



MEDIA STATEMENT

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DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS MALAYSIA, FIRST QUARTER 2025

LIVE BIRTHS DECREASED 11.5 PER CENT TO 93,500, LOWEST EVER RECORDED

PUTRAJAYA, 14th MAY 2025 - Department of Statistics, Malaysia has released the report on Demographic Statistics that presents statistics of live births, deaths and population in the first quarter 2025.

In a statement today, Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin said, "The number of live births recorded a decrease of 11.5 per cent to 93,500 births as compared to 105,613 births in the first quarter 2024. Male babies outnumbered female babies with 48,124 births as compared to 45,376 births. Sex ratio of live births was 106 males per 100 females. Selangor recorded the highest live births with 18,254 births (19.5%) while Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan recorded the lowest with 278 births (0.3%). Mothers aged 30-39 years recorded the highest live births with 49,816 births (53.3%), followed by mothers aged 20-29 years (39.3%), 40 years and over (6.0%) and less than 20 years (1.4%). There were three births by mothers aged 55 years and over. On average, one baby was born per minute, 43 babies per hour and 1,039 babies per day in the first quarter 2025".

In term of ethnicity, Malay contributed 68.8 per cent (64,326 births) of the total live births in the first quarter 2025 (Q1 2024: 67.5%). Live births for Other Bumiputera increased to

12.6 per cent as compared to 12.3 per cent in the first quarter 2024. Meanwhile, Chinese and Indians decreased to 8.6 per cent and 3.8 per cent as compared to 9.6 per cent and 4.2 per cent in the first quarter 2024, respectively. Other Bumiputera consists of Bumiputera Sabah, Bumiputera Sarawak and other Bumiputera Peninsular Malaysia. Bumiputera Sabah contributed 58.8 per cent of Other Bumiputera which comprised Kadazan/ Dusun (34.5%), Bajau (30.4%), Murut (7.3%) and other Sabah Bumiputera (27.8%). Meanwhile, Bumiputera Sarawak recorded 34.6 per cent which comprised Iban (58.7%), Bidayuh (16.0%), Melanau (12.6%) and other Sarawak Bumiputera (12.7%).

Commenting further, a total of 48,130 deaths were recorded in the first quarter 2025, decreased 2.0 per cent as compared to the first quarter 2024 (49,117 deaths). The number of deaths recorded for males were 27,533, while 20,597 deaths for females. Sex ratio of deaths was 134 males per 100 females. Selangor recorded the highest number of deaths with 7,710 deaths (16.0%), while Wilayah Persekutuan Putrajaya recorded the lowest with 84 deaths (0.2%). Population aged 60 years and over recorded the highest number of deaths with 34,468 deaths (71.6%), followed by 41-59 years (19.6%), 15-40 years (6.8%) and 0-14 years (1.9%). There were 5.5 per cent deaths for population aged 90 years and over. On average, one death was recorded in two minutes, 22 deaths per hour and 535 deaths per day in the first quarter 2025.

In term of ethnicity, Malay registered 51.7 per cent (24,865 deaths) of total number of deaths (Q1 2024: 51.3%). Deaths for Other Bumiputera increased to 10.7 per cent as compared to 10.5 per cent in the first quarter 2024. Meanwhile, Chinese and Indians decreased to 26.8 per cent and 8.4 per cent as compared 26.9 per cent and 8.6 per cent in the first quarter 2024, respectively. Bumiputera Sabah contributed 51.5 per cent of Other Bumiputera which comprised Kadazan/ Dusun (38.4%), Bajau (26.2%), Murut (6.7%) and other Sabah Bumiputera (28.7%). Meanwhile, Bumiputera Sarawak recorded 42.2 per cent which comprised Iban (61.5%), Bidayuh (16.5%), Melanau (11.9%) and other Sarawak Bumiputera (10.1%).

