



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY  
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### EMPLOYEE WAGES STATISTICS (FORMAL SECTOR) REPORT, FOURTH QUARTER 2025

#### Median monthly wage of the formal sector rise to RM3,167 in December 2025

**PUTRAJAYA, 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026** – The median monthly wage for formal employees were RM3,167 in December 2025, a 4.0 per cent increase from RM3,045 in December 2024, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM).

The Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report in the Fourth Quarter 2025 elaborated that Malaysia's labour market continued to strengthen during the quarter under review. Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, the Chief Statistician of Malaysia stated that a steady employment growth which the number of Malaysian formal employees continued to register a year-on-year increase that recorded a growth of 3.6 per cent to 7.08 million persons in December 2025. Meanwhile, the median monthly wage also recorded year-on-year increases of 4.3 per cent, 4.3 per cent and 4.0 per cent in October, November and December 2025, respectively.

In terms of comparison by sex, male formal employees comprised 55.1 per cent (3.90 million persons) of the total formal employees in December 2025, received higher median monthly wage than female formal employees. The median monthly wage of male formal employees stood at RM3,167 while female formal employees who made up 44.9 per cent (3.18 million persons) of total formal employees earned median monthly wage of RM3,120.

Wage statistics by age group showed that formal employees aged 45 to 49 years continued to register the highest median monthly wages throughout the fourth quarter of 2025 (October 2025: RM3,827; November 2025: RM3,845; December 2025: RM4,245). All age groups experienced steady year-on-year increases in median monthly wage. The highest growth was recorded among employees aged below 20 years, with the median monthly wage reaching RM1,700 in December 2025, an increase of 11.3 per cent compared with the same period of the previous year.

Whilst the wages by economic activity also showed that all sectors recorded an increase in median monthly wages across all three months of the fourth quarter of 2025. The Mining & quarrying sector, which makes up only 0.5 per cent of all formal employees, recorded the highest median monthly wages at RM7,900 in December 2025. In contrast, the Agriculture sector, representing 1.8 per cent of formal employees, reported the lowest median monthly wages at RM2,564, showing a rise to 7.6 per cent year-on-year growth during the same period.

The top three states which exceeded the national median monthly wages of RM3,167 were Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur recorded the highest median monthly wage at RM4,391, followed by Pulau Pinang at RM3,500 and Selangor at RM3,400 in December 2025. Meanwhile, Kelantan, Perlis and Sabah recorded the lowest median monthly wages during the same period with RM1,800, RM1,864 and RM2,045 respectively.

The Chief Statistician Malaysia highlighted that 8.4 per cent of Malaysian's formal employees earned monthly wages below RM1,700 in December 2025, which was reduced by 12.5 percentage points as compared to December 2024. Furthermore, percentile analysis revealed that the bottom 10 per cent of Malaysian formal employees received monthly wages of RM1,700 or less, while employees in the 90th percentile earned at least RM11,122 per month. This disparity illustrates that employees in the 90th percentile earned more than six times than those in the lowest wage group, underscoring the prevailing wage gap between the highest and lowest earners.

In conclusion, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin stated, "These statistics are based on administrative data sources obtained from relevant agencies, which focus on the citizens employed in the formal sector, notably in the private sector. Looking ahead, DOSM will continue to enhance the dissemination of employee wages statistics by integrating various administrative data to produce more comprehensive statistics for an extensive understanding of Malaysia's labour market."

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) is conducting the **Economic Census 2026 (BE2026)**, with themed **"Data Nadi Ekonomi Rakyat"**. The sixth Economic Census, will be carried out from **5th January to 31st October 2026**. BE2026 aims to collect comprehensive and 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.

