

# Evaluation analysis of the special autonomy fund assistance program in improving the welfare of indigenous Papuans in Kwamki Narama District, Mimika Regency

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## Abstract

**Purpose:** This study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of the Special Autonomy Fund Assistance Program in improving the welfare of Indigenous Papuans in Kwamki Narama District, Mimika Regency, with a focus on the dimensions of education, health, and the economy.

**Method:** The research employed a descriptive quantitative approach. A total of 100 respondents from 10 villages in Kwamki Narama District were selected using the Slovin formula. Data were collected through structured Likert-scale questionnaires and in-depth interviews with key stakeholders. Descriptive statistical analysis was conducted to assess the community's perception of welfare improvements across three key sectors: education, health, and economy.

**Results:** The analysis revealed a perceived improvement in education (mean score = 3.67) and health (mean score = 3.85), indicating that the program positively impacted access to schooling, educational support, and basic healthcare services. However, the economic aspect showed limited improvement (mean score = 3.13), with low impact on job opportunities, income growth, and ability to meet family needs. The overall welfare score stood at 3.55, reflecting a moderate positive perception of the program's impact.

**Conclusions:** The Special Autonomy Fund Program in Kwamki Narama District has successfully improved education and health for Indigenous Papuans but has not had a significant impact on the economic sector. Further strategies are needed to enhance economic empowerment and achieve more equitable and sustainable welfare.

**Limitations:** The study's findings are based on subjective perceptions within a single district and may not represent broader conditions in other Papuan regions. Additionally, the study does not account for qualitative factors such as cultural dynamics or governance efficiency that might influence program outcomes.

**Contribution:** This study contributes to the discourse on regional autonomy by providing empirical insight into the partial success of Papua's Special Autonomy Fund in enhancing indigenous welfare. The findings highlight the need for strategic policy adjustments, particularly in economic empowerment initiatives, to ensure more holistic and sustainable development outcomes in Papua.

**Keywords:** *Economy, Education, Health, Special Autonomy, Welfare*

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## 1. Introduction

Indonesia is one of the countries in the world that is structured as a unitary state. The Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia is divided into provincial regions. The state acknowledges and respects the special status of regional governments, which are regulated by law. In this regard, the government recognizes that the authority of regions to manage their own affairs has been mutually agreed upon through legislation. The government issued Law Number 21 of 2001 concerning Special Autonomy for Papua Province, which regulates the relationship between the central government and the Papua provincial government, as well as the implementation of this authority in Papua Province with particularities, recognition, and respect for the fundamental rights of indigenous Papuans, along with their strategic and fundamental empowerment. This aims to realize good governance characterized by clear authority distribution. Specifically, the government grants authority to several regions, including special autonomy regions in Indonesia such as DKI Jakarta, the Special Region of Yogyakarta, Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam, Papua, and West Papua.

Through the law governing self-management, various aspects of regional management and administration are addressed, including in the fields of education, health, economic empowerment of society, infrastructure, affirmative action, monitoring, evaluation, and more. These are the responsibilities of each Special Autonomy Region. One of the key areas is the people's economy, including the Department of Cooperatives and Creative Economy, food security, livestock, marine/fisheries, and village community empowerment. The programs implemented focus on improving, fostering, developing training, providing assistance, both for individuals and groups, with supervision aimed at the welfare of the indigenous Papuan people.

The implementation of Special Autonomy in Papua, specifically in the area of community economic empowerment, is very important. This is because most indigenous Papuans live as farmers, fishermen, gardeners, livestock keepers, and small business owners, with the main goal being to improve the Human Resources (HR) of indigenous Papuans in order to achieve better living conditions.

Community welfare is the condition in which the material, spiritual, and social needs of citizens are fulfilled, enabling them to live decently and develop themselves. This is especially relevant for indigenous Papuans in Mimika Regency, where many citizens rely on income from natural resources, such as fishing, farming, and animal husbandry, to sustain their lives in the existing conditions (Pabendon, 2017). Community welfare is a development goal pursued by the government. To achieve the desired level of welfare, a series of continuous, comprehensive, targeted, and integrated programs must be implemented (Teja, 2015). Therefore, it is necessary to evaluate and plan a number of indicators that can reflect the development of the people's welfare level, considering both progress over time and the diversity across regions.

