



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

2025

LABOUR MARKET REVIEW



THIRD QUARTER

Q3



DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

LABOUR MARKET REVIEW

THIRD QUARTER 2025

Announcement:

Malaysia has, for the first time, successfully recorded the top position globally in the biennial Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25 report released by Open Data Watch (ODW), surpassing 198 other countries. This achievement marks a significant leap from its 67th position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.

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>.

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The Labour Market Review (LMR) is a quarterly publication by the Malaysian Bureau of Labour Statistics (MBLS), Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM). This report aims to bring official statistics to life through reviews and features that highlighted the most recent trends in the labour market. The quarterly statistics are consolidated into a narrative to provide readers with a comprehensive view of Malaysia's labour market.

The first part of the LMR presents the state of Malaysia's labour market in the third quarter of 2025 by contextualizing its linkages to the country's economic performance and social circumstances during the period. The review covers four main aspects of national labour market information encompassing labour supply, demand, productivity and employee wages. A dedicated segment on a selected issue or theme related to global and national labour market circumstances is also included in this report. A special feature of the LMR is that each quarter include one or more article(s) highlighting labour market issues through statistics; or delving into methodologies to strengthen labour market statistics. Detailed quarterly time series statistical tables pertaining to the four topics are also included.

The report elaborates on the year-on-year changes as well as short-term changes from the previous quarter to examine the immediate effect of recent events. Users are advised to interpret quarterly changes with caution as they are non-seasonally adjusted. The LMR can be used by policy makers, academicians, economists, researchers and other users for studies related to the labour market.

DOSM gratefully acknowledges the cooperation and contributions rendered by all parties in making this report a success. Every feedback and suggestions towards improving future reports are highly appreciated. It is hoped that this report can facilitate the growing demand for labour market statistics.

DATO' SRI DR. MOHD UZIR MAHIDIN
Chief Statistician Malaysia

November 2025

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Glossary

Category of skills	: For reporting purpose, the category of occupation is regrouped into three levels of skills based on the Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation (MASCO) 2013 namely Skilled workers - 1. Managers; 2. Professionals; 3. Technicians and associate professionals; Semi-skilled workers - 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; and Low-skilled workers - 9. Elementary occupations
Economic activity	: Refers to classification of industries according to the Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008 version 1.0 into five main sectors namely Agriculture, Mining & Quarrying, Manufacturing, Construction and Services. In the meantime, Manufacturing and Services are further disaggregated into sub-sectors.
Educational attainment	: Refers to the highest level in which a person has completed schooling or is currently attending school in a public or private educational institution that provides formal education.
Employed	: All 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). They are also considered as employed if they 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 and those on temporary lay-off with pay who would definitely be called back to work.
Employees	: Refers to any person who is employed under a contract of service or apprenticeship, whether written or oral and whether expressed or implied, to work for an employer.
Employer	: Refer to the person with whom an employee has entered into a contract of service or apprenticeship and includes; (i) a manager, agent or person responsible for the payment of salary or wages to an "employee"; (ii) any body of persons, whether or not statutory or incorporated; and (iii) any Government, Department of Government, statutory bodies, local authorities or other bodies specified in the Second Schedule and, where an employee is employed with any such Government, department, authority or body or with any officer on behalf of any such Government, department, authority or body, the officer under whom such employee is working shall be deemed to be an employer: Provided that no such officer shall be personally liable under this Act for anything done or omitted to be done in good faith by him as an officer of the such employer.
Employment-to-population ratio	: The proportion of employed population to working-age population, expressed as a percentage.

Glossary

Filled jobs	: Paid employee (full-time and part-time); and thus, exclude individual proprietors and business partners, unpaid family workers and employees on unpaid leave.
Jobs	: Total labour required by establishments to produce goods and services at a given point in time, which comprised of filled jobs and vacancies.
Jobs created	: Jobs created in an organisation which were not previously available, including newly created service schemes, jobs created for the promotion of existing employees and increase in the number of jobs from the existing structure.
Labour force	: The population in the working-age group (in completed years at last birthday), either employed or unemployed in the reference week.
Labour force participation rate	: The ratio of labour force to the working-age population, expressed as a percentage.
Labour productivity	: Refers to the efficiency and effectiveness of each employee to generate value added or overall output. It is calculated by using the ratio of value added to the total hours worked or employment by sector in Malaysia.
Outside labour force	: All persons not classified as employed or unemployed which includes housewives, students (including those going for further studies), retired, disabled persons and those not interested in looking for a job.
Skill-related underemployment	: Those with tertiary education and working in the semi-skilled and low-skilled categories.
Status in employment	: Refers to the position or status of an employed person within the establishment or organisation for which he/she worked and is adapted based on the International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-93).
Time-related underemployment	: People employed less than 30 hours during the reference week because of the nature of their work or due to insufficient work and are able and willing to accept additional hours of work.
Total hour worked	: The aggregate number of hours actually worked for a quarter which is the result of multiplying employment with the average weekly hours times 13 weeks.
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.
Unemployment rate	: The proportion of the unemployed population to the total population in labour force, expressed as a percentage.

Glossary

Vacancies	: Unfilled jobs which are ready to be filled. Employers are actively seeking candidates including advertising vacancies, issuing notices and registering with employment agencies as well as conducting interviews to select candidates to fill in the vacancies.
Value added	: The difference between output and intermediate consumption. It represents the value added of goods and services by economic activity. Hence, it is approximately equivalent to commercial profit, salaries and wages, depreciation and indirect taxes; plus, interest paid and less interest received.
Wages	: All remuneration in money payable to the employees due to his contract of service or apprenticeship, whether agreed to be paid monthly, weekly, daily or otherwise and includes any bonus, commission or allowance payable by the employer to the employee whether such bonus, commission or allowance is payable under his contract of service, apprenticeship or otherwise, but does not include: (i) service charge; (ii) overtime payment; (iii) gratuity; (iv) retirement benefit; (v) retrenchment, lay-off or termination benefits; (vi) any travelling allowance or the value of any travelling concession; or (vii) any other remuneration or payment as may be exempted by the Minister.
Working age	: All persons aged between 15 to 64 years who are either in the labour force or outside labour force
Youth	: All persons between the aged of 15 and 24 years

Acronyms

DOSM	: Department of Statistics Malaysia
GDP	: Gross Domestic Product
IMF	: International Monetary Fund
LFPR	: Labour Force Participation Rate
LFS	: Labour Force Survey
MASCO	: Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation
MSIC	: Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification
MSMEs	: Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Q	: Quarter
RM	: Ringgit Malaysia
TVET	: Technical and Vocational Education and Training

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LABOUR MARKET REVIEW, THIRD QUARTER 2025

Malaysia's labour market demonstrated resilience in Q3 2025 with a Labour Force Participation Rate of 70.9 per cent, labour demand reaching 9.16 million jobs, and productivity rising to RM45.1 per hour worked.

LABOUR SUPPLY

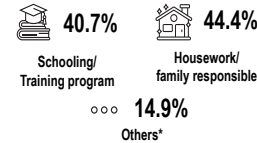
17.49 million
labour force

▲ **2.9%** YoY
▲ **0.7%** QoQ

7.18 million
outside
labour force

▲ **1.6%** YoY
▲ **0.4%** QoQ

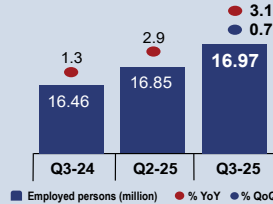
More than 85 per cent did not seek for work due to schooling and housework



*refer to people who are going for further study, disabled, not interested/ just completed study and retired/ old age

Employed persons continued

to increase, to **16.97 million persons**

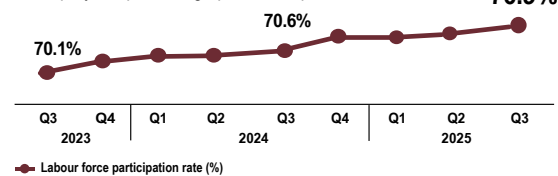


Total hours worked
during Q3, **9.80 billion hours**

▲ **1.3%** YoY
▲ **1.0%** QoQ

Labour force participation rate (LFPR)

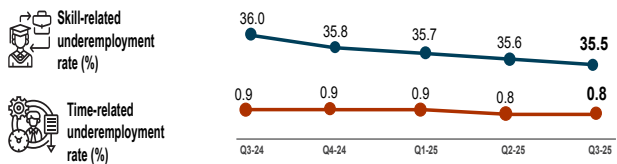
went up by 0.3 percentage points compared to Q3 2024



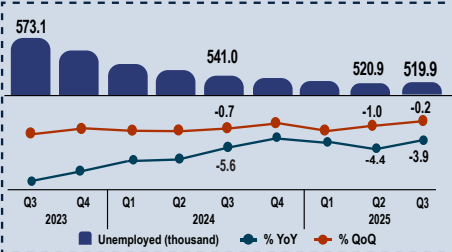
Underemployment situation

Time-related underemployment rate declined at 0.8 per cent, while

Skill-related underemployment rate declined 0.5 percentage points as compared to Q3 2024



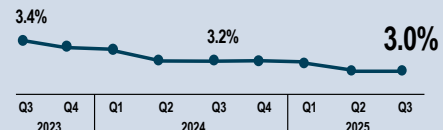
National unemployment situation



Unemployed
decreased during
Q3 2025
to
519.9 thousand persons



Unemployment rate
declined 0.2 percentage
points year-on-year,
stable at 3.0 per cent



LABOUR DEMAND

9.16 million jobs

Jobs in economic sector
increased by 1.7 per cent compared to Q3 2024



8.97 million
filled job



▲ **1.7%** YoY
▲ **0.7%** QoQ



197.1 thousand vacancies



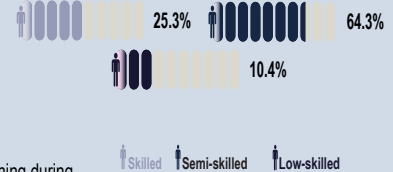
▲ **2.8%** YoY
▲ **1.1%** QoQ



32.3 thousand jobs created

More than half (**58.2%**) of jobs opening during Q3 2025 were in the **Manufacturing sector** with a total 114.7 thousand vacancies

▲ **1.6%** YoY
▲ **1.2%** QoQ



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ASEAN
MALAYSIA 2025
INCLUSIVITY AND SUSTAINABILITY



MALAYSIA MADANI
kesejahteraan

ODIN
OPEN DATA INVENTORY
MALAYSIA
WORLDWIDE CHOICE
IN THE WORLD



20 October 2016 - 2030

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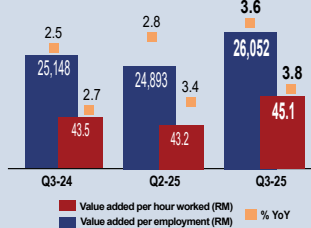
LABOUR MARKET REVIEW, THIRD QUARTER 2025

LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY

Both measures of labour productivity registered an increase compared to the same quarter of the previous year

 **RM45.1**
per hour worked

 **RM26,052**
per employment



EMPLOYEE WAGES STATISTICS (FORMAL SECTOR)

In June 2025, **6.97 million** citizen formal employees

Growth YoY: **3.5%**

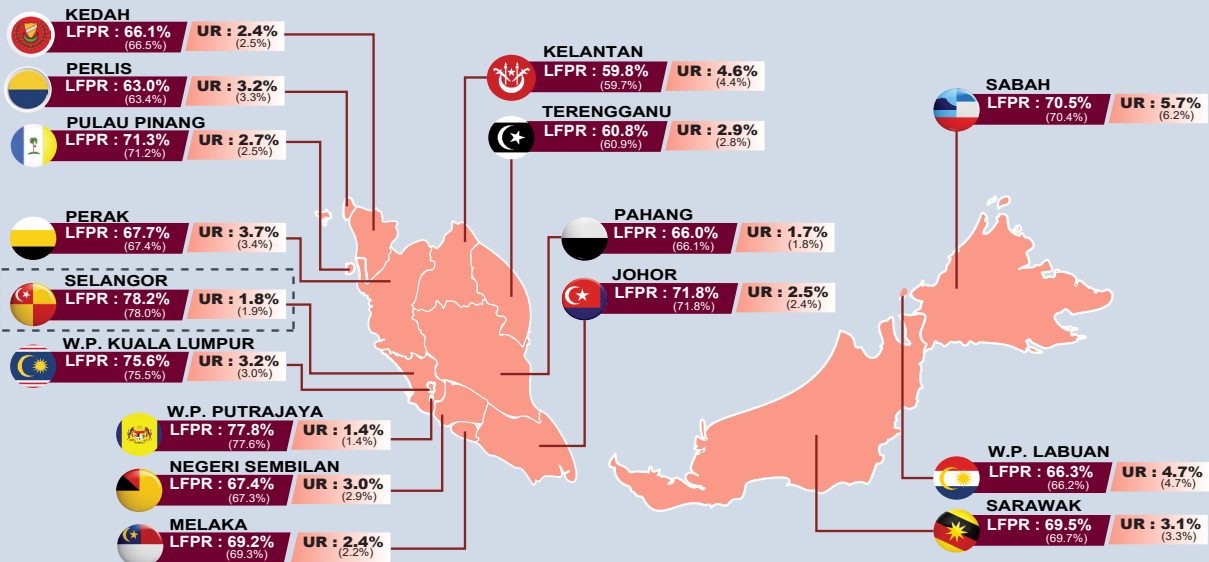


10.4% (0.7 million) of Malaysian formal employees earned below RM1,700 in June 2025

0.7 million employees

LABOUR FORCE SITUATION AT STATE LEVEL

Selangor recorded the highest labour force participation rate of 78.2 per cent and the lowest unemployment rate was posted in W.P. Putrajaya at 1.4 per cent.



LFPR : Q3 2025 (Q2 2025) UR : Q3 2025 (Q2 2025)

*Note:
LFPR : Labour force participation rate (%)
UR : Unemployment rate



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Q3

EXPLANATORY NOTES

2025

Explanatory Notes:

Starting with the release of Labour Market Review (LMR), First Quarter 2025, Malaysia, the principal statistics of the labour force are estimated based on the current population estimates of Malaysia.

The revision of the Labour Force Survey (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. This process of incorporating revised population benchmarks is referred to as rebasing.

For this purpose, revisions LFS data for the First Quarter to Fourth Quarter of 2024 has been completed. Meanwhile, the revision of the LFS data series for the Second Quarter of 2020 to the Fourth Quarter of 2023 is still being carried out. The data will be published progressively upon the completion of the analysis and finalization process.

As part of this effort, the data series in Labour Market Review for the years 2024 to 2025 has been systematically revised to ensure consistency and accuracy.

Key Reviews for Q3 2025

- ▶ Malaysia's labour market demonstrated resilience in Q3 2025 with a Labour Force Participation Rate of 70.9 per cent, labour demand reaching 9.16 million jobs, and productivity rising to RM45.1 per hour worked.
- ▶ In Q3 2025, labour supply sustained its positive momentum compared to the same quarter of the previous year with the increment number of labour force to 2.9 per cent recorded 17.49 million persons. Accordingly, the labour force participation rate edged up by 0.3 percentage points to 70.9 per cent.
- ▶ The number of employed persons increased marginally by 3.1 per cent to 16.97 million persons with employment-to-population ratio rise to 68.8 per cent. Concurrently, the unemployment rate drops to 3.0 percent whereby the number of unemployed persons lessen to 3.9 per cent (-21.1 thousand) to 519.9 thousand persons.
- ▶ The number of employed persons working less than 30 hours per week gradually reduced by 12.6 per cent in Q3 2024 to 230.9 thousand persons, driven by strong domestic demand throughout Q3 2023. Time related under employment rate fell to 0.8 per cent.
- ▶ Meanwhile, skill-related underemployment, who have attained tertiary education but were working in semi-skilled and low-skilled occupation recorded 1.96 million persons compared to 1.94 million persons in Q3 2025. The rate of time-related underemployment lessens to 35.5 per cent.
- ▶ In term of labour demand, jobs rose by 1.7 per cent as against a year ago to 9.16 million jobs. Filled jobs which comprised of 97.8 per cent also uptrend by 1.7 per cent to 8.97 million. Meanwhile, job opportunities in the economic sectors as reflected by the number of vacancies, escalated by 2.2 per cent to 197.1 thousand vacancies in Q3 2025.
- ▶ Malaysia's economy expanded by 5.2 per cent while employment maintained its positive growth, labour productivity per employment increased by 3.6 per cent, recording RM26,052 per employee in Q3 2025. During the same period, the total hours worked surged by 1.3 per cent to 9.80 billion hours. Consequently, labour productivity per hour worked also rose by 3.8 per cent, registering a productivity value of RM45.1 per hour.
- ▶ Heading into the fourth quarter of 2025, Malaysia's growth is expected to continue driven by stable domestic activity and ongoing government policy support, with strong economic performance in recent quarters helping to maintain a positive trajectory in the labour market.

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1 Malaysia's labour market demonstrated resilience in Q3 2025 with a Labour Force Participation Rate of 70.9 per cent, labour demand reaching 9.16 million jobs, and productivity rising to RM45.1 per hour worked

Malaysia's labour market continued to demonstrate resilience and steady progress in the third quarter of 2025, despite a complex and fragmented global economic environment. Globally, persistent structural risks, uneven growth trajectories, and stubborn core inflation kept monetary conditions tight. Advanced economies, particularly the United States, signalled a gradual shift toward monetary easing following signs of labour market softening. Rising geopolitical tensions and new trade tariffs disrupted global supply chains and reinforced protectionist measures, prompting international institutions to maintain cautious growth projections, with global expansion expected at 2.9 - 3.0 per cent (International Monetary Fund, 2025¹; World Bank², 2025) and the OECD³ revising its 2025 forecast to 2.5 per cent. These external developments shaped labour demand trends worldwide and influenced the operating environment for domestic markets.

Against this backdrop, Malaysia demonstrated moderate economic resilience, supported by robust domestic demand and the continued implementation of strategic national initiatives. Employment remained strong across services, manufacturing, and selected technology-driven sectors, while the labour force expanded, reflecting active participation and favourable demographic trends. As a result, Malaysia achieved a historically high labour force participation rate of 70.9 per cent and maintained a low unemployment rate of 3.0 per cent, broadly consistent with structural norms. Malaysia's chairmanship of ASEAN in 2025 further strengthened regional cooperation by facilitating knowledge exchange and advancing workforce development priorities among member states. The continued availability of vacancies in skilled and technical occupations indicates expanding opportunities within higher-value industries and highlights the rising demand for talent that aligns with the nation's long-term economic objectives. Therefore, the current context presents opportunities to strengthen upskilling efforts and streamline job matching. These measures will enhance the adaptability of the labour force. This ensures that Malaysians are prepared to support and benefit from the transition towards a more innovative and high-productivity economy.

This Labour Market Review for Q3 2025 presents a comprehensive assessment across four principal components: Labour Supply, Labour Demand, Labour Productivity, and Employee Wages, complemented by a feature article examining emerging issues in the Malaysian labour market. This highlights Malaysia's progress in building a resilient and adaptable workforce. These efforts align with the MADANI agenda and current macroeconomic developments.

¹ International Monetary Fund. (2025). World Economic Outlook: Global Economy in Flux, Prospects Remain Dim (October 2025). <https://www.imf.org/en/publications/weo/issues/2025/10/14/world-economic-outlook-october-2025> IMF

² Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. (2025). OECD Economic Outlook, Interim Report September 2025. https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/2025/09/oecd-economic-outlook-interim-report-september-2025_ae3d418b.html

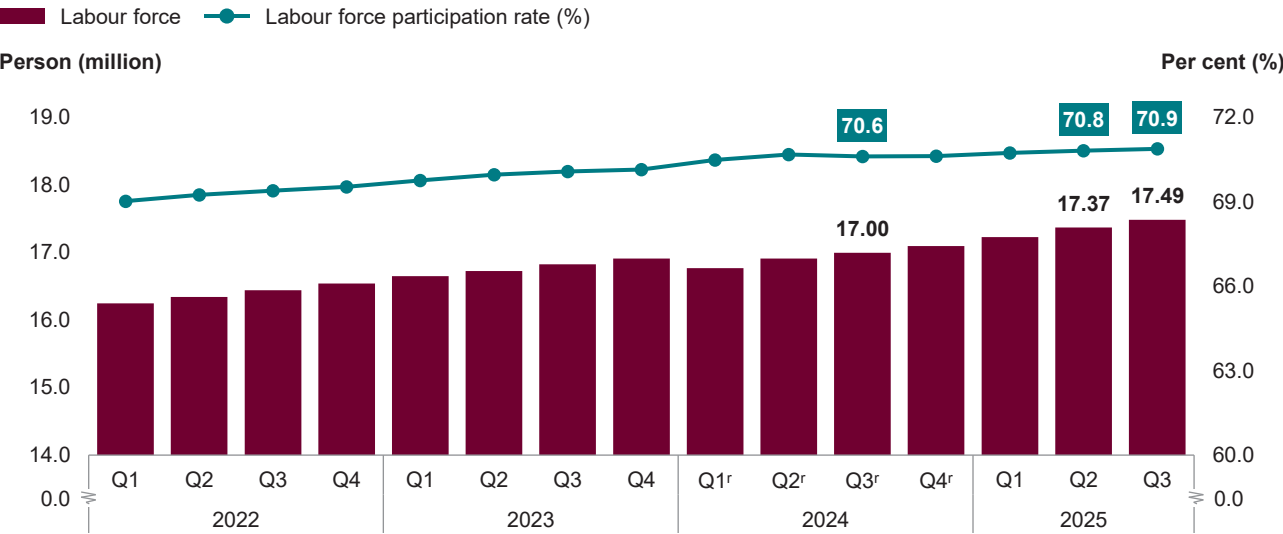
³ World Bank. (2025). Global Economic Prospects, June 2025. <https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/8bf0b62ec6bcb886d97295ad930059e9-0050012025/original/GEP-June-2025.pdf>

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2.1 Labour Force

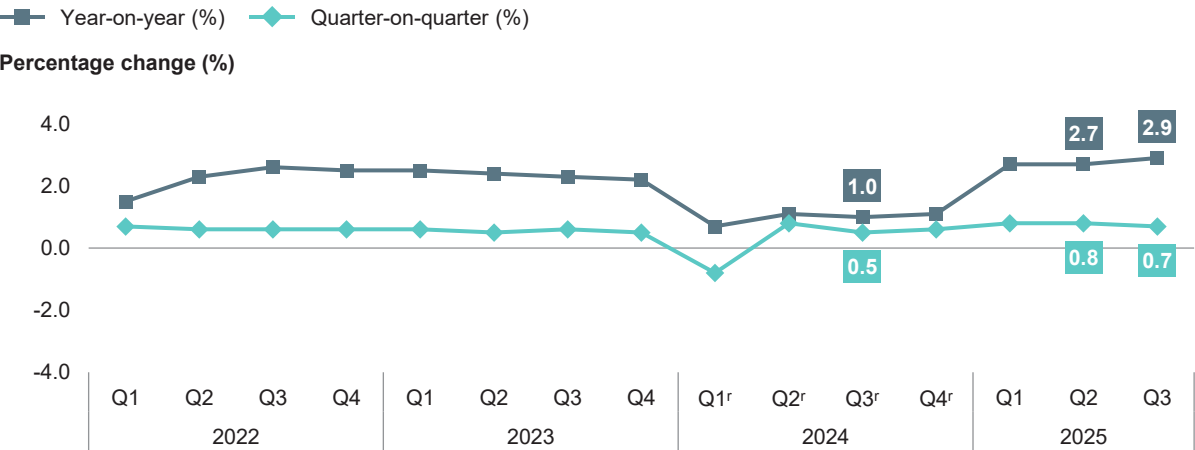
In the third quarter of 2025, the labour supply sustained its growth momentum compared to the same quarter in 2024. The labour force participation rate (LFPR) edged up by 0.3 percentage point to 70.9 per cent, from 70.6 per cent in Q3 2024. During the quarter, the number of labour force recorded a year-on-year growth of 2.9 per cent, (+489.9 thousand persons) in Q3 2025. Compared to the previous quarter, the number of labour force rose by 0.7 per cent (+116.7 thousand persons), alongside a slight 0.1 percentage point increase in the LFPR [Chart 2.1 & 2.2].

Chart 2.1:
Labour force and labour force participation rate (LFPR), Q1 2022 – Q3 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM
Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

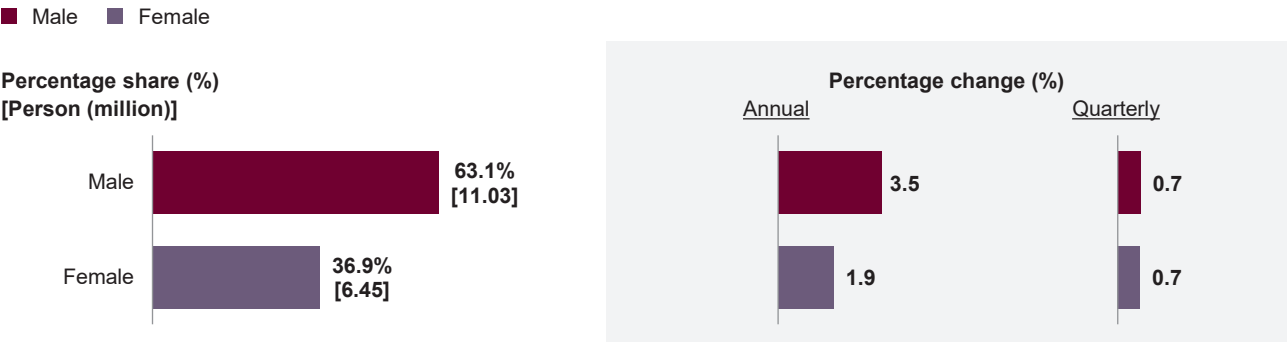
Chart 2.2:
Percentage change of labour force, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM
Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Disaggregating by sex, the male population accounted for nearly two-thirds of the labour force in Q3 2025, with a share of 63.1 per cent, equivalent to 11.03 million persons. The male labour force posted a year-on-year increase at 3.5 per cent (+370.4 thousand persons). On the other hand, the female labour force, comprising 36.9 per cent increase by 1.9 per cent (+119.4 thousand persons) year on year to record 6.45 million persons. On a quarterly basis, both male and female labour force surge by 0.7 per cent compared to the preceding quarter respectively [Chart 2.3].

Chart 2.3:
Distribution and percentage change of labour force by sex, Q3 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Breakdown of the labour force by age group, those aged 25 to 34 years comprising a share of 30.8 per cent or 5.39 million persons in Q3 2025. In the meantime, the labour force in the age group of 35 to 44 years made up a share of 27.0 per cent, followed by 17.1 per cent aged 45 to 54 years and 16.7 per cent aged 15 to 24 years. The age group of 55 to 64 years is the lowest contributor share to the labour force with 8.4 percent.

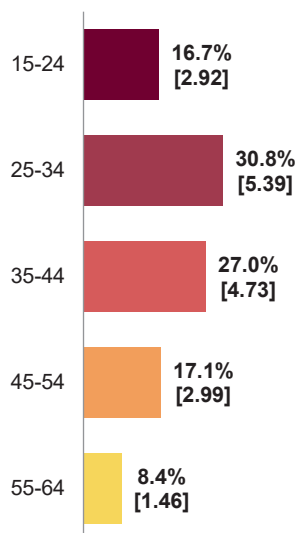
During Q3 2025, all age cohorts recorded positive year on year growth except for the 35 to 44 age cohort. The age group of 55 to 64 years record the highest gain in labour force by 5.9 per cent (+81.5 thousand persons) to record 1.46 million persons. Similarly, another age group that had significant growth in the labour force during the quarter was those aged 15 to 24 years, which increased 5.2 per cent (+145.7 thousand persons) to register 2.92 million persons. However, an increase was observed in the number of labour force against the previous quarter, namely 55 to 64 years by 1.0 per cent or equivalent to 13.8 thousand persons [Chart 2.4].

Chart 2.4:

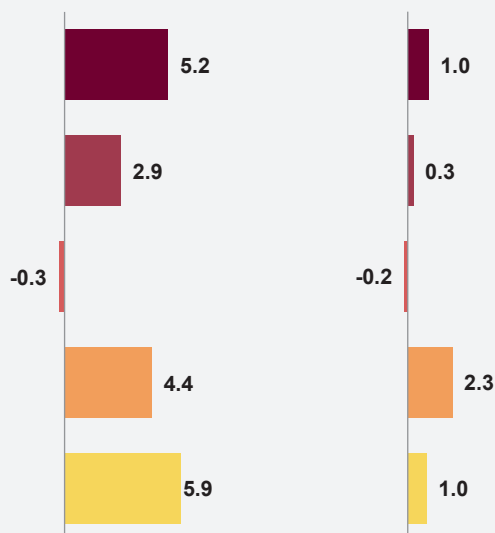
Distribution and percentage change of labour force by age group, Q3 2025

■ 15-24 ■ 25-34 ■ 35-44 ■ 45-54 ■ 55-64

Percentage share (%)
[Person (million)]



Percentage change (%)
Annual Quarterly

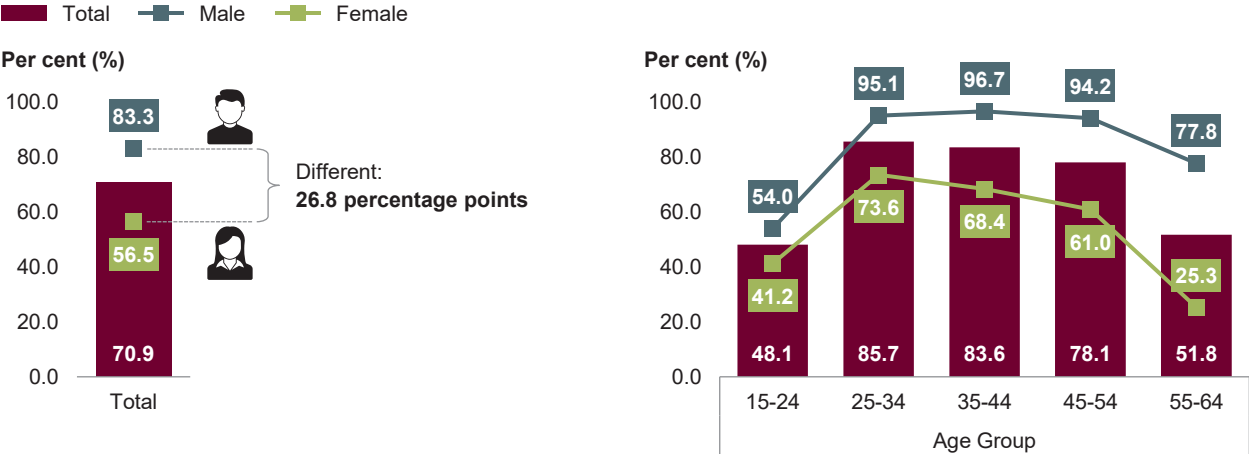


Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

As for participation in the labour force by sex, the male LFPR increase by 0.1 percentage points, while the female LFPR increased by 0.2 percentage points, recording 83.3 per cent and 56.5 per cent respectively in Q3 2025. In the meantime, the data indicates that the male LFPR maintained an average above 80.0 per cent, nearly double the rate registered by female. In terms of labour force participation by age group, two age groups showed LFPR exceeding 80 per cent. The highest LFPR was observed among those aged 25 to 34 years at 85.7 per cent, followed by 83.6 per cent for the age group of 35 to 44 years. Additionally, those aged 45 to 54 years also recorded a relatively high LFPR at 78.1 per cent, exceeding the national LFPR. Conversely, the age group of 15 to 24 years registered the lowest rate at 48.1 per cent.

Further disaggregation by sex and age group revealed that male and female had distinct LFPR peaks. Male LFPR surged above 90.0 per cent for the age group of 25 to 34 years and remained high up until the age group of 45 to 54 years before declining for the oldest age group of 55 to 64 years. During Q3 2025, male LFPR peaked at 96.7 per cent for the aged group of 35 to 44 years and female LFPR peaked at 73.6 per cent for the aged group of 25 to 34 years. However, the female LFPR decline for a younger age group compared to male and continued to decrease in line with the increase in age [Chart 2.5].

Chart 2.5:
Labour force participation rate by sex and age group, Q3 2025



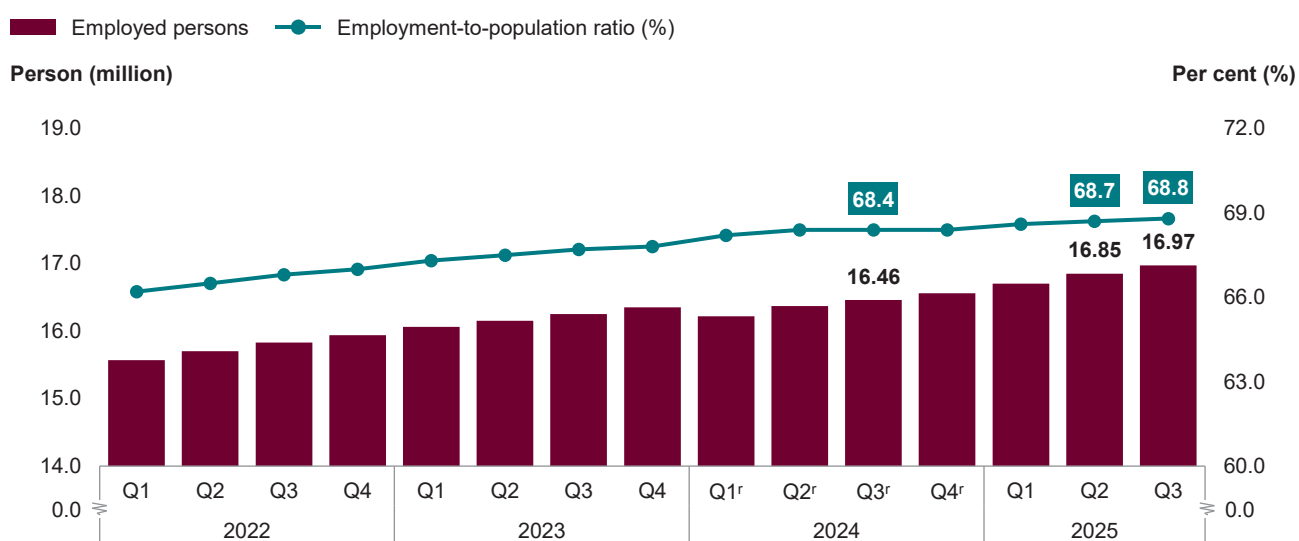
Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

2.2 Employment Situation

In Q3 2025, the number of employed persons rose by 3.1 per cent year-on-year (+511.0 thousand persons) to 16.97 million persons compare to 2.9 per cent growth recorded in the previous quarter. Consequently, the employment-to-population ratio, which measures the economy's capacity to create employment, increased by 0.4 percentage points from the same quarter of the previous year to 68.8 per cent. On a quarterly basis, the number of employed persons grew by 0.7 per cent (+117.7 thousand persons), while the employment to-population ratio edged up by 0.1 percentage point [Chart 2.6 & 2.7].

Chart 2.6:

Employed persons and employment-to-population ratio, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025

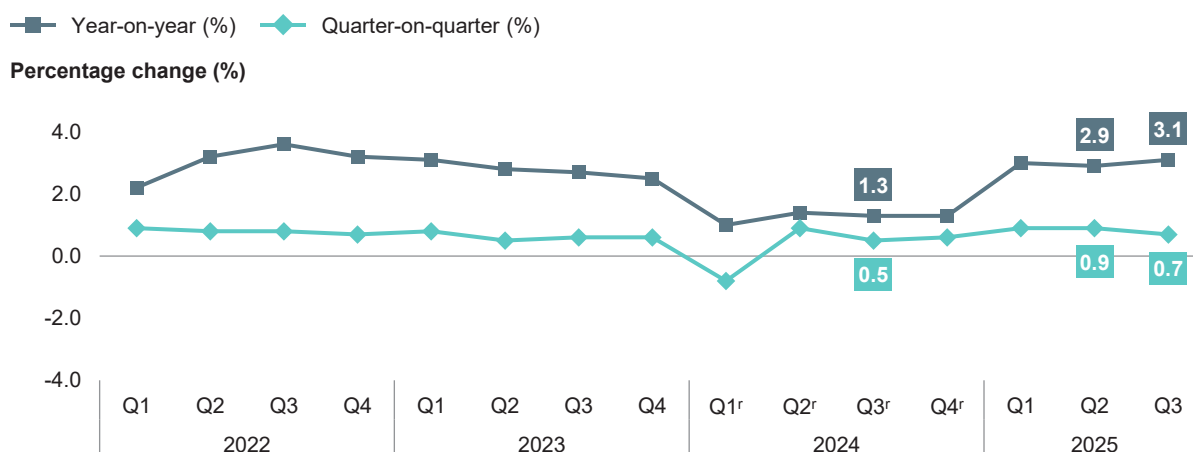


Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Chart 2.7:

Percentage change of employed persons, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025

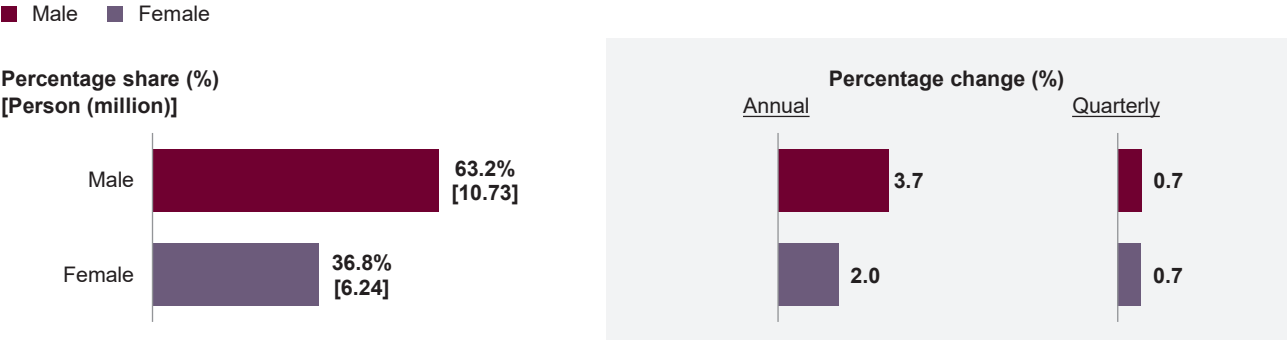


Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Male accounted for more than half of employed persons in Q3 2025, representing 63.2 per cent or 10.73 million persons, while female made up 36.8 per cent or 6.24 million persons. The rising number of employed persons from the same quarter annually is 3.7 per cent (+385.9 thousand persons) for male and 2.0 per cent for female (+125.1 thousand persons). Both male and female employment showed the same quarterly growth which is 0.7 per cent [Chart 2.8].

Chart 2.8:
Distribution and percentage change of employed persons by sex, Q3 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

The age group of 25 to 34 years recorded the highest contribution of employed persons, registering 31.0 per cent or 5.26 million persons. This was followed by the age group of 35 to 44 years ranked second with 27.6 per cent or 4.69 million persons. These two categories represented nearly two-thirds of total employment. In the meantime, youth-employed persons aged 15 to 24 years accounted for 15.5 per cent or equivalent to 2.63 million persons, while the oldest age group of 55 to 64 years counted 1.44 million persons, which comprised 8.5 per cent during the quarter.

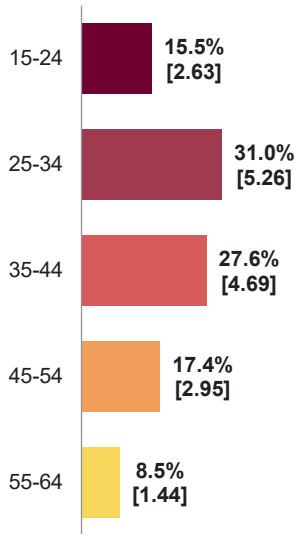
Analysis by age group showed that the number of employed persons increased across all categories in Q3 2025. The highest growth in the number of employed persons was recorded by the oldest age group of 55 to 64, with a growth of 7.3 per cent (+97.9 thousand persons), followed by the youth aged 15 to 24 years, which improved by 4.9 per cent (+124.0 thousand persons). Another category that had significant growth in employed persons during the quarter was those aged 45 to 54 years and 25 to 34 years, which increased by 4.8 per cent and 2.7 per cent respectively. While those aged 35-44 recorded slight growth of 0.3 per cent during the quarter [Chart 2.9].

Chart 2.9:

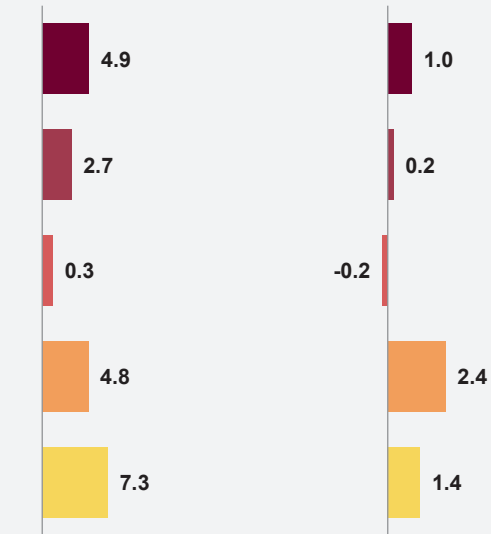
Distribution and percentage change of employed persons by age group, Q3 2025

15-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64

Percentage share (%)
[Person (million)]



Percentage change (%)
Annual Quarterly



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

In terms of distribution by educational attainment, the majority of employed persons were pursuing secondary education, registering 56.2 per cent or 9.54 million persons, followed by tertiary education at 32.6 per cent or 5.53 million persons. Meanwhile, the employed person with primary and no formal education represented by 8.9 per cent and 2.3 per cent respectively.

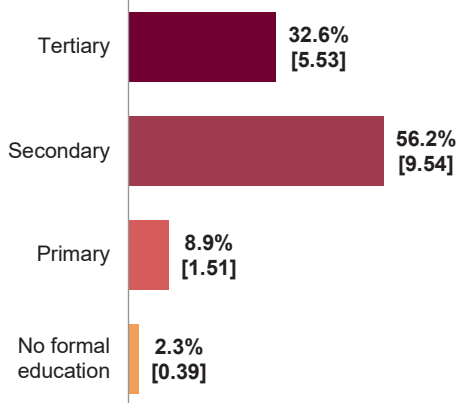
Based on year-on-year comparison, the employed persons with no formal education expanded by 5.1 per cent (+19.0 thousand persons), while those with secondary education also posted a rise of 3.7 per cent (+338.3 thousand persons). In addition, the number of employed persons with tertiary education grew by 2.5 per cent (+132.7 thousand persons), followed by employed persons with primary education which rose by 1.4 per cent (+21.0 thousand persons). In the meantime, the quarterly majority increase in the number of employed persons was due to the positive growth for all educational attainment categories except primary and no formal education [Chart 2.10].

