

Efforts to Prevent Double Voter Data on Election Fairness

Putri Adila Sitanggang¹, Budiman Sinaga²

^{1,2}Department of Law, Faculty of Law, Universitas HKBP Nommensen, Medan, Indonesia.

Email: putriadila.sitanggang@student.uhn.ac.id¹, budiman.sinaga@uhn.ac.id²

ARTICLE HISTORY

Received: November 30, 2024

Revised: January 31, 2025

Accepted: February 17, 2025

DOI

<https://doi.org/10.52970/grdis.v5i2.856>

ABSTRACT

In a democratic system, regional head elections (Pilkada) are essential pillars of electing leaders and representatives of the people. However, inaccurate voter data in the integrity of elections often causes problems in implementing elections, including double data. Double data not only undermines the principle of fairness but can potentially reduce public trust in democracy. Therefore, election monitoring is essential to maintain the fairness and openness of the voting process. People's constitutional rights are affected by this issue, as they need assistance to report changes in voter data or match unregistered data. According to the election monitoring results, almost all communities in Medan have conducted matching and research (cockpit) properly. However, the issue of double data is still a problem that Bawaslu must monitor again. The author collects information about the 2024 Pilkada from the Election Supervisory Board of Medan City. There is still double data in the community. This research aims to determine how well the cockpit works to avoid double data and how it affects voting and fairness. This research shows that most citizens of Medan City have followed the procedures when conducting cockpit, thus reducing the possibility of double data. Transparency, public trust, and community engagement in the elections also increased. In addition, this monitoring activity also provides suggestions for improving the double data prevention system, including increasing cooperation between election organizers and independent monitors, expanding cockpit socialization to the community, and using artificial intelligence-based technology for automatic detection. Such measures ensure integrity, fairness, and transparency in elections.

Keywords: Pilkada, Double Data, General Election Commission.

I. Introduction

Regional Head Election (Pilkada) is a form of political participation that manifests popular sovereignty because, during the elections, the people become the most decisive party for the political process in a region by voting directly. Article 1, paragraph (2) of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia states: "That sovereignty is in the hands of the people and is exercised according to the Constitution. This is one of the main pillars of democracy in Indonesia. Pilkada provides space for the community to choose leaders directly, freely, reasonably, and transparently. The success of Pilkada is determined by several factors, one of which is the accuracy of voter data contained in the Permanent Voter List (DPT). A valid DPT is a vital prerequisite to ensure the principle of democracy: one person, one vote, one value (one person, one vote, one heart). However, in reality, one of the problems that often arises in regional elections is the existence of multiple voter data.



Double data refers to the phenomenon where an individual is recorded more than once in the voter list. This phenomenon is a crucial problem because it not only has the potential to reduce public trust in the electoral process but can lead to fraud, such as vote manipulation. This problem has been repeatedly found in every election organizer, both at the local and national levels. The leading causes of double data can be categorized into internal and external factors. Internal factors include technical constraints such as data recording errors that are not immediately corrected, lack of validation, and low coordination between agencies. These technical constraints can be divided into absolute technicalities, where voter data is completely unusable, and tolerable technicalities, such as minor errors that can still be corrected. Occupational factors also influenced this, especially for people with high mobility due to their work in the informal sector. Meanwhile, external factors include administrative and political aspects. Administrative negligence, such as people not renewing their Identity Cards (KTP) when they move or using a non-integrated Population Identification Number (NIK), is one of the leading causes. Political factors also influence people's distrust of particular candidates or political parties, encouraging people not to exercise their right to vote.

The problem of double data in DPT is detrimental to individuals and disrupts the integrity of the election as a whole. In addition, the presence of double data can affect the legitimacy of the election results. The elected candidates may lose the community's trust because they are considered to have benefited from vote manipulation. This problem occurs repeatedly; in almost every election implementation, this problem arises where the level of validation and accuracy of the population list is often found. Even people who have died are still registered as voters, and vice versa; people who have qualified are not registered as voters. It is necessary to monitor the process of organizing the elections to ensure that the principles of elections run them. The community is an essential factor in maintaining the quality of the election process. Community election monitoring illustrates the community's spirit of keeping a clean, honest, and fair election process and results (Simanjuntak, 2017). In the context of the local elections in Medan City, the problem of double data is a prominent issue. Based on the Election Supervisory Agency of Medan City report, several cases of double data were found in updating voter data for the 2024 local elections. This shows that although various efforts have been made, such as matching and research (cockpit) and monitoring by independent institutions, challenges remain. Therefore, this study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of the cockpit implementation and the role of election monitoring in preventing double data in Medan City, as well as to provide strategic recommendations to improve the fairness of Pilkada. Based on the above, the author wants to conduct a study on the phenomenon of double data and the patterns that emerge from double data and inform all election organizers of what is indicated by the occurrence of double data. In this case, the General Election Commission (KPU) to Bawaslu to carry out supervision and prevention and provide socialization to the District Supervisors (Panwascam) to conduct a good and thorough cockpit to avoid double data problems that always arise in every regional head election with the voter list updating approach.

