

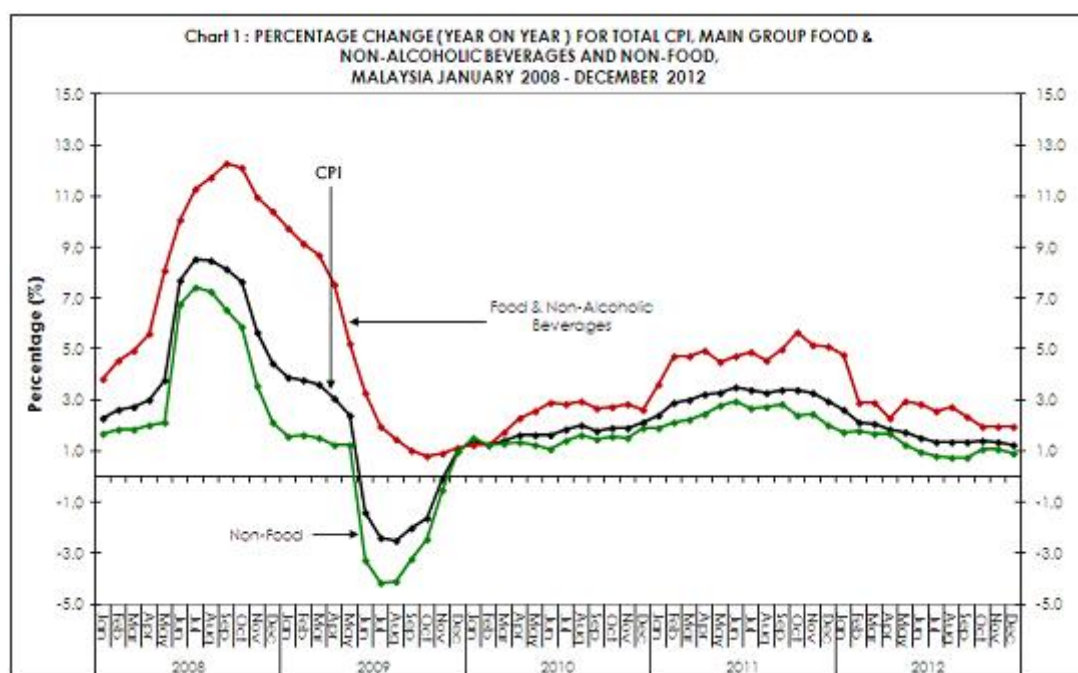


CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MALAYSIA DECEMBER 2012

Consumer Price Index Malaysia December 2012

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the period January to December 2012 increased by **1.6 per cent** to 104.9 compared with that of 103.2 in the same period last year. Compared with the same month in 2011, the CPI for December 2012 registered an increase of 1.2 per cent from 104.2 to 105.5 and when compared with the previous month, the CPI remained unchanged at 105.5.

The index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Non-Food for the month of December 2012 showed increases of 2.0 and 0.9 per cent respectively as compared to the same month in 2011. For the period January to December 2012, the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Non-Food increased by 2.7 and 1.2 per cent respectively. Compared with the previous month, the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased by 0.3 per cent while the index for Non-Food decreased by 0.1 per cent (Table 1).



CPI changes for the period January - December 2012 / 2011

The 1.6 per cent increase in the CPI was brought about by increases observed in the indices for all the main groups except those of Clothing & Footwear and Communication decreased by 0.6 per cent respectively. Notable increases among these main groups with high weights were Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+ 2.7 per cent); Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+ 1.6 per cent) and Transport (+ 0.7 per cent). Other increases were Restaurants & Hotels (+ 2.9 per cent); Education (+ 2.4 per cent); Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance; Health and Miscellaneous Goods & Services by 2.0 per cent respectively; Recreation Services & Culture (+ 1.2 per cent) and Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (+ 0.4 per cent).

