



KEMENTERIAN EKONOMI
JABATAN PERANGKAAN MALAYSIA

KENYATAAN MEDIA

**STATISTIK TENAGA BURUH, MALAYSIA,
MAC 2026 DAN SUKU TAHUN PERTAMA 2026**

Pasaran buruh Malaysia kekal stabil pada Mac 2026, dengan kadar pengangguran 2.9 peratus

PUTRAJAYA, 12 MEI 2026 - Pasaran buruh Malaysia kekal stabil pada Mac 2026, dengan kadar pengangguran 2.9 peratus menurut Jabatan Perangkaan Malaysia (DOSM). Angka ini diperincikan dalam sebaran **Statistik Tenaga Buruh, Malaysia, Mac** dan **Suku Tahun Pertama 2026**. Laporan tersebut memberikan gambaran mengenai penawaran buruh Malaysia, berdasarkan data daripada Survei Tenaga Buruh yang dijalankan oleh DOSM.

Mengulas prestasi keseluruhan bagi Mac 2026, Ketua Perangkawan Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin berkata, "Prospek ekonomi yang positif pada Mac 2026 membolehkan pasaran buruh negara mengekalkan pertumbuhan yang stabil. Sehubungan itu, tenaga buruh meningkat 0.1 peratus kepada 17.31 juta orang (Februari 2026: 17.30 juta orang). Kadar penyertaan tenaga buruh (KPTB) pada bulan tersebut kekal 70.9 peratus, seperti pada bulan sebelumnya."

Bilangan penduduk bekerja terus menunjukkan peningkatan secara sederhana pada Mac 2026, bertambah sebanyak 0.1 peratus kepada 16.80 juta orang berbanding bulan sebelumnya (Februari 2026: 16.79 juta orang). Pada masa yang sama, bilangan penganggur meningkat sedikit 0.4 peratus kepada 509.0 ribu orang (Februari 2026: 506.8 ribu orang). Kadar pengangguran Mac tidak berubah pada 2.9 peratus, sama seperti Februari 2026.

Ketua Perangkawan Malaysia turut menyatakan bahawa kategori pekerja merangkumi 75.0 peratus daripada jumlah penduduk bekerja pada Mac 2026. Kategori ini mencatatkan peningkatan sederhana 0.04 peratus, mencecah seramai 12.60 juta orang (Februari 2026: 12.59 juta orang). Pada masa yang sama, bilangan penduduk bekerja sendiri merekodkan peningkatan 0.3 peratus kepada 3.14 juta orang berbanding bulan sebelumnya (Februari 2026: 3.13 juta orang).

Sektor Perkhidmatan kekal sebagai penyumbang terbesar kepada jumlah guna tenaga pada Mac 2026, terutamanya dalam aktiviti Penginapan dan perkhidmatan makanan & minuman; aktiviti Maklumat & komunikasi serta aktiviti Pengangkutan & penyimpanan. Sektor Pembuatan, Pembinaan dan Pertanian turut merekodkan

peningkatan dalam bilangan penduduk bekerja. Manakala, guna tenaga dalam sektor Perlombongan & pengkuarian mencatatkan sedikit penurunan pada bulan tersebut.

Menjelaskan lebih lanjut mengenai situasi pengangguran pada Mac 2026, Ketua Perangkawan Malaysia menyatakan bahawa mereka yang bersedia untuk bekerja dan aktif mencari pekerjaan, atau penganggur aktif, merangkumi 79.7 peratus daripada jumlah penganggur. Kumpulan ini meningkat 0.3 peratus kepada 405.8 ribu orang (Februari 2026: 404.7 ribu orang). Mengikut tempoh pengangguran bagi penganggur aktif, 64.1 peratus adalah merupakan mereka yang menganggur kurang daripada tiga bulan, sementara 4.9 peratus adalah mereka yang berada dalam pengangguran jangka panjang melebihi setahun. Manakala, penganggur tidak aktif, atau mereka yang percaya bahawa tiada pekerjaan tersedia, naik 1.1 peratus kepada 103.2 ribu orang daripada 102.1 ribu orang pada bulan sebelumnya.

Kadar pengangguran dalam kalangan belia berumur 15 hingga 24 tahun tidak berubah pada kadar 10.2 peratus pada Mac 2026, dengan jumlah 290.0 ribu penganggur belia (Februari 2026: 10.2%; 288.7 ribu orang). Begitu juga, kadar pengangguran bagi belia berumur 15 hingga 30 tahun kekal pada kadar 6.2 peratus, dengan seramai 390.9 ribu penganggur belia (Februari 2026: 389.5 ribu orang).

Bilangan penduduk di luar tenaga buruh pada Mac 2026, merekodkan penurunan sedikit 0.02 peratus kepada 7.10 juta orang, berbanding bulan sebelumnya (Februari 2026: 7.10 juta orang). Komposisi utama bagi luar tenaga buruh adalah kerja rumah/ tanggungjawab keluarga, merangkumi 43.3 peratus, manakala kategori bersekolah/ latihan berada di kedudukan kedua pada 40.6 peratus.

