



MEDIA STATEMENT

STATISTICS ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN SELECTED DOMAINS, MALAYSIA, 2023

THE OVERALL LEVEL OF GENDER EQUALITY IMPROVED BY RECORDING AN EQUALITY SCORE OF 69.4 PER CENT IN 2022

PUTRAJAYA, 13th DECEMBER 2023 – The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) has released the **Statistics on Women Empowerment in Selected Domains, Malaysia, 2023**, the sixth series since 2017 today. This report presents statistics related to gender in Malaysia for the years 2020 to 2022 focusing on the core set of gender indicators covering eleven domains. The statistics were prepared based on latest available data from DOSM and various agencies.

This report also highlights **Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI)** which identifies the gap between women and men across four sub-indices encompassing Economic participation and opportunity, Educational attainment, Health and survival and Political empowerment. A score with a value of 1.0 (100%) indicates the equality of women and men has been achieved.

Commenting on the report, Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, said "**Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI)** scored **0.694, or 69.4 per cent in 2022, increased 0.2 percentage points as compared to 0.692 (69.2%) in 2021**. Achievement of women has surpassed men in the **Educational attainment** sub-index with a score of 1.067. Enrolment of girls are consistently higher than boys in both primary and secondary school. In 2022, the gross enrolment rates for female in primary and secondary levels were 98.8 per cent and 94.9 per cent, respectively. At the tertiary level, women recorded 49.5 per cent which outnumbered men (33.2%). This achievement reflects the country's commitment to provide access to high-quality education."

Health and survival sub-index recorded a score of 0.961 in 2022. The average life expectancy for women at birth in Malaysia stands at approximately 76.4 years or about 10 years longer than five decades ago, at 65.6 years (1970). **Economic participation and opportunity** sub-index recorded a score of 0.644. Labour force participation rate (LFPR) for women was still low at 55.8 per cent in 2022 as compared to other South-East Asia (ASEAN) countries such as Viet Nam (75.2%) and Singapore (73.2%)”.

Political empowerment sub-index recorded the lowest score which is 10.2 per cent (score 0.102), indicating the potential for increased representation and empowerment of women in the political sphere. Despite the significance of Malaysian women’s participation in the economy and education, there is an inspiring opportunity for further progress in leadership positions in the country’s political system, as only 17.9 per cent of women held ministerial positions in 2022.

Dato’ Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin also said, “Based on the MGGI 2022 score (0.694), we were ranked **93rd** from 146 countries in the world. Simultaneously, within East Asia and the Pacific nations, Malaysia stood at the **eleventh position** in 2022, ahead of Timor-Leste (0.693), Brunei Darussalam (0.693), Republic of Korea (0.680), China (0.678), Vanuatu (0.678), Fiji (0.650), Myanmar (0.650) and Japan (0.647).”

He also shared some interesting facts and statistics about women. He commented, “It is estimated that 15.7 million of Malaysia’s population are female out of a total of 32.7 million in 2022. In terms of live births, baby girls recorded 204,779 births out of a total of 423,124 live births in 2022. Mean monthly salaries and wages for female employees continued to increase to RM3,140 in 2022 (2021: RM2,968).”

This publication also presents MGGI scores by state for 2022. According to him, “The top three states that recorded the high MGGI score in 2022 were W.P. Putrajaya, W.P. Kuala Lumpur and W.P. Labuan. W.P. Putrajaya at 0.792 in 2022, followed by W.P. Kuala Lumpur (0.767) and W.P. Labuan recorded a score of 0.736. Eight states recorded scores below the national level, namely Pulau Pinang (0.693), Kedah (0.693), Sarawak (0.681), Pahang (0.679), Perlis (0.678), Negeri Sembilan (0.674), Johor (0.670) and Terengganu (0.663).”

Recognising the significant role of women, Malaysia is dedicated to achieve gender equality and promoting the rights of women and girls. The government's continuous efforts and commitments towards achieving gender equality are in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and Twelfth Malaysia Plan (12MP). In this regards, DOSM is committed to provide statistics related to gender equality. Recognising the essential role of data in driving evidence-based policies and interventions, DOSM continues to prioritise the collection, analysis, and dissemination of gender-disaggregated data and statistics to stimulate gender-responsive initiatives and foster inclusive development.

