



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY  
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS MALAYSIA, FOURTH QUARTER 2025

#### **Population growth slowed to 0.6 per cent (192,495) in line with the decline in live births by 5.4 per cent**

**PUTRAJAYA, 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026** – Malaysia's total population was estimated at 34.3 million as compared to 34.1 million in the fourth quarter 2024 with a slower growth of 0.6 per cent as compared to 1.2 per cent (Q4 2024).

Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin said, "The composition of Citizens and Non-citizens in the fourth quarter 2025 remained unchanged at 90.1 per cent and 9.9 per cent as compared to fourth quarter 2024, respectively. Males population increased to 18.0 million from 17.9 million in the fourth 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 fourth quarter 2025. Meanwhile, young age population (0-14 years) recorded a decrease from 21.9 per cent to 21.6 per cent. The working age population (15-64 years) increased from 70.3 per cent to 70.4 per cent during the same period".

By ethnicity, Malay accounted 58.2 per cent of the population in the fourth quarter 2025 (Q4 2024: 58.2%). Other Bumiputera, Chinese and Indians remained unchanged as compared to the fourth quarter 2024 at 12.3 per cent, 22.2 per cent and 6.5 per cent, respectively. Sabah Bumiputera contributed 55.2 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%).

Chief Statistician Malaysia also said, "The number of live births continued to decline, recording a decrease of 5.4 per cent to 99,353 births as compared to 105,027 births in the fourth quarter 2024. Male babies outnumbered female babies with 51,340 births as compared to 48,013 births. Sex ratio at birth was 107 males for every 100 females. Selangor recorded the highest live births with 18,517 births (18.6%) while Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan recorded the lowest with 331 births (0.3%). Mothers

aged 30-39 years recorded the highest live births with 49,432 births (49.8%), followed by mothers aged 20-29 years (43.4%), 40 years and over (4.7%) and less than 20 years (2.1%). On average, one baby was born per minute, 45 babies per hour and 1,080 babies per day in the fourth quarter 2025”.

Malay births accounted for 68.7 per cent (68,263 births) of all live births in the fourth quarter 2025 (Q4 2024: 67,912 births, 64.7%). Meanwhile, Chinese and Indians decreased to 7.8 per cent and 3.9 per cent as compared to 11.9 per cent and 4.3 per cent in the fourth quarter 2024, respectively. Live births for Other Bumiputera increased to 12.9 per cent as compared to 12.5 per cent in the same period. Other Bumiputera consists of Sabah Bumiputera, Sarawak Bumiputera and other Bumiputera Peninsular Malaysia. Sabah Bumiputera contributed 59.5 per cent of Other Bumiputera which comprised Kadazan/ Dusun (34.6%), Bajau (31.3%), Murut (6.4%) and other Sabah Bumiputera (27.7%). Meanwhile, Sarawak Bumiputera recorded 33.4 per cent which comprised Iban (57.5%), Bidayuh (16.9%), Melanau (12.8%) and other Sarawak Bumiputera (12.8%).

Commenting further, a total of 51,077 deaths were recorded in the fourth quarter 2025, increased 1.3 per cent as compared to the fourth quarter 2024 (50,415 deaths). The number of deaths recorded for males were 29,358 while 21,719 deaths for females. Mortality sex ratio was 135 males for every 100 females. Selangor recorded the highest number of deaths with 7,990 deaths (15.6%), while Wilayah Persekutuan Putrajaya recorded the lowest with 82 deaths (0.2%). Population aged 60 years and over recorded the highest number of deaths with 35,788 deaths (70.1%), followed by 41-59 years (20.7%), 15-40 years (7.3%) and 0-14 years (1.9%). On average, one death was recorded in two minutes, 23 deaths per hour and 555 deaths per day in the fourth quarter 2025.