II. Research Method

The research method used in this research is a qualitative approach. The qualitative approach in this research is an analytical understanding process based on the methodology used to investigate a situation about efforts to prevent double data voters in election justice. Qualitative research methods are used in natural object conditions, where the researcher is the key instrument, data collection is combined, data analysis is inductive, and research results emphasize meaning rather than generalization. The subject of this research is the government element of KPU Medan City. Institutions are social structures with the highest resilience and consist of cognitive, normative, and regulative cultures loaded with changes. The study focuses on the process, institutional design, and collaboration process. Data sources come from primary data sources and secondary data sources. Data were collected through observation, interviews, and documentation. Data analysis in this study is based on a theory that divides the data analysis stage into three activities: data condensation, data presentation, and conclusion drawing.

III. Result and Discussion

3.1. Double Data

In the electoral process, updating data and compiling voter lists is essential to implementing elections because population data changes every year. Data must be updated yearly at the KPU and reported to Bawaslu as the election prevention and supervision team. In preparing the permanent voters list, there are several problems, one of which is the problem of multiple voters that still occurs in implementing the regional elections in Medan. The causes of the double voters include voters who like to move domiciles and also errors in the population system. Double voters are data that are indicated to have the same or different NIK, Name, Place, or Date of Birth and gender but are indicated to be double. This double voter data results in the inflation of voters so that fictitious voters are counted in the temporary voter's list and DPT. This double voter phenomenon always occurs in every general election held. This is because the population data in Indonesia is invalid and does not match the facts. In the general election system, a person can vote if registered in the Permanent Voters List (DPT). The Permanent Voters List (DPT) is one of the most essential elements in the general election process. Therefore, a mechanism is needed to prepare the Permanent Voters List so that the number of voters who have been recorded is accurate based on existing regulations. In Medan City itself, precisely in Medan Perjuangan Sub-district, there are 12,809 voters on the DPT.

3.2. Voter Data Problems in the City Election

Internal and external factors influence community participation in the organization of Pilkada in Medan City. Internal factors of the election organizer include DPT not being up-to-date, and external factors include candidate figures, the role of parties not being maximized political awareness, and lack of trust in the government (Nasution, 2020). However, voter data problems in Medan City have become a chronic disease. These factors result in the loss of a person's constitutional rights, difficulty determining the availability of ballots, and the preparation of a draft budget. Therefore, the voter data updating stage is crucial as it determines community participation in every Pilkada in Medan City. Looking at public involvement in the Medan City Regional Election from the Mayor and Governor Elections illustrates that DPT tends to be inconsistent and public participation in exercising their right to vote is still low. The peak of the low level of community participation occurred in the 2015 Medan City Election, which only reached 25.38%. So, in increasing public participation in the right to vote, KPU Medan evaluated the factors causing low public participation in the 2015 Pilkada.

The evaluation results showed that one factor influencing the low participation was that the permanent voter's list was outdated. Based on this factor, the KPU of Medan City conducted Coklit (matching and research) activities. The role of the KPU of Medan City in revamping voter data to increase community participation in the 2018 North Sumatra Gubernatorial Election in Medan City did not wholly fail. The voter turnout in the 2015 Medan Regional Head Election was only 25.38%, which increased significantly to 55.80% in the 2018 North Sumatra Pilgub. However, not achieving the target of the Medan City KPU of 78% and the empirical conditions of several previous studies on increasing participation in the 2018 North Sumatra Gubernatorial Election were influenced by the issue of identity politics (Nasution & Wiranto, 2020), the informants' statements indicate that the involvement of the people of Medan City in the Pilkada is possible to be increased again. This saving is based on the trend graph of voter participation in the Medan City Regional Election, which has increased yearly. Technical Guidelines for Data Updating and Compilation of Voter Lists in the Election By the applicable regulations above, the material for updating voter data comes from the DPT of the last election.