Chart 2.10:

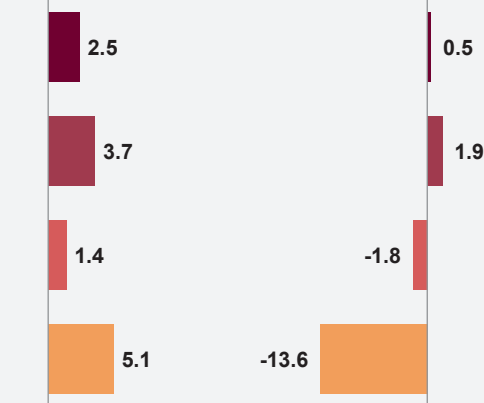
Distribution and percentage change of employed persons by educational attainment, Q3 2025

■ Tertiary ■ Secondary ■ Primary ■ No formal education

Percentage share (%)
[Person (million)]



Percentage change (%)
Annual Quarterly



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

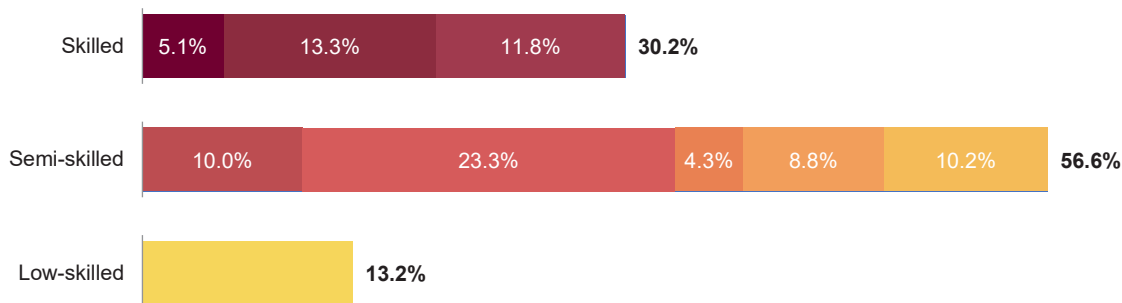
Looking at the employed persons by skill level, the semi-skilled occupations category which comprised 56.6 per cent of total employment, grew by 2.7 per cent (+255.4 thousand persons) year-on-year, recording a total of 9.60 9.54 million persons in Q3 2025. Most of the employed persons in the semi-skilled category were concentrated in the occupation of Service and sales workers for 23.3 per cent, encompassing 3.95 million persons [Chart 2.11 & Table 2.1].

Chart 2.11:

Distribution of employed persons by skill level and occupation, Q3 2025

■ Managers ■ Professionals ■ Technicians and associate professionals ■ Clerical support workers ■ Service and sales workers
■ Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock and fishery workers ■ Craft and related trades workers ■ Plant and machine-operators and assemblers ■ Elementary occupations

Percentage share (%)



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table 2.1:

Number, percentage share & percentage change of employed persons by skill level and occupation, Q3 2025

Skill level	Occupation	Employed persons ('000)	Percentage share to skill level (%)	Percentage change (%)	
				Annual	Quarterly
Skilled		5,132.9	100.0	2.9	0.5
	Manager	860.5	16.8	6.1	0.4
	Professionals	2,276.0	44.3	2.9	0.5
	Technicians and associate professionals	1,996.4	38.9	1.5	0.4
Semi-skilled		9,597.9	100.0	2.7	0.6
	Clerical support workers	1,699.0	17.7	5.0	1.2
	Service and sales workers	3,947.3	41.1	1.5	0.4
	Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock and fishery workers	721.4	7.5	4.5	1.7
	Craft and related trades workers	1,492.8	15.6	2.1	0.4
	Plant and machine operators and assemblers	1,737.4	18.1	3.3	0.3
Low-skilled		2,235.9	100.0	5.3	1.7
	Elementary occupations	2,235.9	100.0	5.3	1.7

Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

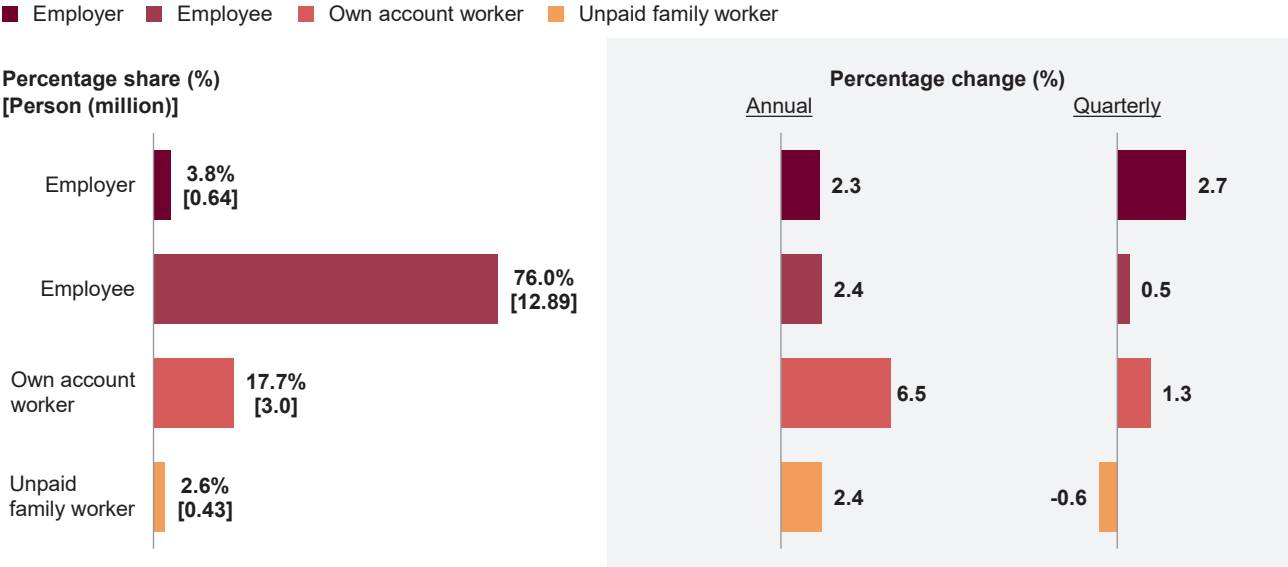
Additionally, the skilled occupations category makes up a share of 30.3 per cent of total employment. The number of employed persons in this category increased 2.9 per cent (+143.5 thousand persons) year-on-year, reaching 5.13 million persons during Q3 2025. Nevertheless, employed persons in the low-skilled occupation category which comprised the remaining share of 13.2 per cent of total employment grew by 5.3 per cent (+112.1 thousand persons) to 2.24 million employed persons. Similarly, the quarter-on-quarter comparison observed that the number of employed persons in the skilled occupation category increased by 0.5 per cent (+23.3 thousand persons) from Q2 2025. Meanwhile, employed persons in the semi-skilled and low-skilled occupations went up by 0.6 per cent (+56.7 thousand persons) and 1.7 per cent (+37.6 thousand persons), respectively.

Further disaggregation by status in employment indicates that the employees' category, comprising paid employment in the public and private sectors, constitutes the largest segment of employed persons. This group encompassed 76.0 per cent of employed persons and experienced a year-on year increase of 2.4 per cent (+303.9 thousand persons) and accounted for 12.89 million persons in Q3 2025. In addition, the employers' category covered 3.8 per cent of total employment, an increase by 2.3 per cent (+14.4 thousand persons), bringing the number to 644.5 thousand persons during the quarter.

Those employed as own account workers who were involved in various roles, from traditional employment as farmers, retailers and hawkers to professional jobs such as consultants and freelancers, encompassed 17.7 per cent or 3.00 million persons. This category maintained a positive growth of 6.5 per cent (+182.3 thousand persons) year-on-year. On the other hand,

the remaining 2.6 per cent represent the unpaid family worker category, which increase by 2.4 per cent (+10.3 thousand persons), reaching 435.0 thousand persons. On a quarterly basis, all categories of status in employment indicated growth except for the unpaid family worker, which declined by 0.6 per cent during Q3 2025 **[Chart 2.12]**.

Chart 2.12:
Distribution and percentage change of employed persons by status in employment, Q3 2025



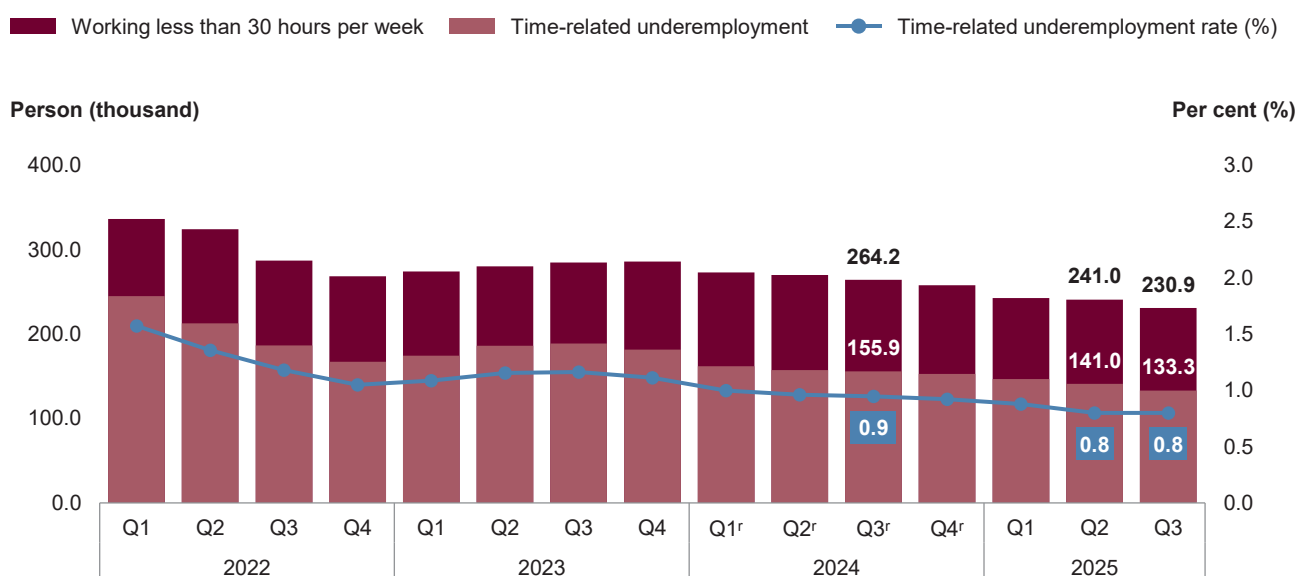
Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

2.3 Highlight on Underemployment Situation

The number of persons in time-related underemployment referring to those who were employed less than 30 hour per week but were able and willing to work additional hours showed a downward trend from the same quarter of 2024, with a decline of 14.5 per cent (-22.6 thousand persons) to 133.3 thousand persons. Accordingly, the rate of time-related underemployment comprised 0.8 per cent, decrease 0.1 percentage points as compared to the same quarter last year. A similar trend was also observed on a quarterly basis as this group decreased by 5.4 per cent (-7.7 thousand persons) while the rate remained unchanged at 0.8 per cent as the previous quarter [Chart 2.13 & 2.14].

Chart 2.13:

Time-related underemployment, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025



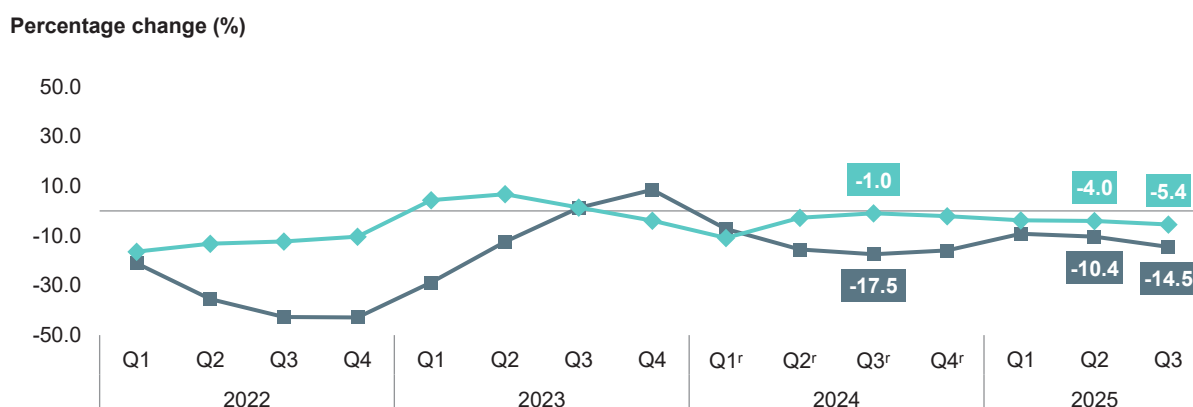
Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Chart 2.14:

Percentage change of time-related underemployment, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025

Year-on-year (%) Quarter-on-quarter (%)



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

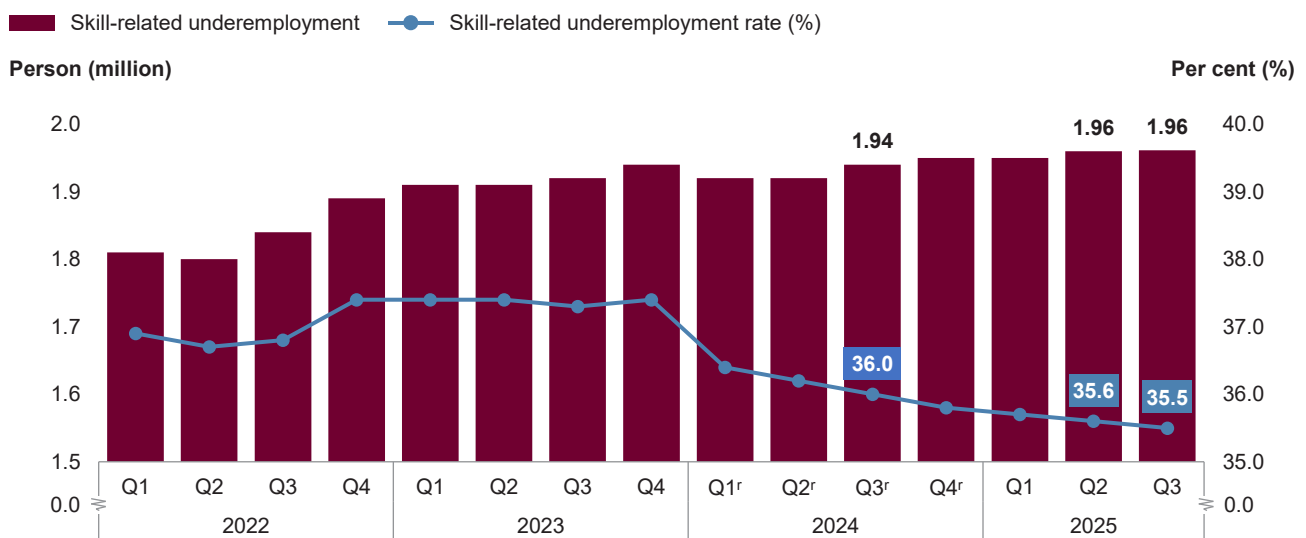
Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Meanwhile, skill-related underemployment comprised employed person with tertiary education but working in semi-skilled and low-skilled occupations. Given data availability from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), this indicator is measured using proxy variables of occupation and educational attainment. As of Q3 2025, the number of persons in skill-related underemployment increased by 1.0 per cent (+19.1 thousand persons) year-on-year, to record 1.96 million persons. However, the share of tertiary-educated employed persons working in semi-skilled and low-skilled occupations continued to trend downward by 0.5 percentage points to 35.5 per cent.

Similarly, compared with Q2 2025, the number of persons in skill-related underemployment rose marginally by 0.3 per cent (+5.9 thousand persons), while the rate edged down by 0.1 percentage points [Chart 2.15 & 2.16].

Chart 2.15:

Skill-related underemployment, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025

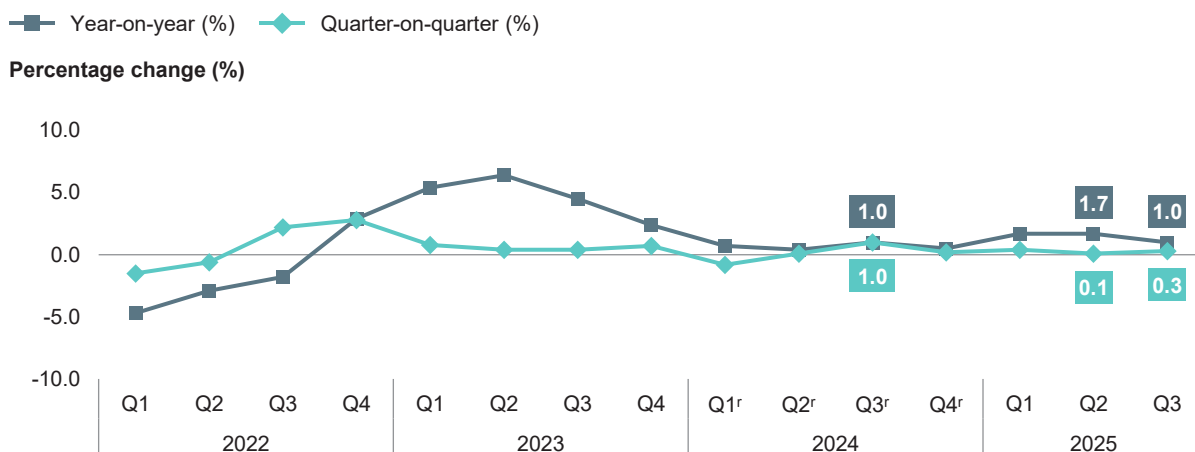


Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Chart 2.16:

Percentage change of skill-related underemployment, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

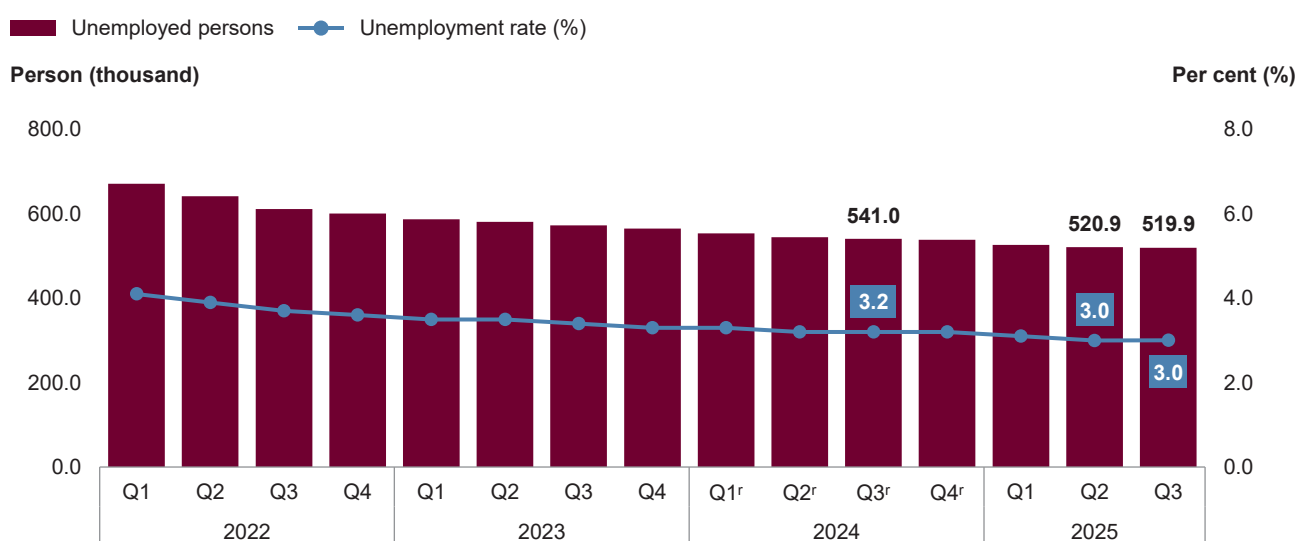
Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

2.4 National Unemployment Situation

In Q3 2025, the number of unemployed persons declined 3.9 per cent (-21.1 thousand persons) from the same quarter in the previous year to 519.9 thousand persons. Therefore, the national unemployment rate stood at 3.0 per cent, after registering a year-on-year decrease of 0.2 percentage points. The same trend persisted from the previous quarter, where the number of unemployed persons decreased by 0.2 per cent (-1.0 thousand persons), while the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.0 per cent in the preceding quarter [Chart 2.17 & 2.18].

Chart 2.17:

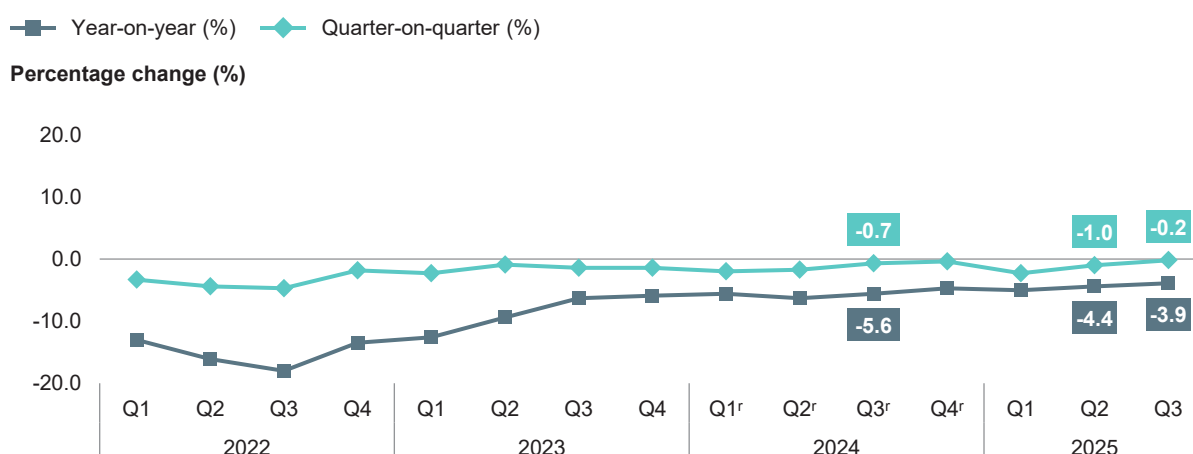
Unemployed persons and unemployment rate, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Percentage change of unemployed persons, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

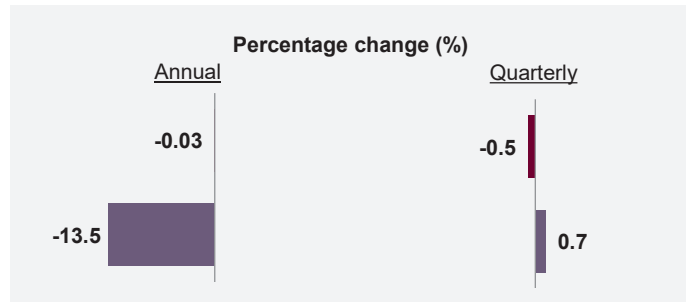
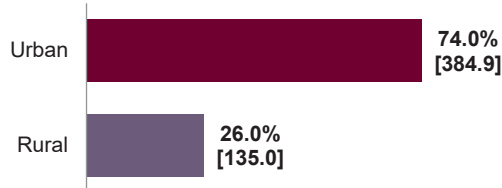
In Q3 2025, most unemployed persons were in urban areas, making up 74.0 per cent of total unemployment, while rural areas accounted for 26.0 per cent. Compared to the same period last year, both strata showed a decrease. Urban unemployment decrease by 0.01 per cent (-0.03 thousand persons) to 384.9 thousand people, with the unemployment rate at 2.8 per cent. In rural areas, unemployment fell by 13.5 per cent (-21.0 thousand persons) to 135.0 thousand people, and the unemployment rate at 3.5 per cent. As quarter-on-quarter, the number of unemployed persons also declined by 0.5 per cent (-1.9 thousand persons) in urban areas, while increasing by 0.7 per cent (+0.8 thousand persons) in rural areas **[Chart 2.19]**.

Chart 2.19:

Distribution and percentage change of unemployed persons by strata, Q3 2025

■ Urban ■ Rural

Percentage share (%)
[Person (thousand)]



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

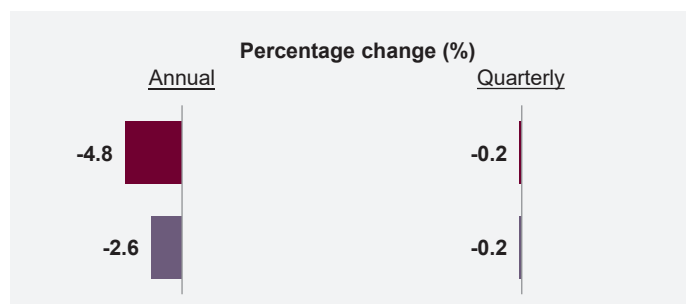
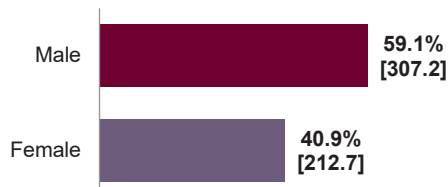
Male unemployed made up more than half (59.1%) of total unemployment as opposed to 40.9 per cent of unemployed female. The year-on-year decline in unemployment during Q3 2025 was constituted by both male and female, with the number of male unemployed persons dropped 4.8 per cent (-15.4 thousand persons) compared to the same quarter of 2024, which accounted for 307.2 thousand persons. In the meantime, female unemployed decreased by 2.6 per cent year on-year (-5.6 thousand persons) to 212.7 thousand persons. On a quarter-on-quarter comparison, unemployed male and female recorded a decrease of 0.2 per cent (-0.7 thousand persons) and 0.2 per cent (-0.4 thousand persons) respectively **[Chart 2.20]**.

Chart 2.20:

Distribution and percentage change of unemployed persons by sex, Q3 2025

■ Male ■ Female

Percentage share (%)
[Person (thousand)]

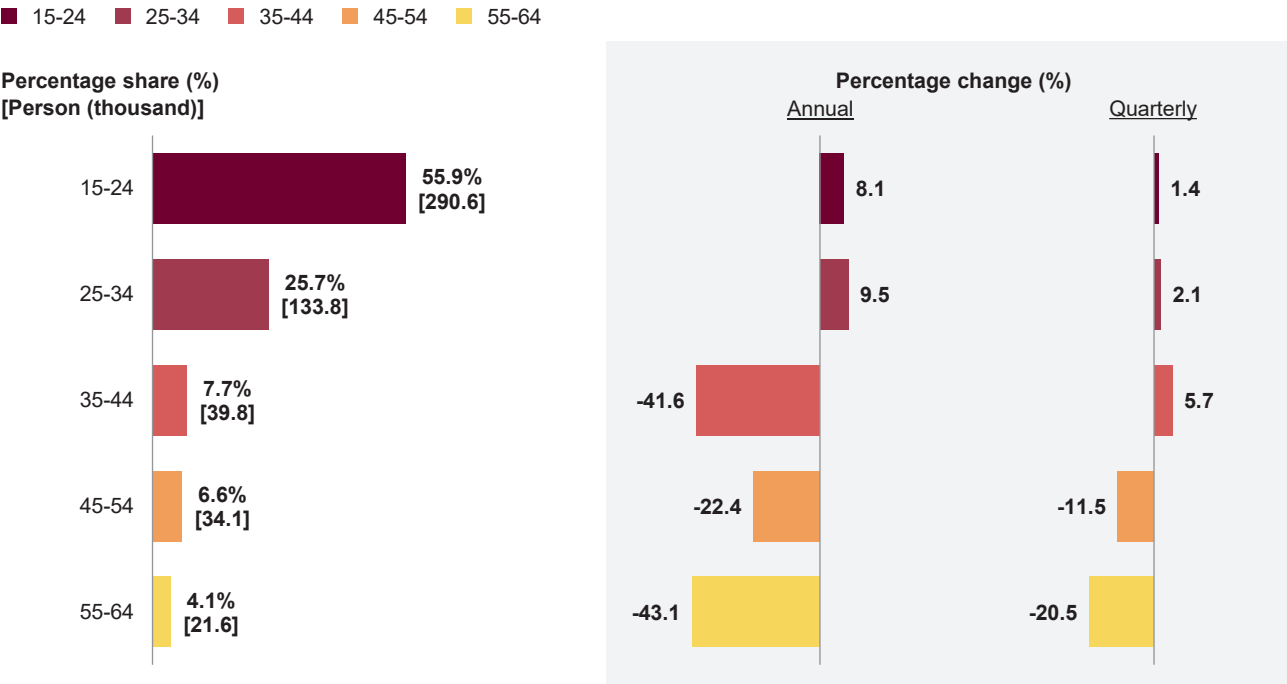


Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Unemployment was concentrated mainly in the youth age group of 15 to 24 years, comprising a share of 55.9 per cent or equivalent to 290.6 thousand persons, during Q3 2025, followed by 25.7 per cent or 133.8 thousand persons in the age group of 25 to 34 years. These two groups combined comprised more than 80 per cent of unemployment, which was observed in younger age groups. In the meantime, the unemployed aged 55 to 64 years recorded the lowest share of 4.1 per cent or 21.6 thousand persons during the quarter.

In comparison to the same quarter a year ago, three age groups recorded a year-on-year decline in the number of unemployed persons. The most significant decrease was observed in the age group of 55 to 64 years which dropped by 43.1 per cent (-16.3 thousand persons), followed by a decline of 41.6 per cent (-28.4 thousand persons) in the 35 to 44 years age group, and a reduction of 22.4 per cent (-9.8 thousand persons) among those aged 45 to 54 years during Q3 2025. During the same period, the younger age groups of 15 to 24 and 25 to 34 years saw an upsurge in the number of unemployed persons, which rose by 8.1 per cent (+21.8 thousand persons) and 9.5 per cent (+11.6 thousand persons) respectively. As compared to the previous quarter, a decrease was observed in the number of unemployed persons for the age groups of 45 to 54 and 55 to 64 years, while three other age groups recorded positive quarter-on-quarter growth [Chart 2.21].

Chart 2.21:
Distribution and percentage change of unemployed persons by age group, Q3 2025



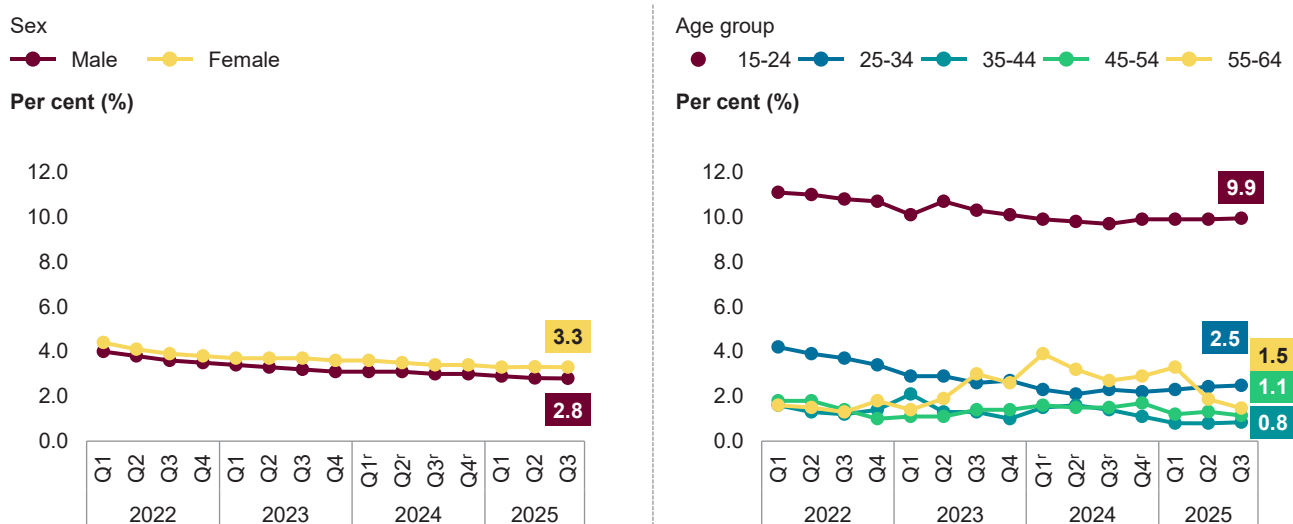
Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Although there was more unemployed male compared to female, the unemployment rate of female was higher than male. In Q3 2025, the female unemployment rate stood at 3.3 per cent, 0.5 percentage points higher than the male unemployment rate at 2.8 per cent. Both registered lower rates as against the same quarter in the previous year, as the male unemployment rate fell 0.2 percentage points while female unemployment rate dropped 0.1 percentage points. Compared to the previous quarter, the unemployment rate for both males and females remained at 2.8 per cent and 3.3 per cent respectively.

Across all age groups, the unemployment rate during Q3 2025 decreased except for those aged 15 to 24 and 25 to 34 years, who compared to the same quarter of 2024 recording rates of 9.9 per cent and 2.5 per cent respectively. The age groups of 35 to 44 and 55 to 64 years experienced the largest drops in unemployment rates over the past year. The unemployment rate for those aged 35 to 44 years fell from 1.4 per cent to 0.8 per cent, while the 55 to 64 years age group saw a decrease from 2.7 per cent to 1.5 per cent during this quarter. In the meantime, the unemployment rate for youth aged 15 to 24 stood at 9.9 per cent, remaining unchanged on a quarterly basis and rising by 0.2 percentage points year-on-year **[Chart 2.22]**.

Chart 2.22:

Unemployment rate by sex and age group, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025



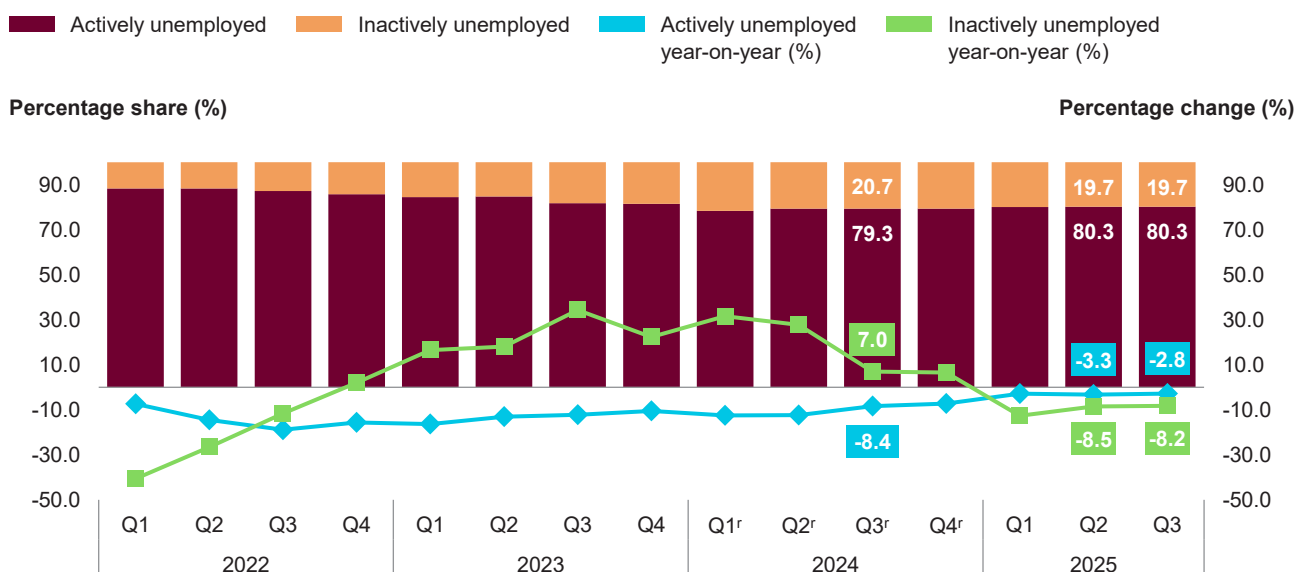
Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Notes: * Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Overall, actively unemployed made up around 80 per cent of total unemployment in Malaysia. In Q3 2025, the share was 80.3 per cent which was equivalent to 417.3 thousand persons. This category experienced a decline of 2.8 per cent (-11.9 thousand persons) as against the same quarter of the previous year. Meanwhile, the number of inactively unemployed recorded a decrease of 8.2 per cent (-9.2 thousand persons) to 102.6 thousand persons **[Chart 2.23]**.

Chart 2.23:

Distribution and percentage change of actively and inactively unemployed, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Notes: * Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

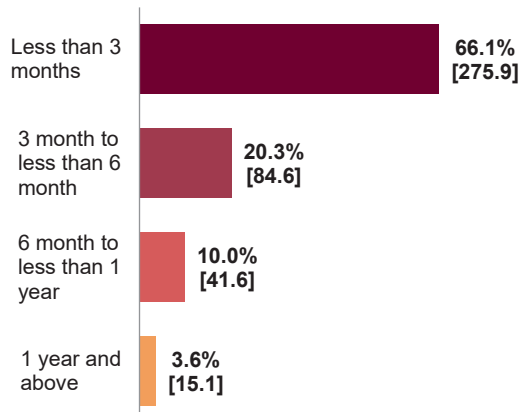
As for the duration of unemployment, more than half of actively unemployed persons were unemployed for less than three months, with a share of 66.1 per cent or equivalent to 275.9 thousand persons. In the meantime, those in long-term unemployment or were unemployed for more than a year comprised 3.6 per cent or 15.1 thousand persons during Q3 2025. Overall, the number of actively unemployed persons by duration of unemployment recorded a decrease on an annual basis, except for the category of those unemployed for less than 3 months. As for quarterly basis, the categories of those unemployed for less than 3 months and 1 year and above decline by 0.2 per cent and 7.9 per cent respectively [Chart 2.24].

Chart 2.24:

Distribution and percentage change of actively unemployed by duration of unemployment, Q3 2025

■ Less than 3 months ■ 3 months to less than 6 months ■ 6 months to less than 1 year ■ 1 year and above

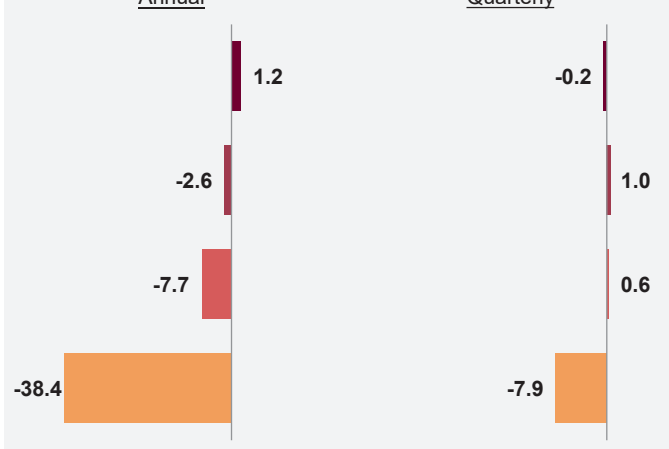
Percentage share (%)
[Person (million)]



Percentage change (%)

Annual

Quarterly



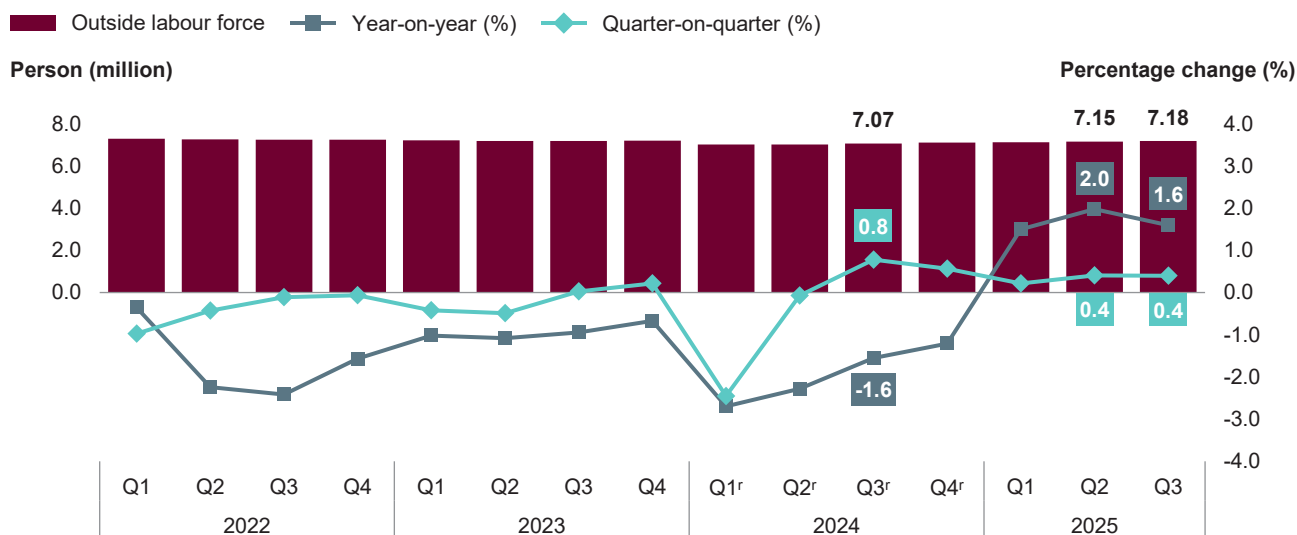
Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

2.5 Outside Labour Force

The outside labour force in Q3 2025 recorded an increase of 1.6 per cent (+111.7 thousand persons) to 7.18 million persons as compared to the same quarter of the previous year. On a quarterly basis, the number of outside labour force also rose by 0.4 per cent (+27.7 thousand persons) as compared to the previous quarter [Chart 2.25].

