



MEDIA STATEMENT

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, MALAYSIA MARCH 2025

Malaysia's inflation increased at a slower rate of 1.4 per cent in March 2025

PUTRAJAYA, 23 April 2025 - Malaysia's inflation increased at a slower rate of 1.4 per cent in March 2025 with the index points stood at 134.1 as against 132.2 in the same month of the previous year. The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) reported today on the release of **CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI), MARCH 2025**.

The increase of inflation in March 2025 was driven by a slower increase in the group of Personal Care, Social Protection & Miscellaneous Goods & Services, 3.6 per cent (February 2025: 3.7%), followed by Restaurant & Accommodation Services, 2.9 per cent (February 2025: 3.5%); Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels, 1.9 per cent (February 2025: 2.3%); Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco, 0.8 per cent (February 2025: 0.9%) and Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance, 0.2 per cent (February 2025: 0.3%).

Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin informed that inflation for both Education (2.2%) and Recreation, Sport & Culture (1.7%) recorded a higher increase as compared to February 2025. Meanwhile, Food & Beverages (2.5%), Insurance & Financial Services (1.5%), Health (1.0%) and Transport (0.7%), increased at the same rate as recorded in the previous month. In addition, Information & Communication and Clothing & Footwear, remained at a negative territory at negative 5.4 per cent and negative 0.2 per cent respectively.

The Food & Beverages group which contributes 29.8 per cent of the total CPI weight increased by 2.5 per cent in March 2025 (February 2025: 2.5%). The subgroup of Food at home increased 0.6 per cent as compared to 0.5 per cent in the preceding month. The inflation for Fish & other seafood expenditure class recorded an increase to 1.7 per cent in March 2025 (February 2025: 1.2%). Among the items that recorded an increase on a year-on-year basis in March 2025 were Barramundi, 10.6 per cent (February 2025: 6.8%), Cuttlefish, 6.7 per cent (February 2025: 5.6%), Sardine, 1.4 per cent (February 2025: -1.3%) and Torpedo scad, 1.4 per cent (February 2025: -1.1%).

The expenditure class of Ready-made food & other food products not elsewhere classified registering 3.1 per cent (February 2025: 3.2%) was also the main contributor to the increase in the subgroup of Food at home. Fresh coconut milk and Instant coconut milk increased to 29.4 per cent (February 2025: 27.0%) and 11.7 per cent (February 2025: 8.7%) respectively. The increase in coconut prices in the Malaysian market since the end of last year until early 2025 is not only due to the reduction in local coconut supply but also attributed to the supply shortage globally due to the coconut off-season. The government, through the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (FAMA), has imported and distributed 1,053 tonnes of mature coconuts with a total value of RM2.42 million as of March 2025 during the month of Ramadan and Aidilfitri celebrations.

Meanwhile, the inflation rate for Milk, other dairy products & eggs expenditure class was in the negative range at negative 1.1 per cent as compared to negative 0.8 per cent in the previous month. Fresh milk and Full cream milk declined to negative 2.4 per cent and negative 1.4 per cent respectively in March 2025. Full cream powdered milk also dropped to negative 1.4 per cent as compared to negative 1.0 per cent in February 2025. The Egg expenditure subclass remained at a negative rate registering negative 3.4 per cent (February 2025: -3.3%). The government, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (KPKM), has assured that the supply of chicken eggs in Malaysia remains sufficient and stable to meet domestic demand through close cooperation between KPKM and local egg producers.

The expenditure class of Vegetables recorded a decrease of negative 0.8 per cent in March 2025 (February 2025: -1.0%). Among the vegetables that recorded decreases were Big red onions, negative 18.0 per cent (February 2025: -12.0%), Pak choy, negative 8.1 per cent (February 2025: -2.0%), Tomatoes, negative 4.7 per cent (February 2025: -16.5%) and Red spinach, negative 4.1 per cent (February 2025: -1.6%).

The expenditure class of Meat also declined to negative 0.4 per cent in March 2025 (February 2025: -0.3%). The decrease was mainly contributed by Local beef and Pork which remained at a negative territory registering negative 4.3 per cent (February 2025: -4.3%) and negative 0.2 per cent (February 2025: -0.3%) respectively. However, Chicken as the largest component (32.6%) in the expenditure class of Meat increased to 2.3 per cent in March 2025 as compared to 1.9 per cent in the previous month. Based on the data collected by DOSM, the average price of Standard chicken in Malaysia for March 2025 was RM10.56 per kilogramme as compared to RM10.28 per kilogramme in March 2024 (February 2025: RM10.52). Meanwhile, the average price of Standard chicken in Peninsular Malaysia for March 2025 was RM9.84 per kilogramme as compared to RM9.55 per kilogramme in March 2024 (February 2025: RM9.76).

The government also implemented the Festive Season Maximum Price Scheme (SHMMP) for Aidilfitri 2025, effective for 15 days from 24 March to 7 April 2025, involving 26 selected items including Local beef, Imported beef, Mackerel, Round scad, Tomatoes, Red chillies, Long beans, Cucumbers, Mustard, Coconuts and Grated coconut. Four new items were added to the SHMMP for Aidilfitri 2025, namely Indian shallots, Indian rose shallots, Carrots and Coconut milk.

