



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

2025
DECEMBER

LABOUR FORCE

STATISTICS
REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

LABOUR FORCE REPORT MALAYSIA

DECEMBER 2025

Announcement

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) is conducting the **Economic Census 2026 (BE2026)**, themed “*Data Nadi Ekonomi Rakyat*”. The sixth Economic Census, running from **5th January to 31st October 2026**. BE2026 aims to collect comprehensive, structured data from all registered and unregistered business establishments in Malaysia to assess the nation’s economic performance, structure and characteristics in an evidence-based manner.

Malaysia has, for the first time, successfully secured the **top position** globally in the biennial **Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25** report released by Open Data Watch (ODW), surpassing 197 other countries. This achievement marks a significant leap from its 67th position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.

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>.

MyLabourHub is a comprehensive platform that integrates institutions, data and technology to deliver relevant, accurate and accessible labour market information. Access the labour market data for Malaysia at <https://mylabourhub.dosm.gov.my>.

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

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PREFACE

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

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

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

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

DATO' SRI DR. MOHD UZIR MAHIDIN
Chief Statistician Malaysia

February 2026

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GLOSSARY

Actively unemployed	:	Persons who were available for work and were actively looking for a job during the reference week.
Category of skills	:	For reporting purposes, the category of occupation is regrouped into three levels of skills based on the Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation (MASCO) 2013 as follows: Skilled workers: 1. Managers; 2. Professionals; and 3. Technicians and associate professionals. Semi-skilled workers: 4. Clerical support workers; 5. Services and sales workers; 6. Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock, and fishery workers; 7. Craft and related trades workers; and 8. Plant and machine operators and assemblers. Low-skilled workers: 9. Elementary occupations. Starting in January 2022, the category of occupation is based on the Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation (MASCO) 2020 with the addition of group 0 - Armed Forces occupations.
Economic activity	:	Classification of industries according to the Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008 version 1.0 into five main sectors: Agriculture, Mining & quarrying, Manufacturing, Construction and Services. In the meantime, Manufacturing and Services are further disaggregated into sub-sectors.
Employed	:	All persons who, at any time during the reference week worked at least one hour for pay, profit or family gain either as an employer, employee, own-account worker, or unpaid family worker.
Employee	:	A person who works for a public or private employer and receives regular remuneration in wages, salary, commission, tips or payment in kind.
Employer	:	A person who operates a business, a plantation or other trade and employs at least one employee in his business or trade.
Employment-to-population ratio	:	The proportion of the employed population to the working-age population.

GLOSSARY

Inactively unemployed	:	Did not look for work because they believed no work was available or that they were not qualified; Would have looked for work if they had not been temporarily ill or had it not been for weather conditions; and had looked for work prior to the reference week and were waiting for the result of job applications.
Labour force participation rate	:	The ratio of the labour force to the working-age population, expressed as a percentage.
Outside labour force	:	All persons not classified as employed or unemployed are classified as outside the labour force. This category consists of housewives, students (including those going for further studies), retired, disabled persons and those not interested in looking for a job.
Own-account worker	:	A person who operates his own farm, business or trade without employing any paid workers to conduct his farm, trade or business.
Skill-related underemployment	:	Those with tertiary education and working in the semi-skilled and low-skilled categories.
Time-related underemployment	:	A group of people who were employed less than 30 hours per week during the reference week because of the nature of their work or due to insufficient work and were able and willing to accept additional hours of work. Persons who were employed more than 30 hours per week during the reference week are considered to be in full employment.
Unemployed	:	Those who did not work during the reference week were classified into two groups, which are actively and inactively unemployed.
Unemployment rate	:	The proportion of the unemployed population to the total population in the labour force, expressed as a percentage.
Unpaid family worker	:	A person who works without pay or wages on a farm, business or trade operated by another member of the family.

ACRONYMS

AI	:	Artificial Intelligence
ASEAN	:	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
DOSM	:	Department of Statistics Malaysia
Dr.	:	Doctor
ECRL	:	East Coast Rail Link
E&E	:	Electrical & Electronics
LFPR	:	Labour Force Participation Rate
LFS	:	Labour Force Survey
LI	:	Leading Index
MADANI	:	Sustainability, Care & Compassion, Respect, Innovation, Prosperity, and Trust
MASCO	:	Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation
MATTA	:	Malaysian Association of Tour and Travel Agents
MSIC	:	Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification
MSMEs	:	Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises
ODIN	:	Open Data Inventory
ODW	:	Open Data Watch
Prof.	:	Professor
Putrajaya FOI	:	Putrajaya Festival Of Idea
TVET	:	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
VM2026	:	Visit Malaysia 2026
YB	:	<i>Yang Berhormat</i>

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MALAYSIA LABOUR FORCE, DECEMBER 2025

The unemployment rate in December 2025 was unchanged at **2.9 per cent**, recording 517.7 thousand unemployed

UNEMPLOYMENT

December 2025

The number of unemployed persons

517.7 thousand

DECEMBER 2024 538.5 thousand
NOVEMBER 2025 518.4 thousand

Unemployment rate

2.9%

The unemployment rate in December 2025 was unchanged at 2.9 per cent

DECEMBER 2024 3.1%
NOVEMBER 2025 2.9%

Unemployment by category



EMPLOYED PERSONS

December 2025

The number of employed persons

17.13 million

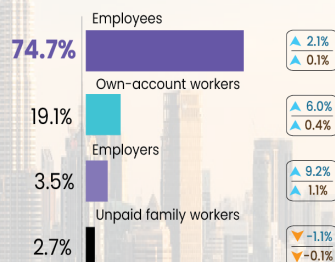
DECEMBER 2024 16.63 million
NOVEMBER 2025 17.09 million

Employment-to-population ratio

68.9%

DECEMBER 2024 68.4%
NOVEMBER 2025 68.8%

Employed persons by status in employment



In December 2025, employees' category represented **74.7 per cent** of the total employed persons

LABOUR FORCE

Labour Force

17.65 million

DECEMBER 2024 17.17 million
NOVEMBER 2025 17.61 million

DECEMBER 2025

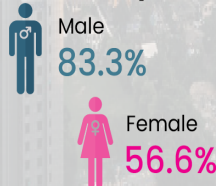
▲2.8% ▲0.2%
▲0.3pp ↔ 0.0pp

Labour Force Participation Rate

70.9%

DECEMBER 2024 70.6%
NOVEMBER 2025 70.9%

LFPR by sex



70.9%

The labour force participation rate (LFPR) for December 2025 remained at 70.9 per cent

OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE

NOVEMBER 2025

7.22 million

DECEMBER 2025

7.23 million

7.16 million

DECEMBER 2024

▲1.0% ▲0.1%

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



Notes :
% Percentage change (year-on-year)
% Percentage change (month-on-month)
↔ Unchanged
pp Percentage point



@StatsMalaysia

BK26
BANCI EKONOMI 2026
DATA NADI EKONOMI RAKYAT

MALAYSIA MADANI
keajaibannya

ODIN
OPEN DATA INVENTORY
MALAYSIA
NUMBER ONE
IN THE WORLD

20 October

2016 - 2030

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

What is Labour Force Survey (LFS)?

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

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

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

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

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

LABOUR FORCE

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

EMPLOYED

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

UNEMPLOYED

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

OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE

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

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

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

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

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

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

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



EXPLANATORY NOTES

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

The revision of the LFS data series is performed when the most recent Population and Housing Census 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 of Malaysia. This process of incorporating revised population benchmarks is referred to as rebasing. On the same note, revisions are carried out on LFS data for January to December 2024.

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KEY REVIEWS

- The number of **employed persons** in December 2025 continued its upward trend, with an increase of **0.2 per cent (+37.0 thousand persons)** to **17.13 million persons**, compared to 17.09 million persons in November 2025. The **employment-to-population ratio**, which signals the ability of an economy to create jobs, edged up **0.1 percentage points** to **68.9 per cent** in December 2025 (November 2025: 68.8%).
- Employment by economic sectors indicates that the number of employed persons in the Services sector continued to record steady growth, particularly in Wholesale & retail trade, followed by Accommodation and food & beverage service activities, as well as Information & communication activities. Similarly, the number of employments also increased in the Agriculture, Manufacturing and Construction sectors, while the Mining & quarrying sectors experienced a slight decline during the month.
- In December 2025, the **employees'** category represented **74.7 per cent** of the total employed persons. This category went up by **0.1 per cent (+18.7 thousand persons)**, bringing the total to **12.80 million persons** compared to the previous month (November 2025: 12.78 million persons). Likewise, the number of **own-account workers** also showed an improvement, rising by **0.4 per cent (+12.0 thousand persons)** to **3.27 million persons** from 3.26 million persons in the preceding month.
- The number of **unemployed persons** during the month posted a slight decrease of **0.1 per cent (-0.7 thousand persons)** to **517.7 thousand persons** compared to the prior month (November 2025: 518.4 thousand persons). The **unemployment rate** in December 2025 was unchanged at **2.9 per cent** as of November 2025.
- The **labour force** continued to expand in December 2025, rising by **0.2 per cent (+36.2 thousand persons)** month-on-month to **17.65 million persons**, as against 17.61 million persons last month. December's **labour force participation rate (LFPR)** remained at **70.9 per cent**, the same as in the previous month.
- During the month, the number of persons **outside the labour force** posted an increase of **0.1 per cent**, or the equivalent of **+7.0 thousand persons** to **7.23 million persons** (November 2025: 7.22 million persons). The major composition of the outside labour force was **housework/ family responsibilities**, accounting for **43.7 per cent**, followed by the **schooling/ training** category at **40.9 per cent**.
- The country's labour market in the upcoming months is projected to transition into 2026 with strengthened foundations driven by a combination of fiscal, tourism and employment initiatives. The Budget 2026 framework under *Ekonomi MADANI* also emphasises labour market reforms, employability enhancement, wage growth support, and partnerships with industry for skills development, aiming to broaden access to higher-income opportunities and support sustainable wage progression for Malaysian workers. These measures are expected to foster a resilient workforce and help boost participation in both formal and emerging economic sectors.

1 INTRODUCTION

THE LABOUR FORCE IN DECEMBER 2025 REMAINED STABLE, IN LINE WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS, RECORDING HIGHER EMPLOYMENT LEVELS WHILE UNEMPLOYMENT CONTINUED TO DECLINE

In 2025, the global economy recorded moderate growth amid ongoing geopolitical uncertainties, international trade tensions, and selective inflationary pressures. Despite these external challenges, the global economy demonstrated relative resilience, particularly among major advanced and emerging economies. Malaysia's economy remained resilient and continued to grow sustainably, supported by strong domestic demand, high-impact strategic investments, and an improving external sector¹. In line with these positive developments, the government implemented various initiatives to strengthen the labour market and expand employment opportunities. As a result, Malaysia's labour force remained stable, productive, and robust throughout 2025.

At the beginning of 2025, Malaysia's labour market demonstrated encouraging performance following strategic investments in the semiconductor and high-technology sectors. According to Prof. Dr. Chris Miller from The Fletcher School, Tufts University, many international investors were attracted to Malaysia due to the country's expertise in semiconductor chip architectures, thereby reinforcing Malaysia's position in the global supply chain². These initiatives not only supported the country's economic growth but also created high-value employment opportunities and enhanced labour market resilience.

Moreover, government support for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) through programmes such as MyDigital and the National AI Roadmap 2021-2025 helped workers improve their digital skills, including in the field of artificial intelligence. The Minister of Communications and Digital, YB Tuan Gobind Singh Deo, emphasised the importance of obtaining feedback from MSME entrepreneurs to improve digitalisation strategies³. These measures enabled MSMEs to increase productivity, adopt new technologies, and create employment opportunities, thereby strengthening the local labour market.

In addition, Malaysia's economy remained stable and continued to expand in February 2025, supported by strong export demand, particularly in the electrical and electronics (E&E) sector. Growth in the Services and Manufacturing industries created employment opportunities for both skilled and semi-skilled workers, keeping the labour force stable amid positive economic developments. In March 2025, Malaysia's economy stayed resilient despite global trade tensions and economic headwinds. Strong domestic demand, rising minimum wages, and higher government salaries supported private consumption, while robust private investment maintained employment. Business activities during Ramadan and Aidilfitri further stimulated opportunities for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), keeping the labour market dynamic.

