



LABOUR FORCE, MALAYSIA MARCH 2021

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KEY REVIEWS

- **The number of employed persons continued to post a positive growth in March 2021 by 0.4 per cent (+58.7 thousand persons) month-on-month to 15.33 million persons** (February 2021: 15.27 million persons). The **employment-to-population ratio** which indicates the ability of an economy to create employment **rose by 0.2 per cent to record 65.4 per cent**.
- By economic sector, the number of employed persons in Services continued to increase in March 2021 primarily in Wholesale & retail trade; Food and beverages services, Education and Human health & social work activities. Similarly, employed persons in Manufacturing and Construction sectors continued to trend up, whereas employment in Agriculture and Mining & Quarrying sectors remained on a declining trend.
- **The employee's category was added by 76.8 thousand persons or 0.6 per cent to record 11.95 million persons** in March (February 2021: 11.87 million persons). This category was the **largest composition** of employed person with a share of **77.9 per cent**. A similar trend was observed in **own-account workers** encompassed 16.2 per cent, **improved by 48.3 thousand persons** to register **2.48 million persons** in March (February 2021: 2.43 million persons).
- **The unemployment rate showed an improvement during the month with a decrease of 0.1 percentage point to record 4.7 per cent** as against February 2021. The number of unemployed persons **lessened by 24.4 thousand persons** or **3.1 per cent** to record **753.2 thousand persons** (February 2021: 777.5 thousand persons).
- **The number of labour force went up by 0.2 per cent (+34.3 thousand persons) to 16.08 million persons** (February 2021: 16.05 million persons). **The labour force participation rate (LFPR) changed little by 0.1 percentage point to post 68.6 per cent** in March 2021 (February 2021: 68.5%)
- March 2021 observed the number of **outside labour force reduced by 7.6 thousand persons** to **7.36 million persons** (February 2021: 7.37 million persons). **Schooling/ training was the largest composition of outside labour force** with 44.9 per cent or 3.31 million persons and followed by **housework/ family responsibilities** with 40.2 per cent or 2.96 million persons.
- The rising number of daily COVID-19 cases in Malaysia had prompted the implementation of MCO and Restricted MCO in certain states and targeted areas such as Kelantan, Sabah, Selangor and W.P. Kuala Lumpur in May 2021. These signalled that the labour force may face some challenges in the forthcoming months. However, with the encouraging labour market improvement observed in the first quarter of 2021, it is hope that the labour market will continue its recovery momentum albeit at a moderate pace.

MALAYSIA'S LABOUR FORCE IMPROVED FURTHER IN MARCH 2021

March 2021 marked one year after the first Movement Control Order (MCO) was implemented beginning on 18 March 2020 prompting a new norm since the spread of COVID-19 in Malaysia. Unlike MCO 1.0 where most economic activities as well as national and interstate borders were closed, March this year saw most states were in Recovery MCO while several others were in Conditional MCO namely Selangor, Johor, Kelantan, W.P. Kuala Lumpur and Pulau Pinang starting from 2 March 2021.

In spite of the implementation of various stages of MCO across the nation, economic activities were permitted to continue operated in compliance of strict standard operating procedures (SOP). Since 1 March, pre-schools and primary schools had reopened; thereby allowing education-related businesses such as school canteens and bus services to also reopen. Moreover, social events such as wedding receptions, reunions and gatherings were allowed with restrictions based on the size of the premises and depending on the stage of the MCO. Hence, it was observed that the labour force situation in March 2021 continued to improve month-on-month with an increase in employment while unemployment posted a larger decreased.

The short-term economic indicators in March 2021 showed that both exports and imports as well as trade surplus further strengthened by recording a positive double-digit growth with 19.8 per cent, 15.9 per cent and 35.1 per cent respectively.

Further recovery in Malaysia labour force may be more certain with the resumptions of most business activities coupled with the expansion of COVID-19 vaccination programme to a larger community. Nevertheless, this positive momentum will subject to the uncertainties in the country's health condition and subsequently the economic performance.

The **Labour Force Report for March 2021** describes the labour supply situation as the country entered the thirteenth month of various phases MCO. The report will elaborate on the month-on-month changes to examine the immediate effects of the MCO to contain the spread of COVID-19. Users are advised to interpret the monthly statistics with caution since they are non-seasonally adjusted. In addition, annual changes from the same month of the previous year are also reported.

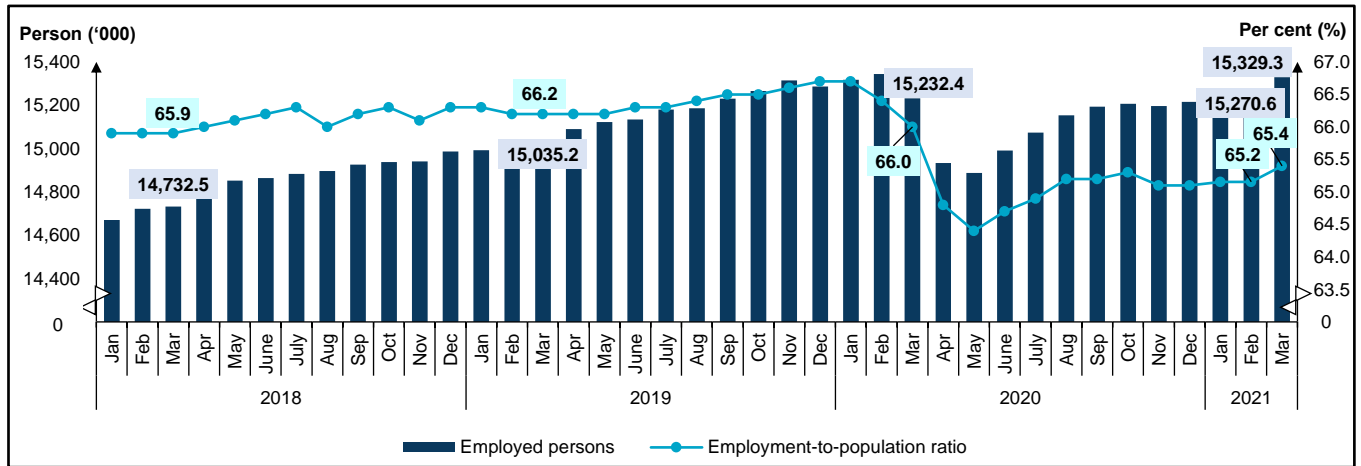
Employed persons continued to post a positive growth in March 2021

The number of employed persons continued to post a positive growth in March 2021 by 0.4 per cent (+58.7 thousand persons) month-on-month to 15.33 million persons (February 2021: 15.27 million persons). Since April 2020, the number of employed persons was on a year-on-year declining trend but for the first time after eleven consecutive months, the number of employed persons registered a positive year-on-year growth of 0.6 per cent (+96.9 thousand persons).

By economic sector, the number of employed persons in Services continued to increase in March 2021 primarily in Wholesale & retail trade; Food and beverages services, Education and Human health & social work activities. Similarly, employed persons in Manufacturing and Construction sectors continued to trend up, whereas employment in Agriculture and Mining & Quarrying sectors remained on a declining trend.

During the month, the **employment-to-population ratio** which indicates the ability of an economy to create employment **rose by 0.2 per cent to record 65.4 per cent**. Nevertheless, year-on-year, the ratio was lowered by 0.6 percentage points as compared to 66.0 per cent in March 2020. **[Chart 1]**

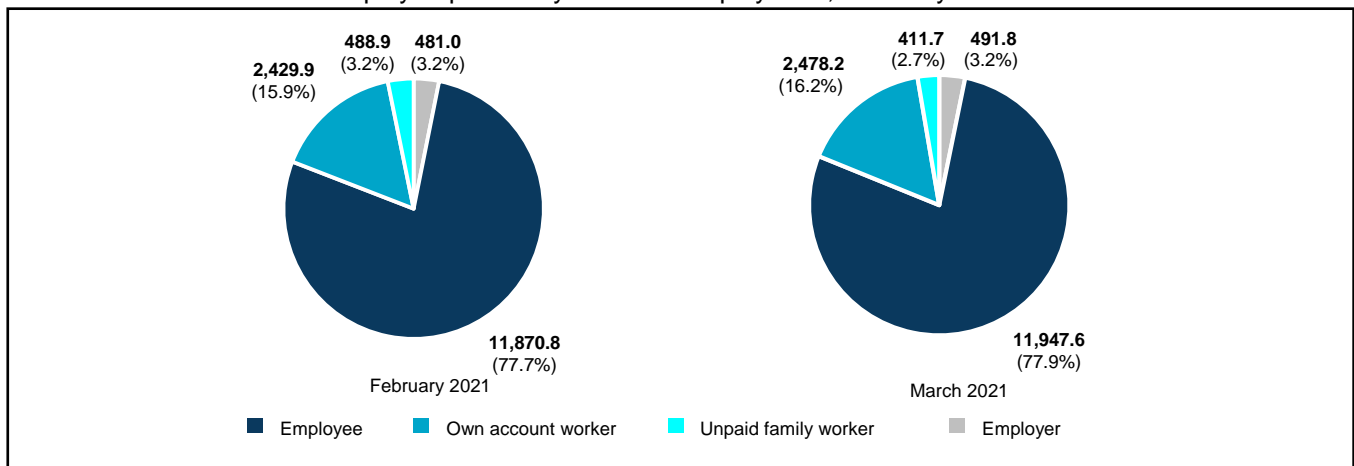
Chart 1: Employed persons and employment-to-population ratio, January 2018 - March 2021



The employee's category was added by 76.8 thousand persons or 0.6 per cent to record 11.95 million persons in March (February 2021: 11.87 million persons). This category was the largest composition of employed person with a share of 77.9 per cent. A similar trend was observed in own-account workers encompassed 16.2 per cent, improved by 48.3 thousand persons to register 2.48 million persons in March (February 2021: 2.43 million persons). [Chart 2]

This group comprised mostly of daily income earners working as small business operators such as small retailers; hawkers; sellers in markets and stalls as well as smallholders. A continuous improvement in own-account workers might partially supported by the financial assistance provided by the government under the Pakej Bantuan Perlindungan Ekonomi dan Rakyat Malaysia (PERMAI) through the Additional Geran Khas Prihatin (GKP) for micro Small Medium Enterprise (SME). The total of GKP recipients including GKP 1.0, GKP 2.0 and additional GKP were almost 900,000 SMEs with a total of 3.08 billion¹.

