

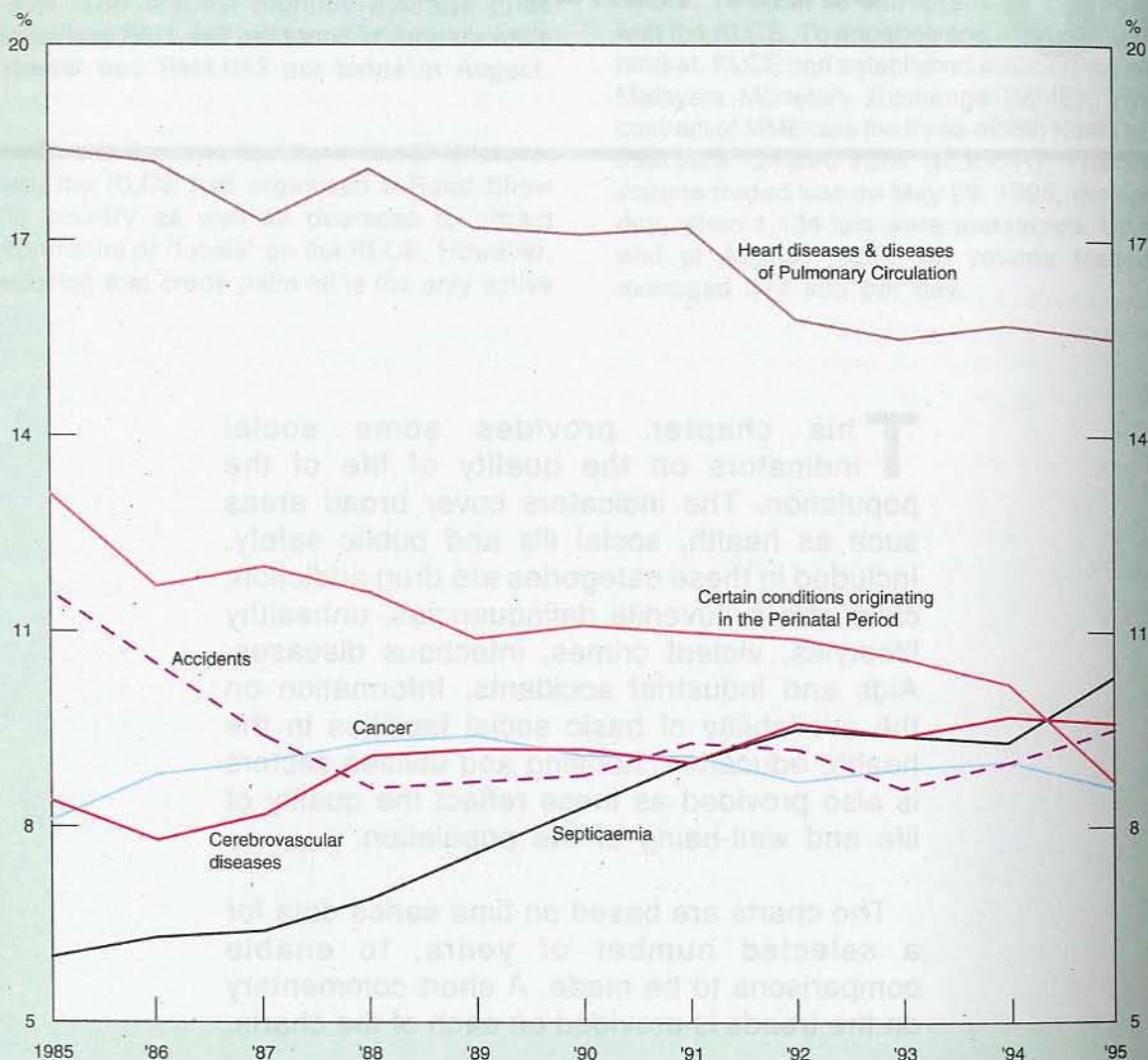
**T**his chapter provides some social indicators on the quality of life of the population. The indicators cover broad areas such as health, social ills and public safety. Included in these categories are drug addiction, child abuse, juvenile delinquencies, unhealthy lifestyles, violent crimes, infectious diseases, Aids and industrial accidents. Information on the availability of basic social facilities in the health, education, housing and utilities sectors is also provided as these reflect the quality of life and well-being of the population.

The charts are based on time series data for a selected number of years, to enable comparisons to be made. A short commentary on the trends is provided on each of the charts.

## Health

Chart 10.1

Principal Causes of Death in Government Hospitals in Malaysia

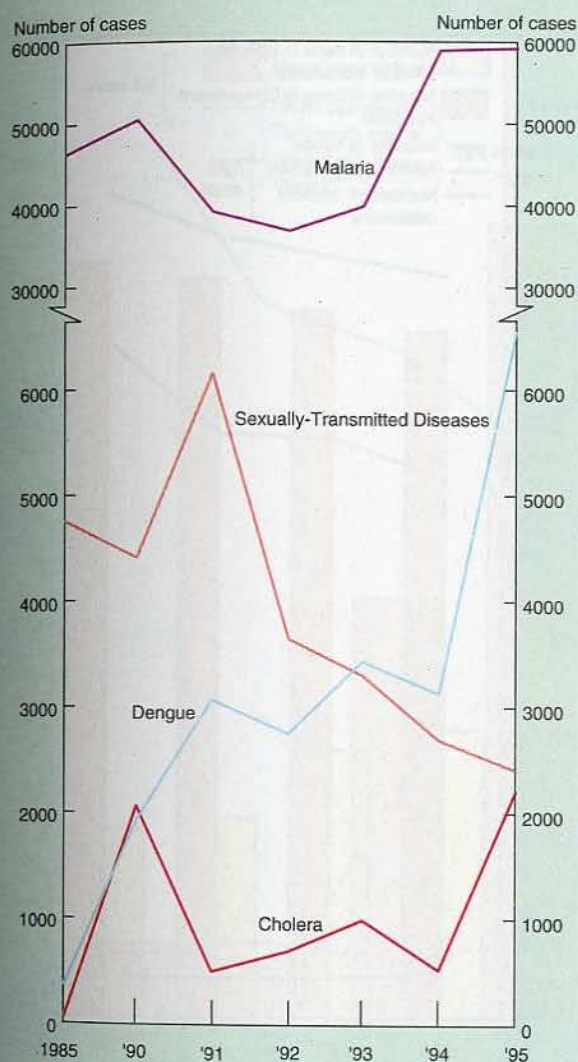


Source : Ministry of Health

Heart diseases and diseases of pulmonary circulation are the main causes of mortality, accounting for 15.5% of total deaths in government hospitals in 1995. This is followed by deaths due to septicaemia (10.3%), cerebrovascular diseases (9.6%), accidents (9.5%), certain conditions originating in the perinatal period (8.7%) and malignant neoplasm or cancer (8.6%). Deaths due to heart diseases, diseases of pulmonary circulation, certain conditions originating in the perinatal period and malignant neoplasm (cancer) show a downward trend while deaths due to septicaemia, accidents and cerebrovascular diseases are on the increase.

