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## SALARIES & WAGES SURVEY REPORT, MALAYSIA, 2024

The mean monthly salaries & wages increased 6.1 per cent to RM3,652 in 2024

PUTRAJAYA, 29<sup>th</sup> September 2025 – The mean monthly salaries & wages increased 6.1 per cent to RM3,652 in 2024, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) in its release of the Salaries & Wages Survey Report, Malaysia, 2024. The statistics were compiled based on the Salaries & Wages Survey conducted by DOSM through a household approach to measure the monthly salaries & wages received by the full-time equivalent of paid employees in both private and public sectors, based on their main occupation. In 2024, out of the 15.81 million total employed persons, 10.24 million were full-time equivalent paid employees among Malaysian citizens, including those working in the informal sector.

According to the Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, "The number of recipients and salary levels across all economic sectors showed a positive trend in 2024 compared to the previous year. Sustained economic expansion and the effective implementation of national policies strengthened Malaysia's labour market, which led to a steady Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of 5.1 per cent in 2024. Reflecting these favourable economic and healthy labour conditions, the median monthly salaries & wages for Malaysian citizens rose to RM2,793, up from RM2,602 in 2023, while the mean monthly salaries & wages increased to RM3,652 from RM3,441 in the previous year. These gains demonstrated the effectiveness various economic empowerment initiatives in enhancing the quality of life for Malaysia's workforce."

Services and Manufacturing sectors remained key economic pillars that substantially contributed significantly to GDP and employment growth in 2024. In tandem with this situation, the mean monthly salaries & wages for the Manufacturing sector posted the highest increase of 7.4 per cent to RM3,278. This was followed by the Services sector, which rose 5.8 per cent to RM3,831, boosted by strong performances in Education, Information and communication, as well as Health and social work activities. In the meantime, the Mining and quarrying sector continued to record the highest mean

monthly salaries & wages at RM5,904, while the Construction and Agriculture sectors recorded at RM3,035 and RM2,409 respectively.

Elaborating further on salaries & wages by skills category, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin stated that the mean monthly salaries & wages for skilled employees increased by 6.5 per cent, rising by RM340, compared to 7.5 per cent in 2023. Within the skilled category, Managers continued to record the highest mean monthly salaries & wages, with an increase of 7.2 per cent (2023: 5.1%), followed by Professionals at 6.3 per cent, Technicians and associate professionals at 5.8 per cent. For semi-skilled workers, the mean monthly salaries & wages rose moderately by 5.2 per cent (2023: 6.0%), contributed by Clerical support workers RM2,931, followed by Services and sales workers (RM2,561), Craft and related trades workers (RM2,510) and Plant and machine-operators and assemblers (RM2,404). Meanwhile, the mean monthly salaries & wages for the low-skilled category rose by 7.4 per cent to RM2,128, compared to RM1,982 recorded in the previous year.

In 2024, males recorded a higher mean monthly salaries & wages at RM3,759 compared to RM3,499 for females. On the same note, both urban and rural areas showed a rising trend in mean monthly salaries & wages compared with 2023, reaching RM3,796 in urban areas and RM2,847 in rural areas. Urban salaries posted a growth of 6.1 per cent (2023: RM3,580, +6.7%), while rural areas experienced a more pronounced increase of 9.2 per cent (2023: RM2,608, +9.9%). At the state level, W.P. Putrajaya registered the highest mean monthly salaries & wages at RM5,091. Four other states also surpassed the national mean of RM3,652, namely W.P. Kuala Lumpur (RM4,782), Selangor (RM4,052), W.P. Labuan (RM3,812) and Pulau Pinang (RM3,787).

As the national economy continues to strengthen, the mean monthly salaries & wages increased by 6.1 per cent, reaching RM3,652 in nominal terms. To assess actual purchasing power and wage resilience, real salaries & wages were analysed after adjusting for inflation. From this analysis, the real mean monthly salaries & wages of Malaysian citizens rose by 4.2 per cent, from RM2,639 to RM2,750, with the gap widening from RM802 to RM902 compared to nominal salaries & wages in 2024. Seven states recorded real mean monthly salaries & wages exceeding the national mean salaries & wages of RM2,750.

Concluding the overall situation on salaries & wages in 2024, this positive growth was driven by various factors that strengthened the nation's economic activity. Among these were economic and social stability, resilient domestic demand, and the recovery of international trade that supported business and investment expansion. In this context, the tourism sector, both international and domestic, also played a vital role as a driver of economic growth. Vibrant tourism activities have reinforced related industries such as retail, including small enterprises, accommodation, food and beverages, and transportation. In addition, the strengthening of the labour market through employment

growth, particularly in the Services and Manufacturing sectors, as well as in the logistics and technology industries, also contributed to the positive momentum that supported the increase in the median and mean monthly salaries & wages of Malaysian citizens.

