

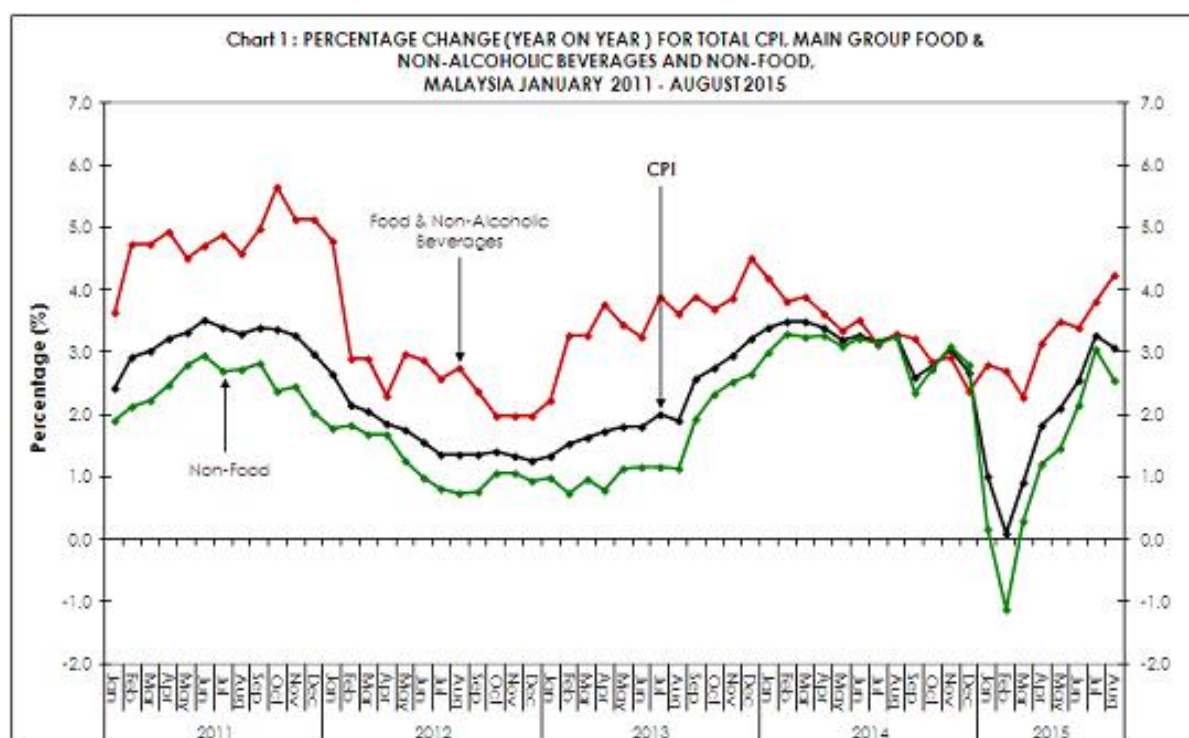


CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MALAYSIA AUGUST 2015

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for August 2015 increased by 3.1 per cent to 113.9 compared with 110.5 in the same month last year. The rise in the CPI was led by increases in the index for Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco group by 13.4 per cent; Health by 4.7 per cent; Restaurants & Hotels (+4.5 per cent); Miscellaneous Goods and Services (+4.5 per cent); Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+4.2 per cent) and Furnishing, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance (+3.7 per cent). These six groups of goods and services which weighted 47.4 contributed 75.7 per cent to the increase in the CPI for the month of August 2015. In addition, the overall index is also influenced by the increase in Communication (+3.0 per cent); Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels group by 2.7 per cent and Education (+2.5 per cent).

Overall, the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (weight: 30.3) rose 4.2 per cent on a year-on-year basis in August 2015. Meanwhile, the index for Non-Food (weight: 69.7) recorded an increase of 2.5 per cent (Chart 1 and Table 1).

On a monthly basis, CPI for August 2015 remained unchanged at 113.9. CPI for the first eight months in 2015 registered an increase by 1.9 per cent as compared to the same period last year.



