

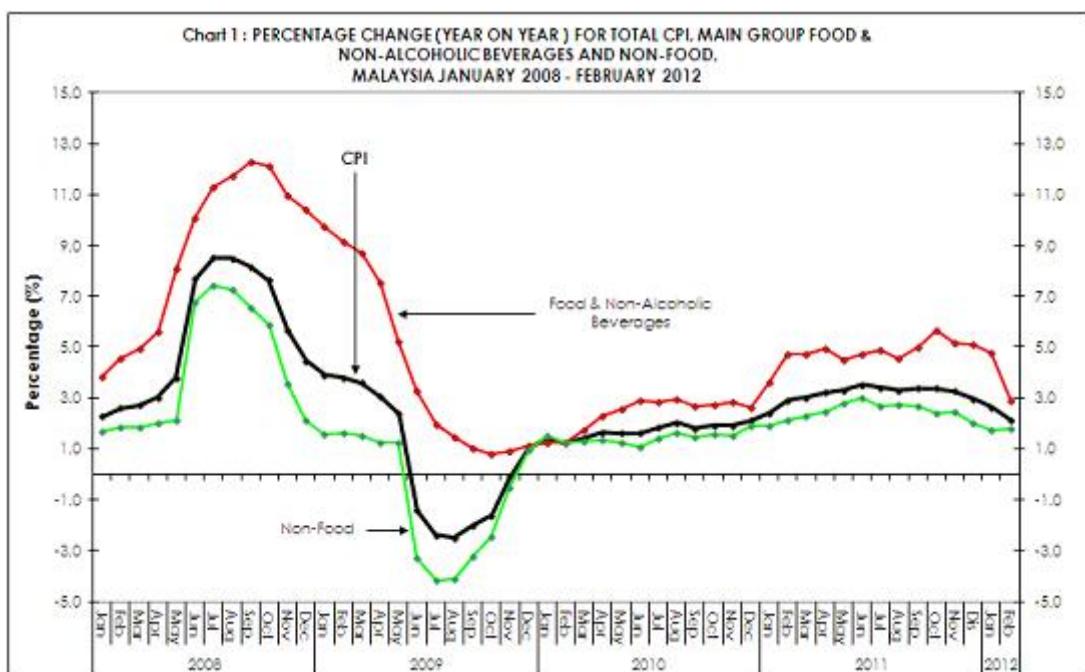


CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MALAYSIA FEBRUARY 2012

Consumer Price Index Malaysia February 2012

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the period January to February 2012 increased by **2.4 per cent** to 104.5 compared with that of 102.1 in the same period last year. Compared with the same month in 2011, the CPI for February 2012 registered an increase of 2.2 per cent from 102.3 to 104.5 and when compared with the previous month, the CPI remained unchanged at 104.5.

The index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Non-Food for the month of February 2012 showed increases of 2.9 and 1.8 per cent respectively as compared to the same month in 2011. For the period January to February 2012, the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Non-Food increased by 3.8 per cent and 1.7 per cent respectively. Compared with the previous month, the index for Non-Food increased by 0.3 per cent while the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages decreased by 0.7 per cent (Table 1).



CPI changes for the period January - February 2012 / 2011

The 2.4 per cent increase in the CPI was brought about by increases observed in the indices of all the main groups except those of Communication (- 0.6 per cent) and Clothing & Footwear (- 0.4 per cent). Notable increases among these main groups with high weights were Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+ 3.8 per cent); Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+ 1.8 per cent) and Transport (+ 1.5 per cent). Other increases were Restaurants & Hotels (+ 4.1 per cent); Recreation Services & Culture (+ 3.2 per cent); Education (+ 3.0 per cent); Miscellaneous Goods & Services (+ 2.9 per cent); Health (+ 2.2 per cent) and Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance (+ 2.0 per cent). The index for Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco remained unchanged at 104.6.

