



KEY REVIEWS

- In September 2020, **employment continue to grow at a slower pace of 0.3 per cent** (August 2020: 0.5%) to **15.19 million persons**. The **employment-to-population remained at 65.2 per cent**.
- From the view of economic sector, Services and Manufacturing sectors which were the main contributor of the economy, recorded an increase in the number of employment as against the previous month. For Services sector, the increase was largely in wholesale & retail trade and accommodation and food & beverages as well as education activities.
- In terms of status of employment, the **employee's category increased 14.9 thousand persons** to record **11.73 million persons** as against the previous month. **Own-account workers continued to increase by 0.7 per cent** to register **2.43 million persons** (August 2020: 2.42 million persons).
- The **unemployment rate dropped 0.1 percentage point to 4.6 per cent in September 2020 as opposed to August 2020**. The number of unemployed persons declined by **0.6%** to record **737.5 thousand persons** (August 2020: 741.6 thousand persons).
- The **labour force participation rate remained at 68.4 per cent** in September 2020 after recorded an increase of **0.3 percentage points** in the previous month. During the month, the number of **labour force increased by 35.5 thousand persons** o 15.93 million persons (August 2020: 15.90 million persons).
- In September 2020, **the number of persons outside labour force increased slightly by 8.3 thousand persons to record 7.36 million persons** as against August 2020. **Housework/ family responsibility** contributed 45.1 per cent followed by **schooling/ training** with 40.2 per cent.
- Although the COVID-19 pandemic continued to be a difficult challenge in September 2020, the Malaysia's labour force situation was further improved as the progress of the economic sector continued to grow. However, looking at the current situation with a spike of new COVID-19 cases especially in certain parts of the nation beginning at the end of September 2020, it is foreseen some challenges will be faced by the labour market in the forthcoming months.
- Additionally, for the first time, new quarterly indicators on **working of less than 30 hours per week** and **underemployment** were introduced in the report to provide more insight on country's labour supply situation. In this report, the underemployment indicators were measured in a form of time-related and skill-related.

SLIGHT INCREASE IN THE MALAYSIA'S LABOUR FORCE IN SEPTEMBER 2020

The country had undergone seven months of Movement Control Order (MCO) to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic. Since 10 June 2020, the Recovery MCO allowed more economic sectors to operate although businesses were not operating at optimum level. In the meantime, various stimulus packages provided by the Government were aided to cushion the negative impact of the pandemic to the economy including labour market. Thus, continuous improvement albeit at a moderate pace was observed in labour force situation. This has reflected by the positive month-on-month growth in employment since June 2020, as well as by the unemployment rate which showed a declining trend. Hence, the recovery of labour force situation may continue unless there is another wave of COVID-19 new cases impacting business activity and consumer demand.

In September 2020, it was reported that the number of new cases began to rise again for several administrative districts mainly in Kedah and Sabah. Consequently, Administrative Enhanced MCO had been implemented in these areas and had successfully curbed the spread while mitigated the negative impact to the labour market. As a result, the number of labour force during the month continued to increase with a marginal growth.

Based on the economic performance in September 2020, the Industrial Production Index (IPI) posted a positive growth of 0.5 per cent month-on-month to record 115.3 supported by IPI for Manufacturing which was increased by 2.1 per cent. In addition, the total export recorded a double-digit month-on-month growth of 13.6 per cent, while import declined by 3.6 per cent.

The **Labour Force Report for September 2020** describes the labour supply situation as the country entered the seventh month of 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 is also reported.

Additionally, for the first time, new quarterly indicators on **working of less than 30 hours per week** and **underemployment** are introduced in the report to provide more insight on the country's labour supply situation. In this report, the underemployment indicators were measured in the form of time-related and skill-related. **Time-related underemployment** is defined as those who were employed less than 30 hours per week due to the nature of their work or because of insufficient work and were able and willing to accept additional hours of work. Meanwhile, **skill-related underemployment** which was generally defined as those who wanted to change their current employment situation in order to use their occupational skills more fully and were available to do so, is measured as those with tertiary education working in semi-skilled and low-skilled occupations.

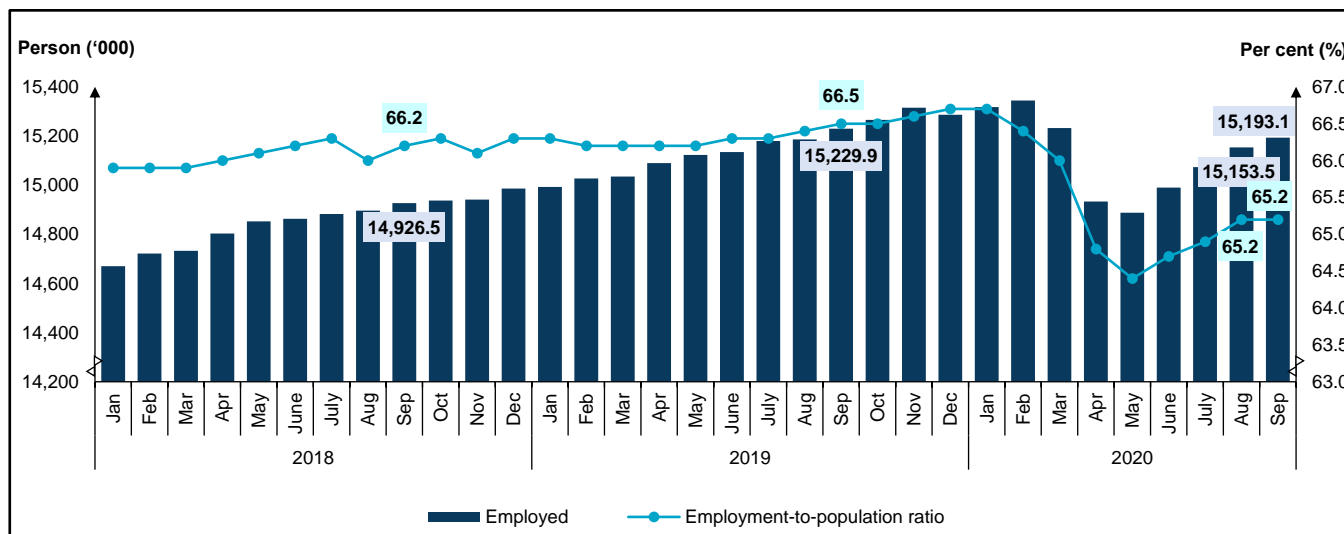
A box article on **Assessment of Underemployment Situation in Malaysia** which has been published in Malaysia Economic Statistical Review (MESR) Vol. 6/2020 is also included in this report to assist users in understanding the underemployment statistics.

Employment continued to grow

In September 2020, employment continue to grow at a slower pace of 0.3 per cent (August 2020: 0.5%) to 15.19 million persons. Meanwhile, year-on-year, the number of employed persons still on the declining trend posted negative 0.2 per cent (September 2019: 15.23 million persons).

