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## **Malaysia's inflation remained at 1.8 per cent in April 2024 for three consecutive months**

Malaysia's inflation remained at 1.8 per cent in April 2024 for three consecutive months with the index points recorded at 132.4 as against 130.0 in the same month of the previous year. The increase in inflation in April 2024 was driven by the incline in the main group of Restaurant & Accommodation Services, 3.5 per cent (March 2024: 3.0%); Personal Care, Social Protection & Miscellaneous Goods & Services, 3.1 per cent (March 2024: 2.6%) and Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels, 3.0 per cent (March 2024: 3.0%).

Inflation for Restaurant & Accommodation Services increased to 3.5 per cent in April 2024 as against 3.0 per cent in March 2024. This was contributed by the increase in the main subgroup of Beverage preparation services, 3.9 per cent (March 2024: 3.7%).

The Food & Beverages recorded an increase of 2.0 per cent in April 2024 (March 2024: 1.7%). The main subgroup of Food at home increased marginally to 0.4 per cent in April 2024 (March 2024: 0.3%). Meanwhile, the main subgroup of Food away from home increased higher to 4.0 per cent as compared to 3.5 per cent in the previous month.

The overall monthly inflation recorded an increase of 0.2 per cent as compared to 0.1 per cent recorded in March 2024. The increase was mainly driven by Personal Care, Social Protection & Miscellaneous Goods & Services (0.9%); Recreation, Sport & Culture (0.8%) and Restaurant & Accommodation Services (0.3%). Meanwhile, core inflation in April 2024 increased to 1.9 per cent as compared to 1.7 per cent recorded in March 2024.

For inflation at the state level, most of the states recorded increases below the national inflation level of 1.8 per cent. However, four states recorded increases above the national inflation level namely Pulau Pinang (3.2%), Sarawak (2.8%), Pahang (2.4%) and Selangor (2.2%).

In comparison to inflation in other selected countries, inflation in Malaysia (1.8%) was lower than inflation in Vietnam (4.4%), Philippines (3.8%), United States of America (3.4%), Indonesia (3.0%) and Republic of Korea (2.9%). However, the rate is higher than Thailand (0.2%) and China (0.3%).

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