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

Group	Wt.	Index						% Change		
		Feb 2011	Jan 2012	Feb 2012	Jan - Feb 2011	Jan - Feb 2012	Feb 2012/Jan 2011	Feb 2012/Feb 2011	Jan - Feb 2012/2011	
TOTAL	100.0	102.3	104.5	104.5	102.1	104.5	0.0	2.2	2.4	
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	103.7	107.5	106.7	103.2	107.1	-0.7	2.9	3.8	
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.2	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	104.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Clothing and Footwear	3.4	100.1	99.4	99.8	100.0	99.6	0.4	-0.3	-0.4	
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	22.6	101.1	102.6	103.0	101.0	102.8	0.4	1.9	1.8	
Furnishings, Household Equip. & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	101.1	102.9	103.3	101.1	103.1	0.4	2.2	2.0	
Health	1.3	102.1	103.9	104.1	101.8	104.0	0.2	2.0	2.2	
Transport	14.9	103.5	104.9	104.9	103.4	104.9	0.0	1.4	1.5	
Communication	5.7	100.0	99.4	99.4	100.0	99.4	0.0	-0.6	-0.6	
Recreation Services & Culture	4.6	100.5	103.2	103.4	100.1	103.3	0.2	2.9	3.2	
Education	1.4	101.6	104.1	104.5	101.3	104.3	0.4	2.9	3.0	
Restaurants and Hotels	3.2	104.2	107.8	108.1	103.7	108.0	0.3	3.7	4.1	
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.3	101.0	103.8	104.2	101.1	104.0	0.4	3.2	2.9	
Non-Food	69.7	101.7	103.2	103.5	101.6	103.4	0.3	1.8	1.7	
Durable Goods	6.5	100.0	100.8	100.9	100.1	100.9	0.1	0.9	0.8	
Semi-Durable Goods	4.4	100.3	100.2	100.6	100.3	100.4	0.4	0.3	0.1	
Non-Durable Goods	41.6	103.6	106.1	105.5	103.3	105.8	-0.6	1.8	2.4	
Services	47.5	101.7	104.1	104.4	101.5	104.3	0.3	2.7	2.8	

Based on the above changes and the weights assigned to the main groups, the relative contribution to the overall increase of 2.4 per cent in the CPI can be identified as shown in Table 2. The three main groups, Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages; Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels and Transport together accounted for 76.8 per cent of the overall increase recorded for the current period.

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

Group	Wt.	2011 / 2010		February 2012 / 2011		January - February 2012 / 2011	
		% Change	% Contribution	% Change	% Contribution	% Change	% Contribution
TOTAL	100.0	3.2	100.0	2.2	100.0	2.4	100.0
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	4.8	46.4	2.9	45.0	3.8	50.8
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.2	4.6	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Clothing and Footwear	3.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	22.6	1.8	12.5	1.9	19.4	1.8	16.7
Furnishings, Household Equip. & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	1.8	2.3	2.2	4.2	2.0	3.4
Health	1.3	2.7	1.2	2.0	1.3	2.2	1.1
Transport	14.9	4.4	20.7	1.4	9.4	1.5	9.3
Communication	5.7	-0.3	-0.5	-0.6	-1.8	-0.6	-1.5
Recreation Services & Culture	4.6	2.0	2.8	2.9	6.1	3.2	5.9
Education	1.4	2.2	1.0	2.9	1.9	3.0	1.7
Restaurants and Hotels	3.2	5.9	6.0	3.7	5.9	4.1	5.8
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.3	2.4	4.7	3.2	9.0	2.9	7.3

The 3.8 per cent increase in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages was the result of increases for Food At Home (+ 3.5 per cent); Food Away From Home (+ 4.8 per cent) and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+ 3.3 per cent). Among the subgroups of Food At Home which showed significant increases during this period were **Fish & Seafood (+ 8.4 per cent); Milk & Eggs (+ 5.8 per cent); Sugar, Jam, Honey, Chocolate and Confectionery (+ 5.0 per cent); Meat (+ 2.5 per cent); Fruits (+ 2.2 per cent) and Rice, Bread and Other Cereals (+ 1.4 per cent).**