Chart 2: Employed person by status of employment, February and March 2021



In March 2021, the number of employed persons who were temporarily not working continued to trend down to 121.0 thousand persons (February 2021: 150.8 thousand persons) reflecting the continuous resumption of almost all business activities during the month. Similarly, the number of employed persons who were temporarily not working posted a decreased year-on-year of 1.8 million persons (-93.6%) as compared to 1.9 million persons in March 2020 which was during the first pandemic

¹ Based on the 46th LAKSANA Report as of 24 March 2021 on the status of approvals, disbursements and registrations

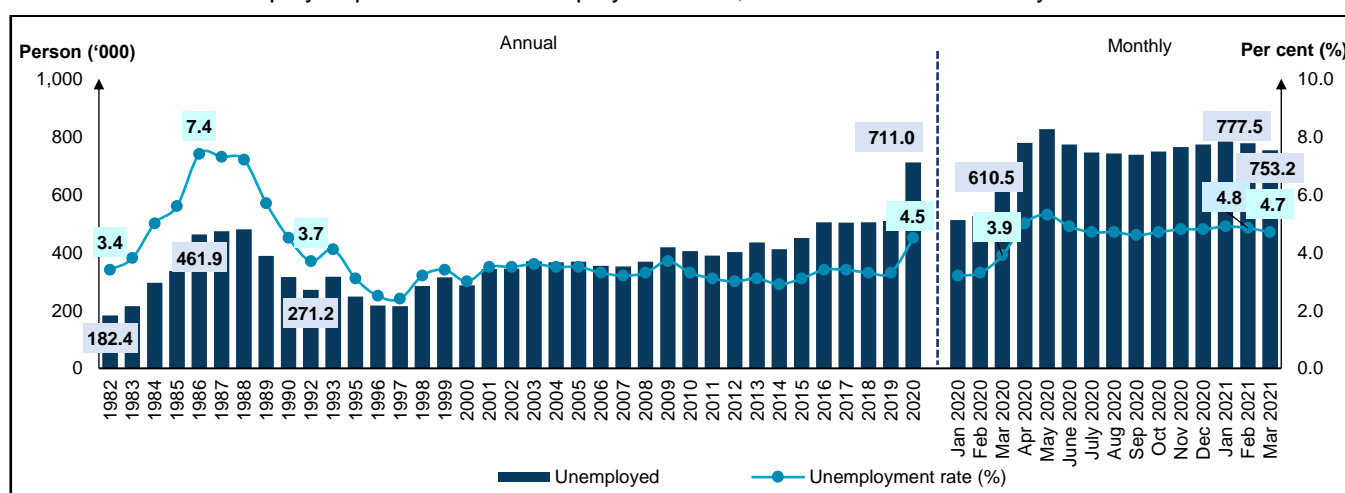
strike in the country. This group of persons, who were most likely not able to work was not categorised as unemployed as they had work to return to.

Unemployment rate showed an improvement during the month

The unemployment rate showed an improvement during the month with a decrease of 0.1 percentage point to record 4.7 per cent as against February 2021. The number of unemployed persons lessened by 24.4 thousand persons or 3.1 per cent to record 753.2 thousand persons (February 2021: 777.5 thousand persons).

In the meantime, the unemployment rate for March 2021 edged up by 0.8 percentage points from 3.9 per cent in March 2020. The number of unemployed persons were added by 142.7 thousand persons (March 2020: 610.5 thousand persons). [Chart 3]

Chart 3: Unemployed persons and unemployment rate, 1982 - 2020 and January 2020 - March 2021

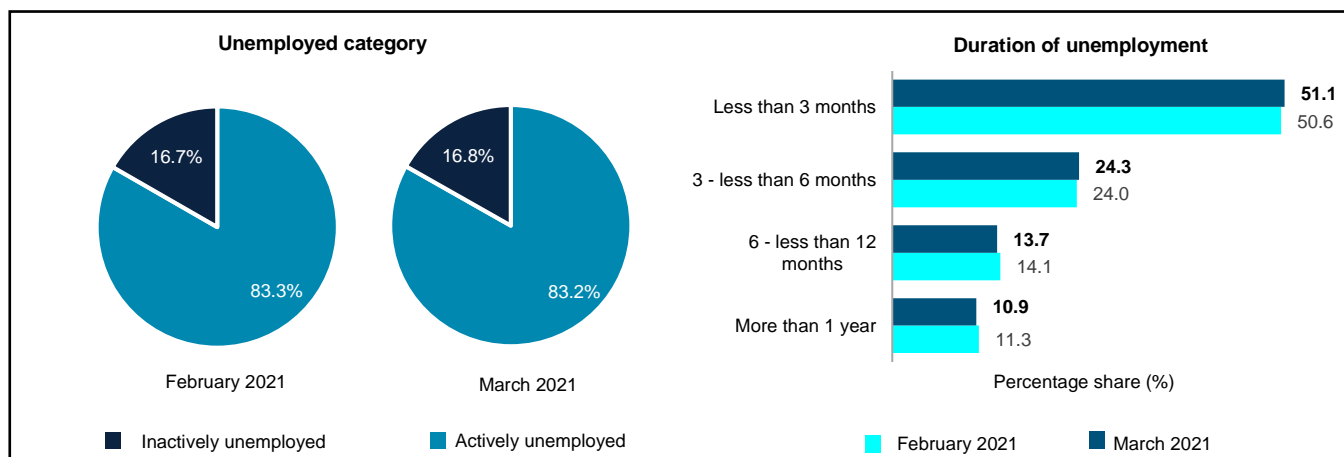


By category, **actively unemployed** which is defined as those who were available for work and were actively seeking job was **downed by 20.5 thousand persons (-3.2%)** to record **626.9 thousand persons** (February 2021: 647.4 thousand persons). **More than half of the actively unemployed persons were categorised as those who were unemployed for less than three months (51.1%),** while **10.9 per cent** of actively unemployed were in long-term unemployment² of more than a year. [Chart 4]

Similarly, the number of **inactively unemployed** who believed that there were no jobs available **declined by 3.0 per cent or equivalent to 3.9 thousand persons** to **126.3 thousand persons** (February 2021: 130.1 thousand persons).

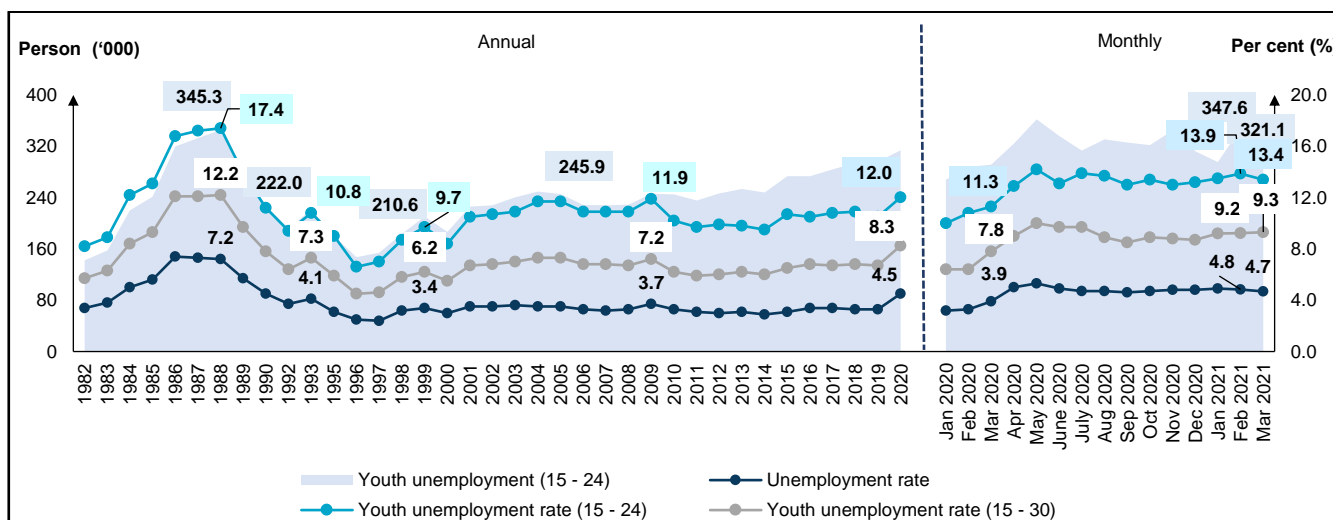
² Referring to people who have been unemployed for one year or longer (Source: KILM 11: long-term Unemployment) https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/publication/wcms_422451.pdf

Chart 4: Unemployed category and duration of unemployment, February and March 2021



In March 2021, the youth unemployment rate for aged 15 to 24 years also witnessed a decrease of 0.5 percentage points to register 13.4 per cent as compared to the previous month. The number of unemployed youths decreased to 321.1 thousand persons (-26.5 thousand persons) from 347.6 thousand persons recorded in February 2021. On the contrary, the youth unemployment rate for aged 15 to 30 years changed little over the month but higher by 0.1 percentage point than in February 2021 to record 9.3 per cent. [Chart 5]

Chart 5: Unemployment rate by selected age groups, 1982 - 2020 and January 2020 - March 2021

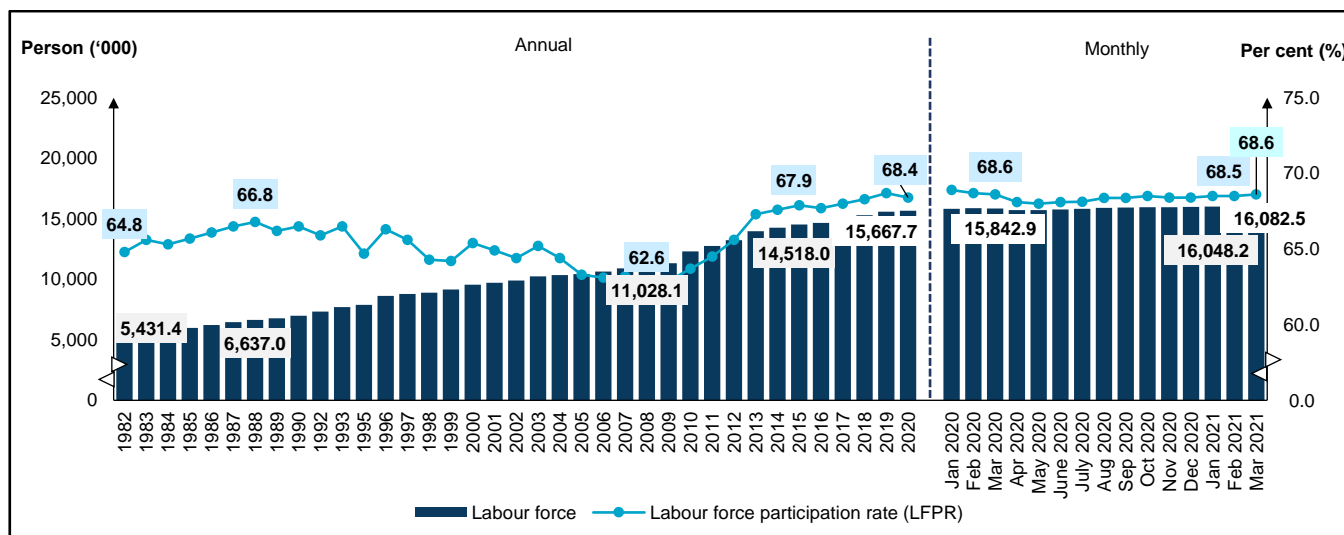


LFPR changed little by 0.1 percentage point to post 68.6 per cent in March 2021

The number of labour force went up by 0.2 per cent (+34.3 thousand persons) to 16.08 million persons (February 2021: 16.05 million persons). The labour force participation rate (LFPR) changed little by 0.1 percentage point to post 68.6 per cent in March 2021 (February 2021: 68.5%).