Furthermore, Malaysia's economy continued to perform well in April 2025, supported by sustained export demand for E&E products. Foreign investments, including new high-tech facilities by a Japanese company in Johor, generated skilled job opportunities. Government initiatives, such as the MyFutureJobs Mega Career Carnival and a RM20 million investment in TVET programmes, strengthened workforce skills, maintaining a resilient and expanding labour market. In May 2025, Malaysia's economy demonstrated inclusive growth and strengthened its regional influence. Projects

¹ <https://www.thestar.com.my/business/business-news/2025/12/26/malaysia039s-economy-remains-resilient-in-2025-amid-tariff-wars-geopolitical-turbulence>

² <https://www.nst.com.my/business/economy/2025/01/1160060/malaysia-stands-benefit-robust-chip-potential-amid-us-china>

³ https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2025/03/25/govt-allocates-rm15bil-to-accelerate-msme-digitalisation-nationwide?utm_source

such as the ASEAN regional energy grid and the MADANI Rakyat Programme promoted investment, entrepreneurship, and job creation. The MYFutureJobs Premium Carnival 2025 provided over 10,000 high-profile job opportunities, contributing to a dynamic labour force with low unemployment.

In June 2025, Malaysia's economy continued to demonstrate inclusive growth and regional leadership through initiatives such as ASEAN's regional energy grid integration. Community-level programmes such as MADANI Rakyat and career carnivals, provided business, entrepreneurship, and employment opportunities, resulting in a vibrant labour force with increased employment and lower unemployment. Moreover, Malaysia's economy remained resilient in July 2025, supported by strong growth in Services, Manufacturing, and high-tech industries, as well as infrastructure projects under the 13th Malaysia Plan. Labour participation in the market expanded, with rising employment across tourism, logistics, and technology sectors, supported by reskilling and upskilling programmes, while unemployment remained low.

Furthermore, economic diversification and strategic investments in tourism, aviation, and social enterprises strengthened Malaysia's economy in August 2025. Events such as *Temasya Oghang Kedah* and MATTA Fair, alongside MyFutureJobs initiatives, created new job opportunities, improved workforce skills, and supported inclusive participation, keeping the labour market stable and resilient. In September 2025, Malaysia pursued regional trade and connectivity projects such as the East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) expansion and green automotive initiatives. Community-level economic events, including career fairs and festivals, generated thousands of job opportunities, sustaining a dynamic labour market with low unemployment and rising employment levels.

Malaysia strengthened its agro-food and high-tech Manufacturing sectors in October 2025, with notable export growth and foreign investments creating high-skilled jobs. Career carnivals and state-led initiatives provided inclusive employment opportunities, ensuring a robust labour market with stable labour participation and low unemployment. In November 2025, economic ties with Sweden, innovation festivals like Putrajaya FOI 2025, and community empowerment programmes enhanced Malaysia's industrial capacity and entrepreneurial ecosystem. These initiatives contributed to employment creation, workforce development, and inclusive growth, maintaining a resilient labour force with steady employment and low unemployment.

As of December 2025, the labour market remained robust, driven by the effectiveness of digital job-matching initiatives. Since 2023, the MYFutureJobs platform has recorded over 620,000 job placements, thereby improving labour market efficiency and reducing skills mismatches⁴. This achievement supported higher employment and labour force participation, particularly among youth and skilled workers. From an external trade perspective, Malaysia's export performance recorded a strong upswing, supported by higher demand for manufactured goods and E&E products. The surge in exports reflects improving global trade conditions and is expected to contribute positively to industrial output and overall economic growth⁵.

Moreover, investor confidence in the country's economic fundamentals was reflected in the expansion of existing foreign investments, including a RM78 million investment by a Taiwanese company to expand its manufacturing operations in Malaysia⁶. This investment is expected to increase production capacity, facilitate technology transfer, and generate high-value employment. As a result, through these initiatives, the labour force in December 2025 remained stable in line with economic developments, recording

⁴ <https://www.malaysiakini.com/socialsecurity/764347>

⁵ <https://www.kosmo.com.my/2025/12/31/prestasi-perdagangan-luar-malaysia-kekalkukuh-apabila-jumlah-perdagangan-barangan-meningkat-13-6-peratus-kepada-rm277-6-bilion-pada-oktober-2025/>

⁶ <https://www.nst.com.my/amp/business/corporate/2025/12/1344683/taiwans-syntec-expands-malaysia-plant-rm78mil>

higher employment levels while unemployment continued to decline. This provided a solid foundation for inclusive and sustainable economic growth and a resilient country’s labour market heading into 2026.

Malaysia’s economic outlook moderated in November 2025, as indicated by the Leading Index (LI), which rose by 0.2 per cent to 113.2 points as against 113.0 points in November last year. Meanwhile, the monthly LI recorded a decline of 2.4 per cent compared to the previous month. The smoothed long-term trend of the LI was below 100.0 points in November 2025, signalling that Malaysia’s economy is expected to continue expanding in the near future, with domestic demand remaining the backbone of growth. In the meantime, Malaysia’s external trade indicators for December 2025 showed positive momentum, with exports increasing by 13.4 per cent, reversing the growth recorded in the previous month (November 2025: -9.0%). In contrast, imports continued to expand, registering an increase of 3.7 per cent (November 2025: +0.7%).

2 EMPLOYED PERSONS

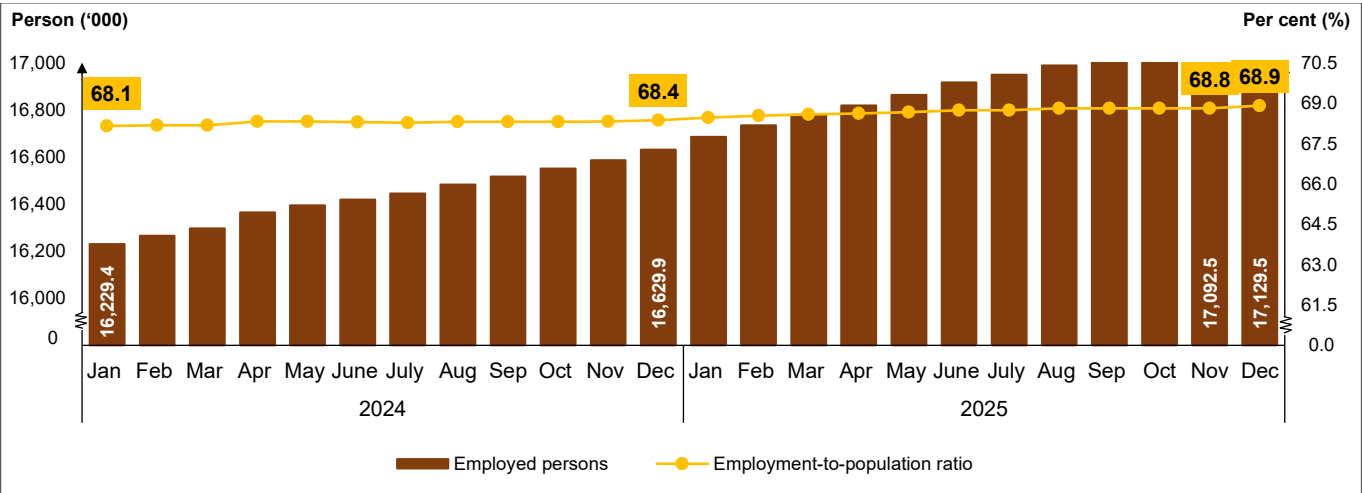
The number of employed persons in December 2025 continued its upward trend

The number of **employed persons** in December 2025 continued its upward trend, with an increase of **0.2 per cent (+37.0 thousand persons)** to **17.13 million persons**, compared to 17.09 million persons in November 2025. Likewise, seasonally adjusted figures indicated a month-on-month rise of 0.3 per cent in the number of employed persons. On a yearly comparison, the number of employed persons rose by 3.0 per cent, equivalent to an additional 499.6 thousand persons, raising the total from 16.63 million persons in December 2024.

Employment by economic sectors indicates that the number of employed persons in the Services sector continued to record steady growth, particularly in Wholesale & retail trade, followed by Accommodation and food & beverage service activities, as well as Information & communication activities. Similarly, the number of employments also increased in the Agriculture, Manufacturing and Construction sectors, while the Mining & quarrying sector experienced a slight decline during the month.

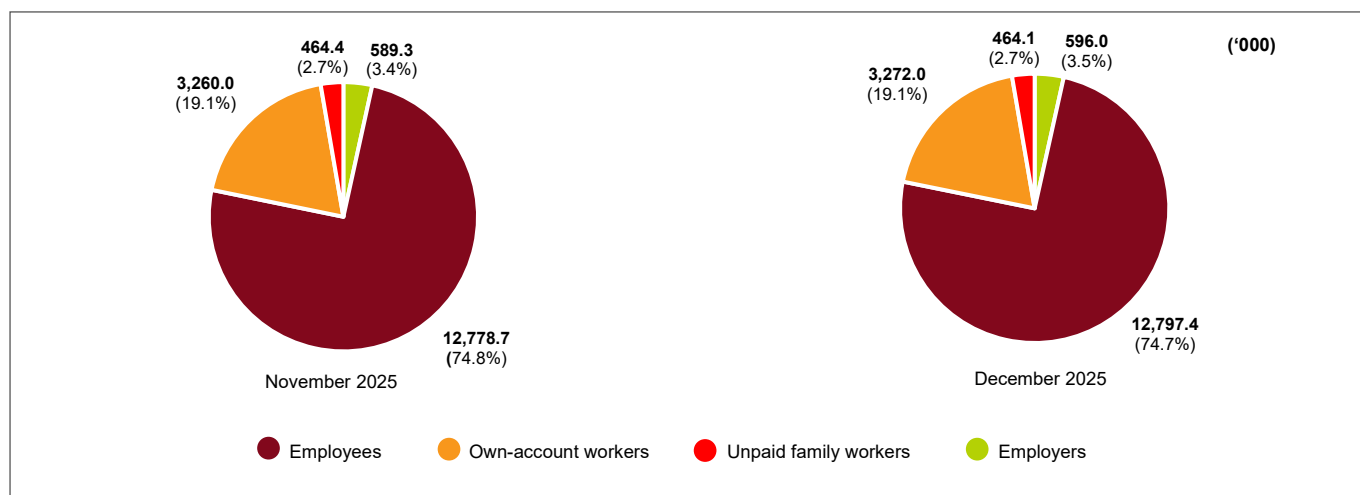
The **employment-to-population ratio**, which signals the ability of an economy to create jobs, edged up by **0.1 percentage points** to **68.9 per cent** in December 2025 (November 2025: 68.8%). On a year-on-year basis, the ratio rose by 0.5 percentage points, compared to 68.4 per cent in December 2024 **[Chart 1]**.

Chart 1: Employed persons and employment-to-population ratio, January 2024 - December 2025



In December 2025, the **employees'** category represented **74.7 per cent** of the total employed persons. This category went up by **0.1 per cent (+18.7 thousand persons)**, bringing the total to **12.80 million persons** compared to the previous month (November 2025: 12.78 million persons). Likewise, the number of **own-account workers** also showed an improvement, rising by **0.4 per cent (+12.0 thousand persons)** to **3.27 million persons** from 3.26 million persons in the preceding month. This category largely consists of daily income earners engaged in small-scale activities such as retailers, hawkers, market and stall vendors, and smallholders **[Chart 2]**.

Chart 2: Employed persons by status in employment, November and December 2025



The number of **employed persons who were temporarily not working** during the month, rose by **13.3 per cent (+10.5 thousand persons)** to **89.6 thousand persons**, as compared to the previous month (November 2025: 79.1 thousand persons). Comparing with the same month of the previous year, this group expanded by 12.4 per cent (+9.9 thousand persons) from 79.7 thousand persons in December 2024. These individuals were temporarily not working but were not classified as unemployed, as they had jobs to return to.