In addition, Chief Statistician Malaysia also commented that, "In tandem with the decrease in the number of live births in the first quarter 2025, Malaysia's total population was estimated at 34.2 million as compared to 33.9 million in the first quarter 2024 with a slower growth of 0.9 per cent as compared to 2.0 per cent (Q1 2024). The total population comprised 30.8 million (90.1%) Citizens and 3.4 million (9.9%) Non-citizens. Males population increased to 17.9 million from 17.8 million in the first quarter 2024 and females rose to 16.2 million from 16.1 million in the same period. The overall sex ratio of population was 111 males per 100 females while sex ratio for Citizens was 103 males per 100 females. The composition of old population (65 years and over) increased from 7.6 per cent to 7.7 per cent in the first quarter 2025. Meanwhile, young age population (0-14 years) recorded a decrease from 22.3 per cent to 22.2 per cent. The working age population (15-64 years) remained unchanged at 70.1 per cent during the same period."

Malay accounted 58.1 per cent of the population in the first quarter 2025 (Q1 2024: 58.0%). Indians decreased to 6.5 per cent as compared to 6.6 per cent, while Other Bumiputera and Chinese remained unchanged at 12.3 per cent and 22.4 per cent in the same period, respectively. Bumiputera Sabah contributed 56.6 per cent of Other Bumiputera which comprised Kadazan/ Dusun (31.7%), Bajau (26.5%), Murut (5.1%) and other Sabah Bumiputera (36.7%). Meanwhile, Bumiputera Sarawak (32.4%) comprised Iban (59.1%), Bidayuh (17.1%), Melanau (10.6%) and other Sarawak Bumiputera (13.2%).

The Chief Statistician of Malaysia added that birth rates and total fertility rate (TFR) have been declining globally in recent years, with more countries reporting TFRs below replacement level, which is 2.1 children per woman between the ages of 15-49 years. This phenomenon poses major challenges to demographic structure, economic growth and social balance at the global and national levels.

Several countries such as Republic of Korea, Japan, Singapore, Thailand, China and Russia have experienced a decline in TFR below replacement level, leading to concerns about population ageing, population decline and workforce. Various policies related to population, fertility and family support have been introduced to address this issue.

Republic of Korea has extended the duration of maternity leave to three months, offered paid childcare leave for up to a year, and provided financial incentives and tax deductions. These measures have begun to show positive effects in efforts to boost the country's birth rate. In addition, Thailand also increased tax exemptions for families with two or more children to encourage higher birth rates.

ASEAN-Malaysia 2025 Chairmanship: The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) will chair the 15th ASEAN Community Statistical System Committee (ACSS15) which aims to strengthen the statistical cooperation towards sustainable regional development.

Malaysia has, for the first time, successfully recorded the top position globally in the biennial Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25 report released by Open Data Watch (ODW), surpassing 198 other countries. This achievement marks a significant leap from its 67th position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.

The Government of Malaysia has declared October 20^h as National Statistics Day (MyStats Day), with the theme 'Statistics is the Essence of Life.' Meanwhile, the Fourth World Statistics Day will be celebrated on 20th October 2025, with the theme 'Driving Change with Quality Statistics and Data for Everyone'.

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>.

Chart 1: Live births and deaths (number and rate) by quarterly, 2019-2025^p, Malaysia

