

## Manageable March CPI Anchored by Gold and Transport Deflation

**Indonesia's headline inflation came in at 0.41% MoM** (Cons: 0.57%, KBVS: 1.00%, Prev: 0.68%) **or 3.48% YoY** (Cons: 3.64%, KBVS: 4.20%, Prev: 4.76%) in Mar '26. The lower-than-expected monthly figure suggests that Ramadan-related price pressures were milder than anticipated. On an annual basis, the 3.48% YoY reading was partly driven by a high base effect from last year, when electricity subsidies had already been partially withdrawn in Mar '25. This normalization effect contributed to the lower YoY inflation in Feb–Mar '26. Overall, inflation remained relatively manageable, supported by stable supply conditions and policy measures despite seasonal demand.

**Core inflation recorded 0.13% MoM or 2.52% YoY** (Cons: 2.64%, Prev: 2.63%). While some items such as cooking oil and prepared food saw seasonal increases, core inflation was held back by a decline in gold jewelry prices. However, this largely reflected price movements within the month, where gold prices stayed high earlier before dropping toward the end of Mar '26, pulling down the monthly average. After rising for 30 consecutive months, gold jewelry prices declined by -1.17% MoM.

**Food prices rose by 1.07% MoM, with volatile food inflation at 1.58% MoM.** Increases in key staples such as rice, chicken, eggs, and beef were relatively contained compared to typical festive periods. Rice prices edged up by around 0.32%–0.35% MoM, while chicken meat (4.09%), eggs (3.66%), and beef (1.04%) posted moderate gains. Prices of chilies rose earlier in the month but eased toward the end, limiting their overall impact.

**Administered prices increased by 0.31% MoM, mainly driven by higher non-subsidized fuel prices and seasonal transport fares.** However, broader transportation costs were kept in check through government stabilization measures. These included discount programs across multiple modes of transport, such as reduced fares for trains, flights, ferries, and sea transport, especially during the Ramadan and Eid travel period. In addition, toll road tariff discounts were implemented on key routes to ease the cost burden for travelers. As a result, while demand-driven price increases typically occur during the festive season, these policy measures helped offset part of the upward pressure, leading to more moderate overall transportation inflation.

### Monetary Policy and Market Implications

**Against this relatively manageable inflation backdrop, attention shifts to external and policy risks.** Global conditions have become more challenging, with Brent crude rising to around USD120/bbl, while major central banks such as the ECB, Fed, and BoE maintain elevated policy rates, keeping global yields relatively high. Any adjustment in Indonesia's subsidized fuel prices in response to higher energy costs would add pressure to inflation through higher transportation and production costs.

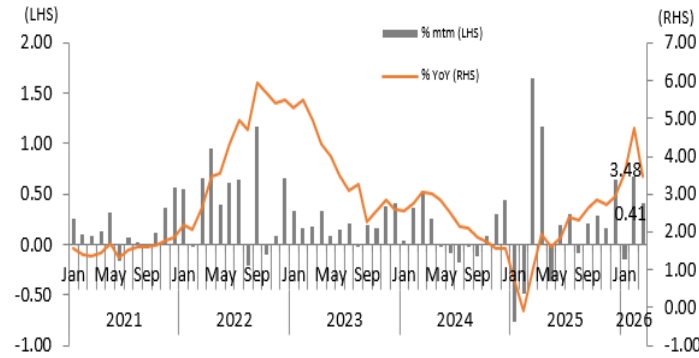
On the fiscal side, recent efficiency measures generating IDR74.2 tn in savings provide some support. However, these remain relatively small compared to the **wider fiscal deficit and weak tax collection, implying limited fiscal space to cushion future inflation shocks.**

**Domestic risks also remain, particularly from a potential El Niño episode from Apr-Sep '26, which could disrupt food supply and push up prices.** A similar episode in 2024 led to a sharp increase in food inflation, especially for rice, highlighting the sensitivity of staple prices to weather shocks.

**At the same time, Rupiah depreciation poses a risk of imported inflation,** although this is partly offset by Indonesia's strong external position, including a USD1.28 bn trade surplus in Feb '26 and expectations of improving coal exports.

