

POPULATION STATISTICS HIGHLIGHTS

A Decade of Vital Statistics and Causes of Death in Malaysia (2010-2019)

INTRODUCTION

The publication of Vital Statistics Time Series and Statistics on Causes of Death Time Series for the period 2010-2019 is a publication that presents statistics on births, deaths and causes of death in Malaysia by demographic characteristics, state and administrative districts.

This time series publication is published periodically every 10 years, following the conduct of the Population and Housing Census, to ensure the accuracy of statistics in line with the latest population structure. The previous publication was released in 2015 provided revised data for the period 2000-2009.

The statistics reported in this publication are based on registration records from the National Registration Department (NRD), which have been revised to take into account late registrations and harmonised with the Intercensal Mid-Year Population Estimates (2011-2019).



Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) is the process of recording vital events such as births, adoptions, personal identification, marriages, divorces and death and utilizing this information to produce statistics.

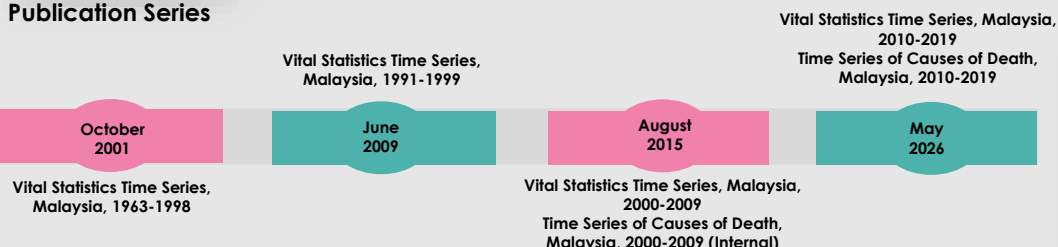


Manual and Classification

The compilation of birth and death statistics is based on the concepts and guidelines from **Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System, Revision 3** published by the United Nations Statistics Division (2014).

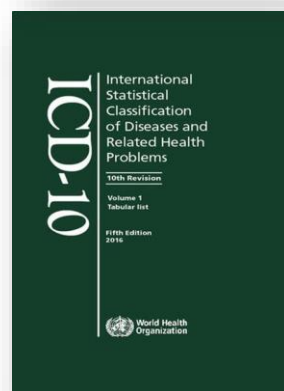
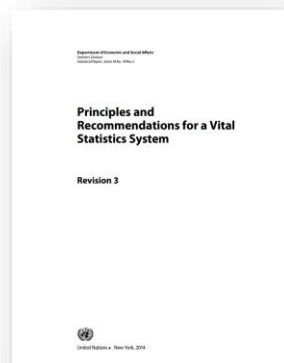
For the classification of causes of death, DOSM uses the international standard **International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th Revision (ICD-10)** published by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Publication Series



Indicators of Vital Statistics and Causes of Death

Live Births	Crude Birth Rate (CBR)	Total Fertility Rate (TFR)
Stillbirths		Stillbirth Rate (SBR)
Deaths		Crude Death Rate (CDR)
Perinatal Deaths		Perinatal Mortality Rate (PMR)
Neonatal Deaths		Neonatal Mortality Rate (NMR)
Infant Deaths		Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)
Toddler Deaths		Toddler Mortality Rate (TMR)
Under-5 Deaths		Under-5 Mortality Rate (U5MR)
Maternal Deaths		Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)

