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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **February 2016** |

 **Average net wage in January 816 КМ**

**The highest average net wage was that in the section *Financial and insurance activities* 1,295 КМ, while the lowest one was that in the section *Administrative and support service activities* 509 КМ**

Average monthly net wage of employed persons in Republika Srpska paid in January 2016 was 816 KM, while average monthly gross wage was 1,313 KM.

Compared to January 2015, average net wage paid in January 2016 was reallu 1.4% higher, while compared to December 2015 it was really 2.3% lower.

The decrease in the average net wage in January 2016, compared to December 2015, occurred mainly due to a significant number of entities that had no payments in January, while their average wages are high and they employ a significant number of persons.

In January 2016, the highest average net wage, by section of activities, was paid in the section *Financial and insurance activities* and it amounted to 1,295 KM. On the other hand, the lowest average net wage in January 2016 was the one paid in the section *Administrative and support service activities* 509 KM.

In January 2016, compared to December 2015, a nominal increase in net wages was recorded in the sections *Financial and insurance services* 2.9%, *Accommodation and food service activities* 2.3% and *Manufacturing* 0.7%.

A decrease in nominal wages was recorded in the sections *Information and communication* 33.6%, *Professional, scientific and technical activities* 9.3% and *Education* 2.3%.

 км



Graph 1. Average net wages of employed persons by month

**Monthly inflation 0.2% in January 2016**

**Annual inflation (January 2016/January 2015) -0.9%**

Prices of products and services for personal consumption in Republika Srpska, measured with the consumer price index, in January 2016, compared to the previous month, were on the average 0.2% higher, while they were 0.9% lower at the annual level

Of the 12 main divisions of products and services, an increase in prices was recorded in four divisions, a decrease was recorded in two divisions, while prices in six divisions remained on the average at the same level.

The highest increase in prices in January was recorded in the division *Alcoholic beverages and tobacco* (5.7%), due to higher prices in the group tobacco, as a result of the increased excise tax on tobacco and tobacco products introduced on 1st January 2016. Higher prices were also recorded in the division *Food and non-alcoholic beverages* (1.7%), mainly in the groups vegetables (8.1%) and fruit (5.1%), due to higher seasonal prices, as well as in the group non-alcoholic beverages – coffee, tea and cocoa (2.2%) and in the group other food products (1.4%), as a result of new purchases and the end of the discounts period.

In the division *Furnishings and other equipment*, the highest increase was recorded in the group household cleaning and maintenance products (3.8%), due to higher purchase prices of certain articles in this group and as a result of the end of discounts period. A slight increase in prices was also recorded in the division *Other goods and services* (0.4%), also as a result of the end of the discount period in the group personal care products.

In the divisions *Housing, Health care*, *Communication, Recreation and culture, Education* and *Restaurants and hotels* prices remained on the average at the same level.

The highest decrease in prices in January was recorded in the division *Clothing and footwear* (4.7%), due to numerous seasonal discounts. A decrease in prices was also recorded in the division *Transport* (3.6%), as a result of the continued trend of lower purchase prices of fuels.

Annual inflation

Monthly inflation

Graph 2. Monthly and annual inflation

**Coverage of import with export (January 2016) 83.3%**

In the total external trade of Republika Srpska in January of the current year, the percentage of coverage of import with export was 83.3%.

In January 2016, the value of export was 184 million KM, which represents an increase by 8.4% compared to the same month of the previous year. In the same month, the value of import was 221 million KM, which represents a decrease by 1.8% compared to the same month of the previous year.

In terms of the geographical distribution of external trade of Republika Srpska, in January 2016, the highest value of export was that of export to Italy, with 36 million KM or 19.4%, followed by Germany, with 25 million KM or 13.8% of the total realised export. During the same month, the highest value of import was that of import from Serbia, with 40 million KM or 17.1%, followed by Italy, with 31 million KM or 14.2% of the total realised import.

By group of products, in January 2016, the highest share in export was that of artificial corundum, aluminium oxide and aluminium hydroxide with the total value of 12 million KM, which was 6.5% of the total export, while the highest share in import was that of petroleum and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (crude), with the total value of 13 million KM, which was 6.0% of the total import

thous. КМ

export

import

2015

2016

Graph 3. Export and import by month

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| **SYMBOLS** |
| **∅** - average¹ - estimate |

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