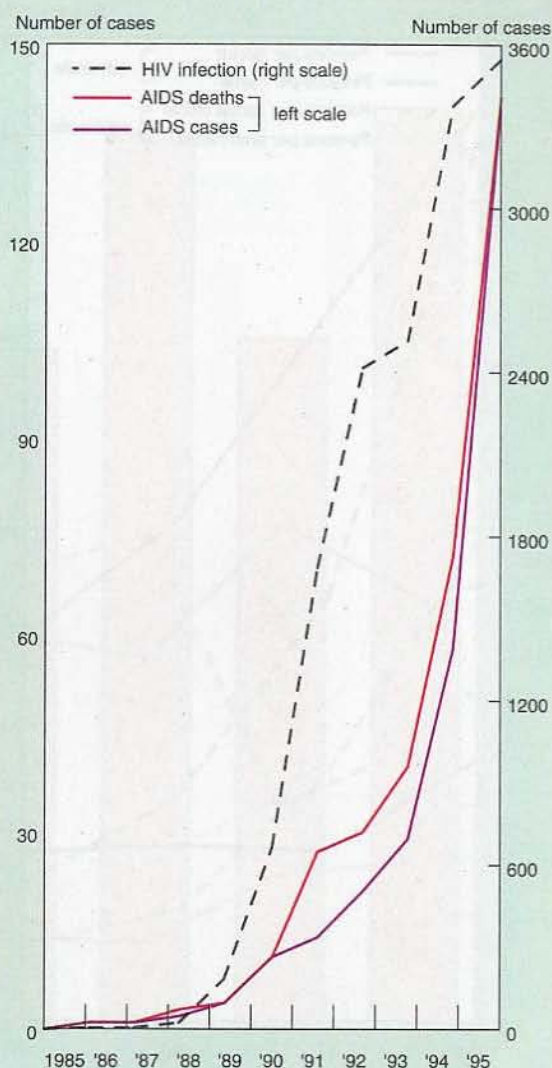


Chart 10.2  
Four Major Notifiable Infectious Diseases in Malaysia



Source : Ministry of Health

Chart 10.3  
HIV Infection, AIDS Cases and Deaths Reported

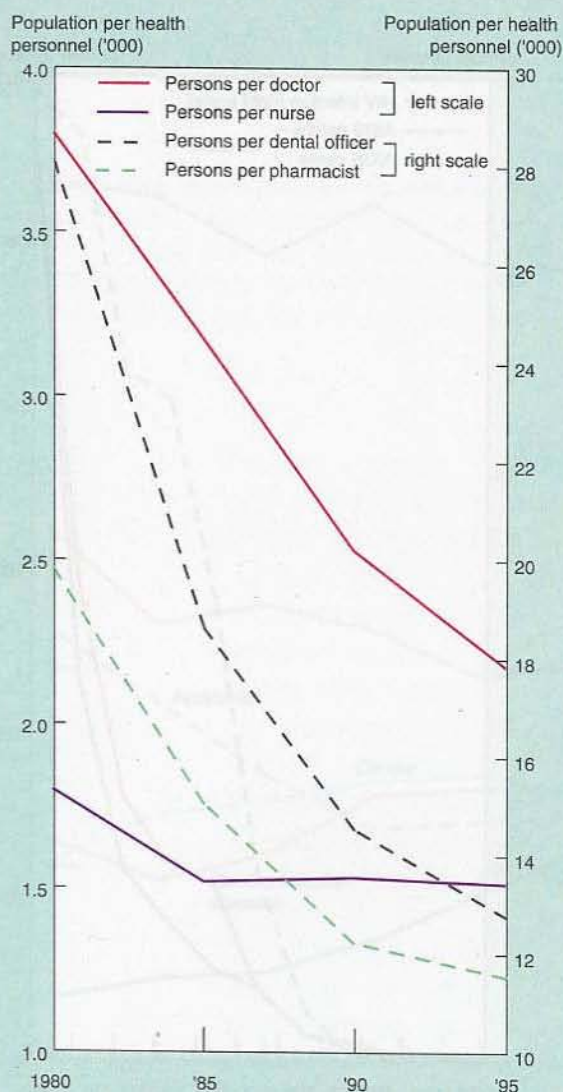


Source : Ministry of Health

Among the 24 notifiable infectious diseases, cholera, typhoid, food poisoning, viral hepatitis, dengue, malaria, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases continue to be the leading causes of morbidity. Even though many of these diseases are still prevalent in the country, the morbidity and mortality due to them have been reduced due to general improvement in environmental sanitation, childhood immunisation programmes, greater disease surveillance at entry points and greater public awareness and participation. In 1995, 6,543 cases of dengue fever and dengue hemorrhagic fever were reported compared to 1,924 cases reported in 1990. A total of 59,208 cases of malaria were reported in 1995 compared to 50,500 cases in 1990. Of the total cases in 1995, Sabah recorded 84.2% of the cases, Peninsular Malaysia 13.1% and Sarawak recorded 2.7% of the cases. Reported cases of cholera in 1995 were 2,209 cases compared to 2,066 cases in 1990. Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD's) which include Gonococcal infections, Syphilis and Chancroid show a downward trend as reflected by the number of cases recorded in 1990 i.e 4,411 cases compared to 2,408 cases recorded in 1995.

As at the end of 1995 a cumulative number of 14,418 HIV cases were recorded of which 3,546 cases were reported in 1995. The HIV virus is transmitted in Malaysia largely by intravenous drug users which account for about 76% of the cases. About 95.6% of HIV cases reported were males and 83.6% were from the age group between 20 to 39 years. During the period 1986 to 1995, 331 cases of AIDS with 283 deaths were reported. Of the 331 AIDS cases, 142 cases were reported in 1995.

