

Unit price index of sand records increase in July

PUTRAJAYA: The Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DoSM) reported that the unit price index for sand recorded an increase in July 2026, ranging from 0.1% to 14.9% as compared to the previous month.

The highest increase in the price index for this material was recorded in Terengganu & Kelantan (14.9%), followed by Kota Kinabalu (4.1%) and Penang, Kedah & Perlis (2.8%).

The unit price index for steel also recorded a slight increase, with month-on-month increases ranging from 0.6% to 0.9% across selected areas.

The highest increase was observed in Perak (0.9%), followed by Tawau (0.7%) and Sandakan (0.6%), while the index remained unchanged in most other areas across Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.

The unit price index for cement recorded a slight increase ranging from 0.2% to 0.8% across selected areas as compared to the previous month.

The highest increase was recorded in Perak (0.8%), followed by Selangor, W.P. Kuala Lumpur, Malacca & Negeri Sembilan (0.3%) and Penang, Kedah & Perlis (0.2%). Meanwhile the unit price index for cement remained unchanged in most other areas across Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.

An annual comparison for the period of July 2025 and July 2026 has indicated that the unit price index for steel recorded an increase ranging from 0.5% to 8.4% involving most

areas in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.

The highest increase in the unit price index for steel was observed in Perak (8.4%), followed by Johor (6.3%) and Pahang (4.8%).

The year-on-year unit price index for cement recorded increases ranging from 0.9% to 7.5 in July 2026 as compared with the same month of the previous year across all areas in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.

The highest increase was recorded in Perak (7.5%), followed by Kuching and Miri (7.2%), respectively.

The DoSM also reported that the average price per unit of steel, consisting of mild steel round bars and Mycon 60 high tensile deformed bars, recorded a slight decrease (-0.2%) with an average price of RM3,499.50 per metric tonne as compared to the previous month (June 2026: RM3,507.10 per metric tonne).

Meanwhile, the average price of Ordinary Portland cement remained unchanged with an average price of RM25.70 per 50 kg bag.

The monthly comparison of BCI with steel bars, by building category and region in Peninsular Malaysia for July 2026 recorded an increase ranging from 0.1% to 1.4%.

The BCI with steel bars in Sabah recorded a slight decrease ranging from 0.2% to 0.5% for all building categories in July 2026 as compared to the previous month.