



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY  
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

2025  
JANUARY

# LABOUR FORCE

STATISTICS  
REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA





MINISTRY OF ECONOMY  
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

# LABOUR FORCE REPORT MALAYSIA

## JANUARY 2025

### *Announcement*

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

*The Government of Malaysia has declared National Statistics Day (MyStats Day) on October 20<sup>th</sup> each year. MyStats Day theme is "Statistics is the Essence of Life".*

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

Published and printed by:

**Department of Statistics Malaysia**

Block C6 & C7, Complex C,  
Federal Government Administrative Centre,  
62514 Putrajaya,  
**MALAYSIA**

Tel.	: 03-8885 7000
Fax	: 03-8888 9248
Portal	: <a href="https://www.dosm.gov.my">https://www.dosm.gov.my</a>
Facebook / X / Instagram/ YouTube	: StatsMalaysia
E-mail	: <a href="mailto:info@dosm.gov.my">info@dosm.gov.my</a> (general enquiries) <a href="mailto:data@dosm.gov.my">data@dosm.gov.my</a> (data request & enquiries)

Published on 11 March 2025

**All rights reserved.**

No part of this publication may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means or stored in the database without the prior written permission from the Department of Statistics Malaysia. Users reproducing content of this publication with or without adaptation should quote the following:

“Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia”

**ISSN 2735 - 1831**

## PREFACE

The monthly Labour Force Report, Malaysia, presents the statistics of the labour force, employment and unemployment obtained from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) through a household approach. The implementation of the LFS is based on the guidelines and recommendations of the International Labour Organization (ILO) with reference to the Surveys of Economically Active Population, Employment, Unemployment and Underemployment: An ILO Manual on Concepts and Methods.

The labour force statistics are vital input for labour market analysis, policy formulation, as well as planning, implementing, and monitoring programmes particularly related to human resource development. These statistics also serve as essential references for researchers, economists, academicians, the private sector, and individuals involved in research related to employment and the labour market.

The Labour Force Report for January 2025 describes the labour supply condition based on the current situation. The report also elaborates on the month-on-month changes to examine the immediate effects of recent events. In addition, annual changes from the same month of the previous year are also reported.

The Department of Statistics Malaysia gratefully acknowledges the cooperation and contribution rendered by all parties in making this publication a success. Every piece of feedback and suggestion towards improving future reports is highly appreciated.

**DATO' SRI DR. MOHD UZIR MAHIDIN**  
Chief Statistician Malaysia

March 2025

**This page is deliberately left blank**

## CONTENTS

### PAGE

Contents	i
Glossary	iii
Acronyms	v
Infographic	vi
Explanatory Notes	viii

Key Reviews	1
<b>1. Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2. Employed Persons</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3. Unemployment</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4. Labour Force</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5. Outside Labour Force</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>6. Looking Ahead</b>	

### List of Tables

<b>Table A</b>	: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, 1982 - 2023	<b>A-1</b>
<b>Table B</b>	: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, First Quarter 2010 - Fourth Quarter 2024	<b>A-2</b>
<b>Table B1</b>	: Employed person working less than 30 hours per week by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - Fourth Quarter 2024	<b>A-4</b>
<b>Table B2</b>	: Time-related underemployment by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - Fourth Quarter 2024	<b>A-5</b>
<b>Table B3</b>	: Skill-related underemployment by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - Fourth Quarter 2024	<b>A-6</b>
<b>Table C</b>	: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2024	<b>A-7</b>
<b>Table C(i)</b>	: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January <sup>r</sup> 2024, December <sup>r</sup> 2024 and January 2025	<b>A-10</b>
<b>Table C1</b>	: Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2024	<b>A-11</b>
<b>Table C1(i)</b>	: Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January <sup>r</sup> 2024, December <sup>r</sup> 2024 and January 2025	<b>A-14</b>
<b>Table C2</b>	: Number of unemployed persons by category and duration of unemployment, January 2016 - December 2024	<b>A-15</b>
<b>Table C2(i)</b>	: Number of unemployed persons by category and duration of unemployment, January <sup>r</sup> 2024, December <sup>r</sup> 2024 and January 2025	<b>A-17</b>
<b>Table C3</b>	: Youth unemployment and unemployment rate by selected age group, January 2016 - December 2024	<b>A-18</b>
<b>Table C3(i)</b>	: Youth unemployment and unemployment rate by selected age group, January <sup>r</sup> 2024, December <sup>r</sup> 2024 and January 2025	<b>A-20</b>

## CONTENTS

<b>Table C4</b>	: Employed persons by status in employment, January 2016 - December 2024	<b>A-21</b>
<b>Table C4(i)</b>	: Employed person by status in employment, January <sup>1</sup> 2024, December <sup>1</sup> 2024 and January 2025	<b>A-23</b>
<b>Table D</b>	: Employed persons by occupation, Malaysia, 1982 - 2023	<b>A-24</b>
<b>Table E</b>	: Employed persons by industry, Malaysia, 1982 - 2023	<b>A-25</b>
<b>Table F</b>	: Employed persons by status of employment, Malaysia, 1982 - 2023	<b>A-27</b>
<b>Table G</b>	: Labour force indicators for selected countries, January 2024 - January 2025	<b>A-28</b>



## GLOSSARY

Actively unemployed	:	Persons who were available for work and were actively looking for a job during the reference week.
Category of skills	:	For reporting purposes, the category of occupation is regrouped into three levels of skills based on the Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation (MASCO) 2013 as below: <p><b>Skilled workers:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Managers;</li> <li>2. Professionals; and</li> <li>3. Technicians and associate professionals.</li> </ol> <p><b>Semi-skilled workers:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Clerical support workers;</li> <li>5. Services and sales workers;</li> <li>6. Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock, and fishery workers;</li> <li>7. Craft and related trades workers; and</li> <li>8. Plant and machine operators and assemblers.</li> </ol> <p><b>Low-skilled workers:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. Elementary occupations.</li> </ol> <p>Starting in January 2022, the category of occupation is based on the Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation (MASCO) 2020 with the addition of group 0 - Armed Forces occupations.</p>
Economic activity	:	Classification of industries according to the Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008 version 1.0 into five main sectors: Agriculture, Mining & quarrying, Manufacturing, Construction and Services. In the meantime, Manufacturing and Services are further disaggregated into sub-sectors.
Employed	:	All persons who, at any time during the reference week worked at least one hour for pay, profit or family gain either as an employer, employee, own-account worker or unpaid family worker.
Employee	:	A person who works for a public or private employer and receives regular remuneration in wages, salary, commission, tips or payment in kind.
Employer	:	A person who operates a business, a plantation or other trade and employs one or more workers to help him.
Employment-to-population ratio	:	The proportion of the employed population to working-age population.
Inactively unemployed	:	Did not look for work because they believed no work was available or that they were not qualified; Would have looked for work if they had not been temporarily ill or had it not been for weather conditions; and had looked for work prior to the reference week and were waiting for the result of job applications.

## GLOSSARY

Labour force participation rate	:	The ratio of the labour force to the working-age population, expressed as a percentage.
Outside labour force	:	All persons not classified as employed or unemployed are classified as outside the labour force. This category consists of housewives, students (including those going for further studies), retired, disabled persons and those not interested in looking for a job.
Own-account worker	:	A person who operates his own farm, business or trade without employing any paid workers to conduct his farm, trade or business.
Skill-related underemployment	:	Those with tertiary education and working in the semi-skilled and low-skilled categories.
Time-related underemployment	:	A group of people who were employed less than 30 hours per week during the reference week because of the nature of their work or due to insufficient work and were able and willing to accept additional hours of work. Persons who were employed more than 30 hours per week during the reference week are considered to be in full employment.
Unemployed	:	Those who did not work during the reference week were classified into two groups, which are actively and inactively unemployed.
Unemployment rate	:	The proportion of the unemployed population to the total population in the labour force, expressed as a percentage.
Unpaid family worker	:	A person who works without pay or wages on a farm, business or trade operated by another member of the family.

## ACRONYMS

AI	:	Artificial Intelligence
ASEAN	:	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AVN	:	ASEAN Villages Network
GDP	:	Gross Domestic Product
ILO	:	International Labour Organization
LI	:	Leading Index
LFS	:	Labour Force Survey
LFPR	:	Labour Force Participation Rate
MASCO	:	Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation
MSME	:	Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
MSIC	:	Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification
r	:	Revision
TVET	:	Technical and Vocational Education and Training

# ***EXPLANATORY NOTES***

*Starting with the release of Labour Force Statistics (LFS), January 2025, the principal statistics of the labour force are estimated based on the current population estimates of Malaysia.*

*The revision of the LFS data series is performed when the most recent Population and Housing Census data of 2020 is available. This census data is then used for the revision of the LFS data series to include additional information available from the latest Population and Housing Census. This process of incorporating revised population benchmarks is referred to as rebasing. On the same note, revisions are carried out on LFS data for January to December 2024 in stages beginning with January and December data.*

# LABOUR FORCE MALAYSIA, JANUARY 2025

January's 2025 unemployed persons declined further to 533.8 thousand, with an unemployment rate of 3.1 per cent

## UNEMPLOYMENT

JANUARY 2025

The number of unemployed persons

533.8 thousand

JAN' 2024 559.9 thousand  
DEC' 2024 538.5 thousand

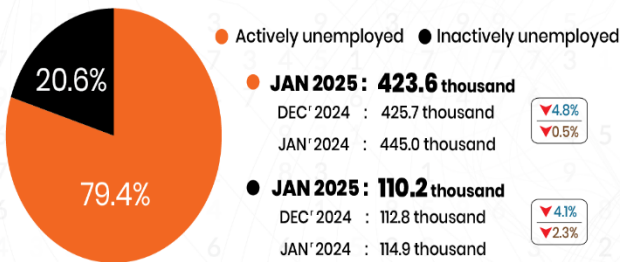
Unemployment rate

3.1%

The unemployment rate during the month remained at 3.1 per cent as recorded in the previous month

JAN' 2024 3.3%  
DEC' 2024 3.1%

### Unemployment by category



## EMPLOYED PERSONS

JANUARY 2025

The number of employed persons

16.68 million

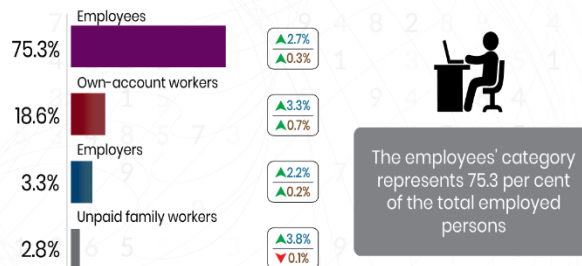
JAN' 2024 16.23 million  
DEC' 2024 16.63 million

Employment-to-population ratio

68.5%

JAN' 2024 68.1%  
DEC' 2024 68.4%

### Employed persons by status in employment



## LABOUR FORCE

Labour Force

17.22 million

JAN' 2024 16.79 million  
DEC' 2024 17.17 million

JANUARY 2025

Labour Force Participation Rate

70.6%

JAN' 2024 70.5%  
DEC' 2024 70.6%

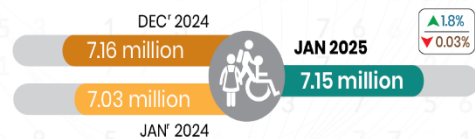
### LFPR by sex

Male 83.2%

Female 56.2%

70.6%  
January's labour force participation rate was unchanged at 70.6 per cent as in the prior month

## OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE



The major composition of the outside labour force was housework/ family responsibilities



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 2020



@StatsMalaysia



MALAYSIA MADANI  
keajaibannya



ASEAN  
MALAYSIA 2025  
INCLUSIVITY AND SUSTAINABILITY



20 October  
2016 - 2030

# CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

## What is Labour Force Survey (LFS)?

LFS encompasses both urban and rural areas for all administrative districts within all states in Malaysia using multi-modal data collection approach through the personal interview and a Computer-Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI).

Labour Force Survey (LFS) was conducted to collect information on the structure and distribution of labour force, employment and unemployment from the perspective of labour supply.

The LFS are conducted based on the standard guidelines and recommendations of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

The survey population comprises persons who live in the private living quarters, hence excludes persons residing in institutions such as hotels, hospitals, hostels, prisons, and workers residing in construction worksite.

The working age for the analysis of LFS in Malaysia refers to household members between the age of 15 to 64 years during the reference week, who are either in the labour force or outside the labour force.

### LABOUR FORCE

- The population in the working age group of 15 to 64 years (in completed years at last birthday).
- Either employed or unemployed in the reference week.

### EMPLOYED

- Persons who, at any time during the reference week worked at least one hour for pay, profit or family gain (as an employer, employee, own-account worker or unpaid family worker).
- Persons who did not work during the reference week because of illness, injury, bad weather, leave, labour dispute and social or religious reasons but had a job, farm, enterprise or other family enterprise to return to.
- Those on temporary lay-off with pay who would definitely be called back to work.

### UNEMPLOYED

- Those who did not work during the reference week but are interested to work and seeking for a job.
- Classified into two groups which are actively and inactively unemployed.

### OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE

- All persons not classified as employed or unemployed.
- Example: housewives, students, retirees, disabled persons and those not interested in looking for job.

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

- The proportion of the unemployed population to the total population in labour force.
- Percentage of the unemployed population in the labour force.

### LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

- The economic activity of a population depends on the demographic characteristics of that population.
- The proportion of the economically active population, hence differs between sub-groups of that population.
- These variations are measured by specific activity rates termed as labour force participation rate.
- Labour force participation rate is defined as the ratio of the labour force to the working age population (15 to 64 years), expressed as a percentage.

### SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

- Time-series data are very useful for economist, policy & decision makers and time-series analysts to identify the important features of economics series such as direction, turning point and consistency between other economic indicators. Sometimes this feature is difficult to observe because of seasonal movements. Thus, if seasonal effect can be removed, the behaviour of the series would be better viewed. The estimation and removal of the seasonal effects is called seasonal adjustment.
- Seasonal adjustment is a process to identify and to remove the regular within-a-year seasonal pattern, which may also include the influences of moving holidays and working/trading days effect in each period. The ultimate objective of the process is to highlight the underlying trends and short-term movements in the series.
- In Malaysia, most of the time series data is affected by seasonal effects. Hence, to eliminate the seasonal effect as well as to seasonally adjust the Malaysian economic time series data, a standard seasonal adjustment package, X-12 ARIMA was used by the Department of Statistics Malaysia.





## KEY REVIEWS

- In January 2025, the number of **employed persons** improved further with a rise of **0.3 per cent (+54.5 thousand persons)**, reaching **16.68 million** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 16.63 million persons). The **employment-to-population ratio**, which indicates the ability of an economy to create employment, rose by **0.1 percentage points to 68.5 per cent** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 68.4%).
- By economic sector, employment in the Services sector showed steady growth, particularly in Accommodation and food & beverage services; Wholesale & retail trade; and Human health and social work activities. Likewise, the Manufacturing, Construction and Agriculture and Mining & quarrying sectors also experienced positive employment growth in January 2025.
- In January 2025, **75.3 per cent** of the total employed persons were in the **employees'** category, registering an increase of **0.3 per cent (+32.0 thousand persons)** to **12.56 million persons** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 12.53 million persons). Similarly, the number of **own-account workers** rose by **0.7 per cent (+21.6 thousand persons)**, totalling **3.11 million** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 3.09 million persons).
- The number of **unemployed persons** continued to decrease in January 2025, with a reduction of **4.7 thousand persons (-0.9%)** to **533.8 thousand persons** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 538.5 thousand persons). The **unemployment rate** during the month remained at **3.1 per cent** as recorded in the previous month.
- In January 2025, the number of **labour force** improved further with a rise of **0.3 per cent (+49.8 thousand persons)** to record **17.22 million persons** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 17.17 million). January's **labour force participation rate (LFPR)** was unchanged at **70.6 per cent** as in the prior month.
- The number of persons **outside the labour force** in January 2025 slightly decreased by **0.03 per cent (-2.0 thousand persons)** to **7.15 million persons** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 7.16 million persons). The major composition of the outside labour force was **housework/ family responsibilities**, accounting for **43.6 per cent**, followed by the **schooling/ training** category at **41.8 per cent**.
- Malaysia's resilient economic position had a positive impact on the country's labour market. This situation is supported by strong domestic demand, government initiatives, increased tourism activities, and ongoing investment activities in infrastructure projects and key sectors. Moreover, the role of Malaysia as ASEAN Chairman 2025 is expected to have a favourable impact on the performance of the country's labour market by increasing investment, rural development, labour skills, and the halal sector. Therefore, in line with the country's growing economic performance and strong growth in the major sector of the country's economy, the nation's labour market is foreseen to remain in a stable growth momentum with an increasing number of employments, while unemployment is declining.

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## MALAYSIA'S LABOUR FORCE SITUATION IN JANUARY 2025 CONTINUED TO FLOURISH, REFLECTING THE HEALTHIER COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In January 2025, the Malaysian labour market continued to sustain its better performance driven by the stable country's economy, which is supported by the expansion in the semiconductor industry and the improvement in advanced technology usage that led to a strong investment from the largest companies in the world. According to Prof. Dr. Chris Miller, a professor of international history at The Fletcher School, Tufts University, many investors are attracted to making investments in Malaysia. These are important for the country, as they emphasise specialised semiconductor chip architectures, reinforcing Malaysia's standing in the global chip supply chain<sup>1</sup>. Thus, this initiative had led to a massive attraction of companies from other countries to invest in Malaysia, not only strengthening the country's economic growth but also helping to nourish the labour market. Thus, a steady Malaysian economic outlook in early 2025 has contributed to the country's resilient labour force, with increasing employment while the number of unemployed continued to decline.

In addition, the government's concern in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) has had an impact on a better country's economy. The government has implemented initiatives such as the Malaysia Digital Economy Blueprint, MyDigital, and the National AI Roadmap 2021-2025 to equip the workforce for the digital economy and benefit from the expansion in MSME. These programs emphasise upskilling and reskilling, particularly in artificial intelligence and digital technologies. This demonstrates the government's dedication to strengthening Malaysia's labour force by attracting investments, generating job opportunities, and providing workers with essential skills for emerging industries.

