

EMBARGO: Only to be published or disseminated at **12:00 hour, Thursday, 15 May 2025**



EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS, FIRST QUARTER 2025



Introduction

This publication presents the labour demand statistics based on the Quarterly Employment Survey conducted on formal private sector establishments encompassing major economic activities namely Agriculture, Mining & Quarrying, Manufacturing, Construction and Services. The principal statistics of employment presented in this report are jobs, filled jobs, vacancies and jobs created by economic activity and skills category.

Labour Demand, First Quarter of 2025

Analysing the overall performance of labour demand in Q1 2025, all indicators recorded an upward trend signalling a resilient and stable labour market. In tandem with this, the number of jobs increased by 1.4 per cent year-on-year during Q1 2025, recording 9.06 million jobs (Q1 2024: 8.94 million). Meanwhile, there were 8.87 million filled jobs, maintaining a filled jobs rate of 97.9 per cent. The vacancy rate remained unchanged at 2.1 per cent with 194.1 thousand unfilled positions, rose from 191.9 thousand in Q1 2024. Furthermore, there were a 3.4 per cent year-on-year growth in jobs created showing a total of 33.2 thousand new jobs (Q1 2024: 32.1 thousand).

Labour Demand by Skills Category

In terms of distribution by skills category, the semi-skilled category accounted for the largest share, contributing over half of the total of all indicators. The skilled and low-skilled categories came next.

The skilled category registered 2.28 million jobs, an increase of 1.6 per cent year-on-year (35 thousand jobs) from 2.24 million jobs that was recorded in Q1 2024. The rate of filled jobs registered was 97.9 per cent, with 2.23 million jobs being filled, while the vacancy rate remained at 2.1 per cent corresponding to 47.4 thousand vacancies. The number of jobs created in this category increased by 0.9 per cent year-on-year, with 8.9 thousand new jobs recorded.

The number of jobs in the semi-skilled category increased by 69.0 thousand to 5.66 million jobs in this quarter (Q1 2024: 5.59 million). Meanwhile, the filled jobs rate stood at 98.1 per cent, corresponding to 5.55 million filled jobs, while the vacancy rate was 1.9 per cent with 109.2 thousand vacancies. Additionally, jobs created in this category increased by 4.4 per cent, equating to 20.8 thousand new jobs. (Q1 2024: 19.9 thousand).

As for the low-skilled category, the number of jobs rose by 2.0 per cent, registering 1.13 million jobs as compared to 1.11 million in Q1 2024. A total of 1.09 million jobs were filled with a filled jobs rate of 96.7 per cent, while 37.5 thousand jobs left vacant, representing a vacancy rate of 3.3 per cent. There were 3.5 thousand new jobs were created, making up 10.6 per cent of the total jobs created.

Labour Demand by Economic Activity

Analysing the breakdown of labour demand by economic activity, the Services sector led with the largest percentage share of 52.0 per cent (4.72 million) of total jobs, followed by Manufacturing at 27.5 per cent (2.49 million). The Construction and Agriculture sectors contributed 14.0 per cent (1.27 million) and 5.5 per cent (501 thousand) of jobs, respectively. The Mining & Quarrying sector had the smallest share of 1.0 per cent or 81 thousand jobs.

The Services sector also dominated the filled jobs with 52.8 per cent, representing 4.69 million filled jobs. This was followed by the Manufacturing and Construction sectors with 26.9 per cent (2.38 million) and 14.1 per cent (1.25 million) of filled jobs, respectively.

In terms of jobs vacancy, the Manufacturing sector posted the largest proportion with 57.3 per cent or equivalent to 111.2 thousand unfilled positions. The Agriculture sector came next with 16.4 per cent, totalling to 31.8 thousand, followed by Construction with 14.1 per cent (25.4 thousand).

The Services sector registered the highest share of jobs created at 48.1 per cent (16.0 thousand) followed by Manufacturing and Construction at 36.5 per cent (12.1 thousand) and 10.8 per cent (3.6 thousand) respectively.

The publication of the Employment Statistics, First Quarter of 2025 can be downloaded through [eStatistics](#) portal.

Released by:

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15 May 2025

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