



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY  
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

## VITAL STATISTICS, MALAYSIA, 2021

### LIVE BIRTHS

Live births refers to births with signs of life during delivery although for a very short period and Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is the number of live births per thousand population.

#### Live births in 2020 was the lowest in a decade

The number of live births was 470,195 in 2020, a decrease of 3.6 per cent as compared to 487,957 in 2019. The CBR declined from 15.0 (2019) to 14.4 (2020) per thousand population.

**Chart 1: Live births and Crude Birth Rate, Malaysia, 2010-2020**



#### More males newborn than females, CBR for both sexes declined

The number of male babies in 2020 was 243,617 which is 51.8 per cent of the 470,195 total live births. Meanwhile, the birth of female babies was 226,578 (48.2 per cent). The CBR for both sexes declined from 15.1 (male) and 14.9 (female) in 2019 to 14.5 (male) and 14.3 (female) births per thousand population in 2020.

#### Pulau Pinang continued to record the lowest CBR

CBR for all states dropped in 2020 as compared to 2019, except for W.P. Labuan and Perlis. W.P. Putrajaya recorded the highest decline from 22.3 (2019) births per thousand population to 19.5 (2020).

Pulau Pinang continued to record the lowest rate at 11.1 birth per thousand population. On the contrary, Terengganu registered the highest rate of 21.6 birth per thousand population.

## Four administrative districts in Terengganu recorded the highest CBR

The administrative districts of Kuala Terengganu recorded the highest CBR in 2020 with 26.9 birth per thousand population. This was followed by three districts in Terengganu which is Marang (25.0), Setiu (22.7) and Besut (22.7). Meanwhile, the lowest CBR were recorded by Kinabatangan, Sabah at 3.7 births per thousand population, followed by Timur Laut, Pulau Pinang (6.9) and Putatan, Sabah (7.3).

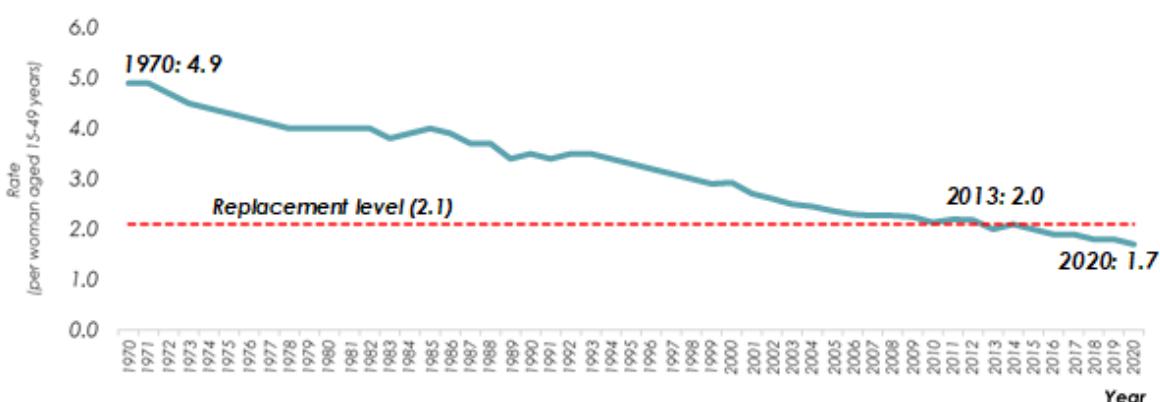
## FERTILITY

### Total Fertility Rate (TFR) continue to decline over three decades

The TFR is a standard demographic indicator used to estimate the average of children that a woman would have over her childbearing years (i.e. Age 15-49 years). Over the last four decades in Malaysia, fertility measured by TFR declined dramatically from 4.9 children per woman of childbearing age in 1970 to 1.7 in 2020.