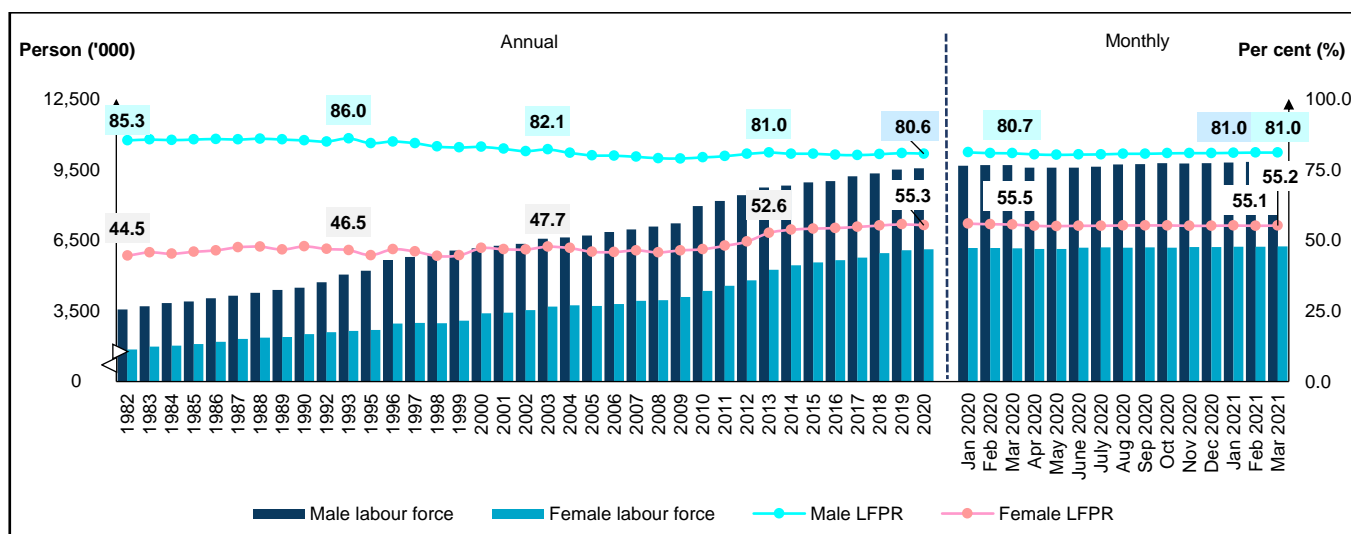
On year-on-year basis, the number of labour force improved by 239.6 thousand persons as against the same month of the preceding year (March 2020: 15.84 million persons) whereas the LFPR was unchanged at 68.6 per cent. [Chart 6]

Chart 6: Labour force and LFPR, 1982 – 2020 and January 2020 - March 2021



In terms of LFPR by sex, male LFPR stood at 81.0 per cent while female LFPR increased by 0.1 percentage point to 55.2 per cent. Male labour force heightened by 0.2 per cent (+22.6 thousand persons) to record 9.84 million persons (February 2021: 9.82 million persons). Likewise, female labour force was added by 11.8 thousand persons than February 2021 to 6.24 million persons. Year-on-year, male LFPR posted an addition of 0.3 percentage points whereas female LFPR dropped by 0.3 percentage points. [Chart 7]

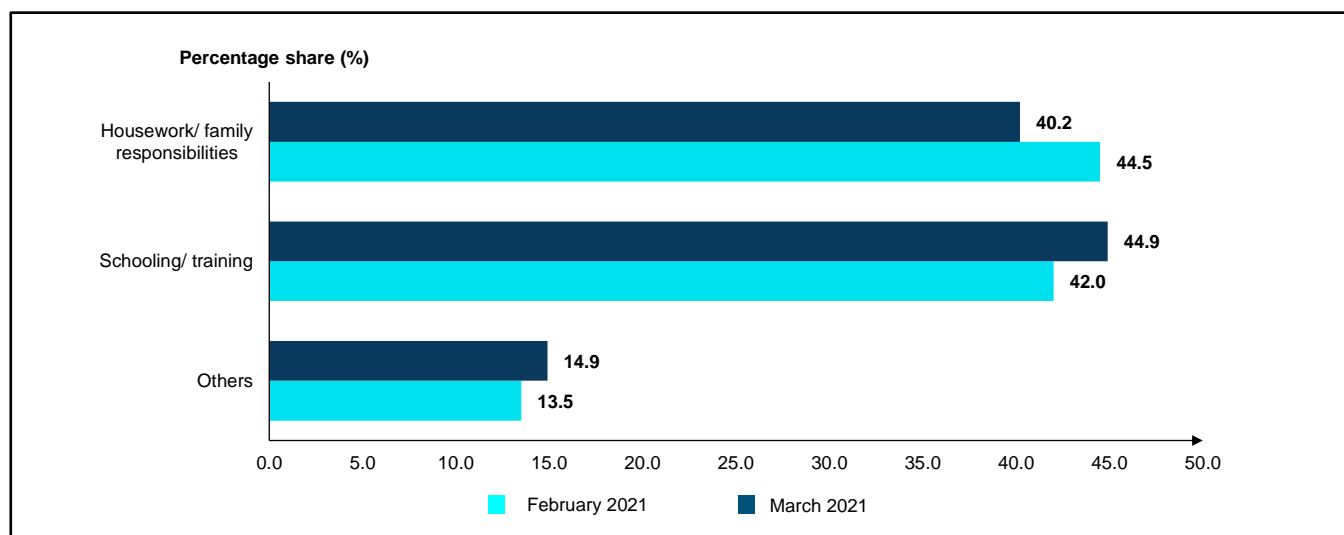
Chart 7: Labour force and LFPR by sex, 1982 - 2020 and January 2020 – March 2021



Schooling/ training was the largest composition of outside labour force

March 2021 observed the number of **outside labour force reduced by 7.6 thousand persons to 7.36 million persons** (February 2021: 7.37 million persons). However, year-on-year, this number was rose by 1.7 per cent (+124.0 thousand persons). **Schooling/ training was the largest composition of outside labour force with 44.9 per cent or 3.31 million persons** and followed by **housework/ family responsibilities with 40.2 per cent or 2.96 million persons**. [Chart 8]

Chart 8: Share of outside labour force by reasons for not seeking work, February and March 2021



GOVERNMENT’S INITIATIVES³

As of the closing date of the Wage Subsidy Programme (PSU) 1.0 on 26 February 2021, a total of 322,177 employers and 2.64 million registered employees had been facilitated through this programme under PRIHATIN and PENJANA. As of 12 March 2021, a total of RM12.84 billion value of the approved wage subsidy applications had been reached through PSU 1.0. Meanwhile, a total of RM1.09 billion of PSU 2.0 had been disseminated to 72,531 employers, allowing them to continue operating and maintaining 619,821 employees. Moreover, through the Reskilling and Upskilling Programme, there were 137,075 participants had been approved to participate in the course offered by various ministries and government agencies listed.

To assist workers who have lost their jobs, through the Employment Insurance System under Social Security Organisation (SOCSO) provided RM85.96 million in financial assistance which includes the increased of Job Seeker Allowance as announced in the Budget 2021 to over 18,000 workers who had lost their jobs as of 14 March 2021. Besides, as of 15 March 2021, a total of 2,586 health employees had been hired to strengthen the public health system in order to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, including Science Officers, Diagnostic Radiologists, Medical Laboratory Technologists, Assistant Environmental Health Officers, Assistant Medical Officers, and Nurses as well as 3,591 contract health workers were appointed to meet immediate staff needs following a rise in COVID-19 cases.

To empower the SME businesses, a total of 7,205 loan applications had been approved totalling RM1.36 billion under the PENJANA SME Financing as of 13 March 2021. Through the SMEs Soft Loans funds, a total of RM11.75 billion applications were approved by local banks, benefitting 24,819 SMEs as of 12 March 2021 which comprise of Special Relief Facility (SRF), Automation & Digitalisation Facility (ADF), All-Economic Sector Facility (AES) and Agrofood Facility (AF) funds. Furthermore, under the Bumiputera Relief Financing (BRF) which particularly allocated for Bumiputera SMEs which were impacted by the COVID-19, a total fund of RM193.1 million had been distributed to 670 SMEs. Additionally, under the Agrobank Micro Credit Financing, a total of 9,400 Agricultural Micro SMEs were aided involving RM107.23 million to support the Agriculture and Food Industry.

³ This segment is included in the report as a reference for reader based on the 46th LAKSANA Report of 24 March 2021 on the status of approvals, disbursements and registrations

Thus, with a continuous resumption of economic activity coupled with various assistances of the government's initiatives to ease the burden of people, business and economy, these might lead the recovery of the labour market to be back on track and thus strengthening the labour market momentum.

LOOKING AHEAD

From April 2021 onwards saw daily COVID-19 new cases in Malaysia's intensified, exceeding 3,000 cases towards the end of the month. However, the execution of the vaccination programme which had entered the second phase together with the resumption of more economic activities might increase confidence of businesses and public to move forward while practising the new norm and following the SOPs. The continuous reopening of most business operations has stimulated the demand in the economy as well as open up job opportunities. These could partly contribute to the expansion in the labour market.

To further ease the burden of businesses, the government through the Strategic Programme to Empower the People and Economy (PEMERKASA) provides discount of electricity bill to six tourism-related industries throughout the country namely hotel operators, theme park, shopping centre, local airlines office and travel & tourism agency which took effect starting on 1 April until 30 June 2021. On top of that, almost 1.2 million SMEs is expected to benefit when the government announced that SMEs who never received the additional GKP 3.0 may submit a new application. To further strengthen the public health system, the government will be hiring another 1,005 contract health workers which will create and increase job opportunities in the health sectors.

The rising number of daily COVID-19 cases in Malaysia had prompted the implementation of MCO and Restricted MCO in certain states and targeted areas such as Kelantan, Sabah, Selangor and W.P. Kuala Lumpur in May 2021. These signalled that the labour force may face some challenges in the forthcoming months. However, with the encouraging labour market improvement observed in the first quarter of 2021, it is hope that the labour market will continue its recovery momentum albeit at a moderate pace.

