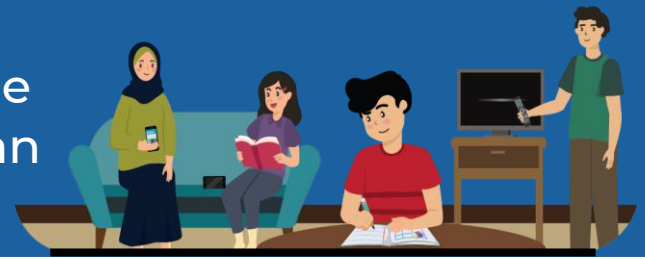


The Socioeconomic Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Indonesian Households



In this second round of socioeconomic survey, we revisited 12,216 households that we had interviewed in the first round to enrich the data over time. We collected individual-level information for each set of questions about employment and education. We also included additional questions about vaccination and details related to persons with disability, child education, and social assistance.

Methodology

This research employs both quantitative and qualitative methods. We conducted face-to-face interviews with 12,216 panel households from the first round survey, with a response rate of 89%. Additionally, we conducted in-depth interviews with the same panel households, child informants, and providers of public services, such as teachers, village officials, social facilitators, and healthcare workers.

Research Questions



1. How compliant are households with health protocols?
2. How are the dynamics of household income during the pandemic?
3. What are the coping mechanisms of households during the postpandemic recovery?
4. What is the school dropout rate and what are the reasons behind the dropouts?
5. How is the learning loss during the pandemic?
6. How is the situation of food insecurity during the pandemic?
7. What are the impacts of the pandemic on persons with disability?
8. How effective are social assistance programs, especially for vulnerable groups?

Findings

- 1 The high vaccine uptake and strong adherence to health protocols drive the community's economy back into motion.
- 2 The uneven K-shaped recovery occurs as the wealthiest households bounce back from adversity, while the condition of others remains stagnant or even worsens.
- 3 Gender inequality continues to increase as women bear additional burdens of household chores and caregiving work.
- 4 More and more households are adopting negative coping mechanisms, such as increasing debts and selling/pawning assets.
- 5 Economic vulnerability worsens as reflected in the increasing food insecurity, especially among the vulnerable groups.



- 6 Amid socioeconomic vulnerabilities, the education sector continues to face disruptions; for example, students spend less time learning. Nevertheless, the dropout rate remains relatively low.
- 7 The pandemic also affects the lives of children with disability, especially in terms of education and access to mobility aids.
- 8 Social assistance can reach those in need; social assistance provision must continue.
- 9 Government assistance has also proven to be effective in preventing school dropouts and learning loss among children.

Policy Recommendations

How the Government Can Address Uncertainties Caused by the Pandemic

Ensure that the social protection system can provide comprehensive protection for all.

Optimize the distribution of social assistance so that it goes smoothly.

Protect vulnerable households by enhancing the capacity and adaptability of the social protection system to respond to shocks.

Mitigate the risk of food insecurity by ensuring support for at-risk households, especially households with children.

How the Government Can Support Recovery



Restore children's learning lost during the pandemic by encouraging return-to-school policies.

Safeguard the transition to the new normal era by providing comprehensive protection for children and pregnant women.

Support persons with disability by providing more inclusive social protection.

Address gender inequality in household chores and caregiving work.



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