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

Group	Wt.	Index					% Change		
		Dec 2011	Nov 2012	Dec 2012	Jan - Dec 2011	Jan - Dec 2012	Dec 2012/ Nov 2012	Dec 2012/ Dec 2011	Jan - Dec 2012/ 2011
TOTAL	100.0	104.2	105.5	105.5	103.2	104.9	0.0	1.2	1.6
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	106.6	108.4	108.7	104.8	107.6	0.3	2.0	2.7
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.2	104.6	106.6	106.6	104.6	105.0	0.0	1.9	0.4
Clothing and Footwear	3.4	99.6	99.0	98.6	99.8	99.2	-0.4	-1.0	-0.6
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	22.6	102.5	104.0	104.0	101.8	103.4	0.0	1.5	1.6
Furnishings, Household Equip. & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	102.5	104.2	104.1	101.8	103.8	-0.1	1.6	2.0
Health	1.3	103.6	105.7	105.8	102.7	104.8	0.1	2.1	2.0
Transport	14.9	104.9	105.7	105.3	104.4	105.1	-0.4	0.4	0.7
Communication	5.7	99.4	98.8	98.8	99.7	99.1	0.0	-0.6	-0.6
Recreation Services & Culture	4.6	103.1	103.0	103.0	102.0	103.2	0.0	-0.1	1.2
Education	1.4	103.2	104.8	104.9	102.2	104.7	0.1	1.6	2.4
Restaurants and Hotels	3.2	107.5	109.9	109.9	105.9	109.0	0.0	2.2	2.9
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.3	103.9	105.1	104.9	102.4	104.4	-0.2	1.0	2.0
Non-Food	69.7	103.2	104.2	104.1	102.5	103.7	-0.1	0.9	1.2
Durable Goods	6.5	101.2	100.0	99.8	100.7	100.2	-0.2	-1.4	-0.5
Semi-Durable Goods	4.4	100.3	99.8	99.4	100.3	100.0	-0.4	-0.9	-0.3
Non-Durable Goods	41.6	105.5	106.6	106.6	104.4	106.0	0.0	1.0	1.5
Services	47.5	103.8	105.7	105.7	102.7	105.0	0.0	1.8	2.2

Based on the above changes and the weights assigned to the main groups, the relative contribution to the overall increase of 1.6 per cent in the CPI can be identified as shown in Table 2. The three main groups, Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages; Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels and Transport together accounted for 78.5 per cent of the overall increase recorded for the current period.

**Table 2 : CONTRIBUTION TO THE CHANGES IN THE OVERALL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
BY MAIN GROUPS, MALAYSIA (2010=100)**

Group	Wt.	2011 / 2010		December 2012 / 2011		January - December 2012 / 2011	
		% Change	% Contribution	% Change	% Contribution	% Change	% Contribution
TOTAL	100.0	3.2	100.0	1.2	100.0	1.6	100.0
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	4.8	46.4	2.0	50.8	2.7	50.5
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.2	4.6	3.2	1.9	3.4	0.4	0.6
Clothing and Footwear	3.4	-0.2	-0.3	-1.0	-2.8	-0.6	-1.2
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	22.6	1.8	12.5	1.5	26.8	1.6	21.7
Furnishings, Household Equip. & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	1.8	2.3	1.6	2.3	2.0	4.7
Health	1.3	2.7	1.2	2.1	2.3	2.0	1.6
Transport	14.9	4.4	20.7	0.4	5.0	0.7	6.3
Communication	5.7	-0.3	-0.5	-0.6	-3.4	-0.6	-2.3
Recreation Services & Culture	4.6	2.0	2.8	-0.1	-0.8	1.2	3.1
Education	1.4	2.2	1.0	1.6	2.0	2.4	2.0
Restaurants and Hotels	3.2	5.9	6.0	2.2	6.2	2.9	5.9
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.3	2.4	4.7	1.0	5.2	2.0	7.1

The 2.7 per cent increase in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages was the result of increases for Food At Home (+ 2.1 per cent); Food Away From Home (+ 3.7 per cent) and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+ 2.9 per cent). Among the subgroups of Food At Home which showed significant increases during this period were **Fish & Seafood (+ 6.6 per cent); Sugar, Jam, Honey, Chocolate and Confectionery (+ 3.0 per cent); Milk & Eggs (+ 2.5 per cent); Fruits (+ 2.5 per cent); Rice, Bread and Other Cereals (+ 1.1 per cent)** and **Oils & Fats (+ 0.7 per cent)**.

