EMBARGO: Only to be published or disseminated at **12:00 hour, Friday, 26 June 2020**

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MALAYSIA ECONOMIC STATISTICS REVIEW (MESR), VOLUME 2/2020

Malaysian Economic Statistics Review (MESR) volume 2/2020 is an extension of MESR volume 1/2020 that highlights on the latest economy and social statistics; and the consequence of COVID-19 to Malaysia. This review provides an early indication on what to be expected on the Malaysia's economic performance for the second quarter of 2020. The recent Leading Index (LI) which provides an advance signal on the future economic direction showed weaker performance ahead. Beyond 2020, the economy is anticipated to recover gradually with regard no subsequent wave of outbreak.

This review covers the latest statistics released in April 2020 of which statistics pertaining to Rubber, Manufacturing, Wholesale & retail trade, External trade, Labour force and Prices. The latest statistics indicates unfavourable situation for the month of April 2020 where the Manufacturing sector showed a significant decline due to the halt in non-essential activities and the factory utilisation capacity rate was below than 50 per cent. Besides, sales value of Wholesale & retail trade has taken a nosedive compared to normal business environment whereby the estimated drop in sales for April 2020 was RM45 billion. For the first time, the Malaysian unemployment rate spiked to 5.0 per cent as the number of unemployment went up 48.8 per cent due to closure of operations for most of the businesses during MCO.

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

ISSN 2716-6813

MALAYSIAN ECONOMIC STATISTICS REVIEW

VOL. 2 / 2020

StatsMalaysia | www.dosm.gov.my

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Released By:

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