Minister of Communications and Digital, *Yang Berhormat* Tuan Gobind Singh Deo, underscored the ministry's commitment to identifying and addressing these challenges through initiatives such as the Malaysia Digital Tour and the program purposely to obtain feedback from MSME entrepreneurs<sup>2</sup>. This has benefited the government in understanding the difficulties faced by MSMEs in adopting digital solutions. The Malaysian government has stepped up its efforts to drive the country's digital transformation. The government has launched initiatives to tackle digitalisation challenges, allowing MSMEs to boost productivity and stay competitive. This support has also paved the way for the adoption of advanced technologies, resulting in the creation of new job roles and the enhancement of existing employees' skills. Therefore, Malaysia's labour force situation in January 2025 continued to flourish, reflecting the healthier country's economic development.

Additionally, the Leading Index (LI), which indicates the direction of Malaysia's economy, recorded an increase of 3.1 per cent to 113.6 points in December 2024 compared to 110.2 points in the same month a year ago, signalling Malaysia's economic performance continues to show encouraging progress. On the same note, the LI's monthly performance recorded an increase of 0.8 per cent in December 2024 as against last month. Looking at the smoothed long-term trend in December 2024, the LI continued below 100.0 points. Nevertheless, Malaysia's economy is expected to remain resilient, supported by strong domestic demand following the implementation of salary increases for civil servants, the adjustment of the minimum wage, and a strengthening of the labour market. In the meantime, the monthly external trade indicators for January 2025, both exports and imports, recorded a negative month-on-month growth of 11.3 per cent (December 2024: +9.6%), and -0.2 per cent (December 2024: +7.3%), respectively, compared to positive growth last month.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nst.com.my/business/economy/2025/01/1160060/malaysia-stands-benefit-robust-chip-potential-amid-us-china>

<sup>2</sup> [https://opengovasia.com/2025/01/13/accelerating-digital-adoption-malaysia-supports-msmes/?utm\\_source=chatgpt.com](https://opengovasia.com/2025/01/13/accelerating-digital-adoption-malaysia-supports-msmes/?utm_source=chatgpt.com)



## 2 EMPLOYED PERSONS

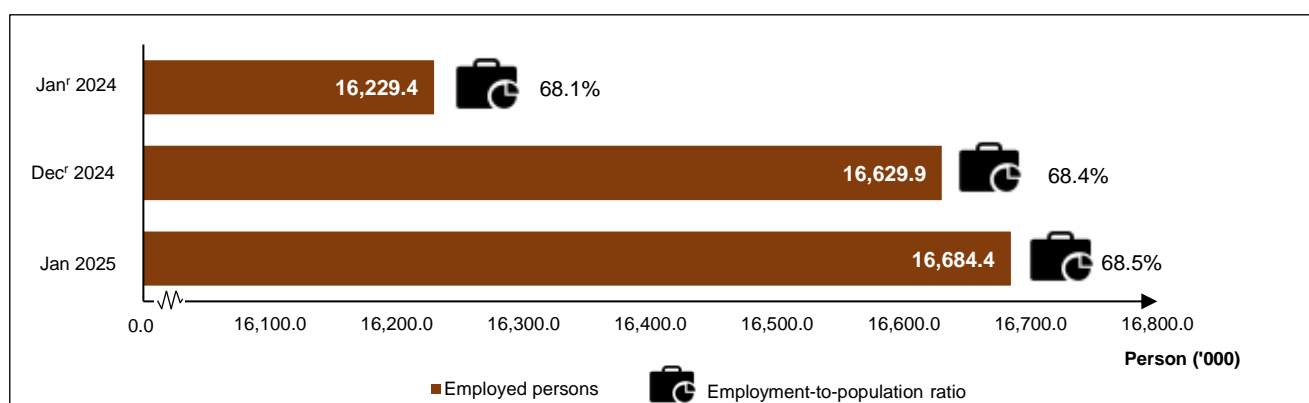
The number of employed persons improved further in January 2025

In January 2025, the number of **employed persons** improved further with a rise of **0.3 per cent (+54.5 thousand persons)**, reaching **16.68 million persons** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 16.63 million persons). Seasonally adjusted estimates indicated an increase in employment by 0.5 per cent. On a year-on-year basis, employment went up by 2.8 per cent (+455.0 thousand persons), compared to 16.23 million in January<sup>r</sup> of the previous year.

By economic sector, employment in the Services sector showed steady growth, particularly in Accommodation and food & beverage services; Wholesale & retail trade, and Human health and social work activities. Likewise, the Manufacturing, Construction, Agriculture and Mining & quarrying sectors also experienced positive employment growth in January 2025.

The **employment-to-population ratio**, which indicates the ability of an economy to create employment, rose by **0.1 percentage points to 68.5 per cent** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 68.4%). Compared to the same month last year, the ratio increased by 0.4 percentage points from 68.1 per cent in January<sup>r</sup> 2024 [Chart 1].

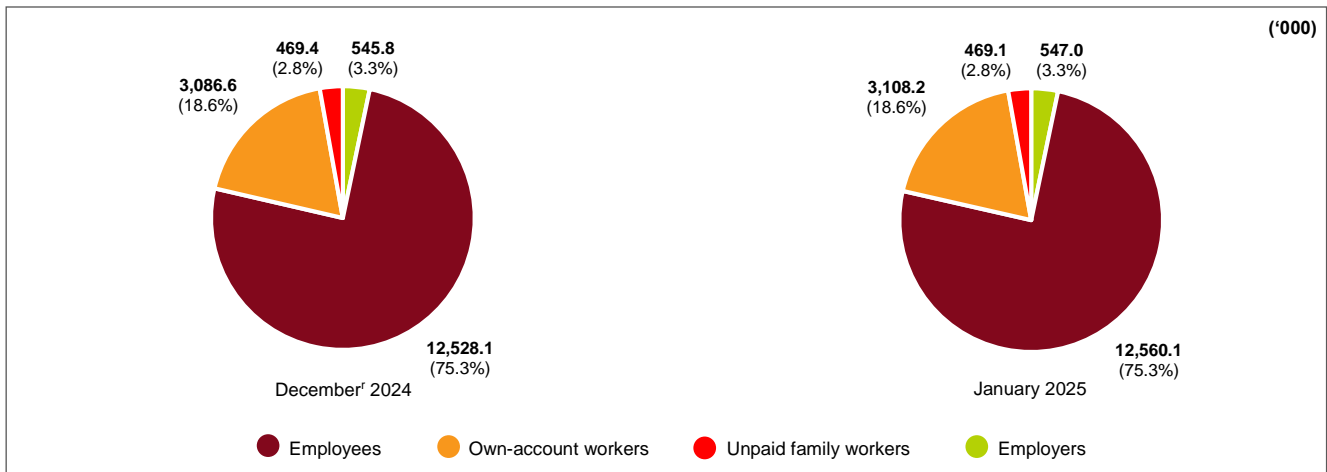
**Chart 1:** Employed persons and employment-to-population ratio, January<sup>r</sup> 2024, December<sup>r</sup> 2024 and January 2025



Note: <sup>r</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

In January 2025, **75.3 per cent** of the total employed persons were in the **employees'** category, registering an increase of **0.3 per cent (+32.0 thousand persons)** to **12.56 million persons** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 12.53 million persons). Similarly, the number of **own-account workers** rose by **0.7 per cent (+21.6 thousand persons)**, totalling **3.11 million persons** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 3.09 million persons). This group mainly consists of daily wage earners working as small business operators, such as retailers, hawkers, market and stall vendors, as well as smallholders [Chart 2].

**Chart 2: Employed person by status in employment, December<sup>r</sup> 2024 and January 2025**



Note: <sup>r</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

During the month, the number of **employed persons who were temporarily not working** increased to **89.3 thousand persons**, showing a rise of **12.0 per cent** or equivalent to **9.6 thousand persons** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 79.7 thousand persons). On a yearly comparison, this figure increased by 10.8 per cent (+8.7 thousand persons) from 80.6 thousand persons in January<sup>r</sup> 2024. This group includes individuals who were temporarily unable to work but were not classified as unemployed, as they had jobs to return to.

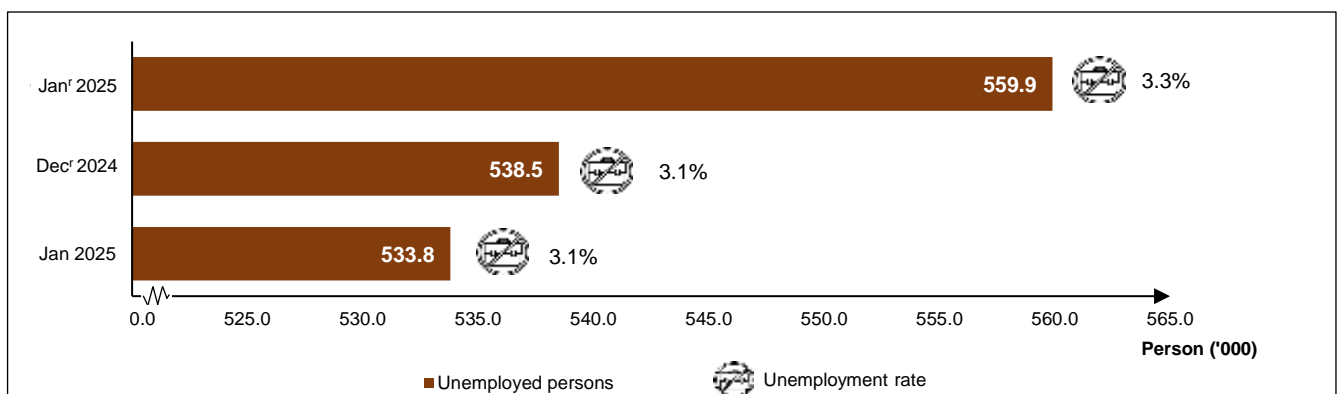
### 3 UNEMPLOYMENT

**The unemployment rate remained at 3.1 per cent in January 2025**

The number of **unemployed persons** continued to decrease in January 2025, with a reduction of **4.7 thousand persons (-0.9%)** to **533.8 thousand persons** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 538.5 thousand persons). The **unemployment rate** during the month remained at **3.1 per cent** as recorded in the previous month. In seasonally adjusted terms, the number of unemployed persons edged down by 1.2 per cent, with an unemployment rate of 3.1 per cent.

The number of unemployed persons reduced by 4.7 per cent (-26.1 thousand persons) year-on-year compared to 559.9 thousand persons recorded in January<sup>r</sup> 2024. Accordingly, the unemployment rate declined by 0.2 percentage points as against 3.3 per cent in the same month of the previous year [Chart 3].

**Chart 3: Unemployed and unemployment rate, January<sup>r</sup> 2024, December<sup>r</sup> 2024 and January 2025**

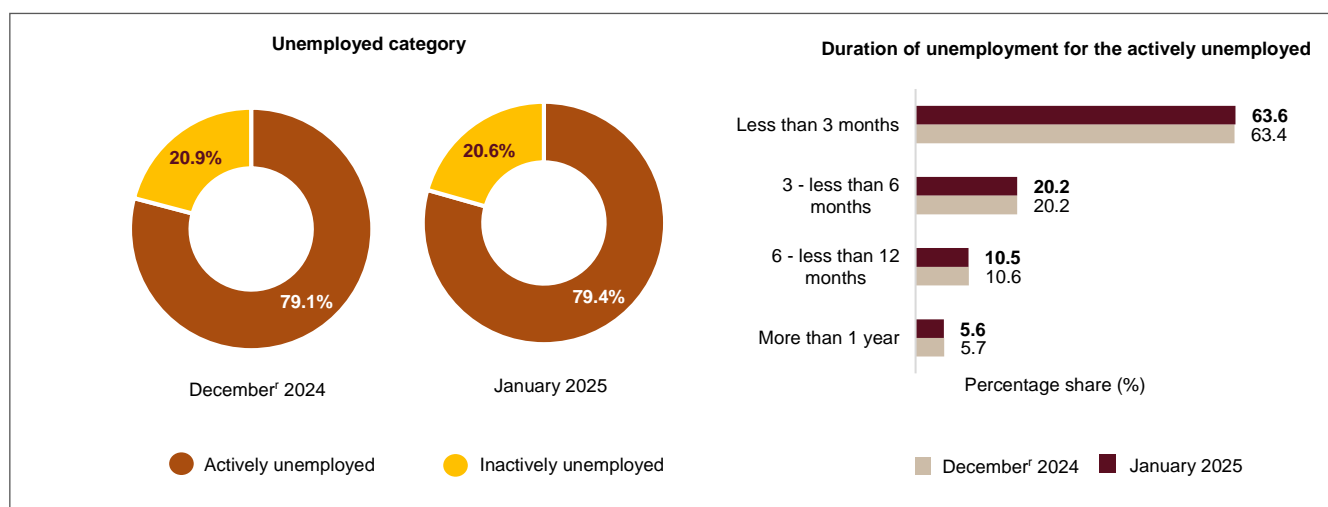


Note: <sup>r</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

In January 2025, **79.4 per cent** of the total unemployed persons were those who were available for work and were actively seeking jobs or the **actively unemployed**. This group decreased by **0.5 per cent (-2.1 thousand persons)** to record **423.6 thousand persons** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 425.7 thousand persons). By duration of unemployment for the actively unemployed, those who were **unemployed for less than three months** accounted for **63.6 per cent**, whereas those who were **unemployed for more than a year<sup>3</sup>** were at **5.6 per cent** [Chart 4].

On the same note, the **inactively unemployed** or those who believed that no jobs were available went down by **2.3 per cent (-2.6 thousand persons)** to **110.2 thousand persons** compared to 114.9 thousand persons as of January<sup>r</sup> 2024.

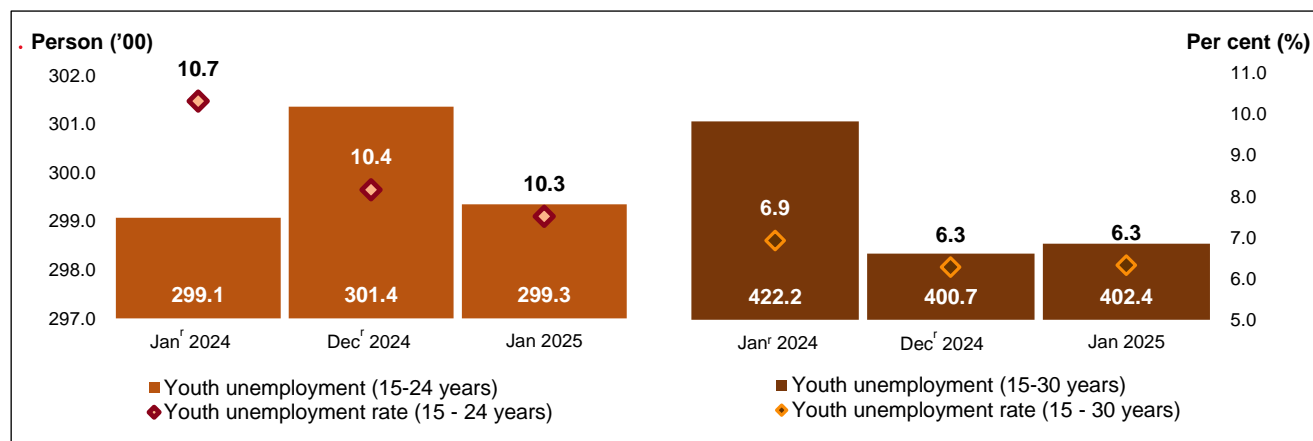
**Chart 4:** Unemployed category and duration of unemployment for the actively unemployed, December<sup>r</sup> 2024 and January 2025



Note: <sup>r</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

The unemployment rate for youth aged **15 to 24 years** during the month declined by **0.1 percentage points** to **10.3 per cent**, recording **299.3 thousand unemployed youths** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 10.4%; 301.4 thousand persons). Meanwhile, the unemployment rate among youth aged **15 to 30 years** stood at **6.3 per cent**, with the number of unemployed youths at **402.4 thousand persons** as against 400.7 thousand unemployed youths recorded in December<sup>r</sup> 2024 [Chart 5].

**Chart 5:** The number of unemployed persons and unemployment rate by selected age groups, January<sup>r</sup> 2024, December<sup>r</sup> 2024 and January 2025



Note: <sup>r</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

<sup>3</sup> Referring to a person who has been unemployed for one year or longer (Source: KILM: Long-term unemployment)  
[https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/publication/wcms\\_422451.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/publication/wcms_422451.pdf)

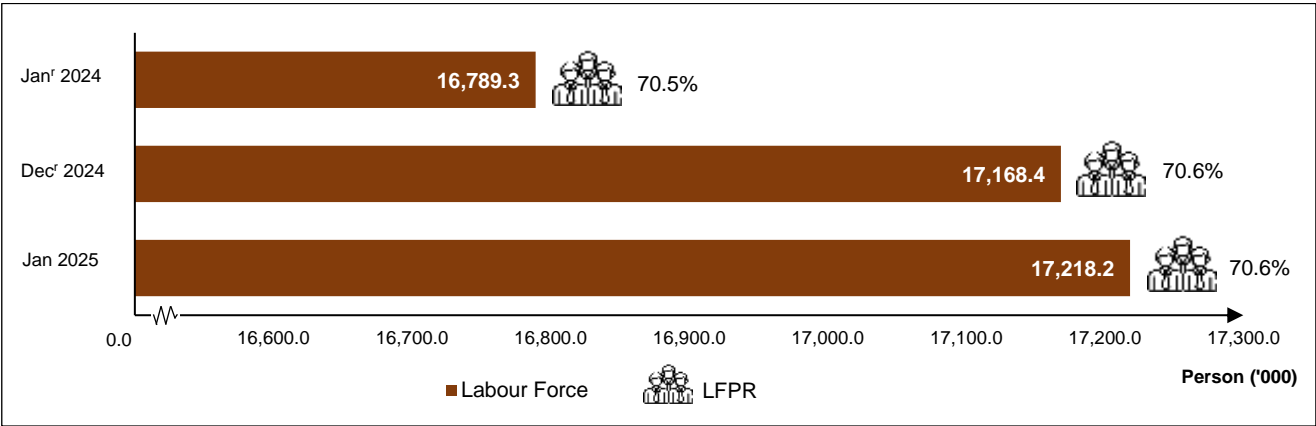
# 4 LABOUR FORCE

January's LFPR was unchanged at 70.6 per cent

In January 2025, the number of **labour force** improved further with a rise of **0.3 per cent (+49.8 thousand persons)** to record **17.22 million persons** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 17.17 million). January's **labour force participation rate (LFPR)** was unchanged at **70.6 per cent** as in the prior month. Based on seasonally adjusted data, the labour force rose by 0.4 per cent, recording the LFPR of 70.6 per cent.

