INTRODUCTION

The 2020 Population and Housing Census of Malaysia (MyCensus 2020) is the sixth census that was conducted since the formation of Malaysia in 1963. Previous censuses were carried out in 1970, 1980, 1991, 2000 and 2010. The Census 2020 provides information on the characteristics of living quarters, households and population in Malaysia as a benchmark for the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the population. Census data form the basis for monitoring population and housing trends to national development planning.

The Federal Government is responsible for the undertaking of the census and it is conducted under the provision of the Census Act, 1960 (Revised-1969). The Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM) was entrusted to conduct the MyCensus 2020 with full co-operation and participation of State Governments and Federal Government Agencies. The purpose of this report is to provide information on total living quarters covering aspects such as population, households, types of living quarters, reasons for vacancy, ownership status and ownership of living quarters by sex, age group, and ethnic group. Additionally, the report provides data on methods of acquiring living quarters, monthly rental rates, available facilities (water, electricity, garbage collection, and Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV)), expected duration to homeownership, preferred types of living quarters, affordability and proximity to amenities & services presented at the state, administrative district, and local authority area (LAA) levels.

MyCensus 2020 is a complex data collection project. Therefore, the possibility of coverage and content errors is inevitable. In terms of coverage errors, part of living quarters, households or population may be left out, erroneously included or duplicated. Content errors in particular were based on erroneous responses on sex, age, citizenship, marital status, religion and ethnic group. To estimate the two errors, the Post Enumeration Survey was conducted, as recommended by the United Nations in the manual entitled Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses Revision 3 (UNSD, 2015). In term of completeness, MyCensus 2020 benefitted from administrative data sources.

GEOGRAPHICAL DIVISIONS

MyCensus 2020 covers all states in Malaysia. Each state is divided into its respective administrative district (AD). For the purpose of census operations, a small enumeration unit which is an enumeration block (EB) has been created and contained an average of 80 to 120 living quarters with an estimated population of 500 to 600 persons. Approximately 80 to 120 EBs form a census district (CD).

Malaysia consists of thirteen states and three federal territories. Each state is divided into several AD. In Kelantan, the AD is known as "Jajahan". Each AD is also stratified into mukim/town/pekan. This type of administrative structure is applicable to all states except Sabah, Sarawak, W.P. Labuan dan W.P. Putrajaya. For the state of Sabah, levels of administration up to district level whereas for Sarawak some AD are further sub-divided into sub-districts. W.P. Labuan and W.P. Putrajaya do not have mukims or other subdivisions as a unit of administration. List of mukims/town/pekan for each state based on the list provided by the Department of Survey and Mapping Malaysia (JUPEM).

LAAs is Local Government in the context of national administration is the third layer of government following the Federal Government and the State Government. The total number of LAAs were 155, comprised 19 City Hall/ City Council (D.B./M.B.), 40 Municipal Council (M.P.), 92 District Council (M.D.) and four Modified Local Authorities. There are three categories of LAAs and Modified LAAs which agencies that are authorised by the respective State Governments to implement the functions of local authorities that are P.B.T. Taman Perindustrian Hi-Tech Kulim, Lembaga Pembangunan Tioman, Perbadanan Labuan and Perbadanan Putrajaya.

Definition for each category of LAAs, Malaysia, 2020

City Hall/ City Council

City Hall/ City Council is a Municipal Council that is upgraded to the city after it complies with the criteria of population not less than 500,000 and annual revenue exceeding RM100 million.

Municipal Council

The Municipal Council is more focused on the city (urban) than the District Council and has a population and revenue that exceeds the District Council. The criteria for the Municipal Council is a population of more than 150,000 and annual revenue of more than RM20 million.

District Council

District Council is more focused on rural area (rural-based). The criteria for the District Council is a population less than 150,000 and annual revenue less than RM20 million.

Modified LAAs

Modified LAAs is an agency that is given the role of administering a special area as a local government. The area is usually a new planned settlement area that is not suitable to be classified as a District Council or Municipal Council.