During the month, **the employment-to-population ratio which indicates the ability of an economy to create employment remained at 65.2 per cent.** However, in terms of year-on-year, employment-to-population ratio dropped by 1.3 percentage points from 66.5 per cent. **[Chart 1]**

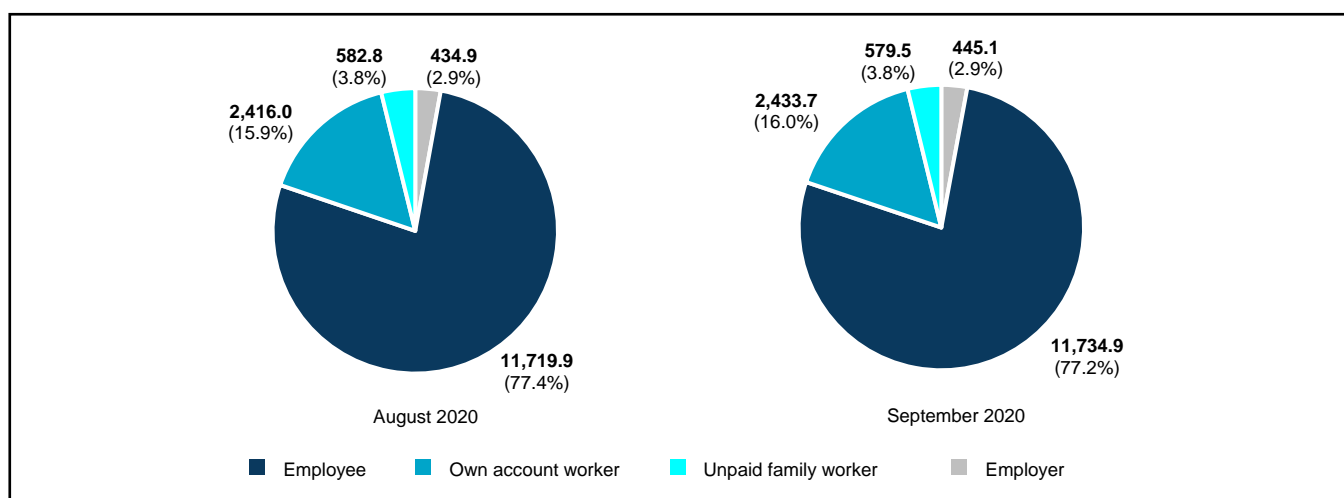
Chart 1: Employed persons and employment-to-population ratio, January 2018 – September 2020



From the view of economic sector, Services and Manufacturing which were the main contributors of the economy, recorded an increase in the number of employment as against the previous month. For Services sector, the increase was largely in wholesale & retail trade and accommodation and food & beverages as well as education activities.

In terms of status of employment, the **employee’s category rose by 14.9 thousand persons to record 11.73 million persons** as against the previous month. **Own-account workers continued to increase by 0.7 per cent to register 2.43 million persons** (August 2020: 2.42 million persons). The positive growth of own-account workers may be reflected by the various government initiatives to boost up the businesses such as PENJANA SME Financing which continue to assist the Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) as well as a Special Grant of RM3,000 to each eligible micro-SME. **[Chart 2]**

Chart 2: Employed person by status in employment, August and September 2020



In the meantime, there were only **100.7 thousand of employed persons who were temporarily not working** as against 102.0 thousand persons recorded in August 2020. This group of persons, who were most likely not able to work was not categorised as unemployed as they had work to return to.

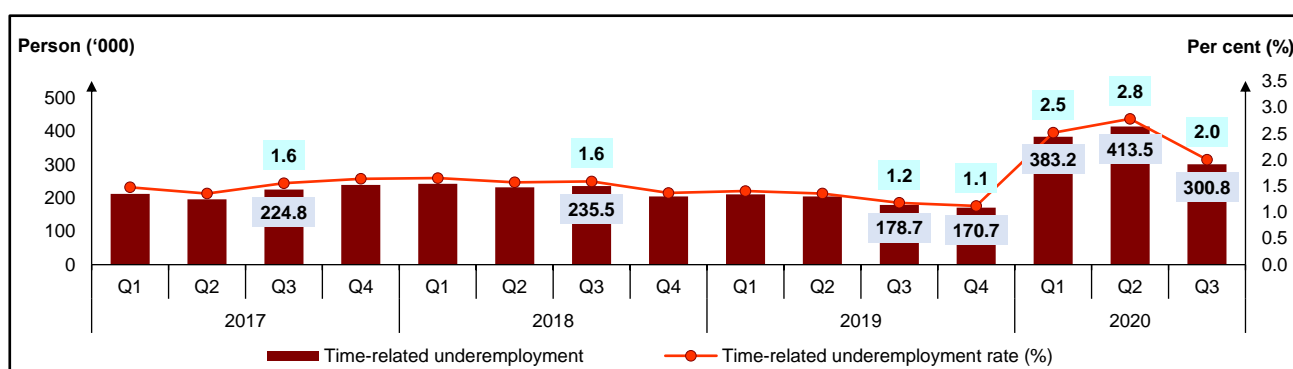
New Indicator Released

Quarterly Time-related and Skill-related Underemployment

A comprehensive understanding of the labour market requires analysing additional indicators alongside the unemployment rate¹. Hence, the underemployment indicator provides more insight on the labour supply situation by looking at the employed persons who lacked of hours worked or in inadequate forms of work which can be measured by time-related underemployment and skill-related underemployment.

For the series of Q1 2017 to Q4 2019, the **time-related underemployment** averaged of **1.4 per cent from the total of employed persons** equivalent to **212.4 thousand persons**. The implementation of MCO in the mid of March 2020 has caused the number **increased further to 383.2 thousand persons (2.5%) in Q1 2020**. Subsequently, the continuous phases of MCO and several economic activities were allowed to operate with strict standard operating procedures in Q2 2020, had led to the increase in time-related underemployment to **413.5 thousand persons (2.8%)**. Nevertheless, **the number reduced to 300.8 thousand persons (2.0%) in Q3 2020** following the implementation of Recovery MCO with longer business operation hour during the period. [Chart A1]

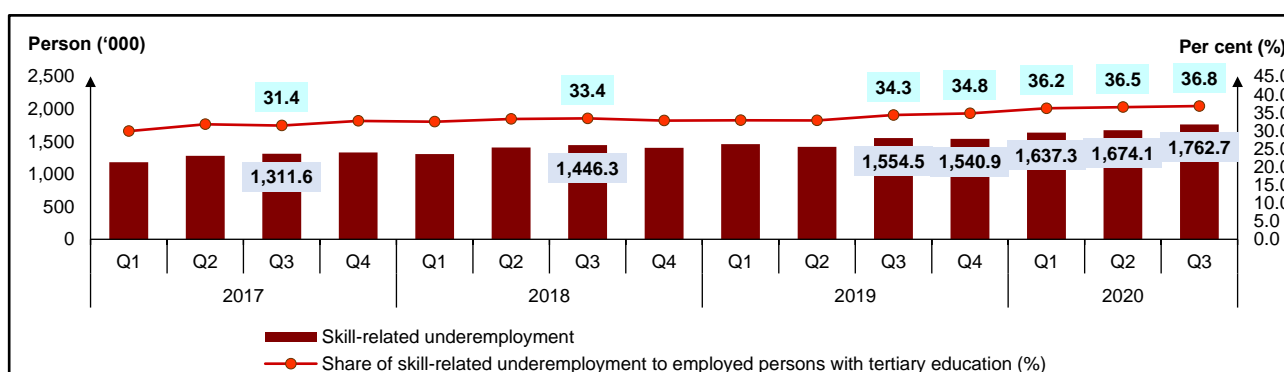
Chart A1: Time-related underemployment, Q1 2017 – Q3 2020



Source: Labour Force Survey Report Third Quarter, DOSM

Through the LFS, **skill-related underemployment** is measured from the perspective of those with tertiary education and working in the semi-skilled and low-skilled occupations. Over the years, it was observed that the incidence of skill-related underemployment, had indicated the existence of some structural issue in the labour market prior to COVID-19 pandemic. This is portrayed by the quarterly average of **32.7 per cent or 1.4 million persons** of skill-related underemployment during the period of Q1 2017 to Q4 2019. Incidentally, the current situation attributed to the continuous increase of **skill-related underemployment to 36.8 per cent in the Q3 2020** after registering 36.5 per cent in Q2 2020. In terms of number, it **increased to 1.76 million persons (Q2 2020:1.67 million persons)**. [Chart A2]

