



Thai Labour Market Journal

Vol. 34 Issue No. 3 March 2026



▶ **Labour demand
(February 2026) 33,187 vacancies**

▶ **Thai workers working overseas
increased by 15.14% (YoY)**

▶ **Employed persons: 41.43 million
Unemployed persons: 0.371 million**

▶ **The insured persons who
registered as unemployed via DOE
were 87,151 persons**

CONTENT

1. **Labour Demand (DOE)**
2. **Labour Emigration**
3. **Demand for Thai Labour Working Overseas**
4. **Labour Immigration**
5. **Investment Situation**
6. **Labour Force: Thai Labour Force Survey**
7. **Unemployment Insurance Registration**

Editorial

In February 2026, the Thai labour market had 41.43 million employed persons and 0.371 million of unemployed persons. On the part of insured persons who registered as unemployed persons, there were 87,151 persons with several reasons. The main reason was resignation, with 82.48%. However, there were employers and companies that reported in-demand labour via DOE: 33,187 vacancies. Moreover, Thai workers who were working overseas had increased by 15.14%.

For further information, news about labour market in Thailand or labour market articles, please follow <https://www.doe.go.th/prd/lmia>

Labour Demand : Labour Requirement via DOE

In February 2026, there were 33,187 vacancies of reported labour demand by employers/companies via DOE. The highest demand was for 13,043 vacancies at the vocational and diploma levels (39.30%), followed by the secondary level with 10,975 vacancies (33.07%). At the bachelor's degree and higher levels, there were 5,130 vacancies (15.46%). Lastly, there were 4,039 vacancies at the primary and lower levels (12.17%).



Job Vacancies
33,187 vacancies



Job Seekers
26,971 persons



Job Placement
17,935 persons

Decreased by 5,778 persons year-on-year February 25 : 38,965 persons	YoY -14.83%
Increased from last month: 2,015 vacancies January 26 : 31,172 vacancies	MoM +6.46%

Increased by 730 persons year-on-year February 25 : 26,241 persons	YoY +2.78%
Increased from last month: 682 vacancies January 26 : 26,289 vacancies	MoM +2.59%

Increased by 1,456 persons year-on-year February 25 : 16,479 persons	YoY +8.84%
Increased from last month: 2,871 vacancies January 26 : 15,064 vacancies	MoM +19.06%

Labour demand classified by economic sectors

Agriculture sector
276 vacancies

Top 3

1. Cultivation and husbandry
2. Forestry and logging
3. Aquaculture and fishery

Manufacturing sector
14,480 vacancies

Top 3

1. Food product
2. Automotive, truck and semi-truck manufacturing
3. Computer product manufacturing

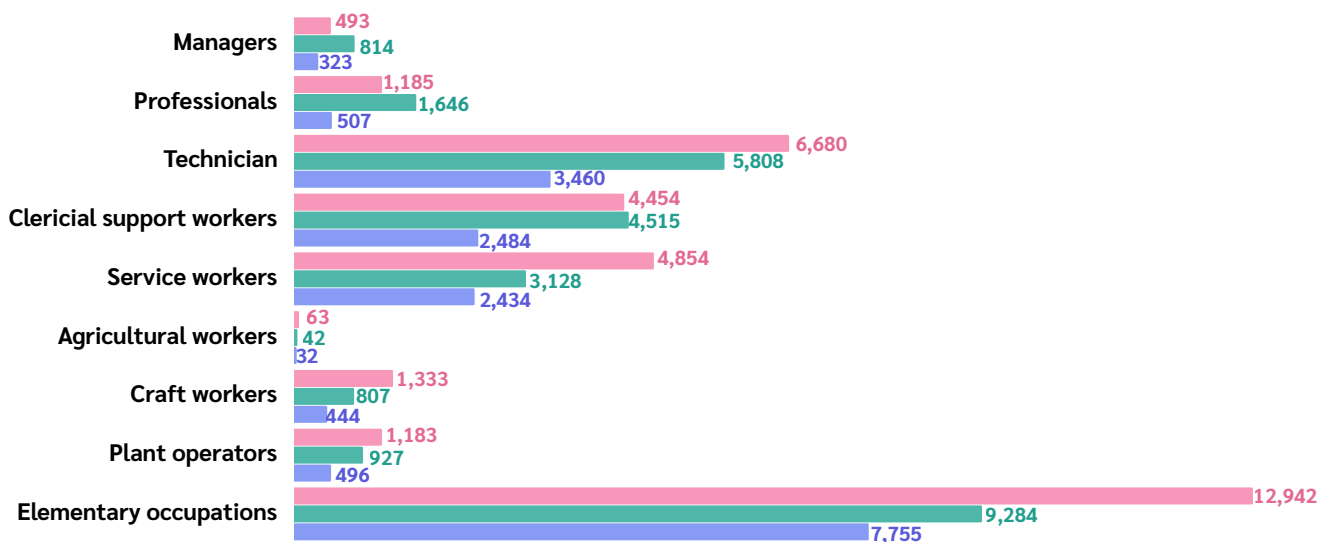
Service and trade sector
18,431 vacancies

Top 3

1. Retail
2. Wholesale
3. Food and beverage service

Job Vacancies, Job Seekers and Job Placements classified by occupation groups

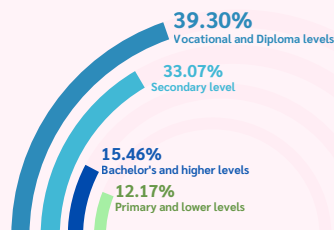
● Labour demand (vacancies) ● Job seekers (persons) ● Job placement (persons)



