

## The Impact of Financial Report Accessibility on The Accountability Of Regional Financial Management: A Systematic Literature Review

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### Abstract

*This research investigates the results of a literature study regarding the impact of financial report accessibility on regional financial management accountability. The research method used was a Systematic Literature Review (SLR), which involved identifying 10 accredited national journals. This study revealed significant findings in the Indonesian context. The results show that the presentation of financial reports that are accurate and by accounting standards (SAP) as well as a high level of accessibility to regional financial reports have a positive impact on the accountability of regional financial management. In addition, a good internal control system also supports increased accountability, while the influence of financial report accessibility on accountability tends to be complex and context-specific. However, individual factors such as the competence of village government officials play an important role in increasing the level of accountability. The low competence of village officials is considered to be one of the main causes of the low level of accountability in managing village funds. Within the accountability framework, this research highlights the importance of implementing an internal control system in organizations to ensure effectiveness, compliance with regulations, and transparency in public financial management. Information accessibility may not be sufficient as a driver of accountability, perhaps because the way information is delivered is currently limited to simple media. Nevertheless, this study provides insight for the government and researchers to consider these aspects in improving and planning policies to increase transparency and accountability in regional financial management.*

**Keywords:** Accounting, Regional Finance, Financial Report Accessibility

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## 1. Introduction

Regional financial management accountability encompasses the systematic and transparent planning, implementation, administration, accountability, and supervision of regional finances. This process ensures that the financial activities are conducted with integrity and can be accurately reported and accounted for by the community and DPRD. This provides the community with insight into the management of their local finances and empowers them to demand transparency and responsibility in cases of financial discrepancies or irregularities. It also serves as a basis for evaluating the performance of regional financial management in the subsequent year (Pamungkas, 2022). Therefore, this accountability guarantees that regional financial policies are implemented transparently and responsibly, aligning with the community's interests. The government has a responsibility to enhance accountability in regional financial management, which can be achieved by implementing reforms in the way financial reports are presented. The government is responsible for ensuring that all pertinent financial information is disclosed to the public truthfully and transparently. Transparency in government is crucial as it ensures that the actions of the government are conducted by the authority granted by the people. Consequently, the public is entitled to be informed about the management and utilization of their financial resources. By promoting transparency and integrity in financial reporting, the government establishes public trust and lays the foundation for genuine accountability in the management of public funds (Ihulhaq et al., 2019).

Accountability pertains to the duty of the party serving as a trustee (agent) to demonstrate honesty and transparency in providing accountability. This encompasses the duty to present, report, and disclose all actions and undertakings pertaining to the party entrusted with the responsibility (principal). The party granting the trust possesses the entitlement and jurisdiction to request this accountability as a means of overseeing and regulating how the trust recipient fulfills their responsibilities (Esnawati & Primasari, 2022). This principle serves as a crucial foundation in the relationship between the trustor and the trustee, guaranteeing transparency, integrity, and trust in all interactions that entail accountability and reliance. Regional government accountability in financial management entails the responsibility to transparently and truthfully disclose information to the public. This is accomplished through media channels, such as the dissemination of financial reports that can be accessed by diverse stakeholders. The fundamental tenet is that the general populace possesses the entitlement to be informed of this data, given that communal finances are utilized for the betterment of the community. Local governments enhance transparency, bolster accountability, and enable public scrutiny of public funds by granting unrestricted access to financial data (Febriana et al., 2020). This fosters confidence and upholds honesty in the management of regional finances, demonstrating a dedication to being accountable to the citizens served by the regional government.

Government Regulation No. 71 of 2010 mandates that financial reports have the primary purpose of providing information on the reporting entity's financial position, budget execution, cash flow, and financial reporting performance. Public sector financial reports are a systematic portrayal of the financial status of the organization resulting from the conducted transactions (Purnamasari & Gunawan, 2016). The primary aim of this financial report is to furnish valuable information to users, such as the government, society, and other relevant

stakeholders, to facilitate and assess decisions pertaining to the allocation of resources. This report plays a crucial role in enhancing government transparency, accountability, and effective management of public finances and resources by providing comprehensive and precise data on public finances. Public sector organizations, as stewards of public funds, are obligated to ensure accountability using their financial reports. Comprehensive presentation of financial reports fosters transparency in the administration of public funds, thereby enhancing accountability (Jannah et al., 2021). The provision of accurate and transparent financial reports by local governments is not only a requirement but also a crucial measure to enhance accountability in regional financial administration. The level of trust from the public and interested parties, as well as the quality of regional financial management, is directly influenced by the accuracy and level of detail in financial reports.

