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Analysis of Development Inequality in Bengkulu Province for the Period Before the Expansion was Completed, after the Expansion and Currently

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A B S T R A C T

This study aims to determine the classification of economic growth and analyze development inequality in Bengkulu Province before the expansion was completed, after the expansion and the current period. This analysis method uses descriptive analysis with the Klassen Typology and Williamson Index (WI), and uses publication data from BPS Bengkulu Province (2005-2007), (2012-2015) and (2020-2022). The results of the Klassen Typology show that every period there is always a change in regional structure in each district in Bengkulu Province, but it does not apply to the city of Bengkulu. The level of development inequality shows the average williamson index before the expansion was completed, after the expansion and is currently at 0.34, 0.37 and 0.427.

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INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a country that has different natural resources. Basically, natural resources and differences in demographic conditions that occur in each region are thought to encourage inequality between regions. As a result of this difference, the ability of a region to encourage the development process also becomes different, causing each region to have a developed region and an underdeveloped region.

The occurrence of regional inequality has implications for the level of community welfare between regions. Improving people's living standards and welfare requires increased economic growth and equitable distribution of income. Equitable development can actually be done in the context of decentralization and regional autonomy (Herdiana, 2022). Regional Autonomy Policy has been in effect in Indonesia since 2001 under Undanng-Law Number 32 of 2004 concerning Regional Government. The implementation of regional autonomy basically aims to encourage regions to be creative in managing their resources in carrying out development in accordance with the needs and characteristics of each region.

Bengkulu Province is an area legalized through Law Number 9 of 1967. Before becoming an independent province, Bengkulu was initially part of South Sumatra Province. Bengkulu Province became the 26th province in Indonesia on November 18, 1968. At the beginning of its establishment, Bengkulu Province consisted of 4 regions, namely Bengkulu City, South Bengkulu Regency, Rejang Lebong Regency and North Bengkulu Regency. However, after the rise of regional autonomy in Indonesia, in 2003 based on Law No. 3 of 2003 Kaur Regency and Seluma Regency were established which are divisions of South Bengkulu Regency and Mukomuko Regency which are divisions of North Bengkulu Regency. Furthermore, based on Law No. 39 of 2003, Lebong Regency and Kepahiang Regency were also formed, which is a division of Rejang Lebong Regency. In 2008 Central Bengkulu Regency was formed based on Law No. 24 of 2008. Thus, Bengkulu Province consists of 10 administrative regions, namely 9 regencies and 1 city. Each district / city has different regional conditions and characteristics both in terms of economy, social, politics, culture and so on. Therefore, it does not rule out the possibility of contrasting differences or inequalities in the ability to encourage economic growth and development between regions.

Table 1. Gross Regional Domestic Product and GDP Rate of Bengkulu Province Based on Constant Prices (Million Rupiah) in 2005-2022.

Period	Year	GDP (million)	GDP Rate (%)
before the expansion was completed	2005	6.239.364,35	5,82
	2006	6.610.628,57	5,95
	2007	7.037.404,03	6,46
After The Expansion	2008	7.441.873,08	5,75
	2009	7.859.919,71	5,62
	2010	28.352.571,99	6,10
	2011	30.295.054,20	6,85
	2012	32.363.037,83	6,83
	2013	34.326.371,68	6,07

	2014	36.207.145,91	5,48
	2015	38.066.005,72	5,13
	2016	40.047.851,36	5,28
	2017	42.099.417,31	4,98
	2018	44.251.464,54	4,97
	2019	46.514.055,15	4,94
Currently	2020	46.338.431,49	-0,02
	2021	47.853.777,39	3,27
	2022	49.916.060,79	4,31

Source : BPS Bengkulu Province, data processed

From table 1, it can be seen that the amount of GDP of Bengkulu Province tends to increase except in 2020 which decreased by 175,619.15 from the previous year. In terms of GDP rate, Bengkulu Province tends to rise and fall in each period. However, the GDP growth rate in 2020 experienced a fairly high decline compared to the previous year which reached -0.02%.

