



## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

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### **STATISTICS ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN SELECTED DOMAINS, MALAYSIA, 2024**

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**MALAYSIA GENDER GAP INDEX HITS SCORE 0.705  
AS TWO SUB-INDICES REMAINS HIGH, EDUCATION ATTAINMENT 1.071 AND  
HEALTH & SURVIVAL 0.956**

**PUTRAJAYA, 18<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2024** – The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) has released the **Statistics on Women Empowerment in Selected Domains, Malaysia, 2024**, marking the eighth series since 2017 today. This report presents statistics related to gender in Malaysia focusing on the core set of gender indicators covering eleven domains. The statistics were prepared based on latest available data from DOSM and various agencies.

This report highlights **Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI)** which identifies the gap between women and men across four sub-indices encompassing Economic participation and opportunity, Educational attainment, Health and survival and Political empowerment. A score with a value of 1.0 (100%) indicates the equality of women and men has been achieved.

Commenting on the report, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, Chief Statistician Malaysia said, "**Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI)** scored **0.705, or 70.5 per cent in 2023, decreased 0.4 percentage points as compared to 0.709 (70.9%) in 2022.**"

**Economic participation and opportunity** sub-index recorded a score of 0.698 (69.8%). The methodology for estimated earned income indicator within the Economic participation and opportunities sub-index has been revised using the ratio of females to males current salaries and wages. This publication incorporates time series comparison using the revised methodology. In terms of labour force participation rate (LFPR), female recorded 56.2 per cent in 2023. Female LFPR is one of the indicators in this sub-index. However, the LFPR for female graduates in 2023 showed a higher percentage at 83.2 per cent. Mean monthly salaries and wages for female graduates increase to RM4,683 in 2023 (2022: RM4,435). Based on findings from Economic Census 2023, there were 219,015 women-owned establishments across all sectors in 2022, as compared to 187,265 establishments in 2015.

Achievement of women has surpassed men in the **Educational attainment** sub-index with a score of 1.071 (107.1%). Enrolment of females are consistently higher than males in primary, secondary and tertiary levels since a decade ago. In 2023, the gross enrolment rates for females in primary and secondary level were 99.5 per cent and 94.9 per cent, respectively. At tertiary level, women recorded 50.7 per cent as compared to men (33.8%). This achievement reflects the country's commitment to provide access to high-quality education.

**Health and survival** sub-index recorded a score of 0.956 (95.6%) in 2023. The average life expectancy for women at birth in Malaysia stands at 76.6 years, 11 years longer than five decades ago, 65.6 years (1970).

**Political empowerment** sub-index recorded the lowest score at 0.096 (9.6%), as 16.1 per cent of women held ministerial positions in 2023. There is an opportunity for advancing women's leadership within the country's political system, highlighting the significance of their participation in both the economy and education.

This publication also presents MGGI scores by state for 2023. According to Chief Statistician, "The top three states that recorded the higher MGGI score in 2023 were W.P. Kuala Lumpur (0.776), W.P. Putrajaya (0.773) and W.P. Labuan (0.756). Seven other states that recorded MGGI above the national level, namely Kelantan (0.737), Negeri Sembilan (0.718), Melaka, Selangor and Sabah (0.715), Perak (0.711) and

*Kedah (0.707)."*

*He also shared some key facts and statistics about women. He commented, "It is estimated that 15.9 million (47.7%) of Malaysia population are female out of a total of 33.4 million in 2023. There were 219,780 baby girls born out of a total of 455,761 live births in 2023."*

*In terms of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), Malaysia has made significant achievements in tracking gender-specific indicators relevant to the SDG, particularly in relation to Goal 5, which focuses on achieving gender equality. Out of 54 gender-specific indicators across all goals in SDG, 44 indicators are Available, while 6 Partially Available and Need Development, 2 remain Not Available and 2 Not Relevant. Thus, based on 52 relevant gender-specific indicators for Malaysia, the country has achieved 84.6 per cent availability in Malaysia. For indicator 5.5.2, the proportion of women in managerial positions increased to 25.4 per cent in 2023 as compared to 23.8 per cent in 2022 which demonstrate progress towards ensuring women's participation and leadership opportunities in various sectors. This progress shows Malaysia's commitment to enhance gender equality and empower women and girls as reflected in various national policies and international commitments.*

