JISIP (Jurnal Ilmu Sosial dan Pendidikan)
Vol. 10 No. 4 November 2026
e-ISSN : 2656-6753, p-ISSN: 2598-9944
DOI: *10.36312/jisip.v10i4.11632/http://ejournal.mandalanursa.org/index.php/JISIP/index*

The Influence of School Participation on Divorce Rates in West Nusa Tenggara

Syahrir[1], Noni Antika Khairunnisah[2]
Universitas Pendidikan Mandalika, Nusa Tenggara Barat, Indonesia
Akademi Bisnis Lombok. Nusa Tenggara Barat, Indonesia

Article Info
Article history:
Received: 20 October 2026
Publish: 1 November 2026

Keywords:
School Participation;
Education;
Divorce;
Expected Years of Schooling,
West Nusa Tenggara

Abstract
This study analyzes the relationship between education-related indicators and divorce rates across regencies/municipalities in West Nusa Tenggara (NTB), Indonesia, in 2025. The divorce data were obtained from Statistics Indonesia (BPS) NTB and originated from the Supreme Court through the Directorate General of Religious Courts. The analysis uses ten regencies/municipalities as ecological units. The number of divorce cases was converted into a rate per 1,000 population to improve comparability between areas, while Expected Years of Schooling (EYS/HLS) was used as an education indicator supporting the analysis of school participation. Descriptive analysis and Pearson correlation were applied. NTB recorded 7,509 divorce cases in 2025, with continuous disputes and arguments as the largest recorded factor (5,392 cases), followed by abandonment of a spouse (1,560 cases). The Pearson correlation between HLS and divorce rate per 1,000 population was r = -0.086 (p = 0.814), indicating no statistically significant linear association at the 5% level in the ten-area aggregate dataset. These findings indicate that education should be interpreted as part of a broader social and demographic context rather than as a single determinant of divorce. Further studies should incorporate individual-level data and controls for age at marriage, economic conditions, employment, family conflict, and other relevant factors.

This is an open access article under the Lisensi Creative Commons Atribusi-BerbagiSerupa 4.0 Internasional

Corresponding Author:
Syahrir
Universitas Pendidikan Mandalika, Nusa Tenggara Barat, Indonesia
Email: syahrir@undikma.ac.id

1. INTRODUCTION

Education is a crucial dimension of human development because it is related to an individual's ability to acquire information, develop skills, make decisions, and expand socioeconomic opportunities. In family studies, education is often considered a sociodemographic characteristic associated with marriage patterns, age at marriage, and marital stability. However, this relationship is not always linear and can vary depending on the social, economic, and cultural context, as well as the characteristics of the couple.

Several studies have shown that education and divorce have a complex relationship. Research in Indonesia found that wives' education was one of the variables associated with the likelihood of divorce, while research in Java showed that lower education co-occurred with certain characteristics associated with marital dissolution (Setyawan, 2021; Widyastari et al., 2020). Cross-national studies also show that the relationship between parental education and family dissolution can vary across countries and cohorts (Brons et al., 2018). Therefore, educational indicators should not be interpreted as the sole cause of divorce.

In the Indonesian context, educational participation is also related to life transitions. Research on secondary education participation indicates a relationship between senior secondary education participation and adolescent female marriage (Wicaksono & Setyonaluri, 2025), while evaluations of educational assistance indicate that increasing the length of schooling can reduce the likelihood of girls marrying (Suci & Sulistyaningrum, 2024). These findings are important because age at marriage and marital experience are part of the context that can be related to household stability.

The West Nusa Tenggara (NTB) Provincial Statistics Agency (BPS) recorded 7,509 divorce cases in 2025. The most common factors were persistent disputes and arguments (5,392 cases), followed by one party leaving (1,560 cases) (BPS Provincial Statistics Agency, 2026). The large variation between regions raises questions about whether education indicators align with divorce rates.

This study is novel in its use of 2025 NTB district/city data to link the education indicator, Expected Years of Schooling (HLS), with the divorce rate normalized by population. Because HLS is not the School Participation Rate (APS), the term school participation in this study is used cautiously as an educational framework, not as a direct measure of APS. The study aims to describe divorce patterns across regions and examine the statistical relationship between HLS and the divorce rate per 1,000 population.

