



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA STATEMENT

BUILDING COST INDEX, MAY 2026

The unit price index of steel recorded an increase between 0.1 per cent to 1.3 per cent in May 2026

PUTRAJAYA, 10TH JUNE 2026 – The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) published **SPECIAL RELEASE FOR BUILDING AND STRUCTURAL WORKS, MAY 2026**. This report provides the unit price index of major building materials and the Building Material Cost Index (BCI) by building category and region.

In a statement today, Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin stated that the unit price index of steel recorded an increase in May 2026, with month-on-month changes ranging from 0.1 per cent to 1.3 per cent in all areas in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak. The highest increase in the price index for this material was recorded in Pahang (1.3%), followed by Sibu and Miri (0.8%), respectively.

The Chief Statistician of Malaysia informed that the unit price index of sand also recorded an increase in May 2026, ranging from 0.4 per cent to 9.7 per cent as compared to the previous month. The highest increase in the price index for this material was recorded in Sandakan (9.7%), followed by Johor and Sibu (3.7%), respectively.

In addition, the price index of aggregates registered an increase in May 2026, with month-on-month changes ranging from 0.3 per cent to 4.7 per cent across all areas in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak. The highest increase in the price index for this material was recorded in Sandakan (4.7%), followed by Selangor, W.P. Kuala Lumpur, Melaka & Negeri Sembilan (3.9%) and Johor (3.6%).

Meanwhile, the unit price index of cement also showed an increase in May 2026, with month-on-month change ranging from 0.2 per cent to 2.1 per cent in all areas in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.

An annual comparison for the period of May 2025 and May 2026 has indicated that the unit price index for steel recorded an increase ranging from 1.1 per cent to 10.0 per cent involving most areas in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.

The highest increase in the unit price index for steel was observed in Perak (10.0%), followed by Johor (6.0%) and Selangor, W.P. Kuala Lumpur, Melaka & Negeri Sembilan (4.1%).

The year-on-year comparison of the unit price index of cement increased between 1.0 per cent to 7.5 per cent in May 2026 as compared to the same month last year across all areas in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak. The highest increase was observed in Miri (7.5%), followed by Kuching (7.4%), Perak and Pahang (6.9%), respectively.

In addition, the year-on-year comparison between May 2025 and May 2026 showed that the unit price index of sand increased by between 1.0 per cent and 22.9 per cent across all regions in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.

The Chief Statistician of Malaysia also mentioned that the average price per unit of steel, consisting of mild steel round bars and Mycon 60 high tensile deformed bars, recorded an increase of 0.4 per cent with an average price of RM3,517.50 per metric tonne as compared to the previous month (April 2026: RM3,504.20 per metric tonne). In addition, the average price of Ordinary Portland cement also showed an increase (0.3%) with an average price of RM25.95 per 50 kg bag, as compared to April 2026 (RM25.90 per 50 kg bag).

The monthly comparison of BCI with steel bars, by building category and region in Peninsular Malaysia for May 2026 recorded an increase ranging from 0.2 per cent to 4.6 per cent in the areas.

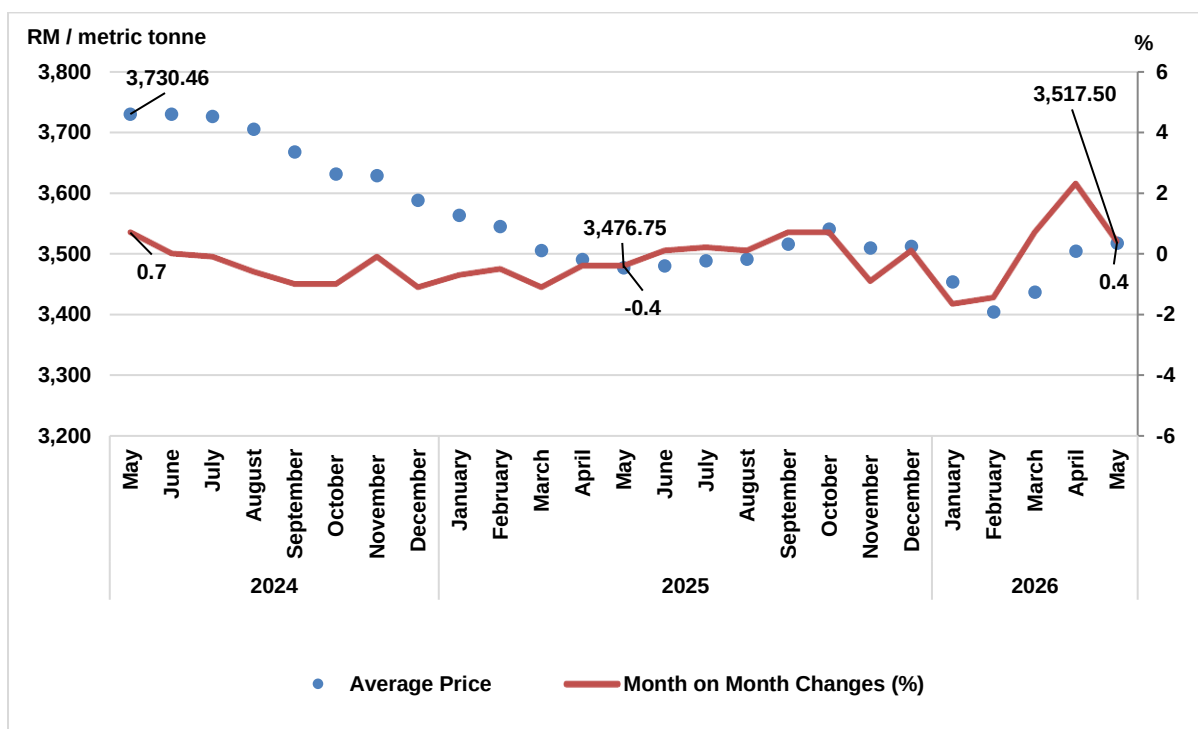
The BCI with steel bars in Sabah recorded a slight increase ranging from 0.1 per cent to 1.5 per cent for all building categories in May 2026 as compared to the previous month. However, the month-on-month comparison of BCI with steel bars in Sarawak also registered an increase ranging from 0.1 per cent to 1.1 per cent for all categories of buildings.

