



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA STATEMENT

PERFORMANCE OF WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE, MALAYSIA, MAY 2026

Malaysia's Wholesale & retail trade sales reached RM171.3 billion in May 2026

PUTRAJAYA, 10TH JULY 2026 – The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) published **PERFORMANCE OF WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE, MAY 2026**. Total sales reached RM171.3 billion, registering an 11.0 per cent year-on-year increase. Meanwhile, the volume index rose by 3.1 per cent compared to May 2025.

In a statement today, DOSM reported that the Wholesale and Retail trade sub-sectors continued to drive sales growth in May 2026. Wholesale trade recorded total sales of RM80.8 billion, an increase of RM12.6 billion compared with the same month last year, reflecting a growth of 18.4 per cent. Retail trade posted sales of RM71.9 billion, up RM4.8 billion year-on-year, representing growth of 7.2 per cent. Conversely, the Motor vehicles sub-sector recorded sales of RM18.6 billion, a decrease of RM0.4 billion or 2.3 per cent, compared with May 2025.

Elaborating on the performance of the Wholesale trade sub-sector, DOSM stated that the growth was primarily driven by the Other specialised wholesale group, which recorded sales of RM35.0 billion, registering a growth of 42.6 per cent. The stronger sales performance was largely supported by petrol, diesel & lubricants and liquefied petroleum gas, driven by higher market prices. Meanwhile, the Wholesale of food, beverages & tobacco grew by 5.0 per cent, supported by higher sales of rice, other grains, flour & sugar, dairy products, and fish & other seafood. The Wholesale of household goods expanded by 3.5 per cent to RM15.2 billion, driven by sustained growth in pharmaceutical & medical goods, jewellery, and clothing. Furthermore, the Wholesale of agricultural raw materials & live animals increased by 7.3 per cent to RM6.7 billion, mainly attributable to stronger demand for palm oil.

The Retail trade sub-sector continued to record steady performance in May, led by Retail sale in non-specialised stores, which increased by 8.2 per cent to RM28.0 billion. The growth was supported by sustained sales in supermarkets and department stores. Retail sale of other goods in specialised stores also rose by 6.7 per cent to RM15.0 billion, driven by stronger demand for pharmaceutical & medical goods as well as jewellery. In addition, Retail sale of automotive fuel in

specialised stores expanded by 12.8 per cent, while Retail sale of food, beverages & tobacco in specialised stores grew by 7.2 per cent, supported by higher sales of vegetables & fruits, dairy products & eggs, and bakery products & sugar confectionery. Overall, retail activity was further supported by increased travel and consumer spending during the Labour Day public holiday, the Eid al-Adha festive period, the Wesak Day holiday, and the school holidays in the final week of May 2026.

The Motor Vehicles sub-sector recorded a decline in May 2026, mainly due to lower sales in the Sale of motor vehicles group, which contracted by 11.4 per cent to RM8.8 billion. This was consistent with data from the Malaysian Automotive Association (MAA), which reported total vehicle sales of 61,250 units, while the Road Transport Department Malaysia (JPJ) recorded 66,089 vehicle registrations during the same period. Nevertheless, the remaining groups within the sub-sector continued to register positive growth. Sale of motor vehicle parts & accessories increased by 7.8 per cent, Maintenance & repair of motor vehicles expanded by 6.8 per cent, while Sale, maintenance & repair of motorcycles & related parts & accessories rose by 9.1 per cent, reflecting continued demand for vehicle servicing and aftermarket products.

Online retail sales continued to register positive growth in May, with the sales index increasing by 8.6 per cent year-on-year, up from 7.1 per cent in the previous month. The sustained expansion reflects the continued resilience of the e-commerce segment, supported by steady consumer spending through online platforms.

In terms of the volume index, Wholesale & retail trade registered a year-on-year increase of 3.1 per cent, driven mainly by the Retail trade and Wholesale trade sub-sectors, which expanded by 4.4 per cent and 3.2 per cent, respectively. On a monthly basis, however, the volume index declined by 1.3 per cent.