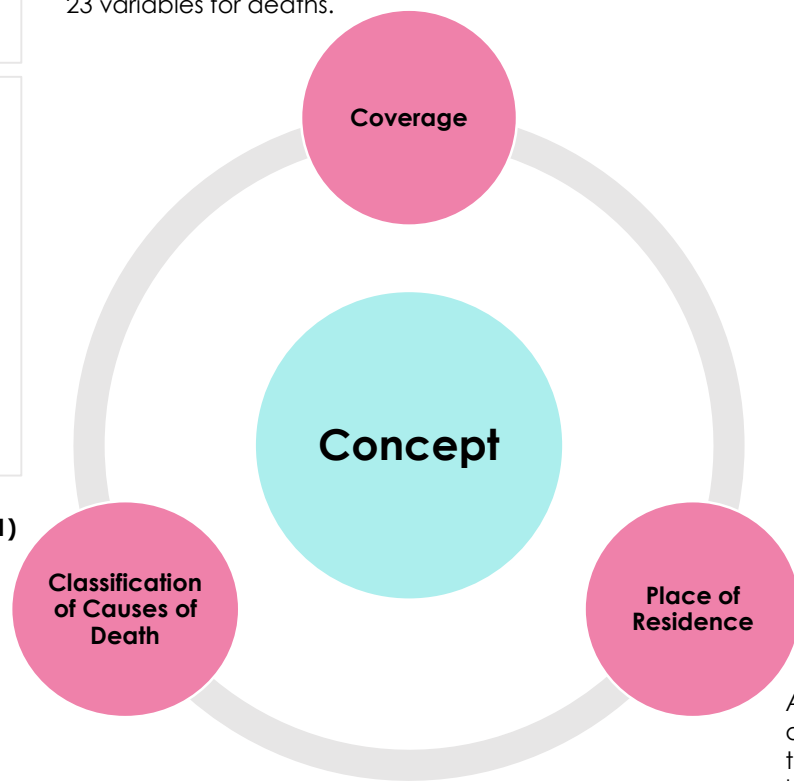


The records on live births, stillbirths and deaths received from the NRD cover the whole Malaysia. Analysis of vital statistics are based on information which is reported by informants during the births registration in The Register of Birth/ Stillbirths Form (JPN.LM01) and deaths registration in The Register of Death Form (JPN.LM02).

DOSM receives approximately 35,000 to 40,000 live birth records and 14,000 to 15,000 death records each month. There are 65 variables collected for live births and 23 variables for deaths.

The Register of Birth/ Stillbirths Form (JPN.LM01)

The Register of Death Form (JPN.LM02)



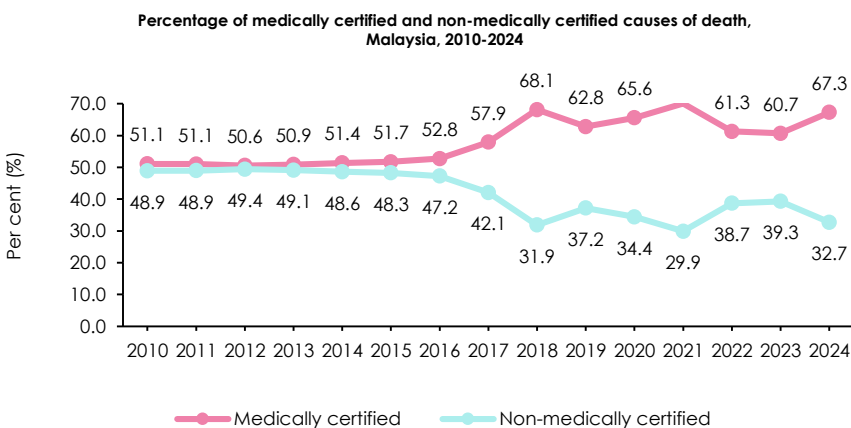
The classification for causes of death comprises medically certified and non-medically certified as follow:

- Medically certified**
Verification made by medical officer and coroner only.
- Non-medically certified**
Verification made by informants without having any medical qualifications, such as individuals or police.

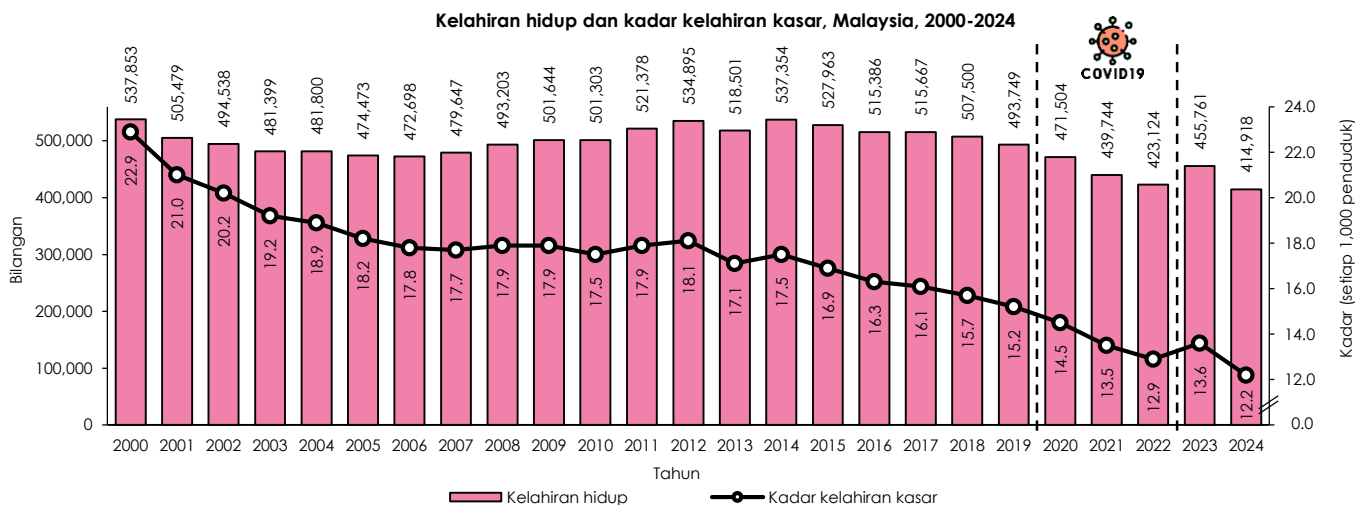
Analysis of births and deaths presented in this publication are based on place of usual residence of mother or the deceased.

