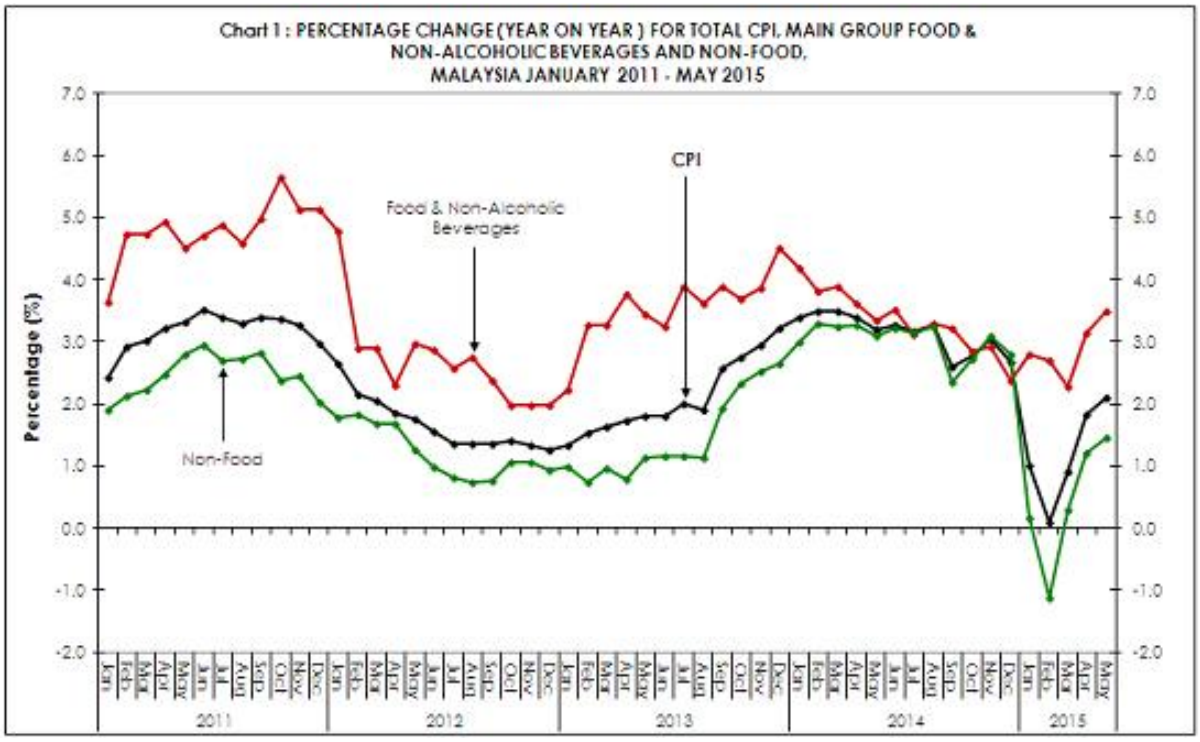
**EMBARGO**: Only to be published or disseminated at **12:00 hour, Friday, 19 June 2015**

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MALAYSIA MAY 2015

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for May 2015 increased by 2.1 per cent to 112.3 compared with 110.0 in the same month last year. The rise in the CPI was led by increases in the index for Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco group by 11.3 per cent; Health by 5.0 per cent; Restaurants & Hotels (+4.5 per cent); and Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+3.5 per cent). These four groups of goods and services contributed 76.3 per cent to the increase in the CPI for the month of May 2015. In addition, this index is also influenced by the decreased in Transport group by 4.7 per cent; smaller increase in Clothing & Footwear (+0.9 per cent); and Recreation Services & Culture (+1.6 per cent).
Overall, the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages rose 3.5 per cent on a year-on-year basis in May 2015 as compared with the index for Non-Food which increased only 1.4 per cent (Chart 1 and Table 1).

