

IPSOS PRESS RELEASE MOBILITY MONITOR

Malaysian's Perspective on
Public Transport, Road Safety
and New Automotive Technologies

April 2026



Private vehicles dominate mobility in Malaysia

3 out of 4 Malaysians rely on private vehicles including cars and motorcycles, as their main mode of transport, well above the global average.

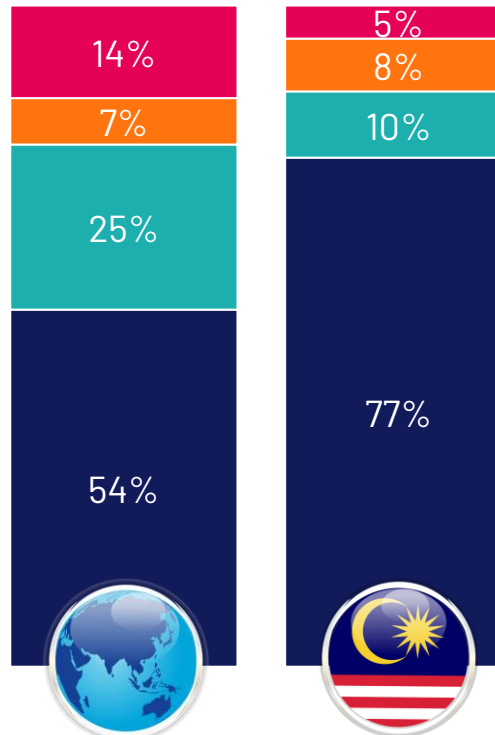
While public transport is widely seen as affordable, limited connectivity to key destinations continues to restrict broader adoption.

Base: Representative sample of Malaysian adults aged 18-74: n=500; Global: n= 23,722. Survey conducted between Nov 21 and Dec 5, 2025

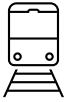
What is your main mode of transport?



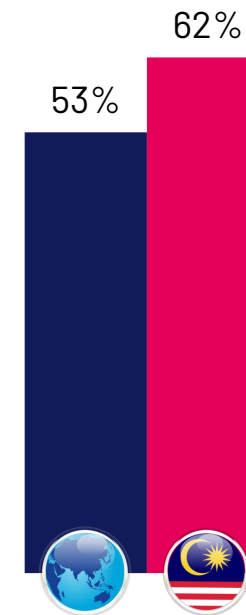
- Private Vehicles
- Public Transport
- Ride hailing/ taxi
- Walking



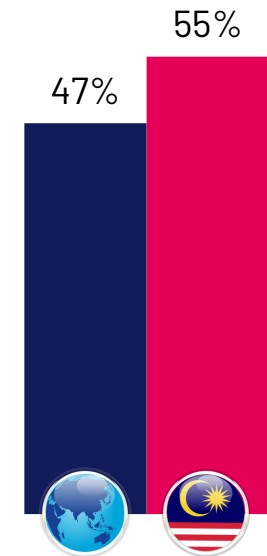
Opinions about public transport system



Public transport in my area is affordable
(% agree)



Limitations in transport options make it hard to reach my destination
(% agree)



Road safety concerns drive support for stricter laws in Malaysia

61% of Malaysians are concerned about road safety, exceeding the global average and pointing to rising public unease.

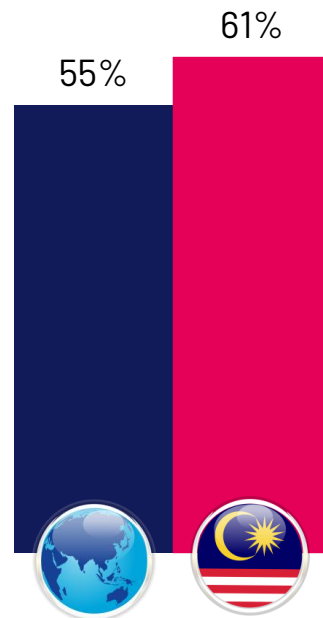
This is reflected in strong public support for action, with 71% of Malaysians supporting stricter traffic laws and 75% backing enhanced driver education programs.

