

Audit Delay and Influencing Factors: The Role of Leverage, Public Ownership, and Going Concern Opinions

Theresia Trisanti*

Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Ekonomi YKPN, Yogyakarta

DOI: [10.46821/equity.v5i2.607](https://doi.org/10.46821/equity.v5i2.607)

ABSTRACTS

This study empirically examines the effect of leverage levels, public ownership, and going concern audit opinions on audit delay. The research employs a purposive sampling method, with a final sample consisting of 33 mining companies listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) from 2020 to 2023. Multiple regression analysis is used to test the hypotheses. The findings indicate that leverage levels have a positive impact on audit delay, suggesting that higher financial risk leads to prolonged audit processes. However, public ownership does not significantly influence audit delays. Additionally, the issuance of a going concern audit opinion is associated with longer audit delays. These results contribute to the understanding of factors affecting audit timeliness in the mining sector.

Keywords: Audit Delay, Leverage, Public Ownership, Going Concern Audit Opinion

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini secara empiris mengkaji pengaruh tingkat penggunaan utang, kepemilikan oleh masyarakat, dan opini audit atas kelangsungan usaha terhadap keterlambatan penyampaian laporan hasil audit. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode penarikan sampel secara bertujuan (*purposive sampling*), dengan jumlah sampel akhir sebanyak 33 perusahaan pada sektor pertambangan yang terdaftar di Bursa Efek Indonesia selama periode 2020 - 2023. Pengujian hipotesis dilakukan melalui analisis regresi berganda. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa tingkat penggunaan utang berpengaruh positif terhadap keterlambatan audit, yang menunjukkan bahwa semakin tinggi risiko keuangan perusahaan, maka semakin lama waktu yang dibutuhkan dalam proses pemeriksaan laporan keuangan. Sementara itu, kepemilikan oleh masyarakat tidak memberikan pengaruh yang signifikan terhadap keterlambatan audit. Selain itu, penerbitan opini audit mengenai kelangsungan usaha terbukti memiliki hubungan yang signifikan dengan keterlambatan penyampaian laporan audit. Temuan ini memberikan kontribusi dalam memperluas pemahaman mengenai faktor-faktor yang memengaruhi ketepatan waktu penyampaian hasil audit, khususnya pada sektor pertambangan.

Kata Kunci: Keterlambatan Audit, Tingkat Utang, Kepemilikan oleh Masyarakat, Opini Audit atas Kelangsungan Usaha

How to Cite:

Trisanti, Theresia. (2025). Audit Delay and Influencing Factors: The Role of Leverage, Public Ownership, and Going Concern Opinions. *Equity: Jurnal Akuntansi*, 5(2), 66-81. <https://doi.org/10.46821/equity.v5i2.607>.

*Corresponding Author:

Email: theresiatri santi@gmail.com



This is an open access article under the CC-BY

INTRODUCTION

In the era of globalization, the capital market has a strategic role as a means for companies to obtain funds to support operational activities, investment, and business expansion. Through the issuance of financial instruments such as stocks and bonds, companies can access long-term financing sources from investors, both domestic and international. In line with these needs, companies are required to submit reliable and transparent financial reports as a form of accountability to investors for the use of funds collected. Financial reports are the main tool for investors in assessing the performance, prospects, and risks of the company, so that the accuracy and transparency of financial information are crucial aspects to maintain investor confidence and maintain the efficiency of the capital market. To protect the interests of users of financial reports, BAPEPAM-LK as the regulator at the Indonesia Stock Exchange (now OJK) in the Decree of the Chairman of the Capital Market and Financial Institution Supervisory Agency (BAPEPAM-LK) Number: KEP-431 / BL / 2012 concerning Submission of Periodic Financial Reports of Issuers or Public Companies, it is stated that the annual financial report presented must be accompanied by a public accountant's report (independent auditor) in the framework of an audit of the financial report, and must be submitted to the public no later than 90 days after the date of the annual financial report. This regulation was reaffirmed by the Financial Services Authority (OJK) in the Financial Services Authority Circular Letter Number 6/SEOJK.04/2014 concerning Procedures for Submitting Reports Electronically by Issuers or Public Companies. The fulfillment of standards by auditors not only affects the length of audit report reporting but also the quality of the audit results. The timeliness of financial reporting on audit report results can affect the value of the financial report. One of the obstacles for companies in publishing financial reports to the public and to the Capital Market Supervisory Agency (BAPEPAM) is the timeliness of auditors in completing their audit reports.

Based on the Stock Exchange's monitoring 2023, the submission status of the Audited Financial Report ending December 31, 2023 is as follows:

Table 1. Submission Status of the Audited Financial Report

Description	Amount
Total Company Recorded Go Public	973
Submitted Financial Reports in a timely manner	813
Not submitting Financial Reports on time	137
Own year book different	7
No must submitting financial reports	16

Source: <https://www.idx.co.id/StaticData/NewsAndAnnouncement>

There are 137 Listed Companies have not submitted their Annual Audited Financial Reports as of December 31, 2023. The Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) in 2023 stated that it had temporarily suspended trading in 60 issuer shares related to arrears in the obligation to submit audited financial reports as of December 31, 2023. Based on the exchange's monitoring, as of June 29, 2024, there were 137 listed companies that had not submitted audited financial reports as of December 31, 2023 and/or had not paid fines for late submission of the financial report. BEI suspends by referring to provision second. Regulation Number I-H concerning Sanctions, BEI has given written third warning and

a fine of Rp150,000,000 to listed companies that are late in submitting audited financial reports as of December 31, 2023, and have not paid the fine for the late submission of the financial reports in question. OJK Regulation Number 29/POJK.04/2016, concerning Annual Reports of Issuers or Public Companies. Article 4 paragraph (1) requires issuers or public companies to submit annual reports no later than the end of the third month after the end of the financial year. Fines for late annual financial reports can be imposed in stages, for example: Stage I (day 1 to 30 of delay) is subject to IDR 50 million. Stage II (continued delay) is subject to an additional IDR 50 million. Stage III (continued) there is potential for stock suspension and additional sanctions.