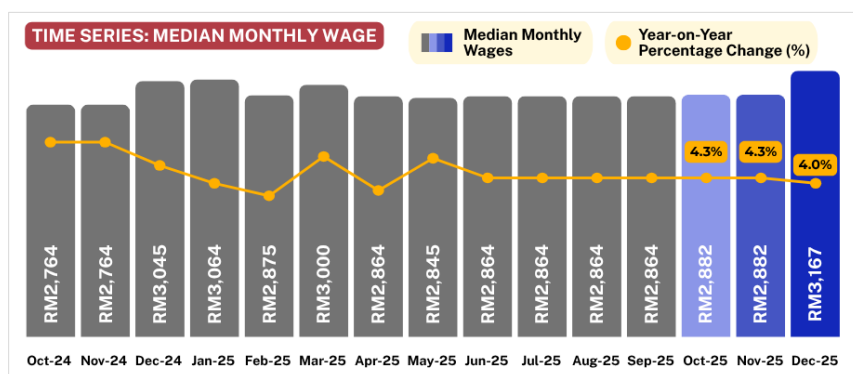
**OpenDOSM NextGen** is a medium that provides data catalogue and visualisations to facilitate users' analysis and can be accessed through <https://open.dosm.gov.my>.

**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>.

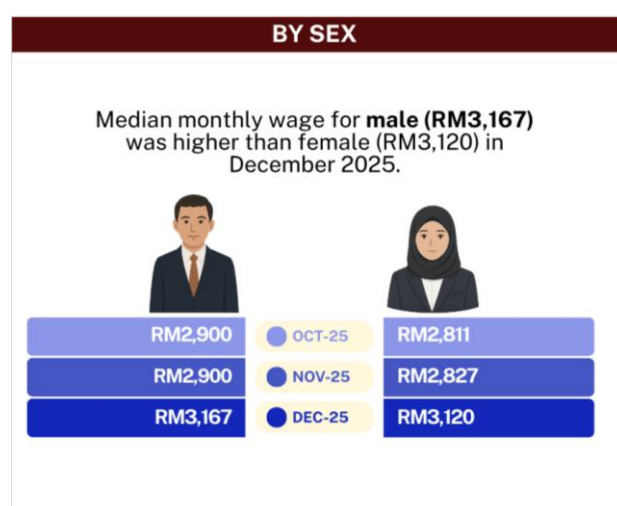
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**THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA  
29 APRIL 2026**

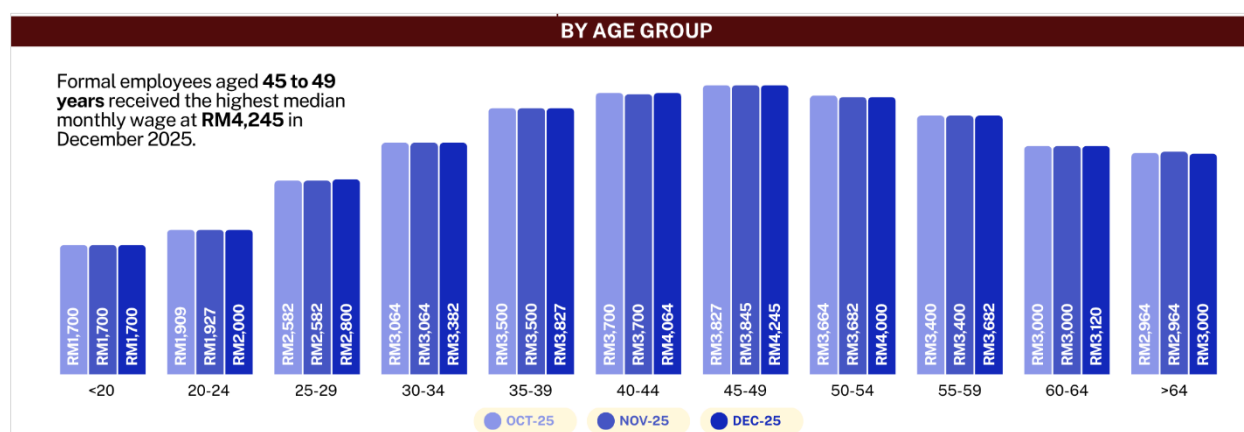
## Exhibit 1: Median Monthly Wage, October 2024 – December 2025



