Embargo: Only to be published or disseminated at 1200 hour, Monday, 11 May 2026

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

MEDIA STATEMENT

VOLUME INDEX OF SERVICES, MALAYSIA
FIRST QUARTER 2026

Volume Index of Services grew by 5.8 per cent in the first quarter of 2026

PUTRAJAYA, 11TH MAY 2025 – The **Volume Index of Services** recorded a **year-on-year growth of 5.8 per cent** in the first quarter of 2026, **reaching 168.0 points**, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) in today's release of the **Volume Index of Services (2015=100), First Quarter 2026**. The publication covers four segments, namely Wholesale & retail trade, Food & beverage and Accommodation; Business services and Finance; Information & communication and Transportation & storage; and Other services.

Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin stated, "Overall, growth in the Volume Index of Services in the first quarter of 2026 was mainly driven by the Wholesale & retail trade, Food & beverage, and Accommodation segment, which expanded by 5.7 per cent. This was followed by the Information & communication and Transportation & storage segment, which recorded an increase of 8.1 per cent. Meanwhile, the Business services and Finance segment grew by 3.0 per cent, while the Other services segment registered a higher growth of 9.3 per cent."

The volume index for the **Wholesale & retail trade, Food & beverage and Accommodation** segment **rose by 5.7 per cent** to **166.3 points**, supported by the growth in Wholesale & retail trade (4.9%), Food & beverage (8.5%) and Accommodation (15.0%). Elaborating further, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin noted that growth in Wholesale trade was the main contributor, expanding by 6.1 per cent to 155.0 points, followed by Retail trade (4.8%) and Motor vehicles (1.0%). This performance was underpinned by resilient consumer demand, supported by festive-related spending, improving household income and increased tourism-related activity during the quarter.

At the same time, the **Information & communication and Transportation & storage** segment **increased by 8.1 per cent** to **191.2 points**, driven by growth in Information & communication (8.0%) and Transportation & storage (8.3%). The expansion of the Information & communication subsector was underpinned by ongoing developments

in digital technologies, including the growth of data centres and the continued expansion of digital services, reflecting rising demand for high-speed connectivity, cloud-based solutions and internet-based services.

Meanwhile, the **Business services and Finance** segment recorded a volume index of **156.8 points**, with **a growth of 3.0 per cent**. This increase was supported by Professional and Administrative & support services (6.2%), followed by Real estate (7.4%) and Finance & insurance (0.1%), reflecting steady business activity and supportive market conditions during the quarter.

Additonally, the **Other services** segment grew by **9.3 per cent** to **146.9 points**, driven by increases in Arts, entertainment & recreation and Personal services & other activities (8.8%), Private health (9.7%), and Private education (9.3%). Growth in Arts, entertainment & recreation was supported by higher participation in leisure and recreational activities, while Personal Services & Other Activities benefited from sustained demand for services such as laundry, beauty and personal care, in line with increased consumer spending and lifestyle-related demand.

On **a quarter-on-quarter** basis, the Volume Index of Services increased by 0.1 per cent in the first quarter of 2026. This growth was driven by increases in the Information & communication and Transportation & storage segment (1.2%), followed by the Business services and Finance segment (1.1%) and the Other services segment (0.2%). Meanwhile, the Wholesale & retail trade, Food & beverage and Accommodation segment declined by 1.0 per cent.

Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin added, "The seasonally adjusted Volume Index of Services increased by 6.2 per cent compared with the fourth quarter of 2025. This increase was driven by the Information & communication and Transportation & storage segment (31.5%), followed by the Business services and Finance segment (1.1%) and Other services segment (0.7%). Meanwhile, the Wholesale & retail trade, Food & beverage and Accommodation segment declined by 1.0 per cent."

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) is conducting the **Economic Census 2026 (BE2026)**, with themed **"*Data Nadi Ekonomi Rakyat*"**. The sixth Economic Census, will be carried out from **5th January to 31st October 2026**. BE2026 aims to collect comprehensive and structured data from all registered and unregistered business establishments in Malaysia to assess the nation's economic performance, structure and characteristics in an evidence-based manner.

Malaysia has, for the first time, successfully secured the **top position** globally in the biennial **Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/25** report released by Open Data Watch (ODW), surpassing 197 other countries. This achievement marks a significant leap from its 67th position in the ODIN 2022/23 assessment.
OpenDOSM NextGen is a medium that provides data catalogue and visualisations to facilitate users' analysis and can be accessed through https://open.dosm.gov.my.

Chart 1: Volume Index of Services, Year-on-Year Percentage Change

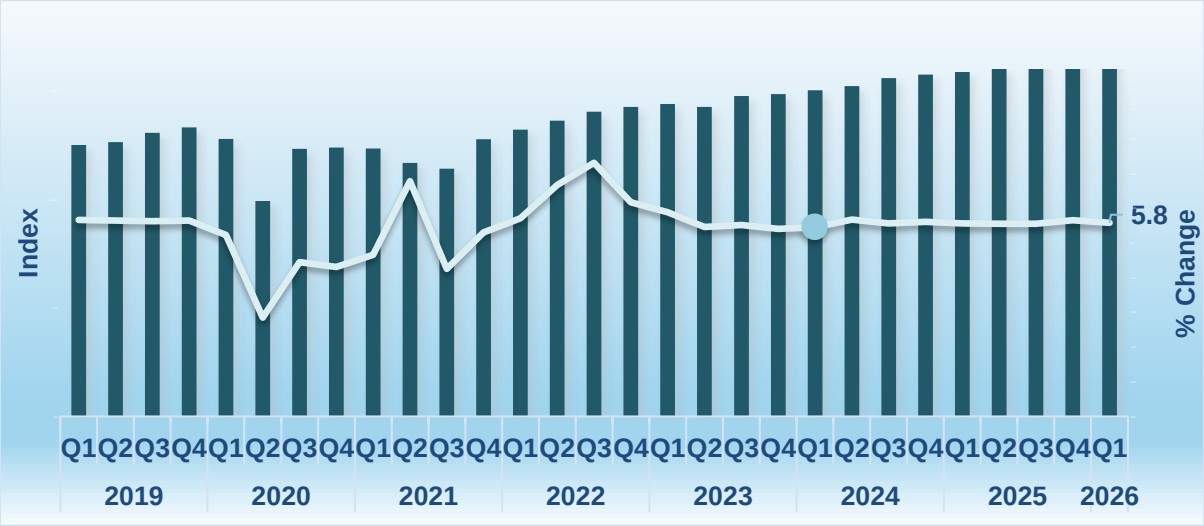

Chart 2: Volume Index of Services, Quarter-on-Quarter Percentage Change

Released by:

THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
11 MAY 2026