

## The Influence of Auditor Characteristics on Audit Report Lag in Property and Real Estate Sector Companies

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### ABSTRACT

This study aims to determine the influence of Auditor Industry Specialization, Auditor Reputation, Auditor Gender, Auditor Education Level and Company Operation Complexity on Audit Report Lag with the Property and Real Estate Sector listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) for the period 2021 - 2023 as the population of the research object. Sampling was done using the purposive sampling technique, which was obtained by 14 companies so that the number of samples used was 42 observation data. The data analysis used in this study was using SPSS 27. The results of this study show that the variables of Auditor Industry Specialization, Auditor Reputation, Auditor Gender, and Auditor Education Level have no effect on Audit Report Lag. Meanwhile, the complexity of the Company's operations has a positive effect on Audit Report Lag.

**Keywords:** Audit Report Lag, Auditor Industry Specialization, Auditor Reputation, Auditor Gender, Auditor Education Level, and Company Operation Complexity.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Financial statements are used by a company as a valuable source of financial information for investors. These reports will provide important information for users to consider when making decisions (Balqis & NR, 2023). The company's performance is outlined in financial statements that provide important information to shareholders about the company's financial condition and operational activities. Shareholders use the information presented in the financial statements to evaluate the company's performance and determine whether the performance can provide benefits for those who are entitled to be informed about these aspects of the company in order to make the right decisions (Khamisah et al., 2023).

Audit Report Lag (ARL) refers to the duration required to complete an annual financial statement audit until the issuance of the audit report. This can be measured from the number of days it takes to obtain an independent audit report, namely from the end of the period of recording the company's financial statements to the date of entry of the independent audit report (Balqis & NR, 2023). Audit Report Lag is not only affected by the characteristics of the company but also affected by external characteristics. Auditor Reputation and Industry Specialization Auditors are external auditors (Evia et al., 2022). Entities or companies generally prefer to involve auditors who have expertise in a particular industry, as this allows them to issue financial statements that are in accordance with established guidelines (Fasha & Ratmono, 2022).

Basically, the systematic activity of an audit or examination in trying to review and identify findings related to management reports related to the financial activities of the audited company. The purpose of conducting an audit is to demonstrate the level of consistency between the standards and the established management financial statements, after which to inform stakeholders about the findings. Then in the conceptual framework of financial reporting, the information disclosed in financial statements is considered valuable if it meets essential qualitative requirements (Gunawan et al., 2022)

The cause of the length of work completed by management is the lack of supervision from the business side to ensure that workers are not diligent in performing their duties, and the reason for the length of the auditor's work is due to differences of opinion in communication with management as well as the auditor's own abilities (Siahaya et al., 2020). The ability to complete the submission of financial statements on time is essential for the confidentiality and relevance of information to financial statements that can be upheld in the company (Setiawan et al., 2021). It is estimated that by improving the quality of audits in terms of efficiency and time estimation, the amount of time remaining between the closing date of the book and the completion of the audit report will be reduced (Rahmawati & Sudarma, 2021).

Delays in audited financial statements can occur every year. The discipline of issuers in producing audit financial statements is not only delayed but also not in accordance with the regulations of the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX), so that it is the root of the problem of the Audit Report Lag phenomenon. Despite strict regulations regarding annual financial reporting standards from the OJK, there are still many go-public companies that continue to submit their annual financial reports late. Based on monitoring from the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX), in the submission of audited financial statements ending December 31, 2021, the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) announced as many as 91 Listed Companies (Issuers) that have not submitted financial statements until May 9, 2022, so they are subject to a Written Warning I. In the submission of audited financial statements ending as of December 31, 2022, the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) announced as many as 61 Listed Companies (Issuers) that have not submit financial

statements until May 2, 2023, so that they are subject to a Written Warning II and a Fine of IDR 50,000,000.00 ([www.idx.co.id](http://www.idx.co.id)). In the submission of audited financial statements ending December 31, 2023, the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) announced that as many as 137 Listed Companies (Issuers) have not submitted financial statements until April 1, 2024, so they are subject to a Written Warning I ([www.idx.co.id](http://www.idx.co.id)). This shows that some companies experience delays in submitting audited financial statements every year.

