REPUBLIKA SRPSKA INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS

THIS IS
REPUBLIKA SRPSKA
2024

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PREFACE

Dear Readers,

"This is Republika Srpska" is an engaging and popular statistical publication, designed to present fundamental data from the most important statistical fields about Srpska in a concise, clear and accessible manner for a wide audience. This year's edition is particularly intriguing for study and analysis, especially when comparative methods are applied to examine the data and dynamic changes in the presented time series.

Positive trends are evident in the field of demography, as life expectancy for both women and men has significantly increased, mortality rates are substantially lower compared to the previous period, and the primary reason for this is humanity's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. People are traveling more, engaging in social and professional activities and the number of tourists and the utilisation of tourist destinations are on the rise. On the other hand, the negative effects of ongoing armed conflicts are acutely felt, particularly in terms of food prices, while energy prices fluctuate, impacting industrial production. The sharp increase in livestock feed prices directly affects the cost of meat, meat products and dairy. Almost all statistical areas have experienced significant changes in indicators.

The pleasure of reading is greatest when holding a printed publication in your hands. We take great care in its design, as it represents our homeland. For all users, we have also made an electronic version available on our website. This periodic publication, affectionately referred to as the "statistical identity card" of Republika Srpska, is also published in English, ensuring accessibility to everyone, in line with statistical principles.

We provide an abundance of data, intriguing charts and tables with the aim of popularising statistics through this small-format book that is modest in size but substantial in content. It is a fitting New Year's gift, as all publications from the Institute are free of charge, leaving it to you to decide whether to simply read or also utilise the data for practical purposes. We hope that this edition, like its predecessors, will be both interesting and useful to readers.

Banja Luka, December 2024

Darko Milunović, Director

Forgiveness is the fragrance that the violet sheds on the heel that has crushed it.
Mark Twain

Foča Regulations, Records and Descriptions

Have you ever counted the tunnels on the road from Sarajevo to Foča? I can't give you that number, dear readers. It is not a matter of statistics but of fleeting impressions, and besides, I am almost certain there are no fewer tunnels here than on the road **to Višegrad. Let me explain why.**
Passing through tunnels is always delightful - not only for the thrill of the journey but for the profound truth each one seems to remind us of that from darkness emerges light. And the light along this **road to Foča** is enchanting -soft, shadowy and veiled in a delicate mist rising above the many streams that crisscross the region. I am particularly fond of the fairy-tale-like Bistrica, with its flowing waters and the temporary pools that rivers endlessly create and dismantle. Here, the sun only occasionally, yet persistently, pierces through the rocky clefts between towering peaks. The interplay of light and shadow feels like a battle - or perhaps a dance. A tango, maybe - a close and passionate embrace of the sunlit and shaded slopes. Everything is cast in an intensely tender sfumato of presence and absence, as if old Master Leonardo himself chose this landscape as the muse for one of his unpainted masterpieces. And with such beauty all around, how could anyone remember to count the tunnels?

I chose to travel to Foča because the Institute has a branch there that forms part of our department in East Sarajevo. However, that is only one of the reasons. To me, this region represents the most beautiful part of Republika Srpska - a place where nature is not only untouched but also untamed, brimming with contrasts and celebrated among nature enthusiasts for its unique allure. The **municipality of Foča spans an impressive 1,118.8 km², with a significant portion of its territor**y lying within the Sutjeska National Park. Established in 1962, the park is named after the fast-flowing Sutjeska River, which, after an exhilarating 36 km journey, has for centuries poured into the Drina as its left tributary. It is truly astonishing to see what the Sutjeska has managed to carve into the rock, forging its course and finding its way among towering peaks. The park also encompasses the **highest mountain peak in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Maglić (2,386 m). Foča holds the distinction of** being the municipality in Republika Srpska with the largest percentage of protected territory - 25.5%. In addition to Sutjeska National Park, the Tara Nature Park has been declared, as well as **the Ledenjač**a Cave Nature Monument. This cave is not only a site of speleological interest but also a place where prehistoric humans once lived, leaving drawings at its entrance as an eternal testament to their existence. It stands as a national cultural treasure. The Tara and Piva Rivers together create the legendary Drina River, a natural boundary that once divided the Eastern and Western Roman Empires - two worlds, two mentalities.

The deep canyons of the Tara and Drina are renowned globally as thrilling rafting destinations. Along the stretch leading to the border with Montenegro at Šćepan Polje, numerous rafting camps have sprung up. These camps not only offer exhilarating rafting experiences but also provide guests with an array of culinary delights - a claim I can personally vouch for. The road from Foča to Nikšić, which stretches through this region, is winding and treacherous, narrow and steep - more suited for rally driving. Many travellers use it as one of the routes to the Adriatic Sea. Naturally, everyone wishes to stop at Tjentište and the Valley of Heroes during their journey. The cover of our publication features a masterpiece of monumental architecture - the grandiose monument by academic sculptor and professor Miodrag Živković, dedicated to the fallen partisans. Beneath it lies a crypt where 3,301 fighters are buried. Through this publication, visible to the world, we pay homage to the spirits of our heroes. On the back cover is another landmark and protected natural site in the territory of Foča, located in the village of Miljevina: the famous sand pyramids, shaped by the interplay of frost, wind and erosion. This phenomenon has been recorded in only four places in the world, one of which is "Devil's Town" in Serbia. The urban centre of Foča is situated at the confluence of the Ćehotina and Drina rivers - a fantastic location. "Two waters clashed"- the Ćehotina and the icy Drina - sings Zehra Deović.

Between the Sutjeska Valley and the western slopes of Maglić lies the Peručica primeval forest, spanning 1,434 hectares within the national park. It is a unique forest reserve in Europe, home to the famous Skakavac waterfall, which plunges over 70 meters. You can read so much about this wondrous forest, its flora, and fauna on the internet - countless facts and photographs are available. But being there is an entirely different and truly authentic experience. It cannot be done from an armchair. I was fortunate to pass through that primeval forest in 1983. I was in the company of National Heroes Cvijetin Mijatović, known as Majo, and Vlado Šegrt, both participants in the Battle of Sutjeska. Yes, it was 41 years ago, during the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of that legendary battle, or rather, the suffering of the partisans (back then, when every defeat was a victory, it could not be called such). To keep everything in the spirit of the number forty, we covered forty kilometers that day, climbing Vučevo and Dragoš Sedlo, passing through Suha and visiting the grave of Sava Kovačević. Vlado was practically Sava's second-in-command, and history is still defined by his role. Majo was endlessly approachable and charismatic (he had served as President of the Presidency of Yugoslavia in 1980/81 after Tito's death). Both of them completed the journey without any apparent effort but with visible emotion as they evoked those memories. It was May, and though we started in the heat of the day, we crossed snow and freezing rain in Peručica. That evening, I had dinner with them at the same table in Tjentište.

I asked a colleague from the Institute - choosing the first one I came across - what comes to mind when I mention Foča. He responded swiftly and sharply: "The Faculty of Medicine!" Indeed, the Faculty in Foča is an exceptional educational and scientific institution. I have always been fascinated by the fact that such a distinguished group of lecturers and doctors exists there. I wonder how the local authorities manage to retain them in this small town, which, according to the Institute's demographic estimates for 2023, has just over 16,000 residents (The exact figure is 16,065, but I understand your point - some may have left or departed through those endless tunnels, and I hope, for the sake of those 65, that the number has increased). I immediately thought of academician Boriša Starović, the renowned professor and doctor who led that faculty.

He was the most significant name in Sarajevo's surgery before moving to Foča to create something new. Additionally, the extraordinary Feodor Lukač, an athlete and exceptional surgeon, was born there. You probably do not know who he is, nor how famous his son, Sergije, is - the father of modern journalism. Not even that he saved Aleksa Šantić's life during a surgery? Or that he was simultaneously the champion and record holder of Switzerland, Austria and Yugoslavia in nearly every sprinting, jumping and gymnastics discipline? I urge you to type this man's name into a search engine. I am writing a chapter about him in my novel. An incredible individual. I will share just one "small detail" from his incredibly rich life - at the Berlin Olympics, as an Olympic champion in motorsport, he refused to salute Hitler. He was our "Jesse Owens". He performed over 30,000 surgeries in Herzegovina, saving countless lives.

I did not name the chapter *Foča Regulations* by accident. It encompasses laws, records and descriptions - all in one word. The *Foča Regulations* were the first legal act of the Partisan, or as it was then called, the People's Liberation Movement, consisting of ten points that established governance. They were written by the renowned Moša Pijade. Yes, the same Moša who, alongside Rodoljub Čolaković, translated Marx's *Capital* while imprisoned and fatefully met Tito in the Lepoglava penitentiary. In 1942, Foča was the center of the free territory in occupied Yugoslavia.

Foča is also home to outstanding legal experts. I will highlight two: prof. Miodrag Simović and prof. Nikola Mojović. There is no need to list their positions here; they are renowned legal scholars, highly respected not only for their expertise but also for their role in educating new generations of lawyers in Republika Srpska.

It seems that Foča is also fertile ground for *sevdalinka*. Both Zehra Deović and Božo Vrećo, exceptional interpreters of this traditional music genre, were born here.

As everywhere, people in Foča turn to God in prayer. The Seminary of Saint Peter of Dabrobosna is well known, as is the monumental Church of Saint Sava, the largest Orthodox church in Bosnia and Herzegovina, covering over 1,500 m². Consecrated in 2023, it finally gave the people of Foča an Orthodox place of worship in the town center after a 500-year wait. Nearby is the Aladža Mosque, a national monument of Bosnia and Herzegovina and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Both sacred buildings stand side by side on the right bank of the Ćehotina River.

You will often hear the phrase "Foča – a Bosnian town". However, the municipality of Foča geographically belongs to Herzegovina - it always has. In fact, it serves as the boundary between Bosnia and Herzegovina, bordering Montenegro. Returning to the road to Sarajevo, there is a steep and challenging pass called Rogoj. This is the very point that either divides or connects Bosnia and Herzegovina as two distinct geographical and historical regions, two climates and two mentalities. Let that be clarified as well.

Much could be written about Foča, but if you want more statistical information, I recommend the publication *Cities and Municipalities of Republika Srpska* by the Institute, available in both print and electronic formats on the Institute's website: www.rzs.rs.ba.
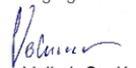
Banja Luka, December 2024

Managing Editor

Velimir Savić

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Take care of your clothes while they are new and your honour while you are young.
Alexandar Sergeyevich Pushkin

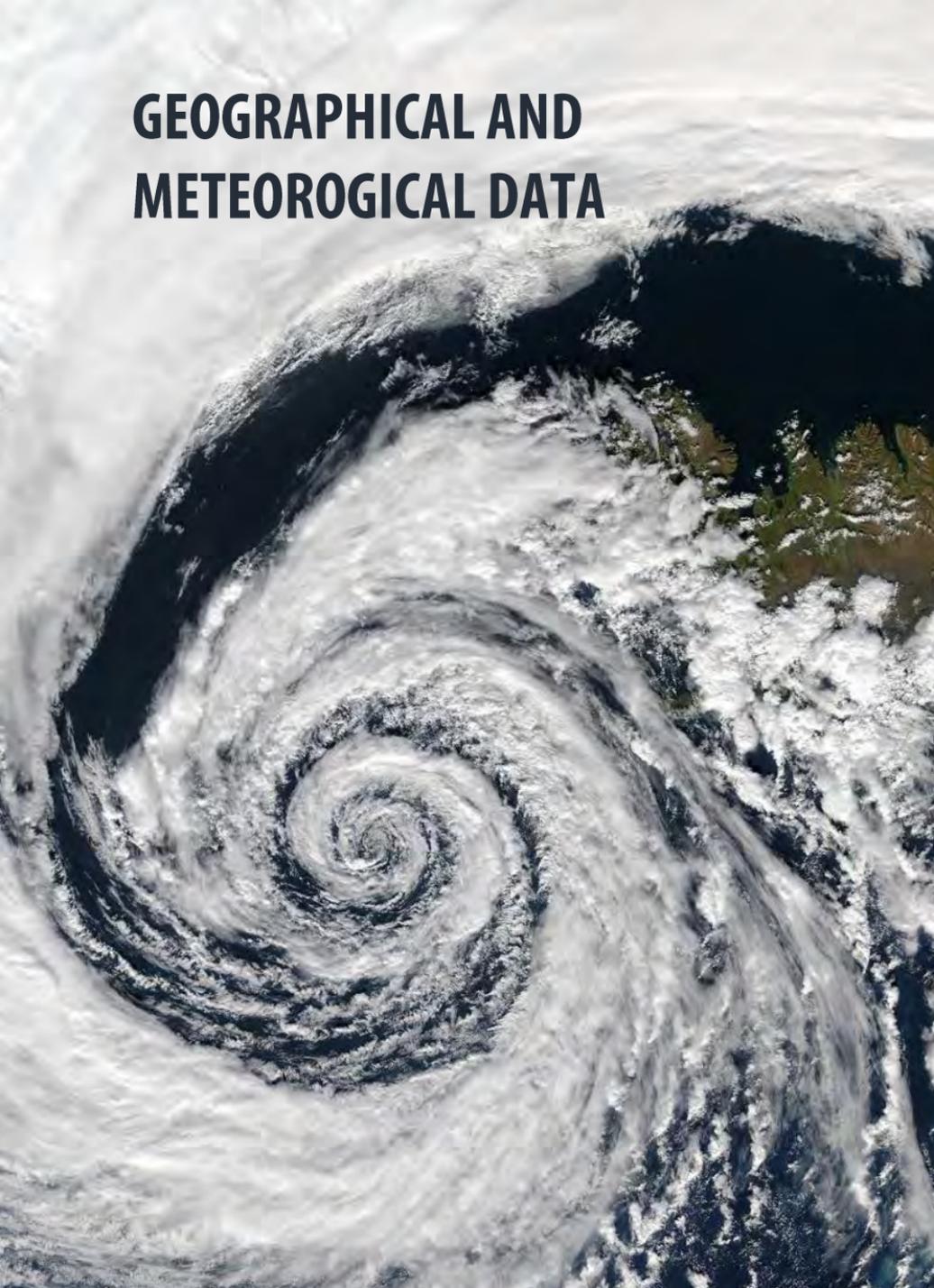|		
	NAME	Republika Srpska
SYMBOLS	emblem	
	flag	
	OFFICIAL LANGUAGES	language of the Serbian people, language of the Bosniak people, language of the Croatian people.
	OFFICIAL SCRIPTS	Cyrillic alphabet, Latin alphabet.
	POPULATION, 2023	1,114,819 (mid-year estimate)
	SURFACE AREA[1]	24,641 km^2
TERRITORIAL ORGANISATION[2]	municipalities	53
	cities (11)	Banja Luka, Bijeljina, **Gradiška, Derventa,** Doboj, Zvornik, **Istočno Sarajevo, Laktaši,** Prijedor, Prnjavor, Trebinje.
	CURRENCY	Convertible Mark **(KM)**
	International Banking Code (ISO code)	BAM

Republika Srpska was proclaimed on 9 January 1992, while as an entity within Bosnia and Herzegovina it was verified by the Dayton Peace Agreement and peace ratification in Paris on 14 December 1995. Today, Republika Srpska is a parliamentary republic, with limited international subjectivity. The largest city in Republika Srpska is Banja Luka and it is the administrative, economic and cultural centre of Republika Srpska.

[1] Preliminary data on the surface area of Republika Srpska, excluding **Brčko District**.
Source: Republic Administration for Geodetic and Property-Legal Affairs

[2] With the adoption of the Law on the City of Prnjavor and the Law on Amendments to the Law on Territorial Organisation of Republika Srpska ("Official Gazette of Republika Srpska", No 32/23) changes were made to the territorial organisation of Republika Srpska. Thus, as of 14 April 2023 the territory of Republika Srpska consists of 53 municipalities and 11 cities.

GEOGRAPHICAL AND METEOROGICAL DATA

Look deep into nature and then you will understand everything better.
Albert Einstein

Geographical location of Republika Srpska

The latitude and longitude of the territory of **Republika Srpska are between 42°33'N and 45°17'N and 16°12'E and 19°38'E respectively, that is, its territory covers** northern and eastern parts of the geographical area of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The surface area of Republika Srpska is 24,641 km².

Republika Srpska belongs to the group of continental areas **–** it has no access to the sea and it is located at the meeting point of two large natural geographic and socio-economic regional units **–** Pannonian and Mediterranean.

According to the territorial organisation, the territory of Republika Srpska consists of eleven cities: Banja Luka, Bijeljina, **Gradiška**, Derventa, Doboj, Zvornik, **Istočno Sarajevo, Laktaši, Prijedor,** Prnjavor and Trebinje and 53 municipalities. While other cities have no municipalities in their **composition, the City of Istočno Sarajevo consists of the following municipalities: Istočna Ilidža, Istočno Novo Sarajevo, Istočni Stari Grad, Pale, Sokolac and Trnovo. The City of Banja Luka is the** largest city in Republika Srpska and the administrative, economic and cultural centre of Republika Srpska.

Republika Srpska is located at the intersection of vital communication links

In terms of transport and geography, the location of Republika Srpska is of particular importance. This is especially the case when it comes to the meridional direction which, by means of the river valleys of Bosna and Neretva, while going through the Dinara mountain complex, connects Central European with Mediterranean macroregion. No less important is the zonal direction which connects Republika Srpska with the Central Balkans and Western European area. It is necessary to mention the importance of Republika Srpska's access to the river Sava, by means of which it is connected to the European Rhine **–** Main **–** Danube Canal.

Natural features of Republika Srpska

Complex and curious natural features of Republika Srpska result from it being part of various natural and geographical units and their geomorphological evolution.

In the northern, Peri-Pannonian part, the hilly terrain composed of Cenozoic deposits gradually descends to the flat land with alluvial plateaus and fluvial terraces, and this is at the same time the most fertile part of Republika Srpska. There are only a few scattered mountains in this area – Kozara, Prosara, **Motajica, Vučijak, Ozren and Trebovac, as well as the furthermost northeastern** slopes of Majevica.

Towards the south, the flat land gradually turns first into the hilly terrain and then into the mountainous region which covers the largest portion of the territory of Republika Srpska. The **highest mountain peak on the territory of Republika Srpska is Maglić, located at 2,386 me**tres above **sea level, on the mountain also named Maglić**.

The longest rivers in Republika Srpska are Drina (308.5 km), Sava (204.8 km) and Vrbas (131.9 km) and these belong to the Black Sea drainage basin. All smaller rivers in Republika Srpska, except those in Eastern Herzegovina, belong to the Drina and Sava river basin. All waters **south of the mountain pass Čemerno, in Eastern Herzegovina, belong to the Adriatic drainage** basin.

1. Geographical coordinates of the extreme points

	North geographic latitude	East geographic longitude[1]	Settlement
North	45° 16' 36"	16° 56' 08"	Donja Gradina – Municipality of Kozarska Dubica
South	42° 33' 18"	18° 26' 45"	**Podštirovnik –** City of Trebinje
East	44° 02' 59"	19° 37' 44"	**Žlijebac –** Municipality of Bratunac
West	44° 56' 52"	16° 12' 18"	**Srednji Bušević –** Municipality of Krupa na Uni

[1] By Greenwich

2. The highest mountains and mountain peaks

Mountain	Peak	Elevation, m
Maglić	**Maglić**	2,386
Volujak	Volujak	2,336
Lelija	Velika Lelija	2,032
Zelengora	**Bregoč**	2,014
Klekovača	**Klekovača**	1,961
Crvanj	Zimomor	1,920
Jahorina	Ogorjelica	1,916
Vitorog	Veliki Vitorog	1,906
Trebova Planina	**Velika Košuta**	1,872
Bjelasnica (Gatačka)	Bjelasnica	1,867
Sniježnica (Tjentište)	**Sniježnica**	1,787

2. The highest mountains and mountain peaks

Mountain	Peak	Elevation, m
Baba	Đed	1,735
Vučevo (Površ)	Živanj	1,696
Vučevo	Žrvanj	1,696
Romanija	Veliki Lupoglav	1,652
Trebević	Trebević	1,629
Javor	Veliki Žep	1,537

Source: Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics Banja Luka, Department of Physical Geography

Klekovača is a limestone mountain located in the western part of Republika Srpska, with its highest peak being Velika Klekovača (1,962 m). It is surrounded by Srnetica (1,375 m), Grmeč (1,604 m), Osječenica (1,791 m), Lunjavica (1,706 m) and Crna Gora (1,650 m). The closest settlement in Republika Srpska is Drinić. The entity border passes over the summit of Velika Klekovača and descends along the Klekovača ridge to Mala Klekovača. The northern side belongs to the municipality of Drinić, while the southern side is part of Drvar. Between the mountains of Klekovača and Lunjavica lies the Lom Virgin Forest, one of the rare remaining primeval forests in Europe.

Dense coniferous forests grow up to an altitude of approximately 1,500 m, after which they transition into sparser beech forests. The summit of Klekovača is covered with dwarf pine, a low-growing vegetation believed to have given the mountain its name.

On Klekovača, the rare alpine plant edelweiss (*Leontopodium alpinum*) can be found. However, the rare medicinal plant yellow gentian (*Gentiana lutea*) has been almost eradicated due to excessive harvesting.

3. The longest rivers (stream length)

km

River	TOTAL	in Republika Srpska
Drina	341.0	308.5
Sava	945.0	204.8
Vrbas	249.9	131.9
Bosna	279.4	98.0
Vrbanja	95.4	95.4
Una	212.5	91.8
Sana	157.7	85.0
Ukrina	80.9	80.9

Source: Public Institution "Vode Srpske", Bijeljina

4. The largest lakes and fishponds

	Surface area, km^2	Elevation, m	Max. depth, m	Water volume, mill. m^3
ARTIFICIAL LAKES				
Bilećko (on Trebišnjica)	27.064	400	104.0	1,280.0
Perućačko (on Drina)	12.401	290	70.0	355.0
Zvorničko (on Drina)	8.876	140	28.0	89.0
Višegradsko (on Drina)	8.900	336	78.0	161.0
Bočac (on Vrbas)	2.330	282	62.0	52.7
NATURAL LAKES				
Štirinsko (on Zelengora)	0.129	1,672	4.5	0.255
Kotlaničko (on Zelengora)	0.044	1,528	10.0	0.250
Uloško (on Crvanj)	0.043	1,058	14.0	0.255
Donje Bare (on Zelengora)	0.021	1,475	4.5	0.057
Orlovačko (on Zelengora)	0.021	1,438	5.0	0.054
FISHPONDS				
Saničani (on Gomjenica)	11.179	143	4.0	...
Bardača (on Matura)	4.800	90	2.2	...
Prnjavor (on Vijaka)	6.664	134	3.5	...
Sjekovac (on Ukrina)	3.980	85	3.0	...

Source: Public Institution "Vode Srpske", Bijeljina
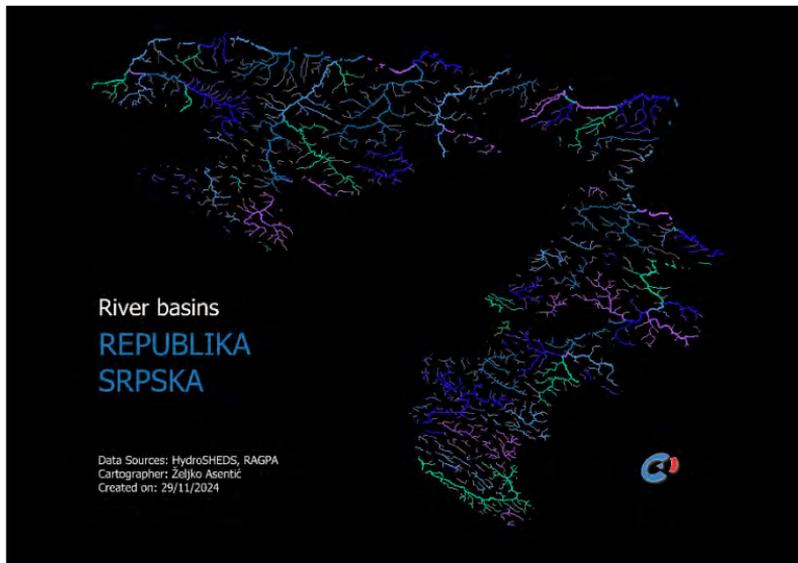
Natural resources are certainly one of the key factors in the present and future development of Republika Srpska and its economic and geographical formation. In this sense, the most important natural resources are agricultural land, forest areas, hydro-climatic conditions, and mining and mineral resources.

