

Embargo: Only to be published or disseminated at 1200 hour, Thursday, October 16th 2025



MEDIA STATEMENT

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VITAL STATISTICS, MALAYSIA, 2025

MALAYSIA RECORDS THE LOWEST NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS SINCE 1980 WITH 414,918 BIRTHS IN 2024

PUTRAJAYA, 16th OCTOBER, 2025 – Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM) has released the publication on **Vital Statistics, Malaysia, 2025** today. This report presents comprehensive data on births and deaths by demographic characteristics at national, state, and administrative district levels for 2024. These vital statistics capturing key life events which serve as essential inputs for the formulation of national policies and the planning of programmes in areas such as population, health, education, employment and others.

Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, Chief Statistician Malaysia highlighted that, "Malaysia records the lowest number of live births since 1980 with 414,918 births in 2024, a decrease of 9.0 per cent (40,843 births) as compared to 455,761 births in 2023. More male babies were recorded than female babies with 213,919 and 200,999, respectively. The decrease in the number of live births has contributed to the decline in crude birth rate (CBR) from 13.6 births in 2023 to 12.2 births per 1,000 population in 2024. The sex ratio at birth (SRB) recorded a decrease from 107.4 males in 2023 to 106.4 males for every 100 females in 2024.

Malay accounted 65.7 per cent (272,718) of the total live births in 2024 as compared to 67.0 per cent (305,494) in 2023. Live births for Chinese recorded an

increase from 9.8 per cent (44,818) to 10.8 per cent (44,914), while Indians recorded a decrease from 4.4 per cent (20,064) to 4.3 per cent (17,914) in 2024. Meanwhile, Other Bumiputera decreased to 12.5 per cent (2023: 12.7%). Other Bumiputera consists of Sabah Bumiputera, Sarawak Bumiputera and other Bumiputera Peninsular Malaysia. Sabah Bumiputera contributed 58.4 per cent of Other Bumiputera which comprised Kadazan/ Dusun (35.0%), Bajau (29.9%), Murut (6.7%) and other Sabah Bumiputera (28.4%). Sarawak Bumiputera (33.5%) comprised Iban (59.1%), Bidayuh (17.2%), Melanau (11.7%) and other Sarawak Bumiputera (12.0%).

All states recorded a decrease in CBR in 2024 as compared to 2023. Terengganu recorded the highest CBR with 19.3 births, while Pulau Pinang recorded the lowest CBR with 10.1 births per 1,000 population. Other than that, six states recorded CBR higher than national level (12.2), namely Terengganu (19.3), Kelantan (16.9), Kedah (13.8), W.P. Labuan (13.0), Pahang (12.9) and W.P. Putrajaya (12.9).

This report also presents the number of live births and CBR at the administrative district level in Malaysia. The administrative district of Song, Sarawak recorded the highest CBR in 2024 with 22.6 births per 1,000 population. This was followed by four districts in Terengganu namely Marang (22.1), Setiu (20.8), Besut (20.7) and Kuala Terengganu (20.6). Meanwhile, Kinabatangan, Sabah recorded the lowest CBR with 4.2 births per 1,000 population, followed by Kalabakan, Sabah (4.9); Timur Laut, Pulau Pinang (6.3); Tongod, Sabah (6.5) and Telupid, Sabah (6.9).

He also added, “The total fertility rate (TFR) recorded a decrease from 1.7 children in 2023 to 1.6 children for every woman aged 15-49 years in 2024. Since 1970 to 2012, the national TFR was still above the replacement level of 2.1 children. However, the TFR started to decline below the replacement level from 2013 onwards. The replacement level of 2.1 children indicates that the average number of children born per woman throughout her reproductive life has been sufficient to replace herself and her partner”.

TFR for all major ethnic groups decrease except for Chinese which remained unchanged with 0.9 children in 2024. Malay recorded the highest TFR with 1.9 children in 2024, while Chinese recorded the lowest TFR with 0.9 children per woman aged 15-49 years. TFR for

all major ethnic groups was below replacement level. At the state level, Terengganu recorded the highest TFR with 2.6 children, while Pulau Pinang recorded the lowest TFR with 1.2 children per woman aged 15-49 years. In addition, five states recorded TFR higher than national level (1.6), namely Terengganu (2.6), Kelantan (2.3), Pahang (1.9), Kedah (1.8) and W.P. Putrajaya (1.8). These scenario showed that only Terengganu and Kelantan remained above replacement level.

