



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA STATEMENT

STATE SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS, KELANTAN FIRST QUARTER, 2026

Kelantan maintained stable socioeconomic growth in Q1 2026 amid moderate business sentiment.

PUTRAJAYA, 21 MAY 2026 – Kelantan recorded stable socioeconomic performance in the First Quarter of 2026 (Q1 2026), with maintained inflation, a stable labour market, careful business sentiment and an increasing population growth rate. These developments are highlighted in the publication **State Socioeconomic Indicators, Kelantan, First Quarter 2026** which released today by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM). The publication is a rebranding of State Pocket Stats, which has been further enhanced through the inclusion of selected key indicators highlighting economic and social statistics at the state level. Among the key economic indicators are production in selected Agriculture sub-sectors, inflation, external trade and the labour market, while key social indicators include population, as well as household income and expenditure. This publication aims to provide better understanding while serving as a reference for general users.

Malaysia's economy expanded by 5.4 per cent in the first quarter of 2026 (Q1 2026: RM437.7 billion) compared to 6.2 per cent in the previous quarter (Q4 2025: RM457.9 billion). According to the Chief Statistician of Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, "Malaysia's economy continued to expand in the first quarter of 2026, reflecting the resilience of economic fundamentals and stable growth conditions amid a challenging global environment."

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) recorded an increase to 0.7 per cent in March 2026 compared to 0.2 per cent in February 2026. This reflected the overall increases in inflation equivalent with the increase in the national price index following uncertainties in global commodity price movements.

From the external trade perspective, exports in Q1 2026 contracted by 30.8 per cent to RM855.0 thousand (Q1 2025: RM1.24 million). Imports also declined by 5.0 per cent to RM727.0 thousand (Q1 2025: RM765.0 thousand) in the same period. This performance reflected slower trade activities.

Referring to the labour market, the level of labour force participation in Kelantan maintained stable, supported by continuous economic activities and sustained labour demand.

Labour force recorded 740.9 thousand persons (Q4 2025: 738.5 thousand persons), with labour force participation rate (LFPR) at 59.0 per cent (Q4 2025: 59.1 per cent). In line with this scenario, the number of employed persons recorded 710.5 thousand persons (Q4 2025: 708.1 thousand persons), while the unemployment rate at 4.1 per cent (Q4 2025: 4.1 per cent).

Looking ahead, net balance of business expectations reflected a more careful sentiment, registering -4.4 per cent for January until June 2026 compared to -3.9 per cent in the previous quarter, indicating slower business prospects in the near term. Moderate future expectations reflected pessimism among businesses. This sentiment was consistent with the performance of the Manufacturing sector, with industrial capacity utilisation at 72.6 per cent in Q1 2026, reflecting controlled capacity utilisation levels among industrial players in the state.

Looking into demographic trends, population recorded 1.916 thousand persons in Q1 2026 compared with 1.913 thousand persons in Q4 2025. Live births recorded 7,634 persons, while deaths were recorded at 2,919 persons during the same period.

The Chief Statistician of Malaysia mentioned that this publication serves as an initiative for communicating state-level statistics, providing a more frequent insights on socioeconomic performance and complementing the annual economic yardstick of Gross Domestic Product.

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 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 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
21 MAY 2026**

Table 1: Key Socioeconomic Indicators, Kelantan

Indicators	2024				2025				2026
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Exports (RM billion)	1,086	1,027	888	1,078	1,235	1,025	869	795	855
Imports (RM billion)	646	560	607	724	765	629	579	558	727
Labour force ('000)	709.9	717.6	727.9	729.0	731.8	737.7	743.9	738.5	740.9
Employed ('000)	681.8	690.9	700.1	699.3	701.8	708.0	713.2	708.1	710.5
Unemployed ('000)	28.1	26.7	27.8	29.7	30.1	29.7	30.7	30.4	30.4
Outside labour force ('000)	504.7	508.2	504.5	501.7	504.6	506.9	509.2	511.6	515.2
Labour force participation rate (%)	58.4	58.5	59.1	59.2	59.2	59.3	59.4	59.1	59.0
Unemployment rate (%)	4.0	3.7	3.8	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.1
Net Balance (%)	+2.1	-2.2	-16.1	+7.3	+13.5	+6.2	+6.2	-3.9	-4.4
Capacity Utilisation (%)	69.8	73.6	73.7	71.2	66.2	69.0	70.6	73.7	72.6
Value of Work Done (RM billion)	1,100	925	855	1,306	836	1,304	1,069	1,158	908
Natural Rubber Production ('000 tonnes)	4,560	3,688	5,623	5,359	5,197	4,493	5,028	4,335	3,495
Population ('000)	1,880.9	1,887.9	1,892.9	1,897.8	1,902.8	1,907.7	1,910.5	1,913.3	1,915.8
Live Births ('000)	8,252	7,739	7,825	8,045	7,606	7,890	8,053	8,270	7,634
Deaths ('000)	2,799	2,956	2,820	3,087	3,012	2,841	2,815	3,267	2,919