Mengulas lanjut prestasi keseluruhan pada suku tahun pertama 2026, tenaga buruh Malaysia terus mencatatkan pertumbuhan positif, meningkat 0.3 peratus kepada 17.23 juta orang. Selaras dengan trend ini, bilangan penduduk bekerja juga bertambah 0.3 peratus kepada 16.73 juta orang, berbanding 16.68 juta orang pada suku tahun sebelumnya. Sementara itu, bilangan penganggur menurun 0.4 peratus kepada 506.5 ribu orang, sekali gus membawa kepada pengurangan 0.1 mata peratus dalam kadar pengangguran kepada 2.9 peratus (ST4 2025^r: 3.0%). Pada masa yang sama, KPTB kekal pada 70.9 peratus seperti pada suku tahun yang lalu. KPTB lelaki turun kepada 83.3 peratus, manakala KPTB perempuan naik kepada 56.8 peratus (ST4 2025^r: 83.5%; 56.6%).

Seperti yang dinyatakan oleh Ketua Perangkawan, bilangan penduduk yang bekerja kurang daripada 30 jam seminggu merekodkan peningkatan 2.5 peratus, kepada 231.6 ribu orang pada suku tahun pertama 2026 (ST4 2025^r: 226.0 ribu orang). Sementara itu, bilangan penduduk yang bekerja kurang daripada 30 jam seminggu serta mampu dan sanggup menerima tambahan jam bekerja, atau diklasifikasikan sebagai guna tenaga tidak penuh berkaitan masa, turun 3.6 peratus kepada 123.3 ribu orang, dengan kadar guna tenaga tidak penuh berkaitan masa 0.7 peratus (ST4 2025^r: 128.0 ribu orang; 0.8%). Pada masa yang sama, guna tenaga tidak penuh berkaitan kemahiran, yang merangkumi individu berpendidikan tertiar namun bekerja dalam pekerjaan separuh mahir dan berkemahiran rendah, menunjukkan peningkatan

0.2 peratus kepada 1.93 juta orang, sementara kadar guna tenaga tidak penuh berkaitan kemahiran menurun 0.1 mata peratus kepada 35.2 peratus (ST4 2025^r: 1.93 juta orang; 35.3%).

Dari segi perbandingan peringkat negeri, W.P. Putrajaya mencatatkan kadar pengangguran terendah iaitu 1.3 peratus pada suku tahun pertama 2026. Ini diikuti oleh Pahang pada kadar 1.9 peratus, manakala Selangor dan Melaka, masing-masing merekodkan 2.0 peratus. Sementara itu, lima negeri melepasi KPTB nasional, dengan W.P. Putrajaya merekodkan kadar tertinggi iaitu 79.2 peratus, diikuti oleh Selangor (78.0%) dan W.P. Kuala Lumpur (76.0%).

Mengakhiri kenyataan tersebut, prospek pasaran buruh Malaysia bagi bulan-bulan yang akan datang dijangka kekal stabil, disokong oleh asas domestik yang kukuh serta transformasi struktur ekonomi yang berterusan. Walau bagaimanapun, pertumbuhan dijangka lebih sederhana dan semakin dipengaruhi oleh perkembangan luaran, terutamanya trajektori krisis tenaga global serta ketidaktentuan geopolitik. Oleh itu, keupayaan penyesuaian dalam kalangan perniagaan dan tenaga kerja adalah amat penting dalam menghadapi persekitaran ekonomi yang lebih dinamik dan tidak menentu.

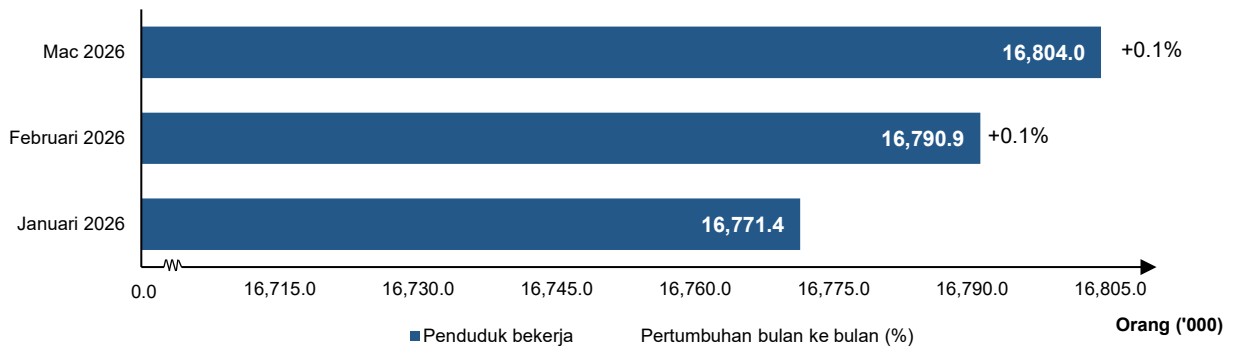
Jabatan Perangkaan Malaysia (DOSM) sedang melaksanakan **Banci Ekonomi 2026 (BE2026)** dengan tema “**Data Nadi Ekonomi Rakyat**”. Pelaksanaan Banci Ekonomi kali keenam ini berlangsung dari **5 Januari hingga 31 Oktober 2026**. BE2026 bertujuan untuk mengumpul data yang menyeluruh dan berstruktur daripada semua pertubuhan perniagaan berdaftar dan tidak berdaftar di Malaysia, bagi menilai prestasi, struktur serta ciri-ciri ekonomi negara secara komprehensif dan berasaskan bukti.