In addition, the subgroup of Food away from home increased at a slower rate of 4.5 per cent as compared to 4.6 per cent in February 2025. Items that recorded slower increases in March 2025 were Steamboat, 9.1 per cent (February 2025: 9.5%), Satay, 5.9 per cent (February 2025: 6.6%), Cooked vegetable, 4.9 per cent (February 2025: 5.7%), White rice, 4.1 per cent (February 2025: 4.5%), Cooked chicken, 3.6 per cent (February 2025: 3.7%) and Chicken rice, 3.4 per cent (February 2025: 3.6%).

Inflation for the group of Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels increased at a slower rate of 1.9 per cent in March 2025 (February 2025: 2.3%). This was driven by the subgroup of Water supply & miscellaneous services relating to dwelling (0.9%). The expenditure class of Water supply increased slower at 0.5 per cent in March 2025 (February 2025: 2.5%).

Furthermore, inflation for Transport remained at 0.7 per cent, the same rate as recorded in the previous month. This was contributed by the subgroup of Operation of personal transport equipment (1.3%). Meanwhile, the subgroup of Purchase of vehicles and Transport services of goods remained at 0.7 per cent and 2.0 per cent respectively, the same rate as recorded in the previous month. However, the subgroup of Public transport services remained at a negative territory registering negative 5.3 per cent, and that to a certain extent offset the inflation of this group from increase further.

The average price for Diesel in Peninsular Malaysia was RM3.08 per litre as compared to RM2.15 per litre in March 2024 (February 2025: RM3.18). However, the average price of Diesel for Sabah, Sarawak and Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan remained at RM2.15 per litre. In addition, inflation for Unleaded petrol RON97 decreased at negative 4.0 per cent (February 2025: -1.2%). The average price of Unleaded petrol RON97 in March 2025 was RM3.33 per litre as against RM3.47 per litre in March 2024 (February 2025: RM3.43).

Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin also added that, with regards to inflation at the state level, 12 states recorded increases below the national inflation rate of 1.4 per cent with Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan recording the lowest increase at 0.6 per cent in March 2025. However, four states recorded increases above the national inflation level namely Johor (2.1%), Selangor (1.8%), Negeri Sembilan (1.7%) and Melaka (1.6%). All states registered an increase in the inflation of Food & Beverages. The increase was recorded by Wilayah Persekutuan Putrajaya at 3.6 per cent, followed by Negeri Sembilan (3.4%), Selangor (3.3%), Johor (2.9%), Sabah (2.9%), Melaka (2.8%), Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan (2.8%), Terengganu (2.6%) and Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur (2.5%), while, other

states showed an increase below the national inflation of Food & Beverages (2.5%) in March 2025.

The inflation rate for the first quarter of 2025 increased slower to 1.5 per cent as compared to the same quarter of the preceding year (Q4 2024: 1.8%). The increase was attributed by Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels, 2.3 per cent (Q4 2024: 3.2%); Health, 1.0 per cent (Q4 2024: 1.2%); Transport, 0.7 per cent (Q4 2024: 0.5%) and Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance, 0.4 per cent (Q4 2024: 0.4%). Furthermore, the decline in Information & Communication to negative 5.3 per cent (Q4 2024: -3.7%), to a certain extent eased the inflation from increasing further. On a quarterly basis, the inflation increased at 0.4 per cent as compared to 0.2 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2024.

The monthly headline inflation in March 2025 remained unchanged as compared to February 2025. Although there were increases in Education (0.5%); Personal Care, Social Protection & Miscellaneous Goods & Services (0.3%); Food & Beverages (0.1%) and Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance (0.1%) in March 2025, there were offset by the decrease in Transport (-0.2%), Restaurant & Accommodation Services (-0.1%) and Information & Communication (-0.1%). Meanwhile, core inflation increased to 1.9 per cent, the same rate as recorded in February 2025. The increase was mainly driven by Food & Beverages (3.7%); Personal Care, Social Protection & Miscellaneous Goods & Services (3.6%); Restaurant & Accommodation Services (2.9%); Transport (2.3%) and Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (2.3%).

In comparison to inflation in other selected countries, inflation in Malaysia (1.4%) was lower than inflation in Viet Nam (3.1%) and Philippines (1.8%). However, the rate was higher than Indonesia (1.0%), Thailand (0.8%) and China (-0.1%).

ASEAN-Malaysia 2025 Chairmanship: Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) will chair the 15th ASEAN Community Statistical System Committee (ACSS15) which aims to strengthen the statistical cooperation towards sustainable regional development.

Embargo: Only to be published or disseminated at 1200 hour, Wednesday, 23 April 2025

The Government of Malaysia has declared October 20th as National Statistics Day (MyStats Day), with the theme 'Statistics is the Essence of Life.' Meanwhile, the Fourth World Statistics Day will be celebrated on 20 October 2025, with the theme 'Driving Change with Quality Statistics and Data for Everyone'.