Monthly Changes for CPI

When compared with the previous month CPI for August 2015 remained unchanged at 113.9. Of the twelve major groups, nine recorded an increase, two registered a decline while one remained unchanged. Among the major groups which recorded increases in August 2015 were Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+0.7 per cent); Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+0.5 per cent); Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance (+0.3 per cent); Education (+0.3 per cent); Recreation Services & Culture (+0.2 per cent); and Restaurants & Hotels (+0.2 per cent). On the other hand, a decrease was recorded in the index of Transport and Clothing & Footwear by 2.7 per cent and 0.2 per cent respectively.

Based on a seasonally adjusted term, the CPI for August 2015 remained unchanged at 113.9 as compared to July 2015 (Table 1).

Table 1 : CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR MAIN GROUPS, MALAYSIA (2010=100)

Group	Wt.	Index	Year-on-Year Percentage Change			Month-on-Month Percentage Change		Seasonally Adjusted Index	
		Aug 2015	July 2015/ July 2014	Aug 2015/ Aug 2014	Jan - Aug 2015/2014	July 2015/ June 2015	Aug 2015/ July 2015	Aug 2015	% Change Aug 2015/ July 2015
TOTAL	100.0	113.9	3.3	3.1	1.9	0.8	0.0	113.9	0.0
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	120.5	3.8	4.2	3.2	0.8	0.5	120.6	0.7
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.2	138.1	13.3	13.4	11.8	1.8	0.1	138.1	0.1
Clothing & Footwear	3.4	98.8	0.9	0.7	0.4	-0.2	-0.2	98.8	-0.2
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	22.6	112.2	2.5	2.7	2.3	0.0	0.7	112.0	0.4
Furnishings, Household Equip. & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	110.7	3.9	3.7	2.1	0.4	0.3	110.7	0.3
Health	1.3	115.6	4.8	4.7	4.3	0.1	0.1	115.6	0.1
Transport	14.9	109.9	1.6	-1.2	-4.1	3.1	-2.7	109.9	-2.7
Communication	5.7	100.5	2.8	3.0	1.3	0.1	0.1	100.5	0.1
Recreation Services & Culture	4.6	107.2	1.9	2.1	1.3	0.2	0.2	107.2	0.2
Education	1.4	112.8	2.4	2.5	2.4	0.0	0.3	113.0	0.4
Restaurants & Hotels	3.2	122.8	4.6	4.5	4.0	0.2	0.2	122.8	0.2
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.3	110.4	4.7	4.5	3.3	0.2	0.0	110.4	0.0

Non-Food 69.7 111.0 3.0 2.5 1.3 0.8 -0.2 111.0 -0.2

The 0.5 per cent rise in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages in August 2015 compared with the previous month was the result of increases in the index for Food At Home by 0.6 per cent; Food Away From Home (+0.3 per cent) and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic (+0.2 per cent).

Among the food items which recorded notable increases in August 2015 compared with the previous month were **Spinach (+11.2 per cent); Choy Sum (+7.6 per cent); Cucumber (+6.7 per cent); Long Bean (+6.6 per cent); Shallots (+5.6 per cent); Red Chillies (+3.6 per cent); Carrots (+3.5 per cent); Indian Mackerel (Fish) (+3.2 per cent); Beef (+1.4 per cent); Threadfin Bream (Fish) (+1.3 per cent);** and **Chicken (+0.2 per cent).**

Meanwhile, the index of some food items decreased in August 2015 compared with the previous month. Among these food items were **Tomatoes (-6.0 per cent); Cauliflower (-5.3 per cent); Round Scad (Fish) (-3.3 per cent); Round Cabbage (-2.7 per cent);** and **Selar Scad (Fish) (-1.1 per cent).**

Table 2 : CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR SUB-GROUPS OF FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, MALAYSIA (2010=100)

