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MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA RELEASE

BUILDING COST INDEX, OCTOBER 2026

The unit price index of sand increased by between 0.3 per cent to 1.8 per cent in October 2026

PUTRAJAYA, 10TH NOVEMBER 2026 – The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) published **SPECIAL RELEASE FOR BUILDING AND STRUCTURAL WORKS, OCTOBER 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 October 2026, with month-on-month increases ranging from 0.3 per cent to 1.8 per cent across selected areas. The highest increase was recorded in Sandakan (1.8%), followed by Kuching (0.8%) and Johor (0.5%).

The unit price index for cement recorded a slight increase in October 2026, ranging from 0.1 per cent to 0.4 per cent as compared to the previous month. The increase in the price index for this material was recorded in Perak (0.4%), Terengganu & Kelantan and Kuching (0.3%), respectively.

Meanwhile, the unit price index for steel also recorded a decrease in October 2026, with month-on-month decreases ranging from negative 0.2 per cent to negative 10.5 per cent across selected areas. The decrease was observed in Perak (-10.5%), followed by Terengganu & Kelantan (-3.6%) and Selangor, W.P. Kuala Lumpur, Melaka & Negeri Sembilan (-1.3%).

An annual comparison for the period of October 2025 and October 2026 has indicated that the unit price index for cement recorded an increase ranging from 0.6 per cent to 7.4 per cent involving most areas in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak. The highest increase in the unit price index for cement was observed in Selangor, W.P. Kuala Lumpur, Melaka & Negeri Sembilan (7.4%), followed by Terengganu & Kelantan and Kuching (5.7%), respectively.

The year-on-year unit price index for steel recorded decreases ranging from negative 0.6 per cent to negative 8.2 per cent in October 2026 as compared with the same month of the previous year across all areas in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak. The highest decrease was recorded in Perak (-8.2%), Terengganu & Kelantan (-4.8%) and Miri (-4.0%).

DOSM also reported that the average price of Ordinary Portland cement remained unchanged, with an average price of RM25.80 per 50 kg bag. In addition, the average price per unit of steel, consisting of mild steel round bars and Mycon 60 high tensile deformed bars, recorded a decrease (-3.0%) with an average price of RM3,327.30 per metric tonne as compared to the previous month (September 2026: RM3,431.90 per metric tonne).

The monthly comparison of BCI with steel bars, by building category and region in Peninsular Malaysia for October 2026 recorded a decrease ranging from negative 0.1 per cent to negative 3.8 per cent. BCI with steel bars in Sabah recorded a slight increase ranging from 0.1 per cent to 0.2 per cent for all building categories in Sandakan. However, Kota Kinabalu remained unchanged in October 2026 as compared to the previous month. Besides that, the month-on-month comparison of BCI with steel bars in Sarawak registered a slight decrease ranging from negative 0.1 per cent to negative 0.4 per cent for all categories of buildings in Sibu while Kuching and Miri registered a slight increase between 0.1 per cent to 0.2 per cent.

