



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
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JABATAN PERANGKAIN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
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MALAYSIAN ECONOMIC STATISTICS REVIEW

VOL. 7 | 2023

Announcement:

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) is conducting the Economic Census in 2023. DOSM greatly appreciates the cooperation of respondents in providing information and ensuring the success of this census. Please visit www.dosm.gov.my for more information.

DOSM has launched OpenDOSM NextGen as a medium that provides a catalogue of data and visualisation to facilitate users in analysing various data. OpenDOSM NextGen is an open source data sharing platform and accessible through <https://open.dosm.gov.my> portal.

The Government of Malaysia has declared National Statistics Day (MyStats Day) on October 20 each year. MyStats Day theme is "Connecting the World with Data We Can Trust".

JABATAN PERANGKAAN MALAYSIA
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NOTES FROM CHIEF STATISTICIAN

The release of the Malaysian Economic Statistics Review (MESR) in July 2023 is the seventh series for 2023, and I am delighted to welcome users and readers to our latest publication. MESR presents the most recent economic scenario based on official macroeconomic statistics published by DOSM and this Volume 7/2023 focuses on the latest statistics released in May 2023 and with some recent statistics for June 2023. In addition, this issue is complemented by a boxed article entitled "**Study on the relationship of currency exchange rate on the import-export value**", which measures the relationship between Malaysian currency exchange rates against the USD and the value of imports and exports.

According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the solid global economic recovery is facing headwinds from persistent core inflation, rising interest rates, the ongoing COVID-19 epidemic, and Russia's invasion of Ukraine. As a result, the IMF reduced its forecast for global economic growth, predicting a slower rate from an estimated 3.5 per cent in 2022 to 3.0 per cent in both 2023 and 2024.

Several prominent economies, including the United States of America (US), are predicted to grow by 1.8 per cent in 2023, a 0.2 per cent increase from the previous prediction, while the European Union's growth is anticipated to reach 0.9 per cent in the same year, followed by 1.5 per cent in 2024. Additionally, the United Kingdom (UK) recession is forecast to be milder than previously predicted, with GDP expected to grow by 0.4 per cent in 2023 and 1.0 per cent in 2024. Furthermore, the South Asian economy is expected to develop by 5.3 per cent in 2023 and 5.0 per cent in 2024, reflecting a downward revision of 0.1 per cent for 2024 compared to previous projections.

In contrast, Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) maintained its GDP growth forecast for Malaysia in 2023, which is likely to range between 4.0 and 5.0 per cent. Internal demand in the country has been strong, supporting the labour market and rising consumer spending. Malaysia's economy is doing well, despite global economic concerns, with most industries rising faster than the previous year.

Looking at the latest performance of economic indicators, Malaysia's Industrial Production Index (IPI) returned with a positive rise of 4.7 per cent in May driven by gains across all sectors. Concurrently, Malaysia's Manufacturing sector saw a significant rise in sales value in May 2023, reaching RM146.8 billion with a 3.3 per cent increase after falling by 2.0 per cent the previous month.

On the prices front, Malaysia's annual inflation rate is from 3.3 per cent in April 2023 to 2.8 per cent in May 2023. Inflation was still affected by a higher rise in Restaurants & Hotels (6.7%) compared to April 2023 (6.6%) as well as increases in certain groups such as Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages; Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance; and Transportation. In June 2023, inflation was 2.4 per cent, lower than in May 2023. On the other hand, Malaysia's Producer Price Index (PPI) fell by 4.6 per cent year on year in May 2023, compared to a drop of 3.0 per cent in April 2023. In June 2023, PPI slid further to 4.8 per cent compared to May 2023.

Malaysia's total merchandise trade in May 2023 declined by 2.0 per cent from RM228.3 billion in May last year to RM223.8 billion. During the same period, both exports and imports fell by 0.7 per cent and 3.3 per cent to RM119.6 billion and RM104.2 billion respectively. As a result, the trade surplus grew by 21.4 per cent to RM15.4 billion. In June 2023, the external trade amounted to RM222.1 billion, with exports totalling RM124.0 billion, imports totalling RM98.2 billion, and a trade surplus of RM25.8 billion. In June 2023, the external trade recorded a total of RM222.1 billion, with exports of RM124.0 billion, imports of RM98.2 billion and a trade surplus of RM25.8 billion.

Malaysia's labour market improved with the number of employed people increasing by 2.4 per cent to 16.28 million (May 2022: 15.90 million). Similarly, the employment-to-population ratio rose from 66.8 to 67.6 per cent. The number of the labour force grew by 2.0 per cent to 16.86 million (May 2022: 16.54 million), resulting in the labour force participation rate (LFPR) climbing by 0.5 percentage points to 70.0 per cent in May 2023, while the unemployment rate fell by 0.4 percentage points to 3.5 per cent.

As a result of these occurrences, the Leading Index showed a better negative growth of 1.1 per cent with 110.3 points in May 2023, compared to a negative 2.7 per cent in April 2023. Simultaneously, the monthly performance of LI increased by 1.8 per cent. Despite an improvement in the index for this reference month, the smoothed LI growth rate remained below the trend of 100.0 points. Hence, Malaysia's economy is expected to grow in the near term despite the challenges posed by the global economic landscape.

In the meantime, The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) is conducting the Economic Census in 2023. DOSM greatly appreciates the cooperation from respondents to provide information with DOSM and make this census a success. Please visit www.dosm.gov.my for more information.

DOSM has launched OpenDOSM NextGen as a platform that provides a catalogue of data and visualisation that facilitates users in analysing various types of data. OpenDOSM NextGen is an open source data sharing medium and accessible through <https://open.dosm.gov.my> portal.

In honouring the importance of statistics, the Government of Malaysia has declared National Statistics Day (MyStats Day) on October 20 each year. The theme of the MyStats Day is "Connecting the World with Data We Can Trust" that reflects the importance of trust, authoritative data, innovation and the public good in national statistical systems.

Thank you.

DATO' SRI DR. MOHD UZIR MAHIDIN

July 2023

KEY REVIEW

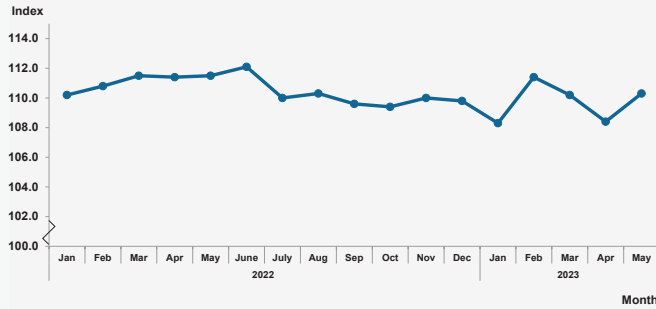
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) highlights that the robust global economic recovery is encountering challenges arising from persistent core inflation, escalating interest rates, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Consequently, the IMF has revised its projection for global economy growth, foreseeing a slip from an estimated 3.5 per cent in 2022 to 3.0 per cent in both 2023 and 2024.
- Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) kept its GDP growth forecast for Malaysia in 2023, expecting between 4.0 per cent and 5.0 per cent. It was observed that the country's domestic demand remains strong, improving the labour market and supporting consumer spending. Despite global economic uncertainties, Malaysia's economy is progressing well, with most sectors showing positive growth as compared to the previous year.
- Natural rubber production reached 25,062 tonnes in May 2023, which rose by 20.2 per cent from 20,857 tonnes in May 2022 and 6.8 per cent in the previous month (23,460 tonnes). Based on the oil palm statistics in June 2023, fresh fruit bunches production amounted to 7,435,995 tonnes, a decrease of 6.7 per cent as compared to June 2022 (7,374,154 tonnes) and by 3.3 per cent from May 2023 (7,686,214 tonnes).
- Malaysia's Industrial Production Index (IPI) rebounded to a positive growth of 4.7 per cent in May 2023, a notable contrast to the negative 3.3 per cent recorded in the previous month. This growth was primarily driven by increases across all sectors, with Manufacturing, Mining and Electricity recording growth of 5.1 per cent (April 2023: -3.0%), 2.9 per cent (April 2023: -4.9%) and 5.0 per cent (April 2023: -2.0%), respectively.
- Concurrently, Malaysia's Manufacturing sector witnessed a positive rebound in sales value in May 2023, reaching RM146.8 billion with a growth of 3.3 per cent after decreased by 2.0 per cent in the preceding month. The expansion was led particularly by the robust growth of 17.3 per cent in the Transport equipment & other manufactures sub-sector, complemented by the continuous upward trend in Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products (8.7%); and Electrical & electronics products (8.2%).
- The monthly sales of Wholesale & Retail Trade in May 2023 also increased by 6.6 per cent as compared to the previous year, amounting to RM138.0 billion. The increase was mainly stimulated by the Motor vehicles sub-sector which rose by 22.0 per cent to record RM17.0 billion. Retail trade and Wholesale Trade sub-sectors also grew by 5.0 per cent (+RM2.8 billion) and 4.4 per cent (+RM2.6 billion), respectively.
- Malaysia's inflation on an annual basis slowed from 3.3 per cent in April 2023 to 2.8 per cent in May 2023. The inflation was still influenced by a higher rise in Restaurants & Hotels (6.7%) compared to April 2023 (6.6%). Certain groups recorded moderate increases, such as Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages at 5.9 per cent compared to 6.3 per cent in April 2023; Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance at 2.7 per cent (April 2023: 3.0%), and Transport at 1.0 per cent (April 2023: 2.3%). In June 2023, the inflation showed a downtrend by registering 2.4 per cent, lower than May 2023.
- In the meantime, Malaysia's Producer Price Index (PPI) year-on-year went down to negative 4.6 per cent in May 2023 against negative 3.0 per cent in April 2023. The decrease was primarily led by a decline of negative 27.2 per cent in Agriculture, forestry & fishing, a negative 10.7 per cent decrease in the Mining sector and a marginal decline of negative 1.1 per cent in the Manufacturing sector. In June 2023, PPI slid further to 4.8 per cent compared to May 2023.
- On the external trade angle, it was noticed that Malaysia's total merchandise trade decreased 2.0 per cent from RM228.3 billion in May last year, recording RM223.8 billion. Exports declined by 0.7 per cent to RM119.6 billion, while imports decreased by 3.3 per cent to RM104.2 billion over the same month last year. As a result, the trade surplus increased by 21.4 per cent to RM15.4 billion. In June 2023, the external trade recorded a total of RM222.1 billion, with exports of RM124.0 billion, imports of RM98.2 billion and a trade surplus of RM25.8 billion.

- Malaysia's labour market showed a continuous increase in the number of employed persons with 2.4 per cent growth or added by 379.5 thousand persons, recording 16.28 million persons (May 2022: 15.90 million persons). Similarly, the employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.8 percentage points as compared to the previous year, from 66.8 per cent to 67.6 per cent. The overall labour force also went up by 2.0 per cent year-on-year, reaching a total of 16.86 million (May 2022: 16.54 million persons). In turn, the labour force participation rate (LFPR) increased by 0.5 percentage points to 70.0 per cent while the unemployment rate declined by 0.4 percentage points to 3.5 per cent in May 2023.
- The Leading Index (LI) in May 2023 experienced a better negative growth of 1.1 per cent with 110.3 points as compared to negative growth of 2.7 per cent in April 2023. Hence, this indicates encouraging Malaysia's economy in the near term despite the challenges posed by the global economic landscape.

KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

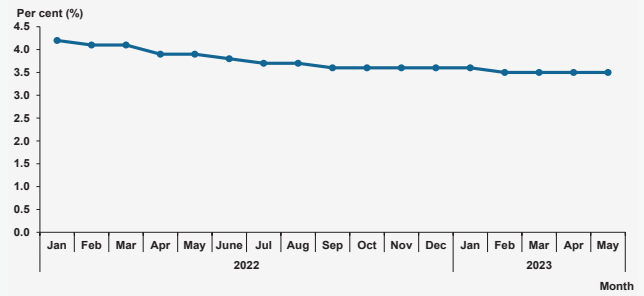
Leading Index

110.3
MAY 2023



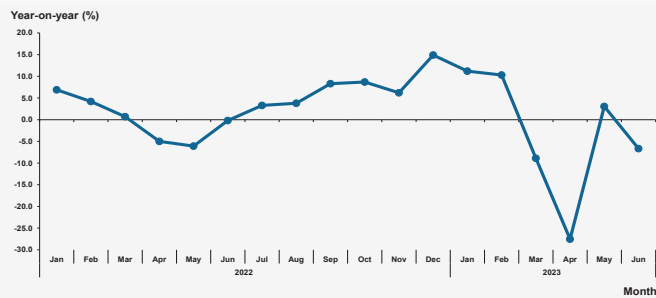
Unemployment Rate

3.5%
MAY 2023



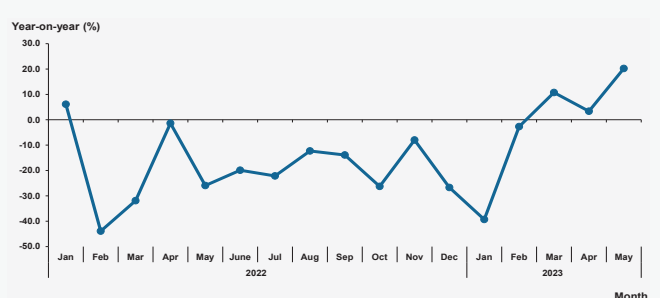
Production of Fresh Fruit Bunches

-6.7%
JUNE 2023



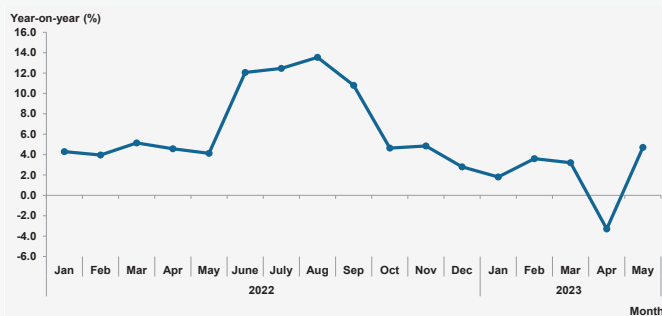
Production of Natural Rubber

20.2%
MAY 2023



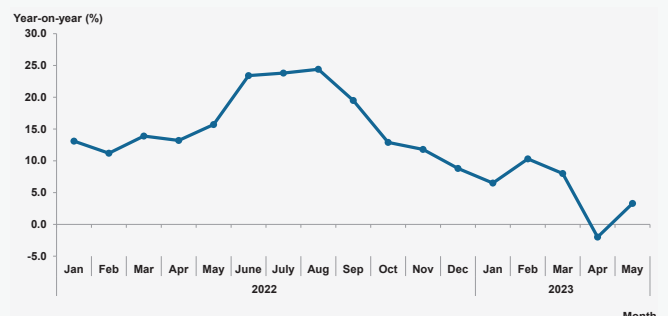
Industrial Production Index (IPI)

4.7%
MAY 2023



Sales Value of Manufacturing Sector

3.3%
MAY 2023

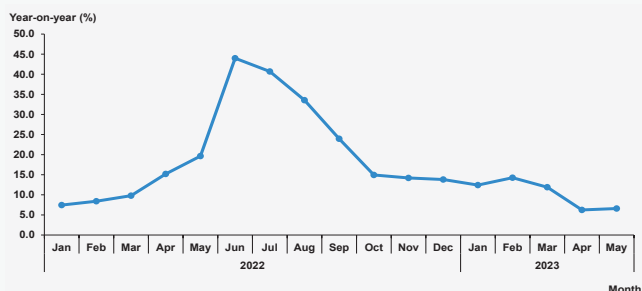


Note:

- 1) Unemployment rate is the proportion of unemployed population to the total population in labour force, expressed in percentage.
- 2) The remaining indicators are expressed in year-on-year percentage change

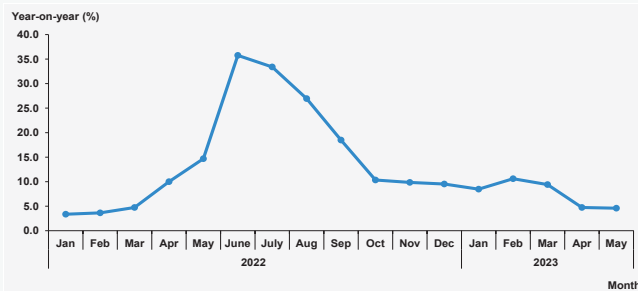
**Sales Value of
Wholesale & Retail Trade**

6.6%
MAY 2023



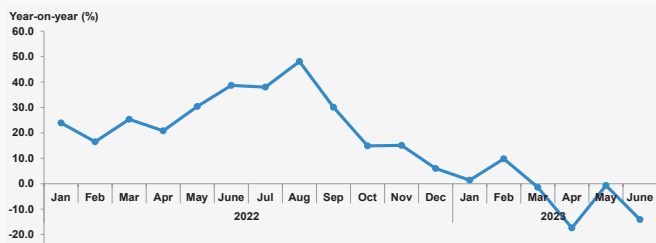
**Volume Index of
Wholesale & Retail Trade**

4.6%
MAY 2023



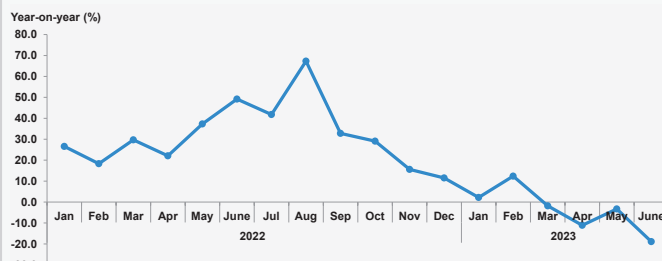
Exports

-14.1%
JUNE 2023



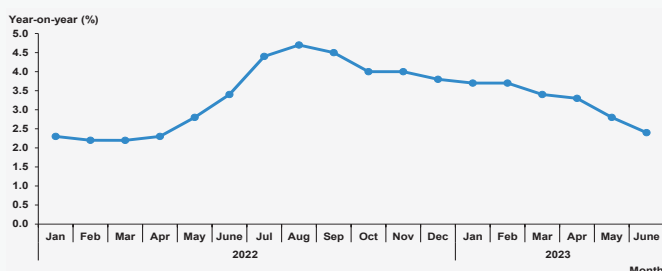
Imports

-18.1%
JUNE 2023



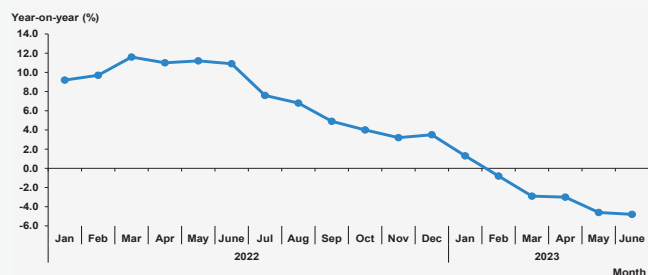
Consumer Price Index (CPI)

2.4%
JUNE 2023



**Producer Price Index (PPI)
Local Production**

-4.8%
JUNE 2023



Note:

- 1) Unemployment rate is the proportion of unemployed population to the total population in labour force, expressed in percentage.
- 2) The remaining indicators are expressed in year-on-year percentage change

OVERVIEW

World Economy

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) indicates the strong global economic recovery remains weighed down due to persistent core inflation, increasing interest rates, the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine, thus widening disparities among economic sectors and regions.

Against this backdrop, global growth is now projected to slow down from 3.5 per cent in 2022 to 3.0 per cent in 2023 and 2024. Although the forecast for 2023 shows a slight improvement than previously anticipated, it remains relatively weak. Global headline inflation is expected to decrease from 8.7 per cent in 2022 to 6.8 per cent in 2023 and 5.2 per cent in 2024, while core inflation is predicted to decline more gradually with an upward revision in 2024.

The United States economy is expected to grow by 1.8 per cent in 2023, which is an upward revision of 0.2 per cent from the previous forecast. This upward revision is primarily attributed to resilient consumption in the first quarter of 2023. This growth is due to a tight labour market, leading to increased real income and a rebound in vehicle purchases.

In the European Union, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is projected to expand by 0.9 per cent in 2023 and 1.5 per cent growth in 2024. Similarly, the recession in the United Kingdom is expected to be less severe than previously predicted, with GDP projected to grow by 0.4 per cent in 2023 and 1.0 per cent in 2024. The upward revisions in growth reflect stronger-than-expected consumption and investment trends driven by increased confidence due to lower energy prices, reduced post-Brexit uncertainty. Despite economic deceleration, labour markets across Europe remained remarkably robust, with the unemployment rate in the European Union reaching a record low of 5.9 per cent in May 2023. Moreover, the employment rate among individuals aged 20 to 64 recorded at 75.3 per cent in the first quarter of 2023, an increase of 0.5 per cent points compared to the previous quarter.

Meanwhile, the emerging market and developing Asia is projected to experience growth of 5.3 per cent in 2023 and 5.0 per cent in 2024, with a slight downward revision of 0.1 per cent for 2024 compared to the previous forecasts. In China, the economic projection remains steady at 5.2 per cent in 2023 and 4.5 per cent in 2024. Consumption growth has followed the projected trajectory outlined in the April 2023 World Economic Outlook (WEO). In contrast, investment performance has been weaker, primarily due to the ongoing real estate downturn in the country.

Malaysia's Economy

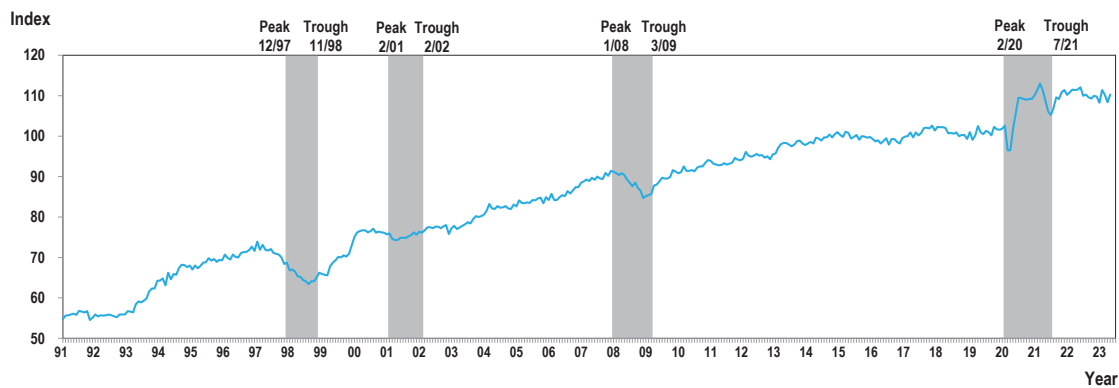
Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) maintained its growth forecast for Malaysia's GDP between 4.0 per cent and 5.0 per cent in 2023. Domestic demand in Malaysia remains resilient and the labour market is improving, supporting consumer spending. Despite global economic uncertainties, Malaysia continues to move forward, with all sectors showing positive growth compared to the previous year. The reopening of Malaysia's international borders on 1 April 2022, has accelerated the recovery in all economic sectors, particularly the tourism-related industry, which is showing good signs of recovery and is expected to continue growing. Furthermore, airline companies are also increasing their capacity to meet higher demand.

