



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

2025
SEPTEMBER

LABOUR FORCE

STATISTICS
REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

LABOUR FORCE REPORT MALAYSIA

SEPTEMBER 2025

Announcement

ASEAN-Malaysia 2025 Chairmanship: The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) will chair the 15th ASEAN Community Statistical System Committee (ACSS15) which aims to strengthen the statistical cooperation towards sustainable regional development.

Malaysia, for the first time, ranked as number one (1) globally in the biennial Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25 report released by Open Data Watch (ODW), surpassing 197 other countries. This achievement marks a significant leap from its 67th position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.

The Government of Malaysia has declared October 20th as National Statistics Day (MyStats Day), with the theme 'Statistics is the Essence of Life'. Meanwhile, the Fourth World Statistics Day was celebrated on 20th October 2025, with the theme 'Driving Change with Quality Statistics and Data for Everyone'.

OpenDOSM NextGen is a medium that provides data catalogue and visualisations to facilitate users' analysis and can be accessed through <https://open.dosm.gov.my>.

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

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PREFACE

The monthly Labour Force Report, Malaysia, presents statistics of the labour force, employment and unemployment obtained from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) through a household approach. The implementation of the LFS is based on the guidelines and recommendations of the International Labour Organization (ILO) with reference to the Surveys of Economically Active Population, Employment, Unemployment and Underemployment: An ILO Manual on Concepts and Methods.

The labour force statistics are vital input for labour market analysis, policy formulation, as well as planning, implementing, and monitoring programmes, particularly related to human resource development. These statistics also serve as essential references for researchers, economists, academicians, the private sector, and individuals involved in research related to employment and the labour market.

The Labour Force Report for September 2025 describes the labour supply condition based on the current situation. The report also elaborates on the month-on-month changes to examine the immediate effects of recent events. In addition, annual changes from the same month of the previous year are also reported.

The Department of Statistics Malaysia gratefully acknowledges the cooperation and contribution rendered by all parties in making this publication a success. Every piece of feedback and suggestion towards improving future reports is highly appreciated.

DATO' SRI DR. MOHD UZIR MAHIDIN
Chief Statistician Malaysia

November 2025

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GLOSSARY

Actively unemployed	:	Persons who were available for work and were actively looking for a job during the reference week.
Category of skills	:	For reporting purposes, the category of occupation is regrouped into three levels of skills based on the Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation (MASCO) 2013 as below: Skilled workers: 1. Managers; 2. Professionals; and 3. Technicians and associate professionals. Semi-skilled workers: 4. Clerical support workers; 5. Services and sales workers; 6. Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock, and fishery workers; 7. Craft and related trades workers; and 8. Plant and machine operators and assemblers. Low-skilled workers: 9. Elementary occupations. Starting in January 2022, the category of occupation is based on the Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation (MASCO) 2020 with the addition of group 0 - Armed Forces occupations.
Economic activity	:	Classification of industries according to the Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008 version 1.0 into five main sectors: Agriculture, Mining & quarrying, Manufacturing, Construction and Services. In the meantime, Manufacturing and Services are further disaggregated into sub-sectors.
Employed	:	All persons who, at any time during the reference week worked at least one hour for pay, profit or family gain either as an employer, employee, own-account worker, or unpaid family worker.
Employee	:	A person who works for a public or private employer and receives regular remuneration in wages, salary, commission, tips or payment in kind.
Employer	:	A person who operates a business, a plantation or other trade and employs at least one employee in his business or trade.
Employment-to-population ratio	:	The proportion of the employed population to working-age population.

Inactively unemployed	:	Did not look for work because they believed no work was available or that they were not qualified; Would have looked for work if they had not been temporarily ill or had it not been for weather conditions; and had looked for work prior to the reference week and were waiting for the result of job applications.
Labour force participation rate	:	The ratio of the labour force to the working-age population, expressed as a percentage.
Outside labour force	:	All persons not classified as employed or unemployed are classified as outside the labour force. This category consists of housewives, students (including those going for further studies), retired, disabled persons and those not interested in looking for a job.
Own-account worker	:	A person who operates his own farm, business or trade without employing any paid workers to conduct his farm, trade or business.
Skill-related underemployment	:	Those with tertiary education and working in the semi-skilled and low-skilled categories.
Time-related underemployment	:	A group of people who were employed less than 30 hours per week during the reference week because of the nature of their work or due to insufficient work and were able and willing to accept additional hours of work. Persons who were employed more than 30 hours per week during the reference week are considered to be in full employment.
Unemployed	:	Those who did not work during the reference week were classified into two groups, which are actively and inactively unemployed.
Unemployment rate	:	The proportion of the unemployed population to the total population in the labour force, expressed as a percentage.
Unpaid family worker	:	A person who works without pay or wages on a farm, business or trade operated by another member of the family.

ACRONYMS

ACSS15	:	15 th ASEAN Community Statistical System
AI	:	Artificial Intelligence
ASEAN	:	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
DOSM	:	Department of Statistics Malaysia
ECRL	:	East Coast Rail Link
EV	:	Electric Vehicle
GDP	:	Gross Domestic Product
ILO	:	International Labour Organization
KPDN	:	Ministry of Domestic Trade and Cost of Living
LI	:	Leading Index
LFS	:	Labour Force Survey
LFPR	:	Labour Force Participation Rate
MASCO	:	Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation
MCTF	:	Malaysia Career & Training Fair
MSIC	:	Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification
MSMEs	:	Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises
ODIN	:	Open Data Inventory
ODW	:	Open Data Watch

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MALAYSIA LABOUR FORCE, SEPTEMBER 2025

The unemployed in September 2025 decreased further to 518.6 thousand persons, recording an unemployment rate of **3.0 per cent**

UNEMPLOYMENT

September 2025

The number of unemployed persons

518.6 thousand

Unemployment rate

3.0%

September's unemployment rate stood at 3.0 per cent

SEPTEMBER 2024 548.8 thousand
AUGUST 2025 520.0 thousand

SEPTEMBER 2024 3.2%
AUGUST 2025 3.0%

Unemployment by category



EMPLOYED PERSONS

September 2025

The number of employed persons

17.03 million

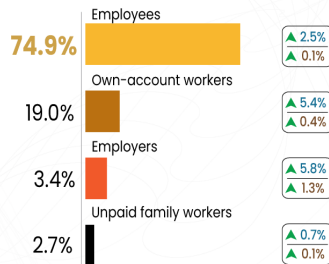
Employment-to-population ratio

68.8%

SEPTEMBER 2024 16.52 million
AUGUST 2025 16.99 million

SEPTEMBER 2024 68.3%
AUGUST 2025 68.8%

Employed persons by status in employment



The employees' category continued to constitute the largest segment of the employed persons in September 2025, accounting for **74.9 per cent**

LABOUR FORCE

Labour Force

17.54 million

SEPTEMBER 2025

Labour Force Participation Rate

70.9%

SEPTEMBER 2024 17.07 million
AUGUST 2025 17.51 million

SEPTEMBER 2024 70.6%
AUGUST 2025 70.9%

LFPR by sex

Male **83.3%**

Female **56.5%**

70.9%

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

OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE

August 2025

7.20 million

SEPTEMBER 2025

7.21 million

7.12 million

SEPTEMBER 2024

Housework/ family responsibilities were the major composition of those outside the labour force



Housework/ family responsibilities

43.6%



Schooling/ training

40.8%

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



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CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

What is Labour Force Survey (LFS)?

Labour Force Survey (LFS) was conducted to collect information on the structure and distribution of labour force, employment and unemployment from the perspective of labour supply.

LFS encompasses both urban and rural areas for all administrative districts within all states in Malaysia using multi-modal data collection approach through the personal interview and a Computer-Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI).

The LFS are conducted based on the standard guidelines and recommendations of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

The survey population comprises persons who live in the private living quarters, hence excludes persons residing in institutions such as hotels, hospitals, hostels, prisons, and workers residing in construction worksite.

The working age for the analysis of LFS in Malaysia refers to household members between the age of 15 to 64 years during the reference week, who are either in the labour force or outside the labour force.

LABOUR FORCE

- The population in the working age group of 15 to 64 years (in completed years at last birthday).
- Either employed or unemployed in the reference week.

EMPLOYED

- Persons who, at any time during the reference week worked at least one hour for pay, profit or family gain (as an employer, employee, own-account worker or unpaid family worker).
- Persons who did not work during the reference week because of illness, injury, bad weather, leave, labour dispute and social or religious reasons but had a job, farm, enterprise or other family enterprise to return to.
- Those on temporary lay-off with pay who would definitely be called back to work.

UNEMPLOYED

- Those who did not work during the reference week but are interested to work and seeking for a job.
- Classified into two groups which are actively and inactively unemployed.

OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE

- All persons not classified as employed or unemployed.
- Example: housewives, students, retirees, disabled persons and those not interested in looking for job.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

- The proportion of the unemployed population to the total population in labour force.
- Percentage of the unemployed population in the labour force.

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

- The economic activity of a population depends on the demographic characteristics of that population.
- The proportion of the economically active population, hence differs between sub-groups of that population.
- These variations are measured by specific activity rates termed as labour force participation rate.
- Labour force participation rate is defined as the ratio of the labour force to the working age population (15 to 64 years), expressed as a percentage.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

- Time-series data are very useful for economist, policy & decision makers and time-series analysts to identify the important features of economics series such as direction, turning point and consistency between other economic indicators. Sometimes this feature is difficult to observe because of seasonal movements. Thus, if seasonal effect can be removed, the behaviour of the series would be better viewed. The estimation and removal of the seasonal effects is called seasonal adjustment.
- Seasonal adjustment is a process to identify and to remove the regular within-a-year seasonal pattern, which may also include the influences of moving holidays and working/trading days effect in each period. The ultimate objective of the process is to highlight the underlying trends and short-term movements in the series.
- In Malaysia, most of the time series data is affected by seasonal effects. Hence, to eliminate the seasonal effect as well as to seasonally adjust the Malaysian economic time series data, a standard seasonal adjustment package, X-12 ARIMA was used by the Department of Statistics Malaysia.



EXPLANATORY NOTES

Starting with the release of Labour Force Statistics (LFS), January 2025, the principal statistics of the labour force are estimated based on the current population estimates of Malaysia.

The revision of the LFS data series is performed when the most recent Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020 data is available. This census data is then used for the revision of the LFS data series to include additional information available from the latest Population and Housing Census of Malaysia. This process of incorporating revised population benchmarks is referred to as rebasing. On the same note, revisions are carried out on LFS data for January to December 2024.

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KEY REVIEWS

- In September 2025, the number of **employed persons** continued to rise, increasing by **0.2 per cent (+38.3 thousand persons)** to **17.03 million persons** from 16.99 million persons in August 2025. The **employment-to-population ratio**, which indicates the ability of an economy to create employment, remained unchanged at **68.8 per cent** in September 2025, consistent with the level recorded in August 2025.
- Employment by economic sectors showed that the number of employed persons in the Services sector continued to increase steadily during the month, primarily in Wholesale and retail trade; Accommodation and food & beverage services; as well as Information and communication activities. Likewise, the Manufacturing, Construction, Mining & quarrying and Agriculture sectors also recorded increases in employment.
- The **employees'** category continued to be the largest segment of the total employed persons in September 2025, accounting for **74.9 per cent**. This category recorded a **0.1 per cent increase (+17.9 thousand persons)** to **12.74 million persons** (August 2025: 12.73 million persons). The number of **own-account workers** was also on an increasing trend, with a rise of **0.4 per cent (+12.6 thousand persons)** to **3.24 million persons**, compared to the previous month (August 2025: 3.22 million persons).
- The number of **unemployed persons** during the month continued to be on a downtrend, with a decrease of **0.3 per cent (-1.4 thousand persons)** to **518.6 thousand persons** (August 2025: 520.0 thousand persons), registering a **3.0 per cent unemployment rate**, as in the prior month.
- In September 2025, the **labour force** sustained its growth momentum, increasing by **0.2 per cent (+36.8 thousand persons)** month-on-month to **17.54 million persons**, compared to 17.51 million persons in the previous month. The **labour force participation rate (LFPR)** for September 2025 remained unchanged at **70.9 per cent**, the same as recorded in August 2025.
- The number of persons **outside the labour force** in September 2025 edged up by **0.1 per cent (+7.8 thousand persons)** to **7.21 million persons**, compared to 7.20 million persons in August 2025. **Housework/ family responsibilities** were the major composition of those outside the labour force, accounting for **43.6 per cent** of the total. The **schooling/ training** category ranked second with **40.8 per cent**.
- Malaysia's labour market is recording its best performance in over a decade, with promising prospects for the coming year in terms of employment opportunities, economic stability, and social development. The labour market is also expected to expand steadily, with a strong focus on human capital development, entrepreneurship, and strategic sectors such as the halal industry and digital technology.

1 INTRODUCTION

MALAYSIA'S LABOUR MARKET LANDSCAPE REMAINED VIBRANT AND PROGRESSIVE IN SEPTEMBER 2025, REFLECTING A STABLE LABOUR FORCE WITH LOW UNEMPLOYMENT AND AN EXPANDING NUMBER OF EMPLOYED PERSONS

In September 2025, Malaysia advanced its multilateral trade strategy by actively pursuing new market opportunities through regional and global partnerships, reinforcing its role as a dynamic contributor to the global economy. This move complements the country's stable economic performance and its aspiration to diversify export destinations. Among the key initiatives is the proposed extension of the East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) into southern Thailand, which is expected to improve cross-border connectivity, stimulate trade flows, and strengthen Malaysia's position as a regional logistics hub. In the automotive sector, Malaysia's long-term collaboration with a private multinational automotive company to expand hybrid and electric vehicle (EV) production reflects its commitment to green industrial transformation, job creation, and sustainable growth¹. Collectively, these initiatives highlight Malaysia's proactive economic diplomacy and its contribution to regional integration, infrastructure development, and future-ready industries.

Malaysia's grassroots economic empowerment efforts were also prominently showcased through the Northern Zone Ministry of Domestic Trade and Cost of Living (KPDN) Carnival, held in Sungai Petani, Kedah, from 26 to 28 September 2025. The three-day event attracted thousands of visitors from the northern states, including Kedah, Perlis, Penang, and Perak. It featured a 56-hour RAHMAH sale, career fairs, creative competitions, and the "Buy Malaysian Products" campaign, which all aimed at stimulating domestic consumption, promoting local entrepreneurship, and supporting job creation². By spotlighting homegrown products and facilitating employment opportunities, the carnival aligned with Malaysia's broader economic strategy to strengthen regional economies, reduce income disparities, and foster inclusive growth. It also served as a platform for Micro, Small, and Medium enterprises (MSMEs) to expand market access, while reinforcing the government's commitment to sustainable development and community-level economic resilience.

Meanwhile, the second edition of the Tanjung Bidara Beach Festival in Melaka drew over 25,000 visitors, transforming the coastal town into a vibrant centre of cultural celebration and economic engagement. Beyond its showcase of traditional games and community activities, the festival featured career fairs and entrepreneurial booths that connected job seekers with local businesses³. By blending cultural preservation with employment facilitation, the festival exemplified Malaysia's holistic approach to job creation. It leveraged community-based events to stimulate economic activity, empower small enterprises, and promote inclusive growth across regions.

In addition, held at the Mid Valley Exhibition Centre from 20 to 21 September 2025, the Jobstreet by SEEK Malaysia Career & Training Fair (MCTF) emerged as one of the nation's largest career carnivals, offering over 15,000 job opportunities across various sectors. The event served as a strategic platform for job seekers to engage directly with top employers, explore executive and entry-level roles, and gain insights into industry trends. Alongside on-the-spot interviews and resume clinics, the fair featured career talks, upskilling workshops, and networking sessions designed to equip participants with the tools needed to thrive in a competitive labour market⁴. By bridging the gap between talent and opportunity, MCTF reinforced Malaysia's commitment to employment creation, workforce development, and inclusive economic growth. As a result of these coordinated efforts, Malaysia's labour market landscape

¹ <https://www.hmetro.com.my/bisnes/2025/09/1264411/malaysia-akan-terus-teroka-pasaran-baharu>

² <https://www.sinarharian.com.my/article/748987/berita/nasional/karnival-kpdn-2025-zon-utara-bakal-meriahkan-sungai-petani>

³ <https://malaysiaaktif.my/2025/09/lebih-25000-meriahkan-pesta-pantai-tanjung-bidara-2025/>

⁴ https://bernama.com/en/news.php/crime_courts/bfokus/news.php?id=2469540

remained vibrant and progressive in September 2025, reflecting a stable labour force with low unemployment and an expanding number of employed persons.

Apart from that, Malaysia's economic indicator remained moderate, as reflected by the Leading Index (LI), which decreased by 0.5 per cent year-on-year to 113.7 points in August 2025 (August 2024: 114.3 points). The monthly LI also posted a 0.8 per cent drop compared to the previous month. The smoothed long-term trend of the LI in August 2025 remained below 100.0 points, indicating that Malaysia's economy maintained a modest pace of growth. This trend was largely shaped by a stable domestic environment and the presence of diversified industries, which helped preserve economic resilience amid global uncertainties. Meanwhile, in contrast to the previous month's decline, Malaysia's external trade indicators in September 2025 showed positive growth, with both exports and imports rising by 5.6 per cent (August 2025: -6.2%) and 2.9 per cent (August 2025: -8.0%), respectively.

