



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS, JULY 2026



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MALAYSIA
LABOUR FORCE,
JULY 2026

July's unemployment rate was
3.0 per cent, with
520.3 thousand unemployed

LABOUR FORCE

July 2026



17.37
million

▲ +0.1%

The labour force continued its upward in June 2026

JUNE 2026
17.34
million

LABOUR FORCE
PARTICIPATION RATE

70.9%

↔ 0.0 pp

The labour force participation rate (LFPR) for July 2026 remained unchanged at 70.9 per cent

JUNE 2026
70.9%

LFPR by sex

Male **82.9%** Female **57.4%**

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

July 2026

3.0%

The unemployment rate for July 2026 was unchanged at 3.0 per cent

↔ 0.0 pp

JUNE 2026: 3.0%

UNEMPLOYED



520.3
thousand

▲ +0.5%

JUNE 2026
517.8
thousand

Unemployed by category

- Actively unemployed
JULY 2026: 412.6 thousand
JUNE 2026: 410.9 thousand
▲ +0.4%
- Inactively unemployed
JULY 2026: 107.7 thousand
JUNE 2026: 106.9 thousand
▲ +0.7%

EMPLOYED PERSONS

July 2026



16.85
million

▲ +0.1%

JUNE 2026
16.83
million

Employment - to - population ratio

68.8%

↔ 0.0 pp

JUNE 2026
68.8%

Employed persons by status
in employment

74.9% Employees ▲ +0.1%

18.8% Own-account workers ▲ +0.3%

3.6% Employers ▲ +0.3%

2.7% Unpaid family workers ▲ +0.1%

The **employees'** category remained the largest share of the employed persons, accounting for **74.9 per cent** in July 2026

OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE

JUNE 2026

7.11 million

JULY 2026

7.11 million

▲ +0.01%

The largest component of the outside labour force was housework/family responsibilities



Housework/family responsibilities
43.3%



Schooling/training
40.2%

Notes: Percentage point
 Percentage change (month-on-month)
 Unchanged



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- The **labour force** continued its upward trajectory in July 2026, rising by **0.1 per cent (+21.0 thousand persons)** to **17.37 million persons** (June 2026: 17.34 million persons). The **labour force participation rate (LFPR)** remained unchanged at **70.9 per cent**.
- Malaysia's labour market in July 2026 sustained its resilience, as the number of **employed persons** grew modestly by **0.1 per cent (+18.5 thousand persons)** to **16.85 million persons**, compared to 16.83 million in June 2026. The **employment-to-population ratio**, reflecting the economy's capacity to generate jobs, held steady at **68.8 per cent**, unchanged from the previous month.
- The Services sector continued to serve as the primary driver of total employment during the month. Growth in this sector was largely contributed by Arts, entertainment and recreation, Accommodation and food & beverage service activities as well as Financial and insurance/ takaful activities. Likewise, employment expanded across all other sectors namely Agriculture, Mining & quarrying, Manufacturing and Construction.
- The **employees'** category remained the largest share of the employed persons, accounting for **74.9 per cent** in July 2026. The number of employees' edged up by **0.1 per cent (+7.6 thousand persons)** to **12.62 million persons** (June 2026: 12.61 million persons). Similarly, the number of **own-account workers** increased marginally of **0.3 per cent (+8.7 thousand persons)** to **3.16 million persons** (June 2026: 3.15 million persons).
- The number of **unemployed** in July 2026 went up by **2.5 thousand persons (+0.5%)** to **520.3 thousand persons** (June 2025: 517.8 thousand persons). The **unemployment rate** was unchanged at **3.0 per cent**, as in the previous month.
- The number of persons **outside the labour force** in July 2026 recorded a marginal increase of **0.01 per cent (+0.7 thousand persons)** to **7.11 million persons** (June 2026: 7.11 million persons). The largest component of the outside labour force was **housework/family responsibilities**, accounting for **43.3 per cent**, followed by the **schooling/training** category which constituted **40.2 per cent**.

Contact person:

Baharudin Mohamad
Public Relation Officer
Strategic Communication and International Division
Department of Statistics Malaysia
Tel : +603-8090 4681
Fax : +603-8888 9248
Email : baharudin[at]dosm.gov.my

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