Chart 10.4  
Ratio of Selected Health Personnel to Population

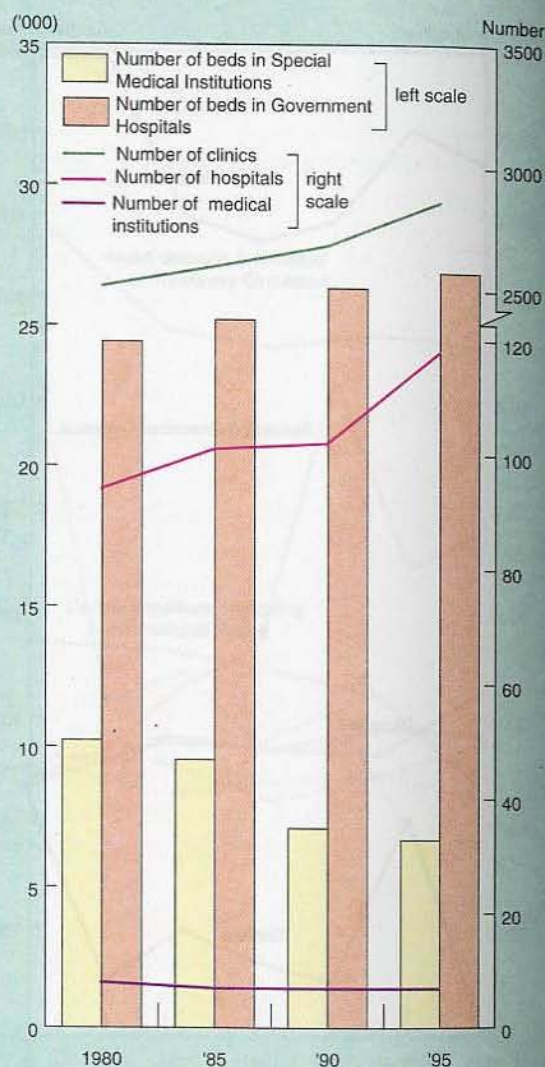


Source : Ministry of Health

The availability of trained health manpower to a large extent determines the standard of healthcare in the country. In terms of the health professionals, their ratios to population have improved since 1980. The number of doctors increased from 3,858 persons in 1980 to 9,505 persons in 1995, resulting in an improvement in doctor population ratio from 1:3,800 persons in 1980 to 1:2,177 persons in 1995.

Similarly, the ratio of pharmacists to population improved from 1:28,058 persons in 1980 to 1:12,756 persons in 1995. The ratio of dentists to population improved from 1:19,815 persons in 1980 to 1:11,552 persons in 1995. As for nurses (in the public sector only), the ratio was 1:1,800 persons in 1980 and 1:1,516 persons in 1995.

