



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA RELEASE

BUILDING COST INDEX, AUGUST 2026

**The unit price index of sand recorded an increase between
0.3 per cent to 7.7 per cent in August 2026**

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

The unit price index for sand recorded an increase in August 2026, ranging from 0.3 per cent to 7.7 per cent as compared to the previous month. The highest increase in the price index for this material was recorded in Kota Kinabalu (7.7%), followed by Perak (2.4%), Selangor, W.P. Kuala Lumpur, Melaka & Negeri Sembilan and Sibü (0.3%), respectively.

The unit price index for steel recorded a decrease in August 2026, with month-on-month decreases ranging from negative 0.3 per cent to negative 2.4 per cent across selected areas. The decrease was observed in Selangor, W.P. Kuala Lumpur, Melaka & Negeri Sembilan (-2.4%), followed by Perak (-1.3%) and Pahang (-0.7%). However, the unit price index for cement recorded an increase in August 2026, with month-on-month increases ranging from 0.3 per cent to 0.9 per cent across selected areas. The highest increase was recorded in Kota Kinabalu (0.9%), followed by Selangor, W.P. Kuala Lumpur, Melaka & Negeri Sembilan (0.4%) and Terengganu & Kelantan (0.3%). Besides that, the unit price index of this material remained unchanged in most other areas across Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak.

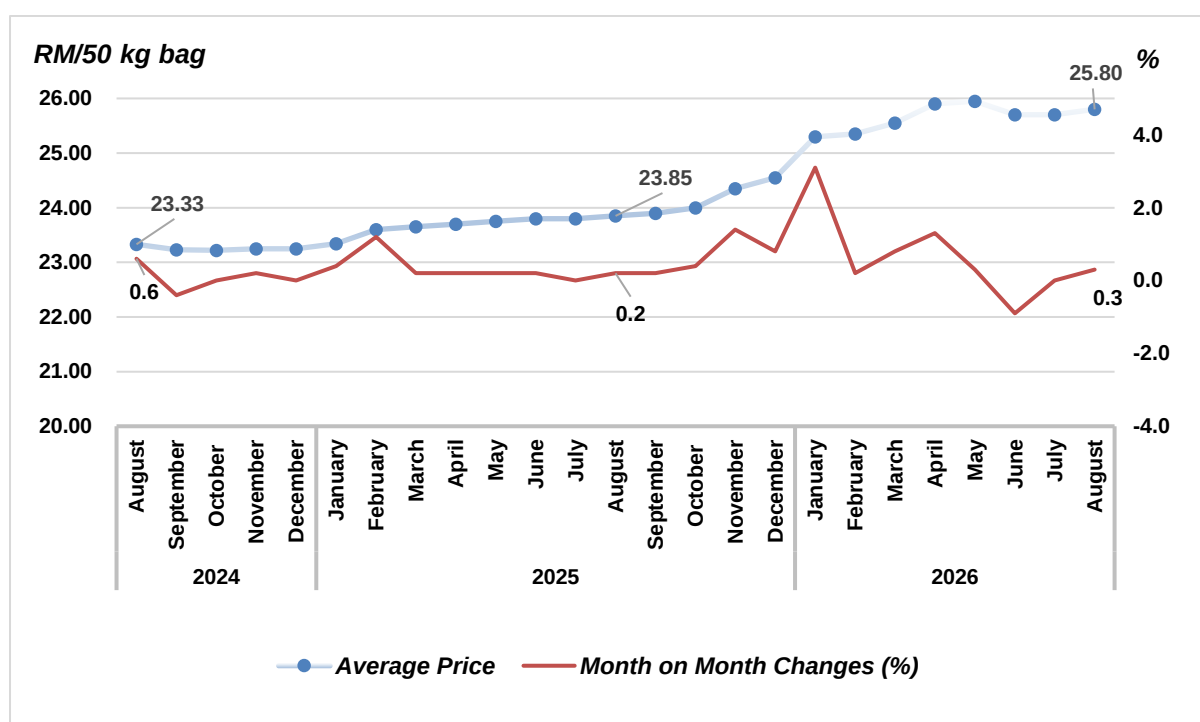
An annual comparison for the period of August 2025 and August 2026 has indicated that the unit price index for steel recorded an increase ranging from 0.2 per cent to 6.9 per cent involving most areas in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak. The highest increase in the unit price index for steel was observed in Perak (6.9%), Johor (6.4%) and Tawau (3.8%).

