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The Effect of Food Price Fluctuations on Inflation After the 2024 General Election (Case Study: Medan City)

Emma Fadhilah[1], Abraham Ismail Pulungan[2], Nelfita Rizka[3]
[1-3]Universitas Nahdlatul Ulama Sumatera Utara

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ABSTRACT

The city of Medan has several features that distinguish it from other cities in Indonesia. How fluctuations in food prices impact inflation can be influenced by variables such as the structure of the local food market, the accessibility of food distribution, and people's consumption patterns. The purpose of this research is to gain an understanding of the dynamics that occur in Medan, especially in the post-election context. This study aims to analyze the effect of food price fluctuations on the inflation rate in Medan City after the general election. Significant fluctuations in food prices often affect price stability and inflation, and the impact may become more complex after policy changes following the 2024 general election. This study aims to analyze the influence of food prices on inflation using a linear regression model with five independent variables: Rice Price, Chicken Meat Price, Red Chili Price, Beef Price, and Shallot Price. The Kolmogorov-Smirnov normality test on non-standardized residuals showed a significance value of 0.251, which is greater than 0.05, indicating normal distributed data. The histogram shows a distribution of data that deviates to the right, while the P-Plot test on standardized residual shows the absence of heteroscedasticity. The multicollinearity test with the Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) yielded values below 10.0 for all variables, indicating the absence of symptoms of multicollinearity. The results of the linear regression show that the coefficients for Rice Prices (-0.00000075), Red Chili Prices (-0.00000012), and Shallot Prices (-0.00000027) are negative, indicating an inverse relationship between these prices and inflation. Meanwhile, the coefficients for Chicken Meat Price (0.00000103) and Beef Price (0.00000008) were positive, but the effect was very small. A coefficient of determination (R^2) of 0.609 indicates that about 60.9% of the variation in inflation can be explained by this model. The partial hypothesis test showed that only the Chicken Meat Price had a significant influence on inflation (significance value of 0.017, less than 0.05). The other variables did not show a significant influence because their significance value was greater than 0.05. The F test showed a significance value below 0.05, indicating that simultaneously, all five food price variables had a significant influence on inflation. The study concluded that, although only one variable was individually significant, overall, changes in food prices affected inflation.

Corresponding Author:

Name: Emma Fadhilah S.P., M.P
Institution: Universitas Nahdlatul Ulama Sumatera Utara
Email: emdi.fadhilah@gmail.com

1. INTRODUCTION

Based on the number of populations, the city of Medan is one of the fourth largest cities in Indonesia, having a complicated economic life. Various factors affect the economy of this city, one of which is the price of food that changes frequently, which affects people's purchasing power.

The political life of a country is often driven by elections. The results of the general election can cause uncertainty and change in many areas, such as the economy and food. The impact of food price fluctuations on inflation rates can be strengthened or mitigated by policy changes or political stability after elections.

In table 1 you can see the prices before the general election, the day of the general election and after the general election.

Plot 1. Price Comparison of Rice, Chicken, Beef, Red Chili, Shallots before and after the 2024 General Election [1]

PRICES BEFORE THE GENERAL ELECTION					
DATE	**RICE**	**CHICKEN MEAT**	**SARI MEAT**	**RED CHILI**	**SHALLOT**
07/02/2024	14.850	34.250	136.900	43.700	36.900
09/02/2024	14.850	34.550	136.900	43.700	36.900
10/02/2024	14.850	34.550	136.900	43.850	36.400
12/02/2024	14.850	35.650	136.900	46.400	36.350
13/02/2024	14.850	35.500	136.900	45.550	36.450
ELECTION DAY PRICES					
14/02/2024	14.850	35.400	136.900	45.950	36.450
PRICES AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION					
15/02/2024	14.850	35.800	136.900	55.550	35.750
16/02/2024	14.900	36.300	136.900	57.200	36.350
18/02/2024	14.900	36.300	136.900	57.200	36.350
19/02/2024	14.950	37.650	136.900	60.600	37.300
21/02/2024	14.950	37.750	136.900	61.950	37.400
22/02/2024	14.950	38.150	136.900	63.850	38.200

Source: National PIHPS

From table 1, it can be seen that after the election day, the prices of rice, purebred chicken, beef, chili peppers, and shallots increased. Then in tablet 2 it is stated the inflation rate in February 2024 in North Sumatra Province in general.

