MINISTRY OF HEALTH
MALAYSIA

BRIEF INFO ON
MATERNAL DEATHS IN MALAYSIA 2018

INTRODUCTION

A total of 251 pregnancy related deaths were reported and audited by the National Committee on the Confidential Enquiries Into Maternal Deaths (CEMD) for the year 2018. Overall, the number of pregnancy related deaths has declined from 266 in 2011 to 242 in 2012 and 238 in 2013. However, in year 2014, the number of pregnancy related deaths reported has increased to 277, then slightly declined to 274 in 2015 and has increased tremendously to 302 in 2016. In 2017, the number of pregnancy related deaths has declined to 264 cases and 118 cases in 2018.

- **For statistical reporting in Malaysia, maternal deaths comprised all direct and indirect deaths among Malaysian citizens and non Malaysian citizen with legal document.**

DEFINITIONS:

PREGNANCY RELATED DEATH

The death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, regardless of the classification cause of death (direct, indirect and fortuitous).

MATERNAL DEATH

The death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, irrespective of duration and site of pregnancy, from any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy or its management, but not from accidental or incidental causes.

Disclaimer:

The data on number of maternal deaths and ratio may subject to change as current data is from Family Health Development Division, Ministry of Health while the final official data source is from Department of Statistic, Malaysia.

NATIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE CONFIDENTIAL ENQUIRIES INTO MATERNAL DEATHS

Coordinated by:
Family Health Development Division
Ministry of Health Malaysia

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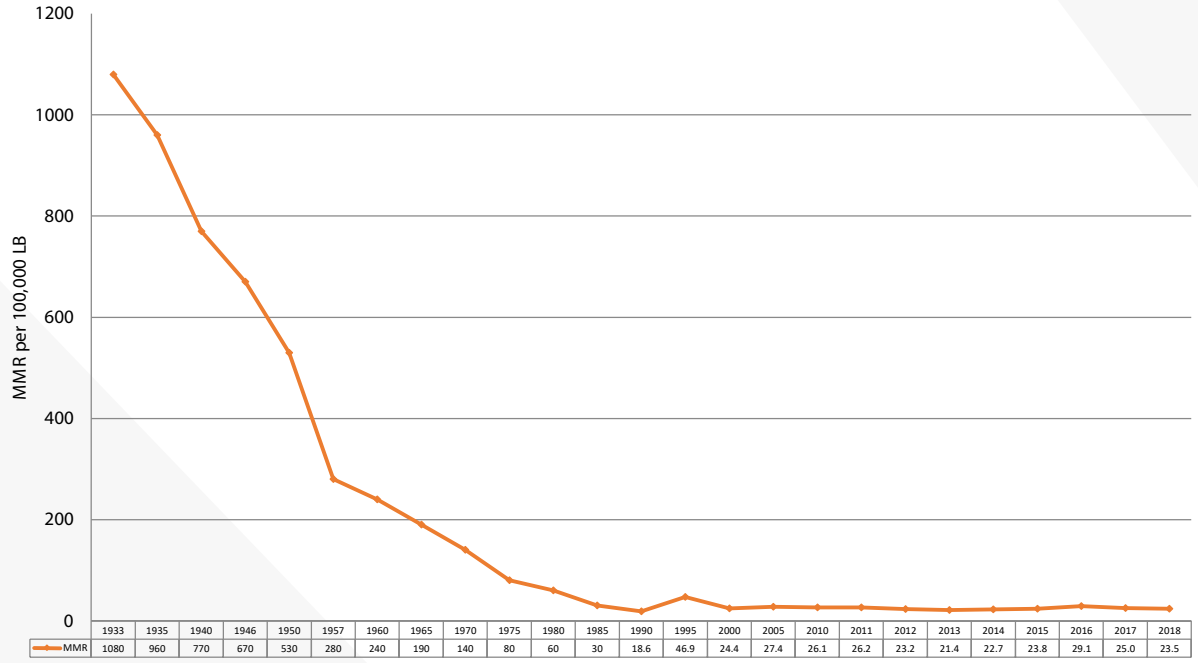
Figure 1.1 Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) : Malaysia 1933 – 2018



	1933	1935	1940	1946	1950	1957	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
MMR	1080	960	770	670	530	280	240	190	140	80	60	30	18.6	46.9	24.4	27.4	26.1	26.2	23.2	21.4	22.7	23.8	29.1	25.0	23.5

Source of data : Department of Statistics, Malaysia 2019
: Family Health Development Division, Ministry of Health

