MEDIA STATEMENT

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POPULATION PROJECTIONS, MALAYSIA, 2020-2060

MALAYSIA'S POPULATION PROJECTED TO REACH ITS PEAK OF 42.38 MILLION IN 2059 AND BEGIN TO DECREASE IN 2060

PUTRAJAYA, JULY 11, 2025 - The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) has released the publication **Population Projections, Malaysia, 2020-2060** in conjuction with World Population Day 2025 with the theme "Empowering young people to create the families they want in a fair and hopeful world". This publication presents statistics on the structure of Malaysia's population over a 40-year period with 2020 as the base. The key statistics are presented at Malaysia and state levels, according to demographic characteristics such as sex, age and ethnic group. These projections serve as a vital input for comprehensive national planning and development.

In a statement today, Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin said, **"Malaysia's population is projected to reach its peak of 42.38 million in 2059, before slowly declining starting 2060 (42.37 million), then to 42.08 million (2065) and 41.43 million (2070).** Although the population will continue to increase from 2020 to 2059, the growth rate is expected to decline sharply from 1.7 per cent in 2020 to just 0.1 per cent in 2060. The population of Kelantan, Pahang, Perak, Terengganu and W.P. Putrajaya are projected to continuously increase over the 40-years period up to 2060. Selangor is projected to remain the most populous state in 2060, with 8.10 million, followed by Johor (4.99 million) and Sabah (4.89 million). **Nine states are expected to reach their peak population before Malaysia (2059)** and the states include W.P. Kuala Lumpur (2031),

Pulau Pinang (2040), W.P. Labuan (2041), Selangor (2049), Johor and Kedah (2052), Negeri Sembilan (2054), and Perlis and Sarawak (2055)".

Both males and females population are projected to consistently increase from 2020 to 2060 and the number of males outnumbers females. Meanwhile, the sex ratio is projected to increase from 110 in 2020 to 114 males per 100 females by 2060.

Bumiputera shows the highest percentage increment by 10.2 percentage points from 69.4 per cent (2020) to 79.4 per cent (2060). In 2060, Chinese and Indians are projected to decline to 14.8 per cent (2020: 23.2%) and 4.7 per cent (2020: 6.7%), respectively. Meanwhile, Others category increased from 0.7 per cent (2020) to 1.0 per cent in 2060.

In addition, Chief Statistician also commented that, "The population aged 0-14 years (young age) is expected to decline from 24.0 per cent (2020) to 16.0 per cent in 2060. The percentage of population aged 15-64 years (working age) increased from 69.2 per cent (2020) to 70.8 per cent (2030). Nevertheless, this percentage is projected to decline between 2040 and 2050, and is expected to decrease to 65.7 per cent by 2060. The composition of the population aged 65 years and over (old age) is expected to increase to 18.3 per cent in 2060 from 6.8 per cent in 2020. Malaysia became an Ageing Society in 2021 and is expected to become an Aged Society by 2048, with the population aged 65 and over exceeding 7 per cent and 14 per cent, respectively. According to the National Policy for Older Persons (DWEN), a country is considered an ageing nation when 15 per cent of its population is aged 60 and over. Malaysia is expected to achieve this milestone by the year 2036".

All states recorded an increase in the percentage of the working age group by 2030, except for Pulau Pinang, Perlis and Terengganu. W.P. Putrajaya registers the highest working age group percentage with an increase of 13.6 percentage points to 74.2 per cent in 2030 from 60.6 per cent (2020). W.P. Kuala Lumpur shows the lowest percentage of the young age population in 2060, at 9.1 per cent. In the same period, the highest old age population percentage is W.P. Kuala Lumpur at 26.2 per cent, followed by Selangor (25.2%) and Pulau Pinang (23.5%). These three states will be classified as Super-aged Society, where

the old age population exceeds 20 per cent. Meanwhile, other states are expected to reach the Aged Society phase by 2060, with the population of 65 years and over exceeding 14 per cent, except for Kelantan and Terengganu.