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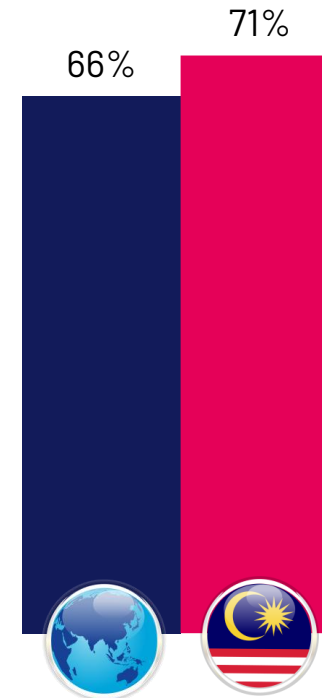
Concerns about road safety



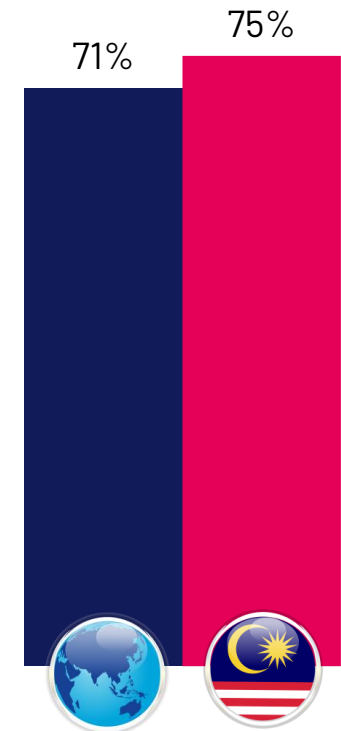
I am **concerned about road safety** in my area (% agree)



I support **stricter traffic laws** (% agree)



I support enhanced **driver education programs** (% agree)



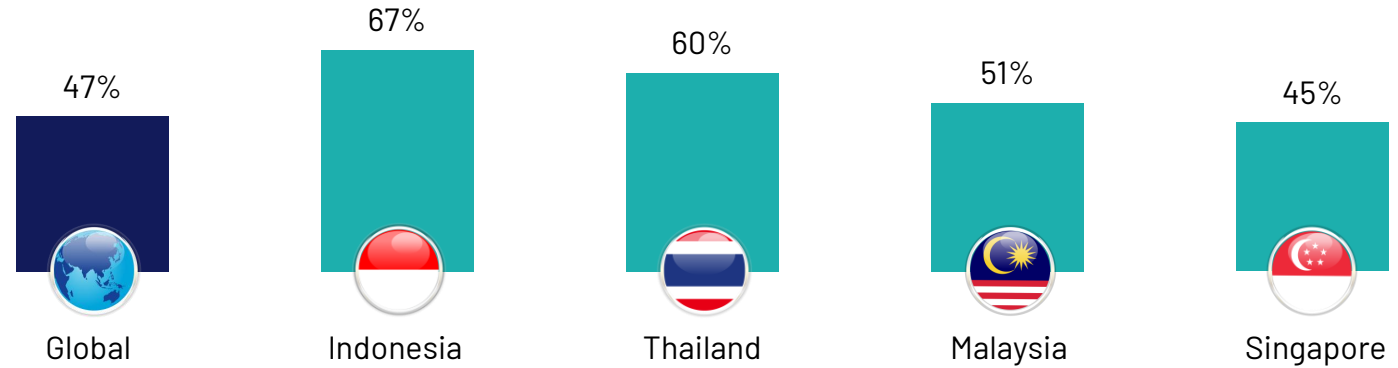
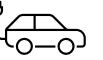
Electric and autonomous vehicles gain tractions across Southeast Asia

Interest in electric vehicles is gaining traction across Southeast Asia, with Malaysia keeping pace as about half of Malaysians express interest in driving an EV, slightly above the global average. This sentiment is consistent with the doubled EV sales from 2024 to 2025.