Malaysia buat julung kalinya telah menduduki **tangga pertama (1)** di peringkat global dalam laporan dwi-tahunan **Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25** yang dikeluarkan oleh Open Data Watch (ODW), mengatasi 197 negara lain. Pencapaian ini merupakan lonjakan ketara daripada kedudukan ke-67 dalam penilaian ODIN 2022/23.

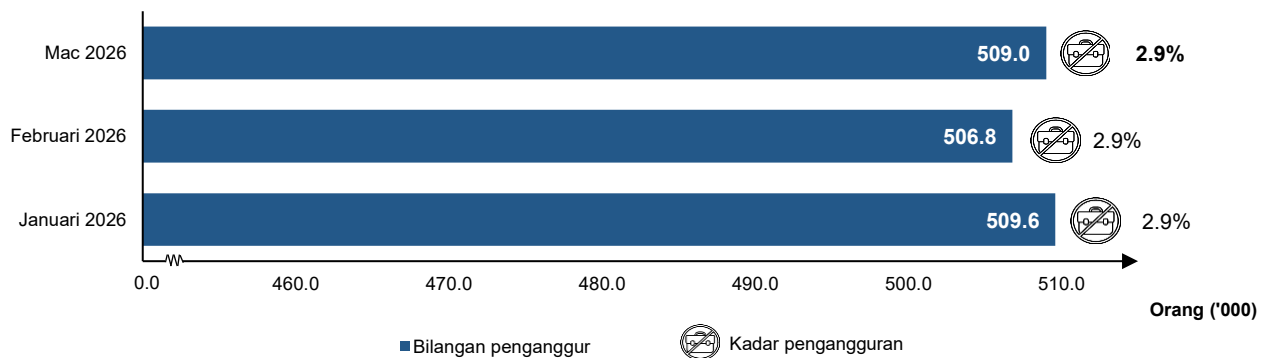
OpenDOSM NextGen adalah medium yang menyediakan katalog data dan visualisasi bagi memudahkan pengguna menganalisis pelbagai data dan boleh diakses melalui portal <https://open.dosm.gov.my>.

MyLabourHub ialah platform komprehensif yang mengintegrasikan institusi, data dan teknologi bagi menyediakan maklumat pasaran buruh yang relevan, tepat dan mudah diakses. Dapatkan data pasaran buruh Malaysia melalui MyLabourHub di <https://mylabourhub.dosm.gov.my>.

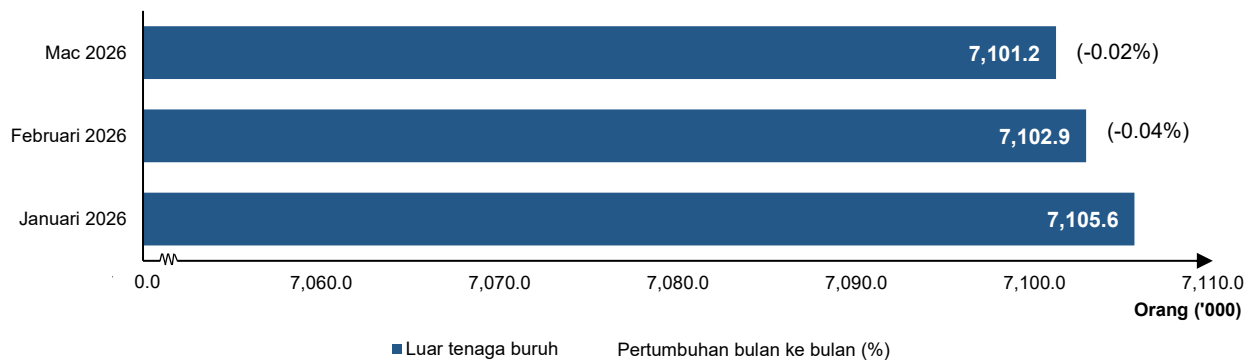
Carta 1: Penduduk bekerja, Malaysia, Januari - Mac 2026



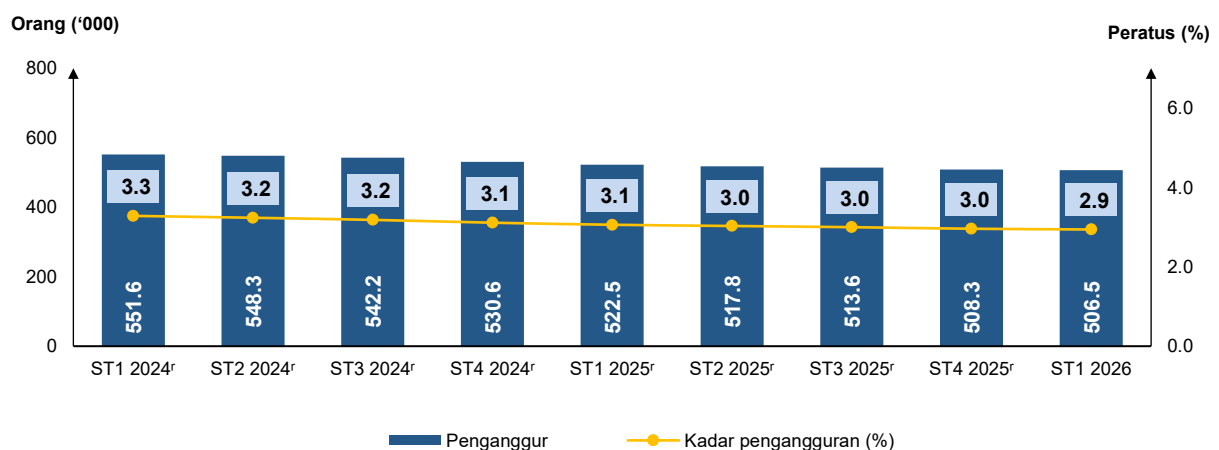
Carta 2: Pengangguran, Malaysia, Januari - Mac 2026