It can be seen from the planning of special autonomy funds, where 80% of the funds are allocated for special autonomy and 20% of the funds are provided by the central government to Papua, which are then distributed to the designated regencies and cities. Once the indicative budget ceiling is set, the regional governments (Kabupaten/Kota) input the data into the Papua Pu Rencana (PPR) application regarding the sources of special autonomy funds. After the data input is complete, a (MUSREMBANG) Development Planning Consultation is held to discuss the special autonomy fund allocation. The discussion is based on the indicative budget ceilings provided by the provincial government to the regencies and cities, and this is referred to as the proposed definitive plan. If there are no changes, it continues as the definitive plan and is signed by the regional secretary of the Papua Province.

From the data above, we can see that the special autonomy fund budget for Mimika Regency in 2022 increased fourfold compared to previous years. This increase should have a significant impact on the indigenous Papuan community, which is the target of this large special autonomy fund. The use of the allocated funds for community economic empowerment is expected to contribute to the welfare of the

indigenous Papuan people in Mimika Regency, with the goal of supporting their well-being. However, based on the current reality, the quality of education and healthcare in Mimika Regency, especially in the Kwamki Narama District, still requires special attention from the government..

Table 1. Special Autonomy Funds for Mimika Regency

Year	Special Autonomy Fund	
2019	Rp	31,309,836,500.00
2020	Rp	31,309,836,558.85
2021	Rp	31,309,836,600.00
2022	Rp	135,882,430,000.00

Source: Bappeda 2024

Based on the above description, the researcher is interested in conducting a study titled: “Analysis of the Evaluation of Special Autonomy Fund Programs in Improving the Welfare of Indigenous Papuans in Kwamki Narama District”.

## 2. Literature review

### 2.1 Definition of Special Autonomy

The term "Autonomy" in Special Autonomy should be understood as the freedom for the people of Papua to regulate and manage themselves, which also means the freedom to govern themselves and manage the utilization of Papua's natural resources for the greatest prosperity of the Papuan people, while still bearing the responsibility to participate in supporting the implementation of central and regional governments in Indonesia that are indeed lacking (Iha, 2018). Another important aspect is the freedom to determine strategies for social, cultural, economic, and political development that are in line with the characteristics and uniqueness of human resources, as well as the natural and cultural conditions of the Papuan people. This is important as part of the development of the Papuan identity as a whole, which is aimed at affirming their identity and dignity, including through the ownership of regional symbols such as songs, flags, and emblems. The term "Special" should be understood as a different treatment given to Papua because of the uniqueness it possesses. This uniqueness includes aspects such as the socio-economic level of society, culture, and political history (Manurung & Sandy, 2023).

In practical terms, the special autonomy of Papua means that there are matters that are specific to Papua and may not apply to other regions in Indonesia, as well as matters that apply in other regions but are not implemented in Papua. According to Law No. 21 of 2001, Special Autonomy for the Papua Province is essentially the granting of broader authority to the province and the people of Papua to regulate and manage themselves within the framework of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. Broader authority also means a greater responsibility for the province and the people of Papua to administer the government and regulate the utilization of natural resources in Papua for the greatest prosperity of the Papuan people.

### 2.2 Function of Special Autonomy

The Special Autonomy of Papua (Special Autonomy of Papua) has several main functions, including bridging the gap between Papua and other provinces, improving the standard of living of the Papuan people, and providing opportunities for the indigenous Papuans (Nurmasari & Al Hafis, 2019). Additionally, the Special Autonomy of Papua aims to accelerate development and improve public service quality, as well as uphold the dignity and protect the fundamental rights of Indigenous Papuans (Rohim, 2014). Therefore, the main functions of special autonomy in Papua can be outlined as follows: (1) Improving the standard of living, prosperity, and welfare of the people, (2) realizing justice in the distribution of natural resources, enforcing human rights, and implementing good governance, (3) Reducing development gaps between Papua and other regions in Indonesia, (4) Providing opportunities for indigenous Papuans to actively participate in development in all fields, both in government and outside of government.

### **2.3 *Special Autonomy Fund Program***

A program is a structure, design, code scheme, or other forms arranged according to an algorithm to simplify a problem (Syurrahmi et al., 2022). A program is usually also referred to as an application, which aims to simplify tasks to make work more productive and efficient. The provision of Special Autonomy for the Papua Province is essentially aimed at supporting the acceleration of the implementation of Special Autonomy for the Papua Province to realize justice, law enforcement, and respect for human rights (Nurcahyati, 2021). The Special Autonomy Fund is expected to accelerate economic development, improve welfare, and advance the Papuan community so that there is equality and balance with the progress of other provinces in Indonesia.

