Fish Consumption Behavior during COVID-19 Pandemic in Bekasi City (Case Study in Pondok Ungu Permai)

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Authors’ contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. Author RA designed the study, performed the statistical analysis, wrote the protocol and wrote the first draft of the manuscript. Authors ZA and HH managed the analyses of the study. Author AR managed the literature searches. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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ABSTRACT

The spread of the Coronavirus outbreak has in changes in people’s consumption patterns, including the consumption of fish products. The purpose of this study was to analyze changes in fish consumption behavior, what factors changes preference in fish consumption during the COVID-19 pandemic, and to analyze the understanding of the benefits of fish from consumers in the Pondok Ungu Permai. The method used is a case study with qualitative, quantitative, and descriptive data analysis. The sampling technique used and simple random sampling method with 82 respondents. The result showed changes in factors during the COVID-19 pandemic are the system and places of purchase, the frequency of fish consumption, the amount of consumption of fish products consumed, and the price of fish. Based on binary logistic regression analysis, before and after the COVID-19 pandemic, the Wald test showed that occupation had an influence on preferences between fresh fish and processed fish.

Keywords: COVID-19; consumer behavior; benefits of fish; preference; logistic regression.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Coronavirus disease 2019 or often referred to as COVID-19 was announced to the public by WHO (World Health Organization) in Indonesia on March 11, 2020. This virus originated from Wuhan, China. The increase in the number of virus cases is quite fast and has spread to various countries, including Indonesia. In connection with this virus, the Minister of Health issued a Decree of the Minister of Health Number HK.01.07 / MENKES / 104/ 2020 concerning the determination of Novel Coronavirus Infection as a type of disease that can cause outbreaks and efforts to Control Them. The spread of COVID-19 has many impact on political, social, cultural, public welfare, and especially economic aspects [1].

During the pandemic, the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (KKP) through the Directorate General of Strengthen the Competitiveness of Marine and Fishery Products (PDSPKP) and continues to monitor the availability, development of fish supply and process in Indonesia. The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries recommends that people continue to consume fish, even more. Consuming fish has a positive impact during the current pandemic because it can increase immunity and the body becomes healthy with complete nutrition from fish [2].

COVID-19 has an indirect impact on change demand of consumers, market access and logistical problems related to uninterrupted delivery of products, both export and local trade [3]. COVID-19 is spreading very quickly and making an impact on all sectors without exception. COVID-19 is exposing people to a food crisis and creating the potential for increased food insecurity [4]. The closure of all airports and ports due to the work from home policy and social impacts that impacted fishing activities. Because there is a decrease in demand, the price of fish tends to fall due to the accumulation of catches in several ports in Indonesia [5]. This has happened in several regions in Indonesia, one of which is in Java. In addition, COVID-19 has a small impact on fisheries, industries such as the closure of fish processing factories, processed fish exports have stopped also, while decrease in captured fisheries production which resulted in the disruption of supply chain, cold chains, and the decline in the price of catch fish commodities were also observed [6].

To prevent the spread of the corona virus, the government has implemented a lockdown or stay at home system. One of the consequences of closing the market is a decrease in fish demand [7]. Consumer demand has decreased in the market, because since the COVID-19 pandemic consumers have preferred to buy products sold online [8]. This situation causes changes in social habits, food consumption and is followed by sudden changes in consumer behavior towards food.

The city of Bekasi is one of the regions that implements the stay at home or PSBB system. One of the PSBB regulations closes public facilities including shopping centers, making consumption behavior in Pondok Ungu Permai change due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The existence of social distancing makes consumers switch to buying products online [9].

The purpose of this study was to analyze in fish consumption behavior during the COVID-19 pandemic in Pondok Ungu Permai, to analyze what factor changes preference in fish consumption during the COVID-19 pandemic, and to analyze the understanding of the benefits of fish from consumers in the Pondok Ungu Permai.

2. METHODOLOGY

The research method used in this research is a case study. Case studies are used to provide an understanding of something that grabs attention, the social process that occurs, or the experience of the person who is the background of a case. This research was conducted in Pondok Ungu Permai, Bekasi City, Jawa Barat Province, Indonesia.