Climate characteristics

Various climatic influences in force on the territory of Republika Srpska are result of the natural factors and rules of general circulation of air masses in this region. Thus, there are three climate types on the territory of Republika Srpska, and these are:

1. Northern Peri-Pannonian region, **with its moderate continental climate. This region's climate** is characterised by moderately cold winters and warm summers. Average annual air temperature **ranges for this climate type are between 12°C and 19°C**.

2. Alpine and Pannonian climate covers the largest part of Republika Srpska. Mountain ranges are characterised by short and cool summers and cold and snowy winters, with high snow cover which persists for a long time. Average **annual air temperature is between 5°C and 7°C.** Hilly terrain, hollows and valleys are however characterised by a somewhat milder climate Average **annual air temperature in the areas with the Alpine and Pannonian climate is approximately 10°C.**

Winters are moderately cold, with snow, common temperature inversions, and fog. Summers are moderately warm.

3. Modified Mediterranean-Adriatic climate

The southern region of Republika Srpska, also known as lower Herzegovina, is characterised by the modified Adriatic climate. This region is called Humine, as opposed to the region called Rudine which covers higher mountainous parts of the karst of Herzegovina with a variant of both the Alpine climate and the climate of Humine. Average annual air temperature is **between 14°C and 14.7°C**. Trebinje, the warmest city in Republika Srpska, is located in this climatic region.

5. Annual values of major meteorological parametres and average monthly air temperatures, 2022

Measuring station	Air temperature, annual average, °C	Cloudiness, tenths	Humidity, %	Insolation, hours
Banja Luka	13.7	5.8	74	2,286.1
Bijeljina	14.0	5.9	76	2,058.0
Bileća	13.5	4.6	73	2,461.0
Višegrad	12.5	7.1	68	...
Gradiška	13.5	5.6	80	...
Doboj	13.6	6.3	75	1,772.8
Kalinovik	9.1	5.8	75	...
Mrkonjić Grad	11.4	5.6	77	1,676.7
Novi Grad	13.2	6.4	70	...
Prijedor	13.3	5.9	76	1,911.0
Ribnik	12.1	5.7	75	...
Rudo	12.1	6.6	69	...
Sokolac	8.9	5.8	72	2,017.2
Srbac	12.9	6.0	66	...
Srebrenica	11.3	6.1	83	1,525.3
Trebinje	15.5	4.2	68	...
Foča	11.8	6.3	79	...
Han Pijesak	8.2	6.1	88	1,839.3
Čemerno	7.8	5.8	77	1,876.5
Šipovo	11.3	5.6	80	...

Source: Republic Hydrometeorological Service

Earthquakes n Republika Srpska

6. Earthquakes

Place (location)	Date	Hypocentre time[2]	Latitude	Longitude	Magnitude[3]	Intensity[4]
Bočac	20 Feb 1996	14:12:13	44.50	17.23	4.7	6-7
Teslić	26 Feb 1998	12:09:20	44.72	17.71	4.1	5-6
Istočni Drvar	15 Apr 1998	23:30:47	44.37	16.63	4.1	5-6
Trebinje	22 Jul 2001	20:08:16	42.79	18.18	4.6	6-7
Kotor Varoš	29 Mar 2002	16:04:01	44.60	17.39	4.0	5-6
Milići	14 Dec 2003	10:09:29	44.08	19.09	5.1	6-7
Nevesinje	21 Sep 2004	04:46:09	43.18	18.13	4.2	5-6
Berkovići	27 Sep 2005	00:25:34	43.22	18.15	5.1	6-7
Nevesinje	17 Jun 2006	20:01:10	43.39	18.09	4.3	6
Nevesinje	17 Jun 2006	20:09:26	43.36	18.15	4.2	5-6
Trebinje	14 Nov 2008	13:26:05	42.56	18.60	4.7	6-7
Pale	31 Mar 2009	01:46:03	43.84	18.54	4.1	5-6
Volujak	25 Jan 2013	18:52:26	43.26	18.70	4.1	6
Volujak	03 Feb 2013	12:01:00	43.22	18.67	4.1	6
Potkozarje region	28 Jan 2014	00:03:32	44.99	17.13	4.2	6
Gacko region	04 May 2014	23:29:53	44.52	17.56	3.9	5-6
Gacko region	30 Sep 2014	15:12:43	43.06	18.40	4.0	5-6
Jahorina	12 Apr 2015	00:05:32	43.75	18.56	4.2	6
Maslovare	28 Apr 2015	16:16:50	44.52	17.56	4.0	5-6
Slatina (Banja Luka region)	03 Nov 2016	15:04:04	44.80	17.30	3.9	5-6
Bileća region	09 Nov 2016	15:58:44	42.93	18.47	4.1	5-6
Foča	02 Mar 2017	06:36:23	43.40	18.97	3.6	5
Ljubinje	12 Jan 2018	02:20:35	43.03	18.05	3.7	5
Nevesinje	26 Nov.2019	09:19:26	43.20	18.01	5.5	7-8
Nevesinje	26 Nov.2019	09:40:20	43.15	18.19	3.4	5
Nevesinje	26 Nov.2019	11:58:26	43.12	18.09	3.4	5
Nevesinje	26 Nov 2019	16:30:43	43.20	18.10	3.4	5
Nevesinje	01 Jan 2020	10:07:08	43.20	18.01	3.6	5
Trebinje	16 Apr 2020	06:13:18	42.64	18.24	3.6	5
Banja Luka	08 Aug 2021	21:10:23	44.86	17.26	3.6	5
Berkovići	22 Apr 2022	21:07:50	43.08	18.19	5.7	7-8
Berkovići	22 Apr 2022	21:14:46	43.03	18.23	3.5	5
Berkovići	23 Apr 2022	00:59:09	43.12	18.03	3.8	5

6. Earthquakes

Place (location)	Date	Hypocentre time[2]	Latitude	Longitude	Magnitude[3]	Intensity[4]
Berkovići	23 Apr 2022	02:20:28	43.11	18.04	4.1	5-6
Berkovići	23 Apr 2022	02:34:22	43.06	18.13	3.6	5
Berkovići	01 Sep 2022	14:03:08	43.04	18.14	3.5	5
Berkovići	10 Nov 2022	19:03:48	43.14	18.09	3.4	5
Berkovići	02 Dec 2022	20:05:07	43.10	18.13	4.3	6
Modriča	15.04.2023.	22:10:42	44.99	18.34	4.2	6
Hum	30.06.2023.	03:54:20	42.69	18.22	3.9	5-6

[2] Time of earthquake is shown by UTC (Coordinated Universal Time)

[3] Magnitude of earthquake is expressed in the Richter scale units

[4] Intensity of earthquake at the epicenter is rated by the Mercalli – Cancani – Sieberg scale (MCS)

Source: Republic Hydrometeorological Service

An earthquake occurs due to movements of tectonic plates, movements of **the Earth's crust or impacts, which result in the shaking of Earth's crust** caused by a powerful release of energy.

The Balkan Region is affected both by the large lithospheric plates of Eurasia and Africa, as well as by smaller units such as the Arabian plate and the Adriatic microplate. Contrary to the widespread belief that earthquakes are rare, they occur very often, but most of them are of low intensity, occurring in relatively small areas of land or ocean floor.

Smog is air pollution. The term originates from the combination of two English words: *smoke* and *fog*. It occurs in large cities during autumn and winter, where many sources of air pollution are concentrated in a relatively small area (industry, boilers, vehicle exhaust gases, residential heating, etc.).

Acidic smog arises during months when increased heating leads to a higher concentration of sulfur dioxide (SO_2) in the air and consequently, the concentration of sulfuric acid (H_2SO_4), which forms through oxidation and other processes in the atmosphere. In addition to sulfuric acid, other acids may also appear, forming through reactions with acidic oxides present in the smog, along with other substances emitted into the air from various sources.

Photochemical smog occurs when primary pollutants (nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds generated from burning fossil fuels) interact under sunlight, producing a mixture of hundreds of harmful chemicals known as secondary pollutants. Photochemical smog typically arises in warmer months during sunny weather, with increased levels of UV-B (medium-wave ultraviolet) radiation in the lower atmospheric layers and the introduction of hydrocarbons and NO_x ($NO+NO_2$) from various sources. In an atmosphere saturated with exhaust gases and smoke from vehicles and factory chimneys, volatile organic compounds condense to form a dense haze, usually appearing as a whitish-blue fog. This smog irritates the mucous membranes of the eyes and nose in humans and has oxidative properties. Under the influence of photochemical smog, plant leaves yellow and wilt, colors on many objects fade and rubber materials lose their elasticity

POPULATION

Youth is a fortunate time when a person begins to believe in themselves, yet has not ceased to believe in others.

Ivo Andrić

Live births

The total number of live births in 2023 increased by 2.1% compared to the previous year. The average age of first-time mothers in Republika Srpska is 28.1 **годин**а, which represented an increase by 0.4 years in comparison with the previous year. The average age of first-time mothers in the EU (according to the latest available data provided by Eurostat, referring to 2022) was 29.7 years. The data indicate that women postpone giving birth, thus the age of mother at birth has been increasing. The total average age of mothers at birth in Republika Srpska in 2023 was 29.8 years.

In recent years, taking into account live-born children and the five-year average, approximately 83% of children were born in wedlock.

1. Live births in Republika Srpska

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
ALL	9,274	9,161	9,274	9,118	9,309
Male	4,907	4,792	4,754	4,648	4,849
Female	4,367	4,369	4,520	4,470	4,460

Life expectancy

In Republika Srpska, life expectancy at birth increased by 1.7 years for men and 1.7 years for women from 2019 to 2023. In 2023, life expectancy was 81.70 years for women and 76.04 years for men.

2. Life expectancy in Republika Srpska

	TOTAL	Male	Female
2019	77.15	74.34	80.00
2020	76.23	73.34	79.24
2021	75.03	72.02	78.24
2022	76.48	73.40	79.69
2023	78.85	76.04	81.70
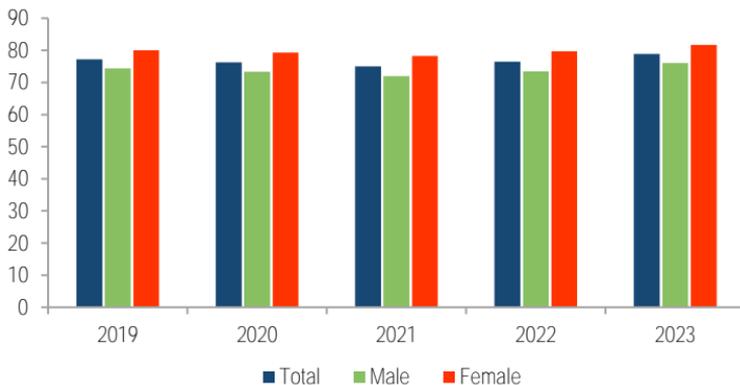
Graph 1. Life expectancy in Republika Srpska

3. The most common male and female names registered in the birth registers

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Male names	Luka	Luka	Luka	Luka	Layar
	Lazar	Lazar	Lazar	Lazar	Luka
	Stefan	Stefan	Stefan	Vasilije	Vasilije
	Nikola	Vasilije	Vasilije	Stefan	Stefan
	Pavle	Nikola	Pavle	Pavle	**Uroš**
Female names	Sofija	Sofija	Milica	Milica	Sofija
	Milica	Milica	Sofija	Sofija	Milica
	Marija	Marija	Marija	Ana	Marija
	Ana	Ana	Ana	Marija	Dunja
	Sara	Dunja	Dunja	Teodora	Ana

Deaths in Republika Srpska

In comparison with the previous year, the total number of deceased persons in 2023 decreased by 16.9%. In Republika Srpska, the average age at death is 74.9 years. On average, women live approximately six years longer than men do. About half of all deceased persons die due to diseases of the circulatory system, while approximately one fifth of them die due to malignant tumors. Per one thousand live-born babies, on average three babies up to one year of age decease. In Republika Srpska, infant mortality rate win 2023 amounted to 2.9‰.

4. Deaths in Republika Srpska

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
ALL	15,081	16,582	19,002	16,263	13, 508
Men	7,753	8,613	9,943	8,469	6, 978
Women	7,328	7,969	9,059	7,794	6, 530

New marriages

In Republika Srpska, there are approximately five new marriages per one thousand citizens. In 2023, the number of new marriages decreased by 1% in comparison with 2022. The oldest groom in 2022 was 88 years old, while the oldest bride was 92 years old. The youngest groom was 17 years old and the youngest bride was 16. Average age of bride at marriage was 29.3, while women enter into their first marriage at the average age of 27.6 years. Average age of men at marriage was 32.3 years and grooms enter their first marriage at the average age of 30.4 years.
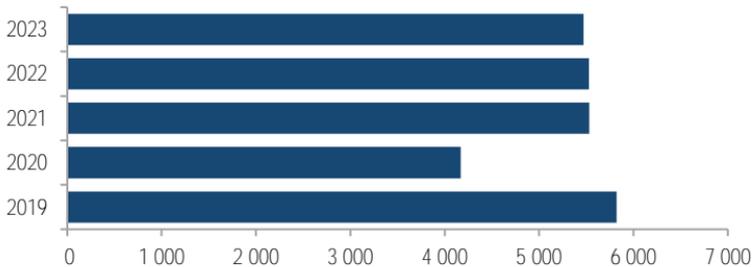
Graph 2. New marriages in Republika Srpska

Divorces

In Republika Srpska, per thousand marriages approximately 178 marriages are divorced. In 2023, the number of divorces increased by 0.9% compared to 2022. In 2023, the oldest husband at the time of the divorce was 86 years old, while the oldest wife was 80 years old. The youngest husband at the time of the divorce was 19 years old and the wife was 18 years old. The shortest divorced marriage lasted less than three monthts, while the longest divorced marriage lasted 50 years. The average duration of marriage before divorce was 13 years.
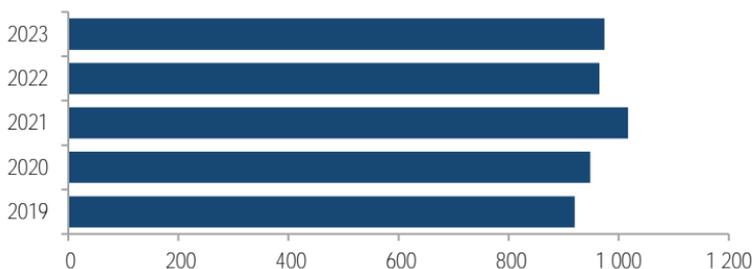
Graph 3. Divorces in Republika Srpska

Migrations in Republika Srpska

The largest population movements in Republika Srpska were recorded in the population group of 20 to 34 years of age. When it comes to this age group, women opt for moving more often than men do. In the age group of 35 years and older, participation of women in migration is higher than that of men.

Migrations between Republika Srpska and **Brčko District** 5.2%

Migrations between the entities 40.3%

Inter-municipality migrations in Republika Srpska 54.5%
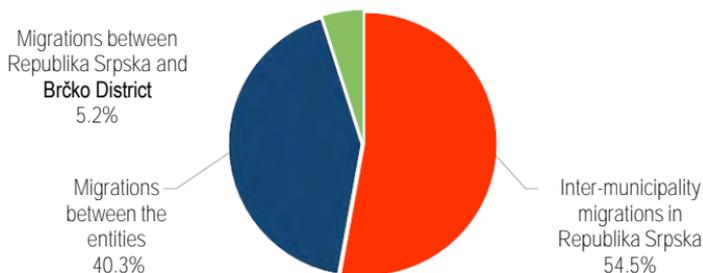
Graph 4. Internal migrations in Republika Srpska, 2023

Between 2014 and 2023, in Republika Srpska, life expectancy for the total population increased by 2.5 years, for the male population by 2.3 years and for the female population by 2.6 years.

During the same period, in the EU-27, life expectancy for the total population increased by 0.7 years, for the male population by 1 year and for the female population by 0.5 years.
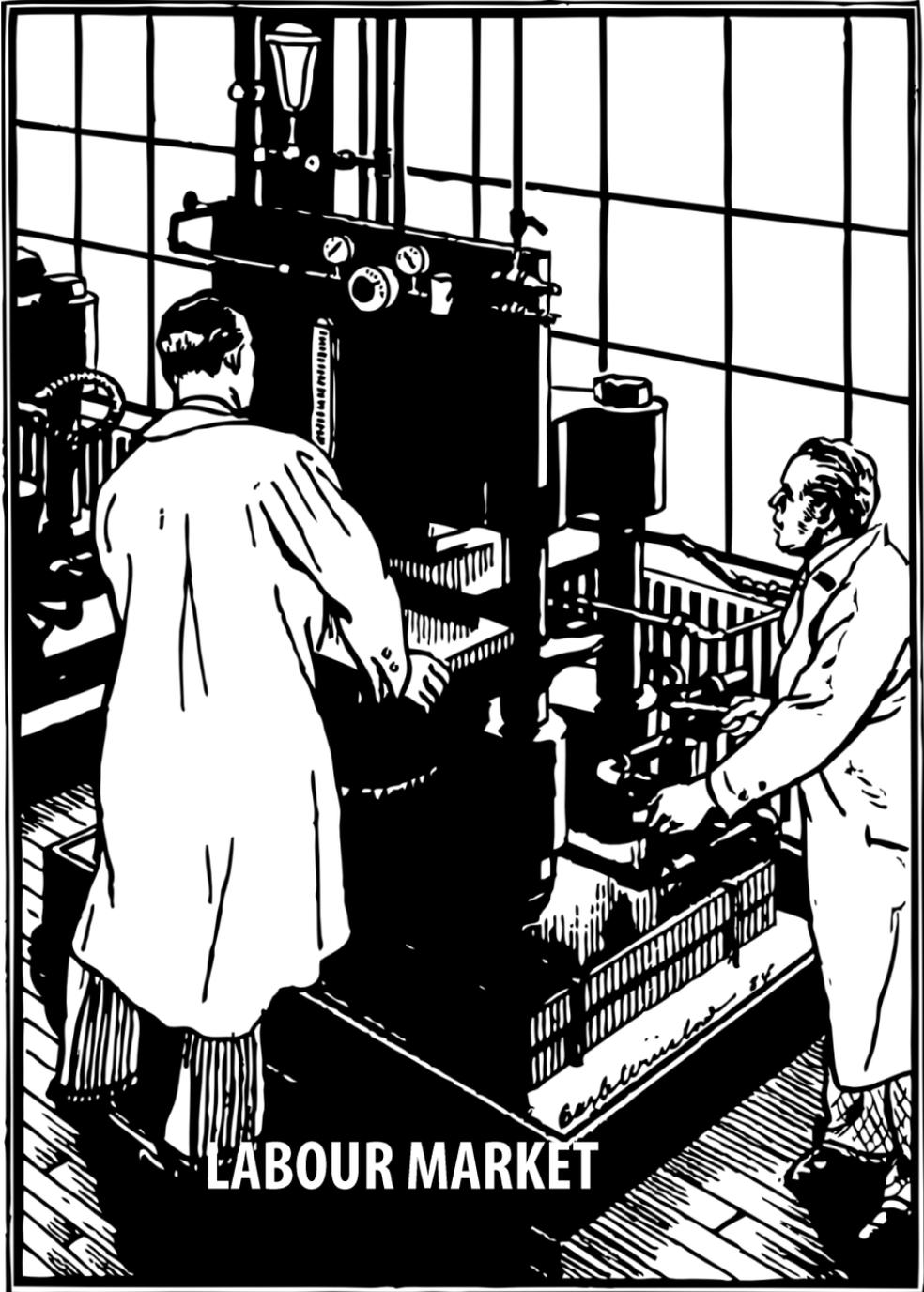
LABOUR MARKET

*Diligence is an attack that many people quickly recover from.*
Mark Twain

By sex, female unemployment rate in 2023 was 11.5%, while male unemployment rate was 7.4%.

1. Unemployment rates, 2023

%

TOTAL	Male	Female
9.1	7.4	11.5

The structure of employed persons by group of sections of economic activity in 2023 was as follows: agricultural 13.9%, industrial (non-agricultural) 32.2% and services 53.9%. By type of employment, the structure was as follows: employed persons working for a wage (employees) 81.9%, self-employed persons 15.6% and unpaid supporting family members 2.6%.

Developed countries are characterised by a dominant share of those employed in the services sector, as well as high participation of those working for a wage in total employment.
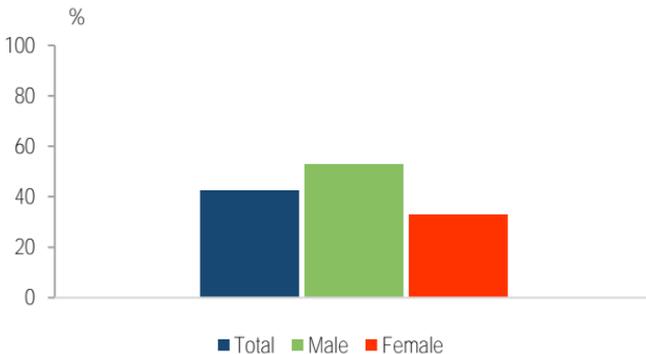
Graph 1. Employment rates, 2023

Graph 2. Employed persons by sex, annual average
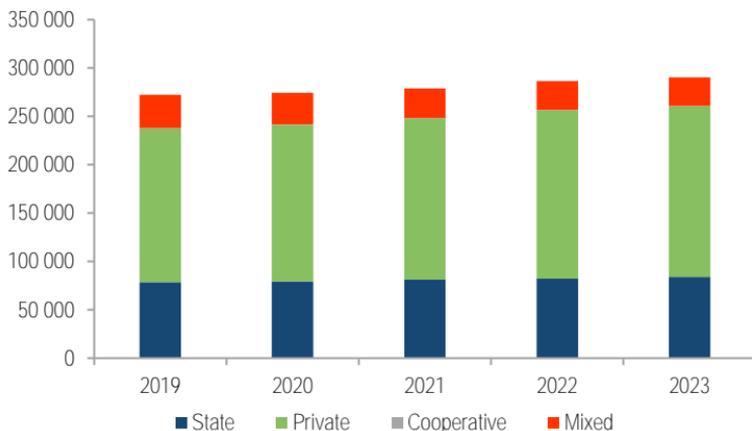
Graph 3. Employed persons by type of ownership

Private sector has the highest number of employed persons. Every second employed person works in business entities in private ownership, while every sixth is an entrepreneur or works for an entrepreneur.

Half of all employed persons in Republika Srpska work in the sections (C) *Manufacturing*, (G) *Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles* and (O) *Public administration and defence; compulsory social security*. Every second employed person has completed secondary education, and every fourth has completed a higher education school or has a university degree.

Every sixth employed person is under 30 years of age, while one in four employed persons is older than 50.

