for the inflation variable (X1) is 0.520, and the significance value for the GRDP variable (X2) is 0.111. Both of these significance values exceed 0.05. Therefore, we can conclude that there are no signs of heteroscedasticity in the data.

## Regression Test

**Table 9.**  
**Test of Determination Coefficient R<sup>2</sup>**

Model Summary				
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.728a	0.529	0.425	0.36492

*Source: Author's Processing (2025)*

According to the table above, the R-squared value is 0.529, indicating that the GRDP, and inflation variables can explain 52.9% of the unemployment rate in Lampung province from 2013 to 2024. The remaining 47.1% is attributed to other factors not explored in this study.

**Table 10.**  
**t-test**

Coefficients							
Model		Standardized Coefficients			t	Sig.	
		Beta					
1	(Constant)	6,173	1,259		4,903	0.001	
	Inflation	0.056	0.071	0.246	0.791	0.449	
	GRDP	-0.008	0.005	-0.537	-1,725	0.119	

*Source: Author's Processing (2025)*

The results of the calculation above indicate that the inflation variable (X1) has a t-value of 0.791, which exceeds the t-table value ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ; 9) of 0.702. Therefore, it can be concluded that the inflation variable (X1) significantly affects the dependent variable, unemployment (Y). On the other hand, the GRDP variable (X2) has a t-value of -1.725, which is smaller than the t-table value ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ; 89) of 0.702. Consequently, it can be concluded that the GRDP variable (X2) does not significantly influence the unemployment variable (Y).

#### **The Effect of Inflation on the Open Unemployment Rate in Lampung Province in 2013-2024**

Based on the findings from the multiple linear regression analysis, the regression coefficient for the inflation variable is 0.056. This statistic suggests that a 1 percent increase in inflation is estimated to lead to a 0.056 percent rise in the unemployment rate, assuming all other independent variables remain constant. The positive coefficient implies a direct relationship between inflation and unemployment, meaning that as inflation increases, the unemployment rate tends to increase as well. When analyzed separately, the inflation variable has an insignificant impact on the unemployment rate in Lampung Province from 2013 to 2024.

These results are consistent with a previous study by Putri (2015) in his research titled "Analysis of the influence of inflation, economic growth and wages on educated unemployment" which concluded that inflation has a positive but statistically insignificant effect on the educated unemployment rate. Similar findings are reported in Siti Delvi Janiarti's study, "Analysis of the Effect of Inflation, Investment, and Economic Growth on Unemployment in Indonesia for the Period 2002–2015," which also suggests that inflation positively but insignificantly affects unemployment in Indonesia (Jarniati, 2017). In contrast, the study by Susanti et al., (2024) presents different results, indicating that inflation has no significant impact neither positive nor negative on unemployment. This discrepancy highlights the complexity of the relationship between inflation and unemployment, suggesting that other factors may be at play in determining employment outcomes. To explore these dynamics and identify the underlying causes of the varying effects reported in different studies, further research is necessary.

The implication of this finding is that although inflation tends to increase unemployment, its effect is not strong enough to be used as a basis for making policies alone. Therefore, effective economic policies must consider other factors such as economic growth and other structural factors in order to optimally reduce unemployment rates. Local governments and policy makers need to consider other more significant economic variables in determining strategies to overcome unemployment, such as economic growth, investment, and labor productivity (Oppong & Zhou, 2021). In the context of Lampung Province, it is important that policy interventions are tailored to the region's specific characteristics. For instance, Lampung's economy, which relies heavily on agriculture and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), would benefit from policies that promote agro-industrial development, improve access to credit and technology for MSMEs, and enhance vocational training aligned with local labor market needs. Furthermore, policies that encourage value-added processing of agricultural products and regional connectivity improvements can stimulate inclusive growth and job creation. By aligning economic strategies with local strengths and challenges, the impact of unemployment reduction efforts can be more targeted and effective. In addition, price stabilization efforts remain important to maintain people's purchasing power, but cannot be directly relied on as the main instrument in reducing unemployment rates. Therefore, a multidimensional and integrative approach is needed in formulating economic and employment policies in Lampung Province and other regions with similar characteristics.

