



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

2025

LABOUR MARKET REVIEW



FIRST QUARTER

Q1



DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
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LABOUR MARKET REVIEW

FIRST QUARTER 2025

Announcement:

ASEAN-Malaysia 2025 Chairmanship: The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) will chair the 15th ASEAN Community Statistical System Committee (ACSS15) which aims to strengthen the statistical cooperation towards sustainable regional development.

Malaysia has, for the first time, successfully recorded the top position globally in the biennial Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25 report released by Open Data Watch (ODW), surpassing 198 other countries. This achievement marks a significant leap from its 67th position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.

The Government of Malaysia has declared October 20th as National Statistics Day (MyStats Day), with the theme 'Statistics is the Essence of Life.' Meanwhile, the Fourth World Statistics Day will be celebrated on 20th October 2025, with the theme 'Driving Change with Quality Statistics and Data for Everyone'.

OpenDOSM NextGen is a medium that provides data catalogue and visualisations to facilitate users' analysis and can be accessed through <https://open.dosm.gov.my>.

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

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The Labour Market Review (LMR) is a quarterly publication by the Malaysian Bureau of Labour Statistics (MBLS), Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM). This report aims to bring official statistics to life through reviews and features that highlighted the most recent trends in the labour market. The quarterly statistics are consolidated into a narrative to provide readers with a comprehensive view of Malaysia's labour market.

The first part of the LMR presents the state of Malaysia's labour market in the first quarter of 2025 by contextualizing its linkages to the country's economic performance and social circumstances during the period. The review covers four main aspects of national labour market information encompassing labour supply, demand, productivity and employee wages. A dedicated segment on a selected issue or theme related to global and national labour market circumstances is also included in this report. A special feature of the LMR is that each quarter include one or more article(s) highlighting labour market issues through statistics; or delving into methodologies to strengthen labour market statistics. Detailed quarterly time series statistical tables pertaining to the four topics are also included.

The report elaborates on the year-on-year changes as well as short-term changes from the previous quarter to examine the immediate effect of recent events. Users are advised to interpret quarterly changes with caution as they are non-seasonally adjusted. The LMR can be used by policy makers, academicians, economists, researchers and other users for studies related to the labour market.

DOSM gratefully acknowledges the cooperation and contributions rendered by all parties in making this report a success. Every feedback and suggestions towards improving future reports are highly appreciated. It is hoped that this report can facilitate the growing demand for labour market statistics.

DATO' SRI DR. MOHD UZIR MAHIDIN
Chief Statistician Malaysia

May 2025

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Glossary

Category of skills	: For reporting purpose, the category of occupation is regrouped into three levels of skills based on the Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation (MASCO) 2013 namely Skilled workers - 1. Managers; 2. Professionals; 3. Technicians and associate professionals; Semi-skilled workers - 4. Clerical support 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; and Low-skilled workers - 9. Elementary occupations
Economic activity	: Refers to classification of industries according to the Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008 version 1.0 into five main sectors namely Agriculture, Mining & Quarrying, Manufacturing, Construction and Services. In the meantime, Manufacturing and Services are further disaggregated into sub-sectors.
Educational attainment	: Refers to the highest level in which a person has completed schooling or is currently attending school in a public or private educational institution that provides formal education.
Employed	: All 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). They are also considered as employed if they 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 and those on temporary lay-off with pay who would definitely be called back to work.
Employees	: Refers to any person who is employed under a contract of service or apprenticeship, whether written or oral and whether expressed or implied, to work for an employer.
Employer	: Refer to the person with whom an employee has entered into a contract of service or apprenticeship and includes; (i) a manager, agent or person responsible for the payment of salary or wages to an "employee"; (ii) any body of persons, whether or not statutory or incorporated; and (iii) any Government, Department of Government, statutory bodies, local authorities or other bodies specified in the Second Schedule and, where an employee is employed with any such Government, department, authority or body or with any officer on behalf of any such Government, department, authority or body, the officer under whom such employee is working shall be deemed to be an employer: Provided that no such officer shall be personally liable under this Act for anything done or omitted to be done in good faith by him as an officer of the such employer.
Employment-to-population ratio	: The proportion of employed population to working-age population, expressed as a percentage.

Glossary

Filled jobs	: Paid employee (full-time and part-time); and thus, exclude individual proprietors and business partners, unpaid family workers and employees on unpaid leave.
Jobs	: Total labour required by establishments to produce goods and services at a given point in time, which comprised of filled jobs and vacancies.
Jobs created	: Jobs created in an organisation which were not previously available, including newly created service schemes, jobs created for the promotion of existing employees and increase in the number of jobs from the existing structure.
Labour force	: The population in the working-age group (in completed years at last birthday), either employed or unemployed in the reference week.
Labour force participation rate	: The ratio of labour force to the working-age population, expressed as a percentage.
Labour productivity	: Refers to the efficiency and effectiveness of each employee to generate value added or overall output. It is calculated by using the ratio of value added to the total hours worked or employment by sector in Malaysia.
Outside labour force	: All persons not classified as employed or unemployed which includes housewives, students (including those going for further studies), retired, disabled persons and those not interested in looking for a job.
Skill-related underemployment	: Those with tertiary education and working in the semi-skilled and low-skilled categories.
Status in employment	: Refers to the position or status of an employed person within the establishment or organisation for which he/she worked and is adapted based on the International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-93).
Time-related underemployment	: People employed less than 30 hours during the reference week because of the nature of their work or due to insufficient work and are able and willing to accept additional hours of work.
Total hour worked	: The aggregate number of hours actually worked for a quarter which is the result of multiplying employment with the average weekly hours times 13 weeks.
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.
Unemployment rate	: The proportion of the unemployed population to the total population in labour force, expressed as a percentage.

Glossary

Vacancies	: Unfilled jobs which are ready to be filled. Employers are actively seeking candidates including advertising vacancies, issuing notices and registering with employment agencies as well as conducting interviews to select candidates to fill in the vacancies.
Value added	: The difference between output and intermediate consumption. It represents the value added of goods and services by economic activity. Hence, it is approximately equivalent to commercial profit, salaries and wages, depreciation and indirect taxes; plus, interest paid and less interest received.
Wages	: All remuneration in money payable to the employees due to his contract of service or apprenticeship, whether agreed to be paid monthly, weekly, daily or otherwise and includes any bonus, commission or allowance payable by the employer to the employee whether such bonus, commission or allowance is payable under his contract of service, apprenticeship or otherwise, but does not include: (i) service charge; (ii) overtime payment; (iii) gratuity; (iv) retirement benefit; (v) retrenchment, lay-off or termination benefits; (vi) any travelling allowance or the value of any travelling concession; or (vii) any other remuneration or payment as may be exempted by the Minister.
Working age	: All persons aged between 15 to 64 years who are either in the labour force or outside labour force
Youth	: All persons between the aged of 15 and 24 years

Acronyms

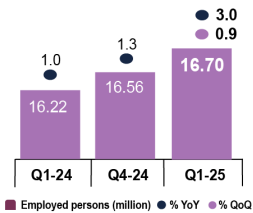
DOSM	: Department of Statistics Malaysia
GDP	: Gross Domestic Product
IMF	: International Monetary Fund
LFPR	: Labour Force Participation Rate
LFS	: Labour Force Survey
MASCO	: Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation
MSIC	: Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification
MSMEs	: Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Q	: Quarter
RM	: Ringgit Malaysia
TVET	: Technical and Vocational Education and Training

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LABOUR MARKET REVIEW, FIRST QUARTER 2025

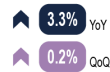
The national labour market remained robust in the first quarter of 2025, with 17.23 million labour force and a stable 3.1 per cent unemployment rate.

Employed persons continued to increase, to **16.70 million persons**

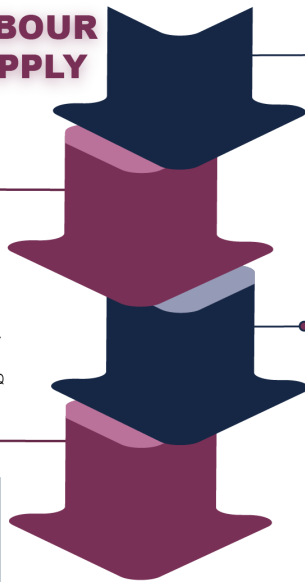


Total hours worked

during Q1, **9.76 billion hours**

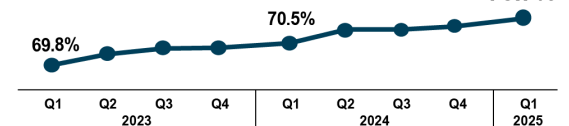


LABOUR SUPPLY

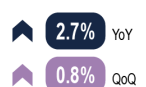


Labour force participation rate (LFPR)

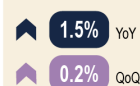
went up by 0.2 percentage points compared to Q1 2024



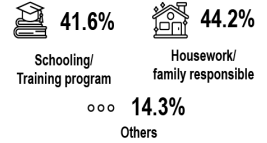
17.23 million labour force



7.13 million outside labour force

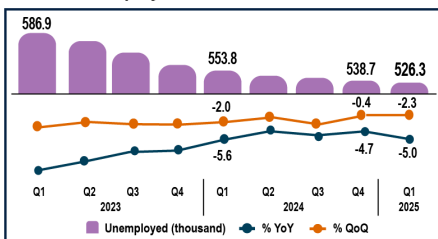


More than **85 per cent** did not seek for work due to schooling and housework



*refer to people who are going for further study, disabled, not interested/ just completed study and retired/ old age

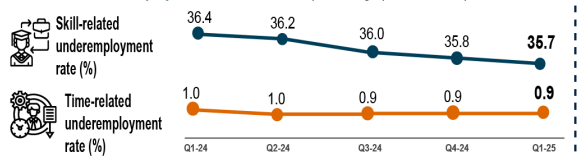
National unemployment situation



Unemployed decreased during Q1 2025 to **526.3 thousand persons**

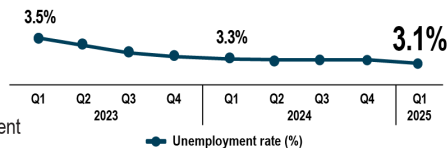
Underemployment situation

Time-related underemployment rate stood at 0.9 per cent, while Skill-related underemployment rate declined 0.7 percentage points as compared to Q1 2024



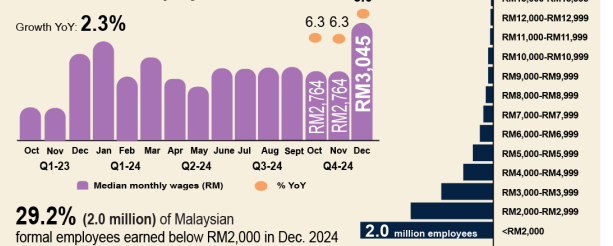
Unemployment rate

declined 0.2 percentage points year-on-year, stable at 3.1 per cent



Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector)

In December 2024, **6.83 million** citizen formal employees



29.2% (2.0 million) of Malaysian formal employees earned below RM2,000 in Dec. 2024

LABOUR DEMAND

9.06 millions jobs

Jobs in economic sector

increased by 1.4 per cent compared to Q1 2024



8.87 million filled job



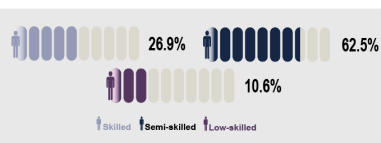
194.1 thousand vacancies



More than half (**57.3%**) of jobs opening during Q1 2025 were in the **Manufacturing** sector with a total 111.2 thousand vacancies



33.2 thousand jobs created



LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY

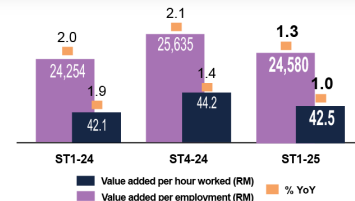
Both measures of labour productivity registered an increase compared to the same quarter of the previous year



RM42.5 per hour worked



RM24,580 per employment



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ASEAN
MALAYSIA 2025
INCLUSIVITY AND SUSTAINABILITY



MALAYSIA MADANI
kesejahteraan



ODIN
OPEN DATA INVENTORY
MALAYSIA
NUMBER ONE IN THE WORLD



20 October
2016 - 2030

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Q1

EXPLANATORY NOTES

2025

Explanatory Notes:

Starting with the release of Labour Market Review (LMR), First Quarter 2025, Malaysia, the principal statistics of the labour force are estimated based on the current population estimates of Malaysia.

The revision of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) data series is performed when the most recent Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020 data 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.

For this purpose, revisions LFS data for the First Quarter to Fourth Quarter of 2024 has been completed. Meanwhile, the revision of the LFS data series for the Second Quarter of 2020 to the Fourth Quarter of 2023 is still being carried out. The data will be published progressively upon the completion of the analysis and finalization process.

As part of this effort, the data series in Labour Market Review for the years 2024 to 2025 has been systematically revised to ensure consistency and accuracy.

Key Reviews for Q1 2025

- ▶ The national labour market remained robust in the first quarter of 2025, with 17.23 million labour force and a stable 3.1 per cent unemployment rate.
- ▶ In Q1 2025, the labour force strengthened further by 2.7 per cent year-on-year to record 17.23 million persons. Therefore, the labour force participation rate increased by 0.2 percentage points to 70.7 per cent. The number of employed persons continued to increase by 3.0 per cent to 16.70 million persons, with employment-to-population ratio trend up to 68.6 per cent. Concurrently, the number of unemployed persons declined by 5.0 per cent (-27.5 thousand) to 526.3 thousand persons, with an unemployment rate of 3.1 per cent.
- ▶ The number of employed persons working less than 30 hours per week continued to trend down by 11.1 per cent from Q1 2024 to 242.7 thousand persons, driven by strong domestic demand throughout Q1 2025. Accordingly, the rate of time-related underemployment declined to 0.9 per cent. In the meantime, skill-related underemployment, which comprised more than one-third of employed persons with tertiary education, decreased by 0.7 percentage points to 35.7 per cent in Q1 2025.
- ▶ Looking at labour demand in the economic sector, the number of jobs grew by 1.4 per cent year-on-year to record a total of 9.06 million jobs. Filled jobs, which comprised 97.9 per cent, also increased by 1.4 per cent over the same quarter of the preceding year to 8.87 million. Meanwhile, job openings in the economy, as indicated by the number of vacancies, rose by 1.2 per cent to 194.1 thousand vacancies during Q1 2025. Additionally, the number of jobs created in the economic sector rose by 3.4 per cent year-on-year, reaching 33.2 thousand.
- ▶ Malaysia's economy expanded by 4.4 per cent, while employment sustained its positive growth, labour productivity as measured by value added per employment posted an increase of 1.3 per cent registering the level of RM24,580 per person in Q1 2025. During the same period, total hours worked surged by 3.3 per cent to 9.76 billion hours. Thus, labour productivity per hour worked grew 1.0 per cent to bring the level of productivity to RM42.5 per hour.
- ▶ Malaysia's labour market remained resilient, underpinned by stable domestic activity and sustained government policies. Growth in manufacturing, services, and robust domestic demand has contributed to a favourable economic environment, along with initiatives such as investment incentives and infrastructure development, continued to boost market confidence. These factors are expected to support employment creation, especially in high-skilled sectors, and contribute to household income enhancement. However, labour market prospects remain sensitive to external conditions, including the global trade dynamics, commodity price fluctuations, and regional geopolitical risks.

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National labour market remained robust in the first quarter of 2025, with 17.23 million labour force and a stable 3.1 per cent unemployment rate

1

Malaysia's economic and labour market performance in the first quarter of 2025 remained resilient despite a challenging global environment. The global economy is currently navigating heightened uncertainty marked by sluggish growth, persistent inflationary pressures, and shifting trade dynamics. Geopolitical tensions, protectionist policies, and uneven post-pandemic recoveries have created a complex operating environment for both governments and businesses. These global uncertainties, combined with ongoing adjustments in major economies monetary and fiscal policies, have introduced volatility in global markets and impacted Malaysia economies¹.

Despite these external headwinds, Malaysia's economy demonstrated steady growth recording 4.4 per cent GDP growth in Q1 2025, underpinned by strong domestic demand, stable private consumption, and consistent investment activity. This performance, although slightly below the earlier forecast range of 4.5 per cent to 5.5 per cent, reflects Malaysia's underlying economic resilience. Malaysia's 2025 growth is expected to moderate further due to the escalation in trade tensions and heightened policy uncertainties, which are weighing on export performance and investor sentiment².

Malaysia's labour market mirrored the economy's overall strength. In Q1 2025, the labour force expanded by 2.7 per cent year-on-year to 17.23 million persons, with the labour force participation rate (LFPR) increasing to 70.7 per cent. The number of employed persons rose by 3.0 per cent to 16.70 million persons, while the number of unemployed persons dropped by 5.0 per cent to 526.3 thousand persons, bringing the unemployment rate down to 3.1 per cent compared to 3.3 per cent in the same period of 2024, indicating continued improvement of labour markets³.

The Services sector remained a key driver of labour demand, expanding by 1.8 per cent, followed by Manufacturing at 1.5 per cent, and Construction at 0.5 per cent. The number of jobs rose by 1.4 per cent year-on-year to 9.06 million, with a high job filled rate of 97.9 per cent, signalling strong alignment between labour supply and demand⁴.

Social and cultural factors also contributed to Malaysia's economic vibrancy in early 2025. The month of Ramadan and the celebration of Chinese New Year and Aidilfitri and provided a boost in consumer spending and entrepreneurial activity, particularly within the food and beverage, retail, and domestic tourism. These festivities created temporary but impactful economic activity, especially for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). Entrepreneurs capitalised on increased demand for traditional Malay cuisine, and festive goods, often through Ramadan and

1 Ministry of Finance Malaysia (2025). Economic Outlook Report Q1 2025.
 2 Bank Negara Malaysia (2025). Quarterly Bulletin, Q1 2025.
 3 Department of Statistics Malaysia (2025). Labour Force Survey Report, First Quarter 2025.
 4 Department of Statistics Malaysia (2025). Employment Statistics, First Quarter 2025.

Aidilfitri bazaars and online platforms, enhancing short-term employment opportunities and supporting household incomes.

Although Malaysia's economic momentum remains positive, supported by strong fundamentals and adaptive strategies. While global trade frictions, policy shifts in major economies, and regional uncertainties present ongoing challenges, Malaysia is well equipped to navigate these external factors. The government's proactive initiatives focusing on digitalisation, empowering MSMEs, and enhancing workforce skills are effectively strengthening the economy's resilience and fostering sustainable growth.

Looking ahead, Malaysia's economic and labour market prospects for the remainder of 2025 will be closely tied to the global economic trajectory, particularly developments in trade policy, geopolitical stability, and commodity prices. While the World Bank projects the global economy to grow by 2.7 per cent in 2025, this pace is viewed as modest and insufficient to drive substantial development, especially among emerging and low-income nations⁵. However, the outlook showed Malaysia's solid economic fundamentals, supportive domestic policies, and the adaptability of its private sector continue to provide a buffer against external shocks. These strengths enable Malaysia to navigate economic uncertainties with confidence while maintaining steady, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth throughout 2025.

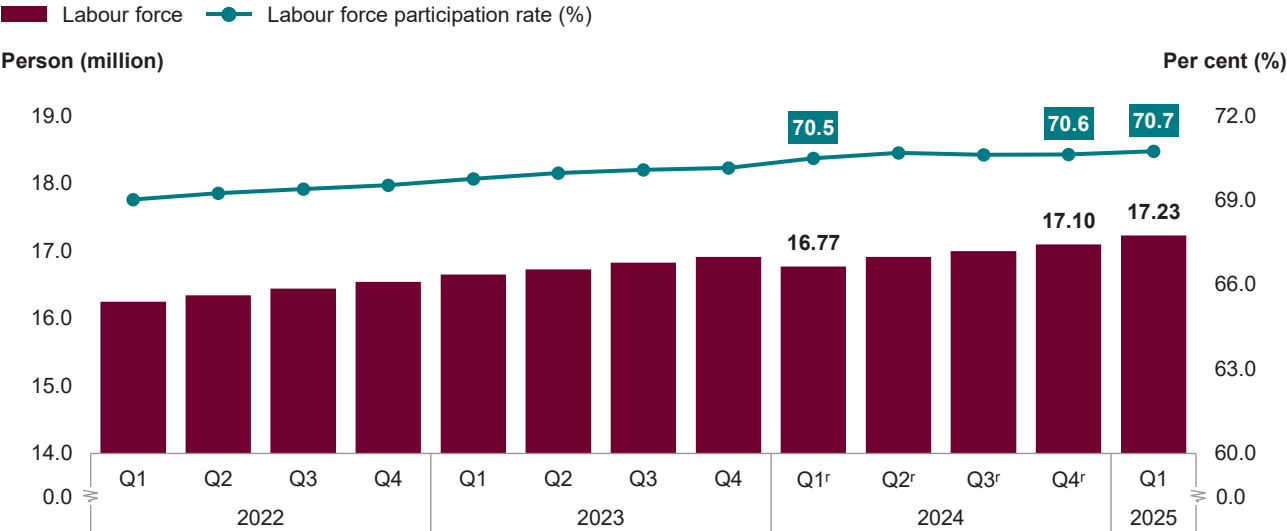
The Labour Market Review Q1 2025 offers a comprehensive analysis of Malaysia's labour market trends, structured into four key sections: Labour Supply, Labour Demand, Labour Productivity, and Employee Wages. This edition also features a special article, to provide a comprehensive overview of the Women's Leadership in Malaysia: "Trend in Gender Representation in Managerial Positions" .

⁵ World Bank (2025). Global Economic Prospects, January 2025.

2.1 Labour Force

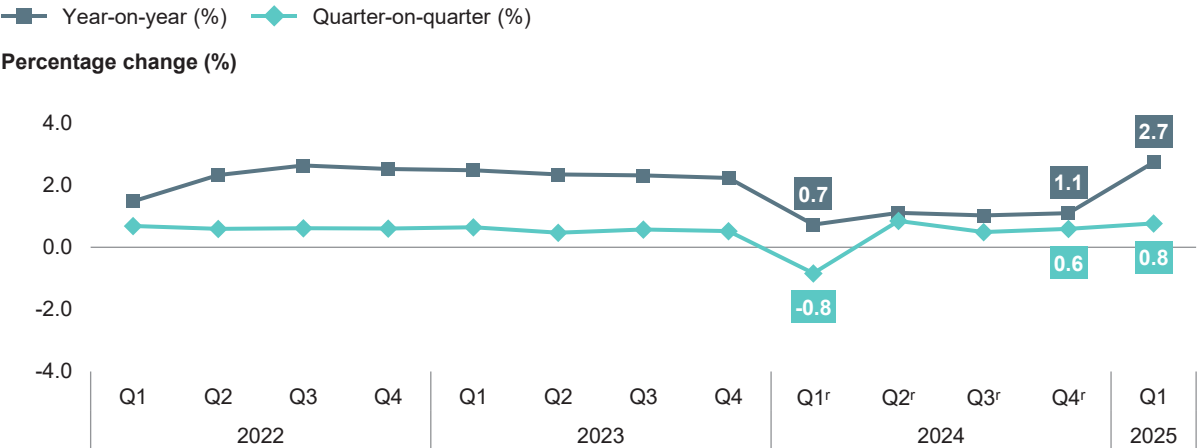
In Q1 2025, the labour supply continued its upward trend compared to the same quarter of the previous year, with the labour force participation rate (LFPR) increasing 0.2 percentage points to 70.7 per cent, up from 70.5 per cent in Q1 2024. During the same period, the labour force expanded by 2.7 per cent (+458.7 thousand persons) year-on-year in Q1 2024. On a quarterly basis, the number of labour force increased 0.8 per cent (+131.4 thousand persons), while the LFPR increased marginally by 0.1 percentage point [Chart 2.1 & 2.2].

Chart 2.1:
Labour force and labour force participation rate (LFPR), Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM
Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Chart 2.2:
Percentage change of labour force, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM
Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

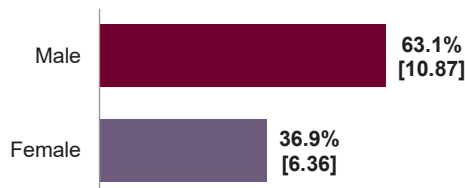
Disaggregating by sex, the male population accounted for nearly two-thirds of the labour force in Q1 2025, with a share of 63.1 per cent, equivalent to 10.87 million persons. The male labour force posted a year-on-year increase at 3.5 per cent (+369.3 thousand persons). On the other hand, the female labour force, comprising 36.9 per cent increase by 1.4 per cent (+89.5 thousand persons) year on year to record 6.36 million persons. On a quarterly basis, both male and female labour force surge by 1.1 per cent and 0.2 per cent compared to the preceding quarter respectively [Chart 2.3].

Chart 2.3:

Distribution and percentage change of labour force by sex, Q1 2025

■ Male ■ Female

Percentage share (%)
[Person (million)]



Percentage change (%)

Annual

Quarterly



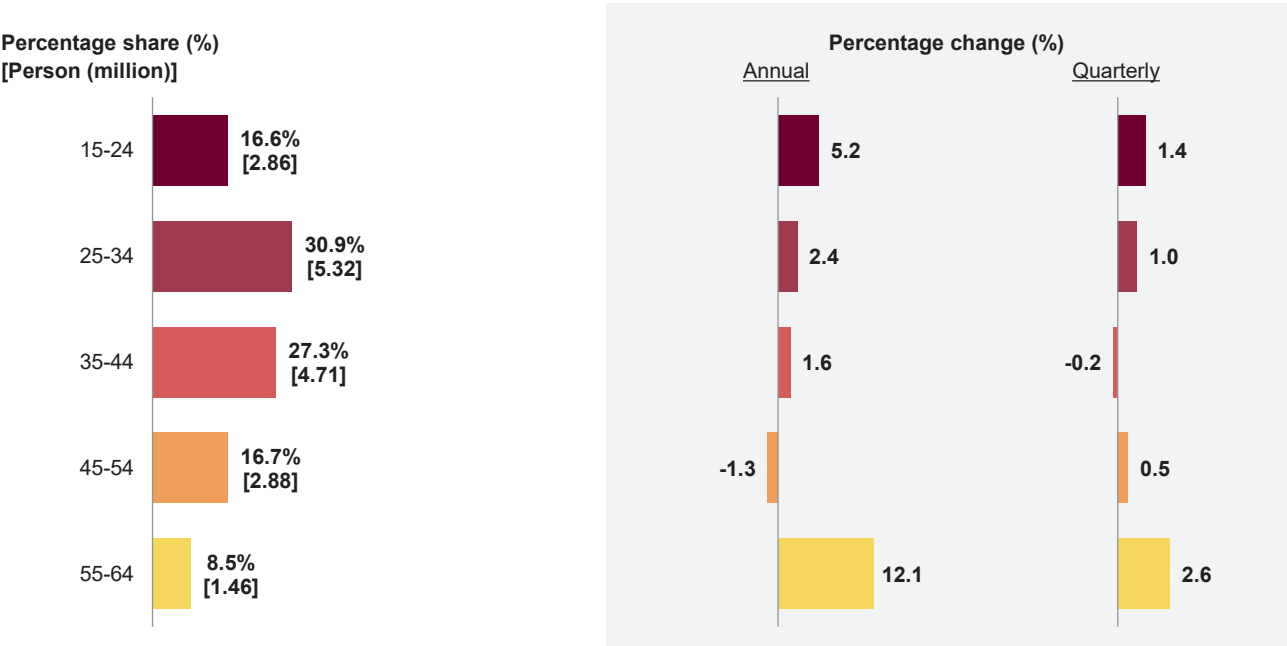
Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

Breakdown of the labour force by age group, those aged 25 to 34 years comprising a share of 30.9 per cent or 5.32 million persons in Q1 2025. In the meantime, the labour force in the age group of 35 to 44 years made up a share of 27.3 per cent, followed by 16.6 per cent aged 15 to 24 years and 16.7 per cent aged 45 to 54 years.

During Q1 2025, all age cohorts recorded positive year on year growth except for cohorts 45 to 54. The age group of 55 to 64 years record the highest gain in labour force by 12.1 per cent (+157.7 thousand persons) to record 1.46 million persons. Similarly, another age group that had significant growth in the labour force during the quarter was those aged 15 to 24 years, which increased by 5.2 per cent (+140.6 thousand persons) to register 2.86 million persons. However, a decrease was observed in the number of labour force against the previous quarter, namely 35 to 44 years by 0.2 per cent or equivalent to 10.7 thousand persons. Meanwhile, the other age groups recorded positive quarter-on-quarter growth [Chart 2.4].

Chart 2.4:
Distribution and percentage change of labour force by age group, Q1 2025

■ 15-24 ■ 25-34 ■ 35-44 ■ 45-54 ■ 55-64



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

As for participation in the labour force by sex, the male LFPR grew by 0.2 percentage points to register 83.2 per cent in Q1 2025. Meanwhile, the female LFPR remained steady from the same quarter of the previous year to record 56.3 per cent. On a quarterly basis, the male and female LFPR remains stable. In the meantime, the data indicates that the male LFPR maintained an average above 80.0 per cent, nearly double the rate registered by female. In terms of labour force participation by age group, two age groups showed LFPR exceeding 80 per cent. The highest LFPR was observed among those aged 25 to 34 years at 86.2 per cent, followed by 84.5 per cent for the age group of 35 to 44 years. Additionally, those aged 45 to 54 years also recorded a relatively high LFPR at 76.0 per cent, exceeding the national LFPR. Conversely, the age group of 15 to 24 years registered the lowest rate at 47.8 per cent.

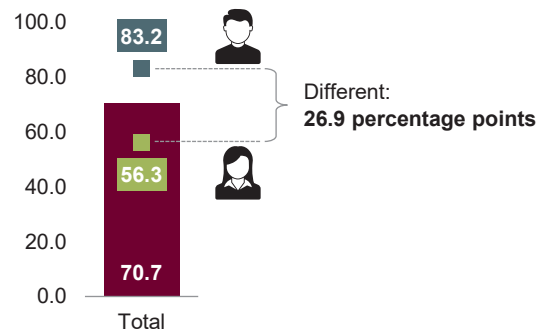
Further disaggregation by sex and age group revealed that male and female had distinct LFPR peaks. Male LFPR surged above 90.0 per cent for the age group of 25 to 34 years and remained high up until the age group of 45 to 54 years before declining for the oldest age group of 55 to 64 years. During Q1 2025, male LFPR peaked at 97.0 per cent for the aged group of 35 to 44 years and female LFPR peaked at 73.3 per cent for the aged group of 25 to 34 years respectively. However, the female LFPR decline for a younger age group compared to male and continued to decrease in line with the increase in age [Chart 2.5].

Chart 2.5:

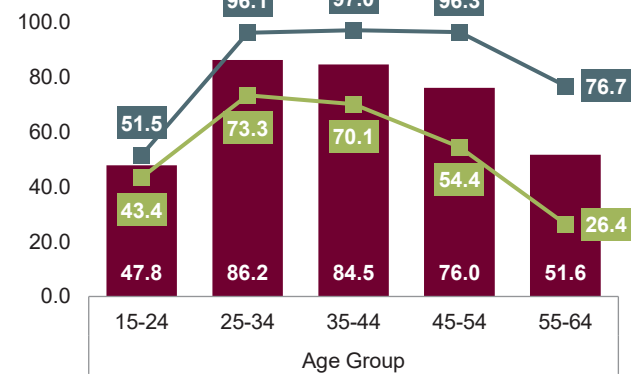
Labour force participation rate by sex and age group, Q1 2025

■ Total ■ Male ■ Female

Per cent (%)



Per cent (%)



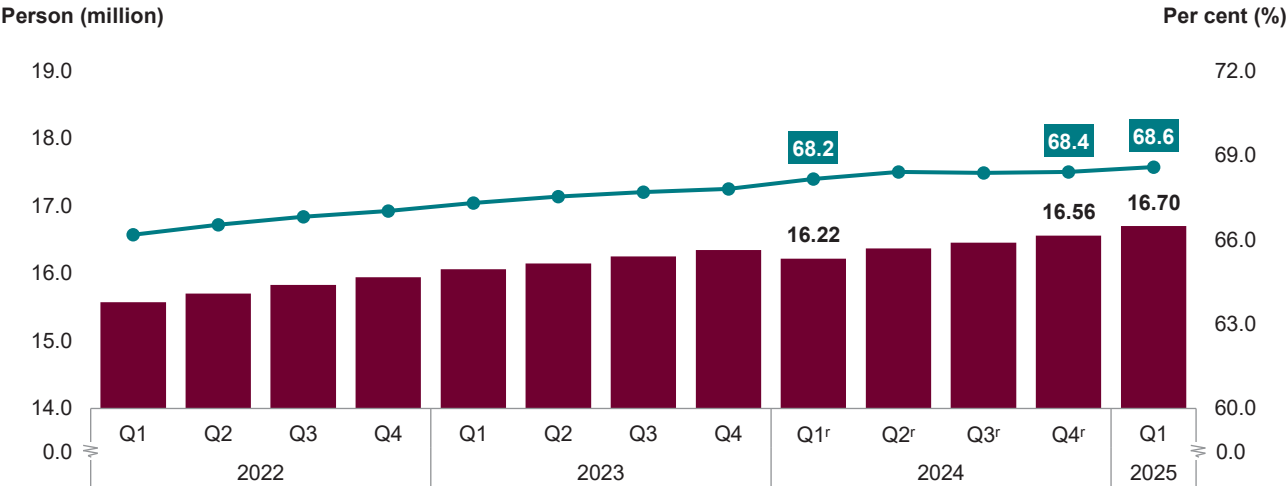
Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

2.2 Employment Situation

Regarding the employment situation in Q1 2025, the number of employed persons showed a year on-year increase at 3.0 per cent (+486.2 thousand persons) compared to 1.3 per cent in the previous quarter to record 16.70 million persons. Thus, the ability of the economy to create employment as measured by the employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.6 percentage points from the same quarter of the previous year to 68.6 per cent. Meanwhile, the number of employed persons also registered a growth of 0.9 per cent (+143.9 thousand persons) quarter-on-quarter compared to 0.6 per cent in Q4 2024. During this period, the employment-to-population ratio increased by 0.2 percentage points [Chart 2.6 & 2.7].

Chart 2.6:
Employed persons and employment-to-population ratio, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025

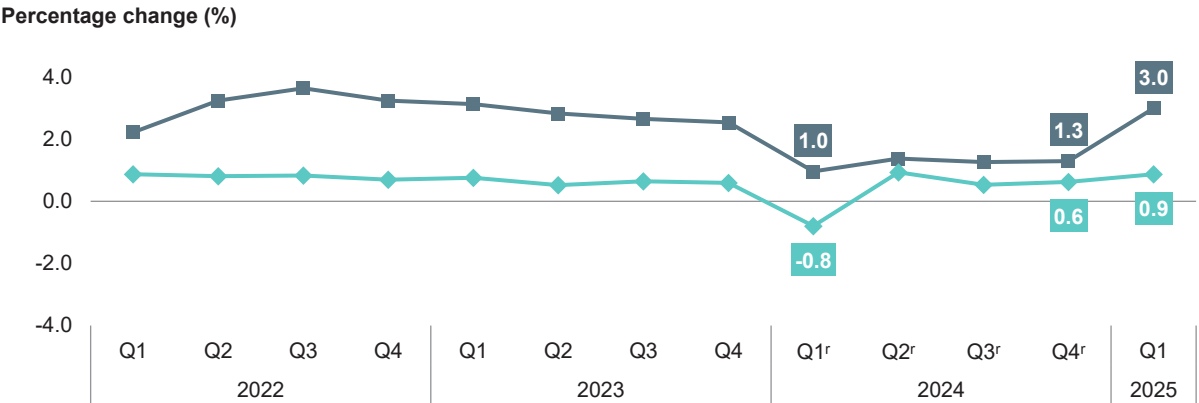
■ Employed persons ● Employment-to-population ratio (%)



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM
Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Chart 2.7:
Percentage change of employed persons, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025

■ Year-on-year (%) ◆ Quarter-on-quarter (%)



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM
Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

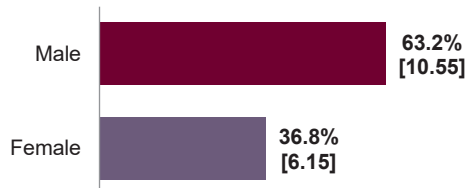
Male accounted for more than half of employed persons in Q1 2025, representing 63.2 per cent or 10.55 million persons, while female made up 36.8 per cent or 6.15 million persons. The rising number of employed persons from the same quarter annually is 3.7 per cent (+380.5 thousand persons) for male and 1.7 per cent for female (+105.7 thousand persons). On a quarterly basis, the number of employed persons for male increased by 1.2 per cent while female employed persons grew by 0.3 per cent [Chart 2.8].

Chart 2.8:

Distribution and percentage change of employed persons by sex, Q1 2025

■ Male ■ Female

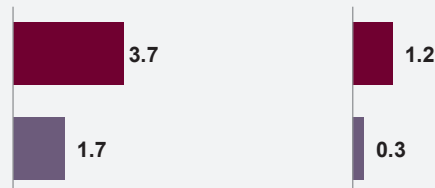
Percentage share (%)
[Person (million)]



Percentage change (%)

Annual

Quarterly

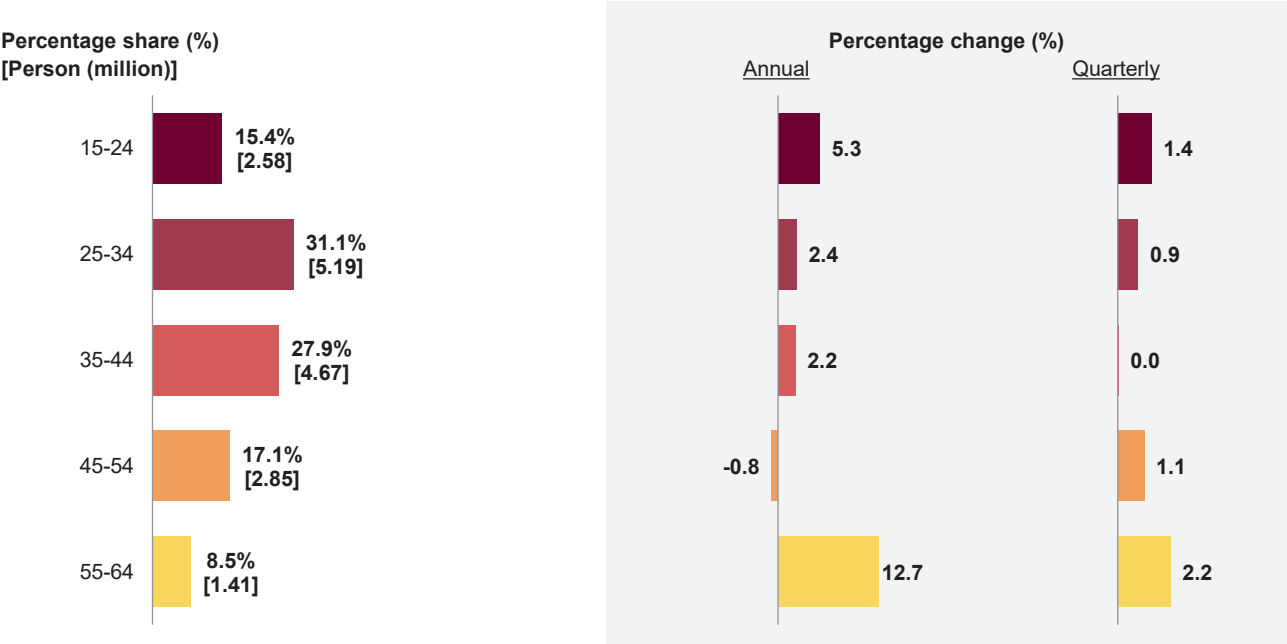


Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

In Q1 2025, the age group of 25 to 34 years recorded the highest contribution of employed persons, registering 31.1 per cent or 5.19 million persons. This was followed by the age group of 35 to 44 years ranked second with 27.9 per cent or 4.67 million persons. These two categories represented nearly two-thirds of total employment. In the meantime, youth-employed persons aged 15 to 24 years accounted for 15.4 per cent or equivalent to 2.58 million persons, while the oldest age group of 55 to 64 years counted 1.41 million persons, which comprised 8.5 per cent during the quarter.

Analysis by age group, an increase in the number of employed persons was observed across all age groups except for the age 45 to 54 years, which posted a decline of 0.8 per cent (-23.3 thousand persons) in Q1 2025. The highest growth in the number of employed persons was recorded by the oldest age group of 55 to 64, with a growth of 12.7 per cent (+159.6 thousand persons), followed by the youth aged 15 to 24 years, which improved by 5.3 per cent (+129.4 thousand persons). Another category that had significant growth in employed persons during the quarter was those aged 25 to 34 years and 35 to 44 years, which increased by 2.4 per cent and 2.2 per cent respectively. In comparison to the previous quarter, all age groups registered positive quarter-on-quarter growth in employed persons [Chart 2.9].

Chart 2.9:
Distribution and percentage change of employed persons by age group, Q1 2025
 ■ 15-24 ■ 25-34 ■ 35-44 ■ 45-54 ■ 55-64



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

As for distribution by educational attainment, the majority of employed persons were pursuing secondary education, registering 55.7 per cent or 9.30 million persons, followed by tertiary education at 32.7 per cent or 5.47 million persons. Meanwhile, the employed person with primary and no formal education represented by 9.0 per cent and 2.5 per cent respectively.

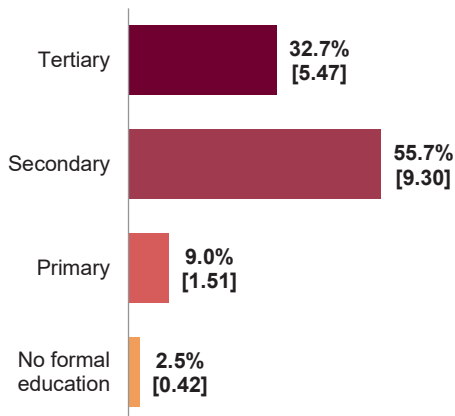
Based on year-on-year comparison, the employed persons with no formal education expanded by 0.4 per cent (+1.8 thousand persons), while those with primary education also posted a rise of 8.7 per cent (+121.0 thousand persons). In addition, the number of employed persons with tertiary education grew by 3.6 per cent (+188.6 thousand persons), followed by employed persons with secondary education which rose by 1.9 per cent (+174.9 thousand persons). In the meantime, the quarterly increase in the number of employed persons was due to the positive growth for all educational attainment categories [Chart 2.10].

