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Comparison of Indonesian telecomunication companies performance and its disclosure of corporate social responsibility in the pandemic context

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ABSTRACT
The telecommunications industry plays a key role in economic development, general human wellbeing, and population growth, which drives people's needs for communication even during the CO-19 epidemic. Significant changes have been made to human existence as a result of the Covid-19 epidemic, notably in Indonesia. The financial performance and CSR disclosure of Indonesian telecoms businesses listed on the Jakarta Stock Exchange in the years 2018 through 2021, both before and after the Covid-19 epidemic, are compared in this study. Purposive sampling was performed in this investigation, and 18 businesses were judged to be suitable for use as samples. The secondary data used in this study was obtained from the Indonesia Stock Exchange's official website. Descriptive statistics, a normality test, and other tests are the analysis methods employed (paired sample t-test). According to the study's findings, there were variations in the debt-to-equity ratio, current ratio, and return on equity before and after the co-19 epidemic. Corporate social responsibility, meanwhile, was the same before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. The variance in financial performance metrics (such as Return on Equity, Current Ratio, and Debt to Equity Ratio) and corporate social responsibility disclosure before and during the Covid-19 pandemic can therefore be taken into account by companies when evaluating how to enhance and restore financial performance and corporate social responsibility disclosure after the pandemic.

KEYWORDS
Return On Equity; Current Ratio; Debt to Equity Ratio; Corporate Social Responsibility

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Introduction

Even though the CO-19 pandemic is going on, people's communication requirements are still being driven by the telecommunications industry because it is so important to the growth of the economy, to the well-being of humans, and to population growth. Particularly in Indonesia, the Covid-19 pandemic has had a substantial influence on human existence. One of these is the significant effect that the government's imposition of community activity restrictions (PPKM) and large-scale social restrictions (PSBB), as well as all remotely conducted community activities, has had in Indonesia. Also included in this category are all community activities that take place remotely. The Association of Indonesian Internet Service Companies (APJII) and the Indonesia Survey Center (ISC) collaborated on a survey, the findings of which showed that in 2018, internet users in Indonesia accounted for 64.80% of the country's overall population of 171.17 million internet users. In 2019-2020, there were approximately 196.714 million people in Indonesia who used the internet. This represented 73.70 percent of the country's overall population. In addition to this, by the year 2021, this number will have increased to 210.026 million, which will constitute more than 77.02% of the overall population of Indonesia. It is anticipated that this new development will have an effect on the financial performance of telecommunications businesses in Indonesia that provide internet services, as well as statistics on corporations' responsibilities to their communities (CSR).

In order to continue and develop into a good, superior business that benefits the community by making day-to-day activities easier, every telecommunications and network firm in Indonesia must have a favorable financial performance. This is necessary for the firms to be able to survive in the country. Financial performance is the effort that each company makes to measure and evaluate each profit-generating success in order for the company to recognize the prospects, growth, and future developments that have been achieved. This is done in order for the company to be able to make informed decisions about its own future. When a company's standards and goals are accomplished, then that company can be considered successful. The authors Sundjaja and Berlian believe that a company's financial success is an encouraging indication of the possibility for the company's future progression and development (2003). The evaluation of potential shifts in economic resources necessitates the collection of data pertaining to past financial performance in order to anticipate the capability of available resources to produce output.

When purchasing shares on the stock exchange, investors will take a company's financial achievement into consideration as one of the factors. The company's financial achievement is represented in the published financial records, which are available to the public. Additionally, the financial performance of a business is a factor that can

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be used to determine whether or not the company has fulfilled its organizational objectives, which include profit and sustainability (Sembiring, 2005). An examination of a company's financial performance is carried out in order to ascertain the degree to which it has followed and put into practice the financial implementation standards. Profitability, capital flow, and stability are the three pillars upon which this definition of financial achievement is built (leverage). Tools for analyzing financial performance will be of the greatest use in the annual report of the business, which includes studies on social responsibility, the environment, and the economy. The Return on Equity (ROE), the Current Ratio, and the Debt to Equity number are some of the instruments that can be used to analyze a company's financial performance (DER).

The profitability ratio, also known as the return on equity (ROE) ratio, investigates a company's ability to generate earnings at a given amount of sales, assets, and share capital. This ratio can be determined by using the return on equity (ROE) ratio. The following is the average Return On Equity (ROE) number that Indonesian Telecommunications Companies that are listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange will have achieved during the timeframe 2018-2021:

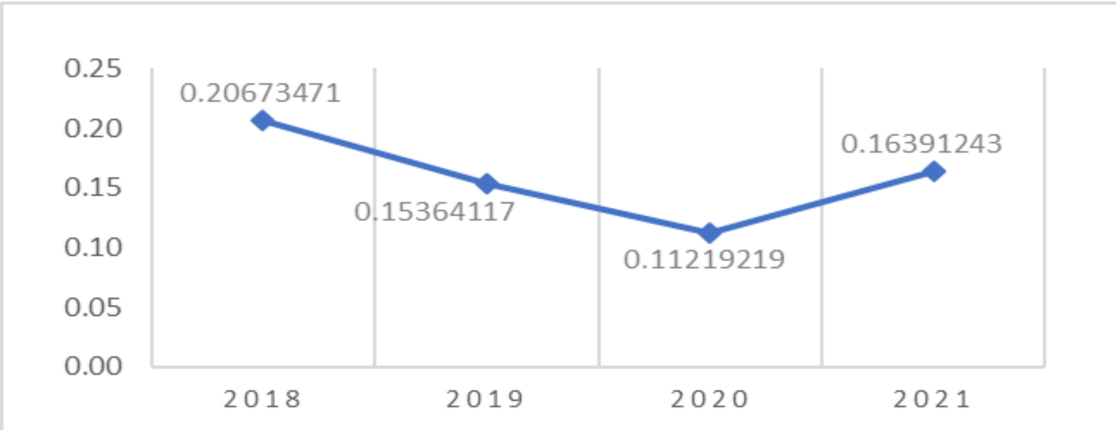

Figure 1. Average Value of ROE of Indonesian Telecommunications Companies on the Indonesia Stock Exchange 2018-2021

As can be seen in the picture to the right, the average return on equity (ROE) for Indonesian telephone companies that are listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange has fluctuated between the years 2018 and 2021. Before making a purchase decision, one of the most essential considerations that customers give attention to is their return on equity (ROE). Return on equity (ROE) is a measure of a company's capacity to make a profit after accounting for its taxable income while making effective use of its resources. Investors will be interested in this metric of revenue, also known as the percentage of total profit that can be distributed to various stakeholders.

The current ratio (CR) is a ratio that is used to measure a company's ability to meet its short-term obligations that are about to become due. According to Hanafi and Halim (2016), the liquidity ratio is a ratio that measures a company's ability to meet its short-term obligations. This ability can be measured using the current ratio (CR), which is a ratio that measures a company's ability to meet its short-term obligations that are about to become due. The following is an example of what the typical Current Ratio (CR) of Indonesian Telephone Companies that are listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange will look like during the timeframe of 2018-2021:

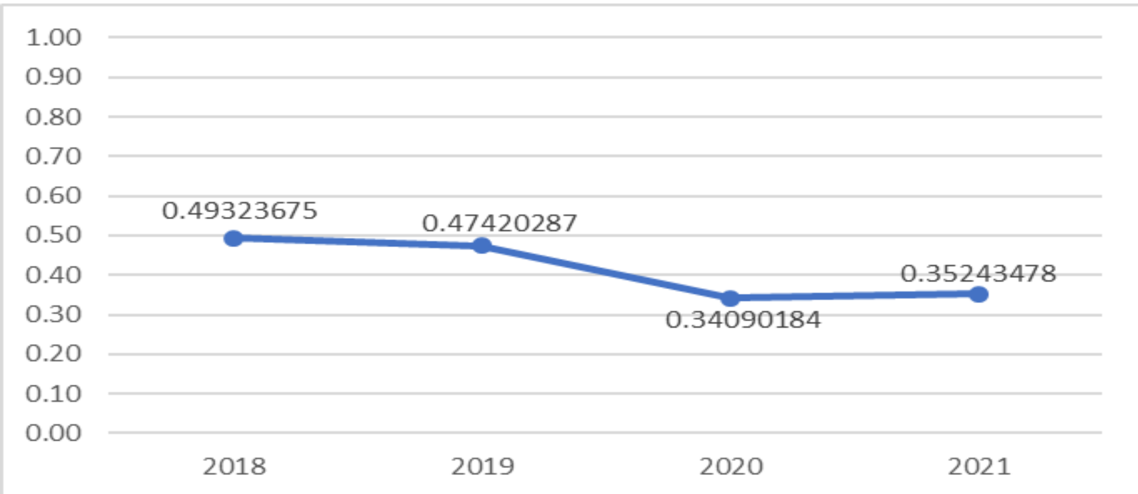

Figure 2. The Average CR Value of Indonesian Telecommunication Companies on the Indonesia Stock Exchange for 2018-2021

From 2018 to 2021, the average Current Ratio (CR) figure for Indonesian telecoms firms traded on the Indonesia Stock Exchange fluctuated, as shown in the chart above. The higher the current ratio, the better the company's ability to fulfill its short-term obligations, attracting investors and pushing up the share price. According to Hanafi and Halim (2016), the solvency ratio (leverage) is a ratio that evaluates how well a company will be able to fulfill its long-term obligations by evaluating how well it will be able to pay off all existing loans using all of its available assets. The Equity Ratio can be used to calculate debt (DER). The average Debt to Equity Ratio (DER) for Indonesian Telephone Businesses Listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange from 2018 to 2021 is as follows:

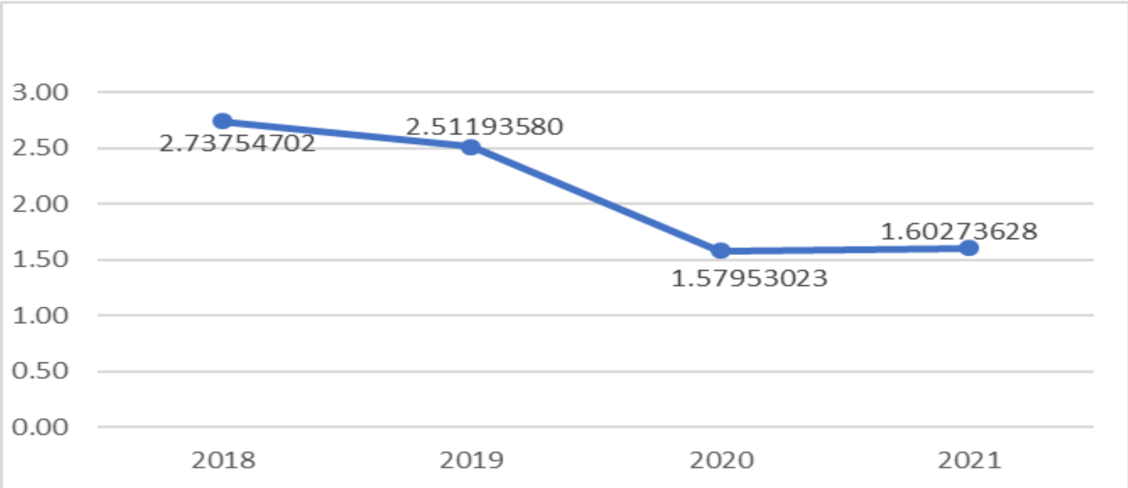

Figure 3. Average Value of DER Ratio of Indonesian Telecommunications Companies on the Indonesia Stock Exchange 2018-2021

According to the figure above, the average Debt to Equity Ratio (DER) amount for Indonesian Telephone Companies Listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange in 2018-2021 varied (DER). The debt to stock ratio shows the amount of money required to settle debts and demonstrates the company's capacity to fulfill its obligations (DER). The debt to equity ratio is a way of calculating a company's overall capacity to serve as protection for all of its obligations (DER). The DER number's size shows how capital-dependent the company is, how much debt it retains in contrast to equity, and how much interest it pays to third parties.

Corporate social responsibility (CSR), which refers to an organization's commitment to promoting long-term economic development by balancing economic, social, and environmental concerns (also known as the triple bottom line), arose from the realization that a company's sustainability efforts cannot be separated from its external environment (Suhandri M. Putri, 2007). Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) asserts that businesses conduct business not only for the benefit of shareholders, but also for consumers. Its goal is to encourage businesses to be more accountable in their activities so that they do not adversely impact society or the environment. Companies that engage in CSR activities will consider the impact of their operations on society, employees, and the environment.

According to Guthrie and Mathews, one sort of voluntary openness that companies are increasingly obliged to disclose is information on corporate social responsibility (Sembiring, 2005). The wish of the general public and finance report users to learn about the impact of a company's business activities leads to the sharing of corporate social responsibility. Corporate Social Responsibility is an accounting concept that encourages businesses to uphold their social and environmental obligations. Since the early 1970s, people have been aware of the concept of corporate social responsibility, which is generally understood to be a set of policies and practices relating to stakeholders, values, legal compliance, community and environmental respect, and the business community's commitment to sustainable development (Sustainable Development). As a result, a CSR project is more appropriate if it is classified as an expense and integrated into a company's business strategy (Siregar, 2007).

It must include information about company social obligations (CSR). Because of CSR, businesses can develop successfully and acquire a good image in society, making it easier for them to obtain finance (money), keep better human resources, and make more informed decisions about critical problems (Effendi, 2007). Managers use CSR projects as a defense mechanism or as an entrenchment strategy to protect the firm's reputation and save the manager's personal employment from the consequences of their actions in managing corporate earnings. Managers who impact profits, according to Prior et al. (2008), engage in Charity activities to keep stockholder links and receive support. Many people think that a business is only concerned with profits. It is difficult to have good objectives and goals while also harming the environment, community, and job rights. As a result, providing financial overview statistics in a prompt way is challenging. Nonetheless, CSR will have an effect on the company's income in the long run, both directly and tangentially. Managers also want a positive public perception of their investment as well as public confidence in their business. As a result, if CSR activities are carried out in a sustainable manner, the business will be able to function efficiently. Based on the preceding, this study attempted to determine the extent to which financial performance—as assessed by profitability, solvency, security (leverage), and corporate social responsibility declaration—causes the effect of parallels.

Literature review

Stakeholder theory

According to Chariri and Ghazali (2007), stakeholder theory contends that a company is not an organism that acts solely for its own advantage but must also benefit its stakeholders (shareholders, creditors, consumers, suppliers, government, community, and other parties). According to Bertens (2000), stakeholders are individuals or organizations with an interest in a business, such as shareholders, management, employees, suppliers, consumers, the community surrounding or surrounding the company's environment (local community), the general public, the government, and the environment.

Stakeholder theory emphasizes corporate accountability that extends far beyond monetary or economic outcomes. In order to meet stakeholders' reasonable demands, businesses, according to this theory, would willingly share information about their environmental, social, and intellectual success in addition to meeting with legal requirements. Stakeholder theory has managerial and social (moral) areas. According to the ethical community, managers must operate their companies in such a way that all stakeholders profit, and all stakeholders have a right to demand equitable treatment from the company. According to the stakeholder theory, a company can only live if its stakeholders back it, so the firm's activities must also consider their consent. As partners gain power, the company must progressively adjust to them. Interaction between the company and constituents is required when disclosing social and environmental problems.