2. Employed persons by section of KD, annual average

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
TOTAL	272,366	274,227	279,030	286,679	290,491
A	8,468	8,473	8,704	9,081	8,568
B	5,045	4,731	4,689	4,610	4,761
C	56,738	58,013	58,816	59,877	59,582
D	8,878	8,385	8,310	8,385	8,579
E	5,040	5,026	5,210	5,212	5,128
F	12,596	13,342	13,973	14,217	14,240
G	48,192	48,247	48,818	51,003	51,165
H	12,454	12,257	12,486	12,468	12,936
I	13,742	13,523	13,125	13,182	13,414
J	6,194	6,342	7,139	7,974	8,480
K	5,788	5,831	5,855	5,987	6,023
L	636	640	564	555	886
M	7,883	7,929	8,090	8,222	8,680
N	3,405	3,320	3,445	4,014	4,526
O	25,426	25,887	26,250	26,561	26,933
P	23,073	22,996	23,343	23,553	23,805
Q	18,842	19,448	20,264	21,014	21,659
R	4,457	4,380	4,469	5,080	5,172
S	5,509	5,457	5,480	5,684	5,954
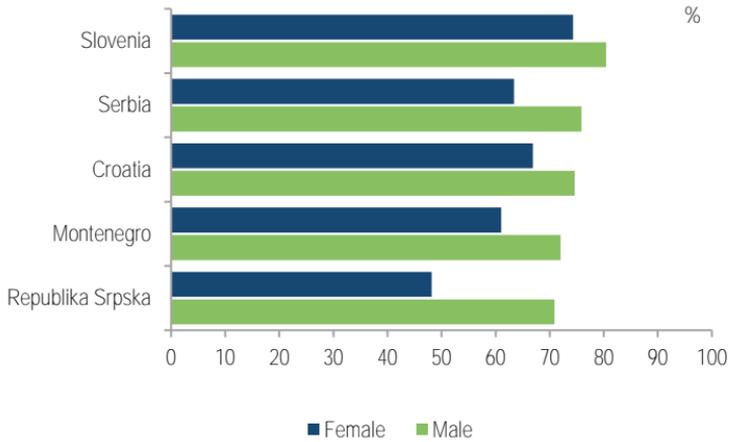
Graph 4. Employment rates in the neighbouring countries
(20–64 years of age), 2023
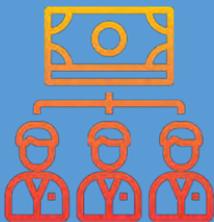
WAGES

Sometimes the best way to cheer yourself up is to cheer someone else up.
Mark Twain

Increase in net wage in 2023 compared to the previous year

The average net wage in 2023 amounted to 1,**274 KM, namely 130 KM more** than in 2022. Nominally, the average net wage increased by 11.4%. An increase was recorded in all 19 sections of economic activity, with the highest increase being recorded in the sections (R) *Arts, entertainment and recreation* 18.8% and (I) *Accommodation and food service activities* 15.1%.

BAM
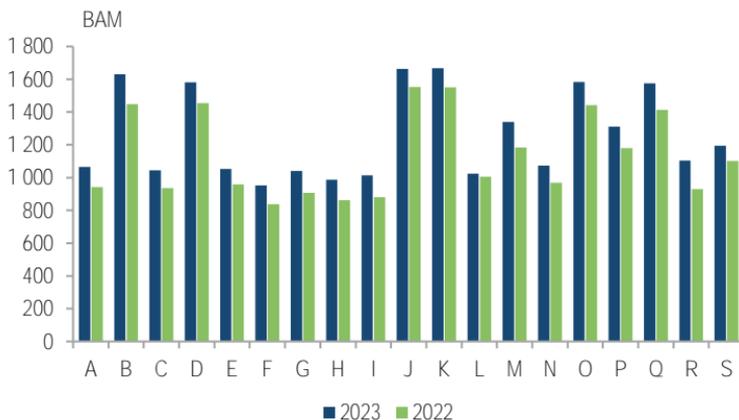
Graph 1. Average net wages by section of KD

Real index of average net wage, which represents the ratio between the nominal index of average net wage and the consumer price index in the given period, increased as well. Thus, compared to 2022, the average net wage in 2023 in Republika Srpska increased in real terms by 4.1%.

The situation in the neighbouring countries is similar. In the Federation of BiH, the average net wage increased in real terms by 7.7%, in Croatia by 4.6%, in Serbia by 2.4%, in Montenegro by 2.4% while in Slovenia it increased by 2.0% in 2023 compared to 2022.

In the past five years, the average net wage increased by 40.6%. The highest wage was that of those employed in the section (K) *Financial and insurance activities*, in which every second employee has completed a higher education school or has a university degree. They accounted for 2.1% of the total number of employed persons in 2023 and they received on average 1,667 BAM per month. In 2023, the lowest monthly net wage was earned by those employed in the section (F) *Construction* (952 BAM), which employs 4.9% of the total number of employed persons. In this section, majority of employed persons, namely 46.3% of them, completed secondary school.

The average net wage in the five-year period recorded the highest increase in the section (Q) *Human health and social work activities*, namely by 496 BAM.

1. Average net wages by section of KD

BAM

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
TOTAL	906	956	1,004	1,144	1,274
A	751	779	808	942	1,064
B	1,178	1,233	1,318	1,448	1,631
C	736	772	820	936	1,045
D	1,205	1,235	1,326	1,455	1,582
E	791	838	867	959	1,053
F	630	661	726	837	952
G	696	736	770	908	1,040
H	688	740	755	862	987
I	645	719	729	880	1,013
J	1,270	1,314	1,345	1,552	1,663
K	1,409	1,449	1,515	1,550	1,667
L	768	784	839	1,006	1,024
M	922	940	1,024	1,183	1,340
N	681	759	868	969	1,074
O	1,167	1,244	1,280	1,441	1,583
P	898	973	1,013	1,179	1,310
Q	1,080	1,152	1,208	1,413	1,576
R	638	704	794	929	1,104
S	913	925	1,001	1,101	1,195

EDUCATION

The value of skill is greater than that of gold.
Gaius Suetonius

PRESCHOOL EDUCATION AND UPBRINGING

The system of preschool education and upbringing in the working year 2023/2024 consisted a network of 228 preschool institutions, of which 121 were established by local communities and 107 **were established by private entities, citizens' associations and religious organisations**

There were 16,807 children in preschool institutions in 2023/2024, of which 8,822 (52.5%) boys and 7,985 (47.5 %) girls. Fifteen municipalities in Republika Srpska have no preschool institutions. However, a significant increase in the number of preschool institutions was recorded in comparison with the previous working year.

In the working year 2023/2024, preschool institutions employed 2,661 persons, of which 1,605 were educators.

In the structure of employed persons in preschool institutions, 98.6% were female, which indicates an underrepresentation of male educators and other male employees in general. However, this is also a typical situation in systems of preschool upbringing and education of developed countries.

1. Preschool education and upbringing

Working year	Number of institutions	Children		Children in nurseries	Preparation programme prior to school enrolment	Employed persons, total		Educators
		total	girls			all	female	
2019/2020	174	13,138	6,337	2,704	3,938	1,996	1,854	1,144
2020/2021	177	11,247	5,395	2,539	3,792	2,072	1,932	1,212
2021/2022	189	14,091	6,746	3,252	1,074	2,306	2,136	1,338
2022/2023	200	15,729	7,379	3,739	4,432	2,470	2,344	1,482
2023/2024	228	16,807	7,985	4,239	5,578	2,661	2,506	1,605
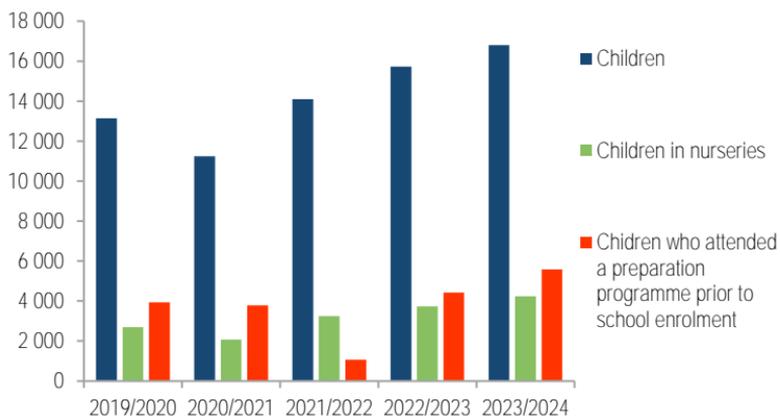
Graph 1. Preschool education and upbringing

PRIMARY EDUCATION AND UPBRINGING

A decreasing birth rate, negative migration balance, fewer new marriages and a growing number of divorces are just some of the reasons that directly affect the population decline, thus also causing a decrease in the number of children who enrol in primary school. Therefore, primary education statistics referring to the previous five-year period indicate that the so-called "white plague" is becoming an increasingly serious problem.

At the beginning of the school year 2023/2024, compared to 2022/2023, the number of pupils in primary schools decreased by 1.1%, therefore there were 935 pupils fewer. There were 8 classes fewer and the number of teachers increased by 1.9%. There were 17 pupils per class on average, while this percentage in the EU is 25 to 30. In accordance with the Law on Primary Education and Upbringing, a class should optimally have 25 pupils, with the minimum of 18 and the maximum of 30, or 32 if there is only one class of the given grade.

2. Primary education and upbringing at the beginning of the school year

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/204
Number of primary schools	686	676	669	668	664
Pupils	88,331	86,774	85,533	84,643	83,708
Classes	5,010	5,049	5,040	5,026	5,018
Teachers	8,212	8,199	8,177	7,724	7,878
Average number of pupils per class	18	17	17	17	17
Average number of pupils per teacher	9	10	10	11	11
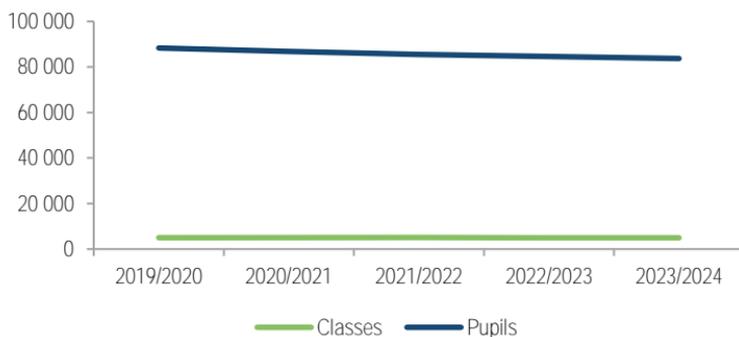
Graph 2. Classes and pupils in primary schools

SECONDARY EDUCATION AND UPBRINGING

The main objective of secondary education is to develop and improve knowledge, competences and skills required for vocational work, to provide internationally comparable level of knowledge and to prepare for further education at higher education institutions.

There were 34,825 pupils enrolled in secondary schools at the beginning of the school year 2023/2024, which represented a decrease by 0.5% compared to 2022/2023. As in the previous years, the most popular school among pupils was grammar school, thus 6,011 pupils or 17.3% of all pupils were enrolled in grammar schools.

3. Secondary education and upbringing at the beginning of the school year

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
Number of secondary school	95	95	95	96	97
Pupils	37,206	36,405	35,615	34,998	34,825
Classes	1,744	1,774	1,703	1,757	1,732
Teachers	3,944	3,945	3,925	4,050	3,780
Average number of pupils per class	21	21	21	20	20
Average number of pupils per teacher	11	9	9	9	9
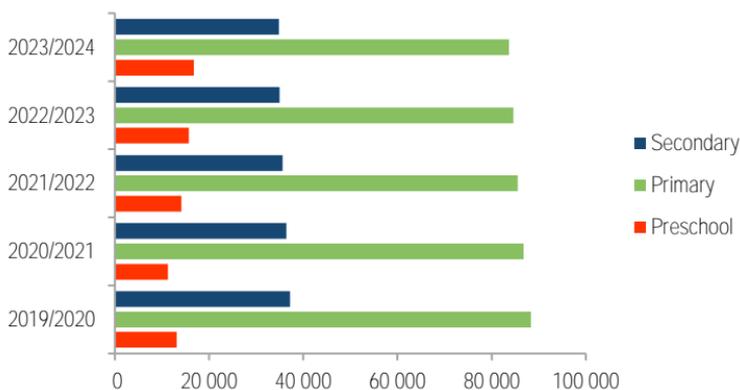
Graph 3. Children/pupils in educational institutions at the beginning of the school year

Halls of residence for pupils and students

Halls of residence for pupils and students are educational institutions providing accommodation, food and upbringing to pupils and students during their schooling. The main role of these premises is to provide pupils and students separated from their families with educational activities, accommodation, food, learning conditions, completion of their school obligations, and cultural and sporting activities.

If we observe the utilisation of halls of residence for pupils and students by type of school, it can be concluded that there are 89.0% of residents in halls of residence for pupils who attend secondary school, 9.9% attend higher education institutions and 1.1% are primary school pupils. In residence for students only residents attending higher education institutions are accommodated.

4. Halls of residence for pupils and students

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Halls of residence	11	11	11	11	11
Pupils and students in halls of residence	3,364	3,373	3,274	3,089	3,051
Number of rooms	1,261	1,277	1,243	1,242	1,243
Number of educators	25	28	27	35	25

HIGHER EDUCATION

In the academic year 2023/2024, the number of students enrolled in the second and third cycles of studies increased.

In the academic year 2023/2024, at higher education institutions in Republika Srpska, the total number of students enrolled in all three cycles of studies was 26,332, which represents a decrease by 1.7% compared to the previous year. There were 558 students fewer than in the previous year in the first cycle of studies. There were 93 students more at the second cycle of studies and 23 students more at the third cycle of studies.

By sex structure of enrolled students, there were more female students at all three cycles of studies.

In Republika Srpska, 18,451 students are enrolled at four public higher education institutions, namely 70.1% of all enrolled students. Public higher education institutions are the University of **Banja Luka, the University of Istočno Sarajevo, High**er School of Medicine in Prijedor and Higher School of Hotel Management and Tourism in Trebinje. There are 7,881 students (29.9%) enrolled at fourteen private higher education institutions.

There were 23,709 students enrolled in the first cycle of studies and slightly over half of them belong to the age group between 20 and 24 years. Of the total number of those enrolled in the second cycle of studies, 2,162 students were enrolled in master studies and 203 students were enrolled in specialist studies. Just above the half (56%) of those enrolled in the second cycle of studies were persons under the age of 30.

There were 258 doctoral candidates enrolled in the third cycle of studies, with higher participation of female students. Around 46% of doctoral candidates were persons under the age of 35.

The main source of funding during studies for 61.4% of students is parents/guardians/relatives, while 33.4% of students finance their studies from personal income, 0.2% from loans, 1.3% from scholarships and 3.8% from other sources.

In 2023, studies were completed by 3,593 students

At the first cycle of studies, 3,102 students graduated, of which three fifths were female (61.1%). In 2023, one fifth of students completed studies in the field Business, administration and law (20.9%), while the lowest number of graduated students was recorded in the field Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics (3.2%).

The title of Master of Science and master and the title of specialist in 2023 were awarded to 465 candidates, of which approximately 38.5% were male. The title of doctor of science was awarded to 26 candidates, with an equal representation of women and men.

The highest number of master's and specialist's theses was in the field Health and social welfare (29.0%), while the lowest number of these was recorded in the field Services (0.6%).

The highest number of doctoral candidates defended their doctoral dissertations in the field Business, administration and law (26.9%), while the lowest number of defended doctoral dissertations was in the field Information and communication technologies (3.8%).

Higher education institutions employed 2,907 professors and associates

In the academic year 2023/2024, higher education instiutions employed 2,907 professors and associates. There were 1,906 professors and associates employed based on employment contracts, while 1,001 of them were hired based on other contracts. Of the total number of professors and associates, 46.9% are female.

Expressed by full-time equivalent, total number of professors and associates was 2,295.2. In the academic year 2023/2024, there were 2,077 professors and associates who worked with a full teaching workload. An additional 830 professors and associates worked with a reduced teaching workload, or 218.2 expressed by full-time equivalent.

In Republika Srpska, in the academic year 2023/2024, 2,356 (8.9%) students are foreign nationals.

5. Enrolled students in Republika Srpska, academic year 2023/2024

	Students enrolled in								
	total		first cycle		second cycle of studies				doctoral candidates/ third cycle od studies	
					master		specialist studies			
	all	female	all	female	all	female	all	female	all	female
TOTAL	26,332	16,295	23,709	14,654	2,162	1,363	203	142	258	136

6. Graduated students, 2023

	Graduated students										
	total		first cycle of studies		masters of science		second cycle of studies				doctors of science/ third cycle of studies	
							masters		specialists			
	all	female	all	female	all	female	all	female	all	female	all	female
TOTAL	3,593	2,195	3,102	1,896	8	4	330	212	127	70	26	13
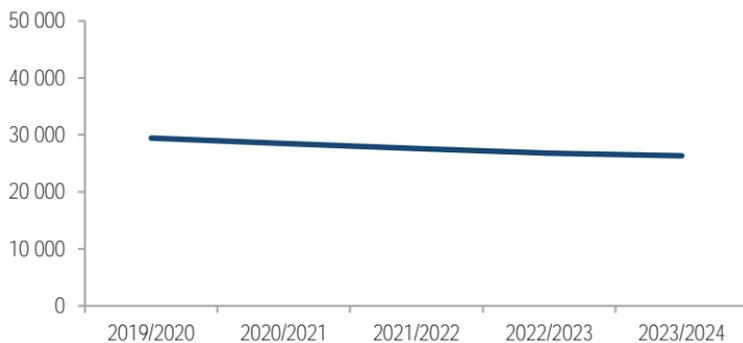
Graph 4. Students enrolled in all three cycles of studies in Republika Srpska, school years 2019/2020 - 2023/2024
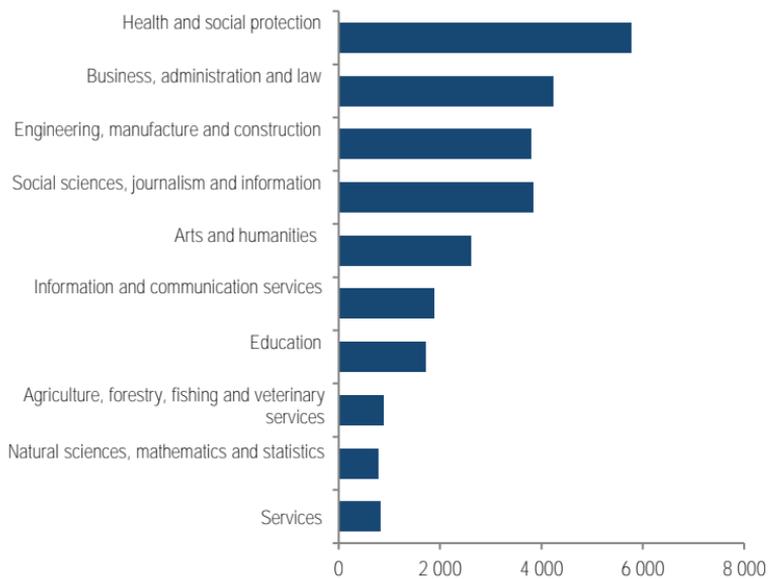
Graph 5. Enrolled students in Republika Srpska by field of education, school year 2023/2024

HEALTH

A wound that is hidden heals slowly and with difficulty.
Ivo Andri**ć**

The public health sector of Republika Srpska in 2023 employed 15,434 medical staff and associates, of which 35.3% were employed at health care centres. Of the total number of employed persons, 18.6% were doctors of medicine. In the same period, private health care institutions employed 3,660 persons, out of which 9.0% were doctors of medicine.

There were approximately 4.98 million visits to the General and Family Medicine services and approximately 26.3% of these were first visits to the physician. The first visit is a contact realised for the first time with a physician due to a disease, condition or injury. One person may, in the course of one year, visit a physician several times, but each time due to different disease, and in that case, each visit is considered the first visit due to that disease.

In 2023, there were 218,088 persons who concluded their hospital treatment, which represented an increase by 11.2% compared to 2022.

1. Doctors of medicine in health care institutions

	2022	2023
TOTAL	3,190	3,198
In public health	2,836	2,868
In private clinics	354	330

Source: Republika Srpska Public Health Institute

The total number of medical doctors in Republika Srpska has shown continuous growth. Over a ten-year period, the total number of medical doctors has increased by 18.0%. During the same period, the number of doctors in public healthcare has increased by 15%, while in private clinics it has risen by 45%.

Chickenpox cases were the most common

Out of the total number of reported cases of infectious and parasitic diseases in 2023, the highest number of cases was chickenpox with 4,286 affected individuals.

2. Reported cases of infectious and parasitic diseases
   in Republika Srpska

	Number of reported cases
2019[1)	7,922
2020	41,691
2021	59,658
2022	31,563
2023	7,354

Source: Republika Srpska Public Health Institute

[1) In 2019, the Public Health Institute of Republika Srpska revised the list of infectious diseases. Thus, the new list does not include certain diseases which were included in the list used in previous years (streptococcal pharyngitis and tonsillitis, contact and exposure to rabies, scarlet fever, erysipelas, bacterial meningitis, scabies, nonspecific viral hepatitis, HBsAg carriers and HCV antibody carriers).

In addition to this modification, in 2019 the data we observe as part of influenza surveillance are presented differently.

In 2023, there were 232,051 cases of diseased persons in Republika Srpska. Of the total number of disease cases, around 17.3% were due to neoplasms, resulting in approximately 19.5% of deaths during the same period. There were 6,051 persons or 44.8% of all deceased persons, who deceased due to the diseases of the circulatory system, which affected approximately 10.6% of persons in 2023.
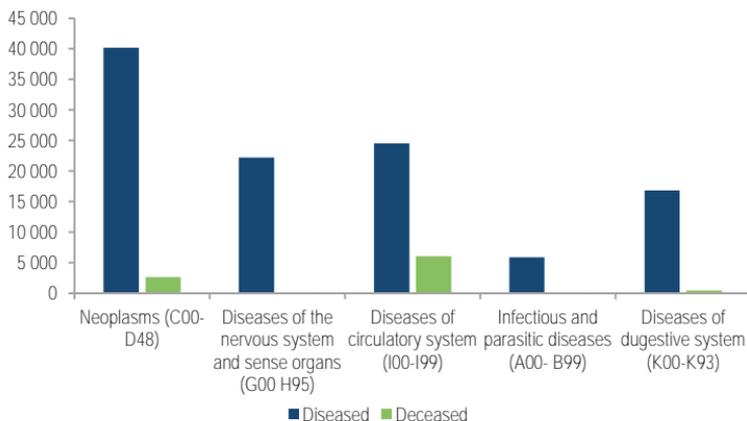
Graph 1. Morbidity and mortality by specific disease group, 2023

Source of data on morbidity: Republika Srpska Public Health Institute

SOCIAL WELFARE

Sorrow can take care of itself, but joy must be shared with someone to be fully experienced.
Mark Twain

In Republika Srpska, in 2023 at least one form of social welfare was received by 129,326 persons, of which majority were adults, namely 75.5%, while 24.5% of beneficiaries were minors.

By sex, there were more female beneficiaries of social welfare
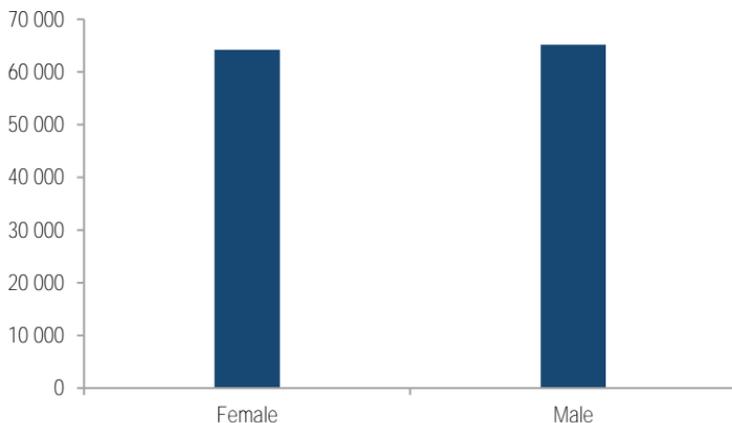
Graph 1. Social welfare beneficiaries by sex, 2023

In 2023, the number of social welfare beneficiaries decreased by 5.3% compared to 2022.