According to Annisa & Febrianto (2023) and Wicaksono et al. (2023) audit delay is the time span for completing the implementation of the annual financial report audit, which is measured quantitatively based on the number of days required to obtain a report from the independent auditor on the audit of the company's annual report, namely from the closing date of the financial year (as of December 31) to the date stated in the independent auditor's report. Therefore, the longer the audit delay, the longer it will take the auditor to complete his audit report. Audit delay that exceeds the time limit stipulated by BAPEPAM-LK will have an impact on the delay in the publication of financial reports. The delay in the publication of the financial report can indicate a problem in the issuer's financial report, thus requiring longer time to complete the audit. The delay has an impact on the information contained in the financial statements becoming less relevant to users of the financial statements in helping them make decisions. Delays in audit financial reporting are a significant issue that can affect the credibility and trust of stakeholders in the company. There are several main factors that cause the delay, namely the leverage of corporation, public ownership and going concern opinion (Fan et al., 2013; Oktaviani & Poniman, 2023) .

Delays in audit reporting can be caused by the company's high level of debt (Leonita & Triani, 2022). Companies with large debts are usually bound by various debt covenants that require the fulfillment of certain provisions, such as financial ratios and additional borrowing restrictions. To ensure that the financial statements do not violate these provisions, auditors must perform more in-depth audit procedures on debt-related items, including validation of interest calculations, payment terms, and default risks. The complex audit process for these obligations takes longer because auditors must obtain sufficient assurance of the company's ability to meet short-term and long-term obligations, which has an impact on delays in audit completion. In addition to debt, public ownership is also an important factor that slows down the audit process. Public companies have a greater responsibility to maintain transparency and accountability in financial statements because they are supervised by capital market authorities and have many shareholders. Auditors must ensure that the financial statements of public companies are in accordance with financial reporting standards and capital market regulatory provisions, including disclosure of risks, significant transactions, and other material information. The audit process for public companies becomes more complex and time-consuming because it involves more extensive testing, discussions with the audit committee, and the need to manage market expectations regarding the results of the financial statements (Pradnyaniti & Suardikha, 2019; Waris & Haji Din, 2023).

Going concern is the survival of a business entity and is an assumption in the financial reporting of an entity so that if the entity experiences the opposite condition, the entity becomes problematic (Petronela, 2004). A going concern audit opinion is an opinion issued by an auditor to ensure whether the company can maintain its survival

(Indonesian Institute of Accountants, 2007). In this case, the going concern audit opinion can affect audit delay because the auditor may delay issuing the audited financial statements because they are assessing a company that has uncertainty about its survival. The auditor must assess several existing factors so that it takes a long time (Amin, 2023; Jesni & Yopie, 2023). According to Aljaaidi & Alwadani (2023) and Lee (2020) the auditor's possible going concern opinion can also prolong the audit process. When there is doubt about the company's ability to continue as a going concern, the auditor must conduct a thorough assessment of the going concern assumption, including evaluating cash flow projections, management strategies, and financial recovery plans. High debt is often the main cause of going concern doubt, especially if the company shows an inability to pay short-term debt. For public companies, the acceptance of a going concern opinion must be managed carefully because it can affect investor confidence and stock prices (Christensen et al., 2023; Safitri et al., 2023).

Leverage is the amount of debt used to finance or purchase company assets (Obeidat et al., 2021; Safitri et al., 2023). Companies that have debts greater than equity are referred to as companies with high levels of leverage. The research results of Bawono et al. (2023) study showed that the level of leverage has a positive effect on audit delay. This is because companies that have high debts tend to delay the delivery of their financial statements to reduce the level of leverage as low as possible than companies that have less debt or no debt. Then, in contrast to the research conducted by Wiyarni & Bunyamin (2021) it showed that the level of leverage had no effect on audit delay. Debt problems are considered normal in the world of economics as long as there is still a possibility of resolution, so that information about debt is unable to affect the speed of issuing financial statements.

Public ownership refers to the proportion of a company's shares that are held by the general public, particularly in companies that have gone public and are listed on the stock exchange. This form of ownership plays an important role in corporate governance, as it reflects the participation of individual investors who are not part of the company's management or controlling stakeholders. The presence of public shareholders influences a company's behavior, particularly in relation to transparency and accountability (Aljaaidi & Alwadani, 2023). Companies with significant public ownership are generally more motivated to publish financial reports in a timely manner, as these reports are one of the main sources of information for investors in assessing a company's financial health and future prospects. The general public, as shareholders, have the right to question, criticize, and demand transparency, which can increase pressure on management to comply with regulatory deadlines and avoid reputational damage. Moreover, the awareness that financial statements are closely monitored by a large number of stakeholders creates an additional incentive for companies to minimize audit delays. Therefore, public ownership acts as a mechanism that promotes discipline and timeliness in financial reporting (Habibie & Triani, 2022).

Although there have been many studies on audit delay in companies listed on the IDX, there are still many differences in the results. The results of these studies vary, this is due to differences in the nature of the independent variables and dependent variables studied, differences in observation periods or differences in the methodology used. In this study, the author is more interested in examining the factors that affect audit delay, namely leverage, public ownership and going concern audit opinion. Of the three factors, leverage and public ownership are still few who have studied compared to other factors and many

existing studies still have inconsistent results. Then for the going concern audit opinion based on the search that the author has done, no one has studied its effect on audit delay.

