MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA STATEMENT
CURRENT POPULATION ESTIMATES, MALAYSIA, 2024

MALAYSIA'S POPULATION EXCEEDS 34.1 MILLION IN 2024 WITH MEDIAN AGE RISES TO 30.9 YEARS

PUTRAJAYA, 31 July 2024 – The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) has released the statistics on the **Current Population Estimates, Malaysia, 2024** today. This report presents the population estimates in Malaysia for 2023 and 2024. The annual current population estimates are based on the Population and Housing Census Malaysia, 2020. The population estimates adopt cohort-component method which comprise births, deaths and migration.

Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin said, "Malaysia's total population in 2024 is estimated at 34.1 million as compared to 33.4 million in 2023 with a growth of 1.9 per cent. The Citizens population increased from 30.4 million in 2023 to 30.7 million in 2024 with a slower growth rate 0.7 per cent from 0.8 per cent in the preceding year. Similarly, Non-citizens showed the same trend with a slower growth rate of 13.6 per cent in 2024 as compared to 17.1 per cent in 2023".

Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin further commented, Sabah (4.0%), W.P. Kuala Lumpur (3.0%), Selangor (2.1%) and Johor (1.9%) have surpassed the national growth rate. The three states with the highest population percentage in 2024 are Selangor (21.6%), followed

by Johor (12.3%) and Sabah (11.0%). Conversely, W.P. Labuan and W.P. Putrajaya recorded the lowest population percentage at 0.3 per cent and 0.4 per cent respectively.

The composition of the population aged 0-14 years (young age) in 2024 decreased to 22.2 per cent as compared to 22.7 per cent in 2023. On the other hand, the composition of population aged 15-64 years (working age) increased from 69.9 per cent in 2023 to 70.1 per cent in 2024. The percentage of the population aged 65 years and over (old age) increased from 7.4 per cent to 7.7 per cent over the same period. The median age of Malaysia's population reached 30.9 years in 2024, up from 30.7 years in the previous year.

The composition of Citizens in 2024 decreased from 91.1 per cent (2023) to 90.0 per cent. Meanwhile, Non-citizens increased to 10.0 per cent from 8.9 per cent over the same period, the highest composition in the last five years, which approaching the level observed during pre-pandemic (2017-2018). This increase was due to the re-opening of the national borders beginning 1 April 2022. In addition, the Labour Recalibration Programme (RTK) was implemented starting November 2020. This was followed by RTK 2.0, that was extended until 31 December 2023, contributed to the increase of current number of Non-citizens in Malaysia.

Bumiputera accounted 70.4 per cent out of 30.7 million Citizens in 2024 (2023: 70.1%). Nevertheless, the composition of the Chinese and Indians decreased to 22.4 per cent (2023: 22.6%) and 6.5 per cent (2023: 6.6%) respectively. Meanwhile, Others remained at 0.7 per cent.

In 2024, males outnumbered females at 17.9 million and 16.2 million respectively. The sex ratio for overall population was 111 males for every 100 females. For the period of 2023-2024, the sex ratio remained 103 males per 100 females for Citizens while Non-citizens increased to 228 from 226 males per 100 females. Overall, all states in Malaysia recorded males exceeding females except for Perlis (99) and W.P. Putrajaya (98). The states that recorded the highest sex ratio were W.P. Kuala Lumpur with 117 males per 100 females, followed by Johor (116), Selangor (115) and Pahang (114).

W.P. Putrajaya recorded the highest composition of young age population (0-14 years) in 2024 at 34.7 per cent. Meanwhile, W.P. Kuala Lumpur recorded the highest number of working age population (15-64 years) with 75.9 per cent. In the previous year, eight states had reached the status of ageing states, where the proportion of the population aged 65 and over (old age) exceeded 7 per cent. These states were Perak, Kedah, Sarawak, Perlis, Pulau Pinang, Selangor, Negeri Sembilan and Johor. Perak remained as the leading ageing states with 9.9 per cent in 2024, while Kelantan has emerged as the newest ageing state, with 7.0 per cent of its population in this age group.

As the population grew, the population density in Malaysia has also increased to 103 persons (2024) compared to 101 persons per square kilometer in 2023. W.P. Kuala Lumpur was the most densely populated state with 8,518 persons per square kilometer, followed by W.P. Putrajaya (2,440 persons) and Pulau Pinang (1,746 persons). Sarawak has the lowest population density with 20 persons per square kilometer, followed by Pahang (46 persons) and Sabah (51 persons).

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

DOSM is conducting the Agriculture Census 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". DOSM commemorates its 75th Diamond Jubilee in 2024.