Chart 2.25:

Outside Labour Force, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Notes: ^r Revision based on the current population estimates from the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

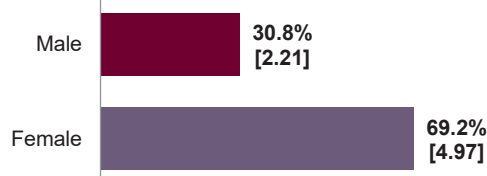
In Q3 2025, most of the outside labour force population comprised female who made up 69.2 per cent or 4.97 million persons, while male accounted for 30.8 per cent or 2.21 million persons. Compared to the same quarter of the previous year, the number of males in the outside labour force increased by 3.0 per cent (+63.5 thousand persons), whereas females recorded a growth of 1.0 per cent (+48.1 thousand persons). A similar trend was observed for quarterly changes, where the number of males increased by 0.8 per cent (+18.1 thousand persons), whereas female increased by 0.2 per cent (+9.6 thousand persons) in Q3 2025 [Chart 2.26].

Chart 2.26:

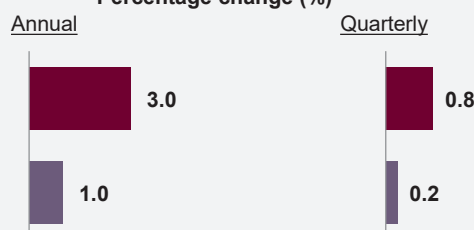
Distribution and percentage change of outside labour force by sex, Q3 2025

■ Male ■ Female

Percentage share (%)
[Person (million)]



Percentage change (%)

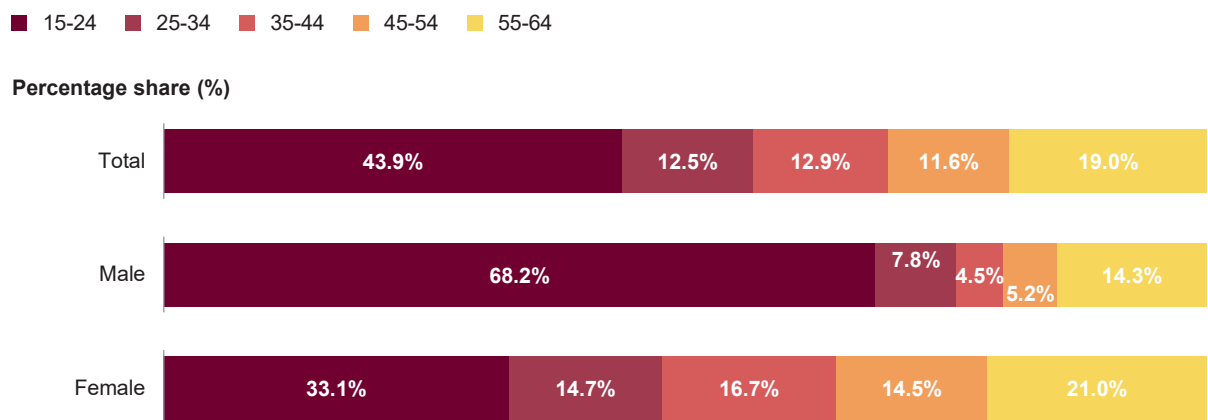


Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Further analysis by age group revealed distinct patterns between male and female outside labour force. It was interesting to observe that youth aged 15 to 24 made up more than half (68.2%) of the male outside labour force during Q3 2025, followed by 14.3 per cent in the oldest age group of 55 to 64 years. These could suggest that a late entrant of male into the job market was due to educational factors while exit from the job market was predominantly because of retirement.

Likewise, the youth age group exhibited the highest proportion of female outside labour force, which was 33.1 per cent, followed by the oldest age group of 55 to 64 years (21.0%). Nonetheless, the combined share of both at 54.1 per cent was notably lower compared to the share of male in the same age groups (82.6%). This resulted in a significant share of female outside labour force across the other age groups, ranging between 14.5 per cent to 16.7 per cent, hence indicating that female tend to leave the job market earlier compared to male **[Chart 2.28]**.

Chart 2.28:
Distribution of outside labour force by sex and age group, Q3 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Among outside labour force, the largest composition of 44.4 per cent were those who did not seek for work during Q3 2025 primarily due to housework or family responsibility. The number in this category experienced an increase of 2.4 per cent year-on-year (+74.5 thousand persons) to record 3.19 million persons. Another fairly significant portion of 40.7 per cent or equivalent to 2.92 million persons was outside labour force due to schooling or training programs. As compared to the same quarter in 2024, the number in this category rose by 0.7 per cent (+21.1 thousand persons).

Additionally, a share of 1.8 per cent outside labour force who did not seek for work were because they were going on to further their studies increased by 20.6 per cent year-on-year (+21.5 thousand persons) to 126.1 thousand persons, suggesting this group's potential to enter the labour force once completing their education or training programs. The lowest proportion of reasons for not seeking work was due to not interested or just completing a study, which accounted for 1.1 per cent or 76.9 thousand persons in Q3 2025 **[Exhibit 2.1]**.

Exhibit 2.1:

Distribution and percentage change of outside labour force by reason not seeking work, Q3 2025

		Q3 2025	Percentage change (year-on-year)		
		Person ('000) (Percentage share)	Percentage change (quarter-on-quarter)		
Schooling/ training program		2,923.1 (40.7%)	▲ 0.7%	Q3 2024: 2,902.0 (41.0%)	
			▼ -0.1%	Q2 2025: 2,927.4 (40.9%)	
Housework/ family responsibility		3,186.9 (44.4%)	▲ 2.4%	Q3 2024: 3,112.4 (44.0%)	
			▲ 0.4%	Q2 2025: 3,175.6 (44.4%)	
Going for further study		126.1 (1.8%)	▲ 20.6%	Q3 2024: 104.6 (1.5%)	
			▲ 8.7%	Q2 2025: 116.0 (1.6%)	
Disabled		236.8 (3.3%)	▲ 12.0%	Q3 2024: 211.5 (3.0%)	
			▲ 0.9%	Q2 2025: 234.6 (3.3%)	
Not interested/ just completed study		76.9 (1.1%)	▼ -7.3%	Q3 2024: 82.9 (1.2%)	
			▲ 8.5%	Q2 2025: 70.9 (1.0%)	
Retired/ old age		632.7 (8.8%)	▼ -3.8%	Q3 2024: 657.5 (9.3%)	
			▲ 0.4%	Q2 2025: 630.3 (8.8%)	

Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

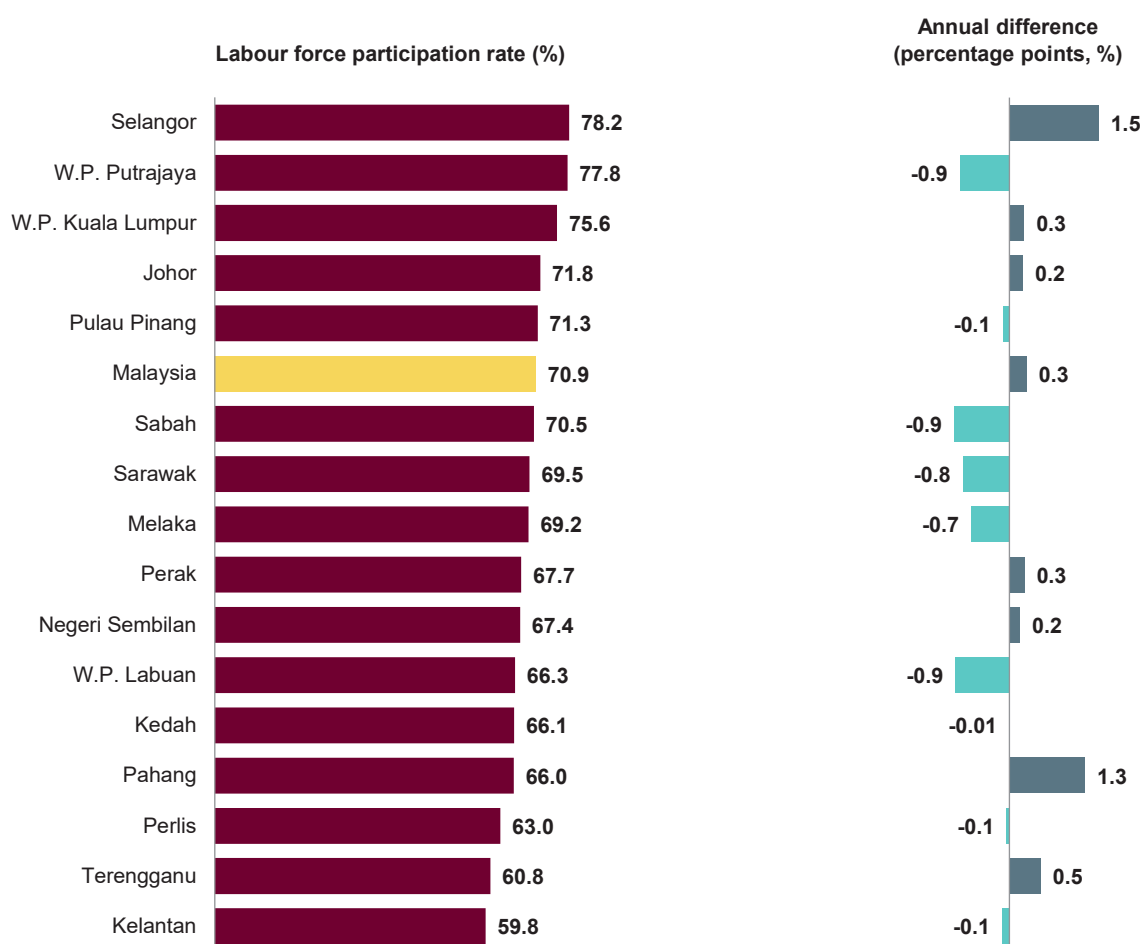
2.6 Labour Force Situation at State Level

Regarding the labour force situation at the state level in Q3 2025, five states registered LFPR higher than 70.9 per cent recorded at the national level, namely Selangor (78.2%), W.P. Putrajaya (77.8%), W.P. Kuala Lumpur (75.6%), Johor (71.8%), dan Pulau Pinang (71.3%).

When compared to the same quarter of the preceding year, most states posted decreases in LFPR except for Johor, Negeri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Selangor, Terengganu and W.P. Kuala Lumpur. In Q3 2025, Selangor recorded the highest annual increase in LFPR, rising by 1.5 percentage points to 78.2 per cent. Meanwhile, the other states registered increments ranging between 0.2 and 1.3 percentage points. This trend indicated higher participation of the working-age population in the respective states in the labour market, whether in employment or seeking jobs [Chart 2.29].

Chart 2.29:

Labour force participation rate by state, Q3 2025



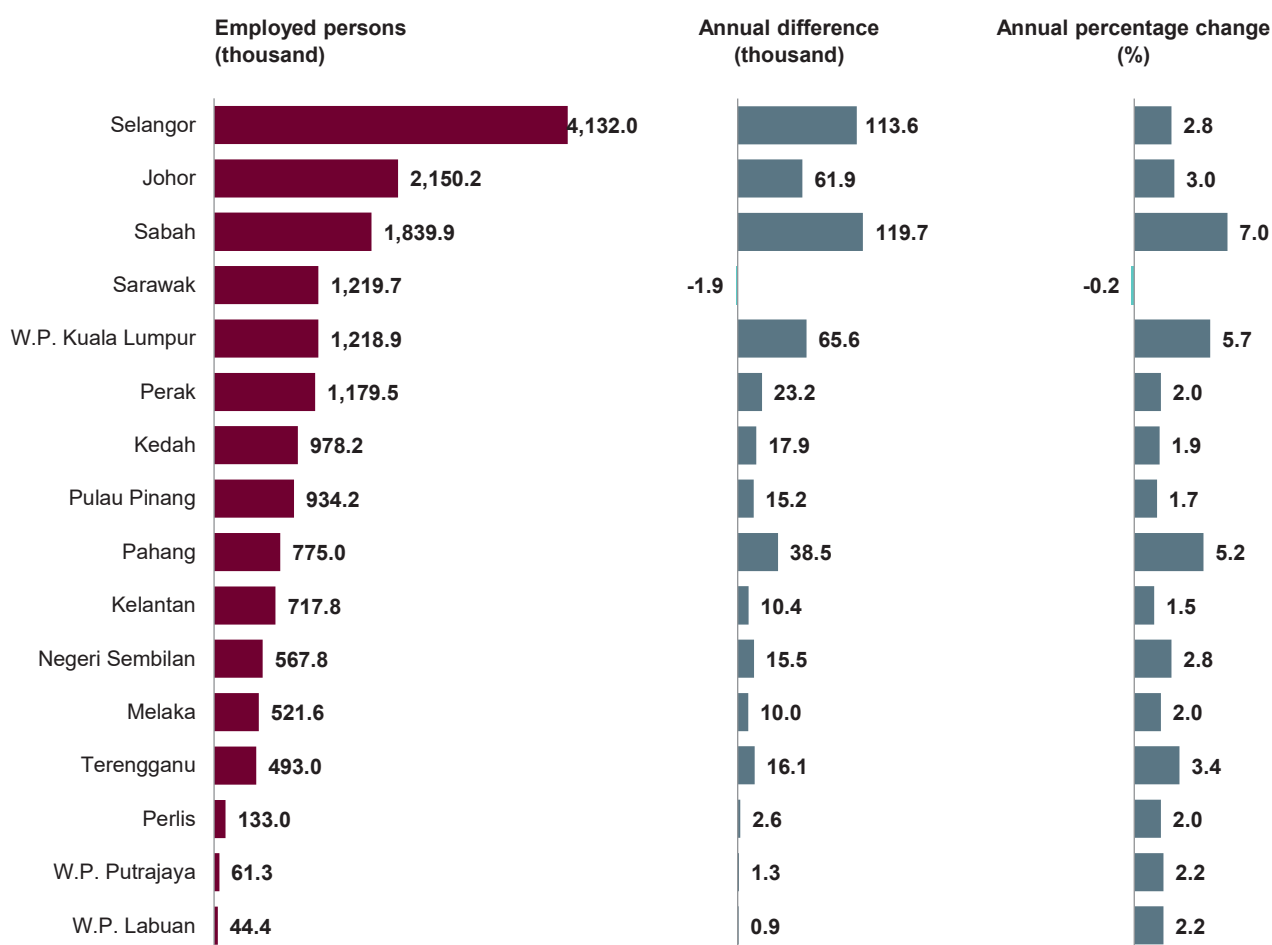
Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

In Q3 2025, total employment in Malaysia grew by 3.1 per cent. The increase in the number of employed persons during the quarter contributed to the positive year-on-year growth recorded by most states except Sarawak. Selangor which comprised 24.4 per cent of the total employment gained the most significant number of employed persons by 2.8 per cent (+113.6 thousand persons) to 4.13 million persons. This was followed by Johor with a share of 12.7 per cent or 2.15 million employed persons after an increase of 3.0 per cent (+61.9 thousand persons) year-on-year.

On the other hand, Sarawak, which represented 7.2 per cent of national employment, registered a 0.2 per cent decrease (-1.9 thousand persons) to 1.22 million persons over the same period [Chart 2.30].

Chart 2.30:

Employment by state, Q3 2025



Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

Looking at the unemployment situation by the state during Q3 2025, the lowest unemployment rate was posted in W.P. Putrajaya at 1.4 per cent. Another state with an unemployment rate below two per cent during the quarter was Selangor and Pahang which recorded 1.8 per cent and 1.7 per cent respectively. Besides these three states, six other states posted low unemployment rates compared to the national rate (3.0%), ranging between 2.4 per cent to 2.9 per cent. Meanwhile, among seven states registering an unemployment rate exceeding 3.0 per cent, Sabah remained with the highest unemployment rate at 5.7 per cent despite registering a year-on-year decrease of 1.9 percentage points during the quarter.

Eight states recorded a decrease in the number of unemployed compared to the same quarter in the preceding year. Selangor recorded the most significant reduction in the number of unemployed persons, lessened by 25.9 per cent (-27.1 thousand persons) to 77.5 thousand persons. Despite the decline in overall unemployment, eight states registered increases in the number of unemployed persons as opposed to a year ago. The highest increase was recorded in Melaka, which grew by 36.6 per cent (+3.5 thousand persons) to 13.0 thousand persons, followed by W.P. Kuala Lumpur with an increase of 34.2 per cent (+10.4 thousand persons) to record 40.9 thousand unemployed persons in Q3 2025 [Table 2.2].

Table 2.2:

Unemployment by state, Q3 2025

State	Unemployment rate		Unemployed		
	Per cent (%)	Annual percentage point difference (%)	Persons ('000)	Annual percentage change (%)	Annual difference ('000)
Sabah	5.7	-1.9	110.3	-21.7	-30.6
W.P. Labuan	4.7	-1.6	2.2	-24.6	-0.7
Kelantan	4.6	0.8	34.4	22.7	6.4
Perak	3.7	0.5	45.3	17.7	6.8
W.P. Kuala Lumpur	3.2	0.6	40.9	34.2	10.4
Perlis	3.2	-0.6	4.4	-14.3	-0.7
Sarawak	3.1	0.1	38.6	1.2	0.5
Malaysia	3.0	-0.2	519.9	-3.9	-21.1
Negeri Sembilan	3.0	-0.05	17.3	-0.1	-0.02
Terengganu	2.9	-0.1	14.6	-2.0	-0.3
Pulau Pinang	2.7	0.4	26.2	21.2	4.6
Johor	2.5	0.3	56.2	18.0	8.6
Kedah	2.4	-0.1	24.5	1.5	0.4
Melaka	2.4	0.6	13.0	36.6	3.5
Selangor	1.8	-0.7	77.5	-25.9	-27.1
Pahang	1.7	-0.5	13.8	-16.0	-2.6
W.P. Putrajaya	1.4	-0.1	0.9	-1.4	-0.01

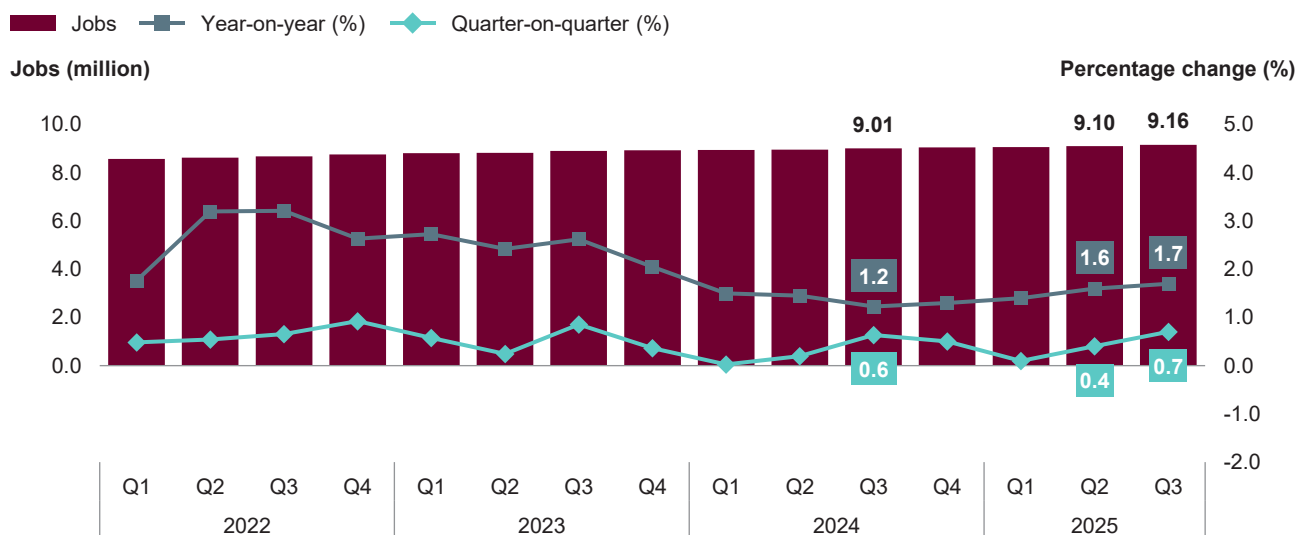
Source: Labour Force Report, Q3 2025, DOSM

3.1 Jobs in the Economic Sector

During Q3 2025, labour demand continued its upward trend, with job numbers in the economic sector rising by 1.7 per cent (+151.1 thousand) year-on-year, to register a total of 9.16 million jobs. On a quarterly basis, job numbers grew modestly by 0.7 per cent (+65.5 thousand), indicating stability in the growth of labour demand throughout the quarter [Chart 3.1].

Chart 3.1:

Number and percentage change of jobs, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025



Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

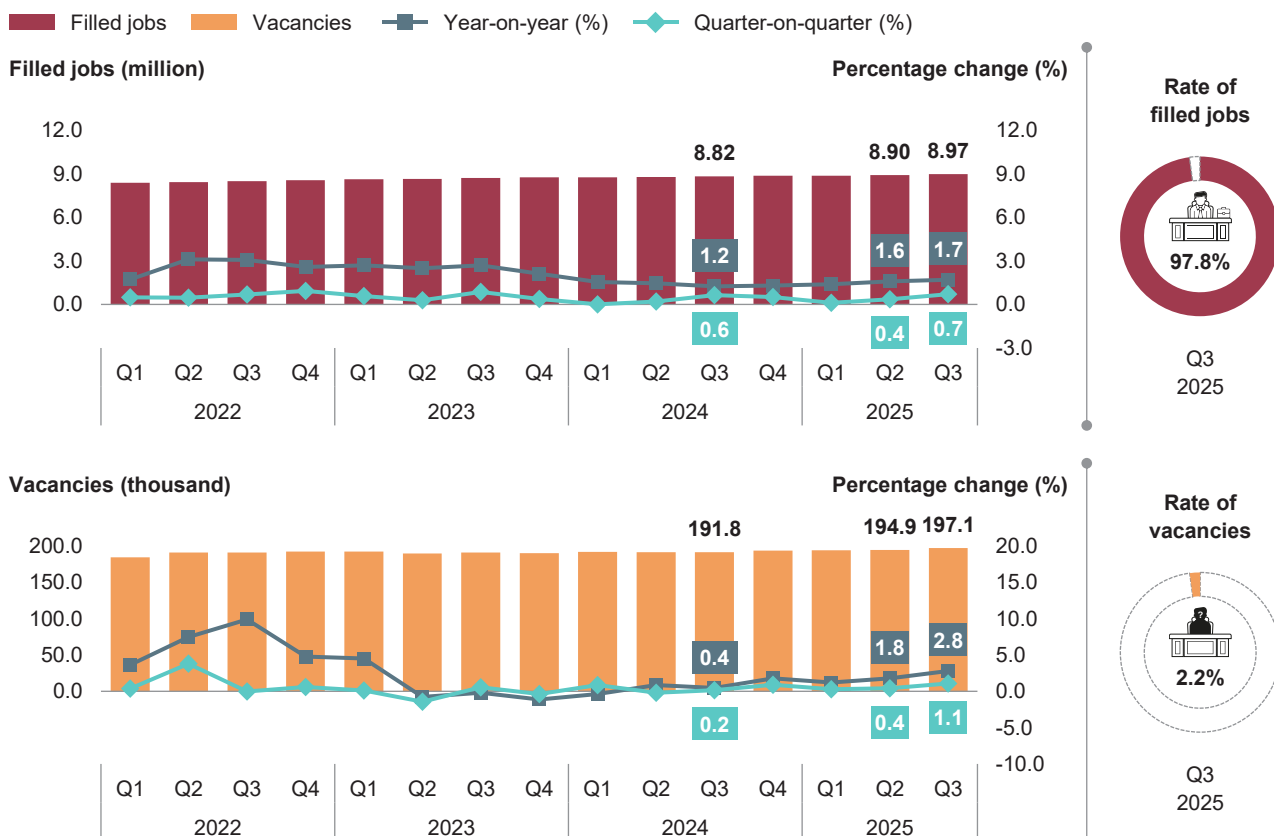
In Q3 2025, the number of filled jobs rose by 1.7 per cent (+145.8 thousand) year-on-year to 8.97 million filled jobs. This figure also shows an increase of 0.7 per cent (+63.3 thousand) on a quarter on-quarter basis compared to the previous quarter.

As for job openings in the economy, the number of vacancies climbed by 2.8 per cent (+5.3 thousand) year-on-year, totalling 197.1 thousand in Q3 2025. In addition, job vacancies increased marginally by 1.1 per cent (+2.2 thousand) compared to the previous quarter.

The rate of filled jobs reached 97.8 per cent in Q3 2025 and remained the same percentage year-on-year and remaining stable from the previous quarter. In contrast, the rate of vacancies to total jobs increased by 0.1 percentage points during the quarter, settling at 2.2 per cent [Chart 3.2].

Chart 3.2:

Number, percentage change and rate of filled jobs & vacancies, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025



Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

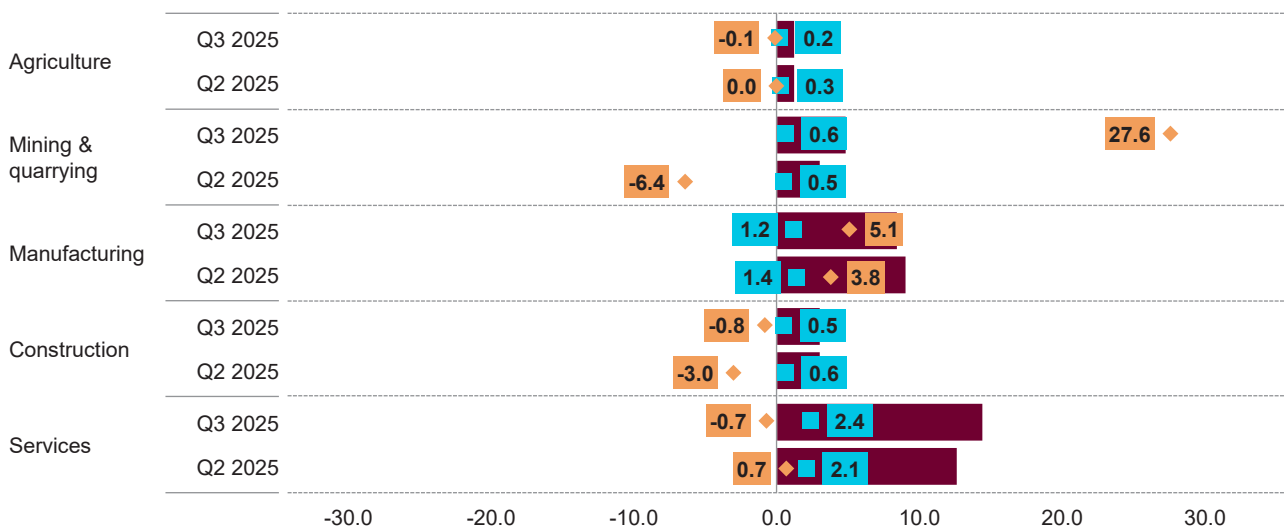
A closer analysis by economic sector shows that the positive annual growth was driven by an increase in job numbers and filled jobs across all sectors. The favourable trend of labour demand was reflected through the increased number of vacancies for all sectors except Construction and Services [Chart 3.3].

Chart 3.3:

Annual percentage change of jobs, filled jobs & vacancies by economic sector, Q2 2025 & Q3 2025

■ Jobs ■ Filled jobs ◆ Vacancies

Percentage change (%)



Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

In Q3 2025, most of the jobs were concentrated in the Services sector, accounting for 52.2 per cent or 4.78 million jobs, marking a year-on-year growth of 2.4 per cent (+109.9 thousand). This growth was primarily driven by an increase in jobs across all sub-sectors, particularly in Wholesale & retail trade which rose by 3.3 per cent (+56.7 thousand). Within the Services sector, over 70 per cent of jobs were concentrated in three sub-sectors, Wholesale & retail trade (37.5%), Finance, insurance, real estate & business services (19.9%), and Food & beverages and accommodation (17.3%).

Out of total jobs in the Services sector, filled jobs encompassed 99.5 per cent or equivalent to 4.76 million filled jobs after registering an annual increase of 2.4 per cent (+110.1 thousand) in Q3 2025. All sub-sectors recorded rates above 99.0 per cent, with Food & beverages and accommodation posting the highest rate (99.8%), while the lowest rate was in Finance, insurance, real estate & business services sub-sector (99.1%). Job vacancies for the Services sector comprised 0.5 per cent of total jobs in Services sector or 24.6 thousand vacancies, indicating a decrease of 0.7 per cent (-0.2 thousand) compared to the same quarter last year. Most vacancies were found in the Wholesale & retail trade (38.2%) and Finance, insurance, real estate & business services (36.2%) sub-sectors.

In the meantime, jobs in the Manufacturing sector, encompassing 27.5 per cent or 2.52 million of jobs, ranked second after the Services sector. This sector posted a year-on-year increase of 1.4 per cent (+33.6 thousand) in Q3 2025, followed by positive growth in all sub-sectors except Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products. The largest job growth in Manufacturing occurred in Food processing, beverages & tobacco products sub-sector with an increase of 2.5 per cent (+8.7 thousand) annually. Key sub-sectors in Manufacturing included Electrical, electronic & optical products (26.3%), Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products (18.1%), and Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products (15.5%), collectively contributing nearly two-thirds of the sector's jobs.

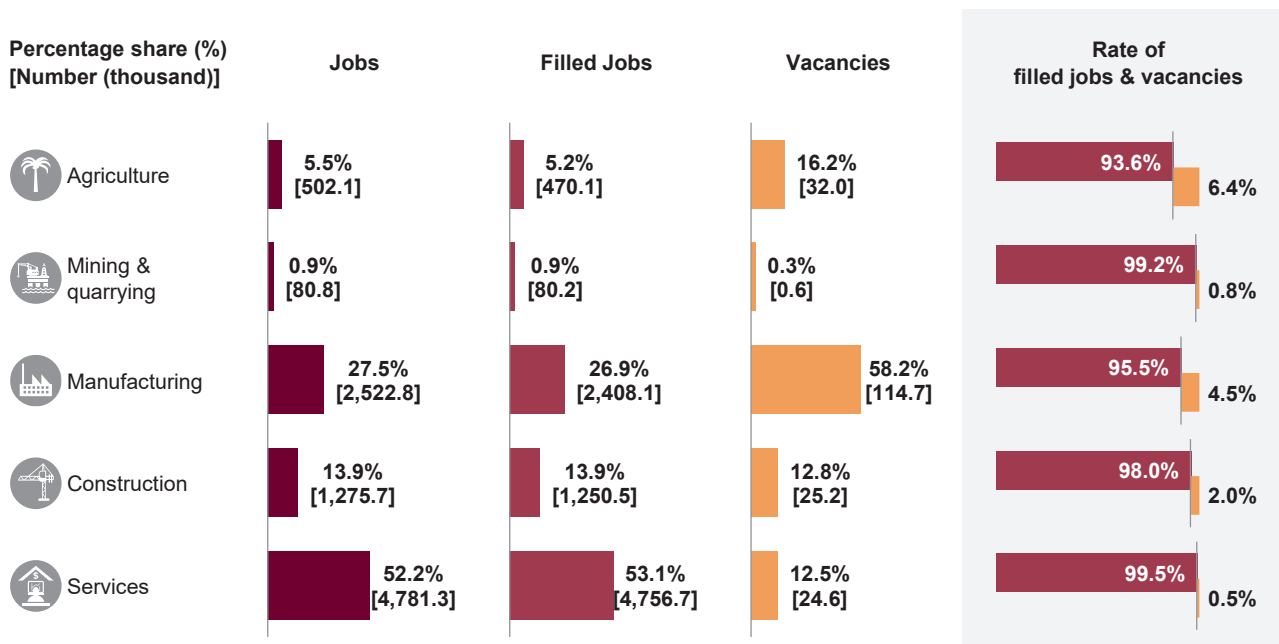
The rate of filled jobs for the Manufacturing sector remained at 95.5 per cent as compared to the same quarter of the preceding year. During the same period, this number went up by 1.2 per cent (+28.0 thousand) to record 2.41 million filled jobs. Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products sub-sector registered the highest rate of filled jobs at 96.5 per cent, whereas Electrical, electronic & optical products sub-sector had the lowest rate at 94.7 per cent. Job vacancies in the Manufacturing sector accounted for 114.7 thousand, comprising 4.5 per cent of the Manufacturing sector's jobs. The number of vacancies in this sector grew by 5.1 per cent (+5.6 thousand) as all sub-sectors observed an increase in job except Textiles, wearing apparel & leather product. Most job vacancies were concentrated in two sub-sectors, namely the Electrical, electronic & optical products sub-sector (30.9%) and Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products (17.2%).

Jobs in the Construction sector made up 13.9 per cent of total jobs in Q3 2025, which increased by 0.5 per cent (+5.9 thousand) to record 1.28 million jobs compared to the same quarter in the previous year. The rate of filled jobs in this sector was 98.0 per cent, while the rate of vacancies was 2.0 per cent during the quarter. Additionally, jobs in the Agriculture sector comprised 5.5 per cent or 502.1 thousand jobs in Q3 2025, while the Mining & quarrying sector made up the lowest share at 0.9 per cent or equivalent to 80.8 thousand jobs. These sectors saw an increase of 0.2 per cent (+1.1 thousand) and an increase of 0.8 per cent (+0.6 thousand) as compared to Q3 2024 respectively. The Mining & quarrying sector consistently recorded the second highest rate of filled jobs at 99.2 per cent, indicating the second lowest number of vacancies during the quarter. In contrast, the Agriculture sector registered a filled jobs rate of 93.6 per cent, showing the highest vacancy rate of 6.4 per cent in Q3 2025 [Chart 3.4].

Chart 3.4:

Percentage share of jobs, filled jobs & vacancies and rate of filled jobs & vacancies by economic sector, Q3 2025

■ Jobs ■ Filled jobs ■ Vacancies



Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2025, DOSM

Regarding labour demand by skill level in Q3 2025, the number of jobs in all skill categories increased compared to the previous year. The same phenomenon occurred in the number of filled positions, showing an increase across all skill categories [Chart 3.5].

Chart 3.5:

Annual percentage change of jobs, filled jobs & vacancies by skill level, Q2 2025 & Q3 2025

■ Jobs ■ Filled jobs ■ Vacancies

Percentage change (%)



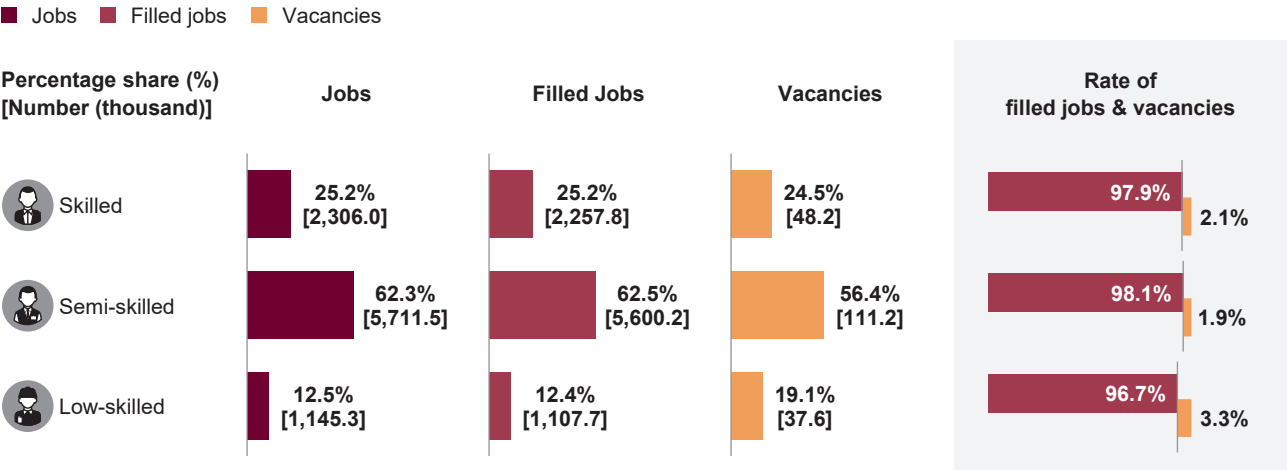
Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2025, DOSM

The majority of jobs in the economic sector were in the semi-skilled category, with a share of 62.3 per cent or equivalent to 5.71 million jobs in Q3 2025. Five occupations in this category consist of Clerical support workers; Service and sales workers; Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock and fisheries workers; Craft and related trades workers; and Plant and machine operators and assembler. As compared to the same quarter of the preceding year, jobs in this category grew by 1.4 per cent (+76.6 thousand). Therefore, the rate of filled jobs in the semi-skilled category was 98.1 per cent or accounted for 5.60 million filled jobs, representing an increase of 1.3 per cent (+72.5 thousand) year-on-year. During the same period, the number of job vacancies in this category remained as 3.8 per cent (+4.1 thousand) to record 111.2 thousand vacancies with a vacancy rate of 1.9 per cent.

The skilled jobs comprised a share of 25.2 per cent in Q3 2025, encompassing three occupation categories namely Managers; Professionals; and Technicians and associates professional. The number of skilled jobs grew 2.3 per cent (+51.4 thousand) year-on-year to 2.31 million during the quarter. Therefore, the number of filled jobs in the skilled category edged up by 2.3 per cent (+50.7 thousand) to record 2.26 million filled jobs. However, the skilled job vacancies increased by 1.5 per cent (+0.7 thousand), registering 48.2 thousand vacancies. The rate of filled jobs in the skilled category was 97.9 per cent, while the rate of vacancies was 2.1 per cent.

Nevertheless, the remaining 12.5 per cent of jobs were in the low-skilled category, which increased by 2.1 per cent (+23.1 thousand) to 1.15 million jobs. In line with this, the number of low-skilled filled jobs rose by 2.1 per cent (+22.6 thousand) to 1.11 million, reflecting a filled job rate of 96.7 per cent in Q3 2025. Additionally, low-skilled job vacancies increased by 1.3 per cent (+0.5 thousand) to 37.6 thousand, indicating a vacancy rate of 3.3 per cent [Chart 3.6].

Chart 3.6:
Percentage share of jobs, filled jobs & vacancies and rate of filled jobs & vacancies by skill level, Q3 2025



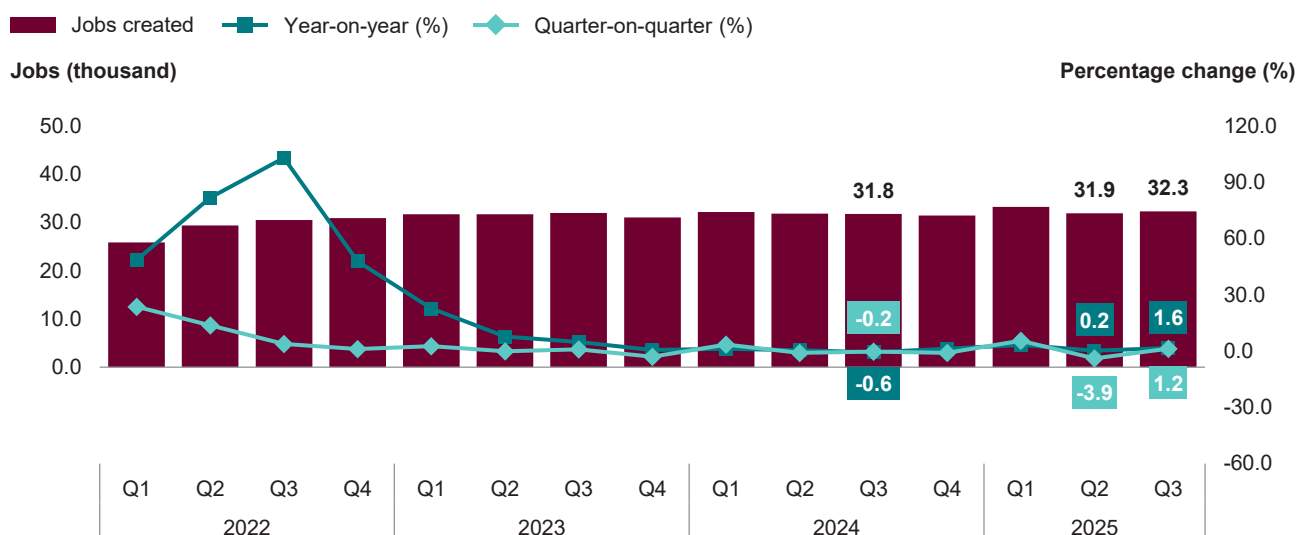
Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2025, DOSM

3.2 Jobs Creation

In Q3 2025, the number of jobs created in the economic sector increase by 1.6 per cent (+0.1 thousand) year-on-year, compared to 0.2 per cent recorded in the previous quarter. The total number of jobs created stood at 32.3 thousand. In the meantime, jobs created registered a quarterly positive growth of 1.2 per cent (0.38 thousand) from 31.9 thousand during Q2 2025 [Chart 3.7].

Chart 3.7:

Number and percentage change of jobs created, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025



Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

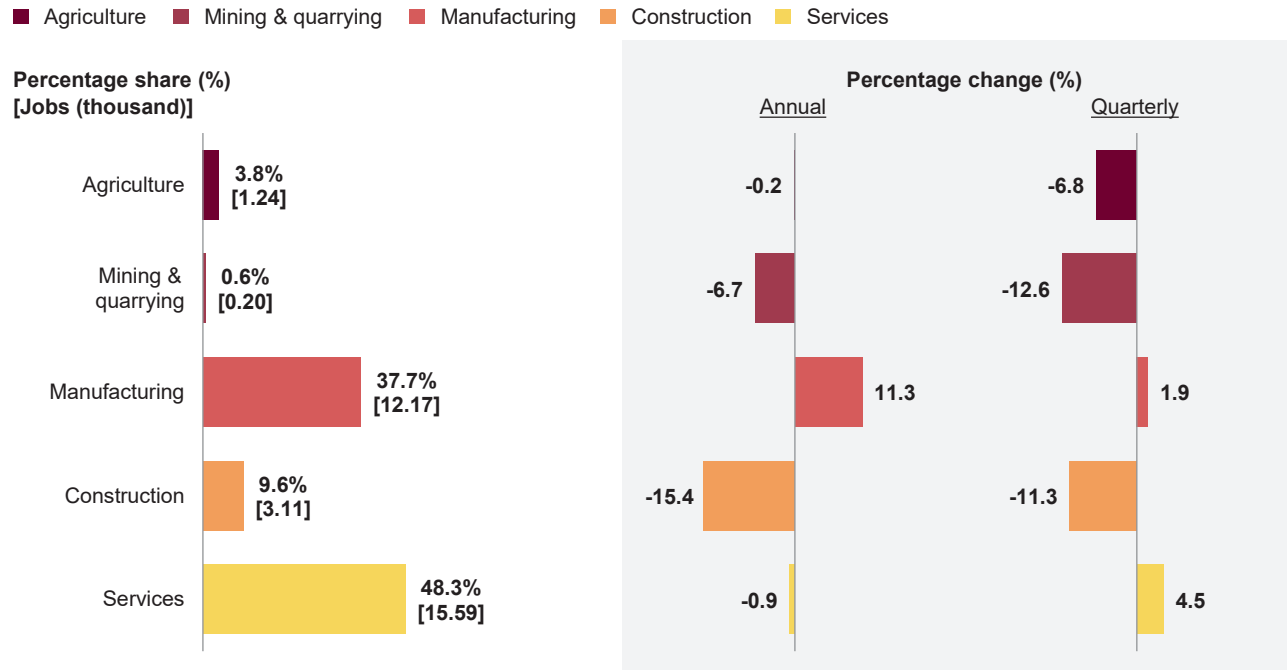
Job creation was largely in the Services sector, encompassing 48.3 per cent or equivalent to 15.6 thousand jobs, registering a decline of 0.9 per cent (-0.1 thousand) in Q3 2025. Within this sector, the Wholesale & retail trade sub-sector played a significant role by contributing 9.0 thousand jobs created, followed by the Finance, insurance, real estate & business services sub-sector with 2.4 thousand jobs.

