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## IN MALAYSIA, 105 MEN FOR EVERY 100 WOMEN

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PUTRAJAYA, Dec 22 — A preliminary report released today by the National Department of Statistics revealed an overall sex ratio of 105 males for every 100 females in Malaysia.

The Housing and Population Census 2010 report, which was released today, also said that the country's total population in 2010 was 27,565,821 people.

Out of the total population, 14,112,667 are males and 13,453,154 are females.

Johor recorded the highest male to female ratio, with 112 males to 100 females. Putrajaya recorded the lowest with 88 males for every 100 females.

The findings of the Housing and Population Census 2010 found that Selangor is currently the most populous state in Malaysia with 5,411,324 people, which made up 19.63 percent of the country's total population.

The state which recorded the highest population growth during the 2000-2010 period was the Federal Territory of Putrajaya (17.77 per cent) followed by Selangor (3.17 per cent).

The report also revealed a drop in Malaysia's average annual growth rate for the 2000-2010 period.

The findings of the Housing and Population Census 2010 found that the average annual growth rate for Malaysia dropped to 2.17 per cent for the 2000-2010 period. Malaysia's average yearly growth was 2.60 per cent for 1991-2000 and 2.64 per cent for 1980-1991.

Based on this year's census, there are 6,396,174 households and 730,865 living quarters in Malaysia.

The 2010 Population and Housing Census of Malaysia (Census 2010) is the fifth census conducted since the formation of Malaysia in 1963.

The Census 2010 provides information on the characteristics of living quarters, households and population in Malaysia.

The report also showed a decreasing trend in the average household size in the country, with an average of 4.31 per cent in 2010 compared to 4.62 per cent in 2000.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop also said that separate research done by the department found that Malaysia's fertility rate was on a decline.

According to the minister, the country's fertility rate in 2009 was 2.3 per cent, a drop from 3 per cent from the year 2000.

"Based on our calculations, there is a possibility that the country's fertility rate might decline further to 2.1 per cent by 2015. But a lower fertility rate is not a cause for concern, it is a global trend," said Mohamed Yakcop.