2 EMPLOYED PERSONS

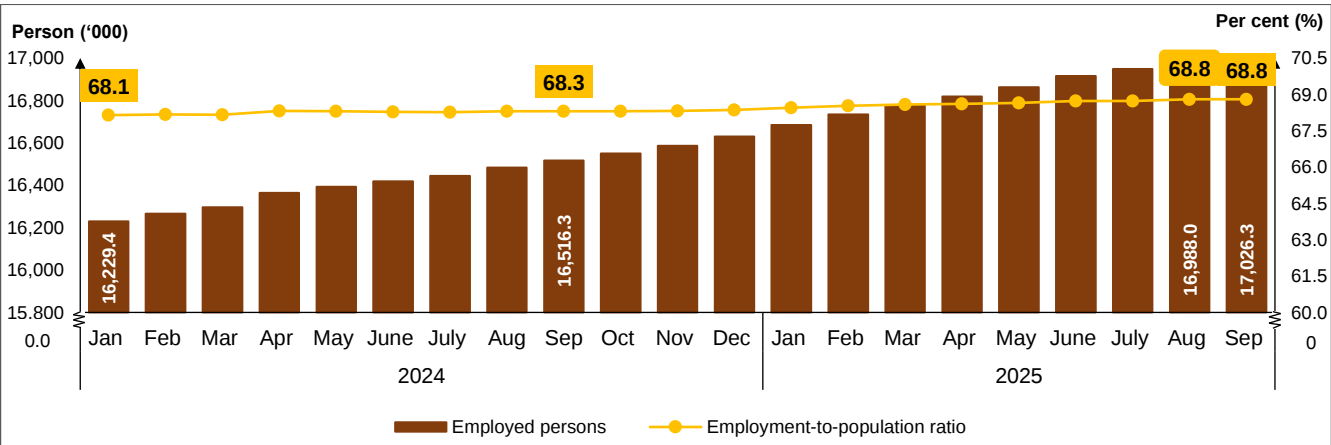
The number of employed persons continued to rise in September 2025

In September 2025, the number of **employed persons** continued to rise, increasing by **0.2 per cent (+38.3 thousand persons)** to **17.03 million persons** from 16.99 million persons in August 2025. Seasonally adjusted estimates also reflected a month-on-month growth in the number of employed persons of 0.1 per cent. Compared to the same month of the previous year, the number of employed persons rose by 3.1 per cent, equivalent to an increase of 510.0 thousand persons from 16.52 million persons in September 2024.

Employment by economic sectors showed that the number of employed persons in the Services sector continued to increase steadily during the month, primarily in Wholesale and retail trade; Accommodation and food & beverage services; as well as Information and communication activities. Likewise, the Manufacturing, Construction, Mining & quarrying and Agriculture sectors also recorded increases in employment.

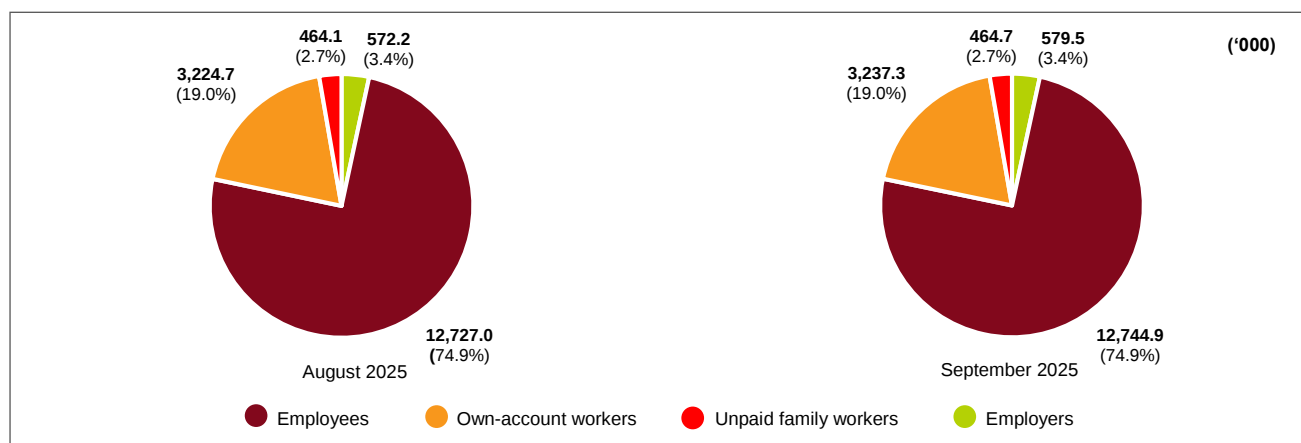
The **employment-to-population ratio**, which indicates the ability of an economy to create employment, remained unchanged at **68.8 per cent** in September 2025, consistent with the level recorded in August 2025. On a year-on-year basis, the ratio increased by 0.5 percentage points from 68.3 per cent in September 2024 [**Chart 1**].

Chart 1: Employed persons and employment-to-population ratio, January 2024 - September 2025



The **employees'** category continued to constitute the largest segment of the total employed persons in September 2025, accounting for **74.9 per cent**. This category recorded a **0.1 per cent increase (+17.9 thousand persons)** to **12.74 million persons** (August 2025: 12.73 million persons). The number of **own-account workers** was also on an increasing trend with a rise of **0.4 per cent (+12.6 thousand persons)** to **3.24 million persons**, compared to the previous month (August 2025: 3.22 million persons). This group primarily comprises daily income earners operating small-scale businesses, such as retailers, hawkers, market and stall vendors, and smallholders [Chart 2].

Chart 2: Employed persons by status in employment, August and September 2025



The number of **employed persons who were temporarily not working** in September 2025 was on a decreasing trend with a reduction of **2.6 per cent (-2.2 thousand persons)** to **82.9 thousand persons** (August 2025: 85.1 thousand persons). On a year-on-year basis, the figure rose by 9.0 per cent (+6.8 thousand persons) compared to 76.1 thousand persons recorded in September 2024. This group consists of individuals who were temporarily not working but not classified as the unemployed, as they had work to return to.

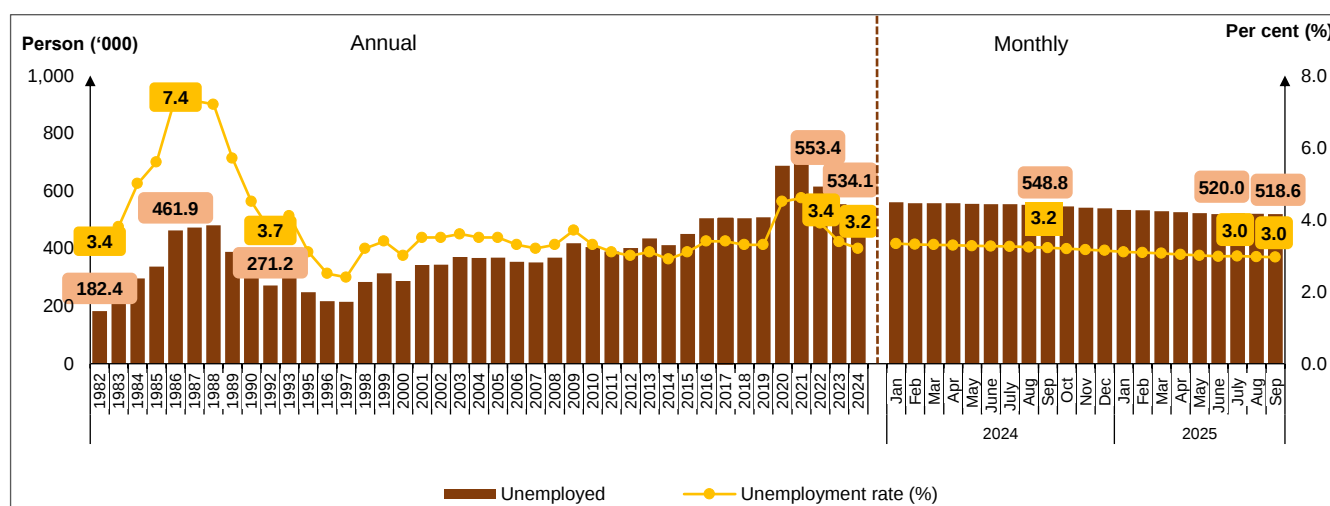
3 UNEMPLOYMENT

September's unemployment rate stood at 3.0 per cent

The number of **unemployed persons** during the month continued to be on a downtrend, with a decrease of **0.3 per cent (-1.4 thousand persons)** to **518.6 thousand persons** (August 2025: 520.0 thousand persons), registering a **3.0 per cent unemployment rate**, as in the prior month. In the meantime, on seasonally adjusted terms, the number of unemployed increased by 0.1 per cent, with 3.0 per cent of the unemployment rate.

Year-on-year, the number of unemployed persons reduced further by 5.5 per cent (-30.2 thousand persons) as against the same month of the previous year (September 2024: 548.8 thousand persons). The unemployment rate also declined by 0.2 percentage points as compared to 3.2 per cent in September 2024 [Chart 3].

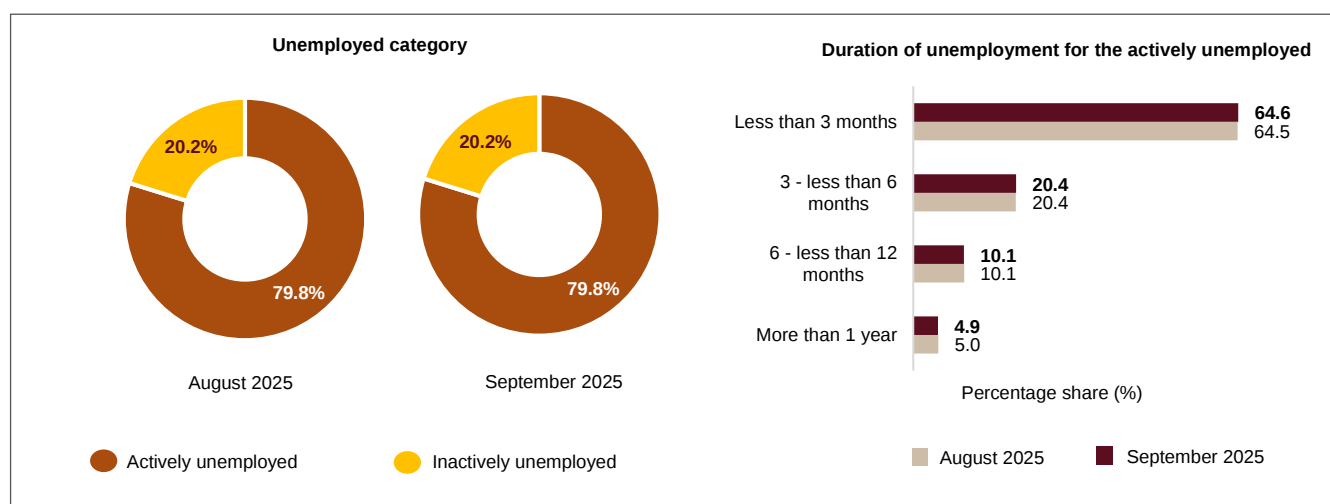
Chart 3: Unemployment, 1982 - 2024 and January 2024 - September 2025



Looking at the unemployment category, those who were available for work and were actively seeking jobs, or the **actively unemployed**, comprised **79.8 per cent** of the total unemployed persons in September 2025. This group declined further by **0.3 per cent (-1.2 thousand persons)** to **413.6 thousand persons** (August 2025: 414.9 thousand persons). From the total actively unemployed, **64.6 per cent** were those who were **unemployed for less than three months**, while **4.9 per cent** were those who were in **long-term unemployment for more than a year**⁵.

In the meantime, those who believed that there were no jobs available or were **inactively unemployed** edged down by **0.2 per cent (-0.2 thousand persons)** to **104.9 thousand persons** as compared to August 2025 at 105.1 thousand persons [Chart 4].

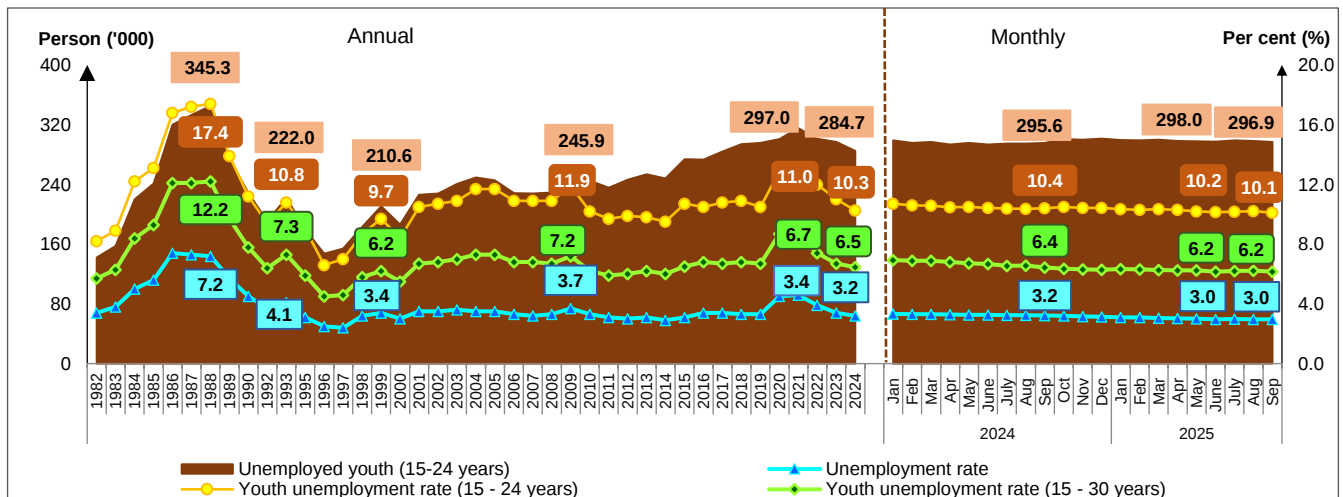
Chart 4: Unemployed category and duration of unemployment for the actively unemployed, August and September 2025



During the month, the unemployment rate for youth aged **15 to 24 years** went down by **0.1 percentage points** to **10.1 per cent**, with the **unemployed youths** at **296.9 thousand persons** (August 2025: 10.2%; 298.0 thousand persons). Meanwhile, the unemployment rate for youth aged **15 to 30 years** remained at **6.2 per cent**, registering **398.1 thousand unemployed youths** (August 2025: 6.2%; 398.7 thousand persons) [Chart 5].

⁵ Referring to a person who has been unemployed for one year or longer (Source: KILM: Long-term unemployment)
https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/publication/wcms_422451.pdf

Chart 5: The number of unemployed persons and unemployment rate by selected age groups, 1982 - 2024 and January 2024 - September 2025



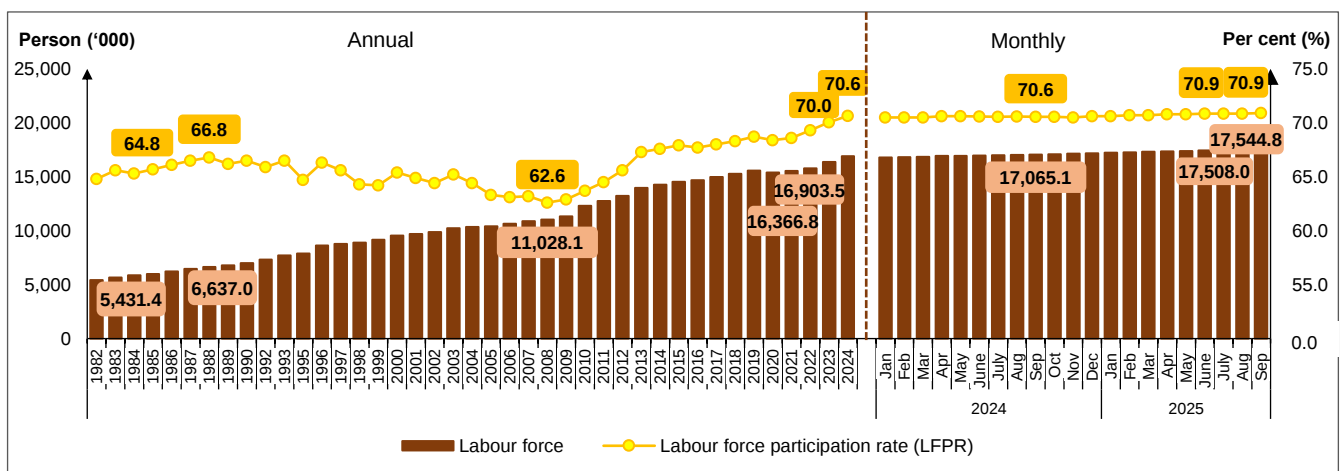
4 LABOUR FORCE

The LFPR for September remained unchanged at 70.9 per cent

In September 2025, the **labour force** sustained its growth momentum, increasing by **0.2 per cent (+36.8 thousand persons)** month-on-month to **17.54 million persons**, compared to 17.51 million persons in the previous month. The **labour force participation rate (LFPR)** for September 2025 remained unchanged at **70.9 per cent**, the same as recorded in August 2025. The seasonally adjusted data showed the labour force continued to register a steady upward trend, increasing by 0.2 per cent, while the LFPR stood at 70.9 per cent.

Compared with one year earlier, the labour force went up by 2.8 per cent, registering an addition of 479.7 thousand persons compared to 17.07 million persons in September 2024. Consequently, the LFPR increased by 0.3 percentage points from 70.6 per cent recorded in September 2024 [Chart 6].

