1. DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATOR

The demographic indicators that used population data as denominator for 2022 and 2023 have been revised based on Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020. Meanwhile, the indicators for 2016-2019 are based on Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010 and will be revised later. Marriage and divorce data for 2016-2020 have been updated to take into account late registration in National Registration Department (NRD), Council for Native Customs & Traditions Sarawak (MAIS) and the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM).

2. CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

i. Marriage

The act, ceremony or process by which the legal relationship is built according to religious law, customary law or the terms of the law between husband and wife. It is a legitimate bond and is recognised by the law of Religion, customary and national law.

ii. Divorce

Final legal dissolution of marriage, that is, the separation of husband and wife which confer on the parties the right to remarriage under civil, religious and/ or other provisions according to the laws of the country.

iii. Crude Marriage Rate

a. Crude Marriage Rate (Malaysia)

Refers to the number of marriages per 1,000 population.

$$\textbf{Crude Marriage Rate (Malaysia)} = \frac{\textit{Number of marriages in year}_t}{\textit{Number of mid-year population for in year}_t} \times 1,000$$

b. Crude Marriage Rate (Muslim)

Refers to the number of Muslim marriages per 1,000 population of Muslim.

$$\textbf{Crude Marriage Rate (Muslim)} = \frac{\textit{Number of Muslim marriages in year}_t}{\textit{Number of mid-year Muslim population in year}_t} \times 1,000$$

c. **Crude Marriage Rate (Non-Muslim)**

Refers to the number of Non-Muslim marriages per 1,000 population of Non-Muslim.

$$\text{Crude Marriage Rate (Non-Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Non-Muslim marriages in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year Non-Muslim population in year}_t} \times 1,000$$

iv. Crude Divorce Rate

a. **Crude Divorce Rate (Malaysia)**

Refers to the number of divorces per 1,000 population.

$$\text{Crude Divorce Rate (Malaysia)} = \frac{\text{Number of divorces in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population in year}_t} \times 1,000$$

b. **Crude Divorce Rate (Muslim)**

Refers to the number of Muslim divorces per 1,000 population of Muslim.

$$\text{Crude Divorce Rate (Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Muslim divorces in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year Muslim population in year}_t} \times 1,000$$

c. **Crude Divorce Rate (Non-Muslim)**

Refers to the number of Non-Muslim divorces per 1,000 population of Non-Muslim.

$$\text{Crude Divorce Rate (Non-Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Non-Muslim divorces in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year Non-Muslim population in year}_t} \times 1,000$$

v. General Marriage Rate

a. **General Marriage Rate for male (Malaysia)**

Refers to the number of males marriages per 1,000 population of unmarried males aged 18 years and over.

$$\text{General Marriage Rate for male (Malaysia)} = \frac{\text{Number of males marriages in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of unmarried males aged 18 years and over in year}_t} \times 1,000$$

b.   General Marriage Rate for female (Malaysia)

Refers to the number of females marriages per 1,000 population of unmarried females aged 16 years and over.

$$\text{General Marriage Rate for female (Malaysia)} = \frac{\text{Number of females marriages in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of unmarried females aged 16 years and over in year}_t} \times 1{,}000$$

c.   General Marriage Rate for male (Muslim)

Refers to the number of Muslim males marriages per 1,000 population of unmarried Muslim males aged 18 years and over.

$$\text{General Marriage Rate for male (Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Muslim males marriages in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of unmarried Muslim males aged 18 years and over in year}_t} \times 1{,}000$$

d.   General Marriage Rate for female (Muslim)

Refers to the number of Muslim females marriages per 1,000 population of unmarried Muslim females aged 16 years and over.

$$\text{General Marriage Rate for female (Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Muslim females marriages in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of unmarried Muslim females aged 16 years and over in year}_t} \times 1{,}000$$

e.   General Marriage Rate for male (Non-Muslim)

Refers to the number of Non-Muslim males marriages per 1,000 population of unmarried Non-Muslim males aged 18 years and over.

$$\text{General Marriage Rate for male (Non-Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Non-Muslim males marriages in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of unmarried Non-Muslim males aged 18 years and over in year}_t} \times 1{,}000$$

f. **General Marriage Rate for female (Non-Muslim)**

Refers to the number of Non-Muslim females marriages per 1,000 population of unmarried Non-Muslim females aged 16 years and over.

$$\text{General Marriage Rate for female (Non-Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Non-Muslim females marriages in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of unmarried Non-Muslim females aged 16 years and over in year}_t} \times 1{,}000$$

vi. General Divorce Rate

a. **General Divorce Rate for male (Malaysia)**

Refers to the number of males divorces per 1,000 population of married males aged 18 years and over.

