

## Survey on Economic Hardship due to GST and Weaken Riggint

Economic hardship may be experienced by members of the economy and yet may not be detected by the published statistics such as CPI, unemployment rate and GDP, etc.

The CPI, for example, can be too aggregated to the extent it is insensitive to hardship in some specific sectors. Therefore, the UCSI Poll Research Centre is conducting a survey to analyse the potential economic hardships right at the grassroots level that may arise due to circumstances not captured in published statistics.

Our Aims - To analyze the impacts of recent economic development on the consumer groups particularly first time workers and those of low bargaining power in their consumptions

### **Data collection:**

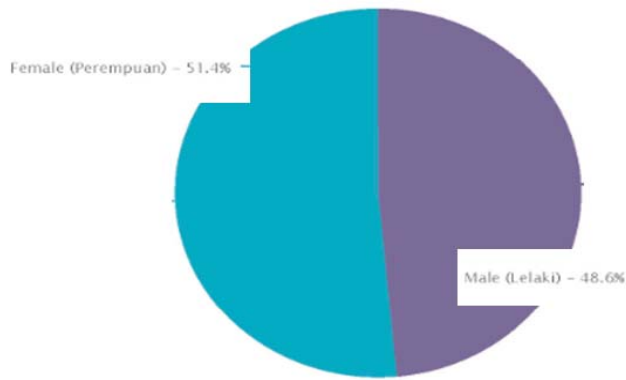
Total 692 of which 159 from response through the internet directly however to reach out more general public face-to-face questionnaire guided interview were conducted randomly at

- central stations such as KL Sentral and BTS on different day and different time of the day;
- Pasar Malam at various locations in KL and Klang Valley areas and
- a few shopping Malls such as Leisure Mall, Mid-Valley and Sungei Wang Plaza.

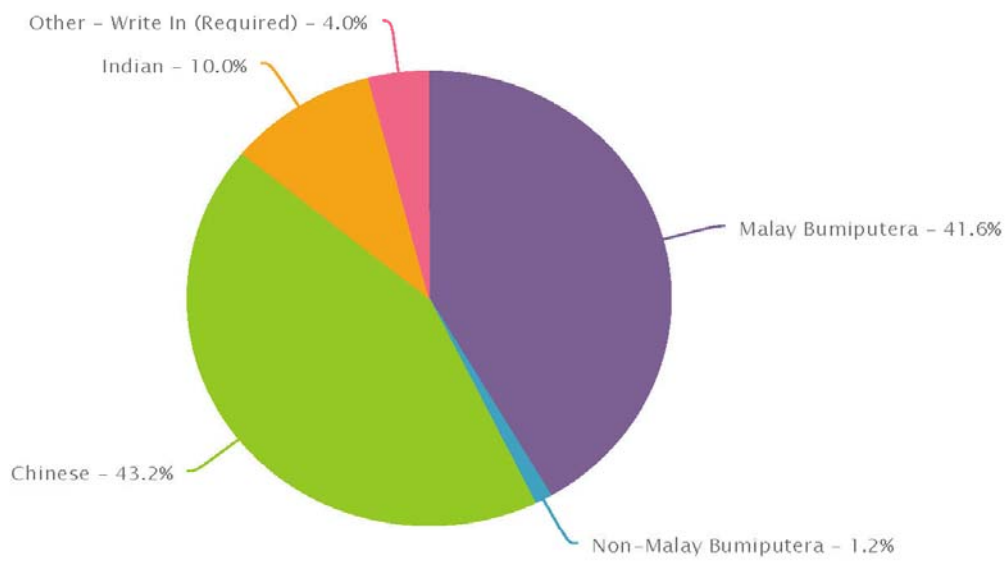
### **Our sample – some highlights**

- Near equal mix in gender,
- approximately 43% Chinese, 43% Bumiputera and 10% Indian in race mix,
- about one quarter of the respondents are family with kids;
- Monthly income mix: about half are below RM2,000, one third between RM2,000 to 5,000, 10% between RM5,000 to 10,000 and the rest above RM10,000

