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MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA STATEMENT

SPECIAL REPORT: LIVING QUARTERS MALAYSIA

NUMBER OF LIVING QUARTERS IN MALAYSIA ESTIMATED AT 10.9 MILLION IN 2025, SELANGOR RECORDED THE HIGHEST 2.5 MILLION

PUTRAJAYA, 23 APRIL 2026 – The number of Living Quarters (LQ) in 2025 is estimated at 10.9 million compared to 9.6 million in 2020 with the average annual growth rate of LQ 2.5 per cent. Selangor recorded the highest LQ with 2.5 million in 2025. This was reported in the **Special Report: Living Quarters Malaysia** released today. This report presents statistics covering types of living quarters, reasons for vacancy, ownership status, acquisition, monthly rental rates, utility services (water, electricity, waste collection) as well as access to public facilities presented at administrative districts and local authorities area (LAA) levels.

According to the Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, "From 1970 to 2025, the highest average annual growth rate of LQ was recorded in 1980 (4.5%), while the highest population growth was recorded in 1991 (2.6%). This scenario aligns with Malaysia's demographic transition, which reflects a slowing birth rate, indicating that Malaysia is now entering the fourth phase of demographic transition".

The highest annual growth rate of LQ in 2025 was recorded in W.P. Putrajaya with 4.1 per cent, followed by Johor (3.0%) and Melaka (2.9%). A similar trend was also recorded in 2020 with W.P. Putrajaya recorded 4.4 per cent, while Johor and Melaka registered 3.1 per cent, respectively.

The Chief Statistician further added, "In 2020, Malaysia recorded 9,614,139 LQ, an increase of 2,267,229 as compared to 7,346,910 in 2010, with 81.0 per cent being occupied (2020). Selangor registered the highest number of LQ (2,101,896), followed by Johor (1,244,935) and Perak (808,323) in 2020. At the district level, Petaling, Selangor recorded the highest number of LQ with 679,812, followed by Johor Bahru, Johor (610,314) and Ulu Langat, Selangor (431,574)".

The Chief Statistician explained, "The category of LQ have been classified into landed, high-rise and others based on categories identified in the MyCensus 2020. Landed category recorded the highest percentage at 73.1 per cent, followed by high-rise (22.8%) and others (4.1%). At the state level, landed category dominate the

LQ category in Perlis with 95.6 per cent, followed by high-rise category (W.P. Putrajaya: 78.0%). In addition, the others category dominates in Sarawak (18.5%) where most are longhouse and water village house".

Ownership status of LQ includes individual, individual (rented LQ), government, private, cooperatives and others. Individual recorded the highest percentage at 71.4 per cent, followed by individual (rented LQ) (18.9%), private (3.4%), government (2.8%) and cooperatives (0.4%).

Further elaborating LQ ownership, male head of households dominated ownership at 84.2 per cent compared to female at 15.8 per cent in 2020. Ownership among those aged 20-64 years recorded at 84.7 per cent, while those aged 65 and over accounted for 15.3 per cent. Bumiputera households recorded the highest percentage of LQ ownership at 63.3 per cent, followed by Chinese (29.5%) and Indians (6.7%). In terms of acquisition, financial institution loans accounted for the largest percentage at 45.8 per cent, followed by self-finance/ self-built (32.8%) and gifts/ inheritances (14.4%).

Census findings indicate that 1.5 million households live in rented LQ in 2020. A total of 92.8 per cent of households paid monthly rental rates below RM1,499, followed by 6.2 per cent paying RM1,500-RM2,999 and 1.0 per cent paying above RM3,000. By housing unit category, households renting landed category recorded the highest composition (59.1%) among those paid monthly rental rates below RM1,499, while high-rise category accounted for the highest composition in the RM1,500-RM2,999 and rental rate for RM3,000 and above with 72.8 per cent and 75.6 per cent, respectively.

This report also includes statistics showing 2.2 million population aged 21 years and over responded to the question on plans for LQ ownership. Among them, 37.4 per cent planned to own an LQ in more than 6 years, followed by 0-3 years (32.8%) and 4-6 years (29.8%). Among male, percentage planning to own an LQ within 0-3 years accounted for 32.4 per cent, followed by 4-6 years (30.1%) and more than 6 years (37.5%). The highest percentage of female planning to own an LQ within 0-3 years at 33.2 per cent, followed by more than 6 years (37.3%) and 4-6 years (29.5%).