The encouraging economic growth saw possible businesses to expand and create new jobs. Malaysia's labour market was favourable, as seen by the increase in job opportunities and decline in the unemployment rate. The current labour market condition showed that the number of employed persons prevailed its increasing trend in May 2023, rising 28.1 thousand persons, or 0.2 per cent month on month, reaching 16.28 million persons (April 2023: 16.25 million persons). Meanwhile, the number of employees inclined by 379.5 thousand persons, or 2.4 per cent, year on year (May 2022: 15.90 million persons). In view of unemployment rate, it stood at 3.5 per cent in May 2023, while the number of unemployed persons fell by 8.3 per cent, or 53.1 thousand persons (May 2022: 637.7 thousand persons).

Nevertheless, Malaysia's trade performance weakened in the first six months of 2023, continuing on a downward trend. Total trade fell by 4.6 per cent as compared to the same period of 2022, with exports declined by 4.5 per cent and imports decreased by 4.7 per cent. This led to a 3.6 per cent drop in the trade balance. The challenging trade performance was also shown in June 2023 with Malaysia's total trade plunged by 16.3 per cent from RM265.4 billion in the corresponding month of the previous year to RM222.1 billion, returning to a double-digit decline. The decrease in exports by 14.1 per cent, amounting to RM124.0 billion, while imports recorded a more significant decline of 18.9 per cent to RM98.2 billion. This resulted in an incline of trade surplus with 11.3 per cent as against the previous year.

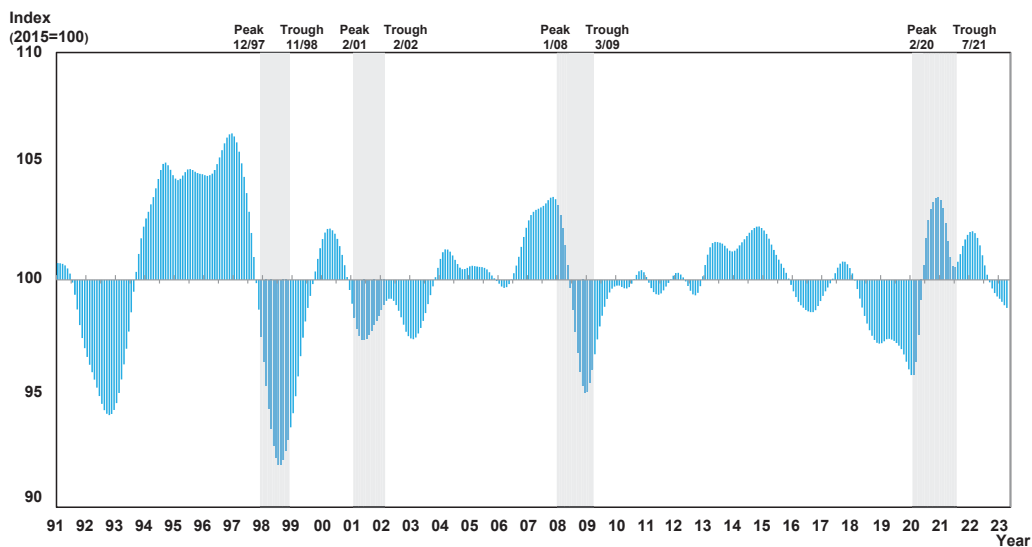
Looking ahead, Malaysia's economy is foreseen encouraging in the near term as indicated by the performance of the Leading Index which recorded a better negative growth of 1.1 per cent with 110.3 points in May 2023 as compared to a negative 2.7 per cent in April 2023. Nonetheless, LI's monthly performance grew by 1.8 per cent, attributed to the increases in five (5) out of seven LI components. Despite improvement for this reference month, the smoothed LI growth rate remained below the 100.0 points trend.

Chart 1: Leading Index (2015=100) and Business Cycle (Grey Shaded Areas), January 1991 - May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Chart 2: Leading Composite Index (Long Term Trend = 100) and Business Cycle (Grey Shaded Areas), January 1991 - May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

OVERVIEW

Economic Performance by State

The GDP growth by state in 2022 revealed that all states registered positive growth compared to 2021. Four states, namely Penang (13.1%), Selangor (11.9%), Pahang (10.8%), and W.P. Kuala Lumpur (9.2%), have exceeded the national growth rates. Pulau Pinang's economic performance is primarily driven by Manufacturing sector. On the other hand, Selangor, Pahang, and W.P. Kuala Lumpur have experienced economic growth led by the Services sector.

Johor's economy recorded a growth rate of 8.2 per cent, followed by Kedah (7.2%), Negeri Sembilan (6.4%) and Perak (4.3%). Perlis and Kelantan also reported an increase in their GDP of 5.7 per cent and 4.3 per cent, respectively. In the case of Kelantan, although the Agriculture sector contracted by 4.9 per cent, this decline was offset by a significant 19.7 per cent surge in the Construction sector resulted from infrastructure-related mega projects.

During the same period, Sabah's economy experienced a growth of 3.7 per cent, driven by an 8.6 per cent increase in the Services sector. Meanwhile, Terengganu's economy expanded by 5.9 per cent, fuelled by growth in both the Services and Manufacturing sectors. Sarawak's economy also strengthened by 6.5 per cent, with the Services sector posted a growth of 9.6 per cent primarily due to increased transportation activities resulting from higher domestic and international travel. W.P. Labuan's economy grew by 4.0 per cent (compared to 0.5 per cent in 2021), driven by the Services sector (4.6%), particularly in Financial and Insurance activities, which serve as the main drivers of the region's economy.

The Services sector, which accounted for a significant 58.3 per cent, saw remarkable growth of 10.9 per cent (2021: 2.2%) in 2022. The expansion was attributed to sub-sectors such as Wholesale & retail trade, Transportation & storage and Food & beverage and accommodation. Notably, Selangor and W.P. Kuala Lumpur maintained pivotal roles in driving this sector with growth of 13.6 per cent (2021: 2.5%) and 10.7 per cent (2021: 1.8%), respectively.

Meanwhile the Manufacturing sector, which constituted 24.1 per cent of the national GDP, increased 8.1 per cent from 9.5 per cent in 2021. The growth was supported mainly in the Manufacturing of Electrical, electronic & optical products and Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair activities. Furthermore, Selangor and Pulau Pinang remained the leading contributors in this sector, registering growth rates of 9.0 per cent (2021: 13.1%) and 15.9 per cent (2021: 12.4%), respectively.

Contrarily, the Construction sector witnessed a positive upswing, achieving a growth rate of 5.0 per cent from 5.1 per cent contraction last year. The expansion was supported by the growth in Non-residential building and Specialised construction activities. The performance was also attributed to a recovery in Selangor at 4.1 per cent (2021: -6.3%), Johor, 15.9 per cent (2021: -18.0%) and W.P. Kuala Lumpur, 2.0 per cent (2021: -11.9%).

The Agriculture sector exhibited a marginal increase of 0.1 per cent, rebounded from the 0.1 per cent decrease recorded in 2021. The Livestock sub-sector experienced a growth of 0.1 per cent, while the Fisheries sub-sector expanded significantly by 2.5 per cent, effectively offsetting the marginal decline of 0.1 per cent in the Crop sub-sector. The states that contributed to the sector's recovery were Pahang, Johor and Sarawak, which contributed growth rates of 4.9 per cent, 1.9 per cent and 0.7 per cent, respectively.

Meanwhile, the Mining and quarrying sector in Malaysia also experienced positive growth of 2.6 per cent, surpassing the previous year's 0.9 per cent. This growth was primarily driven by the Natural gas sub-sector, which played a significant role and contributed 54.1 per cent to the overall sector's performance. The sub-sector witnessed a substantial increase of 5.9 per cent in 2022, mainly attributed to the rise in natural gas production in Sarawak.

**Table 1: Annual Percentage Change for GDP by State and Kind of Economic Activity, 2022
at constant 2015 prices**

State	Agriculture	Mining and quarrying	Manufacturing	Construction	Services	Plus : Import duties	GDP at purchasers' prices
Johor	1.9	7.5	5.5	15.9	10.8	20.8	8.2
Kedah	-0.9	7.8	8.1	18.3	8.1	7.7	7.2
Kelantan	-4.9	8.4	3.1	19.7	6.8	36.7	4.3
Melaka	-0.7	7.6	6.8	5.0	12.2	13.2	8.6
Negeri Sembilan	-0.6	7.9	8.0	5.7	7.6	-47.9	6.4
Pahang	4.9	9.7	5.8	-1.0	16.8	0.8	10.8
Pulau Pinang	3.4	7.9	15.9	7.9	11.3	3.0	13.1
Perak	-3.9	8.9	1.0	6.1	7.2	48.1	4.3
Perlis	2.2	7.2	4.5	1.1	5.7	68.4	5.7
Selangor	-1.6	9.7	9.0	4.1	13.6	32.2	11.9
Terengganu	-4.7	8.1	8.2	3.4	6.0	-48.1	5.9
Sabah	-0.2	-1.3	-2.5	6.2	8.6	12.6	3.7
Sarawak	0.7	5.7	5.6	4.0	9.6	20.4	6.5
W.P. Kuala Lumpur*	..	7.7	5.3	2.0	10.7	-43.3	9.2
W.P. Labuan	3.6	-	1.7	3.2	4.6	-13.3	4.0
Supra	-	2.0	-	-	-	-	2.0
GDP at purchasers' prices	0.1	2.6	8.1	5.0	10.9	7.3	8.7

Note: *Include W.P. Putrajaya

Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

STUDY ON THE RELATIONSHIP OF CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE ON THE EXPORT IMPORT VALUE

Nor Hasiah Othman, Suzana Abu Bakar, Norhayati Jantan
National Accounts Statistics Division, Department of Statistics Malaysia

INTRODUCTION

The export and import values of goods and services can be influenced by changes in the currency exchange rate. When the Ringgit weakens, the price of imported goods and services will increase. Thus, the cost of production for local producers will be higher due to the higher cost of imported intermediate inputs. On the other hand, a depreciation of the currency will benefit Malaysia as exports tend to increase. Therefore, this study aims to measure the relationship between Malaysian currency exchange rates against the USD and the value of imports and exports.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Numerous studies have been conducted to examine the relationship between exchange rates, imports, and exports. This section reviews the few key findings from some studies.

Bahmani-Oskoei and Hegerty (2009), found that exchange rate volatility has a negative impact on trade flows, both in the short run and the long run. They also found that higher volatility leads to increased uncertainty, which may reduce the volume of imports and exports.

According to the study titled Monetary Policy and Exchange Rate Pass-Through by Gagnon and Ihrig (2004), they found that exchange rate fluctuations have a significant impact on import prices but a smaller effect on export prices. Exchange rates changes can influence the competitiveness of imports more than exports.

Rose (2000) found that exchange rate stability and the elimination of currency risk can promote trade. She found that countries sharing a common currency experience significantly higher trade volumes compared to countries with different currencies.

Cumperayot, Keijzer and Kouwenberg (2006) found in their probe that a significant decrease in the currency exchange rate would increase the value of imports and make the value of exports concurrent.

DATA SOURCE AND METHODOLOGY

The data used is from the first quarter of 2015 (Q1 2015) to the first quarter of 2023 (Q1 2023). Real export and import values are from the publication of Gross Domestic Product, First Quarter, 2023, by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), while exchange rate data was obtained from the Central Bank of Malaysia (BNM).

In this study, descriptive statistics are used to observe the relationship between two variables, namely, the currency exchange rate and both imports and exports. While the correlation analysis was executed to determine the magnitude and direction of the association between the variables.

Descriptive Analysis

A scatter plot is used in this study to visualize the relationship between two variables in terms of the pattern and trend of the data. The data was plotted on the x-axis and y-axis. At the same time the line chart was produced to analyse the movement of time series growth for currency exchange rate, export and import. In examining the share of imports and exports of goods and services, the bar chart was constructed.

Correlation Analysis

The Pearson correlation measures the strength and direction of the linear relationship between two continuous variables, and the correlation coefficient ranges from 1 to -1.

The Pearson correlation formula is as follows:

$$r = \frac{n \sum_{i=1}^n XiYi - (\sum_{i=1}^n Xi) (\sum_{i=1}^n Yi)}{\sqrt{[n \sum_{i=1}^n Xi^2 - (\sum_{i=1}^n Xi)^2]} \sqrt{[n \sum_{i=1}^n Yi^2 - (\sum_{i=1}^n Yi)^2]}}$$

where:

- r = Pearson's correlation coefficient
- x_i = currency exchange rate; and
- y_i = import/export value
- $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

Hypothesis testing was also carried out to test whether there is a relationship between the currency exchange rate and the value of imports and exports.

1. Hypothesis 1

- H_0 : There is no relationship between the currency exchange rate and the imports value.
- H_1 : There is a significant relationship between the currency exchange rate and the imports value.

2. Hypothesis 2

- H_0 : There is no relationship between the currency exchange rate and the exports value.
- H_1 : There is a significant relationship between the currency exchange rate and the exports value.

FINDINGS

Analysis on Descriptive Statistics:

Chart 1a: Currency Exchange Rates and Value of Imports

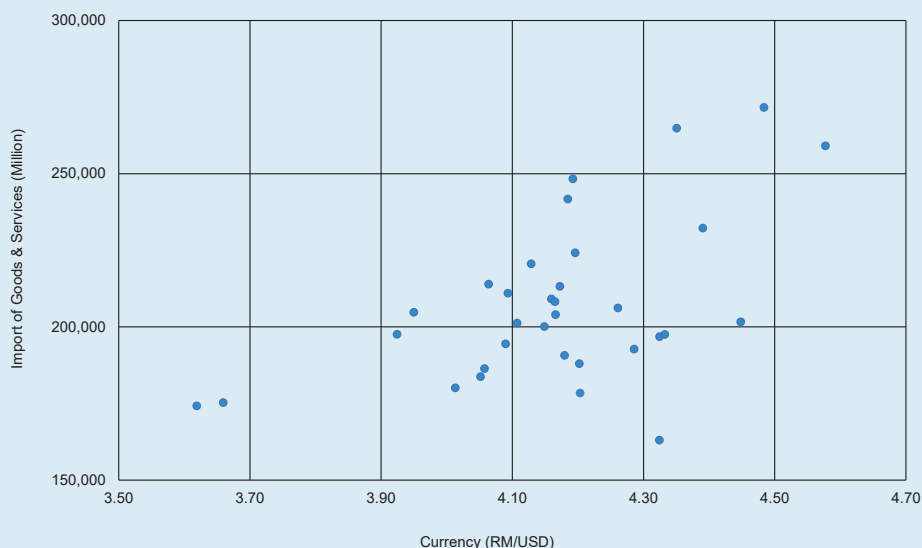
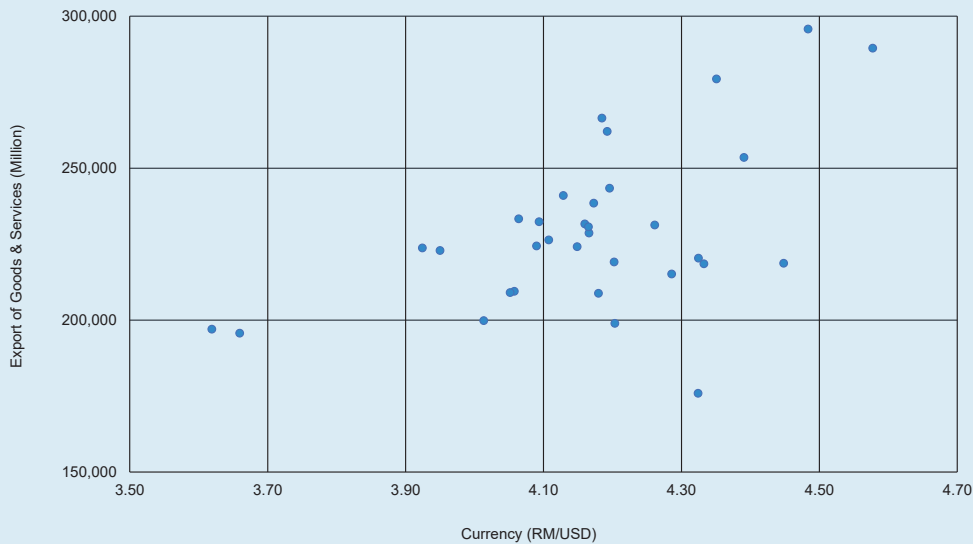


Chart 1b: Currency Exchange Rates and Value of Exports



Based on the graphs, it was found that there is a positive correlation between the currency exchange rate and the value of imports (**Chart 1a**) and exports (**Chart 1b**).

Chart 1c: Percentage Growth of Currency Exchange Rates and Exports and Imports of Goods and Services (YoY)

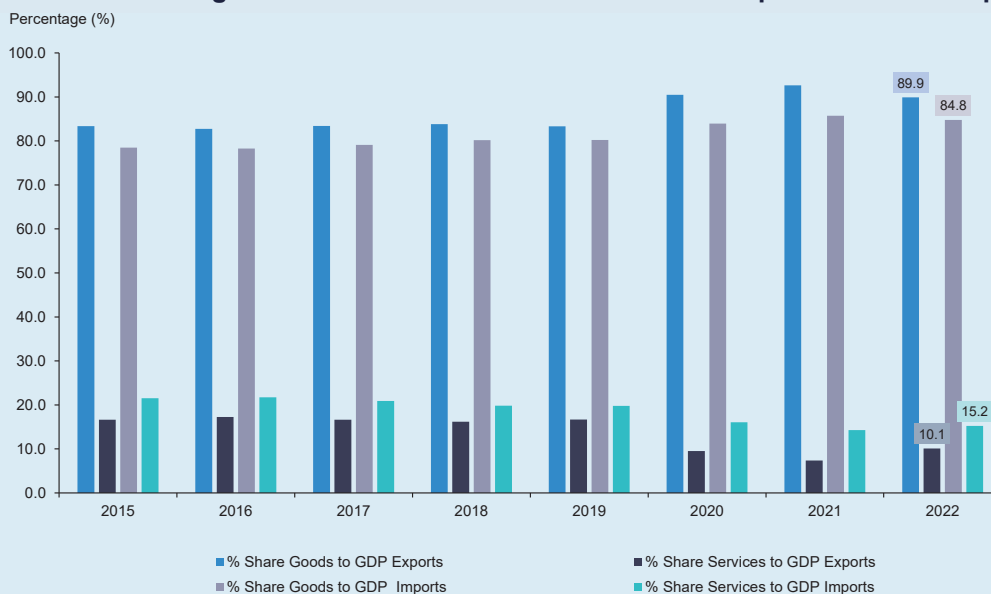


Based on **Chart 1c**, from the third quarter of 2016 until the fourth quarter of 2018, it can be observed that the growth trend of the currency exchange rate is parallel to the growth of exports and imports, except for the second quarter of 2017. Overall, the annual growth (YoY) in export and import is higher as compared to the growth of the currency exchange rate, except for the period from the first quarter of 2016 to the third quarter of 2016 and the first quarter of 2019 to the fourth quarter of 2019.

In 2020, the world was shocked by the COVID-19 pandemic, and international trade plunged, which had impacts across specific goods, services, and trade partners, creating pressures on specific sectors and supply chains. Movement Control Order (MCO) and panic buying are likely to manipulate the market, resulting in higher prices of goods based on demand and supply laws. The import activity of food is still ongoing, but it is not as accelerated as before the outbreak, as major exporting countries such as China, Japan, the United States (US), Thailand and Indonesia are also facing the COVID-19 outbreak.

The closure of international borders during the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak has restricted movement between countries and contributed to a decline in the value of imports and exports of services. Previously, the ratio of goods to services for imports and exports was around 80:20, but this ratio has changed to 85:15 for imports and 90:10 for exports (**Chart 1d**). In the first quarter of 2023, it was observed that the ratio of goods to services for both imports and exports slowly returned to pre-pandemic levels as a result of the opening of international borders, which allow travel activities between countries. The ratio of goods to services for exports and imports in this period was 87:13 and 82:18, respectively.

Chart 1d: Percentage Share of Goods and Services to GDP Exports and GDP Imports



Correlation Analysis

Table 1a: Currency Exchange Rate and Value of Exports and Imports of Goods and Services

	Coefficient, r	DF	N	t Stat	P-value	α
Export of goods and services	0.5306	31.0	33.0	3.4854	0.00148	0.05
Import of goods and services	0.5384	31.0	33.0	3.5581	0.00122	0.05

The correlation coefficients between currency exchange rate and export; and currency exchange rate and import are 0.5306 and 0.5384, respectively. This indicates that the two variables have a moderate relationship based on the evaluation criteria disclosed by Sugiyono (2011).

Based on the P-value, at $\alpha=0.05$, the null hypothesis is rejected, which revealed that there is a significant relationship between the currency exchange rate and the value of exports and imports.

CONCLUSION

The fluctuations in currency exchange rates is one of the factors that may influence import and export activities. The depreciation of the Malaysian Ringgit is expected to benefit the export-oriented sector, especially those traded in USD, where exports became cheaper and more competitive in foreign markets while making imports more expensive. In contrast, domestic producers who rely on imported goods as intermediate inputs will experience high production costs that lead to an increase in the price of goods sold.

Based on the correlation analysis, a moderate relationship exists between the currency exchange rate and the value of exports and imports. Besides the exchange rate, there might be other factors that have a relationship to the value of exports and imports, such as tariffs and trade barriers, government policies and regulations, political stability and geopolitical factors, product quality and competitiveness, global demand, domestic economic conditions, and production and cost factors.

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of DOSM.

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SECTORAL PERFORMANCE

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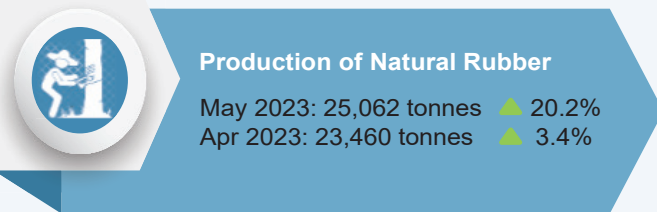


MALAYSIAN ECONOMIC STATISTICS REVIEW

VOL. 7/ 2023



PRODUCTION

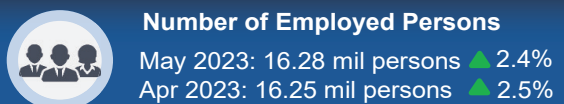


EXTERNAL SECTOR

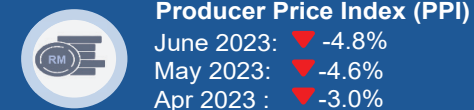


* As published for the corresponding month

LABOUR MARKET



PRICES



Percentage Change: Year-on-Year

Source: Malaysian Economic Statistics Review, Vol. 7/ 2023, Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM)

AGRICULTURE

Oil Palm

The Oil palm fresh fruit bunches production amounted to 7,435,995 tonnes in June 2023 which represents a decreased of 3.3 per cent from 7,686,214 tonnes in May 2023 (**Chart 3**). The year-on-year production also showed a decline of 6.7 per cent compared to June 2022 (7,967,345 tonnes).