In the Property and Real Estate sector companies in the Audit Report Lag phenomenon, there are companies that have repeatedly experienced delays in submitting audited financial statements such as PT Armidian Karyatama Tbk (ARMY), PT Cowell Development Tbk (COWL), PT Hanson International Tbk (MYRX). The company experienced delays in submitting audited financial statements for 3 consecutive years. Non-compliance carried out by this company will certainly have a bad impact on the company itself, such as being sanctioned and may even be delisted from the Indonesia Stock Exchange. In the phenomenon of Audit Report Lag, there are several influences that can cause delays in the submission of audited financial statements, such as Auditor Industry Specialist, Auditor Reputation, Auditor Gender, Auditor Education Level and Company Operation Complexity ([www.idx.co.id](http://www.idx.co.id)).

Industry Specialization Auditors are auditors who specialize in a specific industry and are considered to offer superior audit services because of their in-depth knowledge and expertise in the field (Ghina et al., 2022). Company audits carried out with the help of Auditor Industry Specialization are suspected to help companies in submitting audited financial statements faster, so along with faster completion of audits by auditor specialists compared to non-specialist auditors (Caroline et al., 2023; Gufranita et al., 2022). Auditors are said to be specialists in a company if they have a thorough understanding and experience of the company's operational characteristics. When conducting audit completion methods, auditor specialists usually achieve a higher level of discretion (Zulaikha & Azahra, 2023).

According to (Fasha & Ratmono, 2022) Auditor Industry Specialization has a positive effect on Audit Report Lag. This is similar to research (Daulay & Serly, 2020) which also states that Auditor Industry Specialization has a positive effect on Audit Report Lag, most likely to have a tendency to maintain a good position and relationship with clients. Therefore, a dedicated auditor who performs well in the audit work will plan more and supervise the audit procedure more closely, thus extending the time it takes to produce the audit report. However, research from (Zulaikha & Azahra, 2023) Auditor Industry Specialization has a negative effect on Audit Report Lag. This is similar to research (Ghina et al., 2022) which also states that Auditor Industry Specialization has a negative effect on Audit Report Lag. This conclusion is due to the fact that the Auditor Industry Specialization has greater knowledge, competence, and experience through the operational features of the client's industry, which can help accelerate audit completion and reduce delays in audited financial statements (Khansa et al., 2022; Khasanah et al., 2022).

The Auditor's reputation is a public trust and achievement that has been achieved by the Public Accounting Office (KAP). There are 2 types of Auditor Reputation categories, namely Big Four and Non Big Four, because of the larger professional resources, well-known KAP such as the Big Four KAP have more effective, efficient, and high-quality audits that allow them to complete the audit process faster. Public Accounting Firms (KAP) use short audit times to maintain their reputation, if auditors cannot complete audit reports in a timely manner, they risk losing clients in the following year. Reputable auditors usually have the ability to recognize uncertainties in financial statements. A

company that will run a business will choose a high-quality KAP to reduce this uncertainty (Balqis & NR, 2023).

According to (Balqis & NR, 2023) Auditor Reputation has a negative effect on Audit Report Lag, because Public Accounting Firms (KAP) that are included in the Big Four usually have professional and competent auditors in conducting audits so that they can speed up the audit process, this condition states that the more reliable the auditor, the shorter the period of time it will take for the auditor to complete audit report. This is in line with research (Fasha & Ratmono, 2022) & (Saputri et al., 2021) which also stated that Auditor Reputation has a significant negative effect on Audit Report Lag. Meanwhile, according to (Khairunnisa & Syafruddin, 2021) it is stated that the Auditor's Reputation has a positive effect on Audit Report Lag. This is in line with research (Arumningtyas & Ramadhan, 2019) that Auditor Reputation has a positive effect on Audit Report Lag.

