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MEDIA STATEMENT

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MALAYSIA'S BALANCE OF PAYMENTS STATISTICS THIRD QUARTER OF 2025

Malaysia's Services trade returned to surplus after 56 quarters, supporting a RM12.2 billion Current account surplus in Q3 2025

PUTRAJAYA, 14 NOVEMBER 2025 – Malaysia continued to record a surplus in the **Current Account Balance (CAB)** in the third quarter of 2025, amounting to RM12.2 billion, supported by resilient goods exports and an improving services sector. The Services sector posted a surplus for the first time in 14 years, marking a recovery since 2011. The **Financial account** registered a net outflow of RM11.2 billion, primarily from Portfolio investment. These statistics were released today by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) as part of the **Balance of Payments and International Investment Position (IIP) Statistics, Third Quarter 2025**, summarising Malaysia's economic interactions and financial linkages with international economies.

In commenting on Malaysia's external sector performance, Chief Statistician Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin highlighted that the **Goods account** recorded a net export surplus of RM33.3 billion in the third quarter of 2025, almost doubling the RM17.0 billion recorded in the previous quarter. Exports of goods expanded by 4.3 per cent quarter-on-quarter to RM293.6 billion. The increase was mainly driven by higher exports of Electrical and

electronics (E&E) products, Petroleum products, and Palm oil & palm oil-based products, primarily destined for Singapore, the United States of America (USA), and China. Conversely, imports of goods fell by 1.6 per cent to record RM260.3 billion. The main category of imports comprised Intermediate goods, followed by Capital and Consumption goods, primarily sourced from China, Taiwan, and Singapore.

Notably, the **Services account** registered a surplus of RM0.7 billion in the third quarter of 2025, reversing the deficit of RM3.3 billion recorded in the previous quarter. This marks a significant milestone after 56 quarters since surplus in Q3 2011, buoyed by robust growth in the Travel component. Exports of services amounted to RM68.6 billion, while imports totalled RM67.9 billion. Travel receipts surged by 11.8 per cent from the previous quarter to RM29.0 billion, elevated by higher international visitor arrivals. At the same time, imports of Travel rose 9.8 per cent to RM15.9 billion, following greater outbound education-related spending. As a result, the Travel component recorded a higher net surplus of RM13.1 billion. Besides Travel, Construction and Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others also contributed positively to the Services account. Construction recorded a surplus of RM0.6 billion owing to higher exports valued at RM2.6 billion, while imports declined to RM2.0 billion. Meanwhile, Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others registered a surplus of RM4.1 billion, as exports of RM5.4 billion exceeded imports of RM1.3 billion.

“From the income standpoint, the **Primary income account** posted a deficit of RM19.9 billion as against RM8.9 billion in the previous quarter. This reflected lower income generated from Malaysia’s investments abroad, which fell to RM19.0 billion, mainly from Direct and Portfolio Investments. Simultaneously, income generated by foreign investors in Malaysia rose to RM38.9 billion, led by stronger returns in the same investment categories. On the other hand, the **Secondary income account** recorded an improvement, with the deficit narrowing to RM1.8 billion from RM4.6 billion, mainly due to increased remittances and income inflows into the country.” he said.

*Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin also added, "The **Financial account** registered a net outflow of RM11.2 billion, compared to RM2.2 billion in the previous quarter. The higher outflow was mainly attributed to Portfolio investment valued at RM28.0 billion, reflecting bonds redemptions by non-residents upon maturity, coupled with increased investment in foreign securities by Malaysian investors. Financial derivatives also recorded net outflows of RM0.8 billion while net inflows were observed in Other investment RM10.9 billion and Direct investment RM6.8 billion."*

***Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)** into Malaysia posted a net inflow, rising from RM1.6 billion to RM8.5 billion in the third quarter of 2025. The increase was primarily supported by larger equity injections. Most FDI inflows were channelled into the Services sector, particularly within the Information & communication and Financial activities subsectors, notably linked to data centre activities. The major investors of FDI were from Singapore, China and Japan. Meanwhile, **Direct Investment Abroad (DIA)** registered a net outflow of RM1.7 billion from a net inflow of RM0.6 billion in the preceding quarter. The inflows were driven by equity liquidations and reinvestment of earnings, mainly in the Services sector, with the majority concentrated in Wholesale & retail trade subsector. Singapore, Thailand and Angola were the main contributors to DIA inflows during the quarter.*

*As at the end of third quarter 2025, **Malaysia's International Investment Position (IIP)** posted a higher net asset of RM77.3 billion. The total financial assets position reached RM2.59 trillion, surpassing total liabilities of RM2.51 trillion. The cumulative investments for **FDI** and **DIA** were RM1,021.5 billion and RM615.8 billion, respectively. Asia remained the top region for both investments, with FDI largely from Singapore and Hong Kong while DIA significantly invested in Singapore and Indonesia. In addition, **Malaysia's International Reserves** stood at RM520.8 billion as at end-September 2025.*