Chart A2: Skill-related underemployment, Q1 2017 – Q3 2020



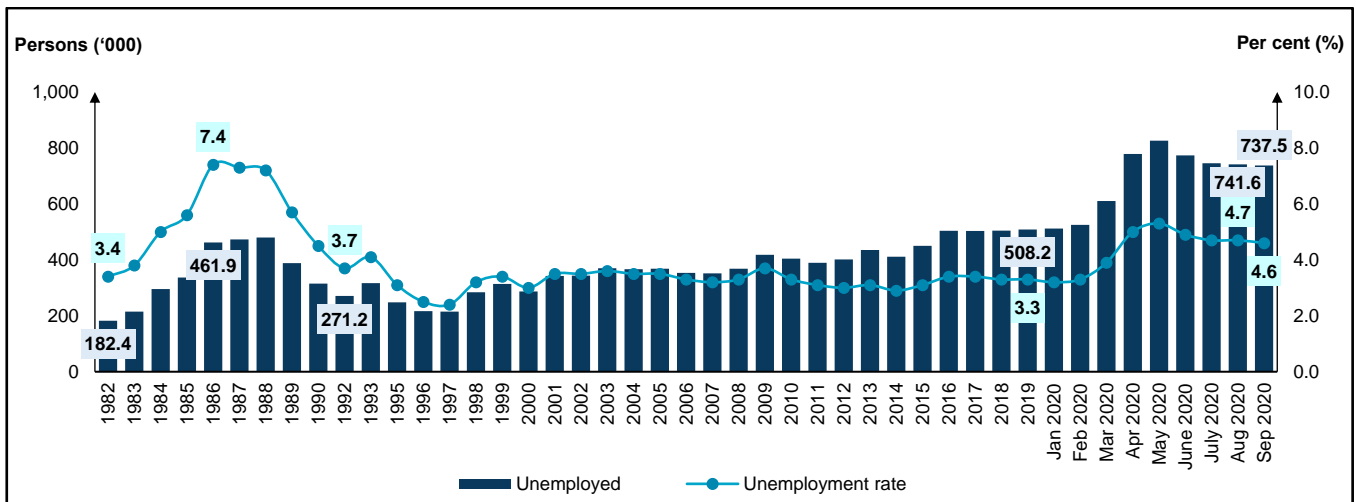
Source: Labour Force Survey Report Third Quarter, DOSM

¹ https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/publication/wcms_644467.pdf

Unemployment rate dropped to 4.6 per cent in September 2020

The unemployment rate dropped 0.1 percentage points to 4.6 per cent in September 2020 as opposed to August 2020. The number of unemployed persons declined by 0.6 per cent to record 737.5 thousand persons (August 2020: 741.6 thousand persons). Nonetheless, year-on-year, the unemployment rate for September 2020 increased 1.3 percentage points as compared to the same month of the preceding year with the number of unemployed persons registering an increase of 216.1 thousand persons (September 2019: 521.4 thousand persons). [Chart 3]

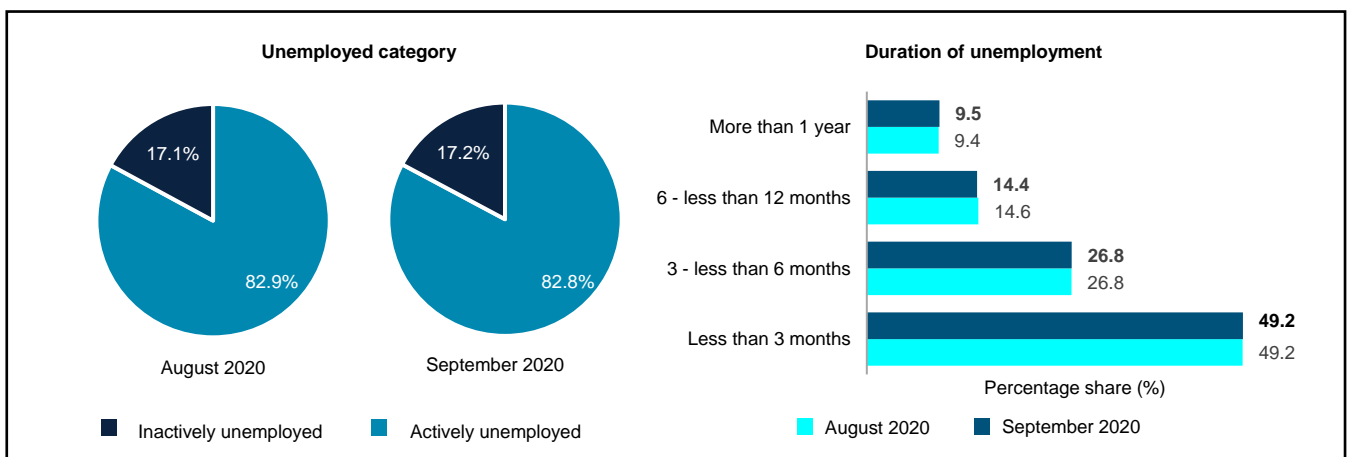
Chart 3: Unemployed persons and unemployment rate, 1982 - 2019 and January - September 2020



The actively unemployed persons comprise of more than 80 per cent of the total of unemployed persons in September 2020. The largest composition was persons who were unemployed for less than three months with 49.2 per cent.

Meanwhile, persons who were in long-term unemployment² for more than a year accounted for 58.0 thousand persons or 9.5 per cent. However, the inactively unemployed or discouraged group whom believed there were no jobs available during the month registered an increase of 0.1 percentage points to record 127.1 thousand persons as against 126.5 thousand persons in August 2020. [Chart 4]

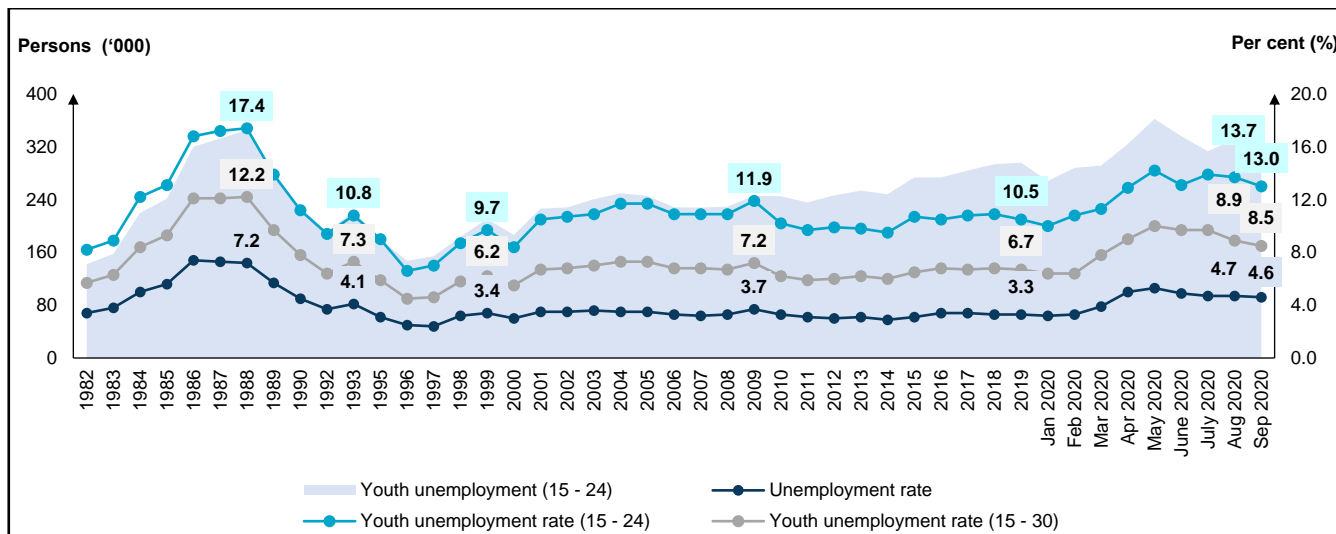
Chart 4: Unemployed category and duration of unemployment, August and September 2020



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)

As for the unemployment rate of youth for **aged 15 to 24 years in September 2020, the figure improved with a lower rate of 13.0 per cent** as compared to the previous month (August 2020: 13.7%). Similarly, the unemployment rate for youth aged 15 to 30 years reduced by 0.4 percentage points to record 8.5 per cent (August 2020: 8.9%). [Chart 5]

