

MEDIA STATEMENT



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

Block C6 & C7, Complex C,
Federal Government Administrative Centre, Precinct 1,
62514 Federal Territory of Putrajaya
Telephone : 03 - 8090 4681

AGRICULTURE CENSUS REPORT 2024

Malaysia's Agricultural Sector Generated Income at RM186.4 Billion.

PUTRAJAYA, 23th DECEMBER, 2025 – *The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) has published released the Agricultural Census Report 2024, which presents new parameters for the agricultural sector including income, expenditure, and salaries & wages for the 2023. In addition, the report provides updated statistics on agriculture holdings, planted and harvested area, production and sales quantities, sales vales as well as employment.*

The findings are derived from the Agricultural Census 2024, conducted from 7th July 2024 to 31th October 2024, through extensive collaboration and strategic cooperation with DOSM and 1,390 agencies related to agriculture at federal, state and district level. Key ministries and agencies involved include the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (KPKM), the Ministry of Plantation and Commodities (KPK), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES), the Sarawak Ministry of Food Industry, Commodity and Regional Development (M-FICORD), and the Sabah Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Industry (MAFFI).

The Chief Statistician of Malaysia and Census Commissioner, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin explained that the total of 1,034,182 agricultural holdings were recorded, of which 1,012,993 were individual agricultural holdings, accounting for 97.9 per cent of all agricultural holdings in Malaysia. In contrast, 21,189 agricultural holdings were managed by establishment. The updated profile further indicates that 982,268 holdings were engaged in the crops subsector, with 965,268 of these being individual

holdings. In addition, 43,816 individuals were involved in livestock activities, 8,407 individuals in aquaculture, 48,267 individuals in fisheries activities, and 7,930 individuals in forestry and logging activities.

The Chief Statistician also reported that the total planted area amounted to 7.5 million hectares. Oil palm was the dominant crop, covering 5.8 million hectares, followed by rubber at 0.7 million hectares, paddy at 0.5 million hectares, and other crops at 0.1 million hectares.

Findings from the 2024 Agricultural Census also recorded total sales value of RM116.7 billion for the crops subsector and RM26.9 billion for the livestock subsector. Meanwhile, the sales value of captured fisheries products was recorded at RM10.9 billion. The 2024 Agricultural Census further shows that the aquaculture subsector generated sales value amounting to RM4.6 billion in 2023 and logging activities recorded sales value of RM3.8 billion.

Total Income

Total income for the agricultural sector in 2023 amounted to RM186.43 billion, with the crops subsector being the largest contributor at RM132.06 billion (70.8%) of total income. The livestock subsector was the second-largest contributor with RM33.12 billion (17.8%), followed by capture fisheries at RM11.08 billion (5.9%). Forestry and logging, RM5.42 billion (2.9%) and aquaculture recorded income of RM4.74 billion (2.5%). The three states recording the highest total income were Johor, with RM30.15 billion, followed by Sarawak (RM29.18 billion) and Sabah (RM28.22 billion). The income component in the Agricultural Census 2024 includes the value of sales from agricultural activities, services activities undertaken for other parties, processed agricultural products, and other income related to agricultural activities.

Establishment agricultural holdings contributed RM136.05 billion, which represented 73.0 per cent of total agricultural income, while individual agricultural holdings accounted for RM50.38 billion (27.0 per cent). Within the crops subsector, establishment holdings generated RM93.74 billion, representing 71.0 per cent of total crop income, compared with RM38.32 billion (29.0%) from individual holdings. Income

within the crops subsector was predominantly driven by oil palm cultivation, which recorded RM92.68 billion. This was followed by fruits (RM14.15 billion), vegetables (RM10.90 billion), rubber (RM4.27 billion), paddy (RM3.84 billion), and pineapple (RM2.33 billion). Other crops contributed relatively smaller shares to the overall crops income.