3.3. Multiple Voter Methods

Double data explains how a person can be said to be a double voter or double voter criteria. People who have the same name, the same population identification number, or are registered at two addresses at once this is what makes someone can be said to be a double voter. Double voters are divided into two, namely;

- Voting twice means a voter whose data has been registered twice in the DPT commits a violation by fully utilizing his voting rights at two polling stations.
- Voting twice by using someone else's ballot paper means using a vote that is not in their name
- Twice registered means that the voter is registered twice in the DPT, caused by a lack of public awareness of administrative violations, starting from the name, nik, place of birth, and the exact address.

3.4. Perceptions of multiple voters by the general public and election administrators

Double voting is a problem that must be fixed every time a general election is held. There are many reports of double voting in every area during general elections. This problem is detrimental to other voters and may result from directives from candidates being pushed or deliberate double-voting by those involved. Due to the possibility of inflating the votes of voters caused by double voters, this problem creates losses for other election participants.

1) Society's view

The issue of multiple voters, which has become a plague in the implementation of elections, is currently troubling the community. The issue of numerous voters needs to be addressed immediately so that it does not continue, making people feel calmer in following the election process and reducing or even eradicating fraud in elections, including data manipulation by irresponsible individuals, to create a safe and peaceful atmosphere in the election process.

2) Views from Election Organizers

The organization of a successful election is a model for developing a peaceful, calm, and election-friendly environment today. Of course, an organizing mechanism that supports these goals is needed to implement elections. However, a number of abnormalities remain in the implementation, as if they cannot be eradicated. Several problems arise, even though election organizers do not want to make elections calm and safe. The issue of multiple voters is critical to overcome because if not, there will be an inflation of votes.

3.5. Digitalization of Pilkada Implementation to Prevent Double Data

The quality of a country's elections is a mirror of the country. Therefore, Indonesia must have a quality election system to become a reference for other nations. One of the efforts to establish a quality election system free from fraud is utilizing information technology. Various applications and information technology systems can be used to minimize double data and other forms of fraud. The following are multiple studies on using technology to support the quality of elections. A survey of the Web-Based Medan KPU Permanent Voter List Application, namely cekdptonline.kpu.go.id. The general public can access this application by entering the KTP Identification Number (NIK) or the voter's name in the fields provided. Therefore, this web-based KPU Medan permanent voter list application is worth applying (Wibowo & Gunawan, 2016). A study on the electronic voting system using the poll site e-voting model is poll site e-voting, which is rule-based. This study aims to increase participation, reduce election costs, and improve the accuracy of results (Qadah & Taha, 2007). This study produced an electronic voting system using the poll site e-voting model for general elections in Indonesia (Haryati, Adi & Suryono, 2014).

The development of a Voter Registration and Updating Information System with Face and Fingerprint Biometrics-Based Identity Authentication at the District Election Commission has been used in Medan. The research proposes two ideas for improving the DPT preparation process. The purpose of the study is to develop a software Voter Registration and Updating Information System (SITARLIH) that can automate, simplify, and speed up the entire DPT preparation process and reduce duplication and misuse of identity with a face and fingerprint biometrics-based voter identity authentication mechanism. With multimodal biometrics, a better recognition rate is expected to be obtained than unimodal. Experimental results using the CASIA-Face5 face database and CASIA-Fingerprint5 fingerprint database show that the use of face fingerprint cascade can increase the accuracy of registered voter identification/double voter detection up to $\pm 97\%$, $\pm 5\%$ higher than the use of face biometrics alone, with compensation for an increase in average processing time up to $\pm 130\%$. In contrast, the fingerprint-face cascade experienced a decrease in the accuracy of double voter detection to $\pm 93\%$, $\pm 4\%$ lower than the use of fingerprint biometrics alone. Still, the average increase in processing time was only $\pm 4\%$. In terms of speed, the fingerprint-face cascade merge operation mode is superior, but in terms of double voter detection accuracy, the face-fingerprint cascade is better (Hamzah Rizaldy, S.Kom., Rully Soelaiman, S.Kom., M.Kom. 2014).