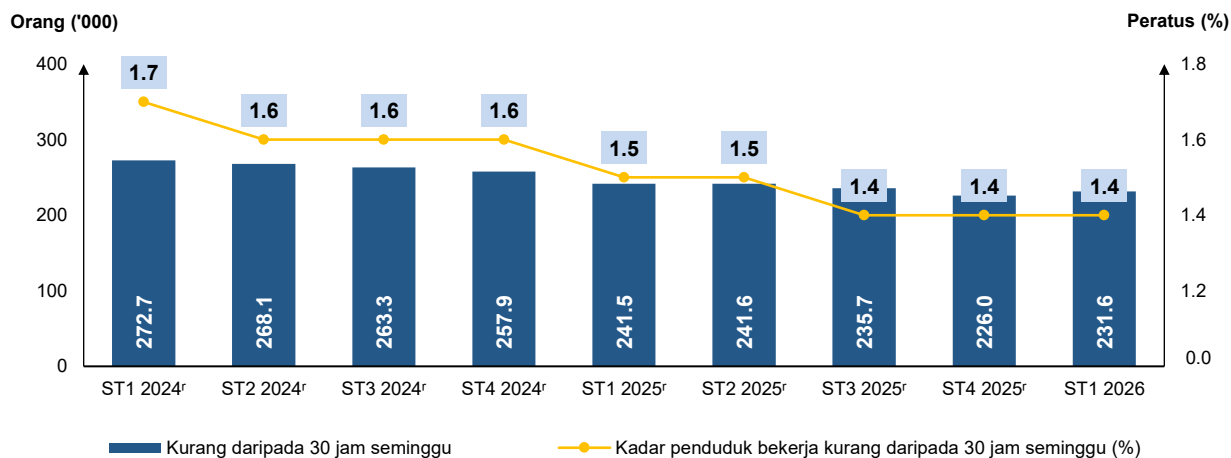
Carta 3: Luar tenaga buruh, Malaysia, Januari - Mac 2026



