MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

TODAY'S STATISTICS
by DOSM at 12:00 pm

26 JUNE 2026 | #146

LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS 2025

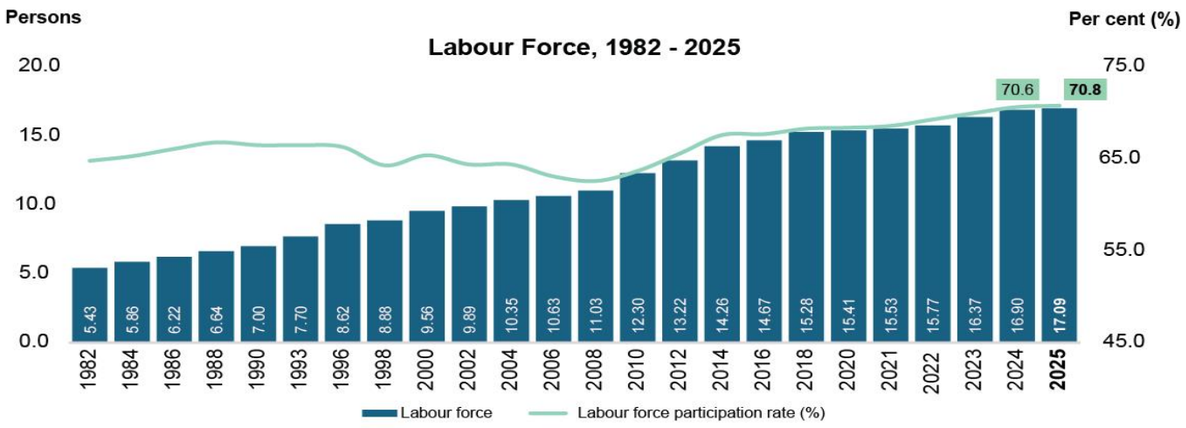
Malaysia's labour market remained resilient in 2025,
with **unemployment rate** reaching its **lowest level** in a decade

LABOUR FORCE



17.09 million
2024 : 16.90 million

Malaysia's labour force in 2025 edged up by **1.1 per cent** to register **17.09** million persons



LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

▲0.2pp

70.8%
2024: 70.6%

EMPLOYED PERSONS

▲1.3%

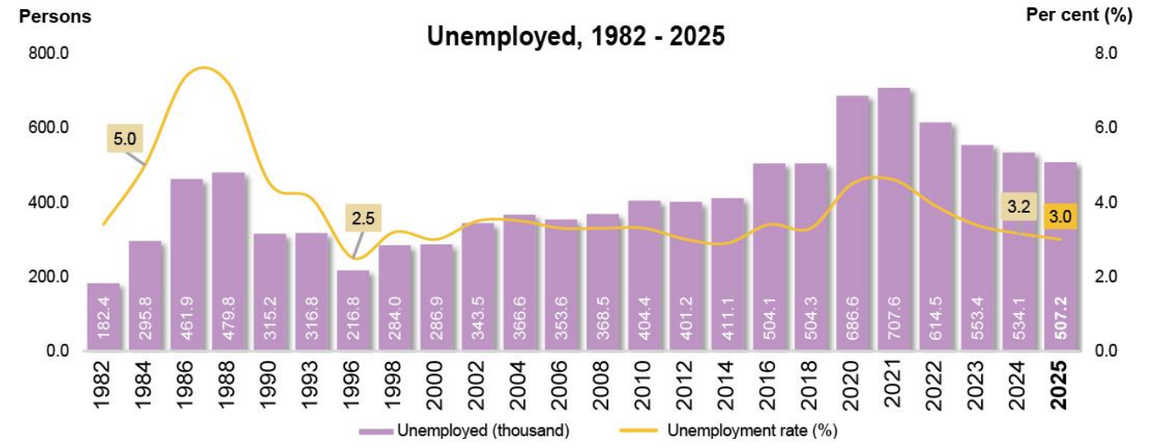
16.58 million
2024: 16.37 million



10.70 million
2024: 10.58 million

6.39 million
2024: 6.32 million

UNEMPLOYMENT





UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

3.0% ▼0.2pp
2024: 3.2%

♂ **2.9%**
2024: 3.1%

♀ **3.0%**
2024: 3.3%

UNEMPLOYED

♂ **315.6 thousand**
2024: 327.1 thousand

♀ **191.6 thousand**
2024: 207.0 thousand

▼-5.0%

507.2 thousand
2024: 534.1 thousand



OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE

▲0.2%

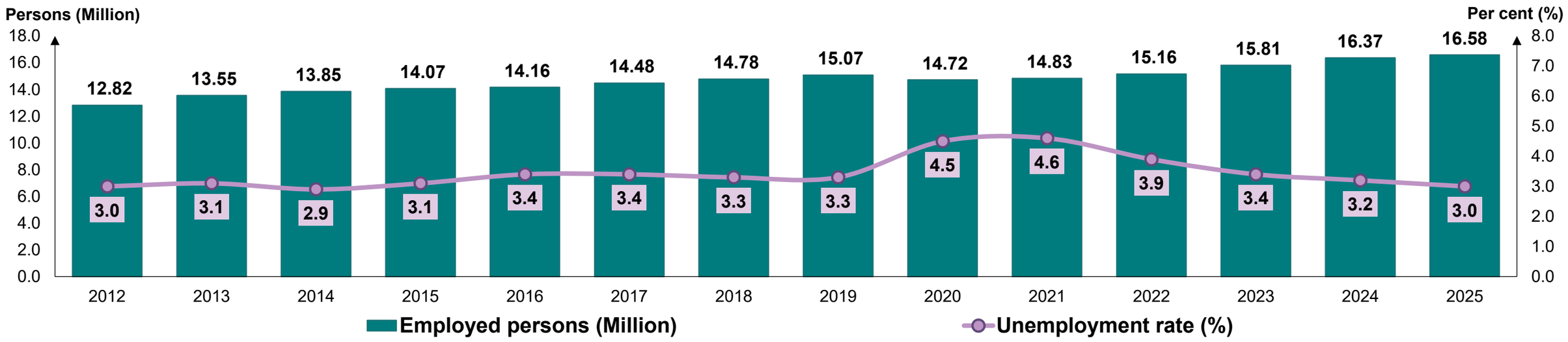
7.03 million
2024: 7.02 million

(%) Percentage change (year-on-year)

(pp) Percentage point

Source : Labour Force Survey, Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM)

Employed persons and unemployment rate, 2012 - 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

Malaysia's labour market remained resilient in 2025, with unemployment reaching its lowest level in a decade

- In 2025, the **labour force** expanded by **1.1 per cent** to **17.09 million persons**, compared with 16.90 million persons in 2024. Accordingly, the **labour force participation rate** increased by **0.2 percentage points** to **70.8 per cent** (2024: 70.6%), indicating stronger participation in the labour market.

- The **unemployment rate** declined further to **3.0 per cent**, the lowest level in a decade.

- The number of **unemployed** persons decreased to **507.2 thousand persons**, driven largely by lower youth unemployment among those aged 15 to 24 years.

- The number of **employed persons** rising by **1.3 per cent** to **16.58 million persons** from 16.37 million persons in the previous year.

- Across economic sectors, the employment was predominantly concentrated in the **Services** sector, contributing **66.1 per cent** of total employment and maintaining its growth trajectory. This was followed by the **Manufacturing** sector with a share of **16.3 per cent**, while **Agriculture** and **Construction** accounted for **8.9 per cent** and **8.2 per cent**, respectively. **Mining & quarrying** sector recorded the smallest share at **0.6 per cent**.

- The number of persons **outside the labour force** increased marginally to **7.03 million persons**. The majority of this group remained inactive due to **housework/ family responsibilities**, accounting for **42.7 per cent**, followed by those in **schooling/ training** category **(42.2%)**.