



MEDIA STATEMENT

**MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA**

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DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS MALAYSIA, THIRD QUARTER 2025

POPULATION GROWTH SLOWS TO 0.5 PER CENT IN LINE WITH THE DECLINE IN LIVE BIRTHS BY 7.8 PER CENT

PUTRAJAYA, 13th NOVEMBER 2025 - Department of Statistics, Malaysia has released the report on Demographic Statistics that presents statistics of live births, deaths and population in the third quarter 2025.

In a statement today, Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin said, "Malaysia's total population was estimated at 34.3 million as compared to 34.1 million in the third quarter 2024 with a slower growth of 0.5 per cent as compared to 1.6 per cent (Q3 2024). The composition of Citizens in the third quarter 2025 increased to 90.1 per cent from 90.0 per cent (Q3 2024). Meanwhile, Non-citizens decreased from 10.0 per cent to 9.9 per cent over the same period. Males population increased to 18.0 million from 17.9 million in the third quarter 2024 and females rose to 16.3 million from 16.2 million in the same period. The overall population sex ratio was 110 males for every 100 females while sex ratio for Citizens was 102. The composition of old population (65 years and over) increased from 7.8 per cent to 8.0 per cent in the third quarter 2025. Meanwhile, young age population (0-14 years) recorded a decrease from 22.0 per cent to 21.6 per cent. The working age population (15-64 years) increased from 70.2 per cent to 70.4 per cent during the same period".

Malay accounted 58.2 per cent of the population in the third quarter 2025 (Q3 2024: 58.1%). Other Bumiputera and Indians remained unchanged as compared to the third quarter 2024 at 12.3 per cent and 6.5 per cent, respectively. Meanwhile, the composition of Chinese decreased to 22.2 per cent in the same period. Other Bumiputera consists of Sabah Bumiputera, Sarawak Bumiputera and other Bumiputera Peninsular Malaysia. Sabah Bumiputera contributed 55.3 per cent of Other Bumiputera which comprised Kadazan/ Dusun (31.7%), Bajau (26.5%), Murut (5.1%) and other Sabah Bumiputera (36.7%). Meanwhile, Sarawak Bumiputera (32.3%) comprised of Iban (59.1%), Bidayuh (17.1%), Melanau (10.6%) and other Sarawak Bumiputera (13.2%).

The Chief Statistician of Malaysia stated, "Alongside slower population growth, the number of live births continued to decline, recording a decrease of 7.8 per cent to 95,469 births as compared to 103,594 births in the third quarter 2024. Male babies outnumbered female babies with 49,270 births as compared to 46,199 births. Sex ratio at birth was 107 males for every 100 females. Selangor recorded the highest live births with 18,019 births (18.9%) while Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan recorded the lowest with 316 births (0.3%). Mothers aged 30-39 years recorded the highest live births with 48,521 births (50.8%), followed by mothers aged 20-29 years (42.0%), 40 years and over (5.2%) and less than 20 years (1.9%). On average, one baby was born per minute, 43 babies per hour and 1,038 babies per day in the third quarter 2025".

In term of ethnicity, Malay contributed 69.0 per cent (65,851 births) of the total live births in the third quarter 2025 (Q3 2024: 67,466 births, 65.1%). Meanwhile, Chinese and Indians decreased to 7.9 per cent and 3.9 per cent as compared to 11.3 per cent and 4.3 per cent in the third quarter 2024, respectively. Live births for Other Bumiputera remained unchanged at 12.7 per cent in the same period. Sabah Bumiputera contributed 59.1 per cent of Other Bumiputera which comprised Kadazan/ Dusun (34.3%), Bajau (30.3%), Murut (6.6%) and other Sabah Bumiputera (28.8%). Meanwhile, Sarawak Bumiputera recorded 33.9 per cent which comprised Iban (59.3%), Bidayuh (16.2%), Melanau (11.5%) and other Sarawak Bumiputera (13.0%).

Commenting further, a total of 46,643 deaths were recorded in the third quarter 2025, decreased 5.6 per cent as compared to the third quarter 2024 (49,399 deaths). The number of deaths recorded for males were 26,740 while 19,903 deaths for females. Mortality sex ratio was 134 males for every 100 females. Selangor recorded the highest number of deaths with 7,344 deaths (15.7%), while Wilayah Persekutuan Putrajaya recorded the lowest with 60 deaths (0.1%). Population aged 60 years and over recorded the highest number of deaths with 32,619 deaths (69.9%), followed by 41-59 years (20.5%), 15-40 years (7.4%) and 0-14 years (2.2%). There were 4.9 per cent deaths for population aged 90 years and over. On average, one death was recorded in two minutes, 21 deaths per hour and 507 deaths per day in the third quarter 2025.

