



MEDIA STATEMENT

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LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS, MALAYSIA, AUGUST 2024

***August's unemployment rate fell to 3.2 per cent, registering
558.5 thousand unemployed persons***

PUTRAJAYA, OCTOBER 10, 2024 – August's unemployment rate fell to 3.2 per cent, registering 558.5 thousand unemployed persons, the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) reported today in the release on **Statistics of the Labour Force, Malaysia, August 2024**. The statistics described the labour supply situation based on the Labour Force Survey conducted by DOSM.

Commenting on the overall performance for August 2024, Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin said, "The country's labour market in August 2024 continued to expand following the encouraging economic growth, with a continuous increase in the number of employed persons, while the number of unemployed persons continues to decline as well as the unemployment rate. In this regard, the number of labour force in August 2024 strengthened further, with a month-on-month increase of 0.1 per cent to record 17.22 million persons (July 2024: 17.20 million persons). As recorded last month, August's labour force participation rate stood at 70.4 per cent."

In addition, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin stated that the number of employed persons portrayed a growth of 0.2 per cent to 16.66 million persons in August 2024, up from 16.63 million persons in July 2024. On the contrary, the number of unemployed persons reduced to 558.5 thousand persons, with a decline of 0.9 per cent (July 2024: 563.7 thousand persons). The unemployment rate in August 2024 dropped by 0.1 percentage points to 3.2 per cent after nine months registering a rate of 3.3 per cent.

Commenting further, the unemployment rate for youth aged 15 to 24 decreased by 0.1 percentage points to 10.4 per cent, with 303.0 thousand unemployed youths

(July 2024: 10.5%; 304.5 thousand persons). Similarly, the unemployment rate for youth aged 15 to 30 also went down by 0.1 percentage points to 6.4 per cent, recording 428.5 thousand unemployed youth as compared to the previous month (July 2024: 6.5%; 433.1 thousand persons).

On the same note, 80.0 per cent of the total unemployed persons were actively unemployed or those who were available for work and were actively seeking jobs. This group recorded a decrease of 0.9 per cent to 446.6 thousand persons (July 2024: 450.7 thousand persons). Among the actively unemployed, 61.8 per cent were those who were unemployed for less than three months, whereas 6.6 per cent were those who had been in long-term unemployment for more than a year. Likewise, those who believed that there were no jobs available or the inactive unemployed fell by 1.0 per cent to record 111.9 thousand persons (July 2024: 113.0 thousand persons).

Elaborating on the employment situation, the Chief Statistician Malaysia said, “Most of the employed persons were dominated by the employees’ category, encompassing 75.0 per cent. In August 2024, this category showed a 0.2 per cent increase to record 12.50 million persons compared to 12.48 million persons in July 2024. In the meantime, the own-account workers category remained on its positive trend and rose by 0.3 per cent to 3.08 million persons as of last month (July 2024: 3.07 million persons).”

In terms of the economic sector, the number of employed persons in the Services sector continued its upward trend, particularly in Wholesale & retail trade; Food & beverage services; and Transportation & storage activities. Similar trends in employment were also observed in the Manufacturing, Construction, Mining & quarrying and Agriculture sectors.

As for the inactivity group, the number of persons outside the labour force showed a slight decline of 0.01 per cent to 7.23 million persons in August 2024 (July 2024: 7.23 million persons). Housework/ family responsibilities were the main reason for being outside the labour force (42.8%), followed by schooling/ training reasons (41.1%).

Concluding the statement, Malaysia’s labour market is expected to remain stable throughout the year, driven by an increase in tourism activities, export expansion and employment-related initiatives under the country's various master plans. The performance of the labour force continues to improve, reflecting continued confidence in the job market as well as the economy. In line with the growing economy, the performance of the country's labour force is foreseen to remain stable and capable of growth in the coming months.

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) has launched OpenDOSM NextGen as a medium that provides data catalogue and visualisations to facilitate users' analysis and can be accessed through <https://open.dosm.gov.my>.

DOSM is conducting the Agricultural Census 2024. Please visit <https://www.myagricensus.gov.my/> for more information. The theme is "Agriculture Census, Key to Agricultural Development".

The Government of Malaysia has declared National Statistics Day (MyStats Day) on October 20th each year. MyStats Day theme is "Statistics is the Essence of Life". DOSM commemorates its 75th Diamond Jubilee in 2024.