At the administrative district level, Bukit Mabong, Sarawak recorded the highest TFR in 2024 with 4.0 children per woman aged 15-49 years. This was followed by Song, Sarawak (3.8); Marang, Terengganu (3.1); Pasir Puteh, Kelantan (3.1) and Besut, Terengganu (3.0). Meanwhile, Kinabatangan, Sabah recorded the lowest TFR with 0.4 children per woman aged 15-49 years, followed by Kalabakan, Sabah (0.5); Tongod, Sabah (0.7); Timur Laut, Pulau Pinang (0.7) and Telupid, Sabah (0.8).

For ASEAN, four countries namely Lao PDR (2.4), Cambodia (2.5), Myanmar (2.1) and Indonesia (2.1) recorded TFR above the replacement level in 2024. This was in line with the high CBR recorded for the countries.

Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin also said, "The number of deaths in 2024 was 198,992 deaths, increased 1.0 per cent (2,027 deaths) as compared to 196,965 deaths in 2023. The crude death rate (CDR) recorded a decrease from 5.9 deaths (2023) to 5.8 deaths (2024) per 1,000 population. The number of male deaths in 2024 was 113,866 deaths or 57.2 per cent of the total deaths. Meanwhile, female deaths were 85,126 deaths (42.8%). The mortality sex ratio (MSR) recorded an increase from 132.6 males in 2023 to 133.8 males for every 100 females in 2024.

Malay registered 51.8 per cent (103,118) of total number of deaths in 2024 as compared to 51.7 per cent (101,829) in 2023. Deaths for Chinese and Indians remained unchanged at 26.3 per cent and 8.4 per cent respectively, in 2024. Meanwhile, Other Bumiputera decreased to 10.6 per cent (2023: 10.7%). Sabah Bumiputera contributed 49.7 per cent of Other Bumiputera which comprised Kadazan/ Dusun (38.8%), Bajau (26.3%), Murut (5.6%) and other Sabah Bumiputera (29.3%). Sarawak Bumiputera (41.4%) comprised Iban (61.7%), Bidayuh (15.8 %), Melanau (12.0%) and other Sarawak Bumiputera (10.5%).

Perak recorded the highest CDR with 8.2 deaths, while W.P. Putrajaya recorded the lowest CDR with 2.5 deaths per 1,000 population. On the other hand, 11 states recorded CDR higher than national level (5.9), namely Perak (8.2), Kedah (7.6), Perlis (7.5), Pulau Pinang (7.1), Negeri Sembilan (7.0), Sarawak (6.5), Pahang (6.3), Terengganu (6.2), Kelantan (6.2), Johor (6.0) and Melaka (6.0).

At the administrative district level, Song, Sarawak recorded the highest CDR in 2024 with 15.0 deaths per 1,000 population. This was followed by Kanowit, Sarawak (14.0); Selama, Perak (12.9); Tanjung Manis, Sarawak (12.8) and Maradong, Sarawak (12.0). Meanwhile, Kinabatangan, Sabah recorded the lowest CDR with 1.6 deaths per 1,000 population. This was followed by Kalabakan, Sabah (2.3); Telupid, Sabah (2.3); Samarahan, Sarawak (2.4) and Tongod, Sabah (3.0).

Age group 70-74 years recorded the highest number of deaths in 2024 with 24,513 deaths (12.3%) as compared to other age group. Meanwhile, age group 5-9 years recorded the lowest number with 412 deaths (0.2%) in 2024. This publication also presents indicator for mean and median age at deaths. The mean age of deaths recorded a decrease from 65.5 years in 2023 to 65.4 years in 2024. Meanwhile, the median age of deaths remained unchanged in 2024 with 69.0 years.

ASEAN-Malaysia 2025 Chairmanship: The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) will chair the 15th ASEAN Community Statistical System Committee (ACSS15) which aims to strengthen the statistical cooperation towards sustainable regional development.

