MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

LABOUR MARKET REVIEW
SECOND QUARTER 2023

Q2
23

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

LABOUR MARKET REVIEW

SECOND QUARTER 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".

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

Preface

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

The first part of the LMR presents the state of Malaysia's labour market in the second quarter of 2023 by bringing into context its linkages to the country's economic performance and social circumstances during the period. The review covered three main aspects of the national labour market information encompassing labour supply, demand and productivity. A dedicated segment to a selected issue or theme with respect to global and national labour market circumstances is also included in this report. The special feature of LMR is that for every quarter, there is one or more article(s) highlighting the labour market issues through statistics; or delving on the methodologies to strengthen labour market statistics. The quarterly detailed time series statistical tables pertaining to the three topics are also included.

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

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

DATO' SRI DR. MOHD UZIR MAHIDIN
Chief Statistician Malaysia

August 2023

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Contents

Key Review	1

Introduction	3

Malaysia's labour market sustained its upward trend in the second quarter of 2023, albeit with slower growth in employment and a smaller decline in unemployed persons

Labour Supply	5

Labour Demand	26

Labour Productivity	35

Employee Wages	41

Way Forward	48

Progressive wages to enhance economic and societal well-being

Conclusion	50

Box Article	51

Exploring Malaysia's Youth Labour Force

Statistics Tables

Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023	A1-A10
Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023	B1-B8
Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023	C1-C8
Employee Wages, Malaysia, Q1 2022 - Q1 2023	D1-D4

Glossary

Category of skills	:	For reporting purpose, the category of occupation is regrouped into three levels of skills based on the Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation (MASCO) 2013 namely Skilled workers - 1. Managers; 2. Professionals; 3. Technicians and associate professionals; Semi-skilled workers - 4. Clerical support workers; 5. Service and sales workers; 6. Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock and fishery workers; 7. Craft and related trades workers; 8. Plant and machine operators and assemblers; and Low-skilled workers - 9. Elementary occupations
Economic activity	:	Refers to classification of industries according to the Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008 version 1.0 into five main sectors namely Agriculture, Mining & Quarrying, Manufacturing, Construction and Services. In the meantime, Manufacturing and Services are further disaggregated into sub-sectors.
Educational attainment	:	Refers to the highest level in which a person has completed schooling or is currently attending school in a public or private educational institution that provides formal education.
Employed	:	All persons who, at any time during the reference week worked at least one hour for pay, profit or family gain (as an employer, employee, own account worker or unpaid family worker). They are also considered as employed if they did not work during the reference week because of illness, injury, bad weather, leave, labour dispute and social or religious reasons but had a job, farm, enterprise or other family enterprise to return to and those on temporary lay-off with pay who would definitely be called back to work.
Employees	:	Refers to any person who is employed under a contract of service or apprenticeship, whether written or oral and whether expressed or implied, to work for an employer.
Employer	:	Refer to the person with whom an employee has entered into a contract of service or apprenticeship and includes; (i) a manager, agent or person responsible for the payment of salary or wages to an "employee"; (ii) any body of persons, whether or not statutory or incorporated; and (iii) any Government, Department of Government, statutory bodies, local authorities or other bodies specified in the Second Schedule and, where an employee is employed with any such Government, department, authority or body or with any officer on behalf of any such Government, department, authority or body, the officer under whom such employee is working shall be deemed to be an employer: Provided that no such officer shall be personally liable under this Act for anything done or omitted to be done in good faith by him as an officer of the such employer.
Employment-to-population ratio	:	The proportion of employed population to working-age population, expressed as a percentage.

Glossary

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

Glossary

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

Acronyms

DOSM	:	Department of Statistics Malaysia
GDP	:	Gross Domestic Product
ILO	:	International Labour Organization
IMF	:	International Monetary Fund
LFPR	:	Labour Force Participation Rate
LFS	:	Labour Force Survey
MASCO	:	Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupation
MSIC	:	Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification
Q	:	Quarter
RM	:	Ringgit Malaysia

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AGRICULTURE CENSUS 2024
KEY TO AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

B23 BANCI EKONOMI 2023
DATA PEMANGKIN EKONOMI NEGARA

MALAYSIA MADANI

MBLS

LABOUR MARKET REVIEW, SECOND QUARTER 2023

Malaysia's labour market sustained its upward trend in the second quarter of 2023,
albeit with slower growth in employment and a smaller decline in unemployed persons

Employed
persons went up by **2.8 per cent** as compared to the same quarter of 2022

Q2-22: 15.70 — 3.2
Q1-23: 16.06 — 3.1
Q2-23: 16.15 — **2.8**

Employed persons (million) — % YoY

16.73 million labour force

Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)
rose **0.8 percentage point** as against Q2 2022 to record **70.0 per cent**

Q2-22: 16.34 — 69.2
Q1-23: 16.65 — 69.8
Q2-23: 16.73 — **70.0**

Labour force (million) — LFPR (%)

Unemployed
decreased by **9.5 per cent** year-on-year, unemployment rate maintained at **3.5 per cent**

	Unemployed persons ('000)	% YoY	Unemployment rate
Q2-23	**581.4**	-9.5	**3.5%**
Q1-23	586.9	-12.6	3.5%
Q2-22	642.0	-16.1	3.9%

Outside Labour Force
7.18 million persons in Q2 2023
% YoY: **-1.1%**

More than **80 per cent** did not seek for work due to schooling and housework

41.2% Schooling/ Training program
44.5% Housework/ family responsible
14.3% Others*

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

Time-related underemployment rate dropped 0.2 percentage points year-on-year
Skill-related underemployment rate increased by 0.7 percentage points compared to a year ago

Skill-related underemployment rate (%):
Q2-22: 36.7
Q3-22: 36.8
Q4-22: 37.4
Q1-23: 37.4
Q2-23: **37.4**

Time-related underemployment rate (%):
Q2-22: 1.4
Q3-22: 1.2
Q4-22: 1.1
Q1-23: 1.1
Q2-23: **1.2**

Time-related underemployment rate (%) — Skill-related underemployment rate (%)

Total hours worked
increased by 4.0 per cent as against the same quarter of 2022

Q2-22: 8.94 billion hours
Q1-23: 9.25 billion hours
Q2-23: 9.30 billion hours — Growth % YoY: **4.0%**

Labour Productivity per Employment
posted marginal increase of 0.02 per cent

Q2-22: 23,402 — 5.4
Q1-23: 23,718 — 2.4
Q2-23: 23,407 — **0.02**

Value added per employment (RM) — % YoY

Labour Productivity per Hour Worked
declined 1.1 per cent in Q2 2023

Q2-22: 41.1 — 1.2
Q1-23: 41.2 — 2.1
Q2-23: 40.6 — **-1.1**

Value added per hour worked (RM) — % YoY

Q2 2023
8.83 million jobs

Jobs in economic sector
increased by 2.4 per cent compared to Q2 2022

97.9% Rate of filled job

Filled Jobs
Growth % YoY: **2.5%**

(million)
Q2-23: **8.64**
Q1-23: 8.61
Q2-22: 8.43

2.1% Rate of vacancies

Vacancies
Growth % YoY: **-0.9%**

(thousand)
Q2-23: **189.6**
Q1-23: 192.6
Q2-22: 191.3

More than half of job opening in Q2 2023 were in the **Manufacturing sector**

Jobs Created
gained additional 2.5 thousand from the same quarter of 2022

Jobs created ('000) — % YoY
Q2-22: 29.4 — 81.8
Q1-23: 31.7 — 22.7
Q2-23: 31.9 — **8.6**

In March 2023,
6.45 million citizen formal employees
% YoY: **0.9%**

Median monthly wages (RM) — % YoY

Jan Feb Mar (Q1-22) Apr May Jun (Q2-22) Jul Aug Sep (Q3-22) Oct Nov Dec (Q4-22) Jan Feb Mar (Q1-23)

RM2,800 — 8.5
RM2,564 — 7.6
RM2,600 — **8.3**

Distribution of monthly wages

34.8% (2.25 million) of Malaysian formal employees earned below RM2,000 in March 2023

>RM15,000
RM14,000-RM14,999
RM13,000-RM13,999
RM12,000-RM12,999
RM11,000-RM11,999
RM10,000-RM10,999
RM9,000-RM9,999
RM8,000-RM8,999
RM7,000-RM7,999
RM6,000-RM6,999
RM5,000-RM5,999
RM4,000-RM4,999
RM3,000-RM3,999
RM2,000-RM2,999
<RM2,000 — **2.25 million employees**

Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q1 2023

Key Reviews for the Second Quarter of 2023

- Malaysia's labour market sustained its upward trend in the second quarter of 2023, albeit with slower growth in employment and a smaller decline in unemployed persons.

- In Q2 2023, labour force continued to further improve with an increase of 2.4 per cent year-on-year to record 16.73 million persons. Hence, labour force participation rate (LFPR) increased by 0.8 percentage points to 70.0 per cent, the highest LFPR ever recorded prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. The number of employed persons continued to increase, albeit at a slower rate of 2.8 per cent to 16.15 million persons during the quarter, with employment-to-population ratio trending up to 67.5 per cent. In the meantime, the number of unemployed persons declined by 9.5 per cent to 581.4 thousand persons, registering unemployment rate of 3.5 per cent, which slowly returned to the pre-pandemic level.

- The number of employed persons working less than 30 hours per week registered a decline of 13.6 per cent from Q2 2022 to 280.4 thousand persons, supported by further growth in employment and wages throughout Q2 2023. Accordingly, the rate of time-related underemployment declined to 1.2 per cent. Meanwhile, skill-related underemployment which comprised more than one-third of employed persons with tertiary education increased by 0.7 percentage points to 37.4 per cent from Q2 2022 and remained the same as in the previous quarter.

- Looking at labour demand in the economic sector, the number of jobs grew by 2.4 per cent year-on-year to record a total of 8.83 million jobs. Filled jobs comprised 97.9 per cent, elevated by 2.5 per cent over the same quarter of the preceding year to 8.64 million filled jobs. However, jobs opening in the economy which was indicated by the number of vacancies declined marginally by 0.9 per cent to register 189.6 thousand vacancies. Besides, there were 31.9 thousand jobs created in the private sector during Q2 2023.

- As Malaysia's economy expanded moderately by 2.9 per cent in Q2 2023, while employment sustained its positive growth, labour productivity as measured by value added per employment posted a slighly increase of 0.02 per cent registering the level of RM23,407 per person. During the same period, total hours worked surged by 4.0 per cent to 9.30 billion hours. Thus, labour productivity per hour worked fell by 1.1 per cent bringing the level of productivity to RM40.6 per hour.

- The supply and demand for labour remained stable in Q2 2023 as the economy continued to expand although moderately propelled by effective governance, improved consumer confidence and better business conditions. After recording an improved performance in the first half of 2023, the labour market momentum is anticipated to sustain a steady growth path in the upcoming quarter, supported by ongoing economic development, government initiatives, and quality investments that will generate high-quality and high-paying jobs. However, the outlook is subjected to various global and domestic challenges stemming from unprecedented situations that may arise in the future.

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1. Introduction

Malaysia's labour market sustained its upward trend in the second quarter of 2023, albeit with slower growth in employment and a smaller decline in unemployed persons

The world's recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the conflict between Ukrainian and Russia and other geopolitical tensions were slowing amid widening divergences among economic sectors and regions. In May 2023, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared that COVID-19 no longer posed a global health emergency. Consequently, supply chains have largely recovered, with shipping costs and suppliers' delivery times returning to pre-pandemic levels. The most recent World Economic Outlook report, published by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in July 2023[1], 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. In response, the IMF has revised its global economic growth projection, anticipating a decline from an estimated 3.5 per cent in 2022 to 3.0 per cent in both 2023 and 2024.

Nevertheless, Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) maintained its growth forecast for Malaysia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) between 4.0 per cent and 5.0 per cent in 2023 as a whole, anchored by domestic demand. The vibrant socio-economic situation persisted in Q2 2023, as people took advantage of the long holidays to organize social gatherings, celebrating Eid with family and friends throughout April 2023. This led to a surge in domestic travel, staycations and increased household spending on traditional foods, clothing and gifts. Despite pandemic challenges and economic headwinds, these cultural and religious events stimulated consumer activity, contributing to Malaysia's economic recovery. As a result, the Services sector mainly retail trade, accommodation, food & beverages and transportation exhibited improved business performance due to heightened demand.

During Q2 2023, Malaysia's economy expanded moderately by 2.9 per cent, driven by growth in the Construction (6.2%), Services (4.7%) and Manufacturing (0.1%) sectors. In contrast, the Agriculture (-1.1%) and Mining & quarrying (-2.3%) sectors experienced declines during the quarter. The high base effect influenced this growth in Q2 2022, when the economy experienced strong growth due to reopening effects and policy measures. While the Services sector's growth moderated in both consumer and business-related sub-sectors, it continued to benefit significantly from improving tourism-related spending following the reopening of Malaysia's international borders, thereby accelerating the recovery across all economic sectors. Meanwhile, the Construction sector maintained its growth momentum, driven by the progress of major infrastructure projects and increased special trade activities. Adverse weather conditions and essential plant maintenance notably impacted commodity production, resulting in contractions within the Agriculture and Mining & quarrying sectors.

These developments have fostered a stable labour market situation in Q2 2023 since employment persistently continued its uptrend with an increase of 2.8 per cent year-on-year while unemployed persons reduced by 9.5 per cent during the quarter. On the labour demand side, the number of jobs in the economic sector climbed by 2.4 per cent, with job vacancies showing a downward trend decreasing by 0.9 per cent, indicating fewer job opportunities in the market. However, favourable economic performance during the quarter has resulted in the creation of more jobs to meet the needs of the industry. When observing the trend of job creation slightly increased in Q2 2023, it had a cause to cater for the growing demands subsequent to the recovering economy.

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1   International Monetary Fund (2023, July). World Economic Outlook: Near-Term Resilience, Persistent Challenges. Retrieved from https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2023/07/10/world-economic-outlook-update-july-2023

Employment, unemployment and gross domestic product, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023

Percentage change, year-on-year (%)

		Employment	Unemployment	Gross Domestic Product
2019	Q1	2.2	1.5	4.7
	Q2	2.1	1.9	4.9
	Q3	2.1	-2.3	4.5
	Q4	2.2	-0.8	3.6
2020	Q1	1.6	5.8	0.7
	Q2	-1.3	52.1	-16.9
	Q3	-0.4	45.5	-2.5
	Q4	-0.6	48.5	-3.2
2021	Q1	-0.05	41.2	-0.2
	Q2	2.2	-3.4	16.2
	Q3	1.2	0.2	-4.2
	Q4	1.8	-8.7	3.6
2022	Q1	2.2	-13.0	4.8
	Q2	3.2	-16.1	8.8
	Q3	3.6	-18.0	14.1
	Q4	3.2	-13.5	7.1
2023	Q1	3.1	-12.6	5.6
	Q2	2.8	-9.5	2.9

Source: Labour Force Report and National Account, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

2. Labour Supply

2.1 Labour force in the second quarter of 2023

Malaysia's labour supply further improved in Q2 2023 with the number of labour force increasing by 2.4 per cent, adding 384.1 thousand persons year-on-year to record 16.73 million persons **[Chart 2.1]**. Similarly, the labour force participation rate (LFPR) edged up 0.8 percentage points to 70.0 per cent, the highest LFPR ever recorded prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, which was in the range of 67.7 per cent to 69.1 per cent for the period of Q1 2017 until Q4 2019 **[Chart 2.2]**.

In comparison with the previous quarter, the number of labour force expanded by 0.5 per cent (+78.6 thousand), while the LFPR during the period rose by 0.2 percentage points.
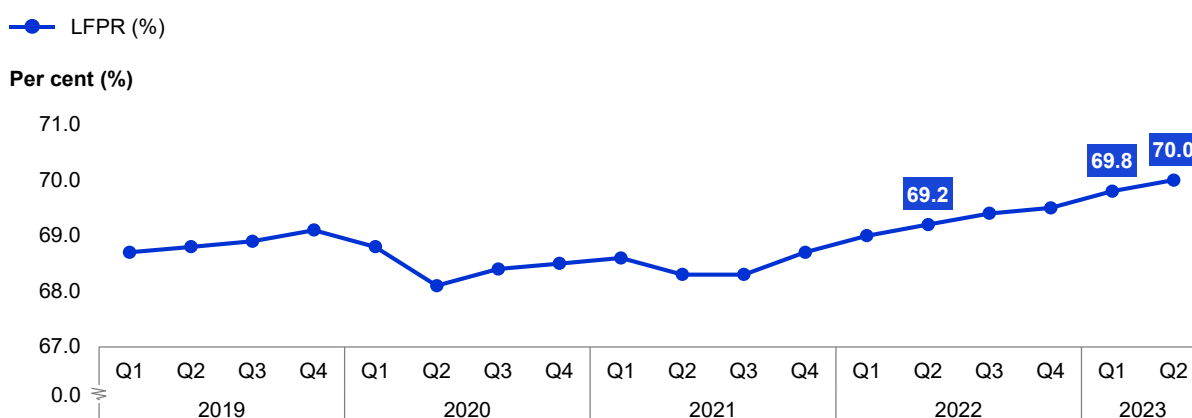
Chart 2.1:
Labour force, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023
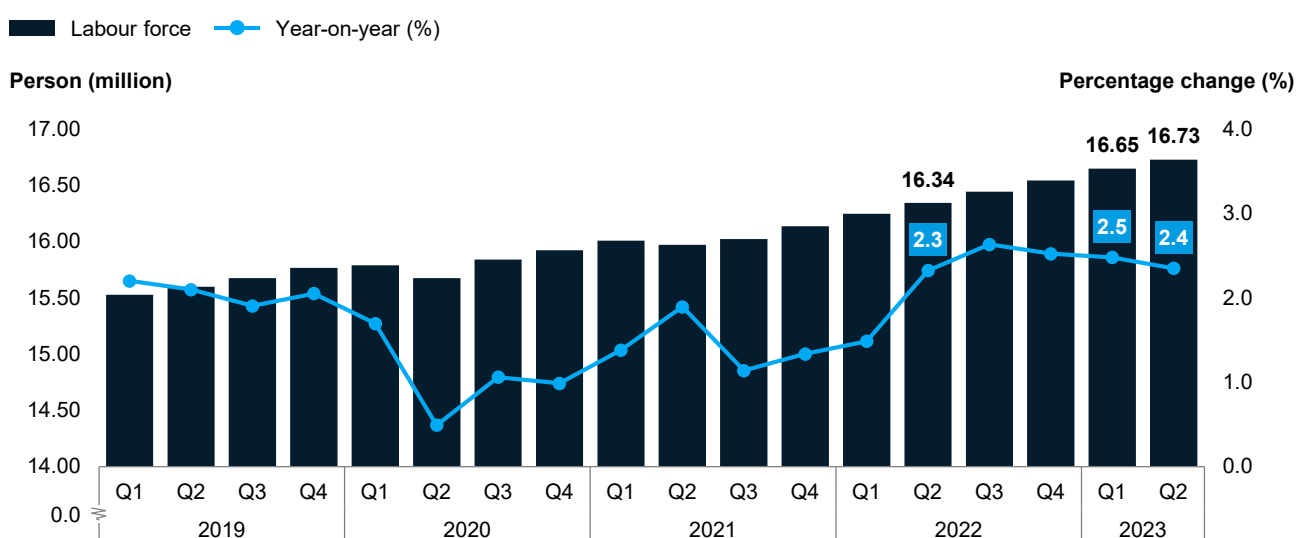
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Chart 2.2:
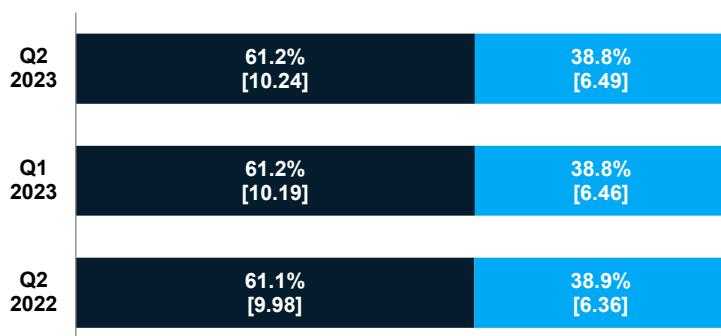**Labour force participation rate, Q1 2019 - Q1 2023**

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

According to disaggregation by sex, male made up more than half of the country's labour force with a share of 61.2 per cent in Q2 2023. The male labour force increased by 2.6 per cent year-on-year or equivalent to an additional 261.1 thousand persons. Meanwhile, the female labour force which comprised 38.8 per cent recorded a rise of 1.9 per cent compared to the same quarter of 2022, gaining an addition of 123.1 thousand to 6.49 million persons. On a quarterly basis, both male and female rose by 0.5 per cent (+54.4 thousand) and 0.4 per cent (+24.2 thousand) respectively **[Chart 2.3]**.
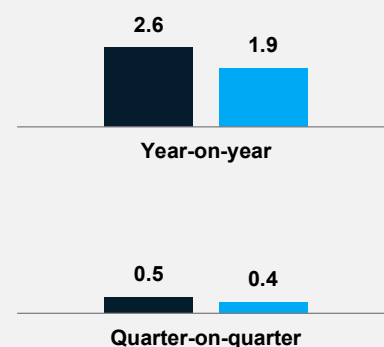
Chart 2.3:
Labour force by sex, Q2 2022, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

■ Male ■ Female

Percentage share (%)
[Person (million)]

	Male	Female
Q2 2023	61.2% [10.24]	38.8% [6.49]
Q1 2023	61.2% [10.19]	38.8% [6.46]
Q2 2022	61.1% [9.98]	38.9% [6.36]

Percentage change (%)

Year-on-year: 2.6 / 1.9
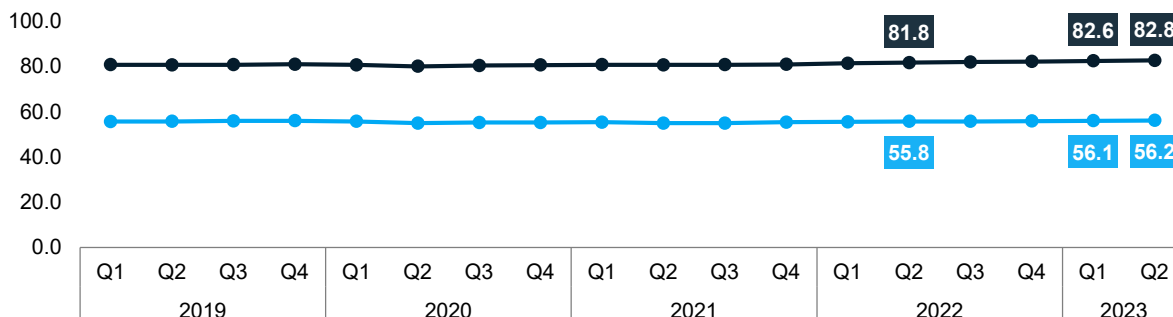
Quarter-on-quarter: 0.5 / 0.4

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Throughout the quarters, male LFPR averaged above 80.0 per cent, almost twice as high as the female rate, around 55.0 per cent. In Q2 2023, male LFPR recorded an increase of 1.0 percentage point from the same quarter of the previous year to record 82.8 per cent. Likewise, female LFPR grew 0.4 percentage points to 56.2 per cent. The LFPR of male and female also improved as against the previous quarter by 0.2 percentage points and 0.1 percentage point respectively **[Chart 2.4]**.

Chart 2.4:
Labour force participation rate by sex, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023

● Male LFPR (%) ● Female LFPR (%)

Per cent (%)

Male: 81.8 ... 82.6 82.8
Female: 55.8 ... 56.1 56.2

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4	Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4	Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4	Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4	Q1 Q2

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Further disaggregation by age group, those aged 25 to 34 years made up the biggest composition of labour force, accounting for 33.9 per cent or 5.68 million persons. In the meantime, labour force in the age group of 35 to 44 years ranked second with 25.1 per cent, followed by youth aged 15 to 24 years (17.0%), 45 to 54 years (16.2%) and 55 to 64 years (7.7%).

Based on year-on-year comparison, all age groups showed positive growth in labour force. The most significant growth was recorded by those in the oldest age group of 55 to 64, with an addition of 53.7 thousand persons (4.4%), followed by the youth aged 15 to 24 years, which increased by 83.2 thousand (3.0%) and age group of 35 to 44 year with an addition of 106.3 thousand (2.6%).

However, the number of labour force compared to Q1 2023 observed a marginal decrease in three age groups, namely 15 to 24 years, 35 to 44 years and 45 to 54 years. Meanwhile, two other age groups recorded positive quarter-on-quarter growth **[Chart 2.5]**.

Chart 2.5:
Labour force by age group, Q2 2022, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

■ 15-24 ■ 25-34 ■ 35-44 ■ 45-54 ■ 55-64
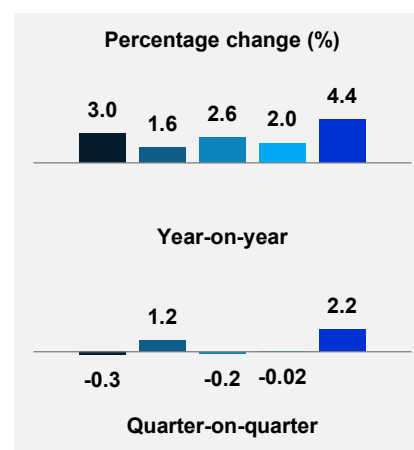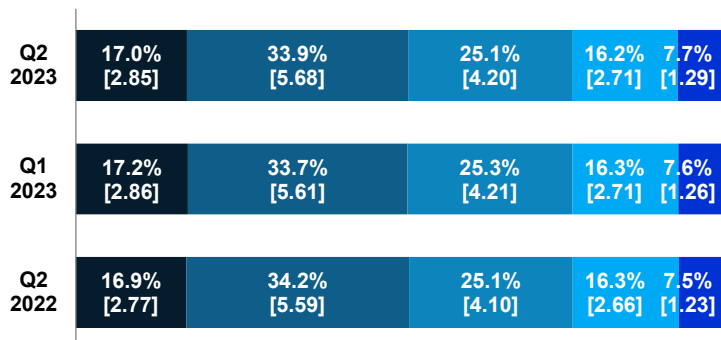
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

As for labour force participation by age group, two age groups recorded LFPR more than 80.0 per cent in Q2 2023, with those aged 25 to 34 years recording the highest LFPR at 88.1 per cent, followed by the age group of 35 to 44 years at 86.0 per cent. Besides, those aged 45 to 54 years also posted a relatively high LFPR at 76.0 per cent, exceeding the national LFPR of 70.0 per cent in Q2 2023. The lowest rate was recorded by the age group of 55 to 64 years at 45.6 per cent. Year-on-year basis, all age groups registered higher LFPR compared to Q2 2022.

Interestingly, deep-dive disaggregation of participation in labour force by sex and age group discovered different peaks of LFPR between male and female. As can be seen, male LFPR surged to more than 90 per cent for the age group of 25 to 34 years and remained high in the age group of 45 to 54 years before declining for the oldest age group of 55 to 64. In Q2 2023, the highest LFPR was recorded for male aged 35 to 44 years at 97.9 per cent. As for female, LFPR peaked for the age group of 25 to 34 years, recording 79.1 per cent in Q2 2023. However, female LFPR fell for a younger age group compared to male and continued to descend with the increase in age **[Chart 2.6]**.

Chart 2.6:

Labour force participation rate by sex & age group, Q2 2022, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

●— Q2 2022   ●— Q1 2023   ●— Q2 2023

Per cent (%)
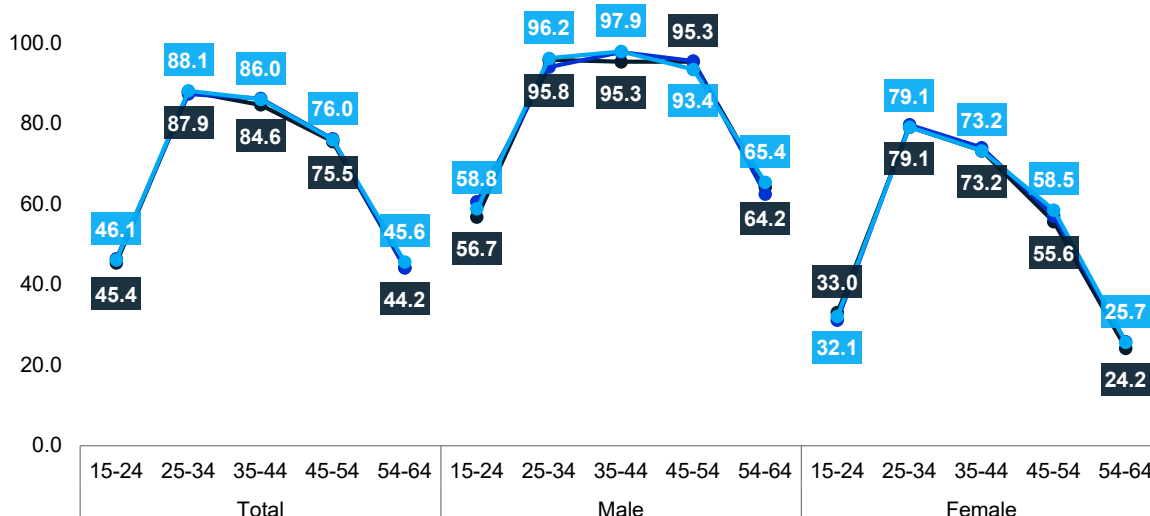
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

2.2 Employment the second quarter of 2023

The number of employed persons remained on the increasing trend, albeit at a slower rate of 2.8 per cent (+444.9 thousand) year-on-year compared to 3.1 per cent in previous quarter to record 16.15 million persons **[Chart 2.7]**. During the same period, the ability of the economy to create employment as measured by the employment-to-population ratio rose 1.0 percentage point from the same quarter of the preceding year to 67.5 per cent **[Chart 2.8]**.

Quarter-on-quarter, the number of employed persons increased by 0.5 per cent (+84.1 thousand). Thus, the employment-to-population ratio also grew by 0.2 percentage points as against the previous quarter.

Chart 2.7:
Employment, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023

■ Employed persons —●— Year-on-year (%)

Person (million)   **Percentage change (%)**
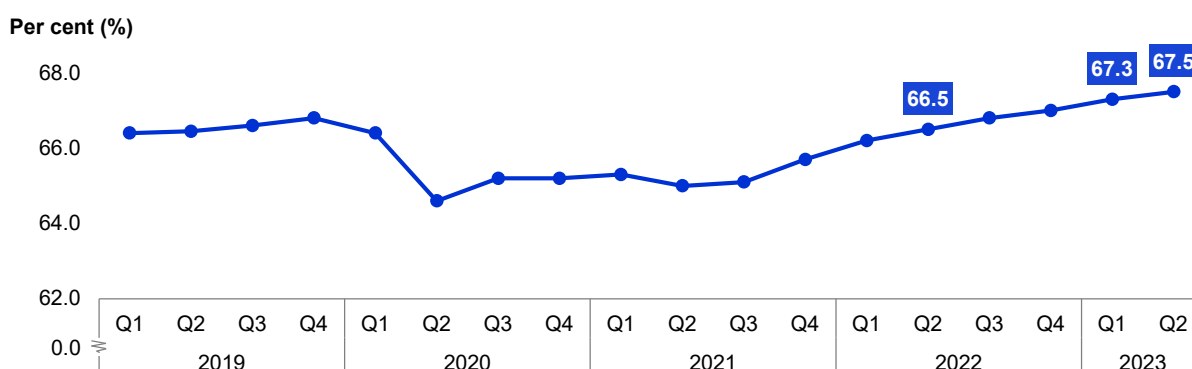

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Chart 2.8:
Employment-to-population ratio, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023

—●— Employment to-population ratio (%)

Per cent (%)

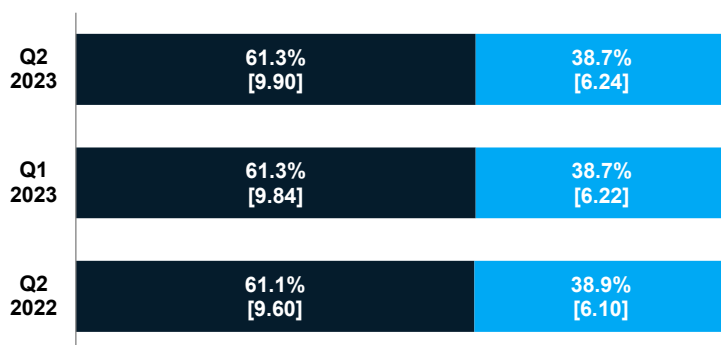**Source:** Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Male comprised nearly two-thirds of employed persons with a share of 61.3 per cent (9.90 million), while female made up 38.7 per cent (6.24 million). The rising number of employed persons from the same quarter in 2022 was attributed to the rise of both male and female by 3.2 per cent (+305.2 thousand) and female by 2.3 per cent (+139.6 thousand) respectively. Both categories also registered quarter-on-quarter gains whereby the number of male employed persons improved by 0.6 per cent and female employed persons grew by 0.4 per cent **[Chart 2.9]**.

Chart 2.9:
Employed persons by sex, Q2 2022, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

■ Male   ■ Female

Percentage share (%)
[Person (million)]

	Male	Female
Q2 2023	61.3% [9.90]	38.7% [6.24]
Q1 2023	61.3% [9.84]	38.7% [6.22]
Q2 2022	61.1% [9.60]	38.9% [6.10]

Percentage change (%)

	Male	Female
Year-on-year	3.2	2.3
Quarter-on-quarter	0.6	0.4
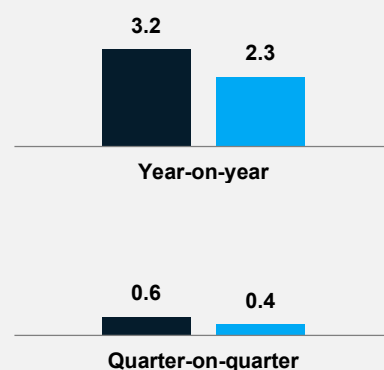
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Further analysis of employed persons by age group indicated that those aged 25 to 34 years contributed the biggest share of 34.1 per cent, representing 5.51 million persons in Q2 2023. This was followed by 25.7 per cent (4.14 million) aged 35 to 44 years and 16.6 per cent (2.68 million) aged 45 to 54 years. In the meantime, the share of youth employed persons aged 15 to 24 years accounted for 15.8 per cent or equivalent to 2.54 million persons while the oldest age group of 55 to 64 years comprised 7.8 per cent or equal to 1.26 million persons.

During the quarter, the oldest age group of 55 to 64 years experienced the most significant year-on-year growth of 4.0 per cent compared to the younger age groups between 15 to 44 years. The largest increase in the number of employed persons, which 141.1 thousand persons (2.6%) was recorded in the age group of 25 to 34 years to 5.51 million persons, followed by the age group of 35 to 44 years, gaining an addition of 104.1 million persons (2.6%) to register 4.14 million persons. Furthermore, youth aged 15 to 24 years who were employed rose 3.3 per cent year-on-year, representing an addition of 80.9 thousand, thus bringing the total number of youth employed to 2.54 million persons in Q2 2023.

Compared to the previous quarter, all age cohorts grew in the number of employed persons except youth employed aged 15 to 24 years, which fell 1.0 per cent (-25.9 thousand) in Q2 2023 **[Chart 2.10]**.

Employed persons by age group, Q2 2022, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

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

Percentage share (%)
[Person (million)]

Q2 2023	15.8% [2.54]	34.1% [5.51]	25.7% [4.14]	16.6% [2.68]	7.8% [1.26]
Q1 2023	16.0% [2.57]	33.9% [5.45]	25.6% [4.12]	16.7% [2.68]	7.7% [1.24]
Q2 2022	15.7% [2.46]	34.2% [5.37]	25.7% [4.04]	16.6% [2.61]	7.7% [1.21]

Percentage change (%)

Year-on-year
3.3   2.6   2.6   2.7   4.0

Quarter-on-quarter
-1.0   1.1   0.6   0.03   1.8
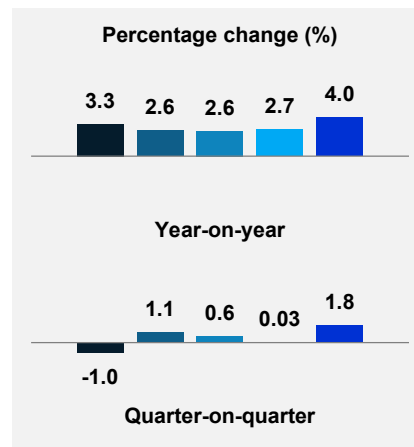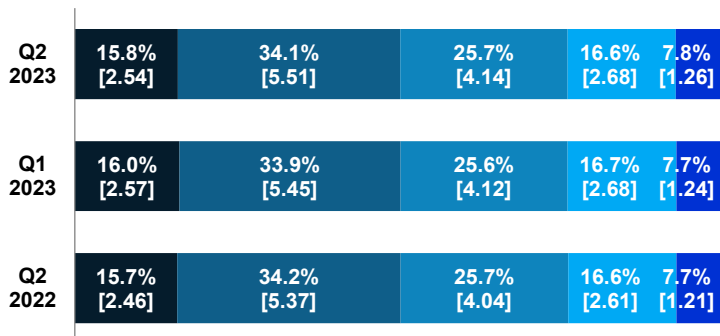
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Most of employed persons were in the semi-skilled occupations category, making up a share of 59.2 per cent or 9.55 million persons in Q2 2023. This category rose 2.0 per cent (+184.0 thousand) compared to the same quarter a year ago. Furthermore, the skilled occupations category which comprised 27.9 per cent of the total employed persons, went up by 2.9 per cent (+125.6 thousand) year-on-year, registered 4.51 million persons, while the remaining 12.9 per cent was in the low-skilled occupations category grew by 7.0 per cent (+135.3 thousand), accounted 2.08 million persons **[Chart 2.11]**.

Against the preceding quarter, the number of employed persons in all skill levels recorded increases albeit at a slower rate. The semi-skilled category grew 0.4 per cent (+37.2 thousand) from Q1 2023. Meanwhile, the number in skilled and low-skilled occupation categories rose 0.6 per cent (+25.4 thousand) and 1.0 per cent (+21.4 thousand) respectively.

Chart 2.11:

Employed Persons by Skill Level, Q1 2022 - Q2 2023

■ Employed persons   ─●─ Year-on-year (%)

Person (million)

Skilled
4.39   ... 4.49   4.51
0.8   3.4   2.9

Semi-skilled
9.37   ... 9.52   9.55
3.5   2.3   2.0

Low-skilled
1.94   ... 2.06   2.08
7.7   6.6   7.0

Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 | Q1 Q2
2022 | 2023

Percentage change (%)
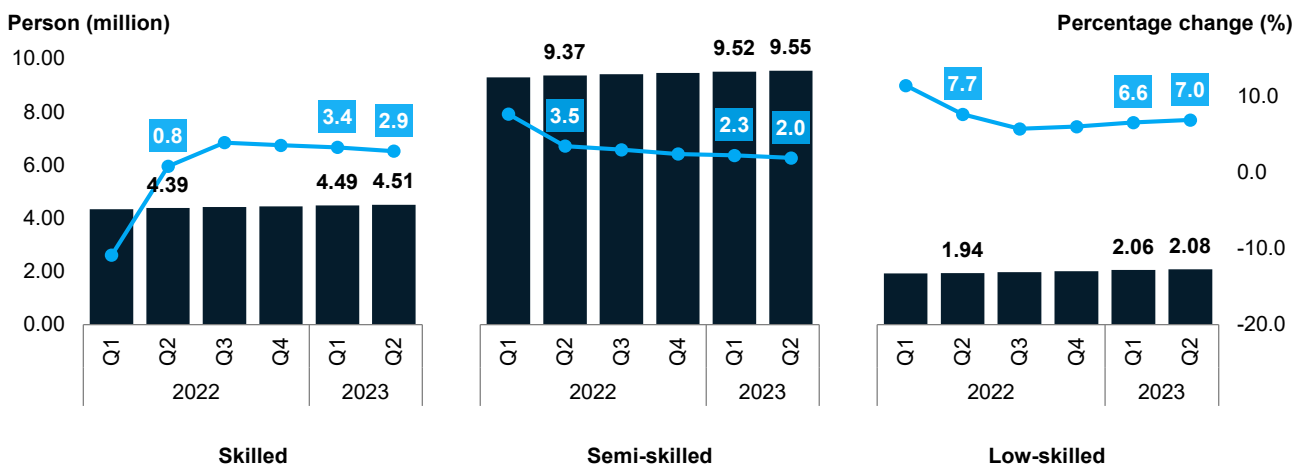
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

By status in employment, all categories of employed persons indicated year-on-year positive trends in Q2 2023, except unpaid family workers. This category which comprised 3.0 per cent of employed persons, declined 1.2 per cent (-6.0 thousand) from Q2 2022 to record 490.3 thousand persons. Employees' category which made up of paid employment in the public and private sectors, encompassing 75.0 per cent of employed persons. The number in this category surged 1.9 per cent (+228.4 thousand) to record 12.10 million persons. Those employed as own-account workers are involved in various roles from traditional employment as farmers, retailers and hawkers to professional employment such as consultants and freelancers. This group which comprised 18.4 per cent or 2.97 million persons, posted a rise of 7.1 per cent (+195.8 thousand) compared to the same quarter of the preceding year. Meanwhile, the employers' category which composed 3.6 per cent of total employed persons, went up by 4.8 per cent (+26.7 thousand) and thus accounted for 585.2 thousand persons in Q2 2023 **[Chart 2.12]**.

However, quarter-on-quarter showed a positive trend in all categories. The employees' category grew 0.4 per cent (+45.5 thousand), followed by own-account workers with an increase of 1.1 per cent (+32.7 thousand). Meanwhile, both employer and unpaid family worker categories improved marginally by 0.6 per cent (+3.5 thousand) and 0.5 per cent (+2.4 thousand) respectively.

Chart 2.12:
Employed persons by status in employment, Q1 2022 - Q2 2023
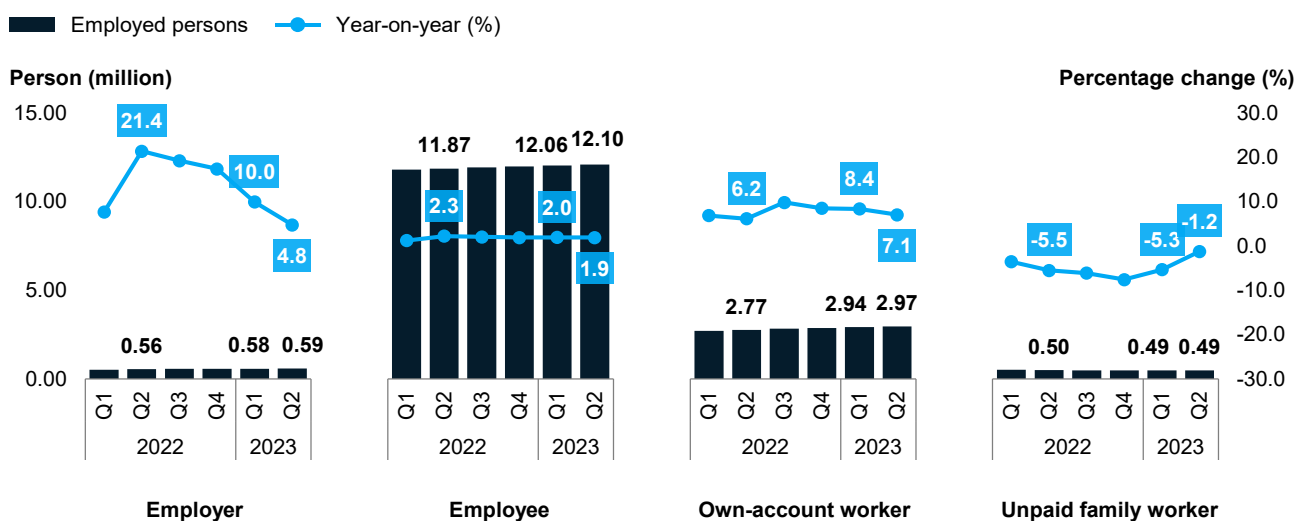
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Based on the disaggregation by education attainment, the rise in the number of employed persons in Q2 2023 was attributed to the growth of those with secondary education by 2.9 per cent (+254.8 thousand) against the same quarter of the previous year to 9.16 million persons. Likewise, employed persons with tertiary education grew 4.5 per cent (+219.3 thousand), while those with no formal education edged up 0.8 per cent (+3.7 thousand), recording 5.12 million and 474.2 thousand employed persons respectively. On the other hand, those with primary education posted a lower number of employed persons, descending by 2.3 per cent (-32.9 thousand) year-on-year to 1.40 million persons **[Chart 2.13]**.

