Publication: Money Smart
Date: 22 July 2026
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Singaporeans are bracing for slightly pricier days ahead. The latest Singapore Index of Inflation Expectations survey by DBS Group Research and the Singapore Management University (SMU) found that households' one-year-ahead inflation expectations climbed to 3.4% in June, up from 3.3% in March, with core inflation—which excludes accommodation and private transport costs—rising in step.

Of the 536 households polled, 87.7% expect prices to rise over the next year, down slightly from 88.3% in March. DBS chief economist Dr Taimur Baig pointed to energy supply constraints from Middle East conflicts and AI-driven chip demand as key drivers of the global inflation rebound this year.

- Transport: 3.5% → 3.8%
- Information and communication: 2.2% → 2.5%
- Food, housing and utilities, healthcare, clothing: unchanged

Longer-term views also shifted: the 5-year-ahead inflation gauge rose to 4.3% from 4.1%, though core expectations at that horizon held steady at 3.8%—a sign, researchers said, that longer-term expectations remain anchored even as short-term geopolitical risks bite. The uptick follows MAS's April move to tighten monetary policy, its first since 2022.