Table 3 : CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR SUB-GROUPS OF FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, MALAYSIA (2010=100)

Sub-group	Wt.	Index					% Change		
		Dec 2011	Nov 2012	Dec 2012	Jan - Dec 2011	Jan - Dec 2012	Dec 2012/ Nov 2012	Dec 2012/ Dec 2011	Jan - Dec 2012/2011
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	106.6	108.4	108.7	104.8	107.6	0.3	2.0	2.7
Food	28.9	106.7	108.5	108.8	104.9	107.7	0.3	2.0	2.7
Food At Home	18.9	106.7	108.0	108.4	105.1	107.3	0.4	1.6	2.1
Rice, Bread & Other Cereals	4.4	102.1	102.7	102.7	101.4	102.5	0.0	0.6	1.1

Meat	2.9	106.7	107.2	107.4	107.6	106.2	0.2	0.7	-1.3
Fish & Seafood	4.5	110.1	112.0	112.6	105.7	112.7	0.5	2.3	6.6
Milk & Eggs	1.8	109.3	110.3	109.7	106.2	108.9	-0.5	0.4	2.5
Oils and Fats	0.6	101.1	101.4	101.4	100.6	101.3	0.0	0.3	0.7
Fruits	1.2	107.5	110.0	109.6	105.9	108.6	-0.4	2.0	2.5
Vegetables	2.1	105.3	106.8	109.3	105.3	104.1	2.3	3.8	-1.1
Sugar, Jam, Honey, Choc. & Confectionery	0.6	113.3	118.8	118.9	111.5	114.9	0.1	4.9	3.0
Food Products n.e.c.	0.8	109.2	110.0	109.9	106.0	110.0	-0.1	0.6	3.8
Food Away From Home	10.0	106.8	109.4	109.6	104.6	108.5	0.2	2.6	3.7
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	1.4	103.8	106.1	106.2	102.4	105.4	0.1	2.3	2.9

Monthly Changes for CPI

Compared with the previous month, the CPI for December 2012 remained unchanged at 105.5. The indices for Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco; Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels; Communication; Recreation Services & Culture and Restaurants & Hotels remained unchanged at 106.6; 104.0; 98.8; 103.0 and 109.9 respectively. However, increases were shown for main groups Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+ 0.3 per cent); Health and Education by 0.1 per cent respectively. On the other hand, decreases were for Clothing & Footwear and Transport by 0.4 per cent respectively; Miscellaneous Goods & Services (- 0.2 per cent) and Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance (- 0.1 per cent).

The 0.3 per cent increase in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages in December 2012 compared with that of the previous month was the result of increases in the index for Food At Home (+ 0.4 per cent); Food Away From Home (+ 0.2 per cent) and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+ 0.1 per cent).

Among the food items which recorded notable increases in December 2012 compared with the previous month were **Spinach (+ 11.5 per cent); Water Spinach (+ 9.3 per cent); Choy Sum (+ 8.6 per cent); Kai Lan (+ 6.8 per cent); Long Beans (+ 4.3 per cent); Round Scad (Fish) (+ 3.5 per cent); Tomatoes (+ 3.5 per cent); Indian Mackerel (Fish) (+ 1.8 per cent) and Chicken (+ 0.5 per cent)**.

Meanwhile, the index of some food items decreased in December 2012 compared with the previous month. Among these were **Cucumber (- 5.6 per cent); Durians (- 3.6 per cent); Hen's Eggs (- 2.8 per cent); Shallots (- 1.9 per cent); Watermelon (- 1.2 per cent) and Potatoes (- 0.9 per cent)**.

A reclassification of items according to their durability and services rendered showed decreases in Durable Goods (- 0.2 per cent) and Semi-Durable Goods (- 0.4 per cent) while the index for Non-Durable Goods and Services remained unchanged at 106.6 and 105.7 respectively.

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