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## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**MINISTRY OF ECONOMY  
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### **CHILDREN STATISTICS, MALAYSIA, 2025 NOVEMBER 2025**

#### ***Children in need of care and protection up 12.7 per cent in 2024***

**PUTRAJAYA, NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2025** – The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) has officially released **Children Statistics, Malaysia, 2025**, a comprehensive publication that presents key indicators on the well-being of children nationwide. The report covers population demographics, health, education, child protection as well as children involved in crime. Its aligned with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) guidelines.

Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, stated, "According to the 2025 population estimates, Malaysia is home to 9.03 million children under the age of 18, representing 26.4 per cent of the total population of 34.23 million. Of these, 4.66 million are boys and 4.37 million are girls. Children under five years of age total 2.31 million".

W.P. Putrajaya recorded the highest percentage of children under 18 (39.9%), followed by Kelantan (33.5%) and Terengganu (32.9%). Selangor recorded the highest number of children at 1.81 million, while W.P. Labuan recorded the lowest at 0.03 million.

In terms of health, infant immunisation coverage declined in 2024 across all five major immunisations. Coverage for Polio, DTP, HIB and Hepatitis B each fell by 6.1 percentage points, while BCG declined by 0.3 percentage points.

The number of registered Child Care Centres (TASKA) increased by 1.4 per cent to 3,198 in 2024. Johor recorded the highest growth at 29.4 per cent, while W.P. Putrajaya experienced the largest decrease at 21.0 per cent. Government and government-aided school enrolment declined by 0.2 per cent, with a 3.0 per cent drop at the upper secondary level. Private school enrolment also decreased by 0.3 per cent, primarily due to a 3.4 per cent decline in kindergarten enrolment.

*The number of children in need of care and protection rose by 12.7 per cent to 9,624 cases in 2024. Girls accounted for 6,031 cases, while boys saw a sharper increase of 15.2 per cent as compared to 11.3 per cent among girls.*

*The number of children involved in crime decreased by 4.2 per cent to 2,627 cases. Bumiputera children made up the majority at 82.2 per cent, followed by Chinese (9.0%), Indians (4.9%) and Others (4.1%).*

*The **Children Statistics, Malaysia, 2025** publication is now available to the public and serves as a valuable resource for policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders committed to improving child welfare and development.*

*The full report Children Statistics, Malaysia, 2025 can be downloaded for free on the Department of Statistics, Malaysia portal ([www.dosm.gov.my](http://www.dosm.gov.my)).*

*ASEAN-Malaysia 2025 Chairmanship: The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) will chair the 15<sup>th</sup> 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 67<sup>th</sup> position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.*

*The Government of Malaysia has declared October 20<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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>.*

**Table 1: Population by age group and sex, Malaysia, 2024 and 2025**

('000)

|                         | <br><b>Total</b> |                   | <br><b>Boys</b> |                   | <br><b>Girls</b> |                   |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
|                         | 2024                                                                                              | 2025 <sup>P</sup> | 2024                                                                                              | 2025 <sup>P</sup> | 2024                                                                                                | 2025 <sup>P</sup> |
| <b>Total population</b> | <b>34,052.1</b>                                                                                   | <b>34,231.7</b>   | <b>17,878.8</b>                                                                                   | <b>17,957.6</b>   | <b>16,173.3</b>                                                                                     | <b>16,274.1</b>   |
| Under 18                | 9,141.8                                                                                           | 9,026.3           | 4,720.6                                                                                           | 4,660.1           | 4,421.2                                                                                             | 4,366.2           |
| Under-5                 | 2,355.2                                                                                           | 2,306.6           | 1,214.7                                                                                           | 1,192.4           | 1,140.5                                                                                             | 1,114.2           |