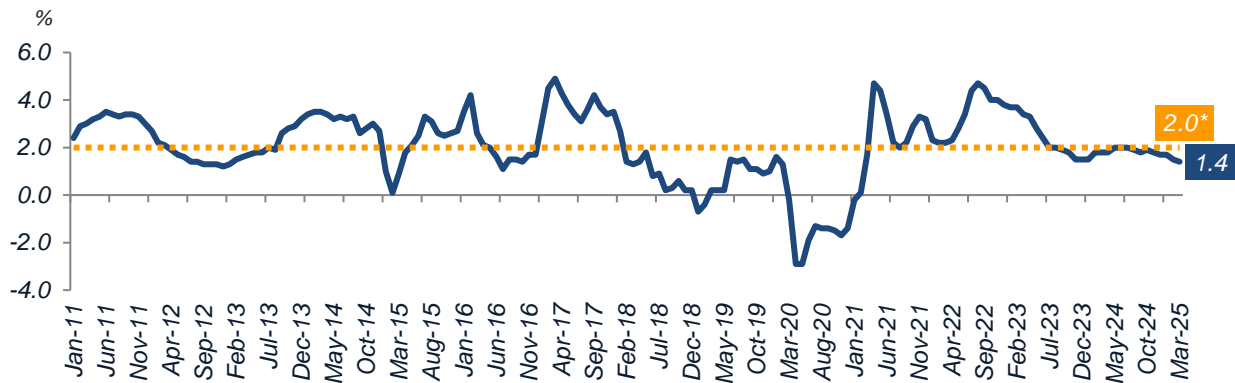
OpenDOSM NextGen is a medium that provides data catalogue and visualisations to facilitate users' analysis and can be accessed through <https://open.dosm.gov.my>.

Released by:

**THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
23 APRIL 2025**

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Chart 1 Monthly Inflation Malaysia, January 2011 - March 2025



Note: * Average inflation for the period of January 2011 to March 2025

Chart 2 Malaysia Inflation, Core Inflation and Inflation without Fuel, March 2024 - March 2025

