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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **January 2020** |

**Average after-tax wage in December 939 КМ**

**The highest average after-tax wage in the section *Financial and insurance activities* 1,431 КМ; the lowest one in the section *Construction* 647 КМ**

Average monthly after-tax wage in Republika Srpska paid in December 2019 amounted to939 КМ, while average monthly gross wage was 1,461 КМ.

Average after-tax wage paid in December 2019, compared to the same month of the previous year, was nominally 5.4% higher and really 5.0% higher, while compared to November 2019 it was both nominally and really 2.3% higher.

Average after-tax wage in 2019 amounted to 906 KM, while average gross wage was 1,407 KM. Compared to 2018, average after-tax wage paid in 2019 was nominally 5.8% higher and really 5.3% higher.

In December 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 1,431 KM. On the other hand, the lowest average after-tax wage in December 2019 was the one paid in the section *Construction* 647 KM.

In December 2019, compared to December 2018, the highest nominal increase in after-tax wages was recorded in the sections *Information and communication* 14.7%, *Administrative and support service activities* 13.0% and *Mining and quarrying* 11.2%.

During the same period, a decrease in nominal wages was recorded in the section *Professional, scientific and technical activities* 4.1%, followed by *Accommodation and food service activities* 0.6% and *Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities* 0.4%.

км



Graph 1. Average after-tax wages by month

**Monthly inflation 0.0% in December 2019**

**Annual inflation (December 2019/December 2018.) 0.3%**

Prices of products and services used for personal consumption in Republika Srpska, measured with the consumer price index, in December 2019, compared to the previous month, remained on the average at the same level, while they were on the average 0.3% 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 on the average at the same level.

The highest increase in prices in December 2019 was recorded in the division *Alcoholic beverages and tobacco*, namely by 5.3%, due to higher prices in the group tobacco by 7.6%. An increase in prices was also recorded in the division *Recreation and culture* by 2.6%, due to higher prices in the groups newspapers and magazines by 6.5% and recreation and sports services by 5.8%. Higher prices were also recorded in the division *Food and alcoholic beverages* by 1.4%, due to higher prices in the groups fruit by 14.1% and meat by 2.9%. An increase in prices by 0.8% at the annual level was recorded in the division *Health*, while in the divisions *Housing* and *Restaurants and hotels* an increase by 0.7% was recorded. In the division *Communication* an increase by 0.5% was recorded and in the section *Other goods and services* an increase by 0.3%.

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

The highest decrease in prices in December was recorded in the division *Clothing and footwear*, by 10.6%, due to seasonal discounts on ready-made clothing and footwear during the year. A decrease in prices was also recorded in the division *Transport*, by 0.9%, due to lower prices in the group bicycles by 5.8% and in the group motor vehicles by 4.9%. Lower prices at the annual level were also recorded in the division *Furnishings and household equipment*, by 0.4%.

Annual inflation

Monthly inflation

Graph 2. Monthly and annual inflation

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production (Dec 2019/Nov 2019) increased by 1.2%**

**Working-day adjusted industrial production (Dec 2019/Dec 2018) decreased by 7.6%**

**Number of employees in industry (Dec 2019/Dec 2018) increased by 0.3%**

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production** in December 2019, compared to November 2019, increased by 1.2%. During the same period, in the section *Manufacturing* an increase by 0.8% was recorded, while in the section *Mining and quarrying* a decrease by 6.1% was recorded and in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* a decrease by 3.7%.

**Working-day adjusted industrial production** in Republika Srpska in December 2019, compared to December 2018, decreased by 7.6%. During the same period, in the section *Mining and quarrying* a decrease by 3.9% was recorded and in the section *Manufacturing* a decrease by 15.0%, while production in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* remained unchanged.

**Number of employees in industry** in December 2019, compared to the average monthly number of employees in 2018, was 0.2% higher. Compared to the same month of the previous year it was 0.3% higher, while compared to November 2019 the number of employees in industry was 0.2% lower. Number of employees in industry in the period January – December 2019, compared to the same period of the previous year, was 0.2% lower. During the same period, in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* an increase by 4.8% was recorded, while in the section *Mining and quarrying* a decrease by 5.5% was recorded and in the section *Manufacturing* a decrease by 0.4%.

Trend indices

Seasonally adjusted indices

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

**Coverage of import with export 75.3% in the period January – December 2019**

In December 2019, the value of export was 268 million KM and the value of import was 392 million KM.

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

In the period January-December 2019, the value of export was three billion and 601 million KM, which represented a decrease by 3.8% compared to the same period of the previous year. During the same period, the value of import was four billion and 780 million KM, which represented a decrease by 8.5% compared to the same period of the previous year. The percentage of coverage of import with export in the period January – December 2019 was 75.3%.

In terms of the geographical distribution of external trade of Republika Srpska, in the period January – December 2019, the highest value of export was that of export to Italy, with 568 million KM or 15.8%, followed by Serbia, with 494 million KM or 13.7% of the total realised export. During the same period, the highest value of import was that of import form Serbia, with 889 million KM or 18.6%, followed by Italy, with 714 million KM or 14.9% of the total realised import.

By group of products, in the period January – December 2019, the highest share in export was that of electricity, with the total value of 264 million KM, which was 7.3% of the total export, while the highest share in import was that of petroleum and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, with the total value of 185 million KM, which was 3.9% 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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