Malaysia is projected to enter fifth demographic phase in 2052, when the crude death rate (CDR) equals or exceed the crude birth rate (CBR). In this phase, population growth decline significantly and begins to record negative values.

In conjunction with World Population Day 2025, the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) has also developed the Population Projections Dashboard, accessible via https://www.dosm.gov.my/UnjuranPenduduk. This dashboard is an interactive platform that visualizes demographic statistics, including data by sex, citizenship, ethnic group, age group and ageing status of the population. In addition, DOSM has also launched the Life Expectancy Calculator, accessible via the website http://kalkulator.dosm.gov.my/lifeexpectancy or installable as an application through Google Play Store. This interactive tool estimates a user's life expectancy based on year of birth, ethnic group, gender and location, which represents the average remaining years an individual is projected to live from a specific starting age, assuming constant mortality rates across all age cohorts throughout the lifespan.

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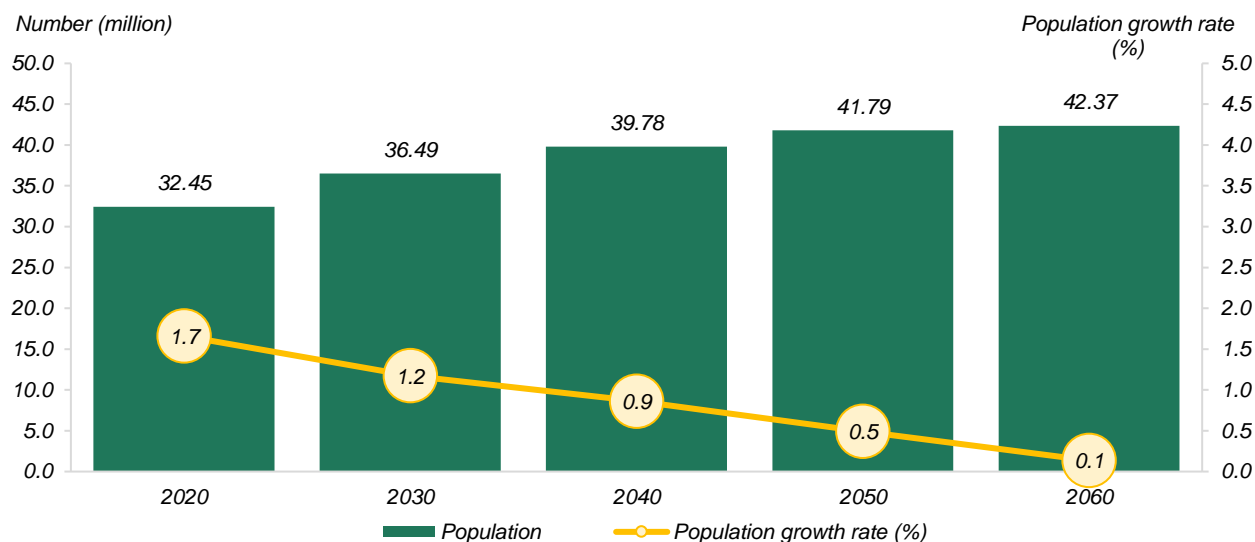
Malaysia has, for the first time, successfully secured the top position globally in the biennial Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25 report released by Open Data Watch (ODW), surpassing 198 other countries. This achievement marks a significant leap from its 67th position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.

The Government of Malaysia has declared October 20th 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: Number of population and annual population growth rate, Malaysia, 2020-2060

Number (million)

Population growth rate (%)

32.45 — 1.7
36.49 — 1.2
39.78 — 0.9
41.79 — 0.5
42.37 — 0.1

2020 2030 2040 2050 2060

■ Population —○— Population growth rate (%)

Table 1: Number of population by state, Malaysia, 2020-2060

('000)