Chart 10.5  
Number of Hospitals and Special Medical Institutions and Beds



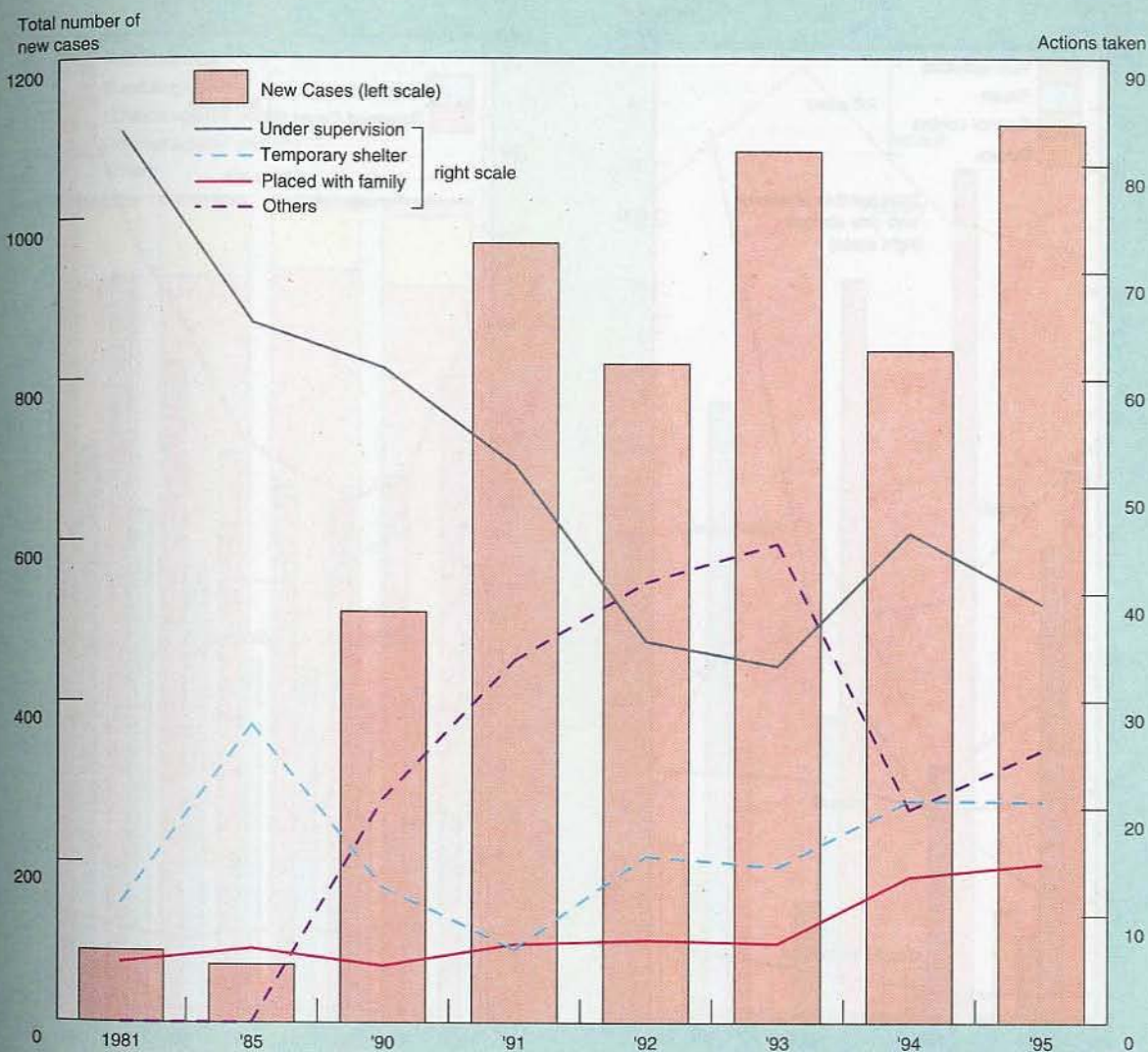
Source : Ministry of Health

Healthcare infrastructure was further strengthened to improve the delivery and quality of healthcare services. The number of hospitals, special medical institutions and clinics expanded during the period 1980 to 1995. In 1980, there were 94 government hospitals with 24,400 beds and 8 special medical institutions like Tanjung Rambutan Mental Hospital and Leprosy Center in Sungai Buloh with 10,230 beds. In 1995, the number of government hospitals increased to 118 with 26,900 beds while that of special medical institutions declined to 7 with 6,700 beds. As for government clinics and health sub-centers in districts and villages, the number also increased from 2,517 to 2,861.



## Social ills

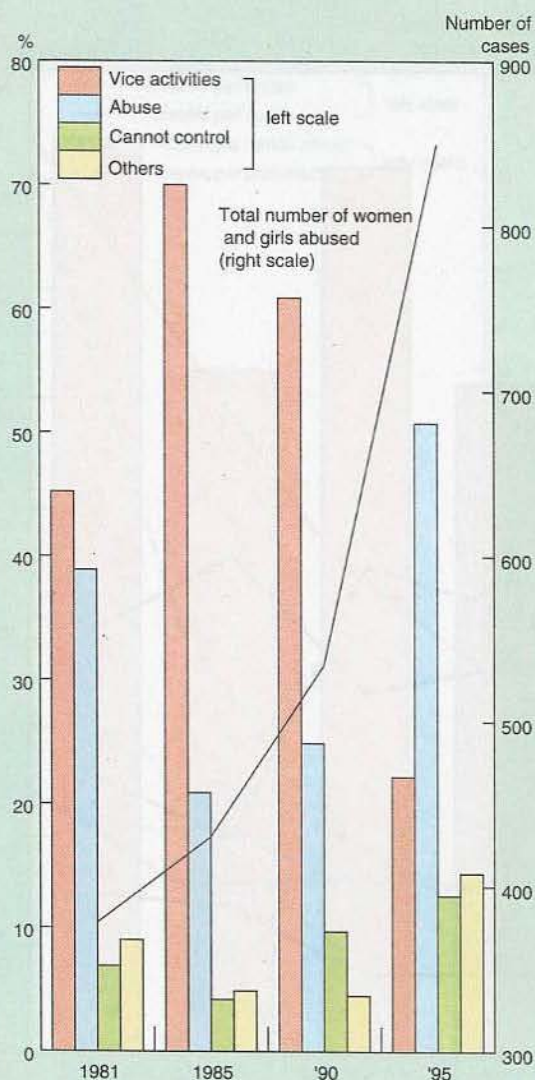
Chart 10.6  
New Child Abuse Cases Reported and Action Taken



Source : Ministry of Health

In 1995, there were 1,117 cases of child abuse reported to the Social Welfare Department compared to 511 cases in 1990 (an increase of 118.6%). The Child Protection Act 1991 provides for action to be taken by the Department to safeguard the abused child by placing the child under temporary shelter, with suitable family, under supervision and others. In 1995, 20.7% of the child abuse cases have been placed under temporary shelter, 14.8% with suitable family, 39.1% under supervision, while the balance 25.4% were provided counseling services, returned to their parents etc.

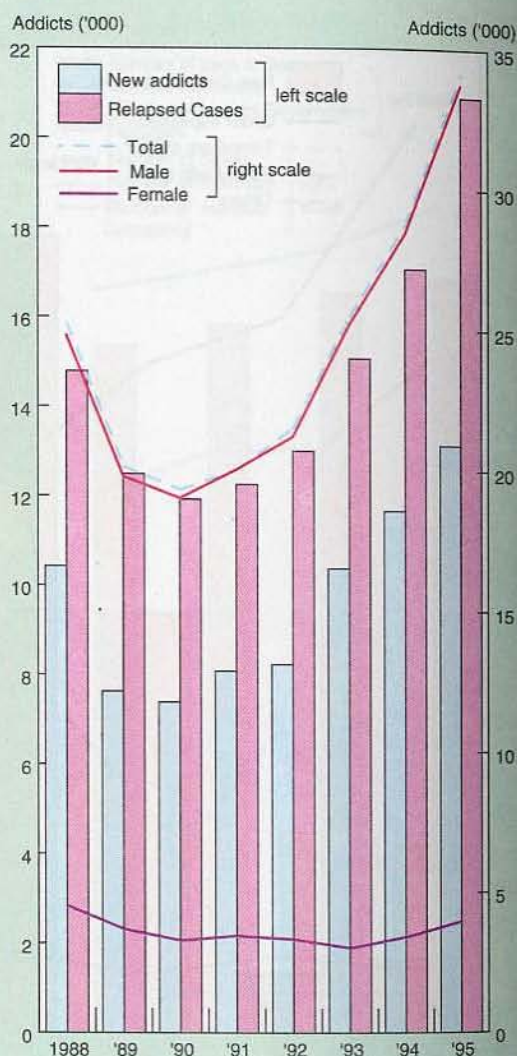
Chart 10.7  
Statistics on Women and Girls Abuse



Source : Dept. of Social Welfare

Women and girls under the age of 21 years who have been exposed to moral danger and engaged in prostitution are protected under the Women and Girls Protection Act 1973. In 1995, women and girls who were detained for vice activities by the police showed a decline, as there were 189 cases in that year compared to 325 cases in 1990, a drop of 42%. There were 432 abuse cases reported to the Department of Welfare in 1995 compared to 133 cases reported in 1990, reflecting more than a three-fold increase.