Indicator	2025												2026		
	Mac	Apr	Mei	Jun	Jul	Ogos	Sep	Okt	Nov	Dis	Jan	Feb	Mac	Apr	Mei
Consumer Price Index	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.2
Exports (RM mil.)	420	354	255	416	221	315	333	340	228	227	275	272	308	275	272
Imports (RM mil.)	228	206	228	195	213	192	174	188	168	202	257	228	241	257	228
Natural Rubber Production (Tonnes)	1,164	1,281	1,538	1,675	1,809	1,663	1,556	1,618	1,478	1,239	1,293	1,235	967	1,293	1,235
Crude Palm Oil (Tonnes)	21,018	34,569	38,306	39,435	45,114	43,959	40,568	44,392	40,383	34,451	28,893	24,486	25,255	28,893	24,486

Note: n.a. - not applicable

Chart 2: Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Malaysia, Q1 2023 – Q1 2026

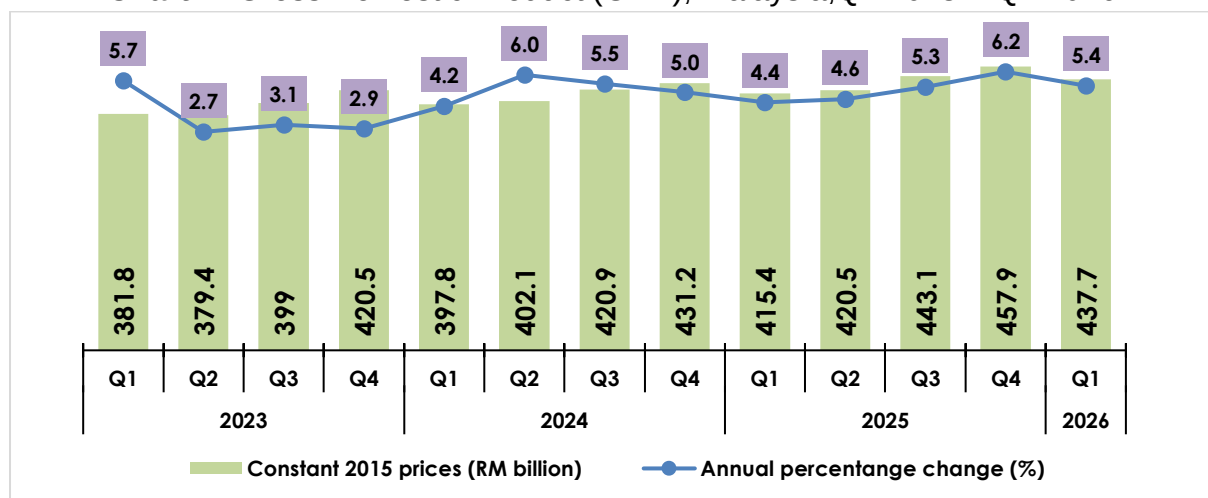


Chart 3: Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Kelantan, 2021–2024

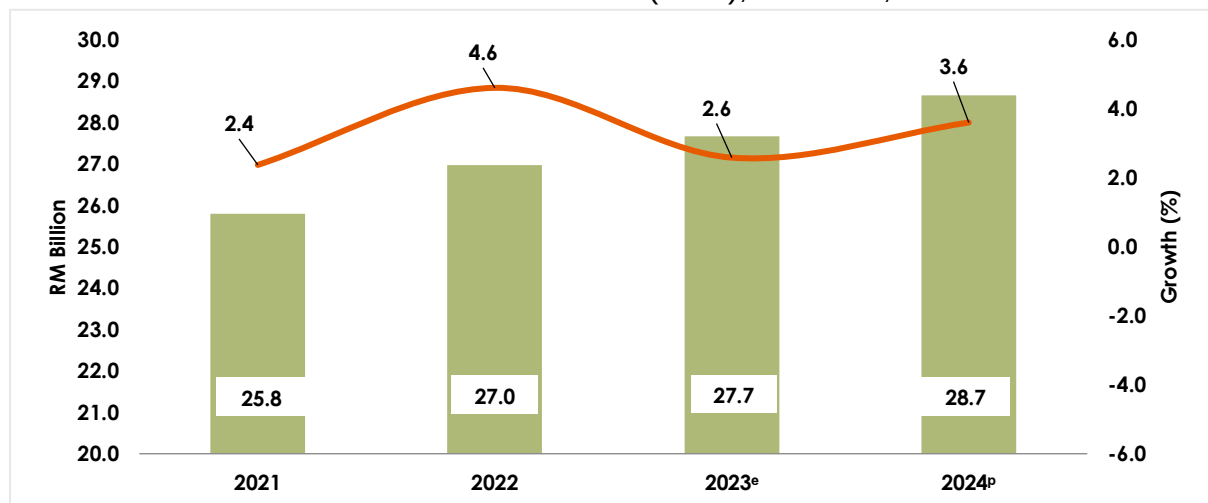


Chart 4 : Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by Sector, Kelantan, 2021– 2024