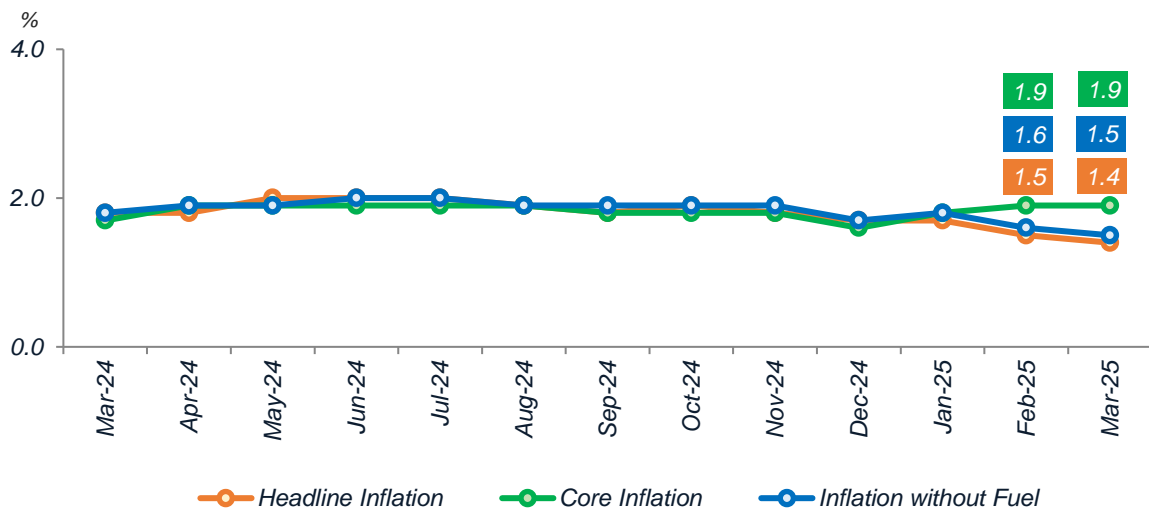


Chart 3 Inflation for Income Group Below RM3,000, March 2024 - March 2025

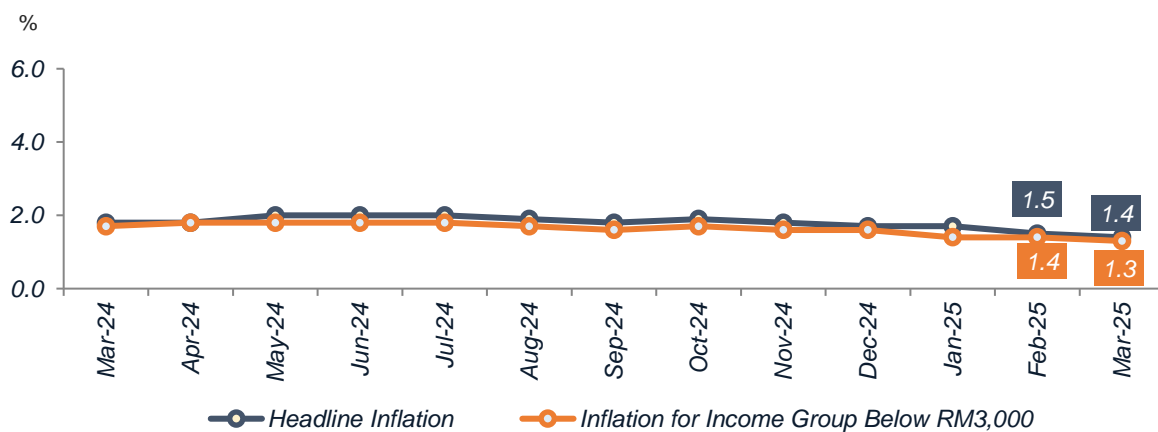


Chart 4

Quarterly Inflation Malaysia, Q1 2011 - Q1 2025

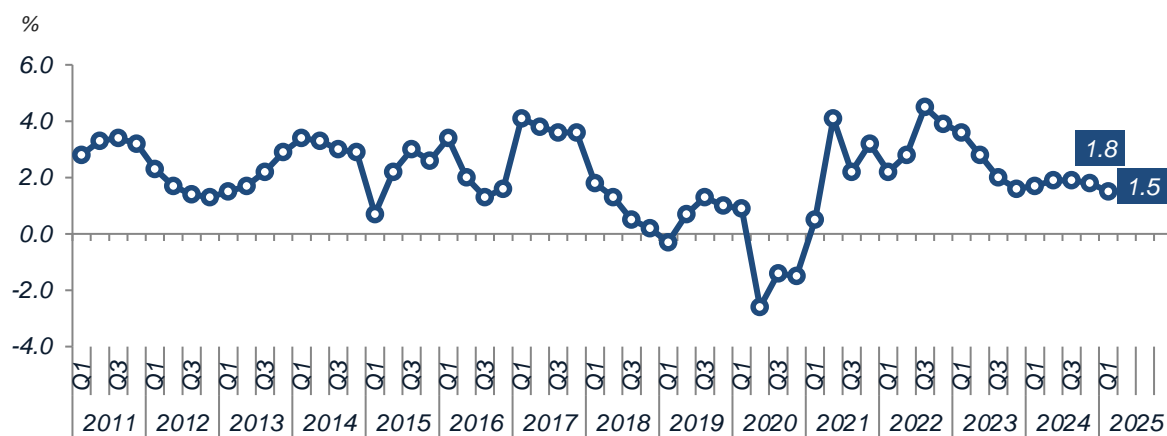


Chart 5

Annual Inflation Malaysia, 2011 - 2024

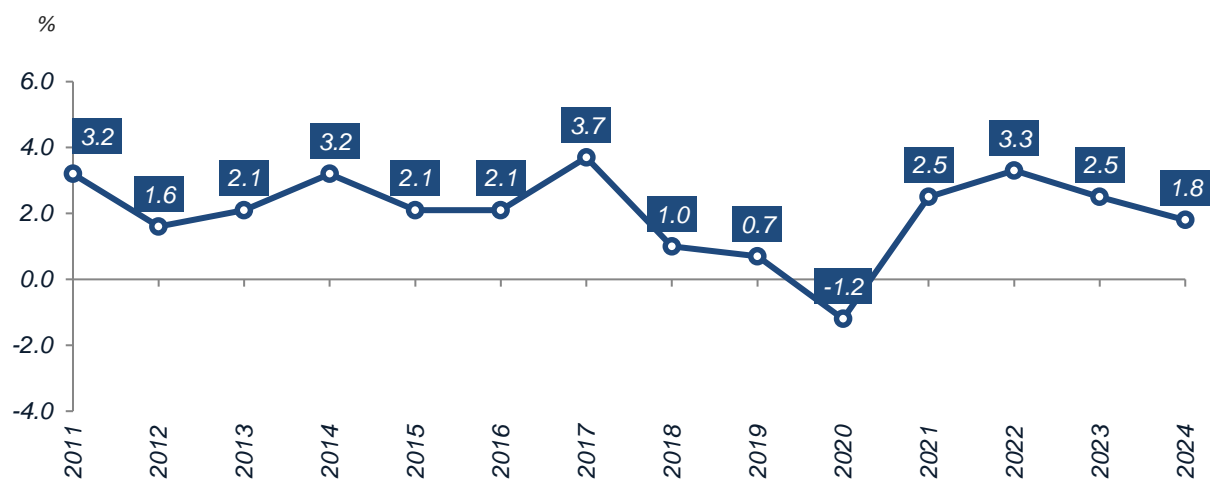


Chart 6