Chart 1: Employed persons, Malaysia, August 2021 - August 2024

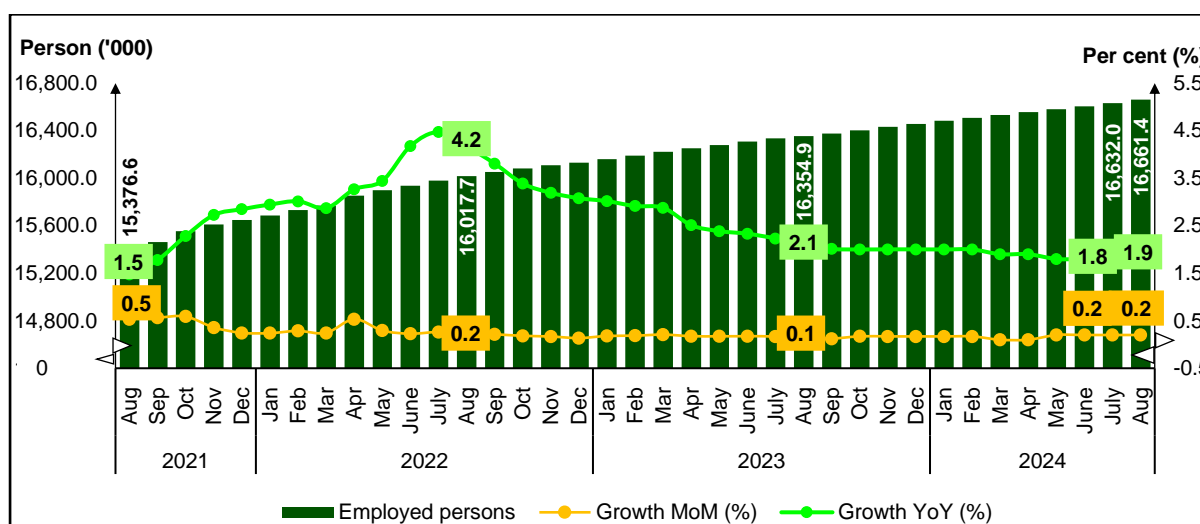
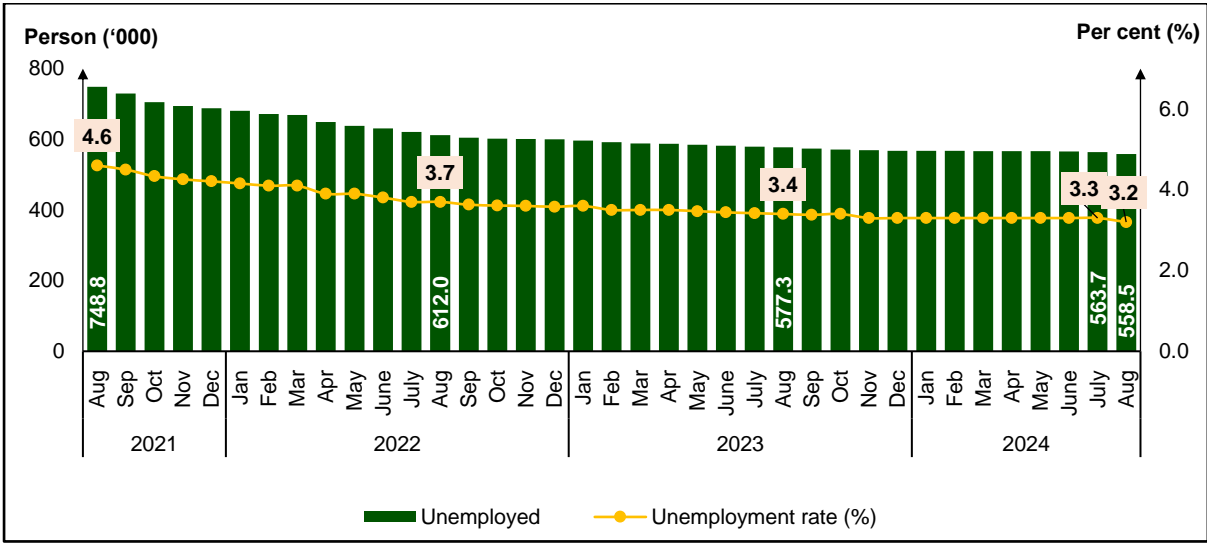


Chart 2: Unemployment, Malaysia, August 2021 - August 2024



Released by:

THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

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