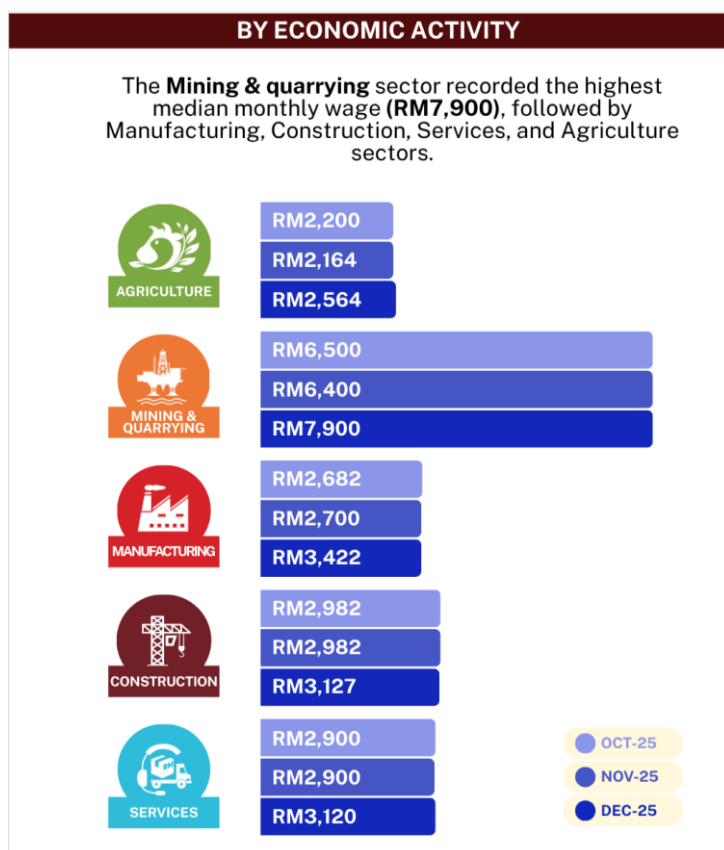
## Exhibit 2: Median Monthly Wage by Sex, October – December 2025



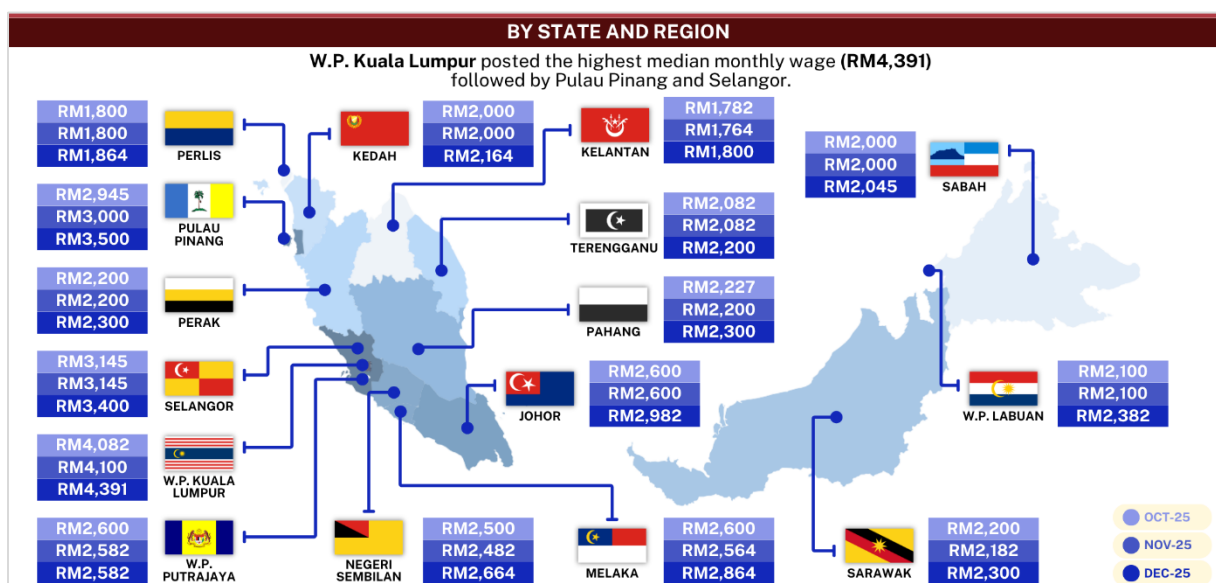
## Exhibit 3: Median Monthly Wage by Age Group, October – December 2025