**Notes:**

<sup>P</sup> Preliminary

i. The data refers to the mid-year current population estimates based on the Population and Housing Census Malaysia, 2020

ii. The added total may differ due to rounding

**Exhibit 1: Children (0 to <18 years) by state, Malaysia, 2025**



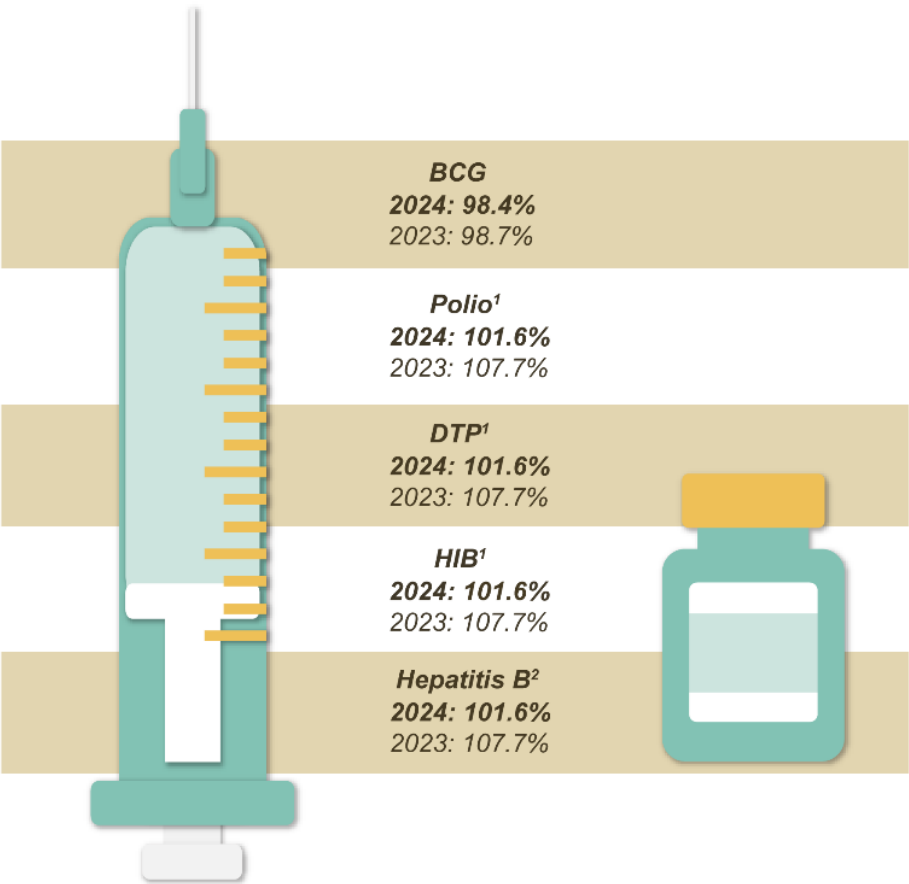
**Notes:**

<sup>P</sup> Preliminary

i. The data refers to the mid-year current population estimates based on the Population and Housing Census Malaysia, 2020