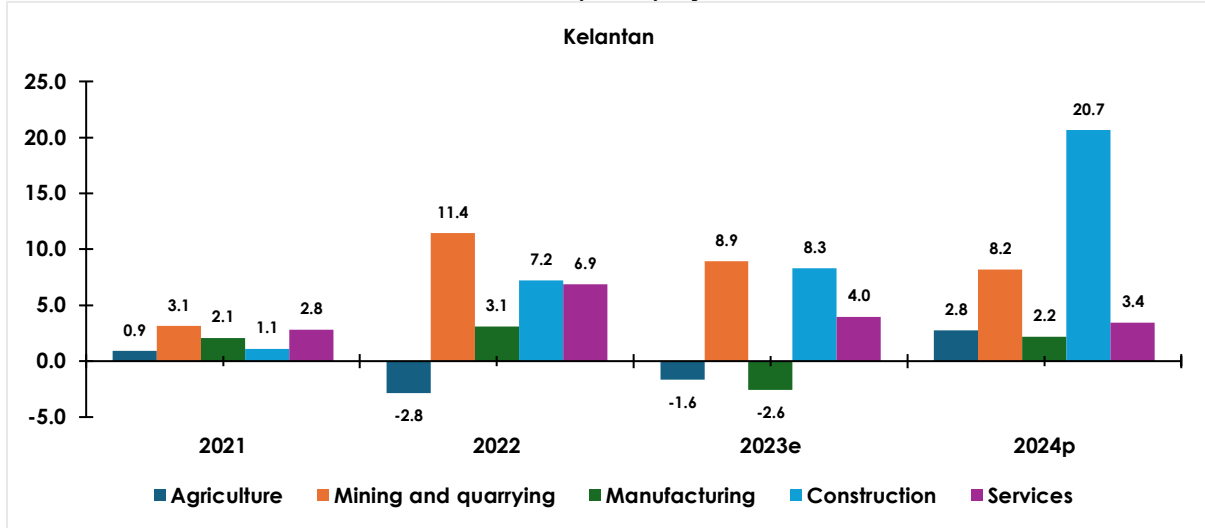


Chart 5: Consumer Price Index, Kelantan, March 2024 – March 2026

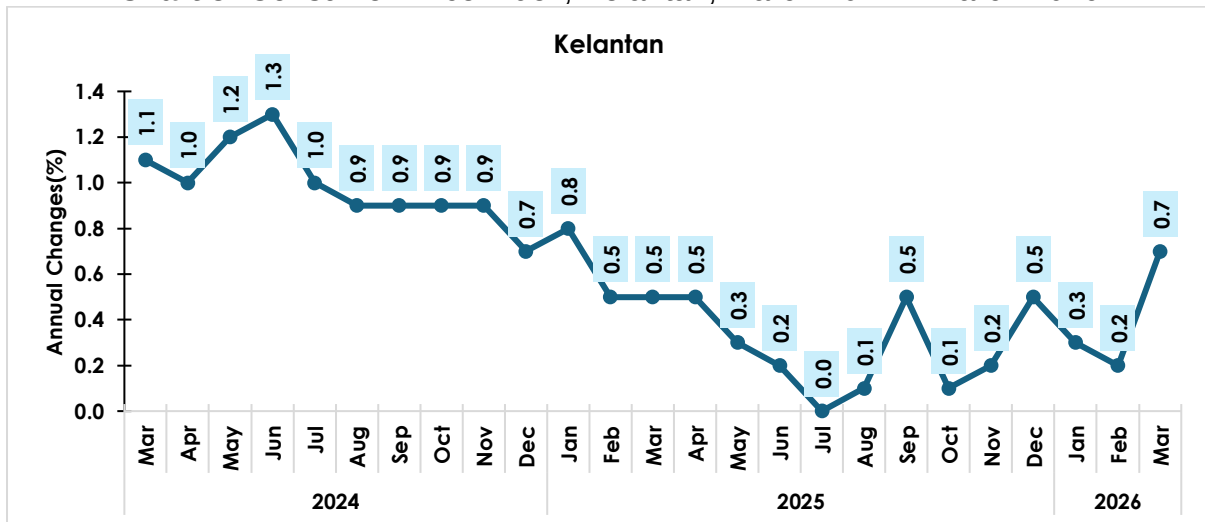


Chart 6: External Trade (Export), Kelantan, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