Table 2. Gross Regional Domestic Product by Regency and City in Bengkulu Province on the Basis of Constant Prices (Million Rupiah) The period before the expansion of 2005-2007.

Region	2005	2006	2007
Bengkulu Selatan	436.903	462.729	491.283
Rejang Lebong	1.308.372	1.381.451	1.466.297
Bengkulu Utara	909.211	909.211	1.038.371
Kaur	195.505	204.681	214.194
Seluma	441.944	514.777	566.186
Mukomuko	440.020	464.751	488.107
Lebong	402.784	424.260	445.951
Kepahiang	574.979	595.272	633.248
Kota Bengkulu	1.589.060	1.694.654	1.805.984
Provinsi Bengkulu	6.239.364	6.610.628	7.037.404

Source : BPS Bengkulu Province

In table 2 it can be seen that in the period before the expansion was completed from 2005-2007 there was an increase in GDP in each Regency / City in Bengkulu Province. In 2007 Bengkulu City was the region that contributed the highest GDP in Bengkulu Province amounting to 1,805,984.39 (million rupiah) of the total GDP of Bengkulu Province of 7,037,404.03 (million rupiah) or contributing around 25%, followed by Rejang Lebong Regency as the second highest contributor area of 1,466,297 (million rupiah) or contributing about 20% and so on. While the region with the lowest GRDP is Kaur Regency which in 2007 only contributed GDP in Bengkulu Province amounting to 214,194.62 (million rupiah) from the total GDP of Bengkulu Province of 7,037,404.03 (million rupiah) or contributing around 3%. The inequality of GRDP between the city of Bengkulu (as the region that contributes the highest GDP) and Kaur Regency (as the region that contributes the lowest GDP) is quite high.

Table 3. Gross Regional Domestic Product by Regency and City in Bengkulu Province on the Basis of Constant Prices (Million Rupiah) The period after the expansion of 2012-2014

Region	2012	2013	2014
Bengkulu Selatan	2.518.785,31	2.674.075,53	2.825.964,97
Rejang Lebong	4.261.234,7	4.515.850,20	4.775.015,05
Bengkulu Utara	3.677.271,4	3.879.885,30	4.091.948,59
Kaur	1.589.692,8	1.686.565,80	1.767.846,62
Seluma	2.042.443,13	2.159.746,19	2.274.123,77
Mukomuko	2.280.578	2.425.616	2.571.337,73
Lebong	1.494.127,5	1.576.901,54	1.662.638,87
Kepahiang	1.929.21551	2.049.378,39	2.170.002,86
Bengkulu Tengah	2.033.315,36	2.146.922,80	2.264.213,79
Kota Bengkulu	10.327.320,6	10.956.459,20	11.627.451,07
Provinsi Bengkulu	32.363.037,83	34.326.371,68	36.207.145,91

Source : BPS Bengkulu Province

The period after the expansion from 2012-2014 saw an increase in GDP in all regencies/cities in Bengkulu Province. In 2014, Bengkulu City was the region that contributed the highest GDP in Bengkulu Province amounting to 11,627,451.07 (million rupiah) of the total GDP of Bengkulu Province of 36,207,145.91 (million rupiah) or contributing around 32%, followed by Rejang Lebong Regency as the second highest contributor area of 4,755,015.05 (million rupiah) or contributing around 13% and so on. While the region with the lowest GRDP is Lebong Regency which in 2014 only contributed GDP in Bengkulu Province amounting to 1,662,638.87 (million rupiah) from the total GDP of Bengkulu Province of 36,207,145.91 (million rupiah) or contributing around 4%.

Table 4. Gross Regional Domestic Product by Regency and City in Bengkulu Province Based on Constant Prices (Million Rupiah) The latest (current) period is 2020-2022.