Chart 5: Unemployment rate by selected age groups, 1982 - 2019 and January - September 2020

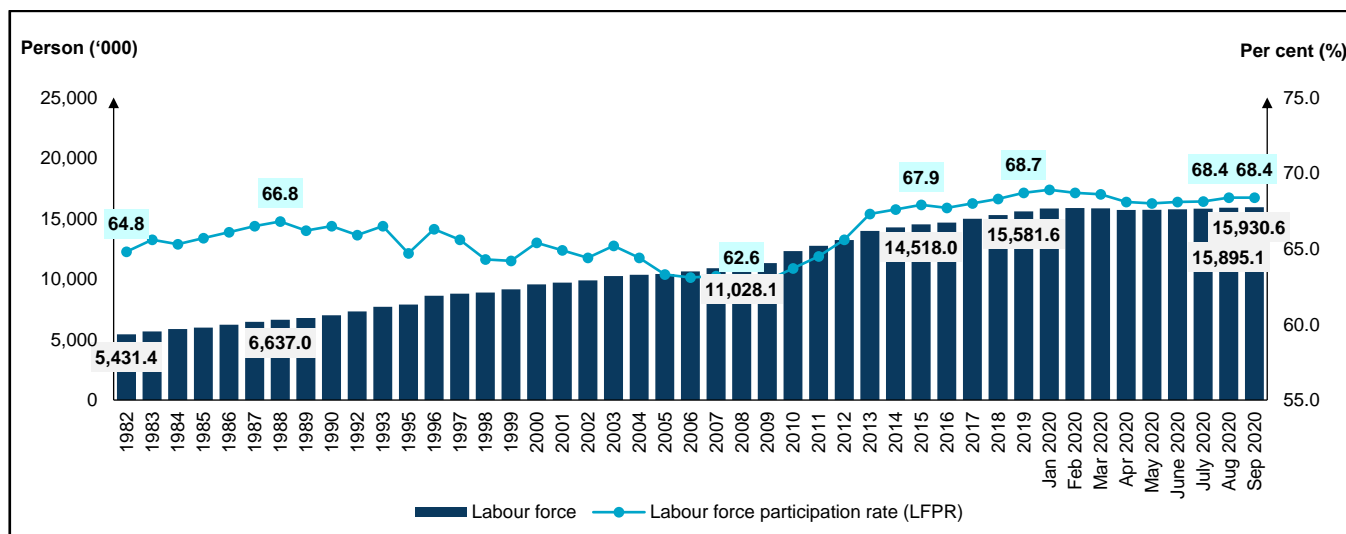


LFPR remained at 68.4 per cent

The **labour force participation rate remained at 68.4 per cent** in September 2020 after recorded an increase of 0.3 percentage points in the previous month. During the month, the number of labour force **increased by 35.5 thousand persons month-on-month to 15.93 million persons** (August 2020: 15.90 million persons).

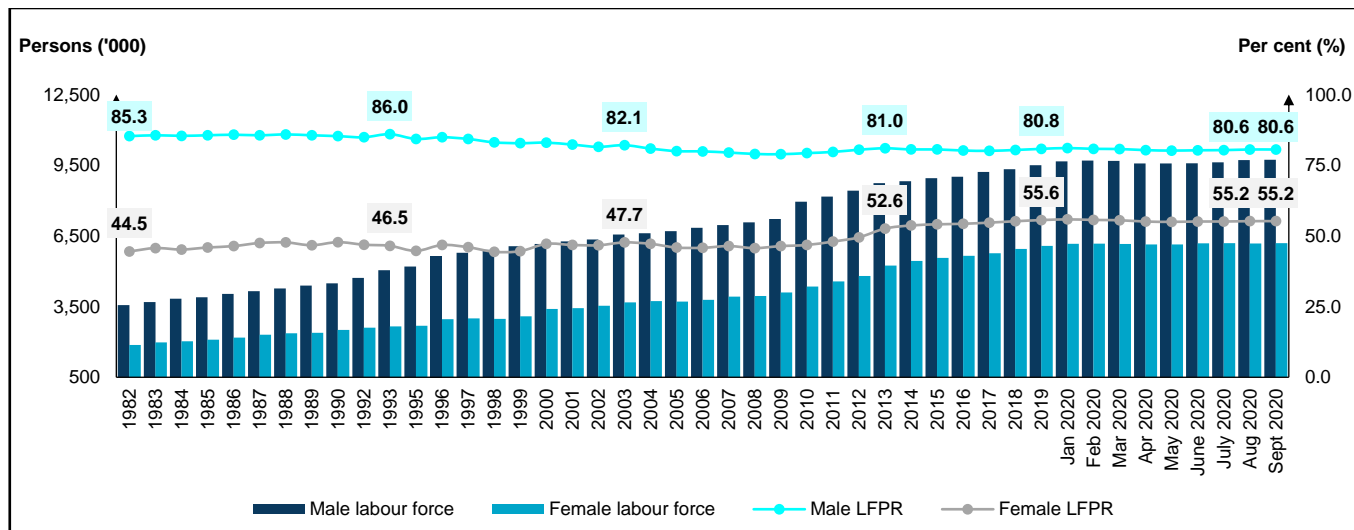
Comparing with the same month of the previous year, **the number of labour force rose by 179.4 thousand persons from 15.75 million persons while the LFPR declined by 0.3 percentage points** (September 2019: 68.7%). [Chart 6]

Chart 6: Labour Force and LFPR, 1982 - 2019 and January - September 2020



In the meantime, both male and female LFPR remained at **80.6 per cent** and **55.2 per cent** respectively. It was observed that **the number of the male labour force increased 18.3 thousand persons to record 9.74 million persons**. Meanwhile, **the number of female labour force was 6.20 million persons, increased 17.2 thousand persons from August 2020**. Year-on-year, both male and female LFPR dropped by 0.3 and 0.5 percentage points respectively. [Chart 7]

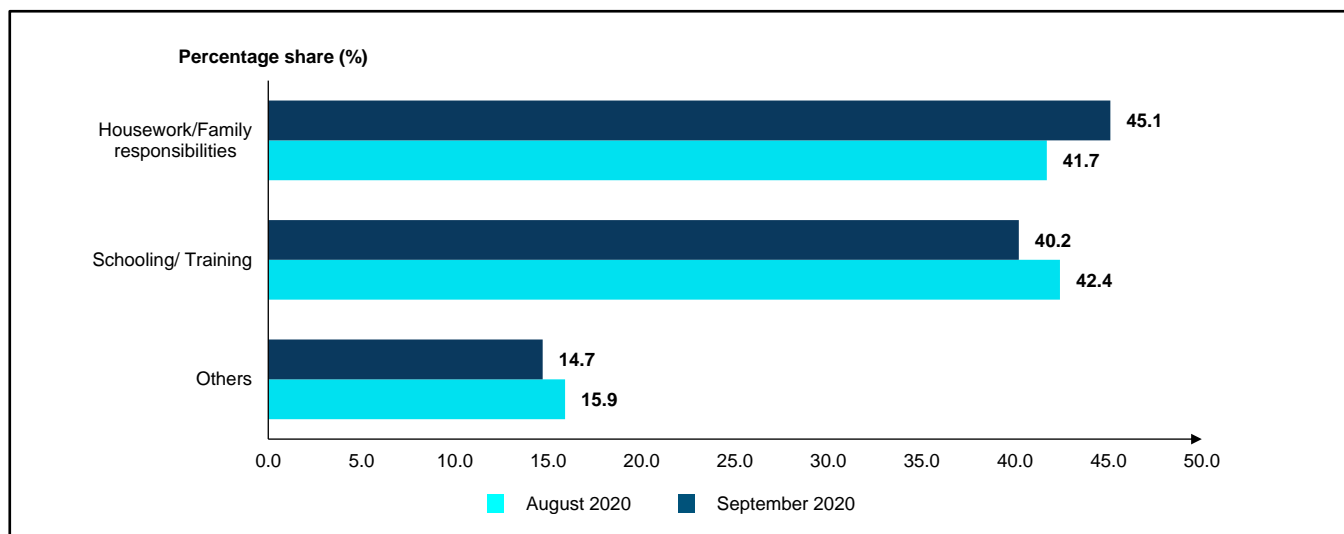
Chart 7: Labour Force and LFPR by sex, 1982 - 2019 and January - September 2020