Malaysia, for the first time, ranked as number one (1) globally in the biennial Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25 report released by Open Data Watch (ODW), surpassing 197 other countries. This achievement marks a significant leap from its 67th position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.

The Government of Malaysia has declared October 20th as National Statistics Day (MyStats Day), with the theme 'Statistics is the Essence of Life'. Meanwhile, the Fourth World Statistics Day will be celebrated on 20th October 2025, with the theme 'Driving Change with Quality Statistics and Data for Everyone'.

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

Chart 1: Live births and crude birth rate, Malaysia, 2015-2024

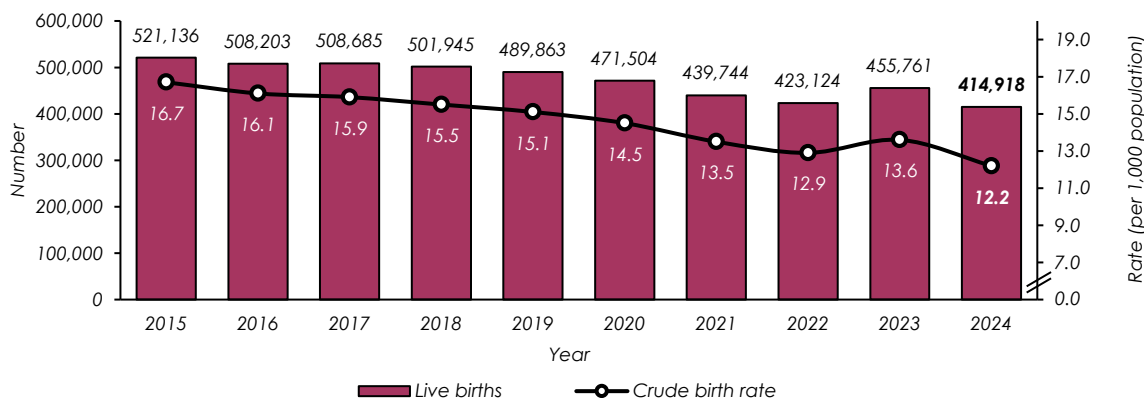


Chart 2: Live births by ethnic group, Malaysia, 2023 and 2024

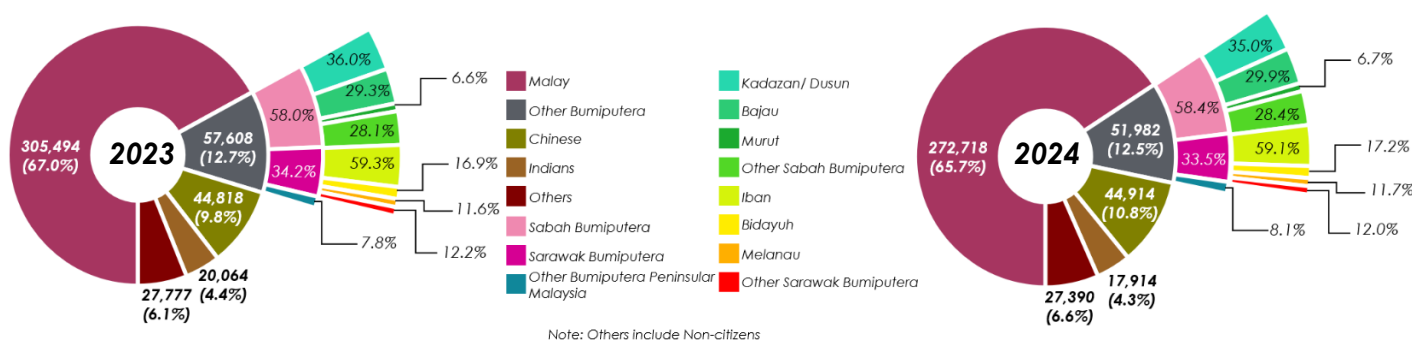
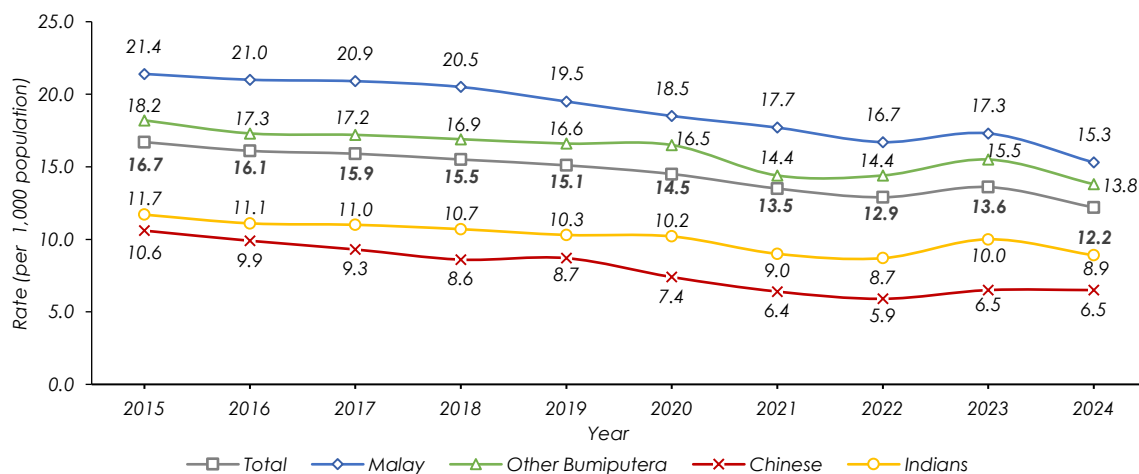


