EMBARGO: Only to be published or disseminated at **12:00 hour, Wednesday, 15 July 2020**

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

CURRENT POPULATION ESTIMATES, MALAYSIA, 2020

INTRODUCTION

- The current population estimates of Malaysia and it states present the mid-year estimation of population that provides the key updates, trends and current population situation.
- The population estimates are based on Population and Housing Census 2010 which has taken into accounts births (fertility), deaths (mortality) and migration components.
- Mid-year Population Estimates are prepared using the bottom-up approach where the population is estimated according to state, single age, ethnic group and sex. The total population of Malaysia is the sum of all the state's population estimates.

POPULATION SIZE AND GROWTH

Citizens growth rate remained stable at 1.1 per cent

Malaysia's population in 2020 is estimated at 32.7 million as compared to 32.5 million in 2019 with an annual growth rate of 0.4 per cent. The decline of population growth rate is attributed to the decrease in the number of Non-citizens from 3.1 million (2019) to 3.0 million (2020).

This is in line with the closure of our national borders and the return of foreigners to their respective countries during the Movement Control Order following the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic worldwide. The growth rate of Citizens remained stable at 1.1 per cent with the population increasing from 29.4 million in 2019 to 29.7 million in 2020.

Table 1: Total population and annual population growth rate, Malaysia, 2010-2020

Year	Number ('000)			Annual population growth rate (%)		
	Total	Citizens	Non-Citizens	Total	Citizens	Non-Citizens
2010	28,588.6	26,264.1	2,324.5	1.8	1.6	4.0
2011	29,062.0	26,616.9	2,445.1	1.6	1.3	5.1
2012	29,510.0	26,961.7	2,548.3	1.5	1.3	4.1
2013	30,213.7	27,325.6	2,888.0	2.4	1.3	12.5
2014	30,708.5	27,696.2	3,012.3	1.6	1.3	4.2
2015	31,186.1	28,060.0	3,126.1	1.5	1.3	3.0
2016	31,633.5	28,403.5	3,230.0	1.4	1.2	3.3
2017	32,022.6	28,735.1	3,287.5	1.2	1.2	1.8
2018	32,382.3	29,059.6	3,322.7	1.1	1.1	1.1
2019	32,523.0	29,382.7	3,140.4	0.4	1.1	(5.6)
2020[e]	32,657.3	29,696.9	2,960.4	0.4	1.1	(5.9)

[e] Estimates

POPULATION BY SEX

Males outnumbered females

Overall, there were more males than females. In 2020, male population outnumbered the female with 16.8 million (males) and 15.9 million (females).

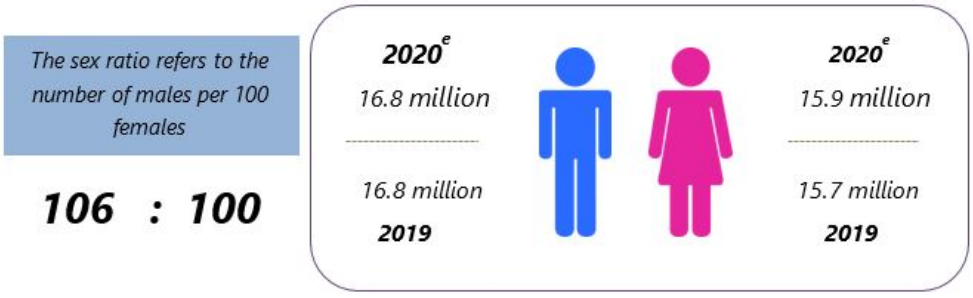
Males outnumbered females in both young aged (0-14 years) and working-age (15-64 years) groups. Meanwhile, the females dominate the old-age group (65 years and over) with 1.2 million compared to males follows closely at only 1.1 million in 2020.

SEX RATIO

Males dominate females in 6th consecutive years (2015-2020)

The sex ratio for as a whole nation remained at 106 males per 100 females. The sex ratio of citizens is slightly decreased from for a five-year period with only 103 (males) : 100 (females) between 2010 till 2014 and 102 (males) : 100 (females) for a period from 2015-2020. In the case of Non-citizens, the sex ratio is quite higher than citizens with 156 males per 100 females in 2020 (refer table 1.1).