Malay registered 52.3 per cent (24,400 deaths) of total number of deaths (Q3 2024: 25,580 deaths, 51.8%). Deaths for Other Bumiputera increased to 11.1 per cent as compared to 10.5 per cent in the third quarter 2024. Meanwhile, Chinese and Indians decreased to 26.1 per cent and 8.0 per cent as compared to 26.3 per cent and 8.5 per cent in the third quarter 2024, respectively. Sabah Bumiputera contributed 50.9 per cent of Other Bumiputera which comprised Kadazan/ Dusun (36.4%), Bajau (30.0%), Murut (5.5%) and other Sabah Bumiputera (28.1%). Meanwhile, Sarawak Bumiputera recorded 42.9 per cent which comprised Iban (61.6%), Bidayuh (16.0%), Melanau (13.2%) and other Sarawak Bumiputera (9.2%).

The Chief Statistician of Malaysia added that birth rates and total fertility rate (TFR) have been declining globally in recent years, with more countries reporting TFRs below replacement level, which is 2.1 children per woman between the ages of 15-49 years. This phenomenon poses major challenges to demographic structure, economic growth and social balance at the global and national levels.

Several countries such as Republic of Korea, Japan, Singapore, Thailand, China and Russia have recorded TFR below the replacement level, leading to concerns over ageing population, population decline and workforce. To address these challenges, various population, fertility and family support policies have been introduced. For instance, Republic of Korea has taken initiatives by extending maternity leave to three months,

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providing paid childcare leave for up to one year and offering financial incentives and tax deductions. Meanwhile, Thailand has also introduced incentives by increasing tax exemptions for families with two or more children to encourage higher birth rates.

Malaysia has, for the first time, successfully secured the top position 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.

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 deaths (number and rate) by quarterly, 2019-2025^p, Malaysia