State	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	Peak population	
						Year	Population
Malaysia	**32,447.4**	**36,493.0**	**39,784.9**	**41,794.7**	**42,368.0**	**2059**	**42,379.6**
Johor	4,009.7	4,490.6	4,880.9	5,047.2	4,994.6	2052	5,052.6
Kedah	2,131.4	2,365.4	2,539.6	2,605.4	2,578.0	2052	2,606.8
Kelantan	1,792.5	2,145.7	2,617.4	3,058.0	3,484.5	>2060	>3,484.5
Melaka	998.4	1,138.4	1,263.1	1,340.6	1,365.2	2059	1,365.7
Negeri Sembilan	1,200.0	1,326.5	1,432.2	1,488.9	1,480.0	2054	1,493.8
Pahang	1,591.3	1,807.2	2,064.5	2,303.7	2,488.2	>2060	>2,488.2
Perak	2,496.0	2,708.6	2,918.5	3,061.9	3,119.1	>2060	>3,119.1
Perlis	284.9	317.7	345.6	355.8	355.7	2055	357.1
Pulau Pinang	1,740.4	1,909.9	1,984.0	1,936.6	1,808.6	2040	1,984.0
Sabah	3,418.8	4,046.8	4,495.5	4,794.4	4,890.5	2059	4,891.7
Sarawak	2,453.7	2,691.1	2,910.3	3,016.0	3,019.3	2055	3,029.9
Selangor	6,994.4	7,799.2	8,233.4	8,364.2	8,102.7	2049	8,366.4
Terengganu	1,149.4	1,401.1	1,697.0	1,987.5	2,291.2	>2060	>2,291.2
W.P. Kuala Lumpur	1,982.1	2,087.2	2,069.7	2,008.2	1,878.7	2031	2,087.9
W.P. Labuan	95.1	106.0	110.1	108.3	101.0	2041	110.1
W.P. Putrajaya	109.2	151.6	222.9	318.1	410.9	>2060	>410.9

Table 2: Population by sex and sex ratio, Malaysia, 2020-2060

Sex	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060
Male ('000)	16,966.2	19,241.0	21,091.0	22,232.4	22,547.6
Female ('000)	15,481.2	17,252.0	18,693.9	19,562.4	19,820.4
Sex ratio	110	112	113	114	114