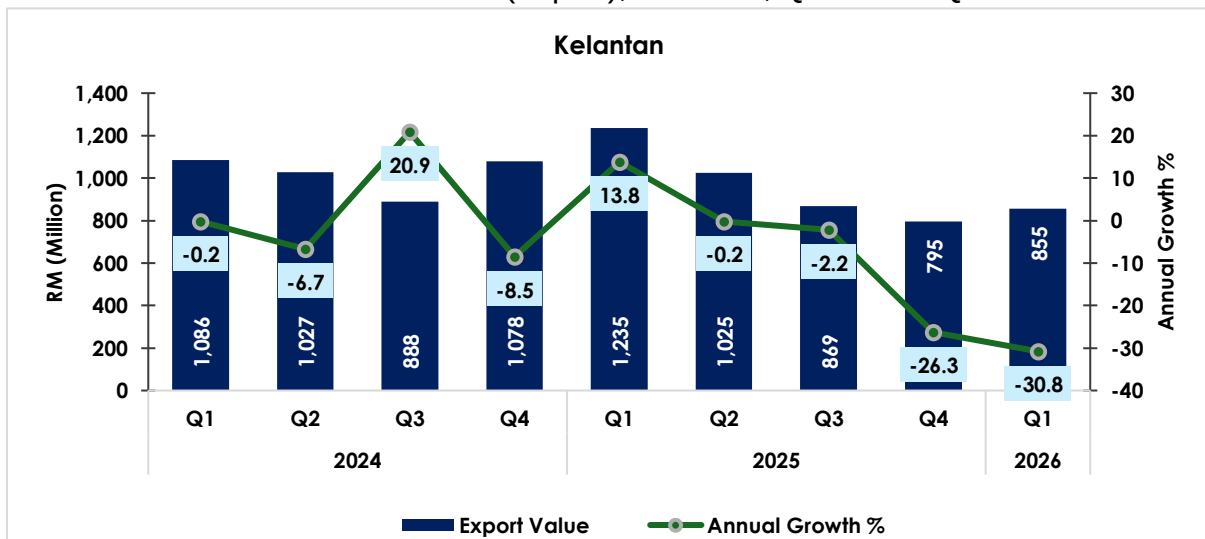


Chart 7: External Trade (Import), Kelantan, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

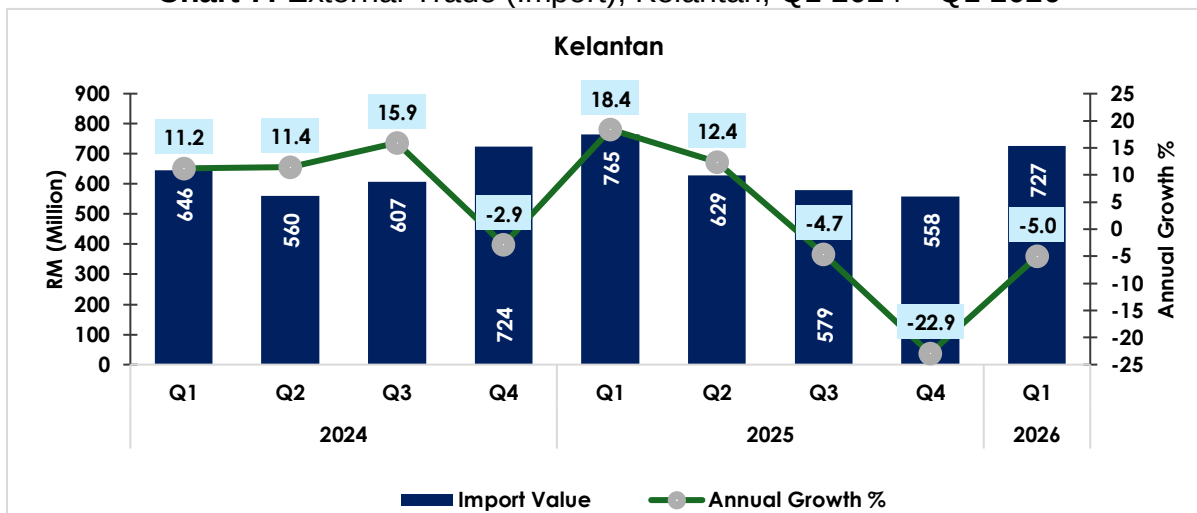


Chart 8: Principal Statistics of Labour Force, Kelantan, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