*Malaysia is committed to work towards gender equality and advancing the rights of women and girls acknowledging the important role that women play in society. The government's continuous efforts and commitments towards achieving gender equality are in line with the SDG and Twelfth Malaysia Plan (12MP). In this regard, DOSM is committed to provide statistics related to gender equality. Recognising the essential role of data in driving evidence-based policies and interventions, DOSM continues to prioritise the collection, analysis and dissemination of gender-disaggregated data and statistics to stimulate gender-responsive initiatives and foster inclusive development.*

*The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) has launched OpenDOSM NextGen*

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as a medium that provides data catalogue and visualisations to facilitate users' analysis and can be accessed through <https://open.dosm.gov.my>.

The Government of Malaysia has declared National Statistics Day (MyStats Day) on October 20th. MyStats Day theme is "Statistics is the Essence of Life". DOSM commemorates its 75<sup>th</sup> Diamond Jubilee in 2024.

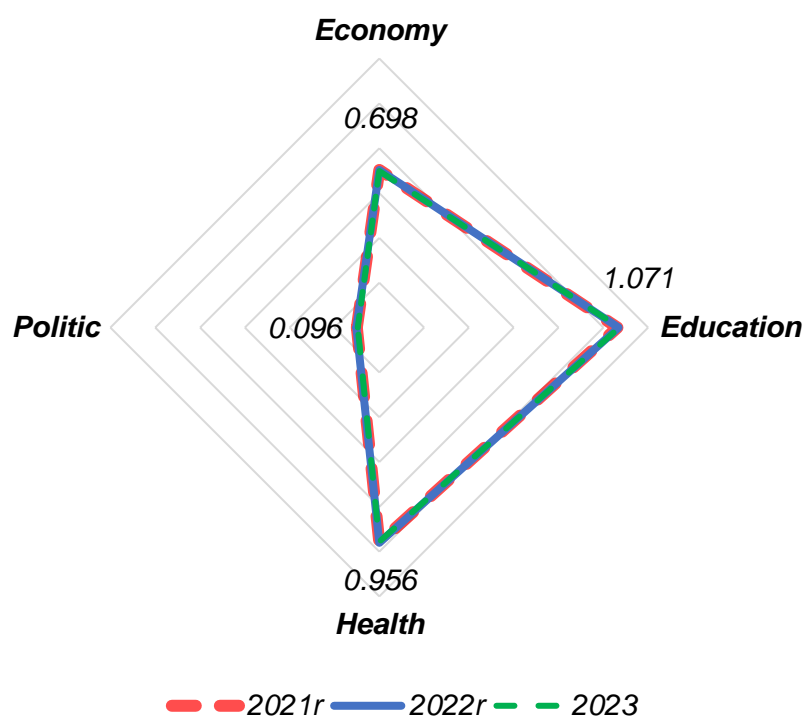
**Table 1: Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI) score, 2021-2023**

<b>Sub-index</b>	<b>2021<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>2022<sup>r</sup></b>	<b>2023</b>
<i>Economic participation and opportunity</i>	0.703	0.703	0.698
<i>Educational attainment</i>	1.063	1.068	1.071
<i>Health and survival</i>	0.960	0.961	0.956
<i>Political empowerment</i>	0.100	0.102	0.096
<b>MGGI score</b>	<b>0.707</b>	<b>0.709</b>	<b>0.705</b>