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) is conducting the **Economic Census 2026 (BE2026)**, with themed **"*Data Nadi Ekonomi Rakyat*"**. The sixth Economic Census, will be carried out from **5th January to 31st October 2026**. BE2026 aims to collect comprehensive and structured data from all registered and unregistered business establishments in Malaysia to assess the nation's economic performance, structure and characteristics in an evidence-based manner.

Malaysia has, for the first time, successfully secured the **top position** globally in the biennial **Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25** report released by Open Data Watch (ODW), surpassing 197 other countries. This achievement marks a significant leap from its 67th position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.

OpenDOSM NextGen is a medium that provides data catalogue and visualisations to facilitate users' analysis and can be accessed through https://open.dosm.gov.my.

DOSM Geohub is a digital mapping platform that enhances access to official national statistics by integrating statistical data with geospatial information. The platform is accessible via the DOSM Geoportal at https://dosmgeoportal.dosm.gov.my/geohub/.

DOSM has also developed the **Life Expectancy Calculator**, which can be accessed via the website http://kalkulator.dosm.gov.my/lifeexpectancy or downloaded as an application through Google Play Store and App Store.

Released by:

THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
23 APRIL 2026

Chart 1: Number of living quarters by state, Malaysia, 2020

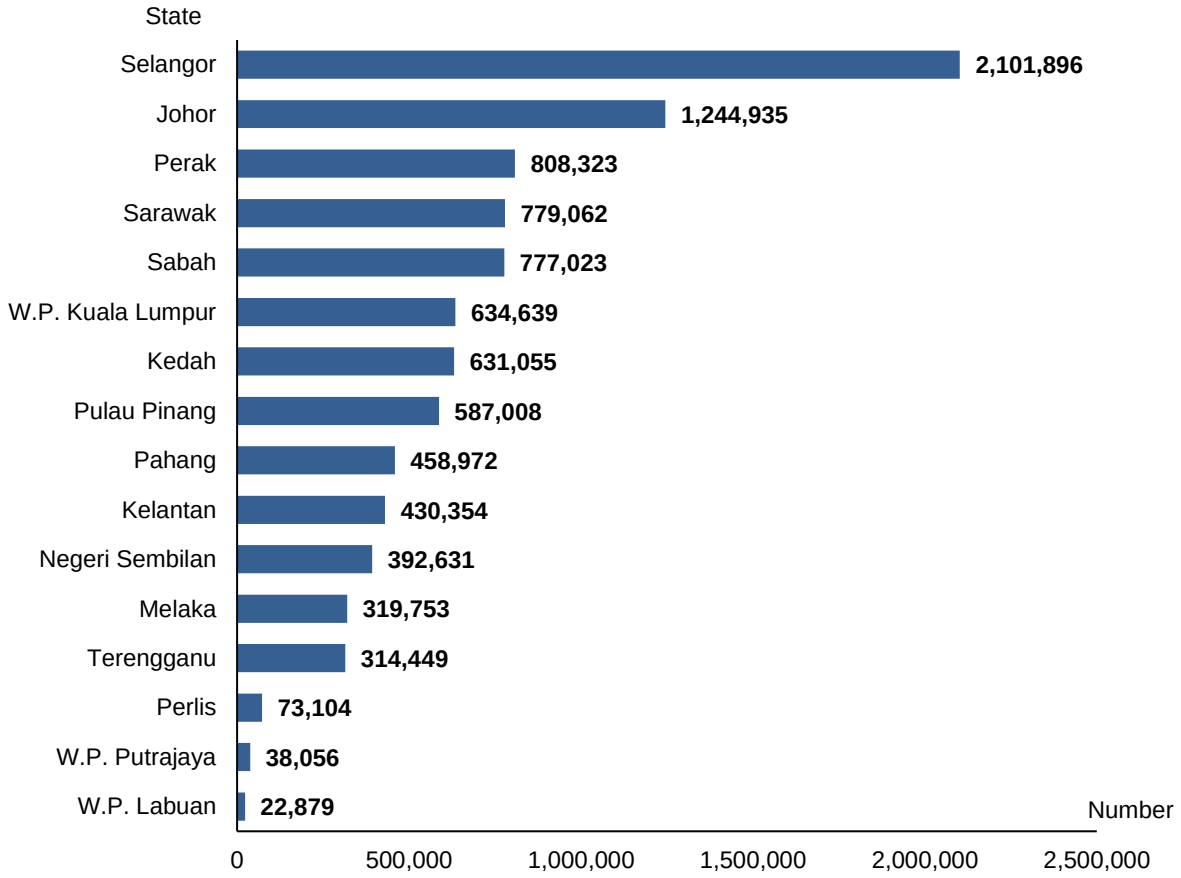


Chart 2: Number of living quarters, living quarters growth rate and population growth rate, Malaysia, 1970-2025

