

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ALL SUB-SECTORS

WHOLESALE, RETAIL TRADE HITS RM159.8B

Automotive demand and festive spending boost January sales performance

DIYANA ISAMUDIN
KUALA LUMPUR
bt@nst.com.my

MALAYSIA'S wholesale and retail trade sales rose to RM159.8 billion in January up 7.3 per cent from RM148.9 billion a year earlier.

The increase was driven by contributions from all sub-sectors, the Statistics Department said.

Chief statistician Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin said the mo-

tor vehicles sub-sector recorded the strongest growth, surging 17.3 per cent to RM18.8 billion.

This was powered mainly by a 25.9 per cent rise in actual vehicle sales (totalling RM9 billion), alongside double-digit growth in parts, maintenance, and motorcycle sales.

The department said data from the Malaysian Automotive Association showed that 64,298 vehicles were sold, while the Road Transport Department recorded 67,995 registrations in January.

Retail and wholesale trade grew by about six per cent to RM70.2 billion and RM70.8 billion, respectively.

In retail, non-specialised stores led with RM27.5 billion in sales, up 7.9 per cent.

The increase was supported by provision stores, department

stores and supermarkets during the school holidays and festive spending, including early Chinese New Year preparations and the disbursement of Bantuan Awal Persekolahan.

Specialised stores also grew 5.4 per cent to RM14.7 billion, driven mainly by pharmaceuticals, medical goods and jewellery.

Uzir said retail sales of automotive fuel rose seven per cent to RM6.5 billion.

Household equipment sales increased 3.3 per cent to RM7.8 billion, supported by construction materials, furniture and other household items.

In wholesale trade, the household goods sub-sector jumped 9.4 per cent to RM15.2 billion, driven by perfumes, cosmetics, stationery and jewellery.

Other specialised wholesale ac-

Jualan borong, runcit Januari naik kepada RM159.8b

Sektor perdagangan borong dan runcit negara memulakan 2026 dengan prestasi positif apabila mencatatkan jumlah jualan RM159.8 bilion pada Januari lalu, meningkat 7.3 peratus berbanding tempoh sama tahun lalu, demikian menurut Jabatan Perangkaan Malaysia (DOSM).

Ketua Perangkawan Malaysia, Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin, berkata pertumbuhan itu disokong terutama oleh subsektor perdagangan runcit dan perdagangan borong yang terus menunjukkan pengembangan kukuh.

Beliau berkata, perdagangan runcit merekodkan jumlah jualan RM70.2 bilion, meningkat RM4.1 bilion atau 6.1 peratus berbanding Januari tahun lalu, manakala perdagangan borong turut mencatatkan prestasi memberangsangkan dengan jumlah jualan RM70.8 bilion, naik RM4 bilion atau enam peratus peratus tahun ke tahun.

“Sementara itu, subsektor kenderaan bermotor terus menunjukkan pengembangan yang kukuh dengan jumlah jualan RM18.8 bilion, meningkat RM2.8 bilion bersamaan pertumbuhan 17.3 peratus berbanding Januari tahun sebelumnya,” katanya dalam satu kenyataan.

Mengulas lanjut, Mohd Uzir berkata, prestasi perdagangan runcit banyak dipacu jualan runcit di kedai bukan pengkhususan yang me-

ningkat 7.9 peratus kepada RM27.5 bilion, disumbangkan kedai runcit, gedung serbaneka dan pasar raya.

Katanya, peningkatan aktiviti runcit turut dipengaruhi cuti persekolahan, sambutan tahun baharu, pemberian Bantuan Awal Persekolahan (BAP) serta persediaan awal bagi sambutan Tahun Baharu Cina.

Selain itu, katanya, jualan runcit di kedai pengkhususan berkembang 5.4 peratus kepada RM14.7 bi-

lion pada Januari 2026, didorong permintaan lebih kukuh bagi produk farmaseutikal, perubatan dan peralatan ortopedik serta barang kemas.

“Jualan runcit bahan api kenderaan pula meningkat 7.0 peratus kepada RM6.5 bilion, manakala jualan runcit peralatan isi rumah naik 3.3 peratus kepada

RM7.8 bilion, dipacu pembelian lebih tinggi bagi bahan binaan dan perkakasan, perabot isi rumah serta perkakas dapur,” katanya.