Compared to January<sup>r</sup> of the previous year, the labour force rose by 2.3 per cent, or equivalent to 428.9 thousand persons (January<sup>r</sup> 2024: 16.79 million persons). Accordingly, the LFPR rose by 0.1 percentage points from 70.5 per cent in January<sup>r</sup> 2024 [**Chart 6**].

Chart 6: Labour force and LFPR, January<sup>r</sup> 2024, December<sup>r</sup> 2024 and January 2025

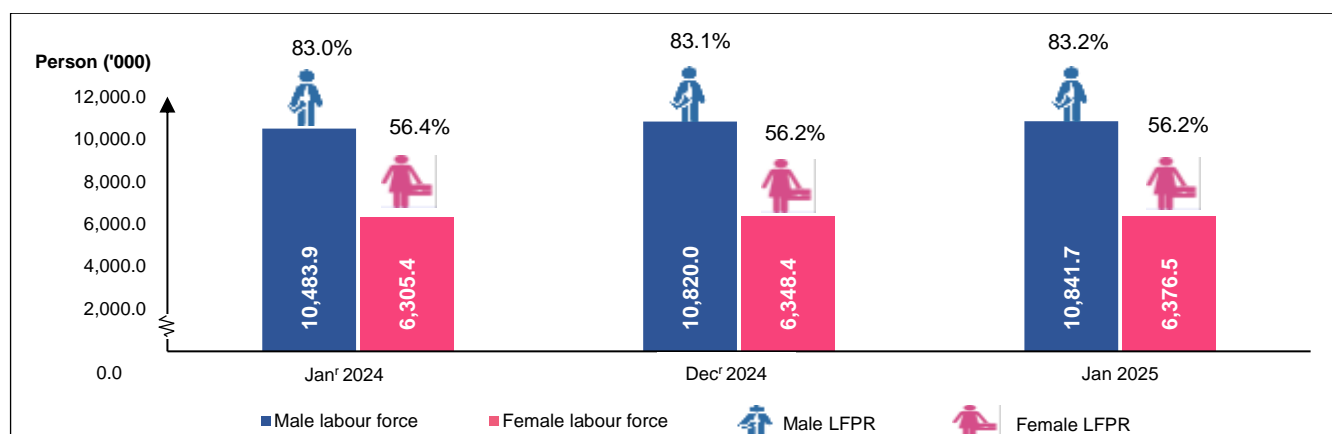


Note: <sup>r</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

Both male and female labour forces in January 2025 were increased. The **male labour force** edged up to **10.84 million persons** compared to 10.82 million persons in December<sup>r</sup> 2024, while the **female labour force** rose to **6.38 million persons** from 6.35 million in the previous month. Consequently, the **male LFPR** increased by **0.1 percentage points** to **83.2 per cent** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 83.1%), while the **LFPR for females** remained unchanged at **56.2 per cent**.

On a year-on-year basis, the male labour force improved by 3.4 per cent (January<sup>r</sup> 2024: 10.48 million persons), while the female labour force increased by 1.1 per cent from 6.31 million persons in January<sup>r</sup> last year. Therefore, the LFPR for males increased by 0.2 percentage points from 83.0 per cent. Meanwhile, the female LFPR declined by 0.2 percentage points compared to 56.4 per cent in January<sup>r</sup> 2024 [**Chart 7**].

**Chart 7: Labour force and LFPR by sex, January<sup>r</sup> 2024, December<sup>r</sup> 2024 and January 2025**



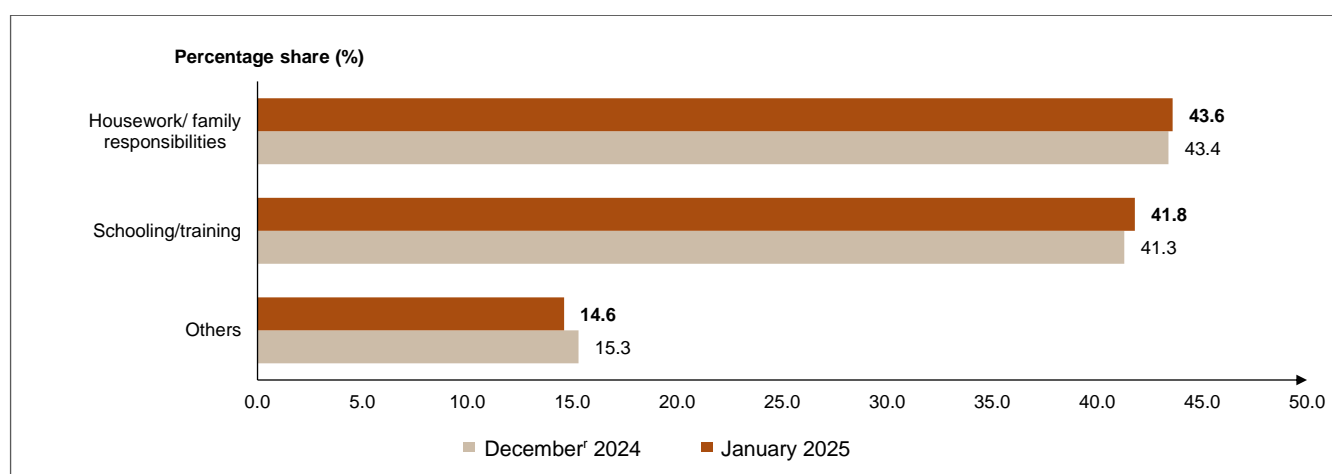
Note: <sup>r</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

## 5 OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE

The major composition of the outside labour force was housework/ family responsibilities

The number of persons **outside the labour force** in January 2025 slightly decreased by **0.03 per cent (-2.0 thousand persons)** to **7.15 million persons** (December<sup>r</sup> 2024: 7.16 million persons). Compared to the same month last year, the number of persons outside the labour force increased by 1.8 per cent or equivalent to 128.0 thousand persons (January<sup>r</sup> 2024: 7.03 million persons). The major composition of the outside labour force was **housework/ family responsibilities**, accounting for **43.6 per cent**, followed by the **schooling/ training** category at **41.8 per cent** [Chart 8].

**Chart 8: Share of outside labour force by reasons for not seeking work, December<sup>r</sup> 2024 and January 2025**



Note: <sup>r</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

## 6 LOOKING AHEAD

In January 2025, the Malaysian economy showed stable growth despite some challenges in trade and inflation. Malaysian exports and imports recorded an annual increase, while inflation remained

1.7 per cent in January 2025<sup>4</sup>. Malaysia's resilient economic position during the month had a positive impact on the country's labour market, with low unemployment and the number of employed persons continues to rise.

This situation is supported by strong domestic demand and continues to support business growth and job creation<sup>5</sup>. In addition, government initiatives aimed at improving labour skills and generating new job opportunities are seen to help sustain the stability of the labour market.

Furthermore, increased tourism activities are also seen as contributing to the creation of employment opportunities in the services sector. Meanwhile, ongoing investment activities in infrastructure projects and key sectors help stimulate economic growth and labour demand to meet industry needs.

In addition, based on the forecast of business performance for the first quarter of 2025, businesses expect a favourable business environment in the first quarter of 2025, supported by a positive confidence indicator of +3.2 per cent, compared to +4.8 per cent in the previous quarter. In terms of employment, 21.1 per cent of businesses are anticipating hiring more workers, while 69.2 per cent are expecting to retain their staff during the first quarter of 2025.

Moreover, the role of Malaysia as ASEAN Chairman 2025 is expected to have a favourable impact on the performance of the country's labour market by increasing investment, rural development, labour skills, and the halal sector. Malaysia will attract more foreign investment through various initiatives and programs organised during the ASEAN Chairman's position<sup>6</sup>. This will create more job opportunities in major sectors such as technology, Manufacturing, and Services. Further, Malaysia will also focus on rural development through initiatives such as the ASEAN Villages Network (AVN), which will promote rural products across ASEAN. This is seen as increasing employment and economic opportunities in rural areas.

In addition, Malaysia will improve technical education and vocational training (TVET) to ensure that the local workforce has the skills needed to meet industry demand. Malaysia will also leverage the role of ASEAN Chairman to strengthen the halal sector and increase trade with countries such as China, Russia, India, and the Philippines<sup>7</sup>. This in turn will open up employment opportunities in the halal sector and increase the contribution of the sector to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Therefore, in line with the country's growing economic performance and strong growth in the major sector of the country's economy, the nation's labour market is foreseen to remain in a stable growth momentum with an increasing number of employments, while unemployment is declining.

---

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.thestar.com.my/business/business-news/2025/02/20/malaysia-records-31-growth-for-trade-in-january>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.nst.com.my/business/economy/2025/01/1160150/malaysias-labour-market-remain-stable-supported-government-led-job>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2025/02/23/malaysia-plans-major-economic-push-as-asean-chair>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.malaymail.com/news/malaysia/2025/02/21/dpm-zahid-malaysia-to-prioritise-rural-growth-halal-economy-as-asean-chair-2025/167452>

# TABLES

LABOUR FORCE, MALAYSIA  
JANUARY 2025

**This page is deliberately left blank**



Table A: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, 1982 - 2023

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
1982	5,431.4	5,249.0	182.4	2,944.6	64.8	62.7	3.4
1983	5,671.8	5,457.0	214.9	2,969.4	65.6	63.2	3.8
1984	5,862.5	5,566.7	295.8	3,119.6	65.3	62.0	5.0
1985	5,990.1	5,653.4	336.8	3,124.9	65.7	62.0	5.6
1986	6,222.1	5,760.1	461.9	3,188.3	66.1	61.2	7.4
1987	6,456.8	5,983.9	472.9	3,246.1	66.5	61.7	7.3
1988	6,637.0	6,157.2	479.8	3,301.5	66.8	62.0	7.2
1989	6,779.4	6,390.9	388.5	3,463.5	66.2	62.4	5.7
1990	7,000.2	6,685.0	315.2	3,519.7	66.5	63.6	4.5
1992	7,319.0	7,047.8	271.2	3,783.6	65.9	63.5	3.7
1993	7,700.1	7,383.4	316.8	3,874.9	66.5	63.8	4.1
1995	7,893.1	7,645.0	248.1	4,297.7	64.7	62.7	3.1
1996	8,616.0	8,399.3	216.8	4,379.0	66.3	64.6	2.5
1997	8,784.0	8,569.2	214.9	4,605.1	65.6	64.0	2.4
1998	8,883.6	8,599.6	284.0	4,934.0	64.3	62.2	3.2
1999	9,151.5	8,837.8	313.7	5,098.4	64.2	62.0	3.4
2000	9,556.1	9,269.2	286.9	5,065.1	65.4	63.4	3.0
2001	9,699.4	9,357.0	342.4	5,239.9	64.9	62.6	3.5
2002	9,886.2	9,542.6	343.5	5,473.8	64.4	62.1	3.5
2003	10,239.6	9,869.7	369.8	5,458.6	65.2	62.9	3.6
2004	10,346.2	9,979.5	366.6	5,730.5	64.4	62.1	3.5
2005	10,413.4	10,045.4	368.1	6,048.2	63.3	61.0	3.5
2006	10,628.9	10,275.4	353.6	6,205.1	63.1	61.0	3.3
2007	10,889.5	10,538.1	351.4	6,330.1	63.2	61.2	3.2
2008	11,028.1	10,659.6	368.5	6,575.7	62.6	60.6	3.3
2009	11,315.3	10,897.3	418.0	6,665.7	62.9	60.6	3.7
2010	12,303.9	11,899.5	404.4	7,023.0	63.7	61.6	3.3
2011	12,740.7	12,351.5	389.2	7,023.3	64.5	62.5	3.1
2012	13,221.7	12,820.5	401.2	6,927.4	65.6	63.6	3.0
2013	13,980.5	13,545.4	435.1	6,781.2	67.3	65.2	3.1
2014	14,263.6	13,852.6	411.1	6,821.0	67.6	65.7	2.9
2015	14,518.0	14,067.7	450.3	6,869.9	67.9	65.8	3.1
2016	14,667.8	14,163.7	504.1	6,987.6	67.7	65.4	3.4
2017	14,980.1	14,476.8	503.3	7,065.0	68.0	65.7	3.4
2018	15,280.3	14,776.0	504.3	7,094.4	68.3	66.0	3.3
2019	15,581.6	15,073.4	508.2	7,103.5	68.7	66.4	3.3
2020 <sup>1</sup>	15,406.0	14,719.4	686.6	7,105.2	68.4	65.4	4.5
2021 <sup>1</sup>	15,532.8	14,825.2	707.6	7,102.3	68.6	65.5	4.6
2022 <sup>1</sup>	15,769.7	15,155.2	614.5	7,000.7	69.3	66.6	3.9
2023	16,366.8	15,813.4	553.4	6,997.8	70.0	67.7	3.4

## Notes:

1. <sup>1</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

2. Labour Force Survey indicators for 2019 and previously still using the estimated population data of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census, 2010

Table B: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, First Quarter 2010 - Fourth Quarter 2024

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
<b>2010</b>							
Q1	12,239.3	11,801.2	438.1	7,030.8	63.5	61.2	3.6
Q2	12,304.9	11,900.6	404.3	7,047.5	63.6	61.5	3.3
Q3	12,354.6	11,961.3	393.3	7,073.5	63.6	61.6	3.2
Q4	12,522.4	12,137.4	385.0	6,992.9	64.2	62.2	3.1
<b>2011</b>							
Q1	12,718.3	12,333.5	384.8	7,004.9	64.5	62.5	3.0
Q2	12,756.0	12,367.4	388.6	7,048.8	64.4	62.4	3.0
Q3	12,889.0	12,493.0	396.0	6,977.2	64.9	62.9	3.1
Q4	12,842.5	12,447.9	394.7	7,098.6	64.4	62.4	3.1
<b>2012</b>							
Q1	13,169.2	12,765.2	404.0	6,915.1	65.6	63.6	3.1
Q2	13,237.0	12,837.1	400.0	6,946.1	65.6	63.6	3.0
Q3	13,401.7	13,005.4	396.3	6,897.9	66.0	64.1	3.0
Q4	13,376.2	12,971.2	405.0	7,062.8	65.4	63.5	3.0
<b>2013</b>							
Q1	13,539.5	13,118.0	421.5	7,090.0	65.6	63.6	3.1
Q2	13,945.1	13,524.1	421.0	6,819.6	67.2	65.1	3.0
Q3	14,214.2	13,776.0	438.3	6,613.0	68.2	66.1	3.1
Q4	14,195.1	13,739.5	455.6	6,730.7	67.8	65.7	3.2
<b>2014</b>							
Q1	14,230.8	13,791.4	439.4	6,805.9	67.6	65.6	3.1
Q2	14,296.1	13,888.5	407.6	6,793.0	67.8	65.9	2.9
Q3	14,346.9	13,960.6	386.3	6,810.3	67.8	66.0	2.7
Q4	14,403.3	13,998.7	404.6	6,860.9	67.7	65.8	2.8
<b>2015</b>							
Q1	14,544.8	14,091.0	453.9	6,798.5	68.1	66.0	3.1
Q2	14,535.6	14,087.8	447.8	6,897.9	67.8	65.7	3.1
Q3	14,561.0	14,093.7	467.3	6,930.6	67.8	65.6	3.2
Q4	14,600.2	14,127.9	472.3	6,952.7	67.7	65.6	3.2
<b>2016</b>							
Q1	14,596.8	14,095.8	501.0	7,011.5	67.6	65.2	3.4
Q2	14,665.4	14,161.5	503.9	7,026.0	67.6	65.3	3.4
Q3	14,710.6	14,202.0	508.5	7,044.6	67.6	65.3	3.5
Q4	14,771.4	14,260.6	510.8	7,071.7	67.6	65.3	3.5
<b>2017</b>							
Q1	14,870.1	14,355.9	514.2	7,093.8	67.7	65.4	3.5
Q2	14,926.4	14,414.8	511.6	7,123.3	67.7	65.4	3.4
Q3	15,000.2	14,484.0	516.2	7,091.0	67.9	65.6	3.4
Q4	15,088.3	14,580.5	507.8	7,085.0	68.0	65.8	3.4
<b>2018</b>							
Q1	15,192.4	14,683.6	508.9	7,093.7	68.2	65.9	3.3
Q2	15,278.3	14,767.2	511.1	7,073.4	68.4	66.1	3.3
Q3	15,381.3	14,856.8	524.4	7,077.9	68.5	66.2	3.4
Q4	15,449.9	14,933.4	516.5	7,070.7	68.6	66.3	3.3
<b>2019</b>							
Q1	15,526.8	15,010.2	516.6	7,064.2	68.7	66.4	3.3
Q2	15,598.8	15,078.2	520.6	7,088.1	68.8	66.5	3.3
Q3	15,674.3	15,162.1	512.1	7,088.7	68.9	66.6	3.3
Q4	15,766.7	15,254.5	512.2	7,066.1	69.1	66.8	3.2
<b>2020</b>							
Q1	15,790.1	15,243.5	546.6	7,163.1	68.8	66.4	3.5
Q2	15,675.5	14,883.7	791.8	7,350.5	68.1	64.6	5.1
Q3	15,840.6	15,095.6	745.0	7,324.6	68.4	65.2	4.7
Q4	15,922.3	15,161.6	760.7	7,318.4	68.5	65.2	4.8

Table B: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, First Quarter 2010 - Fourth Quarter 2024

