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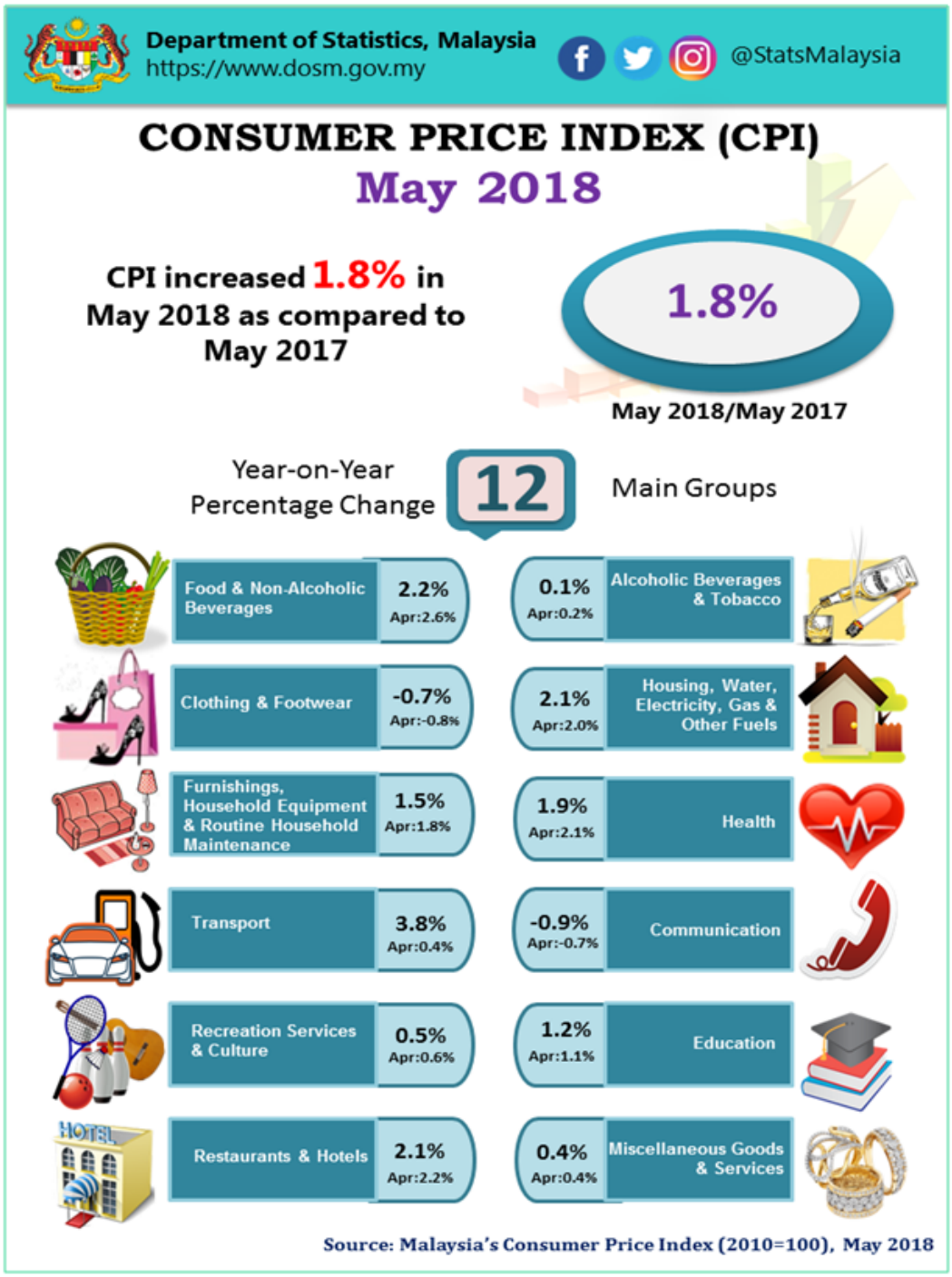
MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MALAYSIA MAY 2018

