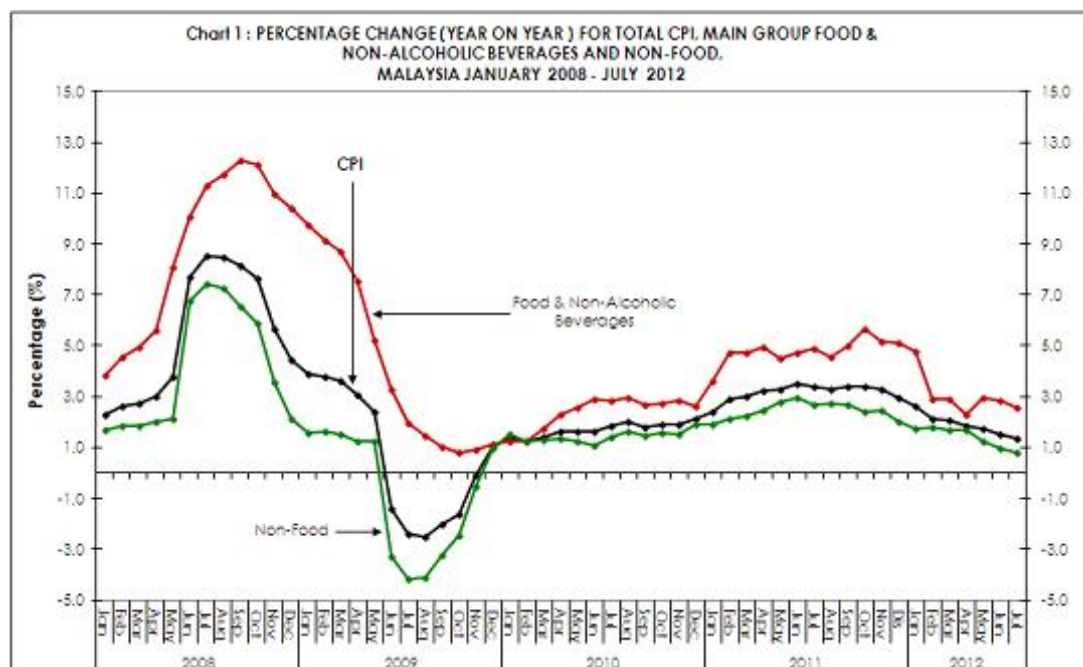




CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MALAYSIA JULY 2012

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the period January to July 2012 increased by **1.9 per cent** to 104.6 compared with that of 102.7 in the same period last year. Compared with the same month in 2011, the CPI for July 2012 registered an increase of 1.4 per cent from 103.4 to 104.8 and when compared with the previous month, the CPI remained unchanged at 104.8.

The index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Non-Food for the month of July 2012 showed increases of 2.6 and 0.8 per cent respectively as compared to the same month in 2011. For the period January to July 2012, the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Non-Food increased by 3.0 and 1.3 per cent respectively. Compared with the previous month, the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased by 0.1 per cent while index for Non-Food remained unchanged at 103.5 (Table 1).



CPI changes for the period January - July 2012 / 2011

The 1.9 per cent increase in the CPI was brought about by increases observed in the indices of all the main groups except those of Communication (- 0.7 per cent) and Clothing & Footwear (- 0.4 per cent). Notable increases among these main groups with high weights were Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+ 3.0 per cent); Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+ 1.7 per cent) and Transport (+ 0.9 per cent). Other increases were Restaurants & Hotels (+ 3.4 per cent); Education and Miscellaneous Goods & Services by 2.6 per cent respectively; Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance (+ 2.1 per cent); Health (+ 2.2 per cent) and Recreation Services & Culture (+ 2.0 per cent). The index for main groups Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco remained unchanged at 104.6.

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

Group	Wt.	Index					% Change		
		Jul 2011	Jun 2012	Jul 2012	Jan - Jul 2011	Jan - Jul 2012	Jul 2012/ Jun 2012	Jul 2012/ Jul 2011	Jan - Jul 2012/ 2011
TOTAL	100.0	103.4	104.8	104.8	102.7	104.6	0.0	1.4	1.9
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	105.1	107.7	107.8	104.0	107.1	0.1	2.6	3.0
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.2	104.6	104.7	104.7	104.6	104.6	0.0	0.1	0.0
Clothing and Footwear	3.4	99.6	99.2	99.1	99.8	99.4	-0.1	-0.5	-0.4
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	22.6	101.8	103.2	103.3	101.3	103.0	0.1	1.5	1.7
Furnishings, Household Equip. & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	102.1	103.8	103.8	101.4	103.5	0.0	1.7	2.1
Health	1.3	102.8	104.6	104.8	102.2	104.4	0.2	1.9	2.2
Transport	14.9	104.7	105.0	104.5	104.1	105.0	-0.5	-0.2	0.9
Communication	5.7	99.7	99.1	99.1	99.9	99.2	0.0	-0.6	-0.7
Recreation Services & Culture	4.6	102.3	103.2	103.3	101.2	103.2	0.1	1.0	2.0
Education	1.4	102.3	104.7	104.7	101.9	104.6	0.0	2.3	2.6
Restaurants and Hotels	3.2	106.4	109.0	109.2	105.0	108.6	0.2	2.6	3.4
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.3	102.4	104.1	104.5	101.5	104.1	0.4	2.1	2.6
Non-Food	69.7	102.7	103.5	103.5	102.1	103.5	0.0	0.8	1.3
Durable Goods	6.5	100.4	100.1	100.1	100.2	100.4	0.0	-0.3	0.2
Semi-Durable Goods	4.4	100.2	100.1	99.9	100.2	100.2	-0.2	-0.3	0.0
Non-Durable Goods	41.6	104.7	106.0	105.9	103.9	105.7	-0.1	1.1	1.7
Services	47.5	102.9	104.9	105.0	102.1	104.6	0.1	2.0	2.4