Chart 3: Crude birth rate by major ethnic group, Malaysia, 2015-2024



Note: Total includes Others ethnic and Non-citizens

Chart 4: Total fertility rate, Malaysia, 1970-2024

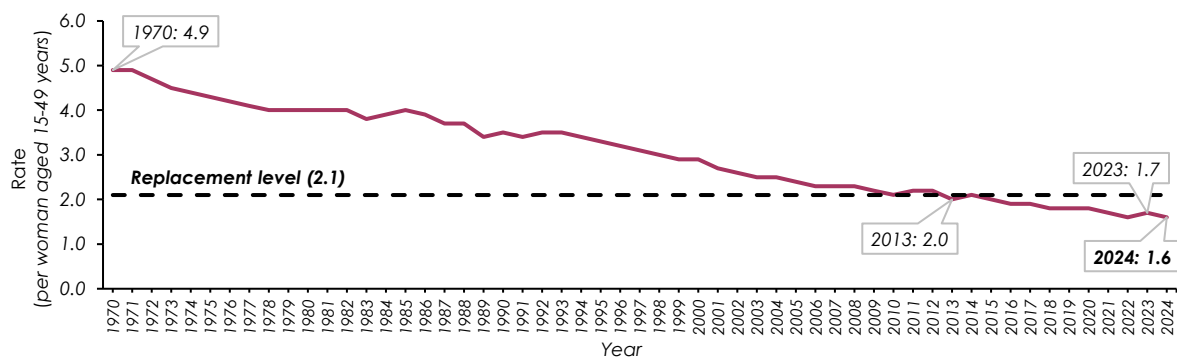
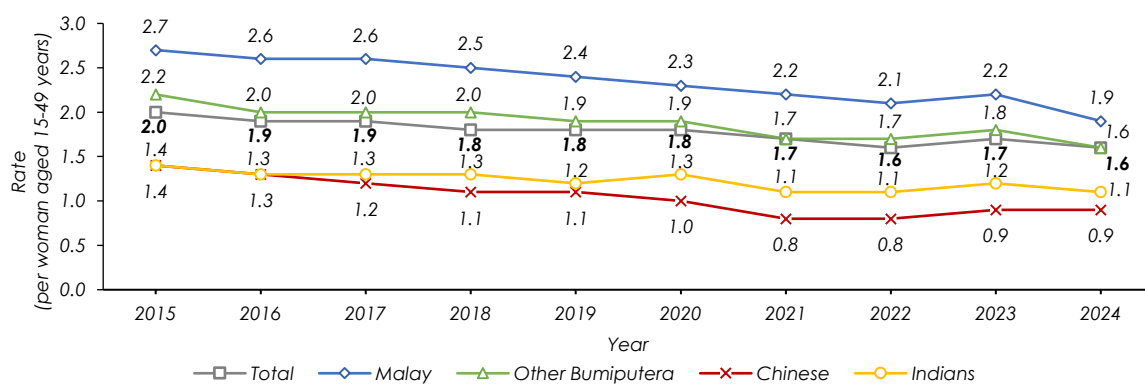