Table 1.1 Number of Pregnancy Related Deaths, 2010 - 2018

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of pregnancy related deaths	273	266	242	238	277	274	302	264	251

Source of data : Family Health Development Division, Ministry of Health

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Table 1.2 Pregnancy Related Deaths by Citizenship Status, 2018

Citizenship Satus	2018	
	n	%
Malaysian citizens	171	68.1
Non citizens (with legal document)	31	12.4
Non citizens (without legal document)	49	19.5
Total	**251**	**100.0**

Source of data : Family Health Development Division, Ministry of Health

Table 1.3 Classification of Pregnancy Related Deaths, 2018

Classification	2018	
	n	%
Direct	118	47.0
Indirect	32	12.7
Fortuitous	101	40.2
Total	**251**	**100.0**

Source of data : Family Health Development Division, Ministry of Health

Table 1.4 Classification of Maternal Deaths, 2018 (Among Citizens and Non Citizens with Legal Document)

Classification	2018	
	n	%
Direct	92	78.0
Indirect	26	22.0
Total	**118**	**100.0**

Source of data : Family Health Development Division, Ministry of Health

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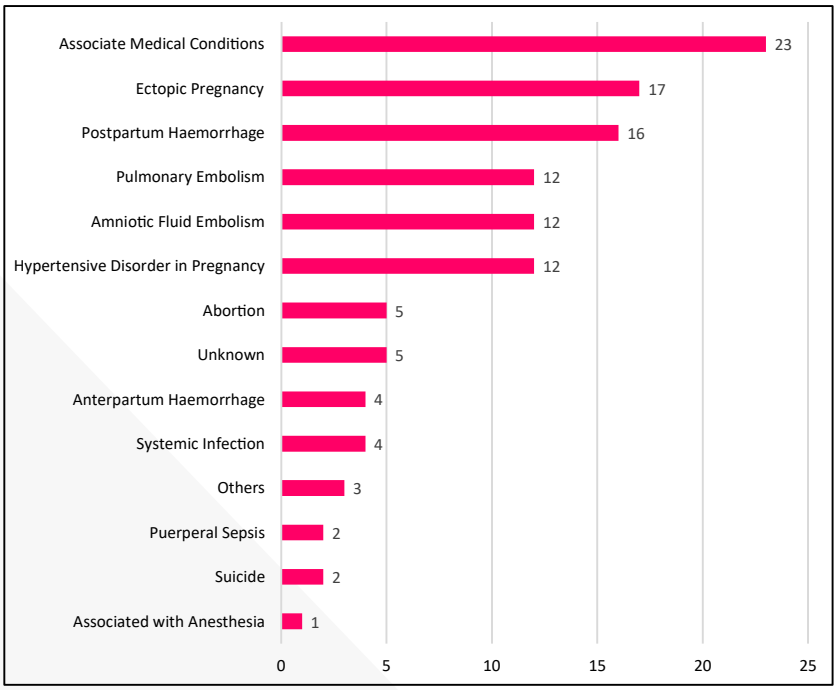
Figure 1.2 Causes of Maternal Deaths : Malaysia 2018



Cause	n
Associated Medical Conditions	23
Ectopic Pregnancy	17
Postpartum Hemorrhage	16
Amniotic Fluid Embolism	12
Hypertensive Disorder in Pregnancy	12
Pulmonary Embolism	12
Abortion	5
Unknown	5
Antepartum Haemorrhage	4
Systemic Infection	4
Others	3
Puerperal Sepsis	2
Suicide	2
Associated with anesthesia	1
TOTAL	118