Chart 2.10:

Distribution and percentage change of employed persons by educational attainment, Q1 2025

■ Tertiary ■ Secondary ■ Primary ■ No formal education

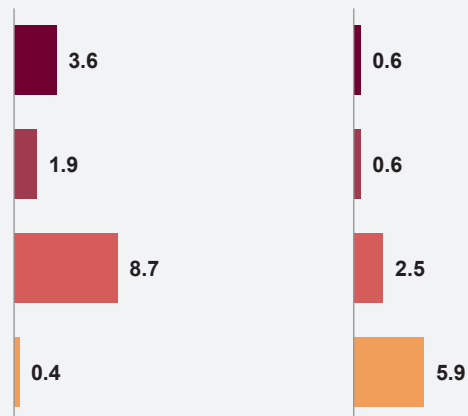
Percentage share (%)
[Person (million)]



Percentage change (%)

Annual

Quarterly



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

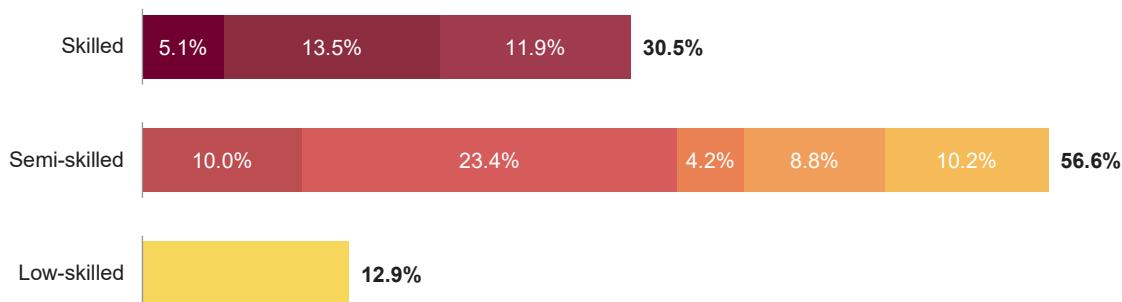
Looking at the employed persons by skill level, the semi-skilled occupations category which comprised 56.7 per cent of total employment, grew by 2.9 per cent (+270.3 thousand persons) year on-year, recording a total of 9.47 million persons in Q1 2025. Most of the employed persons in the semi-skilled category were concentrated in the occupation of Service and sales workers for 23.4 per cent, encompassing 3.92 million persons [Chart 2.11 & Table 2.1].

Chart 2.11:

Distribution of employed persons by skill level and occupation, Q1 2025

■ Managers ■ Professionals ■ Technicians and associate professionals ■ Clerical support workers ■ Service and sales workers
■ Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock and fishery workers ■ Craft and related trades workers ■ Plant and machine-operators and assemblers ■ Elementary occupations

Percentage share (%)



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table 2.1:
Number, percentage share & percentage change of employed persons by skill level and occupation, Q1 2025

Skill level	Occupation	Employed persons ('000)	Percentage share to skill level (%)	Percentage change (%)	
				Annual	Quarterly
Skilled		5,079.1	100.0	2.7	1.2
	Manager	847.8	16.7	6.1	4.1
	Professionals	2,249.0	44.3	2.2	0.9
	Technicians and associate professionals	1,982.3	39.0	1.7	0.4
Semi-skilled		9,470.2	100.0	2.9	0.6
	Clerical support workers	1,671.1	17.6	5.2	0.8
	Service and sales workers	3,915.9	41.3	1.3	0.6
	Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock and fishery workers	698.5	7.4	0.5	0.5
	Craft and related trades workers	1,476.5	15.6	4.5	0.7
	Plant and machine operators and assemblers	1,708.2	18.0	4.3	0.6
Low-skilled		2,153.6	100.0	4.1	1.1
	Elementary occupations	2,153.6	100.0	4.1	1.1

Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

Additionally, the skilled occupations category make up a share of 30.4 per cent of total employment. The number of employed persons in this category increased 2.7 per cent (+131.5 thousand persons) year-on-year, reaching 5.08 million persons during Q1 2025. Nevertheless, employed persons in the low-skilled occupation category which comprised the remaining share of 12.9 per cent of total employment grew by 4.1 per cent (+84.3 thousand persons), to 2.15 million employed persons. Similarly, the quarter-on-quarter comparison observed that the number of employed persons in the skilled occupation category increased by 1.2 per cent (+62.1 thousand persons) from Q4 2024. Meanwhile, employed persons in the semi-skilled and low-skilled occupations went up by 0.6 per cent (+58.8 thousand persons) and 1.1 per cent (+23.1 thousand persons), respectively.

Further disaggregation by status in employment indicates that the employees' category, comprising paid employment in the public and private sectors, constitutes the largest segment of employed persons. This group encompassed 76.3 per cent of employed persons and experienced a year-on year increase of 2.2 per cent (+279.6 thousand persons) and accounted for 12.74 million persons in Q1 2025. In addition, the employers' category covered 3.7 per cent of total employment, an increase by 8.4 per cent (+47.8 thousand persons), bringing the number to 617.6 thousand persons during the quarter.

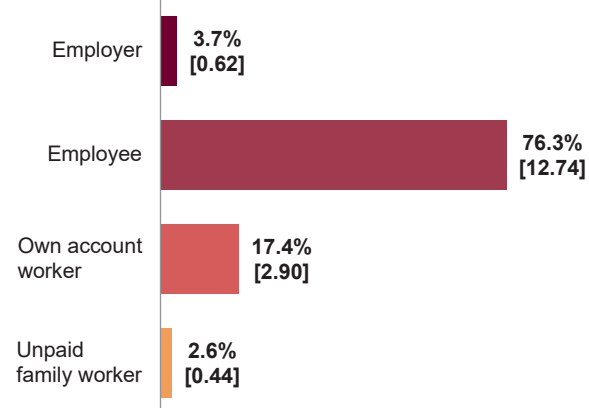
Those employed as own account workers who were involved in various roles, from traditional employment as farmers, retailers and hawkers to professional jobs such as consultants and freelancers, encompassed 17.4 per cent or 2.90 million persons. This category maintained a positive growth of 5.3 per cent (+147.4 thousand persons) year-on-year. On the other hand, the remaining 2.6 per cent represent the unpaid family worker category, which grew by 2.7 per cent (+11.4 thousand persons), reaching 440.0 thousand persons. On a quarterly basis, all categories of status in employment indicated growth except for the employer, which declined by 6.3 per cent during Q1 2025 [Chart 2.12].

Chart 2.12:

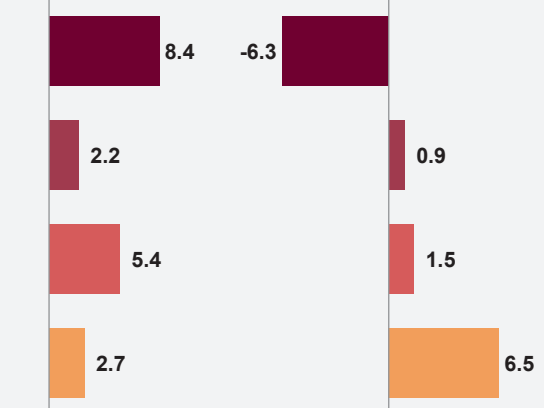
Distribution and percentage change of employed persons by status in employment, Q1 2025

■ Employer ■ Employee ■ Own account worker ■ Unpaid family worker

Percentage share (%)
[Person (million)]



Percentage change (%)
Annual Quarterly

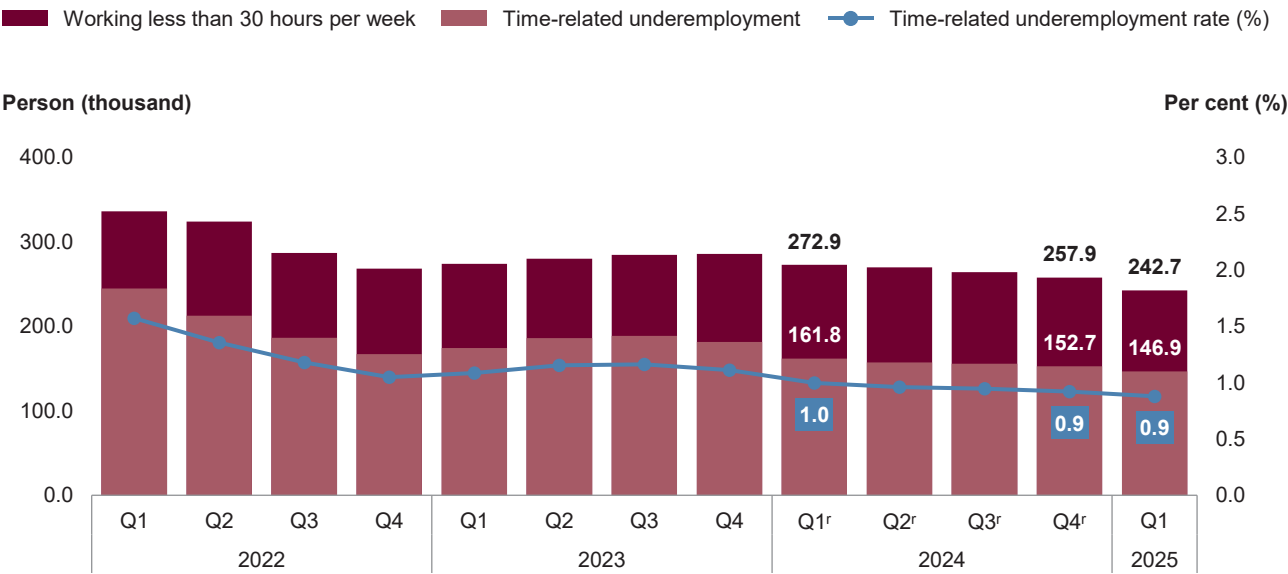


Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

2.3 Highlight on Underemployment Situation

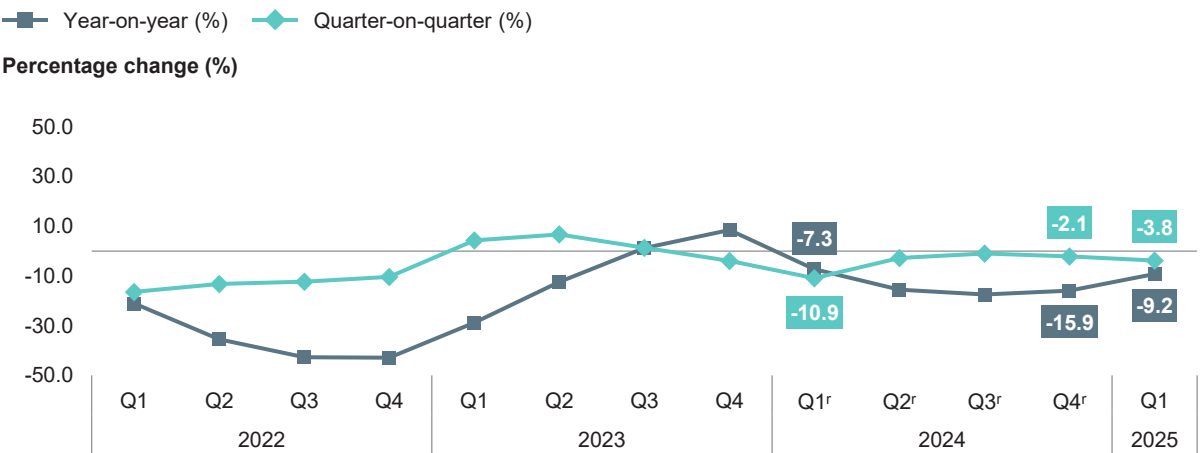
The number of persons in time-related underemployment referring to those who were employed less than 30 hour per week and were able and willing to work additional hours showed a downward trend from the same quarter of 2024, with a decline of 9.2 per cent (-14.9 thousand persons) to 146.9 thousand persons. Accordingly, the rate of time-related underemployment comprised 0.9 per cent, decrease 0.1 percentage points as compared to the same quarter last year. A similar trend was also observed on a quarterly basis as this group decreased by 3.8 per cent (-5.8 thousand persons) while the rate reduced by less than 0.1 percentage points as the previous quarter [Chart 2.13 & 2.14].

Chart 2.13:
Time-related underemployment, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM
Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Chart 2.14:
Percentage change of time-related underemployment, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



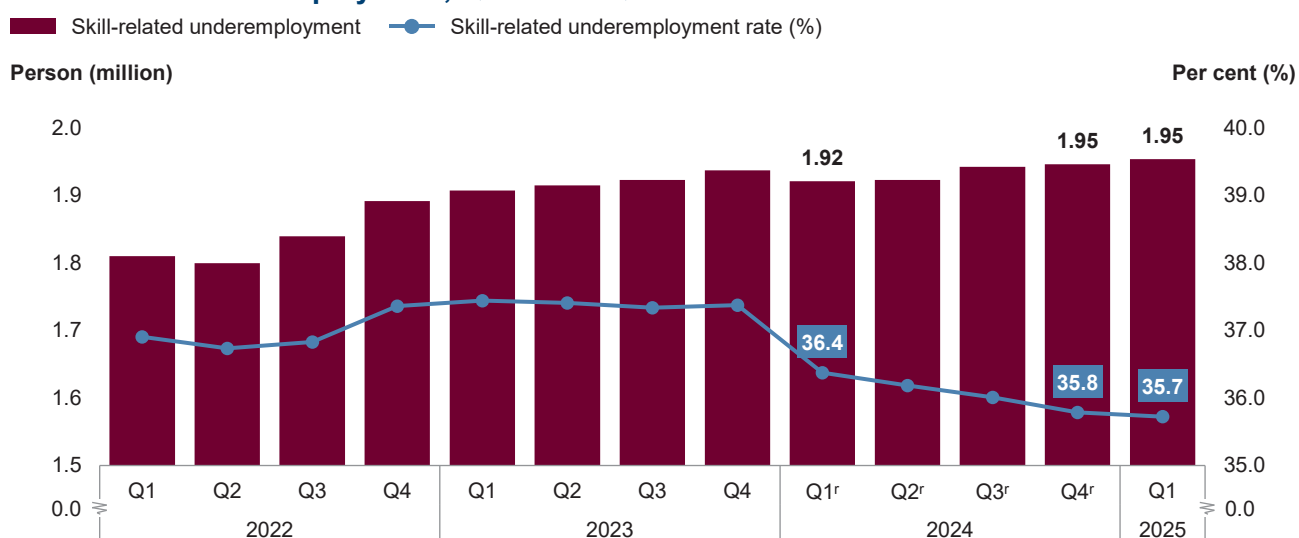
Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM
Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Another dimension of underemployment is associated with skills or generally defined as those who want to change their current employment situation in order to fully utilise their occupational skills. Given data availability from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), this indicator is measured using proxy variables of occupation and educational attainment. As of Q1 2025, the number of persons in skill-related underemployment increased by 1.7 per cent (+32.9 thousand persons) year-on-year, to record 1.95 million persons. However, the share of tertiary-educated employed persons working in semi-skilled and low-skilled occupations continued to trend downward by 0.7 percentage points to 35.7 per cent.

Likewise, a comparison from Q4 2024 showed that those in skill-related underemployment posted a decline by 0.4 per cent (-7.4 thousand persons), while the rate reduced to 0.1 percentage points [Chart 2.15 & 2.16].

Chart 2.15:

Skill-related underemployment, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025

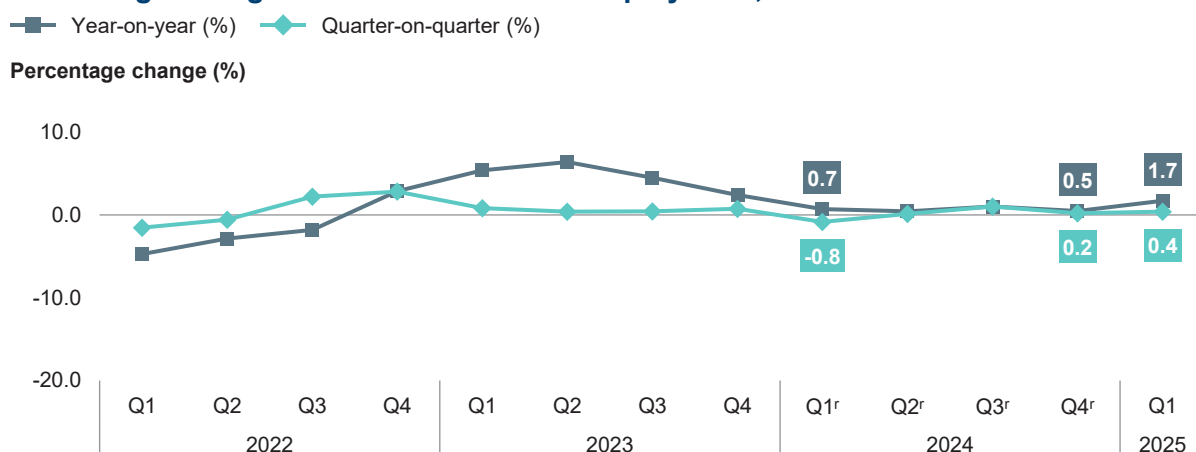


Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Chart 2.16:

Percentage change of skill-related underemployment, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



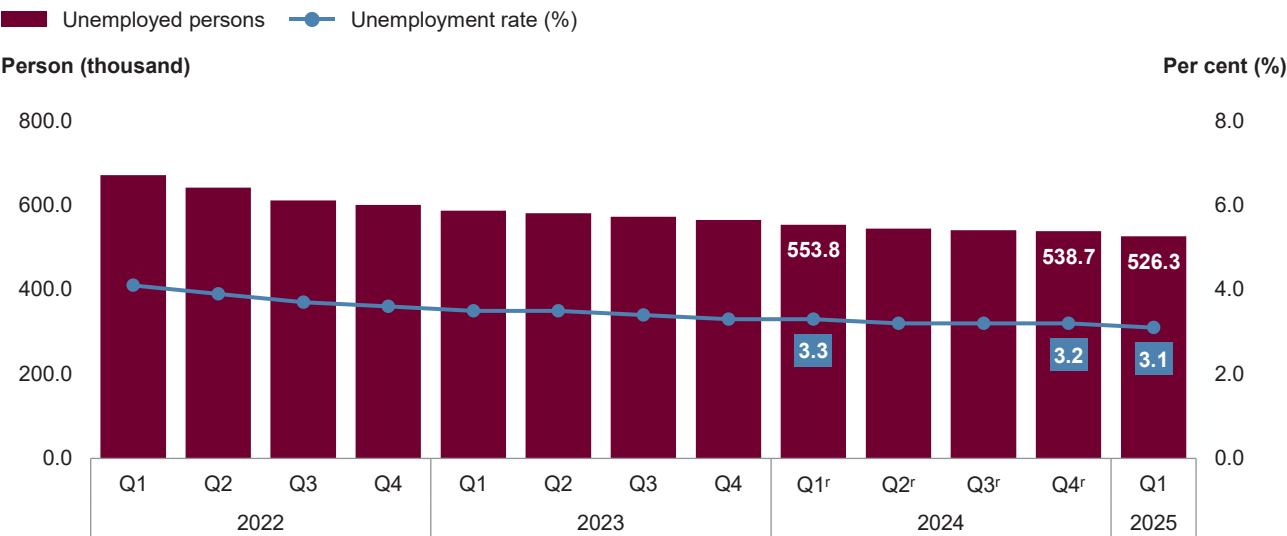
Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

2.4 National Unemployment Situation

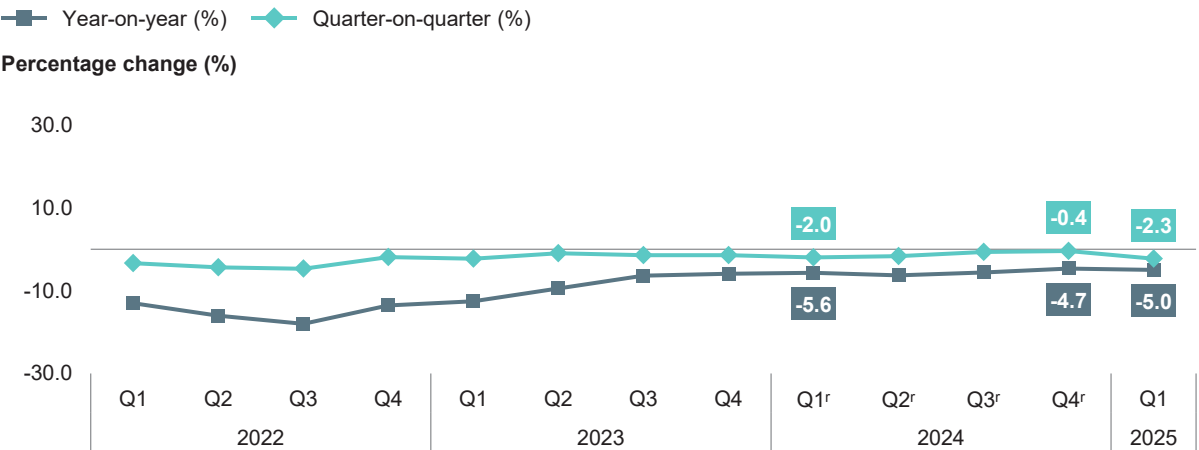
In Q1 2025, the number of unemployed persons declined 5.0 per cent (-27.5 thousand persons) from the same quarter in the previous year to 526.3 thousand persons. Therefore, the national unemployment rate stood at 3.1 per cent, after registering a year-on-year decrease of 0.2 percentage points. The same trend persisted from the previous quarter, where the number of unemployed persons decreased by 2.3 per cent (-12.4 thousand persons), while the unemployment rate edged down slightly from 3.2 per cent in the preceding quarter [Chart 2.17 & 2.18].

Chart 2.17:
Unemployed persons and unemployment rate, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM
Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Chart 2.18:
Percentage change of unemployed persons, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM
Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

In Q1 2025, most unemployed persons were in urban areas, making up 72.4 per cent of total unemployment, while rural areas accounted for 27.6 per cent. Compared to the same period last year, the number of unemployed persons dropped in both areas. Urban unemployment decreased by 2.2 per cent (-8.4 thousand persons) to 380.8 thousand people, with the unemployment rate at 2.9 per cent. In rural areas, unemployment fell by 11.6 per cent

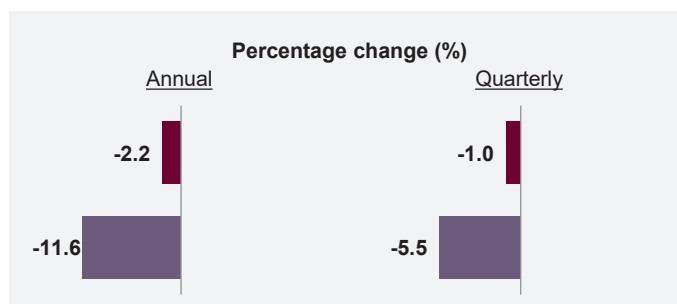
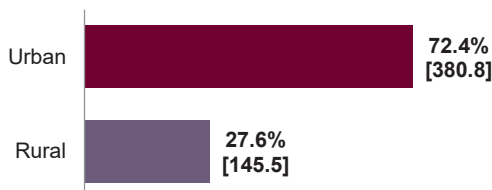
(-19.0 thousand persons) to 145.5 thousand people, and the unemployment rate declined to 3.8 per cent. On a quarter-to-quarter basis, the number of unemployed also went down by 1.0 per cent (-3.9 thousand persons) in urban areas and 5.6 per cent (-8.6 thousand persons) in rural area **[Chart 2.19]**.

Chart 2.19:

Distribution and percentage change of unemployed persons by strata, Q1 2025

■ Urban ■ Rural

Percentage share (%)
[Person (thousand)]



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

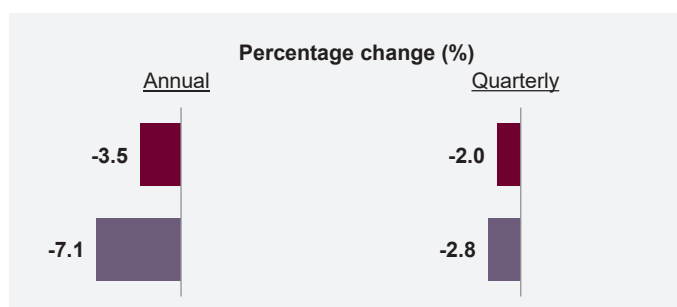
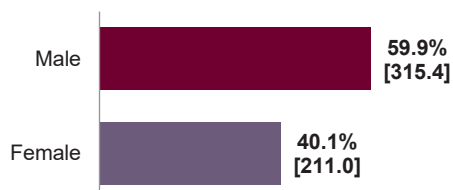
Male unemployed made up more than half (59.9%) of total unemployment as opposed to 40.1 per cent of female unemployed. The year-on-year decline in unemployment during Q1 2025 was constituted by both male and female, with the number of male unemployed persons dropped 3.5 per cent (-11.3 thousand persons) compared to the same quarter of 2024, which accounted for 315.4 thousand persons. In the meantime, female unemployed decreased by 7.1 per cent year on-year (-16.2 thousand persons) to 211.0 thousand persons. Both male and female registered modest declines of 2.0 per cent (-6.4 thousand persons) and 2.8 per cent (-6.0 thousand persons) as compared to the previous quarter respectively **[Chart 2.20]**.

Chart 2.20:

Distribution and percentage change of unemployed persons by sex, Q1 2025

■ Male ■ Female

Percentage share (%)
[Person (thousand)]



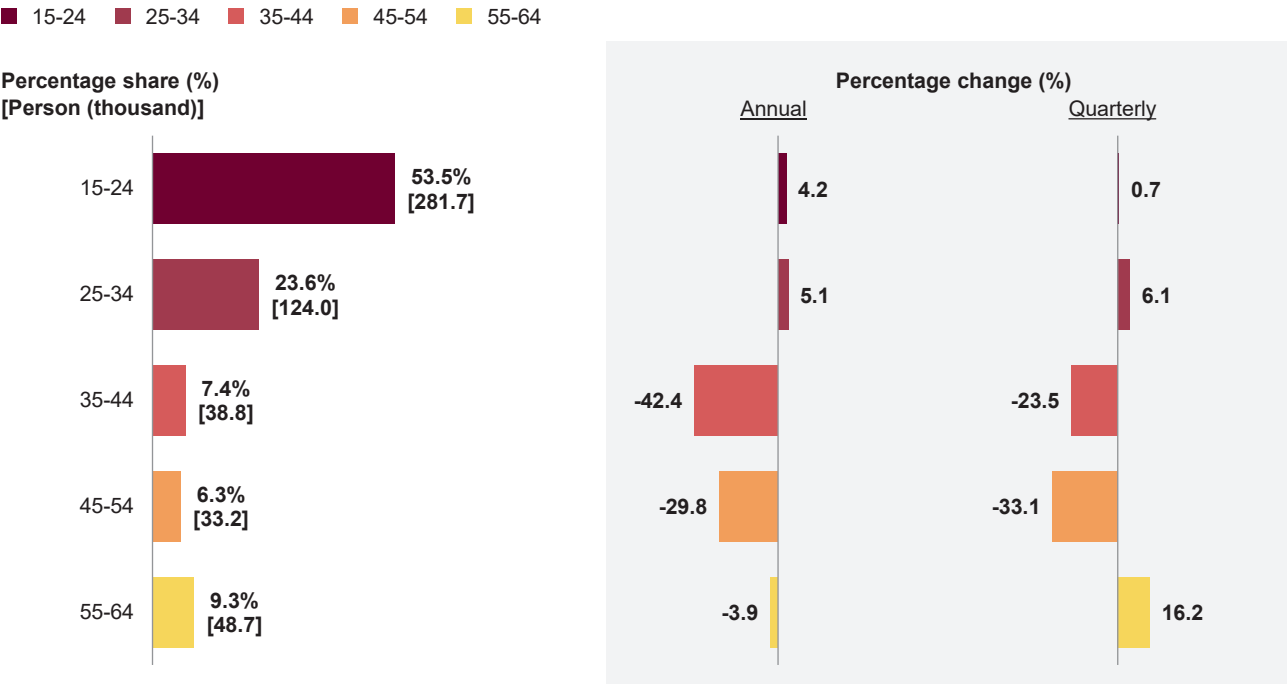
Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

Unemployment was concentrated mainly in the youth age group of 15 to 24 years, comprising a share of 53.5 per cent or equivalent to 281.7 thousand persons, during Q1 2025, followed by 23.6 per cent or 124.0 thousand persons in the age group of 25 to 34 years. These two groups combined comprised more than 70 per cent of unemployment, which was observed in younger age groups. In the meantime, the unemployed aged 45 to 54 years recorded the lowest share of 6.3 per cent or 33.2 thousand persons during the quarter.

In comparison to the same quarter a year ago, three age groups recorded a year-on-year decline in the number of unemployed persons. The most significant decrease was observed in the age group of 35 to 44 years which dropped by 42.4 per cent (-28.6 thousand persons),

followed by a decline of 29.8 per cent (-14.1 thousand persons) in the 45 to 54 years age group, and a reduction of 3.9 per cent (-2.0 thousand persons) among those aged 55 to 64 years during Q1 2025. During the same period, the younger age groups of 15 to 24 and 25 to 34 years saw an upsurge in the number of unemployed persons, which rose by 4.2 per cent (+11.3 thousand persons) and 5.1 per cent (+6.0 thousand persons) respectively. As compared to the previous quarter, a decrease was observed in the number of unemployed persons for the age groups of 35 to 44 and 45 to 54 years, while three other age groups recorded positive quarter-on-quarter growth [Chart 2.21].

Chart 2.21:
Distribution and percentage change of unemployed persons by age group, Q1 2025



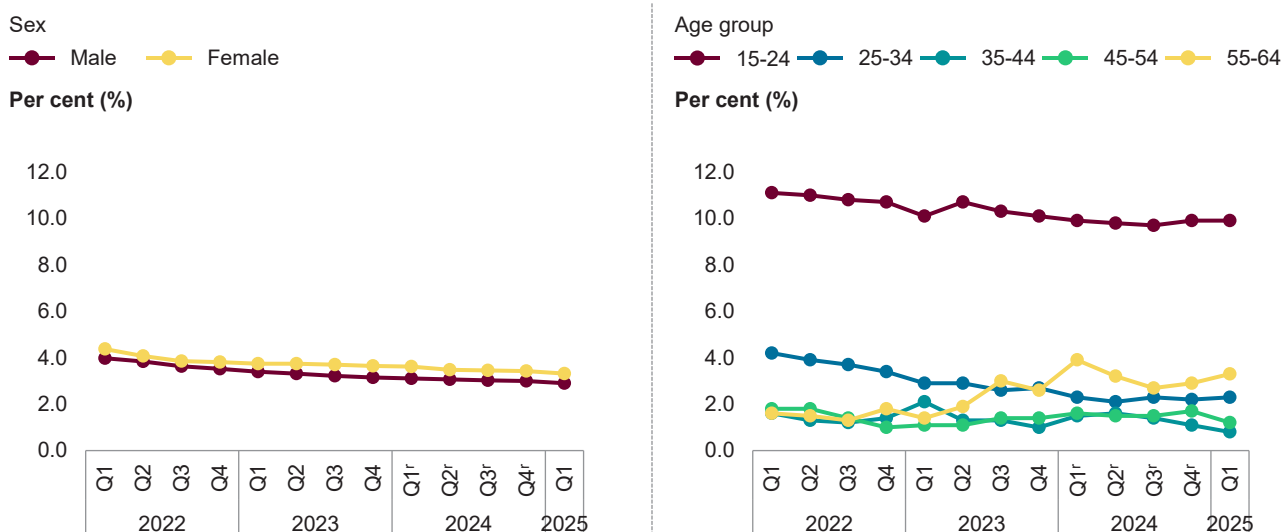
Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

Although there was more unemployed male compared to female, the unemployment rate of female was higher than male. In Q1 2025, the female unemployment rate stood at 3.3 per cent, 0.4 percentage points higher than the male unemployment rate at 2.9 per cent. Both registered lower rates as against the same quarter in the previous year, as the male unemployment rate fell 0.2 percentage points while female unemployment rate dropped 0.3 percentage points. Compared to the previous quarter, the unemployment rate for both male and female decreased 0.1 percentage points.

Across all age groups, the unemployment rate during Q1 2025 decreased except for those aged 15 to 24 and 25 to 34 years, who remained unchanged compared to the same quarter of 2024 recording rates of 9.9 per cent and 2.3 per cent respectively. The age groups of 35 to 44 and 55 to 64 years experienced the largest drops in unemployment rates over the past year. The unemployment rate for those aged 35 to 44 years fell from 1.5 per cent to 0.8 per cent, while the 55 to 64 years age group saw a decrease from 3.9 per cent to 3.3 per cent during this quarter. In the meantime, the unemployment rate for youth aged 15 to 24 was at 9.9 per cent remained unchanged on both annual and quarterly basis [Chart 2.22].

Chart 2.22:

Unemployment rate by sex and age group, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



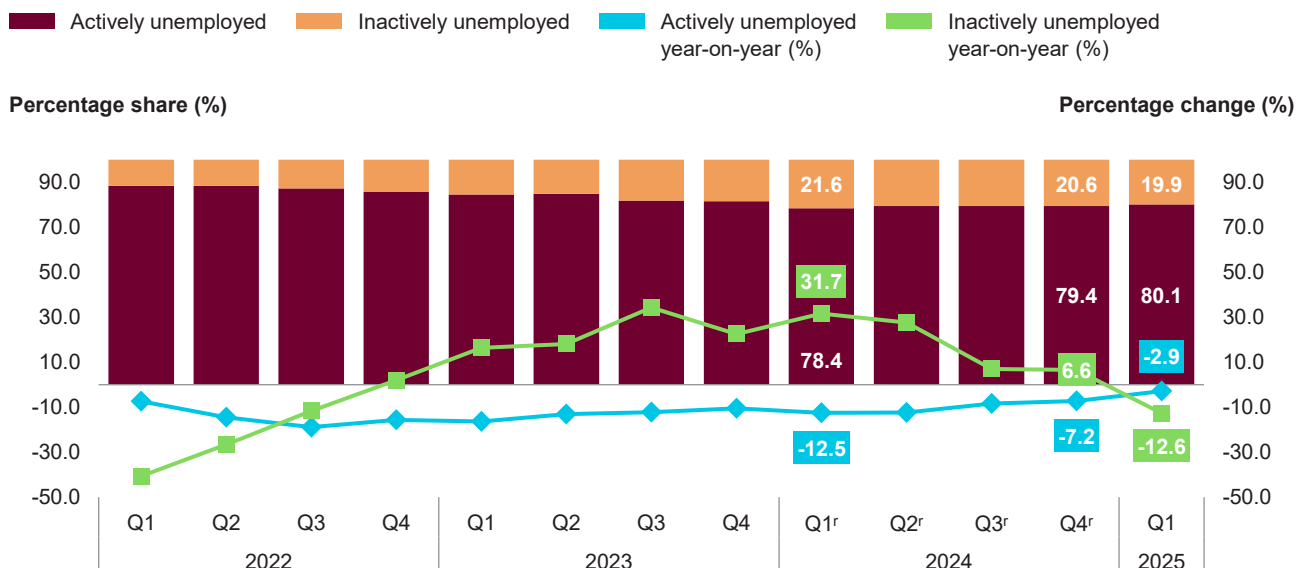
Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

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

Overall, actively unemployed made up nearly 90 per cent of total unemployment in Malaysia. In Q1 2025, the share was 80.1 per cent which was equivalent to 421.5 thousand persons. This category experienced a decline of 2.9 per cent (-12.4 thousand persons) as against the same quarter of the previous year. Meanwhile, the number of inactively unemployed recorded a decrease of 12.6 per cent (-15.1 thousand persons) to 104.8 thousand persons [Chart 2.23].

Chart 2.23:

Distribution and percentage change of actively and inactively unemployed, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

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

As for the duration of unemployment, more than half of actively unemployed persons were unemployed for less than three months, with a share of 64.0 per cent or equivalent to 269.9 thousand persons. In the meantime, those in long-term unemployment or were unemployed for more than a year comprised 5.7 per cent or 23.9 thousand persons during Q1 2025. Overall, the number of actively unemployed persons by duration of unemployment recorded a decrease across all categories on both an annual and quarterly basis. This reflects an improvement in unemployment conditions across all durations of unemployment [Chart 2.24].

Chart 2.24:
Distribution and percentage change of actively unemployed by duration of unemployment, Q1 2025

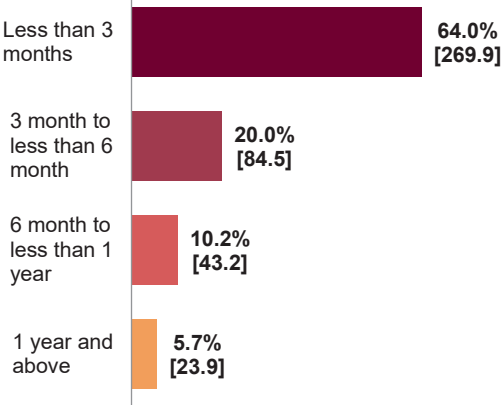
■ Less than 3 months

■ 3 months to less than 6 months

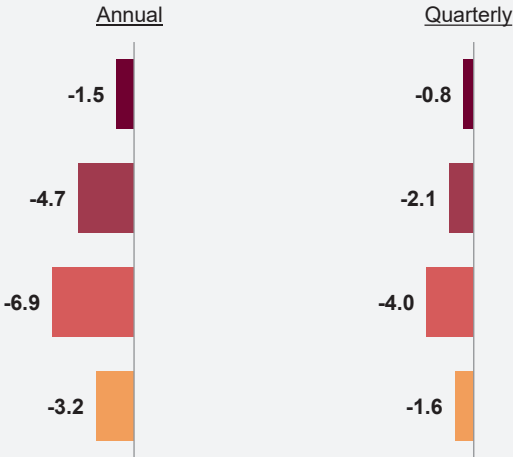
■ 6 months to less than 1 year

■ 1 year and above

Percentage share (%)
 [Person (million)]



Percentage change (%)



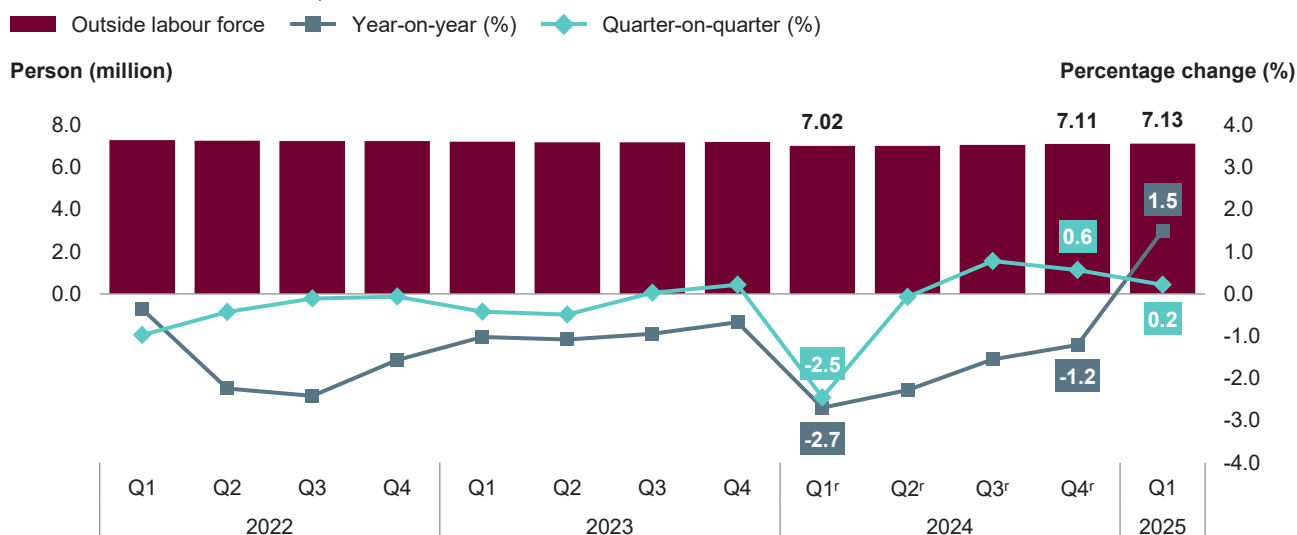
Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

2.5 Outside Labour Force

Moving on to the outside labour force, Q1 2025 recorded an increase of 1.5 per cent (+105.0 thousand persons) to 7.13 million persons as compared to the same quarter of the previous year. On a quarterly basis, the number of outside labour force also rose slightly by 0.2 per cent (+15.4 thousand persons) as compared to the previous quarter [**Chart 2.25**].

Chart 2.25:

Outside Labour Force, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

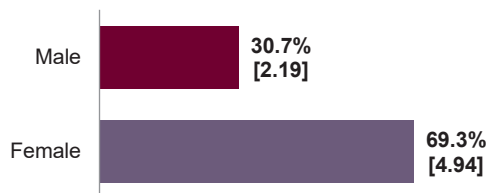
In Q1 2025, the majority of the outside labour force population comprised female who made up 69.3 per cent or 4.94 million persons, while male accounted for 30.7 per cent or 2.19 million persons. Compared to the same quarter of the previous year, the number of males in the outside labour force increased by 1.6 per cent (+33.9 thousand persons), whereas females recorded a growth of 1.5 per cent (+71.1 thousand persons). A similar trend was observed for quarterly changes, where the number of males increased by 0.5 per cent (+11.7 thousand persons), whereas female increased slightly by 0.1 per cent (+3.6 thousand persons) in Q1 2025 [**Chart 2.26**].