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
<b>2021</b>							
Q1	16,008.4	15,236.5	771.8	7,316.0	68.6	65.3	4.8
Q2	15,972.2	15,207.3	764.9	7,424.9	68.3	65.0	4.8
Q3	16,021.0	15,274.8	746.2	7,430.1	68.3	65.1	4.7
Q4	16,135.0	15,440.7	694.4	7,361.5	68.7	65.7	4.3
<b>2022</b>							
Q1	16,246.1	15,574.9	671.2	7,289.9	69.0	66.2	4.1
Q2	16,343.3	15,701.2	642.0	7,258.5	69.2	66.5	3.9
Q3	16,442.9	15,831.1	611.8	7,250.6	69.4	66.8	3.7
Q4	16,542.2	15,941.7	600.5	7,246.1	69.5	67.0	3.6
<b>2023</b>							
Q1	16,648.9	16,062.0	586.9	7,215.7	69.8	67.3	3.5
Q2	16,727.4	16,146.1	581.4	7,180.2	70.0	67.5	3.5
Q3	16,824.0	16,250.9	573.1	7,182.3	70.1	67.7	3.4
Q4	16,911.7	16,346.7	565.0	7,197.6	70.1	67.8	3.3
<b>2024</b>							
Q1	16,962.3	16,401.2	561.1	7,194.0	70.2	67.9	3.3
Q2	17,148.9	16,591.2	557.8	7,188.8	70.5	68.2	3.3
Q3	17,263.3	16,715.4	547.9	7,224.4	70.5	68.3	3.2
Q4	17,339.8	16,792.9	546.9	7,208.5	70.6	68.4	3.2

**Note:**

The quarterly Labour Force Survey indicators are still using the estimated population data of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census, 2010

**Table B1 : Employed person working less than 30 hours per week by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - Fourth Quarter 2024**

(‘000)

Time Series	Total	Sex		Age Group			
		Male	Female	15-24	25-34	35-44	45 and above
<b>2017</b>							
Q1	415.5	177.3	238.2	57.4	79.7	90.8	187.6
Q2	396.8	168.8	228.0	52.8	79.0	95.1	170.0
Q3	393.0	163.2	229.7	57.3	91.1	81.4	163.1
Q4	419.3	173.1	246.2	60.2	105.4	84.3	169.4
<b>2018</b>							
Q1	462.3	172.9	289.3	61.2	119.5	98.7	182.9
Q2	497.2	207.7	289.5	75.5	132.4	101.3	188.0
Q3	442.4	172.7	269.7	56.4	96.7	98.3	191.0
Q4	370.0	140.9	229.0	39.2	80.4	78.9	171.4
<b>2019</b>							
Q1	352.6	143.7	209.0	52.2	90.9	68.9	140.7
Q2	374.3	171.5	202.8	43.6	84.1	87.8	158.8
Q3	326.6	118.9	207.6	42.5	73.6	79.7	130.8
Q4	304.0	112.3	191.8	39.1	62.9	72.8	129.3
<b>2020</b>							
Q1	667.5	320.1	347.4	91.0	189.1	146.5	240.9
Q2	789.6	444.0	345.7	134.6	229.1	182.0	244.0
Q3	403.8	151.4	252.4	116.1	118.0	72.1	97.6
Q4	533.7	345.6	188.0	165.5	189.5	71.0	107.6
<b>2021</b>							
Q1	441.9	281.3	160.5	57.0	209.4	106.3	69.2
Q2	474.1	317.8	156.3	102.2	110.1	95.9	165.9
Q3	464.6	282.9	181.6	69.0	166.4	123.7	105.4
Q4	393.8	137.6	256.2	87.0	108.4	97.5	100.9
<b>2022</b>							
Q1	336.3	112.1	224.1	39.1	103.6	77.8	115.8
Q2	324.5	154.5	170.0	76.4	94.3	63.0	90.8
Q3	287.2	132.9	154.3	35.3	99.5	68.4	84.0
Q4	268.5	115.4	153.0	46.1	88.0	56.2	78.3
<b>2023</b>							
Q1	274.2	114.2	160.0	37.4	94.4	46.5	95.8
Q2	280.4	120.2	160.2	54.0	85.3	58.6	82.5
Q3	284.8	122.0	162.8	41.5	113.2	49.6	80.4
Q4	286.1	113.6	172.5	49.1	108.7	43.3	85.1
<b>2024</b>							
Q1	283.9	123.1	160.8	32.1	89.1	68.3	94.4
Q2	275.8	122.9	152.9	56.8	66.4	66.4	86.2
Q3	268.1	115.6	152.5	44.9	82.9	50.2	90.1
Q4	261.4	114.9	146.6	71.8	65.0	35.4	89.3

**Note:**

The quarterly Labour Force Survey indicators are still using the estimated population data of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census, 2010

Table B2 : Time-related underemployment by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - Fourth Quarter 2024

('000)

Time Series	Total	Sex		Age Group			
		Male	Female	15-24	25-34	35-44	45 and above
<b>2017</b>							
Q1	211.8	105.9	105.8	36.8	51.0	48.6	75.4
Q2	195.4	97.7	97.8	34.7	45.2	48.9	66.6
Q3	224.8	109.1	115.7	46.3	59.3	49.8	69.4
Q4	238.5	115.3	123.2	45.7	69.4	44.9	78.5
<b>2018</b>							
Q1	242.5	102.4	141.0	37.3	74.1	52.3	79.7
Q2	231.7	108.1	123.5	40.2	65.8	43.2	82.5
Q3	235.5	116.5	119.0	43.4	54.4	49.4	88.3
Q4	204.1	88.1	115.9	30.8	47.5	44.0	81.7
<b>2019</b>							
Q1	210.5	98.0	112.5	43.6	61.4	36.9	68.6
Q2	204.5	107.2	97.2	32.0	53.8	45.7	73.0
Q3	178.7	70.4	108.2	28.6	44.8	50.9	54.4
Q4	170.7	69.2	101.5	28.7	44.2	40.6	57.1
<b>2020</b>							
Q1	383.2	183.2	199.9	63.2	114.1	82.4	123.5
Q2	413.5	257.6	156.0	76.3	99.3	106.1	131.9
Q3	300.8	102.3	198.5	108.4	97.2	47.4	47.8
Q4	369.1	267.8	101.3	130.3	117.4	53.1	68.4
<b>2021</b>							
Q1	310.5	226.7	83.8	46.4	159.3	67.2	37.6
Q2	329.7	236.1	93.5	86.6	82.6	46.6	113.8
Q3	326.2	232.2	93.9	40.4	137.0	87.7	61.0
Q4	293.1	101.2	191.9	80.8	78.9	70.2	63.2
<b>2022</b>							
Q1	245.1	71.3	173.8	21.8	76.1	62.6	84.5
Q2	212.8	111.6	101.3	64.5	59.8	37.0	51.6
Q3	186.8	92.3	94.5	16.7	67.4	49.0	53.7
Q4	167.4	79.3	88.1	29.9	63.8	32.5	41.2
<b>2023</b>							
Q1	174.6	78.7	95.9	30.2	66.4	25.2	52.8
Q2	186.3	86.4	99.9	39.5	62.6	34.4	49.8
Q3	189.0	88.1	100.8	34.4	79.0	32.6	42.9
Q4	181.6	82.7	98.9	26.5	81.1	28.4	45.6
<b>2024</b>							
Q1	175.4	81.9	93.5	23.0	66.1	36.1	50.1
Q2	169.8	79.9	89.8	38.0	44.7	44.3	42.8
Q3	159.1	74.4	84.7	28.7	52.9	22.3	55.2
Q4	153.4	72.0	81.4	36.2	41.6	22.2	53.4

**Note:**

The quarterly Labour Force Survey indicators are still using the estimated population data of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census, 2010

Table B3 : Skill-related underemployment by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - Fourth Quarter 2024

('000)

Time Series	Total	Sex		Age Group			
		Male	Female	15-24	25-34	35-44	45 and above
<b>2017</b>							
Q1	1,182.9	567.0	615.9	280.8	569.0	209.3	123.8
Q2	1,280.6	584.9	695.7	317.9	587.7	226.9	148.1
Q3	1,311.6	623.9	687.7	306.1	632.6	227.4	145.5
Q4	1,332.8	648.4	684.4	303.2	631.8	254.8	142.9
<b>2018</b>							
Q1	1,306.9	629.2	677.7	279.2	629.2	259.0	139.5
Q2	1,408.1	647.2	760.9	314.5	687.4	257.7	148.4
Q3	1,446.3	704.1	742.2	351.3	683.3	266.9	144.8
Q4	1,404.0	667.8	736.2	337.2	679.1	245.4	142.3
<b>2019</b>							
Q1	1,460.8	673.2	787.6	329.5	696.4	263.0	172.0
Q2	1,417.2	665.3	751.9	338.6	666.0	259.7	152.8
Q3	1,554.5	699.3	855.2	393.5	705.8	279.1	176.0
Q4	1,540.9	746.8	794.1	348.4	732.4	287.4	172.7
<b>2020</b>							
Q1	1,637.3	815.1	822.2	338.3	786.3	310.8	201.8
Q2	1,674.1	847.7	826.4	393.7	701.9	331.6	246.9
Q3	1,762.7	865.9	896.9	405.1	811.4	355.3	190.9
Q4 <sup>r</sup>	1,886.8	1,066.6	820.2	353.5	862.6	443.0	227.6
<b>2021</b>							
Q1	1,899.9	951.5	948.4	437.2	848.4	401.7	212.5
Q2	1,852.5	949.0	903.5	336.9	776.0	426.1	313.5
Q3	1,873.8	931.7	942.2	426.8	835.3	392.0	219.7
Q4	1,838.3	877.1	961.2	309.0	816.4	454.6	258.3
<b>2022</b>							
Q1	1,810.1	874.4	935.6	364.9	821.3	428.2	195.7
Q2	1,799.6	892.3	907.3	356.3	799.4	433.3	210.6
Q3	1,839.6	857.9	981.7	344.1	861.4	432.2	201.9
Q4	1,891.4	1,022.0	869.5	326.3	894.9	476.0	194.2
<b>2023</b>							
Q1	1,907.2	944.0	963.3	373.9	879.1	447.4	206.8
Q2	1,914.6	873.1	1,041.5	421.3	867.5	421.0	204.8
Q3	1,922.7	941.3	981.4	425.5	816.1	457.8	223.3
Q4	1,937.1	996.2	940.9	400.2	815.3	493.7	227.9
<b>2024</b>							
Q1	1,931.3	975.6	955.7	448.4	827.8	441.4	213.6
Q2	1,935.9	974.1	961.8	472.2	806.8	467.8	189.1
Q3	1,949.3	993.2	956.1	412.0	864.0	451.1	222.3
Q4	1,932.6	936.9	995.7	359.8	819.4	454.6	298.7

Note:

The quarterly Labour Force Survey indicators are still using the estimated population data of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census, 2010

Table C: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2024

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
<b>2010</b>							
January	12,367.9	11,931.2	436.7	6,927.5	64.1	61.8	3.5
February	12,059.8	11,632.3	427.4	7,225.1	62.5	60.3	3.5
March	12,324.2	11,895.9	428.3	6,993.0	63.8	61.6	3.5
April	12,512.0	12,133.5	378.5	6,894.5	64.5	62.5	3.0
May	12,197.6	11,798.9	398.7	7,186.0	62.9	60.9	3.3
June	12,331.8	11,882.2	449.6	7,065.0	63.6	61.3	3.6
July	12,516.2	12,099.5	416.7	6,900.5	64.5	62.3	3.3
August	12,320.9	11,936.5	384.3	7,157.9	63.3	61.3	3.1
September	12,289.9	11,912.1	377.8	7,194.4	63.1	61.1	3.1
October	12,689.5	12,342.6	346.8	6,846.7	65.0	63.2	2.7
November	12,277.5	11,874.1	403.4	7,298.3	62.7	60.7	3.3
December	12,822.3	12,418.3	404.1	6,722.3	65.6	63.5	3.2
<b>2011</b>							
January	12,804.2	12,376.0	428.2	6,881.6	65.0	62.9	3.3
February	12,618.9	12,245.3	373.6	7,110.3	64.0	62.1	3.0
March	12,862.2	12,491.8	370.4	6,940.1	65.0	63.1	2.9
April	12,921.7	12,537.1	384.6	6,930.6	65.1	63.2	3.0
May	12,726.6	12,330.3	396.3	7,133.2	64.1	62.1	3.1
June	12,782.7	12,372.6	410.1	7,073.7	64.4	62.3	3.2
July	12,967.4	12,581.5	385.9	6,920.5	65.2	63.3	3.0
August	12,887.9	12,486.7	401.2	7,038.6	64.7	62.7	3.1
September	12,875.9	12,456.9	419.0	7,032.2	64.7	62.6	3.3
October	12,938.2	12,550.1	388.1	7,045.7	64.7	62.8	3.0
November	12,722.4	12,323.7	398.7	7,245.7	63.7	61.7	3.1
December	13,092.1	12,687.2	404.9	6,997.3	65.2	63.2	3.1
<b>2012</b>							
January	13,191.6	12,781.3	410.4	6,878.5	65.7	63.7	3.1
February	13,054.5	12,645.6	408.9	7,042.3	65.0	62.9	3.1
March	13,295.4	12,893.8	401.6	6,897.3	65.8	63.9	3.0
April	13,331.8	12,936.9	394.8	6,851.3	66.1	64.1	3.0
May	13,245.6	12,861.2	384.4	6,952.9	65.6	63.7	2.9
June	13,232.5	12,811.4	421.0	7,013.7	65.4	63.3	3.2
July	13,511.7	13,093.3	418.4	6,777.3	66.6	64.5	3.1
August	13,313.6	12,963.4	350.2	7,039.9	65.4	63.7	2.6
September	13,408.5	12,984.5	424.0	6,993.2	65.7	63.6	3.2
October	13,341.4	12,908.9	432.6	7,056.2	65.4	63.3	3.2
November	13,429.2	13,044.6	384.6	7,094.6	65.4	63.6	2.9
December	13,538.6	13,114.3	424.3	7,060.6	65.7	63.7	3.1
<b>2013</b>							
January	13,569.6	13,109.8	459.8	7,035.5	65.9	63.6	3.4
February	13,598.8	13,195.9	402.9	7,119.8	65.6	63.7	3.0
March	13,684.4	13,241.7	442.6	7,116.7	65.8	63.7	3.2
April	13,835.7	13,422.9	412.8	6,922.7	66.7	64.7	3.0
May	13,815.3	13,368.9	446.4	7,005.6	66.4	64.2	3.2
June	14,217.1	13,816.9	400.2	6,668.6	68.1	66.2	2.8
July	14,194.6	13,763.0	431.6	6,655.9	68.1	66.0	3.0
August	14,176.6	13,734.2	442.4	6,689.8	67.9	65.8	3.1
September	14,309.4	13,859.5	449.9	6,557.3	68.6	66.4	3.1
October	14,169.2	13,699.1	470.1	6,746.3	67.7	65.5	3.3
November	14,220.9	13,730.4	490.5	6,716.2	67.9	65.6	3.4
December	14,276.5	13,836.2	440.3	6,724.3	68.0	65.9	3.1

Table C: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2024

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
<b>2014</b>							
January	14,244.4	13,775.9	468.5	6,734.7	67.9	65.7	3.3
February	14,249.9	13,788.0	462.0	6,808.7	67.7	65.5	3.2
March	14,198.4	13,768.3	430.1	6,956.1	67.1	65.1	3.0
April	14,206.7	13,793.2	413.5	6,849.4	67.5	65.5	2.9
May	14,430.2	14,023.0	407.2	6,693.2	68.3	66.4	2.8
June	14,373.4	13,967.0	406.4	6,826.6	67.8	65.9	2.8
July	14,333.4	13,935.8	397.6	6,846.2	67.7	65.8	2.8
August	14,266.3	13,881.4	384.9	6,934.1	67.3	65.5	2.7
September	14,440.2	14,058.4	381.8	6,763.7	68.1	66.3	2.6
October	14,403.1	14,023.3	379.9	6,926.7	67.5	65.7	2.6
November	14,404.1	14,025.4	378.7	6,887.1	67.7	65.9	2.6
December	14,512.0	14,060.2	451.7	6,784.8	68.1	66.0	3.1
<b>2015</b>							
January	14,442.0	13,991.8	450.3	6,923.7	67.6	65.5	3.1
February	14,554.7	14,092.9	461.8	6,847.8	68.0	65.9	3.2
March	14,601.2	14,160.5	440.7	6,839.3	68.1	66.1	3.0
April	14,569.5	14,136.2	433.3	6,890.2	67.9	65.9	3.0
May	14,575.0	14,126.7	448.3	6,933.5	67.8	65.7	3.1
June	14,609.9	14,146.7	463.2	6,896.2	67.9	65.8	3.2
July	14,579.1	14,106.2	472.9	6,937.7	67.8	65.6	3.2
August	14,685.1	14,214.6	470.5	6,871.5	68.1	65.9	3.2
September	14,642.0	14,151.7	490.3	6,925.4	67.9	65.6	3.3
October	14,665.9	14,184.7	481.3	6,894.8	68.0	65.8	3.3
November	14,687.2	14,215.7	471.5	6,945.0	67.9	65.7	3.2
December	14,690.0	14,185.7	504.3	6,945.3	67.9	65.6	3.4
<b>2016</b>							
January	14,652.0	14,150.5	501.5	6,984.2	67.7	65.4	3.4
February	14,703.3	14,196.9	506.4	7,063.1	67.6	65.2	3.4
March	14,710.1	14,200.7	509.5	6,964.0	67.9	65.5	3.5
April	14,675.3	14,163.7	511.5	7,012.5	67.7	65.3	3.5
May	14,705.0	14,200.2	504.8	7,021.1	67.7	65.4	3.4
June	14,720.1	14,218.4	501.8	7,036.5	67.7	65.4	3.4
July	14,729.0	14,212.8	516.2	7,008.4	67.8	65.4	3.5
August	14,822.2	14,306.9	515.2	7,053.3	67.8	65.4	3.5
September	14,762.2	14,249.6	512.6	7,084.3	67.6	65.2	3.5
October	14,765.1	14,253.4	511.7	7,071.1	67.6	65.3	3.5
November	14,827.9	14,317.2	510.7	7,081.8	67.7	65.3	3.4
December	14,788.9	14,276.7	512.2	7,072.8	67.6	65.3	3.5
<b>2017</b>							
January	14,880.9	14,366.8	514.1	7,090.4	67.7	65.4	3.5
February	14,916.7	14,401.8	514.8	7,086.9	67.8	65.5	3.5
March	14,932.5	14,421.7	510.8	7,121.8	67.7	65.4	3.4
April	14,941.5	14,429.6	511.9	7,122.5	67.7	65.4	3.4
May	14,961.9	14,454.4	507.5	7,120.8	67.8	65.5	3.4
June	15,027.6	14,519.9	507.7	7,141.1	67.8	65.5	3.4
July	15,016.4	14,497.4	519.0	7,150.4	67.7	65.4	3.5
August	15,030.2	14,513.4	516.9	7,138.4	67.8	65.5	3.4
September	15,058.8	14,544.3	514.5	7,122.1	67.9	65.6	3.4
October	15,090.4	14,581.7	508.8	7,117.7	68.0	65.7	3.4
November	15,084.0	14,578.9	505.1	7,121.4	67.9	65.7	3.3
December	15,145.9	14,640.1	505.8	7,084.1	68.1	65.9	3.3