Chart 5: Total fertility rate by major ethnic group, Malaysia, 2015-2024



Note: Total includes Others ethnic and Non-citizens

Chart 6: Deaths and crude death rate, Malaysia, 2015-2024

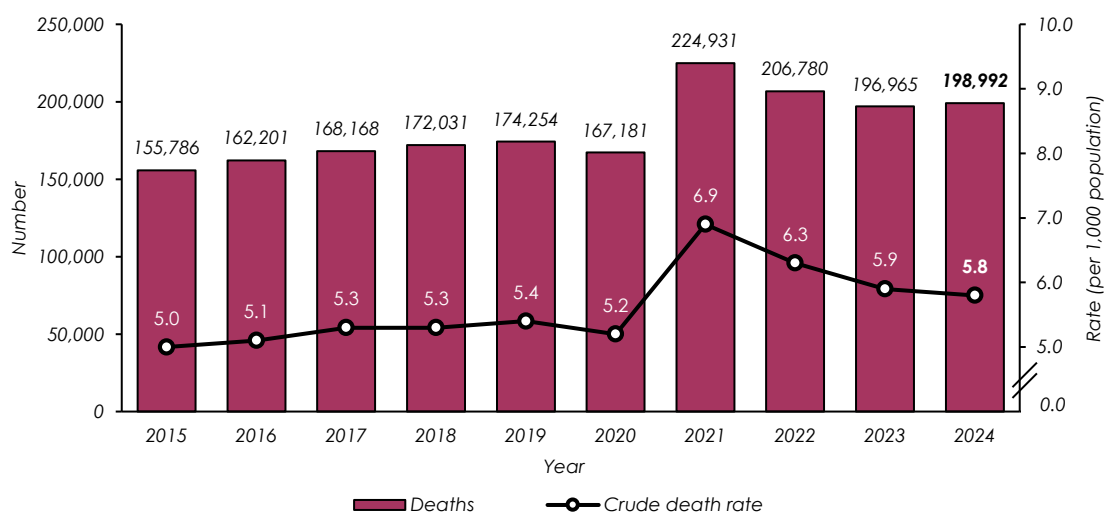


Chart 7: Deaths by ethnic group, Malaysia, 2023 and 2024