Chart 2.26:

Distribution and percentage change of outside labour force by sex, Q1 2025

■ Male ■ Female

Percentage share (%)
[Person (million)]



Percentage change (%)
Annual Quarterly

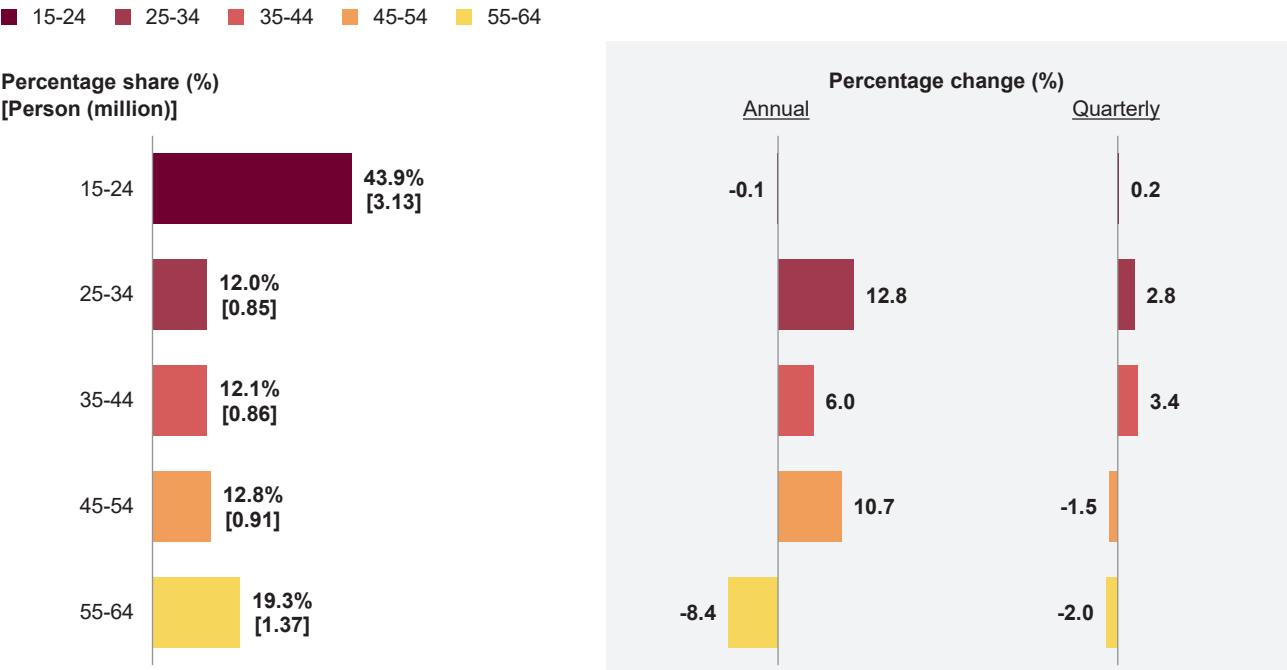


Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

Looking at the distribution of outside labour force by age group during Q1 2025, nearly half was youth aged 15 to 24, with this category encompassing a share of 43.9 per cent or equivalent to 3.13 million persons. In general, this group could be primarily associated with those people who had not yet completed their education or had the training programme. Another significantly large share at 19.3 per cent or 1.37 million persons was in the age group of 55 to 64 years, which may be outside labour force due to retirement or in old age.

All age groups posted a positive year-on-year growth in the number of outside labour force during Q1 2025, except for those aged 15 to 24 and 55 to 64 years, which declined by 0.1 per cent (-2.2 thousand persons) and 8.4 per cent (-126.5 thousand persons) respectively. Three age groups posted year-on-year growth in the number of outside labour force, with the highest increase recorded among those aged 25 to 34 years, at 12.8 per cent (+97.1 thousand persons). This was followed by those aged 45 to 54 years with an increase of 10.7 per cent (+88.0 thousand persons), and those aged 35 to 44 years who recorded a growth of 6.0 per cent (+48.5 thousand persons). However, on a quarter-on-quarter basis, a decline in the number of outside labour force was observed among the older age groups—specifically those aged 45 to 54 years and 55 to 64 years. In contrast, the other three age groups recorded positive quarter-on-quarter growth [Chart 2.27].

Chart2.27:
Distribution and percentage change of outside labour force by age group, Q1 2025

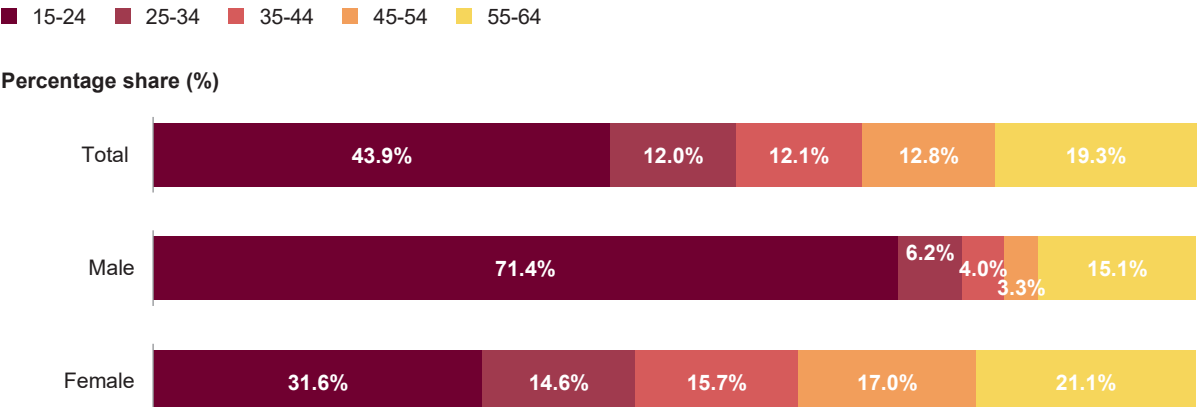


Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

Further analysis by age group revealed distinct patterns between male and female outside labour force. It was interesting to observe that youth aged 15 to 24 made up more than half (71.4%) of the male outside labour force during Q1 2025, followed by 15.1 per cent in the oldest age group of 55 to 64 years. These could suggest that a late entrant of male into the job market were due to educational factors while exit from the job market was predominantly because of retirement.

Likewise, the youth age group exhibited the highest proportion of female outside labour force, which was 31.6 per cent, followed by the oldest age group of 55 to 64 years (21.1%). Nonetheless, the combined share of both at 52.7 per cent was notably lower compared to the share of male in the same age groups (86.5%). This resulted in a significant share of female outside labour force across the other age groups, ranging between 14.6 per cent to 17.0 per cent, hence indicating that female tend to leave the job market earlier compared to male [Chart 2.28].

Chart 2.28:
Distribution of outside labour force by sex and age group, Q1 2025









Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

Among outside labour force, the largest composition of 44.2 per cent did not seek work during Q1 2025 primarily due to housework or family responsibility. The number in this category experienced an increase of 2.7 per cent year-on-year (+84.0 thousand persons) to record 3.15 million persons. Another fairly significant portion of 41.6 per cent or equivalent to 2.96 million persons was outside labour force due to schooling or training programs. As compared to the same quarter in 2024, the number in this category rose by 2.5 per cent (+73.0 thousand persons).

Additionally, a share of 1.6 per cent outside labour force who did not seek work because they were going to further studies increased by 9.2 per cent year-on-year (+9.5 thousand persons) to 113.0 thousand persons, suggesting this group's potential to enter the labour force once completing their education or training programs. The lowest proportion of reasons for not seeking work was due to not interested or just completing a study, which accounted for 1.2 per cent or 82.9 thousand persons in Q1 2025 [Exhibit 2.1].

Exhibit 2.1:

Distribution and percentage change of outside labour force by reason not seeking work, Q1 2025

		Q1 2025	Percentage change (year-on-year)		
		Person ('000)	Percentage change (quarter-on-quarter)		
		(Percentage share)			
Schooling/ training program		2,961.1 (41.6%)	▲ 2.5%		Q1 2024: 2,888.1 (41.1%)
			▲ 0.8%		Q4 2024: 2,938.8 (41.3%)
Housework/ family responsibility		3,152.1 (44.2%)	▲ 2.7%		Q1 2024: 3,068.1 (43.7%)
			▲ 0.6%		Q4 2024: 3,134.2 (44.1%)
Going for further study		113.0 (1.6%)	▲ 9.2%		Q1 2024: 103.5 (1.5%)
			▲ 24.5%		Q4 2024: 90.8 (1.3%)
Disabled		219.6 (3.1%)	▲ 3.0%		Q1 2024: 213.1 (3.0%)
			▼ -2.4%		Q4 2024: 224.9 (3.2%)
Not interested/ just completed study		82.9 (1.2%)	▲ 9.0%		Q1 2024: 76.1 (1.1%)
			▼ -2.5%		Q4 2024: 85.1 (1.2%)
Retired/ old age		597.3 (8.4%)	▼ -11.1%		Q1 2024: 672.2 (9.6%)
			▼ -6.2%		Q4 2024: 636.9 (9.0%)

Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

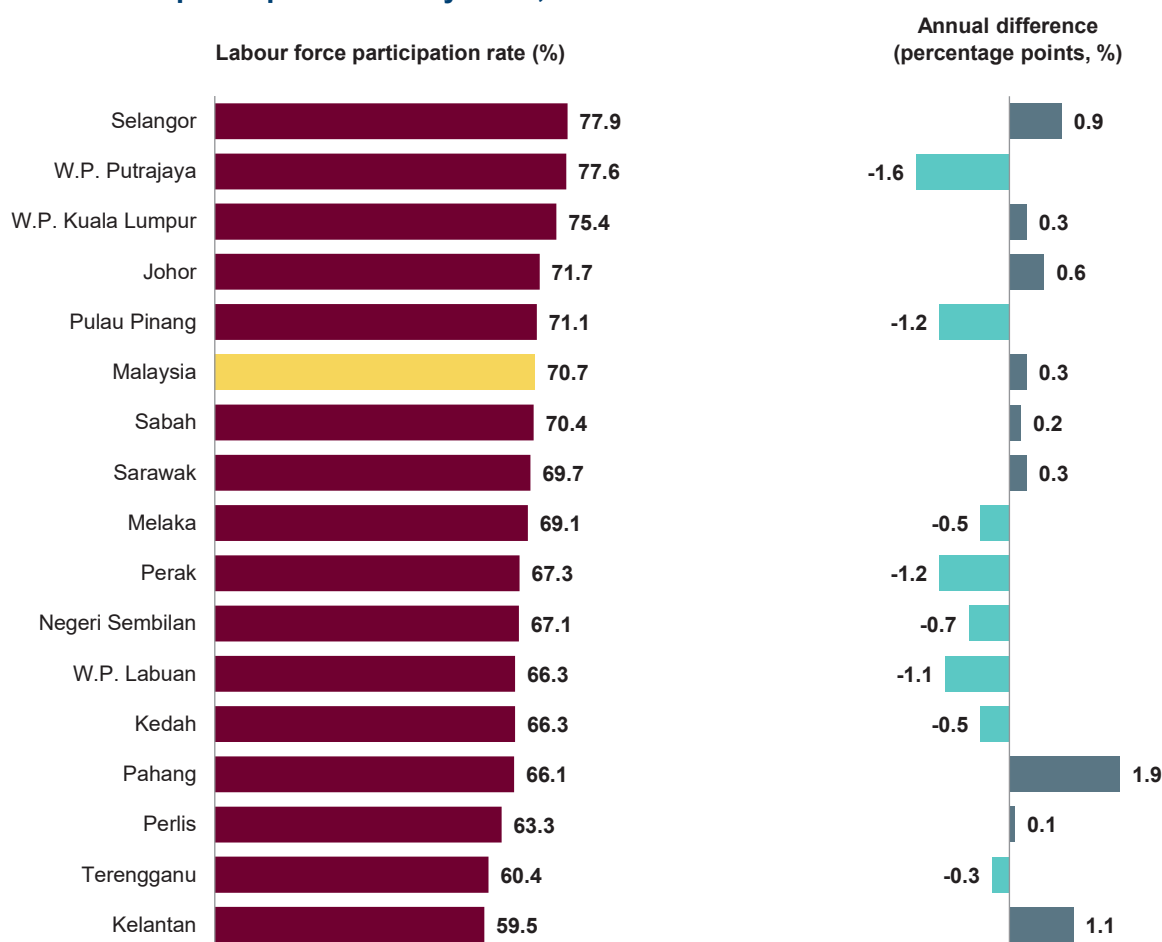
2.6 Labour Force Situation at State Level

Regarding the labour force situation at the state level in Q1 2025, five states registered LFPR higher than 70.7 per cent recorded at the national level, namely Selangor (77.9%), W.P. Putrajaya (77.6%), W.P. Kuala Lumpur (75.4%), Johor (71.7%), dan Pulau Pinang (71.1%).

When compared to the same quarter of the preceding year, most states posted increases in LFPR except for W.P. Putrajaya, Perak, Pulau Pinang, W.P. Labuan, Negeri Sembilan, Melaka, Kedah and Terengganu. In Q1 2025, Pahang registered the highest positive annual difference for LFPR of 2.0 percentage points to 66.1 per cent, while the other states displayed an increment in LFPR ranging between 0.1 and 1.1 percentage points. This trend indicated higher participation of the working-age population in the respective states in the labour market, whether in employment or seeking jobs [Chart 2.29].

Chart 2.29:

Labour force participation rate by state, Q1 2025

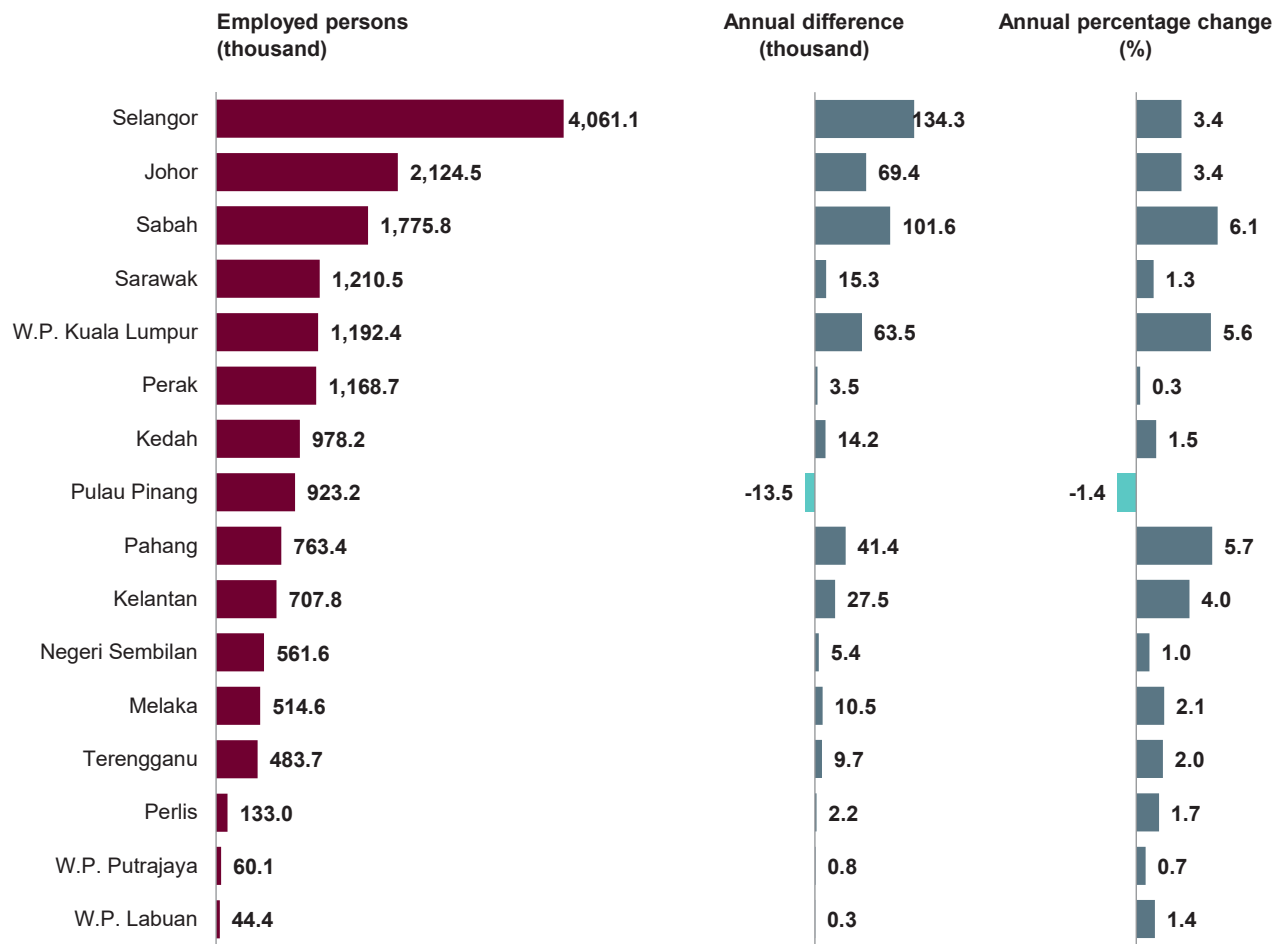


Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

In Q1 2025, total employment in Malaysia grew by 3.0 per cent. The increase in the number of employed persons during the quarter contributed to the positive year-on-year growth recorded by most states except Pulau Pinang. Selangor which comprised 24.3 per cent of the total employment gained the most significant number of employed persons by 3.4 per cent (+134.3 thousand persons) to 4.06 million persons. This was followed by Johor with a share of 12.7 per cent or 2.12 million employed persons after an increase of 3.4 per cent (+69.4 thousand persons) year-on-year.

On the other hand, the number of employed persons in Pulau Pinang which made up 5.5 per cent of the national employment, reduced by 1.4 per cent (-13.5 thousand persons) as against the same quarter last year to record 923.2 thousand persons during Q1 2025 [Chart 2.30].

Chart 2.30:
Employment by state, Q1 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

Looking at the unemployment situation by the state during Q1 2025, the lowest unemployment rate was posted in W.P. Putrajaya at 1.8 per cent. Another state with an unemployment rate below two per cent during the quarter was Pahang and Melaka, which both recorded 1.9 per cent. Besides these three states, seven other states posted low unemployment rates compared to the national rate (3.1%), ranging between 2.2 per cent to 2.9 per cent. Meanwhile, among six states registering an unemployment rate exceeding 3.1 per cent, Sabah remained with the highest unemployment rate at 6.7 per cent despite registering a year-on-year decrease of 1.2 percentage points during the quarter.

Eleven states recorded a decrease in the number of unemployed compared to the same quarter in the preceding year. Perlis recorded the most significant reduction in the number of unemployed persons, lessened by 29.7 per cent (-1.9 thousand persons) to 4.5 thousand persons. Despite the decline in overall unemployment, five states registered increases in the number of unemployed persons as opposed to a year ago. The highest increase was recorded in Pulau Pinang, which grew by 20.5 per cent (+4.1 thousand persons) to 24.1 thousand persons, followed by Kelantan with an increase of 8.8 per cent (+2.5 thousand persons) to record 30.8 thousand unemployed persons in Q1 2025 [Table 2.2].

Table 2.2:

Unemployment by state, Q1 2025

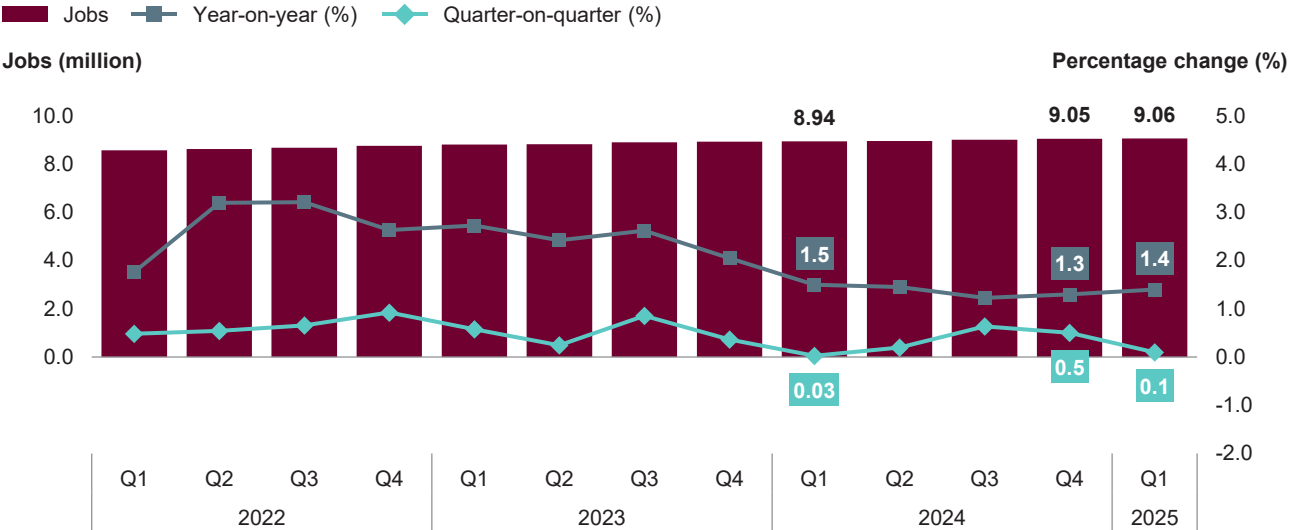
State	Unemployment rate		Unemployed		
	Per cent (%)	Annual percentage point difference (%)	Persons ('000)	Annual percentage change (%)	Annual difference ('000)
Sabah	6.7	-1.3	126.6	-12.4	-17.9
W.P. Labuan	5.0	-1.9	2.3	-29.1	-1.0
Kelantan	4.2	0.2	30.8	9.0	2.5
Sarawak	3.5	-0.05	43.8	-0.2	-0.1
Perlis	3.3	-1.4	4.5	-29.6	1.9
Perak	3.2	-0.3	38.2	-8.4	-3.5
Malaysia	3.1	-0.2	526.3	-5.0	-27.5
Terengganu	2.9	-0.9	14.6	-22.8	-4.3
Negeri Sembilan	2.8	0.02	16.3	1.8	0.3
W.P. Kuala Lumpur	2.7	-0.3	33.4	-6.6	-2.4
Pulau Pinang	2.5	0.4	24.1	20.2	4.1
Kedah	2.5	-0.2	25.1	-6.4	-1.7
Johor	2.3	0.1	49.9	7.2	3.4
Selangor	2.2	-0.2	90.4	-4.2	-3.9
Pahang	1.9	-0.2	15.2	-5.7	-0.9
Melaka	1.9	-0.1	9.9	-1.3	-0.1
W.P. Putrajaya	1.8	-0.01	1.1	0.9	0.01

Source: Labour Force Report, Q1 2025, DOSM

3.1 Jobs in the Economic Sector

Labour demand recorded the highest number compared to the previous quarter. During Q1 2025, labour demand continued its upward trend, with job numbers in the economic sector rising by 1.4 per cent (+127.0 thousand) year-on-year, to register a total of 9.06 million jobs. On a quarterly basis, job numbers grew modestly by 0.1 per cent (+10.2 thousand), indicating stability in the growth of labour demand throughout the quarter **[Chart 3.1]**.

Chart 3.1:
Number and percentage change of jobs, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

In Q1 2025, the number of filled jobs rose by 1.4 per cent (+124.8 thousand) year-on-year to 8.87 million filled jobs. This figure also shows an increase of 0.1 per cent (+9.7 thousand) on a quarter on-quarter basis compared to the previous quarter.

As for job openings in the economy, the number of vacancies climbed by 1.2 per cent (+2.2 thousand) year-on-year, totalling 194.1 thousand in Q1 2025. In addition, job vacancies increased marginally by 0.3 per cent (+0.5 thousand) compared to the previous quarter.

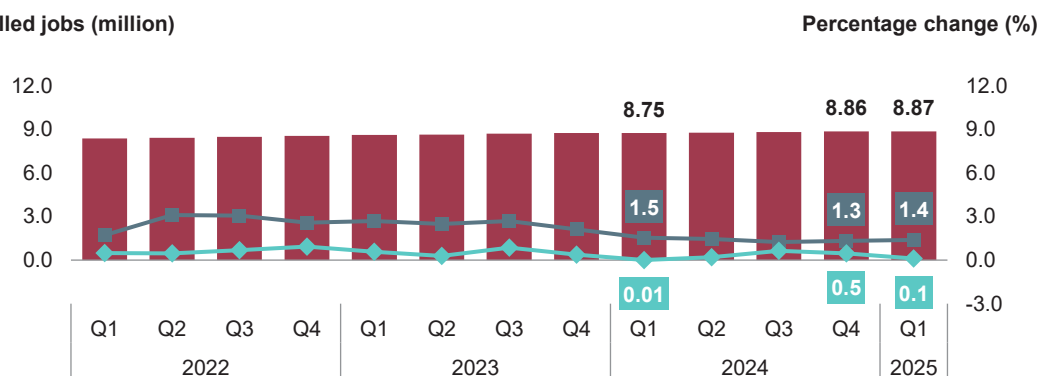
The rate of filled jobs reached 97.9 per cent in Q1 2025 and remained the same percentage year-on-year and remaining stable from the previous quarter. Similarly, the rate of vacancies to total jobs decreased by 0.01 percentage points during the quarter, settling at 2.1 per cent **[Chart 3.2]**.

Chart 3.2:

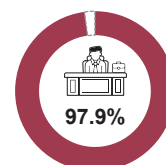
Number, percentage change and rate of filled jobs & vacancies, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025

Filled jobs Vacancies Year-on-year (%) Quarter-on-quarter (%)

Filled jobs (million)

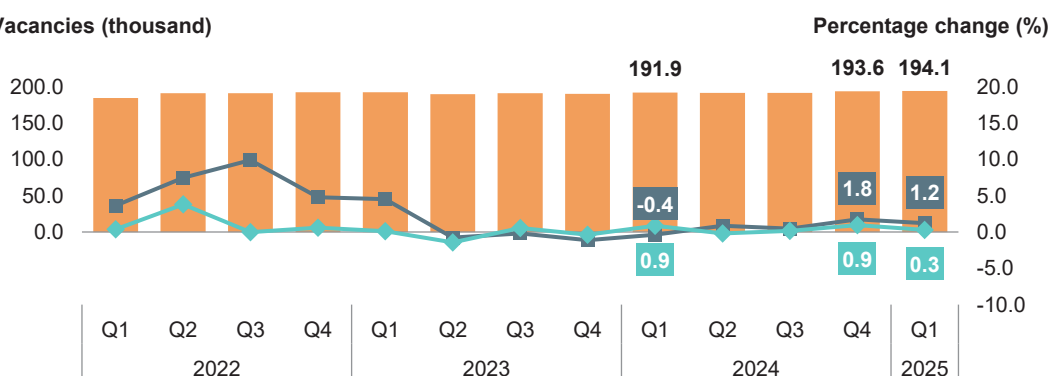


Rate of filled jobs

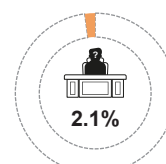


Q1 2025

Vacancies (thousand)



Rate of vacancies



Q1 2025

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

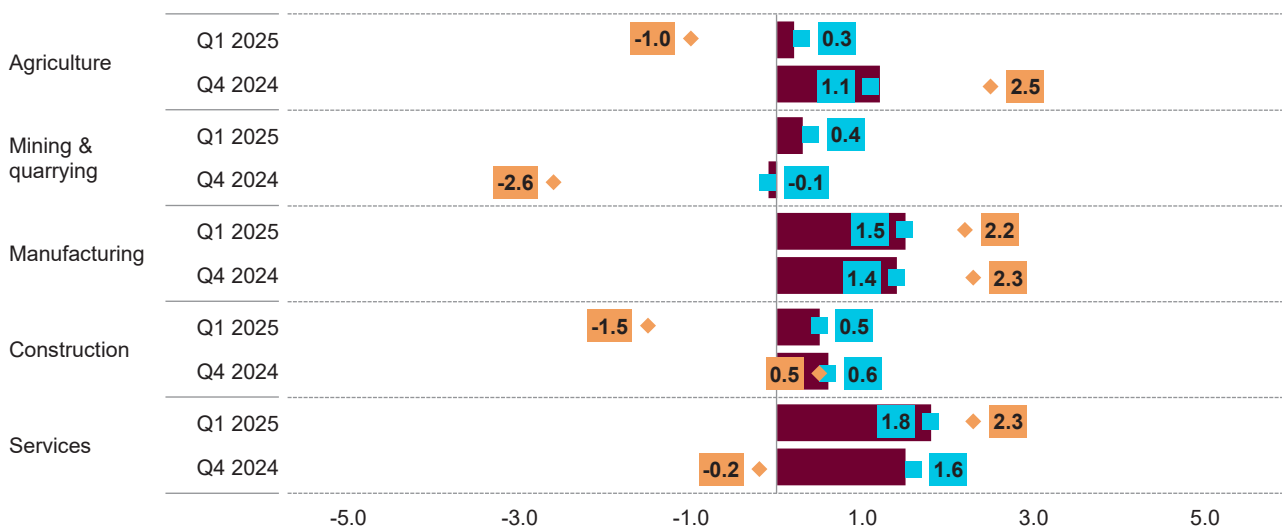
A closer analysis by economic sector shows that the positive annual growth was driven by an increase in job numbers and filled jobs across all sectors. The favourable trend of labour demand was reflected through the increased number of vacancies for all sectors except Agriculture, Mining & Quarrying and Construction sectors [Chart 3.3].

Chart 3.3:

Annual percentage change of jobs, filled jobs & vacancies by economic sector, Q4 2024 & Q1 2025

Jobs Filled jobs Vacancies

Percentage change (%)



Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

In Q1 2025, most of the jobs were concentrated in the Services sector, accounting for 52.0 per cent or 4.72 million jobs, marking a year-on-year growth of 1.8 per cent (+81.7 thousand). This growth was primarily driven by an increase in jobs across all sub-sectors, particularly in Wholesale & retail trade which rose by 2.9 per cent (+50.0 thousand). Within the Services sector, over 70 per cent of jobs were concentrated in three sub-sectors, Wholesale & Retail Trade (37.3%), Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Business Services (20.0%), and Food & Beverages and Accommodation (17.2%).

Out of total jobs in the Services sector, filled jobs encompassed 99.5 per cent or equivalent to 4.70 million filled jobs after registering an annual increase of 1.8 per cent (+81.2 thousand) in Q1 2025. All sub-sectors recorded rates above 99.0 per cent, with Food & Beverages and Accommodation posting the highest rate (99.8%), while the lowest rate was in Finance, insurance, real estate & business services sub-sector (99.0%). Job vacancies for the Services sector comprised 0.5 per cent of total jobs in Services sector or 25.2 thousand vacancies, indicating an increase of 2.3 per cent (+0.6 thousand) compared to the same quarter last year. Most vacancies were found in the Wholesale & Retail Trade (37.5%) and Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Business Services (37.4%) sub-sectors.

In the meantime, jobs in the Manufacturing sector, encompassing 27.5 per cent or 2.49 million of jobs, ranked second after the Services sector. This sector posted a year-on-year increase of 1.5 per cent (+37.4 thousand) in Q1 2025, followed by positive growth in all sub-sectors. The largest job growth in Manufacturing occurred in Food Processing, Beverages & Tobacco Products sub-sector with an increase of 3.4 per cent (+11.7 thousand) annually. Key sub-sectors in Manufacturing included Electrical, Electronic & Optical Products (26.0%), Petroleum, Chemical, Rubber & Plastic Products (18.4%), and Non-Metallic Mineral Products, Basic Metal & Fabricated Metal Products (15.5%), collectively contributing nearly two-thirds of the sector's jobs.

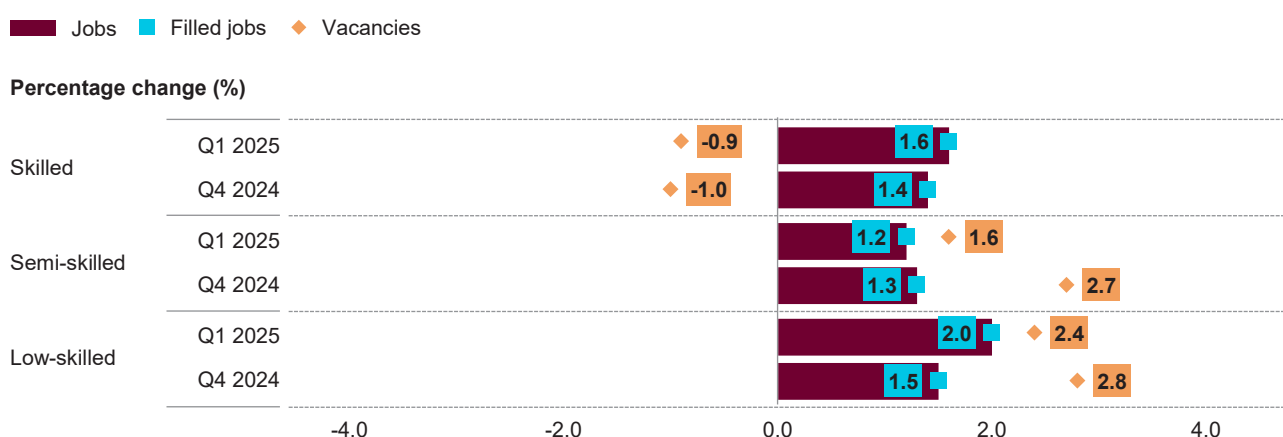
The rate of filled jobs for the Manufacturing sector remained at 95.5 per cent as compared to the same quarter of the preceding year. During the same period, this number went up by 1.5 per cent (+35.0 thousand) to record 2.38 million filled jobs. Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products sub-sector registered the highest rate of filled jobs at 96.5 per cent, whereas Electrical, electronic & optical products sub-sector had the lowest rate at 94.8 per cent. Job vacancies in the Manufacturing sector accounted for 111.2 thousand, comprising 4.5 per cent of the Manufacturing sector's jobs. The number of vacancies in this sector grew marginally by 2.2 per cent (+2.4 thousand) as all sub-sectors observed an increase in job vacancies except for Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products (-1.0%; -0.03 thousand) sub-sectors. Most job vacancies were concentrated in two sub-sectors, namely the Electrical, electronic & optical products sub-sector (30.5%) and Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products (18.2%).

Jobs in the Construction sector made up 14.0 per cent of total jobs in Q1 2025, which increased by 0.5 per cent (+6.4 thousand) to record 1.27 million jobs compared to the same quarter in the previous year. The rate of filled jobs in this sector was 98.0 per cent, while the rate of vacancies was 2.0 per cent during the quarter. Additionally, jobs in the Agriculture sector comprised 5.5 per cent or 500.5 thousand jobs in Q1 2025, while the Mining & quarrying sector made up the lowest share at 0.9 per cent

or equivalent to 80.8 thousand jobs. These sectors saw an increase of 0.2 per cent (+1.1 thousand) and an increase of 0.3 per cent (+0.3 thousand) as compared to Q1 2024 respectively. The Mining & quarrying sector consistently recorded the second highest rate of filled jobs at 99.4 per cent, indicating the second lowest number of vacancies during the quarter. In contrast, the Agriculture sector registered a filled jobs rate of 93.7 per cent, showing the highest vacancy rate of 6.3 per cent in Q1 2025 [Chart 3.4].

Chart 3.4:

Percentage share of jobs, filled jobs & vacancies and rate of filled jobs & vacancies by economic sector, Q1 2025

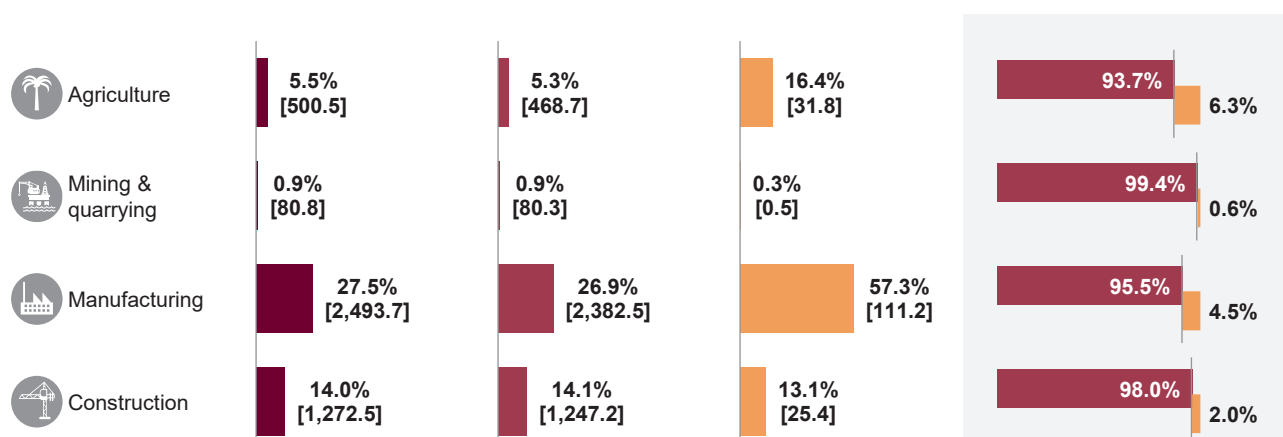


Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Regarding labour demand by skill level in Q1 2025, the number of jobs in all skill categories increased compared to the previous year. The same phenomenon occurred in the number of filled positions, showing an increase across all skill categories [Chart 3.5].

Chart 3.5:

Annual percentage change of jobs, filled jobs & vacancies by skill level, Q4 2024 & Q1 2025



Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

The majority of jobs in the economic sector were in the semi-skilled category, with a share of 62.4 per cent or equivalent to 5.66 million jobs in Q1 2025. Five occupations in this category consist of Clerical support workers; Service and sales workers; Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock and fisheries workers; Craft and related trades workers; and Plant and machine operators and assembler. As compared to the same quarter of the preceding year, jobs in this category grew by 1.2 per cent (+69.8 thousand). Therefore, the rate of filled jobs in the semi-skilled category was 98.1 per cent or accounted for 5.55 million filled jobs, representing an increase of 1.2 per cent (+68.0 thousand) year-on-year. During the same period, the number of job vacancies in this category remained as 1.6 per cent (+1.8 thousand) to record 109.2 thousand vacancies with a vacancy rate of 1.9 per cent.

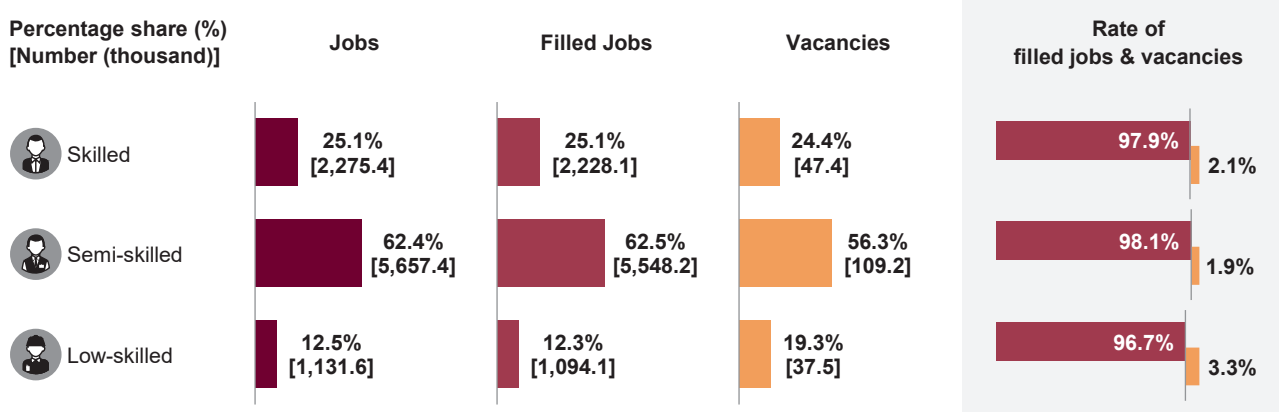
The skilled jobs comprised a share of 25.1 per cent in Q1 2025, encompassing three occupation categories namely Managers; Professionals; and Technicians and associates professional. The number of skilled jobs grew 1.6 per cent (+35.3 thousand) year-on-year to 2.28 million during the quarter. Therefore, the number of filled jobs in the skilled category edged up by 1.6 per cent (+35.8 thousand) to record 2.23 million filled jobs. However, the skilled job vacancies declined by 0.9 per cent (-0.4 thousand), registering 47.4 thousand vacancies. The rate of filled jobs in the skilled category was 97.9 per cent, while the rate of vacancies was 2.1 per cent.

Nevertheless, the remaining 12.5 per cent of jobs were in the low-skilled category, which increased by 2.0 per cent (+21.9 thousand) to 1.13 million jobs. In line with this, the number of low-skilled filled jobs rose by 2.0 per cent (+21.0 thousand) to 1.09 million, reflecting a filled job rate of 96.7 per cent in Q1 2025. Additionally, low-skilled job vacancies increased by 2.4 per cent (+0.9 thousand) to 37.5 thousand, indicating a vacancy rate of 3.3 per cent [Chart 3.6].