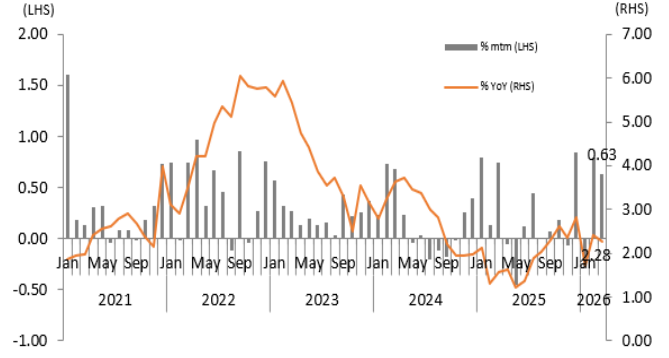
With inflation risks tilted to the upside, real rates remain positive, supporting bond real yields and their relative attractiveness. This helps anchor portfolio inflows into Indonesian government bonds, providing support to the Rupiah. In this environment, **Bank Indonesia is likely to maintain its benchmark rate to preserve stability amid persistent global yield pressures.**

**Fig 1. CPI (Consumer or Headline) Inflation**



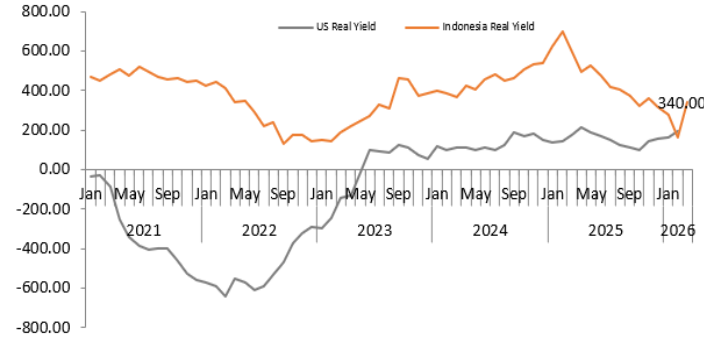
Sources: BPS, KBVS Research – treated (2026)

**Fig 2. WPI (Wholesale) Inflation**



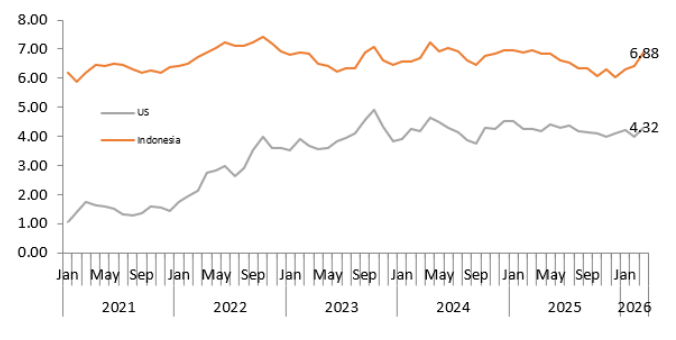
Sources: BPS, KBVS Research – treated (2026)

**Fig 3. Real Yield US vs Indonesia (in bps)**



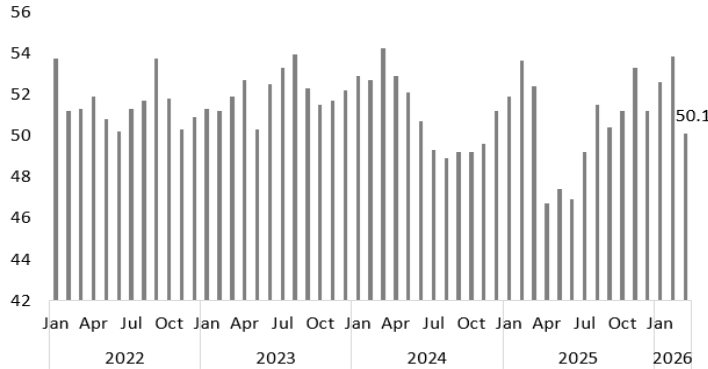
Sources: Bloomberg, KBVS Research – treated (2026)

**Fig 4. Yield of 10Yr Government Bond (in %)**



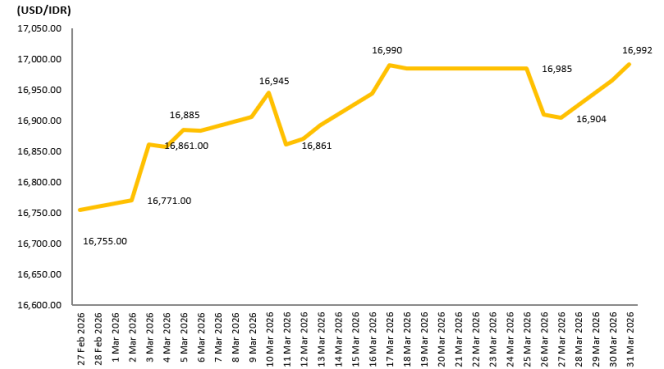
Sources: BI, KBVS Research – treated (2026)