LABOUR FORCE MALAYSIA MARCH 2021



LABOUR FORCE

Mar 2021
16.08 million
Feb 2021
16.05 million

▲ 1.5%
▲ 0.2%



EMPLOYED

Mar 2021
15.33 million
Feb 2021
15.27 million

▲ 0.6%
▲ 0.4%



UNEMPLOYED

Mar 2021
753.2 thousand
Feb 2021
777.5 thousand

▲ 23.4%
▼ 3.1%

% Percentage of change (year on year)

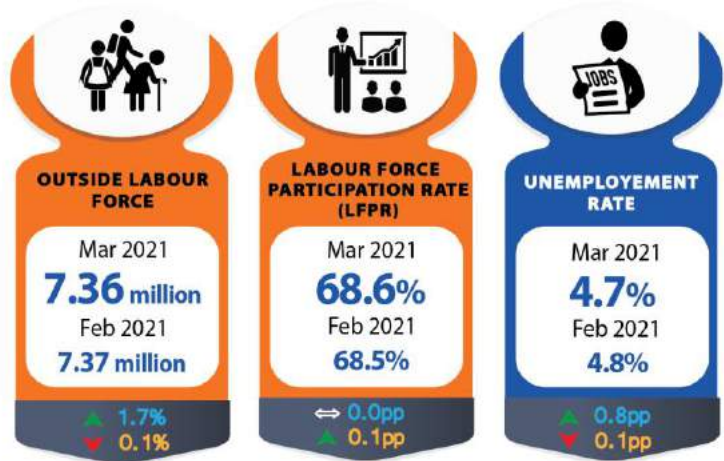
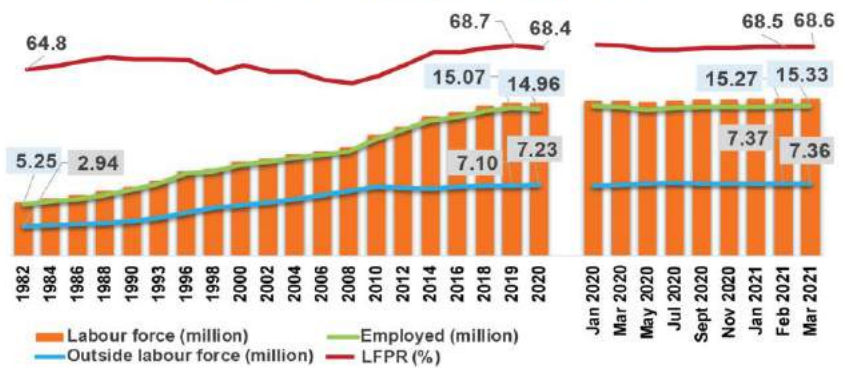
% Percentage of change (month on month)

pp Percentage point

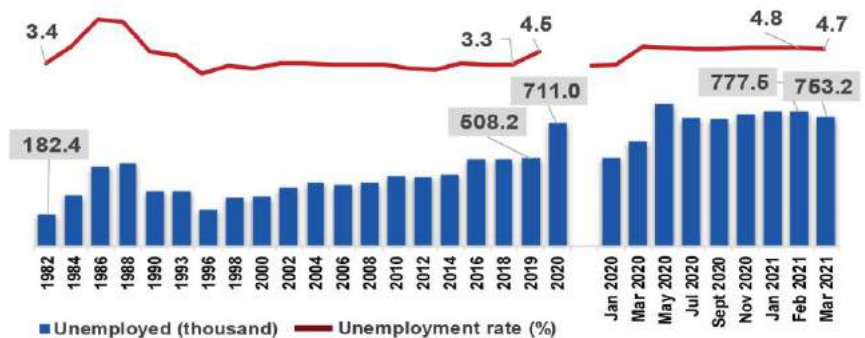
↔ Unchanged

Labour force improved further in March 2021 recording lower unemployment rate at 4.7 per cent with 753.2 thousand unemployed persons

Labour Force, Employed and Outside Labour Force, 1982 - 2020 and January 2020 - March 2021



Unemployment, 1982 - 2020 and January 2020 - March 2021



Source: Labour Force Survey, Department of Statistics Malaysia

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS



What is Labour Force Survey (LFS)?

Labour Force Survey (LFS) was conducted to collect information on the structure and distribution of labour force, employment and unemployment from the perspective of labour supply.

The LFS are conducted based on the standard guidelines and recommendations of the International Labour Organizations (ILO).

LFS encompasses both urban and rural areas for all administrative districts within of all states in Malaysia using the actual status approach through the personal interview, Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI) and telephone interview method.

The survey population comprises persons who live in the private living quarters, hence excludes persons residing in institutions such as hotels, hospitals, hostels, prisons, and workers residing in construction worksite.

The working age for the analysis of LFS in Malaysia refers to household members between the age of 15 to 64 years during the reference week, who are either in the labour force or outside the labour force.

LABOUR FORCE



- The population in the working age group of 15 to 64 years (in completed years at last birthday).
- Either employed or unemployed in the reference week.

OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE



- All persons not classified as employed or unemployed.
- Example: housewives, students, retired, disabled persons and those not interested in looking for a job.

EMPLOYED



- 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).
- Persons who 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.
- Those on temporary lay-off with pay who would definitely be called back to work.

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.
- Percentage of the unemployed population in the labour force.

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE



- The economic activity of a population depends on the demographic characteristics of that population.
- The proportion of the economically active population, hence differs between sub-groups of that population.
- These variations are measured by specific activity rates termed as labour force participation rate.
- Labour force participation rate is defined as the ratio of the labour force to the working age population (15 to 64 years), expressed as a percentage.

Source: Labour Force Survey, Department of Statistics Malaysia

TABLES

LABOUR FORCE, MALAYSIA
MARCH 2021

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LIST OF TABLES

Table A: Principal indicator of labour force, Malaysia, 1982 - 2020	A-1
Table B: Principal indicator of labour force, Malaysia, First Quarter 2010 - First Quarter 2021	A-2
Table B1: Employed person working less than 30 hours by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - First Quarter 2021	A-3
Table B2: Time-related underemployment by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - First Quarter 2021	A-4
Table B3: Skill-related underemployment by sex and age group, Malaysia, First Quarter 2017 - First Quarter 2021	A-4
Table C: Principal indicator of labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - March 2021	A-5
Table D: Employed persons by occupation, Malaysia, 1982 - 2020	A-8
Table E: Employed persons by industry, Malaysia, 1982 - 2020	A-9
Table F: Employed persons by status of employment, Malaysia, 1982 - 2020	A-11
Table G: Labour force indicators for selected countries, February 2020 – March 2021	A-12

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Table A: Principal indicator of labour force, Malaysia, 1982 - 2020

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
1982	5,431.4	5,249.0	182.4	2,944.6	64.8	62.7	3.4
1983	5,671.8	5,457.0	214.9	2,969.4	65.6	63.2	3.8
1984	5,862.5	5,566.7	295.8	3,119.6	65.3	62.0	5.0
1985	5,990.1	5,653.4	336.8	3,124.9	65.7	62.0	5.6
1986	6,222.1	5,760.1	461.9	3,188.3	66.1	61.2	7.4
1987	6,456.8	5,983.9	472.9	3,246.1	66.5	61.7	7.3
1988	6,637.0	6,157.2	479.8	3,301.5	66.8	62.0	7.2
1989	6,779.4	6,390.9	388.5	3,463.5	66.2	62.4	5.7
1990	7,000.2	6,685.0	315.2	3,519.7	66.5	63.6	4.5
1992	7,319.0	7,047.8	271.2	3,783.6	65.9	63.5	3.7
1993	7,700.1	7,383.4	316.8	3,874.9	66.5	63.8	4.1
1995	7,893.1	7,645.0	248.1	4,297.7	64.7	62.7	3.1
1996	8,616.0	8,399.3	216.8	4,379.0	66.3	64.6	2.5
1997	8,784.0	8,569.2	214.9	4,605.1	65.6	64.0	2.4
1998	8,883.6	8,599.6	284.0	4,934.0	64.3	62.2	3.2
1999	9,151.5	8,837.8	313.7	5,098.4	64.2	62.0	3.4
2000	9,556.1	9,269.2	286.9	5,065.1	65.4	63.4	3.0
2001	9,699.4	9,357.0	342.4	5,239.9	64.9	62.6	3.5
2002	9,886.2	9,542.6	343.5	5,473.8	64.4	62.1	3.5
2003	10,239.6	9,869.7	369.8	5,458.6	65.2	62.9	3.6
2004	10,346.2	9,979.5	366.6	5,730.5	64.4	62.1	3.5
2005	10,413.4	10,045.4	368.1	6,048.2	63.3	61.0	3.5
2006	10,628.9	10,275.4	353.6	6,205.1	63.1	61.0	3.3
2007	10,889.5	10,538.1	351.4	6,330.1	63.2	61.2	3.2
2008	11,028.1	10,659.6	368.5	6,575.7	62.6	60.6	3.3
2009	11,315.3	10,897.3	418.0	6,665.7	62.9	60.6	3.7
2010	12,303.9	11,899.5	404.4	7,023.0	63.7	61.6	3.3
2011	12,740.7	12,351.5	389.2	7,023.3	64.5	62.5	3.1
2012	13,221.7	12,820.5	401.2	6,927.4	65.6	63.6	3.0
2013	13,980.5	13,545.4	435.1	6,781.2	67.3	65.2	3.1
2014	14,263.6	13,852.6	411.1	6,821.0	67.6	65.7	2.9
2015	14,518.0	14,067.7	450.3	6,869.9	67.9	65.8	3.1
2016	14,667.8	14,163.7	504.1	6,987.6	67.7	65.4	3.4
2017	14,980.1	14,476.8	503.3	7,065.0	68.0	65.7	3.4
2018	15,280.3	14,776.0	504.3	7,094.4	68.3	66.0	3.3
2019	15,581.6	15,073.4	508.2	7,103.5	68.7	66.4	3.3
2020	15,667.7	14,956.7	711.0	7,225.5	68.4	65.3	4.5

Table B: Principal indicator of labour force, Malaysia, First Quarter 2010 - First Quarter 2021