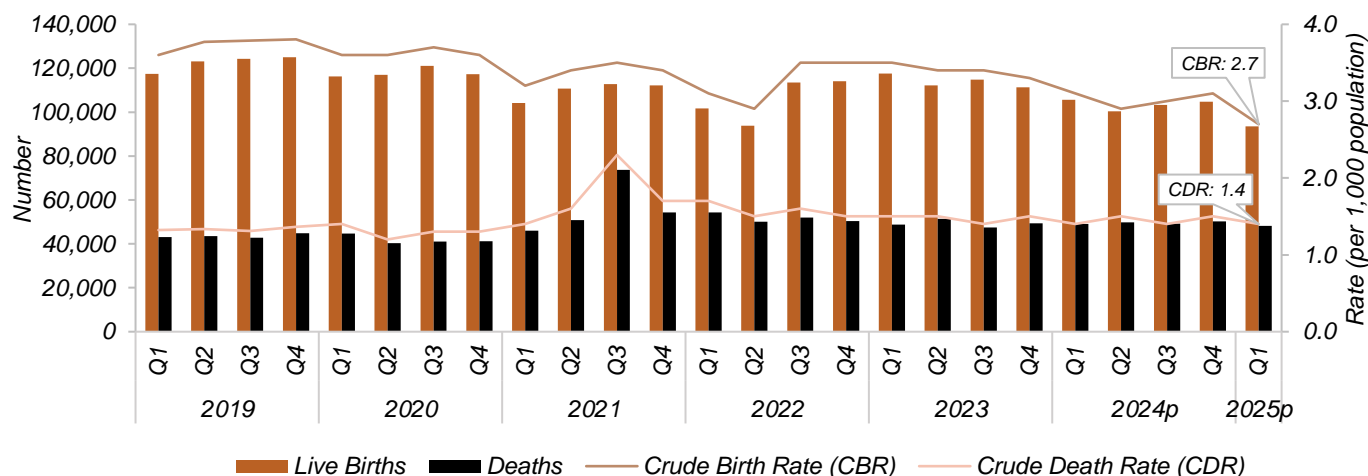


Table 1: Demographic statistics for first quarter, 2024 and 2025, Malaysia

Year	Total		Male		Female	
	Q1 2024	Q1 2025	Q1 2024	Q1 2025	Q1 2024	Q1 2025
Population (million)	33.9	34.2	17.8	17.9	16.1	16.2
Live births	105,613	93,500	54,442	48,124	51,171	45,376
Deaths	49,117	48,130	28,081	27,533	21,036	20,597

