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MEDIA STATEMENT



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STATISTICS ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT, MALAYSIA, 2025 AND MALAYSIA GENDER GAP INDEX, 2025

Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI) improved to 0.708 with two sub-indices remain strong, Education attainment at 1.073 and Health & survival at 0.962

PUTRAJAYA, 25th NOVEMBER, 2025 – Malaysia recorded a Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI) score of 0.708 (70.8%) in 2024, marking an improvement of 0.3 percentage points as compared to 0.705 in 2023. This upward trend was influenced by Education attainment (1.073), Health and survival (0.956) and Economic participation and opportunity (0.703).

For the first time, Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) released two publications about women empowerment namely **Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI), 2025** and **Statistics on Women Empowerment, Malaysia 2025** today. This new approach provides a report on MGGI which focusing on measuring gender gaps across four sub-indices and a separate report on women empowerment which highlighting women's achievements, contributions and status across selected socio-economic domains.

*The first report, **Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI), 2025** 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%) reflects full gender equality between women and men.*

*Commenting on the report, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, Chief Statistician Malaysia said, "The **Economic participation and opportunity** sub-index increased to 0.703 in 2024. Women continue to improve in labour market involvement, with female labour force participation rate recorded 56.5 per cent in 2024 as compared to 56.2 per cent in 2023. Mean monthly salaries and wages for females increased to RM3,499 in 2024 as compared with RM3,311 in 2023".*

*The **Educational attainment** sub-index showed continuous excellence with the score rising to 1.073 in 2024. Enrolment rate at primary, secondary and tertiary for females consistently higher than males. In 2024, the gross enrolment rates for females at the primary and secondary level were 100.3 per cent and 95.7 per cent respectively. In the tertiary level, females recorded 56.4 per cent as compared to males (37.0%).*

*The **Health and survival** sub-index also improved with registering a score of 0.962 in 2024. Life expectancy at birth for females continued to improve, reaching 77.6 years in 2024 which indicating an increase of 12 years as compared to 65.6 years in 1970. In 2023, the ratio of females to males stood at 0.931 with 235,981 female births compared to 219,780 male births. In 2024, the ratio rose to 0.940, following 200,999 female births against 213,919 male births.*

***Political empowerment** remains the most challenging dimension with low score of 0.096 in 2024. Women represented only 16.1 per cent of ministerial positions, while women representation in the House of Representatives stood at 13.5 per cent as compared to 86.5 per cent for men. This significant disparity highlights the ongoing challenges in achieving gender balance in political leadership in Malaysia.*

This publication also reports MGGI scores by state for 2024. Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin also said, "The top three states that recorded the higher MGGI score in 2024 were W.P. Putrajaya (0.774), W.P. Kuala Lumpur (0.773) and W.P. Labuan (0.750). Six other states that surpassed national level (0.708), namely Kelantan (0.729), Selangor (0.725), Negeri Sembilan (0.724), Perlis and Perak (0.715) and Kedah (0.713)".

*The second report, **Statistics on Women Empowerment, Malaysia 2025**, provides a broader picture of women's achievements and socio-economic position across eleven domains, including demography, labour market participation, education, health and leadership. In line with the demographic insights presented in this report, it is estimated that 16.2 million (47.5%) of Malaysia population are female out of a total of 34.1 million in 2024. There were 200,999 baby girls born out of a total of 414,918 live births in 2024. The total fertility rate (TFR) in 2024 was 1.6 babies born per women in reproductive age (15-49 years).*

Malaysia remains committed to improve gender equality and strengthen the rights of women and girls while recognising the important roles they play in shaping our society and driving national progress. This commitment is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Thirteenth Malaysia Plan (13MP), which places stronger focus on women's empowerment. Under 13MP, one of the key national aspirations is to increase the female labour force participation rate to 60 per cent. This move reflects the Government's determination to encourage more women to join and remain in the workforce.

In line with these priorities, DOSM continues to play its role by providing accurate and timely gender statistics. Reliable data is essential to support policies and programmes that truly meet the needs of women and girls. For this reason, DOSM remains committed to improve the collection, analysis and sharing of sex-disaggregated data to support gender-responsive initiatives and to contribute towards a more inclusive and equitable Malaysia.