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
2010							
Q1	12,239.3	11,801.2	438.1	7,030.8	63.5	61.2	3.6
Q2	12,304.9	11,900.6	404.3	7,047.5	63.6	61.5	3.3
Q3	12,354.6	11,961.3	393.3	7,073.5	63.6	61.6	3.2
Q4	12,522.4	12,137.4	385.0	6,992.9	64.2	62.2	3.1
2011							
Q1	12,718.3	12,333.5	384.8	7,004.9	64.5	62.5	3.0
Q2	12,756.0	12,367.4	388.6	7,048.8	64.4	62.4	3.0
Q3	12,889.0	12,493.0	396.0	6,977.2	64.9	62.9	3.1
Q4	12,842.5	12,447.9	394.7	7,098.6	64.4	62.4	3.1
2012							
Q1	13,169.2	12,765.2	404.0	6,915.1	65.6	63.6	3.1
Q2	13,237.0	12,837.1	400.0	6,946.1	65.6	63.6	3.0
Q3	13,401.7	13,005.4	396.3	6,897.9	66.0	64.1	3.0
Q4	13,376.2	12,971.2	405.0	7,062.8	65.4	63.5	3.0
2013							
Q1	13,539.5	13,118.0	421.5	7,090.0	65.6	63.6	3.1
Q2	13,945.1	13,524.1	421.0	6,819.6	67.2	65.1	3.0
Q3	14,214.2	13,776.0	438.3	6,613.0	68.2	66.1	3.1
Q4	14,195.1	13,739.5	455.6	6,730.7	67.8	65.7	3.2
2014							
Q1	14,230.8	13,791.4	439.4	6,805.9	67.6	65.6	3.1
Q2	14,296.1	13,888.5	407.6	6,793.0	67.8	65.9	2.9
Q3	14,346.9	13,960.6	386.3	6,810.3	67.8	66.0	2.7
Q4	14,403.3	13,998.7	404.6	6,860.9	67.7	65.8	2.8
2015							
Q1	14,544.8	14,091.0	453.9	6,798.5	68.1	66.0	3.1
Q2	14,535.6	14,087.8	447.8	6,897.9	67.8	65.7	3.1
Q3	14,561.0	14,093.7	467.3	6,930.6	67.8	65.6	3.2
Q4	14,600.2	14,127.9	472.3	6,952.7	67.7	65.6	3.2
2016							
Q1	14,596.8	14,095.8	501.0	7,011.5	67.6	65.2	3.4
Q2	14,665.4	14,161.5	503.9	7,026.0	67.6	65.3	3.4
Q3	14,710.6	14,202.0	508.5	7,044.6	67.6	65.3	3.5
Q4	14,771.4	14,260.6	510.8	7,071.7	67.6	65.3	3.5
2017							
Q1	14,870.1	14,355.9	514.2	7,093.8	67.7	65.4	3.5
Q2	14,926.4	14,414.8	511.6	7,123.3	67.7	65.4	3.4
Q3	15,000.2	14,484.0	516.2	7,091.0	67.9	65.6	3.4
Q4	15,088.3	14,580.5	507.8	7,085.0	68.0	65.8	3.4
2018							
Q1	15,192.4	14,683.6	508.9	7,093.7	68.2	65.9	3.3
Q2	15,278.3	14,767.2	511.1	7,073.4	68.4	66.1	3.3
Q3	15,381.3	14,856.8	524.4	7,077.9	68.5	66.2	3.4
Q4	15,449.9	14,933.4	516.5	7,070.7	68.6	66.3	3.3
2019							
Q1	15,526.8	15,010.2	516.6	7,064.3	68.7	66.4	3.3
Q2	15,598.8	15,078.2	520.6	7,088.1	68.8	66.5	3.3
Q3	15,674.3	15,162.1	512.1	7,088.7	68.9	66.6	3.3
Q4	15,766.7	15,254.5	512.2	7,066.1	69.1	66.8	3.2
2020							
Q1	15,790.1	15,243.5	546.6	7,163.1	68.8	66.4	3.5
Q2	15,675.5	14,883.7	791.8	7,350.5	68.1	64.6	5.1
Q3	15,840.6	15,095.6	745.0	7,324.6	68.4	65.2	4.7
Q4	15,922.3	15,161.6	760.7	7,318.4	68.5	65.2	4.8
2021							
Q1	16,008.4	15,236.5	771.8	7,316.0	68.6	65.3	4.8

**Table B1 : Employed person working less than 30 hours by sex and age group, Malaysia,
First Quarter 2017 - First Quarter 2021**

(’000)

Time Series	Total	Sex		Age Group			
		Male	Female	15-24	25-34	35-44	45 and above
2017							
Q1	415.5	177.3	238.2	57.4	79.7	90.8	187.6
Q2	396.8	168.8	228.0	52.8	79.0	95.1	170.0
Q3	393.0	163.2	229.7	57.3	91.1	81.4	163.1
Q4	419.3	173.1	246.2	60.2	105.4	84.3	169.4
2018							
Q1	461.1	172.9	288.2	61.2	118.4	98.7	182.9
Q2	497.2	207.7	289.5	75.5	132.4	101.3	188.0
Q3	442.4	172.7	269.7	56.4	96.7	98.3	191.0
Q4	370.0	140.9	229.0	39.2	80.4	78.9	171.4
2019							
Q1	352.6	143.7	209.0	52.2	90.9	68.9	140.7
Q2	374.3	171.5	202.8	43.6	84.1	87.8	158.8
Q3	326.6	118.9	207.6	42.5	73.6	79.7	130.8
Q4	304.0	112.3	191.8	39.1	62.9	72.8	129.3
2020							
Q1	667.5	320.1	347.4	91.0	189.1	146.5	240.9
Q2	789.6	444.0	345.7	134.6	229.1	182.0	244.0
Q3	403.8	151.4	252.4	116.1	118.0	72.1	97.6
Q4	533.7	345.6	188.0	165.5	189.5	71.0	107.6
2021							
Q1	441.9	281.3	160.5	57.0	209.4	106.3	69.2

**Table B2 : Time-related underemployment by sex and age group, Malaysia,
First Quarter 2017 - First Quarter 2021**

('000)

Time Series	Total	Sex		Age Group			
		Male	Female	15-24	25-34	35-44	45 and above
2017							
Q1	211.8	105.9	105.8	36.8	51.0	48.6	75.4
Q2	195.4	97.7	97.8	34.7	45.2	48.9	66.6
Q3	224.8	109.1	115.7	46.3	59.3	49.8	69.4
Q4	238.5	115.3	123.2	45.7	69.4	44.9	78.5
2018							
Q1	242.3	102.4	139.9	37.3	72.9	52.3	79.7
Q2	231.7	108.1	123.5	40.2	65.8	43.2	82.5
Q3	235.5	116.5	119.0	43.4	54.4	49.4	88.3
Q4	204.1	88.1	115.9	30.8	47.5	44.0	81.7
2019							
Q1	210.5	98.0	112.5	43.6	61.4	36.9	68.6
Q2	204.5	107.2	97.2	32.0	53.8	45.7	73.0
Q3	178.7	70.4	108.2	28.6	44.8	50.9	54.4
Q4	170.7	69.2	101.5	28.7	44.2	40.6	57.1
2020							
Q1	383.2	183.2	199.9	63.2	114.1	82.4	123.5
Q2	413.5	257.6	156.0	76.3	99.3	106.1	131.9
Q3	300.8	102.3	198.5	108.4	97.2	47.4	47.8
Q4	369.1	267.8	101.3	130.3	117.4	53.1	68.4
2021							
Q1	310.5	226.7	83.8	46.4	159.3	67.2	37.6

**Table B3 : Skill-related underemployment by sex and age group, Malaysia,
First Quarter 2017 - First Quarter 2021**

('000)

Time Series	Total	Sex		Age Group			
		Male	Female	15-24	25-34	35-44	45 and above
2017							
Q1	1,182.9	567.0	615.9	280.8	569.0	209.3	123.8
Q2	1,280.6	584.9	695.7	317.9	587.7	226.9	148.1
Q3	1,311.6	623.9	687.7	306.1	632.6	227.4	145.5
Q4	1,332.8	648.4	684.4	303.2	631.8	254.8	142.9
2018							
Q1	1,306.9	629.2	677.7	279.2	629.2	259.0	139.5
Q2	1,408.1	647.2	760.9	314.5	687.4	257.7	148.4
Q3	1,446.3	704.1	742.2	351.3	683.3	266.9	144.8
Q4	1,404.0	667.8	736.2	337.2	679.1	245.4	142.3
2019							
Q1	1,460.8	673.2	787.6	329.5	696.4	263.0	172.0
Q2	1,417.2	665.3	751.9	338.6	666.0	259.7	152.8
Q3	1,554.5	699.3	855.2	393.5	705.8	279.1	176.0
Q4	1,540.9	746.8	794.1	348.4	732.4	287.4	172.7
2020							
Q1	1,637.3	815.1	822.2	338.3	786.3	310.8	201.8
Q2	1,674.1	847.7	826.4	393.7	701.9	331.6	246.9
Q3	1,762.7	865.9	896.9	405.1	811.4	355.3	190.9
Q4	1,886.8	1,039.9	847.0	352.9	876.7	430.4	226.8
2021							
Q1	2,092.5	1,111.7	980.8	488.8	912.7	458.9	232.1

Table C: Principle indicator of labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - March 2021

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
2010							
January	12,367.9	11,931.2	436.7	6,927.5	64.1	61.8	3.5
February	12,059.8	11,632.3	427.4	7,225.1	62.5	60.3	3.5
March	12,324.2	11,895.9	428.3	6,993.0	63.8	61.6	3.5
April	12,512.0	12,133.5	378.5	6,894.5	64.5	62.5	3.0
May	12,197.6	11,798.9	398.7	7,186.0	62.9	60.9	3.3
June	12,331.8	11,882.2	449.6	7,065.0	63.6	61.3	3.6
July	12,516.2	12,099.5	416.7	6,900.5	64.5	62.3	3.3
August	12,320.9	11,936.5	384.3	7,157.9	63.3	61.3	3.1
September	12,289.9	11,912.1	377.8	7,194.4	63.1	61.1	3.1
October	12,689.5	12,342.6	346.8	6,846.7	65.0	63.2	2.7
November	12,277.5	11,874.1	403.4	7,298.3	62.7	60.7	3.3
December	12,822.3	12,418.3	404.1	6,722.3	65.6	63.5	3.2
2011							
January	12,804.2	12,376.0	428.2	6,881.6	65.0	62.9	3.3
February	12,618.9	12,245.3	373.6	7,110.3	64.0	62.1	3.0
March	12,862.2	12,491.8	370.4	6,940.1	65.0	63.1	2.9
April	12,921.7	12,537.1	384.6	6,930.6	65.1	63.2	3.0
May	12,726.6	12,330.3	396.3	7,133.2	64.1	62.1	3.1
June	12,782.7	12,372.6	410.1	7,073.7	64.4	62.3	3.2
July	12,967.4	12,581.5	385.9	6,920.5	65.2	63.3	3.0
August	12,887.9	12,486.7	401.2	7,038.6	64.7	62.7	3.1
September	12,875.9	12,456.9	419.0	7,032.2	64.7	62.6	3.3
October	12,938.2	12,550.1	388.1	7,045.7	64.7	62.8	3.0
November	12,722.4	12,323.7	398.7	7,245.7	63.7	61.7	3.1
December	13,092.1	12,687.2	404.9	6,997.3	65.2	63.2	3.1
2012							
January	13,191.6	12,781.3	410.4	6,878.5	65.7	63.7	3.1
February	13,054.5	12,645.6	408.9	7,042.3	65.0	62.9	3.1
March	13,295.4	12,893.8	401.6	6,897.3	65.8	63.9	3.0
April	13,331.8	12,936.9	394.8	6,851.3	66.1	64.1	3.0
May	13,245.6	12,861.2	384.4	6,952.9	65.6	63.7	2.9
June	13,232.5	12,811.4	421.0	7,013.7	65.4	63.3	3.2
July	13,511.7	13,093.3	418.4	6,777.3	66.6	64.5	3.1
August	13,313.6	12,963.4	350.2	7,039.9	65.4	63.7	2.6
September	13,408.5	12,984.5	424.0	6,993.2	65.7	63.6	3.2
October	13,341.4	12,908.9	432.6	7,056.2	65.4	63.3	3.2
November	13,429.2	13,044.6	384.6	7,094.6	65.4	63.6	2.9
December	13,538.6	13,114.3	424.3	7,060.6	65.7	63.7	3.1
2013							
January	13,569.6	13,109.8	459.8	7,035.5	65.9	63.6	3.4
February	13,598.8	13,195.9	402.9	7,119.8	65.6	63.7	3.0
March	13,684.4	13,241.7	442.6	7,116.7	65.8	63.7	3.2
April	13,835.7	13,422.9	412.8	6,922.7	66.7	64.7	3.0
May	13,815.3	13,368.9	446.4	7,005.6	66.4	64.2	3.2
June	14,217.1	13,816.9	400.2	6,668.6	68.1	66.2	2.8
July	14,194.6	13,763.0	431.6	6,655.9	68.1	66.0	3.0
August	14,176.6	13,734.2	442.4	6,689.8	67.9	65.8	3.1
September	14,309.4	13,859.5	449.9	6,557.3	68.6	66.4	3.1
October	14,169.2	13,699.1	470.1	6,746.3	67.7	65.5	3.3
November	14,220.9	13,730.4	490.5	6,716.2	67.9	65.6	3.4
December	14,276.5	13,836.2	440.3	6,724.3	68.0	65.9	3.1