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: Sales Value of Wholesale & Retail Trade

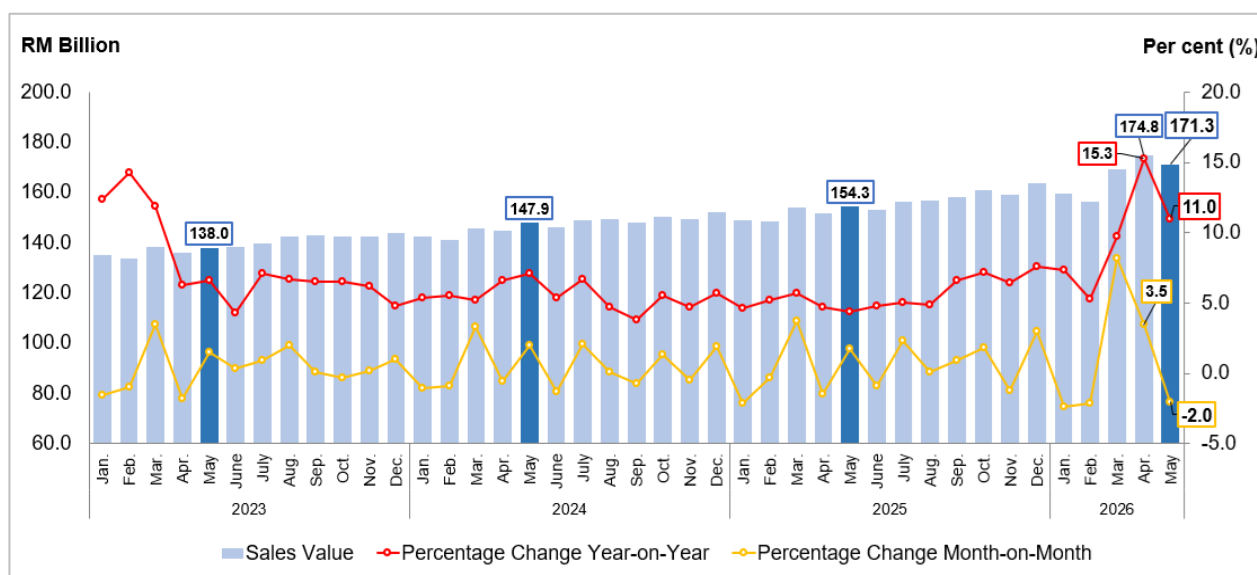


Chart 2: Sales Value of Wholesale Trade

