



PRESS RELEASE

SINGAPORE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR HOUSEHOLDS IN DIFFERENT INCOME GROUPS

Consumer Price Index, July – December 2011

During the second half of 2011, the consumer price index (CPI) for general households rose by 5.5 per cent over the same period in 2010. CPI inflation for the lowest 20% and middle 60% income groups was 5.4 per cent for both while that for the highest 20% income group was 5.7 per cent.

The increase in the CPI for the lowest 20% income group was largely driven by higher accommodation costs and electricity tariffs as well as dearer food. The price increases for the middle 60% and highest 20% income groups were mainly due to higher accommodation costs as well as higher prices of cars and food. The increase in accommodation costs for all income groups reflected higher imputed rentals on owner-occupied accommodation that has no impact on the cash expenditure of most households in Singapore who already own their homes.

Excluding imputed rentals on owner-occupied accommodation¹, the CPI for general households went up by 4.3 per cent compared with the same period in 2010. The corresponding inflation rates experienced by the lowest 20%, middle 60% and highest 20% income groups were 2.6 per cent, 4.0 per cent and 5.0 per cent respectively.

¹ A significant share of the CPI Accommodation subgroup is “owner-occupied accommodation (OOA) cost”, which is computed based on the imputed rental concept under the rental equivalence method. Given that it has no impact on the cash expenditure of most households in Singapore as they already own their homes, “All Items less imputed rentals on owner-occupied accommodation” is compiled as an additional indicator.

Consumer Price Index, 2011

Compared with 2010, the CPI for general households increased by 5.2 per cent in 2011. The lowest 20% income group experienced a lower increase in consumer prices at 4.7 per cent, compared to the middle 60% and highest 20% income groups which experienced CPI inflation of 5.1 per cent and 5.7 per cent respectively.

The main contributors to CPI inflation for all the three income groups included accommodation costs and food. Higher car prices also contributed to higher CPIs for the middle 60% and highest 20% income groups.

Excluding imputed rentals on owner-occupied accommodation, the CPI for general households rose by 4.2 per cent. The corresponding consumer price increases experienced by the lowest 20%, middle 60% and highest 20% income groups in 2011 were 2.2 per cent, 3.8 per cent and 5.1 per cent respectively.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR HOUSEHOLDS IN DIFFERENT INCOME GROUPS
(2009 = 100)

Income Group	All Items	Food	Clothing & Footwear	Housing	Transport	Communi- cation	Education & Stationery	Health Care	Recreation & Others	All Items Less Imputed Rentals on Owner- Occupied Accommodation
Weight Per 10,000										
General Households	10,000	2,205	341	2,548	1,553	475	735	586	1,557	8,441
Lowest 20%	10,000	2,689	225	3,605	719	518	439	739	1,066	7,576
Middle 60%	10,000	2,381	352	2,477	1,492	552	686	585	1,475	8,504
Highest 20%	10,000	1,843	348	2,428	1,823	354	865	559	1,780	8,531
Percent Change Over Corresponding Period Of Previous Year										
<u>2011 Jul - Dec</u>										
General Households	5.5	3.3	-0.4	9.8	11.2	-2.0	2.4	2.1	1.6	4.3
Lowest 20%	5.4	3.4	-	11.6	6.9	-1.2	2.2	1.8	-4.5	2.6
Middle 60%	5.4	3.4	-0.5	10.6	10.7	-2.0	2.4	1.9	0.9	4.0
Highest 20%	5.7	3.3	-0.2	8.0	12.2	-2.2	2.5	2.4	3.0	5.0
<u>2011 Jan - Jun</u>										
General Households	5.0	2.8	0.8	6.7	12.7	-1.0	3.4	2.8	1.2	4.1
Lowest 20%	3.9	2.8	0.6	7.9	7.1	-0.5	3.5	2.8	-5.1	1.8
Middle 60%	4.7	2.8	0.7	7.1	11.8	-1.0	3.4	2.7	0.3	3.7
Highest 20%	5.6	2.8	0.8	5.7	14.2	-1.1	3.4	3.1	2.8	5.3
<u>2011</u>										
General Households	5.2	3.1	0.2	8.3	11.9	-1.5	2.9	2.4	1.4	4.2
Lowest 20%	4.7	3.1	0.3	9.8	7.0	-0.9	2.8	2.3	-4.8	2.2
Middle 60%	5.1	3.1	0.1	8.9	11.2	-1.5	2.9	2.3	0.6	3.8
Highest 20%	5.7	3.1	0.3	6.9	13.1	-1.6	3.0	2.7	2.9	5.1
<u>2010</u>										
General Households	2.8	1.4	0.5	2.0	10.3	-2.2	2.7	1.9	1.2	3.3
Lowest 20%	2.4	1.4	0.5	3.8	5.3	-1.6	2.3	2.2	0.8	2.7
Middle 60%	2.7	1.4	0.5	2.4	9.6	-2.2	2.7	1.9	1.0	3.0
Highest 20%	3.1	1.4	0.6	0.8	11.6	-2.3	2.8	1.8	1.4	3.7