Table C: Principle indicator of labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - March 2021

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
2014							
January	14,244.4	13,775.9	468.5	6,734.7	67.9	65.7	3.3
February	14,249.9	13,788.0	462.0	6,808.7	67.7	65.5	3.2
March	14,198.4	13,768.3	430.1	6,956.1	67.1	65.1	3.0
April	14,206.7	13,793.2	413.5	6,849.4	67.5	65.5	2.9
May	14,430.2	14,023.0	407.2	6,693.2	68.3	66.4	2.8
June	14,373.4	13,967.0	406.4	6,826.6	67.8	65.9	2.8
July	14,333.4	13,935.8	397.6	6,846.2	67.7	65.8	2.8
August	14,266.3	13,881.4	384.9	6,934.1	67.3	65.5	2.7
September	14,440.2	14,058.4	381.8	6,763.7	68.1	66.3	2.6
October	14,403.1	14,023.3	379.9	6,926.7	67.5	65.7	2.6
November	14,404.1	14,025.4	378.7	6,887.1	67.7	65.9	2.6
December	14,512.0	14,060.2	451.7	6,784.8	68.1	66.0	3.1
2015							
January	14,442.0	13,991.8	450.3	6,923.7	67.6	65.5	3.1
February	14,554.7	14,092.9	461.8	6,847.8	68.0	65.9	3.2
March	14,601.2	14,160.5	440.7	6,839.3	68.1	66.1	3.0
April	14,569.5	14,136.2	433.3	6,890.2	67.9	65.9	3.0
May	14,575.0	14,126.7	448.3	6,933.5	67.8	65.7	3.1
June	14,609.9	14,146.7	463.2	6,896.2	67.9	65.8	3.2
July	14,579.1	14,106.2	472.9	6,937.7	67.8	65.6	3.2
August	14,685.1	14,214.6	470.5	6,871.5	68.1	65.9	3.2
September	14,642.0	14,151.7	490.3	6,925.4	67.9	65.6	3.3
October	14,665.9	14,184.7	481.3	6,894.8	68.0	65.8	3.3
November	14,687.2	14,215.7	471.5	6,945.0	67.9	65.7	3.2
December	14,690.0	14,185.7	504.3	6,945.3	67.9	65.6	3.4
2016							
January	14,652.0	14,150.5	501.5	6,984.2	67.7	65.4	3.4
February	14,703.3	14,196.9	506.4	7,063.1	67.6	65.2	3.4
March	14,710.1	14,200.7	509.5	6,964.0	67.9	65.5	3.5
April	14,675.3	14,163.7	511.5	7,012.5	67.7	65.3	3.5
May	14,705.0	14,200.2	504.8	7,021.1	67.7	65.4	3.4
June	14,720.1	14,218.4	501.8	7,036.5	67.7	65.4	3.4
July	14,729.0	14,212.8	516.2	7,008.4	67.8	65.4	3.5
August	14,822.2	14,306.9	515.2	7,053.3	67.8	65.4	3.5
September	14,762.2	14,249.6	512.6	7,084.3	67.6	65.2	3.5
October	14,765.1	14,253.4	511.7	7,071.1	67.6	65.3	3.5
November	14,827.9	14,317.2	510.7	7,081.8	67.7	65.3	3.4
December	14,788.9	14,276.7	512.2	7,072.8	67.6	65.3	3.5
2017							
January	14,880.9	14,366.8	514.1	7,090.4	67.7	65.4	3.5
February	14,916.7	14,401.8	514.8	7,086.9	67.8	65.5	3.5
March	14,932.5	14,421.7	510.8	7,121.8	67.7	65.4	3.4
April	14,941.5	14,429.6	511.9	7,122.5	67.7	65.4	3.4
May	14,961.9	14,454.4	507.5	7,120.8	67.8	65.5	3.4
June	15,027.6	14,519.9	507.7	7,141.1	67.8	65.5	3.4
July	15,016.4	14,497.4	519.0	7,150.4	67.7	65.4	3.5
August	15,030.2	14,513.4	516.9	7,138.4	67.8	65.5	3.4
September	15,058.8	14,544.3	514.5	7,122.1	67.9	65.6	3.4
October	15,090.4	14,581.7	508.8	7,117.7	68.0	65.7	3.4
November	15,084.0	14,578.9	505.1	7,121.4	67.9	65.7	3.3
December	15,145.9	14,640.1	505.8	7,084.1	68.1	65.9	3.3

Table C: Principle indicator of labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - March 2021

Time Series	('000)				(%)		
	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Outside Labour Force	Labour Force Participation Rate	Employment to Population Ratio	Unemployment Rate
2018							
January	15,187.0	14,670.5	516.5	7,074.8	68.2	65.9	3.4
February	15,230.0	14,721.5	508.5	7,112.3	68.2	65.9	3.3
March	15,241.2	14,732.5	508.7	7,115.0	68.2	65.9	3.3
April	15,313.1	14,803.1	510.0	7,130.9	68.2	66.0	3.3
May	15,357.5	14,852.6	504.8	7,097.1	68.4	66.1	3.3
June	15,379.0	14,863.2	515.8	7,062.2	68.5	66.2	3.4
July	15,401.0	14,882.4	518.6	7,044.5	68.6	66.3	3.4
August	15,421.4	14,896.5	525.0	7,133.9	68.4	66.0	3.4
September	15,442.9	14,926.5	516.4	7,096.8	68.5	66.2	3.3
October	15,450.0	14,937.1	512.9	7,093.7	68.5	66.3	3.3
November	15,457.5	14,941.3	516.2	7,151.2	68.4	66.1	3.3
December	15,500.1	14,986.0	514.2	7,120.1	68.5	66.3	3.3
2019							
January	15,508.5	14,992.8	515.6	7,095.9	68.6	66.3	3.3
February	15,543.2	15,026.8	516.4	7,145.9	68.5	66.2	3.3
March	15,556.6	15,035.2	521.3	7,169.4	68.5	66.2	3.4
April	15,613.1	15,089.8	523.3	7,184.4	68.5	66.2	3.4
May	15,642.3	15,122.5	519.8	7,190.0	68.5	66.2	3.3
June	15,655.9	15,134.6	521.4	7,156.7	68.6	66.3	3.3
July	15,704.6	15,179.8	524.8	7,207.7	68.5	66.3	3.3
August	15,706.0	15,185.8	520.2	7,172.4	68.6	66.4	3.3
September	15,751.2	15,229.9	521.4	7,159.8	68.7	66.5	3.3
October	15,777.7	15,265.6	512.1	7,175.0	68.7	66.5	3.2
November	15,828.9	15,315.0	513.9	7,174.2	68.8	66.6	3.2
December	15,803.0	15,286.0	517.0	7,129.8	68.9	66.7	3.3
2020							
January	15,829.3	15,317.6	511.7	7,128.9	68.9	66.7	3.2
February	15,869.8	15,344.5	525.2	7,224.0	68.7	66.4	3.3
March	15,842.9	15,232.4	610.5	7,239.8	68.6	66.0	3.9
April	15,712.2	14,933.4	778.8	7,345.1	68.1	64.8	5.0
May	15,714.0	14,887.9	826.1	7,392.1	68.0	64.4	5.3
June	15,763.5	14,990.2	773.2	7,398.5	68.1	64.7	4.9
July	15,818.5	15,073.4	745.1	7,399.8	68.1	64.9	4.7
August	15,895.1	15,153.5	741.6	7,351.5	68.4	65.2	4.7
September	15,930.6	15,193.1	737.5	7,359.8	68.4	65.2	4.6
October	15,955.3	15,207.1	748.2	7,347.7	68.5	65.3	4.7
November	15,960.5	15,196.1	764.4	7,374.8	68.4	65.1	4.8
December	15,988.3	15,215.4	772.9	7,372.2	68.4	65.1	4.8
2021							
January	16,019.8	15,237.3	782.5	7,366.2	68.5	65.2	4.9
February	16,048.2	15,270.6	777.5	7,371.4	68.5	65.2	4.8
March	16,082.5	15,329.3	753.2	7,363.7	68.6	65.4	4.7

Table D: Employed person by occupation, Malaysia, 1982 - 2020

('000)