#### **The Influence of Gross Domestic Product on the Open Unemployment Rate in Lampung Province in 2013 - 2024.**

Based on the findings from the multiple linear regression analysis, it was revealed that the regression coefficient for the Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) variable was -0.008. This figure indicates that, assuming other independent variables remain constant, a 1 percent increase



in GRDP is expected to result in a 0.008 percent decrease in the unemployment rate. The negative coefficient signifies an inverse relationship between GRDP at current prices and the unemployment rate, implying that as GRDP rises, the unemployment rate tends to decrease. On a partial level, the GRDP variable significantly and negatively influences the unemployment rate in Lampung Province between 2013 and 2024. This result aligns with the research conducted by Silaban et al., (2020) but contradicts the findings of Wahyuni & Murtala (2020), which suggested that GRDP has a positive and significant effect on unemployment. Therefore, although some studies show different results, economic factors such as GRDP and inflation continue to play an important role in influencing the unemployment rate.

This finding has important implications for the formulation of regional economic policies. The Lampung Provincial Government can utilize GRDP growth as an instrument to reduce unemployment. This means that economic development strategies that are oriented towards increasing regional output must be prioritized, such as strengthening the productive sector, empowering MSMEs, and increasing investment that creates jobs (Ademola & Badiru, 2016). In the context of macroeconomic theory, these findings align with the Phillips Curve concept, which demonstrates an inverse relationship between inflation and unemployment in the short term. This means that when economic growth increases and inflation remains under control, unemployment tends to decline. However, it is important to understand that excessively high inflation can negatively impact job creation, particularly if it is cost-push inflation, triggered by increases in production costs such as energy prices and wages. Conversely, inflation stemming from increased aggregate demand (demand-pull inflation) due to increased consumption and investment can be a positive indicator of healthy economic expansion. Therefore, regional economic policies must consider the balance between output growth and price stability to achieve the dual goals of suppressing unemployment and maintaining public purchasing power. In addition, policies that support inclusive economic growth are needed so that the benefits of increasing GRDP can be felt evenly, including by groups of people who are vulnerable to unemployment. This finding also opens up opportunities for further research on factors that can strengthen the relationship between economic growth and reducing unemployment at the local level.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the study, the author reaches several key conclusions. First, the real Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) has a negative and statistically insignificant partial effect on the unemployment rate in Lampung Province from 2013 to 2024. The result suggests that increases in real GRDP are generally associated with a reduction in the open unemployment rate within this period. Second, inflation exerts a positive but statistically insignificant partial effect on the unemployment rate in Lampung during the same timeframe. This conclusion implies that while inflation may contribute to a rise in unemployment, its impact is not substantial enough to be deemed statistically significant. First, real Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) has a negative and statistically insignificant partial effect on the unemployment rate in Lampung Province from 2013 to 2024. This result indicates that although an increase in GRDP tends to correlate with a decrease in the unemployment rate, the relationship is not strong enough to be declared statistically significant. This may indicate that economic growth reflected in GRDP has not been fully able to create sufficient or inclusive jobs for the community. In other words, the economic growth that occurs may not be evenly distributed or is more concentrated in capital-intensive sectors than labor-intensive sectors that can absorb a wide workforce. Second, inflation has no effect and is not statistically significant on the unemployment rate in Lampung during the same period. This indicates that fluctuations in the inflation rate in the period 2013 to 2024 do not have a strong relationship to changes in the unemployment rate. In the context of macroeconomic theory, this condition may indicate that the relationship between inflation and unemployment in the region does not follow the classical pattern as described in the Phillips Curve. Other factors, such as labor market structure, distribution efficiency, and the resilience of the real sector,

are likely more influential in influencing the unemployment rate than inflationary pressures. Furthermore, the relatively controlled inflation rate during the study period may not have been large enough to directly impact firms' employment decisions.

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