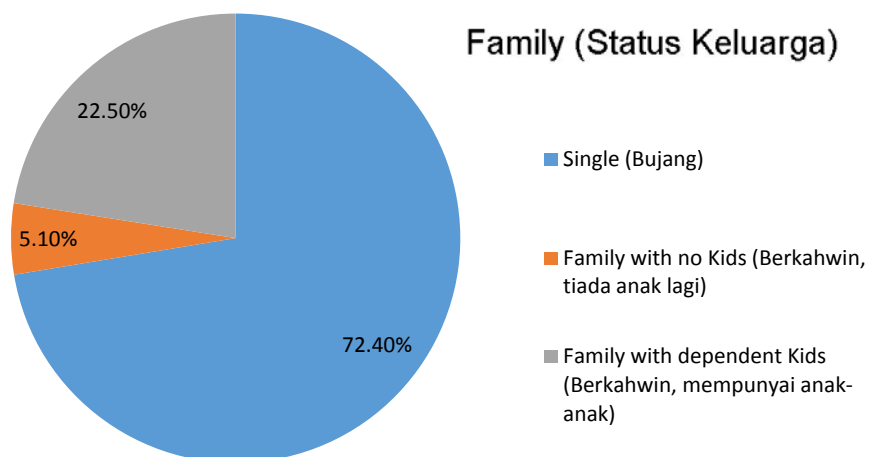
### Gender (Jantina)

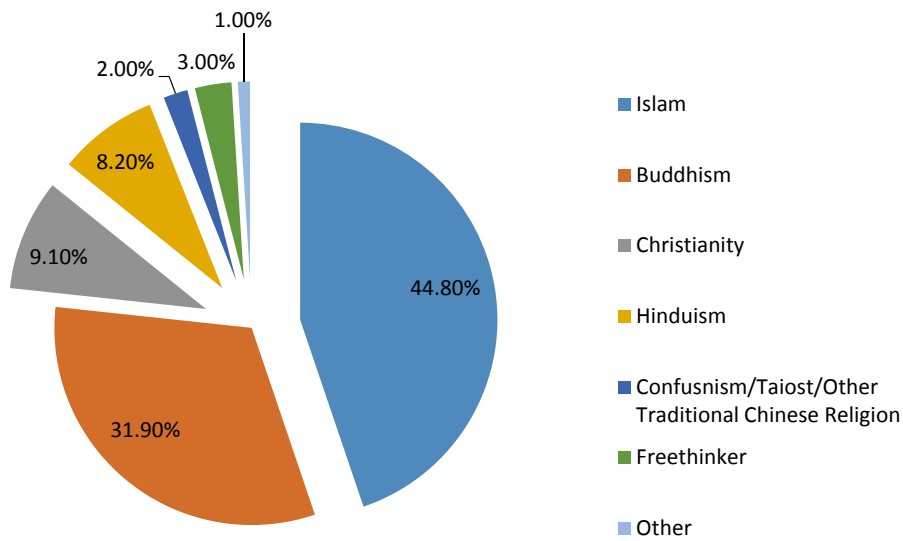


### Ethnicity (Bangsa)



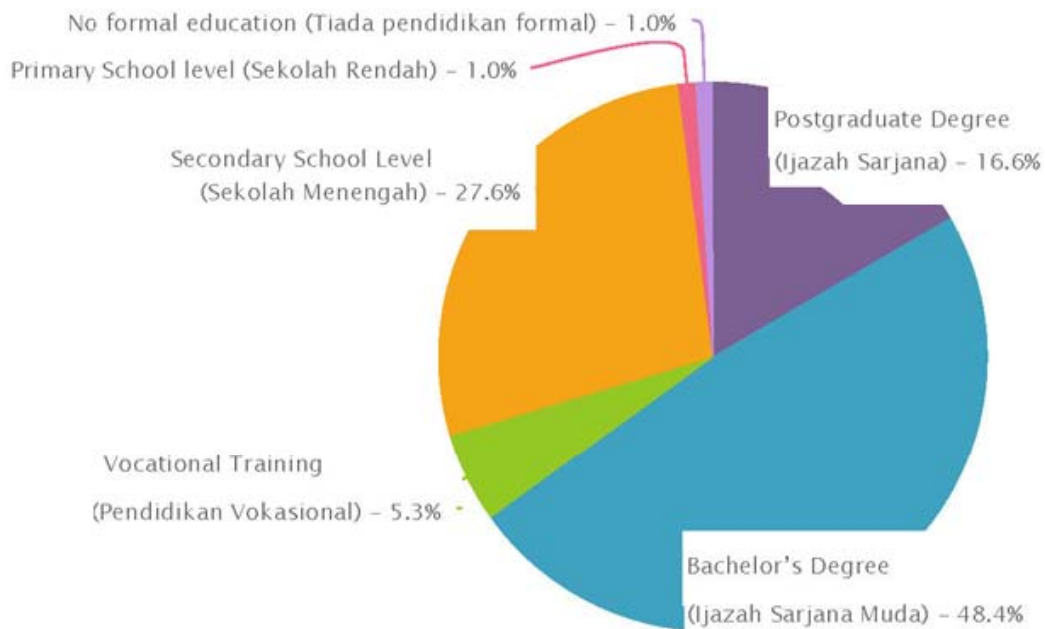
### Family (Status Keluarga)