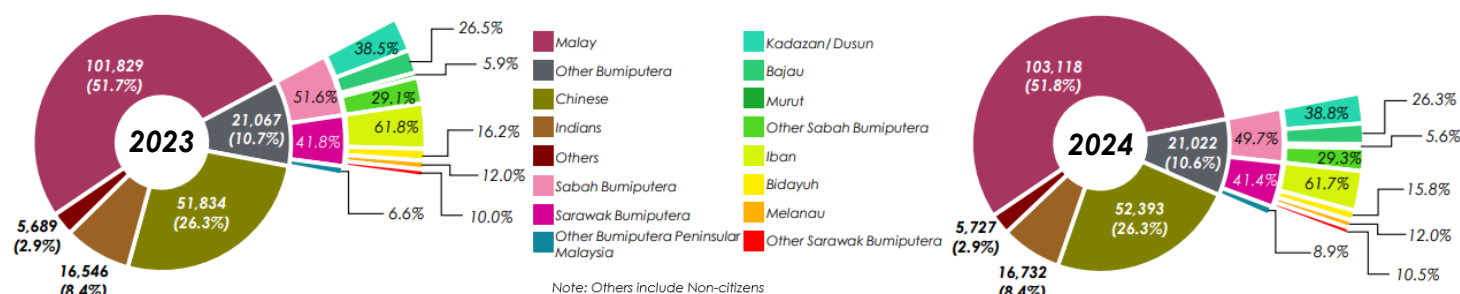


Chart 8: Crude death rate by major ethnic group, Malaysia, 2015-2024

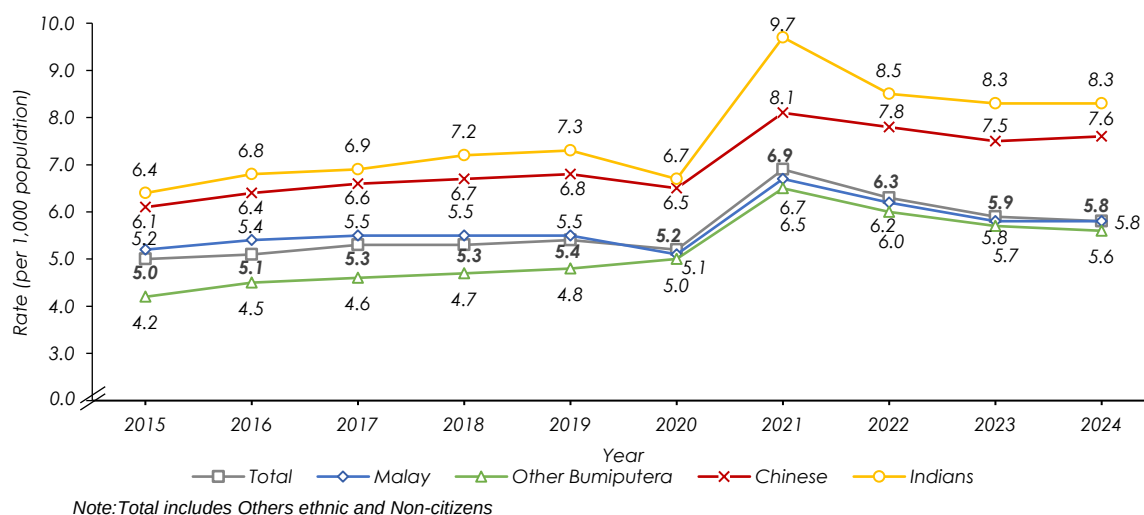


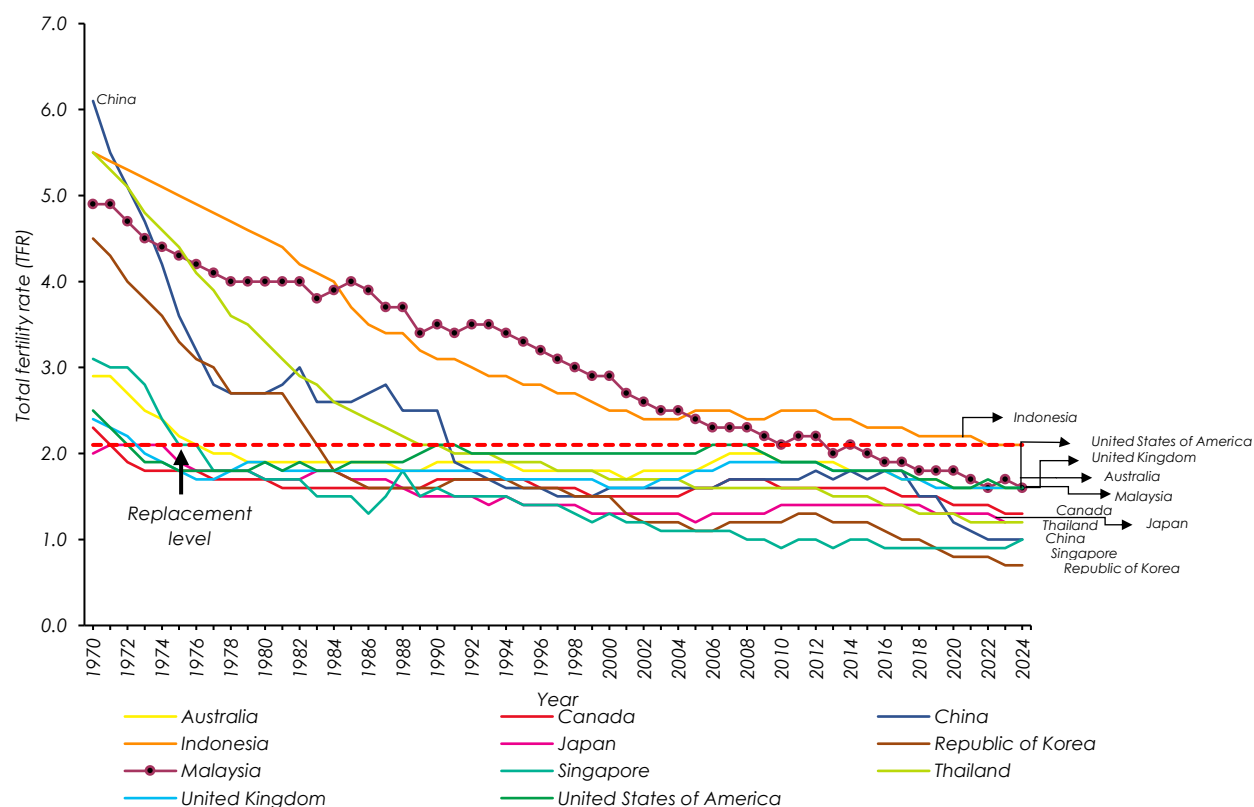
Table 1: The number of deaths by age group, Malaysia, 2015-2024