To realize the fulfillment of the basic rights and obligations of the Papuan people, the draft of the Special Autonomy Law for Papua is developed and implemented with reference to several core values derived from the customs and traditions of the Papuan people, nationalism based on universal human principles, and respect for democracy and human rights. Therefore, these core values are the main principles and the atmosphere that underlie the framework of the Special Autonomy Law for the Papua Province, which is expected to serve as a fundamental guide for the future implementation of various aspects of Papua's Special Autonomy. There are seven core values of Papua's Special Autonomy (Leonita, 2022): These core values are:

- 1) Protection of the fundamental rights of Indigenous Papuans
- 2) Democracy and maturity in democracy
- 3) Respect for ethics and morals
- 4) Respect for human rights
- 5) Enforcement of the supremacy of law
- 6) Respect for pluralism
- 7) Equality of position, rights, and obligations as citizens

### **2.4 *Welfare Theory***

Welfare comes from the word "sejahtera," which means the same as prosperous, prosperous, and safe (free from disturbances, difficulties, and so on) (Syahrin, Arifin, & Luayyin, 2022). Welfare can be understood as a feeling of living at a higher level than happiness. A person feels prosperous when they are happy, lack nothing within what can be achieved, their soul is peaceful, both physically and mentally, they experience justice in life, and they are free from poverty that torments and the dangers of poverty that threaten (Antomi, Malik, & Nash, 2024). In efforts to describe this level of welfare, it cannot be separated from the classification of prosperous families, so prosperous families need to be developed as the primary and foremost means of developing their members.

### **2.5 *Regulations Related to Special Autonomy***

Special autonomy for Papua was first granted through Law No. 21 of 2001 concerning Special Autonomy for the Papua Province. The main background for granting this special autonomy is to maintain national integration within the framework of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia (NKRI). In addition, special autonomy was granted to acknowledge and respect special or unique regional governments (Alivia, 2019); to honor the equality and diversity of the social and cultural life of the Papuan people; and to ensure that the management of natural resources and the implementation of government can achieve the welfare of the people so that there are no longer gaps between the Papua Province and other provinces.

### **2.6 *Empowerment of Special Autonomy***

Empowerment is the act of creating a local community with initiatives or ideas and the ability to implement those initiatives by themselves (Margayaningsih, 2018). The concept of empowerment is not only individual but also collective (individual self-empowerment and collective self-empowerment), and all of this must be part of self-actualization and the co-actualization of human and humanity existence. In other words, humanity is the normative, structural, and substantive benchmark.

## 2.7 Economic Empowerment Strategy

The strategy for empowerment and economic development is essentially an effort to develop the community. There are at least two major strategies that can be applied: Increasing access to productive assets for communities still dominant in the people's economy, where the main productive capital is land (Astikawati, Yosada, Thoharudin, Avelius, & Sore, 2021). In addition, providing productive communities with access to a healthy and unpolluted environment will reduce causes and increase community productivity (Legiman, Prasetyo, & Mulyani, 2021). Access to capital should be interpreted as affordability, which first exists when needed and second, within the reach of the ability to utilize it. Economic empowerment for the community means an effort to make a community aware of the situation or condition around them. This empowerment effort is carried out in a village or a village inhabited by many people in poor conditions, who want to change their lives to become better and become independent and empowered in the economic field (Sugiyanto, Rasaili, & Tini, 2024).

## 3. Research methodology

This research uses a descriptive quantitative approach to analyze the perceptions of Indigenous Papuans regarding the Special Autonomy Fund Program in improving welfare in the Kwamki Narama District, Mimika Regency. The study was conducted from January to February 2025, focusing on 10 villages in the Kwamki Narama District. The population in this study consists of all Indigenous Papuans residing in the district, with a total of 14,190 people. The sample size was determined using Slovin's formula with a margin of error of 10%, yielding a sample of 100 respondents selected proportionally from each village. Respondents included village officials, community leaders, and general community members.

Data collection was done through the distribution of closed questionnaires based on a Likert scale to assess the community's perception of three aspects of welfare: education, health, and economy. Additionally, in-depth interviews were conducted with key informants such as district officials and representatives from the Mimika Regency Bappeda (Regional Development Planning Agency). Secondary data were obtained from various official documents, including statistical reports and institutional documents. The data collected were analyzed descriptively using scoring techniques based on the Likert scale. The perception values were calculated in the form of average scores and classified into five categories of welfare levels, ranging from "very little improvement" to "very significant improvement." This classification was used to assess the extent to which the Special Autonomy Fund Program has impacted the welfare of Indigenous Papuans in education, health, and the economy.

