



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA STATEMENT

STATE SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS, PAHANG FIRST QUARTER, 2026

Pahang's socioeconomic performance remained steady, supported by stable manufacturing activities and positive business expectations

PUTRAJAYA, 21 MAY 2026 – Pahang recorded modest socioeconomic performance in the First Quarter of 2026 (Q1 2026), with inflation increasing, a stable labour market, positive business sentiment and an increasing population growth rate. This performance is highlighted in the publication **State Socioeconomic Indicators, Pahang First Quarter 2026**, released today by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM). The publication is a rebranding of Pocket Stats State, enhanced with 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) rose by 2.5 per cent in March 2026, compared to 2.1 per cent in February 2026. This reflected the overall rising inflation in line with the increase in the national price index following uncertainties in global commodity price movements.

From the external trade perspective, exports in Q1 2026 eased by 27.2 per cent to RM5.1 million (Q1 2025: RM7.0 million). At the same time, imports softened by 17.6 per cent to RM3.7 million (Q1 2025: RM4.5 million). This development reflects slower trade activity.

Referring to the labour market, Pahang maintained a strong level of labour force participation, supported by continuous economic activities and sustained labour demand. The labour force recorded 772.2 thousand persons (Q4 2025: 772.0 thousand persons), while the labour force participation rate (LFPR) recorded 65.3 per cent (Q4 2025: 65.6 per cent). In line with this trend, the number of employed persons recorded 757.4 thousand persons (Q4 2025: 757.6 thousand persons), while the unemployment rate remained low at 1.9 per cent (Q4 2025: 1.9 per cent).

Looking ahead, the net balance of business expectations remained positive at +2.4 per cent for January to June 2026, increasing from -8.2 per cent in the previous quarter, reflecting improving business prospects in the near term. The positive outlook indicates continued confidence among businesses in the expansion of economic activities. This sentiment is consistent with the stable performance of the Manufacturing sector, with industrial capacity utilisation exceeding 81.5 per cent in Q1 2026, reflecting sustainable and resilient operational levels among industrial players in the state.

From a demographic perspective, the population reached 1.69 million in Q1 2026, compared to 1.68 million in Q4 2025. Live births were recorded at 4,879, while deaths totalled 2,585 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 (GDP) State.

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, Pahang

Indicators	2024				2025				2026
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Exports (RM billion)	9,251	7,505	7,527	7,142	6,991	7,014	7,195	5,635	5,087
Imports (RM billion)	5,907	6,704	6,337	4,880	4,502	4,443	4,219	4,714	3,708
Labour force ('000)	740.8	747.2	758.0	763.4	766.9	772.1	776.6	772.0	772.2
Employed ('000)	724.9	730.2	740.7	746.8	753.1	758.1	762.4	757.5	757.4
Unemployed ('000)	15.9	17.0	17.2	16.6	13.8	14.0	14.2	14.5	14.8
Outside labour force ('000)	411.9	410.7	409.7	405.0	401.0	397.0	404.7	405.0	409.6
Labour force participation rate (%)	64.3	64.5	64.9	65.3	65.7	66.0	65.7	65.6	65.3
Unemployment rate (%)	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.2	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9
Net Balance (%)	-6.8	-1.7	+22.8	+1.2	+6.4	+9.0	+14.3	-8.2	+2.4
Capacity Utilisation (%)	80.9	84.7	85.3	84.6	84.5	84.6	86.8	84.9	81.5
Value of Work Done (RM billion)	2,884	2,929	2,143	2,170	2,693	2,038	1,751	1,717	1,534
Natural Rubber Production ('000 tonnes)	2,689	1,999	2,687	2,338	2,081	1,900	2,433	2,041	1,620
Population ('000)	1,661.6	1,667.7	1,670.3	1,672.9	1,675.5	1,678.2	1,680.7	1,683.1	1,685.2
Live Births ('000)	5,525	5,316	5,344	5,320	4,883	5,078	5,374	5,270	4,879
Deaths ('000)	2,669	2,643	2,570	2,634	2,625	2,634	2,429	2,862	2,585

Indicator	2025											2026		
	Mac	Apr	Mei	Jun	Jul	Ogos	Sep	Okt	Nov	Dis		Jan	Feb	Mac
Consumer Price Index	1.2	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.8		1.9	2.1	2.5
Exports (RM mil.)	2,592	2,543	2,593	1,877	2,968	2,048	2,179	1,667	1,733	2,234		1,976	1,536	1,576
Imports (RM mil.)	1,513	1,632	1,402	1,409	1,368	1,286	1,565	1,563	1,508	1,643		1,464	947	1,297
Natural Rubber Production (Tonnes)	514	394	701	805	958	823	652	719	646	676		680	518	421
Crude Palm Oil (Tonnes)	217,213	283,496	302,277	295,938	342,073	350,839	336,566	362,258	340,817	294,715		245,916	205,715	209,183