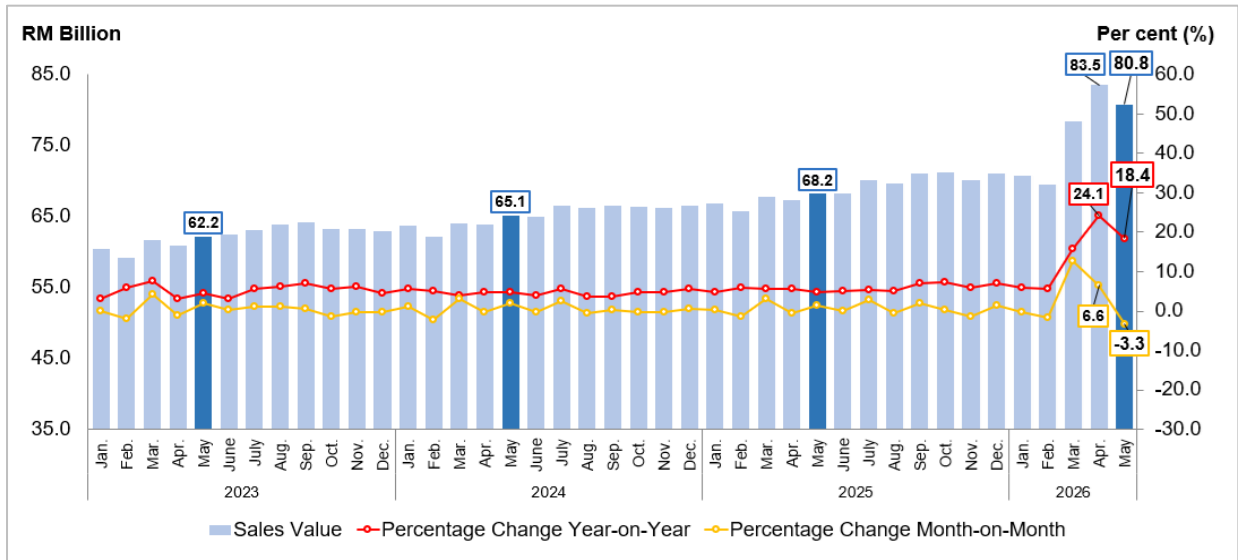


Chart 3: Sales Value of Retail Trade

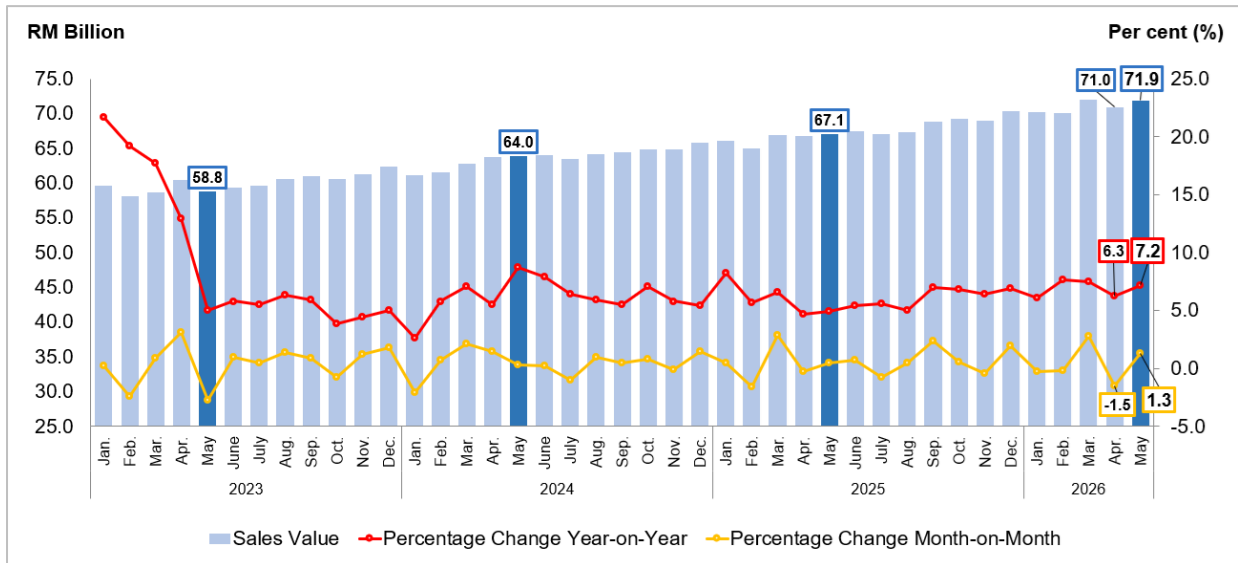


Chart 4: Sales Value of Motor Vehicles