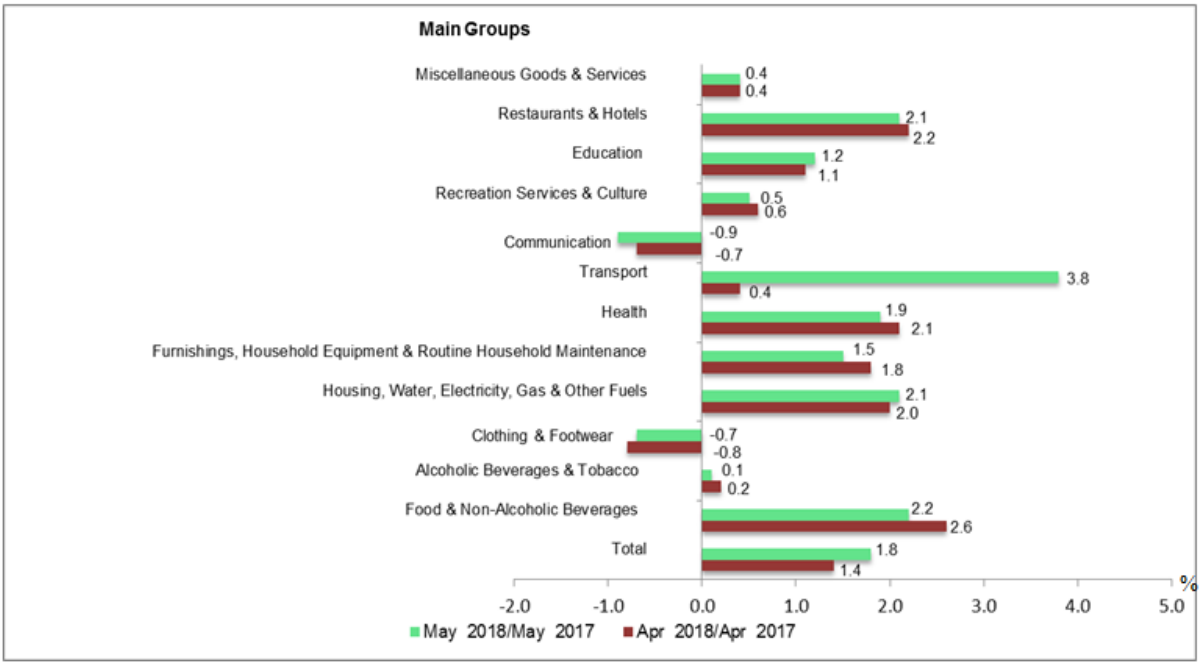


SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

CPI increased by 1.8 per cent in May 2018 to 121.1 compared to 119.0 in corresponding month of the preceding year. Among the major groups which recorded increases were the indices for Transport (+3.8 per cent), Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+2.2 per cent), Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+2.1 per cent), Restaurants and Hotels (+2.1 per cent), Health (+1.9 per cent) and Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance (+1.5 per cent). (Chart 1)

On a monthly basis, CPI increased 0.2 per cent as compared to April 2018. CPI for the period January-May 2018 registered an increase of 1.7 percent as compared to the same period last year.

Chart 1: Consumer Price Index (2010=100): Percentage Change by Main Groups, Malaysia, May 2018/May 2017



Index for Sub-Groups Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages

The overall index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages which accounted 29.5 per cent in the CPI weights, increased 2.2 per cent in May 2018. The increase was driven by food sub-group index which comprised of **Fish & Seafood (+3.2 per cent), Fruits (+1.9 per cent), Rice, Bread & Other Cereals (+1.6 per cent), Sugar, Jam, Honey, Chocolate & Confectionery (+1.2 per cent)** and **Meat (+1.0 per cent)**. On the other hand, the sub-group Vegetables decreased 3.0 per cent in May 2018. The decrease was due to the index of goods which dropped in most states such as **Tomatoes (-12.9 per cent), Brinjals (-9.1 per cent), Round Cabbage (-2.4 per cent)** and **Choy Sam (-2.0 per cent)**. Meanwhile, the index for **Food Away From Home** increased 3.7 per cent in May 2018.

