

1. INTRODUCTION

Statistics on Women Empowerment, Malaysia, 2025 covers eleven major domains, namely:

- i. Economic structures, participation in productive activities and access to resources;*
- ii. Education;*
- iii. Health and related services;*
- iv. Public life and decision making;*
- v. Human rights of women and girls;*
- vi. Social protection (special focus: population ageing);*
- vii. Disaster risk reduction;*
- viii. Peace and security;*
- ix. Refugees;*
- x. Environment and climate change; and*
- xi. International migration.*

1.1 Availability of data

The availability of data is based on the data provided by the related agencies.

2. ECONOMIC STRUCTURES, PARTICIPATION IN PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES AND ACCESS TO RESOURCES

2.1 Poverty

The concept of poverty used takes into account food Poverty Line Income (PLI) and non-food PLI for each household. A household is considered poor if their income is below the PLI needed. This means that it lacks the resources to meet the basic needs of food and non-food for each of its members. A household is considered hard-core poor if its income is below the food PLI.

2.2 Head of household

Defined as any members whether male or female which is considered as head of household by other members.

2.3 Household

Defined as a person or group of related or unrelated persons who usually live together and make common provisions for food and other living essentials.

2.4 Labour force

All persons in the working age who are either employed or unemployed.

2.5 **Employed**

All persons who, at any time during the reference week worked at least one hour for pay, profit or family gain either as an employer, employee, own-account worker or unpaid family worker.

They are also considered as employed if they:

- a) Did not work during the reference week because of illness, injury, disability, bad weather, leave, labour dispute and social or religious reasons but had a job, farm, enterprise or other family enterprise to return to.
- b) Were temporary laid-off with pay and would definitely be called back to work.
- c) Were employed **less than 30 hours** during the reference week because of the nature of their work or due to insufficient work and are able and willing to accept additional hours of work. This group is underemployed.

Persons who were employed **more than 30 hours** during the reference week is full employment.

2.6 **Unemployed**

The unemployed are those who did not work during the reference week and are classified into two groups that is the actively unemployed and inactively unemployed.

The actively unemployed include all persons who were available for work and were actively looking for work during the reference week.

Inactively unemployed persons include those in the following categories:

- a) Did not look for work because they believed no work was available or that they were not qualified;
- b) Would have looked for work if they had not been temporarily ill or had it not been for weather condition;
- c) Had looked for work prior to the reference week and were waiting for result of job applications.

2.7 **Labour force participation rate**

The economy activity of a population depends on the demographic characteristic of that population. Therefore, the proportion of economically active persons differs between sub-groups of that population. These variations are measured by specific activity rates termed **labour force participation rate**. Labour force participation rate is defined as the ratio of the labour force to the working age population (15–64 years), expressed as percentage.

2.8 **Unemployment rate**

The proportion of unemployed population to the total population in labour force. This measures the percentage of unemployed population in labour force.

2.9 **Status in employment**

Refers to the position or status of an employed person within the establishment or organisation for which he/she worked. Employed persons are classified according to the following employment status.

a) **Employer**

A person who operates a business, a plantation or other trade and employs one or more workers to help him.

b) **Employee**

A person who works for a public or private employer and receives regular remuneration in wages, salary, commission, tips or payment in kind.

c) **Own account worker**

A person who operates his own farm, business or trade without employing any paid workers in the conduct of his farm, trade or business.

d) **Unpaid family worker**

A person who works without pay or wages on a farm, business or trade operated by another member of the family.

2.10 **Occupation**

Occupation is classified according to the Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2008 based on the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-08).

For a person having more than one job, only the job at which he worked for the longest number of hours during the reference week is treated as his principal occupation. If the number of hours worked for each job is the same, then the job with the highest income is the principal occupation.

In cases where the number of hours worked and the income earned from each job are the same, the job at which he was working for the longest period of time is considered as the principal occupation.

3.11 **Industry**

Industry is classified according to the Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008 Version 1.0 based on the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC), Revision 4.

Industry classification refers to that of the principal occupation. Labour Force Survey (LFS) does not classify the subsistence goods-and services producing activities of households as persons who are economically active.

Therefore, the classification of industry by MSIC 2008 Version 1.0 for Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods-and services producing activities of households for own use only accounted for Activities of households as employers.

2.12 Salaries and wages

Statistics on salaries and wages presented in this report refer to wage rate consisting of basic wages, cost- of-living allowances and other guaranteed and regularly paid allowances in cash or in kind and overtime payment. However, it excludes bonuses and gratuities, family allowances and social security payments made by employers.