Information Corner

The Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH) has set a target of 80% for medically certified causes of death. Starting in 2018, MOH implemented data verification for deaths that were not medically certified. As a result, the rate reached 67.3% in 2024 as compared to 51.1% in 2010.

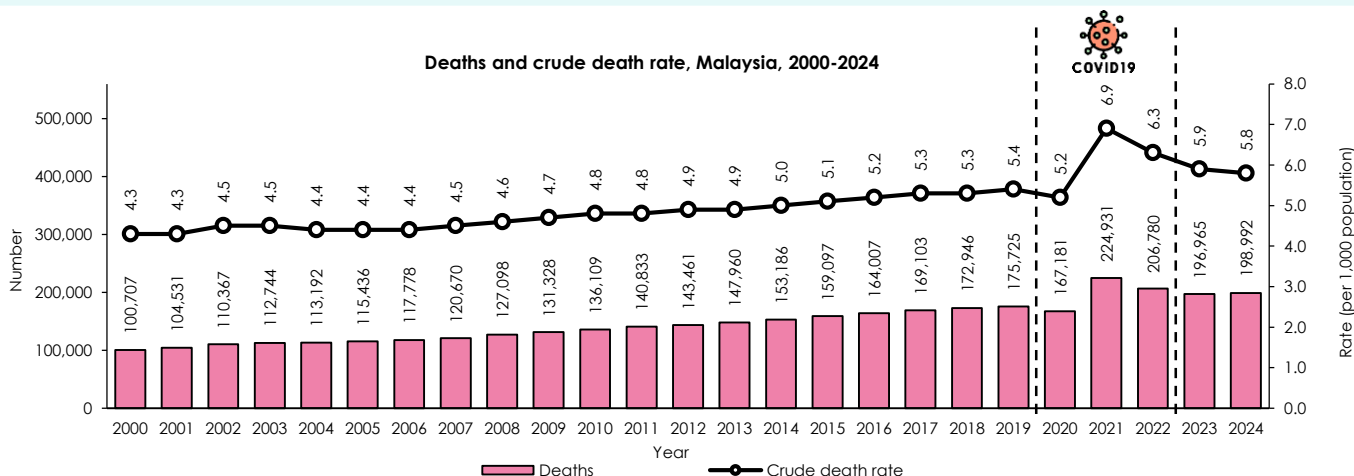


Birth and death statistics



Live births in 2024 declined to the lowest level with 414,918 births recorded

The number of live births decreased 122,935 births from 537,853 births in 2000 to 414,918 births in 2024. The crude birth rate (CBR) also recorded a decrease from 22.9 births in 2000 to 12.2 births per 1,000 population in 2024.



Deaths show a significantly increasing trend after the COVID-19 pandemic period

The number of deaths increased 98,285 from 198,992 deaths in 2000 to 198,992 deaths in 2024. The crude death rate (CDR) also recorded an increase from 4.3 deaths in 2000 to 5.8 deaths per 1,000 population in 2024.

Principal causes of death

Ischaemic heart diseases remained the principal causes of death in Malaysia for the period 2010-2019



Information Corner

Causes of death from 2010-2019 have been classified using ICD-10

The principal causes of death for Ischaemic Heart Diseases by State and Administrative District, 2010-2019

	State	%		Administrative District	%
2010	Melaka	18.4	2010	Bandar Baharu	28.5
2011	Melaka	20.0	2011	Hulu Terengganu	23.5
2012	Melaka	22.1	2012	Machang	26.9
2013	Melaka	21.0	2013	Kuala Krai	25.3
2014	Melaka	21.3	2014	Jasin	24.3
2015	Melaka	20.1	2015	Barat Daya	22.7
2016	Melaka	21.9	2016	Selangau	24.0
2017	Melaka	19.6	2017	Alor Gajah	19.8
2018	Melaka	19.3	2018	Batu Pahat	26.9
2019	Kelantan	19.2	2019	Sik	27.6