ii. The added total may differ due to rounding

**Exhibit 2: Immunisation coverage for infant, Malaysia, 2023 and 2024**



**Notes:**  
<sup>1</sup> Third dose  
<sup>2</sup> Fourth dose for 2021

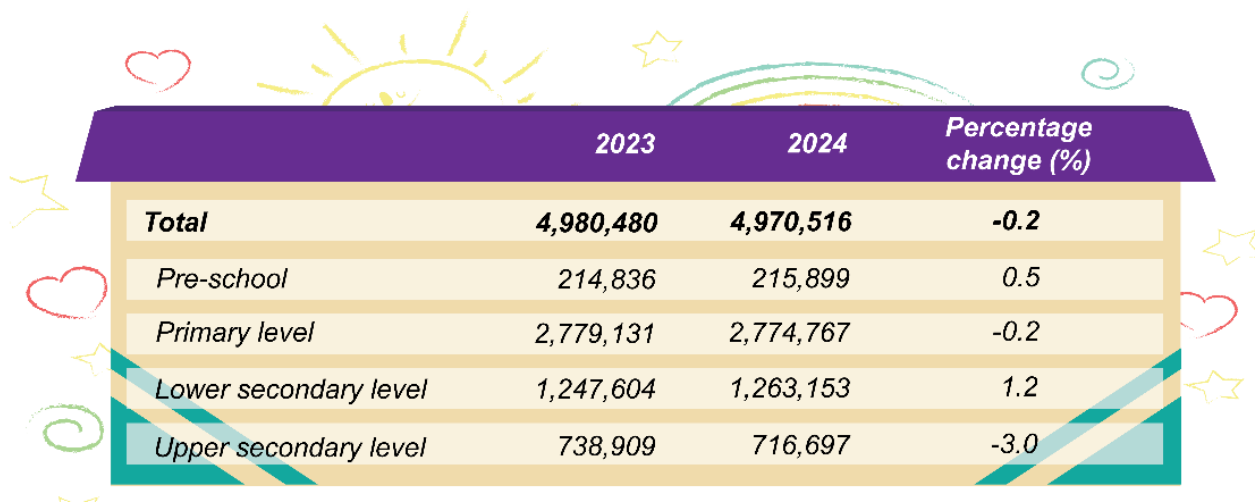
**Source:** Ministry of Health Malaysia

**Table 2: Number of registered TASKA and children at registered TASKA by state, Malaysia, 2023 and 2024**

| State             | Number of registered TASKA |              |                      | Number of children at registered TASKA |               |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|
|                   | 2023                       | 2024         | Percentage change(%) | 2023                                   | 2024          | Percentage change(%) |
| <b>Malaysia</b>   | <b>3,155</b>               | <b>3,198</b> | <b>1.4</b>           | <b>60,785</b>                          | <b>62,870</b> | <b>3.4</b>           |
| Johor             | 279                        | 361          | 29.4                 | 5,405                                  | 5,397         | -0.1                 |
| Kedah             | 130                        | 132          | 1.5                  | 2,564                                  | 2,673         | 4.3                  |
| Kelantan          | 169                        | 175          | 3.6                  | 3,756                                  | 4,796         | 27.7                 |
| Melaka            | 145                        | 144          | -0.7                 | 2,856                                  | 2,735         | -4.2                 |
| Negeri Sembilan   | 179                        | 144          | -19.6                | 3,096                                  | 2,446         | -21.0                |
| Pahang            | 137                        | 149          | 8.8                  | 2,508                                  | 3,126         | 24.6                 |
| Perak             | 245                        | 194          | -20.8                | 4,212                                  | 5,608         | 33.1                 |
| Perlis            | 41                         | 43           | 4.9                  | 785                                    | 721           | -8.2                 |
| Pulau Pinang      | 159                        | 146          | -8.2                 | 2,822                                  | 2,778         | -1.6                 |
| Sabah             | 241                        | 225          | -6.6                 | 4,410                                  | 3,267         | -25.9                |
| Sarawak           | 123                        | 138          | 12.2                 | 2,117                                  | 3,150         | 48.8                 |
| Selangor          | 871                        | 945          | 8.5                  | 14,931                                 | 14,032        | -6.0                 |
| Terengganu        | 135                        | 140          | 3.7                  | 2,660                                  | 2,823         | 6.1                  |
| W.P. Kuala Lumpur | 218                        | 193          | -11.5                | 5,855                                  | 6,319         | 7.9                  |
| W.P. Labuan       | 21                         | 20           | -4.8                 | 407                                    | 360           | -11.5                |
| W.P. Putrajaya    | 62                         | 49           | -21.0                | 2,401                                  | 2,639         | 9.9                  |

**Source:** Department of Social Welfare

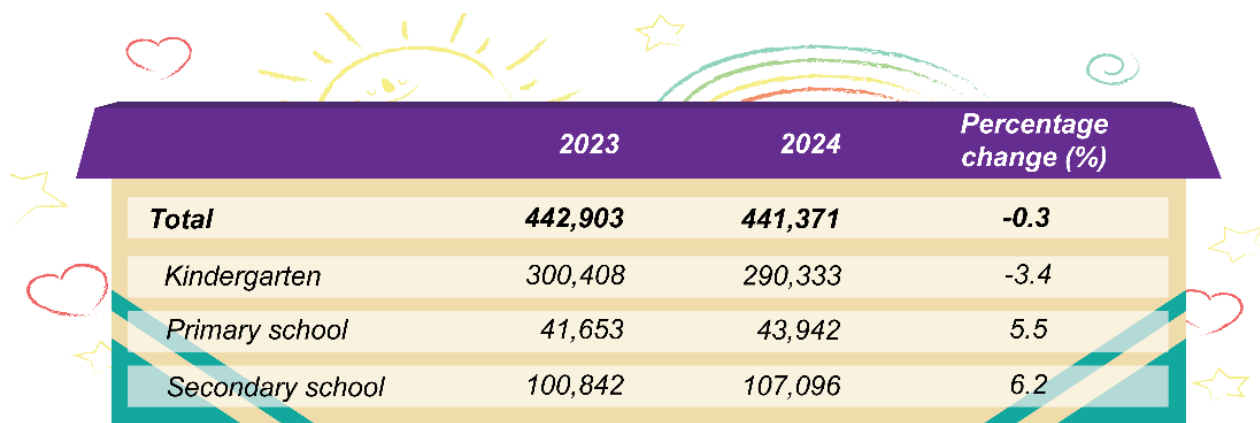
**Table 3: Number of pupils in government & government-aided schools by level of education, Malaysia, 2023 and 2024**