2.1 Types and Sources of Data

Types and sources of data used are primary data and secondary data. Primary data in this study were obtained directly in the field through direct interviews with respondents using questionnaires with structured questionnaire fillouts by respondents. Questionnaire is a data collection technique that is done by giving a set of questions or written statements to respondents for answering [10]. The survey period carried out in this study was 23 days from February 4th, 2022 to February 27th, 2022. Secondary data obtained from this research comes from available libraries and is related to research topics such as libraries, the internet, and other general information.
2.2 Sampling Technique

The sampling technique used in this research is simple random sampling. Simple random sampling is taking sample members from the population at random without regard to the existing strata in a population and all members of the population have the same opportunity to be used as respondents or samples [11]. In the simple random sampling technique, the researcher must already have the names of the respondents who will be used as research samples. Determination of the sample is randomly from all the names of the research population. The number of samples taken in this study were 82 respondents at Pondok Ungu Permai, Bekasi City. The number of samples taken in this study was calculated using the Slovin formula with a total population of 458 people using a significance level of 10%. The Slovin formula is a formula used to calculate the minimum number of samples in a finite population survey, where the main purpose of the survey is to estimate the proportion of the population [12].

2.3 Data Analysis

This research uses data analysis methods in the form of qualitative analysis, quantitative analysis, and descriptive analysis. Qualitative analysis is used in this research to understand the benefits of fish from consumers. Quantitative analysis is used to describe the general picture or characteristics of society and consumption behavior in Pondok Ungu Permai, Bekasi City by using numbers to facilitate the process of analyzing the data that has been collected. This analysis is generated from interviews and questionnaires that are tabulated in the data, then processed and analyzed according to the analytical method used so that the results can be seen. Data obtained from the quantitative analysis are presented in the form of tables then analyzed descriptively.

2.4 Binary Logistic Regression

Binary logistic regression is one of the methods used to find a relationship between the dichotomous dependent variable (nominal or ordinal scale with two categories) with one or more independent variables that are continuous or categorical [13].

\[
\frac{pi}{1-pi} = \exp (\beta_0 + \beta_1x_1 + \beta_2x_2 + \beta_3x_3 + \ldots + \beta_8x_8)
\]

Explanation:
- \(pi\) = Probability preference fresh fish
- \(1-pi\) = Probability preference processed fish
- \(\beta_0\) = Constant
- \(\beta_1 - \beta_8\) = Regression coefficient
- \(x_1\) = Covid
- \(x_2\) = Gender
- \(x_3\) = Age
- \(x_4\) = Number of Family Members
- \(x_5\) = Education
- \(x_6\) = Work
- \(x_7\) = Income
- \(x_8\) = Origin Tribe

The parameters tested in preference between fresh fish and processed fish are the model feasibility test, the likelihood ratio test, the coefficient of determination, and the Wald test.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Characteristics of Respondents

Respondent in Pondok Ungu Permai are generally female with 76% and there is tendency of hight female role in the process of household decision making related to daily food needs [14].

Based on the age of 82 respondents, the majority of respondents are aged 30-39 years with 32 respondents. Between 30-59 years old who have been included in the adult category. This means that most respondents tend to be able to think rationally in paying attention to diet to maintain body health and nutritional intake, especially for household members [15].

The level of education among respondents in this study showed that 53% were bachelor. This shows that respondent have a high level of education. According from the theory, the higher a person’s education, the higher one’s knowledge will be [16].

Based on the work of 82 respondents, namely 2 students, 26 civil servants / private workers, 46 housewives, and 8 entrepreneurs. The majority of product buyers are housewives because they are usually housewives who arrange food for the household [17].

Thirty-seven percent (37%) of the respondents had average income IDR 4,000,000-Rp.6,000,000. Income has an important role in the household. Income and consumption are related, because income is the main factor that determines consumption behavior [18].
Seventy nine percent (79%) respondents in Pondok Ungu Permai as a family size of 3 – 5 people. The number of family members of the respondent will influence the decision to buy fish in the family, this is related to the amount to be purchased. The more family members, the greater the need in the family so that consumers will buy fishery products in larger quantities [19].

Based on the ethnicity of the 82 respondents, namely the Sundanese as many as 30 people, Javanese as many as 43 people, Sumatran people as many as 4 people, and for Betawi tribe as many as 5 people. This is in accordance with the statement of Adeng, that ethnographically there are 3 ethnic groups that are quite dominant in Bekasi City, namely the Javanese, Sundanese, and Betawi [20].