Malay registered 53.3 per cent (27,214 deaths) of total number of deaths (Q4 2024: 26,216 deaths, 52.0%). Meanwhile, Chinese and Indians decreased to 25.5 per cent and 8.3 per cent as compared to 26.3 per cent and 8.4 per cent in the fourth quarter 2024, respectively. Deaths for Other Bumiputera also decreased to 10.3 per cent as compared to 10.4 per cent in the fourth quarter 2024. Sabah Bumiputera contributed 52.0 per cent of Other Bumiputera which comprised Kadazan/ Dusun (39.0%), Bajau (28.4%), Murut (5.2%) and other Sabah Bumiputera (27.4%). Meanwhile, Sarawak Bumiputera recorded 42.8 per cent which comprised Iban (60.7%), Bidayuh (19.5%), Melanau (11.1%) and other Sarawak Bumiputera (8.7%).

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, Russia and France 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, 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. In addition, France has introduced a family-based tax system. This unique approach reduces the household tax burden based on the number of children in the home.

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) is conducting the **Economic Census 2026 (BE2026)**, with themed “**Data Nadi Ekonomi Rakyat**”. The sixth Economic Census, will be carried out from **5<sup>th</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2026**. BE2026 aims to collect comprehensive and structured data from all registered and unregistered business establishments in Malaysia to assess the nation’s economic performance, structure and characteristics in an evidence-based manner.

**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 67<sup>th</sup> 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>.

**DOSM Geohub** is a digital mapping platform that enhances access to official national statistics by integrating statistical data with geospatial information. The platform is accessible via the DOSM Geoportal at <https://dosmgeoportal.dosm.gov.my/geohub/>.

DOSM has also developed the **Life Expectancy Calculator**, which can be accessed via the website <http://kalkulator.dosm.gov.my/lifeexpectancy> or downloaded as an application through Google Play Store and App Store.

Released by:

**THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA**  
**12 FEBRUARY 2026**

Chart 1: Live births and deaths (number and rate) by quarterly, 2019-2025<sup>p</sup>, Malaysia