Expenditure Group	**February 2024 *m-to-m* Inflation Rate (%)**	**y-to-d *Inflation Rate* February 2024 (%)**	**y-on-y *Inflation Rate* February 2024 (%)**	**Inflation Contribution *m-to-m* February 2024 (%)**	**Y-on-d *Inflation Contribution* in February 2024 (%)**
General *(Headline)*	0,37	0,41	1,68	0,14	0,37

Source: BPS North Sumatra Province. (processed)

In this situation, it is very important to conduct a thorough analysis of the relationship between inflation and changes in food prices after the 2024 general election in

Medan, especially in North Sumatra Province. By understanding the mechanisms of interaction between these two components, governments and policymakers can take appropriate action to control the negative impact of food price fluctuations on inflation.

According to data from the Central Statistics Agency, CPI inflation in April 2024 was recorded at 0.25% (mtm), rising to 3.00% (yoy) on an annual basis. Inflation is stable due to consistent monetary policy and strong cooperation in inflation control between Bank Indonesia and the central and regional governments in the Central and Regional Inflation Control Teams (TPIP and TPID), which are strengthened by the National Movement for Food Inflation Control (GNPIP) in various regions. Going forward, Bank Indonesia expects inflation to remain under control within the target range of 2.5 to 1% in 2024.

Inflation is statistically more frequent than deflation, which means that the prices of goods that people consume continue to rise every month, even if the increase is not significant; Only if the price increase is collected over a long period of time, the price change will be real and significant for the general public. This happens even when inflation is low.

Thus, it is clear that the influence of food price fluctuations on inflation in Medan is very significant. As a result, the researcher wanted to conduct a study on the title " The Effect of Food Price Fluctuations on Post-General Election Inflation (Case Study: Medan City)".

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Food Price Fluctuations

Food prices are affected by the market balance between food demand and supply; Changes in consumption and production patterns are often associated with these fluctuations (Schroeder et al., 2021). Food prices can change, affecting people's purchasing power, especially for low-income households. Inflation can increase if food prices rise, and conversely, a decrease in food prices can suppress inflation (Deaton, 2023).

2.1.1. Rice Prices

In many countries, including Indonesia, rice is the main food. Inflation as a whole can be affected by fluctuations in rice prices. (World Bank, 2022).

Since rice is an important component of household spending, rising rice prices can lead to inflation (Raihan & Khondker, 2018).

2.1.2. Chicken Meat Price

Dr. Pratiwi A. (2024) investigates how government policies and seasonal factors affect chicken meat prices in Medan and other major cities in Indonesia. The study included examining chicken price data from previous years to find seasonal patterns and the effects of fiscal policy.

2.1.3. Price of Red Chili

Fluctuations in food prices, including red chili, affect inflation in Medan City. The study includes an analysis of food price data and its impact on local living costs and inflation. Wahyudi, S., & Sari, N. (2024).

2.1.4. Beef Price

Fluctuations in beef prices to inflation in Medan City, including how beef prices affect inflation and the cost of living. Nugroho, B., & Indah, S. (2024).

2.1.5. Price of Shallots

The price of shallots is the market value of shallots that can change due to many things that affect supply and demand. Shallots are one of the essential food ingredients that are widely used in cooking.

2.2. Inflation

The Effect of Food Price Changes on Inflation: The consumer price index and inflation rate are affected by changes in food prices. Rising food prices, especially in economies that depend on food as part of their consumption, can accelerate inflation (Ravallion, 2023).