**Fig 5. PMI Manufacturing (index)**



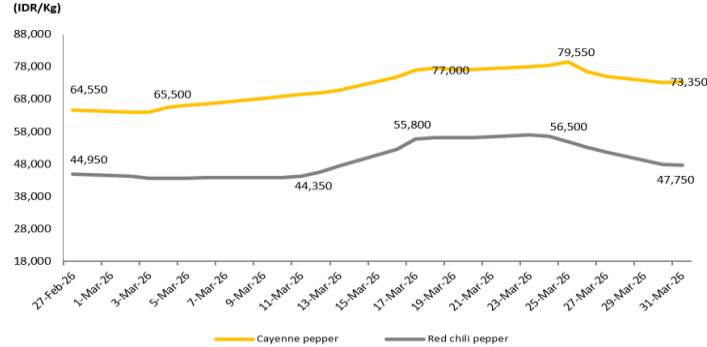
Sources: Market Economics, KBVS Research – treated (2026)

**Fig 6. USD/IDR (IDR per USD)**



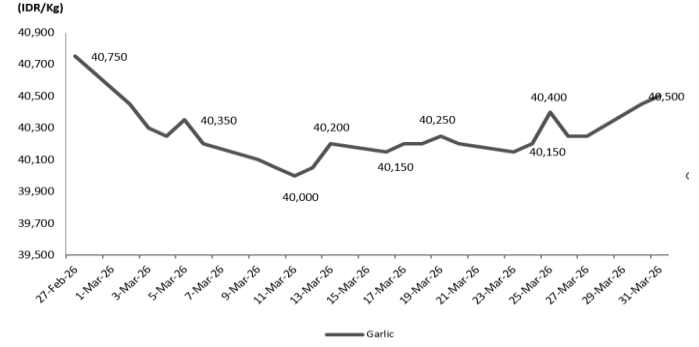
Sources: Bloomberg, KBVS Research – treated (2026)

**Fig 7. Cayenne Pepper & Red Chili Pepper Price (IDR/Kg)**



Sources: BI, KBVS Research – treated (2026)

**Fig 8. Garlic Price (IDR/Kg)**



Sources: BI, KBVS Research – treated (2026)

Table 1. CPI, WPI &amp; Farmer Exchange Rate Mar '26

Indicators	Index		Inflation	
	Latest	M-1	MoM	YoY
<b>Consumer Price Index (CPI)</b>	<b>110.95</b>	<b>110.50</b>	<b>0.41%</b>	<b>3.48%</b>
Food, Beverages, and Tobacco	117.28	116.04	1.07%	3.34%
Clothing and Footwear	104.64	104.25	0.37%	0.65%
Housing, Water, Electricity, and Household Fuels	104.49	204.40	-48.88%	7.24%
Equipment, Tools, and Routine Household Maintenance	104.27	104.23	0.04%	0.24%
Health	107.04	106.93	0.10%	1.49%
Transport	110.65	110.20	0.41%	0.61%
Info, Comm. and Financial Services	99.38	99.32	0.06%	-0.03%
Recreation, Sport and Culture	105.76	105.59	0.16%	1.08%
Education Services	106.27	106.24	0.03%	1.14%
Food and Beverages Services/Restaurants	108.79	108.61	0.17%	1.42%
Personal Care and Other Services	134.31	134.59	-0.21%	15.32%
Core inflation	108.86	108.72	0.13%	2.52%
Administered Price	110.86	110.52	0.31%	6.08%
Volatile Food	119.67	117.81	1.58%	4.24%
<b>Wholesale Price Index (WPI)</b>	<b>106.00</b>	<b>106.85</b>	<b>-0.80%</b>	<b>1.59%</b>
Agriculture	109.05	111.91	-2.56%	2.81%
Mining and Quarrying	102.15	102.40	-0.24%	1.94%
Manufacturing	108.40	108.93	-0.49%	2.00%
<b>Farmer Exchange Rate</b>	<b>102.14</b>	<b>125.45</b>	<b>-18.58%</b>	<b>-17.44%</b>
Farmers Price Received Index	158.89	158.38	0.32%	5.94%
Farmers Price Paid Index	126.76	126.24	0.41%	4.34%

