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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **December 2018** |

**Record employment in Republika Srpska**

In Republika Srpska in September 2018, there were 268,879 employed persons in business entities and in entrepreneurial activity, which represents the record employment in the history of Republika Srpska. Compared to the same month of the previous year, there were 5,403 employed persons more, which represented an increase by 2.1%. Compared to March 2018, there were 5,140 employed persons more, which represented an increase by 1.9%.

Of the total number of employed persons, 227,677 persons are employed in business entities, while 41,202 employed persons are entrepreneurs and their employees. In September 2018, compared to March, an increase in the number of employed persons was recorded in 16 of 19 sections.

**Average after-tax wage in November 880 КМ**

**The highest average after-tax wage was that in the section *Financial and insurance activities* 1,379 КМ, while the lowest one was that in the section *Accommodation and food service activities* 599 КМ**

Average monthly after-tax wage in Republika Srpska paid in November 2018 was880 КМ, while average monthly gross wage was 1,364 КМ.

Average after-tax wage paid in November 2018, compared to the same month of the previous year, was nominally 5.7% higher, while compared to October 2018 it was nominally 0.5% lower.

In November 2018, the highest average after-tax wage, by section of economic activities, was paid in the section *Financial and insurance activities*, and it amounted to 1,379 KM. On the other hand, the lowest average after-tax wage in November 2018 was the one paid in the section *Accommodation and food service activities* 599 KM.

In November 2018, compared to October 2018, the highest nominal increase in after-tax wages was recorded in the sections *Real estate activities* 3.6%, *Construction* 1.6%and *Financial and insurance activities* 1.5%.

A decrease in nominal after-tax wages was recorded in the sections *Mining and quarrying* 5.5%, *Human health and social work activities* 2.8% and *Arts, entertainment and recreation* 2.0%.

км



Graph 1. Average after-tax wages by month

**Monthly inflation 0.0% in November 2018**

**Annual inflation (November 2018/November 2017) 1.6%**

Prices of products and services for personal consumption in Republika Srpska, measured with the consumer price index, in November 2018, compared to the previous month, remained on the average at the same level, while they were 1.6% higher at the annual level.

The highest increase in prices in November was recorded in the divisions Housing and Furnishings and household equipment, by 0.5% each. In the division Housing, higher prices were recorded in the groups gas 2.2%, solid fuels 0.5% and liquid fuels 0.3%. The increase in the division Furnishings and other equipment occurred due to higher prices in the groups household textiles and furniture by 1.2%. Higher prices were also recorded in the division Clothing and footwear (0.3%), due to higher purchase prices of clothing and footwear, as well as in the division Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (0.2%), due to higher prices in the group spirits by 3.0%. An increase in prices was also recorded in the divisions Transport and Other goods and services, by 0.1% each.

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

The highest decrease in prices in November was recorded in the division Food and non-alcoholic beverages (0.4%), due to lower prices in the groups fruit by 5.5%, vegetables by 0.8% and non-alcoholic beverages by 0.2%. Lower prices were also recorded in the division Recreation and culture (0.1%).

Annual inflation

Monthly inflation

Graph 2. Monthly and annual inflation

**Working-day adjusted industrial production (January-November 2018/January-November 2017) increased by 4.3%**

**Number of employees in industry (January-November 2018/January-November 2017) increased by 2.1%**

**Working-day adjusted industrial production** in the period January-November 2018, compared to the same period of 2017, increased by4.3%. During the same period, in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning* an increase by 22.9% was recorded and in the section *Mining and quarrying* an increase by 4.4%, while a decrease by 3.0% was recorded in the section *Manufacturing*.

**Number of employees in industry** in November 2018, compared to the average monthly number of employed persons in 2017, was 2.9% higher. Compared to the same month of the previous year it was 1.5% higher, while compared to October 2018 it was 0.4% lower. Number of employees in industry in the period January-November 2018, compared to the same period of the previous year, was 2.1% higher. During the same period, in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* an increase by 4.6% was recorded and in the section *Manufacturing* an increase by 2.2%, while a decrease by 2.1% was recorded in the section *Mining and quarrying*.

Trend indices

Seasonally-adjusted indices

Graph 3. Industrial production indices, November 2014 – November 2018 (∅2015=100)

**Coverage of import with export 84.4% in November 2018**

In November 2018, the value of export was 330 million КМ and the value of import was 391 million КМ.

In the total external trade of Republika Srpska in November 2018, the percentage of coverage of import with export was 84.4%. The percentage of coverage of import with export in the period January – November 2018 was 71.6%.

In the period January – November 2018, the value of export was three billion and 456 million KM, which represented an increase by 8.5% compared to the same period of the previous year. During the same period, the value of import was four billion and 829 million KM, which also represented an increase by 6.8% compared to the same period of the previous year.

In terms of the geographical distribution of external trade of Republika Srpska, in the period January – November 2018, the highest value of export was that of export to Italy, with 529 million KM or 15.3%, followed by Serbia, with 441 million KM or 12.8% of the total realised export. During the same period, the highest value of import was that of import form Serbia, with 803 million KM or 16.6%, followed by Italy, with 536 million KM or 11.1% of the total realised import.

By group of products, in the period January – November 2018, the highest share in export was that of electricity, with the total value of 265 million KM, which was 7.7% 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 595 million KM, which was 12.3% of the total import.

thous. КМ

Export

Import

2018

2017

Graph 4. Export and import by month

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| **SYMBOLS** |
| **∅** - average  ¹ - estimate |

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