Table 1: Consumer Price Index (2010=100): Annual Percentage Change by Sub-Groups Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages, Malaysia, May 2018/May 2017

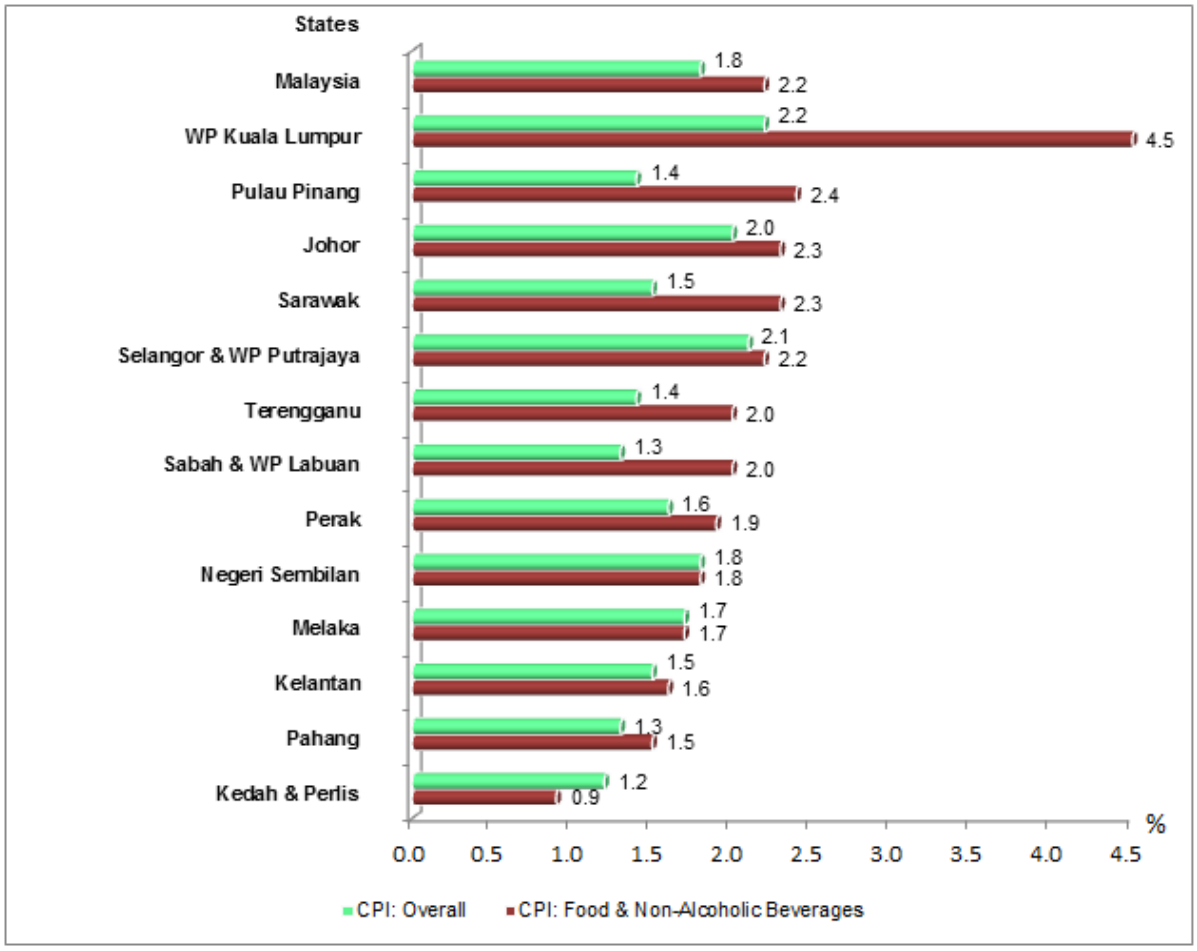
Sub-groups		Index	Year-on-Year Percentage Change		Month-on-Month Percentage Change	
	Weight	May 2018	Apr 2018/ Apr 2017	May 2018/ May 2017	Apr 2018/ Mar 2018	May 2018/ Apr 2018
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	**29.5**	**131.1**	**2.6**	**2.2**	**-0.2**	**0.2**
Food	**28.4**	**132.0**	**2.6**	**2.2**	**-0.2**	**0.2**
Food At Home	16.9	129.5	1.9	1.3	-0.6	0.2
Rice, Bread & Other Cereals	3.5	111.0	1.7	1.6	0.3	-0.1
Meat	2.5	126.8	1.1	1.0	-0.6	0.8
Fish & Seafood	4.0	150.1	4.1	3.2	-0.5	-0.4
Milk & Eggs	1.5	124.6	1.1	0.9	-1.7	1.1
Oils & Fats	0.6	118.9	0.6	0.5	-0.2	-0.3
Fruits	1.2	132.7	1.9	1.9	-0.2	-0.1
Vegetables	2.1	129.8	-0.5	-3.0	-2.3	0.0
Sugar, Jam, Honey, Choc. & Confectionery	0.6	138.0	1.2	1.2	0.1	0.0
Food Products n.e.c.	1.0	132.8	1.4	1.5	0.2	0.3
Food Away From Home	11.5	136.0	3.7	3.7	0.4	0.3
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	**1.1**	**112.6**	**1.0**	**1.2**	**-0.1**	**0.1**