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) has launched OpenDOSM NextGen as a medium that provides a catalog of data and visualisations to facilitate users' analysis of various data and can be accessed through <https://open.dosm.gov.my>.

DOSM will conduct the Agricultural Census in 2024. Please visit <https://www.myagricensus.gov.my/> for more information. The theme is "Agriculture Census, Key to Agricultural Development."

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

Table 1: Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI) score, 2020-2022

Sub- index	2020^r	2021^r	2022^r
<i>Economic participation and opportunity</i>	0.673	0.645	0.644
<i>Educational attainment</i>	1.060	1.061	1.067
<i>Health and survival</i>	0.956	0.960	0.961
<i>Political empowerment</i>	0.100	0.100	0.102
MGGI score	0.698	0.692	0.694

Notes:

^r Revised

Chart 1: Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI) score, 2020-2022

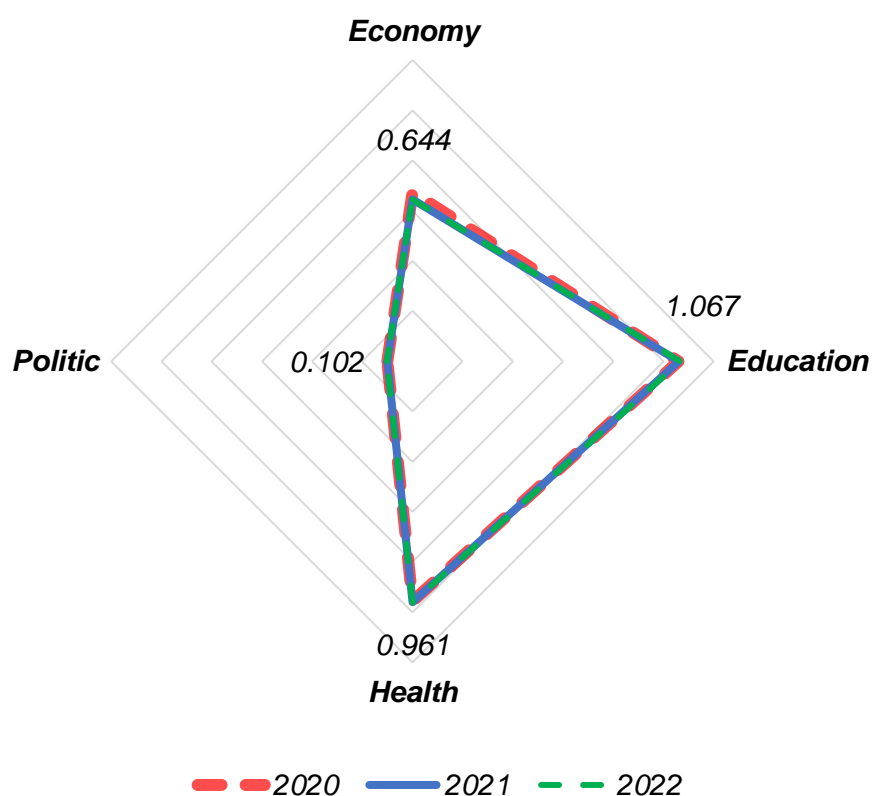


Chart 2: Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI) 2022 by state

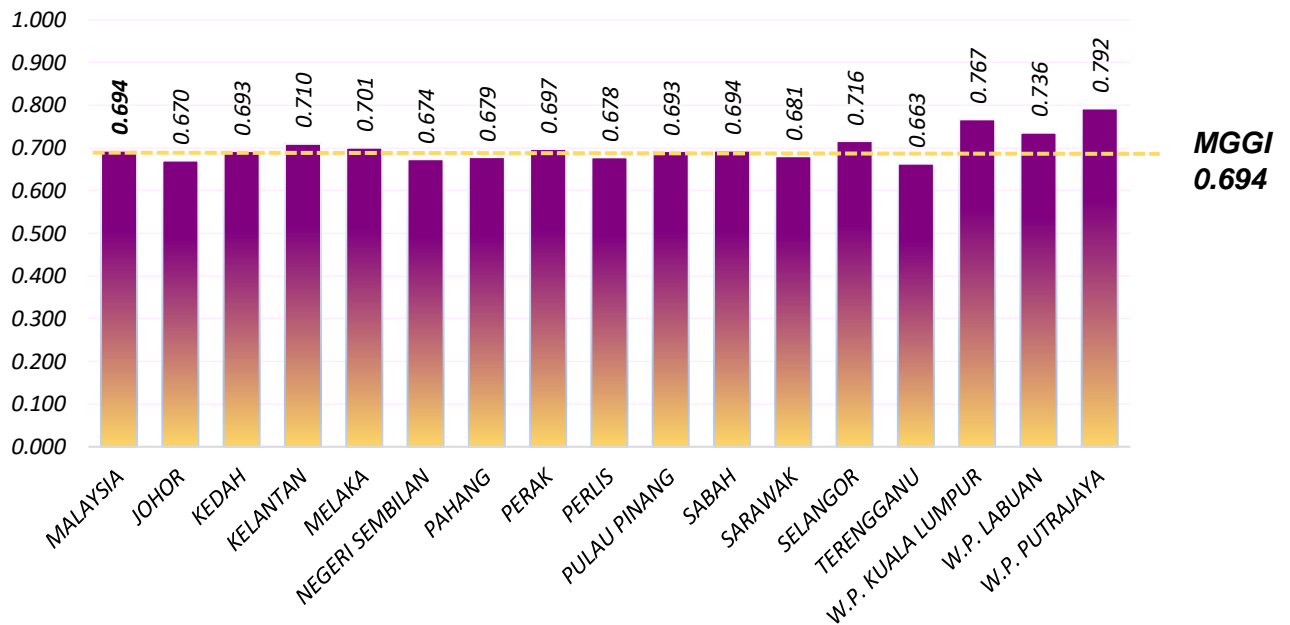


Chart 3: MGGI 2022 score for Economic participation and opportunity by state