Age group	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	155,786	162,201	168,168	172,031	174,254	167,181	224,931	206,780	196,965	198,992
0	3,582	3,390	3,496	3,622	3,220	2,801	2,704	2,871	3,054	2,974
1-4	786	743	799	805	758	641	541	784	709	628
5-9	604	578	618	627	547	337	370	481	474	412
10-14	798	733	774	691	657	509	501	619	696	674
15-19	1,909	2,032	1,860	1,759	1,596	1,213	1,256	1,467	1,605	1,657
20-24	2,317	2,466	2,318	2,307	2,147	1,813	2,107	2,118	1,975	2,177
25-29	2,464	2,340	2,465	2,414	2,426	2,216	3,033	2,388	2,340	2,507
30-34	3,175	3,242	3,156	3,120	3,029	2,923	4,164	3,228	3,070	3,243
35-39	3,864	3,974	3,855	4,113	4,155	4,083	6,146	4,678	4,495	4,654
40-44	5,108	5,228	5,250	5,323	5,604	5,540	8,392	6,449	6,282	6,489
45-49	7,130	7,133	7,427	7,382	7,454	7,446	11,304	8,600	8,177	8,465
50-54	10,206	10,353	10,579	10,883	10,735	10,432	14,731	11,873	11,092	11,033
55-59	13,134	13,630	14,275	14,544	14,614	13,925	19,431	15,912	15,331	15,307
60-64	14,906	16,122	16,907	17,480	18,085	17,092	24,029	21,035	19,453	19,670
65-69	16,977	17,650	18,532	19,048	19,581	19,090	26,434	23,653	23,024	22,876
70-74	16,775	17,758	19,001	19,494	20,386	20,181	26,957	24,990	24,516	24,513
75-79	19,339	19,405	20,151	20,010	19,700	18,630	24,157	24,465	23,450	24,079
80-84	15,323	16,944	18,106	19,183	19,509	18,699	22,993	23,434	21,211	20,783
85-89	10,413	11,249	11,479	11,612	11,847	11,747	15,519	16,865	16,179	16,890
90-94	5,030	5,201	5,100	5,440	5,674	5,626	7,417	7,900	7,150	7,212
95 and over	1,946	2,030	2,020	2,174	2,530	2,237	2,745	2,970	2,682	2,749

