



Business Dynamics: Malaysia

August 2025

Table of Contents

HEADLINES

OPERATIONAL AND REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

Malaysia's positive economic growth translates into growing business optimism

FINANCING AND INVESTMENT

Low interest rates and strong year-end currency as high-tech investment grows

SKILLS AND LABOUR

Regulatory constraints and skills mismatch hinder Malaysia's labour freedom

TRADE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Increased trade freedom spurs export performance

DIGITALISATION AND INNOVATION

Semiconductor strategy strengthens Malaysia's digital readiness

OPERATIONAL AND REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

Chart 1 - Operational and Legal Environment Key Indicators 2024

Chart 2 - Index of Economic Freedom Ranking by Pillar in Malaysia and Regional Comparison 2024

Chart 3 - Index of Economic Freedom Ranking 2019-2024

Chart 4 - Index of Economic Freedom: Judicial Effectiveness Pillar Rank in Malaysia and Regional Comparison 2019-2024

Chart 5 - Index of Economic Freedom: Government Integrity Pillar Rank in Malaysia and Regional Comparison 2019-2024

Chart 6 - Corruption Perceptions Ranking: Malaysia and Regional Comparison 2019-2024

FINANCING AND INVESTMENT

Chart 7 - Key Financial and Investment Indicators 2024

Chart 8 - Index of Economic Freedom: Property Rights Pillar Rank in Malaysia and Regional Comparison 2019-2024

Chart 9 - Bank Claims on the Private Sector as % of GDP 2019-2024

Chart 10 - Bank Nonperforming Loans to Total Gross Loans 2019-2024

SKILLS AND LABOUR

Chart 11 - Key Skills and Labour Indicators 2024

Chart 12 - Population Aged 15+ with Higher Education 2019-2024

Chart 13 - Education Indicators 2024

Chart 14 - Number of University Graduates by Programme 2024

Chart 15 - Employment by Age 2024

Chart 16 - Employment by Gender 2024

Chart 17 - Youth Unemployment Rate 2019-2024

Chart 18 - Labour Structure Change 2019-2024

Chart 19 - Labour Structure Comparison 2024

Chart 20 - Self-Employed as % of Total Employed Population 2024

Chart 21 - Index of Economic Freedom: Labour Pillar Rank in Malaysia and Regional Comparison 2019-2024

Chart 22 - Wage per Hour in Manufacturing Sector 2019-2024

Chart 23 - Labour Market Regulations in Malaysia and Regional Comparison 2024

TRADE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Chart 24 - Key Infrastructure Indicators 2024

Chart 25 - Index of Economic Freedom: Trade Freedom Pillar Rank in Malaysia and Regional Comparison 2019-2024

Chart 26 - The Top Four Largest Malaysia's Export Categories 2019-2024

Chart 27 - Turnover of Transport and Storage Industry by Category in Malaysia 2024

Chart 28 - Transportation Mode Indicators in Malaysia and Regional Comparison 2024

Chart 29 - Road Infrastructure 2024

DIGITALISATION AND INNOVATION

Chart 30 - Innovation and Digitalisation Key Indicators 2024

Chart 31 - Network Readiness Ranking by Pillar in Malaysia and Regional Comparison 2024

Chart 32 - Network Readiness Ranking for Malaysia and Regional Comparison 2019-2024

Chart 33 - Network Readiness Ranking: Technology Pillar for Malaysia and Regional Comparison 2019-2024

Chart 34 - Intellectual Property: Malaysia Compared to Selected Regional Peers 2024

APPENDIX A

The 2024 Index of Economic Freedom

APPENDIX B

The Network Readiness Index (NRI) 2024

About Euromonitor International

Euromonitor International is an independent market intelligence provider. Data, insight and analysis stem from in-the-field research spanning 210 national markets.

Content ranges from the in-depth and country-specific, to key strategic themes with a global range and significance. Products cover a comprehensive range of insights and market data, but can be broadly categorised as:

- **Strategy Briefings:** Global or regional in scope, and focussing on the most important themes shaping consumer demand, the key markets, competitive environment and future outlook across a range of industries.
- **Company Profiles:** Analysis dedicated to the world's most significant companies, with detailed insight into their activities, focus of operations, their competitors, their geographic presence and performance.
- **Country Reports:** For an in-depth understanding of specific countries, whether by industry, economic metrics or consumer trends and lifestyles. These reports cover current trends, consumer demand, market potential and future prospects, with country-specific local insight and comprehensive data, unavailable elsewhere.

For more information on this report, further enquiries can be directed via this link www.euromonitor.com/business-dynamics-malaysia/report.