Chart 3: Production of Fresh Fruit Bunches, January 2022 - June 2023



Source: Malaysian Palm Oil Board

The average fresh fruit bunches yield by estates in June 2023 decreased by 1.6 per cent to 1.21 tonnes/ha, compared to May 2023 (1.23 tonnes/ha) (**Table 2**). The average fresh fruit bunches yield by estates operated in Sabah/Sarawak remained at 1.24 tonnes/ha (May 2023: 1.24 tonnes/ha). Meanwhile, the average fresh fruit bunches yield in Peninsular Malaysia decreased by 2.5 per cent to 1.18 tonnes/ha (May 2023: 1.21 tonnes/ha).

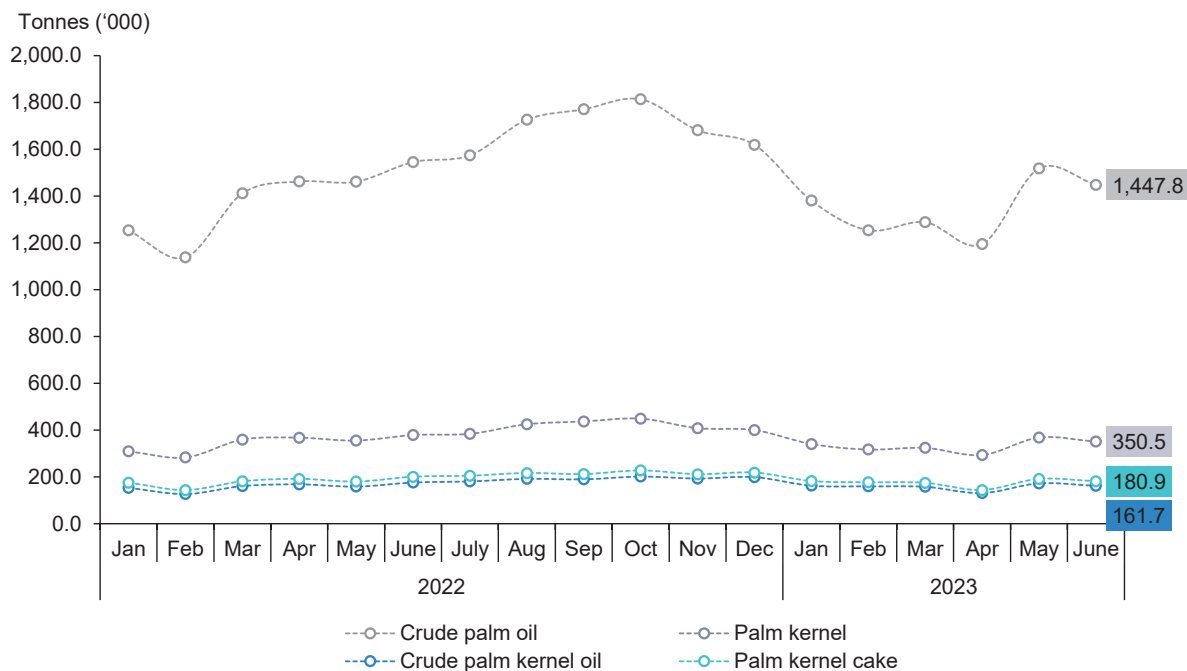
Table 2: Average Production of Fresh Fruit Bunches by Region, January 2022 - June 2023 (Tonnes/ha)

Region	2022												2023					
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Malaysia	1.10	0.99	1.18	1.17	1.20	1.26	1.28	1.45	1.51	1.54	1.45	1.38	1.19	1.07	1.09	1.00	1.23	1.21
Peninsular Malaysia	1.07	1.07	1.32	1.28	1.30	1.38	1.40	1.52	1.57	1.61	1.49	1.41	1.19	1.11	1.07	0.96	1.21	1.18
Sabah/ Sarawak	1.12	0.93	1.06	1.08	1.11	1.17	1.18	1.39	1.46	1.48	1.41	1.36	1.19	1.04	1.11	1.03	1.24	1.24

Source: Malaysian Palm Oil Board

The production of crude palm oil and palm kernel went down by 4.6 per cent (June 2023: 1,447,795 tonnes, May 2023: 1,517,546 tonnes) and 4.7 per cent (June 2023: 350,516 tonnes, May 2023: 367,689 tonnes), respectively. Similarly, the production of crude palm kernel oil and palm kernel cake also dropped by 6.1 per cent (June 2023: 161,748 tonnes, May 2023: 172,167 tonnes) and 5.1 per cent (June 2023: 180,852 tonnes, May 2023: 190,665 tonnes), respectively.

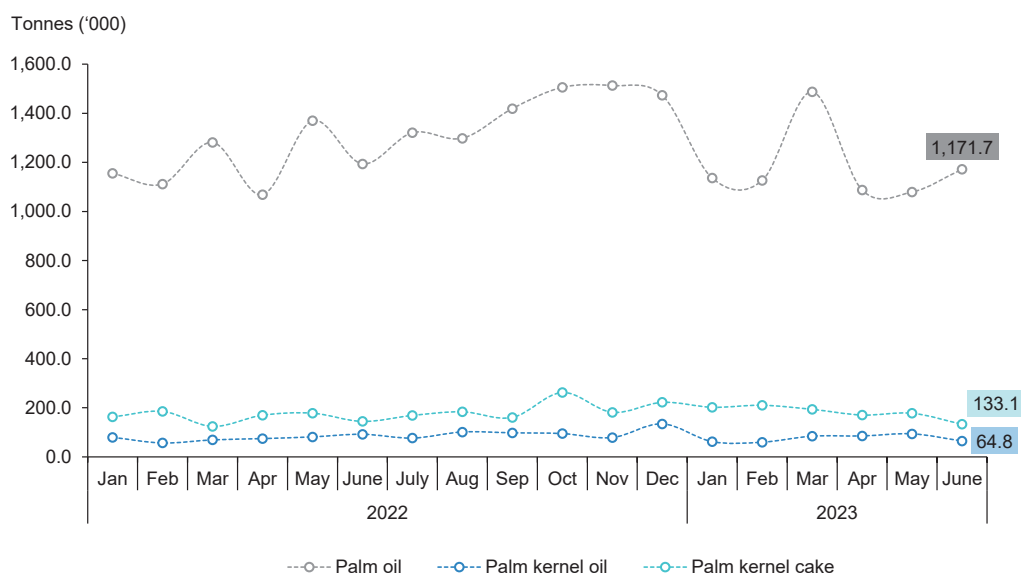
Chart 4: Production by Major Oil Palm Products, January 2022 - June 2023



Source: Malaysian Palm Oil Board

Exports of palm oil increased by 8.6 per cent, reaching a record 1,171,741 tonnes (May 2023: 1,079,020 tonnes). On the other hand, exports of palm kernel oil and palm kernel cake plunged by 30.9 per cent (June 2023: 64,819 tonnes, May 2023: 93,804 tonnes) and 25.2 per cent (June 2023: 133,089 tonnes; May 2023: 177,877 tonnes) respectively.

Chart 5: Exports of Palm Oil, January 2022 - June 2023

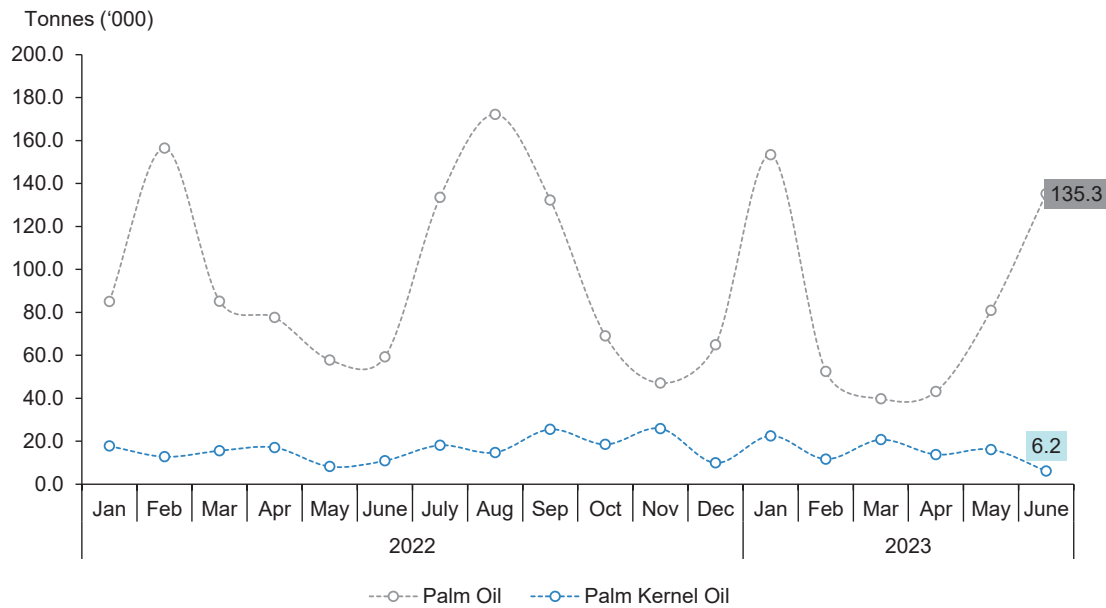


Source: Malaysian Palm Oil Board

Imports of palm oil soared by 67.2 per cent to 135,271 tonnes in June 2023 compared to 80,926 tonnes in the previous month. However, imports of palm kernel oil dropped by 61.8 per cent (June 2023: 6,163 tonnes, May 2023: 16,153 tonnes).

AGRICULTURE

Chart 6: Imports by Oil Palm Products, January 2022 - June 2023

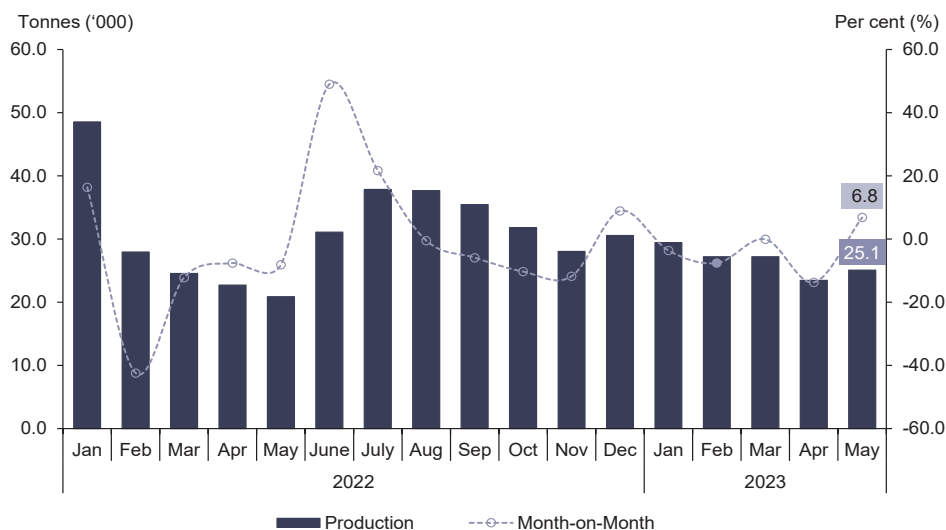


Source: Malaysian Palm Oil Board

Rubber

Natural rubber production showed an increase of 6.8 per cent in May 2023, reaching a record 25,062 tonnes, compared to 23,460 tonnes in April 2023 (**Chart 7**). Similarly, the annual natural rubber production saw a significant increase of 20.2 per cent as compared to 20,857 tonnes in May 2022.

Chart 7: Production of Natural Rubber, January 2022 – May 2023

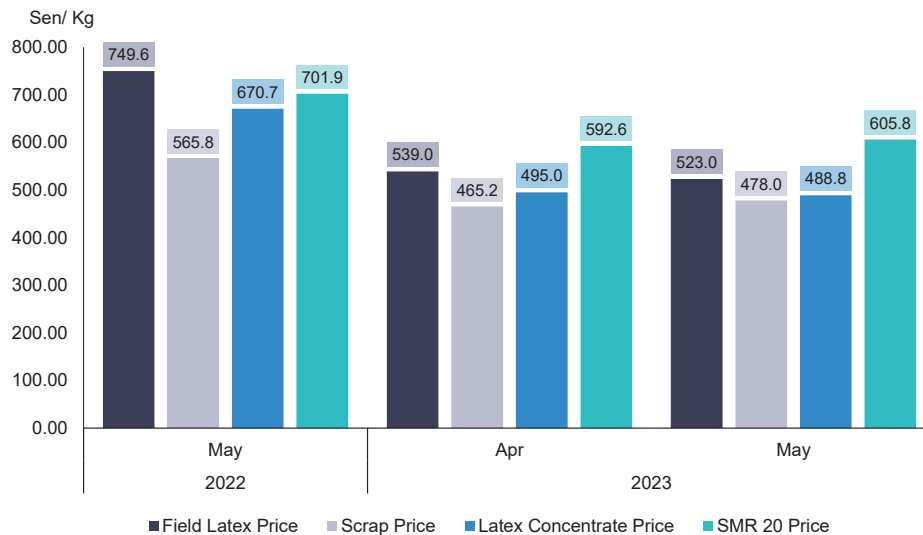


Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

The smallholdings sector dominated natural rubber production in May 2023, accounting for 86.3 per cent (21,620 tonnes), while the estate sector contributed the remaining 13.7 per cent (3,441 tonnes). Comparing production on a monthly basis, the smallholdings and estate sectors showed an increase of 5.1 per cent and 19.3 per cent, respectively. However, when compared to May 2022, production of smallholdings increased by 24.7 per cent, while the estate sector recorded a decrease of 2.0 per cent.

According to the average monthly price analysis, Latex Concentrated recorded a decrease of 1.3 per cent (May 2023: 488.76 sen per kg; April 2023: 495.00 sen per kg) while Scrap increased by 2.8 per cent (May 2023: 478.02 sen per kg; April 2023: 465.21 sen per kg). Prices for all Standard Malaysian Rubber (S.M.R) varieties are mixed with a decline of 1.2 per cent and increase up to 2.2 per cent. The World Bank Commodity Price Data has reported the prices at TSR 20 (Technically Specified Rubber) decreased by 0.6 per cent (from USD1.36/kg to USD1.35/kg), while SGP/MYS (Singapore/Malaysia) increased by 1.0 per cent (from USD1.54/kg to USD1.56/kg).

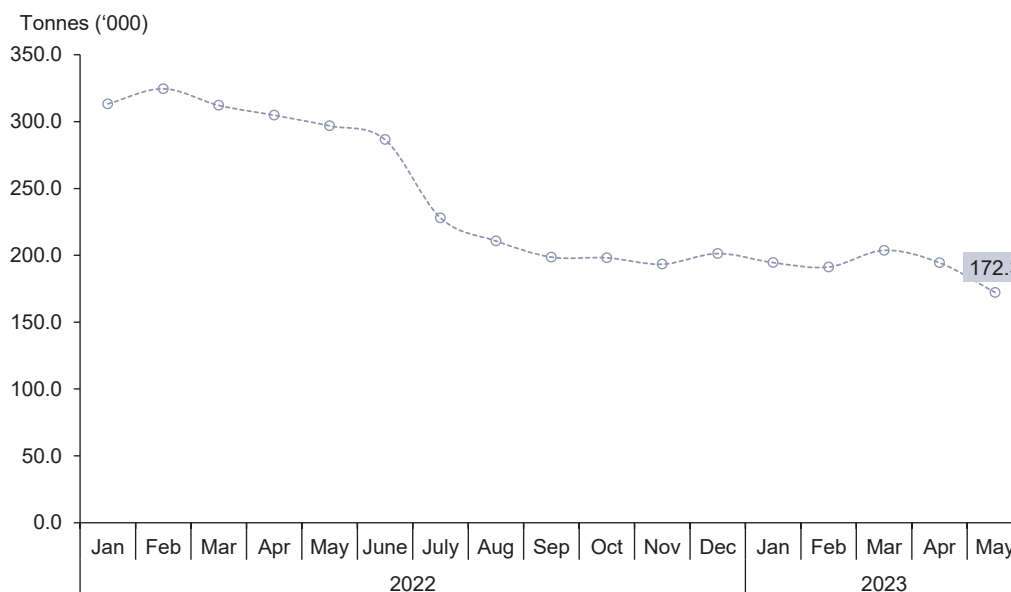
Chart 8: Monthly Average Prices for Natural Rubber, May 2022 and April - May 2023



Source: Malaysian Rubber Board

Total rubber stock decreased by 11.4 per cent from 194,464 tonnes in April 2023 to 172,263 tonnes in May 2023. A year-on-year comparison showed that the stocks decreased by 42.0 per cent against 296,883 tonnes in May 2022.

Chart 9: Stocks of Natural Rubber, January 2022 – May 2023

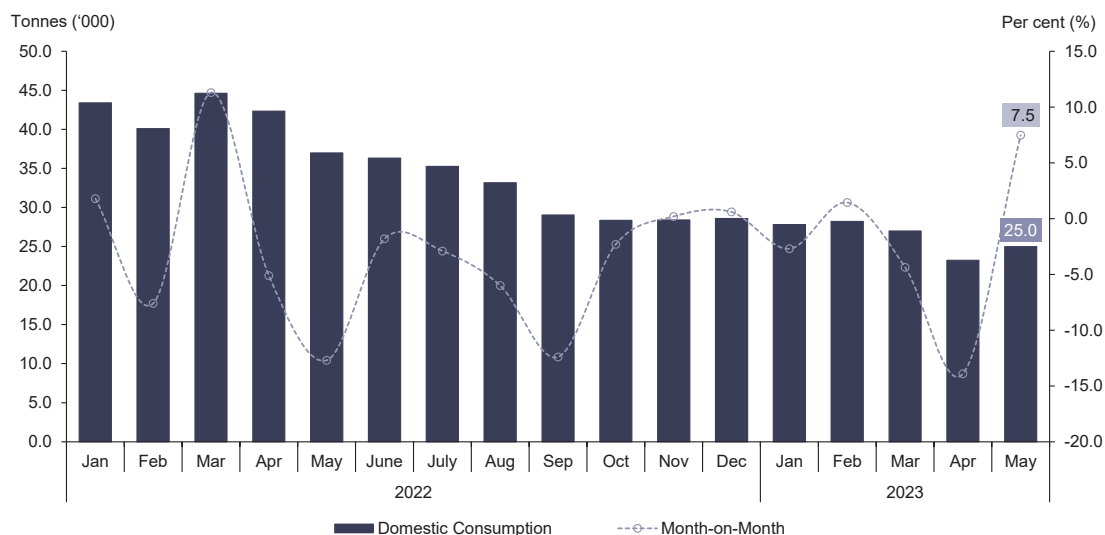


Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

AGRICULTURE

Domestic consumption rose by 7.5 per cent from 23,237 tonnes in April 2023 to 24,977 tonnes in May 2023. Nevertheless, the consumption on an annual basis plunged by 32.5 per cent (May 2022: 36,985 tonnes).

Chart 10: Domestic Consumption, January 2022 – May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Malaysia's exports of natural rubber amounted to 37,062 tonnes in May 2023, a decline of 1.8 per cent as against April 2023 (37,728 tonnes) and a decrease of 14.2 per cent from 43,194 tonnes in the same month last year. China continued to dominate the exports of natural rubber with 41.9 per cent in May 2023, followed by Germany (16.3%), Pakistan (3.7%), Türkiye (2.9%) and Portugal (1.6%).

Rubber gloves were the main exports of rubber-based products, totaling 40,216 tonnes in May 2023, an increase of 31.5 per cent as compared to April 2023 (30,588 tonnes). The main exporting countries for rubber gloves were the USA (12,488 tonnes), Japan (2,330 tonnes) and Germany (2,143 tonnes) as shown in **Table 3**.

Table 3: Top 10 Exports Countries of Rubber Gloves, April 2023 and May 2023

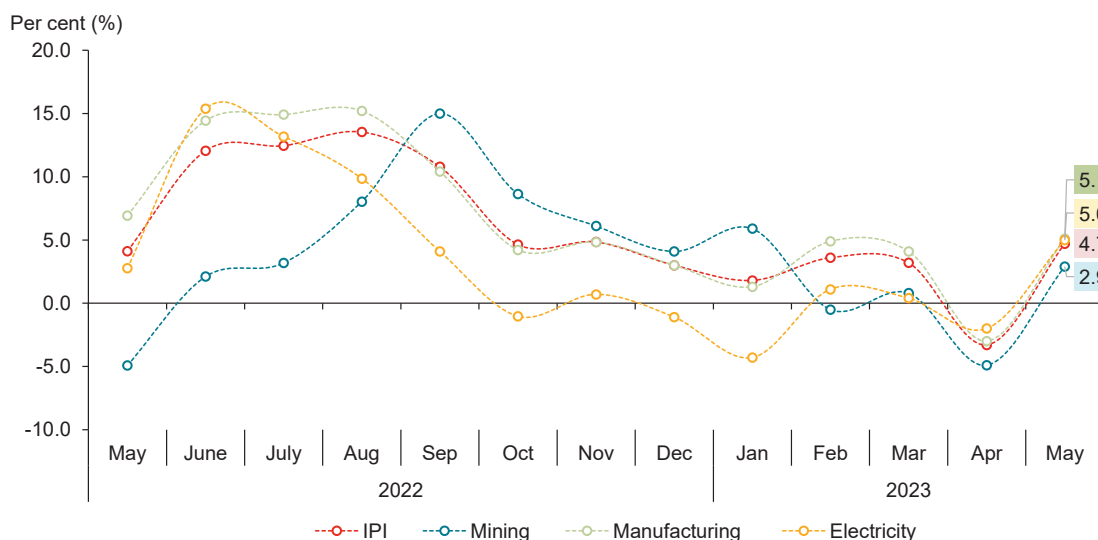
Countries	Quantity (Tonnes)		Value (RM million)	
	April 2023	May 2023	April 2023	May 2023
United States of America	10,033	12,488	292.5	350.0
Japan	2,316	2,330	69.2	73.2
Germany	1,515	2,143	42.3	53.9
China	1,488	1,743	27.9	33.2
Brazil	1,205	1,571	20.8	28.3
Türkiye	631	1,422	10.5	22.4
United Kingdom	1,138	1,249	24.4	33.6
Spain	1,016	1,103	26.1	25.6
Italy	540	1,042	11.6	21.1
Republic of Korea	816	1,020	22.1	26.2

Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Industrial Production Index (IPI)

Malaysia's Index of Industrial Production (IPI) returned to positive growth of 4.7 per cent in May 2023 as against a decline of 3.3 per cent recorded in the previous month (**Chart 11**). The expansion in May 2023 was attributed by the increase in all sectors, predominantly by Manufacturing sector which registered 5.1 per cent (April 2023: -3.0%), Mining with 2.9 per cent (April 2023: -4.9%); and Electricity with 5.0 per cent (April 2023: -2.0%). On month-on-month comparison, the IPI accelerated by 7.3 per cent as compared to April 2023.

