



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA STATEMENT

AGRICULTURE CENSUS 2024 REPORT: PULAU PINANG

The Livestock Subsector Dominates the Agricultural Sector Income in Pulau Pinang with a Value of RM1.90 billion

GEORGETOWN, 16th APRIL 2026 – The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) has released the Agriculture Census 2024 Report for Pulau Pinang, introducing new parameters for the agriculture sector, including income, expenditure and salaries & wages for the reference year 2023. The report also provides the latest parameters on agricultural holdings, planted and harvested areas, production and sales quantities, sales value, and employment.

These findings are derived from the Agriculture Census 2024, conducted from 7th July 2024 to 31st October 2024 through extensive and strategic collaboration between DOSM and 1,390 agriculture-related agencies at the federal, state, and district levels. 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), Ministry of Food Industry, Commodity and Regional Development Sarawak (M-FICORD), Sabah Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Industry (MAFFI). At the state level, strategic collaborations implemented involves State Secretary of Penang, Rubber Industry Smallholders Development Authority (RISDA) Pulau Pinang, Pengurus Persatuan Nelayan Negeri Pulau Pinang (PEN-MUTIARA) and other relevant agencies.

Pulau Pinang recorded 13,713 agricultural holdings, of which 12,559 were individual holdings (91.6%) and 1,154 establishments holdings (8.4%). The updated profile

indicates 10,158 crops subsector agricultural holdings, of which 9,529 are individual holdings. In addition, 2,427 individuals holding are involved in captured fisheries subsector, 543 in livestock subsector, 138 in aquaculture subsector and 2 individuals in forestry & logging subsector.

The reported total planted area in Pulau Pinang is 39,304.9 hectares. The main crop is paddy, covering 22,936.3 hectares (58.4%), followed by oil palm with 10,827.3 hectares (27.5%), fruits with 2,571.0 hectares (6.5%), while vegetables 1,227.6 hectares (3.1%).

The Agriculture Census 2024 also recorded that the total sales value for the livestock subsector for Pulau Pinang amounted to RM1.55 billion, while the crops subsector recorded RM848.65 million. The aquaculture subsector generated RM603.68 million, the captured fisheries subsector recorded sales valued at RM514.55 million and the forestry & logging subsector recorded a sales value of RM13.12 thousand.

Income Performance

The total income of the agriculture sector Pulau Pinang in 2023 amounted to RM4.01 billion. The livestock subsector emerged as the largest contributor at RM1.90 billion (47.3%), followed by the crops at RM951.58 million (23.7%), aquaculture subsector at RM636.12 million (15.9%), captured fisheries subsector with RM525.24 million (13.1%), and forestry & logging RM13.12 thousand.

Agricultural holdings operated by establishments contributed RM2.76 billion, equivalent to 68.8 per cent of Pulau Pinang total agriculture sector income, while individual holdings recorded RM1.25 billion (31.2%). Within the crops subsector, agricultural holdings operated by establishments generated RM303.00 million, representing 31.8 per cent as compared to RM648.59 million (68.2%) contributed by individual holdings. For the livestock subsector, income was largely generated by establishment holdings at RM1.87 billion (98.8%), while individual holdings contributed RM22.75 million (1.2%). Income in the aquaculture subsector was mostly generated by establishment holdings at RM581.86 million (91.5%), while individual holdings contributed RM54.26 million (8.5%). The captured fisheries subsector, income was dominated by individual holdings at RM523.20 million (99.6%) compared with RM2.04 million (0.4 per cent) contributed by establishment holdings. Income from

the forestry & logging subsector was entirely contributed by individual holdings amounted RM13,120.