Legitimacy theory

Accounting researchers, especially those working in the area of social and environmental accounting, have increasingly used validity theory over the last ten years (Deegan, 2006). Shareholder theory and justice theory are inextricably linked. According to legitimacy theory, businesses are always looking for methods to ensure that their actions adhere to social standards and constraints. According to the validity theory, a company will disclose its activities freely if management thinks it is what the community wants to see. The notion that a "social compact" exists between a group and the community in which it operates is at the heart of validity theory. The social compact explains several society standards about how a group should operate its operations. These societal standards do not remain constant over time. Companies must be sensitive to the setting in which they function.

Profitability

Income metrics demonstrate a firm's capacity to generate a fair profit and return on investment. The figures represent the company's financial security and asset management (Lesakova, 2007). A business must be effective in order to maintain a certain level of revenue, assets, and share capital over a specific time period. There are numerous techniques for determining a company's performance based on how profits, assets, and money are contrasted. A larger sales proportion increases the company's ability to produce significant profits. This may entice purchasers, resulting in an increase in the company's stock price (Satryo, 2017). Profit ratios are ratios used to assess the efficacy of using business assets or the ability of a company to generate profits for a particular period (usually semi-annually, quarterly, etc.) to decide the company's ability to operate successfully, according to Susan Irawati (2006).

Liquidity

Liquidity, according to Syafrida Hani (2015), is a company's capacity to satisfy all debts that are immediately outstanding or due. The liquidity ratio is defined as "the proportion of real money on the balance sheet to short term obligations" (Saleem, 2011). The term "realistic money" refers to moveable assets as well as other assets that have been reduced in value. Ratio analysis is a common method for evaluating a company's financial records and developing principles that make straightforward financial sense. Liquidity is the amount of money that a business has available to pay off all of its outstanding commitments. Meanwhile, Bambang Riyanto (2010) connects a company's capacity to meet pressing financial commitments to solvency. Density, depth, and longevity are three essential liquidity components that must be maintained in order to maintain a company's or organization's level of liquidity and economic security.

Solvability

The use of assets and sources of funding by businesses with constant expenses (fixed spending), which originate from sources of financing from loans with a defined burden, in order to raise the potential returns of shareholders, is referred to as solvency (Sjahrial et al., 2017). According to Prabowo and Marsono (2013), liquidity is defined as the proportion of total debt to total assets that has a major impact. This is due to how the market responds negatively when a business reports a loss. In contrast, if a business makes a lot of money, it will want to inform investors and other parties who rely on its data as soon as possible. In the event of insolvency, the "solvvability ratio" assesses a company's ability to pay its long-term debts. The debt-to-equity ratio (DER), the total debt-to-assets ratio (DAR), and the interest rate ratio are all examples of liquidity ratios (Ningsih, 2019).

Corporate social responsibility

Beyond statutory social responsibility, corporate social responsibility permits companies to actively incorporate a concern for the social ecology into their operations and relationships with partners (Mu'man, 2015). Simply put, corporate social responsibility is a concept as well as actions taken by an organization out of a sense of social responsibility and the environment in which it operates, such as participating in an activity that can improve the welfare of the surrounding community, constructing public facilities, providing scholarships to underprivileged children, and providing financial assistance for the welfare of the community in general and the community in which the organization is located.

Corporate social responsibility disclosure refers to the process of communicating the social and environmental impacts of an organization's economic actions to specific interest groups and society at large. Social transparency, company social reporting, social accounting, and corporate social responsibility are additional terms for it (Suparnyo, 2014). This exceeds the organization's normal legal requirement to provide financial documents to capital proprietors, specifically shareholders. Its expansion was predicated on the notion that corporations are responsible for more than just shareholder profits (Sembiring, 2005). The social contract theory and societal obligation are interrelated concepts. According to this theory, a tacit or explicit social contract exists between society and the operation of the business. Parker defines social accounting as a collection of data collection and dissemination techniques used in the social contract to enable the general public to evaluate the social success of organizations and to provide an assessment of the viability of organizational operations (Edi, 2020). Business responsibility also requires determining whether a company has complied with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations, such as those governing waste, health and safety, and the dangers associated with the use of hazardous substances.

Corporate responsibility must encompass not only a company's financial success but also the social issues that its daily actions contribute to. According to Ivan Sevic (Hasibuan, 2001), social responsibility refers to a company's obligation to act in ways that benefit its consumers, society, and the environment. According to Edi, corporations must also contribute actively to the general welfare of society (2020).

Methods

This study method is descriptive quantitative, which means it explains the traits of the group or event being investigated. This study employs quantitative observational research to gather in-depth and complete data on financial performance contrasts and corporate social responsibility statements at Indonesian Telephone Companies traded on the IDX before and during the Covid-19 epidemic.

Population and Sample

The populace is a broad category of items or topics with specific traits and characteristics that have been decided to be researched and ended. For the 2018-2021 timeframe, the group in this research is Indonesian Telephone Businesses registered on the Indonesia Stock Exchange. The sample is a subset of the community, and it is intended to be representative of the study group (Kuncoro, 2003). Purposive selection was used to collect the population for this research. Purposive sampling, according to Umar (2004), is a sample selection method based on previously known demographic traits. Based on the survey parameters, Indonesian telecoms firms traded on the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) from 2018 to 2021 were included in the research.