The Manufacturing sector ranked second with a share of 37.7 per cent of total jobs created in Q3 2025, grew by 11.3 per cent (+1.2 thousand) to register 12.2 thousand jobs created. A combined share of two sub-sectors comprised over half of jobs created in the Manufacturing sector were Electrical, electronic & optical products (33.9%) and Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products (25.4%) sub-sectors.

Furthermore, there was a decrease of 6.7 per cent in jobs created for the Mining & quarrying sector recording 0.2 thousand jobs created. However, the Agriculture sector comprised 3.8 per cent of jobs created during the quarter, equivalent to 1.2 thousand jobs, posting a fall of 0.2 per cent (-0.57 thousand) as against the same quarter of the preceding year. During the same period, the Construction sector, which contributed 9.0 per cent, recorded a significant decline of 15.4 per cent (-0.57 thousand) [Chart 3.8].

Chart 3.8:

Distribution and percentage change of jobs created by economic sector, Q3 2025

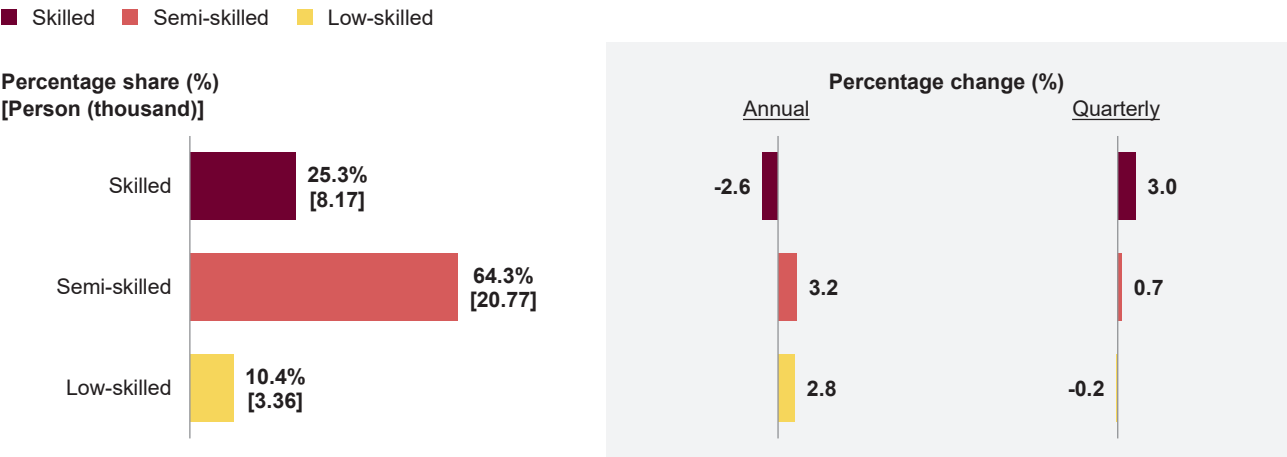


Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Looking at the jobs created by skill level, more than half or 64.3 per cent of total jobs created in Q3 2025 were concentrated in the semi-skilled category, which accounted for 20.8 thousand jobs. In terms of annual change, the number of jobs created in this category increased 3.2 per cent (+0.6 thousand). The skilled category ranked second with a composition of nearly one-third (25.3%) of total job creation during the quarter, registering a negative annual growth of 2.6 per cent (-0.2 thousand) to 8.2 thousand jobs created. Meanwhile, jobs created in the low-skilled category which contributed 10.4 per cent of all jobs created, increased by 2.8 per cent (+0.09 thousand) to record 3.4 thousand jobs in Q3 2025 [Chart 3.9].

Chart 3.9:

Distribution and percentage change of jobs created by skill level, Q3 2025



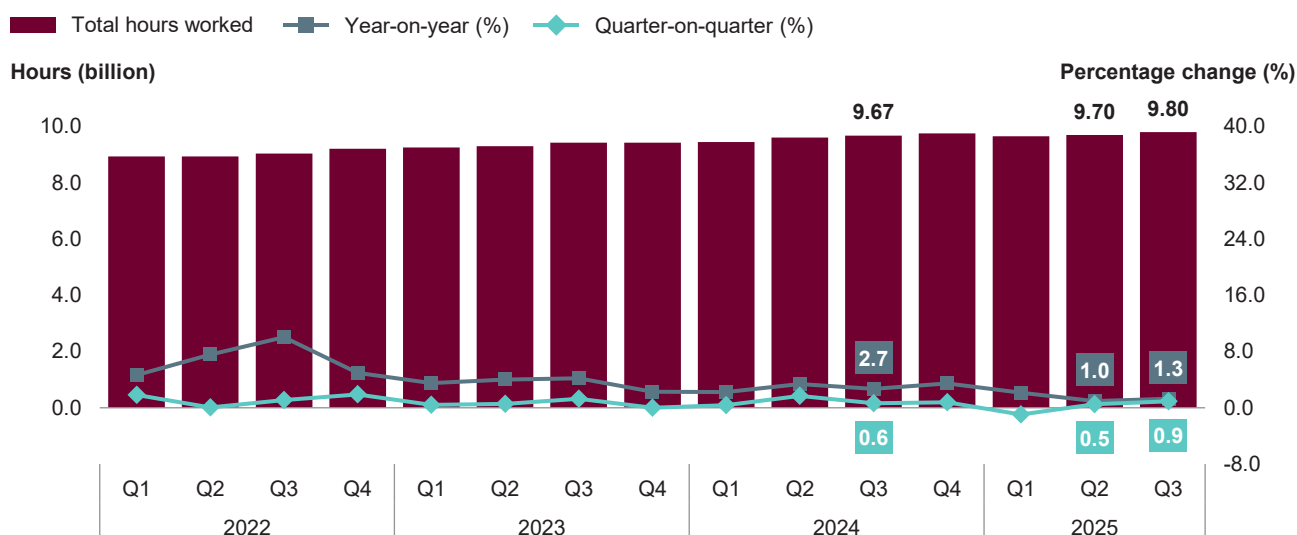
Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

4.1 Labour Productivity per Hour Worked

During Q3 2025, Malaysia's economy continues to grow 5.2 per cent year-on-year as compared to 4.4 per cent in the same quarter of the previous year. This economic growth was accompanied by an increase in total hours worked, which rose by 1.3 per cent to 9.80 billion hours. On a quarterly basis, total hours worked edged up by 0.9 per cent, following a 0.5 per cent decrease in Q2 2025 [Chart 4.1].

Chart 4.1:

Total hours worked, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025



Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

In Malaysia, the Services sector accounted for almost two-thirds or 63.0 per cent of total hours worked, making it the dominant contributor to the country's economy. While the second highest share of total hours worked was in the Manufacturing sector, which encompassed 17.4 per cent, followed by Agriculture with a share of 10.5 per cent in Q3 2025. During the same quarter, the Construction sector contributed 8.7 per cent, and the Mining & quarrying sectors made up 0.5 per cent of the total hours worked.

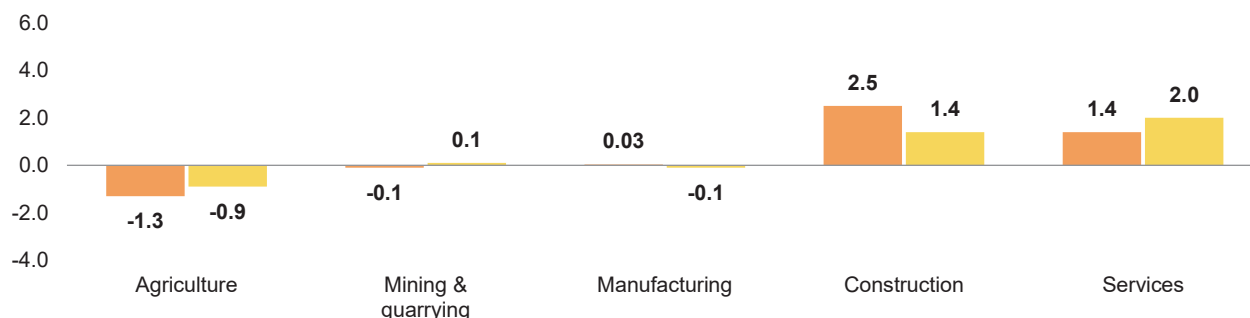
All sectors posted positive year-on-year growth of total hours worked except for the Agriculture and Manufacturing sector. The Services sector observing the highest gain in total hours worked, up by 2.0 per cent over the same quarter of the previous year, with the largest increase in the sub-sector of Transportation & storage (4.0%), followed by Food & beverages and accommodation (3.9%). Meanwhile, total hours worked in the Construction sector surged by 1.4 per cent and during the same quarter, the Mining & quarrying sector contributed a slight rise of 0.1 per cent year-on year. However, the Agriculture and Manufacturing sector showed a negative momentum, contracting by 0.9 and 0.1 per cent respectively in Q3 2025 [Chart 4.2].

Chart 4.2:

Annual percentage change of total hours worked by economic sector, Q2 2025 & Q3 2025

Q2 2025 Q3 2025

Percentage change (%)



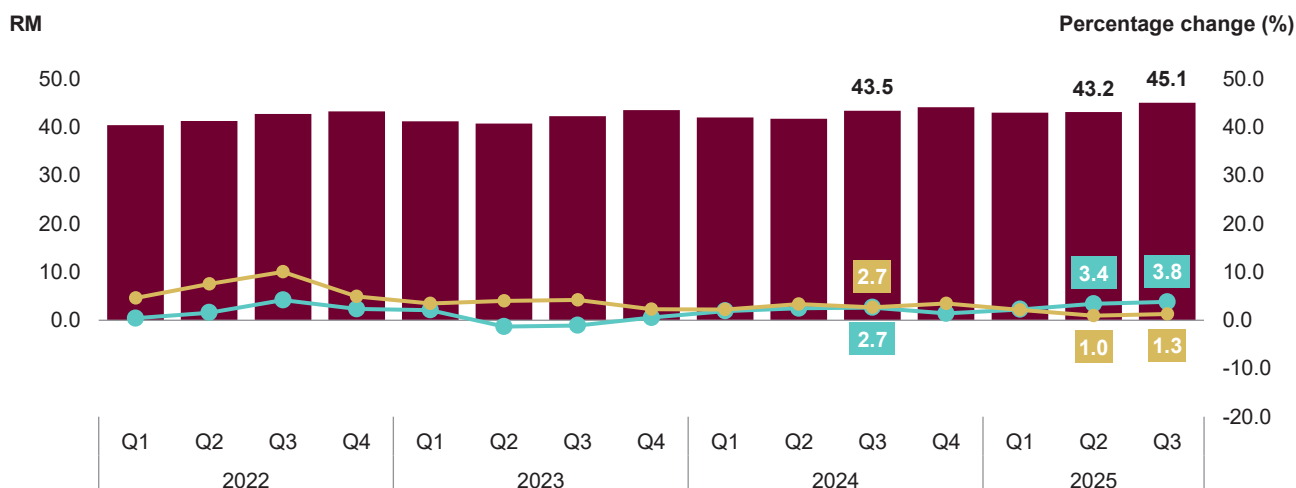
Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

As a whole, labour productivity as measured by value added per hour worked rose by 3.8 per cent in Q3 2025 after registering an increase of 3.4 per cent in the previous quarter, to bring the level of productivity at RM45.1 per hour worked [Chart 4.3].

Chart 4.3:

Labour productivity per hour worked, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025

Labour productivity per hour worked (RM) Labour productivity per hour worked (Year-on-year, %) Total hour worked (Year-on-year, %)



Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Looking at labour productivity per hour worked by economic sector in Q3 2025, All sectors recorded positive year-on-year growth. Meanwhile, the Construction sector posted the highest increase, with labour productivity per hour worked rising by 10.2 per cent, higher than the 9.3 per cent growth recorded in the previous quarter.

During the same quarter, the Manufacturing sector continued its upward trend with an increase of 4.2 per cent in labour productivity per hour worked. Most sub-sectors posted growth, except for Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products (-0.8%). Labour productivity per hour worked in the Services sector increased by 2.9 per cent year-on-year in Q3 2025, with the highest growth being recorded in both Other services (5.6%) and Real estate & business services (5.5%) sub-sectors [Table 4.1].

Table 4.1:

Annual percentage change of labour productivity per hour worked, value added & total hours worked by economic sector, Q3 2025

Economic activity	Labour productivity per hour worked	Value added	Total hours worked
Agriculture	1.3	0.4	-0.9
Mining & quarrying	9.7	9.7	0.1
Manufacturing	4.2	4.1	-0.1
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	9.4	6.8	-2.4
Beverages & tobacco products	2.6	9.3	6.5
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	-0.8	-0.1	0.7
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	2.0	3.6	1.6
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	4.0	-0.5	-4.3
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	1.3	3.6	2.3
Electrical, electronic & optical products	6.6	8.4	1.6
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	0.5	1.2	0.7
Construction	10.2	11.8	1.4
Services	2.9	5.0	2.0
Utilities	-0.03	2.3	2.4
Wholesale & retail trade	3.4	4.8	1.4
Food & beverages and accommodation	5.4	9.5	3.9
Transportation & storage	3.6	7.8	4.0
Information & communication	2.0	3.9	1.8
Finance & insurance	-2.4	-2.0	0.4
Real estate & business services	5.5	7.7	2.1
Other services	5.6	6.8	1.1
Total	3.8	5.2	1.3

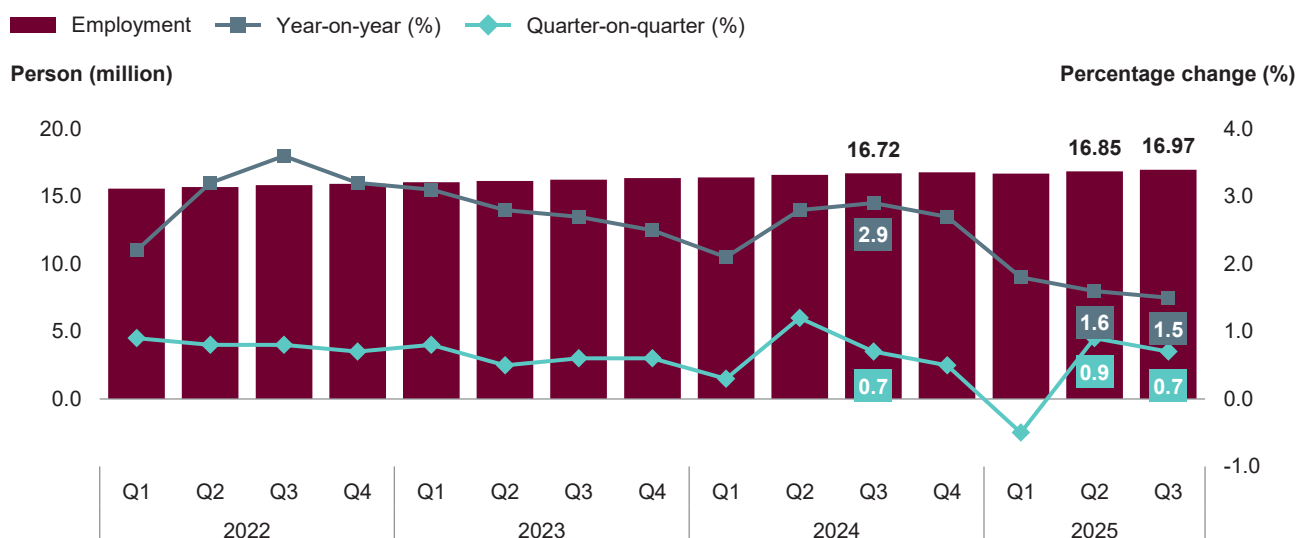
Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

4.2 Labour Productivity per Employment

As the Malaysian labour market situation improved further in Q3 2025, employment increased by 1.5 per cent year-on-year to record a total of 16.97 million persons. On a quarterly basis, employment registered a growth of 0.7 per cent, as compared in the preceding quarter [Chart 4.4].

Chart 4.4:

Employment, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025



Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

In Q3 2025, employment expanded across all economic sectors, with particularly highest gains in the Services sector. Employment in the Services sector remain unchanged at 2.1 per cent to reach 10.69 million persons, with every sub-sector showing growth over the same quarter of the previous year. The most notable rise was observed in the Food & beverages and accommodation (3.5%), followed by Transportation & storage (2.6%), Information & communication (2.2%) and Wholesale & Retail Trade (2.2%).

In the Manufacturing sector, employment rose by 0.6 per cent in Q3 2025 to record 2.87 million persons. All sub-sectors registered growth, except for Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products sub-sector which declined 1.3 per cent during Q3 2025. The largest increase observed in the Beverages & tobacco products (2.7%) sub-sector, followed by Electrical, electronic & optical products (1.4%) and Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair (1.4%) sub-sectors.

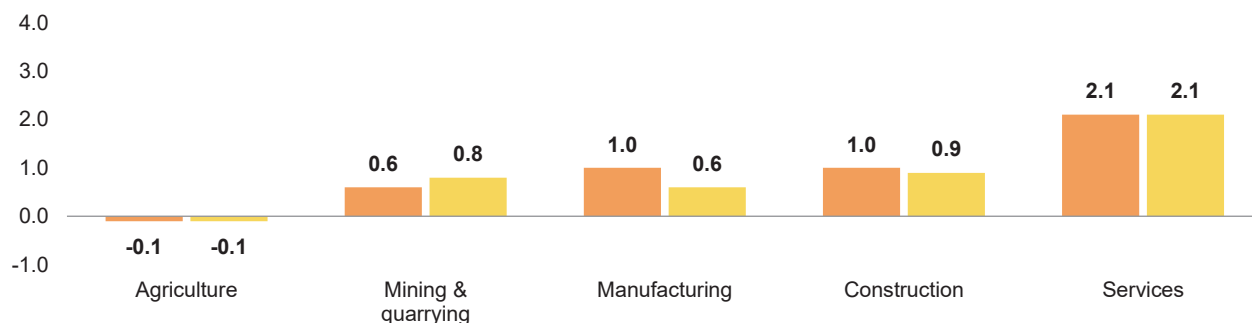
In addition, employment in the Agriculture sector posted a modest decrease of 0.1 per cent, reaching 1.91 million persons in Q3 2025. Meanwhile, the Mining & quarrying and Construction sectors recorded employment growth of 0.8 per cent and 0.6 per cent, respectively [Chart 4.5].

Chart 4.5:

Annual percentage change of employment by economic sector, Q2 2025 & Q3 2025

Q2 2025 Q3 2025

Percentage change (%)



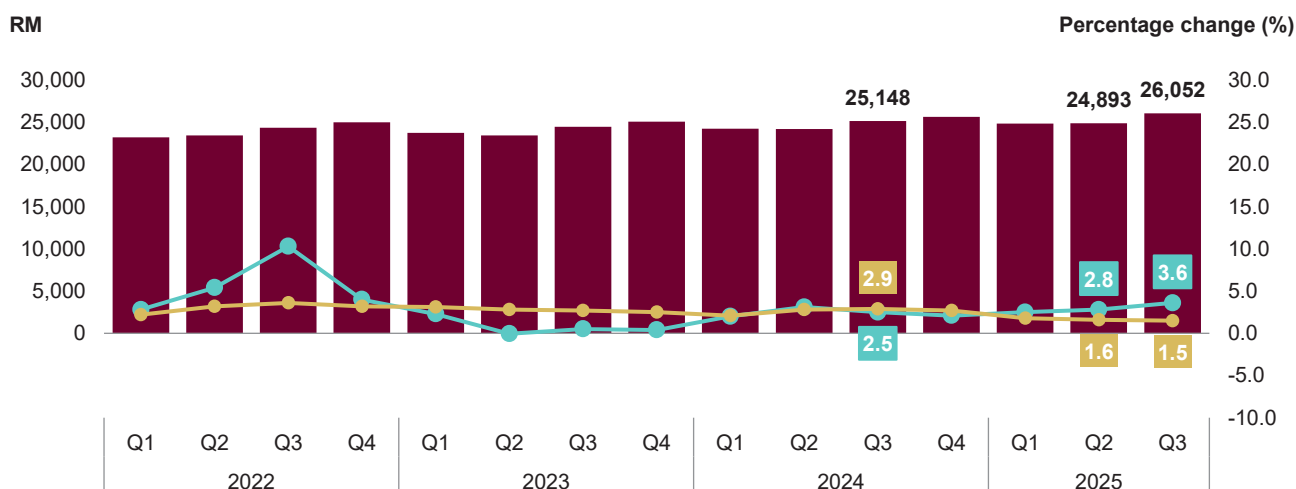
Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Labour productivity, which is measured as value added per employment, increased by 3.6 per cent to reach RM26,052 per employment in Q3 2025 [Chart 4.6].

Chart 4.6:

Labour productivity per employment, Q1 2022 – Q3 2025

Labour productivity per employment (RM) Labour productivity per employment (Year-on-year, %) Employment (Year-on-year, %)



Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

By economic sector, labour productivity per employment in the Services sector registered a year-on-year increase of 2.8 per cent in Q3 2025, underpinned by positive performance across the majority of its sub-sectors. Nonetheless, contractions were observed in the Finance & insurance sub-sector (-3.2%).

In the meantime, labour productivity per employment for the Manufacturing sector increased by 3.5 per cent year-on-year in Q3 2025 as compared to a 2.8 per cent increase in the preceding quarter. Among the highest growth within this sector was recorded by Electrical, electronic & optical products (6.9%) and Beverages & tobacco products (6.4%) sub-sectors.

The Mining & Quarrying sector recording a substantial increase of 8.9 per cent in labour productivity per employment. The Agriculture sector also posted a modest increase of 0.5 per cent, followed by Construction sector increase by 10.8 per cent during Q3 2025 [Table 4.2].

Table 4.2:

Annual percentage change of labour productivity per employment, value added & employment by economic sector, Q3 2025

Economic activity	Labour productivity per employment	Value added	Employment
Agriculture	0.5	0.4	-0.1
Mining & quarrying	8.9	9.7	0.8
Manufacturing	3.5	4.1	0.6
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	5.6	6.8	1.1
Beverages & tobacco products	6.4	9.3	2.7
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	-0.4	-0.1	0.3
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	3.1	3.6	0.5
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	0.8	-0.5	-1.3
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	3.2	3.6	0.3
Electrical, electronic & optical products	6.9	8.4	1.4
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	-0.2	1.2	1.4
Construction	10.8	11.8	0.9
Services	2.8	5.0	2.1
Utilities	0.6	2.3	1.7
Wholesale & retail trade	2.5	4.8	2.2
Food & beverages and accommodation	5.8	9.5	3.5
Transportation & storage	5.1	7.8	2.6
Information & communication	1.6	3.9	2.2
Finance & insurance	-3.2	-2.0	1.2
Real estate & business services	5.9	7.7	1.7
Other services	5.5	6.8	1.2
Total	3.6	5.2	1.5

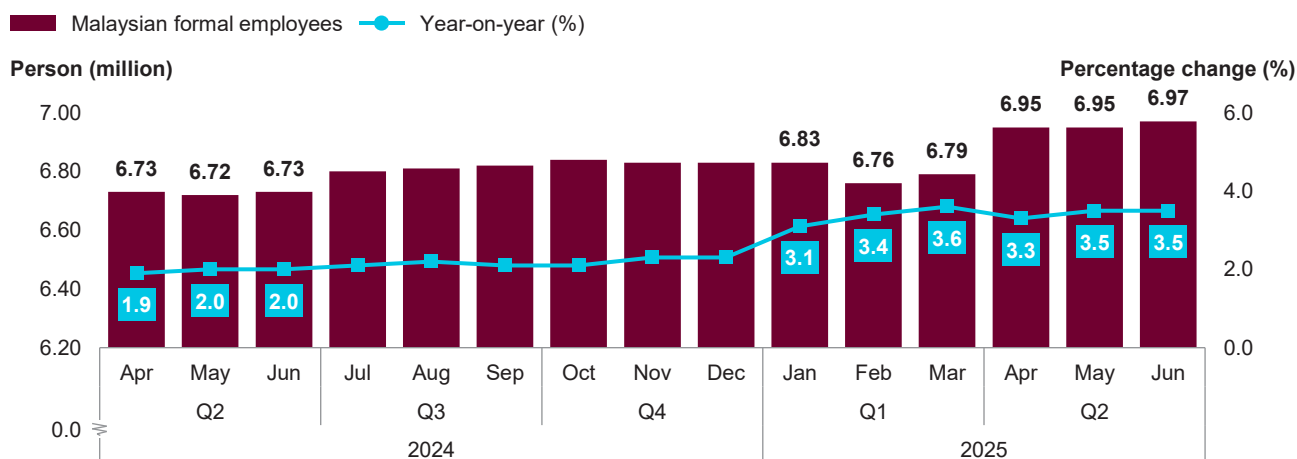
Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

5.1 Median Monthly Wages of Formal Employees

The total number of Malaysian formal employees was 6.97 million persons in June 2025, an increase of 3.5 per cent (+238.7 thousand) compared to the same month in the previous year based on the Employee Wages Statistics from administrative data sources. This accounted for 65.5 per cent of Malaysian paid employees across both the private and public sectors **[Chart 5.1]**.

Chart 5.1:

Malaysian formal employees, April 2024 – June 2025

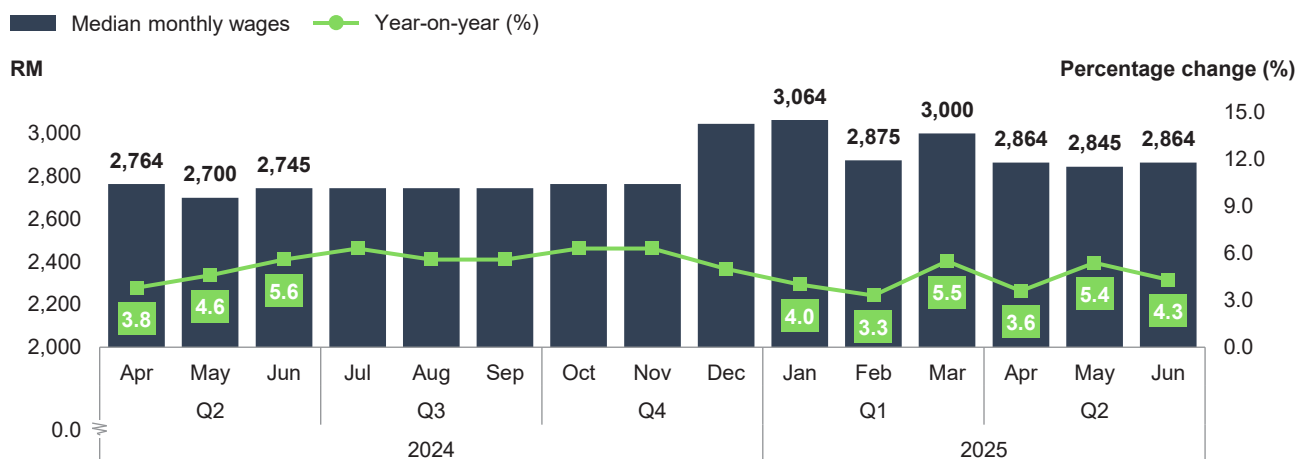


Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q2 2025, DOSM

As of June 2025, the median monthly wage for Malaysian formal employees was RM2,864, registering a 4.3 per cent annual increase (May 2025: RM2,845; April 2025: RM2,864) **[Chart 5.2]**.

Chart 5.2:

Median monthly wages, April 2024 – June 2025

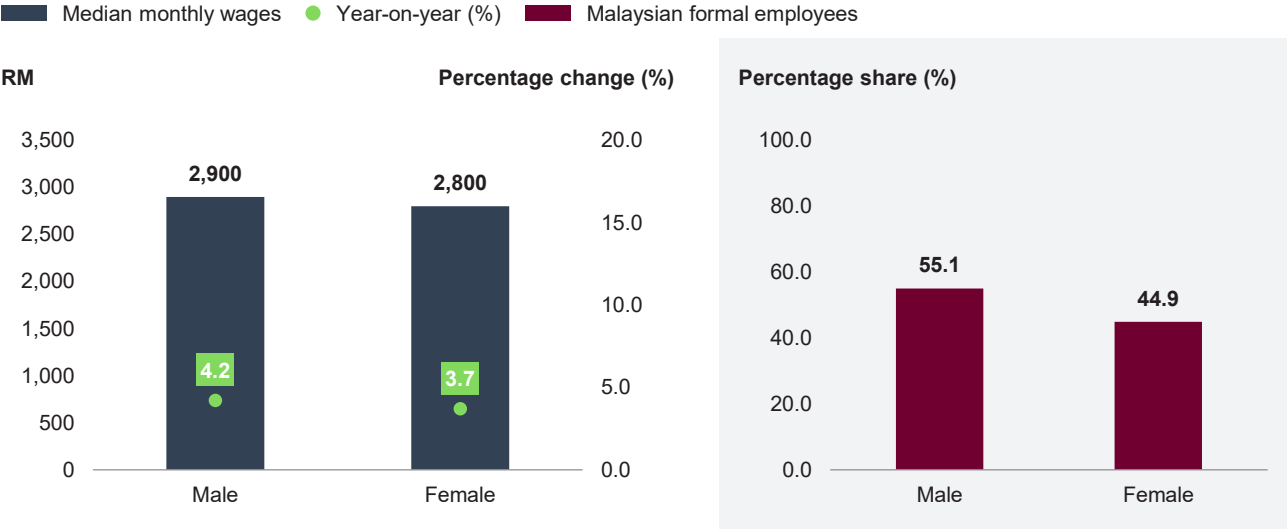


Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q2 2025, DOSM

In terms of sex aggregation, the median monthly wage for male employees in June 2025 increased by 4.2 per cent year-on-year to RM2,900, representing 55.1 per cent (3.84 million persons) of Malaysia’s formal employees. Meanwhile, female employees, making up 44.9 per cent of the formal employees, recorded a 3.7 per cent increase in their median monthly wage, to RM2,800.

The month-on-month median for males recorded an increase of 0.3 per cent, while no change was recorded for females compared to May 2025. Male employees consistently earned a higher median wage than female **[Chart 5.3]**.

Chart 5.3:
Median & annual percentage change of monthly wages and percentage share of Malaysian formal employees by sex, June 2025



Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q2 2025, DOSM

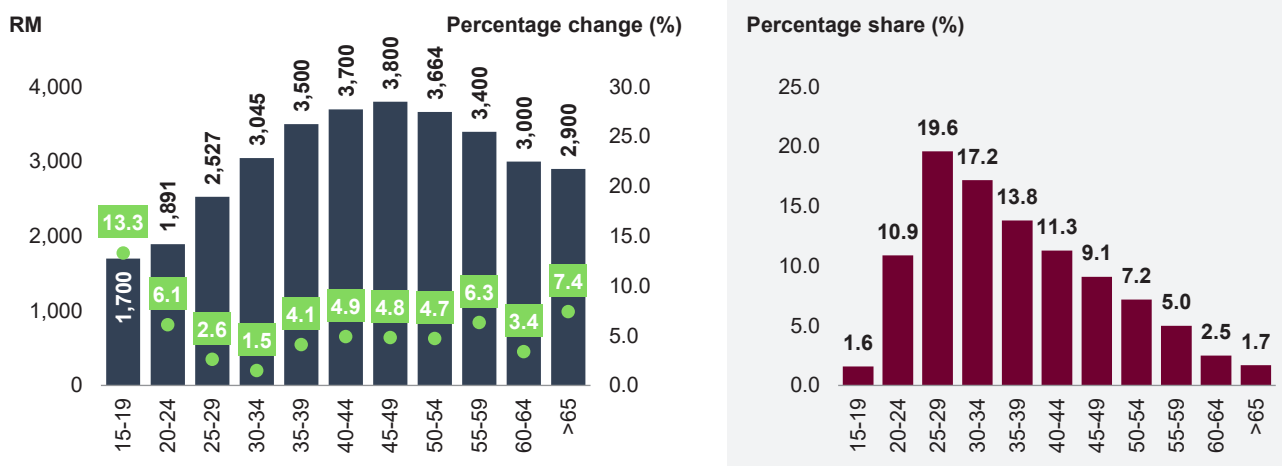
By age group, Malaysian formal employees aged 45 to 49 years recorded the highest median monthly wages at RM3,800 in June 2025, representing 9.1 per cent of total formal employees. In contrast, employees under the age of 20 earned the lowest median monthly wages at RM1,700. This pattern, consistent with previous months reflects the influenced of age, closely tied to education level and work experience on wage distribution.

In June 2025, median monthly wages across all age groups increased compared to the previous year. The most notable increase is observed in age group of below 20 years with recorded growth of 13.3 per cent **[Chart 5.4]**.

Chart 5.4:

Median & annual percentage change of monthly wages and percentage share of Malaysian formal employees by age group, June 2025

■ Median monthly wages ● Year-on-year (%) ■ Malaysian formal employees



Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q2 2025, DOSM

By economic activity, median monthly wages rose in all five main sectors in Jun 2025 compared to the same month in 2024. The Mining & Quarrying sector continued to record the highest median wage at RM6,500, registering an increase of 10.2 per cent compared to June 2024, although it represented only 0.6 per cent of Malaysian formal employees.

Meanwhile, the Construction sector recorded a median monthly wage of RM2,945 in the same month, shown a year-on-year increase of 5.2 per cent. The monthly median for the Services sector was RM2,900, with an increase of 4.9 per cent. As the largest contributor to the economy, the Services sector accounted for more than two-thirds (67.8% or 4.73 million persons) of formal employees. Within this sector, Finance & Insurance recorded the highest median wage at RM6,200, followed by Information & Communication at RM5,300, and Utilities at RM3,300. In contrast, the Food & Beverages and Accommodation sub-sector had the lowest median wage at RM2,000.

In the Manufacturing sector, median monthly wages rose by 4.6 per cent year-on-year to RM2,700 in June 2025. The Agriculture sector recorded the lowest median wage among the main sectors at RM2,200, but registered the highest year-on-year growth of 10.0 per cent compared to the same month in the previous year [Table 5.1].

Table 5.1:

Median & annual percentage change of monthly wages and percentage share of Malaysian formal employees by economic activity, June 2025

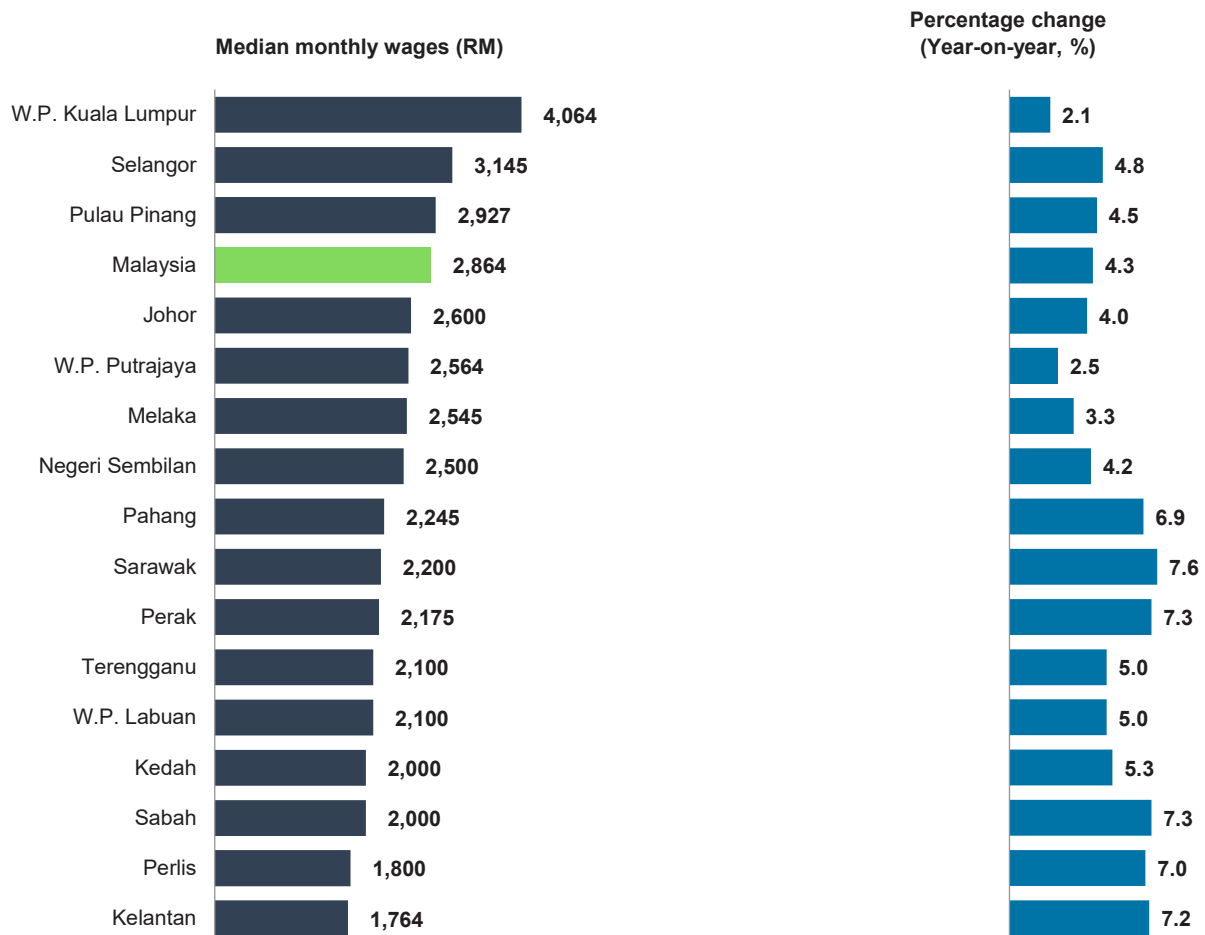
Economic activity	Monthly wages		Formal employee
	Median (RM)	Percentage change (Year-on-year, %)	Percentage share (%)
Agriculture	2,200	10.0	1.9
Mining & quarrying	6,500	10.2	0.6
Manufacturing	2,700	4.6	17.6
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	2,382	5.2	2.6
Beverages & tobacco products	3,227	2.0	0.2
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	2,145	4.0	0.4
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	2,500	5.0	1.3
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	2,782	3.0	2.9
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	2,800	5.1	2.2
Electrical, electronic & optical products	2,845	3.6	4.9
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	2,800	5.1	3.3
Construction	2,945	5.2	6.3
Services	2,900	4.9	67.8
Utilities	3,300	7.7	1.1
Wholesale & retail trade	2,500	5.0	21.0
Food & beverages and accommodation	2,000	1.9	4.5
Transportation & storage	3,000	4.8	4.3
Information & communication	5,300	3.9	3.2
Finance & insurance	6,200	3.3	4.5
Real estate & business services	3,000	3.4	12.3
Other services	2,800	4.4	16.9
Unclassified			5.9
Total	2,864	4.3	100.0

Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q2 2025, DOSM

At the state level, three states reported median monthly wages above the national median of RM2,864 for formal employees in June 2025. W.P. Kuala Lumpur led with RM4,064, followed by Selangor at RM3,145 and Pulau Pinang at RM2,927. Conversely, Kelantan recorded the lowest median monthly wage in June 2025 at RM1,764, followed by Perlis (RM1,800) as well as Sabah and Kedah (RM2,000) [Chart 5.5].