More than 45 per cent of outside labour force due to housework/ family responsibility

In September 2020, the number of persons outside labour force increased slightly by **8.3 thousand persons to record 7.36 million persons** as against August 2020. Meanwhile, year-on-year, outside labour force rose by 2.8 per cent (+200.0 thousand persons) as compared to September 2019. **Housework/ family responsibility** contributed 45.1 per cent followed by **schooling/ training** with 40.2 per cent. [Chart 8]

Chart 8: Share of outside labour force by reasons for not seeking work, August and September 2020



GOVERNMENT'S INITIATIVES

The KITA PRIHATIN Economic Stimulus Package, which prioritised three direct-assistance initiatives namely, Bantuan Prihatin Nasional 2.0 (BPN 2.0), Wage Subsidy Programme 2.0, and PRIHATIN Special Grant (GKP) announced by the government were aimed to benefit the nation. Apart from this package, the government approved an additional allocation of RM11.93 billion under the Wage Subsidy Programme as of 25 September 2020 targeted to aid over 2.6 million employees as well as 321,633 employers. Furthermore, a total of 43,998 employees earned jobs, comprising of 284 persons with disabilities and 3,782 apprentices through the Hiring Incentive Programme and Training Assistance.

The Reskilling and Upskilling Programme also were implemented to provide the workforce to satisfy the demand of the industry while boosting employment opportunities. In the meantime, 11,383 micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises benefited from TEKUN Business Recovery Scheme amounted to RM75.5 million. The PENJANA SME Financing (PSF) were also given to the eligible SMEs to assist the SMEs who are adversely impacted by COVID-19 in order to sustain business operations. In addition, the SME Soft Loans Funds as supervised by Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM), supplied facilities to 22,984 SMEs amounting to RM10.7 billion, thereby supporting the recovery of the labour market in September 2020.

LOOKING AHEAD

Although the COVID-19 pandemic continued to be a difficult challenge in September 2020, the Malaysia's labour force situation was further improved as the progress of the economic sector continued to grow. However, looking at the current situation with a spike of new COVID-19 cases especially in certain parts of the nation beginning at the end of September 2020, it is foreseen some challenges will be faced by the labour market in the forthcoming months.

Hence, the government has taken proactive measures among others by introducing Bantuan Prihatin Nasional 2.0 (BPN 2.0) amounted to RM10 billion in September this year. In addition, to mitigate the effects of this pandemic towards graduates, the Higher Education Ministry (KPT) had introduced the Graduates Reference Hub for Employment and Training (GREaT) to offer services on jobs matching and reskilling & upskilling programmes as well as in providing assistance to those who need to pursue tertiary education through PENJANA Career Advancement Programme (PENJANA KPT-CAP).

Meanwhile, the Global Online Workforce Programme (GLOW) works with international and local platform partners to reinforce the supporting ecosystem for GIG employees, thus assuring Malaysian freelancers to bid for jobs and projects in a safe and secure digital environment. Overall, these government-implemented policies and programmes may contribute to the stabilisation and recovery of the Malaysia's labour market.

BOX ARTICLE

ASSESSMENT OF UNDEREMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN MALAYSIA

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Introduction

As labour market is the place where interaction occurs between firms and households, the supply and demand of labour is influenced by the bargaining power of both parties. There always exist imbalances between supply and demand which may result in either vacancy within firms, or unemployment in the segment of the labour force; or often both happening concurrently (Department of Statistics Malaysia [DOSM], 2020a). In normal circumstances, the labour market would operate in full employment where the maximum potential of labour are fully utilised (Organization for Economic Cooperation, 2020). In this situation, the incidences of unemployment were mostly frictional while people move in and out of jobs in search for better employment opportunities (DOSM, 2020a).

Most economies would look at the headline unemployment numbers and rates as the indicators to gauge the labour market situation within the countries. This might be due to the indicators reflecting the inability of an economy to generate employment for those who want to work but are not working in spite of actively seeking employment (International Labour Organization [ILO], 2016); thus, giving a broad overview of the predicaments of labour supply at a particular point in time.

Nevertheless, the unemployment alone is not an indicator that would reflect the hardship of the labour. Lovati (1976) viewed that there are other factors that could influence economic hardship such as income, savings and social safety net; hence, perceived the unemployment rate could be overestimating the economic hardship if analysed without the other supplementary indicators. This observation is supported by Ham (1982) whom stated that besides unemployment, reduced hours worked by firms would also cause employees to work less hours than they were able and willing to, thus, leading to lower wages. Blanchard and Portuga (2001) found that the duration of unemployment in Portugal was three times longer than the United States, despite both countries recording the same unemployment rate.

Thus, it is pertinent to move beyond those who are not at work, by adopting the recommendation of ILO (2013); that is to further evaluate the extent to which the economy is fully utilising its available labour supply. According to the ILO (2013), labour underutilisation is the mismatch between labour supply and demand, which translates into an unmet need for employment among the population. The statistical indicators that are proposed to be used in measuring labour underutilisation includes, but not limited to (1) time-related underemployment; (2) unemployment and (3) potential labour force. In relation to this, time-related underemployment exists when the hours of work of an employed person was insufficient in which the person was willing and available to work more hours. Additionally, the dimension of labour utilisation can be measured according to skills. Greenwood (1999) defined skill-related underemployment as a person who were seeking to change their current employment in order to use existing occupational skills more fully and were available to do so.

Identification of inefficiencies and best practices in the labour market is the first step towards designing impactful, strategic and efficient policy formulation that would enhance decent work conditions as well as ensure economic growth (ILO, 2016). Elaborating further, ILO (2016) perceived that the identification would require continuous compilation, organization and analysis of statistical indicators.

According to Shang (2015), during an economic recession, both the unemployment rate and underemployment rates should be used to complement each other as indicators for future changes in other economic variables. Jensen & Slack (2020) also believed that the measure of labour situation should be expanded to account for underutilisation. In this regard, they found that the underemployment increased more than seven percentage points after the 2008 economic recession, averaging 22.4 per cent between 2009 to 2012, as against an average of 15.5 per cent throughout 2002 to 2008.

Nurfarahin and Muhammad Shafiq (2020) attempted to estimate the annual indicators of labour underutilisation in Malaysia for the period of 2015 to 2019 using the Labour Force Survey (LFS) data, where it was found that among those who were working less than 30 hours per week, more than half were able and willing, i.e. time-related underemployed.

Therefore, riding on the findings of this annual statistics, the article would describe the most recent labour force situation in Malaysia by using the LFS data, delving further on **time-related underemployment** and **skill-related underemployment**.