## 4. Results and discussions

### 4.1 Analysis Results

#### Respondent Characteristics

Data on the perceptions of Indigenous Papuans regarding the Special Autonomy Fund Program were gathered through information provided by the Indigenous Papuans who were the respondents. The characteristics of the respondents are as follows:

#### 1) Age of Respondents

The age of the respondents is essential to ensure that they are biologically capable of providing accurate responses. The age groupings used were based on the ages of the respondents obtained.

Table 2. Respondent Age Description (Year)

No	Age	Frequency	Percentage
1	26 - 35	34	34%
2	36 - 45	54	54%
3	>45	12	12%
Total		100	100%

Source: Data Processed from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

Based on this age group, it can be stated that the respondents, from an age perspective, are sufficiently capable of providing information regarding the issues and questions raised, as all are of adult age and capable of providing good responses.

## 2) Gender of Respondents

Gender generally affects perspectives and the ability to understand an activity. Therefore, a balanced number of respondents based on gender is important.

Table 3. Respondent Gender Description

No	Age	Frequency	Percentage
1	Laki-Laki	54	54,00
2	Perempuan	46	46,00
Total		100	100,00

Source: Data Processed from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

From the gender distribution of the Indigenous Papuan respondents, it can be seen that there is no significant difference, and it can even be said that the number is relatively balanced. Therefore, gender has been adequately represented, both male and female.

## 3) Education Level

Education is important in gathering information. Generally, the higher the level of education, the more likely the individual is to provide accurate information, as they are better able to understand the questions and issues.

Table 4. Respondent Education Description

No	Age	Frequency	Percentage
1	Elementary School	0	0,00
2	Junior High School	6	6,00
3	High School	82	82,00
4	Higher Education	12	12,00
Total		100	100,00

Source: Data Processed from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

Based on the education level of the respondents, it can be seen that the majority have high school and higher education (82%), indicating that the respondents have sufficient ability to read and understand the provided questionnaires.

## 4.2 Perception on the Improvement of Education and Health

### 4.2.1 Perception on Education Improvement

The analysis of Indigenous Papuans' perception of the Special Autonomy Fund Program in improving education is discussed using three main indicators: access to education, affordability of school supplies, and the opportunity to pursue further education.

#### 1) Opportunity for Indigenous Papuans to Attend School.

The discussion on the opportunity for Indigenous Papuans to attend school shows that most respondents agree or strongly agree, with only a small number disagreeing or strongly disagreeing. This indicates that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has provided an opportunity for Indigenous Papuans to attend school.

Table 5. Analysis Results on the Opportunity for Indigenous Papuans to Attend School

Perception	Weight	Frequency	Percentage	Score	Remarks
Strongly Disagree	1	3	3%	3	
Disagree	2	9	9%	18	

Slightly Agree	3	24	24%	72
Agree	4	46	46%	184
Strongly Agree	5	18	18%	90
Total		100	100%	367
Relative Score (Total Score: Highest Score)				3,67 Improved

Source: Processed Data from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

Seeing that most respondents reported an improvement, and the score of 3.67% falls into the "improved" category, it can be concluded that there has been an improvement in education for Indigenous Papuans due to the opportunity to attend school.

## 2) The Special Autonomy Fund Program Has Eased the Fulfillment of School Supplies

The analysis shows that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has eased the fulfillment of school supplies, which is beneficial for the parents of students in meeting their children's educational needs. The respondents who agreed and strongly agreed are almost balanced with those who disagreed.

Table 6. Analysis Results on the Special Autonomy Fund Program Easing the Fulfillment of School Supplies

Perception	Weight	Frequency	Percentage	Score	Remarks
Strongly Disagree	1	2	2%	2	
Disagree	2	9	9%	18	
Slightly Agree	3	32	32%	96	
Agree	4	38	38%	152	
Strongly Agree	5	19	19%	95	
Total		100	100%	363	
Relative Score (Total Score: Highest Score)				3,63 Improved	

Source: Processed Data from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

From the data gathered, the majority of respondents indicated an improvement, with the analysis score of 3.63 falling into the "improved" category. This indicates that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has eased the burden on Indigenous Papuans in fulfilling their school supplies.