Inflation by Quadrant, February 2025 & March 2025

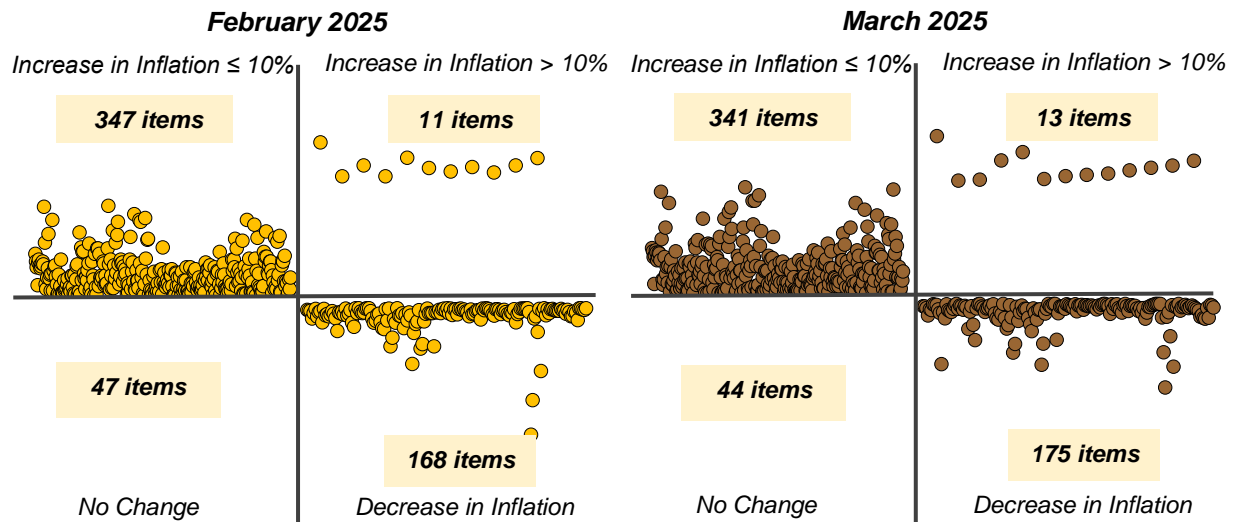


Chart 7

Distribution of Inflation for Food and Non-Food that Increased $\leq 10\%$, February 2025 & March 2025

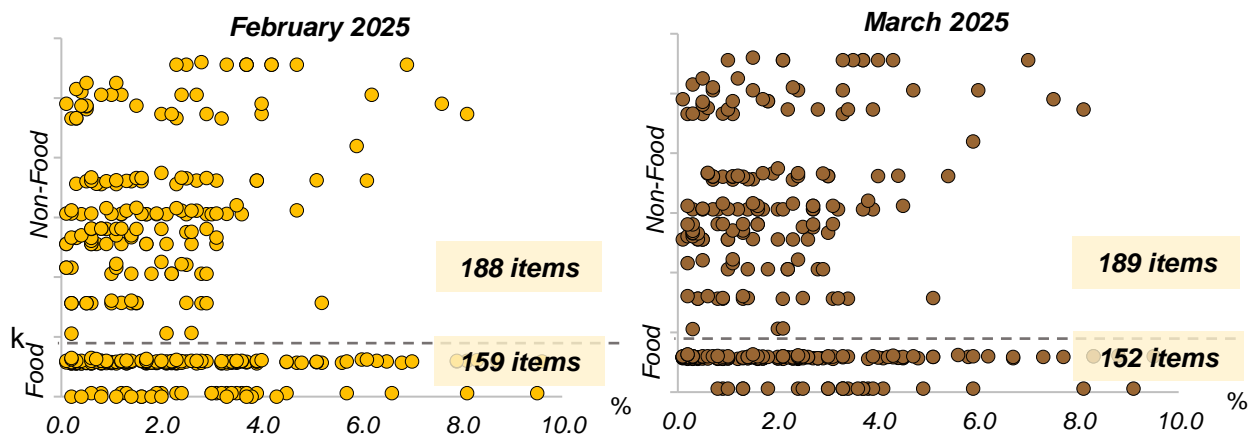


Chart 8

Average Price of Unleaded Petrol RON95, Unleaded Petrol RON97 and Diesel, March 2024 - March 2025