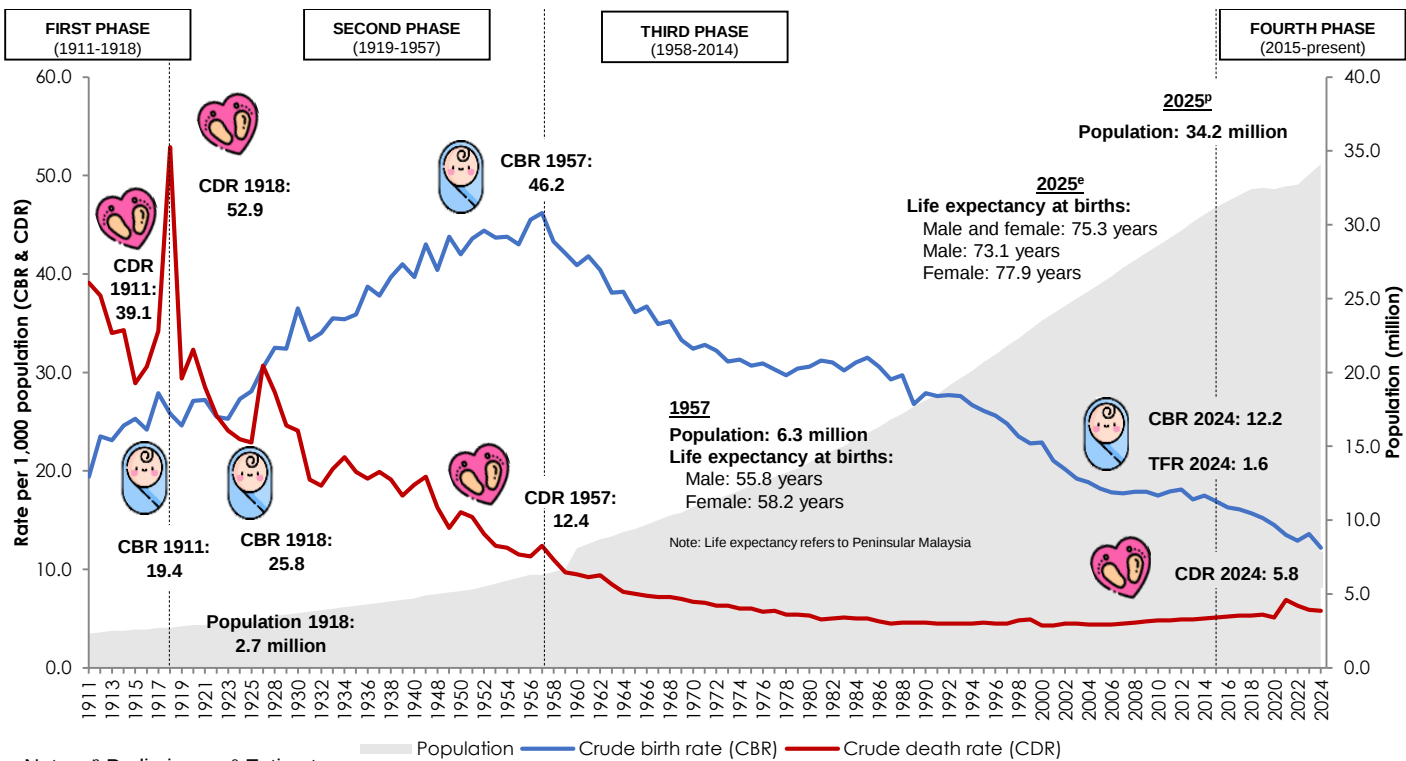
Note:

- The analysis is based on medically certified causes of death.
- Percentage (%) refers to the highest contribution of deaths due to Ischaemic heart diseases to the total deaths within the respective state and administrative district.



Demographic Transition

Malaysia is moving towards the fifth stage of the demographic transition



The first phase (1911-1918) illustrates that both the crude birth rate (CBR) and crude death rate (CDR) were high during this period with a slow population growth. CBR recorded with 19.4 births in 1911 increased to 25.8 births in 1918. During the same period, the CDR also recorded an increase from 39.1 deaths in 1911 to 52.9 deaths per 1,000 population in 1918. However, the CDR began to decline starting in 1919, while the CBR continued to increase until 1957, indicating improvements in health conditions and rising life expectancy during the second phase (1919-1957). A high CBR also contributes to population growth.

The population pattern shifted into the third phase (1958-2014), the CBR began to decline slowly from its peak of 46.2 births in 1957. However, the population growth remained high during this period due to higher CBR as compared to the lower CDR. The fourth phase (2015-present) marks a period where the CBR continues to decline and approaches the CDR while the total fertility rate (TFR) recorded below the replacement level (2.1 children) starting in 2015 with 2.0 children per woman aged 15-49 years.

Vital Statistics Time Series, Malaysia, 2010-2019 and Statistics on Causes of Death Time Series, Malaysia, 2010-2019 have been released on 12 May 2026. Please visit the official portal of the Department of Statistics Malaysia at www.dosm.gov.my



Life Expectancy Calculator



<http://kalkulator.dosm.gov.my/lifeexpectancy>



Web

Available on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

Dashboard Unjuran Penduduk



<https://www.dosm.gov.my/UnjuranPenduduk>



DOSM GeoHub



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