Country Profile: Malaysia

Country Profile (PDF)

Country Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Malaysia 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps (MY501A)	JUPEM	1:50,000	2008 – 2011	23
Malaysia 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps (MY502A)	JUPEM	1:50,000	2012 – 2013	62
Malaysia 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps (MY511A)	JUPEM	1:50,000	2008 – 2011	82
Malaysia 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps (MY512A)	JUPEM	1:50,000	2012 – 2016	95
Brunei 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps (BR50R)	JUAN	1:50,000	1985 – 1987	18
Brunei 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps (T735)	JUAN	1:50,000	1980 – 1984	18
Singapore 1:25,000 Scale Topographic Maps	SMU	1:25,000	1992	4
Singapore 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps	SMU	1:50,000	1987	1
Malaysia City Level Topographic Maps (DNMM8101)	PPNM	Varies	1992 – 2006	54
Malaysia City Level Topographic Maps (DNMM8201)	PPNM	Varies	1996 – 2005	20
Malaysia 1:25,000 Scale Topographic Maps (DNMM6102)	PPNM	1:25,000	1995 – 2007	133
Malaysia 1:25,000 Scale Topographic Maps (DNMM6201)	PPNM	1:25,000	1997 – 2009	216
Malaysia 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps (DNMM5101)	PPNM	1:50,000	1983 – 2007	124
Malaysia 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps (DNMM5201)	PPNM	1:50,000	1992 – 2010	268
Malaysia 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps (T735)	PPNM	1:50,000	1963 – 1995	167
Malaysia 1:63,360 Scale Topographic Maps (L7010)	PPNM	1:63,360	1959 – 1973	122

Nautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Malaysia (Sarawak) Nautical Charts (All Scales)	SARA	Varies	2010 – 2022	68
Singapore Nautical Charts (All Scales)	MPA	Varies	2010 – 2024	9
Malaysia Nautical Charts (All Scales)	MNHC	Varies	2007 – 2024	103

Geoscientific

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Indonesia Wireline Logs	EVG	Varies	2023	3
Indonesia 1:5,000,000 Scale Geological Maps	PPPG/GRDC	1:5,000,000	1996	1
Indonesia 1:10,000,000 Scale Geological Maps	PPPG/GRDC	1:10,000,000	2000	1

Thematic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
The World 1:30,000,000 Scale Topographic Map Series 1145 (NGA)	DMA	1:30,000,000		2
Malaysia District Maps (MY90001R)	PPNM	Varies	2004 – 2007	104

Global Census Archive: GIS Census Data

Year	Questions / Answers	ADM Level	Polygons at ADM	Data Points
1991	5 / 32	5	13,261	424,352
2000	11 / 125	4	16,043	2,005,375

Global Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Soviet Military City Plans	VTU GSh	Varies	1944 – 2003	3,021
Soviet Military 1:100,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:100,000	1947 – 1999	24,897
Soviet Military 1:200,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:200,000	1949 – 2009	17,799
Soviet Military 1:500,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:500,000	1953 – 1998	3,093
Soviet Military 1:1,000,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:1,000,000	1948 – 1994	1,089

Nautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
NGA Nautical Charts POD Certified (All Scales)	NGA	Varies	1943 – 2013	4,517

Aeronautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Joint Operations Graphic (JOG 1501A) 1:250,000 – Aeronautical	DMA	1:250,000	1958 – 2007	6,380
Tactical Pilotage Chart (TPC) 1:500,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:500,000	1967 – 2006	618
Operational Navigation Chart (ONC) 1:1,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:1,000,000	1969 – 2001	248
Jet Navigation Chart (JNC) 1:2,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:2,000,000	1971 – 1999	117
Global Navigation and Planning Chart (GNC) 1:5,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:5,000,000	1981 – 1999	27

Note: East View Geospatial is continuously sourcing new resources that may not yet be listed in Global Explorer. Please contact us if you have geodata needs beyond what is listed above and we will be happy to discuss available off-the-shelf and custom solutions.