The full report of Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI), 2025 and Statistics on Women Empowerment, Malaysia 2025 can be downloaded for free on the Department of Statistics Malaysia portal (www.dosm.gov.my).

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>.

Table 1: Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI) score, 2022-2024

Sub-index	2022^r	2023	2024
<i>Economic participation and opportunity</i>	0.703	0.698	0.703
<i>Educational attainment</i>	1.068	1.071	1.073
<i>Health and survival</i>	0.961	0.956	0.962
<i>Political empowerment</i>	0.102	0.096	0.096
MGGI score	0.709	0.705	0.708

Note:

^r Revised

Chart 1: Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI) score by sub-index, 2022-2024

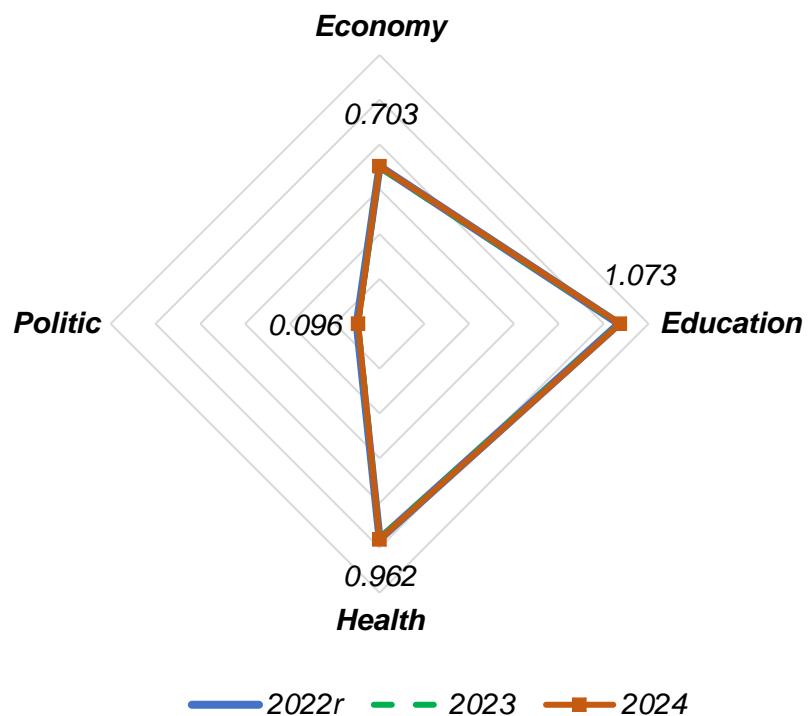


Chart 2: Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI) 2024 by state

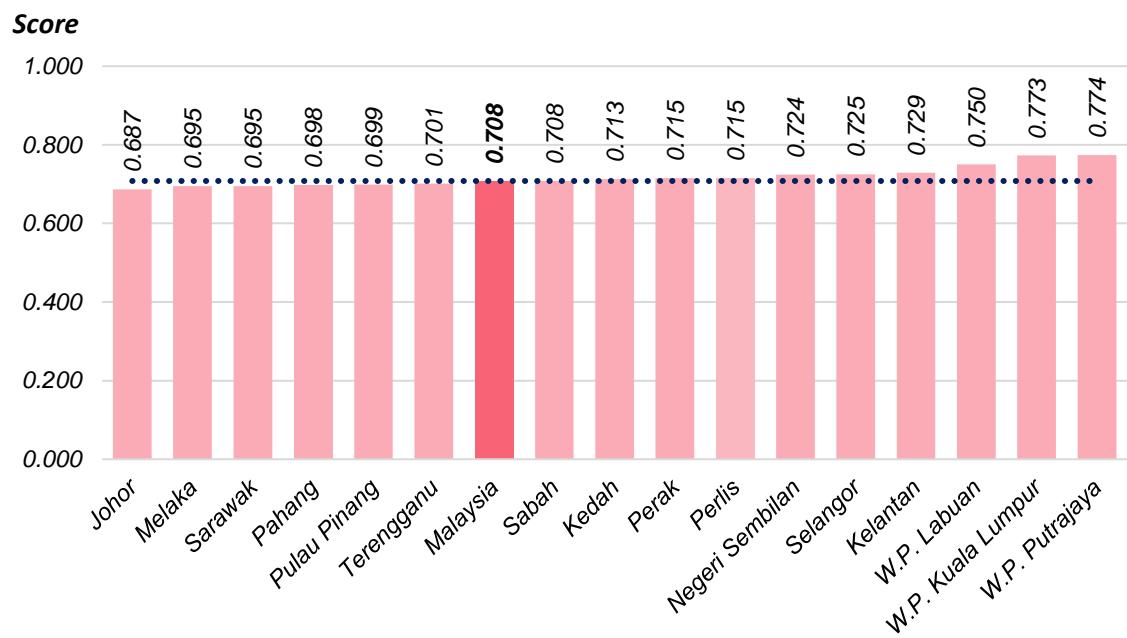


Chart 3: MGGI 2024 score for Economic participation and opportunity sub-index by state