CPI for May 2015 increased 0.4 per cent on a month-on-month basis. CPI for the first five months in 2015 also registered an increase by 1.2 per cent as compared to the same period last year.



**Monthly Changes for CPI**

CPI for May 2015 increased by 0.4 per cent as compared to April 2015. Of the twelve major groups, ten recorded an increase, while two registered declines. Among the major groups which recorded increases in May 2015 were Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+0.7 per cent); Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+0.4 per cent); Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance (+0.4 per cent); Restaurants & Hotels (+0.4 per cent); Health and Miscellaneous Goods & Services by 0.3 per cent respectively. On the other hand, decreases were observed in two groups i.e Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco by 1.5 per cent and Education by 0.1 per cent.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, CPI for May 2015 increased by 0.4 per cent as compared to April 2015 (Table 1).

**Table 1 : CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR MAIN GROUPS, MALAYSIA (2010=100)**

| Group | Wt. | Index | | | | | % Change | | | Seasonally Adjusted Index | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | May 2014 | Apr 2015 | May 2015 | Jan - May 2014 | Jan - May 2015 | May 2015/ Apr 2015 | May 2015/ May 2014 | Jan - May 2015/ 2014 | May 2015 | % Change May 2015/Apr 2015 |
| **TOTAL** | **100.0** | **110.0** | **111.9** | **112.3** | **109.8** | **111.1** | **0.4** | **2.1** | **1.2** | **112.3** | **0.4** |
| **Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages** | **30.3** | **114.5** | **118.0** | **118.5** | **114.5** | **117.8** | **0.4** | **3.5** | **2.9** | **118.7** | **0.4** |
| Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco | 2.2 | 121.7 | 137.5 | 135.4 | 121.7 | 135.3 | -1.5 | 11.3 | 11.2 | 135.4 | -1.5 |
| Clothing & Footwear | 3.4 | 98.6 | 99.4 | 99.5 | 98.7 | 98.9 | 0.1 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 99.5 | 0.1 |
| Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels | 22.6 | 108.6 | 110.6 | 111.4 | 108.0 | 110.5 | 0.7 | 2.6 | 2.3 | 111.3 | 0.5 |
| Furnishings, Household Equip. & Routine Household Maintenance | 4.1 | 106.6 | 109.0 | 109.4 | 106.5 | 107.7 | 0.4 | 2.6 | 1.1 | 109.4 | 0.4 |
| Health | 1.3 | 109.4 | 114.6 | 114.9 | 108.7 | 113.2 | 0.3 | 5.0 | 4.1 | 114.9 | 0.3 |
| Transport | 14.9 | 111.5 | 106.1 | 106.3 | 111.2 | 104.1 | 0.2 | -4.7 | -6.4 | 106.3 | 0.2 |
| Communication | 5.7 | 97.8 | 100.2 | 100.3 | 98.0 | 98.4 | 0.1 | 2.6 | 0.4 | 100.3 | 0.1 |
| Recreation Services & Culture | 4.6 | 105.0 | 106.5 | 106.7 | 104.9 | 105.9 | 0.2 | 1.6 | 1.0 | 106.7 | 0.2 |
| Education | 1.4 | 109.6 | 112.4 | 112.3 | 109.3 | 111.9 | -0.1 | 2.5 | 2.4 | 112.0 | 0.0 |
| Restaurants & Hotels | 3.2 | 116.7 | 121.4 | 121.9 | 115.8 | 120.0 | 0.4 | 4.5 | 3.6 | 121.9 | 0.4 |
| Miscellaneous Goods & Services | 6.3 | 105.4 | 109.7 | 110.0 | 105.1 | 107.9 | 0.3 | 4.4 | 2.7 | 110.0 | 0.3 |
| **Non-Food** | **69.7** | **108.0** | **109.2** | **109.6** | **107.8** | **108.2** | **0.3** | **1.4** | **0.4** | **109.6** | **0.3** |
| Durable Goods | 6.5 | 97.5 | 97.2 | 97.3 | 97.5 | 96.6 | 0.1 | -0.2 | -0.9 | 97.3 | 0.1 |
| Semi-Durable Goods | 4.4 | 99.4 | 100.4 | 100.4 | 99.5 | 99.7 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.2 | 100.4 | 0.0 |
| Non-Durable Goods | 41.6 | 112.7 | 113.3 | 113.5 | 112.9 | 112.3 | 0.2 | 0.7 | -0.5 | 113.5 | 0.2 |
| Services | 47.5 | 110.4 | 113.8 | 114.5 | 100.7 | 113.1 | 0.6 | 3.7 | 3.1 | 114.5 | 0.6 |

