

Fertility decline in Indonesia 1971-1991

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Abstrak

Since Indonesia does not have a good vital statistics registration system, fertility rates for the country as a whole and any administrative subdivisions must be estimated indirectly. This paper summarizes estimates resulting from the application of four bracket estimation techniques to seven Indonesian data sets. The own-children method, the last live birth method, the Palmore method and the Rele method were applied to all seven data sets: Estimates were prepared for the whole country and its three major regions for 1971 through 1991. Estimates for individual provinces were also calculated for some dates. In addition, estimates from other methods, available for some dates and subnational areas, are presented. The data sets used are the 1971 Census, the 1976 Intercensal Survey, the 1980 Census, the 1985 Intercensal Survey; the 1987 National Indonesia Contraceptive Prevalence Survey; the 1990 Census, and the 1991 Indonesia Demographic and Health Survey. The results show that fertility in Indonesia fell by at least thirty-nine percent between 1971 and 1991, but the various methods do not agree on the levels of fertility, particularly the earliest dates. By 1991, however, three estimates of the total fertility rate for Indonesia as a whole are in a small range: from a low estimate of 3.22 to a high of 3.35. Fertility declined rapidly in all of the major regions of the country, although fertility started at higher levels outside of Java and Bali and hence remains at higher levels today despite rapid declines.