Gender Auditor is one of the personal characteristics that affects attitudes towards work. The physical characteristics of male and female gender auditors are necessary for physical specialization, which results in differences in the performance of social activities. Opinions and views from the community regarding the quality of male and female character determine the characteristics of activities carried out by each gender. Then different approaches in presenting financial statements and dealing with potential delays in the submission of audit results are made possible by the dominance of Gender in managerial structures. Because both male and female auditors have an impact on the submission and completion of audit reports, the gender of auditors is one of the indicators that can have an impact on the process of completing financial statement audits (Fitriana et al., 2024; Nurcahyono, Sinarasri, et al., 2023a).

According to (Ardianingsih & Langelo, 2022) Auditor gender has a negative effect on Audit Report Lag. This is because female auditors tend to complete audit work slowly so that it can take longer, because they are more careful, kind, and thorough in completing the audit process compared to male auditors. To minimize the potential impact on the auditor's ability to complete a financial statement audit, women typically gather additional information and provide significant thought. Meanwhile, according to (Cerelia et al., 2022) Auditor gender has a positive effect on Audit Report Lag, this is because in completing the audit process, both male and female auditors must rely on the audit methods and standards that have been established so that they can consider professionals they (Nurcahyono, Sinarasri, et al., 2023b). So that it can carry out audits in a competent manner and can account for the results of financial statement audits to the client or company being audited and the parties involved.

The level of Auditor Education has an impact on how quickly problems are identified and how quickly audit financial statements are prepared. Higher accounting education can be a good indicator for auditors as well as their managerial and contextual understanding of industry resources. Internal factors of the auditor including their educational background, have an impact on how well they complete the audit process. Thus, individuals who are highly skilled in other professions cannot meet the requirements of audit standards without the necessary training and experience as stated in the audit standards (Febrianingrum et al., 2023). Knowledge in the field of accounting or finance facilitates the preparation of a definite and detailed budget, so that it can improve performance in the company. Better performance in this study can be defined as a delay in the submission of audit reports (Wibowo & Purwaningsih, 2019).

According to (Febrianingrum et al., 2023) the level of Auditor Education has no effect on Audit Report Lag. This is in line with research (Ghina et al., 2022) which also states that

the Auditor Education Level has no effect on Audit Report Lag. Meanwhile, according to (Wibowo & Purwaningsih, 2019) the level of Auditor Education has a negative effect on Audit Report Lag, auditors who have education in the field of accounting or finance to improve performance in budgeting can be more detailed and meticulous, therefore they can better develop and create an expertise. So that good performance can reduce the auditor's delay in submitting the Audit Report Lag.

Enterprise Operations Complexity is the level of complexity of a company demonstrated by a public company that varies depending on the location of its operating units (branches), the variety of markets it serves, and whether the company has subsidiaries or not. The formation of departments as well as the concentration of labor in several units are the main causes of the complexity of the company's operations. As a result, the more complex the operations in the organization, the longer it takes for auditors to audit independent financial statements (Balqis & NR, 2023). The complexity of the company's operations is one of the reasons why audited financial statements are not released on time, for example companies with more subsidiaries will have more complex transactions, and it will take a long time to prepare the company's consolidated financial statements (Khamisah et al., 2023).

According to (Khamisah et al., 2023) The complexity of the Company's Operations has a positive and significant effect on Audit Report Lag. This is in line with research (Mustika & Johnardi, 2023), (Nurkholik & Amaliyah, 2021) which also states that the complexity of the Company's operations has a positive and significant effect on Audit Report Lag. This concludes that the auditor will need more time to complete the audit process, if the higher the increase in the complexity of the company's operations, the longer it will take for the auditor to prepare the audited financial statements in a timely manner. Meanwhile, according to (Adam et al., 2022) that the Complexity of Company Operations has a negative and significant effect on Audit Report Lag. This is in line with research (Ramadhanty & Majidah, 2022) that the Complexity of Corporate Operations has a negative and significant effect on Audit Report Lag. This is because the higher the increase in the complexity of the company's operations, the faster the time it takes for auditors to prepare audit financial statements in a timely manner.