2.13 Total dependency ratio

Refers to the ratio of the number of persons below the age of 15 years and the number of persons aged 65 years and over to the number of persons aged 15–64 years.

3.14 Young age dependency ratio

Refers to the ratio of the number of persons below the age of 15 years to the number of persons aged 15–64 years.

3.15 Old age dependency ratio

Refers to the ratio of the number of persons aged 65 years and over to the number of persons aged 15–64 years.

3.16 Child Care Centre

Child Care Centre means any premises at which four or more children under the age of four years from more than one household are received to be looked after for reward (as per interpretation, Section 2, Child Care Centre Act 1984 (Act 308)).

2.17 Registered Child Care Centre

Registered Child Care Centre means any child care centre which is registered under the Child Care Centre Act 1984 (Act 308).

3. EDUCATION

3.1 Literacy rate

Literacy rate is defined as the population who have formal education. Literacy rate is proxy from the school attendance variable which is schooling and completed schooling from LFS.

3.2 *Enrolment*

Refers to the number of students studying in government or government–aided schools.

3.3 *Enrolment at primary level*

Refers to the number of students studying in government or government–aided schools at primary level.

3.4 *Enrolment at secondary level*

Refers to the number of students studying in government or government–aided schools at secondary level.

3.5 *Enrolment at tertiary level*

Refers to the number of students currently pursuing study programmes in a particular higher education institution, including any intake of new students for a particular academic session. Enrolment targets were dynamic in the sense that they may change according to the data collection period.

3.6 *Gender parity index*

Refers to ratio of women to men for a particular indicator. Index of one denotes the presence of gender parities.

3.7 *Field of study*

Refers to the guidelines provided in the National Education Code (NEC) with reference to the International Standard Classification of Education 1997 (ISCED 1997), established by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for the purpose of uniformity in the classification.

3.8 *Gross enrolment rate at pre-school level*

Total enrolment in pre-school expressed as a percentage to the eligible official pre-school age population in a given pre-school year (4–5 years).

3.9 *Gross enrolment rate at primary level*

Total enrolment in primary level expressed as a percentage to the eligible official primary level age population (6–11 years old).

3.10 *Gross enrolment rate at secondary level*

Total enrolment in secondary level expressed as a percentage to the eligible official secondary level age population (12–17 years old).

3.11 *Gross enrolment rate at tertiary level*

Total enrolment in tertiary level expressed as a percentage to the eligible official tertiary level age population (18–22 years old).

3.12 Gross intake rate at primary level

Total number of new entrants in the first grade (Year 1) of primary education, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the population at the official primary school entrance age (6 years).

3.13 Gross intake rate at secondary level

Total number of new entrants in the first grade (Form 1) of secondary education, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the population at the official secondary school entrance age (12 years).

3.14 Gross intake rate at tertiary level

Total number of new entrants in the first grade (First year) of tertiary education, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the population at the official tertiary education (18 years).

3.15 Transition rate primary to lower secondary

Number of students attending the first grade of lower secondary school (Form 1), as a percentage of those attending the final grade of primary school (Year 6).

3.16 Transition rate lower secondary to upper secondary

Number of students attending the first grade of upper secondary school (Form 4) as a percentage of those attending the final grade of lower secondary (Form 3).

3.17 Transition rate upper secondary to post secondary

Number of students attending the first grade of post secondary school as a percentage of those attending the final grade of upper secondary (Form 5).

3.18 Completion rate primary level

Percentage of a cohort of students in the first grade of primary level of education who are expected to reach the last grade of primary level.

3.19 Completion rate secondary level

Percentage of a cohort of students in the first grade of secondary level of education who are expected to reach the last grade of secondary level.

3.20 Pre-school

Pre-school education is a programme that exposes children aged four to six years to the learning experience within a or more before entering year one.

3.21 Educational attainment

Refers to the highest level in which a person has completed schooling or is currently attending school in a public or private educational institution that provides formal education and is categorized as follows:

a) No formal education

Refers to persons who have never attended school in any of the educational institutions that provide formal education.

b) Primary

Refers to those whose highest level of education attained is from Standard 1 to 6 or equivalent.

c) Secondary

Refers to those whose highest level of education attained is from Form 1 to 5 (including remove class), General Certificate of Education (GCE) O Level or equivalent. This includes basic skill programs in specific trades and technical skills institutions whereby the training period is at least six months.

d) Tertiary

Refers to those whose highest level of education is above Form 5.