Note: n.a. - not applicable

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

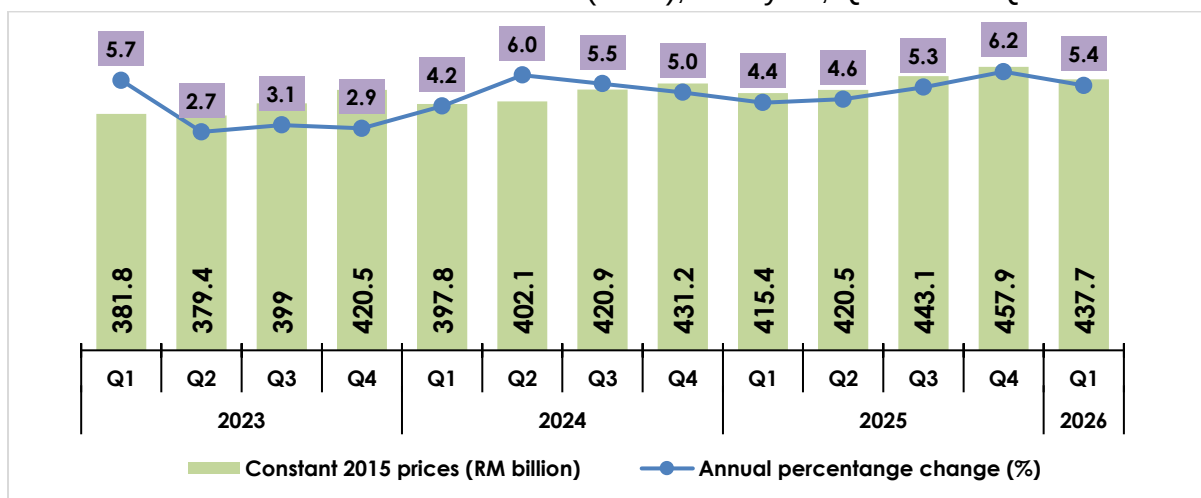


Chart 3: Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Pahang, 2021–2024

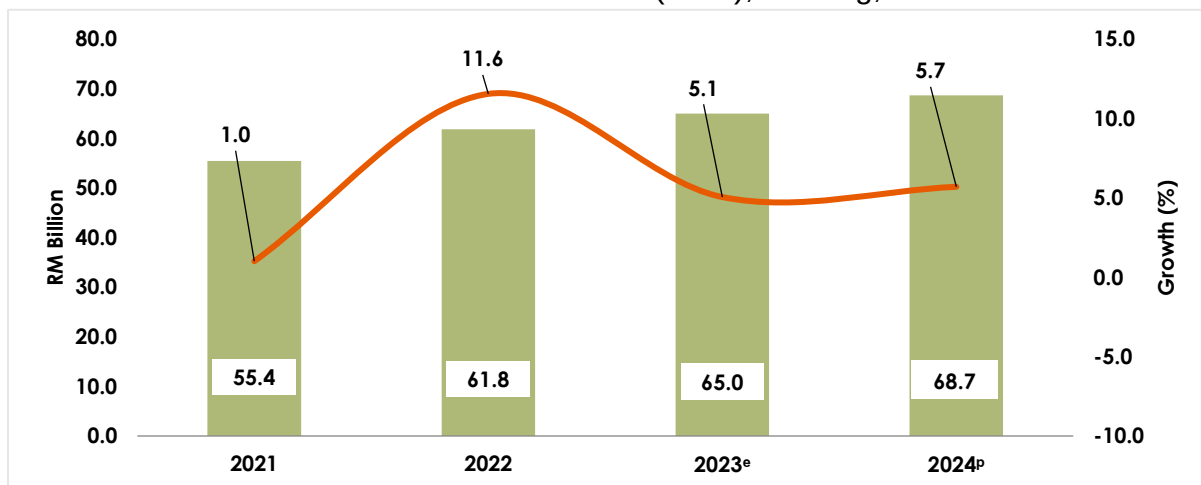


Chart 4 : Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by Sector, Pahang, 2021– 2024