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>

Chart 1 (a): Current Account Balance (CAB), 2010 - 2024

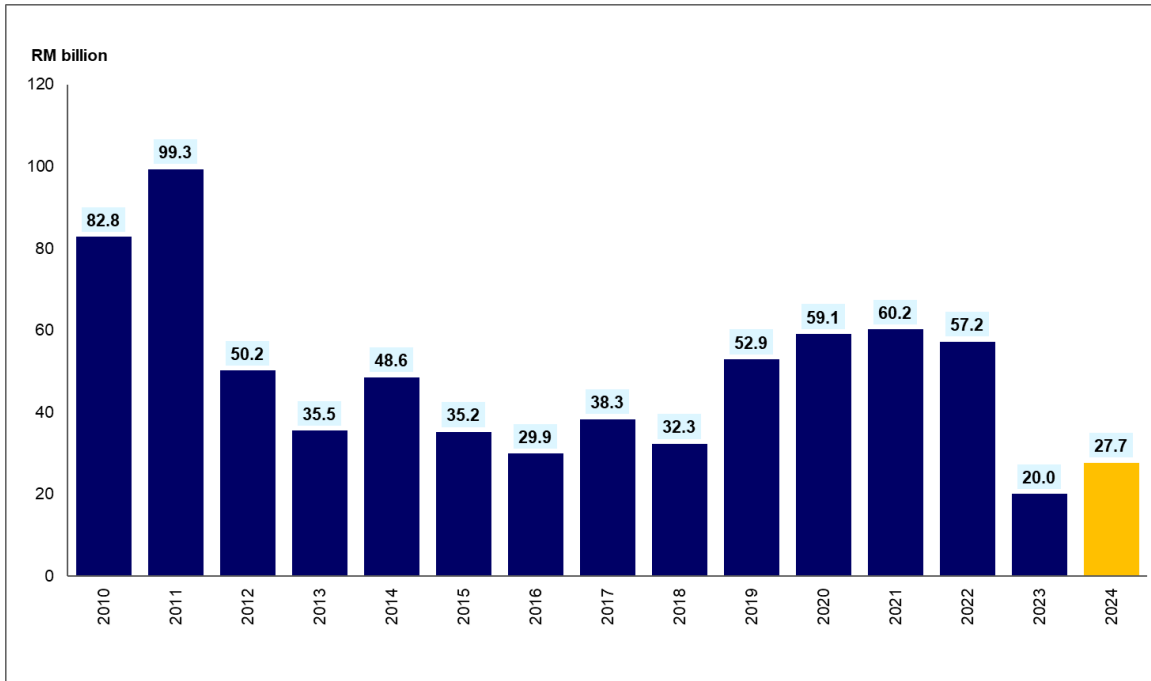


Chart 1 (b): Current Account Balance (CAB), Q1 2019 – Q3 2025

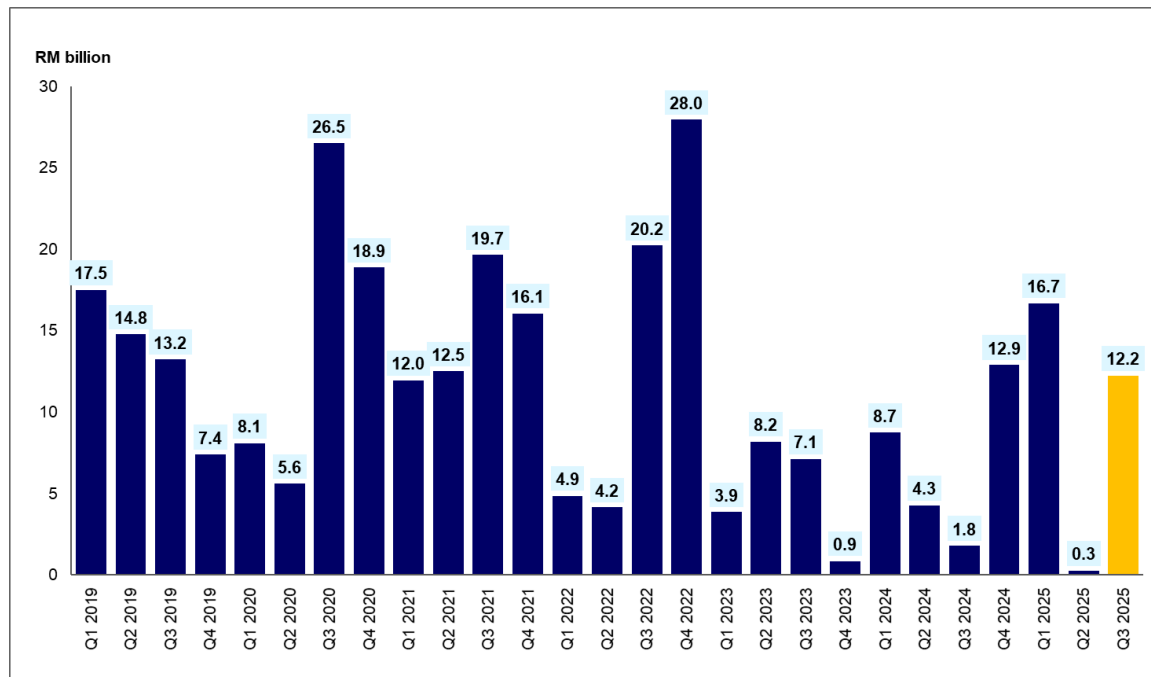


Chart 2 (a): Percentage CAB to GDP, 2010 – 2024

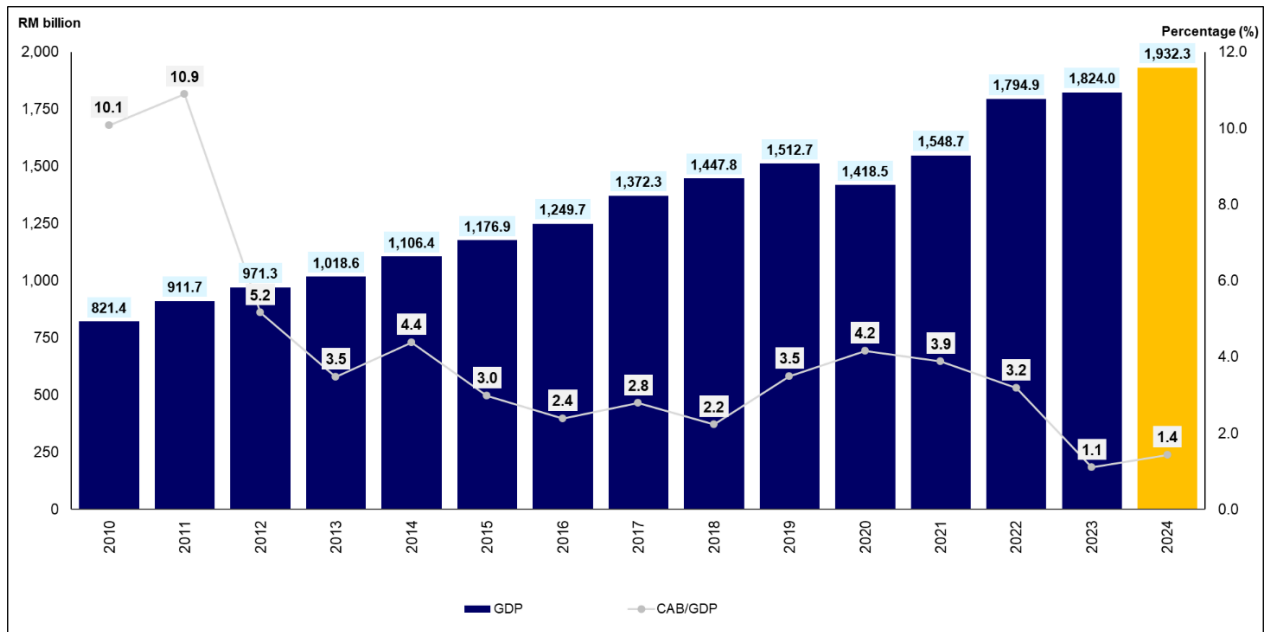