Chart 2: Number of population by state, Malaysia, 1970-2070
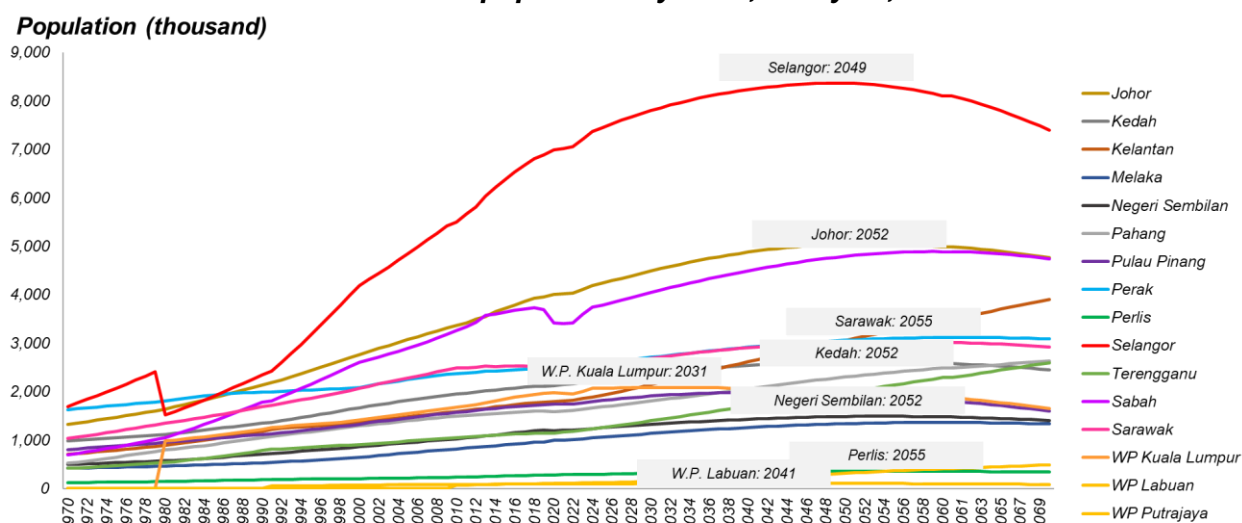
Chart 3: Number of population by ethnic group, Malaysia, 1970-2070
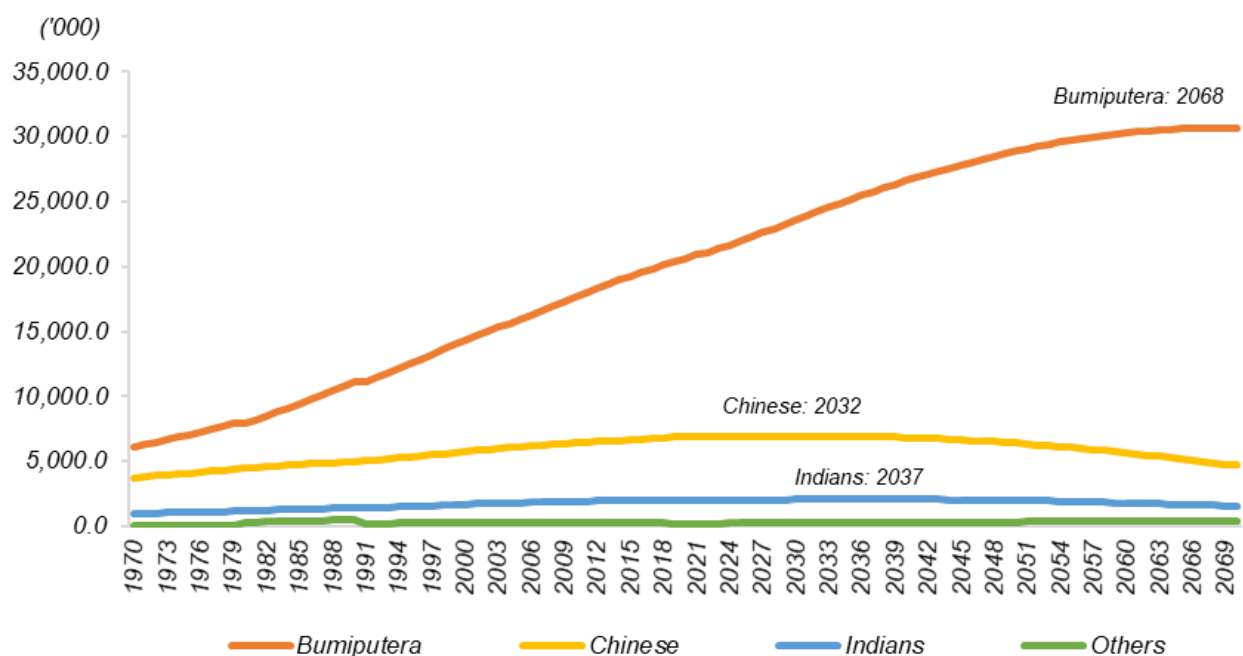
Chart 4: Life expectancy by state, Malaysia, 1991-2060