$$\text{General Divorce Rate for male (Malaysia)} = \frac{\text{Number of males divorces in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of married males aged 18 years and over in year}_t} \times 1{,}000$$

b. **General Divorce Rate for female (Malaysia)**

Refers to the number of females divorces per 1,000 population of married females aged 16 years and over.

$$\text{General Divorce Rate for female (Malaysia)} = \frac{\text{Number of females divorces in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of married females aged 16 years and over in year}_t} \times 1{,}000$$

c. **General Divorce Rate for male (Muslim)**

Refers to the number of Muslim males divorces per 1,000 population of married Muslim males aged 18 years and over.

$$\text{General Divorce Rate for male (Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Muslim males divorces in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of married Muslim males aged 18 years and over in year}_t} \times 1{,}000$$

d.   General Divorce Rate for female (Muslim)

Refers to the number of Muslim females divorces per 1,000 population of married Muslim females aged 16 years and over.

$$\text{General Divorce Rate for female (Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Muslim females divorces in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of married Muslim females aged 16 years and over in year}_t} \times 1,000$$

e.   General Divorce Rate for male (Non-Muslim)

Refers to the number of Non-Muslim males divorces per 1,000 population of married Non-Muslim males aged 18 years and over.

$$\text{General Divorce Rate for male (Non-Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Non-Muslim males divorces in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of married Non-Muslim males aged 18 years and over in year}_t} \times 1,000$$

f.   General Divorce Rate for female (Non-Muslim)

Refers to the number of Non-Muslim females divorces per 1,000 population of married Non-Muslim females aged 16 years and over.

$$\text{General Divorce Rate for female (Non-Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Non-Muslim females divorces in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of married Non-Muslim females aged 16 years and over in year}_t} \times 1,000$$

vii. Age-Specific Marriage Rate

a.   Age-Specific Marriage Rate for male (Malaysia)

Refers to the number of males marriages within a spesific age group per 1,000 population of unmarried males in the same age group.

$$\text{Age-Specific Marriage Rate for male (Malaysia)} = \frac{\text{Number of marriages for males within a specific age group year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of unmarried males by same age group in year}_t} \times 1,000$$

b. **Age-Specific Marriage Rate for female (Malaysia)**

Refers to the number of females marriages within a spesific age group per 1,000 population of unmarried females in the same age group.

$$\text{Age-Specific Marriage Rate for female (Malaysia)} = \frac{\text{Number of marriages for females within a specific age group in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of unmarried females by same age group in year}_t} \times 1{,}000$$

c. **Age-Specific Marriage Rate for male (Muslim)**

Refers to the number of Muslim males marriages within a spesific age group per 1,000 population of unmarried Muslim males in the same age group.

$$\text{Age-Specific Marriage Rate for male (Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Muslim marriages for males within a specific age group in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of unmarried Muslim males by same age group in year}_t} \times 1{,}000$$

d. **Age-Specific Marriage Rate for female (Muslim)**

Refers to the number of Muslim females marriages within a spesific age group per 1,000 population of unmarried Muslim females in the same age group.

$$\text{Age-Specific Marriage Rate for female (Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Muslim marriages for females within a specific age group in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of unmarried Muslim females by same age group in year}_t} \times 1{,}000$$

e. **Age-Specific Marriage Rate for male (Non-Muslim)**

Refers to the number of Non-Muslim males marriages within a spesific age group per 1,000 population of unmarried Non-Muslim males in the same age group.

$$\text{Age-Specific Marriage Rate for male (Non-Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Non-Muslim marriages for males within a specific age group in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of unmarried Non-Muslim males by same age group in year}_t} \times 1{,}000$$

f. **Age-Specific Marriage Rate for female (Non-Muslim)**

Refers to the number of Non-Muslim females marriages within a spesific age group per 1,000 population of unmarried Non-Muslim females in the same age group.

$$
\text{Age-Specific Marriage Rate for female (Non-Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Non-Muslim marriages for females within a specific age group in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of unmarried Non-Muslim females by same age group in year}_t} \times 1{,}000
$$

viii. Age-Specific Divorce Rate

a. **Age-Specific Divorce Rate for male (Malaysia)**

Refers to the number of males divorces within a spesific age group per 1,000 population of married males in the same age group.

$$
\text{Age-Specific Divorce Rate for male (Malaysia)} = \frac{\text{Number of divorces for males within a specific age group in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of married males by same age group in year}_t} \times 1{,}000
$$

b. **Age-Specific Divorce Rate for female (Malaysia)**

Refers to the number of females divorces within a spesific age group per 1,000 population of married females in the same age group.

$$
\text{Age-Specific Divorce Rate for female (Malaysia)} = \frac{\text{Number of divorces for females within a specific age group in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of married females by same age group in year}_t} \times 1{,}000
$$

c. **Age-Specific Divorce Rate for male (Muslim)**

Refers to the number of Muslim males divorces within a spesific age group per 1,000 population of married Muslim males in the same age group.