This study takes the mining sector as an object for research, because according to the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) it is one of the five largest contributors to the highest Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The mining sector in 2023 contributed 12% and also grew positively by 0.74% from the same period in 2022. Based on the background described previously, the research problems in this study can be formulated as follows: (1) whether the leverage level has a positive effect on audit delay in mining companies listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) for the period 2020–2023, (2) whether the level of public ownership has a negative effect on audit delay in mining companies listed on the IDX for the same period, and (3) whether the going concern opinion has a positive effect on audit delay in mining companies listed on the IDX for the period 2020–2023.

The contributions of this research are expected to provide benefits to various relevant parties. For companies, this study offers insights regarding the critical role of financial report timeliness and the factors that influence it. For Public Accounting Firms, the research provides information and empirical evidence for auditors concerning the factors affecting audit delay, enabling them to optimize and enhance their audit performance. For academics, this study contributes additional knowledge on the determinants of audit delay and can serve as a reference for future research. Lastly, for investors, the findings of this research can be used as a consideration in making investment decisions and evaluating the credibility of companies prior to investing.

RESEARCH METHODS

In this study, the author classifies companies with a going concern audit opinion such as mean substantial doubt about the ability (entity) to continue the business or with sentences that have the same meaning. These are included at the end of the audited financial statements at the point of survival.

This study examines the effect of leverage, public ownership and going concern audit opinion on audit delay. With the theories that have been explained above, the theoretical framework of this study can be described as follows:

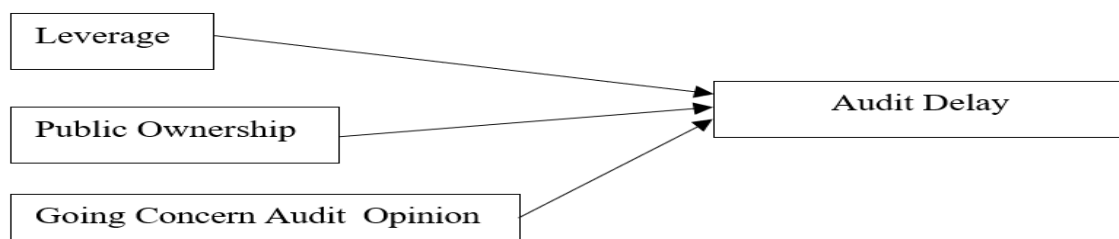


Figure 1. Theoretical Framework

The research results of the study by Ludwina (2023) and Susilawati & Triyanto (2023) concluded that the level of leverage has a significant effect on audit delay. This is shown by using the debt to total asset ratio proxy which describes the comparison between the company's debt and total assets, so that it is seen from the company's ability to pay all its debts, both long-term and short-term debts using the company's assets. Companies with a high debt to total asset ratio give a signal that the company is in a difficult financial situation. This will increase the company's failure so that auditors will increase their attention that the possibility of financial reports is less reliable so that the company will

delay the publication of financial reports and delay the audit work. Research from Jhony-Ver et al. (2023) and Wicaksono et al. (2023) shows that the level of leverage has a positive effect on audit delay. This is because companies that have high debt tend to slow down the delivery of their financial reports to reduce the level of leverage as low as possible compared to companies that have less debt or no debt. In line with the research from Jhony-Ver et al. (2023) and Wicaksono et al. (2023) above, the results of research from concluded that the level of leverage has a significant effect on the timeliness of financial report delivery. Companies with high leverage are highly dependent on external loans to finance their assets. The high leverage ratio reflects the high financial risk of a company. Based on previous analysis and research, it can be formulated a hypothesis that there is a positive influence of the level of leverage on audit delay.

H₁: The level of leverage has a positive effect on audit delay

Harianja & Sinaga (2022) and Murdiansyah & Wulan (2023) showed that public ownership does not have a significant negative effect on audit delay. This is because companies that have a large level of public ownership will make management more careful in preparing financial reports, so that the financial reports will meet all the information needed by external owners of the company, so that the time required by management will be longer so that the size of a company's public ownership does not affect audit delay. Similarly, research from Hansela et al. (2023) and Himawan et al. (2023) concluded that the level of public ownership does not affect audit delay. The small percentage of external ownership will affect the voting rights they have. This condition results in voting rights (authority) for small companies too, so that their role is not too large in determining company policies, especially those concerning financial reporting. However research by Indreswari (2023) and Nahdiya et al. (2022) states that public ownership has a significant negative effect on the length of time for financial reporting. This is because shareholders will buy or sell their shares depending on the length of time the financial report is published, so that the company will report its financial report quickly. Based on previous analysis and research, the hypothesis is formulated that there is a negative effect of the level of public ownership on audit delay.

H₂: The level of public ownership has a negative effect on audit delay

Going concern audit opinion is an opinion issued by auditors to ensure whether the company can maintain its survival (Indonesian Institute of Accountants, 2007). Research by Chen et al. (2022) and Vernanda & Meiden (2023) the criteria for a company to receive a going concern audit opinion if it has problems with income, reorganization, inability to pay interest, received a going concern audit opinion in the previous year, in the process of liquidation, negative capital, negative cash flow, negative operating income, negative working capital, two to three consecutive years of losses, negative retained earnings. Providing a going concern audit opinion to a company is not an easy task. A company that receives a going concern audit opinion will have an impact on the company's survival, therefore encouraging management to influence auditors to consider providing a going concern audit opinion because it will have negative consequences (Tanjung & Aida, 2022). In this case, the going concern audit opinion can influence auditors in issuing financial statements, so that an audit delay will occur. This is because the assessment of the company's financial statements by providing a going concern audit opinion requires a long process. The auditor must assess with several existing factors so

that it takes a long time. Based on the understanding and opinion, the hypothesis is formulated that there is a positive influence of going concern audit opinion on audit delay.