Province	2020	2021	2022
Bengkulu Selatan	3.444.032	3.615.034	3.624.590
Rejang Lebong	5.791.952	6.078.949	6.083.030
Bengkulu Utara	4.960.303	5.204.93	5.216.350
Kaur	2.153.486	2.260.793	2.263.550
Seluma	2.735.843	2.870.668	2.870.320
Mukomuko	3.116.013	3.325.258	3.326.060
Lebong	2.023.990	2.124.500	2.126.720
Kepahiang	2.673.149	2.803.865	2.805.560
Bengkulu Tengah	2.750.436	2.887.020	2.885.340
Kota Bengkulu	14.552.353	15.339.352	15.301.490
Provinsi Bengkulu	44.164.110	46.345.454	46.338.436

Source : BPS Bengkulu Province

In the latest period (current) from 2020-2022 there was an increase in GDP in all Regencies / Municipalities in Bengkulu Province, but in 2020 several regions in Bengkulu Province experienced an increase or decrease in the amount of GDP and caused the amount of GDP of Bengkulu Province to decrease in 2020 by around 7018 (million rupiah) from the previous year where the growth rate

decreased by 2%. In 2020 Bengkulu City is the region that contributes the highest GDP in Bengkulu Province of 15,301,490 (million rupiah) of the total GDP of Bengkulu Province of 46,338,436 (million rupiah) or contributes around 33%, followed by Rejang Lebong Regency as the second highest contributor area of 6,083,030 (million rupiah) or contribute around 13% and so on. While the region with the lowest GRDP is Lebong Regency which in 2020 only contributed GDP in Bengkulu Province of 2,126,720 (million rupiah) of the total GDP of Bengkulu Province of 46,338,436 (million rupiah) or contributed around 4%.

The success of a country's development is seen from several indicators. One of the important indicators in the success of the country's development is economic growth (Nurasiah, 2022). One of the important problems faced by local governments in the process of regional development is development inequality. The wider an area, the more complicated the problem of inequality will become (Putri &; Almahmudi, 2020). The level of inequality in regional development in Bengkulu Province in the period before expansion, after expansion and Currently is the main discussion in this paper.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Economic Development

Arsyad (2015) stated that economic development can be defined as any activity carried out by a country in order to develop economic activities and the standard of living of its people. With these limitations, economic development in general can be defined as a process that causes an increase in the real per capita income of a country's population in the long run accompanied by improvements in the institutional system. From this definition, development

Economics has the following main elements and properties:

1. a process that means changes that occur continuously;
2. efforts to increase per capita income; curr
4. improvement of institutional systems in all fields (e.g. economic, political, legal, social, and cultural). This institutional system can be viewed from two aspects, namely aspects of improvement in the field of rules of the game, both formal and informal rules; and the organization (players) that implements the rules of the game.

Regional Economic Growth

Regional economic development is a process by which local governments and their communities manage existing resources and form a pattern of partnership between local governments and the private sector to create new jobs and stimulate the development of economic activities (economic growth) in the region (Arsyad, 2010). The main problem in regional development lies in emphasizing development policies based on the peculiarities of the region concerned (endogenous development) by using the potential of human resources, institutions, and physical resources locally (regionally). So that in an effort to achieve regional economic development goals, the main policy that needs to be done is to try as much as possible so that regional development priorities are in accordance with the potential possessed by the regions (Rukmana et al, 2020).

Regional Expansion

The fundamental reason for regional expansion is the improvement of the welfare of local communities, so far resources tend to be drawn to the parent area so that areas far from the center of power are left behind (Putri. 2020).