Table C: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2024

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
<b>2018</b>							
January	15,187.0	14,670.5	516.5	7,074.8	68.2	65.9	3.4
February	15,230.0	14,721.5	508.5	7,112.3	68.2	65.9	3.3
March	15,241.2	14,732.5	508.7	7,115.0	68.2	65.9	3.3
April	15,313.1	14,803.1	510.0	7,130.9	68.2	66.0	3.3
May	15,357.5	14,852.6	504.8	7,097.1	68.4	66.1	3.3
June	15,379.0	14,863.2	515.8	7,062.2	68.5	66.2	3.4
July	15,401.0	14,882.4	518.6	7,044.5	68.6	66.3	3.4
August	15,421.4	14,896.5	525.0	7,133.9	68.4	66.0	3.4
September	15,442.9	14,926.5	516.4	7,096.8	68.5	66.2	3.3
October	15,450.0	14,937.1	512.9	7,093.7	68.5	66.3	3.3
November	15,457.5	14,941.3	516.2	7,151.2	68.4	66.1	3.3
December	15,500.1	14,986.0	514.2	7,120.1	68.5	66.3	3.3
<b>2019</b>							
January	15,508.5	14,992.8	515.6	7,095.9	68.6	66.3	3.3
February	15,543.2	15,026.8	516.4	7,145.9	68.5	66.2	3.3
<b>Jadual C3</b>	15,556.6	15,035.2	521.3	7,169.4	68.5	66.2	3.4
April	15,613.1	15,089.8	523.3	7,184.4	68.5	66.2	3.4
May	15,642.3	15,122.5	519.8	7,190.0	68.5	66.2	3.3
June	15,655.9	15,134.6	521.4	7,156.7	68.6	66.3	3.3
July	15,704.6	15,179.8	524.8	7,207.7	68.5	66.3	3.3
August	15,706.0	15,185.8	520.2	7,172.4	68.6	66.4	3.3
September	15,751.2	15,229.9	521.4	7,159.8	68.7	66.5	3.3
October	15,777.7	15,265.6	512.1	7,175.0	68.7	66.5	3.2
November	15,828.9	15,315.0	513.9	7,174.2	68.8	66.6	3.2
December	15,803.0	15,286.0	517.0	7,129.8	68.9	66.7	3.3
<b>2020</b>							
January	15,829.3	15,317.6	511.7	7,128.9	68.9	66.7	3.2
February	15,869.8	15,344.5	525.2	7,224.0	68.7	66.4	3.3
March	15,842.9	15,232.4	610.5	7,239.8	68.6	66.0	3.9
April	15,712.2	14,933.4	778.8	7,345.1	68.1	64.8	5.0
May	15,714.0	14,887.9	826.1	7,392.1	68.0	64.4	5.3
June	15,763.5	14,990.2	773.2	7,398.5	68.1	64.7	4.9
July	15,818.5	15,073.4	745.1	7,399.8	68.1	64.9	4.7
August	15,895.1	15,153.5	741.6	7,351.5	68.4	65.2	4.7
September	15,930.6	15,193.1	737.5	7,359.8	68.4	65.2	4.6
October	15,955.3	15,207.1	748.2	7,347.7	68.5	65.3	4.7
November	15,960.5	15,196.1	764.4	7,374.8	68.4	65.1	4.8
December	15,988.3	15,215.4	772.9	7,372.2	68.4	65.1	4.8
<b>2021</b>							
January	16,019.8	15,237.3	782.5	7,366.2	68.5	65.2	4.9
February	16,048.2	15,270.6	777.5	7,371.4	68.5	65.2	4.8
March	16,082.5	15,329.3	753.2	7,363.7	68.6	65.4	4.7
April	16,094.7	15,352.0	742.7	7,376.8	68.6	65.4	4.6
May	16,098.9	15,370.8	728.1	7,398.0	68.5	65.4	4.5
June	16,066.2	15,297.5	768.7	7,456.8	68.3	65.0	4.8
July	16,072.9	15,294.8	778.2	7,475.4	68.3	65.0	4.8
August	16,125.4	15,376.6	748.8	7,448.5	68.4	65.2	4.6
September	16,193.1	15,463.5	729.6	7,405.9	68.6	65.5	4.5
October	16,259.6	15,554.6	705.0	7,364.5	68.8	65.8	4.3
November	16,304.7	15,610.3	694.4	7,344.4	68.9	66.0	4.3
December	16,336.2	15,648.6	687.6	7,337.8	69.0	66.1	4.2

Table C: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2024

	('000)				(%)		
Time Series	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
<b>2022</b>							
January	16,366.4	15,686.1	680.4	7,332.1	69.1	66.2	4.2
February	16,402.7	15,730.9	671.8	7,320.7	69.1	66.3	4.1
March	16,438.5	15,769.4	669.2	7,309.7	69.2	66.4	4.1
April	16,502.8	15,853.5	649.3	7,270.2	69.4	66.7	3.9
May	16,537.8	15,900.0	637.7	7,260.1	69.5	66.8	3.9
June	16,566.9	15,936.3	630.6	7,255.5	69.5	66.9	3.8
July	16,599.2	15,978.4	620.7	7,247.9	69.6	67.0	3.7
August	16,629.7	16,017.7	612.0	7,242.0	69.7	67.1	3.7
September	16,657.2	16,052.2	605.0	7,239.2	69.7	67.2	3.6
October	16,683.5	16,081.5	602.0	7,237.3	69.7	67.2	3.6
November	16,709.4	16,108.6	600.9	7,235.7	69.8	67.3	3.6
December	16,730.0	16,130.4	599.6	7,239.5	69.8	67.3	3.6
<b>2023</b>							
January	16,755.4	16,159.3	596.1	7,238.3	69.8	67.3	3.6
February	16,781.2	16,189.3	591.9	7,236.7	69.9	67.4	3.5
March	16,811.7	16,223.0	588.7	7,230.6	69.9	67.5	3.5
April	16,838.4	16,251.4	586.9	7,228.2	70.0	67.5	3.5
May	16,864.1	16,279.5	584.6	7,226.8	70.0	67.6	3.5
June	16,889.4	16,307.8	581.7	7,225.7	70.0	67.6	3.4
July	16,914.2	16,335.0	579.2	7,225.0	70.1	67.7	3.4
August	16,932.1	16,354.9	577.3	7,231.3	70.1	67.7	3.4
September	16,948.8	16,375.1	573.7	7,238.9	70.1	67.7	3.4
October	16,974.1	16,403.2	570.9	7,237.6	70.1	67.7	3.4
November	17,000.4	16,431.1	569.2	7,235.4	70.1	67.8	3.3
December	17,025.5	16,457.7	567.8	7,234.3	70.2	67.8	3.3
<b>2024</b>							
January	17,050.3	16,483.0	567.3	7,233.4	70.2	67.9	3.3
February	17,074.9	16,507.9	567.0	7,232.7	70.2	67.9	3.3
March	17,098.7	16,532.2	566.6	7,232.5	70.3	67.9	3.3
April	17,122.1	16,555.7	566.4	7,233.1	70.3	68.0	3.3
May	17,145.9	16,579.9	566.1	7,232.9	70.3	68.0	3.3
June	17,171.1	16,605.7	565.3	7,231.7	70.4	68.0	3.3
July	17,195.7	16,632.0	563.7	7,230.7	70.4	68.1	3.3
August	17,219.9	16,661.4	558.5	7,230.0	70.4	68.1	3.2
September	17,244.3	16,689.0	555.3	7,229.2	70.5	68.2	3.2
October	17,268.9	16,717.5	551.4	7,228.0	70.5	68.2	3.2
November	17,293.8	16,747.0	546.7	7,226.7	70.5	68.3	3.2
December	17,319.7	16,775.4	544.3	7,224.0	70.6	68.3	3.2

**Note:**

The monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) indicators are still using the estimated population data of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census, 2010

Table C(i): Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January<sup>1</sup> 2024, December<sup>1</sup> 2024 and January 2025

	('000)				(%)		
Time Series	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
<b>2024</b>							
January <sup>1</sup>	16,789.3	16,229.4	559.9	7,026.8	70.5	68.1	3.3
December <sup>1</sup>	17,168.4	16,629.9	538.5	7,156.8	70.6	68.4	3.1
<b>2025</b>							
January	17,218.2	16,684.4	533.8	7,154.8	70.6	68.5	3.1

**Notes:**

1. <sup>1</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

2. Starting with the release of Labour Force Statistics (LFS), January 2025, the principal statistics of the labour force are estimated based on the current population estimates of Malaysia

Table C1: Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2024

Time Series	('000)			(%)	
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Labour Force Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate
<b>2010</b>					
January	12,368.0	11,959.8	408.2	64.0	3.3
February	12,120.1	11,712.8	402.2	62.9	3.3
March	12,242.4	11,817.2	416.7	63.4	3.4
April	12,382.1	12,025.3	377.6	63.8	3.0
May	12,197.5	11,790.7	405.7	63.0	3.3
June	12,338.5	11,898.3	423.8	63.6	3.4
July	12,419.9	11,996.4	422.5	64.0	3.4
August	12,353.8	11,945.3	400.9	63.4	3.2
September	12,330.7	11,957.7	386.3	63.3	3.1
October	12,772.3	12,407.0	370.8	65.4	2.9
November	12,392.6	11,966.9	418.2	63.3	3.4
December	12,794.9	12,391.6	406.9	65.4	3.2
<b>2011</b>					
January	12,782.4	12,383.1	399.6	64.8	3.1
February	12,674.9	12,312.5	357.2	64.3	2.8
March	12,778.0	12,409.9	363.4	64.6	2.8
April	12,792.6	12,426.6	388.4	64.5	3.0
May	12,757.1	12,352.4	403.0	64.3	3.2
June	12,805.0	12,403.0	390.8	64.5	3.1
July	12,858.3	12,466.3	389.1	64.7	3.0
August	12,930.6	12,501.4	415.0	64.9	3.2
September	12,906.1	12,496.0	424.3	64.8	3.3
October	13,013.1	12,616.9	409.0	65.1	3.1
November	12,829.7	12,410.9	412.6	64.3	3.2
December	13,053.8	12,651.3	405.4	64.9	3.1
<b>2012</b>					
January	13,164.0	12,781.1	383.3	65.5	2.9
February	13,103.1	12,699.1	394.1	65.3	3.0
March	13,221.1	12,822.6	397.2	65.5	3.0
April	13,226.3	12,841.5	403.0	65.6	3.0
May	13,293.7	12,903.8	389.0	65.9	2.9
June	13,256.6	12,841.1	407.8	65.5	3.1
July	13,413.8	12,988.9	422.4	66.1	3.1
August	13,348.9	12,972.1	359.1	65.6	2.7
September	13,416.1	13,002.8	425.0	65.8	3.2
October	13,400.9	12,964.4	448.1	65.7	3.3
November	13,520.3	13,119.3	398.4	65.9	2.9
December	13,499.3	13,079.5	423.0	65.5	3.1
<b>2013</b>					
January	13,550.1	13,113.1	432.8	65.6	3.2
February	13,641.8	13,242.5	389.3	65.9	2.9
March	13,625.3	13,188.7	439.5	65.5	3.2
April	13,763.5	13,353.9	422.7	66.3	3.1
May	13,867.0	13,414.9	451.7	66.7	3.3
June	14,232.8	13,838.3	392.6	68.2	2.8
July	14,119.5	13,683.2	434.0	67.7	3.1
August	14,200.8	13,730.9	451.5	68.0	3.2
September	14,295.2	13,852.9	450.0	68.5	3.1
October	14,214.8	13,743.2	481.1	67.9	3.4
November	14,279.3	13,773.3	510.8	68.2	3.6
December	14,248.6	13,816.1	437.2	67.8	3.1

Table C1: Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2024

	('000)			(%)	
Time Series	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Labour Force Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate
<b>2014</b>					
January	14,243.3	13,795.5	444.1	67.8	3.1
February	14,275.9	13,820.1	445.8	67.9	3.1
March	14,160.8	13,738.1	427.2	67.0	3.0
April	14,173.1	13,757.5	422.4	67.4	3.0
May	14,470.8	14,060.1	411.3	68.6	2.8
June	14,376.6	13,970.9	404.0	67.8	2.8
July	14,289.4	13,888.2	399.6	67.5	2.8
August	14,268.0	13,861.9	391.0	67.3	2.7
September	14,415.2	14,036.1	381.9	68.0	2.6
October	14,436.8	14,054.6	385.1	67.7	2.7
November	14,436.2	14,046.6	393.9	67.8	2.7
December	14,500.1	14,055.7	449.4	68.0	3.1
<b>2015</b>					
January	14,458.4	14,023.9	431.1	67.6	3.0
February	14,561.5	14,109.1	444.8	68.1	3.1
March	14,574.3	14,143.1	436.8	68.0	3.0
April	14,558.8	14,125.3	440.1	67.9	3.0
May	14,605.0	14,151.8	453.1	68.0	3.1
June	14,600.5	14,133.6	464.2	67.9	3.2
July	14,563.4	14,088.5	473.4	67.7	3.3
August	14,678.0	14,190.0	476.5	68.1	3.2
September	14,619.1	14,128.4	492.4	67.8	3.4
October	14,688.0	14,202.2	487.6	68.1	3.3
November	14,701.0	14,219.9	488.0	68.0	3.3
December	14,685.2	14,189.8	501.7	67.8	3.4
<b>2016</b>					
January	14,677.1	14,188.7	482.7	67.7	3.3
February	14,697.5	14,202.8	488.1	67.6	3.3
March	14,688.0	14,187.5	505.4	67.8	3.4
April	14,677.5	14,166.4	517.0	67.7	3.5
May	14,727.8	14,217.7	509.8	67.8	3.5
June	14,703.3	14,195.4	505.6	67.6	3.4
July	14,735.0	14,217.1	516.1	67.8	3.5
August	14,806.5	14,279.5	520.4	67.7	3.5
September	14,749.0	14,234.6	515.4	67.5	3.5
October	14,775.6	14,257.2	519.0	67.7	3.5
November	14,836.2	14,316.0	525.5	67.7	3.5
December	14,786.4	14,283.4	509.6	67.6	3.4
<b>2017</b>					
January	14,908.5	14,405.2	497.2	67.7	3.3
February	14,906.1	14,405.5	496.2	67.8	3.3
March	14,908.1	14,405.5	507.3	67.6	3.4
April	14,949.3	14,438.2	515.6	67.8	3.4
May	14,979.3	14,465.3	513.5	67.9	3.4
June	15,011.4	14,496.7	512.6	67.7	3.4
July	15,032.2	14,512.9	517.7	67.8	3.4
August	15,009.4	14,482.6	521.8	67.7	3.5
September	15,054.6	14,538.1	516.9	67.9	3.4
October	15,095.9	14,580.1	517.2	68.0	3.4
November	15,087.6	14,571.1	518.9	68.0	3.4
December	15,145.0	14,649.4	502.7	68.1	3.3

Table C1: Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2024

	('000)			(%)	
Time Series	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Labour Force Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate
<b>2018</b>					
January	15,216.2	14,709.5	500.7	68.2	3.3
February	15,216.8	14,724.2	490.2	68.2	3.2
March	15,215.2	14,714.5	505.4	68.1	3.3
April	15,324.0	14,815.0	512.8	68.4	3.3
May	15,372.4	14,860.2	511.3	68.5	3.3
June	15,362.9	14,839.6	521.4	68.5	3.4
July	15,422.1	14,904.0	516.7	68.7	3.4
August	15,397.5	14,863.4	529.7	68.3	3.4
September	15,443.4	14,924.7	518.6	68.5	3.4
October	15,452.9	14,932.8	522.0	68.5	3.4
November	15,458.7	14,930.0	529.8	68.4	3.4
December	15,499.9	14,996.8	510.7	68.4	3.3
<b>2019</b>					
January	15,503.1	15,013.4	502.1	68.5	3.2
February	15,525.9	15,016.0	506.5	68.5	3.3
March	15,556.1	15,025.9	520.0	68.5	3.3
April	15,607.4	15,092.9	527.6	68.5	3.4
May	15,632.6	15,111.9	526.2	68.5	3.4
June	15,637.3	15,116.0	524.7	68.6	3.4
July	15,705.0	15,188.9	522.6	68.5	3.3
August	15,708.8	15,159.7	519.6	68.7	3.3
September	15,754.5	15,238.9	521.9	68.8	3.3
October	15,786.7	15,275.4	517.2	68.8	3.3
November	15,855.3	15,323.0	522.6	69.0	3.3
December	15,817.1	15,303.4	516.6	68.9	3.3
<b>2020</b>					
January	15,825.8	15,299.4	516.9	68.8	3.3
February	15,849.8	15,334.8	528.8	68.7	3.3
March	15,864.3	15,255.1	607.2	68.8	3.8
April	15,713.9	14,943.7	765.7	68.2	4.9
May	15,715.9	14,895.9	815.0	68.1	5.2
June	15,788.6	15,008.4	754.8	68.2	4.8
July	15,818.8	15,086.4	729.7	68.1	4.6
August	15,889.1	15,167.8	733.5	68.3	4.6
September	15,920.9	15,179.7	740.5	68.4	4.7
October	15,951.2	15,189.0	764.1	68.4	4.8
November	15,952.4	15,183.8	784.1	68.4	4.9
December	15,988.9	15,194.2	795.6	68.4	5.0
<b>2021</b>					
January	16,016.3	15,219.2	790.4	68.4	4.9
February	16,028.0	15,261.0	782.9	68.5	4.9
March	16,104.2	15,352.2	749.1	68.7	4.7
April	16,096.5	15,362.6	730.2	68.6	4.5
May	16,100.8	15,379.1	718.3	68.6	4.5
June	16,091.8	15,316.0	750.4	68.4	4.7
July	16,073.2	15,307.9	762.1	68.3	4.7
August	16,119.3	15,391.1	740.6	68.3	4.6
September	16,182.7	15,449.3	732.6	68.6	4.5
October	16,255.3	15,536.1	720.0	68.8	4.4
November	16,296.4	15,597.7	712.3	68.9	4.4
December	16,336.9	15,626.9	707.8	68.9	4.3