**Sources from official website of Local Government Department (JKT) & Ministry of Local Government Development (KPKT)*

During the MyCensus 2020, an enumerator is entrusted with one EB. A supervisor will monitor the enumerators for the three census circles (CC), each consists approximately seven EBs. A District Superintendent will be responsible for a census district comprising approximately 15 CCs. All District Superintendents in every AD are under the responsibility of the Assistant Commissioner of Census. All Assistant Commissioners of each state are under the control of the Deputy Commissioner of Census for that state.

The Deputy Commissioner of Census of each state is responsible directly to the Commissioner of Census. To launch the census operation, each district also has officers appointed as MyAD and MyCD officers who are responsible for technical aspects and help monitor the progress of operations in the field. Meanwhile, from the aspect of training each enumerator and supervisor is given adequate training either through training workshops or online, namely the Malaysia Statistics Ubiquitous Learning (MySUL) training program.

Position	Area of Responsibility
Assistant Commissioner	Headquarters and State
Assistant Commissioner (Technical)	State
District Superintendent	Census District
Supervisor	Census Circle
Enumerator	Enumeration Block

DATA SOURCE

The data on population, household and living quarters are preliminary figures based on summary counts made after the field operation prior to computer processing.

CENSUS APPROACH

In MyCensus 2020, various data collection method was used.

1. e-Census

The completion of online census form by respondents through the Census Portal (https://ecensus.mycensus.gov.my).

***2. Computer Assisted Telephone Interview* (CATI)**

Data collection through telephone and all respondent's information recorded into the CATI system.

***3. Computer Assisted Personal Interview* (CAPI)**

A face to face interview or data collection using smart device either online or offline.

***4. Paper and Pen Interview* (PAPI)**

A face to face interview or data collection using questionnaire.

***5. Drop-Off & Pick-Up* (DOPU)**

Census enumerator drop off a set of questionnaire at respondents' living quarter and pick up the questionnaire that has been filled by the respondent.

De Jure

MyCensus 2020 uses a "de jure" approach meaning that everyone is counted on Census Day (7 July 2020) according to their usual place of residence.

The questionnaire (Document 2) was used to fill in the information of persons found at private living quarters, while the Document 3a and 3b were used for the collective living quarters such as colleges/ universities, hostels medical hostels, charitable/ social welfare institutions, military/ police barracks, prisons as well as homeless persons.

*The **de jure** approach was adopted for MyCensus 2020. All persons were enumerated according to their usual place of residence on Census Day on 7 July 2020. A usual member is one who had stayed or intended to stay as usual member of the household for six months or more in the year 2020 includes:*

a. *Babies born on or before Census Day and still living on Census Day (7 July 2020);*

b. *Those who passed away on or after before Census Day (7 July 2020);*

c. *Lodgers, boarders, visitors, housemaid, elderly persons and relatives who usually live together with this household;*

d. *Students (primary and secondary schools) who stays in hostels (in Malaysia) in the year 2020;*

e. *Usual members who are away from living quarters for less than six months because of work, attending course, on leave, on vacation (in and outside Malaysia), visiting place of worship and etc; and*

f. *Any person staying/ will be staying in hospital for less than six months in the year 2020.*

Following the outbreak COVID-19 nationwide, the census operation was rescheduled four times in the period of July 2020 to October 2021 and officially closed on 31 October 2021. In terms of population count, it is realigned to the reference period.

CENSUS COVERAGE

*The following categories were **excluded** from the census count on the basis that they were staying in the country for less than six months in the year 2020:*

a) *Babies born after Census Day (7 July 2020);*

b) *Those who passed away before Census Day (7 July 2020);*

c) *Malaysian students who have been living overseas for more than six months in the year 2020; and*

d) *Malaysians who work overseas for more than six months in the year 2020.*

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITION

For the purpose of this census, several concepts were used such as :

Living Quarters (LQ)

Living quarters are a place that is structurally separated and independent which are meant for living. The terms, 'separated' and 'independent', is defined as the following:

- ***Separated***

  A structure is considered as separated if it is surrounded by walls, fence, etc. and is covered by a roof.

