

**3.19. LABOUR FORCE**

Malaysia

|                                                                         | 2016     | 2017     | 2018     | 2019     | 2020 <sup>4</sup>    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------------------|
| Labour force ('000)                                                     | 14,667.8 | 14,980.1 | 15,280.3 | 15,581.6 | 15,691.3             |
| Employment ('000)                                                       | 14,163.7 | 14,476.8 | 14,776.0 | 15,073.4 | 15,021.1             |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                                   | 3.4      | 3.4      | 3.3      | 3.3      | 4.3                  |
| Labour force participation rate <sup>1</sup> (%)                        |          |          |          |          |                      |
| Total                                                                   | 67.7     | 68.0     | 68.3     | 68.7     | 68.4                 |
| Male                                                                    | 80.2     | 80.1     | 80.4     | 80.8     | 80.5                 |
| Female                                                                  | 54.3     | 54.7     | 55.2     | 55.6     | 55.4                 |
| Number of collective agreements signed in the current year <sup>2</sup> | 308      | 269      | 294      | 298      | 81                   |
| Number of workers covered (thousands)                                   | 133.7    | 60.6     | 46.3     | -        | -                    |
| Labour productivity <sup>3</sup>                                        | 3.1      | 3.8      | 2.3      | 2.1      | -8.4                 |
| Agriculture                                                             | 1.8      | 2.2      | -0.2     | 0.4      | -3.7                 |
| Mining and quarrying                                                    | 5.9      | -4.8     | 4.0      | -1.6     | -8.7                 |
| Manufacturing                                                           | 3.8      | 3.9      | 2.4      | 1.7      | -8.8                 |
| Construction                                                            | 8.8      | 6.8      | 3.4      | 3.3      | -22.3                |
| Services                                                                | 2.0      | 4.3      | 3.5      | 2.9      | -7.5                 |
| Foreign workers ('000)                                                  | 1,866.4  | 1,797.4  | 2,015.8  | 1,999.6  | 1,678.9 <sup>5</sup> |

<sup>1</sup> The ratio of the labour force to the working age population (15-64 years), expressed as percentage<sup>2</sup> Based on the information in the Collective Agreement and the feedback from the employer for which has been given cognisance by the Industrial Court for the year<sup>3</sup> Annual change (%)<sup>4</sup> January to June 2020<sup>5</sup> As at end-August 2020

Source: Department of Statistics, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Human Resources Malaysia

