



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY  
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

***MEDIA STATEMENT***  
***FOR MYCENSUS 2020: POPULATION WELL-BEING***  
***(SOCIAL RELATIONS)***

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***Strong Family and Community Values Prevail in Malaysia: 81.9 per cent Share Dinner Together and 93.5 per cent Engage with Neighbours***

***PUTRAJAYA, 21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023*** – The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) releases ***Publication of MyCensus 2020: Population Well-Being (Social Relations)*** for the first time based on the findings from Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020 (MyCensus 2020). Social Relations is the second volume of the Population Well-Being publication series after Fitness which was released in June 2023. This publication features statistics on population aged 15 years and over in four segments namely social media accounts users; access to the internet; eating together within a week; and face-to-face interaction with neighbours within a month.

Detailed statistics are presented by demographic profile namely sex, age group and ethnic group at national, state and administrative district level. The findings are purely based on response from respondents. Respondents can choose multiple answers for all segments with exception for interaction with neighbours that allow only one answer.

## ***Interaction with Neighbours***

*This publication provides statistics of face-to-face interaction with neighbours in a month either every day, once a week, once a month or never had interaction. MyCensus 2020 indicated that 14.8 million (59.9%) from 24.7 million of population aged 15 years and over have responded to the questions related to interaction with neighbour.*

*In a statement today, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, Chief Statistician Malaysia said, "A total of 13.8 million from 14.8 million respondents (93.5%) engaged in face-to-face interaction with neighbours in a month, while 958,808 persons (6.5%) never had any face-to-face interaction. People of Malaysia have greater neighbourliness as two-fifths (41.4%) engaged in face-to-face interaction with neighbours on daily basis, 41.5 per cent at least once a week and 10.6 per cent at least once a month. Nevertheless, 6.5 per cent or 0.96 million from 13.8 million respondents admitted that they never had any interaction with neighbours in a month."*

*The level of daily interaction with neighbours were higher in state of Kelantan (55.8%), Sabah (54.7%), Terengganu (52.8%), Kedah (52.7%), Sarawak (51.0%) and Perlis (50.4%). Among the highest share for once a week interaction with neighbours were observed in Pulau Pinang (50.3%), Melaka (47.6%) and W.P. Putrajaya (47.2%). Meanwhile, Pakan (98.0%) and Bukit Mabong (96.3%) in Sarawak and Tongod, Sabah (97.5%) stood out as the friendliest districts due to their notably high proportions of daily interactions with neighbours.*

*Males engaged more in interaction with neighbours as compared to females on daily basis (3.11 million persons), once a week (3.12 million persons) and once a month (0.8 million persons). However, females (480,624 persons) slightly outnumbered males (478,184 persons) for not having any interaction with neighbours in a month.*

*Population aged 15 to 64 years interact with neighbours the most at least once a week (41.9%), while those aged 65 years and over exchanged greetings largely on a daily basis (46.7%). Bumiputera (Malay and Other Bumiputera) interact with neighbours mostly on daily basis (47.7%), while Chinese (44.4%) and Indians (45.9%) mainly at least once a week.*

### ***Eating Together***

*Eating together refers to number of population aged 15 years and over that eat together as a family or with household members in a week during mealtime of breakfast, coffee break, lunch, hi-tea, dinner and supper. A total of 13.3 million population (53.9%) have responded.*

*According to Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, "81.9 per cent (10.9 million persons) of 13.3 million respondents eat together during dinner, while two-thirds had breakfast (73.4%) and lunch (67.4%) together. A lower percentage of respondents eat together during hi-tea (19.4%), coffee-break (15.3%) and supper (5.9%). In terms of frequency, more than 50 per cent of respondents eating together 5 to 7 times a week during breakfast (60.3%), lunch (57.1%) and dinner (75.9%).*

*Sarawak recorded the highest percentage of eating together 5 to 7 times in a week for breakfast (76.4%), lunch (72.0%) and second highest for dinner (86.0%). Meanwhile, W.P. Putrajaya was the least of eating together at 1 to 2 times a week during breakfast (45.3%), lunch (52.0%) and dinner (18.8%). At district level, Julau, Sarawak recorded the highest percentage of eating together at 5 to 7 times in a week for breakfast (99.4%), lunch (99.3%) and second highest for dinner (99.7%).*