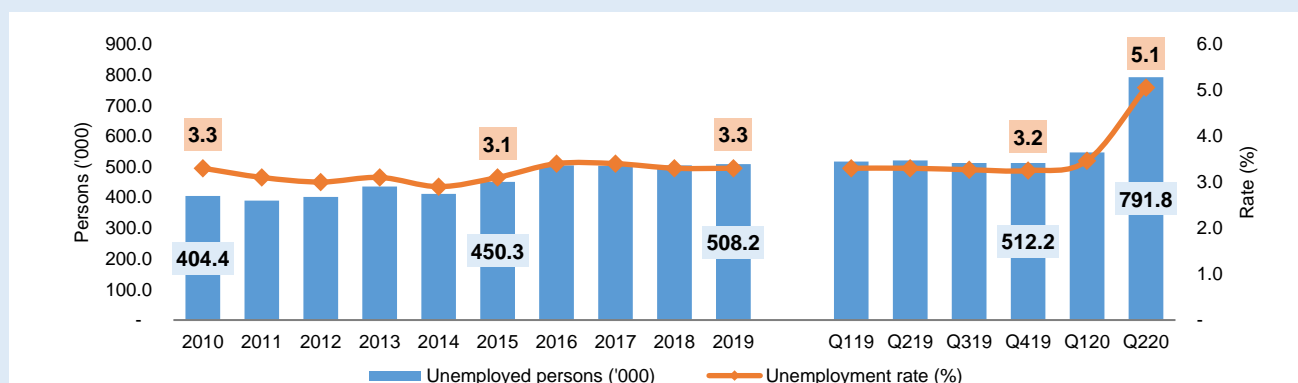
The impact of COVID-19 to the Malaysia's labour force

The sudden spike of COVID-19 cases in Malaysia earlier this year has caused major concerns, resulting in the implementation of Movement Control Order (MCO) since 18th March 2020. Under the order, international, states and district border closures were implemented while only essentials business services were allowed to operate. All social activities also came to a halt as everybody must stay at home. In compliance with the MCO, most economic sectors were forced to close temporarily while others operated at reduced hours. With slower demand, some firms opted to offer lower salaries concomitant to lower hours worked, or in the worst-case scenario, employees were retrenched.

The unemployment rate in Malaysia were fairly stable, ranging from 2.9 per cent to 3.3 per cent throughout 2010 to 2019. In terms of the number of unemployed persons during similar period, an increase of 1.2 per cent per annum was registered, recording 508.2 thousand persons in 2019 as compared to 404.4 thousand persons in 2010. The rates and numbers signalled that the labour market was in full employment, with frictional unemployment.

Since the MCO took effect towards the end of Q1 2020, the unemployment rate during the quarter rose to 3.5 per cent with unemployed persons of 546.6 thousand persons. With the extension of the MCO until April 2020, businesses had only begun to slowly resume operation during Conditional MCO in May. This has caused the unemployment rate escalated to 5.1 per cent in Q2 2020. The number of unemployed persons for the quarter shoot up by 271.2 thousand year on year to register 791.8 thousand persons. **[Chart A]**

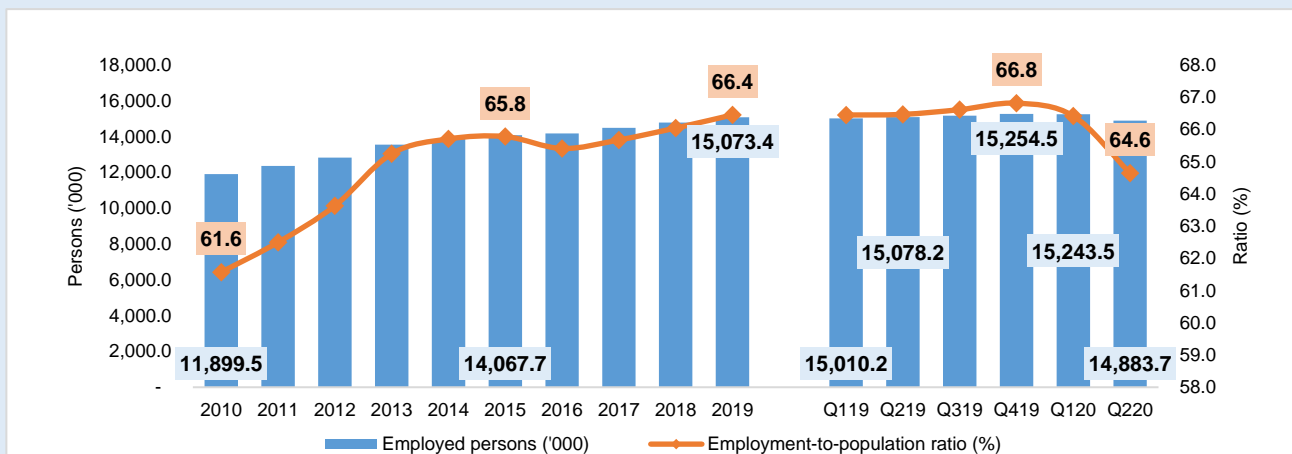
Chart A: Unemployed persons and unemployment rate, 2010 - 2019 & Q1 2019 - Q2 2020



Source: Labour Force Survey, DOSM

The decrease in employed persons was observed in Q1 2020 in line with the first phase of the two-weeks MCO period, partially due to the slower labour demand during the quarter. Quarter-on-quarter, employed persons decreased by 370.8 thousand to 15.24 million as against Q4 2019. In Q2 2020, the effect was more profound with the number of employed persons declined further by 359.8 thousand persons from the preceding quarter, to record 14.88 million persons. The last time the country recorded the number of employed persons below 15 million was in 2018. Accordingly, the employment-to-population ratio which signalled the ability of the economy to create employment decreased to 64.6 per cent, the lowest since 2013. **[Chart B]**

Chart B: Employed persons and employment-to-population ratio, 2010 - 2019 & Q1 2019 - Q2 2020



Source: Labour Force Survey, DOSM

Persons who were employed more than 30 hours during the reference week are considered to be in full employment (DOSM, 2020b). Assessing the hours worked, one indication of reduced hours was by looking at the number and share of employed persons working less than 30 hours per week. Between 2010 to 2015, employed persons working less than 30 hours registered the average of 4.3 per cent, reducing to 3.1 per cent between 2016 to 2018 and was at 2.2 per cent in 2019. A sudden rise to 4.4 per cent was observed in Q1 2020, with further increase to 5.3 per cent in Q2 2020. **[Table A]**

Table A: Employed and working less than 30 hours, Malaysia, 2010 to 2019 & Q1 2019 - Q2 2020

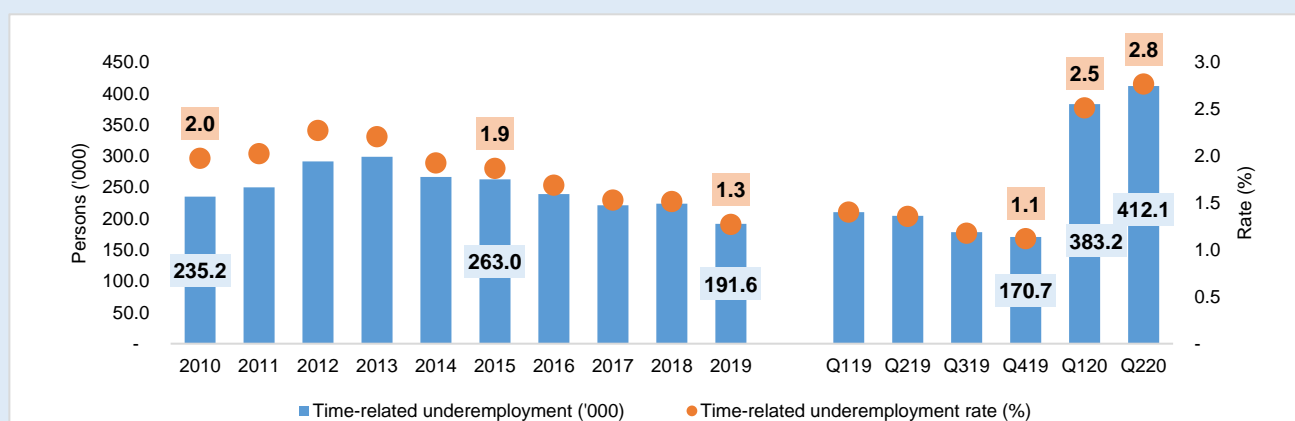
Year/ Quarter	Employed ('000)	Working less than 30 hours ('000)	Share of working less than 30 hours to employed (%)
2010	11,899.5	503.0	4.2
2011	12,351.5	520.6	4.2
2012	12,820.5	589.3	4.6
2013	13,545.4	645.8	4.8
2014	13,852.6	534.8	3.9
2015	14,067.7	580.3	4.1
2016	14,163.7	502.8	3.5
2017	14,476.8	413.5	2.9
2018	14,776.0	437.5	3.0
2019	15,073.4	337.6	2.2
Q1 2019	15,010.2	352.6	2.3
Q2 2019	15,078.2	374.3	2.5
Q3 2019	15,162.1	326.6	2.2
Q4 2019	15,254.5	304.0	2.0
Q1 2020	15,243.5	667.5	4.4
Q2 2020	14,883.7	790.5	5.3

