MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA STATEMENT
FOR SELECTED AGRICULTURAL INDICATORS 2023

Positive Performance of the Agriculture Sector Returns in 2022

*PUTRAJAYA, 27ᵗʰ October 2023 – Today, the Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM) released the **Selected Agricultural Indicators 2023**. This publication consists of statistics on economic performance, employment, domestic production and external trade in the agriculture sector. These statistics detail the findings from a sectoral perspective for the three main agriculture sub-sectors, namely crops, livestock and fisheries, as well as social perspective that contribute to Malaysia's economic position in 2022.*

Chief Statistician of Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, said, "Malaysia recorded a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of RM1,510.9 billion in 2022, an increase of 8.7 per cent as compared to RM1,390.6 billion in 2021. As for the agriculture sector, it increased by 0.1 per cent in 2022 as compared to negative 0.1 per cent in the previous year. The increase was attributed by oil palm commodity which recorded a growth of positive 3.8 per cent (2021: -5.6%)." Oil palm was the main contributor to the value

added of agriculture sector with RM36.1 billion or 36.5 per cent. This was followed by other agriculture (RM28.1 billion; 28.3%) and livestock (RM16.5 billion; 16.7%).

Contribution of the agriculture sector to GDP among ASEAN countries ranged between 0.03 to 21.9 per cent. Cambodia recorded the highest percentage share to GDP with 21.9 per cent. This was followed by Myanmar (20.3%) and Lao PDR (14.6%). On the other hand, Singapore recorded the lowest percentage share to GDP with 0.03 per cent. Malaysia was ranked seventh out of ten ASEAN countries.

Commenting on the production of agriculture, the Chief Statistician of Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, stated, "The production of major commodity crops in 2022 continued to decrease as compared to 2021, except for fresh fruit bunches (oil palm) and pepper. The production of fresh fruit bunches (oil palm) was the highest among agricultural commodity which recorded 94,814.5 thousand tonnes, increased 3,420.8 thousand tonnes or 3.7 per cent as compared to the previous year."

The production of vegetables in Malaysia showed an increase of 7.0 per cent in 2022 with Pahang remained as the highest producer with a contribution of 39.2 per cent, followed by Johor (21.1%) and Kelantan (11.9%). In the same period, fruit production also increased by 8.4 per cent. Johor was the highest producer of fruit in Malaysia with a contribution of 42.2 per cent, followed by Pahang (14.9%) and Sarawak (8.1%).

Looking at the livestock subsector, production of mutton, chicken/ duck eggs, and fresh milk recorded an increase of 16.9, 3.5 and 0.6 per cent, respectively. In contrast, pork, duck meat, chicken meat, and beef decreased by 7.9, 2.6, 2.5 and 2.4 per cent, respectively.

Landings of marine fish in 2022 was 1,308.4 thousand tonnes, decreased by 1.5 per cent as compared to 1,328.0 thousand tonnes in 2021. Meanwhile, the production of brackishwater and freshwater aquaculture increased by 47.1 and 9.4 per cent respectively as compared to the previous year.

Dato' Sri Dr. Uzir Mahidin also stated that, "The number of employed persons in 2022 amounted to 15,391.7 thousand persons (2021: 15,064.2 thousand persons). Out of the total, 1,540.8 thousand persons (10.0%) were involved in the agriculture sector. This number showed a decrease over the previous year (2021:1,550.0 thousand persons; 10.3%). The employed persons in the agriculture sector was still dominated by citizen with 67.5 per cent while the rest are non-citizens."

According to the Chief Statistician Malaysia as well, data of salaries and wages released by the DOSM showed that the number of recipients of salaries and wages for skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock and fisheries workers in 2022 were 86.6 thousand persons. The median monthly salaries and wages received for this skilled workers was RM1,764 with male workers at RM1,779 and females RM1,531. Meanwhile, the mean monthly salaries and wages received was RM2,011 with male workers at RM2,033 and

females RM1,831. Labour productivity for the agriculture sector declined by 1.2 per cent for the period from 2021 to 2022.