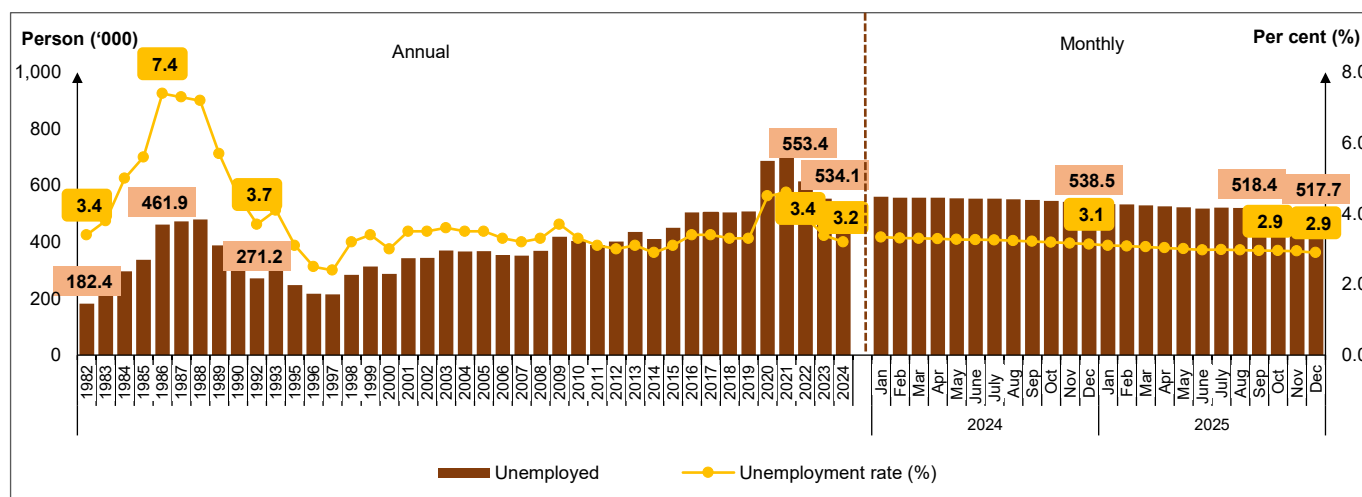
3 UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment rate in December 2025 was unchanged at 2.9 per cent

The number of **unemployed persons** during the month posted a slight decrease of **0.1 per cent (-0.7 thousand persons)** to **517.7 thousand persons** compared to the prior month (November 2025: 518.4 thousand persons). The **unemployment rate** in December 2025 was unchanged at **2.9 per cent** as of November 2025. In terms of seasonally adjusted estimates, the number of unemployed persons registered a decrease of 0.4 per cent, with a lower unemployment rate at 2.9 per cent.

Compared with one year earlier, the number of unemployed persons was also declining, with a decrease of 3.9 per cent (-20.8 thousand persons) from 538.5 thousand persons in December 2024. Subsequently, the unemployment rate decreased by 0.2 percentage points as against 3.1 per cent in December last year **[Chart 3]**.

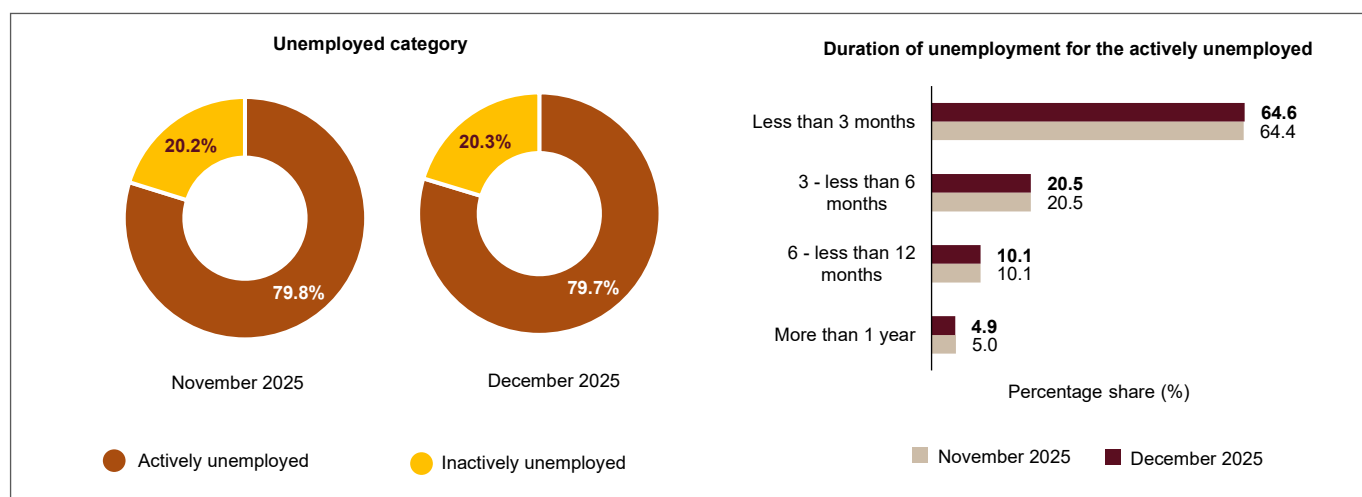
Chart 3: Unemployment, 1982 - 2024 and January 2024 - December 2025



In December 2025, **79.7 per cent** of the total unemployed persons were the **actively unemployed**, or those who were actively seeking jobs. This category fell by **0.3 per cent (-1.0 thousand persons)** to record **412.4 thousand persons** (November 2025: 413.5 thousand persons). By duration of the unemployment for the actively unemployed, those who were **unemployed for less than three months** encompassed **64.6 per cent**, while **4.9 per cent** were those who had been **unemployed for more than a year**⁷.

Meanwhile, the **inactively unemployed**, or those who believed that no jobs were available, increased by **0.3 per cent (+0.3 thousand persons)** to **105.2 thousand persons** as compared to the prior month at 104.9 thousand persons [Chart 4].

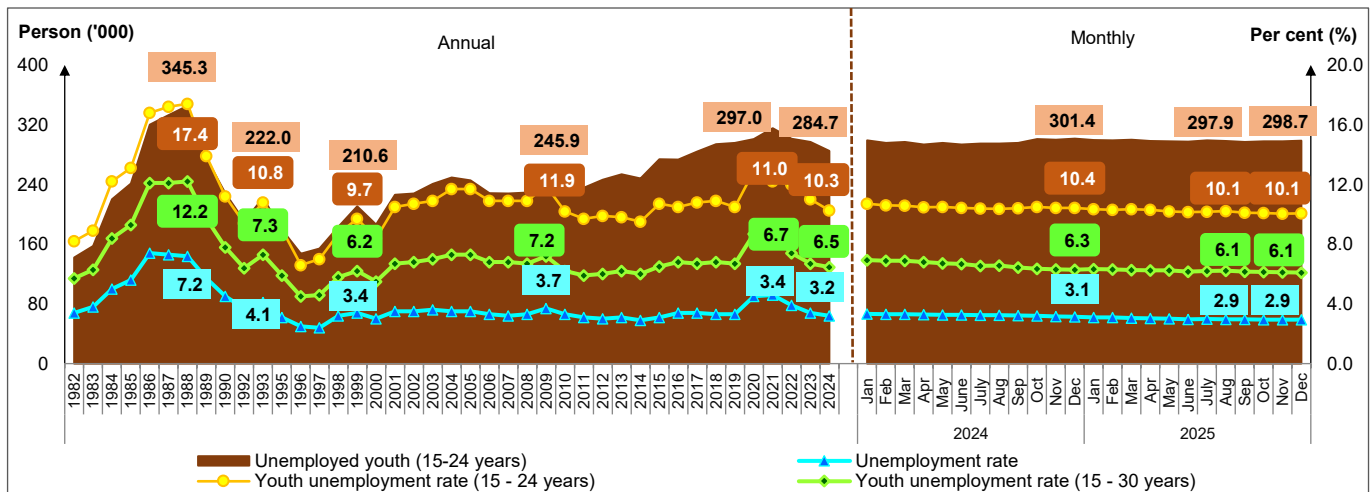
Chart 4: Unemployed category and duration of unemployment for the actively unemployed, November and December 2025



During the month, the youth unemployment rate for ages **15 to 24 years** stood at **10.1 per cent**, with **298.7 thousand unemployed youths** (November 2025: 297.9 thousand persons). Likewise, the unemployment rate among youth aged **15 to 30 years** was unchanged at **6.1 per cent**, registering the number of unemployed youths at **396.9 thousand persons** (November 2025: 398.0 thousand persons) [Chart 5].

⁷ Referring to a person who has been unemployed for one year or longer (Source: KILM: Long-term unemployment)
https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/publication/wcms_422451.pdf

Chart 5: The number of unemployed persons and unemployment rate by selected age groups, 1982 - 2024 and January 2024 - December 2025



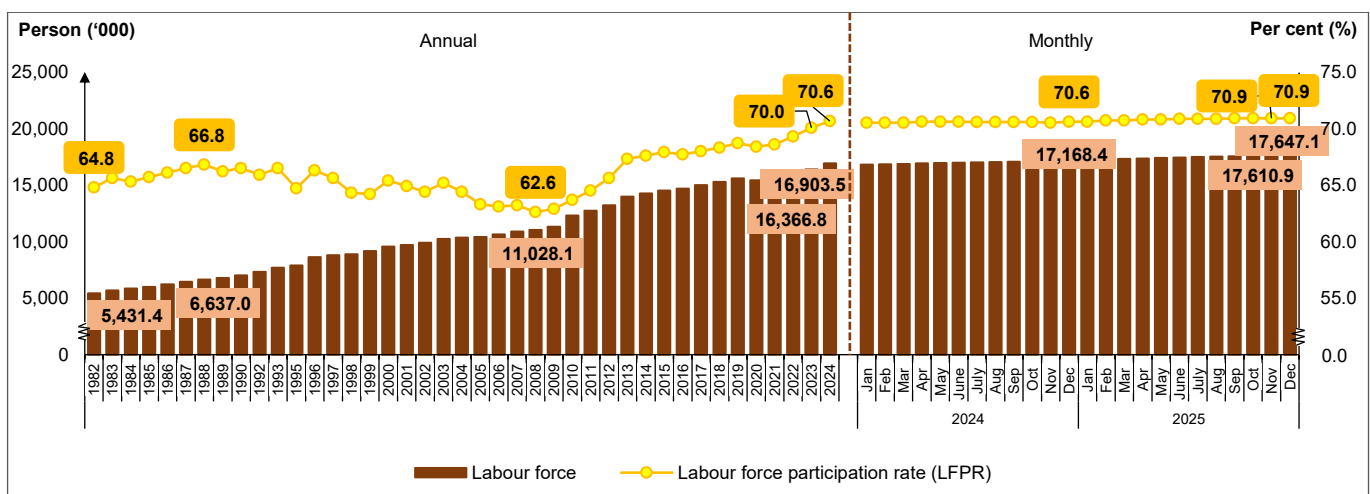
4 LABOUR FORCE

The LFPR for December 2025 remained at 70.9 per cent

The **labour force** continued to expand in December 2025, rising by **0.2 per cent (+36.2 thousand persons)** month-on-month to **17.65 million persons**, as against 17.61 million persons last month. December's **labour force participation rate (LFPR)** remained at **70.9 per cent**, the same as in the previous month. Based on seasonally adjusted data, the labour force also recorded a 0.2 per cent increase, with the LFPR of 70.9 per cent.

On a year-on-year basis, the labour force increased by 2.8 per cent, the equivalent of 478.7 thousand persons, from 17.17 million persons in December 2024. Accordingly, the LFPR increased by 0.3 percentage points as against 70.6 per cent a year earlier [Chart 6].

Chart 6: Labour force and LFPR, 1982 - 2024 and January 2024 - December 2025

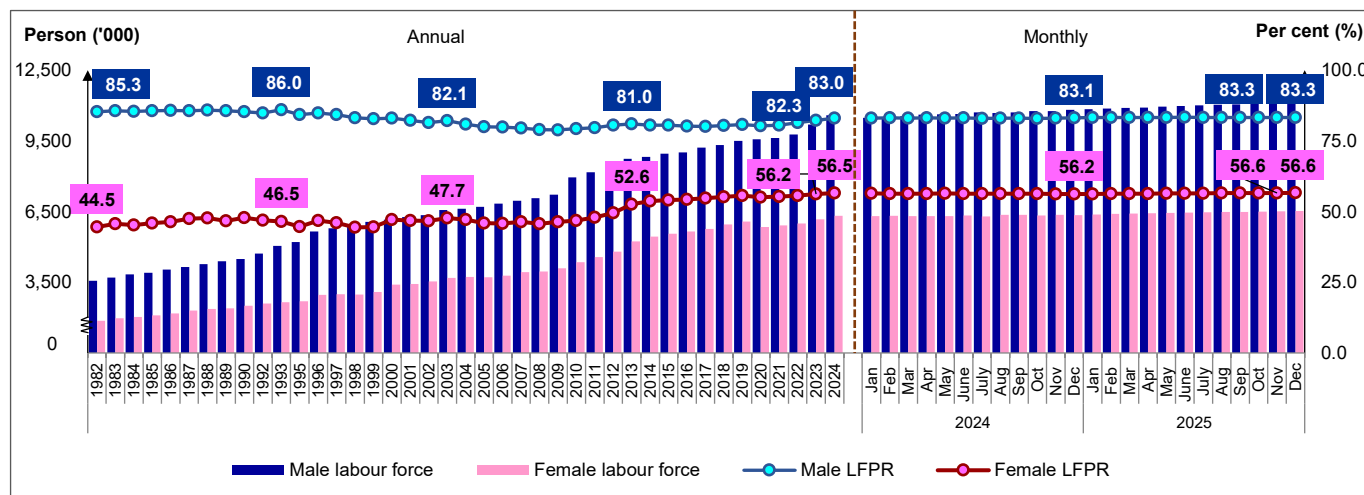


In December 2025, both male and female labour forces continued to rise during the month. The **male labour force** increased to **11.13 million persons** from 11.10 million persons in November 2025, while the **female labour force** edged up to **6.52 million persons** compared to 6.51 million persons in

the previous month. The LFPR for both genders remained as in November 2025, with the **male LFPR at 83.3 per cent** and the **female LFPR at 56.6 per cent**.