W.P. Labuan, 80.6 years, 2060

Malaysia, 77.2 years, 2060

Sarawak, 71.2 years, 1991

Malaysia, 69.2 years, 1991

Perak, 68.1 years, 1991

Terengganu, 74.0 years 2060

Legend: Malaysia, Johor, Kedah, Kelantan, Melaka, Negeri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Perlis, Pulau Pinang, Sabah, Sarawak
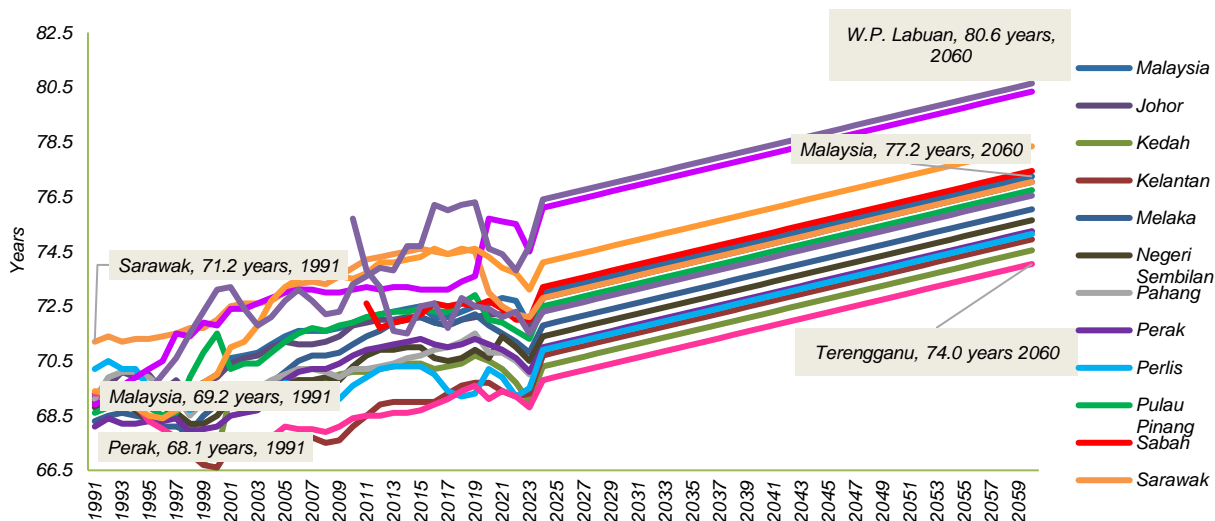
Chart 5: Life expectancy by ethnic group, Malaysia, 1991-2060

Chinese, 78.7 years, 2060

Malaysia, 77.2 years, 2060

Chinese, 70.7 years, 1991

Malaysia, 69.2. years, 1991

Others ethnic, 69.6 years, 2060

Others ethnic, 54.2 years, 1991

Legend: Malaysia (Total), Malaysia (Bumiputera), Malaysia (Chinese), Malaysia (Indians)
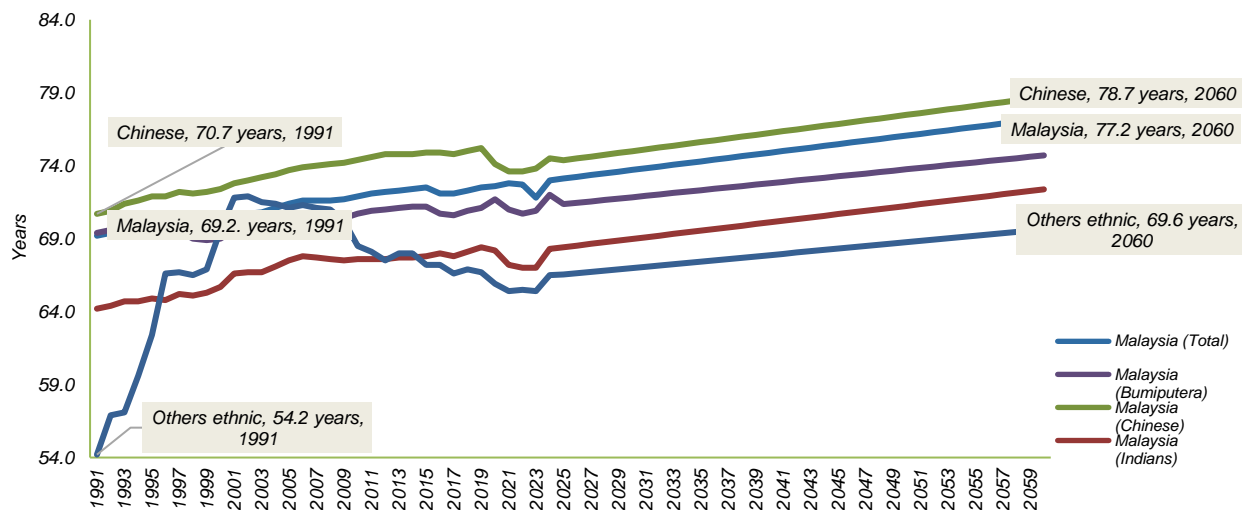
Chart 6: Composition of Citizens population by ethnic group, Malaysia, 2020-2060