Chart 2: Citizens by ethnic group, first quarter 2024 and 2025, Malaysia

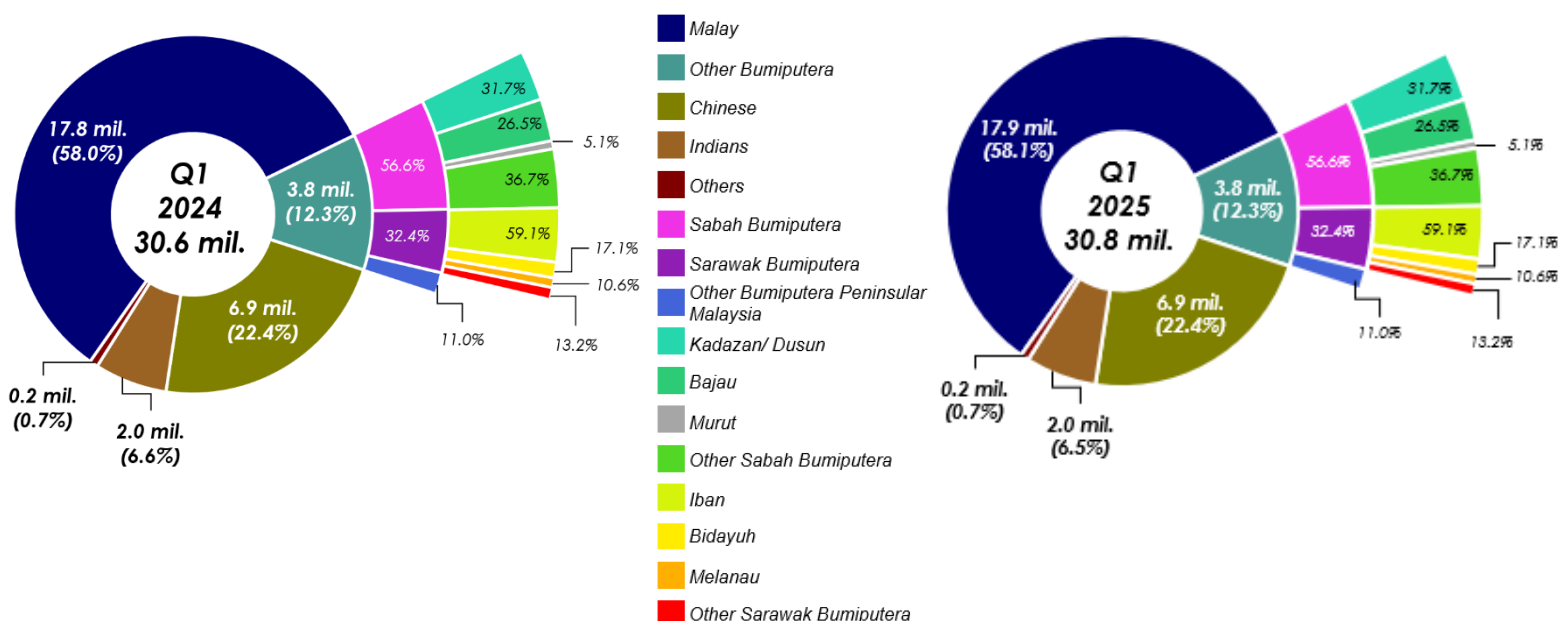


Chart 3: Live births by ethnic group, first quarter 2024 and 2025, Malaysia