On an annual comparison, the male labour force improved by 2.8 per cent as against 10.82 million persons in December 2024, while the female labour force went up by 2.7 per cent from 6.35 million persons. Accordingly, the male LFPR increased by 0.2 percentage points from 83.1 per cent, while the female LFPR rose by 0.4 percentage points from 56.2 per cent in December last year [**Chart 7**].

Chart 7: Labour force and LFPR by sex, 1982 - 2024 and January 2024 - December 2025



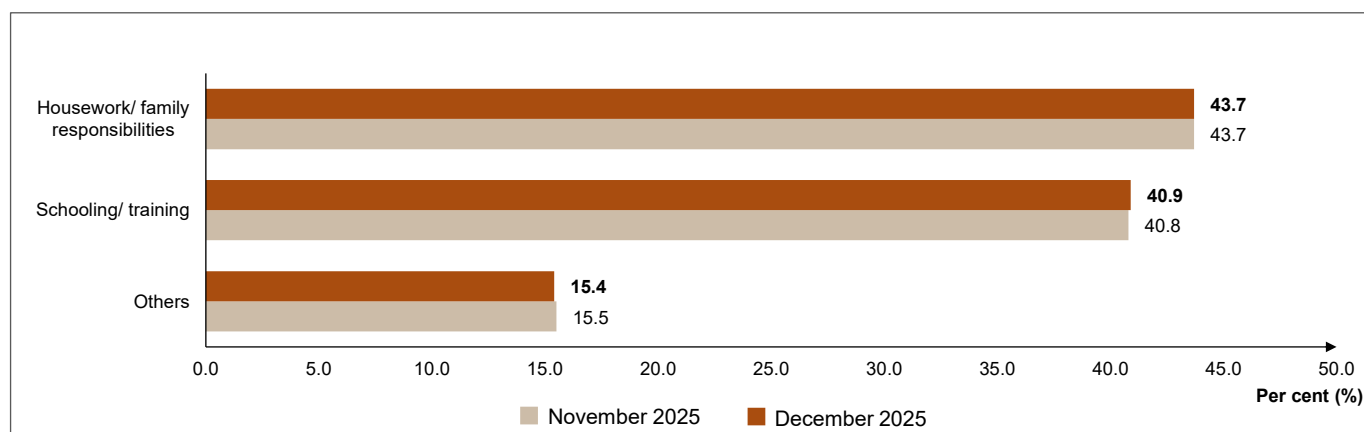
5 OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE

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

During the month, the number of persons **outside the labour force** posted an increase of **0.1 per cent**, or the equivalent of **+7.0 thousand persons** to **7.23 million persons** (November 2025: 7.22 million persons). On an annual basis, the number of outside labour force continued to rise by 1.0 per cent from 7.16 million persons in December last year.

The major composition of the outside labour force was **housework/ family responsibilities**, accounting for **43.7 per cent**, followed by the **schooling/ training** category at **40.9 per cent** [**Chart 8**].

Chart 8: Share of outside labour force by reasons for not seeking work, November and December 2025



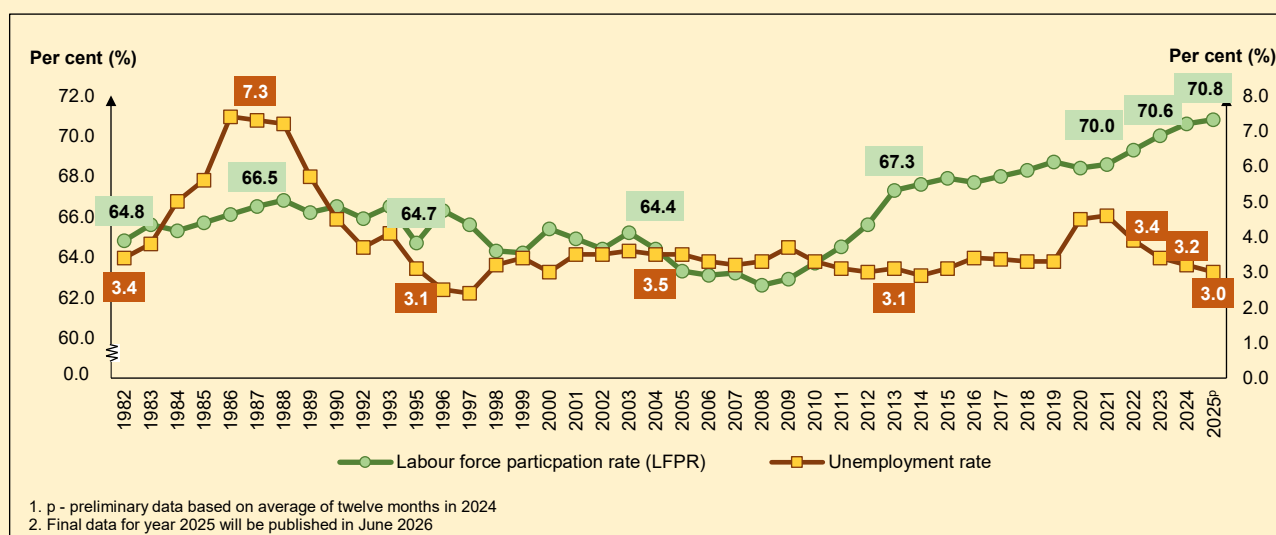
6 LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN 2025 (PRELIMINARY)

Based on monthly average data, the preliminary assessment of Malaysia's labour force performance for 2025 indicates that the LFPR is expected to continue rising. In 2025, the LFPR is estimated to have increased by 0.2 percentage points, reaching 70.8 per cent, compared to 70.6 per cent in 2024. This early trend points to positive developments in the labour force, in line with sustained economic improvement over the course of the year.

Favourable economic conditions in 2025 are anticipated to further boost demand for labour, leading to more employment opportunities across key sectors such as Manufacturing, Services, and technology. With these developments, the labour market is anticipated to remain stable and productive for the year as a whole.

As a result, preliminary data indicates that the unemployment rate is expected to remain low or decline slightly, in line with rising LFPR and expanding employment opportunities. The unemployment rate for 2025 is preliminarily estimated at 3.0 per cent, representing a decrease of 0.2 percentage points from 3.2 per cent in 2024 [Chart 9].

Chart 9: Labour force participation rate and unemployment rate, 1982 - 2025^p



7 LOOKING AHEAD

Malaysia's labour market was observed to remain resilient in December 2025, supported by stable economic fundamentals, sustained domestic demand, and continued employment creation across key sectors. Despite global economic uncertainties, Malaysia's economy continues to demonstrate resilience, underpinned by prudent macroeconomic management, a diversified export base, and ongoing infrastructure development⁸. These factors are anticipated to support labour market stability, particularly towards the year-end period.

⁸ <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/malaysias-economy-grew-57-year-q4-2025-official-advance-estimate-shows-2026-01-16/>

As 2025 draws to a close, economic activities related to Manufacturing, Services, and Construction are expected to remain supportive of employment growth. The E&E industry continues to be a major contributor to exports and job creation, driven by demand for semiconductors and high-technology components. In parallel, increased adoption of automation and digitalisation across industries is expected to raise demand for skilled workers, particularly in engineering, information technology, data analytics, and technical services⁹. This trend is likely to further encourage a gradual shift towards higher-skilled employment.

The Services sector is also anticipated to record positive labour demand in the current month, supported by year-end festive activities, tourism recovery, and consumer spending. Improved tourist arrivals, including domestic and international visitors, are expected to generate employment opportunities in hospitality, transportation, retail trade, food & beverage, and related services, especially in tourism-focused states such as Sabah, Sarawak, and major urban centres¹⁰.

Meanwhile, Malaysia's commitment to sustainability and the green economy is foreseen to continue shaping labour market dynamics. Investments in renewable energy, green infrastructure, and environmental management are anticipated to support the creation of new jobs in technical, professional, and project-based roles¹¹. These developments align with the nation's long-term transition towards a low-carbon and sustainable economy.

Overall, the country's labour market in the upcoming months is projected to transition into 2026 with strengthened foundations driven by a combination of fiscal, tourism and employment initiatives. The Budget 2026 framework under *Ekonomi MADANI* also emphasises labour market reforms, employability enhancement, wage growth support, and partnerships with industry for skills development, aiming to broaden access to higher-income opportunities and support sustainable wage progression for Malaysian workers. These measures are expected to foster a resilient workforce and help boost participation in both formal and emerging economic sectors.

Additionally, initiatives under Visit Malaysia 2026 (VM2026), a nationwide tourism campaign launched at the start of 2026 with the goal of attracting millions of foreign visitors, are anticipated to significantly increase job opportunities in hospitality, retail, transportation, cultural services, and community-based tourism products. The government also continues programmes such as short-term public sector employment opportunities and homestay sector development, which are expected to generate income and enhance employment outreach across urban and rural areas¹². Collectively, these strategic interventions point to enhanced labour market dynamism and improved job prospects as Malaysia enters 2026, particularly through tourism-led demand growth and structural reforms to support skills, wages, and inclusive participation.

⁹ <https://mdec.my/media-release/news-press-release/411/mdec%E2%80%99s-malaysia-digital-investments-accelerates-ai-nation-by-2030>

¹⁰ <https://www.thestar.com.my/business/business-news/2025/11/14/inbound-tourists-to-bring-growth-along-for-the-ride>

¹¹ <https://www.bharian.com.my/berita/nasional/2025/08/1430033/malaysia-dijangka-tarik-rm637-bilion-pelaburan-dalam-tenaga-boleh>

¹² <https://www.bharian.com.my/berita/nasional/2025/08/1430033/malaysia-dijangka-tarik-rm637-bilion-pelaburan-dalam-tenaga-boleh>

TABLES

LABOUR FORCE, MALAYSIA
DECEMBER 2025

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Table A: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, 1982 - 2024

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
1982	5,431.4	5,249.0	182.4	2,944.6	64.8	62.7	3.4
1983	5,671.8	5,457.0	214.9	2,969.4	65.6	63.2	3.8
1984	5,862.5	5,566.7	295.8	3,119.6	65.3	62.0	5.0
1985	5,990.1	5,653.4	336.8	3,124.9	65.7	62.0	5.6
1986	6,222.1	5,760.1	461.9	3,188.3	66.1	61.2	7.4
1987	6,456.8	5,983.9	472.9	3,246.1	66.5	61.7	7.3
1988	6,637.0	6,157.2	479.8	3,301.5	66.8	62.0	7.2
1989	6,779.4	6,390.9	388.5	3,463.5	66.2	62.4	5.7
1990	7,000.2	6,685.0	315.2	3,519.7	66.5	63.6	4.5
1992	7,319.0	7,047.8	271.2	3,783.6	65.9	63.5	3.7
1993	7,700.1	7,383.4	316.8	3,874.9	66.5	63.8	4.1
1995	7,893.1	7,645.0	248.1	4,297.7	64.7	62.7	3.1
1996	8,616.0	8,399.3	216.8	4,379.0	66.3	64.6	2.5
1997	8,784.0	8,569.2	214.9	4,605.1	65.6	64.0	2.4
1998	8,883.6	8,599.6	284.0	4,934.0	64.3	62.2	3.2
1999	9,151.5	8,837.8	313.7	5,098.4	64.2	62.0	3.4
2000	9,556.1	9,269.2	286.9	5,065.1	65.4	63.4	3.0
2001	9,699.4	9,357.0	342.4	5,239.9	64.9	62.6	3.5
2002	9,886.2	9,542.6	343.5	5,473.8	64.4	62.1	3.5
2003	10,239.6	9,869.7	369.8	5,458.6	65.2	62.9	3.6
2004	10,346.2	9,979.5	366.6	5,730.5	64.4	62.1	3.5
2005	10,413.4	10,045.4	368.1	6,048.2	63.3	61.0	3.5
2006	10,628.9	10,275.4	353.6	6,205.1	63.1	61.0	3.3
2007	10,889.5	10,538.1	351.4	6,330.1	63.2	61.2	3.2
2008	11,028.1	10,659.6	368.5	6,575.7	62.6	60.6	3.3
2009	11,315.3	10,897.3	418.0	6,665.7	62.9	60.6	3.7
2010	12,303.9	11,899.5	404.4	7,023.0	63.7	61.6	3.3
2011	12,740.7	12,351.5	389.2	7,023.3	64.5	62.5	3.1
2012	13,221.7	12,820.5	401.2	6,927.4	65.6	63.6	3.0
2013	13,980.5	13,545.4	435.1	6,781.2	67.3	65.2	3.1
2014	14,263.6	13,852.6	411.1	6,821.0	67.6	65.7	2.9
2015	14,518.0	14,067.7	450.3	6,869.9	67.9	65.8	3.1
2016	14,667.8	14,163.7	504.1	6,987.6	67.7	65.4	3.4
2017	14,980.1	14,476.8	503.3	7,065.0	68.0	65.7	3.4
2018	15,280.3	14,776.0	504.3	7,094.4	68.3	66.0	3.3
2019	15,581.6	15,073.4	508.2	7,103.5	68.7	66.4	3.3
2020	15,406.0	14,719.4	686.6	7,105.2	68.4	65.4	4.5
2021	15,532.8	14,825.2	707.6	7,102.3	68.6	65.5	4.6
2022	15,769.7	15,155.2	614.5	7,000.7	69.3	66.6	3.9
2023	16,366.8	15,813.4	553.4	6,997.8	70.0	67.7	3.4
2024	16,903.5	16,369.4	534.1	7,022.4	70.6	68.4	3.2

