



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY  
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

**MEDIA STATEMENT  
LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS, MALAYSIA,  
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***The number of unemployed declined further in October 2023 to record 570.9 thousand persons, with 3.4 per cent unemployment rate***

**PUTRAJAYA, 08 December 2023** – *The number of unemployed declined further in October 2023 to record 570.9 thousand persons, with 3.4 per cent of the unemployment rate, the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) reported today in the release on **Statistics of the Labour Force, Malaysia, October 2023**. The statistics described the labour supply situation based on the Labour Force Survey conducted by DOSM.*

*Commenting on the overall performance for October 2023, Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin said, "The labour market in October 2023 further strengthened, reflecting the encouraging current economic activities, with a continuous increase in the number of employed persons, while unemployment is declining. Thus, the number of labour force was on an upward trend in October 2023, with an addition of 0.1 per cent month-on-month to register 16.97 million persons (September 2023: 16.95 million persons). The labour force participation rate in October 2023 was unchanged at 70.1 per cent as in the previous month."*

*Adding to this, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin also explained that the number of employed persons in October 2023 remained increasing with a month-on-month increase of 0.2 per cent, registering 16.40 million persons as compared to the previous month (September 2023: 16.38 million persons). On the contrary, the number of unemployed persons in October 2023 continued its downward trend with a reduction of 0.5 per cent to 570.9 thousand persons (September 2023: 573.7 thousand persons). The unemployment rate during the month remained at 3.4 per cent, as recorded last month.*

*Elaborating further on the employment situation, the Chief Statistician Malaysia said, "Employees' category comprised 75.3 per cent of the total employed persons in October 2023, registering a marginal rise of 0.1 per cent to 12.35 million persons (September 2023: 12.33 million persons). Likewise, the own-account workers category continued to increase with an addition of 0.4 per cent to 2.99 million persons (September 2023: 2.97 million persons)."*

*In the economic sector, there is a consistent increase in the number of employed persons in the Services sector, notably in Wholesale & retail trade; Food & beverage services; and Transportation & storage activities. On the same note, the Manufacturing, Construction, Mining & quarrying sectors, as well as the Agriculture sector also posted rises in the number of employed persons in October 2023.*

*Enlightening further on the unemployment situation during the month, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin stated that the actively unemployed or those who were available for work and were actively seeking jobs, represented 80.1 per cent of the total unemployed persons. This category decreased by 0.4 per cent to record 457.2 thousand persons (September 2023: 458.9 thousand persons). Among the actively unemployed, those who were unemployed for less than three months encompassed 61.6 per cent, while those who were in long-term unemployment for more than a year were 6.2 per cent. Similarly, those who believed that there were no jobs available or were inactively unemployed went down by 0.9 per cent to register 113.8 thousand persons (September 2023: 114.8 thousand persons).*

*In October 2023, the unemployment rate for youth aged 15 to 24 years was 10.7 per cent, with 313.3 thousand unemployed youths (September 2023: 10.6%; 310.1 thousand persons). Meanwhile, the unemployment rate for youth aged 15 to 30 years fell by 0.1 percentage points to 6.6 per cent, recording the number of unemployed youths at 439.6 thousand persons (September 2023: 6.7%; 440.0 thousand persons).*

*The number of outside labour force decreased slightly by 0.02 per cent to 7.24 million persons (September 2023: 7.24 million persons). The largest composition of the outside labour force was due to housework/ family responsibilities (42.6%) and the schooling/ training category (40.9%).*

*Concluding the statement, Malaysia's economy is poised to navigate a healthier economic prospect in the future, with business confidence increasing, reflecting businesses continuing to grow. This growth is underpinned by an improving labour market, burgeoning domestic demand, improving tourism activities and the implementation of infrastructure projects, which in turn may increase job opportunities. Therefore, the country's labour force is anticipated to maintain steady growth momentum in the near term, albeit in a potentially challenging economic environment.*

*Time series data and more information on the labour market can be obtained through the Malaysia Labour Market Interactive Data (MyLMID) dashboard. For more information, please visit <https://mbls.dosm.gov.my/mylmid/> or scan the QR code below.*