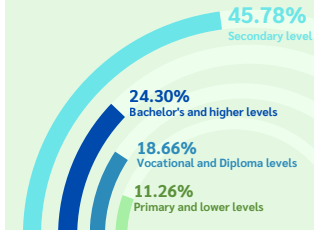
Job Vacancies, Job Seekers and Job Placements classified by education groups

■ Primary and lower levels ■ Secondary level ■ Vocational and Diploma levels ■ Bachelor's and higher levels

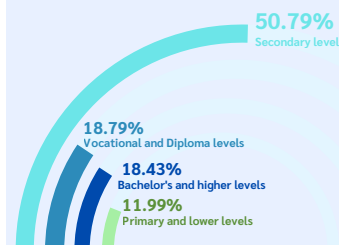
Labour demand



Job seekers



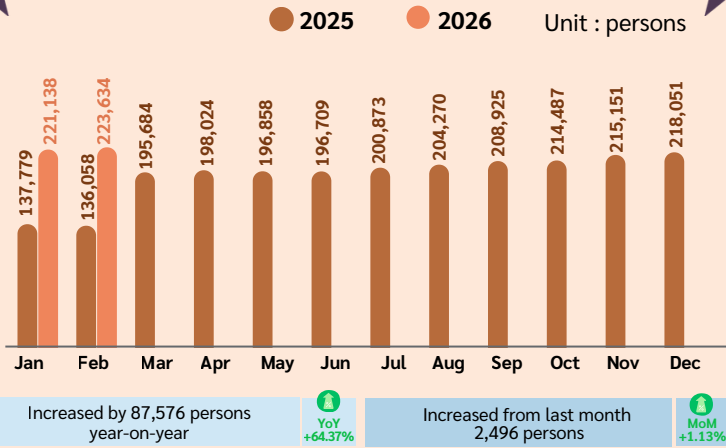
Job placement



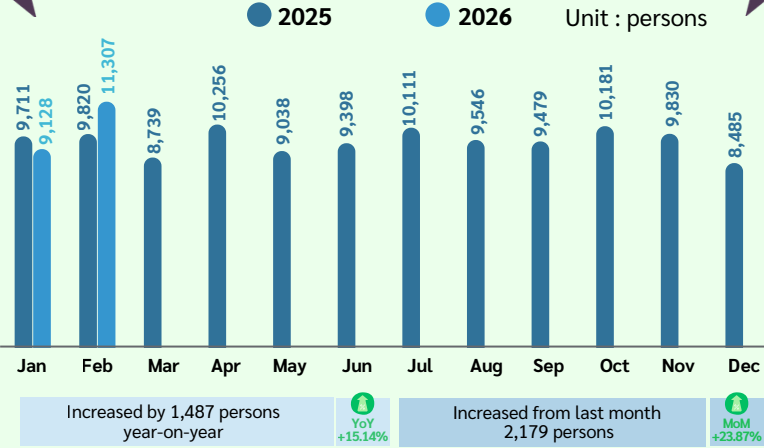
Labour Emigration : Thai workers working overseas

In February 2026, there were still Thai workers who were employed overseas: 223,634 persons. The top 3 countries that they went to work in were Taiwan, Israel, and the Republic of Korea. Also, there were 11,307 job seekers who had permission to work overseas, classified into 5 channels of overseas employment, totaling 5,851 persons. The arrangement of agencies is 3,731 persons (32.84%) and 5,456 RE-ENTRY persons (48.25%). The top job field was elementary occupations with 3,467 persons (30.66%).

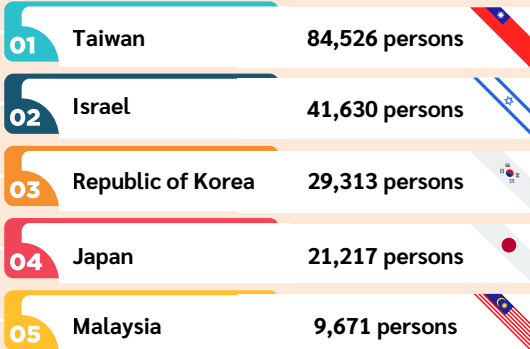
Still working overseas



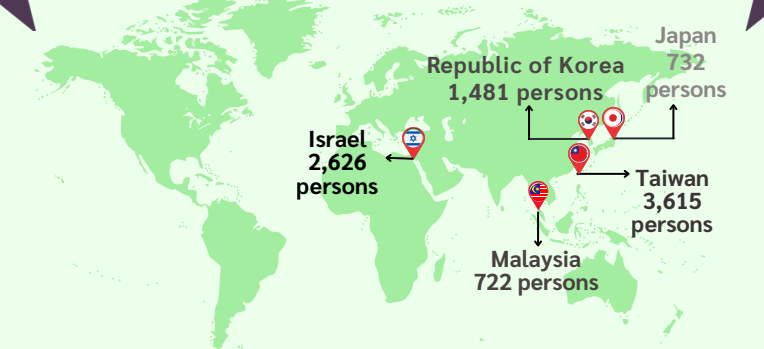
Permitted Thai labour working overseas



Top 5 countries that Thai workers still working



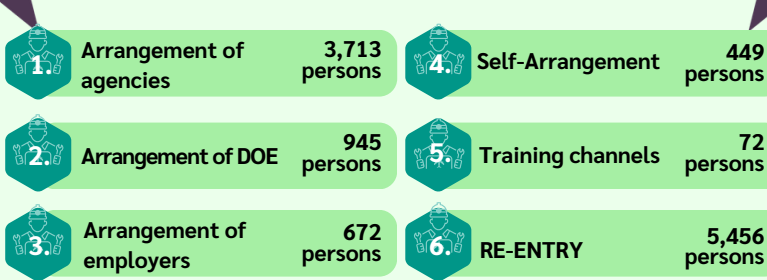
Top 5 countries by flow of Thai workers employed overseas



