

Languages of Malaysia (Peninsular)

Malaysia (Peninsular). 10,115,000 (1979). 6,396,790 speakers of Austronesian languages, 3,399,000 speakers of Chinese languages, 44,610 speakers of Austro-Asiatic languages (1991 J. Matisoff), 1,090,000 speakers of Dravidian languages. Information mainly from W. G. Shellabear 1913; F. Lebar, G. Hickey, J. Musgrave 1964; R. K. Dentan 1968; I. Hancock 1969; S. Lim 1981; B. Comrie 1987; A. Baxter 1988; J. Holm 1989. Blind population: 22,300. The number of languages listed for Malaysia (Peninsular) is 40. Of those, all are living languages.

Living languages

Batek	[btq] 700 (2000 D. Bradley). Ethnic population: 700 (2000 D. Bradley). Northern Pahang, Kelantan, Trengganu. <i>Alternate names</i> : Bateq, Bateg, Batok, Kleb, Tomo, Nong. <i>Dialects</i> : Batek Teq (Teq), Batek De' (Deq), Batek Iga, Batek Nong (Nong). Deq and Nong may be separate languages. <i>Classification</i> : Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, North Aslian, Eastern More information.
Besisi	[mhe] 1,356 (2000 D. Bradley). Ethnic population: 1,356 (2000 D. Bradley). Selangor coast, Malacca. <i>Alternate names</i> : Mah Meri, Cellate. <i>Dialects</i> : Kuala Langot Besisi, Malakka Besisi, Ulu Langat Orang Bukit, Selangor Sakai, Betise' (Betisek), Sisi. <i>Classification</i> : Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, South Aslian More information.
Chewong	[cwg] 200 (2000 D. Bradley). Ethnic population: 200 (2000 D. Bradley). Just south of Semai, Pahang. <i>Alternate names</i> : Cheq Wong, Che'wong, Siwang, Beri, Chuba. <i>Classification</i> : Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, North Aslian, Chewong More information.
Chinese, Hakka	[hak] 985,635 in Malaysia (1980 census). Population includes 786,097 in Peninsular Malaysia, 109,060 in Sarawak, 90,478 in Sabah. <i>Classification</i> : Sino-Tibetan, Chinese More information.

Chinese, Mandarin	[cmn] 417,070 in Malaysia (1970 census). Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, and Sarawak. <i>Classification</i> : Sino-Tibetan, Chinese More information.
Chinese, Min Dong	[cdo] 222,185 in Malaysia (2000 WCD). Population includes 85,368 in Peninsular Malaysia, 120,645 in Sarawak (1979, including Pu-Xian Chinese). <i>Dialects</i> : Foochow (Fuzhou). <i>Classification</i> : Sino-Tibetan, Chinese More information.
Chinese, Min Nan	[nan] 1,946,698 in Malaysia. Population includes 1,824,741 in Peninsular Malaysia, 7,990 Teochew, 5,083 Hainanese, 24,604 Hokkien in Sabah (1980 census) 84,280 in Sarawak (1979). <i>Alternate names</i> : Min Nan, Minnan. <i>Dialects</i> : Fukienese (Amoy, Fujianese, Hokkien), Hainanese, Chaochow (Teochow, Teochew). <i>Classification</i> : Sino-Tibetan, Chinese More information.
Chinese, Pu-Xian	[cpx] 66,655 in Malaysia (2000 WCD). Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak. <i>Dialects</i> : Xinghua (Hsinghua, Hinghua). <i>Classification</i> : Sino-Tibetan, Chinese More information.
Chinese, Yue	[yue] 748,010 in Malaysia (1980 census). Population includes 704,286 in Peninsular Malaysia, 24,640 in Sarawak, 19,184 in Sabah. <i>Alternate names</i> : Cantonese, Yue, Yueh. <i>Dialects</i> : Cantonese, Toishanese. <i>Classification</i> : Sino-Tibetan, Chinese More information.
Duano'	[dup] 1,922 (1981 Wurm and Hattori). Ethnic population: 2,000 (2000 D. Bradley). South coast around Pontian Kecil and northwest. <i>Alternate names</i> : Orang Kuala, Desin Dola'. <i>Classification</i> : Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Malayic, Malayan, Para-Malay More information.
English	[eng] <i>Classification</i> : Indo-European, Germanic, West, English More information.
Jah Hut	[jah] 2,442 (2000 D. Bradley). Ethnic population: 2,442 (2000 D. Bradley). Just south of main body of Semai, Kuala Krau, Pahang.