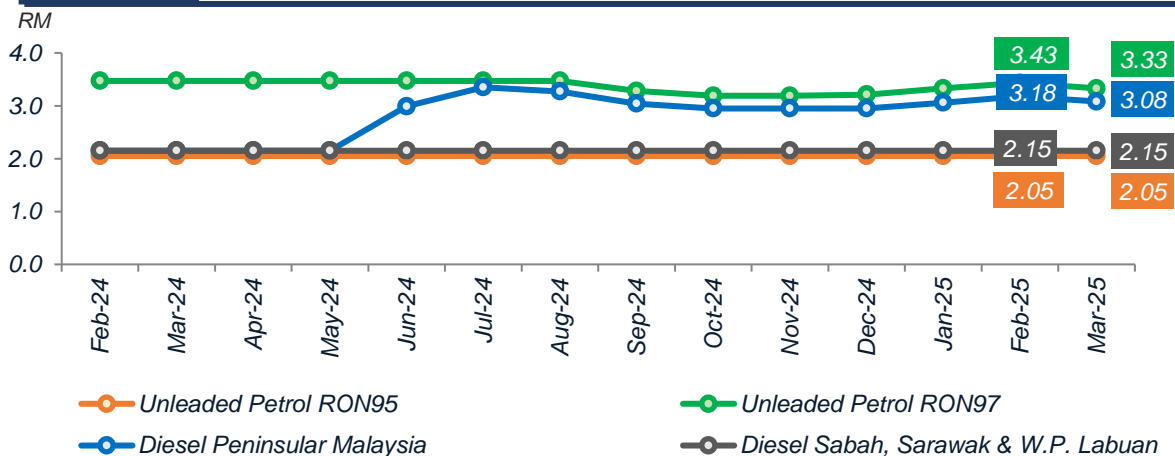


Chart 9

Inflation by Main Group, February 2025 & March 2025

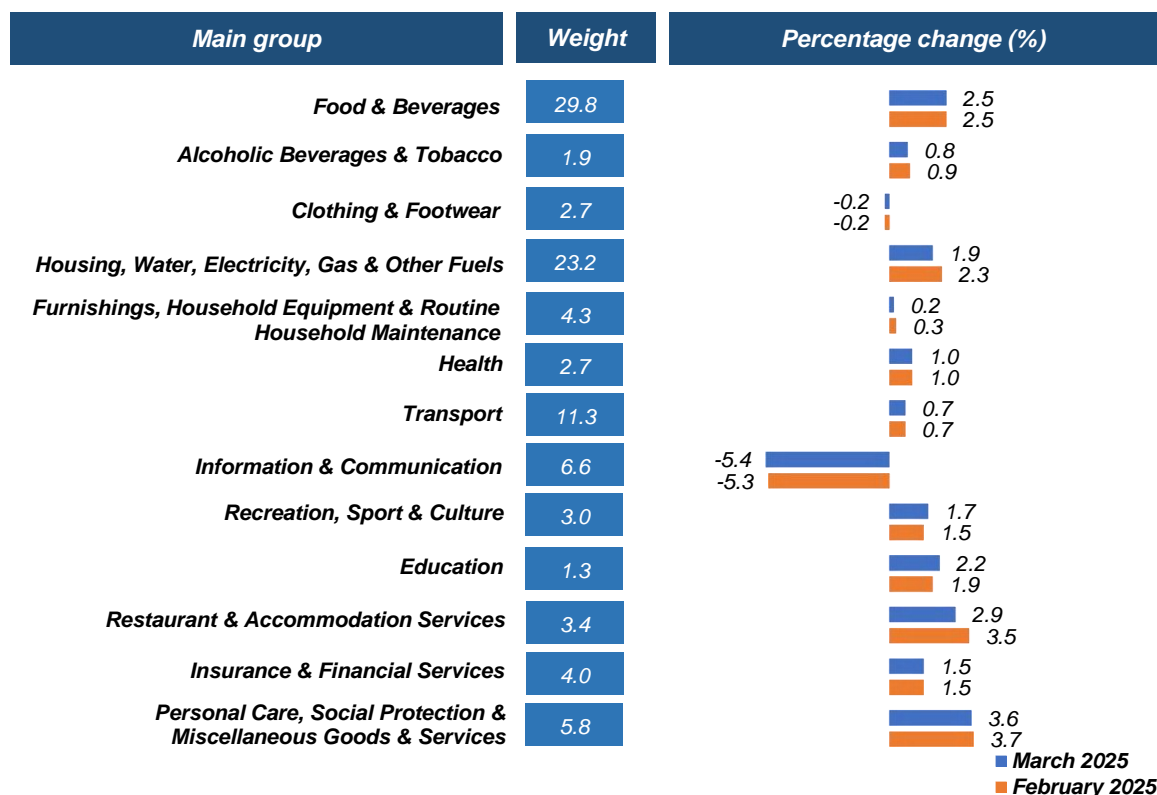


Chart 10

Inflation for Food & Beverages, March 2024 - March 2025

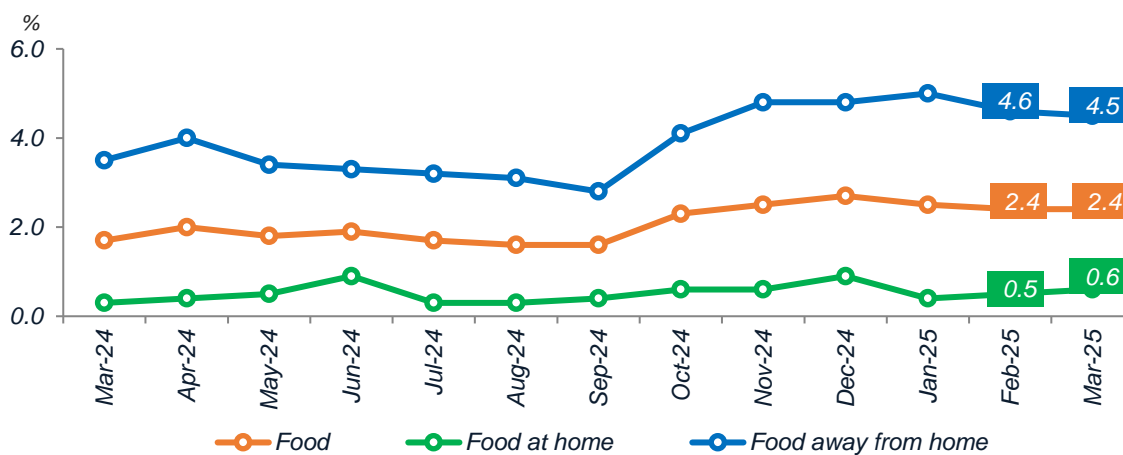
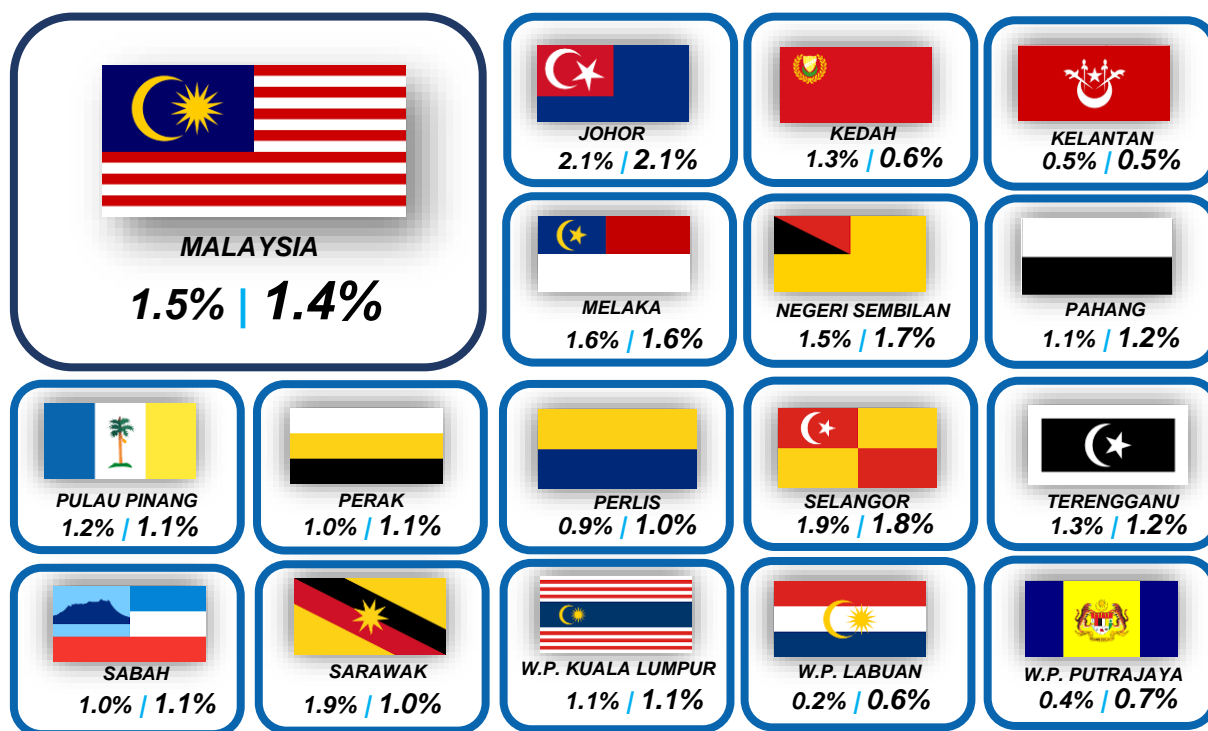