However, the quarterly increase in the number of employed persons was due to the positive growth in three categories of education attainment namely no formal education, secondary and tertiary. Meanwhile, employed persons with primary education declined by 2.9 per cent (-42.4 thousand) as against Q1 2023.

Employed persons by education attainment, Q2 2022, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

■ Tertiary ■ Secondary ■ Primary ■ No formal education

Percentage share (%)
[Person (million)]

	Tertiary	Secondary	Primary	No formal education
Q2 2023	31.7% [5.12]	56.7% [9.16]	8.7% [1.40]	2.9% [0.47]
Q1 2023	31.7% [5.09]	56.6% [9.09]	9.0% [1.44]	2.7% [0.44]
Q2 2022	31.2% [4.90]	56.7% [8.90]	9.1% [1.43]	3.0% [0.47]

Percentage change (%)

Year-on-year: 4.5, 2.9, -2.3, 0.8

Quarter-on-quarter: 0.5, 0.7, -2.9, 8.6
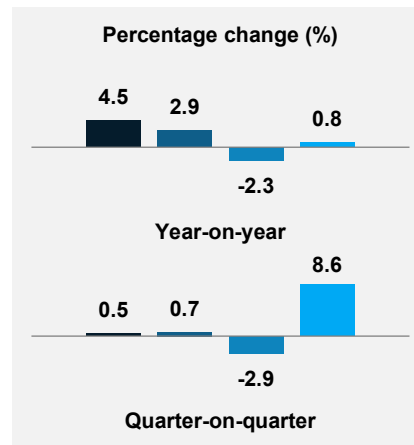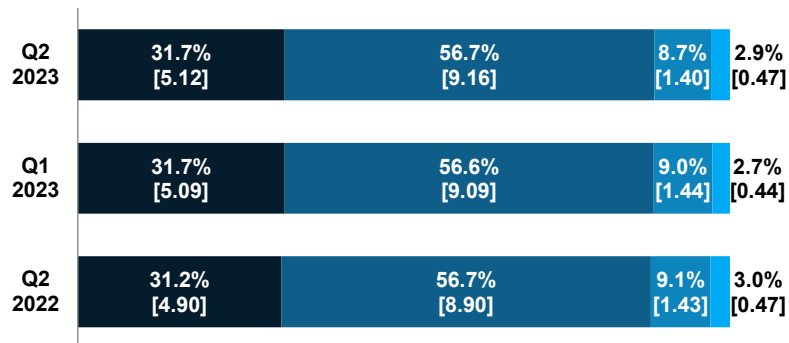
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

2.3 Underemployment the second quarter of 2023

In Q2 2023, the number of persons who worked less than 30 hours per week registered a decline of 13.6 per cent (-44.0 thousand) from Q2 2022 to 280.4 thousand persons. This group which accounted for 1.7 per cent of total employment, lowered by 0.4 percentage points compared to the same quarter of the preceding year. A similar trend was also observed on a quarterly basis as the number of employed persons working less than 30 hours per week increased by 2.3 per cent (+6.2 thousand) while the share of this category to total employed persons remained the same as the previous quarter **[Chart 2.14]**.

Chart 2.14:

Employed persons working less than 30 hours, Q1 2021 - Q2 2023
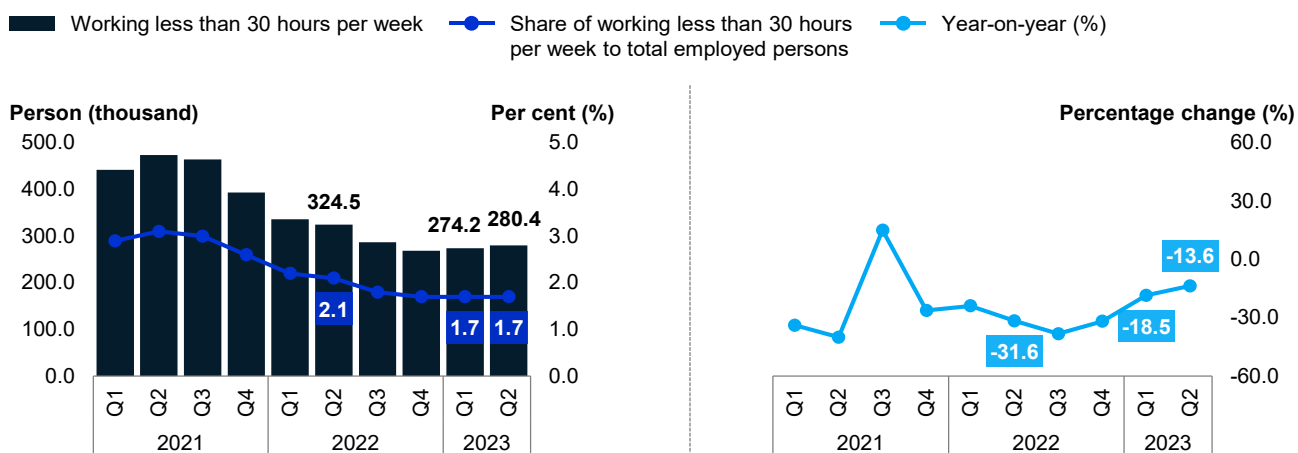
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

In line with this, the rate of time-related underemployment descended by 0.2 percentage points year-on-year to 1.2 per cent. The number of persons in time-related underemployment declined by 12.5 per cent (-26.5 thousand) compared to the same quarter of 2022 to record 186.3 thousand persons. On the contrary, quarter-on-quarter registered that the number of time-related underemployment grew by 6.7 per cent (+11.7 thousand) while the rate increased by 0.1 percentage point **[Chart 2.15]**.

Chart 2.15:

Time-related underemployment, Q1 2021 - Q2 2023
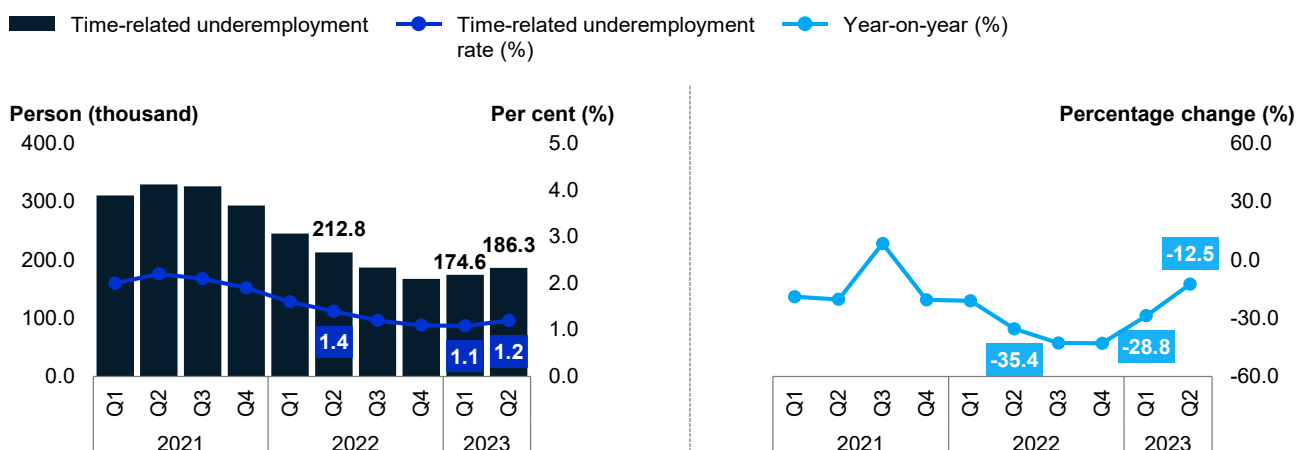
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Another dimension of underemployment is associated with skill or generally defined as those who wanted to change their current employment situation in order to fully utilised their occupational skills. Given data availability from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), this indicator is measured using proxy variables of occupation and educational attainment. As of Q2 2023, the number of persons in skill-related underemployment escalated by 6.4 per cent or gained another 115.0 thousand as against the same quarter of the preceding year, to record 1.91 million persons. Hence, the share of tertiary-educated employed persons working in semi-skilled and low-skilled occupations increased by 0.7 percentage points to 37.4 per cent **[Chart 2.16]**.

In comparison to Q1 2023, those who were in skill-related underemployment also posted an increase by 0.4 per cent (+7.4 thousand) while the rate remains constant. Despite the slight increase in number, the fact remained that more than one-third of tertiary-educated employed persons are prevalent in semi-skilled and low-skilled occupations.

Chart 2.16:
Skill-related underemployment, Q1 2021 - Q2 2023
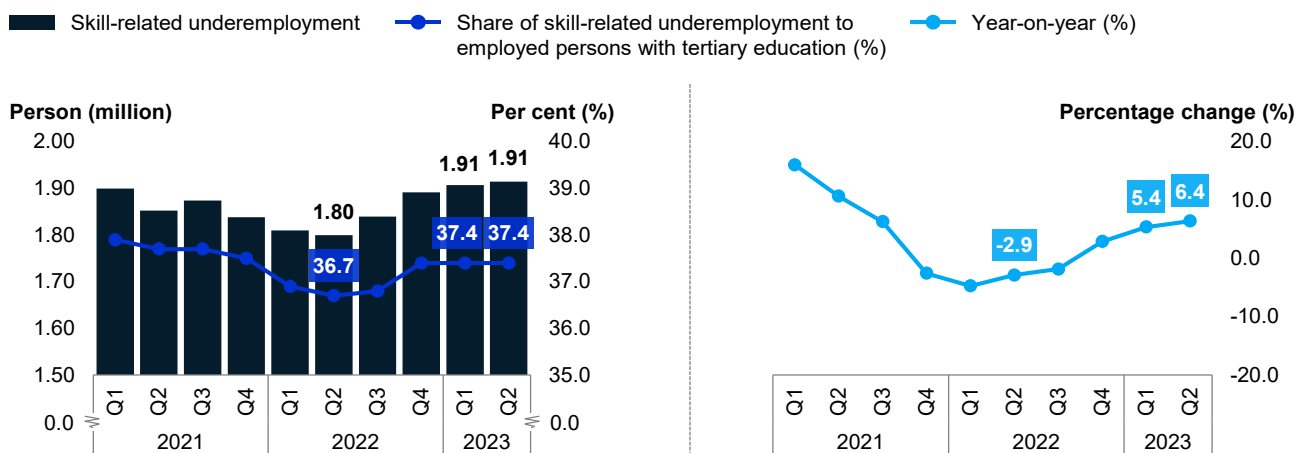
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

2.4 Unemployment the second quarter of 2023

The number of unemployed persons declined 9.5 per cent or equivalent to a reduction of 60.6 thousand persons from the same quarter in the preceding year, which recorded a total of 581.4 thousand unemployed persons in Q2 2023 **[Chart 2.17]**. Consequently, the national unemployment rate stood at 3.5 per cent after registering a year-on-year drop of 0.4 percentage points. This situation demonstrates the trend of the number and rate of unemployment slowly returning to the pre-pandemic level **[Chart 2.18]**.

The unemployment situation also improved compared to Q1 2023, with the number of unemployed persons decreasing by 0.9 per cent (-5.5 thousand), despite the unemployment rate remaining unchanged from the previous quarter.

Chart 2.17:

Unemployment, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023
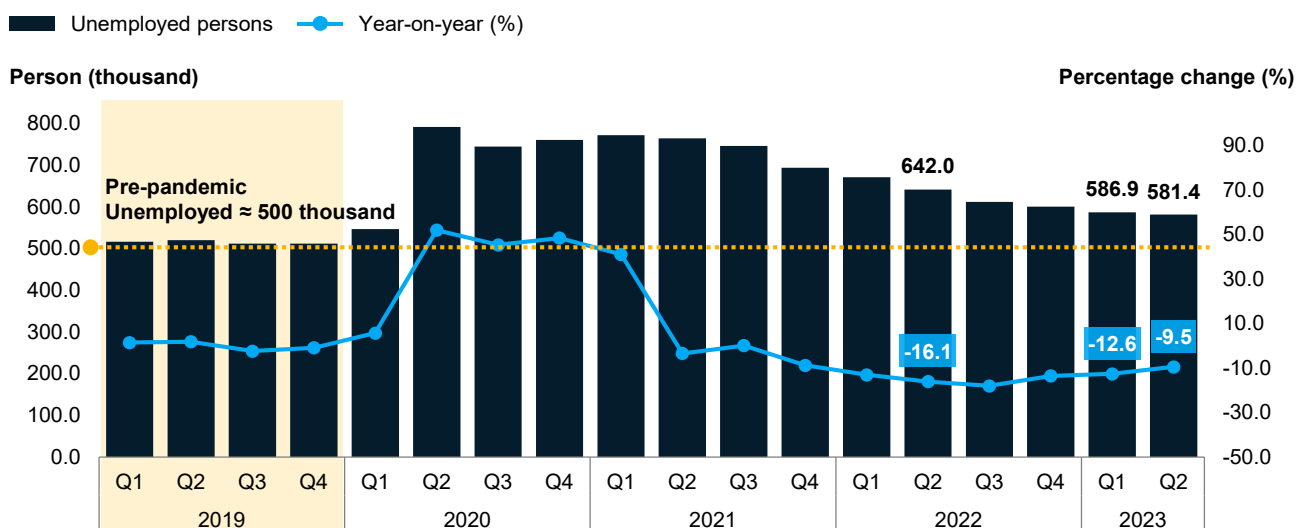
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Chart 2.18:

Unemployment rate, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023
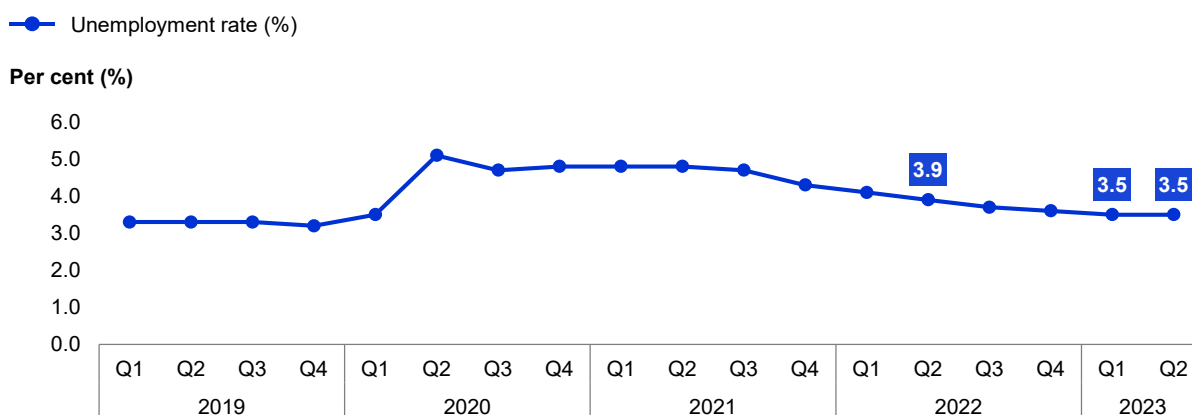
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Regarding the share of unemployed persons by sex, male comprised more than half (58.3%) of total unemployment as opposed to 41.7 per cent of female. In Q2 2023, the number of male unemployed persons decreased by 11.5 per cent (-44.2 thousand) as compared to the same quarter of 2022, which accounted for 339.1 thousand persons. Female unemployed persons experienced a loss of 6.4 per cent (-16.6 thousand) year-on-year to record 242.2 thousand persons. Although there was a consistent declining trend in the number of unemployed persons among male and female, on a quarterly basis, male unemployed persons reduced by 1.9 per cent (-6.4 thousand), while female rose by 0.4 per cent (+0.9 thousand) as compared to Q1 2023 **[Chart 2.19]**.

Chart 2.19:
Unemployed persons by sex, Q2 2022, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

■ Male ■ Female

Percentage share (%)
[Person (thousand)]

	Male	Female
Q2 2023	58.3% [339.1]	41.7% [242.2]
Q1 2023	58.9% [345.5]	41.1% [241.3]
Q2 2022	59.7% [383.3]	40.3% [258.8]

Percentage change (%)

Year-on-year: -11.5, -6.4

Quarter-on-quarter: -1.9, 0.4
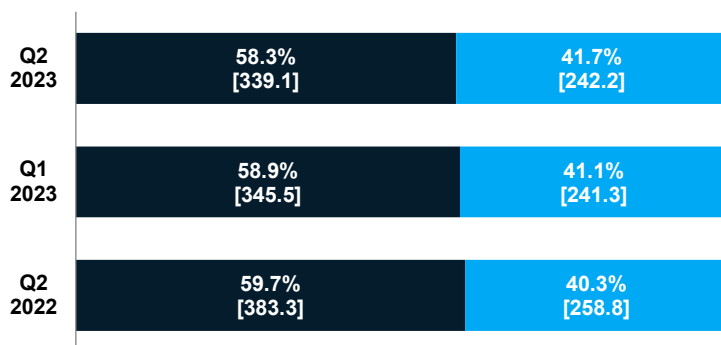
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Despite a larger proportion of male unemployed persons, a higher unemployment rate was observed among female. In Q2 2023, the unemployment rate for female was 3.7 per cent, 0.4 percentage points higher than the male unemployment rate of 3.3 per cent. Both categories experienced a year-on-year decline in the unemployment rate, whereby the male unemployment rate fell 0.5 percentage points while the female unemployment rate dropped 0.4 percentage points. In comparison to the previous quarter, the male unemployment rate decreased slightly by 0.1 percentage points, while the unemployment rate for female remained the same **[Chart 2.20]**.

Chart 2.20:
Unemployment rate by sex, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023

— Male unemployment rate (%)   — Female unemployment rate (%)

Per cent (%)

Male: 3.8, 3.4, 3.3
Female: 4.1, 3.7, 3.7
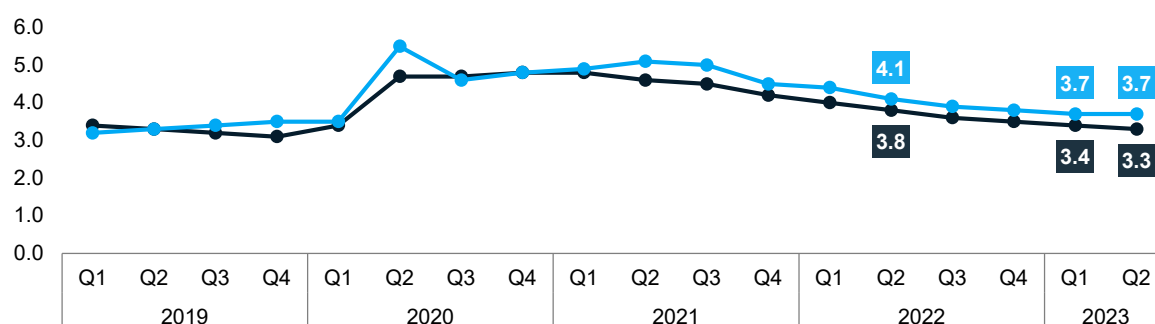
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

More than half (52.6%) of unemployed persons were youth aged 15 to 24 years, encompassing 305.7 thousand persons in Q2 2023. This was followed by 28.5 per cent (165.7 thousand) aged 25 to 34 years and 9.7 per cent (56.5 thousand) in the age group of 35 to 44 years. The unemployed persons aged 55 to 64 years recorded the lowest share of 4.2 per cent (24.1 thousand). Year-on-year basis, the number of unemployed persons in all age groups posted a decline except for the age group 15 to 24 years and 35 to 44 years, which increased by 0.8 per cent (+2.3 thousand) and 4.0 per cent (+2.2 thousand) respectively. As compared to Q1 2023, three age groups registered an additional number of unemployed persons. The age group of 15 to 24 years saw a rise of 6.0 per cent (+17.3 thousand), while the age group of 25 to 34 years and 55 to 64 years rose by 3.3 per cent (+5.3 thousand) and 35.4 per cent (+6.3 thousand) respectively **[Chart 2.21]**.

Chart 2.21:
Unemployed Persons by Age Group, Q2 2022, Q1 2022 & Q2 2023

■ 15-24   ■ 25-34   ■ 35-44   ■ 45-54   ■ 55-64
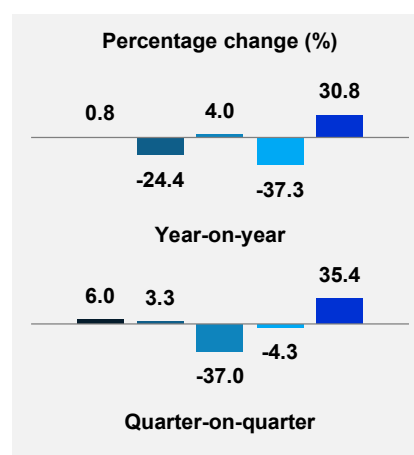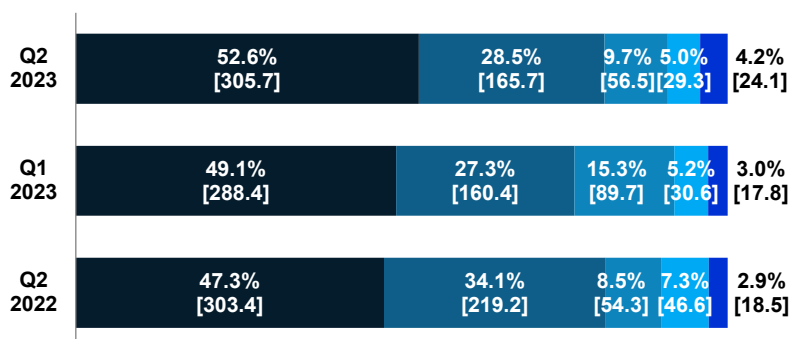
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

The decline of unemployment rate in Q2 2023 as against the same quarter of the previous year was observed across all age groups. The largest decrease of 1.0 percentage point was experienced by age group of 25 to 34 years to 2.9 per cent in Q2 2023. Furthermore, the unemployment rate for youth aged 15 to 24 years which stood at 10.7 per cent in Q2 2023, persistently posted a double-digit after falling to 9.9 per cent during pre-pandemic period in Q4 2019 **[Chart 2.22]**.

Chart 2.22:
Unemployment Rate by Age Group, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023

●– 15-24   ●– 25-34   ●– 35-44   ●– 45-54   ●– 55-64
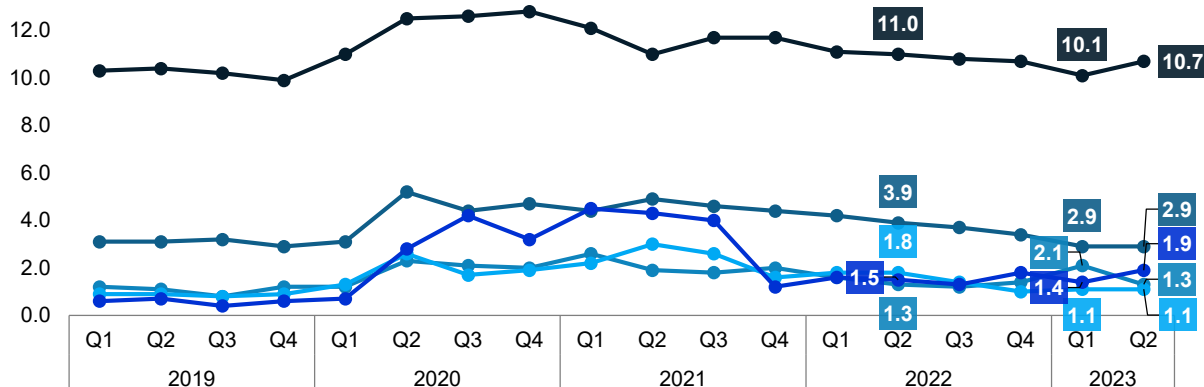
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Since Q3 2021, actively unemployed persons made up nearly 90 per cent of total unemployment. In Q2 2023, the share was 84.9 per cent or equivalent to 493.4 thousand persons. This category experienced a decline of 13.1 per cent (-74.1 thousand) as against the same quarter of the previous year. Besides, the number of inactively unemployed persons recorded an increase of 18.1 per cent (+13.5 thousand) to 88.0 thousand persons **[Chart 2.23]**.

Chart 2.23:
Actively and Inactively Unemployed Persons, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023
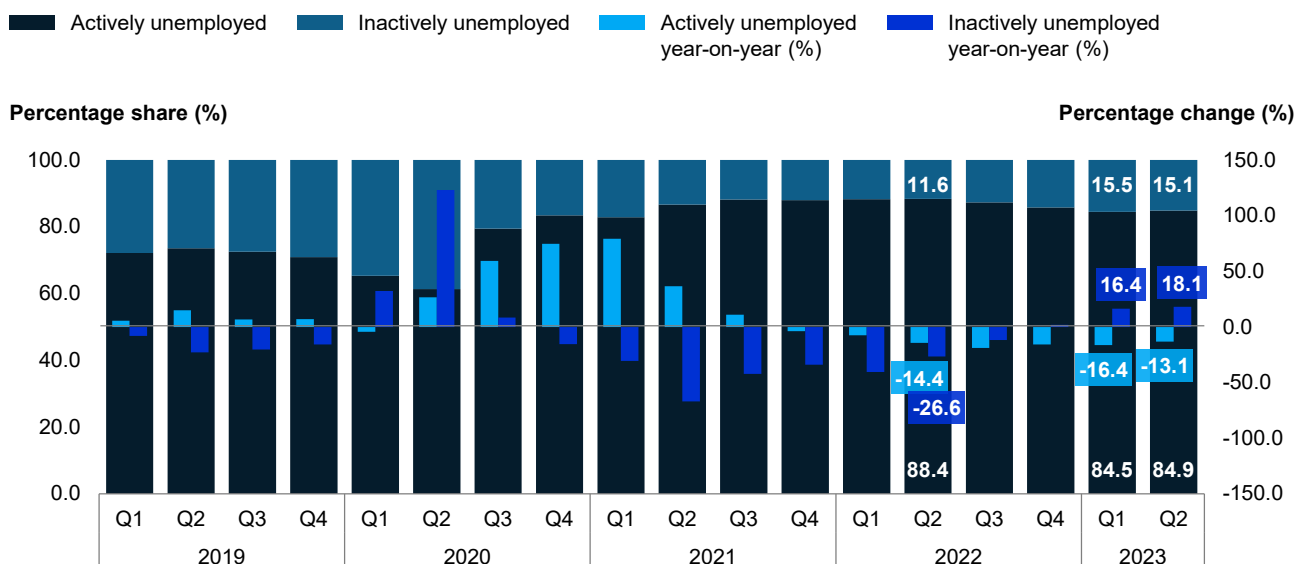
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

As for the duration of unemployment among the actively unemployed, more than two-thirds (64.5%) or 318.1 thousand were unemployed for less than 3 months. Those in long-term unemployment or those who were unemployed for more than a year, which comprised 7.0 per cent (34.7 thousand), had posted a decrease of 4.9 per cent (-1.8 thousand) from Q2 2022. Actively unemployed persons for all duration of unemployment categories recorded a year-on-year decrease. This trend also remained consistent on a quarterly basis across all categories, albeit at a slower rate except for those unemployed for less than 3 months which posted an increase of 1.8 per cent (+5.7 thousand) **[Chart 2.24]**.

Chart 2.24:
Actively Unemployed Persons by Duration of Unemployment, Q2 2022, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023
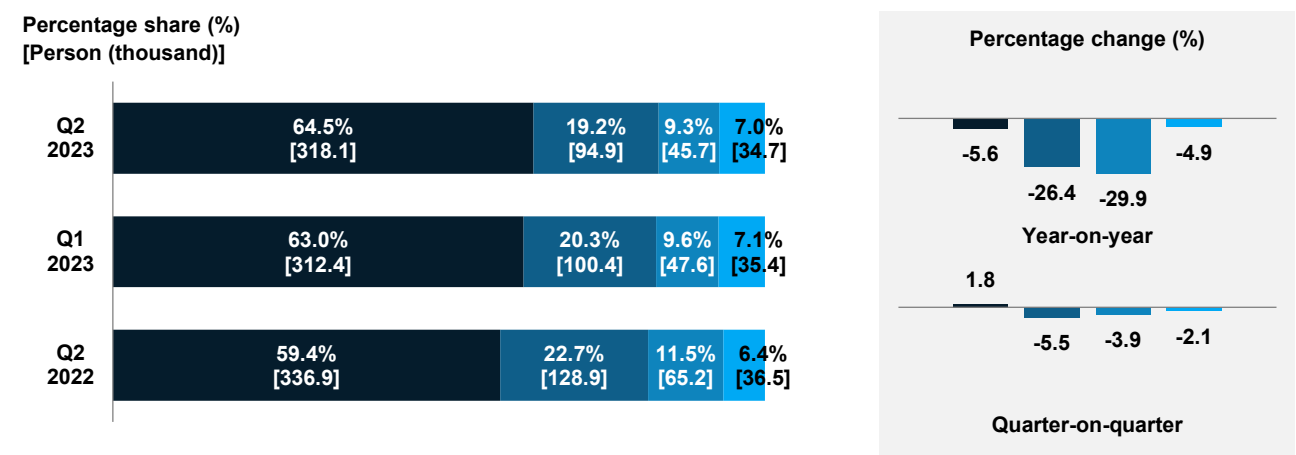
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

2.5 Outside labour force the second quarter of 2023

Looking at the population outside labour as against a year ago, the number in Q2 2023 declined by 1.1 per cent (-78.3 thousand) to record 7.18 million persons. This decline together with an increase in labour force during the quarter indicated a shift from the inactivity group into the labour market. Similarly, outside labour force reduced compared to Q1 2023, albeit at a slower rate by negative 0.5 per cent (-35.5 thousand) **[Chart 2.25]**.

Chart 2.25:
Outside labour force, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023

■ Outside labour force   ●— Year-on-year (%)
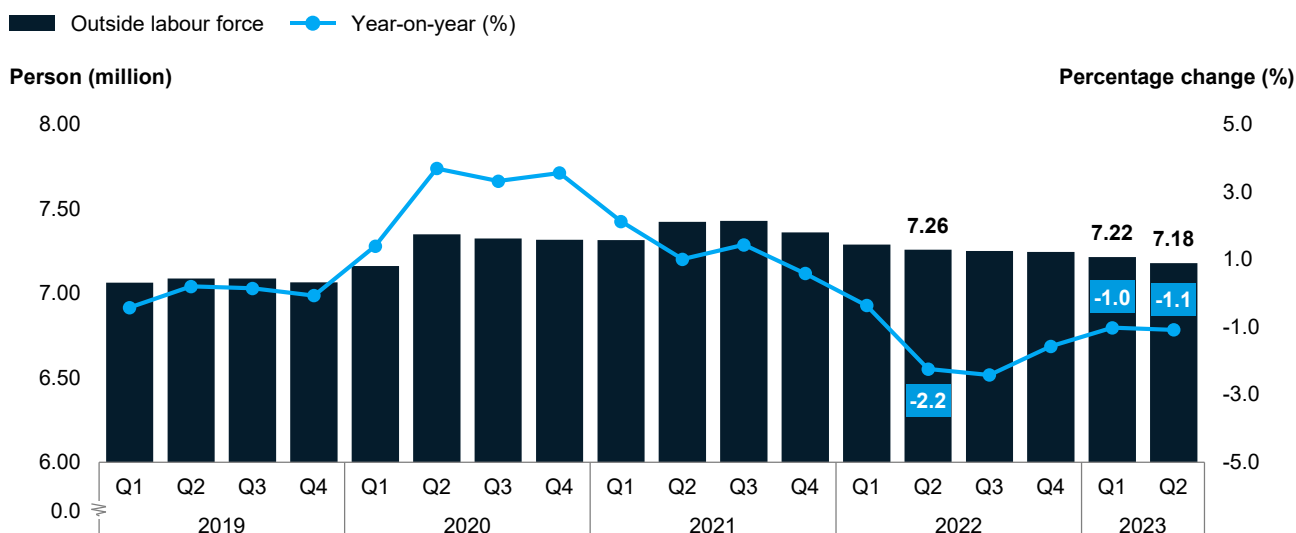
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

More than two-thirds of outside labour force was female. In Q2 2023, the share of female outside labour force was 70.5 per cent or equivalent to 5.06 million persons. Meanwhile, male accounted for 2.12 million persons or 29.5 per cent of outside labour force. Compared to Q2 2022, the number of male outside labour force decreased by 4.4 per cent (-98.2 thousand), while female increased by 0.4 per cent (+19.8 thousand) during the same period **[Chart 2.26]**.

Chart 2.26:
Outside labour force by sex, Q2 2022, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

■ Male   ■ Female
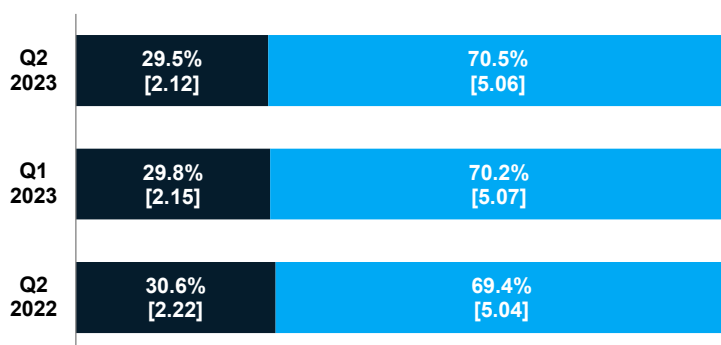
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Disaggregating outside labour force by age group in Q2 2023, youth aged 15 to 24 years accounted for the largest share of 46.4 per cent or 3.33 million persons. This group could be associated with those who were still in the education system. Meanwhile, the oldest age group of 55 to 64 years which may be outside labour force due to retirement, ranked second in composition and made up 21.4 per cent or 1.54 million persons.

Year-on-year comparison, all age groups posted a decline except for the age group of 15 to 24 years, which rose by 0.3 per cent (+10.2 thousand). The decrease in outside labour force was due to a drop of 8.2 per cent (-61.4 thousand) in the age group of 35 to 44 years and a fall of 1.2 per cent (-18.2 thousand) in the age group of 55 to 64 years. As compared to Q1 2023, three age groups saw increases in the number of outside labour force, while the remaining age groups saw a reduction **[Chart 2.27]**.

Chart 2.27:
Outside labour force by age group, Q2 2022, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

■ 15-24 ■ 25-34 ■ 35-44 ■ 45-54 ■ 55-64
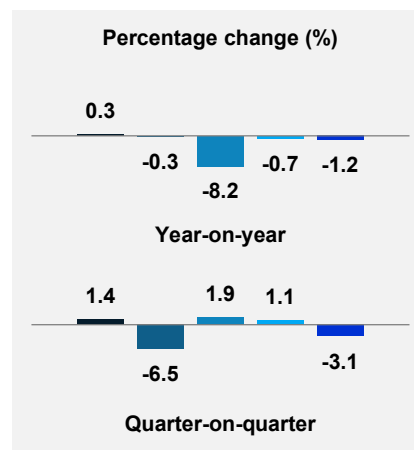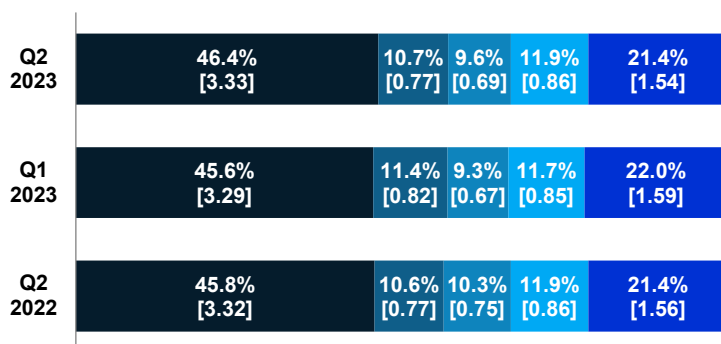
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Further analysis of male and female outside labour by age group showed a different pattern between the two groups. In Q2 2023, more than half (62.8%) of the male outside labour force was in the youth age group of 15 to 24 years, followed by nearly a quarter (23.1%) in the oldest age group of 55 to 64 years. These suggest that a late male entrant into labour market was due to education, while exit from labour market was predominantly because of retirement.

Likewise, the highest proportion of female outside labour force was observed in the youth age group (39.6%), followed by the oldest age cohorts (20.7%). However, the combined share of both at 60.3 per cent was very much lower than the share of male in the same age groups (85.9%). This resulted in a significant share of female outside labour force across the other age groups, ranging from 12.5 to 14.6 per cent, indicating that female tend to leave labour market earlier than male **[Chart 2.28]**.

Outside labour force by sex and age group, Q2 2022, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

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

Percentage share (%)
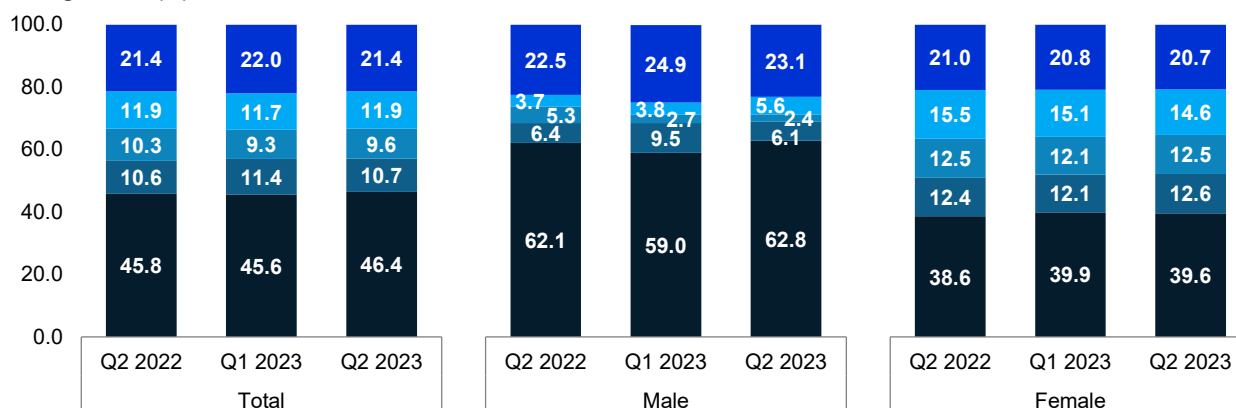
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Among outside labour force, the largest proportion of 44.5 per cent did not seek work due to housework or family responsibility. This category saw an increase of 4.4 per cent (+135.3 thousand) compared to Q2 2022, recording 3.20 million persons. Schooling or training programs came in second with a share of 41.2 per cent or equivalent to 2.95 million persons. As compared to the same quarter in 2022, the number in this category dropped by 1.1 per cent (-34.3 thousand). Meanwhile, a share of 1.9 per cent outside labour force who did not seek work because they were going to further studies decreased by 10.7 per cent (-16.1 thousand) year-on-year to 134.2 thousand persons, indicating this group's potential to join labour force upon completing their education. The lowest proportion of the reasons for not seeking work was due to not interested or just completing study which accounted for 0.7 per cent or 50.7 thousand persons **[Exhibit 2.1]**.

Exhibit 2.1:
Outside labour force by reason not seeking work, Q2 2022, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

		Q2 2023 Person ('000) (Percentage share)	Percentage change (year-on-year)		Percentage change (quarter-on-quarter)	
Schooling/ training program		2,955.5 (41.2%)	▼ -1.1%	Q2 2022: 2,989.8 (41.2%)	▼ -1.7%	Q1 2023: 3,006.8 (41.7%)
Housework/ family responsibility		3,195.1 (44.5%)	▲ 4.4%	Q2 2022: 3,059.8 (42.2%)	▲ 0.8%	Q1 2023: 3,171.2 (43.9%)
Going for further study		134.2 (1.9%)	▼ -10.7%	Q2 2022: 150.3 (2.1%)	▲ 4.7%	Q1 2023: 128.3 (1.8%)
Disabled		191.9 (2.7%)	▼ -21.7%	Q2 2022: 245.1 (3.4%)	▲ 10.0%	Q1 2023: 174.4 (2.4%)
Not interested/ just completed study		50.7 (0.7%)	▼ -41.4%	Q2 2022: 86.5 (1.2%)	▼ -24.2%	Q1 2023: 66.8 (0.9%)
Retired/ old age		652.8 (9.1%)	▼ -10.2%	Q2 2022: 727.1 (10.0%)	▼ -2.3%	Q1 2023: 668.3 (9.3%)

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

2.6 Labour force situation at state level in the second quarter of 2023

Regarding the labour force situation at the state level in Q2 2023, five states posted LFPR higher than 70.0 per cent registered at the national level, namely Selangor (77.1%), W.P. Putrajaya (76.8%), W.P. Kuala Lumpur (73.1%), Pulau Pinang (71.7%) and Sabah (70.8%).

Compared to the previous year's corresponding quarter, most states posted increases in LFPR except for W.P. Kuala Lumpur, Sarawak, Melaka, W.P. Labuan and Perak. In Q2 2023, W.P. Putrajaya recorded the highest positive change of 6.1 percentage points to 76.8 per cent, while the remaining nine states displayed an increment in LFPR ranging between 0.5 and 3.3 percentage points. This trend indicated higher participation of the working-age population in the respective states in the labour market, whether in employment or seeking employment **[Chart 2.29]**.