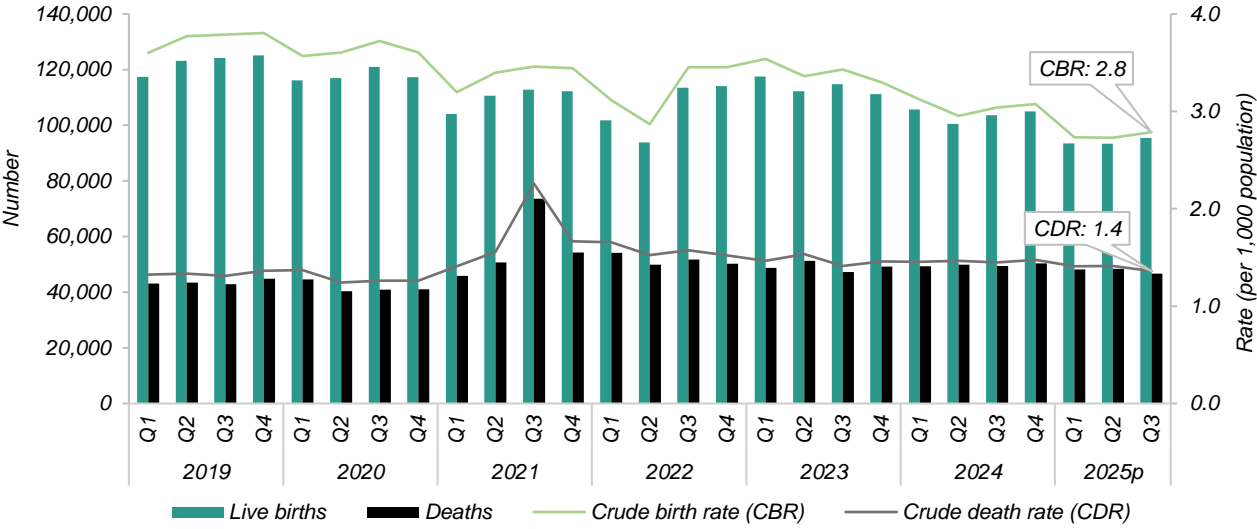


Table 1: Demographic statistics for third quarter, 2024 and 2025, Malaysia

Year	Total		Male		Female	
	Q3 2024	Q3 2025	Q3 2024	Q3 2025	Q3 2024	Q3 2025
Population (million)	34.1	34.3	17.9	18.0	16.2	16.3
Live births	103,594	95,469	53,486	49,270	50,108	46,199
Deaths	49,399	46,643	28,124	26,740	21,275	19,903
Growth rate (%)						
Population	1.6	0.5	1.8	0.5	1.3	0.6
Live births	-9.7	-7.8	-10.4	-7.9	-9.0	-7.8
Deaths	4.1	-5.6	4.0	-4.9	4.3	-6.4