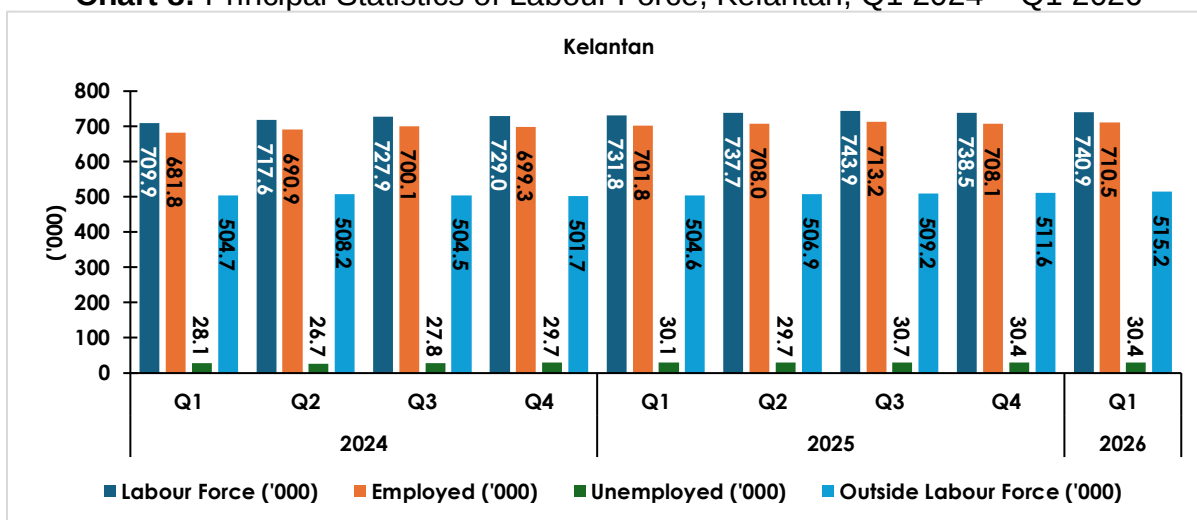


Chart 9: Labour Force Participation Rate and Unemployment Rate, Kelantan, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

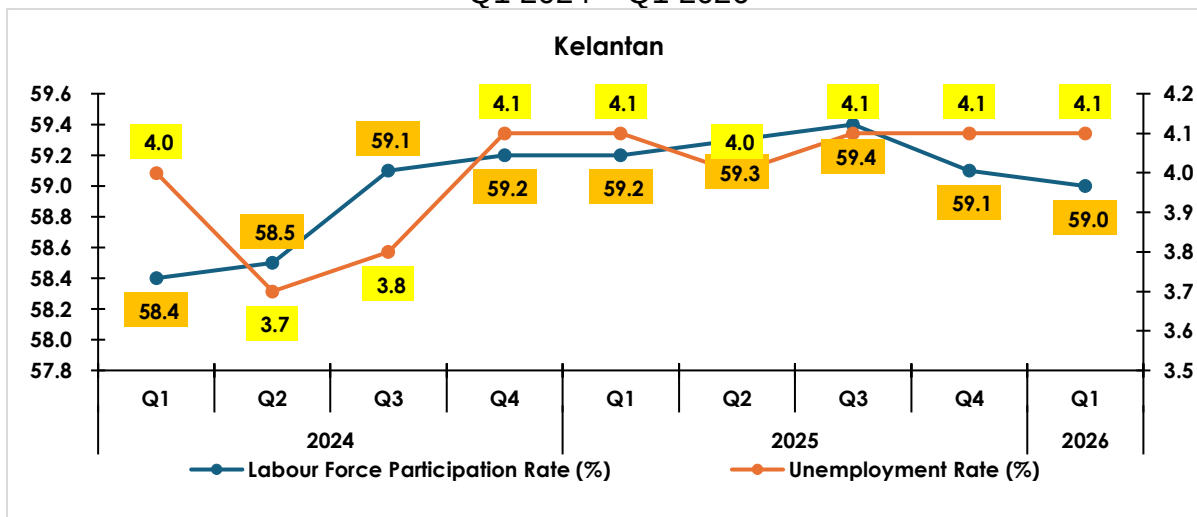


Chart 10: Net Balance of Business Performance for Upcoming Months, Kelantan, 2024 – 2026