The year-on-year unit price index for cement recorded increases ranging from 0.6 per cent to 6.7 per cent in August 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 Kuching (6.7%), followed by Miri (6.6%) and Kelantan & Terengganu (5.9%).

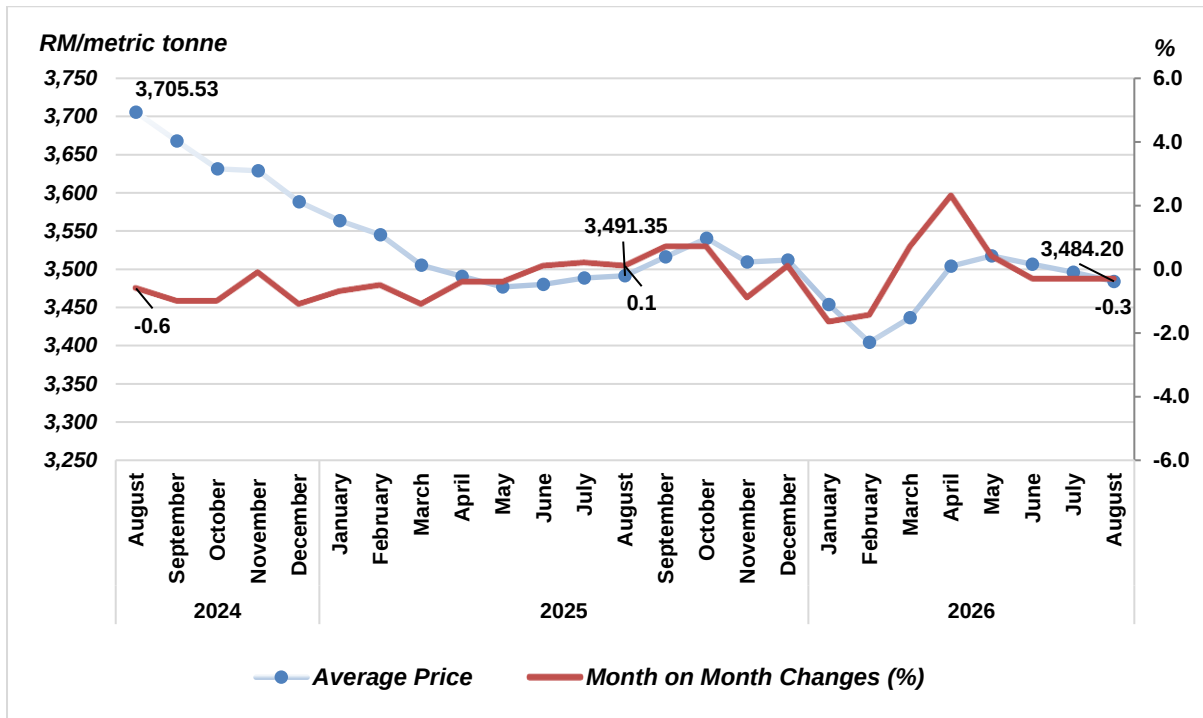
DOSM also reported that the average price per unit of steel, consisting of mild steel round bars and Mycon 60 high tensile deformed bars, recorded a slight decrease (-0.3%) with an average price of RM3,484.20 per metric tonne as compared to the previous month (July 2026: RM3,496.10 per metric tonne). In addition, the average price of Ordinary Portland cement recorded an increase (0.3%), with an average price of RM25.80 per 50 kg bag as compared to RM25.70 per 50 kg bag (July 2026).

The monthly comparison of BCI with steel bars, by building category and region in Peninsular Malaysia for August 2026 recorded a decrease ranging from negative 0.1 per cent to negative 1.1 per cent. Meanwhile, the BCI with steel bars in Sabah recorded an increase ranging from 0.1 per cent to 3.4 per cent for all building categories in August 2026 as compared to the previous month. Besides that, the month-on-month comparison of BCI with steel bars in Sarawak also registered an increase ranging from 0.1 per cent to 0.4 per cent for all categories of buildings.

Chart 1: Average Price of Cement (Ordinary Portland), Malaysia, August 2024 – August 2026



**Chart 2: Average Price of Steel Bar, Malaysia,
August 2024 – August 2026**



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