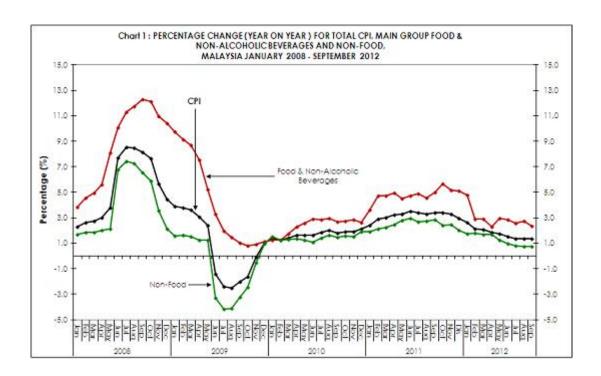
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX MALAYSIA SEPTEMBER 2012

Consumer Price Index Malaysia September 2012

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the period January to September 2012 increased by **1.8 per cent** to 104.7 compared with that of 102.9 in the same period last year. Compared with the same month in 2011, the CPI for September 2012 registered an increase of 1.3 per cent from 103.8 to 105.2 and when compared with the previous month, the CPI increased by 0.2 per cent.

The index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Non-Food for the month of September 2012 showed increases of 2.4 and 0.8 per cent respectively as compared to the same month in 2011. For the period January to September 2012, the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Non-Food increased by 2.9 and 1.2 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 remained unchanged at 108.0 (Table 1).



CPI changes for the period January - September 2012 / 2011

The 1.8 per cent increase in the CPI was brought about by increases observed in the indices for all the main groups except those of Communication (- 0.6 per cent) and Clothing & Footwear (- 0.5 per cent). Notable increases among these main groups with high weights were Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (+ 2.9 per cent); Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+ 1.6 per cent) and Transport (+ 0.7 per cent). Other increases were Restaurants & Hotels (+ 3.1 per cent); Education (+ 2.5 per cent); Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance and Miscellaneous Goods & Services by 2.2 per cent respectively; Health (+ 2.1 per cent); Recreation Services & Culture (+ 1.6 per cent) and Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (+ 0.1 per cent).

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

		Index				% Change			
Group	Wt.	Sep 2011	Aug 2012	Sep 2012	Jan - Sep 2011	Jan - Sep 2012	Sep 2012/ Aug 2012	Sep 2012/ Sep 2011	Jan - Sep 2012/ 2011
TOTAL	100.0	103.8	105.0	105.2	102.9	104.7	0.2	1.3	1.8
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	105.5	108.0	108.0	104.3	107.3	0.0	2.4	2.9
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.2	104.6	104.8	104.9	104.6	104.7	0.1	0.3	0.1
Clothing and Footwear	3.4	99.8	98.7	99.1	99.8	99.3	0.4	-0.7	-0.5
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	22.6	102.3	103.8	103.8	101.6	103.2	0.0	1.5	1.6
Furnishings, Household Equip. & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	102.3	104.0	104.3	101.5	103.7	0.3	2.0	2.2
Health	1.3	103.4	104.9	105.4	102.4	104.5	0.5	1.9	2.1
Transport	14.9	104.7	104.8	105.6	104.3	105.0	0.8	0.9	0.7
Communication	5.7	99.6	99.0	98.9	99.8	99.2	-0.1	-0.7	-0.6
Recreation Services & Culture	4.6	102.9	103.2	103.1	101.6	103.2	-0.1	0.2	1.6
Education	1.4	102.4	104.7	104.8	102.0	104.6	0.1	2.3	2.5
Restaurants and Hotels	3.2	106.8	109.2	109.5	105.4	108.7	0.3	2.5	3.1
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.3	103.9	104.4	104.9	102.0	104.2	0.5	1.0	2.2
Non-Food	69.7	103.1	103.7	104.0	102.3	103.6	0.3	0.8	1.2
Durable Goods	6.5	101.7	99.9	100.1	100.5	100.3	0.2	-1.6	-0.2
Semi-Durable Goods	4.4	100.5	99.5	100.0	100.2	100.1	0.5	-0.5	-0.1
Non-Durable Goods	41.6	104.9	106.1	106.4	104.1	105.8	0.3	1.4	1.6
Services	47.5	103.3	105.3	105.4	102.4	104.8	0.1	2.0	2.3

Based on the above changes and the weights assigned to the main groups, the relative contribution to the overall increase of 1.8 per cent in the CPI can be identified as shown in <u>Table 2</u>. The three main groups, Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages; Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels and Transport together accounted for 77.6 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 / 2	010	Septeml 2012 / 2		January - September 2012 / 2011	
Group		% Change	% Contributio n	% Change	% Contributio n	% Change	% Contributio n
TOTAL	100.0	3.2	100.0	1.3	100.0	1.8	100.0
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	4.8	46.4	2.4	51.7	2.9	51.3
Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	2.2	4.6	3.2	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.1
Clothing and Footwear	3.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.7	-1.6	-0.5	-0.9
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	22.6	1.8	12.5	1.5	23.7	1.6	20.3
Furnishings, Household Equip. & Routine Household Maintenance	4.1	1.8	2.3	2.0	5.4	2.2	4.6
Health	1.3	2.7	1.2	1.9	1.8	2.1	1.5
Transport	14.9	4.4	20.7	0.9	8.7	0.7	6.0
Communication	5.7	-0.3	-0.5	-0.7	-2.8	-0.6	-2.1
Recreation Services & Culture	4.6	2.0	2.8	0.2	0.4	1.6	3.9
Education	1.4	2.2	1.0	2.3	2.2	2.5	2.0
Restaurants and Hotels	3.2	5.9	6.0	2.5	5.8	3.1	5.9
Miscellaneous Goods & Services	6.3	2.4	4.7	1.0	4.3	2.2	7.4