The World Bank concluded that there are 4 main drivers of regional expansion, namely (Herawati):

1. The motive for the effectiveness of government administration considering the vast area of the area, the spread of population and the lagging behind in development.
2. Tendency to homogeneity (ethnicity, language, religion, rural urban, income level). Some regional divisions are more based on the motive of wanting to escape the crush of "oppression" of other groups on the basis of ethnicity, religion, and others.
3. There is fiscal pampering guaranteed by the Law with the provision of DAU, DAK, Profit Sharing from Natural Resources and the provision of regional sources of revenue.
4. The rent-seeking motives of the elite. Many regional expansions are based on motives because they want to serve in the Local Bureaucracy and DPRD. In addition, regional expansion is also based on the motive to rebuild the history and power of the old aristocracy that had been pudak in the past.

Development Inequality

Inequality between regions is common in the economic activities of a region. This happens because of differences in the content of natural resources and differences in demographic conditions found in each region. This difference makes the ability of a region to encourage the development process also different. Therefore, each region usually has a developed region and underdeveloped region (Syafrizal, 2012).

Past Researchers

There have been many studies that have examined development inequality in various islands in Indonesia, including inequality in several provinces on the island of Sumatra such as Riau Islands Province during 2011-2020 there was an average level of inequality of 0.13 which was classified as a moderate level of inequality (Rahim &; Zasriati, 2023). The average level of inequality in West Sumatra province in 2017-2021 is at 0.279, which shows that inequality in West Sumatra province is low (Febriani, 2023). The average level of inequality between the Main District and Pemekaran Regency in Aceh Province in 2010-2018 was relatively low because the level of inequality was below 0.3 (Sulasmi and Siregar, 2020). The average level of inequality in each district/city in North Sumatra in 2016-2020 was at 0.13 where the level of inequality was relatively low (Gurusinga, 2022). In Bengkulu Province in 2002,2007,2016 there was a relatively low level of inequality where the level of inequality in 2002 was 0.34, in 2007 it was 0.40 and in 2016 it was 0.37 (Putri and Almahmudi, 2020). Inequality in Muaro Jambi, Jambi Province in 2016-2020 was high with an average level of inequality of 0.58 (Pambudi et al, 2022). There is low inequality in every district/city in Jambi Province in 2016-2020 with an average level of inequality below 0.1 (Putri and Safitri, 2022).

Likewise with the island of Java, there is a study that discusses inequality in several provinces in Java such as inequality between districts / cities in Banten Province during 2016-2020 with an inequality level of more than 0.7 each year, where this condition shows that inequality of economic development in Banten Province is uneven and there is a fairly high inequality between districts / cities (Noviar, 2021). There was also very high inequality in East Java Province in 2016-2020 with an average level of inequality of more than 0.90 (Septiani and Endang, 2002).

There are also on the island of Sulawesi such as North Sulawesi during 2015-2019 there is an inequality level of 0.50 which means that the level of inequality in North Sulawesi is classified as moderate (Hadju et al., 2021). The level of development inequality in Luwu Regency, South Sulawesi Province in 2011-2019 was relatively low with the level of inequality in each year below 0.3 (Darda et al., 2021).

In addition, there is inequality in several provinces on other islands, such as The level of inequality on Lombok Island in 2019-2020 was at 0.56 and 0.51 where the level of inequality was moderate (Sayuti &; Suhendri, 2022). In Bali Province in 2009-2018 there is an economic inequality level below 0.3 every year, where this level of inequality is still relatively low (Kurniawan &; Huda, 2020). In Gorontalo Province in 2019-2021 there is a low level of inequality where the level of inequality in 2019 is 0.14 and in 2020-2021 is 0.19 (Arsana et al., 2020). The average level of inequality in North Maluku province in 2015-2019 was at 0.27, which shows that inequality in the province is relatively low (Ambar et al., 2021).

There are also studies that examine the inequality of development of a region before and after regional autonomy such as the analysis of inequality between districts resulting from the expansion of the Indragiri region (Indragiri Hulu Regency, Indragiri Hilir Regency, Kuantan Singingi Regency) with an average level of inequality before regional autonomy (1995-1999) of 0.07 which is slightly higher than after regional autonomy (2014-2018) of 0.09 where the level of inequality before and after autonomy areas are classified as low (Harahap et al, 2020).