Chart 2.29:
Labour force participation rate by state, Q2 2023

State	Labour force participation rate (%)	Difference (Percentage point)
Selangor	77.1	1.4
W.P. Putrajaya	76.8	6.1
W.P. Kuala Lumpur	73.1	-1.3
Pulau Pinang	71.7	0.5
Sabah	70.8	3.3
Malaysia	70.0	0.8
Johor	69.9	0.5
Sarawak	69.8	-1.0
Negeri Sembilan	67.0	1.7
Kedah	66.5	0.8
Melaka	66.5	-2.2
W.P. Labuan	66.3	-1.6
Pahang	66.0	1.2
Perlis	65.8	0.9
Perak	64.9	-1.2
Kelantan	61.3	0.0
Terengganu	60.5	1.5
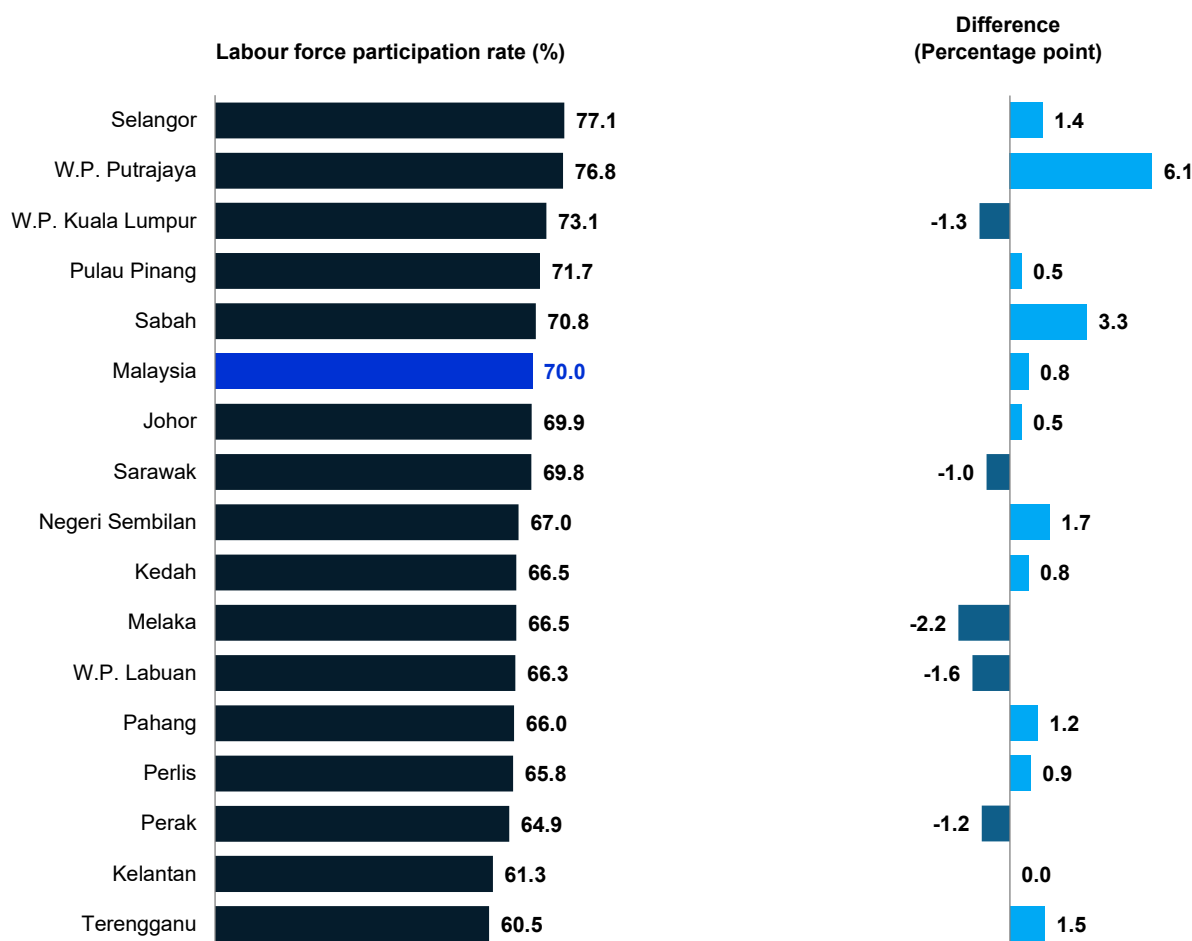
Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

The increase in the number of employed persons in Q2 2023 was primarily due to positive year-on-year growth recorded by most states except Sarawak, Perak, W.P. Kuala Lumpur and Melaka. In Q2 2023, Sabah which comprised 12.6 per cent of the national employment, gained the most significant number of employed persons by 152.2 thousand (8.1%) to 2.04 million persons. This was followed by Selangor with a share of 23.5 per cent or 3.79 million employed persons after an increase of 3.9 per cent (+141.6 thousand) year-on-year.

On the other hand, the number of employed persons in Perak which made up 6.7 per cent of the national employment, experienced a 1.7 per cent reduction (-18.7 thousand) to record 1.08 million employed persons. In the meantime, employed persons in W.P. Kuala Lumpur and Melaka posted a decrease of 1.8 per cent while Sarawak posted a marginal decline of 0.1 per cent in Q2 2023 **[Chart 2.30]**.

Chart 2.30:
Employment by state, Q2 2023

State	Employed (thousand)	Difference (year-on-year, thousand)	Percentage change (year-on-year, %)
Selangor	3,791.3	141.6	3.9
Sabah	2,038.1	152.2	8.1
Johor	1,838.7	43.7	2.4
Sarawak	1,403.1	-1.7	-0.1
Perak	1,084.3	-18.7	-1.7
Kedah	1,036.7	36.9	3.7
Pulau Pinang	923.5	23.4	2.6
W.P. Kuala Lumpur	844.4	-15.6	-1.8
Kelantan	776.4	15.7	2.1
Pahang	745.3	19.7	2.7
Negeri Sembilan	518.5	23.8	4.8
Terengganu	502.3	22.9	4.8
Melaka	440.0	-8.0	-1.8
Perlis	117.0	4.8	4.3
W.P. Labuan	48.0	1.8	3.8
W.P. Putrajaya	38.5	2.5	6.9

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Looking at the state-level unemployment situation in Q2 2023, W.P. Putrajaya recorded the lowest unemployment rate at 0.5 per cent. Besides, ten other states posted lower unemployment rates compared to the national unemployment rate of 3.5 per cent, ranging between 2.1 per cent to 3.4 per cent.

On the other hand, Sabah continued to record the highest unemployment rate (7.5%) despite recording a year-on-year decline of 1.1 percentage points. Additionally, W.P. Labuan, Terengganu, Kelantan and Sarawak were among the four states that reported unemployment rates exceeding the national level.

Despite the decline in overall unemployment, five states recorded increases in the number of unemployed persons compared to the same quarter of the preceding year. The number of unemployed persons in Sarawak grew 10.1 per cent (+4.9 thousand), while Pahang and Terengganu grew by 6.7 per cent (+1.4 thousand) and 6.0 per cent (+1.3 thousand) as opposed to a year ago respectively. During the same period, unemployed persons in W.P. Labuan went up 5.8 per cent (+0.2 thousand), followed by Kelantan with a growth of 4.9 per cent (+1.5 thousand) **[Table 2.1]**.

Table 2.1:
Unemployment by state, Q2 2023

State	Unemployment rate (%)	Unemployed persons		
		Number ('000)	Annual difference ('000)	Annual percentage change (%)
Sabah	7.5	165.6	-11.4	-6.4
W.P. Labuan	7.3	3.8	0.2	5.8
Terengganu	4.5	23.6	1.3	6.0
Kelantan	3.9	31.7	1.5	4.9
Sarawak	3.6	53.1	4.9	10.1
Malaysia	**3.5**	**581.4**	**-60.6**	**-9.5**
W.P. Kuala Lumpur	3.4	29.4	-9.6	-24.6
Perak	3.2	36.2	-4.5	-11.0
Pahang	2.8	21.6	1.4	6.7
Melaka	2.7	12.1	-2.9	-19.4
Kedah	2.6	28.0	-6.3	-18.3
Selangor	2.5	95.3	-15.4	-13.9
Johor	2.4	46.0	-7.4	-13.9
Negeri Sembilan	2.3	11.9	-4.9	-29.2
Perlis	2.2	2.7	-1.1	-29.1
Pulau Pinang	2.1	20.1	-6.4	-24.0
W.P. Putrajaya	0.5	0.2	-0.1	-35.6

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

3. Labour Demand

3.1 Jobs in economic sector in the second quarter of 2023

Labour demand continues its positive growth in Q2 2023 as the number of jobs in the economic sector registered a year-on-year increase of 2.4 per cent (+208.1 thousand) to record a total of 8.83 million jobs. On a quarterly basis, the number of jobs edged up by 0.2 per cent, resulting in the addition of 21.1 thousand jobs **[Chart 3.1]**.

Chart 3.1:
Jobs, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023

■ Jobs ─●─ Year-on-year (%)
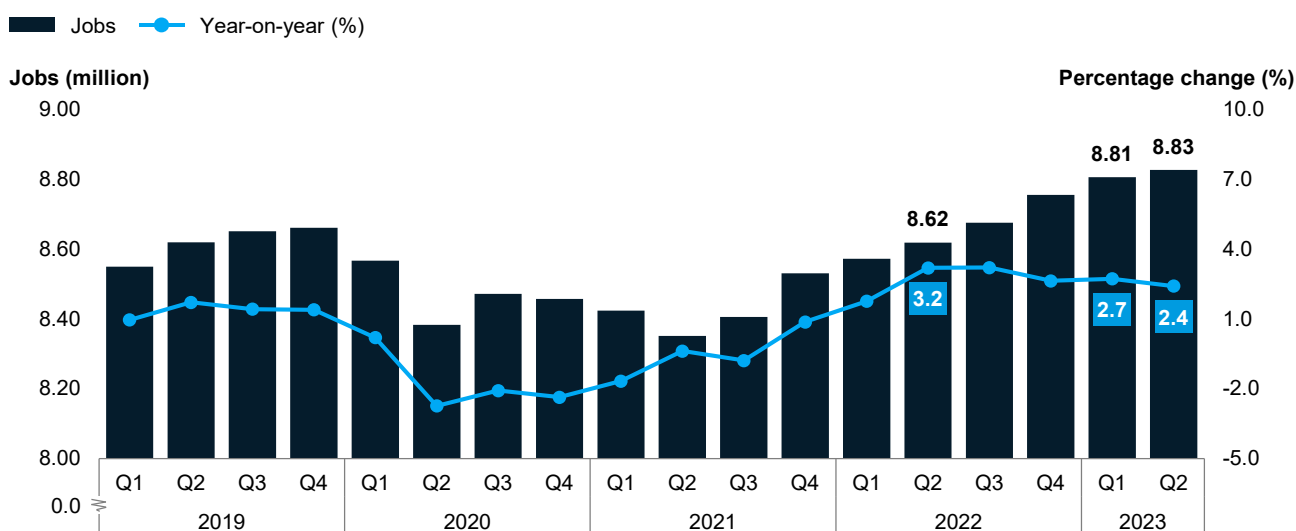
Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

During Q2 2023, the number of filled jobs surged 2.5 per cent (+209.8 thousand) over the same quarter of the preceding year to 8.64 million. Compared to the previous quarter, the number of filled jobs increased by 0.3 per cent, equivalent to 24.2 thousand.

As for jobs opening in the economy, vacancies dropped by 0.9 per cent (-1.7 thousand) from the same quarter of the last year to 189.6 thousand vacancies. Likewise, a decline of 1.6 per cent or 3.0 thousand was observed compared to the preceding quarter.

In terms of the rate of filled jobs, the rate improved by 0.1 percentage point year-on-year, which stood at 97.9 per cent. Correspondingly, the rate of vacancies to total jobs lowered by 0.1 percentage point to record the rate at 2.1 per cent in Q2 2023 **[Chart 3.2]**.

Chart 3.2:
Filled jobs and vacancies, Q1 2021 - Q2 2023

■ Filled jobs   ■ Vacancies   ●— Year-on-year (%)

Filled Jobs (million)   **Percentage change (%)**   **Rate of filled jobs**

Q2 2023
97.9%

Vacancies (thousand)   **Percentage change (%)**   **Rate of vacancies**
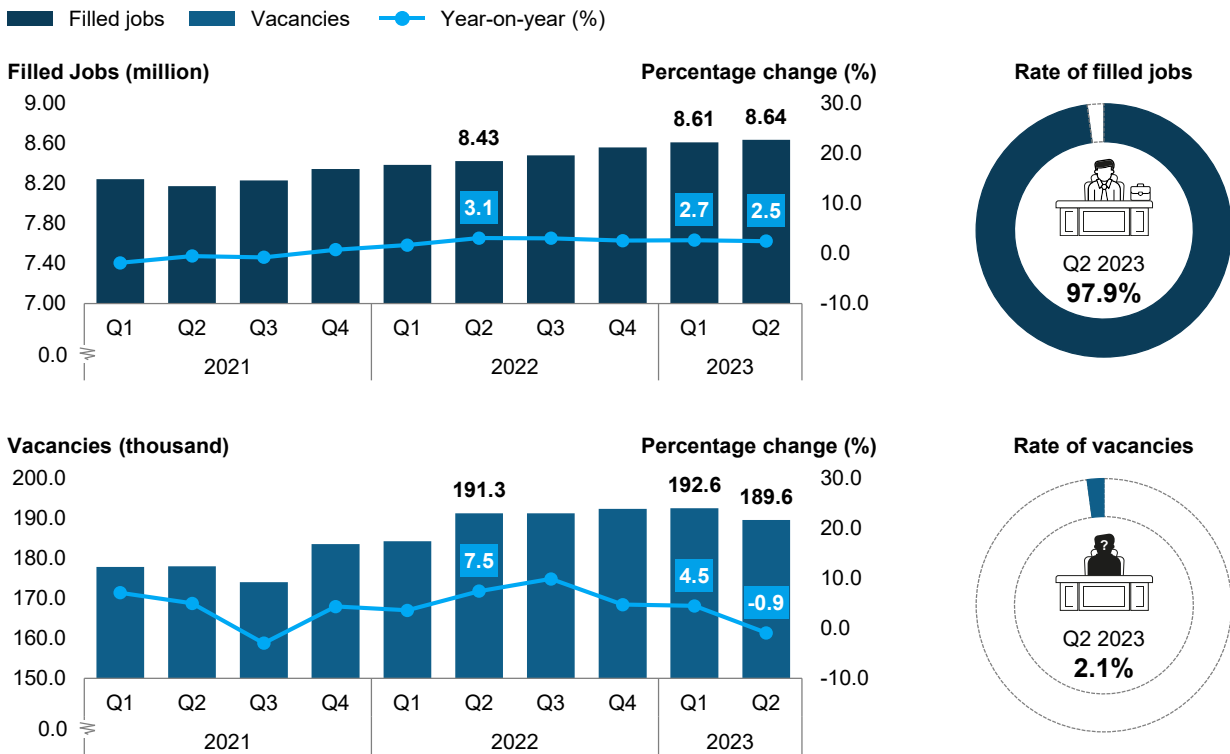
Q2 2023
2.1%

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Further analysis by economic activity, the positive year-on-year growth in jobs was due to the gain in the number of jobs in all sectors. It is apparent that the labour demand has continued its positive growth, as all economic sectors have observed a rise in the number of filled jobs compared to the same quarter of the previous year **[Chart 3.3]**.

Chart 3.3:
Jobs, filled jobs and vacancies by economic sector, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023
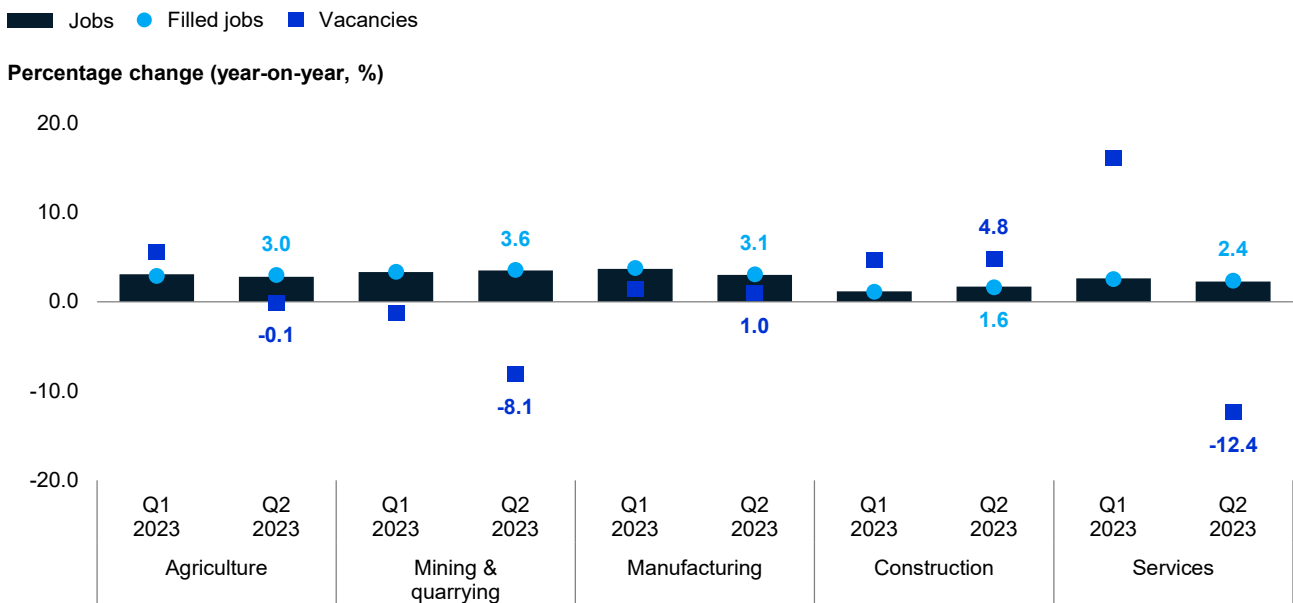
■ Jobs   ● Filled jobs   ■ Vacancies

Percentage change (year-on-year, %)

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Percentage share of jobs, filled jobs & vacancies by economic sector, Q2 2023

■ Jobs　■ Filled jobs　■ Vacancies

Percentage share (%) [Number (thousand)]	Jobs	Filled Jobs	Vacancies
Agriculture	5.5% [482.0]	5.2% [451.3]	16.2% [30.7]
Mining & quarrying	0.9% [80.3]	0.9% [79.9]	0.2% [0.4]
Manufacturing	27.5% [2,428.6]	26.9% [2,320.7]	56.9% [108.0]
Construction	14.3% [1,259.1]	14.3% [1,235.3]	12.5% [23.7]
Services	51.9% [4,576.9]	52.7% [4,550.1]	14.1% [26.8]

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

In Q2 2023, the majority of jobs were concentrated in the Services sector, comprising 51.9 per cent or 4.58 million jobs, which increased by 2.3 per cent (+101.2 thousand) year-on-year. The growth was contributed by the rise of jobs across all sub-sectors, mainly in Transportation & storage (4.2%) and Food & beverages and accommodation (3.2%) sub-sectors. Based on the distribution of jobs by the Services sub-sector, more than 70 per cent of jobs in this sector were in Wholesale & retail trade (36.7%), Finance, insurance, real estate & business services (20.2%) and Food & beverages and accommodation (17.6%) sub-sectors.

Out of total jobs in the Services sector, 99.4 per cent or 4.55 million were filled jobs, posting an increase of 2.4 per cent (+105.0 thousand) in Q2 2023. All sub-sectors posted rates above 98.0 per cent, with the highest filled jobs rate recorded in Food & beverages and accommodation sub-sector (99.7%), while the lowest rate was in Finance, insurance, real estate & business services sub-sector (98.9%). During the same period, vacancies in the Services sector comprised 0.6 per cent (26.8 thousand) of total jobs in this sector, indicating a year-on-year reduction of 12.4 per cent (-3.8 thousand) compared to a significant increase of 16.2 per cent in the previous quarters. These job vacancies were primarily concentrated in Finance, insurance, real estate & business services (38.2%) and Wholesale & retail trade (36.4%) sub-sectors.

In the meantime, the Manufacturing sector which encompassed 27.5 per cent of total jobs or equivalent to 2.43 million jobs, ranked second after the Services sector. This sector posted a year-on-year increase of 3.0 per cent (+70.4 thousand) supported by the positive growth in all sub-sectors except for Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products sub-sector with a marginal decline of 0.3 per cent as compared to the same quarter of last year. The highest number of jobs in this sector was gained by Food processing, beverages & tobacco products (8.3%), followed by Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products (4.7%) and Electrical, electronic & optical products (4.0%). Besides that, jobs in the Manufacturing sector were largely concentrated in Electrical, electronic & optical products (27.0%), followed by Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products (18.5%) and Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products (15.1%). These three sub-sectors combined contributed a share of nearly two-thirds of jobs in the Manufacturing sector.

The rate of filled jobs for the Manufacturing sector remained at 95.6 per cent in Q2 2023. However, the number of filled jobs increased by 3.1 per cent (+69.4 thousand) compared to the same quarter of the previous year to record 2.32 million. Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products sub-sector registered the highest rate of filled jobs (96.5%) while the lowest rate was in sub-sector of Electrical, electronic & optical products with a rate of 94.8 per cent. Comprising 4.4 per cent (108.0 thousand vacancies) of the Manufacturing sector's jobs, vacancies in this sector increased by 1.0 per cent (+1.0 thousand) year-on-year. Nearly half of the job vacancies were in Electrical, electronic & optical products (31.7%) and Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (18.2%) sub-sectors.

During Q2 2023, there were 1.26 million jobs in the Construction sector, which accounted for 14.3 per cent of the total number of jobs in the economy. The number of jobs in this sector increased by 1.7 per cent (+20.7 thousand) compared to the same quarter in the previous year. The rate of filled jobs in this sector was 98.1 per cent (1.24 million filled jobs), while the rate of vacancies was 1.9 per cent (23.7 thousand vacancies). On the other hand, jobs in the Agriculture sector composed of 5.5 per cent, increased by 2.8 per cent (+13.1 thousand) to 482.0 thousand jobs in Q2 2023. Filled jobs in this sector comprised 93.6 per cent (451.3 thousand filled jobs) as opposed to 6.4 per cent vacancies. In addition, the Mining & quarrying sector which made up the smallest share of jobs at 0.9 per cent, equivalent to 80.3 thousand jobs, rose by 3.5 per cent (+2.7 thousand). The rate of filled jobs for this sector was 99.5 per cent while the vacancies rate was 0.5 per cent.

Looking at labour demand by skill level shows that in Q2 2023, the number of jobs in all three skill categories continued to improve as compared to the same quarter of 2022. At the same time, a similar situation portrayed as against to the previous quarter albeit a slower growth of 0.03 per cent in low-skilled category **[Chart 3.5]**.

Chart 3.5:
Jobs, filled jobs & vacancies by skill level, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

■ Jobs ● Filled jobs ■ Vacancies

Percentage change (year-on-year, %)
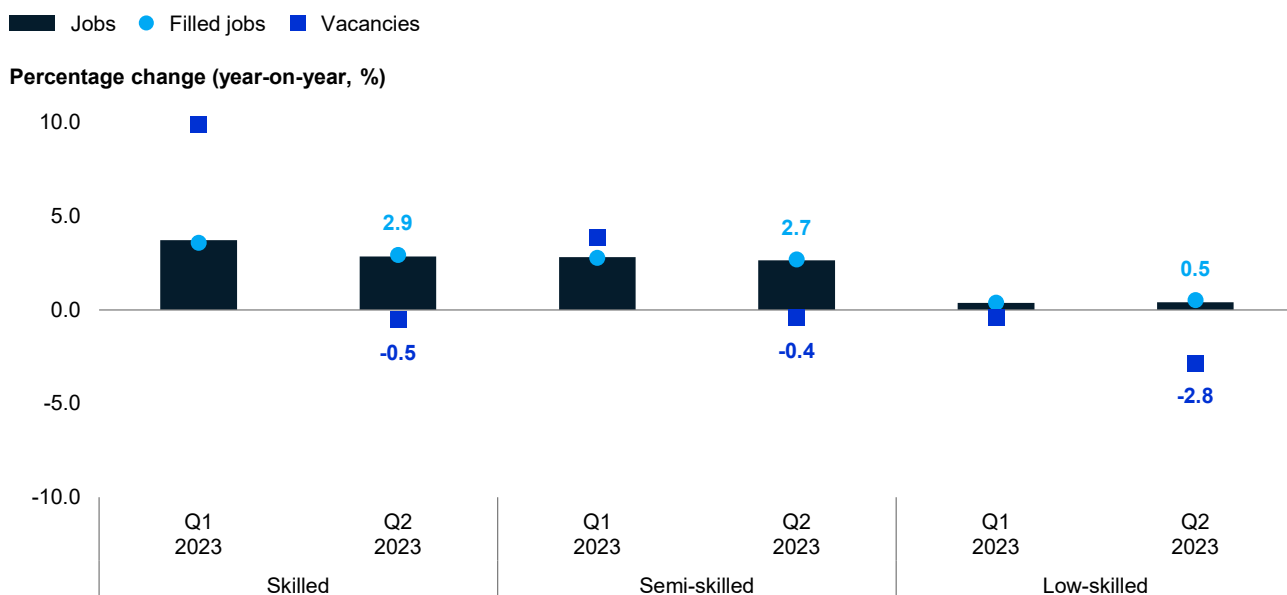
Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Chart 3.6:

Percentage share of jobs, filled jobs & vacancies by skill level, Q2 2023

■ Jobs ■ Filled jobs ■ Vacancies

Percentage share (%) [Number (thousand)]	Jobs	Filled Jobs	Vacancies
Skilled	25.0% [2,205.2]	25.0% [2,156.1]	25.9% [49.0]
Semi-skilled	62.4% [5,506.2]	62.5% [5,401.4]	55.2% [104.7]
Low-skilled	12.6% [1,115.5]	12.5% [1,079.7]	18.9% [35.8]
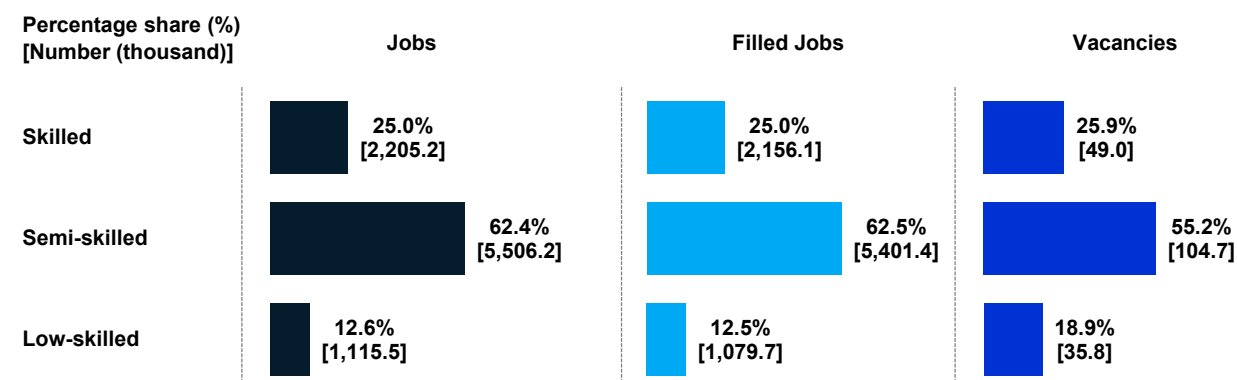
Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

The skilled jobs category encompasses three occupation categories, namely Managers; Professionals; and Technicians and associates professional. The number of skilled jobs rose 2.9 per cent (+61.5 thousand) year-on-year to 2.21 million in Q2 2023, making up a share of 25.9 per cent. Accordingly, the number of filled jobs in the ski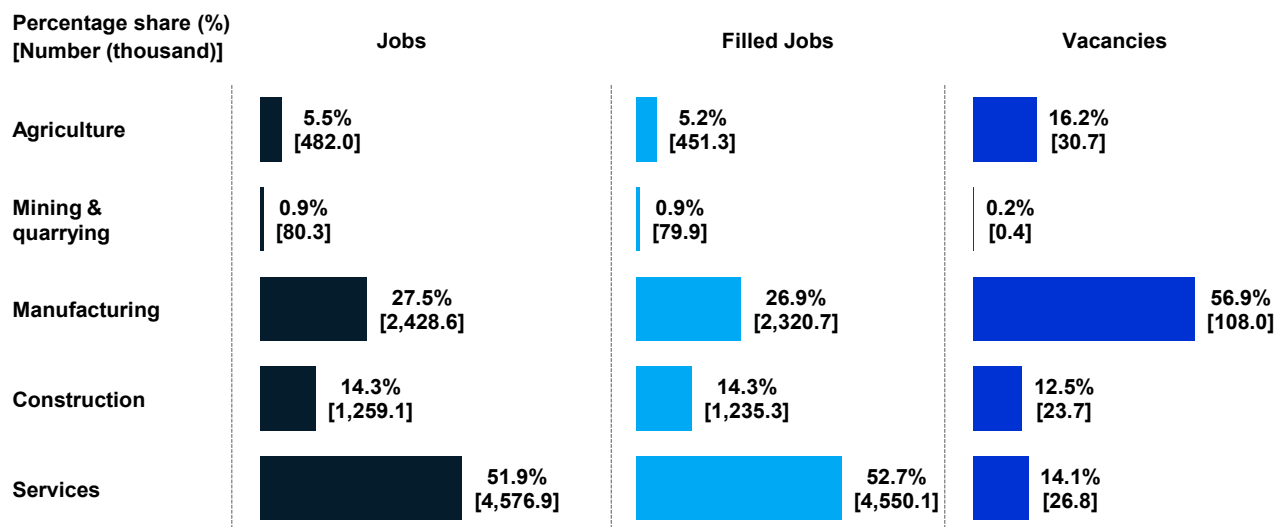lled category edged up by 2.9 per cent (+61.7 thousand) to record 2.16 million. Skilled job vacancies declined marginally by 0.5 per cent (-0.3 thousand), registering 49.0 thousand vacancies. The rate of filled jobs in the skilled category was 97.8 per cent, while the rate of vacancies was 2.2 per cent.

The majority of jobs in the economic sector were in the semi-skilled category, accounting for 62.4 per cent to record 5.51 million jobs in Q2 2023. Five occupations in this category consist of Clerical support workers; Service and sales workers; Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock, and fisheries workers; Craft and related trades workers; and Plant and machine operators and assemblers. Compared with the same quarter of the prior year, jobs in this category grew by 2.6 per cent or gained another 141.9 thousand jobs. The rate of filled jobs in the semi-skilled category was 98.1 per cent or accounted for 5.40 million filled jobs, which increased by 2.7 per cent (+142.4 thousand). During the same period, the number of vacancies in the semi-skilled category dropped 0.4 per cent (-0.4 thousand) to 104.7 thousand vacancies with a rate of 1.9 per cent.

Nevertheless, jobs in the low-skilled category which encompassed the remaining share of 12.6 per cent of jobs by skills category, increased by 0.4 per cent (+4.7 thousand) to 1.12 million jobs. In line with this, the number of low-skilled filled jobs rose slightly by 0.5 per cent (+5.7 thousand) to 1.08 million, recording a rate of filled jobs at 96.8 per cent. On the contrary, the number of low-skilled job vacancies decreased by 2.8 per cent (-1.0 thousand) to 35.8 thousand, hence registering a vacancies rate of 3.2 per cent.

3. Labour Demand

3.2 Jobs creation in the second quarter of 2023

In Q2 2023, the number of jobs created in the economic sector registered a slower year-on-year increase of 8.6 per cent (+2.5 thousand) to 31.9 thousand, compared to a double-digit growth of 22.7 per cent posted in the previous quarter. For four consecutive quarters, it had surpassed the average number of jobs created prior to the public health crisis for the period Q1 2018 until Q4 2019, which was in the range of 21.5 thousand to 28.7 thousand jobs. On quarterly basis, jobs created improved 0.7 per cent (+0.2 thousand) **[Chart 3.7]**.

Chart 3.7:
Jobs created, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023

■ Job created ——●—— Year-on-year (%)
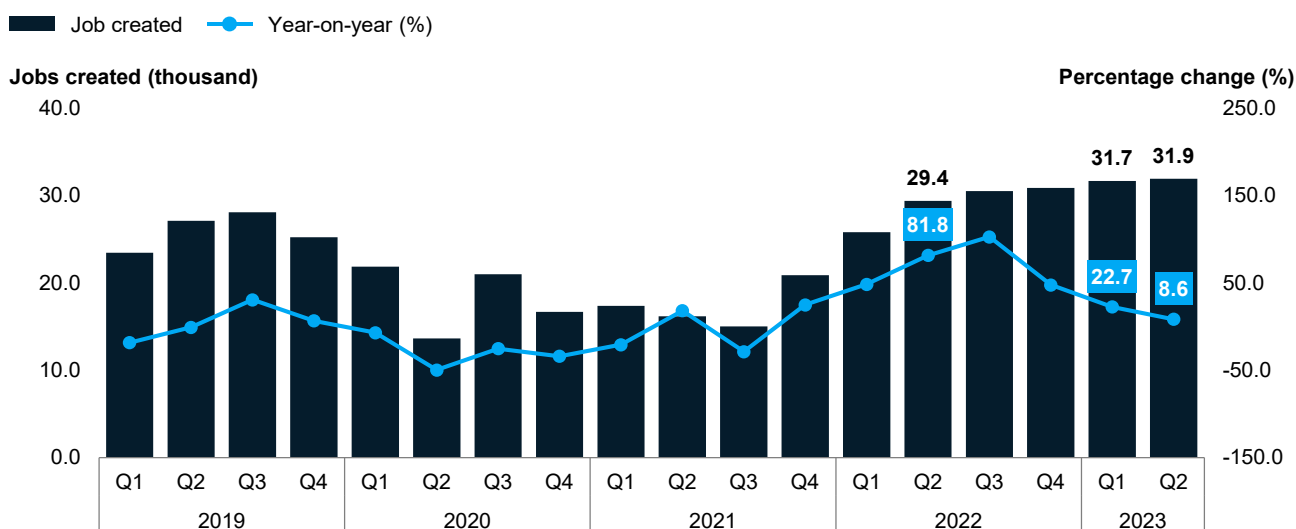
Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Further disaggregation of jobs created by economic activity, all sectors posted positive year-on-year growth in Q2 2023 **[Chart 3.8]**.

Chart 3.8:
Jobs created by economic sector, Q2 2022, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

■ Services ■ Construction ■ Manufacturing ■ Mining & quarrying ■ Agriculture
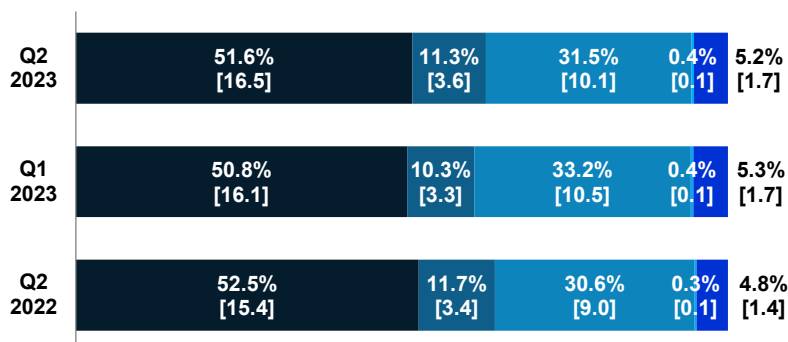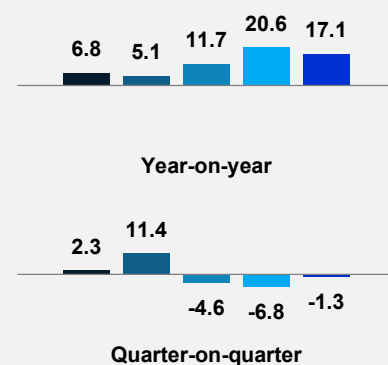
Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Job creation was largely in the Services sector, comprising 51.6 per cent or equivalent to 16.5 thousand jobs, recording an increase of 6.8 per cent (+1.0 thousand) in Q2 2023. Within this sector, Wholesale & retail trade sub-sector played a significant role by contributing 8.5 thousand jobs created, followed by Finance, insurance, real estate & business services sub-sector with 3.1 thousand jobs created.

In the meantime, the Manufacturing sector ranked second with a share of 31.5 per cent of total jobs created in Q2 2023, rising by 11.7 per cent (+1.1 thousand) to register 10.1 thousand jobs created. A combined share of two sub-sectors that comprised more than half of jobs created in the Manufacturing sector was the Electrical, electronic & optical products and Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products.

Besides that, the number of jobs created in the Construction sector comprised 11.3 per cent which was equivalent to 3.6 thousand jobs, recording an increase of 5.1 per cent (+0.1 thousand) as against the same quarter of the preceding year. Meanwhile, the Agriculture and Mining & quarrying sectors recorded a share of 5.2 per cent and 0.4 per cent out of total jobs created during the quarter respectively.

Breakdown of jobs created by skill level, more than half or 59.6 per cent of total jobs created in Q2 2023 were concentrated in the semi-skilled category, which accounted for 19.0 thousand, grew 8.4 per cent compared to the same quarter of the preceding year. The skilled category ranked second with a share of nearly one-third (29.4%) of total jobs created, registering an increase of 1.3 per cent to 9.4 thousand jobs created. Meanwhile, the low-skilled category which made up 11.0 per cent of jobs created during this quarter, rose by 36.6 per cent to record a total of 3.5 thousand jobs created in the low skilled level **[Chart 3.9]**.

Chart 3.9:
Jobs created by skill level, Q2 2022, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

■ Skilled ■ Semi-skilled ■ Low-skilled

Percentage share (%)
[Number (thousand)]

	Skilled	Semi-skilled	Low-skilled
Q2 2023	29.4% [9.4]	59.6% [19.0]	11.0% [3.5]
Q1 2023	27.2% [8.6]	63.8% [20.2]	9.0% [2.9]
Q2 2022	31.5% [9.3]	59.7% [17.6]	8.8% [2.6]

Percentage change (%)

Year-on-year: 1.3, 8.4, 36.6

Quarter-on-quarter: 8.9, -5.9, 22.9
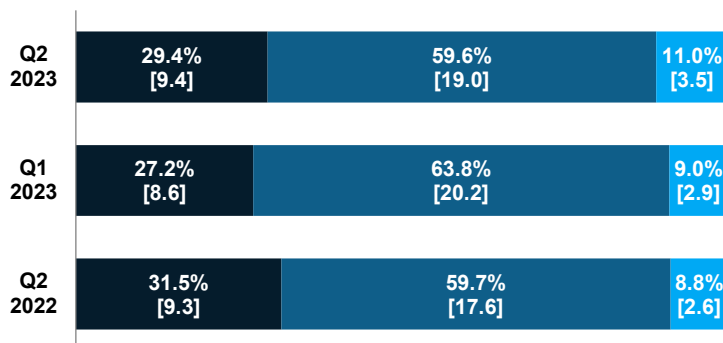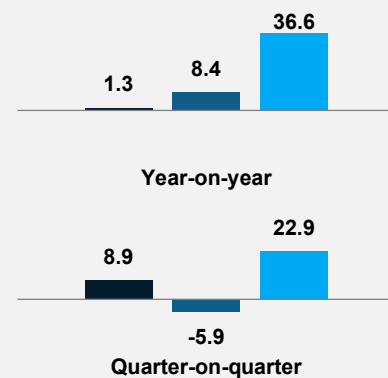
Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

3. Labour Demand

3.3 Online job vacancies advertised

According to Job Market Insight (JMI) statistics using a big data analytics platform, the number of online job vacancies advertised by employers increased by 32.9 per cent (+52.4 thousand), to register 211.5 thousand vacancies in Q1 2023 compared to the same quarter in the previous year. In the meantime, the quarterly change observed that online job vacancies grew by 3.5 per cent, with an additional 7.1 thousand vacancies **[Chart 3.10]**.

Chart 3.10:
Online job vacancies advertisement, Q3 2019 - Q1 2023
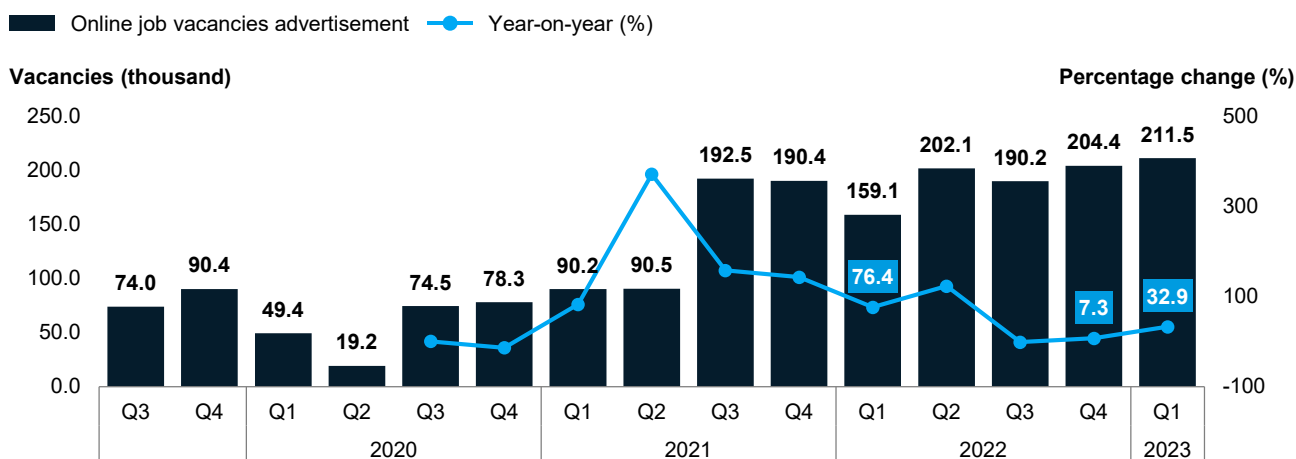
Source: Big Data Analytics, Job Market Insights, Malaysia, Q1 2023

From the perspective of the economic sector, all sectors posted positive year-on-year growth of online job vacancies advertised during Q1 2023 except for the Manufacturing sector, which decreased by 27.2 per cent, recording 21.5 thousand vacancies. Meanwhile, the Services sector which contributed the largest share of 54.9 per cent, recorded a total of 116.2 thousand vacancies during the same period. On a quarterly basis, the Mining & Quarrying sector was the only industry to experience significant growth, with an increase of 18.1 per cent leading to a total of 581.0 job openings **[Chart 3.11]**.