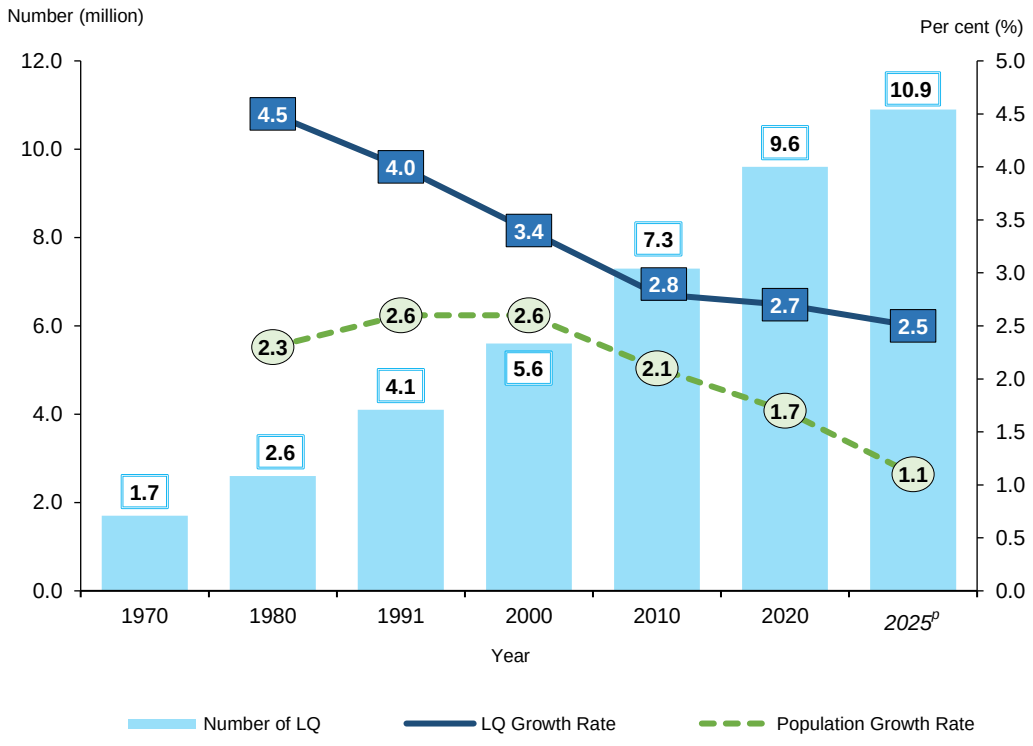


Chart 3: Ownership status of living quarters, Malaysia, 2020

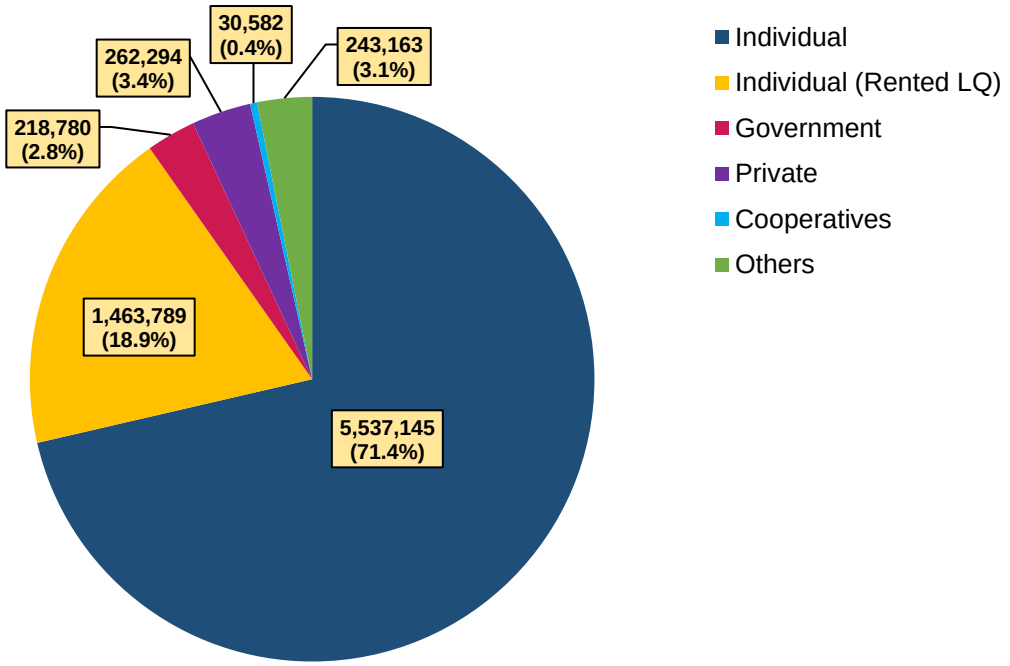
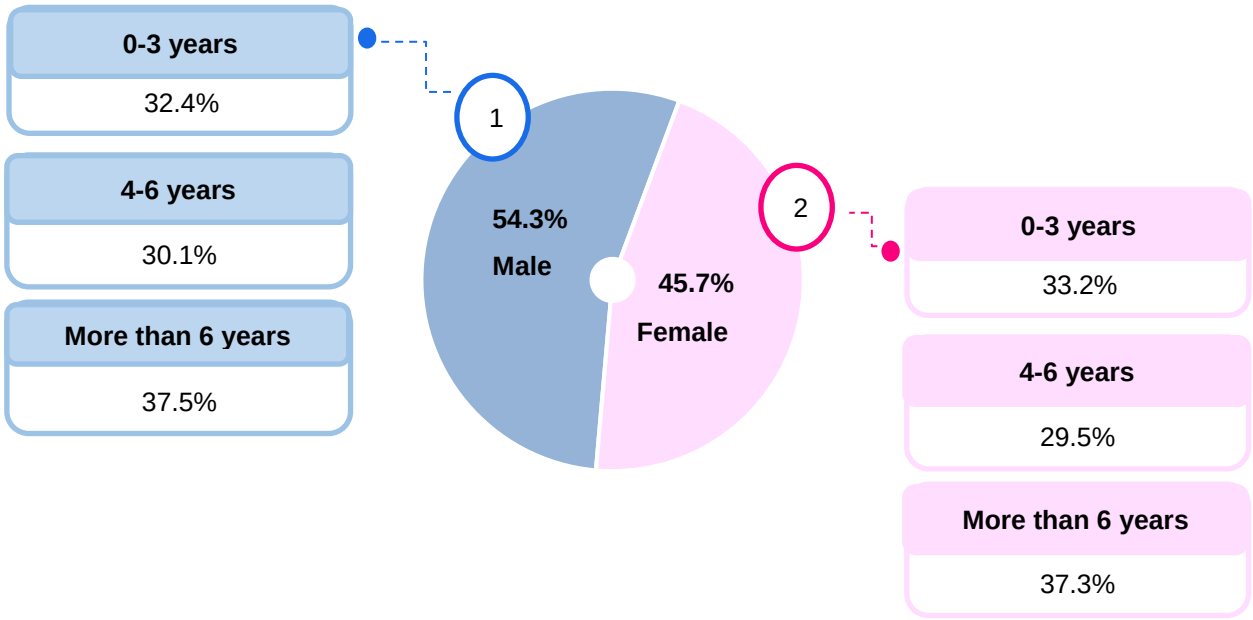


Chart 4: Expected duration to own living quarters by sex, Malaysia, 2020



Note: Statistics refers to respondent who answered 'Yes' for housing demand.