In addition, there is a study that examines development imbalances between countries in Malaysia in 2005-2018 where the level of inequality is relatively low in all regions in Malaysia. There are 14 regions that have an average level of inequality in each region below 0.20 such as Sabah, Kelantan, Keda, Perak, Selangor, Terengganu, Johor, P.Pinang, Pahang, WP Labuan, Perlis, Melaka, N. Sembilan, Sarawak with. And there is 1 in 15 regions that have an inequality level above 0.20, namely WPKL (Kuala Lumpur Federal Territory) which is 0.364. Although still relatively low, the level of inequality in WPKL (Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur) is much higher than the inequality of 14 other regions which are below 0.20 (Sieng &; Kamarudin, 2021).

METHODOLOGY

This research is descriptive, with the data used being secondary data including population overview, regional economic data (GRDP), and other supporting data. All secondary data used include data from 10 regencies/cities and data from Bengkulu Province with a range of analysis years from 2005-2007,

2012-2014 and 2020-2022. The analysis begins by using descriptive analysis to provide an overview of the economy of Bengkulu Province and the districts / cities that make it up. This descriptive analysis includes a comparison of the value of GDP, economic growth, population conditions.

Klassen typology

Regional typology analysis tools are used to find out an overview of the pattern and structure of economic growth of each region, Regional typology basically divides regions based on two main indicators, namely regional economic growth and regional per capita income By determining the average growth of economists as the vertical axis and the average per capita income as the horizontal axis, the observed areas can be divided into four cations, namely fast-advancing regions and fast growing (high growth and high income), developed but depressed regions (high income but low growth), fast developing regions (high growth but low income), and relatit lagging areas (low growth and low income) (Syafrizal, 2008).

Table 5. Regional Classification Based on Klassen Typology

GDP per capita (y) / growth rate (r)	yi > y	yi < y
ri > r	Quadrant (1) Developed areas and Growing fast	Quadrant (3) Developing Areas
ri < r	Quadrant (2) Advanced Area But depressed	Quadrant (4) Relative Area Left behind

Information:
ri = Economic Growth of GDP Regency i
yi = GDP per capita district
r = Economic Growth of GDP Region i
y = GDP per capita Region i

Williamson Index

According to Sjafrizal (2012) One model that is representative enough to measure the level of development inequality between regions is the Williamson index proposed by Williamson (1965). Williamson proposed the Vw (*weighted index* to population) and Vuw (*un-weighted index*) models to measure the level of inequality in a country's per capita income at any given time. Although this index has several weaknesses, including being sensitive to the definition of the area used in calculations, this index is commonly used in measuring development inequality between regions (Sjafrizal, 2012). The Williamson Index formulation used according to Sjafrizal (2012) is:

$$V_w = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{n}(y_i - y)^2 \left(\frac{f_i}{n}\right)}}{y}$$

Where:
Vw= Williamson Index
yi = GDP per capita region i
y = GDP per capita average of all regions
fi = Number of inhabitants of area i
n = Total population of the entire region

