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MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

VOLUME INDEX OF WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE FIRST QUARTER 2021

In the first quarter of 2021, volume index of Wholesale & Retail Trade rebounded for the first time after 3 consecutive quarters of negative growth due to COVID-19 to record **1.5 per cent** year-on-year. This growth was attributed to Motor Vehicles sub-sector which grew **6.6 per cent**. This was followed by Retail Trade and Wholesale Trade with **0.9 per cent** and **0.8 per cent** respectively. Meanwhile, for quarter-on-quarter comparison, volume index decreased **1.4 per cent** in this quarter.

Meanwhile, seasonally adjusted volume index of Wholesale & Retail Trade grew **0.5 per cent** as against the fourth quarter of 2020. This growth was underpinned by Retail Trade, Motor Vehicles and Wholesale Trade sub-sector which recorded increases of **2.5 per cent**, **1.6 per cent** and **0.6 per cent** respectively as compared to the previous quarter.

Table 1: Volume Index of Wholesale & Retail Trade by Sub-sector

Sub-sector (2015=100)	Volume index			
	Original	% Change YoY	Seasonally Adjusted	% Change QoQ
Volume index of Wholesale & Retail Trade	**129.3**	**1.5**	**129.6**	**0.5**
Volume index of Wholesale Trade	127.8	0.8	129.3	0.6
Volume index of Retail Trade	139.9	0.9	139.6	2.5
Volume index of Motor Vehicles	104.0	6.6	106.9	1.6

Wholesale Trade Sub-sector

Volume index of Wholesale Trade sub-sector on the positive trend to record **0.8 per cent** growth in first quarter 2021 as compared to the same quarter in 2020. This increment was attributed to Non-specialised Wholesale with **5.4 per cent**, Wholesale of Machinery, Equipment & Supplies **4.8 per cent**, Wholesale of Household Goods as well as Wholesale of Food, Beverages & Tobacco which recorded a growth of **4.4 per cent** respectively. For quarterly growth, volume index of Wholesale Trade went down **2.5 per cent**.

Retail Trade Sub-sector

For the first quarter of 2021, Retail Trade recorded **0.9 per cent** growth as against the same quarter of the previous year, pushed up by Retail Sale Not in Stores, Stalls or Markets **7.8 per cent**, Retail Sale via

Stalls & Market **6.9 per cent**, Retail Sale of Food, Beverages & Tobacco **5.2 per cent**, Retail Sale of Information & Communication Equipment **4.3 per cent** and Retail Sale in Non-specialised Stores **3.2 per cent**. For quarter-on-quarter comparison, volume index of this sub-sector fell **0.05 per cent**.

Motor Vehicles Sub-sector

Volume index of Motor Vehicles went up **6.6 per cent** year-on-year, underpinned by Sales, Maintenance & Repair of Motorcycles and Sales of Motor Vehicles which expanded **18.9 per cent** and **14.2 per cent** respectively. However, Sales of Motor Vehicle Parts & Accessories and Maintenance & Repair of Motor Vehicles recorded negative growth of **-3.2 per cent** and **-3.9 per cent** respectively. For performance of this sub-sector as againts the previous quarter, it decreased **2.5 per cent**.

The full publication of the Quarterly Volume Index of Wholesale & Retail Trade, First 2021 can be downloaded from eStatistik portal.

Note.

> Data for first quarter of 2021 is **provisional**. The data will be updated based on the latest available figures and subsequently published in the publication of second quarter 2021.

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