Post-election policies can change economic policies, including import tariffs, subsidies, and food prices. The new government may carry out reforms that have an impact on inflation and food price stability (Stromberg, 2023).

3. METHODS

Sempel Election locations, modern shopping centers in various sub-districts of Medan City will be selected. Locations are selected based on population density, economic level, and market diversity. With the exception of different locations, the study will allow the study to identify price changes and their impact on inflation in different urban areas. Medan was chosen as the research location because it is one of the largest cities in Indonesia and the capital of North Sumatra Province. Medan, as a regional economic center, has complex and diverse food price dynamics, and inflation has a significant impact on people's economic lives. This study concentrates on the 2024 post-election period in Medan City to find out how changes in food prices impact inflation after the general election period, which can be influenced by changes in economic policies or political influences. To get a comprehensive picture of food price fluctuations in different types of markets, the research will include modern shopping center markets (such as supermarkets and hypermarkets).

The CPI is used to measure inflation by showing the extent to which the prices of goods and services have increased from period to period. The Consumer Price Index is an important tool in economics for measuring price changes and inflation that affect consumers' purchasing power. By using CPIs, policymakers, economists, and individuals can better understand and respond to changes in the cost of living and the economy in general.

1) Rice Price (X1): The price of rice is measured in units of price per kilogram in the main markets in the city of Medan.
2) Chicken Meat Price (X2): The price of chicken meat is measured in units of price per kilogram in the main markets in Medan City.
3) Red Chili Price (X3): The price of red chili is measured in units of price per kilogram in the main markets in Medan City.
4) Beef Price (X4): The price of beef is measured in units of price per kilogram in the main markets in the city of Medan.
5) Shallot Price (X5): The price of shallots is measured in units of price per kilogram in the main markets in Medan City.

The research will be conducted over a specific period of time covering the post-election period of 2024, from February 14, 2024 to March 29, 2024, focusing on price fluctuations and their impact on inflation during the General Election period in Medan City. Data will be collected from secondary data sources (inflation reports, food price statistics from government agencies).

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data used in this analysis includes the prices of five types of food, namely rice, chicken, red chili, beef, and shallots, as well as inflation for February and March. The following is the data used:

	N	**Minimum**	**Maximum**	**Mean**	**Hours of deviation**
Harga_Beras	33	13200.0	14350.0	13918.182	361.5976
Harga_Daging_Ayam	33	37900.0	39900.0	39224.242	861.3327
Harga_Daging_Sapi	33	135000.0	144000.0	136696.970	3005.0463
Harga_Bawang_Merah	33	34250.0	39650.0	36336.364	1931.2914

Harga_Cabai_Merah	33	100500.0	115400.0	107730.303	5602.6353
Inflation	33	.0036	.0073	.005955	.0018075
Valid N (listwise)	33				

Source: SPSS 27 (Processed)

The table above shows the descriptive statistical results of the 6 variables used in this study. As shown above, the results show a wide range of results. The lowest standard deviation is seen in the inflation variable which shows that there was a very small change in the percentage of inflation in February and March. In addition, Red Chili has the highest standard deviation with a score of 5602 which can indicate that there is a major change in the price of red chili in February and March.

Table 3: One Sample Kolmogorov Smirnov Test Results

One Sample Kolmogorov Smirnov Test		
		Unstandardized Residual
N		33
Normal Parameters[a,b]	Mean	.0000000
	Hours of deviation	.00113007
Most Extreme Differences	Absolute	.177
	Positive	.177
	Negative	-.127
Kolmogorov-Smirnov Z		1.019
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)		.251

The above results show a single-sample Kolmogorov Smirnov normality test through the use of non-standardized residual through 5-variable linear regression to inflation. A significance value of 0.251 indicates that the significance is greater than 0.05. This concludes that the data obtained for this study are normally distributed according to the Kolmogorov Smirnov test of one sample.