Carta 4: Pengangguran, Malaysia, ST1 2024^r - ST1 2026

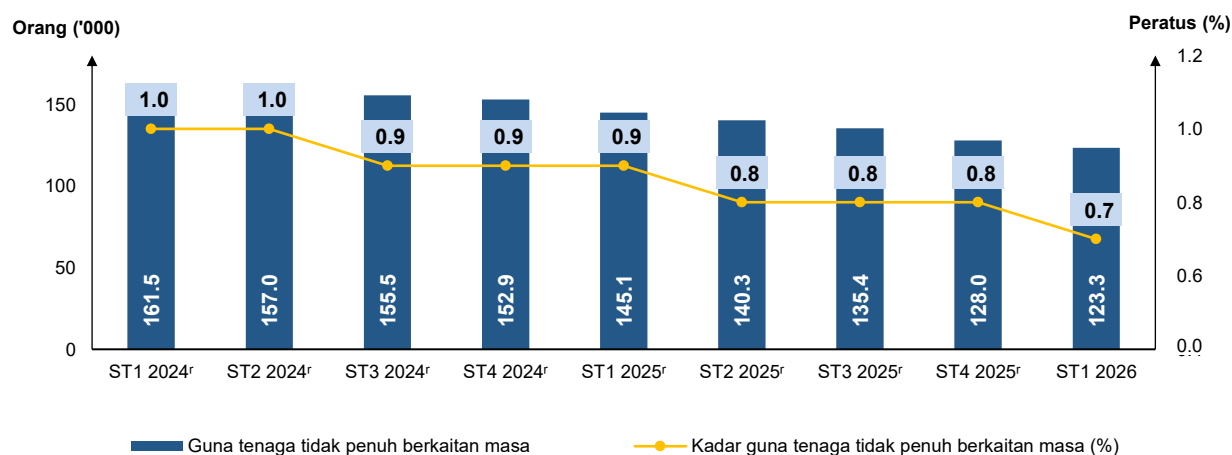


Carta 5: Penduduk bekerja kurang daripada 30 jam seminggu, ST1 2024^r - ST1 2026



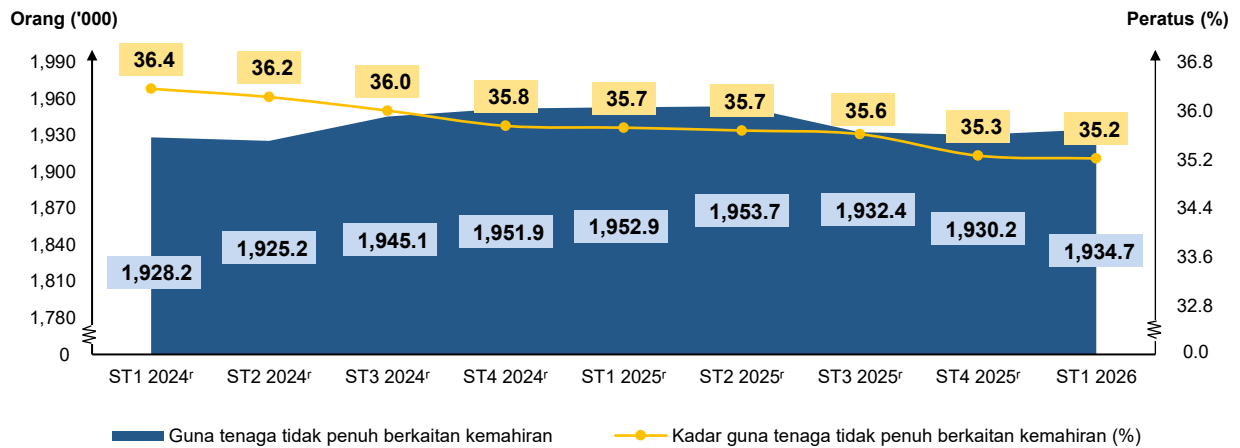
$$\text{Kadar penduduk bekerja kurang daripada 30 jam seminggu} = \frac{\text{Penduduk bekerja kurang daripada 30 jam seminggu}}{\text{Bilangan penduduk bekerja}} \times 100$$

Carta 6: Guna tenaga tidak penuh berkaitan masa, ST1 2024^r - ST1 2026



$$\text{Kadar guna tenaga tidak penuh berkaitan masa} = \frac{\text{Bilangan guna tenaga tidak penuh berkaitan masa}}{\text{Bilangan penduduk bekerja}} \times 100$$

Carta 7: Guna tenaga tidak penuh berkaitan kemahiran, ST1 2024^r - ST1 2026



$$\text{Kadar guna tenaga tidak penuh berkaitan kemahiran} = \frac{\text{Bilangan guna tenaga tidak penuh berkaitan kemahiran}}{\text{Bilangan penduduk bekerja berpendidikan tertiar}} \times 100$$

Nota:

1. Bermula dengan penerbitan Statistik Tenaga Buruh (STB) Suku Tahun Pertama 2026, statistik utama tenaga buruh dianggarkan berasaskan anggaran penduduk semasa Malaysia. Seiring itu, data STB bagi Suku Tahun Pertama 2024 hingga Suku Tahun Keempat 2025 turut disemak semula menggunakan data unjuran berdasarkan anggaran penduduk semasa terkini
2. Statistik Survei Tenaga Buruh bagi Januari 2026 dan seterusnya dianggar menggunakan data unjuran berdasarkan anggaran penduduk semasa terkini
3. ^r Disemak semula

Dikeluarkan oleh:

PEJABAT KETUA PERANGKAWAN MALAYSIA
JABATAN PERANGKAAN MALAYSIA
12 MEI 2026



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA STATEMENT

**LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS, MALAYSIA,
MARCH 2026 AND FIRST QUARTER 2026**

Malaysia's labour market remains stable in March 2026, with an unemployment rate of 2.9 per cent

PUTRAJAYA, MAY 12, 2026 - Malaysia's labour market remains stable in March 2026, with an unemployment rate of 2.9 per cent according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM). The figures were detailed in the **Statistics of the Labour Force, Malaysia, March and First Quarter 2026** release. The report provides insights on the Malaysia's labour supply, based on data from the Labour Force Survey conducted by DOSM.

Commenting on the overall performance for March 2026, Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin said, "The positive economic outlook in March 2026 enabled the country's labour market to sustain its steady growth. Therefore, the labour force increased by 0.1 per cent to 17.31 million persons (February 2026: 17.30 million persons). The labour force participation rate (LFPR) during the month remained at 70.9 per cent, as in the previous month."

The number of employed persons continued to show a gradual improvement in March 2026, rising by 0.1 per cent to 16.80 million persons as against the previous month (February 2026: 16.79 million persons). At the same time, the number of unemployed persons increased slightly by 0.4 per cent to 509.0 thousand persons (February 2026: 506.8 thousand persons). March's unemployment rate was unchanged at 2.9 per cent, the same as in February 2026.

The Chief Statistician Malaysia also stated that the employees' category accounted for 75.0 per cent of the total employed persons in March 2026. This category experienced a modest increase of 0.04 per cent, reaching 12.60 million persons (February 2026: 12.59 million persons). On the same note, the number of own-account workers recorded a 0.3 per cent rise to 3.14 million persons compared to last month (February 2026: 3.13 million persons).

The Services sector remained the largest contributor to total employment in March 2026, particularly in Accommodation and food & beverage services; Information & communication activities and Transportation & storage activities. The Manufacturing, Construction and Agriculture sectors also recorded increases in the number of employed persons. Meanwhile, employment in the Mining & quarrying sector registered a slight decline during the month.

Providing further insight into the unemployment situation in March 2026, the Chief Statistician Malaysia stated that those who were available for work and were actively seeking jobs, or the actively unemployed, constituted 79.7 per cent of the total unemployed persons. This group edged up by 0.3 per cent to 405.8 thousand persons (February 2026: 404.7 thousand persons). By duration of unemployment for the actively unemployed, 64.1 per cent were those who had been unemployed for less than three months, while 4.9 per cent were those who were in long-term unemployment for more than a year. Meanwhile, the inactively unemployed, or those who believed that there were no jobs available, increased by 1.1 per cent to 103.2 thousand persons from 102.1 thousand persons in the previous month.