Chart 11: Industrial Production Index, Year-on-Year (%), May 2022 – May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

The Manufacturing sector which was the largest component in the IPI, rose 5.1 per cent in May 2023. The expansion was propelled by the robust growth in domestic-oriented industries, which grew 10.1 per cent (April 2023: -2.1%) mainly backed by the Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers & semi-trailers (16.4%); and Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery & equipment (11.9%). Similarly, the export-oriented industries ascended by 2.8 per cent (April 2023: -3.5%) which was supported by the acceleration of the Manufacture of vegetable & animal oils & fats (13.0%); and Manufacture of coke & refined petroleum products (5.9%). On month-on-month comparison, the Manufacturing sector registered a positive growth of 7.0 per cent as compared to negative 11.4 per cent in April 2023.

IPI for the selected major trading partners of Malaysia showed negative growth in May 2023 such as Taiwan (-15.7%), South Korea (-7.3%), Singapore (-10.8%) and Thailand (-3.1%). On the other hand, China escalated 3.5 per cent while United States of America (USA) and Vietnam recorded marginal growth of 0.2 per cent and 0.5 per cent respectively.

The production in the Mining sector improved to 2.9 per cent in May 2023, which was impelled by the increase in both Crude Oil & Condensate index and Natural Gas index by 0.6 per cent and 4.5 per cent respectively. In comparison with the preceding month, the Mining index expanded by 7.6 per cent as compared to a contraction of 10.7 per cent recorded in April 2023. Meanwhile, the Electricity output escalated by 5.0 per cent year-on-year in May 2023 and strengthened to 10.1 per cent as against April 2023.

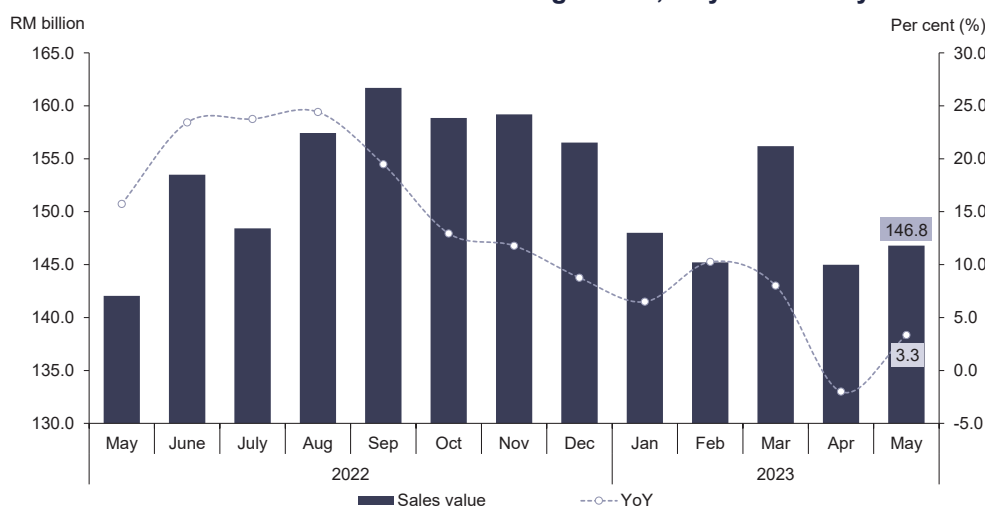
Manufacturing

Malaysia's Manufacturing sector recorded sales value of RM146.8 billion in May 2023, returning to positive growth of 3.3 per cent after experiencing a decline of 2.0 per cent in the preceding month (**Chart 12**). The expansion was bolstered by the strong growth of 17.3 per cent registered in Transport equipment & other manufactures coupled with the continuously increasing trend in Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products (8.7%); and Electrical & electronics products (8.2%) sub-sectors. On month-on-month comparison, the sales value rebounded to 1.3 per cent as against a negative 7.2 per cent recorded in April 2023.

The sales value of export-oriented industries which represented 71.6 per cent of total sales rebounded marginally by 0.2 per cent in May 2023 after registering a decrease in April 2023. Nonetheless, the domestic-oriented industries sustained positive momentum, recording double-digit growth of 12.3 per cent in May 2023 (April 2023: 1.6%). As compared to the previous month, export and domestic-oriented industries advanced by 1.4 per cent and 0.9 per cent respectively after both industries experienced a contraction of 7.2 per cent in April 2023.

Concurrently, Malaysia's export value in May 2023 amounted to RM119.6 billion, contracting marginally by 0.7 per cent compared to May 2022. Exports of manufactured goods dominated total exports in May 2023 with a share of 85.4 per cent, rose by 1.8 per cent to RM102.2 billion. The increase was mainly contributed by petroleum products, Electrical & electronic products (E&E) and machinery, equipment & parts.

Chart 12: Sales Value of Manufacturing Sector, May 2022 – May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Based on the Monthly Manufacturing Survey, the total number of employees in the Manufacturing sector in May 2023 was 2.36 million persons, indicating an increase 2.6 per cent compared to 2.30 million persons registered a year ago. The increase was mainly contributed by the Food, beverages & tobacco products (5.9%), Electrical & electronics products (4.2%) and Wood, furniture, paper products & printing (2.5%) sub-sectors.

In line with the increase in the number of employees, the salaries & wages paid in the Manufacturing sector rose by 4.0 per cent year-on-year, amounting to RM8.1 billion in May 2023. Hence, the average monthly salaries & wages per employee was RM3,438 in May 2023, reflecting a 1.4 per cent increase as compared to the previous year, while the sales value per employee increased by 0.8 per cent, recording RM62,315.

The Manufacturing sector is expected to remain resilient due to continued robust in domestic demand, while trade-oriented industries pose downside risks due to sluggish overseas demand.

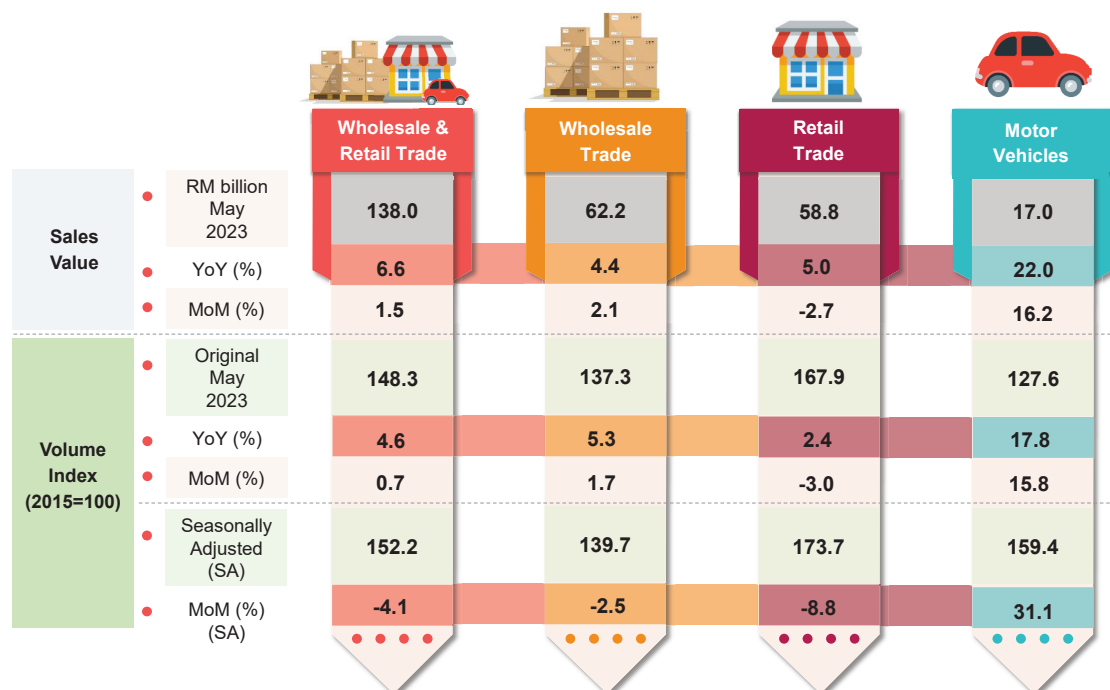
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE

Malaysia's Wholesale & Retail Trade recorded a monthly sales value of RM138.0 billion, grew 6.6 per cent year-on-year in May 2023.

Performance of Sales Value

The increase of 6.6 per cent for Wholesale & Retail Trade in May 2023 was attributed to Motor Vehicles sub-sector, which surged 22.0 per cent or RM3.1 billion to register RM17.0 billion. It was followed by Retail Trade and Wholesale Trade with 5.0 per cent (+RM2.8 billion) and 4.4 per cent (+RM2.6 billion), respectively (**Exhibit 1**).

Exhibit 1: Performance of Wholesale and Retail Trade Sector, May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

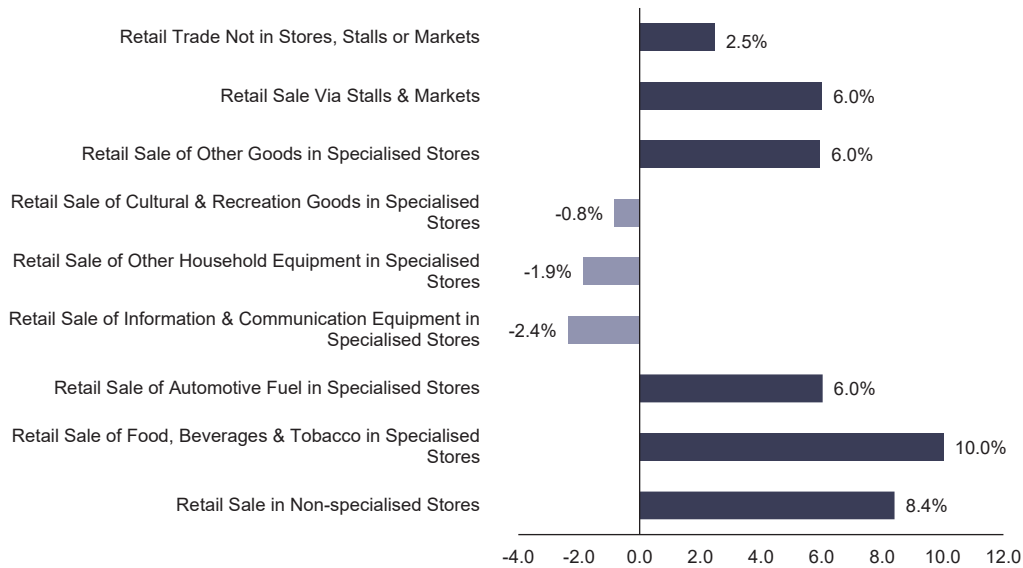
For a month-on-month comparison, the sales value of Wholesale & Retail Trade rebounded by 1.5 per cent, supported by Motor Vehicles (16.2%) and Wholesale Trade (2.1%).

Performance of Motor Vehicles

On an annual basis, the double-digit growth of 22.0 per cent in the Motor Vehicles sub-sector this month was attributed to Sales of Motor Vehicles which soared 29.8 per cent or RM2.1 billion to RM8.9 billion. This was followed by Sale of Motor Vehicle Parts & Accessories and Maintenance & Repair of Motor Vehicles which grew 17.7 per cent and 20.4 per cent, respectively. On the other hand, Sales, Maintenance & Repair of Motorcycles decreased by 5.0 per cent (**Chart 13**).

For a month-on-month comparison, the sales of this sub-sector bounced to 16.2 per cent, mainly contributed by Sales of Motor Vehicles and Sales, Maintenance & Repair of Motorcycles with 30.8 per cent and 22.5 per cent, respectively.

Chart 13: Performance of Motor Vehicles Subsector, May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Performance of Retail Trade

The Retail Trade sub-sector recorded a growth of 5.0 per cent in May 2023, supported by Retail Sales in Non-specialised Stores which went up 8.4 per cent or RM1.7 billion to RM22.5 billion. Other groups in this sub-sector also recorded positive growth, namely Retail Sale of Other Goods in Specialised Stores (6.0%), Retail Sales of Food, Beverages & Tobacco (10.0%), Retail Sales of Automotive Fuels (6.0%), Retail Sales Not in Stores, Stalls or Market (2.5%), and Retail Sales in Stalls & Market (6.0%) as shown in (Chart 14).

Meanwhile, on a monthly basis, sales in this sub-sector decreased by 2.7 per cent.

Chart 14: Performance of Retail Trade Subsector, May 2023



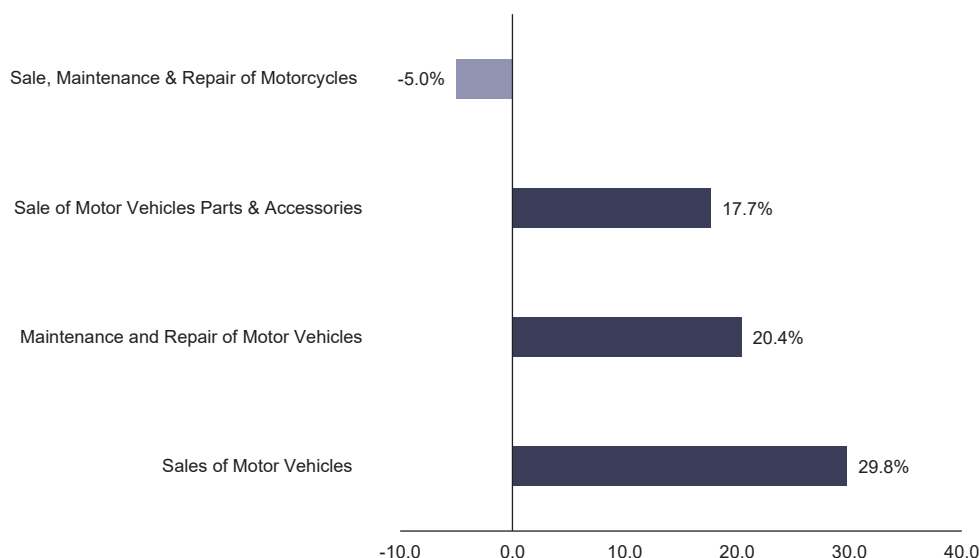
Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Performance of Wholesale Trade

The increase of 4.4 per cent in Wholesale Trade was attributed to Wholesale of Food, Beverages & Tobacco which rose 9.6 per cent or RM1.1 billion to record RM12.3 billion. This was followed by Wholesale of Household Goods (7.9%), Wholesale of Agricultural Raw Materials & Live Animals (8.6%), Wholesale of Machinery, Equipment & Supplies (5.8%), and Non-Specialised Wholesale Trade (11.6%) as illustrated in **Chart 15**.

For the monthly comparison, Wholesale Trade increased 2.1 per cent, mainly due to a 7.5 per cent growth (+RM0.4 billion) in Wholesale of Agricultural Raw Materials & Live Animals.

Chart 15: Performance of Wholesale Trade Subsector, May 2023

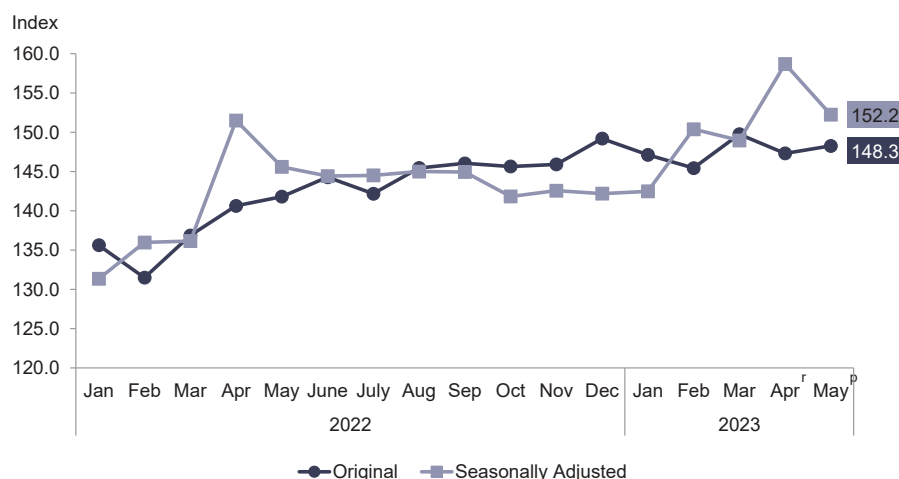


Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Performance of Volume Index

In terms of volume index, Wholesale & Retail Trade for May 2023 registered a year-on-year growth of 4.6 per cent. The expansion was attributed to all sub-sectors namely Motor Vehicles (17.8%), Wholesale Trade (5.3%), and Retail Trade (2.4%). Conversely, the seasonally adjusted volume index showed a month-on-month decline of 4.1 per cent (**Chart 16**).

Chart 16: Performance of Volume Index of Wholesale and Retail Trade Sector, January 2022 - May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Performance of Retail Sales Index of Selected Countries

Table 4: Performance of Retail Sales Index of Selected Countries, May 2023 (Year-on-Year)

Singapore	Hong Kong	United Kingdom	South Korea	Indonesia
0.8	16.5	-2.1	-0.6	0.04

Source: Official website of National Statistical Offices of the selected countries

Looking at the performance of retail sales index of selected countries in May 2023, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Indonesia posted a positive growth of 16.5 per cent, 0.8 per cent, and 0.04 per cent, respectively (**Table 4**). Hong Kong's retail sales index continued to increase visibly in May with a 16.5 per cent growth over a year earlier, supported by the revival of inbound tourism as well as positive consumption sentiment. The pace of Singapore's retail index eased by just 0.8 per cent growth as compared to 2.5 per cent in April 2023. Despite the modest rise, most of the retail groups recorded an increase, especially in the food & alcohol and the cosmetics group. Meanwhile, Indonesia inched up 0.04 per cent in May 2023, primarily driven by positive retail sales in the Food, Beverages & Tobacco group.

On the other hand, the United Kingdom and South Korea recorded a negative growth this month, with a decline of 2.1 per cent and 0.6 per cent, respectively.

Prospect for June 2023

As for the outlook of Wholesale & Retail in June 2023, this sector is expected to maintain positive annual growth. On a monthly comparison, the sales of Wholesale & Retail Trade for June are anticipated to be better than May, mainly due to the school and festive holidays.

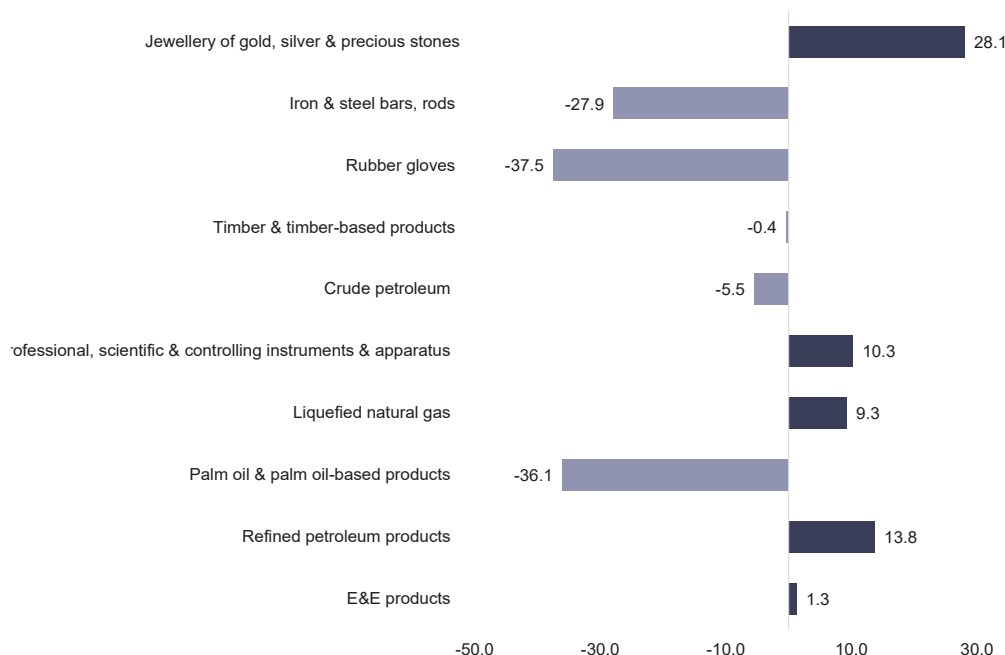
Merchandise Trade

The Global Trade Update published by UNCTAD on June 21, 2023 reported positive growth in global merchandise trade in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the previous quarter, following a declining performance in the second half of 2022. In the first three months of 2023, the value of world merchandise trade increased by 1.9 per cent or USD100 billion, compared to the fourth quarter of 2022. However, UNCTAD's current forecast indicates slow growth in global trade for the second quarter of 2023, considering factors such as persistent inflation, financial vulnerabilities, and prolonged geopolitical tensions. Singing the same tune, Malaysia's trade performance showed a negative trend in May 2023, but at a better rate. Total trade decreased 2.0 per cent from RM228.3 billion in the same month last year to RM223.8 billion. Exports shrank slightly by 0.7 per cent to RM119.6 billion, while imports decreased by 3.3 per cent to RM104.2 billion. Meanwhile, the trade surplus increased 21.4 per cent from the previous year to RM15.4 billion. Compared to April 2023, total trade, exports, imports and trade surplus grew by positive double digits of 13.2 per cent, 13.7 per cent, 12.6 per cent and 22.1 per cent, respectively.

Looking at trading partners, the decline in exports was mainly attributable to Bangladesh, which decreased by RM1.3 billion, followed by Taiwan (-RM860.3 million), Hong Kong (-RM649.5 million) and the European Union (EU) (-RM598.9 million). At the same time, the decline in imports was driven by decreased imports from Viet Nam (-RM2.9 billion), followed by Taiwan (-RM1.3 billion), the United States of America (USA) (-RM909.9 million) and Hong Kong (-RM733.7 million). Malaysia's trade in May 2023 was mainly supported by China, Singapore, the USA and the EU, with a contribution of 48.4 per cent (May 2022: 46.2%).