Furthermore, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin stated that the agriculture sector is crucial in ensuring the country's food supply remains sufficient. Additionally, the agriculture sector plays a vital role in the national economy through its contribution to the country's income and export earnings. Malaysia's trade has shown positive developments, as the country's exports of agrofood and selected agricultural product increased from RM154.5 billion in 2021 to RM188.6 billion in 2022. At the same time, the imports of agrofood and selected agricultural product also increased to RM144.4 billion in 2022, as compared to RM120.5 billion in 2021. However, when looking at Malaysia's cumulative food imports in overall for over a five years period (2018-2022) amounted RM296.4 billion, increased by 31.8 per cent as compared to the previous five years (2013-2017: RM224.9 billion).

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 Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) will conduct the Agricultural Census in 2024. Please visit https://www.myagricensus.gov.my/ for more information. "Agriculture Census, Key to Agriculture Development".

*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**".*

Released by:

THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
27th OCTOBER 2023

Figure 1: Percentage Change by Kind of Economic Activity (Constant 2015 Prices), 2022

Economic Activity	2021	2022
Agriculture	-0.1	0.1
Rubber	-8.8	-19.7
Oil Palm	-5.6	3.8
Livestock	3.1	0.1
Other Agriculture	5.9	-3.2
Forestry & Logging	2.0	-3.6
Fishing	-0.3	2.5

Percentage Change (%)
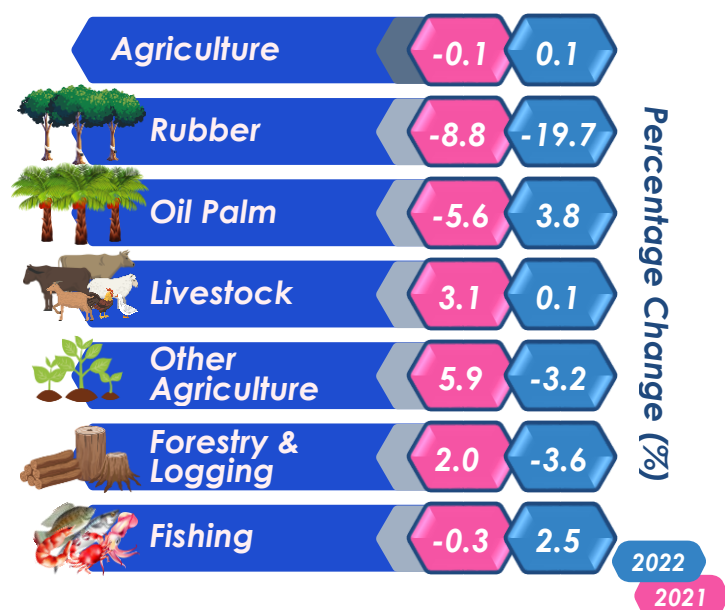
2022
2021

Figure 2: Percentage Share by Kind of Economic Activity to the Agriculture Sector, 2022

Percentage Share 2022^P (%)

- Other Agriculture: 28.3
- Livestock: 16.7
- Fishing: 11.6
- Forestry & Logging: 5.1
- Rubber: 1.8
- Oil Palm: 36.5
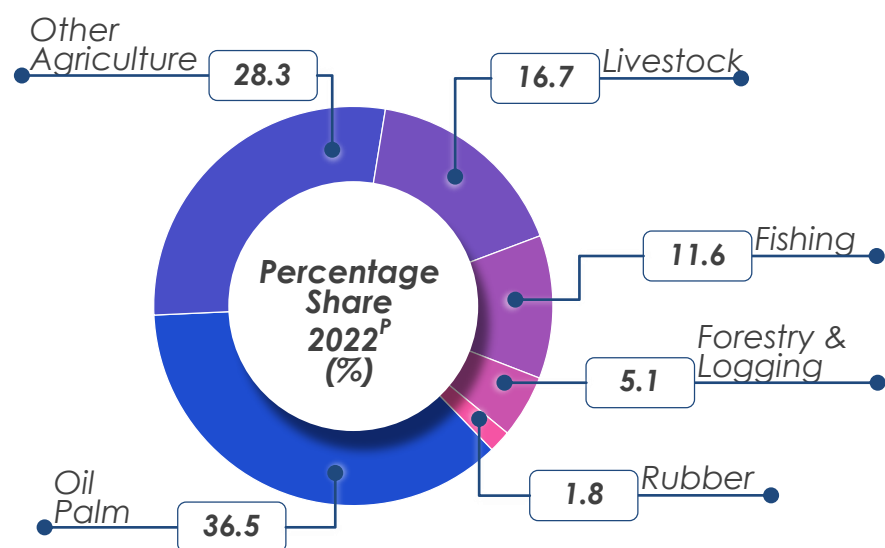
^{P} = preliminary