*In general, more females eat together during dinner (5.5 million persons), breakfast (4.9 million persons), lunch (4.6 million persons), coffee break (1.1 million persons) and hi-tea (1.4 million persons). On the other hand, more*

*males eat together during supper (398,234 persons). Eating dinner together emerged as the most popular routine among individuals of all ages (15 years and over) and ethnic groups.*

## **Social Media**

*MyCensus 2020 asked about six social media platforms namely Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, X (formerly known as Twitter), LinkedIn and Telegram which are considered as the most common platform used by 24.7 million Malaysians aged 15 years and over. Out of this total, 16.0 million persons (64.7%) have responded to the question on having social media accounts. The reported number of users are based on the number of population, irrespective of the presence of multiple social media accounts held by individuals.*

*Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, Chief Statistician Malaysia commented, "WhatsApp has the highest social media users with 86.5 per cent or 13.8 million persons from 16.0 million persons that responded. Two-thirds of respondents (77.1%; 12.3 million) reported using Facebook, followed by 39.2 per cent (6.3 million orang) used Instagram. Much smaller shares of respondents said they have ever used Telegram (23.2%; 3.7 million persons), X (11.7%; 1.9 million persons), LinkedIn (4.8%; 0.8 million persons) and Others (1.5%; 0.2 million persons)".*

*About a third of WhatsApp users (36.7%) residing in three states namely Selangor (14.1%), Johor (13.1%) and Perak (9.5%). The similar states were also the most users of Facebook, Instagram and Telegram. Majorities of X users were in developed states of Selangor, Johor and W.P. Kuala Lumpur, while LinkedIn users were more predominantly in Selangor, W.P. Kuala Lumpur and Pulau Pinang. Johor Bahru, Johor has the highest WhatsApp (695,998) and Facebook (626,166) users at district level. Meanwhile, Petaling, Selangor has the highest Instagram (354,211) and X (128,354) users.*

*Males outnumbered females in Facebook (51.5%), WhatsApp (51.6%) and LinkedIn (51.9%), while females more likely to use Instagram (52.9%), X (52.1%) and Telegram (51.9%). WhatsApp use was more common among individuals of all ages (15 to 64 years; 65 years and over) and ethnic groups (Bumiputera, Chinese, Indians and Others).*

### **Internet Access**

*Seven means of internet access listed in MyCensus 2020 are home, workplace, another person's home, facilities with free internet access, community facilities with internet, education centre and mobile data. The findings indicated that 13.6 million (55.3%) from 24.7 million of population aged 15 years and over have responded.*

*Mobile data was widely used mode of accessibility the internet in Malaysia with a total of 11.8 million persons. This refers to a person who use a smartphone as the primary means of internet access. Home internet access was the second most preferred among Malaysian with a total of 5.3 million users and followed by workplace (2.6 million persons), free internet access facilities (0.8 million persons), educational centre (0.7 million persons), other people's homes (0.5 million persons) and community internet access facilities (0.4 million persons).*

*Approximately one-third (34.4%) of mobile data users were located in Johor (12.4%), Selangor (11.7%), and Perak (10.3%). Johor Bahru, Johor; Petaling, Selangor; and Kinta, Perak recorded the highest proportion of mobile data users. Meanwhile, Johor Bahru, Johor; Petaling and Ulu Langat, Selangor topped for the remaining mode of access to internet.*

*Males were primarily the main users of internet access by mobile data (6.1 million persons), facilities with free internet access (0.4 million persons), another person's home (0.3 million persons) and community facilities with*

internet access (0.2 million persons). Meanwhile, females were higher than males in the home internet access (2.7 million persons) and education centre (0.4 million persons).

### **Demographic Profile**

Population aged 15 to 64 years interact with neighbours the most at least once a week (41.9%), while those aged 65 years and over exchanged greetings largely on a daily basis (46.7%). Bumiputera (Malay and Other Bumiputera) interact with neighbours mostly on daily basis (47.7%), while Chinese (44.4%) and Indians (45.9%) mainly at least once a week.

There was no indication of polarisation in terms of age and ethnic groups for eating together, social media dan internet access. Individuals of all ages (15 to 64 years; 65 years and over) and ethnic group of Bumiputera, Chinese, Indians and Others mainly eat dinner together, commonly used WhatsApp and largely used mobile data as the mode of internet access.