Accountability regarding financial reports encompasses not only the presentation of pertinent and user-oriented information but also the provision of these reports in a manner that is readily accessible to the parties requiring the information. Efficient accountability relies not only on the provision of financial reports but also on convenient accessibility for individuals or the general public to acquire the necessary information from these financial reports (Prasetiyo et al., 2023). The public, being the entity that bestows trust upon the government, possesses the entitlement to acquire financial information as a means of ensuring accountability. Hence, the inclusion of transparency and openness in the dissemination of financial data is a crucial element in guaranteeing efficient accountability in the management of public finances.

Government Regulation No. 71 of 2010 mandates that government financial reports must furnish pertinent information to enable users to evaluate accountability and make informed economic, social, and political judgments. The report should provide details on the origin, distribution, and utilization of financial resources, the sufficiency of income to cover expenses, the quantity of economic resources utilized and the outcomes attained, the approach to funding activities and cash needs, and the financial status and condition of the reporting entity in relation to proper income. The financial statement encompasses both short-term and long-term aspects, such as tax levies, loans, and alterations in the financial position due to activities conducted within the reporting period. By adhering to these guidelines and furnishing comprehensive and precise information, government financial reports serve as a potent instrument for enhancing transparency, guaranteeing accountability, and empowering stakeholders to make well-informed decisions based on data.

When conducting audits of Regional Government Financial Reports (LKPD), the Financial Audit Agency (BPK) frequently uncovers numerous issues in government financial management, which suggests a lack of accountability in regional financial management (Rahmayanti et al., 2022). From 2012 to 2014, an instance took place in Klaten Regency where the Klaten Regency LKPD received a Fair With Exceptions (WDP) opinion due to discrepancies between the data provided by the Regional Work Unit (SKPD) and the actual conditions observed in the field. The current scenario exemplifies a deficiency in the transparency and accountability of regional finances, which can heighten the likelihood of financial mismanagement and impede the ability of regional governments to effectively deliver services and welfare to the community. The deficiency in the capacity of financial reports to fulfill accountability arises not only from the absence of comprehensive information

in annual reports but also from the inability of potential users to directly access these reports. Insufficient and inaccessible financial reports can adversely impact the integrity of regional financial accountability (Mulyandini & Simatupang, 2022).

## **2. Research Methods**

This study employs the Systematic Literature Review (SLR) approach to examine the influence of financial report accessibility on accountability in regional financial management. SLR, or Systematic Literature Review, is a methodical approach that enables a comprehensive and meticulous examination of pertinent and published literature. The research utilized 10 reputable national journals that were identified using the Google Scholar search engine. The accuracy and reliability of the literature search were ensured by employing the Publish or Perish application.

Financial report accessibility plays a crucial role in enhancing accountability in regional financial management, particularly in the context of globalization and information transparency (Suhartono & Jannah, 2021). The objective of this study is to perform a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) of 10 reputable national journals to determine the influence of financial report accessibility on accountability in regional financial management. Initially, the Google Scholar search engine was employed to ascertain 10 reputable national journals that were pertinent to this research subject.

Following the identification of journals, the Publish or Perish application was employed to verify the precision and consistency of the literature search. The data from specific journals was subsequently gathered and examined. Criteria for inclusion and exclusion were established to identify articles that were relevant to the research topic. The analysis included articles that satisfied the specified criteria for inclusion, while articles that did not meet the specified criteria for exclusion were not considered in this study. The data from articles that satisfied the specified criteria were subjected to systematic analysis (Simbolon & Kuntadi, 2022). An in-depth analysis is conducted to identify the influence of financial report accessibility on regional financial management accountability.