Chart 10.8  
Drug Addiction

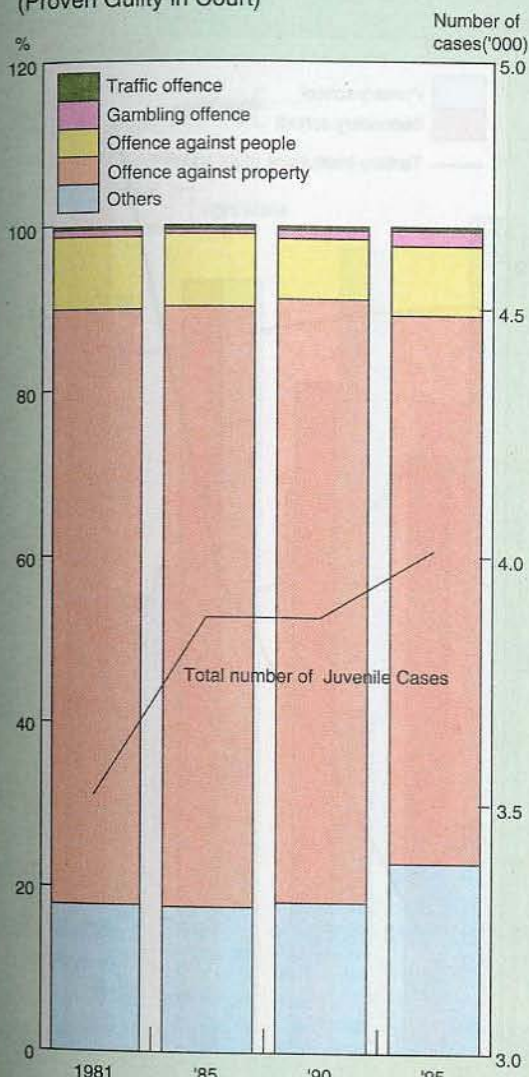


Source : Anti-Narcotic Task Force

The Anti-Narcotics Committee under the National Security Council was set up on 10th September 1983 to monitor and control all aspects of anti-narcotics activities. From 1988 to 1995, a total of 194,797 drug addicts were detected which include both new and relapsed addicts. On average, 2,800 addicts per month were detected. In 1995, 13,140 new drug addicts were detected which reflects a rate of 1,095 addicts per month. Treatment and rehabilitation programmes for drug addicts are being intensified with emphasis on detection, detoxification, institutional rehabilitation, supervision and aftercare.



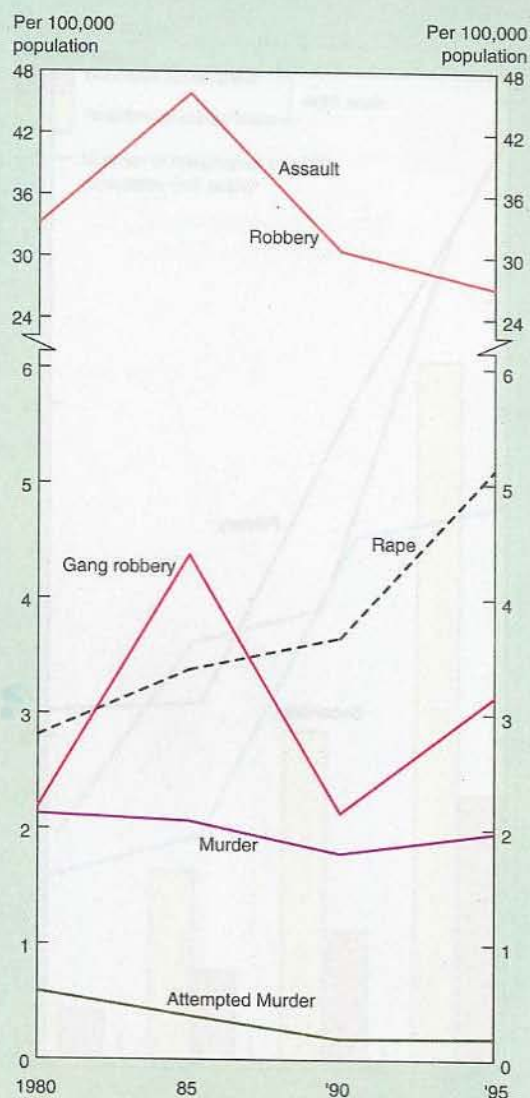
Chart 10.9  
Number of Juvenile Offence Cases  
(Proven Guilty in Court)



Source : Dept. of Social Welfare

The number of juvenile cases has been on the rise since 1981, more apparent from 1990 onwards. There were 4,012 juvenile cases in 1995 compared to 3,877 cases in 1985. The juvenile offences in 1995 comprised offences against property, (2,659 cases or 66.3%); offences against people (339 cases or 8.4%); gambling, (143 cases or 3.6%); traffic offences (157 cases or 3.9%) and other convictions (714 cases or 17.8%).

Chart 10.10  
Selected Violent Crimes Reported to Police

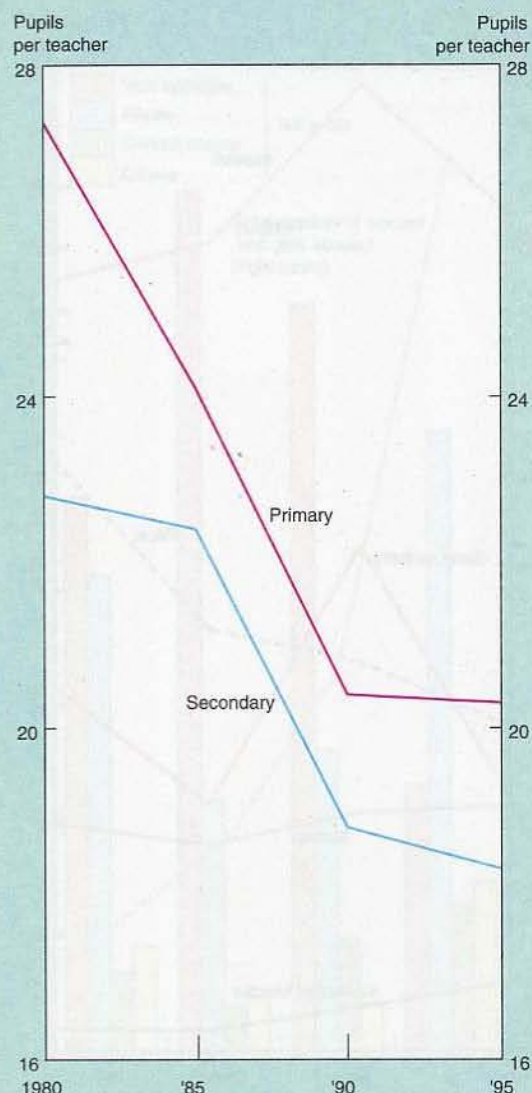


Source : Royal Malaysian Police

In 1995, violent crimes reported to the police increased to 2.3% compared to 1994. While the cases of assault, robbery, attempted murder and murder were on the decline over the past three years, cases like gang robbery and rape were on the rise. For every hundred thousand population, there were 26.9 cases of robbery and assault reported in 1995 compared to 31.3 cases in 1993. Murder cases declined from 2.2 cases in 1993 to 2.0 cases per hundred thousand population in 1995 and attempted murder from 0.4 cases in 1993 to 0.2 cases in 1995. However, cases of rape reported had increased from 4.4 cases for every hundred thousand population in 1993 to 5.1 cases in 1995 while gang robbery increased marginally from 3.1 cases in 1993 to 3.2 cases in 1995.