## 3) The Special Autonomy Fund Program Has Provided Indigenous Papuans the Opportunity to Pursue Higher Education

The analysis of responses regarding the Special Autonomy Fund Program providing Indigenous Papuans the opportunity to pursue higher education shows that 28 respondents strongly agreed (27%) and 38% agreed. A total of 65% stated there were opportunities for further education, and the analysis showed a score of 3.70%, which falls under the "improved" category. This shows that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has provided an opportunity for the people of Kwamki Narama to pursue higher education..

Table 7. Analysis Results on the Opportunity for Indigenous Papuans to Pursue Higher Education

Perception	Weight	Frequency	Percentage	Score	Remarks
Strongly Disagree	1	3	3%	3	
Disagree	2	16	16%	32	
Slightly Agree	3	16	16%	48	
Agree	4	38	38%	152	
Strongly Agree	5	27	27%	135	
Total		100	100%	370	
Relative Score (Total Score: Highest Score)				3,70 Improved	

Source: Processed Data from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

Although some respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed, this does not diminish the perception that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has provided an improvement in education through the opportunity to pursue further education.

Table 8. Analysis Results on the Special Autonomy Fund Program's Improvement of the Health of Indigenous Papuans from the Educational Perspective in the Kwamki Narama District

Perception	Weight	Frequency	Percentage	Score	Remarks
Strongly Disagree	1	8	3%	8	
Disagree	2	34	11%	68	
Slightly Agree	3	72	24%	216	
Agree	4	122	41%	488	
Strongly Agree	5	64	21%	320	
Total		300	100%	1100	
Relative Score (Total Score: Highest Score)				3,67	Improved

Source: Processed Data from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025.

This indicates that the Special Autonomy Fund Program, from the educational perspective, has improved the education of Indigenous Papuans. Therefore, the welfare of the community, when viewed from the educational perspective, has also improved. Based on this, it can be said that the Special Autonomy Fund Program aimed at improving welfare has been successful, although the success rate is not very high.

#### 4.2.2 Perception of Health Improvement

To assess the perception of Indigenous Papuans regarding the Special Autonomy Fund Program in improving welfare through health improvements, three indicators were used: ease of obtaining health services, access to health services, and attention to family health. Health improvement is one of the indicators of welfare improvement..

##### 1) Perception of the Ease of Access to Health Services

Data collection showed that the majority of respondents, 24% strongly agreed and 56% agreed, that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has made it easier for the community to access health services. Only 20 respondents (20%) slightly agreed, disagreed, or strongly disagreed that the program has eased access to health services. The data analysis shows that the respondents who agreed and strongly agreed with the ease of access to health services contributed to a score of 4.00%, which falls into the "Improved" category.

Table 9. Analysis Results on the Special Autonomy Fund Program Making it Easier for Indigenous Papuans to Access Health Services

Perception	Weight	Frequency	Percentage	Score	Remarks
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0%	0	
Disagree	2	4	4%	8	
Slightly Agree	3	16	16%	48	
Agree	4	56	56%	224	
Strongly Agree	5	24	24%	120	
Total		100	100%	400	
Relative Score (Total Score: Highest Score)				4,00	Improved

Source: Processed Data from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

This indicates that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has improved the health of the community by making it easier to access health services, facilitated by the availability of health facilities and the provision of free health services for Indigenous Papuans.



## 2) Perception of Receiving Better Health Services

From the perspective of the Special Autonomy Fund Program, Indigenous Papuans have received better health services, indicating an improvement in health services for the community.

Table 10. Analysis Results on the Special Autonomy Fund Program Providing Better Health Services to Indigenous Papuans

Perception	Weight	Frequency	Percentage	Score	Remarks
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0%	0	
Disagree	2	13	13%	26	
Slightly Agree	3	30	30%	90	
Agree	4	27	27%	108	
Strongly Agree	5	30	30%	150	
Total		100	100%	374	
Relative Score (Total Score: Highest Score)				3,74	Improved

Source: Processed Data from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

Data collection shows that the majority of respondents agreed, and the analysis results gave a score of 3.74%, which falls under the "Improved" category. This suggests that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has provided better health services for Indigenous Papuans. This improvement can be attributed to the upgrade of health centers from outpatient services to inpatient services, allowing patients who need inpatient care to be treated locally, without having to be referred to higher-level health facilities like the regional hospital.