Sources: BPS, KBVS Research - treated (2026)

Table 2. Commodity Price In Traditional Market

No.	Commodity	Price (Rp per Kg)					Monthly Price Change (%, ptp)
		28/2/2026	09/ 03/ 2026	16/ 03/ 2026	23/ 03/ 2026	30/ 03/ 2026	
<b>I</b>	<b>Rice</b>	<b>15800</b>	<b>15800</b>	<b>15850</b>	<b>15850</b>	<b>15900</b>	<b>0.63%</b>
1	Lower Quality Rice I	14450	14450	14450	14500	14500	0.35%
2	Lower Quality Rice II	14450	14500	14500	14450	14500	0.35%
3	Medium Quality Rice I	15950	15950	16000	16000	16000	0.31%
4	Medium Quality Rice II	15800	15800	15850	15850	15850	0.32%
5	Super Quality Rice I	17150	17150	17200	17200	17250	0.58%
6	Super Quality Rice II	16700	16700	16750	16750	16800	0.60%
<b>II</b>	<b>Chicken meat</b>	<b>41950</b>	<b>41300</b>	<b>42650</b>	<b>42950</b>	<b>42850</b>	<b>2.15%</b>
1	Fresh Race Chicken Meat	41950	41300	42650	42950	42850	2.15%
<b>III</b>	<b>Beef</b>	<b>141250</b>	<b>141650</b>	<b>145050</b>	<b>147600</b>	<b>145150</b>	<b>2.76%</b>
1	Quality 1 Beef	144400	144750	148250	150600	148450	2.80%
2	Quality 2 Beef	136400	136700	139500	142150	140200	2.79%
<b>IV</b>	<b>Chicken eggs</b>	<b>32600</b>	<b>32700</b>	<b>33300</b>	<b>33650</b>	<b>33400</b>	<b>2.45%</b>
1	Fresh Chicken Eggs	32600	32700	33300	33650	33400	2.45%
<b>V</b>	<b>Red onion</b>	<b>44750</b>	<b>43400</b>	<b>44250</b>	<b>44850</b>	<b>47200</b>	<b>5.47%</b>
1	Medium Shallot	44750	43400	44250	44850	47200	5.47%
<b>VI</b>	<b>Garlic</b>	<b>40750</b>	<b>40100</b>	<b>40150</b>	<b>40150</b>	<b>40450</b>	<b>-0.74%</b>
1	Medium Size Garlic	40750	40100	40150	40150	40450	-0.74%
<b>VII</b>	<b>Red chili pepper</b>	<b>44950</b>	<b>43800</b>	<b>52600</b>	<b>56950</b>	<b>47900</b>	<b>6.56%</b>
1	Large Red Chili	44150	44250	52700	56250	48800	10.53%
2	Curly Red Chili	45650	43800	52550	57450	47500	4.05%
<b>VIII</b>	<b>Cayenne pepper</b>	<b>64550</b>	<b>68250</b>	<b>74800</b>	<b>78000</b>	<b>73050</b>	<b>13.17%</b>
1	Green Cayenne Pepper	53850	53900	57950	58850	56650	5.20%
2	Red Cayenne Pepper	74650	81550	89650	94000	85750	14.87%
<b>IX</b>	<b>Cooking oil</b>	<b>21350</b>	<b>21350</b>	<b>21600</b>	<b>21650</b>	<b>21800</b>	<b>2.11%</b>
1	Bulk Cooking Oil	19000	19050	19450	19650	19850	4.47%
2	Branded Packaging Cooking Oil 1	22700	22650	22900	22900	23000	1.32%
3	Branded Packaging Cooking Oil 2	21650	21700	21850	21850	22000	1.62%
<b>X</b>	<b>Sugar</b>	<b>19050</b>	<b>19150</b>	<b>19300</b>	<b>19300</b>	<b>19400</b>	<b>1.84%</b>
1	Premium Quality Sugar	19850	19900	20000	20000	20100	1.26%
2	Local Sugar	18450	18600	18750	18750	18900	2.44%

Sources: BI, KBVS Research - treated (2026)

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