H₃: Going concern audit opinion has a positive effect on audit delay.

Operational Definitions of Variables

The dependent variable is the main variable that is a factor in this study. The dependent variable is a variable that is influenced or that is the result of the presence of the independent variable. In this study, the dependent variable used is audit delay. Its quantitative measurement is from the end date of the company's fiscal year (December 31) to the date of issuance of the audit report, which is in days.

Dependent Variable

Audit Delay

Harianja & Sinaga (2022) and Mitskinis et al. (2023) state that audit delay is the time span for completing the annual financial statement audit report, measured based on the number of days required to obtain the independent auditor's financial report on the company's financial statement audit from the company's closing date, namely December 31 to the date stated in the independent auditor's report or can also be interpreted as a delay in submitting the audited financial statements. Meanwhile, according to Wicaksono et al. (2023) audit delay is the time difference between the financial statement date and the audit opinion date in the financial statements which indicates the length of time for the auditor to complete the audit. In the Decree of the Chairman of the Capital Market and Financial Institution Supervisory Agency (BAPEPAM-LK) Number: KEP-431/BL/2012 concerning Submission of Periodic Financial Reports of Issuers or Public Companies, it is stated that the annual financial report presented must be accompanied by a public accountant's report (independent auditor) in the framework of an audit of the financial report, and must be submitted to the public no later than 90 days after the date of the annual financial report. Based on the above understanding, it can be concluded that audit delay is the time span for completing the financial report audit report with the date of the auditor's audit report. The time difference between the financial report date and the audit opinion date reflects the timeliness of the submission of the financial report. The financial report will provide information on the financial condition to interested parties, especially external parties to the company. The longer the auditor completes his audit report, the longer the audit delay. Therefore, the auditor's punctuality is needed in completing the audit of the client's financial report.

Independent Variable

The independent variable is a variable that affects the dependent variable, either positively or negatively. If there is an independent variable, the dependent variable is also present, and for each unit increase in the independent variable, there is also an increase or decrease in the related variable. In other words, the dependent variable is determined by the independent variable (Saleh et al., 2022). The operational definitions of the variables used in the study are presented below:

Leverage

Debt ratio is a ratio used to measure the comparison between total debt and total assets. This ratio is also often referred to as debt to assets. Leverage level is the ability of a company to pay all its debts, both short-term and long-term (Quinones & Sumarna,

2023; Susilahwati & Triyanto, 2023). If a company has a high leverage ratio, the risk of loss for the company will increase.

Public Ownership

Public ownership is the ownership of shares of a public company by the general public. Ownership concentration is related to the number of shareholders or the percentage of share ownership in the company's share ownership structure. According to Fidiana et al. (2023) and Mohapatra et al. (2021) ownership concentration is the percentage of the largest number of share ownership in a company, in addition to public ownership in the share ownership structure. In this study, public ownership is measured by looking at the percentage of shares owned by the public. The percentage of public ownership can be seen in the audited financial statements.

Going Concern Audit Opinion

A going concern audit opinion is an opinion given by auditors to ensure the sustainability of a company. Audit opinion on going concern is an audit opinion that in the auditor's consideration there is an inability or significant uncertainty regarding the company's survival in running its operations for a reasonable period of time, not more than one year from the date of the financial statements being audited (Hasibuan, 2016). Going concern audit opinion is measured using a dummy variable. Dummy variables are measured using a specific code. Code 1 for companies that receive a going concern audit opinion and code 0 for companies that do not receive a going concern audit opinion. In this study, the going concern audit opinion is categorized as an unqualified audit opinion with an explanatory sentence stated as substantial doubt about the ability (of the entity) to continue the business or with a sentence that has the same meaning (Kamil et al., 2023; Susanto & Utama, 2022).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The following section presents the results of the data analysis, highlighting key findings and insights derived from the collected data. The normality test results at Table 1 indicate whether the residuals (errors) in the regression model follow a normal distribution. In this case, the Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed) value is 0.063.

Table 2. Normality Test Results

	<i>Unstandarized Residual</i>
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	0,063

Source: Primary Data Processed, 2024

Since this value is greater than 0.05, it suggests that the residuals are normally distributed, meaning the assumption of normality in the regression analysis is not violated. This is important because normality of residuals is a key assumption in regression analysis, ensuring that the statistical tests and confidence intervals remain valid. Therefore, based on this test, the regression model meets the normality assumption, and no further transformations or corrections are needed.

Table 3. Determination Coefficient Results

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Standard Error of the Estimate
1	0,816 ^a	0,756	0,619	26,0357607

Source: Primary Data Processed, 2024

The coefficient of determination (R^2) at Table 2 analysis shows that the regression model has a strong explanatory power. The R value of 0.816 indicates a strong positive correlation between the independent variables and the dependent variable. The R^2 value of 0.756 (75.6%) means that 75.6% of the variation in the dependent variable is explained by the independent variables, while the remaining 24.4% is influenced by other factors outside the model. The Adjusted R^2 value of 0.691 (69.1%) accounts for the number of predictors and suggests that, even after adjustment, the model still explains a significant portion of the dependent variable's variance. However, the slight drop from R^2 to Adjusted R^2 indicates that some independent variables might have a weaker impact on the dependent variable. The Standard Error of the Estimate (SEE) of 26.03 represents the average deviation between actual and predicted values, meaning that, on average, predictions deviate by approximately 26.03 units. A lower SEE generally indicates a better model fit, but this value suggests there is still some variability in the predictions. Despite this, the model remains statistically strong, as it explains a significant portion of the dependent variable's behavior.