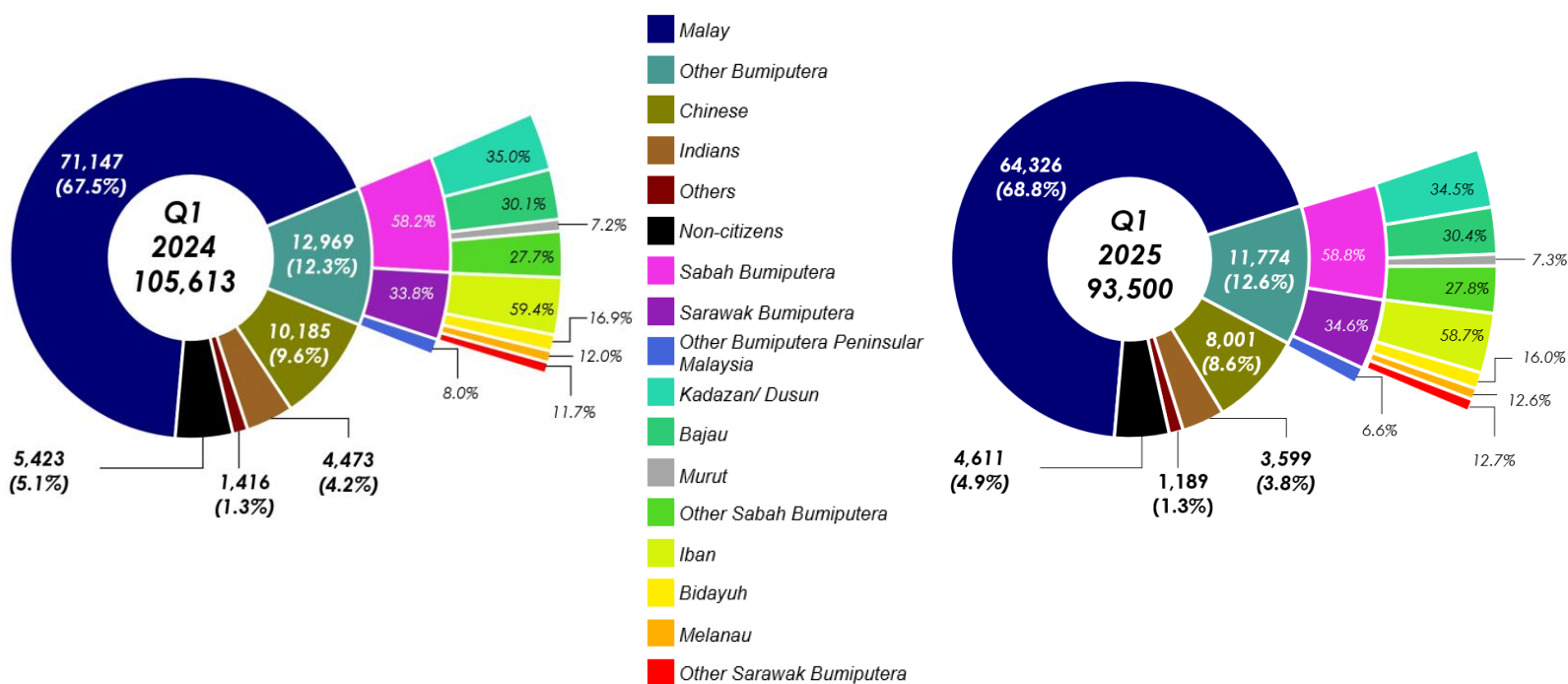


Chart 4: Deaths by ethnic group, first quarter 2024 and 2025, Malaysia

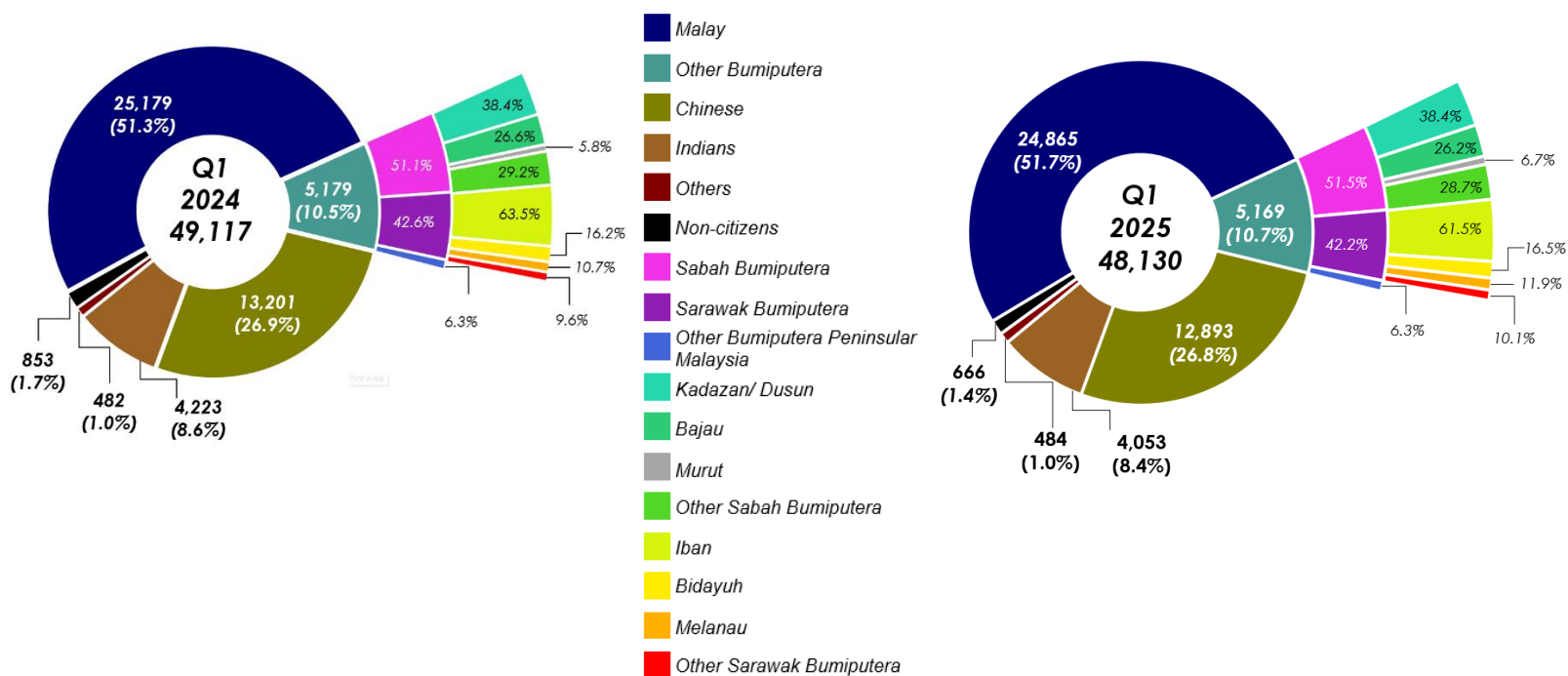
