



PRESS RELEASE

SINGAPORE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR HOUSEHOLDS IN DIFFERENT INCOME GROUPS

Consumer Price Index^[1], January – June 2015

During the first half of 2015, the CPI-All Items for general households fell by 0.4 per cent, compared with the same period a year ago. This decline was in contrast to the increase of 0.5 per cent registered in the second half of 2014. Excluding imputed rentals on owner-occupied accommodation (OOA)^[2], the CPI edged up by 0.2 per cent in the first half of 2015, lower than the increase of 0.9 per cent in the second half of 2014.

In terms of the different income groups, the CPI-All Items for the lowest 20%, middle 60% and highest 20% income groups dropped by 0.7 per cent, 0.2 per cent and 0.6 per cent respectively in the first half of 2015. Excluding imputed rentals on OOA, the CPI for the lowest 20% income group declined by 0.1 per cent, while that for the middle 60% income group increased by 0.4 per cent. The CPI excluding imputed rentals on OOA for the highest 20% income group remained unchanged.

For all income groups, the decline in the CPI-All Items they experienced in the first half of 2015 was largely driven by lower accommodation costs and electricity tariffs. These price dips were partially offset by moderate increases in food prices. Compared to the middle 60% income group, the lowest 20% and highest 20% income groups experienced a larger drop in their respective CPI-All Items as they saw a more significant decline in outpatient medical treatment fees and car prices respectively. These factors also contributed to the difference in the growth rates of CPI excluding imputed rentals on OOA experienced by the different income groups in the first half of 2015.

^[1] The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for households in different income groups has been rebased from the base year of 2009 to 2014. The CPI with base year 2014 for general households was released on 23 February 2015. The weighting pattern for the 2014-based CPI for households in different income groups was derived from expenditure values collected in the Household Expenditure Survey (HES) conducted between October 2012 and September 2013. These expenditure values were updated to 2014 values by taking into account price changes between 2012/13 and 2014. Similar to the CPI for general households, the 2014-based CPI for households in different income groups also adopted the classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP). Under the COICOP, there are ten broad categories of goods and services as compared to eight under the classification used for the 2009-based CPI.

^[2] The OOA cost in CPI comprises rentals that are imputed for owner-occupied homes. Given that imputed rentals on OOA have no impact on the cash expenditure of such households, an additional indicator of inflation, "CPI All Items less imputed rentals on owner-occupied accommodation", is compiled.

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(2014 = 100)

Income Group	All Items	Food	Clothing & Footwear	Housing & Utilities	Household Durables & Services	Healthcare	Transport	Communication	Recreation & Culture	Education	Miscellaneous Goods & Services	All Items Less Imputed Rentals on Owner-Occupied Accommodation
Weight Per 10,000												
General Households	10,000	2167	273	2625	475	615	1579	385	788	615	478	8101
Lowest 20%	10,000	2435	157	4002	359	812	732	397	466	261	379	7076
Middle 60%	10,000	2360	283	2615	432	623	1404	453	737	602	491	8104
Highest 20%	10,000	1835	280	2396	555	562	1984	288	920	700	480	8263
Percent Change Over Corresponding Period Of Previous Year												
<u>2015 Jan - Jun</u>												
General Households	-0.4	2.1	-0.8	-3.2	0.5	-	-1.5	1.3	-	3.3	0.3	0.2
Lowest 20%	-0.7	2.0	-1.1	-2.9	0.6	-2.9	0.5	1.0	0.1	1.8	0.8	-0.1
Middle 60%	-0.2	2.1	-0.7	-3.1	0.5	-0.3	-0.7	1.2	-	3.0	0.5	0.4
Highest 20%	-0.6	2.2	-0.9	-3.4	0.5	1.7	-2.4	1.5	-0.1	3.5	-0.3	-
<u>2014 Jul - Dec</u>												
General Households	0.5	2.8	-1.5	-0.9	1.4	2.3	-2.1	0.4	0.8	3.3	1.5	0.9
Lowest 20%	1.0	2.9	-2.4	-0.5	1.2	2.3	0.7	0.3	1.0	2.5	3.2	1.7
Middle 60%	0.7	2.8	-1.5	-0.6	1.2	2.3	-1.7	0.4	1.0	3.2	1.8	1.1
Highest 20%	0.1	2.6	-1.4	-1.4	1.6	2.4	-2.8	0.5	0.6	3.4	0.6	0.4
<u>2014</u>												
General Households	1.0	2.9	-0.8	0.1	1.8	2.8	-1.2	-0.2	1.8	3.4	1.2	1.2
Lowest 20%	1.5	3.0	-1.1	0.6	1.3	2.9	0.7	-0.3	1.9	2.7	2.6	1.8
Middle 60%	1.2	3.0	-0.9	0.4	1.5	2.7	-1.1	-0.2	1.9	3.4	1.4	1.3
Highest 20%	0.7	2.8	-0.7	-0.5	2.1	2.7	-1.5	-0.1	1.5	3.5	0.6	1.0
<u>2013</u>												
General Households	2.4	2.1	0.3	2.8	4.9	3.8	2.3	-1.4	1.1	3.8	1.9	1.9
Lowest 20%	2.7	2.0	0.3	3.7	4.0	3.9	2.1	-1.0	1.5	4.4	0.8	1.2
Middle 60%	2.4	2.1	0.3	3.4	4.7	3.8	2.3	-1.4	1.3	3.6	1.2	1.7
Highest 20%	2.3	2.2	0.4	1.7	5.2	4.0	2.4	-1.4	0.9	4.1	3.2	2.2