Chart 3.6:

Percentage share of jobs, filled jobs & vacancies and rate of filled jobs & vacancies by skill level, Q1 2025

■ Jobs ■ Filled jobs ■ Vacancies



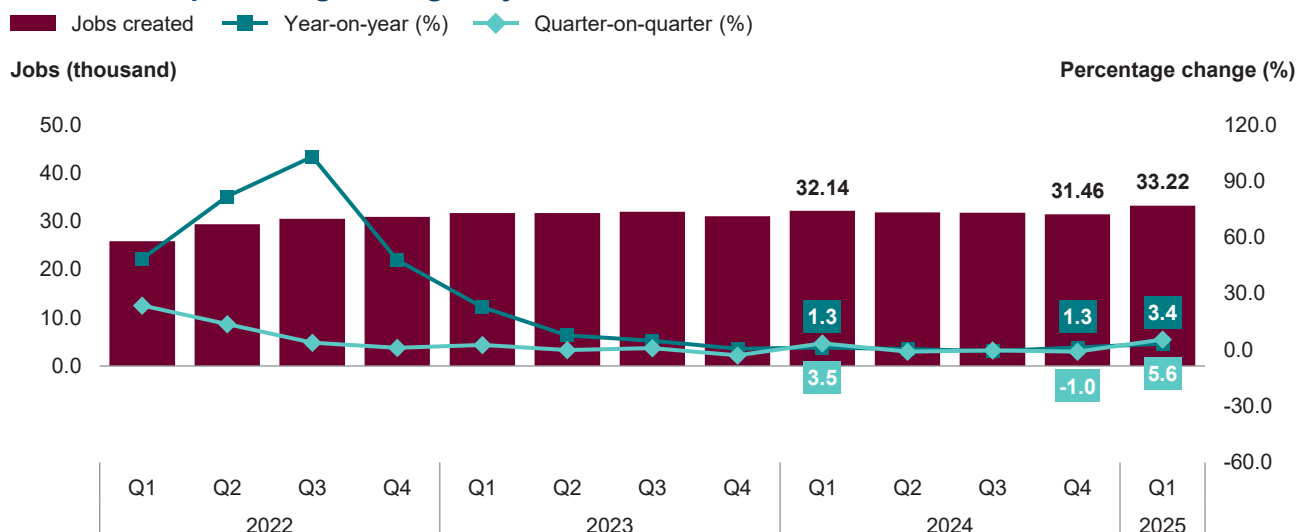
Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

3.2 Jobs Creation

In Q1 2025, the number of jobs created in the economic sector rose marginally by 3.4 per cent (+1.1 thousand) year-on-year, compared to 1.3 per cent recorded in the previous quarter. The total number of jobs created stood at 33.2 thousand. In the meantime, jobs created registered a quarterly positive growth of 5.6 per cent (+1.8 thousand) from 31.5 thousand during Q4 2024 [Chart 3.7].

Chart 3.7:

Number and percentage change of jobs created, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



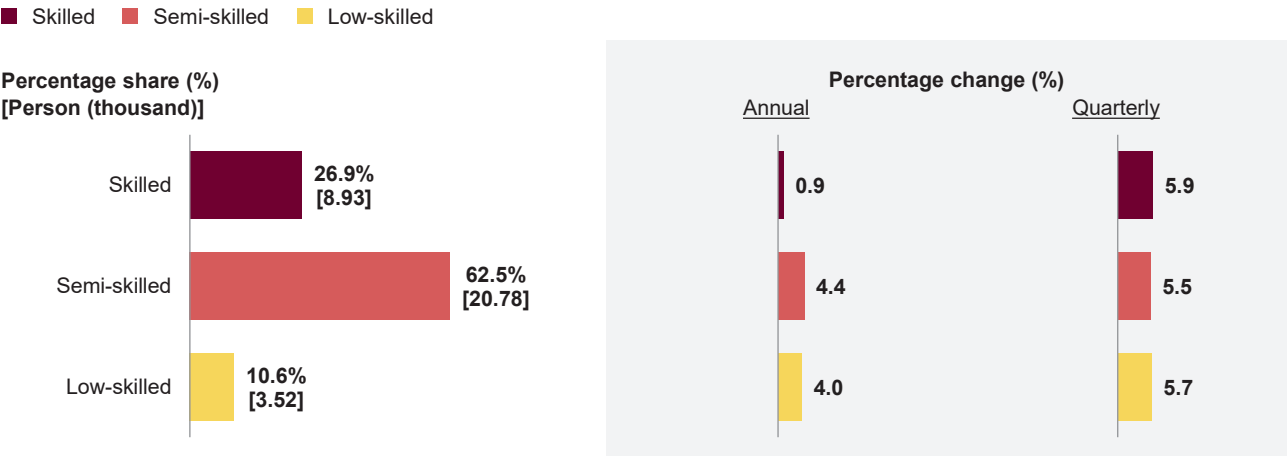
Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Job creation was largely in the Services sector, encompassing 48.1 per cent or equivalent to 16.0 thousand jobs, registering a rise of 0.3 per cent (+0.1 thousand) in Q1 2025. Within this sector, the Wholesale & retail trade sub-sector played a significant role by contributing 8.8 thousand jobs created, followed by the Finance, insurance, real estate & business services sub-sector with 2.8 thousand jobs.

The Manufacturing sector ranked second with a share of 36.5 per cent of total jobs created in Q1 2025, grew by 13.1 per cent (+1.4 thousand) to register 12.1 thousand jobs created. A combined share of two sub-sectors comprised over half of jobs created in the Manufacturing sector were Electrical, electronic & optical products (34.9%) and Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products (25.9%) sub-sectors.

Furthermore, there was an increase of 11.8 per cent in jobs created for the Mining & quarrying sector recording 0.2 thousand jobs created. However, the Agriculture sector comprised 3.9 per cent of jobs created during the quarter, equivalent to 1.3 thousand jobs, posting a drop of 11.4 per cent (-0.2 thousand) as against the same quarter of the preceding year. During the same period, the Construction sector, which contributed 10.8 per cent, also recorded a decline of 6.1 per cent (-0.2 thousand). Compared to the previous quarter, the number of jobs created observed a positive growth for all economic sectors [Chart 3.8].

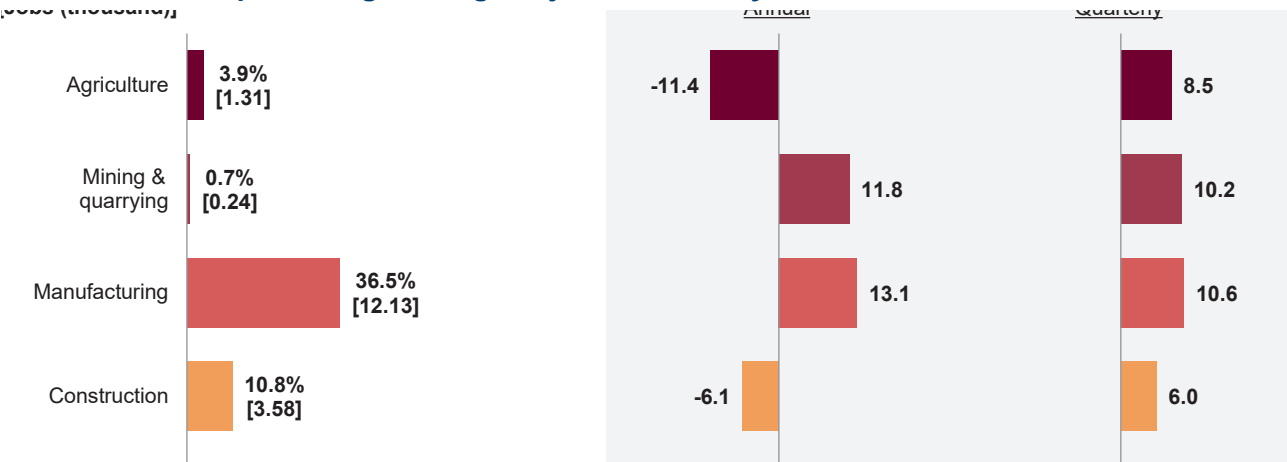
Chart 3.8:
Distribution and percentage change of jobs created by economic sector, Q1 2025



Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Looking at the jobs created by skill level, more than half or 62.5 per cent of total jobs created in Q1 2025 were concentrated in the semi-skilled category, which accounted for 20.8 thousand jobs. In terms of annual change, the number of jobs created in this category increased 4.4 per cent (+0.9 thousand). The skilled category ranked second with a composition of nearly one-third (26.9%) of total job creation during the quarter, registering a positive annual growth of 0.9 per cent (+0.1 thousand) to 8.9 thousand jobs created. Meanwhile, jobs created in the low-skilled category which contributed 10.6 per cent of all jobs created, increased by 4.0 per cent (+0.1 thousand) to record 3.5 thousand jobs in Q1 2025 [Chart 3.9].

Chart 3.9:
Distribution and percentage change of jobs created by skill level, Q1 2025



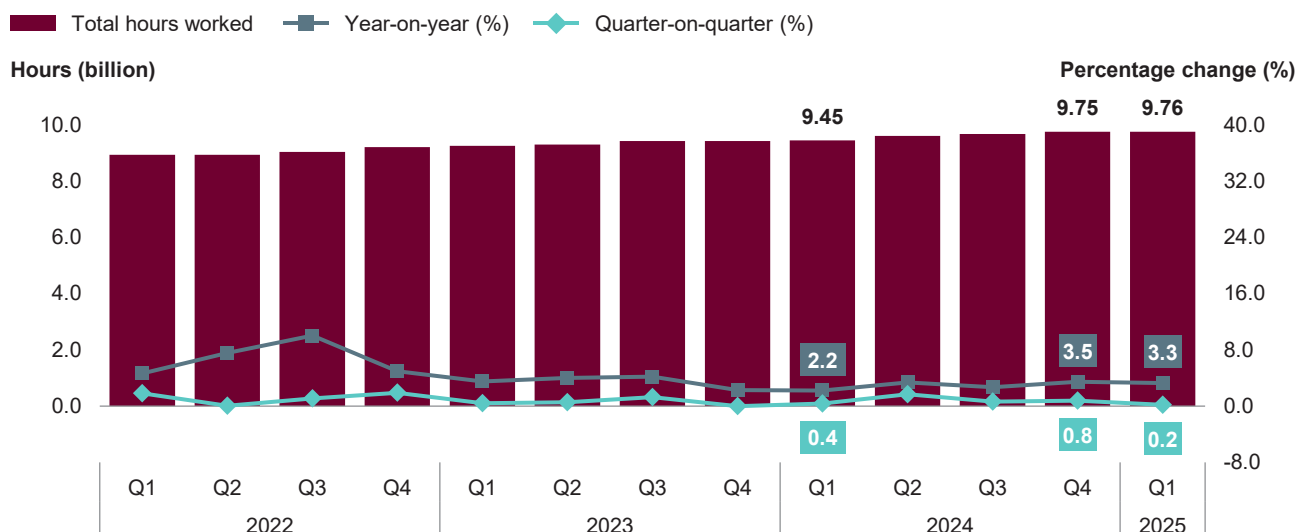
Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

4.1 Labour Productivity per Hour Worked

During Q1 2025, Malaysia's economy continues to grow 4.4 per cent year-on-year as compared to 4.2 per cent in the same quarter of the previous year. This economic growth was accompanied by an increase in total hours worked, which rose by 3.3 per cent to 9.76 billion hours. On a quarterly basis, total hours worked edged up by 0.2 per cent, following a 0.8 per cent increase in Q4 2024 [**Chart 4.1**].

Chart 4.1:

Total hours worked, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025

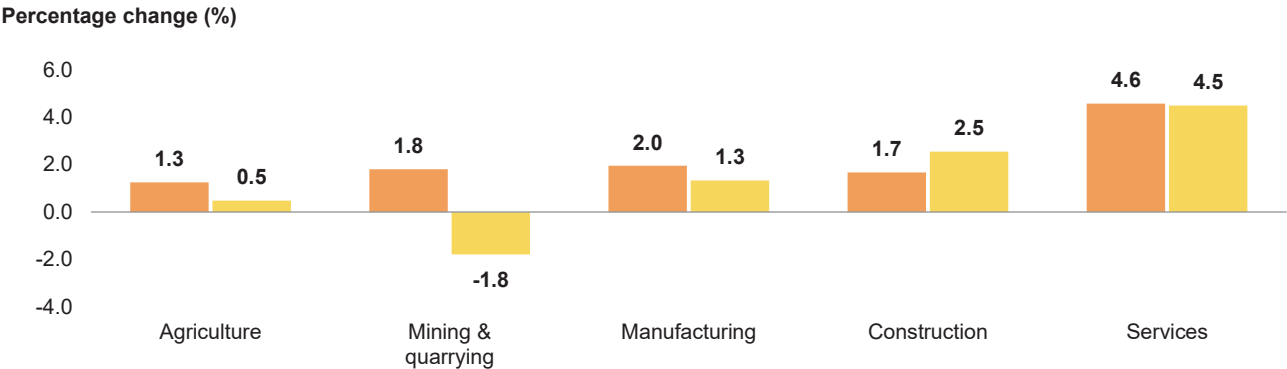


Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

In Malaysia, the Services sector accounted for almost two-thirds or 63.0 per cent of total hours worked, making it the dominant contributor to the country's economy. While the second highest share of total hours worked was in the Manufacturing sector, which encompassed 17.4 per cent, followed by Agriculture with a share of 10.4 per cent in Q1 2025. During the same quarter, the Construction sector contributed 8.7 per cent, and the Mining & quarrying sectors made up 0.5 per cent of the total hours worked.

All sectors posted positive year-on-year growth of total hours worked, with the Services sector observing the highest gain in total hours worked, up by 4.5 per cent over the same quarter of the previous year. The two sub-sectors with the largest gain were Food & beverages and accommodation (9.7%) and Utilities (5.5%). Meanwhile, total hours worked in the Manufacturing sector surged by 1.3 per cent, with the largest increase in the sub-sector of Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products (6.4%), followed by Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (2.3%). During the same quarter, the Agriculture sector contributed 0.5 per cent, and the Construction sector made up 2.5 per cent of the total hours worked. However, growth in the Mining and Quarrying sector reversed to a negative momentum, contracting by 1.8 per cent in Q1 2025, after recording a positive growth of 1.8 per cent in Q4 2024 [**Chart 4.2**].

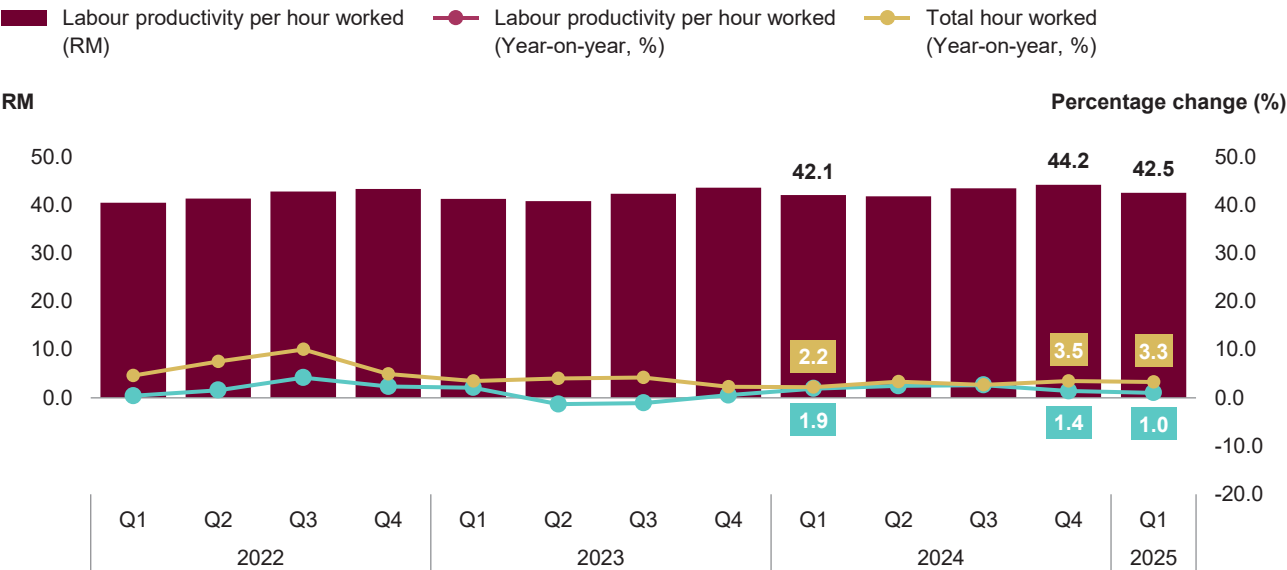
Chart 4.2:
Annual percentage change of total hours worked by economic sector, Q4 2024 & Q1 2025



Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

As a whole, labour productivity as measured by value added per hour worked rose by 1.0 per cent in Q1 2025 after registering an increase of 1.9 per cent in the previous quarter, to bring the level of productivity at RM42.5 per hour worked [Chart 4.3].

Chart 4.3:
Labour productivity per hour worked, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Looking at labour productivity per hour worked by economic sector in Q1 2025, labour productivity per hour worked recorded year-on-year growth across all economic sectors, except for the Mining and Quarrying sector, which declined by 0.9 per cent. The Construction sector posted the highest increase at 11.3 per cent, although lower than the 18.7 per cent growth recorded in the previous quarter.

During the same quarter, the Manufacturing sector continued its upward trend with an increase of 2.8 per cent in labour productivity per hour worked. Most sub-sectors posted growth, except for Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products (-2.7%) and Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair (-6.1%).

Labour productivity per hour worked in the Services sector increased by 0.5 per cent year-on-year in Q1 2025, with the highest growth being recorded in both Real estate and business services (6.0%) and Transportation and storage (4.3%) sub-sectors [Table 4.1].

Table 4.1:

Annual percentage change of labour productivity per hour worked, value added & total hours worked by economic sector, Q1 2025

Economic activity	Labour productivity per hour worked	Value added	Total hours worked
Agriculture	0.1	0.6	0.5
Mining & quarrying	-0.9	-2.7	-1.8
Manufacturing	2.8	4.1	1.3
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	9.3	9.2	-0.1
Beverages & tobacco products	7.1	3.1	-3.7
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	2.7	1.1	-1.6
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	1.9	3.1	1.2
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	0.3	2.6	2.3
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	-2.7	3.6	6.4
Electrical, electronic & optical products	6.6	7.8	1.2
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	-6.1	-8.0	-2.1
Construction	11.3	14.2	2.5
Services	0.5	5.0	4.5
Utilities	-6.3	-1.2	5.5
Wholesale & retail trade	0.6	4.3	3.8
Food & beverages and accommodation	-2.5	6.9	9.7
Transportation & storage	4.3	9.5	4.9
Information & communication	0.8	3.6	2.7
Finance & insurance	-0.4	2.8	3.3
Real estate & business services	6.0	9.1	3.0
Other services	2.8	5.5	2.6
Total	1.0	4.4	3.3

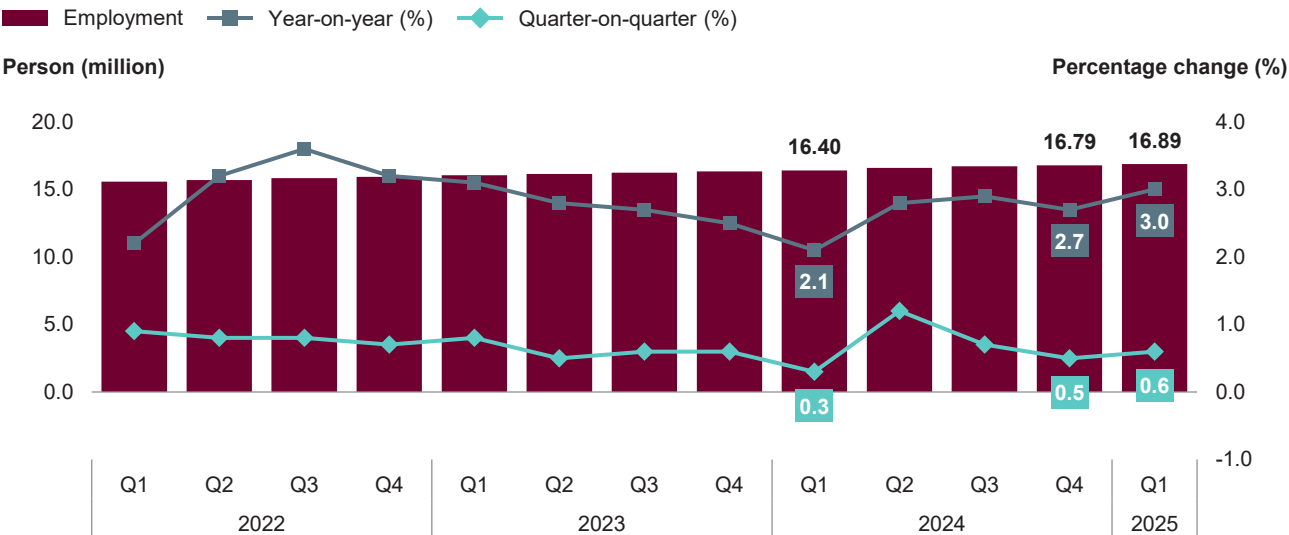
Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

4.2 Labour Productivity per Employment

As the Malaysian labour market improved further in Q1 2025, employment increased by 3.0 per cent year-on-year to record a total of 16.89 million persons. On a quarterly basis, employment registered a growth of 0.6 per cent, following a rise of 0.5 per cent in the preceding quarter [Chart 4.4].

Chart 4.4:

Employment, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025



Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

In Q1 2025, employment expanded across all economic sectors, with particularly highest gains in the Manufacturing and Services sectors. Employment in the Services sector increased by 4.1 per cent to reach 10.64 million persons, with every sub-sector showing growth over the same quarter of the previous year. The most notable rise was observed in the Food & beverages and accommodation (6.7%), followed by Utilities (5.1%) and Transportation & storage (4.9%).

In the Manufacturing sector, employment rose by 1.9 per cent in Q1 2025 to record 2.87 million persons. All sub-sectors registered growth, with the largest increase observed in the Beverages and tobacco products (3.3%) sub-sector, followed by Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing (2.7%) and Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products (2.6%) sub-sectors.

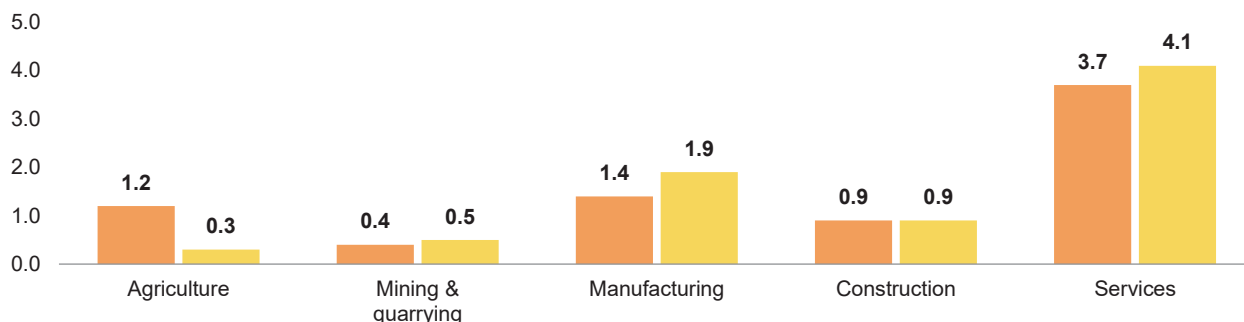
In addition, employment in the Agriculture sector posted a modest increase of 0.3 per cent, reaching 1.88 million persons in Q1 2025. Meanwhile, the Mining & quarrying and Construction sectors recorded employment growth of 0.5 per cent and 0.9 per cent, respectively [Chart 4.5].

Chart 4.5:

Annual percentage change of employment by economic sector, Q4 2024 & Q1 2025

Q4 2024 Q1 2025

Percentage change (%)



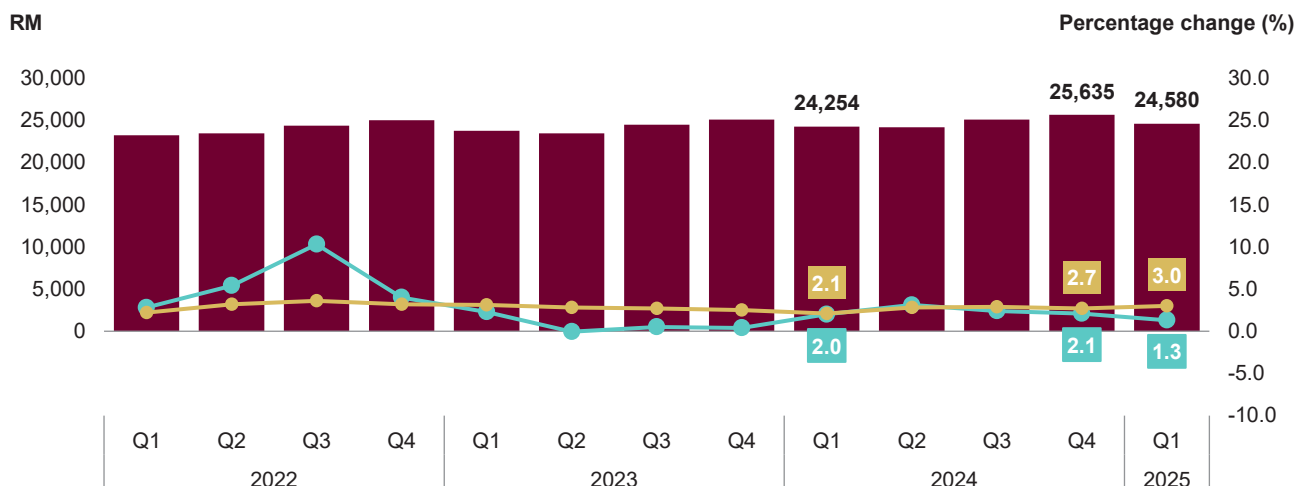
Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Labour productivity, which is measured as value added per employment, increased by 3.0 per cent to reach RM24,580 per employment in Q1 2025 [Chart 4.6].

Chart 4.6:

Labour productivity per employment, Q1 2022 – Q1 2025

Labour productivity per employment (RM) Labour productivity per employment (Year-on-year, %) Employment (Year-on-year, %)



Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

By economic sector, labour productivity per employment in the Services sector registered a year-on-year increase of 0.8 per cent in the first quarter of 2025, underpinned by positive performance across the majority of its sub-sectors. Nonetheless, contractions were recorded in the Utilities sub-sector (-5.9%) and the Information and Communication sub-sector (-0.1%).

In the meantime, labour productivity per employment for the Manufacturing sector increased by 2.2 per cent year-on-year in Q1 2025 as compared to a 2.8 per cent increase in the preceding quarter. Among the highest growth within this sector was recorded by Electrical, electronic and optical products (6.4%) and Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing (6.3%) sub-sectors.

The Construction sector sustained its positive momentum, recording a substantial increase of 13.2 per cent in labour productivity per employment. The Agriculture sector also posted a modest increase of 0.3 per cent, recovering from a contraction of 1.9 per cent in the previous quarter. Conversely, the Mining and Quarrying sector experienced a decline in labour productivity per employment, falling by 3.2 per cent during Q1 2025 [Table 4.2].

Table 4.2:
Annual percentage change of labour productivity per employment, value added & employment by economic sector, Q1 2025

Economic activity	Labour productivity per employment	Value added	Employment
Agriculture	0.3	0.6	0.3
Mining & quarrying	-3.2	-2.7	0.5
Manufacturing	2.2	4.1	1.9
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	6.3	9.2	2.7
Beverages & tobacco products	-0.1	3.1	3.3
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	-0.6	1.1	1.7
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	1.1	3.1	2.0
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	1.0	2.6	1.6
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	0.9	3.6	2.6
Electrical, electronic & optical products	6.4	7.8	1.3
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	-8.8	-8.0	0.9
Construction	13.2	14.2	0.9
Services	0.8	5.0	4.1
Utilities	-5.9	-1.2	5.1
Wholesale & retail trade	0.1	4.3	4.2
Food & beverages and accommodation	0.2	6.9	6.7
Transportation & storage	4.3	9.5	4.9
Information & communication	-0.1	3.6	3.7
Finance & insurance	0.8	2.8	2.0
Real estate & business services	5.1	9.1	3.8
Other services	2.9	5.5	2.4
Total	1.3	4.4	3.0

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

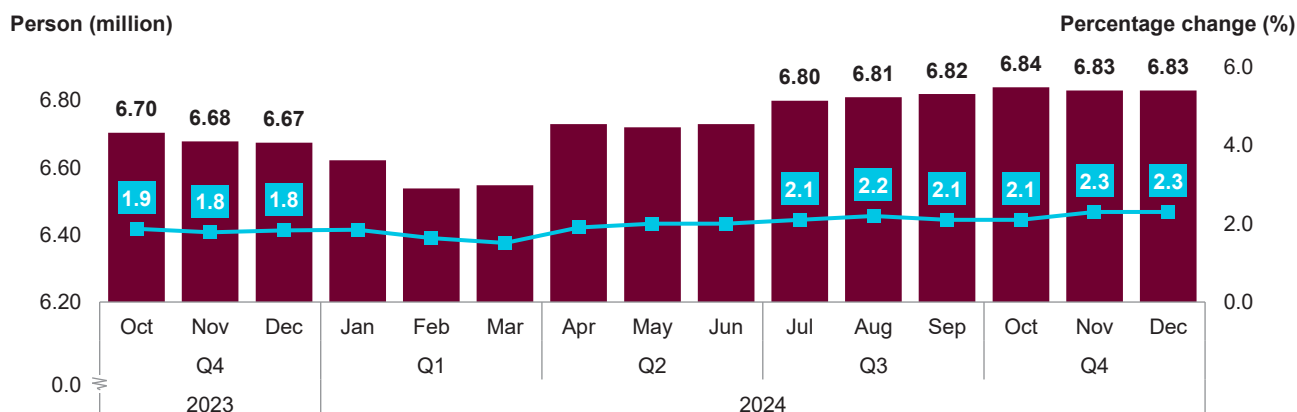
5.1 Median Monthly Wages of Formal Employees

According to the Employee Wages Statistics from administrative data sources, the number of Malaysian formal employees reached 6.83 million persons in December 2024, an increase of 2.3 per cent (+156.5 thousand) compared to the same month in the previous year. This accounted for 66.0 per cent of Malaysian paid employees across both private and public sectors [Chart 5.1].

Chart 5.1:

Malaysian formal employees, October 2023 – December 2024

■ Malaysian formal employees — Year-on-year (%)



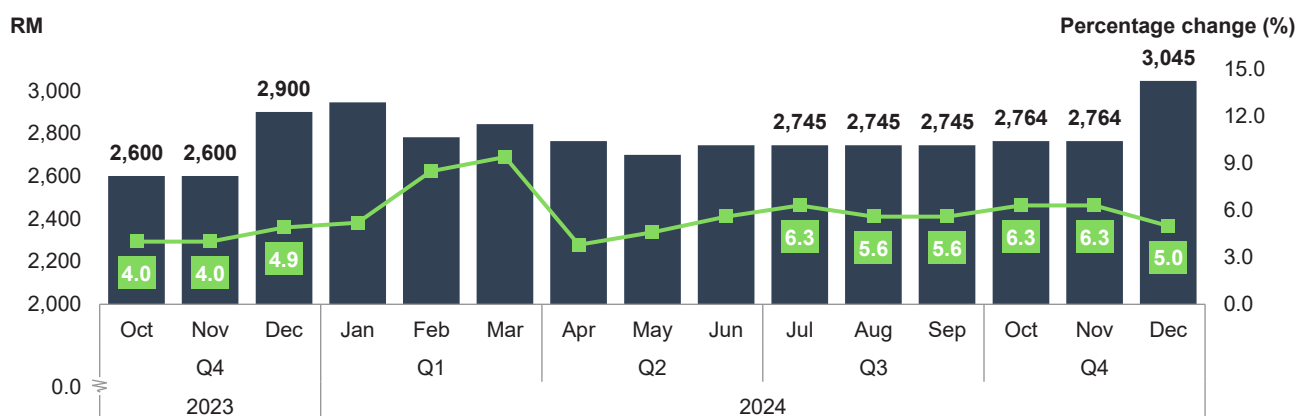
Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q4 2024, DOSM

As of December 2024, the median monthly wage for Malaysian formal employees was RM3,045, registering a 5.0 per cent annual increase (November 2024: RM2,764; October 2024: RM2,764) [Chart 5.2].

Chart 5.2:

Median monthly wages, October 2023 – December 2024

■ Median monthly wages — Year-on-year (%)



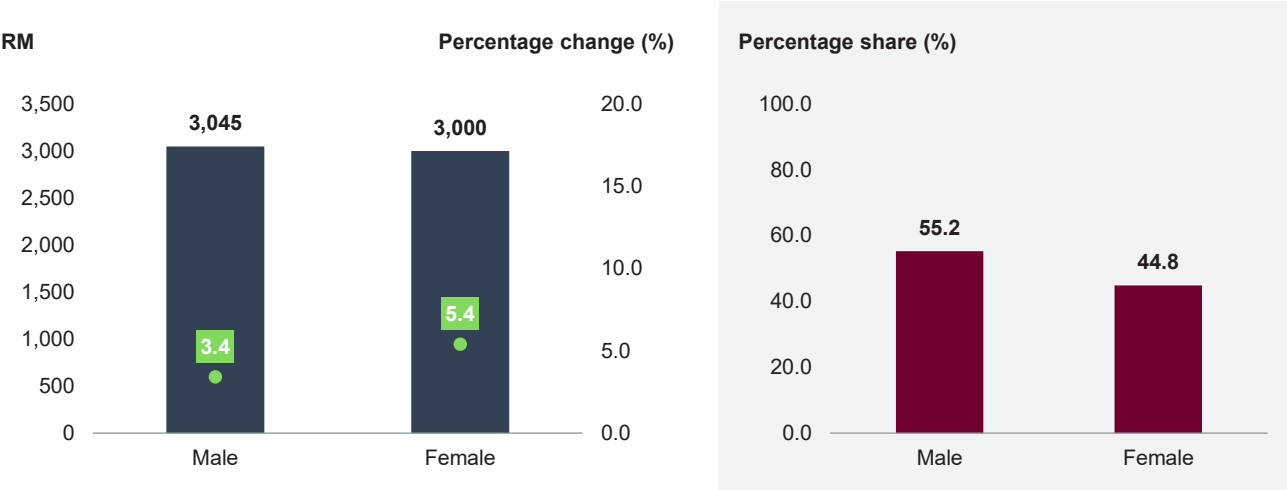
Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q4 2024, DOSM

In terms of sex aggregation, the median monthly wage for male employees in December 2024 increased by 3.4 per cent year-on-year to RM3,045, representing 55.2 per cent of Malaysia's formal employees, or 3.77 million individuals. Meanwhile, female employees, making up 44.8 per cent of the formal employees, recorded a 5.4 per cent increase in their median monthly wage, reaching RM3,000.

Similarly, both male and female employees experienced month-on-month increases in their median monthly wages of 9.2 per cent and 11.1 per cent, respectively, compared to November 2024. Male employees consistently earned a higher median wage than their female counterparts. In December 2024, the median wage for males was 1.0 per cent higher than that of females [Chart 5.3].

Chart 5.3:
Median & annual percentage change of monthly wages and percentage share of Malaysian formal employees by sex, December 2024

■ Median monthly wages
 ● Year-on-year (%)
 ■ Malaysian formal employees



Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q4 2024, DOSM

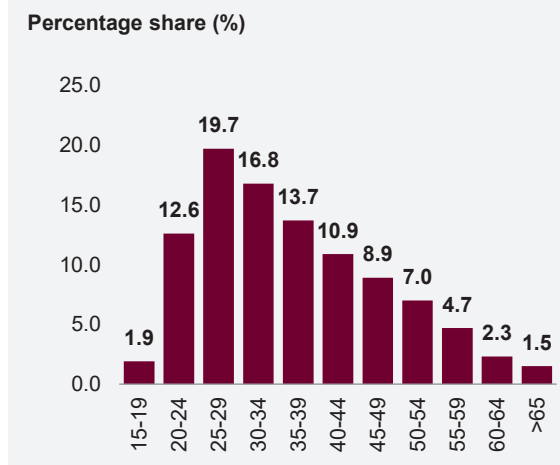
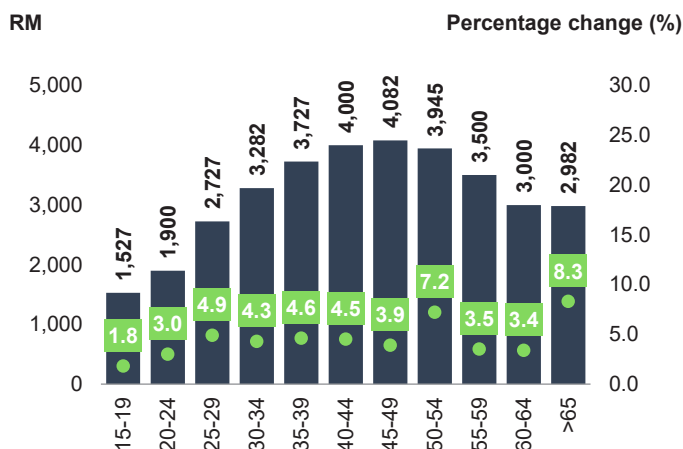
Malaysian formal employees aged 45 to 49 years recorded the highest median monthly wages at RM4,082 in December 2024, accounting for 8.9 per cent of the total formal employees. In contrast, employees under the age of 20 earned the lowest median monthly wages at RM1,527. Consistent with previous months, this trend indicates that wage distribution among formal employees is influenced by age, which is intricately linked to education level and work experience.

In December 2024, median monthly wages for formal employees across all age groups experienced growth. The most notable increase is observed in age group of 50-54 years with recorded growth of 7.2 per cent [Chart 5.4].

Chart 5.4:

Median & annual percentage change of monthly wages and percentage share of Malaysian formal employees by age group, December 2024

■ Median monthly wages ● Year-on-year (%) ■ Malaysian formal employees



Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q4 2024, DOSM

By economic activity, the median monthly wages showed positive growth for all five main sectors during December 2024 compared to the same month in the previous year. The Mining & Quarrying sector continued to report the highest median wage at RM7,500, reflecting a 9.6 per cent increase from December 2023, despite making up only 0.6 per cent of Malaysian formal employees.

Meanwhile, the Manufacturing sector registered the second highest median monthly wages at RM3,300 during the month, reflecting a 3.1 per cent year-on-year increase. The Beverage & Tobacco Products sub-sector recorded the highest median wage within this sector, rising by 3.7 per cent to RM4,282.

As the main driver of the economy, the Services sector makes up more than two-thirds Malaysian formal employees (67.7%), equivalent to 4.63 million persons. These formal employees received median monthly wages of RM3,000 during December 2024, with an increase of 7.1 per cent compared to the same month of the preceding year. Within the Services sub-sectors, Finance & Insurance had the highest median wage at RM6,500, followed by Information & Communication at RM5,600 and Utilities as well as Transportation and storage have the same median wage of RM3,164. In contrast, other sub-sectors reported median wages below RM3,100, with the lowest recorded in the Food & Beverages and Accommodation sub-sector at RM2,000 but posted notable year-on-year wage growth, with an increase of 5.3 per cent in December 2024.

In the same month, the median monthly wages for Malaysian formal employees in the Construction sector rose by 6.6 per cent year-on-year to RM3,000. Among the five main sectors, the Agriculture sector posted the lowest median monthly wages at RM2,382 in December 2024. However, this sector saw a 3.6 per cent increase in median wages compared to the same month in the previous year [Table 5.1].

Table 5.1:
Median & annual percentage change of monthly wages and percentage share of Malaysian formal employees by economic activity, December 2024

Economic activity	Monthly wages		Formal employee
	Median (RM)	Percentage change (Year-on-year, %)	Percentage share (%)
Agriculture	2,382	3.6	1.9
Mining & quarrying	7,500	9.6	0.6
Manufacturing	3,300	3.1	17.8
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	2,500	2.2	2.6
Beverages & tobacco products	4,282	3.7	0.2
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	2,227	6.1	0.4
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	2,664	6.5	1.4
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	3,409	3.9	2.9
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	2,982	3.5	2.2
Electrical, electronic & optical products	4,100	6.1	4.9
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	3,200	1.7	3.3
Construction	3,000	6.6	6.3
Services	3,000	7.1	67.7
Utilities	3,164	4.3	1.1
Wholesale & retail trade	2,500	4.2	21.2
Food & beverages and accommodation	2,000	5.3	4.4
Transportation & storage	3,164	5.5	4.4
Information & communication	5,600	5.7	3.2
Finance & insurance	6,500	3.2	4.5
Real estate & business services	3,045	2.8	12.3
Other services	2,900	6.3	16.7
Total	3,045	5.0	100.0

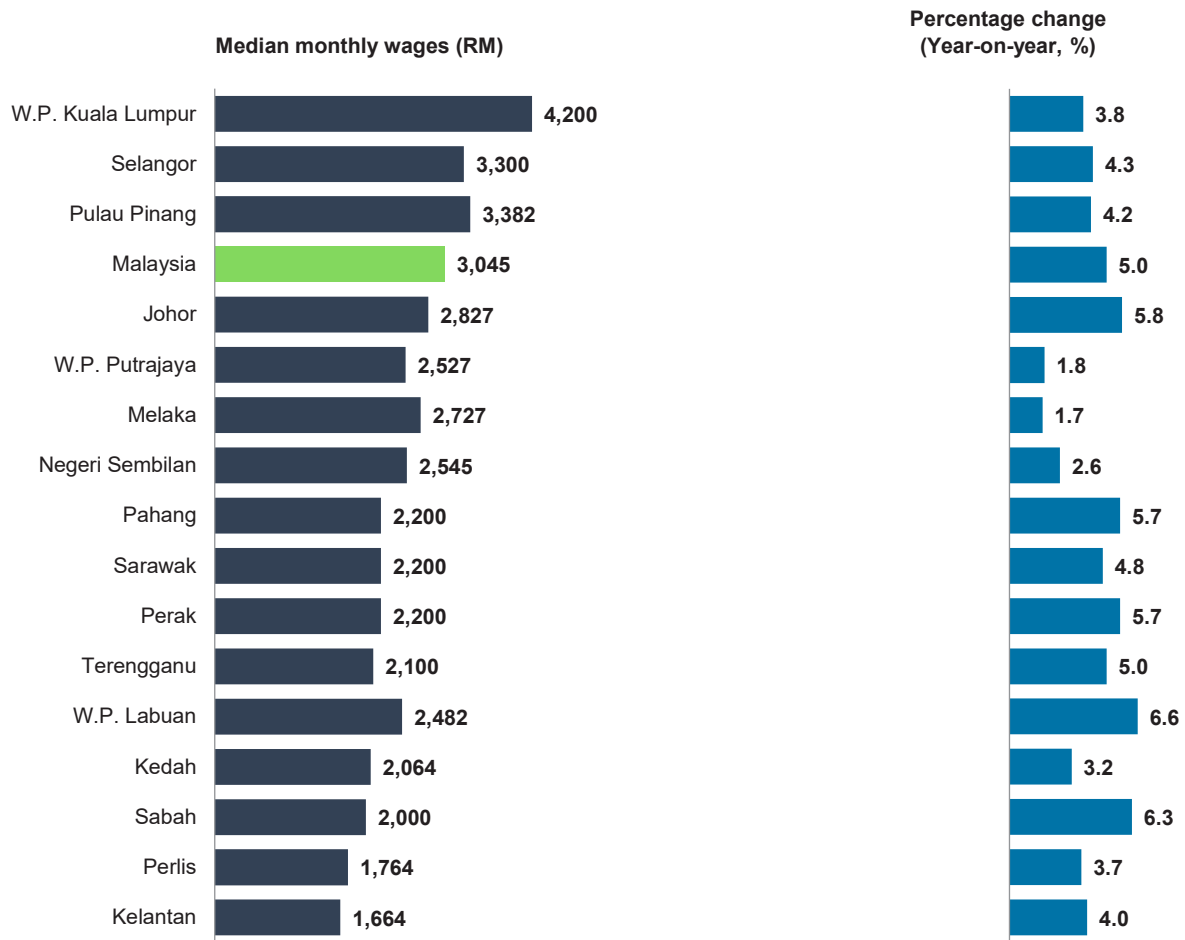
Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q4 2024, DOSM

At the state level, three states reported median monthly wages exceeding the national median of RM3,045 for Malaysian formal employees in December 2024. W.P. Kuala Lumpur led with the highest median wage of RM4,200, followed by Pulau Pinang at RM3,382 and Selangor at RM3,300.