Chart 6: Labour force and LFPR, 1982 - 2024 and January 2024 - September 2025

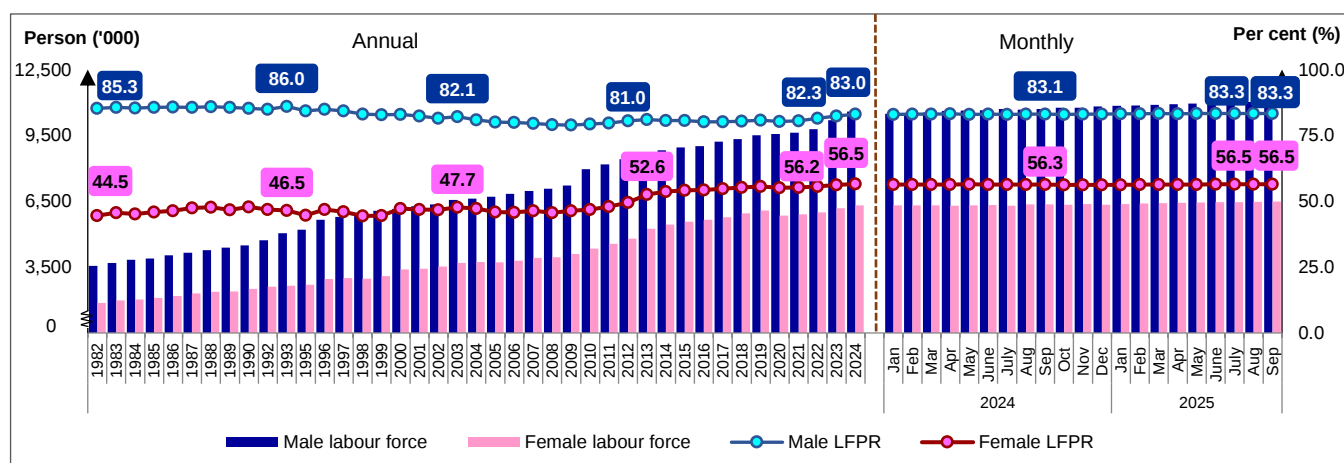


During the month, the labour force for both males and females was on an uptrend. The **male labour force** increased to **11.06 million persons** (August 2025: 11.03 million persons), whereas the **female**

labour force rose to **6.49 million persons** (August 2025: 6.48 million persons). As for the LFPR, both the **male** and **female LFPR** remained unchanged as in the previous month, with **male LFPR** at **83.3 per cent**, and the **female** at **56.5 per cent**.

In comparison with September 2024, the male labour force edged up by 3.3 per cent from 10.70 million persons, while the female labour force rose by 2.0 per cent from 6.36 million persons. This reflected a year-on-year increase in the LFPR, with both male and female LFPR rising by 0.2 percentage points from 83.1 per cent and 56.3 per cent, respectively [Chart 7].

Chart 7: Labour force and LFPR by sex, 1982 - 2024 and January 2024 - September 2025



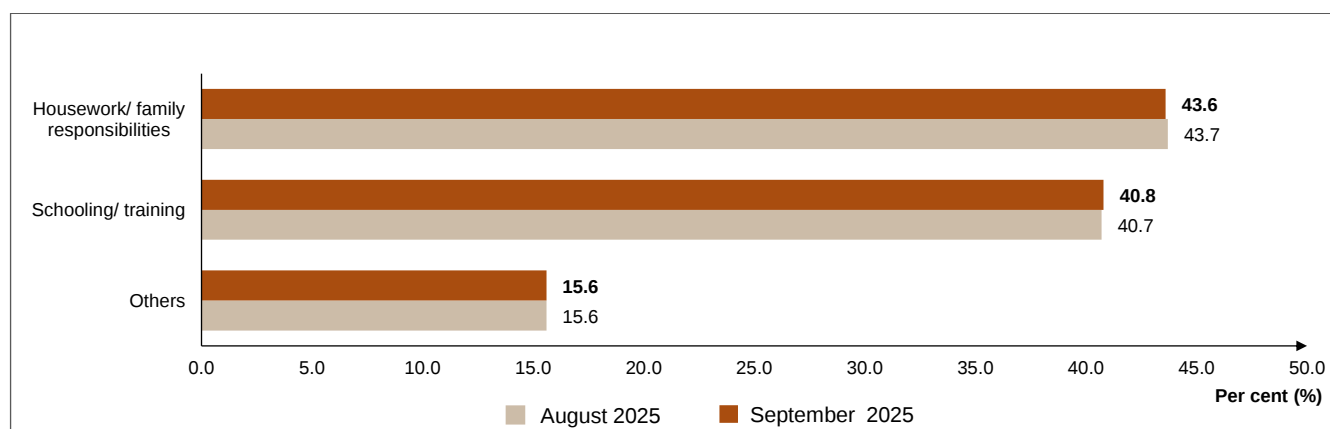
5 OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE

Housework/ family responsibilities were the major composition of those outside the labour force

The number of persons **outside the labour force** in September 2025 edged up by **0.1 per cent (+7.8 thousand persons)** to **7.21 million persons**, compared to 7.20 million persons in August 2025. On a year-on-year basis, the number of outside labour force increased by 1.3 per cent (+91.0 thousand persons), up from 7.12 million recorded in September 2024.

Housework/ family responsibilities were the major composition of those outside the labour force, accounting for **43.6 per cent** of the total. The **schooling/ training** category ranked second with **40.8 per cent** [Chart 8].

Chart 8: Share of outside labour force by reasons for not seeking work, August and September 2025



6 LOOKING AHEAD

Malaysia's economic performance continues to show strong growth, driven by active trade, strategic investments, and macroeconomic stability, which have positively impacted social well-being and the country's economic development. The encouraging economic performance during the current month also helped strengthen Malaysia's labour market by increasing job opportunities, reducing unemployment, and expanding inclusive regional development. This situation is supported by the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth of 4.4 per cent in the first half of 2025, reflecting Malaysia's economic resilience amid global challenges⁶. It is further bolstered by the country's total trade performance in September 2025, where both export and import values recorded year-on-year growth. In addition, committed investments in Terengganu alone reached RM4.3 billion, particularly in the renewable energy sector and are expected to create nearly 2,000 job opportunities, further reinforcing Terengganu's position as a preferred investment destination across multiple sectors⁷.

In addition, growth in exports and domestic investments has increased demand for labour, particularly in the technology, manufacturing, and renewable energy sectors. Meanwhile, the decline in the unemployment rate and the rise in household income have contributed to social well-being and a reduction in economic disparities. Malaysia's strong performance compared to neighbouring countries, such as Singapore and Thailand, reflects its high competitiveness within the ASEAN region⁸. Therefore, the country's economic performance not only highlights the strength of its economic fundamentals but also has a direct impact on the well-being of the people through job opportunities, price stability, and inclusive regional development.

In line with this, the growth in exports and domestic investments, particularly in the renewable energy and manufacturing sectors is expected to create thousands of new job opportunities. With the unemployment rate remaining low at 3.0 per cent, this reflects increasing demand for labour and a recovering national labour market. The strong performance of the private sector, including food manufacturing companies and telecommunication services that recorded higher net profits, demonstrates economic stability and the potential for better wages and employment benefits⁹. Furthermore, employment in high-skilled and tech-based sectors continues to rise, in line with digital transformation and infrastructure investments. In addition, states such as Penang, Johor, and Selangor have recorded strong export growth, indicating more balanced regional development and expanding job opportunities beyond the Klang Valley. Rural development, driven by investment and tourism, is also contributing to the reduction of economic and social disparities.

In addition, Budget 2026 underscores efforts to develop a competent, productive, responsive, and resilient workforce in the labour market. Reskilling and upskilling programmes are being expanded to ensure workers are equipped to adapt to technological changes and emerging industry needs. Emphasis is also placed on strengthening the entrepreneurial ecosystem through special allocations for MSMEs, which contribute to new job creation. Support for social and digital entrepreneurship further creates opportunities for youth and women to actively participate in the labour market. Moreover, allocations for the green technology and digital sectors not only support sustainable economic growth but also generate demand for highly skilled workers in areas such as AI, automation, and renewable energy. At the same time, digitalisation initiatives aim to enhance the productivity and global competitiveness of Malaysia's workforce.

Meanwhile, the focus on infrastructure development in Sabah and Sarawak is expected to generate job opportunities in rural areas, thereby reducing regional imbalances in the labour market. Large-scale

⁶ <https://berita.rtm.gov.my/nasional/senarai-berita-nasional/senarai-artikel/ekonomi-malaysia-kekal-kukuh,-kdnk-berkembang-4-4-peratus>

⁷ <https://www.astroawani.com/berita-bisnes/terengganu-catat-jumlah-pelaburan-komited-rm43-bilion-setakat-september-2025-544892>

⁸ <https://www.bharian.com.my/bisnes/lain-lain/2025/09/1444635/prestasi-ekonomi-malaysia-lebih-baik-daripada-singapura-thailand>

⁹ <https://www.utusan.com.my/ekonomi/2025/10/nestle-malaysia-catat-untung-rm114-juta-suku-ketiga-2025/>

infrastructure projects also contribute to employment growth in the construction and engineering sectors¹⁰. In this regard, Budget 2026 not only supports economic growth but also strengthens Malaysia's labour force through a comprehensive approach encompassing skills development, job creation, and social inclusivity.

Thus, Malaysia's labour market remains strong and stable, with the unemployment rate remaining low at 3.0 per cent and total employment reaching 17 million persons, reflecting continued economic recovery and rising job opportunities. This positive labour performance signifies a strengthening post-pandemic recovery, driven by both domestic and foreign investments as well as increased exports. High demand for workers in sectors such as technology, manufacturing, and renewable energy continues to spur new job creation. Government-led reskilling and upskilling programmes are helping the workforce adapt to evolving industry demands and digital transformation. As a result, Malaysia's labour market is recording its best performance in over a decade, with promising prospects for the coming year in terms of employment opportunities, economic stability, and social development. The labour market is also expected to expand steadily, with a strong focus on human capital development, entrepreneurship, and strategic sectors such as the halal industry and digital technology.

¹⁰ <https://belanjawan.mof.gov.my/pdf/belanjawan2026/ucapan/ub26.pdf>

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TABLES

LABOUR FORCE, MALAYSIA
SEPTEMBER 2025

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Table A: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, 1982 - 2024

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
1982	5,431.4	5,249.0	182.4	2,944.6	64.8	62.7	3.4
1983	5,671.8	5,457.0	214.9	2,969.4	65.6	63.2	3.8
1984	5,862.5	5,566.7	295.8	3,119.6	65.3	62.0	5.0
1985	5,990.1	5,653.4	336.8	3,124.9	65.7	62.0	5.6
1986	6,222.1	5,760.1	461.9	3,188.3	66.1	61.2	7.4
1987	6,456.8	5,983.9	472.9	3,246.1	66.5	61.7	7.3
1988	6,637.0	6,157.2	479.8	3,301.5	66.8	62.0	7.2
1989	6,779.4	6,390.9	388.5	3,463.5	66.2	62.4	5.7
1990	7,000.2	6,685.0	315.2	3,519.7	66.5	63.6	4.5
1992	7,319.0	7,047.8	271.2	3,783.6	65.9	63.5	3.7
1993	7,700.1	7,383.4	316.8	3,874.9	66.5	63.8	4.1
1995	7,893.1	7,645.0	248.1	4,297.7	64.7	62.7	3.1
1996	8,616.0	8,399.3	216.8	4,379.0	66.3	64.6	2.5
1997	8,784.0	8,569.2	214.9	4,605.1	65.6	64.0	2.4
1998	8,883.6	8,599.6	284.0	4,934.0	64.3	62.2	3.2
1999	9,151.5	8,837.8	313.7	5,098.4	64.2	62.0	3.4
2000	9,556.1	9,269.2	286.9	5,065.1	65.4	63.4	3.0
2001	9,699.4	9,357.0	342.4	5,239.9	64.9	62.6	3.5
2002	9,886.2	9,542.6	343.5	5,473.8	64.4	62.1	3.5
2003	10,239.6	9,869.7	369.8	5,458.6	65.2	62.9	3.6
2004	10,346.2	9,979.5	366.6	5,730.5	64.4	62.1	3.5
2005	10,413.4	10,045.4	368.1	6,048.2	63.3	61.0	3.5
2006	10,628.9	10,275.4	353.6	6,205.1	63.1	61.0	3.3
2007	10,889.5	10,538.1	351.4	6,330.1	63.2	61.2	3.2
2008	11,028.1	10,659.6	368.5	6,575.7	62.6	60.6	3.3
2009	11,315.3	10,897.3	418.0	6,665.7	62.9	60.6	3.7
2010	12,303.9	11,899.5	404.4	7,023.0	63.7	61.6	3.3
2011	12,740.7	12,351.5	389.2	7,023.3	64.5	62.5	3.1
2012	13,221.7	12,820.5	401.2	6,927.4	65.6	63.6	3.0
2013	13,980.5	13,545.4	435.1	6,781.2	67.3	65.2	3.1
2014	14,263.6	13,852.6	411.1	6,821.0	67.6	65.7	2.9
2015	14,518.0	14,067.7	450.3	6,869.9	67.9	65.8	3.1
2016	14,667.8	14,163.7	504.1	6,987.6	67.7	65.4	3.4
2017	14,980.1	14,476.8	503.3	7,065.0	68.0	65.7	3.4
2018	15,280.3	14,776.0	504.3	7,094.4	68.3	66.0	3.3
2019	15,581.6	15,073.4	508.2	7,103.5	68.7	66.4	3.3
2020	15,406.0	14,719.4	686.6	7,105.2	68.4	65.4	4.5
2021	15,532.8	14,825.2	707.6	7,102.3	68.6	65.5	4.6
2022	15,769.7	15,155.2	614.5	7,000.7	69.3	66.6	3.9
2023	16,366.8	15,813.4	553.4	6,997.8	70.0	67.7	3.4
2024	16,903.5	16,369.4	534.1	7,022.4	70.6	68.4	3.2

Notes:

1. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2019 and preceding years are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2020 and onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table B: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, First Quarter 2010 - Third Quarter 2025

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
2010							
Q1	12,239.3	11,801.2	438.1	7,030.8	63.5	61.2	3.6
Q2	12,304.9	11,900.6	404.3	7,047.5	63.6	61.5	3.3
Q3	12,354.6	11,961.3	393.3	7,073.5	63.6	61.6	3.2
Q4	12,522.4	12,137.4	385.0	6,992.9	64.2	62.2	3.1
2011							
Q1	12,718.3	12,333.5	384.8	7,004.9	64.5	62.5	3.0
Q2	12,756.0	12,367.4	388.6	7,048.8	64.4	62.4	3.0
Q3	12,889.0	12,493.0	396.0	6,977.2	64.9	62.9	3.1
Q4	12,842.5	12,447.9	394.7	7,098.6	64.4	62.4	3.1
2012							
Q1	13,169.2	12,765.2	404.0	6,915.1	65.6	63.6	3.1
Q2	13,237.0	12,837.1	400.0	6,946.1	65.6	63.6	3.0
Q3	13,401.7	13,005.4	396.3	6,897.9	66.0	64.1	3.0
Q4	13,376.2	12,971.2	405.0	7,062.8	65.4	63.5	3.0
2013							
Q1	13,539.5	13,118.0	421.5	7,090.0	65.6	63.6	3.1
Q2	13,945.1	13,524.1	421.0	6,819.6	67.2	65.1	3.0
Q3	14,214.2	13,776.0	438.3	6,613.0	68.2	66.1	3.1
Q4	14,195.1	13,739.5	455.6	6,730.7	67.8	65.7	3.2
2014							
Q1	14,230.8	13,791.4	439.4	6,805.9	67.6	65.6	3.1
Q2	14,296.1	13,888.5	407.6	6,793.0	67.8	65.9	2.9
Q3	14,346.9	13,960.6	386.3	6,810.3	67.8	66.0	2.7
Q4	14,403.3	13,998.7	404.6	6,860.9	67.7	65.8	2.8
2015							
Q1	14,544.8	14,091.0	453.9	6,798.5	68.1	66.0	3.1
Q2	14,535.6	14,087.8	447.8	6,897.9	67.8	65.7	3.1
Q3	14,561.0	14,093.7	467.3	6,930.6	67.8	65.6	3.2
Q4	14,600.2	14,127.9	472.3	6,952.7	67.7	65.6	3.2
2016							
Q1	14,596.8	14,095.8	501.0	7,011.5	67.6	65.2	3.4
Q2	14,665.4	14,161.5	503.9	7,026.0	67.6	65.3	3.4
Q3	14,710.6	14,202.0	508.5	7,044.6	67.6	65.3	3.5
Q4	14,771.4	14,260.6	510.8	7,071.7	67.6	65.3	3.5
2017							
Q1	14,870.1	14,355.9	514.2	7,093.8	67.7	65.4	3.5
Q2	14,926.4	14,414.8	511.6	7,123.3	67.7	65.4	3.4
Q3	15,000.2	14,484.0	516.2	7,091.0	67.9	65.6	3.4
Q4	15,088.3	14,580.5	507.8	7,085.0	68.0	65.8	3.4
2018							
Q1	15,192.4	14,683.6	508.9	7,093.7	68.2	65.9	3.3
Q2	15,278.3	14,767.2	511.1	7,073.4	68.4	66.1	3.3
Q3	15,381.3	14,856.8	524.4	7,077.9	68.5	66.2	3.4
Q4	15,449.9	14,933.4	516.5	7,070.7	68.6	66.3	3.3
2019							
Q1	15,526.8	15,010.2	516.6	7,064.2	68.7	66.4	3.3
Q2	15,598.8	15,078.2	520.6	7,088.1	68.8	66.5	3.3
Q3	15,674.3	15,162.1	512.1	7,088.7	68.9	66.6	3.3
Q4	15,766.7	15,254.5	512.2	7,066.1	69.1	66.8	3.2
2020							
Q1	15,790.1	15,243.5	546.6	7,163.1	68.8	66.4	3.5
Q2	15,675.5	14,883.7	791.8	7,350.5	68.1	64.6	5.1
Q3	15,840.6	15,095.6	745.0	7,324.6	68.4	65.2	4.7
Q4	15,922.3	15,161.6	760.7	7,318.4	68.5	65.2	4.8

Table B: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, First Quarter 2010 - Third Quarter 2025