Chart 11 Inflation by State, February 2025 & March 2025



Note: W.P. refers to Wilayah Persekutuan

February 2025 | March 2025

Chart 12 Inflation of Selected Countries, March 2024 - March 2025

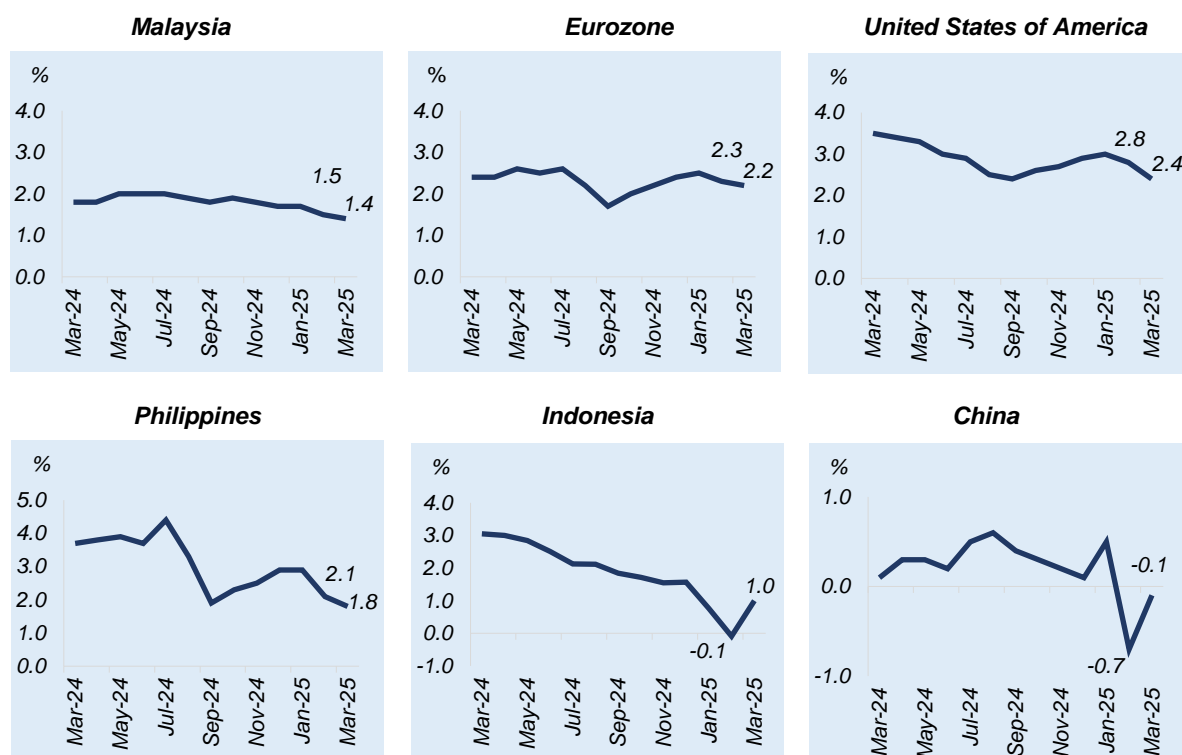
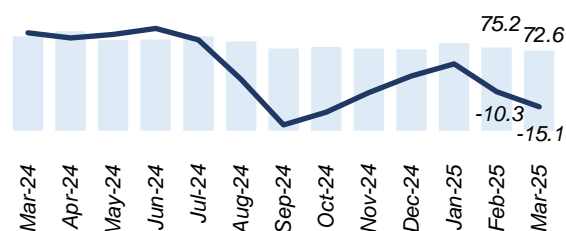