(%)

Year	Bumiputera	Chinese	Indians	Others
2020	69.4	23.2	6.7	0.7
2030	71.8	21.1	6.3	0.8
2040	74.3	19.1	5.8	0.8
2050	76.8	17.0	5.3	0.9
2060	79.4	14.8	4.7	1.0

■ Bumiputera ■ Chinese ■ Indians ■ Others
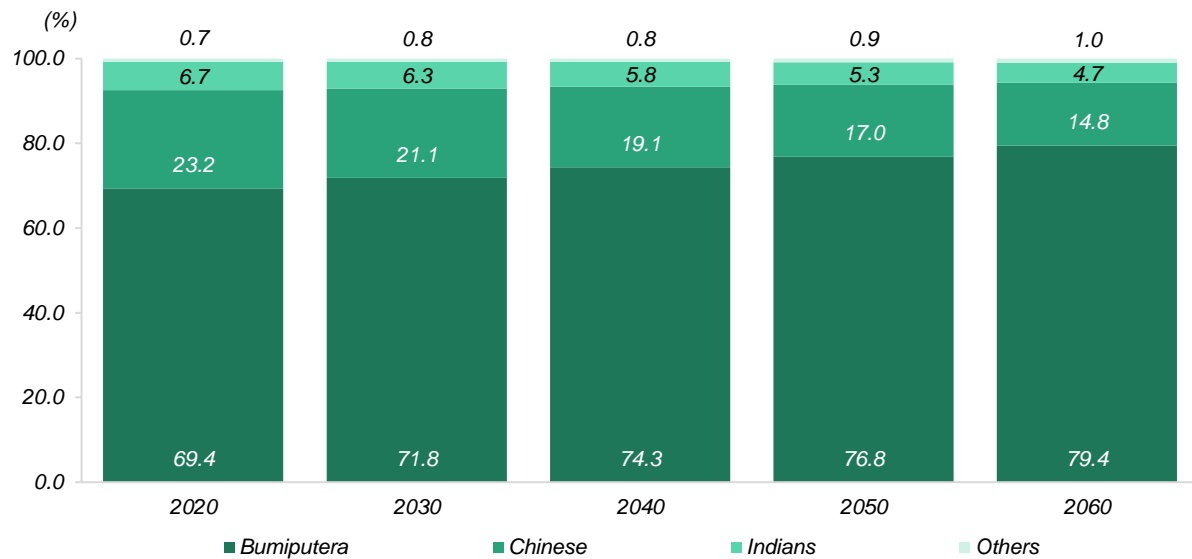
Chart 7: Composition of population by age group, Malaysia, 2020-2060

(%)

Year	0-14 years	15-64 years	65 years and over
2020	24.0	69.2	6.8
2030	19.9	70.8	9.3
2040	18.1	70.3	11.6
2050	16.8	68.1	15.1
2060	16.0	65.7	18.3