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
2021							
Q1	16,008.4	15,236.5	771.8	7,316.0	68.6	65.3	4.8
Q2	15,972.2	15,207.3	764.9	7,424.9	68.3	65.0	4.8
Q3	16,021.0	15,274.8	746.2	7,430.1	68.3	65.1	4.7
Q4	16,135.0	15,440.7	694.4	7,361.5	68.7	65.7	4.3
2022							
Q1	16,246.1	15,574.9	671.2	7,289.9	69.0	66.2	4.1
Q2	16,343.3	15,701.2	642.0	7,258.5	69.2	66.5	3.9
Q3	16,442.9	15,831.1	611.8	7,250.6	69.4	66.8	3.7
Q4	16,542.2	15,941.7	600.5	7,246.1	69.5	67.0	3.6
2023							
Q1	16,648.9	16,062.0	586.9	7,215.7	69.8	67.3	3.5
Q2	16,727.4	16,146.1	581.4	7,180.2	70.0	67.5	3.5
Q3	16,824.0	16,250.9	573.1	7,182.3	70.1	67.7	3.4
Q4	16,911.7	16,346.7	565.0	7,197.6	70.1	67.8	3.3
2024^a							
Q1	16,770.6	16,216.8	553.8	7,021.1	70.5	68.2	3.3
Q2	16,913.0	16,368.3	544.6	7,016.2	70.7	68.4	3.2
Q3	16,996.7	16,455.7	541.0	7,070.9	70.6	68.4	3.2
Q4	17,097.9	16,559.1	538.7	7,110.7	70.6	68.4	3.2
2025							
Q1	17,229.3	16,703.0	526.3	7,126.1	70.7	68.6	3.1
Q2	17,369.9	16,849.0	520.9	7,154.9	70.8	68.7	3.0
Q3	17,486.6	16,966.7	519.9	7,182.6	70.9	68.8	3.0

Note:

1. The quarterly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. ^a The Labour Force Survey statistics from the first quarter of 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table B1 : Employed person working less than 30 hours per week by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - Third Quarter 20

('000)

Time Series	Total	Sex		Age Group			
		Male	Female	15-24	25-34	35-44	45 and above
2017							
Q1	415.5	177.3	238.2	57.4	79.7	90.8	187.6
Q2	396.8	168.8	228.0	52.8	79.0	95.1	170.0
Q3	393.0	163.2	229.7	57.3	91.1	81.4	163.1
Q4	419.3	173.1	246.2	60.2	105.4	84.3	169.4
2018							
Q1	462.3	172.9	289.3	61.2	119.5	98.7	182.9
Q2	497.2	207.7	289.5	75.5	132.4	101.3	188.0
Q3	442.4	172.7	269.7	56.4	96.7	98.3	191.0
Q4	370.0	140.9	229.0	39.2	80.4	78.9	171.4
2019							
Q1	352.6	143.7	209.0	52.2	90.9	68.9	140.7
Q2	374.3	171.5	202.8	43.6	84.1	87.8	158.8
Q3	326.6	118.9	207.6	42.5	73.6	79.7	130.8
Q4	304.0	112.3	191.8	39.1	62.9	72.8	129.3
2020							
Q1	667.5	320.1	347.4	91.0	189.1	146.5	240.9
Q2	789.6	444.0	345.7	134.6	229.1	182.0	244.0
Q3	403.8	151.4	252.4	116.1	118.0	72.1	97.6
Q4	533.7	345.6	188.0	165.5	189.5	71.0	107.6
2021							
Q1	441.9	281.3	160.5	57.0	209.4	106.3	69.2
Q2	474.1	317.8	156.3	102.2	110.1	95.9	165.9
Q3	464.6	282.9	181.6	69.0	166.4	123.7	105.4
Q4	393.8	137.6	256.2	87.0	108.4	97.5	100.9
2022							
Q1	336.3	112.1	224.1	39.1	103.6	77.8	115.8
Q2	324.5	154.5	170.0	76.4	94.3	63.0	90.8
Q3	287.2	132.9	154.3	35.3	99.5	68.4	84.0
Q4	268.5	115.4	153.0	46.1	88.0	56.2	78.3
2023							
Q1	274.2	114.2	160.0	37.4	94.4	46.5	95.8
Q2	280.4	120.2	160.2	54.0	85.3	58.6	82.5
Q3	284.8	122.0	162.8	41.5	113.2	49.6	80.4
Q4	286.1	113.6	172.5	49.1	108.7	43.3	85.1
2024^a							
Q1	272.9	122.2	150.7	33.9	77.8	62.6	98.6
Q2	269.9	121.5	148.4	55.9	65.2	60.0	88.9
Q3	264.2	116.7	147.5	43.0	74.1	57.4	89.7
Q4	257.9	113.5	144.4	64.5	59.8	37.9	95.8
2025							
Q1	242.7	106.3	136.5	70.4	37.7	71.4	63.3
Q2	241.0	110.5	130.5	41.7	62.4	62.4	74.4
Q3	230.9	107.5	123.4	58.8	39.3	63.7	69.2

Note:

1. The quarterly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010

2. ^a The Labour Force Survey statistics from the first quarter of 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table B2 : Time-related underemployment by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - Third Quarter 2025

('000)

Time Series	Total	Sex		Age Group			
		Male	Female	15-24	25-34	35-44	45 and above
2017							
Q1	211.8	105.9	105.8	36.8	51.0	48.6	75.4
Q2	195.4	97.7	97.8	34.7	45.2	48.9	66.6
Q3	224.8	109.1	115.7	46.3	59.3	49.8	69.4
Q4	238.5	115.3	123.2	45.7	69.4	44.9	78.5
2018							
Q1	242.5	102.4	141.0	37.3	74.1	52.3	79.7
Q2	231.7	108.1	123.5	40.2	65.8	43.2	82.5
Q3	235.5	116.5	119.0	43.4	54.4	49.4	88.3
Q4	204.1	88.1	115.9	30.8	47.5	44.0	81.7
2019							
Q1	210.5	98.0	112.5	43.6	61.4	36.9	68.6
Q2	204.5	107.2	97.2	32.0	53.8	45.7	73.0
Q3	178.7	70.4	108.2	28.6	44.8	50.9	54.4
Q4	170.7	69.2	101.5	28.7	44.2	40.6	57.1
2020							
Q1	383.2	183.2	199.9	63.2	114.1	82.4	123.5
Q2	413.5	257.6	156.0	76.3	99.3	106.1	131.9
Q3	300.8	102.3	198.5	108.4	97.2	47.4	47.8
Q4	369.1	267.8	101.3	130.3	117.4	53.1	68.4
2021							
Q1	310.5	226.7	83.8	46.4	159.3	67.2	37.6
Q2	329.7	236.1	93.5	86.6	82.6	46.6	113.8
Q3	326.2	232.2	93.9	40.4	137.0	87.7	61.0
Q4	293.1	101.2	191.9	80.8	78.9	70.2	63.2
2022							
Q1	245.1	71.3	173.8	21.8	76.1	62.6	84.5
Q2	212.8	111.6	101.3	64.5	59.8	37.0	51.6
Q3	186.8	92.3	94.5	16.7	67.4	49.0	53.7
Q4	167.4	79.3	88.1	29.9	63.8	32.5	41.2
2023							
Q1	174.6	78.7	95.9	30.2	66.4	25.2	52.8
Q2	186.3	86.4	99.9	39.5	62.6	34.4	49.8
Q3	189.0	88.1	100.8	34.4	79.0	32.6	42.9
Q4	181.6	82.7	98.9	26.5	81.1	28.4	45.6
2024^a							
Q1	161.8	76.6	85.2	22.6	55.7	30.9	52.6
Q2	157.4	74.0	83.3	23.3	50.1	38.9	45.1
Q3	155.9	73.9	82.0	27.2	48.1	25.2	55.4
Q4	152.7	70.9	81.8	32.5	39.6	23.9	56.8
2025							
Q1	146.9	68.9	78.0	50.4	28.6	38.9	29.1
Q2	141.0	64.1	76.9	34.1	41.7	33.9	31.3
Q3	133.3	62.0	71.3	46.1	25.9	25.9	35.3

Note:

1. The quarterly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. ^a The Labour Force Survey statistics from the first quarter of 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table B3 : Skill-related underemployment by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - Third Quarter 2025

('000)

Time Series	Total	Sex		Age Group			
		Male	Female	15-24	25-34	35-44	45 and above
2017							
Q1	1,182.9	567.0	615.9	280.8	569.0	209.3	123.8
Q2	1,280.6	584.9	695.7	317.9	587.7	226.9	148.1
Q3	1,311.6	623.9	687.7	306.1	632.6	227.4	145.5
Q4	1,332.8	648.4	684.4	303.2	631.8	254.8	142.9
2018							
Q1	1,306.9	629.2	677.7	279.2	629.2	259.0	139.5
Q2	1,408.1	647.2	760.9	314.5	687.4	257.7	148.4
Q3	1,446.3	704.1	742.2	351.3	683.3	266.9	144.8
Q4	1,404.0	667.8	736.2	337.2	679.1	245.4	142.3
2019							
Q1	1,460.8	673.2	787.6	329.5	696.4	263.0	172.0
Q2	1,417.2	665.3	751.9	338.6	666.0	259.7	152.8
Q3	1,554.5	699.3	855.2	393.5	705.8	279.1	176.0
Q4	1,540.9	746.8	794.1	348.4	732.4	287.4	172.7
2020							
Q1	1,637.3	815.1	822.2	338.3	786.3	310.8	201.8
Q2	1,674.1	847.7	826.4	393.7	701.9	331.6	246.9
Q3	1,762.7	865.9	896.9	405.1	811.4	355.3	190.9
Q4	1,886.8	1,066.6	820.2	353.5	862.6	443.0	227.6
2021							
Q1	1,899.9	951.5	948.4	437.2	848.4	401.7	212.5
Q2	1,852.5	949.0	903.5	336.9	776.0	426.1	313.5
Q3	1,873.8	931.7	942.2	426.8	835.3	392.0	219.7
Q4	1,838.3	877.1	961.2	309.0	816.4	454.6	258.3
2022							
Q1	1,810.1	874.4	935.6	364.9	821.3	428.2	195.7
Q2	1,799.6	892.3	907.3	356.3	799.4	433.3	210.6
Q3	1,839.6	857.9	981.7	344.1	861.4	432.2	201.9
Q4	1,891.4	1,022.0	869.5	326.3	894.9	476.0	194.2
2023							
Q1	1,907.2	944.0	963.3	373.9	879.1	447.4	206.8
Q2	1,914.6	873.1	1,041.5	421.3	867.5	421.0	204.8
Q3	1,922.7	941.3	981.4	425.5	816.1	457.8	223.3
Q4	1,937.1	996.2	940.9	400.2	815.3	493.7	227.9
2024^a							
Q1	1,920.8	864.7	1,056.1	352.6	735.2	522.5	310.6
Q2	1,923.1	868.7	1,054.5	401.5	732.7	539.3	249.6
Q3	1,942.4	879.4	1,063.0	390.7	808.1	498.3	245.3
Q4	1,946.3	880.7	1,065.5	373.2	704.2	495.7	373.1
2025							
Q1	1,953.7	885.6	1,068.1	393.5	794.0	492.6	273.6
Q2	1,955.6	882.9	1,072.7	432.1	806.8	490.3	226.3
Q3	1,961.5	884.3	1,077.2	466.5	786.8	447.8	260.4

Note:

1. The quarterly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010

2. ^a The Labour Force Survey statistics from the first quarter of 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table C: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - September 2025

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
2010							
January	12,367.9	11,931.2	436.7	6,927.5	64.1	61.8	3.5
February	12,059.8	11,632.3	427.4	7,225.1	62.5	60.3	3.5
March	12,324.2	11,895.9	428.3	6,993.0	63.8	61.6	3.5
April	12,512.0	12,133.5	378.5	6,894.5	64.5	62.5	3.0
May	12,197.6	11,798.9	398.7	7,186.0	62.9	60.9	3.3
June	12,331.8	11,882.2	449.6	7,065.0	63.6	61.3	3.6
July	12,516.2	12,099.5	416.7	6,900.5	64.5	62.3	3.3
August	12,320.9	11,936.5	384.3	7,157.9	63.3	61.3	3.1
September	12,289.9	11,912.1	377.8	7,194.4	63.1	61.1	3.1
October	12,689.5	12,342.6	346.8	6,846.7	65.0	63.2	2.7
November	12,277.5	11,874.1	403.4	7,298.3	62.7	60.7	3.3
December	12,822.3	12,418.3	404.1	6,722.3	65.6	63.5	3.2
2011							
January	12,804.2	12,376.0	428.2	6,881.6	65.0	62.9	3.3
February	12,618.9	12,245.3	373.6	7,110.3	64.0	62.1	3.0
March	12,862.2	12,491.8	370.4	6,940.1	65.0	63.1	2.9
April	12,921.7	12,537.1	384.6	6,930.6	65.1	63.2	3.0
May	12,726.6	12,330.3	396.3	7,133.2	64.1	62.1	3.1
June	12,782.7	12,372.6	410.1	7,073.7	64.4	62.3	3.2
July	12,967.4	12,581.5	385.9	6,920.5	65.2	63.3	3.0
August	12,887.9	12,486.7	401.2	7,038.6	64.7	62.7	3.1
September	12,875.9	12,456.9	419.0	7,032.2	64.7	62.6	3.3
October	12,938.2	12,550.1	388.1	7,045.7	64.7	62.8	3.0
November	12,722.4	12,323.7	398.7	7,245.7	63.7	61.7	3.1
December	13,092.1	12,687.2	404.9	6,997.3	65.2	63.2	3.1
2012							
January	13,191.6	12,781.3	410.4	6,878.5	65.7	63.7	3.1
February	13,054.5	12,645.6	408.9	7,042.3	65.0	62.9	3.1
March	13,295.4	12,893.8	401.6	6,897.3	65.8	63.9	3.0
April	13,331.8	12,936.9	394.8	6,851.3	66.1	64.1	3.0
May	13,245.6	12,861.2	384.4	6,952.9	65.6	63.7	2.9
June	13,232.5	12,811.4	421.0	7,013.7	65.4	63.3	3.2
July	13,511.7	13,093.3	418.4	6,777.3	66.6	64.5	3.1
August	13,313.6	12,963.4	350.2	7,039.9	65.4	63.7	2.6
September	13,408.5	12,984.5	424.0	6,993.2	65.7	63.6	3.2
October	13,341.4	12,908.9	432.6	7,056.2	65.4	63.3	3.2
November	13,429.2	13,044.6	384.6	7,094.6	65.4	63.6	2.9
December	13,538.6	13,114.3	424.3	7,060.6	65.7	63.7	3.1
2013							
January	13,569.6	13,109.8	459.8	7,035.5	65.9	63.6	3.4
February	13,598.8	13,195.9	402.9	7,119.8	65.6	63.7	3.0
March	13,684.4	13,241.7	442.6	7,116.7	65.8	63.7	3.2
April	13,835.7	13,422.9	412.8	6,922.7	66.7	64.7	3.0
May	13,815.3	13,368.9	446.4	7,005.6	66.4	64.2	3.2
June	14,217.1	13,816.9	400.2	6,668.6	68.1	66.2	2.8
July	14,194.6	13,763.0	431.6	6,655.9	68.1	66.0	3.0
August	14,176.6	13,734.2	442.4	6,689.8	67.9	65.8	3.1
September	14,309.4	13,859.5	449.9	6,557.3	68.6	66.4	3.1
October	14,169.2	13,699.1	470.1	6,746.3	67.7	65.5	3.3
November	14,220.9	13,730.4	490.5	6,716.2	67.9	65.6	3.4
December	14,276.5	13,836.2	440.3	6,724.3	68.0	65.9	3.1

Table C: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - September 2025

	('000)				(%)		
Time Series	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
2014							
January	14,244.4	13,775.9	468.5	6,734.7	67.9	65.7	3.3
February	14,249.9	13,788.0	462.0	6,808.7	67.7	65.5	3.2
March	14,198.4	13,768.3	430.1	6,956.1	67.1	65.1	3.0
April	14,206.7	13,793.2	413.5	6,849.4	67.5	65.5	2.9
May	14,430.2	14,023.0	407.2	6,693.2	68.3	66.4	2.8
June	14,373.4	13,967.0	406.4	6,826.6	67.8	65.9	2.8
July	14,333.4	13,935.8	397.6	6,846.2	67.7	65.8	2.8
August	14,266.3	13,881.4	384.9	6,934.1	67.3	65.5	2.7
September	14,440.2	14,058.4	381.8	6,763.7	68.1	66.3	2.6
October	14,403.1	14,023.3	379.9	6,926.7	67.5	65.7	2.6
November	14,404.1	14,025.4	378.7	6,887.1	67.7	65.9	2.6
December	14,512.0	14,060.2	451.7	6,784.8	68.1	66.0	3.1
2015							
January	14,442.0	13,991.8	450.3	6,923.7	67.6	65.5	3.1
February	14,554.7	14,092.9	461.8	6,847.8	68.0	65.9	3.2
March	14,601.2	14,160.5	440.7	6,839.3	68.1	66.1	3.0
April	14,569.5	14,136.2	433.3	6,890.2	67.9	65.9	3.0
May	14,575.0	14,126.7	448.3	6,933.5	67.8	65.7	3.1
June	14,609.9	14,146.7	463.2	6,896.2	67.9	65.8	3.2
July	14,579.1	14,106.2	472.9	6,937.7	67.8	65.6	3.2
August	14,685.1	14,214.6	470.5	6,871.5	68.1	65.9	3.2
September	14,642.0	14,151.7	490.3	6,925.4	67.9	65.6	3.3
October	14,665.9	14,184.7	481.3	6,894.8	68.0	65.8	3.3
November	14,687.2	14,215.7	471.5	6,945.0	67.9	65.7	3.2
December	14,690.0	14,185.7	504.3	6,945.3	67.9	65.6	3.4
2016							
January	14,652.0	14,150.5	501.5	6,984.2	67.7	65.4	3.4
February	14,703.3	14,196.9	506.4	7,063.1	67.6	65.2	3.4
March	14,710.1	14,200.7	509.5	6,964.0	67.9	65.5	3.5
April	14,675.3	14,163.7	511.5	7,012.5	67.7	65.3	3.5
May	14,705.0	14,200.2	504.8	7,021.1	67.7	65.4	3.4
June	14,720.1	14,218.4	501.8	7,036.5	67.7	65.4	3.4
July	14,729.0	14,212.8	516.2	7,008.4	67.8	65.4	3.5
August	14,822.2	14,306.9	515.2	7,053.3	67.8	65.4	3.5
September	14,762.2	14,249.6	512.6	7,084.3	67.6	65.2	3.5
October	14,765.1	14,253.4	511.7	7,071.1	67.6	65.3	3.5
November	14,827.9	14,317.2	510.7	7,081.8	67.7	65.3	3.4
December	14,788.9	14,276.7	512.2	7,072.8	67.6	65.3	3.5
2017							
January	14,880.9	14,366.8	514.1	7,090.4	67.7	65.4	3.5
February	14,916.7	14,401.8	514.8	7,086.9	67.8	65.5	3.5
March	14,932.5	14,421.7	510.8	7,121.8	67.7	65.4	3.4
April	14,941.5	14,429.6	511.9	7,122.5	67.7	65.4	3.4
May	14,961.9	14,454.4	507.5	7,120.8	67.8	65.5	3.4
June	15,027.6	14,519.9	507.7	7,141.1	67.8	65.5	3.4
July	15,016.4	14,497.4	519.0	7,150.4	67.7	65.4	3.5
August	15,030.2	14,513.4	516.9	7,138.4	67.8	65.5	3.4
September	15,058.8	14,544.3	514.5	7,122.1	67.9	65.6	3.4
October	15,090.4	14,581.7	508.8	7,117.7	68.0	65.7	3.4
November	15,084.0	14,578.9	505.1	7,121.4	67.9	65.7	3.3
December	15,145.9	14,640.1	505.8	7,084.1	68.1	65.9	3.3