DOSM is conducting the Economic Census in 2023. DOSM greatly appreciates the cooperation of respondents in providing information and ensuring the success of this census. Please visit [www.dosm.gov.my](http://www.dosm.gov.my) for more information.

DOSM has launched OpenDOSM NextGen as a medium that provides a catalogue of data and visualisation to facilitate users in analysing various data. OpenDOSM NextGen is an open source data sharing platform and accessible through <https://open.dosm.gov.my> portal.

The Government of Malaysia has declared National Statistics Day (MyStats Day) on October 20 each year. MyStats Day theme is “Statistics is the Essence of Life”.

**Table 1: Number and percentage of persons that interact with neighbours in a month, state, Malaysia, 2020**

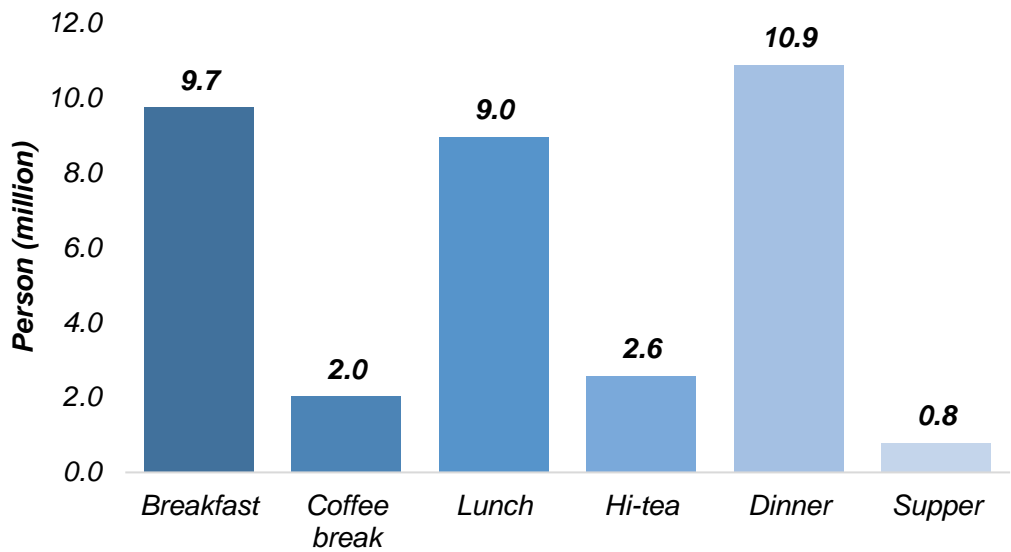
<i>Ethnic</i>	<i>Total</i>		<i>Everyday</i>		<i>At least once a week</i>		<i>At least once a month</i>		<i>Never</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Johor</i>	1,769,357	100.0	591,052	33.4	814,027	46.0	227,351	12.8	136,927	7.7
<i>Kedah</i>	1,206,763	100.0	636,317	<b>52.7</b>	472,175	39.1	68,418	5.7	29,853	2.5
<i>Kelantan</i>	1,062,163	100.0	592,337	<b>55.8</b>	401,641	37.8	51,779	4.9	16,406	1.5
<i>Melaka</i>	228,043	100.0	78,494	34.4	108,616	<b>47.6</b>	24,249	10.6	16,684	7.3
<i>Negeri Sembilan</i>	662,865	100.0	246,853	37.2	308,822	46.6	70,278	10.6	36,912	5.6
<i>Pahang</i>	861,689	100.0	425,135	49.3	353,627	41.0	60,949	7.1	21,978	2.6
<i>Pulau Pinang</i>	1,166,319	100.0	313,862	26.9	586,903	<b>50.3</b>	155,001	13.3	110,553	<b>9.5</b>
<i>Perak</i>	1,629,189	100.0	666,059	40.9	693,937	42.6	171,675	10.5	97,518	6.0
<i>Perlis</i>	190,175	100.0	95,804	50.4	81,738	43.0	8,953	4.7	3,680	1.9
<i>Selangor</i>	1,720,351	100.0	479,601	27.9	726,850	42.3	286,696	<b>16.7</b>	227,204	<b>13.2</b>
<i>Terengganu</i>	734,160	100.0	387,398	52.8	289,189	39.4	45,994	6.3	11,579	1.6
<i>Sabah</i>	1,248,718	100.0	683,552	<b>54.7</b>	417,225	33.4	92,783	7.4	55,158	4.4
<i>Sarawak</i>	1,435,996	100.0	732,348	51.0	490,366	34.1	131,967	9.2	81,315	5.7
<i>W.P. Kuala Lumpur</i>	761,257	100.0	151,363	19.9	344,619	45.3	159,126	<b>20.9</b>	106,149	<b>13.9</b>
<i>W.P. Labuan</i>	53,022	100.0	26,417	49.8	20,239	38.2	4,216	8.0	2,150	4.1
<i>W.P. Putrajaya</i>	62,689	100.0	18,890	30.1	29,565	<b>47.2</b>	9,492	<b>15.1</b>	4,742	7.6
<b><i>Malaysia</i></b>	<b>14,792,756</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>6,125,482</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>6,139,539</b>	<b>41.5</b>	<b>1,568,927</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>958,808</b>	<b>6.5</b>