The unemployment rate among youths aged 15 to 24 years was unchanged at 10.2 per cent in March 2026, with a total of 290.0 thousand unemployed youths (February 2026: 10.2%; 288.7 thousand persons). Likewise, the unemployment rate for youths aged 15 to 30 years stood at 6.2 per cent, with 390.9 thousand unemployed youths (February 2026: 389.5 thousand persons).

The number of persons outside the labour force in March 2026, recording a slight decline of 0.02 per cent to 7.10 million persons, compared to the preceding month (February 2026: 7.10 million persons). The major composition of the outside labour force was housework/ family responsibilities, accounting for 43.3 per cent, while the schooling/ training category ranked second at 40.6 per cent.

Further detailing the overall performance in the first quarter of 2026, Malaysia's labour force continued its positive growth, rising by 0.3 per cent to 17.23 million persons. Consistent with this trend, the number of employed persons also increased by 0.3 per cent to 16.73 million persons, compared to 16.68 million persons in the previous quarter. Meanwhile, the number of unemployed persons declined by 0.4 per cent to 506.5 thousand persons, leading to a 0.1 percentage points reduction in the unemployment rate to 2.9 per cent (Q4 2025^r: 3.0%). At the same time, the LFPR remained at 70.9 per cent as in the prior quarter. The male LFPR decreased to 83.3 per cent, while the female LFPR rose to 56.8 per cent (Q4 2025^r: 83.5%; 56.6%).

As highlighted by the Chief Statistician, the number of persons working less than 30 hours per week recorded a rise by 2.5 per cent, resulting in 231.6 thousand persons in the first quarter of 2026 (Q4 2025^r: 226.0 thousand persons). Meanwhile, the number of persons working less than 30 hours per week but willing and able to work additional hours, or classified as time-related underemployment, fell by 3.6 per cent to 123.3 thousand persons, with the rate of time-related underemployment of 0.7 per cent

(Q4 2025^r: 128.0 thousand persons; 0.8%). Concurrently, skill-related underemployment, which comprises individuals with tertiary education but working in semi-skilled and low-skilled occupations, saw an increase of 0.2 per cent to 1.93 million persons, while the skill-related underemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage points to 35.2 per cent (Q4 2025^r: 1.93 million persons; 35.3%).

In terms of state-level comparison, W.P. Putrajaya registered the lowest unemployment rate at 1.3 per cent in the first quarter of 2026. This was followed by Pahang at 1.9 per cent, while Selangor and Melaka recorded 2.0 per cent, respectively. In the meantime, five states surpassed the national LFPR, with W.P. Putrajaya recording the highest rate at 79.2 per cent, followed by Selangor (78.0%) and W.P. Kuala Lumpur (76.0%).

Concluding the statement, Malaysia's labour market outlook for the months ahead is anticipated to remain stable, supported by strong domestic fundamentals and continued structural transformation. However, growth is likely to be more moderate and increasingly shaped by external developments, particularly the trajectory of the global energy crisis and geopolitical conditions. As such, both businesses and the workforce will need to remain agile in navigating a more dynamic and uncertain economic environment.

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) is conducting the **Economic Census 2026 (BE2026)**, with themed “*Data Nadi Ekonomi Rakyat*”. The sixth Economic Census, will be carried out from **5th January to 31st October 2026**. BE2026 aims to collect comprehensive and structured data from all registered and unregistered business establishments in Malaysia to assess the nation's economic performance, structure and characteristics in an evidence-based manner.

Malaysia has, for the first time, successfully secured the **top position** globally in the biennial **Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25** report released by Open Data Watch (ODW), surpassing 197 other countries. This achievement marks a significant leap from its 67th position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.

OpenDOSM NextGen is a medium that provides data catalogue and visualisations to facilitate users' analysis and can be accessed through <https://open.dosm.gov.my>.

MyLabourHub is a comprehensive platform that integrates institutions, data and technology to deliver relevant, accurate and accessible labour market information. Access the labour market data for Malaysia at <https://mylabourhub.dosm.gov.my>.

