

# High fertility in Papua, East Nusa Tenggara and Maluku; Why?

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## Background

- ❑ Changes in the age structure of the population have an impact on the demographic bonus that contributes to economic growth.
- ❑ There is a disparity in the achievement of the demographic bonus between regions in Indonesia.
- ❑ Several provinces in the eastern region that may not be able to achieve the demographic bonus because of the high total fertility rate.
- ❑ The dependency ratio in the three provinces (Papua, East Nusa Tenggara dan Maluku province) are still high.

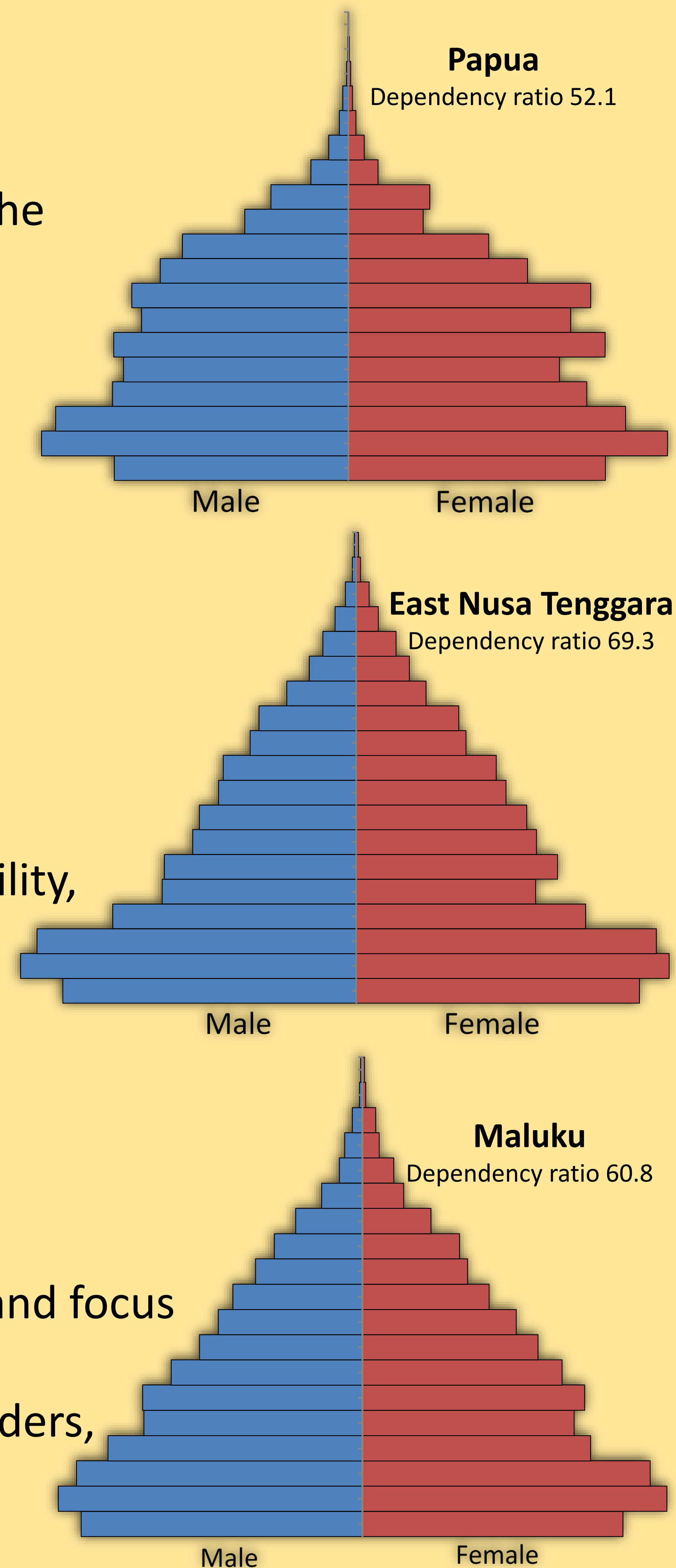
## Purpose

The research aims to determine the factors that contribute to high fertility, the efforts made to reduce the fertility rate and the understanding of policy makers about the demographic conditions and demographic bonus.

## Methods

- ❑ This study uses a qualitative approach.
- ❑ Data and information were collected through in-depth interviews, and focus group discussions.
- ❑ The informants of this study consisted of stakeholders, religious leaders, traditional leaders, women of childbearing age and married men.

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## Lesson Learned

- ❑ Policy makers understanding of the demographic bonus and demographic conditions is still lacking.
- ❑ The high fertility rate is related to the persistence of customary values/norms in the family life, such as the value of children, ideal number of children, gender, marriage pattern, age at first marriage, and use of contraception, especially in Papua.
- ❑ Family planning programs serve more to space births than to limit births.
- ❑ The opinion of "*banyak anak banyak rezeki*" is still suitable and affects the number of children wanted in the three research provinces.
- ❑ Family planning service policies are directed according to target segmentation and priority by considering the needs of a region's problems.



## Recommendation

- ❑ The socialization on population issues and the demographic bonus needs to be improved.
- ❑ Family planning programs that are focused on long-term contraceptive methods.
- ❑ The interaction of traditional leaders, public figure and religious leaders is further enhanced in presenting communication, information and education to the community.