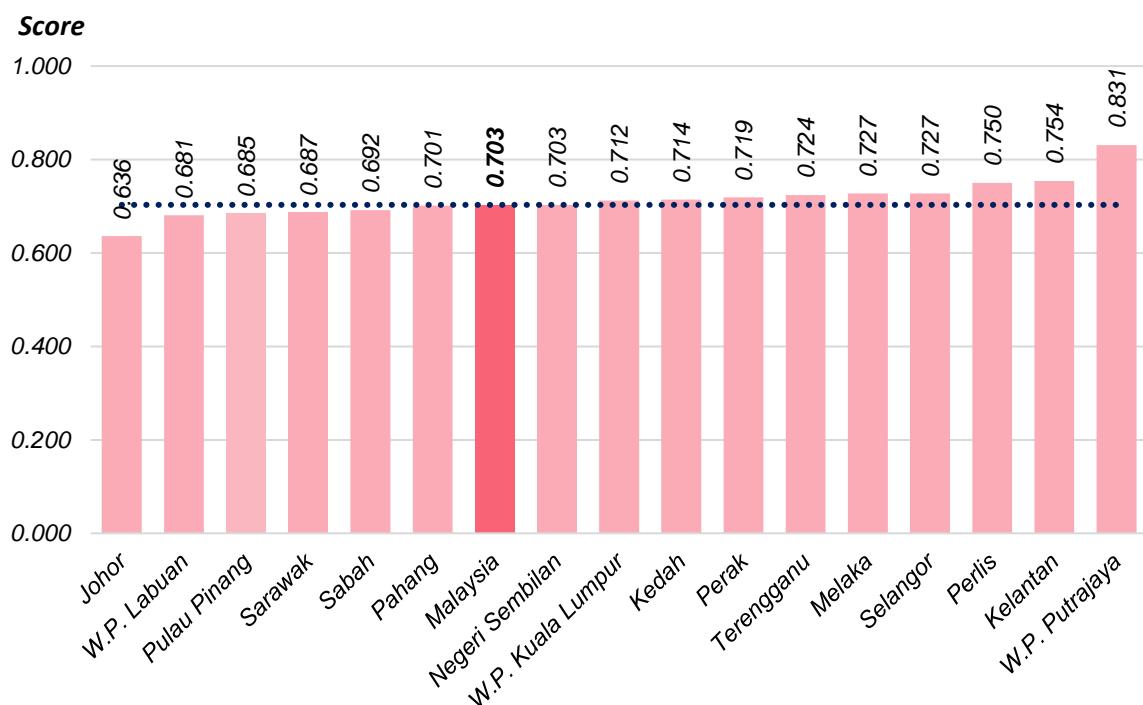


Chart 4: MGGI 2024 score for Educational attainment sub-index by state

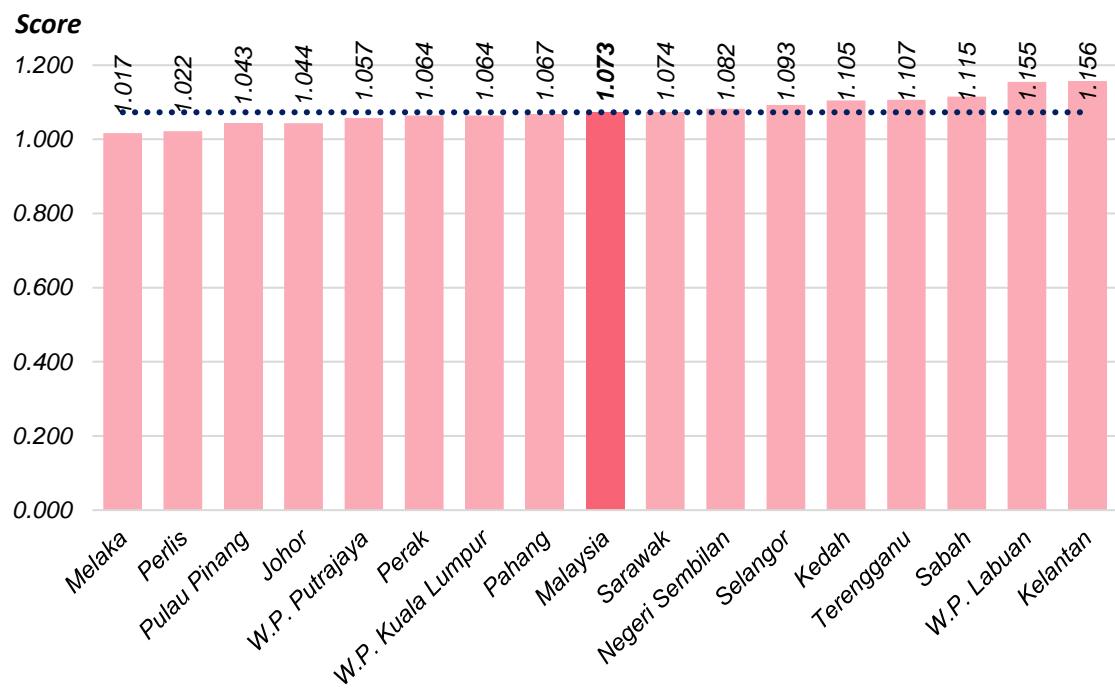