The number of minor beneficiaries decreased by 0.1% and the number of adult beneficiaries decreased by 6.9%.
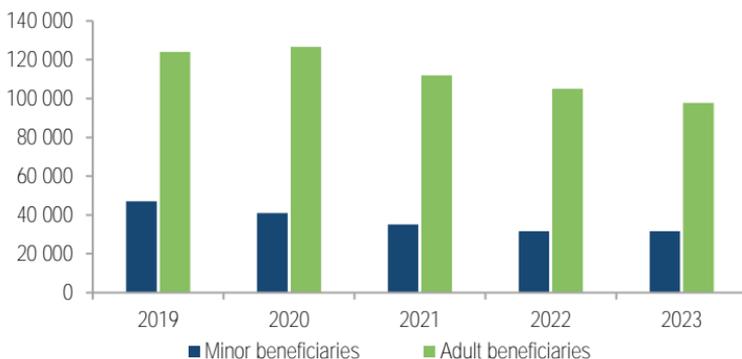
Graph 2. Number of social welfare beneficiaries, by year

In the period between 2019 and 2023, the number of social welfare beneficiaries decreased by 24.5%.

In 2023, in Republika Srpska 31,632 minor beneficiaries of social welfare were registered. Most of them were between 7 and 14 years of age, while those belonging to the category 17 and 18 years of age were least represented
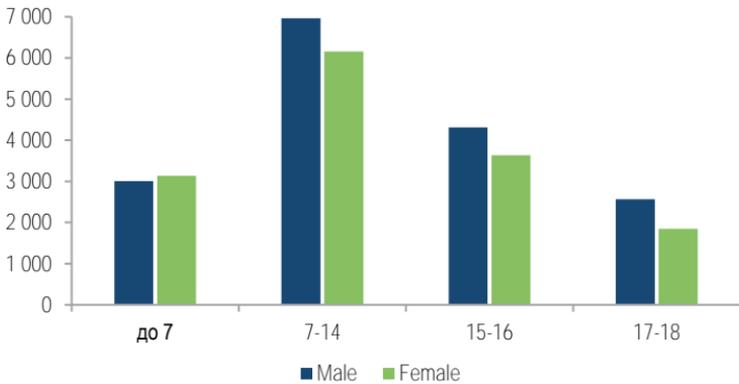
Graph 3. Minor beneficiaries by sex and age, 2023

In 2023, one of the forms of social welfare was received by 97,694 adults. Majority of them were aged over 65 years, while those from the age group between 18 and 21 years were least represented
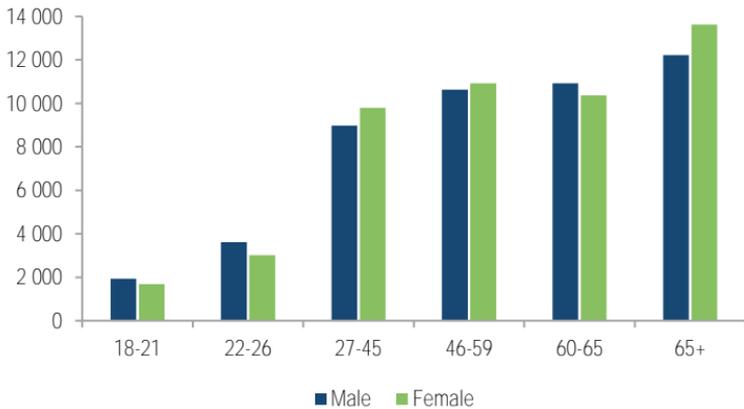
Graph 4. Adult beneficiaries by sex and age, 2023

Social welfare institutions

In 2023, there were 78 beneficiaries in homes for children and youth. Most of them were between 11 and 14 years of age, while those aged under two years were least represented.

There was an equal share of male and female beneficiares in homes (53.7%).
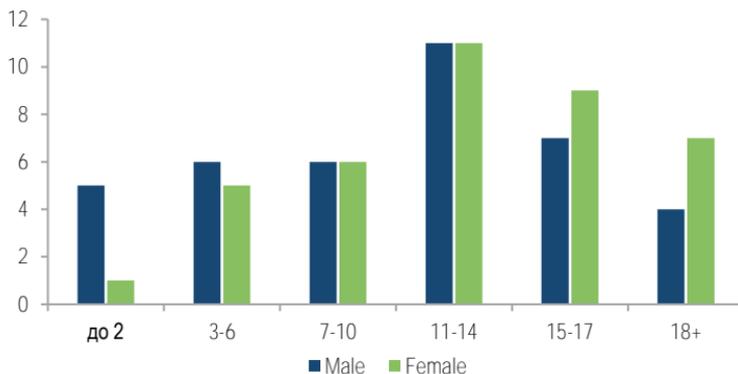
Graph 5. Beneficiaries of homes for children and youth by sex and age, 2023

Institutions of social welfare for disabled children and youth with physical and mental disabilities in 2023 accommodated 379 persons, most of them older than 35 years of age (65.4%).
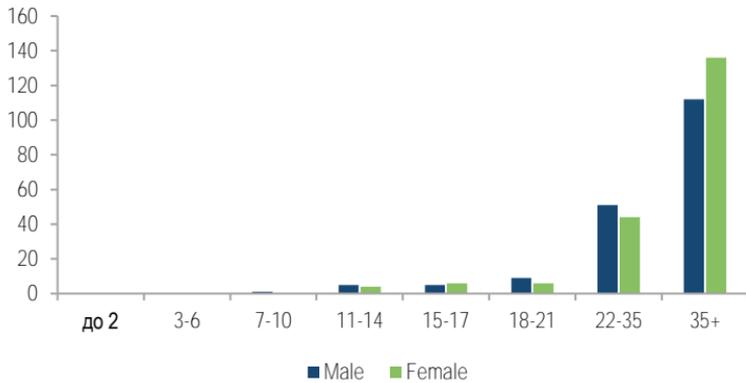
Graph 6. Beneficiaries of institutions for disabled children and youth by sex and age, 2023

Institutions of social welfare for adults and the elderly in 2023 accommodated 3,422 persons, most of them female (64.6%). Most beneficiares were over 80 years of age (46.7%).
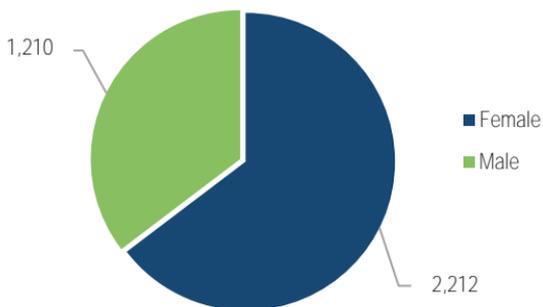
Graph 7. Beneficiaries of institutions for the elderly by sex, 2023

Child support beneficiaries

The total number of beneficiaries realising the right to child support in 2023 was 14,882, and the number of children realising the right to child support in the same year was 25,972.

In 2023, the total number of beneficiaries realising the right to child support increased by 1.7%, while the number of children realising this right increased by 3.8%.
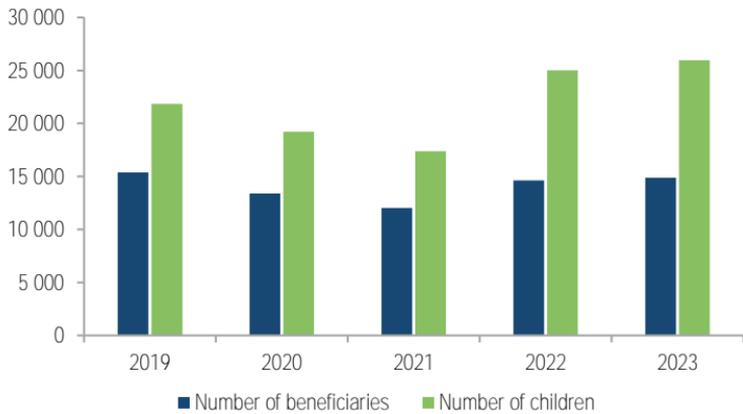
Graph 8. Number of child support beneficiaries and number of children

HELATH, PENSION AND DISABILITY INSURANCE

HEALTH, PENSION AND DISABILITY INSURANCE

It seems that the second half of a man's life is made up of the habits he acquired in the first.
Aesop

HEALTH INSURANCE

In 2023, in Republika Srpska there were more than 930 thousand beneficiaries of health insurance

Insured persons who exercised their right to health insurance in 2023 were temporarily unable to work for almost 950 thousand days, in close to 20 thousand cases. Compared to the previous year, this represented an increase by nearly 340 thousand days and an increase by 6,000 cases.

In Republika Srpska, approximately 5.6 million prescriptions were issued in 2023, which was approximately 55 thousand prescriptions more than in 2022.

1. Insured persons by category of health insurance (average)

Category of insurance	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
TOTAL	907,770	909,356	857,133	900,460	930,167
Active insured persons	244,993	280,150	261,313	290,916	299,468
Beneficiaries of the PDI Fund insurance	218,838	219,654	239,267	219,486	222,071
Unemployed persons	158,532	164,972	148,629	166,726	181,614
Family members of an insured persons	285,407	244,580	207,924	223,335	227,014

2. Exercise of health insurance rights

|	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Temporary inability to work, number of days	707,084	717,808	702,536	611,642	949,145
Number of issued prescriptions	6,288,653	5,781,888	5,740,406	5,583,490	5,638,828

PENSION AND DISABILITY INSURANCE

The total number of pension right beneficiaries on the last day of 2023 was just over 282 thousand. Of these, approximately 176 thousand were old-age pension beneficiaries, around 35 thousand were disability pension beneficiaries and around 72 thousand were family pension beneficiaries.

Total average pension in 2023 amounted to 470 BAM and compared to 2022 it was 66 BAM higher. Average old-age pension was 503 BAM, and average disability pension was 444 BAM, while average family pension was the lowest, amounting to 403 BAM.

Women exercise their right to old-age pension approximately 19 years on average, while men exercise this right slightly over 16 years.
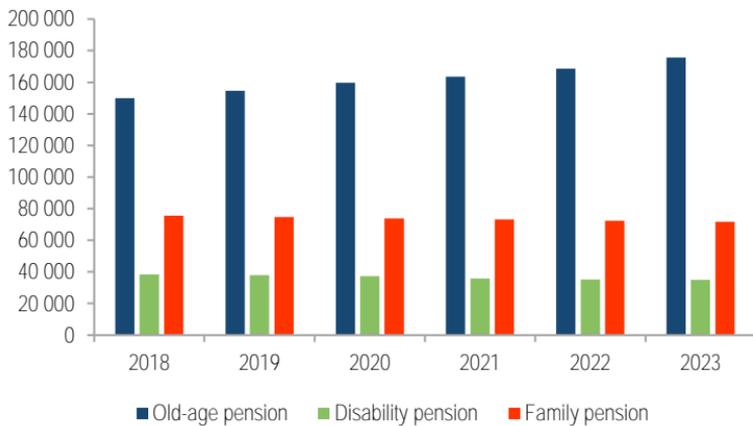
Graph 1. Pension right beneficiaries
(as of 31 December 2023)

Source: Pension and Disability Insurance Fund of Republika Srpska

CRIME

Evil people do not change their nature, even when treated kindly.
Aesop

Fight against crime and criminal activities is manifested through detecting and resolving criminal offences and the prosecution and punishment of offenders.

A criminal offence in any case represents an attack against social and civilisation values which each country seeks to ensure maximum protection. Therefore, all modern legal systems have an interest and will to respond effectively to threats to their protected values by sanctioning criminal offences.

At a time when contemporary crime becomes a transnational phenomenon, reactions of a legal state to its manifestations are becoming increasingly important.

Criminal and legal liability and imposing sanctions for perpetrated criminal offences pursuant to legislative solutions are for obvious reasons defined and applied (and also statistically monitored) for both adult and juvenile offenders.

ADULT OFFENDERS

In 2023, **Public Prosecutor's Offices** in Republika Srpska resolved 6.348 criminal charges filed against adults and for 24.5% of these the identity of the offender was not determined. As in the previous year, criminal offences against property were the most common offences. Thus, these accounted for 41.2% of the total number of resolved criminal charges.

During the same period, 2,694 persons were indicted and 2,429 offenders were convicted at the competent courts. Of all convicted persons, 91.9% were male, of which 24.3% were between 30 and 39 years of age. One in three indicted persons was charged with a property offence, while one in seven offenders was charged with a criminal offence against life and body. For offenders who were found guilty, the most common sanction was conditional sentence, namely in 42.4% of cases. Fine was imposed in 33.7% of cases, while in 21.1% of cases unconditional imprisonment was imposed.

For criminal offences against public health in 2023, the number of convicted offenders increased by 60.0% compared to the previous year. The most common offence in this category was the unauthorised production and trafficking of narcotics, accounting for 81.9% of the cases. Criminal offences against marriage and family increased by 21.6% compared to 2022. The most prevalent offence in this category was domestic violence or violence within a family, accounting for 76.8%, followed by failure to provide maintenance, accounting for 19.9%

Graph 1. Adult offenders – reported, indicted and convicted, 2023

JUVENILE OFFENDERS

Of 105 resolved criminal charges for juvenile persons in 2023, 56 referred to older juvenile persons (persons who completed 16 years of age, but still did not complete 18 years of age). Criminal offences against property were most commonly reported, namely 45.7%, followed by criminal offences against life and body with 25.7%.

There were 37 indicted juvenile offenders, with 97.3% receiving a criminal sanction. Of these, 35.1% were charged against life and body and another 35.1% with offences against property.

Of the total of 36 imposed criminal sanctions, 94.4% were imposed against male offenders. No juvenile imprisonment sanctions were imposed in 2023. The most common measures were warning and guidance measures and increased supervision measures, 58.3% and 38.9% respectively, followed by institutional measures, with 2.8%.
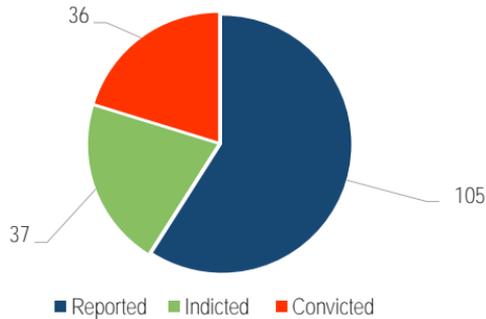
Graph 2. Juvenile offenders – reported, indicted and convicted, 2023
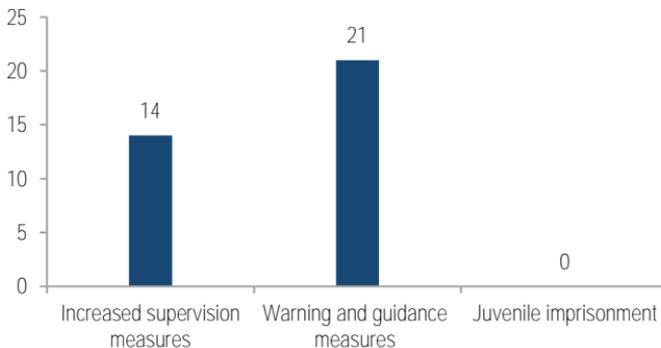
Graph 3. Imposed criminal sanctions, juvenile offenders, 2023

CULTURE AND ART

Wise people know they should read a lot, not just own many books.
Gaius Suetonius

In Republika Srpska in 2023, compared to 2022, an increase in the number of theatre visitors was recorded. Professional theaters recorded an increase in the average number of visitors per performance (203) in 2023 compared to 2022.

The number of cinema visitors in 2023 decreased by 10.0% for domestic film screenings in comparison with 2022, while number of visitors for foreign film screenings increased by 17.0% during the same period.

In 2023 radio stations primarily broadcast music, entertainment and informative-documentary programmes, with the least amount of culture and art programme, programme for children and youth, educational programme and sports.

The number of broadcast hours decreased by 14.0% in 2023 compared to 2022.
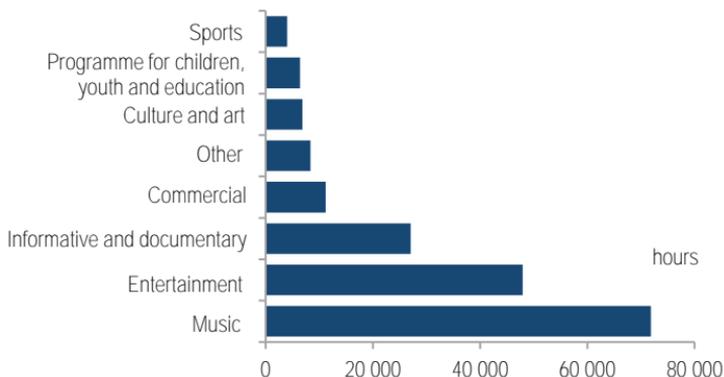
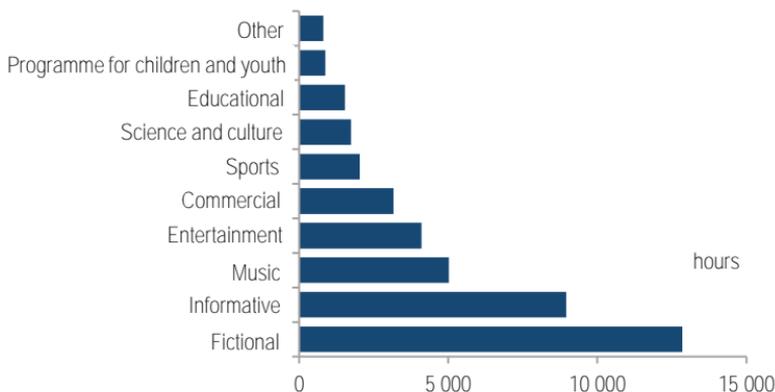Graph 1. Programme broadcast by radio stations, 2023

In 2023, TV stations broadcast mainly informative, drama, music and entertainment programmes, while the least amount of airtime was dedicated to scientific-cultural content and programme for children and youth.

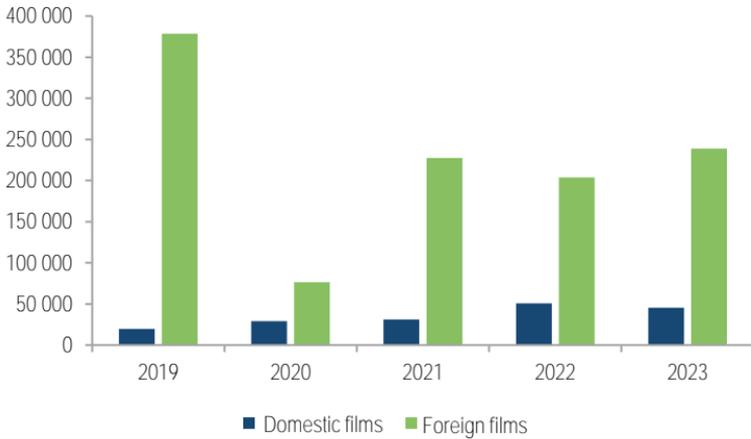The number of broadcast hours increased by 5.0% in 2023 compared to 2022.

In Republika Srpska, the number of cinema visitors in 2023 increased by 17.0% for foreign film screenings in comparison with 2022.
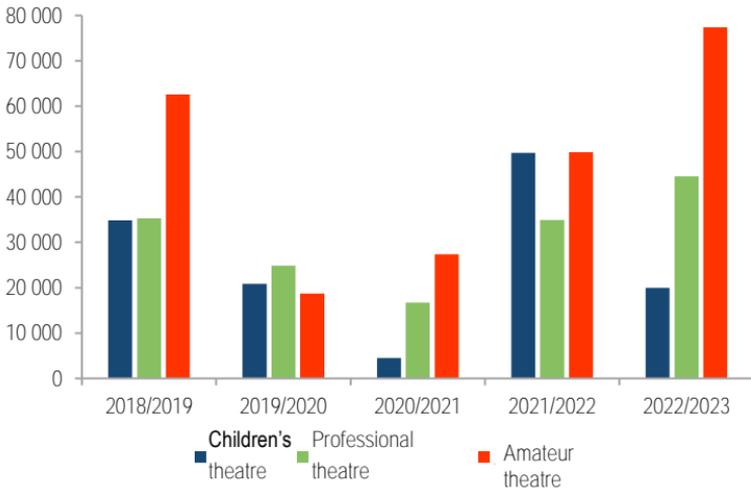
Graph 2. Programme broadcast by TV stations, 2023

Број корисника књижног фонда библиотека у 2023. години, у односу на 2022. годину, мањи је за 7,3%.

Graph 3. Cinema visitors

Graph 4. Theatre visitor

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT
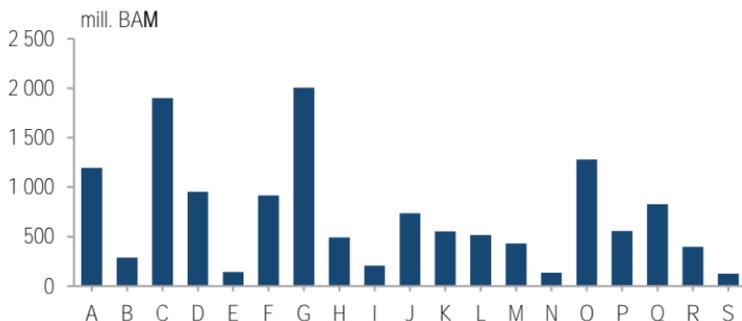
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

Hurry, but slowly.
Gaius Suetonius

Economic activity of Republika Srpska, measured by the real GDP growth rate, increased by 1.9% in 2023. A nominal GDP growth of 10.7% was achieved compared to 2022.

1. Gross domestic product and Gross value added[1], 2023

	Current prices, thous. BAM	Real growth rate, %
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,193,460	2.7
Mining and quarrying	288,948	-0.1
Manufacturing	1,900,834	-6.6
Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply	953,421	4.9
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	143,953	3.9
Construction	915,842	6.3
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	2,004,046	-1.4
Transportation and storage	492,270	4.2
Accommodation and food service activities	208,175	6.1
Information and communication	737,199	10.7
Financial and insurance activities	553,233	6.7
Real estate activities	516,013	1.7
Professional, scientific and technical activities	429,626	6.9
Administrative and support service activities	134,389	18.2
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	1,279,446	1.3
Education	557,389	1.1
Human health and social work activities	828,785	5.9
Arts, entertainment and recreation	398,680	8.9
Other service activities	127,039	5.1
FISIM (minus)	360,329	7.3
Gross value added	13,302,419	1.9
Taxes on products less subsidies on products	2,783,510	1.7
Gross domestic product	16,085,929	1.9

[1] The calculation of Gross domestic product is based on the international methodology of the European System of Accounts - ESA 2010).

Graph 1. Gross value added, current prices, 2023

Over 3.3 billion BA**M** of Gross value added originated from industrial activities

In the total Gross domestic product in 2023, the section (C) *Manufacturing* had a share of 11.8%, the section (D) *Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply* 5.9%, the section (B) *Mining and quarrying* had a share of 1.8%, while the section (E) *Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities* had a share of 0.9%. In terms of employment, these sections were also dominant, as they employ approximately a quarter of the total number of employed persons.

2. Gross domestic product and Gross value added, current prices, structures

%

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Agricultural **activities (A)**	8.6	9.0	7.6	7.5	7.4
Industrial activities (B,C,D,E)	19.7	19.3	20.7	20.5	20.4
Construction (F)	5.7	6.1	5.9	5.7	5.7
Service activities (G,H,I,J,K,L,M, N,O,P,Q,R,S)	50.6	50.9	50.0	50.5	51.4
FISIM (minus)	2.0	2.1	2.0	1.9	2.2
Gross value added	82.6	83.2	82.2	82.3	82.7
Taxes on products less subsidies on products	17.4	16.8	17.8	17.7	17.3
Gross domestic product	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Industrial activities in 2023 recorded a nominal growth of 10.2% compared to 2022 and an increase of 48.2% compared to 2019.

Manufacturing is one of the most significant sections of the economy of Republika Srpska in terms of its share in the total Gross value added, its share in exports, and the number of employed persons.

The division *Manufacture of food products* has the highest share in the Gross value added of the section (C) *Manufacturing*, with 15.4%. Of the total number of business entities in food industry, 2.0% are large enterprises, contributing 37.6% of the gross value added in this sector.