The analysis reveals both the favorable and unfavorable effects of making financial reports easily accessible on the accountability of regional financial management. This chapter provides a comprehensive presentation and thorough analysis of these findings. The literature analysis findings lead to conclusions about how the accessibility of financial reports affects the accountability of regional financial management. This chapter also includes practical implications and recommendations for future research. The reference list of the journals utilized in this study is systematically compiled and its sustainability is verified through the utilization of the Publish or Perish application.

The research employs a Systematic Literature Review (SLR) methodology to examine the influence of financial report accessibility on regional financial management accountability. This investigation is supported by 10 reputable national journals identified through Google Scholar, and their credibility is confirmed using the Publish or Perish application.

## **3. Results and Discussion**

### **Results**

The results of the research data included in this literature review are the results of analyses and summaries from various documented journals, especially those related to the

impact of financial report accessibility on regional financial management accountability. This data has been summarized and presented in tabular form, presenting important information such as research methodology, main findings, and conclusions from each journal included in this research. Through this analysis and summary, the research aims to provide a comprehensive picture of the impact of financial report accessibility on regional financial management accountability based on the findings that have been presented in related journals which are presented in the following table.

Table 1. Research Results on the Impact of Financial Report Accessibility on Regional Financial Management Accountability

Researcher Name	Research Title	Year of Research	Journal	Research result
Miftahul Reza Fauziyah and Nur Handayani	Effect of Presentation and Accessibility of Regional Financial Reports Towards Accountability of Regional Financial Management	2017	Journal Knowledge And Research Accountancy	The results of the analysis regarding the presentation and accessibility of regional financial reports indicate several important findings. First, the presentation of regional financial reports that are accurate and by accounting standards (SAP) has a positive impact on the accountability of regional financial management in the city of Surabaya. In other words, when financial reports are prepared properly and correctly, this increases the level of accountability in regional financial management. Second, the level of accessibility of regional financial reports also has a positive influence on the accountability of regional financial management. The easier it is for the public to access local government financial reports, the higher the level of accountability that can be achieved. In this way, accountability for regional financial management can be realized through the presentation of accurate and transparent financial reports, as well as through government efforts to provide easy access to information for the public.
Zeny Antika, Yunika Murdayanti,	Influence of Regional Financial Accounting	2020	Wahana Accounting Scientific Journal	The test results in this research provide significant conclusions. First, a regional financial accounting system



Hafifah Nasution	Systems, Accessibility Financial Reports, and Internal Control Over Regional Financial Management Accountability			that is implemented well has a positive effect on the accountability of regional financial management. This confirms that the more efficient and precise the implementation of the regional financial accounting system, the higher the level of accountability in regional financial management. Second, the accessibility of financial reports has a significant positive impact on the accountability of regional financial management. The easier it is for the public to access financial reports, the higher the level of accountability that will be realized. Finally, effective internal control also has a positive and significant influence on regional financial management accountability. In other words, the better internal control is implemented, the greater the level of accountability in regional financial management will increase.
Salomi J. Hehanussa	The Effect of Presentation of Regional Financial Reports and Accessibility of Regional Financial Reports on Transparency and Accountability of Regional Financial Management in Ambon City	2015	Conference In Business, Accounting, And Management	The results of empirical testing show that the presentation of complete regional financial reports by Government Accounting Standards and easily accessible to interested parties and has a positive and significant effect on the transparency and accountability of regional financial management. Easily accessible financial reports enable good control and supervision, increase public transparency and accountability, and minimize corrupt practices by government officials. Accessibility of regional financial reports also has a similar impact, strengthening transparency and accountability by ensuring that accountability reports and

				findings can be accessed and understood by the public. Empirical evidence confirms that the presentation of regional financial reports and their accessibility simultaneously contribute positively and significantly to increasing transparency and accountability in regional financial management. Therefore, to achieve effective transparency and accountability, the Ambon City government is advised to use various financial report publication media and utilize forums that support community participation to encourage government transparency and accountability.
Ni Luh Wulan Artini and I Putu Deddy Samtika Putra	Influence of Presentation of Regional Financial Reports, Accessibility of Financial Reports and Systems Internal Control for Accountability Regional Financial Management (Empirical Study on Financial Management Agencies and District Regional Income Klungkung)	2020	Hita Accounting and Finance	This research aims to investigate the influence of Regional Financial Report Presentation, Financial Report Accessibility, and Internal Control Systems on Regional Financial Management Accountability in the Klungkung Regency BPKPD. The results of data analysis using the multiple linear regression method show that the presentation of regional financial reports has a positive effect on regional financial management accountability in the Klungkung Regency BPKPD. However, these findings also show that the Accessibility of Financial Reports and Internal Control Systems does not have a significant influence on Regional Financial Management Accountability in BPKPD Klungkung Regency. Thus, this research highlights the importance of presenting clear and regular financial reports as a key factor in increasing accountability in regional financial management, while