No.	Company name	Company code
1.	PT XL Axiata Tbk	EXCL
2.	PT Smartfren Telecom Tbk	FREN
3.	PT Indosat Tbk	ISAT
4.	PT Telkom Indonesia Tbk	TLKM
5.	PT First Media Tbk	KBLV
6.	PT Link Net Tbk	LINK
7.	PT Sarana Menara Nusantara Tbk	TOWR
8.	PT Dayamitra Telekomunikasi Tbk	MITRATEL
9.	PT Tower Bersama Insfrastruktur Tbk	TBIG

Data sources

This study utilizes quantifiable, time-series data from 2018 to 2021 as supplementary information. Through intermediary channels, it is possible to acquire data sources tangentially. These figures are available on the Indonesian Stock Exchange (IDX) website, www.idx.co.id, in the financial and annual reports of Indonesian telecommunication firms traded on the IDX from 2018 to 2021. The method of data collection for this investigation is a literature review and recording. The literature review was conducted by exploring and reviewing a variety of literature, including books, journals, articles, theses, and financial and annual reports of Indonesian telecommunications companies listed on the IDX from 2018 to 2021, which were published on the Indonesian Stock Exchange (IDX) website www.idx.co.id and other sources pertinent to this research.

Data analysis

In order to acquire results from a research, the most important stage is to analyze the data. The procedure of accumulating data for analysis is referred to as "data analysis." Processing of the data happened both during and after the acquisition of the data. After data has been gathered from all interviewees, whether they be members of the public or members of a group, the quantitative analysis method used in this research seeks to make recommendations for next steps. Data analysis involves: 1) grouping data based on variables and types of respondents, 2) tabulating data according to variables from all respondents, 3) presenting data for each variable examined, 4) performing calculations to answer the problem formulation, and 5) processing data to test hypotheses (Sugiyono, 2018).

Results

Descriptive statistics before the Covid-19 pandemic

The objective of this analysis is to present a brief overview or description of the data in the variables based on the average, minimum, maximum, and standard deviation values. This research uses telecommunications firms registered on the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) prior to the Covid-19 outbreak in 2018-2019. Based on the sampling that has been done, obtained nine companies with 18 total data (N).

The following are the results of descriptive statistics before the Covid-19 pandemic:

Table 1. Descriptive statistics before the Covid-19 pandemic

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
CR	18	0.06	0.98	0.4837	0.28635
DER	18	0.27	6.91	2.6247	2.02885
ROE	18	0.04	0.29	0.1802	0.06945
CSR	18	0.03	0.12	0.0842	0.02944
Valid N (listwise)	18				

Figure 4.1 shows that the ROE variable can reach a highest value of 0.29, which corresponds to a percentage of 29%. This value was achieved by PT Smartfren Telecom Tbk in 2018. This maximal value was accomplished as a result of the fact that the company is able to produce a net profit from the property that it possesses. In the meantime, the minimum ROE assessment for PT XL Axiata Tbk in 2019 is 0.04, which is equivalent to 4%. This minimum number is acquired as a consequence of the company's lower productivity, which results in a low net profit-to-equity ratio. This minimal number is acquired as a consequence of the company's lower productivity. Since anything with a return on equity greater than 5% is regarded as outstanding or healthy, the fact that the average return on equity is 0.1802 (which translates to 18%) suggests that the typical company generates a profit that is quite satisfactory.

In 2018, PT Link Net Tbk maintained a current ratio variable with a value of 0.98, which was its greatest value. This greatest value is obtained when all current assets are compared to the company's current obligations. This is due to the fact that the company is able to resolve either short-term or long-term commitments. PT Dayamitra Telekomunikasi Tbk, on the other hand, had an extremely low current ratio of 0.06 in 2019. The determination that the firm cannot meet its short-term obligations leads to the calculation of this minimum value, which is determined by contrasting all present assets with present liabilities. A current ratio of less than 2.00 indicates that the business requires extraordinary liquidity to satisfy its short-term obligations. The average current ratio is 0.4837, which demonstrates that the current ratio value is less than 2.00. The current ratio has an average value of 0.4837, which indicates that for every Rp. 1 of current liabilities, there is Rp. 0.4837 worth of current assets to back it up.

The debt-to-equity ratio variable owned by PT Tower Bersama Infrastruktur Tbk in 2018 reached its highest value of 6.91, and this greatest valuation indicates that the company has a high capacity to satisfy its obligations in the event that it is dissolved. The percentage of PT Link Net Tbk's debt to its shareholders' equity was 0.27 in 2018. This meager value is achieved as a result of the poor ability of the business to pay off its obligations in the event that it is disbanded. The average debt-to-equity ratio is 2.6247, which indicates that every Rp. 1 of the company's equity guarantees 2.6247 different liabilities.

The CSR variable had a highest value of 0.12, which is equivalent to 12%, prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. This record was held by PT Smartfren Telecom Tbk in the year 2018. This record-breaking total was accomplished by the company's ability to disclose 11 CSR variables out of a total of 91 in GRI G4. In the meantime, PT Tower Bersama Infrastruktur Tbk maintained a minimum CSR value of 0.03, which is equivalent to 3% in 2018. This minimum number was decided upon as a result of the fact that the company only disclosed three CSR indicators out of the 91 that were included in GRI-G4. The typical CSR score is 0.0842, which works out to 8% of the total products and 7 points based on 91 different CSR transparency categories.