Chart 1: Production of Main Commodities, 2018 - 2022

Agriculture Commodities

Legend:
- Fresh fruit bunches (oil palm)
- Natural rubber
- Cocoa beans
- Kenaf (dried stem)
- Paddy
- Pepper

Left axis: '000 Tonnes (Oil palm) — 86,000.0 to 100,000.0
Right axis: '000 Tonnes (Other Commodities) — 0.0 to 3,000.0
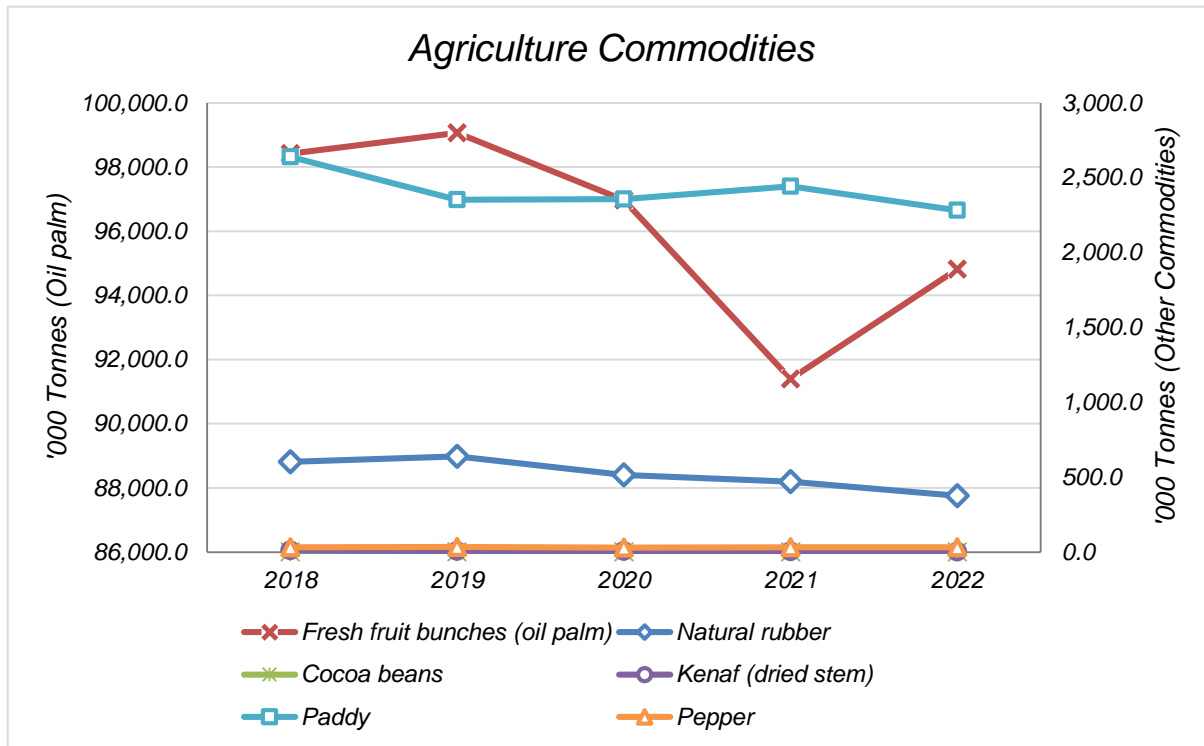
Chart 2: Export of Agrofood and Selected Agricultural Product, 2018 - 2022

Export

Year	Total exports of agrofood and selected agricultural product	Total exports
2022	188,589	1,550,009
2021	154,479	1,241,022
2020	118,706	983,827
2019	115,522	995,072
2018	114,451	1,003,587

RM Million

Chart 3: Import of Agrofood and Selected Agricultural Product, 2018 - 2022

Import

Year		
2022	144,392	1,293,811
2021	120,470	987,344
2020	98,292	800,481
2019	93,510	849,411
2018	93,313	879,804