Exhibit 1: Population by sex and sex ratio, Malaysia, 2019 and 2020[e]



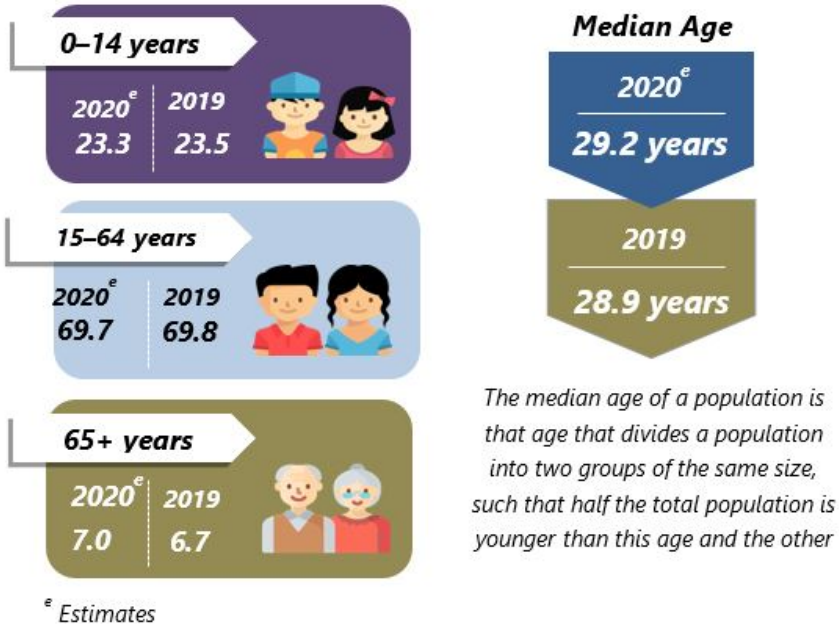
[e] Estimates

AGE STRUCTURE

Older age population in Malaysia increase each year – leading to an ageing nation

The percentage of population aged 0-14 years (young age) decreased to 23.3 per cent compared with 23.5 per cent in 2019. While the overall percentage of 15-64 years (working age) also decreased from 69.8 per cent in 2019 to 69.7 per cent in 2020. This is due to the reduction in the Non-citizens population, which mostly comprised of foreign workers. The percentage of population aged 65 years and over (old age) increased from 6.7 per cent to 7.0 per cent over the same period.

Exhibit 2: Percentage of population by age group and median age, Malaysia, 2019 and 2020[e]



The median age of a population is that age that divides a population into two groups of the same size, such that half the total population is younger than this age and the other

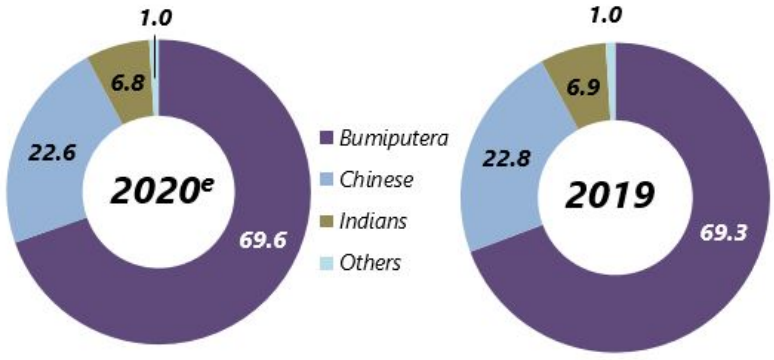
[e] *Estimates*

MAJOR ETHNIC GROUP COMPOSITION

Ethnic Indians and Chinese composition is declining

Out of the 29.7 million Citizens, the composition of Bumiputera rose 0.3 percentage points to record 69.6 per cent in 2020 when compared to 69.3 per cent in 2019. However, Chinese and Indians population declined to 22.6 per cent (2019: 22.8%) and 6.9 per cent (2019: 6.8%) while others remained at 1.0 per cent.