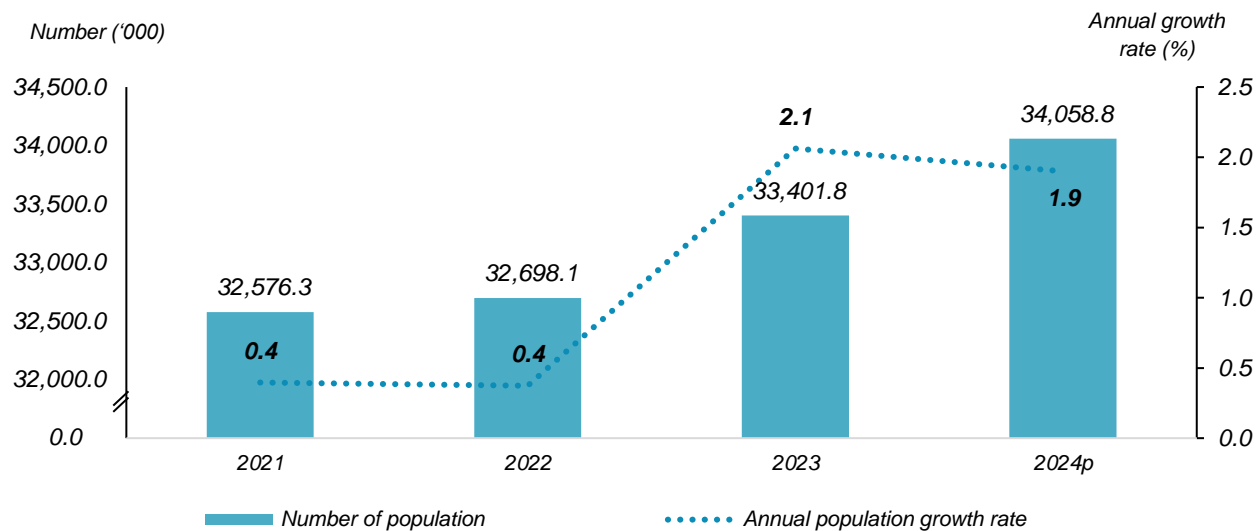### Chart 1: Number and annual population growth rate, Malaysia, 2021-2024

Number ('000)

Annual growth rate (%)

Year	Number ('000)	Annual population growth rate (%)
2021	32,576.3	0.4
2022	32,698.1	0.4
2023	33,401.8	2.1
2024p	34,058.8	1.9

Number of population   Annual population growth rate

Table 1: Number and annual growth rate of population by state, 2023 and 2024ᵖ

State	Number of population (million)		Annual growth rate (%)	
	2023	*2024ᵖ*	*2023*	*2023*
Malaysia	**33.40**	**34.06**	**2.1**	**1.9**
Johor	4.11	4.19	1.9	1.9
Kedah	2.19	2.22	1.2	1.3
Kelantan	1.86	1.89	1.6	1.5
Melaka	1.03	1.05	1.9	1.8
Negeri Sembilan	1.22	1.24	1.4	1.2
Pahang	1.64	1.67	1.8	1.5
Perak	2.54	2.57	1.1	1.1
Perlis	0.29	0.30	1.1	1.3
Pulau Pinang	1.77	1.80	1.8	1.6
Sabah	3.60	3.74	5.2	4.0
Sarawak	2.50	2.52	1.2	0.6
Selangor	7.21	7.36	2.2	2.1
Terengganu	1.21	1.23	2.0	2.0
W.P. Kuala Lumpur	2.01	2.07	2.2	3.0
W.P. Labuan	0.10	0.10	2.2	1.8
W.P. Putrajaya	0.12	0.12	1.5	1.2