** Others : Malignancy, Motor Vehicle Accident, Death Related Injuries & Suicide*

Source of data : Family Health Development Division, Ministry of Health

Figure 1.3 Number of Maternal Deaths Due to Obstetric Embolism, 2009 - 2018

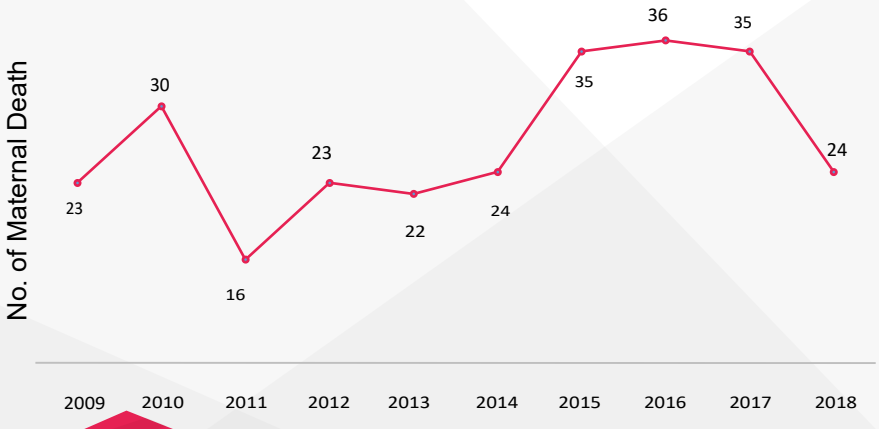


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Figure 1.4 Number of Maternal Deaths Due to Obstetric Embolism by Type of Emboli, 2009 - 2018

Source of data:
Report On Confidential Inquiries Into Maternal Deaths In Malaysia: 2009-2011 & 2012-2014
Family Health Development Division, Ministry of Health

Table 1.5 Age Specific MMR, 2018

Age group	2018		
	n	Live births 2018	MMR (per 100,000 live births)
15-19	2	11757	17.0
20-24	12	66818	18.0
25-29	28	157636	17.8
30-34	33	159166	20.7
35-39	30	84067	35.7
40-44	13	20354	63.9

Source of data:
Family Health Development Division, Ministry of Health
Department of Statistic Malaysia, 2019

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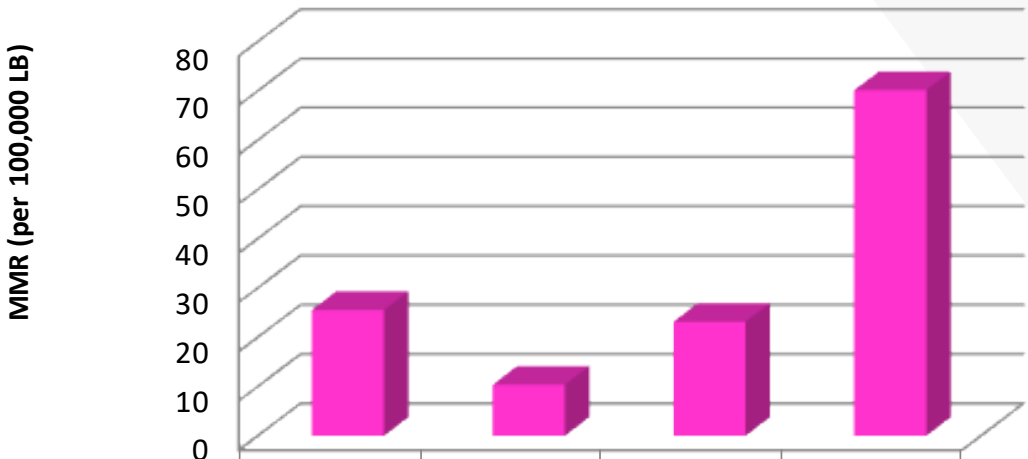
Figure 1.5 | **Ethnicity Specific MMR, 2018**



	Bumiputera	Chinese	Indian	Others
MMR (per 100,000 live births)	25.6	10.4	23.2	70.2

Ethnic	2018	
	n	MMR (per 100,000 LB)
Bumiputera	90	25.6
Chinese	6	10.4
Indian	5	23.2
Others	17	70.2

Source of data: Family Health Development Division, Ministry of Health
Department of Statistic, Malaysia 2019