2. METHOD

This study uses a quantitative approach with a descriptive-correlational design. The unit of analysis is 10 districts/cities in West Nusa Tenggara Province in 2025. Data on the number of divorces and factors causing divorce are sourced from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) of West Nusa Tenggara Province, which records data from the Supreme Court's Directorate General of Religious Courts. Education data uses the HLS and RLS district/city. Population data is used to standardize the number of cases into the divorce rate per 1,000 population.

The divorce rate was calculated using the formula: (number of divorce cases/population) × 1,000. Descriptive analysis was used to examine variations in the number and factors of divorces, while Pearson correlation was used to test the linear relationship between HLS and the divorce rate per 1,000 population. Because there were only 10 regional units, inferential results were interpreted as ecological relationships rather than relationships at the individual level. The study was not intended to conclude that changes in education cause changes in divorce.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Number of Divorces by Regency/City

Table 1. Number and rate of divorces by district/city in NTB, 2025

Regency/City	Divorce (matter)	Population (thousands)	Per 1,000 population
West Lombok	940	776,30	1,21
Central Lombok	1.225	1129,78	1,08
East Lombok	1.229	1437,36	0,86
Sumbawa	1.034	543,68	1,90
Dompu	738	254,67	2,90
Bima	937	551,40	1,70
West Sumbawa	304	158,13	1,92
North Lombok	292	265,18	1,10
Kota Mataram	497	448,78	1,11

Bima City	313	165,84	1,89
West Nusa Tenggara	7.509	5.731,11	1,31

The highest number of cases occurred in East Lombok with 1,229, followed by Central Lombok with 1,225, and Sumbawa with 1,034. Standardized by population, Dompu had the highest rate, at approximately 2.90 cases per 1,000 residents. The difference between absolute and relative numbers indicates that population size must be taken into account when comparing divorce rates across regions.

Factors Causing Divorce

Table 2. Factors causing divorce in NTB Province, 2025

Causative factor	Things	%
Constant disputes and quarrels	5.392	71,78
Leaving one party	1.560	20,77
Domestic violence	184	2,45
Economy	176	2,34
Drunk	67	0,89
Gambling	49	0,65
Polygamy	35	0,47
Sentenced to prison	20	0,27
Apostasy	11	0,15
Madat	8	0,11
Physical disability	5	0,07
Other	2	0,03

Persistent disputes and arguments were the dominant category, accounting for 71.78% of all recorded cases. This pattern aligns with literature that places conflict and relationship quality as important aspects of family resilience. However, BPS statistical categories reflect the reasons recorded in cases and cannot be considered a direct measure of all domestic conflict in society.

Education and Participation Indicators

Table 3. Expected Years of Schooling and Average Years of Schooling by District/City, 2025

Regency/City	HLS 2025 (year)	RLS 2025 (year)
West Lombok	14,17	8,15
Central Lombok	13,90	7,08
East Lombok	14,08	7,71
Sumbawa	13,35	8,88
Dompu	14,01	9,38
Bima	13,67	8,61
West Sumbawa	13,84	8,35
North Lombok	13,16	6,75
Kota Mataram	15,69	9,89
Bima City	15,21	10,97
West Nusa Tenggara	13,99	8,21

The highest HLS was found in Mataram City at 15.69 years and Bima City at 15.21 years, while the lowest HLS was found in North Lombok at 13.16 years. The highest RLS was found in Bima City at 10.97 years and Mataram City at 9.89 years. This variation

indicates differences in educational attainment between regions. However, HLS differs conceptually from APS: HLS reflects expected years of schooling, while APS measures the proportion of the school-age population currently attending school.

The Relationship between HLS and Divorce Rates

The Pearson correlation between HLS and the divorce rate per 1,000 population yielded r = -0.086 with p = 0.814. The coefficient value is close to zero, and the p-value is greater than 0.05, so there is insufficient statistical evidence to state a significant linear relationship in the 10 districts/cities of NTB in 2025. This result differs from several individual-level studies that found a relationship between education and divorce or marital stability, which indicates the importance of different units of analysis and control variables (Setyawan, 2021; Widyastari et al., 2020).

