



## SINGAPORE DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

### *PRESS RELEASE*

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#### **SINGAPORE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR HOUSEHOLDS IN DIFFERENT INCOME GROUPS January – June 2009**

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for general households for the first half of 2009 rose by 0.8 per cent compared with the same period a year ago. This year-on-year increase was much lower than the 7.1 per cent and 6.0 per cent recorded in the first half and second half of 2008 respectively.

During the first half of 2009, the inflation rate for households in the lowest 20% income group was 1.6 per cent. The middle 60% and top 20% income groups experienced consumer price increases of 0.7 per cent and 0.9 per cent respectively.

Food prices and accommodation costs were the two main items responsible for the increases in the CPI for all income groups during Jan-Jun 2009. However, these price increases were moderated by lower petrol and car prices as well as electricity tariffs.

The higher inflation rate experienced by the lowest 20% income group reflected the relatively higher weights of food and accommodation in its CPI basket compared to the other two income groups. In contrast, lower prices of petrol and cars – which have higher weights in the CPI baskets of the middle 60% and top 20% income groups – contributed towards the moderation of inflation rates for these two income groups during the first half of 2009.

**Changes in CPI\* by Income Groups**  
(Percent Change over Corresponding Period of Previous Year)

| Period    | General Households** | Income Group |            |             |
|-----------|----------------------|--------------|------------|-------------|
|           |                      | Lowest 20%   | Middle 60% | Highest 20% |
| 2006      | 1.0                  | 1.8          | 1.1        | 0.4         |
| 2007      | 2.1                  | 2.0          | 2.0        | 2.3         |
| 2008      | 6.5                  | 7.4          | 6.4        | 6.1         |
| 2006      |                      |              |            |             |
| Jan – Jun | 1.3                  | 2.2          | 1.4        | 0.7         |
| Jul - Dec | 0.7                  | 1.4          | 0.7        | 0.2         |
| 2007      |                      |              |            |             |
| Jan - Jun | 0.8                  | 1.1          | 0.8        | 0.7         |
| Jul - Dec | 3.4                  | 2.8          | 3.3        | 3.9         |
| 2008      |                      |              |            |             |
| Jan - Jun | 7.1                  | 7.4          | 6.9        | 6.9         |
| Jul - Dec | 6.0                  | 7.5          | 5.9        | 5.4         |
| 2009      |                      |              |            |             |
| Jan - Jun | 0.8                  | 1.6          | 0.7        | 0.9         |

\* with base year 2004

\*\* refers to the central 90% of households by expenditure in the 2002/03 Household Expenditure Survey.

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**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR HOUSEHOLDS IN  
DIFFERENT INCOME GROUPS  
(2004 = 100)**