Figure 2: Percentage of citizens population by ethnic group, Malaysia, 2019 and 2020[e]

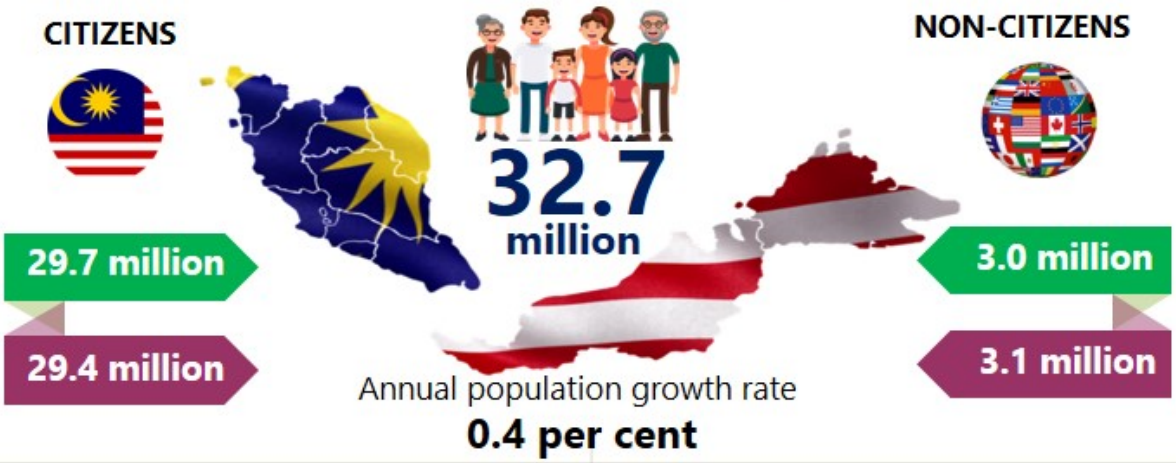


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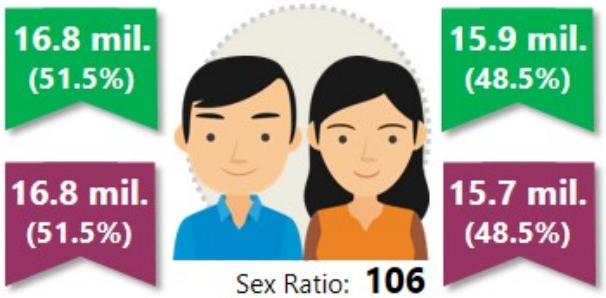
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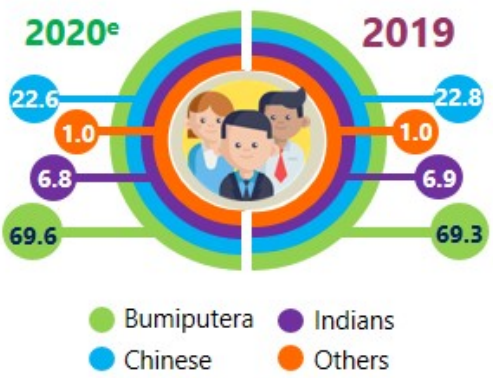
CURRENT POPULATION ESTIMATES, MALAYSIA, 2020



POPULATION BY SEX



PERCENTAGE OF CITIZENS BY ETHNIC GROUP

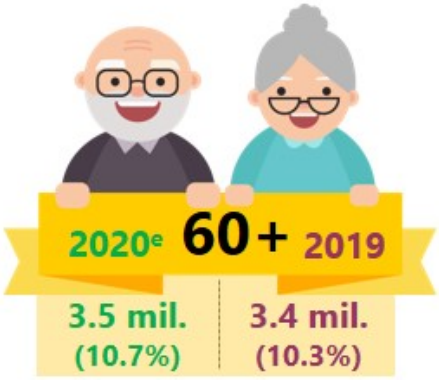


POPULATION BY AGE GROUP

	2020e	2019
0-14 years	7.6 mil. (23.3%)	7.6 mil. (23.5%)
15-64 years	22.8 mil. (69.7%)	22.7 mil. (69.8%)
65+ years	2.3 mil. (7.0%)	2.2 mil. (6.7%)

29.2 years — Median age increase from **28.9 years** in 2019

POPULATION AGED 60 YEARS AND OVER



Note:
e Estimates
The added total may differ due to rounding

2020e 2019

Source: Current Population Estimates, Malaysia, 2020
Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Release by:

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