Conversely during the same month, Sabah, Perlis and Kelantan reported the lowest median monthly wages, with each state recording RM2,000, RM1,764 and RM1,664 respectively **[Chart 5.5]**.

Chart 5.5:

Median & annual percentage change of monthly wages by state, December 2024



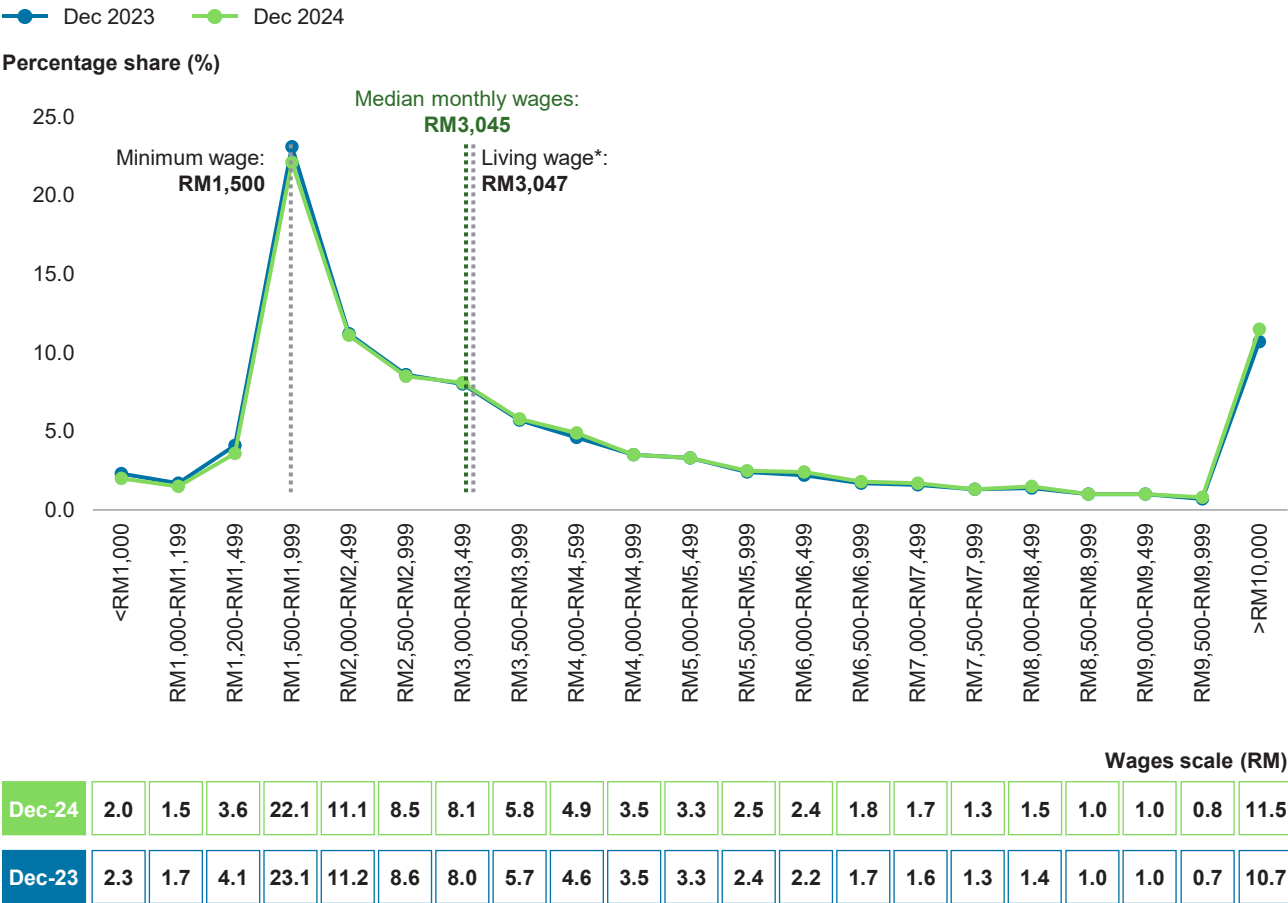
Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q4 2024, DOSM

5.2 Distribution of Monthly Wages

In December 2024, the wage distribution revealed that 2.0 million persons or 29.2 per cent of total Malaysian formal employees earned monthly wages below RM2,000. This group fell by 2.0 per cent (-86.2 thousand) from the same month of the previous year, while the share fell by 2.0 percentage points from 31.2 per cent in December 2023.

During the same period, only 7.1 per cent of Malaysian formal employees received monthly wages below the RM1,500 minimum wage. Meanwhile, approximately 11.5 per cent of Malaysian formal employees earned monthly wages of RM10,000 and above in December 2024 [Chart 5.6].

Chart 5.6:
Distribution of monthly wages of Malaysian formal employees by wage scale, December 2023 & December 2024



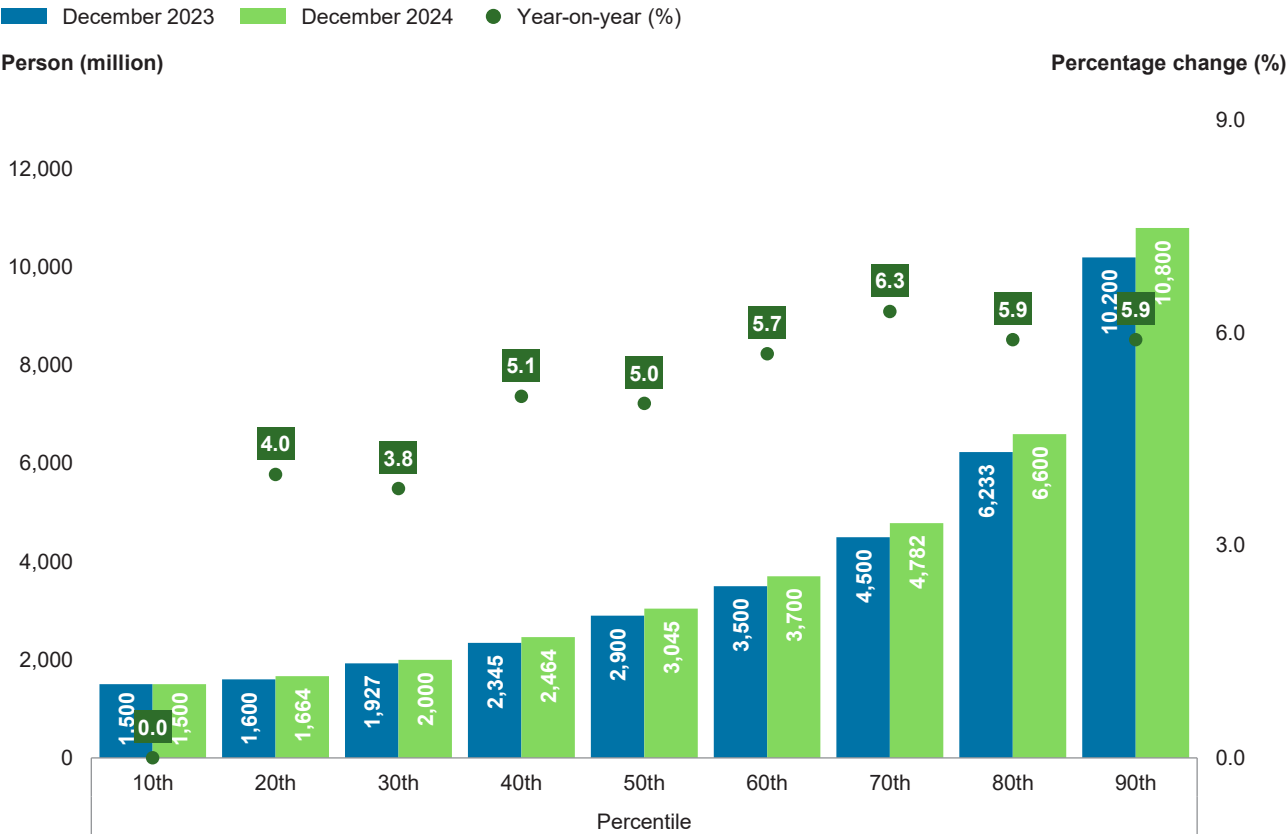
Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q4 2024, DOSM

Notes:

* Refers to the living wage (Bank Negara Malaysia, 2017), which is adjusted with the inflation rate

Based on percentile analysis, 10th percentile of Malaysian formal employees earned monthly wages of RM1,500 or less. However, this group did not experience any change in wages in December 2024 compared to the same month of the previous year. In contrast, the 90th percentile saw a 5.9 per cent year-on-year increase, with monthly wages reaching RM10,800. The wage ratio between the highest (90th percentile) and lowest (10th percentile) wage earners indicates that the highest wage earners receive more than five times the monthly wage of the lowest wage earners [Chart 5.7].

Chart 5.7:
Distribution of monthly wages of formal employees by percentile, December 2023 & December 2024



Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q4 2024, DOSM

The Importance and Contribution of TVET to the Malaysia's Labour Market

Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) plays an essential and strategic role in Malaysia's labour market development. As the nation advances towards becoming a high-income, innovation-driven economy, the demand for a skilled and adaptable workforce continues to intensify. TVET serves as a key enabler in meeting this demand by offering practical, industry-relevant training that directly aligns with the evolving needs of key economic sectors such as manufacturing, digital services, logistics, and green technology.

A central contribution of TVET lies in its ability to bridge the persistent skills mismatch between education and employment. While academic pathways often fall short in delivering job-ready capabilities, TVET equips graduates with hands-on experience and technical proficiency, making them immediately employable. This improves job readiness and reduces employer retraining costs, enhancing productivity and economic efficiency.

TVET is also instrumental in addressing youth unemployment. For many school leavers and non-academic learners, it offers an alternative and viable career path, particularly through shorter, skills-based education cycles. By producing competent workers in high-demand fields such as automotive, welding, ICT, and electronics, TVET reduces dependency on foreign labour and fills critical skills shortages across sectors.

Beyond initial employment, TVET supports continuous workforce development through reskilling and upskilling opportunities. Mid-career workers facing job displacement due to automation or digital disruption can retrain in areas like digital literacy, green energy, or advanced manufacturing, thus sustaining employability and ensuring career resilience.

The inclusive reach of TVET is another strength. By establishing centres across urban and rural regions, TVET promotes equitable access to education and job opportunities. It reduces rural-urban migration, fosters regional development, and ensures that socioeconomic progress is widely distributed. This inclusiveness is further reflected in its support for the informal and gig economy, where many TVET graduates pursue self-employment in fields like catering, graphic design, or home repair services—boosting micro-entrepreneurship and local job creation.

Importantly, TVET plays a proactive role in preparing Malaysia's workforce for future-oriented sectors. In the digital economy, TVET institutions now offer certifications in data analytics, cybersecurity, and cloud computing, in collaboration with tech giants such as IBM and Huawei. This ensures graduates are equipped for digitally driven jobs and freelancing opportunities. In parallel, TVET supports Malaysia's green economy ambitions by training workers in renewable energy, sustainable construction, and environmental management—strengthening the workforce required for a low-carbon, climate-resilient economy.

Supported by policy frameworks such as the 12th Malaysia Plan and the Shared Prosperity Vision 2030, TVET is not just a parallel education track but a powerful engine for national development. However, to fully harness its potential, persistent challenges—such as fragmented governance, outdated infrastructure, and societal perceptions—must be addressed.

In summary, TVET is a cornerstone of Malaysia's labour market strategy. It produces a future-ready, inclusive, and competitive workforce that supports sustainable economic growth, reduces unemployment, and strengthens national resilience in the face of global transformation. As Malaysia navigates rapid industrial and technological change, TVET stands as a vital pathway to a more prosperous and equitable future.

7 Conclusion

In the first quarter of 2025, Malaysia's labour market showed positive development, driven by the continued increase in both labour supply and demand. The stable rise in employment contributed to a reduction in both the number and rate of unemployment. Labour demand in the industry remained strong, supported by an increase in the number of jobs, particularly due to a significant rise in the number of filled jobs. In line with industrial development, the number of job vacancies and newly job created also recorded an increase to meet the growing labour demand. From the perspective of labour market efficiency, labour productivity continued to improve, with value added per hour worked and value added per employment both registering an increase compared to the same quarter of the previous year.

Driven by sustained domestic economic growth, supported by wage increases and the implementation of government policies, Malaysia's labour market maintained its strong performance in the first quarter of 2025. The implementation of various government initiatives under Budget 2025 has had a significant impact on the structure and resilience of the national labour force. The execution of wage incentives for vulnerable groups such as Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and ex-offenders under the Daya Kerjaya 3.0 programme has successfully expanded participation opportunities among marginalised communities, reflecting the government's continued commitment to driving inclusive economic growth.

In addition, aligned with the advancement of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (IR 4.0) and the digital economy, the government has introduced various initiatives aimed at empowering the workforce with digital competencies and emerging technological skills. One of the flagship programmes introduced was spearheaded by the Ministry of Human Resources (KESUMA), which allocated RM20 million in early 2025 to deliver digital skills training to up to 5,000 Malaysians across three key sectors which are cybersecurity, data science, and artificial intelligence (AI). This initiative is implemented through a strategic collaboration between the Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp), the Social Security Organisation (PERKESO), and HCL Technologies, a leading Indian technology company in response to the growing demand for skilled workers in the technology sector. This effort is expected to help reduce skills mismatches, strengthen the resilience of the labour market, and support the growth of the nation's digital economy.

Moving into second quarter of 2025, Malaysia's economy continued to exhibit strong resilience, underpinned by stable domestic activity and sustained government policy support. Growth in key sectors such as manufacturing, services, and robust domestic demand has contributed to a favourable economic environment. In addition, the implementation of various government initiatives, including investment incentives and infrastructure development, has further strengthened market confidence. These developments are expected to have a positive impact on the labour market through the creation of more employment opportunities, particularly in high-skilled sectors, while also supporting the enhancement of household income. However, growth prospects remain dependent on external stability, including the performance of global trade, fluctuations in commodity prices, and regional geopolitical factors that may exert pressure on the nation's economic activity.

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Article

Women's Leadership in Malaysia: "Trend in Gender Representation in Managerial Positions"

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Introduction

One of the most significant economic trends of the late twentieth century was the rise of women entering the paid labour force. This transformation created widespread ripple effects, contributing to economic growth, reforming family relations, influencing public policy and reshaping cultural expectations of gender roles. A clear reflection of this situation is the growing representation of women in managerial positions, which serves as a vital indicator of gender equality and organizational diversity.

According to reports of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), women occupied about 28.2 per cent of senior management roles globally as of 2023, though this figure varies significantly across industries and regions (UN Women, 2023). While this represents meaningful progress compared to past decades, it still underscores the persistent gap in leadership representation. The increasing participation of women in management roles has been shown to deliver measurable benefits to organizations and society at large. Diverse leadership teams foster a broader range of perspectives, leading to more innovative solutions and better decision-making. Companies with higher levels of gender diversity often outperform their less diverse counterparts in key areas such as profitability, employee satisfaction, and public reputation.

In Malaysia, recent trends reflect gradual progress. The proportion of women in managerial positions increased from 23.3 per cent in 2019 to 25.4 per cent in 2023, based on statistics from the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM, 2024). Despite minor fluctuations during this period such as a dip in 2021, the overall upward trajectory signals positive movement, though the rate of change remains modest. Meanwhile, the World Bank (2023) found that 26.0 per cent of firms in Malaysia had a female top manager, further reinforcing the need for policy support and inclusive leadership development.

Nevertheless, women continue to face structural and cultural barriers that hinder their advancement into leadership roles, especially in regions such as Asia-Pacific and the Middle East. For instance, countries like Japan still report notably low female representation in senior management, largely due to traditional norms and workplace practices. This article aims to provide a comprehensive overview of Women's leadership in Malaysia, with a focus on gender representation in managerial positions.

Literature Review

Numerous studies indicate that women continue to lag behind men in key areas such as education, health, political empowerment, wage levels, income, and labour force participation. The availability of opportunities for the career progressions of women continues to be negatively affected by gender stereotypes, which shape managerial behaviour and occupational outlooks in the workplace with patriarchal expectations. Globally, women hold only 29.0 per cent of senior management positions (IBR, 2020). Despite many policies to increase gender equality in recent decades, discrimination rooted in these stereotypes remains a significant barrier. Gender stereotyping is a significant issue obstructing the career progressions of women in management.

The persistent underrepresentation and limited participation of women in top-level management positions remains a significant barrier to achieving gender equity in leadership (World Economic Forum, 2017).

Women continue to experience high levels of pressure from their professions, and they have been found to experience high levels of mental ill-health when they utilize an interpersonally oriented leadership style in male-dominated industries (Gardiner & Tiggemann, 1999). Another major challenge to women's advancement into leadership positions is the expectation that women perform most domestic and childcare duties in a household (UN Women, 2020). Even when working full time, women are always taking over family responsibilities in a "second shift," while many male leaders benefit from spouses who are expected to perform these domestic duties (Ferrant et al., 2014). Alternative childcare options are often costly, resulting in some women staying home or pulling back on paid work commitments to care for children (Klettner et al., 2016).

In the contemporary modern era, women play a vital role in human progress and hold an important place today. In the past, women were mainly responsible for household chores; nonetheless, due to higher education and socio-economic advancements, females have penetrated further fields to build robust careers (Shanker, 2019). Thus, women contribute more than ever to the labour market (Wei & Cinn, 2021). The participation of women in the workforce brings numerical benefits as they help to build an inspiring work culture by fostering healthy competition, promoting teamwork, and bonding, thereby aiding the business to grow to its full potential (Bhardwaj, 2018).

Today, feminism is an ideology presented worldwide which asserts that females should be treated the same as males, particularly in work opportunities to develop gender equality and reduce gender stereotypes (Hoffman, 2001). In other words, women's participation in labour is a crucial criterion to determine their social status and raise living standards as well as economic well-being. Nonetheless, in some regions of the world, women are more likely to become and remain unemployed than men (Endow & Dutta, 2022).

Data Source

This study utilised the official time series statistics compiled by the Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM), namely Labour Force Survey, Salaries & Wages and Employment Statistics based on data availability from 2016 to 2023 respectively. Publicly accessible official statistics published by DOSM are used where possible some statistics are calculated by the author based on original data sources. In addition, the authors performed reviews of literature from articles, journals, reports and working papers from websites that documented the information for dissemination. These sources are considered secondary data.

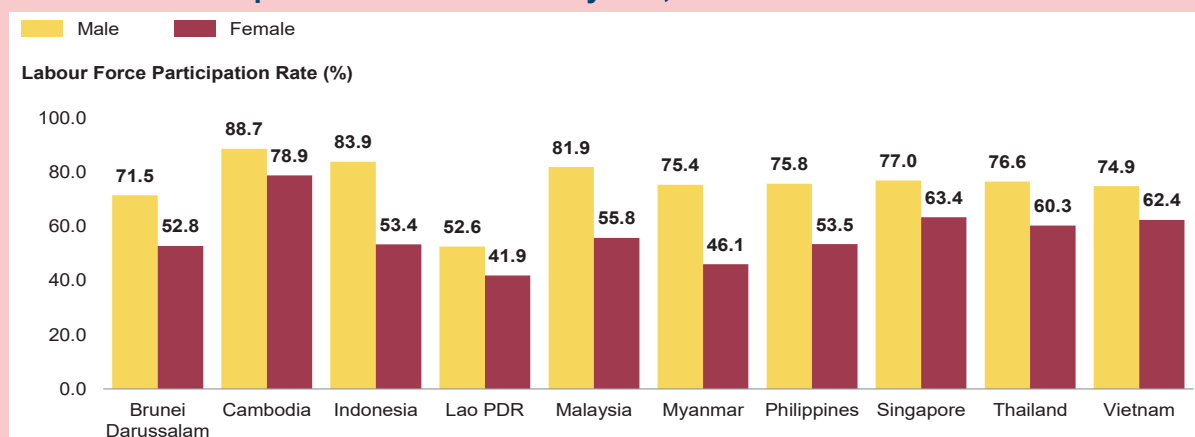
Findings

Malaysia's labour market remained on a positive momentum in 2023, with notable growth in employment figures. Although the Malaysian government has made significant efforts to increase female employment, there are still barriers to achieving gender equality in

the workplace. In 2023, Malaysia's female labour force participation rate stood at 56.2 per cent, positioning it among the lowest in ASEAN. In 2022, neighbouring countries like Vietnam had a rate of 62.4 per cent of women participating in their employment while Singapore boasted a rate of 63.4 per cent and Thailand at 60.3 per cent [Chart 1].

Chart 1:

Labour Force Participation Rate in ASEAN by Sex, 2022



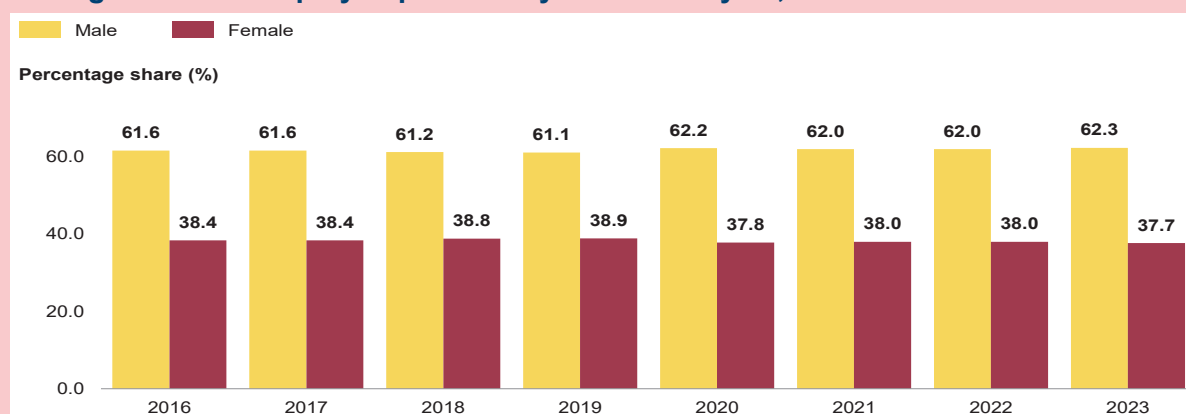
Source: ASEAN Secretariat

Nota: Data for Singapore refer to resident only

In Malaysia, male employed persons accounted for 62.3 per cent, while female employed persons constituted only 37.7 per cent in 2023. Although women in Malaysia now represent the majority of tertiary educated graduates, this achievement has not translated into equal participation in employed persons or leadership roles. The labour force participation rate for men remains significantly higher at 82.3 per cent, widening the gender gap in employed persons engagement [Chart 2].

Chart 2:

Percentage share of employed persons by sex in Malaysia, 2016 - 2023



Source: Labour Force Survey, DOSM

In most regions, women have caught up with or are even surpassing men in terms of educational attainment, especially at the tertiary level. However, this progress in education has not been mirrored by equivalent gains in the labour market. The key factor contributing to this imbalance is the underrepresentation of women in formal and managerial positions, as well as their overrepresentation in part-time and informal work, often driven by caregiving responsibilities. This is particularly evident among married women, who are more likely to withdraw or reduce their labour market participation due to family duties.

Geographically, the data indicates that urban areas provide more employment opportunities for women compared to rural areas. In 2023, approximately 5.13 million women were employed in urban settings compared to 0.83 million in rural areas. Urban areas accounted for 86.0 per cent of female employment, reflecting higher availability of jobs and greater institutional support services like childcare and flexible working arrangements [Chart 3 & Chart 4].

Chart 3:
Employed persons in urban by sex, 2019 - 2023

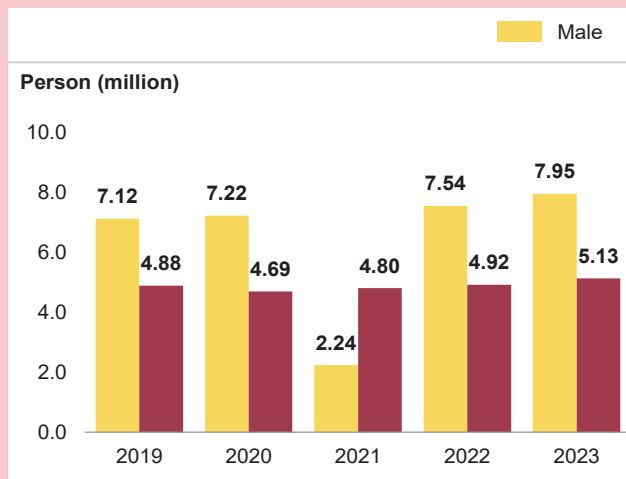
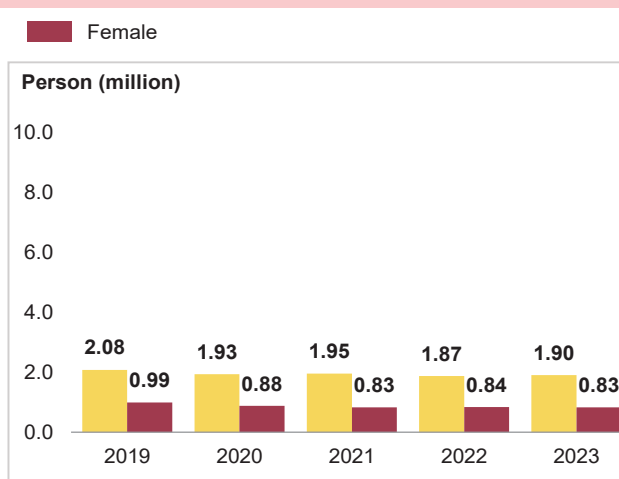


Chart 4:
Employed persons in rural by sex, 2019 - 2023



Source: Labour Force Survey, DOSM

In recent years, progress has been made toward gender diversity in leadership roles. Notably, the proportion of women in managerial positions increased to 25.4 per cent in 2023 recorded 193.4 million persons, up from 23.8 per cent in 2022. This upward trend reflects growing awareness and efforts to promote gender equality in the workplace. However, despite these gains, women remain underrepresented at higher levels of management, highlighting the need for continued policy support, inclusive hiring practices, and leadership development programs tailored to women [Chart 5 & Chart 6].

Chart 5:
Percentage share of employed persons by sex and occupation, Malaysia, 2022

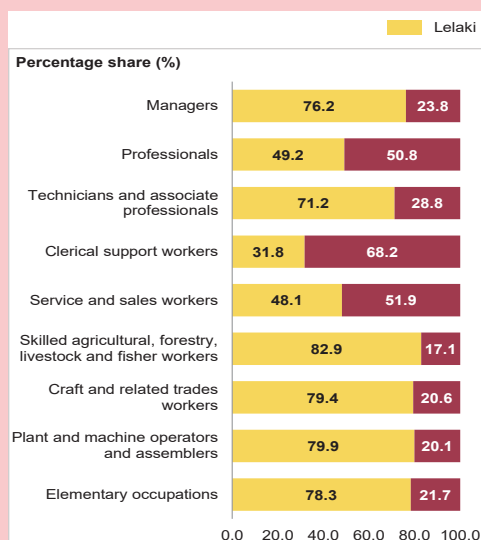
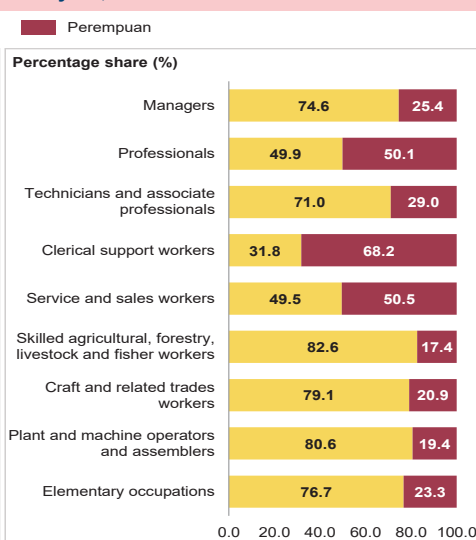


Chart 6:
Percentage share of employed persons by sex and occupation, Malaysia, 2023



Source: Labour Force Survey, DOSM

The World Economic Forum (WEF) has introduced the Global Gender Gap Index (GGGI) in 2006 as a benchmarking framework to measure gender-based disparities across countries. This index measures the relative gaps between women and men in four sub-indices: Economic participation and opportunity; Educational attainment; Health and survival; and Political empowerment. Unlike indices that focus on levels of development, the GGGI is designed to capture the extent of gender-based inequality, regardless of a country's absolute performance. Scores range from 0 to 1, where a score of 1.000 signifies complete gender parity, and 0.000 indicates absolute disparity between the sexes.

According to the Global Gender Gap Report 2024 released by the WEF, Malaysia ranked 114th out of 146 countries, with a score of 0.668, indicating considerable room for improvement in achieving gender parity. Within the East Asia and Pacific region, Malaysia was placed 16th out of 18 countries, underscoring regional disparities in gender equality efforts. In comparison, Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI) score stood at 0.705, positioning the country at 86th place globally and 8th among East Asia and Pacific countries. These rankings highlight Malaysia's moderate progress in narrowing the gender gap but also reinforce the need for targeted policy interventions to improve outcomes, particularly in areas such as economic participation and political empowerment [Table 1].

Table 1:

Gender Gap Index, Malaysia, 2023

Sub-index	DOSM	WEF
Economic participation and opportunity	0.698	0.634
Educational attainment	1.071	1.000
Health and survival	0.956	0.969
Political empowerment	0.096	0.068
Malaysia Gender Gap Index (MGGI) Score	0.705	0.668

Source: Global Gender Gap Report 2024

This article focuses on the female share of employment in managerial positions, a critical indicator under the Economic Participation and Opportunity subindex of the MGGI. Specifically, it examines the “Legislators, senior officials, and managers” category, which reflects not only women's presence in corporate leadership but also their representation in political and judicial leadership roles. In the Malaysian context, this indicator highlights both encouraging progress and persistent disparities. Although the number of women in leadership positions has gradually increased over recent years, their overall representation remains significantly lower than that of men. This imbalance points to enduring structural and cultural barriers that continue to limit women's advancement into senior management roles. Addressing these challenges calls for comprehensive interventions, including robust gender equality policies, corporate practices that support female career progression, and initiatives to reshape traditional perceptions of gender roles in the workplace. Strengthening women's participation

in managerial positions is not only essential for achieving gender parity but also plays a vital role in driving innovation, enhancing organisational performance, and fostering inclusive economic growth.

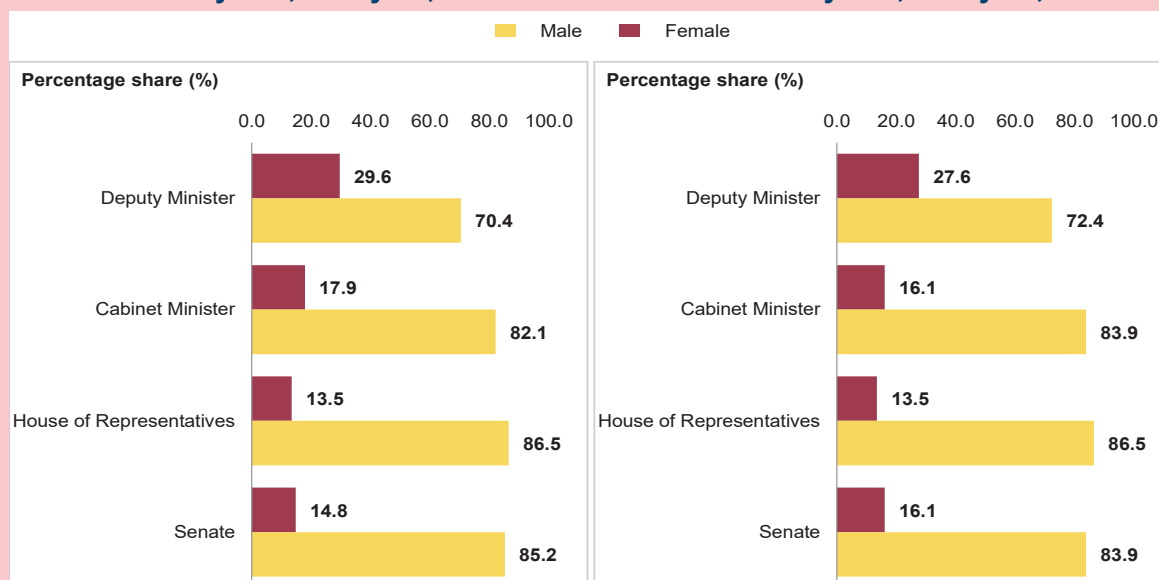
The representation of women in political leadership roles in Malaysia remains significantly lower than men. In 2023, the proportion of women elected as Senators increased slightly from 14.8 per cent to 16.1 per cent compared to the previous year. However, the share of women in the House of Representatives remained unchanged at 13.5 per cent in both 2022 and 2023. Meanwhile, the proportion of women appointed as Cabinet Ministers declined to 16.1 per cent, while the percentage of Deputy Ministers dropped to 27.6 per cent. These figures reflect the ongoing gender imbalance in political representation and underscore the need for continued efforts to promote women's participation in decision-making at the highest levels of government [Chart 7 & Chart 8].

Chart 7:

Percentage of members of parliament and administration by sex, Malaysia, 2022

Chart 8:

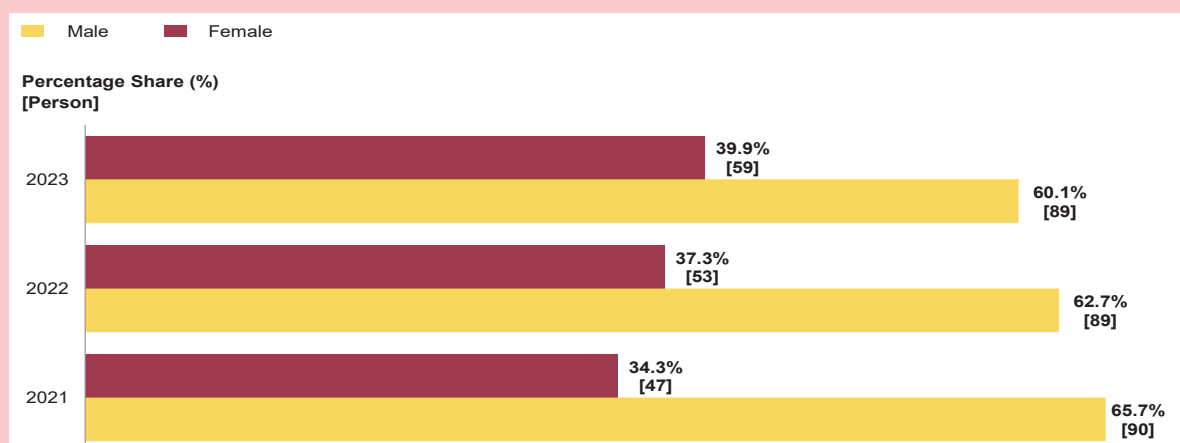
Percentage of members of parliament and administration by sex, Malaysia, 2023



Source: Parliament of Malaysia

The percentage of female judges in the Malaysia judiciary in 2023 increased by 2.6 percentage points from 37.3 per cent to 39.9 per cent as compared to 2022. Conversely, the percentage of male judges dropped by 2.6 percentage points from 62.7 per cent (2022) to 60.1 per cent (2023) [Chart 9].

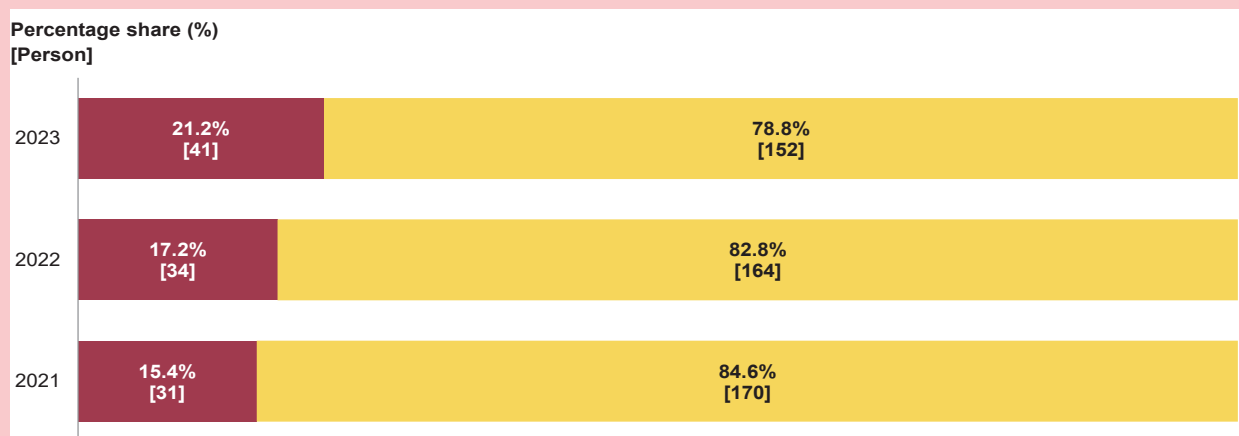
Chart 9:

Number and percentage of judges in Judiciary by position and sex, Malaysia, 2021 – 2023

Source: Judicial Appointments Commission

Similarly, the percentage of judges in the Syariah Judiciary according to position and gender in Malaysia in 2023 increased by 4.0 percentage points from 17.2 per cent to 21.2 per cent compared to 2022 for female judges. Conversely, the percentage of male judges decreased by 4.0 percentage points from 82.8 percent (2022) to 78.8 percent (2023) [Chart 10].

Chart 10:

Number and percentage of judges in Syariah Judiciary by position and sex, Malaysia, 2021–2023

Source: Syariah Judiciary Department Malaysia

Women are more likely to be in management roles in feminized functions, like human resources and administration, and in more feminized sectors, like health, social work, and education than in traditionally male-dominated industries like mining and construction. Referring to the industries in Malaysia, unsurprisingly, women continue to be concentrated in traditionally female-dominated roles across various sectors and occupations. For example, fields such as nursing and childcare remain overwhelmingly female dominated, with women accounting for more than 60.0 per cent of the workforce. Teaching and education roles also show a strong female presence, particularly in primary school and early childhood education. Similarly, women are overrepresented in elementary occupations such as cooking and cleaning, as well as in clerical and librarian positions. The share of women in managerial positions is higher in the public sector than in the private sector (ILO, 2020) [Table 2].