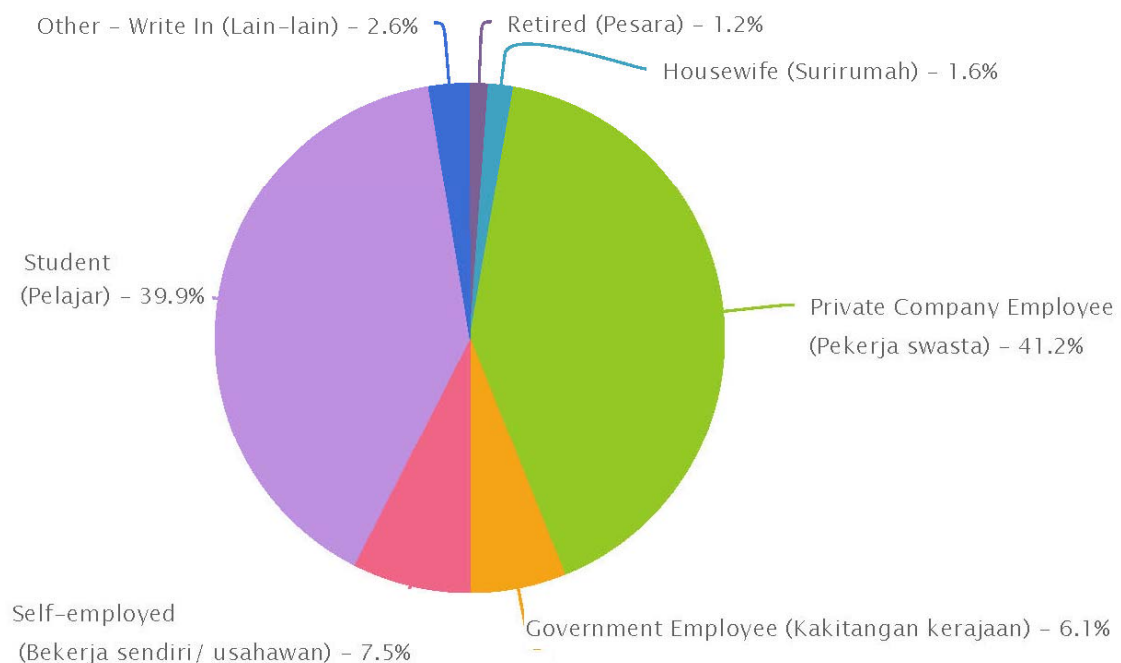


Religion (Agama)

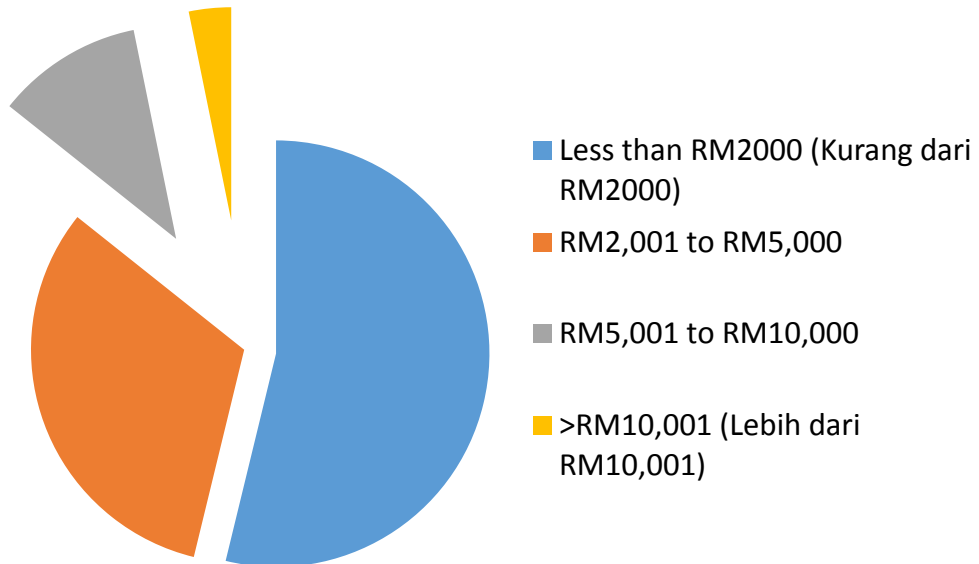
### Highest Level of Education (Pendidikan)