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

Malaysia, for the first time, ranked as number one (1) 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 <a href="https://open.dosm.gov.my">https://open.dosm.gov.my</a>.

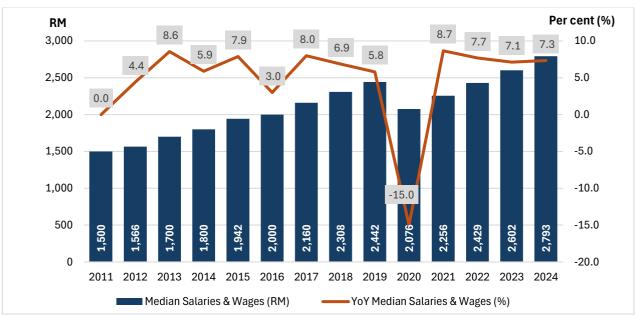


Chart 1: Median Monthly Salaries & Wages, Malaysia, 2011-2024

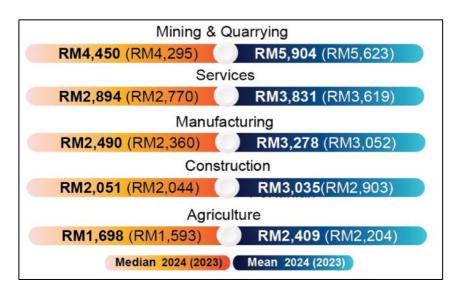
Note: Starting from the year 2020, the Salaries & Wages Statistics are estimated based on the Malaysia Population and Housing Census 2020

Per cent (%) RM 8.8 4,000 10.0 7.2 6.9 6.8 6.5 8.0 3,500 5.6 4.7 4.6 4.4 6.0 3,000 4.0 1.2 2,500 2.0 2,000 0.0 -2.0 1.500 -4.0 1,000 -8.4 -6.0 3,049 3,219 2,377 2,487 2,657 3,087 3,224 500 -8.0 -10.0 0 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 Mean Salaries & Wages(RM) YoY Mean Salaries & Wages (%)

Chart 2: Mean Monthly Salaries & Wages, Malaysia, 2011-2024

Note: Starting from the year 2020, the Salaries & Wages Statistics are estimated based on the Malaysia Population and Housing Census 2020

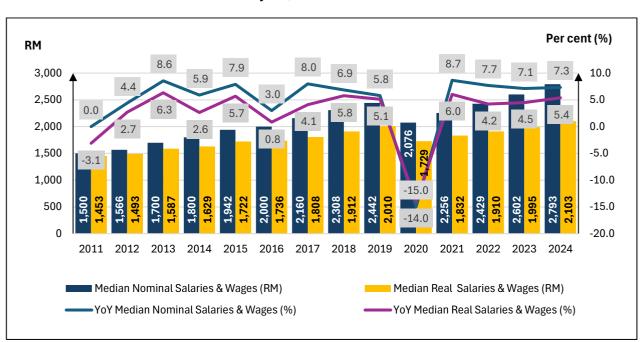
**Exhibit 1:** Median and Mean Monthly Salaries & Wages by Sector, Malaysia, 2023 and 2024



Kedah Median 2024 RM3,053 Kelantan RM3.091 RM3.389 RM2,236 Pulau Pinang Terengganu 1 RM3,78 (\* RM3,107 Pahang Selango - RM2,491 W.P. Kuala Lumpur RM3,414 W.P. Putrajaya RM4,598 RM5,091 Negeri Sembilar

Exhibit 2: Median and Mean Monthly Salaries & Wages by State, Malaysia, 2024

Chart 3: Real Median Monthly Salaries & Wages Citizens, Malaysia, 2011-2024



Note: Starting from the year 2020, the Salaries & Wages Statistics are estimated based on the Malaysia Population and Housing Census 2020

Per cent (%) **RM** 8.8 4,000 8.4 10.0 7.2 6.8 6.5 8.0 6.1 3,500 5.6 4.7 4.6 6.0 3,000 6.1 4.0 5.4 4.6 4.3 4.5 2,500 4.2 3.8 2.0 3.0 2.5 2.2 2,000 0.0 0.7 -2.0 1,500 -4.0 1,000 -8.4 -6.0 500 -8.0 -7.3 0 -10.0 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2020 2021 ■ Mean Nominal Salaries & Wages (RM) Mean Real Salaries & Wages (RM) YoY Mean Norminal Salaries & Wages (%) YoY Mean Real Salaries & Wages (%)

Chart 4: Real Mean Monthly Salaries & Wages Citizens, Malaysia, 2011-2024

Note: Starting from the year 2020, the Salaries & Wages Statistics are estimated based on the Malaysia Population and Housing Census 2020

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