Source: Labour Force Survey, DOSM

Time-related underemployment

The hours worked can also be used to identify those who were in time-related underemployment. DOSM (2020b) defined time-related underemployed as those who were employed less than 30 hours per week due to the nature of their work or because of insufficient work and were able and willing to accept additional hours of work. Between 2010 to 2013, the average rate of time-related underemployment was 2.1 per cent. Since 2014, the rate has edged down to below 2 per cent, reducing slowly reaching the lowest rate of 1.3 per cent in 2019. While balancing the compliance of the standard operating procedures and business sustainability during MCO, most firms have reviewed their business strategies. Among others, this includes reducing operating hours and limiting number of employees working at one particular period. As a result of this, in Q1 2020, the time-related underemployment rate increased sharply to 2.5 per cent and went up further to 2.8 per cent in Q2 2020. The number in time-related underemployment doubled as against the previous quarter to record 383.3 thousand persons in Q1 2020. The highest number was observed in Q2 2020 at 412.1 thousand persons. [Chart C]

Chart C: Time-related underemployment, 2010 - 2019 & Q1 2019 - Q2 2020



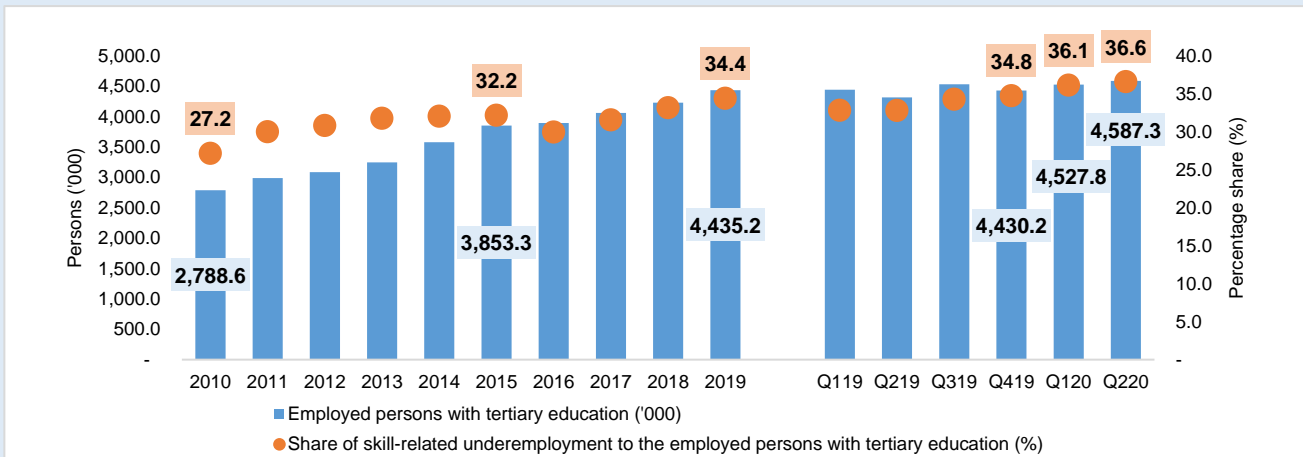
Source: Labour Force Survey, DOSM

Skill-related underemployment

As highlighted in the earlier part of this article, skill-related underemployment is defined as those who wanted to change their current employment situation in order to use their occupational skills more fully and were available to do so. However, in this article, the measurement of skill-related underemployment was based on educational attainment as against the principal occupation. Specifically, it was defined as those with tertiary education working in semi-skilled and low-skilled occupations.

Based on **Chart D**, the share of persons who were in skill-related underemployment has been on the increasing trend for the past ten years, from 27.2 per cent in 2010 to 34.4 per cent in 2019. From the labour demand perspective, the share of skilled job vacancies in private sector hovers between 22.2 per cent to 25.3 per cent (DOSM, 2020c). This signalled lower demand of skilled labour as against the supply. If the scenario prolong, may cause those working in the lower skilled jobs to lose the opportunity to improve their skills. In this regard, this group of people may not look for another job and would adjust accordingly to their existing jobs. In the long term, this may contribute to structural unemployment. The first half of 2020 saw the share of skill-related underemployment moving up, recording the average of 36.4 per cent. The increasing share could be partly attributed by the COVID-19 situation in the country.

Chart D: Share of skill-related underemployment to employed persons with tertiary education, 2010 - 2019 & Q1 2019 - Q2 2020



Source: Based on authors calculation from Labour Force Survey, DOSM

Conclusion

In spite of being widely used to inform the labour market situation at a point of time, the unemployment, when reported as a headline indicator on its own was inadequate to provide the understanding of the overall labour market. The low unemployment rate did not necessarily indicate an efficient labour market. In order to fully comprehend the country's labour market situation, it is vital to also investigate the underlying issues of employment. In this regard, the measurement of underemployment indicators would give additional insights to inform policy decisions.

COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the global labour market; Malaysia is no exception. The current labour market situation saw the number of unemployed soared. In spite of slight decrease in the number, there are still other issues of labour market that has to be further evaluated. Time-related underemployment has doubled as businesses reduced operation hours and alternate working days to ensure adherence to the standard operating procedures. With lower hours worked would usually result to lower salaries & wages received, particularly, those in semi-skilled and low-skilled jobs. In addition, the issues of mismatched may be addressed by looking at the indicator of skill-related underemployment.

Limitation

Although this article attempts to capture the depth of employment situation with respect to underemployment, the analyses are limited to the availability of statistics from the LFS. Skill-related underemployment is measured according to educational attainment for those with tertiary education working in lower skilled occupations, regardless of whether a person wanted and able to seek for better employment. Additionally, the inadequate employment situation with respect to income was not captured in the article.

Disclaimer

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

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LABOUR FORCE MALAYSIA SEPTEMBER 2020

Slight dropped in September 2020 unemployment rate to **4.6 per cent** registering **737.5 thousand** unemployed persons

LABOUR FORCE ▲ 1.1%
▲ 0.2%

September 2020

15.93 million

August 2020
15.90 million

EMPLOYED ▼ -0.2%
▲ 0.3%

September 2020

15.19 million

August 2020
15.15 million

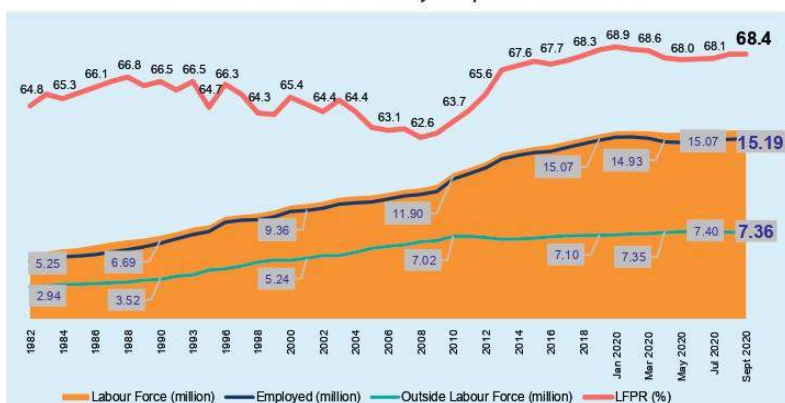
UNEMPLOYED ▲ 41.4%
▼ -0.6%

September 2020

737.5 thousand

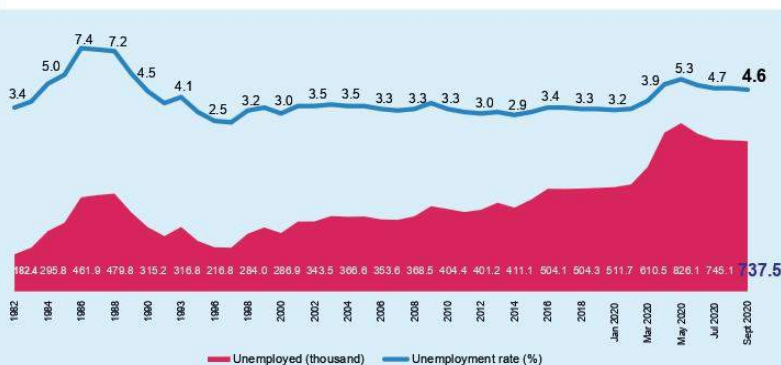
August 2020
741.6 thousand

Labour Force, Employed and Outside Labour Force, 1982-2019 and January-September 2020



