

## **DOSM: Malaysia's wholesale & retail trade sales up 5.5 pct to RM141.1 bln**

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Malaysia's wholesale and retail trade sector recorded a sales value of RM141.1 billion, an increase of 5.5 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) in February 2024, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM).

In a statement yesterday, chief statistician Datuk Sri Mohd Uzir Mahidin said the increase was driven by the retail trade sub-sector, which rose 5.8 per cent or RM3.4 billion to register RM61.5 billion.

"The growth of 5.8 per cent year-on-year for retail trade was supported by retail sales in non-specialised stores which grew 6.7 per cent or RM1.5 billion to RM23.6 billion.

"Other groups in this sub-sector also recorded positive growth, namely retail sales in specialised stores (9.5 per cent); food, beverages and tobacco (8.0 per cent); household goods (4.0 per cent); automotive fuel (3.4 per cent); cultural and recreation goods (5.4 per cent); not in stores, stalls or markets (1.0 per cent); and retail sales via stalls and markets (3.3 per cent)," he said.

Mohd Uzir said for monthly comparison, the negative growth of -0.9 per cent from the previous month was contributed by wholesale trade which slipped -2.3 per cent, followed by the motor vehicles sub-sector which contracted -1.4 per cent.

He said the negative growth in wholesale trade was mainly contributed by the decrease in wholesale of food, beverages and tobacco (-5.6 per cent); other specialised wholesale (-1.3 per cent), wholesale of machinery, equipment and supplies (-4.3 per cent), and household goods (-1.3 per cent).

Commenting on the wholesale trade sub-sector, Mohd Uzir said the wholesale trade expanded by registering 5.2 per cent or RM3.1 billion to RM62.2 billion, followed by motor vehicles with a growth of 5.4 per cent or RM0.9 billion to settle at RM17.4 billion.

— Bernama