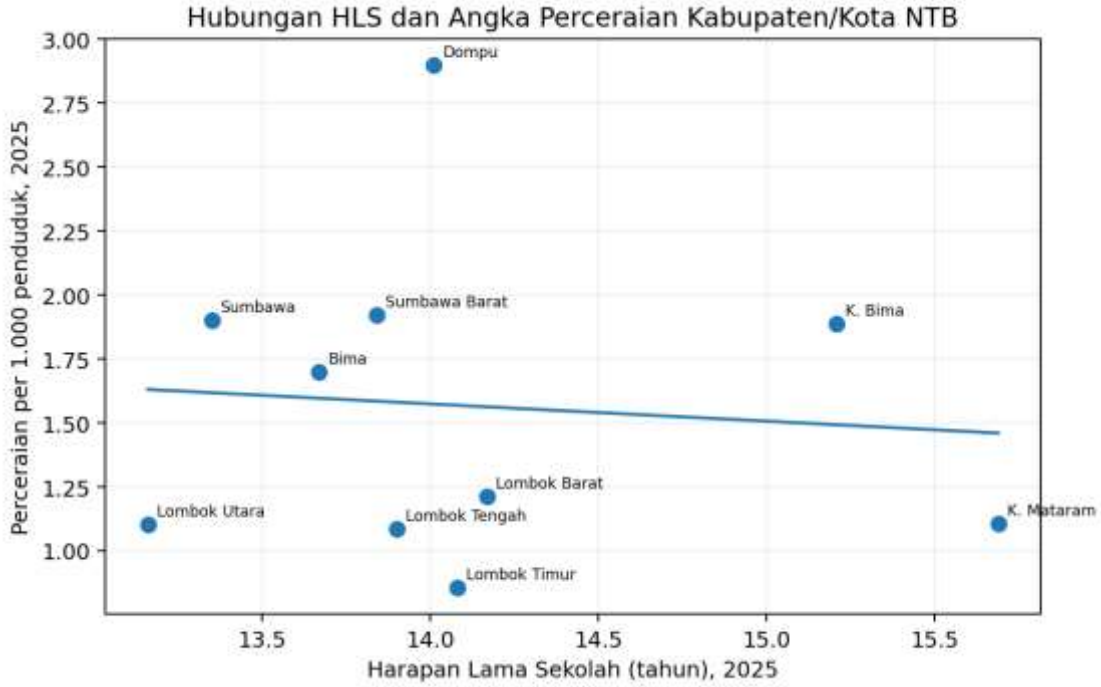


Figure 1. Relationship between HLS and divorce rate per 1,000 population by district/city in NTB, 2025.

These findings need to be read within an ecological framework. A weak relationship at the district/city level does not mean that education is unrelated to divorce at the individual level. Previous research in Indonesia suggests that a wife's education, number of children, and occupation may be associated with the likelihood of divorce (Setyawan, 2021), while a Javanese study found a link between education, age at marriage, and marital dissolution (Widyastari et al., 2020). Therefore, the 2025 NTB results are more appropriately viewed as evidence that regional variations in education alone are insufficient to explain variations in divorce.

Other factors also need to be considered. Age at marriage, economic conditions, employment, spousal conflict, domestic violence, and family characteristics can interact with education. Studies on child marriage in Indonesia also show that education plays a significant role in delaying marriage, while early marriage is linked to family vulnerability (Latifiani, 2019; Suci & Sulistyaningrum, 2024). Therefore, education and family resilience policies should be placed within a cross-sectoral framework.

4. CONCLUSION

Statistics Indonesia (BPS) data show that West Nusa Tenggara (NTB) Province recorded 7,509 divorce cases in 2025. The most common factors were persistent disputes and arguments, with 5,392 cases, followed by one party leaving, with 1,560 cases. In a regional comparison, the highest absolute number was in East Lombok, while the highest per 1,000 population figures in the analyzed data was in Dompu.

HLS did not show a significant linear relationship with the divorce rate per 1,000 population at the district/city level ($r = -0.086$; $p = 0.814$). Therefore, the 2025 aggregate data do not yet support the conclusion that this education indicator statistically explains the variation in divorce rates between regions. Further studies are needed using panel data or individual data with socio-economic and demographic control variables.