3. Gross value added by institutional sector, current prices, structures

%

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Non-financial sector	57.3	57.5	59.8	61.5	62.0
Financial sector	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.2
Government sector	19.2	20.7	19.8	19.7	19.7
Households sector	21.1	19.4	18.0	16.6	16.2
Sector of non-profit institutional units serving households	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6
FISIM (minus)	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.7
Gross value added	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

4. Gross domestic product

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Gross domestic product, current prices, thous. **BAM**	11,251,324	11,131,849	12,501,722	14,536,974	16,085,929
Gross domestic product per capita[2]. **BAM**	9,848	9,797	11,080	12,977	14,429
Gross domestic product, real growth rate. %	2.5	- 2.5	6.9	3.9	1.9

[2] The population estimate is based on the results of the Census of Population 2013.

In 2023 Gross domestic product per capita, an indicator of the achieved level of welfare of the population in an economy, increased by 11.2% compared to 2022. In comparison with 2019 it rose by 46.5% amounting to an increase of 4,581 BAM.

The largest part of the Gross domestic product is allocated for compensation of employees

Allocation of the Gross domestic product realised in 2023 was as follows: 45.6% on compensation of employees, 37.2% on gross operating surplus and gross mixed income, and 17.2% on net taxes on products and production.

Other payments to employees (various off-wage benefits) account for 57.8% of the total compensation of employees.

5. Income components of Gross domestic product, current prices

thous. BAM

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Gross domestic product	11,251,324	11,131,849	12,501,722	14,536,974	16,085,929
Compensation of employees	5,009,276	5,246,808	5,581,702	6,458,296	7,329,741
Net taxes on products and production	1,985,064	1,860,816	2,221,976	2,552,487	2,769,996
Gross operating surplus/ Gross mixed income	4,256,984	4,024,225	4,698,044	5,526,191	5,986,192

INVESTMENTS

Many people easily borrow money from others, but when it comes to returning it, they act as if they have to give their own.
Aesop

Investments in 2023 increased significantly in comparison with the previous year, namely by 14.9%, while financing of investments increased by 8.9%

1. Investments in fixed assets by activity of investor, 2023

	Value of investments, thous. BAM	Structure, %
Total investments	2,621,759	100.0
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	78,500	3.0
Mining and quarrying	42,943	1.6
Manufacturing	374,732	14.3
Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply	522,742	19.9
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	10,271	0.4
Construction	360,664	13.8
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	265,173	10.1
Transportation and storage	94,496	3.6
Accommodation and food service activities	25,580	1.0
Information and communication	129,096	4.9
Financial and insurance activities	46,663	1.8
Real estate activities	22,148	0.9

[1] The calculation of investments in fixed assets is based on ESA 2010,

1. Investments in fixed assets by activity of investor, 2023

(continued)

	Value of investments, thous. BAM	Structure, %
Professional, scientific and technical activities	28,829	1.1
Administrative and support service activities	21,280	0.8
Public administration and defence; compulsory social	394,124	15.0
Education	37,086	1.4
Human health and social work activities	141,540	5.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation	21,333	0.8
Other service activities	4,559	0.2

A significant growth of investment activity was recorded in the section *Other service activities*, namely by 98.7%. In 2023, compared to 2022, a significant increase in investments was recorded in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply*, by 49.2%.

During the same period, investments in sections *Manufacturing* and *Mining and quarrying* have increased significantly.

By activity of investor, the highest shares in the composition of investments were those of the following sections (D) *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply*, (O) *Public administration and defence; compulsory social security* and (C) *Manufacturing*. By purpose of investments in new fixed assets, the highest shares referred to the sections (D) *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply*, (F) *Construction* and (C) *Manufacturing*.

Over one billion BA**M** invested in buildings and other structures

By their technical composition, almost half of the total investments was invested in buildings and other structures. In 2023, the highest investments in buildings were those of business entities from the sections (O) *Public administration and defence; compulsory social security* (24.4%), (F) *Construction* (20.5%) and (D) *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* (19.5%).

The highest investments in machinery, equipment and transport equipment were those of business entities from the section (C) *Manufacturing* (21.8%).

When it comes to investments in non-monetary (intangible) fixed assets, the largest contributions are made by the sections (O) *Public administration and defence; compulsory social security* with (16.5%), *(J) Information and communication* (12.8%) and (D) *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* (11.3%).

2. Composition of investments in fixed assets by technical composition

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Investments	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Buildings and other structures	54.9	56.4	48.5	51.9	50.5
Machinery, equipment and transport equipment	40.3	37.4	44.7	41.8	43.4
Other	4.8	6.2	6.8	6.3	6.1

Investments in 2023 were mostly financed from own financial assets (53.5%), followed by assets of budgets and funds (13.9%), financial loans (13.0%), joint assets (11.8%), other sources (5.9%), and financial leasing (1.9%).

3. Financing of investments and investments

thous. BAM

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Financing of investments	1,710,690	1,852,057	1,827,403	2,355,320	2,566,075
Investments	1,789,555	1,959,943	1,825,592	2,282,157	2,621,759

Investments of business entities registered in the section (O) *Public administration and defence; compulsory social security* account for 35.5% of the total investments in the section (Q) *Human health and social work activities.*

REGISTER OF BUSINESS ENTITIES

REGISTER OF BUSINESS ENTITIES

Do not go around saying the world owes you a living. The world owes you nothing. It was here first.
Mark Twain

Data on business entities with headquarters in the territory of Republika Srpska are obtained from the Register of Business Entities. On 1 December 2013 the Agency for Intermediary, IT and Financial Services became responsible for the procedure of registration and classification of business entities by activity in the Register of Business Entities. Business entities in the Register database are classified according to their principal activity. The principal activity is the activity which contributes most to the total value added, that is, the activity through which the entity generates the largest income and employs the largest number of workers.

Physical entities that permanently perform activities in their own name (entrepreneurs) are not entered into the Register of Business Entities.

In 2023, there were 1,513 newly established business entities, which represented an increase by 6.5% compared to the previous year.
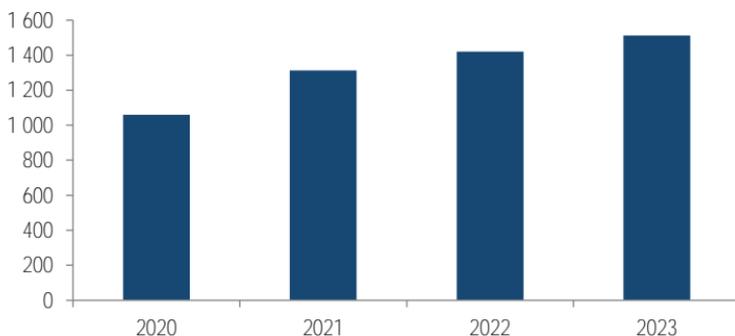
Graph 1. Number of newly established business entities

Source: Agency for Intermediary, IT and Financial Services

Changes in the number of business entities within individual sections of economic activity occur due to three reasons: establishment, changes in the principal activity, or business dissolution. The total number of business entities from three sections of economic activity accounts for more than half of the total number of registered business entities classified based on their primary activity, namely: (G) *Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles* (26.4%), (S) *Other service activities* (17.3%) and (C) *Manufacturing* (12.6%).

1. Number of business entities by section of KD, as on 31 December

Section	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
TOTAL	33,447	34,467	35,778	37,129	38,571
A	1,205	1,245	1,264	1,300	1,327
B	197	212	,225	237	257
C	4,427	4,521	4,618	4,744	4,847
D	226	243	267	375	559
E	269	276	284	292	297
F	1,805	1,875	1,969	2,085	2,215
G	9,389	9,555	9,746	9,943	10,197
H	1,517	1,559	1,606	1653	1,701
I	470	486	520	547	566
J	754	799	881	965	1,035
K	202	210	218	229	237
L	233	248	288	343	387
M	1,832	1,941	2,083	2,261	2,446
N	541	611	767	915	1,041
O	358	361	367	364	364
P	668	678	698	712	723
Q	889	932	981	1023	1,066
R	2,419	2,462	2,527	2,574	2,643
S	6,043	6,249	6,465	6,563	6,658
T	2	2	2	2	2
U	1	2	2	2	3

Source: Agency for Intermediary, IT and Financial Services

The largest increase in the number of business entities in 2023 was recorded in the section (D) *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* (49.1%). When analysing the structure of total number of business entities by type of ownership, the majority are private ownerships (67.6%).

STRUCTURAL BUSINESS STATISTICS

Forgive quickly, kiss slowly.
Mark Twain

Information and communication was the most productive section of activity in 2022, while Real estate activities was the most profitable section.

Average profitability rate, as a measure of the share of gross operating surplus in turnover, amounted to 16.2% in Republika Srpska.

By business operations in 2022, the section (**J**) *Information and communication* can be singled out as the most successful section of economic activity in the economy of Republika Srpska. With 424 enterprises and 541 entrepreneurs, as well as 7,439 employed persons, this section has the highest labour productivity with 86,464 BA**M** and a high profitability rate of 41.5%, while its labour costs per employed person amount to 31,201 BA**M.**

1. Indicators of success of non-financial business economy

BA**M**

	Turnover per person employed	Value added per person employed (productivity)	Labour costs per person employed	Gross operating surplus per person employed
TOTAL	153,153	41,961	18,938	24,876
Industrial activities	124,301	40,643	20,000	21,243
Construction	140,087	49,448	16,279	34,720
Trade	291,962	41,396	16,856	26,603
Non-financial service activites	84,197	42,304	19,767	25,841

Market business entities (enterprises and entrepreneurs) in the sections of industry employ around 39.0% of all employed persons, while they also provide the greatest contribution to the formation of total value added at factor costs, 37.7%, which in 2022 amounted to 8.3 billion BA**M.**

Trade generates the highest turnover of all the economic activities in Republika Srpska, accounting for approximately half of total turnover, but it has a low profitability rate. One third of all business entities operate in the trade sector which employs one quarter of the total number of employed persons.

The lowest number of business entities, namely 83 enterprises operate in the section (B) *Mining and Quarrying*, but these business entities achieve significant labour productivity (66,755) BA**M** and profitability rate (31.7%).

The highest-paid employees are those employed in enterprises engaged in electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply, while the lowest-paid are those working in other service activities.

2. Indicators of business activities of non-financial business economy, structures

%

	Number of business entities	Number of employed persons	Turnover	Value added at factor costs	Gross operating surplus
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Industrial activities	15.0	39.0	31.6	37.7	33.3
Construction	7.3	7.3	6.7	8.6	10.2
Trade	29.5	23.7	45.2	23.4	25.3
Non-financial service activities	48.2	30.0	16.5	30.3	31.2

Approximately 80 percent of market-oriented business entities in Republika Srpska operate in service activities, while about 20 percent operate in production activities.

By size of business entities, the highest profitability in 2022 was achieved by large enterprises, namely 17.6%, which was 1.4 percentage points higher than the average in Republika Srpska.
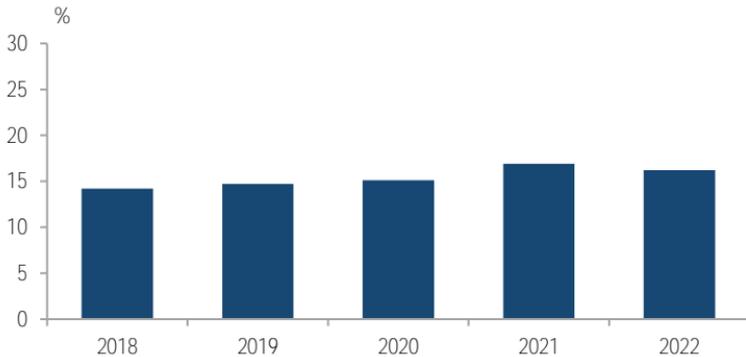
Graph 1. Profitability rates of non-financial business economy in Republika Srpska

In addition, large business entities were also the most productive, with the value added per person employed of 47,583 BAM, while the lowest productivity was achieved by medium business entities, with 38,472 BAM. At the level of Republika Srpska, achieved productivity amounted to 41,961 KM.
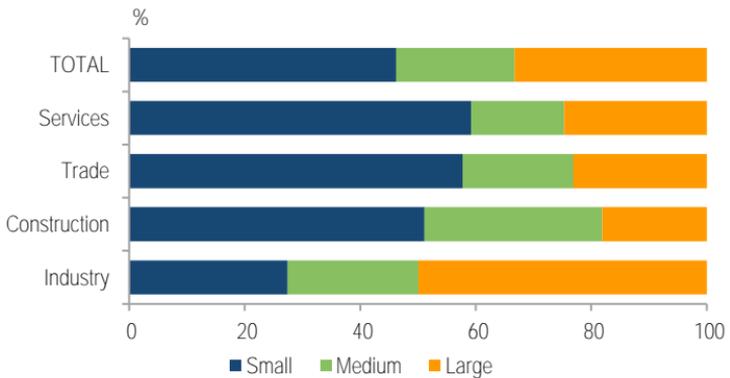

Graph 2. Value added at factor costs, by size of business entities, 2022

Foreign investors were most interested in enterprises from industrial sections (48%), followed by those from the sections trade (23%) and services (25%), while the lowest number of foreign owned enterprises operated in construction (4%).

Foreign affiliates, or enterprises which are majority foreign-owned, operated in 2022 with the profitability rate of 15.3%.

bn BAM
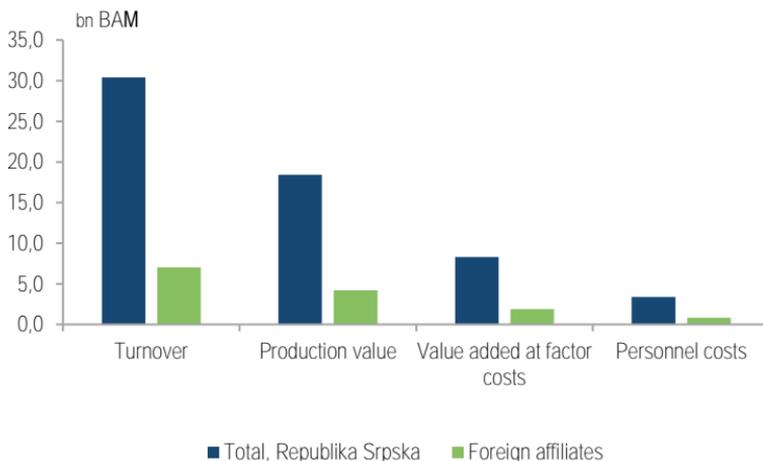
Graph 3. Indicators of business activities of foreign affiliates in non-financial business economy of Republika Srpska, 2022

European Union member states have the largest share in the capital of foreign affiliates operating in Republika Srpska, with 54.7%. These enterprises generate 48.9% of the total tunover of foreign affiliates.

bn BAM
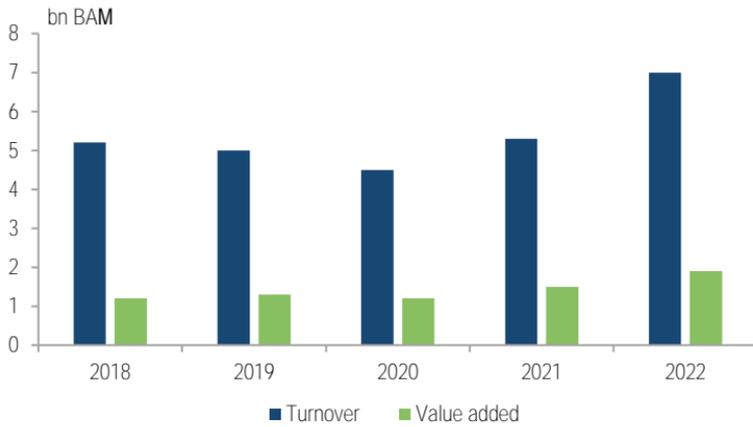
Graph 4. Indicators of business activities of foreign affiliates in Republika Srpska
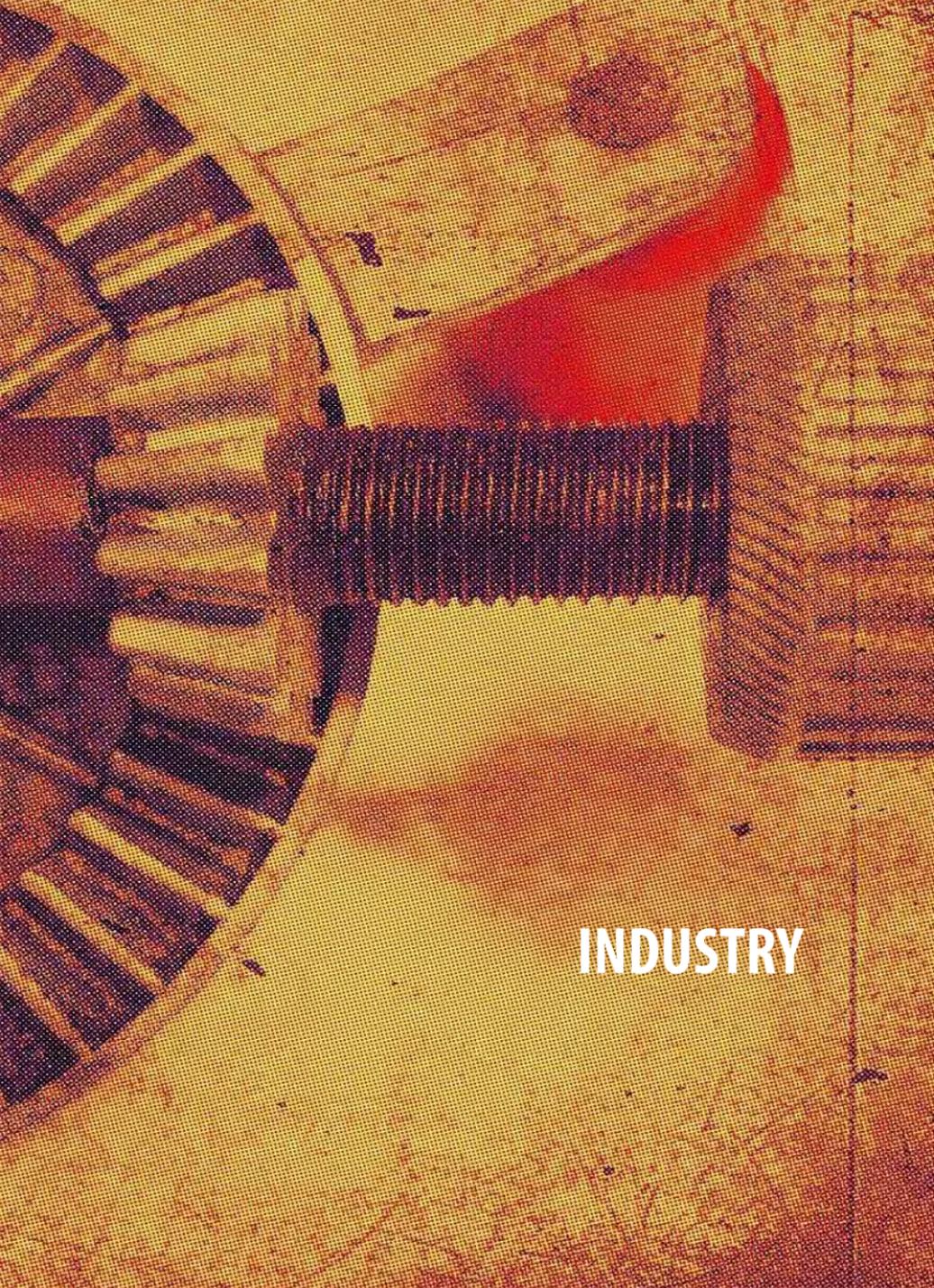
INDUSTRY

To have and not to use is the same as not having.
Aesop

Industrial production in 2023 decreased by 3.2% in comparison with 2022

Observing the five-year period, industrial production increased significantly by 9.9% in 2021 compared to 2020. In 2023, compared to 2022, a decrease by 3.2% was recorded, in 2022, compared to 2021, a decrease by 0.1%, in 2020, compared to 2029 a decrease by 6.7% and in 2019, compared to 2018, a decrease by 11.4%.

The most significant sections in terms of the value of industrial production were Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply, Manufacture of food products, Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment, Manufacture of wood and of products of wood and cork, except furniture; manufacture of articles of straw and plaiting materials, and Manufacture of rubber and plastic products.

1. Indices of industrial production by section of KD (previous year=100)

Section	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
INDUSTRY, TOTAL	88.6	93.3	109.9	99.9	96.8
B	95.6	99.6	103.0	100.7	98.1
C	87.6	90.1	111.7	101.1	93.1
D (except group 35.3)	87.2	96.1	109.1	96.4	105.0

2. Indices of industrial production by section of KD (2015=100)

Section	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
INDUSTRY, TOTAL	100.5	93.8	103.0	102.9	99.7
B	97.7	97.4	100.3	101.0	99.2
C	93.5	84.3	94.1	95.1	88.6
D (except group 35.3)	121.1	116.3	126.9	122.4	128.5

Of total investments in new fixed assets, investments in the industry section accounted for 36.3% in 2023.

Investments in new fixed assets in industrial activities in 2023 amounted to 879 million BAM, which represented an increase by 41.9% compared to 2022.

Gross value added of industrial activities in 2023 increased by 11.4% in comparison with 2022, totaling 3.2 million BAM, with *Manufacturing* having the highest share, 60.6%.

At the end of 2023, there were 5,747 registered industrial enterprises, of which 91.0% in private ownership.

> Investments in new fixed assets in industrial activities in 2023 amount to 879 million BAM, which represents an increase by 41.9% in comparison with 2022.

In 2023, there were 313 new business entities that were recorded into the Register of Business Entities and classified into industrial activities.

Most industrial enterprises, namely 84.3% of them, were engaged in *Manufacturing*, while 9.7% were engaged in *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply*, 4.5% in *Mining and quarrying* and 1.5% in *Materials recovery*.

Industrial enterprises employ 26.6% of the total number of employed persons in Republika Srpska; these enterprises employ 65,739 workers, of which 79.4% in *Manufacturing*.

According to reports of industrial enterprises, value of sale of industrial products in 2023 amounted to 7.8 billion BAM, with products of *Manufacturing* accounting for 66.0% of the total value. Value of sale of industrial products increased by 2.9% in 2023 in comparison with 2022.

Five industrial divisions generate 63.4% of the total value of sale of industrial products, namely: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply 28.0%, Manufacture of food products 13.9%, Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment 10.0%, Manufacture of wood and of products of wood and cork, except furniture; manufacture of articles of straw and plaiting materials 7.2% and Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products 4.3%.

3. Value of sale by industrial division

mill. BAM

INDUSTRIAL DIVISION	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
INDUSTRY, TOTAL	5,394	5,190	6,522	7,634	7,856
Mining of coal and lignite (brown coal)	36	28	59	123	130
Mining of metal ores	122	120	131	157	147
Other mining and quarrying	41	49	46	60	63
Mining and quarrying support service activities	-	-	-	-	-
Manufacture of food products	791	805	887	1,032	1,090
Manufacture of beverages	111	87	98	106	128
Manufacture of tobacco products	-	-	-	-	-
Manufacture of textiles	31	34	42	41	43
Manufacture of wearing apparel	60	58	67	79	87
Manufacture of leather and related products	171	152	183	227	223
Manufacture of wood and of products of wood and cork	435	425	551	675	567
Manufacture of paper and paper products	130	123	148	197	196
Printing and reproduction of recorded media	25	22	31	38	38
Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products	129	30	47	56	52
Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products	165	205	241	325	341
Manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations	37	38	39	73	81
Manufacture of rubber and plastic products	204	222	261	305	309
Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products	144	170	171	232	229
Manufacture of basic metals	222	157	259	319	208

3. Value of sale by industrial division (continued)

mill. BAM

INDUSTRIAL DIVISION	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	543	493	688	826	787
Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	20	21	30	28	44
Manufacture of electrical equipment	93	110	134	138	138
Manufacture of machinery and equipment, n.e.c.	93	88	110	105	102
Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers	34	32	73	103	95
Manufacture of other transport equipment	9	10	8	11	10
Manufacture of furniture	211	227	260	294	295
Other manufacturing	24	31	28	24	24
Repair and installation of machinery and equipment	87	57	93	105	100
Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply	1,325	1,286	1,707	1,822	2,196
Water collection, treatment and supply	72	78	82	79	85
Materials recovery	29	31	47	56	50

Export of industrial enterprises accounted for 43.2% of their total value of sale

Export realised by industrial enterprises in 2023 amounted to 3.4 billion BA**M, of which** 58.3% was realised in the section (C) *Manufacturing*.

