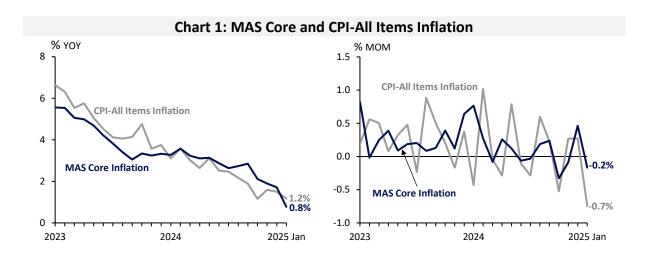




# **Consumer Price Developments in January 2025**<sup>1</sup>

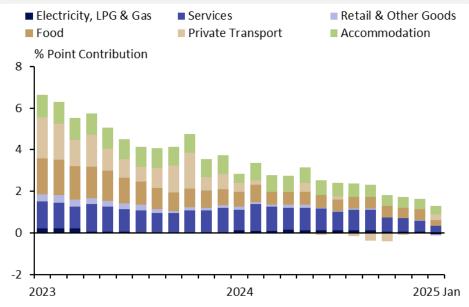
### **Summary**

- MAS Core Inflation fell to 0.8% on a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis in January, from
   1.7% in December.
  - o This was driven by lower inflation across all broad core CPI categories.
  - On a month-on-month (m-o-m) basis, core CPI declined by 0.2%.
- CPI-All Items inflation eased to **1.2%** y-o-y in January, from **1.5%** in December.
  - This reflected a moderation in accommodation inflation, in addition to the fall in core inflation.
  - On a m-o-m basis, CPI-All Items declined by 0.7%.



The CPI for general households has been rebased from base year of 2019 to 2024. The rebasing exercise is conducted once every five years to reflect the latest consumption patterns and composition of goods and services consumed by resident households. An information paper on "Rebasing of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) (2024 as Base Year)" is available on the SingStat website at https://www.singstat.gov.sg/-/media/files/publications/economy/ip-e61.ashx.

### Chart 2: % Point Contribution to Year-on-year CPI-All Items Inflation



<sup>\*</sup> Private transport and accommodation are excluded from the MAS Core Inflation measure. Source: MAS, MTI estimates

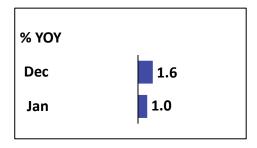
## CPI-All Items inflation fell to 1.2% y-o-y in January.

#### **CPI-All Items**



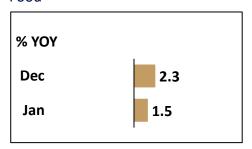
CPI-All Items inflation eased on the back of lower inflation across most major categories of the CPI basket.

### Services



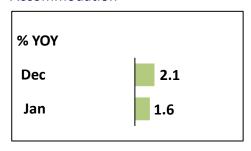
Services inflation slowed, largely due to a fall in the costs of general, vocational & higher education, as well as outpatient and inpatient care services.

### Food



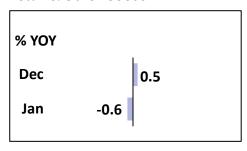
Food inflation moderated as the prices of prepared meals rose at a slower pace.

#### Accommodation



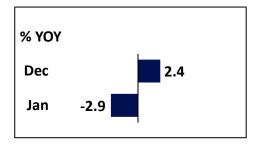
Accommodation inflation eased on account of smaller increases in both housing rents and housing maintenance & repair costs.

#### **Retail & Other Goods**



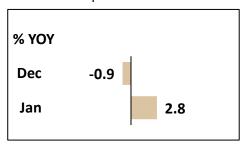
The cost of retail & other goods fell due to a sharper decline in the prices of footwear, alongside a drop in the prices of medical goods and other personal effects.

### **Electricity & Gas**



Electricity & gas prices declined due to lower electricity prices while gas prices rose at a slower pace.