Since 1970 up to 2012, the national TFR was still above the replacement level of 2.1 which indicates that the average number of babies born per woman throughout her reproductive life has been sufficient to replace herself and her partner. However, the TFR started to decline below the replacement level in 2013 onwards.

**Chart 2: Total Fertility Rate, Malaysia, 1970-2020**

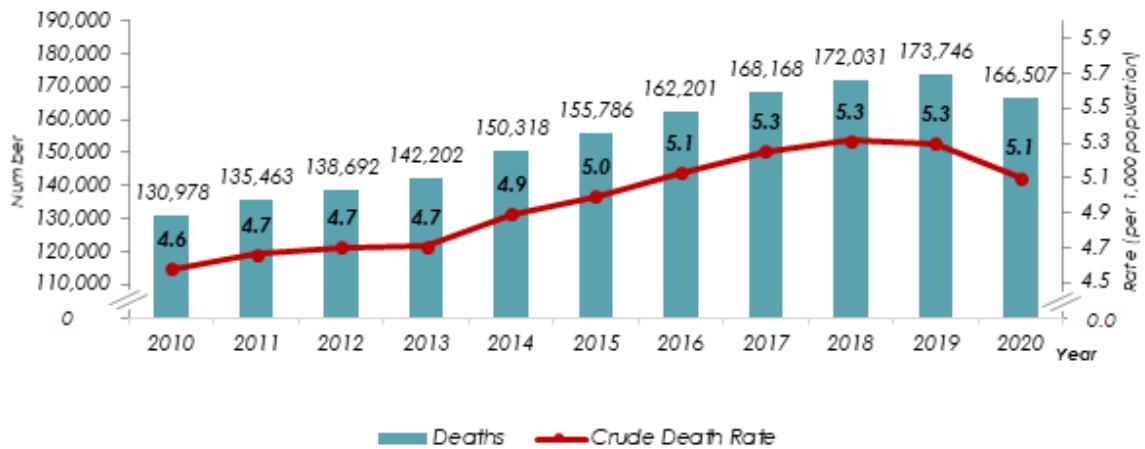


## DEATHS

### The number of deaths decreased

The number of deaths in 2020 was 166,507, decreased 4.2 per cent as compared to 173,746 deaths in 2019. The Crude Death Rate (CDR) also recorded a decrease from 5.3 (2019) to 5.1(2020) deaths per thousand population.

**Chart 3: Deaths and Crude Death Rate, Malaysia, 2010-2020**



### Male deaths higher than female, CDR for both sexes declined

The number of male deaths in 2020 was 96,322 or 57.8 per cent of the 166,507 total deaths. Meanwhile, female deaths were 70,185 (42.2%). The CDR for both sexes declined from 5.9 (male) and 4.7 (female) in 2019 to 5.7 (male) and 4.4 (female) deaths per thousand population in 2020.

### Perlis recorded the highest CDR whilst W.P. Putrajaya the lowest

CDR for all states declined in 2020 as compared to 2019, except for Sabah and W.P. Labuan while Sarawak remained unchanged. Terengganu recorded the highest decline from 5.9 (2019) deaths per thousand population to 5.3 (2020).

Perlis recorded the highest CDR of 7.7 deaths per thousand population whilst W.P. Putrajaya recorded the lowest rate of 1.9 in 2020.

