

Malaysia

General

	MALES	FEMALES	YEAR
Total population under 15	4,484,188	4,231,557	2017
Total population over 15	11,205,126	11,020,091	2017

** ALL DATA FROM CIA, 2017*

Health

Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live birth	40	2015 est.	CIA, 2017
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	12.9	2016 est.	CIA, 2017
Under-five mortality rate for males per 1,000 live births	7.70	2012	UN Statistics, 2015
Under-five mortality rate for females per 1,000 live births	6.30	2012	UN Statistics, 2015
Births attended by a skilled health professional	99	2014	WHO, 2016
Prevalence of HIV among adults aged 15–49	0.4	2015	WHO, 2017
Life expectancy for men	72.2	2016 est.	CIA, 2017
Life expectancy for women	78	2016 est.	CIA, 2017

Education

	MALES	FEMALES	YEAR
Youth literacy rate, ages 15-24	98.33%	98.5%	2015
Adult literacy rate, ages 15+	96.2%	93.11%	2015
Net enrolment rate in primary education	97.84%	98.36%	2015
Gross enrolment ratio in secondary education	74.64%	80.68%	2015
Gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education	20.83%	31.81%	2014

** ALL DATA FROM UNESCO INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS, 2017*

- Female graduates from tertiary education (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 58.4%
- Female students in engineering, construction and manufacturing tertiary education programs (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 34.4%
- Female teachers in primary education (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 69.3%
- Female teachers in secondary education (2004) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 62.5%
- Female teachers in tertiary education (2011) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 52.9%

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Economic Activity

- Males over 15 who are active in the labour force (2016) (World Bank, 2017): 77.5%
- Females over 15 who are active in the labour force (2016) (World Bank, 2017): 49.2%
- Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution, or with a money mobile service provider (2011) (UN Statistics, 2017): 84.08%

Decision-Making

- Proportion of seats held by women in National Parliament (2016) (World Bank, 2017): 10

Human Rights

- Girls married before 15 (UNICEF, 2016): Insufficient data
- Females married between 15 and 19 (World Economic Forum, 2013): Insufficient data
- Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime (UN Women, 2016): Insufficient data
- Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner or a non-partner during the last 12 months (UN Women, 2016): Insufficient data

Gender and Development Trends in Malaysia

Health

A 2012 study on female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) in Malaysia, reported that more than 90 percent of Muslim women respondents had undergone FGM/C (as reported in U.S. Department of State, 2016, p. 22).

According to a UNFPA document on the Malaysia Country Program Cycle 2013-17, 38 out of every 1,000 women have had an abortion in the country, and between 1 to 5 of the 44 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births may be attributed to unsafe abortions (p.3).

Education

Enrolment rates for primary education in Malaysia increased from 95.05% in 2001 to 96.59% in 2013, while the enrolment rate at secondary education increased from 85.85% in 2001 to 91.12% in 2013 (Statement by Minister of Women, Family, and Community Development, 2014).

The Malaysian government has significant investment in STEM research since the early 2000s; this has led to an increase in women researchers from 35.8% in 2004 to 49.9% in

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2012 as well as more female participation in STEM courses at the tertiary level (UNESCO, 2016).

According to a UNICEF report (n.d.) the enrolment of women at the tertiary level in Malaysia outnumbers that of men, although the same report notes that enrolment in PhD programs is lower for women (UNICEF, n.d.).

Economy

According to a national economic census released by the Statistics Department in 2016, one in five companies in Malaysia are female-run (Department of Statistics Malaysia, 2017).

A 2012 UNDP report cites unofficial data indicating that Malaysian single mothers in rural areas have on average five or more children. Many face financial challenges and lack specialized job skills; little government assistance is provided, meaning women are often forced to resort to poorly paid, low-level jobs in unfavourable working conditions (UNDP, 2012).

Governance

Though women in Malaysia face no legal limits on participation in government and politics, they occupy few senior roles (U.S. Department of State, 2016). There are no quotas in Malaysia to ensure women acquire Parliamentary seats.

Human Rights

A poll conducted by UNICEF in August 2016 shows that 86% of respondents believe the minimum age to get married should be 18. However, marriage under the age of 18, remains common in the country (UNICEF, 2017).

Malaysia SDG Progress Profile

- Malaysia is currently ranked 63rd for overall performance under the SDGs, with a median rank of 63rd.
- Malaysia has ranked 59th in the UN's 2015 Gender Inequality Index (GII) (UNDP, 2015).

SDG 4: Achieve universal access to affordable and quality education at all levels. (Data retrieved from SDG indicator profiles, 2016)

- Expected years of schooling (years): 12.7 (SDG threshold met)
- Literacy rate of 15-24 years old (%): 94.8 (SDG threshold met)
- Net primary school enrolment rate (%): 97 (significant challenges remain)

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SDG 5: Achieve gender equality, protect and empower women, the youth and persons in vulnerable situations.

(Data retrieved from SDG indicator profiles, 2016)

- Women in national parliaments (%): 10.4 (major challenges must be overcome)
- Female years of schooling (% male): 93 (significant challenges remain)
- Female labor force participation (% male): 66.4 (significant challenges remain)
- Unmet demand for contraceptives (%): 42.4 (significant challenges remain)

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