MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

TODAY'S STATISTICS
by DOSM at 12:00 pm

11 FEBRUARY 2026 | #25 | SDDS

MALAYSIA LABOUR FORCE, DECEMBER 2025

The unemployment rate in December 2025 was unchanged at **2.9 per cent**, recording 517.7 thousand unemployed

UNEMPLOYMENT

December 2025

The number of unemployed persons

▼-3.9% ▼- 0.1%

517.7 thousand

Unemployment rate

▼-0.2pp ↔ 0.0pp

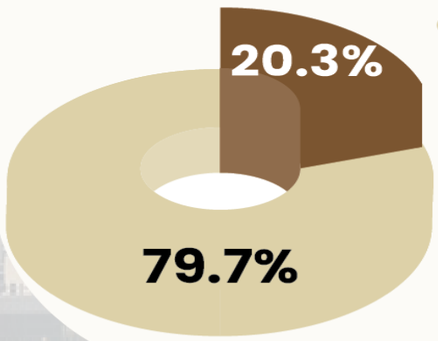
2.9%

The unemployment rate in December 2025 was unchanged at 2.9 per cent

DECEMBER 2024	NOVEMBER 2025
538.5 thousand	518.4 thousand

DECEMBER 2024	NOVEMBER 2025
3.1%	2.9%

Unemployment by category



Actively unemployed ● Inactively unemployed

DECEMBER 2025 : 412.4 thousand
NOVEMBER 2025 : 413.5 thousand
DECEMBER 2024 : 425.7 thousand
▼-3.1% ▼-0.3%

DECEMBER 2025 : 105.2 thousand
NOVEMBER 2025 : 104.9 thousand
DECEMBER 2024 : 112.8 thousand
▼-6.7% ▲ 0.3%

EMPLOYED PERSONS

December 2025

The number of employed persons

▲ 3.0% ▲ 0.2%

17.13 million

Employment-to-population ratio

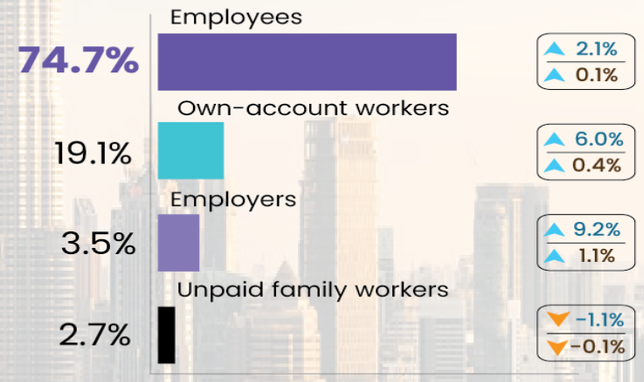
▲ 0.5pp ▲ 0.1pp

68.9%

DECEMBER 2024	NOVEMBER 2025
16.63 million	17.09 million

DECEMBER 2024	NOVEMBER 2025
68.4%	68.8%

Employed persons by status in employment



In December 2025, employees'category represented 74.7 per cent of the total employed persons

LABOUR FORCE

Labour Force

17.65 million

DECEMBER 2025

▲ 2.8% ▲ 0.2%

Labour Force Participation Rate

70.9%

▲ 0.3pp ↔ 0.0pp

DECEMBER 2024	NOVEMBER 2025
17.17 million	17.61 million

DECEMBER 2024	NOVEMBER 2025
70.6%	70.9%

70.9%

The labour force participation rate (LFPR) for December 2025 remained at 70.9 per cent

LFPR by sex

Male 83.3%

Female 56.6%

OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE

NOVEMBER 2025: 7.22 million
DECEMBER 2025: 7.23 million
DECEMBER 2024: 7.16 million

▲ 1.0% ▲ 0.1%

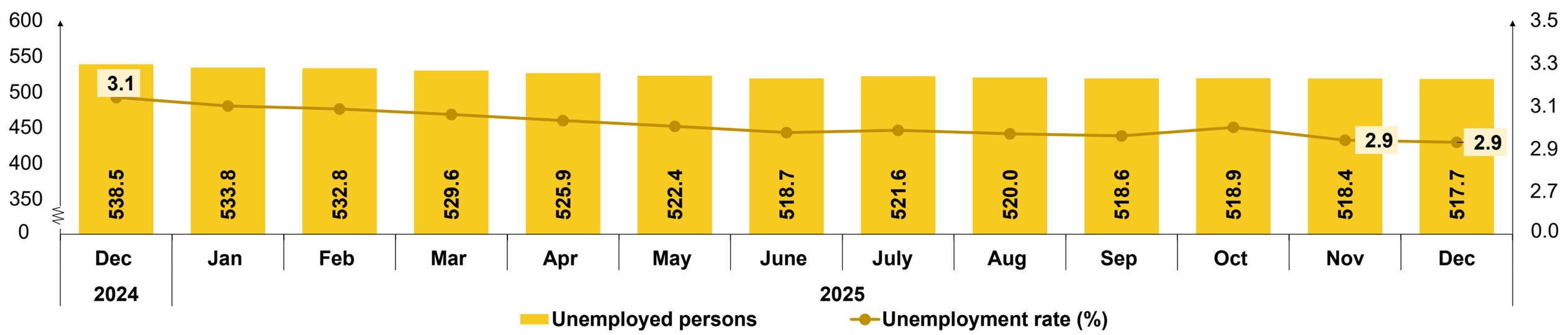
The major composition of the outside labour force was housework/family responsibilities

Housework/ family responsibilities **43.7%**

Schooling/ training **40.9%**

Notes :
- % Percentage change (year-on-year)
- % Percentage change (month-on-month)
- ↔ Unchanged
- PP Percentage point

Unemployed persons and unemployment rate, December 2024 - December 2025



@StatsMalaysia

BANCI EKONOMI 2026 DATA PEMANGKIN EKONOMI NEGARA

MALAYSIA MADANI kesejahteraan

ODIN 2024-2025 OPEN DATA INVENTORY MALAYSIA NUMBER ONE IN THE WORLD

20 October

2016 - 2030

Notes:
1. The Labour Force Survey indicators from January 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

December 2025's unemployed continued to reduce to 517.7 thousand persons, registering an unemployment rate of 2.9 per cent

- The **labour force** was on an uptrend, increasing by **0.2 per cent** to **17.65 million persons** in December 2025 (November 2025: 17.61 million persons). On the same note, December's **labour force participation rate** was unchanged at **70.9 per cent** as in the previous month.

- The number of **unemployed persons** during the month edged down by **0.1 per cent** to **517.7 thousand persons** (November 2025: 518.4 thousand persons).

- The **unemployment rate** in December remained at **2.9 per cent**, the same as in the last month.

- The total number of **employed persons** continued to increase in December 2025, with a rise of **0.2 per cent** to **17.13 million persons** from 17.09 million persons in November 2025.

- The number of employed persons in the **Services** sector continued to record steady growth, particularly in **Wholesale & retail trade**, followed by **Accommodation and food & beverage services activities**, as well as **Information & communication activities**. The number of employments also increased in the **Agriculture**, **Manufacturing**, and **Construction** sectors, while the **Mining & quarrying** sectors experienced a slight decline.

- The number of persons **outside the labour force** registered a slight uptick of **0.1 per cent** to **7.23 million persons** during the month compared to 7.22 million persons in November 2025.