

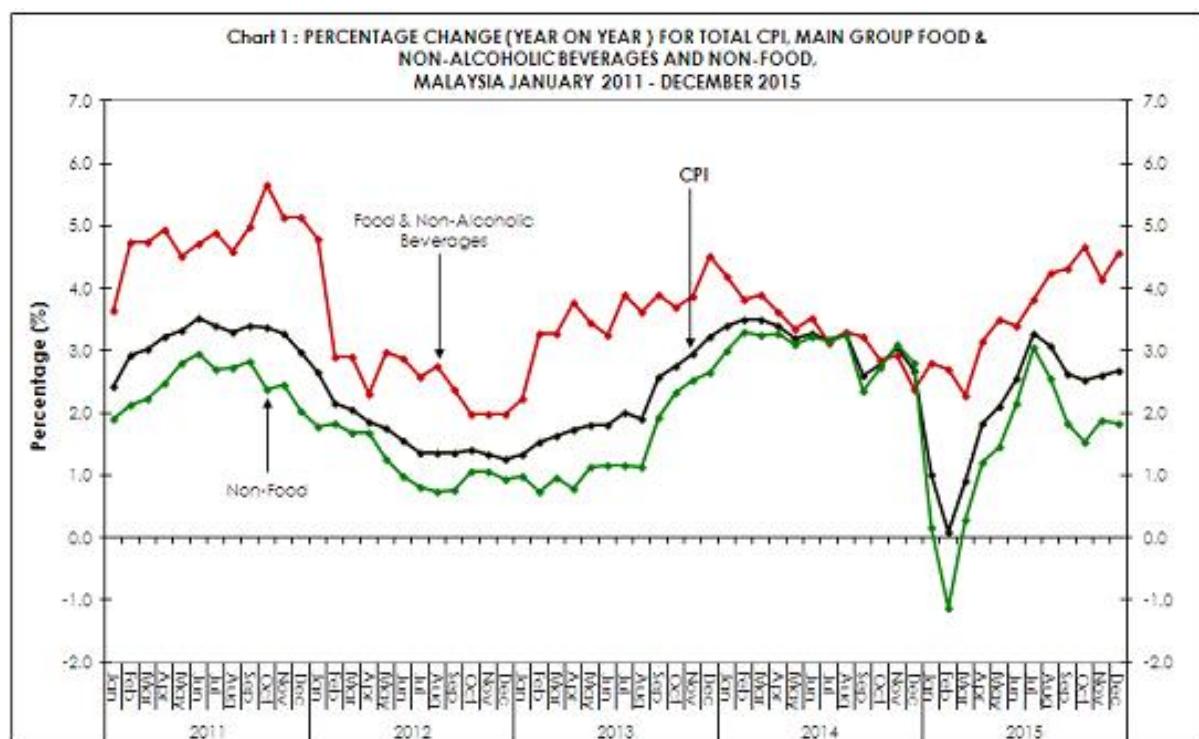


CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MALAYSIA DECEMBER 2015

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for December 2015 increased by 2.7 per cent to 114.8 compared with 111.8 in the same month last year. The rise in the CPI was led by increases in the index for Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco group by 22.8 per cent; Restaurants & Hotels (+4.7 per cent); Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+4.6 per cent); Health (+4.6 per cent) and Furnishing, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance (+4.2 per cent). These five groups of goods and services which weighted 41.1 contributed 90.2 per cent to the increase in the CPI for the month of December 2015.

Overall, the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (weight: 30.3) rose 4.6 per cent on a year-on-year basis in December 2015. Meanwhile, the index for Non-Food (weight: 69.7) recorded an increase of 1.8 per cent (Chart 1 and Table 1).

On a monthly basis, CPI for December 2015 remained unchanged at 114.8. CPI for the period January to December in 2015 registered an increase by 2.1 per cent as compared to the same period last year.



Monthly Changes for CPI

When compared with the previous month, CPI for December 2015 remained unchanged at 114.8. Of the twelve major groups, six recorded an increase, four registered a decline while two remained unchanged. Among the major groups which recorded increases in December 2015 were Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (+1.7 per cent); Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+0.7 per cent); Health and Education by 0.3 per cent respectively.

Based on a seasonally adjusted term, the CPI for December 2015 remained unchanged at 114.8 as compared to November 2015 (Table 1).

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

Group	Wt.	Index	Year-on-Year Percentage Change			Month-on-Month Percentage Change		Seasonally Adjusted Index		
			Dec 2015	Nov 2015/ Nov 2014	Dec 2015/ Dec 2014	Jan - Dec 2015/2014	Nov 2015/ Oct 2015	Dec 2015/ Nov 2015	Dec 2015	% Change Dec 2015/ Nov 2015
TOTAL	100.0	114.8	2.6		2.7	2.1	0.6	0.0	114.8	0.0
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	121.6	4.1		4.6	3.6	-0.2	0.7	121.6	0.5
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.2	165.1	20.7		22.8	13.5	17.5	1.7	165.1	1.7
Clothing & Footwear	3.4	98.8	0.6		0.8	0.5	0.0	-0.1	98.8	-0.1
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	22.6	112.8	2.5		2.5	2.5	0.5	0.0	112.9	0.1
Furnishings, Household Equip. & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	110.9	3.8		4.2	2.7	0.2	0.1	110.9	0.1
Health	1.3	116.5	4.4		4.6	4.5	0.1	0.3	116.5	0.3
Transport	14.9	107.9	-5.2		-6.2	-4.5	0.4	-2.3	107.9	-2.3
Communication	5.7	100.5	3.4		3.3	1.9	0.0	-0.1	100.5	-0.1
Recreation Services & Culture	4.6	107.6	2.6		2.6	1.7	0.2	0.0	107.6	0.0
Education	1.4	113.2	2.5		2.6	2.4	0.1	0.3	113.7	0.3
Restaurants & Hotels	3.2	123.8	4.6		4.7	4.1	0.2	0.2	123.8	0.2
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.3	111.5	5.9		5.4	4.1	0.3	-0.2	111.5	-0.2
Non-Food	69.7	111.8	1.9		1.8	1.3	1.0	-0.3	111.8	-0.3

The 0.7 per cent increase in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages in December 2015 compared with the previous month was the result of an increase in the index for Food At Home by 1.1 per cent. Meanwhile, the index for Food Away From Home increased by 0.2 per cent while the index for Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages decreased by 0.2 per cent.

