



MALAYSIA LABOUR FORCE, DECEMBER 2025

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

UNEMPLOYMENT

December 2025



Unemployment rate
2.9%

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

DECEMBER 2024 NOVEMBER 2025
538.5 518.4
thousand thousand

DECEMBER 2024 NOVEMBER 2025
3.1% 2.9%

Unemployment by category

Actively unemployed	20.3%
Inactively unemployed	79.7%
DECEMBER 2025 : 412.4 thousand	
NOVEMBER 2025 : 413.5 thousand	▼ -3.1%
DECEMBER 2024 : 425.7 thousand	▼ -0.3%
DECEMBER 2025 : 105.2 thousand	
NOVEMBER 2025 : 104.9 thousand	▼ -6.7%
DECEMBER 2024 : 112.8 thousand	▲ 0.3%

EMPLOYED PERSONS

December 2025



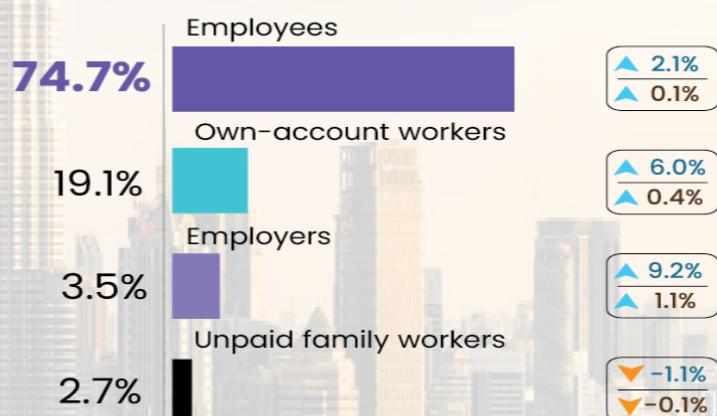
Employment-to-population ratio

68.9%

DECEMBER 2024 NOVEMBER 2025
16.63 17.09
million million

DECEMBER 2024 NOVEMBER 2025
68.4% 68.8%

Employed persons by status in employment



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

LABOUR FORCE

Labour Force
17.65
million

DECEMBER 2025

DECEMBER 2024 NOVEMBER 2025
17.17 17.61
million million

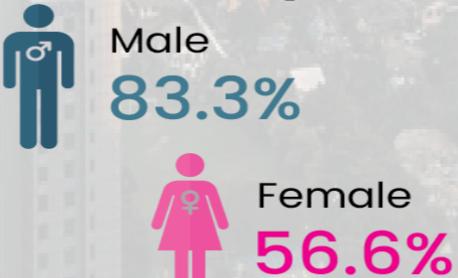


Labour Force Participation Rate

70.9%

DECEMBER 2024 NOVEMBER 2025
70.6% 70.9%

LFPR by sex



70.9%

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

OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE

NOVEMBER 2025

7.22 million

7.16 million

DECEMBER 2024

DECEMBER 2025

7.23 million

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



Housework/ family responsibilities

43.7%



Schooling/ training

40.9%

Notes :

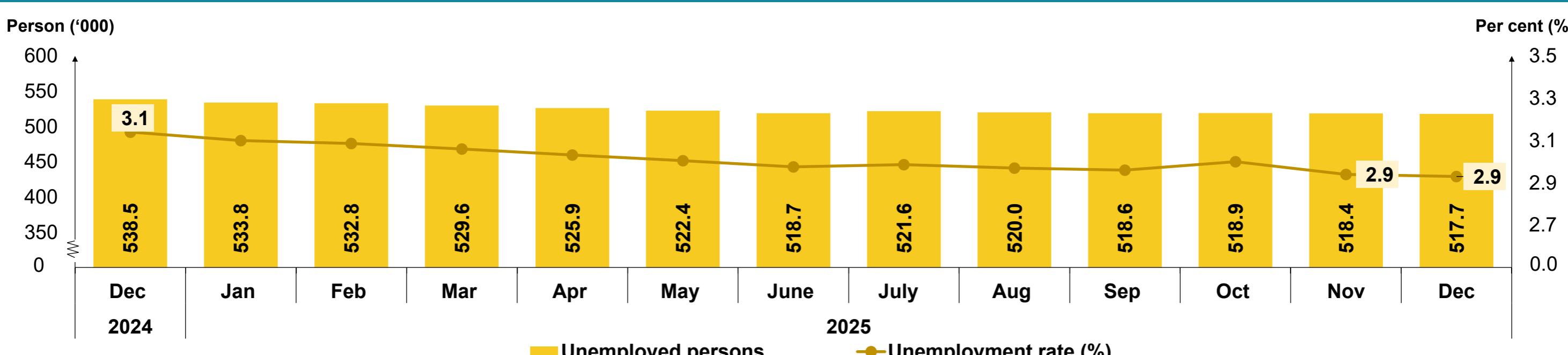
▲ Percentage change (year-on-year)

● Percentage change (month-on-month)

↔ Unchanged

PP Percentage point

Unemployed persons and unemployment rate, December 2024 - December 2025



[@StatsMalaysia](#)

BII26
BANCI EKONOMI 2026
DATA PEMANGKIN EKONOMI NEGARA

MALAYSIA MADANI
kesyajhteraan

ODIN
OPEN DATA INVENTORY
MALAYSIA
NUMBER ONE
IN THE WORLD

20 October
2024

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
MALAYSIA
2016 - 2030

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

- The **labour force** was on an uptrend, increasing by **0.2 per cent** to **17.65 million persons** in December 2025 (November 2025: 17.61 million persons). On the same note, December's **labour force participation rate** was unchanged at **70.9 per cent** as in the previous month.
- The number of **unemployed persons** during the month edged down by **0.1 per cent** to **517.7 thousand persons** (November 2025: 518.4 thousand persons).
- The **unemployment rate** in December remained at **2.9 per cent**, the same as in the last month.
- The total number of **employed persons** continued to increase in December 2025, with a rise of **0.2 per cent** to **17.13 million persons** from 17.09 million persons in November 2025.
- The number of employed persons in the **Services** sector continued to record steady growth, particularly in **Wholesale & retail trade**, followed by **Accommodation and food & beverage services activities**, as well as **Information & communication activities**. The number of employments also increased in the **Agriculture**, **Manufacturing**, and **Construction** sectors, while the **Mining & quarrying** sectors experienced a slight decline.
- The number of persons **outside the labour force** registered a slight uptick of **0.1 per cent** to **7.23 million persons** during the month compared to 7.22 million persons in November 2025.