Table 4. Results of Significance Test (t-Test)

Model	Regression	t	Signifikansi
(Constant)		11,111	0,000
Leverage	0,439	5,597	0,015
Public Ownership	-0,164	-2,190	0,030
Going Concern Opinion Audit	0,319	4,227	0,022

Source: Primary Data Processed, 2024

The results of the t-test on Table 3 indicate that all three independent variables: Leverage, Public Ownership, and Going Concern Audit Opinion had significantly impact the dependent variable. The regression coefficient for Leverage is 0.439, meaning that an increase in leverage leads to an increase in the dependent variable. With a t-value of 5.597 and a p-value of 0.015, leverage is statistically significant at the 5% level, confirming its positive effect. Similarly, the Going Concern Audit Opinion has a positive coefficient of 0.319, implying that companies receiving this opinion tend to experience an increase in the dependent variable. The t-value of 4.227 and p-value of 0.022 suggest that this relationship is also statistically significant.

On the other hand, Public Ownership has a negative regression coefficient of -0.164, indicating an inverse relationship with the dependent variable. This means that as public ownership increases, the dependent variable tends to decrease. The t-value of -2.190 and p-value of 0.030 confirm that this effect is statistically significant. Despite being negative, this result suggests that public ownership plays a crucial role in influencing the dependent variable. Given that the p-values of all three variables are below 0.05, it can be concluded that they significantly impact the dependent variable within the model. Overall, the findings show that both financial structure (Leverage) and audit opinions (Going Concern Audit Opinion) contribute positively, while Public

Ownership has an opposing effect. These results are essential for understanding how financial decisions, ownership structure, and audit assessments influence company performance or other key outcomes. The significant relationships found in this analysis highlight the importance of considering these factors in corporate decision-making and financial analysis.

DISCUSSION

Agency theory is a theory used by many companies to run their businesses. In this theory expressed by Jensen (2005) states that a company is a collection of contracts (nexus of contracts) between owners of economic resources (principals) and managers (agents) who manage the use and control of these resources. In an agency relationship there is a contract where one or more people (principals) order another person (agent) to perform a service on behalf of the principal and authorize the agent to make the best decisions for the principal. Managers as company managers know more internal information and the company's prospects in the future than owners (shareholders). Therefore according to Aljaaidi & Alwadani (2023) and Lee (2020) managers have an obligation to provide signals regarding the condition of the company to the owner. The signals given can be done through the disclosure of accounting information such as the company's financial statements. External users of financial statements are in a state of the greatest uncertainty compared to internal users (management) of the company who have direct contact with the company and know every event that occurs in the company. This will cause information asymmetry, a condition where the principal does not have sufficient information about the agent's performance and can never be sure how the agent's efforts contribute to the company's actual results.

Information asymmetry causes agency problems, namely when managers as agents maximize their interests compared to the interests of shareholders. Aljaaidi & Alwadani (2023) stated that there are two problems that arise because of the principal's difficulty in monitoring and controlling the agent's actions, these problems include: (1). Moral Hazard, namely the activities carried out by the agent are not entirely known by the principal, so that the agent can take actions that violate the contract (self-interest) and are ethically or normatively inappropriate to be carried out without the principal's knowledge. (2). Adverse Selection, namely that the agent provides false information about his abilities so that it influences the decisions to be taken by the principal. The principal can limit the deviation of his interests by providing a reasonable level of incentives to the agent and is willing to incur monitoring costs to prevent moral hazard from the agent. All these costs are often referred to as agency costs. In general, it is impossible for the principal or agent, at an agency cost of zero, to guarantee that the agent will make decisions that are optimal from the principal's perspective. Information asymmetry is very possible between various parties. Information asymmetry arises when managers know more about internal information and the company's future prospects than shareholders and other stakeholders. According to Ayu et al. (2023) and Parkash et al. (2022) relatively short audit delay will reduce the occurrence of information asymmetry, because the submission of financial reports can be published immediately so that information about the company is immediately known to external stakeholders. Thus, stakeholders, especially shareholders, are able to better assess the feasibility of management performance in meeting shareholder interests.

Effect of Leverage on Audit Delay

The results of the regression equation show that the leverage variable has a positive regression coefficient, so it can be concluded that leverage has a positive or unidirectional relationship with audit delay. From the results of the t-test, it shows that leverage has a significant effect on the company's audit delay actions. These results are in line with the hypothesis that has been built that leverage has an effect on the company's audit delay actions so that H_1 is accepted, research from Hendi & Sitorus (2023) and Maulina et al. (2023) concluded that the level of leverage has a significant effect on the timeliness of financial report submission. A company that has high leverage means that it is very dependent on external loans to finance its activities. The high leverage ratio reflects the high financial risk of a company. This is because companies that have high debt tend to slow down the delivery of their financial reports to reduce the level of leverage as low as possible compared to companies that have less debt or no debt. This means that the higher the level of leverage in a company, the longer the audit delay will be. When a company has a high level of leverage, it is bad news for investors, so the company can slow down the delivery of financial reports in order to reduce the level of leverage.