\*Population refers to respondent aged 15 years and over who has responded

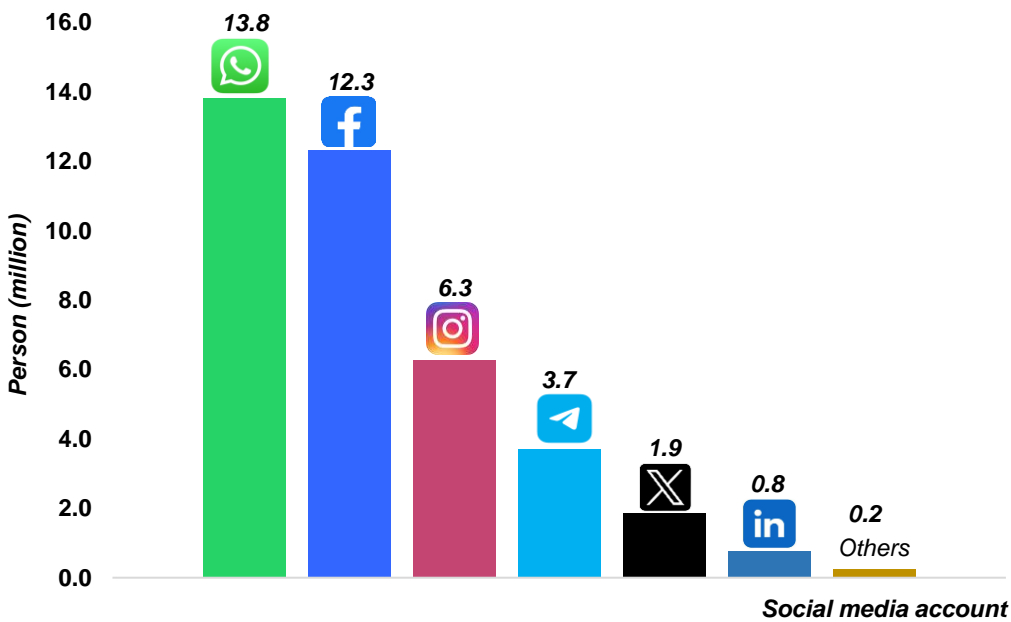
**Table 2: Top ten percentage of persons that interact with neighbours on daily basis, district, Malaysia, 2020**

<b>No.</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1	Pakan, Sarawak	98.0%
2	Tongod, Sabah	97.5%
3	Bukit Mabong, Sarawak	96.3%
4	Song, Sarawak	95.5%
5	Beluru, Sarawak	95.1%
6	Julau, Sarawak	93.5%
7	Lubok Antu, Sarawak	93.1%
8	Kecil Lojing, Kelantan	91.0%
9	Sebauh, Sarawak	87.2%
10	Simunjan, Sarawak	86.5%