Three (3) districts with the highest contribution to agricultural sector income were Seberang Perai Selatan (RM1.86 billion), Seberang Perai Tengah (RM752.81 million) and Barat Daya (RM612.16 million). By subsector, Barat Daya, Seberang Perai Utara and Seberang Perai Selatan emerged as the three (3) main contributors to the crop subsector income with RM308.18 million, RM234.88 million and RM176.60 million respectively. Meanwhile, Seberang Perai Selatan, recorded the highest income in livestock subsector at RM1.15 billion, followed by Seberang Perai Tengah (RM537.36 million), and Seberang Perai Utara (RM186.20 million). For captured fisheries subsector, Barat Daya (RM190.69 million), Seberang Perai Utara (RM108.35 million) and Timur Laut (RM102.07 million). Aquaculture subsector income was highest in Seberang Perai Selatan (RM438.30 million), followed by Barat Daya (RM98.52 million) and Seberang Perai Tengah (RM40.48 million), while Barat Daya and Seberang Perai Utara contributed RM8,800 and RM4,320 respectively for the forestry & logging subsector.

Expenditure

The total expenditure of the agricultural sector for Pulau Pinang in 2023 amounted to RM2.09 billion. The livestock subsector recorded the highest expenditure, amounting to RM1.26 billion (60.3%) of the total agricultural expenditure, followed by the aquaculture subsector RM319.27 million (15.3%), crops subsector RM292.53 million (14.0%), captured fisheries subsector RM217.37 million (10.4%) and forestry & logging RM4,725. Total expenditure refers to the overall costs incurred for direct inputs in agricultural activities, including transportation costs, maintenance and other related operating expenses.

Of the total expenditure, 78.5 per cent (RM1,64 billion) was incurred by establishment holdings, while 21.5 per cent (RM448.84 million) was borne by individual holdings. Within the crop subsector, expenditure was dominated by individual holdings at RM195.20 million (66.7%), as compared to RM97.33 million (33.3%) incurred by establishment holdings. In the livestock subsector, expenditure was largely contributed by establishment holdings amounting to RM1.25 billion (99.3%), while individual holdings recorded RM9.19 million (0.7%).

For the captured fisheries subsector, expenditure was dominated by individual holdings at RM216.63 million (99.7%), while establishment holdings incurred RM738.06 thousand (0.3%). Conversely, expenditure in the aquaculture subsector was mostly contributed by establishment holdings at RM291.46 million (91.3%), while individual holdings accounted for RM27.81 million (8.7%). Expenditure in the forestry & logging subsector was contributed by individual holdings amounting to RM4,725.

Three (3) districts with the highest contribution to agricultural sector expenditure were Seberang Perai Selatan (RM1.07 billion), Seberang Perai Tengah (RM469.27 million) and Seberang Perai Utara (RM255.77 million). By subsector, Barat Daya, Seberang Perai Utara and Seberang Perai Selatan emerged as the three (3) main contributors to crop subsector expenditure with RM97.02 million, RM69.46 million and RM55.32 million respectively. Meanwhile, Seberang Perai Selatan recorded the highest expenditure in livestock subsector at RM739.65 million, followed by Seberang Perai Tengah (RM387.99 million), and Seberang Perai Utara (RM121.44 million). For captured fisheries subsector, Barat Daya (RM83.20 million), Seberang Perai Utara (RM49.04 million) and Seberang Perai Selatan (RM41.52 million). Aquaculture subsector expenditure was highest in Seberang Perai Selatan (RM232.88 million), followed by Barat Daya (RM42.51 million) and Seberang Perai Tengah (RM26.55 million), while Barat Daya and Seberang Perai Utara contributed RM3.63 thousand and RM1.09 thousand respectively for the forestry & logging subsector.

Employment and Wages & Salaries

Employment in the agriculture sector for Pulau Pinang recorded 28,219 persons in 2023. The top three administrative districts contributing to employment were Seberang Perai Utara (10,714 persons), Seberang Perai Selatan (6,314 persons) and Barat Daya (5,235 persons), collectively accounting for 78.9 per cent of the total employment. The paddy activities was the main contributor to employment, representing 37.4 per cent of the total agricultural employment in Pulau Pinang.