This research is a form of development of research (Febrianingrum et al., 2023). The difference with previous research is by adding independent variables of the complexity of the company's operations and control variables of Firm Size, loss, and ROA and changing the measurement method.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **Agency Theory**

The agency theory proposed by (Jensen & Meckling, 1976) is to explain the relationship between the principal and the agent. The relationship between the principal and the agent refers to the power dynamics between the investor or the party that authorizes the agent to carry it out. According to (Jensen & Meckling, 1976) it is stated that information asymmetry and conflict of interest arise between principal and agent when their interests are not aligned. In order for the agent to be able to conduct business in accordance with the terms of the contract, the principal allocates duties and responsibilities to the agent. Therefore, the agency theory will be used in this study to help explain why shareholders engage a third party, i.e. an independent auditor, to act as an intermediary in the dissemination of information from management to shareholders to ensure there is no conflict of interest between management and shareholders (Jensen & Meckling, 1976).

## **Research Hypothesis**

### **The Effect of Auditor Industry Specialization on Audit Report Lag**

Industry Specialization Auditors are auditors who specialize in a specific industry and are considered to offer superior audit services because of their in-depth knowledge and expertise in the field (Ghina et al., 2022). The agency theory states that an Auditor Industry Specialization is an auditor with expertise in the industry field who has a broad understanding of the operations and characteristics of industrial companies and is more likely to detect problems, identify risks, and be able to complete the audit process effectively and efficiently (Febrianingrum et al., 2023). The statement is supported by (Fasha & Ratmono, 2022) & (Daulay & Serly, 2020) that Auditor Industry Specialization has a positive effect on Audit Report Lag. Most likely to have a tendency to maintain a position and good relationship with clients (Pratiwi et al., 2022). Therefore, a dedicated auditor who performs well in the audit work will plan more and supervise the audit procedure more closely, thus extending the time it takes to produce the audit report.

### **H1: Auditor Industry Specialization has a positive effect on Audit Report Lag**

### **The Effect of Auditor Reputation on Audit Report Lag**

The Auditor's reputation is a public trust and achievement that has been achieved by the Public Accounting Office. There are 2 types of reputation auditor categories, namely Big Four and Non Big Four, due to larger professional resources, well-known KAP such as the Big Four KAP have more effective, efficient, and high-quality audits that allow them to complete the audit process faster. Public Accounting Firms use short audit times to maintain their reputation, if auditors cannot complete audit reports in a timely manner, they risk losing clients in the following year (Azzahra et al., 2023). Reputable auditors usually have the ability to recognize irregularities in financial statements. A company that will conduct business will choose a high-quality KAP to reduce uncertainty (Balqis & NR, 2023). Agency theory states that Auditor Reputation is divided into 2 categories, namely Big Four and Non Big Four, because of larger professional resources, well-known KAP such as the Big Four KAP have more effective, efficient, and high-quality audits that allow them to complete the audit process faster (Balqis & NR, 2023). This statement is supported by (Khairunnisa & Syafruddin, 2021) and (Arumningtyas & Ramadhan, 2019) which states that Auditor Reputation has a positive effect on audit report lag.

### **H2: Auditor reputation has a positive effect on Audit Report Lag**

### **The Effect of Gender Auditor on Audit Report Lag**

Gender Auditor is one of the personal characteristics that affects attitudes towards work. The physical characteristics of male and female gender auditors are necessary for physical specialization, which results in differences in the performance of social activities. Opinions and views from the community regarding the quality of male and female character determine the characteristics of activities carried out by each gender. Then different approaches in presenting financial statements and dealing with potential delays in the submission of audit results are made possible by the dominance of Gender in managerial structures. Because both male and female auditors have an impact on the submission and completion of audit reports, the gender of auditors is one of the indicators that can have an impact on the process of completing financial statement audits (Ardianingsih & Langelo, 2022). Agency Theory on Gender Auditors can help complete the audit process, because male and female auditors have different qualities. Male auditors are more aggressive, objective, independent and more oriented in a job, while female auditors are more likely to complete audit work slowly so that it can take longer (Febrianingrum et al., 2023). The research is supported by (Cerelia et al., 2022) Gender auditors have a positive effect on Audit Report Lag, this is because in completing the

audit process, both male and female auditors must rely on predetermined audit methods and standards so that they can consider professionals they. So that it can carry out audits in a competent way and can account for the results of financial statement audits to the client or the audited company and the parties involved