Effect of Public Ownership on Audit Delay

The results of the regression equation show that the public ownership variable has a negative regression coefficient. Based on this, it means that the relationship between public ownership and audit delay is that the larger the company size, the faster the audit delay. From the results of the t-test, public ownership shows no significant negative effect on audit delay, so H_2 can be accepted. The results of this study are in line with research conducted by Fidiana et al. (2023) and Mohapatra et al. (2021) which showed that public ownership does not have a significant negative effect on audit delay. Showing that insignificant results can also occur because companies that have a large level of public ownership will make management more careful in preparing their financial reports, with the hope that later the financial reports will meet all the information needs needed by external owners of the company. With more careful preparation, the time required by management will tend to be more and longer. This means that the higher the percentage of public ownership in a company, the shorter the audit delay will be. Companies that have a high percentage of public ownership tend to make management more careful in preparing financial reports, so as to minimize the audit delay time as much as possible.

Effect of Going Concern Audit Opinion on Audit Delay

The results of the regression equation show that the going concern audit opinion variable has a positive regression coefficient, so it can be concluded that the going concern audit opinion has a positive relationship with audit delay. Based on this result, it means that the relationship between going concern audit opinion and audit delay is that companies that have a going concern audit opinion will have a longer audit delay. From the results of the regression test, the going concern audit opinion shows a significant positive effect on audit delay, so that H_3 can be accepted. In this case, the going concern audit opinion can influence the auditor in issuing financial statements, so that an audit delay will occur Fidiana et al. (2023) and Mohapatra et al. (2021). This is because the assessment of the company's financial statements by providing a going concern audit opinion requires a long process. According to Aljaaidi & Alwadani (2023) and Lee (2020) the auditor must assess several existing factors so that it takes a long time. Based on the understanding and opinion above, the hypothesis is formulated that there is a positive effect of the going

concern audit opinion on audit delay. This means that companies that receive going concern audit opinions will have longer audit delays. The assessment of a company's financial statements by providing going concern audit opinions requires a long process so that it can cause longer audit delays.

CONCLUSION AND LIMITATIONS

The findings of this study indicate that factors such as debt level (leverage), public ownership, and audit opinions on business continuity exert a substantial influence on audit delays in mining companies listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange. The findings of this study suggest a positive correlation between high leverage and audit delays. This indicates that companies with higher financial risk require more time to complete audits. Conversely, public ownership has been demonstrated to exert minimal influence on audit delays. However, audit opinions pertaining to business continuity have been shown to prolong the duration of such delays. These findings contribute to a more profound comprehension of the elements that influence the timeliness of audit reports, particularly within the Indonesian mining sector.

In conducting research on the influence of leverage level, public ownership and going concern audit opinion on audit delay, the researcher is aware of the limitations of this research, including: The population of the study is limited to mining companies only, so the results we find are limited to mining companies only. The independent variables used are limited to only three variables, namely leverage, public ownership and going concern audit opinion. There are still many other factors that can affect audit delay, for example the number of independent commissioners, the type of public accountant who conducts external audits, the company's internal control procedures, all of these variables which are likely can affect audit delay.

SUGGESTIONS

Based on the conclusions that have been put forward above, the suggestions that are put forward are as follows: The company must maintain its financial condition and cash flow so that the company does not receive a going concern audit opinion, thereby minimizing the length of the audit delay. It is recommended that the research year be extended so that it can see the trends in audit delay disclosure more accurately and replace the research object such as companies going public in other countries. For investors, audit delay can be used as a consideration when making investments and making decisions in choosing a company to invest in.

REFERENCES

- Adela, A., & Badera, I. D. N. (2022). The Influence of Company Size, Profitability, Auditor's Opinion, and Reputation of Public Accounting Firm on Audit Delay. *European Journal of Business and Management Research*, 7(4). <https://doi.org/10.24018/ejbmr.2022.7.4.1354>
- Aljaaidi, K. S., & Alwadani, N. F. (2023). Audit Report Delay: Does Directors' Busyness Matter? In *Journal of Governance and Regulation*. <https://doi.org/10.22495/jgrv12i3art12>
- Amin, A. (2023). Several Factors Affecting the Occurrence of Audit Delay. *Advances in Managerial Auditing Research*, 1(1). <https://doi.org/10.60079/amar.v1i1.20>