3.2 Overview of Consumer Preferences for Fishery Products

3.2.1 Respondents purchasing system

In the fish product purchasing system that was carried out by respondents before the COVID-19 pandemic, all respondents used an offline purchasing system, namely as many as 82 people. The majority of the fish product purchasing system carried out after Covid by respondents is offline, namely as many as 75 people. Consumers consider that direct purchasing is an accurate purchasing model because they can feel and choose products directly [21].

3.2.2 The place of purchase of the respondents

The results showed that 90% of the respondents shop at traditional markets before COVID-19 pandemic while 76% shop at traditional markets after COVID-19 pandemic. The majority of respondents to choose where to buy fish products either before or after the pandemic remains the same, only the quantity of respondents has changed. Consumer visits in big cities to traditional markets are still very high. When compared to modern markets, traditional markets are the people's main choice in buying fish products [22].

3.2.3 Respondents reasons for choosing an online purchasing system

The majority of respondents revealed that shopping online was easy and safe. Respondents feel safe and prices tend to be cheaper with various kinds of discount on products. Based on the respondent's choice, the following reasons for choosing an online purchasing system can be seen in Table 2.

3.2.4 Respondents reasons for choosing an offline purchasing system

Respondents feel more satisfied when buying offline because they can see and feel the texture of the product they are buying. The majority of respondents reasoned that they shop offline because they can hold the product directly, this is very different when consumers shop online. Based on the respondent's choice,
the following reasons for choosing an offline purchasing system can be seen in Table 3.

### 3.2.5 Frequency of eating fish in one week

The majority of respondents before the pandemic consumed fish in one week, namely twice as much as 40 people, whereas after the pandemic experienced changes, the majority of respondents consume fish in one week that is once that is 43 people. The respondents of Pondok Ungu Permai have decrease in fish consumption in one week for this pandemic. It follows the Marines and Ministry of Fisheries Statement [23] that the demand of the Indonesian people's demand for fish consumption has decreased by 20%.

### 3.2.6 Total fish consumption in one week

The majority of the amount of fish consumption in one week of respondents in Pondok Ungu Permai both before the pandemic and after the pandemic was still the same, namely with a lot <1 kg, but the number of respondents experienced changes. Before the pandemic 48% of respondents, while after the pandemic 50% of respondents. Most consumers buy fish in one time purchase of ½ kg and according to respondents, this amount is sufficient to meet the family consumption needs [24].

### 3.2.7 Changes in the amount of fish consumption during the pandemic

The majority of respondents regarding changes in the amount of fish consumption during the pandemic, answered that the amount of fish consumption was fixed, namely 53 people or 65% of the total respondents. The pandemic period didn't change many respondents in consuming fish. This is because most respondents know the benefits of consuming fish in the midst of a fish pandemic, complete vitamins, minerals, and fatty acid content in fish for the formation of immune cells in the body. Based on the choices of respondents who experienced the addition and reduction of the amount of fish consumption, here are the reasons for the respondents respectively presented in Tables 4 and 5.

The majority of reasons for reduced fish consumption are income decreased. A person’s income is important for the necessities of life. Decreased income can lead to reduced purchasing power of food [25].

#### Table 3. Frequency of respondents reasons for choosing an offline purchasing system

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offline reasons</th>
<th>Before pandemic</th>
<th>After pandemic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Save cost</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can hold the product directly</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumers are satisfied</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>82</strong></td>
<td><strong>75</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Table 4. Reasons for decreased fish consumption during a pandemic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decreased income</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There are fewer fish marketers</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over the majority of other products</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Table 5. Reasons for increase fish consumption during a pandemic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The importance of consuming fish during the pandemic</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased like of fish</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family members gather during the pandemic</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.2.8 Type of fish frequently consumed by respondents

Before the pandemic, respondents consumed fresh fish products more often, as much as 69 people, whereas after the pandemic, respondents consume more fresh fish products, because as many as 73 people. Most fish products which was more often consumed by Pondok Ungu Permai respondents both before the pandemic and after the pandemic has not changed, but the number of respondents has changed. People prefer fresh fish compared to processed fish because fresh fish tastes better, and fresh fish contains better nutrition and can be served in various types of foods [26].

