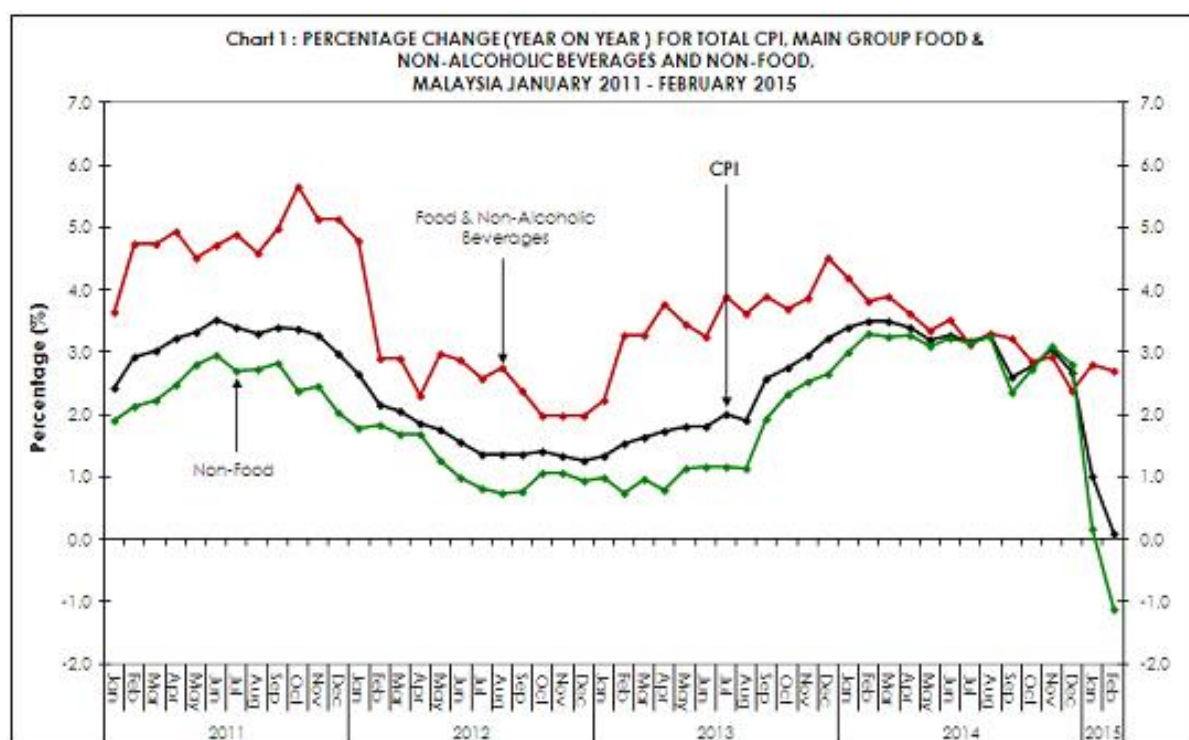




CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MALAYSIA FEBRUARY 2015

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the month of February 2015 increased at lower rate by 0.1 per cent to 109.9 compared with 109.8 in the same month last year. This low rate of increase has been attributed by significant decline for Transport (- 11.8 %). The reduction in the index for Transport was attributed in the expenditure class for fuel and lubricants for personal transport by 20.0 percent (refer Table 20). Other decreases were Communication and Clothing & Footwear by 0.9 and 0.6 per cent respectively. These three groups accounted for 24.0 per cent of the overall weight.

Apart of that, main groups contributed to the increase were Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco by 10.6 per cent; Health by 3.4 per cent; and Restaurants & Hotels (+ 2.9 per cent). Overall, the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased by 2.7 percent whereas the index for Non-Food decreased by 1.1 per cent in February 2015 compared with the same month in 2014 (Table 1). However, a modest increase in the Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages was not able to increase the overall index due to higher contribution by Non-Food group (+ 69.7 per cent).



CPI changes for the period January - February 2015 / 2014

The slower increase of 0.5 per cent in the CPI for the first two month in 2015 was brought about by decreases observed in the indices of Transport (- 8.9 per cent); Communication and Clothing & Footwear decrease by 1.0 and 0.4 per cent respectively. Notable increases among these main groups with high weights were Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+ 2.7 per cent) and Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+ 2.2 per cent). Other increases were Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (+ 10.6 per cent); Health (+ 3.3 per cent); Restaurants & Hotels (+ 3.1 per cent) and Education by 2.1 per cent.