The Role of the General Election Commission in Election Socialization as an Effort to Increase Public Political Participation in the 2014 Presidential Election in Medan. The election's success is undoubtedly greatly influenced by the level of political awareness of the citizens concerned. This study aims to describe and explain the role of the General Election Commission (KPU) in the socialization of elections to increase public political participation in the 2014 presidential election in Medan. This research uses primary data from direct interviews and secondary data from articles and written sources, especially relevant online sources. The results achieved from this research are scientific references and increased insight for the community and the scientific community (Putri, 2016). In addition to technology, the war of election organizers is also necessary to implement honest elections. Information disclosure in elections is one of the many indicators of holding honest and democratic elections and is a human right, namely, the right to know. Improvements in information disclosure must also be driven by the spirit of making elections a place to create leaders or representatives of the people by the community's choices. The study aimed to determine the type of data categorized as public information transparency and the obstacles in implementing public information transparency in the organization of elections in Riau using a qualitative descriptive method.

The decentralized voter list management system was replaced by the Voter Data Information System or SIDALIH, the world's most extensive computerized and centralized voter registration system, which produced a much better quality voter list than previous elections. No significant weaknesses occurred on voting day, so all Indonesians could exercise their right to vote (Martha & Agustino, 2019). This is a reference for the community in the problem of double data, explaining how someone can be said to be a double or double criterion. People identified as double, namely still using manual data input, lack of socialization to the lower community, causing the same name, the same population identification number, and the inaccuracy of the panwascam in collecting data in implementing cockpit.

IV. Conclusion

The selection of attributes or variables in exploring data classification techniques plays a vital role because it can provide a significantly increased level of performance; the study of the purposive sampling method that has been carried out by researchers and based on the results of the tests that have been carried out shows that it can predict the results of double data with an accuracy level of 56,15% better data with standard attributes from the results that are done have a Max value of 73 from the results of the analysis and predictions that have been made are expected to be able to make a real contribution in data management in the future so that it has a good impact on increasing election productivity. Efforts to prevent double data are crucial in realizing fair and transparent elections. The combination of technology, collaboration between agencies, and community participation is the key to overcoming this challenge. With a comprehensive

approach, it is hoped that the double data problem can be minimized so that public confidence in the democratic system will increase. Election organizers must continue to innovate and be committed to ensuring the integrity of each stage of the Pilkada to maintain the principles of true democracy.

References

- Arifin, A. (2006). *Imaging in politics*. Pustaka Indonesia.
- Gunawan, H., & Wibowo, S. (2016). Web-based permanent voters list application of Riau Province KPU. *IT Journal Research and Development*, 1(1), 1–10.
- Haryati, H., Adi, K., & Suryono, S. (2014). Sistem Pemungutan Suara Elektronik Menggunakan Model Poll Site E-Voting. *Jurnal Sistem Informasi Bisnis*, 4(1), 67-74.
- Kristiadi, J. (Ed.). (1996). *Organizing elections that are Luber and Jurdil*. Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).
- Marta, A., & Agustino, L. (2019). *The Future of Democracy in Digital Era: Challenges to Political Life in Cyberspace in Indonesia*.
- Moesafa, P., & Joko, J. (2008). *Winning elections amid party oligarchy: Strategic analysis of legislative members' success in winning seats with BPP*. Student Library.
- Nasution, M. A. R., & Wiranto, S. (2020). Propaganda issues of racism through social media to trigger social violence in Papua and West Papua in 2019. *Jurnal Pertahanan: Media Informasi tentang Kajian dan Strategi Pertahanan yang Mengedepankan Identity, Nasionalism dan Integrity*, 6(2), 212-224.
- Putri, M. P. (2016). Peran Komisi Pemilihan Umum Dalam Sosialisasi Pemilu sebagai upaya Untuk Meningkatkan Partisipasi Politik Masyarakat Pada Pemilu Presiden 2014 di Kalimantan Timur. *Jurnal Ilmu Komunikasi*, 30.
- Qadah, G. Z., & Taha, R. (2007). Electronic voting systems: Requirements, design, and implementation. *Computer Standards & Interfaces*, 29(3), 376-386.
- Simanjuntak, N. Y. (2017). Pemantauan dalam proses penyelenggaraan pemilu. *Jurnal Bawaslu*, 3(3), 2443-2539.
- Subakti, R. (1992). *Understanding political science*. Gramedia Widiasarana Indonesia.
- Sulasutomo. (2003). *Reform between hope and reality*. Kompas Books.
- Wibowo, S., & Gunawan, H. (2016). Aplikasi Daftar Pemilih Tetap KPU Provinsi Riau Berbasis Web. *IT Journal Research and Development*, 1(1), 50-59.