- Annisa Agre, R., & Febrianto, R. (2023). Determinants of Audit Report Lags of Public Companies in Indonesia. *International Journal of Economics and Business Issues*, 2(2). <https://doi.org/10.59092/ijebi.vol2.iss2.35>
- Ayu, P., Agustina, A., & Bagiana, K. (2023). The Influence of Leverage on Audit Delay with Firm Size as a Moderating Variable. *Ekonomis: Journal of Economics and Business*, 7(2).
- Bawono, A. D. B., Sasongko, N., & Mustofa, M. (2023). Impact of Audit and Financial Factors on Audit Report Lag: Evidences from Indonesian. *Riset Akuntansi Dan Keuangan Indonesia*, 8(1). <https://doi.org/10.23917/reaksi.v8i1.22644>
- Chen, C., Jia, H., Xu, Y., & Ziebart, D. (2022). The effect of audit firm attributes on audit delay in the presence of financial reporting complexity. *Managerial Auditing Journal*, 37(2). <https://doi.org/10.1108/MAJ-12-2020-2969>
- Christensen, B., Smith, K. W., Wang, D., & Williams, D. (2023). The Audit Quality Effects of Small Audit Firm Mergers in the United States. *Auditing*, 42(2). <https://doi.org/10.2308/AJPT-2020-087>
- Eka Sari, F., & Suyono, J. (2023). The Influence of Auditor Switching, Size of Public Accounting Office, and Company Size on Audit Delay in Automotive Companies on the Indonesia Stock Exchange, 2017 to 2021. *Journal Of World Conference*, 5(2).
- Fan, H. S., Lin, Y. T., & Chen, C. L. (2013). Taiwan SFAS No.35 and timeliness of financial reporting. *NTU Management Review*, 23(2), 97–132. <https://doi.org/10.6226/NTURM2013.SEP.R10050>
- Fidiana, F., Yani, P., & Suryaningrum, D. H. (2023). Corporate going-concern report in early pandemic situation: Evidence from Indonesia. *Heliyon*, 9(4). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2023.e15138>
- Habibie, F. A., & Triani, N. N. A. (2022). Faktor – Faktor Yang Mempengaruhi Ketepatan Waktu Pelaporan Keuangan Pada Tahun 2015 – 2017. *Jurnal Akuntansi AKUNESA*, 10(2). <https://doi.org/10.26740/akunesa.v10n2.p36-45>
- Hansela, Y., Sembiring, N., Kamelia Saragi, S., Pratania Putri, A., & Chyntia Ovami, D. (2023). Influence of Audit Tenure, Profitability, Solvency, and Company Size on Audit Delay in the Indonesian Stock Exchange Period 2020-2022. In *International Journal of Economic Social and Technology* (Vol. 2, Issue 4).
- Harianja, A., & Sinaga, J. T. G. (2022). The Effect of Audit Fee, Audit Delay, and Rotation Auditor on Audit Quality. *Jurnal Akuntansi, Audit, Dan Sistem Informasi Akuntansi*, 6(1).
- Hasibuan, H. T. (2016). Statement of Financial Accounting Standard (PSAK) No. 109 and Its Implementation in Several Zakat Management Organizations in Malang, East Java. *Shirkah: Journal of Economics and Business*, 1(3). <https://doi.org/10.22515/shirkah.v1i3.89>
- Hendi, H., & Sitorus, R. (2023). An Empirical Research on Audit Report Timeliness. *Jurnal Akuntansi Dan Keuangan*, 25(1). <https://doi.org/10.9744/jak.25.1.39-53>

- Himawan, F. A., Amelia, A., & Suharwan, A. (2023). Pengaruh leverage, profitabilitas, kompleksitas perusahaan, dan audit delay terhadap fee audit. *Prosiding Konferensi Ilmiah Akuntansi*, 10(4).
- Indreswari, V. M., & NR, E. (2023). Pengaruh Audit Tenure, Ukuran Kantor Akuntan Publik, Ukuran Perusahaan dan Financial Distress terhadap Audit Delay. *JURNAL EKSPLOKASI AKUNTANSI*, 5(2). <https://doi.org/10.24036/jea.v5i2.682>
- Jensen, M. C. (2005). Agency Cost Of Free Cash Flow, Corporate Finance, and Takeovers. *SSRN Electronic Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.99580>
- Jesni, J., & Yopie, S. (2023). Characteristics of the Audit Committee on Delay in Audit Reporting. *Jurnal Pamator: Jurnal Ilmiah Universitas Trunojoyo*, 16(2). <https://doi.org/10.21107/pamator.v16i2.19761>
- Jhony-Ver, S., Dwiharyadi, A., Ahmad, A. W., Akuntansi, J., & Padang, N. (2023). Analisis Pengaruh Faktor Perusahaan Dan Auditor Terhadap Audit Delay. *Bisnis Dan Ekonomi Indonesia*, 2(1).
- Kamil, K., Widyastuti, T., Ahmar, N., & . Z. (2023). Determinants Audit Report Delay and Its Effects on Investor Reaction in Public Companies in Indonesia. *Journal of Economics and Business*, 6(1). <https://doi.org/10.31014/aior.1992.06.01.491>
- Karina, A., & Kusumawardhani, F. (2023). Analysis of Solvability, Liquidity, and Company Size on Audit Delay with Audit Quality as Moderation. *Jurnal Riset Akuntansi Kontemporer*, 15(2).
- Lee, H. (2020). The Implications of Organizational Structure, Political Control, and Internal System Responsiveness on Whistleblowing Behavior. *Review of Public Personnel Administration*, 40(1). <https://doi.org/10.1177/0734371X18792054>
- Leonita, E. D., & Triani, N. N. A. (2022). Determinan audit report lag pada seluruh perusahaan terdaftar di BEI tahun 2020. *Fair Value: Jurnal Ilmiah Akuntansi Dan Keuangan*, 4(12). <https://doi.org/10.32670/fairvalue.v4i12.2049>
- Ludwina Harahap. (2023). DETERMINANT OF AUDIT DELAY: EMPIRICAL STUDY OF COMPANIES IN INDONESIA. *INQUISITIVE : International Journal of Economic*, 3(2). <https://doi.org/10.35814/inquisitive.v3i2.4346>
- Maulina Tiar Rahmawati, Islahuddin, & Ridwan. (2023). The Effect of Profitability, Leverage, Company Size, and Public Accounting Office Size on Audit Delay: an Investigation on Idx-Listed Manufacturing Companies. *Jurnal Multidisiplin Madani*, 3(3). <https://doi.org/10.55927/mudima.v3i3.2515>
- Mitskinis, D., Drogalas, G., Nerantzidis, M., & Karagiorgos, A. (2023). Audit Committee and Audit Report Lag: A Literature Review. *International Conference on Business and Economics - Hellenic Open University*, 2(1). <https://doi.org/10.12681/icbe-hou.5353>
- Mohapatra, P., Dayanandan, A., Kuntluru, S., & Athira, A. (2021). Audit partner rotation, and its impact on audit quality: Evidence from India. *Cogent Economics and Finance*, 9(1). <https://doi.org/10.1080/23322039.2021.1938379>