Chart 5.5:

Median & annual percentage change of monthly wages by state, June 2025



Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q2 2025, DOSM

5.2 Distribution of Monthly Wages

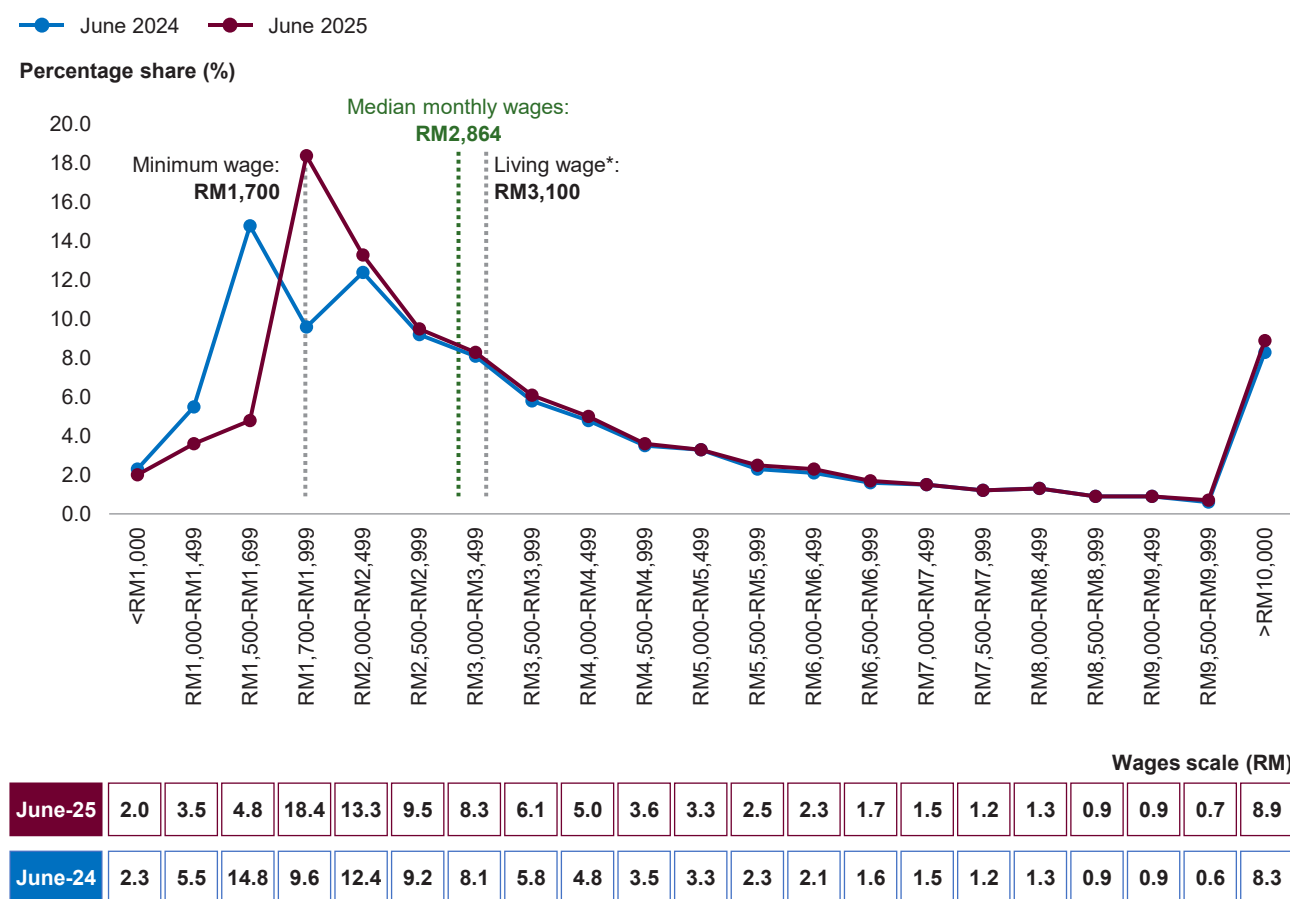
In June 2025, the wage distribution showed that 2.0 million persons, or 28.9 per cent of total Malaysian formal employees, earned monthly wages below RM2,000. This group recorded a decrease of 7.1 per cent (-154.2 thousand) compared to the same month in the previous year, while percentage share declined by 3.3 percentage points from 32.2 per cent in June 2024.

During the same period, the implementation of the new minimum wage of RM1,700 effective 1 February 2025 was clearly reflected in the wage distribution. The proportion of employees earning below RM1,500 fell from 7.8 per cent in June 2024 to 5.5 per cent in June 2025. Likewise, those earning below RM1,700 declined sharply from 22.6 per cent in June 2024 to 10.3 per cent in June 2025, highlighting the impact of this policy in uplifting lower-income workers.

Meanwhile, approximately 8.9 per cent of Malaysian formal employees earned the highest monthly wages of RM10,000 and above as of June 2025 [Chart 5.6].

Chart 5.6:

Distribution of monthly wages of Malaysian formal employees by wage scale, June 2024 & June 2025

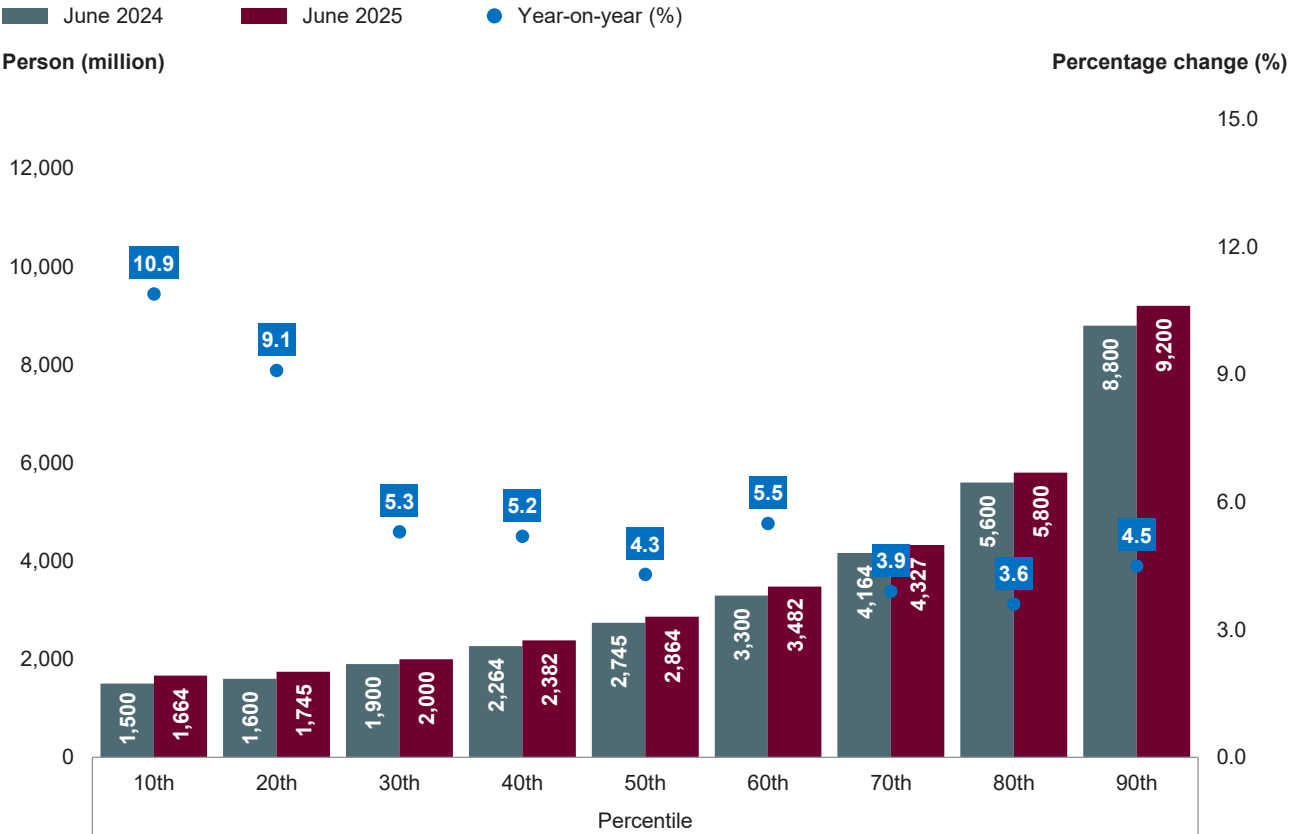


Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q2 2025, DOSM

Notes: * Refers to the living wage (Bank Negara Malaysia, 2017), which is adjusted with the inflation rate

According to the percentile analysis, it has been observed that the 10th percentile of Malaysian formal employees earned monthly wages of RM1,664 or less. However, this group experienced an increase of 10.9 per cent during June 2025 compared to the same month of the preceding year. At the 90th percentile, the monthly wages edge up by 4.5 per cent year-on-year, reaching RM9,200 per month. At these points, the wage ratio between the highest wage earner group (90th percentile) and the lowest wage earner group (10th percentile) explains that the highest wage earner group receives the monthly wage more than six times compared to the lowest wage earner group [Chart 5.7].

Chart 5.7:
Distribution of monthly wages of formal employees by percentile, June 2024 & June 2025



Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q2 2025, DOSM

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly transforming the way we work and how businesses operate. This technology has the potential to boost productivity, create new job opportunities, and drive economic growth. In Malaysia, AI can provide high-skilled employment, improve business competitiveness, and support the development of new industries. At the same time, it may affect workers in semi-skilled and low-skilled jobs, especially those performing routine and repetitive tasks. To ensure that all Malaysians benefit from this technological progress, a clear and coordinated strategy between government, industry, and the workforce is essential.

The Malaysian government has introduced several initiatives to accelerate AI adoption. These include the AI Technology Action Plan 2026–2030, which continues from the AI Roadmap 2021–2025, and the Malaysia Digital Economy Blueprint (MyDIGITAL), both aiming to expand digital capabilities, encourage AI use in industries, drive innovation, and enhance Malaysia's global competitiveness. Supporting these is the New Industrial Master Plan (NIMP) 2023, which emphasizes advanced technology adoption, automation, high-value job creation, and industry transformation. NIMP 2023 complements AI policies by guiding the manufacturing and industrial sectors to adopt digital technologies including AI to boost productivity and strengthen Malaysia's position in global value chains.

Additional programs, such as the Digital Free Trade Zone (DFTZ) and the Malaysia Tech Entrepreneur Programme (MTEP), help MSMEs and startups adopt AI technology, improve operational efficiency, and create new job opportunities for workers at all skill levels, including graduates entering the workforce.

In preparing the future workforce to face the era of AI, education and training, from schools to universities and through lifelong learning programs should focus on developing AI knowledge, digital skills, data literacy, critical thinking, and problem-solving abilities. Reskilling and upskilling programs supported by the government, such as MyDIGITAL Skills Training, HRD Corp reskilling programs, and Penjana Kerjaya, help workers adapt to technological changes. These measures ensure that both existing employees and new entrants, including graduates, are ready to succeed in an AI-driven economy.

Graduates also play a key role in this transition. Malaysian universities are aligning their programs with industry needs, emphasizing STEM knowledge, AI competencies, and practical experience. At all education levels including schools, universities, and adult learning programs Malaysians should build strong AI skills, digital competencies, analytical thinking, and problem-solving abilities. Programs such as the Industrial Training Placement Program and Graduate Employability Enhancement initiatives provide hands-on experience, helping graduates succeed in AI development, data analytics, cybersecurity, and digital business management. By preparing graduates alongside the wider workforce, Malaysia strengthens its talent pipeline and ensures that opportunities are fairly distributed across sectors.

Responsible AI adoption also requires clear rules to protect personal data, maintain cybersecurity, and ensure ethical practices. Workers affected by AI need support as well, including training programs, career transition assistance, job placement services, and mental health support. By combining education and skills development, graduate readiness, MSME support, inclusive

social policies, and responsible AI practices, Malaysia can make the most of AI, turn challenges into opportunities, and build a workforce that is skilled, adaptable, and ready for the digital future.

Malaysia is at a critical moment to leverage AI as a driver of economic growth, innovation, and workforce development. Through investment in education, preparing graduates for high-skill roles, supporting MSMEs, modernising industries through NIMP 2023, and implementing inclusive and ethical policies, the country can ensure that all Malaysians benefit from AI. With comprehensive planning, collaboration between government, industry, and educational institutions, and continuous investment in skills development, Malaysia can build a capable, agile, and future-ready workforce prepared to lead in the digital era.

7 Conclusion

Malaysia's labour market continued to demonstrate steady growth in Q3 2025, supported by a balanced expansion in labour demand and supply. The number of employed persons continued its positive trend, while the unemployment rate remains unchanged at 3.0 per cent, as the previous quarter. Meanwhile, labour demand remained strong, with increased job creation driven by an increase in filled jobs and vacancies. As for labour productivity, both of value added per employment and value added per hour worked shows an increment as against the same quarter in 2024

Malaysia's sustainable economic growth served as catalyst for labour market stability and resilience in third quarter 2025. This positive outlook underpinned by stable labour market conditions, increase in labour demand and strengthening economic activity in various key sectors such as Services and Manufacturing. In addition, the Visit Malaysia 2026 campaign is expected boosting more employment opportunities to ensuring country's labour market remains resilient, particularly for the Services and Tourism sectors.

Furthermore, the launch of the ASEAN Year of Skills (AYOS) 2025 through HRD Corp in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) at the ASEAN 2025 conference helps strengthen the development of workforce skills to support structural economic changes. AYOS 2025 aims to increase training and skills opportunities for all groups including women and youth, strengthen regional cooperation in workforce development, and standardize skills standards to support workforce mobility through seven major platforms such as the National Training Week (NTW), ASEAN TVET Conference and Human Capital Development Investment Symposium.

As the fourth quarter 2025, Malaysia's growth is expected to expand underpinned by stable domestic activity and sustained government policy support. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), stronger economic performance in recent quarters indicates an initial increase in international trade and stable domestic demand have successfully offset the impact of uncertainty and higher tariff rates. Hence, the overall labour market performance is anticipated to maintain its positive trajectory in the coming quarters. However, this viewpoint is subject to various global and domestic challenges that may emerge from unforeseen circumstances in the future, as well as the impact of Northeast Monsoon (NEM), expected from October 2025 to March 2026, may bring heightened risks of flooding and landslides, which could impact economic activities in affected areas.

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The State of Graduate Market in Malaysia: From a Perspective of Data

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Introduction

The graduate labour market in Malaysia is garnering increasing attention in national discourse, particularly concerning human capital development and the imperative to align the higher education system with industry demands. Within an economic landscape progressively rooted in knowledge and technology, graduate employability stands as a key indicator of a nation's capacity to furnish a high-quality workforce. Annually, thousands of graduates from universities, polytechnics and vocational training institutions transition into the labour market with elevated expectations.

According to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (2024), there were 5.98 million graduates in Malaysia in 2024, comprising 53.6 per cent females and 46.4 per cent males. Of this total, 5.14 million graduates were in the labour force, an increase compared to 4.92 million in the previous year. This trend signifies a growing number of graduates actively participating in the job market, attributable to the expansion of employment opportunities and the implementation of various post-pandemic economic recovery policies.

Concurrently, data from the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) indicate that the Graduate Employment Rate rose to 92.5 per cent in 2024, marking a 1.6 percentage point increase from 90.9 per cent in 2023. This figure represents the highest rate since 2020, signalling a robust post-COVID-19 pandemic recovery in the graduate labour market. This rate is notably higher for TVET (Technical and Vocational Education and Training) graduates (95.0%) compared to graduates from public universities (93.1%) and private institutions (87.5%), which underscores the substantial value-add that technical and vocational skills bring to employment prospects.

When benchmarked against several other ASEAN countries in 2024, Malaysia recorded a graduate employability rate of 89.8 per cent, compared to 83.4 per cent in Singapore (HR SEA, n.d.). This comparative analysis suggests that Malaysia maintains stability in graduate employability and its graduates remain competitive within the context of the regional labour market. However, despite these positive figures, questions persist regarding the quality of employment and skills mismatch.

From an economic perspective, the Khazanah Research Institute (2024) reported that nearly 66 per cent of graduates earn an initial starting salary below RM2,000 and only one out of ten graduates secure an income exceeding RM4,000. This finding suggests that an increase in educational attainment does not necessarily translate into a commensurate increase in income, a challenging reality within the context of a middle-income economy.

In the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), graduates need to master new skills such as big data analytics, Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), and the ability to innovate. The Ministry of Economy (2025) stressed that the development of talent and digital skills must

be a policy priority for employability. However, as highlighted by Khazanah Nasional (2025), building human capital is not just about producing more graduates, but ensuring they can thrive in a complex, dynamic, and meaningful work ecosystem. The purpose of this article is to assess the level of graduate employability in Malaysia by examining the skills gap, job mismatch, and the graduates' readiness to meet current labour market demands.

Literature Review

International and local studies are in consensus that the issue of graduate underemployment primarily stems from a structural imbalance between the education system, the demands of the industry and the trajectory of global economic trends

According to Senkrua (2022), underemployment is a severe form of labour underutilization that includes both time-related and skill-related underemployment. Tomlinson (2021) further asserts that this issue must be viewed through the dimension of “job quality,” specifically the extent to which the work utilizes the potential and skills of the graduate. Furthermore, Brynin (2013) adds that this phenomenon also stems from credential inflation, a situation where a large number of graduates possess high qualifications, but the number of high-skilled jobs does not increase commensurately. This phenomenon compels many graduates to work in semi-skilled sectors with compensation that is not commensurate with their qualifications.

The issues of underemployment and skill mismatch are also experienced by many developed countries in Europe, Australia, and South Africa. Green & Henseke (2021) indicate that in Europe, the rapid growth in the number of graduates is not aligned with labour market demand, resulting in increased underemployment and a decline in the wage premium. Dickson et al. (2024) further emphasize that early underemployment experience can leave long-term impacts on the labour market outcomes of graduates in the UK, including a significant wage penalty in the first few years. Jackson & Li (2021) in Australia found that graduates who experience early underemployment risk remaining in jobs that do not match their qualifications, although some manage to transition to suitable employment within three years after graduation. Regarding the situation in Malaysia, Jeffri & Abdul Rahim (2023) observed that many graduates experience job mismatch due to unrealistic salary expectations and a misalignment between their field of study and industry requirements.

Li & Miller (2020) report that graduates of private universities are at higher risk for non-full employment, while Jiang & Klein (2022) indicated that university reputation and field of study are key determinants of employment outcomes in China. This phenomenon is also evident in Malaysia, where the surplus of graduates in social and management fields exceeds the actual industrial demand (Human Resources Online, 2025). Furthermore, a study by Low and Mah (2024) demonstrated that the mismatch between human capital and the labour market is also driven by the lack of alignment between popular fields of study and actual industry needs. The social services and management sectors are reported to receive a graduate oversupply, whereas technical, engineering and data science fields continue to experience a workforce shortage.

Additionally, socioeconomic factors also influence graduate overqualification. Erdsiek (2016) highlights that family background can increase the risk of graduates working in less suitable

jobs in Germany. Li, Duffield & Doleman (2022), meanwhile, focused on nursing graduates in Australia who face high levels of overqualification and underemployment. In Spain, a 2022 study shows that gender differences also influence the causes of job mismatch, while in South Africa, underemployment is closely related to the alignment of the curriculum with industry needs.

The UNESCO (2022) report indicates that highly educated women continue to face lower labour force participation rates. In the context of Malaysia, DOSM (2024) data reveal that the employment rate for female graduates stands at 91.6%, compared to 93.5% for males, while the unemployment rate for graduates in rural areas (7.1%) is substantially higher than that in urban areas (2.8%).

Conversely, the Khazanah Research Institute (2024) also found that over half of graduates earn a starting salary between RM2,000 and RM3,000, which indicates a diminishing financial return on higher education.

Data Sources

The data sources for this article are derived from various official and supplementary sources to ensure that the analysis reflects the actual situation of the graduate workforce in Malaysia. The primary source is the MyLabourHub portal (<https://mylabourhub.dosm.gov.my/>) maintained by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), which integrates several key sources including the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and the Salaries and Wages Survey (SGU).

Additionally, Higher Education Statistics from the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) are also utilized to evaluate patterns in enrolment, intake and graduate output across various institutions. The Graduate Tracer Study reports, furthermore, are employed to assess graduates' employment status post-graduation, including the categories of employed, furthering their studies, or still seeking employment.

Effective from 2023, the methodology for the DOSM Graduate Statistics was enhanced by incorporating data from tertiary-level Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions. This approach renders the statistics more inclusive and holistic, reflecting the combined academic and technical workforce within Malaysia's labour market ecosystem.

In addition to official data, the author also conducted supplementary analysis through data crawling on major online job platforms during 2024. This method employed text matching to align job advertisement titles with the categories in the six-digit Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO). This analysis assists in identifying the fields and skills that are in highest demand in near real-time, thus complementing the official findings with an accurate portrayal of industry demand.

Exhibit 1 below, which is a screenshot of the graduate dashboard within the MyLabourHub Portal, illustrates the contents of the dashboard concerning graduates in Malaysia. This dashboard comprises eight main components which are Time Series, Graduates, Graduate Labour Force, Employed Graduates, Graduate Unemployed, Graduates Outside the Labour Force, Mean Graduate Wages & Salaries and Median Graduate Wages & Salaries.

Exhibit 1 :

Contents of the graduate dashboard

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

Language option : MY / EN

Home About Us Interactive Module Publication Communication

Definition

- Graduates**
Refers to individuals who have the highest certificate obtained from a university, college, polytechnic, recognized body or equivalent, with a study period of at least two years.
- Graduates Labour Force**
Refers to graduates who are either employed or unemployed.
- Employed Graduates**
Employed graduates 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.
- Unemployed Graduates**
The unemployed graduates are graduates who did not work during the reference week and are classified into two groups which are active unemployed and inactive unemployed.
- Graduates Outside Labour Force**
Graduates which is not classified as employed or unemployed are categorised as graduates outside labour force. This category consists of housewives, students (including those going for further studies), retired, disabled persons and those who are not interested in looking for a job.
- Salaries & Wages**
These graduate salary & wage statistics only cover salaried and full-time employees in the public and private sectors.

Source: Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), 2023

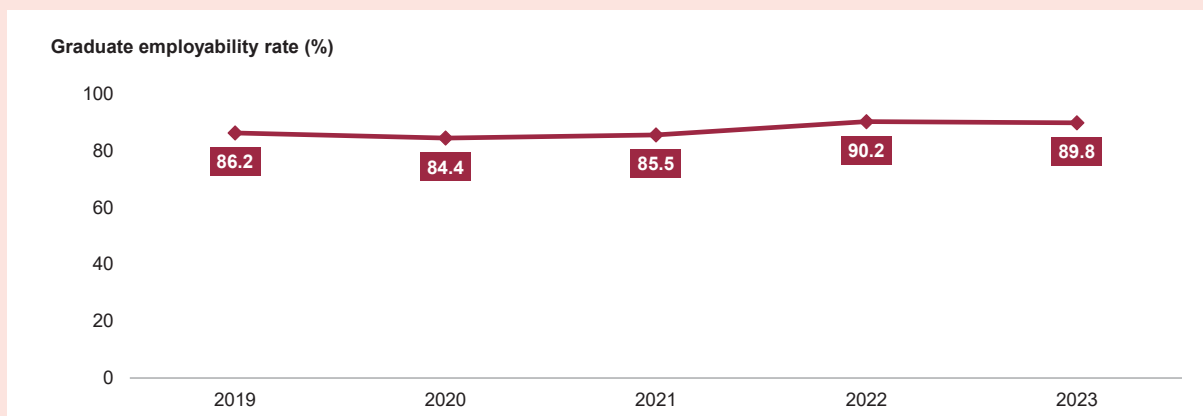
This portal not only displays comprehensive and easily accessible statistics but also functions as a smart data hub that enables users to obtain labour market information in an interactive, accurate and user-friendly manner. The presence of this portal is highly crucial in assisting stakeholders such as policymakers, researchers, educational institutions and graduates themselves in understanding the dynamics of the national labour market. Visit <https://mylabourhub.dosm.gov.my> for full access to the latest graduate data and other labour market indicators.

Research Findings

Based on the report of Graduates Tracers Study released by the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), Malaysia's graduate employability rate has exhibited a stable and positive trend over the most recent five-year period (2019–2023), consistently remaining above 80 per cent annually. As illustrated in Chart 1: Graduate Employability Rate, this rate increased from 84.4 per cent in 2020 to 90.2 per cent in 2022, before experiencing a slight dip to 89.8 per cent in 2023. Despite the marginal decline in 2023, the level of employability remains high compared to the pre-pandemic era (2019: 86.2%). This trend indicates a recovery in the graduate labour market following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, according to the Graduate Employment Survey published by The Economic Times HRSEA (2024), the graduate employment rate in Singapore was recorded at 89.8 per cent, with 83.4 per cent of those employed on a full-time basis. When compared regionally, Malaysia's graduate employability rate, which reached 89.8 per cent in 2023 and the employment rate of 92.5 per cent in 2024, demonstrate that Malaysia is not significantly lagging behind its neighbouring country in providing job opportunities for new graduates. These statistics also indicate that the competitiveness of local graduates remains robust **[Chart 1]**.

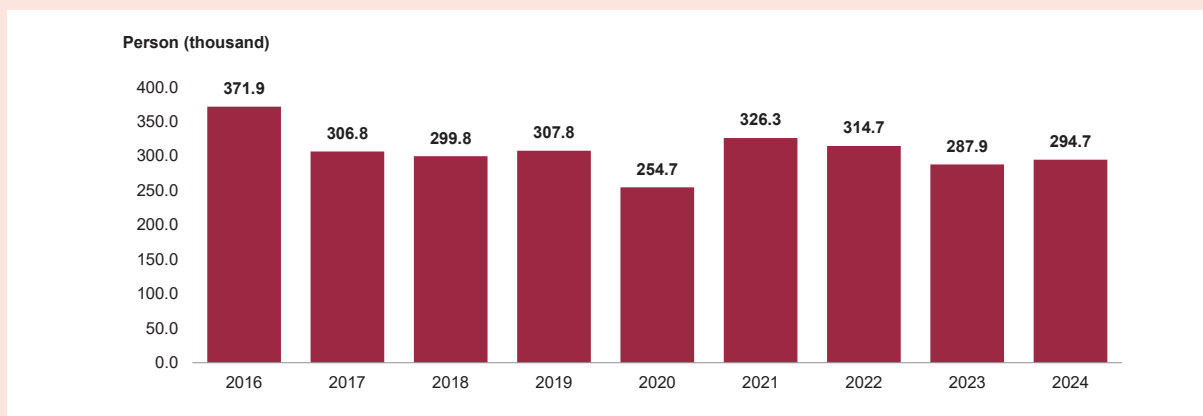
Chart 1 :

Trend in Malaysia's graduate employability rate, 2019-2023

Source: Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), 2023

Based on MoHE statistics, the total national graduate output consistently remains above 250,000 individuals annually, averaging approximately 300,000 graduates per year. In 2016, Malaysia recorded the highest total output at 371,935 individuals, while in 2024, a total of 294,698 graduates were successfully produced by various Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) across the country. Although there were marginal dips in certain years, the overall trend suggests that Malaysia's higher education system remains consistent in producing a highly skilled workforce, thereby supporting the needs of both the national and regional labour markets [Chart 2].

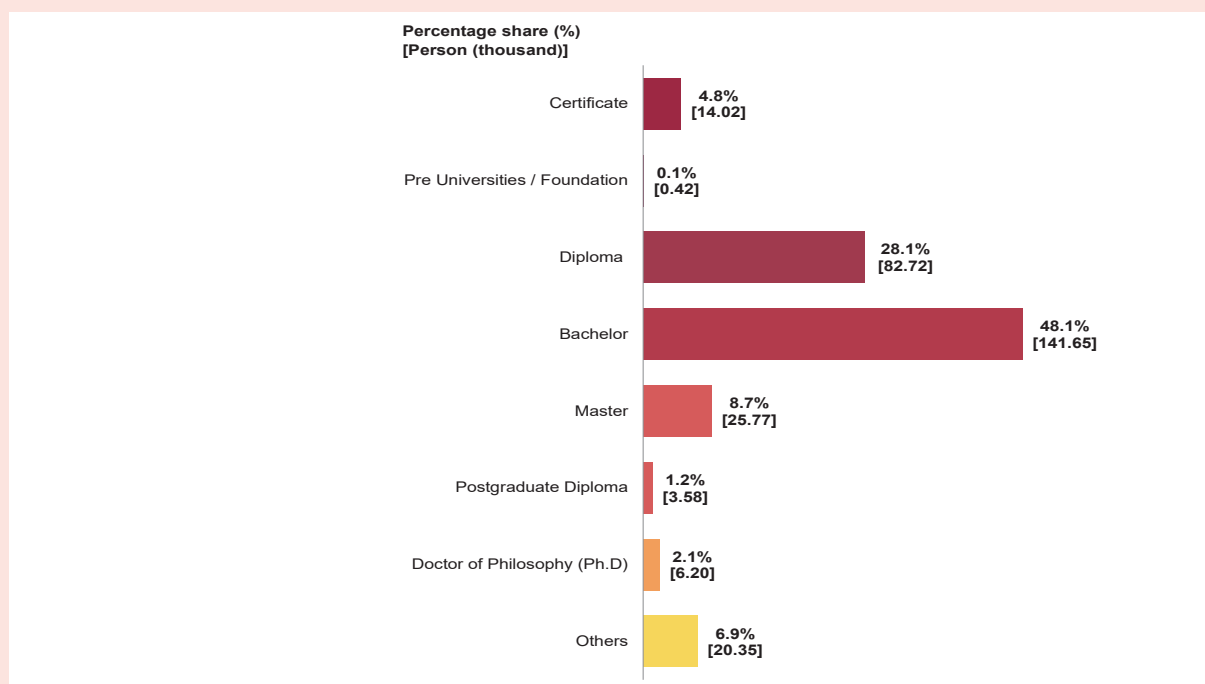
Chart 2 :

Total graduate output in Malaysia, 2016-2024

Source: Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), 2024

From the perspective of qualification level, graduates holding Bachelor's Degrees and Diplomas constitute the largest group supplying new entrants to the workforce, amounting to 76 per cent. In 2024, a total of 141,646 graduates (48.1%) held a Bachelor's Degree, followed by 82,720 graduates (28.1%) at the Diploma level. Master's and Ph.D. graduates, meanwhile, totalled 25,767 (8.7%) and 6,203 (2.1%), respectively. This composition indicates that the majority of graduates fall within the tertiary education category, which plays a critical role in fulfilling the requirements of a modern technology- and knowledge-based economy [Chart 3].

Chart 3 :
Distribution of graduate output by study level, 2024

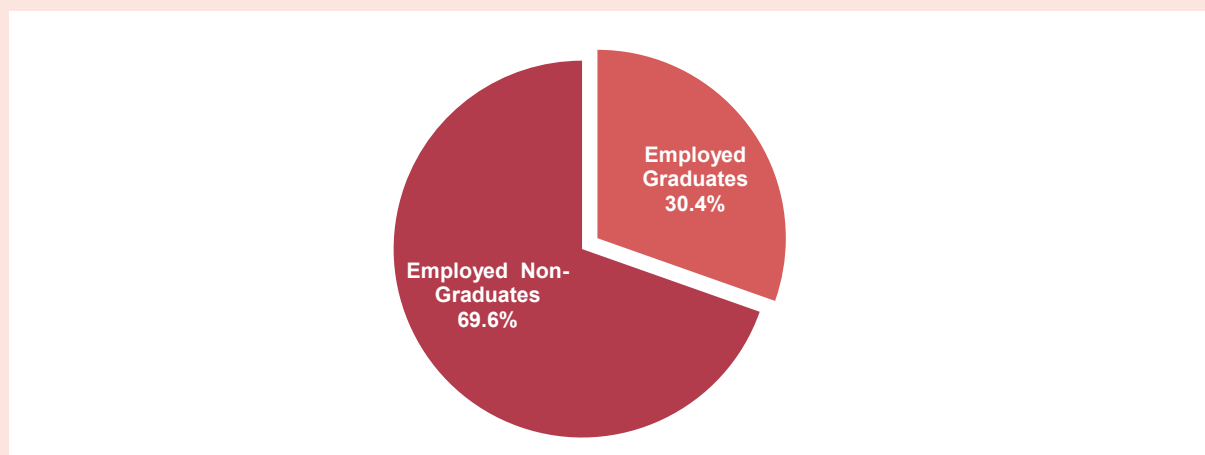


Source: Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), 2024

Graduates in the Labour Market and Skill Structure

In 2024, Malaysia's total labour force was recorded at 16.90 million individuals, with 5.14 million (or 30%) comprising graduates. Among the working population, graduates represented 30.4%, indicating the active participation of the highly educated workforce in the national labour market. This figure reflects the economy's growing reliance on highly skilled and knowledgeable human capital to support the growth of modern and innovation-based sectors [Chart 4].

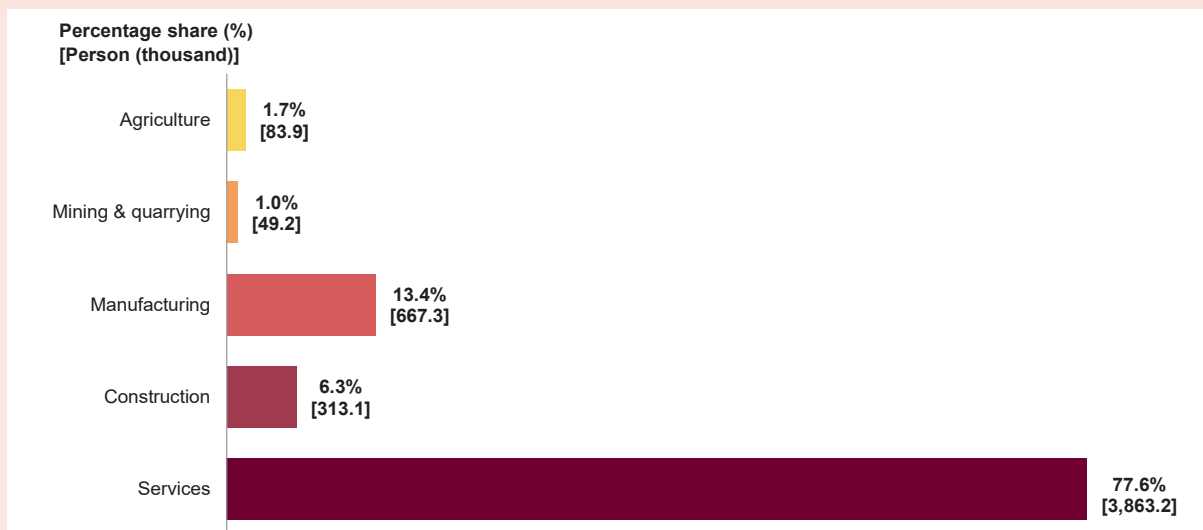
Chart 4:
Graduate participation in Malaysia's labour force, 2024



Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), 2024

The majority of employed graduates, totalling 3.86 million persons, work within the Services sector, followed by Manufacturing (667.3 thousand persons) and Construction (313.1 thousand persons). This high dependence on the services sector illustrates the structural shift in the Malaysian economy toward high-value-added sectors that demand expertise in professional, technical fields and Research and Development (R&D) [Chart 5].

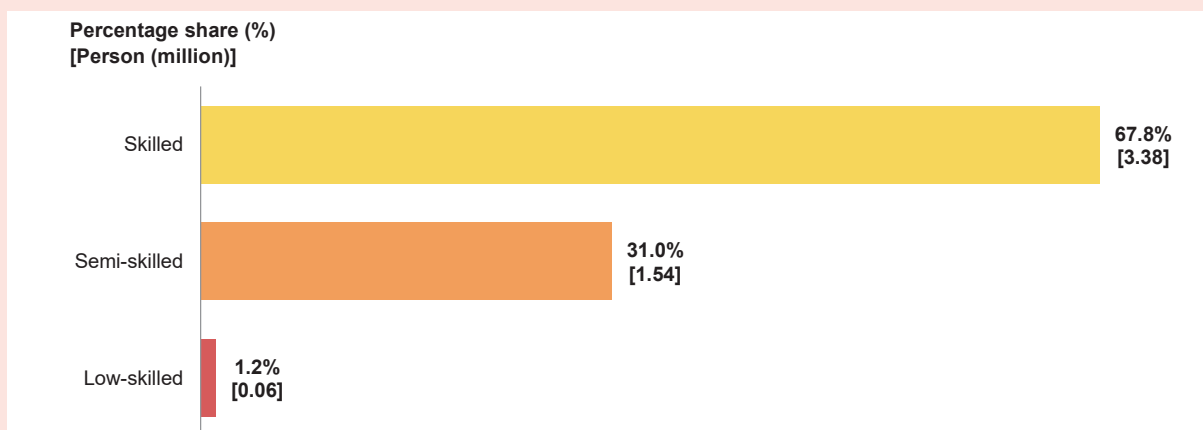
Chart 5:
Number of employed graduates by economic activity, 2024



Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), 2024

Analysis by skill level indicates that 68%, or 3.37 million graduates, are employed in the skilled category, while 31% (1.54 million) are in the semi-skilled category and only 1% (57.5 ribu orang) are in low-skilled jobs. This pattern affirms that the majority of graduates have successfully been absorbed into occupations that are commensurate with their academic qualifications [Chart 6].

Chart 6:
Breakdown of employed graduates by skill level, 2024



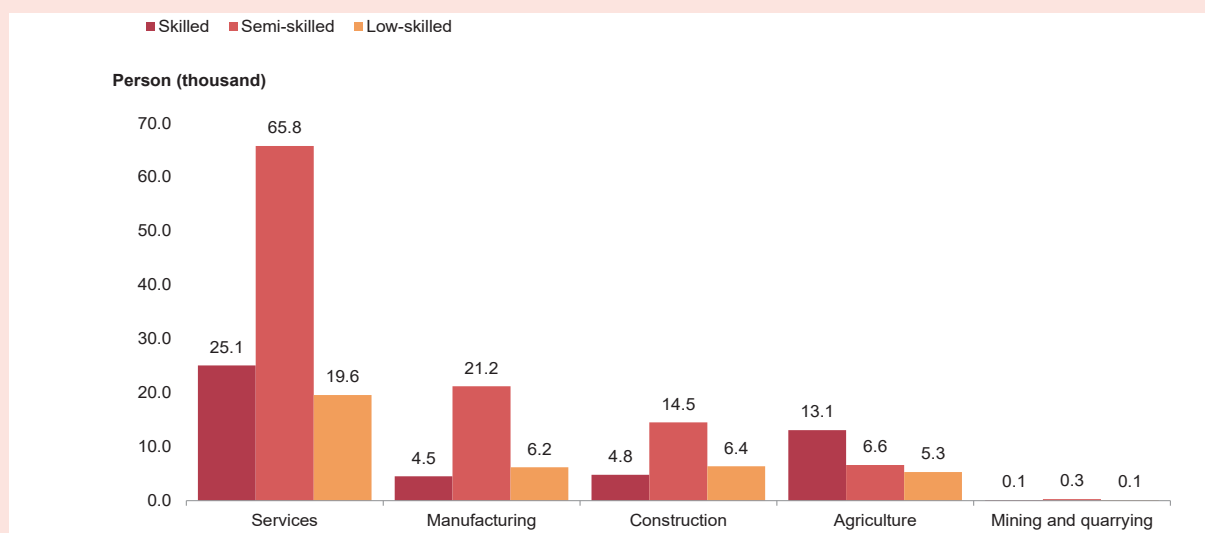
Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), 2024

Labour Demand and High Requirement for Skilled Workers

The structure of labour demand in Malaysia in 2024 exhibits an increasing focus on high-skilled and semi-skilled occupations, aligning with the nation's economic shift towards knowledge-intensive sectors. Based on employment statistics, the Manufacturing sector recorded the highest number of vacancies at 110.5 thousand, particularly for semi-skilled (65.8 thousand) and skilled (25.1 thousand) jobs. This is followed by the Services sector, with 25.0 thousand vacancies, which encompasses a variety of professional, administrative and technical sub-sectors. The Agriculture and Construction sectors also contributed to job vacancies, though at a lower rate, indicating a diminishing economic reliance on non-traditional sectors. This pattern reflects a structural transformation of the workforce, which is becoming increasingly oriented towards technology, innovation and high productivity [Chart 7].

Chart 7:

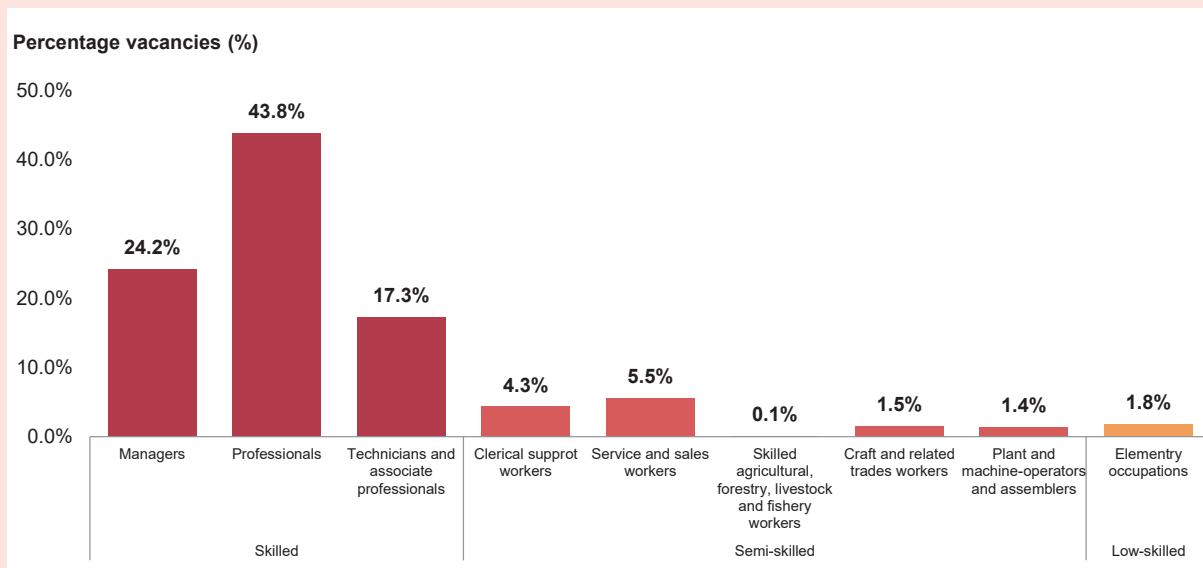
Number of job vacancies by economic activity and skill level, 2024



Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), 2024

The findings are further reinforced by the analysis of online job advertisement data conducted using web scraping and Big Data techniques. Over 85 per cent of the new job offerings fall into the skilled category, involving professional occupations (43.8%), managers (24.2%) and technicians and associate professionals (1.3%). Conversely, vacancies for the semi-skilled and low-skilled categories are minimal, registering below 15.0 per cent and 2.0 per cent, respectively [Chart 8].

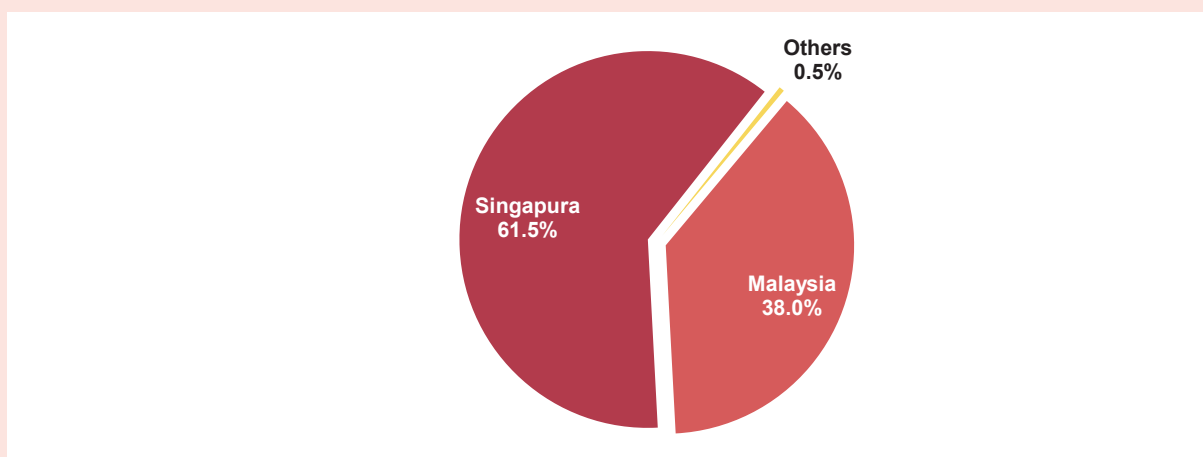
Chart 8:

Percentage job offerings by occupation and skill level, 2024

Source: Online Job Search Platforms, 2024

Job offerings from the industry demonstrate a high propensity towards candidates with higher education, primarily centred in the nation's key economic areas and also driven by cross-border opportunities, particularly in Singapore. Intriguingly, from the perspective of regional job offering locations, 61.5 per cent of the advertised job opportunities originated from Singapore, indicating a robust demand for the Malaysian workforce, especially skilled graduates in professional and technical fields. Malaysia contributed 38.0 per cent of the offerings, while the remaining 0.5 per cent came from other countries in the Asian region [Chart 9].

