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MEDIA STATEMENT

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MALAYSIA HAPPINESS INDEX (MHI) 2024

Malaysians are happy, with females recording a higher happiness score (7.62) compared to males (7.57)

PUTRAJAYA, 12th September 2025 – The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) today released the latest findings of the **Malaysia Happiness Index (MHI) 2024**, which recorded an overall index score of **7.60**, placing Malaysians in the **happy** category. This outcome marks a significant milestone in the assessment of national social well-being, in line with Malaysia's inclusive, people-driven and evidence-based development aspirations.

MHI 2024 is based on the Malaysia Happiness Survey, which measures happiness across four key dimensions: **physical, social, emotional and spiritual**. The index comprises **94 indicators** grouped into **13 happiness components**, making it one of the most comprehensive and impactful social statistics tools for evaluating quality of life in Malaysia.

For the first time, the MHI report has been published in detail at both **state and administrative district levels**, enabling more targeted and locally grounded assessments. A total of **16 state-level reports** were produced, with **Terengganu (8.64)**, **Johor (8.08)**, and **Negeri Sembilan (8.01)** were classified as very happy. Meanwhile **36 districts** were classified as very happy, with index score ranging from **8.02 to 9.83**. **Kluang** recorded the highest score (**9.83**), followed by **Raub (9.52)** and **Mersing (9.50)**. The happiness scores in **urban (7.61)** and **rural areas (7.56)** indicate a balance of well-being levels across geographic strata.

According to Chief Statistician of Malaysia, YBhg. Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, the micro-level publication of MHI represents a major leap in the country's social statistics system, allowing policymakers to better understand the lived realities of citizens and design more precise interventions.

Findings show that the **Religion and Spiritual** component (8.69) and **Family** (8.64) are the strongest contributors to national happiness. Meanwhile, **Culture** (6.22) recorded the lowest score, though it still falls within the happy category. Demographically, **females** (7.62) reported higher happiness levels than **males** (7.57) and the **15 - 19 age group** (7.79) emerged as the happiest cohort.

MHI 2024 highlights the enduring happiness of Malaysians, showcasing their unwavering optimism, strong sense of community and collective resilience in the face of global challenges.

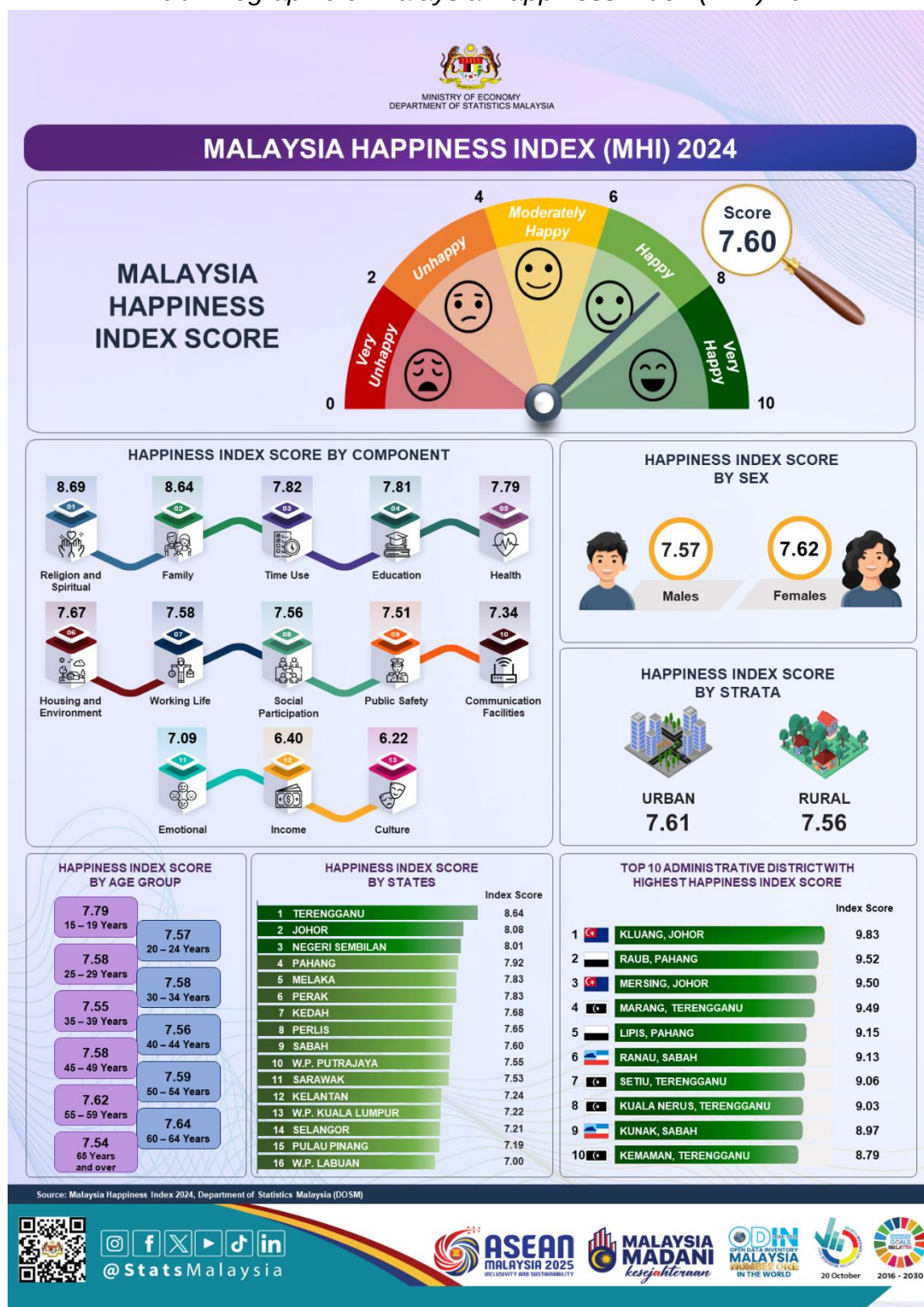
ASEAN-Malaysia 2025 Chairmanship: The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) will chair the 15th ASEAN Community Statistical System Committee (ACSS15) which aims to strengthen the statistical cooperation towards sustainable regional development.

Malaysia, for the first time, ranked as number one (1) 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.

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>.

Exhibit: Infographic of Malaysia Happiness Index (MHI) 2024



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