- Murdiansyah, I., & Wulan Sari, F. (2023). INFLUENCE OF PROFITABILITY, SOLVENCY, COMPANY SIZE, AND AUDITOR'S OPINION ON AUDIT DELAY. *Kajian Akuntansi*, 24(2). https://doi.org/10.29313/kajian_akuntansi.v24i2.2493
- Nahdiya, L., Suyono, E., & Wulandari, R. A. S. (2022). The Effect of Firm Size, Profitability and Solvability Toward Audit Delay with Industry Specialist Auditor as Moderating Variable. *International Conference on Sustainable Competitive Advantage*.
- Obeidat, S., Al-Tamimi, K., & Hajjat, E. (2021). The Effects of Intellectual Capital and Financial Leverage on Evaluating Market Performance. *Journal of Asian Finance, Economics and Business*, 8(3). <https://doi.org/10.13106/jafeb.2021.vol8.no3.0201>
- Oktaviani, S., & Poniman, P. (2023). Analisis Faktor-Faktor yang Mempengaruhi Keterlambatan Audit pada Perusahaan Publik di Indonesia. *E-Jurnal Akuntansi*, 33(3). <https://doi.org/10.24843/eja.2023.v33.i03.p15>
- Parkash, M., Singhal, R., & Zhu, Y. (2022). The impact of loan covenants on audit delays and audit fees. *Journal of Corporate Accounting and Finance*, 33(4). <https://doi.org/10.1002/jcaf.22561>
- Pradnyaniti, L. P. Y., & Suardikha, I. M. S. (2019). Pengaruh Audit Tenure dan Auditor Switching Pada Audit Delay Dengan Financial Distress Sebagai Variabel Pemoderasi. *E-Jurnal Akuntansi*. <https://doi.org/10.24843/eja.2019.v26.i03.p16>
- Prasetyo, I., Aliyyah, N., Rusdiyanto, R., Nartasari, D. R., Nugroho, S., Rahmawati, Y., Groda, S. P., Setiawan, S., Triangga, B., Mailansa, E., Prayogi, G. D., Etruly, N., Jazuli, M., Wahyuningsih, N. D., Kusumawati, N. D., Kurniawan, S., Ratri, I. N., Atmojo, W., Sugiarno, Y., ... Rochman, A. S. ur. (2021). What Affects Audit Delay in Indonesia? *Academy of Entrepreneurship Journal*, 27.
- Quinones, D. P. D., & Sumarna, A. D. (2023). Determinants of The Indonesian Mining Sector's Audit Delay. *International Journal of Human Capital Available Online at Management E-ISSN*, 7(2).
- Safitri, J., Suhartini, S., & Suhendri, S. (2023). The Role of Good Corporate Governance in The Timeliness of Financial Report Presentation. *JBTI : Jurnal Bisnis : Teori Dan Implementasi*, 14(2). <https://doi.org/10.18196/jbti.v14i2.19889>
- Saleh, R., Eka Syafitri, A., & Muhammadiyah Jakarta, S. (2022). Auditor Competence and The Use of Information Technology in Produce Quality Audits in The Era of The Industrial Revolution 4.0 (Study on Auditors at KAP South Jakarta, Indonesia). *IRE Journals*, 5(11).
- Sihombing, R. P. (2023). Mapping of Internal Audit Quality on the Public Sector in Indonesia: A Systematic Review. *Jurnal Economia*, 19(1). <https://doi.org/10.21831/economia.v19i1.38073>
- Susanto, A., & Utama, A. F. (2022). Pengaruh Karakteristik Auditor Dan Karakteristik Perusahaan Terhadap Audit Report Lag. *Gorontalo Accounting Journal*, 5(2). <https://doi.org/10.32662/gaj.v5i2.2439>

-
- Susilahwati, D. A., & Triyanto, D. N. (2023). *Factors on Determining Audit Delay: Evidence from Indonesia*. <https://doi.org/10.46254/eu05.20220457>
- Tanjung, A. H., & Aida, S. N. (2022). Effect of Company Size and Solvency on Audit Delay. *JASa (Jurnal Akuntansi, Audit Dan Sistem Informasi Akuntansi)*, 6(1). <https://doi.org/10.36555/jasa.v6i1.1716>
- Vernanda, A., & Meiden, C. (2023). Meta-Analysis Study of Factors Affecting Audit Delay. *Jurnal Scientia*, 12(2).
- Wardani, A., & Satyawan, M. D. (2022). ... Penerimaan Opini Audit Going Concern: Keywords: Independent Commissioner; Managerial Ownership; Institutional Ownership; Going Concern Audit Opinion. *Jurnal Akuntansi AKUNESA*.
- Waris, M., & Haji Din, B. (2023). Impact of corporate governance and ownership concentrations on timelines of financial reporting in Pakistan. *Cogent Business and Management*, 10(1). <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311975.2023.2164995>
- Wicaksono, Y., Afrizal, R., Nunes, A. S. A., & Hidayat, I. D. (2023). The effect of auditor switching, audit opinions, and financial distress on audit delay. *Sebelas Maret Business Review*, 8(1). <https://doi.org/10.20961/snbr.v8i2.78750>
- Wiyarni, & Bunyamin. (2021). The Mediating Effect of Financial Distress on Audit Tenure and Auditor Switching Towards Audit Delay. *Proceedings of 2nd Annual Management, Business and Economic Conference (AMBEC 2020)*, 183. <https://doi.org/10.2991/aebmr.k.210717.008>