Chart 1: Employed persons, Malaysia, January - March 2026

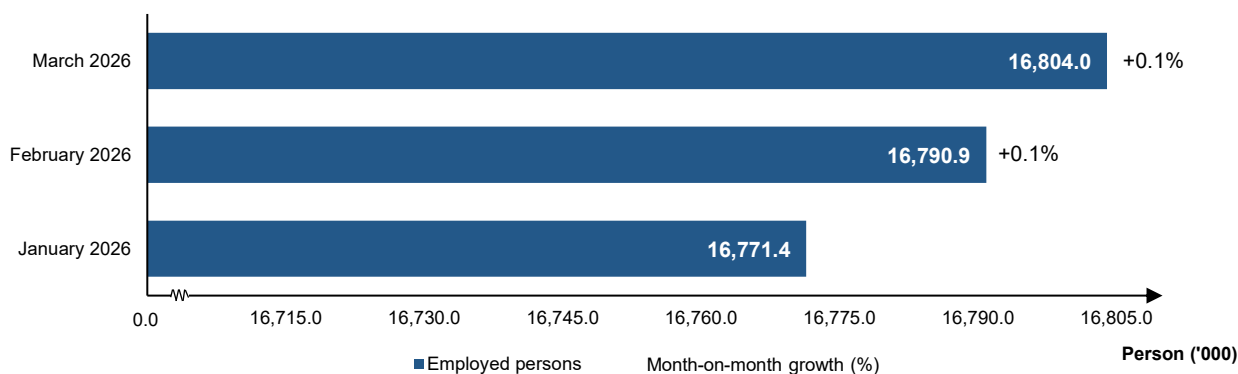


Chart 2: Unemployment, Malaysia, January - March 2026

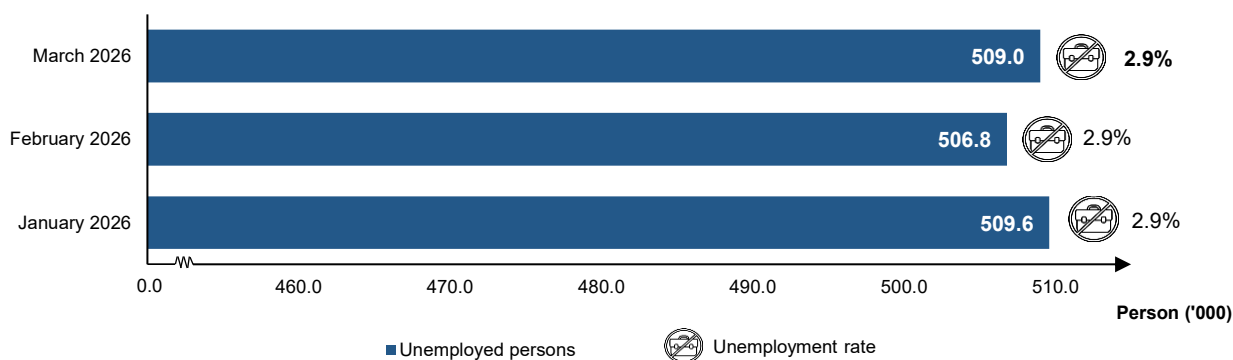


Chart 3: Outside labour force, Malaysia, January - March 2026



Chart 4: Unemployment, Malaysia, Q1 2024^r - Q1 2026

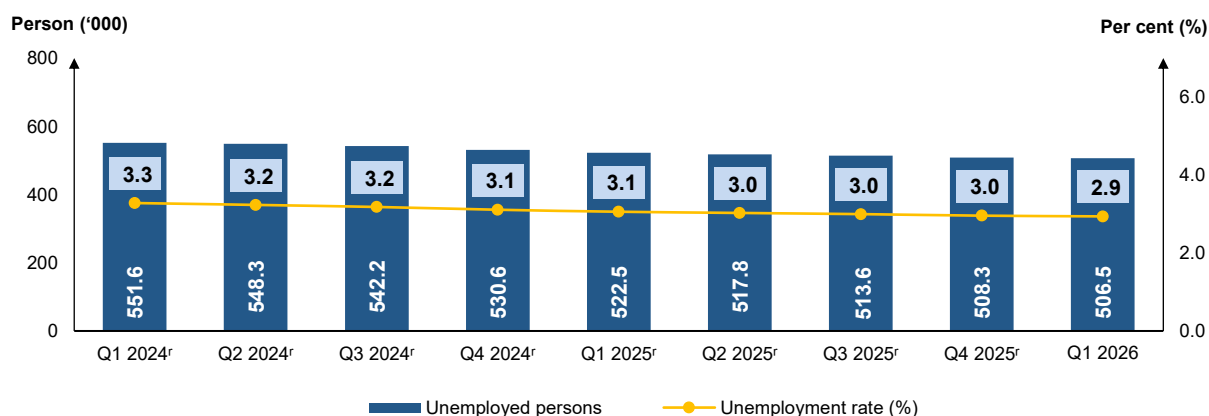
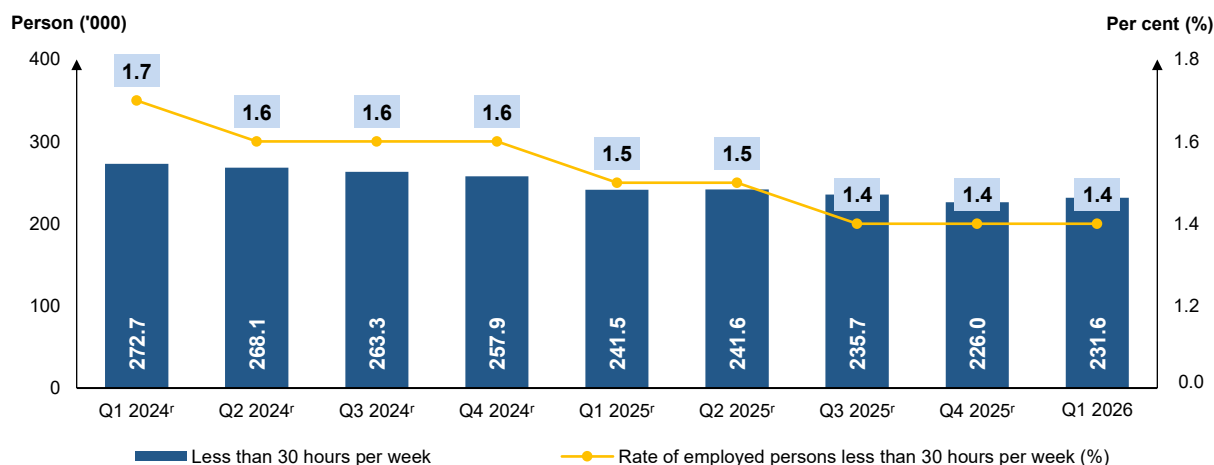
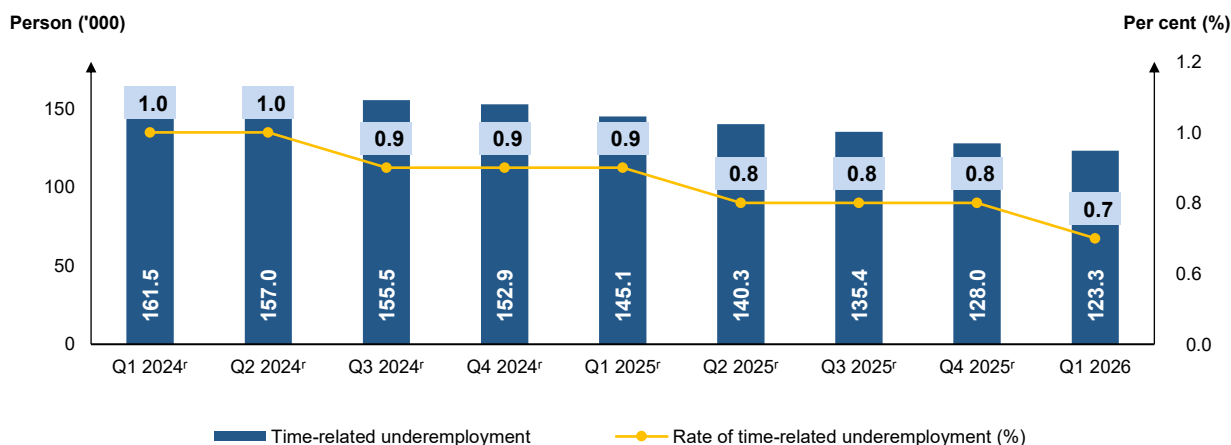