				also indicating the need for further research to understand other factors that may influence accountability in such contexts.
Mardhani Susilawati, Anik Malikah, M. Cholid Mawardi	The Effect of Presentation of Regional Financial Reports and Accessibility of Regional Financial Reports on Transparency and Accountability of Financial Management (Malang City and Malang Regency)	2022	Accounting Research Scientific E- Journal	The conclusions of this research indicate that the research results show that there is a positive and significant influence simultaneously or partially between the variables Presentation of Regional Financial Reports and Accessibility of Regional Financial Reports on Transparency & Accountability of Regional Financial Management. In other words, the clear presentation of regional financial reports and good accessibility for interested parties has a strong impact on increasing the level of transparency and accountability in regional financial management. These findings emphasize the importance of open regional financial information and easy access for the public as key steps in improving regional government financial governance and building public trust in public financial management.
Dew Widya Sari	The Influence of Internal Control Systems, Presentation of Financial Reports, Accessibility of Financial Reports and Leadership Style on Transparency and Accountability of Regional Financial Management in Indragiri Hulu Regency	2017	Online Journal for Students of the Faculty of Economics, Riau University	Based on the results of data analysis, it can be concluded that in the context of regional financial management in the SKPD of Inhu Regency, the Internal Control System (SPI) has a significant influence on transparency and accountability, supporting previous research but contradicting the results of other research. The presentation of financial reports does not have a significant effect, confirming previous findings but contrary to other studies. Accessibility influences transparency and



				<p>accountability, according to previous research although there are results that are inconsistent with other findings. Leadership style does not have a significant influence, supporting certain research but contradicting other research. In its totality, the transparency and accountability of regional financial management in Indragiri Hulu Regency is influenced to a large extent by the variables of the internal control system, presentation of financial reports, accessibility, and leadership style at 41.80%, while 54.20% is influenced by other variables not mentioned in that context.</p>
<p>Mulyanto, Nita Andriyani Budiman, Muhammad Nuril Fahmi</p>	<p>Influence of Regional Financial Accounting Systems, Report Presentation Regional Finance, Accessibility of Regional Financial Reports, and Fiscal Decentralization on Financial Management Accountability Regions with Government Internal Control Systems as Variables Moderating</p>	<p>2020</p>	<p>Journal of Economic Frames</p>	<p>The results of this research reveal several important findings regarding the factors that influence accountability in regional financial management. The regional financial accounting system and the presentation of regional financial reports have a negative influence on the accountability of regional financial management, indicating that poor implementation of the system can reduce the level of accountability. On the other hand, fiscal decentralization has a positive influence on regional financial management accountability, indicating that providing fiscal autonomy can increase accountability. Accessibility of regional financial reports does not show a significant influence on accountability. The importance of the government's internal control system is also emphasized because this system strengthens the relationship between the regional financial accounting system and the presentation of regional</p>

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				financial reports with the accountability of regional financial management. However, the government's internal control system weakens the relationship between fiscal decentralization and regional financial accountability, indicating the complexity of understanding the dynamics of fiscal autonomy and accountability in the context of regional financial management.
Dika Kurniawan, Sri Rahayu	The Influence of Presentation of Financial Reports and Accessibility of Financial Reports on Regional Financial Management Accountability (Study at the Regional Secretariat of Mataram City in 2018)	2019	Telkom E-Proceeding Of Management	This research aims to assess the influence of financial report presentation and financial management accessibility on regional financial management accountability at the Mataram City Regional Secretariat in 2018. Based on the results of descriptive analysis, it was found that financial report presentation and financial report accessibility at the Mataram City Regional Secretariat were in a good category, with average scores of 83% and 79% respectively. Simultaneously, the research results show that both the presentation of financial reports and the accessibility of financial reports have a positive effect on financial management accountability. Partially, it was found that the presentation of financial reports and the accessibility of financial reports also had a positive effect on financial management accountability separately. These findings confirm that good financial governance, including the presentation of clear financial reports and adequate accessibility of financial information, plays an important role in increasing the accountability of regional financial management at the