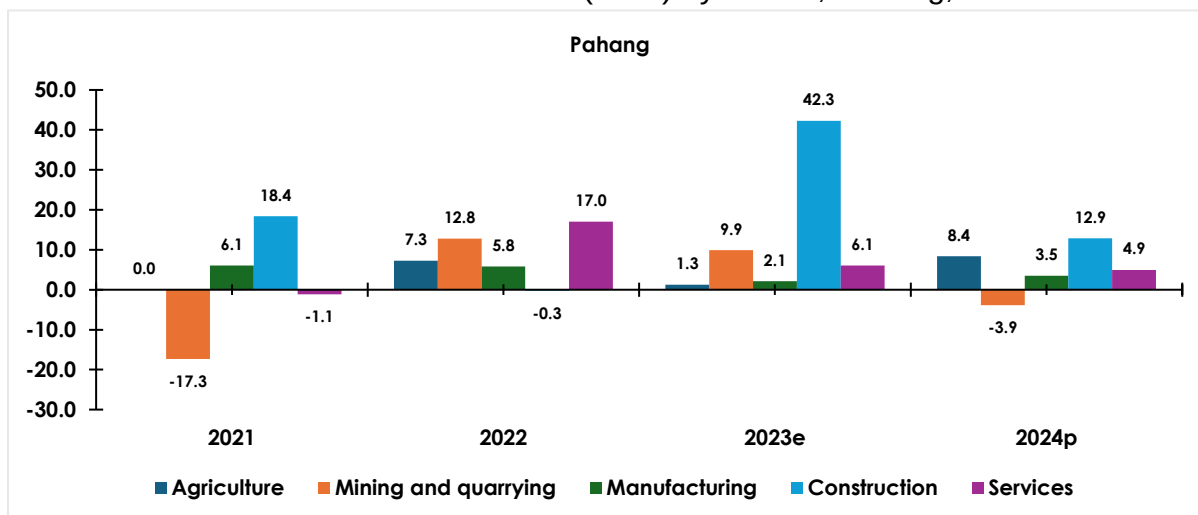


Chart 5: Consumer Price Index, Pahang, March 2024 – March 2026

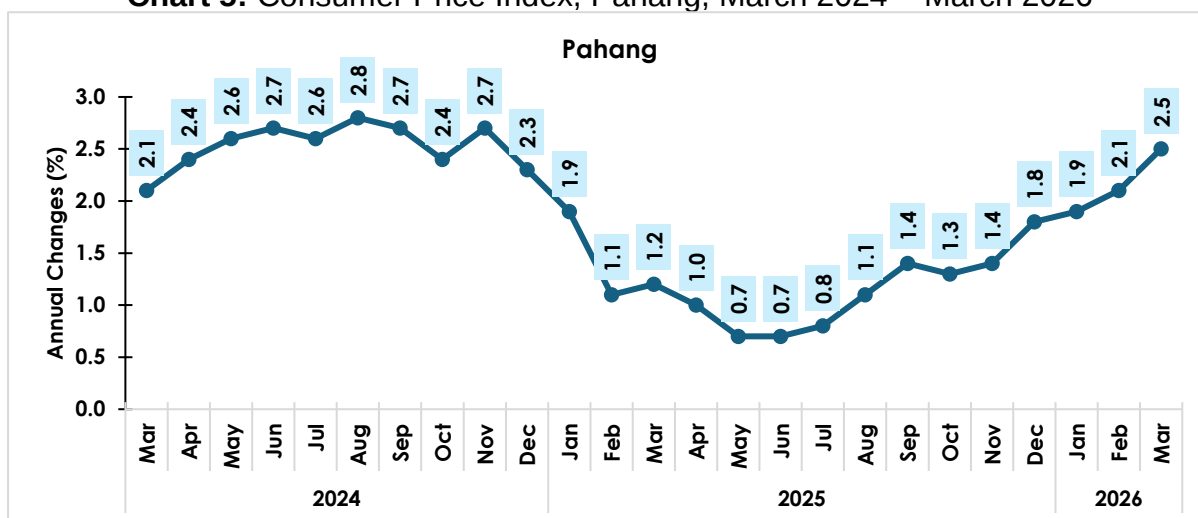


Chart 6: External Trade (Exports), Pahang, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