Malaysia's exports of goods in May 2023 decreased by 0.7 per cent year-on-year to RM119.6 billion from RM120.5 billion in the same month a year earlier. The decrease was attributable to the continuous decline of Palm oil & palm oil-based products (-RM4.6 billion, -36.1%) and Iron & steel bars, rods (-RM 391.6 million, -27.9%) as per **Chart 17**. However, Refined petroleum products continued to perform well in May 2023, with an increase of RM1.5 billion (+13.8%). Additionally, Electrical & electronic (E&E) products, Liquefied natural gas, Professional, scientific & controlling instruments & apparatus and Jewellery of gold, silver & precious stones, including imitation, rebounded by showing an increase of RM601.3 million, RM446.1 million, RM365.9 million and RM160.7 million respectively. Meanwhile, exports of Rubber gloves decreased for the 21st consecutive month since September 2021, with a decline 37.5 per cent year-on-year to RM1.0 billion from RM1.6 billion in May 2022. E&E products, Refined petroleum products and Palm oil & palm oil-based products were Malaysia's main export products in May 2023, with an aggregate contribution of 56.4 per cent (May 2022: 57.9%).

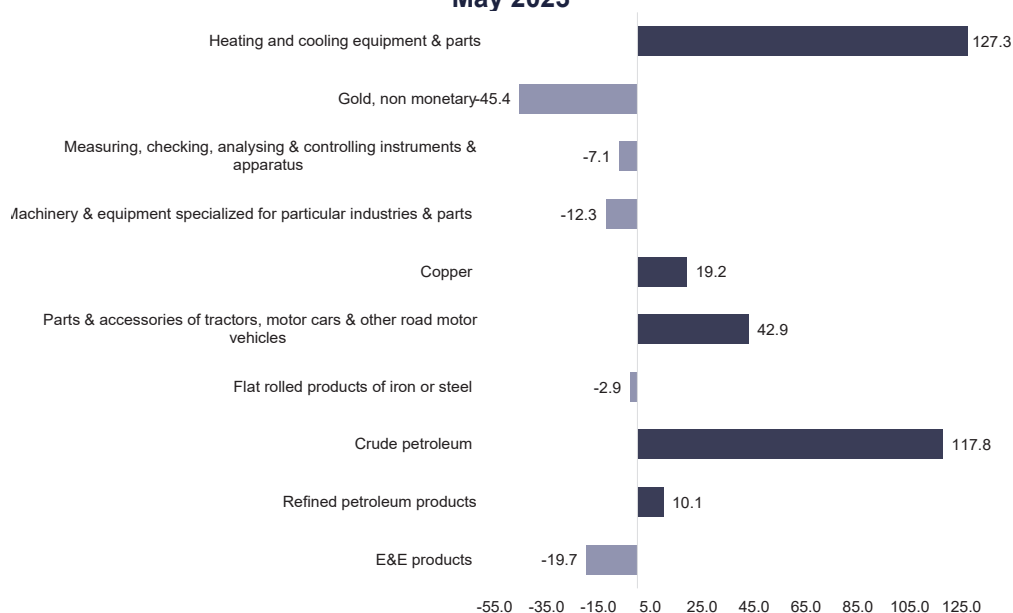
Chart 17: Annual Percentage Change of Malaysia's Exports by Top 10 Major and Selected Products (%), May 2023



EXTERNAL SECTOR

Along with exports, imports also experienced a downward trend in May 2023, declined by 3.3 per cent year-on-year to RM104.2 billion from RM107.8 billion in May 2022. The decline was mainly due to decreases in E&E products (-RM7.0 billion, -19.7%), Gold, non-monetary (-RM1.2 billion, -45.4%) and Machinery & equipment specialized for particular industries & parts (-RM211.4 million, -12.3%) as shown in **Chart 18**. On the other hand, Refined petroleum products increased by 10.1 per cent to RM12.2 billion from RM11.1 billion a year ago, maintaining a double-digit growth trend for the sixth consecutive month. Additionally, Crude petroleum, and Copper turned around with positive growth of RM2.8 billion and RM279.6 million, respectively. Meanwhile, the hot weather that hit the country in May 2023 contributed to the increase in imports of Heating & cooling equipment & spare parts which increased by RM745.1 million compared to the previous year. E&E products, Refined petroleum products and Crude Petroleum were the main contributors to Malaysia's imports in May 2023, with a cumulative contribution of 44.2 per cent (May 2022: 45.5%).

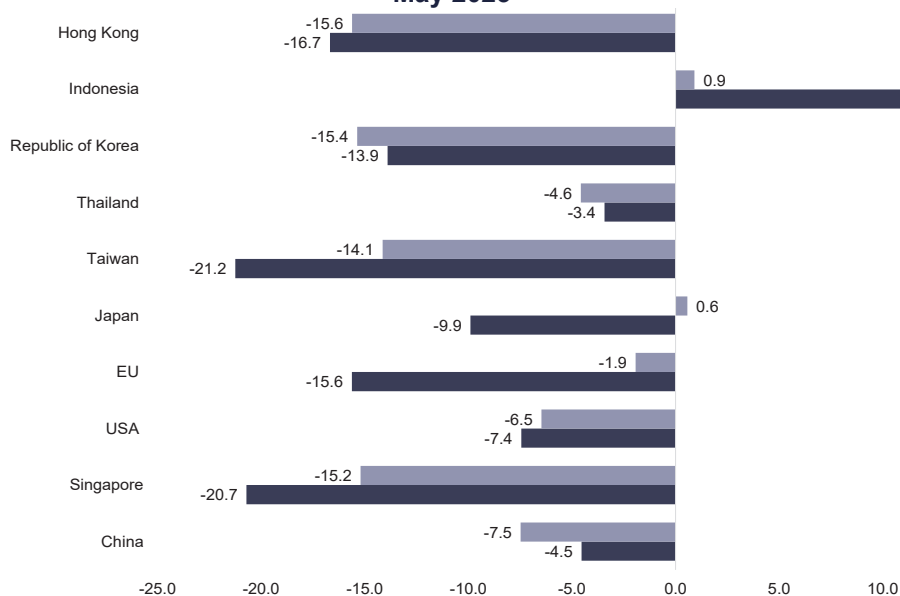
Chart 18: Annual Percentage Change of Malaysia's Imports by Top 10 Major and Selected Products (%), May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Facing a more challenging global economic scenario, trade for most of the main trading partners also showed a decrease trend in May 2023, except for exports and imports of Indonesia and exports of Japan, as shown in **Chart 19**.

Chart 19: Annual Percentage Change of Exports and Imports for Malaysia's Top 10 Trading Partners (%), May 2023



Source: Official website of National Statistical Offices of the selected countries

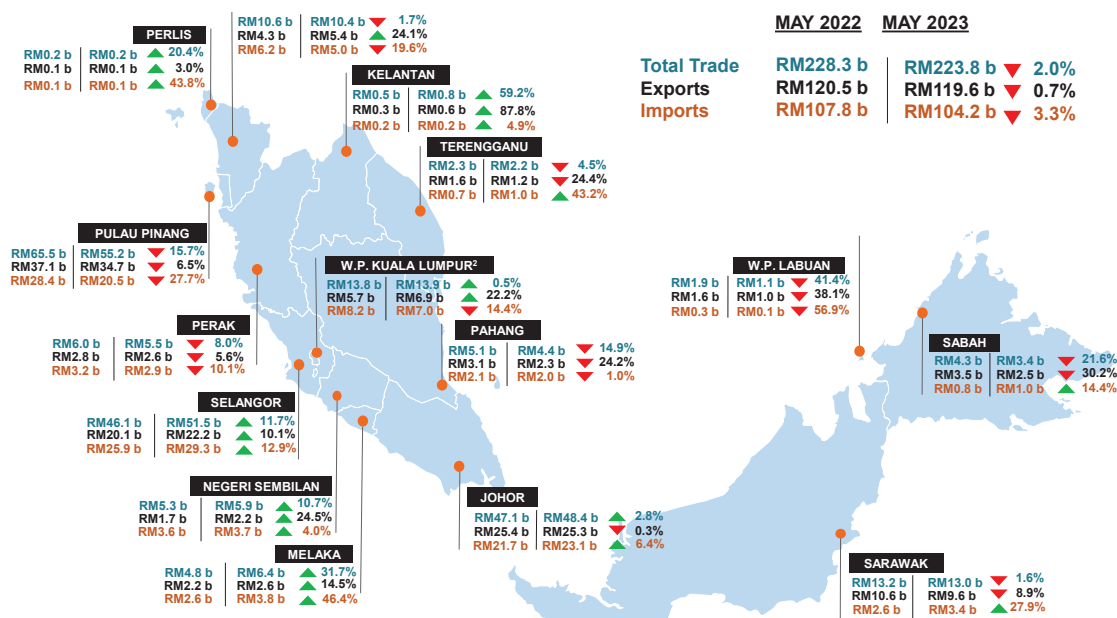
External trade statistics by state for the period of May 2023 showed that the total trade decreased by RM4.5 billion or 2.0 per cent to RM223.8 billion, year on year. The decrease was attributed to Pulau Pinang which dropped by RM10.3 billion (-15.7%), followed by Sabah RM941.4 million (-21.6%), W.P. Labuan RM784.3 million (-41.4%), Pahang RM763.9 million (-14.9%), Perak RM481.6 million (-8.0%), Sarawak RM208.9 million (-1.6%), Kedah RM178.1 million (-1.7%) and Terengganu RM103.8 million (-4.5%). However, the increase was recorded mainly in Selangor, which rose by RM5.4 billion (+11.7%), followed by Melaka RM1.5 billion (+31.7%), Johor RM1.3 billion (+2.8%), Negeri Sembilan RM566.6 million (+10.7%), Kelantan RM280.9 million (+59.2%), W.P. Kuala Lumpur RM74.6 million (+0.5%) and Perlis RM41.4 million (+20.4%) as shown in **Exhibit 2**.

Total exports in May 2023 decreased by RM884.4 million (-0.7%) as compared to the same month of the previous year. This was influenced by lower exports from most states, namely Pulau Pinang (-RM2.4 billion), Sabah (-RM1.1 billion), Sarawak (-RM942.2 million), Pahang (-RM742.7 million), W.P. Labuan (RM594.2 million), Terengganu (-RM394.3 million), Perak (-RM156.3 million) and Johor (-RM71.0 million). However, export value increased in Selangor (+RM2.0 billion), W.P. Kuala Lumpur (+RM1.3 billion), Kedah (+RM1.0 billion), Negeri Sembilan (+RM423.4 million), Melaka (+RM324.1 million), Kelantan (+RM273.0 million) and Perlis (+RM3.5 million).

At the same time, imports also decreased by RM3.6 billion (-3.3%) in May 2023 as compared to the same month of the previous year. This was due to lower imports by most states, such as Pulau Pinang (-RM7.9 billion), Kedah (-RM1.2 billion), W.P. Kuala Lumpur (-RM1.2 billion), Perak (-RM325.3 million), W.P. Labuan (-RM190.1 million) and Pahang (-RM21.2 million). However, the value of imports increased in Selangor (+RM3.3 billion), Johor (+RM1.4 billion), Melaka (+RM1.2 billion), Sarawak (+RM733.3 million), Terengganu (+RM290.5 million), Negeri Sembilan (+RM143.2 million), Sabah (+RM119.7 million), Perlis (+RM37.9 million) and Kelantan (+RM7.9 million).

Five states dominated the country's exports which accounted for 82.5 per cent of total exports. Pulau Pinang remained as the top exporter with a share of 29.0 per cent, followed by Johor (21.1%), Selangor (18.5%), Sarawak (8.1%) and W.P. Kuala Lumpur (5.8%). Meanwhile, as for imports, Selangor was the largest contributor with a share of 28.1 per cent, followed by Johor (22.2%), Pulau Pinang (19.7%), W.P. Kuala Lumpur (6.7%) and Kedah (4.8%).

Exhibit 2: Exports and Imports by State, May 2022 and May 2023



▲ All changes are based on year-on-year (y-o-y) comparison

Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Notes:

- Exports and imports activities that are taking place in the Supra area (including production activities beyond the centre of predominant economic interest for any state) or declarations made by the agent are not included in this infographic.
- Exports and imports value for W.P. Kuala Lumpur includes W.P. Putrajaya.

EXTERNAL SECTOR

Malaysia's total trade posted a double-digit decline in June 2023, falling 16.3 per cent from RM265.4 billion in the same month last year to RM222.1 billion. Exports contracted 14.1 per cent to RM124.0 billion, while imports recorded a more significant decline of 18.9 per cent to RM98.2 billion. Meanwhile, the trade surplus increased 11.3 per cent from the previous year to RM25.8 billion. Compared to May 2023, total trade and imports declined by 0.5 per cent and 5.4 per cent respectively, while exports and trade surplus increased by 3.7 per cent and 64.4 per cent respectively.

Looking from a quarterly perspective, Malaysia's year-on-year trade performance in the second quarter (Q2) of 2023 declined for the first time since the third quarter of 2020. Total trade, exports, imports and trade surplus contracted as compared to Q2 2022 by 11.3 per cent, 11.1 per cent, 11.5 per cent and 8.8 per cent, respectively. In comparison to the first quarter of 2023, total trade, exports and the trade surplus declined by 0.2 per cent, 1.7 per cent, and 15.9 per cent respectively, while imports increased by 1.5 per cent.

For the first six months of 2023, Malaysia's trade performance also deteriorated, heading downward. Total trade, exports, imports and the trade surplus decreased as against the same period in 2022, by decreased of 4.6 per cent, 4.5 per cent, 4.7 per cent and 3.6 per cent, respectively. The unfavourable performance gives an initial impression of the challenging economic situation amidst the moderate projection by Bank Negara Malaysia for Malaysia's trade performance this year, which is an increase in exports and imports, respectively, by 1.5 per cent and 1.1 per cent.

Note: This article refers to preliminary statistics of the reference month's publication.

Labour Scenario

Malaysia's labour market showed positive momentum, as reflected by the improvement in the unemployment rate and job opportunities. This trend creates strong fundamentals for consumer expenditure as well as overall economic growth. Malaysia is well positioned to take advantage of the opportunities and maintain an optimistic prospect for the labour market by creating a conducive environment for business growth and investment in workforce skills.

Despite challenges and instability in foreign trade and industrial production, the employment rate has shown favourable performance and consistent growth in the main industries, creating an optimistic condition in forthcoming. Economic activity was encouraging in May 2023, which allowed business expansion and created more job opportunities.

The labour force recorded a steady growth, with an increasing number of employed persons and a decline in the number of unemployed, indicating positive labour market growth. These developments highlight This indicated Malaysia's potential for economic expansion and a positive improvement for in its labour market.

Looking at the current labour market, the number of employed persons continued to rise in May 2023, increased by 28.1 thousand persons, or 0.2 per cent month-on-month basis, to 16.28 million persons (April 2023: 16.25 million persons). Meanwhile, the number of employees increased by 379.5 thousand persons or 2.4 per cent (May 2022: 15.90 million people) on a year-on-year basis.

In terms of employed persons by economic sector, the Services sector continued to register a positive trend, particularly in Food & beverage services; Wholesale & retail trade; and Information & communication activities. Similar trends were also observed in the Manufacturing, Construction, Mining & quarrying and Agriculture sectors.

The employment-to-population ratio, which indicates the ability of an economy to create employment, increased 0.1 per cent to post 67.6 per cent (April 2023: 67.5%). Likewise, the ratio also showed an improvement of 0.8 percentage points as compared to the same month of the previous year (May 2022: 66.8%) (**Chart 20**).

Chart 20: Employed Persons and Employment-to-Population Ratio, January 2020 - May 2023



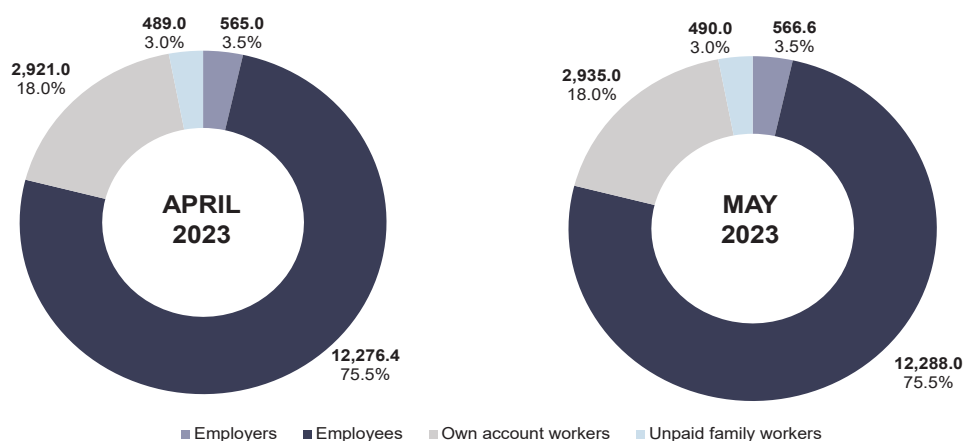
Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Meanwhile, the number of employed persons who were temporarily not working declined by 4.3 thousand persons (-5.3%) to register 81.9 thousand persons (April 2023: 86.5 thousand persons). As for the year-on-year comparison, this category fell by 12.9 per cent or equivalently 12.1 thousand persons (May 2022: 94.1 thousand persons). This category, which was most likely unable to work, was not classified as unemployed as they had work to return to.

LABOUR SCENARIO

In term of employment by status of employment, the category which made up of 75.5 per cent of employed persons grew 0.1 per cent (+11.6 thousand persons) to 12.29 million persons as compared to the previous month (April 2023: 12.28 million persons). Meanwhile, the own-account workers' category which consists mostly of daily income earners working as small business operators such as small retailers; hawkers; sellers in markets and stalls; as well as smallholders rose by 0.5 per cent (+14.0 thousand persons) to 2.94 million persons (April 2023: 2.92 million persons) (**Chart 21**).

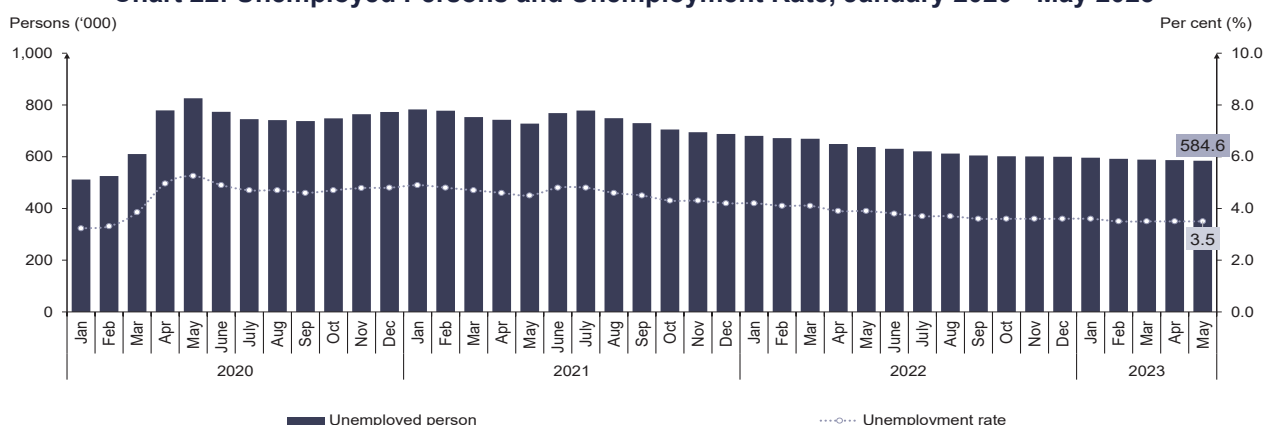
Chart 21: Employed Person by Status in Employment, April 2023 and May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

In May 2023, the number of unemployed persons declined further by 0.4 per cent (-2.3 thousand persons) month-on-month basis to record 584.6 thousand unemployed persons (April 2023: 586.9 thousand persons). The unemployment rate stood at 3.5 per cent in this month (April 2023: 3.5%). The unemployment rate also declined by 0.4 percentage points as compared to 3.9 per cent in May 2022, whereby the number of unemployed persons decreased by 8.3 per cent or 53.1 thousand persons (May 2022: 637.7 thousand persons) (**Chart 22**).

Chart 22: Unemployed Persons and Unemployment Rate, January 2020 - May 2023

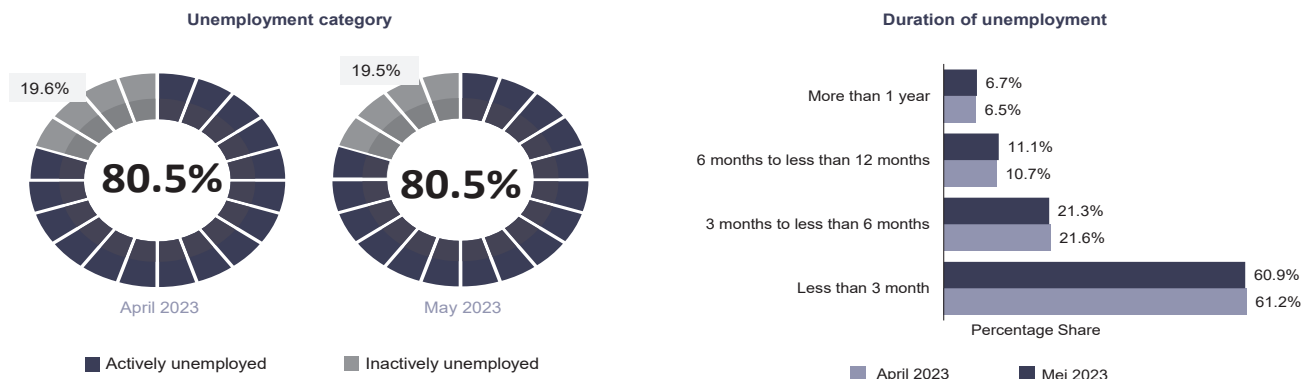


Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

From total unemployed persons during May 2023, 80.5 per cent of unemployed persons were actively unemployed or those who were available for work and were actively seeking jobs. This group recorded a decrease of 0.3 per cent or 1.5 thousand persons to 470.4 thousand persons (April 2023: 471.9 thousand persons).

In terms of unemployment duration, more than half (60.9%) were unemployed persons for less than three months, while those who were in long-term unemployment of for more than a year comprised of 6.7 per cent. In the meantime, the inactively unemployed who believed that there were no jobs available decreased by 0.8 per cent or 0.9 thousand persons, to record 114.2 thousand persons (April 2023: 115.1 thousand persons) (**Chart 23**).

