



MEDIA STATEMENT

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

Block C6 & C7, Complex C,
Federal Government Administrative Centre, Precinct 1,
62514 Federal Territory of Putrajaya
Telephone : 03 - 8090 4681

MALAYSIA ECONOMIC STATISTICS REVIEW, VOLUME 6/2025

Malaysia's economy continued to strengthen in April 2025, driven by broad-based sectoral growth and a resilient labour market

PUTRAJAYA, 26th JUNE 2025 – Today, the Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM) released the **Malaysian Economic Statistics Review (MESR), Volume 6/2025**. This edition focuses on the recent statistics released in April 2025 and some forthcoming statistics for May 2025. On top of that, this edition features an additional article titled “Evaluating the Relationship Between Confidence Indicator and GDP Growth in Malaysia”, which highlights the Confidence Indicator as a valuable indicator of economic performance.

In the latest global outlook, the World Bank anticipates global growth will moderate to 2.3 per cent in 2025 from an estimated 2.8 per cent in 2024, marking the slowest pace since the 2008 global financial crisis, excluding years of actual global recession. Similarly, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) forecasts a slightly more optimistic scenario, projecting a slowdown from 3.3 per cent in 2024 to 2.9 per cent in 2025. This more subdued outlook reflects ongoing headwinds, including elevated interest rates, uncertainty surrounding global economic policies and rising trade tensions, all of which are contributing to increased caution in business and investment decisions worldwide.

Emphasising Malaysia's economic trajectory, Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin stated, “Malaysia's domestic economy in the first quarter of 2025 recorded broad-based growth across most sectors. The Services sector remained as the key driver, expanding by 5.0 per cent, supported by wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, and business services. Manufacturing grew by 4.1 per cent, supported by strong production in electronics, food processing and

rubber-based products. Agriculture registered modest growth of 0.6 per cent, driven by improvements in fishing and other sub-sectors. In contrast, Mining and quarrying contracted by 2.7 per cent, primarily due to reduced output of crude oil and natural gas.

Sustaining growth, the Manufacturing sector recorded a sales value of RM160.6 billion in April 2025, reflecting a 4.8 per cent year-on-year increase, mainly driven by strong performance in the Food, beverages & tobacco sub-sector (11.1%), Electrical & electronics products (9.8%), and Non-metallic mineral, basic metal & fabricated metal products (4.6%). However, on a month-on-month basis, the sales value declined by 2.3 per cent compared to March 2025. On the industrial performance standpoint, Malaysia's Industrial Production Index (IPI) grew by 2.7 per cent year-on-year in April 2025, supported by a 5.6 per cent increase in the Manufacturing sector. In contrast, the Mining and Electricity sectors recorded declines of 10.0 per cent and 1.6 per cent, respectively.

Looking at a broader perspective on Malaysia's Services sector, the Wholesale & Retail Trade segment registered total sales of RM151.7 billion in April 2025, reflecting a 4.7 per cent year-on-year increase, driven by growth in Wholesale trade (5.5%), Retail trade (4.7%) and Motor Vehicles (2.1%). However, monthly sales declined by 1.5 per cent, with all sub-sectors experiencing contractions. The Volume Index for the sector rose 4.3 per cent year-on-year to 160.6 points while slipped by 1.3 per cent on monthly basis.

On the external front, total trade in April 2025 surged by 18.2 per cent to reach RM261.9 billion, supported by significant growth in both exports and imports. Malaysia's merchandise exports rose by 16.4 per cent primarily driven by the continued expansion of Electrical & Electronics (E&E) products. Meanwhile, imports grew even faster at 20.0 per cent, also underpinned by robust demand for E&E products. Consequently, the trade balance narrowed by 33.0 per cent, compared to the same period last year. On a month-on-month basis, exports fell by 2.7 per cent while imports increased by 14.1 per cent. In May 2025, total trade stood at RM252.5 billion, marking a 2.6 per cent year-on-year increase, mainly attributed to a 6.6 per cent rise in imports.

In terms of prices, Malaysia's price dynamics in April 2025 reflected continued stability at the consumer level but growing pressure on producers. Headline inflation held steady at 1.4 per cent, matching the pace in March, underpinned by persistent price increases in key categories such as Personal care, social protection & miscellaneous

goods & services, which rose to 4.1 per cent, followed by Education at 2.3 per cent and Housing, water, electricity, gas & other fuels at 2.0 per cent. In contrast, a softer inflation trend was observed in Food & beverages; Recreation, sport & culture, and Health. On the production side, the Producer Price Index (PPI) registered a deeper year-on-year decline of 3.4 per cent in April, compared to a 1.9 per cent drop previously. The fall was driven mainly by continued contractions in the Mining sector (-17.8%), Manufacturing (-2.6%), and Electricity & gas supply (-0.6%), although the Agriculture, forestry & fishing and Water supply sectors posted moderate gains of 2.6 per cent and 0.9 per cent, respectively. On a monthly basis, the PPI slipped by 1.0 per cent, extending a 0.6 per cent decrease recorded earlier. In May 2025, Malaysia registered an inflation rate of 1.2 per cent, while PPI declined further by 3.6 per cent.

Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin also highlighted that Malaysia's labour market continued to strengthen in April 2025, with total employment increasing by 2.8 per cent year-on-year to reach 16.82 million, and registering a modest 0.2 per cent growth compared to the previous month. In line with this positive trend, the unemployment rate declined to 3.0 per cent, marking a 5.5 per cent decrease in the number of unemployment on an annual basis and a 0.7 per cent drop month-on-month. Concurrently, the labour force expanded by 2.5 per cent year-on-year to 17.34 million, while the labour force participation rate rose to 70.8 per cent, up 0.2 percentage points from April 2024 and 0.1 percentage points from March 2025.

Malaysia's Leading Index pointed to a more cautious economic outlook with a marginal increase in April 2025. The year-on-year increase suggests underlying resilience in the economy and reflects near-term softness, supported by a steady domestic economic foundation.

ASEAN-Malaysia 2025 Chairmanship: The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) will chair the 15th ASEAN Community Statistical System Committee (ACSS15) which aims to strengthen the statistical cooperation towards sustainable regional development.

Malaysia has, for the first time, successfully recorded the top position globally in the biennial Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25 report released by Open Data Watch (ODW), surpassing 198 other countries. This achievement marks a significant leap from its 67th position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.

Embargo: Only can be published or disseminated at 1200 hour, Thursday 26th June 2025

The Government of Malaysia has declared October 20th as National Statistics Day (MyStats Day), with the theme 'Statistics is the Essence of Life'. Meanwhile, the Fourth World Statistics Day will be celebrated on 20th October 2025, with the theme 'Driving Change with Quality Statistics and Data for Everyone'.

OpenDOSM NextGen is a medium that provides data catalogue and visualisations to facilitate users' analysis and can be accessed through <https://open.dosm.gov.my>.

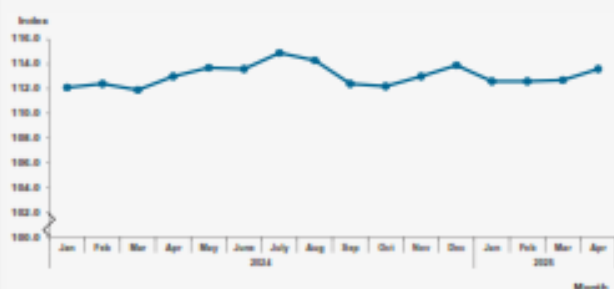
Released by:

**THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
26th June 2025**

Exhibit 1: Monthly Economic Indicator

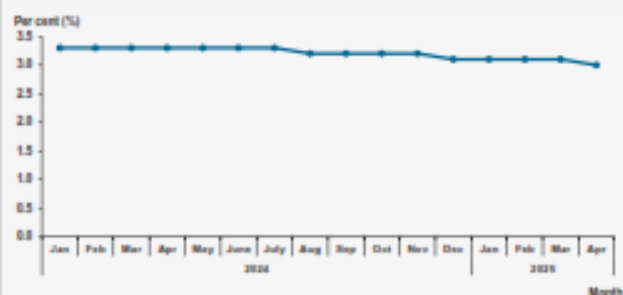
Leading Index

113.6 point
APRIL 2025



Unemployment Rate

3.0%
APRIL 2025



Production of Fresh Fruit Bunches

1.3%
MAY 2025



Production of Natural Rubber

-15.6%
APRIL 2025



Industrial Production Index (IPI)

2.7%
APRIL 2025



Sales Value of Manufacturing Sector

4.8%
APRIL 2025



Sales Value of Wholesale & Retail Trade

4.7%

APRIL 2025



Volume Index of Wholesale & Retail Trade

4.3%

APRIL 2025



Exports

-1.1%

MAY 2025



Imports

6.6%

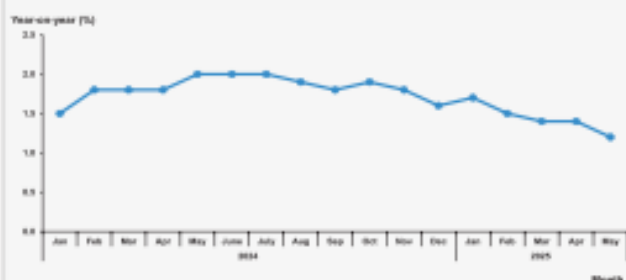
MAY 2025



Consumer Price Index (CPI)

1.2%

MAY 2025



Producer Price Index (PPI) Local Production

-3.6%

MAY 2025