Dalam pada itu, subsektor perdagangan borong turut menunjukkan prestasi kukuh dengan jualan borong barangan isi rumah berkembang 9.4 peratus kepada RM15.2 bilion disumbangkan jualan lebih tinggi bagi barangan pewangi, kosmetik, sabun dan kelengkapan dandanan diri, selain alat tulis, buku, majalah, surat khabar serta barang kemas.



Mohd Uzir Mahidin

Wholesale, retail trade sales rise in January

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia's wholesale and retail trade sales rose 7.3 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) to RM159.8 billion in January 2026, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM).

In a statement yesterday, chief statistician Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin said retail trade recorded total sales of RM70.2 billion in January, an increase of RM4.1 billion, representing a 6.1 per cent y-o-y growth.

Meanwhile, wholesale trade posted sales of RM70.8 billion, rising by RM4.0 billion or 6.0 per cent y-o-y.

The motor vehicle sub-sector continued to demonstrate notable expansion, registering total sales of RM18.8 billion, an increase of RM2.8 billion, translating into a y-o-y growth of 17.3 per cent.

On retail trade performance, Mohd Uzir said growth was largely driven by higher sales in non-specialised stores, which rose 7.9 per cent to RM27.5 billion, supported by stronger demand at provision stores, department stores and supermarkets.

"The overall improvement in retail activity was mainly attributed to the school holidays, New Year celebrations, the disbursement of Bantuan Awal Persekolahan

(BAP), as well as early preparations for the Chinese New Year festivities," he said.

He said retail sales in specialised stores expanded 5.4 per cent to RM14.7 billion, supported by stronger demand for pharmaceuticals, medical and orthopaedic goods as well as jewellery.

In addition, retail sales of automotive fuels increased 7.0 per cent to RM6.5 billion, while sales of household equipment rose 3.3 per cent to RM7.8 billion, driven by higher purchases of construction materials and hardware, household furniture, as well as household utensils and crockery.

Mohd Uzir said wholesale trade also maintained steady performance during the month, with the wholesale of household goods expanding by 9.4 per cent to RM15.2 billion.

"This increase was mainly attributed to stronger sales of perfumeries, cosmetics, soap and toiletries, stationery, books, magazines and newspapers, as well as jewellery," he said.

Mohd Uzir said other specialised wholesale activities recorded growth of 4.3 per cent to RM25.7 billion, supported by higher demand for construction materials, fertilisers and agrochemical products, as well as timber and

related products.

"Growth was also underpinned by the wholesale of food, beverages and tobacco, which recorded a 5.8 per cent increase, driven by higher sales of rice, other grains, flour and sugars, fish and other seafood, and coffee, tea, cocoa and other beverages," he said.

Mohd Uzir said the motor vehicles sub-sector's strong performance was driven mainly by motor vehicle sales, which reached RM9.0 billion, a 25.9 per cent y-o-y increase.

"The strong performance was partly supported by year-opening promotional campaigns by automotive dealers and increased consumer demand ahead of the festive season, which traditionally encourages higher vehicle purchases and replacement demand.

"This performance is consistent with data from the Malaysian Automotive Association (MAA), which reported 64,298 vehicles sold, while the Road Transport Department Malaysia (JPJ) recorded 67,995 vehicle registrations during the month," he said.

He added that other groups contributing to the expansion of the sub-sector included sales, maintenance and repair of motorcycles (32.7 per cent);

sales of motor vehicle parts and accessories (6.2 per cent); as well as maintenance and repair of motor vehicles (9.3 per cent), reflecting continued demand for vehicle servicing and aftermarket components.

Meanwhile, online retail sales continued to grow in January, rising 5.9 per cent y-o-y compared with 8.9 per cent recorded in the previous month.

Digital payment activities also maintained strong momentum, with e-money transactions surging 55.4 per cent year-on-year to RM30.3 billion, while real-time retail payment platform (RPP) transactions amounted to RM359.0 billion, recording growth of 23.5 per cent.

FPX transactions expanded 32.6 per cent to RM51.2 billion, while credit and debit card transactions were recorded at RM20.7 billion and RM14.6 billion, respectively.

In terms of the volume index, wholesale and retail trade recorded a 5.8 per cent year-on-year increase, driven mainly by the motor vehicles sub-sector, which grew 15.9 per cent.

"However, on a seasonally adjusted basis, the volume index declined by 2.4 per cent month-on-month," Mohd Uzir added. — Bernama