Chart 5: Employed persons working less than 30 hours per week, Q1 2024^r - Q1 2026



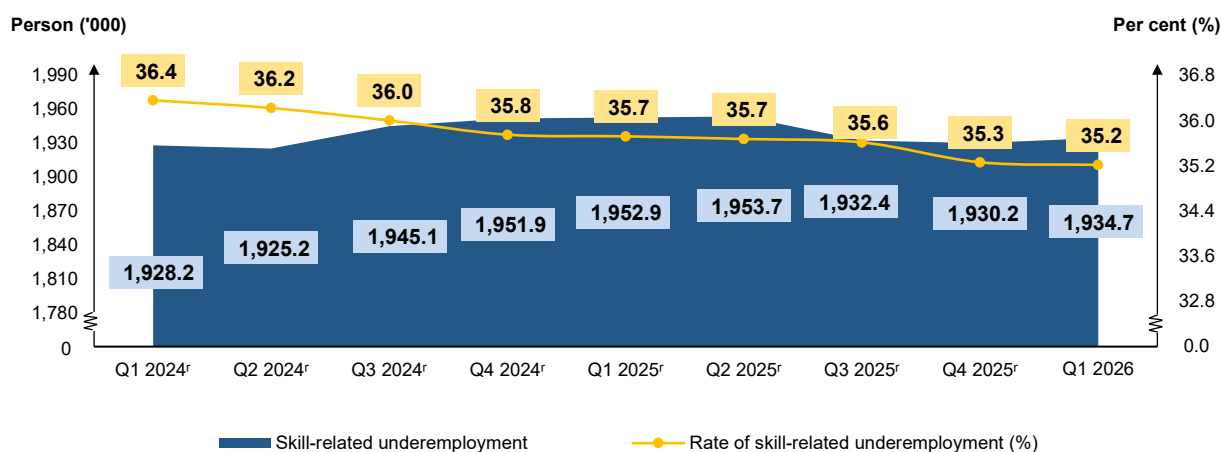
$$\text{Rate of employed persons less than 30 hours per week} = \frac{\text{Number of employed persons less than 30 hours per week}}{\text{Number of employed persons}} \times 100$$

Chart 6: Time-related underemployment, Q1 2024^r - Q1 2026



$$\text{Rate of time-related underemployment} = \frac{\text{Number of time-related underemployment}}{\text{Number of employed persons}} \times 100$$

Chart 7: Skill-related underemployment, Q1 2024^r - Q1 2026



Rate of skill-related underemployment

$$= \frac{\text{Number of skill-related underemployment}}{\text{Number of employed persons with tertiary education}} \times 100$$

Notes:

1. Starting with the release of Labour Force Statistics (LFS), First Quarter 2026, the principal statistics of the labour force is estimated based on the current population estimates of Malaysia. On the same note, revisions are carried out on LFS data for the First Quarter of 2024 to the Fourth Quarter of 2025 using projection data based on the latest current population estimates
2. The Labour Force Survey statistics for January 2026 onwards are estimated using projection data based on the latest current population estimates
3. ^r Revision

Released by:

THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
12th MAY 2026