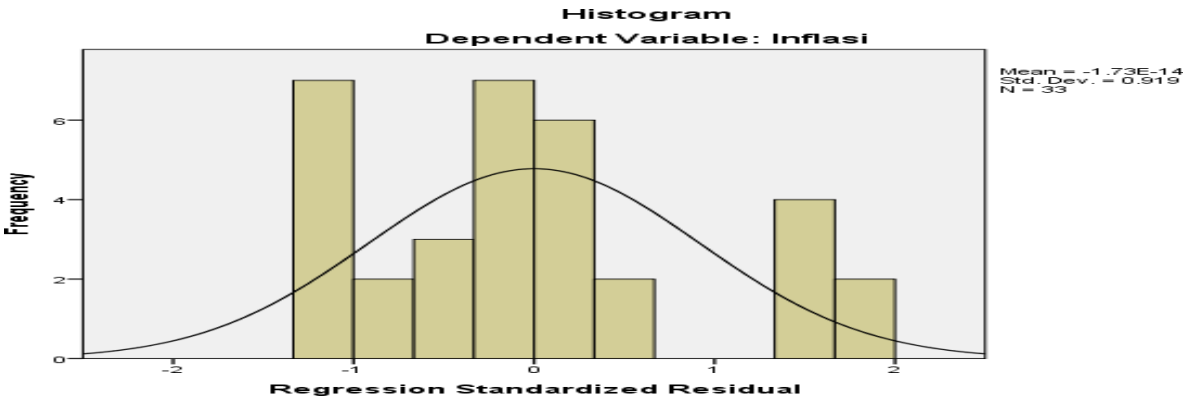

Figure 1 : Histogram

Based on histogram results obtained from linear regression testing. This shows that the histogram has a distributed pattern deviating to the right which can be interpreted as normally distributed data.

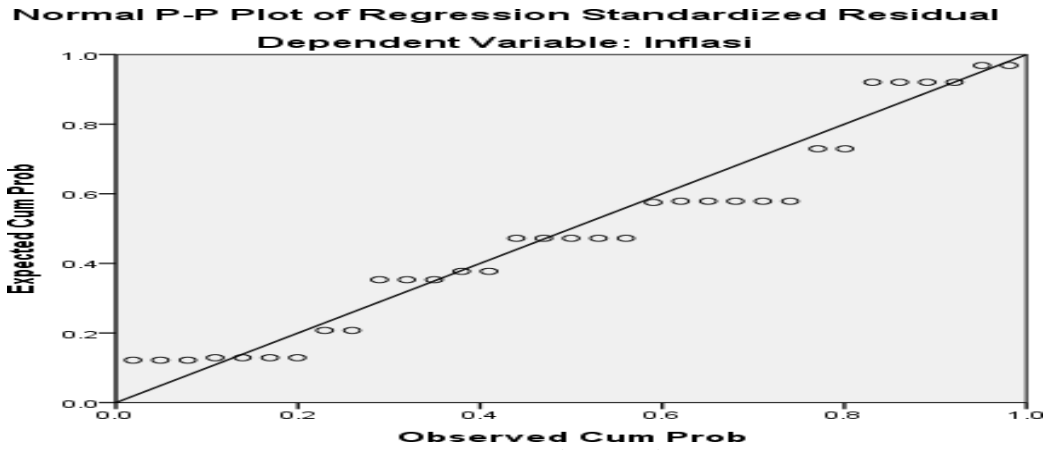

Figure 2: P P Plot Results

The table above shows the normality test using the P Plot test using residual standardized regression. The graph above shows that the points on the graph follow and approach a diagonal line which can be concluded that the data obtained is normally distributed.