RM Million
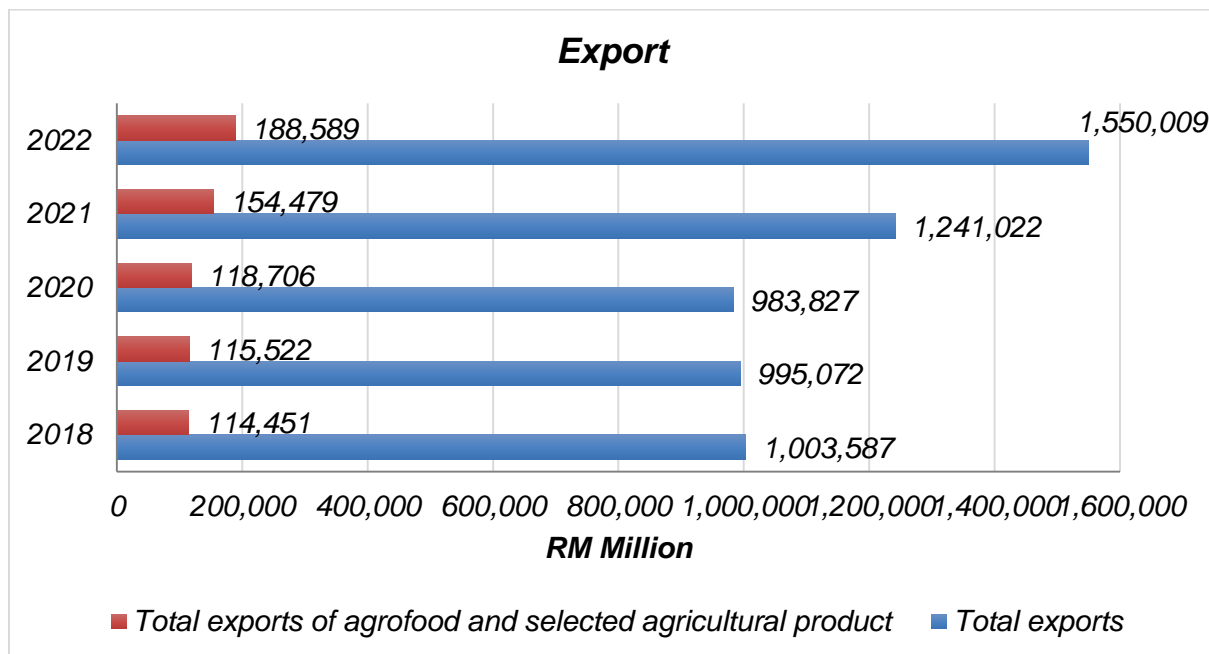(x-axis: 0, 200,000, 400,000, 600,000, 800,000, 1,000,000, 1,200,000, 1,400,000, 1,600,000)

■ Total imports of agrofood and selected agricultural product   ■ Total imports
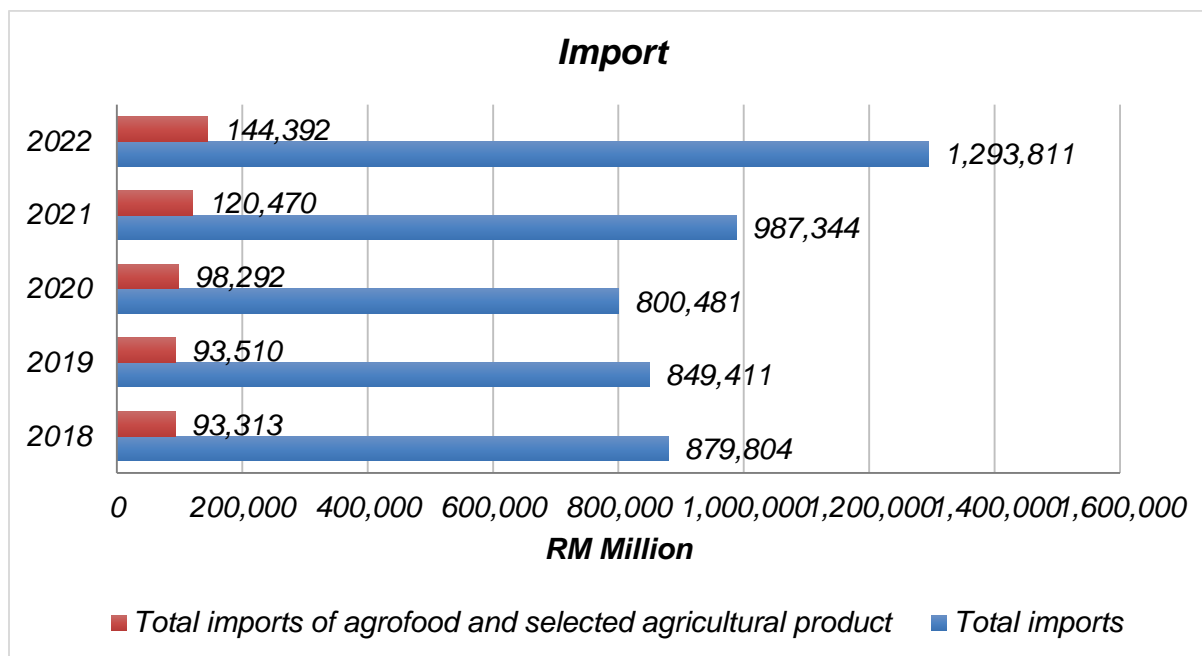
Chart 4: Employed Persons in the Agriculture Sector, 2018 - 2022