Chart 2 (b): Percentage CAB to GDP, Q1 2019 – Q3 2025

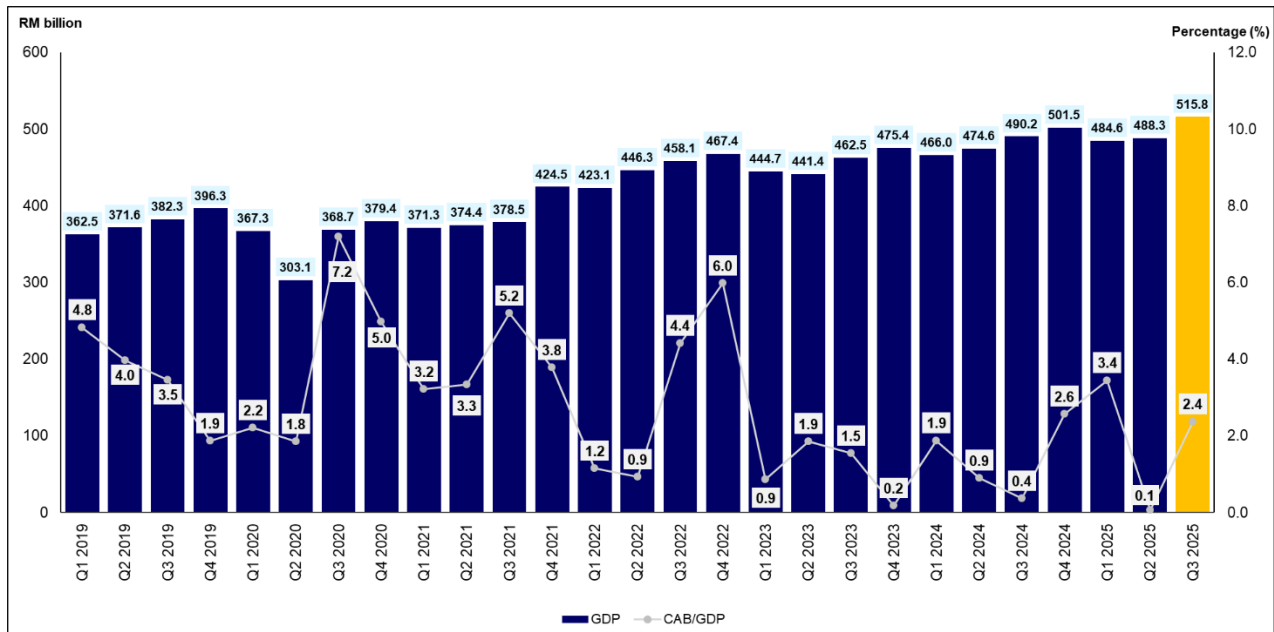


Chart 3 (a): Exports of Services, 2010 – 2024

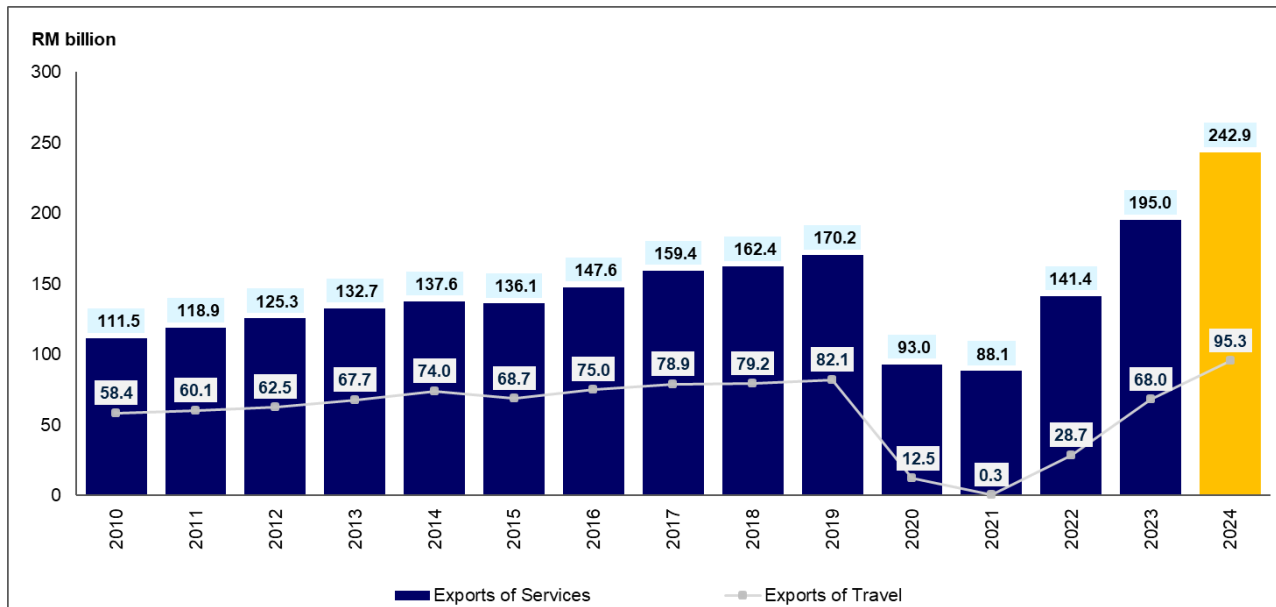


Chart 3 (b): Exports of Services, Q1 2019 – Q3 2025

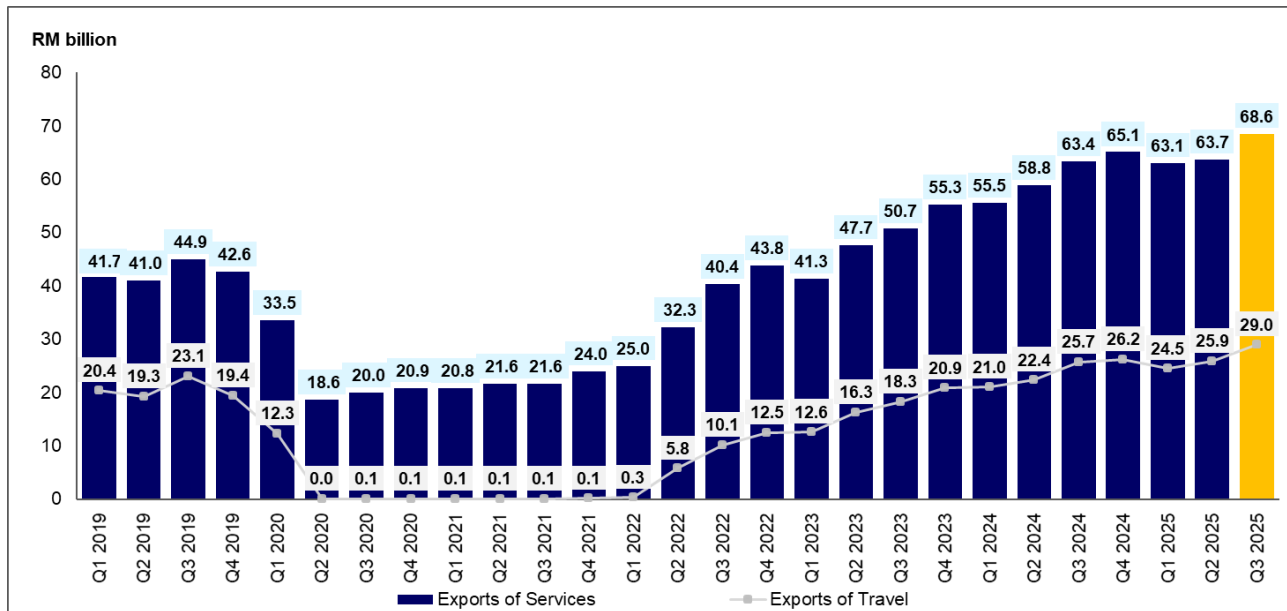