Notes:

1. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2019 and preceding years are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2020 and onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table B: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, First Quarter 2010 - Fourth Quarter 2025

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

Table B: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, First Quarter 2010 - Fourth Quarter 2025

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
2021							
Q1	16,008.4	15,236.5	771.8	7,316.0	68.6	65.3	4.8
Q2	15,972.2	15,207.3	764.9	7,424.9	68.3	65.0	4.8
Q3	16,021.0	15,274.8	746.2	7,430.1	68.3	65.1	4.7
Q4	16,135.0	15,440.7	694.4	7,361.5	68.7	65.7	4.3
2022							
Q1	16,246.1	15,574.9	671.2	7,289.9	69.0	66.2	4.1
Q2	16,343.3	15,701.2	642.0	7,258.5	69.2	66.5	3.9
Q3	16,442.9	15,831.1	611.8	7,250.6	69.4	66.8	3.7
Q4	16,542.2	15,941.7	600.5	7,246.1	69.5	67.0	3.6
2023							
Q1	16,648.9	16,062.0	586.9	7,215.7	69.8	67.3	3.5
Q2	16,727.4	16,146.1	581.4	7,180.2	70.0	67.5	3.5
Q3	16,824.0	16,250.9	573.1	7,182.3	70.1	67.7	3.4
Q4	16,911.7	16,346.7	565.0	7,197.6	70.1	67.8	3.3
2024^a							
Q1	16,770.6	16,216.8	553.8	7,021.1	70.5	68.2	3.3
Q2	16,913.0	16,368.3	544.6	7,016.2	70.7	68.4	3.2
Q3	16,996.7	16,455.7	541.0	7,070.9	70.6	68.4	3.2
Q4	17,097.9	16,559.1	538.7	7,110.7	70.6	68.4	3.2
2025							
Q1	17,229.3	16,703.0	526.3	7,126.1	70.7	68.6	3.1
Q2	17,369.9	16,849.0	520.9	7,154.9	70.8	68.7	3.0
Q3	17,486.6	16,966.7	519.9	7,182.6	70.9	68.8	3.0
Q4	17,618.1	17,100.2	517.9	7,224.6	70.9	68.8	2.9

Note:

1. The quarterly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. ^a The Labour Force Survey statistics from the first quarter of 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table B1 : Employed person working less than 30 hours per week by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - Fourth Quarter 202

('000)

Time Series	Total	Sex		Age Group			
		Male	Female	15-24	25-34	35-44	45 and above
2017							
Q1	415.5	177.3	238.2	57.4	79.7	90.8	187.6
Q2	396.8	168.8	228.0	52.8	79.0	95.1	170.0
Q3	393.0	163.2	229.7	57.3	91.1	81.4	163.1
Q4	419.3	173.1	246.2	60.2	105.4	84.3	169.4
2018							
Q1	462.3	172.9	289.3	61.2	119.5	98.7	182.9
Q2	497.2	207.7	289.5	75.5	132.4	101.3	188.0
Q3	442.4	172.7	269.7	56.4	96.7	98.3	191.0
Q4	370.0	140.9	229.0	39.2	80.4	78.9	171.4
2019							
Q1	352.6	143.7	209.0	52.2	90.9	68.9	140.7
Q2	374.3	171.5	202.8	43.6	84.1	87.8	158.8
Q3	326.6	118.9	207.6	42.5	73.6	79.7	130.8
Q4	304.0	112.3	191.8	39.1	62.9	72.8	129.3
2020							
Q1	667.5	320.1	347.4	91.0	189.1	146.5	240.9
Q2	789.6	444.0	345.7	134.6	229.1	182.0	244.0
Q3	403.8	151.4	252.4	116.1	118.0	72.1	97.6
Q4	533.7	345.6	188.0	165.5	189.5	71.0	107.6
2021							
Q1	441.9	281.3	160.5	57.0	209.4	106.3	69.2
Q2	474.1	317.8	156.3	102.2	110.1	95.9	165.9
Q3	464.6	282.9	181.6	69.0	166.4	123.7	105.4
Q4	393.8	137.6	256.2	87.0	108.4	97.5	100.9
2022							
Q1	336.3	112.1	224.1	39.1	103.6	77.8	115.8
Q2	324.5	154.5	170.0	76.4	94.3	63.0	90.8
Q3	287.2	132.9	154.3	35.3	99.5	68.4	84.0
Q4	268.5	115.4	153.0	46.1	88.0	56.2	78.3
2023							
Q1	274.2	114.2	160.0	37.4	94.4	46.5	95.8
Q2	280.4	120.2	160.2	54.0	85.3	58.6	82.5
Q3	284.8	122.0	162.8	41.5	113.2	49.6	80.4
Q4	286.1	113.6	172.5	49.1	108.7	43.3	85.1
2024^a							
Q1	272.9	122.2	150.7	33.9	77.8	62.6	98.6
Q2	269.9	121.5	148.4	55.9	65.2	60.0	88.9
Q3	264.2	116.7	147.5	43.0	74.1	57.4	89.7
Q4	257.9	113.5	144.4	64.5	59.8	37.9	95.8
2025							
Q1	242.7	106.3	136.5	70.4	37.7	71.4	63.3
Q2	241.0	110.5	130.5	41.7	62.4	62.4	74.4
Q3	230.9	107.5	123.4	58.8	39.3	63.7	69.2
Q4	229.5	101.2	128.3	59.0	37.1	64.5	68.9

Note:

1. The quarterly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010

2. ^a The Labour Force Survey statistics from the first quarter of 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table B2 : Time-related underemployment by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - Fourth Quarter 2025

('000)

Time Series	Total	Sex		Age Group			
		Male	Female	15-24	25-34	35-44	45 and above
2017							
Q1	211.8	105.9	105.8	36.8	51.0	48.6	75.4
Q2	195.4	97.7	97.8	34.7	45.2	48.9	66.6
Q3	224.8	109.1	115.7	46.3	59.3	49.8	69.4
Q4	238.5	115.3	123.2	45.7	69.4	44.9	78.5
2018							
Q1	242.5	102.4	141.0	37.3	74.1	52.3	79.7
Q2	231.7	108.1	123.5	40.2	65.8	43.2	82.5
Q3	235.5	116.5	119.0	43.4	54.4	49.4	88.3
Q4	204.1	88.1	115.9	30.8	47.5	44.0	81.7
2019							
Q1	210.5	98.0	112.5	43.6	61.4	36.9	68.6
Q2	204.5	107.2	97.2	32.0	53.8	45.7	73.0
Q3	178.7	70.4	108.2	28.6	44.8	50.9	54.4
Q4	170.7	69.2	101.5	28.7	44.2	40.6	57.1
2020							
Q1	383.2	183.2	199.9	63.2	114.1	82.4	123.5
Q2	413.5	257.6	156.0	76.3	99.3	106.1	131.9
Q3	300.8	102.3	198.5	108.4	97.2	47.4	47.8
Q4	369.1	267.8	101.3	130.3	117.4	53.1	68.4
2021							
Q1	310.5	226.7	83.8	46.4	159.3	67.2	37.6
Q2	329.7	236.1	93.5	86.6	82.6	46.6	113.8
Q3	326.2	232.2	93.9	40.4	137.0	87.7	61.0
Q4	293.1	101.2	191.9	80.8	78.9	70.2	63.2
2022							
Q1	245.1	71.3	173.8	21.8	76.1	62.6	84.5
Q2	212.8	111.6	101.3	64.5	59.8	37.0	51.6
Q3	186.8	92.3	94.5	16.7	67.4	49.0	53.7
Q4	167.4	79.3	88.1	29.9	63.8	32.5	41.2
2023							
Q1	174.6	78.7	95.9	30.2	66.4	25.2	52.8
Q2	186.3	86.4	99.9	39.5	62.6	34.4	49.8
Q3	189.0	88.1	100.8	34.4	79.0	32.6	42.9
Q4	181.6	82.7	98.9	26.5	81.1	28.4	45.6
2024^a							
Q1	161.8	76.6	85.2	22.6	55.7	30.9	52.6
Q2	157.4	74.0	83.3	23.3	50.1	38.9	45.1
Q3	155.9	73.9	82.0	27.2	48.1	25.2	55.4
Q4	152.7	70.9	81.8	32.5	39.6	23.9	56.8
2025							
Q1	146.9	68.9	78.0	50.4	28.6	38.9	29.1
Q2	141.0	64.1	76.9	34.1	41.7	33.9	31.3
Q3	133.3	62.0	71.3	46.1	25.9	25.9	35.3
Q4	129.8	60.9	68.9	35.4	23.7	34.1	36.6

Note:

1. The quarterly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010

2. ^a The Labour Force Survey statistics from the first quarter of 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table B3 : Skill-related underemployment by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - Fourth Quarter 2025

('000)

Time Series	Total	Sex		Age Group			
		Male	Female	15-24	25-34	35-44	45 and above
2017							
Q1	1,182.9	567.0	615.9	280.8	569.0	209.3	123.8
Q2	1,280.6	584.9	695.7	317.9	587.7	226.9	148.1
Q3	1,311.6	623.9	687.7	306.1	632.6	227.4	145.5
Q4	1,332.8	648.4	684.4	303.2	631.8	254.8	142.9
2018							
Q1	1,306.9	629.2	677.7	279.2	629.2	259.0	139.5
Q2	1,408.1	647.2	760.9	314.5	687.4	257.7	148.4
Q3	1,446.3	704.1	742.2	351.3	683.3	266.9	144.8
Q4	1,404.0	667.8	736.2	337.2	679.1	245.4	142.3
2019							
Q1	1,460.8	673.2	787.6	329.5	696.4	263.0	172.0
Q2	1,417.2	665.3	751.9	338.6	666.0	259.7	152.8
Q3	1,554.5	699.3	855.2	393.5	705.8	279.1	176.0
Q4	1,540.9	746.8	794.1	348.4	732.4	287.4	172.7
2020							
Q1	1,637.3	815.1	822.2	338.3	786.3	310.8	201.8
Q2	1,674.1	847.7	826.4	393.7	701.9	331.6	246.9
Q3	1,762.7	865.9	896.9	405.1	811.4	355.3	190.9
Q4	1,886.8	1,066.6	820.2	353.5	862.6	443.0	227.6
2021							
Q1	1,899.9	951.5	948.4	437.2	848.4	401.7	212.5
Q2	1,852.5	949.0	903.5	336.9	776.0	426.1	313.5
Q3	1,873.8	931.7	942.2	426.8	835.3	392.0	219.7
Q4	1,838.3	877.1	961.2	309.0	816.4	454.6	258.3
2022							
Q1	1,810.1	874.4	935.6	364.9	821.3	428.2	195.7
Q2	1,799.6	892.3	907.3	356.3	799.4	433.3	210.6
Q3	1,839.6	857.9	981.7	344.1	861.4	432.2	201.9
Q4	1,891.4	1,022.0	869.5	326.3	894.9	476.0	194.2
2023							
Q1	1,907.2	944.0	963.3	373.9	879.1	447.4	206.8
Q2	1,914.6	873.1	1,041.5	421.3	867.5	421.0	204.8
Q3	1,922.7	941.3	981.4	425.5	816.1	457.8	223.3
Q4	1,937.1	996.2	940.9	400.2	815.3	493.7	227.9
2024^a							
Q1	1,920.8	864.7	1,056.1	352.6	735.2	522.5	310.6
Q2	1,923.1	868.7	1,054.5	401.5	732.7	539.3	249.6
Q3	1,942.4	879.4	1,063.0	390.7	808.1	498.3	245.3
Q4	1,946.3	880.7	1,065.5	373.2	704.2	495.7	373.1
2025							
Q1	1,953.7	885.6	1,068.1	393.5	794.0	492.6	273.6
Q2	1,955.6	882.9	1,072.7	432.1	806.8	490.3	226.3
Q3	1,961.5	884.3	1,077.2	466.5	786.8	447.8	260.4
Q4	1,956.5	864.0	1,092.5	458.5	813.0	451.0	234.0