**3.20. EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY**

'000 persons, Malaysia

| Industry <sup>1</sup>                                                | 2016            | 2017            | 2018            | 2019            |              | 2020 <sup>3</sup> |              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
|                                                                      |                 |                 |                 |                 | share<br>(%) |                   | share<br>(%) |
| <b>Total employment<sup>2</sup></b>                                  | <b>14,163.7</b> | <b>14,476.8</b> | <b>14,776.0</b> | <b>15,073.4</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>15,021.1</b>   | <b>100.0</b> |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing                                    | 1,609.9         | 1,635.0         | 1,570.3         | 1,541.1         | 10.2         | 1,655.9           | 11.0         |
| Mining and quarrying                                                 | 96.3            | 97.2            | 90.8            | 91.0            | 0.6          | 94.9              | 0.6          |
| Manufacturing                                                        | 2,390.6         | 2,513.3         | 2,499.9         | 2,681.5         | 17.8         | 2,529.4           | 16.8         |
| Construction                                                         | 1,251.7         | 1,258.9         | 1,257.8         | 1,276.4         | 8.5          | 1,227.2           | 8.2          |
| Services                                                             | 8,814.3         | 8,970.9         | 9,355.2         | 9,481.5         | 62.9         | 9,513.7           | 63.3         |
| Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply                  | 77.9            | 62.2            | 68.8            | 71.4            | 0.5          | 101.4             | 0.7          |
| Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities  | 76.4            | 81.0            | 88.6            | 88.8            | 0.6          | 92.7              | 0.6          |
| Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | 2,428.5         | 2,485.4         | 2,544.6         | 2,594.5         | 17.2         | 2,637.8           | 17.6         |
| Transportation and storage                                           | 630.4           | 658.2           | 697.9           | 667.6           | 4.4          | 691.0             | 4.6          |
| Accommodation and food and beverage service activities               | 1,260.7         | 1,323.2         | 1,473.4         | 1,549.7         | 10.3         | 1,393.3           | 9.3          |
| Information and communication                                        | 208.7           | 220.3           | 216.4           | 213.9           | 1.4          | 231.8             | 1.5          |
| Financial and insurance/takaful activities                           | 346.9           | 369.0           | 338.6           | 335.1           | 2.2          | 382.1             | 2.5          |
| Real estate activities                                               | 82.4            | 84.5            | 97.2            | 92.1            | 0.6          | 78.3              | 0.5          |
| Professional, scientific and technical activities                    | 361.8           | 348.1           | 367.7           | 385.7           | 2.6          | 372.6             | 2.5          |
| Administrative and support service activities                        | 657.0           | 677.2           | 747.6           | 806.2           | 5.3          | 871.2             | 5.8          |
| Public administration and defence; compulsory social security        | 748.2           | 742.2           | 720.2           | 737.1           | 4.9          | 786.4             | 5.2          |
| Education                                                            | 928.7           | 880.3           | 988.7           | 962.3           | 6.4          | 919.1             | 6.1          |
| Human health and social work activities                              | 570.3           | 588.0           | 551.2           | 527.7           | 3.5          | 557.9             | 3.7          |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation                                   | 80.9            | 84.3            | 85.6            | 79.0            | 0.5          | 49.6              | 0.3          |
| Others service activities                                            | 230.8           | 260.1           | 264.8           | 266.1           | 1.8          | 282.9             | 1.9          |
| Activities of households as employers                                | 124.7           | 106.9           | 103.9           | 104.3           | 0.7          | 64.8              | 0.4          |

<sup>1</sup> Industry is classified according to the 'Malaysia Standard Industrial Classification (MSIC) 2008 Ver. 1.0'<sup>2</sup> Total includes 'Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies'<sup>3</sup> For the first half of 2020

Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia

### 3.21. ACTIVE REGISTRANTS

Malaysia

|                                              | 2016           | 2017           | 2018           | 2019           | share (%)    | 2020 <sup>2</sup> |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------|
| <b>Total Active Registrants (end-period)</b> | <b>306,037</b> | <b>262,756</b> | <b>154,850</b> | <b>299,648</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>277,840</b>    |
| <b>Age</b>                                   |                |                |                |                |              |                   |
| 19 and below                                 | 33,386         | 27,829         | 20,959         | 36,966         | 12.3         | 33,581            |
| 20 – 24                                      | 204,116        | 177,111        | 104,868        | 199,476        | 66.6         | 185,930           |
| 25 – 29                                      | 52,909         | 46,460         | 22,039         | 49,080         | 16.4         | 45,996            |
| 30 and above                                 | 15,626         | 11,356         | 6,984          | 14,126         | 4.7          | 12,333            |
| <b>Gender</b>                                |                |                |                |                |              |                   |
| Male                                         | 110,577        | 91,528         | 54,979         | 109,227        | 36.5         | 96,706            |
| Female                                       | 195,460        | 171,228        | 99,871         | 190,421        | 63.5         | 181,134           |
| <b>Educational Level</b>                     |                |                |                |                |              |                   |
| Less than PT3/PMR/SRP/LCE                    | 691            | 766            | 402            | 924            | 0.3          | 753               |
| PT3/PMR/SRP/LCE                              | 4,110          | 2,870          | 1,438          | 2,516          | 0.8          | 2,027             |
| SPM/MCE                                      | 67,373         | 51,245         | 7,557          | 14,754         | 4.9          | 13,812            |
| Skills Certificate <sup>1</sup>              | 9,981          | 7,787          | 2,248          | 8,663          | 2.9          | 7,594             |
| MHSC/STPM, Matriculation, Diploma and Degree | 223,882        | 200,088        | 143,205        | 272,791        | 91.0         | 253,654           |
| <b>Employment Status</b>                     |                |                |                |                |              |                   |
| Unemployed                                   | 154,548        | 129,581        | 71,852         | 137,712        | 46.0         | 128,914           |