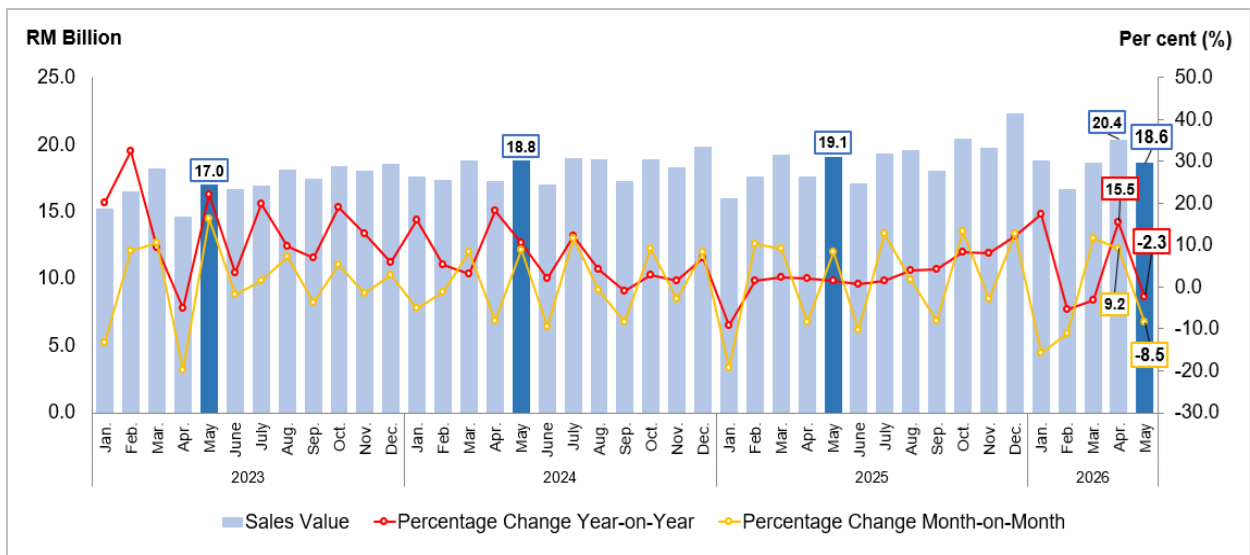
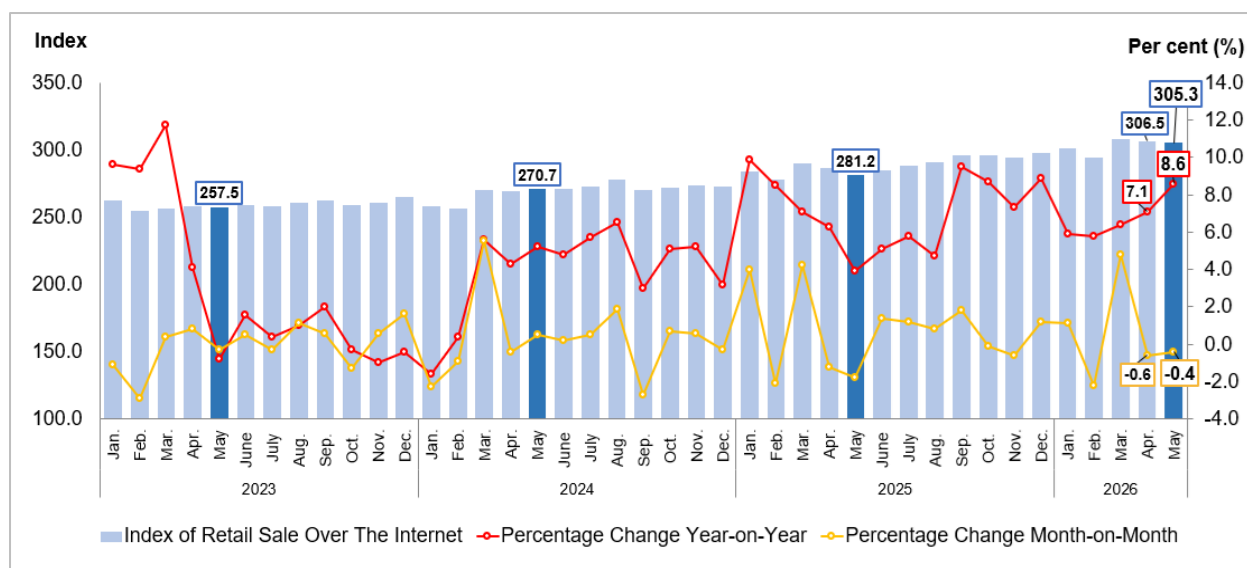


Chart 5: Index of Retail Sale Over the Internet



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