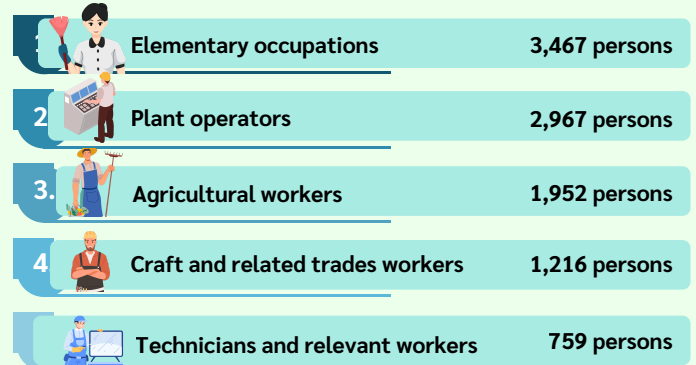
Top 5 countries that Thai workers still working by regions



classified by arrangement



classified by occupations



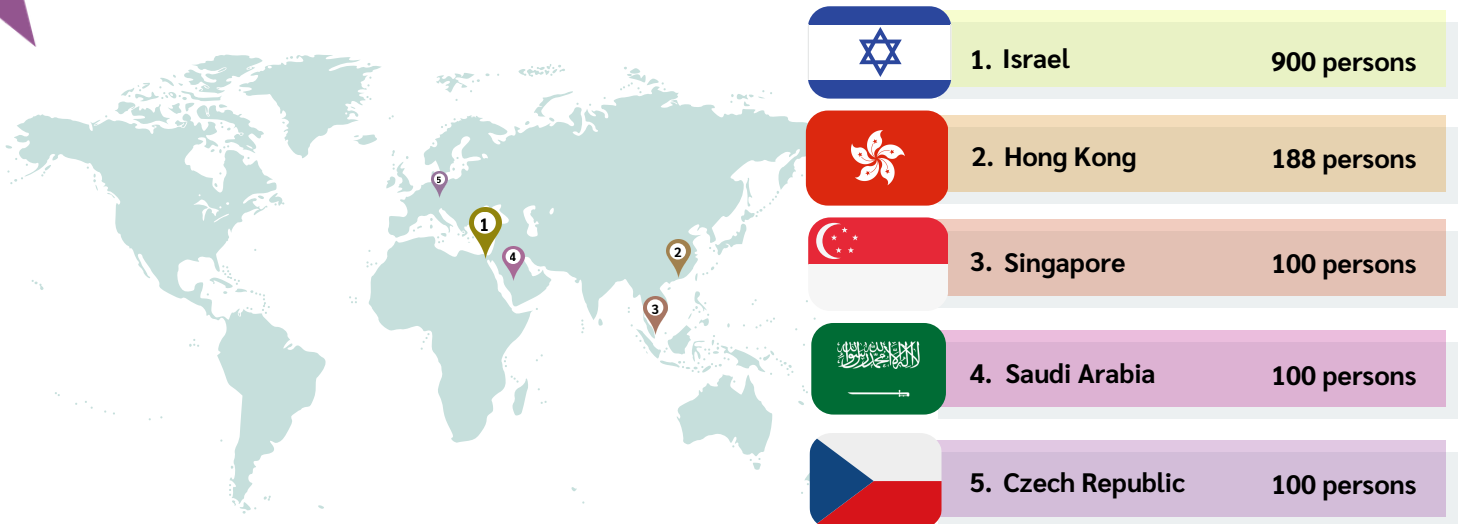
3. Demand for Thai workers employed overseas

In February 2026, there were employers/companies reporting a total demand of 1,587 Thai workers employed overseas via agencies and DOE. Among them were 434 males (27.35%), 151 females (9.51%), and not specified gender 1,002 persons (63.14%). The most in-demand job for Thai workers employed overseas was general workers, with 500 persons (31.51%), followed by builders with 250 persons (15.75%) and flight attendants with 200 persons (12.60%). The country that had the most demand for Thai workers was Israel, with 900 persons (56.71%). Secondly, Hong Kong, with 188 persons (11.85%), followed by Singapore, with 100 persons (6.30%), respectively. Moreover, the Middle East was the region that had the most demand for Thai workers, with 1,000 persons (63.01%).

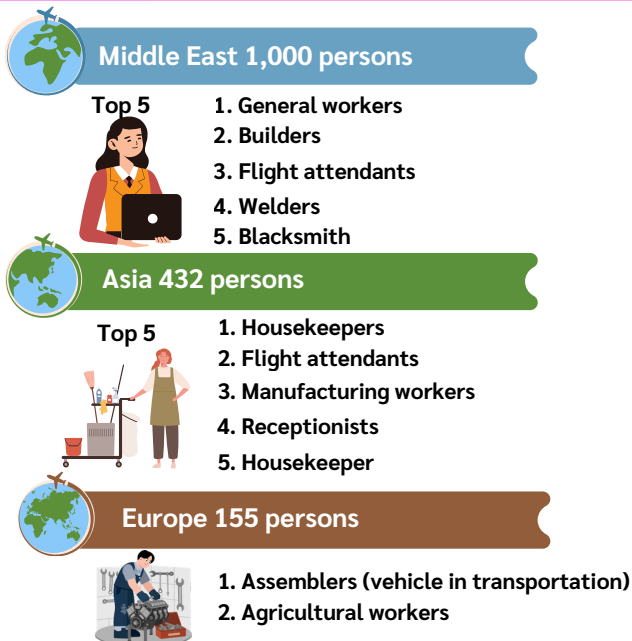
Top 5 in-demand occupations for Thai workers