Table C1: Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2024

	('000)			(%)	
Time Series	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Labour Force Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate
<b>2022</b>					
January	16,350.3	15,651.6	688.3	68.9	4.2
February	16,392.6	15,720.2	675.4	69.1	4.1
March	16,437.2	15,768.1	667.8	69.2	4.1
April	16,507.1	15,866.5	640.6	69.5	3.9
May	16,553.2	15,921.7	631.6	69.6	3.8
June	16,620.9	16,034.8	603.9	69.8	3.6
July	16,611.0	15,996.5	601.8	69.7	3.6
August	16,647.2	16,058.0	604.7	69.7	3.6
September	16,640.1	16,030.1	607.5	69.7	3.7
October	16,656.8	16,033.7	618.8	69.6	3.7
November	16,686.4	16,063.3	620.1	69.7	3.7
December	16,719.8	16,097.7	622.2	69.7	3.7
<b>2023</b>					
January	16,739.7	16,129.0	603.3	69.7	3.6
February	16,770.6	16,176.4	594.3	69.8	3.5
March	16,804.5	16,221.9	586.8	69.9	3.5
April	16,829.1	16,250.4	582.9	69.9	3.5
May	16,871.2	16,293.3	578.5	70.0	3.4
June	16,933.1	16,381.7	560.3	70.2	3.3
July	16,942.3	16,368.7	565.8	70.2	3.3
August	16,960.9	16,394.1	573.9	70.2	3.4
September	16,948.3	16,364.6	578.0	70.1	3.4
October	16,954.3	16,369.2	583.4	70.0	3.4
November	16,977.1	16,392.1	581.9	70.1	3.4
December	17,001.7	16,424.9	580.1	70.1	3.4
<b>2024</b>					
January	17,046.7	16,469.7	568.5	70.2	3.3
February	17,072.3	16,504.4	566.3	70.2	3.3
March	17,094.1	16,528.7	565.7	70.3	3.3
April	17,110.6	16,547.9	566.5	70.2	3.3
May	17,144.0	16,579.9	564.6	70.3	3.3
June	17,187.8	16,652.2	554.0	70.4	3.2
July	17,211.4	16,654.5	558.1	70.5	3.2
August	17,237.1	16,687.4	556.5	70.5	3.2
September	17,252.6	16,686.0	558.6	70.5	3.2
October	17,262.9	16,695.0	558.5	70.5	3.2
November	17,279.8	16,724.8	552.1	70.5	3.2
December	17,307.1	16,757.8	547.5	70.5	3.2

**Note:**

The monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) indicators are still using the estimated population data of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census, 2010

Table C1(i): Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January<sup>1</sup> 2024, December<sup>1</sup> 2024 and January 2025

	('000)			(%)	
Time Series	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Labour Force Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate
<b>2024</b>					
January <sup>1</sup>	16,785.8	16,216.3	561.1	70.5	3.3
December <sup>1</sup>	17,155.9	16,612.5	541.7	70.5	3.2
<b>2025</b>					
January	17,232.3	16,694.4	535.0	70.6	3.1

**Notes:**

1. <sup>1</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

2. Starting with the release of Labour Force Statistics (LFS), January 2025, the principal statistics of the labour force are estimated based on the current population estimates of Malaysia

Table C2: Number of unemployed persons by category and duration of unemployment, January 2016 - December 2024

('000)

Time Series	Unemployed	Actively Unemployed	Less than 3 month	3- Less than 6 month	6- Less than 12 month	More than year	Inactively unemployed
<b>2016</b>							
January	501.5	361.9	180.3	110.0	36.0	35.6	139.7
February	506.4	254.0	115.8	83.7	34.9	19.6	252.4
March	509.5	332.8	176.8	92.9	44.8	18.3	176.7
April	511.5	328.0	170.6	93.3	43.9	20.2	183.4
May	504.8	297.3	153.6	92.5	37.6	13.6	207.6
June	501.8	298.2	146.8	83.6	51.7	16.2	203.5
July	516.2	306.0	131.1	90.9	54.6	29.4	210.2
August	515.2	305.6	149.0	81.4	44.7	30.5	209.6
September	512.6	292.6	148.1	77.9	45.6	21.0	220.0
October	511.7	299.7	143.1	74.7	48.4	33.5	212.0
November	510.7	286.5	125.6	86.8	47.5	26.6	224.2
December	512.2	374.4	192.2	93.2	59.4	29.6	137.9
<b>2017</b>							
January	514.1	328.4	147.1	108.1	47.3	25.9	185.7
February	514.8	338.1	151.8	118.6	46.7	21.0	176.7
March	510.8	315.2	168.2	80.8	43.0	23.2	195.6
April	511.9	359.5	151.9	107.5	66.2	33.9	152.4
May	507.5	372.1	171.9	128.8	38.9	32.5	135.3
June	507.7	319.1	151.1	89.8	49.2	29.0	188.5
July	519.0	345.6	144.6	115.0	47.6	38.4	173.3
August	516.9	351.5	160.7	115.7	45.0	30.1	165.4
September	514.5	322.0	142.4	105.8	45.1	28.7	192.5
October	508.8	356.1	182.1	110.6	35.7	27.7	152.8
November	505.1	338.1	143.3	105.5	51.1	38.2	167.0
December	505.8	327.5	127.6	109.1	46.6	44.2	178.3
<b>2018</b>							
January	516.5	356.6	133.2	125.9	58.2	39.3	160.0
February	508.5	349.8	155.3	106.6	41.4	46.4	158.7
March	508.7	349.8	161.7	108.5	42.0	37.7	158.9
April	510.0	373.6	167.7	140.9	44.7	20.2	136.4
May	504.8	319.4	134.2	112.0	38.5	34.7	185.4
June	515.8	324.5	136.2	108.5	52.4	27.4	191.2
July	518.6	360.7	189.7	86.1	47.9	37.0	157.9
August	525.0	308.7	149.1	84.4	46.1	29.0	216.3
September	516.4	361.6	174.1	103.0	37.5	47.1	154.8
October	512.9	331.1	165.2	85.5	49.2	31.3	181.8
November	516.2	347.8	168.9	87.2	52.6	39.2	168.3
December	514.2	329.7	149.3	92.6	34.3	53.5	184.4
<b>2019</b>							
January	515.6	400.8	184.7	107.3	73.3	35.4	114.9
February	516.4	362.6	147.1	99.5	72.7	43.3	153.7
March	521.3	345.4	175.6	74.7	37.8	57.3	175.9
April	523.3	365.5	150.1	116.9	67.6	31.0	157.8
May	519.8	343.2	110.9	132.4	65.7	34.1	176.6
June	521.4	425.3	220.8	124.1	53.0	27.4	96.0
July	524.8	362.5	162.7	105.8	53.9	40.1	162.3
August	520.2	411.7	180.2	128.9	50.0	52.6	108.5
September	521.4	410.1	213.0	125.7	52.1	19.3	111.2
October	512.1	340.3	168.2	104.8	42.4	24.9	171.9
November	513.9	339.5	141.1	92.7	46.2	59.5	174.4
December	517.0	389.5	182.0	119.3	53.9	34.3	127.5

Table C2: Number of unemployed persons by category and duration of unemployment, January 2016 - December 2024

('000)

Time Series	Unemployed	Actively Unemployed	Less than 3 month	3- Less than 6 month	6- Less than 12 month	More than year	Inactively unemployed
<b>2020</b>							
January	511.7	319.8	132.4	103.2	48.7	35.6	191.9
February	525.2	343.2	148.5	96.6	52.6	45.4	182.1
March	610.5	422.9	200.0	100.2	72.7	50.1	187.6
April	778.8	459.8	235.9	156.6	38.1	29.2	319.0
May	826.1	573.7	308.1	136.1	78.6	50.8	252.4
June	773.2	594.0	298.7	159.3	85.8	50.3	179.2
July	745.1	620.2	307.4	168.5	87.2	57.1	124.9
August	741.6	615.1	302.4	164.9	89.7	58.0	126.5
September	737.5	610.4	300.5	163.6	88.2	58.0	127.1
October	748.2	623.1	304.5	167.4	89.0	62.2	125.1
November	764.4	637.7	311.2	169.8	90.4	66.3	126.7
December	772.9	644.7	313.9	172.0	92.0	66.8	128.2
<b>2021</b>							
January	782.5	657.2	321.5	175.9	90.4	69.3	125.3
February	777.5	647.4	327.8	155.5	91.0	73.1	130.1
March	753.2	626.9	320.1	152.5	85.6	68.6	126.3
April	742.7	618.7	322.6	151.0	80.7	64.4	124.0
May	728.1	609.9	318.2	148.3	81.2	62.2	118.2
June	768.7	642.9	335.9	157.4	86.7	62.9	125.8
July	778.2	651.3	351.4	156.7	86.1	57.1	126.9
August	748.8	627.5	337.3	153.6	80.1	56.5	121.3
September	729.6	611.0	333.3	147.3	78.9	51.4	118.7
October	705.0	589.5	327.3	142.3	74.0	45.9	115.4
November	694.4	581.8	324.3	137.6	74.8	45.1	112.6
December	687.6	576.5	322.3	136.5	74.1	43.5	111.1
<b>2022</b>							
January	680.4	569.5	320.8	134.2	72.0	42.5	110.9
February	671.8	562.5	318.7	131.8	71.0	41.0	109.3
March	669.2	561.0	320.4	130.1	70.4	40.1	108.1
April	649.3	542.9	315.3	124.3	64.9	38.4	106.4
May	637.7	534.0	312.9	122.5	61.9	36.6	103.8
June	630.6	528.5	311.6	120.6	61.3	35.0	102.1
July	620.7	517.4	307.7	115.7	60.0	34.0	103.3
August	612.0	507.3	304.2	110.7	59.7	32.7	104.7
September	605.0	496.6	298.7	108.2	58.2	31.5	108.4
October	602.0	491.3	297.1	106.4	57.0	30.8	110.7
November	600.9	488.0	295.9	105.2	56.7	30.2	112.9
December	599.6	484.2	294.7	103.9	55.7	29.9	115.4
<b>2023</b>							
January	596.1	481.6	292.9	103.7	54.1	31.0	114.5
February	591.9	475.5	290.3	102.4	52.9	30.0	116.4
March	588.7	472.9	289.7	101.9	51.1	30.1	115.8
April	586.9	471.9	288.7	101.8	50.5	30.8	115.1
May	584.6	470.4	286.6	100.2	52.2	31.4	114.2
June	581.7	466.9	285.2	99.6	51.3	30.8	114.8
July	579.2	464.7	284.7	99.1	51.8	29.1	114.5
August	577.3	462.1	283.9	98.5	51.1	28.9	115.2
September	573.7	458.9	282.6	98.1	50.2	28.0	114.8
October	570.9	457.2	281.5	97.3	49.8	28.6	113.8
November	569.2	454.5	280.8	96.4	48.9	28.4	114.7
December	567.8	453.6	280.2	96.0	48.6	28.8	114.2



**Table C2: Number of unemployed persons by category and duration of unemployment, January 2016 - December 2024**

('000)

Time Series	Unemployed	Actively Unemployed	Less than 3 month	3- Less than 6 month	6- Less than 12 month	More than year	Inactively unemployed
<b>2024</b>							
January	567.3	452.5	279.0	94.2	49.7	29.5	114.7
February	567.0	452.4	278.5	94.1	49.5	30.3	114.6
March	566.6	451.5	278.4	94.0	49.3	29.9	115.0
April	566.4	451.4	278.3	93.9	49.0	30.2	115.0
May	566.1	452.0	278.1	93.5	49.6	30.8	114.0
June	565.3	451.9	277.9	93.2	49.4	31.5	113.4
July	563.7	450.7	277.0	93.1	49.3	31.2	113.0
August	558.5	446.6	275.8	92.0	49.1	29.7	111.9
September	555.3	443.5	275.0	91.2	48.4	28.9	111.8
October	551.4	440.0	273.7	90.4	47.8	28.0	111.4
November	546.7	436.2	272.9	89.8	47.4	26.0	110.6
December	544.3	432.8	271.5	89.3	46.8	25.1	111.5

**Note:**

The monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) indicators are still using the estimated population data of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census, 2010

**Table C2(i): Number of unemployed persons by category and duration of unemployment, January<sup>f</sup> 2024, December<sup>f</sup> 2024 and January 2025**

('000)

Time Series	Unemployed	Actively Unemployed	Less than 3 month	3- Less than 6 month	6- Less than 12 month	More than year	Inactively unemployed
<b>2024</b>							
January <sup>f</sup>	559.9	445.0	276.5	91.1	49.2	28.2	114.9
December <sup>f</sup>	538.5	425.7	269.9	86.2	45.2	24.5	112.8
<b>2025</b>							
January	533.8	423.6	269.5	85.7	44.5	23.8	110.2

**Notes:**

1. <sup>f</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

2. Starting with the release of Labour Force Statistics (LFS), January 2025, the principal statistics of the labour force are estimated based on the current population estimates of Malaysia

Table C3: Youth unemployment and unemployment rate by selected age group, January 2016 - December 2024

Time Series	('000)	(%)	('000)	(%)
	Unemployed youth (15 - 24 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 24 years)	Unemployed youth (15 - 30 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 30 years)
<b>2016</b>				
January	283.6	10.7	402.8	6.9
February	236.1	9.0	340.6	5.7
March	285.0	10.9	416.1	7.0
April	305.6	11.5	405.7	6.9
May	291.6	11.1	395.2	6.8
June	240.5	9.6	387.3	6.6
July	309.0	11.8	446.9	7.5
August	305.3	11.6	412.9	6.8
September	266.3	10.6	369.9	6.4
October	290.5	11.4	399.7	6.8
November	253.7	9.5	391.2	6.6
December	267.4	10.2	393.6	6.6
<b>2017</b>				
January	306.2	12.0	410.6	7.0
February	285.4	11.1	413.7	7.0
March	258.9	10.1	392.2	6.6
April	272.2	10.8	414.5	6.9
May	320.2	12.2	418.8	7.0
June	296.5	11.4	420.1	7.0
July	281.1	11.3	445.1	7.6
August	295.9	11.6	423.1	7.1
September	267.4	10.3	377.5	6.4
October	303.6	11.7	418.8	7.0
November	314.4	11.7	406.7	6.7
December	309.0	11.7	404.7	6.8
<b>2018</b>				
January	328.5	12.3	437.6	7.2
February	310.9	11.6	423.0	6.9
March	306.2	11.7	414.4	6.9
April	287.9	10.6	420.3	6.8
May	292.5	10.6	391.9	6.4
June	284.3	10.4	426.9	6.9
July	320.6	11.8	425.4	6.9
August	303.2	11.5	407.0	6.7
September	289.5	10.5	413.3	6.8
October	277.2	10.1	429.1	7.0
November	289.0	10.5	415.1	6.7
December	328.7	11.7	428.8	6.8
<b>2019</b>				
January	290.1	10.6	409.3	6.7
February	282.1	10.5	424.3	6.8
March	266.3	9.9	403.0	6.6
April	288.1	10.3	430.0	6.9
May	289.3	10.5	414.4	6.7
June	287.0	10.5	418.5	6.8
July	291.3	10.2	434.4	7.0
August	297.8	11.2	441.2	7.3
September	307.1	11.1	443.4	7.2
October	244.5	9.0	404.8	6.4
November	274.2	9.5	411.8	6.5
December	309.9	11.2	412.9	6.5

Table C3: Youth unemployment and unemployment rate by selected age group, January 2016 - December 2024

Time Series	('000)	(%)	('000)	(%)
	Unemployed youth (15 - 24 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 24 years)	Unemployed youth (15 - 30 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 30 years)
<b>2020</b>				
January	268.1	10.0	396.9	6.4
February	288.0	10.8	395.0	6.4
March	291.4	11.3	470.5	7.8
April	324.2	12.9	528.0	9.0
May	362.4	14.2	573.7	10.0
June	335.8	13.1	581.7	9.7
July	313.2	13.9	544.5	9.7
August	331.0	13.7	502.3	8.9
September	325.5	13.0	502.6	8.5
October	321.6	13.4	513.2	8.9
November	344.5	13.0	528.4	8.8
December	312.2	13.2	497.2	8.7
<b>2021</b>				
January	295.3	13.5	509.2	9.2
February	347.6	13.9	544.3	9.2
March	321.1	13.4	537.3	9.3
April	310.7	13.7	507.3	8.7
May	328.1	13.6	545.7	9.2
June	340.9	12.7	565.1	9.4
July	344.1	13.7	520.6	8.5
August	321.1	13.9	524.1	8.8
September	335.1	13.9	507.8	8.5
October	358.8	13.9	508.4	8.1
November	350.9	13.7	517.9	8.2
December	367.7	13.7	533.8	8.5
<b>2022</b>				
January	364.5	13.2	521.8	8.3
February	356.9	13.0	513.7	8.1
March	361.0	13.1	502.4	8.0
April	357.2	12.8	501.2	7.7
May	341.4	12.5	475.7	7.4
June	343.9	12.2	474.7	7.4
July	336.2	12.1	476.5	7.4
August	337.6	12.1	467.5	7.1
September	339.1	12.1	460.4	7.1
October	337.2	12.1	476.9	7.4
November	329.3	11.9	453.1	7.0
December	331.0	11.8	444.5	6.9
<b>2023</b>				
January	328.8	11.5	449.7	7.0
February	320.8	11.3	450.2	7.0
March	317.3	11.2	454.9	7.1
April	315.6	11.1	441.0	6.7
May	313.0	11.0	448.6	7.0
June	312.4	11.0	444.8	6.9
July	311.2	10.9	444.8	6.8
August	309.2	10.8	439.6	6.8
September	310.1	10.6	440.0	6.7
October	313.3	10.7	439.6	6.6
November	308.5	10.6	432.0	6.5
December	307.2	10.6	432.1	6.4