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

Sub-group	Wt.	Index						% Change		
		Feb 2011	Jan 2012	Feb 2012	Jan - Feb 2011	Jan - Feb 2012	Feb 2012/Jan 2011	Feb 2012/ Feb 2011	Jan - Feb 2012/2011	
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	103.7	107.5	106.7	103.2	107.1	-0.7	2.9	3.8	
Food	28.9	103.8	107.7	106.9	103.3	107.3	-0.7	3.0	3.9	
Food At Home	18.9	104.2	108.0	106.5	103.7	107.3	-1.4	2.2	3.5	
Rice, Bread & Other Cereals	4.4	100.9	102.1	102.3	100.8	102.2	0.2	1.4	1.4	

Meat	2.9	103.8	106.1	103.7	102.3	104.9	-2.3	-0.1	2.5
Fish & Seafood	4.5	104.1	114.1	111.1	103.9	112.6	-2.6	6.7	8.4
Milk & Eggs	1.8	104.3	109.7	109.9	103.8	109.8	0.2	5.4	5.8
Oils and Fats	0.6	100.1	101.1	101.2	100.1	101.2	0.1	1.1	1.1
Fruits	1.2	105.8	107.5	108.2	105.6	107.9	0.7	2.3	2.2
Vegetables	2.1	111.0	107.8	103.9	109.7	105.9	-3.6	-6.4	-3.5
Sugar, Jam, Honey, Choc. & Confectionery	0.6	108.0	113.3	113.4	108.0	113.4	0.1	5.0	5.0
Food Products n.e.c.	0.8	103.2	110.0	110.3	102.8	110.2	0.3	6.9	7.2
Food Away From Home	10.0	103.0	107.2	107.3	102.5	107.4	0.3	4.4	4.8
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	1.4	101.1	104.1	104.5	101.0	104.3	0.4	3.4	3.3

Monthly Changes for CPI

Compared with the previous month, the CPI for February 2012 remained unchanged at 104.5. Increases were for main groups Clothing & Footwear; Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels; Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance; Education and Miscellaneous Goods & Services by 0.4 per cent respectively; Restaurants & Hotels (+ 0.3 per cent); Health and Recreation Services & Culture by 0.2 per cent respectively. On the other hand, the main group Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages showed a decrease of 0.7 per cent. The indices for Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco; Transport and Communication remained unchanged at 104.6; 104.9 and 99.4 respectively.

The 0.7 per cent decrease in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages in February 2012 compared with that of the previous month was the result of the decrease in the index for Food At Home by 1.4 per cent while the index for Food Away From Home and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased by 0.3 and 0.4 per cent respectively.

Among the food items which recorded notable decreases in the index in February 2012 compared with the previous month were **Spinach (- 12.2 per cent); Water Spinach (- 11.4 per cent); Red Chillies (- 9.9 per cent); Hardtail Scad (Fish) (- 8.9 per cent); Choy Sum (- 8.5 per cent); Selar Scad (Fish) (- 8.0 per cent); Round Scad (Fish) (- 6.4 per cent); Long Beans (- 5.5 per cent); Indian Mackerel (Fish) (- 4.9 per cent); Chicken (- 4.5 per cent); Threadfin Bream (Fish) (- 3.9 per cent); Cuttlefish (- 3.4 per cent) and Prawn (- 3.3 per cent).**

Meanwhile, the index of some food items increased in February 2012 compared with the previous month. Among these were **Tomatoes (+ 16.7 per cent); Watermelon (+ 4.3 per cent); Grapes (+ 3.1 per cent); Cucumber (+ 2.7 per cent) and Beef (+ 0.4 per cent).**

A reclassification of items according to their durability and services rendered showed increases in Semi-Durable Goods (+ 0.4 per cent); Services (+ 0.3 per cent) and Durable Goods (+ 0.1 per cent) while Non-Durable Goods decreased by 0.6 per cent.

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