5. SUGGESTION

- Future research needs to use APS directly so that the concept of school participation can be measured according to the operational definition.
- The analysis can be extended using multi-year panel data to examine changes in education and divorce over time.
- The variables of age of marriage, poverty, unemployment, employment, number of children, and family social factors need to be included as control variables.
- Utilizing individual- or household-level data would be more appropriate to test the mechanisms of the relationship between education and divorce.
- Family education programs and strengthening communication and conflict resolution skills can be considered as part of a family resilience policy.

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author would like to thank the Central Statistics Agency of West Nusa Tenggara Province for providing public statistical data and all data-providing institutions that supported the preparation of this article.

7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Badan Pusat Statistik Provinsi Nusa Tenggara Barat. (2026). Jumlah perceraian menurut kabupaten/kota dan faktor penyebab perceraian (perkara) di Provinsi Nusa Tenggara Barat, 2025. https://ntb.bps.go.id/

Badan Pusat Statistik Provinsi Nusa Tenggara Barat. (2026). Nikah dan cerai menurut kabupaten/kota di Provinsi Nusa Tenggara Barat, 2025. https://ntb.bps.go.id/

Brons, M. D. A., Härkönen, J., & Bernardi, F. (2018). Parental education and family dissolution: A cross-national and cohort comparison. Journal of Marriage and Family, 80(2), 426–443. https://doi.org/10.1111/jomf.12461

Brand, J. E., Moore, R., Song, X., & Xie, Y. (2019). Why does parental divorce lower children's educational attainment? A causal mediation analysis. Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World, 5, 1–20. https://doi.org/10.15195/v6.a11

Hendajany, N., & Suaesih, A. (2020). Benarkah perempuan bekerja dan berpendidikan mempengaruhi tingkat perceraian? Kasus Jawa Barat. Jurnal Ekonomi Kuantitatif Terapan, 13(2). https://doi.org/10.24843/JEKT.2020.v13.i02.p05

Jannah, R. N. M., & Halim, A. (2022). Edukasi pra nikah sebagai upaya pencegahan perceraian perspektif hukum Islam dan hukum positif. Amalee: Indonesian Journal of Community Research and Engagement, 3(1), 167–178. https://doi.org/10.37680/amalee.v3i1.1308

Latifiani, D. (2019). The darkest phase for family: Child marriage prevention and its complexity in Indonesia. Journal of Indonesian Legal Studies, 4(2), 241–258. https://doi.org/10.15294/jils.v4i2.34708

Muhammad, L. Y. B., Muflikhati, I., & Simanjuntak, M. (2019). Religiosity, social support, stress, and adjustment of divorced women. Jurnal Ilmu Keluarga dan Konsumen, 12(3), 194–205. https://doi.org/10.24156/jikk.2019.12.3.194

Setyawan, A. (2021). Determinan variabel demografi terhadap cerai hidup wanita di Pulau Sumatera: Survei Demografi dan Kesehatan Indonesia 2017. JSSH: Jurnal Sains Sosial dan Humaniora, 5(1), 35–44. https://doi.org/10.30595/jssh.v5i1.9420

Suci, U. L. E., & Sulistyaningrum, E. (2024). Pengaruh pendidikan terhadap pernikahan anak perempuan: Evaluasi dampak program bantuan siswa miskin di Indonesia. Jurnal Ekonomi Indonesia, 13(2). https://doi.org/10.52813/jei.v13i2.243

Wicaksono, H. B., & Setyonaluri, D. (2025). Partisipasi pendidikan menengah atas dan perkawinan remaja perempuan 16–18 tahun di Indonesia. Jurnal Ekonomi dan Pembangunan Indonesia, 26(1).

Widyastari, D. A., Isarabhakdi, P., Vapattanawong, P., & Völker, M. (2020). Marital dissolution in postmodern Java, Indonesia: Does early marriage increase the likelihood to divorce? Journal of Divorce & Remarriage, 61(8), 556–573. https://doi.org/10.1080/10502556.2020.1799308