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

Group	Wt.	Index					% Change		
		Feb 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Jan - Feb 2014	Jan - Feb 2015	Feb 2015/ Jan 2015	Feb 2015/ Feb 2014	Jan - Feb 2015/2014
TOTAL	100.0	109.8	110.6	109.9	109.7	110.3	-0.6	0.1	0.5
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	114.4	117.7	117.5	114.5	117.6	-0.2	2.7	2.7
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.2	121.7	134.6	134.6	121.7	134.6	0.0	10.6	10.6
Clothing and Footwear	3.4	98.8	98.6	98.2	98.8	98.4	-0.4	-0.6	-0.4
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	22.6	108.0	109.6	110.6	107.7	110.1	0.9	2.4	2.2
Furnishings, Household Equip. & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	106.5	106.8	106.6	106.4	106.7	-0.2	0.1	0.3
Health	1.3	108.4	111.7	112.1	108.3	111.9	0.4	3.4	3.3
Transport	14.9	111.1	104.2	98.0	111.0	101.1	-6.0	-11.8	-8.9
Communication	5.7	98.1	97.2	97.2	98.2	97.2	0.0	-0.9	-1.0
Recreation Services & Culture	4.6	104.9	105.3	105.7	104.9	105.5	0.4	0.8	0.6
Education	1.4	109.3	111.1	111.7	109.1	111.4	0.5	2.2	2.1
Restaurants and Hotels	3.2	115.4	118.6	118.8	115.1	118.7	0.2	2.9	3.1
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.3	105.0	106.2	106.7	104.7	106.5	0.5	1.6	1.7
Non-Food	69.7	107.8	107.5	106.6	107.6	107.1	-0.9	-1.1	-0.5
Durable Goods	6.5	97.5	96.0	96.3	97.4	96.2	0.3	-1.2	-1.2
Semi-Durable Goods	4.4	99.6	99.3	99.0	99.6	99.2	-0.3	-0.6	-0.4
Non-Durable Goods	41.6	113.0	112.5	110.0	113.0	111.3	-2.2	-2.7	-1.5
Services	47.5	109.5	111.9	112.6	109.2	112.3	0.6	2.8	2.8

Based on the above changes and the weights assigned to the main groups, the relative contribution to the overall increase of 0.5 per cent in the CPI can be identified as shown in Table A.

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

Group	Wt.	2014 / 2013		February 2015 / 2014		January - February 2015 / 2014	
		% Change	% Contribution	% Change	% Contribution	% Change	% Contribution
TOTAL	100.0	3.2	100.0	0.1	100.0	0.5	100.0
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	3.3	34.0	2.7	1055.8	2.7	159.5
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.2	11.6	8.3	10.6	316.1	10.6	46.8
Clothing and Footwear	3.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.6	-27.4	-0.4	-2.6
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	22.6	3.4	24.1	2.4	657.0	2.2	93.5
Furnishings, Household Equip. & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	1.0	1.3	0.1	3.5	0.3	2.0
Health	1.3	2.9	1.2	3.4	5.5	3.3	8.0
Transport	14.9	4.9	23.1	-11.8	-2219.4	-8.9	-246.6
Communication	5.7	-0.7	-1.3	-0.9	-64.3	-1.0	-9.5
Recreation Services & Culture	4.6	1.5	2.2	0.8	37.3	0.6	4.7
Education	1.4	2.4	1.1	2.2	37.5	2.1	5.6
Restaurants and Hotels	3.2	4.7	5.0	2.9	127.8	3.1	20.2
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.3	0.7	1.3	1.6	121.1	1.7	18.4

The 2.7 per cent increase in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages was the result of increases for Food At Home (+ 2.5 per cent); Food Away From Home (+ 3.5 per cent) and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+ 0.5 per cent). Among the subgroups of Food At Home which showed significant increases during this period as shown in Table 3 were Milk & Eggs (+ 6.6 per cent); Vegetables (+ 5.7 per cent); Fish & Seafood (+ 3.1 per cent) and Fruits (+ 2.8 per cent).