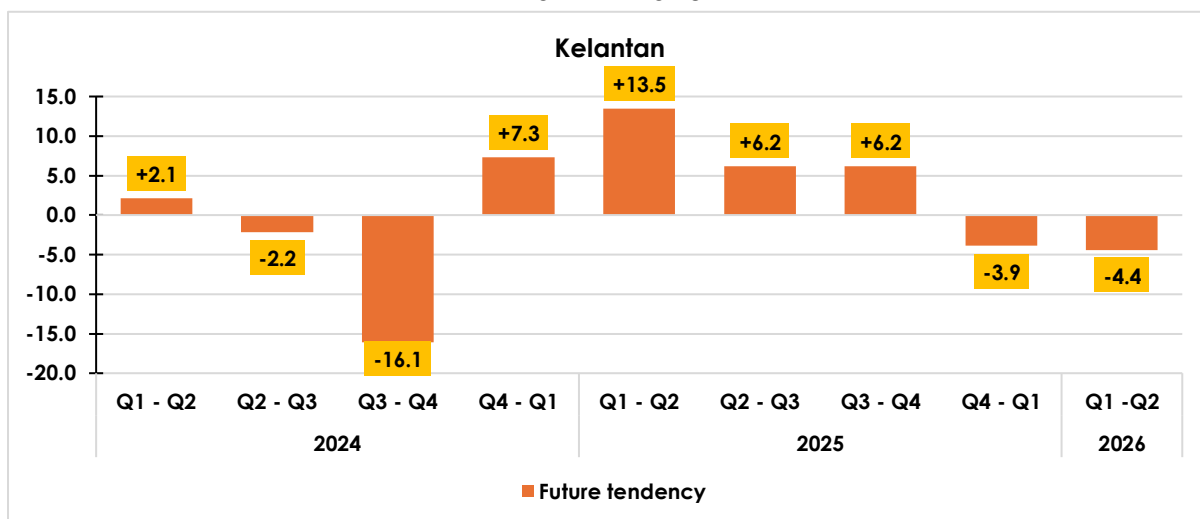


Chart 11: Manufacturing Industry Capacity Utilisation, Kelantan, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

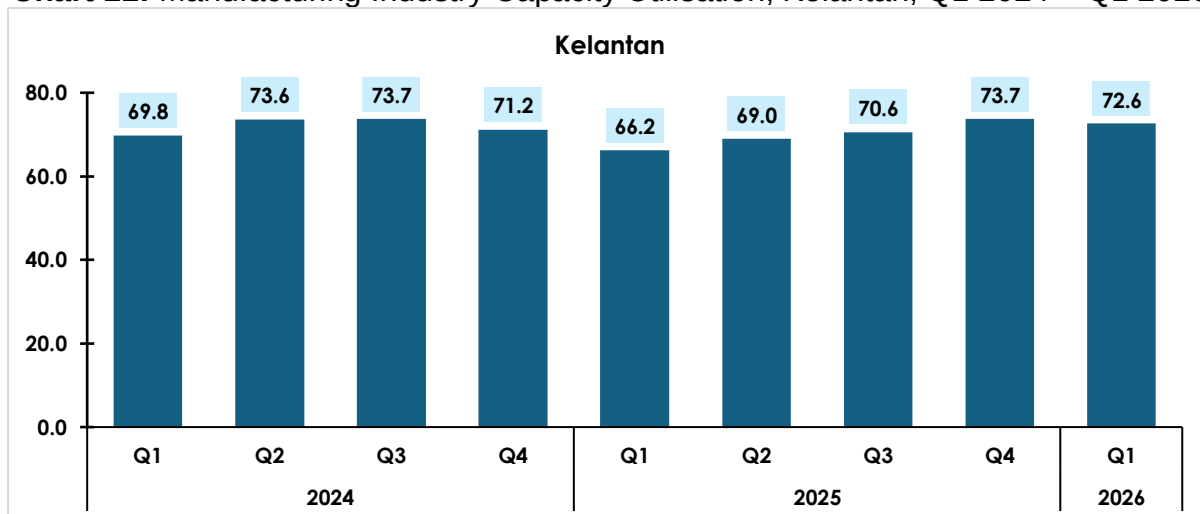


Chart 12: Value of Work Done Construction Sector, Kelantan, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