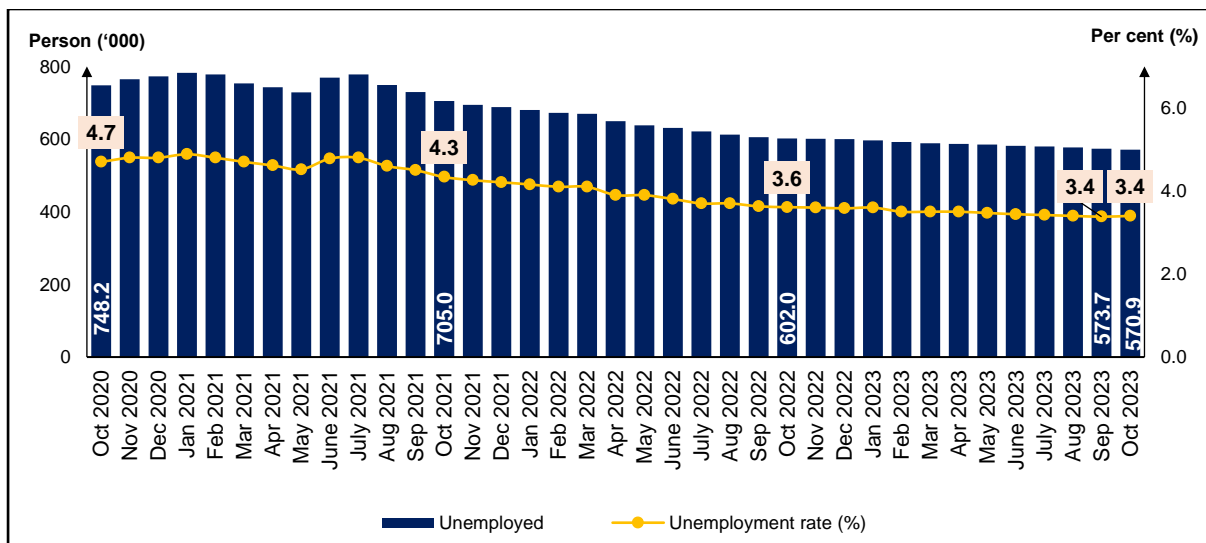


DOSM has launched OpenDOSM NextGen as a medium that provides a catalogue of data and visualisation to facilitate users in analysing various data and can be accessed through <https://open.dosm.gov.my> portal.

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) will conduct the Agricultural Census in 2024. Please visit <https://www.myagricensus.gov.my/> for more information. The theme is “Agriculture Census, Key to Agricultural Development.”

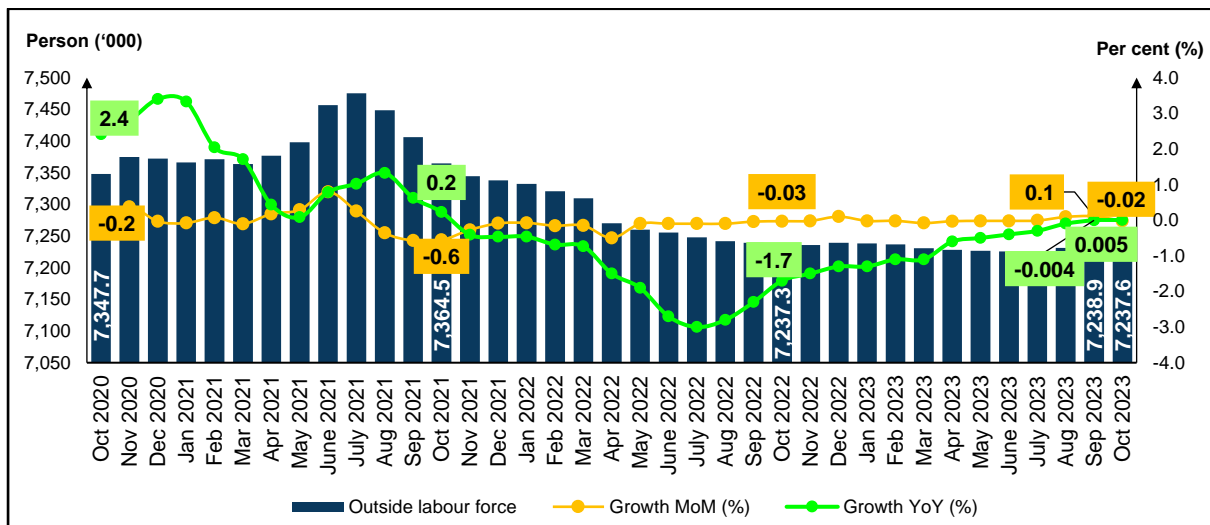
The Government of Malaysia has declared National Statistics Day (MyStats Day) on October 20th each year. MyStats Day theme is “Statistics is the Essence of Life.”

**Chart 1: Unemployment, Malaysia, October 2020 - October 2023**



**Chart 2: Outside labour force, Malaysia, October 2020 - October 2023**

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Released by:

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