Chart 3.11:
Online job vacancies advertisement by economic sector, Q1 2022, Q4 2022 & Q1 2023
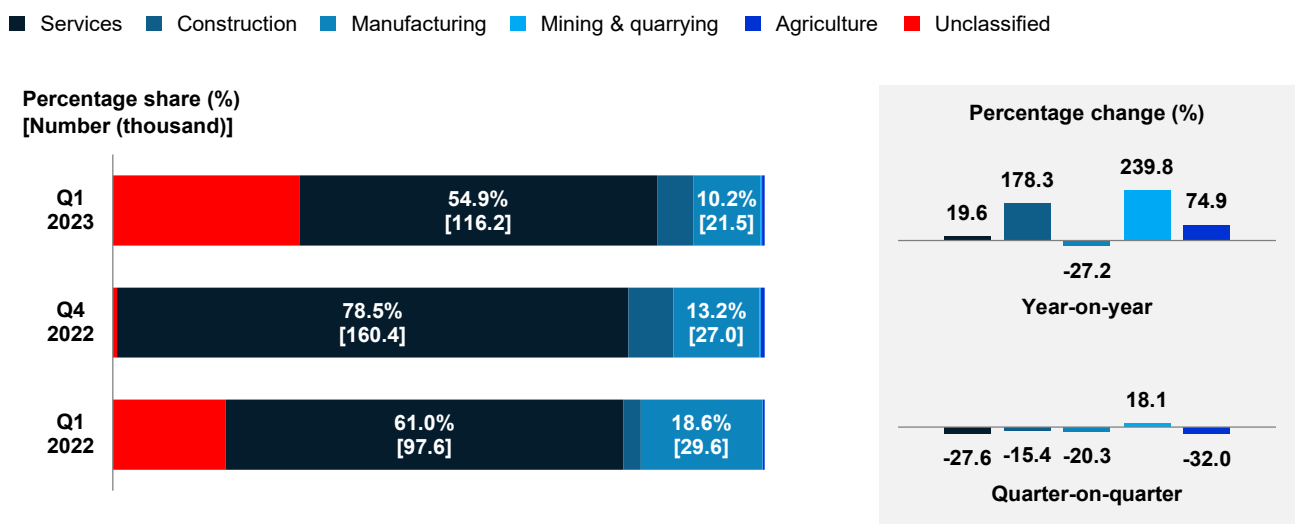
Source: Big Data Analytics, Job Market Insights, Malaysia, Q1 2023

As for online job vacancies advertised by skill category, skilled occupation comprised the largest share of 79.2 per cent, which went up 42.5 per cent as against the same quarter last year to record 167.5 thousand job vacancies in Q1 2023. The Professionals occupations contributed to most of the vacancies advertised during the quarter with 47.9 per cent (101.2 thousand). Meanwhile, advertised job vacancies for Technician and associate professionals and Managers comprised 17.5 per cent and 13.8 per cent respectively. Besides, online job vacancies advertised in semi-skilled category also increased by 5.8 per cent as against Q1 2022, while decreasing by 19.0 per cent compared to the previous quarter **[Chart 3.12]**.

Chart 3.12:
Online job vacancies advertisement by skill level, Q1 2022, Q4 2022 & Q1 2023

■ Skilled ■ Semi-skilled

Percentage share (%)
[Number (thousand)]

	Skilled	Semi-skilled
Q1 2023	79.2% [167.5]	20.8% [44.0]
Q4 2022	73.4% [150.2]	26.6% [54.3]
Q1 2022	73.9% [117.6]	26.1% [41.6]

Percentage change (%)

	Skilled	Semi-skilled
Year-on-year	42.5	5.8
Quarter-on-quarter	11.6	-19.0
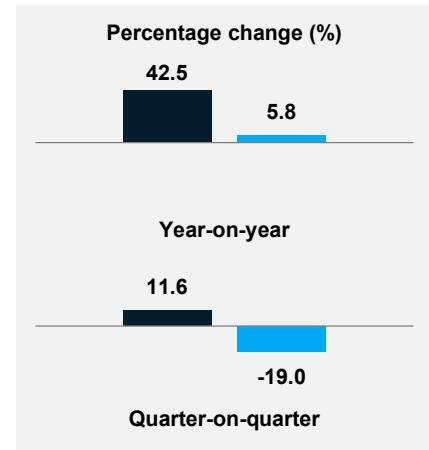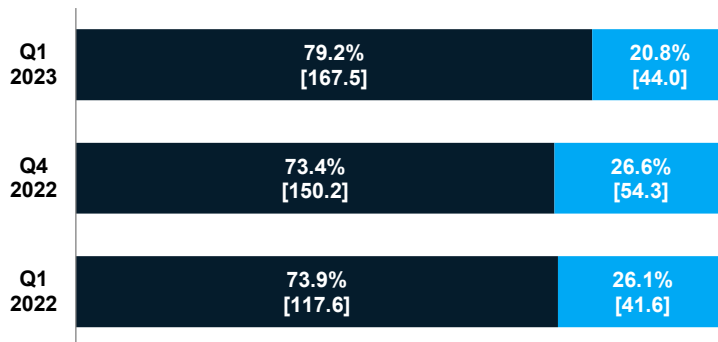
Source: Big Data Analytics, Job Market Insights, Malaysia, Q1 2023

4. Labour Productivity

4.1 Labour productivity per hour worked in the second quarter of 2023

Malaysia's economy expanded moderately by 2.9 per cent year-on-year in Q2 2023 as compared 5.6 per cent registered in the previous quarter. During the same period, the total hours worked increased by 4.0 per cent or equivalent to 359.3 million hours to record a total of 9.30 billion hours **[Chart 4.1]**.

Chart 4.1:
Total Hours Worked, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023

Legend: ■ Total hours worked ● Year-on-year (%) ● Quarter-on-quarter (%)
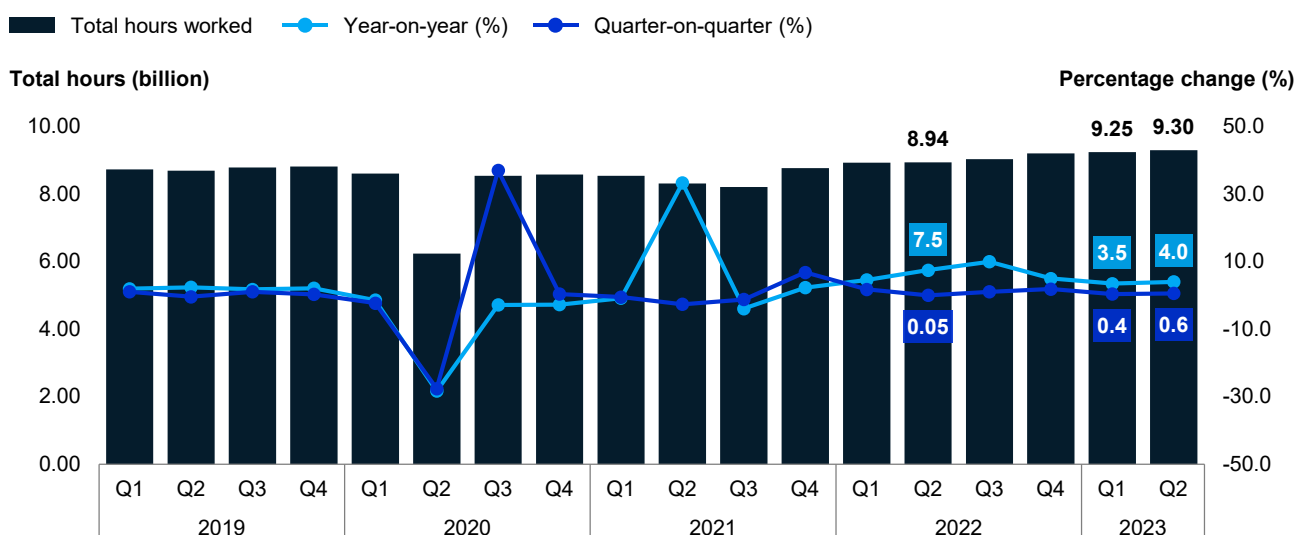
Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

The Services sector encompassed almost two-thirds or 61.8 per cent of total hours worked in Malaysia, making it the most significant contributor to the country's economy. The Manufacturing sector followed this with a share of 17.8 per cent, and the Agriculture sector had a share of 11.0 per cent in Q2 2023. Meanwhile, total hours worked in the Construction and Mining & quarrying sectors comprised 9.0 per cent and 0.5 per cent respectively.

All sectors experienced an increase in total hours worked, surpassing the year-on-year growth of the previous quarter. In particular, the Services sector observed the highest gain in total hours worked (+250.0 million hours), increased by 4.6 per cent over the same quarters of the previous year. This increase was primarily driven by Food & beverages and accommodation (+91.0 million hours; 9.5%), Wholesale & retail trade (+61.0 million hours; 3.8%), Real estate & business services (34.0 million hours; 5.0%) and Transportation & storage (25.0 million hours; 7.4%) sub-sectors.

Aside from that, total hours worked in the Manufacturing sector improved further by 4.2 per cent (+67.0 million hours), with the highest increase in Electrical, electronic & optical products (+24.0 million hours; 6.5%), followed by Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing (+14.0 million hours; 5.3%) and Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing (+9.0 million hours; 5.1%) sub-sectors.

Additionally, total hours worked in the Construction sector strengthened to 2.7 per cent (+22.0 million hours) after registering 0.9 per cent in Q1 2023. The Agriculture and Mining & quarrying sectors also maintained a positive growth trend, with growth rates of 1.9 per cent (+19.0 million hours) and 4.7 per cent (+2.0 million hours) respectively **[Chart 4.2]**.

Total hours worked by economic sector, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

■ Q1 2023　■ Q2 2023

Percentage change (%)
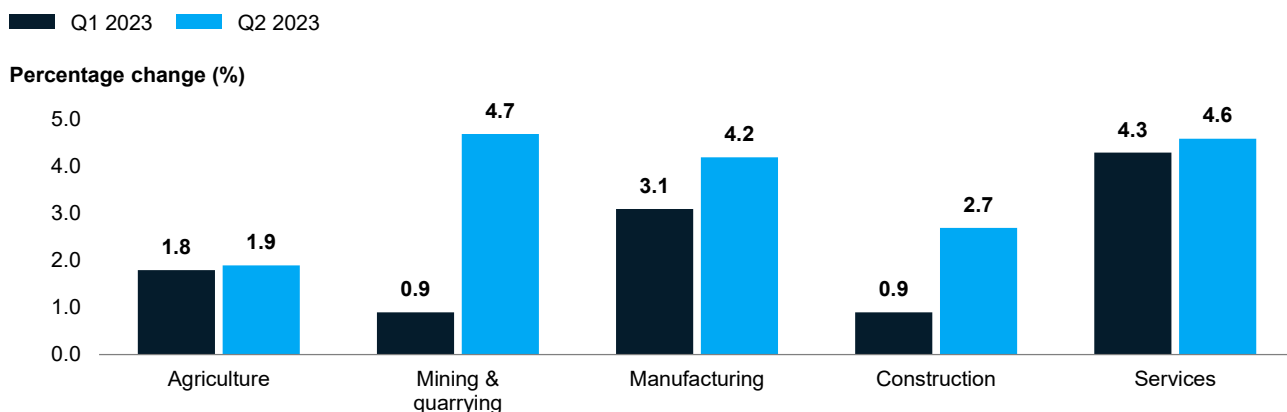
Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

As a whole, labour productivity as measured by value added per hour worked fell by 1.1 per cent in Q2 2023 after registering an increase of 2.1 per cent in Q1 2023, attaining RM40.6 per hour **[Chart 4.3]**.

Chart 4.3:

Labour productivity per hour worked, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023

■ Labour productivity per hour worked - (RM)　—●— Labour productivity per hour worked - Year-on-year (%)　—●— Total hour worked - Year-on-year (%)
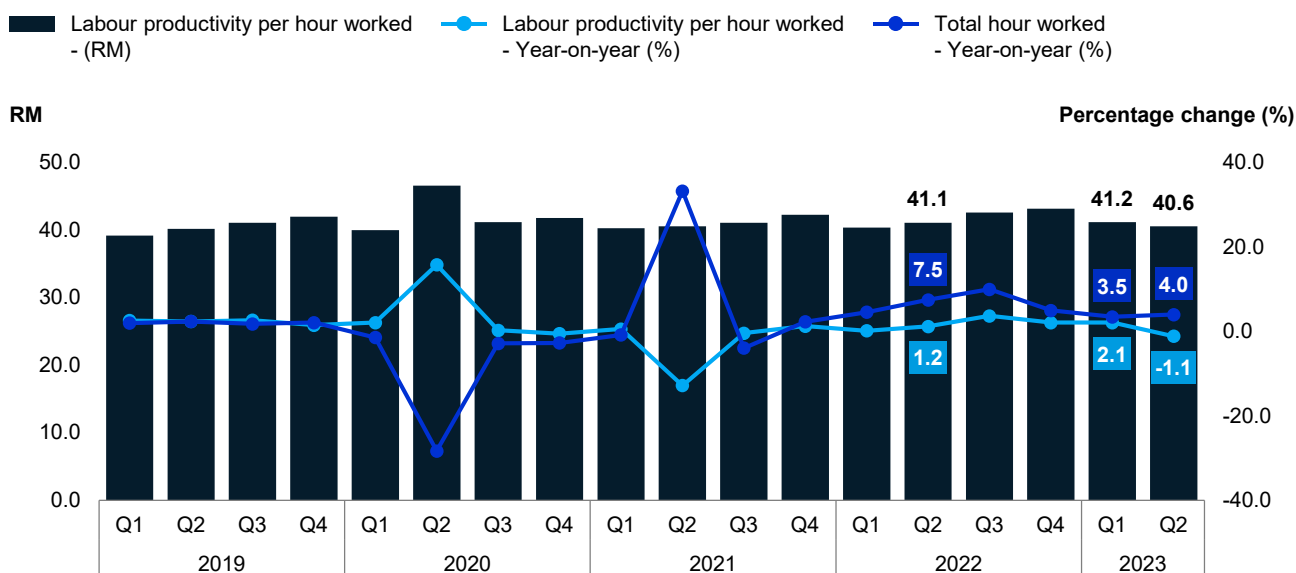
Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

The Services sector indicated a positive growth of value added per hour worked, increasing marginally by 0.1 per cent in Q2 2023 after registering an increase for seven consecutive quarters. The highest growth was recorded in Transportation & storage (5.6%), followed by Other services (4.5%) and Real estate & business services (2.8%) sub-sectors. Meanwhile, labour productivity per hour worked for Wholesale & retail trade sub-sector grew slightly by 0.8 per cent during this quarter after registering an increase of 4.9 per cent in Q1 2023. However, Finance & insurance sub-sector experienced a significant drop of 7.8 per cent while Food & beverages and accommodation sub-sector saw a marginal decrease of 0.1 per cent during this quarter.

In the meantime, the Construction sector posted a year-on-year increase of 3.5 per cent in labour productivity per hour worked, following a 6.5 per cent increase in Q1 2023.

On the contrary, the Manufacturing sector's value added per hour worked declined by 3.9 per cent after registering an increase of 0.2 per cent in Q1 2023. Despite a dip in most sub-sectors, two sub-sectors posted positive growth, namely Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products (3.9%) and Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products (3.8%) sub-sectors.

Additionally, the value added per hour worked in the Mining & quarrying sector declined by 6.7 per cent during Q2 2023. In contrast, the Agriculture sector sustained its negative growth in labour productivity per hour worked, descending by 2.9 per cent **[Table 4.1]**.

Table 4.1:
Labour productivity per hour worked, value added & total hour worked, Q2 2023 - percentage change (year-on-year)

Economic Activity	Labour productivity per hour worked	Value added	Total hours worked
Agriculture	**-2.9**	**-1.1**	**1.9**
Mining & Quarrying	**-6.7**	**-2.3**	**4.7**
Manufacturing	**-3.9**	**0.1**	**4.2**
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	-3.0	2.1	5.3
Beverages & tobacco products	-2.8	8.8	11.9
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	3.8	3.7	-0.1
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	-6.2	-1.4	5.1
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	-4.6	-1.6	3.1
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	3.9	5.4	1.5
Electrical, electronic & optical products	-7.5	-1.5	6.5
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	-4.5	0.7	5.5
Construction	**3.5**	**6.2**	**2.7**
Services	**0.1**	**4.7**	**4.6**
Utilities	-1.4	3.5	5.0
Wholesale & retail trade	0.8	4.7	3.8
Food & beverages and accommodation	-0.1	9.5	9.5
Transportation & storage	5.6	13.5	7.4
Information & communication	-2.4	3.6	6.2
Finance & insurance	-7.8	-4.7	3.3
Real estate & business services	2.8	8.0	5.0
Other services	4.5	5.9	1.3
Total	**-1.1**	**2.9**	**4.0**

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

4.2 Labour productivity per employment in the second quarter of 2023

As Malaysia's labour market continued to improve in Q2 2023, employment increased by 2.8 per cent year-on-year (+445.1 thousand persons) to register a total of 16.15 million persons. In the meantime, employment saw a growth of 0.5 per cent on a quarterly basis in Q2 2023, following a rise of 0.8 per cent in the previous quarter **[Chart 4.4]**.

Chart 4.4:
Employment, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023
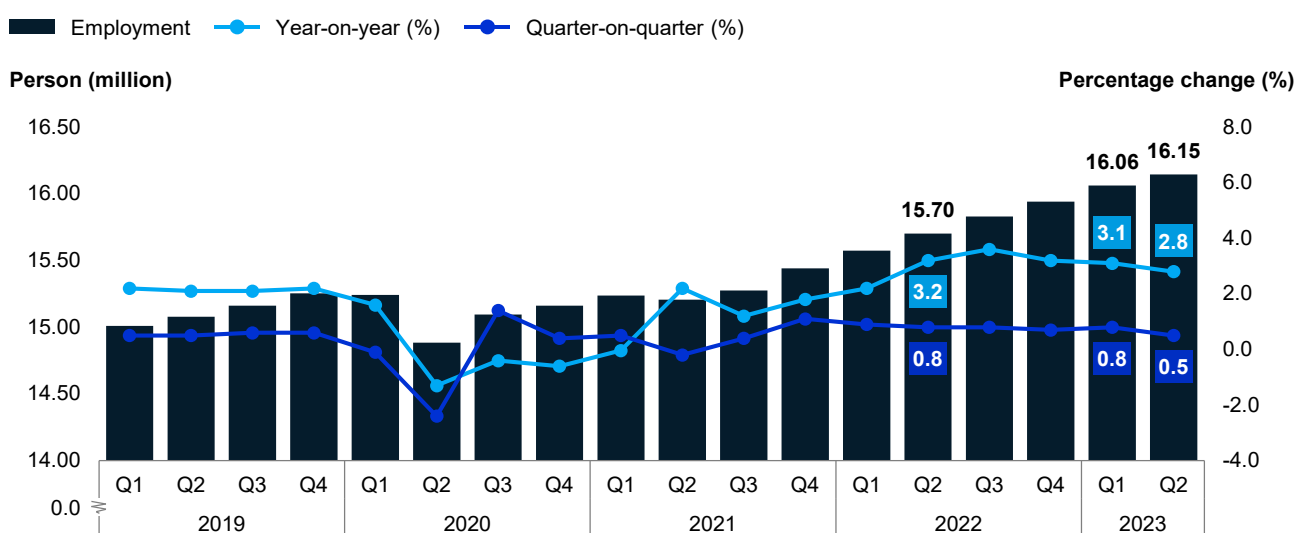
Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

The rise in the number of employment in Q2 2023 was primarily driven by all economic activity, specifically the Services and Manufacturing sectors.

In the Services sector, employment rose by 3.6 per cent (+351.0 thousand) during Q2 2023 to record 10.02 million persons, with most all sub-sectors increasing compared to Q2 2022. The highest gain was in Food & beverages and accommodation (+152.4 thousand; 8.9%), followed by Wholesale & retail trade (+52.8 thousand; 1.9%) and Other Services (+52.5 thousand; 1.9%) sub-sectors.

As for the Manufacturing sector, employment climbed 2.8 per cent (+74.5 thousand) to 2.78 million persons in Q2 2023. Compared to the same quarter last year, employment grew across all Manufacturing sub-sectors, except for Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products sub-sector, which decreased by 4.4 per cent (-11.6 thousand). The most significant gain was recorded in Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing products (+27.0 thousand; 5.5%), followed by Electrical, electronic, & optical products (+25.9 thousand; 4.3%) and Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing (+13.7 thousand; 4.4%) sub-sectors.

Employment in the Agriculture sector increased by 0.2 per cent to 1.88 million persons in Q2 2023. Meanwhile, employment in the Mining & quarrying and Construction sectors grow marginally by 0.8 per cent and 1.0 per cent respectively **[Chart 4.5]**.

Chart 4.5:

Employment by economic sector, Q1 2023 & Q2 2023

■ Q1 2023   ■ Q2 2023

Percentage change (%)
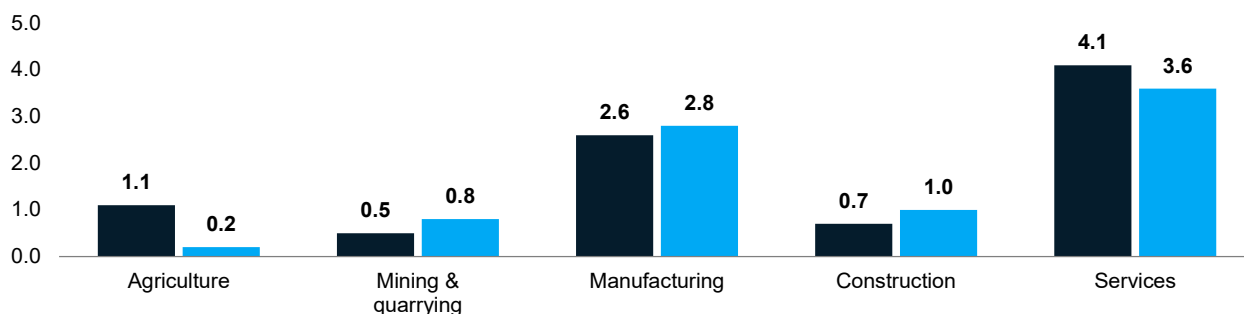
Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

The employment growth of 2.8 per cent has contributed to a smaller growth in labour productivity per employment. The labour productivity measured as value added per employment grew further, albeit at a slower rate of 0.02 per cent to record RM23,407 per person in Q2 2023 **[Chart 4.6]**.

Chart 4.6:

Labour productivity per employment, Q1 2019 - Q2 2023

■ Labour productivity per employment - (RM)   ● Labour productivity per employment - Year-on-year (%)   ● Employment - Year-on-year (%)
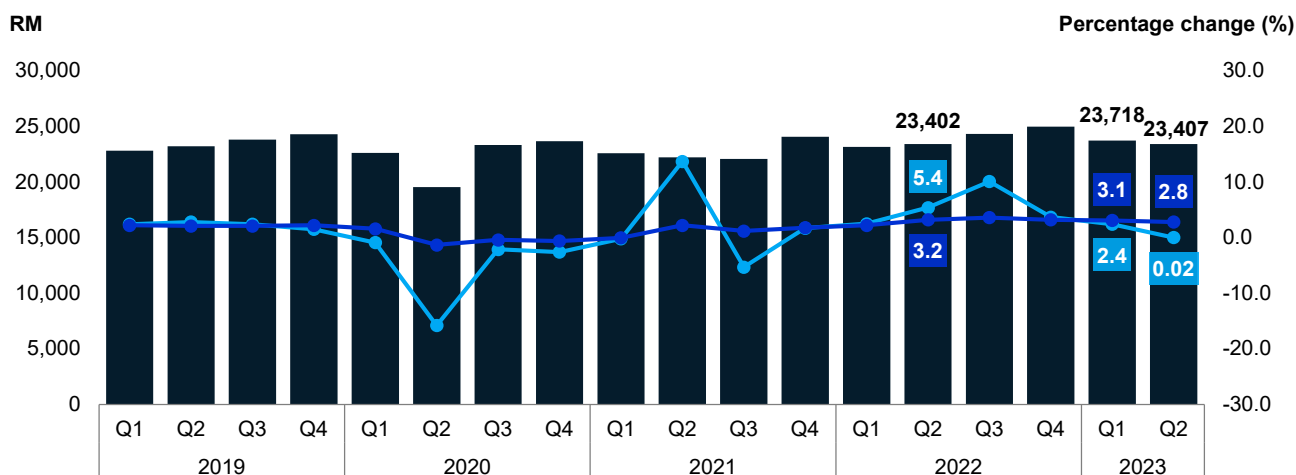
Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

In Q2 2023, the Services sector saw a slower year-on-year increase of 1.0 per cent in labour productivity per employment after registering 3.1 per cent growth in Q1 2023. Six sub-sectors posted positive growth during the quarter, namely Utilities (3.0%), Wholesale & retail trade (2.7%), Food & beverages and accommodation (0.5%), Transportation & storage (6.6%), Real estate & business services (4.9%) and Other services (3.9%).

In the meantime, the Construction sector posted a more substantial year-on-year growth of 5.2 per cent in labour productivity per employment, following a 6.7 per cent increase in Q1 2023.

The Manufacturing sector's labour productivity per employment decreased 2.6 per cent year-on-year in Q2 2023 compared to a marginal increase of 0.7 per cent in the previous quarter. Although the majority of sub-sectors experienced a decline, three sub-sectors recorded a growth in their performance, namely Beverages & tobacco products (3.5%), Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products (8.5%) and Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products (3.9%) sub-sectors

Furthermore, the Agriculture sector sustained its negative growth in labour productivity per employment, falling by 1.3 per cent in Q2 2023. In contrast, the Mining & quarrying sector recorded a negative growth of 3.0 per cent year-on-year as compared to a positive growth of 1.9 per cent in Q1 2023 **[Table 4.2]**.

Table 4.2:
Labour productivity per employment, value added and employment Q2 2023 - percentage change (year-on-year)

Economic Activity	Labour productivity per employment	Value added	Employment
Agriculture	**-1.3**	**-1.1**	**0.2**
Mining & Quarrying	**-3.0**	**-2.3**	**0.8**
Manufacturing	**-2.6**	**0.1**	**2.8**
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	-3.2	2.1	5.5
Beverages & tobacco products	3.5	8.8	5.1
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	8.5	3.7	-4.4
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	-5.6	-1.4	4.4
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	-2.0	-1.6	0.4
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	3.9	5.4	1.4
Electrical, electronic & optical products	-5.5	-1.5	4.3
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	-5.2	0.7	6.2
Construction	**5.2**	**6.2**	**1.0**
Services	**1.0**	**4.7**	**3.6**
Utilities	3.0	3.5	0.6
Wholesale & retail trade	2.7	4.7	1.9
Food & beverages and accommodation	0.5	9.5	8.9
Transportation & storage	6.6	13.5	6.5
Information & communication	-1.3	3.6	5.0
Finance & insurance	-6.6	-4.7	2.0
Real estate & business services	4.9	8.0	3.0
Other services	3.9	5.9	1.9
Total	**0.02**	**2.9**	**2.8**

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

5.1 Median monthly wages of formal employees

According to the Employee Wages Statistics compiled using administrative data sources from relevant agencies, the number of Malaysian formal employees in March 2023 was 6.45 million persons, which increased by 0.9 per cent (+55.2 thousand) compared to the same month in the previous year **[Chart 5.1]**. Accordingly, this number accounted for 62.1 per cent of total Malaysian paid employees in both private and public sectors. In the meantime, the median monthly wages in March 2023 increased by 8.3 per cent year-on-year to register RM2,600 **[Chart 5.2]**.

Chart 5.1:
Formal employees, January 2022 - March 2023
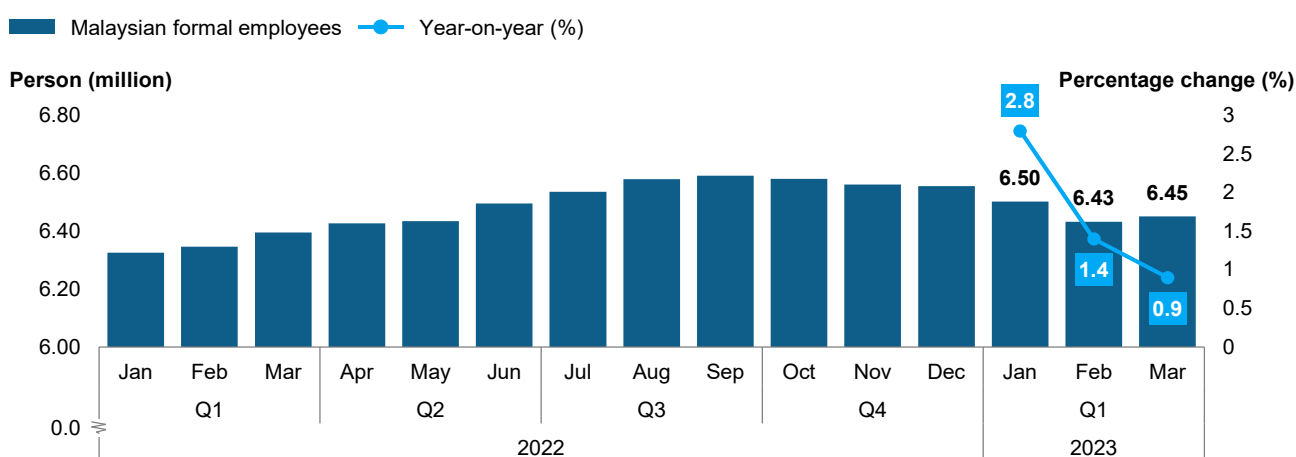
Source: Employees Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Q1 2023, DOSM

Chart 5.2:
Median monthly wages, January 2022 - March 2023
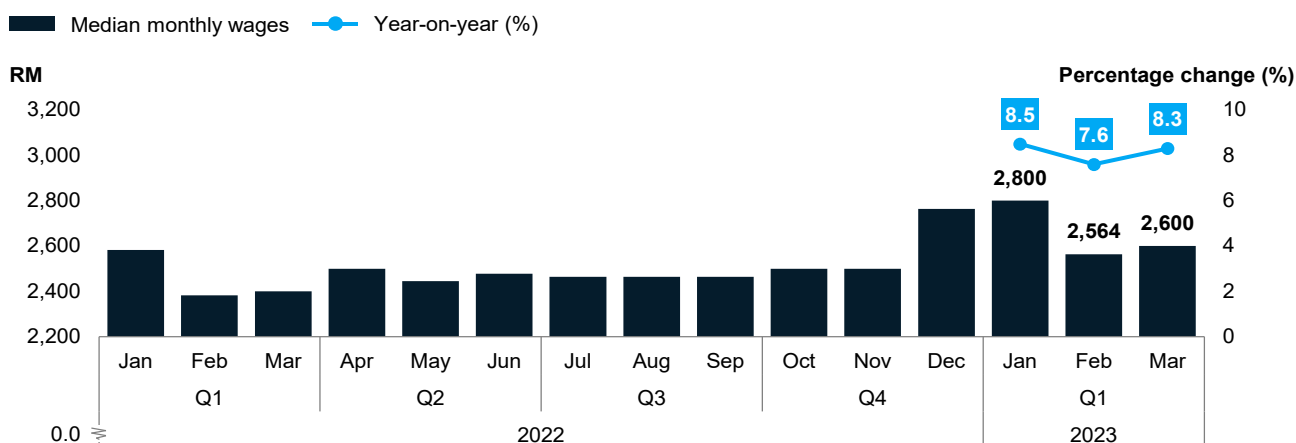
Source: Employees Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Q1 2023, DOSM

In terms of sex, male formal employees have a higher median monthly wage than their female counterparts. On average, male formal employees earned approximately 3.0 per cent higher than female formal employees. The median monthly wages for male increased by 8.0 per cent to record RM2,664, comprising 55.5 per cent or equivalent to 3.58 million persons in March 2023. Meanwhile, female made up 44.5 per cent of the total Malaysian formal employees, with the median monthly wages for female increasing by 8.6 per cent year-on-year to RM2,545 **[Chart 5.3]**.

Similarly, both median monthly wages for male and female formal employees also registered month-on-month increases, whereby the median value for male and female grew by 2.4 per cent and 1.8 per cent respectively.

Chart 5.3:
Median monthly wages by sex, March 2023

| ■ Median monthly wages | ● Year-on-year (%) | ■ Malaysian formal employees |
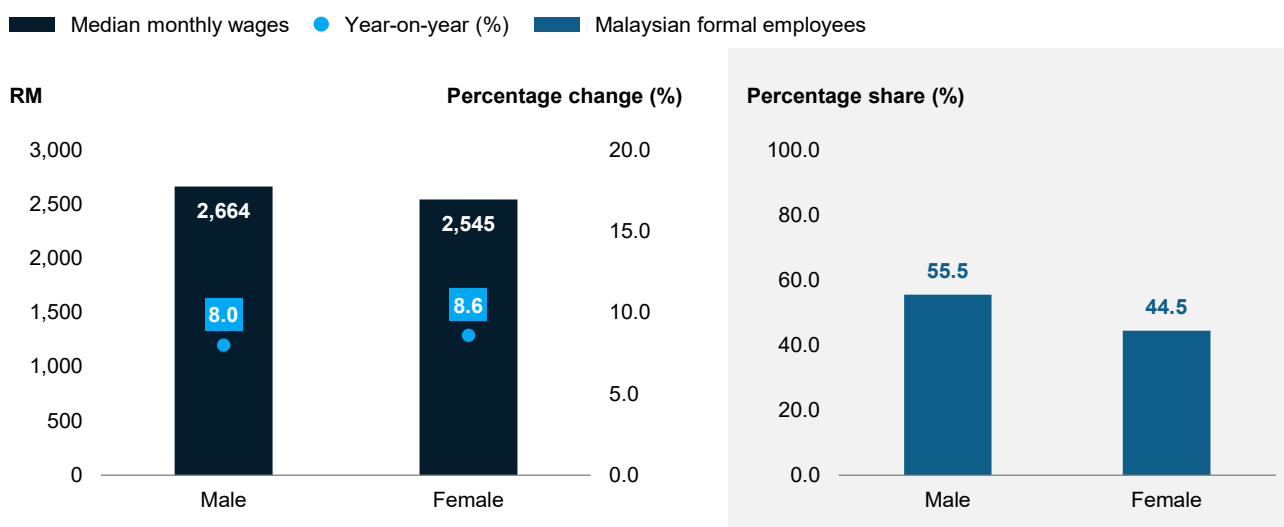
Source: Employees Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Q1 2023, DOSM

Further disaggregation by age group, Malaysian formal employees aged 40 to 44 years and 45 to 49 years contributed the highest median monthly wages, of which both groups recorded RM3,500 in March 2023. These two categories combined comprised nearly 20 per cent of total Malaysian formal employees. In the meantime, the age group below 20 years recorded the lowest median monthly wages with RM1,500. The same trend can be seen in the previous months, indirectly telling that the age group, which is related to the level of education and work experience, influences the wage distribution of formal employees.

During March 2023, Malaysian formal employees in all age groups experienced an increase in their median monthly wages compared to the same period in the previous year. Among these groups, formal employees who were below the age of 20 recorded the highest increase of 25.0 per cent year-on-year **[Chart 5.4]**.

As compared to February 2023, the median monthly wages across all age groups registered increases ranging between 0.5 per cent and 3.0 per cent, except for age groups below 20 years, 60 to 64 years and 65 years and above, which remain unchanged.

Chart 5.4:
Median monthly wages by age group, March 2023

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

RM

Percentage change (%)

Percentage share (%)
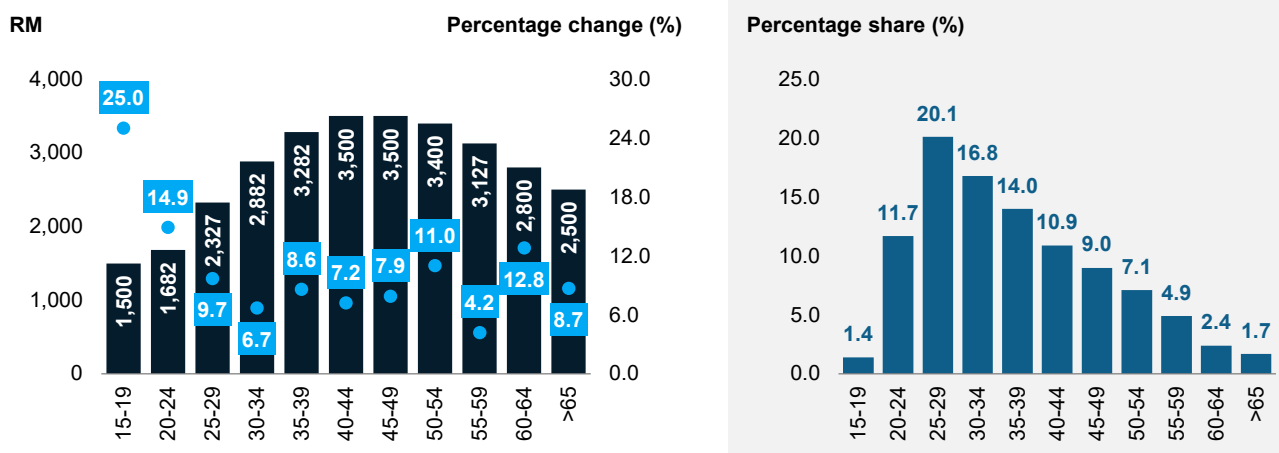
Source: Employees Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Q1 2023, DOSM

Looking at the median monthly wages by economic activity, all sectors recorded an increase in March 2023 compared to the same month a year ago.

Despite comprising only 0.5 per cent of the total Malaysian formal employees, the Mining & quarrying sector remained to register the highest median monthly wages in March 2023 at RM7,500. Compared to March 2022, the median monthly wages for the Mining & quarrying sector increased by 33.9 per cent. In the meantime, the Construction sector recorded the median monthly wages of RM2,764 in March 2023, ranking second highest after the Mining & quarrying sector. This sector posted a year-on-year increase of 6.3 per cent.

As the main contributor to the economy, Malaysian formal employees in the Services sector encompassed more than two-thirds (67.5%) or 4.35 million persons, recorded median monthly wages of RM2,627 in March 2023 with an increase of 8.2 per cent year-on-year. Two sub-sectors registered the highest median monthly wages, namely Finance and insurance at RM6,000, followed by Information and communication at RM5,200. Meanwhile, the median monthly wages for other Services sub-sectors were below RM3,000, with the lowest recorded by formal employees in the Transportation and storage sub-sector (RM1,782). Nevertheless, regarding annual changes, the Real estate and business services sub-sector recorded the highest increase of 14.5 per cent of median monthly wages in March 2023.

The median monthly wages for Malaysian formal employees in the Manufacturing sector experienced a significant increase of 11.1 per cent year-on-year to record RM2,444 in March 2023. Beverage dan tobacco products sub-sector registered the highest median monthly wages (RM3,000), while the sub-sector of Petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products came in second with RM2,600. The sub-sector of Textile, wearing apparel and leather products experienced the highest growth of 15.1 per cent in the median monthly wages, reaching RM1,945 in March 2023.

As of March 2023, the Agricultural sector recorded the lowest median monthly wages among all sectors at RM1,900. Despite this, it is worth noting that this figure reflects a notable increase of 8.9 per cent in comparison to the corresponding month of the preceding year **[Table 5.1]**.

Table 5.1:
Median monthly wages by economic activity, March 2023

Economic Activity	Monthly Wages		Formal employee
	Median (RM)	Percentage change (year-on-year, %)	Percentage share (%)
Agriculture	**1,900**	8.9	2.0
Mining & Quarrying	**7,500**	33.9	0.5
Manufacturing	**2,444**	11.1	18.1
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	2,164	8.2	2.5
Beverages & tobacco products	3,000	9.3	0.2
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	1,945	15.1	0.4
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	2,200	10	1.5
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	2,600	10.9	2.9
Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	2,500	8.7	2.2
Electrical, electronic & optical products	2,464	9.7	5.2
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	2,545	10.7	3.0
Construction	**2,764**	**6.3**	**5.8**
Services	**2,627**	**8.2**	**67.5**
Utilities	2,845	8.5	1.0
Wholesale & retail trade	2,264	8.4	21.4
Food & beverages and accommodation	2,700	10.5	4.6
Transportation & storage	1,782	11.4	4.5
Information & communication	5,200	9.2	3.2
Finance & insurance	6,000	-1.6	4.5
Real estate & business services	2,800	14.5	11.7
Other services	2,600	8.3	16.6
Unclassified		-	6.1
Total	**2,600**	**8.3**	**100.0**

Source: Employees Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Q1 2023, DOSM

Concerning the wages of Malaysian formal employees at the state level in March 2023, three states surpassed the national median monthly wage of RM2,600. Leading the chart was W.P. Kuala Lumpur, boasting the highest median monthly wages at RM3,927, followed closely by Selangor, which recorded median monthly wages of RM2,964 in March 2023. During the same period, Pulau Pinang secured the third spot with median monthly wages of RM2,627.

In contrast, Kelantan, Perlis, and Sabah exhibited the lowest median monthly wages, with each state reporting values of RM1,600, RM1,627, and RM1,782 respectively **[Chart 5.5]**.

Chart 5.5:
Median monthly wages by state, March 2023

Median monthly wages (RM)

State	Median monthly wages (RM)	Percentage change (Year-on-year, %)
W.P. Kuala Lumpur	3,927	6.1
Selangor	2,964	9.8
Pulau Pinang	2,627	10.3
Malaysia	2,600	8.3
W.P. Putrajaya	2,464	-3.9
Johor	2,400	14.3
Negeri Sembilan	2,345	12.7
Melaka	2,264	11.7
Pahang	2,000	11.1
Perak	2,000	11.1
Sarawak	2,000	11.1
Terengganu	1,900	14.0
W.P. Labuan	1,900	6.2
Kedah	1,827	14.2
Sabah	1,782	13.7
Perlis	1,627	16.2
Kelantan	1,600	14.3
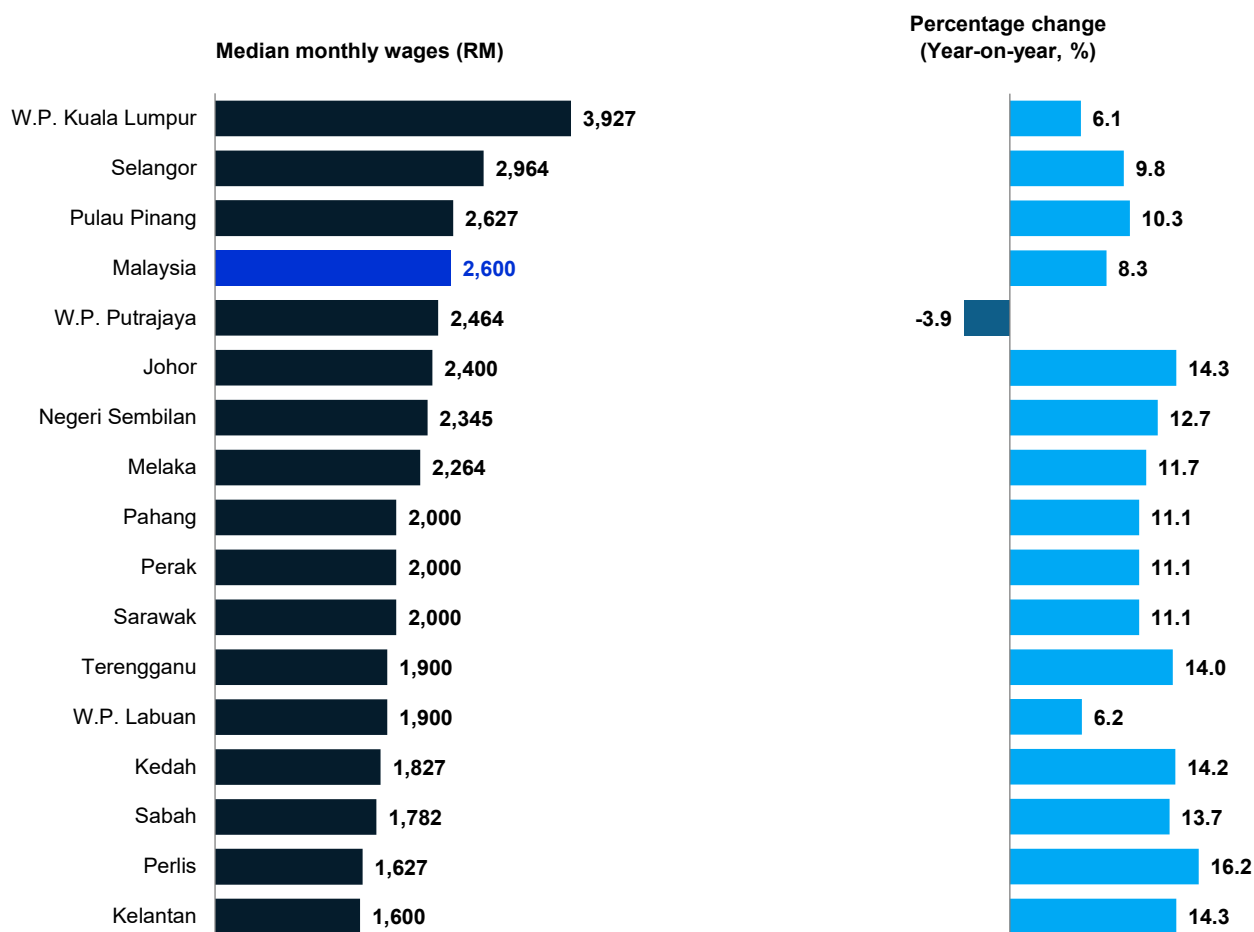
Source: Employees Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Q1 2023, DOSM

5. Employee Wages

5.2 Distribution of monthly wages

The wage distribution in March 2023 shows that 2.25 million citizen formal employees earned monthly wages below RM2,000. This group, which represented 34.8 per cent of total Malaysian formal employees, was reduced by 5.4 percentage points compared to the same month of the preceding year, likely due to the minimum wage increase starting in May 2022. In the meantime, approximately 5.2 per cent of formal employees who are Malaysian citizens earned the highest monthly wages of RM15,000 and above in March 2023 **[Chart 5.6]**.