Based on respondents' choices, the following reasons for choosing fresh fish before and after the pandemic can be seen in Table 6.

Based on respondents' choices, the following reasons for choosing processed fish before and after the pandemic can be seen in Table 7.

3.2.9 Type of fresh fish frequently consumed by respondents

The majority of fresh fish products are more frequently consumed by Pondok Ungu Permai respondents both before the pandemic and after the pandemic doesn't change, but the quantity respondents have changed. Before pandemic, 65 respondents choose fresh fish, but after the pandemic increased to 69 people. Before the pandemic, 17 respondents choose fresh sea fish, but after the pandemic, that reduced to 13 people. The majority of people generally choose fresh water fresh fish because they consider the taste of the fish meat, the freshness of the fish, the price of fish, and the ease of obtaining fish products [27].

Based on respondents' choices, responden frequency distribution based on the types of fresh fish consumed more often can be seen in Table 8.

3.2.10 Type of processed fish frequently consumed by respondents

The majority processed fish products consumed more often by respondents in Pondok Ungu Permai both before the pandemic and after The pandemic doesn't change, but the quantity respondents experienced a change, namely choosing fish jelly. Study results following Indiarto's research [28], during the COVID-19 pandemic, sales of processed fish products tended to be highly dominated by the public due to the change in people who eat in restaurants turning to cooking themselves by cooking practical and ready-to-eat foods such as processed fish products. Based on respondents' choices, responden frequency distribution based on the types of processed fish consumed more often can be seen in Table 9.

| Table 6. Reason for fresh fish more often consumed by respondents before and after pandemic |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Reasons for fresh fish                | Before pandemic | After pandemic |
| It tastes better                      | 18             | 18             |
| High in nutrition                     | 31             | 30             |
| Easy to get                           | 11             | 10             |
| Safer and hygiene                     | 3              | 2              |
| Affordable prices                     | 6              | 13             |
| Total                                 | 69             | 73             |

| Table 7. Reason for processed fish more often consumed by respondents before and after pandemic |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Reasons for processed fish             | Before pandemic | After pandemic |
| It tastes better                       | 8              | 4              |
| High in nutrition                      | 2              | 0              |
| Safer and hygiene                      | 3              | 5              |
| Total                                 | 13             | 9              |
Table 8. Respondents frequency distribution based on the types of fresh fish consumed more often

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fresh fish type</th>
<th>Before pandemic</th>
<th>After pandemic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresh fresh fish</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea fresh fish</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 9. Respondents frequency distribution by type of processed fish which is more frequently consumed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Processed Fish</th>
<th>Before Pandemic</th>
<th>After Pandemic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pindang Fish</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canned Fish</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish Jelly</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salted Fish</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.2.11 Respondents knowledge regarding the benefits of fish consumption

The majority of respondents' knowledge of the benefits of fish consumption is that 75 respondents know the benefits of the fish consumption. Based on the research results, the average respondent knows the benefits of fish consumption, namely for body health, contains high protein and nutrients contained in fish. Public knowledge shows that almost all respondents, as many as 92.86%, know about the nutritional content of fish and the benefits of fish [29].

3.2.12 Respondents knowledge regarding the benefits of fish consumption during the pandemic

The majority of respondents' knowledge of the benefits of fish consumption during a pandemic, as many as 68 respondents, knew about the benefits of fish consumption during a pandemic. Based on the results of the research, the average respondent knows the benefits of fish consumption, namely for body health, increasing body immunity or immunity, and preventing disease. The 60% of participants or respondents have heard or known about the benefits of fish, but there are still people who do not know the benefits of fish during a pandemic [30].

3.2.13 Respondents observations regarding the market for fish species obtained

The majority of respondents regarding observations of the market for fish species obtained, namely that the answer was not reduced, as many as 73 people or 89% of the total respondents and some respondents, namely as many as 9 people or 11% answered that it was reduced. The occurrence of fish products is reduced in the market because fishermen's catch is difficult to get to the market, Fishermen's catch is not absorbed by the market due to distribution and logistical constraints so that the selling price at the fishermen level falls [31].

3.2.14 Respondents observations regarding the increase for fish prices

The majority of respondents regarding observations of the increase in fish prices were not as many as 67 people. Fish prices have not increased or even decreased, the Coronavirus outbreak has an impact on fisheries marketing, where fish prices have decreased by 50% [32].

