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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **May 2018** |

**Average net wage in April 840 КМ**

**The highest average net wage was that in the section *Financial and insurance activities* 1,352 КМ, while the lowest one was that in the section *Accommodation and food service activities* 557 КМ**

Average monthly net wage of employed persons in Republika Srpska paid in April 2018 was840 КМ, while average monthly gross wage was 1,345 КМ.

Compared to March 2018, average net wage paid in April 2018 was really 1.1% higher, and compared to April 2017 it was really 1.1% higher.

In April 2018, the highest average wage, by section of economic activities, was paid in the section *Financial and insurance activities* and it amounted to 1,352 KM. On the other hand, the lowest average net wage in April 2018 was the one paid in the section *Accommodation and food service activities* 557 KM.

In April 2018, compared to March 2018, the highest nominal increase in net wages was recorded in the section *Manufacturing* 2.9%, followed by *Agriculture, forestry and fishing* 2.7% and *Construction* 1.8%.

The highest decrease in nominal wages was recorded in the section *Information and communication* 9.0%, followed by *Human health and social work activities* 1.9% and *Mining and quarrying* 1.4%.

 км



Graph 1. Average net wages of employed persons by month

**Monthly inflation -1.1% in April 2018**

**Annual inflation (April 2018/April 2017) 1.1%**

Prices of products and services for personal consumption in Republika Srpska, measured with the consumer price index, in April 2018, compared to the previous month, were on the average 1.1% lower, while they were 1.1% higher at the annual level.

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

The highest increase in prices in April was recorded in the division *Transport* (0.7%), due to an increase in prices of fuels by 1.7%. Higher prices were also recorded in the division *Recreation and culture* (0.6%), due to higher prices in the group books and school textbooks by 2.9%, and in the division *Other goods and services* (0.4%), due to higher prices in the group personal care products by 1.0%. In the divisions *Health care* and *Furnishing and other equipment* an increase by 0.3% was recorded, due to higher purchase prices of certain medicines by 0.5% in the group pharmaceutical products and due to higher purchase prices of certain consumer goods for household maintenance by 0.8% in the group products for routine household maintenance, respectively. Higher prices in April were also recorded in the division *Clothing and footwear* (0.2%) and in the division *Food and non-alcoholic beverages* (0.1%).

In the division *Restaurants and hotels* prices remained on the average at the same level.

The highest decrease in prices in April was recorded in the division *Housing* (8.9%), due to lower prices in the group electricity, gas and other energy commodities by 11.7% (electricity billing at lower summer prices beginning with 1 April 2018). A decrease in prices was also recorded in the division *Alcoholic beverages and tobacco*, in which prices decreased by 0.3% as a result of lower (discount) prices in the group alcoholic beverages by 1.0%. A decrease in prices by 0.1% in April was recorded in the divisions *Communication* and *Education*.

Monthly inflation

Annual inflation

Graph 2. Monthly and annual inflation

**Working-day adjusted industrial production (January-April 2018/January-April 2017) increased by 4.2%**

**Number of employees in industry (January-April 2018/January-April 2017) increased by 3.0%.**

**Working-day adjusted industrial production** in the period January-April 2018, compared to the same period of 2017, increased by 4.2%. During the same period, in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* an increase by 22.1% was recorded, while in the section *Manufacturing* a decrease by 2.2% was recorded and in the section *Mining and quarrying* a decrease by 6.7%. By main industrial group, based on economic purpose of products, working day-adjusted production of energy in the period January-April 2018, compared to the same period of 2017, was 18.6% higher and production of consumer durables was 17.7% higher, while production of consumer non-durables was 1.9% lower, production of intermediate goods was 3.1% lower and production of capital goods was 29.7% lower.

**Number of employees in industry** in April 2018, compared to the average monthly number of employed persons in 2017, was 1.7% higher. Compared to the same month of the previous year it was 2.6% higher and compared to March 2018 it was 0.3% higher. Number of employees in industry in the period January-April 2018, compared to the same period of the previous year, was 3.0% higher. During the same period, in the section *Manufacturing* an increase by 3.5% was recorded and in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* an increase by 1.8%, while in the section *Mining and quarrying* a decrease by 0.1% was recorded.

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

**Coverage of import with export (in the period January -April 2018) 75.1%**

In April 2018, the value of export was 295 million КМ and the value of import was 392 million КМ.

In the total external trade of Republika Srpska in April of the current year, the percentage of coverage of import with export was 75.3%. The percentage of coverage of import with export for the period January – April 2018 was 75.1%.

In the period January – April 2018, the value of export was one billion and 184 million KM, which represented an increase by 13.0% compared to the same period of the previous year. During the same period, the value of import was one billion and 557 million KM, which represented an increase by 8.5% 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 – April 2018, the highest value of export was that of export to Italy, with 173 million KM or 14.6%, followed by Croatia, with 154 million KM or 13.0% of the total realised export. During the same period, the highest value of import was that of import form Serbia, with 264 million KM or 16.7%, followed by Russia, with 186 million KM or 11.8% of the total realised import.

By group of products, in the period January – April 2018, the highest share in export was that of electricity, with the total value of 104 million KM, which was 8.8% 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 161 million KM, which was 10.2% of the total import.

thous. КМ

Export

Import

2017

2018

Graph 4. Export and import by month

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

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