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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **May 2019** |

**Average after-tax wage in April 896 КМ**

**The highest average after-tax wage in the section *Financial and insurance activities* 1,385 КМ; the lowest one in the section *Accommodation and food service activities* 617 КМ**

Average monthly after-tax wage in Republika Srpska paid in April 2019 amounted to 896 KM, while average monthly gross wage was 1,392 KM.

Average after-tax wage paid in April 2019, compared to the same month of the previous year, was nominally 6.7% higher and really 6.0% higher, while compared to March 2019 it was nominally 1.1% higher and really 2.1% higher.

In April 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 1,385 КМ. On the other hand, the lowest average after-tax wage in April 2019 was the one paid in the section *Accommodation and food service activities* 617 KM.

In April 2019, compared to April 2019, a nominal increase in after-tax wages was recorded in all 19 sections, with the highest increase being recorded in the section *Real estate activities* 21.9%, followed by *Administrative and support service activities* 20.8% and *Other service activities* 17.3%.

км



Graph 1. Average after-tax wages by month

**Monthly inflation -0.9% in April 2019**

**Annual inflation (April 2019/April 2018) 0.7%**

Prices of products and services used for personal consumption in Republika Srpska, measured with the consumer price index, in April 2019, compared to the previous month, were on the average 0.9% lower, while they were on the average 0.7% higher at the annual level.

Of the 12 main divisions of products and services, an increase in prices was recorded in eight divisions, a decrease was recorded in three divisions, while prices in one division remained unchanged.

The highest increase in prices in April 2019, compared to the same month of the previous year, was recorded in the division *Housing*, namely by 3.7%, due to higher prices in the groups solid fuels by 8.4% and gas by 5.9%. An increase in prices was also recorded in the division Alcoholic beverages and tobacco by 3.4%, due to higher prices in the group tobacco by 4.5%, which occurred as a result of increased excise taxes on tobacco and tobacco products (as of 1 January of the current year). In the division *Health*, an increase at the annual level amounts to 2.2% and it occurred due to higher prices in the group pharmaceutical products by 3.6%, while higher prices in the division *Transport* were recorded in the groups fuels and lubricants for personal vehicles by 4.4% and transport services by 3.0%. An increase by 1.6% was recorded in the division *Recreation and culture*, with higher prices referring to the groups travel arrangements 3.3% and recreation and sport services 2.8%. In the division *Food and non-alcoholic beverages* an increase by 0.8% was recorded, due to higher prices of food by 1.1%, mainly in the group fresh vegetables, 18.0%. Higher prices in April were also recorded in the divisions *Restaurants and hotels* 0.7% and *Furnishings and household equipment* 0.4%.

In the division *Education* prices remained on the average at the same level.

The highest decrease in prices in April 2019, compared to the same month of the previous year, was recorded in the division *Clothing and footwear*, by 11.3%, mainly due to seasonal discounts on ready-made clothing and footwear during the year. A decrease in prices was also recorded in the division *Other goods and services*, by 1.8%, due to lower prices in the groups insurance by 5.1% and personal items by 2.9%. An increase in prices by 0.2% was recorded in the division *Communication*.

Annual inflation

Monthly inflation

Graph 2. Monthly and annual inflation

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production (April 2019/March 2019) decreased by 2.1%**

**Number of employees in industry (April 2019/March 2019) increased by 0.3%**

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production** in April 2019, compared to March 2019, decreased by 2.1%. During the same period, an increase by 1.6% was recorded in the section *Manufacturing*, while in the section *Mining and quarrying* a decrease by 4.9% was recorded and in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* a decrease by 18.1%.

**Number of employees in industry** in April 2019, compared to March 2019, was 0.3% higher. Compared to the same month of the previous year it was 0.1% lower and compared to the average monthly number of employees in 2018 it was 0.3% lower. Number of employees in industry in the period January-April 2019, compared to the same period of the previous year, was 0.2% higher. During the same period, in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* an increase by 9.7% was recorded, while in the section *Manufacturing* a decrease by 0.6% was recorded and in the section *Mining and quarrying* a decrease by 5.6%

Trend indices

Seasonally adjusted indices

Graph 3. Indices of industrial production, April 2015 – April 2019 (∅2015=100)

**Coverage of import with export 76.7% in the period January-April 2019**

In April 2019, the value of export was 290 million KM and the value of import was 402 million KM

In the total external trade of Republika Srpska in April 2019, the percentage of coverage of import with export was 72.0%. The percentage of coverage of import with export in the first four months of the current year was 76.7%.

In the period January-April 2019, the value of export was one billion and 168 million KM, which represented a decrease by 0.9% compared to the same period of the previous year. During the same period, the value of import was one billion and 523 million KM, which represented a decrease by 4.4% 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 2019, the highest value of export was that of export to Italy, with 191 million KM or 16.4%, followed by Serbia, with 141 million KM or 12.1% of the total realised export. During the same period, the highest value of import was that of import form Serbia, with 282 million KM or 18.5%, followed by Italy, with 210 million KM or 13.8% of the total realised import.

By group of products, in the period January – April 2019, the highest share in export was that of electricity, with the total value of 98 million KM, which was 8.4% of the total export, while the highest share in import was that of medicaments, with the total value of 58 million KM, which was 3.8% of the total import.

thous. КМ

export

import

Graph 4. Export and import by month

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

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