4. HEALTH AND RELATED SERVICES

4.1 Under-5 mortality

Refers to deaths of infants and toddlers aged below five years.

4.2 Maternal deaths

Refers to deaths of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days after the termination of pregnancy, irrespective of the duration and site of the pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management but not from accidental causes.

4.3 Antenatal care coverage

Refers to first visit of antenatal care coverage.

4.4 Coverage of antenatal mothers for Tetanus Toxoid

Refers to antenatal mothers given second dose or booster dose of Tetanus Toxoid.

4.5 Deliveries attended by personnel skilled

Refers to the number of deliveries attended by personnel skilled either government or private hospitals.

4.6 Life expectancy at birth

Refers to an estimate of the average number of years a newborn baby is expected to live, if he or she were to experience the age-specific mortality rates of the reference period throughout his or her life.

4.7 Access to antiretroviral drugs

Percentage of adults and children currently receiving antiretroviral therapy according to nationally approved treatment protocol (or WHO/Joint United Nations Programs on HIV and AIDS standards) among the estimated number of people eligible for treatment. Numerator (the number of people receiving antiretroviral therapy) is derived from national program reporting system, is collected from health facilities or other service delivery site. Denominator (the total number of people eligible for antiretroviral therapy) were generated using a standardized statistical modeling approach.

4.8 Medically certified cause of death

Refers to verification made by Medical Officer and Coroner only. The coroner is a public officer who investigated cases of sudden death that the cause is suspected to be related to a criminal case.

4.9 Obesity (definition from WHO)

Body mass index (BMI) is a simple index of weight-for-height that is commonly used to classify overweight and obesity in adults. It is defined as a person's weight in kilograms divided by the square of his height in meters (kg/m²). The WHO definition is:

- a) a BMI greater than or equal to 25 is overweight
- b) a BMI greater than or equal to 30 is obesity

4.10 Smoking prevalence

- a) **Current smokers among pre-elderly (50-59 years old) and elderly (60 years and over):** currently using any smoked tobacco product (manufactured cigarettes, hand-rolled cigarettes, kretek, cigars, shisha, bidis or tobacco pipes).
- b) **Current any tobacco product user:** the use of any of the following tobacco products during the last 30 days: manufactured cigarette, traditional hand-rolled cigarettes, roll-your-own cigarettes with cigarette papers, cigar/cigarillos, tobacco pipes (pipe smoking), shisha/hookah, electronic cigarette/vape, heated tobacco product, snuff, or chewed tobacco.
- c) **Current tobacco smoker or current smoker:** the use of any of the following tobacco products during the last 30 days: manufactured cigarettes, traditional hand-rolled cigarettes, roll-your-own cigarettes with cigarette papers, cigar/cigarillos, tobacco pipes (pipe smoking), or shisha/hookah.
- d) **Current cigarette smoker:** the use of any of the following tobacco products during the last 30 days: manufactured cigarettes, traditional hand-rolled cigarettes, roll-your-own cigarettes with cigarette papers or cigar/cigarillos.
- e) **Current e-cig/vape user:** the use of e-cig/vape during the last 30 days.

4.11 Family Planning

Any methods practiced to prevent pregnancy with the purpose of:

- a) *spread the pregnancy;*
- b) *prevent unplanned pregnancies; and*
- c) *avoiding risky pregnancies.*

4.12 New family planning

The new family planning is a husband and wife registered for the first time with one of the agencies participating in the National Family Planning Program (LPPKN, KKM, PPPKRM and the Army) to practice effective contraceptive methods such as Pills, Condoms, Injections, Sterilization or Implants.

4.13 Intra Uterine Device (IUD)

A small tool is made of plastic material that has threads inserted into the womb through the vagina. The latest IUD contains copper or hormone.

5. PUBLIC LIFE AND DECISION MAKING

5.1 Senate

Refers to two categories consists of 70 members:

- a) *26 members elected by the State Legislative Assembly to represent 13 states (each state represented by two members); and*
- b) *44 members appointed by Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong on the advice of the Prime Minister, including two members from the W.P. Kuala Lumpur and one member each from the W.P. Labuan and W.P. Putrajaya.*

5.2 House of Representatives

The House of Representatives consists of 222 members elected by people through a general election, where each member represents a constituency. Members of the House of Representatives hold a position for period of five years and after that new election will be held.