Table C: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - September 2025

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
2018							
January	15,187.0	14,670.5	516.5	7,074.8	68.2	65.9	3.4
February	15,230.0	14,721.5	508.5	7,112.3	68.2	65.9	3.3
March	15,241.2	14,732.5	508.7	7,115.0	68.2	65.9	3.3
April	15,313.1	14,803.1	510.0	7,130.9	68.2	66.0	3.3
May	15,357.5	14,852.6	504.8	7,097.1	68.4	66.1	3.3
June	15,379.0	14,863.2	515.8	7,062.2	68.5	66.2	3.4
July	15,401.0	14,882.4	518.6	7,044.5	68.6	66.3	3.4
August	15,421.4	14,896.5	525.0	7,133.9	68.4	66.0	3.4
September	15,442.9	14,926.5	516.4	7,096.8	68.5	66.2	3.3
October	15,450.0	14,937.1	512.9	7,093.7	68.5	66.3	3.3
November	15,457.5	14,941.3	516.2	7,151.2	68.4	66.1	3.3
December	15,500.1	14,986.0	514.2	7,120.1	68.5	66.3	3.3
2019							
January	15,508.5	14,992.8	515.6	7,095.9	68.6	66.3	3.3
February	15,543.2	15,026.8	516.4	7,145.9	68.5	66.2	3.3
March	15,556.6	15,035.2	521.3	7,169.4	68.5	66.2	3.4
April	15,613.1	15,089.8	523.3	7,184.4	68.5	66.2	3.4
May	15,642.3	15,122.5	519.8	7,190.0	68.5	66.2	3.3
June	15,655.9	15,134.6	521.4	7,156.7	68.6	66.3	3.3
July	15,704.6	15,179.8	524.8	7,207.7	68.5	66.3	3.3
August	15,706.0	15,185.8	520.2	7,172.4	68.6	66.4	3.3
September	15,751.2	15,229.9	521.4	7,159.8	68.7	66.5	3.3
October	15,777.7	15,265.6	512.1	7,175.0	68.7	66.5	3.2
November	15,828.9	15,315.0	513.9	7,174.2	68.8	66.6	3.2
December	15,803.0	15,286.0	517.0	7,129.8	68.9	66.7	3.3
2020							
January	15,829.3	15,317.6	511.7	7,128.9	68.9	66.7	3.2
February	15,869.8	15,344.5	525.2	7,224.0	68.7	66.4	3.3
March	15,842.9	15,232.4	610.5	7,239.8	68.6	66.0	3.9
April	15,712.2	14,933.4	778.8	7,345.1	68.1	64.8	5.0
May	15,714.0	14,887.9	826.1	7,392.1	68.0	64.4	5.3
June	15,763.5	14,990.2	773.2	7,398.5	68.1	64.7	4.9
July	15,818.5	15,073.4	745.1	7,399.8	68.1	64.9	4.7
August	15,895.1	15,153.5	741.6	7,351.5	68.4	65.2	4.7
September	15,930.6	15,193.1	737.5	7,359.8	68.4	65.2	4.6
October	15,955.3	15,207.1	748.2	7,347.7	68.5	65.3	4.7
November	15,960.5	15,196.1	764.4	7,374.8	68.4	65.1	4.8
December	15,988.3	15,215.4	772.9	7,372.2	68.4	65.1	4.8
2021							
January	16,019.8	15,237.3	782.5	7,366.2	68.5	65.2	4.9
February	16,048.2	15,270.6	777.5	7,371.4	68.5	65.2	4.8
March	16,082.5	15,329.3	753.2	7,363.7	68.6	65.4	4.7
April	16,094.7	15,352.0	742.7	7,376.8	68.6	65.4	4.6
May	16,098.9	15,370.8	728.1	7,398.0	68.5	65.4	4.5
June	16,066.2	15,297.5	768.7	7,456.8	68.3	65.0	4.8
July	16,072.9	15,294.8	778.2	7,475.4	68.3	65.0	4.8
August	16,125.4	15,376.6	748.8	7,448.5	68.4	65.2	4.6
September	16,193.1	15,463.5	729.6	7,405.9	68.6	65.5	4.5
October	16,259.6	15,554.6	705.0	7,364.5	68.8	65.8	4.3
November	16,304.7	15,610.3	694.4	7,344.4	68.9	66.0	4.3
December	16,336.2	15,648.6	687.6	7,337.8	69.0	66.1	4.2

Table C: Principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - September 2025

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
2022							
January	16,366.4	15,686.1	680.4	7,332.1	69.1	66.2	4.2
February	16,402.7	15,730.9	671.8	7,320.7	69.1	66.3	4.1
March	16,438.5	15,769.4	669.2	7,309.7	69.2	66.4	4.1
April	16,502.8	15,853.5	649.3	7,270.2	69.4	66.7	3.9
May	16,537.8	15,900.0	637.7	7,260.1	69.5	66.8	3.9
June	16,566.9	15,936.3	630.6	7,255.5	69.5	66.9	3.8
July	16,599.2	15,978.4	620.7	7,247.9	69.6	67.0	3.7
August	16,629.7	16,017.7	612.0	7,242.0	69.7	67.1	3.7
September	16,657.2	16,052.2	605.0	7,239.2	69.7	67.2	3.6
October	16,683.5	16,081.5	602.0	7,237.3	69.7	67.2	3.6
November	16,709.4	16,108.6	600.9	7,235.7	69.8	67.3	3.6
December	16,730.0	16,130.4	599.6	7,239.5	69.8	67.3	3.6
2023							
January	16,755.4	16,159.3	596.1	7,238.3	69.8	67.3	3.6
February	16,781.2	16,189.3	591.9	7,236.7	69.9	67.4	3.5
March	16,811.7	16,223.0	588.7	7,230.6	69.9	67.5	3.5
April	16,838.4	16,251.4	586.9	7,228.2	70.0	67.5	3.5
May	16,864.1	16,279.5	584.6	7,226.8	70.0	67.6	3.5
June	16,889.4	16,307.8	581.7	7,225.7	70.0	67.6	3.4
July	16,914.2	16,335.0	579.2	7,225.0	70.1	67.7	3.4
August	16,932.1	16,354.9	577.3	7,231.3	70.1	67.7	3.4
September	16,948.8	16,375.1	573.7	7,238.9	70.1	67.7	3.4
October	16,974.1	16,403.2	570.9	7,237.6	70.1	67.7	3.4
November	17,000.4	16,431.1	569.2	7,235.4	70.1	67.8	3.3
December	17,025.5	16,457.7	567.8	7,234.3	70.2	67.8	3.3
2024^a							
January	16,789.3	16,229.4	559.9	7,026.8	70.5	68.1	3.3
February	16,822.6	16,265.7	556.9	7,039.0	70.5	68.2	3.3
March	16,853.1	16,296.6	556.6	7,054.0	70.5	68.2	3.3
April	16,920.9	16,364.4	556.5	7,032.0	70.6	68.3	3.3
May	16,947.6	16,393.5	554.1	7,051.0	70.6	68.3	3.3
June	16,972.2	16,418.5	553.7	7,072.3	70.6	68.3	3.3
July	16,997.3	16,444.2	553.2	7,092.8	70.6	68.3	3.3
August	17,034.2	16,482.8	551.4	7,102.4	70.6	68.3	3.2
September	17,065.1	16,516.3	548.8	7,118.3	70.6	68.3	3.2
October	17,095.5	16,549.8	545.7	7,134.7	70.6	68.3	3.2
November	17,127.5	16,585.7	541.8	7,150.3	70.5	68.3	3.2
December	17,168.4	16,629.9	538.5	7,156.8	70.6	68.4	3.1
2025							
January	17,218.2	16,684.4	533.8	7,154.8	70.6	68.5	3.1
February	17,266.9	16,734.1	532.8	7,153.1	70.7	68.5	3.1
March	17,308.1	16,778.5	529.6	7,158.1	70.7	68.6	3.1
April	17,344.5	16,818.6	525.9	7,169.4	70.8	68.6	3.0
May	17,384.8	16,862.4	522.4	7,176.8	70.8	68.7	3.0
June	17,434.0	16,915.3	518.7	7,176.5	70.8	68.7	3.0
July	17,470.5	16,948.9	521.6	7,189.3	70.8	68.7	3.0
August	17,508.0	16,988.0	520.0	7,201.5	70.9	68.8	3.0
September	17,544.8	17,026.3	518.6	7,209.3	70.9	68.8	3.0

Notes:

1. The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on population data of the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. ^a The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics for January 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table C1: Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - September 2025

Time Series	('000)			(%)	
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Labour Force Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate
2010					
January	12,368.0	11,959.8	408.2	64.0	3.3
February	12,120.1	11,712.8	402.2	62.9	3.3
March	12,242.4	11,817.2	416.7	63.4	3.4
April	12,382.1	12,025.3	377.6	63.8	3.0
May	12,197.5	11,790.7	405.7	63.0	3.3
June	12,338.5	11,898.3	423.8	63.6	3.4
July	12,419.9	11,996.4	422.5	64.0	3.4
August	12,353.8	11,945.3	400.9	63.4	3.2
September	12,330.7	11,957.7	386.3	63.3	3.1
October	12,772.3	12,407.0	370.8	65.4	2.9
November	12,392.6	11,966.9	418.2	63.3	3.4
December	12,794.9	12,391.6	406.9	65.4	3.2
2011					
January	12,782.4	12,383.1	399.6	64.8	3.1
February	12,674.9	12,312.5	357.2	64.3	2.8
March	12,778.0	12,409.9	363.4	64.6	2.8
April	12,792.6	12,426.6	388.4	64.5	3.0
May	12,757.1	12,352.4	403.0	64.3	3.2
June	12,805.0	12,403.0	390.8	64.5	3.1
July	12,858.3	12,466.3	389.1	64.7	3.0
August	12,930.6	12,501.4	415.0	64.9	3.2
September	12,906.1	12,496.0	424.3	64.8	3.3
October	13,013.1	12,616.9	409.0	65.1	3.1
November	12,829.7	12,410.9	412.6	64.3	3.2
December	13,053.8	12,651.3	405.4	64.9	3.1
2012					
January	13,164.0	12,781.1	383.3	65.5	2.9
February	13,103.1	12,699.1	394.1	65.3	3.0
March	13,221.1	12,822.6	397.2	65.5	3.0
April	13,226.3	12,841.5	403.0	65.6	3.0
May	13,293.7	12,903.8	389.0	65.9	2.9
June	13,256.6	12,841.1	407.8	65.5	3.1
July	13,413.8	12,988.9	422.4	66.1	3.1
August	13,348.9	12,972.1	359.1	65.6	2.7
September	13,416.1	13,002.8	425.0	65.8	3.2
October	13,400.9	12,964.4	448.1	65.7	3.3
November	13,520.3	13,119.3	398.4	65.9	2.9
December	13,499.3	13,079.5	423.0	65.5	3.1
2013					
January	13,550.1	13,113.1	432.8	65.6	3.2
February	13,641.8	13,242.5	389.3	65.9	2.9
March	13,625.3	13,188.7	439.5	65.5	3.2
April	13,763.5	13,353.9	422.7	66.3	3.1
May	13,867.0	13,414.9	451.7	66.7	3.3
June	14,232.8	13,838.3	392.6	68.2	2.8
July	14,119.5	13,683.2	434.0	67.7	3.1
August	14,200.8	13,730.9	451.5	68.0	3.2
September	14,295.2	13,852.9	450.0	68.5	3.1
October	14,214.8	13,743.2	481.1	67.9	3.4
November	14,279.3	13,773.3	510.8	68.2	3.6
December	14,248.6	13,816.1	437.2	67.8	3.1

Table C1: Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - September 2025

Time Series	('000)			(%)	
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Labour Force Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate
2014					
January	14,243.3	13,795.5	444.1	67.8	3.1
February	14,275.9	13,820.1	445.8	67.9	3.1
March	14,160.8	13,738.1	427.2	67.0	3.0
April	14,173.1	13,757.5	422.4	67.4	3.0
May	14,470.8	14,060.1	411.3	68.6	2.8
June	14,376.6	13,970.9	404.0	67.8	2.8
July	14,289.4	13,888.2	399.6	67.5	2.8
August	14,268.0	13,861.9	391.0	67.3	2.7
September	14,415.2	14,036.1	381.9	68.0	2.6
October	14,436.8	14,054.6	385.1	67.7	2.7
November	14,436.2	14,046.6	393.9	67.8	2.7
December	14,500.1	14,055.7	449.4	68.0	3.1
2015					
January	14,458.4	14,023.9	431.1	67.6	3.0
February	14,561.5	14,109.1	444.8	68.1	3.1
March	14,574.3	14,143.1	436.8	68.0	3.0
April	14,558.8	14,125.3	440.1	67.9	3.0
May	14,605.0	14,151.8	453.1	68.0	3.1
June	14,600.5	14,133.6	464.2	67.9	3.2
July	14,563.4	14,088.5	473.4	67.7	3.3
August	14,678.0	14,190.0	476.5	68.1	3.2
September	14,619.1	14,128.4	492.4	67.8	3.4
October	14,688.0	14,202.2	487.6	68.1	3.3
November	14,701.0	14,219.9	488.0	68.0	3.3
December	14,685.2	14,189.8	501.7	67.8	3.4
2016					
January	14,677.1	14,188.7	482.7	67.7	3.3
February	14,697.5	14,202.8	488.1	67.6	3.3
March	14,688.0	14,187.5	505.4	67.8	3.4
April	14,677.5	14,166.4	517.0	67.7	3.5
May	14,727.8	14,217.7	509.8	67.8	3.5
June	14,703.3	14,195.4	505.6	67.6	3.4
July	14,735.0	14,217.1	516.1	67.8	3.5
August	14,806.5	14,279.5	520.4	67.7	3.5
September	14,749.0	14,234.6	515.4	67.5	3.5
October	14,775.6	14,257.2	519.0	67.7	3.5
November	14,836.2	14,316.0	525.5	67.7	3.5
December	14,786.4	14,283.4	509.6	67.6	3.4
2017					
January	14,908.5	14,405.2	497.2	67.7	3.3
February	14,906.1	14,405.5	496.2	67.8	3.3
March	14,908.1	14,405.5	507.3	67.6	3.4
April	14,949.3	14,438.2	515.6	67.8	3.4
May	14,979.3	14,465.3	513.5	67.9	3.4
June	15,011.4	14,496.7	512.6	67.7	3.4
July	15,032.2	14,512.9	517.7	67.8	3.4
August	15,009.4	14,482.6	521.8	67.7	3.5
September	15,054.6	14,538.1	516.9	67.9	3.4
October	15,095.9	14,580.1	517.2	68.0	3.4
November	15,087.6	14,571.1	518.9	68.0	3.4
December	15,145.0	14,649.4	502.7	68.1	3.3

Table C1: Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - September 2025

Time Series	('000)			(%)	
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Labour Force Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate
2018					
January	15,216.2	14,709.5	500.7	68.2	3.3
February	15,216.8	14,724.2	490.2	68.2	3.2
March	15,215.2	14,714.5	505.4	68.1	3.3
April	15,324.0	14,815.0	512.8	68.4	3.3
May	15,372.4	14,860.2	511.3	68.5	3.3
June	15,362.9	14,839.6	521.4	68.5	3.4
July	15,422.1	14,904.0	516.7	68.7	3.4
August	15,397.5	14,863.4	529.7	68.3	3.4
September	15,443.4	14,924.7	518.6	68.5	3.4
October	15,452.9	14,932.8	522.0	68.5	3.4
November	15,458.7	14,930.0	529.8	68.4	3.4
December	15,499.9	14,996.8	510.7	68.4	3.3
2019					
January	15,503.1	15,013.4	502.1	68.5	3.2
February	15,525.9	15,016.0	506.5	68.5	3.3
March	15,556.1	15,025.9	520.0	68.5	3.3
April	15,607.4	15,092.9	527.6	68.5	3.4
May	15,632.6	15,111.9	526.2	68.5	3.4
June	15,637.3	15,116.0	524.7	68.6	3.4
July	15,705.0	15,188.9	522.6	68.5	3.3
August	15,708.8	15,159.7	519.6	68.7	3.3
September	15,754.5	15,238.9	521.9	68.8	3.3
October	15,786.7	15,275.4	517.2	68.8	3.3
November	15,855.3	15,323.0	522.6	69.0	3.3
December	15,817.1	15,303.4	516.6	68.9	3.3
2020					
January	15,825.8	15,299.4	516.9	68.8	3.3
February	15,849.8	15,334.8	528.8	68.7	3.3
March	15,864.3	15,255.1	607.2	68.8	3.8
April	15,713.9	14,943.7	765.7	68.2	4.9
May	15,715.9	14,895.9	815.0	68.1	5.2
June	15,788.6	15,008.4	754.8	68.2	4.8
July	15,818.8	15,086.4	729.7	68.1	4.6
August	15,889.1	15,167.8	733.5	68.3	4.6
September	15,920.9	15,179.7	740.5	68.4	4.7
October	15,951.2	15,189.0	764.1	68.4	4.8
November	15,952.4	15,183.8	784.1	68.4	4.9
December	15,988.9	15,194.2	795.6	68.4	5.0
2021					
January	16,016.3	15,219.2	790.4	68.4	4.9
February	16,028.0	15,261.0	782.9	68.5	4.9
March	16,104.2	15,352.2	749.1	68.7	4.7
April	16,096.5	15,362.6	730.2	68.6	4.5
May	16,100.8	15,379.1	718.3	68.6	4.5
June	16,091.8	15,316.0	750.4	68.4	4.7
July	16,073.2	15,307.9	762.1	68.3	4.7
August	16,119.3	15,391.1	740.6	68.3	4.6
September	16,182.7	15,449.3	732.6	68.6	4.5
October	16,255.3	15,536.1	720.0	68.8	4.4
November	16,296.4	15,597.7	712.3	68.9	4.4
December	16,336.9	15,626.9	707.8	68.9	4.3