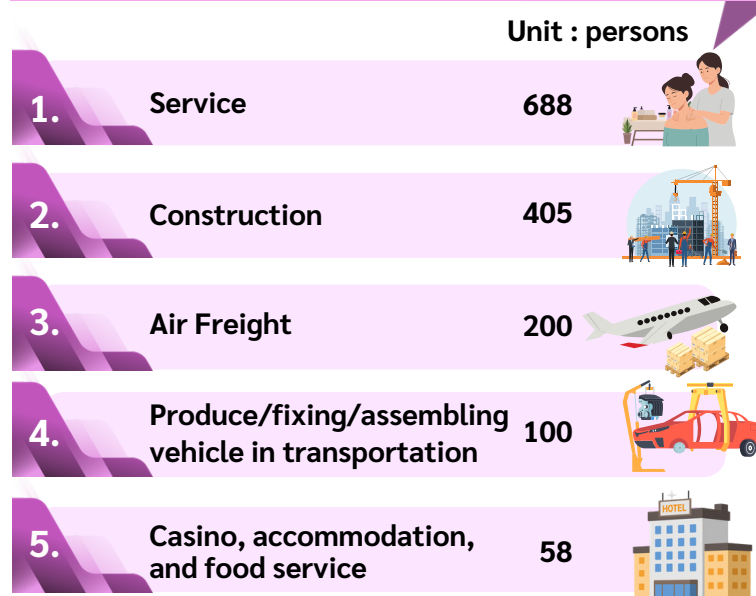
Top 5 in-demand countries for Thai workers



Top 5 in-demand regions for Thai workers



Top 5 in-demand industries for Thai workers

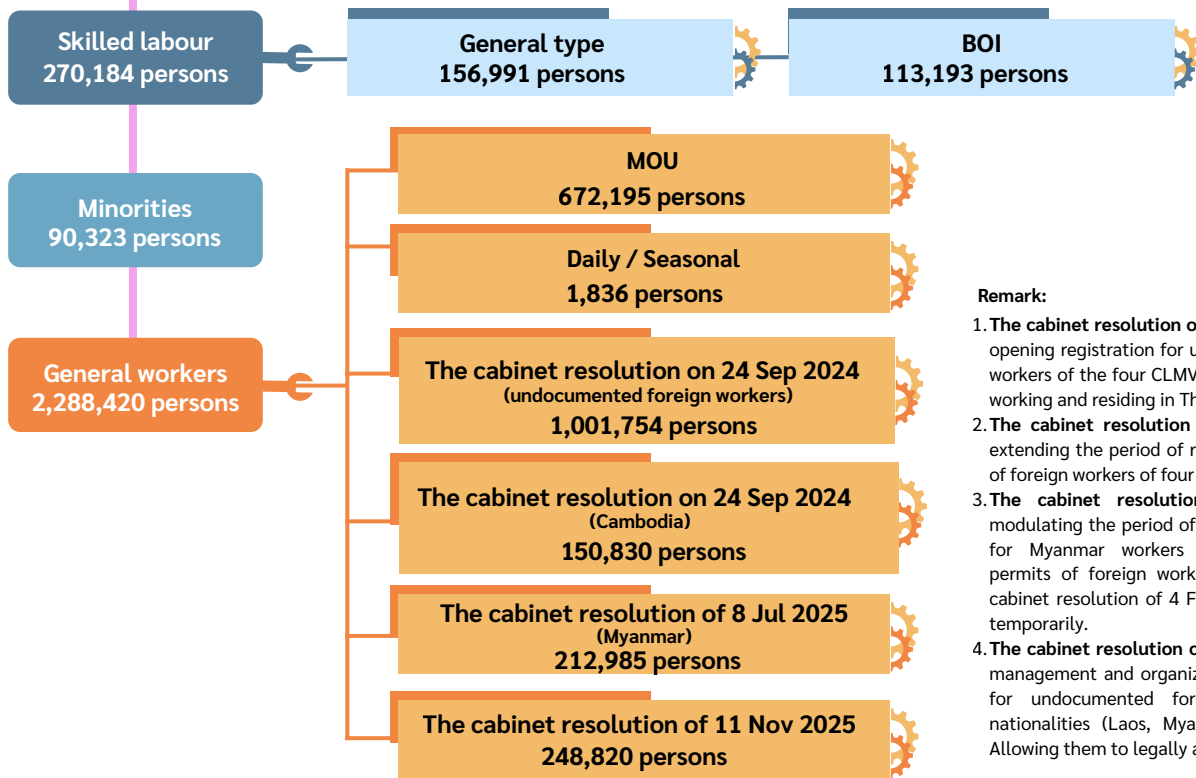


Labour Immigration : Foreign Workers

In February 2026, there were 2,648,927 foreign workers in Thailand. Among these were general workers with 2,288,420 persons (86.39%). Followed by 270,184 persons of skilled labour (10.20%) and minority workers with 90,323 persons (3.41%).