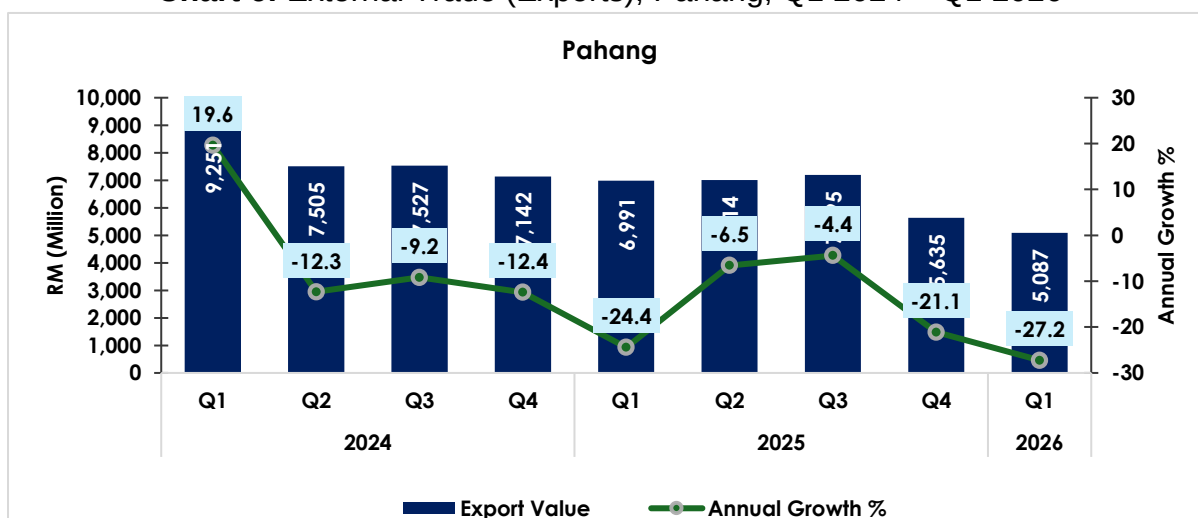


Chart 7: External Trade (Imports), Pahang, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

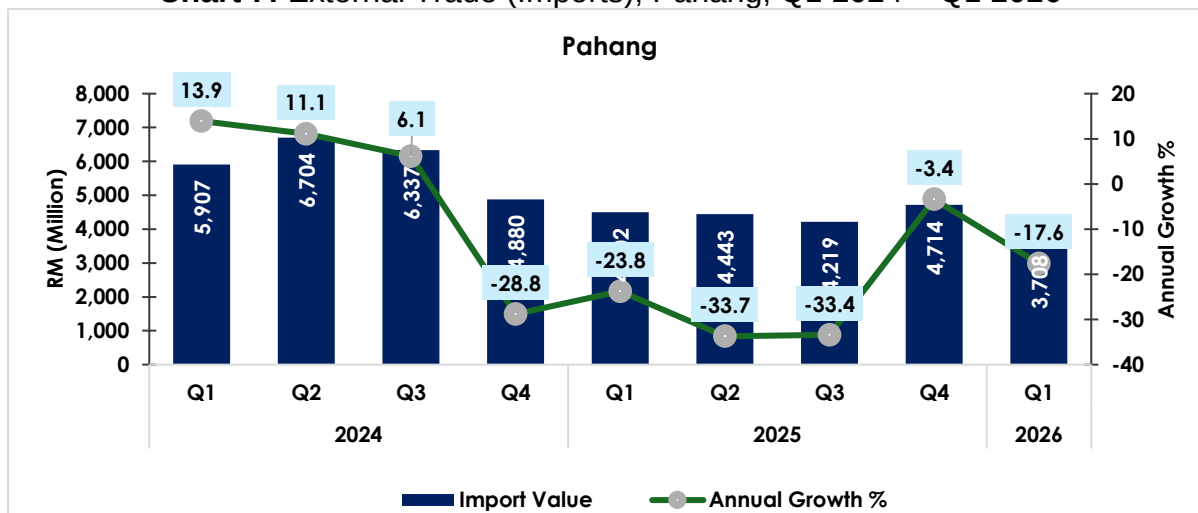


Chart 8: Principal Statistics of Labour Force, Pahang, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

