

# KERATAN AKHBAR

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## Local wholesale, retail trade expands in June

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Monthly sales value up 4.3% year-on-year to RM138.5 billion

**PUTRAJAYA:** Malaysia's wholesale and retail trade recorded monthly sales value of RM138.5 billion, increasing 4.3% year-on-year in June.

For quarterly performance, sales of wholesale and retail trade registered RM412.4 billion in second quarter, grew 5.7%.

In a statement yesterday, Chief statistician Malaysia Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin said, "The increase of 4.3% for wholesale and retail trade in June was attributed to retail trade sub-sector, which rose 5.8% or RM3.2 billion to register RM59.4 billion. Wholesale trade also expanded by registering 3.1% or RM1.9 billion to RM62.4 billion, followed by motor vehicles with an increase of 3.4% or RM2.6 billion to RM117.2 billion."

Month-on-month, sales value of wholesale and retail trade inched up 0.3% or RM0.5 billion. This monthly growth was contributed by retail trade with an increase of RM0.6 billion or 1.0%, followed by wholesale trade sub-sector of 0.3% or RM0.2 billion. On the other hand, motor vehicles declined -1.9%.

Looking at the performance across sub-sectors, Mohd Uzir said, "The growth of 5.8% for retail trade in this month was supported by retail sales in non-specialised stores which continued its upward trend to register 10.9% or RM2.2 billion to RM22.8 billion. Other groups in this sub-sector also recorded positive growth namely retail sales of automotive fuel 8.5%, retail sales of food, beverages and tobacco 12.6%, retail sales in specialised stores 2.7%, retail sales not in stores, stalls or market 2%, and retail sales in stalls and market 5.8%."

Month-on-month, sales of this sub-sector rebounded 1%, with most of the groups registered a positive growth.

Mohd Uzir said the increase of 3.1% in wholesale trade was attributed to wholesale of food, beverages & tobacco which rose RM0.9 billion or 7.8% to RM12.2 billion. This was followed by wholesale of household goods 4.8%, wholesale of agricultural raw materials and live animals 4.7%, non-specialised wholesale trade 11.4%, wholesale on a fee or contract basis 9.2%, and wholesale of machinery,

equipment and supplies 1.1%. For monthly comparison, wholesale trade rose 0.3%, mainly attributable to other specialised household goods which increased 2.7% and 0.6%, respectively.

Mohd Uzir said, "The 3.4% growth for motor vehicles sub-sector in this month was pushed up by sales of motor vehicles parts & accessories and maintenance & repair motor vehicles with 18.3% and 20%,

respectively. However, sales of motor vehicles declined -3.8%. For monthly comparison, this sub-sector slipped -1.9%, dragged down by sales of motor vehicles with -4.7%."

The year-on-year increase of 5.7% in second quarter this year for wholesale & retail trade was underpinned by retail trade sub-sector which expanded RM13 billion or 7.8% to RM178.7 billion. This was followed by wholesale trade which rose 3.6% or RM6.4 billion to reach RM185.5 billion. Motor vehicles sub-sector also grew with 6.2% or RM2.8 billion to record RM48.3 billion in this quarter.

As for quarter-on-quarter

comparison, this sector rose 1.2%.

For index of retail sale over the internet, the index recorded 1.5% growth year-on-year in June as compared to -0.8% in May. For seasonally adjusted value, the index edged up 0.8% as against the previous month.

In terms of volume index, wholesale & retail trade for June registered a year-on-year growth of 3.1%. The expansion was attributed to all sub-sectors namely wholesale trade 4.5%, motor vehicles 3.1%, and retail trade 2.6%. For seasonally adjusted volume index, it declined -2.2% month-on-month.