Note:

1. The quarterly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010

2. ^a The Labour Force Survey statistics from the first quarter of 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table C: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2025

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

Table C: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2025

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

Table C: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2025

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

Table C: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2025

	('000)				(%)		
Time Series	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
2022							
January	16,366.4	15,686.1	680.4	7,332.1	69.1	66.2	4.2
February	16,402.7	15,730.9	671.8	7,320.7	69.1	66.3	4.1
March	16,438.5	15,769.4	669.2	7,309.7	69.2	66.4	4.1
April	16,502.8	15,853.5	649.3	7,270.2	69.4	66.7	3.9
May	16,537.8	15,900.0	637.7	7,260.1	69.5	66.8	3.9
June	16,566.9	15,936.3	630.6	7,255.5	69.5	66.9	3.8
July	16,599.2	15,978.4	620.7	7,247.9	69.6	67.0	3.7
August	16,629.7	16,017.7	612.0	7,242.0	69.7	67.1	3.7
September	16,657.2	16,052.2	605.0	7,239.2	69.7	67.2	3.6
October	16,683.5	16,081.5	602.0	7,237.3	69.7	67.2	3.6
November	16,709.4	16,108.6	600.9	7,235.7	69.8	67.3	3.6
December	16,730.0	16,130.4	599.6	7,239.5	69.8	67.3	3.6
2023							
January	16,755.4	16,159.3	596.1	7,238.3	69.8	67.3	3.6
February	16,781.2	16,189.3	591.9	7,236.7	69.9	67.4	3.5
March	16,811.7	16,223.0	588.7	7,230.6	69.9	67.5	3.5
April	16,838.4	16,251.4	586.9	7,228.2	70.0	67.5	3.5
May	16,864.1	16,279.5	584.6	7,226.8	70.0	67.6	3.5
June	16,889.4	16,307.8	581.7	7,225.7	70.0	67.6	3.4
July	16,914.2	16,335.0	579.2	7,225.0	70.1	67.7	3.4
August	16,932.1	16,354.9	577.3	7,231.3	70.1	67.7	3.4
September	16,948.8	16,375.1	573.7	7,238.9	70.1	67.7	3.4
October	16,974.1	16,403.2	570.9	7,237.6	70.1	67.7	3.4
November	17,000.4	16,431.1	569.2	7,235.4	70.1	67.8	3.3
December	17,025.5	16,457.7	567.8	7,234.3	70.2	67.8	3.3
2024^a							
January	16,789.3	16,229.4	559.9	7,026.8	70.5	68.1	3.3
February	16,822.6	16,265.7	556.9	7,039.0	70.5	68.2	3.3
March	16,853.1	16,296.6	556.6	7,054.0	70.5	68.2	3.3
April	16,920.9	16,364.4	556.5	7,032.0	70.6	68.3	3.3
May	16,947.6	16,393.5	554.1	7,051.0	70.6	68.3	3.3
June	16,972.2	16,418.5	553.7	7,072.3	70.6	68.3	3.3
July	16,997.3	16,444.2	553.2	7,092.8	70.6	68.3	3.3
August	17,034.2	16,482.8	551.4	7,102.4	70.6	68.3	3.2
September	17,065.1	16,516.3	548.8	7,118.3	70.6	68.3	3.2
October	17,095.5	16,549.8	545.7	7,134.7	70.6	68.3	3.2
November	17,127.5	16,585.7	541.8	7,150.3	70.5	68.3	3.2
December	17,168.4	16,629.9	538.5	7,156.8	70.6	68.4	3.1
2025							
January	17,218.2	16,684.4	533.8	7,154.8	70.6	68.5	3.1
February	17,266.9	16,734.1	532.8	7,153.1	70.7	68.5	3.1
March	17,308.1	16,778.5	529.6	7,158.1	70.7	68.6	3.1
April	17,344.5	16,818.6	525.9	7,169.4	70.8	68.6	3.0
May	17,384.8	16,862.4	522.4	7,176.8	70.8	68.7	3.0
June	17,434.0	16,915.3	518.7	7,176.5	70.8	68.7	3.0
July	17,470.5	16,948.9	521.6	7,189.3	70.8	68.7	3.0
August	17,508.0	16,988.0	520.0	7,201.5	70.9	68.8	3.0
September	17,544.8	17,026.3	518.6	7,209.3	70.9	68.8	3.0
October	17,579.0	17,060.1	518.9	7,218.2	70.9	68.8	3.0
November	17,610.9	17,092.5	518.4	7,218.9	70.9	68.8	2.9
December	17,647.1	17,129.5	517.7	7,225.9	70.9	68.9	2.9

Notes:

1. The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on population data of the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010

2. ^a The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics for January 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table C1: Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2025

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

Table C1: Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2025

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

Table C1: Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2025

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

Table C1: Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - December 2025

	('000)			(%)	
Time Series	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Labour Force Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate
2022					
January	16,350.3	15,651.6	688.3	68.9	4.2
February	16,392.6	15,720.2	675.4	69.1	4.1
March	16,437.2	15,768.1	667.8	69.2	4.1
April	16,507.1	15,866.5	640.6	69.5	3.9
May	16,553.2	15,921.7	631.6	69.6	3.8
June	16,620.9	16,034.8	603.9	69.8	3.6
July	16,611.0	15,996.5	601.8	69.7	3.6
August	16,647.2	16,058.0	604.7	69.7	3.6
September	16,640.1	16,030.1	607.5	69.7	3.7
October	16,656.8	16,033.7	618.8	69.6	3.7
November	16,686.4	16,063.3	620.1	69.7	3.7
December	16,719.8	16,097.7	622.2	69.7	3.7
2023					
January	16,739.7	16,129.0	603.3	69.7	3.6
February	16,770.6	16,176.4	594.3	69.8	3.5
March	16,804.5	16,221.9	586.8	69.9	3.5
April	16,829.1	16,250.4	582.9	69.9	3.5
May	16,871.2	16,293.3	578.5	70.0	3.4
June	16,933.1	16,381.7	560.3	70.2	3.3
July	16,942.3	16,368.7	565.8	70.2	3.3
August	16,960.9	16,394.1	573.9	70.2	3.4
September	16,948.3	16,364.6	578.0	70.1	3.4
October	16,954.3	16,369.2	583.4	70.0	3.4
November	16,977.1	16,392.1	581.9	70.1	3.4
December	17,001.7	16,424.9	580.1	70.1	3.4
2024^a					
January	16,785.8	16,216.3	561.1	70.5	3.3
February	16,820.1	16,262.3	556.2	70.5	3.3
March	16,848.6	16,293.2	555.7	70.5	3.3
April	16,909.6	16,356.7	556.6	70.6	3.3
May	16,945.7	16,393.5	552.6	70.6	3.3
June	16,988.7	16,464.4	542.6	70.7	3.2
July	17,012.8	16,466.4	547.7	70.6	3.2
August	17,051.3	16,508.6	549.4	70.7	3.2
September	17,073.3	16,513.3	552.1	70.6	3.2
October	17,089.5	16,527.5	552.7	70.5	3.2
November	17,113.6	16,563.7	547.1	70.5	3.2
December	17,155.9	16,612.5	541.7	70.5	3.2
2025					
January	17,228.5	16,690.2	534.0	70.6	3.1
February	17,285.9	16,765.8	532.5	70.7	3.1
March	17,342.6	16,804.2	528.2	70.8	3.0
April	17,351.6	16,821.3	526.3	70.7	3.0
May	17,387.9	16,865.6	523.1	70.7	3.0
June	17,434.5	16,932.4	516.1	70.8	3.0
July	17,470.7	16,956.5	520.0	70.9	3.0
August	17,498.6	16,990.2	518.6	70.9	3.0
September	17,530.6	17,014.2	519.3	70.9	3.0
October	17,555.3	17,032.3	521.1	70.9	3.0
November	17,595.9	17,055.7	520.2	71.0	3.0
December	17,634.9	17,111.4	518.3	70.9	2.9

Notes:

1. The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on population data of the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. ^a The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics for January 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table C2: Number of unemployed persons by category and duration of unemployment, January 2016 - December 2025

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

Table C2: Number of unemployed persons by category and duration of unemployment, January 2016 - December 2025

('000)

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

Table C2: Number of unemployed persons by category and duration of unemployment, January 2016 - December 2025

('000)

Time Series	Unemployed	Actively Unemployed	Less than 3 month	3- Less than 6 month	6- Less than 12 month	More than year	Inactively unemployed
2024^a							
January	559.9	445.0	276.5	91.1	49.2	28.2	114.9
February	556.9	442.9	276.2	90.7	48.7	27.2	114.1
March	556.6	442.6	275.9	91.0	48.6	27.1	114.0
April	556.5	442.7	275.8	90.6	48.3	28.0	113.8
May	554.1	440.5	275.7	90.0	47.8	27.0	113.6
June	553.7	440.2	275.5	89.8	47.7	27.2	113.5
July	553.2	439.9	274.8	89.6	48.3	27.1	113.3
August	551.4	437.9	273.5	89.3	48.0	27.2	113.5
September	548.8	434.6	272.2	88.8	46.9	26.7	114.2
October	545.7	432.3	271.5	87.8	46.0	26.9	113.4
November	541.8	428.0	270.1	86.8	45.5	25.6	113.9
December	538.5	425.7	269.9	86.2	45.2	24.5	112.8
2025							
January	533.8	423.6	269.5	85.7	44.5	23.8	110.2
February	532.8	422.7	269.2	85.7	44.3	23.5	110.1
March	529.6	420.7	268.8	85.4	43.4	23.1	108.9
April	525.9	418.6	268.6	84.9	42.9	22.2	107.2
May	522.4	416.4	268.0	84.4	42.6	21.4	106.0
June	518.7	414.4	267.3	84.2	42.2	20.8	104.3
July	521.6	416.2	267.7	84.9	42.4	21.1	105.5
August	520.0	414.9	267.5	84.7	41.9	20.8	105.1
September	518.6	413.6	267.1	84.4	41.7	20.4	104.9
October	518.9	413.8	266.9	84.7	41.6	20.6	105.1
November	518.4	413.5	266.5	84.6	41.7	20.7	104.9
December	517.7	412.4	266.3	84.5	41.6	20.0	105.2

Notes:

1. The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on population data of the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010

2. ^a The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics for January 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table C3: Youth unemployment and unemployment rate by selected age group, January 2016 - December 2025

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

Table C3: Youth unemployment and unemployment rate by selected age group, January 2016 - December 2025

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

Table C3: Youth unemployment and unemployment rate by selected age group, January 2016 - December 2025

	('000)	(%)	('000)	(%)
Time Series	Unemployed youth (15 - 24 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 24 years)	Unemployed youth (15 - 30 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 30 years)
2024^a				
January	299.1	10.7	422.2	6.9
February	295.7	10.6	420.1	6.9
March	296.9	10.6	420.3	6.9
April	293.6	10.5	416.6	6.8
May	295.6	10.5	412.0	6.7
June	293.5	10.4	409.0	6.7
July	294.6	10.4	404.3	6.6
August	294.8	10.4	404.7	6.6
September	295.6	10.4	407.6	6.4
October	300.6	10.5	402.8	6.3
November	300.0	10.4	401.8	6.3
December	301.4	10.4	400.7	6.3
2025				
January	299.3	10.3	402.4	6.3
February	298.9	10.3	401.6	6.3
March	299.7	10.3	399.4	6.3
April	298.3	10.3	400.6	6.2
May	297.7	10.2	399.0	6.2
June	297.5	10.2	396.8	6.2
July	298.9	10.2	399.0	6.2
August	298.0	10.2	398.7	6.2
September	296.9	10.1	398.1	6.2
October	297.6	10.1	398.5	6.1
November	297.9	10.1	398.0	6.1
December	298.7	10.1	396.9	6.1

Notes:

1. The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on population data of the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. ^a The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics for January 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table C4: Employed person by status in employment, January 2016 - December 2025

('000)

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

Table C4: Employed person by status in employment, January 2016 - December 2025

('000)

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

Table C4: Employed person by status in employment, January 2016 - December 2025

('000)

Time Series	Employer	Employees	Own account workers	Unpaid family worker
2024^a				
January	535.5	12,231.9	3,010.0	452.0
February	540.6	12,249.4	3,024.8	450.9
March	543.9	12,266.2	3,036.0	450.5
April	548.7	12,300.3	3,065.3	450.2
May	552.2	12,315.0	3,076.3	450.1
June	554.1	12,328.6	3,086.4	449.3
July	556.4	12,341.3	3,097.8	448.8
August	550.0	12,410.4	3,069.1	453.2
September	547.5	12,435.8	3,071.6	461.4
October	543.0	12,481.5	3,054.9	470.4
November	544.3	12,501.5	3,069.7	470.1
December	545.8	12,528.1	3,086.6	469.4
2025				
January	547.0	12,560.1	3,108.2	469.1
February	550.8	12,587.3	3,127.8	468.2
March	553.1	12,612.4	3,146.2	466.9
April	554.4	12,634.5	3,163.8	465.9
May	559.7	12,659.1	3,178.1	465.6
June	564.4	12,688.5	3,197.5	464.9
July	568.0	12,706.8	3,209.2	464.8
August	572.2	12,727.0	3,224.7	464.1
September	579.5	12,744.9	3,237.3	464.7
October	584.8	12,762.1	3,249.2	463.9
November	589.3	12,778.7	3,260.0	464.4
December	596.0	12,797.4	3,272.0	464.1

Notes:

1. The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on population data of the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. ^a The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics for January 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table D: Employed person by occupation, Malaysia, 1982 - 2024

('000)

Year	Total	Occupation								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Dictionary of Occupational Classification, 1980 ¹								
1982	5,249.0	375.7	111.5	493.4	510.5	573.2	1,655.3	1,529.4	n.a	n.a
1983	5,457.0	381.3	132.3	520.6	522.7	593.7	1,678.5	1,628.0	n.a	n.a
1984	5,566.7	409.8	115.4	541.3	600.0	638.1	1,694.1	1,567.7	n.a	n.a
1985	5,653.4	426.6	129.2	551.5	625.9	643.0	1,720.0	1,556.9	n.a	n.a
1986	5,760.1	449.0	140.4	544.9	638.5	686.6	1,757.2	1,543.6	n.a	n.a
1987	5,983.9	452.0	117.7	566.1	711.9	704.3	1,845.8	1,586.1	n.a	n.a
1988	6,157.2	454.1	127.9	574.4	728.1	728.3	1,892.5	1,651.7	n.a	n.a
1989	6,390.9	477.0	131.3	605.5	726.0	727.0	1,848.9	1,875.0	n.a	n.a
1990	6,685.0	519.8	144.8	655.6	758.7	762.6	1,750.7	2,092.8	n.a	n.a
1992	7,047.8	586.4	187.8	732.3	763.5	790.1	1,549.7	2,437.9	n.a	n.a
1993	7,383.4	639.5	219.9	789.2	771.8	879.0	1,576.0	2,508.0	n.a	n.a
1995	7,645.0	756.6	247.7	832.0	834.9	845.8	1,539.5	2,588.4	n.a	n.a
1996	8,399.3	838.0	298.2	905.8	935.7	943.1	1,644.8	2,833.6	n.a	n.a
1997	8,569.2	896.6	329.5	963.2	918.5	985.1	1,516.4	2,960.0	n.a	n.a
1998	8,599.6	913.1	346.2	946.9	937.5	1,007.9	1,632.6	2,815.4	n.a	n.a
1999	8,837.8	937.0	348.3	985.6	991.7	1,052.8	1,633.1	2,889.2	n.a	n.a
2000	9,269.2	1,020.4	391.9	1,012.5	1,044.8	1,189.3	1,569.3	3,040.9	n.a	n.a
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 1998 ²										
2001	9,357.0	695.0	457.2	1,126.1	890.6	1,291.1	1,265.3	1,160.2	1,476.6	994.9
2002	9,542.6	786.3	483.5	1,194.6	890.3	1,307.7	1,260.8	1,168.1	1,373.0	1,078.2
2003	9,869.7	793.5	530.3	1,219.9	937.8	1,399.4	1,249.8	1,235.6	1,420.7	1,082.6
2004	9,979.5	859.3	561.3	1,211.6	931.2	1,479.7	1,292.8	1,165.2	1,409.9	1,068.5
2005	10,045.4	777.4	555.1	1,266.8	992.3	1,483.7	1,268.6	1,145.5	1,427.5	1,128.3
2006	10,275.4	829.6	565.9	1,307.5	968.3	1,597.1	1,335.9	1,154.8	1,408.0	1,108.4
2007	10,538.1	770.4	596.8	1,400.5	1,029.5	1,705.6	1,355.3	1,133.2	1,347.4	1,199.3
2008	10,659.6	748.8	613.7	1,496.4	1,053.4	1,776.1	1,271.3	1,153.8	1,344.1	1,202.0
2009	10,897.3	822.9	684.6	1,560.0	1,086.6	1,869.1	1,255.7	1,132.9	1,242.7	1,242.8
2010	11,899.5	856.7	737.4	1,695.8	1,183.2	1,959.6	1,382.0	1,228.3	1,502.8	1,353.7
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2008 ³										
2011	12,351.5	692.4	1,221.0	1,306.3	1,180.3	2,503.2	1,011.8	1,345.8	1,570.2	1,520.4
2012	12,820.5	684.4	1,244.0	1,283.4	1,168.8	2,640.7	1,184.1	1,428.5	1,576.8	1,609.8
2013	13,545.4	695.5	1,284.7	1,292.6	1,190.7	2,911.0	1,180.2	1,492.1	1,694.4	1,804.0
2014	13,852.6	664.4	1,376.5	1,367.2	1,237.8	3,169.3	1,002.4	1,555.1	1,659.1	1,820.8
2015	14,067.7	718.6	1,462.0	1,406.9	1,241.1	3,188.9	940.3	1,578.8	1,585.2	1,945.9
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2013 ⁴										
2016	14,163.7	658.5	1,755.2	1,453.5	1,163.8	3,176.3	872.0	1,570.3	1,669.8	1,844.2
2017	14,476.8	690.3	1,771.6	1,522.9	1,236.5	3,212.6	898.9	1,517.1	1,766.5	1,860.4
2018	14,776.0	660.5	1,824.4	1,536.7	1,247.7	3,422.8	921.9	1,545.5	1,787.9	1,828.7
2019	15,073.4	694.5	1,883.5	1,573.9	1,272.1	3,411.6	932.8	1,577.1	1,865.4	1,862.5
2020	14,719.4	826.1	1,944.4	1,591.3	1,258.3	3,472.2	874.3	1,417.2	1,667.7	1,667.9
2021	14,825.2	704.4	2,048.6	1,867.8	1,517.1	3,438.4	673.1	1,258.6	1,537.1	1,780.3
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2020 ⁵										
2022	15,155.2	725.2	2,045.6	1,855.6	1,512.1	3,619.8	691.0	1,379.6	1,575.0	1,751.4
2023	15,813.4	762.5	2,141.5	1,906.8	1,562.9	3,744.0	703.1	1,402.3	1,634.1	1,956.2
2024	16,369.4	808.9	2,175.3	1,959.6	1,605.9	3,790.7	678.4	1,446.7	1,734.8	2,169.1

Notes:

1. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2019 and preceding years are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010

2. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2020 and onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

3. ¹For 1982- 2000, category of occupation are classified according to the "Dictionary of Occupational Classification, 1980" as follows:

1: Professional, technical and related workers

2: Administrative and managerial workers

3: Clerical and related workers

4: Sales workers

5: Service workers

6: Agricultural, animal husbandry and forestry workers, fishermen and hunters

7: Production and related workers, transport equipment operators and labourers

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

1: Legislators, senior officials and managers

2: Professionals

3: Technicians and associate professionals

4: Clerical workers

5: Service workers and shop and market sales workers

6: Skilled agricultural and fishery workers

7: Craft and related trade workers

8: Plant and machine-operators and assemblers

9: Elementary occupations

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

1: Managers

2: Professionals

3: Technicians and associate professionals

4: Clerical support workers

5: Service workers and shop and market sales workers

6: Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers

7: Craft and related trades workers

8: Plant and machine-operators and assemblers

9: Elementary occupations

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

1: Managers

2: Professionals

3: Technicians and associate professionals

4: Clerical 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

9: Elementary occupations

7. ⁵For 2022 onwards, categories of occupation are classified according to the

"Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2020"

Table E: Employed person by industry, Malaysia, 1982 - 2024

('000)

Year	Total	Industry									
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
		Malaysia Industrial Classification, (Updated) 1972 ¹									
1982	5,249.0	1,635.8	51.7	816.0	34.9	377.5	860.9	223.1	202.1	1,046.9	n.a
1983	5,457.0	1,670.9	55.1	894.1	39.3	425.6	897.3	235.9	197.7	1,041.0	n.a
1984	5,566.7	1,695.0	46.5	858.4	32.9	428.0	956.6	242.8	200.5	1,106.0	n.a
1985	5,653.4	1,717.4	44.4	850.4	31.5	419.4	994.3	244.3	218.9	1,132.7	n.a
1986	5,760.1	1,764.5	40.6	874.0	32.4	369.4	1,035.1	242.0	234.6	1,167.6	n.a
1987	5,983.9	1,846.4	33.0	928.9	35.9	336.3	1,091.7	252.0	241.6	1,218.0	n.a
1988	6,157.2	1,883.8	30.7	978.1	41.3	339.9	1,112.6	265.1	229.4	1,276.1	n.a
1989	6,390.9	1,832.5	33.1	1,171.1	40.6	376.9	1,143.9	277.6	253.2	1,262.0	n.a
1990	6,685.0	1,737.6	36.8	1,332.8	46.7	423.9	1,217.8	301.9	258.4	1,329.0	n.a
1992	7,047.8	1,535.8	36.3	1,639.6	45.9	506.7	1,254.5	326.2	299.8	1,403.1	n.a
1993	7,383.4	1,558.6	37.6	1,726.9	60.3	538.8	1,266.2	344.0	330.1	1,520.9	n.a
1995	7,645.0	1,526.8	32.5	1,780.5	48.0	611.3	1,370.7	359.2	363.7	1,552.2	n.a
1996	8,399.3	1,626.2	35.0	1,912.1	44.1	716.5	1,566.7	400.7	412.0	1,686.0	n.a
1997	8,569.2	1,481.3	38.5	2,002.5	50.9	793.0	1,577.9	423.3	447.2	1,754.5	n.a
1998	8,599.6	1,616.5	28.4	1,907.8	50.0	745.9	1,616.0	421.7	425.8	1,787.5	n.a
1999	8,837.8	1,623.7	37.8	1,990.7	50.2	722.8	1,660.6	420.3	466.2	1,865.4	n.a
2000	9,269.2	1,552.4	27.7	2,174.2	49.3	759.9	1,787.2	433.9	474.3	2,010.3	n.a
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2000 ²											
2001	9,357.0	1,288.2	127.7	26.7	2,184.1	57.3	829.8	1,458.1	585.1	468.3	225.3
2002	9,542.6	1,316.8	107.7	27.5	2,068.9	50.6	905.1	1,497.0	616.1	496.8	240.5
2003	9,869.7	1,301.2	107.0	29.5	2,131.0	57.6	942.5	1,592.2	644.2	481.6	223.4
2004	9,979.5	1,326.5	126.1	34.7	2,023.0	57.9	890.8	1,607.2	698.2	532.9	236.1
2005	10,045.4	1,355.2	115.2	36.1	1,989.3	56.6	904.4	1,620.3	671.8	544.7	247.4
2006	10,275.4	1,375.3	128.2	42.0	2,082.8	75.4	908.9	1,650.5	721.3	539.7	242.3
2007	10,538.1	1,437.3	120.9	39.4	1,977.3	60.8	922.5	1,712.1	760.7	538.2	282.2
2008	10,659.6	1,365.6	122.1	54.5	1,944.7	60.5	998.0	1,729.4	783.6	583.4	276.0
2009	10,897.3	1,349.6	121.5	62.7	1,807.1	58.1	1,015.9	1,831.8	800.5	592.0	271.5
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008 ³											
2010	11,899.5	1,614.9	57.2	2,108.5	55.5	66.7	1,082.7	1,887.8	554.7	856.7	178.9
2011	12,351.5 ⁴	1,421.7	73.5	2,244.0	51.0	71.9	1,151.5	2,005.4	604.0	951.1	206.5
2012	12,820.5 ⁴	1,628.2	80.8	2,263.7	61.9	81.0	1,174.7	2,125.6	624.3	965.1	208.8
2013	13,545.4 ⁴	1,758.9	87.9	2,315.8	61.5	83.7	1,292.1	2,261.4	626.5	1,041.5	194.1
2014	13,852.6 ⁴	1,694.2	84.7	2,372.5	65.6	81.2	1,277.7	2,324.4	598.2	1,149.3	213.2
2015	14,067.7 ⁴	1,753.9	104.4	2,322.7	61.7	72.1	1,309.9	2,361.4	615.0	1,150.8	214.2
2016	14,163.7 ⁴	1,609.9	96.3	2,390.6	77.9	76.4	1,251.7	2,428.5	630.4	1,260.7	208.7
2017	14,476.8 ⁴	1,635.0	97.2	2,513.3	62.2	81.0	1,258.9	2,485.4	658.2	1,323.2	220.3
2018	14,776.0 ⁴	1,570.3	90.8	2,499.9	68.8	88.6	1,257.8	2,544.6	697.9	1,473.4	216.4
2019	15,073.4 ⁴	1,541.1	91.0	2,612.0	75.4	88.8	1,246.7	2,604.6	677.8	1,549.7	223.9
2020	14,719.4	1,454.6	82.1	2,469.7	75.2	82.2	1,180.6	2,662.5	692.1	1,473.9	237.6
2021	14,825.2 ⁴	1,408.8	82.8	2,476.4	77.1	86.3	1,165.8	2,732.7	693.6	1,447.2	241.7
2022	15,155.2 ⁴	1,408.1	84.1	2,507.3	78.8	85.0	1,245.4	2,840.6	707.2	1,482.7	252.7
2023	15,813.4 ⁴	1,437.4	88.8	2,597.8	81.5	85.5	1,284.5	2,991.5	735.3	1,592.8	268.1
2024	16,369.4 ⁴	1,478.5	88.7	2,664.6	76.8	93.0	1,393.4	3,063.3	751.4	1,617.1	286.3