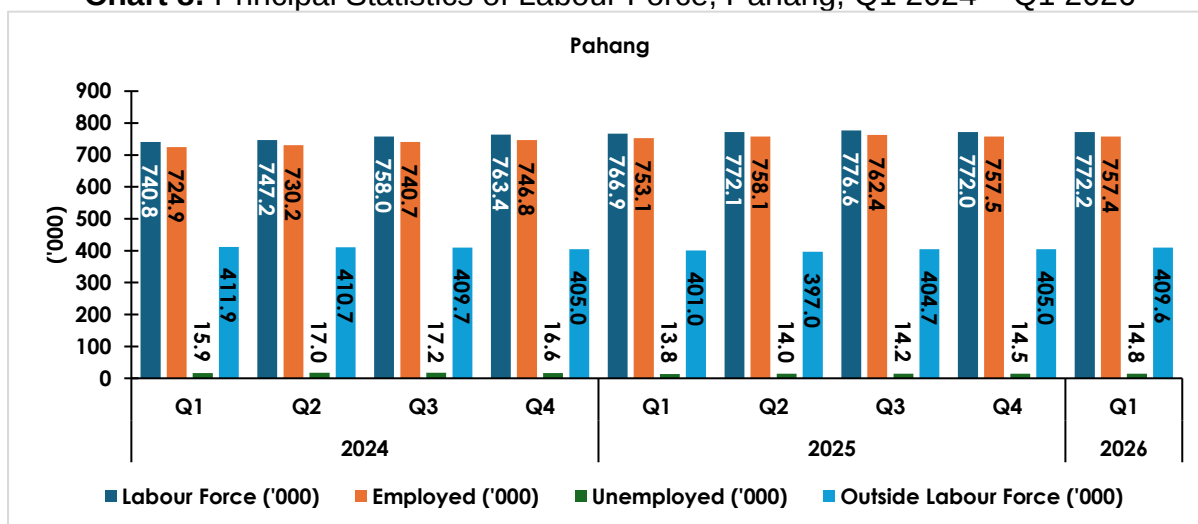


Chart 9: Labour Force Participation Rate and Unemployment Rate, Pahang, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

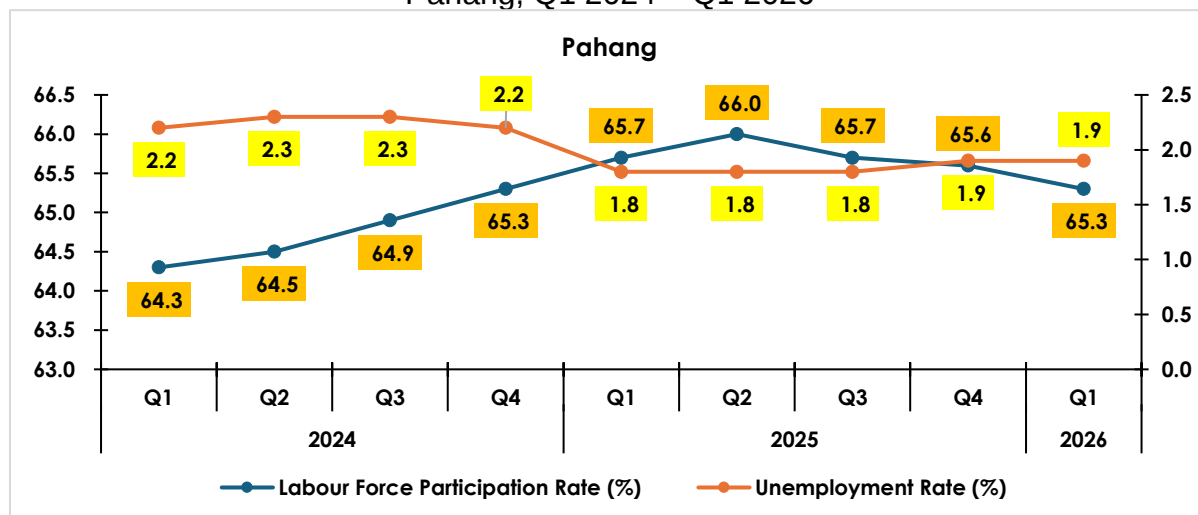


Chart 10: Net Balance of Business Performance for Upcoming Months, Pahang, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