Chart 3 (c): Exports and Imports of Services, Q1-Q4 2011 & Q1 2022 – Q3 2025

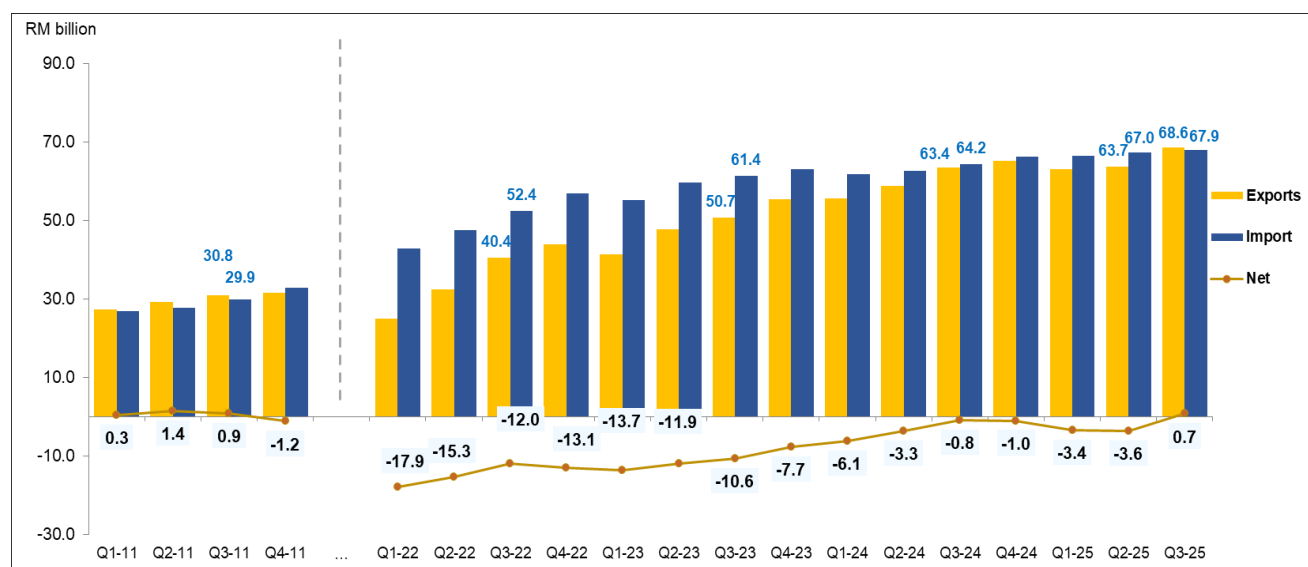


Chart 4 (a): Expenditure of Foreign Visitors in Malaysia and Malaysian Visitors Abroad, 2010 – 2024

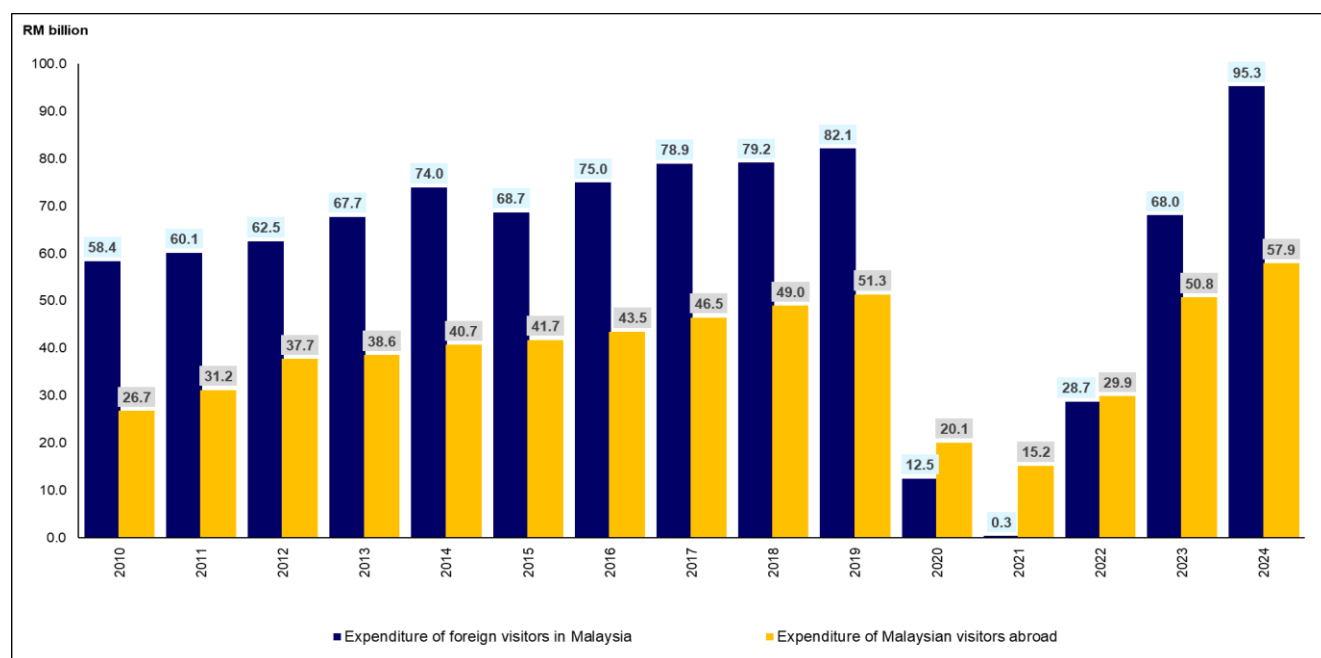


Chart 4 (b): Expenditure of Foreign Visitors in Malaysia and Malaysian Visitors Abroad, Q1 2019 – Q3 2025