Chart 9:

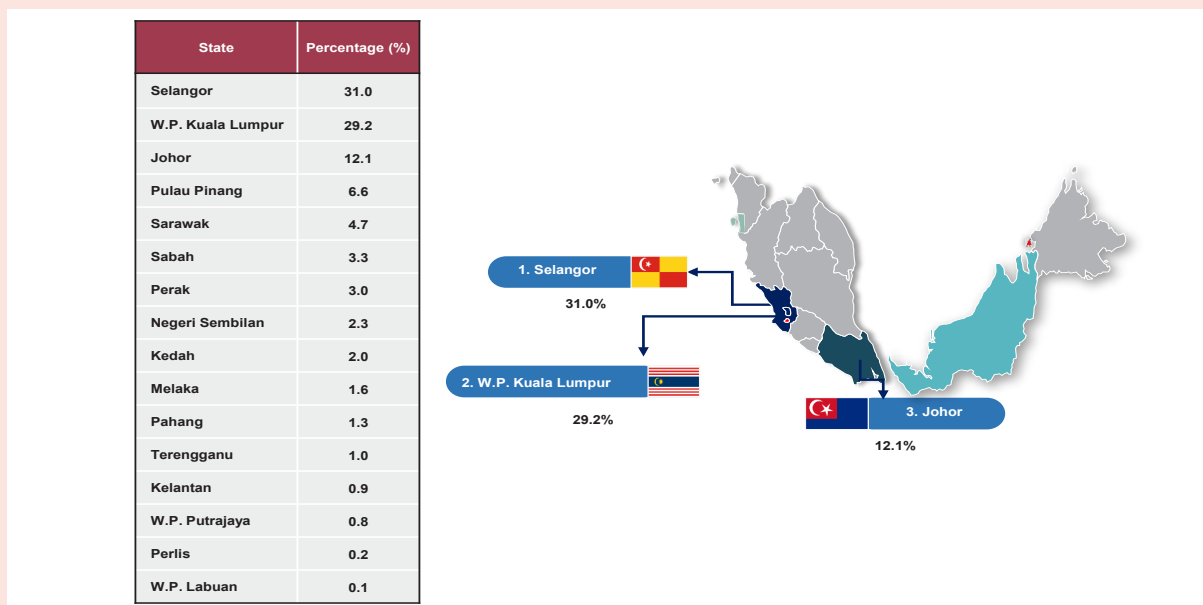
Composition of industry job offerings by country, 2024

Source: Online Job Search Platforms, 2024

Meanwhile, the geographical distribution of job opportunities reveals the highest concentration in the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur (29.2%) and Selangor (31.1%), thereby positioning the Klang Valley as the primary national labour market hub. These two states host a variety of strategic sectors such as information technology, corporate services and innovation-based manufacturing. Other states, including Johor (12.1%) and Pulau Pinang (6.6%), also demonstrate significant growth potential with the expansion of industrial and logistics sectors **[Exhibit 2]**.

Exhibit 2:

Percentage job offerings by state, 2024

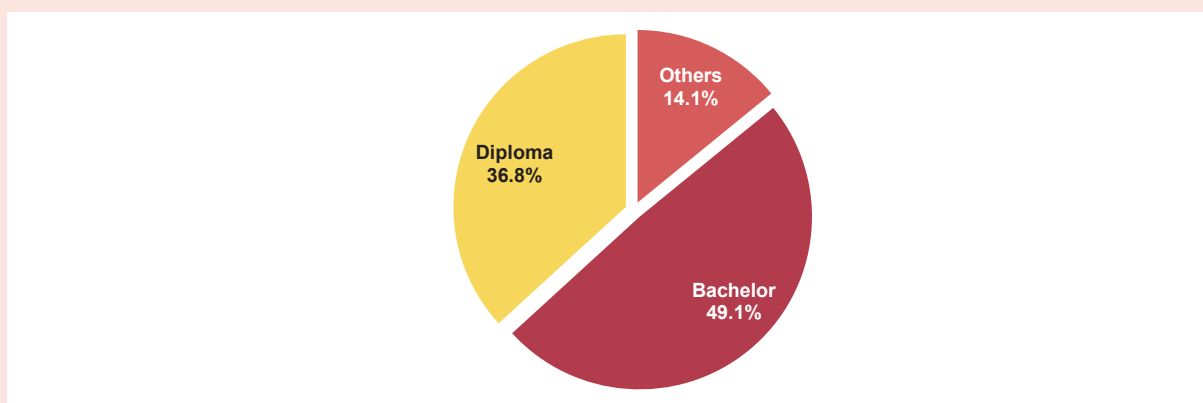


Source: Online Job Search Platforms, 2024

In terms of academic qualification level, 49.1 per cent of the total job offerings require a degree, while 36.8 per cent require a diploma and 14.1 per cent are for other qualifications. This pattern reflects the industry's increasing demand for a highly knowledgeable and skilled workforce, consistent with the structural economic shift towards high-value-added activities such as finance, ICT and professional services **[Chart 10]**.

Chart 10:

Percentage job offerings by certificate/qualification, 2024



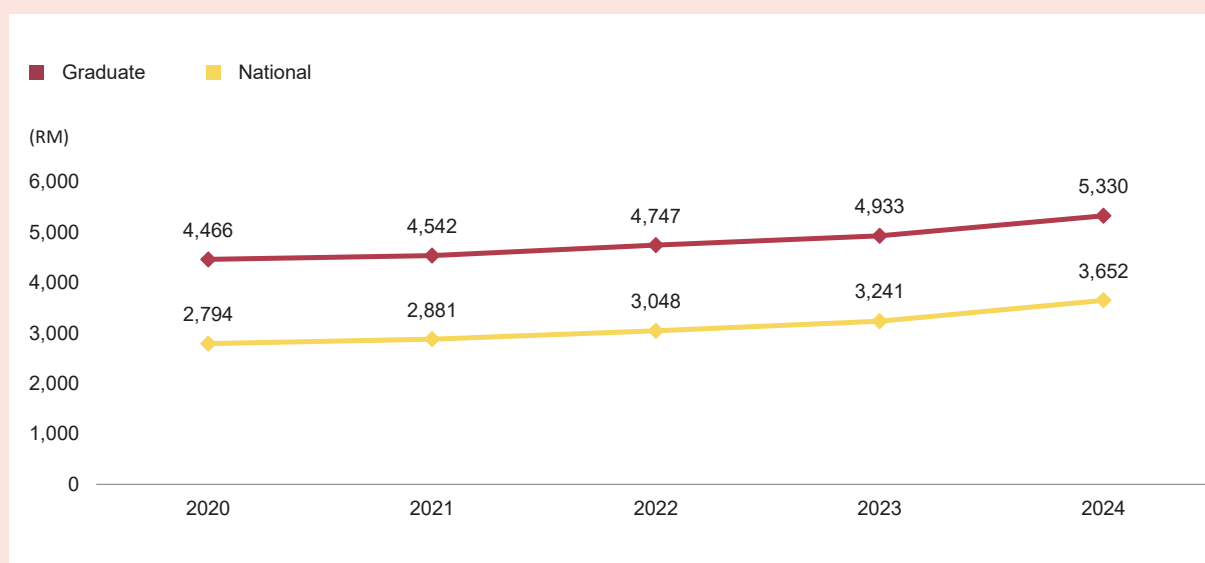
Source: Online Job Search Platforms, 2024

Graduate Wage and Salary Trends

The analysis of median wages and salaries indicates a positive increase for the period spanning 2020 to 2024, reflecting the post-pandemic economic recovery and the growing demand for a highly skilled workforce. In 2024, the mean graduate salary rose to RM5,330, compared to RM4,466 in 2020. The national average salary also increased from RM2,794 to RM3,652, demonstrating a consistent gap between graduate salaries and the overall labour force, yet reflecting a significant and persistent higher education premium **[Chart 11]**.

Chart 11:

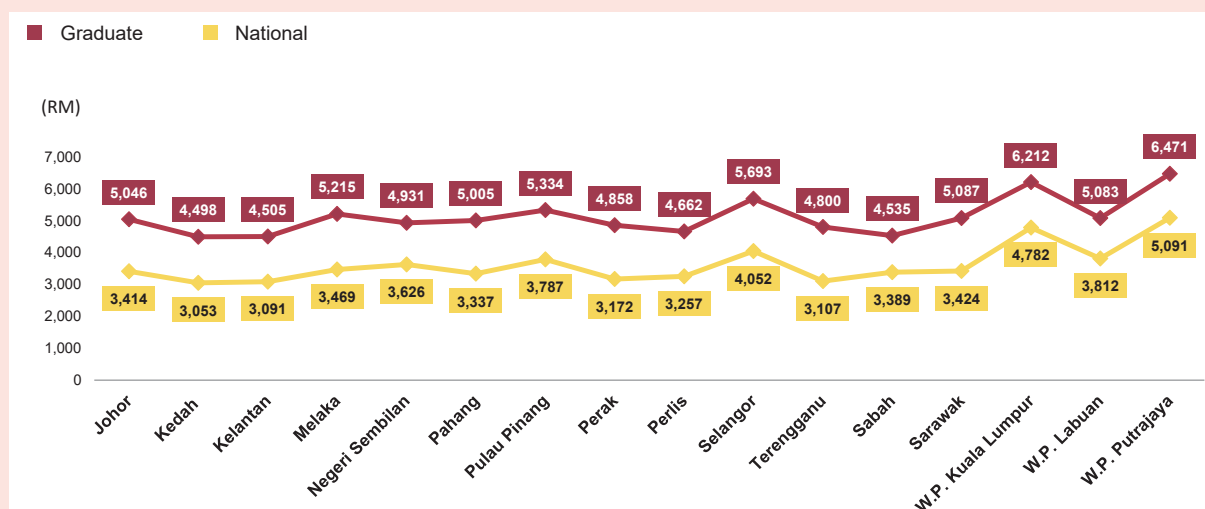
Mean graduate and national wages & salaries, 2020-2024



Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), 2024

In terms of distribution by state, service-intensive states such as W.P. Putrajaya (RM6,471), W.P. Kuala Lumpur (RM6,212) and Selangor (RM5,693) recorded the highest mean salaries, consistent with the concentration of professional and technical occupations. For the skilled graduate group, the mean salary in most states exceeded RM4,500, with W.P. Putrajaya and W.P. Labuan observed as centres for high-income employment **[Chart 12]**.

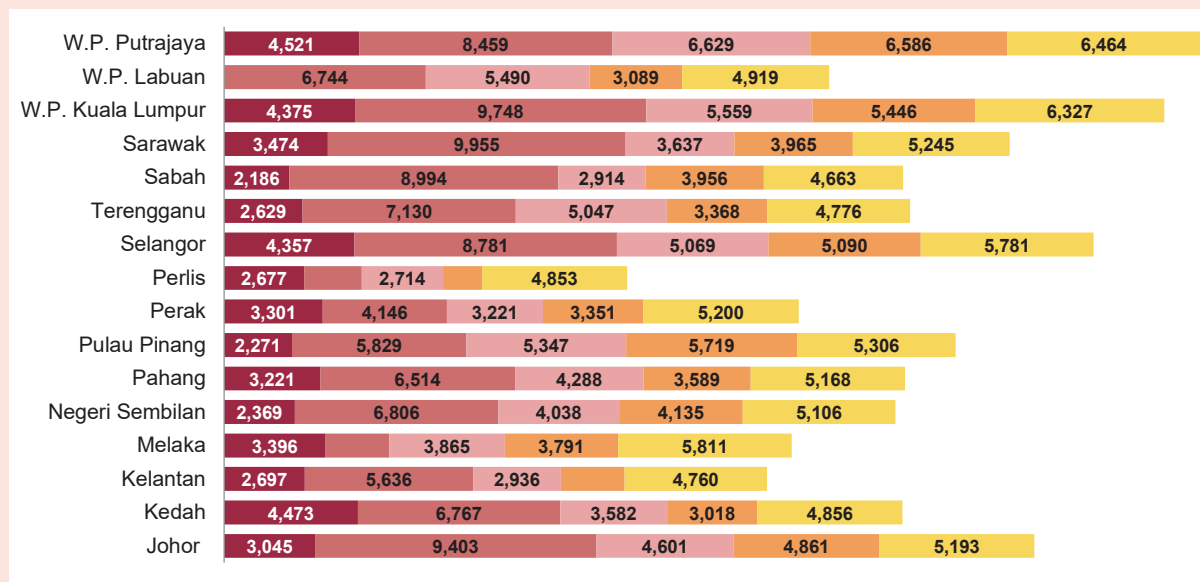
Chart 12:

Mean graduate and national wages & salaries by state, 2024

Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), 2024

By economic activity, the Services and Mining & Quarrying sectors consistently offer the highest salaries, both exceeding RM5,000 in the majority of states. This trend indicates that the Malaysian economy is increasingly shifting towards high-value-added activities, while the disparities across states reflect the diversity of industrial structures [Chart 13].

Chart 13:

Mean wages & salaries by state and economic activity, 2024

Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), 2024

Discussion

Based on the research findings, the graduate labour market in Malaysia exhibits a high level of participation, with 5.14 million graduates in the labour force and an employment rate reaching 92.5 per cent in 2024. Although the majority of graduates have been successfully absorbed into skilled occupations (68%), the real challenge lies in the structural imbalance between the supply of new graduates and the actual demand of the labour market. Data indicate that the demand for new jobs remains concentrated in the semi-skilled category, signalling a skills mismatch between graduates' qualifications and the available job structure.

This phenomenon is also driven by the high rate of new graduate supply, which is approximately 300,000 individuals annually, compared to the limited capacity of the industry to generate new professional and technical employment. Consequently, some highly qualified graduates are forced to take up semi-skilled roles, resulting in issues of over-education and underemployment.

In this context, strategic alignment between the government, educational institutions and industry is a primary necessity to ensure a balance between labour supply and demand. Initiatives such as Malaysia Short-Term Employment Programme (MySTEP), Programme for Training and Employment of Graduates in the Private Sector (PROTÉGÉ) and training programs under Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp) should be continued and expanded to strengthen graduates' digital and technical skills. Graduates, for their part, must also be more proactive in enhancing their soft skills and adapting to the evolving reality of jobs that are increasingly focused on technology and innovation.

Conclusion

The analysis of the graduate labour market in Malaysia indicates that graduates are now better prepared to enter the working world with increasingly relevant educational levels and skills, supported by a positive labour force participation rate. Nevertheless, the reality of the job market is not yet fully prepared to absorb them optimally. The limited availability of qualification-equivalent jobs, skills mismatch and increasingly specialised industry demands mean that a segment of graduates still faces issues of underemployment and working outside their field of expertise.

The research findings emphasize that this challenge stems not only from the high supply of graduates, but also from the limitations in their practical experience, soft skills and technical abilities, alongside the industry's constraint in providing enough high-skilled job opportunities. Although various initiatives have been implemented by the government, higher education institutions and related agencies including industrial training programs, job matching and future skills development, their effectiveness still requires strategic reinforcement and better coordination.

In conclusion, graduate preparedness and the readiness of the working world are two complementary aspects. Graduates must be more proactive in enhancing their digital skills, adaptability and industry experience, while employers and policymakers need to expand job opportunities, strengthen training structures and create an inclusive and flexible work

environment. Only through integrated collaboration among the government, industry and educational institutions can the full potential of graduates be leveraged to support the nation's economic growth and social well-being.

Disclaimer

The information and findings presented in this report are based on official data sourced from the MyLabourHub Portal by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM). All analyses, interpretations and conclusions are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect the official stance of the Department of Statistics Malaysia or any other government agency. The author has made every effort to ensure data accuracy; however, any subsequent changes or latest updates on the aforementioned portal may influence the statistics reported.

Acknowledgements

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Q3

STATISTICAL TABLES

2025

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Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

1. Profile of Labour Force Participation Rate

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023					2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
Labour force participation rate	(%)	69.5	69.8	70.0	70.1	70.1	70.5	70.7	70.6	70.6	70.7	70.8	70.9	
Sex														
Male	(%)	82.3	82.6	82.8	83.0	83.0	83.0	83.2	83.2	83.2	83.2	83.3	83.3	
Female	(%)	55.9	56.1	56.2	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.4	56.5	
Age group														
15-24	(%)	45.7	46.5	46.1	46.3	46.6	46.5	46.9	47.0	47.5	47.8	48.0	48.1	
25-34	(%)	86.9	87.3	88.1	88.5	87.6	87.3	87.3	87.0	86.4	86.2	86.0	85.7	
35-44	(%)	86.8	86.2	86.0	85.2	85.1	85.0	85.8	85.7	85.0	84.5	84.1	83.6	
45-54	(%)	73.9	76.2	76.0	76.4	77.9	78.1	77.5	75.6	75.7	76.0	76.8	78.1	
55-64	(%)	46.3	44.2	45.6	45.8	46.0	46.5	46.4	48.9	50.4	51.6	51.4	51.8	
Sex and Age group														
Male	(%)	82.3	82.6	82.8	83.0	83.0	83.0	83.2	83.2	83.2	83.2	83.3	83.3	
15-24	(%)	58.4	60.5	58.8	58.5	58.5	57.8	59.2	61.4	60.8	51.5	55.0	54.0	
25-34	(%)	95.3	94.0	96.2	96.8	96.8	93.8	95.9	95.5	94.3	96.1	93.3	95.1	
35-44	(%)	96.6	97.7	97.9	98.1	98.5	97.3	92.0	94.9	95.4	97.0	97.9	96.7	
45-54	(%)	93.8	95.4	93.4	95.2	95.9	95.6	95.8	91.3	91.8	96.3	93.3	94.2	
55-64	(%)	65.0	62.5	65.4	63.0	62.0	66.9	71.5	67.6	69.1	76.7	78.4	77.8	
Female	(%)	55.9	56.1	56.2	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.3	56.4	56.5	
15-24	(%)	31.7	31.1	32.1	32.9	33.5	33.5	32.5	30.3	32.0	43.4	39.9	41.2	
25-34	(%)	77.5	79.7	79.1	79.1	77.2	79.2	76.6	76.4	76.4	73.3	76.6	73.6	
35-44	(%)	76.5	74.0	73.2	71.4	70.8	71.1	78.7	75.2	73.0	70.1	68.1	68.4	
45-54	(%)	53.9	57.0	58.5	57.5	60.0	59.4	58.0	59.1	58.4	54.4	59.1	61.0	
55-64	(%)	27.6	25.8	25.7	28.6	29.9	25.7	21.1	30.1	31.7	26.4	24.4	25.3	
Ethnic group														
Citizens	(%)	68.0	68.2	68.4	68.5	68.5	68.5	68.3	68.4	68.5	69.1	69.5	69.9	
Bumiputera	(%)	66.1	66.2	66.8	66.9	66.9	67.9	67.8	67.7	67.6	68.0	68.2	68.4	
Chinese	(%)	73.2	73.3	72.9	73.0	72.8	70.6	70.3	70.5	71.1	72.2	72.8	73.6	
Indians	(%)	69.9	70.5	69.1	69.2	69.7	68.2	68.0	68.2	68.8	70.6	71.3	72.1	
Others	(%)	73.0	75.2	70.5	67.3	73.2	60.1	59.0	61.0	61.2	62.6	72.4	75.0	
Non-citizens	(%)	80.8	81.2	82.0	82.4	82.4	86.5	88.7	87.6	86.2	82.1	80.0	77.3	
Educational attainment														
No formal education	(%)	61.7	63.5	61.7	57.9	62.7	66.5	66.9	66.8	68.8	68.9	69.2	69.7	
Primary	(%)	69.2	68.8	68.1	65.0	68.2	71.6	70.2	70.0	71.6	71.8	71.5	70.4	
Secondary	(%)	67.5	67.7	67.4	68.7	68.4	67.7	67.8	68.3	68.5	68.7	68.8	68.9	
Tertiary	(%)	74.5	74.8	76.8	75.6	74.8	75.9	76.8	75.5	74.4	74.4	74.5	74.9	

Note: The Labour Force Statistics from first quarter of 2024 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

2. Profile of Labour Force

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023					2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
Labour force	('000)	16,542.2	16,648.9	16,727.4	16,824.0	16,911.7	16,770.6	16,913.0	16,996.7	17,097.9	17,229.3	17,369.9	17,486.6	
Sex														
Male	('000)	10,118.8	10,186.3	10,240.7	10,300.2	10,355.4	10,500.3	10,633.3	10,662.4	10,752.6	10,869.6	10,958.7	11,032.8	
Female	('000)	6,423.3	6,462.5	6,486.7	6,523.8	6,556.3	6,270.2	6,279.7	6,334.3	6,345.2	6,359.7	6,411.2	6,453.7	
Age group														
15-24	('000)	2,801.3	2,859.3	2,850.6	2,869.9	2,903.8	2,718.4	2,759.2	2,775.4	2,820.9	2,859.0	2,890.8	2,921.1	
25-34	('000)	5,590.9	5,612.4	5,678.5	5,722.7	5,704.0	5,192.4	5,246.4	5,241.7	5,266.7	5,318.1	5,376.2	5,391.4	
35-44	('000)	4,239.9	4,208.0	4,201.3	4,200.1	4,195.8	4,634.8	4,699.0	4,739.8	4,717.5	4,706.9	4,735.2	4,726.7	
45-54	('000)	2,606.0	2,711.4	2,710.9	2,733.9	2,800.1	2,920.0	2,904.5	2,860.2	2,867.5	2,882.6	2,920.5	2,986.3	
55-64	('000)	1,304.1	1,257.8	1,286.1	1,297.4	1,308.0	1,305.0	1,303.9	1,379.6	1,425.2	1,462.7	1,447.3	1,461.1	
Sex and Age group														
Male	('000)	10,118.8	10,186.3	10,240.7	10,300.2	10,355.4	10,500.3	10,633.3	10,662.4	10,752.6	10,869.6	10,958.7	11,032.8	
15-24	('000)	1,876.9	1,946.0	1,903.9	1,898.8	1,910.3	1,809.0	1,874.7	1,946.5	1,942.6	1,662.7	1,783.7	1,769.5	
25-34	('000)	3,240.6	3,195.1	3,273.1	3,307.4	3,334.8	3,085.7	3,207.6	3,195.0	3,208.4	3,348.3	3,282.1	3,365.4	
35-44	('000)	2,428.0	2,456.7	2,471.9	2,494.1	2,504.9	2,816.2	2,690.0	2,791.2	2,829.0	2,886.6	2,952.2	2,928.2	
45-54	('000)	1,656.6	1,696.2	1,668.8	1,707.2	1,721.6	1,840.8	1,852.5	1,774.5	1,795.8	1,884.2	1,837.0	1,862.7	
55-64	('000)	916.7	892.4	922.9	892.7	883.8	948.6	1,008.5	955.1	976.8	1,087.7	1,103.7	1,107.0	
Female	('000)	6,423.3	6,462.5	6,486.7	6,523.8	6,556.3	6,270.2	6,279.7	6,334.3	6,345.2	6,359.7	6,411.2	6,453.7	
15-24	('000)	924.4	913.3	946.7	971.1	993.5	909.4	884.5	828.8	878.3	1,196.2	1,107.0	1,151.6	
25-34	('000)	2,350.2	2,417.2	2,405.3	2,415.3	2,369.2	2,106.7	2,038.9	2,046.7	2,058.4	1,969.8	2,094.1	2,025.9	
35-44	('000)	1,811.9	1,751.4	1,729.4	1,706.0	1,691.0	1,818.5	2,009.0	1,948.6	1,888.6	1,820.2	1,783.0	1,798.6	
45-54	('000)	949.4	1,015.1	1,042.1	1,026.7	1,078.5	1,079.2	1,051.9	1,085.7	1,071.7	998.4	1,083.5	1,123.6	
55-64	('000)	387.4	365.5	363.2	404.7	424.2	356.4	295.4	424.5	448.4	375.1	343.6	354.1	
Ethnic group														
Citizens	('000)	14,296.1	14,387.6	14,457.6	14,532.4	14,605.5	14,477.3	14,482.8	14,522.0	14,582.1	14,757.7	14,883.0	15,016.1	
Bumiputera	('000)	9,511.3	9,599.1	9,722.1	9,780.9	9,821.7	9,922.7	9,942.3	9,955.2	9,970.8	10,054.5	10,117.7	10,184.7	
Chinese	('000)	3,557.8	3,567.5	3,549.1	3,557.1	3,554.2	3,482.9	3,467.0	3,479.8	3,514.1	3,571.7	3,615.9	3,649.7	
Indians	('000)	1,093.9	1,075.6	1,060.2	1,066.8	1,075.5	989.1	988.3	992.6	1,009.2	1,031.0	1,039.1	1,063.1	
Others	('000)	133.0	145.4	126.2	127.6	154.1	82.6	85.1	94.4	87.9	100.5	110.2	118.5	
Non-citizens	('000)	2,246.1	2,261.3	2,269.9	2,291.6	2,306.2	2,293.3	2,430.1	2,474.6	2,515.8	2,471.6	2,486.9	2,470.5	
Educational attainment														
No formal education	('000)	438.4	464.8	502.4	428.3	431.2	451.7	439.3	396.1	431.6	448.1	474.8	409.5	
Primary	('000)	1,450.6	1,487.2	1,443.8	1,333.1	1,406.9	1,438.0	1,498.2	1,546.1	1,528.0	1,563.1	1,583.5	1,548.0	
Secondary	('000)	9,428.9	9,438.1	9,503.4	9,749.2	9,736.0	9,458.3	9,516.5	9,506.0	9,557.1	9,610.3	9,674.9	9,859.6	
Tertiary	('000)	5,224.3	5,258.8	5,277.9	5,313.3	5,337.7	5,422.6	5,459.0	5,548.4	5,581.2	5,607.8	5,636.7	5,669.5	

Note: The Labour Force Statistics from first quarter of 2024 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

3. Profile of Employed Person

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023					2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
Employed	('000)	15,941.7	16,062.0	16,146.1	16,250.9	16,346.7	16,216.8	16,368.3	16,455.7	16,559.1	16,703.0	16,849.0	16,966.7	
Employment to population ratio	(%)	67.0	67.3	67.5	67.7	67.8	68.2	68.4	68.4	68.4	68.6	68.7	68.8	
Sex														
Male	('000)	9,763.0	9,840.8	9,901.6	9,968.4	10,029.4	10,173.7	10,307.4	10,339.8	10,430.9	10,554.2	10,650.9	10,725.7	
Female	('000)	6,178.7	6,221.2	6,244.5	6,282.5	6,317.3	6,043.1	6,061.0	6,115.9	6,128.3	6,148.8	6,198.2	6,241.0	
Age group														
15-24	('000)	2,501.9	2,570.9	2,544.9	2,574.8	2,609.4	2,447.9	2,488.4	2,506.5	2,541.3	2,577.3	2,604.2	2,630.5	
25-34	('000)	5,399.8	5,452.0	5,512.7	5,573.5	5,548.3	5,074.4	5,134.5	5,119.5	5,149.8	5,194.1	5,245.2	5,257.6	
35-44	('000)	4,180.0	4,118.4	4,144.8	4,147.3	4,153.8	4,567.4	4,622.3	4,671.6	4,666.9	4,668.1	4,697.5	4,686.9	
45-54	('000)	2,579.6	2,680.8	2,681.7	2,696.2	2,761.5	2,872.7	2,860.6	2,816.4	2,817.9	2,849.4	2,881.9	2,952.2	
55-64	('000)	1,280.4	1,240.0	1,262.0	1,259.1	1,273.6	1,254.4	1,262.5	1,341.7	1,383.3	1,414.0	1,420.2	1,439.6	
Sex and Age group														
Male	('000)	9,763.0	9,840.8	9,901.6	9,968.4	10,029.4	10,173.7	10,307.4	10,339.8	10,430.9	10,554.2	10,650.9	10,725.7	
15-24	('000)	1,667.4	1,762.9	1,718.3	1,741.1	1,720.8	1,655.3	1,722.5	1,785.2	1,757.0	1,491.6	1,606.0	1,588.2	
25-34	('000)	3,157.4	3,092.7	3,184.0	3,226.6	3,261.8	3,015.0	3,133.4	3,128.0	3,147.6	3,286.5	3,222.7	3,299.2	
35-44	('000)	2,402.2	2,423.8	2,442.8	2,463.1	2,483.6	2,780.8	2,643.8	2,752.7	2,803.8	2,856.8	2,935.5	2,908.6	
45-54	('000)	1,637.2	1,679.5	1,652.1	1,678.2	1,702.1	1,815.1	1,826.4	1,738.9	1,773.9	1,856.4	1,806.0	1,835.1	
55-64	('000)	898.9	881.8	904.4	859.3	861.1	907.4	981.3	935.0	948.5	1,063.0	1,080.6	1,094.5	
Female	('000)	6,178.7	6,221.2	6,244.5	6,282.5	6,317.3	6,043.1	6,061.0	6,115.9	6,128.3	6,148.8	6,198.2	6,241.0	
15-24	('000)	834.5	807.9	826.6	833.6	888.6	792.6	766.0	721.4	784.3	1,085.7	998.2	1,042.2	
25-34	('000)	2,242.5	2,359.2	2,328.7	2,346.9	2,286.5	2,059.4	2,001.1	1,991.5	2,002.2	1,907.7	2,022.4	1,958.3	
35-44	('000)	1,777.8	1,694.6	1,702.0	1,684.2	1,670.3	1,786.6	1,978.5	1,918.8	1,863.1	1,811.4	1,762.0	1,778.2	
45-54	('000)	942.3	1,001.3	1,029.5	1,018.0	1,059.4	1,057.6	1,034.1	1,077.5	1,044.0	993.0	1,075.9	1,117.1	
55-64	('000)	381.5	358.2	357.6	399.8	412.4	346.9	281.2	406.7	434.7	351.0	339.6	345.1	
Ethnic group														
Citizens	('000)	13,783.9	13,883.8	13,958.8	14,040.4	14,123.4	13,995.7	14,007.1	14,048.4	14,109.7	14,296.0	14,417.4	14,541.2	
Bumiputera	('000)	9,147.9	9,233.7	9,349.5	9,433.4	9,477.4	9,564.1	9,590.0	9,605.6	9,619.3	9,706.2	9,773.0	9,833.7	
Chinese	('000)	3,462.3	3,468.1	3,466.6	3,470.3	3,474.7	3,409.4	3,394.1	3,405.4	3,441.9	3,502.6	3,542.2	3,570.3	
Indians	('000)	1,048.6	1,039.2	1,020.5	1,017.9	1,031.7	944.8	945.4	952.0	968.5	991.2	997.1	1,022.5	
Others	('000)	125.2	142.8	122.2	118.8	139.6	77.4	77.6	85.4	79.9	96.0	105.2	114.7	
Non-citizens	('000)	2,157.8	2,178.2	2,187.3	2,210.4	2,223.2	2,221.1	2,361.2	2,407.3	2,449.4	2,407.0	2,431.6	2,425.5	
Educational attainment														
No formal education	('000)	420.5	436.6	474.2	404.0	404.8	421.5	410.3	370.2	399.7	423.3	450.2	389.2	
Primary	('000)	1,395.8	1,439.9	1,397.5	1,289.2	1,353.8	1,385.1	1,450.7	1,487.3	1,469.6	1,506.1	1,536.0	1,508.3	
Secondary	('000)	9,062.6	9,091.8	9,156.3	9,408.0	9,405.6	9,129.7	9,192.7	9,204.3	9,251.1	9,304.6	9,363.6	9,542.6	
Tertiary	('000)	5,062.8	5,093.7	5,117.9	5,149.6	5,182.6	5,280.4	5,314.5	5,393.9	5,438.8	5,469.0	5,499.3	5,526.6	

Note: The Labour Force Statistics from first quarter of 2024 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

3. Profile of Employed Person (cont.)

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Status in employment													
Employer	('000)	571.8	581.7	585.2	586.1	588.6	569.8	591.8	630.1	659.0	617.6	627.8	644.5
Employee	('000)	12,001.9	12,056.5	12,102.0	12,190.1	12,265.5	12,464.0	12,533.9	12,582.4	12,627.4	12,743.6	12,821.3	12,886.3
Own account worker	('000)	2,878.2	2,935.9	2,968.6	2,982.8	2,998.9	2,754.5	2,804.2	2,818.5	2,859.7	2,901.9	2,962.2	3,000.8
Unpaid family worker	('000)	489.8	487.9	490.3	491.9	493.7	428.5	438.4	424.7	413.0	439.9	437.8	435.0
Occupation													
Managers	('000)	648.1	655.0	659.5	663.3	669.3	798.7	801.9	810.9	814.1	847.8	857.0	860.5
Professionals	('000)	2,057.9	2,078.8	2,090.0	2,099.6	2,105.7	2,199.9	2,209.0	2,211.2	2,228.3	2,249.0	2,264.0	2,276.0
Technicians and associate professionals	('000)	1,745.1	1,753.1	1,762.9	1,770.2	1,778.4	1,949.0	1,955.3	1,967.3	1,974.6	1,982.3	1,988.6	1,996.4
Clerical support workers	('000)	1,769.8	1,774.3	1,781.2	1,789.5	1,793.4	1,588.4	1,600.8	1,617.6	1,657.5	1,671.1	1,679.3	1,699.0
Service and sales workers	('000)	4,079.2	4,094.1	4,103.5	4,135.5	4,162.9	3,865.9	3,880.8	3,889.6	3,894.3	3,915.9	3,933.3	3,947.3
Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock and fishery workers	('000)	628.1	641.5	645.8	650.9	650.5	694.7	692.9	690.3	695.1	698.5	709.0	721.4
Craft and related trades workers	('000)	1,312.9	1,318.0	1,326.1	1,329.0	1,334.7	1,412.5	1,448.1	1,462.5	1,466.7	1,476.5	1,487.5	1,492.8
Plant and Marhine-operators and assemblers	('000)	1,683.2	1,689.7	1,698.2	1,698.3	1,706.3	1,638.5	1,673.6	1,682.5	1,697.8	1,708.2	1,732.1	1,737.4
Elementary occupations	('000)	2,017.5	2,057.5	2,079.0	2,114.6	2,145.3	2,069.3	2,106.0	2,123.8	2,130.5	2,153.6	2,198.3	2,235.9
Skill													
Skilled	('000)	4,451.1	4,486.9	4,512.4	4,533.1	4,553.4	4,947.6	4,966.2	4,989.4	5,017.0	5,079.1	5,109.6	5,132.9
Semi-skilled	('000)	9,473.2	9,517.6	9,554.8	9,603.2	9,647.9	9,199.9	9,296.2	9,342.5	9,411.4	9,470.2	9,541.2	9,597.9
Low-skilled	('000)	2,017.5	2,057.5	2,079.0	2,114.6	2,145.3	2,069.3	2,106.0	2,123.8	2,130.5	2,153.6	2,198.3	2,235.9

Note: The Labour Force Statistics from first quarter of 2024 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

4. Profile of Underemployment

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023					2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
Working less than 30 hours	('000)	268.5	274.2	280.4	284.8	286.1	272.9	269.9	264.2	257.9	242.7	241.0	230.9	
Sex														
Male	('000)	115.4	114.2	120.2	122.0	113.6	122.2	121.5	116.7	113.5	106.3	110.5	107.5	
Female	('000)	153.0	160.0	160.2	162.8	172.5	150.7	148.4	147.5	144.4	136.5	130.5	123.4	
Age group														
15-24	('000)	46.1	37.4	54.0	41.5	49.1	33.9	55.9	43.0	64.5	70.4	41.7	58.8	
25-34	('000)	88.0	94.4	85.3	113.2	108.7	77.8	65.2	74.1	59.8	37.7	62.4	39.3	
35-44	('000)	56.2	46.5	58.6	49.6	43.3	62.6	60.0	57.4	37.9	71.4	62.4	63.7	
45 and above	('000)	78.3	95.8	82.5	80.4	85.1	98.6	88.9	89.7	95.8	63.3	74.4	69.2	
Time-related underemployment	('000)	167.4	174.6	186.3	189.0	181.6	161.8	157.4	155.9	152.7	146.9	141.0	133.3	
Sex														
Male	('000)	79.3	78.7	86.4	88.1	82.7	76.6	74.0	73.9	70.9	68.9	64.1	62.0	
Female	('000)	88.1	95.9	99.9	100.8	98.9	85.2	83.3	82.0	81.8	78.0	76.9	71.3	
Age group														
15-24	('000)	29.9	30.2	39.5	34.4	26.5	22.6	23.3	27.2	32.5	50.4	34.1	46.1	
25-34	('000)	63.8	66.4	62.6	79.0	81.1	55.7	50.1	48.1	39.6	28.6	41.7	25.9	
35-44	('000)	32.5	25.2	34.4	32.6	28.4	30.9	38.9	25.2	23.9	38.9	33.9	25.9	
45 and above	('000)	41.2	52.8	49.8	42.9	45.6	52.6	45.1	55.4	56.8	29.1	31.3	35.3	
Skill-related underemployment	('000)	1,891.4	1,907.2	1,914.6	1,922.7	1,937.1	1,920.8	1,923.1	1,942.4	1,946.3	1,953.7	1,955.6	1,961.5	
Sex														
Male	('000)	1,022.0	944.0	873.1	941.3	996.2	864.7	868.7	879.4	880.7	885.6	882.9	884.3	
Female	('000)	869.5	963.3	1,041.5	981.4	940.9	1,056.1	1,054.5	1,063.0	1,065.5	1,068.1	1,072.7	1,077.2	
Age group														
15-24	('000)	326.3	373.9	421.3	425.5	400.2	352.6	401.5	390.7	373.2	393.5	432.1	466.5	
25-34	('000)	894.9	879.1	867.5	816.1	815.3	735.2	732.7	808.1	704.2	794.0	806.8	786.8	
35-44	('000)	476.0	447.4	421.0	457.8	493.7	522.5	539.3	498.3	495.7	492.6	490.3	447.8	
45 and above	('000)	194.2	206.8	204.8	223.3	227.9	310.6	249.6	245.3	373.1	273.6	226.3	260.4	
Rate of time-related underemployment	(%)	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	
Rate of skill-related underemployment	(%)	37.4	37.4	37.4	37.3	37.4	36.4	36.2	36.0	35.8	35.7	35.6	35.5	

Note: The Labour Force Statistics from first quarter of 2024 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

5. Profile of Unemployment

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Unemployed	('000)	600.5	586.9	581.4	573.1	565.0	553.8	544.6	541.0	538.7	526.3	520.9	519.9
Strata													
Urban	('000)	458.5	466.4	453.3	447.8	435.1	389.2	385.9	385.0	384.7	380.8	386.8	384.9
Rural	('000)	142.0	120.4	128.1	125.3	129.9	164.5	158.7	156.0	154.1	145.5	134.1	135.0
Sex													
Male	('000)	355.8	345.5	339.1	331.8	326.0	326.7	325.9	322.6	321.8	315.4	307.8	307.2
Female	('000)	244.7	241.3	242.2	241.2	239.0	227.1	218.7	218.4	217.0	211.0	213.1	212.7
Age group													
15-24	('000)	299.4	288.4	305.7	295.1	294.4	270.4	270.8	268.9	279.7	281.7	286.5	290.6
25-34	('000)	191.1	160.4	165.7	149.2	155.6	118.0	111.9	122.2	116.9	124.0	131.0	133.8
35-44	('000)	59.9	89.7	56.5	52.8	42.0	67.4	76.7	68.2	50.7	38.8	37.7	39.8
45-54	('000)	26.4	30.6	29.3	37.7	38.6	47.3	43.9	43.9	49.6	33.2	38.5	34.1
55-64	('000)	23.7	17.8	24.1	38.3	34.4	50.7	41.4	37.9	41.9	48.7	27.1	21.6
Ethnic group													
Citizens	('000)	512.2	503.7	498.8	491.9	482.1	481.6	475.7	473.6	472.4	461.8	465.6	474.9
Bumiputera	('000)	363.4	365.4	372.6	347.5	344.3	358.6	352.4	349.6	351.5	348.3	344.7	351.0
Chinese	('000)	95.5	99.4	82.5	86.7	79.5	73.4	72.9	74.4	72.2	69.1	73.7	79.4
Indians	('000)	45.4	36.3	39.7	48.9	43.8	44.3	43.0	40.6	40.7	39.8	42.0	40.6
Others	('000)	7.9	2.6	4.0	8.8	14.5	5.2	7.5	9.0	8.0	4.5	5.1	3.8
Non-citizens	('000)	88.3	83.1	82.6	81.2	83.0	72.2	68.9	67.3	66.4	64.6	55.3	45.0
Unemployed category													
Actively unemployed	('000)	515.4	495.8	493.4	468.6	460.9	433.9	432.3	429.2	427.8	421.5	418.1	417.3
Duration of unemployment													
Less than 3 month	('000)	313.5	312.4	318.1	316.5	311.6	274.0	274.0	272.7	272.2	269.9	276.5	275.9
3 month to less than 6 month	('000)	109.3	100.4	94.9	85.8	83.4	88.7	87.9	86.9	86.3	84.5	83.8	84.6
6 month to less than 1 year	('000)	56.7	47.6	45.7	42.0	40.3	46.4	45.8	45.1	45.0	43.2	41.4	41.6
More than 1 year	('000)	35.9	35.4	34.7	24.3	25.6	24.7	24.7	24.5	24.3	23.9	16.4	15.1
Inactively unemployed	('000)	85.0	91.1	88.0	104.5	104.1	119.9	112.3	111.8	110.9	104.8	102.9	102.6