The livestock subsector's income was largely driven by establishment holdings, which generated RM31.28 billion, accounting for 94.4 per cent of total income, while individual holdings contributed RM1.84 billion (5.6 per cent). Poultry farming (chicken /duck) recorded the highest income at RM20.83 billion, followed by chicken/duck eggs (RM5.54 billion) and pig (RM2.55 billion). In the captured fisheries subsector, income was predominantly contributed by individual holdings, amounting to RM9.29 billion or 83.8 per cent, compared with RM1.80 billion (16.2 per cent) from establishment holdings. Conversely, aquaculture income was mainly generated by establishment holdings at RM3.86 billion (81.3 per cent), with individual holdings accounting for RM0.88 billion (18.7 per cent). Income in the forestry and logging subsector was mainly contributed by establishment holdings, totaling RM5.38 billion or 99.1 per cent of the subsector's income, while individual holdings contributed RM47.17 million (0.9 per cent).

Pahang, Sarawak and Sabah emerged as the top three contributors to income in the crops subsector, recording RM24.05 billion, RM23.58 billion, and RM23.43 billion, respectively. In the livestock subsector, Johor led with income of RM6.21 billion, followed by Negeri Sembilan at RM5.63 billion and Perak at RM4.76 billion. Perak recorded the highest income in captured fisheries subsector at RM2.52 billion, with Sabah and Kedah contributing RM1.50 billion and RM1.49 billion, respectively. Meanwhile, the aquaculture subsector income was highest in Johor at RM1.11 billion, followed by Perak with RM929.06 million and Pulau Pinang with RM636.12 million. In the forestry and logging subsector, Sarawak recorded with income of RM2.89 billion, followed by Sabah at RM808.18 million and Pahang at RM642.70 million.

Total expenditure

He added, "Overall, total expenditure in the agricultural sector amounted to RM67.89 billion. The crops subsector recorded the highest expenditure at RM41.53 billion, accounting for 61.2 per cent of total agricultural expenditure. This was followed by livestock at RM17.00 billion (25.1 per cent), capture fisheries at RM5.03 billion (7.4 per cent), forestry and logging at RM2.57 billion (3.8%), and aquaculture at RM1.76 billion (2.6%). Total expenditure refers to the total cost incurred on direct materials used in agricultural activities, including transportation, maintenance, and other operational expenses related to agriculture."

Of the total expenditure, 72.4 per cent (RM49.18 billion) was incurred by establishment agricultural holdings, while individual holdings accounted for the remaining 27.6 per cent (RM18.71 billion). Within the crops subsector, expenditure was primarily contributed by establishment holdings, which spent RM28.05 billion or 67.6 per cent, as compared to RM13.47 billion (32.4%) by individual holdings. Oil palm cultivation recorded the highest expenditure at RM27.35 billion, followed by fruits (RM4.60 billion), vegetables (RM3.62 billion), paddy (RM1.63 billion), rubber (RM1.60 billion) and pineapple (RM0.96 billion).

In the livestock subsector, expenditure was largely contributed by establishment holdings, amounting to RM16.11 billion or 94.8 per cent of total livestock expenditure, while individual holdings accounted for RM0.89 billion (5.2%). Poultry farming (chicken/duck) recorded the highest expenditure at RM9.95 billion, followed by chicken/duck eggs (RM4.02 billion) and pig (RM1.24 billion).

For captured fisheries, expenditure was predominantly recorded by individual holdings at RM4.16 billion, representing 82.7 per cent of total captured fisheries expenditure, while establishment holdings incurred RM870.27 million (17.3 per cent). In contrast, aquaculture expenditure was mainly contributed by establishment holdings at RM1.57 billion (89.3 per cent), with individual holdings accounting for RM0.19 billion (10.7 per cent). Expenditure in the forestry and logging subsector was almost entirely incurred by establishment holdings, totaling RM2.57 billion or 99.8 per cent, while individual holdings contributed RM5.17 million (0.2 per cent).