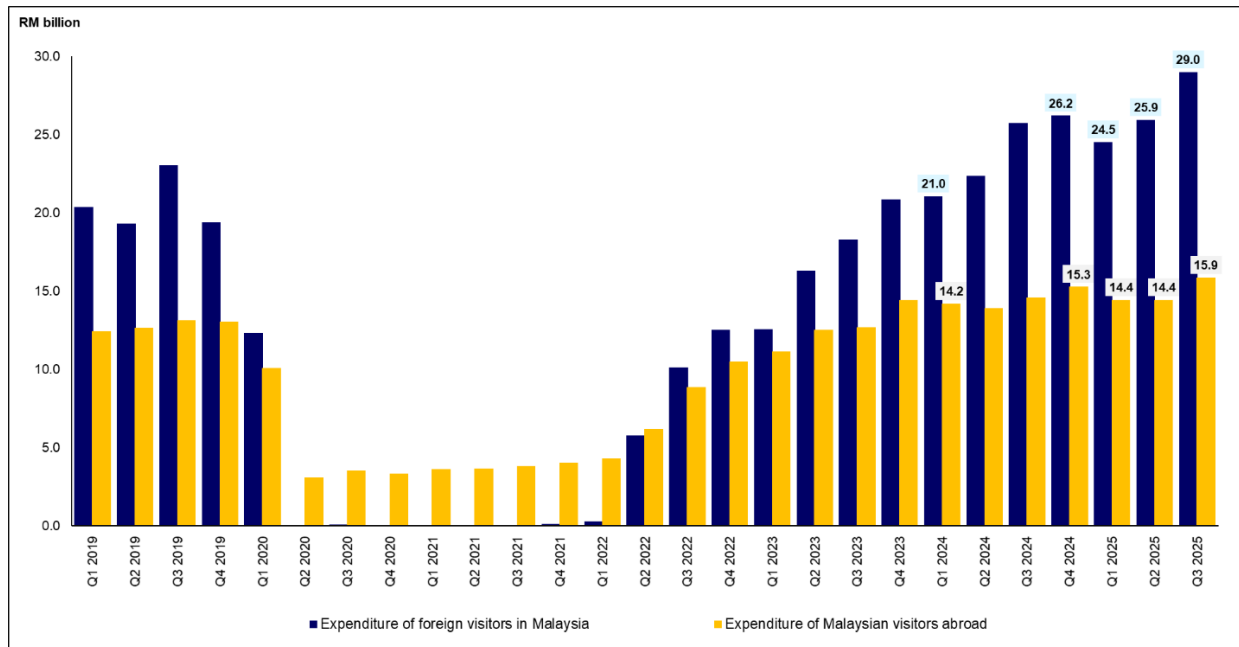


Chart 5 (a): Direct Investment Abroad (DIA) Flows and Position, 2010 – 2024

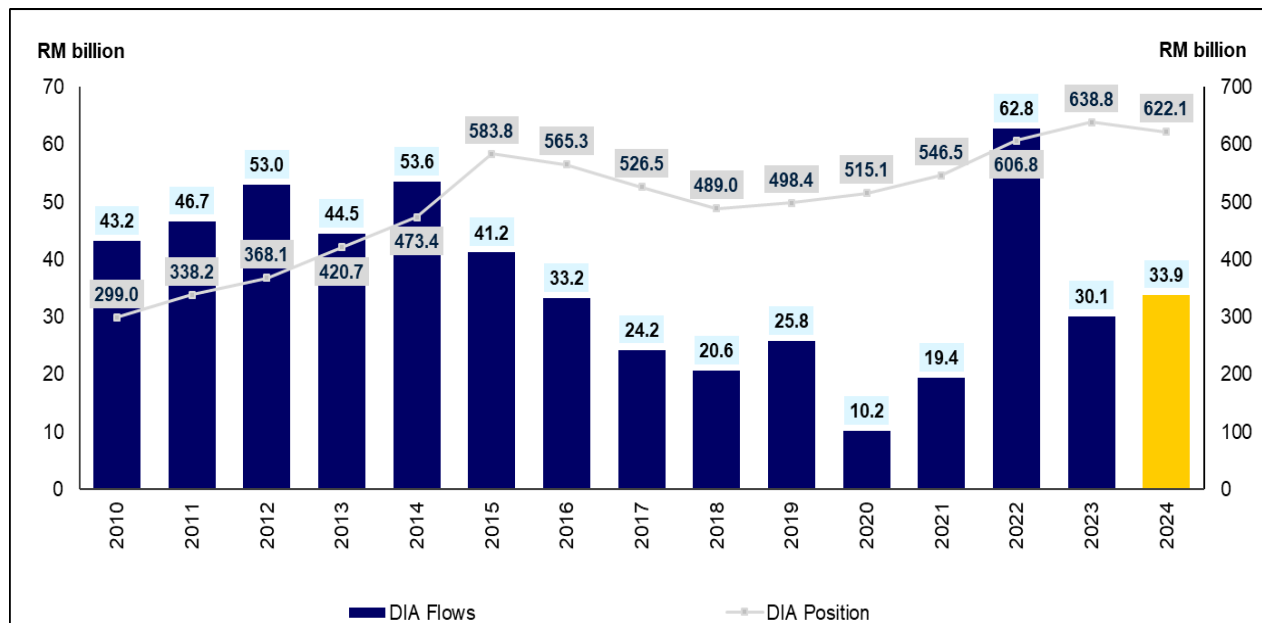


Chart 5 (b): Direct Investment Abroad (DIA) Flows and Position, Q1 2019 – Q3 2025

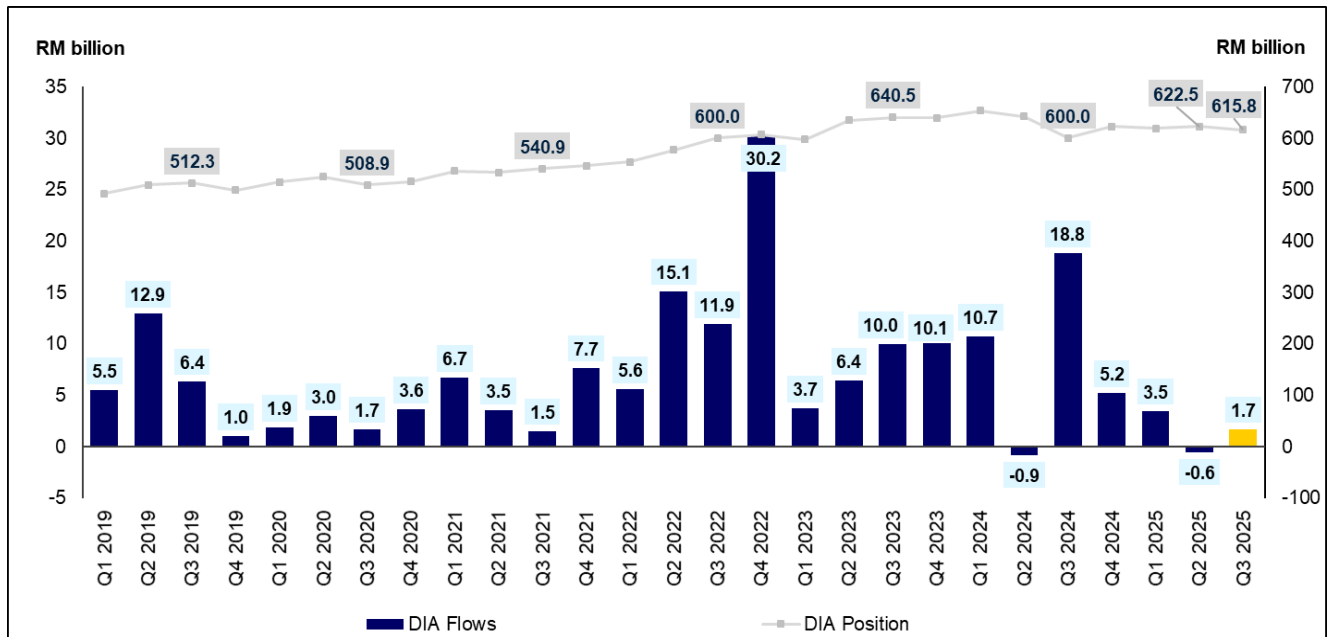


Chart 6 (a): Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Malaysia Flows and Position, 2010 – 2024

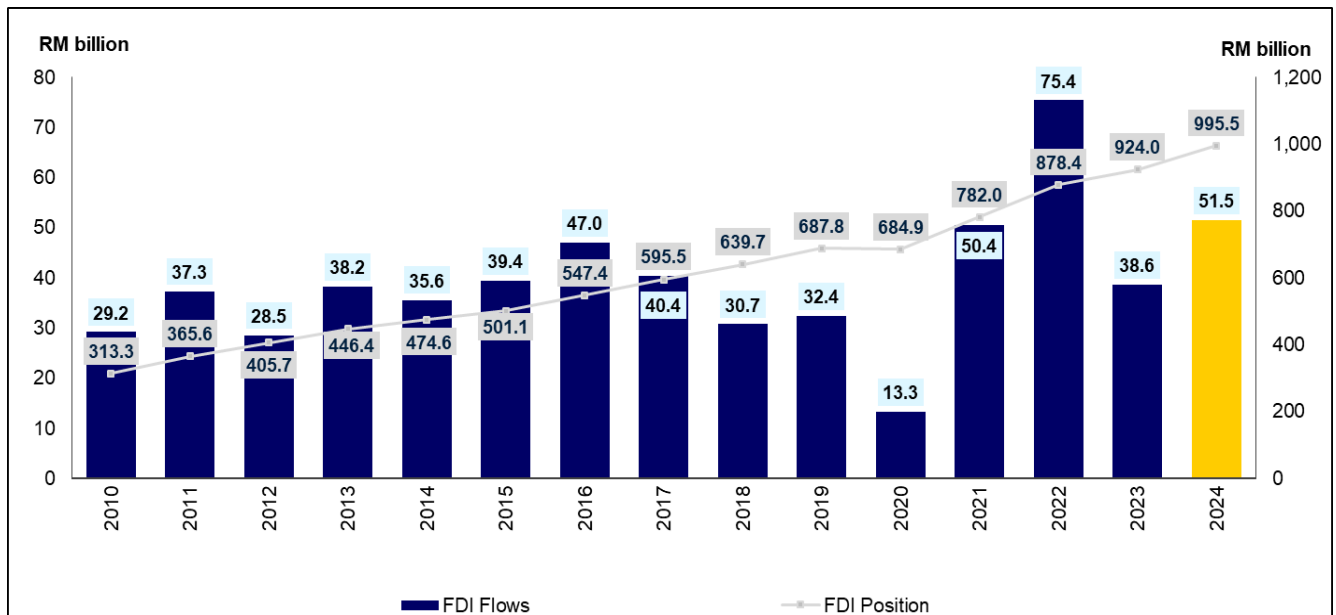


Chart 6 (b): Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Malaysia Flows and Position, Q1 2019 – Q3 2025