Note: The Labour Force Statistics from first quarter of 2024 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

5. Profile of Unemployment (cont.)

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023					2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.0	
Strata														
Urban	(%)	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8	
Rural	(%)	4.4	3.9	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.4	3.5	
Sex														
Male	(%)	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.8	
Female	(%)	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	
Age group														
15-24	(%)	10.7	10.1	10.7	10.3	10.1	9.9	9.8	9.7	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	
25-34	(%)	3.4	2.9	2.9	2.6	2.7	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	
35-44	(%)	1.4	2.1	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.8	
45-54	(%)	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.2	1.3	1.1	
55-64	(%)	1.8	1.4	1.9	3.0	2.6	3.9	3.2	2.7	2.9	3.3	1.9	1.5	
Ethnic group														
Citizens	(%)	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.2	
Bumiputera	(%)	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4	
Chinese	(%)	2.7	2.8	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.9	2.0	2.2	
Indians	(%)	4.1	3.4	3.7	4.6	4.1	4.5	4.3	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.0	3.8	
Others	(%)	5.9	1.8	3.2	6.9	9.4	6.3	8.8	9.5	9.1	4.5	4.6	3.2	
Non-citizens	(%)	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.1	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.2	1.8	

Note: The Labour Force Statistics from first quarter of 2024 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

6. Profile of Outside Labour Force

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Outside labour force	('000)	7,246.1	7,215.7	7,180.2	7,182.3	7,197.6	7,021.1	7,016.2	7,070.9	7,110.7	7,126.1	7,154.9	7,182.6
Sex													
Male	('000)	2,183.6	2,149.9	2,120.7	2,112.9	2,118.7	2,155.7	2,145.5	2,149.0	2,177.9	2,189.6	2,194.4	2,212.5
Female	('000)	5,062.5	5,065.7	5,059.5	5,069.3	5,078.9	4,865.4	4,870.7	4,922.0	4,932.8	4,936.5	4,960.5	4,970.1
Age group													
15-24	('000)	3,331.2	3,289.8	3,334.7	3,324.0	3,320.9	3,127.3	3,128.6	3,133.7	3,120.0	3,125.1	3,131.4	3,155.3
25-34	('000)	840.5	819.1	766.1	745.6	811.1	756.7	762.8	781.7	830.4	853.8	874.8	900.5
35-44	('000)	642.0	673.4	686.5	731.3	736.9	815.0	775.4	790.1	835.0	863.5	898.2	929.7
45-54	('000)	922.3	846.4	855.8	846.6	792.5	821.2	844.7	921.0	922.9	909.2	880.4	835.0
55-64	('000)	1,510.1	1,586.9	1,537.1	1,534.8	1,536.2	1,500.9	1,504.6	1,444.3	1,402.4	1,374.4	1,370.2	1,362.1
Sex and Age group													
Male	('000)	2,183.6	2,149.9	2,120.7	2,112.9	2,118.7	2,155.7	2,145.5	2,149.0	2,177.9	2,189.6	2,194.4	2,212.5
15-24	('000)	1,336.0	1,269.4	1,331.5	1,345.9	1,352.7	1,323.2	1,289.6	1,223.4	1,250.6	1,563.5	1,460.9	1,509.9
25-34	('000)	158.2	204.9	130.2	107.7	110.1	203.3	138.7	150.0	193.2	135.0	234.6	171.9
35-44	('000)	86.3	58.3	51.9	47.6	39.4	76.7	233.3	148.5	136.9	87.8	62.8	98.5
45-54	('000)	109.7	81.9	118.0	86.9	74.0	83.9	81.9	169.3	159.4	72.0	131.2	115.5
55-64	('000)	493.5	535.4	489.1	524.9	542.6	468.6	402.0	457.7	437.7	331.3	304.9	316.7
Female	('000)	5,062.5	5,065.7	5,059.5	5,069.3	5,078.9	4,865.4	4,870.7	4,922.0	4,932.8	4,936.5	4,960.5	4,970.1
15-24	('000)	1,995.2	2,020.4	2,003.2	1,978.1	1,968.2	1,804.1	1,839.1	1,910.3	1,869.4	1,561.6	1,670.5	1,645.4
25-34	('000)	682.2	614.3	635.9	637.9	701.0	553.5	624.1	631.7	637.2	718.8	640.2	728.6
35-44	('000)	555.8	615.1	634.6	683.7	697.6	738.3	542.2	641.6	698.1	775.8	835.5	831.2
45-54	('000)	812.6	764.5	737.8	759.7	718.5	737.3	762.8	751.7	763.5	837.2	749.2	719.5
55-64	('000)	1,016.7	1,051.5	1,048.0	1,009.9	993.7	1,032.3	1,102.6	986.6	964.7	1,043.1	1,065.2	1,045.4
Reason for not seeking work													
Schooling/ training program	('000)	3,043.6	3,006.8	2,955.5	2,926.9	2,993.0	2,888.1	2,893.4	2,902.0	2,938.8	2,961.1	2,927.4	2,923.1
Housework/ family	('000)	3,169.8	3,171.2	3,195.1	3,200.8	3,167.8	3,068.1	3,074.9	3,112.4	3,134.2	3,152.1	3,175.6	3,186.9
Going for further studies	('000)	123.5	128.3	134.2	140.8	124.2	103.5	112.2	104.6	90.8	113.0	116.0	126.1
Disabled	('000)	174.7	174.4	191.9	196.1	194.8	213.1	205.4	211.5	224.9	219.6	234.6	236.8
Not interested/ just completed study	('000)	75.9	66.8	50.7	40.9	33.7	76.1	79.8	82.9	85.1	82.9	70.9	76.9
Retired/ old age	('000)	658.6	668.3	652.8	676.8	684.1	672.2	650.6	657.5	636.9	597.3	630.3	632.7

Note: The Labour Force Statistics from first quarter of 2024 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

7. Principal Statistics of Labour Force by State

Indicator	2022	2023					2024				2025		
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
Malaysia													
Labour force	16,542.2	16,648.9	16,727.4	16,824.0	16,911.7	16,770.6	16,913.0	16,996.7	17,097.9	17,229.3	17,369.9	17,486.6	
Employed	15,941.7	16,062.0	16,146.1	16,250.9	16,346.7	16,216.8	16,368.3	16,455.7	16,559.1	16,703.0	16,849.0	16,966.7	
Unemployed	600.5	586.9	581.4	573.1	565.0	553.8	544.6	541.0	538.7	526.3	520.9	519.9	
Outside labour force	7,246.1	7,215.7	7,180.2	7,182.3	7,197.6	7,021.1	7,016.2	7,070.9	7,110.7	7,126.1	7,154.9	7,182.6	
Labour force participation rate	69.5	69.8	70.0	70.1	70.1	70.5	70.7	70.6	70.6	70.7	70.8	70.9	
Unemployment rate	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.0	
Johor													
Labour force	1,856.0	1,878.7	1,884.6	1,910.2	1,936.4	2,101.6	2,114.8	2,135.9	2,161.6	2,174.3	2,182.7	2,206.3	
Employed	1,812.2	1,830.1	1,838.7	1,863.2	1,891.8	2,055.1	2,067.6	2,088.3	2,110.1	2,124.5	2,129.5	2,150.2	
Unemployed	43.7	48.6	46.0	47.0	44.6	46.5	47.2	47.6	51.6	49.9	53.1	56.2	
Outside labour force	823.7	812.8	811.5	795.5	788.5	853.3	840.6	846.3	847.4	856.7	857.8	865.0	
Labour force participation rate	69.3	69.8	69.9	70.6	71.1	71.1	71.6	71.6	71.8	71.7	71.8	71.8	
Unemployment rate	2.4	2.6	2.4	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.5	
Kedah													
Labour force	1,057.3	1,057.1	1,064.7	1,068.4	1,082.7	990.8	995.3	984.4	989.2	1,003.3	1,010.9	1,002.7	
Employed	1,022.5	1,027.3	1,036.7	1,043.8	1,060.2	964.0	971.0	960.3	965.3	978.2	985.3	978.2	
Unemployed	34.8	29.8	28.0	24.6	22.5	26.8	24.2	24.1	23.8	25.1	25.6	24.5	
Outside labour force	539.7	537.4	536.4	540.0	533.6	491.9	498.3	504.0	508.1	510.3	508.4	514.4	
Labour force participation rate	66.2	66.3	66.5	66.4	67.0	66.8	66.6	66.1	66.1	66.3	66.5	66.1	
Unemployment rate	3.3	2.8	2.6	2.3	2.1	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.4	
Kelantan													
Labour force	800.7	805.2	808.2	818.6	829.7	708.6	721.1	735.4	738.6	738.7	748.2	752.1	
Employed	768.0	773.8	776.4	784.7	796.6	680.3	694.4	707.4	706.6	707.8	715.3	717.8	
Unemployed	32.8	31.3	31.8	33.9	33.1	28.3	26.7	28.0	32.0	30.8	32.9	34.4	
Outside labour force	505.5	506.2	510.2	508.1	507.3	505.5	503.8	492.4	495.3	503.0	505.4	506.2	
Labour force participation rate	61.3	61.4	61.3	61.7	62.1	58.4	58.9	59.9	59.9	59.5	59.7	59.8	
Unemployment rate	4.1	3.9	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.7	3.8	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.6	
Melaka													
Labour force	454.2	453.7	452.1	458.0	461.9	514.1	523.8	521.1	522.4	524.5	530.9	534.6	
Employed	441.9	440.5	440.0	445.4	450.1	504.1	514.6	511.6	510.7	514.6	519.5	521.6	
Unemployed	12.3	13.2	12.1	12.6	11.8	10.1	9.2	9.5	11.7	9.9	11.4	13.0	
Outside labour force	222.7	226.1	227.7	224.6	222.8	224.0	219.3	223.9	228.2	234.5	235.7	237.5	
Labour force participation rate	67.1	66.7	66.5	67.1	67.5	69.6	70.5	69.9	69.6	69.1	69.3	69.2	
Unemployment rate	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.0	1.8	1.8	2.2	1.9	2.2	2.4	
Negeri Sembilan													
Labour force	532.0	530.4	530.4	535.7	529.6	572.2	571.7	569.6	575.1	577.9	583.0	585.1	
Employed	518.0	517.2	518.5	522.7	517.1	556.2	555.5	552.3	558.2	561.6	566.3	567.8	
Unemployed	14.0	13.2	11.9	13.0	12.5	16.0	16.3	17.3	16.9	16.3	16.7	17.3	
Outside labour force	259.9	257.1	261.2	255.6	262.5	272.0	276.0	278.5	282.6	283.1	282.8	283.2	
Labour force participation rate	67.2	67.3	67.0	67.7	66.9	67.8	67.4	67.2	67.1	67.1	67.3	67.4	
Unemployment rate	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.8	2.8	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.9	3.0	

Note: The Labour Force Statistics from first quarter of 2024 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

7. Principal Statistics of Labour Force by State (cont.)

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023					2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
Pahang														
Labour force	('000)	757.2	760.6	766.9	763.9	761.8	738.0	748.6	752.8	768.6	778.5	783.6	788.8	
Employed	('000)	736.5	741.1	745.3	743.4	742.6	722.0	732.7	736.5	751.9	763.4	769.6	775.0	
Unemployed	('000)	20.7	19.4	21.6	20.6	19.2	16.1	15.9	16.4	16.7	15.2	14.0	13.8	
Outside labour force	('000)	397.7	395.3	395.1	402.4	407.2	413.0	407.8	410.0	404.5	400.1	402.7	406.3	
Labour force participation rate	(%)	65.6	65.8	66.0	65.5	65.2	64.1	64.7	64.7	65.5	66.1	66.1	66.0	
Unemployment rate	(%)	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.2	1.9	1.8	1.7	
Pulau Pinang														
Labour force	('000)	946.1	937.4	943.6	959.8	965.7	956.7	951.6	940.5	938.2	947.3	955.2	960.4	
Employed	('000)	924.4	916.0	923.5	939.4	946.0	936.7	933.9	919.0	914.1	923.2	931.0	934.2	
Unemployed	('000)	21.7	21.5	20.1	20.4	19.7	20.0	17.7	21.6	24.1	24.1	24.2	26.2	
Outside labour force	('000)	371.2	375.9	372.5	364.1	352.5	366.0	364.5	375.8	383.8	385.2	385.7	386.9	
Labour force participation rate	(%)	71.8	71.4	71.7	72.5	73.3	72.3	72.3	71.4	71.0	71.1	71.2	71.3	
Unemployment rate	(%)	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.9	2.3	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.7	
Perak														
Labour force	('000)	1,122.7	1,121.2	1,120.5	1,121.8	1,130.3	1,206.9	1,193.2	1,194.7	1,186.4	1,206.9	1,212.1	1,224.8	
Employed	('000)	1,090.8	1,085.7	1,084.3	1,085.2	1,092.5	1,165.2	1,155.6	1,156.3	1,146.6	1,168.7	1,170.6	1,179.5	
Unemployed	('000)	31.9	35.5	36.2	36.6	37.8	41.7	37.6	38.5	39.8	38.2	41.5	45.3	
Outside labour force	('000)	599.1	603.3	605.9	610.0	604.3	554.6	574.3	578.8	596.6	585.8	586.3	585.4	
Labour force participation rate	(%)	65.2	65.0	64.9	64.8	65.2	68.5	67.5	67.4	66.5	67.3	67.4	67.7	
Unemployment rate	(%)	2.8	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.7	
Perlis														
Labour force	('000)	118.2	118.3	119.7	121.2	120.0	137.2	135.5	135.5	134.8	137.6	138.3	137.4	
Employed	('000)	115.6	115.8	117.0	118.4	117.6	130.8	130.3	130.4	129.9	133.0	133.7	133.0	
Unemployed	('000)	2.6	2.5	2.7	2.9	2.4	6.4	5.2	5.1	4.9	4.5	4.6	4.4	
Outside labour force	('000)	62.6	61.5	62.2	61.4	61.9	80.1	78.8	79.1	81.0	79.8	80.0	80.5	
Labour force participation rate	(%)	65.4	65.8	65.8	66.4	66.0	63.1	63.2	63.1	62.5	63.3	63.4	63.0	
Unemployment rate	(%)	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.0	4.7	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.3	3.2	
Selangor														
Labour force	('000)	3,809.6	3,850.6	3,886.6	3,904.1	3,901.2	4,021.2	4,045.4	4,123.0	4,120.3	4,151.6	4,182.5	4,209.5	
Employed	('000)	3,697.4	3,750.9	3,791.3	3,814.4	3,813.2	3,926.8	3,937.0	4,018.4	4,039.6	4,061.1	4,101.4	4,132.0	
Unemployed	('000)	112.2	99.7	95.3	89.7	88.0	94.4	108.5	104.6	80.7	90.4	81.1	77.5	
Outside labour force	('000)	1,209.9	1,181.7	1,155.6	1,167.3	1,216.1	1,199.2	1,237.1	1,252.1	1,206.2	1,174.9	1,182.2	1,171.2	
Labour force participation rate	(%)	75.9	76.5	77.1	77.0	76.2	77.0	76.6	76.7	77.4	77.9	78.0	78.2	
Unemployment rate	(%)	2.9	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.7	2.5	2.0	2.2	1.9	1.8	
Terengganu														
Labour force	('000)	514.4	521.0	525.9	523.3	524.3	492.9	494.9	491.8	502.7	498.2	504.5	507.6	
Employed	('000)	492.0	499.4	502.3	500.1	500.1	474.0	477.8	476.9	485.8	483.7	490.6	493.0	
Unemployed	('000)	22.4	21.7	23.6	23.2	24.2	18.9	17.1	14.9	16.9	14.6	14.0	14.6	
Outside labour force	('000)	345.3	343.7	343.4	347.4	350.0	319.6	318.3	324.4	318.3	326.8	324.3	326.7	
Labour force participation rate	(%)	59.8	60.3	60.5	60.1	60.0	60.7	60.9	60.3	61.2	60.4	60.9	60.8	
Unemployment rate	(%)	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.4	4.6	3.8	3.4	3.0	3.4	2.9	2.8	2.9	

Note: The Labour Force Statistics from first quarter of 2024 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

7. Principal Statistics of Labour Force by State (cont.)

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023					2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
Sabah														
Labour force	('000)	2,176.5	2,198.0	2,203.7	2,211.5	2,226.9	1,818.7	1,849.7	1,861.1	1,887.3	1,902.4	1,933.4	1,950.2	
Employed	('000)	1,999.8	2,028.2	2,038.1	2,045.2	2,061.2	1,674.2	1,710.1	1,720.2	1,750.7	1,775.8	1,813.1	1,839.9	
Unemployed	('000)	176.7	169.8	165.6	166.3	165.6	144.5	139.7	140.9	136.6	126.6	120.3	110.3	
Outside labour force	('000)	907.6	914.2	908.9	921.9	921.3	770.5	754.8	745.7	776.4	799.1	814.0	817.9	
Labour force participation rate	(%)	70.6	70.6	70.8	70.6	70.7	70.2	71.0	71.4	70.9	70.4	70.4	70.5	
Unemployment rate	(%)	8.1	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.9	7.5	7.6	7.2	6.7	6.2	5.7	
Sarawak														
Labour force	('000)	1,449.8	1,442.5	1,456.3	1,464.0	1,479.0	1,239.1	1,264.5	1,259.8	1,257.6	1,254.3	1,260.3	1,258.3	
Employed	('000)	1,405.3	1,393.5	1,403.1	1,414.9	1,428.2	1,195.2	1,223.9	1,221.6	1,214.8	1,210.5	1,218.4	1,219.7	
Unemployed	('000)	44.5	49.0	53.1	49.1	50.7	43.9	40.6	38.1	42.9	43.8	41.8	38.6	
Outside labour force	('000)	627.8	636.8	630.1	630.4	620.0	547.4	529.6	532.3	537.6	545.7	547.4	552.2	
Labour force participation rate	(%)	69.8	69.4	69.8	69.9	70.5	69.4	70.5	70.3	70.1	69.7	69.7	69.5	
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.1	3.4	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.2	3.0	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.1	
W.P Kuala Lumpur														
Labour force	('000)	859.0	886.0	873.7	875.5	874.6	1,164.7	1,193.3	1,183.7	1,208.0	1,225.9	1,235.0	1,259.8	
Employed	('000)	831.6	857.3	844.4	846.0	845.8	1,128.9	1,158.2	1,153.3	1,171.7	1,192.4	1,198.5	1,218.9	
Unemployed	('000)	27.4	28.7	29.4	29.5	28.8	35.8	35.0	30.5	36.3	33.4	36.5	40.9	
Outside labour force	('000)	337.2	326.6	321.5	316.7	312.1	385.2	375.1	388.3	402.9	399.7	400.2	407.6	
Labour force participation rate	(%)	71.8	73.1	73.1	73.4	73.7	75.1	76.1	75.3	75.0	75.4	75.5	75.6	
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.1	2.9	2.6	3.0	2.7	3.0	3.2	
W.P Labuan														
Labour force	('000)	49.3	49.4	51.7	49.4	49.4	47.4	47.5	46.4	46.9	46.7	47.6	46.6	
Employed	('000)	47.0	46.7	48.0	45.8	45.9	44.1	44.7	43.5	44.2	44.4	45.3	44.4	
Unemployed	('000)	2.2	2.7	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.3	2.8	2.9	2.7	2.3	2.3	2.2	
Outside labour force	('000)	24.9	25.3	26.3	24.6	24.5	22.9	22.8	22.7	23.8	23.8	24.2	23.7	
Labour force participation rate	(%)	66.4	66.1	66.3	66.8	66.9	67.4	67.6	67.2	66.4	66.3	66.2	66.3	
Unemployment rate	(%)	4.5	5.4	7.3	7.3	7.0	6.9	5.8	6.3	5.8	5.0	4.7	4.7	
W.P Putrajaya														
Labour force	('000)	39.2	38.9	38.7	38.5	38.4	60.4	62.0	60.9	59.9	61.2	61.8	62.2	
Employed	('000)	38.6	38.6	38.5	38.3	37.8	59.3	60.9	60.0	58.8	60.1	60.9	61.3	
Unemployed	('000)	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.6	1.1	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.9	
Outside labour force	('000)	11.3	11.9	11.7	12.4	13.2	15.8	15.2	16.4	18.0	17.6	17.9	17.7	
Labour force participation rate	(%)	77.6	76.5	76.8	75.6	74.4	79.3	80.3	78.7	76.9	77.6	77.6	77.8	
Unemployment rate	(%)	1.6	0.8	0.5	0.5	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.4	1.4	

Note: The Labour Force Statistics from first quarter of 2024 are estimated based on the Population and Housing Census of Malaysia 2020
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

1. Jobs, Filled Jobs, Vacancies, Jobs Created & Rate of Filled Jobs and Rate of Vacancies by Economic Activity

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Total													
Jobs	('000)	8,755.6	8,805.7	8,827.1	8,902.5	8,935.1	8,937.4	8,955.0	9,011.7	9,054.2	9,064.4	9,097.3	9,162.8
Filled jobs	('000)	8,563.2	8,613.1	8,637.3	8,711.6	8,744.9	8,745.5	8,763.6	8,820.0	8,860.7	8,870.3	8,902.4	8,965.7
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.8
Vacancies	('000)	192.4	192.6	189.8	190.9	190.2	191.9	191.5	191.8	193.6	194.1	194.9	197.1
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2
Jobs created	('000)	30.89	31.71	31.70	31.99	31.06	32.14	31.86	31.79	31.46	33.22	31.92	32.30
Economic activity													
Agriculture													
Jobs	('000)	479.8	481.1	482.0	491.3	495.5	499.4	499.7	501.0	501.5	500.5	501.0	502.1
Filled jobs	('000)	448.1	449.3	451.3	460.8	464.5	467.3	468.0	469.0	469.6	468.7	469.2	470.1
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	93.4	93.4	93.6	93.8	93.7	93.6	93.6	93.6	93.6	93.7	93.7	93.6
Vacancies	('000)	31.7	31.8	30.7	30.5	31.1	32.1	31.8	32.0	31.9	31.8	31.8	32.0
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.4
Jobs created	('000)	1.67	1.67	1.65	1.43	1.42	1.48	1.28	1.24	1.21	1.31	1.33	1.24
Mining & Quarrying													
Jobs	('000)	79.5	80.1	80.3	80.8	80.6	80.5	80.6	80.2	80.5	80.8	81.0	80.8
Filled jobs	('000)	79.1	79.7	79.9	80.3	80.1	80.0	80.0	79.7	80.0	80.3	80.4	80.2
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	99.5	99.4	99.5	99.4	99.3	99.3	99.2	99.4	99.3	99.4	99.3	99.2
Vacancies	('000)	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.8
Jobs created	('000)	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.20	0.22	0.21	0.22	0.21	0.22	0.24	0.22	0.20
Manufacturing													
Jobs	('000)	2,414.1	2,429.9	2,428.6	2,464.7	2,469.0	2,456.3	2,458.7	2,489.2	2,503.7	2,493.7	2,495.6	2,522.8
Filled jobs	('000)	2,306.5	2,322.2	2,320.7	2,356.8	2,361.0	2,347.5	2,350.4	2,380.1	2,393.2	2,382.5	2,383.2	2,408.1
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	95.5	95.6	95.6	95.6	95.6	95.6	95.6	95.6	95.6	95.5	95.5	95.5
Vacancies	('000)	107.5	107.7	108.0	107.9	108.0	108.8	108.3	109.1	110.5	111.2	112.4	114.7
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5
Jobs created	('000)	10.10	10.54	10.05	10.38	10.55	10.73	10.81	10.94	10.97	12.13	11.95	12.17
Construction													
Jobs	('000)	1,250.8	1,256.5	1,259.1	1,264.4	1,264.8	1,266.1	1,267.7	1,269.8	1,272.0	1,272.5	1,273.9	1,275.7
Filled jobs	('000)	1,227.5	1,233.2	1,235.3	1,238.5	1,239.2	1,240.3	1,241.6	1,244.5	1,246.3	1,247.2	1,248.6	1,250.5
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.0	98.0	98.0	97.9	98.0	98.0	98.0	98.0	98.0
Vacancies	('000)	23.3	23.3	23.7	25.9	25.5	25.7	26.0	25.4	25.7	25.4	25.2	25.2
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Jobs created	('000)	3.08	3.25	3.62	4.06	3.74	3.81	3.70	3.67	3.37	3.58	3.50	3.11
Services													
Jobs	('000)	4,531.4	4,558.1	4,577.1	4,601.4	4,625.2	4,635.1	4,648.3	4,671.4	4,696.5	4,716.8	4,745.9	4,781.3
Filled jobs	('000)	4,501.9	4,528.7	4,550.1	4,575.3	4,600.2	4,610.5	4,623.6	4,646.7	4,671.5	4,691.6	4,721.1	4,756.7
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5
Vacancies	('000)	29.4	29.4	27.1	26.1	25.0	24.6	24.7	24.8	25.0	25.2	24.8	24.6
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Jobs created	('000)	15.91	16.12	16.25	15.92	15.13	15.91	15.85	15.73	15.70	15.97	14.92	15.59

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

2. Jobs, Filled Jobs, Vacancies, Jobs Created & Rate of Filled Jobs and Rate of Vacancies by Skill Category

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Total													
Jobs	('000)	8,755.6	8,805.7	8,827.1	8,902.5	8,935.1	8,937.4	8,955.0	9,011.7	9,054.2	9,064.4	9,097.3	9,162.8
Filled jobs	('000)	8,563.2	8,613.1	8,637.3	8,711.6	8,744.9	8,745.5	8,763.6	8,820.0	8,860.7	8,870.3	8,902.4	8,965.7
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.8
Vacancies	('000)	192.4	192.6	189.8	190.9	190.2	191.9	191.5	191.8	193.6	194.1	194.9	197.1
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2
Jobs created	('000)	30.89	31.71	31.70	31.99	31.06	32.14	31.86	31.79	31.46	33.22	31.92	32.30
Skill													
Skilled													
Jobs	('000)	2,180.6	2,195.7	2,204.9	2,221.8	2,236.0	2,240.1	2,242.6	2,254.6	2,266.2	2,275.4	2,289.2	2,306.0
Filled jobs	('000)	2,131.9	2,146.4	2,156.1	2,173.2	2,187.9	2,192.3	2,194.7	2,207.1	2,218.6	2,228.1	2,241.2	2,257.8
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9
Vacancies	('000)	48.6	49.3	48.8	48.6	48.1	47.8	48.0	47.5	47.6	47.4	48.0	48.2
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Jobs created	('000)	8.65	8.62	9.17	9.23	8.59	8.85	8.50	8.39	8.43	8.93	7.93	8.17
Semi-skilled													
Jobs	('000)	5,458.1	5,494.8	5,506.7	5,560.9	5,587.1	5,587.6	5,598.4	5,634.9	5,659.3	5,657.4	5,673.7	5,711.5
Filled jobs	('000)	5,352.1	5,388.7	5,401.4	5,455.4	5,481.5	5,480.2	5,491.5	5,527.8	5,550.8	5,548.2	5,564.3	5,600.2
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1
Vacancies	('000)	105.9	106.2	105.2	105.5	105.6	107.5	106.8	107.1	108.5	109.2	109.5	111.2
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
Jobs created	('000)	19.50	20.23	19.60	19.45	19.34	19.90	20.02	20.13	19.70	20.78	20.62	20.77
Low-skilled													
Jobs	('000)	1,117.0	1,115.1	1,115.5	1,119.8	1,112.0	1,109.7	1,114.1	1,122.2	1,128.8	1,131.6	1,134.4	1,145.3
Filled jobs	('000)	1,079.1	1,078.0	1,079.7	1,083.0	1,075.5	1,073.1	1,077.4	1,085.1	1,091.2	1,094.1	1,096.9	1,107.7
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	96.6	96.7	96.8	96.7	96.7	96.7	96.7	96.7	96.7	96.7	96.7	96.7
Vacancies	('000)	37.8	37.1	35.8	36.8	36.5	36.6	36.7	37.2	37.5	37.5	37.4	37.6
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
Jobs created	('000)	2.74	2.86	2.94	3.31	3.13	3.38	3.33	3.27	3.33	3.52	3.36	3.36

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

3. Jobs by Economic Activity and Skill Category

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Jobs	('000)	8,755.6	8,805.7	8,827.1	8,902.5	8,935.1	8,937.4	8,955.0	9,011.7	9,054.2	9,064.4	9,097.3	9,162.8
Economic activity													
Agriculture	('000)	479.8	481.1	482.0	491.3	495.5	499.4	499.7	501.0	501.5	500.5	501.0	502.1
Mining & Quarrying	('000)	79.5	80.1	80.3	80.8	80.6	80.5	80.6	80.2	80.5	80.8	81.0	80.8
Manufacturing	('000)	2,414.1	2,429.9	2,428.6	2,464.7	2,469.0	2,456.3	2,458.7	2,489.2	2,503.7	2,493.7	2,495.6	2,522.8
Food processing, beverages and tobacco products	('000)	312.8	320.8	324.6	336.0	338.1	342.7	344.7	351.5	353.1	354.3	354.2	360.2
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	('000)	86.0	87.2	87.9	87.7	89.0	90.0	89.8	89.4	89.0	90.4	90.0	90.2
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	('000)	308.2	309.6	308.2	311.0	313.1	310.2	310.0	312.8	317.5	314.6	316.5	318.9
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	('000)	456.9	457.3	448.8	456.6	461.0	456.6	450.7	457.9	461.9	459.6	451.2	457.1
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	('000)	365.9	367.2	367.1	375.2	377.6	377.6	377.0	383.8	385.5	387.4	386.5	391.9
Electrical, electronic and optical products	('000)	650.4	650.4	655.3	658.4	649.9	642.0	647.8	652.8	655.0	649.1	657.3	662.9
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	('000)	233.9	237.4	236.8	239.7	240.3	237.1	238.7	240.9	241.6	238.3	239.9	241.7
Construction	('000)	1,250.8	1,256.5	1,259.1	1,264.4	1,264.8	1,266.1	1,267.7	1,269.8	1,272.0	1,272.5	1,273.9	1,275.7
Services	('000)	4,531.4	4,558.1	4,577.1	4,601.4	4,625.2	4,635.1	4,648.3	4,671.4	4,696.5	4,716.8	4,745.9	4,781.3
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	1,668.7	1,671.1	1,681.8	1,696.0	1,708.1	1,710.8	1,722.3	1,734.0	1,748.2	1,760.8	1,774.2	1,790.7
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	793.8	804.2	805.9	808.4	810.6	809.8	804.3	808.4	810.5	812.4	815.6	825.4
Transportation and storage	('000)	411.0	416.5	419.2	420.5	423.0	425.5	427.5	430.0	432.8	434.8	437.1	439.8
Information and communication	('000)	231.9	232.4	232.9	233.4	233.6	234.0	234.8	236.1	237.3	238.0	239.0	239.9
Finance, insurance, real estate & business services	('000)	916.1	922.1	923.1	927.0	930.8	933.8	936.8	939.4	942.1	943.5	949.7	952.9
Other services	('000)	509.8	511.7	514.1	516.2	519.1	521.3	522.6	523.5	525.7	527.3	530.3	532.6
Skill													
Skilled	('000)	2,180.6	2,195.7	2,204.9	2,221.8	2,236.0	2,240.1	2,242.6	2,254.6	2,266.2	2,275.4	2,289.2	2,306.0
Semi-skilled	('000)	5,458.1	5,494.8	5,506.7	5,560.9	5,587.1	5,587.6	5,598.4	5,634.9	5,659.3	5,657.4	5,673.7	5,711.5
Low-skilled	('000)	1,117.0	1,115.1	1,115.5	1,119.8	1,112.0	1,109.7	1,114.1	1,122.2	1,128.8	1,131.6	1,134.4	1,145.3

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

4. Filled Jobs by Economic Activity and Skill Category

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023					2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	
Filled Jobs	('000)	8,563.2	8,613.1	8,637.3	8,711.6	8,744.9	8,745.5	8,763.6	8,820.0	8,860.7	8,870.3	8,902.4	8,965.7	
Economic activitiy														
Agriculture	('000)	448.1	449.3	451.3	460.8	464.5	467.3	468.0	469.0	469.6	468.7	469.2	470.1	
Mining & Quarrying	('000)	79.1	79.7	79.9	80.3	80.1	80.0	80.0	79.7	80.0	80.3	80.4	80.0	
Manufacturing	('000)	2,306.5	2,322.2	2,320.7	2,356.8	2,361.0	2,347.5	2,350.4	2,380.1	2,393.2	2,382.5	2,383.2	2,408.1	
Food processing, beverages and tobacco products	('000)	299.3	307.2	310.6	321.9	324.3	328.8	330.7	337.4	338.5	339.5	339.8	344.5	
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	('000)	82.9	84.1	84.8	84.7	86.0	86.8	86.7	86.3	85.9	87.3	86.8	87.0	
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	('000)	294.7	296.0	294.6	297.4	299.3	296.5	296.1	298.8	303.7	300.8	302.2	304.5	
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	('000)	436.3	437.0	429.2	436.9	441.0	436.5	431.4	438.2	442.3	439.4	431.2	437.4	
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	('000)	352.1	353.3	353.2	361.2	363.0	362.8	362.5	369.2	370.4	372.0	370.8	375.8	
Electrical, elektronik and optical products	('000)	617.2	617.2	621.2	624.6	616.8	608.7	614.2	619.1	620.7	615.1	622.5	627.5	
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	('000)	224.1	227.4	227.1	230.1	230.5	227.3	228.8	231.1	231.7	228.4	230.0	231.5	
Construction	('000)	1,227.5	1,233.2	1,235.3	1,238.5	1,239.2	1,240.3	1,241.6	1,244.5	1,246.3	1,247.2	1,248.6	1,250.5	
Services	('000)	4,501.9	4,528.7	4,550.1	4,575.3	4,600.2	4,610.5	4,623.6	4,646.7	4,671.5	4,691.6	4,721.1	4,756.7	
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	1,657.7	1,660.7	1,671.6	1,686.3	1,698.4	1,701.2	1,712.8	1,724.4	1,738.5	1,751.4	1,764.8	1,781.3	
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	790.8	801.4	803.8	806.8	809.0	808.2	802.8	806.8	808.8	810.7	814.0	823.8	
Transportation and storage	('000)	409.4	415.0	417.7	419.0	421.6	424.1	426.2	428.5	431.3	433.3	435.7	438.4	
Information and communication	('000)	230.9	231.4	232.0	232.5	232.8	233.1	233.9	235.2	236.4	237.0	238.1	238.9	
Finance, insurance, real estate & business services	('000)	905.8	910.7	912.9	916.7	921.3	924.6	927.6	930.4	933.0	934.1	940.6	944.0	
Other services	('000)	507.3	509.5	512.0	513.9	517.0	519.2	520.4	521.3	523.5	525.2	527.9	530.4	
Skill														
Skilled	('000)	2,131.9	2,146.4	2,156.1	2,173.2	2,187.9	2,192.3	2,194.7	2,207.1	2,218.6	2,228.1	2,241.2	2,257.8	
Semi-skilled	('000)	5,352.1	5,388.7	5,401.4	5,455.4	5,481.5	5,480.2	5,491.5	5,527.8	5,550.8	5,548.2	5,564.3	5,600.2	
Low-skilled	('000)	1,079.1	1,078.0	1,079.7	1,083.0	1,075.5	1,073.1	1,077.4	1,085.1	1,091.2	1,094.1	1,096.9	1,107.7	

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

5. Vacancies by Economic Activity and Skill Category

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Vacancies	('000)	192.4	192.6	189.8	190.9	190.2	191.9	191.5	191.8	193.6	194.1	194.9	197.1
Economic activity													
Agriculture	('000)	31.7	31.8	30.7	30.5	31.1	32.1	31.8	32.0	31.9	31.8	31.8	32.0
Mining & Quarrying	('000)	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6
Manufacturing	('000)	107.5	107.7	108.0	107.9	108.0	108.8	108.3	109.1	110.5	111.2	112.4	114.7
Food processing, beverages and tobacco products	('000)	13.5	13.5	14.0	14.1	13.8	13.8	14.0	14.1	14.6	14.9	14.4	15.7
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	('000)	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	('000)	13.5	13.6	13.5	13.6	13.8	13.7	13.9	13.9	13.8	13.8	14.4	14.4
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	('000)	20.6	20.4	19.6	19.7	20.0	20.1	19.3	19.7	19.7	20.2	20.0	19.8
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	('000)	13.8	13.9	13.9	14.0	14.5	14.8	14.6	14.6	15.1	15.4	15.7	16.0
Electrical, electronic and optical products	('000)	33.1	33.2	34.2	33.8	33.1	33.4	33.6	33.8	34.3	33.9	34.8	35.4
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	('000)	9.8	9.9	9.7	9.6	9.8	9.9	9.9	9.9	10.0	9.9	10.0	10.2
Construction	('000)	23.3	23.3	23.7	25.9	25.5	25.7	26.0	25.4	25.7	25.4	25.2	25.2
Services	('000)	29.4	29.4	27.1	26.1	25.0	24.6	24.7	24.8	25.0	25.2	24.8	24.6
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	11.0	10.4	10.2	9.6	9.7	9.6	9.5	9.6	9.7	9.4	9.4	9.4
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	3.1	2.8	2.1	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.7
Transportation and storage	('000)	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4
Information and communication	('000)	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.0
Finance, insurance, real estate & business services	('000)	10.3	11.4	10.3	10.3	9.4	9.2	9.2	9.0	9.1	9.4	9.1	8.9
Other services	('000)	2.5	2.3	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.4	2.2
Skill													
Skilled	('000)	48.6	49.3	48.8	48.6	48.1	47.8	48.0	47.5	47.6	47.4	48.0	48.2
Semi-skilled	('000)	105.9	106.2	105.2	105.5	105.6	107.5	106.8	107.1	108.5	109.2	109.5	111.2
Low-skilled	('000)	37.8	37.1	35.8	36.8	36.5	36.6	36.7	37.2	37.5	37.5	37.4	37.6

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

6. Job Created by Economic Activity and Skill Category

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Jobs created	('000)	30.89	31.71	31.70	31.99	31.06	32.14	31.86	31.79	31.46	33.22	31.92	32.30
Economic activity													
Agriculture	('000)	1.67	1.67	1.65	1.43	1.42	1.48	1.28	1.24	1.21	1.31	1.33	1.24
Mining & Quarrying	('000)	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.20	0.22	0.21	0.22	0.21	0.22	0.24	0.22	0.20
Manufacturing	('000)	10.10	10.54	10.05	10.38	10.55	10.73	10.81	10.94	10.97	12.13	11.95	12.17
Food processing, beverages and tobacco products	('000)	0.65	0.72	0.67	0.76	0.67	0.74	0.63	0.66	0.64	0.86	1.03	1.03
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	('000)	0.44	0.44	0.41	0.41	0.43	0.46	0.40	0.43	0.44	0.50	0.46	0.48
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	('000)	0.89	0.92	0.85	0.90	0.75	0.74	0.75	0.87	1.01	0.90	0.94	0.89
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	('000)	2.60	2.76	2.50	2.67	2.72	2.74	2.74	2.90	2.87	3.15	2.98	3.09
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	('000)	1.22	1.27	1.14	1.29	1.36	1.42	1.50	1.33	1.27	1.56	1.48	1.56
Electrical, electronic and optical products	('000)	3.48	3.49	3.53	3.50	3.71	3.72	3.88	3.96	3.95	4.24	4.03	4.12
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	('000)	0.81	0.94	0.95	0.85	0.91	0.90	0.91	0.78	0.78	0.94	1.02	0.99
Construction	('000)	3.08	3.25	3.62	4.06	3.74	3.81	3.70	3.67	3.37	3.58	3.50	3.11
Services	('000)	15.91	16.12	16.25	15.92	15.13	15.91	15.85	15.73	15.70	15.97	14.92	15.59
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	8.39	8.65	8.82	8.55	8.89	8.99	8.69	9.04	9.12	8.82	8.77	8.96
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	1.00	0.95	1.19	1.10	1.04	1.07	0.78	0.83	0.75	0.68	0.61	0.95
Transportation and storage	('000)	1.26	1.36	1.51	1.40	1.18	1.26	1.52	1.46	1.52	1.35	1.30	1.41
Information and communication	('000)	0.76	0.81	0.57	0.58	0.36	0.52	0.60	0.57	0.63	0.76	0.57	0.46
Finance, insurance, real estate & business services	('000)	2.72	2.85	2.84	2.79	2.52	2.73	2.86	2.46	2.28	2.77	2.09	2.40
Other services	('000)	1.79	1.50	1.33	1.50	1.15	1.34	1.41	1.37	1.39	1.59	1.58	1.41
Skill													
Skilled	('000)	8.65	8.62	9.17	9.23	8.59	8.85	8.50	8.39	8.43	8.93	7.93	8.17
Semi-skilled	('000)	19.50	20.23	19.60	19.45	19.34	19.90	20.02	20.13	19.70	20.78	20.62	20.77
Low-skilled	('000)	2.74	2.86	2.94	3.31	3.13	3.38	3.33	3.27	3.33	3.52	3.36	3.36

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q3 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

