What is youth unemployment?

A single adult living in Kuala Lumpur needs to make RM2,700 a month to cover just basic expenses. Diploma graduates earn RM1,001 to RM1,500 a month as starting salary. Malaysia’s minimum wage is RM1,200 a month or RM5.77 an hour. Degree holders earn on average RM2,378 a month in 2019.

**Low Pay And High Cost Of Living**

Malaysia’s minimum wage is at RM1,200 a month or at RM5.77 an hour. A single adult living in Kuala Lumpur needs to make RM2,700 a month to cover just basic expenses. Diploma graduates earn RM1,001 to RM1,500 a month as starting salary. Degree holders earn on average RM2,378 a month in 2019.

**Mismatch Of Employer’s Demands And Perceptions**

68% of employers believe youths ask for unrealistic salaries and working conditions. 60% of fresh graduates expect starting salary of RM3,500/month while 30% of them expect RM6,500/month.

Unemployment factors in youths:
- Poor English
- Poor communication
- Poor character
- Lack soft skills
- Lack experience

88% of employers believe that internships make graduates more employable.

**Youths Forced To Over Qualify for Income**

Higher number of vacancies in semi-skilled or low-skill positions. 1.04 million graduates employed in jobs that only require SPM level qualification in 2019. 40% of employed urban youths are unprotected with social protection schemes.