|                       | 2023             | 2024             | Percentage change (%) |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>4,980,480</b> | <b>4,970,516</b> | <b>-0.2</b>           |
| Pre-school            | 214,836          | 215,899          | 0.5                   |
| Primary level         | 2,779,131        | 2,774,767        | -0.2                  |
| Lower secondary level | 1,247,604        | 1,263,153        | 1.2                   |
| Upper secondary level | 738,909          | 716,697          | -3.0                  |

Source: Ministry of Education Malaysia

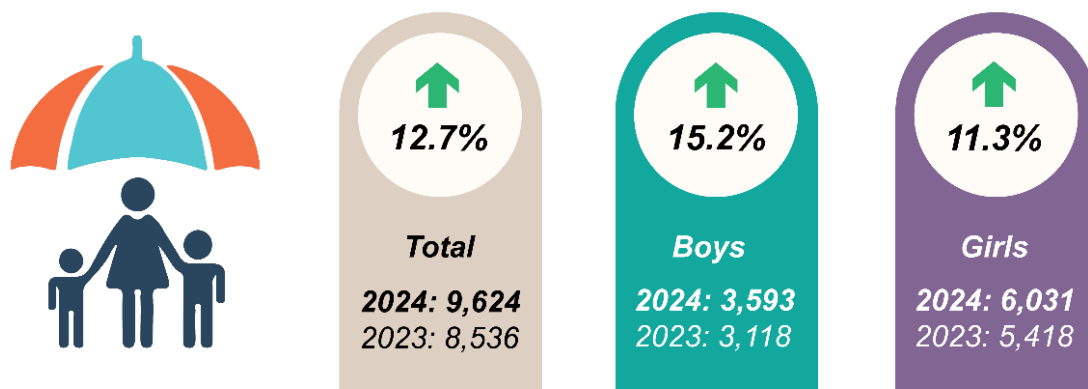
**Table 4: Number of pupils in private schools by level of education, Malaysia, 2023 and 2024**



|                  | 2023           | 2024           | Percentage change (%) |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>442,903</b> | <b>441,371</b> | <b>-0.3</b>           |
| Kindergarten     | 300,408        | 290,333        | -3.4                  |
| Primary school   | 41,653         | 43,942         | 5.5                   |
| Secondary school | 100,842        | 107,096        | 6.2                   |

Source: Ministry of Education Malaysia

**Exhibit 3: Number of children in need of care and protection by sex, Malaysia, 2023 and 2024**



Source: Department of Social Welfare

**Table 5: Number of children involved in crime by ethnic group, Malaysia, 2023 and 2024**

| Ethnic group        | 2023         | 2024         | Percentage change (%) | Percentage share (%) |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>2,743</b> | <b>2,627</b> | <b>-4.2</b>           | <b>100.0</b>         |
| Bumiputera          | 2,249        | 2,085        | -7.3                  | 82.2                 |
| Chinese             | 248          | 255          | 2.8                   | 9.0                  |
| Indians             | 124          | 173          | 39.5                  | 4.9                  |
| Others <sup>1</sup> | 114          | 99           | -13.2                 | 4.1                  |

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Includes Non-citizens

Source: Department of Social Welfare

Released by:

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**DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA**

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