The mean annual salary & wages in the Pulau Pinang agricultural sector amounted to RM23,691, with the administrative district that recorded a level above the state average being Barat Daya (RM31,220).

Moving Forward

Based on the Agriculture 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 7th December 2025. This initiative represents a strategic step in transforming the nation's agricultural data management through the development of an integrated smart platform that consolidates census results, administrative data and supply chain information into a comprehensive digital ecosystem.

The agriculture sector in Pulau Pinang plays an important role in ensuring food and supporting the state's economic growth. The state government, through the Penang State Agriculture Department is committed to implement various programmes and initiatives to enhance productivity and strengthen the competitiveness of this sector. The initiatives include the provision of fertilizer subsidies, technical training for farmers and encourage the use of modern technologies such as smart agriculture and hydroponic agriculture. These initiatives aim to improve productivity and increase farmers' income.

In addition, the comprehensive and detailed information of Agriculture Census serves an important reference for policymakers and the state government in identifying high-potential subsectors, thereby ensuring that aid can be delivered directly and effectively to agricultural holdings. Overall, the agriculture sector in Pulau Pinang remains significant and has strong potential for sustainable development. With a strategic planning and the continuous adoption of modern technology, this sector is capable of further contributing to the well-being of the people and the stability of the state's economy.

The Agriculture Census is conducted once every ten years to ensure that the data remains relevant and reflective of the structure of the national agriculture sector.

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 **5th January to 31st November 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 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>.

TaniStats 2.0 is a centralised agricultural information hub that provides informative, structured and user-friendly statistical dashboards to strengthen public understanding of patterns and changes in the agriculture sector, thus supporting digital transformation initiatives towards more inclusive and evidence-based policies. Access TaniStats at <https://tanistats.dosm.gov.my>.

Released by:

THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
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TABLE 1: INCOME FOR THE THREE MAIN ACTIVITIES BY ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT, PULAU PINANG, 2023

ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT	TOTAL INCOME (RM Million)	MAIN ACTIVITIES	INCOME MAIN ACTIVITIES (RM Million)	SECOND ACTIVITIES	SECOND ACTIVITIES INCOME (RM Million)	THIRD ACTIVITIES	THIRD ACTIVITIES INCOME (RM Million)
Seberang Perai Selatan	1862.47	Livestock	1150.77	Aquaculture	438.30	Oil Palm	112.18
Seberang Perai Tengah	752.81	Livestock	537.36	Oil Palm	40.94	Aquaculture	40.48
Barat Daya	612.16	Fruits	289.22	Captured Fisheries	190.69	Aquaculture	98.52
Seberang Perai Utara	560.60	Livestock	186.20	Paddy	144.37	Captured Fisheries	108.35
Timur Laut	220.24	Captured Fisheries	102.07	Fruits	52.05	Aquaculture	27.65

TABLE 2: EXPENDITURE FOR THE THREE MAIN ACTIVITIES BY ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT, PULAU PINANG, 2023

ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT	TOTAL EXPENDITURE (RM Million)	MAIN ACTIVITIES	EXPENDITURE MAIN ACTIVITIES (RM Million)	SECOND ACTIVITIES	SECOND ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE (RM Million)	THIRD ACTIVITIES	THIRD ACTIVITIES INCOME (RM Million)
Seberang Perai Selatan	1069.38	Livestock	739.65	Aquaculture	232.88	Captured Fisheries	41.52
Seberang Perai Tengah	469.27	Livestock	387.99	Aquaculture	26.55	Oil Palm	12.83
Seberang Perai Utara	255.77	Livestock	121.44	Captured Fisheries	49.04	Paddy	39.99
Barat Daya	230.78	Fruits	90.95	Captured Fisheries	83.20	Aquaculture	42.51
Timur Laut	64.29	Captured Fisheries	34.58	Fruits	14.43	Vegetables	8.02

EXHIBIT: PERFORMANCE OF AGRICULTURAL SECTOR IN PULAU PINANG, PULAU PINANG, 2023