Chart 5.5:
Distribution of monthly wages of formal employees by wages scale, March 2022 & March 2023
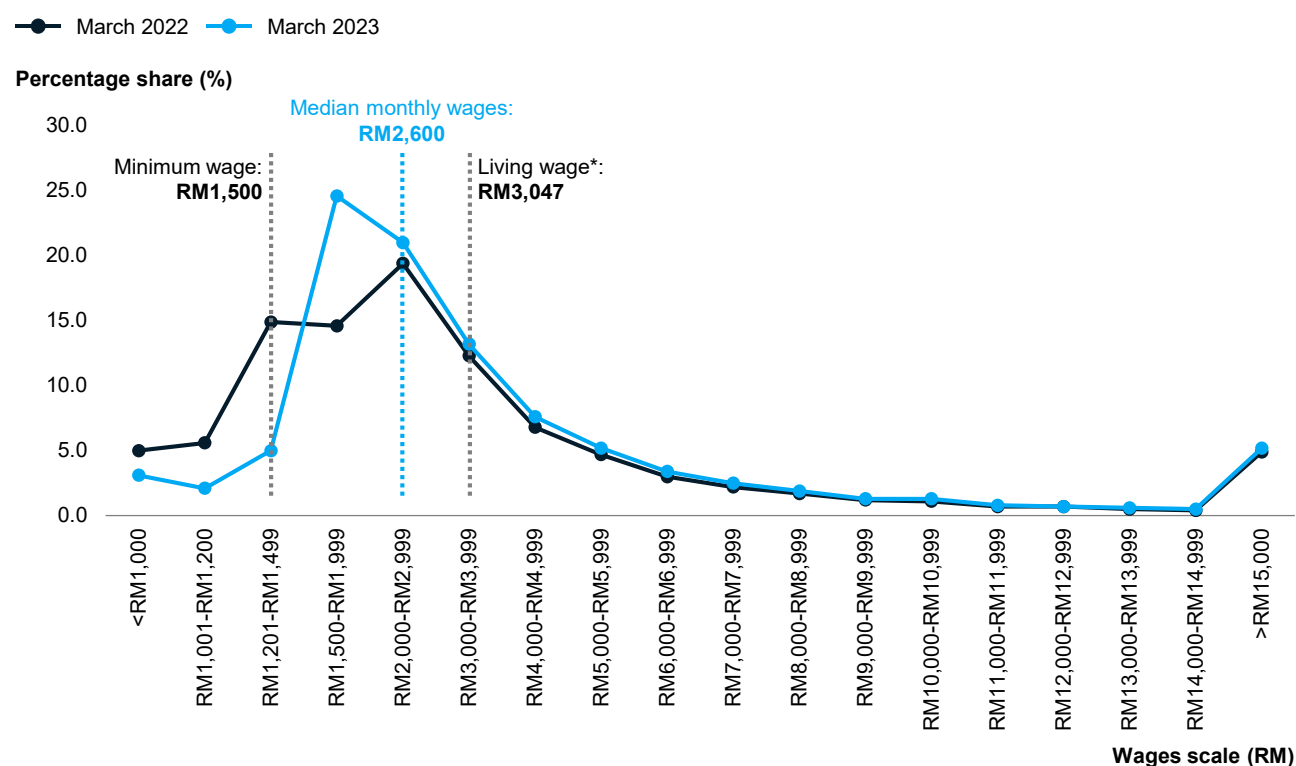
	<RM1,000	RM1,001-RM1,200	RM1,201-RM1,499	RM1,500-RM1,999	RM2,000-RM2,999	RM3,000-RM3,999	RM4,000-RM4,999	RM5,000-RM5,999	RM6,000-RM6,999	RM7,000-RM7,999	RM8,000-RM8,999	RM9,000-RM9,999	RM10,000-RM10,999	RM11,000-RM11,999	RM12,000-RM12,999	RM13,000-RM13,999	RM14,000-RM14,999	>RM15,000
Mar-23	3.1	3.2	5.0	24.6	21.0	13.2	7.6	5.2	3.4	2.5	1.9	1.3	1.3	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	5.2
Mar-22	5.0	5.6	14.9	14.6	19.4	12.3	6.8	4.7	3.0	2.2	1.7	1.2	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.4	4.9

Source: Employees Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Q1 2023, DOSM

According to the percentile analysis, it has been observed that the bottom 10 per cent of Malaysian formal employees received monthly wages of RM1,482 or less. However, this group experienced a significant increase of 27.0 per cent in March 2023 compared to the same month of the previous year. During the same period, the monthly wages for Malaysian formal employees at the 90th percentile increased by 4.6 per cent year-on-year, reaching RM9,100 monthly. Given these points, the wage ratio between the highest wage earner group (90th percentile) and the lowest wage earner group (10th percentile) explains that the higher wage earner group makes more than six times the monthly wage of the lowest wage earner group **[Chart 5.7]**.

Distribution of monthly wages of formal employees by percentile, March 2022 & March 2023

■ March 2022　■ March 2023　● Year-on-year (%)

Person (million)　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　**Percentage change (%)**

10,000		30.0
	27.0	
8,000		25.0
	20.3	20.0
6,000		
	12.5	15.0
4,000		
	7.8　**8.3**	10.0
2,000		5.0
0		0.0

Percentile values:

- **10th:** 1,167 | 1,482 — 27.0
- **20th:** 1,300 | 1,564 — 20.3
- **30th:** 1,600 | 1,800 — 12.5
- **40th:** 1,989 | 2,145 — 7.8
- **50th:** 2,400 | 2,600 — 8.3
- **60th:** 3,000 | 3,200 — 6.7
- **70th:** 3,767 | 4,000 — 6.2
- **80th:** 5,100 | 5,500 — 7.8
- **90th:** 8,700 | 9,100 — 4.6

Percentile
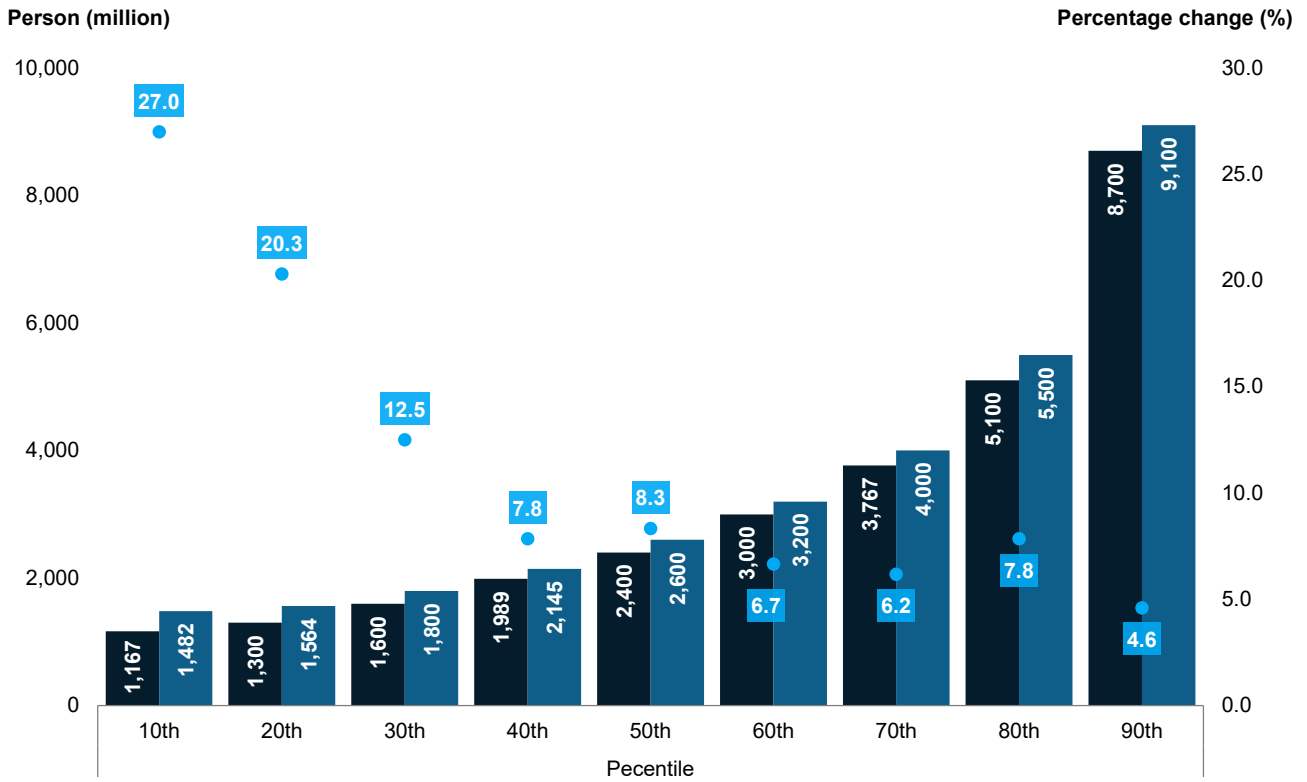
Source: Employees Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Q1 2023, DOSM

6. Way Forward

Progressive wages to enhance economic and societal well-being

Even as Malaysia's economy flourishes, a significant proportion of employees still earn insufficient wages to support their families and livelihoods. Labour share, also referred to as wage share or labour's share of income, is a macroeconomic concept that quantifies the portion of an economy's total income allocated to labour as opposed to other factors of production. While macroeconomic performance may improve, household earnings might not necessarily follow suit due to diminishing labour shares[2]. Furthermore, research demonstrates that over time and in several nations, a larger capital share is associated with greater inequality in the personal distribution of income[3].

According to wage distribution analysis based on Employee Wages Statistics, 34.8 per cent of Malaysian formal employees earned less than RM2,000 in March 2023, marking a decrease from 40.2 per cent the previous year. This decline is most likely attributed to the minimum wage hike implemented in May 2022. Malaysia had already been experiencing wage stagnation before the pandemic, but growing inflation without a large increase in wages means that people's salaries have lost purchasing power. Malaysia's inflation rose to 2.8 per cent in May 2023 at 130.2 points, compared with 126.6 in the same month of the previous year, indicating an increase in the overall consumer price level. Although Malaysia raised the monthly minimum wage from RM1,200 to RM1,500 on May 1st, last year, implementation has been slow at best. The median monthly wages had not increased in tandem with the cost of living and remained at a low percentile. The poverty line income which is determined by the average household income for 2022 stood at RM2,589, while the living wage as of 2017 was RM3,0473[4]. Consequently, this results in a never-ending cycle of poverty and places an immense burden on individuals to maintain a decent standard of living.

Looking at the return to labour in Malaysia as measured by compensation of employees (CE), the share of CE to GDP is 32.4 per cent in 2022, falling short of the 40.0 per cent target that the government aspires to attain by 2025 under the 12th Malaysia Plan. Malaysia's share of CE to GDP is much lower than other developed countries such as Singapore (36.6%), Australia (45.6%), South Korea (47.6%), United Kingdom (52.9%) and United States of America (53.0%). The low level of CE may be linked to Malaysia's current economic structure, driven primarily by labour-intensive and low-value-added businesses. Thus, wage growth is one of the main focuses of structural reforms to achieve the country's CE target. The concept of the Madani Economy is poised to reshape Malaysia's economic landscape by ushering in a new era of empowerment and inclusivity. At its core, the Madani Economy envisions an economic system that prioritises the people's well-being and fosters a harmonious balance between economic growth, social justice and environmental sustainability ultimately making Malaysia a leading Asian economy. Addressing the labour market issues and advancing towards a regime of progressive wages is a strategic imperative.

The labour market is the engine of economic growth, with its dynamics shaping the workforce's opportunities and aspirations. A resilient labour market thrives on a well-trained and adaptable workforce. Hence, investment in education and skills development is a cornerstone. By aligning education with the demands of the evolving job landscape, Malaysia can empower its citizens to stay competitive, ensuring a continuous supply of skilled workers for the industries that propel

2 Atkinson, A. B. (2009). Factor shares: the principal problem of political economy? Oxford Review of Economic Policy, 25(1), 3–16. https://doi.org/10.1093/oxrep/grp007
3 Piketty, T. (2013). Capital in the Twenty-First Century. https://dowbor.org/wp content/uploads/2014/06/14Thomas-Piketty.pdf
4 Bank Negara Malaysia (2017). The Living Wage: Beyond Making Ends Meet. https://www.bnm.gov.my/documents/20124/826852/AR+BA4+-+The+Living+Wage+Beyond+Making+Ends+Meet.pdf

the nation forward. At the core of a resilient labour market lies the concept of progressive wages, reflecting the principle of fair compensation in harmony with skill enhancement and productivity. Currently, the Progressive Wage Model (PWM) is primarily implemented in Singapore as part of the country's efforts to address income inequality, enhance the quality of work for low-wage workers, and encourage skills upgrading. Since being implemented, PWM sectors such as cleaning, security, landscape, lift and escalator, retail, food services, and waste management have raised wages at a sustainable and meaningful pace, without hurting the livelihoods of the lower-wage workers. The PWM benefits workers by mapping out a clear career pathway for their wages to rise along with training and improvements in productivity and standards. At the same time, higher productivity improves business profits for employers. Service buyers also enjoy better service standards and quality[5]. In contrast to the conventional wage framework, progressive wages aim to narrow income disparities by offering higher wages for more skilled or productive work. This strategy promotes a sense of equity and encourages skill development, resulting not only in individual progress but also in national economic advancement. Progressive wages offer a viable solution for tackling the twin objectives of diminishing income inequality and enhancing overall productivity.

In order to realise the concept of progressive wages, a multi-dimensional effort is imperative. Government intervention is pivotal in formulating and enforcing policies that ensure a minimum wage floor that reflects the cost of living. These measures serve as the foundation for a more equitable wage framework that guarantees respectable remuneration for all Malaysian employees. Additionally, fostering industries' proactive adoption of innovation and technology, coupled with support for operational upgrades has the potential to yield enhanced productivity and subsequently elevated wages. The responsibility extends beyond the government, requiring concerted efforts from employers as well. Businesses have the opportunity to embrace the concept of progressive wages voluntarily, recognising the long-term benefits of a motivated and skilled workforce. By implementing targeted training, performance-based incentives and clear career pathways, employers can play a role in raising income levels and enhancing their employees' job satisfaction. Collaboration among stakeholders is pivotal in this endeavour. Employers, employees, as well as policymakers, must engage in constructive dialogues to strike a harmonious balance between business interests and worker well-being. Through social partnerships, a refined understanding of industry-specific requirements can emerge, leading to policies catering to each sector's unique needs.

In conclusion, the confluence of a vibrant labour market and progressive wages presents a compelling narrative for Malaysia's journey towards sustainable progress and an elevated quality of life. A skilled and adaptable workforce, underpinned by education and training, propels economic growth. This growth, in turn, can be harnessed to drive progressive wages that champion equity and reward skill enhancement. Ultimately, progressive wages envision an ecosystem where every citizen's quality of life is uplifted. The convergence of a fair wage system with the ideals of a just and inclusive economy fosters an environment that values both economic advancement and social well-being. As Malaysia takes bold steps towards realising the MADANI Economy, the implementation of progressive wages stands as a beacon of hope which is a tangible way forward that aligns with the nation's aspirations for prosperity, equity and empowerment.

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5   Ministry of Manpower Singapore. (2018). Progressive Wage Model. https://www.mom.gov.sg/employment-practices/progressive-wage-model

7. Conclusion

Overall, the supply and demand for labour remained stable in Q2 2023 as the economy continued to expand although moderately propelled by effective governance, improved consumer confidence and better business conditions. The positive momentum in employment growth contributed to a year-on-year expansion of the labour force underlining the country's commitment to progress. Looking at the labour demand by industry, the number of jobs in the economic sector increased in Q2 2023, but there was a slight decrease in job openings indicated by the number of vacancies during the quarter. Nevertheless, the period witnessed a significant number of more new jobs were created as compared to the same quarter a year ago, surpassing the average number of jobs created before the COVID-19 pandemic. As for labour market efficiency, labour productivity measures in terms of value added per employment, remained stable in Q2 2023. However, concerning value added per hour worked, there was a noticeable drop in labour productivity, signalling a potential decrease in overall labour market efficiency.

Furthermore, DOSM has recently introduced a new initiative to enhance the dissemination of employee wage statistics. The goal is to provide more comprehensive, precise, timely and invaluable insights by leveraging administrative data, contributing to a deeper understanding of Malaysia's labour market dynamics. Aligned with the government's proactive approach to executing the MADANI Economy policy, this data serves as an essential initiative. Part of the framework's second focus is on improving the quality of life for Rakyat, government is committed to create meaningful job opportunities. Strategies include reviewing minimum wage levels, introducing legislation for secure and conducive workplaces and exploring a progressive wage model that links income growth to enhanced productivity. Moreover, to ensure equal opportunities for all, regardless of gender, ethnicity or background, the government aims to bridge gender gaps in the labour market through legislative measures and supportive programs that encourage the reintegration of mothers into the workforce. These initiatives reflect the government's dedication to informed and equitable socioeconomic progress.

Moving into Q3 2023, Malaysia's economy is foreseen to maintain its growth trajectory, albeit at a moderate pace anchored by domestic demand and tourism activities. Also, the costs of living and doing business are slowly getting better as inflation decreases. This is similar to global events, where IMF predicts that the world economy will grow by 3.0 per cent in 2023. Nevertheless, BNM maintained its growth forecast for Malaysia's economic growth as a whole between 4.0 per cent and 5.0 per cent in 2023. After recording an improved performance in the first half of 2023, the labour market momentum is anticipated to sustain a steady growth path in the upcoming quarter, supported by ongoing economic development, government initiatives and quality investments that will generate high-quality and high-paying jobs. However, the outlook is subjected to various global and domestic challenges stemming from unprecedented situations that may arise in the future.

Exploring Malaysia's Youth Labour Force

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[1,2] Malaysian Bureau of Labour Statistics (MBLS), Department of Statistics Malaysia

Introduction

Youth employment plays a crucial role in the social and economic development of any nation, and Malaysia is no exception. With a dynamic and vibrant youth population, Malaysia recognises the significance of harnessing the potential and talents of its young workforce. As a multi-ethnic and diverse country in Southeast Asia, Malaysia's youth represent a valuable resource that can drive innovation, productivity and sustainable growth in various sectors of the economy. Malaysia has made significant progress in recent years to address the challenges and opportunities related to youth employment. The government has implemented various policies, programs and initiatives aimed at enhancing job prospects and creating a conducive environment for the young workforce. These efforts are driven by the recognition that gainful and meaningful employment for the youth not only ensures their individual prosperity but also contributes to overall national development.

However, despite these efforts, Malaysia continues to face certain persistent challenges in youth employment. Issues such as a high youth unemployment rate, skills mismatch and limited access to quality education and training programs pose obstacles to the full utilisation of the youth's potential. Additionally, the rapid advancement of technology and the changing nature of work necessitate constant adaptation and upskilling among the youth to remain competitive in the job market. As nations strive to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), it is imperative to prioritise the needs and aspirations of the youth. Youth employment with its potential to drive economic growth, foster social ability and shape the future of societies, demands careful attention. This review seeks to provide a comprehensive assessment of Malaysia's youth employment, considering the challenges and opportunities young persons face in accessing decent work.

On September 2015, the global community at the United Nations (UN) adopted the 2030 Global Agenda entitled 'Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for sustainable Development' (United Nation, 2020). This action plan concerns addressed pertaining to development, economy, human rights and the environment. The most critical is to ensure that inclusive development is within the reach of all people groups including the youth communities. There are numerous studies that examine the current situation of the youth labour market, aligning the pathway towards achieving youth-specific SDGs (Target 4.4 and 8.5). Although these targets prioritise youth's role in development, youth unemployment continues to be a significant challenge for both developed and developing countries. International Labour Organization (ILO, 2022) highlights that the youth experience significant barriers to employment. Even before the pandemic, unemployment rates were significantly higher for young workers (those aged between 15 and 24 years) than for adult workers (those aged 25 years and above).

By examining the current state of youth employment, analysing the existing challenges, and exploring the available opportunities, we can gain insights into the efforts being made to empower and engage the youth workforce. Through targeted strategies, innovative solutions and collaboration between government, the private sector and civil society, Malaysia can create a thriving environment where its youth can contribute meaningfully to the nation's progress while enjoying fulfilling and rewarding careers.

Literature Review

Youth employment and unemployment rate are critical issues that have garnered significant attention in academic research, policy discussions, and international development agendas. This literature review aims to provide an overview of the key themes, findings and trends in studies related to youth employment and the associated challenges of high youth unemployment rates. By examining a range of scholarly articles, reports and empirical studies, this review seeks to contribute to a deeper understanding of the factors influencing youth employment and the implications for individuals, societies and economies. Youth originate a resource of vast potential and they can contribute significantly to the overall development of the nation. Malaysia achieved a commendable ranking of 30th in the Human Capital Report 2015, reflecting its significant investment in and utilisation of human capital for the age group of 15 to 24 years (World Economic Forum's Human Capital Report, 2015).

In certain regions, there are significant gender differences in youth labour force participation. According to Canlas and Pardalis (2009), the young females in Philippines was considered as low labour force participation rate than that of young males. Globally, the rate for young males was 53.9 per cent, compared to 37.3 per cent for young females in 2016, with a gap of 16.6 percentage points. This could be brought on by disparities in opportunity, as well as socio economic and cultural challenges that tend to disadvantage women. The challenge also was found in Southern Asia, the Arab States and Northern Africa, where female youth participation rates are lower than those of male youth in 2016 (ILO, 2016).

In most African countries, the proportion of young females in poverty is still greater than males, although they assume the major role in maintaining the family. They work more in the agriculture and informal economy, occupying jobs in low profitability activities and earning low incomes (Haji, 2007). However, according to Canlas and Pardalis (2009), almost half of the employed youth in Philippines concentrated in Service sector which it become the largest absorber of labour. Meanwhile, the number of young workers in the Manufacturing, Construction, Mining & quarrying sectors in Philippines continues to decline. The capital-intensive nature of industrialisation and the discouraging growth of these industries in Philippines contributed to this trend. Disaggregation by occupation shows that higher number of young females filled the technical and professional positions than young males (Canlas & Pardalis, 2009). It is aligned with the increasing proportion of females with advanced education.

Youth are a demographic that is marginalised in local labour market across the globe. The lack of employment opportunities for youth indicates one of the major global challenges. Young people are much less likely to be employed than adults, with the global youth unemployment rate standing at 13 per cent, or three times higher than the adult rate of 4.3 per cent (ILO, 2018). They encounter high unemployment rates (typically two to three times the average unemployment rate), age-related forms of discrimination, and frequent transitions between education and work, or both. The youth unemployment rate in Canada and United States remain more than twice those for adults (ILO 2016). In 2022, ILO estimates the global youth employment dropped by 34 million between 2019 and 2020, meanwhile the youth unemployment rose by around 4 million in 2020 (ILO, 2022).

According to Dev and Venkatanarayana (2011), unemployment rates among young people are considerably higher than those among adults in both usual and weekly employment status. In India, the number of unemployed youth has witnessed an increase from 6.5 million in 1994,

to 9.5 million in 2005. Notably, the majority of these unemployed youth, about 61 per cent, reside in rural areas, and approximately 70 per cent of them are males. Despite the fact that young people only make up 21 per cent of the total adult workforce, they account for almost half (49%) of the overall unemployment figures. However, there has been a slight decrease in the share of youth unemployment relative to adult unemployment, declining from 52.2 per cent in 1994 to 49.0 per cent in 2005 (Dev & Venkatanarayana, 2011). Moreover, youth employed tend to earn lower wages compared to adults. While youth unemployment is a pressing issue, it is just one facet of the challenges faced within the youth labour market. Since a significant number of young workers are engaged in the informal or unorganised sector, it is crucial to focus on enhancing income productivity, working conditions and social security measures to improve the overall situation.

Youth unemployment in Malaysia has gained recognition as a significant concern, particularly in light of the impact of technological advancements and slower rates of structural economic growth (Cheng & Mohamad, 2020). Teenagers are at a higher risk of experiencing unemployment compared to young adults and graduates. Youth unemployment is particularly prevalent in states with lower incomes, such as Kelantan, Sabah and Terengganu. It is also more widespread in economically disadvantaged communities. Moreover, analysis of job creation and labour force characteristics indicates that youth unemployment in Malaysia is influenced by a mismatch between labour supply and demand, as well as information gaps and ineffective matching processes within the labour market (Cheng & Mohamad, 2020).

Definition & Methodology

This study aim to analyse the labour force participation rate, employment-to-population ratio, unemployment rate and employee wages focusing on three distinct age groups: youth aged 15 to 24 years, youth aged 15 to 30 years and working age population 15 to 64 years. Referring to Malaysian Youth Policy (2015), youth is defined as individuals aged 15 to 30 years. The study will cover a specific period, which involved data from 2015 to 2022. To calculate the labour force participation rate, employment to population ratio and unemployment rate for both age groups, by use the standard formulas provided by ILO and the technical notes in Labour Force Survey Report as below:

	Labour force participation rate	Employment-to-population ratio	Unemployment rate
Overall	$= \dfrac{\text{Number of labour force}}{\text{Number of working age population}} \times 100$	$= \dfrac{\text{Number of employed}}{\text{Number of working age population}} \times 100$	$= \dfrac{\text{Number of unemployed}}{\text{Number of labour force}} \times 100$
Youth	$= \dfrac{\text{Number of youth in the labour force}}{\text{Number of youth}} \times 100$	$= \dfrac{\text{Number of employed youth}}{\text{Number of youth}} \times 100$	$= \dfrac{\text{Number of unemployed youth}}{\text{Number of youth in labour force}} \times 100$

The data analysis will involve comparing and contrasting the labour market indicators between the three age groups. We will also examine trends over time and explore potential factors contributing to variations in labour force participation, employment and unemployment rate for youth and overall labour force.

This study utilised the official time series statistics compiled by the Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM), namely Labour Force Survey (LFS), Employee Wages Statistics (EWS) and Population & Housing Census based on data availability from 2015 to 2022. Publicly accessible official statistics published by DOSM are used where possible while some statistics are calculated by the author based on original data sources. In addition, the authors performed reviews of literatures from articles journals, reports and working papers from websites that documented the information for dissemination. These sources are considered secondary data.

Overview of youth in Malaysia labour Market

The following youth population refers to the total number of individuals within 15 to 30 years in 2022. In this case, the youth population is 9,884.5 thousand, representing a significant segment of the overall population. The youth labour force consists of those individuals within the youth population who are actively engaged in or seeking employment. In this context, there are 6,112.6 thousand youth who are part of the labour force. Among the youth labour force, 5,666.3 thousand are employed, while 446.4 thousand youth are unemployed. Apart from those in the labour force, there are 3,771.9 thousand youth who are considered outside labour force. This category includes individuals who are not currently seeking employment or are not available for work due to reasons sush as continuing education, health issues or personal choices **[Exhibit 1]**.

Exhibit 1:
Youth (15 - 30 years) labour market framework, Malaysia, 2022
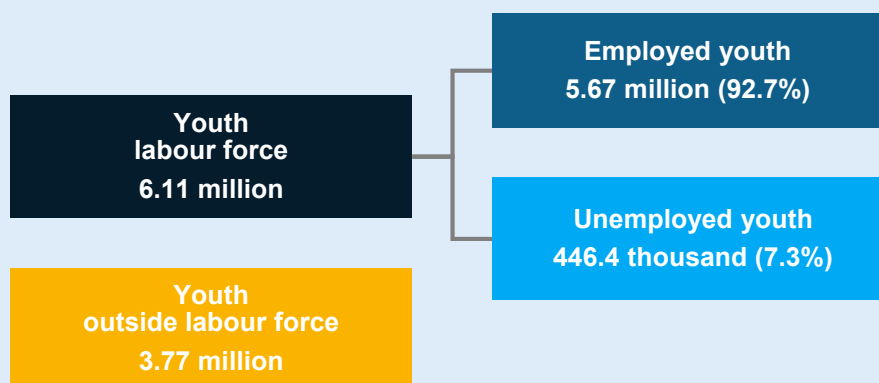
Source: Author's calculation from Labour Force Survey, DOSM

Findings

The data represents the labour force in Malaysia from 2015 to 2022, categorized into three age groups: youth aged 15 to 24, youth aged 15 to 30, and the working age population 15 to 64 years. **Chart 1** shows the changes in the number of individuals in these age groups who are actively engaged in the labour force over past 8 years. Between 2015 and 2018, the labour force in all three age categories showed a consistent upward trend. The youth labour force aged 15 to 24 increased from 2.57 million in 2015 to 2.69 million in 2018, while the youth labour force aged 15 to 30 grew from 5.78 million to 6.07 million over the same period. The overall labour force expanded from 14.52 million to 15.28 million during these years. These increases might be attributed to factors such as population growth, changes in economic conditions and shifting demographics.

From 2019 onwards, a more varied pattern emerged. While the youth labour force continued to experience fluctuations, the overall labour force aged 15 to 64 demonstrated a more consistent growth trajectory. In 2020, a slight decline was observed in the youth labour force, which could be attributed to the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite this, the overall labour force remained relatively stable, highlighting the resilience of the working-age population. The youth labour force rebounded in 2021 and then dipped again in 2022, prove the ongoing impact of economic dynamics and possibly reflecting shifts in education and employment trends. Throughout this period, the overall labour force continued its gradual increase, reaching 16.02 million in 2022, likely influenced by factors such as population growth and changing labour market conditions **[Chart 1]**.

Chart 1:
Labour force by youth age group, 2015 - 2022

Person (million)

■ Overall (15-64) ■ Youth (15-30) ■ Youth (15-24)
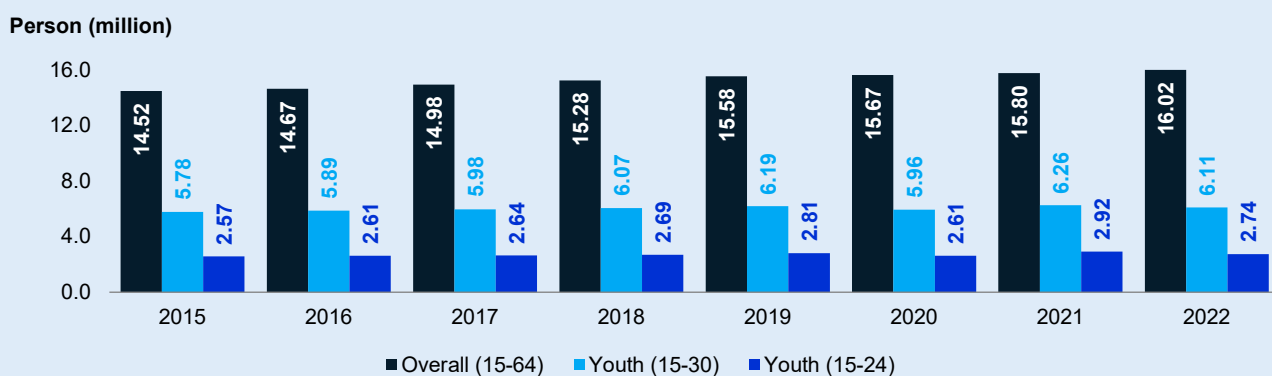
Source: Author's calculation from Labour Force Survey, DOSM

Based on the Chart 2, the graph illustrates the labour participation rates in Malaysia from 2015 to 2022, focusing on three demographic categories: youth (15-24), youth (15-30), and the overall population aged 15 to 64. Across the eight-year period, trends can be observed for each group. The participation rate among the youth (15-24) remained relatively stable, ranging from around 42.7 per cent in 2015 to 48.7 per cent in 2021, with a slight decrease to 46.1 per cent in 2022. Similarly, for the youth (aged 15-30), the participation rate showed a consistent pattern, starting at 59.1 per cent in 2015, reaching its peak at 63.0 per cent in 2021, and then slightly declining to 61.8 per cent in 2022. Meanwhile, the overall participation rate for the population aged 15 to 64 remained relatively constant, starting at 67.9 per cent in 2015 and gradually increasing to 69.3 per cent in 2022. These trends highlight the varying dynamics of labour participation among different age groups in Malaysia over past 8 years.

The provided line chart illustrates the employment to population ratios in Malaysia from 2015 to 2022, focusing on the youth population (aged 15-24 and 15-30) and the overall population (aged 15-64). The chart demonstrates the trends in the proportion of employed individuals within these age groups over the past 8 years. Between 2015 and 2018, the employment to population ratios for both youth age groups experienced a steady increase. The ratio for youth aged 15 to 24 rose from 38.1 per cent in 2015 to 39.0 per cent in 2018, while the ratio for youth aged 15 to 30 increased from 55.2 per cent to 56.1 per cent over the same period. This growth might be attributed to various factors, such as economic expansion and policies targeted at increasing youth employment opportunities. The overall employment to population ratio (aged 15-64) also demonstrated a similar upward trajectory, climbing from 65.8 per cent in 2015 to 66.0 per cent in 2018.

Box Article

However, starting in 2019, a notable divergence in trends became evident. While the youth employment to population ratios continued to increase, particularly for the 15 to 30 age group, reaching 57.2 per cent and 57.3 per cent in 2022 respectively, the ratios for both the 15 to 24 and 15 to 30 age groups declined in 2020, which could be due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the labor market. In contrast, the overall employment to population ratio remained relatively stable, fluctuating around 66.4 per cent to 66.5 per cent during this period. The substantial increase in the youth employment ratios since 2019 indicates positive outcomes in youth employment initiatives, even amidst the challenges posed by the pandemic, while the overall employment ratio highlights the resilience of the working-age population **[Chart 2]**.

Chart 2:
Labour force participation rate & employment-to-population ratio by age group, 2015 - 2022

Overall (15-64)　　Youth (15-30)　　Youth (15-24)

Labour force participation rate (%)

Employment-to-population ratio (%)
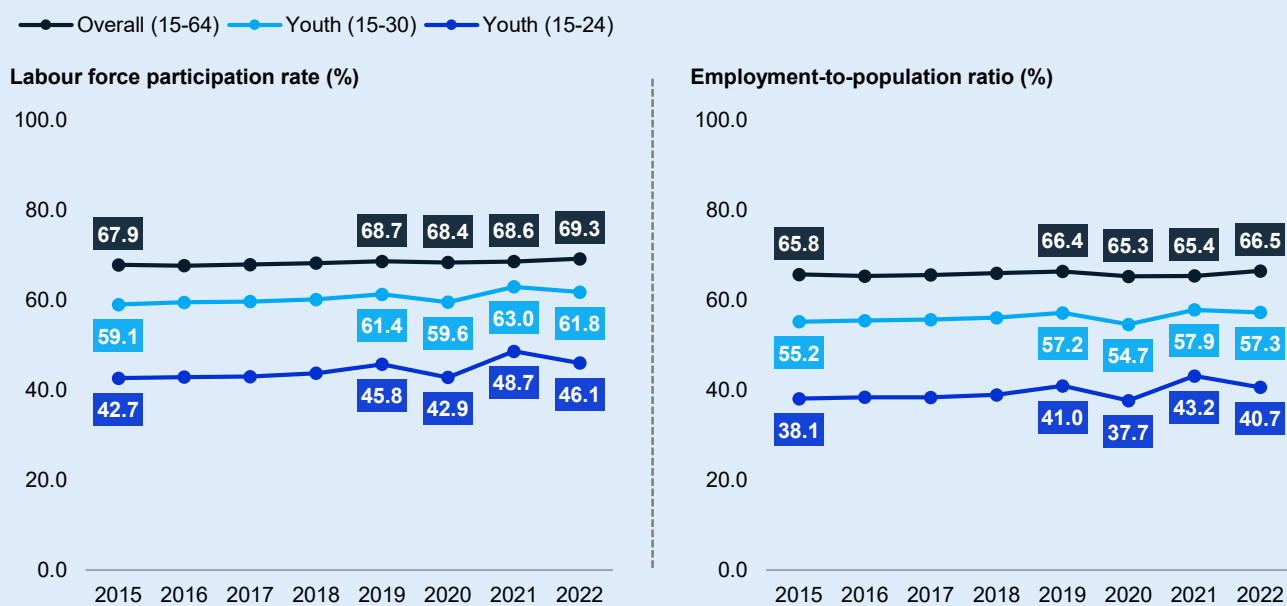
Source: Author's calculation from Labour Force Survey, DOSM

Disaggregating that data by major occupational group indicates a clear cause for concern on youth employment situation in Malaysia. It is notable that the youth employment by occupational segregation, which typically fall into the Services and sale workers which has been categorised in semi-skilled occupation, has seen remarkable increase over the years till 2021. In 2015, the youth employment in this category recorded to 1,334.1 thousand persons. The figure of youth employment in this category increased gradually from 2017 to 2020, then shows a significant increase in 2021 which recorded to 1,747.3 thousand persons. However, in 2022, the number of employed youths in this category drop to 1,678.5 thousand persons (-68.8 thousand).

Concurrently, it is worth noting that the Elementary occupations, which commonly fall into the low-skilled category, has seen to be the second largest share among others occupational segregation in youth community over the years. In 2015, the number of employed youths in this category accounted for 934.2 thousand persons and illustrated a fluctuation trend until 2020. In 2021, this category recorded a significant increased in number of employed youths which recorded to 987.8 thousand persons. However, once again, in 2022, the number of employed youths in Elementary occupation captured a slight drop to account 887.6 thousand persons (-100.1 thousand).

Based on occupation, the year-on-year increase in employed youth occurred in the Professional, techincian and associate professionals, and Plant, machine-operators and assemblers while Managers, Clerical support workers, Service and sales workers, Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock and fishery workers, Craft and related trades workers and Elementary occupations recorded losses. In addition, the LFS statistics shows that the job categories that require high skills do not feature prominently in the youth work force **[Chart 3]**.

Chart 3:
Youth employed (15 - 30 years) by occupation, 2015 - 2022

Youth (15-30 years) employed ('000)
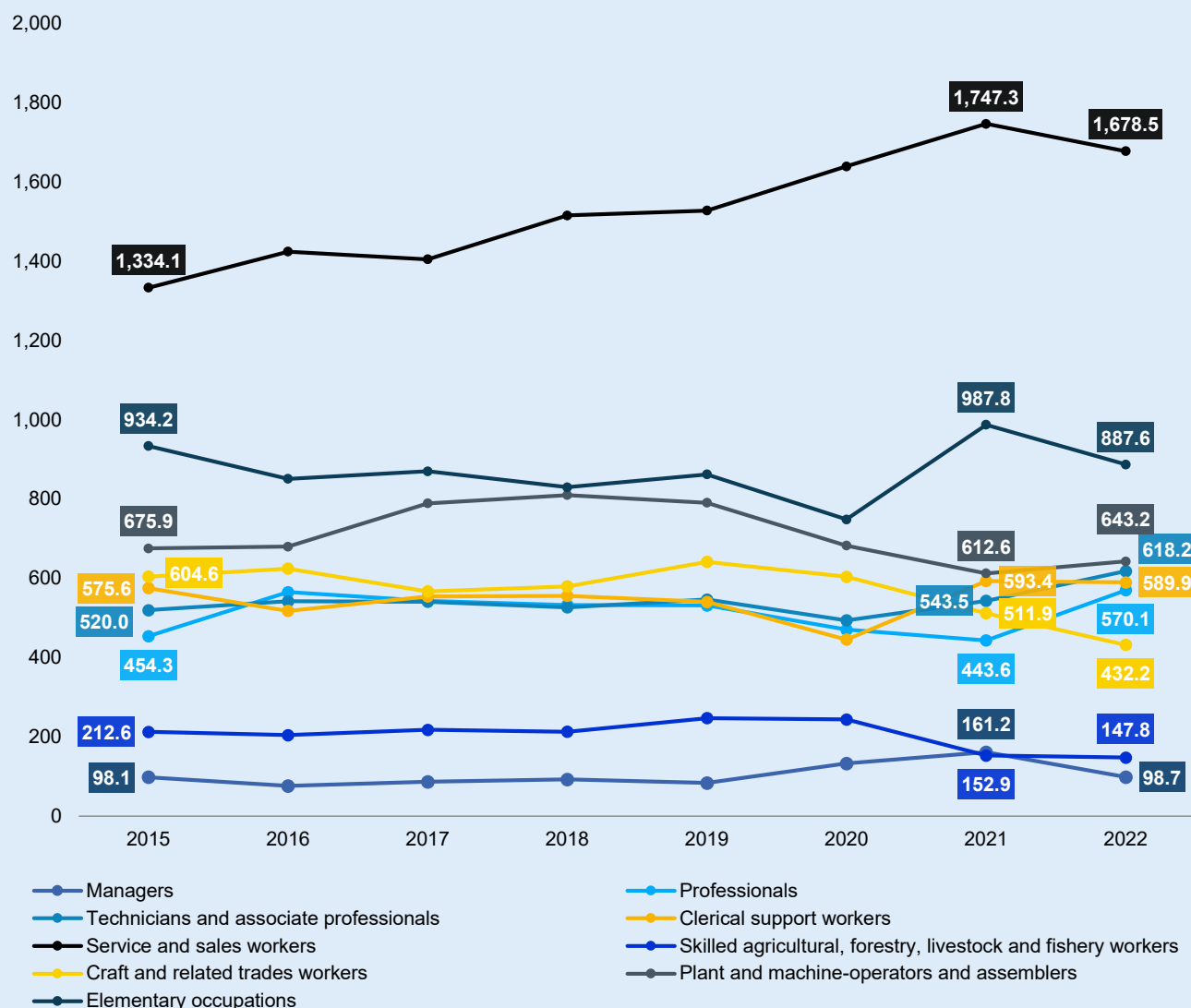
Source: Author's calculation from Labour Force Survey, DOSM

By economic activity, majority of the youth working populations were engaged in Services sector as their main occupation. According to the Labour Forces Survey, in 2022, youth employment in the Services sector accounts the largest figure for 3,596.0 thousand persons (63.5%), followed by Manufacturing sector registered 1,111.0 thousand persons (19.6%) and Agriculture registered 585.7 thousand persons (10.3%). Construction and Mining & quarrying sectors encompassed 344.4 thousand (6.1%) and 29.2 thousand persons (0.5%) respectively. Year-on-year increase in employed youth occurred in the Agriculture, Mining & quarrying, and Manufacturing sectors while Construction and Services recorded losses **[Chart 4]**.