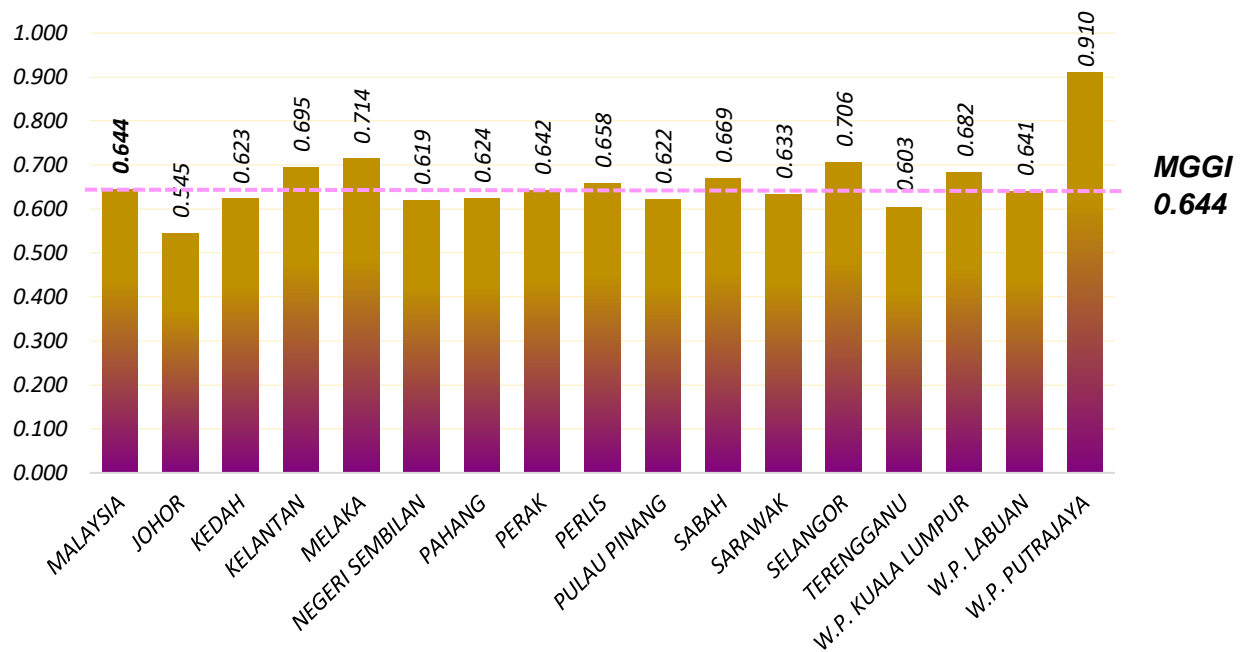


Chart 4: MGGI 2022 score for Educational attainment by state

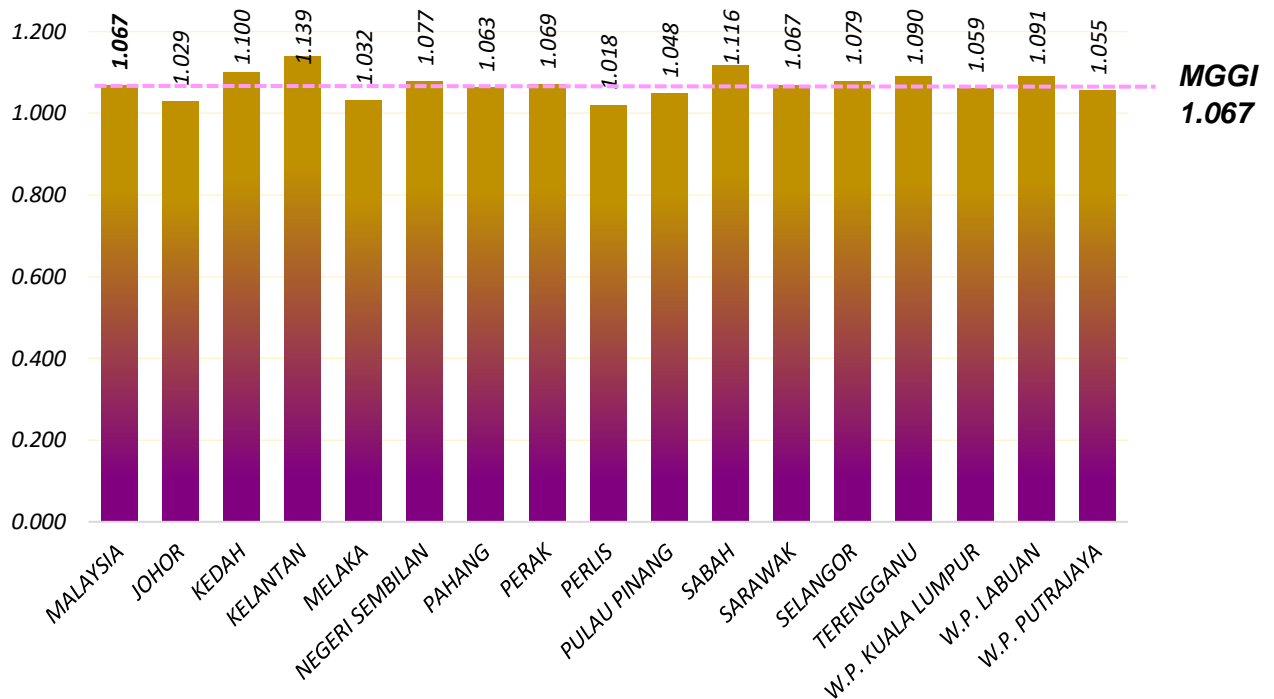


Chart 5: MGGI 2022 score for Health and survival by state

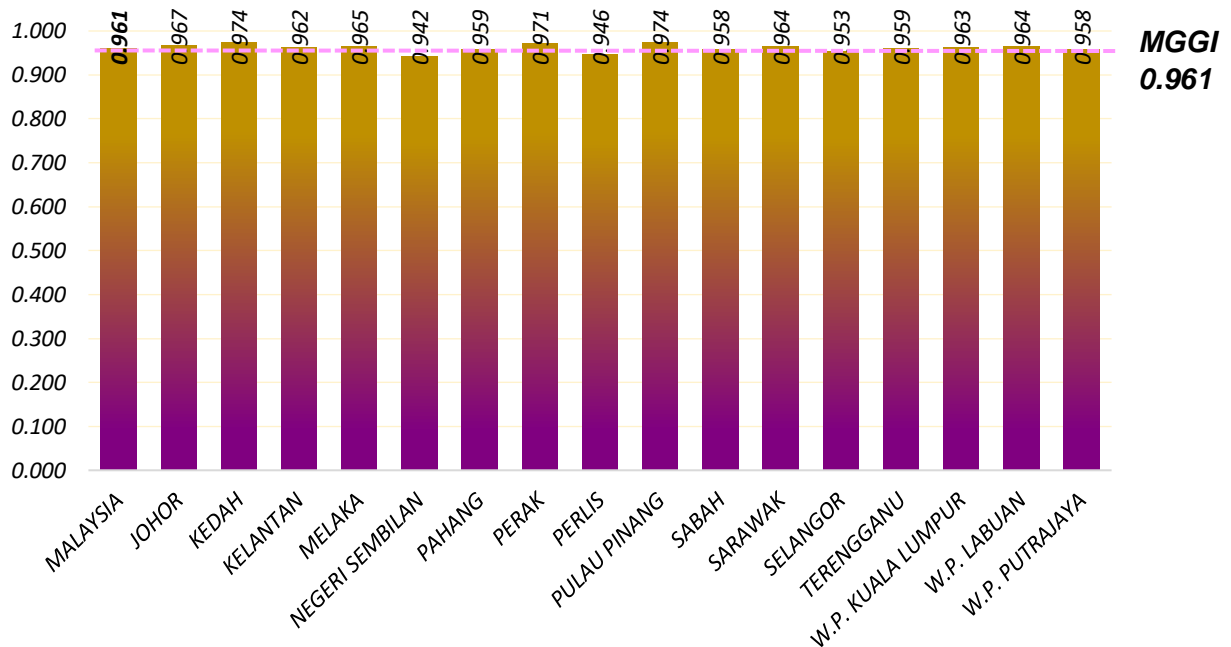
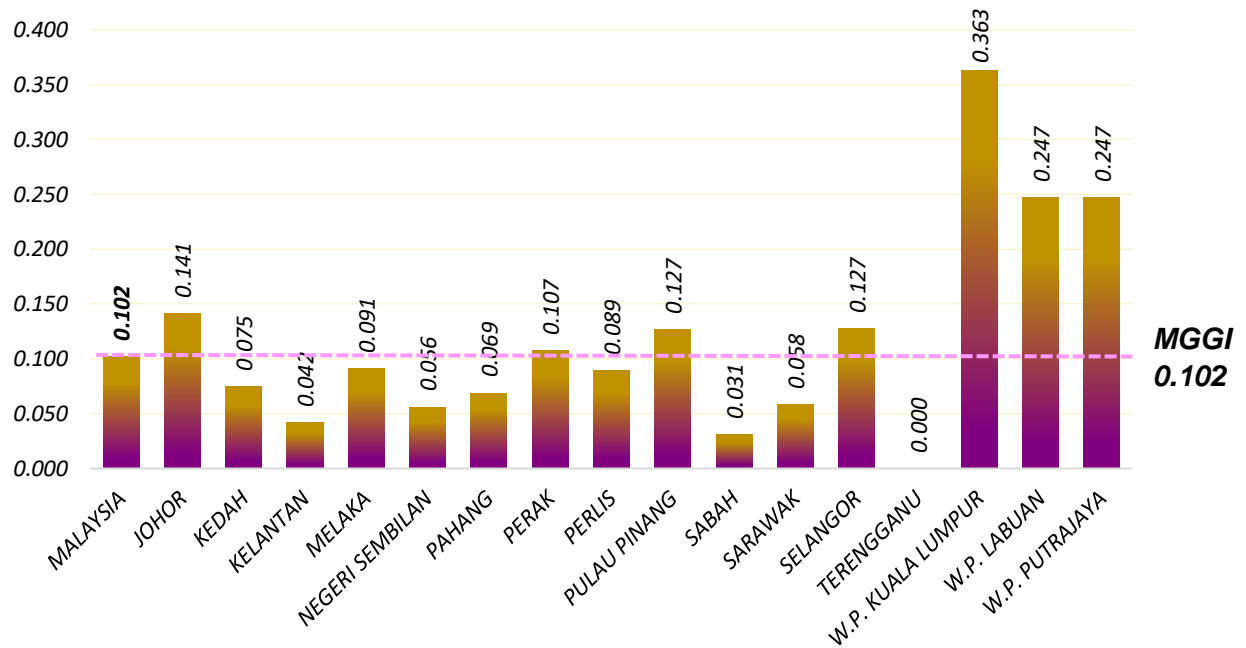


Chart 6: MGGI 2022 score for Political empowerment by state



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