Table 2:

Employed persons by sex and industry, Malaysia 2022 & 2023

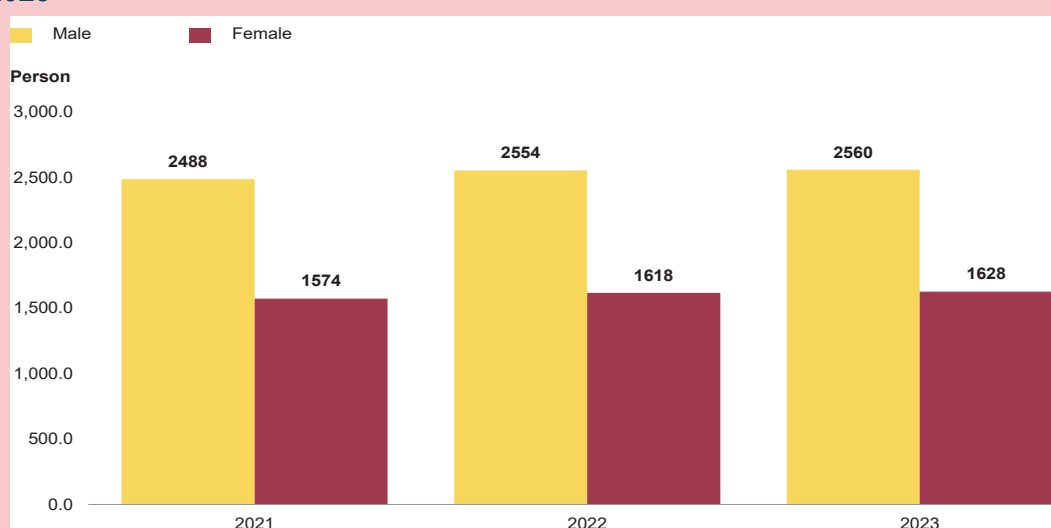
Industries	2022				2023			
	Male	Female	Total	Percentage of Women	Male	Female	Total	Percentage of Women
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,160.80	247.3	1,408.10	16.8%	1,195.90	241.6	1437.5	16.8%
Mining and quarrying	53.3	30.9	84.20	33.4%	59.1	29.7	88.8	33.4%
Manufacturing	1,656.70	850.6	2,507.30	34.4%	1,704.60	893.2	2597.8	34.4%
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	73.3	5.5	78.80	9.3%	73.9	7.6	81.5	9.3%
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	65.8	19.3	85.10	20.1%	68.2	17.2	85.4	20.1%
Construction	1,100.00	145.4	1,245.40	12.2%	1,127.60	156.9	1284.5	12.2%
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	1,607.60	1,233.00	2,840.60	43.4%	1,693.90	1,297.60	2991.5	43.4%
Transportation and storage	552.3	154.9	707.20	20.9%	581.4	153.9	735.3	20.9%
Accommodation and food and beverage service activities	743.4	739.3	1,482.70	48.8%	815.5	777.3	1592.8	48.8%
Information and communication	168.1	84.6	252.70	32.1%	182.1	86.0	268.1	32.1%
Financial and insurance/ takaful activities	196.9	213.5	410.40	52.0%	208.2	226	434.2	52.0%
Real estate activities	53.8	36.6	90.40	38.6%	57.0	35.8	92.8	38.6%
Professional, scientific and technical activities	195.7	184.3	380.00	45.6%	212.5	177.8	390.3	45.6%
Administrative and support service activities	499.6	334.7	834.30	38.8%	542.1	344.3	886.4	38.8%
Public administration and defence: compulsory social security	542.4	241.2	783.60	29.3%	563.3	233.8	797.1	29.3%
Education	317.0	627.5	944.50	65.5%	341.2	648.4	989.6	65.5%
Human health and social work activities	224.4	371.7	596.10	64.3%	223.9	402.4	626.3	64.3%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	30.5	40.3	70.80	45.9%	39.2	33.3	72.5	45.9%
Other service activities	140.1	118.1	258.20	40.9%	154.5	107.1	261.6	40.9%
Activities of households as employers	20.4	74.3	94.70	94.5%	5.4	93.8	99.3	94.5%
Total	9,402.10	5,753.00	15,155.10	38.0%	9,849.50	5,963.70	15,813.30	37.7%

Source: Labour Force Survey, DOSM

Over the three-year period, the total number of both male and female civil servants Top Management (Jusa C and above) showed a gradual increase. Men consistently outnumber women in the civil service Top Management (Jusa C and above). However, the gap is narrowing slightly over the years. The number of male civil servants rose from 2,488 thousand persons in 2021 to 2,560 thousand persons in 2023, while female civil servants Top Management (Jusa C and above) increased from 1,574 thousand persons to 1,628 thousand persons over the same period. Although men consistently outnumbered women in the civil service Top Management (Jusa C and above) workforce, the gap between the two groups has slightly narrowed. This trend suggests a slow but steady movement toward greater gender balance in Malaysia's public sector employment **[Chart 11]**.

Chart 11:

Number of civil servants Top Management (Jusa C and above) of services and sex, Malaysia, 2021 - 2023



Source: Public Service Department

The data reveals that men continue to dominate leadership roles in schools across Malaysia, particularly in secondary and residential schools. In 2023, male representation was highest among secondary school principals at 63.5 per cent, while female representation stood at 36.5 per cent, indicating a gender gap of 27.0 percentage points. Although there was a slight improvement in female representation among residential school principals from 39.1 per cent in 2022 to 39.7 per cent in 2023, the gap remains significant at over 20.0 percentage points. In primary schools, the gender distribution remained almost unchanged, with males comprising 59.5 per cent and females 40.5 per cent in 2023. Overall, the gender gap in educational leadership roles persists, showing only minimal year-on-year improvement, particularly in more senior or specialized school types **[Chart 12 & Chart 13]**.

Chart 12:
Percentage share of decision makers in education sector by position and sex, 2022

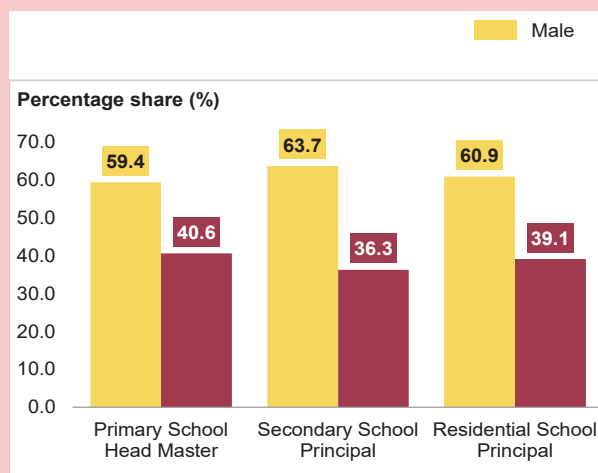
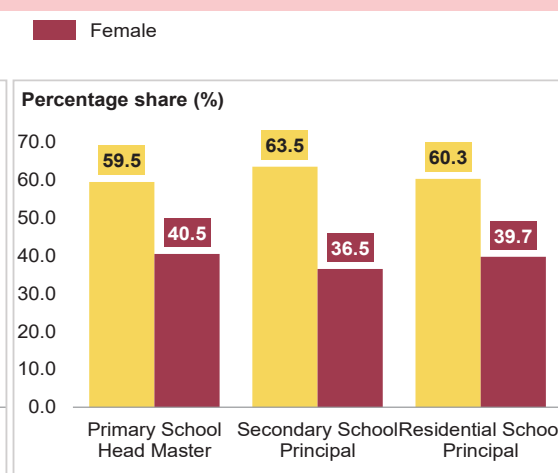


Chart 13:
Percentage share of decision makers in education sector by position and sex, 2023



Source: Statistics on Women's Empowerment in Selected Domains, DOSM

The largest median gender pay gap was recorded in 2022 at 20.0 per cent, before narrowing slightly to 17.2 per cent in 2023. Throughout this period, the mean pay gap consistently remained higher than the median, indicating that a concentration of high-earning male employees continues to disproportionately influence the average income levels. While the reduction in the median gap reflects modest progress, the persistence of a mean pay gap exceeding 20.0 per cent underscores the ongoing structural inequality in earnings between men and women [Table 3].

Table 3:
Median and Mean Salaries & Wages of managers by Earnings Type and Gender, Malaysia 2021-2023

Year	Earnings Type	Male	Female	Gap (Value)	Gap (%)
2021	Median	5,982	4,948	1,034	17.3%
	Mean	6,889	5,353	1,536	22.3%
2022	Median	5,871	4,695	1,176	20.0%
	Mean	6,789	5,256	1,533	22.6%
2023	Median	6,096	5,044	1,052	17.2%
	Mean	7,080	5,658	1,422	20.1%

Source: Salaries & Wages Survey Report, DOSM

To accelerate progress towards gender parity in managerial positions, several targeted interventions should be considered. Strengthening mentorship and sponsorship programmes for women can help build confidence, enhance leadership capabilities, and expand professional networks. Expanding access to affordable childcare

services and enhancing parental leave policies, particularly through equitable paternity leave, would support better work-life balance and reduce the disproportionate caregiving burden on women. Additionally, introducing corporate gender reporting requirements would promote transparency and accountability, encouraging organisations to set measurable diversity goals and monitor progress over time.

The Malaysian government has taken several notable actions aligned with these policy recommendations. Through initiatives like TalentCorp's Women Empowerment Month (WEM) and the Gender Action Lab (GAL), mentorship and leadership programmes have been expanded. On the childcare front, Budget 2024 increased tax relief for childcare fees, and efforts are ongoing to support workplace childcare centres. Amendments to the Employment Act 1955 have introduced more inclusive parental leave and flexible work options. Furthermore, regulatory reforms now require public-listed companies to have at least one female director and disclose diversity policies in their annual reports. Complementary efforts include the i-Sayang EPF transfer initiative, the Tabung Kasih Rahmah Wanita emergency fund, and micro-financing programmes like BR Plus - i BizLady and MySMELady 2.0, all of which enhance women's participation and security in the workforce.

Conclusion

Women's leadership in Malaysia has seen encouraging progress in recent years, reflecting a growing recognition of the value of gender diversity. Nonetheless, substantial barriers remain structural inequities, limited access to leadership development, and persistent gender norms continue to restrict full participation. To achieve gender parity, Malaysia must enhance gender-responsive policies, enforce corporate accountability, and foster societal shifts that support women in leadership. Unlocking the economic and social potential of women leaders is not only equitable but vital for national progress. The Government of Malaysia has set a target of 30.0 per cent women's representation in decision-making positions a goal under the Policy of At Least 30.0 Percent Women in Decision Making Positions in the Public Sector adopted since August 2004. Continued efforts are needed to achieve and exceed this benchmark.

Disclaimer

The views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM).

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Q1

STATISTICAL TABLES

2025

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Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q2 2022- Q1 2025

1. Profile of Labour Force Participation Rate

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1'	Q2'	Q3'	Q4'	Q1
Labour force participation rate	(%)	69.2	69.4	69.5	69.8	70.0	70.1	70.1	70.5	70.7	70.6	70.6	70.7
Sex													
Male	(%)	81.8	82.1	82.3	82.6	82.8	83.0	83.0	83.0	83.2	83.2	83.2	83.2
Female	(%)	55.8	55.8	55.9	56.1	56.2	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3
Age group													
15-24	(%)	45.4	45.7	45.7	46.5	46.1	46.3	46.6	46.5	46.9	47.0	47.5	47.8
25-34	(%)	87.9	87.1	86.9	87.3	88.1	88.5	87.6	87.3	87.3	87.0	86.4	86.2
35-44	(%)	84.6	85.2	86.8	86.2	86.0	85.2	85.1	85.0	85.8	85.7	85.0	84.5
45-54	(%)	75.5	75.1	73.9	76.2	76.0	76.4	77.9	78.1	77.5	75.6	75.7	76.0
55-64	(%)	44.2	46.3	46.3	44.2	45.6	45.8	46.0	46.5	46.4	48.9	50.4	51.6
Sex and Age group													
Male	(%)	81.8	82.1	82.3	82.6	82.8	83.0	83.0	83.0	83.2	83.2	83.2	83.2
15-24	(%)	56.7	56.7	58.4	60.5	58.8	58.5	58.5	57.8	59.2	61.4	60.8	51.5
25-34	(%)	95.8	94.7	95.3	94.0	96.2	96.8	96.8	93.8	95.9	95.5	94.3	96.1
35-44	(%)	95.3	97.7	96.6	97.7	97.9	98.1	98.5	97.3	92.0	94.9	95.4	97.0
45-54	(%)	95.3	95.1	93.8	95.4	93.4	95.2	95.9	95.6	95.8	91.3	91.8	96.3
55-64	(%)	64.2	65.7	65.0	62.5	65.4	63.0	62.0	66.9	71.5	67.6	69.1	76.7
Female	(%)	55.8	55.8	55.9	56.1	56.2	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3
15-24	(%)	33.0	33.7	31.7	31.1	32.1	32.9	33.5	33.5	32.5	30.3	32.0	43.4
25-34	(%)	79.1	78.6	77.5	79.7	79.1	79.1	77.2	79.2	76.6	76.4	76.4	73.3
35-44	(%)	73.2	72.0	76.5	74.0	73.2	71.4	70.8	71.1	78.7	75.2	73.0	70.1
45-54	(%)	55.6	55.2	53.9	57.0	58.5	57.5	60.0	59.4	58.0	59.1	58.4	54.4
55-64	(%)	24.2	26.6	27.6	25.8	25.7	28.6	29.9	25.7	21.1	30.1	31.7	26.4
Ethnic group													
Citizens	(%)	67.8	67.9	68.0	68.2	68.4	68.5	68.5	68.5	68.3	68.4	68.5	69.1
Bumiputera	(%)	66.1	66.1	66.1	66.2	66.8	66.9	66.9	67.9	67.8	67.7	67.6	68.0
Chinese	(%)	73.0	72.6	73.2	73.3	72.9	73.0	72.8	70.6	70.3	70.5	71.1	72.2
Indians	(%)	65.9	68.8	69.9	70.5	69.1	69.2	69.7	68.2	68.0	68.2	68.8	70.6
Others	(%)	77.4	81.5	73.0	75.2	70.5	67.3	73.2	60.1	59.0	61.0	61.2	62.6
Non-citizens	(%)	80.4	80.6	80.8	81.2	82.0	82.4	82.4	86.5	88.7	87.6	86.2	82.1
Educational attainment													
No formal education	(%)	67.4	65.2	61.7	63.5	61.7	57.9	62.7	66.5	66.9	66.8	68.8	68.9
Primary	(%)	68.6	69.5	69.2	68.8	68.1	65.0	68.2	71.6	70.2	70.0	71.6	71.8
Secondary	(%)	66.8	67.4	67.5	67.7	67.4	68.7	68.4	67.7	67.8	68.3	68.5	68.7
Tertiary	(%)	74.6	73.8	74.5	74.8	76.8	75.6	74.8	75.9	76.8	75.5	74.4	74.4

Note: ' Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q2 2022- Q1 2025

2. Profile of Labour Force

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
Labour force	('000)	16,343.3	16,442.9	16,542.2	16,648.9	16,727.4	16,824.0	16,911.7	16,770.6	16,913.0	16,996.7	17,097.9	17,229.3
Sex													
Male	('000)	9,979.6	10,057.6	10,118.8	10,186.3	10,240.7	10,300.2	10,355.4	10,500.3	10,633.3	10,662.4	10,752.6	10,869.6
Female	('000)	6,363.7	6,385.3	6,423.3	6,462.5	6,486.7	6,523.8	6,556.3	6,270.2	6,279.7	6,334.3	6,345.2	6,359.7
Age group													
15-24	('000)	2,767.4	2,800.8	2,801.3	2,859.3	2,850.6	2,869.9	2,903.8	2,718.4	2,759.2	2,775.4	2,820.9	2,859.0
25-34	('000)	5,590.8	5,553.2	5,590.9	5,612.4	5,678.5	5,722.7	5,704.0	5,192.4	5,246.4	5,241.7	5,266.7	5,318.1
35-44	('000)	4,095.1	4,131.2	4,239.9	4,208.0	4,201.3	4,200.1	4,195.8	4,634.8	4,699.0	4,739.8	4,717.5	4,706.9
45-54	('000)	2,657.5	2,655.4	2,606.0	2,711.4	2,710.9	2,733.9	2,800.1	2,920.0	2,904.5	2,860.2	2,867.5	2,882.6
55-64	('000)	1,232.5	1,302.3	1,304.1	1,257.8	1,286.1	1,297.4	1,308.0	1,305.0	1,303.9	1,379.6	1,425.2	1,462.7
Sex and Age group													
Male	('000)	9,979.6	10,057.6	10,118.8	10,186.3	10,240.7	10,300.2	10,355.4	10,500.3	10,633.3	10,662.4	10,752.6	10,869.6
15-24	('000)	1,806.3	1,819.0	1,876.9	1,946.0	1,903.9	1,898.8	1,910.3	1,809.0	1,874.7	1,946.5	1,942.6	1,662.7
25-34	('000)	3,222.3	3,193.2	3,240.6	3,195.1	3,273.1	3,307.4	3,334.8	3,085.7	3,207.6	3,195.0	3,208.4	3,348.3
35-44	('000)	2,373.5	2,434.0	2,428.0	2,456.7	2,471.9	2,494.1	2,504.9	2,816.2	2,690.0	2,791.2	2,829.0	2,886.6
45-54	('000)	1,681.2	1,678.9	1,656.6	1,696.2	1,668.8	1,707.2	1,721.6	1,840.8	1,852.5	1,774.5	1,795.8	1,884.2
55-64	('000)	896.2	932.5	916.7	892.4	922.9	892.7	883.8	948.6	1,008.5	955.1	976.8	1,087.7
Female	('000)	6,363.7	6,385.3	6,423.3	6,462.5	6,486.7	6,523.8	6,556.3	6,270.2	6,279.7	6,334.3	6,345.2	6,359.7
15-24	('000)	961.1	981.8	924.4	913.3	946.7	971.1	993.5	909.4	884.5	828.8	878.3	1,196.2
25-34	('000)	2,368.5	2,360.1	2,350.2	2,417.2	2,405.3	2,415.3	2,369.2	2,106.7	2,038.9	2,046.7	2,058.4	1,969.8
35-44	('000)	1,721.5	1,697.2	1,811.9	1,751.4	1,729.4	1,706.0	1,691.0	1,818.5	2,009.0	1,948.6	1,888.6	1,820.2
45-54	('000)	976.3	976.5	949.4	1,015.1	1,042.1	1,026.7	1,078.5	1,079.2	1,051.9	1,085.7	1,071.7	998.4
55-64	('000)	336.2	369.8	387.4	365.5	363.2	404.7	424.2	356.4	295.4	424.5	448.4	375.1
Ethnic group													
Citizens	('000)	14,119.4	14,195.0	14,296.1	14,387.6	14,457.6	14,532.4	14,605.5	14,477.3	14,482.8	14,522.0	14,582.1	14,757.7
Bumiputera	('000)	9,435.1	9,478.8	9,511.3	9,599.1	9,722.1	9,780.9	9,821.7	9,922.7	9,942.3	9,955.2	9,970.8	10,054.5
Chinese	('000)	3,543.2	3,525.8	3,557.8	3,567.5	3,549.1	3,557.1	3,554.2	3,482.9	3,467.0	3,479.8	3,514.1	3,571.7
Indians	('000)	1,006.8	1,052.8	1,093.9	1,075.6	1,060.2	1,066.8	1,075.5	989.1	988.3	992.6	1,009.2	1,031.0
Others	('000)	134.4	137.5	133.0	145.4	126.2	127.6	154.1	82.6	85.1	94.4	87.9	100.5
Non-citizens	('000)	2,223.8	2,247.9	2,246.1	2,261.3	2,269.9	2,291.6	2,306.2	2,293.3	2,430.1	2,474.6	2,515.8	2,471.6
Educational attainment													
No formal education	('000)	505.2	518.4	438.4	464.8	502.4	428.3	431.2	451.7	439.3	396.1	431.6	448.1
Primary	('000)	1,501.8	1,452.4	1,450.6	1,487.2	1,443.8	1,333.1	1,406.9	1,438.0	1,498.2	1,546.1	1,528.0	1,563.1
Secondary	('000)	9,250.0	9,280.5	9,428.9	9,438.1	9,503.4	9,749.2	9,736.0	9,458.3	9,516.5	9,506.0	9,557.1	9,610.3
Tertiary	('000)	5,086.3	5,191.6	5,224.3	5,258.8	5,277.9	5,313.3	5,337.7	5,422.6	5,459.0	5,548.4	5,581.2	5,607.8

Note: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q2 2022- Q1 2025

3. Profile of Employed Person

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1'	Q2'	Q3'	Q4'	Q1
Employed	('000)	15,701.2	15,831.1	15,941.7	16,062.0	16,146.1	16,250.9	16,346.7	16,216.8	16,368.3	16,455.7	16,559.1	16,703.0
Employment to population ratio	(%)	66.5	66.8	67.0	67.3	67.5	67.7	67.8	68.2	68.4	68.4	68.4	68.6
Sex													
Male	('000)	9,596.3	9,692.0	9,763.0	9,840.8	9,901.6	9,968.4	10,029.4	10,173.7	10,307.4	10,339.8	10,430.9	10,554.2
Female	('000)	6,104.9	6,139.1	6,178.7	6,221.2	6,244.5	6,282.5	6,317.3	6,043.1	6,061.0	6,115.9	6,128.3	6,148.8
Age group													
15-24	('000)	2,464.0	2,499.5	2,501.9	2,570.9	2,544.9	2,574.8	2,609.4	2,447.9	2,488.4	2,506.5	2,541.3	2,577.3
25-34	('000)	5,371.6	5,347.1	5,399.8	5,452.0	5,512.7	5,573.5	5,548.3	5,074.4	5,134.5	5,119.5	5,149.8	5,194.1
35-44	('000)	4,040.7	4,079.9	4,180.0	4,118.4	4,144.8	4,147.3	4,153.8	4,567.4	4,622.3	4,671.6	4,666.9	4,668.1
45-54	('000)	2,610.9	2,619.1	2,579.6	2,680.8	2,681.7	2,696.2	2,761.5	2,872.7	2,860.6	2,816.4	2,817.9	2,849.4
55-64	('000)	1,214.0	1,285.4	1,280.4	1,240.0	1,262.0	1,259.1	1,273.6	1,254.4	1,262.5	1,341.7	1,383.3	1,414.0
Sex and Age group													
Male	('000)	9,596.3	9,692.0	9,763.0	9,840.8	9,901.6	9,968.4	10,029.4	10,173.7	10,307.4	10,339.8	10,430.9	10,554.2
15-24	('000)	1,622.0	1,590.8	1,667.4	1,762.9	1,718.3	1,741.1	1,720.8	1,655.3	1,722.5	1,785.2	1,757.0	1,491.6
25-34	('000)	3,103.6	3,120.2	3,157.4	3,092.7	3,184.0	3,226.6	3,261.8	3,015.0	3,133.4	3,128.0	3,147.6	3,286.5
35-44	('000)	2,338.1	2,409.1	2,402.2	2,423.8	2,442.8	2,463.1	2,483.6	2,780.8	2,643.8	2,752.7	2,803.8	2,856.8
45-54	('000)	1,651.2	1,652.4	1,637.2	1,679.5	1,652.1	1,678.2	1,702.1	1,815.1	1,826.4	1,738.9	1,773.9	1,856.4
55-64	('000)	881.4	919.4	898.9	881.8	904.4	859.3	861.1	907.4	981.3	935.0	948.5	1,063.0
Female	('000)	6,104.9	6,139.1	6,178.7	6,221.2	6,244.5	6,282.5	6,317.3	6,043.1	6,061.0	6,115.9	6,128.3	6,148.8
15-24	('000)	842.0	908.7	834.5	807.9	826.6	833.6	888.6	792.6	766.0	721.4	784.3	1,085.7
25-34	('000)	2,267.9	2,226.9	2,242.5	2,359.2	2,328.7	2,346.9	2,286.5	2,059.4	2,001.1	1,991.5	2,002.2	1,907.7
35-44	('000)	1,702.6	1,670.7	1,777.8	1,694.6	1,702.0	1,684.2	1,670.3	1,786.6	1,978.5	1,918.8	1,863.1	1,811.4
45-54	('000)	959.7	966.8	942.3	1,001.3	1,029.5	1,018.0	1,059.4	1,057.6	1,034.1	1,077.5	1,044.0	993.0
55-64	('000)	332.6	366.0	381.5	358.2	357.6	399.8	412.4	346.9	281.2	406.7	434.7	351.0
Ethnic group													
Citizens	('000)	13,575.9	13,676.9	13,783.9	13,883.8	13,958.8	14,040.4	14,123.4	13,995.7	14,007.1	14,048.4	14,109.7	14,296.0
Bumiputera	('000)	9,047.8	9,093.1	9,147.9	9,233.7	9,349.5	9,433.4	9,477.4	9,564.1	9,590.0	9,605.6	9,619.3	9,706.2
Chinese	('000)	3,423.1	3,429.2	3,462.3	3,468.1	3,466.6	3,470.3	3,474.7	3,409.4	3,394.1	3,405.4	3,441.9	3,502.6
Indians	('000)	974.1	1,023.3	1,048.6	1,039.2	1,020.5	1,017.9	1,031.7	944.8	945.4	952.0	968.5	991.2
Others	('000)	131.0	131.3	125.2	142.8	122.2	118.8	139.6	77.4	77.6	85.4	79.9	96.0
Non-citizens	('000)	2,125.3	2,154.2	2,157.8	2,178.2	2,187.3	2,210.4	2,223.2	2,221.1	2,361.2	2,407.3	2,449.4	2,407.0
Educational attainment													
No formal education	('000)	470.6	485.5	420.5	436.6	474.2	404.0	404.8	421.5	410.3	370.2	399.7	423.3
Primary	('000)	1,430.4	1,392.9	1,395.8	1,439.9	1,397.5	1,289.2	1,353.8	1,385.1	1,450.7	1,487.3	1,469.6	1,506.1
Secondary	('000)	8,901.5	8,957.7	9,062.6	9,091.8	9,156.3	9,408.0	9,405.6	9,129.7	9,192.7	9,204.3	9,251.1	9,304.6
Tertiary	('000)	4,898.7	4,995.0	5,062.8	5,093.7	5,117.9	5,149.6	5,182.6	5,280.4	5,314.5	5,393.9	5,438.8	5,469.0

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

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q2 2022- Q1 2025

3. Profile of Employed Person (cont.)

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
Status in employment													
Employer	('000)	558.5	568.7	571.8	581.7	585.2	586.1	588.6	569.8	591.8	630.1	659.0	617.6
Employee	('000)	11,873.6	11,934.4	12,001.9	12,056.5	12,102.0	12,190.1	12,265.5	12,464.0	12,533.9	12,582.4	12,627.4	12,743.6
Own account worker	('000)	2,772.9	2,836.1	2,878.2	2,935.9	2,968.6	2,982.8	2,998.9	2,754.5	2,804.2	2,818.5	2,859.7	2,901.9
Unpaid family worker	('000)	496.3	491.8	489.8	487.9	490.3	491.9	493.7	428.5	438.4	424.7	413.0	439.9
Occupation													
Managers	('000)	635.6	642.6	648.1	655.0	659.5	663.3	669.3	798.7	801.9	810.9	814.1	847.8
Professionals	('000)	2,023.0	2,046.2	2,057.9	2,078.8	2,090.0	2,099.6	2,105.7	2,199.9	2,209.0	2,211.2	2,228.3	2,249.0
Technicians and associate professionals	('000)	1,728.2	1,737.3	1,745.1	1,753.1	1,762.9	1,770.2	1,778.4	1,949.0	1,955.3	1,967.3	1,974.6	1,982.3
Clerical support workers	('000)	1,755.5	1,762.2	1,769.8	1,774.3	1,781.2	1,789.5	1,793.4	1,588.4	1,600.8	1,617.6	1,657.5	1,671.1
Service and sales workers	('000)	4,042.5	4,061.7	4,079.2	4,094.1	4,103.5	4,135.5	4,162.9	3,865.9	3,880.8	3,889.6	3,894.3	3,915.9
Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock and fishery workers	('000)	627.8	626.7	628.1	641.5	645.8	650.9	650.5	694.7	692.9	690.3	695.1	698.5
Craft and related trades workers	('000)	1,296.3	1,305.8	1,312.9	1,318.0	1,326.1	1,329.0	1,334.7	1,412.5	1,448.1	1,462.5	1,466.7	1,476.5
Plant and machine-operators and assemblers	('000)	1,648.6	1,666.1	1,683.2	1,689.7	1,698.2	1,698.3	1,706.3	1,638.5	1,673.6	1,682.5	1,697.8	1,708.2
Elementary occupations	('000)	1,943.7	1,982.4	2,017.5	2,057.5	2,079.0	2,114.6	2,145.3	2,069.3	2,106.0	2,123.8	2,130.5	2,153.6
Skill													
Skilled	('000)	4,386.8	4,426.1	4,451.1	4,486.9	4,512.4	4,533.1	4,553.4	4,947.6	4,966.2	4,989.4	5,017.0	5,079.1
Semi-skilled	('000)	9,370.7	9,422.5	9,473.2	9,517.6	9,554.8	9,603.2	9,647.8	9,200.0	9,296.2	9,342.5	9,411.4	9,470.2
Low-skilled	('000)	1,943.7	1,982.4	2,017.5	2,057.5	2,079.0	2,114.6	2,145.3	2,069.3	2,106.0	2,123.8	2,130.5	2,153.6

Note: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q2 2022- Q1 2025

4. Profile of Underemployment

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
Working less than 30 hours	('000)	324.5	287.2	268.5	274.2	280.4	284.8	286.1	272.9	269.9	264.2	257.9	242.7
Sex													
Male	('000)	154.5	132.9	115.4	114.2	120.2	122.0	113.6	122.2	121.5	116.7	113.5	106.3
Female	('000)	170.0	154.3	153.0	160.0	160.2	162.8	172.5	150.7	148.4	147.5	144.4	136.5
Age group													
15-24	('000)	76.4	35.3	46.1	37.4	54.0	41.5	49.1	33.9	55.9	43.0	64.5	70.4
25-34	('000)	94.3	99.5	88.0	94.4	85.3	113.2	108.7	77.8	65.2	74.1	59.8	37.7
35-44	('000)	63.0	68.4	56.2	46.5	58.6	49.6	43.3	62.6	60.0	57.4	37.9	71.4
45 and above	('000)	90.8	84.0	78.3	95.8	82.5	80.4	85.1	98.6	88.9	89.7	95.8	63.3
Time-related underemployment	('000)	212.8	186.8	167.4	174.6	186.3	189.0	181.6	161.8	157.4	155.9	152.7	146.9
Sex													
Male	('000)	111.6	92.3	79.3	78.7	86.4	88.1	82.7	76.6	74.0	73.9	70.9	68.9
Female	('000)	101.3	94.5	88.1	95.9	99.9	100.8	98.9	85.2	83.3	82.0	81.8	78.0
Age group													
15-24	('000)	64.5	16.7	29.9	30.2	39.5	34.4	26.5	22.6	23.3	27.2	32.5	50.4
25-34	('000)	59.8	67.4	63.8	66.4	62.6	79.0	81.1	55.7	50.1	48.1	39.6	28.6
35-44	('000)	37.0	49.0	32.5	25.2	34.4	32.6	28.4	30.9	38.9	25.2	23.9	38.9
45 and above	('000)	51.6	53.7	41.2	52.8	49.8	42.9	45.6	52.6	45.1	55.4	56.8	29.1
Skill-related underemployment	('000)	1,799.6	1,839.6	1,891.4	1,907.2	1,914.6	1,922.7	1,937.1	1,920.8	1,923.1	1,942.4	1,946.3	1,953.7
Sex													
Male	('000)	892.3	857.9	1,022.0	944.0	873.1	941.3	996.2	864.7	868.7	879.4	880.7	885.6
Female	('000)	907.3	981.7	869.5	963.3	1,041.5	981.4	940.9	1,056.1	1,054.5	1,063.0	1,065.5	1,068.1
Age group													
15-24	('000)	356.3	344.1	326.3	373.9	421.3	425.5	400.2	352.6	401.5	390.7	373.2	393.5
25-34	('000)	799.4	861.4	894.9	879.1	867.5	816.1	815.3	735.2	732.7	808.1	704.2	794.0
35-44	('000)	433.3	432.2	476.0	447.4	421.0	457.8	493.7	522.5	539.3	498.3	495.7	492.6
45 and above	('000)	210.6	201.9	194.2	206.8	204.8	223.3	227.9	310.6	249.6	245.3	373.1	273.6
Rate of time-related underemployment	(%)	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9
Rate of skill-related underemployment	(%)	36.7	36.8	37.4	37.4	37.4	37.3	37.4	36.4	36.2	36.0	35.8	35.7

Note: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q2 2022- Q1 2025

5. Profile of Unemployment

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
Unemployed	('000)	642.0	611.8	600.5	586.9	581.4	573.1	565.0	553.8	544.6	541.0	538.7	526.3
Strata													
Urban	('000)	480.9	467.6	458.5	466.4	453.3	447.8	435.1	389.2	385.9	385.0	384.7	380.8
Rural	('000)	161.1	144.2	142	120.4	128.1	125.3	129.9	164.5	158.7	156.0	154.1	145.5
Sex													
Male	('000)	383.3	365.7	355.8	345.5	339.1	331.8	326.0	326.7	325.9	322.6	321.8	315.4
Female	('000)	258.8	246.2	244.7	241.3	242.2	241.2	239.0	227.1	218.7	218.4	217.0	211.0
Age group													
15-24	('000)	303.4	301.3	299.4	288.4	305.7	295.1	294.4	270.4	270.8	268.9	279.7	281.7
25-34	('000)	219.2	206.1	191.1	160.4	165.7	149.2	155.6	118.0	111.9	122.2	116.9	124.0
35-44	('000)	54.3	51.4	59.9	89.7	56.5	52.8	42.0	67.4	76.7	68.2	50.7	38.8
45-54	('000)	46.6	36.2	26.4	30.6	29.3	37.7	38.6	47.3	43.9	43.9	49.6	33.2
55-64	('000)	18.5	16.9	23.7	17.8	24.1	38.3	34.4	50.7	41.4	37.9	41.9	48.7
Ethnic group													
Citizens	('000)	543.5	518.1	512.2	503.7	498.8	491.9	482.1	481.6	475.7	473.6	472.4	461.8
Bumiputera	('000)	387.3	385.7	363.4	365.4	372.6	347.5	344.3	358.6	352.4	349.6	351.5	348.3
Chinese	('000)	120.1	96.7	95.5	99.4	82.5	86.7	79.5	73.4	72.9	74.4	72.2	69.1
Indians	('000)	32.7	29.5	45.4	36.3	39.7	48.9	43.8	44.3	43.0	40.6	40.7	39.8
Others	('000)	3.4	6.2	7.9	2.6	4.0	8.8	14.5	5.2	7.5	9.0	8.0	4.5
Non-citizens	('000)	98.5	93.7	88.3	83.1	82.6	81.2	83.0	72.2	68.9	67.3	66.4	64.6
Unemployed category													
Actively unemployed	('000)	567.5	534.0	515.4	495.8	493.4	468.6	460.9	433.9	432.3	429.2	427.8	421.5
Duration of unemployment													
Less than 3 month	('000)	336.9	321.0	313.5	312.4	318.1	316.5	311.6	274.0	274.0	272.7	272.2	269.9
3 month to less than 6 month	('000)	128.9	114.7	109.3	100.4	94.9	85.8	83.4	88.7	87.9	86.9	86.3	84.5
6 month to less than 1 year	('000)	65.2	61.0	56.7	47.6	45.7	42.0	40.3	46.4	45.8	45.1	45.0	43.2
More than 1 year	('000)	36.5	37.3	35.9	35.4	34.7	24.3	25.6	24.7	24.7	24.5	24.3	23.9
Inactively unemployed	('000)	74.5	77.8	85.1	91.1	88.0	104.5	104.1	119.9	112.3	111.8	110.9	104.8

Note: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q2 2022- Q1 2025

5. Profile of Unemployment (cont.)

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1
Strata													
Urban	(%)	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9
Rural	(%)	5.1	4.6	4.4	3.9	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.8
Sex													
Male	(%)	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9
Female	(%)	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.3
Age group													
15-24	(%)	11.0	10.8	10.7	10.1	10.7	10.3	10.1	9.9	9.8	9.7	9.9	9.9
25-34	(%)	3.9	3.7	3.4	2.9	2.9	2.6	2.7	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.3
35-44	(%)	1.3	1.2	1.4	2.1	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.1	0.8
45-54	(%)	1.8	1.4	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.2
55-64	(%)	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.4	1.9	3.0	2.6	3.9	3.2	2.7	2.9	3.3
Ethnic group													
Citizens	(%)	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.1
Bumiputera	(%)	4.1	4.1	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Chinese	(%)	3.4	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.9
Indians	(%)	3.2	2.8	4.1	3.4	3.7	4.6	4.1	4.5	4.3	4.1	4.0	3.9
Others	(%)	2.5	4.5	5.9	1.8	3.2	6.9	9.4	6.3	8.8	9.5	9.1	4.5
Non-citizens	(%)	4.4	4.2	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.1	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.6

Note: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q2 2022- Q1 2025

6. Profile of Outside Labour Force

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
Outside labour force	('000)	7,258.5	7,250.6	7,246.1	7,215.7	7,180.2	7,182.3	7,197.6	7,021.1	7,016.2	7,070.9	7,110.7	7,126.1
Sex													
Male	('000)	2,218.9	2,198.3	2,183.6	2,149.9	2,120.7	2,112.9	2,118.7	2,155.7	2,145.5	2,149.0	2,177.9	2,189.6
Female	('000)	5,039.7	5,052.2	5,062.5	5,065.7	5,059.5	5,069.3	5,078.9	4,865.4	4,870.7	4,922.0	4,932.8	4,936.5
Age group													
15-24	('000)	3,324.5	3,321.3	3,331.2	3,289.8	3,334.7	3,324.0	3,320.9	3,127.3	3,128.6	3,133.7	3,120.0	3,125.1
25-34	('000)	768.7	822.4	840.5	819.1	766.1	745.6	811.1	756.7	762.8	781.7	830.4	853.8
35-44	('000)	747.9	719.1	642.0	673.4	686.5	731.3	736.9	815.0	775.4	790.1	835.0	863.5
45-54	('000)	862.1	878.1	922.3	846.4	855.8	846.6	792.5	821.2	844.7	921.0	922.9	909.2
55-64	('000)	1,555.4	1,509.7	1,510.1	1,586.9	1,537.1	1,534.8	1,536.2	1,500.9	1,504.6	1,444.3	1,402.4	1,374.4
Sex and Age group													
Male	('000)	2,218.9	2,198.3	2,183.6	2,149.9	2,120.7	2,112.9	2,118.7	2,155.7	2,145.5	2,149.0	2,177.9	2,189.6
15-24	('000)	1,377.3	1,386.7	1,336.0	1,269.4	1,331.5	1,345.9	1,352.7	1,323.2	1,289.6	1,223.4	1,250.6	1,563.5
25-34	('000)	142.9	180.3	158.2	204.9	130.2	107.7	110.1	203.3	138.7	150.0	193.2	135.0
35-44	('000)	117.1	57.5	86.3	58.3	51.9	47.6	39.4	76.7	233.3	148.5	136.9	87.8
45-54	('000)	82.2	87.1	109.7	81.9	118.0	86.9	74.0	83.9	81.9	169.3	159.4	72.0
55-64	('000)	499.3	486.7	493.5	535.4	489.1	524.9	542.6	468.6	402.0	457.7	437.7	331.3
Female	('000)	5,039.7	5,052.2	5,062.5	5,065.7	5,059.5	5,069.3	5,078.9	4,865.4	4,870.7	4,922.0	4,932.8	4,936.5
15-24	('000)	1,947.1	1,934.6	1,995.2	2,020.4	2,003.2	1,978.1	1,968.2	1,804.1	1,839.1	1,910.3	1,869.4	1,561.6
25-34	('000)	625.8	642.0	682.2	614.3	635.9	637.9	701.0	553.5	624.1	631.7	637.2	718.8
35-44	('000)	630.8	661.6	555.8	615.1	634.6	683.7	697.6	738.3	542.2	641.6	698.1	775.8
45-54	('000)	779.9	791.0	812.6	764.5	737.8	759.7	718.5	737.3	762.8	751.7	763.5	837.2
55-64	('000)	1,056.0	1,023.0	1,016.7	1,051.5	1,048.0	1,009.9	993.7	1,032.3	1,102.6	986.6	964.7	1,043.1
Reason for not seeking work													
Schooling/ training program	('000)	2,989.8	2,989.0	3,043.6	3,006.8	2,955.5	2,926.9	2,993.0	2,888.1	2,893.4	2,902.0	2,938.8	2,961.1
Housework/ family	('000)	3,059.8	3,126.0	3,169.8	3,171.2	3,195.1	3,200.8	3,167.8	3,068.1	3,074.9	3,112.4	3,134.2	3,152.1
Going for further studies	('000)	150.3	161.6	123.5	128.3	134.2	140.8	124.2	103.5	112.2	104.6	90.8	113.0
Disabled	('000)	245.1	199.2	174.7	174.4	191.9	196.1	194.8	213.1	205.4	211.5	224.9	219.6
Not interested/ just completed study	('000)	86.5	90.5	75.9	66.8	50.7	40.9	33.7	76.1	79.8	82.9	85.1	82.9
Retired/ old age	('000)	727.1	684.3	658.6	668.3	652.8	676.8	684.1	672.2	650.6	657.5	636.9	597.3