### **H3: Gender Auditor has a positive effect on Audit Report Lag**

#### **The Effect of Auditor Education Level on Audit Report Lag**

The level of Auditor Education has an impact on how quickly problems are identified and how quickly audit financial statements are prepared. Higher accounting education can be a good indicator for auditors as well as their managerial and contextual understanding of industry resources. Internal factors of the auditor including their educational background, have an impact on how well they complete the audit process (Videsia et al., 2022). Thus, individuals who are highly skilled in other professions cannot meet the requirements of audit standards without the necessary training and experience as stated in the audit standards (Febrianingrum et al., 2023). Knowledge in the field of accounting or finance facilitates the preparation of a definite and detailed budget, so that it can improve performance in the company. Better performance in this study can be defined as a delay in the submission of audit reports (Wibowo & Purwaningsih, 2019). The agency's theory states that a higher Auditor Education Level can reflect the quality of auditors and demonstrate that they have a managerial and contextual understanding of resources in the industry, thereby speeding up the identification of problems and shortening the time required to prepare audited financial statements (Febrianingrum et al., 2023). According to (Wibowo & Purwaningsih, 2019) The level of Auditor Education has a negative effect on Audit Report Lag, auditors who have education in the field of accounting or finance to improve performance in budgeting can be more detailed and thorough, therefore they can better develop and create an expertise. So that good performance can reduce the auditor's delay in submitting the Audit Report Lag.

### **H4: Auditor Education Level has a negative effect on Audit Report Lag**

#### **The Effect of the Complexity of Corporate Operations on Audit Report Lag**

Corporate Operations Complexity is the level of complexity of a company shown by a public company that varies depending on the location of its operating units (branches), the variety of markets it serves, and whether the company has subsidiaries or not. The formation of departments as well as the concentration of labor in several units are the main causes of the complexity of the company's operations. As a result, the more complex the operations in the organization, the longer it takes for auditors to audit independent financial statements (Nurcahyono, Hanum, et al., 2023; Rahma et al., 2022).

Agency Theory on the Complexity of Corporate Operations in agency theory also states that the more complex a company is, the more complex the transaction, this is because the consolidated financial statements need to be audited by an auditor, which adds to the complexity of the audit and takes a long time to complete the audited financial statements (Mustika & Johnardi, 2023). This statement is supported by (Khamisah et al., 2023), (Mustika & Johnardi, 2023), (Nurkholik & Amaliyah, 2021) that the Complexity of the Company's Operations has a positive and significant effect on Audit Report Lag. This concludes that the auditor will need more time to complete the audit process if the higher the increase in the complexity of the company's operations, the longer it will take the auditor to prepare the audited financial statements in a timely manner, and vice versa.

### **H5: The complexity of the Company's operations has a positive effect on Audit Report Lag**

## RESEARCH METHOD

### Type of Research

This study uses a type of quantitative research methodology accompanied by a descriptive approach. Quantitative research is research that uses scientific methods by fulfilling objective, observed, measurable, logical and empirical principles. The purpose of this study is to characterize and understand the relationship between interrelated variables to explain opportunities, populations, events, as well as to determine the influence of Auditor Industry Specialization, Auditor Reputation, Auditor Gender, Auditor Education Level, and Company Operation Complexity on Audit Report Lag with Firm Size, Loss and Return On Assets (ROA) as a control variable for the Property and Real Estate company sector listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) in the period of 2021 – 2023. The population of this study is companies in the Property and Real Estate sector listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) in the period of 2021 – 2023, the sampling method used is purposive sampling. The operational definition is as follows.