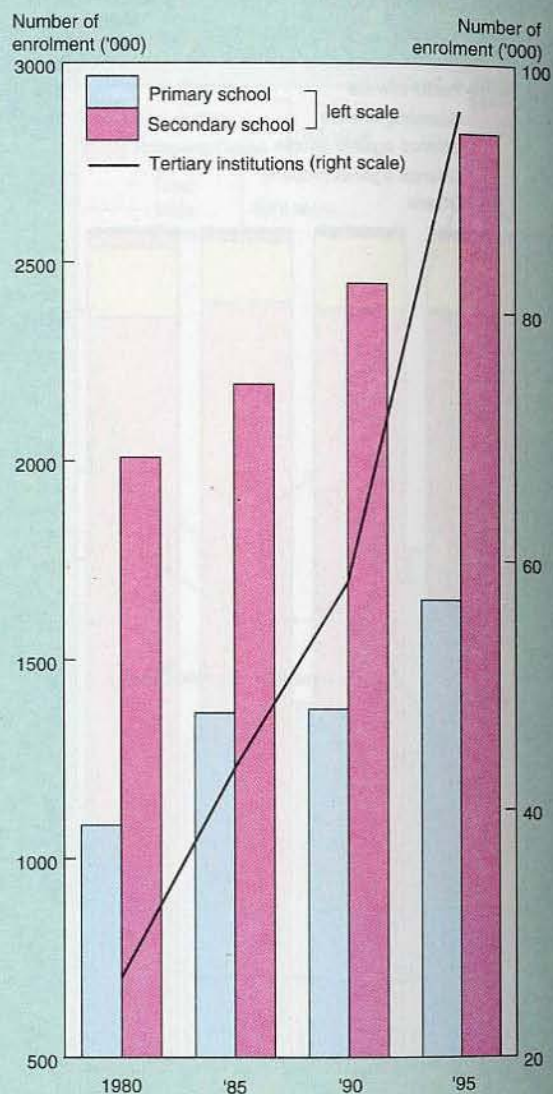
## Education

Chart 10.11  
Student-Teacher Ratio  
( Number of Students per Teacher)



Source : Ministry of Education

Chart 10.12  
Student Enrolment in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Education



Source : Ministry of Education

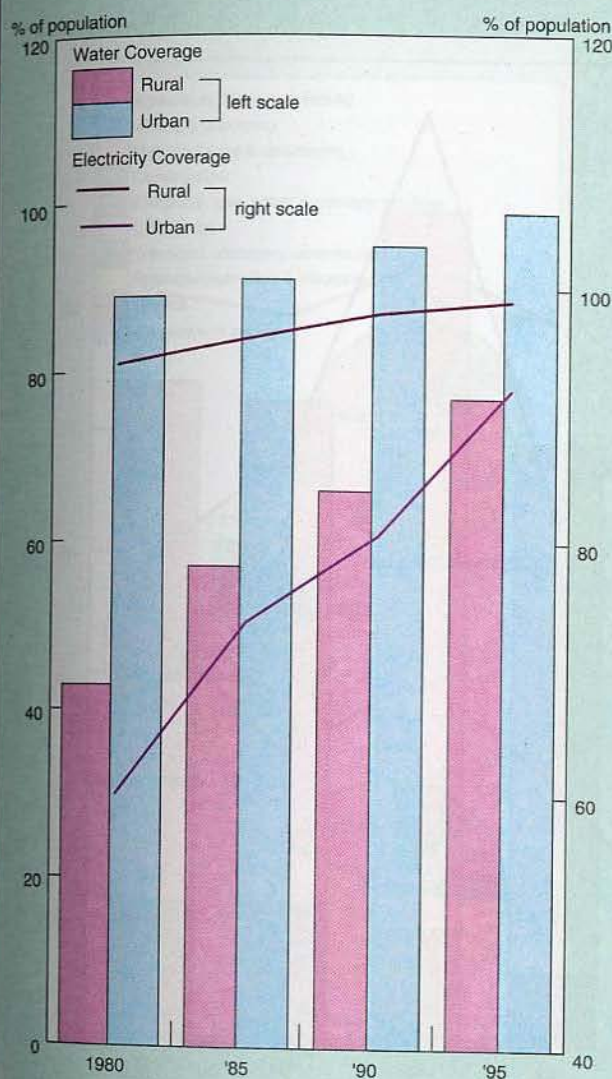
An indicator of the provision of quality education would be the teacher-student ratio. A low teacher-student ratio would facilitate an improvement in the academic performance of the students. In 1980 the teacher-student ratio in government-assisted primary schools was 1:27.3 students. This improved to 1: 20.3 students in 1995. The same trend was noted in government-assisted secondary schools where the student-teacher ratio improved from 1:22.8 students in 1980 to 1: 18.3 students in 1995.

The achievement of universal education is reflected in the increase in enrolment ratio. In Malaysia, substantial increases were noted in enrolment in both primary and secondary schools. Students enrolment in primary schools increased from 2.01 million in 1980 to 2.83 million in 1995 while enrolment in secondary schools increased to 1.65 million students from 1.08 million. Enrolment in universities also increased from 26,410 students in 1980 to 96,247 students in 1995.