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Historical Country Mapping Information

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Country Profile (PDF)

Topographic

Mapping in Malaysia continues to reflect differing organizational and cartographic histories. Sabah and Sarawak on the island of Borneo were British colonies until independence in 1963 and were mapped by British agencies, while peninsular Malaysia (Semenanjung) has a longer history of independent mapping. There has been a gradual process of standardization between different products and series, with a move to consistent use of metric specifications for all products. Official topographic and earth science mapping programs are now coordinated through national agencies.

The national mapping agency is the **Department of Survey and Mapping Malaysia** (**Jabatan Ukur dan Pemetaan Malaysia (JUPEM)**), which coordinates all official cadastral, geodetic, photogrammetric and topographic surveying and mapping activities for the whole of Malaysia from headquarters in Kuala Lumpur. Topographic mapping is carried out by the **Directorate of National Mapping** (**Direktorat Pemetaan Negara**) within **JUPEM**. The first survey office in the country was established in 1909 as the Federated Malay States Survey Department and plane-table surveying of the Malayan Peninsula was carried out in conjunction with British military agencies and the Survey of India until after World War II. By 1941 60 percent of Malaya was covered by one-inch scale topographic maps and the remainder of the series was completed by 1953 using photogrammetry. A new map at this scale (Series L7010) was initiated in 1950 and completed in 1974. This has now been withdrawn following completion of 1:50,000 mapping, but sheet lines continue to be used in thematic series. The 1:25,000 scale (Series L8010), initiated at the same time as (L7010), covers all developed parts of the country apart from mountainous areas, with neat lines conforming to grid lines. The current national map series for the peninsula is the 1:50,000

scale (Series L7030), based upon a rectified skew orthomorphic projection around a central meridian of 324° E and the Everest ellipsoid. This is a fully metric map, compiled by photogrammetric interpretation of aerial coverage, showing relief with 25 m contours and was completed in 177 sheets in 1995. Larger-scale topographic programs include (Series L905) which covers over 100 towns in West Malaysia, mostly at scales of 1:5,000 or 1:10,000. Since 1992 **JUPEM** has standardized the map size for sheets in this series. Revised 1:10,000 scale mapping of Kuala Lumpur has been carried out.

Topographic programs in Sabah and Sarawak were initiated after the end of World War II by the **Directorate of Overseas Surveys** (now **Ordnance Survey International (OSI)**). A 1:50,000 series began in 1960 using photogrammetric techniques, with contours in feet, and was completed for most of Sabah, and for all of Sarawak in 210 sheets. Each covered a 15 quadrangle and conformed to standard **DOS** specifications. With the completion of 1:50,000 scale mapping of West Malaysia effort has shifted to updating the map base for Borneo and the first sheets in a new metric 1:50,000 specification in (Series T738) have started to appear. A total of 278 maps will be needed to complete this series.

Soviet military topographic mapping of Malaysia exists at the following scales: 1:1,000,000 (8 sheets, complete coverage, published 1953-1960); 1:500,000 (19 sheets, complete coverage, published 1961-1987); 1:200,000 (41 sheets, complete coverage of Peninsular Malaysia, partial coverage of Sabah and Sarawak, published 1964-1983) and city (1:10,000 to 1:25,000) topographic mapping of Georgetown (Pinang) and Ipoh published between 1981 and 1983. These products are available in print, digital raster and digital vector GIS formats from **East View Geospatial**.

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GIS/Vector

JUPEM has invested heavily in digital systems since the late 1980s. The **Computer Assisted Mapping System (CAMS)** was implemented in 1990 and is now used for conventional map publication and revision and for the maintenance of a growing national topographic database holding structured 1:25,000 scale data. Cartographic databases at 1:25,000 and 1:50,000 scales are also maintained and between 1994 and 1996 **CAMS** was also used to create and maintain a 1:5,000 and 1:10,000 scale database. Progress has been most rapid for Peninsular Malaysia, with about 25 percent of 1:50,000 and 1:25,000 data completed by 1999, but digital map data of Sabah and Sarawak is also being created. These data are being integrated with cadastral information captured in the **Computer Assisted Land Survey (CALS)** project, to form a national land information system. A pilot project started in 1997 in the federal Capital Territory of Kuala Lumpur and by 1999 a **National Infrastructure for Land Information System (NaLIS)** was being established, based in **JUPEM**. The **NaLIS** system is modelled on the American national spatial data infrastructure, and has been set up to support the sharing of information amongst producers and users of land data, at federal and state levels across Malaysia. **NaLIS** comprises the policies, standards and procedures for land related agencies to cooperatively produce and share land information.