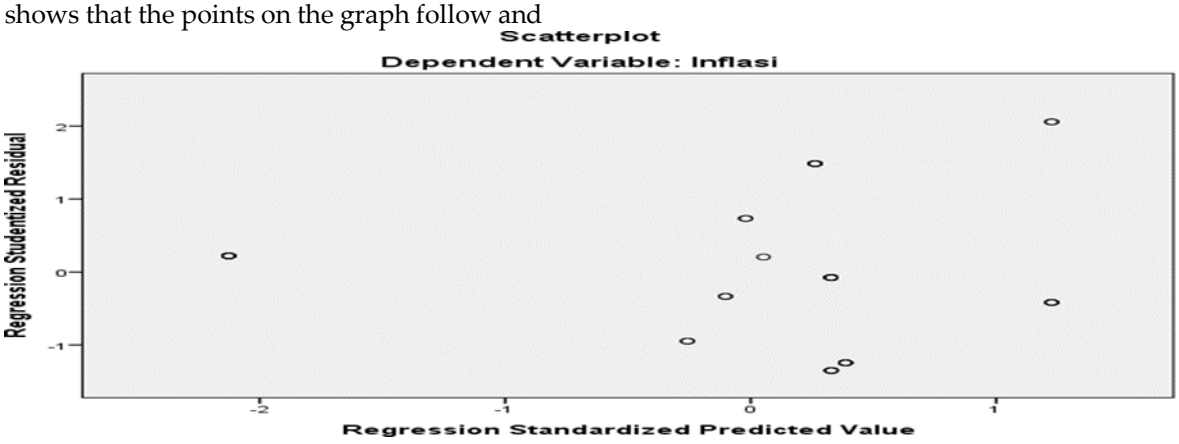

Figure 3: Heterokedasticity Test

The heterokedasticity test used in this study is scatter plot. The graph above shows that the dots are scattered not only in one particular place or form certain patterns. It is concluded that the data obtained for this study do not have symptoms of heterokedasticity.

Based on the results of multiple linear regression with inflation as a dependent variable:

- Chicken meat price has a statistically significant coefficient, with a p-value of 0.017. This shows that the chicken meat variable contributes significantly to inflation in Medan City.
- Rice Prices, Beef Prices, Shallot Prices and Red Chili Prices are all insignificant (p-value >0.05), so they do not have a significant contribution to inflation in this model.

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Itself.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	14597.795	2638.932		5.532	.000
	Harga_Daging_Ayam	-.184	.055	-.438	-3.339	.002

	Harga_Daging_Sapi	-.006	.013	-.051	-.476	.638
	Harga_Bawang_Merah	.116	.022	.617	5.204	.000
	Harga_Cabai_Merah	.030	.008	.471	3.990	.000
	Inflation	-15718.755	27711.454	-.079	-.567	.575

Source: Primer (processed)

Based on the table above, it can be seen that the price of chicken, onion, and red chili has a positive and significant impact. This means that when the prices of these commodities rise, the price of rice also tends to increase. One possible explanation is the relationship in household consumption patterns. When the price of chicken, red chili, and shallots rises, people may buy more rice as a substitute or to balance expenses, causing the price of rice to rise.

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Itself.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	41731.471	7989.599		5.223	.000
	Harga_Daging_Sapi	-.007	.038	-.023	-.172	.865
	Harga_Bawang_Merah	.220	.082	.493	2.678	.012
	Harga_Cabai_Merah	.106	.020	.689	5.420	.000
	Inflation	186844.162	73618.198	.392	2.538	.017
	Harga_Beras	-1.589	.476	-.667	-3.339	.002

Source: Primer (processed)

The table above shows the results of the third hypothesis test, which measures the influence of several variables on the price of chicken meat. From the results of the T-Test, it can be seen that four of the five variables, namely the price of shallots, the price of red chili, inflation, and the price of rice, have a positive and significant influence on changes in chicken meat prices. This means that the increase in commodity prices is followed by an increase in

The price of chicken meat. This may be due to interrelated linkages in supply or demand chains that affect each other between these commodities.