At the state level, Sarawak (RM7.54 billion), Pahang (RM7.38 billion), and Sabah (RM7.11 billion) recorded the highest expenditure in the crops subsector. In the livestock subsector, Johor led with RM3.08 billion, followed by Perak (RM2.30 billion) and Melaka (RM1.83 billion). Perak recorded the highest expenditure in capture fisheries at RM1.14 billion, followed by Kedah (RM732.71 million) and Sabah (RM719.49 million). Aquaculture expenditure was highest in Perak at RM399.81 million, followed by Johor (RM387.71 million) and Pulau Pinang (RM319.27 million). For forestry and logging, Sarawak recorded the highest expenditure at RM1.42 billion, followed by Sabah (RM386.02 million) and Pahang (RM264.07 million).

Expenditure-to-Income Ratio

Overall findings from the Agricultural Census 2024 indicate an expenditure-to-income ratio of 0.36, suggesting that, on average, approximately one-third of income is used to cover expenditure. At the subsector level, crops recorded the lowest ratio at 0.31, followed by aquaculture (0.37), capture fisheries (0.45), forestry and logging (0.47), and livestock (0.51). Variations in expenditure-to-income ratios across subsectors reflect differences in cost structures and provide important inputs for targeted policy formulation and intervention by stakeholders.

Agricultural Census 2024: Crops Dominate Employment, Aquaculture Leads Wages

Malaysia's employment in agricultural sector were 1,735,469 persons in 2023, with the highest concentration were in Sarawak (358,803 persons), Sabah (281,116 persons), Johor (210,575 persons), Perak (194,316 persons) and Pahang (193,216 persons) which accounted for 71.3 percent of total employment. The crops subsector remains the largest employer, representing 76.3 percent of total agricultural employment, led by oil palm (872,269 persons), rubber (389,074 persons) and paddy (192,425 persons).

Other subsectors recorded the least employment, with capture fisheries (126,955 persons), livestock (108,459 persons), aquaculture (29,411 persons) and

forestry and logging (24,490 persons). The average annual wage in the sector was RM20,290, with states above the national average including Pulau Pinang (RM23,691), Kuala Lumpur (RM23,236), Melaka (RM23,226), Kedah (RM22,720), Selangor (RM21,534), Johor (RM21,315), Pahang (RM20,987), and Sabah (RM20,475).

By subsector, aquaculture recorded the highest average annual salaries & wages at RM27,030, followed by forestry and logging (RM24,007), livestock (RM23,140), and capture fisheries (RM22,895). While crops recorded more moderate wages, pineapple (RM24,641) and fruits (RM21,664) outperformed oil palm (RM19,659) and paddy (RM17,869).

Way Forward

Based on Agricultural Census 2024, DOSM has also developed the Agricultural Statistics Digital Gateway (TaniStats 2.0), which was officiated by the Chief Secretary to the Government, Tan Sri Shamsul Azri Abu Bakar, on 7 December 2025. This initiative marks a strategic step in transforming national agricultural data management through the development of an integrated smart platform that consolidates census results, administrative data and supply chain information into a single digital ecosystem.

The agricultural sector remains one of the main drivers of national economic growth. Beyond ensuring adequate food supply, it contributes significantly to reducing dependence on imports, supporting processing industries, creating employment opportunities, and increasing household income, particularly among farmers. Through this census, agricultural statistics are now available down to the smallest locality, providing granular data that enable more targeted and appropriate interventions. Such detailed data will support more effective planning and decision-making by stakeholders and contribute to the continued empowerment of the national agricultural sector.

The Agricultural Census will be conducted once every 10 years to ensure that the data remain relevant and accurately reflect the structure of the country's agricultural sector.

Embargo: Only to be published or disseminated at 1200 hour, Tuesday, 23th December 2025

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>.

Released by:

**THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
23th DECEMBER 2025**