				Mataram City Regional Secretariat in 2018.
Menrokis Purba, Restu Agusti, and Rofika	Presentation of Financial Reports, Internal Control System and Accessibility Report Finance On Accountability Regional Financial Management	2021	CURRENT Journal of Recent Accounting and Business Studies	The findings of this research illustrate the complex relationship between the Government's Internal Control System, Regional Financial Accounting System, Financial Report Quality, and Financial Report Management Accountability. The results show that the Government's Internal Control System has a positive and significant influence on the Quality of Financial Reports, highlighting the importance of internal controls in ensuring good financial reports. Even though the Regional Financial Accounting System does not have a significant influence on the quality of financial reports, the quality of these financial reports has a positive and significant influence on the Accountability of Financial Report Management. Furthermore, the Government Internal Control System and Regional Financial Accounting System each have a significant positive influence on the Accountability of Financial Report Management through the Quality of Financial Reports as an intervening variable, confirming the importance of good internal control and accuracy of financial reports in achieving the desired level of accountability in financial management area.
Dwi Fitri Puspa and Riky Agung Prasetyo	The Influence of Village Government Competence, Internal Control System, and Financial Report Accessibility on Village Fund Management Accountability	2020	Accounting, Auditing & Information Research Media	With the enactment of Law No. 14 concerning Villages, the importance of accountability in managing village finances is the main highlight. This is because village funds provided by the government have significant value. Various research literature identifies variables that influence the

accountability of village funds, including accessibility, competency, internal control systems, presentation of financial reports, and financial accounting systems. This research was conducted in Pariaman City to examine three variables that are thought to influence the accountability of village fund management, namely competence, internal control system, and accessibility. The research results show that competence and the internal control system have a positive influence on accountability in managing village funds, while accessibility does not have a significant influence on this accountability. These findings provide a better understanding of the factors that are important in ensuring accountability of village funds in the Kota Pariaman context.

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The table displays research findings from multiple studies that examined the impact of the presentation and accessibility of regional financial reports on financial management accountability in different regions of Indonesia. In 2017, Miftahul Reza Fauziyah and Nur Handayani conducted a study that demonstrated that the provision of precise financial reports, adhering to accounting standards (SAP), along with easy access to regional financial reports, had a beneficial impact on the accountability of regional financial management in Surabaya. In 2020, Zeny Antika, Yunika Murdayanti, and Hafifah Nasution conducted a study that revealed that the presence of an effective regional financial accounting system, easy access to financial reports, and strong internal control measures had a beneficial effect on the accountability of regional financial management. In 2015, Salomi J. Hehanussa conducted research that emphasized the positive and significant impact of presenting regional financial reports that adhere to government accounting standards and are readily accessible to interested parties on the transparency and accountability of regional financial management in Ambon City. In 2020, a study conducted by Ni Luh Wulan Artini and I Putu Deddy Samtika Putra in Klungkung Regency demonstrated that the provision of regional financial reports had a beneficial impact on the responsibility of regional financial management. However, the availability of financial reports and the internal control system did not exert a noteworthy influence. Additional research also emphasizes the significance of providing high-quality financial reports, efficient internal control, and easy access to financial information as crucial elements in enhancing the accountability of regional financial management in diverse local settings in Indonesia.

## Discussion

According to the findings of the initial hypothesis testing conducted by Puspa & Prasetyo (2020), it is evident that the competence of the village government has a substantial impact on the accountability of village fund management. The results demonstrate that village leaders and treasurers with high competence significantly enhance the accountability of village fund management. This aligns with the fundamental tenets of stewardship theory, which posit that humans possess inherent qualities of trustworthiness and accountability. As stewards of the village government, they are driven to act with integrity and honesty towards the community, who are the principals or parties entitled to receive services and welfare. The stewardship theory highlights that village heads, as executives, possess inherent motivation to act in the best interests of the organization. Within the framework of village governance, the village head assumes a crucial role in attaining the objectives of the village. Nevertheless, the inadequate proficiency of village officials can impede the establishment of accountability in the administration of village funds. If village officials lack competence and the monitoring and evaluation function over the management of village funds is ineffective, the utilization of village funds may deviate from their intended allocation. Hence, the management of village funds falls short of adhering to the anticipated standards of accountability.