%
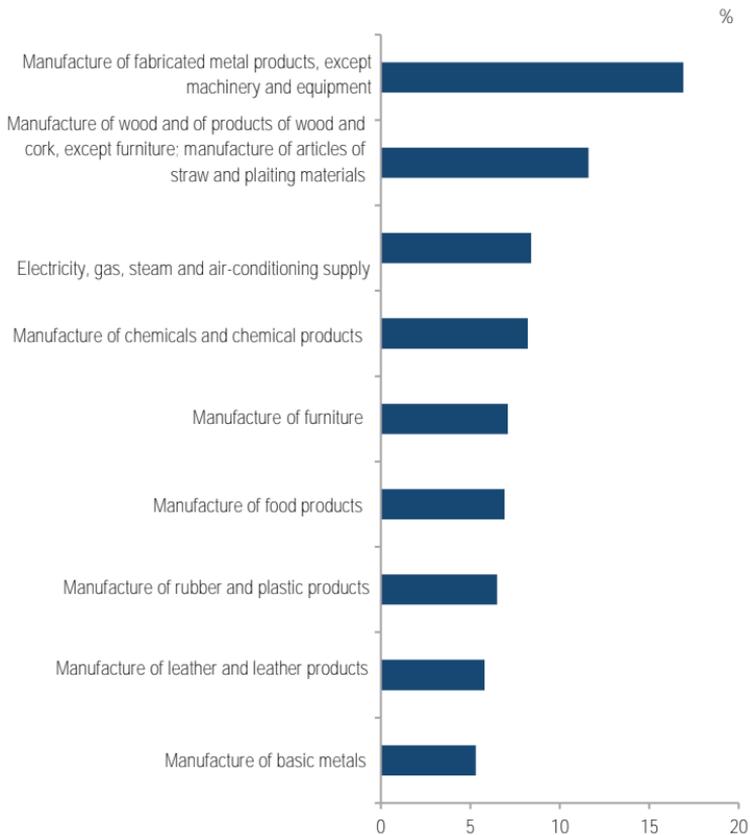
Graph 1. Industrial sections with the highest shares in the total export of industrial enterprises, 2023

CONSTRUCTION

CONSTRUCTION

Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler.
Albert Einstein

The value of performed construction works in Republika Srpska increased by 2.7% in 2023 compared to 2022. Civil engineering accounted for 54.4% of the total value of performed works and their value increased by 0.9%, while for buildings an increase by 5.0% was recorded. During the same period, the number of workers engaged on construction sites decreased by 3.4%

GDP In 2023, Gross value added of the construction industry had a share of 5.7% in the formation of Gross domestic product of Republika Srpska, while investments in new fixed assets in construction participated with 19.0% in the total investments.

mill. BAM
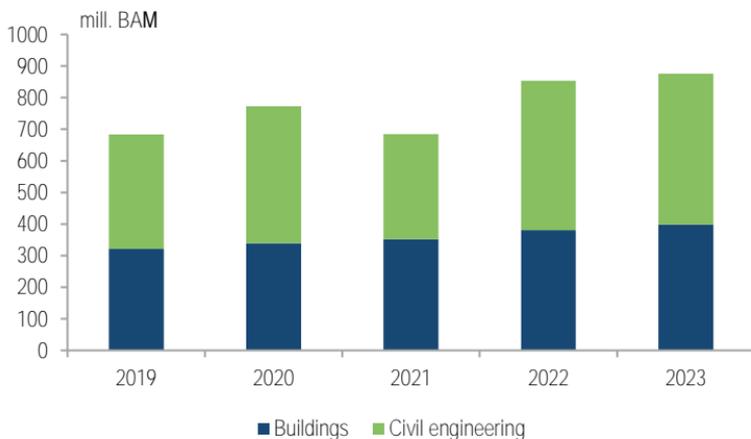
Graph 1. Value of performed works

Compared to the previous year, the number of completed dwellings in 2023 increased by 28.1%. An increase in dwelling construction was recorded for one-room dwellings (82.7%). The highest share in the structure of completed dwellings was that of two-room dwellings (40.9%), followed by one-room dwellings with 38.6%, while the rest were dwellings with three or more rooms.

1. Completed dwellings by number of rooms

	Unit of measure	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
TOTAL	number	2,028	2,146	2,888	2,309	2,957
	m^2	107,622	114,156	150,356	121,503	153
One-room dwellings	number	629	481	1,023	625	1,142
	m^2	24,175	17,190	40,916	23,296	46,491
Two-room dwellings	number	854	1,025	1,154	994	1,209
	m^2	43,888	50,581	59,395	48,651	63,957
Three-room dwellings	number	426	545	553	580	507
	m^2	28,400	37,055	36,417	38,782	33,745
Four- or more- room dwellings	number	119	95	158	110	99
	m^2	11,159	9,330	13,628	10,774	9,327

Construction employs 4.9% of the total number of employed persons in Republika Srpska

In 2023, the most common newbuilding works were works on residential buildings with three or more dwellings (33.6%) and roadworks on highway network (20.0%).

m^2
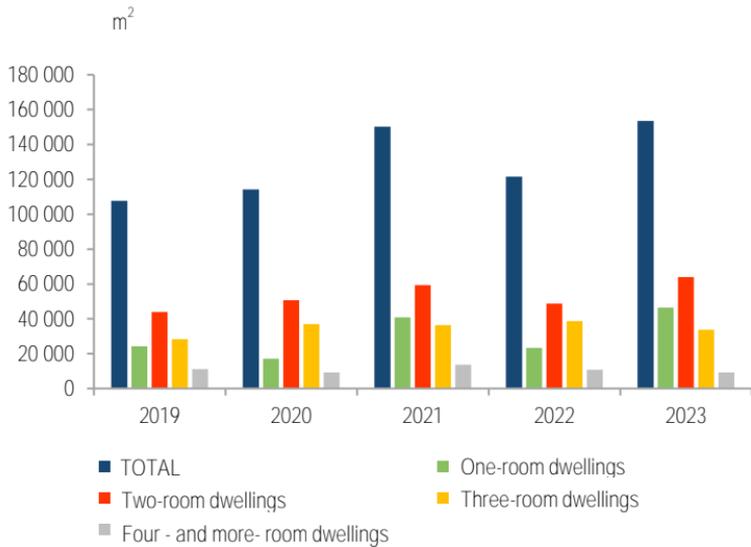
Graph 2. Total area floor of completed dwellings

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

It is harder to break a prejudice than an atom.
Albert Einstein

The economy and society must step into a new field of development, based on science and in an environment that stimulates economic, technological, social and cultural innovations in order for the state to improve its competitiveness at the global level.

In 2023, government budget appropriations or outlays for research and development in Republika Srpska amounted to 38.9 million BAM

In 2023, 38.9 million BAM was spent on research and development in the business, government, non-profit and higher education sectors, of which half was spent in the business sector, which covers enterprises (business entities) and organisations whose primary activity is market production of goods and services and their sale at economically significant prices, as well as research and development units in composition of enterprises. Almost half of the total amount of funds was spent in the field of Engineering and Technology. The field of Engineering and Technology covers construction and architecture, materials, electrical engineering, electronics and information engineering, as well as mechanical, chemical, medical and environmental engineering, industrial and environmental biotechnology, nanotechnology and other engineering and technology.

In 2023, there were 1,199 persons employed in research and development in Republika Srpska, of which 46.0% were women. Of the total number of employed persons, 958 were engaged in research and development, while 241 were involved in research and development based on service contracts and copyright agreements.

Expressed in full-time equivalent, there were 840.1 persons working full-time in research and development. The classification of persons engaged in research and development into researchers, technicians and other supporting staff refers to the current function of the individual in terms of tasks performed as part of research and development in the reporting unit, and not to the job position or formal qualification or education.

Of the total number of persons employed and hired in research and development, 70.8% are researchers, of whom 366 are women, accounting for 43.1%. The majority of researchers, 77.3%, are in the higher education sector.

Of the total amount of funds spent on 590 research and development papers, the largest part was spent on *General advancement of knowledge* (39.8%). Of the total amount of funds, 62.5% was spent on applied research, 21.7% on fundamental research and 15.9% on experimental development (experimental research).

In 2023, government budget appropriations or outlays for research and development in Republika Srpska amounted to 30.5 million BAM. By sector, the largest part of funds was intended for higher education, 98.3%, followed by the government sector with 1.4%, non-profit sector with 0.2% and business sector with 0.1%. There were no appropriations or outlays for the abroad sector. The objective of General advancement of knowledge: Research and development financed from general university funds received the largest part of the appropriations (89.7%).

In the period 2020-2022 in Republika Srpska 15.7% of enterprises were innovation active

Innovation-active enterprises are those that, in the observation period, have had completed product or process innovation activities and/or ongoing innovation activities (activities that were ongoing at the end of 2022) and/or abandoned innovation activities and/or in-house research and development activities and/or contract-out research and development activities. In the period 2020–2022, 15.7% of enterprises introduced at least one of the above innovation activities, while 84.3% introduced no innovation activities whatsoever.

By section of the Classification of Economic Activities 2010, which in its content and structure fully complies with the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities of the EU, NACE Rev.2, the largest number of innovation-active enterprises was recorded in the section (K) *Financial and insurance activities*, 48.2%.

Most enterprises introduced product or process innovation activities. A product innovation is a new or improved product (goods or services) that differs significantly from the enterprise's previous goods or services and which has been implemented on the market. In the period 2020 – 2022, 8.9% of enterprises introduced product innovation. A business process innovation is a new or improved business process for one or more business functions that differs significantly from the enterprise's previous business processes and which has been brought into use by the enterprise. In the period 2020 – 2022, 12.7% of enterprises introduced business process innovation.

Of the total number of enterprises without innovation activities in the period 2020-2022, 68.2% of enterprises indicated that there was no need for innovation activities. A lack of resources (e.g. lack of finance, qualified personnel or materials) prevented 19.2% of enterprises from engaging in innovation activities, while 12.6% of enterprises did not implement innovation activities for other reasons, such as strategic reasons, other priorities, too high risks , low expected returns, and similar.

1. Research and development in Republika Srpska

	Persons engaged in research and development				Research and development papers				Gross domestic expenditure on research and development (thous. KM)		
	all	female	researchers	female	total	fundamental	applied	development	total	current expenditure	investment expenditure
2019[2]	1,355	674	956	467	454	233	173	48	17,687	15,323	2,364

	Total number of persons engaged in research and development[1]				Research and development papers				Gross domestic expenditure on research and development (thous. KM)		
	all	female	researchers	female	total	fundamental	applied	development	total	current expenditure	investment expenditure
2020	1,102	530	759	349	417	171	195	51	20,289	15,820	4,469
2021	1,234	599	913	419	502	201	249	52	25,394	20,339	5,055
2022	1,555	691	1,021	452	498	180	256	62	30,839	23,359	7,480
2023	1,199	551	849	366	590	205	322	63	38,877	27,769	11,108

[1] Total number of persons engaged in research and development covers persons engaged under employment contracts and persons hired under temporary service contracts and copyright agreements in research and development, in the period between 1 January and 31 December of the reference year. For reporting units in the business sector, the definition of employed persons, in addition to persons employed under employment contracts, also covers self-employed persons and unpaid family workers.
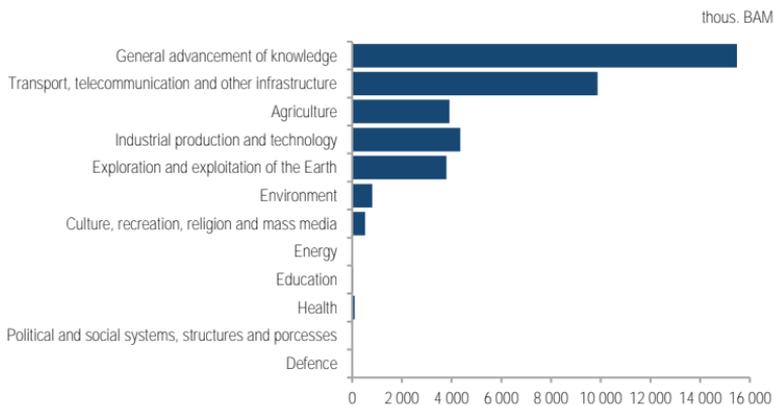
[2] The survey methodology complies with international standards set by OECD and published in the Frascati Manual in 2015. Thus, the data referring to 2019 are not fully comparable with the data referring to previous years.
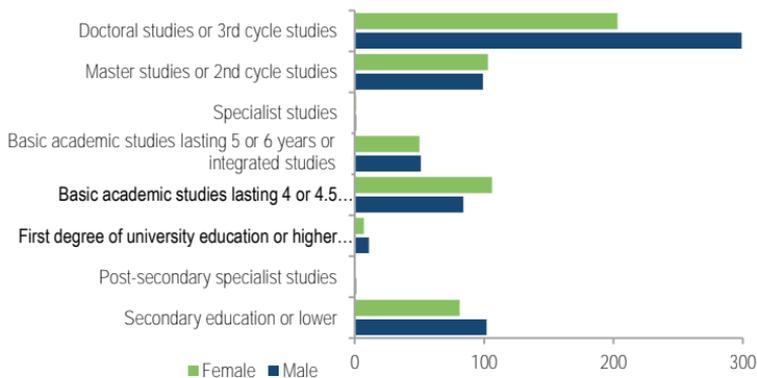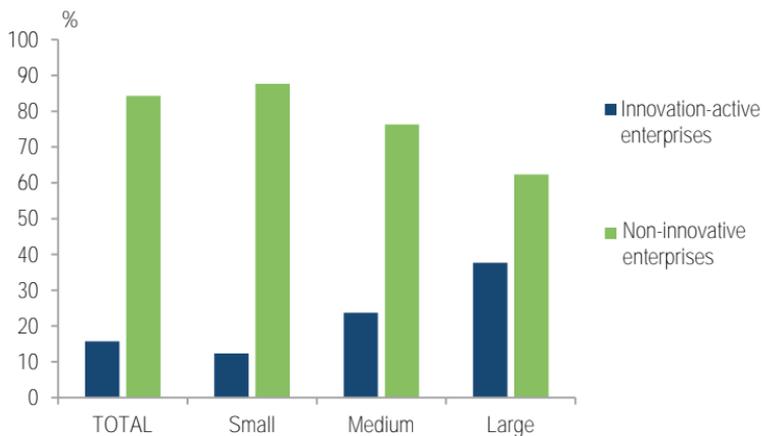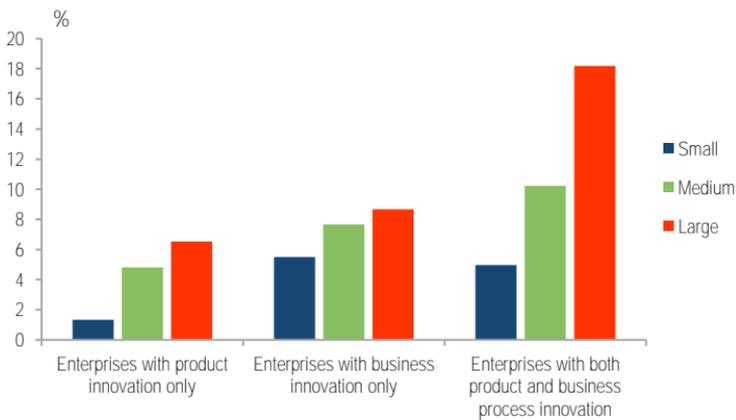
Graph 1. Total number of persons engaged in research and development by level of education, 2023

thous. BAM

Graph 2. Funds for research and development by socio-economic goal, 2023

Graph 3. Enterprises by size of enterprise and by innovation activity, 2020–2022

Graph 4. Structure of innovation-active enterprises by size of enterprise and by type of innovation activities, 2020–2022

DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE

DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE

If, with every kindness towards a friend, you immediately think of gratitude, then you have not given but sold.
Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoevsky

Distributive trade is a set of all forms of trade activities, from the purchase of goods from manufacturers to the delivery of goods to final consumers on domestic market. It covers wholesale trade for own account, intermediation in wholesale trade, retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, and retail trade of personal use and household goods.

Data on turnover realised by entrepreneurs are not included in total turnover.

Turnover in retail trade in 2023, compared to the base year 2015, was nominally 91.6% higher and really 70.6% higher. During the same period, turnover in wholesale trade, measured by the nominal growth rate, increased by 80.8%.

1. Distributive trade turnover indices by division of KD

	Distributive trade, TOTAL	Wholesale and retail trade of motor vehicles and motorcycles	Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	
				nominal	real
2019	123.1	136.4	120.9	131.8	131.6
2020	123.8	117.3	128.3	119.2	123.7
2021	142.1	139.4	148.1	136.8	140.0
2022	176.6	155.9	184.9	174.4	157.4
2023	180.8	197.7	179.5	191.6	170.6

The highest increase in retail trade turnover in 2023, compared to 2022, was recorded in non-specialized stores predominately selling food products.

- ■ Retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco predominating
- ■ Retail sale of non-food predominating
- ■ Retail sale of automotive fules
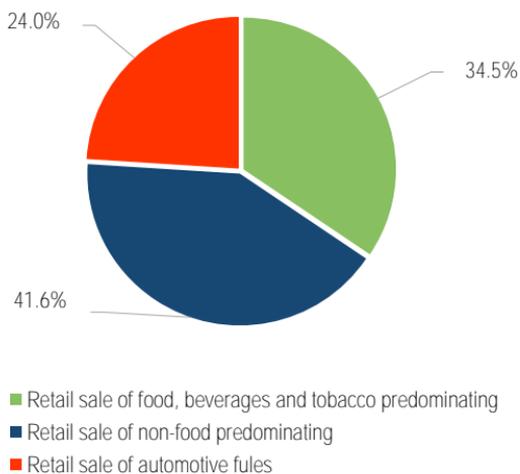
Graph 1. Share of turnover according to KD in total retail trade turnover, 2023

Ø=2015
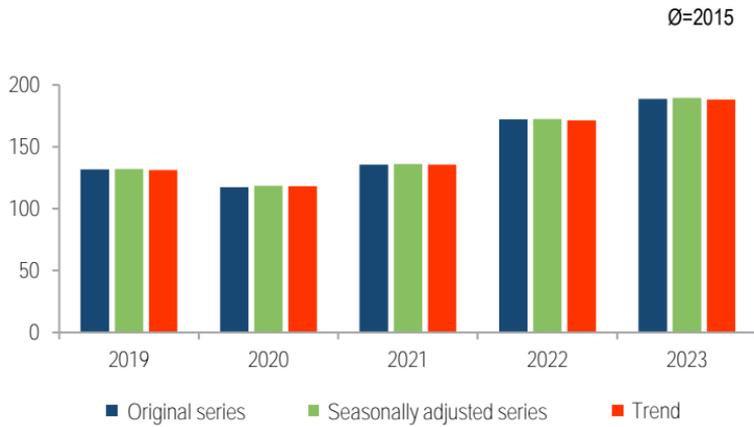
Graph 2. Retail trade turnover indices

EXTERNAL TRADE

A small gain today is better than a large one tomorrow.
Aesop

Data on import and export refer to business entities with headquarters in Republika Srpska.

External trade statistics covers all traffic of goods exported from and imported into the country, homogenous by type of product, country of origin, destination, payment method and moment of border crossing.

In accordance with European standards, data are covered under the special trade system, which means that in addition to regular exports and imports, exports and imports based on the refinement process, i.e. processing and finishing, are also covered, while temporary exports and imports are excluded.

Export and import realised by physical entities is excluded from the total value of export and import.

Decrease in external trade in 2023

During 2023, a decrease was recorded in both imports and exports.

Compared to 2022, export decreased by 4.6% in 2023, while import decreased by 1.9%. Volume of external trade of Republika Srpska in 2023 was 12.23 billion BAM, of which 5.19 billion BAM referred to export and 7.04 billion BAM to import. External trade deficit of Republika Srpska in the same year amounted to 1.86 billion BAM.

The highest value of export from Republika Srpska in 2023 was that of export to Serbia (17.1%), followed by Croatia (15.4%), Italy (11.6%), Germany (11.3%) and Slovenia (10.6%).

During the same period, the highest value of import was that of import from Serbia (16.1%), followed by Italy (15.9%), China (9.7%), Germany (9.4%) and Croatia (5.8%).

Coverage of import with export in 2023 was 73.6%.

Coverage of import with export in Republika Srpska decreased in 2023 compared to 2022.

In Republika Srpska's trade of goods with foreign countries in 2023, the highest share in export was that of products from the section Base metals and articles of base metals, while the highest share in import was that of products from the section Machinery, electrotechnical equipment, apparatus for recording, transmission or reproduction of sound or images.

In the structure of export in 2023, the highest share was that of the section Base metals and articles of base metals with 13.8%, followed by the section Mineral products with 13.60% and section Machinery, electrotechnical equipment, apparatus for recording, transmission or reproduction of sound or images with 12.3%.

In the structure of import in the same year, the highest share was that of the section Machinery, electrotechnical equipment, apparatus for recording, transmission or reproduction of sound or images with 15.5%, followed by the section Mineral products with 11.1% and the section Food products; beverages, alcohol; tobacco with 10.2%.

In 2023, of total export from Republika Srpska, 94.4% was export to the EU member states and CEFTA countries.

BAM
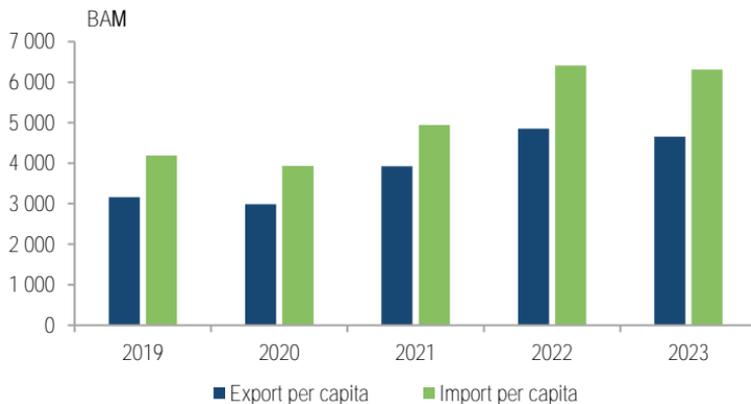
Graph 1. Export and import per capita
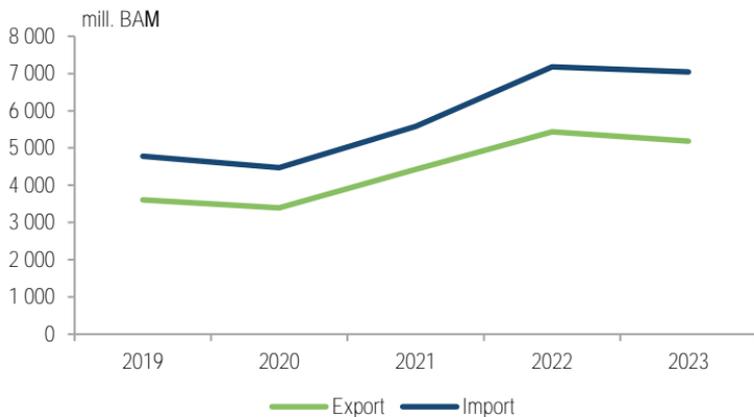
Graph 2. External trade balance
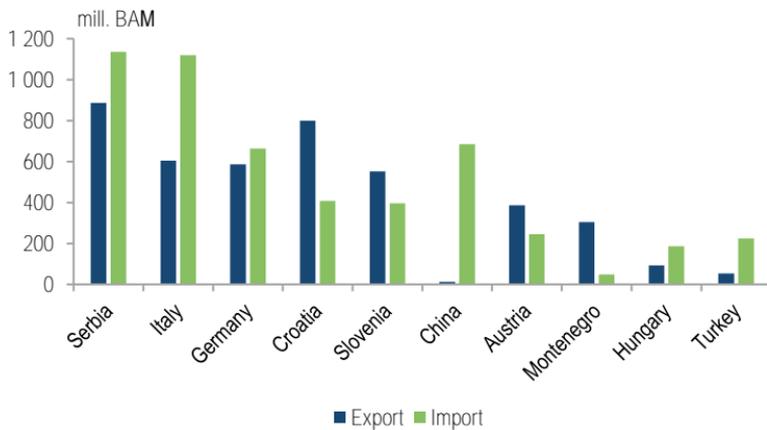
Graph 3. Countries with the highest shares in volume of trade with Republika Srpska, 2023

PRICES

A good shepherd shears his sheep, not flays them.
Gaius Suetonius

Producer prices of industrial products in 2023 increased by 6.0% compared to 2022.