- ***Independent***

  A structure is said to be independent if it has direct access via public staircase, communal passageway or landing (that is, occupants can come in or go out of their living quarters without passing through someone else's premises).

Type of living quarters

1. *Housing unit is a separate and independent place of abode intended for habitation by one households. Although intended for habitation by one households, a housing unit may at the time of census, be occupied by more than one households. Housing units are classified into the following main types:*

a) Detached

Separate house which does not share a common wall with another house.

b) Semi-detached

Two separate houses that share the same walls and have separate entrances.

c) Terrace

Houses built in rows of three or more units of which each has a common wall either on the left or right side or on both sides with the next house.

d) Link

Separate houses that are built in rows and shares its walls with the next house either on the left or right or both. The characteristics are not built by the house developer and not structured.

e) Cluster

Separated houses of which has a common wall with the next house and share the same wall at the back with the house located behind.

g) Flat

A multi storey building which consists of separate housing units. Basic facilities provided by the developer/ management which include open parking lot, garbage collection and lift. Generally, a flat is classified as affordable house.

h) Apartment

A multi storey building which consists of separate housing units. Facilities provided by the developer/ management are better as compared to flat, such as 'surau', covered/ uncovered parking lot, recreational area, playground, lift, security services and surrounded by fence.

i) Condominium

A multi-storey building which is considered as an exclusive and luxurious property. Facilities and services provided by the developer/ management are much better as compared to apartment such as dedicated parking lots for each owner, swimming pool, gymnasium, laundry, lift, fenced area and strict security system services.

j) Service apartment

Multi-storey residential units owned by individuals or rented for short or permanent terms. Accommodation consists of studio units, one and more rooms including a kitchen area. Facilities provided by developers are restaurants, laundry centres, room management services, parking lots and sports venues.

k) Small Office Home Office (SOHO)/ Small Office Flexible Office (SOFO)/ Small Office Versatile Office (SOVO)

i. SOHO (Small Office Home Office)

Place of residence and office space designed and spacious area of medium-sized (there is space in the bedroom, a fully equipped toilet, and a living room).

ii. SOFO (Small Office Flexible Office)

Buildings specially designed for residential and office space but spacious area larger than SOHO. This housing unit in SOFO has a more flexible interior design office space in accordance with the needs and requirements of the owner. However, this unit has no partition.

iii. SOVO (Small Office Versatile Office)

The building also known as Small Office Virtual Office. This house refers to a building specially for commercial purposes. In addition, the building costs more than the value of residential properties.

l) Shophouse/ Office

Multi level units built on commercial area and for business activities such as show room, financial institution, education centre, corporate office, entertainment centre and restaurant.

m) Longhouse

A house built in a row and shares a common corridor in the front of the houses. It is commonly found in the remote areas of Sabah and Sarawak.

n) Improvised/ Temporary hut

This category refers to an inferior living quarters generally considered as temporary and unfit for living. They are usually built of discarded materials such as planks, plywood, zinc and etc.

o) Room

A room which is within or is attached to a certain structure and has a direct access from outside. For example, room in/ attached to a house, shop house, office, factory, plant and etc.

p) Water village house

A house that either shares and do not share walls with other houses in the village according to the characteristics as below:

a) Built on water's edge;

b) Unstructured; and

c) Limited utility facilities.

q) Others

Refers to living quarters that can be moved such as tents or movable unit, for example boat, raft and cabin.