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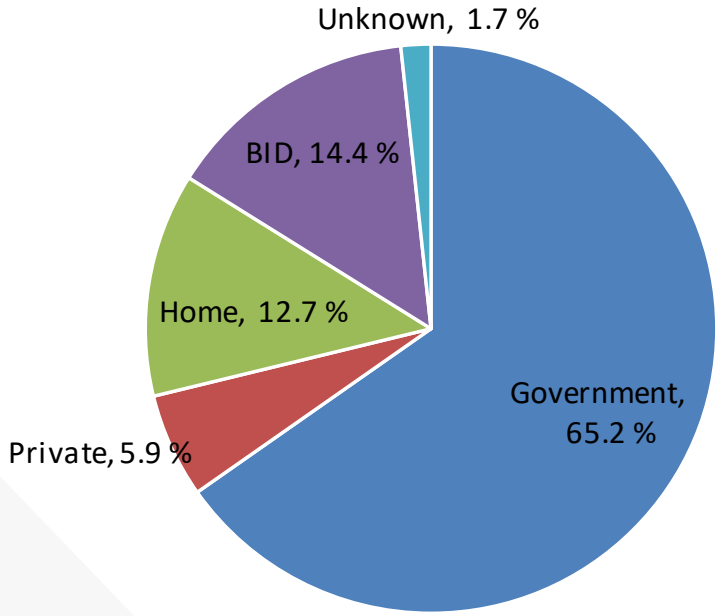
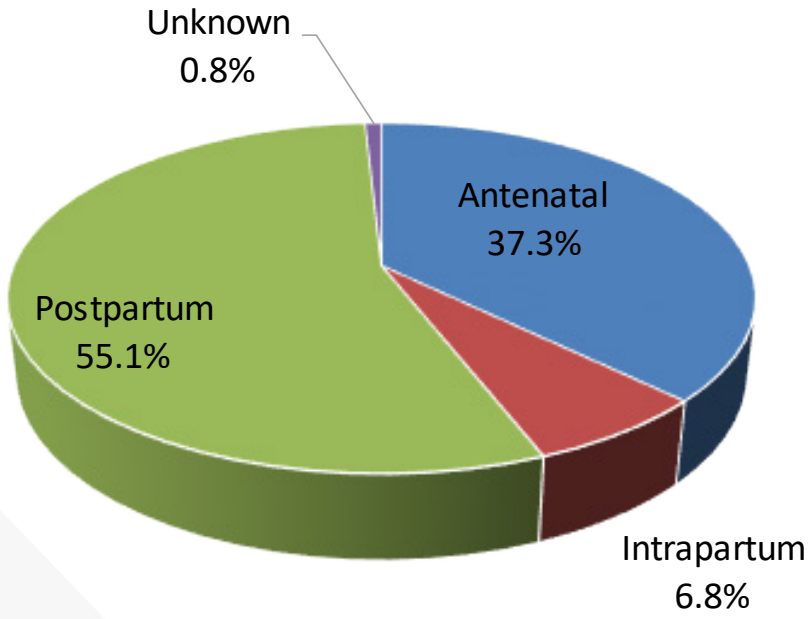
Figure 1.6 **Maternal Death by Place of Death, 2018**



Place of Death	2018	
	n	%
Government	77	65.2
Private	7	5.9
Home	15	12.7
BID	17	14.4
Unknown	2	1.7
Total	118	100.0

Source of data: Family Health Development Division, Ministry of Health

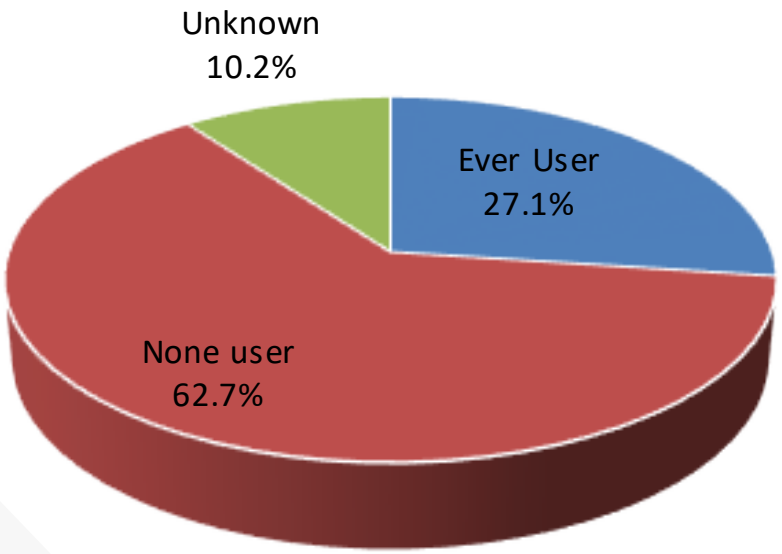
Figure 1.7 **Maternal Death by Stage of Pregnancy, 2018**



Stage of pregnancy	2018	
	n	%
Antenatal	44	37.3
Intrapartum	8	6.8
Postpartum	65	55.1
Unknown	1	0.8
TOTAL	**118**	**100.0**

Source of data: Family Health Development Division, Ministry of Health

Figure 1.8 Maternal Death by Family Planning Practice, 2018



Family Planning	2018	
	n	%
Ever User	32	27.1
None user	74	62.7
Unknown	12	10.2
Total	**118**	100.0

Source of data: Family Health Development Division, Ministry of Health