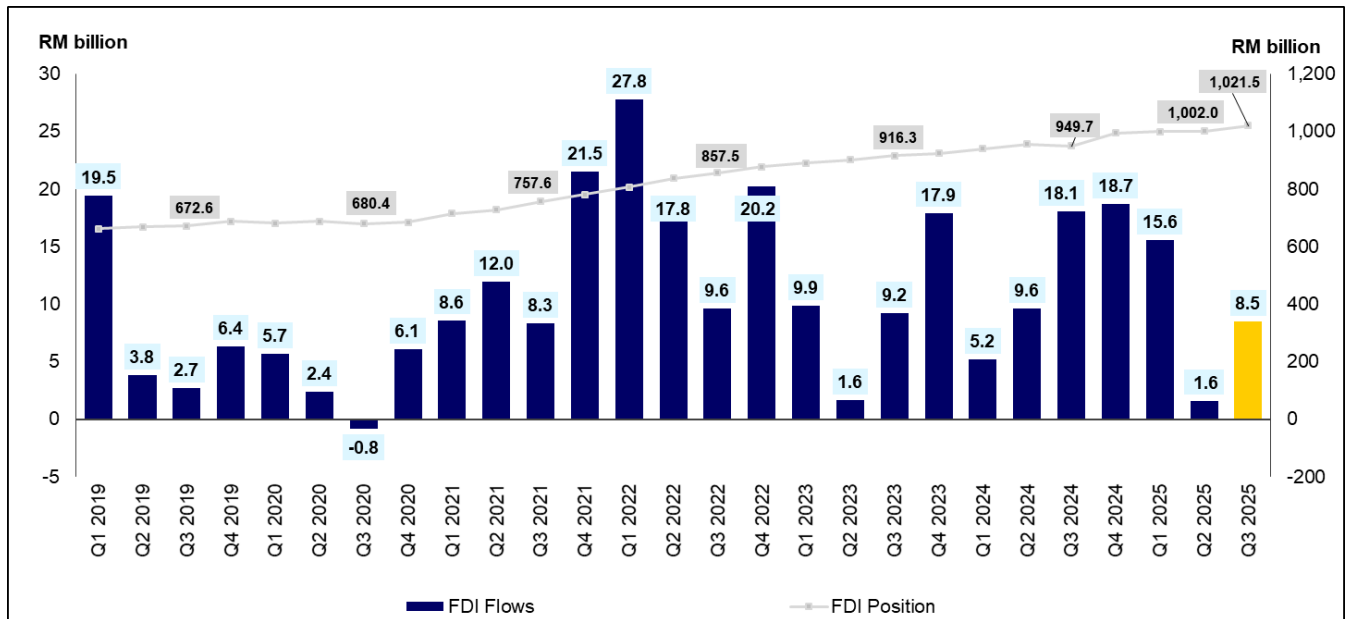


Exhibit 1: Direct Investment, Q3 2025

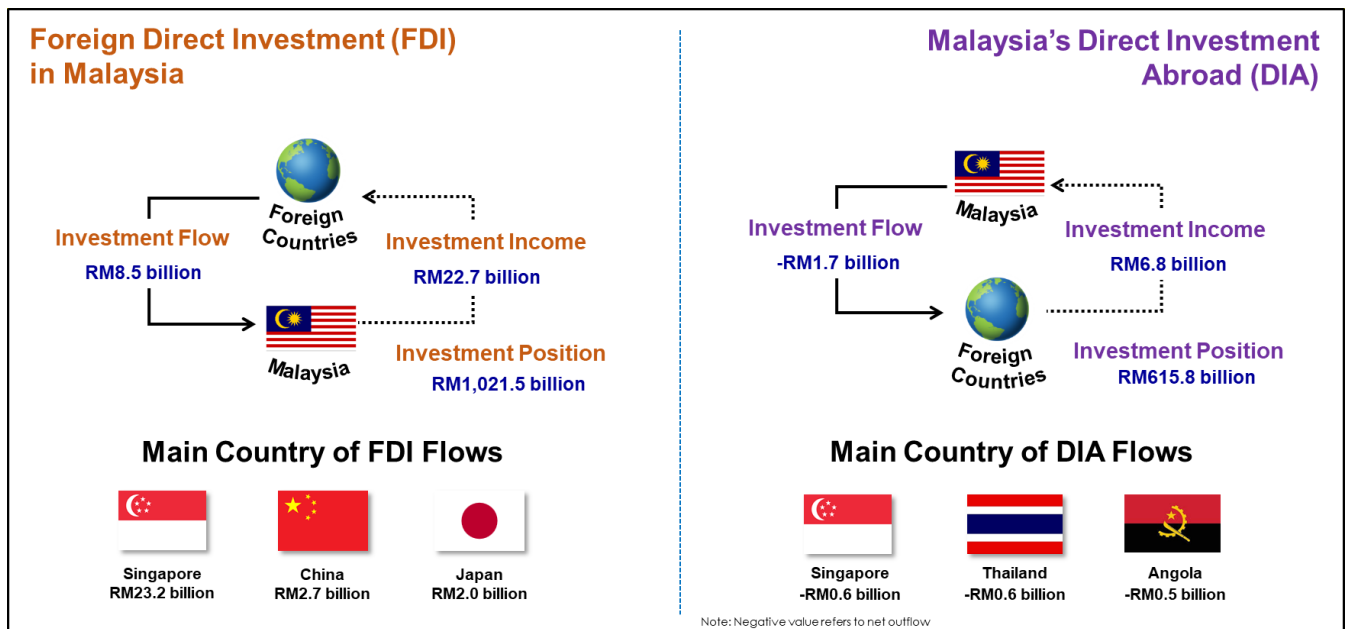


Chart 7: International Investment Position (Net), 2010 – 2024 and Q1 2019 – Q3 2025