Chart 4:
Youth employed (15 - 30 years) sector economic, 2015 - 2022

Youth (15-30 years) employed ('000)
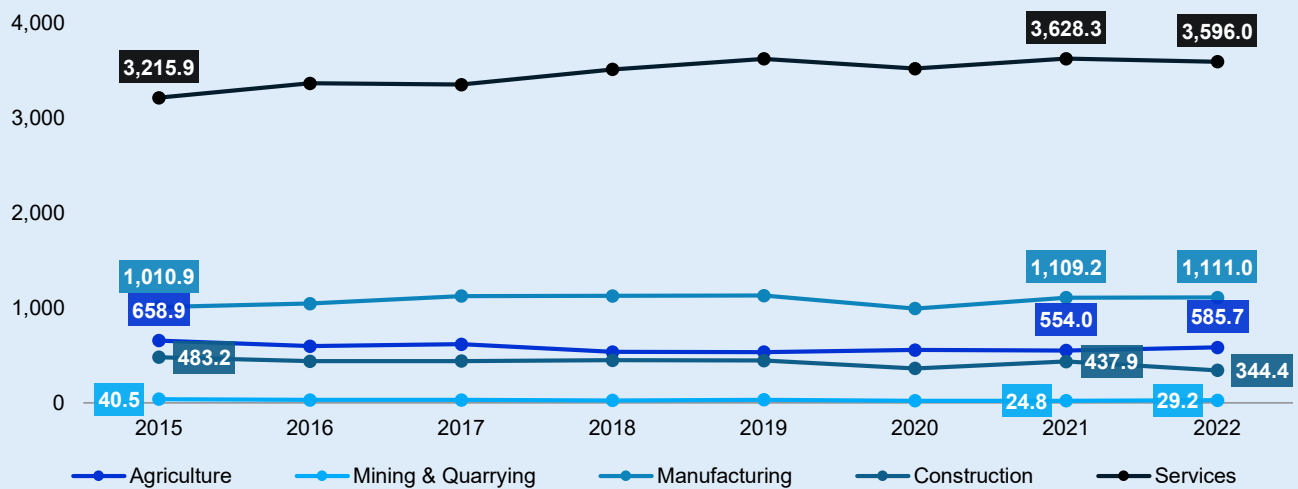
Source: Author's calculation from Labour Force Survey, DOSM

Malaysia's youth unemployment vastly exceeds the other age groups. Younger workers encounter very challenging labour market situation immediately upon entry into the workforce. Meanwhile, youth aged 15 to 30 years unemployment rate in 2015 was 6.5 per cent and increased slightly to 6.8 per cent in 2016. The youth unemployment rate remained relatively stable at 6.7 per cent in 2017 and continued to hover around 6.8 and 6.7 per cent in 2018 and 2019, respectively. In 2020, the youth unemployment rate increased significantly to 8.3 per cent. This abrupt rise was likely due to the impact of the pandemic, which led to widespread business closures, job losses, and economic uncertainty. The youth unemployment rate aged 15 to 30 years decreased slightly to 8.1 per cent in 2021 and further decreased to 7.3 per cent in 2022. This subsequent decline showcased the gradual recovery and adaptation to the new circumstances from the pandemic's impact.

However, it worth to notice that youth aged 15 to 24 years unemployment rate is still at a double digit rate of 11.7 per cent, more than a two-year low but remained higher than pre-pandemic (2019: 10.5%). As presented in Chart 5, Malaysia's youth unemployment rate (15 to 24 years) escalates gradually from 10.5 per cent in 2016 to 10.9 per cent in 2018. The youth unemployment rate aged 15 to 24 years, which has already been raised for some times, increased from 10.5 per cent in 2019 to 12.0 per cent in 2020 during the Movement Control Order (MCO). The lack of recovery in the youth segment ascribes to relative disadvantages that younger workers face in the labour market. Youth tend to have a harder time finding acceptable employment since they lack work history, experience and career networks. In 2021, the youth unemployment rate (15 to 24 years) presents a significant dropped at 11.3 per cent during recovery period of pandemic. However, in 2022, the youth unemployment rate depicted an increase of 0.4 per cent to record 11.7 per cent and presented an opposite trend from youth unemployment rate aged 15 to 30 years (7.3%) and overall unemployment rate (3.9%) **[Chart 5]**.

Box Article

Chart 5:
Unemployment rate by youth age group, 2015 - 2022

— Overall (15-64) — Youth (15-30) — Youth (15-24)

Unemployment rate (%)

Youth (15-24): 10.7 (2015), 10.5 (2019), 12.0 (2020), 11.3 (2021), 11.7 (2022)
Youth (15-30): 6.5 (2015), 6.7 (2019), 8.3 (2020), 8.1 (2021), 7.3 (2022)
Overall (15-64): 3.1 (2015), 3.3 (2019), 4.5 (2020), 4.6 (2021), 3.9 (2022)

Years: 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
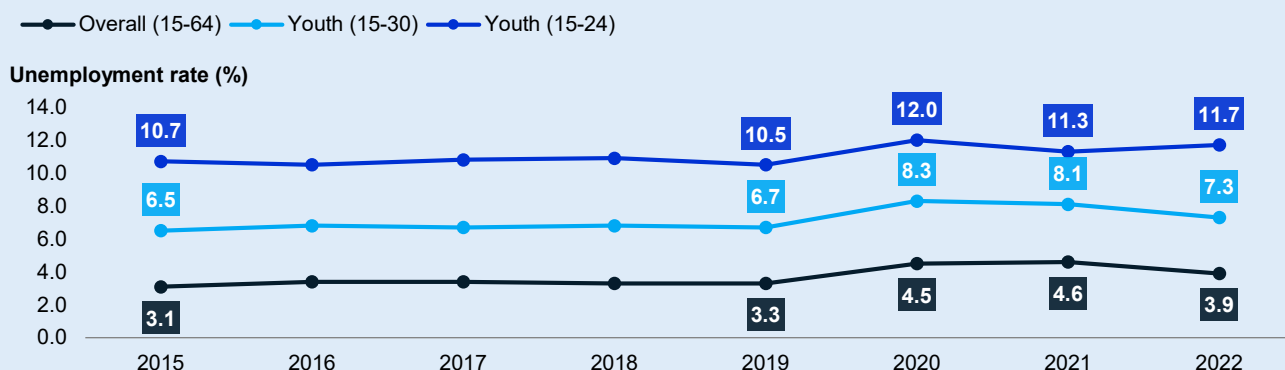
Source: Author's calculation from Labour Force Survey, DOSM

Looking at the youth outside labour force, the largest proportion of 76.2 per cent did not seek for work in 2022 was due to schooling or training program. The number of outside labour force in this category decreased by 1.6 per cent (-46.8 thousand) compared to 2021, or equivalent to 2.9 million persons. Housework came in second with a share of 16.6 per cent, or 624.4 thousand persons. The number in this category increase by 0.3 per cent (+2.2 thousand) compared to in 2021. Meanwhile, a share of 7.2 per cent of outside labour force who did not seek for work because of others reason increase by 108.8 per cent (+142.7 thousand) year-on-year to 131.1 thousand persons. The term "others" refers to individuals who are pursuing further studies, those with disabilities, those not interested or who have just completed their studies, as well as those who are retired or of old age **[Exhibit 2]**.

Exhibit 2:
Youth (15 - 30 years) outside labour force by reason not seeking for work, 2022

		2022	**Percentage change (year-on-year)**	
		Person ('000) (Percentage share)		
Schooling/ training program		**2,873.8** (76.2%)	▼ **-1.6%**	2021: **2,920.6** (79.5%)
Housework/ family responsibility		**624.4** (16.6%)	▲ **0.3%**	2021: **622.4** (16.9%)
Others*		**273.8** (7.2%)	▲ **108.8%**	2021: **131.1** (3.6%)

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

Source: Author's calculation from Labour Force Survey, DOSM

Box Article

Looking into wage statistics based on report by DOSM which is Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector), Q1 2023, an increment of youth formal employee wages was recorded in March 2023 as compared to the same month of preceding year. Based on the following three different classes of youth age group, the employee wages gained by youths in all three categories. In March 2022, youths aged below 20 years had median monthly wages of RM1,200, which steadily increased to RM1,500 in March 2023, indicates the highest increase (+25.0 per cent). In March 2023, the youth age 20 to 24 years exhibited a growth 14.9 per cent to recorded median monthly wages RM1,682 (March 2022: RM1,464), while the youth age 25 to 29 years also edged up 9.7 per cent to recorded median monthly wages RM2,327 (March 2022: RM 2,122) **[Chart 6]**.

Chart 7:
Median monthly wages of formal employee, March 2022 & March 2023
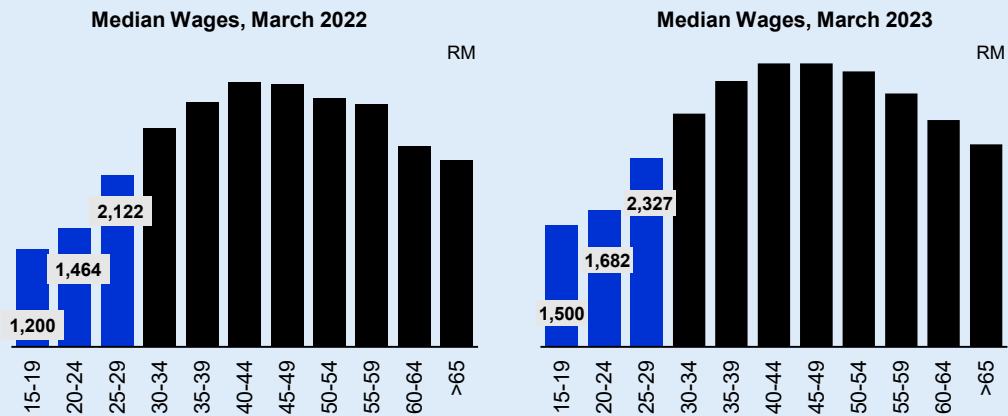
Source: Employee Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Q1 2023, DOSM

Discussions and Conclusion

After reviewing the current Malaysia's youth employment state, the youth unemployment remains a significant concern, with young job seekers facing difficulties in entering the workforce due to factors such as limited work experience, skill mismatches and a competitive job market. The COVID-19 pandemic has also exacerbated these challenges, leading to job losses and reduced hiring in certain sectors. The youth unemployment rate (15 to 30 years) in Malaysia remained twice those for overall Malaysian's unemployment rate.

However, the Malaysian government has demonstrated its commitment to addressing youth unemployment through various initiatives and programs. One such initiative is the 'Employment Tax Exemption' program under the Malaysian government's Economic Stimulus Packages. Under the Employment Tax Exemption program, employers in Malaysia were eligible for tax exemptions for hiring new employees which definitely aimed to encourage job creation and reduce unemployment, particularly among the youth. Along the same line, government through the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF) offered various training programs, including those focused on youth, to upskill and reskill the workforce and enhance their employability. In addition, expanding employment opportunities for young people, ensuring that jobs are available and accessible should be identified. This aligns with SDG 8.5, which focuses on achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all, including young people.

Box Article

In conclusion, the review on youth employment in Malaysia contributes to the broader agenda of achieving decent work as outlined in the SDGs. By examining the challenges faced by young job seekers and proposing targeted solutions, the study supports efforts to create employment opportunities, ensure fair wages and social protection, promote skills development, foster inclusivity, and drive sustainable economic growth. By addressing these issues, Malaysia can make significant strides towards realizing SDG 8 and fostering a more equitable and prosperous society.

Disclaimer

The view expressed in this article are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the view of DOSM.

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STATISTICS TABLES **Q2**

2023

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Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

1. Profile of Labour Force Participation Rate

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Labour force participation rate	(%)	68.4	68.5	68.6	68.3	68.3	68.7	69.0	69.2	69.4	69.5	69.8	70.0
Sex													
Male	(%)	80.5	80.7	80.9	80.8	80.9	81.0	81.5	81.8	82.1	82.3	82.6	82.8
Female	(%)	55.3	55.3	55.4	55.0	55.0	55.4	55.6	55.8	55.8	55.9	56.1	56.2
Age group													
15-24	(%)	41.8	42.4	43.2	42.8	42.6	43.6	45.2	45.4	45.7	45.7	46.5	46.1
25-34	(%)	84.5	85.5	83.9	85.3	83.7	87.4	87.4	87.9	87.1	86.9	87.3	88.1
35-44	(%)	83.1	83.0	86.1	84.1	85.9	86.6	84.6	84.6	85.2	86.8	86.2	86.0
45-54	(%)	78.3	77.1	76.3	77.0	76.8	74.4	75.2	75.5	75.1	73.9	76.2	76.0
55-64	(%)	53.6	51.8	49.9	48.6	48.4	43.1	44.0	44.2	46.3	46.3	44.2	45.6
Sex and Age group													
Male	(%)	80.5	80.7	80.9	80.8	80.9	81.0	81.5	81.8	82.1	82.3	82.6	82.8
15-24	(%)	49.9	50.7	52.1	48.5	51.8	56.5	57.9	56.7	56.7	58.4	60.5	58.8
25-34	(%)	94.9	95.6	92.4	93.8	93.5	92.8	93.5	95.8	94.7	95.3	94.0	96.2
35-44	(%)	97.3	97.7	97.4	97.1	97.3	96.5	97.3	95.3	97.7	96.6	97.7	97.9
45-54	(%)	95.2	92.4	95.4	95.6	94.4	96.6	95.0	95.3	95.1	93.8	95.4	93.4
55-64	(%)	69.3	69.4	72.7	76.9	70.7	62.4	61.5	64.2	65.7	65.0	62.5	65.4
Female	(%)	55.3	55.3	55.4	55.0	55.0	55.4	55.6	55.8	55.8	55.9	56.1	56.2
15-24	(%)	33.1	33.4	33.3	36.4	32.4	29.4	31.2	33.0	33.7	31.7	31.1	32.1
25-34	(%)	72.8	74.1	74.4	75.6	72.8	81.3	80.6	79.1	78.6	77.5	79.7	79.1
35-44	(%)	67.4	67.2	74.0	70.5	73.8	75.9	71.2	73.2	72.0	76.5	74.0	73.2
45-54	(%)	61.1	61.7	57.3	59.2	59.3	52.0	55.3	55.6	55.2	53.9	57.0	58.5
55-64	(%)	37.3	33.2	27.0	21.7	27.3	23.6	26.5	24.2	26.6	27.6	25.8	25.7
Ethnic group													
Citizens	(%)	66.1	67.0	67.2	66.6	66.6	67.3	67.6	67.8	67.9	68.0	68.2	68.4
Bumiputera	(%)	64.4	65.2	64.9	65.8	66.0	65.7	65.9	66.1	66.1	66.1	66.2	66.8
Chinese	(%)	71.4	71.3	72.3	69.6	68.7	71.2	72.5	73.0	72.6	73.2	73.3	72.9
Indians	(%)	66.0	70.8	71.8	63.5	66.4	69.1	67.7	65.9	68.8	69.9	70.5	69.1
Others	(%)	61.7	66.7	65.5	90.2	67.2	68.3	68.9	77.4	81.5	73.0	75.2	70.5
Non-citizens	(%)	84.9	79.3	79.1	80.2	80.6	79.0	79.5	80.4	80.6	80.8	81.2	82.0
Educational attainment													
No formal education	(%)	58.7	55.9	58.7	62.3	61.2	63.4	62.7	67.4	65.2	61.7	63.5	61.7
Primary	(%)	70.7	69.9	69.1	67.2	66.2	68.4	66.9	68.6	69.5	69.2	68.8	68.1
Secondary	(%)	66.9	63.6	64.8	66.2	67.0	67.1	67.0	66.8	67.4	67.5	67.7	67.4
Tertiary	(%)	71.4	79.0	77.3	73.3	72.4	72.4	74.4	74.6	73.8	74.5	74.8	76.8

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

2. Profile of Labour Force

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Labour force	('000)	15,840.6	15,922.3	16,008.4	15,972.2	16,021.0	16,135.0	16,246.1	16,343.3	16,442.9	16,542.2	16,648.9	16,727.4
Sex													
Male	('000)	9,689.3	9,738.4	9,778.9	9,729.1	9,772.6	9,858.4	9,929.2	9,979.6	10,057.6	10,118.8	10,186.3	10,240.7
Female	('000)	6,151.3	6,183.9	6,229.5	6,243.1	6,248.4	6,276.6	6,316.9	6,363.7	6,385.3	6,423.3	6,462.5	6,486.7
Age group													
15-24	('000)	2,566.6	2,588.6	2,624.6	2,580.2	2,595.9	2,685.1	2,737.8	2,767.4	2,800.8	2,801.3	2,859.3	2,850.6
25-34	('000)	5,297.7	5,426.0	5,304.7	5,331.1	5,333.5	5,564.5	5,555.4	5,590.8	5,553.2	5,590.9	5,612.4	5,678.5
35-44	('000)	3,819.4	3,832.0	4,061.6	3,929.6	4,078.3	4,104.1	4,089.3	4,095.1	4,131.2	4,239.9	4,208.0	4,201.3
45-54	('000)	2,711.4	2,676.1	2,664.4	2,707.1	2,690.6	2,608.5	2,637.7	2,657.5	2,655.4	2,606.0	2,711.4	2,710.9
55-64	('000)	1,445.5	1,399.5	1,353.0	1,424.2	1,322.7	1,172.8	1,225.9	1,232.5	1,302.3	1,304.1	1,257.8	1,286.1
Sex and Age group													
Male	('000)	9,689.3	9,738.4	9,778.9	9,729.1	9,772.6	9,858.4	9,929.2	9,979.6	10,057.6	10,118.8	10,186.3	10,240.7
15-24	('000)	1,597.3	1,609.9	1,664.0	1,542.0	1,655.5	1,825.5	1,840.1	1,806.3	1,819.0	1,876.9	1,946.0	1,903.9
25-34	('000)	3,139.6	3,217.2	3,091.6	3,119.8	3,146.2	3,118.4	3,140.8	3,222.3	3,193.2	3,240.6	3,195.1	3,273.1
35-44	('000)	2,340.6	2,342.1	2,372.8	2,323.3	2,383.7	2,363.5	2,420.1	2,373.5	2,434.0	2,428.0	2,456.7	2,471.9
45-54	('000)	1,662.3	1,606.4	1,662.0	1,645.6	1,648.3	1,698.1	1,669.9	1,681.2	1,678.9	1,656.6	1,696.2	1,668.8
55-64	('000)	949.6	962.7	988.4	1,098.5	938.8	852.9	858.4	896.2	932.5	916.7	892.4	922.9
Female	('000)	6,151.3	6,183.9	6,229.5	6,243.1	6,248.4	6,276.6	6,316.9	6,363.7	6,385.3	6,423.3	6,462.5	6,486.7
15-24	('000)	969.3	978.7	960.6	1,038.2	940.4	859.6	897.7	961.1	981.8	924.4	913.3	946.7
25-34	('000)	2,158.2	2,208.8	2,213.1	2,211.3	2,187.3	2,446.1	2,414.6	2,368.5	2,360.1	2,350.2	2,417.2	2,405.3
35-44	('000)	1,478.8	1,489.9	1,688.8	1,606.4	1,694.6	1,740.6	1,669.3	1,721.5	1,697.2	1,811.9	1,751.4	1,729.4
45-54	('000)	1,049.1	1,069.7	1,002.4	1,061.5	1,042.3	910.4	967.8	976.3	976.5	949.4	1,015.1	1,042.1
55-64	('000)	495.9	436.8	364.6	325.7	383.8	319.9	367.6	336.2	369.8	387.4	365.5	363.2
Ethnic group													
Citizens	('000)	13,481.7	13,719.8	13,748.8	13,678.4	13,745.3	13,941.8	14,038.0	14,119.4	14,195.0	14,296.1	14,387.6	14,457.6
Bumiputera	('000)	8,926.2	9,077.1	9,057.4	9,243.4	9,302.4	9,297.0	9,369.6	9,435.1	9,478.8	9,511.3	9,599.1	9,722.1
Chinese	('000)	3,460.7	3,454.4	3,492.0	3,414.9	3,321.2	3,453.2	3,515.7	3,543.2	3,525.8	3,557.8	3,567.5	3,549.1
Indians	('000)	992.3	1,067.8	1,099.4	953.0	1,028.6	1,048.5	1,042.5	1,006.8	1,052.8	1,093.9	1,075.6	1,060.2
Others	('000)	102.6	120.4	99.9	67.1	93.1	143.1	110.3	134.4	137.5	133.0	145.4	126.2
Non-citizens	('000)	2,358.9	2,202.5	2,259.6	2,293.9	2,275.7	2,193.2	2,208.1	2,223.8	2,247.9	2,246.1	2,261.3	2,269.9
Educational attainment													
No formal education	('000)	382.2	358.0	455.0	584.9	624.3	596.8	554.0	505.2	518.4	438.4	464.8	502.4
Primary	('000)	1,655.5	1,641.6	1,650.4	1,526.9	1,360.1	1,389.9	1,461.7	1,501.8	1,452.4	1,450.6	1,487.2	1,443.8
Secondary	('000)	8,771.5	8,595.4	8,667.4	8,675.1	8,834.7	9,019.5	9,109.6	9,250.0	9,280.5	9,428.9	9,438.1	9,503.4
Tertiary	('000)	5,031.5	5,327.3	5,235.5	5,185.3	5,202.0	5,128.9	5,120.8	5,086.3	5,191.6	5,224.3	5,258.8	5,277.9

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

3. Profile of Employed Person

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Employed	('000)	15,095.6	15,161.6	15,236.5	15,207.3	15,274.8	15,440.7	15,574.9	15,701.2	15,831.1	15,941.7	16,062.0	16,146.1
Employment to population ratio	(%)	65.2	65.2	65.3	65.0	65.1	65.7	66.2	66.5	66.8	67.0	67.3	67.5
Sex													
Male	('000)	9,229.8	9,273.1	9,314.1	9,285.0	9,335.9	9,444.3	9,534.2	9,596.3	9,692.0	9,763.0	9,840.8	9,901.6
Female	('000)	5,865.8	5,888.6	5,922.4	5,922.3	5,938.9	5,996.3	6,040.6	6,104.9	6,139.1	6,178.7	6,221.2	6,244.5
Age group													
15-24	('000)	2,244.2	2,257.9	2,307.3	2,297.1	2,291.8	2,372.0	2,434.6	2,464.0	2,499.5	2,501.9	2,570.9	2,544.9
25-34	('000)	5,064.0	5,169.4	5,073.7	5,067.8	5,088.3	5,320.0	5,320.8	5,371.6	5,347.1	5,399.8	5,452.0	5,512.7
35-44	('000)	3,738.6	3,755.8	3,957.3	3,854.6	4,005.0	4,023.9	4,022.3	4,040.7	4,079.9	4,180.0	4,118.4	4,144.8
45-54	('000)	2,664.5	2,624.0	2,605.9	2,624.9	2,620.3	2,566.0	2,591.4	2,610.9	2,619.1	2,579.6	2,680.8	2,681.7
55-64	('000)	1,384.2	1,354.6	1,292.3	1,363.0	1,269.5	1,158.7	1,205.7	1,214.0	1,285.4	1,280.4	1,240.0	1,262.0
Sex and Age group													
Male	('000)	9,229.8	9,273.1	9,314.1	9,285.0	9,335.9	9,444.3	9,534.2	9,596.3	9,692.0	9,763.0	9,840.8	9,901.6
15-24	('000)	1,409.7	1,427.0	1,465.7	1,397.3	1,475.8	1,628.3	1,595.3	1,622.0	1,590.8	1,667.4	1,762.9	1,718.3
25-34	('000)	2,997.6	3,059.5	2,968.6	2,980.3	3,024.6	2,991.4	3,050.7	3,103.6	3,120.2	3,157.4	3,092.7	3,184.0
35-44	('000)	2,287.9	2,297.9	2,320.0	2,270.6	2,344.6	2,315.5	2,388.4	2,338.1	2,409.1	2,402.2	2,423.8	2,442.8
45-54	('000)	1,627.4	1,567.0	1,619.6	1,589.5	1,592.4	1,667.0	1,648.7	1,651.2	1,652.4	1,637.2	1,679.5	1,652.1
55-64	('000)	907.3	921.6	940.2	1,047.4	898.6	842.1	851.2	881.4	919.4	898.9	881.8	904.4
Female	('000)	5,865.8	5,888.6	5,922.4	5,922.3	5,938.9	5,996.3	6,040.6	6,104.9	6,139.1	6,178.7	6,221.2	6,244.5
15-24	('000)	834.6	830.8	841.6	899.8	816.0	743.8	839.3	842.0	908.7	834.5	807.9	826.6
25-34	('000)	2,066.5	2,109.9	2,105.2	2,087.5	2,063.7	2,328.6	2,270.2	2,267.9	2,226.9	2,242.5	2,359.2	2,328.7
35-44	('000)	1,450.8	1,457.9	1,637.3	1,584.0	1,660.3	1,708.4	1,633.9	1,702.6	1,670.7	1,777.8	1,694.6	1,702.0
45-54	('000)	1,037.1	1,057.1	986.3	1,035.4	1,027.9	899.0	942.8	959.7	966.8	942.3	1,001.3	1,029.5
55-64	('000)	476.9	432.9	352.1	315.6	371.0	316.6	354.5	332.6	366.0	381.5	358.2	357.6
Ethnic group													
Citizens	('000)	12,841.6	13,065.0	13,085.2	13,022.6	13,105.8	13,351.0	13,468.2	13,575.9	13,676.9	13,783.9	13,883.8	13,958.8
Bumiputera	('000)	8,528.3	8,649.1	8,610.9	8,785.7	8,852.0	8,880.5	8,999.9	9,047.8	9,093.1	9,147.9	9,233.7	9,349.5
Chinese	('000)	3,288.2	3,306.3	3,334.4	3,274.9	3,199.3	3,328.2	3,368.4	3,423.1	3,429.2	3,462.3	3,468.1	3,466.6
Indians	('000)	932.7	1,004.0	1,047.0	899.0	964.4	1,003.4	997.2	974.1	1,023.3	1,048.6	1,039.2	1,020.5
Others	('000)	92.3	105.6	92.8	62.9	90.2	138.8	102.8	131.0	131.3	125.2	142.8	122.2
Non-citizens	('000)	2,254.1	2,096.6	2,151.3	2,184.7	2,169.0	2,089.6	2,106.7	2,125.3	2,154.2	2,157.8	2,178.2	2,187.3
Educational attainment													
No formal education	('000)	354.5	339.8	417.6	546.5	582.8	549.3	517.4	470.6	485.5	420.5	436.6	474.2
Primary	('000)	1,582.5	1,576.1	1,567.8	1,473.3	1,300.3	1,351.3	1,416.4	1,430.4	1,392.9	1,395.8	1,439.9	1,397.6
Secondary	('000)	8,367.0	8,194.9	8,239.7	8,271.9	8,419.7	8,633.9	8,736.2	8,901.5	8,957.7	9,062.6	9,091.8	9,156.3
Tertiary	('000)	4,791.7	5,050.9	5,011.4	4,915.6	4,971.9	4,906.2	4,904.8	4,898.7	4,995.0	5,062.8	5,093.7	5,117.9

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

3. Profile of Employed Person (cont.)

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Status in employment													
Employer	('000)	451.4	485.1	491.4	460.0	476.8	486.9	529.1	558.5	568.7	571.8	581.7	585.2
Employee	('000)	11,526.7	11,703.8	11,677.1	11,610.5	11,692.7	11,772.3	11,822.1	11,873.6	11,934.4	12,001.9	12,056.5	12,102.0
Own account worker	('000)	2,533.3	2,439.5	2,534.0	2,611.8	2,581.5	2,651.5	2,708.4	2,772.9	2,836.1	2,878.2	2,935.9	2,968.6
Unpaid family worker	('000)	584.3	533.3	534.1	525.0	523.8	529.9	515.3	496.3	491.8	489.8	487.9	490.3
Occupation													
Managers	('000)	752.0	845.8	811.2	631.2	594.1	610.1	623.7	635.6	642.6	648.1	655.0	659.5
Professionals	('000)	1,910.5	1,937.6	2,179.4	2,013.0	1,967.0	1,978.0	1,998.9	2,023.0	2,046.2	2,057.9	2,078.8	2,090.0
Technicians and associate professionals	('000)	1,732.4	1,775.1	1,879.3	1,705.7	1,695.6	1,707.5	1,718.7	1,728.2	1,737.3	1,745.1	1,753.1	1,762.9
Clerical support workers	('000)	1,302.4	1,322.5	1,507.8	1,641.6	1,704.6	1,728.4	1,742.1	1,755.5	1,762.2	1,769.8	1,774.3	1,781.2
Service and sales workers	('000)	3,513.5	3,536.7	3,499.4	3,737.5	3,822.8	3,920.8	3,984.4	4,042.5	4,061.7	4,079.2	4,094.1	4,103.5
Skilled agricultural, forestry, livestock and fishery workers	('000)	872.6	900.0	788.9	719.0	695.1	666.9	641.5	627.8	626.7	628.1	641.5	645.8
Craft and related trades workers	('000)	1,426.1	1,302.7	1,221.8	1,304.9	1,284.8	1,285.7	1,290.6	1,296.3	1,305.8	1,312.9	1,318.0	1,326.1
Plant and machine-operators and assemblers	('000)	1,713.7	1,799.3	1,617.9	1,649.5	1,637.1	1,641.4	1,645.3	1,648.6	1,666.1	1,683.2	1,689.7	1,698.2
Elementary occupations	('000)	1,872.4	1,742.0	1,730.9	1,804.8	1,873.8	1,901.6	1,929.7	1,943.7	1,982.4	2,017.5	2,057.5	2,079.0
Skill													
Skilled	('000)	4,394.9	4,558.5	4,869.9	4,349.9	4,256.7	4,295.6	4,341.3	4,386.8	4,426.1	4,451.1	4,486.9	4,512.4
Semi-skilled	('000)	8,828.3	8,861.2	8,635.8	9,052.5	9,144.4	9,243.2	9,303.9	9,370.7	9,422.5	9,473.2	9,517.6	9,554.8
Low-skilled	('000)	1,872.4	1,742.0	1,730.9	1,804.8	1,873.8	1,901.6	1,929.7	1,943.7	1,982.4	2,017.5	2,057.5	2,079.0

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

4. Profile of Underemployment

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Working less than 30 hours	('000)	**403.8**	**533.7**	**441.9**	**474.1**	**464.6**	**393.8**	**336.3**	**324.5**	**287.2**	**268.5**	**274.2**	**280.4**
Sex													
Male	('000)	151.4	345.6	281.3	317.8	282.9	137.6	112.1	154.5	132.9	115.4	114.2	120.2
Female	('000)	252.4	188.0	160.5	156.3	181.6	256.2	224.1	170.0	154.3	153.0	160.0	160.2
Age group													
15-24	('000)	116.1	165.5	57.0	102.2	69.0	87.0	39.1	76.4	35.3	46.1	37.4	54.0
25-34	('000)	118.0	189.5	209.4	110.1	166.4	108.4	103.6	94.3	99.5	88.0	94.4	85.3
35-44	('000)	72.1	71.0	106.3	95.9	123.7	97.5	77.8	63.0	68.4	56.2	46.5	58.6
45 and above	('000)	97.6	107.6	69.2	165.9	105.4	100.9	115.8	90.8	84.0	78.3	95.8	82.5
Time-related underemployment	('000)	**300.8**	**369.1**	**310.5**	**329.7**	**326.2**	**293.1**	**245.1**	**212.8**	**186.8**	**167.4**	**174.6**	**186.3**
Sex													
Male	('000)	102.3	267.8	226.7	236.1	232.2	101.2	71.3	111.6	92.3	79.3	78.7	86.4
Female	('000)	198.5	101.3	83.8	93.5	93.9	191.9	173.8	101.3	94.5	88.1	95.9	99.9
Age group													
15-24	('000)	108.4	130.3	46.4	86.6	40.4	80.8	21.8	64.5	16.7	29.9	30.2	39.5
25-34	('000)	97.2	117.4	159.3	82.6	137.0	78.9	76.1	59.8	67.4	63.8	66.4	62.6
35-44	('000)	47.4	53.1	67.2	46.6	87.7	70.2	62.6	37.0	49.0	32.5	25.2	34.4
45 and above	('000)	47.8	68.4	37.6	113.8	61.0	63.2	84.5	51.5	53.7	41.2	52.8	49.8
Skill-related underemployment	('000)	**1,762.7**	**1,886.8**	**1,899.9**	**1,852.5**	**1,873.8**	**1,838.3**	**1,810.1**	**1,799.6**	**1,839.6**	**1,891.4**	**1,907.2**	**1,914.6**
Sex													
Male	('000)	865.9	1,066.6	951.5	949.0	931.7	877.1	874.4	892.3	857.9	1,022.0	944.0	873.1
Female	('000)	896.9	820.2	948.4	903.5	942.2	961.2	935.6	907.3	981.7	869.5	963.3	1,041.5
Age group													
15-24	('000)	405.1	353.5	437.2	336.9	426.8	309.0	364.9	356.3	344.1	326.3	373.9	421.3
25-34	('000)	811.4	862.6	848.4	776.0	835.3	816.4	821.3	799.4	861.4	894.9	879.1	867.5
35-44	('000)	355.3	443.0	401.7	426.1	392.0	454.6	428.2	433.3	432.2	476.0	447.4	421.0
45 and above	('000)	190.9	227.6	212.5	313.5	219.7	258.3	195.7	210.6	201.9	194.2	206.8	204.8
Rate of time-related underemployment	(%)	**2.0**	**2.4**	**2.0**	**2.2**	**2.1**	**1.9**	**1.6**	**1.4**	**1.2**	**1.1**	**1.1**	**1.2**
Rate of skill-related underemployment	(%)	**36.8**	**37.4**	**37.9**	**37.7**	**37.7**	**37.5**	**36.9**	**36.7**	**36.8**	**37.4**	**37.4**	**37.4**

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

5. Profile of Unemployment

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Unemployed	('000)	745.0	760.7	771.8	764.9	746.2	694.4	671.2	642.0	611.8	600.5	586.9	581.4
Sex													
Male	('000)	459.5	465.3	464.8	444.1	436.7	414.1	395.0	383.3	365.7	355.8	345.5	339.1
Female	('000)	285.5	295.3	307.0	320.8	309.5	280.2	276.2	258.8	246.2	244.7	241.3	242.2
Age group													
15-24	('000)	322.3	330.8	317.4	283.1	304.1	313.1	303.2	303.4	301.3	299.4	288.4	305.7
25-34	('000)	233.7	256.6	231.0	263.3	245.3	244.5	234.6	219.2	206.1	191.1	160.4	165.7
35-44	('000)	80.7	76.2	104.3	75.0	73.4	80.2	67.1	54.3	51.4	59.9	89.7	56.5
45-54	('000)	46.9	52.1	58.5	82.2	70.3	42.5	46.3	46.6	36.2	26.4	30.6	29.3
55-64	('000)	61.4	45.0	60.7	61.3	53.1	14.1	20.2	18.5	16.9	23.7	17.8	24.1
Ethnic group													
Citizens	('000)	640.2	654.8	663.6	655.8	639.5	590.8	569.8	543.5	518.1	512.2	503.8	498.8
Bumiputera	('000)	397.8	428.0	446.5	457.7	450.5	416.5	369.7	387.3	385.7	363.4	365.4	372.6
Chinese	('000)	172.5	148.1	157.6	140.0	121.9	125.0	147.3	120.1	96.7	95.5	99.4	82.5
Indians	('000)	59.6	63.8	52.4	54.0	64.2	45.0	45.3	32.7	29.5	45.4	36.3	39.7
Others	('000)	10.2	14.8	7.1	4.2	2.9	4.3	7.5	3.4	6.2	7.9	2.6	4.0
Non-citizens	('000)	104.8	105.9	108.3	109.1	106.7	103.6	101.4	98.5	93.7	88.3	83.1	82.6
Unemployed category													
Actively unemployed	('000)	592.2	634.4	640.1	663.4	658.1	611.0	593.0	567.5	534.0	515.4	495.8	493.4
Duration of unemployment													
Less than 3 month	('000)	294.2	285.8	316.1	385.0	331.6	353.5	353.4	336.9	321.0	313.5	312.4	318.1
3 month to less than 6 month	('000)	152.9	193.1	165.3	143.0	177.8	149.8	141.3	128.9	114.7	109.3	100.4	94.9
6 month to less than 1 year	('000)	92.0	88.5	89.9	71.6	90.6	62.5	58.9	65.2	61.0	56.7	47.6	45.7
More than 1 year	('000)	53.1	67.0	68.7	63.8	58.1	45.2	39.4	36.5	37.3	35.9	35.4	34.7
Inactively unemployed	('000)	152.8	126.3	131.7	101.6	88.1	83.4	78.2	74.5	77.8	85.0	91.1	88.0
Unemployment rate	(%)	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.3	4.1	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.5
Sex													
Male	(%)	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.2	4.0	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3
Female	(%)	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.1	5.0	4.5	4.4	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.7
Age group													
15-24	(%)	12.6	12.8	12.1	11.0	11.7	11.7	11.1	11.0	10.8	10.7	10.1	10.7
25-34	(%)	4.4	4.7	4.4	4.9	4.6	4.4	4.2	3.9	3.7	3.4	2.9	2.9
35-44	(%)	2.1	2.0	2.6	1.9	1.8	2.0	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.4	2.1	1.3
45-54	(%)	1.7	1.9	2.2	3.0	2.6	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.4	1.0	1.1	1.1
55-64	(%)	4.2	3.2	4.5	4.3	4.0	1.2	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.4	1.9
Ethnic group													
Citizens	(%)	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.2	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.5
Bumiputera	(%)	4.5	4.7	4.9	5.0	4.8	4.5	3.9	4.1	4.1	3.8	3.8	3.8
Chinese	(%)	5.0	4.3	4.5	4.1	3.7	3.6	4.2	3.4	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.3
Indians	(%)	6.0	6.0	4.8	5.7	6.2	4.3	4.3	3.2	2.8	4.1	3.4	3.7
Others	(%)	10.0	12.3	7.1	6.2	3.1	3.0	6.8	2.5	4.5	5.9	1.8	3.2
Non-citizens	(%)	4.4	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.2	3.9	3.7	3.6

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

6. Profile of Outside Labour Force

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Outside labour force	('000)	**7,324.6**	**7,318.4**	**7,316.0**	**7,424.9**	**7,430.1**	**7,361.5**	**7,289.9**	**7,258.5**	**7,250.6**	**7,246.1**	**7,215.7**	**7,180.2**
Sex													
Male	('000)	2,342.5	2,325.1	2,303.4	2,314.3	2,311.3	2,306.5	2,252.2	2,218.9	2,198.3	2,183.6	2,149.9	2,120.7
Female	('000)	4,982.1	4,993.2	5,012.6	5,110.6	5,118.8	5,055.0	5,037.7	5,039.7	5,052.2	5,062.5	5,065.7	5,059.5
Age group													
15-24	('000)	3,568.7	3,513.7	3,455.7	3,447.4	3,500.8	3,470.8	3,321.4	3,324.5	3,321.3	3,331.2	3,289.8	3,334.7
25-34	('000)	972.1	922.3	1,018.3	920.2	1,036.4	805.3	798.1	768.7	822.4	840.5	819.1	766.1
35-44	('000)	778.8	783.1	657.8	741.6	667.0	637.0	742.0	747.9	719.1	642.0	673.4	686.5
45-54	('000)	751.8	796.8	826.5	807.8	813.6	899.1	870.7	862.1	878.1	922.3	846.4	855.8
55-64	('000)	1,253.3	1,302.4	1,357.7	1,507.9	1,412.3	1,549.3	1,557.8	1,555.4	1,509.7	1,510.1	1,586.9	1,537.1
Sex and Age group													
Male	('000)	2,342.5	2,325.1	2,303.4	2,314.3	2,311.3	2,306.5	2,252.2	2,218.9	2,198.3	2,183.6	2,149.9	2,120.7
15-24	('000)	1,605.9	1,563.4	1,531.5	1,634.7	1,541.4	1,404.8	1,340.6	1,377.3	1,386.7	1,336.0	1,269.4	1,331.5
25-34	('000)	167.1	148.7	255.5	205.3	217.8	242.2	217.3	142.9	180.3	158.2	204.9	130.2
35-44	('000)	63.9	56.2	64.0	68.9	66.4	85.1	67.7	117.1	57.5	86.3	58.3	51.9
45-54	('000)	84.6	132.9	80.6	76.0	96.9	59.5	88.6	82.2	87.1	109.7	81.9	118.0
55-64	('000)	421.1	423.9	371.7	329.4	388.8	514.9	538.0	499.3	486.7	493.5	535.4	489.1
Female	('000)	4,982.1	4,993.2	5,012.6	5,110.6	5,118.8	5,055.0	5,037.7	5,039.7	5,052.2	5,062.5	5,065.7	5,059.5
15-24	('000)	1,962.8	1,950.2	1,924.1	1,812.7	1,959.5	2,066.0	1,980.8	1,947.1	1,934.6	1,995.2	2,020.4	2,003.2
25-34	('000)	805.0	773.7	762.8	714.9	818.6	563.1	580.8	625.8	642.0	682.2	614.3	635.9
35-44	('000)	714.9	727.0	593.8	672.7	600.6	551.8	674.3	630.8	661.6	555.8	615.1	634.6
45-54	('000)	667.2	663.9	745.9	731.8	716.7	839.6	782.1	779.9	791.0	812.6	764.5	737.8
55-64	('000)	832.2	878.5	986.0	1,178.5	1,023.5	1,034.4	1,019.7	1,056.0	1,023.0	1,016.7	1,051.5	1,048.0
Reason for not seeking work													
Schooling/ training program	('000)	2,872.1	3,105.3	3,161.9	3,117.4	3,082.9	3,106.1	3,020.8	2,989.8	2,989.0	3,043.6	3,006.8	2,955.5
Housework/ family responsibility	('000)	3,223.0	3,107.6	2,999.7	3,233.4	3,273.7	2,982.1	3,033.4	3,059.8	3,126.0	3,169.8	3,171.2	3,195.1
Going for further Studies	('000)	178.7	148.9	72.4	110.6	159.3	257.3	219.2	150.3	161.6	123.5	128.3	134.2
Disabled	('000)	216.2	169.9	189.7	134.7	125.1	185.4	220.8	245.1	199.2	174.7	174.4	191.9
Not interested/ just completed study	('000)	236.2	127.0	270.0	235.7	257.6	172.0	90.5	86.5	90.5	75.9	66.8	50.7
Retired/ old age	('000)	598.3	659.7	622.2	593.2	531.5	658.6	705.3	727.1	684.3	658.6	668.3	652.8