Table C1: Seasonally adjusted principal statistics of the labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - September 2025

Time Series	('000)			(%)	
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Labour Force Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate
2022					
January	16,350.3	15,651.6	688.3	68.9	4.2
February	16,392.6	15,720.2	675.4	69.1	4.1
March	16,437.2	15,768.1	667.8	69.2	4.1
April	16,507.1	15,866.5	640.6	69.5	3.9
May	16,553.2	15,921.7	631.6	69.6	3.8
June	16,620.9	16,034.8	603.9	69.8	3.6
July	16,611.0	15,996.5	601.8	69.7	3.6
August	16,647.2	16,058.0	604.7	69.7	3.6
September	16,640.1	16,030.1	607.5	69.7	3.7
October	16,656.8	16,033.7	618.8	69.6	3.7
November	16,686.4	16,063.3	620.1	69.7	3.7
December	16,719.8	16,097.7	622.2	69.7	3.7
2023					
January	16,739.7	16,129.0	603.3	69.7	3.6
February	16,770.6	16,176.4	594.3	69.8	3.5
March	16,804.5	16,221.9	586.8	69.9	3.5
April	16,829.1	16,250.4	582.9	69.9	3.5
May	16,871.2	16,293.3	578.5	70.0	3.4
June	16,933.1	16,381.7	560.3	70.2	3.3
July	16,942.3	16,368.7	565.8	70.2	3.3
August	16,960.9	16,394.1	573.9	70.2	3.4
September	16,948.3	16,364.6	578.0	70.1	3.4
October	16,954.3	16,369.2	583.4	70.0	3.4
November	16,977.1	16,392.1	581.9	70.1	3.4
December	17,001.7	16,424.9	580.1	70.1	3.4
2024^a					
January	16,785.8	16,216.3	561.1	70.5	3.3
February	16,820.1	16,262.3	556.2	70.5	3.3
March	16,848.6	16,293.2	555.7	70.5	3.3
April	16,909.6	16,356.7	556.6	70.6	3.3
May	16,945.7	16,393.5	552.6	70.6	3.3
June	16,988.7	16,464.4	542.6	70.7	3.2
July	17,012.8	16,466.4	547.7	70.6	3.2
August	17,051.3	16,508.6	549.4	70.7	3.2
September	17,073.3	16,513.3	552.1	70.6	3.2
October	17,089.5	16,527.5	552.7	70.5	3.2
November	17,113.6	16,563.7	547.1	70.5	3.2
December	17,155.9	16,612.5	541.7	70.5	3.2
2025					
January	17,228.5	16,690.2	534.0	70.6	3.1
February	17,285.9	16,765.8	532.5	70.7	3.1
March	17,342.6	16,804.2	528.2	70.8	3.0
April	17,351.6	16,821.3	526.3	70.7	3.0
May	17,387.9	16,865.6	523.1	70.7	3.0
June	17,434.5	16,932.4	516.1	70.8	3.0
July	17,470.7	16,956.5	520.0	70.9	3.0
August	17,498.6	16,990.2	518.6	70.9	3.0
September	17,530.6	17,014.2	519.3	70.9	3.0

Notes:

1. The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on population data of the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. ^a The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics for January 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table C2: Number of unemployed persons by category and duration of unemployment, January 2016 - September 2025

('000)

Time Series	Unemployed	Actively Unemployed	Less than 3 month	3- Less than 6 month	6- Less than 12 month	More than year	Inactively unemployed
2016							
January	501.5	361.9	180.3	110.0	36.0	35.6	139.7
February	506.4	254.0	115.8	83.7	34.9	19.6	252.4
March	509.5	332.8	176.8	92.9	44.8	18.3	176.7
April	511.5	328.0	170.6	93.3	43.9	20.2	183.4
May	504.8	297.3	153.6	92.5	37.6	13.6	207.6
June	501.8	298.2	146.8	83.6	51.7	16.2	203.5
July	516.2	306.0	131.1	90.9	54.6	29.4	210.2
August	515.2	305.6	149.0	81.4	44.7	30.5	209.6
September	512.6	292.6	148.1	77.9	45.6	21.0	220.0
October	511.7	299.7	143.1	74.7	48.4	33.5	212.0
November	510.7	286.5	125.6	86.8	47.5	26.6	224.2
December	512.2	374.4	192.2	93.2	59.4	29.6	137.9
2017							
January	514.1	328.4	147.1	108.1	47.3	25.9	185.7
February	514.8	338.1	151.8	118.6	46.7	21.0	176.7
March	510.8	315.2	168.2	80.8	43.0	23.2	195.6
April	511.9	359.5	151.9	107.5	66.2	33.9	152.4
May	507.5	372.1	171.9	128.8	38.9	32.5	135.3
June	507.7	319.1	151.1	89.8	49.2	29.0	188.5
July	519.0	345.6	144.6	115.0	47.6	38.4	173.3
August	516.9	351.5	160.7	115.7	45.0	30.1	165.4
September	514.5	322.0	142.4	105.8	45.1	28.7	192.5
October	508.8	356.1	182.1	110.6	35.7	27.7	152.8
November	505.1	338.1	143.3	105.5	51.1	38.2	167.0
December	505.8	327.5	127.6	109.1	46.6	44.2	178.3
2018							
January	516.5	356.6	133.2	125.9	58.2	39.3	160.0
February	508.5	349.8	155.3	106.6	41.4	46.4	158.7
March	508.7	349.8	161.7	108.5	42.0	37.7	158.9
April	510.0	373.6	167.7	140.9	44.7	20.2	136.4
May	504.8	319.4	134.2	112.0	38.5	34.7	185.4
June	515.8	324.5	136.2	108.5	52.4	27.4	191.2
July	518.6	360.7	189.7	86.1	47.9	37.0	157.9
August	525.0	308.7	149.1	84.4	46.1	29.0	216.3
September	516.4	361.6	174.1	103.0	37.5	47.1	154.8
October	512.9	331.1	165.2	85.5	49.2	31.3	181.8
November	516.2	347.8	168.9	87.2	52.6	39.2	168.3
December	514.2	329.7	149.3	92.6	34.3	53.5	184.4
2019							
January	515.6	400.8	184.7	107.3	73.3	35.4	114.9
February	516.4	362.6	147.1	99.5	72.7	43.3	153.7
March	521.3	345.4	175.6	74.7	37.8	57.3	175.9
April	523.3	365.5	150.1	116.9	67.6	31.0	157.8
May	519.8	343.2	110.9	132.4	65.7	34.1	176.6
June	521.4	425.3	220.8	124.1	53.0	27.4	96.0
July	524.8	362.5	162.7	105.8	53.9	40.1	162.3
August	520.2	411.7	180.2	128.9	50.0	52.6	108.5
September	521.4	410.1	213.0	125.7	52.1	19.3	111.2
October	512.1	340.3	168.2	104.8	42.4	24.9	171.9
November	513.9	339.5	141.1	92.7	46.2	59.5	174.4
December	517.0	389.5	182.0	119.3	53.9	34.3	127.5

Table C2: Number of unemployed persons by category and duration of unemployment, January 2016 - September 2025

('000)

Time Series	Unemployed	Actively Unemployed	Less than 3 month	3- Less than 6 month	6- Less than 12 month	More than year	Inactively unemployed
2020							
January	511.7	319.8	132.4	103.2	48.7	35.6	191.9
February	525.2	343.2	148.5	96.6	52.6	45.4	182.1
March	610.5	422.9	200.0	100.2	72.7	50.1	187.6
April	778.8	459.8	235.9	156.6	38.1	29.2	319.0
May	826.1	573.7	308.1	136.1	78.6	50.8	252.4
June	773.2	594.0	298.7	159.3	85.8	50.3	179.2
July	745.1	620.2	307.4	168.5	87.2	57.1	124.9
August	741.6	615.1	302.4	164.9	89.7	58.0	126.5
September	737.5	610.4	300.5	163.6	88.2	58.0	127.1
October	748.2	623.1	304.5	167.4	89.0	62.2	125.1
November	764.4	637.7	311.2	169.8	90.4	66.3	126.7
December	772.9	644.7	313.9	172.0	92.0	66.8	128.2
2021							
January	782.5	657.2	321.5	175.9	90.4	69.3	125.3
February	777.5	647.4	327.8	155.5	91.0	73.1	130.1
March	753.2	626.9	320.1	152.5	85.6	68.6	126.3
April	742.7	618.7	322.6	151.0	80.7	64.4	124.0
May	728.1	609.9	318.2	148.3	81.2	62.2	118.2
June	768.7	642.9	335.9	157.4	86.7	62.9	125.8
July	778.2	651.3	351.4	156.7	86.1	57.1	126.9
August	748.8	627.5	337.3	153.6	80.1	56.5	121.3
September	729.6	611.0	333.3	147.3	78.9	51.4	118.7
October	705.0	589.5	327.3	142.3	74.0	45.9	115.4
November	694.4	581.8	324.3	137.6	74.8	45.1	112.6
December	687.6	576.5	322.3	136.5	74.1	43.5	111.1
2022							
January	680.4	569.5	320.8	134.2	72.0	42.5	110.9
February	671.8	562.5	318.7	131.8	71.0	41.0	109.3
March	669.2	561.0	320.4	130.1	70.4	40.1	108.1
April	649.3	542.9	315.3	124.3	64.9	38.4	106.4
May	637.7	534.0	312.9	122.5	61.9	36.6	103.8
June	630.6	528.5	311.6	120.6	61.3	35.0	102.1
July	620.7	517.4	307.7	115.7	60.0	34.0	103.3
August	612.0	507.3	304.2	110.7	59.7	32.7	104.7
September	605.0	496.6	298.7	108.2	58.2	31.5	108.4
October	602.0	491.3	297.1	106.4	57.0	30.8	110.7
November	600.9	488.0	295.9	105.2	56.7	30.2	112.9
December	599.6	484.2	294.7	103.9	55.7	29.9	115.4
2023							
January	596.1	481.6	292.9	103.7	54.1	31.0	114.5
February	591.9	475.5	290.3	102.4	52.9	30.0	116.4
March	588.7	472.9	289.7	101.9	51.1	30.1	115.8
April	586.9	471.9	288.7	101.8	50.5	30.8	115.1
May	584.6	470.4	286.6	100.2	52.2	31.4	114.2
June	581.7	466.9	285.2	99.6	51.3	30.8	114.8
July	579.2	464.7	284.7	99.1	51.8	29.1	114.5
August	577.3	462.1	283.9	98.5	51.1	28.9	115.2
September	573.7	458.9	282.6	98.1	50.2	28.0	114.8
October	570.9	457.2	281.5	97.3	49.8	28.6	113.8
November	569.2	454.5	280.8	96.4	48.9	28.4	114.7
December	567.8	453.6	280.2	96.0	48.6	28.8	114.2

Table C2: Number of unemployed persons by category and duration of unemployment, January 2016 - September 2025

('000)

Time Series	Unemployed	Actively Unemployed	Less than 3 month	3- Less than 6 month	6- Less than 12 month	More than year	Inactively unemployed
2024^a							
January	559.9	445.0	276.5	91.1	49.2	28.2	114.9
February	556.9	442.9	276.2	90.7	48.7	27.2	114.1
March	556.6	442.6	275.9	91.0	48.6	27.1	114.0
April	556.5	442.7	275.8	90.6	48.3	28.0	113.8
May	554.1	440.5	275.7	90.0	47.8	27.0	113.6
June	553.7	440.2	275.5	89.8	47.7	27.2	113.5
July	553.2	439.9	274.8	89.6	48.3	27.1	113.3
August	551.4	437.9	273.5	89.3	48.0	27.2	113.5
September	548.8	434.6	272.2	88.8	46.9	26.7	114.2
October	545.7	432.3	271.5	87.8	46.0	26.9	113.4
November	541.8	428.0	270.1	86.8	45.5	25.6	113.9
December	538.5	425.7	269.9	86.2	45.2	24.5	112.8
2025							
January	533.8	423.6	269.5	85.7	44.5	23.8	110.2
February	532.8	422.7	269.2	85.7	44.3	23.5	110.1
March	529.6	420.7	268.8	85.4	43.4	23.1	108.9
April	525.9	418.6	268.6	84.9	42.9	22.2	107.2
May	522.4	416.4	268.0	84.4	42.6	21.4	106.0
June	518.7	414.4	267.3	84.2	42.2	20.8	104.3
July	521.6	416.2	267.7	84.9	42.4	21.1	105.5
August	520.0	414.9	267.5	84.7	41.9	20.8	105.1
September	518.6	413.6	267.1	84.4	41.7	20.4	104.9

Notes:

1. The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on population data of the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. ^a The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics for January 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table C3: Youth unemployment and unemployment rate by selected age group, January 2016 - September 2025

	('000)	(%)	('000)	(%)
Time Series	Unemployed youth (15 - 24 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 24 years)	Unemployed youth (15 - 30 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 30 years)
2016				
January	283.6	10.7	402.8	6.9
February	236.1	9.0	340.6	5.7
March	285.0	10.9	416.1	7.0
April	305.6	11.5	405.7	6.9
May	291.6	11.1	395.2	6.8
June	240.5	9.6	387.3	6.6
July	309.0	11.8	446.9	7.5
August	305.3	11.6	412.9	6.8
September	266.3	10.6	369.9	6.4
October	290.5	11.4	399.7	6.8
November	253.7	9.5	391.2	6.6
December	267.4	10.2	393.6	6.6
2017				
January	306.2	12.0	410.6	7.0
February	285.4	11.1	413.7	7.0
March	258.9	10.1	392.2	6.6
April	272.2	10.8	414.5	6.9
May	320.2	12.2	418.8	7.0
June	296.5	11.4	420.1	7.0
July	281.1	11.3	445.1	7.6
August	295.9	11.6	423.1	7.1
September	267.4	10.3	377.5	6.4
October	303.6	11.7	418.8	7.0
November	314.4	11.7	406.7	6.7
December	309.0	11.7	404.7	6.8
2018				
January	328.5	12.3	437.6	7.2
February	310.9	11.6	423.0	6.9
March	306.2	11.7	414.4	6.9
April	287.9	10.6	420.3	6.8
May	292.5	10.6	391.9	6.4
June	284.3	10.4	426.9	6.9
July	320.6	11.8	425.4	6.9
August	303.2	11.5	407.0	6.7
September	289.5	10.5	413.3	6.8
October	277.2	10.1	429.1	7.0
November	289.0	10.5	415.1	6.7
December	328.7	11.7	428.8	6.8
2019				
January	290.1	10.6	409.3	6.7
February	282.1	10.5	424.3	6.8
March	266.3	9.9	403.0	6.6
April	288.1	10.3	430.0	6.9
May	289.3	10.5	414.4	6.7
June	287.0	10.5	418.5	6.8
July	291.3	10.2	434.4	7.0
August	297.8	11.2	441.2	7.3
September	307.1	11.1	443.4	7.2
October	244.5	9.0	404.8	6.4
November	274.2	9.5	411.8	6.5
December	309.9	11.2	412.9	6.5

Table C3: Youth unemployment and unemployment rate by selected age group, January 2016 - September 2025

	('000)	(%)	('000)	(%)
Time Series	Unemployed youth (15 - 24 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 24 years)	Unemployed youth (15 - 30 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 30 years)
2020				
January	268.1	10.0	396.9	6.4
February	288.0	10.8	395.0	6.4
March	291.4	11.3	470.5	7.8
April	324.2	12.9	528.0	9.0
May	362.4	14.2	573.7	10.0
June	335.8	13.1	581.7	9.7
July	313.2	13.9	544.5	9.7
August	331.0	13.7	502.3	8.9
September	325.5	13.0	502.6	8.5
October	321.6	13.4	513.2	8.9
November	344.5	13.0	528.4	8.8
December	312.2	13.2	497.2	8.7
2021				
January	295.3	13.5	509.2	9.2
February	347.6	13.9	544.3	9.2
March	321.1	13.4	537.3	9.3
April	310.7	13.7	507.3	8.7
May	328.1	13.6	545.7	9.2
June	340.9	12.7	565.1	9.4
July	344.1	13.7	520.6	8.5
August	321.1	13.9	524.1	8.8
September	335.1	13.9	507.8	8.5
October	358.8	13.9	508.4	8.1
November	350.9	13.7	517.9	8.2
December	367.7	13.7	533.8	8.5
2022				
January	364.5	13.2	521.8	8.3
February	356.9	13.0	513.7	8.1
March	361.0	13.1	502.4	8.0
April	357.2	12.8	501.2	7.7
May	341.4	12.5	475.7	7.4
June	343.9	12.2	474.7	7.4
July	336.2	12.1	476.5	7.4
August	337.6	12.1	467.5	7.1
September	339.1	12.1	460.4	7.1
October	337.2	12.1	476.9	7.4
November	329.3	11.9	453.1	7.0
December	331.0	11.8	444.5	6.9
2023				
January	328.8	11.5	449.7	7.0
February	320.8	11.3	450.2	7.0
March	317.3	11.2	454.9	7.1
April	315.6	11.1	441.0	6.7
May	313.0	11.0	448.6	7.0
June	312.4	11.0	444.8	6.9
July	311.2	10.9	444.8	6.8
August	309.2	10.8	439.6	6.8
September	310.1	10.6	440.0	6.7
October	313.3	10.7	439.6	6.6
November	308.5	10.6	432.0	6.5
December	307.2	10.6	432.1	6.4