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) is conducting the **Economic Census 2026 (BE2026)**, with themed “**Data Nadi Ekonomi Rakyat**”. The sixth Economic Census, will be carried out from **5th January to 31st October 2026**. BE2026 aims to collect comprehensive and structured data from all registered and unregistered business establishments in Malaysia to assess the nation’s economic performance, structure and characteristics in an evidence-based manner.

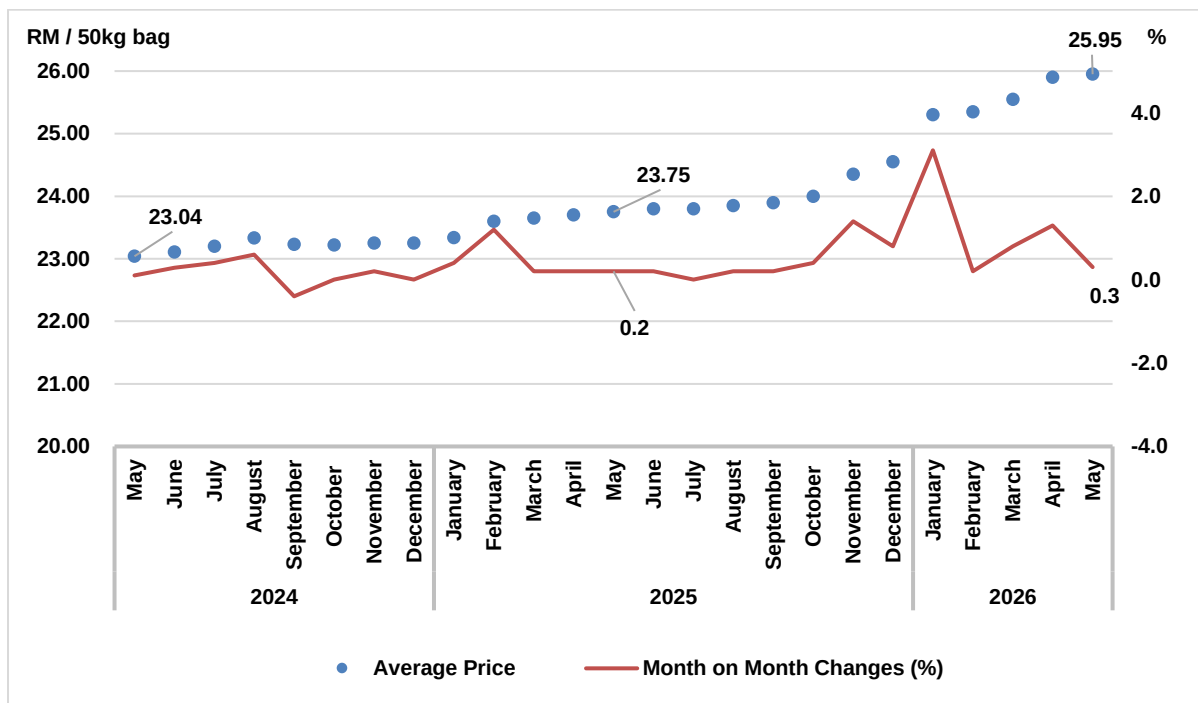
Malaysia has, for the first time, successfully secured the **top position** globally in the biennial **Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25** report released by Open Data Watch (ODW), surpassing 197 other countries. This achievement marks a significant leap from its 67th position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.

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>.

**Chart 1: Average Price of Steel Bar, Malaysia,
May 2024 – May 2026**



**Chart 2: Average Price of Cement (Ordinary Portland), Malaysia,
May 2024 – May 2026**



Released by:

**THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
10 JUNE 2026**