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

7. Principal Statistics of Labour Force by State

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Malaysia													
Labour force	('000)	15,840.6	15,922.3	16,008.4	15,972.2	16,021.0	16,135.0	16,246.1	16,343.3	16,442.9	16,542.2	16,648.9	16,727.4
Employed	('000)	15,095.6	15,161.6	15,236.5	15,207.3	15,274.8	15,440.7	15,574.9	15,701.2	15,831.1	15,941.7	16,062.0	16,146.1
Unemployed	('000)	745.0	760.7	771.8	764.9	746.2	694.4	671.2	642.0	611.8	600.5	586.9	581.4
Outside labour force	('000)	7,324.6	7,318.4	7,316.0	7,424.9	7,430.1	7,361.5	7,289.9	7,258.5	7,250.6	7,246.1	7,215.7	7,180.2
Labour force participation rate	(%)	68.4	68.5	68.6	68.3	68.3	68.7	69.0	69.2	69.4	69.5	69.8	70.0
Unemployment rate	(%)	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.3	4.1	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.5
Johor													
Labour force	('000)	1,858.7	1,824.4	1,793.4	1,766.4	1,807.6	1,839.5	1,839.3	1,848.4	1,864.4	1,856.0	1,878.7	1,884.6
Employed	('000)	1,792.2	1,752.4	1,722.6	1,698.6	1,735.2	1,774.2	1,780.7	1,795.0	1,818.1	1,812.2	1,830.1	1,838.7
Unemployed	('000)	66.5	72.0	70.8	67.8	72.4	65.3	58.6	53.4	46.3	43.7	48.6	46.0
Outside labour force	('000)	793.9	854.1	846.6	847.6	824.0	807.6	834.1	813.2	810.7	823.7	812.8	811.5
Labour force participation rate	(%)	70.1	68.1	67.9	67.6	68.7	69.5	68.8	69.4	69.7	69.3	69.8	69.9
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.6	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.0	3.6	3.2	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.4
Kedah													
Labour force	('000)	961.7	956.9	975.5	997.8	1,028.9	1,014.2	1,032.5	1,034.1	1,048.5	1,057.3	1,057.1	1,064.7
Employed	('000)	919.5	918.7	940.3	959.0	990.1	975.3	997.3	999.8	1,017.3	1,022.5	1,027.3	1,036.7
Unemployed	('000)	42.2	38.2	35.2	38.8	38.8	38.9	35.2	34.3	31.2	34.8	29.8	28.0
Outside labour force	('000)	575.0	584.3	569.1	555.4	528.9	548.5	536.7	539.7	533.7	539.7	537.4	536.4
Labour force participation rate	(%)	62.6	62.1	63.2	64.2	66.1	64.9	65.8	65.7	66.3	66.2	66.3	66.5
Unemployment rate	(%)	4.4	4.0	3.6	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.3	2.8	2.6
Kelantan													
Labour force	('000)	715.8	703.9	698.3	721.9	747.6	773.5	787.9	791.0	792.0	800.7	805.2	808.2
Employed	('000)	683.2	675.3	667.8	687.4	709.7	737.2	757.3	760.8	763.1	768.0	773.8	776.4
Unemployed	('000)	32.7	28.6	30.5	34.5	37.9	36.2	30.6	30.3	28.9	32.8	31.3	31.8
Outside labour force	('000)	525.8	544.8	562.0	542.4	522.4	500.8	493.2	498.4	504.3	505.5	506.2	510.2
Labour force participation rate	(%)	57.7	56.4	55.4	57.1	58.9	60.7	61.5	61.3	61.1	61.3	61.4	61.3
Unemployment rate	(%)	4.6	4.1	4.4	4.8	5.1	4.7	3.9	3.8	3.6	4.1	3.9	3.9
Melaka													
Labour force	('000)	426.1	432.6	436.4	433.4	454.3	461.2	453.1	463.0	463.2	454.2	453.7	452.1
Employed	('000)	415.5	416.5	420.8	417.6	440.5	447.0	439.5	448.0	451.1	441.9	440.5	440.0
Unemployed	('000)	10.6	16.1	15.7	15.7	13.8	14.2	13.6	15.0	12.1	12.3	13.2	12.1
Outside labour force	('000)	220.7	224.5	217.7	220.3	212.0	203.5	210.6	211.2	207.3	222.7	226.1	227.7
Labour force participation rate	(%)	65.9	65.8	66.7	66.3	68.2	69.4	68.3	68.7	69.1	67.1	66.7	66.5
Unemployment rate	(%)	2.5	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.2	2.6	2.7	2.9	2.7
Negeri Sembilan													
Labour force	('000)	500.0	491.2	498.1	505.6	512.0	509.8	510.0	511.5	525.0	532.0	530.4	530.4
Employed	('000)	481.5	470.4	479.5	488.1	493.2	494.0	493.3	494.7	509.2	518.0	517.2	518.5
Unemployed	('000)	18.5	20.8	18.7	17.5	18.8	15.7	16.7	16.9	15.8	14.0	13.2	11.9
Outside labour force	('000)	279.8	287.8	282.3	268.4	276.6	274.8	273.7	271.8	266.4	259.9	257.1	261.2
Labour force participation rate	(%)	64.1	63.1	63.8	65.3	64.9	65.0	65.1	65.3	66.3	67.2	67.3	67.0
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.7	4.2	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.3

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

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

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Pahang													
Labour force	('000)	760.9	718.6	733.6	733.4	751.8	735.8	750.7	745.8	744.5	757.2	760.6	766.9
Employed	('000)	739.4	694.9	706.9	707.3	723.6	711.6	732.4	725.6	722.9	736.5	741.1	745.3
Unemployed	('000)	21.5	23.6	26.7	26.1 (r)	28.2	24.2	18.4	20.2	21.6	20.7	19.4	21.6
Outside labour force	('000)	371.6	418.0	407.9	397.5	396.8	412.1	397.2	405.6	406.7	397.7	395.3	395.1
Labour force participation rate	(%)	67.2	63.2	64.3	64.9	65.5	64.1	65.4	64.8	64.7	65.6	65.8	66.0
Unemployment rate	(%)	2.8	3.3	3.6	3.6	3.8	3.3	2.4	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.8
Pulau Pinang													
Labour force	('000)	860.9	915.4	908.5	951.1	915.6	937.9	924.7	926.6	926.4	946.1	937.4	943.6
Employed	('000)	826.0	881.9	876.4	913.9	881.5	908.1	894.6	900.1	902.3	924.4	916.0	923.5
Unemployed	('000)	34.8	33.6	32.1	37.2	34.0	29.9	30.1	26.5	24.1	21.7	21.5	20.1
Outside labour force	('000)	430.2	372.1	375.8	342.9	379.1	363.0	375.9	374.6	380.4	371.2	375.9	372.5
Labour force participation rate	(%)	66.7	71.1	70.7	73.5	70.7	72.1	71.1	71.2	70.9	71.8	71.4	71.7
Unemployment rate	(%)	4.0	3.7	3.5	3.9	3.7	3.2	3.3	2.9	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.1
Perak													
Labour force	('000)	1,115.4	1,088.8	1,088.4	1,124.8	1,113.7	1,110.7	1,128.3	1,143.7	1,149.4	1,122.7	1,121.2	1,120.5
Employed	('000)	1,062.3	1,035.8	1,038.9	1,075.2	1,060.7	1,062.8	1,085.6	1,103.0	1,114.2	1,090.8	1,085.7	1,084.3
Unemployed	('000)	53.1	52.9	49.5	49.7	52.9	47.9	42.7	40.7	35.3	31.9	35.5	36.2
Outside labour force	('000)	598.5	623.9	625.2	585.6	595.8	611.3	591.7	585.6	579.2	599.1	603.3	605.9
Labour force participation rate	(%)	65.1	63.6	63.5	65.8	65.1	64.5	65.6	66.1	66.5	65.2	65.0	64.9
Unemployment rate	(%)	4.8	4.9	4.6	4.4	4.8	4.3	3.8	3.6	3.1	2.8	3.2	3.2
Perlis													
Labour force	('000)	104.2	111.7	110.8	117.4	113.0	116.1	115.3	116.0	119.0	118.2	118.3	119.7
Employed	('000)	99.3	106.0	105.0	111.2	107.5	111.2	111.4	112.3	116.0	115.6	115.8	117.0
Unemployed	('000)	4.9	5.7	5.8	6.2	5.5	4.9	3.9	3.8	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.7
Outside labour force	('000)	71.6	65.7	66.3	62.3	64.2	63.9	62.9	62.8	60.6	62.6	61.5	62.2
Labour force participation rate	(%)	59.3	63.0	62.6	65.3	63.8	64.5	64.7	64.9	66.3	65.4	65.8	65.8
Unemployment rate	(%)	4.7	5.1	5.3	5.3	4.9	4.2	3.4	3.3	2.5	2.2	2.1	2.2
Selangor													
Labour force	('000)	3,689.6	3,881.9	3,881.8	3,715.6	3,715.9	3,658.6	3,715.6	3,760.5	3,766.9	3,809.6	3,850.6	3,886.6
Employed	('000)	3,511.9	3,707.0	3,708.5	3,550.5	3,583.9	3,553.3	3,597.5	3,649.7	3,647.1	3,697.4	3,750.9	3,791.3
Unemployed	('000)	177.7	174.9	173.2	165.0	132.0	105.3	118.1	110.8	119.7	112.2	99.7	95.3
Outside labour force	('000)	1,149.7	984.4	1,047.4	1,244.8	1,261.5	1,279.7	1,231.9	1,208.0	1,220.1	1,209.9	1,181.7	1,155.6
Labour force participation rate	(%)	76.2	79.8	78.8	74.9	74.7	74.1	75.1	75.7	75.5	75.9	76.5	77.1
Unemployment rate	(%)	4.8	4.5	4.5	4.4	3.6	2.9	3.2	2.9	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.5
Terengganu													
Labour force	('000)	458.5	485.4	492.4	480.5	472.7	484.6	498.8	501.6	504.0	514.4	521.0	525.9
Employed	('000)	440.7	466.2	474.2	460.5	451.8	464.7	476.3	479.4	482.1	492.0	499.4	502.3
Unemployed	('000)	17.8	19.2	18.3	20.0	20.9	19.9	22.6	22.2	21.9	22.4	21.7	23.6
Outside labour force	('000)	362.3	337.3	335.8	359.8	362.7	358.2	348.1	347.9	352.4	345.3	343.7	343.4
Labour force participation rate	(%)	55.9	59.0	59.5	57.2	56.6	57.5	58.9	59.0	58.8	59.8	60.3	60.5
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.9	4.0	3.7	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.5

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table A: Labour Supply, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

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

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Sabah													
Labour force	('000)	2,052.7	1,984.6	2,019.6	2,004.4	1,982.1	2,045.9	2,059.5	2,062.9	2,122.4	2,176.5	2,198.0	2,203.7
Employed	('000)	1,876.9	1,817.8	1,839.4	1,829.3	1,803.5	1,861.7	1,871.1	1,885.9	1,948.2	1,999.8	2,028.2	2,038.1
Unemployed	('000)	175.8	166.7	180.2	175.1	178.6	184.2	188.3	177.0	174.2	176.7	169.8	165.6
Outside labour force	('000)	911.9	995.2	971.8	999.9	1,027.8	985.1	983.5	993.9	951.8	907.6	914.2	908.9
Labour force participation rate	(%)	69.2	66.6	67.5	66.7	65.9	67.5	67.7	67.5	69.0	70.6	70.6	70.8
Unemployment rate	(%)	8.6	8.4	8.9	8.7	9.0	9.0	9.1	8.6	8.2	8.1	7.7	7.5
Sarawak													
Labour force	('000)	1,358.3	1,353.7	1,365.7	1,418.8	1,419.1	1,441.7	1,440.8	1,453.1	1,443.0	1,449.8	1,442.5	1,456.3
Employed	('000)	1,305.6	1,293.4	1,301.5	1,356.1	1,354.3	1,384.1	1,395.0	1,404.9	1,400.1	1,405.3	1,393.5	1,403.1
Unemployed	('000)	52.8	60.3	64.2	62.6	64.7	57.6	45.7	48.2	42.9	44.5	49.0	53.1
Outside labour force	('000)	657.3	662.5	657.9	625.2	615.7	603.3	602.9	598.6	622.9	627.8	636.8	630.1
Labour force participation rate	(%)	67.4	67.1	67.5	69.4	69.7	70.5	70.5	70.8	69.8	69.8	69.4	69.8
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.9	4.5	4.7	4.4	4.6	4.0	3.2	3.3	3.0	3.1	3.4	3.6
W.P Kuala Lumpur													
Labour force	('000)	892.4	892.0	919.6	918.6	900.7	918.2	902.4	898.8	888.6	859.0	886.0	873.7
Employed	('000)	859.5	848.7	874.1	875.0	857.5	872.6	859.5	859.9	857.2	831.6	857.3	844.4
Unemployed	('000)	32.8	43.3	45.5	43.6	43.2	45.6	42.9	38.9	31.3	27.4	28.7	29.4
Outside labour force	('000)	336.8	323.3	310.0	332.2	322.6	311.0	308.2	308.7	314.7	337.2	326.6	321.5
Labour force participation rate	(%)	72.6	73.4	74.8	73.4	73.6	74.7	74.5	74.4	73.8	71.8	73.1	73.1
Unemployment rate	(%)	3.7	4.9	4.9	4.7	4.8	5.0	4.8	4.3	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.4
W.P Labuan													
Labour force	('000)	47.8	47.0	50.0	48.7	51.2	51.1	50.5	49.8	49.3	49.3	49.4	51.7
Employed	('000)	45.1	43.2	45.5	44.4	47.0	47.2	47.0	46.2	45.9	47.0	46.7	48.0
Unemployed	('000)	2.7	3.9	4.5	4.3	4.2	3.9	3.5	3.6	3.4	2.2	2.7	3.8
Outside labour force	('000)	26.2	24.3	24.6	25.2	25.1	24.0	24.0	23.6	25.1	24.9	25.3	26.3
Labour force participation rate	(%)	64.6	65.9	67.0	65.9	67.1	68.1	67.8	67.9	66.3	66.4	66.1	66.3
Unemployment rate	(%)	5.7	8.2	9.0	8.8	8.2	7.6	6.9	7.2	6.9	4.5	5.4	7.3
W.P Putrajaya													
Labour force	('000)	37.6	34.3	36.3	33.8	35.2	36.2	36.5	36.3	36.4	39.2	38.9	38.7
Employed	('000)	37.1	33.6	35.4	33.2	34.8	35.6	36.2	36.0	36.1	38.6	38.6	38.5
Unemployed	('000)	0.4	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.2
Outside labour force	('000)	13.4	16.3	15.6	15.3	14.9	14.9	15.4	15.1	14.4	11.3	11.9	11.7
Labour force participation rate	(%)	73.7	67.9	70.0	68.8	70.2	70.9	70.3	70.7	71.7	77.6	76.5	76.8
Unemployment rate	(%)	1.2	2.1	2.4	1.7	1.0	1.6	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.6	0.8	0.5

Source: Labour Force Report, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

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

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Total													
Jobs	('000)	8,472.1	8,457.1	8,423.6	8,351.8	8,405.6	8,530.7	8,572.0	8,618.7	8,675.4	8,755.6	8,805.7	8,826.9
Filled jobs	('000)	8,292.8	8,281.2	8,245.7	8,173.7	8,231.6	8,347.1	8,387.7	8,427.4	8,484.2	8,563.2	8,613.1	8,637.3
Vacancies	('000)	179.3	175.9	177.9	178.0	174.0	183.6	184.3	191.3	191.3	192.4	192.6	189.6
Jobs created	('000)	21.03	16.72	17.38	16.18	15.04	20.89	25.84	29.40	30.53	30.89	31.71	31.94
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.9
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1
Economic activitiy													
Agriculture													
Jobs	('000)	473.8	472.6	467.6	465.5	468.1	468.4	466.8	468.9	470.0	479.8	481.1	482.0
Filled jobs	('000)	443.7	443.1	439.1	436.3	439.4	438.7	436.7	438.2	439.2	448.1	449.3	451.3
Vacancies	('000)	30.2	29.5	28.5	29.2	28.7	29.8	30.1	30.7	30.8	31.7	31.8	30.7
Jobs created	('000)	0.90	0.73	0.74	0.70	0.74	1.20	1.51	1.41	1.39	1.67	1.67	1.65
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	93.6	93.8	93.9	93.7	93.9	93.6	93.5	93.4	93.4	93.4	93.4	93.6
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	6.4	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.1	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.4
Mining & quarrying													
Jobs	('000)	79.5	79.4	79.5	78.8	78.3	77.9	77.6	77.6	78.4	79.5	80.1	80.3
Filled jobs	('000)	79.1	78.9	79.1	78.4	77.9	77.4	77.1	77.2	77.9	79.1	79.7	79.9
Vacancies	('000)	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4
Jobs created	('000)	0.08	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.07	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.11	0.13	0.13	0.12
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	99.5	99.4	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.5	99.4	99.5
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5
Manufacturing													
Jobs	('000)	2,253.6	2,257.0	2,260.4	2,258.6	2,286.2	2,321.3	2,343.5	2,358.2	2,390.5	2,414.1	2,429.9	2,428.6
Filled jobs	('000)	2,153.3	2,159.2	2,159.5	2,158.4	2,187.0	2,217.7	2,237.3	2,251.3	2,283.2	2,306.5	2,322.2	2,320.7
Vacancies	('000)	100.4	97.8	100.9	100.1	99.2	103.6	106.2	106.9	107.3	107.5	107.7	108.0
Jobs created	('000)	9.02	6.77	7.37	7.21	6.61	8.00	8.60	9.00	9.80	10.10	10.54	10.05
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	95.5	95.7	95.5	95.6	95.7	95.5	95.5	95.5	95.5	95.5	95.6	95.6
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4
Construction													
Jobs	('000)	1,283.0	1,280.1	1,255.4	1,236.7	1,231.1	1,249.2	1,241.9	1,238.4	1,237.1	1,250.8	1,256.5	1,259.1
Filled jobs	('000)	1,262.4	1,258.9	1,234.2	1,216.0	1,210.7	1,227.3	1,219.7	1,215.7	1,214.4	1,227.5	1,233.2	1,235.3
Vacancies	('000)	20.6	21.2	21.2	20.7	20.5	22.0	22.2	22.6	22.7	23.3	23.3	23.7
Jobs created	('000)	2.86	2.72	2.82	2.73	2.36	2.84	3.34	3.45	3.50	3.08	3.25	3.62
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	98.4	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.3	98.2	98.2	98.2	98.2	98.1	98.1	98.1
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9
Services													
Jobs	('000)	4,382.1	4,368.0	4,360.6	4,312.1	4,341.9	4,413.9	4,442.2	4,475.7	4,499.4	4,531.4	4,558.1	4,576.9
Filled jobs	('000)	4,354.2	4,341.0	4,333.8	4,284.5	4,316.6	4,386.0	4,416.9	4,445.1	4,469.4	4,501.9	4,528.7	4,550.1
Vacancies	('000)	27.9	27.0	26.8	27.6	25.3	27.9	25.3	30.6	30.0	29.4	29.4	26.8
Jobs created	('000)	8.17	6.41	6.36	5.44	5.25	8.76	12.29	15.45	15.73	15.91	16.12	16.49
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.3	99.3	99.4	99.4	99.4
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

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

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Total													
Jobs	('000)	8,472.1	8,457.1	8,423.6	8,351.8	8,405.6	8,530.7	8,572.0	8,618.7	8,675.4	8,755.6	8,805.7	8,826.9
Filled jobs	('000)	8,292.8	8,281.2	8,245.7	8,173.7	8,231.6	8,347.1	8,387.7	8,427.4	8,484.2	8,563.2	8,613.1	8,637.3
Vacancies	('000)	179.3	175.9	177.9	178.0	174.0	183.6	184.3	191.3	191.3	192.4	192.6	189.6
Jobs created	('000)	21.03	16.72	17.38	16.18	15.04	20.89	25.84	29.40	30.53	30.89	31.71	31.94
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.9	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.9
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1
Skill													
Skilled													
Jobs	('000)	2,069.1	2,065.5	2,062.4	2,064.3	2,075.3	2,109.9	2,116.9	2,143.7	2,157.4	2,180.6	2,195.7	2,205.2
Filled jobs	('000)	2,028.4	2,024.9	2,020.6	2,021.5	2,033.2	2,066.9	2,072.0	2,094.4	2,109.1	2,131.9	2,146.4	2,156.1
Vacancies	('000)	40.7	40.5	41.8	42.8	42.1	42.9	44.9	49.3	48.2	48.6	49.3	49.0
Jobs created	('000)	5.91	4.93	5.30	4.99	4.52	5.97	8.04	9.27	8.51	8.65	8.62	9.39
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	98.0	98.0	98.0	97.9	98.0	98.0	97.9	97.7	97.8	97.8	97.8	97.8
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2
Semi-skilled													
Jobs	('000)	5,277.6	5,278.7	5,253.3	5,194.8	5,237.6	5,311.7	5,344.1	5,364.2	5,405.5	5,458.1	5,494.8	5,506.2
Filled jobs	('000)	5,177.8	5,180.5	5,154.7	5,096.9	5,142.2	5,209.0	5,242.0	5,259.0	5,299.5	5,352.1	5,388.7	5,401.4
Vacancies	('000)	99.8	98.2	98.7	98.0	95.4	102.7	102.2	105.1	106.0	105.9	106.2	104.7
Jobs created	('000)	13.07	10.57	10.41	9.84	9.34	13.45	15.23	17.56	18.70	19.50	20.23	19.04
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.1	98.2	98.1	98.1	98.0	98.0	98.1	98.1	98.1
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9
Low-skilled													
Jobs	('000)	1,125.4	1,112.9	1,107.9	1,092.7	1,092.7	1,109.1	1,111.0	1,110.8	1,112.5	1,117.0	1,115.1	1,115.5
Filled jobs	('000)	1,086.6	1,075.8	1,070.4	1,055.4	1,056.2	1,071.1	1,073.7	1,074.0	1,075.5	1,079.1	1,078.0	1,079.7
Vacancies	('000)	38.8	37.2	37.4	37.3	36.6	38.0	37.3	36.9	37.0	37.8	37.1	35.8
Jobs created	('000)	2.05	1.21	1.67	1.35	1.17	1.47	2.57	2.58	3.32	2.74	2.86	3.52
Rate of Filled Jobs	(%)	96.6	96.7	96.6	96.6	96.7	96.6	96.6	96.7	96.7	96.6	96.7	96.8
Rate of Vacancies	(%)	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.2

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

3. Jobs by Economic Activity and Skill Category

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Jobs	('000)	8,472.1	8,457.1	8,423.6	8,351.8	8,405.6	8,530.7	8,572.0	8,618.7	8,675.4	8,755.6	8,805.7	8,826.9
Economic activitiy													
Agriculture	('000)	473.8	472.6	467.6	465.5	468.1	468.4	466.8	468.9	470.0	479.8	481.1	482.0
Mining & quarrying	('000)	79.5	79.4	79.5	78.8	78.3	77.9	77.6	77.6	78.4	79.5	80.1	80.3
Manufacturing	('000)	2,253.6	2,257.0	2,260.4	2,258.6	2,286.2	2,321.3	2,343.5	2,358.2	2,390.5	2,414.1	2,429.9	2,428.6
Food processing, beverages & tobacco products	('000)	287.4	286.1	289.5	287.0	289.5	291.7	296.4	299.6	305.3	312.8	320.8	324.6
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	('000)	80.7	81.3	80.1	79.2	79.9	83.6	84.2	83.9	84.1	86.0	87.2	87.9
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	('000)	297.4	293.6	295.1	287.7	299.0	302.1	303.3	303.2	306.1	308.2	309.6	308.2
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	('000)	428.6	429.4	430.7	437.4	437.3	440.6	445.9	450.0	457.4	456.9	457.3	448.8
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	('000)	352.1	352.7	354.9	353.9	355.5	359.6	361.8	361.1	363.5	365.9	367.2	367.1
Electrical, electronic & optical products	('000)	590.7	597.3	594.6	597.8	606.3	621.0	623.9	630.1	641.2	650.4	650.4	655.3
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	('000)	216.7	216.5	215.5	215.5	218.6	222.7	228.0	230.3	232.8	233.9	237.4	236.8
Construction	('000)	1,283.0	1,280.1	1,255.4	1,236.7	1,231.1	1,249.2	1,241.9	1,238.4	1,237.1	1,250.8	1,256.5	1,259.1
Services	('000)	4,382.1	4,368.0	4,360.6	4,312.1	4,341.9	4,413.9	4,442.2	4,475.7	4,499.4	4,531.4	4,558.1	4,576.9
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	1,551.9	1,553.1	1,555.0	1,537.4	1,557.9	1,602.1	1,615.5	1,647.0	1,657.1	1,668.7	1,671.1	1,681.4
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	790.4	792.4	789.3	763.1	774.7	787.9	790.6	780.5	782.9	793.8	804.2	805.9
Transportation & Storage	('000)	378.3	374.7	376.7	375.8	374.5	387.7	395.1	402.5	406.0	411.0	416.5	419.6
Information & communication	('000)	221.5	223.6	224.1	224.9	226.3	227.4	229.2	230.1	231.4	231.9	232.4	232.9
Finance, insurance, real estate & business services	('000)	934.6	918.5	911.0	909.0	906.8	904.7	904.7	905.9	912.8	916.1	922.1	923.1
Other services	('000)	505.5	505.7	504.6	501.9	501.6	504.1	507.2	509.6	509.2	509.8	511.7	514.0
Skill													
Skilled	('000)	2,069.1	2,065.5	2,062.4	2,064.3	2,075.3	2,109.9	2,116.9	2,143.7	2,157.4	2,180.6	2,195.7	2,205.2
Semi-skilled	('000)	5,277.6	5,278.7	5,253.3	5,194.8	5,237.6	5,311.7	5,344.1	5,364.2	5,405.5	5,458.1	5,494.8	5,506.2
Low-skilled	('000)	1,125.4	1,112.9	1,107.9	1,092.7	1,092.7	1,109.1	1,111.0	1,110.8	1,112.5	1,117.0	1,115.1	1,115.5

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

4. Filled Jobs by Economic Activity and Skill Category

Indicator	Unit	2020 Q3	2020 Q4	2021 Q1	2021 Q2	2021 Q3	2021 Q4	2022 Q1	2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4	2023 Q1	2023 Q2
Filled Jobs	('000)	8,292.8	8,281.2	8,245.7	8,173.7	8,231.6	8,347.1	8,387.7	8,427.4	8,484.2	8,563.2	8,613.1	8,637.3
Economic activitiy													
Agriculture	('000)	443.7	443.1	439.1	436.3	439.4	438.7	436.7	438.2	439.2	448.1	449.3	451.3
Mining & quarrying	('000)	79.1	78.9	79.1	78.4	77.9	77.4	77.1	77.2	77.9	79.1	79.7	79.9
Manufacturing	('000)	2,153.3	2,159.2	2,159.5	2,158.4	2,187.0	2,217.7	2,237.3	2,251.3	2,283.2	2,306.5	2,322.2	2,320.7
Food processing, beverages & tobacco products	('000)	274.4	272.8	274.5	274.7	277.3	279.3	283.5	286.2	291.8	299.3	307.2	310.6
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	('000)	77.7	78.2	77.6	76.6	77.3	80.7	81.2	80.8	81.0	82.9	84.1	84.8
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	('000)	286.6	283.3	283.6	276.4	287.4	289.4	290.3	290.1	292.7	294.7	296.0	294.6
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	('000)	409.7	411.0	412.0	418.7	419.1	420.6	425.3	429.4	436.9	436.3	437.0	429.2
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	('000)	338.6	339.8	341.0	339.5	341.4	345.4	347.1	346.9	349.6	352.1	353.3	353.2
Electrical, electronic & optical products	('000)	558.6	566.3	564.0	566.2	574.9	589.1	591.6	597.6	608.3	617.2	617.2	621.2
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	('000)	207.8	207.8	206.9	206.5	209.6	213.2	218.2	220.3	222.9	224.1	227.4	227.1
Construction	('000)	1,262.4	1,258.9	1,234.2	1,216.0	1,210.7	1,227.3	1,219.7	1,215.7	1,214.4	1,227.5	1,233.2	1,235.3
Services	('000)	4,354.2	4,341.0	4,333.8	4,284.5	4,316.6	4,386.0	4,416.9	4,445.1	4,469.4	4,501.9	4,528.7	4,550.1
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	1,544.2	1,545.5	1,545.5	1,527.8	1,549.9	1,591.3	1,607.8	1,636.0	1,646.4	1,657.7	1,660.7	1,671.6
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	786.4	788.7	786.1	760.0	772.0	784.9	788.4	778.2	780.3	790.8	801.4	803.8
Transportation & Storage	('000)	374.4	371.1	372.9	371.9	371.4	384.1	392.5	400.7	404.3	409.4	415.0	417.7
Information & communication	('000)	220.8	223.0	223.5	224.4	225.6	226.7	228.1	228.8	230.2	230.9	231.4	232.0
Finance, insurance, real estate & business services	('000)	926.5	910.0	903.9	901.0	898.3	896.9	895.3	895.1	901.5	905.8	910.7	912.9
Other services	('000)	502.1	502.7	501.9	499.4	499.4	502.1	504.9	506.2	506.7	507.3	509.5	512.0
Skill													
Skilled	('000)	2,028.4	2,024.9	2,020.6	2,021.5	2,033.2	2,066.9	2,072.0	2,094.4	2,109.1	2,131.9	2,146.4	2,156.1
Semi-skilled	('000)	5,177.8	5,180.5	5,154.7	5,096.9	5,142.2	5,209.0	5,242.0	5,259.0	5,299.5	5,352.1	5,388.7	5,401.4
Low-skilled	('000)	1,086.6	1,075.8	1,070.4	1,055.4	1,056.2	1,071.1	1,073.7	1,074.0	1,075.5	1,079.1	1,078.0	1,079.7

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

5. Vacancies by Economic Activity and Skill Category

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Vacancies	('000)	**179.3**	**175.9**	**177.9**	**178.0**	**174.0**	**183.6**	**184.3**	**191.3**	**191.3**	**192.4**	**192.6**	**189.6**
Economic activitiy													
Agriculture	('000)	30.2	29.5	28.5	29.2	28.7	29.8	30.1	30.7	30.8	31.7	31.8	30.7
Mining & quarrying	('000)	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4
Manufacturing	('000)	100.4	97.8	100.9	100.1	99.2	103.6	106.2	106.9	107.3	107.5	107.7	108.0
Food processing, beverages & tobacco products	('000)	13.0	13.3	15.0	12.4	12.2	12.4	12.9	13.4	13.5	13.5	13.5	14.0
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	('000)	3.1	3.1	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	('000)	10.8	10.3	11.6	11.4	11.6	12.8	13.0	13.1	13.4	13.5	13.6	13.5
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	('000)	18.9	18.4	18.7	18.8	18.2	19.9	20.6	20.6	20.5	20.6	20.4	19.6
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	('000)	13.5	12.9	13.9	14.4	14.1	14.1	14.7	14.2	13.9	13.8	13.9	13.9
Electrical, electronic & optical products	('000)	32.1	31.0	30.6	31.6	31.4	31.9	32.2	32.5	32.9	33.1	33.2	34.2
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	('000)	8.9	8.7	8.6	9.0	9.0	9.5	9.8	10.0	9.9	9.8	9.9	9.7
Construction	('000)	20.6	21.2	21.2	20.7	20.5	22.0	22.2	22.6	22.7	23.3	23.3	23.7
Services	('000)	27.9	27.0	26.8	27.6	25.3	27.9	25.3	30.6	30.0	29.4	29.4	26.8
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	7.8	7.6	9.5	9.6	7.9	10.8	7.7	10.9	10.7	11.0	10.4	9.7
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	4.0	3.7	3.2	3.1	2.7	2.9	2.1	2.3	2.6	3.1	2.8	2.1
Transportation & Storage	('000)	3.9	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.1	3.6	2.6	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.9
Information & communication	('000)	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.7	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.9
Finance, insurance, real estate & business services	('000)	8.0	8.6	7.1	8.0	8.5	7.8	9.4	10.8	11.3	10.3	11.4	10.3
Other services	('000)	3.4	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.0	2.3	3.4	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.0
Skill													
Skilled	('000)	40.7	40.5	41.8	42.8	42.1	42.9	44.9	49.3	48.2	48.6	49.3	49.0
Semi-skilled	('000)	99.8	98.2	98.7	98.0	95.4	102.7	102.2	105.1	106.0	105.9	106.2	104.7
Low-skilled	('000)	38.8	37.2	37.4	37.3	36.6	38.0	37.3	36.9	37.0	37.8	37.1	35.8

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

6. Job Created by Economic Activity and Skill Category

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Jobs created	('000)	**21.03**	**16.72**	**17.38**	**16.18**	**15.04**	**20.89**	**25.84**	**29.40**	**30.53**	**30.89**	**31.71**	**31.94**
Economic activitiy													
Agriculture	('000)	0.90	0.73	0.74	0.70	0.74	1.20	1.51	1.41	1.39	1.67	1.67	1.65
Mining & quarrying	('000)	0.08	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.07	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.11	0.13	0.13	0.12
Manufacturing	('000)	9.02	6.77	7.37	7.21	6.61	8.00	8.60	9.00	9.80	10.10	10.54	10.05
Food processing, beverages & tobacco products	('000)	0.39	0.22	0.24	0.20	0.20	0.37	0.49	0.52	0.58	0.65	0.72	0.67
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	('000)	0.18	0.24	0.31	0.33	0.33	0.40	0.43	0.42	0.43	0.44	0.44	0.41
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	('000)	0.47	0.36	0.43	0.46	0.46	0.66	0.73	0.77	0.84	0.89	0.92	0.85
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	('000)	3.81	1.92	2.05	2.11	1.79	2.17	2.30	2.33	2.48	2.60	2.76	2.50
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	('000)	0.65	0.99	0.71	0.85	0.83	0.98	1.04	1.06	1.18	1.22	1.27	1.14
Electrical, electronic & optical products	('000)	3.19	2.52	3.20	2.84	2.57	2.85	2.97	3.22	3.52	3.48	3.49	3.53
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	('000)	0.34	0.52	0.44	0.42	0.43	0.57	0.64	0.68	0.77	0.81	0.94	0.95
Construction	('000)	2.86	2.72	2.82	2.73	2.36	2.84	3.34	3.45	3.50	3.08	3.25	3.62
Services	('000)	8.17	6.41	6.36	5.44	5.25	8.76	12.29	15.45	15.73	15.91	16.12	16.49
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	2.88	2.12	2.30	1.78	1.82	3.12	4.73	6.66	6.79	8.39	8.65	8.47
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	0.40	0.37	0.08	0.09	0.16	0.73	0.71	0.52	0.88	1.00	0.95	1.19
Transportation & Storage	('000)	0.78	0.45	0.88	0.79	0.44	0.91	1.94	1.74	2.01	1.26	1.36	1.51
Information & communication	('000)	0.57	0.79	0.46	0.48	0.73	0.98	1.19	1.35	1.35	0.76	0.81	0.57
Finance, insurance, real estate & business services	('000)	2.77	2.09	2.12	1.85	1.61	2.04	2.43	3.27	2.85	2.72	2.85	3.10
Other services	('000)	0.77	0.59	0.53	0.45	0.50	0.98	1.30	1.91	1.85	1.79	1.50	1.66
Skill													
Skilled	('000)	5.91	4.93	5.30	4.99	4.52	5.97	8.04	9.27	8.51	8.65	8.62	9.39
Semi-skilled	('000)	13.07	10.57	10.41	9.84	9.34	13.45	15.23	17.56	18.70	19.50	20.23	19.04
Low-skilled	('000)	2.05	1.21	1.67	1.35	1.17	1.47	2.57	2.58	3.32	2.74	2.86	3.52

Source: Employment Statistics, Malaysia, Q2 2023, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q1 2022 - Q1 2023

7. Number of Online Job Vacancies Advertisement by Industry

Indicator	2022												2023		
	Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1		
Advertised Date	Jan	Feb	Mac	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mac
Total	**48,924**	**67,172**	**43,052**	**93,637**	**41,817**	**66,648**	**54,086**	**66,093**	**69,991**	**63,743**	**81,784**	**58,893**	**49,524**	**65,297**	**96,688**
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	173	194	107	149	43	99	121	173	179	312	606	302	193	274	362
Mining & quarrying	53	71	47	24	7	39	40	56	57	101	215	176	165	201	215
Manufacturing	9,040	12,640	7,869	20,669	8,052	13,467	11,884	12,409	16,610	7,866	12,880	6,228	6,117	6,761	8,621
Construction	1,305	1,743	1,219	592	247	456	824	1,146	1,168	3,745	6,389	3,906	2,868	3,959	5,050
Electricity, gas, Steam & air conditioning supply	34	39	32	26	7	52	36	58	66	52	53	40	33	45	50
Water supply, sewerage, waste management & remediation activities	52	56	61	42	18	33	45	70	102	126	199	115	116	125	170
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	9,944	13,882	7,845	17,769	7,652	12,815	13,063	13,871	18,216	19,671	20,809	21,633	8,671	11,950	15,335
Transportation & Storage	1,300	1,499	948	1,740	909	1,323	1,415	1,375	1,821	1,896	2,667	1,419	983	1,124	1,445
Accommodation & food service activities	2,308	3,813	2,353	6,834	3,617	5,493	3,484	4,521	5,156	6,784	7,414	3,063	3,125	2,745	4,441
Information & communication	2,002	2,537	1,749	2,021	997	1,420	1,540	1,897	2,168	2,872	4,427	2,435	2,702	2,708	3,899
Financial & insurance/ takaful activities	3,023	4,107	2,946	5,577	2,659	3,979	3,985	3,993	5,163	4,364	4,427	4,115	3,468	4,159	5,699
Real estate activities	767	1,025	685	1,632	596	1,205	1,106	1,361	1,673	1,213	1,799	989	808	987	1,567
Professional, scientific & technical activities	4,411	4,884	5,745	9,254	3,026	6,731	5,539	7,090	8,521	4,607	6,114	4,531	3,356	3,942	6,554
Administrative & support service activities	2,030	2,577	1,899	901	513	624	1,110	1,057	1,364	4,954	5,288	3,276	2,965	3,321	4,740
Public administration & defence; compulsory social security	421	522	370	906	372	724	185	304	113	249	302	399	146	201	225
Education	1,383	1,603	973	2,409	939	1,863	1,764	1,963	2,430	1,593	2,632	1,929	1,517	1,571	2,262
Human health & social work activities	1,090	1,615	846	2,571	1,145	2,050	1,924	1,994	2,754	1,035	1,519	1,218	897	1,243	1,452
Arts, entertainment & recreation	174	133	115	130	38	86	115	197	216	502	835	410	272	276	330
Other service activities	1,038	1,343	937	1,484	545	1,095	1,021	1,199	1,499	1,745	2,731	1,945	955	1,322	2,240
Activities of households as employers	4	7	12	6	1	4	5	6	1	6	6	6	4	8	9
Activities of extraterritorial organizations & bodies	3	11	6	17	2	9	6	11	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unclassified	8,369	12,871	6,288	18,884	10,432	13,081	4,874	11,342	712	50	472	758	10,163	18,375	32,022

Source: Big Data Analytics, Job Market Insights, DOSM

Table B: Labour Demand, Malaysia, Q1 2022 - Q1 2023

8. Number of Online Job Vacancies Advertisement by Occupation

Indicator	2022												2023		
	Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1		
Advertised Date	Jan	Feb	Mac	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mac
Total	48,924	67,172	43,052	93,637	41,817	66,648	54,086	66,093	69,991	63,743	81,784	58,893	49,524	65,297	96,688
Managers	5,260	7,681	4,976	9,643	5,201	7,839	6,439	9,155	8,823	8,105	8,460	9,021	6,332	8,775	14,096
Professionals	21,396	30,717	19,318	39,901	17,938	28,656	24,939	30,273	32,375	27,033	33,852	26,609	22,992	31,550	46,672
Technician and associate professionals	9,284	11,386	7,561	17,140	7,733	11,938	9,462	12,191	12,781	11,356	15,521	10,189	9,197	11,397	16,514
Clerical support workers	4,883	6,088	4,006	9,955	3,821	6,292	4,807	5,629	5,998	4,709	7,488	4,364	3,955	5,777	8,622
Service and sales workers	4,067	5,894	3,629	8,991	3,948	6,544	4,377	5,021	5,259	8,426	8,719	4,431	4,062	4,487	6,613
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	36	50	59	123	51	143	91	87	99	288	538	598	93	55	64
Craft and related trades workers	973	1,317	1,083	2,234	900	1,694	1,247	1,321	1,484	1,110	2,316	1,361	905	1,375	1,680
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	3,025	4,039	2,420	5,650	2,225	3,542	2,724	2,416	3,172	2,716	4,890	2,320	1,988	1,881	2,427
Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

9. Number of Online Job Vacancies Advertisement by State

Indicator	2022												2023		
	Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1		
Advertised Date	Jan	Feb	Mac	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mac
Total	48,924	67,172	43,052	93,637	41,817	66,648	54,086	66,093	69,991	63,743	81,784	58,893	49,524	65,297	96,688
Johor	3,674	4,693	3,244	7,296	3,107	5,643	4,339	4,719	5,757	5,624	7,359	3,414	3,603	4,166	4,381
Kedah	590	706	416	899	452	622	599	615	645	668	1,179	555	1,185	1,106	1,238
Kelantan	429	405	270	590	267	472	386	364	417	335	607	411	286	392	342
Melaka	971	1,088	698	1,742	714	1,159	911	1,043	1,184	1,139	1,868	890	924	1,047	1,072
Negeri Sembilan	404	432	284	583	262	402	291	316	362	408	601	246	317	304	341
Pahang	365	545	263	804	291	472	279	482	446	431	798	314	464	414	629
Pulau Pinang	1,811	2,326	2,009	3,435	1,675	2,497	1,898	2,093	2,349	2,204	2,380	1,260	2,152	2,398	2,728
Perak	742	937	570	1,121	531	759	652	627	721	762	1,386	733	923	959	1,105
Perlis	179	221	21	327	38	21	16	35	17	53	98	43	79	76	67
Selangor	9,196	10,030	7,643	13,974	6,101	9,958	8,353	8,867	10,204	9,641	14,062	6,473	11,389	13,167	15,434
Terengganu	415	337	245	497	233	473	319	305	341	369	638	401	370	419	413
Sabah	749	814	570	1,479	584	1,125	874	1015	1,145	908	1836	888	1,164	1318	1,614
Sarawak	962	1022	726	1,530	619	1,169	859	1051	1,212	1,065	2055	1,155	1,171	1590	1,733
W.P Kuala Lumpur	20,440	28,486	18,954	40,879	18,393	29,228	23,248	25,522	30,413	26,454	32,935	17,937	18,789	19,761	24,177
W.P Labuan	45	36	26	61	33	60	47	59	52	37	80	36	37	50	38
W.P Putrajaya	301	216	197	341	122	246	193	222	274	282	400	183	173	196	221
Unclassified *	7,651	14,878	6,916	18,079	8,395	12,342	10,822	18,758	14,452	13,363	13,502	23,954	6,498	17,934	41,155