## Public Utilities

Chart 10.13  
Water and Electricity Coverage

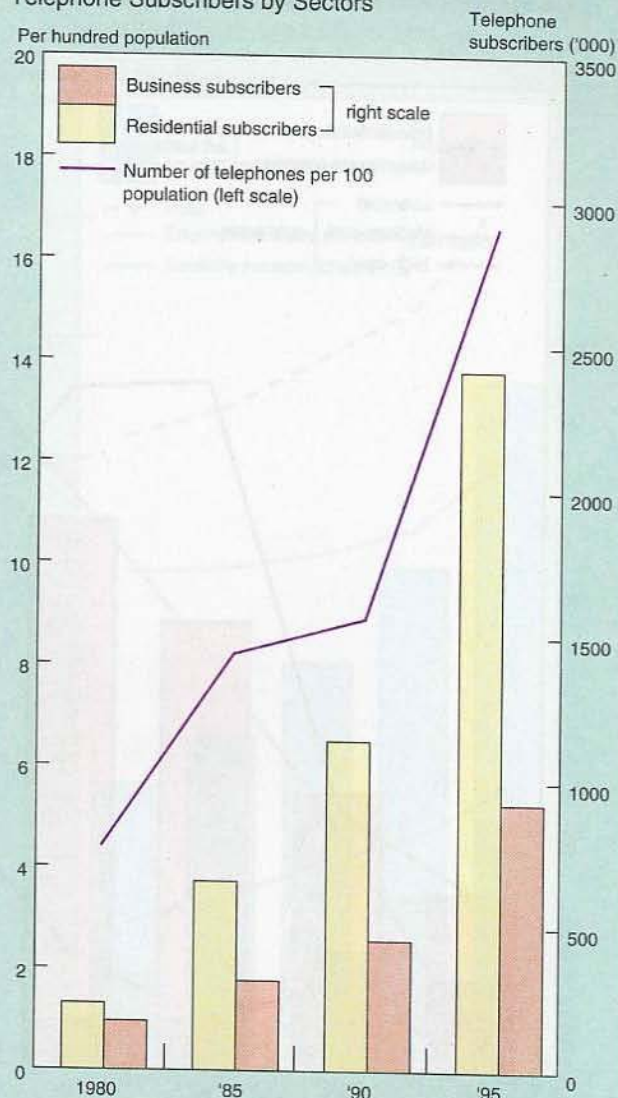


Source: Economic Planning Unit, Prime Minister's Department

The provision of adequate basic public utility facilities, such as water and electricity is crucial to improve the health and quality of life of the population. In 1980, 58.7% of the population was served with safe water and this increased to 89% in 1995. Urban coverage increased from 89% to 99% while rural coverage increased from 42.9% to 77%.

The electricity coverage for the population increased substantially from 77% in 1980 to 92% in 1995. Urban coverage increased from 94% to 99% while rural coverage increased from 60% to 92%.

Chart 10.14  
Number of Telephones Per 100 Population and Telephone Subscribers by Sectors



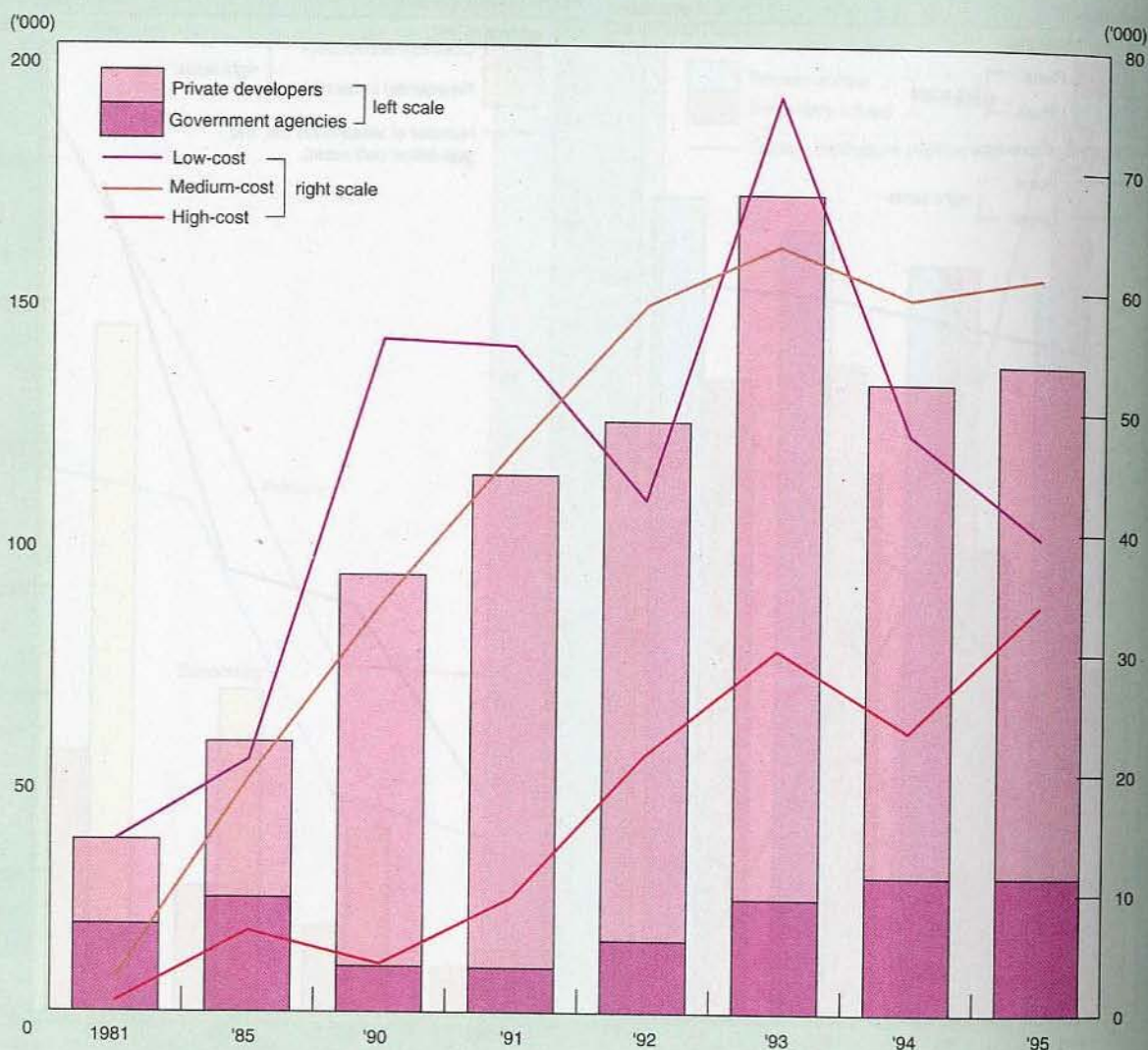
Source: Telekom Malaysia Berhad

The national penetration rate of fixed telephone facilities increased from 4.4 telephones for every 100 persons in 1980 to 16.6 telephones in 1995. The increase in telephone penetration rate was brought about mainly by the upgrading of existing networks via new technologies such as digital, fibre optics etc. During the period, the share of residential sector subscriptions to total subscriptions increased from 57.7% to 72.3% while that of the business sector subscriptions decreased from 42.3% to 27.7%.