## 3) Perception of Increased Attention to Family Health

Data related to the statement that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has made Indigenous Papuans more concerned about their family's health shows that 30% strongly agreed and 22% agreed that the program has increased the community's awareness of family health.

Table 11. Analysis Results on the Special Autonomy Fund Program Increasing Indigenous Papuans' Attention to Family Health

Perception	Weight	Frequency	Percentage	Score	Remarks
Strongly Disagree	1	0		0	
Disagree	2	0	0%	0	
Slightly Agree	3	48	48%	144	
Agree	4	22	22%	88	
Strongly Agree	5	30	30%	150	
Total		100	100%	382	
Relative Score (Total Score: Highest Score)				3,82	Improved

Source: Processed Data from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

The analysis shows that 52% of respondents believed there was an increase in attention to family health. The score obtained was 3.82%, which falls into the "Improved" category. This indicates that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has indeed increased the community's attention to family health, facilitated by better access to healthcare services and improved care quality.

Table 12. Analysis Results on the Special Autonomy Fund Program's Improvement of Indigenous Papuans' Health in the Kwamki Narama District

Perception	Weight	Frequency	Percentage	Score	Remarks
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0%	0	
Disagree	2	17	6%	34	
Slightly Agree	3	94	31%	282	
Agree	4	105	35%	420	
Strongly Agree	5	84	28%	420	

Total	300	100%	1156	
Relative Score (Total Score: Highest Score)			3,85	Improved

Source: Processed Data from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

The data shows that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has improved the welfare of Indigenous Papuans through easier access to health services, better healthcare, and more attention to family health, with a score of 3.85%, indicating improvement. This improvement in health will certainly contribute to overall welfare, as healthier communities are more likely to thrive.

#### 4.2.3 Perception on Economic Improvement

The perception of Indigenous Papuans regarding the Special Autonomy Fund Program in improving welfare through economic improvement will be viewed through indicators such as job opportunities, income, and meeting family needs.

##### 1) Perception of Job Opportunities

The data shows that only 14% of respondents agreed and 4% strongly agreed that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has improved job opportunities for Indigenous Papuans, while 82% of respondents slightly agreed or disagreed. This suggests that the program has not yet provided significant effects in opening up wider job opportunities for Indigenous Papuans.

Table 13. Analysis Results on the Special Autonomy Fund Program Improving Job Opportunities for Indigenous Papuans

Perception	Weight	Frequency	Percentage	Score	Remarks
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0%	0	
Disagree	2	2	2%	4	
Slightly Agree	3	80	80%	240	
Agree	4	14	14%	56	
Strongly Agree	5	4	4%	20	
Total		100	100%	320	
Relative Score (Total Score: Highest Score)				3,20	Less Improved

Source: Processed Data from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

The analysis shows a score of 3.20%, which falls into the "Less Improved" category, indicating that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has not significantly improved job opportunities for Indigenous Papuans.

##### 2) Perception of the Community Regarding the Increase in Family Income

The perception of the community regarding the Special Autonomy Fund Program's impact on increasing family income represents an improvement in welfare through higher income. With higher income, families can meet their living needs at a higher level.

Table 14. Analysis Results of the Special Autonomy Fund Program's Impact on Improving Family Income for Indigenous Papuans

Perception	Weight	Frequency	Percentage	Score	Remarks
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0%	0	
Disagree	2	18	18%	36	
Slightly Agree	3	60	60%	180	
Agree	4	20	20%	80	
Strongly Agree	5	2	2%	10	
Total		100	100%	306	
Relative Score (Total Score: Highest Score)				3,06	Less Improved

Source: Processed Data from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

The data collection shows that the majority of respondents perceive that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has not been able to significantly improve family income. Some respondents believe that the program has not had a sufficient effect on family income. The analysis results, with a score of 3.06%, indicate that the program has not had a significant impact on increasing family income.

### 3) Perception of the Community Regarding the Improvement in Meeting Family Needs

The improvement in meeting family needs is an indicator of a family's ability to meet its needs. The data collection shows that only 12% of respondents strongly agreed, and only 2% strongly agreed that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has improved the ability of families to meet their needs. On the other hand, the majority (84%) of respondents slightly agreed or disagreed. This indicates that most respondents believe the Special Autonomy Fund Program has not significantly improved the ability of the community to meet their family needs.