<sup>1</sup> Malaysian Skills Certificate (SKM), other skills certificate and non-technical skills certificate

<sup>2</sup> January to June 2020

Note: Covers job seekers registered with Labour Department through JobsMalaysia and within valid registration period

Source: Ministry of Human Resources, Malaysia

## 3.22. VACANCIES AND PLACEMENTS

Malaysia

|                                                                 | 2016           | 2017             | 2018             | 2019           | share (%)    | 2020 <sup>3</sup> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------|
| <b>Number of Vacancies by Occupational Category<sup>1</sup></b> | <b>854,044</b> | <b>1,473,376</b> | <b>1,095,020</b> | <b>974,612</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>251,944</b>    |
| Managers                                                        | 26,320         | 11,164           | 4,762            | 8,563          | 0.9          | 2,805             |
| Professionals                                                   | 36,204         | 41,171           | 21,334           | 31,900         | 3.3          | 13,727            |
| Technician and associate professionals                          | 14,026         | 16,904           | 19,466           | 34,429         | 3.5          | 8,075             |
| Clerical support workers                                        | 14,654         | 14,083           | 7,690            | 11,554         | 1.2          | 8,670             |
| Service and sales workers                                       | 41,301         | 63,335           | 34,926           | 42,462         | 4.4          | 8,462             |
| Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers              | 9,649          | 12,212           | 5,633            | 2,089          | 0.2          | 418               |
| Craft and related trade workers                                 | 22,228         | 35,244           | 25,063           | 31,982         | 3.3          | 6,837             |
| Plant and machine operators and assemblers                      | 118,178        | 151,779          | 127,391          | 147,321        | 15.1         | 48,883            |
| Elementary occupation                                           | 571,484        | 1,127,484        | 848,755          | 664,312        | 68.2         | 154,067           |
| <b>Number of Vacancies by Sector</b>                            | <b>854,044</b> | <b>1,473,376</b> | <b>1,095,020</b> | <b>974,612</b> | <b>100.0</b> | <b>251,944</b>    |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing                               | 174,751        | 264,216          | 240,470          | 204,324        | 21.0         | 47,391            |
| Mining and quarrying                                            | 1,857          | 2,730            | 3,108            | 3,435          | 0.4          | 697               |
| Manufacturing                                                   | 376,349        | 617,308          | 421,582          | 351,942        | 36.1         | 94,657            |
| Construction                                                    | 127,985        | 255,851          | 191,045          | 141,783        | 14.5         | 27,566            |
| Services                                                        | 173,102        | 333,271          | 238,815          | 273,128        | 28.0         | 81,633            |
| <b>Number of Placements by Sector<sup>2</sup></b>               | <b>22,643</b>  | <b>20,369</b>    | <b>14,138</b>    |                |              | -                 |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing                               | 1,639          | 1,382            | 1,326            |                |              | -                 |
| Mining and quarrying                                            | 0              | 7                | 16               |                |              | -                 |
| Manufacturing                                                   | 11,342         | 12,325           | 8,557            |                |              | -                 |
| Construction                                                    | 2,396          | 652              | 538              |                |              | -                 |
| Services                                                        | 7,266          | 6,003            | 3,701            |                |              | -                 |

<sup>1</sup> Classification of occupational groups is based on the Malaysia Standard Classification of Occupations (MASCO) 2013<sup>2</sup> Data for 2016 covers period from January to November 2016. Data for 2018 covers period from January to June 2018<sup>3</sup> January to June 2020

Note: Definition of vacancies refers to job vacancy listings by employers in public (selected only) and private sector on JobsMalaysia. The job listing includes non-substantive vacancies such as sales person, promoter, insurance agent and part-time workers as well as foreign workers

Source: Ministry of Human Resources, Malaysia