## Housing

Chart 10.15

Housing Units Completed by Government Agencies and Private Developers According to Cost Category



Source: Ministry of Housing and Local Authority

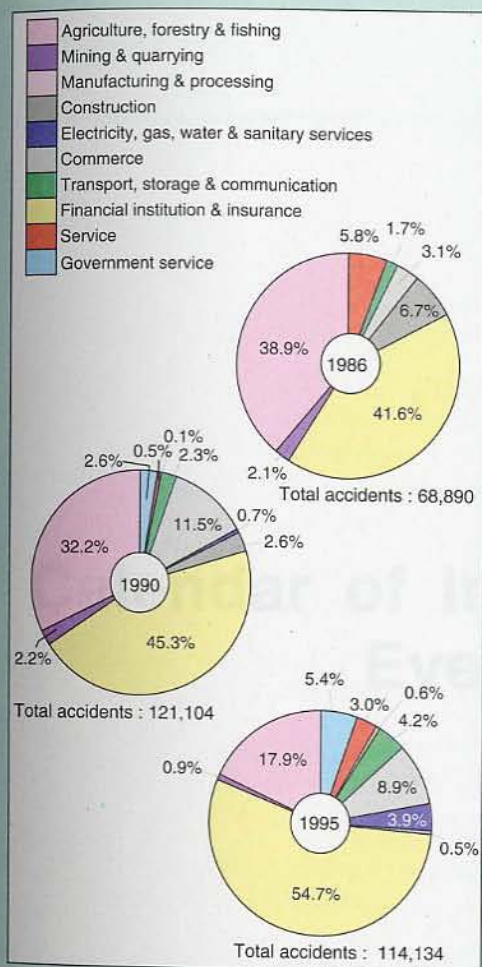
The provision of adequate, affordable and quality housing for all Malaysians, particularly the low-income group has been given priority by the government.

The total number of houses built increased from 35,561 units in 1981 to 134,484 units in 1995. Of this, low-cost houses comprised 29.4% in 1995 compared to 40.1% in 1981. However in terms of units, the number of low-cost houses built by government agencies and the private sector increased to 39,556 units in 1995 from 14,272 units in 1981.



## Public Safety

Chart 10.16  
Percentage of Industrial Accidents by Sector

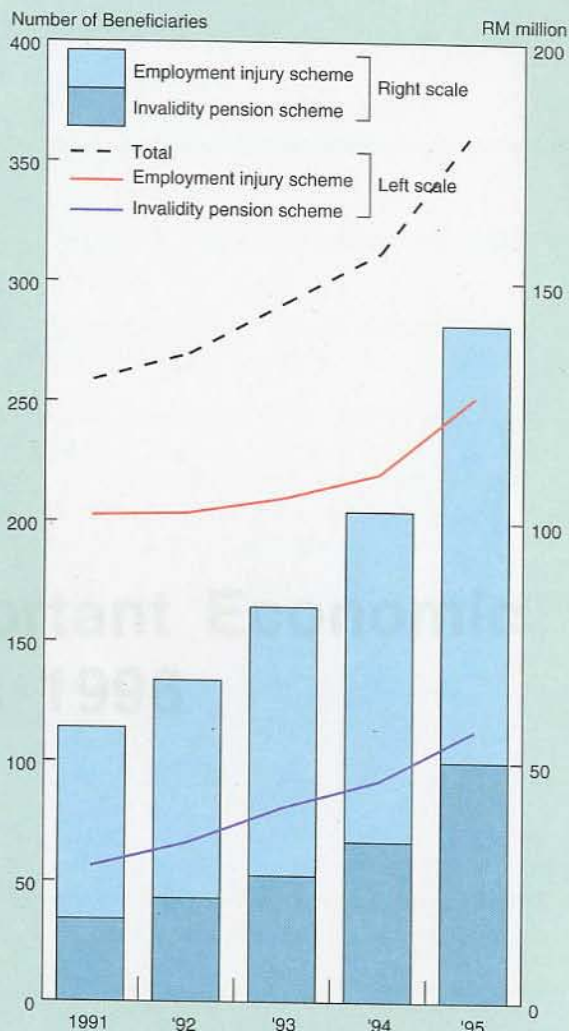


Source : SOCSO

There were 114,134 industrial accidents in 1995 compared to 121,104 accidents in 1990. During the last five years, the number of industrial accidents has declined by 0.7% in 1995 compared with an increase of 3.1% in 1991, attributable mainly to greater enforcement of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1994 and the Factories and Machinery Act 1967. To create greater awareness among the employers, workers and the public, a campaign "Towards a Safe and Healthy Work Culture" was launched in September 1996.

In terms of sectors, in 1995, the manufacturing sector recorded the highest number of industrial accidents with 62,483 accidents or 54.7% of the total accidents registered, followed by agriculture, forestry and fishing which together recorded a total 20,465 accidents or 17.9%. The construction, services and transport sectors recorded 8.9%, 5.4%, 4.2% of the total accidents, respectively.

Chart 10.17  
Total Number of Recipients and Payments for Industrial Accidents According to Scheme



Source : SOCSO

There are two schemes of compensation provided under Social Security Organisation (SOCSO), namely the employment injury scheme and the invalidity pension scheme. A total of RM282.2 million had been paid out in 1995 to 182,763 workers. Of this, 64.5% or RM182 million was paid out under the employment injury scheme while 35.5% or RM100 million under the invalidity pension scheme. Of the total payments under the employment injury scheme, RM82 million were paid out to 94,290 permanently disabled workers, followed by RM37 million for commuting accidents covering 222 workers, RM32.2 million for dependent's benefit covering 13,877 workers and RM29.2 million for temporarily disabled workers covering 94,290 workers. Under the invalidity pension scheme, the largest payment was made to survivors' pension that is RM60.4 million covering 43,377 workers, followed by invalidity pension/invalidity grant amounting to RM34.7 million covering 8,691 workers in 1995.