5.3 Cabinet Members

The Cabinet Members is the executive body practising powers held by Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong. Under the Article 43, the Federal Constitution Yang di-Pertuan Agong shall appoint the cabinet members to advise him in the affairs of his work.

6. HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

6.1 Domestic Violence

Violent or aggressive behavior within the home, typically involving the violent abuse of a spouse or partner.

Types of domestic violence are:

- a) *Intentionally or attempting to place the victim in fear of physical injury;*
- b) *Causing or inflicting physical injury to the victim;*
- c) *Compelling the victim by force or threat to engage in any conduct or act, sexual or otherwise, from which the victim has a right to abstain;*
- d) *Confining or detaining the victim against the victim's will;*
- e) *Causing treacherous or destruction or damage to property with intent to cause or knowing that it is likely to cause distress or annoyance to the victim; and*
- f) *Causing psychological abuse which includes emotional injury to the victim.*

Arrestable Offense 323KK/18A. Offenses involving domestic violence should be considered arrestable offences.

6.2 Rape

A man is said to commit "rape" who, except in the case hereinafter excepted, has sexual intercourse with a woman under circumstances falling under any of the following descriptions:

- a) *against her will;*
- b) *without her consent;*
- c) *with her consent, when her consent has been obtained by putting her in fear of death or hurt to herself or any other person, or obtained under a misconception of fact and the man knows or has reason to believe that the consent was given in consequence of such misconception;*
- d) *with her consent, when the man knows that he is not her husband, and her consent is given because she believes Penal Code 205 that he is another man to whom she is or believes herself to be lawfully married or to whom she would consent; with her consent, when, at the time of giving such consent, she is unable to understand the nature and consequences of that to which she gives consent;*
- e) *with her consent, when the consent is obtained by using his position of authority over her or because of professional relationship or other relationship of trust in relation to her; and*
- f) *with or without her consent, when she is under sixteen years of age.*

6.3 Incest

A person is said to commit incest if he or she has sexual intercourse with another person whose relationship to him or her is such that he or she is not permitted, under the law, religion, custom or usage applicable to him or her, to marry that other person.

6.4 *Outrage Modesty*

Assault or use of criminal force to a person with intent to outrage modesty.

6.5 *Unnatural Offences*

Buggery with an animal or carnal intercourse against the order of nature with or without or sexual connection or inciting a child to an act of gross indecency.

6.6 *Sexual Harassment*

Word or gesture intended to insult the modesty of a person.

6.7 *Distribute/ Display Pornographic Material*

Sell, share, publish, make, or include any open, risk, objective, purchase, publications or other documents.

6.8 *Homicide*

The killing of one human being by another human being. Homicide is broader in scope than murder. Murder is a form of criminal homicide; other forms of homicide might not constitute criminal acts. These homicides are regarded as justified or excusable.

For example, individuals may, in a necessary act of Self-Defense, kill a person who threatens them with death or serious injury.

6.9 *Marriage*

The act, ceremony or process by which the legal relationship of husband and wife is constituted. The legality of the union may be established by civil, religious or other means recognized by the law of each country.

6.10 *Adolescent birth rate*

Refers to the number of births within age group 15–19 years during a given year, per 1,000 women in that age group.

7. *INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION*

7.1 *Population ratio of female to male*

Population ratio of female to male Non-citizen refer to number of female for each 100 male.

8. FORMULAE

8.1 Labour force participation rate

$$= \frac{\text{Number of persons in the labour force}}{\text{Number of persons in the working age (15-64 years)}} \times 100$$

8.2 Unemployment rate

$$= \frac{\text{Number of unemployed persons}}{\text{Number of persons in the labour force}} \times 100$$

8.3 Total dependency ratio

$$= \frac{(\text{Number of persons aged below 15 years} + \text{number of persons aged 65 years and over}) \text{ in year } t}{\text{Number of persons aged 15-64 years in year } t} \times 100$$

8.4 Young age dependency ratio

$$= \frac{\text{Number of persons aged below 15 years in year } t}{\text{Number of persons aged 15-64 years in year } t} \times 100$$

8.5 Old age dependency ratio

$$= \frac{\text{Number of persons aged 65 years and over in year } t}{\text{Number of persons aged 15-64 years in year } t} \times 100$$

8.6 Literacy rate

$$= \frac{\text{Number of persons literate in specific age group}}{\text{Total population in the same age group}} \times 100$$