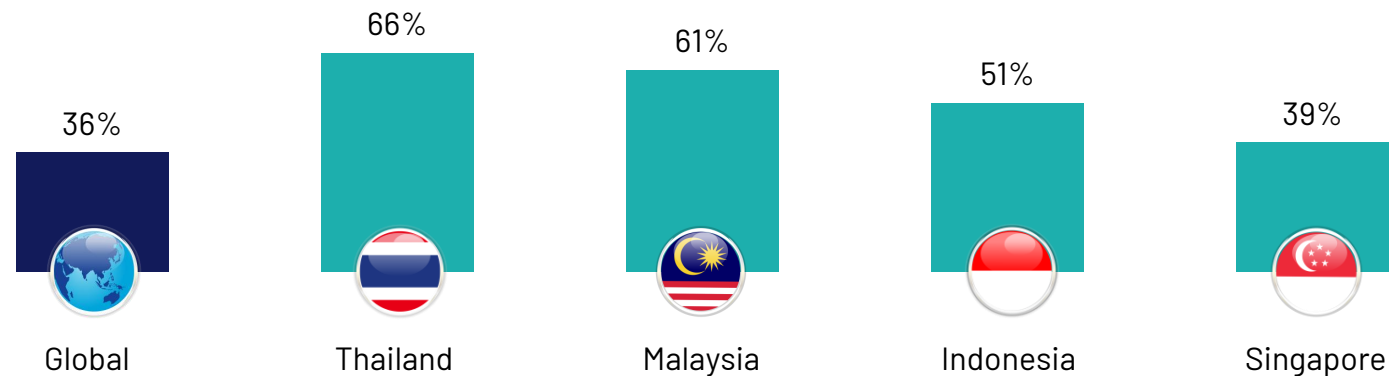
This openness extends to autonomous mobility, with around 6 in 10 Malaysians saying they would feel safe riding in a self-driving car, reflecting growing confidence in new technologies across the region.

Base: Representative sample of Malaysian adults aged 18-74; n=500; Global: n= 23,722. Survey conducted between Nov 21 and Dec 5, 2025

Driving an electric car is appealing to me (% agree)



I would feel safe riding in a self-driving car (% agree)



