



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA STATEMENT

ADVANCE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT ESTIMATES FIRST QUARTER OF 2026

Malaysia's economy is projected to expand by 5.3 per cent in the first quarter of 2026, remaining resilient amid global geopolitical uncertainties

PUTRAJAYA, 17TH APRIL 2026 – The advance estimates of Malaysia's economy in the first quarter of 2026 expanded by 5.3 per cent, easing from the 6.3 per cent growth recorded in the previous quarter. This was reported in the **Advance Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Estimates¹, First Quarter of 2026** released today.

According to the Chief Statistician of Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, "Malaysia's first quarter of 2026 reflects an economy that remains fundamentally resilient, even with the rising global uncertainties, particularly elevated oil prices following the geopolitical tensions. The Manufacturing sector sustained positive momentum in the first two months of 2026, with output expanding by 7.3 per cent and 4.2 per cent, respectively, driven largely by export-oriented industries. Seasonal festive spending during Chinese New Year, alongside preparations for Ramadan and Hari Raya Aidilfitri continued to support overall economic activities. This, coupled with the disbursement of Sumbangan Asas Rahmah (SARA) and the second phase of civil servant salary revisions, contributed to a steady growth in distributive trade sales, which increased by 7.3 per cent in January and 5.3 per cent in February 2026. On the external front, trade activity remained supported by continued expansion in both domestic exports and re-export."

A review of sectoral performance indicates a moderation in growth momentum across the five main sectors in the first quarter of 2026. The **Services** sector continued to anchor overall GDP expansion, registering a 5.4 per cent growth (Q4 2025: 6.3%). This sector's performance was attributed to the growth mainly in Wholesale & retail trade sub-sector, reflecting sustained consumer spending, supported by stable labour market, higher household income and ongoing people-centric initiatives to stimulate household-related activities. Meanwhile, the Information and communication sub-sector also contributed to the performance in this quarter, supported by the rising demand for data centre and generative AI-related activities. The **Manufacturing**

¹ The computation of advance GDP estimates for the first quarter of 2026 is based on the availability of various data sources. In general, there are differences between the advance GDP estimates and the preliminary GDP due to the availability of data from various sources during the compilation period.

sector also recorded a growth of 5.8 per cent (Q4 2025: 6.1%), largely supported by strong output in the Electrical, electronic & optical products as well as the Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing.

He added, “The **Construction** sector eased in this quarter at 7.8 per cent (Q4 2025: 11.0%), supported primarily by Specialised construction activities and Non-residential buildings. The **Agriculture** sector grew 2.8 per cent (Q4 2025: 5.4%), attributed to the growth in Oil palm and Livestock sub-sectors. Meanwhile, the **Mining and quarrying** sector declined to negative 1.1 per cent from 2.0 per cent growth in the last quarter, influenced by lower production particularly in Crude oil & condensate and Natural gas.”

Subsequent to this advance estimates, the preliminary GDP data, which provide a detail and comprehensive analysis of economic performance for the first quarter of 2026 will be released on **15 May 2026**.

Table 1: GDP Growth by Kind of Economic Activity, (% YoY)

Kind of economic activity	Percentage share to GDP year 2025* (%)	Percentage change from corresponding quarter of preceding year						
		2024	2025	2025				2026
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1**
GDP	100.0	5.1	5.2	4.4	4.4	5.4	6.3	5.3
Agriculture	6.1	3.1	2.2	0.7	2.5	0.1	5.4	2.8
Mining & quarrying	5.7	0.9	0.7	-2.7	-5.2	9.7	2.0	-1.1
Manufacturing	23.0	4.2	4.5	4.1	3.7	4.1	6.1	5.8
Construction	4.3	17.5	12.2	14.2	12.1	11.8	11.0	7.8
Services	59.6	5.3	5.5	5.0	5.1	5.5	6.3	5.4

Notes: * Exclude Import duties
** Advance estimates

Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia

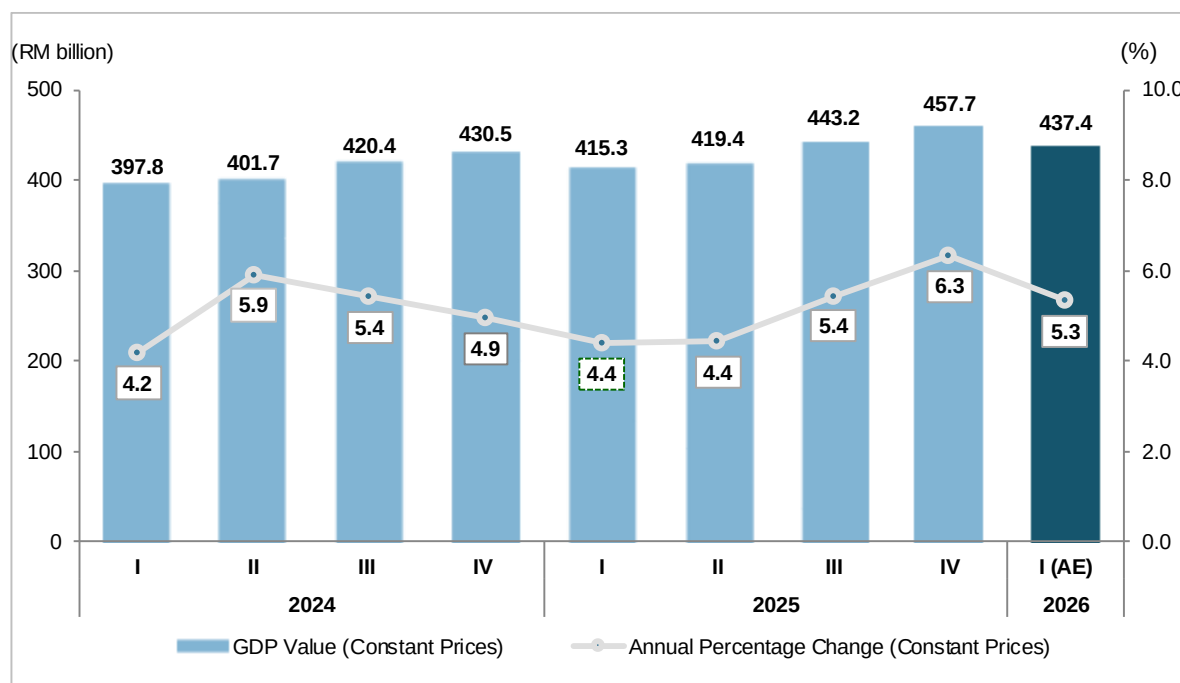
Table 2: Comparison of Advance GDP Estimates and Preliminary, (% YoY)

Kind of economic activity	2025								2026
	Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		Q1
	AE	Preliminary	AE	Preliminary	AE	Preliminary	AE	Preliminary	AE
GDP	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	5.2	5.4	5.7	6.3	5.3
Agriculture	0.7	0.7	2.0	2.5	0.4	0.1	5.1	5.4	2.8
Mining & quarrying	-4.9	-2.7	-7.4	-5.2	10.9	9.7	1.1	2.0	-1.1
Manufacturing	4.2	4.1	3.8	3.7	4.0	4.1	6.0	6.1	5.8
Construction	14.5	14.2	11.0	12.1	11.2	11.8	11.9	11.0	7.8
Services	5.2	5.0	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.5	5.4	6.3	5.4

Notes: AE = Advance estimates
Preliminary GDP for Q1 2026 will be released on 15 May 2026

Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia

Chart 1: Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Q1 2024 – Q1 2026



Note: AE = Advance estimates

Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia

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>.

Released by:

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