Sub-Groups	Wt.	Index	Year-on-Year Percentage Change			Month-on-Month Percentage Change	
		Aug 2015	July 2015/ July 2014	Aug 2015/ Aug 2014	Jan - Aug 2015/2014	July 2015/ June 2015	Aug 2015/ July 2015
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	120.5	3.8	4.2	3.2	0.8	0.5
Food	28.9	120.9	3.8	4.3	3.2	0.8	0.5
Food At Home	18.9	120.4	3.6	4.3	3.0	1.0	0.6
Rice, Bread & Other Cereals	4.4	107.7	1.9	2.0	1.5	0.1	0.2
Meat	2.9	120.1	2.2	3.4	1.8	-0.3	0.4
Fish & Seafood	4.5	131.7	4.1	4.8	3.3	2.3	0.6
Milk & Eggs	1.8	122.2	4.3	3.5	5.6	0.2	-0.2
Oils & Fats	0.6	101.8	0.7	0.9	0.5	-0.2	0.3
Fruits	1.2	122.3	4.8	5.4	3.1	1.8	0.9
Vegetables	2.1	122.3	7.5	10.1	5.3	2.1	2.6
Sugar, Jam, Honey, Chocolate & Confectionary	0.6	132.0	2.0	2.1	1.6	-0.1	0.2
Food Products n.e.c	0.8	120.1	5.1	5.3	4.0	0.3	0.3
Food Away From Home	10.0	122.0	4.2	4.4	3.7	0.6	0.3
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	1.4	111.3	3.2	3.1	2.1	0.0	0.2

CPI changes for the period January - August 2015 / 2014

The increase of 1.9 per cent in the CPI for the first eight months in 2015 was led by increases among the main groups with high weights: Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+3.2 per cent) and Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+2.3 per cent). Other increases were Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (+11.8

per cent); Health (+4.3 per cent); Restaurants & Hotels (+4.0 per cent); and Miscellaneous Goods & Services (+3.3 per cent). On the other hand, a decrease was recorded in the index of Transport by 4.1 per cent

Based on the above changes and the weights assigned to the main groups, the relative contribution to the overall increase of 1.9 per cent in the CPI is shown in Table 3.

Table 3 : CONTRIBUTION TO THE CHANGES IN THE OVERALL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BY MAIN GROUPS, MALAYSIA (2010=100)

Group	Wt.	2014 / 2013		August 2015 / 2014		January - August 2015 / 2014	
		% Change	% Contribution	% Change	% Contribution	% Change	% Contribution
TOTAL	100.0	3.2	100.0	3.1	100.0	1.9	100.0
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	3.3	34.0	4.2	44.3	3.2	54.9
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.2	11.6	8.3	13.4	10.4	11.8	15.1
Clothing & Footwear	3.4	-0.2	-0.3	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.4
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	22.6	3.4	24.1	2.7	19.8	2.3	28.9
Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	1.0	1.3	3.7	4.9	2.1	4.4
Health	1.3	2.9	1.2	4.7	2.0	4.3	3.1
Transport	14.9	4.9	23.1	-1.2	-5.2	-4.1	-33.3
Communication	5.7	-0.7	-1.3	3.0	4.9	1.3	3.4
Recreation Services & Culture	4.6	1.5	2.2	2.1	3.1	1.3	3.1
Education	1.4	2.4	1.1	2.5	1.1	2.4	1.8
Restaurant & Hotel	3.2	4.7	5.0	4.5	5.1	4.0	7.2
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.3	0.7	1.3	4.5	9.0	3.3	11.0

The increase of 3.2 per cent in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages was the result of increases for Food At Home (+3.0 per cent); Food Away From Home (+3.7 per cent) and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+2.1 per cent). Among the subgroups of Food At Home which showed significant increases during this period as shown in Table 2 were **Milk & Eggs (+5.6 per cent); Vegetables (+5.3 per cent); Fish & Seafood (+3.3 per cent);** and **Fruits (+3.1 per cent).**

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Contact person:

Norrita binti Amran

Public Relation Officer

Corporate and User Services Division

Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Tel : +603-8885 7942

Fax : +603-8888 9248

Email : norrita.amran@stats.gov.my

Contact person:

Baharudin Mohamad

Public Relation Officer

Strategic Communication and International Division

Department of Statistics Malaysia

Tel : +603-8090 4681

Fax : +603-8888 9248

Email : baharudin[at]dosm.gov.my

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