The 0.4 per cent rise in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages in May 2015 compared with the

previous month was the result of increases in the index for Food At Home by 0.4 per cent; Food Away From Home (+0.5 per cent) and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages by 0.5 per cent.

**Table 2 : CONTRIBUTION TO THE CHANGES IN THE OVERALL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BY MAIN GROUPS, MALAYSIA (2010=100)**

| Group | Wt. | 2014 / 2013 | | May 2015 / 2014 | | January - May 2015 / 2014 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | % Change | % Contribution | % Change | % Contribution | % Change | % Contribution |
| **TOTAL** | **100.0** | **3.2** | **100.0** | **2.1** | **100.0** | **1.2** | **100.0** |
| Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages | 30.3 | 3.3 | 34.0 | 3.5 | 53.2 | 2.9 | 75.7 |
| Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco | 2.2 | 11.6 | 8.3 | 11.3 | 12.8 | 11.2 | 22.4 |
| Clothing & Footwear | 3.4 | -0.2 | -0.3 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels | 22.6 | 3.4 | 24.1 | 2.6 | 26.8 | 2.3 | 42.4 |
| Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance | 4.1 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 2.6 | 4.9 | 1.1 | 3.7 |
| Health | 1.3 | 2.9 | 1.2 | 5.0 | 3.1 | 4.1 | 4.5 |
| Transport | 14.9 | 4.9 | 23.1 | -4.7 | -32.8 | -6.4 | -80.0 |
| Communication | 5.7 | -0.7 | -1.3 | 2.6 | 6.0 | 0.4 | 1.6 |
| Recreation Services & Culture | 4.6 | 1.5 | 2.2 | 1.6 | 3.4 | 1.0 | 3.5 |
| Education | 1.4 | 2.4 | 1.1 | 2.5 | 1.7 | 2.4 | 2.7 |
| Restaurants & Hotels | 3.2 | 4.7 | 5.0 | 4.5 | 7.2 | 3.6 | 10.1 |
| Miscellaneous Goods & Services | 6.3 | 0.7 | 1.3 | 4.4 | 12.6 | 2.7 | 13.3 |

Among the food items which recorded notable increases in May 2015 compared with the previous month were **Spinach (+6.9 per cent); Round Cabbage (+4.1 per cent); Round Scad (Fish) (+4.0 per cent); Red Chillies (+2.3 per cent); Tomatoes (+2.1 per cent); Selar Scad (Fish) (+1.4 per cent); Prawns (+1.4 per cent); Hardtail Scad (Fish) (+1.1 per cent); Indian Mackerel (Fish) (+1.0 per cent); Cuttlefish (+0.9 per cent); Threadfin Bream (Fish) (+0.9 per cent); Choy Sum (+0.7 per cent);** and **Chicken (+0.3 per cent)**.

Meanwhile, the index of some food items decreased in May 2015 compared with the previous month. Among these food items were **Watermelon (-2.6 per cent); Hen's Egg (-1.6 per cent); Cucumber (-1.2 per cent); Local Oranges (-0.4 per cent); Carrots (-0.3 per cent);** and **Apples (-0.3 per cent)**.