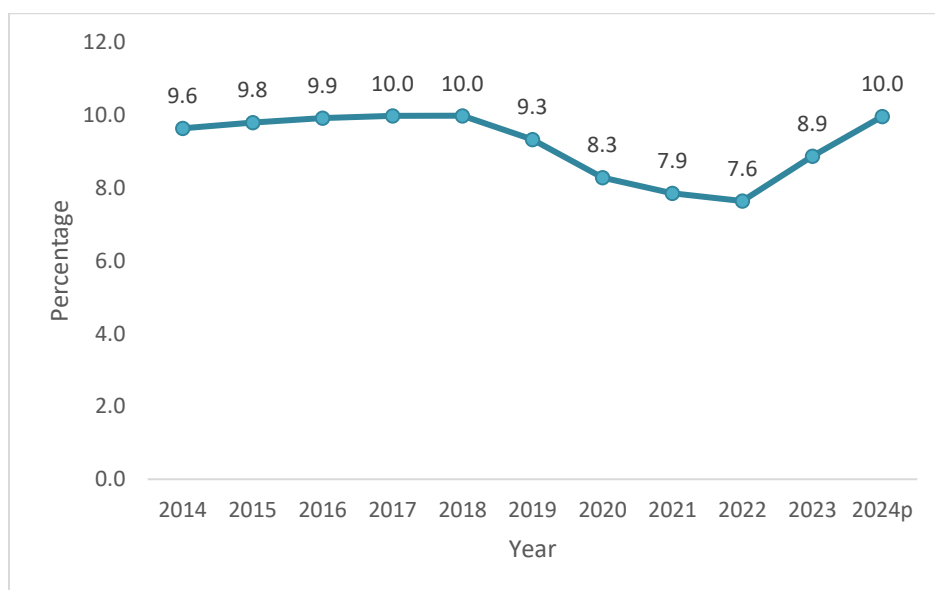**Chart 2:** *Composition of Non-citizens, Malaysia, 2014-2024*[p]

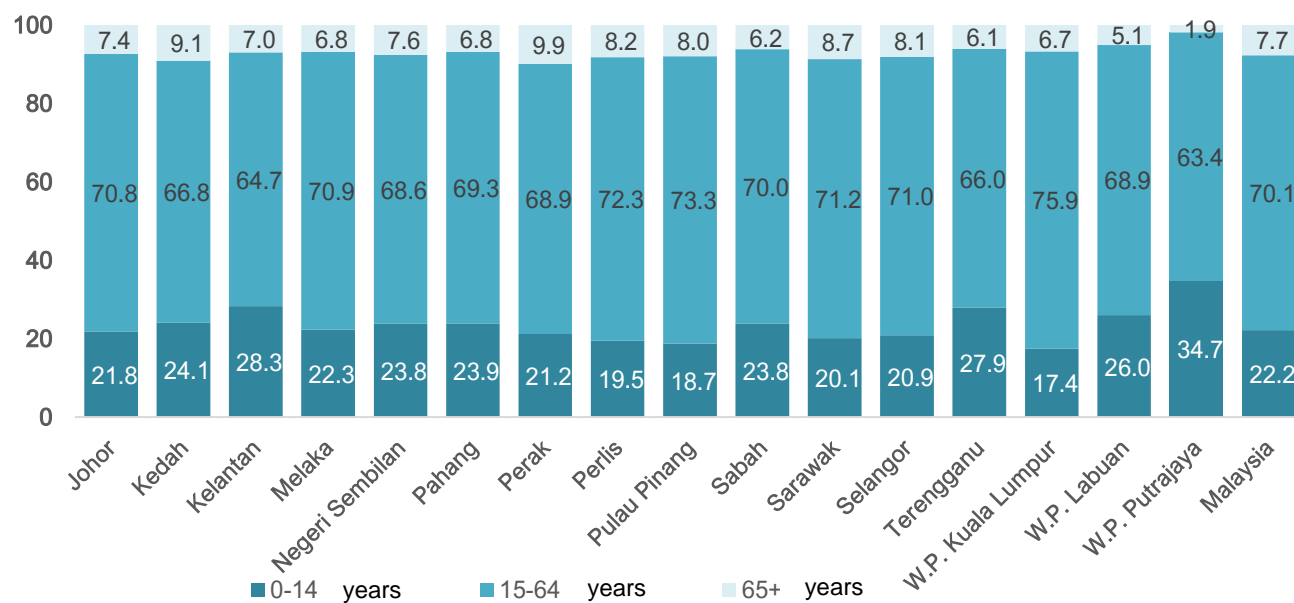**Chart 3: *Percentage of population by age group and state, Malaysia, 2024*[p]**

Table 2: Sex ratio and population density by state, Malaysia, 2023 dan 2024^p

State	Sex ratio		Population density (km^2)	
	2023	2024^p	2023	2024^p
Malaysia	110	111	101	103
Johor	114	116	214	218
Kedah	104	104	230	233
Kelantan	101	101	124	126
Melaka	111	113	586	596
Negeri Sembilan	108	108	183	185
Pahang	113	114	45	46
Perak	109	110	120	122
Perlis	100	99	359	364
Pulau Pinang	105	105	1,719	1,746
Sabah	109	109	49	51
Sarawak	107	107	20	20
Selangor	113	115	908	927
Terengganu	105	106	93	95
W.P. Kuala Lumpur	115	117	8,264	8,518
W.P. Labuan	105	105	1,080	1,100
W.P. Putrajaya	97	98	2,410	2,440