

## KERATAN AKHBAR

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### Wholesale and retail trade expands to RM136b in April

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**PUTRAJAYA:** Malaysia's Wholesale & Retail Trade recorded monthly sales value of RM136 billion, grew 6.3% year-on-year in April 2023, according to Department of Statistics Malaysia (DoSM).

In its report on Performance of Wholesale & Retail Trade, April 2023, DoSM said the increase of 6.3% for Wholesale & Retail Trade in April 2023 was attributed to retail trade sub-sector, which increased 12.9% or RM6.9 billion to register RM60.5 billion.

Wholesale trade also expanded by registering 3.2% or RM1.9 billion to RM60.9 billion. However, motor vehicles declined -5.1% to RM14.6 billion.

On a month-on-month comparison basis, sales value of Wholesale & Retail Trade inched down -1.8%, caused by a fall in motor vehicles and wholesale trade sub-sectors of -19.8% and -1.1%, respectively.

Looking at the performance across sub-sectors, the retail trade

➤ Sales value up 6.3% year-on-year, attributed mainly to retail trade sub-sector, which rose 12.9% or RM6.9b to RM60.5b

sub-sector growth of 12.9% in April 2023 was supported by retail sales in non-specialised stores which elevated 18% or RM3.6 billion to RM23.4 billion.

Other groups in this sub-sector also recorded positive growth namely retail sales in specialised stores 17.4%, retail sales of automotive fuels 19.6%, retail sales of food, beverages & tobacco 15.1%, retail sales of household goods 1.5%, retail sales not in stores, stalls or market 8.9%, and retail sales in stalls & market 13.1%. For month-on-month comparison, sales of this sub-sector went up 3.1%.

On wholesale trade sub-sector, DoSM said the increase of 3.2% was attributed to wholesale of food,

beverages & tobacco which rose RM0.9 billion or 7.7% to RM12.1 billion. This was followed by wholesale of household goods 5.4%, wholesale of agricultural raw materials & live animals 5.1%, non-specialised wholesale trade 8.5%, wholesale of machinery, equipment & supplies 2.7%, and wholesale on a fee & contract basis 8%.

On the other hand, for monthly comparison, wholesale trade slipped -1.1%, mainly caused by wholesale of food, beverages & tobacco, and wholesale of household goods which decreased -2.7% and -1.7%, respectively.

DoSM also said that the -5.1% decrease in motor vehicles sub-

sector this month was dragged down by sales of motor vehicles which slumped -17.3% or RM1.4 billion to RM6.8 billion. This was followed by sales, maintenance & repair of motorcycles which shrank -29.8%.

For monthly comparison, this sub-sector also recorded a negative growth of -19.8%, contributed by a decrease in sales of motor vehicles with -33.5%.

For index of retail sale over the internet, the index recorded 4.1% growth year-on-year in April 2023 (March 2023: 11.7%). For seasonally adjusted value, the index went up 3.4% as against the previous month. In terms of volume index, wholesale & retail trade for April 2023 registered a year-on-year growth of 4.7%.

DoSM added that the expansion was attributed to retail trade and wholesale trade with 10% and 3.4%, respectively. For seasonally adjusted volume index, it increased 6.5% month-on-month.