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

Sub-group	Wt.	Index					% Change		
		Feb 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Jan - Feb 2014	Jan - Feb 2015	Jan 2015/ Feb 2015	Feb 2015/ Feb 2014	Jan - Feb 2015/2014
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	114.4	117.7	117.5	114.5	117.6	-0.2	2.7	2.7
Food	28.9	114.8	118.2	117.9	114.8	118.1	-0.3	2.7	2.9
Food At Home	18.9	114.8	118.1	117.6	115.0	117.9	-0.4	2.4	2.5
Rice, Bread & Other Cereals	4.4	105.2	106.1	106.2	105.2	106.2	0.1	1.0	1.0
Meat	2.9	116.5	115.1	115.6	116.1	115.4	0.4	-0.8	-0.6
Fish & Seafood	4.5	124.4	128.4	129.1	124.9	128.8	0.5	3.8	3.1
Milk & Eggs	1.8	115.8	123.2	123.5	115.8	123.4	0.2	6.6	6.6
Oils and Fats	0.6	101.1	101.2	101.3	101.1	101.3	0.1	0.2	0.2
Fruits	1.2	115.7	118.3	119.3	115.6	118.8	0.8	3.1	2.8
Vegetables	2.1	111.1	123.0	114.9	112.6	119.0	-6.6	3.4	5.7
Sugar, Jam, Honey, Choc. & Confectionery	0.6	128.8	129.7	129.8	128.7	129.8	0.1	0.8	0.9
Food Products n.e.c.	0.8	113.2	115.6	115.9	113.0	115.8	0.3	2.4	2.5
Food Away From Home	10.0	114.6	118.2	118.6	114.4	118.4	0.3	3.5	3.5
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	1.4	107.8	108.2	108.2	107.7	108.2	0.0	0.4	0.5

Monthly Changes for CPI

When compared with the previous month, the CPI for February 2015 decreased by 0.6 per cent. Decreases were for four main groups namely Transport (- 6.0 per cent); Clothing & Footwear (-0.4 per cent); Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance by 0.2 per cent respectively. On the other hand, increases were observed in the group Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels by 0.9 per cent; Education and Miscellaneous Goods & Services by 0.5 per cent respectively; Health and Recreation Services & Culture by 0.4per cent respectively; and Restaurant & Hotel (+0.2 per cent.). The other two main groups namely Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco and Communication remained unchanged at 134.6 and 97.2 respectively.

The 0.2 per cent decrease in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages in February 2015 compared with the previous month was the result of decrease in the index for Food At Home by 0.4 per cent. The index for Food Away From Home showed an increase by 0.3 per cent. However, the index for Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages remained unchanged at 108.2.

Among the food items which recorded notable decreases in February 2015 compared with the previous month were **Spinach (- 24.5 per cent)**; **Choy Sum (- 18.7 per cent)**; **Cucumber (- 17.1 per cent)**; **Kai Lan (- 15.7 per cent)**; **Long Beans (- 14.7 per cent)**; **French Beans (- 14.7 per cent)**;

Round Cabbage (- 4.8 per cent); Hardtail Scad (Fish) (- 2.9 per cent); Threadfin Bream (Fish) (- 1.4 per cent) and Indian Mackerel (Fish) (- 1.4 per cent).

Meanwhile, the index of some food items increased in February 2015 compared with the previous month. Among these were **Tomatoes (+ 7.1 per cent); Watermelon (+ 3.4 per cent); Round Scad (Fish) (+ 2.9 per cent); Black Pomfret (Fish) (+ 2.4 per cent); Red Snapper (Fish) (+ 1.4 per cent); Cuttlefish (+ 1.4 per cent); Prawns (+ 1.1 per cent); Chicken (+ 0.8 per cent); Wheat Flour (+ 0.2 per cent) and Hen's Egg (+ 0.2 per cent).**

A reclassification of items according to their durability and services rendered showed increases in the index for Durable Goods (+ 0.2 per cent) and Services (+ 0.1 per cent). Meanwhile, the index for Semi-Durable Goods and Non-Durable Goods decreased by 0.3 per cent respectively.

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