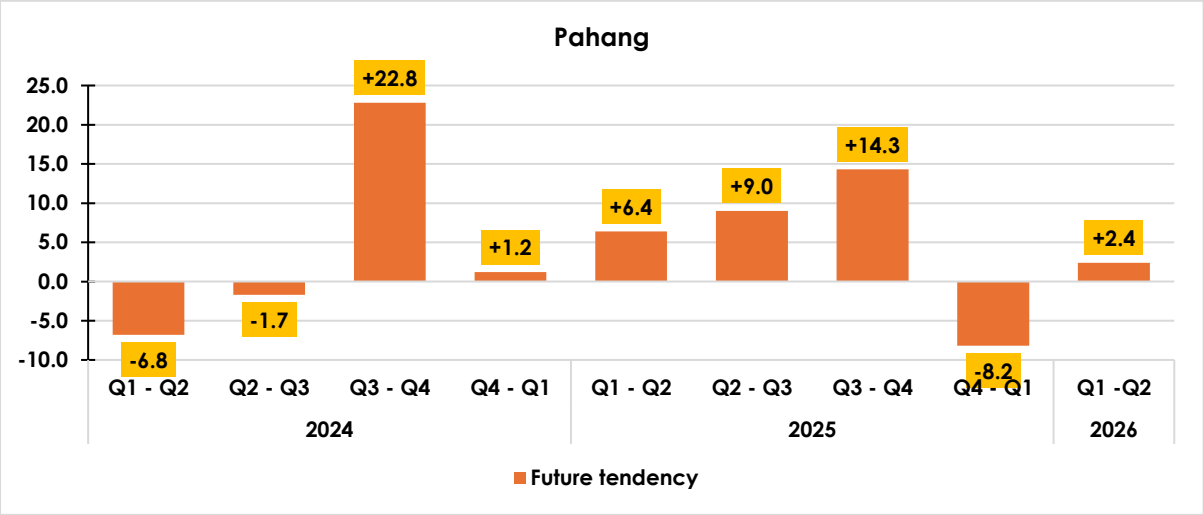


Chart 11: Manufacturing Industry Capacity Utilisation, Pahang, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

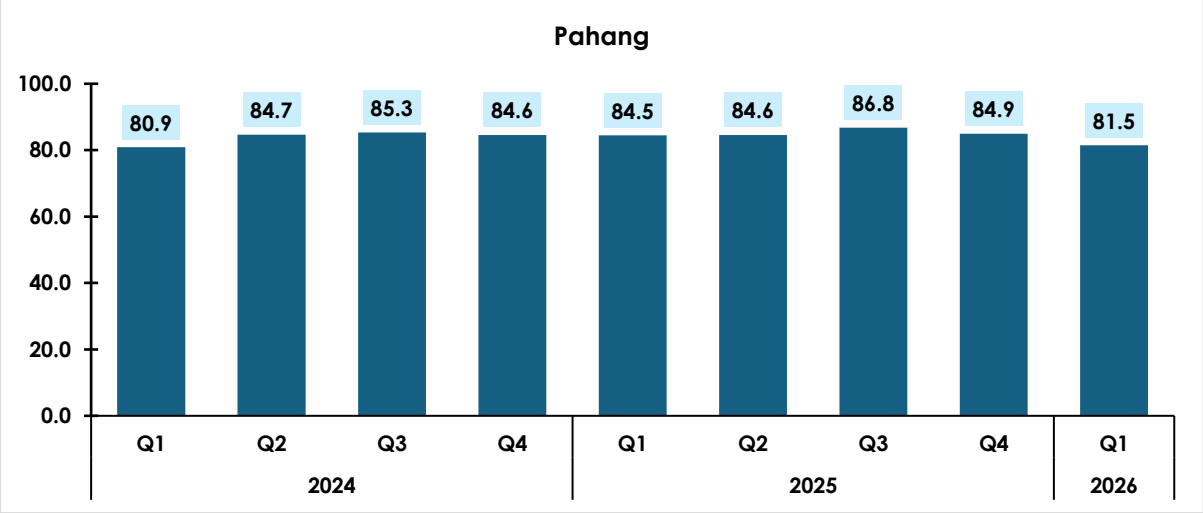


Chart 12: Value of Work Done Construction Sector, Pahang, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