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 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 76.2 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		July 2012 / 2011		January - July 2012 / 2011	
		% Change	% Contribution	% Change	% Contribution	% Change	% Contribution
TOTAL	100.0	3.2	100.0	1.4	100.0	1.9	100.0
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	4.8	46.4	2.6	56.3	3.0	50.5
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.2	4.6	3.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1
Clothing and Footwear	3.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.5	-1.3	-0.4	-0.7
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	22.6	1.8	12.5	1.5	22.2	1.7	19.4
Furnishings, Household Equip. & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	1.8	2.3	1.7	4.6	2.1	4.4
Health	1.3	2.7	1.2	1.9	1.9	2.2	1.4
Transport	14.9	4.4	20.7	-0.2	-2.0	0.9	6.3
Communication	5.7	-0.3	-0.5	-0.6	-2.2	-0.7	-1.9
Recreation Services & Culture	4.6	2.0	2.8	1.0	2.9	2.0	4.6
Education	1.4	2.2	1.0	2.3	2.4	2.6	2.0
Restaurants and Hotels	3.2	5.9	6.0	2.6	6.2	3.4	5.9
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.3	2.4	4.7	2.1	8.8	2.6	8.0

The 3.0 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 (+ 4.2 per cent) and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+ 3.1 per cent). Among the subgroups of Food At Home which showed significant increases during this period were **Fish & Seafood (+ 7.8 per cent); Milk & Eggs (+ 3.7 per cent); Sugar, Jam, Honey, Chocolate and Confectionery (+ 3.0 per cent); Fruits (+ 2.1 per cent); Rice, Bread and Other Cereals (+ 1.3 per cent)** and Oils & Fats (+ 1.0 per cent).

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

Sub-group	Wt.	Index					% Change		
		Jul 2011	Jun 2012	Jul 2012	Jan - Jul 2011	Jan - Jul 2012	Jul 2012/ Jun 2012	Jul 2012/ Jul 2011	Jan - Jul 2012/2011
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	105.1	107.7	107.8	104.0	107.1	0.1	2.6	3.0
Food	28.9	105.3	107.8	107.9	104.1	107.3	0.1	2.5	3.1
Food At Home	18.9	105.4	107.5	107.5	104.3	106.9	0.0	2.0	2.5
Rice, Bread & Other Cereals	4.4	101.6	102.5	102.4	101.1	102.4	-0.1	0.8	1.3
Meat	2.9	110.8	108.3	107.0	106.3	105.3	-1.2	-3.4	-0.9
Fish & Seafood	4.5	105.6	113.6	114.0	104.2	112.3	0.4	8.0	7.8
Milk & Eggs	1.8	107.2	108.1	109.0	104.9	108.8	0.8	1.7	3.7
Oils and Fats	0.6	100.7	101.4	101.2	100.3	101.3	-0.2	0.5	1.0
Fruits	1.2	105.0	107.7	108.2	105.6	107.8	0.5	3.0	2.1
Vegetables	2.1	102.6	102.4	102.8	106.6	103.1	0.4	0.2	-3.3
Sugar, Jam, Honey, Choc. & Confectionery	0.6	113.3	113.7	113.7	110.2	113.5	0.0	0.4	3.0
Food Products n.e.c.	0.8	106.2	110.0	110.0	104.4	110.1	0.0	3.6	5.5
Food Away From Home	10.0	105.0	108.4	108.7	103.6	108.0	0.3	3.5	4.2
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	1.4	102.9	105.3	105.5	101.7	104.9	0.2	2.5	3.1

Monthly Changes for CPI

Compared with the previous month, the CPI for July 2012 remained unchanged at 104.8. The indices for Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco; Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance; Communication and Education remained unchanged at 104.7; 103.8; 99.1 and 104.7 respectively. However, increases were shown for main groups Miscellaneous Goods & Services (+ 0.4 per cent); Health and Restaurants & Hotels by 0.2 per cent respectively; Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages; Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels and Recreation Services & Culture by 0.1 per cent respectively. On the other hand, decreases were for Transport (- 0.5 per cent) and Clothing & Footwear (- 0.1 per cent).

The 0.1 per cent increase in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages in July 2012 compared with that of the previous month was the result of increases in the index for Food Away From Home (+ 0.3 per cent) and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+ 0.2 per cent) while the index for Food At Home remained unchanged at 107.5.

Among the food items which recorded notable increases in July 2012 compared with the previous month were **Garlic (+ 10.4 per cent)**; **Red Chillies (+ 6.7 per cent)**; **Shallots (+ 3.4 per cent)**; **Hen's Eggs (+ 2.9 per cent)**; **Watermelon (+ 2.3 per cent)**; **Long Beans (+ 2.2 per cent)**; **Water Spinach (+ 1.2 per cent)**; **Spinach (+ 1.0 per cent)** and **Beef (+ 0.5 per cent)**.

Meanwhile, the index of some food items decreased in July 2012 compared with the previous month. Among these were **Kailan (- 5.8 per cent)**; **Cucumber (- 5.3 per cent)**; **Round Cabbage (- 3.9 per cent)**; **Choy Sum (- 2.7 per cent)** and **Chicken (- 2.5 per cent)**.

A reclassification of items according to their durability and services rendered showed increases in Services by 0.1 per cent. The indices for Semi-Durable Goods and Non-Durable Goods decreased by 0.2 and 0.1 per cent respectively. While the index for Durable Goods remained unchanged at 100.1.

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