Table 15. Analysis Results of the Special Autonomy Fund Program's Impact on Helping Indigenous Papuans Meet Their Needs

Perception	Weight	Frequency	Percentage	Score	Remarks
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0%	0	
Disagree	2	8	8%	16	
Slightly Agree	3	76	76%	228	
Agree	4	12	12%	48	
Strongly Agree	5	4	4%	20	
Total		100	100%	312	
Relative Score (Total Score: Highest Score)				3,12	Less Improved

Source: Processed Data from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

The analysis shows that the score of 3.12 falls into the "Less Improved" category, meaning that, in general, the Special Autonomy Fund Program has not been able to significantly improve the ability of Indigenous Papuans to meet their family needs. This is likely due to the insufficient increase in income, which limits the ability to meet these needs.

Table 16. Analysis Results on the Special Autonomy Fund Program's Impact on the Welfare of Indigenous Papuans from an Economic Perspective in the Kwamki Narama District

Perception	Weight	Frequency	Percentage	Score	Remarks
Strongly Disagree	1	0	0%	0	
Disagree	2	28	9%	56	
Slightly Agree	3	216	72%	648	
Agree	4	46	15%	184	
Strongly Agree	5	10	3%	50	
Total		300	100%	938	
Relative Score (Total Score: Highest Score)				3,13	Less Improved

Source: Processed Data from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

The analysis shows that, from an economic perspective, the Special Autonomy Fund Program has not led to significant economic improvement. Even if there is some improvement, it is perceived as small, meaning it has not provided a significant effect on improving the economy of Indigenous Papuans.

Table 17. Analysis Results of Indigenous Papuans' Perception of the Special Autonomy Fund Program in Improving Welfare

No	Variable	Score	Criteria
1	Education	3,67	Improved
2	Health	3,85	Improved
3	Ekonomi	3,13	Less Improved
Total		10,65	Improved

Average	3,55
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Source: Processed Data from Questionnaire Tabulation 2025

Overall, Indigenous Papuans' perceptions of the Special Autonomy Fund Program in improving welfare through education, health, and the economy show that in the education variable, the program received a score of 3.67, indicating improvement. In health, the score was 3.85, indicating improvement. In the economy, the score was 3.13, showing that the program has not significantly improved economic welfare. The overall analysis score of 3.55 suggests that, in general, welfare has improved.

### 4.3 Discussion

The Special Autonomy Fund, as an integral part of the Special Autonomy policy, aims to enable Indigenous Papuans to improve their welfare and promote balanced development across the entire Papua region (Frasawi, Tinangon, & Warongan, 2021).

#### 4.3.1 Perception of Education Improvement

The analysis shows that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has contributed to educational improvements, meaning that, from an education perspective, the welfare of Indigenous Papuans in the Kwamki Narama District has improved. This finding aligns with a study conducted by (Tafalas & Umpain, 2024). However, the availability of educational facilities in Kwamki Narama, from kindergarten to high school, provides opportunities for school-aged children to attend and complete their education. Additionally, the educational assistance from the Special Autonomy Fund provides greater opportunities for Indigenous Papuan children to attend school.

#### 4.3.2 Perception of Health Improvement

The analysis shows that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has improved the health of Indigenous Papuans in the Kwamki Narama District, which has also contributed to improved welfare. This result aligns with the findings of (Muhtarullo, 2021). Health improvements are supported by the availability of adequate health facilities, such as the Puskesmas (health center) in Kwamki Narama, which now provides both outpatient and inpatient services, allowing patients in need of hospitalization to receive care locally without being referred to a higher-level health facility.

#### 4.3.3 Perception of Economic Improvement

The analysis shows that the Special Autonomy Fund Program has not yet significantly improved the economy of Indigenous Papuans. From an economic perspective, the welfare of Indigenous Papuans in the Kwamki Narama District has not seen substantial improvement. This result aligns with the findings of (Ham & Octaviani, 2022). In the Kwamki Narama District, most of the economic activities are agriculture and livestock, but these activities remain small-scale and not fully maximized, meaning the Special Autonomy Fund has not yet had a significant impact on improving the economic conditions of the community.

### 5. Conclusion

Indigenous Papuans' perception of the Special Autonomy Fund Program's impact on education shows an improvement with an analysis score of 3.67. Perception of the program's impact on health shows an improvement with an analysis score of 3.85. However, the perception regarding the program's impact on the economy shows no significant improvement, with an analysis score of 3.13.

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