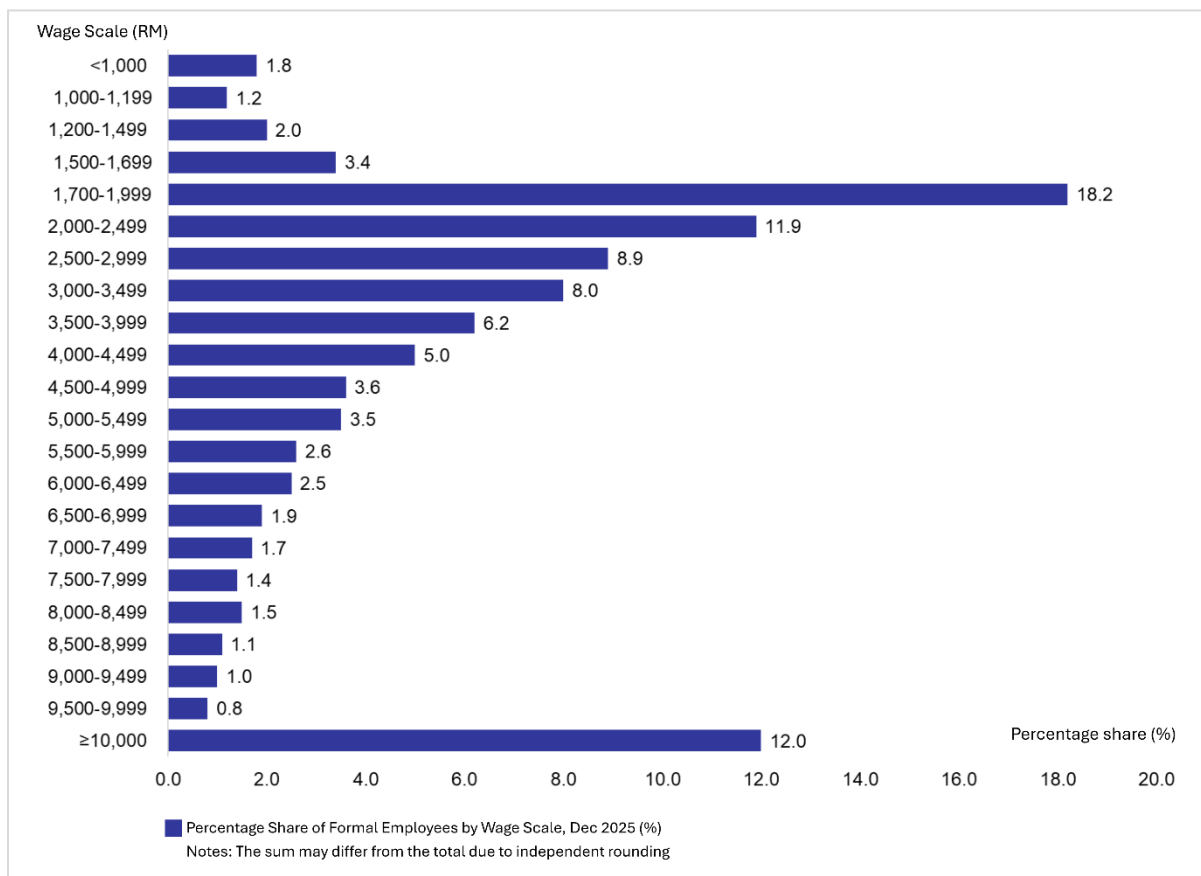
**Exhibit 4: Median Monthly Wage by Economic Activity, October – December 2025**



**Exhibit 5: Median Monthly Wage by State and Region, October – December 2025**



**Exhibit 6: Distribution of Formal Employees by Wage Scale, December 2025**



**Exhibit 7: Wage Distribution of Formal Employees by Percentile, December 2025**