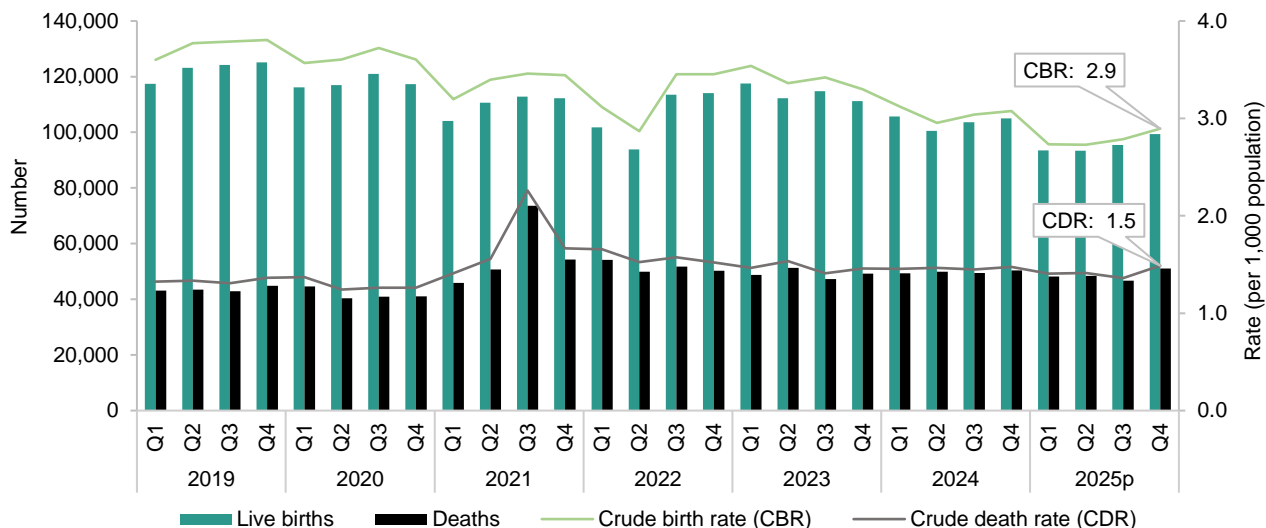


Table 1: Demographic statistics for fourth quarter, 2024 and 2025, Malaysia

Year	Total		Male		Female	
	Q4 2024	Q4 2025	Q4 2024	Q4 2025	Q4 2024	Q4 2025
Population (million)	34.1	34.3	17.9	18.0	16.2	16.3
Live births	105,027	99,353	54,158	51,340	50,869	48,013
Deaths	50,415	51,077	29,139	29,358	21,276	21,719
Growth rate (%)						
Population	1.2	0.6	1.4	0.5	1.1	0.6
Live births	-6.4	-5.4	-5.8	-5.2	-5.3	-5.6
Deaths	2.2	1.3	3.5	0.8	0.4	2.1