Among the food items which recorded notable increases in December 2015 compared with the previous month were **Spinach (+17.6 per cent); Choy sum (+12.8 per cent); Watermelon (+9.4 per cent); Chicken (+6.0 per cent); Potatoes (+3.6 per cent); Tomatoes (+3.1 per cent); Longtail Tuna (Fish) (+2.6 per cent); Hardtail Scad (Fish) (+2.6 per cent); Cucumber (+2.2 per cent); Black Pomfret (Fish) (+2.0 per cent); Dried Chilly (+1.9 per cent); Indian Mackerel (Fish) (+1.2 per cent); and Beef (+0.3 per cent).**

Meanwhile, the index of some food items decreased in December 2015 compared with the previous month. Among these food items were **Carrots (-6.5 per cent); Cuttlefish (-4.0 per cent); Long Bean (-3.7 per cent); Ginger (-2.2 per cent); Shallots (-1.0 per cent); Round Cabbage (-0.8 per cent); and Prawns (-0.7 per cent)**.

Table 2 : CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR SUB-GROUPS OF FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, MALAYSIA (2010=100)

Sub-Groups	Wt.	Index	Year-on-Year Percentage Change			Month-on-Month Percentage Change	
			Dec 2015	Nov 2015/ Nov 2014	Dec 2015/ Dec 2014	Jan - Dec 2015/2014	Nov 2015 / Oct 2015
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	121.6	4.1	4.6	3.6	-0.2	0.7
Food	28.9	122.1	4.2	4.6	3.7	-0.2	0.8
Food At Home	18.9	121.5	4.1	4.7	3.6	-0.5	1.1
Rice, Bread & Other Cereals	4.4	107.8	1.8	2.0	1.6	0.1	0.2
Meat	2.9	118.3	0.7	3.3	1.8	-2.8	2.8
Fish & Seafood	4.5	133.1	6.6	5.7	4.3	0.2	0.3
Milk & Eggs	1.8	123.5	2.0	1.1	4.6	-1.0	0.4
Oils & Fats	0.6	102.0	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.0	0.1
Fruits	1.2	124.3	5.9	6.5	4.1	0.2	1.1
Vegetables	2.1	127.9	8.9	12.0	7.3	-0.7	3.4
Sugar, Jam, Honey, Chocolate & Confectionary	0.6	132.1	1.9	1.9	1.7	0.1	0.0
Food Products n.e.c	0.8	122.5	5.7	6.3	4.6	0.3	0.8
Food Away From Home	10.0	123.1	4.3	4.4	4.0	0.2	0.2
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	1.4	111.4	3.3	3.1	2.5	0.1	-0.2

CPI changes for the period January - December 2015 / 2014

The increase of 2.1 per cent in the CPI for period January to December 2015 was led by increases among the main groups with high weights: Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+3.6 per cent) and Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+2.5 per cent). Other increases were Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (+13.5 per cent); Health (+4.5 per cent); Restaurants & Hotels (+4.1 per cent); and Miscellaneous Goods & Services (+4.1 per cent). On the other hand, a decrease was recorded in the index of Transport by 4.5 per cent.

Based on the above changes and the weights assigned to the main groups, the relative contribution to the overall increase of 2.1 per cent in the CPI is shown in Table 3.

Table 3 : CONTRIBUTION TO THE CHANGES IN THE OVERALL CONSUMER PRICE INDEX BY MAIN GROUPS, MALAYSIA (2010=100)

Group	Wt.	2014 / 2013		December 2015 / 2014		January - December 2015 / 2014	
		% Change	% Contribution	% Change	% Contribution	% Change	% Contribution
TOTAL	100.0	3.2	100.0	2.7	100.0	2.1	100.0
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	3.3	34.0	4.6	53.5	3.6	54.1
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.2	11.6	8.3	22.8	22.3	13.5	15.5
Clothing & Footwear	3.4	-0.2	-0.3	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.6
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	22.6	3.4	24.1	2.5	20.6	2.5	25.9
Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	1.0	1.3	4.2	6.1	2.7	5.0
Health	1.3	2.9	1.2	4.6	2.3	4.5	2.8
Transport	14.9	4.9	23.1	-6.2	-35.5	-4.5	-32.1
Communication	5.7	-0.7	-1.3	3.3	6.2	1.9	4.6
Recreation Services & Culture	4.6	1.5	2.2	2.6	4.1	1.7	3.5
Education	1.4	2.4	1.1	2.6	1.4	2.4	1.6
Restaurant & Hotel	3.2	4.7	5.0	4.7	6.0	4.1	6.7
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.3	0.7	1.3	5.4	12.1	4.1	11.8

The increase of 3.6 per cent in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages was the result of increases for Food At Home (+3.6 per cent); Food Away From Home (+4.0 per cent) and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+2.5 per cent). Among the subgroups of Food At Home which showed significant increases during this period as shown in Table 2 were **Vegetables (+7.3 per cent); Milk & Eggs (+4.6 per cent); Fish & Seafood (+4.3 per cent); and Fruits (+4.1 per cent)**.

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