Descriptive statistics during the Covid-19 pandemic

This analysis seeks to provide a summary or description of the data in variables based on the average, minimum, maximum, and standard deviation values of telecommunications companies listed on the Indonesia Stock Exchange (IDX) during the Covid-19 pandemic during the period of 2020-2021. Based on the sampling, nine companies with a total of 18 data were obtained (N). The following descriptive statistics resulted from the Covid-19 pandemic:

Table 2. Descriptive statistics during the Covid-19 pandemic

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
CR	18	0.03	0.89	0.3467	0.20057
DER	18	0.41	3.28	1.5911	0.89912
ROE	18	0.01	0.42	0.1381	0.10885
CSR	18	0.03	0.12	0.0751	0.02331
Valid N (listwise)	18				

According to table 4.2, PT First Media Tbk will have the greatest value of 0.42, which translates to 42%, for the return on equity variable in the year 2021. This maximum value is accomplished as a result of the company's ability to make a profit on the entirety of the shares it possesses. In the meantime, PT Dayamitra Telekomunikasi Tbk possesses a minimum return on equity of 0.01, which is equivalent to 1% in the year 2020. This minimum number is acquired as a consequence of the company's lower productivity, which results in a low net profit-to-equity ratio. This minimal number is acquired as a consequence of the company's lower productivity. The typical return on equity is 0.1381, which is equal to 13%. A return on equity that is greater than 0.05, or 5%, is regarded as excellent or strong, which suggests that the typical company generates a satisfactory amount of profit.

In 2021, PT Telkom Indonesia Tbk will own the number 0.89, which is the greatest possible value of the current ratio variable. The fact that the greatest number is only 0.89 demonstrates that the business is unable to effectively manage both its present assets and its current responsibilities. PT First Media Tbk had a minimum current ratio of 0.03, which was the industry standard in 2021. This minimal value is attained as a result of the necessity for the company to have a stronger capability to handle both its present assets and current obligations. A current ratio value that is less than 2.00 is considered to indicate that the company does not have a sufficient capability to fulfill its short-term commitments. The average current ratio value was calculated to be 0.3467. The current ratio has an average value of 0.3467, which indicates that for every Rp. 1 of current liabilities, there is Rp. 0.3467 worth of current assets to back it up.

The maximum possible number for the debt-to-equity ratio variable is 3.28, and it will be owned by PT Tower Bersama Infrastruktur Tbk in the year 2021. This greatest valuation illustrates the company's strong ability to pay off its obligations in the event that it is disbanded. During the same time period, PT Link Net Tbk had a debt-to-equity ratio of 0.41 in the year 2020. This meager value is achieved as a result of the poor ability of the business to pay off its obligations in the event that it is disbanded. Because the average debt-to-equity ratio is 1.5911, this indicates that every Rp. 1 of the company's shares guarantees 1.5911 liabilities.

In the year 2020, PT XL Axiata Tbk will own a maximum of 0.12, which is equivalent to 12% of the CSR variable. This highest figure is accomplished because the company is able to disclose 11 CSR factors out of 91 that are required by GRI-G4. In the meantime, PT Link Media Tbk will have a minimum CSR value of 0.03, which is equivalent to 3%, in 2021. This minimal amount is accomplished because the company can only disclose three things out of the 91 CSR parameters in GRI-G4. The CSR has an average score of 0.0751, which is equivalent to 7% of the total. According to the GRI metrics that are discussed in the annual report of the business, the average telecoms company does not keep track of its social responsibility and only discloses as much as 7%, which is approximately 6 CSR disclosure items.

Table 3. Average value of the two descriptive test

Before Covid-19				After Covid-19			
Current Ratio	**Debt to Equity Ratio**	**Return On Equity**	**CSR**	**Current Ratio**	**Debt to Equity Ratio**	**Return On Equity**	**CSR**
0.4837	2.6247	0.1802	0.0842	0.3467	1.5911	0.1381	0.0751

Based on the total number of the two summary test findings shown in the chart above. There was a decline during the Covid-19 pandemic compared to before the Covid-19 pandemic, it was determined. During the COVID-19 epidemic, the average return on equity decreased by 0.0421, the average current ratio decreased by 0.137, the average debt-to-equity ratio decreased by 1.0336, and the average CSR value decreased by 0.0091.

The decline in the average value during the Covid-19 pandemic shows that the Covid-19 epidemic had a major effect on telecommunications sector businesses during the Covid-19 pandemic. Covid-19 has not spared the telecoms sector. There is a decrease in buying power, and because some people have lost their employment, they are unable to extend their internet connection. The unexpected proclamation of the Covid-19 epidemic made the Indonesian economy unpredictable, resulting in a drop in income and share values on the capital market; communications firms were also impacted.

