



LABOUR FORCE MALAYSIA, MAY 2025

May's unemployed further decreased to 522.4 thousand persons, recording the unemployment rate of **3.0 per cent**

UNEMPLOYMENT

MAY 2025

The number of unemployed persons

Unemployment rate

522.4 thousand

3.0%

May's unemployment rate remained at 3.0 per cent as recorded last month

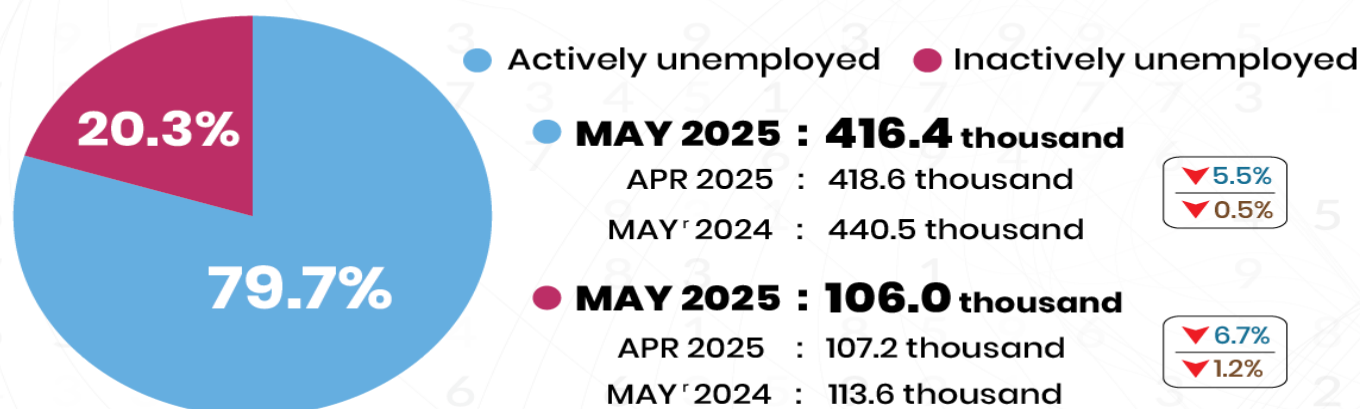
MAY '2024
554.1
thousand

APR 2025
525.9
thousand

MAY '2024
3.3%

APR 2025
3.0%

Unemployment by category



EMPLOYED PERSONS

MAY 2025

The number of employed persons

Employment-to-population ratio

16.86 million

68.7%

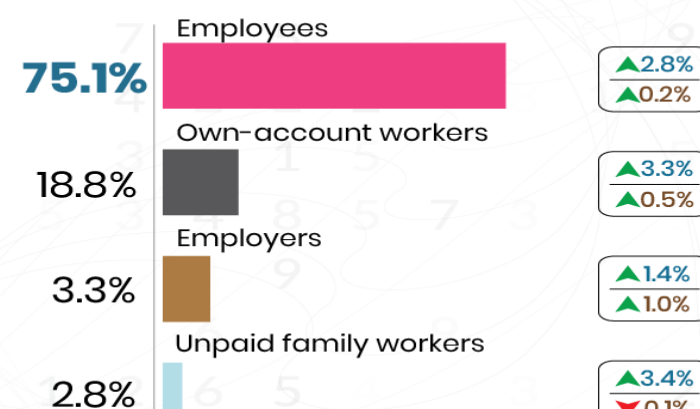
MAY '2024
16.39
million

APR 2025
16.82
million

MAY '2024
68.3%

APR 2025
68.6%

Employed persons by status in employment



75.1 per cent of the total employed persons were in the **employees' category**

LABOUR FORCE

Labour Force

17.38 million

MAY 2025

Labour Force Participation Rate

70.8%

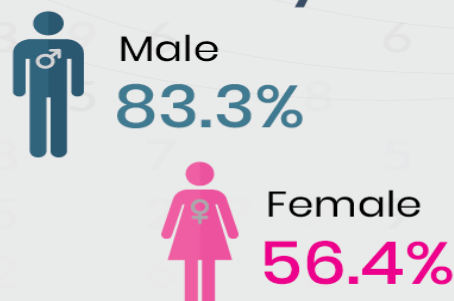
MAY '2024
16.95
million

APR 2025
17.34
million

MAY '2024
70.6%

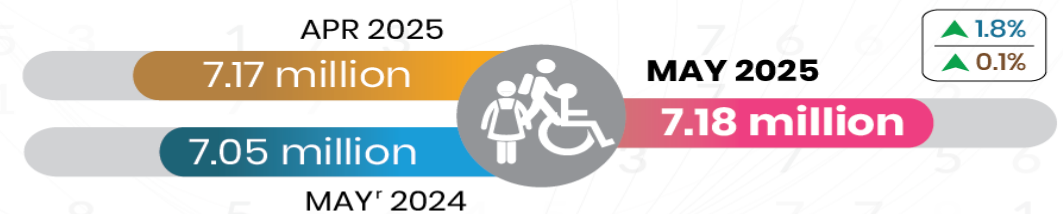
APR 2025
70.8%

LFPR by sex

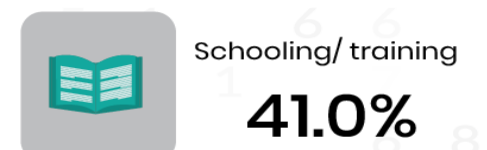


The labour force participation rate during the month was unchanged at 70.8 per cent as in the previous month

OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE



Housework/ family responsibilities were the largest component of the outside labour force



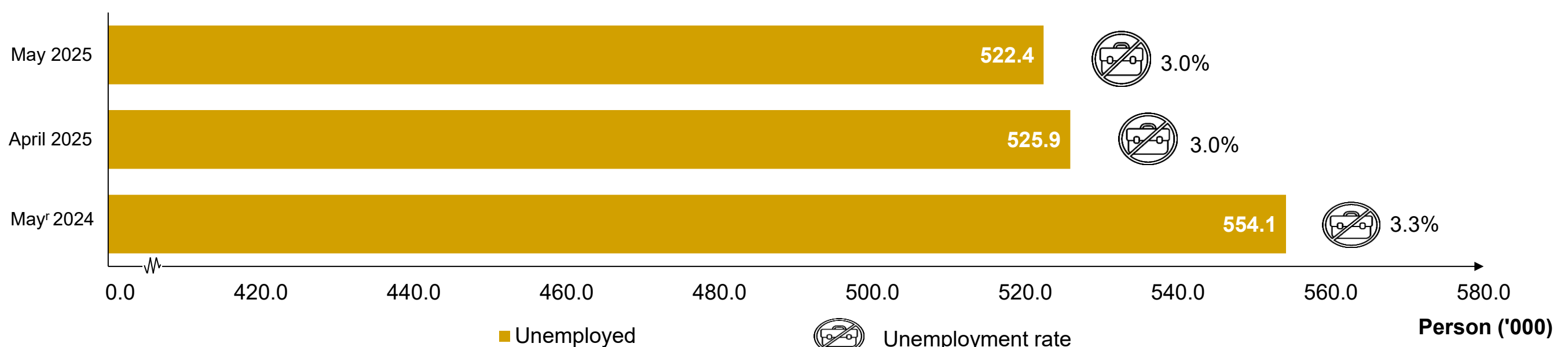
Note :

- Percentage change (year-on-year)
- Percentage change (month-on-month)
- Percentage point

Unchanged

Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Unemployed persons and unemployment rate, May^r 2024 and April - May 2025



The number of unemployed declined further in May 2025, recording 522.4 thousand persons, with an unemployment rate of 3.0 per cent

- The **labour force** continued on an upward trend in May 2025, with a month-on-month rise of **0.2 per cent**, registering **17.38 million persons** (April 2025: 17.34 million persons). The **labour force participation rate** remained unchanged at **70.8 per cent**, the same as in the previous month.
- The number of **unemployed persons** declined further by **0.7 per cent** to **522.4 thousand persons**, compared to 525.9 thousand unemployed in the previous month.
- The **unemployment rate** during the month remained at **3.0 per cent** as in April 2025.
- The total number of **employed persons** continued to increase in May 2025, rising by **0.3 per cent** to **16.86 million persons** from 16.82 million persons recorded in April 2025.
- Looking at the performance of employment by economic sectors, the number of employed persons in the **Services** sector showed a consistent upward trend, particularly in **Accommodation and food & beverage services; Wholesale and retail trade; and Transportation & storage activities**. On the same note, the **Manufacturing, Construction, Agriculture, and Mining & quarrying sectors** also recorded an increasing number of employed persons during the month.
- The number of persons **outside the labour force** increased by **0.1 per cent** to **7.18 million persons** in May 2025 as compared to 7.17 million persons in April 2025.

