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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **September 2019** |

**Average after-tax wage in August 910 КМ**

**The highest average after-tax wage in the section *Financial and insurance activities* 1,403 КМ; the lowest one in the section *Construction* 628 КМ**

Average monthly after-tax wage in Republika Srpska paid in August 2019 amounted to 910 KM, while average monthly gross wage amounted to 1,414 KM.

Average after-tax wage paid in August 2019, compared to the same month of the previous year, was nominally 6.8% higher and really 6.7% higher, while compared to July 2019 it was nominally 0.1% lower and really 0.2% higher.

In August 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 1,403 KM. On the other hand, the lowest average after-tax wage in August 2019 was the one paid in the section *Construction* 628 KM.

In August 2019, compared to August 2018, the highest nominal increase in after-tax wage was recorded in the section *Real estate activities* 29.0%, followed by *Other service activities* 19.0% and *Administrative and support service activities* 18.9%.

During the same period, a decrease in nominal wage was recorded only in the section *Financial and insurance activities* 2.8%.

КМ



Graph 1. Average after-tax wages by month

**Monthly inflation -0.3% in August 2019**

**Annual inflation (August 2019/August 2018) 0.1%**

Prices of products and services used for personal consumption in Republika Srpska, measured with the consumer price index, in August 2019, compared to July 2019, were on the average 0.3% lower, while they were on the average 0.1% higher compared to the same month of the previous year.

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

The highest annual increase in prices in August 2019 was recorded in the division *Alcoholic beverages and tobacco*, namely by 5.6%, due to higher prices of cigarettes by 7.6%. An increase in prices was also recorded in the division *Housing* by 2.9%, due to higher prices in the groups gas by 12.3% and refuse collection services by 9.7%. In the division *Recreation and culture*, an increase at the annual level amounts to 1.5% and it occurred due to higher prices in the groups major durables for indoor and outdoor recreation by 5.6% and travel arrangements by 5.2%. Higher prices in the division *Health* (0.7%) were recorded in the group pharmaceutical products, by 1.1%. An increase in prices in August was also recorded in the division *Restaurants and hotels*, by 0.6%, due to higher prices of catering services by 0.7%, as well as in the division *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*, by 0.4%, due to higher prices in the groups bread and cereals by 3.4%.

In the divisions *Furnishings and household equipment, Communication* and *Education* prices remained on the average at the same level.

The highest annual decrease in prices in August was recorded in the division *Clothing and footwear*, by 13.2%, 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 1.7%, due to lower prices in the groups insurance by 5.1% and personal items by 3.6%. A decrease in prices in the division *Transport* by 0.4% occurred due to lower prices in the groups motor vehicles and bicycles, by 4.3%.

Graph 2. Monthly and annual inflation

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production (August 2019/July 2019) increased by 1.5%**

**Working-day adjusted industrial production (August 2019/August 2018) increased by 2.8%**

**Number of employees in industry (August 2019/July 2019) decreased by 0.6%**

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production** in August 2019, compared to July 2019, increased by 1.5%. During the same period, in the section *Mining and quarrying* an increase by 7.6% was recorded and in the section *Manufacturing* an increase by 1.7%, while in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* a decrease by 0.1% was recorded.

**Working-day adjusted industrial production** in August 2019, compared to the same month of 2018, increased by 2.8%. During the same period, in the section *Mining and quarrying* an increase by 24.9% was recorded and in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* an increase by 5.9%, while in the section Manufacturing a decrease by 3.5% was recorded

**Number of employees in industry** in August 2019, compared to the average monthly number of employees in 2018, was 0.5% lower. Compared to July 2019 it was 0.6% lower and compared to the same month of the previous year it was 0.9% lower. Number of employees in industry in the period January- August 2019, compared to the same period of the previous year, was 0.1% lower. During the same period, in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* an increase by 8.1% was recorded, while in the section *Manufacturing* a decrease by 0.8% was recorded and in the section *Mining and quarrying* a decrease by 5.7%.

Trend indices

Seasonally adjusted indices

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

**Coverage of import with export 76.2% in the period January-August 2019**

In August 2019, the value of export was 242 million KM and the value of import was 353 million KM.

In the total external trade of Republika Srpska in August 2019, the percentage of coverage of import with export was 68.5%.

In the period January-August 2019, the value of export was two billion and 391 million KM, which represented a decrease by 2.3% compared to the same period of the previous year. During the same period, the value of import was three billion and 137 million KM, which represented a decrease by 9.4% compared to the same period of the previous year. The percentage of coverage of import with export in the period January-August of the current year was 76.2%.

In terms of the geographical distribution of external trade of Republika Srpska, in the period January – August 2019, the highest value of export was that of export to Italy, with 379 million KM or 15.8%, followed by Serbia, with 323 million KM or 13.5% of the total realised export. During the same period, the highest value of import was that of import form Serbia, with 578 million KM or 18.4%, followed by Italy, with 451 million KM or 14.4% of the total realised import.

By group of products, in the period January – August 2019, the highest share in export was that of electricity, with the total value of 191 million KM, which was 8.0% of the total export, while the highest share in import was that of medicaments, with the total value of 118 million KM, which was 3.8% of the total import.

хиљ. КМ

import

export

Graph 4. Export and import by month

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

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