Note: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q2 2022- Q1 2025

7. Principal Statistics of Labour Force by State

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
Malaysia													
Labour force	('000)	16,343.3	16,442.9	16,542.2	16,648.9	16,727.4	16,824.0	16,911.7	16,770.6	16,913.0	16,996.7	17,097.9	17,229.3
Employed	('000)	15,701.2	15,831.1	15,941.7	16,062.0	16,146.1	16,250.9	16,346.7	16,216.8	16,368.3	16,455.7	16,559.1	16,703.0
Unemployed	('000)	642.0	611.8	600.5	586.9	581.4	573.1	565.0	553.8	544.6	541.0	538.7	526.3
Outside labour force	('000)	7,258.5	7,250.6	7,246.1	7,215.7	7,180.2	7,182.3	7,197.6	7,021.1	7,016.2	7,070.9	7,110.7	7,126.1
Labour force participation rate	(%)	69.2	69.4	69.5	69.8	70.0	70.1	70.1	70.5	70.7	70.6	70.6	70.7
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1
Johor													
Labour force	('000)	1,848.4	1,864.4	1,856.0	1,878.7	1,884.6	1,910.2	1,936.4	2,101.6	2,114.8	2,135.9	2,161.6	2,174.3
Employed	('000)	1,795.0	1,818.1	1,812.2	1,830.1	1,838.7	1,863.2	1,891.8	2,055.1	2,067.6	2,088.3	2,110.1	2,124.5
Unemployed	('000)	53.4	46.3	43.7	48.6	46.0	47.0	44.6	46.5	47.2	47.6	51.6	49.9
Outside labour force	('000)	813.2	810.7	823.7	812.8	811.5	795.5	788.5	853.3	840.6	846.3	847.4	856.7
Labour force participation rate	(%)	69.4	69.7	69.3	69.8	69.9	70.6	71.1	71.1	71.6	71.6	71.8	71.7
Unemployment rate	(%)	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.3
Kedah													
Labour force	('000)	1,034.1	1,048.5	1,057.3	1,057.1	1,064.7	1,068.4	1,082.7	990.8	995.3	984.4	989.2	1,003.3
Employed	('000)	999.8	1,017.3	1,022.5	1,027.3	1,036.7	1,043.8	1,060.2	964.0	971.0	960.3	965.3	978.2
Unemployed	('000)	34.3	31.2	34.8	29.8	28.0	24.6	22.5	26.8	24.2	24.1	23.8	25.1
Outside labour force	('000)	539.7	533.7	539.7	537.4	536.4	540.0	533.6	491.9	498.3	504.0	508.1	510.3
Labour force participation rate	(%)	65.7	66.3	66.2	66.3	66.5	66.4	67.0	66.8	66.6	66.1	66.1	66.3
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.3	3.0	3.3	2.8	2.6	2.3	2.1	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.5
Kelantan													
Labour force	('000)	791.0	792.0	800.7	805.2	808.2	818.6	829.7	708.6	721.1	735.4	738.6	738.7
Employed	('000)	760.8	763.1	768.0	773.8	776.4	784.7	796.6	680.3	694.4	707.4	706.6	707.8
Unemployed	('000)	30.3	28.9	32.8	31.3	31.7	33.9	33.1	28.3	26.7	28.0	32.0	30.8
Outside labour force	('000)	498.4	504.3	505.5	506.2	510.2	508.1	507.3	505.5	503.8	492.4	495.3	503.0
Labour force participation rate	(%)	61.3	61.1	61.3	61.4	61.3	61.7	62.1	58.4	58.9	59.9	59.9	59.5
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.8	3.6	4.1	3.9	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.7	3.8	4.3	4.2
Melaka													
Labour force	('000)	463.0	463.2	454.2	453.7	452.1	458.0	461.9	514.1	523.8	521.1	522.4	524.5
Employed	('000)	448.0	451.1	441.9	440.5	440.0	445.4	450.1	504.1	514.6	511.6	510.7	514.6
Unemployed	('000)	15.0	12.1	12.3	13.2	12.1	12.6	11.8	10.1	9.2	9.5	11.7	9.9
Outside labour force	('000)	211.2	207.3	222.7	226.1	227.7	224.6	222.8	224.0	219.3	223.9	228.2	234.5
Labour force participation rate	(%)	68.7	69.1	67.1	66.7	66.5	67.1	67.5	69.6	70.5	69.9	69.6	69.1
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.2	2.6	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.0	1.8	1.8	2.2	1.9
Negeri Sembilan													
Labour force	('000)	511.5	525.0	532.0	530.4	530.4	535.7	529.6	572.2	571.7	569.6	575.1	577.9
Employed	('000)	494.7	509.2	518.0	517.2	518.5	522.7	517.1	556.2	555.5	552.3	558.2	561.6
Unemployed	('000)	16.9	15.8	14.0	13.2	11.9	13.0	12.5	16.0	16.3	17.3	16.9	16.3
Outside labour force	('000)	271.8	266.4	259.9	257.1	261.2	255.6	262.5	272.0	276.0	278.5	282.6	283.1
Labour force participation rate	(%)	65.3	66.3	67.2	67.3	67.0	67.7	66.9	67.8	67.4	67.2	67.1	67.1
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.3	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.8	2.8	3.0	2.9	2.8

Note: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q2 2022- Q1 2025

7. Principal Statistics of Labour Force by State (cont.)

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1ʳ	Q2ʳ	Q3ʳ	Q4ʳ	Q1
Pahang													
Labour force	('000)	745.8	744.5	757.2	760.6	766.9	763.9	761.8	738.0	748.6	752.8	768.6	778.5
Employed	('000)	725.6	722.9	736.5	741.1	745.3	743.4	742.6	722.0	732.7	736.5	751.9	763.4
Unemployed	('000)	20.2	21.6	20.7	19.4	21.6	20.6	19.2	16.1	15.9	16.4	16.7	15.2
Outside labour force	('000)	405.6	406.7	397.7	395.3	395.1	402.4	407.2	413.0	407.8	410.0	404.5	400.1
Labour force participation rate	(%)	64.8	64.7	65.6	65.8	66.0	65.5	65.2	64.1	64.7	64.7	65.5	66.1
Unemployment rate	(%)	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.2	1.9
Pulau Pinang													
Labour force	('000)	926.6	926.4	946.1	937.4	943.6	959.8	965.7	956.7	951.6	940.5	938.2	947.3
Employed	('000)	900.1	902.3	924.4	916.0	923.5	939.4	946.0	936.7	933.9	919.0	914.1	923.2
Unemployed	('000)	26.5	24.1	21.7	21.5	20.1	20.4	19.7	20.0	17.7	21.6	24.1	24.1
Outside labour force	('000)	374.6	380.4	371.2	375.9	372.5	364.1	352.5	366.0	364.5	375.8	383.8	385.2
Labour force participation rate	(%)	71.2	70.9	71.8	71.4	71.7	72.5	73.3	72.3	72.3	71.4	71.0	71.1
Unemployment rate	(%)	2.9	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.9	2.3	2.6	2.5
Perak													
Labour force	('000)	1,143.7	1,149.4	1,122.7	1,121.2	1,120.5	1,121.8	1,130.3	1,206.9	1,193.2	1,194.7	1,186.4	1,206.9
Employed	('000)	1,103.0	1,114.2	1,090.8	1,085.7	1,084.3	1,085.2	1,092.5	1,165.2	1,155.6	1,156.3	1,146.6	1,168.7
Unemployed	('000)	40.7	35.3	31.9	35.5	36.2	36.6	37.8	41.7	37.6	38.5	39.8	38.2
Outside labour force	('000)	585.6	579.2	599.1	603.3	605.9	610.0	604.3	554.6	574.3	578.8	596.6	585.8
Labour force participation rate	(%)	66.1	66.5	65.2	65.0	64.9	64.8	65.2	68.5	67.5	67.4	66.5	67.3
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.6	3.1	2.8	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.2
Perlis													
Labour force	('000)	116.0	119.0	118.2	118.3	119.7	121.2	120.0	137.2	135.5	135.5	134.8	137.6
Employed	('000)	112.3	116.0	115.6	115.8	117.0	118.4	117.6	130.8	130.3	130.4	129.9	133.0
Unemployed	('000)	3.8	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.7	2.9	2.4	6.4	5.2	5.1	4.9	4.5
Outside labour force	('000)	62.8	60.6	62.6	61.5	62.2	61.4	61.9	80.1	78.8	79.1	81.0	79.8
Labour force participation rate	(%)	64.9	66.3	65.4	65.8	65.8	66.4	66.0	63.1	63.2	63.1	62.5	63.3
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.3	2.5	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.0	4.7	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.2
Selangor													
Labour force	('000)	3,760.5	3,766.9	3,809.6	3,850.6	3,886.6	3,904.1	3,901.2	4,021.2	4,045.4	4,123.0	4,120.3	4,151.6
Employed	('000)	3,649.7	3,647.1	3,697.4	3,750.9	3,791.3	3,814.4	3,813.2	3,926.8	3,937.0	4,018.4	4,039.6	4,061.1
Unemployed	('000)	110.8	119.7	112.2	99.7	95.3	89.7	88.0	94.4	108.5	104.6	80.7	90.4
Outside labour force	('000)	1,208.0	1,220.1	1,209.9	1,181.7	1,155.6	1,167.3	1,216.1	1,199.2	1,237.1	1,252.1	1,206.2	1,174.9
Labour force participation rate	(%)	75.7	75.5	75.9	76.5	77.1	77.0	76.2	77.0	76.6	76.7	77.4	77.9
Unemployment rate	(%)	2.9	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.7	2.5	2.0	2.2
Terengganu													
Labour force	('000)	501.6	504.0	514.4	521.0	525.9	523.3	524.3	492.9	494.9	491.8	502.7	498.2
Employed	('000)	479.4	482.1	492.0	499.4	502.3	500.1	500.1	474.0	477.8	476.9	485.8	483.7
Unemployed	('000)	22.2	21.9	22.4	21.7	23.6	23.2	24.2	18.9	17.1	14.9	16.9	14.6
Outside labour force	('000)	347.9	352.4	345.3	343.7	343.4	347.4	350.0	319.6	318.3	324.4	318.3	326.8
Labour force participation rate	(%)	59.0	58.8	59.8	60.3	60.5	60.1	60.0	60.7	60.9	60.3	61.2	60.4
Unemployment rate	(%)	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.4	4.6	3.8	3.4	3.0	3.4	2.9

Note: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q2 2022- Q1 2025

7. Principal Statistics of Labour Force by State (cont.)

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
Sabah													
Labour force	('000)	2,062.9	2,122.4	2,176.5	2,198.0	2,203.7	2,211.5	2,226.9	1,818.7	1,849.7	1,861.1	1,887.3	1,902.4
Employed	('000)	1,885.9	1,948.2	1,999.8	2,028.2	2,038.1	2,045.2	2,061.2	1,674.2	1,710.1	1,720.2	1,750.7	1,775.8
Unemployed	('000)	177.0	174.2	176.7	169.8	165.6	166.3	165.6	144.5	139.7	140.9	136.6	126.6
Outside labour force	('000)	993.9	951.8	907.6	914.2	908.9	921.9	921.3	770.5	754.8	745.7	776.4	799.1
Labour force participation rate	(%)	67.5	69.0	70.6	70.6	70.8	70.6	70.7	70.2	71.0	71.4	70.9	70.4
Unemployment rate	(%)	8.6	8.2	8.1	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.9	7.5	7.6	7.2	6.7
Sarawak													
Labour force	('000)	1,453.1	1,443.0	1,449.8	1,442.5	1,456.3	1,464.0	1,479.0	1,239.1	1,264.5	1,259.8	1,257.6	1,254.3
Employed	('000)	1,404.9	1,400.1	1,405.3	1,393.5	1,403.1	1,414.9	1,428.2	1,195.2	1,223.9	1,221.6	1,214.8	1,210.5
Unemployed	('000)	48.2	42.9	44.5	49.0	53.1	49.1	50.7	43.9	40.6	38.1	42.9	43.8
Outside labour force	('000)	598.6	622.9	627.8	636.8	630.1	630.4	620.0	547.4	529.6	532.3	537.6	545.7
Labour force participation rate	(%)	70.8	69.8	69.8	69.4	69.8	69.9	70.5	69.4	70.5	70.3	70.1	69.7
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.3	3.0	3.1	3.4	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.2	3.0	3.4	3.5
W.P Kuala Lumpur													
Labour force	('000)	898.8	888.6	859.0	886.0	873.7	875.5	874.6	1,164.7	1,193.3	1,183.7	1,208.0	1,225.9
Employed	('000)	859.9	857.2	831.6	857.3	844.4	846.0	845.8	1,128.9	1,158.2	1,153.3	1,171.7	1,192.4
Unemployed	('000)	38.9	31.3	27.4	28.7	29.4	29.5	28.8	35.8	35.0	30.5	36.3	33.4
Outside labour force	('000)	308.7	314.7	337.2	326.6	321.5	316.7	312.1	385.2	375.1	388.3	402.9	399.7
Labour force participation rate	(%)	74.4	73.8	71.8	73.1	73.1	73.4	73.7	75.1	76.1	75.3	75.0	75.4
Unemployment rate	(%)	4.3	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.1	2.9	2.6	3.0	2.7
W.P Labuan													
Labour force	('000)	49.8	49.3	49.3	49.4	51.7	49.4	49.4	47.4	47.5	46.4	46.9	46.7
Employed	('000)	46.2	45.9	47.0	46.7	48.0	45.8	45.9	44.1	44.7	43.5	44.2	44.4
Unemployed	('000)	3.6	3.4	2.2	2.7	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.3	2.8	2.9	2.7	2.3
Outside labour force	('000)	23.6	25.1	24.9	25.3	26.3	24.6	24.5	22.9	22.8	22.7	23.8	23.8
Labour force participation rate	(%)	67.9	66.3	66.4	66.1	66.3	66.8	66.9	67.4	67.6	67.2	66.4	66.3
Unemployment rate	(%)	7.2	6.9	4.5	5.4	7.3	7.3	7.0	6.9	5.8	6.3	5.8	5.0
W.P Putrajaya													
Labour force	('000)	36.3	36.4	39.2	38.9	38.7	38.5	38.4	60.4	62.0	60.9	59.9	61.2
Employed	('000)	36.0	36.1	38.6	38.6	38.5	38.3	37.8	59.3	60.9	60.0	58.8	60.1
Unemployed	('000)	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.6	1.1	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.1
Outside labour force	('000)	15.1	14.4	11.3	11.9	11.7	12.4	13.2	15.8	15.2	16.4	18.0	17.6
Labour force participation rate	(%)	70.7	71.7	77.6	76.5	76.8	75.6	74.4	79.3	80.3	78.7	76.9	77.6
Unemployment rate	(%)	0.9	1.0	1.6	0.8	0.5	0.5	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.5	1.8	1.8

Note: [†] Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q2 2021- Q1 2025

1. Jobs, Filled Jobs, Vacancies, Jobs Created & Rate of Filled Jobs and Rate of Vacancies by Economic Activity

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Total													
Jobs	('000)	8,618.7	8,675.4	8,755.6	8,805.7	8,827.1	8,902.5	8,935.1	8,937.4	8,955.0	9,011.7	9,054.2	9,064.4
Filled jobs	('000)	8,427.4	8,484.2	8,563.2	8,613.1	8,637.3	8,711.6	8,744.9	8,745.5	8,763.6	8,820.0	8,860.7	8,870.3
Rate of Filled Jobs	('000)	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9
Vacancies	('000)	191.3	191.3	192.4	192.6	189.8	190.9	190.2	191.9	191.5	191.8	193.6	194.1
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Jobs created	(%)	29.40	30.53	30.89	31.71	31.70	31.99	31.06	32.14	31.86	31.79	31.46	33.22
Economic activity													
Agriculture													
Jobs	('000)	468.9	470.0	479.8	481.1	482.0	491.3	495.5	499.4	499.7	501.0	501.5	500.5
Filled jobs	('000)	438.2	439.2	448.1	449.3	451.3	460.8	464.5	467.3	468.0	469.0	469.6	468.7
Rate of Filled Jobs	('000)	93.4	93.4	93.4	93.4	93.6	93.8	93.7	93.6	93.6	93.6	93.6	93.7
Vacancies	('000)	30.7	30.8	31.7	31.8	30.7	30.5	31.1	32.1	31.8	32.0	31.9	31.8
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.3
Jobs created	(%)	1.41	1.39	1.67	1.67	1.65	1.43	1.42	1.48	1.28	1.24	1.21	1.31
Mining & Quarrying													
Jobs	('000)	77.6	78.4	79.5	80.1	80.3	80.8	80.6	80.5	80.6	80.2	80.5	80.8
Filled jobs	('000)	77.2	77.9	79.1	79.7	79.9	80.3	80.1	80.0	80.0	79.7	80.0	80.3
Rate of Filled Jobs	('000)	99.4	99.4	99.5	99.4	99.5	99.4	99.3	99.3	99.2	99.4	99.3	99.4
Vacancies	('000)	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.6
Jobs created	(%)	0.10	0.11	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.20	0.22	0.21	0.22	0.21	0.22	0.24
Manufacturing													
Jobs	('000)	2,358.2	2,390.5	2,414.1	2,429.9	2,428.6	2,464.7	2,469.0	2,456.3	2,458.7	2,489.2	2,503.7	2,493.7
Filled jobs	('000)	2,251.3	2,283.2	2,306.5	2,322.2	2,320.7	2,356.8	2,361.0	2,347.5	2,350.4	2,380.1	2,393.2	2,382.5
Rate of Filled Jobs	('000)	95.5	95.5	95.5	95.6	95.6	95.6	95.6	95.6	95.6	95.6	95.6	95.5
Vacancies	('000)	106.9	107.3	107.5	107.7	108.0	107.9	108.0	108.8	108.3	109.1	110.5	111.2
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.5
Jobs created	(%)	9.00	9.80	10.10	10.54	10.05	10.38	10.55	10.73	10.81	10.94	10.97	12.13
Construction													
Jobs	('000)	1,238.4	1,237.1	1,250.8	1,256.5	1,259.1	1,264.4	1,264.8	1,266.1	1,267.7	1,269.8	1,272.0	1,272.5
Filled jobs	('000)	1,215.7	1,214.4	1,227.5	1,233.2	1,235.3	1,238.5	1,239.2	1,240.3	1,241.6	1,244.5	1,246.3	1,247.2
Rate of Filled Jobs	('000)	98.2	98.2	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.0	98.0	98.0	97.9	98.0	98.0	98.0
Vacancies	('000)	22.6	22.7	23.3	23.3	23.7	25.9	25.5	25.7	26.0	25.4	25.7	25.4
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0
Jobs created	(%)	3.45	3.50	3.08	3.25	3.62	4.06	3.74	3.81	3.70	3.67	3.37	3.58
Services													
Jobs	('000)	4,475.7	4,499.4	4,531.4	4,558.1	4,577.1	4,601.4	4,625.2	4,635.1	4,648.3	4,671.4	4,696.5	4,716.8
Filled jobs	('000)	4,445.1	4,469.4	4,501.9	4,528.7	4,550.1	4,575.3	4,600.2	4,610.5	4,623.6	4,646.7	4,671.5	4,691.6
Rate of Filled Jobs	('000)	99.3	99.3	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5
Vacancies	('000)	30.6	30.0	29.4	29.4	27.1	26.1	25.0	24.6	24.7	24.8	25.0	25.2
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Jobs created	(%)	15.45	15.73	15.91	16.12	16.25	15.92	15.13	15.91	15.85	15.73	15.70	15.97

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q2 2021- Q1 2025

2. Jobs, Filled Jobs, Vacancies, Jobs Created & Rate of Filled Jobs and Rate of Vacancies by Skill Category

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Total													
Jobs	('000)	8,618.7	8,675.4	8,755.6	8,805.7	8,827.1	8,902.5	8,935.1	8,937.4	8,955.0	9,011.7	9,054.2	9,064.4
Filled jobs	('000)	8,427.4	8,484.2	8,563.2	8,613.1	8,637.3	8,711.6	8,744.9	8,745.5	8,763.6	8,820.0	8,860.7	8,870.3
Rate of Filled Jobs	('000)	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9
Vacancies	('000)	191.3	191.3	192.4	192.6	189.8	190.9	190.2	191.9	191.5	191.8	193.6	194.1
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Jobs created	(%)	29.40	30.53	30.89	31.71	31.70	31.99	31.06	32.14	31.86	31.79	31.46	33.22
Skill													
Skilled													
Jobs	('000)	2,143.7	2,157.4	2,180.6	2,195.7	2,204.9	2,221.8	2,236.0	2,240.1	2,242.6	2,254.6	2,266.2	2,275.4
Filled jobs	('000)	2,094.4	2,109.1	2,131.9	2,146.4	2,156.1	2,173.2	2,187.9	2,192.3	2,194.7	2,207.1	2,218.6	2,228.1
Rate of Filled Jobs	('000)	97.7	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9
Vacancies	('000)	49.3	48.2	48.6	49.3	48.8	48.6	48.1	47.8	48.0	47.5	47.6	47.4
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Jobs created	(%)	9.27	8.51	8.65	8.62	9.17	9.23	8.59	8.85	8.50	8.39	8.43	8.93
Semi-skilled													
Jobs	('000)	5,364.2	5,405.5	5,458.1	5,494.8	5,506.7	5,560.9	5,587.1	5,587.6	5,598.4	5,634.9	5,659.3	5,657.4
Filled jobs	('000)	5,259.0	5,299.5	5,352.1	5,388.7	5,401.4	5,455.4	5,481.5	5,480.2	5,491.5	5,527.8	5,550.8	5,548.2
Rate of Filled Jobs	('000)	98.0	98.0	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1
Vacancies	('000)	105.1	106.0	105.9	106.2	105.2	105.5	105.6	107.5	106.8	107.1	108.5	109.2
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
Jobs created	(%)	17.56	18.70	19.50	20.23	19.60	19.45	19.34	19.90	20.02	20.13	19.70	20.78
Low-skilled													
Jobs	('000)	1,110.8	1,112.5	1,117.0	1,115.1	1,115.5	1,119.8	1,112.0	1,109.7	1,114.1	1,122.2	1,128.8	1,131.6
Filled jobs	('000)	1,074.0	1,075.5	1,079.1	1,078.0	1,079.7	1,083.0	1,075.5	1,073.1	1,077.4	1,085.1	1,091.2	1,094.1
Rate of Filled Jobs	('000)	96.7	96.7	96.6	96.7	96.8	96.7	96.7	96.7	96.7	96.7	96.7	96.7
Vacancies	('000)	36.9	37.0	37.8	37.1	35.8	36.8	36.5	36.6	36.7	37.2	37.5	37.5
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
Jobs created	(%)	2.58	3.32	2.74	2.86	2.94	3.31	3.13	3.38	3.33	3.27	3.33	3.52

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q2 2021- Q1 2025

3. Jobs by Economic Activity and Skill Category

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Jobs	('000)	8,618.7	8,675.4	8,755.6	8,805.7	8,827.1	8,902.5	8,935.1	8,937.4	8,955.0	9,011.7	9,054.2	9,064.4
Economic activity													
Agriculture	('000)	468.9	470.0	479.8	481.1	482.0	491.3	495.5	499.4	499.7	501.0	501.5	500.5
Mining & Quarrying	('000)	77.6	78.4	79.5	80.1	80.3	80.8	80.6	80.5	80.6	80.2	80.5	80.8
Manufacturing	('000)	2,358.2	2,390.5	2,414.1	2,429.9	2,428.6	2,464.7	2,469.0	2,456.3	2,458.7	2,489.2	2,503.7	2,493.7
Food processing, beverages and tobacco products	('000)	299.6	305.3	312.8	320.8	324.6	336.0	338.1	342.7	344.7	351.5	353.1	354.3
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	('000)	83.9	84.1	86.0	87.2	87.9	87.7	89.0	90.0	89.8	89.4	89.0	90.4
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	('000)	303.2	306.1	308.2	309.6	308.2	311.0	313.1	310.2	310.0	312.8	317.5	314.6
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	('000)	450.0	457.4	456.9	457.3	448.8	456.6	461.0	456.6	450.7	457.9	461.9	459.6
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	('000)	361.1	363.5	365.9	367.2	367.1	375.2	377.6	377.6	377.0	383.8	385.5	387.4
Electrical, electronic and optical products	('000)	630.1	641.2	650.4	650.4	655.3	658.4	649.9	642.0	647.8	652.8	655.0	649.1
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	('000)	230.3	232.8	233.9	237.4	236.8	239.7	240.3	237.1	238.7	240.9	241.6	238.3
Construction	('000)	1,238.4	1,237.1	1,250.8	1,256.5	1,259.1	1,264.4	1,264.8	1,266.1	1,267.7	1,269.8	1,272.0	1,272.5
Services	('000)	4,475.7	4,499.4	4,531.4	4,558.1	4,577.1	4,601.4	4,625.2	4,635.1	4,648.3	4,671.4	4,696.5	4,716.8
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	1,647.0	1,657.1	1,668.7	1,671.1	1,681.8	1,696.0	1,708.1	1,710.8	1,722.3	1,734.0	1,748.2	1,760.8
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	780.5	782.9	793.8	804.2	805.9	808.4	810.6	809.8	804.3	808.4	810.5	812.4
Transportation and storage	('000)	402.5	406.0	411.0	416.5	419.2	420.5	423.0	425.5	427.5	430.0	432.8	434.8
Information and communication	('000)	230.1	231.4	231.9	232.4	232.9	233.4	233.6	234.0	234.8	236.1	237.3	238.0
Finance, insurance, real estate & business services	('000)	905.9	912.8	916.1	922.1	923.1	927.0	930.8	933.8	936.8	939.4	942.1	943.5
Other services	('000)	509.6	509.2	509.8	511.7	514.1	516.2	519.1	521.3	522.6	523.5	525.7	527.3
Skill													
Skilled	('000)	2,143.7	2,157.4	2,180.6	2,195.7	2,204.9	2,221.8	2,236.0	2,240.1	2,242.6	2,254.6	2,266.2	2,275.4
Semi-skilled	('000)	5,364.2	5,405.5	5,458.1	5,494.8	5,506.7	5,560.9	5,587.1	5,587.6	5,598.4	5,634.9	5,659.3	5,657.4
Low-skilled	('000)	1,110.8	1,112.5	1,117.0	1,115.1	1,115.5	1,119.8	1,112.0	1,109.7	1,114.1	1,122.2	1,128.8	1,131.6

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q2 2021- Q1 2025

4. Filled Jobs by Economic Activity and Skill Category

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Filled Jobs	('000)	8,427.4	8,484.2	8,563.2	8,613.1	8,637.3	8,711.6	8,744.9	8,745.5	8,763.6	8,820.0	8,860.7	8,870.3
Economic activity													
Agriculture	('000)	438.2	439.2	448.1	449.3	451.3	460.8	464.5	467.3	468.0	469.0	469.6	468.7
Mining & Quarrying	('000)	77.2	77.9	79.1	79.7	79.9	80.3	80.1	80.0	80.0	79.7	80.0	80.3
Manufacturing	('000)	2,251.3	2,283.2	2,306.5	2,322.2	2,320.7	2,356.8	2,361.0	2,347.5	2,350.4	2,380.1	2,393.2	2,382.5
Food processing, beverages and tobacco products	('000)	286.2	291.8	299.3	307.2	310.6	321.9	324.3	328.8	330.7	337.4	338.5	339.5
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	('000)	80.8	81.0	82.9	84.1	84.8	84.7	86.0	86.8	86.7	86.3	85.9	87.3
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	('000)	290.1	292.7	294.7	296.0	294.6	297.4	299.3	296.5	296.1	298.8	303.7	300.8
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	('000)	429.4	436.9	436.3	437.0	429.2	436.9	441.0	436.5	431.4	438.2	442.3	439.4
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	('000)	346.9	349.6	352.1	353.3	353.2	361.2	363.0	362.8	362.5	369.2	370.4	372.0
Electrical, electronic and optical products	('000)	597.6	608.3	617.2	617.2	621.2	624.6	616.8	608.7	614.2	619.1	620.7	615.1
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	('000)	220.3	222.9	224.1	227.4	227.1	230.1	230.5	227.3	228.8	231.1	231.7	228.4
Construction	('000)	1,215.7	1,214.4	1,227.5	1,233.2	1,235.3	1,238.5	1,239.2	1,240.3	1,241.6	1,244.5	1,246.3	1,247.2
Services	('000)	4,445.1	4,469.4	4,501.9	4,528.7	4,550.1	4,575.3	4,600.2	4,610.5	4,623.6	4,646.7	4,671.5	4,691.6
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	1,636.0	1,646.4	1,657.7	1,660.7	1,671.6	1,686.3	1,698.4	1,701.2	1,712.8	1,724.4	1,738.5	1,751.4
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	778.2	780.3	790.8	801.4	803.8	806.8	809.0	808.2	802.8	806.8	808.8	810.7
Transportation and storage	('000)	400.7	404.3	409.4	415.0	417.7	419.0	421.6	424.1	426.2	428.5	431.3	433.3
Information and communication	('000)	228.8	230.2	230.9	231.4	232.0	232.5	232.8	233.1	233.9	235.2	236.4	237.0
Finance, insurance, real estate & business services	('000)	895.1	901.5	905.8	910.7	912.9	916.7	921.3	924.6	927.6	930.4	933.0	934.1
Other services	('000)	506.2	506.7	507.3	509.5	512.0	513.9	517.0	519.2	520.4	521.3	523.5	525.2
Skill													
Skilled	('000)	2,094.4	2,109.1	2,131.9	2,146.4	2,156.1	2,173.2	2,187.9	2,192.3	2,194.7	2,207.1	2,218.6	2,228.1
Semi-skilled	('000)	5,259.0	5,299.5	5,352.1	5,388.7	5,401.4	5,455.4	5,481.5	5,480.2	5,491.5	5,527.8	5,550.8	5,548.2
Low-skilled	('000)	1,074.0	1,075.5	1,079.1	1,078.0	1,079.7	1,083.0	1,075.5	1,073.1	1,077.4	1,085.1	1,091.2	1,094.1

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q2 2021- Q1 2025

5. Vacancies by Economic Activity and Skill Category

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Vacancies	('000)	191.3	191.3	192.4	192.6	189.8	190.9	190.2	191.9	191.5	191.8	193.6	194.1
Economic activity													
Agriculture	('000)	30.7	30.8	31.7	31.8	30.7	30.5	31.1	32.1	31.8	32.0	31.9	31.8
Mining & Quarrying	('000)	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
Manufacturing	('000)	106.9	107.3	107.5	107.7	108.0	107.9	108.0	108.8	108.3	109.1	110.5	111.2
Food processing, beverages and tobacco products	('000)	13.4	13.5	13.5	13.5	14.0	14.1	13.8	13.8	14.0	14.1	14.6	14.9
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	('000)	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.1
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	('000)	13.1	13.4	13.5	13.6	13.5	13.6	13.8	13.7	13.9	13.9	13.8	13.8
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	('000)	20.6	20.5	20.6	20.4	19.6	19.7	20.0	20.1	19.3	19.7	19.7	20.2
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	('000)	14.2	13.9	13.8	13.9	13.9	14.0	14.5	14.8	14.6	14.6	15.1	15.4
Electrical, electronic and optical products	('000)	32.5	32.9	33.1	33.2	34.2	33.8	33.1	33.4	33.6	33.8	34.3	33.9
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	('000)	10.0	9.9	9.8	9.9	9.7	9.6	9.8	9.9	9.9	9.9	10.0	9.9
Construction	('000)	22.6	22.7	23.3	23.3	23.7	25.9	25.5	25.7	26.0	25.4	25.7	25.4
Services	('000)	30.6	30.0	29.4	29.4	27.1	26.1	25.0	24.6	24.7	24.8	25.0	25.2
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	10.9	10.7	11.0	10.4	10.2	9.6	9.7	9.6	9.5	9.6	9.7	9.4
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	2.3	2.6	3.1	2.8	2.1	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.7
Transportation and storage	('000)	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.5
Information and communication	('000)	1.4	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0
Finance, insurance, real estate & business services	('000)	10.8	11.3	10.3	11.4	10.3	10.3	9.4	9.2	9.2	9.0	9.1	9.4
Other services	('000)	3.4	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1
Skill													
Skilled	('000)	49.3	48.2	48.6	49.3	48.8	48.6	48.1	47.8	48.0	47.5	47.6	47.4
Semi-skilled	('000)	105.1	106.0	105.9	106.2	105.2	105.5	105.6	107.5	106.8	107.1	108.5	109.2
Low-skilled	('000)	36.9	37.0	37.8	37.1	35.8	36.8	36.5	36.6	36.7	37.2	37.5	37.5

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q2 2021- Q1 2025

6. Job Created by Economic Activity and Skill Category

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
Jobs created	('000)	29.40	30.53	30.89	31.71	31.70	31.99	31.06	32.14	31.86	31.79	31.46	33.22
Economic activity													
Agriculture	('000)	1.41	1.39	1.67	1.67	1.65	1.43	1.42	1.48	1.28	1.24	1.21	1.31
Mining & Quarrying	('000)	0.10	0.11	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.20	0.22	0.21	0.22	0.21	0.22	0.24
Manufacturing	('000)	9.00	9.80	10.10	10.54	10.05	10.38	10.55	10.73	10.81	10.94	10.97	12.13
Food processing, beverages and tobacco products	('000)	0.52	0.58	0.65	0.72	0.67	0.76	0.67	0.74	0.63	0.66	0.64	0.86
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	('000)	0.42	0.43	0.44	0.44	0.41	0.41	0.43	0.46	0.40	0.43	0.44	0.50
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	('000)	0.77	0.84	0.89	0.92	0.85	0.90	0.75	0.74	0.75	0.87	1.01	0.90
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	('000)	2.33	2.48	2.60	2.76	2.50	2.67	2.72	2.74	2.74	2.90	2.87	3.15
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	('000)	1.06	1.18	1.22	1.27	1.14	1.29	1.36	1.42	1.50	1.33	1.27	1.56
Electrical, electronic and optical products	('000)	3.22	3.52	3.48	3.49	3.53	3.50	3.71	3.72	3.88	3.96	3.95	4.24
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	('000)	0.68	0.77	0.81	0.94	0.95	0.85	0.91	0.90	0.91	0.78	0.78	0.94
Construction	('000)	3.45	3.50	3.08	3.25	3.62	4.06	3.74	3.81	3.70	3.67	3.37	3.58
Services	('000)	15.45	15.73	15.91	16.12	16.25	15.92	15.13	15.91	15.85	15.73	15.70	15.97
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	6.66	6.79	8.39	8.65	8.82	8.55	8.89	8.99	8.69	9.04	9.12	8.82
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	0.52	0.88	1.00	0.95	1.19	1.10	1.04	1.07	0.78	0.83	0.75	0.68
Transportation and storage	('000)	1.74	2.01	1.26	1.36	1.51	1.40	1.18	1.26	1.52	1.46	1.52	1.35
Information and communication	('000)	1.35	1.35	0.76	0.81	0.57	0.58	0.36	0.52	0.60	0.57	0.63	0.76
Finance, insurance, real estate & business services	('000)	3.27	2.85	2.72	2.85	2.84	2.79	2.52	2.73	2.86	2.46	2.28	2.77
Other services	('000)	1.91	1.85	1.79	1.50	1.33	1.50	1.15	1.34	1.41	1.37	1.39	1.59
Skill													
Skilled	('000)	9.27	8.51	8.65	8.62	9.17	9.23	8.59	8.85	8.50	8.39	8.43	8.93
Semi-skilled	('000)	17.56	18.70	19.50	20.23	19.60	19.45	19.34	19.90	20.02	20.13	19.70	20.78
Low-skilled	('000)	2.58	3.32	2.74	2.86	2.94	3.31	3.13	3.38	3.33	3.27	3.33	3.52

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q1 2025, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q3 2022 - Q3 2023

7. Number of Online Job Vacancies Advertisement by Industry

Indicator	2022						2023								
	Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3		
Advertised Date	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep
Total	54,086	66,093	69,991	63,743	81,784	58,893	49,524	65,297	96,688	48,143	109,262	103,826	107,183	94,942	136,180
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	121	173	179	312	606	302	193	274	362	181	450	307	371	382	411
Mining and quarrying	40	56	57	101	215	176	165	201	215	92	264	134	253	231	318
Manufacturing	11,884	12,409	16,610	7,866	12,880	6,228	6,117	6,761	8,621	5,933	11,837	9,659	10,363	10,071	12,581
Construction	824	1,146	1,168	3,745	6,389	3,906	2,868	3,959	5,050	2,882	6,786	5,173	6,633	5,763	6,178
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	36	58	66	52	53	40	33	45	50	26	39	49	88	75	102
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	45	70	102	126	199	115	116	125	170	99	181	130	212	269	240
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	13,063	13,871	18,216	19,671	20,809	21,633	8,671	11,950	15,335	9,937	20,008	17,652	18,080	21,974	26,877
Transportation and storage	1,415	1,375	1,821	1,896	2,667	1,419	983	1,124	1,445	1,036	2,235	1,616	1,652	1,700	2,237
Accommodation and food service activities	3,484	4,521	5,156	6,784	7,414	3,063	3,125	2,745	4,441	2,839	5,118	6,116	5,065	6,200	7,311
Information and communication	1,540	1,897	2,168	2,872	4,427	2,435	2,702	2,708	3,899	2,388	4,599	4,085	4,777	4,188	6,493
Financial and insurance/takaful activities	3,985	3,993	5,163	4,364	4,427	4,115	3,468	4,159	5,699	4,194	7,766	6,705	6,617	6,296	7,867
Real estate activities	1,106	1,361	1,673	1,213	1,799	989	808	987	1,567	971	1,747	1,534	1,738	1,499	1,939
Professional, scientific and technical activities	5,539	7,090	8,521	4,607	6,114	4,531	3,356	3,942	6,554	3,938	7,845	6,884	6,662	6,127	9,459
Administrative and support service activities	1,110	1,057	1,364	4,954	5,288	3,276	2,965	3,321	4,740	3,488	7,250	6,556	10,490	7,160	11,529
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	185	304	113	249	302	399	146	201	225	238	455	391	307	353	397
Education	1,764	1,963	2,430	1,593	2,632	1,929	1,517	1,571	2,262	1,103	2,768	2,072	2,394	2,024	3,184
Human health and social work activities	1,924	1,994	2,754	1,035	1,519	1,218	897	1,243	1,452	1,092	2,024	1,709	1,578	1,297	1,975
Arts, entertainment and recreation	115	197	216	502	835	410	272	276	330	153	323	278	317	318	357
Other service activities	1,021	1,199	1,499	1,745	2,731	1,945	955	1,322	2,240	811	2,199	1,438	1,408	1,410	1,721
Activities of households as employers	5	6	1	6	6	6	4	8	9	9	11	29	80	48	84
Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	6	11	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	5	46
Unclassified	4,874	11,342	712	50	472	758	10,163	18,375	32,022	6,733	25,357	31,309	28,084	17,552	34,874

Source: Big Data Analytics, Job Market Insights, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q3 2022 - Q3 2023

8. Number of Online Job Vacancies Advertisement by Occupation

Indicator	2022						2023								
	Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3		
Advertised Date	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep
Total	54,086	66,093	69,991	63,743	81,784	58,893	49,524	65,297	96,688	48,143	109,262	103,826	107,183	94,942	136,180
Managers	6,439	9,155	8,823	8,105	8,460	9,021	6,332	8,775	14,096	7,318	15,703	16,546	16,324	13,603	23,229
Professionals	24,939	30,273	32,375	27,033	33,852	26,609	22,992	31,550	46,672	22,845	52,341	50,439	52,750	44,191	67,470
Technician and associate professionals	9,462	12,191	12,781	11,356	15,521	10,189	9,197	11,397	16,514	9,139	20,411	18,310	19,373	19,001	24,254
Clerical support workers	4,807	5,629	5,998	4,709	7,488	4,364	3,955	5,777	8,622	3,456	8,298	6,130	7,410	6,687	7,699
Service and sales workers	4,377	5,021	5,259	8,426	8,719	4,431	4,062	4,487	6,613	3,097	6,777	8,274	6,716	7,258	9,157
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	91	87	99	288	538	598	93	55	64	23	80	49	88	50	45
Craft and related trades workers	1,247	1,321	1,484	1,110	2,316	1,361	905	1,375	1,680	772	1,865	1,314	1,481	1,352	1,409
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	2,724	2,416	3,172	2,716	4,890	2,320	1,988	1,881	2,427	1,493	3,787	2,764	3,041	2,800	2,917
Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

9. Number of Online Job Vacancies Advertisement by State

Indicator	2022						2023								
	Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3		
Advertised Date	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep
Total	54,086	66,093	69,991	63,743	81,784	58,893	49,524	65,297	96,688	48,143	109,262	103,826	107,183	94,942	136,180
Johor	4,339	4,719	5,757	5,624	7,359	3,414	3,603	4,166	4,381	2,784	3,901	4,751	5,368	5,607	6,351
Kedah	599	615	645	668	1,179	555	1,185	1,106	1,238	400	579	567	797	695	618
Kelantan	386	364	417	335	607	411	286	392	342	185	403	250	412	385	343
Melaka	911	1,043	1,184	1,139	1,868	890	924	1,047	1,072	591	986	765	1,183	1,060	1,150
Negeri Sembilan	291	316	362	408	601	246	317	304	341	192	212	288	428	322	442
Pahang	279	482	446	431	798	314	464	414	629	155	451	284	442	501	479
Pulau Pinang	1,898	2,093	2,349	2,204	2,380	1,260	2,152	2,398	2,728	1,474	1,916	1,893	2,334	2,348	2,327
Perak	652	627	721	762	1,386	733	923	959	1,105	448	836	728	1,675	782	838
Perlis	16	35	17	53	98	43	79	76	67	13	19	59	75	21	29
Selangor	8,353	8,867	10,204	9,641	14,062	6,473	11,389	13,167	15,434	5,384	7,491	7,563	9,504	9,230	9,915
Terengganu	319	305	341	369	638	401	370	419	413	151	360	273	462	387	354
Sabah	874	1,015	1,145	908	1,836	888	1,164	1,318	1,614	778	1,115	764	1,357	1,167	1,151
Sarawak	859	1,051	1,212	1,065	2,055	1,155	1,171	1,590	1,733	703	1,129	667	1,513	1,440	1,357
W.P Kuala Lumpur	23,248	25,522	30,413	26,454	32,935	17,937	18,789	19,761	24,177	16,592	20,927	21,703	25,749	29,215	34,371
W.P Labuan	47	59	52	37	80	36	37	50	38	25	43	31	67	40	54
W.P Putrajaya	193	222	274	282	400	183	173	196	221	129	189	128	323	239	296
Unclassified *	10,822	18,758	14,452	13,363	13,502	23,954	6,498	17,934	41,155	18,139	68,705	63,112	55,494	41,503	76,105