Chart 2: Citizens by ethnic group, third quarter 2024 and 2025, Malaysia

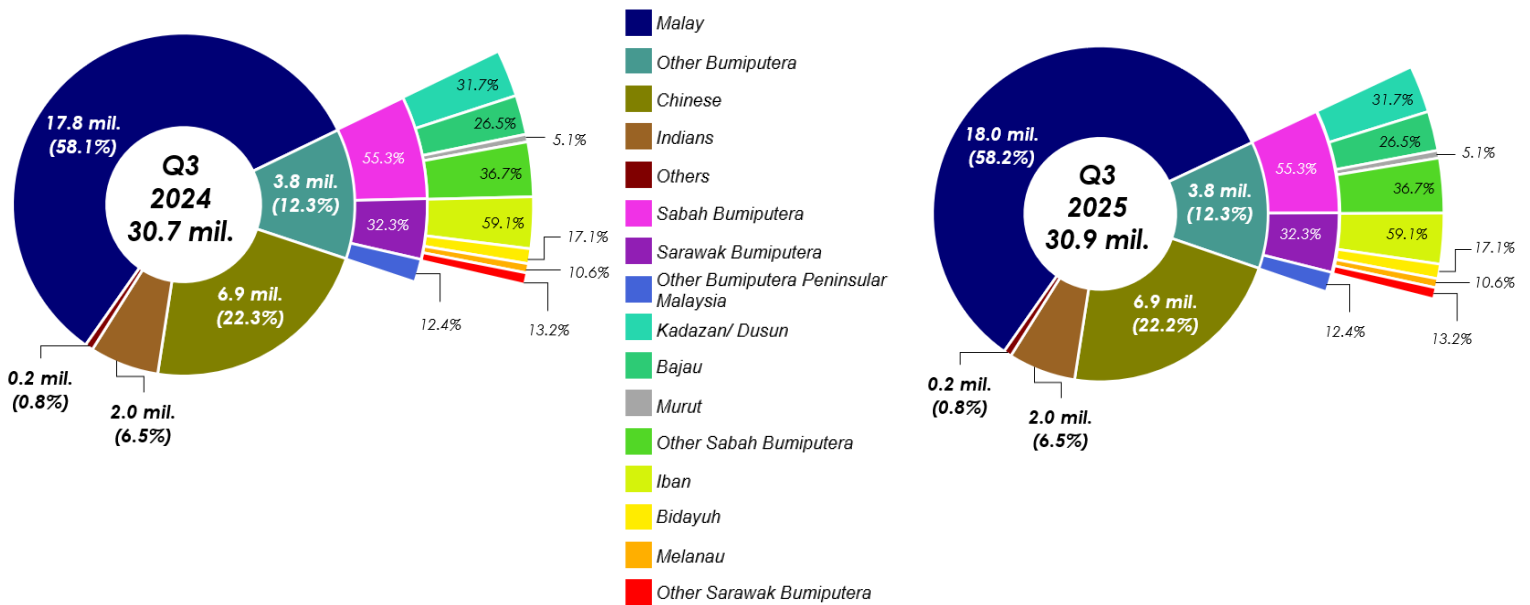


Chart 3: Live births by ethnic group, third quarter 2024 and 2025, Malaysia

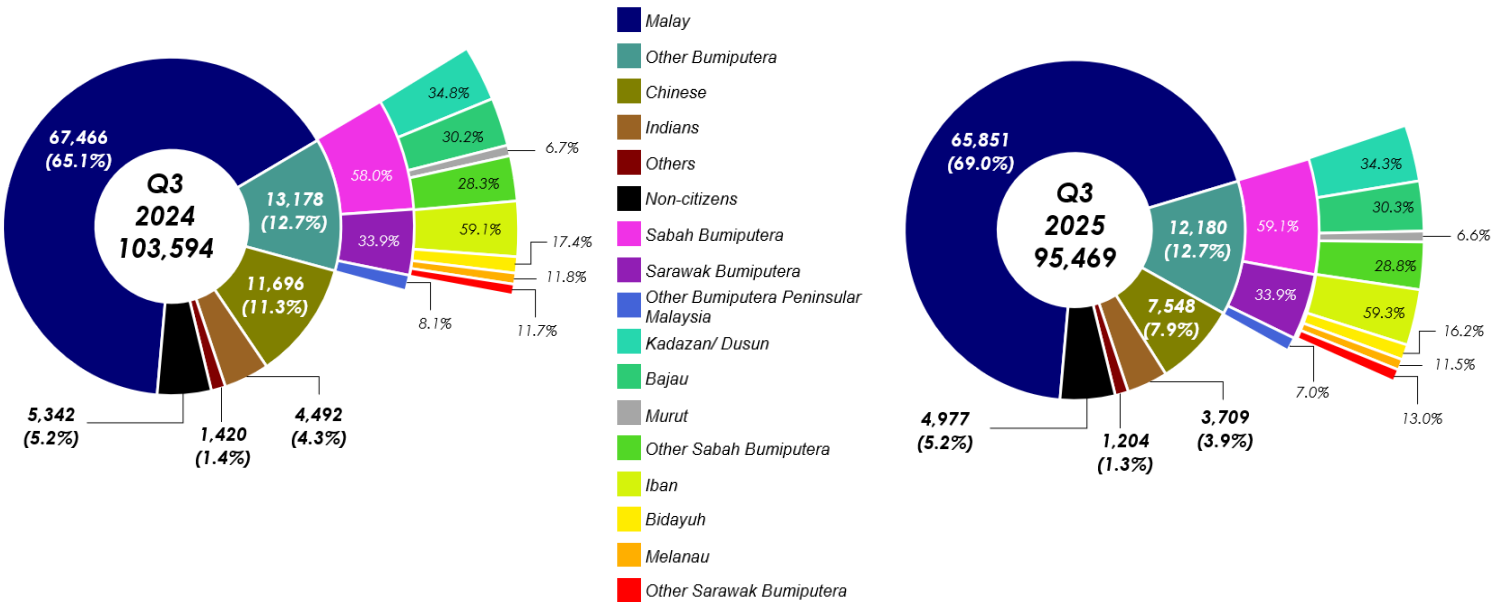


