

Formal sector's median monthly salary hits RM2,900

KUALA LUMPUR: The median monthly salary for those in the formal sector rose 4.9 per cent year-on-year to RM2,900 in December last year, according to the Statistics Department's quarterly employee wages statistics report.

Male employees made up more than half of those employed, with a median monthly salary of RM2,945 compared to female employees' RM2,845.

In December, all age groups experienced an increase in median monthly wages compared to the previous year, except for those below 20 years old.

The median monthly wages of Malaysians under 20 years old was RM1,500 in December, which remained unchanged for 19 consecutive months.

In addition, the percentile analy-

sis shows that the 10th percentile of formal employees earned wages of RM1,500 or less.

About 31.2 per cent of employees earned a monthly wage below RM2,000, marking a decrease from 33.7 per cent as compared to the previous year, while 10.7 per cent earned monthly wages of RM10,000 and above as at December last year.

"These statistics are based on administrative data sources obtained from relevant agencies, which focus on the citizens who work in the formal sector, notably in the private sector.

"Looking ahead, the department will continue to enhance the dissemination of employee wages statistics by integrating various administrative data to produce more comprehensive statistics for a deeper understanding of Malaysia's labour market dynamics," said chief statistician Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin.

The age group that received the highest monthly median wage was those between 45 and 49 years old, registering RM3,927 as at December, compared to RM3,500 in November.

Those in the 60 to 64 years old age group saw the highest year-on-year median monthly wages growth, rising 7.4 per cent to RM2,900.

"In the fourth quarter of 2023, all sectors recorded a year-on-year increase in median monthly wages."

Kuala Lumpur has the highest median monthly wages at RM4,045, followed by Penang (RM3,245) and Selangor (RM3,164).

Kelantan, Perlis and Sabah have the lowest median monthly wages at RM1,600, RM1,700 and RM1,882, respectively.