Remark: This information is currently being processed by the Foreign Workers Administration Office for extension in accordance with the Cabinet Resolutions dated 24 September 2024 and 4 February 2025

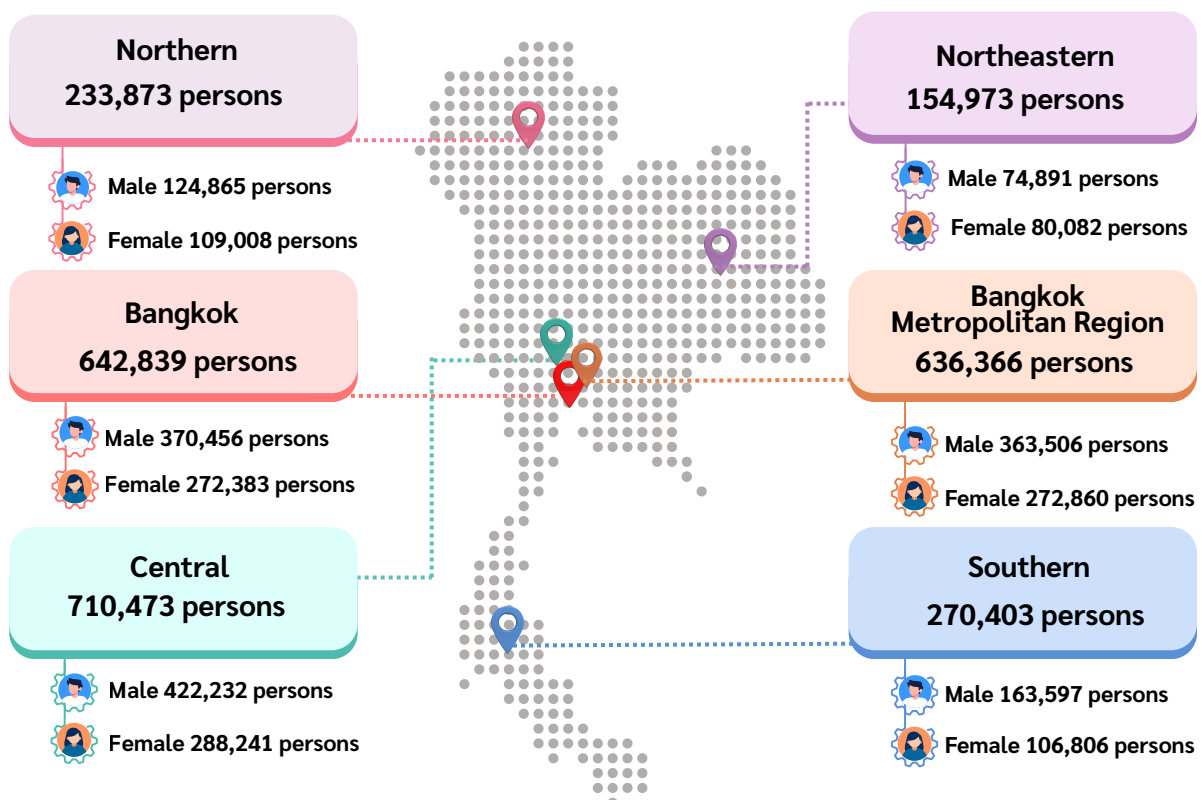
The number of foreign labour by group February 2026 : 2,648,927 persons



Remark:

1. The cabinet resolution of 24 September 2024 opening registration for undocumented foreign workers of the four CLMV nationalities who are working and residing in Thailand.
2. The cabinet resolution of 4 February 2025 extending the period of renewing work permits of foreign workers of four CLMV nationalities.
3. The cabinet resolution of 8 July 2025 modulating the period of residence in Thailand for Myanmar workers who renewed work permits of foreign workers according to the cabinet resolution of 4 February 2025 to work temporarily.
4. The cabinet resolution of 11 November 2025 management and organization of employment for undocumented foreign workers of 3 nationalities (Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam). Allowing them to legally and temporarily work.

The number of foreign labour by region



Investment Situation

In February 2026, there were 48 industrial factories that received permission to operate their businesses, which decreased from the same period last year by 66.67%. These factories created 1,339 jobs. Among these were 895 males (66.84%) and 444 females (33.16%). Moreover, the total investment from permitted factories was 9,920.96 million baht, which decreased from the same period last year by 56.60%. The central region of Thailand had the highest number of permitted factories, with 21 factories, creating 762 jobs (56.91%).



**Permission
48 factories**

Top 3

1. Solar power generation
2. Recycling factories' products or wastes into raw materials
3. Wood shredding, grinding, or pulverizing



**Expansion
36 factories**

Top 3

1. Plastic tools, utensils, and furniture manufacturing
2. Flour-based food product: noodles, pellets, or pieces
3. Printing, storing document, bindery and post-press



**Closure
55 factories**

Top 3

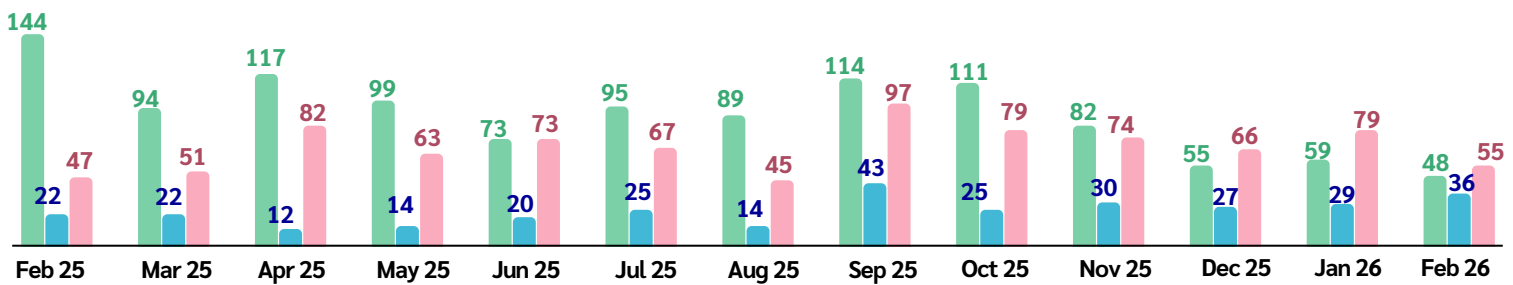
1. Excavation and dragging of gravel, sand and soil
2. Plastic tools, utensils, and furniture manufacturing
3. Producing parts for building construction