■ 0-14 years ■ 15-64 years ■ 65 years and over
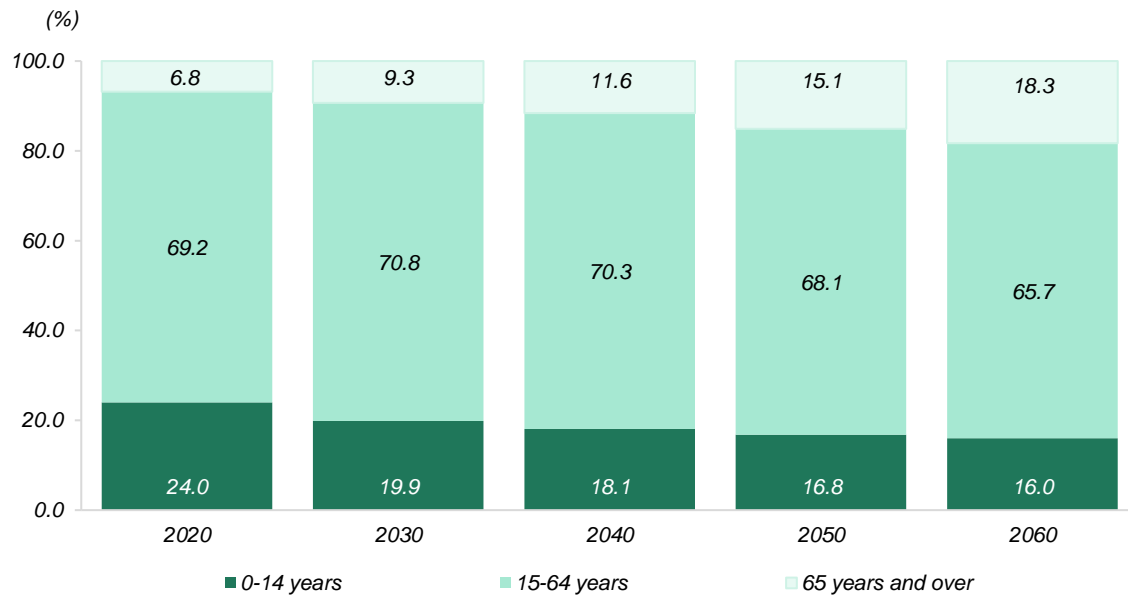
Exhibit 1: Number and percentage of population aged 60 years and over and 65 years and over, Malaysia, 2020-2060

