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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **February 2019** |

**Average after-tax wage in January 887 КМ**

**The highest average after-tax wage in the section *Financial and insurance activities* 1,375 КМ, while the lowest one was recorded in the section *Arts, entertainment and recreation* 599 КМ**

Average monthly after-tax wage in Republika Srpska paid in January 2019 amounted to 887 KM, while average monthly gross wage was 1,377 KM.

Average after-tax wage paid in January 2019, compared to the same month of the previous year, was nominally 7.5% higher, while compared to December 2018 it was 0.4% lower.

In January 2019, the highest average after-tax wage, by section of economic activities, was paid in the section *Financial and insurance activities* and it amounted to 1,375 KM. On the other hand, the lowest average after-tax wage in January 2019 was the one paid in the section *Arts, entertainment and recreation* 599 KM.

In January 2019, compared to December 2018, the highest nominal increase in after-tax wages was recorded in the sections *Real estate activities* 8.4%, *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* 1.9%and *Mining and quarrying* 1.6%.

A decrease in nominal wages was recorded in the sections *Accommodation and food service activities* 7.2%, *Professional, scientific and technical activities* 4.7%and *Transportation and storage* 2.8%.

км



Graph 1. Average after-tax wages by month

**Monthly inflation 0.2% in January 2019**

**Annual inflation (January 2019/January 2018) 1.4%**

Prices of products and services used for personal consumption in Republika Srpska, measured with the consumer price index, in January 2019, compared to the previous month, were on the average 0.2% higher, while they were on the average 1.4% higher at the annual level.

Of the 12 main divisions of products and services, an increase in prices was recorded in six divisions, a decrease was recorded in two divisions, while prices in four 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* (2.8%), due to higher prices in the group tobacco by 4.5%, that is, due to higher excise rates on tobacco and tobacco products as of 1 January 2019. An increase in prices was also recorded in the division *Food and non-alcoholic beverages* (1.5%), due to higher (seasonal) prices in the groups vegetables by 11.1% and fruit by 2.9%, and higher purchase prices in the group other food products by 1.3% and in the group non-alcoholic beverages and juices by 1.0%. Higher prices in January were also recorded in the division *Recreation and culture* (0.5%), due to higher prices in the group newspapers and magazines by 5.1%. An increase in prices in the division *Other goods and services* (0.3%) was recorded due to higher prices in the group personal care products, by 0.6%. An increase in prices was also recorded in the divisions *Furnishing and household equipment* (0.1%) and *Restaurants and hotels* (0.1%).

In the divisions *Housing, Health, Communication,* and *Education* prices remained on the average at the same level.

The highest decrease in prices in January was recorded in the division *Clothing and footwear* (6.3%), as a result of numerous discounts on ready-made garments 6.9% and footwear 4.9%. A decrease in prices was also recorded in the division *Transport* (0.7%), due to lower prices in the group motor vehicles by 4.4% and in the group fuels and lubricants by 0.5%.

Monthly inflation

Annual inflation

Graph 2. Monthly and annual inflation

**Coverage of import with export 90.9% in January 2019**

In January 2019, the value of export was 256 million KM, which represented a decrease by 12.3% compared to the same period of the previous year. The value of import, during the same month, was 281 million KM, which represented a decrease by 2.5% compared to the same period of the previous year.

In the total external trade of Republika Srpska in January 2019, the percentage of coverage of import with export was 90.9%.

In terms of the geographical distribution of external trade of Republika Srpska, in January 2019, the highest value of export was that of export to Italy, with 42 million KM or 16.3%, followed by Croatia, with 33 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 51 million KM or 18.0%, followed by Italy, with 35 million KM or 12.4% of the total realised import.

By group of products, in January 2019, the highest share in export was that of electricity, with the total value of 30 million KM, which was 11.9% of the total export, while the highest share in import was that of medicaments, with the total value of 13 million KM, which was 4.7% of the total import.

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import

export

Graph 3. Export and import by month

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

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