Different Test Results (Paired Sample t-Test)

After completing the necessary tests, including the normality test both before and during the Covid-19 epidemic, a hypothesis test can then be performed. Due to the fact that it is derived from two factors that are connected to one another, the hypothesis test that was utilized in this investigation was a parametric statistical test, specifically the Paired Sample t-Test. The purpose of this test is to determine whether or not there is a significant difference, on average, between two matched sample groups (groups that are related but receive different treatments) (conditions). The following is a listing of the outcomes of the Paired Sample t-Test that can be found in table 4.6:

Table 4. Paired Sample t-Test

		Paired Differences					t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
		Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference				
					Lower	Upper			
Pair 1	CR_Before - CR_After	0.13705	0.23946	0.05644	0.01797	0.25613	2.428	17	0.027
Pair 2	DER_Before - DER_After	1.03361	1.95324	0.46038	0.06229	2.00493	2.245	17	0.038
Pair 3	ROE_Before - ROE_After	0.04214	0.12447	0.02934	-0.01976	0.10403	1.436	17	0.019
Pair 4	CSR_Before - CSR_After	0.00916	0.01968	0.00464	-0.00063	0.01894	1.975	17	0.065

Return On Equity was calculated differently before the Covid-19 pandemic compared to how it was calculated during the epidemic. According to the findings of the Paired Samples t-Test, the ROE variable has a substantial value that is greater than 0.05 (0.019 > 0.05). This indicates that the return on equity of IDX-listed Indonesian telecommunications companies prior to and throughout the Covid-19 epidemic varied. These observations lend credence to the first hypothesis put forward by this study. When compared to the CR during the Covid-19 epidemic, there is a distinction between the two times periods. The findings of the Paired Sample t-Test imply that the value of the CR variable is significantly lower than 0.05, making it statistically significant (0.027 0.05). The current percentages of Indonesian telecommunications businesses that were traded on the IDX fluctuated throughout the outbreak caused by the Covid-19 virus. These findings lend credence to the hypothesis that H2 is correct in this investigation.

There is a distinction in the Debt to Stock Ratio between the time period before and after the Covid-19 outbreak. According to the findings of the Paired Samples t-Test, the variable debt-to-equity ratio has a significant value that is less than 0.05 (0.038 0.05). This finding suggests that the debt-to-equity ratio of IDX-listed Indonesian telecommunications companies prior to and throughout the Covid-19 epidemic varied. On the premise of these findings, one might be able to draw the conclusion that the H3 used in this investigation is appropriate. Both before and during the Covid-19 epidemic, the concept of corporate social responsibility existed in its own right. The findings of the Paired Sample t-Test indicate that the corporate social responsibility variable has a value that is statistically significant higher than 0.05 (0.065 > 0.05). This means that the variable is significant. There is no discernible change in the level of Corporate Social Responsibility among Indonesian telecommunications companies that are traded on the Indonesian Stock Exchange, either before or after the Covid-19 pandemic. It is feasible to draw the conclusion that the H4 hypothesis was not supported by the findings of this research based on the evidence presented here.

Discussion

The difference between return on equity before the Covid-19 pandemic and during the Covid-19 pandemic

The findings of the calculation for the Paired Group t-Test Different Test on Return on Equity indicate that there was a change in return on equity both prior to and following the Covid-19 pandemic. The average yield on equity declined during the Covid-19 pandemic, which indicates that revenues from telecommunications business shares have decreased. The Covid-19 epidemic caused a decrease in sales of information and communications technology (ICT) and telecommunications networks due to a change in the manner in which people use the internet. Prior to the epidemic, most people accessed the internet from their workplaces, colleges, schools, and other public locations. Nowadays, however, people only access the internet from their homes and other private locations. Changes in the structure of internet use are taking place as a result of the fact that all activities are being conducted indirectly (online) in order to prepare for the potential influence of the Covid-19 outbreak. The majority of these changes have taken place since the majority of internet users have left their domicile or home. The findings of this research are in line with the research findings by Deva (2022), who found that the majority of telecoms companies experienced a drop in profits during the Covid-19 epidemic, which led to a difference in return on equity between the time period before and after the pandemic. As a direct result of the reduction in profits, a smaller portion of those profits was transferred into the retained earnings account in equity, which resulted in a negative impact on the overall value of the company's equity.

The difference between the current ratio before the Covid-19 pandemic and during the Covid-19 pandemic

A Matched Group t-Test was performed on the current ratio, and the results showed that the current ratio was different both before and during the Covid-19 outbreak. This demonstrates that a company's capacity to fulfill its short-term obligations increases in direct proportion to the percentage of its current assets that are allocated to its current liabilities. As measured by the average current ratio, which decreased by 0.137 during the outbreak, the existence of the Covid-19 pandemic has made it more difficult for telecommunications companies to perform their current responsibilities. This is evidenced by the fact that the ratio declined during the outbreak. As a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic, fewer community activities took place, which led to a decrease in market demand. In turn, this affected the company's profitability and its capacity to satisfy the existing obligations. The decrease in the value of the present ratio during the Covid-19 epidemic was also caused by investors' lack of interest in investing in telecoms companies as a result of the company's decreasing ability to fulfill its short-term obligations. This contributed to the decline in value of the present ratio. Additionally, the business will require assistance in securing additional financing from third parties so that it can continue its current operations. Ananda and Jaeni's (2022) research found that the Covid-19 pandemic's diminished revenue had a negative effect on telecom companies' ability to accomplish their current obligations. The findings of this study are also consistent with the findings of Ananda and Jaeni's (2022) research. As a direct result of this, the actual proportion was different before and during the outbreak of the pandemic.