Table 2: The percentage of deaths by age group, Malaysia, 2015-2024

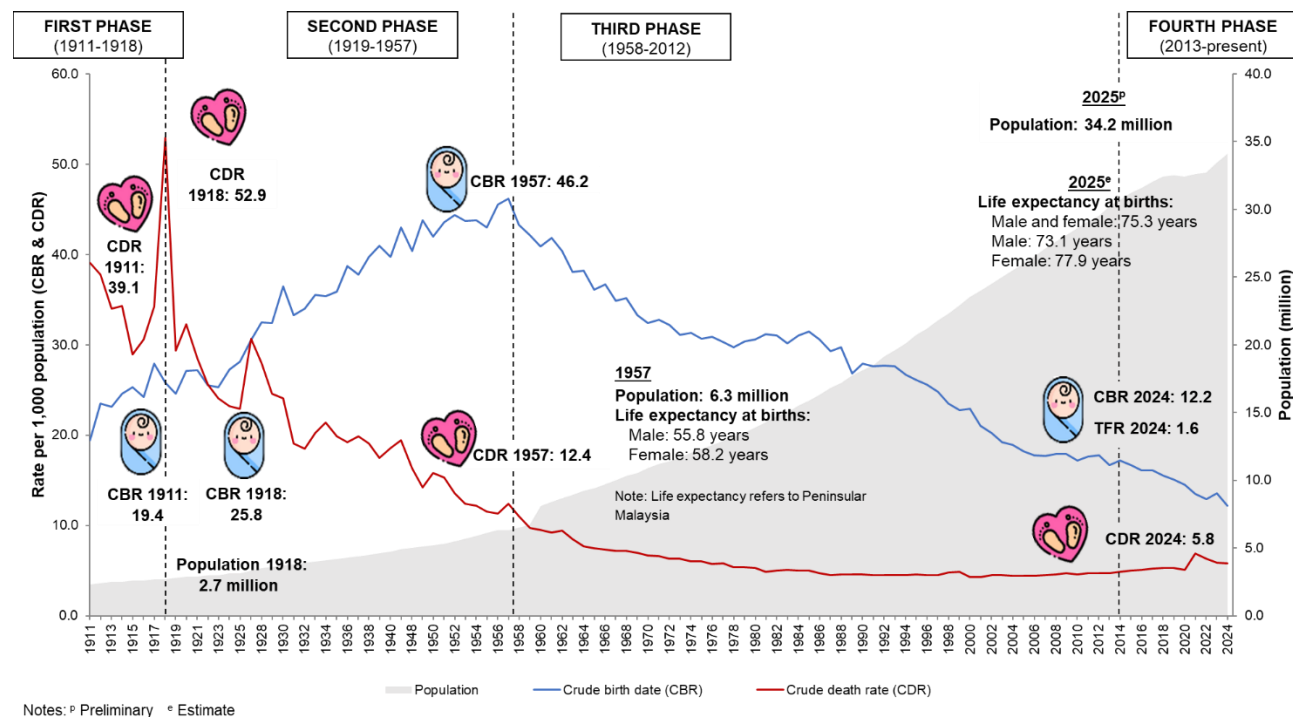
Age group	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
0	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.5
1-4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3
5-9	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
10-14	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3
15-19	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8
20-24	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1
25-29	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.3
30-34	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.6
35-39	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.7	2.3	2.3	2.3
40-44	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.7	3.1	3.2	3.3
45-49	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.5	5.0	4.2	4.2	4.3
50-54	6.6	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.5	5.7	5.6	5.5
55-59	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.6	7.7	7.8	7.7
60-64	9.6	9.9	10.1	10.2	10.4	10.2	10.7	10.2	9.9	9.9
65-69	10.9	10.9	11.0	11.1	11.2	11.4	11.8	11.4	11.7	11.5
70-74	10.8	10.9	11.3	11.3	11.7	12.1	12.0	12.1	12.4	12.3
75-79	12.4	11.9	11.8	11.6	11.3	11.3	10.9	11.8	11.7	12.1
80-84	9.8	10.4	10.8	11.2	11.2	11.2	10.2	11.3	10.8	10.4
85-89	6.7	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.8	7.0	6.9	8.2	8.2	8.5
90-94	3.2	3.2	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.8	3.6	3.6
95 and over	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.4

Chart 9: Total fertility rate (TFR) by selected countries, 1970-2024



Source: World Population Prospects 2024 except for Malaysia (Vital Statistics, Malaysia, various year)

Chart 10: Demographic Transition, Malaysia, 1911-2024



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THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
16 OCTOBER 2025