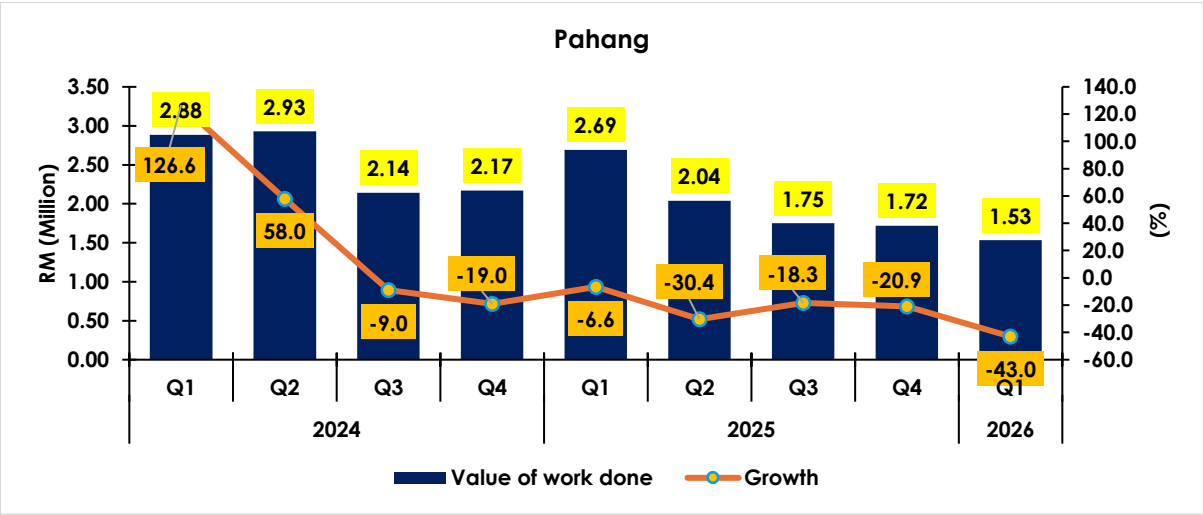


Chart 13: Crude Oil Palm, Pahang, Mac 2025 – Mac 2026

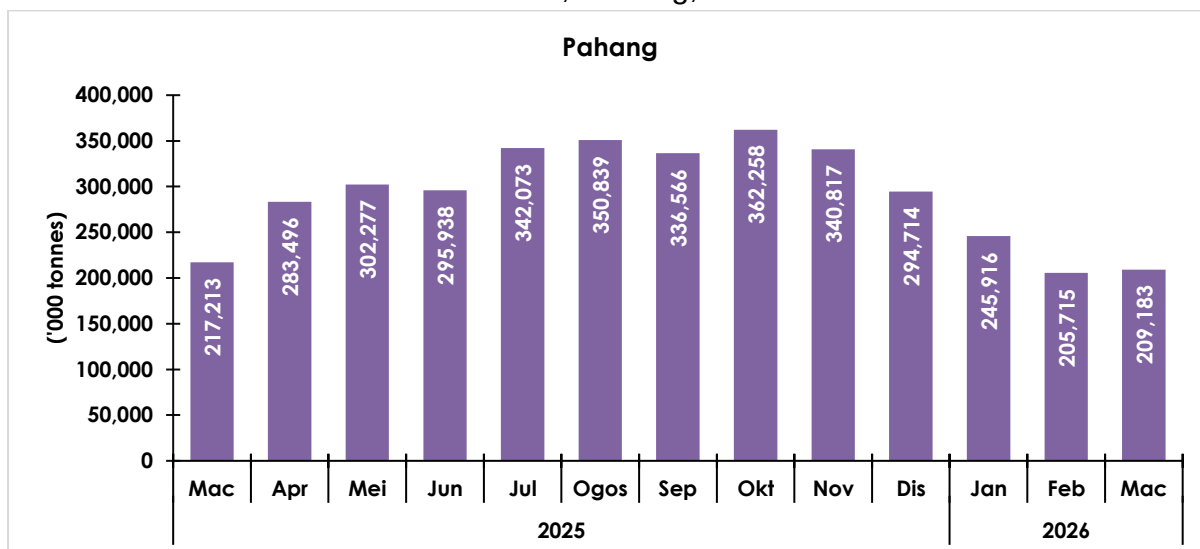


Chart 14: Production of Natural Rubber, Pahang, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

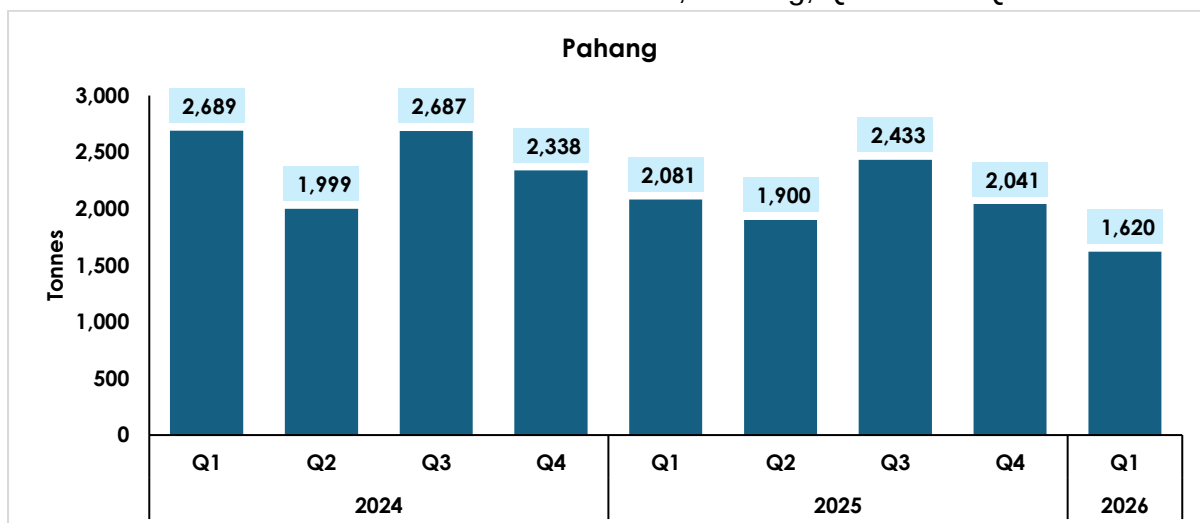


Chart 15: Total Population, Pahang, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