### Administrative district of Kanowit, Sarawak recorded the highest CDR

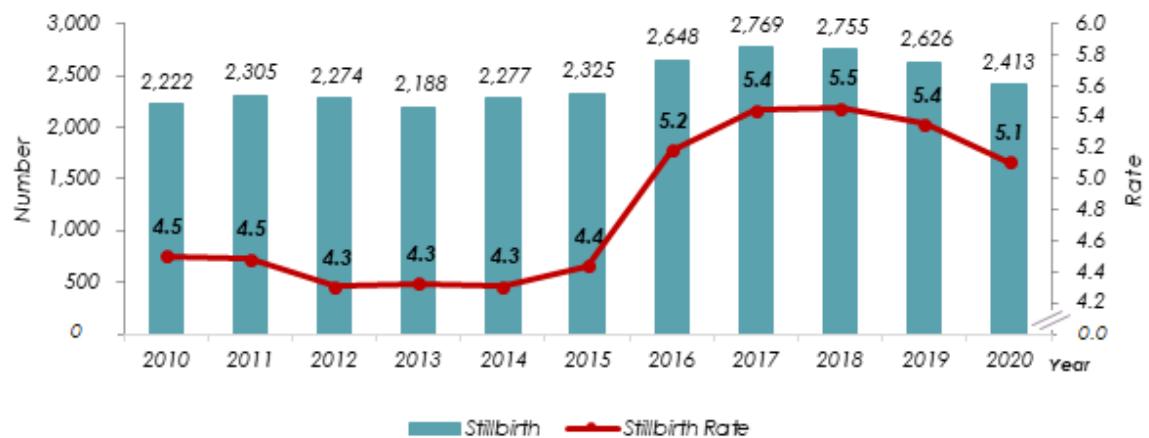
Kanowit, Sarawak recorded the highest CDR in 2020 with 8.5 deaths per thousand population, followed by Kampar, Perak (8.3) and Dalat, Sarawak (8.2). Meanwhile, the Kinabatangan district in Sabah recorded the lowest CDR with 0.9 deaths per thousand population, followed by Kunak, Sabah (2.4) and Belaga, Sarawak (2.6).

## STILLBIRTHS

### The number of stillbirths decreased

The number of stillbirths in 2020 was 2,413, decreased 8.1 per cent as compared to 2,626 deaths in 2019. The Stillbirth Rate (SBR) also recorded a decrease from 5.4 (2019) to 5.1 (2020) per thousand births.

### Chart 4: Stillbirths and Stillbirths Rate, Malaysia, 2010-2020





# VITAL STATISTICS, MALAYSIA, 2021

## LIVE BIRTHS 2020

### LIVE BIRTHS BY SEX



243,617  
(51.8%)

Male babies



226,578  
(48.2%)

Female babies

108 male  
babies per  
100 female  
babies

470,195



### TOTAL FERTILITY RATE

1.7 babies



Born to every woman  
in reproductive  
period  
(15-49 years)

### TRENDING BABY NAME

Bumiputera



Chinese



Yu Chen  
YuXuan

Muhammad Al Fateh  
Ainul Mardhiah

Indians



Darshan  
Janani

Note: Registered name at the National Registration Department

### MEAN AGE OF MOTHER AT FIRST LIVE BIRTH



28.0 years

among 139,501 mothers

## DEATHS 2020

### TODDLER MORTALITY (1-4 years)



3  
deaths  
per 10,000  
population  
1-4 years

### UNDER 5 MORTALITY (<5 years)



69  
deaths  
per 10,000 live  
births

### PERINATAL MORTALITY\* (<7 days)



81  
deaths  
per 10,000  
births

### NEONATAL MORTALITY (<28 days)



39  
deaths  
per 10,000 live  
births

### INFANT MORTALITY (<1 year)



57  
deaths  
per 10,000 live  
births

166,507



### AVERAGE DEATHS

1 death per 3 minutes  
19 deaths per hour  
456 deaths per day

### DEATHS BY SEX



96,322  
(57.8%)

Male



70,185  
(42.2%)

Female

### MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE

24.9 maternal  
deaths per 100,000  
live births



Death of a pregnant  
woman during  
childbirth or until 42  
days after delivery