Source: Big Data Analytics, Job Market Insights, DOSM

Note: * Including job vacancies for overseas

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2021- Q1 2025

1. Labour Productivity per Hour Worked

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
Value added per hour worked	RM	41.3	42.8	43.3	41.3	40.8	42.3	43.6	42.1	41.8	43.5	44.2	42.5
Economic activity													
Agriculture	RM	23.6	27.5	25.6	23.0	22.9	27.1	25.6	23.3	24.3	28.1	25.1	23.3
Mining & Quarrying	RM	531.0	511.9	558.2	549.1	495.7	499.7	564.7	556.4	514.2	476.4	550.9	551.1
Manufacturing	RM	56.2	58.0	58.6	55.0	54.0	55.3	56.9	54.9	55.6	57.2	58.2	56.4
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	RM	30.4	32.0	30.3	26.2	29.5	30.8	31.2	25.6	29.3	32.2	31.7	28.0
Beverages and tobacco products	RM	251.7	199.4	211.6	202.6	244.5	210.5	204.4	183.9	258.4	205.5	213.1	197.0
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	RM	10.3	10.9	11.6	11.5	10.7	11.2	11.8	11.9	11.3	11.2	11.6	12.2
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	RM	31.2	29.2	29.0	31.8	29.2	27.3	29.0	32.5	30.9	29.9	30.5	33.1
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	RM	92.4	106.7	99.7	89.7	88.2	101.6	96.8	87.2	87.2	100.6	97.0	87.5
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	RM	40.1	39.2	41.7	41.2	41.6	40.2	42.9	43.7	45.1	43.3	43.4	42.5
Electrical, electronic and optical products	RM	78.2	79.6	80.2	82.8	72.4	73.5	73.6	80.4	75.3	77.6	78.4	85.7
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	RM	75.7	65.7	82.4	59.0	72.3	64.4	83.4	60.8	74.2	62.8	81.1	57.1
Construction	RM	15.9	16.6	16.8	16.7	16.5	17.4	17.2	18.7	19.6	20.9	20.5	20.9
Services	RM	39.3	40.5	41.0	39.4	39.2	40.5	41.6	40.1	39.6	41.1	41.9	40.3
Utilities	RM	163.8	163.3	152.3	149.9	161.5	158.9	160.2	160.1	158.9	156.9	158.4	150.0
Wholesale & retail trade	RM	40.2	42.7	43.6	40.3	40.5	44.0	45.8	40.9	41.1	43.9	45.6	41.2
Food & beverages and Accommodation	RM	11.3	11.4	11.6	11.1	11.1	10.9	11.0	11.2	10.9	11.0	11.0	11.0
Transportation and storage	RM	40.4	40.8	39.7	41.4	42.7	43.6	44.0	45.8	45.8	46.9	47.3	47.8
Information and communication	RM	166.3	159.3	153.2	164.1	162.3	161.6	158.0	161.2	160.7	160.7	159.1	162.5
Finance and insurance	RM	120.7	127.6	132.8	131.6	110.6	120.8	114.8	120.7	120.0	119.2	118.5	120.2
Real estate and business services	RM	24.5	25.1	24.4	24.3	25.2	25.3	26.1	26.1	26.0	27.3	27.6	27.7
Other services	RM	33.2	34.3	36.1	34.4	34.6	35.1	37.1	35.2	34.3	36.0	37.8	36.2

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q1 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2021- Q1 2025

2. Labour Productivity per Hour Worked - Annual Percentage Change

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
Value added per hour worked	(%)	1.6	4.2	2.3	2.1	-1.3	-1.1	0.6	1.9	2.5	2.7	1.4	1.0
Economic activity													
Agriculture	(%)	-2.7	0.5	0.8	-0.9	-3.0	-1.7	0.2	1.2	6.2	3.8	-1.9	0.1
Mining & Quarrying	(%)	-6.2	5.4	5.1	2.1	-6.6	-2.4	1.2	1.3	3.7	-4.7	-2.4	-0.9
Manufacturing	(%)	-1.8	1.4	0.4	0.2	-3.9	-4.5	-2.8	-0.2	2.9	3.4	2.2	2.8
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	(%)	-7.1	-4.8	-0.1	2.2	-3.0	-3.5	2.9	-2.2	-0.4	4.3	1.6	9.3
Beverages and tobacco products	(%)	20.2	44.9	-5.8	5.5	-2.9	5.6	-3.4	-9.2	5.7	-2.4	4.3	7.1
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	(%)	-7.0	1.5	1.2	4.4	3.8	2.8	1.5	3.2	5.7	0.0	-1.5	2.7
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	(%)	-6.1	-3.2	-7.4	-6.4	-6.2	-6.4	0.1	2.3	5.7	9.3	5.1	1.9
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	(%)	-5.4	-1.3	-1.4	-0.3	-4.6	-4.8	-3.0	-2.8	-1.1	-1.1	0.3	0.3
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	(%)	-0.9	-0.1	1.4	1.9	3.9	2.5	2.7	6.2	8.3	7.7	1.2	-2.7
Electrical, electronic and optical products	(%)	3.8	5.8	3.7	-0.9	-7.5	-7.7	-8.2	-2.9	4.0	5.5	6.5	6.6
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	(%)	7.5	19.0	-2.1	-	-4.5	-2.0	1.2	3.000	2.6	-2.5	-2.7	-6.1
Construction	(%)	-5.0	-2.1	8.2	6.4	3.4	5.1	2.5	12.5	19.0	20.0	18.7	11.3
Services	(%)	4.6	6.4	2.7	2.8	-0.20	0.100	1.4	1.8	0.9	1.4	0.9	0.5
Utilities	(%)	-1.4	-5.4	-7.9	-2.5	-1.4	-2.7	5.2	6.8	-1.6	-1.2	-1.1	-6.3
Wholesale & retail trade	(%)	6.3	10.9	1.7	5.2	0.7	3.3	5.1	1.6	1.7	-0.3	-0.6	0.6
Food & beverages and Accommodation	(%)	29.2	42.9	19.0	5.4	-2.40	-4.9	-5.2	1.0	-1.9	1.0	-0.6	-2.5
Transportation and storage	(%)	21.8	20.9	6.7	7.9	5.6	6.9	10.7	10.7	7.2	7.6	7.6	4.3
Information and communication	(%)	1.5	-4.3	-3.3	-0.6	-2.4	1.4	3.2	-1.8	-1.0	-0.6	0.7	0.8
Finance and insurance	(%)	-3.4	2.4	5.8	6.4	-8.4	-5.3	-13.6	-8.3	8.5	-1.4	3.3	-0.4
Real estate and business services	(%)	16.3	25.0	18.5	4.8	2.5	0.7	7.0	7.3	3.5	7.6	6.0	6.0
Other services	(%)	1.5	-0.9	1.8	3.1	4.2	2.2	3.0	2.1	-0.8	2.5	1.8	2.8

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q1 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2021- Q1 2025

3. Labour Productivity per Employment

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
Value added per employment	RM	23,529	24,434	25,024	23,774	23,491	24,538	25,096	24,254	24,210	25,148	25,635	24,580
Economic activity													
Agriculture	RM	12,631	14,923	13,898	12,338	12,450	14,846	13,946	12,571	13,249	15,235	13,686	12,603
Mining & Quarrying	RM	312,691	308,085	335,443	329,680	303,373	300,500	345,197	343,813	310,913	291,687	341,522	332,946
Manufacturing	RM	32,930	33,850	34,862	32,481	32,082	32,813	33,755	32,581	33,060	34,158	34,712	33,299
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	RM	17,066	17,884	17,167	14,967	16,515	17,437	17,468	14,420	16,935	18,387	18,174	15,328
Beverages and tobacco products	RM	145,534	117,647	123,741	118,281	150,533	118,090	126,383	123,921	156,507	126,779	132,578	123,754
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	RM	5,386	5,584	6,061	6,196	5,843	5,801	5,980	6,194	5,984	5,986	6,016	6,154
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	RM	18,831	17,561	18,049	19,143	17,771	16,882	17,708	19,329	18,446	17,861	18,247	19,537
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	RM	55,699	64,371	61,387	54,952	54,560	62,433	59,465	54,660	55,459	63,657	59,937	55,192
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	RM	24,116	23,734	25,297	24,767	25,067	24,259	25,999	26,058	26,641	25,845	26,583	26,291
Electrical, electronic and optical products	RM	46,829	47,459	49,131	49,128	44,259	44,989	45,541	49,561	45,601	47,561	48,491	52,738
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	RM	45,492	39,019	49,551	36,277	43,129	38,620	50,478	37,191	44,799	38,502	48,787	33,903
Construction	RM	9,383	9,885	10,032	9,987	9,866	10,444	10,257	11,060	11,465	12,418	12,275	12,519
Services	RM	22,331	23,049	23,618	22,656	22,493	23,459	23,877	23,097	22,975	23,761	24,298	23,291
Utilities	RM	93,281	93,799	93,075	90,931	96,018	95,529	95,566	94,222	93,364	92,941	91,619	88,622
Wholesale & retail trade	RM	23,311	24,950	26,000	23,771	23,910	25,846	26,669	24,076	24,155	25,938	26,822	24,104
Food & beverages and Accommodation	RM	6,333	6,474	6,481	6,340	6,215	6,286	6,234	6,306	6,162	6,225	6,308	6,320
Transportation and storage	RM	24,196	24,466	24,394	25,007	25,790	26,313	26,785	27,123	27,237	27,764	28,323	28,298
Information and communication	RM	96,317	95,993	93,887	95,234	95,078	95,058	93,909	95,729	95,408	95,566	95,036	95,586
Finance and insurance	RM	69,348	70,947	71,474	70,816	64,363	69,114	66,647	70,431	69,283	70,292	69,147	71,022
Real estate and business services	RM	14,274	14,407	14,729	14,722	14,920	15,267	15,538	15,804	15,855	16,244	16,465	16,616
Other services	RM	18,202	18,702	19,796	18,906	18,857	19,446	20,541	19,507	19,402	20,060	21,155	20,079

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q1 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2021- Q1 2025

4. Labour Productivity per Employment - Annual Percentage Change

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
Value added per employment	(%)	5.8	10.6	4.0	2.5	-0.20	0.4	0.3	2.0	3.10	2.5	2.1	1.3
Economic activity													
Agriculture	(%)	-0.9	3.2	3.1	-0.2	-1.4	-0.5	0.3	1.9	6.4	2.6	-1.9	0.3
Mining & Quarrying	(%)	-3.4	10.1	7.0	2.5	-3.0	-2.5	2.9	4.3	2.5	-2.9	-1.1	-3.2
Manufacturing	(%)	4.1	8.3	1.6	0.6	-2.6	-3.1	-3.2	0.3	3.0	4.1	2.8	2.2
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	(%)	-2.3	-0.2	0.7	2.2	-3.2	-2.5	1.8	-3.7	2.5	5.4	4.0	6.3
Beverages and tobacco products	(%)	24.6	48.7	-6.2	3.3	3.4	0.4	2.1	4.8	4.0	7.4	4.9	-0.1
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	(%)	0.7	6.3	2.8	7.4	8.5	3.9	-1.3	0.0	2.4	3.2	0.6	-0.6
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	(%)	5.5	12.3	-2.6	-4.9	-5.6	-3.9	-1.9	1.0	3.8	5.8	3.0	1.1
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	(%)	-3.2	0.7	-0.9	0.6	-2.0	-3.0	-3.1	-0.5	1.6	2.0	0.8	1.0
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	(%)	5.7	9.9	0.9	2.5	3.9	2.2	2.8	5.2	6.3	6.5	2.2	0.9
Electrical, electronic and optical products	(%)	10.0	11.5	4.9	-2.2	-5.5	-5.2	-7.3	0.9	3.0	5.7	6.5	6.4
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	(%)	12.8	30.8	-2.1	0.7	-5.2	-1.0	1.9	2.5	3.9	-0.3	-3.4	-8.8
Construction	(%)	3.2	14.8	10.3	6.6	5.1	5.6	2.2	10.7	16.2	18.9	19.7	13.2
Services	(%)	8.1	11.9	4.3	3.1	0.7	1.8	1.1	1.9	2.1	1.3	1.8	0.8
Utilities	(%)	0.6	2.7	-3.2	0.0	2.9	1.8	2.7	3.6	-2.8	-2.7	-4.1	-5.9
Wholesale & retail trade	(%)	11.2	18.1	4.8	6.5	2.6	3.6	2.6	1.3	1.0	0.4	0.6	0.1
Food & beverages and Accommodation	(%)	33.3	46.3	16.4	4.1	-1.9	-2.9	-3.8	-0.5	-0.8	-1.0	1.2	0.2
Transportation and storage	(%)	26.4	27.9	9.5	8.0	6.6	7.5	9.8	8.5	5.6	5.5	5.7	4.3
Information and communication	(%)	1.9	0.4	0.8	-2.2	-1.3	-1.0	0.00	0.5	0.3	0.5	1.20	-0.1
Finance and insurance	(%)	-1.1	3.2	-0.5	-0.6	-7.2	-2.6	-6.8	-0.5	7.6	1.7	3.8	0.8
Real estate and business services	(%)	19.6	30.3	23.6	7.0	4.5	6.0	5.5	7.4	6.3	6.4	6.0	5.1
Other services	(%)	4.3	5.2	3.5	3.5	3.6	4.0	3.8	3.2	2.9	3.2	3.0	2.9

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q1 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2021- Q1 2025

5. Total Hours Worked

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
Total Hours Worked	Million	8,939	9,039	9,210	9,247	9,299	9,419	9,418	9,452	9,612	9,672	9,747	9,764
Economic activity													
Agriculture	Million	1,002	1,017	1,000	1,005	1,021	1,035	1,009	1,012	1,034	1,033	1,022	1,017
Mining & Quarrying	Million	45	46	46	46	47	46	47	47	46	47	47	46
Manufacturing	Million	1,585	1,595	1,631	1,637	1,652	1,669	1,674	1,674	1,680	1,704	1,707	1,697
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	Million	275	278	285	291	289	299	297	298	305	309	310	297
Beverages and tobacco products	Million	10	11	11	11	11	10	12	13	12	12	12	12
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	Million	144	139	136	140	143	136	133	138	141	142	136	136
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	Million	184	186	192	188	193	200	199	192	192	195	198	194
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	Million	263	265	267	269	271	272	274	281	285	287	281	287
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	Million	225	227	230	230	228	234	238	233	231	237	245	248
Electrical, electronic and optical products	Million	368	372	387	378	392	393	396	393	388	393	399	397
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	Million	117	117	124	129	124	125	126	128	127	129	125	125
Construction	Million	814	823	827	834	836	839	835	830	823	838	849	851
Services	Million	5,493	5,558	5,706	5,725	5,744	5,830	5,854	5,889	6,028	6,050	6,122	6,153
Utilities	Million	62	63	67	65	65	66	67	66	68	69	68	69
Wholesale & retail trade	Million	1,592	1,618	1,665	1,644	1,653	1,653	1,653	1,681	1,701	1,727	1,736	1,744
Food & beverages and Accommodation	Million	954	981	995	1,041	1,045	1,088	1,094	1,086	1,129	1,144	1,179	1,191
Transportation and storage	Million	339	346	365	363	364	365	371	365	375	375	382	383
Information and communication	Million	149	157	164	156	158	160	164	163	165	167	170	167
Finance and insurance	Million	214	209	204	205	222	219	224	226	225	230	228	233
Real estate and business services	Million	670	670	711	715	704	717	713	726	744	735	737	747
Other services	Million	1,512	1,514	1,536	1,536	1,533	1,562	1,568	1,577	1,621	1,604	1,623	1,618

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q1 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2021- Q1 2025

6. Total Employment

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
Total Employment	('000)	15,701	15,831	15,942	16,062	16,146	16,251	16,347	16,401	16,591	16,715	16,793	16,893
Economic activity ⁱ													
Agriculture	('000)	1,872	1,878	1,840	1,874	1,877	1,889	1,854	1,875	1,897	1,907	1,877	1,881
Mining & Quarrying	('000)	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	77	77
Manufacturing	('000)	2,705	2,731	2,740	2,771	2,780	2,814	2,823	2,820	2,825	2,853	2,861	2,873
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	('000)	489	496	502	510	516	530	529	528	528	540	541	543
Beverages and tobacco products	('000)	18	18	18	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	20
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	('000)	274	271	260	261	262	262	263	266	266	266	263	270
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	('000)	304	309	308	312	318	324	326	322	322	326	331	329
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	('000)	435	439	434	440	437	442	445	448	448	453	455	455
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	('000)	374	376	379	383	379	388	392	390	390	397	400	401
Electrical, electronic and optical products	('000)	615	624	632	637	641	642	641	637	641	641	645	645
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	('000)	195	197	207	210	207	208	208	209	211	211	208	211
Construction	('000)	1,383	1,378	1,387	1,391	1,397	1,398	1,403	1,406	1,408	1,410	1,415	1,419
Services	('000)	9,666	9,768	9,899	9,949	10,017	10,074	10,190	10,224	10,385	10,468	10,563	10,643
Utilities	('000)	108	110	110	108	109	110	112	111	115	117	118	117
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	2,745	2,766	2,793	2,785	2,798	2,817	2,842	2,858	2,898	2,924	2,949	2,979
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	1,709	1,730	1,782	1,826	1,861	1,880	1,933	1,935	1,990	2,015	2,046	2,065
Transportation and storage	('000)	566	576	595	600	603	604	610	616	630	633	638	647
Information and communication	('000)	257	261	267	268	270	272	276	274	277	280	284	284
Finance and insurance	('000)	373	376	378	381	381	382	385	387	390	390	391	394
Real estate and business services	('000)	1,152	1,169	1,176	1,183	1,187	1,190	1,197	1,199	1,222	1,233	1,237	1,244
Other services	('000)	2,756	2,781	2,797	2,797	2,809	2,818	2,835	2,843	2,862	2,877	2,899	2,912

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q1 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2021- Q1 2025

7. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at Constant 2015 Prices

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2'	Q3'	Q4'	Q1'	Q2'	Q3'	Q4'	Q1'	Q2'	Q3'	Q4'	Q1
GDP at constant 2015 prices	Million	369,429	386,820	398,919	381,857	379,286	398,768	410,231	397,802	401,672	420,354	430,477	415,224
Economic activity													
Agriculture	Million	23,647	28,022	25,566	23,128	23,364	28,039	25,862	23,576	25,139	29,060	25,683	23,709
Mining & Quarrying	Million	23,667	23,422	25,536	25,112	23,143	22,944	26,338	26,203	23,776	22,295	26,158	25,492
Manufacturing	Million	89,063	92,431	95,536	90,008	89,171	92,325	95,290	91,864	93,387	97,455	99,328	95,676
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	Million	8,344	8,871	8,618	7,626	8,522	9,235	9,245	7,620	8,947	9,937	9,827	8,321
Beverages and tobacco products	Million	2,570	2,099	2,238	2,225	2,795	2,194	2,359	2,373	3,017	2,411	2,548	2,447
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	Million	1,478	1,513	1,574	1,619	1,533	1,519	1,573	1,645	1,589	1,589	1,581	1,662
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	Million	5,728	5,433	5,564	5,973	5,646	5,470	5,775	6,225	5,939	5,827	6,035	6,420
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	Million	24,254	28,285	26,637	24,177	23,857	27,600	26,472	24,483	24,832	28,815	27,287	25,112
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	Million	9,015	8,919	9,596	9,476	9,506	9,406	10,196	10,174	10,398	10,269	10,629	10,536
Electrical, electronic and optical products	Million	28,784	29,615	31,063	31,302	28,364	28,861	29,191	31,569	29,219	30,486	31,293	34,027
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	Million	8,889	7,696	10,245	7,609	8,949	8,038	10,479	7,776	9,446	8,120	10,127	7,150
Construction	Million	12,973	13,626	13,912	13,896	13,778	14,599	14,390	15,555	16,141	17,512	17,371	17,760
Services	Million	215,854	225,150	233,791	225,405	225,308	236,338	243,312	236,130	238,584	248,734	256,662	247,887
Utilities	Million	10,084	10,325	10,278	9,782	10,438	10,539	10,729	10,491	10,770	10,870	10,852	10,367
Wholesale & retail trade	Million	63,983	69,007	72,615	66,207	66,897	72,817	75,792	68,816	69,993	75,832	79,103	71,808
Food & beverages and Accommodation	Million	10,822	11,201	11,552	11,579	11,568	11,818	12,054	12,202	12,263	12,546	12,908	13,050
Transportation and storage	Million	13,704	14,091	14,516	15,015	15,554	15,890	16,326	16,717	17,155	17,568	18,071	18,300
Information and communication	Million	24,775	25,019	25,104	25,512	25,685	25,896	25,926	26,254	26,474	26,803	26,987	27,194
Finance and insurance	Million	25,878	26,662	27,045	27,012	24,501	26,411	25,657	27,245	27,021	27,382	27,044	28,013
Real estate and business services	Million	16,441	16,842	17,314	17,409	17,705	18,164	18,602	18,950	19,375	20,022	20,361	20,676
Other services	Million	50,166	52,002	55,365	52,889	52,961	54,802	58,227	55,456	55,533	57,712	61,337	58,479
plus import duties	Million	4,224	4,168	4,579	4,308	4,522	4,523	5,040	4,474	4,645	5,298	5,275	4,699

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q1 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2021- Q1 2025

8. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at Constant 2015 Prices - Annual Percentage Change

Indicator	Unit	2022			2023				2024				2025
		Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1
GDP at constant 2015 prices	(%)	9.2	14.6	7.4	5.7	2.7	3.1	2.8	4.2	5.9	5.4	4.9	4.4
Economic activity													
Agriculture	(%)	-1.7	2.6	2.6	0.9	-1.2	0.1	1.2	1.9	7.6	3.6	-0.7	0.6
Mining & Quarrying	(%)	-1.7	10.4	7.3	3.0	-2.2	-2.0	3.1	4.3	2.7	-2.8	-0.7	-2.7
Manufacturing	(%)	9.3	13.2	4.0	3.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.3	2.1	4.7	5.6	4.2	4.1
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	(%)	2.8	5.6	4.6	7.1	2.1	4.1	7.3	-0.1	5.0	7.6	6.3	9.2
Beverages and tobacco products	(%)	28.2	49.4	-4.4	5.5	8.7	4.5	5.4	6.6	7.9	9.9	8.0	3.1
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	(%)	7.1	12.3	-0.3	0.8	3.7	0.4	-0.1	1.6	3.6	4.6	0.5	1.1
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	(%)	12.1	15.7	-2.7	-4.0	-1.4	0.7	3.8	4.2	5.2	6.5	4.5	3.1
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	(%)	-0.8	4.3	1.0	1.8	-1.6	-2.4	-0.6	1.3	4.1	4.4	3.1	2.6
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	(%)	10.5	13.6	2.1	3.5	5.4	5.5	6.2	7.4	9.4	9.2	4.3	3.6
Electrical, electronic and optical products	(%)	15.5	17.4	9.2	3.8	-1.5	-2.5	-6.0	0.9	3.0	5.6	7.2	7.8
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	(%)	20.4	37.2	5.0	7.7	0.7	4.5	2.3	2.2	5.6	1.0	-3.4	-8.0
Construction	(%)	2.7	15.2	10.3	7.4	6.2	7.1	3.4	11.9	17.2	20.0	20.7	14.2
Services	(%)	12.6	17.2	9.3	7.3	4.4	5.0	4.1	4.8	5.9	5.2	5.5	5.0
Utilities	(%)	3.9	7.9	0.5	0.7	3.5	2.1	4.4	7.3	3.2	3.1	1.1	-1.2
Wholesale & retail trade	(%)	17.8	24.5	9.8	9.7	4.6	5.5	4.4	3.9	4.6	4.1	4.4	4.3
Food & beverages and Accommodation	(%)	39.4	54.0	25.2	12.2	6.9	5.5	4.3	5.4	6.0	6.2	7.1	6.9
Transportation and storage	(%)	37.1	42.2	19.9	16.0	13.5	12.8	12.5	11.3	10.3	10.6	10.7	9.5
Information and communication	(%)	5.9	4.3	4.3	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.3	2.9	3.1	3.5	4.1	3.6
Finance and insurance	(%)	-1.6	3.5	1.0	1.7	-5.3	-0.9	-5.1	0.9	10.3	3.7	5.4	2.8
Real estate and business services	(%)	22.8	36.5	28.6	11.5	7.7	7.9	7.4	8.8	9.4	10.2	9.5	9.1
Other services	(%)	7.2	8.6	6.5	5.8	5.6	5.4	5.2	4.9	4.9	5.3	5.3	5.5
plus import duties	(%)	0.1	27.2	8.8	13.0	7.1	8.5	10.1	3.9	2.7	17.1	4.7	5.0

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q1 2025, DOSM

Table D: Employee Wages, Malaysia, Q4 2023 - Q4 2024

1. Number of Formal Employee

Indicator	Unit	2023			2024											
		Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4		
Months	('000)	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mac	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total	('000)	6,704.1	6,678.3	6,674.9	6,622.7	6,538.1	6,547.9	6,728.0	6,717.0	6,731.0	6,801.0	6,808.8	6,817.0	6,842.1	6,829.1	6,831.4
Sex																
Male	('000)	3,720.3	3,704.7	3,701.6	3,674.1	3,618.2	3,624.1	3,725.5	3,715.9	3,721.4	3,761.7	3,761.9	3,764.1	3,780.1	3,771.5	3,771.3
Female	('000)	2,983.7	2,973.5	2,973.3	2,948.6	2,919.8	2,923.8	3,002.6	3,001.2	3,009.6	3,039.3	3,046.9	3,052.8	3,062.0	3,057.6	3,060.2
Age group																
Less than 20	('000)	126.0	127.7	131.6	57.8	60.4	76.8	90.6	100.5	107.1	111.1	111.7	115.1	116.9	121.0	127.6
20-24	('000)	857.2	859.5	865.7	707.1	708.7	717.7	737.5	748.0	763.6	791.9	816.9	831.7	839.6	850.0	860.4
25-29	('000)	1,337.7	1,333.5	1,331.0	1,307.9	1,295.5	1,293.8	1,330.2	1,328.0	1,330.2	1,343.7	1,344.6	1,345.9	1,353.0	1,348.4	1,345.5
30-34	('000)	1,104.9	1,100.2	1,097.5	1,149.5	1,132.3	1,128.0	1,156.5	1,150.8	1,149.4	1,156.8	1,153.6	1,152.1	1,155.2	1,150.3	1,147.3
35-39	('000)	921.7	917.9	916.3	933.6	919.4	917.4	939.7	935.5	934.0	940.1	937.5	936.8	939.5	935.7	933.9
40-44	('000)	720.7	717.5	716.5	744.0	732.4	730.9	749.8	746.0	745.4	750.0	747.9	747.0	749.5	746.4	745.5
45-49	('000)	598.2	595.0	594.1	611.9	601.8	600.9	616.0	612.3	611.4	615.0	612.8	611.6	613.3	610.5	609.4
50-54	('000)	468.2	465.2	464.0	486.9	478.2	476.8	489.5	485.8	484.6	487.0	484.7	483.0	484.0	481.4	480.1
55-59	('000)	319.5	316.5	314.9	337.4	330.2	328.8	337.0	333.4	331.6	332.6	330.0	327.9	327.7	325.3	323.9
60-64	('000)	150.0	146.6	145.3	172.1	167.4	166.3	169.2	166.0	164.0	163.6	161.0	158.8	157.5	155.1	154.0
65 and above	('000)	100.0	98.8	98.0	114.6	111.8	110.6	112.2	110.8	109.8	109.3	108.1	107.1	106.1	104.8	104.0
State																
Johor	('000)	708.1	709.9	710.8	705.6	697.2	699.1	719.3	718.9	721.0	728.4	730.5	730.2	730.6	730.2	730.8
Kedah	('000)	241.0	240.7	240.5	237.8	234.2	234.9	244.8	243.0	242.8	246.4	245.2	244.8	246.4	245.4	244.7
Kelantan	('000)	93.4	92.6	92.3	91.0	88.4	88.6	94.1	92.6	92.4	94.6	93.1	92.1	93.7	92.7	92.6
Melaka	('000)	178.3	177.6	177.4	174.6	171.4	172.0	176.1	175.1	175.6	177.4	177.3	177.8	178.8	178.3	178.3
Negeri Sembilan	('000)	172.2	170.6	170.7	169.0	165.5	165.7	171.6	170.7	170.6	172.3	171.6	172.1	172.5	173.6	173.4
Pahang	('000)	169.1	168.2	168.2	166.4	163.5	163.5	168.3	168.1	168.6	171.0	170.5	171.2	171.6	170.9	170.6
Pulau Pinang	('000)	535.0	528.9	529.1	524.3	518.9	518.9	529.8	529.5	531.1	536.1	538.9	539.5	539.8	539.6	540.2
Perak	('000)	312.5	310.2	310.5	307.2	302.7	304.0	311.9	311.5	311.6	314.3	313.4	313.2	313.9	312.3	312.0
Perlis	('000)	18.7	18.3	18.4	18.1	17.2	17.1	18.7	17.9	17.9	18.4	18.2	18.3	18.7	18.4	18.4
Selangor	('000)	1,895.0	1,884.5	1,881.8	1,865.2	1,840.2	1,842.2	1,891.3	1,891.3	1,896.4	1,914.2	1,915.5	1,918.7	1,923.7	1,922.8	1,925.6
Terengganu	('000)	143.7	142.7	143.2	141.3	137.7	138.2	144.8	143.7	143.9	147.4	146.9	147.1	148.1	144.9	144.8
Sabah	('000)	336.1	337.2	337.0	336.6	335.1	334.6	338.1	337.9	339.1	342.8	343.3	344.5	344.6	343.1	342.7
Sarawak	('000)	493.8	492.4	492.0	486.9	480.8	484.8	499.3	498.4	498.2	502.9	502.5	502.8	505.4	503.5	501.4
W.P Kuala Lumpur	('000)	1,359.8	1,356.8	1,355.3	1,352.3	1,339.2	1,337.4	1,372.0	1,370.4	1,373.6	1,386.5	1,392.8	1,396.0	1,404.8	1,403.7	1,406.6
W.P Labuan	('000)	16.9	16.8	16.8	16.7	16.4	16.4	17.2	17.3	17.3	17.4	17.5	17.3	17.8	17.9	17.8
W.P Putrajaya	('000)	30.4	30.8	30.8	29.7	29.9	30.2	30.8	30.7	30.8	31.1	31.7	31.4	31.5	31.9	31.8

Source: Employment Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Malaysia, Q4 2024, DOSM

Table D: Employee Wages, Malaysia, Q4 2023 - Q4 2024

1. Number of Formal Employee (cont.)

Indicator	Unit	2023			2024											
		Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4		
Months	('000)	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mac	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total	('000)	6,704.1	6,678.3	6,674.9	6,622.7	6,538.1	6,547.9	6,728.0	6,717.0	6,731.0	6,801.0	6,808.8	6,817.0	6,842.1	6,829.1	6,831.4
Economic activity																
Agriculture	('000)	130.1	129.4	129.3	128.3	126.7	126.6	129.0	128.7	129.1	129.5	129.5	129.4	129.7	129.2	129.2
Mining & quarrying	('000)	36.8	36.8	36.8	36.7	36.6	37.0	38.1	38.2	38.3	38.6	38.7	38.7	38.6	38.3	38.0
Manufacturing	('000)	1,218.9	1,214.6	1,210.8	1,202.6	1,190.5	1,164.4	1,211.1	1,208.6	1,208.6	1,218.7	1,220.8	1,221.0	1,219.3	1,216.9	1,217.0
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	('000)	174.4	174.0	170.3	173.1	171.1	171.5	174.5	174.8	174.4	176.9	177.3	177.6	176.8	177.0	177.2
Beverages & tobacco products	('000)	11.8	11.8	11.9	11.7	11.7	11.5	11.8	11.7	11.7	11.9	11.7	11.9	11.9	11.9	11.9
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	('000)	25.1	24.9	25.1	24.8	24.3	24.2	24.8	24.2	24.3	24.5	24.5	24.6	24.8	24.7	24.7
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	('000)	100.6	100.1	99.9	98.9	96.9	94.5	98.7	97.3	96.9	97.4	96.6	96.3	96.2	95.7	95.1
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	('000)	199.4	198.4	198.1	194.1	193.1	188.6	199.2	198.6	198.8	200.7	201.6	201.9	200.6	200.3	200.1
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	('000)	150.4	150.2	150.0	147.8	147.2	144.6	149.4	149.2	149.1	150.4	150.6	150.5	150.5	150.3	150.5
Electrical, electronic & optical products	('000)	345.7	343.4	343.1	340.3	336.6	319.1	335.7	336.2	335.2	336.3	337.1	335.7	335.5	334.0	333.8
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	('000)	211.4	211.7	212.4	211.9	209.7	210.4	217.1	216.6	218.2	220.6	221.4	222.5	222.9	222.9	223.7
Construction	('000)	426.7	424.4	424.1	417.0	404.9	389.5	423.3	420.6	420.5	429.4	427.4	427.9	432.0	428.1	427.6
Services	('000)	4,511.5	4,492.0	4,494.2	4,456.4	4,398.1	4,450.4	4,545.8	4,538.3	4,550.1	4,600.1	4,605.8	4,612.3	4,630.1	4,625.7	4,628.3
Utilities	('000)	66.0	66.1	66.3	66.1	64.5	64.8	69.5	69.9	70.0	70.7	70.5	71.1	71.2	71.5	72.0
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	1,432.9	1,428.0	1,433.0	1,424.8	1,406.8	1,390.2	1,441.3	1,437.6	1,439.8	1,450.4	1,450.1	1,451.3	1,448.8	1,445.2	1,446.6
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	311.3	304.4	299.8	295.6	288.8	286.1	295.1	293.6	294.5	297.4	298.5	299.5	296.9	296.9	298.0
Transportation & storage	('000)	304.7	304.0	304.5	300.4	295.0	292.2	301.6	297.3	297.6	300.9	300.7	300.2	300.5	299.3	298.6
Information & communication	('000)	217.5	214.7	214.7	211.8	210.2	215.7	222.3	221.7	221.9	223.0	222.8	223.5	223.5	221.9	220.5
Finance & insurance	('000)	305.0	305.2	306.0	305.5	304.5	303.7	307.6	307.0	307.3	308.0	308.5	309.4	310.0	310.2	310.5
Real estate & business services	('000)	823.8	818.3	818.3	808.1	792.1	788.4	826.6	820.8	823.2	839.7	839.5	835.7	843.9	840.7	840.0
Other services	('000)	1,050.4	1,051.3	1,051.6	1,044.1	1,036.3	1,109.3	1,081.8	1,090.3	1,095.8	1,110.0	1,115.4	1,121.7	1,135.4	1,140.0	1,142.0
Unclassified	('000)	380.0	381.0	379.8	381.7	381.2	380.0	380.7	382.7	384.4	384.7	386.5	387.8	392.5	390.8	391.4

Source: Employment Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Malaysia, Q4 2024, DOSM

Table D: Employee Wages, Malaysia, Q4 2023 - Q4 2024

2. Median Monthly Wages of Formal Employee

Indicator	Unit	2023			2024											
		Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4		
Months		Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mac	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total	(RM)	2,600	2,600	2,900	2,945	2,782	2,844	2,764	2,700	2,745	2,745	2,745	2,745	2,764	2,764	3,045
Sex																
Male	(RM)	2,664	2,664	2,945	2,982	2,800	2,900	2,800	2,764	2,782	2,782	2,767	2,782	2,800	2,789	3,045
Female	(RM)	2,564	2,564	2,845	2,900	2,727	2,800	2,700	2,682	2,700	2,700	2,682	2,700	2,700	2,700	3,000
Age group																
Less than 20	(RM)	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,527
20-24	(RM)	1,782	1,782	1,845	1,782	1,745	1,764	1,764	1,782	1,782	1,782	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,900
25-29	(RM)	2,400	2,400	2,600	2,500	2,400	2,500	2,445	2,427	2,464	2,464	2,464	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,727
30-34	(RM)	2,900	2,900	3,145	3,082	2,989	3,045	3,000	2,973	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,282
35-39	(RM)	3,264	3,245	3,564	3,500	3,364	3,500	3,400	3,327	3,364	3,345	3,345	3,364	3,378	3,382	3,727
40-44	(RM)	3,464	3,464	3,827	3,827	3,600	3,764	3,600	3,500	3,527	3,527	3,522	3,527	3,545	3,545	4,000
45-49	(RM)	3,500	3,500	3,927	4,000	3,727	3,818	3,682	3,600	3,627	3,627	3,627	3,627	3,645	3,664	4,082
50-54	(RM)	3,327	3,327	3,682	3,864	3,582	3,645	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,945
55-59	(RM)	3,064	3,064	3,382	3,500	3,327	3,364	3,227	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,227	3,227	3,500
60-64	(RM)	2,700	2,727	2,900	3,100	3,000	3,000	2,945	2,945	2,900	2,927	2,925	2,900	2,926	2,900	3,000
65 and above	(RM)	2,545	2,564	2,755	3,000	2,800	2,745	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,725	2,725	2,764	2,755	2,982
State																
Johor	(RM)	2,427	2,400	2,673	2,700	2,500	2,582	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,827
Kedah	(RM)	1,864	1,827	2,000	1,982	1,964	1,964	1,927	1,900	1,900	1,945	1,900	1,927	1,930	1,900	2,064
Kelantan	(RM)	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,645	1,627	1,645	1,600	1,645	1,645	1,627	1,645	1,682	1,664	1,627	1,664
Melaka	(RM)	2,455	2,400	2,682	2,522	2,400	2,500	2,400	2,382	2,464	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,500	2,500	2,727
Negeri Sembilan	(RM)	2,264	2,264	2,482	2,500	2,327	2,500	2,345	2,345	2,400	2,382	2,382	2,364	2,382	2,345	2,545
Pahang	(RM)	2,000	2,000	2,082	2,100	2,082	2,145	2,100	2,082	2,100	2,100	2,082	2,082	2,100	2,082	2,200
Pulau Pinang	(RM)	2,700	2,682	3,245	3,033	2,864	2,827	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,827	2,882	3,382
Perak	(RM)	2,000	2,000	2,082	2,200	2,064	2,082	2,045	2,045	2,027	2,045	2,045	2,045	2,064	2,064	2,200
Perlis	(RM)	1,627	1,627	1,700	1,700	1,682	1,682	1,700	1,682	1,682	1,682	1,682	1,682	1,682	1,682	1,764
Selangor	(RM)	2,945	2,964	3,164	3,245	3,027	3,164	3,064	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,300
Terengganu	(RM)	1,900	1,900	2,000	1,982	2,000	2,000	1,982	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,100
Sabah	(RM)	1,800	1,800	1,882	1,945	1,882	1,882	1,882	1,882	1,864	1,882	1,882	1,882	1,900	1,882	2,000
Sarawak	(RM)	2,000	2,000	2,100	2,200	2,064	2,064	2,045	2,082	2,045	2,064	2,045	2,064	2,064	2,064	2,200
W.P Kuala Lumpur	(RM)	3,800	3,800	4,045	4,145	4,000	4,256	4,073	3,964	3,982	4,000	3,964	3,964	4,000	3,967	4,200
W.P Labuan	(RM)	2,000	2,000	2,327	2,100	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,482
W.P Putrajaya	(RM)	2,482	2,482	2,482	2,500	2,482	2,727	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,482	2,482	2,527

Source: Employment Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Malaysia, Q4 2024, DOSM

Table D: Employee Wages, Malaysia, Q4 2023 - Q4 2024

2. Median Monthly Wages of Formal Employee (cont.)

Indicator	Unit	2023			2024											
		Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4		
Months		Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mac	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total	(RM)	2,600	2,600	2,900	2,945	2,782	2,844	2,764	2,700	2,745	2,745	2,745	2,745	2,764	2,764	3,045
Economic activity																
Agriculture	(RM)	1,982	1,950	2,300	2,100	1,982	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,027	2,027	2,027	2,027	2,000	2,382
Mining & quarrying	(RM)	5,200	5,200	6,844	6,200	5,900	8,400	5,900	5,800	5,900	5,800	5,900	5,900	6,000	6,000	7,500
Manufacturing	(RM)	2,500	2,482	3,200	2,845	2,582	2,645	2,582	2,522	2,582	2,564	2,544	2,564	2,582	2,600	3,300
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	(RM)	2,145	2,164	2,445	2,478	2,278	2,300	2,345	2,264	2,264	2,264	2,264	2,282	2,264	2,264	2,500
Beverages & tobacco products	(RM)	3,000	3,145	4,127	3,364	3,282	3,327	3,300	3,156	3,164	3,100	3,111	3,264	3,127	3,333	4,282
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	(RM)	2,000	2,000	2,100	2,245	2,045	2,045	2,064	2,027	2,064	2,045	2,027	2,027	2,045	2,027	2,227
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	(RM)	2,300	2,282	2,500	2,782	2,445	2,427	2,364	2,382	2,382	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,664
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	(RM)	2,682	2,564	3,282	3,064	2,700	2,827	2,700	2,600	2,700	2,645	2,600	2,645	2,645	2,745	3,409
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	(RM)	2,564	2,582	2,882	3,000	2,811	2,700	2,700	2,664	2,664	2,664	2,682	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,982
Electrical, electronic & optical products	(RM)	2,600	2,582	3,864	2,964	2,682	2,664	2,700	2,627	2,745	2,700	2,664	2,700	2,722	2,745	4,100
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	(RM)	2,564	2,545	3,145	2,744	2,564	2,891	2,664	2,545	2,664	2,600	2,600	2,627	2,682	2,673	3,200
Construction	(RM)	2,700	2,700	2,814	3,000	2,864	2,964	2,800	2,845	2,800	2,827	2,845	2,800	2,864	2,864	3,000
Services	(RM)	2,627	2,645	2,800	2,964	2,800	2,882	2,800	2,764	2,764	2,764	2,764	2,782	2,800	2,782	3,000
Utilities	(RM)	2,745	2,745	3,033	3,282	3,111	3,400	3,600	3,245	3,064	3,027	3,082	3,064	3,000	3,000	3,164
Wholesale & retail trade	(RM)	2,300	2,300	2,400	2,600	2,427	2,464	2,400	2,364	2,382	2,400	2,400	2,382	2,400	2,400	2,500
Food & beverages and Accommodation	(RM)	1,800	1,864	1,900	1,982	1,964	1,964	1,927	1,982	1,964	1,945	1,927	1,964	1,982	1,945	2,000
Transportation & storage	(RM)	2,789	2,782	3,000	3,000	2,827	3,033	2,989	2,867	2,864	2,900	2,900	2,927	2,911	2,900	3,164
Information & communication	(RM)	4,900	4,964	5,300	5,300	5,200	5,700	5,300	5,100	5,100	5,100	5,100	5,100	5,100	5,100	5,600
Finance & insurance	(RM)	5,600	5,700	6,300	6,000	6,200	6,900	6,200	5,900	6,000	5,900	5,900	5,900	6,000	6,000	6,500
Real estate & business services	(RM)	2,745	2,782	2,964	3,000	2,964	3,000	2,900	2,882	2,900	2,900	2,882	2,927	2,927	2,927	3,045
Other services	(RM)	2,564	2,564	2,727	2,764	2,700	2,764	2,682	2,664	2,682	2,673	2,664	2,682	2,682	2,682	2,900

Source: Employment Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Malaysia, Q4 2024, DOSM

LABOUR MARKET REVIEW

FIRST QUARTER 2025

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