Chart 5: MGGI 2024 score for Health and survival sub-index by state

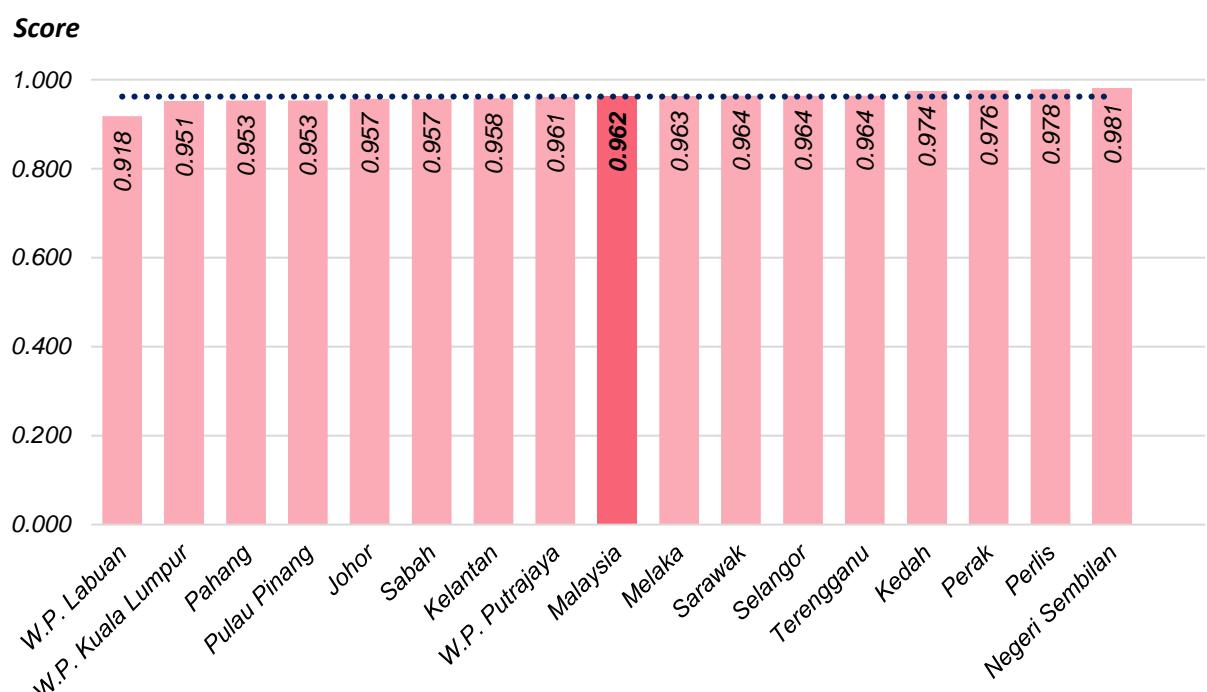
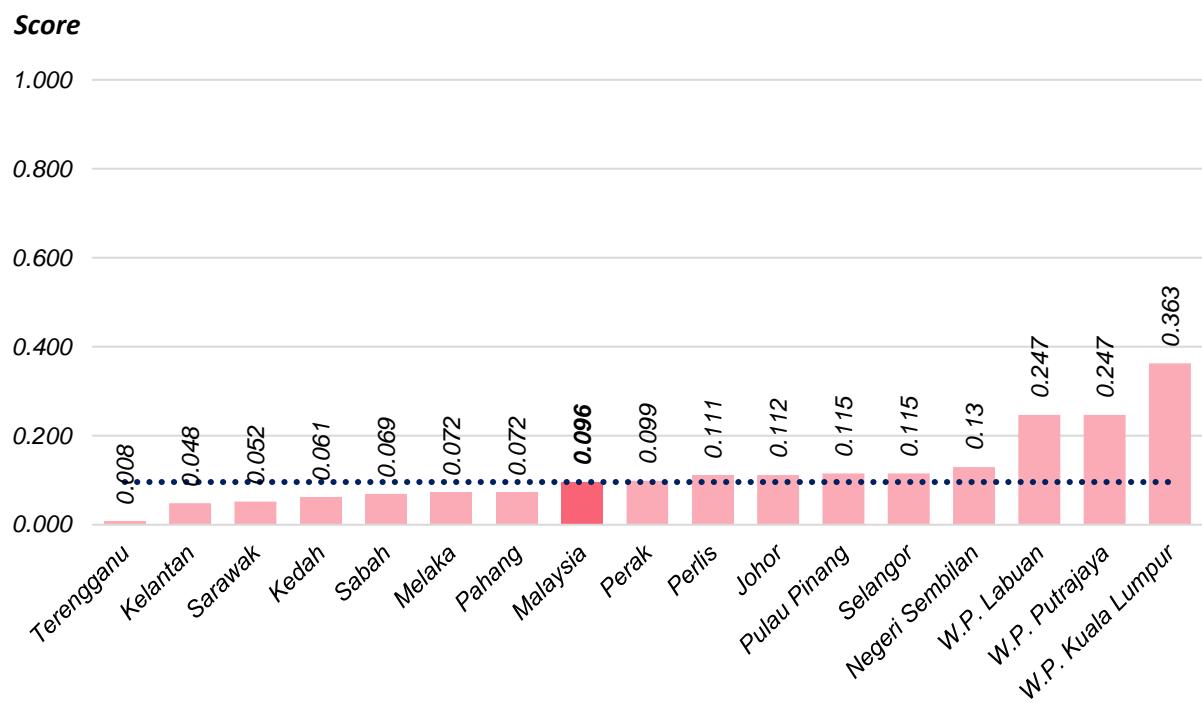


Chart 6: MGGI 2024 score for Political empowerment sub-index by state



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