Table C3: Youth unemployment and unemployment rate by selected age group, January 2016 - September 2025

	('000)	(%)	('000)	(%)
Time Series	Unemployed youth (15 - 24 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 24 years)	Unemployed youth (15 - 30 years)	Youth unemployment rate (15 - 30 years)
2024^a				
January	299.1	10.7	422.2	6.9
February	295.7	10.6	420.1	6.9
March	296.9	10.6	420.3	6.9
April	293.6	10.5	416.6	6.8
May	295.6	10.5	412.0	6.7
June	293.5	10.4	409.0	6.7
July	294.6	10.4	404.3	6.6
August	294.8	10.4	404.7	6.6
September	295.6	10.4	407.6	6.4
October	300.6	10.5	402.8	6.3
November	300.0	10.4	401.8	6.3
December	301.4	10.4	400.7	6.3
2025				
January	299.3	10.3	402.4	6.3
February	298.9	10.3	401.6	6.3
March	299.7	10.3	399.4	6.3
April	298.3	10.3	400.6	6.2
May	297.7	10.2	399.0	6.2
June	297.5	10.2	396.8	6.2
July	298.9	10.2	399.0	6.2
August	298.0	10.2	398.7	6.2
September	296.9	10.1	398.1	6.2

Notes:

1. The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on population data of the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. ^a The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics for January 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table C4: Employed person by status in employment, January 2016 - September 2025

('000)

Time Series	Employer	Employees	Own account workers	Unpaid family worker
2016				
January	449.0	10,534.1	2,570.3	597.1
February	543.9	10,582.3	2,437.5	633.1
March	539.4	10,381.2	2,660.3	619.7
April	456.2	10,280.6	2,805.9	621.1
May	532.0	10,407.9	2,573.1	687.1
June	534.3	10,535.6	2,453.5	694.9
July	427.2	10,536.4	2,605.4	643.8
August	452.3	10,719.5	2,527.0	608.1
September	460.7	10,814.3	2,331.0	643.6
October	458.8	10,719.6	2,508.7	566.3
November	466.6	10,929.5	2,311.2	609.9
December	443.0	10,865.9	2,354.2	613.6
2017				
January	550.0	10,652.0	2,548.6	616.2
February	464.6	10,677.2	2,548.4	711.7
March	575.4	10,624.8	2,630.1	591.4
April	590.9	10,525.1	2,687.8	625.8
May	637.9	10,357.7	2,736.1	722.8
June	578.8	10,745.8	2,590.1	605.3
July	549.2	10,656.4	2,734.8	557.0
August	608.4	10,703.7	2,623.1	578.1
September	646.0	10,701.8	2,554.6	641.9
October	593.9	10,949.6	2,446.1	592.0
November	401.7	10,935.5	2,709.4	532.3
December	546.1	10,982.5	2,504.3	607.2
2018				
January	533.0	10,749.4	2,757.7	630.3
February	472.7	10,746.4	2,825.9	676.5
March	493.9	10,585.3	2,920.7	732.6
April	550.2	10,832.6	2,719.5	700.8
May	517.2	10,751.8	2,880.6	703.0
June	529.0	10,823.6	2,817.7	692.9
July	518.2	10,651.2	3,012.8	700.2
August	599.4	10,758.4	2,865.7	673.0
September	639.1	10,690.0	2,907.8	689.6
October	513.7	10,764.5	2,944.6	714.2
November	545.8	10,899.2	2,836.9	659.4
December	593.5	10,811.7	2,909.6	671.2
2019				
January	570.4	10,961.6	2,823.0	637.7
February	619.4	11,098.6	2,752.4	556.5
March	560.0	11,327.2	2,574.5	573.6
April	578.3	11,156.7	2,764.8	590.1
May	597.9	11,345.6	2,640.8	538.2
June	551.6	11,243.3	2,746.5	593.1
July	541.6	11,446.9	2,654.0	537.2
August	582.2	11,235.5	2,855.0	513.0
September	510.8	11,633.8	2,500.3	584.8
October	547.5	11,659.3	2,452.0	606.8
November	527.6	11,565.1	2,679.8	542.5
December	482.0	11,563.4	2,669.6	571.1

Table C4: Employed person by status in employment, January 2016 - September 2025

('000)

Time Series	Employer	Employees	Own account workers	Unpaid family worker
2020				
January	552.3	11,375.4	2,757.1	632.8
February	513.2	11,513.8	2,691.0	626.5
March	515.7	11,280.0	2,812.2	624.5
April	563.1	11,146.3	2,585.4	638.5
May	470.3	11,399.4	2,423.9	594.1
June	497.9	11,438.2	2,417.8	636.2
July	434.8	11,647.4	2,380.9	610.4
August	434.9	11,719.9	2,416.0	582.8
September	445.1	11,734.9	2,433.7	579.5
October	450.5	11,763.0	2,425.4	568.3
November	456.8	11,782.5	2,412.0	544.7
December	462.9	11,806.1	2,399.4	547.0
2021				
January	469.7	11,846.9	2,394.6	526.1
February	481.0	11,870.8	2,429.9	488.9
March	491.8	11,898.9	2,478.2	460.4
April	493.0	11,914.8	2,490.5	453.8
May	495.7	11,930.8	2,492.9	451.4
June	486.3	11,874.1	2,497.0	440.0
July	485.1	11,869.7	2,503.8	436.2
August	491.4	11,897.6	2,537.7	449.9
September	499.7	11,925.9	2,572.6	465.4
October	506.0	11,971.2	2,607.9	469.5
November	509.8	11,998.3	2,628.0	474.2
December	512.9	12,015.9	2,640.2	479.7
2022				
January	517.2	12,028.9	2,656.2	483.8
February	521.4	12,046.2	2,674.8	488.6
March	525.7	12,060.2	2,691.7	491.8
April	536.0	12,092.5	2,723.6	501.4
May	539.6	12,112.6	2,744.0	503.9
June	542.5	12,125.6	2,766.2	502.0
July	545.1	12,144.9	2,787.5	500.9
August	546.9	12,167.0	2,804.7	499.1
September	548.0	12,182.7	2,823.2	498.2
October	552.4	12,200.4	2,833.6	495.2
November	554.5	12,214.6	2,848.1	491.3
December	556.2	12,225.5	2,860.9	487.8
2023				
January	558.1	12,237.3	2,877.8	486.1
February	560.3	12,249.9	2,892.5	486.6
March	561.8	12,264.7	2,909.1	487.4
April	565.0	12,276.4	2,921.0	489.0
May	566.6	12,288.0	2,935.0	490.0
June	569.4	12,299.2	2,948.5	490.7
July	570.9	12,313.6	2,958.9	491.6
August	571.9	12,324.5	2,966.8	491.7
September	573.7	12,334.7	2,974.2	492.4
October	574.7	12,349.7	2,985.0	493.8
November	576.6	12,365.9	2,994.4	494.3
December	582.1	12,378.2	3,003.9	493.5

Table C4: Employed person by status in employment, January 2016 - September 2025

('000)

Time Series	Employer	Employees	Own account workers	Unpaid family worker
2024^a				
January	535.5	12,231.9	3,010.0	452.0
February	540.6	12,249.4	3,024.8	450.9
March	543.9	12,266.2	3,036.0	450.5
April	548.7	12,300.3	3,065.3	450.2
May	552.2	12,315.0	3,076.3	450.1
June	554.1	12,328.6	3,086.4	449.3
July	556.4	12,341.3	3,097.8	448.8
August	550.0	12,410.4	3,069.1	453.2
September	547.5	12,435.8	3,071.6	461.4
October	543.0	12,481.5	3,054.9	470.4
November	544.3	12,501.5	3,069.7	470.1
December	545.8	12,528.1	3,086.6	469.4
2025				
January	547.0	12,560.1	3,108.2	469.1
February	550.8	12,587.3	3,127.8	468.2
March	553.1	12,612.4	3,146.2	466.9
April	554.4	12,634.5	3,163.8	465.9
May	559.7	12,659.1	3,178.1	465.6
June	564.4	12,688.5	3,197.5	464.9
July	568.0	12,706.8	3,209.2	464.8
August	572.2	12,727.0	3,224.7	464.1
September	579.5	12,744.9	3,237.3	464.7

Notes:

1. The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics until year 2023 are estimated based on population data of the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. ^a The monthly Labour Force Survey statistics for January 2024 onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table D: Employed person by occupation, Malaysia, 1982 - 2024

('000)

Year	Total	Occupation								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Dictionary of Occupational Classification, 1980 ¹								
1982	5,249.0	375.7	111.5	493.4	510.5	573.2	1,655.3	1,529.4	n.a	n.a
1983	5,457.0	381.3	132.3	520.6	522.7	593.7	1,678.5	1,628.0	n.a	n.a
1984	5,566.7	409.8	115.4	541.3	600.0	638.1	1,694.1	1,567.7	n.a	n.a
1985	5,653.4	426.6	129.2	551.5	625.9	643.0	1,720.0	1,556.9	n.a	n.a
1986	5,760.1	449.0	140.4	544.9	638.5	686.6	1,757.2	1,543.6	n.a	n.a
1987	5,983.9	452.0	117.7	566.1	711.9	704.3	1,845.8	1,586.1	n.a	n.a
1988	6,157.2	454.1	127.9	574.4	728.1	728.3	1,892.5	1,651.7	n.a	n.a
1989	6,390.9	477.0	131.3	605.5	726.0	727.0	1,848.9	1,875.0	n.a	n.a
1990	6,685.0	519.8	144.8	655.6	758.7	762.6	1,750.7	2,092.8	n.a	n.a
1992	7,047.8	586.4	187.8	732.3	763.5	790.1	1,549.7	2,437.9	n.a	n.a
1993	7,383.4	639.5	219.9	789.2	771.8	879.0	1,576.0	2,508.0	n.a	n.a
1995	7,645.0	756.6	247.7	832.0	834.9	845.8	1,539.5	2,588.4	n.a	n.a
1996	8,399.3	838.0	298.2	905.8	935.7	943.1	1,644.8	2,833.6	n.a	n.a
1997	8,569.2	896.6	329.5	963.2	918.5	985.1	1,516.4	2,960.0	n.a	n.a
1998	8,599.6	913.1	346.2	946.9	937.5	1,007.9	1,632.6	2,815.4	n.a	n.a
1999	8,837.8	937.0	348.3	985.6	991.7	1,052.8	1,633.1	2,889.2	n.a	n.a
2000	9,269.2	1,020.4	391.9	1,012.5	1,044.8	1,189.3	1,569.3	3,040.9	n.a	n.a
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 1998 ²										
2001	9,357.0	695.0	457.2	1,126.1	890.6	1,291.1	1,265.3	1,160.2	1,476.6	994.9
2002	9,542.6	786.3	483.5	1,194.6	890.3	1,307.7	1,260.8	1,168.1	1,373.0	1,078.2
2003	9,869.7	793.5	530.3	1,219.9	937.8	1,399.4	1,249.8	1,235.6	1,420.7	1,082.6
2004	9,979.5	859.3	561.3	1,211.6	931.2	1,479.7	1,292.8	1,165.2	1,409.9	1,068.5
2005	10,045.4	777.4	555.1	1,266.8	992.3	1,483.7	1,268.6	1,145.5	1,427.5	1,128.3
2006	10,275.4	829.6	565.9	1,307.5	968.3	1,597.1	1,335.9	1,154.8	1,408.0	1,108.4
2007	10,538.1	770.4	596.8	1,400.5	1,029.5	1,705.6	1,355.3	1,133.2	1,347.4	1,199.3
2008	10,659.6	748.8	613.7	1,496.4	1,053.4	1,776.1	1,271.3	1,153.8	1,344.1	1,202.0
2009	10,897.3	822.9	684.6	1,560.0	1,086.6	1,869.1	1,255.7	1,132.9	1,242.7	1,242.8
2010	11,899.5	856.7	737.4	1,695.8	1,183.2	1,959.6	1,382.0	1,228.3	1,502.8	1,353.7
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2008 ³										
2011	12,351.5	692.4	1,221.0	1,306.3	1,180.3	2,503.2	1,011.8	1,345.8	1,570.2	1,520.4
2012	12,820.5	684.4	1,244.0	1,283.4	1,168.8	2,640.7	1,184.1	1,428.5	1,576.8	1,609.8
2013	13,545.4	695.5	1,284.7	1,292.6	1,190.7	2,911.0	1,180.2	1,492.1	1,694.4	1,804.0
2014	13,852.6	664.4	1,376.5	1,367.2	1,237.8	3,169.3	1,002.4	1,555.1	1,659.1	1,820.8
2015	14,067.7	718.6	1,462.0	1,406.9	1,241.1	3,188.9	940.3	1,578.8	1,585.2	1,945.9
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2013 ⁴										
2016	14,163.7	658.5	1,755.2	1,453.5	1,163.8	3,176.3	872.0	1,570.3	1,669.8	1,844.2
2017	14,476.8	690.3	1,771.6	1,522.9	1,236.5	3,212.6	898.9	1,517.1	1,766.5	1,860.4
2018	14,776.0	660.5	1,824.4	1,536.7	1,247.7	3,422.8	921.9	1,545.5	1,787.9	1,828.7
2019	15,073.4	694.5	1,883.5	1,573.9	1,272.1	3,411.6	932.8	1,577.1	1,865.4	1,862.5
2020	14,719.4	826.1	1,944.4	1,591.3	1,258.3	3,472.2	874.3	1,417.2	1,667.7	1,667.9
2021	14,825.2	704.4	2,048.6	1,867.8	1,517.1	3,438.4	673.1	1,258.6	1,537.1	1,780.3
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2020 ⁵										
2022	15,155.2	725.2	2,045.6	1,855.6	1,512.1	3,619.8	691.0	1,379.6	1,575.0	1,751.4
2023	15,813.4	762.5	2,141.5	1,906.8	1,562.9	3,744.0	703.1	1,402.3	1,634.1	1,956.2
2024	16,369.4	808.9	2,175.3	1,959.6	1,605.9	3,790.7	678.4	1,446.7	1,734.8	2,169.1

Notes:

1. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2019 and preceding years are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
 2. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2020 and onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

3. ¹For 1982- 2000, category of occupation are classified according to the "Dictionary of Occupational Classification, 1980" as follows:

- 1: Professional, technical and related workers
 2: Administrative and managerial workers
 3: Clerical and related workers
 4: Sales workers
 5: Service workers
 6: Agricultural, animal husbandry and forestry workers, fishermen and hunters
 7: Production and related workers, transport equipment operators and labourers

4. ²For 2001 - 2010, category of occupation are classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 1998" as follows:

- 1: Legislators, senior officials and managers
 2: Professionals
 3: Technicians and associate professionals
 4: Clerical workers
 5: Service workers and shop and market sales workers
 6: Skilled agricultural and fishery workers
 7: Craft and related trade workers
 8: Plant and machine-operators and assemblers
 9: Elementary occupations

5. ³For 2011 - 2015, category of occupation are classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2008" as follows:

- 1: Managers
 2: Professionals
 3: Technicians and associate professionals
 4: Clerical support workers
 5: Service workers and shop and market sales workers
 6: Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers
 7: Craft and related trades workers
 8: Plant and machine-operators and assemblers
 9: Elementary occupations

6. ⁴For 2016 - 2021, category of occupation are classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2013" as follows:

- 1: Managers
 2: Professionals
 3: Technicians and associate professionals
 4: Clerical support workers
 5: Service and sales workers
 6: Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock and fishery workers
 7: Craft and related trades workers
 8: Plant and machine-operators and assemblers
 9: Elementary occupations

7. ⁵For 2022 onwards, categories of occupation are classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2020"

Table E: Employed person by industry, Malaysia, 1982 - 2024

('000)

