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MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA STATEMENT

MALAYSIA SOCIAL STATISTICS REVIEW (MSSR) 2023 EDITION

***Urbanisation increased to 75.1 per cent leading to improve quality of life
and life expectancy of the Malaysia's population***

PUTRAJAYA, 20th March 2024 – Today, the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) has published a report of **Malaysia Social Statistics Review (MSSR) 2023 Edition**. This report is the second edition published by DOSM which presents the country's social scenario as early as 1970 up to 2023. This publication focuses on 11 topics which encompass population and demography (1970 – 2023); consumer price index (2022); employment (2010 – 2022); health (2010 – 2022); transport (2010 – 2022); household income and expenditure (2022); internet and social media (2018 – 2022); environment (2017 – 2022); tourism (1991 – 2022); Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) (2022) and the Malaysia Happiness Index (MHI) (2021).

Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin said, “Urbanisation increased to 75.1 per cent leading to improve quality of life and life expectancy of the Malaysia's population. This report can be used as a benchmark in facing an increasingly challenging environment. Time series statistics of Population, Life Expectancy, Urbanisation, Employment, Salaries & Wages and Health are summarised in one publication. There is a need for comprehensive social statistics as it is essential for the government to formulate holistic development towards achieving universal well-being”.

In terms of **population**, the population of Malaysia in 1970 were 10.4 million, increased to 27.5 million in 2010. Based on the Malaysia Population and Housing Census 2020, the total

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population was recorded at 32.4 million, which is a threefold increase as compared to 10.4 million in 1970. However, population growth in 2020 is slower with an average annual growth rate of 1.7 per cent as compared to 3.9 per cent in 1970. Based on current population estimates in 2023, the population of Malaysia is estimated at 33.4 million with a growth rate 2.1 per cent. Malaysia's demographic transition is influenced by four factors that affect population growth and population change in Malaysia since 1970 to 2040, namely fertility rate, death rate (life expectancy), age structure (distribution between young and old age) and migration.

The **life expectancy** for a baby born in 1970 is expected to live up to 63.6 years on average and increased to 74.8 years for a newborn baby in 2023. In Malaysia, the increase in average life expectancy is contributed by positive socioeconomic factors such as increased in level of education, employment, health care and decreased in mortality. For the comparison between sex, on average baby girls are expected to live longer than baby boys with an increase in life expectancy of 11.8 years as compared to 10.9 years for boys for the period from 1970 to 2023. This means, a baby girl born in 2023 on average is expected to be able to live up to 77.4 years, while baby boys are expected to live up to 72.5 years.

Urbanisation has improved the quality of life and subsequently increased life expectancy. As a developing country, Malaysia has experienced a rapid urbanisation process in the past three decades. Urban population in Malaysia was only 28.4 per cent in 1970, increased to 50.7 per cent in 1991 and reached 75.1 per cent in 2020.

Looking at **employment**, the number of labour force in Malaysia recorded an average increase of 2.7 per cent per year from 12.3 million persons in 2010 to 16.0 million persons in 2022. In line with the annual population increase in the range of 2.0 per cent or around 300 thousand persons per year for the period 2017 to 2019, the number of labour force increased at a slower rate of 0.6 per cent in 2020 and 0.8 per cent in 2021. In line with better performance of the country's economic and social activities, the number of labour force increased 1.4 per cent in 2022.

The percentage of the employed person in 2010 was 61.6 per cent and increased to 65.3 per cent in 2020. The employed person increases to 65.4 per cent in 2021 and

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66.5 per cent in 2022. The employed person in the Services sector grew from 59.1 per cent in 2010 to 65.0 per cent in 2022. In contrast to the Agriculture sector that declined to 10.0 per cent as compared to 13.6 per cent in 2010.

All economic sectors showed an increase in mean and median monthly **salaries & wages** from 2010 to 2019. In tandem with the challenging labour market scenario in 2020, monthly salaries & wages shrank in all sectors. Median monthly salaries & wages recorded a decrease ranging from negative 15.7 per cent to negative 14.3 per cent, except for the Manufacturing sector which decrease at a rate of 3.0 per cent in 2020. All sectors recorded a significant increase in 2021 except for the Construction sector which experienced a decrease of 4.0 per cent. However, all sectors recorded positive growth in 2022 with Manufacturing sector recording the highest growth of 11.6 per cent and the Agriculture sector recording the lowest growth of 0.9 per cent. Meanwhile, the mean monthly salaries & wages for all sectors in 2022 increased as compared to 2021, namely Agriculture (8.5%), Construction (8.0%), Manufacturing (7.9%), Services (5.0%) and Mining & quarrying (4.1%).

In the field of **health**, the number of government hospitals showed an increasing trend from 2010 to 2022, from 131 to 160 hospitals, while the number of private hospitals increased slightly to 257 from 254 hospitals in 2010. Similarly, the number of government clinics increased by 340 clinics to 3,122 clinics in 2022 as compared to 2,782 clinics in 2010, while private clinics increased to 13,352 clinics in 2022 as compared to 7,954 clinics in 2010, an increase of 5,398 clinics. The doctors-to-population ratio in Malaysia improved during the period from 2010 to 2022 from 1:859 in 2010 to 1:412 in 2022.

Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin elaborated, "The doctors-to-population ratio in Malaysia for the year 2019 until 2022 has improved as compared to the standard of the World Health Organization (WHO), which is 1:500 (1 doctor to 500 population) and the target of 1:500 which is targeted in The Ministry of Health (MoH) Strategic Plan 2016-2020 has also been achieved. The improved ratio of doctors-to-population reflects the quality of health services in Malaysia". Thus, as the official national statistics producer it is very timely for DOSM to take the initiative to produce this report that provides comprehensive information on the current social scenario as it

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facilitates strategic policy planning that effectively address the social and economic issues. This report also benefits the government in improving governance and the socioeconomic needs of the people for inclusive development as well as ensuring sustainable economic growth by focusing on the well-being of the people.

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 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".

The Central Database (PADU) was launched on 2nd January 2024. PADU contains individual and household profiles covering citizens and permanent residents of Malaysia. The main goal of PADU is to ensure that Malaysians are not left behind from citizen centric initiatives implemented by the Government. Your kind cooperation is requested to register and update PADU by 31st March 2024. Please visit <https://www.padu.gov.my> for more information related to PADU or contact the following hotlines:

- i. Department of Statistics Malaysia: 1-800-88-7720/ 1-800-88-7721*
- ii. Online enquiries through SISPA: <https://padu.spab.gov.my>*

Released by:

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