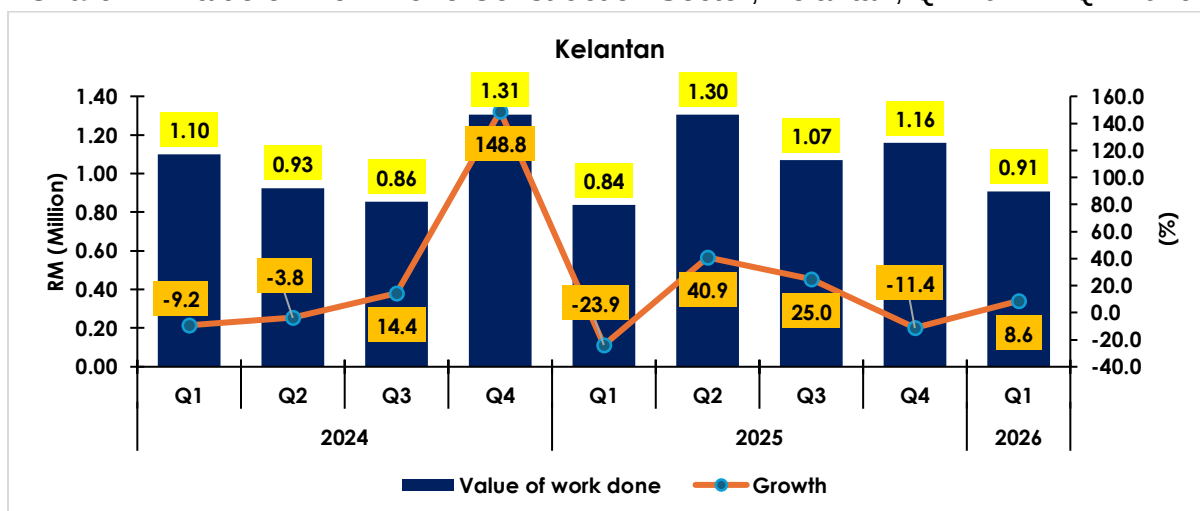


Chart 13: Crude Oil Palm, Kelantan, Mar 2025 – Mar 2026

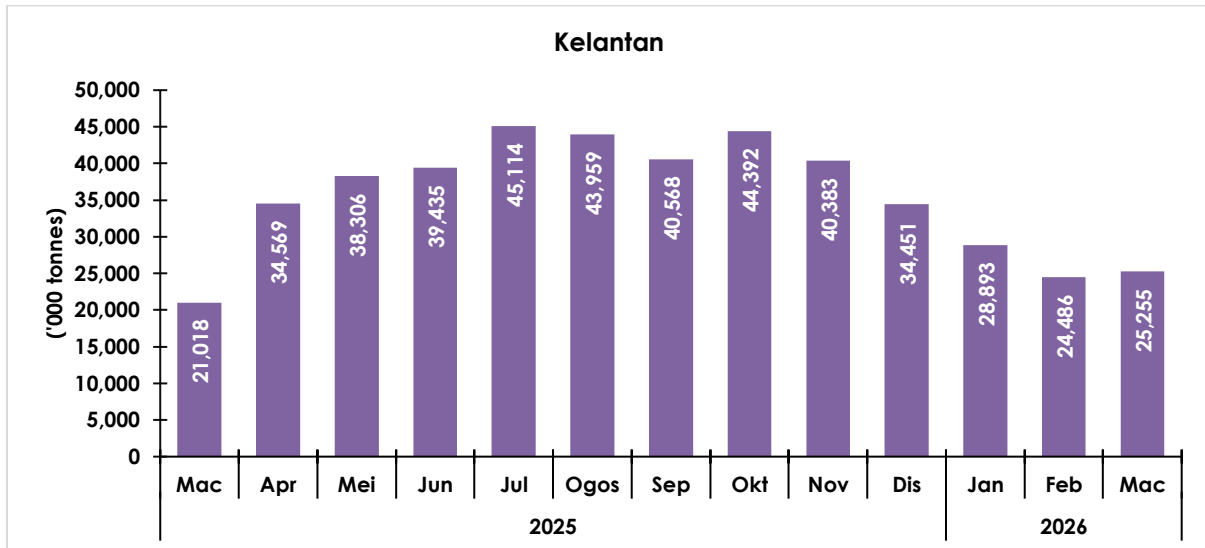


Chart 14: Production of Natural Rubber, Kelantan, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

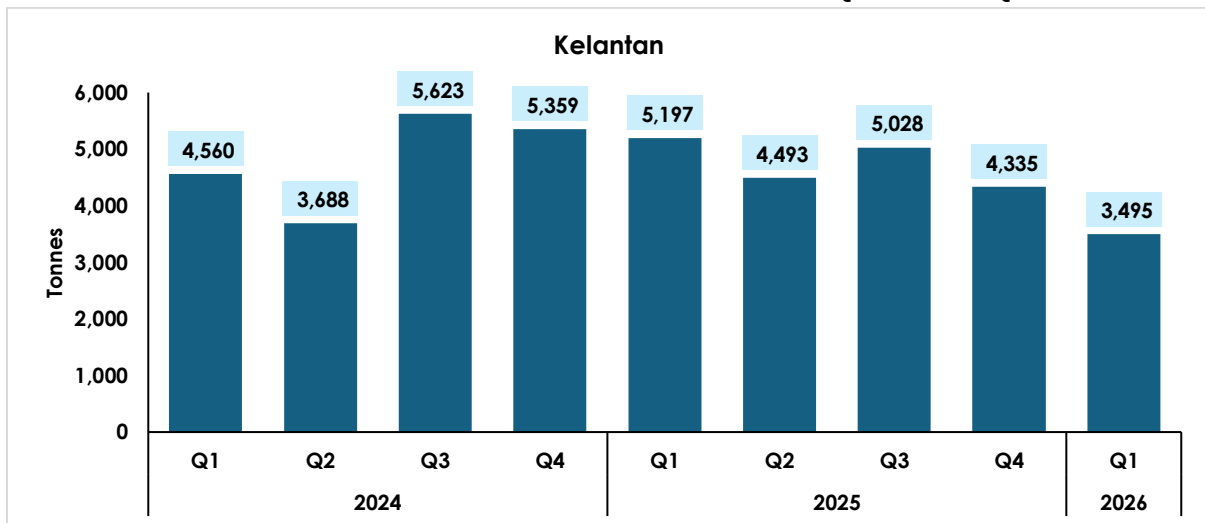


Chart 15: Total Population, Kelantan, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