| Income Group  | All Items     | Food  | Clothing & Footwear | Housing | Transport & Communication | Education & Stationery | Health Care | Recreation & Others |     |
|---|---------------|-------|---------------------|---------|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|-----|
| Weight Per 10,000   |               |       |                     |         |                           |                        |             |                     |     |
| General Households  | <b>10,000</b> | 2,338 | 357                 | 2,126   | 2,176                     | 819                    | 525         | 1,659               |     |
| Lowest 20%  | <b>10,000</b> | 2,962 | 265                 | 2,599   | 1,477                     | 700                    | 674         | 1,323               |     |
| Middle 60%  | <b>10,000</b> | 2,413 | 381                 | 2,048   | 2,145                     | 824                    | 519         | 1,670               |     |
| Highest 20%   | <b>10,000</b> | 1,700 | 365                 | 2,223   | 2,322                     | 904                    | 479         | 2,007               |     |
| Percent Change Over Corresponding Period Of Previous Year |               |       |                     |         |                           |                        |             |                     |     |
| <u>2007</u>   |               |       |                     |         |                           |                        |             |                     |     |
| General Households  |               | 2.1   | 2.9                 | 0.6     | 0.4                       | 2.0                    | 1.3         | 4.1                 | 3.2 |
| Lowest 20%  |               | 2.0   | 3.0                 | 1.1     | 0.1                       | 2.1                    | 1.5         | 4.1                 | 2.7 |
| Middle 60%  |               | 2.0   | 2.9                 | 0.7     | 0.1                       | 2.1                    | 1.3         | 4.3                 | 3.1 |
| Highest 20%   |               | 2.3   | 3.0                 | 0.6     | 1.2                       | 2.0                    | 1.4         | 3.9                 | 3.6 |
| <u>2008</u>   |               |       |                     |         |                           |                        |             |                     |     |
| General Households  |               | 6.5   | 7.8                 | 1.5     | 12.7                      | 3.3                    | 3.4         | 5.6                 | 3.7 |
| Lowest 20%  |               | 7.4   | 8.4                 | 1.8     | 13.4                      | 3.2                    | 3.2         | 5.1                 | 2.9 |
| Middle 60%  |               | 6.4   | 7.8                 | 1.5     | 12.4                      | 3.5                    | 3.2         | 5.7                 | 3.6 |
| Highest 20%   |               | 6.1   | 7.3                 | 1.6     | 11.8                      | 3.2                    | 3.6         | 5.7                 | 4.0 |
| <u>2007 Jan - Jun</u>                                     |               |       |                     |         |                           |                        |             |                     |     |
| General Households  |               | 0.8   | 1.7                 | 0.2     | -0.8                      | -0.1                   | 0.7         | 2.2                 | 2.1 |
| Lowest 20%  |               | 1.1   | 1.8                 | 0.4     | -0.4                      | 1.2                    | 1.2         | 2.4                 | 1.8 |
| Middle 60%  |               | 0.8   | 1.7                 | 0.2     | -1.0                      | 0.1                    | 0.7         | 2.3                 | 2.0 |
| Highest 20%   |               | 0.7   | 1.8                 | 0.2     | -0.5                      | -0.9                   | 0.7         | 2.1                 | 2.6 |
| <u>2007 Jul - Dec</u>                                     |               |       |                     |         |                           |                        |             |                     |     |
| General Households  |               | 3.4   | 4.1                 | 1.1     | 1.7                       | 4.1                    | 1.8         | 6.0                 | 4.3 |
| Lowest 20%  |               | 2.8   | 4.2                 | 1.8     | 0.5                       | 2.9                    | 1.8         | 5.7                 | 3.7 |
| Middle 60%  |               | 3.3   | 4.1                 | 1.1     | 1.2                       | 4.0                    | 1.8         | 6.2                 | 4.1 |
| Highest 20%   |               | 3.9   | 4.2                 | 0.9     | 2.9                       | 5.0                    | 2.2         | 5.7                 | 4.5 |
| <u>2008 Jan - Jun</u>                                     |               |       |                     |         |                           |                        |             |                     |     |
| General Households  |               | 7.1   | 7.8                 | 1.7     | 10.9                      | 6.7                    | 4.3         | 6.7                 | 4.2 |
| Lowest 20%  |               | 7.4   | 8.1                 | 2.1     | 11.6                      | 5.0                    | 3.7         | 5.5                 | 4.0 |
| Middle 60%  |               | 6.9   | 7.8                 | 1.7     | 10.6                      | 6.6                    | 4.2         | 6.8                 | 4.2 |
| Highest 20%   |               | 6.9   | 7.5                 | 1.7     | 9.9                       | 7.5                    | 4.6         | 6.9                 | 4.3 |
| <u>2008 Jul - Dec</u>                                     |               |       |                     |         |                           |                        |             |                     |     |
| General Households  |               | 6.0   | 7.7                 | 1.3     | 14.4                      | -                      | 2.5         | 4.6                 | 3.2 |
| Lowest 20%  |               | 7.5   | 8.6                 | 1.4     | 15.1                      | 1.5                    | 2.8         | 4.7                 | 1.8 |
| Middle 60%  |               | 5.9   | 7.7                 | 1.3     | 14.2                      | 0.5                    | 2.3         | 4.6                 | 3.1 |
| Highest 20%   |               | 5.4   | 7.1                 | 1.5     | 13.6                      | -0.9                   | 2.6         | 4.5                 | 3.8 |
| <u>2009 Jan - Jun</u>                                     |               |       |                     |         |                           |                        |             |                     |     |
| General Households  |               | 0.8   | 3.9                 | 0.6     | 3.0                       | -5.4                   | -0.3        | 3.6                 | 0.8 |
| Lowest 20%  |               | 1.6   | 4.2                 | 1.1     | 0.7                       | -2.2                   | 0.7         | 4.8                 | 0.3 |
| Middle 60%  |               | 0.7   | 3.9                 | 0.6     | 1.9                       | -4.9                   | -0.6        | 3.7                 | 0.9 |
| Highest 20%   |               | 0.9   | 3.7                 | 1.0     | 6.5                       | -7.1                   | -0.6        | 3.0                 | 0.5 |