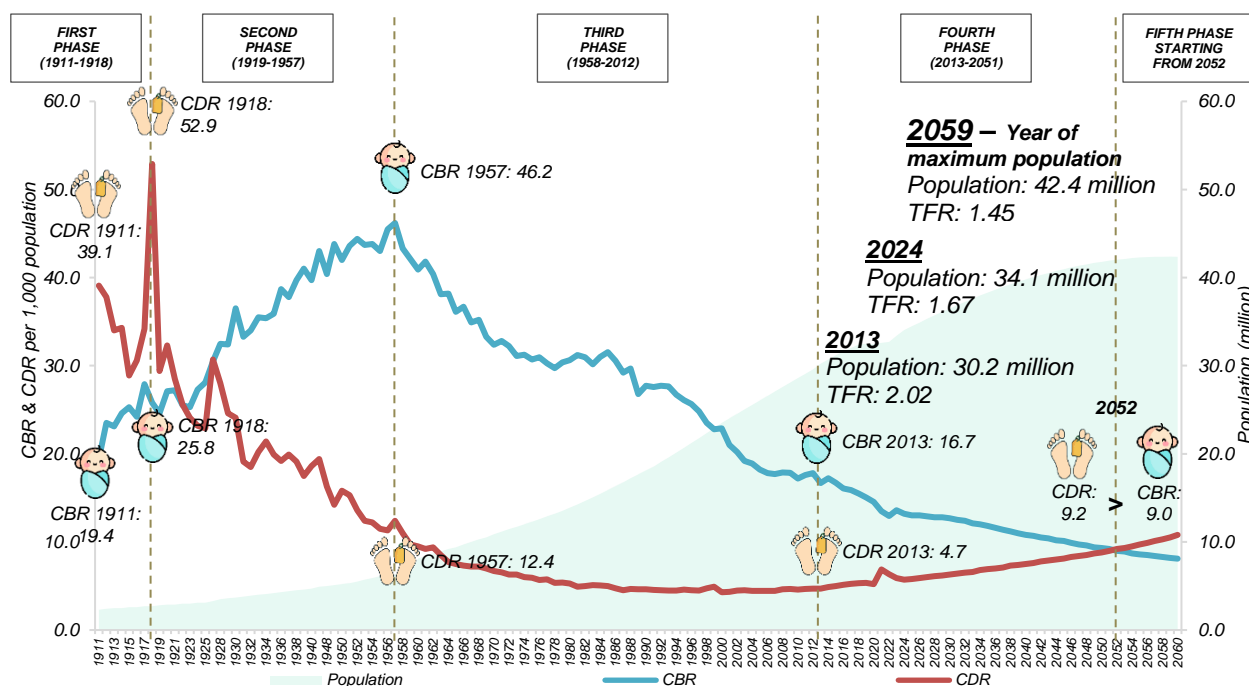**+ 13.9%**

Population 60 years and over

2020 3.3 million (10.3%)	2030 4.9 million (13.3%)	2040 6.5 million (16.5%)	2050 8.8 million (21.0%)	2060 10.3 million (24.2%)

2020 2.2 million (6.8%)	2030 3.4 million (9.3%)	2040 4.6 million (11.6%)	2050 6.3 million (15.1%)	2060 7.8 million (18.3%)

Population 65 years and over

+ 11.6%
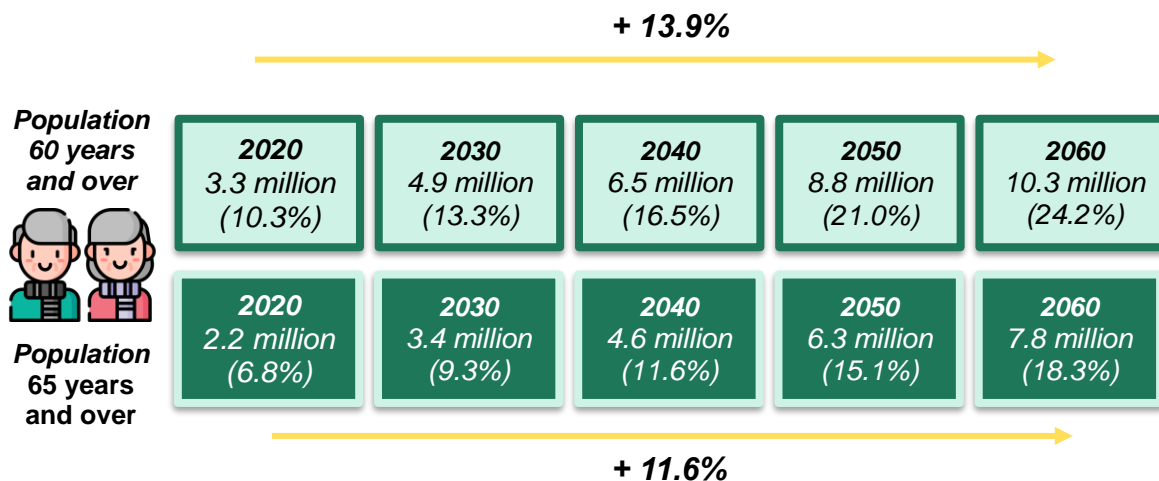
Chart 8: Demography transition, Malaysia, 1911-2060

FIRST PHASE (1911-1918) | SECOND PHASE (1919-1957) | THIRD PHASE (1958-2012) | FOURTH PHASE (2013-2051) | FIFTH PHASE STARTING FROM 2052

CDR 1918: 52.9

CBR 1957: 46.2

CDR 1911: 39.1

CBR 1918: 25.8

CBR 1911: 19.4

CDR 1911: 10.0

CDR 1957: 12.4

2059 – Year of maximum population
Population: 42.4 million
TFR: 1.45

2024
Population: 34.1 million
TFR: 1.67

2013
Population: 30.2 million
TFR: 2.02

CBR 2013: 16.7

CDR 2013: 4.7

2052

CDR: 9.2 > CBR: 9.0

CBR & CDR per 1,000 population

Population (million)

Population — CBR — CDR

Released by:

THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
11 JULY 2025