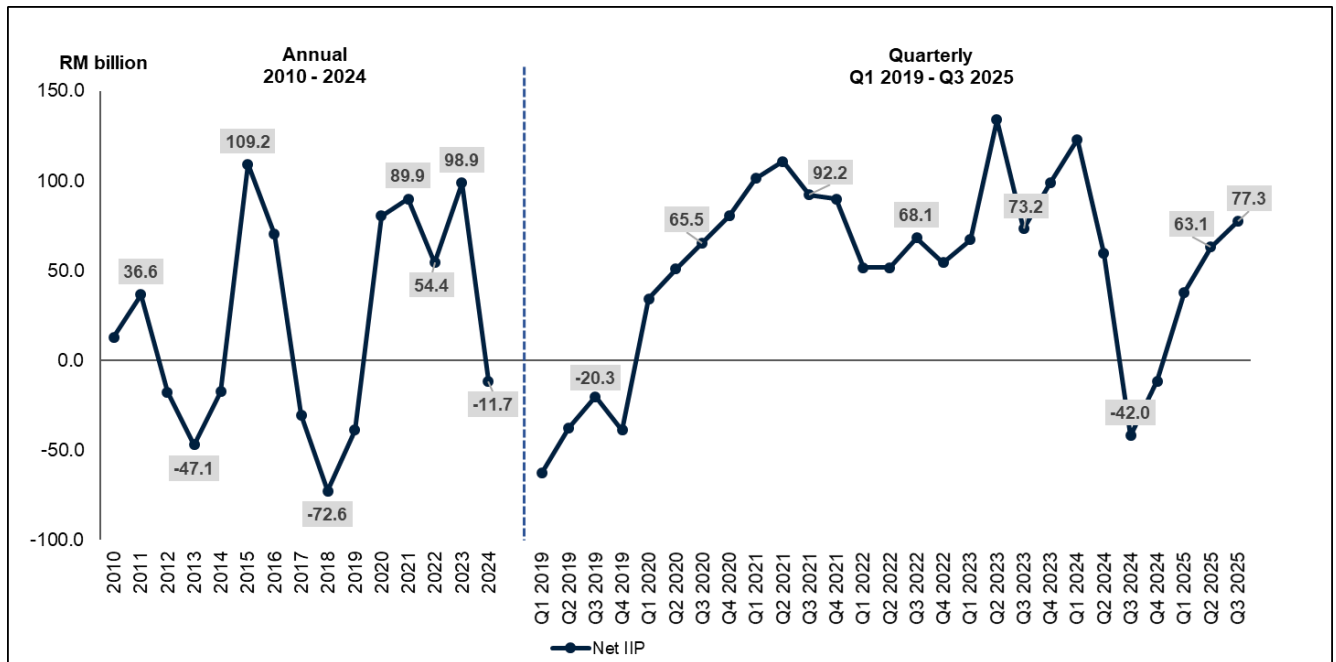


Chart 8: International Investment Position (Total Assets and Total Liabilities), 2010 – 2024 and Q1 2019 – Q3 2025

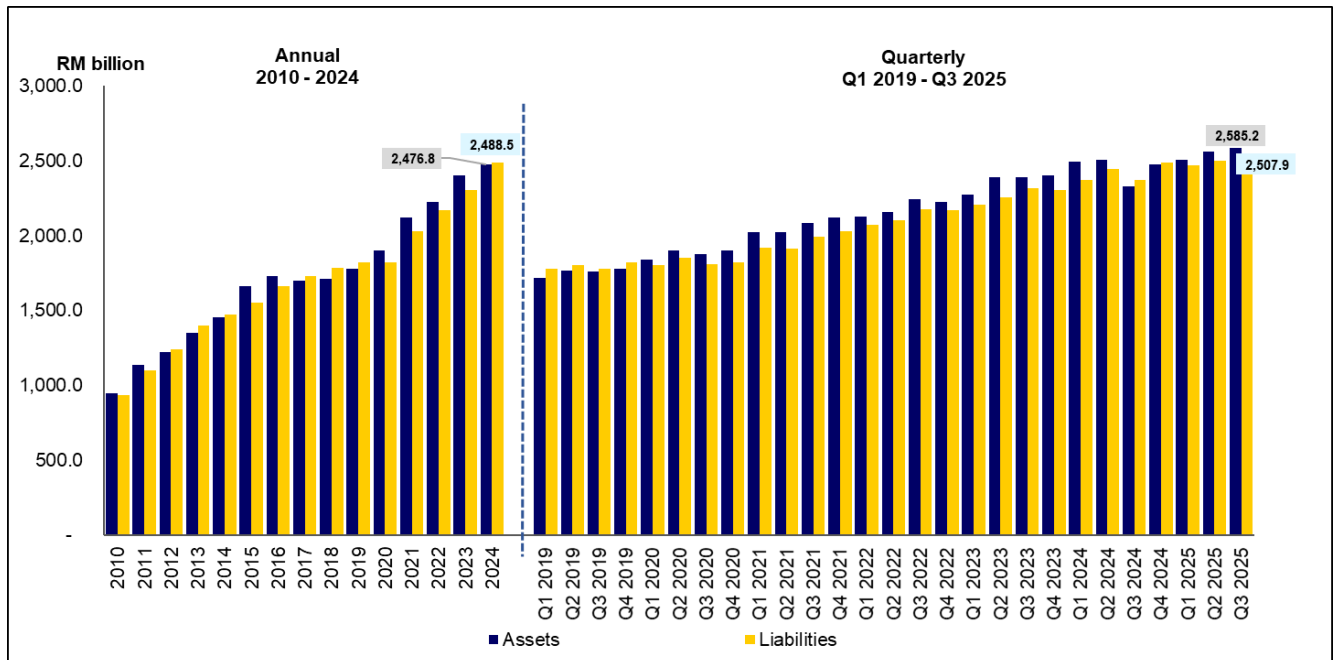


Exhibit 2: FDI and DIA Position by Regions and Main Countries, as at the end Q3 2025