By section of industrial production, based on the Classification of Economic Activities KD BiH 2010, compared to 2022, an increase in prices in 2023 was recorded in the sections (B) *Mining and quarrying* by 16.1%, (D) *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* by 5.9%, (C) *Manufacturing* by 5.1% and (E) *Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities* by 9.9%.

1. Producer price indices of industrial products

previous year=100

Section	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
TOTAL	101.2	99.9	103.6	118.3	106.0
Mining and quarrying	101.4	100.8	101.4	108.1	116.1
Manufacturing	101.0	99.6	103.8	122.1	105.1
Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply	101.5	100.6	102.8	112.4	105.9
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	89.7	90.2	134.9	113.5	90.1

%
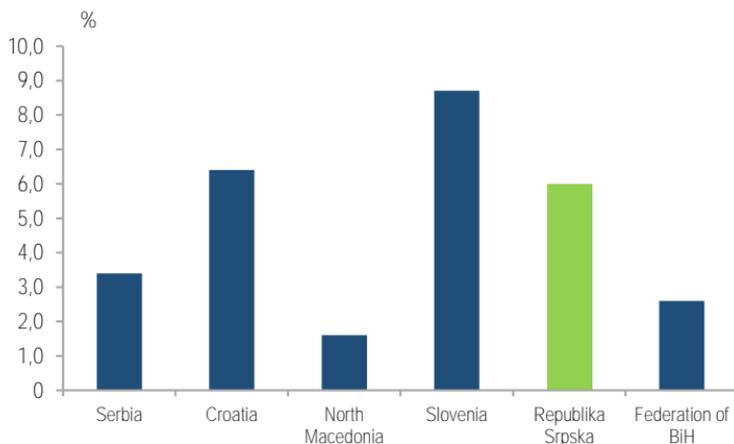
Graph 1. Rates of producer prices of industrial products, 2023

Consumer prices in Republika Srpska in 2023, compared to 2022, increased on average by 7.0%.

By main division of consumption by propose, the highest increase in prices in 2023 was recorded in the division Housing, water, electricity, gas and other energy commodities, by 12.2%, while the highest decrease in prices was recorded in the division Clothing and footwear, by 4.4%.

The highest average increase in producer prices in the neighbouring countries in 2023 was recorded in Slovenia at 8.7%, while consumer prices were, on average, highest in Serbia at 12.1%.

2. Consumer price indices according to COICOP

previous year =100

Name	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
TOTAL	100.5	98.8	101.7	112.7	107.0
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	100.8	100.7	103.1	121.2	111.2
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	104.5	104.5	101.6	101.6	105.4
Clothing and footwear	88.0	90.0	90.5	94.5	95.6
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other energy commodities	102.8	100.3	100.8	107.9	112.2
Furnishings, household equipment and regular maintenance of the house	100.0	98.3	101.2	108.9	108.4
Health	101.5	100.8	100.4	100.5	102.4
Transport	100.9	91.0	105.9	125.6	96.9
Communication	100.1	100.5	99.9	101.1	101.7
Recreation and culture	101.9	102.1	100.9	107.2	106.2
Education	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.9
Restaurants and hotels	100.7	100.2	100.4	109.6	106.3
Other goods and services	99.0	100.0	100.5	105.9	111.0
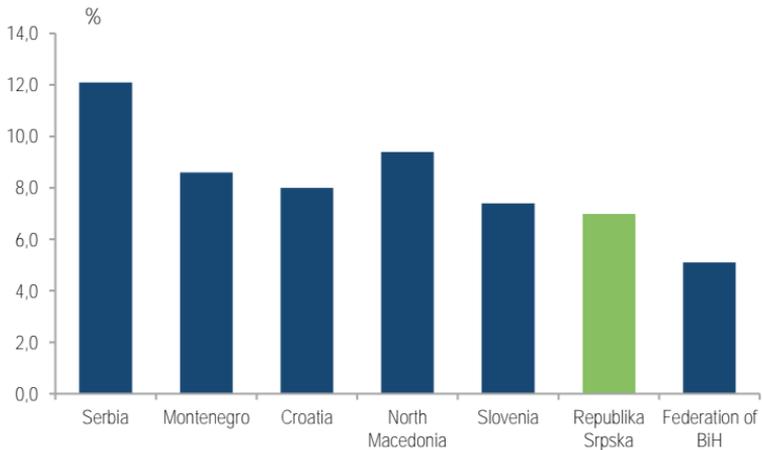
Graph 2. Inflation rates in the countries in the region, 2023

FORESTRY

Life without love is like a tree without blossom or fruit.
Khalil Gibran

Forests have long been one of the main natural assets of the area now known as Republika Srpska. Even today, forests and forest land remain one of the most important natural resources of Republika Srpska.

Forests in Republika Srpska cover over one million hectares of land and boast remarkable biodiversity, with 205 native species of trees and shrubs (175 deciduous and 35 coniferous), as well as primary gene centres for numerous endemic and endemic-relict species.

Republika Srpska is one of the few European regions whose forests predominantly maintain a natural structure, including three primeval for**rests. Perućica, spanning 1,434 hectares, is one of** the largest and best-preserved primeval forests in Europe, followed by the Lom primeval forest, covering an area of 297.7 hectares, and the Janj primeval forest, which stretches across 295 hectares.

In terms of structure, 50% of the forests are high forests, 27% are low forests and the remaining 23% consist of other forest land and barren areas.

In addition to their primary ecological role, which is vital for biodiversity conservation, soil erosion prevention, water protection and shielding against emissions, forests also have a permanent and ever-relevant economic function for the population and overall welfare of Republika Srpska.

In 2023, the production of forest assortments as a primary economic activity generated a value exceeding 200 million BAM, while the collection of forest fruits contributed approximately 7 million BAM.

The forests of Republika Srpska are managed by applying all the principles of long-term forest exploitation for the purpose of present and future fulfillment of appropriate environmental, economic and social functions of forests at the local, national and global levels.

1. Forest exploitation

<div align="right">thous. m³</div>

	Gross felled timber			Broadleaves	Conifers
	total	state forests	private forests		
2019	3,072	2,628	444	1,738	1,334
2020	2,950	2,685	266	1,574	1,376
2021	2,890	2,475	415	1,558	1,332
2022	2,965	2,580	385	1,625	1,341
2023	2,789	2,465	324	1,518	1,271

Gross felled timber in the forest and outside the forest in 2023 decreased in comparison with 2022 and it amounted to approximately 2.8 **million m³**. Out of this sum, approximately 2.5 million **m³ belongs to the state sector, which is significantly more than in the private sector,** as the state sector covers 88.4% of the total felled timber.

2. Production and sale of forest assortments in state forests

<div align="right">m³</div>

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Production, total	1,939,364	1,984,780	1,822,566	1,908,961	1,833,566
logs for cutting	963,948	962,806	913,521	966,568	937,108
Sale, total	1,916,159	1,939,628	1,864,123	1,924,836	1,799,593
logs for cutting	960,860	953,247	924,449	971,570	919,632

Afforestation activities in 2023 in Republika Srpska increased in comparison with 2022. Thus, total afforested area in 2023 covered **531 ha, which** represented an increase of 13.0% compared to 2022 and an increase by 1.0% compared to 2021. Conifer afforestation covered an area of 405 **ha,** which accounted for 76.3% of the total area afforested during 2023.

ha
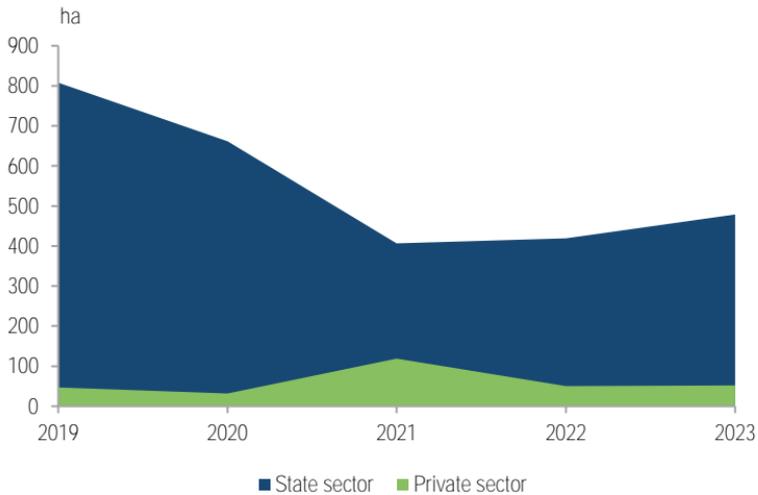
Graph 1. Artificial afforestation

3. Average price of sold forest assortments in state forests, VAT excluded

BAM/m³

	TOTAL	Conifers	Broadleaves
2019	94.83	109.54	81.46
2020	93.63	107.20	81.24
2021	97.19	115.49	81.03
2022	110.74	134.19	91.05
2023	118.60	136.86	102.47

4. Gross value added in the forestry sector

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Gross value added in the forestry sector, thous. BAM	158,022	158,299	160,124	205,013	229,298
Gross domestic product at market prices, thous. BAM	11,251,324	11,131,849	12,499,537	14,535,309	16,073,823
Structure, %	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4

In accordance with the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC Rev.4), commercial forestry and industry [1] based on wood as raw material had a significant share in the structure of export of Republika Srpska in 2023, with 13.4% and tis value was 693 million BA**M.**

What is a forest? A forest has many different definitions, but according to the Forest Law of Republika Srpska, a forest is an area covered with forest tree species, spanning more than 0.16 hectares, with a minimum width of 20 metres and a canopy cover of at least 20%. This includes areas with saplings or mature trees, whether grown from seeds or sprouted from stumps or roots.

---

[1] Cork and wood manufactures (excluding furniture), paper and articles of paper.

ha

12 000

10 000

8 000

6 000

4 000

2 000

0

2019   2020   2021   2022   2023
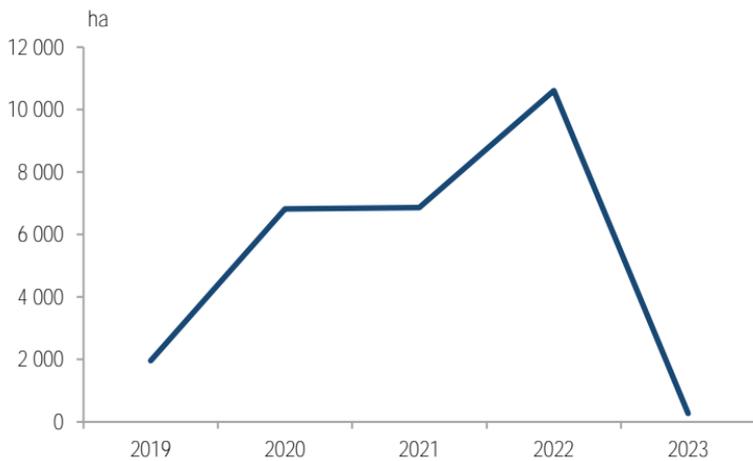
Graph 2. Forest area and forest land affected by fire

Damages caused by fire in 2023 were recorded over an area of 270 **ha,** with a damaged wood mass of 3,913 m³, making the lowest level in the past five years.
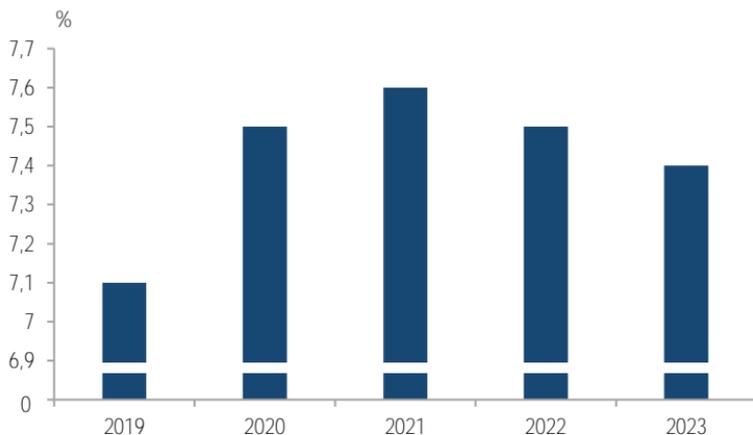
AGRICULTURE

Tastes are not born, they are made.
Mark Twain

Share of agriculture in the GDP formation was 7.4%

In 2023, the share of agricultural Gross value added in the formation of Gross domestic product of Republika Srpska was 7.4%, which represented a decrease by 0.1% compared to the share achieved in the previous year.

With the share of 9.7% in the Gross domestic product formation, agroindustry[1] (production and processing of agricultural products) represents one of the most significant areas of the economy in Republika Srpska.

%

Graph 1. Share of agriculture in the structure of GDP

[1] Section **A** division 01 and section C divisions 10, 11 and 12 of KD based on NACE Rev.2.

Primary agriculture employs 13.9% of all employed persons

According to the data obtained through the Labour Force Survey in 2023, there are 57 thousand persons employed in agriculture in Republika Srpska. The number of persons employed in agriculture accounts for 13.9% of the total number of employed persons.

Of the total number of persons employed in agriculture, 91.5% were full-time employees, while the remaining 8.5% were part-time employees. The average weekly working hours in agriculture in 2023 amounted to 45.8 hours, namely 45.9 hours for men and 45.8 hours for women employed in agriculture.

Value of realised external trade of agricultural products was 320.7 million BA**M**

The total value of external trade of agricultural products in 2023 amounted to 320.7 million BAM, which represented a decrease by 8.6% or 30 million BAM in comparison with the previous year. In 2023, trade in agricultural products accounted for 2.6% of the total external trade of Republika Srpska, with the share in total imports (3.8%) being higher than the share in exports (1.0%).

Total value of import of agricultural products in 2023 amounted to 270.4 **million BAM,** which represented a decrease by 9.1% or 27.1 million BA**M.** During the same period, total value of export of agricultural products was 50.3 million BA**M,** which represented a decrease by 5.5% or 2.9 million BA**M** compared to the previous year.

mill. BAM
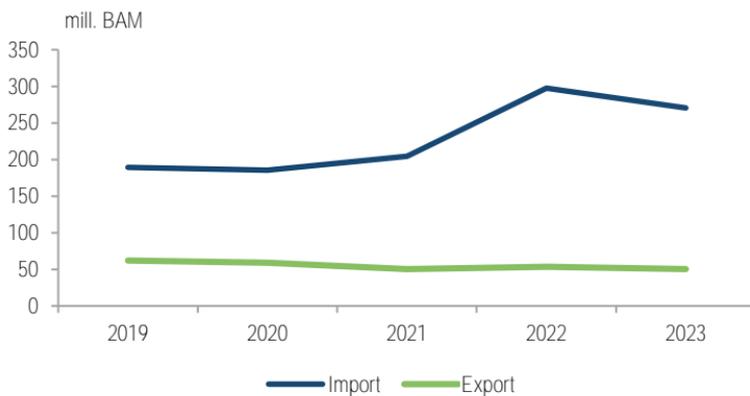
Graph 2. Value of annual imports and exports of agricultural products

Increase in prices of livestock products by 55.9% and of crop products by 32.1%

In 2023, a significant increase in prices in comparison with the previous year was recorded for most crop and livestock products.

The Institute's data indicate that during 2023, the average price of agricultural products as a whole in Republika Srpska increased by 48.5% compared to the previous year. Observed by individual product groups, the highest increase in prices was recorded for onions (+85.3%), potatoes (+83.7%), table eggs (+74.6%) and pigs (+73.0%).

During the same period, a significant increase by 35.3% was recorded in the average prices of goods and services used in agriculture. Within this group of assets used in agriculture, a significant increase was recorded in the prices of fertilizers and soil improvers (+84.8%), equipment maintenance (+57.4%) and animal feeding stuff (+44.1%).

In 2023, a record production of 423 million hen eggs was achieved, along with the highest market price of 0.24 BAM per egg, confirming that poultry farming in Republika Srpska remains the most competitive section of domestic agriculture.

Value of agricultural production in 2023 amounted to approximately two billion and 164 million BAM

The value of total agricultural production[2] in 2023 amounted to approximately two billion and 164 million BAM, which represented an increase by 5% compared to the previous year.

During the same period, the total value of intermediate consumption of agriculture[3] amounted to approximately one billion and 154 million BAM, which represented a decrease by 5.2% compared to the previous year. Intermediate consumption in agriculture in 2023 accounted for 53.3% of the total value of agricultural production.

---

[2] The value of agricultural production equals the sum of the values of crop production, livestock production and agricultural services and the value of production of inseparable non-agricultural secondary activities of farms.

[3] Intermediate consumption in agriculture is the value of consumed raw materials and services (input) in agriculture in performing agricultural production. It is presented at purchase prices.

TOURISM

Wherever you go, take your heart with you.
Confucius

Since the beginning of statistics monitoring, 2023 was recorded as record-breaking year in terms of overnight stays. With the pandemic behind us, a trend of increasing visitor numbers can be observed, alongside improvements in the quality of the tourism section.

About 43% of overnight stays were domestic overnight stays, while 57% were overnight stays generated by foreign tourists. The share of overnight stays by foreign tourists increased by about 10% in comparison with 2022.

It is also noteworthy to highlight the growth in overnight stays in certain other tourist destinations such as Banja Luka and Trebinje, as well as in some spa resorts, including Banja Vru**ćica near Teslić**.

After a period of stagnation over the past three years, 2023 saw a significant increase in the share of overnight stays by foreign tourists compared to domestic ones, totaling 631,577 (56.8%).

In comparison with 2022, the number of tourist arrivals increased by 9.4% in 2023, while the number of overnight stays increased by 7.3%. Of the total number of overnight stays by foreign tourists, tourists from Serbia generated the highest number of stays, with a share of 33.0%, followed by tourists from Croatia with 20.9%, and Slovenia with 12.6%.

When it comes to overnight stays of tourists from outside the region, guests from Turkey, Montenegro, Germany, Austria and Italy take the lead.
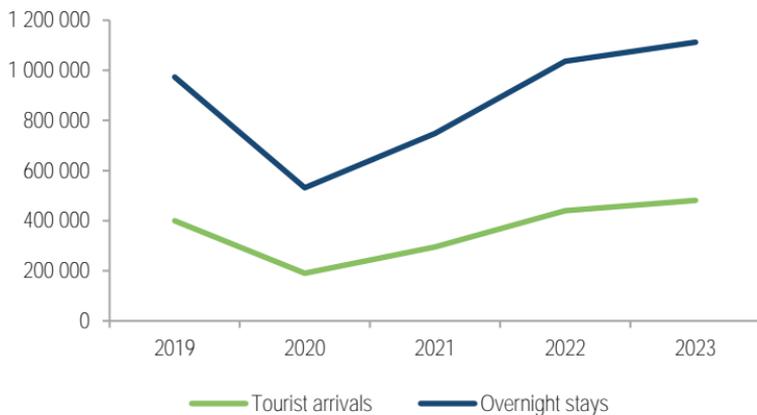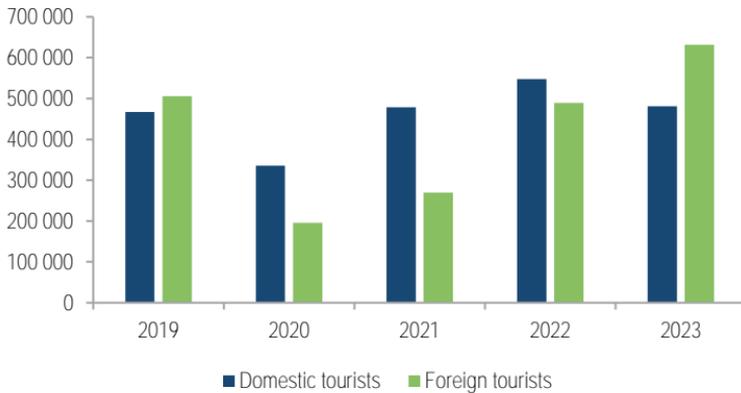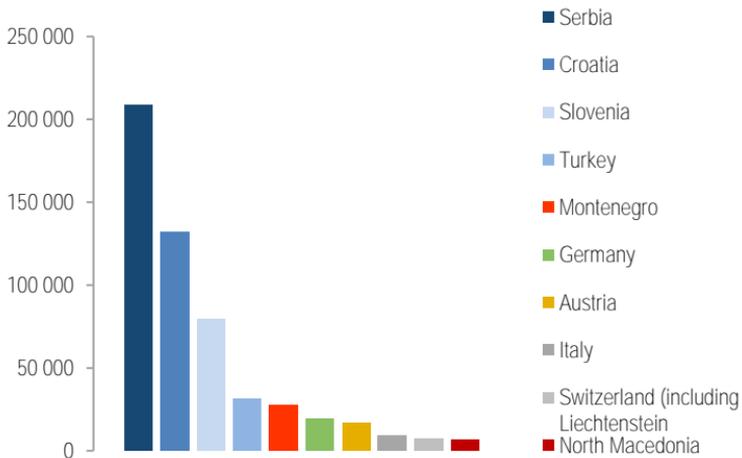
Graph 1. Tourist arrivals and overnight stays[1]
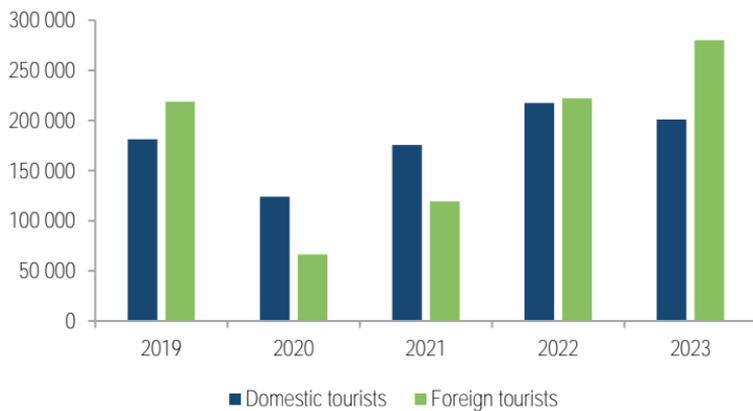
Graph 2. Domestic and foreign tourist arrivals[1]

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[1] Since January 2013, for accommodation facilities in spa resorts where people stay for medical rehabilitation, only arrivals and nights for persons who pay for the stay themselves are shown.

Graph 3. Domestic and foreign tourist overnight stays[1]

Graph 4. Foreign tourist overnight stays by country of residence (with the highest shares in the total number of overnight stays), 2023[1]

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

A lie can travel halfway around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes.
Mark Twain

Transport of passengers and goods

In 2023, there were 16 million transported passengers, which represented an increase by 0.3% compared to the previous year, with approximately 80% of the total number of passengers being transported in municipal transport

1. Transport of passengers and goods by transport branch

	2019[1]	2020	2021	2022	2023
ROAD AND URBAN TRANSPORT					
Length of roads, km[2]	13,947	14,162	14,346	14,410	14,503
Transported passengers, thous.	25,566	13,485	14,945	15,522	15,558
Transported goods, thous. t	2,940	2,982	3,420	3,665	3,083
RAILWAY TRANSPORT					
Length of tracks, km	417	417	417	417	417
Transported passengers, thous.	160	58	60	82	89
Transported goods, thous. t	4,567	3,798	4,385	4,791	4,474
AIR TRANSPORT SERVICES					
Number of flights	2,464	1,436	2,716	4,064	4,428
Number of passengers	149,968	43,962	139,898	343,008	460,730

[1] In 2019, the decrease in the length of road network was caused by a recategorisation of main and regional roads into local roads.