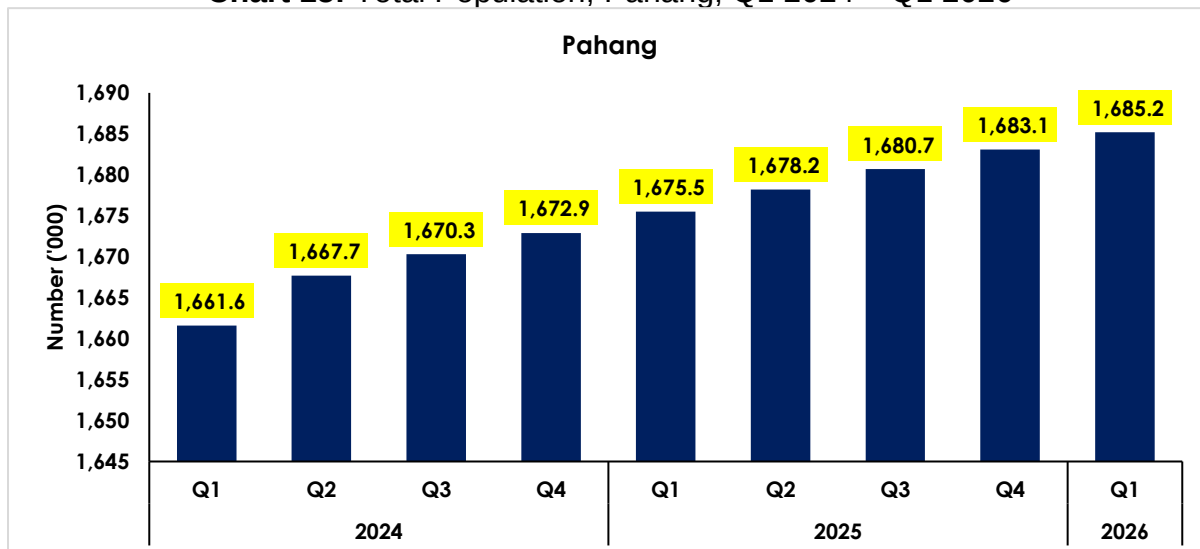


Chart 16: Vital Statistics on Live Births and Deaths, Pahang, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

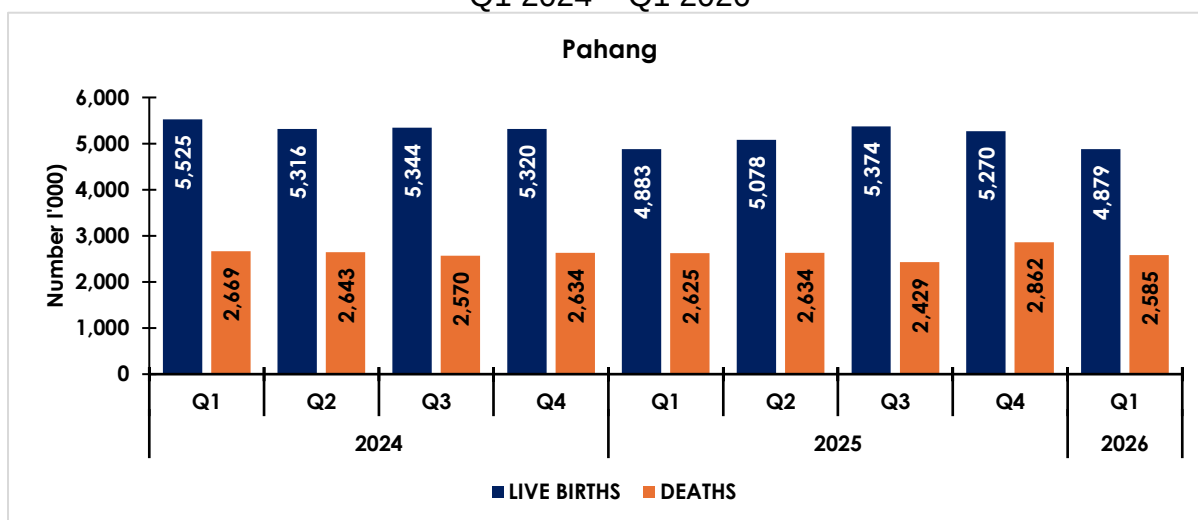


Chart 17: Supply of Residential Units, Pahang, Q1 2024 – Q1 2026