**Chart 1: Number of persons aged 15 years and over that eat together during a week by mealtime, Malaysia, 2020**

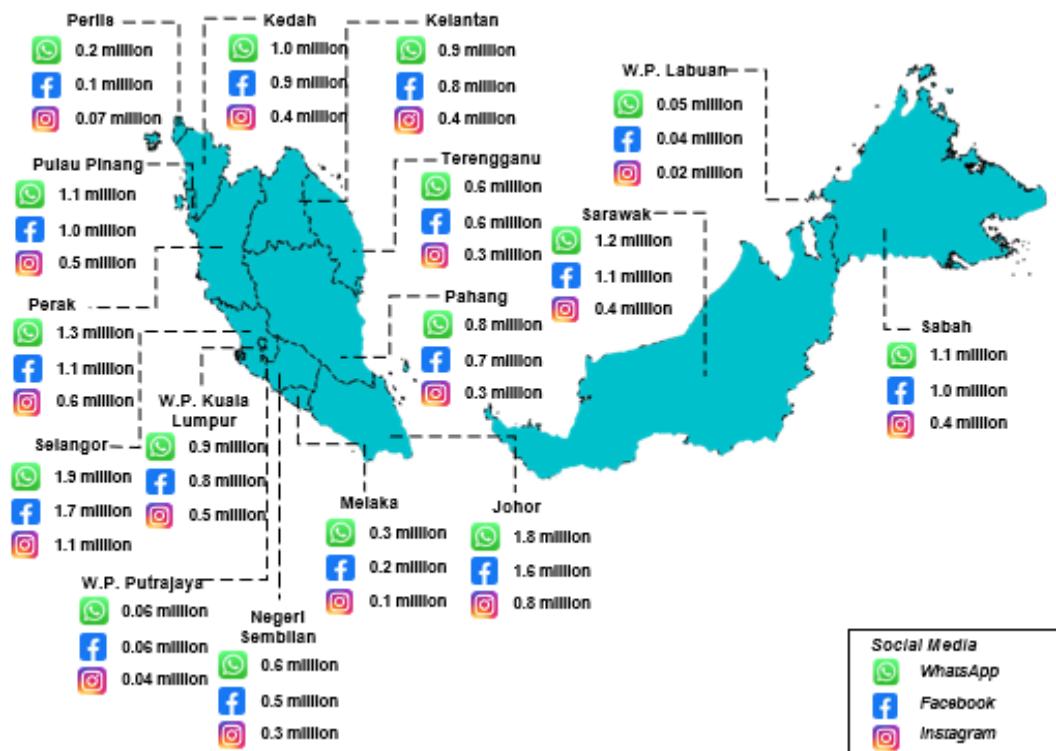


**Chart 2: Number of social media accounts users, Malaysia, 2020**

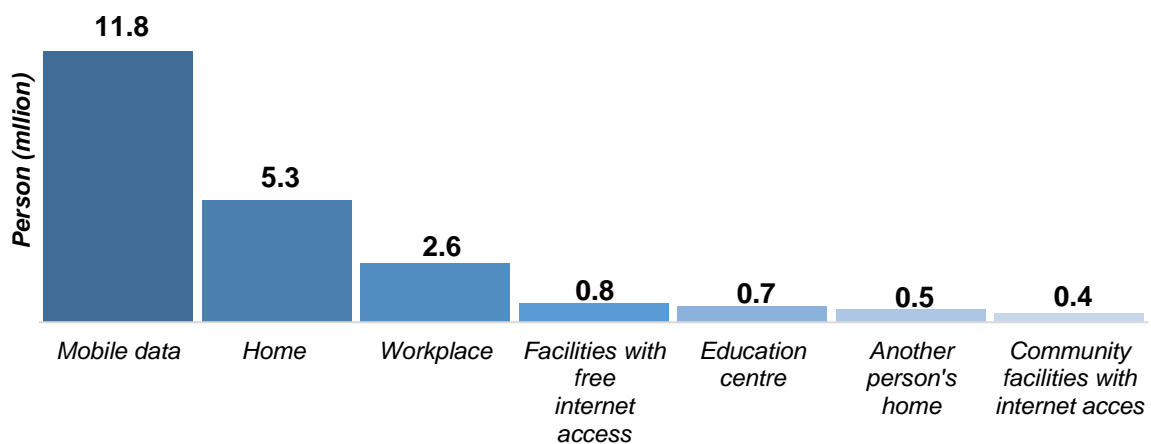




**Exhibit 1: Top three social media accounts users by state, Malaysia, 2020**



**Chart 3: Number of persons aged 15 years and over by modes of access to internet, Malaysia, 2020**



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