2. *Not intended for living but used as such on Census Day as In "a permanent building" such as office, mosque, school.*

3. *Collective living quarters is a separate and independent of LQ in terms of structure and intended for collective living quarters. It often has several facilities for shared use such as cooking facilities, toilets, bathrooms, living areas and bedrooms or dormitories.*

The types of collective living quarters are:

i. Hotel / Lodging house/ Rest house;

ii. Medical institution (E.g.: Hospital);

iii. Higher learning institution (E.g.: Hostel)

iv. Charitable / Social welfare institution (E.g.: Old folks home)

v. Religious home (E.g.: convent)

vi. Prison / Detention centre;

vii. Temporary quarters for workers;

viii. Army barracks; and

ix. Others.

HOUSING UNIT CATEGORY

Landed
1. Detached
2. Semi-detached
3. Terrace/ Link/ Cluster
4. Townhouse

High – rise
1. Flat/ Apartment/ Condominium
2. Service apartment/ SOHO/ SOFO/ SOVO

Others
1. Shophouse/ Office
2. Longhouse
3. Improvised/ Temporary hut
4. Room
5. Water village house
6. Others

Occupied living quarters

Living quarters were considered as being occupied if they were used as place of stay/ residence on Census Day.

Vacant living quarters

Living quarters were classified as vacant if they were not usually occupied and not used as usual place of residence on Census Day. The vacancy of these living quarters could be for any of the following reasons:

i. Newly completed / for rent or sale;

ii. For repair / renovation;

iii. Holiday resort / Transit;

iv. Homestay;

v. Seasonal workers quarters;

vi. Dilapidated; and

vii. Others (refers to houses without an owner (an abandoned houses)).

Ownership

Ownership of living quarters refers to the Head of Household aged 20 years and above and the statistics are based on self-declaration by respondents.

Household

A household consists of related and/or unrelated persons who usually live together and make common provisions for food and other essentials of living. The household may contain one or several members.

Head of Household

Head of household refers to regular household members who live in the residence and is considered as the head by other members of household.

Member of Household

Member of household refers to members who have or will stay with other household members for a period of six months or more in the census year, although not present during the census is held.

For the purpose of tabulation and analysis, the classification on ethnic group is based on the classification that have been endorsed by Inter Agency Technical Committee (IATC). The classification is as follows:

Ethnic group
Malaysian Citizens
Bumiputera
Malay
Other Bumiputera
Chinese
Indians
Others
Non-Malaysian Citizens

Apart from the classification of these ethnics groups, detailed ethnicities based on the data obtained will be published from time to time. All information collected during the census including ethnic group and nationality is based on respondents' answers/declaration and does not refer to any official documents.

Information on citizenship should be used with caution as it is subject to content and coverage errors especially for non-citizens.

For the purpose of this publication, several terms are used and have been defined as follows:

Average annual living quarters growth rate

The average annual population growth rate has been calculated as:

$$r = \left(\frac{1}{n} \ln \frac{Pn}{Po} \right) \times 100$$

r = the average annual living quarters growth rate

n = the exact number of years between Po and Pn

P0 = the living quarters at the initial year

Pn = the living quarters at the later year

ln = the natural logarithm

AREA/ BOUNDARY CHANGES

After the year 2010, there were several new areas created or boundary changes that were gazetted by the relevant authorities. The new administrative districts are shown:

- *Appendix 1: Establishment of new administrative district in the Census 2020*
- *Appendix 2: Map showing boundaries of states and administrative district, Malaysia, 2020*

MAP OF MALAYSIA

Included in this publication is a map of Malaysia (Appendix 3) showing two geographic entities, namely Peninsular Malaysia and Sabah/ Sarawak, each drawn with its own scale, although separated by over 500 kilometres of the South China Sea. They are plotted in closer proximity to achieve maximum clarity. The geographic units shown in this map consist of 156 administrative districts as well as Perlis and three federal territories of Kuala Lumpur, Labuan and Putrajaya.

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

0.0	Less than half of the smallest units shown
..	Not obtained
-	Nil/ No Data
W.P.	Wilayah Persekutuan (Federal Territory)
n	New existance
e	Expansion
u	Upgrade
d	Devide

ROUNDING OF FIGURES

The sum of the percentage may not equal to the total shown due to independent rounding to one decimal point.