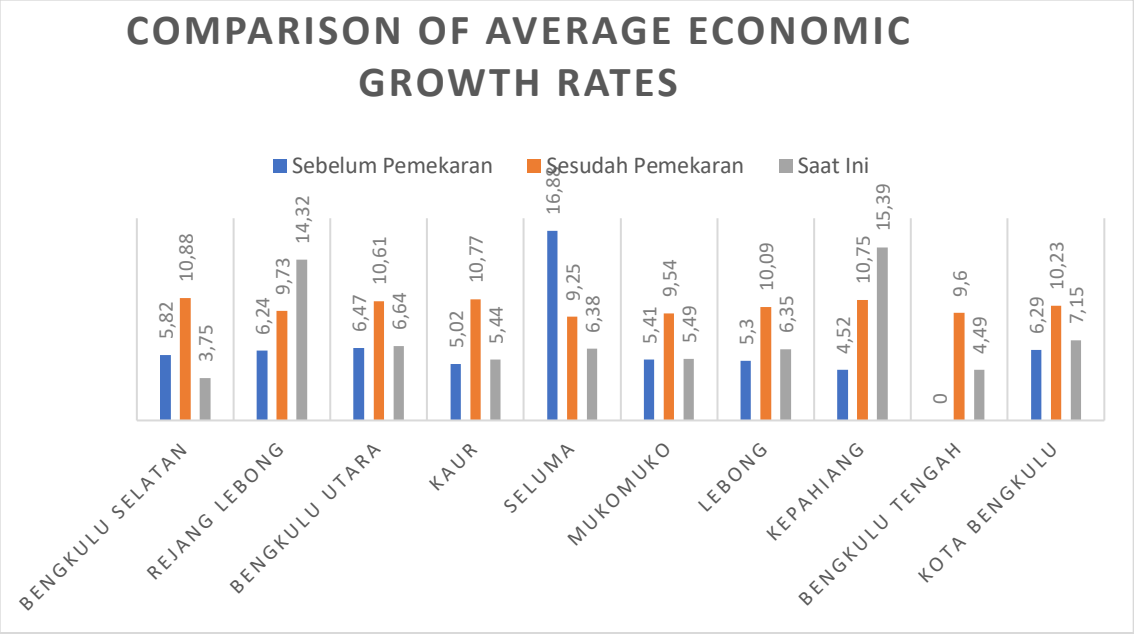
The Williamson index has values from 0 to 1. The smaller or closer to zero the Williamson Index number, the more evenly distributed development between regions in a region. Vice versa, the greater the Williamson Index number or the closer to one, the more visible the development gap between regions in a region. Based on (Tambunan, 2003), the Williamson Index criteria are as follows.
a. If the Williamson Index number is 0 to 0.5 then the level of inequality is low
b. If the Williamson Index figure is 0.5 to 1 then the level of inequality is high.

RESEARCH RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Klassen typology

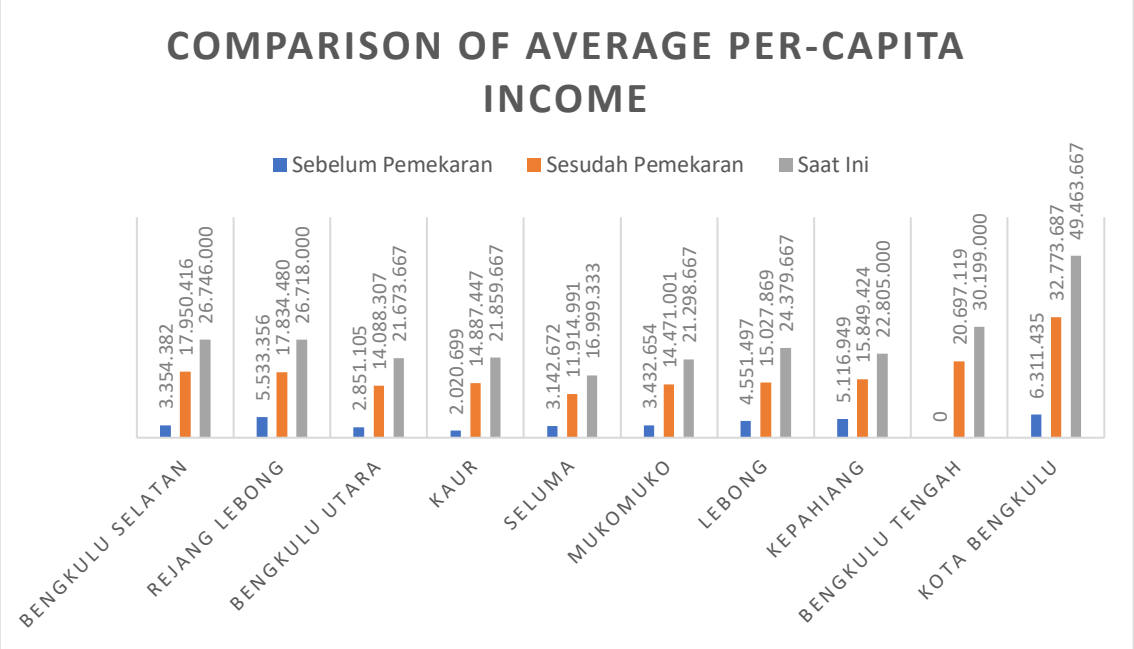
The Klassen typology is used to find out an overview of the pattern and structure of economic growth of each region. The Klassen typology divides regions by looking at regional economic growth and regional per capita income. Before characterizing the area between districts / cities in Bengkulu Province, the following shows the comparison of economic growth between districts / cities of Bengkulu Province.