The 2.9 per cent increase in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages was the result of increases for Food At Home (\pm 2.4 per cent); Food Away From Home (\pm 4.0 per cent) and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (\pm 3.0 per cent). Among the subgroups of Food At Home which showed significant increases during this period were **Fish & Seafood (\pm 7.6 per cent)**; **Milk & Eggs (\pm 3.0 per cent)**; **Fruits (\pm 2.5 per cent)**; **Sugar, Jam, Honey, Chocolate and Confectionery (\pm 2.4 per cent)**; **Rice, Bread and Other Cereals (\pm 1.2 per cent)** and **Oils & Fats (\pm 0.9 per cent)**.

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

Sub-group	Wt.	Index			% Change				
		Sep 2011		Sep 2012	Sep	Sep	Aug	Sep 2012/ Sep 2011	Jan - Sep 2012/20 11
Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	30.3	105.5	108.0	108.0	104.3	107.3	0.0	2.4	2.9
Food	28.9	105.6	108.1	108.1	104.4	107.4	0.0	2.4	2.9
Food At Home	18.9	105.7	107.7	107.7	104.6	107.1	0.0	1.9	2.4

Rice, Bread & Other Cereals	4.4	101.7	102.4	102.5	101.2	102.4	0.1	0.8	1.2
Meat	2.9	109.8	105.4	107.1	107.0	105.5	1.6	-2.5	-1.4
Fish & Seafood	4.5	107.6	115.5	114.2	104.9	112.9	-1.1	6.1	7.6
Milk & Eggs	1.8	106.5	108.0	108.4	105.4	108.6	0.4	1.8	3.0
Oils and Fats	0.6	100.8	101.1	101.3	100.4	101.3	0.2	0.5	0.9
Fruits	1.2	105.7	108.9	109.5	105.5	108.1	0.6	3.6	2.5
Vegetables	2.1	102.1	103.6	102.9	105.4	103.2	-0.7	0.8	-2.1
Sugar, Jam, Honey, Choc. & Confectionery	0.6	113.2	113.7	113.8	110.9	113.6	0.1	0.5	2.4
Food Products n.e.c.	0.8	107.8	109.9	110.1	105.1	110.1	0.2	2.1	4.8
Food Away From Home	10.0	105.5	108.9	109.0	104.0	108.2	0.1	3.3	4.0
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages	1.4	103.3	105.6	105.9	102.0	105.1	0.3	2.5	3.0

Monthly Changes for CPI

Compared with the previous month, the CPI for September 2012 increased by 0.2 per cent. Increases were for main groups Transport (+ 0.8 per cent); Health and Miscellaneous Goods & Services by 0.5 per cent respectively; Clothing & Footwear (+ 0.4 per cent); Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance and Restaurants & Hotels by 0.3 per cent respectively; Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco and Education by 0.1 per cent respectively. On the other hand, decreases were for Communication and Recreation Services & Culture by 0.1 per cent respectively. The indices for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels remained unchanged at 108.0 and 103.8 respectively.

The indices for Food Away From Home and Coffee, Tea, Cocoa & Non-Alcoholic Beverages increased by 0.1 and 0.3 per cent respectively however, this is offset by the index for Food At Home which remained unchanged at 107.7. This has resulted in the index for Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages in September 2012 compared with that of the previous month remained unchanged at 108.0.

Among the food items which recorded notable increases in September 2012 compared with the previous month were Apples (+ 4.1 per cent); Shallots (+ 3.8 per cent); Chicken (+ 2.7 per cent); Onion, Big (+ 2.5 per cent); Mangoes (+ 2.3 per cent); Hen's Eggs (+ 2.1 per cent); Round Cabbage (+ 1.6 per cent) and Prawns (+ 1.2 per cent).

Meanwhile, the index of some food items decreased in September 2012 compared with the previous month. Among these were Long Beans (- 8.8 per cent); Round Scad (Fish) (- 7.4 per cent); Red Chillies (- 3.7 per cent); Cuttlefish (- 2.5 per cent); Hardtail Scad (Fish) (- 2.4 per cent); Carrots (- 2.2 per cent); Indian Mackerel (Fish) (- 2.1 per cent) and Threadfin Bream (Fish) (- 2.1 per cent).

A reclassification of items according to their durability and services rendered showed increases in Semi-Durable Goods (\pm 0.5 per cent); Non-Durable Goods (\pm 0.3 per cent); Durable Goods (\pm 0.2 per cent) and Services (\pm 0.1 per cent).

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