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

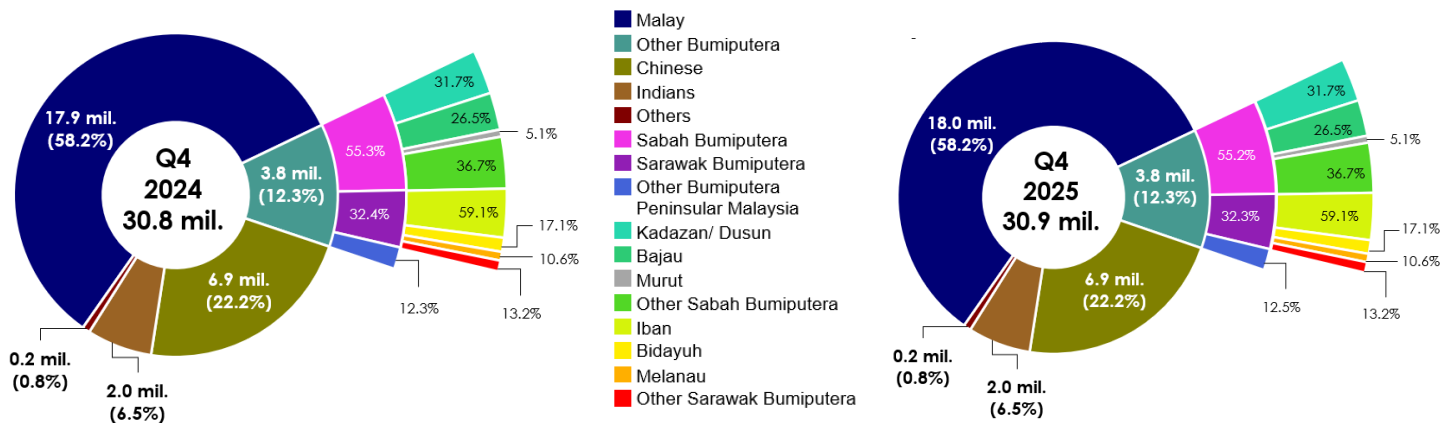


Chart 3: Live births by ethnic group, fourth quarter 2024 and 2025, Malaysia

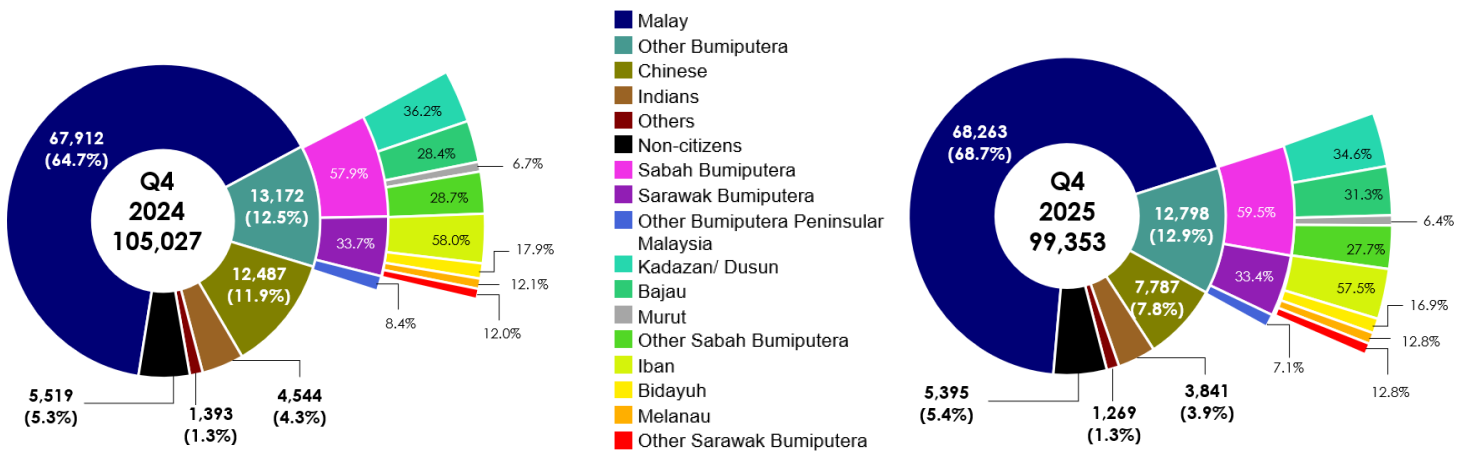


Chart 4: Deaths by ethnic group, fourth quarter 2024 and 2025, Malaysia

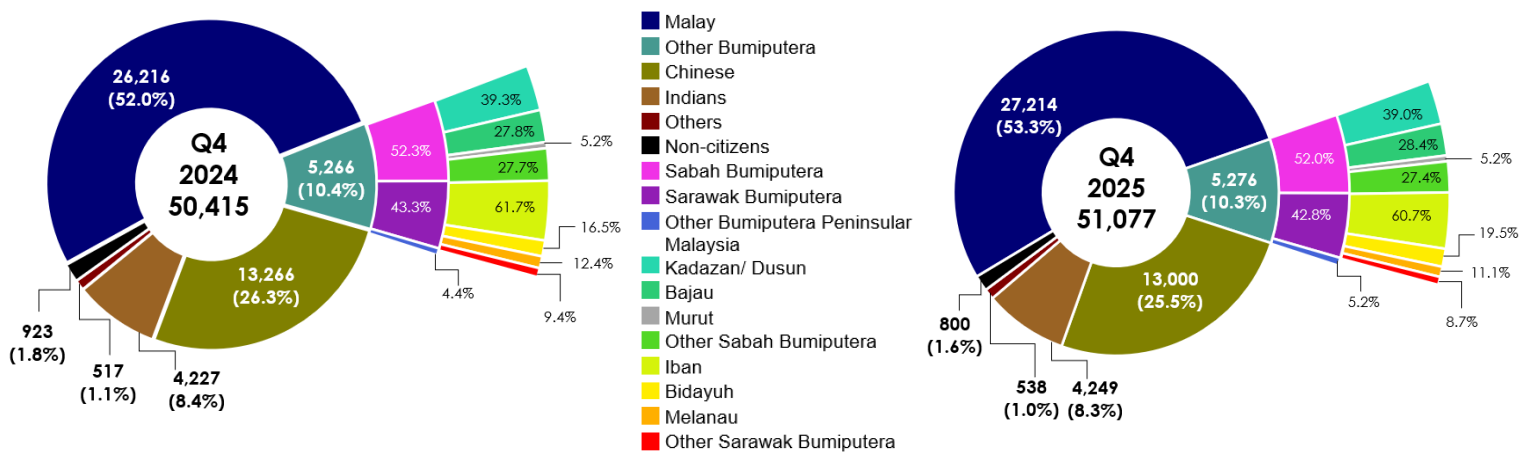


Chart 5: Demographic transition, Malaysia, 1911-2024

