



JABATAN PERANGKAAN MALAYSIA

Newsletter Consumer Price Index (CPI) December 2014

Inflation Rate for December 2014 is 2.7%

The Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures the change over time in the general price level of goods and services that households acquire for the purpose of consumption, with reference to the price level in 2010, the base year, which has an index of 100.

December 2014 rate of inflation

The year-on-year inflation rate as measured by the CPI stood at 2.7 percent in December 2014, dropped 0.3 percentage point from the 3.0 percent recorded in November 2014 (Table 1). This rate of inflation for December 2014 shows how much higher or lower prices when compared with the same month a year earlier.

The monthly change rate for December 2014 was -0.1 percent compared to November 2014.

Food and non-food inflation

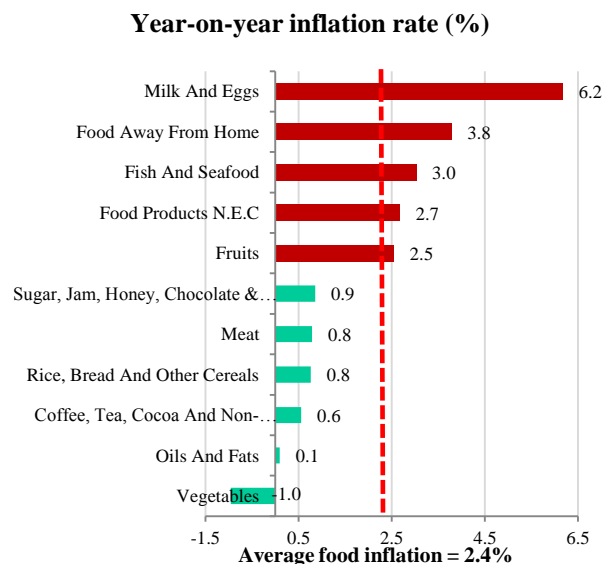
The Food and non-alcoholic beverages group recorded a year-on-year inflation rate of 2.4 percent. This is 0.5 percentage point lower than the 2.9 percent recorded in November 2014. Five subgroups of the food and non-alcoholic beverages group recorded inflation rates higher than the group's average rate of 2.4 percent (Figure 1).

The non-food group recorded a year-on-year inflation rate of 2.8 percent in December 2014, compared to the 3.1 percent recorded in November 2014. Five subgroups recorded year-on-year inflation rates higher than the group's average rate of 2.8 percent (Figure 2). Alcoholic beverages & tobacco recorded the highest rate of 10.6 percent followed by Restaurants and hotels (4.1 percent); Transport with 4.0 percent; Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (3.4 percent); and Health (3.3 percent).

Table 1: Consumer Price Index (CPI), December 2013 to 2014

Year/ Month	Index 2010=100	Percentage change	
		Monthly (M/M)	Yearly (Y/Y)
Dec 2013	108.9	0.3	3.2
Jan 2014	109.5	0.6	3.3
Feb 2014	109.8	0.3	3.4
Mar 2014	109.9	0.1	3.4
Apr 2014	109.9	0.0	3.4
May 2014	110.0	0.1	3.1
Jun 2014	110.2	0.2	3.2
Jul 2014	110.3	0.1	3.1
Aug 2014	110.5	0.2	3.2
Sept 2014	110.7	0.2	2.5
Oct 2014	111.3	0.5	2.8
Nov 2014	111.9	0.5	3.0
Dec 2014	111.8	-0.1	2.7

Figure 1: Food inflation rate (%) by major subgroups, December 2013 to 2014



Inflation was lowest in the Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance subgroup (0.6%). On the other hand, Clothing & footwear and Communication subgroups recorded negative year-on-year inflation rates.

State differentials

At the state level, the year-on-year inflation rate ranged from 1.6 percent in the Sabah & Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan to 3.0 percent in Johor. Three states (Johor, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur and Pulau Pinang) recorded inflation rates above the national average of 2.7 percent (Figure 3).

Dissemination

A publication on the December 2014 CPI and more detailed data in time series format have been posted on the web portal of the Department of Statistics, Malaysia (<http://www.statistics.gov.my>). The target publication date of the monthly CPI newsletter is three weeks after the end of the reference month. The next release date is 20th February 2015.

Figure 2: Year-on-year Non Food Inflation (%) by main groups, December 2014

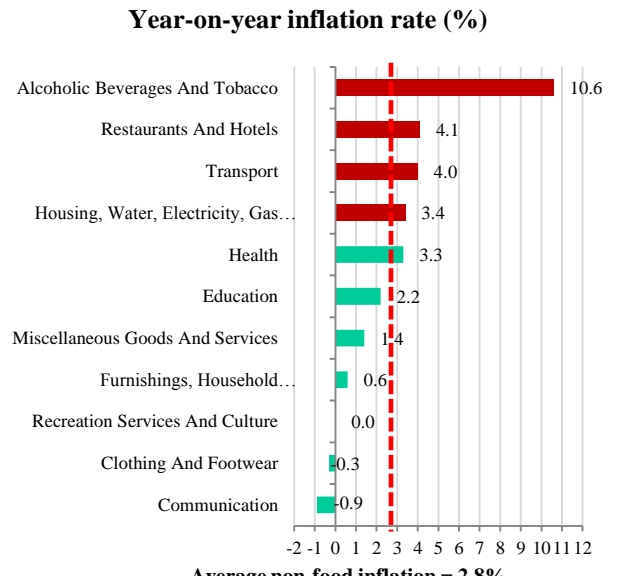
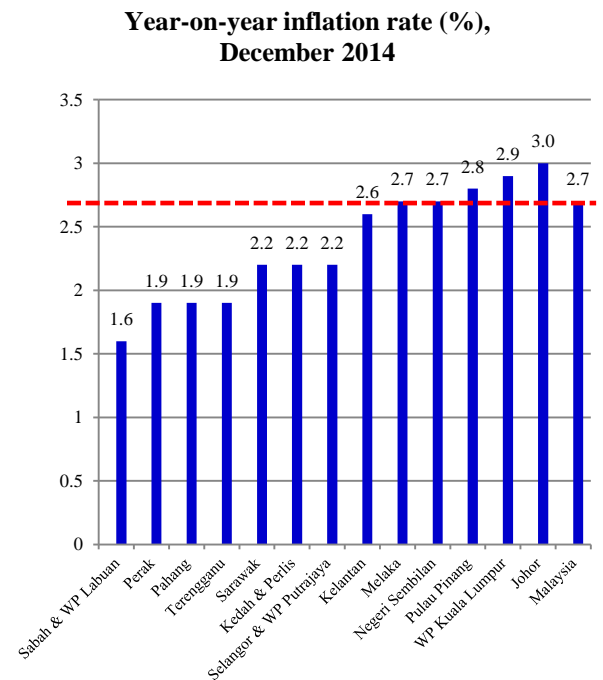


Figure 3: Year-on-year inflation rate (%) by state, December 2014



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