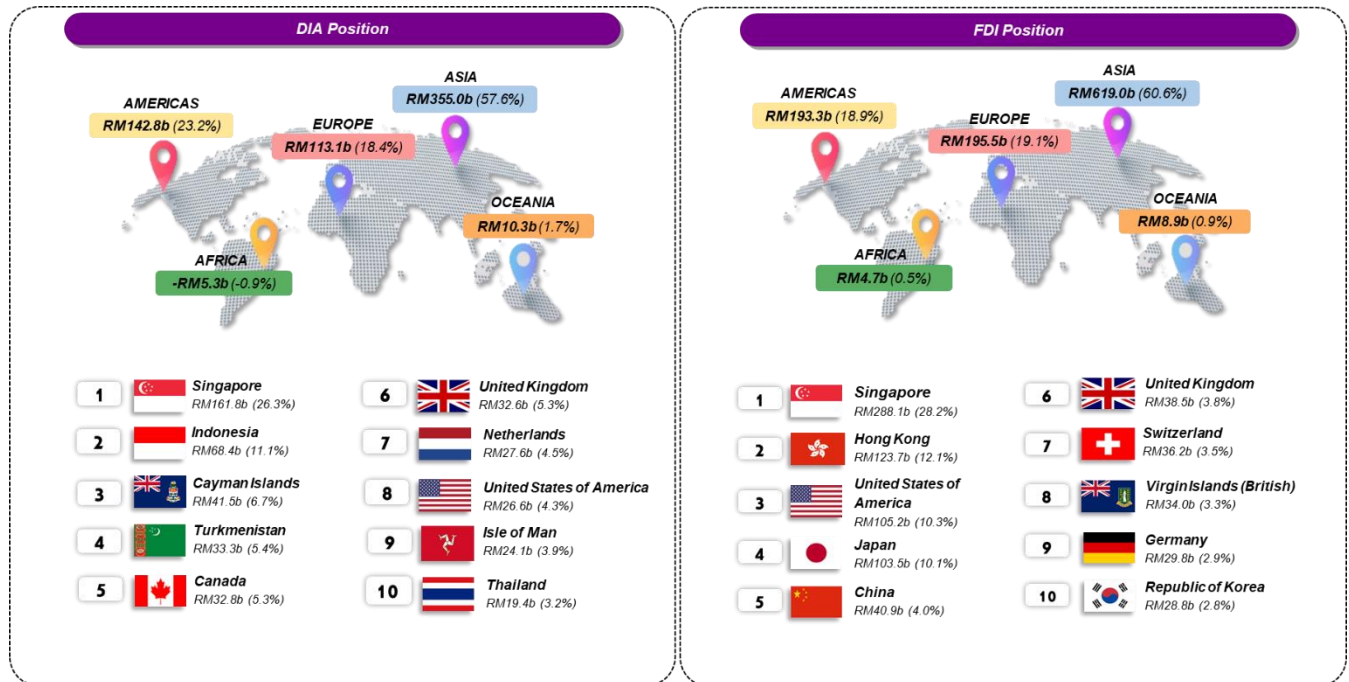


Chart 9: International Reserve Assets (Net), 2010 – 2024 and Q1 2019 – Q3 2025

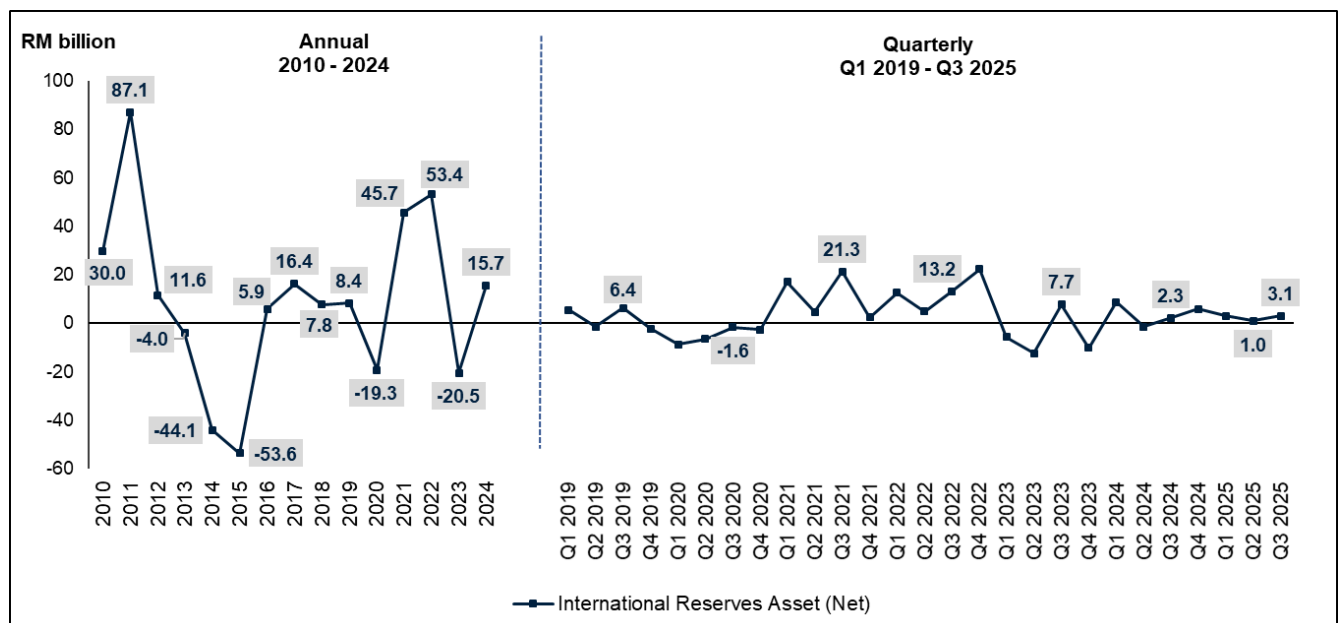


Chart 10: International Reserve Assets (as at end), 2010 – 2024 and Q1 2019 – Q3 2025

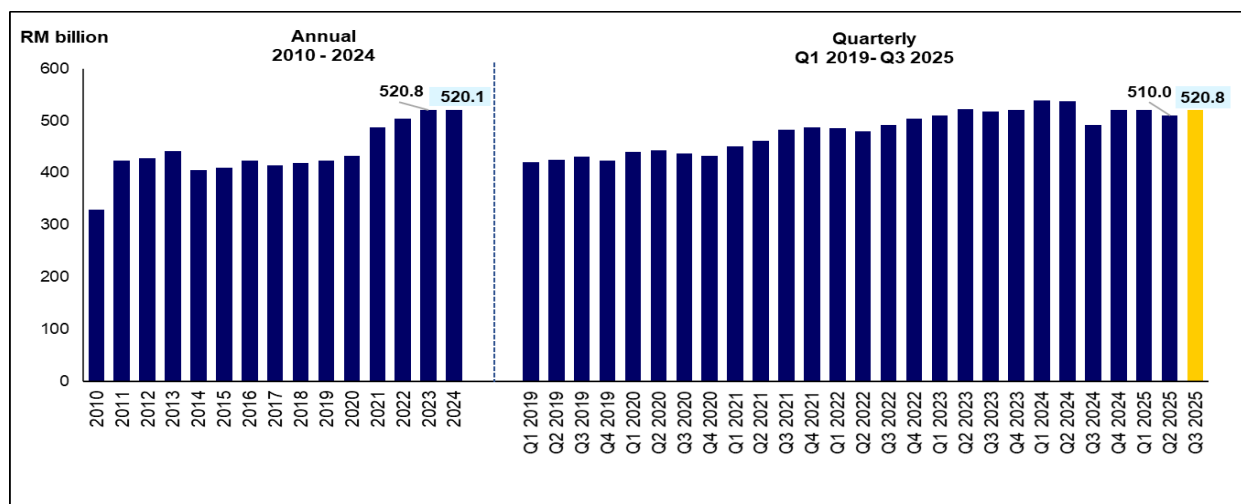


Exhibit 3: Current Account Balance for Selected Countries

Selected Countries	Malaysia (RM bil.)	Japan (100 bil. Yen)	Singapore (\$ bil.)	China (USD bil.)	United States of America (\$ bil.)	United Kingdom (£ bil.)
						
2022	57.2	114.4	129.3	443.4	-1,012.1	-53.1
2023	20.0	222.2	120.0	263.4	-905.4	-95.1
2024	27.7	293.7	128.3	423.9	-1,133.6	-75.7
Q1 22	4.9	48.9	32.2	96.2	-291.8	-45.7
Q2 22	4.2	23.0	36.4	84.0	-263.1	-23.8
Q3 22	20.2	22.3	34.3	151.5	-230.5	-11.9
Q4 22	28.0	20.2	26.4	111.7	-226.7	4.1
Q1 23	3.9	25.4	33.0	73.9	-230.3	-25.1
Q2 23	8.2	57.1	31.0	62.5	-232.6	-35.8
Q3 23	7.1	82.2	30.2	68.5	-220.7	-15.1
Q4 23	0.9	57.6	25.9	58.5	-221.8	-19.2
Q1 24	8.7	64.9	33.5	47.2	-242.7	-15.9
Q2 24	4.3	69.0	32.1	55.5	-276.7	-26.3
Q3 24	1.8	89.0	33.9	157.4	-310.3	-12.5
Q4 24	12.9	70.9	28.8	163.8	-303.9	-21.0
Q1 25	16.7	73.33	34.6	165.4	-450.2	-21.2
Q2 25	0.3	67.2	34.8	128.7	-251.3	-28.9
Q3 25	12.2	107.9	*	195.6	*	*

Source: Official portal of Selected National Statistical Offices

Note:

* Advance Release Calendar

Singapore : 25 November 2025

United States of America : 18 November 2025

United Kingdom : 22 December 2025

Released by:

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