### **Private Transport**



Private transport costs increased due to higher car prices.

### **Outlook**

Singapore's imported inflation is expected to remain moderate, reflecting favourable supply projections in key food commodity markets and forecasts of declines in global oil prices. While an escalation of trade frictions could be inflationary for some economies, their impact on Singapore's import prices is likely to be offset by the disinflationary drags exerted by weaker global demand. The trade-weighted S\$ exchange rate policy band remains on a modest and gradual appreciation path, and will continue to temper imported inflation.

On the domestic front, unit labour costs are projected to rise gradually as nominal wage growth eases and productivity increases. At the same time, enhanced government subsidies for essential services such as public healthcare, pre-school education and public transport will continue to dampen services inflation.

Reflecting these factors, MAS Core Inflation is projected to average 1.0–2.0% in 2025. Meanwhile, CPI-All Items inflation is expected to average 1.5–2.5% for the year amid an anticipated pickup in private transport inflation. The outlook for inflation remains subject to uncertainties in the external environment.

MONETARY AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE

MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

24 February 2025

### **Annex: Price Indicators**

#### **CPI-All Items**

The CPI is commonly used as a measure of consumer price changes in the economy. It tracks the change in prices of a fixed basket of consumption goods and services commonly purchased by the general resident households over time.

The CPI covers only consumption expenditure incurred by resident households. It excludes non-consumption expenditures such as purchases of houses, shares and other financial assets and income taxes etc.

The CPI-All Items provides a comprehensive overview of the prices of consumer goods and services. Nevertheless, useful information can also be revealed by complementary CPI series derived by excluding specific items in the All Items basket. For example, two other CPI series reported on a monthly basis are the CPI less Imputed Rentals for Housing and the MAS Core Inflation.

#### **MAS Core Inflation**

The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) monitors a core inflation measure that excludes the components of "Accommodation" and "Private Transport". These items are excluded as they tend to be significantly influenced by supply-side administrative policies and are volatile. Core inflation is meant to capture the generalised and persistent price changes that are driven by underlying demand conditions. It thus provides useful information for monetary policy which has the objective of ensuring price stability in the medium term.

#### **CPI less Imputed Rentals for Housing**

Accommodation, one of the groups in the Housing & Utilities expenditure division of the CPI, comprises Actual Rentals for Housing, Imputed Rentals for Housing as well as Housing Maintenance & Repairs.

A significant share of the Accommodation group is Imputed Rentals for Housing, which reflects the costs to homeowners of utilising the flow of services provided by their homes over an extended period of time. Given that the cost of using housing services is not directly observed for homeowners, it is computed based on the imputed rental concept under the rental equivalence method, i.e. proxied by market rentals of similar properties. This provides an estimated rental value for the owned home, as though the homeowner were renting it from themselves. Housing price is not considered in the CPI as it has a high investment component and is treated as a capital good. As for the CPI for Housing Maintenance & Repairs, it takes into account the rebates for Service & Conservancy Charges (S&CC) disbursed to households living in Housing and Development Board (HDB) flats in the applicable months.

Imputed rentals have no impact on the cash expenditure of most households in Singapore as they already own their homes, while the inclusion of S&CC rebates results in some volatility in the monthly CPI. As such, the CPIs for All Items less Accommodation and All Items less Imputed Rentals for Housing are compiled and published as additional indicators. For the CPI for All Items less Imputed Rentals for Housing, actual rentals paid on rented homes are still included in the measure.