Graph 1. Comparison of the average economic growth rate before regional autonomy (2005 -2007), after regional autonomy period (2012 to 2014), and Currently (2020-2022).



In graph 1 there is a change in the average economic growth rate of each period, before regional autonomy the highest economic growth was in Seluma Regency while the highest economic growth after regional autonomy was South Bengkulu Regency and in the current period is Kepahiang Regency. Kaur Regency is the area with the lowest average growth rate in the period before expansion, while Seluma Regency in the period after expansion and South Bengkulu in the current period.

Graph 2. Comparison of average per-capita income before regional autonomy (2005 -2007), after regional autonomy period (2012 to 2014), and Currently (2020-2022).



Graph 2 shows the highest average per-capita income in the period before regional autonomy, after regional autonomy and currently the city of Bengkulu. Kaur Regency is the area that has the lowest average per-capita income and Seluma Regency is the area that has the lowest average per-capita income in the period after regional autonomy and currently.

Table 6. Klassen Typology Results Before Expansion (2005-2007)

GDP Per Capita (y) / Growth rate (r)	yi > y	yi < y
ri > r	Quadrant (1) Bengkulu City, Rejang Lebong.	Quadrant (3) Bengkulu Utara, Seluma.
ri < r	Quadrant (2) Lebong, Kepahiang.	Quadrant (4) Bengkulu Selatan, Kaur, Muko-muko.

Before the expansion, Bengkulu City and Rejang Lebong Regency became leading areas in terms of economic growth and per capita income levels of their people so that Bengkulu City and Rejang Lebong Regency became developed areas that grew fast compared to 7 other regions. Lebong and Kepahiang are developed districts with per capita income above the province, but the growth rate is lower so it is included in the classification of developed but depressed districts. North Bengkulu, Seluma is a fast-growing district. While South Bengkulu, Kaur and Muko-muko are in the 4th quadrant and are included in the classification of less developed districts.

Table 7. Klassen Typology Results After Expansion (2012-2014)

GDP Per Capita (y) / Growth rate (r)	yi > y	yi < y
ri > r	Quadrant (1) Kota Bengkulu, Bengkulu Selatan,	Quadrant (3) Muko-muko, Kepahiang,
ri < r	Quadrant (2) Rejang Lebong, Bengkulu Tengah.	Quadrant (4) Bengkulu Utara, Kaur, Seluma, Lebong,.

Central Bengkulu was the last district to be expanded in Bengkulu Province in 2008 and became a developed but depressed district along with Rejang Lebong district. In this period, Rejang Lebong district experienced a decrease when compared to the previous period, Rejang Lebong district was in quadrant 2 due to the decline in the rate of GDP compared to the previous year period. Bengkulu City is a leading area in terms of economic growth and per capita income level and followed by South Bengkulu Regency. Muko-muko Regency and Kepahiang Regency became fast-growing districts, while the less developed areas in this period were North Bengkulu, Kaur, Seluma, and Lebong.