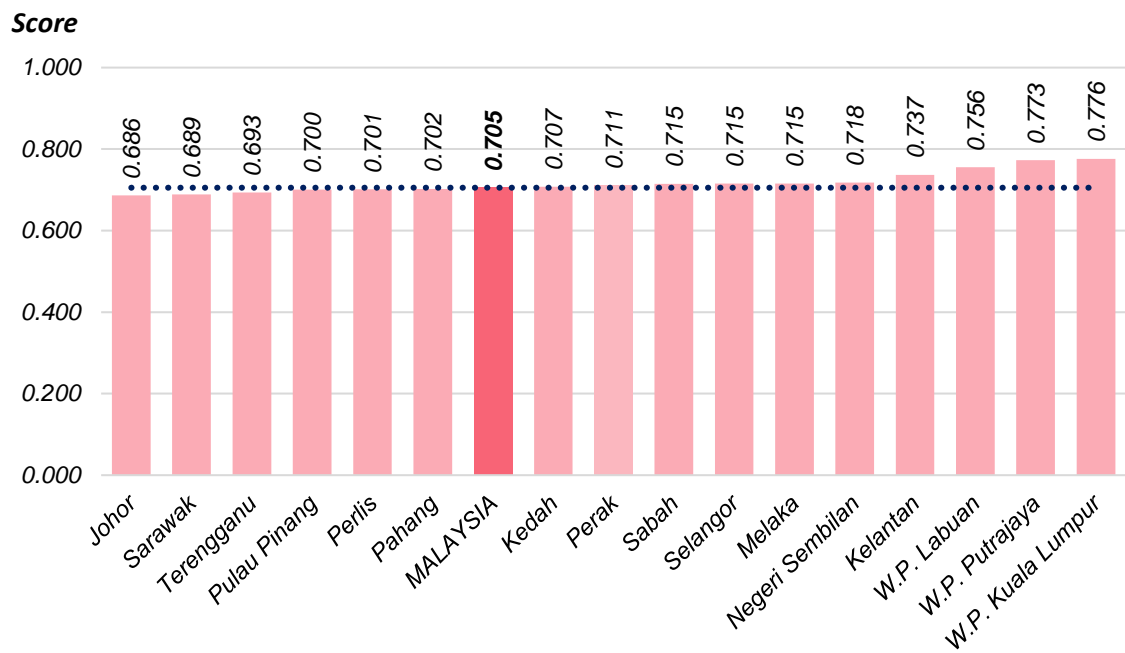
**Note:**

<sup>r</sup> Revised

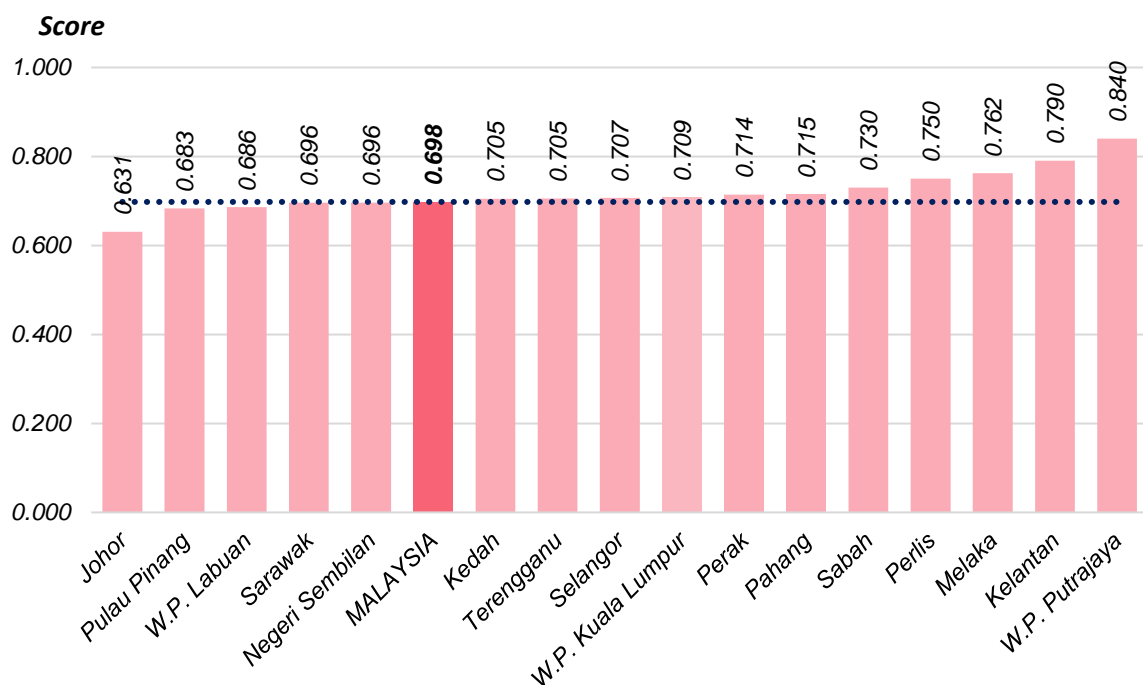
**Chart 1: Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI) score by sub-index, 2021-2023**