Notes:

1. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2019 and preceding years are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010

2. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2020 and onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

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

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

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

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

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

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

6. ⁴For year 2011-2019 & 2021-2024, total includes 'Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies'

Table E: Employed person by industry, Malaysia, 1982 - 2024 (cont'd)

('000)

Year	Total	Industry									
		K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
		Malaysia Industrial Classification, (Updated) 1972 ¹									
1982	5,249.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1983	5,457.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1984	5,566.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1985	5,653.4	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1986	5,760.1	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1987	5,983.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1988	6,157.2	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1989	6,390.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1990	6,685.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1992	7,047.8	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1993	7,383.4	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1995	7,645.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1996	8,399.3	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1997	8,569.2	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1998	8,599.6	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1999	8,837.8	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2000	9,269.2	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2000 ²											
2001	9,357.0	348.6	664.6	508.6	173.3	190.4	219.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2002	9,542.6	397.1	663.6	508.6	189.3	192.5	262.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2003	9,869.7	404.2	666.5	594.3	217.3	216.1	258.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2004	9,979.5	458.5	684.3	610.7	198.2	231.3	260.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2005	10,045.4	459.0	728.5	607.1	212.6	234.9	260.6	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2006	10,275.4	508.4	674.1	600.1	223.2	247.1	254.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2007	10,538.1	558.1	716.1	632.7	238.9	266.5	272.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2008	10,659.6	553.2	751.1	656.5	252.6	274.2	253.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2009	10,897.3	601.9	813.9	731.4	271.7	303.3	262.5	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008 ³											
2010	11,899.5	323.4	58.5	285.6	359.2	787.7	779.3	280.0	91.6	182.9	285.4
2011	12,351.5 ⁴	319.3	61.2	328.4	448.0	750.2	782.3	384.1	87.5	181.8	225.8
2012	12,820.5 ⁴	322.1	68.9	307.3	532.2	696.4	784.9	414.3	84.8	190.5	202.7
2013	13,545.4 ⁴	318.9	72.7	306.8	566.9	761.4	816.6	490.0	79.4	192.4	214.8
2014	13,852.6 ⁴	329.1	79.7	328.8	654.3	741.7	871.4	532.9	94.1	199.1	159.1
2015	14,067.7 ⁴	354.4	71.2	359.3	634.8	751.0	899.0	573.1	81.7	233.1	142.3
2016	14,163.7 ⁴	346.9	82.4	361.8	657.0	748.2	928.7	570.3	80.9	230.8	124.7
2017	14,476.8 ⁴	369.0	84.5	348.1	677.2	742.2	880.3	588.0	84.3	260.1	106.9
2018	14,776.0 ⁴	338.6	97.2	367.7	747.6	720.2	988.7	551.2	85.6	264.8	103.9
2019	15,073.4 ⁴	355.1	90.3	394.7	809.2	737.1	992.1	527.7	84.0	266.1	104.3
2020	14,719.4	389.3	87.1	397.1	784.6	773.2	958.9	562.1	56.3	250.9	49.3
2021	14,825.2 ⁴	428.3	90.6	379.0	803.3	782.9	963.0	601.1	67.9	255.8	40.6
2022	15,155.2 ⁴	410.4	90.5	380.0	834.3	783.6	944.5	596.1	70.9	258.2	94.5
2023	15,813.4 ⁴	434.2	92.8	390.3	886.3	797.1	989.5	626.4	72.5	261.6	96.5
2024	16,369.4 ⁴	444.6	101.5	396.6	888.0	854.4	1,042.5	683.5	73.5	264.5	103.6

Notes:

1. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2019 and preceding years are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010

2. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2020 and onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

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

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

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

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

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

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

6. ⁴For year 2011-2019 & 2021-2024, total includes 'Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies'

Table F: Employed person by status of employment, Malaysia, 1982 - 2024

('000)

Time Series	Total	Status of Employment			
		Employer	Employee	Own Account Worker	Unpaid Family Worker
1982	5,249.0	158.1	3,320.7	1,159.8	610.4
1983	5,457.0	175.4	3,447.2	1,242.6	591.7
1984	5,566.7	141.4	3,673.4	1,130.1	621.8
1985	5,653.4	167.8	3,636.1	1,189.8	659.5
1986	5,760.1	180.4	3,560.7	1,308.2	710.6
1987	5,983.9	167.9	3,747.9	1,280.1	788.1
1988	6,157.2	204.7	3,799.1	1,377.1	776.3
1989	6,390.9	154.2	4,164.7	1,324.3	747.4
1990	6,685.0	194.6	4,412.4	1,383.9	694.0
1992	7,047.8	158.5	5,047.7	1,277.3	564.2
1993	7,383.4	209.5	5,272.8	1,350.7	550.1
1995	7,645.0	188.1	5,553.3	1,396.4	506.9
1996	8,399.3	251.1	6,071.4	1,514.2	562.6
1997	8,569.2	222.7	6,380.7	1,449.6	516.1
1998	8,599.6	252.7	6,307.9	1,521.6	517.4
1999	8,837.8	202.2	6,602.5	1,489.1	543.9
2000	9,269.2	275.8	6,882.6	1,586.0	524.8
2001	9,357.0	306.8	7,056.2	1,514.9	478.5
2002	9,542.6	288.6	7,320.2	1,479.8	453.9
2003	9,869.7	333.0	7,523.8	1,536.3	476.3
2004	9,979.5	354.7	7,445.0	1,678.1	501.7
2005	10,045.4	337.0	7,583.4	1,671.7	453.2
2006	10,275.4	396.9	7,632.9	1,733.4	512.2
2007	10,538.1	362.5	7,824.0	1,831.5	520.1
2008	10,659.6	371.4	7,951.1	1,851.1	486.0
2009	10,897.3	399.4	8,153.6	1,862.7	481.7
2010	11,899.5	439.3	9,010.2	1,954.7	495.4
2011	12,351.5	446.1	9,483.7	1,907.4	514.3
2012	12,820.5	476.2	9,620.0	2,117.3	607.0
2013	13,545.4	523.9	10,073.5	2,316.8	631.3
2014	13,852.6	511.5	10,447.6	2,267.2	626.3
2015	14,067.7	568.6	10,395.5	2,476.2	627.4
2016	14,163.7	486.4	10,534.2	2,522.3	620.9
2017	14,476.8	553.5	10,710.1	2,606.7	606.4
2018	14,776.0	547.2	10,700.4	2,859.2	669.1
2019	15,073.4	552.9	11,218.3	2,724.2	578.1
2020	14,719.4	499.8	11,443.3	2,309.9	466.3
2021	14,825.2	504.5	11,696.2	2,158.1	466.4
2022	15,155.2	535.5	11,904.7	2,257.4	457.6
2023	15,813.4	578.2	12,419.7	2,375.2	440.3
2024	16,369.4	609.8	12,857.5	2,516.4	385.6

Notes:

1. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2019 and preceding years are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2020 and onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

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

Indicators	2024	2025												Data Source
	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) (%)														
South East Asia														
Malaysia	70.6	70.6	70.7	70.7	70.8	70.8	70.8	70.8	70.9	70.9	70.9	70.9	70.9	DOSM
Philippines	65.1	63.9	64.5	62.9	63.7	64.8	65.7	60.7	65.1	64.5	63.6	64.0	64.4	Philippine Statistics Authority
East Asia														
Hong Kong	56.9	56.9	56.9	56.9	56.8	56.7	56.7	57.0	57.2	57.1	57.0	56.9	56.7	Census and Statistics Department
Taiwan	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.4	59.5	59.6	59.5	59.5	59.6	59.6	National Statistics Republic of China
South Korea	64.7	64.7	64.8	64.8	64.8	64.7	64.5	64.4	64.4	64.8	64.5	64.6	65.0	Statistics Korea
Japan	63.4	63.2	63.2	63.3	63.7	64.0	64.2	63.9	64.0	64.2	64.2	64.1	63.9	Statistics Bureau of Japan
Oceania														
Australia	67.1	67.2	66.8	66.7	67.1	66.9	67.0	67.0	66.8	66.9	66.9	66.6	66.7	ABS
North America														
USA	62.5	62.6	62.4	62.5	62.6	62.4	62.3	62.2	62.3	62.4	n.a	62.5	62.4	BLS
Canada	65.4	65.5	65.3	65.2	65.3	65.3	65.4	65.2	65.1	65.2	65.3	65.1	65.4	Statistics Canada
Europe														
United Kingdom	78.5	78.5	78.6	78.6	78.7	79.0	79.0	78.9	79.0	79.0	79.0	79.2	n.a	ONS
Sweden	75.4	75.4	75.4	75.5	75.5	75.5	75.6	75.6	75.6	75.6	75.9	76.1	76.2	Statistics Sweden
Finland	66.8	67.8	67.0	68.0	69.1	70.4	71.2	69.8	68.7	68.3	69.2	68.1	67.7	Statistics Finland
Russia	63.2	62.2	62.4	62.6	62.7	62.9	63.0	63.3	63.2	63.0	63.2	63.1	n.a	Trading economics
Italy	66.8	67.0	66.8	66.9	66.7	67.1	66.9	66.6	66.5	66.7	66.7	66.4	66.3	National Institute of Statistics
Netherland	75.9	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.1	76.1	76.1	76.2	76.3	76.4	76.4	76.2	76.2	Statistics Netherlands
Unemployment rate (%)														
South East Asia														
Malaysia	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	DOSM
Philippines	3.1	4.3	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.1	3.7	5.3	3.9	3.8	5.0	4.4	4.4	Philippine Statistics Authority
East Asia														
Hong Kong	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.8	Census and Statistics Department
Taiwan	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	National Statistics Republic of China
South Korea	3.7	2.9	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.7	4.0	Statistics Korea
Japan	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	Statistics Bureau of Japan
Oceania														
Australia	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.1	ABS
North America														
USA	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4	n.a	4.5	4.4	BLS
Canada	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.1	6.9	6.5	6.8	Statistics Canada
Europe														
United Kingdom	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.1	5.2	5.2	n.a	ONS
Sweden	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.9	8.9	9.3	9.0	8.8	Statistics Sweden
Finland	8.1	9.5	9.4	10.1	10.0	10.5	9.9	9.3	9.3	9.1	9.6	9.7	9.8	Statistics Finland
Russia	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.2	Trading economics
Italy	6.4	6.4	6.1	6.3	6.1	6.5	6.2	6.1	6.0	6.1	5.8	5.6	5.6	National Institute of Statistics
Netherland	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	Statistics Netherlands

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