[2] Source: Local self-government units, PE "Putevi Republike Srpske" and PE "Autoputevi Republike Srpske".

An increase by 6.6% was recorded in transport of goods in railway transport in comparison with 2022, while transport of goods in road transport decreased by 16.0%. Railway transport served to transport approximately 60% of all transported goods.

Air transport

In air transport, the number of transported passengers has been increasing as a result of introducing new international flights. The number of transported passengers increased by 34.3%, while the number of flights increased by 9.0% compared to the previous year.
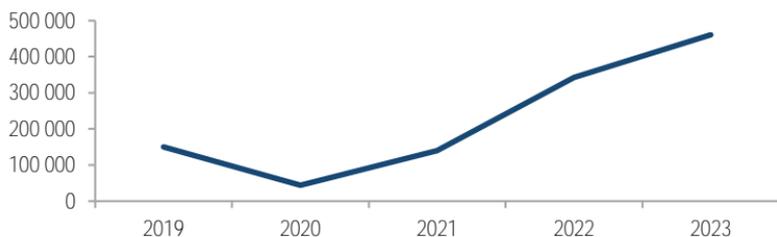
Graph 1. Development of air transport of Republika Srpska

Postal activities

The number of letter-post items in 2023 decreased by 2.3%, while the number of parcel mail items increased by 1.2% compared to the previous year.

Letter-post items   Parcel mail   Telegrams
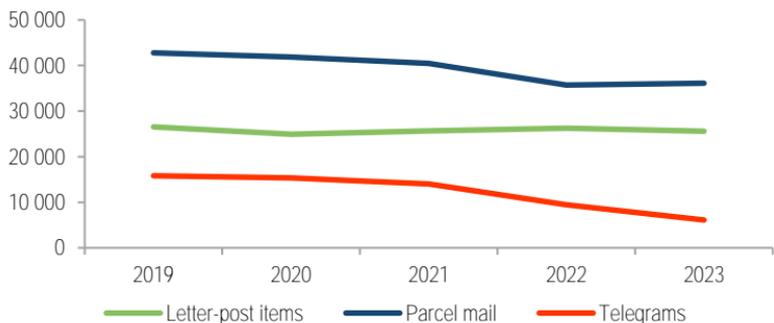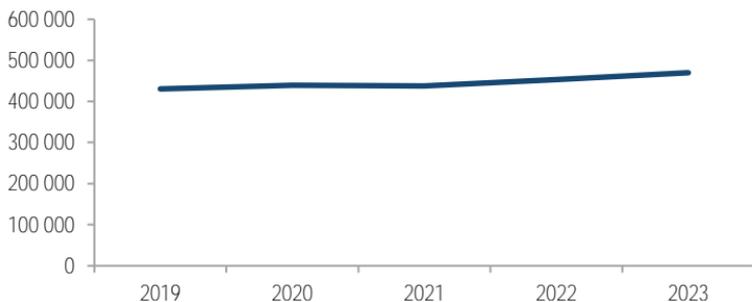
Graph 2. Postal activities

Registered vehicles

In 2023 in Republika Srpska, 469,931 vehicles were registered, which represented an increase by 3.8% compared to 2022.

Of the total number of registered vehicles, 82.4% were registered passenger vehicles.

Graph 3. Total number of registered vehicles

Traffic accidents

Compared to 2022, the number of traffic accidents in Republika Srpska in 2023 increased by 7.3%. The number of persons who deceased due to traffic accidents increased by 9.0%, while the number of persons injured in traffic accidents increased by 7.3% compared to the previous year.
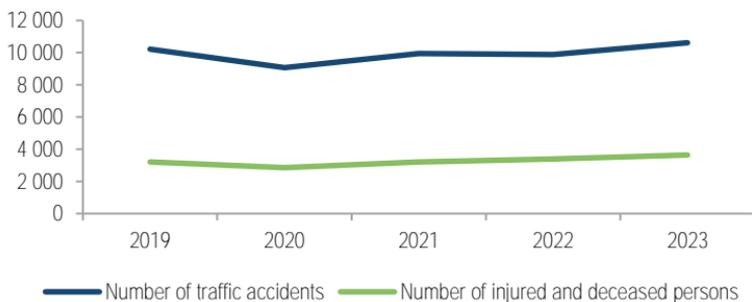
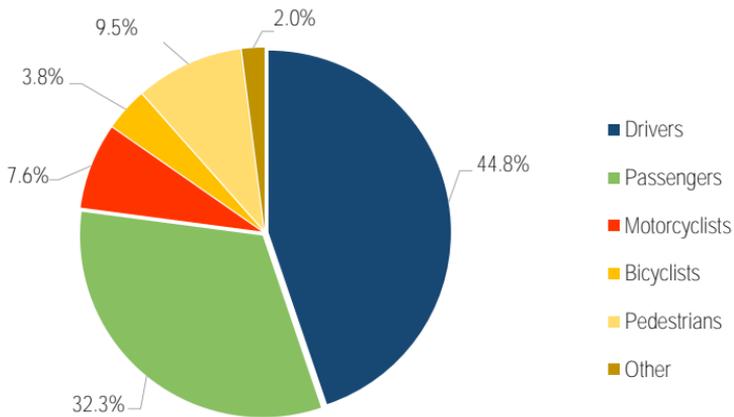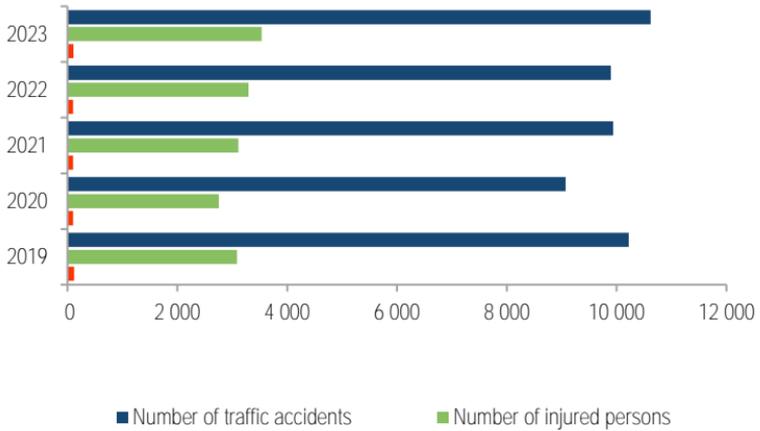Graph 4. Number of traffic accidents and injured and deceased persons

The most vulnerable participants in traffic accidents were drivers (44.8%) and passengers (32.3%).

Speeding and failure to maintain a safe trailing distance were the most common causes of traffic accidents.
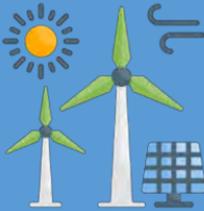

Graph 5. Injured persons by their participation in traffic accidents, 2023

Graph 5. Number of traffic accidents, number of injured and deceased persons

Legend: ■ Number of traffic accidents   ■ Number of injured persons

ENERGY

*As long as there is darkness, there will be also dawn.*
Ivo Andri**ć**

Electricity consumption in Republika Srpska is fully covered by production in domestic power plants, with surplus being exported. Security of supply is high considering that domestic sources of primary energy are used.

Total net production of electricity in 2023 amounted to 8.076 GWh. In the structure of total net production, thermal power stations participated with 61.8%, hydro power plants with 36.8%, and other producers with 1.4%.

In 2023, a significant increase in electricity production from hydroelectric power plants was recorded.

GWh
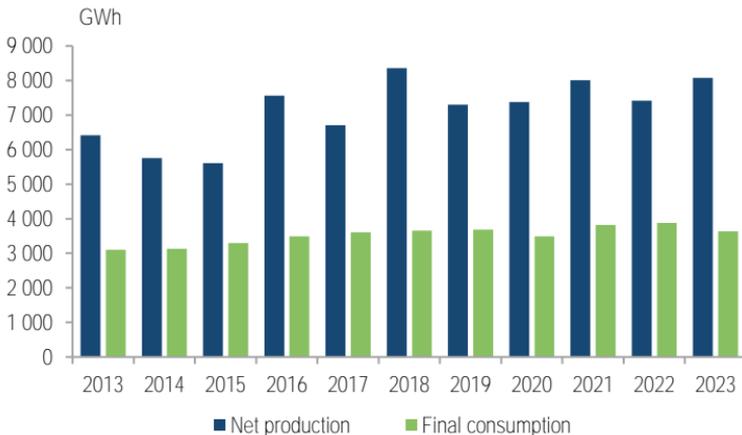
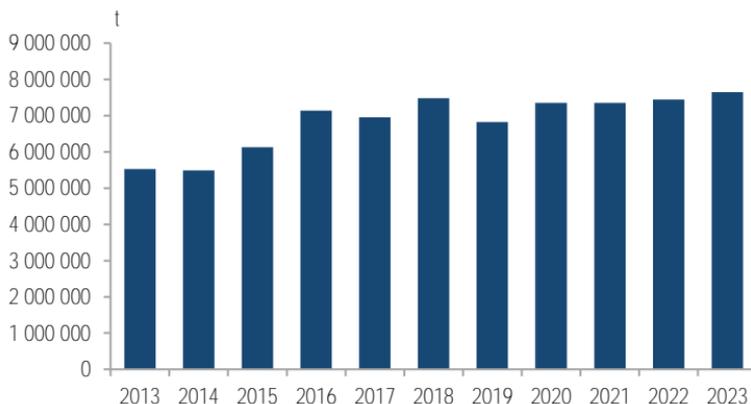Graph 1. Net production and final consumption of electricity

A significant increase in coal production in mines was recorded

Brown coal and lignite are significant natural resources in Republika Srpska. In 2023, compared to 2022, coal production increased by 2.7% representing the highest production achieved in mines to date.

Of the total available amount of coal in Republika Srpska, approximately 95% was consumed for production of energy, while the rest was used in mass consumption.

The largest consumer of coal in final consumption was industry, with a share of 69.2%. Withinh the industrial section, about 90% of coal is consumed in the non-ferrous metals industry.

Graph 2. Coal production

Since Republika Srpska does not have its own sources of natural gas, all the necessary amounts are imported. In final consumption of natural gas, the highest share is that of industry, namely 87.4% while the remaining 12.6% is distributed among households, transport and other consumers. **Within the industrial section's** final natural gas consumption, the non-ferrous metals industry accounts for the largest share at 92.1%.

Most heat produced from biomass

The share of heat produced from biomass in total heat production in 2023 was 62.9%.

Electricity consumption per capita in 2023 amounted to 3,807 kWh.

1. Production and final consumption of fuels and energy

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Production of fuels and energy					
Brown coal (thous. t)	2,045	2,107	2,056	2,129	2,271
Lignite (thous. t)	4,774	5,247	5,291	5,318	5,375
Electricity[1] (GWh)	7,303	7,375	8,012	7,418	8,076
Hydro power plants[1] (GWh)	2,146	2,017	2,943	2,226	3,152
Thermal power plants[1] (GWh)	5,085	5,288	4,980	5,084	4,811
Other production[1] (GWh)	72	70	89	108	113
Heat (TJ)	1,517	1,552	1,674	1,496	1,398
Biogas (thous. m^3)	3,547	5,455	3,843	3,687	2,938
Final consumption of fuels and energy					
Brown coal (thous. t)	251	200	254	266	260
Lignite (thous. t)	81	53	66	58	38
Stone coal (thous. t)	22	12	26	26	5
Electricity (GWh)	3,687	3,491	3,820	3,876	3,635
Heat (TJ)	1,395	1,424	1,539	1,366	1,271
Natural gas (thous. Sm^3)	52,134	34,354	38,672	36,246	37,117
Production of fuels and energy	-	-	1,925	1,854	1,462

[1] Production at threshold

In 2023, approximately 520 million BA**M** was invested in the energy sector

Investments in new fixed assets in the energy sector (divisions 05, 19 and 35) amounted to approximately 520 million BAM, which accounted for 21.7% of total investments in new fixed assets in Republika Srpska in 2023.

Energy had a share of 7.0% in the total Gross domestic product.

Approximately 11 thousand workers were employed in the energy sector, which accounted for 4.7% of all employed persons in Republika Srpska. The number of persons employed in the energy sector was 2.4% higher in 2023 than in 2022.

ENVIRONMENT

*Life is the flower. For which love is the honey.*
Victor Hugo

Municipal waste: an indicator of consumption patterns and waste management system efficiency

Waste generation and disposal methods serve as complex indicators of consumption patterns, the efficiency of waste management systems, and ultimately, the level of economic development of a society. The most desirable forms of waste disposal are reuse and recycling.

In 2023, 292,555 tonnes of municipal waste were collected in Republika Srpska, representing an increase of 1.1% compared to the previous year and 6.1% compared to 2019. During the same period, from 2019 to 2023, the total amount of municipal waste generated decreased by 5.7%. The observed ratio of collected to total waste generated indicates, among other factors, a decline in population numbers and a simultaneous increase in the percentage of the population covered by public waste collection services, which rose by 8.6 percentage points over the observed period.

In 2023, waste was predominantly disposed of at municipal and regional landfills, accounting for 99% of the total collected waste. The remaining 1%, or 2,844 tonnes, was handed over to secondary operators for further processing.
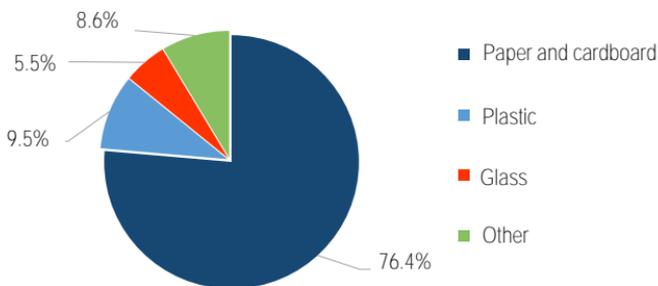

Graph 1. Municipal waste handed over for processing, by type, 2023

8.6%
5.5%
9.5%
76.4%

■ Paper and cardboard
■ Plastic
■ Glass
■ Other

An increasing number of residents covered by public utility services

During the period 2019-2020, the number of residents with access to public water supply and wastewater drainage services increased. The number of households connected to public water supply and sewage networks grew by nearly the same percentage, approximately 12% over this period.
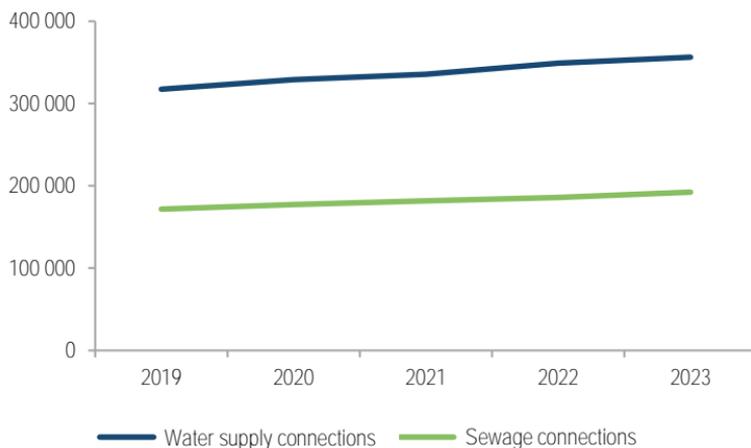
Graph 2. The number of water supply and sewage connections

In 2023, households received 44,025 thousand m³ of drinking water from public water supply systems, accounting for nearly 71% of the total water delivered through the public water supply system. At the same time, households were the source of approximately 81% of the total wastewater discharged into the public sewerage system.

Before being discharged into public sewerage systems, 4,047 thousand m³ of municipal wastewater was treated in 2023, representing an increase of approximately 38% compared to 2019.

thous. m^3
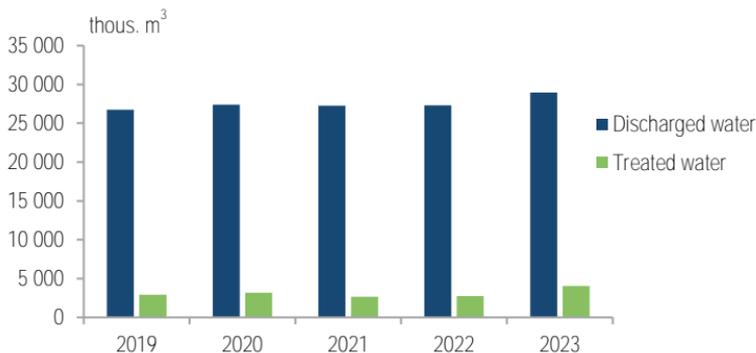
Graph 3. Discharged and treated municipal wastewater

In 2023, public utility companies generated revenues of 12,312,288 BAM for wastewater drainage services and the maintenance of public sewerage networks, which is 15% higher than five years ago. Revenue from municipal waste collection and disposal services in 2023 was over five times greater than that from wastewater management, amounting to 68,152,985 BAM. Over the 2019–2023 period, a 28% increase in this type of revenue was recorded.

In 2023, 91% of the population used public water supply services, nearly 78% used public waste collection services, and 49% of the population in Republika Srpska had access to public wastewater drainage services.

USER GUIDE

Dear Users,

This publication is intended for a wide range of users, providing main indicators of the situation and changes in the economic and social life of Republika Srpska.

Regular statistical activities carried out by the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics are the main source of data for tables and graphs for which source of data is not specified.

For tables and graphs showing data collected and processed by other authorised bodies and organisations, the data source is always listed under the table or graph.

For easy reference, data in certain tables and graphs are given in larger units of measure (thousand, million), while, due to the rounding-off, total amounts do not always correspond to sums of data for individual categories.

Data presented by specific level of the activity classification are presented pursuant to the KD BiH 2010, which in its content and structure fully complies with the EU Statistical Classification of Economic Activities NACE Rev.2.

In order to achieve compliance with the current regulations in the field of short-term statistics and EU standards, since 2015 the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics has been carrying the survey "Quarterly indicators in hotels and restaurants" instead of the quarterly survey on hotels and restaurants, thus regularly producing and publishing relative indicators at the quarterly level. Data obtained through the new survey are linked to data referring to previous years by means of the recalculation using growth rates; the series of indices in the field of hotels and restaurants has therefore been preserved.

Note: In chapters which provide tabulated data by the KD BiH, sections of the classification of economic activities are specified by English alphabet letter codes, in accordance with international labelling, while a full explanation of these codes is given in the chapter entitled "Sections of Economic Activity".

When using data from this publication, we would appreciate it if you cited the source (Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics, **"This is Republika Srpska, 2024")**.

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

-	no occurrence
...	data not available
0	data lower than 0.5 of the given unit of measure
Ø	average
( )	less reliable data **–** coefficient of variation (CV) lower than 0.2 and equal to or higher than 0.1 or expressed in percentage as follows **10%**≤CV<20%
(( ))	unreliable data **–** coefficient of variation (CV) lower than 0.3 and equal to or higher than 0.2 or expressed in percentage as follows **20%**≤CV<30%
•	extremely unreliable data **–** coefficient of variation (CV) is equal to or higher than 0.3 or expressed in percentage as follows CV≥30%
.	statistically unreliable data (up to 20 occurrences)
*	corrected data
***	confidential data
1)	symbol for footnote in a table
°C	degree Celsius
m	metre
m^2	square metre
m^3	cubic metre
km	kilometre
km^2	square kilometre
elev.	elevation
ha	hectare
t	tonne
kW	kilowatt
GWh	gigawatt hour
Gg	gigagram
$CO_{2\text{-eq}}$	carbon dioxide equivalent
thous.	thousand
mill.	million
bn	billion
pcs	pieces
Sm^3	a cubic metre of gas under a standard condition
HBS	Household Budget Survey
LFS	Labour Force Survey
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
COICOP	Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose
ISCED	International Standard Classification of Education
NACE Rev. 2	Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community
BAM	Convertible Mark (BAM)
KD	Classification of Economic Activities

SECTIONS OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY[1]

A | Agriculture, forestry and fishing
B | Mining and quarrying
C | Manufacturing
D | Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply
E | Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
F | Construction
G | Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
H | Transportation and storage
I | Accommodation and food service activities
J | Information and communication
K | Financial and insurance activities
L | Real estate activities
M | Professional, scientific and technical activities
N | Administrative and support service activities
O | Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
P | Education
Q | Human health and social work activities
R | Arts, entertainment and recreation
S | Other service activities
T | Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods- and services- producing activities of households for own use
U | Activities of extra-territorial organisations and bodies

[1] Pursuant to the Regulation on the Classification of Economic Activities of Republika Srpska ("Official Gazette of Republika Srpska", No. 8/14).

LITTLE SCHOOL OF STATISTICS

In the end, dear readers, we wish to provide you in this book with at least some statistical concepts you might not know, while knowing these could be useful.

CONCEPTS

Statistics: Statistics is a science that deals with the collection, analysis and interpretation of data on variable phenomena, based on the probability theory.

Statistical set: Statistical set (basic set or population) is a set of all elements on which a certain variable phenomenon is manifested and statistically observed.

Characteristic: Properties based on which units within a statistical set differ from one another and which are subject to a statistical survey are called characteristics (variables). Various forms in which one characteristic may occur are called modalities or values of this characteristic.

Statistical sample: Statistical sample is a part of a statistical set. Based on its characteristics we make statistical conclusions about relevant characteristics of the population the sample was selected from.

Representative sample: A sample is representative if its characteristics faithfully reflect characteristics of the statistical set the sample was selected from.

Statistical census: Statistical census covers all units of a set at a specific moment called critical moment.

Statistical series: Statistical series are sequences of data arranged by values of characteristics or chronologically. If they are arranged by characteristics they represent structural series; if they are arranged chronologically they represent time series.

Arithmetic mean: Arithmetic mean (or mean) is mean value most commonly used in practice. It is often called average. It represents the sum of values of an observed characteristic divided by the number of the values.

Geometric mean: Geometric mean represents a measure of the central tendency that compensates proportional changes observed between data in the observed series. Values of characteristics are multiplied in succession and then the root of the total product is taken, with an exponent which is equal to the number of observed units.

Median: Median is the value of a characteristic that is in the middle of a series whose data are arranged by size. It separates a data series into two equal parts (50% of units is lower than the median, while 50% is higher, in terms of characteristic value).

Variance: Variance shows the average squared deviation of all data from their arithmetic mean.

Standard deviation: Standard deviation represents the average deviation of all individual data from their arithmetic mean. Standard deviation may be calculated directly from variance, as a positive value of the squared root of variance.

Indices: Indices are relative numbers that indicate the ratio between levels of one or more occurrences in the current (reporting) period in comparison with the base period. They are usually expressed as percentages.

Current period: Current period (year, quarter, month, etc.) is a period in which the level of occurrence is observed, while the period with which this level is compared is called base period or base.

Average growth rate: Average growth rate (geometric growth rate) is the rate at which an occurrence increases or decreases during the period covered by the time series.

Time series: Time series are sequences of numerical data on an occurrence, arranged chronologically in successive and equal intervals.

Trend: Trend (secular tendency) is a developmental tendency of an occurrence within the observed period.

Seasonal adjustment: Seasonal adjustment is a process through which seasonal effects are eliminated from original data in a time series. In the multiplicative model, this is accomplished by dividing the original data by seasonal indices and multiplying by 100.

Source: **Lovrić, M.; Komić, J.; Stević, S. (2006). Statistička analiza –** metodi i primjena, Banja Luka, Faculty of Economics, University of Banja Luka.