	<p><i>Alternate names:</i> Jah Het. <i>Dialects:</i> Kerdau, Krau, Ketiar Krau (Tengganu), Kuala Tembeling, Pulau Guai, Ulu Ceres (Cheres), Ulu Tembeling. <i>Classification:</i> Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, Jah Hut</p> <p>More information.</p>
Jakun	<p>[jak] 9,799 (1981 Wurm and Hattori). East coast and inland, Pairang River, Pekan to Sri Gading, east to Benut, northwest to around middle Muat River. <i>Alternate names:</i> Jaku'd, Jakud'n, Jakoon, Djakun, Orang Hulu. <i>Classification:</i> Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Malayic, Malayan, Aboriginal Malay</p> <p>More information.</p>
Jehai	<p>[jhi] 1,250 (1981 Wurm and Hattori). Ethnic population: 1,375 (2000 D. Bradley). Northeastern Perak and western Kelantan. <i>Alternate names:</i> Jahai, Pangan. <i>Dialects:</i> Jehai, Batek Teh. <i>Classification:</i> Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, North Aslian, Eastern</p> <p>More information.</p>
Kensiu	<p>[kns] 3,000 in Malaysia (1984 D. Hogan). Population total all countries: 3,300. Northeast Kedah, near Thai border. Overlaps slightly into southern Yala Province of Thailand. Also spoken in Thailand. <i>Alternate names:</i> Kenseu, Kensieu, Kensiw, Moniq, Monik, Mendi, Ngok Pa, Orang Bukit, Orang Liar. <i>Dialects:</i> Ijoh (Ijok), Jarum, Jeher (Sakai Tanjong of Temongoh), Kedah (Quedah), Plus, Ulu Selama, Kensiu Batu, Kensiu Siong, Kentaq Nakil. <i>Classification:</i> Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, North Aslian, Western</p> <p>More information.</p>
Kintaq	<p>[knq] 220 in Malaysia (2003 SIL). Kedah-Perak border area, Thai border. Overlaps slightly into Southern Yala Province of Thailand. Also spoken in Thailand. <i>Alternate names:</i> Kenta, Kintak, Kintaq Bong, Bong. <i>Classification:</i> Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, North Aslian, Western</p> <p>More information.</p>
Lanoh	<p>[lnh] 224 (2000 D. Bradley). Ethnic population: 224 (2000 D. Bradley). North central Perak. <i>Alternate names:</i> Jengjeng. <i>Classification:</i> Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, Senoic</p> <p>More information.</p>

Malaccan Creole Malay	[ccm] Malacca Straits. <i>Alternate names:</i> Chitties Creole Malay. <i>Dialects:</i> May be historically related to Sri Lankan Creole Malay. <i>Classification:</i> Creole, Malay based More information.
Malaccan Creole Portuguese	[mcm] 5,000 in Malaysia (1997 Col. Timothy D'Souza, Eurasian Association). Population total all countries: 5,000 (1997). Trankera and Hilir, Melaka, Straits of Malacca. Related varieties in parts of Kuala Lumpur and Singapore. Variety in Pulau Tikus spoken more in 1997 than in 1987. Also spoken in Singapore. <i>Alternate names:</i> Malaysian Creole Portuguese, Malaccan, Papia Kristang, Kristang, Portuguese Patois, Serani, Bahasa Serani, Bahasa Geragau, Malaqueiro, Malaquense, Malaquês, Malaquenho, Português de Malaca, Malayo-Portuguese. <i>Classification:</i> Creole, Portuguese based More information.
Malay	[mly] 7,181,000 in Malaysia (1986). Population includes 248,757 in Sarawak (1980 census), 2,000,000 in Kelantan and Trengganu, and 1,000,000 in other parts of Malaysia. Population total all countries: 17,604,253. All districts of Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah, and Sarawak. Also spoken in Brunei, Indonesia (Sumatra), Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, USA. <i>Alternate names:</i> Bahasa Malaysia, Bahasa Malayu, Malayu, Melaju, Melayu, Standard Malay. <i>Dialects:</i> Trengganu, Kelantan, Kedah, Perak (Southern Malay), Sarawak Malay, Bazaar Malay (Low Malay, Pasar Malay, Pasir Malay, Trade Malay). 'Bazaar Malay' is used to refer to many regional nonstandard dialects. Over 80% cognate with Indonesian. <i>Classification:</i> Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Malayic, Malayan, Local Malay More information.
Malay, Baba	[mbf] 5,000 in Malacca (1979 Tan Chee Beng). Melaka Tengah, Malacca Straits, Peninsular Malaysia. <i>Alternate names:</i> Straits Malay, Chinese Malay. <i>Classification:</i> Creole, Malay based More information.
Malay, Kedah	[meo] Kedah, Penang, and Perlis states. Also spoken in Thailand. <i>Alternate names:</i> Satun Malay. <i>Dialects:</i> Distinct from Pattani Malay or Standard Malay. <i>Classification:</i> Austronesian,