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

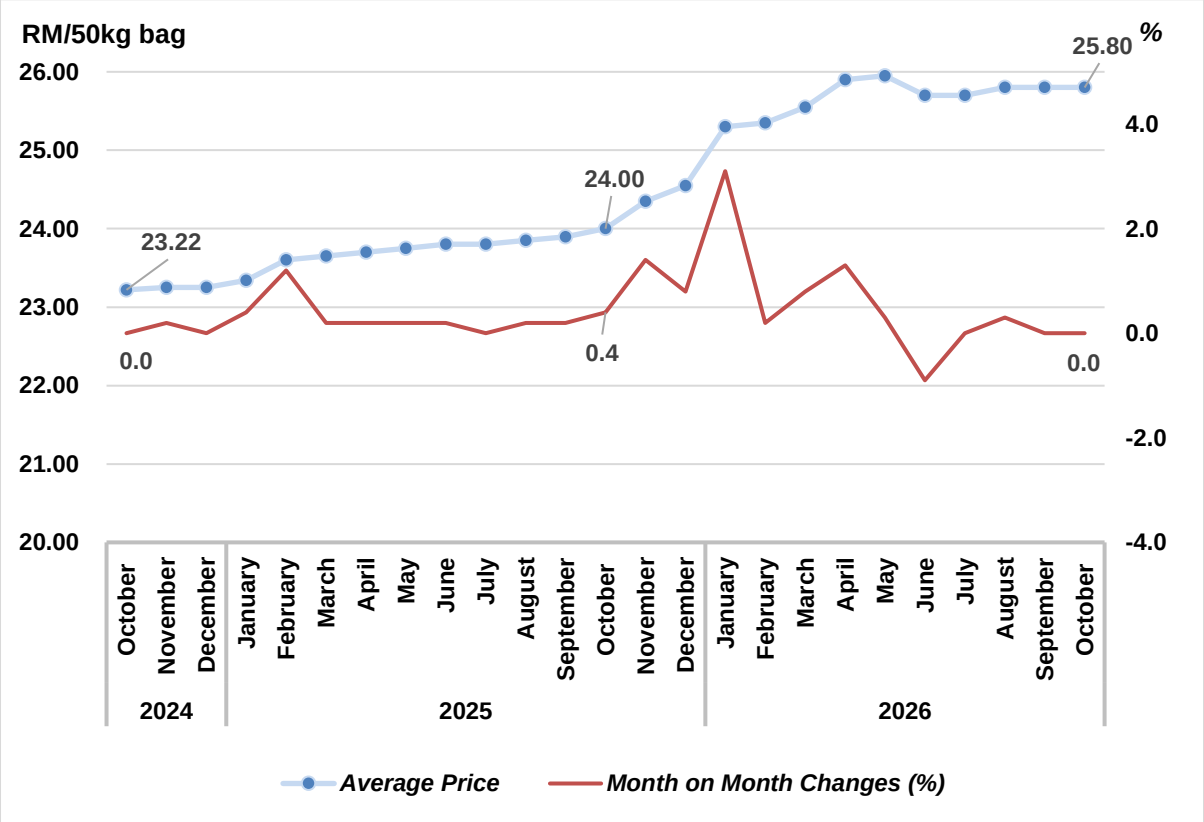
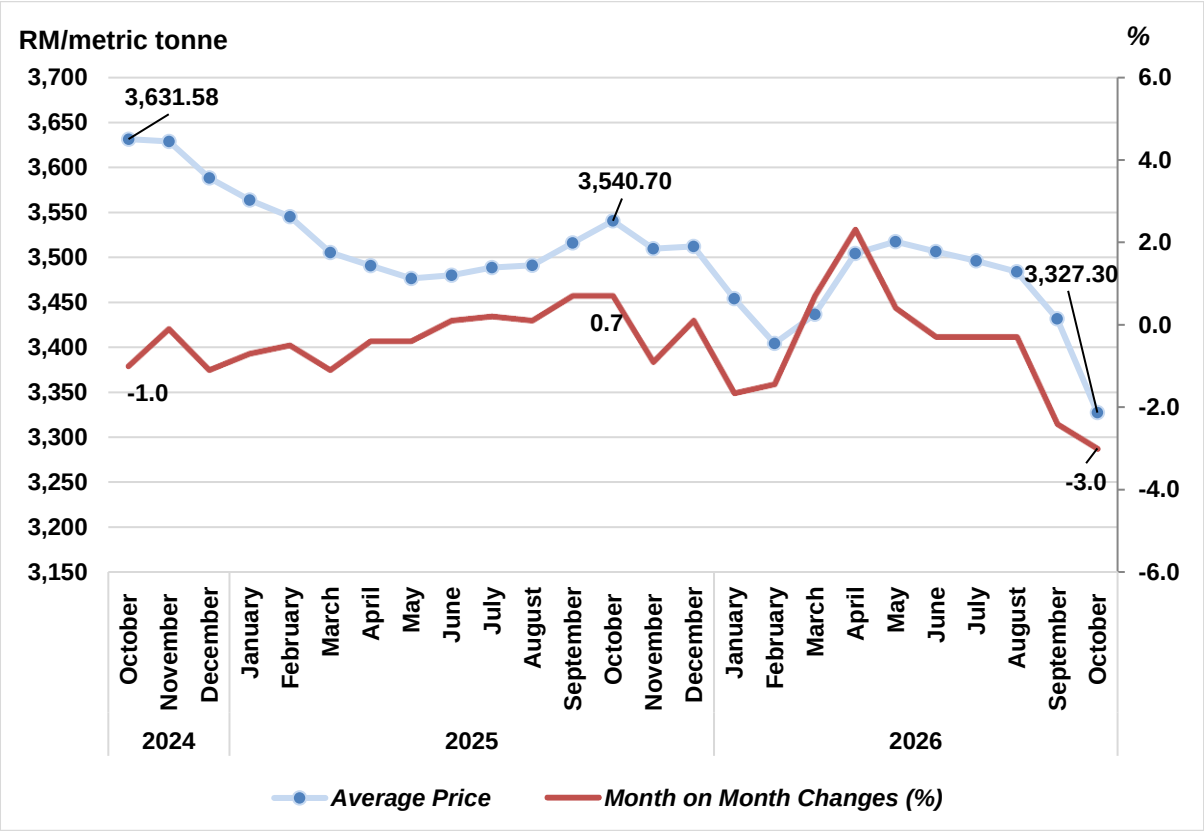


Chart 2: Average Price of Steel Bar, Malaysia, October 2024 – October 2026



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