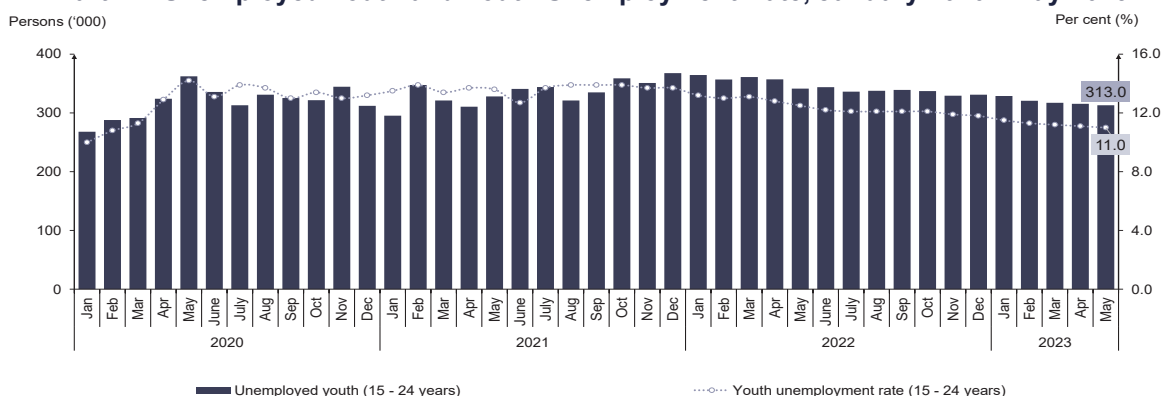
Chart 23: Unemployed Persons by Category and Duration of Unemployment, April 2023 and May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

The youth unemployment rate aged 15 to 24 years edged down by 0.1 percentage points to 11.0 per cent, registering the number of unemployed youths at 313.0 thousand persons in May 2023 (April 2023: 315.6 thousand persons). However, the unemployment rate among youth aged 15 to 30 years increased by 0.3 percentage points to 7.0 per cent, with 448.6 thousand unemployed youths (April 2023: 6.7%; 441.0 thousand persons) (**Chart 24**).

Chart 24: Unemployed Youth and Youth Unemployment Rate, January 2020 - May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

The labour force continued to expand as the number of labour force gained 0.2 per cent or equivalently 25.7 thousand persons on a month-on-month basis to 16.86 million persons (April 2023: 16.84 million persons). Therefore, the labour force participation rate (LFPR) remained steady at 70.0 per cent (April 2023: 70.0%). On a year-on-year basis, a similar trend was observed, whereby the number of labour force rose by 326.3 thousand persons or 2.0 per cent (May 2022: 16.54 million persons). Meanwhile, the LFPR also increased by 0.5 percentage points year-on-year as compared to 69.5 per cent in May 2022 (**Chart 25**).

Chart 25: Labour Force and LFPR, January 2020 - May 2023

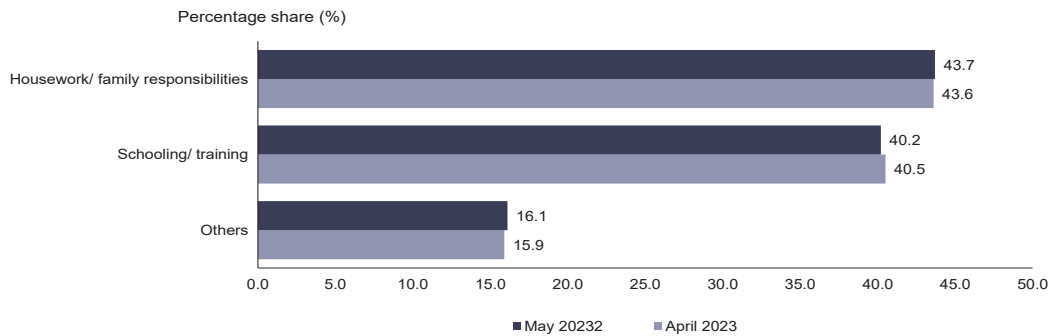


Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

LABOUR SCENARIO

During the month, the number of outside labour force which was also known as inactivity group slightly declined by 1.4 thousand persons (-0.02%) on a month-on-month basis and reduced by 33.3 thousand persons (-0.5%) on a year-on-year basis, to record 7.26 million persons. The largest composition of the outside labour force was due to housework/ family responsibilities, which comprised of 43.7 per cent and followed by schooling/ training category with a share of 40.2 per cent (**Chart 26**).

Chart 26: Share of the Outside Labour Force by Reasons for Not Seeking Work, April 2023 and May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

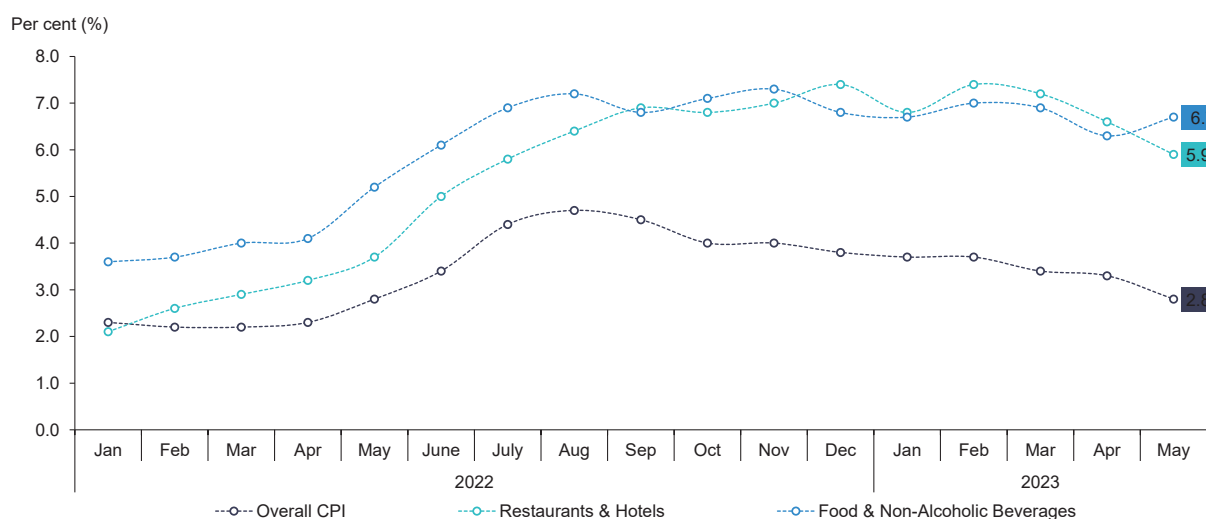
The global economy is currently experiencing significant pressure due to limited expansion growth, inflationary and uncertainty factors resulting from the lingering pandemic COVID-19, ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and impact of climate change. In the meantime, the Malaysian economy is anticipated to face challenges as a consequence of instability in global economic growth, as reflected in the Malaysian Leading Index (LI) indicators in April 2023. In addition, Malaysia's trade is also expected to slow down in the second half of 2023 due to global challenges. Therefore, Malaysia's labour market is perceived to be volatile following the global current scenario and anticipates moderate growth in the next few months.

Consumer Price Index

Malaysia's inflation eased to 2.8 per cent in May 2023 as against April 2023 (3.3%) (**Chart 27**). The increase in Malaysia's inflation was driven by Restaurants & Hotels (6.7%) as compared to April 2023 (6.6%). Nevertheless, a slower increase in some groups compared to April 2023 such as Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages, 5.9 per cent (April 2023: 6.3%); Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance, 2.7 per cent (April 2023: 3.0%) and Transport, 1.0 per cent (April 2023: 2.3%), to a certain extent offset rise in Malaysia's inflation.

In addition, the increase in Malaysia's inflation was also driven by the increase in Miscellaneous Goods & Services (2.9%); Health (1.9%); Education (1.9%); Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels and Recreation Services & Culture which recorded an increase of 1.8 per cent respectively. Meanwhile, both Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco and Clothing & Footwear increased 0.7 per cent and 0.4 per cent respectively.

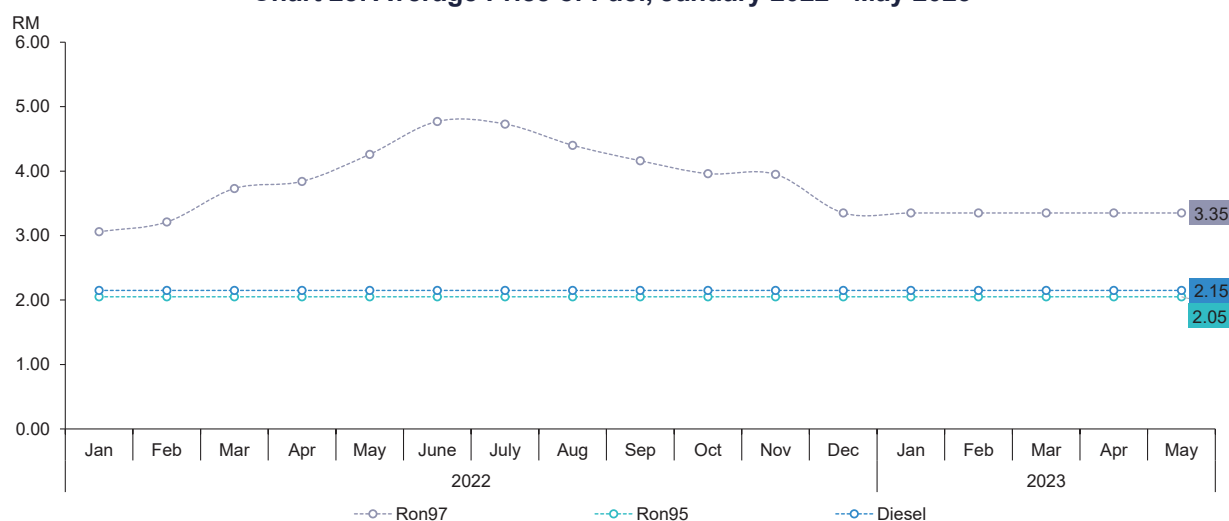
Chart 27: Overall CPI, Transport and Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (Year-on-Year), January 2022 - May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Inflation of Transport showed a slower increase of 1.0 per cent in May 2023 as compared to April 2023 (2.3%) contributed by the moderate increase in Operation of personal transport equipment subgroup to 0.5 per cent as against to 1.5 per cent in April 2023. In addition, the increase in Transport services (6.7%) and Purchase of vehicles (2.0%) also contributed to the inflation of this group.

The average price of Unleaded petrol RON97 declined of negative 21.4 per cent in May 2023 (RM3.35 per litre) as compared to May 2022 (RM4.26 per litre). The significant drop in the price of Brent crude oil, which amounted to 32.6 per cent, directly influenced the situation, bringing it down to US\$75.70 per barrel in May 2023 (**Chart 28**).

PRICES**Chart 28: Average Price of Fuel, January 2022 - May 2023**

Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages group which contributed 29.5 per cent of total Consumer Price Index (CPI) weight recorded a slower increase of 5.9 per cent as against April 2023 (6.3%). About 185 items of 230 Food items or 80.4 per cent recorded price increases as compared to May 2022. The Food at home component which accounted 57.4 per cent of the weight of the Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages group increased at a slower rate of 4.3 per cent as compared to 5.0 per cent in April 2023. Furthermore, the component of Food away from home increased 8.1 per cent, the same rate as recorded in April 2023 (**Table 5**).

Table 5: Percentage Change on Subgroup of Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (Year-on-Year), May 2023

Main Group	Weight	Year-on-Year (%) May 2023
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	29.5	5.9
Food	28.4	5.9
Food at Home	16.9	4.3
Rice, Bread & Other Cereals	3.5	6.0
Meat	2.5	7.8
Fish & Seafood	4.0	2.7
Milk, Cheese & Eggs	1.5	6.5
Oil & Fats	0.6	-0.4
Fruits	1.2	3.6
Vegetables	2.1	-1.1
Sugar, Jam, Honey, Chocolate & Confectionery	0.6	3.7
Food Products n.e.c	1.0	7.8
Food Away From Home	11.5	8.1
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	1.1	5.2

Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

The favourable weather conditions in specific key production locations are anticipated to lead to a decrease in vegetable prices within those areas. As a consequence, this development is likely to exert an influence on Malaysia's inflation rate during June 2023, albeit to a limited extent.

Producer Price Index (PPI) Local Production

Malaysia's Producer Price Index recorded a decrease of 4.6 per cent in May 2023 compared to a decline 3.0 per cent in April 2023.

The Agriculture, forestry & fishing sector recorded a further decline of 27.2 per cent in May 2023 (April 2023: -26.0%), mainly due to the index for oil palm fresh fruit bunches continued its decline, reaching negative 42.4 per cent. (April 2023: -40.3%). The Mining sector also posted a double-digit decrease of 10.7 per cent (April 2023: -4.7%), with the Extraction of crude petroleum index dropped 18.1 per cent. In the meantime, the Manufacturing sector marginally declined 1.1 per cent (April 2023: 0.1%). This was due to the significant decrease in the Manufacture of food products index due to a significant decrease of 9.6 per cent in the Manufacture of food products index, offset by a 6.6 per cent increase in the Manufacture of computer, electronic & optical products index. Meanwhile, Water supply and Electricity & gas supply indices edged up 3.0 per cent and 1.2 per cent, respectively.

On a monthly basis, PPI local production decreased 0.4 per cent, after an increase of 0.2 per cent in the previous month. The Mining sector dropped 2.5 per cent, reflected by the decline of both Extraction of crude petroleum (-2.4%) and Extraction of natural gas (-2.7%) indices. The Agriculture, forestry & fishing sector went down to 0.7 per cent, with the index of Growing of perennial crops posted a decline 2.3 per cent. The Manufacturing sector also recorded a decline 0.2 per cent in May 2023, due to the Manufacture of coke & refined petroleum products (-1.2%) and Manufacture of computer, electronics & optical products (-0.6%). Furthermore, the Water supply index edged down 0.1 per cent, while the Electricity & gas supply index moved up 0.6 per cent (**Table 6**).

Table 6: Producer Price Index (PPI) Local Production by Sector, May 2022, April 2023 and May 2023

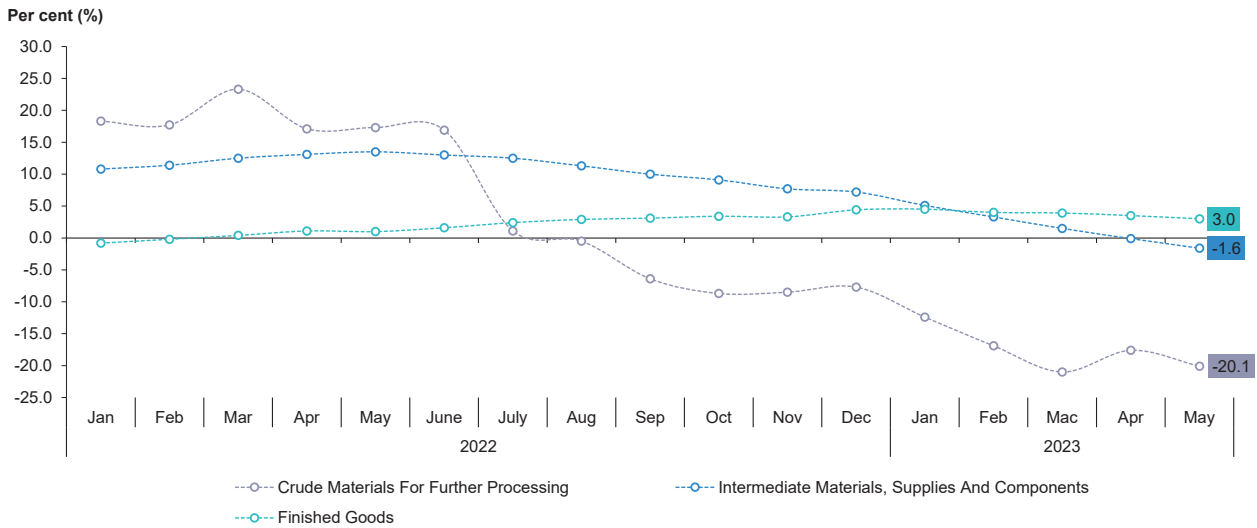
Sector	Code	Weight	Index	Percentage Change (%)					
				Year-on-year			Month-on-month		
			May 2023	May 2022	Apr 2023	May 2023	May 2022	Apr 2023	May 2023
TOTAL		100.00	118.4	11.2	-3.0	-4.6	1.2	0.2	-0.4
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	A	6.73	127.6	16.7	-26.0	-27.2	0.9	0.8	-0.7
Mining	B	7.93	94.6	20.6	-4.7	-10.7	4.0	0.5	-2.5
Manufacturing	C	81.57	120.4	10.1	0.1	-1.1	1.0	0.1	-0.2
Electricity & gas supply	D	3.44	118.6	-0.6	0.1	1.2	-0.5	-0.6	0.6
Water supply	E	0.33	117.3	1.2	3.2	3.0	0.1	0.0	-0.1

Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

The Crude materials for further processing index declined further by 20.1 per cent in May 2023 (April 2023: -17.6%), with the Non-food materials index down 24.2 per cent. The Intermediate materials, supplies & components index decreased 1.6 per cent due to the decline in the index of Materials & components for manufacturing (-6.2%) and Containers (-3.7%). Meanwhile, the Finished goods index went up 3.0 per cent contributed to the increase in Capital requirement (3.8%) and Finished consumer goods (2.0%).

PRICES

Chart 29: Producer Price Index by Stage of Processing (Year-on-Year), January 2022 - May 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Recently, crude palm oil prices experienced a sharp decline following Indonesia’s revision of its Domestic Market Obligation (DMO), which came into effect on May 1, 2023. Indonesia implemented several changes, including reducing the domestic cooking oil target from 450,000 tonnes to 300,000 tonnes, tightening the export ratio from 1:6 to 1:4, and releasing suspended export permits earlier than the original period. The policy was executed to manage and regulate the production of local cooking oil and exports.

The world economy shows improvement but at a slow pace. The drop-in energy prices, especially crude oil, has helped lower inflation and reduced pressure on household spending. However, the impact of higher interest rates directly affects domestic investment and spending. Malaysia's economy also experiences a slower growth due to external factors.

On the external demand, the total trade declined 2.0 per cent to RM223.8 billion (May 2022: RM228.3 billion) in May 2023 but better than registered in April 2023 at negative 14.6 per cent. Meanwhile, exports (RM119.6 billion) and imports (RM104.2 billion) a declined 0.7 per cent and 3.3 per cent, respectively. However, trade surplus reached RM15.4 billion, grew 21.4 per cent. On on-month-on comparison showed a strong rebound on total trade, export, imports and trade surplus to 13.2 per cent (April 2023: -15.0%), 13.7 per cent (April 2023: -18.9%), 12.6 per cent (April 2023: -10.1%) and 22.1 per cent (April 2023: -52.7%), respectively.

On the other hand, IPI rebound to 4.7 per cent in May 2023 from a negative 3.3 per cent registered in April 2023. The manufacturing sector expand 5.1 per cent followed by Mining (2.9%) and Electricity (5.0%) compared to month same month last year. On monthly comparison, IPI in May 2023 posted sturdy performance by increase by 7.3 per cent as compared to a negative of 10.8 per cent in April 2023. Meanwhile, Manufacturing sales grew 3.3 per cent to reach RM146.8 billion (May 2022: RM142.0 billion) as compared to a negative growth of 2.0 per cent in preceding month back by a strong performance Transport equipment & other manufactures, Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products and Electrical & electronics products sub-sectors. The sales value grew 1.3 per cent (April 2023: -7.2%) on monthly comparison.

The Wholesale & Retail Trade increased 6.6 per cent in May 2023 to reached RM138.0 billion as compared to May 2022 (RM108.2 billion) driven by a strong performance Motor Vehicles sub-sector which grew 22.0 per cent to register RM17.0 billion from a negative growth of 5.1 per cent in April 2023. Meanwhile, Retail Trade and Wholesale grew 5.0 per cent and 4.4 per cent, respectively. On on-month-on comparison, the Wholesale & Retail Trade rebound from a negative growth 1.8 in April 2023 to 1.5 per cent in May 2023 as all sub-sectors posted a better growth. The Motor Vehicles sub-sector, grew 16.2 per cent (April 2023: -19.8%) followed by Wholesale sub-sector, increase 2.1 per cent (April 2023: -1.1%). However, Retail trade sub-sector contracted by 2.7 per cent as compared to 3.1 per cent increase in April 2023.

The CPI for month of May 2023 increased slightly lower than registered in April 2023 by increasing 2.8 per cent (April 2023: 3.3%) on annual basis. The slower increase was attribute by as Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages, 5.9 per cent (April 2023: 6.3%); Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance, 2.7 per cent (April 2023: 3.0%) and Transport, 1.0 per cent (April 2023: 2.3%).

On labour market, the number of employed persons grew 2.4 per cent to reached 16.28 million persons, an increment of 379.5 thousand person in May 2023. Meanwhile on monthly basis, number of employees add 28.1 thousand persons as compared to April 2023 (16.25 million). The unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.5 per cent in May 2023 (April 2023: 3.5%).

The Malaysia economic expected to be better off in coming month as Leading Index in May 2023 posted a slower negative growth of 1.1 per cent as compared to negative 2.7 registered in April 2023. Furthermore, the slowdown in inflation will provide some fresh impetus for domestic demand as CPI for June eased further to 2.4 per cent. However, the slowdown global economic activities will affect Malaysia external performance as June total trade decline double digit. The upcoming six-state election even though will provide increase in local demand but the outcome from the election will influence the economic performance overall.