$$
\text{Age-Specific Divorce Rate for male (Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Muslim divorces for males within a specific age group in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of Muslim married males by same age group in year}_t} \times 1{,}000
$$

d. Age-Specific Divorce Rate for female (Muslim)

Refers to the number of Muslim females divorces within a spesific age group per 1,000 population of married Muslim females in the same age group.

$$\text{Age-Specific Divorce Rate for female (Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Muslim divorces for females within a specific age group in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of Muslim married females by same age group in year}_t} \times 1,000$$

e. Age-Specific Divorce Rate for male (Non-Muslim)

Refers to the number of Non-Muslim males divorces within a spesific age group per 1,000 population of married Non-Muslim males in the same age group.

$$\text{Age-Specific Divorce Rate for male (Non-Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Non-Muslim divorces for males within a specific age group in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of Non-Muslim married males by same age group in year}_t} \times 1,000$$

f. Age-Specific Divorce Rate for female (Non-Muslim)

Refers to the number of Non-Muslim females divorces within a spesific age group per 1,000 population of married Non-Muslim females in the same age group.

$$\text{Age-Specific Divorce Rate for female (Non-Muslim)} = \frac{\text{Number of Non-Muslim divorces for females within a specific age group in year}_t}{\text{Number of mid-year population of Non-Muslim married females by same age group in year}_t} \times 1,000$$

ix. Mean age

The average age for males/ females who are married/ divorced within specific year.

x. Median age

Age that divides the distribution for males/ females who are married/ divorced within specific year in two parts of equal size, that is, there are as many persons with ages above the median as there are with ages below the median

xi. Mode

The most commonly occurring value in a distribution of the age for males/ females who are married/ divorced within specific year.

xii. Age differential

The difference between the age of the groom and bride where the value of zero refers to the same age for both sexes.

3. COVERAGE AND LIMITATION

3.1. Coverage

3.1.1. *The Marriage and Divorce, Malaysia, 2023 presents the marriage and divorce statistics of Muslim and Non-Muslim for the reference year 2022 and 2023 by state, administrative district, sex, age and ethnic group.*

3.1.2. *The data on marriage and divorce for Muslim are obtained from State Religious Department (JAIN), Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM) and Department of Syariah Judiciary Malaysia (JKSM). Meanwhile, the data on marriage and divorce for Non-Muslim in Malaysia are obtained from National Registration Department (NRD) and Council for Native Customs & Traditions Sarawak (MAIS).*

3.1.3. *The Muslim divorce data obtained from JKSM is according to the date of order issued by Syariah Court. Meanwhile, the Non-Muslim data obtained from JPN is according to the date of order issued by Civil Court.*

3.1.4. *The divorce statistics cannot be compared with the current year marriage statistics.*

3.2. Limitation

3.2.1. *The sum by administrative district is not equal to Muslim marriage statistics reported at the state level specifically for Kelantan and Sarawak. The place of residence of intra-marriage for Kelantan and Sarawak are not available to enable compilation by administrative district. Muslim marriages data for Kelantan and Sarawak are provided in formatted table.*

3.2.2. *Users are advised to be careful in interpreting the data.*

4. DATE OF EVENT

Statistics presented in this publication are based on date of marriage and divorce.

5. STATE OF REGISTRATION

Information on the state of registration for marriage/ divorce refers to the states in Malaysia and outside Malaysia where marriage/ divorce is registered.

5.1. Place of marriage registration

i. *Muslim*
   ❖ *State Religious Department and District Religious Office.*

ii. *Non-Muslim*
   ❖ *NRD, religious buildings and associations in Malaysia; or*
   ❖ *Malaysian Embassy, Malaysian High Commission and Malaysia Consulate Office overseas.*

5.2. Place of divorce registration

i. *Muslim*
   ❖ *Syariah Court of Malaysia.*

ii. *Non-Muslim*
   ❖ *The High Court of Malaysia; or*
   ❖ *Courts outside Malaysia.*

6. PLACE OF RESIDENCE

The statistics on marriage and divorce presented in this publication are based on the couples' place of usual residence.

7. PLACE OF OCCURRENCE

7.1. *Marriage statistics for Muslim are based on the state in which the marriages for females are registered and where the marriages occurred.*

7.2. *Divorce statistics for Muslim are based on the place of usual residence of males.*

8. ETHNIC GROUP

Classification of ethnic group is based on the classification used in the Population and Housing Census 2020. The classification is as follows:

Bumiputera
Chinese
Indians
Others include Non-citizens

9. NOTES AND SYMBOL

- *Nil*
0.0 *Less than half the smallest unit*
W.P. *Wilayah Persekutuan*
* *Number of marriages/ divorces are too small to be published*
** *The rate are not reliable due to the small denominator (population) of the state*