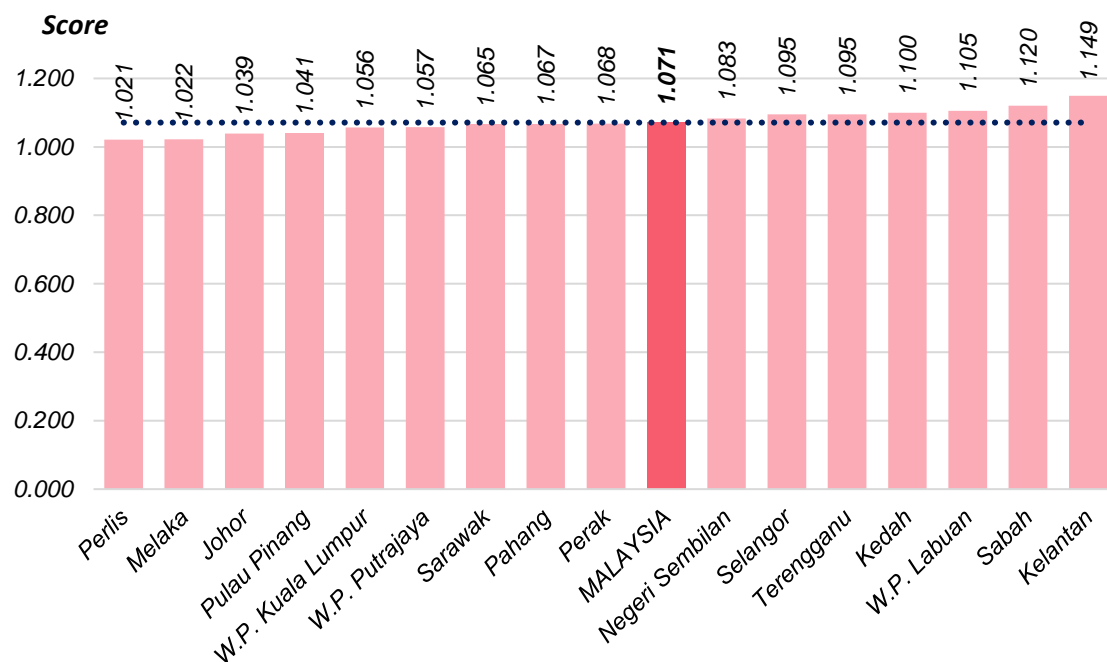
**Chart 2: Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI) 2023 by state**