**Table 1.** Variable Measurement

Variable	Measurement
Auditor Specialization	$AIS = \left( \frac{\sum KAP \text{ clients in industry}}{\sum \text{all companies in industry}} \times \frac{KAP \text{ client assets in industry}}{\text{assets all companies in industry}} \right)$
Auditor Reputation	KAP Big Four = 1, maka KAP Non Big Four = 0
Gender Auditor	female auditor = 1, male auditor = 0
Auditor Education Level	auditor master/Ph.D = 1, non auditor master/Ph.D = 0
The Complexity of Corporate Operations	A company that has a subsidiary is given a value of 1, if the company does not have a subsidiary then it is given a value of 0.
Firm Size	Total assets in Ln company (Total Assets)
Loss	If a company finds a loss in the fiscal year, it is given a value of 1, if it does not find a loss in the fiscal year, it is given a value of 0.
Return on Assets	$ROA = \frac{Net \ Profit}{Total \ Assets} \times 100\%$
Audit Report Lag	ARL = Audit Report Date – Financial Statement Date

The data analysis in this study used multiple linear regression. The regression equation is as follows:

$$Y = \alpha - \beta_1 SIA - \beta_2 RA - \beta_3 GEN - \beta_4 EDU - \beta_5 KOP - \beta_6 SIZE - \beta_7 LOSS - \beta_8 ROA + e$$

Based on the regression equation above, Y is Audit Report Lag,  $\alpha$  is Constant, SIA is Auditor Industry Specialization, RA is Auditor Reputation, GEN is Auditor Gender, EDU is Auditor Education Level, KOP is Company Operation Complexity, SIZE is Company Size, LOSS is Loss, ROA is Return on Assets, e is Standard error.



## RESULTS

Descriptive statistics can effectively describe how data is distributed in order to evaluate the accuracy of the research. Descriptive statistics for the variables used in this study have been presented in Table 1 which can be seen the distribution of the data through the min, max, mean, and standard deviation values. The test results of this Descriptive Statistics show that the value of the standard deviation of 0.43108 is smaller than the average value of 0.7619, and the average of companies in the property and real estate sector in the Auditor Industry Specialization is relatively higher. This is shown through the average value that is close to the maximum value. Auditor Reputation has a standard deviation of 0.44500 greater than the average value of 0.2619, and the average property and real estate sector companies in Auditor Reputation is relatively lower. This is shown through the average value that is close to the minimum value.

**Table 2.** Descriptive Statistics

Variable	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Auditor Industry Specialization	0.00	1.00	0.7619	0.43108
Auditor Reputation	0.00	1.00	0.2619	0.44500
Gender Auditor	0.00	1.00	0.0714	0.26066
Auditor Education Level	0.00	1.00	0.5238	0.50549
The Complexity of Corporate Operations	0.00	1.00	0.8571	0.35417
Firm Size	15.67	29.87	25.7788	3.82412
Loss	0.00	1.00	0.3571	0.48497
Return on Assets	0.05	18.38	3.9986	4.47879
Audit Report Lag	55.00	175.00	88.6905	20.22253

Gender Auditor has a standard deviation of 0.26066 which is greater than the average value of 0.0714, and the average property and real estate sector company in Gender Auditor is relatively lower. This is shown through the average value that is close to the minimum value. The Auditor Education Level has a standard deviation of 0.50549 which is smaller than the average value of 0.5238, and the average property and real estate sector companies at the Auditor Education Level is relatively higher. This is shown through the average value that is close to the maximum value. The Company's Operating Complexity has a standard deviation of 0.35417, which is smaller than the average value of 0.8571, and the average of companies in the property and real estate sector in the Company's Operating Complexity is relatively higher. This is shown through the average value that is close to the maximum value. The Audit Report Lag has a standard deviation of 20.22253, which is smaller than the average value of 88.6905, and the average of companies in the property and real estate sector in the Audit Report Lag is relatively lower. This is shown through the average value that is close to the minimum value.

**Table 3.** Uji Regresi Berganda

Variable	Beta	Sig
Auditor Industry Specialization	-0.381	0.127
Auditor Reputation	0.232	0.238
Gender Auditor	-0.097	0.597
Auditor Education Level	-0.099	0.626
The Complexity of Corporate Operations	0.015	0.925
Firm Size	0.465	0.043
Loss	-0.035	0.854
Return on Assets	-0.496	0.008
R-Square	0.316	

## **DISCUSSION**

### **The Effect of Auditor Industry Specialization on Audit Report Lag**

Industry Specialization Auditors are auditors who specialize in a specific industry and are considered to offer superior audit services because of their in-depth knowledge and expertise in the field (Ghina et al., 2022). The results of the study in Table 2 show that the Auditor Industry Specialization variable is not negatively significant to audit report lag, because it has a significance of  $0.127 > 0.05$  with a negative beta value. The conclusion is that the Auditor Industry Specialization has greater knowledge, competence, and experience through the operational features of the client's industry, which can help accelerate the completion of audits and reduce the delay in audit financial statements.