Source: Big Data Analytics, Job Market Insights, DOSM

Note: * Including job vacancies for overseas

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

1. Labour Productivity per Hour Worked

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Value added per hour worked	**RM**	**41.2**	**41.8**	**40.3**	**40.6**	**41.1**	**42.3**	**40.4**	**41.1**	**42.6**	**43.2**	**41.2**	**40.6**
Economic activitiy													
Agriculture	RM	28.5	24.9	23.0	24.3	27.5	25.4	22.9	23.5	27.2	25.2	22.7	22.8
Mining & quarrying	RM	467.3	585.7	564.4	566.0	485.9	531.0	531.3	530.9	505.6	553.3	539.5	495.4
Manufacturing	RM	56.0	55.8	54.9	57.3	57.2	58.3	54.9	56.2	57.9	58.5	55.0	54.0
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	RM	34.1	29.4	27.3	32.7	33.6	30.3	25.5	30.3	31.9	30.2	26.1	29.4
Beverages & tobacco products	RM	220.7	206.6	193.6	209.4	137.7	224.7	193.1	253.1	200.2	212.7	203.9	246.0
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	RM	11.4	11.4	11.5	11.1	10.7	11.5	11.0	10.3	10.9	11.6	11.5	10.7
Wood products, furniture, paper products printing	RM	30.2	30.7	33.7	33.2	30.2	31.3	34.0	31.2	29.2	29.0	31.8	29.3
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	RM	97.3	98.3	94.3	97.7	108.3	101.2	89.9	92.3	106.7	99.7	89.7	88.1
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	RM	42.6	39.9	39.1	40.5	39.3	41.2	40.4	40.1	39.3	41.8	41.2	41.6
Electrical, electronic & optical products	RM	68.7	70.5	77.4	75.4	75.3	77.4	83.6	78.2	79.6	80.2	82.8	72.4
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	RM	74.0	83.4	61.9	70.5	55.2	84.2	59.0	75.7	65.7	82.4	59.0	72.3
Construction	RM	17.9	17.4	17.1	16.8	16.9	15.6	15.7	15.9	16.6	16.8	16.7	16.5
Services	RM	38.6	39.6	37.8	37.5	38.0	39.9	38.3	39.0	40.3	40.9	39.4	39.0
Utilities	RM	161.8	162.9	157.9	165.7	172.9	165.7	154.3	163.5	163.0	151.4	151.1	161.2
Wholesale & retail trade	RM	41.3	43.3	39.2	37.7	38.2	42.8	38.2	39.8	42.3	43.5	40.1	40.2
Food & beverages and Accommodation	RM	10.0	9.5	9.3	8.8	8.0	9.8	10.7	11.0	11.2	11.6	11.2	11.0
Transportation & Storage	RM	36.2	34.1	32.4	33.2	33.7	37.4	39.3	40.1	40.5	40.9	42.8	42.3
Information & communication	RM	155.8	151.5	165.6	163.9	166.6	158.5	165.3	166.3	159.6	153.1	164.5	162.3
Finance & insurance	RM	116.3	121.7	126.5	125.0	124.5	125.9	124.2	120.8	128.4	133.8	132.4	111.5
Real estate & business services	RM	22.0	21.3	21.7	20.9	20.0	20.6	23.0	24.0	24.7	24.0	24.1	24.7
Other services	RM	32.7	35.6	32.3	32.7	34.7	35.4	33.2	32.8	34.1	35.7	34.1	34.3

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q2 2023, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

2. Labour Productivity per Hour Worked - Annual Percentage Change

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Value added per hour worked	(%)	**0.3**	**-0.5**	**0.6**	**-12.8**	**-0.4**	**1.3**	**0.2**	**1.2**	**3.7**	**2.1**	**2.1**	**-1.1**
Economic activitiy													
Agriculture	(%)	0.6	-1.0	-0.5	-15.5	-3.5	1.9	-0.3	-3.4	-0.8	-0.6	-0.8	-2.9
Mining & quarrying	(%)	-4.3	-5.5	-0.8	-8.2	4.0	-9.3	-5.9	-6.2	4.1	4.2	1.6	-6.7
Manufacturing	(%)	6.8	6.0	8.1	-4.2	2.1	4.6	-0.1	-1.9	1.4	0.3	0.2	-3.9
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	(%)	10.4	-7.8	1.1	-20.9	-1.6	3.3	-6.6	-7.4	-5.0	-0.4	2.2	-3.0
Beverages & tobacco products	(%)	11.3	13.9	22.3	39.0	-37.6	8.8	-0.3	20.9	45.4	-5.4	5.6	-2.8
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	(%)	-8.5	-0.1	3.8	22.5	-6.4	0.2	-3.7	-7.0	1.5	1.2	4.4	3.8
Wood products, furniture, paper products printing	(%)	7.5	10.3	12.1	1.1	-0.1	1.8	0.7	-6.1	-3.1	-7.3	-6.4	-6.2
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	(%)	3.1	5.4	4.4	2.4	11.2	2.9	-4.6	-5.5	-1.5	-1.5	-0.3	-4.6
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	(%)	-2.0	0.4	1.1	0.6	-7.7	3.4	3.4	-1.0	-0.2	1.3	1.9	3.9
Electrical, electronic & optical products	(%)	12.3	9.8	11.4	-10.9	9.5	9.8	8.0	3.7	5.8	3.6	-0.9	-7.5
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	(%)	10.9	18.8	12.1	-18.5	-25.4	1.0	-4.6	7.4	18.9	-2.2	0.0	-4.5
Construction	(%)	-8.8	-6.5	-8.6	-7.7	-5.6	-10.8	-8.2	-5.1	-2.0	8.0	6.5	3.5
Services	(%)	-0.9	-2.4	-1.2	-15.6	-1.4	0.8	1.1	3.9	5.9	2.5	2.8	0.1
Utilities	(%)	1.8	4.9	1.4	-17.8	6.9	1.8	-2.3	-1.3	-5.8	-8.7	-2.1	-1.4
Wholesale & retail trade	(%)	0.7	0.4	2.2	-8.7	-7.3	-1.0	-2.6	5.7	10.6	1.6	4.9	0.8
Food & beverages and Accommodation	(%)	-23.2	-30.1	-26.5	-20.9	-20.1	2.8	14.5	25.3	40.1	18.9	5.2	-0.1
Transportation & Storage	(%)	-13.1	-17.4	-15.6	-8.6	-6.9	9.6	21.4	20.5	20.0	9.5	8.8	5.6
Information & communication	(%)	1.7	6.3	3.5	-30.5	6.9	4.7	-0.1	1.5	-4.2	-3.4	-0.5	-2.4
Finance & insurance	(%)	7.9	8.6	9.6	-1.8	7.1	3.4	-1.8	-3.3	3.1	6.3	6.7	-7.8
Real estate & business services	(%)	-12.9	-19.2	-14.1	-25.1	-9.1	-3.5	6.0	15.2	23.7	16.7	4.9	2.8
Other services	(%)	-0.9	-2.9	-3.4	-18.3	6.1	-0.5	2.5	0.4	-1.8	0.9	3.0	4.5

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q2 2023, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

3. Labour Productivity per Employment

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Value added per employment	**RM**	**23,327**	**23,661**	**22,578**	**22,211**	**22,081**	**24,065**	**23,153**	**23,402**	**24,312**	**24,966**	**23,718**	**23,407**
Economic activitiy													
Agriculture	RM	14,881	13,086	12,085	12,772	14,480	13,497	12,195	12,566	14,749	13,721	12,182	12,402
Mining & quarrying	RM	283,881	351,270	333,475	323,649	279,934	313,635	317,764	312,671	304,286	332,521	323,940	303,173
Manufacturing	RM	32,464	32,573	31,375	31,640	31,275	34,309	32,266	32,921	33,838	34,854	32,477	32,074
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	RM	18,686	16,295	14,678	17,476	17,916	17,040	14,604	17,014	17,831	17,121	14,924	16,467
Beverages & tobacco products	RM	134,836	122,882	110,450	116,777	79,123	131,919	115,193	146,336	118,093	124,337	119,031	151,452
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	RM	5,851	6,067	5,825	5,351	5,251	5,897	5,770	5,386	5,584	6,061	6,196	5,843
Wood products, furniture, paper products printing	RM	17,999	17,989	19,221	17,850	15,644	18,532	20,131	18,841	17,575	18,062	19,154	17,780
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	RM	58,505	59,151	56,258	57,546	63,951	61,991	54,587	55,665	64,334	61,351	54,923	54,528
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	RM	25,268	24,247	23,408	22,835	21,622	25,108	24,195	24,121	23,735	25,307	24,789	25,071
Electrical, electronic & optical products	RM	40,994	41,941	45,429	42,560	42,547	46,821	50,249	46,825	47,455	49,128	49,124	44,256
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	RM	44,159	50,466	36,546	40,360	29,854	50,621	36,018	45,485	39,016	49,547	36,275	43,125
Construction	RM	10,604	10,221	9,912	9,092	8,618	9,103	9,368	9,368	9,906	10,015	9,995	9,852
Services	RM	21,856	22,394	21,221	20,621	20,574	22,651	21,961	22,142	22,914	23,586	22,650	22,372
Utilities	RM	94,109	92,298	89,995	92,414	91,508	96,382	91,266	93,093	93,636	92,524	91,609	95,846
Wholesale & retail trade	RM	24,030	25,472	22,446	20,891	21,016	24,765	22,253	23,112	24,746	25,942	23,647	23,739
Food & beverages and Accommodation	RM	5,487	5,291	5,145	4,768	4,440	5,583	6,147	6,165	6,369	6,497	6,384	6,196
Transportation & Storage	RM	21,496	19,915	19,025	19,165	19,133	22,360	23,761	23,975	24,278	25,132	25,879	25,555
Information & communication	RM	91,181	89,006	95,962	94,564	95,637	93,184	97,607	96,343	96,201	93,833	95,465	95,083
Finance & insurance	RM	65,105	69,256	71,786	70,161	68,706	72,026	71,511	69,443	71,421	72,019	71,247	64,881
Real estate & business services	RM	12,687	12,414	12,542	11,811	10,978	11,916	13,607	13,985	14,166	14,494	14,569	14,665
Other services	RM	18,081	19,056	17,403	17,440	17,799	19,141	18,125	18,002	18,558	19,626	18,749	18,706

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q2 2023, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

4. Labour Productivity per Employment - Annual Percentage Change

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Value added per employment	(%)	-2.1	-2.6	-0.2	13.7	-5.3	1.7	2.5	5.4	10.1	3.7	2.4	0.0
Economic activitiy													
Agriculture	(%)	0.3	-0.9	1.0	-3.1	-2.7	3.1	0.9	-1.6	1.9	1.7	-0.1	-1.3
Mining & quarrying	(%)	-4.4	-8.3	-2.4	12.8	-1.4	-10.7	-4.7	-3.4	8.7	6.0	1.9	-3.0
Manufacturing	(%)	3.6	3.2	5.5	23.2	-3.7	5.3	2.8	4.0	8.2	1.6	0.7	-2.6
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	(%)	5.3	-9.4	-3.7	-6.5	-4.1	4.6	-0.5	-2.6	-0.5	0.5	2.2	-3.2
Beverages & tobacco products	(%)	8.6	10.1	15.1	55.6	-41.3	7.4	4.3	25.3	49.3	-5.7	3.3	3.5
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	(%)	-7.2	0.8	3.7	31.1	-10.2	-2.8	-0.9	0.7	6.3	2.8	7.4	8.5
Wood products, furniture, paper products printing	(%)	3.0	4.9	5.4	40.4	-13.1	3.0	4.7	5.6	12.3	-2.5	-4.8	-5.6
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	(%)	-0.2	0.1	3.0	21.8	9.3	4.8	-3.0	-3.3	0.6	-1.0	0.6	-2.0
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	(%)	-6.3	-2.7	-1.3	34.0	-14.4	3.6	3.4	5.6	9.8	0.8	2.5	3.9
Electrical, electronic & optical products	(%)	9.7	7.7	10.7	22.6	3.8	11.6	10.6	10.0	11.5	4.9	-2.2	-5.5
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	(%)	9.0	17.1	9.5	41.0	-32.4	0.3	-1.4	12.7	30.7	-2.1	0.7	-5.2
Construction	(%)	-10.1	-8.2	-8.2	37.8	-18.7	-10.9	-5.5	3.0	14.9	10.0	6.7	5.2
Services	(%)	-3.5	-4.6	-2.1	11.5	-5.9	1.1	3.5	7.4	11.4	4.1	3.1	1.0
Utilities	(%)	-0.6	1.7	0.3	5.2	-2.8	4.4	1.4	0.7	2.3	-4.0	0.4	3.0
Wholesale & retail trade	(%)	-3.0	-2.4	0.2	19.5	-12.5	-2.8	-0.9	10.6	17.7	4.8	6.3	2.7
Food & beverages and Accommodation	(%)	-28.1	-33.6	-27.6	5.9	-19.1	5.5	19.5	29.3	43.4	16.4	3.9	0.5
Transportation & Storage	(%)	-16.0	-21.7	-15.5	37.8	-11.0	12.3	24.9	25.1	26.9	12.4	8.9	6.6
Information & communication	(%)	1.7	5.5	1.6	2.6	4.9	4.7	1.7	1.9	0.6	0.7	-2.2	-1.3
Finance & insurance	(%)	5.4	6.4	10.9	24.4	5.5	4.0	-0.4	-1.0	4.0	0.0	-0.4	-6.6
Real estate & business services	(%)	-15.7	-21.3	-15.7	1.3	-13.5	-4.0	8.5	18.4	29.0	21.6	7.1	4.9
Other services	(%)	0.0	-2.1	-3.0	4.0	-1.6	0.4	4.1	3.2	4.3	2.5	3.4	3.9

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q2 2023, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

5. Total hours worked

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Total hours worked	**Million**	**8,545**	**8,578**	**8,538**	**8,312**	**8,214**	**8,775**	**8,935**	**8,939**	**9,039**	**9,210**	**9,247**	**9,298**
Economic activitiy													
Agriculture	Million	982	972	983	991	997	983	987	1,002	1,017	1,000	1,005	1,021
Mining & quarrying	Million	47	41	44	43	44	45	45	45	46	46	46	47
Manufacturing	Million	1,473	1,510	1,488	1,424	1,430	1,575	1,589	1,585	1,595	1,631	1,637	1,652
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	Million	245	254	247	248	250	272	278	275	278	285	291	289
Beverages & tobacco products	Million	11	10	10	10	10	10	11	10	11	11	11	11
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	Million	125	133	133	125	126	138	145	144	139	136	140	143
Wood products, furniture, paper products printing	Million	178	177	173	154	156	183	183	184	186	192	188	193
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	Million	247	252	253	250	251	261	264	263	265	267	269	271
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	Million	215	223	223	202	200	228	227	225	227	230	230	228
Electrical, electronic & optical products	Million	343	347	338	330	335	368	361	368	372	387	378	392
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	Million	110	115	111	105	102	116	120	117	117	124	129	124
Construction	Million	830	823	809	754	699	811	827	814	823	827	834	836
Services	Million	5,213	5,232	5,214	5,101	5,046	5,361	5,487	5,493	5,558	5,706	5,725	5,743
Utilities	Million	60	60	60	58	55	62	63	62	63	67	65	65
Wholesale & retail trade	Million	1,501	1,501	1,476	1,436	1,442	1,541	1,576	1,592	1,618	1,665	1,644	1,653
Food & beverages and Accommodation	Million	871	913	902	884	910	945	977	954	981	995	1,041	1,045
Transportation & Storage	Million	310	318	327	301	294	325	338	339	346	365	363	364
Information & communication	Million	145	149	140	143	144	152	149	149	157	164	156	158
Finance & insurance	Million	212	212	213	211	207	213	215	214	209	204	205	222
Real estate & business services	Million	658	665	651	635	613	655	672	670	670	711	715	704
Other services	Million	1,456	1,412	1,445	1,433	1,381	1,468	1,497	1,512	1,514	1,536	1,536	1,532

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q2 2023, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

6. Total Employment

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Total Employment	('000)	15,096	15,162	15,237	15,207	15,275	15,441	15,575	15,701	15,831	15,942	16,062	16,146
Economic activitiy													
Agriculture	('000)	1,877	1,851	1,870	1,886	1,889	1,849	1,854	1,872	1,878	1,840	1,874	1,877
Mining & quarrying	('000)	78	68	74	74	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76
Manufacturing	('000)	2,540	2,584	2,604	2,577	2,612	2,678	2,702	2,705	2,731	2,740	2,771	2,780
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	('000)	447	458	461	464	469	483	486	489	496	502	510	516
Beverages & tobacco products	('000)	17	17	18	17	18	18	18	18	18	18	19	19
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	('000)	244	250	263	258	256	268	278	274	271	260	261	262
Wood products, furniture, paper products printing	('000)	298	302	303	286	300	308	309	304	309	308	312	318
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	('000)	411	418	424	425	424	426	435	435	439	434	440	437
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	('000)	362	367	372	358	363	375	379	374	376	379	383	379
Electrical, electronic & optical products	('000)	575	583	576	585	593	608	600	615	624	632	637	641
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	('000)	185	189	189	183	188	193	196	195	197	207	210	207
Construction	('000)	1,404	1,404	1,391	1,390	1,374	1,386	1,382	1,383	1,378	1,387	1,391	1,397
Services	('000)	9,197	9,255	9,298	9,279	9,323	9,451	9,561	9,666	9,768	9,899	9,949	10,017
Utilities	('000)	103	106	106	105	105	106	107	108	110	110	108	109
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	2,577	2,551	2,578	2,590	2,624	2,666	2,704	2,745	2,766	2,793	2,785	2,798
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	1,593	1,644	1,630	1,634	1,643	1,658	1,694	1,709	1,730	1,782	1,826	1,861
Transportation & Storage	('000)	523	546	556	522	518	543	559	566	576	595	600	603
Information & communication	('000)	248	254	241	247	251	259	252	257	261	267	268	270
Finance & insurance	('000)	379	373	375	375	374	373	373	373	376	378	381	381
Real estate & business services	('000)	1,139	1,141	1,126	1,122	1,116	1,130	1,134	1,152	1,169	1,176	1,183	1,187
Other services	('000)	2,634	2,639	2,685	2,683	2,692	2,717	2,738	2,756	2,781	2,797	2,797	2,809

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q2 2023, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

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

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
GDP at constant 2015 prices	Million	352,137	358,736	344,005	337,770	337,286	371,583	360,603	367,444	384,884	398,008	380,966	377,927
Economic activitiy													
Agriculture	Million	27,938	24,218	22,596	24,090	27,356	24,958	22,610	23,526	27,697	25,240	22,834	23,274
Mining & quarrying	Million	22,009	24,023	24,630	24,073	21,207	23,807	24,087	23,666	23,133	25,314	24,675	23,128
Manufacturing	Million	82,446	84,182	81,710	81,543	81,697	91,889	87,181	89,039	92,399	95,513	89,996	89,151
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	Million	8,354	7,457	6,760	8,117	8,402	8,236	7,097	8,319	8,845	8,595	7,604	8,497
Beverages & tobacco products	Million	2,357	2,137	2,005	2,004	1,405	2,342	2,122	2,584	2,107	2,249	2,239	2,812
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	Million	1,426	1,519	1,531	1,381	1,346	1,579	1,605	1,478	1,513	1,574	1,619	1,533
Wood products, furniture, paper products printing	Million	5,369	5,424	5,822	5,109	4,694	5,716	6,225	5,731	5,437	5,568	5,977	5,649
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	Million	24,068	24,747	23,852	24,455	27,144	26,396	23,742	24,240	28,269	26,621	24,164	23,843
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	Million	9,151	8,900	8,704	8,171	7,860	9,407	9,167	9,017	8,920	9,600	9,484	9,507
Electrical, electronic & optical products	Million	23,557	24,439	26,146	24,918	25,233	28,448	30,160	28,781	29,613	31,061	31,300	28,362
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	Million	8,164	9,558	6,889	7,388	5,612	9,766	7,062	8,888	7,695	10,244	7,609	8,948
Construction	Million	14,890	14,346	13,786	12,639	11,843	12,620	12,945	12,953	13,655	13,889	13,906	13,759
Services	Million	201,009	207,248	197,305	191,355	191,818	214,074	209,973	214,034	223,829	233,475	225,342	224,105
Utilities	Million	9,736	9,823	9,513	9,674	9,586	10,251	9,749	10,064	10,307	10,217	9,854	10,419
Wholesale & retail trade	Million	61,931	64,978	57,864	54,116	55,149	66,015	60,178	63,436	68,444	72,452	65,864	66,419
Food & beverages and Accommodation	Million	8,741	8,700	8,387	7,793	7,297	9,254	10,411	10,535	11,020	11,580	11,659	11,532
Transportation & Storage	Million	11,237	10,865	10,584	10,011	9,907	12,150	13,282	13,579	13,983	14,956	15,539	15,412
Information & communication	Million	22,622	22,589	23,163	23,403	23,985	24,089	24,632	24,782	25,073	25,090	25,574	25,686
Finance & insurance	Million	24,659	25,830	26,948	26,313	25,730	26,849	26,662	25,913	26,841	27,252	27,176	24,698
Real estate & business services	Million	14,456	14,165	14,123	13,249	12,252	13,464	15,436	16,109	16,560	17,038	17,229	17,403
Other services	Million	47,627	50,299	46,724	46,796	47,911	52,002	49,623	49,615	51,601	54,891	52,447	52,536
plus Import duties	Million	3,844	4,720	3,978	4,068	3,365	4,235	3,808	4,228	4,171	4,577	4,211	4,510

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q2 2023, DOSM

Table C: Labour Productivity, Malaysia, Q3 2020 - Q2 2023

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

Indicator	Unit	2020		2021				2022				2023	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
GDP at constant2015 prices	(%)	-2.5	-3.2	-0.2	16.2	-4.2	3.6	4.8	8.8	14.1	7.1	5.6	2.9
Economic activitiy													
Agriculture	(%)	-0.5	-1.2	0.3	-1.4	-2.1	3.1	0.1	-2.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	-1.1
Mining & quarrying	(%)	-6.6	-9.8	-3.3	12.6	-3.6	-0.9	-2.2	-1.7	9.1	6.3	2.4	-2.3
Manufacturing	(%)	3.2	3.0	6.6	26.7	-0.9	9.2	6.7	9.2	13.1	3.9	3.2	0.1
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	(%)	7.0	-6.8	-0.3	-2.1	0.6	10.5	5.0	2.5	5.3	4.4	7.2	2.1
Beverages & tobacco products	(%)	-2.4	-1.8	4.4	54.9	-40.4	9.5	5.9	28.9	49.9	-4.0	5.5	8.8
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	(%)	-8.5	-1.0	1.9	38.4	-5.6	4.0	4.9	7.1	12.3	-0.3	0.8	3.7
Wood products, furniture, paper products printing	(%)	-0.3	2.2	4.0	38.7	-12.6	5.4	6.9	12.2	15.8	-2.6	-4.0	-1.4
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	(%)	2.1	3.0	7.4	28.3	12.8	6.7	-0.5	-0.9	4.1	0.9	1.8	-1.6
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	(%)	-6.6	-1.9	1.0	33.3	-14.1	5.7	5.3	10.4	13.5	2.1	3.5	5.4
Electrical, electronic & optical products	(%)	9.1	7.7	10.6	26.3	7.1	16.4	15.4	15.5	17.4	9.2	3.8	-1.5
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	(%)	4.7	7.1	8.1	43.2	-31.3	2.2	2.5	20.3	37.1	4.9	7.7	0.7
Construction	(%)	-12.2	-13.7	-10.3	40.4	-20.5	-12.0	-6.1	2.5	15.3	10.1	7.4	6.2
Services	(%)	-3.6	-4.5	-2.0	13.8	-4.6	3.3	6.4	11.9	16.7	9.1	7.3	4.7
Utilities	(%)	0.0	1.7	1.7	7.0	-1.5	4.4	2.5	4.0	7.5	-0.3	1.1	3.5
Wholesale & retail trade	(%)	-2.1	-0.9	1.6	21.1	-11.0	1.6	4.0	17.2	24.1	9.8	9.4	4.7
Food & beverages and Accommodation	(%)	-29.8	-35.6	-30.0	9.5	-16.5	6.4	24.1	35.2	51.0	25.1	12.0	9.5
Transportation & Storage	(%)	-16.6	-22.9	-16.7	37.7	-11.8	11.8	25.5	35.6	41.1	23.1	17.0	13.5
Information & communication	(%)	5.2	7.1	6.1	5.6	6.0	6.6	6.3	5.9	4.5	4.2	3.8	3.6
Finance & insurance	(%)	5.8	6.2	11.2	23.1	4.3	3.9	-1.1	-1.5	4.3	1.5	1.9	-4.7
Real estate & business services	(%)	-15.3	-21.2	-17.7	2.1	-15.2	-4.9	9.3	21.6	35.2	26.5	11.6	8.0
Other services	(%)	-0.1	-1.1	-0.8	7.7	0.6	3.4	6.2	6.0	7.7	5.6	5.7	5.9
plus Import duties	(%)	-6.4	19.3	18.9	18.4	-12.5	-10.3	-4.3	3.9	24.0	8.1	10.6	6.7

Source: Labour Productivity, Malaysia Q2 2023, DOSM

Table D: Employee Wages, Malaysia, Q1 2022 - Q1 2023

1. Number of Formal Employee

Indicator	Unit	2022												2023		
		Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1		
Months	('000)	Jan	Feb	Mac	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mac
Total	**('000)**	**6325.7**	**6346.8**	**6395.4**	**6426.9**	**6434.1**	**6495.5**	**6535.4**	**6580**	**6591**	**6581.1**	**6561.3**	**6555.1**	**6502.5**	**6432.8**	**6450.6**
Sex																
Male	('000)	3540.1	3550	3577.4	3590.6	3590.5	3625	3645	3666.8	3670.4	3663.8	3652.3	3648.6	3614.9	3569.3	3583
Female	('000)	2785.6	2796.7	2818	2836.3	2843.5	2870.5	2890.5	2913.2	2920.6	2917.4	2909.1	2906.6	2887.6	2863.5	2867.6
Age group																
Less than 20	('000)	64.0	67.8	76.7	102.9	120.8	139.0	146.0	144.9	143.0	143.4	148.8	153.3	73.9	75.7	89.7
20-24	('000)	729.5	746.9	768.7	778.1	782	808.2	836.7	875.3	892.5	894.4	893.6	897.5	740.8	745	754.4
25-29	('000)	1282.9	1288.1	1298.9	1304.2	1302.3	1312.5	1317.6	1324.4	1327	1327.5	1322.5	1319.3	1303.9	1292.2	1293.5
30-34	('000)	1067.3	1067.3	1070.5	1069.4	1065.6	1069.5	1070.7	1072.6	1071.4	1070.3	1066	1064	1097.3	1083.9	1082.6
35-39	('000)	871.9	871.9	874.3	873.4	870.9	873.8	874.5	875.8	875.7	874.6	871.2	869.9	912.6	901.6	901
40-44	('000)	692.4	692.7	694.6	694.1	692.9	694.6	695.6	696.3	696.1	694.8	692.7	691.2	711.6	702.8	702.2
45-49	('000)	580	579.8	581	580.3	579.5	580.9	581.2	581.3	581	579.1	577.2	575.6	592.1	584.1	583.6
50-54	('000)	461.4	460.3	460.8	459.3	458.4	458.4	458.1	457.6	456.6	454.6	452.1	450.3	468	460.6	460.2
55-59	('000)	317.9	316.2	315.7	313.7	312.7	311.7	310.5	309.1	307.5	305.1	303	301.5	326.2	319.5	318.3
60-64	('000)	155.6	153.8	152.9	151	149.5	148	146.4	145.2	143.2	141.3	139.2	138	164.4	158.2	156.7
65 and above	('000)	102.7	101.9	101.3	100.5	99.6	99	98.2	97.5	96.8	96	95.1	94.5	111.7	109.2	108.4
State																
Johor	('000)	680.4	681.1	686.2	689.4	687.6	693.3	697.1	702.5	703.5	700.4	698.5	697.1	690.1	681.3	686.3
Kedah	('000)	232.1	233.1	234.6	236.9	238.2	241.5	242.4	244.9	244.9	243.7	241.6	240.6	235.4	232	230.8
Kelantan	('000)	90.5	91	90.9	91.9	92.4	93.2	93.6	93.6	93.2	93.1	92.1	91.8	89.4	87.9	88.3
Melaka	('000)	169.6	170.1	171.3	171.7	172.3	174.1	174.8	175.8	176.1	176	175.3	174.6	172.5	171.3	171.9
Negeri Sembilan	('000)	167.7	168.3	169.4	169.6	169.9	172.2	172.9	173.9	173.5	172.8	171.7	170.5	169	164.8	165.6
Pahang	('000)	159.8	160.1	161.3	162.8	163.9	166	166.3	167.1	166.9	166.6	166.2	165.3	163	160.9	162.2
Pulau Pinang	('000)	513	515.1	520.2	522.9	523.6	531.3	534.4	539.1	541.9	541.6	540.4	538.7	532.5	527.2	530.8
Perak	('000)	305.5	305.9	308	309.1	310.6	313.7	314.8	316	315.8	311.8	310.2	310	306.8	302.1	303.8
Perlis	('000)	18.8	18.9	18.9	18.9	19	19.3	19.3	19.4	19.3	19	18.9	18.8	18.5	17.7	17.4
Selangor	('000)	1768	1773.1	1784.7	1788.6	1784.6	1802.5	1815	1827.9	1829.5	1829.3	1818.6	1823.5	1812.5	1796.8	1820.1
Terengganu	('000)	134.3	134.8	136.1	136.5	137.6	139.4	140.8	141.3	141	140.2	139	137.3	135.6	131.9	133
Sabah	('000)	316	316.2	319.1	322.2	323.7	325.7	327.9	329.3	330.7	331.6	335.3	335.1	335.2	333.5	333.9
Sarawak	('000)	458	460.6	465.5	470.1	470.6	473	477	480.4	481.7	481.4	479.8	477.6	472.2	467.8	471.4
W.P Kuala Lumpur	('000)	1268.2	1274.2	1284.4	1291.3	1294.1	1304	1312.8	1322.1	1326	1326.6	1327.3	1328.4	1324.6	1313.3	1290.9
W.P Labuan	('000)	16.3	16.4	16.5	16.4	16.4	16.5	16.6	16.6	16.7	16.8	16.7	16.7	16.6	16	16
W.P Putrajaya	('000)	27.4	27.9	28.3	28.7	29.4	29.5	29.9	30.1	30.2	30.1	29.8	29.4	28.5	28.3	28.3

Source: Employment Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Malaysia, Q1 2023, DOSM

Table D: Employee Wages, Malaysia, Q1 2022 - Q1 2023

1. Number of Formal Employee (cont.)

Indicator	Unit	2022												2023		
		Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1		
Months	('000)	Jan	Feb	Mac	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mac
Total	('000)	6325.7	6346.8	6395.4	6426.9	6434.1	6495.5	6535.4	6580	6591	6581.1	6561.3	6555.1	6502.5	6432.8	6450.6
Economic activitiy																
Agriculture	('000)	128.2	128.8	129.6	130.1	130.1	131.1	131.7	132.7	132.7	132.4	132.1	131.7	131.7	130.2	129.2
Mining & quarrying	('000)	34.8	34.5	34.8	34.9	35.1	35.1	35.2	35.5	35.6	35.6	35.5	35.3	35.1	35	34.8
Manufacturing	('000)	1186.8	1190.5	1198.4	1202.6	1199.6	1211.9	1217.2	1226.3	1228.1	1224.8	1219	1216.1	1204	1195.4	1165
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	('000)	161.1	161.5	162.4	162.6	162.5	164.5	165.9	166.7	167.2	166.9	166.9	167.1	166.7	166.1	164.4
Beverages & tobacco products	('000)	11.4	11.4	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.6	11.6	11.7	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.6	11.5	11.3
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	('000)	26.7	26.8	27.2	27.4	27.5	27.8	27.8	27.8	27.6	27.3	27.2	27.2	26.7	26.2	25.8
Wood products, furniture, paper products and printing	('000)	109.6	109.4	110.2	109.8	109.1	109.6	109.2	109	108.4	107.8	106.9	106.4	105.1	103.7	99.5
Petroleum, chemical, rubber & plastic products	('000)	203.7	204.1	206	206	204.2	204.1	203.1	203.3	202.5	200.6	198.7	197.5	194.8	193.2	188.9
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	('000)	149.5	150	151	151.1	150.4	151.4	151.8	152.3	151.8	151.5	150.7	150.5	148.8	147.9	144.7
Electrical, electronic & optical products	('000)	344.7	346.3	348	351.1	350.2	356.9	359.8	365.1	366.5	366.3	364.3	362.5	358.2	356.8	335.4
Transport equipment, other manufacturing and repair	('000)	180	181	182	183.3	184.2	186	187.9	190.3	192.3	192.8	192.6	193.1	192.1	190	194.9
Construction	('000)	407.8	407	409.1	407.8	408.1	411	411.8	413.7	413.1	413.3	411.2	410.4	403.4	389.4	373.2
Services	('000)	4186.2	4203.2	4237.5	4262.9	4271.4	4315.2	4347.1	4378.2	4387	4379.3	4368.4	4367.2	4334.6	4288.6	4352.1
Utilities	('000)	58.4	58.5	64.6	64.5	64.6	65	65.3	65.7	65.6	65.6	65.6	65.7	65.7	64.1	64.4
Wholesale & retail trade	('000)	1373.4	1377.7	1388.4	1397.3	1396.3	1409.5	1417.4	1426.1	1426.2	1421.5	1417.1	1418.2	1411.3	1401.1	1377.6
Food & beverages and Accommodation	('000)	263.5	266	268.5	271.2	278.4	286.2	293.4	299.5	299.6	297.9	298.8	300.7	299.5	297.7	298.2
Transportation & storage	('000)	306.1	305.5	305.6	303.4	299.6	302.1	304.6	305.5	305.6	305.4	303.4	302.4	297.5	294.6	291.9
Information & communication	('000)	189.1	189.8	191.9	192.8	193.6	195.1	196.4	197.6	198.2	199	198.7	199.2	197.1	196.3	206.9
Finance & insurance	('000)	281.1	281.9	282.6	283.4	283.6	284.5	284.8	286.1	286.5	287.7	288.4	289	289.7	290.1	290
Real estate & business services	('000)	777.4	780.3	784.3	787.3	787.1	795.9	801.9	806.6	808.4	800.9	798.6	794.4	778.1	760.1	755.6
Other services	('000)	937.3	943.6	951.7	963.0	968.1	977.1	983.3	991.1	996.9	1001.3	997.9	997.5	995.6	984.7	1067.7
Unclassified	('000)	382.0	382.7	386.1	388.6	389.8	391.2	392.4	393.5	394.6	395.6	395.2	394.5	393.8	394.1	396.4

Source: Employment Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Malaysia, Q1 2023, DOSM

Table D: Employee Wages, Malaysia, Q1 2022 - Q1 2023

2. Median Monthly Wages of Formal Employee

Indicator	Unit	2022												2023		
		Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1		
Months		Jan	Feb	Mac	Apr	Mei	Jun	Jul	Ogos	Sept	Okt	Nov	Dis	Jan	Feb	Mac
Total	(RM)	**2,582**	**2,382**	**2,400**	**2,500**	**2,445**	**2,478**	**2,464**	**2,464**	**2,464**	**2,500**	**2,500**	**2,764**	**2,800**	**2,564**	**2,600**
Sex																
Male	(RM)	2,600	2,400	2,467	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,800	2,800	2,600	2,664
Female	(RM)	2,527	2,318	2,344	2,422	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,382	2,400	2,427	2,445	2,700	2,782	2,500	2,545
Age group																
Less than 20	(RM)	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,422	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
20-24	(RM)	1,500	1,427	1,464	1,500	1,600	1,627	1,627	1,645	1,664	1,682	1,700	1,782	1,700	1,664	1,682
25-29	(RM)	2,244	2,100	2,122	2,200	2,200	2,222	2,233	2,245	2,264	2,300	2,300	2,500	2,445	2,300	2,327
30-34	(RM)	2,867	2,645	2,700	2,844	2,744	2,782	2,764	2,764	2,782	2,800	2,800	3,045	3,000	2,800	2,882
35-39	(RM)	3,233	3,000	3,022	3,200	3,022	3,067	3,027	3,027	3,027	3,064	3,082	3,482	3,464	3,200	3,282
40-44	(RM)	3,544	3,182	3,264	3,400	3,264	3,300	3,264	3,264	3,264	3,300	3,300	3,764	3,764	3,400	3,500
45-49	(RM)	3,582	3,189	3,244	3,382	3,264	3,300	3,245	3,264	3,245	3,282	3,300	3,782	3,900	3,482	3,500
50-54	(RM)	3,422	3,000	3,064	3,189	3,082	3,100	3,064	3,082	3,082	3,100	3,111	3,500	3,745	3,300	3,400
55-59	(RM)	3,200	2,967	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,282	3,482	3,064	3,127
60-64	(RM)	2,764	2,455	2,482	2,500	2,500	2,475	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,700	3,000	2,800	2,800
65 and above	(RM)	2,575	2,300	2,300	2,345	2,355	2,400	2,445	2,455	2,455	2,500	2,500	2,575	3,000	2,500	2,500
State																
Johor	(RM)	2,344	2,089	2,100	2,200	2,182	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,227	2,245	2,500	2,527	2,327	2,400
Kedah	(RM)	1,700	1,600	1,600	1,633	1,700	1,744	1,745	1,727	1,727	1,745	1,764	1,882	1,900	1,800	1,827
Kelantan	(RM)	1,422	1,389	1,400	1,444	1,500	1,544	1,500	1,545	1,564	1,555	1,564	1,564	1,600	1,600	1,600
Melaka	(RM)	2,267	2,044	2,027	2,122	2,167	2,200	2,127	2,127	2,109	2,264	2,245	2,527	2,491	2,227	2,264
Negeri Sembilan	(RM)	2,127	2,000	2,082	2,064	2,067	2,133	2,100	2,127	2,100	2,127	2,145	2,400	2,345	2,227	2,345
Pahang	(RM)	1,811	1,745	1,800	1,864	1,867	1,900	1,900	1,927	1,900	1,909	1,927	2,000	2,000	1,964	2,000
Pulau Pinang	(RM)	2,678	2,344	2,382	2,467	2,427	2,464	2,445	2,427	2,478	2,500	2,500	3,000	2,964	2,575	2,627
Perak	(RM)	2,000	1,764	1,800	1,800	1,845	1,882	1,845	1,864	1,864	1,882	1,900	2,000	2,145	1,964	2,000
Perlis	(RM)	1,467	1,400	1,400	1,422	1,522	1,556	1,545	1,564	1,564	1,564	1,564	1,627	1,645	1,627	1,627
Selangor	(RM)	2,944	2,700	2,700	2,827	2,745	2,800	2,727	2,745	2,764	2,800	2,800	3,000	3,067	2,900	2,964
Terengganu	(RM)	1,682	1,645	1,667	1,733	1,764	1,789	1,782	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,900	1,900	1,882	1,900
Sabah	(RM)	1,667	1,564	1,567	1,622	1,700	1,744	1,727	1,700	1,727	1,764	1,727	1,800	1,864	1,782	1,782
Sarawak	(RM)	1,964	1,800	1,800	1,845	1,922	1,900	1,900	1,900	1,900	1,900	1,900	2,000	2,100	1,982	2,000
W.P Kuala Lumpur	(RM)	3,822	3,600	3,700	3,867	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,582	3,582	3,627	3,622	3,945	4,000	3,827	3,927
W.P Labuan	(RM)	1,827	1,764	1,789	1,800	1,822	1,864	1,867	1,864	1,864	1,864	1,864	2,200	2,000	1,927	1,900
W.P Putrajaya	(RM)	2,322	2,289	2,564	2,344	2,322	2,300	2,327	2,327	2,327	2,327	2,364	2,400	2,527	2,500	2,464

Source: Employment Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Malaysia, Q1 2023, DOSM

Table D: Employee Wages, Malaysia, Q1 2022 - Q1 2023

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

Indicator	Unit	2022												2023		
		Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1		
Months	('000)	Jan	Feb	Mac	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mac
Total	(RM)	2,582	2,382	2,400	2,500	2,445	2,478	2,464	2,464	2,464	2,500	2,500	2,764	2,800	2,564	2,600
Economic activitiy																
Agriculture	(RM)	1,855	1,664	1,744	1,789	1,900	1,945	1,867	1,900	1,864	1,900	1,900	2,227	2,022	1,845	1,900
Mining & quarrying	(RM)	5,000	4,422	5,600	4,765	4,500	4,522	4,464	4,500	4,464	4,500	4,500	6,356	5,500	5,300	7,500
Manufacturing	(RM)	2,500	2,164	2,200	2,278	2,227	2,289	2,264	2,227	2,245	2,282	2,300	3,000	2,700	2,364	2,444
Vegetable and animal oils & fats and food processing	(RM)	2,182	1,922	2,000	2,064	2,022	2,022	2,027	2,045	2,027	2,056	2,064	2,345	2,400	2,082	2,164
Beverages & tobacco products	(RM)	3,067	2,744	2,744	2,876	2,789	2,878	2,682	2,722	2,782	2,727	2,845	3,800	3,400	3,000	3,000
Textiles, wearing apparel & leather products	(RM)	1,944	1,689	1,691	1,722	1,782	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,982	2,064	1,900	1,945
Wood products, furniture, paper products & printing	(RM)	2,400	2,000	2,000	2,067	2,027	2,064	2,045	2,082	2,064	2,100	2,082	2,364	2,600	2,200	2,200
Petroleum, chemi-cal, rubber & plastic products	(RM)	2,667	2,264	2,344	2,345	2,282	2,400	2,327	2,327	2,300	2,364	2,391	3,064	2,927	2,482	2,600
Non-metallic, mineral products, basic metal & fabricated metal products	(RM)	2,764	2,327	2,300	2,400	2,364	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,445	2,700	3,000	2,564	2,500
Electrical, electronic & optical products	(RM)	2,500	2,200	2,245	2,300	2,300	2,364	2,327	2,264	2,322	2,327	2,345	3,627	2,727	2,400	2,464
Transport equipment, other manufacturing & repair	(RM)	2,500	2,222	2,300	2,400	2,344	2,422	2,345	2,282	2,327	2,400	2,464	3,027	2,627	2,444	2,545
Construction	(RM)	2,767	2,564	2,600	2,700	2,600	2,644	2,645	2,682	2,664	2,664	2,664	2,800	3,000	2,800	2,764
Services	(RM)	2,567	2,400	2,427	2,500	2,489	2,500	2,482	2,482	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,655	2,800	2,600	2,627
Utilities	(RM)	2,900	2,700	2,622	3,122	2,700	2,600	2,582	2,582	2,600	2,582	2,622	3,100	2,864	2,682	2,845
Wholesale & retail trade	(RM)	2,367	2,067	2,089	2,164	2,167	2,167	2,164	2,164	2,164	2,200	2,200	2,300	2,500	2,264	2,264
Food & beverages and Accommodation	(RM)	2,500	2,367	2,444	2,545	2,489	2,500	2,482	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,800	2,700	2,627	2,700
Transportation & storage	(RM)	1,622	1,600	1,600	1,682	1,727	1,722	1,727	1,700	1,745	1,782	1,764	1,800	1,827	1,800	1,782
Information & communication	(RM)	4,711	4,500	4,764	4,689	4,582	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,564	4,882	5,000	4,764	5,200
Finance & insurance	(RM)	5,600	5,533	6,100	5,856	5,500	5,500	5,209	5,200	5,200	5,200	5,300	6,100	5,500	5,500	6,000
Real estate & business services	(RM)	2,500	2,400	2,445	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,527	2,564	2,782	2,900	2,800	2,800
Other services	(RM)	2,500	2,400	2,400	2,489	2,436	2,444	2,427	2,445	2,464	2,500	2,500	2,600	2,664	2,545	2,600

Source: Employment Wages Statistics (Formal Sector) Report, Malaysia, Q1 2023, DOSM

LABOUR MARKET REVIEW
SECOND QUARTER 2023

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