The difference between the debt to equity ratio before the Covid-19 pandemic and during the Covid-19 pandemic

There was a difference in the debt-to-equity ratio both before and during the Covid-19 epidemic, as indicated by the approximation provided by the Paired Group t-Test on that ratio. Prior to the release of Covid-19, the average debt-to-equity ratio was used to illustrate the scope of the company's use of external financing, which serves as additional revenue for the business itself and its operating expenses. The decision made by the government to restrict the activities of businesses as a direct response to the Covid-19 pandemic had a substantial and negative impact on the economy. A great number of businesses will be forced to report losses and may be forced to declare bankruptcy. Because of the low level of work being done by the company, it is unable to rely on money generated within the business to keep its operations going. The company has to decide between these three options in order to bring in additional external capital: increasing debt (on the obligation side), selling shares (on the equity side), or cutting back on activities in order to bring down operational costs and bring in a smaller total amount of external capital. The findings of this investigation are comparable to those obtained by Ananda and Jaeni in their study conducted in 2022, which found that the debt-to-equity ratio changed both before and after the outbreak of the Covid-19 epidemic. This is because the epidemic caused by the Covid-19 virus makes it more difficult for telecommunications companies to meet both their short-term and their long-term financial responsibilities.

There was no difference between corporate social responsibility before the Covid-19 pandemic and during the Covid-19 pandemic

The Paired Samples t-Test results for corporate social responsibility revealed no change in the level of corporate social responsibility preceding and during the Covid-19 epidemic. This is a consequence of the fact that corporate social responsibility, also known as CSR, is a requirement for all businesses and has developed into a system that calls for attention within the context of the administration of an organization. The company continues to participate in CSR activities in defiance of the Covid-19 pandemic, which compels it to alter the manner in which it implements CSR for telecoms businesses in order to take into consideration the implications of the pandemic. One of the legislation that governs CSR in Indonesia is Law Number 40 of 2007, which governs Limited Liability Companies (PT), the CSR of which is Social and Environmental Accountability. "Sanctions will be applied in accordance with the requirements of Government Regulation 47 of 2012 regarding Limited Liability Company Social and Environmental Responsibility in the event that the business does not carry out its responsibilities." In the middle of a Covid-19 pandemic like this one, the company's Corporate Social Responsibility department is making an effort to keep up with its social responsibilities. This is because the CSR department believes that efforts made toward CSR now will produce the greatest results later on. The results of this study are in line with those discovered by Tiara in her research from 2022, which discovered that there were no disparities in CSR levels both before and during the Covid-19 pandemic. This is done in order to ensure that it can continue to carry out Charity activities in a manner that is compliant with the laws and regulations of Indonesia.

Conclusion

This research analyzes the financial success (Return on Equity, Current Ratio, and Debt to Equity Ratio) and CSR transparency of Indonesian telecommunications companies that were listed on the IDX between the years 2018 and 2021, both before and during the Covid-19 pandemic. In order to perform calculations involving the media, this investigation makes use of the SPSS software.

Following are some inferences that can be drawn from the observations and the conversations that took place:

1. The return on equity prior to the Covid-19 outbreak was significantly higher than the return after the epidemic. This happened because the average yield on equity decreased during the Covid-19 pandemic, which suggests that earnings produced by telecoms firm stock decreased as a result of lower sales of technology and information services (ICT) and telecommunications networks during the Covid-19 pandemic. This was caused by the fact that the average yield on equity decreased.
2. There is a difference in the current proportion between the time before the Covid-19 pandemic and the time during the epidemic. As a result of decreased market demand brought on by community activities being curtailed as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak, the average value of the current ratio decreased during the course of the Covid-19 outbreak. This caused the company's earnings to decrease, which in turn reduced the company's ability to fulfill its current commitments.
3. The ratio of debt to property was significantly different before and after the Covid-19 outbreak. This difference can be seen in the chart. Before the Covid-19 epidemic, companies were able to rely on their own internal liquidity when they needed additional funds. During the Covid-19 outbreak, the company's strategy of restricting its restricted practical activities led to businesses no longer depending on internal financing to support their businesses. This was one of the consequences of the epidemic.
4. There has not been any shift in the public's perception of the societal accountability of businesses either before or during the COVID-19 epidemic. This is due to the fact that the company did not stop participating in corporate social responsibility activities either prior to or throughout the Covid-19 epidemic.

According to the findings that were presented earlier, the researcher is in a position to make a suggestion to the company that it investigate the shifts in financial performance factors (Return on Equity, Current Ratio, and Debt to Equity Ratio), as well as the exposure of Corporate Social Responsibility, both before and during the outbreak of the Covid-19 virus. In addition, additional research can add to other financial performance ratios, such as profitability ratios, such as return on assets and net profit margins, liquidity ratios, such as cash ratios and quick ratios, solvency ratios, such as debt-to-asset ratios and long-term debt-to-equity ratios, and activity ratios, such as total asset turnover, working capital turnover, and inventory turnover, in addition to expanding back on cases or phenomena.

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