The Auditor's reputation is a public trust with achievements that have been achieved by the Public Accounting Office. There are 2 types of Auditor Reputation categories, namely the Big Four and Non-Big Four, due to larger professional resources, well-known KAP such as the Big Four KAP have more effective, efficient, and high-quality audits that allow them to complete the audit process faster (Balqis & NR, 2023). The results showed that the Auditor Reputation variable was not positively significant, because it had a significance of  $0.238 > 0.05$  with a positive beta value. The conclusion is that the findings of this study show that KAP that audits companies, both Big Four and non-Big Four KAP, does not affect how long it takes for the company to submit financial statements (Ermawati et al., 2023).

Gender Auditor is one of the personal characteristics that affects attitudes towards work. Physical characteristics of male and female auditors are required for physical specialization, which results in differences in social activity performance (Ardianingsih & Langelo, 2022). The results showed that the Gender Auditor variable was not negatively significant to the audit report lag, because it had a significance of  $0.597 > 0.05$  with a negative beta value. It can be concluded that female auditors tend to complete audit work slowly so that it can take longer, because they are more careful, kind, and thorough in completing the audit process compared to male auditors (Putra et al., 2021; Setiawan et al., 2021). To minimize the potential impact on the auditor's ability to complete a financial statement audit, women typically gather additional information and provide significant thought.

The level of Auditor Education has an impact on how quickly problems are identified and how quickly audit financial statements are prepared. Higher accounting education can be a good indicator for auditors as well as their managerial and contextual understanding of industry resources (Febrianingrum et al., 2023). The results showed that the variable of Auditor Education Level was not negatively significant to the audit report lag, because it had a significance of  $0.925 > 0.05$  with a negative beta value.

Corporate Operations Complexity is the level of corporate complexity demonstrated by a public company that varies depending on the location of its operating units (branches), the variety of markets it serves, and whether or not the company has subsidiaries (Balqis & NR, 2023). The results showed that the variable of the Company's Operation Complexity had a positive effect on the audit report lag, with a beta value of 0.015 and a sig of  $0.925 > 0.05$ . This concludes that the auditor will need more time to complete the audit process if the higher the increase in the complexity of the company's operations, the longer it will take for the auditor to prepare the audited financial statements in a timely manner (Agustin et al., 2023).

## **CONCLUSION**

This study aims to determine the empirical influence of Auditor Industry Specialization, Auditor Reputation, Auditor Gender, Auditor Education Level and Complexity of Company Operations on Audit Report Lag in Property and Real Estate Sector companies listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) in 2021 – 2023. Based on the discussion and results obtained that the Auditor Industry Specialization has no effect on Audit Report Lag, this is because the Auditor Industry Specialization is considered to have broader and deeper knowledge so that it can complete the task quickly, but in reality it is not always a specialist auditor who has superior expertise and broader audit experience than a non-specialist auditor. The Auditor's reputation has no effect on Audit Report Lag, this shows that the companies audited by KAP, both Big Four KAP and Non-Big Four KAP do not affect the length of time in completing the audited financial statements by the company. Gender Auditor Auditor does not affect Audit Report Lag, this shows that in completing the audit requires an in-depth study, so it requires a consideration of the auditor's judgement and the ability of professional male and female auditors, so that it does not affect the performance of the auditor in completing the audited financial statements by the company. The level of Auditor Education has no effect on Audit Report Lag, this shows that if many public accountants carry out a professional auditor education level, the quality of the audit will decrease so that it can affect the delay in completing the audit financial statements by the company later. While the complexity of the Company's operations has a positive effect on Audit Report Lag, this is because the auditor will need more time to complete the audit process if the higher the increase in the complexity of the company's operations, the longer it will take for the auditor to prepare the audit financial statements in a timely manner.

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