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STATISTICS DEPT DATA

JUNE TRADE JUMPS 10.1pc TO RM168.5B

All three sub-sectors log growth with wholesale trade leading the expansion amid stronger petroleum-related sales

KUALA LUMPUR

MALAYSIA'S wholesale and retail trade increased 10.1 per cent year on year in June, with sales hitting RM168.5 billion, backed by positive growth across all three sub-sectors, according to the Statistics Department.

In tandem with the expansion in sales value, the volume index rose by 5.1 per cent year on year.

Yesterday, the department said the wholesale trade logged sales of RM76.8 billion, an increase of RM8.5 billion, representing a growth of 12.4 per cent year-on-year.

"Retail trade registered sales of RM72.0 billion, up RM4.5 bil-

lion, equivalent to a rise of 6.6 per cent, while the motor vehicles sub-sector expanded by RM2.6 billion, a 14.9 per cent growth, reaching RM19.7 billion.

"Collectively, the increase in sales across the three sub-sectors amounted to RM15.5 billion, broadly accounting for the overall increase in wholesale and retail trade sales during the month," the department said.

It said wholesale trade contributed the largest share of the increase, followed by retail trade and motor vehicles.

The wholesale trade continued to be the main contributor to the overall sales value, with the expansion driven by the other specialised wholesale group, which increased by 25.3 per cent to RM31.0 billion.



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BERNAMA PIC

"The stronger performance in this group was backed by higher sales of petrol, diesel, lubricants and liquefied petroleum gas, driven partly by market price movements, particularly for petroleum-related products," it said.

Wholesale of household goods also expanded by 6.5 per cent to RM15.3 billion, supported by sustained demand for pharmaceutical and medical goods, jewellery and clothing.

The department said the wholesale of food, beverages and tobacco increased by 4.5 per cent, driven by higher sales of rice, other grains, flour and sugar, dairy products, as well as fish and other seafood.

The wholesale of machinery, equipment and supplies grew by 6.4 per cent to RM5.7 billion, following higher sales of telephone and telecommunications equipment.

The department said the retail trade sub-sector kept positive momentum in June, with sales increasing by 6.6 per cent to RM72.0 billion, led by retail sales in non-specialised stores, which rose by 7.0 per cent to RM28.0 billion, backed by sustained sales in supermarkets and department stores.

The retail sales of other goods in specialised stores increased by 7.0 per cent to RM15.3 billion, driven by stronger demand for pharmaceutical and medical

goods as well as jewellery.

Retail sales of automotive fuel in specialised stores logged a growth of 10.8 per cent, while retail sales of food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores increased by 6.6 per cent, supported by higher sales of bakery products and sugar confectionery, fish and other seafoods, and dairy products and eggs.

"Retail performance was also supported by increased consumer activity during the festive season and the school holiday period extending into the first week of June, which contributed to higher mobility, household purchases and consumption-related activities across the retail segment," it said. **Bernama**