**Table C3: Youth unemployment and unemployment rate by selected age group, January 2016 - December 2024**

	('000)	(%)	('000)	(%)
Time Series	Unemployed youth (15 - 24 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 24 years)	Unemployed youth (15 - 30 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 30 years)
<b>2024</b>				
January	306.8	10.6	439.7	6.7
February	306.6	10.6	434.8	6.6
March	306.3	10.6	434.5	6.6
April	305.9	10.6	434.9	6.5
May	305.6	10.5	434.6	6.5
June	305.0	10.5	434.2	6.5
July	304.5	10.5	433.1	6.5
August	303.0	10.4	428.5	6.4
September	304.2	10.5	420.1	6.3
October	301.5	10.4	420.2	6.3
November	300.6	10.4	415.6	6.2
December	299.7	10.3	410.8	6.1

**Note:**

The monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) indicators are still using the estimated population data of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census, 2010

**Table C3(i): Youth unemployment and unemployment rate by selected age group, January<sup>r</sup> 2024, December<sup>r</sup> 2024 and January 2025**

	('000)	(%)	('000)	(%)
Time Series	Unemployed youth (15 - 24 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 24 years)	Unemployed youth (15 - 30 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 30 years)
<b>2024</b>				
January <sup>r</sup>	299.1	10.7	422.2	6.9
December <sup>r</sup>	301.4	10.4	400.7	6.3
<b>2025</b>				
January	299.3	10.3	402.4	6.3

**Notes:**

1. <sup>r</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

2. Starting with the release of Labour Force Statistics (LFS), January 2025, the principal statistics of the labour force are estimated based on the current population estimates of Malaysia

Table C4: Employed person by status in employment, January 2016 - December 2024

('000)

Time Series	Employer	Employees	Own account workers	Unpaid family worker
<b>2016</b>				
January	449.0	10,534.1	2,570.3	597.1
February	543.9	10,582.3	2,437.5	633.1
March	539.4	10,381.2	2,660.3	619.7
April	456.2	10,280.6	2,805.9	621.1
May	532.0	10,407.9	2,573.1	687.1
June	534.3	10,535.6	2,453.5	694.9
July	427.2	10,536.4	2,605.4	643.8
August	452.3	10,719.5	2,527.0	608.1
September	460.7	10,814.3	2,331.0	643.6
October	458.8	10,719.6	2,508.7	566.3
November	466.6	10,929.5	2,311.2	609.9
December	443.0	10,865.9	2,354.2	613.6
<b>2017</b>				
January	550.0	10,652.0	2,548.6	616.2
February	464.6	10,677.2	2,548.4	711.7
March	575.4	10,624.8	2,630.1	591.4
April	590.9	10,525.1	2,687.8	625.8
May	637.9	10,357.7	2,736.1	722.8
June	578.8	10,745.8	2,590.1	605.3
July	549.2	10,656.4	2,734.8	557.0
August	608.4	10,703.7	2,623.1	578.1
September	646.0	10,701.8	2,554.6	641.9
October	593.9	10,949.6	2,446.1	592.0
November	401.7	10,935.5	2,709.4	532.3
December	546.1	10,982.5	2,504.3	607.2
<b>2018</b>				
January	533.0	10,749.4	2,757.7	630.3
February	472.7	10,746.4	2,825.9	676.5
March	493.9	10,585.3	2,920.7	732.6
April	550.2	10,832.6	2,719.5	700.8
May	517.2	10,751.8	2,880.6	703.0
June	529.0	10,823.6	2,817.7	692.9
July	518.2	10,651.2	3,012.8	700.2
August	599.4	10,758.4	2,865.7	673.0
September	639.1	10,690.0	2,907.8	689.6
October	513.7	10,764.5	2,944.6	714.2
November	545.8	10,899.2	2,836.9	659.4
December	593.5	10,811.7	2,909.6	671.2
<b>2019</b>				
January	570.4	10,961.6	2,823.0	637.7
February	619.4	11,098.6	2,752.4	556.5
March	560.0	11,327.2	2,574.5	573.6
April	578.3	11,156.7	2,764.8	590.1
May	597.9	11,345.6	2,640.8	538.2
June	551.6	11,243.3	2,746.5	593.1
July	541.6	11,446.9	2,654.0	537.2
August	582.2	11,235.5	2,855.0	513.0
September	510.8	11,633.8	2,500.3	584.8
October	547.5	11,659.3	2,452.0	606.8
November	527.6	11,565.1	2,679.8	542.5
December	482.0	11,563.4	2,669.6	571.1

Table C4: Employed person by status in employment, January 2016 - December 2024

('000)

Time Series	Employer	Employees	Own account workers	Unpaid family worker
<b>2020</b>				
January	552.3	11,375.4	2,757.1	632.8
February	513.2	11,513.8	2,691.0	626.5
March	515.7	11,280.0	2,812.2	624.5
April	563.1	11,146.3	2,585.4	638.5
May	470.3	11,399.4	2,423.9	594.1
June	497.9	11,438.2	2,417.8	636.2
July	434.8	11,647.4	2,380.9	610.4
August	434.9	11,719.9	2,416.0	582.8
September	445.1	11,734.9	2,433.7	579.5
October	450.5	11,763.0	2,425.4	568.3
November	456.8	11,782.5	2,412.0	544.7
December	462.9	11,806.1	2,399.4	547.0
<b>2021</b>				
January	469.7	11,846.9	2,394.6	526.1
February	481.0	11,870.8	2,429.9	488.9
March	491.8	11,898.9	2,478.2	460.4
April	493.0	11,914.8	2,490.5	453.8
May	495.7	11,930.8	2,492.9	451.4
June	486.3	11,874.1	2,497.0	440.0
July	485.1	11,869.7	2,503.8	436.2
August	491.4	11,897.6	2,537.7	449.9
September	499.7	11,925.9	2,572.6	465.4
October	506.0	11,971.2	2,607.9	469.5
November	509.8	11,998.3	2,628.0	474.2
December	512.9	12,015.9	2,640.2	479.7
<b>2022</b>				
January	517.2	12,028.9	2,656.2	483.8
February	521.4	12,046.2	2,674.8	488.6
March	525.7	12,060.2	2,691.7	491.8
April	536.0	12,092.5	2,723.6	501.4
May	539.6	12,112.6	2,744.0	503.9
June	542.5	12,125.6	2,766.2	502.0
July	545.1	12,144.9	2,787.5	500.9
August	546.9	12,167.0	2,804.7	499.1
September	548.0	12,182.7	2,823.2	498.2
October	552.4	12,200.4	2,833.6	495.2
November	554.5	12,214.6	2,848.1	491.3
December	556.2	12,225.5	2,860.9	487.8
<b>2023</b>				
January	558.1	12,237.3	2,877.8	486.1
February	560.3	12,249.9	2,892.5	486.6
March	561.8	12,264.7	2,909.1	487.4
April	565.0	12,276.4	2,921.0	489.0
May	566.6	12,288.0	2,935.0	490.0
June	569.4	12,299.2	2,948.5	490.7
July	570.9	12,313.6	2,958.9	491.6
August	571.9	12,324.5	2,966.8	491.7
September	573.7	12,334.7	2,974.2	492.4
October	574.7	12,349.7	2,985.0	493.8
November	576.6	12,365.9	2,994.4	494.3
December	582.1	12,378.2	3,003.9	493.5

Table C4: Employed person by status in employment, January 2016 - December 2024

('000)

Time Series	Employer	Employees	Own account workers	Unpaid family worker
<b>2024</b>				
January	583.9	12,392.4	3,014.3	492.4
February	586.2	12,405.8	3,023.6	492.3
March	589.0	12,418.7	3,032.5	492.0
April	591.9	12,431.0	3,041.6	491.1
May	594.5	12,445.3	3,050.3	489.8
June	595.9	12,460.6	3,060.0	489.2
July	597.7	12,478.1	3,068.2	488.1
August	600.4	12,496.8	3,077.7	486.5
September	606.1	12,509.5	3,086.5	486.9
October	608.5	12,525.8	3,096.9	486.4
November	609.6	12,542.1	3,109.7	485.6
December	611.7	12,556.6	3,121.1	486.1

**Note:**

The monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) indicators are still using the estimated population data of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census, 2010

Table C4(i): Employed person by status in employment, January<sup>1</sup> 2024, December<sup>1</sup> 2024 and January 2025

('000)

Time Series	Employer	Employees	Own account workers	Unpaid family worker
<b>2024</b>				
January <sup>1</sup>	535.5	12,231.9	3,010.0	452.0
December <sup>1</sup>	545.8	12,528.1	3,086.6	469.4
<b>2025</b>				
January	547.0	12,560.1	3,108.2	469.1

**Notes:**

1. <sup>1</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

2. Starting with the release of Labour Force Statistics (LFS), January 2025, the principal statistics of the labour force are estimated based on the current population estimates of Malaysia

Table D: Employed person by occupation, Malaysia, 1982 - 2023

('000)

Year	Total	Occupation								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Dictionary of Occupational Classification, 1980 <sup>1</sup>										
1982	5,249.0	375.7	111.5	493.4	510.5	573.2	1,655.3	1,529.4	n.a	n.a
1983	5,457.0	381.3	132.3	520.6	522.7	593.7	1,678.5	1,628.0	n.a	n.a
1984	5,566.7	409.8	115.4	541.3	600.0	638.1	1,694.1	1,567.7	n.a	n.a
1985	5,653.4	426.6	129.2	551.5	625.9	643.0	1,720.0	1,556.9	n.a	n.a
1986	5,760.1	449.0	140.4	544.9	638.5	686.6	1,757.2	1,543.6	n.a	n.a
1987	5,983.9	452.0	117.7	566.1	711.9	704.3	1,845.8	1,586.1	n.a	n.a
1988	6,157.2	454.1	127.9	574.4	728.1	728.3	1,892.5	1,651.7	n.a	n.a
1989	6,390.9	477.0	131.3	605.5	726.0	727.0	1,848.9	1,875.0	n.a	n.a
1990	6,685.0	519.8	144.8	655.6	758.7	762.6	1,750.7	2,092.8	n.a	n.a
1992	7,047.8	586.4	187.8	732.3	763.5	790.1	1,549.7	2,437.9	n.a	n.a
1993	7,383.4	639.5	219.9	789.2	771.8	879.0	1,576.0	2,508.0	n.a	n.a
1995	7,645.0	756.6	247.7	832.0	834.9	845.8	1,539.5	2,588.4	n.a	n.a
1996	8,399.3	838.0	298.2	905.8	935.7	943.1	1,644.8	2,833.6	n.a	n.a
1997	8,569.2	896.6	329.5	963.2	918.5	985.1	1,516.4	2,960.0	n.a	n.a
1998	8,599.6	913.1	346.2	946.9	937.5	1,007.9	1,632.6	2,815.4	n.a	n.a
1999	8,837.8	937.0	348.3	985.6	991.7	1,052.8	1,633.1	2,889.2	n.a	n.a
2000	9,269.2	1,020.4	391.9	1,012.5	1,044.8	1,189.3	1,569.3	3,040.9	n.a	n.a
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 1998 <sup>2</sup>										
2001	9,357.0	695.0	457.2	1,126.1	890.6	1,291.1	1,265.3	1,160.2	1,476.6	994.9
2002	9,542.6	786.3	483.5	1,194.6	890.3	1,307.7	1,260.8	1,168.1	1,373.0	1,078.2
2003	9,869.7	793.5	530.3	1,219.9	937.8	1,399.4	1,249.8	1,235.6	1,420.7	1,082.6
2004	9,979.5	859.3	561.3	1,211.6	931.2	1,479.7	1,292.8	1,165.2	1,409.9	1,068.5
2005	10,045.4	777.4	555.1	1,266.8	992.3	1,483.7	1,268.6	1,145.5	1,427.5	1,128.3
2006	10,275.4	829.6	565.9	1,307.5	968.3	1,597.1	1,335.9	1,154.8	1,408.0	1,108.4
2007	10,538.1	770.4	596.8	1,400.5	1,029.5	1,705.6	1,355.3	1,133.2	1,347.4	1,199.3
2008	10,659.6	748.8	613.7	1,496.4	1,053.4	1,776.1	1,271.3	1,153.8	1,344.1	1,202.0
2009	10,897.3	822.9	684.6	1,560.0	1,086.6	1,869.1	1,255.7	1,132.9	1,242.7	1,242.8
2010	11,899.5	856.7	737.4	1,695.8	1,183.2	1,959.6	1,382.0	1,228.3	1,502.8	1,353.7
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2008 <sup>3</sup>										
2011	12,351.5	692.4	1,221.0	1,306.3	1,180.3	2,503.2	1,011.8	1,345.8	1,570.2	1,520.4
2012	12,820.5	684.4	1,244.0	1,283.4	1,168.8	2,640.7	1,184.1	1,428.5	1,576.8	1,609.8
2013	13,545.4	695.5	1,284.7	1,292.6	1,190.7	2,911.0	1,180.2	1,492.1	1,694.4	1,804.0
2014	13,852.6	664.4	1,376.5	1,367.2	1,237.8	3,169.3	1,002.4	1,555.1	1,659.1	1,820.8
2015	14,067.7	718.6	1,462.0	1,406.9	1,241.1	3,188.9	940.3	1,578.8	1,585.2	1,945.9
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2013 <sup>4</sup>										
2016	14,163.7	658.5	1,755.2	1,453.5	1,163.8	3,176.3	872.0	1,570.3	1,669.8	1,844.2
2017	14,476.8	690.3	1,771.6	1,522.9	1,236.5	3,212.6	898.9	1,517.1	1,766.5	1,860.4
2018	14,776.0	660.5	1,824.4	1,536.7	1,247.7	3,422.8	921.9	1,545.5	1,787.9	1,828.7
2019	15,073.4	694.5	1,883.5	1,573.9	1,272.1	3,411.6	932.8	1,577.1	1,865.4	1,862.5
2020 <sup>f</sup>	14,719.4	826.1	1,944.4	1,591.3	1,258.3	3,472.2	874.3	1,417.2	1,667.7	1,667.9
2021 <sup>f</sup>	14,825.2	704.4	2,048.6	1,867.8	1,517.1	3,438.4	673.1	1,258.6	1,537.1	1,780.3
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2020 <sup>5</sup>										
2022 <sup>f</sup>	15,155.2	725.2	2,045.6	1,855.6	1,512.1	3,619.8	691.0	1,379.6	1,575.0	1,751.4
2023	15,813.4	762.5	2,141.5	1,906.8	1,562.9	3,744.0	703.1	1,402.3	1,634.1	1,956.2

## Notes:

1. Labour Force Survey indicators for 2019 and previously still using the estimated population data of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census, 2010

2. <sup>1</sup>For 1982- 2000, category of occupation are classified according to the "Dictionary of Occupational Classification, 1980" as follows:

- 1: Professional, technical and related workers
- 2: Administrative and managerial workers
- 3: Clerical and related workers
- 4: Sales workers
- 5: Service workers
- 6: Agricultural, animal husbandry and forestry workers, fishermen and hunters
- 7: Production and related workers, transport equipment operators and labourers

3. <sup>2</sup>For 2001 - 2010, category of occupation are classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 1998" as follows:

- 1: Legislators, senior officials and managers
- 2: Professionals
- 3: Technicians and associate professionals
- 4: Clerical workers
- 5: Service workers and shop and market sales workers
- 6: Skilled agricultural and fishery workers
- 7: Craft and related trade workers
- 8: Plant and machine-operators and assemblers
- 9: Elementary occupations

4. <sup>3</sup>For 2011 - 2015, category of occupation are classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2008" as follows:

- 1: Managers
- 2: Professionals
- 3: Technicians and associate professionals
- 4: Clerical support workers
- 5: Service workers and shop and market sales workers
- 6: Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers
- 7: Craft and related trades workers
- 8: Plant and machine-operators and assemblers
- 9: Elementary occupations

5. <sup>4</sup>For 2016 - 2021, category of occupation are classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2013" as follows:

- 1: Managers
- 2: Professionals
- 3: Technicians and associate professionals
- 4: Clerical workers
- 5: Service and sales workers
- 6: Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock and fishery workers
- 7: Craft and related trades workers
- 8: Plant and machine-operators and assemblers
- 9: Elementary occupations

6. <sup>5</sup>For 2022 onwards, categories of occupation are classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2020"7. <sup>f</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020



Table E: Employed person by industry, Malaysia, 1982 - 2023

('000)