The competence of village fund managers is a crucial individual factor within the accountability framework, as it significantly enhances the level of accountability. This study highlights that village government officials possess a relatively low level of competence in effectively managing the substantial allocation of village funds, which is consistent with prior research findings. Prior research conducted by Wuysang et al. (2016) and AndAnggraini et al. (2019) has similarly identified that the primary hindrance to achieving accountable management of village funds is the inadequate proficiency of village officials. The study conducted by Achyarsyah & Rani (2021) provides evidence that there is a positive correlation between the competence of village government officials and the level of accountability in managing village finances. Contrary to expectations, Widayatama's (2017) research findings do not support the hypothesis that competence has a positive impact on accountability. Hence, the inadequate proficiency of village officials is regarded as a primary factor contributing to the deficient level of accountability in the administration of village funds.

The findings from the experimentation of the second hypothesis conducted by Puspa & Prasetyo (2020) indicate that the internal control system has a beneficial impact on the accountability of village fund management. These findings suggest that by implementing an internal control system, organizations can effectively and efficiently carry out activities, produce reliable financial reports, and safeguard assets. This instills assurance that the organization's objectives will be accomplished. The objective of inspectorate supervision is to enhance accountability by assessing and enhancing the internal control system. The findings of this study corroborate the prior research conducted by Batubara (2020) and Wiharti & Novita (2020), indicating that a stronger implementation of internal control within an organization is positively associated with a higher level of accountability in financial management. The implementation of the Government's Internal Control System is crucial for ensuring efficiency, adherence to regulations, and accountability in public financial management. Accountability in the management of village funds can be achieved through the implementation of a government internal control system. This system serves as a framework

for conducting activities in a manner that is effective, efficient, and compliant with regulations, with the ultimate goal of benefiting the village communities.

The findings of this study suggest that accessibility does not exert a beneficial impact on accountability in village financial management. While government financial reports play a crucial role in informing economic, political, and social decisions, as well as evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness of government financial management, this research discovered that the accessibility of information does not impact village accountability. One possible explanation is that the current method of transmitting information is restricted to billboards, which fails to sufficiently enable the community to evaluate the responsibility of village financial management. The community does not consider this basic form of media access to be adequate for enhancing accountability in the management of village funds, according to estimates. While these findings align with the study conducted by Lestari et al. (2019), they contradict the research conducted by Putri & Wahyundaru (2020), which demonstrates that the availability of financial reports has a notable and favorable impact on accountability in the management of village finances in Magelang Regency.

#### **4. Conclusion**

The study's findings offer a comprehensive understanding of the influence of accessibility and presentation of regional financial reports on financial management accountability in different Indonesian contexts. The research findings indicate that the competence of the village government is crucial in enhancing accountability. Studies indicate that village leaders and village treasurers with high levels of competence have a favorable influence on the transparency and responsibility in managing village funds. Nevertheless, the inadequate proficiency of village officials in various locations poses a significant hindrance to the attainment of responsible administration of village funds, as per the principles of stewardship theory, which highlights the importance of trust and accountability. Moreover, the research findings also indicate that a proficient internal control system is a crucial element in enhancing accountability. The implementation of a robust internal control system guarantees that organizational activities are conducted efficiently, transparently, and in compliance with regulations. Inspectorate supervision and evaluation of the internal control system are crucial in this context to guarantee the integrity of village financial management.

Furthermore, a noteworthy discovery pertains to the availability of financial reports. Contrary to intuition, research indicates that limited accessibility through billboards or basic media has not resulted in a substantial increase in accountability. These results demonstrate the intricate nature of the connection between accessibility and accountability in the realm of village fund management. Public financial literacy and the effectiveness of publication media may significantly impact the relationship between the accessibility of financial reports and accountability.

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