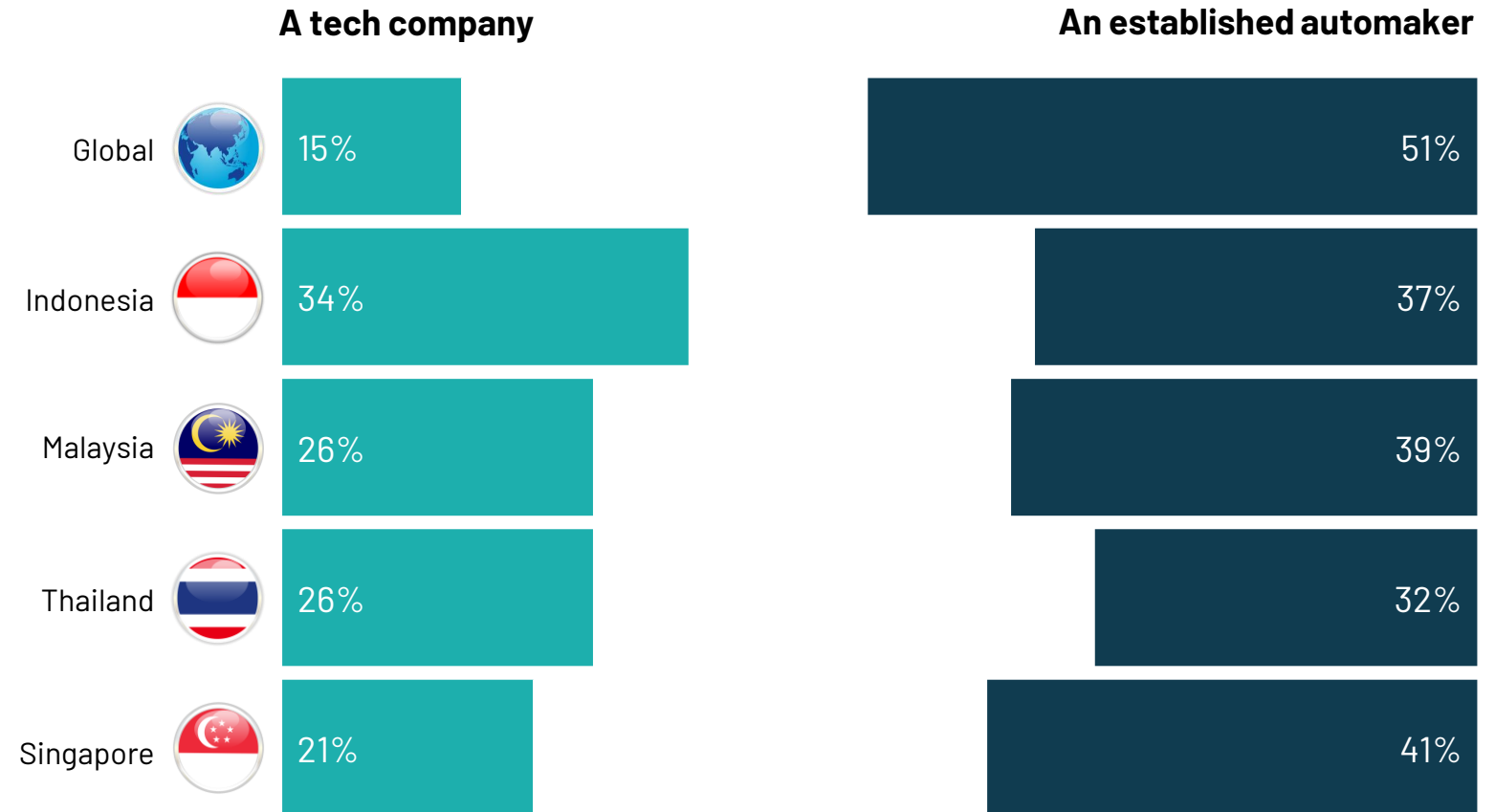
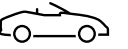
Tech company gain ground in Malaysia's automotive market

Across Southeast Asia, consumers are increasingly open to buying cars from tech companies. In Malaysia, 26% say they would consider a tech brand, in line with regional sentiment. In fact, Tesla and BYD are leading EV sales as the top-selling brands in Malaysia.

At the same time, 39% still prefer established automakers, highlighting continued trust in traditional brands alongside a gradual shift towards newer players.

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Would you prefer to buy a new car from...





IPSOS MOBILITY MONITOR

Our latest Mobility Monitor highlights a strong reliance on private vehicles, with 77% of Malaysians depending on them for daily transport, underscoring the country's car-centric culture. While initiatives such as the My50 Pass have improved the affordability of public transport, last-mile connectivity continues to limit wider adoption.

Additionally, heavy reliance on private vehicles coincides with rising reports of fatal road accidents, including cases linked to reckless driving. This has heightened public concern, with 7 in 10 Malaysians calling for stricter traffic laws and enhanced driver education.

Southeast Asia is seeing a growing openness towards electric vehicles and new automotive technologies. Malaysia demonstrates strong interest in EV, evidenced by doubled EV sales in Malaysia in 2025 and positive sentiment towards emerging mobility solutions, such as Tesla and BYD, even before recent increases in fuel prices/subsidy reduction, representing an opportunity to accelerate the shift towards more sustainable mobility.



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