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ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDICATORS	2022												2023			DATA SOURCE	
	Annual Percentage Change (%)	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May			
1.0 GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT																	
1.1 Constant 2015 Prices	5.0	16.3	16.1	16.1	15.6	10.9	10.9	7.3	4.5	9.6	4.6	6.6	5.6	n.a	n.a	na	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
2.0 COMMODITIES																	
2.1 RUBBER																	
2.1.1 Production																	
- Rubber	-25.9	-19.9	-22.1	-22.1	-12.3	-13.9	-26.3	-26.3	-8.0	-26.7	-39.3	-2.7	10.8	3.4	20.2	20.2	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
2.1.2 Prices																	
- SMR 20	2.3	6.2	2.1	2.1	-8.4	-10.4	-16.6	-16.6	-19.7	-17.8	-18.8	-18.5	-18.0	-17.5	-13.7	-13.7	Malaysian Rubber Board
- Scrap	1.1	6.3	3.3	3.3	-9.7	-13.4	-16.5	-16.5	-24.4	-21.0	-23.1	-21.8	-20.7	-20.7	-15.5	-15.5	Malaysian Rubber Board
- Field Latex	3.8	8.9	9.8	9.8	-2.4	-7.9	-12.2	-12.2	-17.0	-21.1	-19.8	-23.4	-27.8	-28.6	-30.2	-30.2	Malaysian Rubber Board
- Latex Concentrate	5.3	12.1	7.7	7.7	-1.4	-4.1	-10.5	-10.5	-14.6	-12.8	-12.2	-18.2	-22.4	-25.7	-27.1	-27.1	Malaysian Rubber Board
2.1.3 Exports																	
- Natural Rubber [#]	-10.2	20.8	10.5	10.5	1.7	-12.5	-35.2	-35.2	-16.4	4.5	-20.1	2.1	-14.1	-35.6	-14.2	-14.2	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
2.2 OIL PALM																	
2.2.1 Exports																	
- Palm Oil Product	10.5	-15.6	-0.9	-0.9	5.9	-10.0	9.0	9.0	-2.7	6.6	1.6	2.8	16.5	-0.2	-16.7	-16.7	Malaysian Palm Oil Board
- Palm Oil	8.0	-15.8	-5.8	-5.8	11.2	-11.9	6.0	6.0	3.2	3.5	-1.7	1.3	18.1	1.8	-21.2	-21.2	Malaysian Palm Oil Board
- Palm Kernel Oil	14.2	17.6	-32.2	-32.2	18.8	5.0	0.6	0.6	-36.0	42.5	-22.1	5.6	21.8	14.5	15.1	15.1	Malaysian Palm Oil Board
2.3 CRUDE PETROLEUM																	
2.3.1 Prices																	
- Crude Oil, Brent	65.2	64.3	46.4	46.4	40.8	20.9	11.3	12.8	12.8	8.9	-2.9	-13.6	-32.1	-20.5	-32.6	-32.6	World Bank
- Crude Oil, WTI	68.1	60.5	37.8	37.8	35.2	17.2	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.0	-6.0	-16.2	-32.4	-21.9	-34.7	-34.7	World Bank
2.3.2 Exports																	
- Crude Petroleum [#]	-1.2	5.2	-4.2	-4.2	16.6	3.5	28.3	35.8	35.8	5.0	-3.9	43.1	0.9	-33.1	17.3	17.3	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Petroleum Products [#]	-1.3	45.1	10.8	10.8	100.1	11.0	37.3	-0.9	-0.9	59.8	65.4	60.8	64.3	56.0	56.5	56.5	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
2.3.3 Imports																	
- Crude Petroleum [#]	25.4	114.2	13.2	13.2	368.4	164.0	817.8	165.8	165.8	455.1	175.6	894.7	-31.6	-19.7	199.2	199.2	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Petroleum Products [#]	-8.3	38.2	8.1	8.1	145.9	-6.3	4.9	-11.3	-11.3	51.3	15.1	34.6	33.0	68.0	52.9	52.9	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
2.4 LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS (LNG)																	
2.4.1 Exports																	
- Liquefied Natural Gas [#]	-4.9	53.2	11.5	11.5	11.5	38.1	36.5	11.6	11.6	0.8	18.5	5.0	-3.7	-16.9	15.7	15.7	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
3.0 SECTOR																	
3.1 MANUFACTURING																	
3.1.1 Industrial Production Index	6.9	14.4	14.9	14.9	15.2	10.4	4.2	4.8	4.8	3.0	1.3	4.8	4.1	-3.0	5.1	5.1	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
3.1.2 Sales	15.7	23.4	23.8	23.8	24.4	19.5	12.9	11.8	11.8	8.8	6.5	10.3	8.0	-2.0	3.3	3.3	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
3.1.3 Exports [#]	27.0	33.7	35.4	35.4	47.6	28.6	12.5	14.5	14.5	4.6	-0.3	9.5	-0.5	-15.5	1.8	1.8	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
3.2 CONSTRUCTION																	
3.2.1 Issuance of Developer License, Sales Permit and Housing Advertisment (New Permit)	-80.4	-35.5	-48.2	-48.2	-17.8	0.0	-20.6	-67.7	-67.7	-73.3	-59.0	-61.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	National Housing Department
3.2.2 Issuance of Developer License, Sales Permit and Housing Advertisment (Renewals Permit)	-87.4	-32.3	-83.5	-83.5	-35.9	-9.6	-65.2	-75.7	-75.7	-64.4	-50.0	-40.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	National Housing Department
3.2.3 Prices																	
- Steel	66.2	61.5	51.9	51.9	50.3	47.1	41.3	36.9	36.9	31.2	-13.1	-12.5	-13.5	-13.8	-14.2	-14.2	Ministry of Works
- Cement	4.4	6.1	4.0	4.0	4.3	3.6	2.3	0.8	0.8	2.2	2.7	4.9	8.7	11.7	17.1	17.1	Ministry of Works
3.3 MINING AND QUARRYING																	
3.3.1 Industrial Production Index	-7.4	1.3	4.4	4.4	6.1	15.7	7.6	7.0	7.0	3.9	5.9	-0.5	0.8	-4.9	2.9	2.9	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
3.4 UTILITIES																	
3.4.1 Electricity																	
- Local Generation																	
a. Public Installations ^p	3.0	14.6	13.1	13.1	9.8	3.3	-2.2	-0.5	-0.5	-2.2	-1.7	2.3	0.4	-2.0	5.0	5.0	Tenaga Nasional Berhad, Sabah Electricity Sdn. Bhd., Sarawak Energy Berhad, Independent Power Producer
b. Private Installations ^p	-2.7	4.9	8.4	8.4	13.5	9.2	-1.4	4.3	4.3	3.3	1.7	-1.2	-0.4	2.2	0.3	0.3	Tenaga Nasional Berhad, Sabah Electricity Sdn. Bhd., Sarawak Energy Berhad, Independent Power Producer

Note:
p preliminary
1 latest data until March 2023
provisional data based on External Trade Publication May 2023
n.a. not available
- not applicable

INDICATORS	2022					2023					DATA SOURCE			
	Annual Percentage Change (%)	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan		Feb	Mar	Apr
- Local Consumption														
a. Industrial, Commercial and Mining ^p	7.0	27.7	23.4	17.4	8.3	2.1	2.0	0.8	0.5	5.4	3.2	-4.2	6.5	Tenaga Nasional Berhad, Sabah Electricity Sdn. Bhd., Sarawak Energy Berhad, Independent Power Producer
b. Domestic and Public Lighting ^p	-2.0	-0.5	-4.0	-2.1	-3.8	-2.6	1.1	0.1	-3.8	-1.0	3.0	6.5	10.3	Tenaga Nasional Berhad, Sabah Electricity Sdn. Bhd., Sarawak Energy Berhad, Independent Power Producer
3.5 SERVICES														
3.5.1 Wholesale & Retail Trade														
3.5.2 Volume Index														
- Wholesale Trade Index	3.1	10.7	10.8	7.3	3.4	0.8	0.6	1.1	0.3	3.8	6.7	3.4	5.3	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Retail Trade Index	24.2	31.3	31.6	30.1	27.1	22.3	18.3	17.4	16.2	14.1	13.8	10.0	2.4	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Motor Vehicle Index	19.6	1,529.9	667.1	188.1	44.1	1.2	10.3	9.7	9.2	20.9	5.6	-9.0	17.8	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
3.5.3 Motor Vehicle														
- Vehicle Production														
a. Passenger	13.3	22,900.4	1,903.4	398.4	52.0	-10.9	13.0	28.0	38.5	26.1	30.1	-24.0	32.7	Malaysian Automotive Association
b. Commercial	53.9	13,373.3	971.0	378.9	37.2	5.5	13.4	17.9	10.2	2.8	-9.1	-35.5	24.8	Malaysian Automotive Association
c. Total	15.6	21,597.5	1,776.1	383.9	50.9	-9.8	13.1	27.2	36.2	24.4	27.0	-24.8	32.1	Malaysian Automotive Association
- Vehicle Sales														
a. Passenger	2.8	2,999.6	780.9	296.8	56.8	-6.3	6.9	19.6	27.1	43.1	7.7	-16.9	26.1	Malaysian Automotive Association
b. Commercial	25.6	7,776.8	149.3	181.0	27.5	-1.7	10.8	16	-19.9	44.8	7.8	-18.8	13.0	Malaysian Automotive Association
c. Total	7.3	3,196.6	590.4	280.7	52.8	-5.8	7.3	17.5	18.1	38.0	7.7	-19.0	22.0	Malaysian Automotive Association
- New Vehicles Registration	16.6	1,202.8	321.6	208.3	37.8	-3.3	0.4	-8.9	18.9	38.6	8.7	-24.6	9.0	Road Transport Department Malaysia
3.5.4 Tourism														
- Tourist Arrivals ¹	7,222.8	14,942.2	17,250.0	13,576.8	14,670.2	12,480.4	8,938.9	5,009.0	4,921.7	4,751.5	3,739.0	n.a	n.a	Tourism Malaysia
3.5.5 Finance														
I Money Supply														
- M1	9.5	10.8	9.3	9.2	6.0	6.7	3.8	4.3	2.6	1.9	0.9	-1.3	-1.5	Central Bank of Malaysia
- M2	6.8	6.5	5.4	6.4	5.6	5.9	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.0	3.1	3.1	Central Bank of Malaysia
- M3	6.9	6.6	5.5	6.5	5.7	6.0	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.0	4.0	3.3	3.2	Central Bank of Malaysia
II Total Loan/Financing in Banking System														
- Commercial Banks	5.1	5.7	5.9	6.8	6.4	6.5	5.5	5.7	4.9	5.2	5.0	4.6	4.8	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Islamic Banks	2.7	3.1	3.1	3.6	3.0	3.3	2.0	1.9	1.3	1.5	1.4	0.9	1.3	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Merchant Banks	9.4	10.4	10.8	12.4	12.3	12.0	11.5	11.9	10.9	11.1	10.8	10.5	10.5	Central Bank of Malaysia
III Total Deposits Banking System														
- Commercial Banks	6.1	6.6	6.2	7.5	7.4	8.3	3.9	5.9	7.0	7.5	7.0	6.4	6.7	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Islamic Banks	7.0	6.8	5.6	6.0	5.7	6.4	3.8	3.7	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.4	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Merchant Banks	4.2	6.2	7.4	10.7	11.3	12.2	10.6	10.8	11.1	11.6	11.3	8.6	10.1	Central Bank of Malaysia
IV Fixed Deposits, Tawarruq Fixed Deposits, Special and General Investment Deposits														
- Commercial Banks	8.5	5.7	7.0	7.7	0.7	6.7	2.9	5.1	6.2	-2.0	-3.8	3.1	-4.8	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Islamic Banks	2.3	3.0	3.5	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.2	6.5	6.1	7.2	8.9	10.0	10.2	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Merchant Banks	0.4	0.7	0.5	-0.2	-0.1	-1.0	-0.5	1.1	1.8	2.4	6.0	6.4	6.4	Central Bank of Malaysia
V Savings Deposits														
- Commercial Banks	5.1	6.6	8.0	13.2	12.9	14.3	14.0	14.3	12.6	14.8	14.5	15.9	16.1	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Islamic Banks	2.6	-0.3	0.2	-0.2	-0.6	-6.6	-7.1	-3.0	-2.5	-9.6	-10.6	4.3	0.2	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Merchant Banks	9.6	5.3	2.5	0.6	-1.8	-2.2	-3.6	-5.7	-6.2	-5.6	-5.7	-15.3	-10.5	Central Bank of Malaysia
VI Overnight Policy Rate (OPR)														
- Commercial Banks	7.2	3.6	1.3	-0.7	-2.8	-3.4	-5.0	-7.2	-7.9	-8.2	-7.7	-8.2	-11.3	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Islamic Banks	15.5	9.3	5.3	3.8	0.6	0.6	-0.3	-2.4	-2.2	-0.7	0.0	-16.9	-8.8	Central Bank of Malaysia
VII Average Lending/Financing Rate														
- Commercial Banks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Islamic Banks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Merchant Banks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia
VIII Base Lending Rate (BLR) Commercial Banks														
IX Base Financing Rate (BFR) Islamic Banks														

Note:

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n.a. not available

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INDICATORS	2022												2023			DATA SOURCE		
	Annual Percentage Change (%)	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May				
X Savings Deposits Interest Rate																		
- Commercial Banks																		
- Islamic Banks																		
XI Loan/Financing Approved by Sector																		
- Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	90.0	963.1	19.1	82.1	324.2	328.2	6.1	2.5	-33.6	-71.6	64.5	74.7	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Mining & Quarrying	349.8	734.1	-72.1	189.2	-38.8	1,180.0	35.2	-17.0	711.8	0.0	249.9	-21.4	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Manufacturing	56.5	162.9	-26.0	36.7	-3.0	69.4	-14.0	-2.7	44.3	152.2	-16.7	-38.5	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Services	163.5	125.5	44.2	66.1	10.9	29.5	20.4	-32.7	6.1	74.3	16.4	-2.9	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Construction	101.7	181.7	176.9	106.2	104.6	162.8	76.0	-4.5	16.1	114.7	114.7	-27.0	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Real Estate Activities	56.9	89.7	37.2	84.7	104.6	152.8	31.0	100.4	-41.2	122.7	45.8	55.8	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Household Sector	37.9	99.6	117.8	112.5	34.9	112.5	2.6	-12.9	-12.3	33.4	88.2	-8.2	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Other Sector	-2.8	-68.6	1,357.6	96.4	526.2	60.6	108.3	-31.5	-83.2	313.9	915.3	-98.2	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Total	66.5	129.7	76.6	83.2	38.0	25.0	20.7	-15.9	-83.2	50.3	20.9	-11.7	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
XII Loan/Financing Disbursed by Sector																		
- Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	43.8	55.7	27.5	61.1	-35.6	1.2	-10.4	0.1	4.0	2.3	-5.7	-31.5	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Mining & Quarrying	116.2	53.3	-29.8	-57.9	-52.3	-57.0	-56.0	-66.8	-68.5	-37.1	-50.9	-63.0	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Manufacturing	52.2	53.9	19.6	23.9	12.6	7.2	5.8	-1.1	-13.4	-11.2	-5.2	-21.3	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Services	104.9	135.7	16.0	32.5	15.0	13.9	20.4	16.2	11.2	26.7	9.5	-0.8	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Construction	55.0	46.6	31.1	41.2	25.9	27.2	24.8	8.3	11.9	30.0	19.5	2.4	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Real Estate Activities	7.7	27.9	23.9	30.3	-11.1	72.4	6.3	27.2	0.8	31.4	17.2	-22.0	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Household Sector	20.2	79.2	63.4	58.7	27.8	11.5	9.8	11.2	9.7	23.8	12.2	1.9	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Other Sector	-57.4	-55.9	41.3	102.1	54.5	14.9	44.8	-41.0	25.5	25.7	25.3	-11.6	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Total	59.2	81.6	25.6	35.8	14.2	13.4	13.8	9.2	4.0	18.9	7.0	-6.6	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
XIII Loan/Financing Disbursed by Purpose																		
- Purchase of Passenger Cars	-7.1	235.8	9.7	12.5	270.6	12.4	1.0	-1.3	18.0	42.3	16.6	2.4	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Personal Uses	37.4	79.1	51.0	59.2	28.9	13.4	5.3	-0.2	-4.5	20.4	12.6	6.9	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Credit Cards	36.1	68.5	54.7	47.8	36.8	26.7	20.7	25.2	21.0	38.1	24.5	17.3	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Purchase of Consumer Durable Goods	214.0	775.4	593.9	1,101.5	124.3	121.7	166.9	184.4	29.6	66.0	21.4	57.3	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Household Sector	20.2	79.2	63.4	58.7	27.8	11.5	9.8	11.2	9.7	23.8	12.2	1.9	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Other Sector	8.2	7.8	-3.6	-0.7	-1.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.3	0.6	-1.0	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
XIV Outstanding Loans to the Construction Sector																		
- Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	-11.5	9.7	10.5	12.5	29.3	33.6	26.6	27.0	23.1	18.0	42.3	2.4	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Mining & Quarrying	866.7	467.9	780.1	482.2	922.9	0.5	922.9	-2.2	-1.9	0.5	-1.2	0.5	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Manufacturing	-21.4	-26.2	-27.5	-29.5	-8.1	7.8	-7.7	-4.6	6.7	7.5	6.9	-1.8	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	172.2	170.5	133.4	71.0	56.2	68.4	70.8	6.3	6.0	7.0	-29.8	-39.1	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Wholesale & Retail Trade, Accommodation and Food Service Activities	14.4	12.3	9.1	11.8	15.2	16.4	13.3	17.4	20.6	21.5	20.0	20.0	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Construction	54.9	49.3	35.9	37.8	57.8	57.2	61.9	48.1	50.0	50.2	38.9	39.0	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Transport & Storage and Information & Communication	28.0	26.4	-12.8	-13.0	-14.0	-14.4	-14.1	-71.3	-71.6	-71.3	-71.1	-70.6	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Activities	15.7	12.8	16.4	27.1	29.6	31.1	36.2	15.4	16.2	11.4	25.8	26.5	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Education, Health & Others	9.1	8.0	-19.0	-14.6	-22.4	-18.7	-19.6	-20.0	-30.5	-30.4	-45.9	-45.0	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Household Sector	16.7	19.6	5.2	1.6	0.4	4.6	9.4	15.2	13.8	16.5	13.0	15.9	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Other Sector	-79.0	-82.1	-46.8	-25.1	26.9	24.8	23.6	119.9	131.7	132.6	124.7	114.5	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
- Total Impaired Loan/Financing	18.1	17.8	7.9	7.6	12.0	15.1	18.0	8.4	8.4	9.6	7.4	8.3	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia	
XV Impaired Loan/Financing by Sector																		
- Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Mining & Quarrying	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Manufacturing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Real Estate Activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Household Sector	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Other Sector	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia
- Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Central Bank of Malaysia
4.0 OTHERS																		
4.1 LABOUR																		
4.1.1 Labour Force	2.7	3.1	3.3	3.1	2.9	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
a. Employed	3.4	4.2	4.5	4.2	3.8	3.4	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
b. Unemployed	-12.4	-18.0	-20.2	-18.3	-17.1	-14.6	-13.5	-12.8	-12.4	-11.9	-11.9	-12.0	-9.6	-8.3	-8.3	-8.3	-8.3	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
4.1.2 Labour Force Participation Rate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
4.1.3 Unemployment Rate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
4.1.4 Less of Employment	-41.7	-56.0	-56.0	-51.0	-48.6	-38.8	-16.0	-3.7	-11.3	10.9	24.6	15.5	63.1	63.1	63.1	63.1	63.1	Social Security Organisation
4.2 COMPANIES REGISTRATION																		
4.2.1 Local	-4.0	55.4	61.0	62.6	13.6	-7.0	-9.5	-20.8	-18.7	20.3	16.0	-5.4	-	-	-	-	-	Companies Commission of Malaysia
4.2.2 Foreign	0.0	0.0	-50.0	0.0	-66.7	0.0	150.0	100.0	-100.0	300.0	-50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	Companies Commission of Malaysia