Year	Total	Occupation								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Dictionary of Occupational Classification, 1980¹										
1982	5,249.0	375.7	111.5	493.4	510.5	573.2	1,655.3	1,529.4	n.a	n.a
1983	5,457.0	381.3	132.3	520.6	522.7	593.7	1,678.5	1,628.0	n.a	n.a
1984	5,566.7	409.8	115.4	541.3	600.0	638.1	1,694.1	1,567.7	n.a	n.a
1985	5,653.4	426.6	129.2	551.5	625.9	643.0	1,720.0	1,556.9	n.a	n.a
1986	5,760.1	449.0	140.4	544.9	638.5	686.6	1,757.2	1,543.6	n.a	n.a
1987	5,983.9	452.0	117.7	566.1	711.9	704.3	1,845.8	1,586.1	n.a	n.a
1988	6,157.2	454.1	127.9	574.4	728.1	728.3	1,892.5	1,651.7	n.a	n.a
1989	6,390.9	477.0	131.3	605.5	726.0	727.0	1,848.9	1,875.0	n.a	n.a
1990	6,685.0	519.8	144.8	655.6	758.7	762.6	1,750.7	2,092.8	n.a	n.a
1992	7,047.8	586.4	187.8	732.3	763.5	790.1	1,549.7	2,437.9	n.a	n.a
1993	7,383.4	639.5	219.9	789.2	771.8	879.0	1,576.0	2,508.0	n.a	n.a
1995	7,645.0	756.6	247.7	832.0	834.9	845.8	1,539.5	2,588.4	n.a	n.a
1996	8,399.3	838.0	298.2	905.8	935.7	943.1	1,644.8	2,833.6	n.a	n.a
1997	8,569.2	896.6	329.5	963.2	918.5	985.1	1,516.4	2,960.0	n.a	n.a
1998	8,599.6	913.1	346.2	946.9	937.5	1,007.9	1,632.6	2,815.4	n.a	n.a
1999	8,837.8	937.0	348.3	985.6	991.7	1,052.8	1,633.1	2,889.2	n.a	n.a
2000	9,269.2	1,020.4	391.9	1,012.5	1,044.8	1,189.3	1,569.3	3,040.9	n.a	n.a
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 1998²										
2001	9,357.0	695.0	457.2	1,126.1	890.6	1,291.1	1,265.3	1,160.2	1,476.6	994.9
2002	9,542.6	786.3	483.5	1,194.6	890.3	1,307.7	1,260.8	1,168.1	1,373.0	1,078.2
2003	9,869.7	793.5	530.3	1,219.9	937.8	1,399.4	1,249.8	1,235.6	1,420.7	1,082.6
2004	9,979.5	859.3	561.3	1,211.6	931.2	1,479.7	1,292.8	1,165.2	1,409.9	1,068.5
2005	10,045.4	777.4	555.1	1,266.8	992.3	1,483.7	1,268.6	1,145.5	1,427.5	1,128.3
2006	10,275.4	829.6	565.9	1,307.5	968.3	1,597.1	1,335.9	1,154.8	1,408.0	1,108.4
2007	10,538.1	770.4	596.8	1,400.5	1,029.5	1,705.6	1,355.3	1,133.2	1,347.4	1,199.3
2008	10,659.6	748.8	613.7	1,496.4	1,053.4	1,776.1	1,271.3	1,153.8	1,344.1	1,202.0
2009	10,897.3	822.9	684.6	1,560.0	1,086.6	1,869.1	1,255.7	1,132.9	1,242.7	1,242.8
2010	11,899.5	856.7	737.4	1,695.8	1,183.2	1,959.6	1,382.0	1,228.3	1,502.8	1,353.7
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2008³										
2011	12,351.5	692.4	1,221.0	1,306.3	1,180.3	2,503.2	1,011.8	1,345.8	1,570.2	1,520.4
2012	12,820.5	684.4	1,244.0	1,283.4	1,168.8	2,640.7	1,184.1	1,428.5	1,576.8	1,609.8
2013	13,545.4	695.5	1,284.7	1,292.6	1,190.7	2,911.0	1,180.2	1,492.1	1,694.4	1,804.0
2014	13,852.6	664.4	1,376.5	1,367.2	1,237.8	3,169.3	1,002.4	1,555.1	1,659.1	1,820.8
2015	14,067.7	718.6	1,462.0	1,406.9	1,241.1	3,188.9	940.3	1,578.8	1,585.2	1,945.9
Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2013⁴										
2016	14,163.7	658.5	1,755.2	1,453.5	1,163.8	3,176.3	872.0	1,570.3	1,669.8	1,844.2
2017	14,476.8	690.3	1,771.6	1,522.9	1,236.5	3,212.6	898.9	1,517.1	1,766.5	1,860.4
2018	14,776.0	660.5	1,824.4	1,536.7	1,247.7	3,422.8	921.9	1,545.5	1,787.9	1,828.7
2019	15,073.4	694.5	1,883.5	1,573.9	1,272.1	3,411.6	932.8	1,577.1	1,865.4	1,862.5
2020	14,956.7	808.4	1,867.7	1,547.2	1,242.1	3,632.3	916.3	1,472.5	1,689.9	1,780.3

Note:

¹For 1982- 2000, category of occupation are classified according to the "Dictionary of Occupational Classification, 1980" as follows:

- 1: Professional, technical and related workers
- 2: Administrative and managerial workers
- 3: Clerical and related workers
- 4: Sales workers
- 5: Service workers
- 6: Agricultural, animal husbandry and forestry workers, fishermen and hunters
- 7: Production and related workers, transport equipment operators and labourers

²For 2001 - 2010, category of occupation are classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 1998" as follows:

- 1: Legislators, senior officials and managers
- 2: Professionals
- 3: Technicians and associate professionals
- 4: Clerical workers
- 5: Service workers and shop and market sales workers
- 6: Skilled agricultural and fishery workers
- 7: Craft and related trade workers
- 8: Plant and machine-operators and assemblers
- 9: Elementary occupations

³For 2011 - 2015, category of occupation are classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2008" as follows:

- 1: Managers
- 2: Professionals
- 3: Technicians and associate professionals
- 4: Clerical support workers
- 5: Service workers and shop and market sales workers
- 6: Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers
- 7: Craft and related trades workers
- 8: Plant and machine-operators and assemblers
- 9: Elementary occupations

⁴For 2016 - 2019, category of occupation are classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2013" as follows:

- 1: Managers
- 2: Professionals
- 3: Technicians and associate professionals
- 4: Clerical 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
- 9: Elementary occupations

Table E: Employed person by industry, Malaysia, 1982 - 2020

('000)

Year	Total	Industry									
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Malaysia Industrial Classification, (Updated) 1972¹											
1982	5,249.0	1,635.8	51.7	816.0	34.9	377.5	860.9	223.1	202.1	1,046.9	n.a
1983	5,457.0	1,670.9	55.1	894.1	39.3	425.6	897.3	235.9	197.7	1,041.0	n.a
1984	5,566.7	1,695.0	46.5	858.4	32.9	428.0	956.6	242.8	200.5	1,106.0	n.a
1985	5,653.4	1,717.4	44.4	850.4	31.5	419.4	994.3	244.3	218.9	1,132.7	n.a
1986	5,760.1	1,764.5	40.6	874.0	32.4	369.4	1,035.1	242.0	234.6	1,167.6	n.a
1987	5,983.9	1,846.4	33.0	928.9	35.9	336.3	1,091.7	252.0	241.6	1,218.0	n.a
1988	6,157.2	1,883.8	30.7	978.1	41.3	339.9	1,112.6	265.1	229.4	1,276.1	n.a
1989	6,390.9	1,832.5	33.1	1,171.1	40.6	376.9	1,143.9	277.6	253.2	1,262.0	n.a
1990	6,685.0	1,737.6	36.8	1,332.8	46.7	423.9	1,217.8	301.9	258.4	1,329.0	n.a
1992	7,047.8	1,535.8	36.3	1,639.6	45.9	506.7	1,254.5	326.2	299.8	1,403.1	n.a
1993	7,383.4	1,558.6	37.6	1,726.9	60.3	538.8	1,266.2	344.0	330.1	1,520.9	n.a
1995	7,645.0	1,526.8	32.5	1,780.5	48.0	611.3	1,370.7	359.2	363.7	1,552.2	n.a
1996	8,399.3	1,626.2	35.0	1,912.1	44.1	716.5	1,566.7	400.7	412.0	1,686.0	n.a
1997	8,569.2	1,481.3	38.5	2,002.5	50.9	793.0	1,577.9	423.3	447.2	1,754.5	n.a
1998	8,599.6	1,616.5	28.4	1,907.8	50.0	745.9	1,616.0	421.7	425.8	1,787.5	n.a
1999	8,837.8	1,623.7	37.8	1,990.7	50.2	722.8	1,660.6	420.3	466.2	1,865.4	n.a
2000	9,269.2	1,552.4	27.7	2,174.2	49.3	759.9	1,787.2	433.9	474.3	2,010.3	n.a
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2000²											
2001	9,357.0	1,288.2	127.7	26.7	2,184.1	57.3	829.8	1,458.1	585.1	468.3	225.3
2002	9,542.6	1,316.8	107.7	27.5	2,068.9	50.6	905.1	1,497.0	616.1	496.8	240.5
2003	9,869.7	1,301.2	107.0	29.5	2,131.0	57.6	942.5	1,592.2	644.2	481.6	223.4
2004	9,979.5	1,326.5	126.1	34.7	2,023.0	57.9	890.8	1,607.2	698.2	532.9	236.1
2005	10,045.4	1,355.2	115.2	36.1	1,989.3	56.6	904.4	1,620.3	671.8	544.7	247.4
2006	10,275.4	1,375.3	128.2	42.0	2,082.8	75.4	908.9	1,650.5	721.3	539.7	242.3
2007	10,538.1	1,437.3	120.9	39.4	1,977.3	60.8	922.5	1,712.1	760.7	538.2	282.2
2008	10,659.6	1,365.6	122.1	54.5	1,944.7	60.5	998.0	1,729.4	783.6	583.4	276.0
2009	10,897.3	1,349.6	121.5	62.7	1,807.1	58.1	1,015.9	1,831.8	800.5	592.0	271.5
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008³											
2010	11,899.5	1,614.9	57.2	2,108.5	55.5	66.7	1,082.7	1,887.8	554.7	856.7	178.9
2011	12,351.5	1,421.7	73.5	2,244.0	51.0	71.9	1,151.5	2,005.4	604.0	951.1	206.5
2012	12,820.5	1,628.2	80.8	2,263.7	61.9	81.0	1,174.7	2,125.6	624.3	965.1	208.8
2013	13,545.4	1,758.9	87.9	2,315.8	61.5	83.7	1,292.1	2,261.4	626.5	1,041.5	194.1
2014	13,852.6	1,694.2	84.7	2,372.5	65.6	81.2	1,277.7	2,324.4	598.2	1,149.3	213.2
2015	14,067.7	1,753.9	104.4	2,322.7	61.7	72.1	1,309.9	2,361.4	615.0	1,150.8	214.2
2016	14,163.7	1,609.9	96.3	2,390.6	77.9	76.4	1,251.7	2,428.5	630.4	1,260.7	208.7
2017	14,476.8	1,635.0	97.2	2,513.3	62.2	81.0	1,258.9	2,485.4	658.2	1,323.2	220.3
2018	14,776.0	1,570.3	90.8	2,499.9	68.8	88.6	1,257.8	2,544.6	697.9	1,473.4	216.4
2019	15,073.4	1,541.1	91.0	2,681.5	71.4	88.8	1,276.4	2,594.5	667.6	1,549.7	213.9
2020	14,956.7	1,566.0	82.2	2,498.0	76.4	83.7	1,173.4	2,765.6	689.2	1,540.0	223.4

Note¹For 1982 - 2000, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Industrial Classification, (Updated) 1972" as follows:

- A: Agriculture, forestry, livestock and fishing
- B: Mining and quarrying
- C: Manufacturing
- D: Electricity, gas and water
- E: Construction
- F: Wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels
- G: Transport, storage and communications
- H: Finance, insurance, real estate and business services
- I: Community, social and personal services

²For 2001 - 2009, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2000" as follows:

- A: Agriculture, hunting and forestry
- B: Fishing
- C: Mining and quarrying
- D: Manufacturing
- E: Electricity, gas and water supply
- F: Construction
- G: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods
- H: Hotels and restaurants
- I: Transport, storage and communications
- J: Financial intermediation
- K: Real estate, renting and business activities
- L: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
- M: Education
- N: Health and social work
- O: Other community, social and personal service activities
- P: Private households with employed persons

³For 2010 - 2019, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008" as follows:

- A: Agriculture, forestry and fishing
- B: Mining and quarrying
- C: Manufacturing
- D: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
- E: Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
- F: Construction
- G: Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
- H: Transportation and storage
- I: Accommodation and food service activities
- J: Information and communication
- K: Financial and insurance/takaful activities
- L: Real estate activities
- M: Professional, scientific and technical activities
- N: Administrative and support service activities
- O: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
- P: Education
- Q: Human health and social work activities
- R: Arts, entertainment and recreation
- S: Others service activities
- T: Activities of households as employers

Table E: Employed person by industry, Malaysia, 1982 - 2020 (cont'd)

('000)