		Industry									
Year	Total	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Malaysia Industrial Classification, (Updated) 1972 <sup>1</sup>											
1982	5,249.0	1,635.8	51.7	816.0	34.9	377.5	860.9	223.1	202.1	1,046.9	n.a
1983	5,457.0	1,670.9	55.1	894.1	39.3	425.6	897.3	235.9	197.7	1,041.0	n.a
1984	5,566.7	1,695.0	46.5	858.4	32.9	428.0	956.6	242.8	200.5	1,106.0	n.a
1985	5,653.4	1,717.4	44.4	850.4	31.5	419.4	994.3	244.3	218.9	1,132.7	n.a
1986	5,760.1	1,764.5	40.6	874.0	32.4	369.4	1,035.1	242.0	234.6	1,167.6	n.a
1987	5,983.9	1,846.4	33.0	928.9	35.9	336.3	1,091.7	252.0	241.6	1,218.0	n.a
1988	6,157.2	1,883.8	30.7	978.1	41.3	339.9	1,112.6	265.1	229.4	1,276.1	n.a
1989	6,390.9	1,832.5	33.1	1,171.1	40.6	376.9	1,143.9	277.6	253.2	1,262.0	n.a
1990	6,685.0	1,737.6	36.8	1,332.8	46.7	423.9	1,217.8	301.9	258.4	1,329.0	n.a
1992	7,047.8	1,535.8	36.3	1,639.6	45.9	506.7	1,254.5	326.2	299.8	1,403.1	n.a
1993	7,383.4	1,558.6	37.6	1,726.9	60.3	538.8	1,266.2	344.0	330.1	1,520.9	n.a
1995	7,645.0	1,526.8	32.5	1,780.5	48.0	611.3	1,370.7	359.2	363.7	1,552.2	n.a
1996	8,399.3	1,626.2	35.0	1,912.1	44.1	716.5	1,566.7	400.7	412.0	1,686.0	n.a
1997	8,569.2	1,481.3	38.5	2,002.5	50.9	793.0	1,577.9	423.3	447.2	1,754.5	n.a
1998	8,599.6	1,616.5	28.4	1,907.8	50.0	745.9	1,616.0	421.7	425.8	1,787.5	n.a
1999	8,837.8	1,623.7	37.8	1,990.7	50.2	722.8	1,660.6	420.3	466.2	1,865.4	n.a
2000	9,269.2	1,552.4	27.7	2,174.2	49.3	759.9	1,787.2	433.9	474.3	2,010.3	n.a
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2000 <sup>2</sup>											
2001	9,357.0	1,288.2	127.7	26.7	2,184.1	57.3	829.8	1,458.1	585.1	468.3	225.3
2002	9,542.6	1,316.8	107.7	27.5	2,068.9	50.6	905.1	1,497.0	616.1	496.8	240.5
2003	9,869.7	1,301.2	107.0	29.5	2,131.0	57.6	942.5	1,592.2	644.2	481.6	223.4
2004	9,979.5	1,326.5	126.1	34.7	2,023.0	57.9	890.8	1,607.2	698.2	532.9	236.1
2005	10,045.4	1,355.2	115.2	36.1	1,989.3	56.6	904.4	1,620.3	671.8	544.7	247.4
2006	10,275.4	1,375.3	128.2	42.0	2,082.8	75.4	908.9	1,650.5	721.3	539.7	242.3
2007	10,538.1	1,437.3	120.9	39.4	1,977.3	60.8	922.5	1,712.1	760.7	538.2	282.2
2008	10,659.6	1,365.6	122.1	54.5	1,944.7	60.5	998.0	1,729.4	783.6	583.4	276.0
2009	10,897.3	1,349.6	121.5	62.7	1,807.1	58.1	1,015.9	1,831.8	800.5	592.0	271.5
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008 <sup>3</sup>											
2010	11,899.5	1,614.9	57.2	2,108.5	55.5	66.7	1,082.7	1,887.8	554.7	856.7	178.9
2011	12,351.5 <sup>4</sup>	1,421.7	73.5	2,244.0	51.0	71.9	1,151.5	2,005.4	604.0	951.1	206.5
2012	12,820.5 <sup>4</sup>	1,628.2	80.8	2,263.7	61.9	81.0	1,174.7	2,125.6	624.3	965.1	208.8
2013	13,545.4 <sup>4</sup>	1,758.9	87.9	2,315.8	61.5	83.7	1,292.1	2,261.4	626.5	1,041.5	194.1
2014	13,852.6 <sup>4</sup>	1,694.2	84.7	2,372.5	65.6	81.2	1,277.7	2,324.4	598.2	1,149.3	213.2
2015	14,067.7 <sup>4</sup>	1,753.9	104.4	2,322.7	61.7	72.1	1,309.9	2,361.4	615.0	1,150.8	214.2
2016	14,163.7 <sup>4</sup>	1,609.9	96.3	2,390.6	77.9	76.4	1,251.7	2,428.5	630.4	1,260.7	208.7
2017	14,476.8 <sup>4</sup>	1,635.0	97.2	2,513.3	62.2	81.0	1,258.9	2,485.4	658.2	1,323.2	220.3
2018	14,776.0 <sup>4</sup>	1,570.3	90.8	2,499.9	68.8	88.6	1,257.8	2,544.6	697.9	1,473.4	216.4
2019	15,073.4 <sup>4</sup>	1,541.1	91.0	2,612.0	75.4	88.8	1,246.7	2,604.6	677.8	1,549.7	223.9
2020 <sup>f</sup>	14,719.4	1,454.6	82.1	2,469.7	75.2	82.2	1,180.6	2,662.5	692.1	1,473.9	237.6
2021 <sup>f</sup>	14,825.2 <sup>4</sup>	1,408.8	82.8	2,476.4	77.1	86.3	1,165.8	2,732.7	693.6	1,447.2	241.7
2022 <sup>f</sup>	15,155.2 <sup>4</sup>	1,408.1	84.1	2,507.3	78.8	85.0	1,245.4	2,840.6	707.2	1,482.7	252.7
2023	15,813.4 <sup>4</sup>	1,437.4	88.8	2,597.8	81.5	85.5	1,284.5	2,991.5	735.3	1,592.8	268.1

Notes:

1. Labour Force Survey indicators for 2019 and previously still using the estimated population data of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census, 2010

2. <sup>1</sup>For 1982 - 2000, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Industrial Classification, (Updated) 1972" as follows:

A: Agriculture, forestry, livestock and fishing  
 B: Mining and quarrying  
 C: Manufacturing  
 D: Electricity, gas and water  
 E: Construction  
 F: Wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels  
 G: Transport, storage and communications  
 H: Finance, insurance, real estate and business services  
 I: Community, social and personal services

3. <sup>2</sup>For 2001 - 2009, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2000" as follows:

A: Agriculture, hunting and forestry  
 B: Fishing  
 C: Mining and quarrying  
 D: Manufacturing  
 E: Electricity, gas and water supply  
 F: Construction  
 G: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods  
 H: Hotels and restaurants  
 I: Transport, storage and communications  
 J: Financial intermediation  
 K: Real estate, renting and business activities  
 L: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security  
 M: Education  
 N: Health and social work  
 O: Other community, social and personal service activities  
 P: Private households with employed persons

4. <sup>3</sup>For 2010 - 2022, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008" as follows:

A: Agriculture, forestry and fishing  
 B: Mining and quarrying  
 C: Manufacturing  
 D: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply  
 E: Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities  
 F: Construction  
 G: Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles  
 H: Transportation and storage  
 I: Accommodation and food service activities  
 J: Information and communication  
 K: Financial and insurance/takaful activities  
 L: Real estate activities  
 M: Professional, scientific and technical activities  
 N: Administrative and support service activities  
 O: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security  
 P: Education  
 Q: Human health and social work activities  
 R: Arts, entertainment and recreation  
 S: Other service activities  
 T: Activities of households as employers

5. <sup>4</sup>For year 2011-2019 & 2021-2023, total includes 'Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies'6. <sup>†</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

Table E: Employed person by industry, Malaysia, 1982 - 2023 (cont'd)

('000)

		Industry									
Year	Total	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
Malaysia Industrial Classification, (Updated) 1972 <sup>1</sup>											
1982	5,249.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1983	5,457.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1984	5,566.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1985	5,653.4	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1986	5,760.1	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1987	5,983.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1988	6,157.2	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1989	6,390.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1990	6,685.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1992	7,047.8	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1993	7,383.4	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1995	7,645.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1996	8,399.3	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1997	8,569.2	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1998	8,599.6	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1999	8,837.8	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2000	9,269.2	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2000 <sup>2</sup>											
2001	9,357.0	348.6	664.6	508.6	173.3	190.4	219.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2002	9,542.6	397.1	663.6	508.6	189.3	192.5	262.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2003	9,869.7	404.2	666.5	594.3	217.3	216.1	258.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2004	9,979.5	458.5	684.3	610.7	198.2	231.3	260.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2005	10,045.4	459.0	728.5	607.1	212.6	234.9	260.6	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2006	10,275.4	508.4	674.1	600.1	223.2	247.1	254.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2007	10,538.1	558.1	716.1	632.7	238.9	266.5	272.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2008	10,659.6	553.2	751.1	656.5	252.6	274.2	253.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2009	10,897.3	601.9	813.9	731.4	271.7	303.3	262.5	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008 <sup>3</sup>											
2010	11,899.5	323.4	58.5	285.6	359.2	787.7	779.3	280.0	91.6	182.9	285.4
2011	12,351.5 <sup>4</sup>	319.3	61.2	328.4	448.0	750.2	782.3	384.1	87.5	181.8	225.8
2012	12,820.5 <sup>4</sup>	322.1	68.9	307.3	532.2	696.4	784.9	414.3	84.8	190.5	202.7
2013	13,545.4 <sup>4</sup>	318.9	72.7	306.8	566.9	761.4	816.6	490.0	79.4	192.4	214.8
2014	13,852.6 <sup>4</sup>	329.1	79.7	328.8	654.3	741.7	871.4	532.9	94.1	199.1	159.1
2015	14,067.7 <sup>4</sup>	354.4	71.2	359.3	634.8	751.0	899.0	573.1	81.7	233.1	142.3
2016	14,163.7 <sup>4</sup>	346.9	82.4	361.8	657.0	748.2	928.7	570.3	80.9	230.8	124.7
2017	14,476.8 <sup>4</sup>	369.0	84.5	348.1	677.2	742.2	880.3	588.0	84.3	260.1	106.9
2018	14,776.0 <sup>4</sup>	338.6	97.2	367.7	747.6	720.2	988.7	551.2	85.6	264.8	103.9
2019	15,073.4 <sup>4</sup>	355.1	90.3	394.7	809.2	737.1	992.1	527.7	84.0	266.1	104.3
2020 <sup>5</sup>	14,719.4	389.3	87.1	397.1	784.6	773.2	958.9	562.1	56.3	250.9	49.3
2021 <sup>6</sup>	14,825.2 <sup>4</sup>	428.3	90.6	379.0	803.3	782.9	963.0	601.1	67.9	255.8	40.6
2022 <sup>7</sup>	15,155.2 <sup>4</sup>	410.4	90.5	380.0	834.3	783.6	944.5	596.1	70.9	258.2	94.5
2023	15,813.4 <sup>4</sup>	434.2	92.8	390.3	886.3	797.1	989.5	626.4	72.5	261.6	96.5

Notes:

1. Labour Force Survey indicators for 2019 and previously still using the estimated population data of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census, 2010

2. <sup>1</sup>For 1982 - 2000, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Industrial Classification, (Updated) 1972" as follows:

A: Agriculture, forestry, livestock and fishing  
 B: Mining and quarrying  
 C: Manufacturing  
 D: Electricity, gas and water  
 E: Construction  
 F: Wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels  
 G: Transport, storage and communications  
 H: Finance, insurance, real estate and business services  
 I: Community, social and personal services

3. <sup>2</sup>For 2001 - 2009, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2000" as follows:

A: Agriculture, hunting and forestry  
 B: Fishing  
 C: Mining and quarrying  
 D: Manufacturing  
 E: Electricity, gas and water supply  
 F: Construction  
 G: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods  
 H: Hotels and restaurants  
 I: Transport, storage and communications  
 J: Financial intermediation  
 K: Real estate, renting and business activities  
 L: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security  
 M: Education  
 N: Health and social work  
 O: Other community, social and personal service activities  
 P: Private households with employed persons

4. <sup>3</sup>For 2010 - 2022, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008" as follows:

A: Agriculture, forestry and fishing  
 B: Mining and quarrying  
 C: Manufacturing  
 D: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply  
 E: Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities  
 F: Construction  
 G: Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles  
 H: Transportation and storage  
 I: Accommodation and food service activities  
 J: Information and communication  
 K: Financial and insurance/takaful activities  
 L: Real estate activities  
 M: Professional, scientific and technical activities  
 N: Administrative and support service activities  
 O: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security  
 P: Education  
 Q: Human health and social work activities  
 R: Arts, entertainment and recreation  
 S: Others service activities  
 T: Activities of households as employers

5. <sup>4</sup>For year 2011-2019 & 2021-2023, total includes 'Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies'6. <sup>5</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020

Table F: Employed person by status of employment, Malaysia, 1982 - 2023

('000)

Time Series	Total	Status of Employment			
		Employer	Employee	Own Account Worker	Unpaid Family Worker
1982	5,249.0	158.1	3,320.7	1,159.8	610.4
1983	5,457.0	175.4	3,447.2	1,242.6	591.7
1984	5,566.7	141.4	3,673.4	1,130.1	621.8
1985	5,653.4	167.8	3,636.1	1,189.8	659.5
1986	5,760.1	180.4	3,560.7	1,308.2	710.6
1987	5,983.9	167.9	3,747.9	1,280.1	788.1
1988	6,157.2	204.7	3,799.1	1,377.1	776.3
1989	6,390.9	154.2	4,164.7	1,324.3	747.4
1990	6,685.0	194.6	4,412.4	1,383.9	694.0
1992	7,047.8	158.5	5,047.7	1,277.3	564.2
1993	7,383.4	209.5	5,272.8	1,350.7	550.1
1995	7,645.0	188.1	5,553.3	1,396.4	506.9
1996	8,399.3	251.1	6,071.4	1,514.2	562.6
1997	8,569.2	222.7	6,380.7	1,449.6	516.1
1998	8,599.6	252.7	6,307.9	1,521.6	517.4
1999	8,837.8	202.2	6,602.5	1,489.1	543.9
2000	9,269.2	275.8	6,882.6	1,586.0	524.8
2001	9,357.0	306.8	7,056.2	1,514.9	478.5
2002	9,542.6	288.6	7,320.2	1,479.8	453.9
2003	9,869.7	333.0	7,523.8	1,536.3	476.3
2004	9,979.5	354.7	7,445.0	1,678.1	501.7
2005	10,045.4	337.0	7,583.4	1,671.7	453.2
2006	10,275.4	396.9	7,632.9	1,733.4	512.2
2007	10,538.1	362.5	7,824.0	1,831.5	520.1
2008	10,659.6	371.4	7,951.1	1,851.1	486.0
2009	10,897.3	399.4	8,153.6	1,862.7	481.7
2010	11,899.5	439.3	9,010.2	1,954.7	495.4
2011	12,351.5	446.1	9,483.7	1,907.4	514.3
2012	12,820.5	476.2	9,620.0	2,117.3	607.0
2013	13,545.4	523.9	10,073.5	2,316.8	631.3
2014	13,852.6	511.5	10,447.6	2,267.2	626.3
2015	14,067.7	568.6	10,395.5	2,476.2	627.4
2016	14,163.7	486.4	10,534.2	2,522.3	620.9
2017	14,476.8	553.5	10,710.1	2,606.7	606.4
2018	14,776.0	547.2	10,700.4	2,859.2	669.1
2019	15,073.4	552.9	11,218.3	2,724.2	578.1
2020 <sup>f</sup>	14,719.4	499.8	11,443.3	2,309.9	466.3
2021 <sup>f</sup>	14,825.2	504.5	11,696.2	2,158.1	466.4
2022 <sup>f</sup>	15,155.2	535.5	11,904.7	2,257.4	457.6
2023	15,813.4	578.2	12,419.7	2,375.2	440.3

## Notes:

- <sup>f</sup> Revision based on the current population estimates from Population and Housing Census 2020
- Labour Force Survey indicators for 2019 and previously still using the estimated population data of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census, 2010

Table G: Labour force indicators for selected countries, January 2024 - January 2025

Indicators	2024												2025	Data Source
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	
<b>Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) (%)</b>														
<b>South East Asia</b>														
Philippines	61.1	64.8	65.3	64.1	64.8	66.0	63.5	64.8	65.7	63.3	64.6	65.1	63.9	Philippine Statistics Authority
<b>East Asia</b>														
Hong Kong	57.1	57.0	57.0	57.1	57.1	57.1	57.2	57.2	57.1	57.0	56.9	56.9	56.9	Census and Statistics Department
Taiwan	59.3	59.2	59.2	59.2	59.2	59.3	59.4	59.4	59.33	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	National Statistics Republic of China
South Korea	64.7	64.7	64.6	64.7	64.5	64.4	64.2	64.2	64.3	64.4	64.4	64.7	64.7	Statistics Korea
Japan	62.6	62.8	62.8	63.1	63.3	63.7	63.5	63.6	63.5	63.5	63.5	63.4	63.2	Statistics Bureau of Japan
<b>Oceania</b>														
Australia	66.5	66.7	66.6	66.7	66.7	66.9	67.0	67.0	67.1	67.1	67.0	67.2	67.3	ABS
<b>North America</b>														
USA	62.5	62.6	62.7	62.7	62.6	62.6	62.7	62.7	62.7	62.5	62.5	62.5	62.6	BLS
Canada	65.6	65.6	65.6	65.7	65.6	65.5	65.3	65.4	65.2	65.2	65.4	65.4	65.5	Statistics Canada
<b>Europe</b>														
United Kingdom	78.0	77.8	77.9	77.7	77.9	77.8	78.1	78.2	78.2	78.3	78.4	78.5	n.a	ONS
Sweden	73.9	74.5	75.3	75.6	74.9	79.0	77.7	75.6	74.8	73.9	73.8	74.1	74.8	Statistics Sweden
Finland	67.3	67.8	67.8	68.7	70.9	70.8	70.1	68.2	67.4	67.7	67.2	66.8	67.8	Statistics Finland
Russia	62.3	62.5	62.6	62.8	62.9	63.1	63.1	63.2	63.1	63.1	63.4	63.2	n.a	Trading economics
Italy	66.6	66.9	66.8	66.8	66.7	66.9	66.7	66.7	66.6	66.4	66.5	66.8	67.1	National Institute of Statistics
Netherland	76.1	76.0	76.0	76.2	76.2	76.1	76.0	75.8	75.8	75.6	75.8	75.9	76.0	Statistics Netherlands
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>														
<b>South East Asia</b>														
Philippines	4.5	3.5	3.9	4.0	4.1	3.1	4.7	4	3.7	3.9	3.2	3.1	4.3	Philippine Statistics Authority
<b>East Asia</b>														
Hong Kong	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	Census and Statistics Department
Taiwan	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	National Statistics Republic of China
South Korea	3.0	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.7	3.7	2.9	Statistics Korea
Japan	2.4	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	Statistics Bureau of Japan
<b>Oceania</b>														
Australia	4.1	3.7	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	3.9	4.0	4.1	ABS
<b>North America</b>														
USA	3.7	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.0	BLS
Canada	5.7	5.9	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.9	6.7	6.6	Statistics Canada
<b>Europe</b>														
United Kingdom	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	n.a	ONS
Sweden	8.2	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	9.4	7.7	7.9	8.2	7.8	7.8	8.0	8.9	Statistics Sweden
Finland	8.3	7.8	9.0	9.2	10.2	8.3	7.9	7.5	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	9.5	Statistics Finland
Russia	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	n.a	Trading economics
Italy	7.1	7.2	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.0	6.4	6.3	National Institute of Statistics
Netherland	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	Statistics Netherlands

Note:

n.a. not available

**This page is deliberately left blank**

**This page is deliberately left blank**



## LABOUR FORCE REPORT, MALAYSIA JANUARY 2025

Malaysian Bureau of Labour Statistics,  
Department of Statistics Malaysia.

### For further information:

Malaysian Bureau of Labour Statistics,  
Department of Statistics Malaysia,  
Level 3, Block C7,  
Complex C,  
Federal Government Administrative Centre,  
62514 Putrajaya, MALAYSIA.

E-mail: [mbls@dosm.gov.my](mailto:mbls@dosm.gov.my)

Telephone: 03-8090 4000

ISSN 2735-1831



9 772735 183106