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Itself.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	158014.248	48191.169		3.279	.003
	Harga_Bawang_Merah	-.370	.459	-.238	-.806	.428

	Inflation	372460.318	405840.774	.224	.918	.367
	Harga_Beras	-1.348	2.833	-.162	-.476	.638
	Harga_Daging_Ayam	-.166	.968	-.048	-.172	.865
	Harga_Cabai_Merah	.141	.139	.263	1.011	.321

The table above shows the influence of rice prices, chicken meat prices, red chili prices, onion prices, and inflation on changes in beef prices. The results showed that none of these variables had a significant influence on beef prices. Thus, it can be concluded that factors such as onion prices, inflation, rice prices, chicken prices, and red chili prices do not play a significant role in influencing changes in beef prices. This may indicate that beef prices are more influenced by other factors not included in the model, such as specific supply conditions for beef or other external factors.

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Itself.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	-32230.221	22782.844		-1.415	.169
	Inflation	-211280.040	165857.901	-.198	-1.274	.214
	Harga_Beras	4.335	.833	.812	5.204	.000
	Harga_Daging_Ayam	.955	.357	.426	2.678	.012
	Harga_Cabai_Merah	-.179	.048	-.519	- 3.755	.001
	Harga_Daging_Sapi	-.063	.079	-.099	-.806	.428

Source: Primer (processed)

The table above presents the results of the sixth and final hypothesis testing, which measures the influence of rice prices, chicken prices, red chili prices, beef prices, and inflation on changes in onion prices. Based on the results of the T-Test, it can be seen that the price of rice, the price of chicken meat, and the price of red chili have a positive and significant influence on the price of shallots. This means that the price increase in the three commodities is followed by the increase in the price of shallots, which may be due to the market and consumption relationships between the commodities.

5. CONCLUSION

1) The price of chicken meat has a positive and significant effect on inflation in Medan City because it has a significance value of 0.017 which is smaller than 0.05, while the price of rice, beef price, price of shallots, and the price of red chili does not have a significant effect on inflation in Medan City because it has a significance greater than 0.05, with the variable rice price having the highest significance value of 0.575.
2) The price of chicken meat, the price of shallots, and the price of red chili have a significant influence on the

price of rice, with the variable price of shallots and the price of red chili having the lowest significance value of 0.000. Meanwhile, beef prices and inflation do not have a significant influence on changes in rice prices because they have significant values of 0.638 and 0.575, which are more than 0.05.

3) The price of shallots, the price of red chili, the price of rice and inflation in the city of Medan have a positive and significant influence on chicken meat. This is shown by each variable having a significance value lower than 0.05, with the lowest significance value of red chili prices being 0.000. Meanwhile, only the beef variable did not have a significant effect on chicken meat because it had a significance value of 0.865.
4) The price of shallots, the price of rice and the price of chicken meat have a significant influence on the price of red chili. The variable price of rice and the price of chicken meat both have the lowest significance value of 0.000. Beef prices and inflation in Medan cities do not have a significant effect on red chili. This is shown by the significance value of beef prices of 0.321 and the significance value of inflation variables of 0.061.
5) The five variables of onion prices, inflation, rice prices, chicken meat prices and red chili prices do not have a significant influence on beef prices. This means that the entire significance value is greater than 0.05. The variable that has the least significance value is the price of red chili with a significance score of 0.321 while the variable that has the highest significance value is the variable of chicken meat price with a significance score of 0.865.
6) Finally, the price of rice, the price of chicken meat and the price of red chili have a positive and significant influence on the price of shallots in the city of Medan. The variable with the lowest significance value is the rice price variable with a value of 0.000. Meanwhile, beef prices and inflation in Medan City do not have a significant influence on the price of shallots. Meanwhile, the variable that has the highest significance value is the variable of beef price with a score of 0.428.

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