Year	Total	Industry										
		K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	
Malaysia Industrial Classification, (Updated) 1972¹												
1982	5,249.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1983	5,457.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1984	5,566.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1985	5,653.4	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1986	5,760.1	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1987	5,983.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1988	6,157.2	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1989	6,390.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1990	6,685.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1992	7,047.8	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1993	7,383.4	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1995	7,645.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1996	8,399.3	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1997	8,569.2	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1998	8,599.6	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
1999	8,837.8	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2000	9,269.2	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2000²												
2001	9,357.0	348.6	664.6	508.6	173.3	190.4	219.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2002	9,542.6	397.1	663.6	508.6	189.3	192.5	262.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2003	9,869.7	404.2	666.5	594.3	217.3	216.1	258.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2004	9,979.5	458.5	684.3	610.7	198.2	231.3	260.9	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2005	10,045.4	459.0	728.5	607.1	212.6	234.9	260.6	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2006	10,275.4	508.4	674.1	600.1	223.2	247.1	254.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2007	10,538.1	558.1	716.1	632.7	238.9	266.5	272.7	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2008	10,659.6	553.2	751.1	656.5	252.6	274.2	253.0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
2009	10,897.3	601.9	813.9	731.4	271.7	303.3	262.5	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008³												
2010	11,899.5	323.4	58.5	285.6	359.2	787.7	779.3	280.0	91.6	182.9	285.4	
2011	12,351.5	319.3	61.2	328.4	448.0	750.2	782.3	384.1	87.5	181.8	225.8	
2012	12,820.5	322.1	68.9	307.3	532.2	696.4	784.9	414.3	84.8	190.5	202.7	
2013	13,545.4	318.9	72.7	306.8	566.9	761.4	816.6	490.0	79.4	192.4	214.8	
2014	13,852.6	329.1	79.7	328.8	654.3	741.7	871.4	532.9	94.1	199.1	159.1	
2015	14,067.7	354.4	71.2	359.3	634.8	751.0	899.0	573.1	81.7	233.1	142.3	
2016	14,163.3	346.9	82.4	361.8	657.0	748.2	928.7	570.3	80.9	230.8	124.7	
2017	14,476.8	369.0	84.5	348.1	677.2	742.2	880.3	588.0	84.3	260.1	106.9	
2018	14,776.0	338.6	97.2	367.7	747.6	720.2	988.7	551.2	85.6	264.8	103.9	
2019	15,073.4	335.1	92.1	385.7	806.2	737.1	962.3	527.7	79.0	266.1	104.3	
2020	14,956.7	372.1	82.1	379.3	801.9	734.9	937.6	559.6	58.2	267.0	66.1	

Note

¹For 1982 - 2000, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Industrial Classification, (Updated) 1972" as follows:

- A: Agriculture, forestry, livestock and fishing
- B: Mining and quarrying
- C: Manufacturing
- D: Electricity, gas and water
- E: Construction
- F: Wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels
- G: Transport, storage and communications
- H: Finance, insurance, real estate and business services
- I: Community, social and personal services

²For 2001 - 2009, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2000" as follows:

- A: Agriculture, hunting and forestry
- B: Fishing
- C: Mining and quarrying
- D: Manufacturing
- E: Electricity, gas and water supply
- F: Construction
- G: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods
- H: Hotels and restaurants
- I: Transport, storage and communications
- J: Financial intermediation
- K: Real estate, renting and business activities
- L: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
- M: Education
- N: Health and social work
- O: Other community, social and personal service activities
- P: Private households with employed persons

³For 2010 - 2019, industry was classified according to the "Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008" as follows:

- A: Agriculture, forestry and fishing
- B: Mining and quarrying
- C: Manufacturing
- D: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
- E: Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
- F: Construction
- G: Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
- H: Transportation and storage
- I: Accommodation and food service activities
- J: Information and communication
- K: Financial and insurance/takaful activities
- L: Real estate activities
- M: Professional, scientific and technical activities
- N: Administrative and support service activities
- O: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
- P: Education
- Q: Human health and social work activities
- R: Arts, entertainment and recreation
- S: Others service activities
- T: Activities of households as employers

Table F: Employed person by status of employment, Malaysia, 1982 - 2020

('000)

Time Series	Total	Status of Employment			
		Employer	Employee	Own Account Worker	Unpaid Family Worker
1982	5,249.0	158.1	3,320.7	1,159.8	610.4
1983	5,457.0	175.4	3,447.2	1,242.6	591.7
1984	5,566.7	141.4	3,673.4	1,130.1	621.8
1985	5,653.4	167.8	3,636.1	1,189.8	659.5
1986	5,760.1	180.4	3,560.7	1,308.2	710.6
1987	5,983.9	167.9	3,747.9	1,280.1	788.1
1988	6,157.2	204.7	3,799.1	1,377.1	776.3
1989	6,390.9	154.2	4,164.7	1,324.3	747.4
1990	6,685.0	194.6	4,412.4	1,383.9	694.0
1992	7,047.8	158.5	5,047.7	1,277.3	564.2
1993	7,383.4	209.5	5,272.8	1,350.7	550.1
1995	7,645.0	188.1	5,553.3	1,396.4	506.9
1996	8,399.3	251.1	6,071.4	1,514.2	562.6
1997	8,569.2	222.7	6,380.7	1,449.6	516.1
1998	8,599.6	252.7	6,307.9	1,521.6	517.4
1999	8,837.8	202.2	6,602.5	1,489.1	543.9
2000	9,269.2	275.8	6,882.6	1,586.0	524.8
2001	9,357.0	306.8	7,056.2	1,514.9	478.5
2002	9,542.6	288.6	7,320.2	1,479.8	453.9
2003	9,869.7	333.0	7,523.8	1,536.3	476.3
2004	9,979.5	354.7	7,445.0	1,678.1	501.7
2005	10,045.4	337.0	7,583.4	1,671.7	453.2
2006	10,275.4	396.9	7,632.9	1,733.4	512.2
2007	10,538.1	362.5	7,824.0	1,831.5	520.1
2008	10,659.6	371.4	7,951.1	1,851.1	486.0
2009	10,897.3	399.4	8,153.6	1,862.7	481.7
2010	11,899.5	439.3	9,010.2	1,954.7	495.4
2011	12,351.5	446.1	9,483.7	1,907.4	514.3
2012	12,820.5	476.2	9,620.0	2,117.3	607.0
2013	13,545.4	523.9	10,073.5	2,316.8	631.3
2014	13,852.6	511.5	10,447.6	2,267.2	626.3
2015	14,067.7	568.6	10,395.5	2,476.2	627.4
2016	14,163.7	486.4	10,534.2	2,522.3	620.9
2017	14,476.8	553.5	10,710.1	2,606.7	606.4
2018	14,776.0	547.2	10,700.4	2,859.2	669.1
2019	15,073.4	552.9	11,218.3	2,724.2	578.1
2020	14,956.7	512.2	11,554.2	2,383.0	507.4

Table G: Labour force indicators for selected countries, February 2020 - March 2021

Indicators	2020											2021			Data Source
	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	
Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) (%)															
South East Asia															
Malaysia	68.7	68.6	68.1	68.0	68.1	68.1	68.4	68.4	68.5	68.4	68.4	68.5	68.5	68.6	DOSM National Statistical Office
Thailand	67.7	67.3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	68.1	68.3	67.9	68.1	68.7	69.3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
East Asia															
Hong Kong	59.7	59.5	59.2	59.1	59.4	59.6	59.7	59.6	59.5	59.6	59.6	59.5	59.5	59.6	Census and Statistics Department
Taiwan	59.2	59.1	59.1	59.1	59.1	59.2	59.2	59.1	59.1	59.2	59.1	59.1	59.1	59.1	National Statistics Republic of China
South Korea	62.6	62.2	62.0	63.0	63.2	63.1	62.4	62.5	62.7	62.8	61.6	60.9	61.6	62.5	Statistics Korea
Japan	61.8	62.0	61.5	61.8	61.9	61.8	62.1	62.2	62.4	62.3	62.0	61.8	61.9	61.9	Statistics Bureau of Japan
Oceania															
Australia	65.9	65.9	63.5	62.6	64.0	64.6	65.0	64.8	65.7	66.1	66.1	66.1	66.1	66.3	ABS
North America															
USA	63.4	62.7	60.2	60.8	61.5	61.4	61.7	61.4	61.7	61.5	61.5	61.4	61.4	61.5	BLS
Canada	65.5	63.6	60.0	61.4	64.0	64.3	64.6	65.1	65.2	65.1	65.0	64.7	64.7	65.2	Statistics Canada
Europe															
United Kingdom	79.8	79.6	79.3	79.2	79.1	79.2	79.2	79.1	79.2	79.3	79.1	79.0	79.1	n.a.	ONS
Sweden	73.7	72.7	72.8	72.9	73.0	73.2	73.3	73.4	73.5	73.7	73.8	72.8	72.9	73.1	Statistics Sweden
Finland	65.6	65.7	64.9	67.4	67.9	67.5	66.3	66.4	66.2	66.0	65.6	65.6	65.5	65.8	Statistics Finland
Russia	61.7	62.0	61.7	61.7	61.8	62.0	62.3	62.3	62.1	62.3	62.2	62.0	62.1	62.1	Trading economics
Italy	65.5	64.3	61.9	62.7	63.2	64.2	64.5	64.5	64.5	64.2	63.9	63.0	63.0	63.2	National Institute of Statistics
Netherland	71.4	71.2	70.3	70.2	71.1	71.2	71.3	71.1	71.3	71.3	71.3	71.2	71.4	71.1	Statistics Netherlands
Unemployment rate (%)															
South East Asia															
Malaysia	3.3	3.9	5.0	5.3	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.7	DOSM National Statistical Office
Thailand	1.1	1.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2.1	1.9	1.8	2.1	2.0	1.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
East Asia															
Hong Kong	3.7	4.2	5.2	5.9	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.6	7.0	7.2	6.8	Census and Statistics Department
Taiwan	3.7	3.7	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	National Statistics Republic of China
South Korea	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.5	4.3	4.0	3.1	3.6	3.7	3.4	4.1	5.7	4.9	4.3	Statistics Korea
Japan	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.6	Statistics Bureau of Japan
Oceania															
Australia	5.1	5.2	6.4	7.1	7.4	7.5	6.8	6.9	7.0	6.8	6.6	6.3	5.8	5.6	ABS
North America															
USA	3.5	4.4	14.7	13.3	11.1	10.2	8.4	7.9	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.3	6.2	6.0	BLS
Canada	5.7	7.9	13.1	13.7	12.5	10.9	10.2	9.2	9.0	8.6	8.8	9.4	8.2	7.5	Statistics Canada
Europe															
United Kingdom	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.0	4.9	n.a.	ONS
Sweden	7.2	7.3	7.9	7.9	9.1	9.1	9.0	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.7	9.0	9.0	9.1	Statistics Sweden
Finland	6.9	7.3	8.1	10.6	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.4	6.9	7.8	8.7	8.1	8.1	Statistics Finland
Russia	4.6	4.7	5.8	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.1	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.4	Federal State Statistics Service
Italy	9.7	8.4	6.3	7.8	8.8	9.7	9.7	9.6	9.8	8.9	9.0	10.3	10.2	10.1	National Institute of Statistics
Netherland	2.9	2.9	3.4	3.6	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.0	3.9	3.6	3.6	3.5	Statistics Netherlands

Note
n.a. not available

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