States Index

In terms of overall CPI, three states surpassed the national CPI rate of 1.8 per cent recorded in May 2018 as compared to May 2017. The states were Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur (+2.2 per cent), Selangor & Wilayah Persekutuan Putrajaya (+2.1 per cent) and Johor (+2.0 per cent).

Meanwhile, the higher increase in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages was reflected in most states in Malaysia. Four states recorded higher increases for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages index above the national index level (+2.2 per cent) in May 2018 as compared to the corresponding month in 2017. The index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages rose 4.5 per cent in Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur, 2.4 per cent in Pulau Pinang and 2.3 per cent in Johor and Sarawak. (Chart 2)

Chart 2: Consumer Price Index (2010=100): Annual Percentage Change for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages by State, May 2018/May 2017



Core Index

Core inflation rose 1.5 per cent in May 2018 as compared to the same month of the previous year. Among the major groups which influenced the higher core rate were price increases for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+2.7 per cent), Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+2.5 per cent), Restaurants & Hotels (+2.1 per cent), Health (+1.9 per cent) and Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance (+1.5 per cent). Core inflation, which excludes most volatile items of fresh food, as well as administered prices of goods and services recorded changes ranging from 1.5 per cent to 2.2 per cent in the period January to May 2018 compared with the same period of the previous year.. (Table 2)

Table 2: Consumer Price Index (2010=100): Percentage Change of Headline CPI, Seasonally Adjusted Index and Core Index by Main Groups, Malaysia, May 2018/ May 2017

		HEADLINE CPI				SEASONALLY ADJUSTED INDEX		CORE INDEX	
Main Group	Weight	Index	Percentage Change			Index	Month-on-Month Percentage Change	Core Index Weight	Year-on-Year Percentage Change
		May 2018	May 2018/ Apr 2018	May 2018/ May 2017	Jan-May 2018/2017	May 2018	May 2018/ Apr 2018		May 2018/ May 2017
Total	**100.0**	**121.1**	**0.2**	**1.8**	**1.7**	**121.1**	**0.2**	**100.0**	**1.5**
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	29.5	**131.1**	0.2	2.2	2.9	131.2	0.1	26.5	2.7
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.4	165.7	0.0	0.1	0.1	165.7	0.0	-	-
Clothing and Footwear	3.2	97.7	-0.1	-0.7	-0.6	97.7	-0.1	4.5	-0.7
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	23.8	119.0	0.6	2.1	2.0	118.8	0.3	26.5	2.5
Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	115.9	0.0	1.5	2.0	115.9	0.0	5.5	1.5
Health	1.9	122.9	0.0	1.9	2.1	122.9	0.0	2.6	1.9
Transport	14.6	117.7	0.1	3.8	1.5	117.7	0.1	6.5	-0.6
Communication	4.8	96.9	-0.2	-0.9	-0.6	96.9	-0.2	6.5	-0.9
Recreation Services & Culture	4.8	112.0	-0.1	0.5	0.5	112.0	-0.1	6.6	0.5
Education	1.3	118.1	0.1	1.2	1.2	117.9	0.3	1.8	1.2
Restaurants and Hotels	2.9	130.6	0.1	2.1	2.0	130.6	0.1	3.9	2.1
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.7	114.7	0.1	0.4	0.4	114.7	0.1	9.1	0.4
Non-Food	**70.5**	**116.9**	**0.2**	**1.6**	**1.1**	**116.9**	**0.2**	-	-

Annex 1: Average Price for Selected Items in Malaysia, May 2018 (RM)

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