8.7 Gross enrolment rate at primary level

$$= \frac{\text{Number of enrolment at primary level}}{\text{Total population in the age group 6-11 years old in year } t} \times 100$$

8.8 Gross enrolment rate at secondary level

$$= \frac{\text{Number of enrolment at secondary level}}{\text{Total population in the age group 12-17 years old in year } t} \times 100$$

8.9 Gross enrolment rate at tertiary level

$$= \frac{\text{Number of enrolment at tertiary level}}{\text{Total population in the age group 18-22 years old in year } t} \times 100$$

8.10 Gross intake rate at primary level

$$= \frac{\text{Number of enrolment in the first grade of primary level (Year 1)}}{\text{Population at the official primary school-entrance age (6 years old) in year } t} \times 100$$

8.11 Gross intake rate at secondary level

$$= \frac{\text{Number of enrolment in the first grade of secondary level (Form 1)}}{\text{Population at the official secondary school-entrance age (12 years old) in year } t} \times 100$$

8.12 Gross intake rate at tertiary level

$$= \frac{\text{Number of enrolment in the first grade of tertiary level}}{\text{Population at the official tertiary college-entrance age (18 years old) in year } t} \times 100$$

8.13 Transition rate primary to lower secondary

$$= \frac{\text{Number of enrolment in the first grade of lower secondary school (Form 1)}}{\text{Number of enrolment in the final grade of primary school in the previous year (Year 6)}} \times 100$$

8.14 Transition rate lower secondary to upper secondary

$$= \frac{\text{Number of enrolment in the first grade of upper secondary school (Form 4) in year } t}{\text{Number of enrolment in the final grade of lower secondary in the previous year (Form 3)}} \times 100$$

8.15 Transition rate upper secondary to post secondary

$$= \frac{\text{Number of enrolment in the first grade of post secondary school (Form 4) in year } t}{\text{Number of enrolment in the final grade of upper secondary in the previous year (Form 5)}} \times 100$$

8.16 Completion rate primary level

$$= \frac{\text{Number of enrolment in the last grade of primary (Year 6) in year } t}{\text{Number of enrolment in the same cohort in the first grade of primary education (Year 1) in year } t-5} \times 100$$

8.17 Completion rate secondary level

$$= \frac{\text{Number of enrolment in the last grade of secondary (Form 5) in year } t}{\text{Number of enrolment in the same cohort in the first grade of secondary education (Form 1) in year } t-4} \times 100$$

8.18 Gender parity index

$$= \frac{\text{Gross enrolment ratio for women}}{\text{Gross enrolment ratio for men}} \times 100$$

8.19 Under-5 mortality rate

$$= \frac{\text{Number of deaths under five years in year } t}{\text{Number of live births in year } t} \times 100$$

8.20 Maternal mortality ratio

$$= \frac{\text{Number of deaths which are caused by complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium, within the period of 42 days after childbirth in year } t}{\text{Number of live births in year } t} \times 100$$

8.21 Percentage of antenatal care coverage (first visit)

$$= \frac{\text{Number of antenatal attendances (first visit)}}{\text{Estimated number of pregnant mothers}} \times 100$$

8.22 Percentage of coverage for antenatal mothers for Tetanus Toxoid

$$= \frac{\text{Number of antenatal mother given second Tetanus Toxoid}}{\text{Estimated number of pregnant mothers}} \times 100$$

8.23 Percentage of deliveries attended by personnel skills

$$= \frac{\text{Number of deliveries attended by trained personnel}}{\text{Total deliveries}} \times 100$$

8.24 Age-specific fertility rate

$$= \frac{\text{Number of live births by specific age group of mother in year } t}{\text{Mid-year women population of the specific age group in year } t} \times 100$$

8.25 **Homicide**

$$= \frac{\text{Number of deaths caused by homicide in year } t}{\text{Total population in year } t} \times 100$$

9. **ROUNDING**

The added total may differ due to rounding.

10. **NOTES AND SYMBOLS**

<i>e</i>	<i>Estimate</i>
<i>p</i>	<i>Preliminary</i>
<i>r</i>	<i>Revised</i>
<i>n.a</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>
<i>n.s</i>	<i>Not significant</i>
0.0	<i>Less than half the smallest unit shown</i> <i>For example, less than 0.05 per cent</i>
<i>RM</i>	<i>Ringgit Malaysia</i>
<i>W.P.</i>	<i>Wilayah Persekutuan</i>
-	<i>Nil/blank/no case</i>
..	<i>Not available</i>