Chart 4: Deaths by ethnic group, third quarter 2024 and 2025, Malaysia

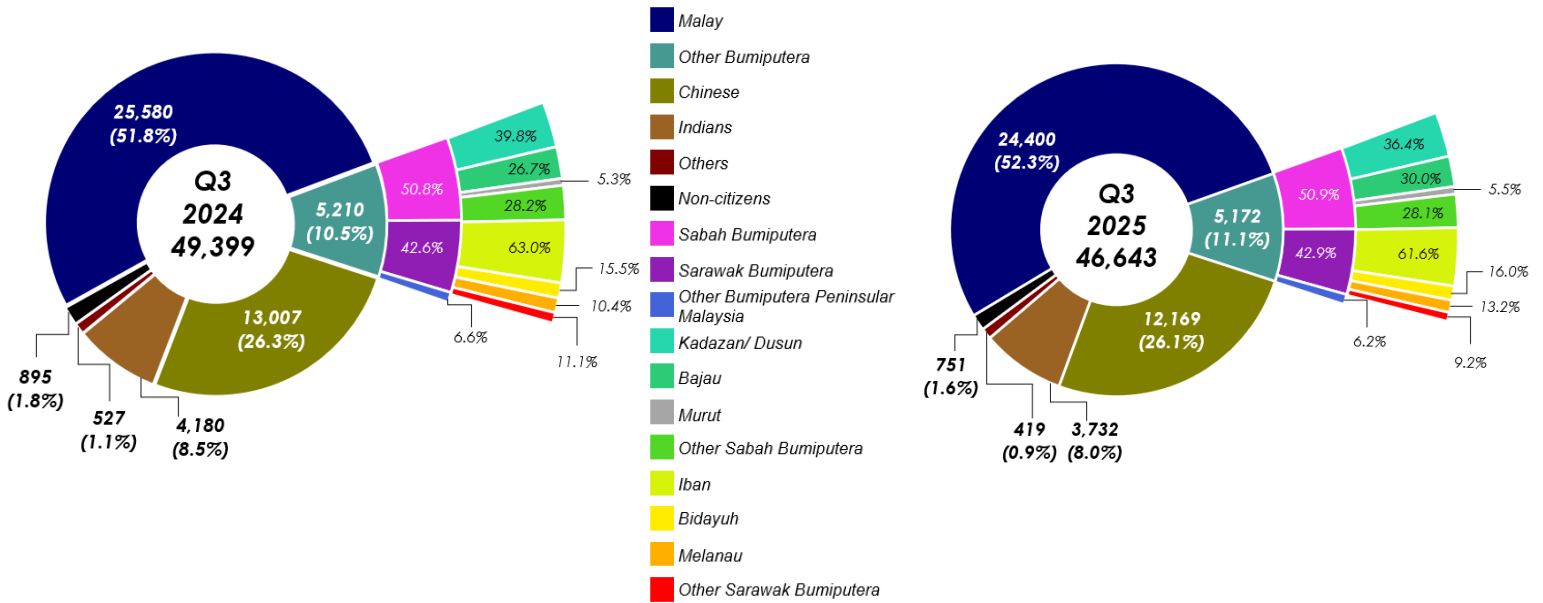
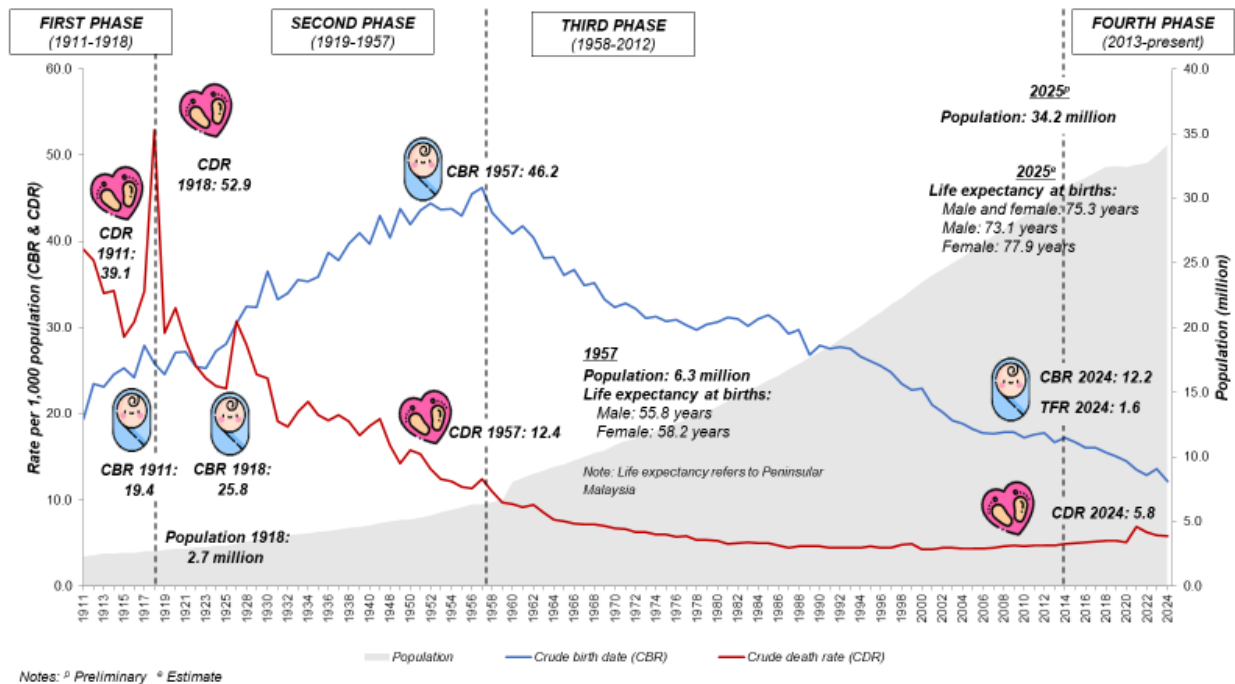


Chart 5: Demographic transition, Malaysia, 1911-2024



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