The number of industrial factories, total investment, and employment

Factories size	Number of factories	Investment (Baht)	Employment (persons)		
			Male	Female	Total
Small industrial factories (Employees do not exceed 50 persons)	47	13,029.70	599	245	844
Medium industrial factories (Employees exceed 50 persons but not over 200 persons)	9	1,542.43	424	297	721
Large industrial factories (Employees exceed 200 persons)	3	1,477.94	460	445	905
Total	59	16,050.07	1,483	987	2,470

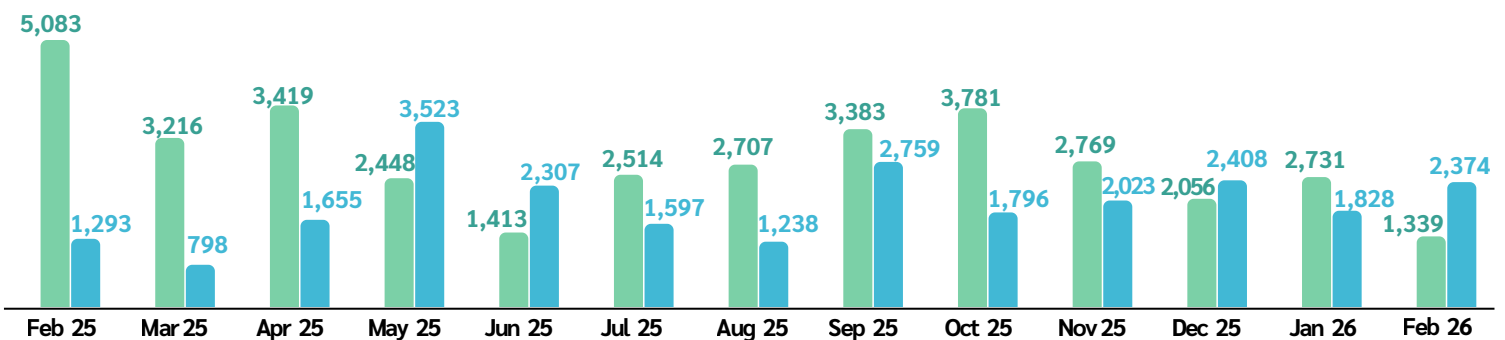
The number of total factory permission, business expansion, and closure from 2025-2026

● Total factory permission ● Total business expansion ● Total closure Unit : factories



The number of employment, and dismissal from 2025-2026

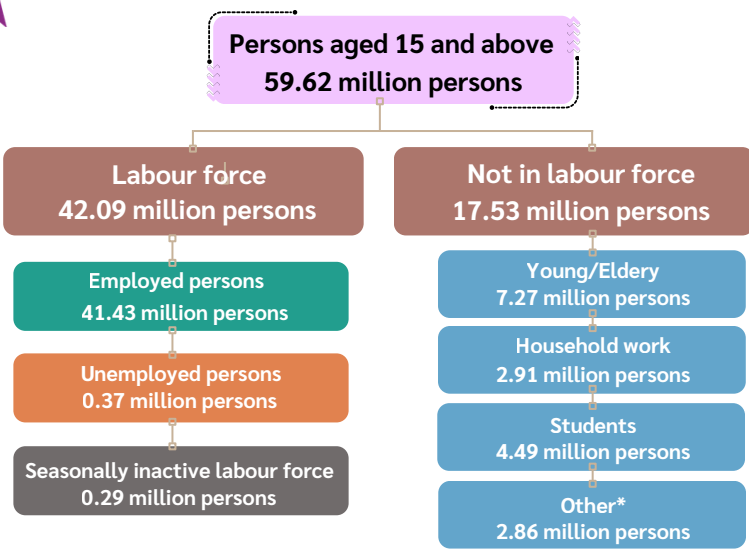
● Total employment ● Total dismissal Unit : persons



Labour Force: Thai Labour Force Survey

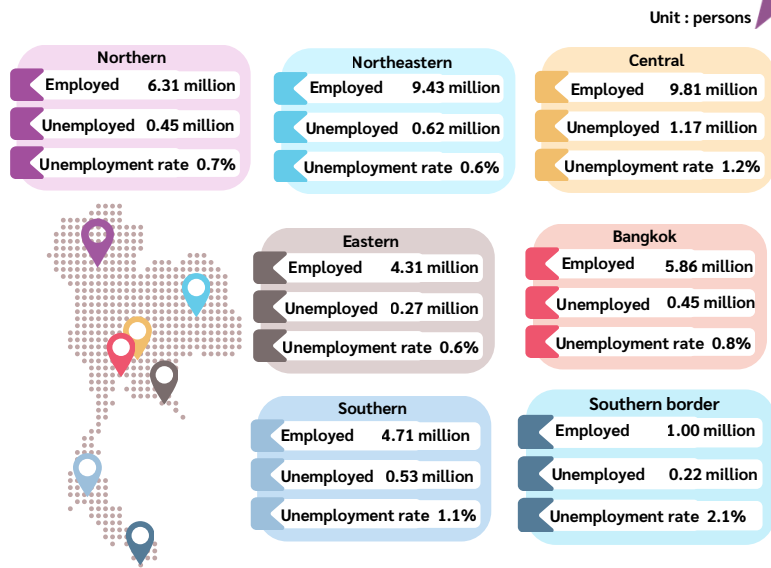
According to the National Statistical Office survey in **February 2026**, there were 59.62 million persons who were 15 years old and above. Among 42.09 million persons of the workforce were 41.43 million persons of employed persons and 0.371 million persons of unemployed persons (unemployment rate 0.9%); also, there were 0.291 million persons of the seasonally inactive labour force.