The CPI according to physical longevity of goods and services showed increases in the index of Services (+0.6 per cent); Non-Durable Goods (+0.2 per cent) and Durable Goods (+0.1 per cent) while Semi-Durable Goods remain unchanged at 100.4.

**Table 3 : CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR SUB-GROUPS OF FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, MALAYSIA (2010=100)**

| Sub-group | Wt. | Index | | | | | % Change | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | May 2014 | Apr 2015 | May 2015 | Jan - May 2014 | Jan - May 2015 | May 2015/ Apr 2015 | May 2015/ May 2014 | Jan - May 2015/2014 |
| **Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages** | **30.3** | **114.5** | **118.0** | **118.5** | **114.5** | **117.8** | **0.4** | **3.5** | **2.9** |
| **Food** | **28.9** | **114.8** | **118.3** | **118.9** | **114.8** | **118.2** | **0.5** | **3.6** | **3.0** |
| Food At Home | 18.9 | 114.0 | 117.4 | 117.9 | 114.6 | 117.6 | 0.4 | 3.4 | 2.6 |
| Rice, Bread & Other Cereals | 4.4 | 105.4 | 107.3 | 107.4 | 105.3 | 106.7 | 0.1 | 1.9 | 1.3 |
| Meat | 2.9 | 115.2 | 118.8 | 119.1 | 115.9 | 117.3 | 0.3 | 3.4 | 1.2 |
| Fish & Seafood | 4.5 | 122.3 | 125.7 | 126.6 | 123.6 | 127.2 | 0.7 | 3.5 | 2.9 |
| Milk & Eggs | 1.8 | 116.0 | 123.1 | 122.8 | 115.7 | 123.1 | -0.2 | 5.9 | 6.4 |
| Oils & Fats | 0.6 | 101.1 | 101.8 | 101.8 | 101.1 | 101.5 | 0.0 | 0.7 | 0.4 |
| Fruits | 1.2 | 115.7 | 118.5 | 118.8 | 116.0 | 118.7 | 0.3 | 2.7 | 2.3 |
| Vegetables | 2.1 | 109.3 | 113.3 | 115.1 | 111.3 | 115.8 | 1.6 | 5.3 | 4.0 |
| Sugar, Jam, Honey, Choc. & Confectionery | 0.6 | 129.1 | 131.6 | 131.8 | 128.9 | 130.6 | 0.2 | 2.1 | 1.3 |
| Food Products n.e.c. | 0.8 | 113.9 | 118.9 | 119.2 | 113.4 | 117.2 | 0.3 | 4.7 | 3.4 |
| Food Away From Home | 10.0 | 116.3 | 120.0 | 120.6 | 115.2 | 119.2 | 0.5 | 3.7 | 3.5 |
| **Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages** | **1.4** | **107.5** | **110.8** | **111.3** | **107.6** | **109.4** | **0.5** | **3.5** | **1.7** |

**CPI changes for the period January -May 2015 / 2014**

The increase of 1.2 per cent in the CPI for the first five months in 2015 was led by increases among the main groups with high weights: Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+2.9 per cent) and Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+2.3 per cent). Other increases were Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (+11.2 per cent); Health (+4.1 per cent); Restaurants & Hotels (+3.6 per cent); and Education (+2.4 per cent). On the other hand, a decrease was recorded in the index of Transport by 6.4 per cent.

Based on the above changes and the weights assigned to the main groups, the relative contribution to the overall increase of 1.2 per cent in the CPI can be identified as shown in Table 2.

The increase of 2.9 per cent in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages was the result of increases for Food At Home (+2.6 per cent); Food Away From Home (+3.5 per cent) and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+1.7 per cent). Among the subgroups of Food At Home which showed significant increases during this period as shown in Table 3 were **Milk & Eggs (+6.4 per cent); Vegetables (+4.0 per cent); Fish & Seafood (+2.9 per cent);** and **Fruits (+2.3 per cent).**

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