#### **CPI Statistics**

Detailed CPI statistics can be found in the Department of Statistics' release titled "Singapore Consumer Price Index for January 2025". This release also contains further information on the various price indicators published.

https://www.singstat.gov.sq/whats-new/latest-news/cpi-highlights

#### **MAS Core Inflation**

A detailed review of MAS Core Inflation can be found in "A Review of the Core Inflation Measure for Singapore".

https://www.mas.gov.sg/-

/media/MAS/resource/publications/staff\_papers/StaffPaperNo51.pdf

Table A.1

Consumer Price Index of Key Categories

Index (2024=100)

**CPI Less All Items MAS Core CPI Less** Food **Services** Retail & **Electricity** Private Accommod **Accommod Imputed** Other & Gas **Transport** ation ation **Rentals for** Goods Housing 1,025 198 906 2,656 Weights 10,000 6,438 7,344 7,862 2,042 3,173 98.752 99.501 99.411 98.645 99.422 99.354 100.052 99.788 98.777 96.929 2024 Jan 99.869 Feb 99.755 99.774 99.687 99.873 99.522 100.326 99.967 99.074 99.942 99.712 99.566 99.950 99.694 99.766 99.686 99.580 100.263 98.659 100.116 Mar 99.426 99.950 99.996 99.347 99.643 99.705 101.268 100.202 100.324 97.850 Apr 100.209 100.070 100.133 100.307 99.855 99.902 100.966 100.333 100.579 100.420 May 100.006 100.137 99.865 99.711 100.104 99.946 100.169 100.394 99.513 100.542 Jun 99.974 100.008 99.720 99.918 99.818 99.857 100.309 100.687 100.245 99.294 Jul 100.414 100.160 100.145 100.449 100.025 100.280 99.955 100.683 100.035 101.158 Aug 100.645 100.235 100.396 100.437 100.721 100.679 99.776 100.693 100.734 101.219 Sep 100.119 100.065 100.292 100.022 100.459 99.992 99.704 99.037 101.904 99.641 Oct Nov 100.387 99.976 100.018 100.343 100.472 100.130 98.698 98.994 100.315 101.408 100.661 100.439 100.365 100.674 100.551 100.832 99.286 98.956 99.842 101.479 Dec 100.875 99.908 100.270 100.426 99.713 100.369 99.422 96.866 101.528 98.477 2025 Jan

Note: For more information on the CPI items in the "Services" and "Retail & Other Goods" categories in this report, please refer to "MAS Core Inflation and Notes to Selected CPI Categories". https://www.mas.gov.sg/statistics

Table A.2
YOY Inflation for Key CPI Categories

	All Items	MAS Core	CPI Less Accommod ation	CPI Less Imputed Rentals for Housing	Food	Services	Retail & Other Goods	Electricity & Gas	Private Transport	Accommod ation
Weights	10,000	6,438	7,344	7,862	2,042	3,173	1,025	198	906	2,656
2024 Jan	3.1	3.3	3.5	2.9	3.5	3.5	1.7	5.2	4.0	2.4
Feb	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.9	4.1	1.2	5.2	2.7	4.0
Mar	3.0	3.2	2.8	2.9	3.3	4.0	0.6	4.6	0.5	3.8
Apr	2.6	3.1	2.5	2.4	2.9	3.5	1.6	7.5	0.2	3.7
May	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.1	2.7	3.7	1.6	6.9	2.7	3.4
Jun	2.5	2.9	2.3	2.4	2.7	3.5	0.4	7.0	-0.4	3.2
Jul	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.6	3.0	0.9	6.7	1.3	3.0
Aug	2.2	2.7	1.9	2.1	2.5	3.3	0.6	6.7	-1.5	2.9
Sep	1.9	2.8	1.6	1.8	2.6	3.4	0.8	6.5	-3.1	2.6
Oct	1.2	2.1	0.8	0.9	2.7	2.3	0.3	2.5	-3.5	2.5
Nov	1.6	1.9	1.3	1.5	2.3	2.2	-0.1	2.5	-1.0	2.3
Dec	1.5	1.7	1.3	1.4	2.3	1.6	0.5	2.4	-0.9	2.1
2025 Jan	1.2	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.5	1.0	-0.6	-2.9	2.8	1.6