



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY  
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

INCOME INEQUALITY, MALAYSIA, 2024



- Income and expenditure data from the Household Income and Expenditure Survey are used to generate indicators of inequality and poverty.
- Most countries use the Gini coefficient as a standard measure of income distribution and inequality among households.
- The Gini coefficient measures income inequality based on the Lorenz Curve, with values ranging from 0 (perfect equality) to 1 (perfect inequality).
- The Gini coefficient declined from 0.404 in 2022 to 0.390 in 2024, indicating that the income inequality gap narrowed by 1.4 percentage points over the period.

## **Income Inequality by Ethnic and Strata**

- All ethnic groups recorded a smaller income gap, with the Chinese group recorded the highest inequality (Gini: 0.412).
- In 2024, the income gap ratio between Chinese and Bumiputera remained at 1:0.72, showing a slight improvement from 1:0.71 in 2022. Meanwhile, the gap between Chinese and Indians improved to 1:0.86 in 2024 as compared to 1:0.84 in 2022.
- Meanwhile, income inequality in urban areas decreased to 0.378 in 2024 from 0.393 in 2022, while rural areas also recorded a decline to 0.344 from 0.351 over the same period.

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