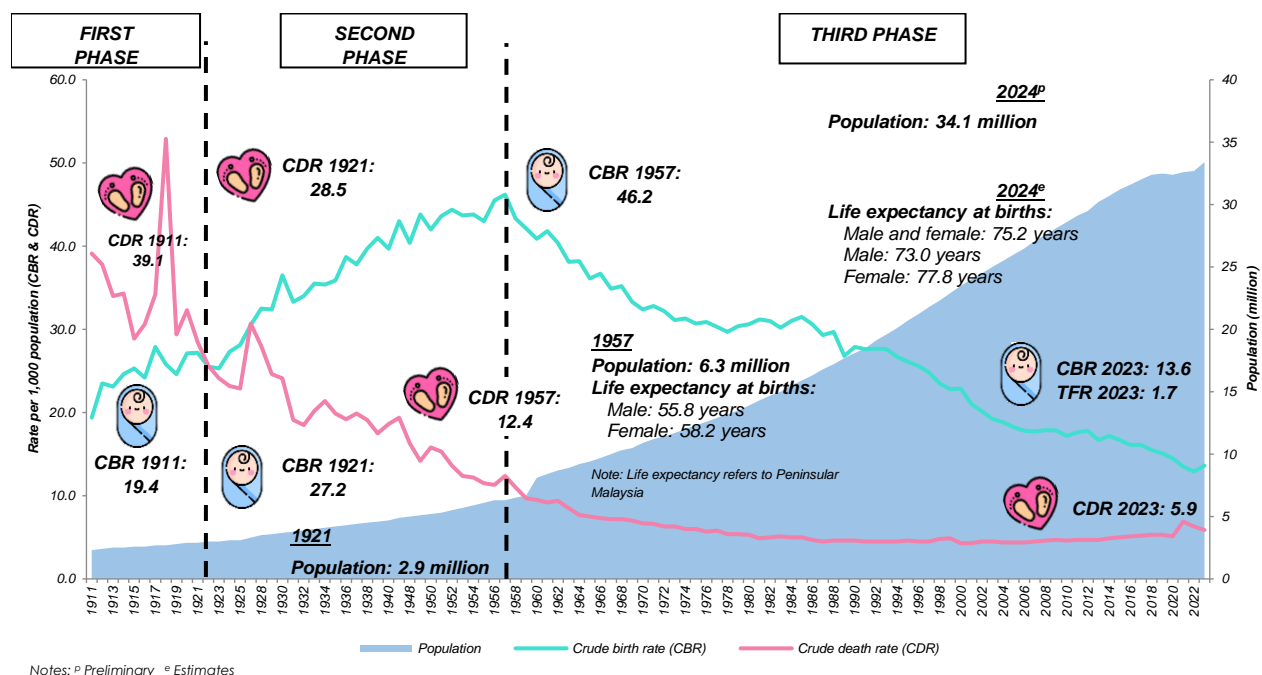


Chart 5: Demographic transition, Malaysia, 1911-2023



Released by:

THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
14th MAY 2025