Employed Persons in the Agriculture Sector

'000 persons

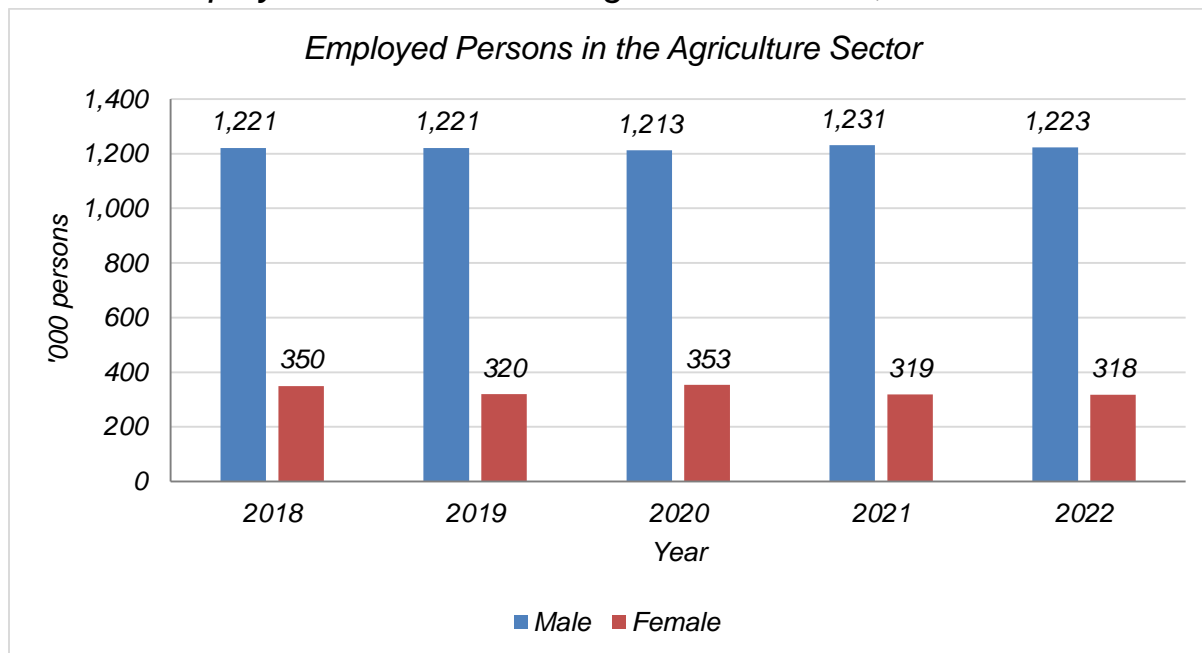| Year	Male	Female
2018	1,221	350
2019	1,221	320
2020	1,213	353
2021	1,231	319
2022	1,223	318

■ Male   ■ Female

Figure 3: Median and Mean Monthly Salaries & Wages for Skilled Agriculture Workers, 2021 - 2022

Median

Male
RM1,779
RM1,740

Female
RM1,531
RM1,530

Median
RM1,764
RM1,695

Mean
RM2,011
RM1,853

Mean

Male
RM2,033
RM1,868

Female
RM1,831
RM1,732

2022   2021