Table 8. Current Klassen Typology Results (2020-2022)

GDP Per Capita (y) / Growth rate (r)	yi > y	yi < y
ri > r	Quadrant (1) Kota Bengkulu, Rejang Lebong	Quadrant (3) Bengkulu Utara, Kaur, Seluma, Muko-muko, lebong, Kepahiang.
ri < r	Quadrant (2) Bengkulu Selatan, Bengkulu Tengah	Quadrant (4)

Just like before the expansion, Bengkulu City and Rejang Lebong Regency again led in terms of economic growth and per capita income levels. South Bengkulu and Central Bengkulu are developed districts with per capita income above the province, but the growth rate is lower so that it is included in the classification of developed but depressed districts. North Bengkulu, Kaur, Seluma, Muko-muko, Lebong and Kepahiang are fast-growing districts. In this period there was not a single district/city in quadrant 4.

Development Inequality Analysis

Regional inequality is measured using the Williamson Index. This index describes a weighted index of the coefficient of variation that measures the disperse per capita income of the region against the average per capita income of the entire Indragiri region and the total population of the region against the entire population of the area in the Indragiri region.

Table 9. Williamson Index for Bengkulu Province before the expansion was completed (2005-2007), after the expansion (2012-2014) and currently (2020-2022).

Before Expansion is Completed				After Expansion				Currently			
2005	2006	2007	Rata-rata	2012	2013	2014	Rata-rata	2020	2021	2022	Rata-rata
0.33	0.35	0.34	0.34	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.41	0.43	0.44	0.427

Source: research results.

Before the expansion was completed in 2005-2007, Bengkulu Province had an average IW number of 0.34 which means that the 9 regions that make up Bengkulu Province have relatively low development inequality. However, after the Central Bengkulu district was expanded in 2008, the average level of inequality in Bengkulu increased by 0.03 to 0.37. This indicates that regional expansion has not been able to create economic growth evenly in Bengkulu Province. Development inequality is likely to increase if the resulting areas have relatively low economic performance or cannot develop properly. In addition, development inequality may occur because newly developed areas usually cannot optimize their own economic potential due to separation from the parent district. In addition, development inequality is also likely to grow high if the parent region loses the source of economic growth that comes from people with relatively higher productivity. This will result in the parent district experiencing a decline in economic performance which has an impact on the lower regional per capita income (Putri &; Almahmudi, 2020).

In the current period, the average level of inequality in Bengkulu is increasing although it is still relatively low. The level of inequality in the current period is 0.427, when compared to the period after expansion, inequality in the current period increases by 0.057. One of the things that allows inequality in Bengkulu Province to increase is because the value of GDP and GDP per capita of the city of Bengkulu with 9 other districts is very unequal. The difference in GDP and GDP per capita between Bengkulu City and other districts can be seen from the explanation in tables 2-4.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

From the results of the research that has been done, it can be concluded that:

1. The Williamson Index value of Bengkulu Province in the period before the expansion was completed (2005-2007), after the expansion (2012-2014) and Currently (2020-2022) is 0.34, 0.37, 0.427 which means that the level of inequality in Bengkulu Province continues to increase even though the expansion was completed in 2008.
2. There is a very high inequality of GDP and GDP per capita between Bengkulu City and 9 other districts in Bengkulu Province which can cause inequality.

The analysis tools and data used only provide an overview of the development of the region in general. The impact of regional expansion is only seen in terms of equitable development with variables of per capita income and economic growth. Based on conclusions and limitations, it is recommended for further research in order to complement analytical tools and more detailed data (micro) regarding the economic development of the region studied. In addition, it is necessary to consider the use of other economic and social variables as indicators of the impact of regional expansion in order to obtain a more complete picture of the impact of expansion. Meanwhile, the implementation of regional autonomy must be continued by the government consistently in overcoming problems and wide gaps in their respective regions, and regional governments must be able to balance the acceleration of economic growth with equity in the regions.

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