Population structure



*Others: illness, retirement, disability incapable of work

Employed and unemployed persons classified by regions



Employed persons

41.43 million persons

Increased by 2.04 million persons year-on-year
February 2025: 39.39 million persons

YoY
+5.18%

Increased from last month: 0.46 million persons
January 2026 : 40.97 million persons

MoM
+1.12%

Unemployed persons

0.371 million persons (0.9% of unemployment rate)

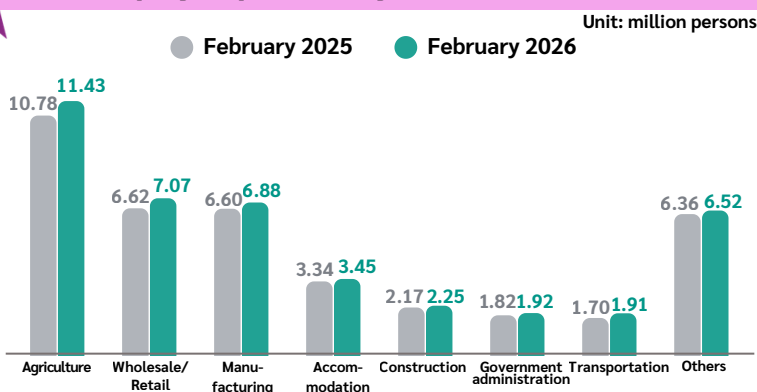
Increased by 0.056 million persons year-on-year
February 2025: 0.315 million persons

YoY
+17.78%

Decreased from last month: 1 thousand persons
January 2026 : 0.372 million persons

MoM
-0.27%

Employed persons by economic activities

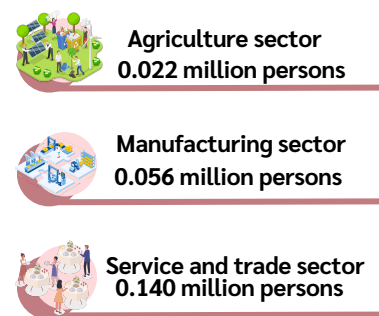
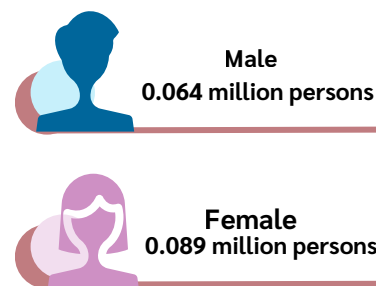


Without work experiences

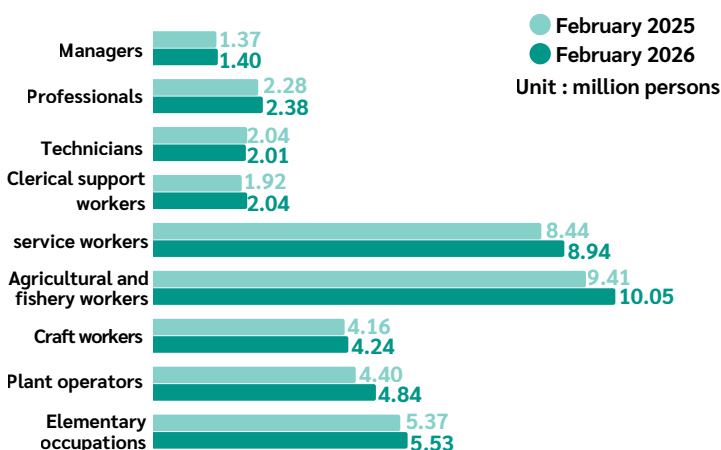
0.153 million persons

Having work experiences

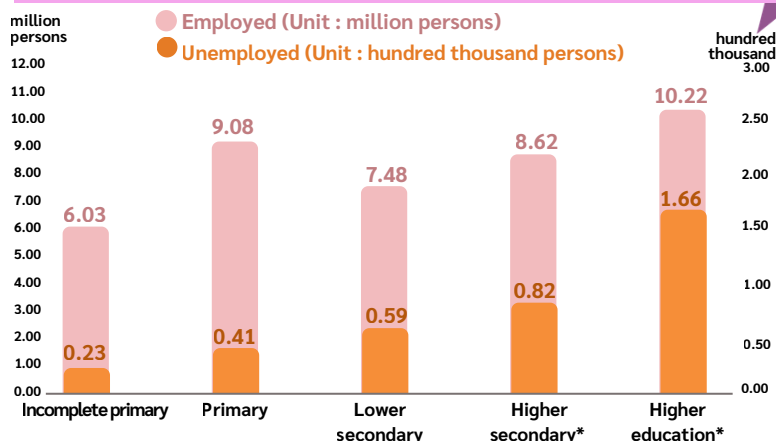
0.218 million persons



Employed persons by occupation groups



Employed persons by education



* Remark : Upper secondary includes general education, vocational education and academic education
Higher education includes diploma, bachelor's degree, master's degree and doctor's degree

Source : National Statistical Office

7. Unemployment Insurance Registration

In February 2026, there were 87,151 registered insured persons from unemployment via DOE, which increased from the same period last year by 2,595 persons (3.07%). The group consisted of 37,507 males (43.04%) and 49,644 females (56.96%). The main reason was resignation (82.48%): changing jobs, self-employment, respite, and sickness, respectively.