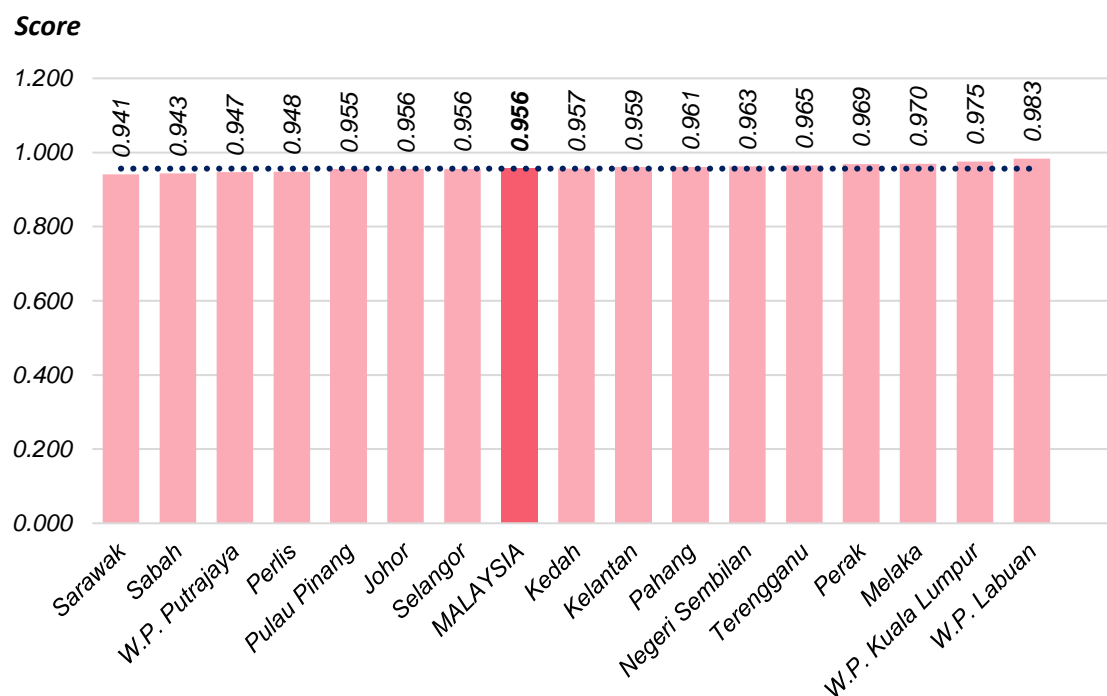
**Chart 3: MGGI 2023 score for Economic participation and opportunity sub-index by state**



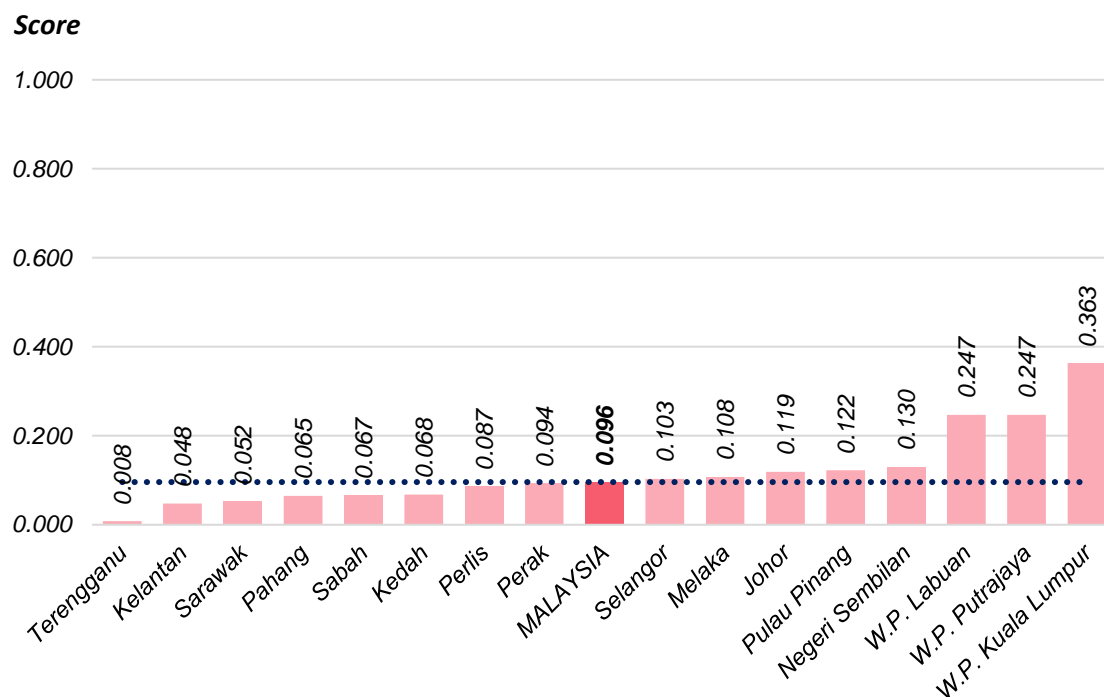
**Chart 4: MGGI 2023 score for Educational attainment sub-index by state**



**Chart 5: MGGI 2023 score for Health and survival sub-index by state**



**Chart 6: MGGI 2023 score for Political empowerment sub-index by state**



Released by:

**THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA**

**DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA**

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