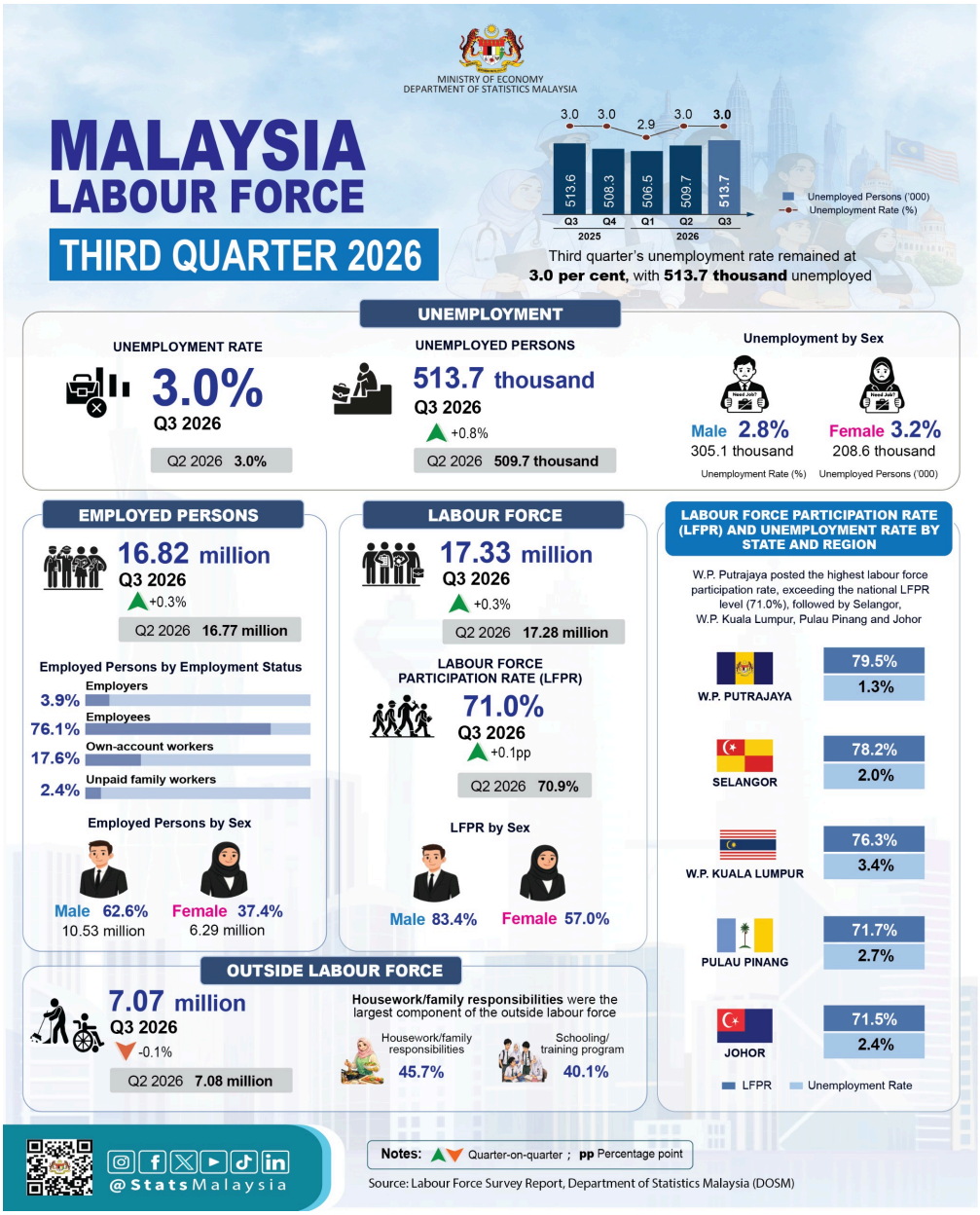
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MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY REPORT, THIRD QUARTER 2026



- In the third quarter of 2026, the **labour force** grew by **0.3 per cent** compared to the previous quarter, adding **58.0 thousand** to reach **17.33 million** (Q2 2026: 17.28 million) with the **Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)** increasing to **71.0 per cent**. Meanwhile, year-on-year comparison, the labour force edged up by **197.4 thousand (+1.2%)**, raising the LFPR by **0.1 percentage points** from 70.9 per cent in the same quarter of preceding year.
- The number of **employed persons** continued its upward trend in the third quarter of 2026, increasing by **53.9 thousand (+0.3%)** to **16.82 million** (Q2 2026: 16.77 million). On a year-on-year basis, employment rose by **1.2 per cent (+197.3 thousand)** compared with the corresponding period of the previous year (Q3 2025: 16.62 million).
- The number of **unemployed persons** increased by **0.8 per cent** to **513.7 thousand** in the third quarter of 2026, (Q2 2026: 509.7 thousand) with the **unemployment rate** stood at **3.0 per cent** compared to the second quarter of 2026. Year-on-year comparison shows the number of unemployed persons edged **0.2 thousand**, while the unemployment rate remained at **3.0 per cent** compared with the third quarter of 2025 (Q3 2025: 513.6 thousand).
- **Three states** and **two regions** recorded LFPR above the national rate **71.0 per cent**, with **Wilayah Persekutuan Putrajaya** registering the highest LFPR at **79.5 per cent**, followed by **Selangor (78.2%)**, **Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur (76.3%)**, **Pulau Pinang (71.7%)** and **Johor (71.5%).**
- At the state and region level, **nine states** and **one region** recorded **unemployment rates** below the national unemployment rate of **3.0 per cent**. **Wilayah Persekutuan Putrajaya** registered the lowest unemployment rate at **1.3 per cent**, followed by **Melaka and Selangor (2.0%)** and **Pahang (2.1%)**.

The full publication of the Labour Force Survey Report, Third Quarter 2026 can be downloaded through eStatistic Portal.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

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