3.3 Preference between Fresh Fish and Processed Fish Before and After the COVID-19 Pandemic

3.3.1 Feasibility test model

The results of the calculation of Hosmer and Lemeshow's Goodness of Fit Test before and after the pandemic show that the chi-square significance value is 0.295 (>0.05), greater than the 0.05 significance level, this means that the model is acceptable because it fits the observation data and the regression model. Feasible for use in further analysis.
Table 10. Hosmer and Lemeshow test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Chi-square</th>
<th>Df</th>
<th>Sig</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9.586</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>.295</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 11. Likelihood ratio test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>-2 Log like-lihood</th>
<th>Cox &amp; Snell R square</th>
<th>Nagel-kerke R Square</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>114.024</td>
<td>.089</td>
<td>.163</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.3.2 Likelihood ratio test

The results of the calculation of the Likelihood Ratio Test before and after the pandemic show a value of 114.024 > Chi-square table = 14.0671, which means that with a 95% confidence level the independent variables simultaneously influence the independent variables.

3.3.3 Coefficient or determination

Nagelkerke R Square in Pondok Ungu Permai before and after the COVID-19 pandemic, which was 0.163 which stated that the ability of the independent variables to explain the dependent variable was 16.3% and the remaining 83.7% was explained by other variables outside the variables used in this model. Variables that influence consumers to buy fresh fish, namely 86%, influenced by price, taste, fish quality, and consumer income [33].

3.3.4 Wald test

Based on Wald's test results before and after pandemic, the job factor has a Wald test score of 8.196 and a significance value of 0.042 which means that the importance of work factor is smaller than the level of significance (>0.05) which proves the work affect the preference between fresh and processed fish before and after the pandemic. The higher it is respondent's job, the higher preferences for fish consumption.

4. CONCLUSION

This paper examines the direct impact of COVID-19 pandemic on fish consumption behavior in Pondok Ungu Permai. With the COVID-19 outbreak, behavior related to buying fish is quite influential. The results show changes in behavior during the COVID-19 pandemic. First, with the anxiety surrounding food shopping (fear of viruses, fear of being close to other people, long queues at stores, etc.), 91% of respondents changed their way of shopping, namely the online system. More and more consumers are ordering their groceries online to avoid busy stores. Meanwhile, some customers tend to keep buying food in person. 90% of places bought by people before the pandemic chose traditional markets and 10% chose modern markets, while after the pandemic 76% chose traditional markets and 24% chose modern markets. There is a decrease in the purchase of food from traditional markets, because it is considered less safe than modern market.

Based on the results of the study, it shows that the frequency of fish consumption in one week has changed, before the pandemic, most respondents (49%) consumed fish twice a week, while in the pandemic phase, most respondents (52%) consumed fish only once a week. Changes in the amount of fish consumption during the pandemic, namely 65% fixed consumption, 18% decrease, and 17% increase. It is possible to say that the pandemic event has halved the consumption of fish in the considered area.

The product purchasing system, where to buy fish, the amount of fish consumed in one week, the types of fish that are often consumed, the types of fresh fish that are often consumed, and the types of processed fish that are often consumed, have not changed for the majority of respondents both before and after the pandemic, but for the number of respondents experiencing changes.

Understanding the benefits of fish from consumers in Pondok Ungu Permai, the majority of consumers (91%) know the benefits of
consuming fish for brain intelligence, body health, containing high protein and nutrients contained in fish. Understanding the benefits of fish during the pandemic from consumers at Pondok Ungu Permai, the majority of consumers (83%) know the benefits of consuming fish during a pandemic, for body health, increasing body immunity and preventing disease.

5. MANAGERIAL IMPLICATIONS

The results of the research carried out are expected to provide a benefit which of course can be useful for all those involved in research activities.

The first, that is expected from this research is to be able to add new insights and knowledge about people’s consumption behavior towards fish products. The second, can be a reference and input for improving fish consumption programs in the community so that people are motivated to consume fish. Third is expected to provide information to students for the development of science related to people’s consumption behavior towards fresh and processed fish products and to understand marketing research.

CONSENT

As per international standard or university standard, respondents' written consent has been collected and preserved by the author(s).

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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