	Malayo-Polynesian, Malayic, Malayan, Local Malay More information.
Malaysian Sign Language	[xml] <i>Alternate names:</i> Bahasa Isyarat Malaysia. <i>Classification:</i> Deaf sign language More information.
Minriq	[mnq] 125 (1981 Wurm and Hattori). Southeast Kelantan. <i>Alternate names:</i> Menriq, Menrik, Mendriq, Menraq. <i>Classification:</i> Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, North Aslian, Eastern More information.
Mintil	[mzt] 40 (1975 SIL). Tamun River, Pahang. <i>Alternate names:</i> Mitil. <i>Classification:</i> Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, North Aslian, Eastern Nearly extinct. More information.
Negeri Sembilan Malay	[zmi] 300,000 (1981 Wurm and Hattori). Southeast of Kuala Lumpur, Ulu Muar District. <i>Alternate names:</i> Malaysian Minangkabau, Ulu Muar Malay, Orang Negeri. <i>Dialects:</i> Related to Minangkabau in Sumatra, Indonesia. <i>Classification:</i> Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Malayic, Malayan, Para-Malay More information.
Orang Kanaq	[orn] 34 (1981 Wurm and Hattori). Southeast and northeast of Mawai. <i>Classification:</i> Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Malayic, Malayan, Aboriginal Malay Nearly extinct. More information.
Orang Seletar	[ors] 853 in Malaysia (2000 WCD). Population total all countries: 1,737. Southeast coast around Kukuo, Jahore Bahru, east and north, and the north coast of Singapore. Also spoken in Singapore. <i>Classification:</i> Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Malayic, Malayan, Aboriginal Malay More information.
Penang Sign Language	[psg] Penang. <i>Classification:</i> Deaf sign language More information.
Sabüm	[sbo] 889 (2000 WCD). North central Perak. <i>Dialects:</i> Closest to Lanoh and Semnam, but not the same as Lanoh. <i>Classification:</i> Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, Senoic

	More information.
Selangor Sign Language	[kgi] Selangor and elsewhere in Peninsular Malaysia. <i>Alternate names:</i> Kuala Lumpur Sign Language, KLSL. <i>Classification:</i> Deaf sign language More information.
Semai	[sea] 18,327 (2000 D. Bradley). Ethnic population: 18,327 (2000 D. Bradley). Northwest Pahang and southern Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan, central mountain area. <i>Alternate names:</i> Central "Sakai", Senoi, Sengoi. <i>Dialects:</i> Jelai, Orang Tanjong of Ulu Langat, Sungkai, Perak I, Perak II, Cameron, Telom, Bidor, Betau, Lipis, Bil, Ulu Kampar (Kampar). <i>Classification:</i> Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, Senoic More information.
Semaq Beri	[szc] 2,078 (2000 D. Bradley). Ethnic population: 2,078. Pahang, Trengganu, Kelantan. <i>Alternate names:</i> Semaq Bri, Semoq Beri. <i>Dialects:</i> 2 dialects. <i>Classification:</i> Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, South Aslian More information.
Semelai	[sza] 2,932 (2000 D. Bradley). Ethnic population: 2,932 (2000 D. Bradley). Between Segamat (Johore) and the Pahang River. <i>Classification:</i> Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, South Aslian More information.
Semnam	[ssm] 667 (2000 WCD). North central Perak. <i>Dialects:</i> Close to Lanoh and Sabüm. <i>Classification:</i> Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, Senoic More information.
Tamil	[tam] 1,060,000 in Malaysia (1993). <i>Classification:</i> Dravidian, Southern, Tamil-Kannada, Tamil-Kodagu, Tamil-Malayalam, Tamil More information.
Temiar	[tea] 11,593 (2000 D. Bradley). Ethnic population: 11,593 (2000 D. Bradley). Mostly in Perak and Kelantan; also Pahang. <i>Alternate names:</i> Temer, Northern Sakai, Seroq, Pie. <i>Dialects:</i> Grik, Kenderong, Kenering, Po-Klo (Sakai Bukit of Temongoh), Sakai of Plus Korbu, Sungai Piah, Tanjong Rambutan,

	Tembe' (Tembi), Ulu Kinta (Kinta Sakai), Lanoh Kobak. <i>Classification</i> : Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, Senoic More information.
Temoq	[tmo] 350 (1981 Wurm and Hattori). Jeram River, southeast Pahang. <i>Classification</i> : Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, South Aslian More information.
Temuan	[tmw] 9,312 (1981 Wurm and Hattori). Southern extension of the main range in the southern half of the peninsula, Selangor, Pahang, Johore, Negri Sembilan, Kuala Langat, scattered settlements. <i>Alternate names</i> : Benua, Niap. <i>Dialects</i> : Beduanda (Biduanda), Belanda (Belana, Blanda, Landa, Belanas, Belandas), Berembun (Birmun), Mantra (Mentera, Mintra), Temuan, Udai. <i>Classification</i> : Austronesian, Malayo-Polynesian, Malayic, Malayan, Aboriginal Malay More information.
Tonga	[tnz] Northwest tip north of Kaki. <i>Alternate names</i> : Mos. <i>Dialects</i> : Satun. <i>Classification</i> : Austro-Asiatic, Mon-Khmer, Aslian, North Aslian, Tonga More information.

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