Employed persons was **15.19 million** persons, increased by 39.6 thousand persons as compared to the previous month

Unemployment, 1982-2019 and January-September 2020



The number of unemployed persons decreased to **737.5 thousand** persons

OUTSIDE LABOUR FORCE

September 2020

7.36 million ▲ 2.8%

August 2020
7.35 million ▲ 0.1%

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

September 2020

68.4 % ▼ -0.3%

August 2020
68.4 % ▲ 0.0%

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

September 2020

4.6 % ▲ 1.3%

August 2020
4.7 % ▼ -0.0%

% Percentage of change (year on year) September 2020
% Percentage of change (month on month) September 2020

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 implementation of LFS are 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 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
SEPTEMBER 2020

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Table A: Principle indicator of labour force, Malaysia, 1982 - 2019

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	66.5	3.3

Table B: Principle indicator of labour force, Malaysia, First Quarter 2010 - Third Quarter 2020

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

**Table B1 : Employed person working less than 30 hours by sex and age group, Malaysia,
First Quarter 2017 - Third Quarter 2020**

(‘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

**Table B2 : Time-related underemployment by sex and age group, Malaysia,
First Quarter 2017 - Third Quarter 2020**

('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

**Table B3 : Skill-related underemployment by sex and age group, Malaysia,
First Quarter 2017 - Third Quarter 2020**

('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

Table C: Principle indicator of labour force, Malaysia, January 2010 - September 2020

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
Mac	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	3.7
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
Mac	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
Mac	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
Mac	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	3.5
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 - September 2020

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
Mac	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
Mac	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	3.4
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
Mac	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	65.4	3.4
December	14,788.9	14,276.7	512.2	7,072.8	67.7	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
Mac	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	3.4
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 - September 2020

('000)

(%)

Time Series	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
Mac	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	66.2	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
Mac	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
Mac	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

Table D: Employed person by occupation, Malaysia, 1982 - 2019

('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

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

- 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)

- 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)

- 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 - 2019

('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

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 E: Employed person by industry, Malaysia, 1982 - 2019 (Cont.)

('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
1983	5,457.0	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
1985	5,653.4	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
1987	5,983.9	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
1989	6,390.9	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
1992	7,047.8	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
1995	7,645.0	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
1997	8,569.2	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
1999	8,837.8	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
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
2002	9,542.6	397.1	663.6	508.6	189.3	192.5	262.7	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
2004	9,979.5	458.5	684.3	610.7	198.2	231.3	260.9	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
2006	10,275.4	508.4	674.1	600.1	223.2	247.1	254.7	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
2008	10,659.6	553.2	751.1	656.5	252.6	274.2	253.0	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
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	14,163.7	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

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
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- H: Hotels and restaurants
- I: Transport, storage and communications
- J: Financial intermediation
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- M: Education
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- 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 - 2019

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

Table G: Labour force indicators for selected countries, August 2019 - September 2020

Indicators	2019					2020									Data Source
	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	
Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) (%)															
South East Asia															
Malaysia	68.6	68.7	68.7	68.8	68.9	68.9	68.7	68.6	68.1	68.0	68.1	68.1	68.4	68.4	DOSM
East Asia															
Hong Kong	60.6	60.5	60.4	60.2	60.1	60.0	59.7	59.5	59.2	59.1	59.4	59.6	59.7	59.6	Census and Statistics Department
Taiwan	59.4	59.2	59.2	59.3	59.2	59.2	59.2	59.1	59.1	59.1	59.1	59.2	59.2	59.1	National Statistics Republic of China
South Korea	63.3	63.5	63.6	63.6	62.9	62.6	62.6	62.2	62.0	63.0	63.2	63.1	62.4	62.5	Statistics Korea
Japan	62.3	62.5	62.6	62.3	62.1	61.8	61.8	62.0	61.5	61.8	61.9	61.8	62.1	62.2	Statistics Bureau of Japan
Oceania															
Australia	66.2	66.1	66.0	65.9	66.0	66.1	65.9	65.9	63.6	62.7	64.1	64.7	64.9	64.8	ABS
North America															
USA	63.2	63.2	63.3	63.2	63.2	63.4	63.4	62.7	60.2	60.8	61.5	61.4	61.7	61.4	BLS
Canada	65.8	65.7	65.6	65.6	65.5	65.4	65.5	63.5	59.8	61.4	63.8	64.3	64.6	65.0	Statistics Canada
Europe															
United Kingdom	79.0	79.2	79.2	79.4	79.5	79.6	79.8	79.6	79.3	79.2	79.1	79.2	79.2	n.a.	ONS
Sweden	73.2	73.6	73.3	73.8	73.4	73.5	73.9	72.5	72.7	73.7	73.0	73.0	73.7	73.3	Statistics Sweden
Finland	67.1	66.2	66.0	65.5	66.2	66.3	65.6	65.7	64.9	67.4	67.9	67.5	66.3	66.4	Statistics Finland
Russia	62.6	62.4	62.4	62.9	62.7	61.9	61.7	62.0	61.7	61.7	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	Trading economics
Italy	65.5	65.7	65.7	66.0	65.8	65.6	65.5	64.3	61.9	62.7	63.2	64.2	64.5	64.5	National Institute of Statistics
Netherland	71.2	71.3	71.4	71.4	71.4	71.5	71.4	71.2	70.3	70.2	71.1	71.2	71.3	71.1	Statistics Netherlands
Unemployment rate (%)															
South East Asia															
Malaysia	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.9	5.0	5.3	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.6	DOSM
Thailand	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2.2	1.9	n.a.	National Statistical Office
East Asia															
Hong Kong	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.7	4.2	5.2	5.9	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.4	Census and Statistics Department
Taiwan	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.7	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.8	National Statistics Republic of China
South Korea	3.1	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.7	4.0	3.3	3.8	3.8	4.5	4.3	4.2	3.2	3.9	Statistics Korea
Japan	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.9	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.0	Statistics Bureau of Japan
Oceania															
Australia	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.1	5.2	6.4	7.1	7.4	7.5	6.8	6.9	ABS
North America															
USA	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.5	4.4	14.7	13.3	11.1	10.2	8.4	7.9	BLS
Canada	5.7	5.5	5.6	5.9	5.6	5.5	5.6	7.8	13.0	13.7	12.3	10.9	10.2	9.0	Statistics Canada
Europe															
United Kingdom	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.3	4.5	n.a.	ONS
Sweden	7.2	6.7	6.7	7.3	6.7	7.2	7.6	6.8	7.9	8.4	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.0	Statistics Sweden
Finland	6.1	5.9	6.2	5.9	6.0	7.2	6.9	7.3	8.1	10.6	7.9	7.7	7.7	7.6	Statistics Finland
Russia	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.7	5.8	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.4	n.a.	Federal State Statistics Service
Italy	9.5	9.9	9.7	9.7	9.8	9.8	9.7	8.4	6.3	7.8	8.8	9.7	9.7	9.6	National Institute of Statistics
Netherland	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.2	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.4	3.6	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.4	Statistics Netherlands

Note

n.a. not available

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