

# Manufacturing sector sales hit RM1.03 trillion in January-July

**PETALING JAYA:** The sales value of the manufacturing sector rose 2.5% year-on-year (y-o-y) to RM1.03 trillion for the first seven months of 2023, the Department of Statistics Malaysia said.

During this period, the number of employees rose to 2.34 million while salaries and wages grew to RM56.6 billion.

“Consequently, the sales value per employee posted a marginal growth amounting to RM441,255,” Chief Statistician Datuk Seri Mohd Uzir Mahidin said in a statement.

On a monthly basis, the manufacturing

sector’s sales value was down by 3% to RM144 billion in July.

“The sales value of the manufacturing sector fell for a second consecutive month in July 2023, narrowing to negative 3% y-o-y from negative 4% in the preceding month,” he said.

The deterioration was primarily influenced by the petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic sub-sector, which registered a continuous decline, reaching negative 15.3% during the month (June 2023: -12.4%) as well as to a contraction in the food, beverages and tobacco (-7.8%) and wood, furniture, paper products

and printing (-0.6%) sub-sectors.

“Compared to the previous month, the sales value decreased by 2.4% against June 2023’s RM147.4 billion.

The sales value of export-oriented industries, which represented 72.1% of total sales, continued to decline by 7.0% in July 2023 (June 2023: -7.4%).

“This is mainly attributed to a decrease in the manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products (-25.6%); manufacture of vegetable and animal oils and fats (-18.5%); and manufacture of rubber products (-10.8%),” he said.