### Occupation (Pekerjaan)



## Monthly Personal Income (Pendapatan bulanan)



Less than RM2,000 (Kurang dari RM2,000)	53.80%
RM2,001 to RM5,000	31.90%
RM5,001 to RM10,000	11.10%
>RM10,001 (Lebih dari RM10,001)	3.20%

# Results

- *The survey indicated that on the average the respondents are experiencing 11% increase in expense.*
  - *Among which Food & Clothing expense has the highest increase more than on third moderate increase of 6-10% and more than one quarter increase exceed 10%.*
  - *Next is transportation more than half are experiencing more than 6% increase likely link to raise toll fee and public transport such as KTM, LRT, and Rapid Bus Services*
- *Most respondents attribute the raising expense to GST and weaken Ringgit*
- *Majority of the respondents' income are stagnant or reduced*
- *Majority of the respondents think that the economy worsen*
- *Most respondents agree that they should have a share of benefit from the reduction of costs associated with lowering of petrol prices*

9. From your experience, what are your estimates on the rate of increase in your expenses on the following items?  
(Berdasarkan pengalaman anda, berapakah jumlah peningkatan perbelanjaan anda?)

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*Next is transportation more than half are experiencing more than 6% increase likely link to raise toll fee and public transport such as KTM, LRT, and Rapid Bus Services*

	less than 2% (kurang dari 2%)	3-5%	6-10%	exceed 10% (Lebih dari 10%)
Accommodation (Tempat tinggal)	197 28.5%	213 30.8%	163 23.6%	119 17.2%
Transportation (Pengkangkutan)	106 15.3%	229 33.1%	200 28.9%	157 22.7%
Food & Clothing (Makanan/Pakaian)	73 10.5%	180 26.0%	249 36.0%	190 27.5%
Utility & Water (Bil utiliti/air)	203 29.3%	237 34.2%	177 25.6%	75 10.8%
Education related (Pendidikan)	180 26.0%	162 23.4%	193 27.9%	157 22.7%
Overall (Keseluruhan)	35 5.1%	139 20.1%	262 37.9%	256 37.0%

10. Rank the following factors that contribute to the increase of your expenses. 1 as major contributing factor and 6 as least contributing factor. (Susun kedudukan faktor yang menyumbang kepada peningkatan perbelanjaan anda. Kedudukan 1 merupakan faktor utama)

*Most respondents attribute the raising expense to GST and weaken Ringgit*

Total Respondents 692

	Score*	Overall Rank
GST	3234	1
Weaken Ringgit (Kelemahan Ringgit)	2994	2
Lack of growth in economy (Kemerosotan ekonomi)	2507	3
Cut in subsidy (Potongan Subsidi)	2156	4
Increase competition in business (Peningkatan saingan dalam perniagaan)	1845	5
Weak Demand (Permintaan menurun)	1796	6

\*Score is a weighted calculation. Items ranked first are valued higher than the following ranks, the score is the sum of all weighted rank counts.

### 11. What is the overall change to your income in 2015?

(Secara keseluruhan, berapakah kadar perubahan pendapatan anda?)

*Majority of the respondents income are stagnant or reduced*

Value	Percent	Count
Decreased more than 5% (menurun lebih dari 5%)	23.6%	163
Decreased slightly less than 5% (menurun kurang dari 5%)	17.6%	122
Stagnant (Tiada perubahan)	39.6%	274
Increased slightly less than 5% (meningkat kurang dari 5%)	10.0%	69
Increased more than 5% (Meningkat lebih dari 5%)	9.3%	64
	Total	692

### 12. The Malaysian Economy is contracting. (Ekonomi Malaysia sedang merosot.)

*Majority of the respondents think that the economy worsen*

Value	Percent	Count
Strongly Agree (Sangat setuju)	59.8%	414
Agree (Setuju)	36.3%	251
Disagree (Tidak setuju)	3.3%	23
Strongly Disagree (Sangat tidak setuju)	0.6%	4
	Total	692

### 13. The prices of goods and services should be reduced when the price of petrol falls.

(Harga barangan dan perkhidmatan perlu dikurangkan mengikut kadar kejatuhan harga minyak mentah.)

*Most respondents agree that they should have a share of benefit from the reduction of costs associated with lowering of petrol prices*

Value	Percent	Count
Strongly Agree (Sangat setuju)	57.8%	400
Agree (Setuju)	35.7%	247
Disagree (Tidak setuju)	5.4%	37
Strongly Disagree (Sangat tidak setuju)	1.2%	8
	Total	692