The registered persons in February 2026 (87,151 persons)

Resignation
71,884 persons
(82.48%)



Female 41,759 persons
(58.09%)



Male 30,125 persons
(41.91%)

Cause of resignation

1. Changing jobs 36,121 persons
2. Self-employment 20,096 persons
3. Respite 8,241 persons
4. Sickness 7,426 persons

Dismissal
12,264 persons
(14.07%)



Female 6,269 persons
(51.12%)



Male 5,995 persons
(48.88%)

Cause of dismissal

1. Termination of contract 5,008 persons
2. Staff reduction 4,892 persons
3. Closure 2,364 persons

End of contract
3,003 persons
(3.45%)



Female 1,616 persons
(53.81%)

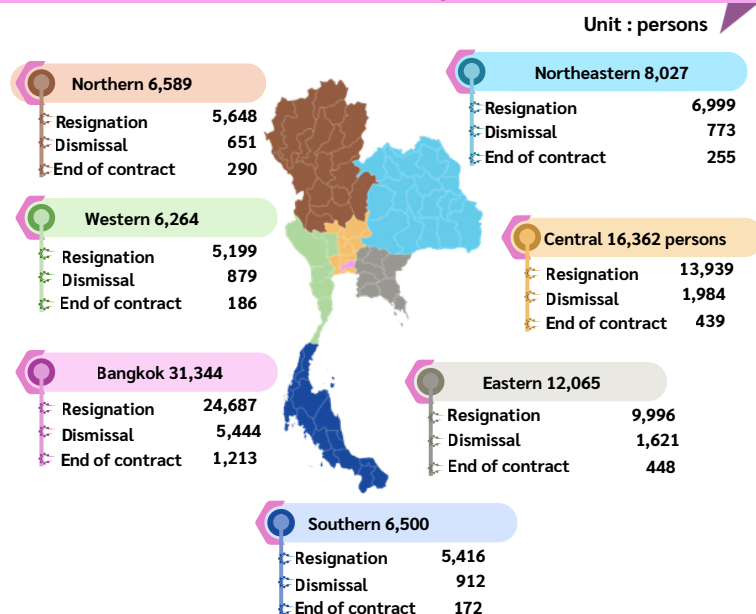
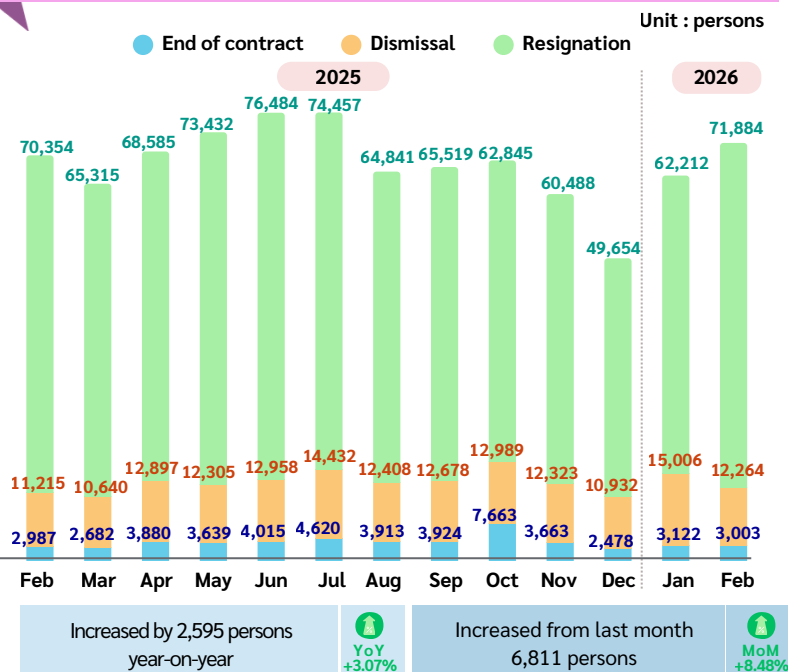


Male 1,387 persons
(46.19%)



The number of insured persons in case of unemployment monthly from 2025-2026

The number of insured persons on case of unemployment, classified by region



Thai Labour Market Journal Feedback



Organizer

Consultants

Somchai Morakotsriwan
Mongkol Songkram
Wichit Intharajaroen

Director-General of Department of Employment
Deputy Director-General, Department of Employment
Deputy Director-General, Department of Employment

Authors

Suchitra Khajonkidakarn
Kiattisak Thanala

Director, Labour Market Information Administration Division
Labour Specialist, Senior Professional Level,
acting Senior Expert on Labour Market Research

Dararat Kesontham
Piyanooch Buapen
Nadsitang Phawadee
Supalerk Karnchom
Wasuthorn Phuriekswan
Nuttasit Mitkaew
Ampawan Chaona
Saroat Phungneat
Thitima Ninpurk
Angkana Wandao

Chief of Analysis and Research Group
Labour Specialist, Professional Level
Labour Specialist, Professional Level
Labour Specialist, Professional Level
Labour Specialist, Practitioner Level
Statistician
Labour Specialist
Labour Specialist
Labour Specialist
Labour Officer

Translator

Abhiyada Nilkamhang

Labour Specialist



Labour Market Information Administration Division