### STILLBIRTH RATE



51 stillbirths per  
10,000 births

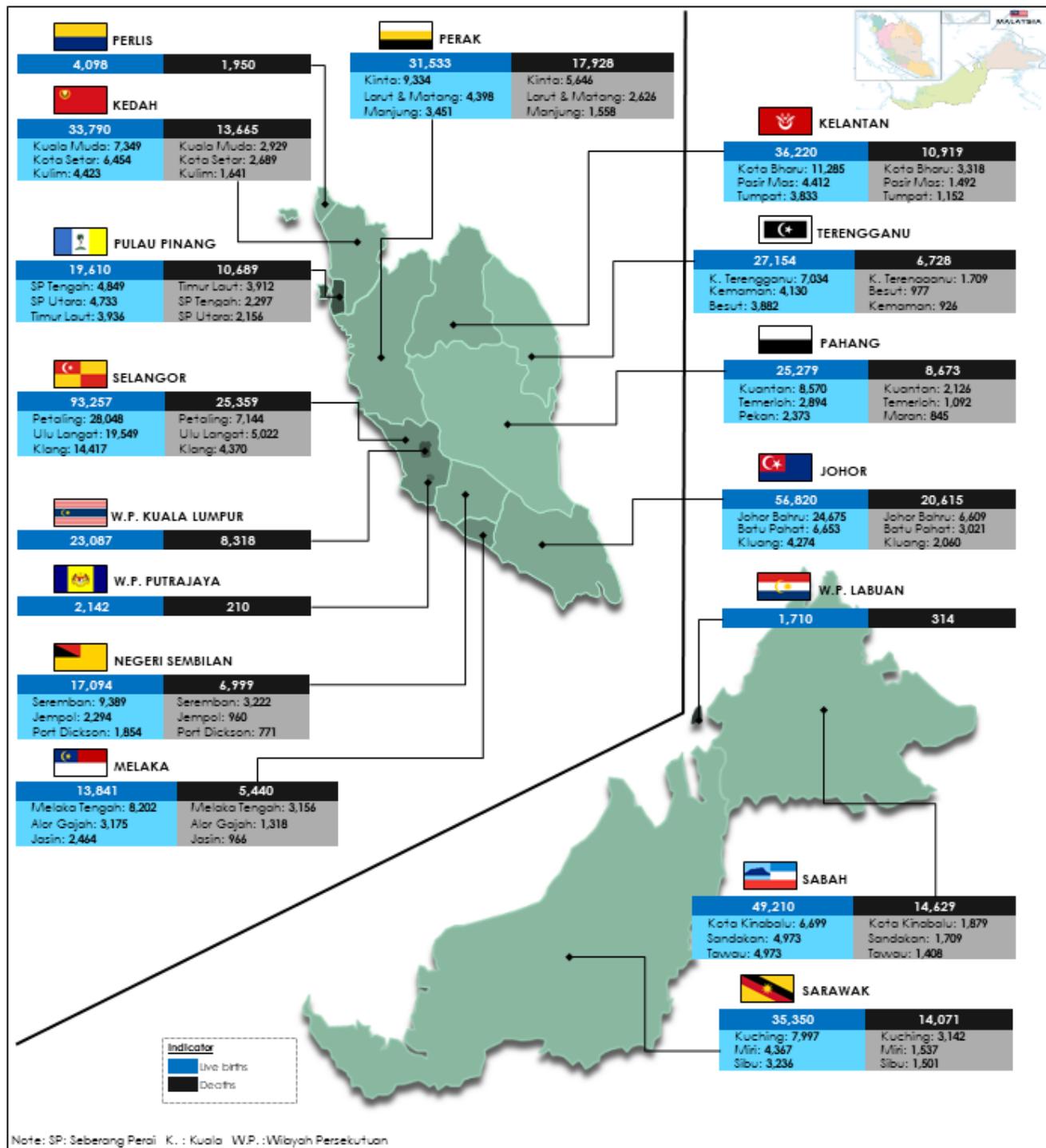
Births after 28  
completed weeks  
or more of  
gestation without  
any sign of life  
during delivery

\* (including stillbirths)

Source: Vital Statistics, Malaysia, 2021  
Department of Statistics Malaysia



## 3 HIGHEST LIVE BIRTHS AND DEATHS BY ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT



**Released By:**

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