4.0 OTHERS

4.1 LABOUR

4.1.1 Labour Force

a. Employed

b. Unemployed

4.1.2 Labour Force Participation Rate

4.1.3 Unemployment Rate

4.1.4 Less of Employment

4.2 COMPANIES REGISTRATION

4.2.1 Local

4.2.2 Foreign

Note:
p preliminary
1 latest data until March 2023
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n.a. not available
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INDICATORS (Value)	UNIT	2022												2023			DATA SOURCE
		May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May			
4.3 STOCK MARKET																	
4.3.1 Kuala Lumpur Composite Index	Point	1,570.1	1,444.2	1,492.2	1,512.1	1,394.6	1,460.4	1,488.8	1,495.5	1,495.5	1,454.2	1,422.6	1,416.0	1,387.1	1,387.1	Bursa Malaysia	
4.3.2 Value Traded	RM Billion	44.2	41.6	28.1	40.0	42.1	35.7	45.7	44.2	40.1	45.9	50.8	32.5	41.7	41.7	Bursa Malaysia	
4.3.3 Market Capitalisation	RM Billion	1,774.4	1,647.7	1,693.4	1,706.3	1,602.4	1,680.9	1,703.6	1,736.2	1,769.6	1,729.6	1,707.7	1,714.5	1,684.7	1,684.7	Bursa Malaysia	
4.4 EXCHANGE RATE																	
4.4.1 USD - U.S. Dollar	RM per Unit	4.3844	4.4015	4.4407	4.4659	4.5445	4.6951	4.6228	4.4142	4.3290	4.3770	4.4660	4.4227	4.5227	4.5227	Central Bank of Malaysia	
4.4.2 GBP - U.K. Pound	RM per Unit	5.4022	5.4259	5.4629	5.3629	5.1390	5.3057	5.4103	5.2762	5.2881	5.2876	5.4206	5.4997	5.6634	5.6634	Central Bank of Malaysia	
4.4.3 SDR - Special Drawing Right	RM per Unit	5.8825	5.8886	5.8533	5.8749	5.8735	6.0219	5.9893	5.8673	5.8093	5.9646	5.9694	6.0098	6.0098	6.0098	Central Bank of Malaysia	
4.4.4 SGD - Singapore Dollar	RM per Unit	3.1836	3.1801	3.1836	3.2290	3.2144	3.2974	3.3287	3.2651	3.2651	3.2854	3.3009	3.3214	3.3753	3.3753	Central Bank of Malaysia	
4.4.5 EUR - EURO	RM per Unit	4.6441	4.6524	4.6524	4.6218	4.6987	4.7011	4.6615	4.6709	4.6615	4.6847	4.7025	4.8442	4.9139	4.9139	Central Bank of Malaysia	
4.4.6 CHF - Swiss Franc	RM per 100 Units	447.8653	453.6091	458.3770	467.1818	466.6337	472.1849	477.5679	473.3047	468.1762	473.2254	482.2805	491.4703	504.1068	504.1068	Central Bank of Malaysia	
4.4.7 JPY - Japanese Yen	RM per 100 Units	3.4070	3.2844	3.2487	3.3104	3.1765	3.1936	3.2376	3.2696	3.3199	3.2898	3.3410	3.3179	3.2970	3.2970	Central Bank of Malaysia	
4.4.8 HKD - Hong Kong Dollar	RM per 100 Units	55.8578	56.0922	56.5786	56.9209	57.8991	59.8132	59.0225	56.6905	55.3632	55.7893	56.9018	56.3422	57.7189	57.7189	Central Bank of Malaysia	
5.0 SELECTED COUNTRIES																	
5.1 TRADE																	
5.1.1 Exports																	
- Malaysia [#]	RM Billion	120.5	146.0	134.1	141.3	144.3	131.6	129.7	131.8	112.7	112.3	129.7	105.2	119.6	119.6	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
- Singapore	SGD Billion	59.8	64.2	64.1	63.4	62.5	56.6	54.2	55.0	49.5	50.3	59.1	49.3	50.8	50.8	Statistics Singapore	
- China	USD Billion	306.4	326.1	332.3	314.9	326.1	297.9	295.0	305.6	292.3	214.0	315.6	295.4	283.5	283.5	National Bureau of Statistics of China	
- Japan	JPY Billion	7,251.4	8,613.9	8,753.1	8,060.6	8,917.7	9,001.3	8,836.8	8,796.9	6,550.6	7,654.7	8,824.3	8,284.4	7,292.6	7,292.6	Statistics Bureau of Japan	
- EU	USD Billion	212.0	225.0	212.0	207.0	232.4	225.8	237.5	219.2	198.9	208.2	242.1	192.1	216.9	216.9	European Statistics	
- USA	USD Billion	179.0	182.1	175.8	181.6	175.4	180.6	171.5	188.3	165.3	138.9	164.6	162.4	167.9	167.9	United States Census Bureau	
5.1.2 Imports																	
- Malaysia [#]	RM Billion	107.8	124.2	118.5	124.2	112.4	113.5	107.9	103.6	94.5	92.7	103.0	92.6	104.2	104.2	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
- Singapore	SGD Billion	57.6	59.6	61.0	58.5	55.8	53.2	50.7	49.9	44.4	42.8	51.7	45.1	45.7	45.7	Statistics Singapore	
- China	USD Billion	228.0	230.7	228.7	234.1	237.4	213.1	226.1	228.0	192.2	197.2	227.4	205.2	217.7	217.7	National Bureau of Statistics of China	
- Japan	JPY Billion	9,617.5	9,998.9	10,175.0	10,851.0	10,916.9	11,172.8	10,868.8	10,245.5	10,049.1	8,552.4	9,578.8	8,720.8	8,665.1	8,665.1	Statistics Bureau of Japan	
- EU	USD Billion	258.6	260.0	255.4	272.9	279.4	285.0	259.3	230.7	236.6	206.2	219.1	206.1	216.2	216.2	European Statistics	
- USA	USD Billion	285.4	286.1	271.2	283.6	275.5	282.7	256.5	252.8	254.4	230.7	262.8	250.7	264.1	264.1	United States Census Bureau	
5.2 INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEX																	
5.2.1 Malaysia	Point	119.4	130.8	124.7	129.5	131.1	129.8	131.1	130.2	127.1	120.5	130.6	116.5	125.0	125.0	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
5.2.2 Singapore	Point	125.9	131.0	122.5	123.6	126.6	123.6	117.3	129.0	119.3	106.1	129.2	119.3	115.2	115.2	Singapore Economic Development Board	
5.2.3 South Korea	Point	113.4	114.4	113.1	106.4	105.8	105.8	106.8	108.7	95.6	93.9	108.9	101.7	105.1	105.1	Moody's Analytics, South Korea	
5.2.4 Japan	Point	92.8	108.3	107.9	100.8	112.1	105.4	108.6	107.6	100.8	100.8	117.2	102.6	97.2	97.2	Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan	
5.2.5 USA	Point	102.8	102.7	103.1	103.2	103.5	103.4	103.1	101.5	102.5	102.5	102.7	103.2	103.0	103.0	Federal Reserve Board, USA	
5.3 RETAIL TRADE INDEX																	
5.3.1 Malaysia	Point	164.0	164.9	165.8	166.5	168.1	169.4	169.7	171.4	171.0	166.8	168.6	173.1	167.9	167.9	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
5.3.2 Singapore	Point	104.5	99.1	103.5	102.1	102.8	108.5	109.4	130.4	114.1	92.6	103.2	101.6	105.3	105.3	Singapore Department of Statistics	
5.3.3 Hong Kong	Point	96.9	94.2	96.9	98.0	96.9	110.2	101.4	115.8	124.3	112.9	113.1	116.3	115.2	115.2	Census and Statistics Department, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region	
5.3.4 United Kingdom	Point	99.2	98.4	100.3	95.1	93.1	99.6	110.0	117.8	89.0	91.1	93.1	95.9	97.1	97.1	Office for National Statistics	
5.4 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX																	
5.4.1 Malaysia	Point	126.6	127.4	127.9	128.2	128.3	128.6	129.0	129.2	129.5	129.8	129.9	130.0	130.2	130.2	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
5.4.2 Thailand	Point	106.6	107.6	107.4	107.6	107.9	108.1	107.9	107.9	108.2	108.1	107.8	108.0	107.2	107.2	Trading Economics	
5.4.3 Indonesia	Point	110.4	111.1	111.8	111.5	112.9	112.8	112.9	113.6	114.0	114.2	114.4	114.7	114.8	114.8	Trading Economics	
5.4.4 Philippines	Point	113.9	114.9	115.8	116.3	116.8	117.9	119.0	119.4	121.4	121.4	121.1	120.9	120.9	120.9	Trading Economics	
5.4.5 Singapore	Point	107.6	108.7	108.8	108.9	110.3	109.9	111.0	111.2	111.4	112.0	112.6	112.7	113.0	113.0	Trading Economics	
5.5 PRODUCER PRICE INDEX																	
5.5.1 Malaysia	Point	124.1	124.0	121.1	120.9	119.2	119.3	120.0	119.6	118.6	118.4	118.7	118.9	118.4	118.4	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
5.5.2 Philippines	Point	96.8	97.5	96.6	96.3	99.3	99.5	96.6	97.7	98.2	98.2	98.1	98.3	98.7	98.7	Trading Economics	
5.5.3 Singapore	Point	116.7	116.6	116.9	115.0	115.3	115.3	112.4	108.8	106.9	107.0	107.9	108.3	107.2	107.2	Trading Economics	
5.5.4 South Korea	Point	119.4	120.0	120.5	120.0	120.4	120.3	120.3	119.8	120.3	120.4	120.6	120.5	120.0	120.0	Trading Economics	
5.5.5 China	Point	114.3	114.3	112.9	111.5	111.4	111.6	111.7	111.1	110.6	110.6	110.6	110.1	108.1	108.1	Trading Economics	
5.5.6 Japan	Point	113.3	114.3	115.2	115.7	116.8	117.5	119.1	119.9	119.9	119.5	119.6	120.0	119.2	119.2	Trading Economics	
5.5.7 USA	Point	138.9	140.2	138.8	139.8	140.2	140.6	141.2	140.7	141.3	141.3	140.7	140.8	140.3	140.3	Trading Economics	

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INDICATORS	2022												2023			DATA SOURCE	
	Annual Percentage Change (%)	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May			
5.6 LABOUR FORCE																	
5.6.1 Participation Rate																	
- Malaysia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- South Korea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Statistics Korea
- Philippines	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Philippines Statistics Authority
- Australia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Australian Bureau of Statistics
- Japan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Statistics of Bureau Japan
- United Kingdom	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Office for National Statistics
- USA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Canada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Statistics Canada
- Sweden	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Statistics Sweden
- Finland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Statistics Finland
5.6.2 Unemployment Rate																	
- Malaysia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Philippines	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Philippines Statistics Authority
- South Korea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Statistics Korea
- Russia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Trading Economics
- Australia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Australian Bureau of Statistics
- Japan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Statistics of Bureau Japan
- United Kingdom	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Office for National Statistics
- USA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Canada	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Statistics Canada
- Sweden	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Statistics Sweden
- Finland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Statistics Finland

Note:

p preliminary

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n.a. not available

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INDICATORS	UNIT	2022				2023				Annual Percentage Change (%)	DATA SOURCE	
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
1.0 GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT	RM Million	360,602.6	367,444.3	384,584.3	398,007.8	380,859.9	4.8	8.8	14.1	7.1	5.6	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
1.1 Constant 2015 Prices												
2.0 COMMODITIES												
2.1 RUBBER												
2.1.1 Exports	Tonne	151,873.8	160,474.0	168,463.8	140,513.7	135,049.4	-6.0	5.3	-1.0	-16.9	-11.1	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
2.1.1 Exports												
2.2 OIL PALM												
2.2.1 Exports	Tonne	5,686,690.0	5,774,557.0	6,331,981.0	6,924,382.0	6,094,180.0	15.2	-7.0	-2.3	4.1	7.2	Malaysian Palm Oil Board
2.2.1 Exports												
2.3 CRUDE PETROLEUM												
2.3.1 Prices	USD/Barrel	98.96	112.74	99.23	88.37	81.44	63.4	64.3	35.9	11.0	-17.7	World Bank
2.3.1 Prices												
2.3.2 Exports	000 Tonne	2,180.7	2,396.2	2,187.1	2,101.0	2,399.6	-19.6	-0.4	5.1	23.5	10.0	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
2.3.2 Exports												
2.3.3 Imports	000 Tonne	6,498.7	10,095.0	14,255.3	11,396.8	10,622.5	-16.9	-3.6	32.7	28.5	63.5	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
2.3.3 Imports												
2.4 LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS (LNG)												
2.4.1 Exports	000 Tonne	3,044.7	2,973.3	4,655.9	4,758.5	5,024.6	128.9	44.7	127.1	378.4	65.0	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
2.4.1 Exports												
2.4.1 Exports	000 Tonne	7,117.3	9,297.8	11,034.7	9,175.0	9,114.9	-21.7	-6.5	35.8	9.9	28.1	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
2.4.1 Exports												
2.4.1 Exports	000 Tonne	6,860.3	6,855.0	6,731.8	7,088.5	7,384.8	3.8	11.9	18.8	14.4	6.1	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
2.4.1 Exports												
3.0 SECTOR												
3.1 MANUFACTURING												
3.1.1 Industrial Production Index	Point	133.2	134.8	142.5	143.5	137.7	6.3	9.3	13.4	4.0	3.4	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
3.1.1 Industrial Production Index												
3.1.2 Sales	RM '000	415,298,171.5	443,488,677.6	467,561,667.3	474,581,577.0	449,423,673.8	12.8	17.4	22.5	11.1	8.2	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
3.1.2 Sales												
3.1.3 Exports #	RM '000	291,646,953.4	329,905,712.3	353,881,694.2	331,215,211.2	299,115,793.0	17.8	26.0	36.7	10.4	2.6	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
3.1.3 Exports #												
3.1.4 Manufacturing Project												
3.1.4 Manufacturing Project												
- Investment	Number	185	188	215	212	192	-24.5	46.9	44.3	17.8	3.8	Malaysian Investment Development Authority
- Investment												
a. Projects Number	RM Million	3,172.3	4,823.5	6,682.9	3,756.5	3,017.3	-51.2	115.0	94.6	13.3	-4.9	Malaysian Investment Development Authority
a. Projects Number												
b. Projects Domestics	RM Million	24,964.4	10,783.3	14,444.5	15,614.0	12,602.1	-52.8	-23.9	-41.5	-82.2	-49.5	Malaysian Investment Development Authority
b. Projects Domestics												
c. Projects Foreign	RM Million	28,136.7	15,606.8	21,127.4	19,370.5	15,619.4	-52.6	-4.9	-24.8	-78.8	-44.5	Malaysian Investment Development Authority
c. Projects Foreign												
d. Total	RM	29,461.0	29,936.1	30,518.6	31,973.7	32,218.5	-6.1	6.1	23.2	15.7	9.4	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
d. Total												
3.2 CONSTRUCTION	Point	119.9	123.4	124.0	123.9	126.3	8.7	9.5	8.8	7.2	5.3	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
3.2 CONSTRUCTION												
3.2.1 Quarterly Construction	Unit	208	79	108	102	n.a	-17.5	-64.6	-24.5	-57.0	n.a	National Housing Department
3.2.1 Quarterly Construction												
3.2.2 Unit Price Index of Construction Materials 2015=100	Unit	513	173	396	225	n.a	-23.5	-67.8	-40.4	-68.0	n.a	National Housing Department
3.2.2 Unit Price Index of Construction Materials 2015=100												
3.2.3 Issuance of Developer License, Sales Permit and Housing Advertisement (New Permit)	RM per Metric Tonne	4,010.92	4,051.33	3,697.48	3,499.07	3,487.25	66.9	64.4	49.7	36.4	-13.1	Ministry of Works
3.2.3 Issuance of Developer License, Sales Permit and Housing Advertisement (New Permit)												
3.2.4 Issuance of Developer License, Sales Permit and Housing Advertisement (Renewals Permit)	RM per 50 Kg Bag	18.74	18.85	18.63	18.61	19.76	4.8	4.9	4.0	1.8	5.4	Ministry of Works
3.2.4 Issuance of Developer License, Sales Permit and Housing Advertisement (Renewals Permit)												
3.2.5 Prices	Point	94.7	92.8	91.0	97.0	96.7	-2.5	-2.2	8.6	6.1	2.1	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
3.2.5 Prices												
3.3 MINING AND QUARRYING												
3.3.1 Mining Index (Base 2015 = 100)	Million Kilowatt-Hours	41,429.4	43,286.0	43,587.9	42,254.3	41,542.3	2.0	5.8	8.7	-1.7	0.3	Tenaga Nasional Berhad, Sabah Electricity Sdn. Bhd., Sarawak Energy Berhad, Independent Power Producer
3.3.1 Mining Index (Base 2015 = 100)												
3.4 UTILITIES												
3.4.1 Electricity	Million Kilowatt-Hours	565.6	559.7	565.7	567.9	565.8	-3.5	0.4	10.3	2.0	0.0	Tenaga Nasional Berhad, Sabah Electricity Sdn. Bhd., Sarawak Energy Berhad, Independent Power Producer
3.4.1 Electricity												
- Local Generation												
- Local Generation												
a. Public Installations ^p												
a. Public Installations ^p												
b. Private Installations ^p												
b. Private Installations ^p												

Note:
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INDICATORS	UNIT	2022				2023				2023				DATA SOURCE		
		Value				Value				Annual Percentage Change (%)						
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Q1	
X Savings Deposits Interest Rate																
- Commercial Banks	%	0.57	0.61	0.72	0.82	0.86										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Islamic Banks	%	0.32	0.33	0.37	0.38	0.39										Central Bank of Malaysia
XI Loan/Financing Approved by Sector																
- Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	RM Million	3,244.8	7,693.9	2,507.8	2,213.8	1,137.5										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Mining & Quarrying	RM Million	383.1	772.4	997.5	1,167.3	950.6										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Manufacturing	RM Million	10,277.5	17,806.8	19,480.1	13,469.0	14,563.0										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Services	RM Million	32,335.7	47,410.7	56,320.7	54,333.0	64.0										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Construction	RM Million	6,593.2	9,941.4	28,487.4	9,386.6	11,788.3										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Real Estate Activities	RM Million	5,675.9	6,667.7	10,337.9	12,375.6	7,138.1										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Household Sector	RM Million	78,204.1	91,701.2	93,916.1	78,147.0	87,085.8										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Other Sectors	RM Million	201.8	1,327.3	349.6	214.0	1,197.7										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Total	RM Million	136,916.0	183,321.6	212,397.1	171,306.3	164,967.0										Central Bank of Malaysia
XII Loan/Financing Disbursed by Sector																
- Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	RM Million	14,320.6	18,989.7	16,581.7	13,426.1	14,302.1										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Mining & Quarrying	RM Million	4,220.7	3,261.3	2,936.1	1,969.6	1,890.4										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Manufacturing	RM Million	119,776.4	129,958.0	121,682.1	120,246.5	110,599.9										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Services	RM Million	252,420.1	273,802.3	277,691.1	306,026.7	290,161.0										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Construction	RM Million	33,319.4	38,029.5	37,203.3	40,802.5	39,806.9										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Real Estate Activities	RM Million	14,765.0	15,959.1	14,991.5	20,808.7	16,970.9										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Household Sector	RM Million	100,477.3	102,175.1	108,978.9	113,399.8	115,149.5										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Other Sectors	RM Million	5,092.8	5,661.6	7,933.8	7,385.3	6,390.4										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Total	RM Million	544,412.4	587,936.5	587,998.5	624,065.3	595,271.0										Central Bank of Malaysia
XIII Loan/Financing Disbursed by Purpose																
- Purchase of Passenger Cars	RM Million	12,895.9	14,544.7	15,171.7	14,797.2	15,919.3										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Personal Uses	RM Million	11,363.2	11,971.9	11,797.9	11,767.5	12,373.3										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Credit Cards	RM Million	44,132.9	48,864.5	50,483.5	55,676.2	55,856.6										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Purchase of Consumer Durable Goods	RM Million	27.5	27.8	34.3	39.6	37.8										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Loan Disbursed to Household Sector	RM Million	100,477.3	102,175.1	108,978.9	113,399.8	115,149.5										Central Bank of Malaysia
- Total	RM Million	102,860.1	107,516.1	107,516.1	103,704.5	103,551.8										Central Bank of Malaysia
XIV Outstanding Loans to the Construction Sector																
- Loan/Financing Approved (for Residential)	RM Million	40,325.8	52,056.1	49,410.2	39,827.2	44,172.9										Ministry of Housing and Local Government
- Loan/Financing Disbursed (for Residential)	RM Million	28,155.2	27,837.8	30,418.5	30,521.3	29,882.3										Ministry of Housing and Local Government
3.5.9 Real Estate																
- Index of Services	Point	111.1	113.8	114.3	119.9	118.6										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
3.5.10 Health																
- Index of Services - Private Health	Point	132.5	135.8	137.7	141.6	146.6										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
3.5.11 Education																
- Index of Services - Private Education	Point	110.9	113.2	121.7	123.0	123.7										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
4.0 OTHERS																
4.1 LABOUR																
4.1.1 Labour Supply																
- Working Age (15-64)	(000)	23,536.0	23,601.8	23,693.5	23,788.3	23,864.6										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Labour Force	(000)	16,246.1	16,343.3	16,442.9	16,542.2	16,648.9										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
i. Employed	(000)	15,574.9	15,701.2	15,831.1	15,941.7	16,062.0										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
ii. Unemployed	(000)	671.2	642.0	611.8	600.5	586.9										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
a. Actively Unemployed	(000)	593.0	567.5	534.0	515.4	495.8										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
b. Inactively Unemployed	(000)	78.2	74.5	77.8	85.0	91.1										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Outside Labour Force	(000)	7,289.9	7,258.5	7,258.5	7,246.1	7,215.7										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Labour Force Participation Rate	%	69.0	69.2	69.4	69.5	69.8										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Unemployment Rate	%	4.1	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.5										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
4.1.2 Labour Demand																
- Jobs	(000)	8,572.0	8,618.7	8,675.4	8,755.6	8,805.7										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Filled Jobs	(000)	8,367.7	8,427.4	8,484.2	8,563.2	8,613.1										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Rate	%	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Vacancies	(000)	184.3	191.3	191.3	192.4	192.6										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Rate	%	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2										Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Jobs Created	(000)	25.84	29.40	30.53	30.89	31.71										Department of Statistics, Malaysia

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INDICATORS	UNIT	2022				2023				2023				DATA SOURCE	
		Value				Annual Percentage Change (%)				Annual Percentage Change (%)					
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
4.1.3 Labour Productivity															
- Value Added per Hour Worked	RM	40.4	41.1	42.6	43.2	41.2	0.2	1.2	3.7	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	Department of Statistics, Malaysia
I. By Economic Activity															
a. Agriculture	RM	22.9	23.5	27.2	25.2	22.7	-0.3	-3.4	-0.8	-0.6	-0.9	-0.9	-0.9	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
b. Mining & Quarrying	RM	531.3	530.9	505.6	553.3	539.5	-5.9	-6.2	4.1	4.2	1.6	1.6	1.6	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
c. Manufacturing	RM	54.9	56.2	57.9	58.5	58.5	-0.1	-1.9	1.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
d. Construction	RM	15.7	15.9	16.6	16.8	16.7	-8.2	-5.1	-2.0	8.0	6.5	6.5	6.5	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
e. Services	RM	38.3	39.0	40.3	40.9	39.3	1.1	3.9	5.9	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
II. Value Added per Employment	RM	23,153.0	23,402.0	24,312.0	24,966.0	23,712.0	2.5	5.4	10.1	3.7	2.4	2.4	2.4	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
a. Agriculture	RM	12,195.0	12,586.0	14,749.0	13,721.0	12,172.0	0.9	-1.6	1.9	1.7	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
b. Mining & Quarrying	RM	317,764.0	312,671.0	304,286.0	332,521.0	323,940.0	-4.7	-3.4	8.7	6.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
c. Manufacturing	RM	32,266.0	32,921.0	33,838.0	34,854.0	32,477.0	2.8	4.0	8.2	1.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
d. Construction	RM	9,368.0	9,368.0	9,906.0	10,015.0	9,995.0	-5.5	3.0	14.9	10.0	6.7	6.7	6.7	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
e. Services	RM	21,961.0	22,142.0	22,914.0	23,586.0	22,641.0	3.5	7.4	11.4	4.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	Department of Statistics, Malaysia	
4.1.4 Share of Registered Candidates by Qualification															
- Non Tertiary	%	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	19.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jobstreet	
- Tertiary	%	75.0	74.0	74.0	74.0	74.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jobstreet	
- Postgraduate	%	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jobstreet	
4.1.5 Share of Registered Candidates by Year of Experience															
- <1 year	%	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jobstreet	
- 1-4 years	%	9.0	10.0	10.0	8.0	8.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jobstreet	
- 5-9 years	%	22.0	22.0	22.0	21.0	21.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jobstreet	
- 10-14 years	%	17.0	17.0	17.0	18.0	18.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jobstreet	
- 15-19 years	%	12.0	11.0	11.0	12.0	12.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jobstreet	
- =>20 years	%	14.0	14.0	14.0	15.0	15.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Jobstreet	
4.2 STOCK MARKET															
4.2.1 Kuala Lumpur Composite Index	Point	1,587.4	1,444.2	1,394.6	1,495.5	1,422.6	0.9	-5.8	-9.3	-4.6	-10.4	-10.4	-10.4	Bursa Malaysia	
4.2.2 Value Traded	RM Billion	163.3	131.8	110.3	125.5	136.7	-47.4	-43.1	-41.2	-25.2	-16.3	-16.3	-16.3	Bursa Malaysia	
4.3 EXCHANGE RATE															
4.3.1 USD - U.S. Dollar	RM per Unit	4.1924	4.3508	4.4837	4.5774	4.3907	-3.1	-5.1	-6.4	-8.6	-4.5	-4.5	-4.5	Central Bank of Malaysia	
4.3.2 GBP - U.K. Pound	RM per Unit	5.6279	5.4710	5.2770	5.3641	5.3321	-0.4	5.5	9.6	5.2	5.5	5.5	5.5	Central Bank of Malaysia	
4.3.3 SDR - Special Drawing Right	RM per Unit	5.8477	5.8701	5.8679	5.9595	5.8802	-0.1	0.9	1.7	-1.4	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	Central Bank of Malaysia	
4.3.4 SGD - Singapore Dollar	RM per Unit	3.1004	3.1597	3.2087	3.2971	3.2938	-1.6	-2.0	-3.3	-6.5	-5.9	-5.9	-5.9	Central Bank of Malaysia	
4.3.5 EUR - EURO	RM per Unit	4.7070	4.6383	4.5174	4.6646	4.7096	4.1	7.2	9.5	2.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	Central Bank of Malaysia	
4.3.6 CHF - Swiss Franc	RM per 100 Units	463.8630	451.2265	464.0641	474.3525	474.5607	-1.0	0.4	-1.5	-4.4	-4.4	-4.4	-4.4	Central Bank of Malaysia	
4.3.7 JPY - Japanese Yen	RM per 100 Units	3.6092	3.5560	3.2455	3.2336	3.3169	6.4	12.3	17.4	13.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	Central Bank of Malaysia	
4.3.8 HKD - Hong Kong Dollar	RM per 100 Units	53.7130	55.4512	57.1328	58.5088	56.0181	-2.5	-4.1	-5.6	-8.2	-4.1	-4.1	-4.1	Central Bank of Malaysia	

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