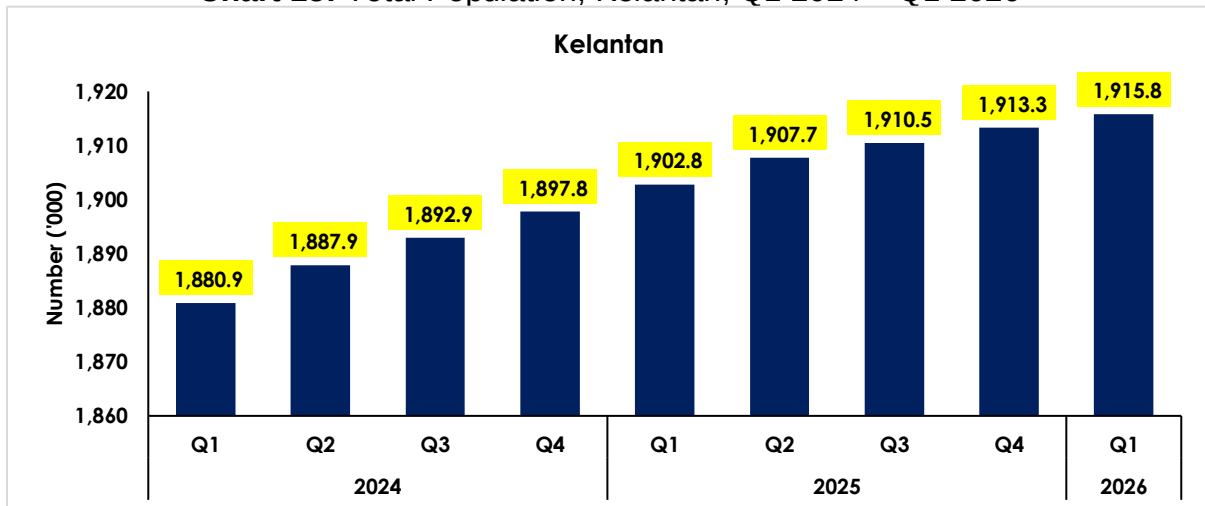


Chart 16: Vital Statistics on Live Births and Deaths, Kelantan, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

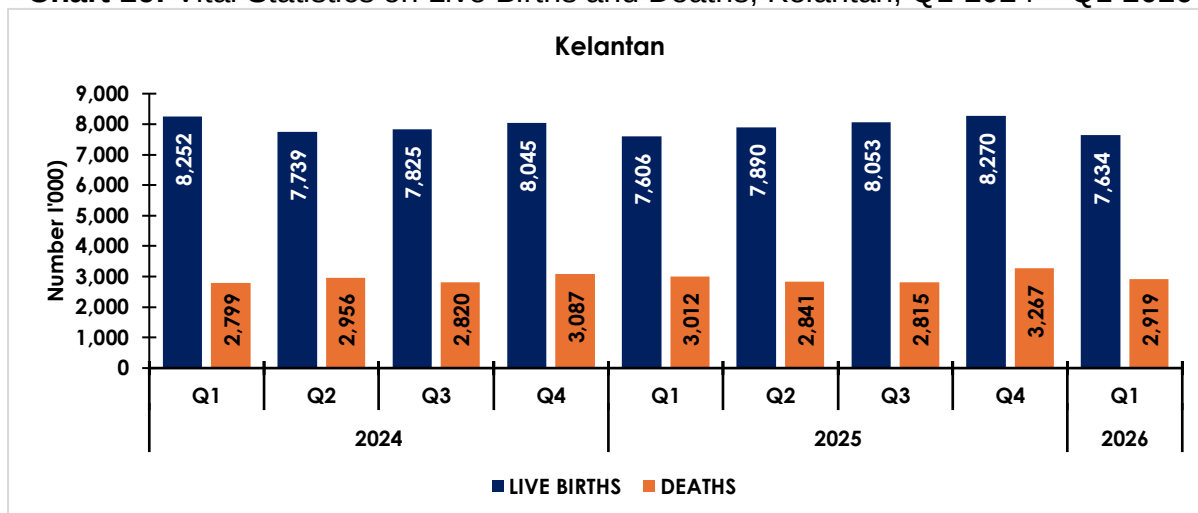


Chart 17: Supply of Residential Units, Kelantan, Q1 2024 – Q4 2025