A digital thematic mapping system was commissioned in 1995 to facilitate the creation of smaller scale digital map themes, and by 1999 60 percent of the database for Peninsular Malaya had been populated. It is planned to generate electronic maps on CD-ROM from this data and to implement a **National Atlas Information System**.

There are also plans for the production of a national 1:50,000 digital image map, in association with the **Malaysian Center for Remote Sensing (MACRES)**. This map would use topographic sheet lines and be extended to cover the whole of Malaysia, with hard copy topographic mapping on an image base overlaid with contour data, as well as an ARC/INFO-based digital image map database.

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Nautical

The **Hydrographic Department** of the **Royal Malaysian Navy** is responsible for hydrographic surveying and charting of Malaysian waters, including the maintenance of 24 nautical charts.

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Geological/Scientific

Earth science mapping of Malaysia is coordinated by the **Geological Survey Department (Kajibumi)**, which maintains headquarters in Kuala Lumpur, and carries out surveys for the Peninsula from offices in Ipoh. Separate offices in Kuching and Kota Kinabalu publish mapping of Sabah and Sarawak. 1:63,360 scale mapping is now available for about 85 percent of West Malaysia. Sheets are published on (L7010) sheet lines with accompanying explanatory bulletins. A variety of smaller-scale mapping is also published for the Peninsula including 1:500,000 coverage for geology, quaternary geology, hydrogeology and mineral deposits. Photogeological mapping has been compiled in association with the **Malaysian Center for Remote Sensing (MACRES)** in a project carried out with the Swedish Space Corporation **Satellitbild**. Reconnaissance 1:100,000 satellite image maps were compiled from LANDSAT TM and SPOT XS coverage of Selangor and Kedah, and were used as a base for raster plotting of earth science vector data relating to the states. **MACRES** was established in 1991 and has also been involved in resources mapping including the publication of 1:50,000 scale land use mapping of Selangor and Kedah states, based upon satellite imagery.

The **Geological Survey Departments of Sabah and Sarawak (GSMSS)** with offices in Sarawak and Sabah issue earth science coverage of Malaysian parts of Borneo. Large scale coverage is less systematic than in West Malaysia, maps are published at 1:50,000 scale, with about 20 percent of Sarawak and 15 percent of Sabah covered. 1:125,000 and 1:250,000 mapping is also available for many areas and most maps are issued with monographs. Small scale programs include geological and hydrogeological coverage at 1:500,000 scale.

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Vegetation/Forestry

Resources mapping of Malaysia includes extensive coverage of Sabah compiled by the British **Land Resources Development Center** (now **Natural Resources Institute (NRI)**) in the 1970s on *Joint Operations Graphic* sheet lines. 1:250,000 scale coverage of soil and land capability was published with accompanying texts. More recent thematic coverage includes land use, land classification and population mapping of Sarawak from **JTU**. **Kementerian Pertanian** (The **Department of Agriculture**) Kuala Lumpur maintains a GIS holding soil, land use, agroclimatic and crop map data, and has published a number of hard copy themes. The **Irrigation and Drainage Department** (**Jabatan Pengairan dan Saliran (JPS)**) maintains an ARC/INFO-based GIS for river basins.

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Cadaster

Larger scale town mapping in (Series T931) is in production for significant settlements, either based upon earlier colonial surveys, or compiled as new photogrammetric mapping. The **Lands and Survey Department**, Sarawak, (**Jabatan Tanah dan Ukur (JTU)**) has produced a 1:250,000 scale map of the state with 10 sheet coverage, which was used as a base for land use mapping in the 1990s.

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Tourist/Reference

Small-scale tourist maps of the country are issued by the **Automobile Association of Malaysia**, by the **Tourist Development Corporation of Malaysia** and by several overseas commercial mapping firms, notably **ITM**, **Macmillan**, **HarperCollins**, **New Holland**, **Nelles Verlag** and **Cartographia**. The most extensive range is from **Periplus** who issue larger scale coverage of tourist destinations as well as a town map of Kuala Lumpur and state maps.

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