1. Labour Productivity per Hour Worked

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4ʳ	Q1ʳ	Q2ʳ	Q3ʳ	Q4ʳ	Q1ʳ	Q2ʳ	Q3ʳ	Q4ʳ	Q1	Q2	Q3
Value added per hour worked	RM	43.3	41.3	40.8	42.3	43.6	42.1	41.8	43.5	44.2	43.0	43.2	45.1
Economic activity													
Agriculture	RM	25.6	23.0	22.9	27.1	25.6	23.3	24.3	28.1	25.1	23.4	25.3	28.5
Mining & Quarrying	RM	558.2	549.1	495.7	499.7	564.7	556.4	514.2	476.4	550.9	551.1	488.0	522.5
Manufacturing	RM	58.6	55.0	54.0	55.3	56.9	54.9	55.6	57.2	58.2	56.9	57.6	59.6
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	RM	30.3	26.2	29.5	30.8	31.2	25.6	29.3	32.2	31.7	28.4	33.4	35.2
Beverages and tobacco products	RM	211.6	202.6	244.5	210.5	204.4	183.9	258.4	205.5	213.1	199.7	257.7	211.0
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	RM	11.6	11.5	10.7	11.2	11.8	11.9	11.3	11.2	11.6	12.4	11.1	11.1
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	RM	29.0	31.8	29.2	27.3	29.0	32.5	30.9	29.9	30.5	33.4	31.3	30.5
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	RM	99.7	89.7	88.2	101.6	96.8	87.2	87.2	100.6	97.0	88.7	91.9	104.5
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	RM	41.7	41.2	41.6	40.2	42.9	43.7	45.1	43.3	43.4	42.7	45.2	43.9
Electrical, electronic and optical products	RM	80.2	82.8	72.4	73.5	73.6	80.4	75.3	77.6	78.4	86.2	79.1	82.7
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	RM	82.4	59.0	72.3	64.4	83.4	60.8	74.2	62.8	81.1	57.5	72.7	63.1
Construction	RM	16.8	16.7	16.5	17.4	17.2	18.7	19.6	20.9	20.5	20.9	21.4	23.0
Services	RM	41.0	39.4	39.2	40.5	41.6	40.1	39.6	41.1	41.9	40.9	41.0	42.3
Utilities	RM	152.3	149.9	161.5	158.9	160.2	160.1	158.9	156.9	158.4	151.2	158.2	156.9
Wholesale & retail trade	RM	43.6	40.3	40.5	44.0	45.8	40.9	41.1	43.9	45.6	41.8	42.6	45.4
Food & beverages and Accommodation	RM	11.6	11.1	11.1	10.9	11.0	11.2	10.9	11.0	11.0	11.2	11.1	11.6
Transportation and storage	RM	39.7	41.4	42.7	43.6	44.0	45.8	45.8	46.9	47.3	48.4	49.0	48.6
Information and communication	RM	153.2	164.1	162.3	161.6	158.0	161.2	160.7	160.7	159.1	164.1	166.0	164.0
Finance and insurance	RM	132.8	131.6	110.6	120.8	114.8	120.7	120.0	119.2	118.5	122.8	120.7	116.4
Real estate and business services	RM	24.4	24.3	25.2	25.3	26.1	26.1	26.0	27.3	27.6	28.2	28.4	28.8
Other services	RM	36.1	34.4	34.6	35.1	37.1	35.2	34.3	36.0	37.8	36.5	36.6	38.0

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q3 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

2. Labour Productivity per Hour Worked: Annual Percentage Change

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1	Q2	Q3
Value added per hour worked	(%)	2.3	2.1	-1.3	-1.1	0.6	1.9	2.5	2.7	1.4	2.2	3.4	3.8
Economic activity													
Agriculture	(%)	0.8	-0.9	-3.0	-1.7	0.2	1.2	6.2	3.8	-1.9	0.4	3.9	1.3
Mining & Quarrying	(%)	5.1	2.1	-6.6	-2.4	1.2	1.3	3.7	-4.7	-2.4	-0.9	-5.1	9.7
Manufacturing	(%)	0.4	0.2	-3.9	-4.5	-2.8	-0.2	2.9	3.4	2.2	3.8	3.7	4.2
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	(%)	-0.1	2.2	-3.0	-3.5	2.9	-2.2	-0.4	4.3	1.6	10.9	13.9	9.4
Beverages and tobacco products	(%)	-5.8	5.5	-2.9	5.6	-3.4	-9.2	5.7	-2.4	4.3	8.6	-0.3	2.6
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	(%)	1.2	4.4	3.8	2.8	1.5	3.2	5.7	-0.02	-1.5	4.3	-2.2	-0.8
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	(%)	-7.4	-6.4	-6.2	-6.4	0.1	2.3	5.7	9.3	5.1	2.8	1.4	2.0
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	(%)	-1.4	-0.3	-4.6	-4.8	-3.0	-2.8	-1.1	-1.1	0.3	1.8	5.4	4.0
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	(%)	1.4	1.9	3.9	2.5	2.7	6.2	8.3	7.7	1.2	-2.3	0.3	1.3
Electrical, electronic and optical products	(%)	3.7	-0.9	-7.5	-7.7	-8.2	-2.9	4.0	5.5	6.5	7.1	5.1	6.6
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	(%)	-2.1	-0.004	-4.5	-2.0	1.2	3.0	2.6	-2.5	-2.7	-5.4	-1.9	0.5
Construction	(%)	8.2	6.4	3.4	5.1	2.5	12.5	19.0	20.0	18.7	11.3	9.3	10.2
Services	(%)	2.7	2.8	-0.2	0.1	1.4	1.8	0.9	1.4	0.9	2.0	3.6	2.9
Utilities	(%)	-7.9	-2.5	-1.4	-2.7	5.2	6.8	-1.6	-1.2	-1.1	-5.6	-0.4	-0.03
Wholesale & retail trade	(%)	1.7	5.2	0.7	3.3	5.1	1.6	1.7	-0.3	-0.6	2.2	3.5	3.4
Food & beverages and Accommodation	(%)	19.0	5.4	-2.4	-4.9	-5.2	1.0	-1.9	1.0	-0.6	-0.1	2.3	5.4
Transportation and storage	(%)	6.7	7.9	5.6	6.9	10.7	10.7	7.2	7.6	7.6	5.8	7.1	3.6
Information and communication	(%)	-3.3	-0.6	-2.4	1.4	3.2	-1.8	-1.0	-0.6	0.7	1.9	3.3	2.0
Finance and insurance	(%)	5.8	6.4	-8.4	-5.3	-13.6	-8.3	8.5	-1.4	3.3	1.7	0.6	-2.4
Real estate and business services	(%)	18.5	4.8	2.5	0.7	7.0	7.3	3.5	7.6	6.0	8.2	9.1	5.5
Other services	(%)	1.8	3.1	4.2	2.2	3.0	2.1	-0.8	2.5	1.8	3.9	6.7	5.6

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q3 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

3. Labour Productivity per Employment

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4ʳ	Q1ʳ	Q2ʳ	Q3ʳ	Q4ʳ	Q1ʳ	Q2ʳ	Q3ʳ	Q4ʳ	Q1	Q2	Q3
Value added per employment	RM	25,024	23,774	23,491	24,538	25,096	24,254	24,210	25,148	25,635	24,866	24,893	26,052
Economic activity													
Agriculture	RM	13,898	12,338	12,450	14,846	13,946	12,571	13,249	15,235	13,686	12,646	13,605	15,309
Mining & Quarrying	RM	335,443	329,680	303,373	300,500	345,197	343,813	310,913	291,687	341,522	332,946	292,813	317,634
Manufacturing	RM	34,862	32,481	32,082	32,813	33,755	32,581	33,060	34,158	34,712	33,620	33,972	35,357
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	RM	17,167	14,967	16,515	17,437	17,468	14,420	16,935	18,387	18,174	15,541	18,544	19,424
Beverages and tobacco products	RM	123,741	118,281	150,533	118,090	126,383	123,921	156,507	126,779	132,578	125,432	158,351	134,892
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	RM	6,061	6,196	5,843	5,801	5,980	6,194	5,984	5,986	6,016	6,248	5,958	5,963
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	RM	18,049	19,143	17,771	16,882	17,708	19,329	18,446	17,861	18,247	19,700	18,768	18,414
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	RM	61,387	54,952	54,560	62,433	59,465	54,660	55,459	63,657	59,937	55,990	55,481	64,192
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	RM	25,297	24,767	25,067	24,259	25,999	26,058	26,641	25,845	26,583	26,393	27,270	26,681
Electrical, electronic and optical products	RM	49,131	49,128	44,259	44,989	45,541	49,561	45,601	47,561	48,491	53,020	48,376	50,842
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	RM	49,551	36,277	43,129	38,620	50,478	37,191	44,799	38,502	48,787	34,148	43,651	38,419
Construction	RM	10,032	9,987	9,866	10,444	10,257	11,060	11,465	12,418	12,275	12,519	12,728	13,754
Services	RM	23,618	22,656	22,493	23,459	23,877	23,097	22,975	23,761	24,298	23,650	23,642	24,433
Utilities	RM	93,075	90,931	96,018	95,529	95,566	94,222	93,364	92,941	91,619	89,353	92,553	93,518
Wholesale & retail trade	RM	26,000	23,771	23,910	25,846	26,669	24,076	24,155	25,938	26,822	24,495	24,706	26,598
Food & beverages and Accommodation	RM	6,481	6,340	6,215	6,286	6,234	6,306	6,162	6,225	6,308	6,479	6,492	6,585
Transportation and storage	RM	24,394	25,007	25,790	26,313	26,785	27,123	27,237	27,764	28,323	28,682	29,046	29,178
Information and communication	RM	93,887	95,234	95,078	95,058	93,909	95,729	95,408	95,566	95,036	96,564	96,183	97,126
Finance and insurance	RM	71,474	70,816	64,363	69,114	66,647	70,431	69,283	70,292	69,147	72,558	70,119	68,075
Real estate and business services	RM	14,729	14,722	14,920	15,267	15,538	15,804	15,855	16,244	16,465	16,957	16,934	17,204
Other services	RM	19,796	18,906	18,857	19,446	20,541	19,507	19,402	20,060	21,155	20,291	20,242	21,165

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q3 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

4. Labour Productivity per Employment: Annual Percentage Change

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1	Q2	Q3
Value added per employment	(%)	4.0	2.5	-0.2	0.4	0.3	2.0	3.1	2.5	2.1	2.5	2.8	3.6
Economic activity													
Agriculture	(%)	3.1	-0.2	-1.4	-0.5	0.3	1.9	6.4	2.6	-1.9	0.6	2.7	0.5
Mining & Quarrying	(%)	7.0	2.5	-3.0	-2.5	2.9	4.3	2.5	-2.9	-1.1	-3.2	-5.8	8.9
Manufacturing	(%)	1.6	0.6	-2.6	-3.1	-3.2	0.3	3.0	4.1	2.8	3.2	2.8	3.5
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	(%)	0.7	2.2	-3.2	-2.5	1.8	-3.7	2.5	5.4	4.0	7.8	9.5	5.6
Beverages and tobacco products	(%)	-6.2	3.3	3.4	0.4	2.1	4.8	4.0	7.4	4.9	1.2	1.2	6.4
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	(%)	2.8	7.4	8.5	3.9	-1.3	-0.03	2.4	3.2	0.6	0.9	-0.4	-0.4
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	(%)	-2.6	-4.9	-5.6	-3.9	-1.9	1.0	3.8	5.8	3.0	1.9	1.7	3.1
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	(%)	-0.9	0.6	-2.0	-3.0	-3.1	-0.5	1.6	2.0	0.8	2.4	0.0	0.8
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	(%)	0.9	2.5	3.9	2.2	2.8	5.2	6.3	6.5	2.2	1.3	2.4	3.2
Electrical, electronic and optical products	(%)	4.9	-2.2	-5.5	-5.2	-7.3	0.9	3.0	5.7	6.5	7.0	6.1	6.9
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	(%)	-2.1	0.7	-5.2	-1.0	1.9	2.5	3.9	-0.3	-3.4	-8.2	-2.6	-0.2
Construction	(%)	10.3	6.6	5.1	5.6	2.2	10.7	16.2	18.9	19.7	13.2	11.0	10.8
Services	(%)	4.3	3.1	0.7	1.8	1.1	1.9	2.1	1.3	1.8	2.4	2.9	2.8
Utilities	(%)	-3.2	0.01	2.9	1.8	2.7	3.6	-2.8	-2.7	-4.1	-5.2	-0.9	0.6
Wholesale & retail trade	(%)	4.8	6.5	2.6	3.6	2.6	1.3	1.0	0.4	0.6	1.7	2.3	2.5
Food & beverages and Accommodation	(%)	16.4	4.1	-1.9	-2.9	-3.8	-0.5	-0.8	-1.0	1.2	2.7	5.3	5.8
Transportation and storage	(%)	9.5	8.0	6.6	7.5	9.8	8.5	5.6	5.5	5.7	5.7	6.6	5.1
Information and communication	(%)	0.8	-2.2	-1.3	-1.0	0.02	0.5	0.3	0.5	1.2	0.9	0.8	1.6
Finance and insurance	(%)	-0.5	-0.6	-7.2	-2.6	-6.8	-0.5	7.6	1.7	3.8	3.0	1.2	-3.2
Real estate and business services	(%)	23.6	7.0	4.5	6.0	5.5	7.4	6.3	6.4	6.0	7.3	6.8	5.9
Other services	(%)	3.5	3.5	3.6	4.0	3.8	3.2	2.9	3.2	3.0	4.0	4.3	5.5

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q3 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

5. Total Hours Worked

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1	Q2	Q3
Total Hours Worked	Million	9,210	9,247	9,299	9,419	9,418	9,452	9,612	9,672	9,747	9,653	9,703	9,796
Economic activity													
Agriculture	Million	1,000	1,005	1,021	1,035	1,009	1,012	1,034	1,033	1,022	1,015	1,020	1,024
Mining & Quarrying	Million	46	46	47	46	47	47	46	47	47	46	46	47
Manufacturing	Million	1,631	1,637	1,652	1,669	1,674	1,674	1,680	1,704	1,707	1,681	1,681	1,702
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	Million	285	291	289	299	297	298	305	309	310	293	299	301
Beverages and tobacco products	Million	11	11	11	10	12	13	12	12	12	12	12	12
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	Million	136	140	143	136	133	138	141	142	136	134	143	143
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	Million	192	188	193	200	199	192	192	195	198	192	196	198
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	Million	267	269	271	272	274	281	285	287	281	283	268	274
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	Million	230	230	228	234	238	233	231	237	245	247	239	242
Electrical, electronic and optical products	Million	387	378	392	393	396	393	388	393	399	395	397	399
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	Million	124	129	124	125	126	128	127	129	125	124	127	130
Construction	Million	827	834	836	839	835	830	823	838	849	851	844	850
Services	Million	5,706	5,725	5,744	5,830	5,854	5,889	6,028	6,050	6,122	6,060	6,112	6,173
Utilities	Million	67	65	65	66	67	66	68	69	68	69	69	71
Wholesale & retail trade	Million	1,665	1,644	1,653	1,653	1,653	1,681	1,701	1,727	1,736	1,716	1,715	1,750
Food & beverages and Accommodation	Million	995	1,041	1,045	1,088	1,094	1,086	1,129	1,144	1,179	1,171	1,204	1,189
Transportation and storage	Million	365	363	364	365	371	365	375	375	382	378	380	390
Information and communication	Million	164	156	158	160	164	163	165	167	170	166	165	170
Finance and insurance	Million	204	205	222	219	224	226	225	230	228	228	227	231
Real estate and business services	Million	711	715	704	717	713	726	744	735	737	732	741	750
Other services	Million	1,536	1,536	1,533	1,562	1,568	1,577	1,621	1,604	1,623	1,601	1,612	1,622

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q3 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

6. Total Employment

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1	Q2	Q3
Total Employment	('000)	15,942	16,062	16,146	16,251	16,347	16,401	16,591	16,715	16,793	16,703	16,849	16,967
Economic activity													
Agriculture	('000)	1,840	1,874	1,877	1,889	1,854	1,875	1,897	1,907	1,877	1,877	1,895	1,906
Mining & Quarrying	('000)	76	76	76	76	76	76.2	76	76	77	77	77	77
Manufacturing	('000)	2,740	2,771	2,780	2,814	2,823	2,820	2,825	2,853	2,861	2,846	2,852	2,869
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	('000)	502	510	516	530	529	528	528	540	541	535	539	546
Beverages and tobacco products	('000)	18	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	20	20	20
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	('000)	260	261	262	262	263	266	266	266	263	266	266	266
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	('000)	308	312	318	324	326	322	322	326	331	326	327	328
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	('000)	434	440	437	442	445	448	448	453	455	449	444	447
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	('000)	379	383	379	388	392	390	390	397	400	399	396	399
Electrical, electronic and optical products	('000)	632	637	641	642	641	637	641	641	645	642	648	650
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	('000)	207	210	207	208	208	209	211	211	208	209	212	214
Construction	('000)	1,387	1,391	1,397	1,398	1,403	1,406	1,408	1,410	1,415	1,419	1,421	1,424
Services	('000)	9,899	9,949	10,017	10,074	10,190	10,224	10,385	10,468	10,563	10,485	10,604	10,692
Utilities	('000)	110	108	109	110	112	111	115	117	118	116	118	119
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	2,793	2,785	2,798	2,817	2,842	2,858	2,898	2,924	2,949	2,932	2,956	2,989
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	1,782	1,826	1,861	1,880	1,933	1,935	1,990	2,015	2,046	2,030	2,059	2,087
Transportation and storage	('000)	595	600	603	604	610	616	630	633	638	638	642	649
Information and communication	('000)	267	268	270	272	276	274	277	280	284	282	285	287
Finance and insurance	('000)	378	381	381	382	385	387	390	390	391	386	391	394
Real estate and business services	('000)	1,176	1,183	1,187	1,190	1,197	1,199	1,222	1,233	1,237	1,219	1,242	1,254
Other services	('000)	2,797	2,797	2,809	2,818	2,835	2,843	2,862	2,877	2,899	2,883	2,912	2,913

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q3 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

7. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at Constant 2015 Prices

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4'	Q1'	Q2'	Q3'	Q4'	Q1'	Q2'	Q3'	Q4'	Q1	Q2	Q3
GDP at constant 2015 prices	Million	398,919	381,857	379,286	398,768	410,231	397,802	401,672	420,354	430,477	415,338	419,420	442,017
Economic activity													
Agriculture	Million	25,566	23,128	23,364	28,039	25,862	23,576	25,139	29,060	25,683	23,738	25,779	29,173
Mining & Quarrying	Million	25,536	25,112	23,143	22,944	26,338	26,203	23,776	22,295	26,158	25,492	22,532	24,468
Manufacturing	Million	95,536	90,008	89,171	92,325	95,290	91,864	93,387	97,455	99,328	95,676	96,887	101,438
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	Million	8,618	7,626	8,522	9,235	9,245	7,620	8,947	9,937	9,827	8,321	10,001	10,609
Beverages and tobacco products	Million	2,238	2,225	2,795	2,194	2,359	2,373	3,017	2,411	2,548	2,447	3,141	2,634
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	Million	1,574	1,619	1,533	1,519	1,573	1,645	1,589	1,589	1,581	1,662	1,586	1,587
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	Million	5,564	5,973	5,646	5,470	5,775	6,225	5,939	5,827	6,035	6,420	6,136	6,038
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	Million	26,637	24,177	23,857	27,600	26,472	24,483	24,832	28,815	27,287	25,112	24,622	28,677
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	Million	9,596	9,476	9,506	9,406	10,196	10,174	10,398	10,269	10,629	10,536	10,798	10,636
Electrical, electronic and optical products	Million	31,063	31,302	28,364	28,861	29,191	31,569	29,219	30,486	31,293	34,027	31,366	33,036
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	Million	10,245	7,609	8,949	8,038	10,479	7,776	9,446	8,120	10,127	7,150	9,237	8,219
Construction	Million	13,912	13,896	13,778	14,599	14,390	15,555	16,141	17,512	17,371	17,760	18,091	19,578
Services	Million	233,791	225,405	225,308	236,338	243,312	236,130	238,584	248,734	256,662	247,972	250,700	261,226
Utilities	Million	10,278	9,782	10,438	10,539	10,729	10,491	10,770	10,870	10,852	10,367	10,891	11,122
Wholesale & retail trade	Million	72,615	66,207	66,897	72,817	75,792	68,816	69,993	75,832	79,103	71,808	73,038	79,503
Food & beverages and Accommodation	Million	11,552	11,579	11,568	11,818	12,054	12,202	12,263	12,546	12,908	13,153	13,365	13,740
Transportation and storage	Million	14,516	15,015	15,554	15,890	16,326	16,717	17,155	17,568	18,071	18,300	18,636	18,942
Information and communication	Million	25,104	25,512	25,685	25,896	25,926	26,254	26,474	26,803	26,987	27,194	27,395	27,852
Finance and insurance	Million	27,045	27,012	24,501	26,411	25,657	27,245	27,021	27,382	27,044	27,983	27,402	26,846
Real estate and business services	Million	17,314	17,409	17,705	18,164	18,602	18,950	19,375	20,022	20,361	20,676	21,039	21,570
Other services	Million	55,365	52,889	52,961	54,802	58,227	55,456	55,533	57,712	61,337	58,490	58,933	61,650
plus import duties	Million	4,579	4,308	4,522	4,523	5,040	4,474	4,645	5,298	5,275	4,699	5,431	6,134

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q3 2025, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q4 2022- Q3 2025

8. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at Constant 2015 Prices - Annual Percentage Change

Indicator	Unit	2022	2023				2024				2025		
		Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1 ^r	Q2 ^r	Q3 ^r	Q4 ^r	Q1	Q2	Q3
GDP at constant 2015 prices	(%)	7.4	5.7	2.7	3.1	2.8	4.2	5.9	5.4	4.9	4.4	4.4	5.2
Economic activity													
Agriculture	(%)	2.6	0.9	-1.2	0.1	1.2	1.9	7.6	3.6	-0.7	0.7	2.5	0.4
Mining & Quarrying	(%)	7.3	3.0	-2.2	-2.0	3.1	4.3	2.7	-2.8	-0.7	-2.7	-5.2	9.7
Manufacturing	(%)	4.0	3.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.3	2.1	4.7	5.6	4.2	4.1	3.7	4.1
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	(%)	4.6	7.1	2.1	4.1	7.3	-0.1	5.0	7.6	6.3	9.2	11.8	6.8
Beverages and tobacco products	(%)	-4.4	5.5	8.7	4.5	5.4	6.6	7.9	9.9	8.0	3.1	4.1	9.3
Textiles, wearing apparel and leather products	(%)	-0.3	0.8	3.7	0.4	-0.1	1.6	3.6	4.6	0.5	1.1	-0.2	-0.1
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	(%)	-2.7	-4.0	-1.4	0.7	3.8	4.2	5.2	6.5	4.5	3.1	3.3	3.6
Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products	(%)	1.0	1.8	-1.6	-2.4	-0.6	1.3	4.1	4.4	3.1	2.6	-0.8	-0.5
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products	(%)	2.1	3.5	5.4	5.5	6.2	7.4	9.4	9.2	4.3	3.6	3.8	3.6
Electrical, electronic and optical products	(%)	9.2	3.8	-1.5	-2.5	-6.0	0.9	3.0	5.6	7.2	7.8	7.3	8.4
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	(%)	5.0	7.7	0.7	4.5	2.3	2.2	5.6	1.0	-3.4	-8.0	-2.2	1.2
Construction	(%)	10.3	7.4	6.2	7.1	3.4	11.9	17.2	20.0	20.7	14.2	12.1	11.8
Services	(%)	9.3	7.3	4.4	5.0	4.1	4.8	5.9	5.2	5.5	5.0	5.1	5.0
Utilities	(%)	0.5	0.7	3.5	2.1	4.4	7.3	3.2	3.1	1.1	-1.2	1.1	2.3
Wholesale & retail trade	(%)	9.8	9.7	4.6	5.5	4.4	3.9	4.6	4.1	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.8
Food & beverages and Accommodation	(%)	25.2	12.2	6.9	5.5	4.3	5.4	6.0	6.2	7.1	7.8	9.0	9.5
Transportation and storage	(%)	19.9	16.0	13.5	12.8	12.5	11.3	10.3	10.6	10.7	9.5	8.6	7.8
Information and communication	(%)	4.3	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.3	2.9	3.1	3.5	4.1	3.6	3.5	3.9
Finance and insurance	(%)	1.0	1.7	-5.3	-0.9	-5.1	0.9	10.3	3.7	5.4	2.7	1.4	-2.0
Real estate and business services	(%)	28.6	11.5	7.7	7.9	7.4	8.8	9.4	10.2	9.5	9.1	8.6	7.7
Other services	(%)	6.5	5.8	5.6	5.4	5.2	4.9	4.9	5.3	5.3	5.5	6.1	6.8
plus import duties	(%)	8.8	13.0	7.1	8.5	10.1	3.9	2.7	17.1	4.7	5.0	16.9	15.8

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q3 2025, DOSM

Table D: Employee Wages, Malaysia, Q2 2024 - Q2 2025

1. Number of Formal Employee

Indicator	Unit	2024									2025					
		Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2		
Months	('000)	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Total	('000)	6,728.0	6,717.0	6,731.0	6,801.0	6,808.8	6,817.0	6,842.1	6,829.1	6,831.4	6,825.5	6,763.5	6,786.8	6,946.8	6,952.9	6,969.7
Sex																
Male	('000)	3,725.5	3,715.9	3,721.4	3,761.7	3,761.9	3,764.1	3,780.1	3,771.5	3,771.3	3,769.1	3,731.8	3,742.6	3,832.4	3,834.6	3,843.0
Female	('000)	3,002.6	3,001.2	3,009.6	3,039.3	3,046.9	3,052.8	3,062.0	3,057.6	3,060.2	3,056.3	3,031.7	3,044.2	3,114.4	3,118.3	3,126.6
Age group																
Less than 20	('000)	90.6	100.5	107.1	111.1	111.7	115.1	116.9	121.0	127.6	58.3	69.6	83.0	102.0	108.2	113.6
20-24	('000)	737.5	748.0	763.6	791.9	816.9	831.7	839.6	850.0	860.4	674.0	674.5	687.7	727.2	742.9	761.6
25-29	('000)	1,330.2	1,328.0	1,330.2	1,343.7	1,344.6	1,345.9	1,353.0	1,348.4	1,345.5	1,339.4	1,324.3	1,329.2	1,361.8	1,362.9	1,365.3
30-34	('000)	1,156.5	1,150.8	1,149.4	1,156.8	1,153.6	1,152.1	1,155.2	1,150.3	1,147.3	1,199.7	1,183.2	1,181.6	1,200.8	1,197.6	1,195.6
35-39	('000)	939.7	935.5	934.0	940.1	937.5	936.8	939.5	935.7	933.9	964.2	953.2	952.7	967.7	965.9	965.1
40-44	('000)	749.8	746.0	745.4	750.0	747.9	747.0	749.5	746.4	745.5	788.4	780.3	780.2	792.4	791.3	790.7
45-49	('000)	616.0	612.3	611.4	615.0	612.8	611.6	613.3	610.5	609.4	634.8	628.5	627.9	637.3	635.6	634.9
50-54	('000)	489.5	485.8	484.6	487.0	484.7	483.0	484.0	481.4	480.1	507.2	501.2	499.9	507.1	505.0	503.7
55-59	('000)	337.0	333.4	331.6	332.6	330.0	327.9	327.7	325.3	323.9	354.0	348.7	346.8	351.2	348.4	346.6
60-64	('000)	169.2	166.0	164.0	163.6	161.0	158.8	157.5	155.1	154.0	181.9	178.2	176.7	178.0	175.1	173.3
65 and above	('000)	112.2	110.8	109.8	109.3	108.1	107.1	106.1	104.8	104.0	123.8	121.9	121.0	121.3	120.0	119.1
State																
Johor	('000)	719.3	718.9	721.0	728.4	730.5	730.2	730.6	730.2	730.8	729.5	724.1	726.9	744.5	746.5	749.1
Kedah	('000)	244.8	243.0	242.8	246.4	245.2	244.8	246.4	245.4	244.7	244.4	241.0	240.9	248.1	247.7	248.0
Kelantan	('000)	94.1	92.6	92.4	94.6	93.1	92.1	93.7	92.7	92.6	93.1	91.2	91.3	95.8	95.2	95.1
Melaka	('000)	176.1	175.1	175.6	177.4	177.3	177.8	178.8	178.3	178.3	177.9	176.1	176.1	179.8	179.5	179.6
Negeri Sembilan	('000)	171.6	170.7	170.6	172.3	171.6	172.1	172.5	173.6	173.4	172.6	170.1	170.2	173.5	173.0	172.9
Pahang	('000)	168.3	168.1	168.6	171.0	170.5	171.2	171.6	170.9	170.6	169.3	167.4	167.9	172.3	171.7	171.8
Pulau Pinang	('000)	529.8	529.5	531.1	536.1	538.9	539.5	539.8	539.6	540.2	541.7	538.7	540.0	551.2	553.9	557.0
Perak	('000)	311.9	311.5	311.6	314.3	313.4	313.2	313.9	312.3	312.0	312.3	306.0	309.5	317.8	317.6	318.0
Perlis	('000)	18.7	17.9	17.9	18.4	18.2	18.3	18.7	18.4	18.4	18.5	18.0	18.1	19.1	18.7	18.7
Selangor	('000)	1,891.3	1,891.3	1,896.4	1,914.2	1,915.5	1,918.7	1,923.7	1,922.8	1,925.6	1,922.7	1,905.6	1,911.4	1,958.7	1,961.9	1,967.3
Terengganu	('000)	144.8	143.7	143.9	147.4	146.9	147.1	148.1	144.9	144.8	144.8	142.3	143.0	147.8	146.8	147.0
Sabah	('000)	338.1	337.9	339.1	342.8	343.3	344.5	344.6	343.1	342.7	342.9	341.0	342.8	349.7	349.9	350.4
Sarawak	('000)	499.3	498.4	498.2	502.9	502.5	502.8	505.4	503.5	501.4	498.6	493.7	496.7	509.1	509.7	511.0
W.P Kuala Lumpur	('000)	1,372.0	1,370.4	1,373.6	1,386.5	1,392.8	1,396.0	1,404.8	1,403.7	1,406.6	1,407.5	1,398.9	1,402.2	1,428.4	1,429.8	1,432.7
W.P Labuan	('000)	17.2	17.3	17.3	17.4	17.5	17.3	17.8	17.9	17.8	17.7	17.6	17.7	18.2	18.2	18.3
W.P Putrajaya	('000)	30.8	30.7	30.8	31.1	31.7	31.4	31.5	31.9	31.8	31.9	31.9	32.0	32.7	32.8	32.7

Source: Employment Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Malaysia, Q2 2025, DOSM

Table D: Employee Wages, Malaysia, Q2 2024 - Q2 2025

1. Number of Formal Employee (cont.)

Indicator	Unit	2024									2025					
		Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2		
Months	('000)	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Total	('000)	6,728.0	6,717.0	6,731.0	6,801.0	6,808.8	6,817.0	6,842.1	6,829.1	6,831.4	6,825.5	6,763.5	6,786.8	6,946.8	6,952.9	6,969.7
Economic activity																
Agriculture	('000)	129.0	128.7	129.1	129.5	129.5	129.4	129.7	129.2	129.2	128.6	128.0	127.7	129.4	129.2	129.5
Mining & quarrying	('000)	38.1	38.2	38.3	38.6	38.7	38.7	38.6	38.3	38.0	38.2	37.9	38.1	38.5	38.5	38.9
Manufacturing	('000)	1,211.1	1,208.6	1,208.6	1,218.7	1,220.8	1,221.0	1,219.3	1,216.9	1,217.0	1,212.1	1,204.5	1,192.7	1,224.7	1,225.9	1,229.4
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	('000)	174.5	174.8	174.4	176.9	177.3	177.6	176.8	177.0	177.2	177.1	175.9	176.3	178.8	179.1	179.8
Beverages & tobacco products	('000)	11.8	11.7	11.7	11.9	11.7	11.9	11.9	11.9	11.9	12.0	11.8	11.8	11.9	12.0	12.1
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	('000)	24.8	24.2	24.3	24.5	24.5	24.6	24.8	24.7	24.7	24.5	24.2	24.3	24.9	24.6	24.5
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	('000)	98.7	97.3	96.9	97.4	96.6	96.3	96.2	95.7	95.1	94.8	93.6	93.3	94.7	94.2	93.9
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	('000)	199.2	198.6	198.8	200.7	201.6	201.9	200.6	200.3	200.1	199.1	197.9	195.4	199.2	198.7	199.2
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	('000)	149.4	149.2	149.1	150.4	150.6	150.5	150.5	150.3	150.5	149.8	148.2	148.4	150.5	150.4	150.1
Electrical, electronic & optical products	('000)	335.7	336.2	335.2	336.3	337.1	335.7	335.5	334.0	333.8	331.8	330.4	320.7	336.6	338.4	339.8
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	('000)	217.1	216.6	218.2	220.6	221.4	222.5	222.9	222.9	223.7	223.0	222.5	222.5	228.2	228.5	230.1
Construction	('000)	423.3	420.6	420.5	429.4	427.4	427.9	432.0	428.1	427.6	427.7	419.5	406.8	435.8	436.5	436.4
Services	('000)	4,545.8	4,538.3	4,550.1	4,600.1	4,605.8	4,612.3	4,630.1	4,625.7	4,628.3	4,617.1	4,566.7	4,618.0	4,713.2	4,714.9	4,725.4
Utilities	('000)	69.5	69.9	70.0	70.7	70.5	71.1	71.2	71.5	72.0	72.1	70.7	71.7	75.7	75.7	75.6
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	1,441.3	1,437.6	1,439.8	1,450.4	1,450.1	1,451.3	1,448.8	1,445.2	1,446.6	1,443.7	1,430.5	1,433.9	1,464.1	1,461.4	1,462.8
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	295.1	293.6	294.5	297.4	298.5	299.5	296.9	296.9	298.0	297.4	295.7	296.4	309.1	309.5	311.0
Transportation & storage	('000)	301.6	297.3	297.6	300.9	300.7	300.2	300.5	299.3	298.6	299.6	296.4	296.5	303.1	301.5	301.7
Information & communication	('000)	222.3	221.7	221.9	223.0	222.8	223.5	223.5	221.9	220.5	215.3	214.0	217.2	224.4	223.9	224.5
Finance & insurance	('000)	307.6	307.0	307.3	308.0	308.5	309.4	310.0	310.2	310.5	309.7	309.8	310.1	313.2	313.8	315.1
Real estate & business services	('000)	826.6	820.8	823.2	839.7	839.5	835.7	843.9	840.7	840.0	843.3	827.5	827.5	855.5	855.6	857.6
Other services	('000)	1,081.8	1,090.3	1,095.8	1,110.0	1,115.4	1,121.7	1,135.4	1,140.0	1,142.0	1,136.1	1,122.1	1,164.8	1,168.1	1,173.6	1,177.2
Unclassified	('000)	380.7	382.7	384.4	384.7	386.5	387.8	392.5	390.8	391.4	401.8	407.0	403.5	405.0	407.9	410.0

Source: Employment Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Malaysia, Q2 2025, DOSM

Table D: Employee Wages, Malaysia, Q2 2024 - Q2 2025

2. Median Monthly Wages of Formal Employee

Indicator	Unit	2024									2025					
		Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2		
Months		Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Total	(RM)	2,764	2,700	2,745	2,745	2,745	2,745	2,764	2,764	3,045	3,064	2,875	3,000	2,864	2,845	2,864
Sex																
Male	(RM)	2,800	2,764	2,782	2,782	2,767	2,782	2,800	2,789	3,045	3,082	2,900	3,000	2,900	2,891	2,900
Female	(RM)	2,700	2,682	2,700	2,700	2,682	2,700	2,700	2,700	3,000	3,045	2,827	2,982	2,800	2,800	2,800
Age group																
Less than 20	(RM)	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,527	1,527	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,700
20-24	(RM)	1,764	1,782	1,782	1,782	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,900	1,827	1,845	1,900	1,864	1,882	1,891
25-29	(RM)	2,445	2,427	2,464	2,464	2,464	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,727	2,645	2,500	2,600	2,500	2,500	2,527
30-34	(RM)	3,000	2,973	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,282	3,245	3,000	3,200	3,045	3,000	3,045
35-39	(RM)	3,400	3,327	3,364	3,345	3,345	3,364	3,378	3,382	3,727	3,745	3,482	3,700	3,500	3,482	3,500
40-44	(RM)	3,600	3,500	3,527	3,527	3,522	3,527	3,545	3,545	4,000	4,027	3,664	3,964	3,727	3,664	3,700
45-49	(RM)	3,682	3,600	3,627	3,627	3,627	3,627	3,645	3,664	4,082	4,264	3,800	4,000	3,845	3,800	3,800
50-54	(RM)	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,945	4,100	3,627	3,845	3,664	3,645	3,664
55-59	(RM)	3,227	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,227	3,227	3,500	3,822	3,400	3,500	3,400	3,400	3,400
60-64	(RM)	2,945	2,945	2,900	2,927	2,925	2,900	2,926	2,900	3,000	3,364	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
65 and above	(RM)	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,725	2,725	2,764	2,755	2,982	3,200	2,855	2,900	2,875	2,900	2,900
State																
Johor	(RM)	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,827	2,927	2,600	2,745	2,600	2,600	2,600
Kedah	(RM)	1,927	1,900	1,900	1,945	1,900	1,927	1,930	1,900	2,064	2,064	2,000	2,100	2,000	2,000	2,000
Kelantan	(RM)	1,600	1,645	1,645	1,627	1,645	1,682	1,664	1,627	1,664	1,700	1,727	1,800	1,745	1,782	1,764
Melaka	(RM)	2,400	2,382	2,464	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,500	2,500	2,727	2,700	2,500	2,600	2,500	2,500	2,545
Negeri Sembilan	(RM)	2,345	2,345	2,400	2,382	2,382	2,364	2,382	2,345	2,545	2,600	2,482	2,600	2,464	2,464	2,500
Pahang	(RM)	2,100	2,082	2,100	2,100	2,082	2,082	2,100	2,082	2,200	2,291	2,200	2,327	2,200	2,227	2,245
Pulau Pinang	(RM)	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,827	2,882	3,382	3,300	2,909	3,000	2,945	2,900	2,927
Perak	(RM)	2,045	2,045	2,027	2,045	2,045	2,045	2,064	2,064	2,200	2,382	2,182	2,200	2,164	2,182	2,175
Perlis	(RM)	1,700	1,682	1,682	1,682	1,682	1,682	1,682	1,682	1,764	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,782	1,800	1,800
Selangor	(RM)	3,064	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,300	3,445	3,145	3,300	3,178	3,100	3,145
Terengganu	(RM)	1,982	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,100	2,000	2,064	2,200	2,100	2,100	2,100
Sabah	(RM)	1,882	1,882	1,864	1,882	1,882	1,882	1,900	1,882	2,000	2,045	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Sarawak	(RM)	2,045	2,082	2,045	2,064	2,045	2,064	2,064	2,064	2,200	2,382	2,182	2,227	2,182	2,227	2,200
W.P Kuala Lumpur	(RM)	4,073	3,964	3,982	4,000	3,964	3,964	4,000	3,967	4,200	4,400	4,145	4,445	4,200	4,064	4,064
W.P Labuan	(RM)	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,482	2,164	2,082	2,100	2,064	2,100	2,100
W.P Putrajaya	(RM)	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,482	2,482	2,527	2,600	2,600	2,900	2,564	2,545	2,564

Source: Employment Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Malaysia, Q2 2025, DOSM

Table D: Employee Wages, Malaysia, Q2 2024 - Q2 2025

2. Median Monthly Wages of Formal Employee (cont.)

Indicator	Unit	2024									2025					
		Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2		
Months		Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Total	(RM)	2,764	2,700	2,745	2,745	2,745	2,745	2,764	2,764	3,045	3,064	2,875	3,000	2,864	2,845	2,864
Economic activity																
Agriculture	(RM)	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,027	2,027	2,027	2,027	2,000	2,382	2,227	2,100	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200
Mining & quarrying	(RM)	5,900	5,800	5,900	5,800	5,900	5,900	6,000	6,000	7,500	6,800	6,356	8,800	6,600	6,478	6,500
Manufacturing	(RM)	2,582	2,522	2,582	2,564	2,544	2,564	2,582	2,600	3,300	3,000	2,664	2,809	2,664	2,645	2,700
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	(RM)	2,345	2,264	2,264	2,264	2,264	2,282	2,264	2,264	2,500	2,664	2,382	2,544	2,400	2,422	2,382
Beverages & tobacco products	(RM)	3,300	3,156	3,164	3,100	3,111	3,264	3,127	3,333	4,282	3,540	3,245	3,664	3,278	3,245	3,227
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	(RM)	2,064	2,027	2,064	2,045	2,027	2,027	2,045	2,027	2,227	2,345	2,127	2,182	2,145	2,100	2,145
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	(RM)	2,364	2,382	2,382	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,664	3,000	2,500	2,564	2,482	2,500	2,500
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	(RM)	2,700	2,600	2,700	2,645	2,600	2,645	2,645	2,745	3,409	3,180	2,727	2,982	2,745	2,727	2,782
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	(RM)	2,700	2,664	2,664	2,664	2,682	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,982	3,345	2,827	2,864	2,782	2,800	2,800
Electrical, electronic & optical products	(RM)	2,700	2,627	2,745	2,700	2,664	2,700	2,722	2,745	4,100	3,100	2,800	2,827	2,782	2,700	2,845
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	(RM)	2,664	2,545	2,664	2,600	2,600	2,627	2,682	2,673	3,200	2,900	2,645	3,000	2,700	2,744	2,800
Construction	(RM)	2,800	2,845	2,800	2,827	2,845	2,800	2,864	2,864	3,000	3,064	2,964	3,000	2,900	2,982	2,945
Services	(RM)	2,800	2,764	2,764	2,764	2,764	2,782	2,800	2,782	3,000	3,064	2,900	3,000	2,900	2,882	2,900
Utilities	(RM)	3,600	3,245	3,064	3,027	3,082	3,064	3,000	3,000	3,164	3,627	3,200	4,427	3,464	3,282	3,300
Wholesale & retail trade	(RM)	2,400	2,364	2,382	2,400	2,400	2,382	2,400	2,400	2,500	2,800	2,500	2,545	2,500	2,500	2,500
Food & beverages and Accommodation	(RM)	1,927	1,982	1,964	1,945	1,927	1,964	1,982	1,945	2,000	2,064	2,000	2,045	2,000	2,000	2,000
Transportation & storage	(RM)	2,989	2,867	2,864	2,900	2,900	2,927	2,911	2,900	3,164	3,082	3,000	3,200	3,064	3,000	3,000
Information & communication	(RM)	5,300	5,100	5,100	5,100	5,100	5,100	5,100	5,100	5,600	5,600	5,356	6,100	5,400	5,300	5,300
Finance & insurance	(RM)	6,200	5,900	6,000	5,900	5,900	5,900	6,000	6,000	6,500	6,500	6,400	7,700	6,200	6,200	6,200
Real estate & business services	(RM)	2,900	2,882	2,900	2,900	2,882	2,927	2,927	2,927	3,045	3,127	3,000	3,100	3,000	3,000	3,000
Other services	(RM)	2,682	2,664	2,682	2,673	2,664	2,682	2,682	2,682	2,900	2,964	2,827	2,973	2,800	2,811	2,800

Source: Employment Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Malaysia, Q2 2025, DOSM

LABOUR MARKET REVIEW

THIRD QUARTER 2025

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