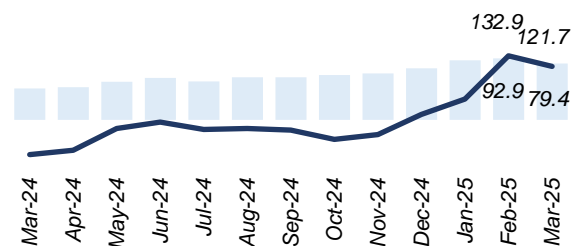
Chart 13

Global Selected Commodity Prices

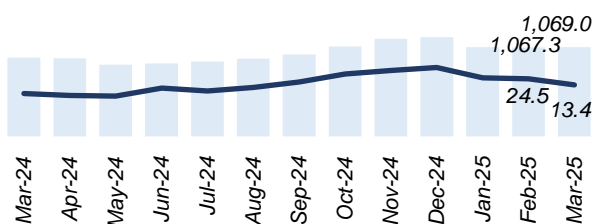
Crude Oil (US\$/bbl)



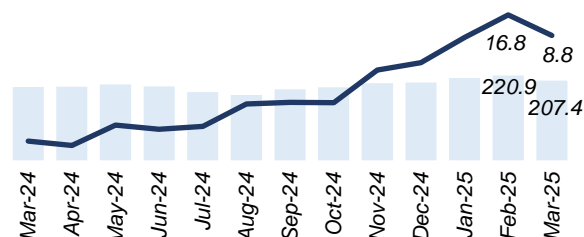
Natural Gas (Index 2010=100)



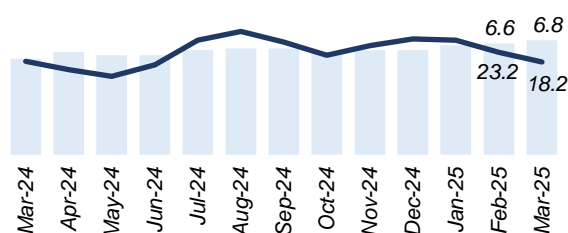
Palm Oil (US\$/mt)



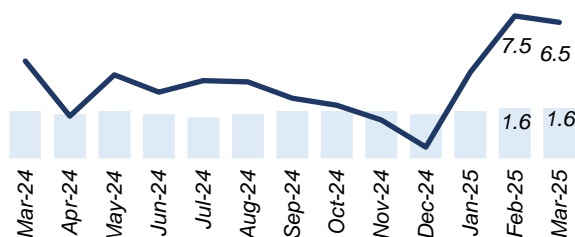
Maize (US\$/mt)



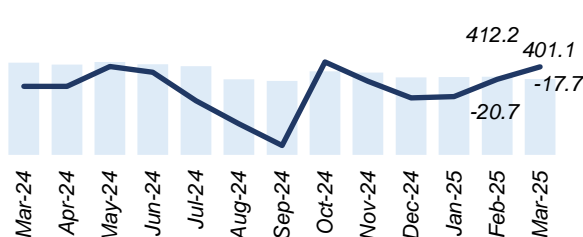
Beef (US\$/kg)



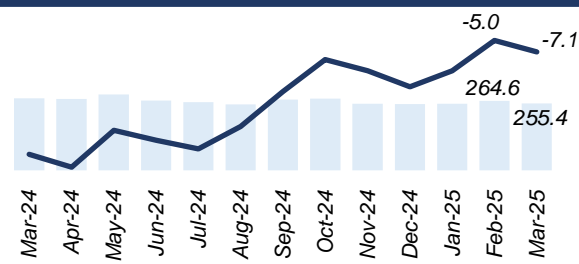
Meat, Chicken (US\$/kg)



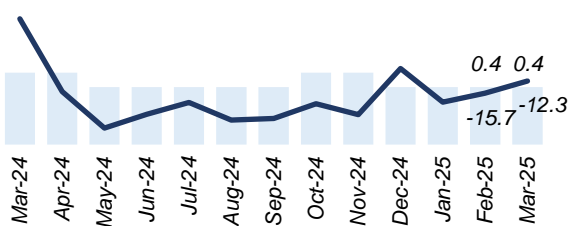
Soybeans (US\$/mt)



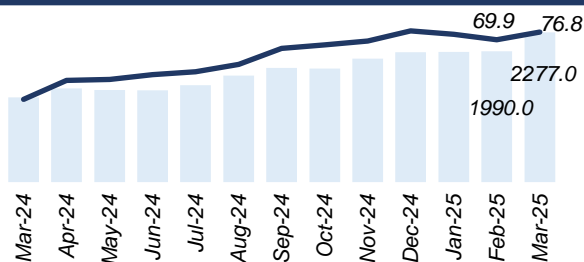
Wheat (US\$/mt)



Sugar (US\$/kg)



Coconut Oil (US\$/mt)



Global commodity price (US\$) — Percentage change year-on-year

Source: Commodity Monthly Prices, World Bank

Notes:

Bbl : Brazilian Butt Lift (barrel) (1bbl = 159 litres)

Mt : Million Tonne

Mmbtu : Metric Million British Thermal Unit