Year	Total	Industry									
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
		Malaysia Industrial Classification, (Updated) 1972 ¹									
1982	5,249.0	1,635.8	51.7	816.0	34.9	377.5	860.9	223.1	202.1	1,046.9	n.a
1983	5,457.0	1,670.9	55.1	894.1	39.3	425.6	897.3	235.9	197.7	1,041.0	n.a
1984	5,566.7	1,695.0	46.5	858.4	32.9	428.0	956.6	242.8	200.5	1,106.0	n.a
1985	5,653.4	1,717.4	44.4	850.4	31.5	419.4	994.3	244.3	218.9	1,132.7	n.a
1986	5,760.1	1,764.5	40.6	874.0	32.4	369.4	1,035.1	242.0	234.6	1,167.6	n.a
1987	5,983.9	1,846.4	33.0	928.9	35.9	336.3	1,091.7	252.0	241.6	1,218.0	n.a
1988	6,157.2	1,883.8	30.7	978.1	41.3	339.9	1,112.6	265.1	229.4	1,276.1	n.a
1989	6,390.9	1,832.5	33.1	1,171.1	40.6	376.9	1,143.9	277.6	253.2	1,262.0	n.a
1990	6,685.0	1,737.6	36.8	1,332.8	46.7	423.9	1,217.8	301.9	258.4	1,329.0	n.a
1992	7,047.8	1,535.8	36.3	1,639.6	45.9	506.7	1,254.5	326.2	299.8	1,403.1	n.a
1993	7,383.4	1,558.6	37.6	1,726.9	60.3	538.8	1,266.2	344.0	330.1	1,520.9	n.a
1995	7,645.0	1,526.8	32.5	1,780.5	48.0	611.3	1,370.7	359.2	363.7	1,552.2	n.a
1996	8,399.3	1,626.2	35.0	1,912.1	44.1	716.5	1,566.7	400.7	412.0	1,686.0	n.a
1997	8,569.2	1,481.3	38.5	2,002.5	50.9	793.0	1,577.9	423.3	447.2	1,754.5	n.a
1998	8,599.6	1,616.5	28.4	1,907.8	50.0	745.9	1,616.0	421.7	425.8	1,787.5	n.a
1999	8,837.8	1,623.7	37.8	1,990.7	50.2	722.8	1,660.6	420.3	466.2	1,865.4	n.a
2000	9,269.2	1,552.4	27.7	2,174.2	49.3	759.9	1,787.2	433.9	474.3	2,010.3	n.a
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2000 ²											
2001	9,357.0	1,288.2	127.7	26.7	2,184.1	57.3	829.8	1,458.1	585.1	468.3	225.3
2002	9,542.6	1,316.8	107.7	27.5	2,068.9	50.6	905.1	1,497.0	616.1	496.8	240.5
2003	9,869.7	1,301.2	107.0	29.5	2,131.0	57.6	942.5	1,592.2	644.2	481.6	223.4
2004	9,979.5	1,326.5	126.1	34.7	2,023.0	57.9	890.8	1,607.2	698.2	532.9	236.1
2005	10,045.4	1,355.2	115.2	36.1	1,989.3	56.6	904.4	1,620.3	671.8	544.7	247.4
2006	10,275.4	1,375.3	128.2	42.0	2,082.8	75.4	908.9	1,650.5	721.3	539.7	242.3
2007	10,538.1	1,437.3	120.9	39.4	1,977.3	60.8	922.5	1,712.1	760.7	538.2	282.2
2008	10,659.6	1,365.6	122.1	54.5	1,944.7	60.5	998.0	1,729.4	783.6	583.4	276.0
2009	10,897.3	1,349.6	121.5	62.7	1,807.1	58.1	1,015.9	1,831.8	800.5	592.0	271.5
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008 ³											
2010	11,899.5	1,614.9	57.2	2,108.5	55.5	66.7	1,082.7	1,887.8	554.7	856.7	178.9
2011	12,351.5 ⁴	1,421.7	73.5	2,244.0	51.0	71.9	1,151.5	2,005.4	604.0	951.1	206.5
2012	12,820.5 ⁴	1,628.2	80.8	2,263.7	61.9	81.0	1,174.7	2,125.6	624.3	965.1	208.8
2013	13,545.4 ⁴	1,758.9	87.9	2,315.8	61.5	83.7	1,292.1	2,261.4	626.5	1,041.5	194.1
2014	13,852.6 ⁴	1,694.2	84.7	2,372.5	65.6	81.2	1,277.7	2,324.4	598.2	1,149.3	213.2
2015	14,067.7 ⁴	1,753.9	104.4	2,322.7	61.7	72.1	1,309.9	2,361.4	615.0	1,150.8	214.2
2016	14,163.7 ⁴	1,609.9	96.3	2,390.6	77.9	76.4	1,251.7	2,428.5	630.4	1,260.7	208.7
2017	14,476.8 ⁴	1,635.0	97.2	2,513.3	62.2	81.0	1,258.9	2,485.4	658.2	1,323.2	220.3
2018	14,776.0 ⁴	1,570.3	90.8	2,499.9	68.8	88.6	1,257.8	2,544.6	697.9	1,473.4	216.4
2019	15,073.4 ⁴	1,541.1	91.0	2,612.0	75.4	88.8	1,246.7	2,604.6	677.8	1,549.7	223.9
2020	14,719.4	1,454.6	82.1	2,469.7	75.2	82.2	1,180.6	2,662.5	692.1	1,473.9	237.6
2021	14,825.2 ⁴	1,408.8	82.8	2,476.4	77.1	86.3	1,165.8	2,732.7	693.6	1,447.2	241.7
2022	15,155.2 ⁴	1,408.1	84.1	2,507.3	78.8	85.0	1,245.4	2,840.6	707.2	1,482.7	252.7
2023	15,813.4 ⁴	1,437.4	88.8	2,597.8	81.5	85.5	1,284.5	2,991.5	735.3	1,592.8	268.1
2024	16,369.4 ⁴	1,478.5	88.7	2,664.6	76.8	93.0	1,393.4	3,063.3	751.4	1,617.1	286.3

Notes:

1. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2019 and preceding years are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010

2. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2020 and onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

3. ¹For 1982 - 2000, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Industrial Classification, (Updated) 1972" as follows:

A: Agriculture, forestry, livestock and fishing
 B: Mining and quarrying
 C: Manufacturing
 D: Electricity, gas and water
 E: Construction
 F: Wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels
 G: Transport, storage and communications
 H: Finance, insurance, real estate and business services
 I: Community, social and personal services

4. ²For 2001 - 2009, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2000" as follows:

A: Agriculture, hunting and forestry
 B: Fishing
 C: Mining and quarrying
 D: Manufacturing
 E: Electricity, gas and water supply
 F: Construction
 G: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods
 H: Hotels and restaurants
 I: Transport, storage and communications
 J: Financial intermediation
 K: Real estate, renting and business activities
 L: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
 M: Education
 N: Health and social work
 O: Other community, social and personal service activities
 P: Private households with employed persons

5. ³For 2010 - 2022, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008" as follows:

A: Agriculture, forestry and fishing
 B: Mining and quarrying
 C: Manufacturing
 D: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
 E: Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
 F: Construction
 G: Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
 H: Transportation and storage
 I: Accommodation and food service activities
 J: Information and communication
 K: Financial and insurance/takaful activities
 L: Real estate activities
 M: Professional, scientific and technical activities
 N: Administrative and support service activities
 O: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
 P: Education
 Q: Human health and social work activities
 R: Arts, entertainment and recreation
 S: Other service activities
 T: Activities of households as employers

6. ⁴For year 2011-2019 & 2021-2024, total includes 'Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies'

Table E: Employed person by industry, Malaysia, 1982 - 2024 (cont'd)

('000)

Year	Total	Industry									
		K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
		Malaysia Industrial Classification, (Updated) 1972 ¹									
1982	5,249.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1983	5,457.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1984	5,566.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1985	5,653.4	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1986	5,760.1	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1987	5,983.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1988	6,157.2	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1989	6,390.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1990	6,685.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1992	7,047.8	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1993	7,383.4	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1995	7,645.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1996	8,399.3	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1997	8,569.2	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1998	8,599.6	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1999	8,837.8	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2000	9,269.2	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2000 ²											
2001	9,357.0	348.6	664.6	508.6	173.3	190.4	219.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2002	9,542.6	397.1	663.6	508.6	189.3	192.5	262.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2003	9,869.7	404.2	666.5	594.3	217.3	216.1	258.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2004	9,979.5	458.5	684.3	610.7	198.2	231.3	260.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2005	10,045.4	459.0	728.5	607.1	212.6	234.9	260.6	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2006	10,275.4	508.4	674.1	600.1	223.2	247.1	254.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2007	10,538.1	558.1	716.1	632.7	238.9	266.5	272.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2008	10,659.6	553.2	751.1	656.5	252.6	274.2	253.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2009	10,897.3	601.9	813.9	731.4	271.7	303.3	262.5	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008 ³											
2010	11,899.5	323.4	58.5	285.6	359.2	787.7	779.3	280.0	91.6	182.9	285.4
2011	12,351.5 ⁴	319.3	61.2	328.4	448.0	750.2	782.3	384.1	87.5	181.8	225.8
2012	12,820.5 ⁴	322.1	68.9	307.3	532.2	696.4	784.9	414.3	84.8	190.5	202.7
2013	13,545.4 ⁴	318.9	72.7	306.8	566.9	761.4	816.6	490.0	79.4	192.4	214.8
2014	13,852.6 ⁴	329.1	79.7	328.8	654.3	741.7	871.4	532.9	94.1	199.1	159.1
2015	14,067.7 ⁴	354.4	71.2	359.3	634.8	751.0	899.0	573.1	81.7	233.1	142.3
2016	14,163.7 ⁴	346.9	82.4	361.8	657.0	748.2	928.7	570.3	80.9	230.8	124.7
2017	14,476.8 ⁴	369.0	84.5	348.1	677.2	742.2	880.3	588.0	84.3	260.1	106.9
2018	14,776.0 ⁴	338.6	97.2	367.7	747.6	720.2	988.7	551.2	85.6	264.8	103.9
2019	15,073.4 ⁴	355.1	90.3	394.7	809.2	737.1	992.1	527.7	84.0	266.1	104.3
2020	14,719.4	389.3	87.1	397.1	784.6	773.2	958.9	562.1	56.3	250.9	49.3
2021	14,825.2 ⁴	428.3	90.6	379.0	803.3	782.9	963.0	601.1	67.9	255.8	40.6
2022	15,155.2 ⁴	410.4	90.5	380.0	834.3	783.6	944.5	596.1	70.9	258.2	94.5
2023	15,813.4 ⁴	434.2	92.8	390.3	886.3	797.1	989.5	626.4	72.5	261.6	96.5
2024	16,369.4 ⁴	444.6	101.5	396.6	888.0	854.4	1,042.5	683.5	73.5	264.5	103.6

Notes:

1. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2019 and preceding years are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010

2. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2020 and onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

3. ¹For 1982 - 2000, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Industrial Classification, (Updated) 1972" as follows:

- A: Agriculture, forestry, livestock and fishing
 B: Mining and quarrying
 C: Manufacturing
 D: Electricity, gas and water
 E: Construction
 F: Wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels
 G: Transport, storage and communications
 H: Finance, insurance, real estate and business services
 I: Community, social and personal services

4. ²For 2001 - 2009, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2000" as follows:

- A: Agriculture, hunting and forestry
 B: Fishing
 C: Mining and quarrying
 D: Manufacturing
 E: Electricity, gas and water supply
 F: Construction
 G: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods
 H: Hotels and restaurants
 I: Transport, storage and communications
 J: Financial intermediation
 K: Real estate, renting and business activities
 L: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
 M: Education
 N: Health and social work
 O: Other community, social and personal service activities
 P: Private households with employed persons

5. ³For 2010 - 2022, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008" as follows:

- A: Agriculture, forestry and fishing
 B: Mining and quarrying
 C: Manufacturing
 D: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
 E: Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
 F: Construction
 G: Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
 H: Transportation and storage
 I: Accommodation and food service activities
 J: Information and communication
 K: Financial and insurance/takaful activities
 L: Real estate activities
 M: Professional, scientific and technical activities
 N: Administrative and support service activities
 O: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
 P: Education
 Q: Human health and social work activities
 R: Arts, entertainment and recreation
 S: Others service activities
 T: Activities of households as employers

6. ⁴For year 2011-2019 & 2021-2024, total includes 'Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies'

Table F: Employed person by status of employment, Malaysia, 1982 - 2024

('000)

Time Series	Total	Status of Employment			
		Employer	Employee	Own Account Worker	Unpaid Family Worker
1982	5,249.0	158.1	3,320.7	1,159.8	610.4
1983	5,457.0	175.4	3,447.2	1,242.6	591.7
1984	5,566.7	141.4	3,673.4	1,130.1	621.8
1985	5,653.4	167.8	3,636.1	1,189.8	659.5
1986	5,760.1	180.4	3,560.7	1,308.2	710.6
1987	5,983.9	167.9	3,747.9	1,280.1	788.1
1988	6,157.2	204.7	3,799.1	1,377.1	776.3
1989	6,390.9	154.2	4,164.7	1,324.3	747.4
1990	6,685.0	194.6	4,412.4	1,383.9	694.0
1992	7,047.8	158.5	5,047.7	1,277.3	564.2
1993	7,383.4	209.5	5,272.8	1,350.7	550.1
1995	7,645.0	188.1	5,553.3	1,396.4	506.9
1996	8,399.3	251.1	6,071.4	1,514.2	562.6
1997	8,569.2	222.7	6,380.7	1,449.6	516.1
1998	8,599.6	252.7	6,307.9	1,521.6	517.4
1999	8,837.8	202.2	6,602.5	1,489.1	543.9
2000	9,269.2	275.8	6,882.6	1,586.0	524.8
2001	9,357.0	306.8	7,056.2	1,514.9	478.5
2002	9,542.6	288.6	7,320.2	1,479.8	453.9
2003	9,869.7	333.0	7,523.8	1,536.3	476.3
2004	9,979.5	354.7	7,445.0	1,678.1	501.7
2005	10,045.4	337.0	7,583.4	1,671.7	453.2
2006	10,275.4	396.9	7,632.9	1,733.4	512.2
2007	10,538.1	362.5	7,824.0	1,831.5	520.1
2008	10,659.6	371.4	7,951.1	1,851.1	486.0
2009	10,897.3	399.4	8,153.6	1,862.7	481.7
2010	11,899.5	439.3	9,010.2	1,954.7	495.4
2011	12,351.5	446.1	9,483.7	1,907.4	514.3
2012	12,820.5	476.2	9,620.0	2,117.3	607.0
2013	13,545.4	523.9	10,073.5	2,316.8	631.3
2014	13,852.6	511.5	10,447.6	2,267.2	626.3
2015	14,067.7	568.6	10,395.5	2,476.2	627.4
2016	14,163.7	486.4	10,534.2	2,522.3	620.9
2017	14,476.8	553.5	10,710.1	2,606.7	606.4
2018	14,776.0	547.2	10,700.4	2,859.2	669.1
2019	15,073.4	552.9	11,218.3	2,724.2	578.1
2020	14,719.4	499.8	11,443.3	2,309.9	466.3
2021	14,825.2	504.5	11,696.2	2,158.1	466.4
2022	15,155.2	535.5	11,904.7	2,257.4	457.6
2023	15,813.4	578.2	12,419.7	2,375.2	440.3
2024	16,369.4	609.8	12,857.5	2,516.4	385.6

Notes:

1. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2019 and preceding years are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2010
2. The Labour Force Survey statistics for 2020 and onwards are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Table G: Labour force indicators for selected countries, September 2024 - September 2025

Indicators	2024				2025									Data Source
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	
Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) (%)														
South East Asia														
Malaysia	70.6	70.6	70.5	70.6	70.6	70.7	70.7	70.8	70.8	70.8	70.8	70.9	70.9	DOSM
Philippines	65.7	63.3	64.6	65.1	63.9	64.5	62.9	63.7	64.8	65.7	60.7	65.1	64.5	Philippine Statistics Authority
East Asia														
Hong Kong	57.1	57.0	56.9	56.9	56.9	56.9	56.9	56.8	56.7	56.7	57.0	57.2	57.1	Census and Statistics Department
Taiwan	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.3	59.4	59.5	59.6	59.5	National Statistics Republic of China
South Korea	64.4	64.4	64.4	64.7	64.7	64.8	64.8	64.8	64.7	64.5	64.4	64.4	64.8	Statistics Korea
Japan	63.5	63.5	63.5	63.4	63.2	63.2	63.3	63.7	64.0	64.2	63.9	64.0	64.2	Statistics Bureau of Japan
Oceania														
Australia	67.1	67.0	66.9	67.1	67.2	66.8	66.7	67.0	67.0	67.0	67.0	66.9	67.0	ABS
North America														
USA	62.7	62.5	62.5	62.5	62.6	62.4	62.5	62.6	62.4	62.3	62.2	62.3	n.a	BLS
Canada	65.2	65.2	65.4	65.4	65.5	65.3	65.2	65.3	65.3	65.4	65.2	65.1	65.2	Statistics Canada
Europe														
United Kingdom	78.4	78.3	78.4	78.5	78.5	78.6	78.6	78.7	79.0	79.0	78.9	79.0	n.a	ONS
Sweden	74.8	75.3	75.3	75.3	75.4	75.4	75.5	75.5	75.5	75.6	75.6	75.5	75.5	Statistics Sweden
Finland	67.4	67.7	67.2	66.8	67.8	67.0	68.0	69.1	70.4	71.2	69.8	68.7	68.3	Statistics Finland
Russia	63.1	63.1	63.4	63.2	62.2	62.4	62.6	62.7	62.9	63.0	63.3	63.2	n.a	Trading economics
Italy	66.6	66.4	66.5	66.8	67.0	66.8	66.9	66.7	67.1	66.9	66.8	66.7	66.9	National Institute of Statistics
Netherland	75.8	75.6	75.8	75.9	76.0	76.0	76.0	76.1	76.1	76.1	76.2	76.3	76.4	Statistics Netherlands
Unemployment rate (%)														
South East Asia														
Malaysia	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	DOSM
Philippines	3.7	3.9	3.2	3.1	4.3	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.1	3.7	5.3	3.9	3.8	Philippine Statistics Authority
East Asia														
Hong Kong	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.9	Census and Statistics Department
Taiwan	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.4	National Statistics Republic of China
South Korea	2.5	2.7	2.7	3.7	2.9	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.5	Statistics Korea
Japan	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.6	2.6	Statistics Bureau of Japan
Oceania														
Australia	4.0	4.1	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.5	ABS
North America														
USA	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.3	n.a	BLS
Canada	6.6	6.6	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.1	7.1	Statistics Canada
Europe														
United Kingdom	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.9	n.a	ONS
Sweden	8.2	8.6	8.7	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	Statistics Sweden
Finland	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	9.5	9.4	10.1	10.0	10.5	9.9	9.3	9.3	9.1	Statistics Finland
Russia	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.2	Trading economics
Italy	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.4	6.4	6.1	6.3	6.1	6.5	6.3	6.0	6.0	6.1	National Institute of Statistics
Netherland	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.0	Statistics Netherlands

Note:

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