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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **May 2020** |

**Average after-tax wage in April 946 КМ**

**The highest average after-tax wage in the section *Financial and insurance activities* 1,432 КМ; the lowest one in the section *Construction*,655 КМ**

Average monthly after-tax wage in Republika Srpska paid in April 2020 amounted to 946 КМ, while average monthly gross wage was 1,469 КМ.

Average after-tax wage paid in April 2020, compared to the same month of the previous year, was nominally 5.5% higher and really 6.9% higher, while compared to March 2020 it was nominally 1.1% lower and really 1.1% higher.

In April 2020, the highest average after-tax wage, by section of economic activities, was paid in the section *Financial and insurance activities* and it amounted to 1,432 KM. On the other hand, the lowest average after-tax wage in April 2020 was the one paid in the section *Construction* 655 KM.

In April 2020, compared to April 2019, the highest nominal increase in after-tax wages was recorded in the section *Administrative and support service activities* 12.9%, followed by *Accommodation and food service activities* 12.5% and *Transportation and storage* 10.3%

During the same period, a decrease in nominal wages was recorded in the sections *Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply* 1.4% and *Other service activities* 0.2%.

KM



Graph 1. Average after-tax wages by month

**Monthly inflation -2.1% in April 2020**

**Annual inflation (April 2020/April 2019) -1.3%**

Prices of products and services used for personal consumption in Republika Srpska, measured with the consumer price index, in April 2020, compared to the same month of the previous year, were on average 1.3% lower, while compared to March 2020 they were on average 2.1% lower.

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 unchanged

The highest annual increase in prices in April 2020 was recorded in the division *Alcoholic beverages and tobacco*, namely by 5.5%, due to higher prices recorded in the group tobacco by 7.0%. An increase in prices was also recorded in the division *Recreation and culture*, by 3.2%, due to higher prices in the groups travel arrangements by 8.5%. Higher prices were also recorded in the division *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*, by 1.2%, due to an increase in prices in the groups fruit by 11.9%, oils and fats by 4.2% and bread and cereals by 4.1%. Higher prices in the division *Health*, in which an increase by 1.0% occurred, were recorded in the group pharmaceutical and other medical products by 1.4%, while an increase in prices by 0.8% in the division *Communication* occurred due to higher prices in the group telecommunication services by 1.0%. An increase in prices was also recorded in the division *Housing*, by 0.4%, due to higher prices in the group waste collection services by 6.6% and water supply and other municipal services by 3.7%, and in the division Restaurants and hotels, in which an increase in prices by 0.6% was recorded in the group catering services.

In the division *Education* prices on average remained unchanged.

The highest decrease in prices at the annual level in April 2020 was recorded in the division *Transport*, by 11.2%, due to lower prices in the group fuels and lubricants by 19.6%. A decrease in prices was also recorded in the division *Clothing and footwear* by 10.2%, due to seasonal discounts on ready-made clothing and footwear during the year. Lower prices in the division *Furnishings and household equipment,* in which a decrease in prices by 2.2% occurred, were recorded in the groups large tools and equipment by 5.7% and household consumables by 3.9%. A decrease in prices by 0.2% was also recorded in the division *Other goods and services*.

Note: Consumer price indices for April 2020 were processed based on the data on prices that were available for collection during the fieldwork, while for prices that could not have been collected due to the comprehensive measures adopted to prevent the spread of corona virus, imputations and estimates from the previous period were applied, in accordance with the methodology of consumer prices

Annual inflation

Monthly inflation

Graph 2. Monthly and annual inflation

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production (April 2020/March 2020) decreased by 5.3%**

**Working-day adjusted industrial production** **(April 2020/April 2019) decreased by 8.8%**

**Number of employees in industry (January-April 2020/ January-April 2019) increased by 0.3%**

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production** in April 2020, compared to March 2020, decreased by 5.3%. During the same period, an increase by 15.4% was recorded in the section *Mining and quarrying*, while in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* a decrease by 1.2% was recorded and in the section *Manufacturing* a decrease by 13.5%

**Working-day adjusted industrial production** in Republika Srpska in April 2020, compared to April 2019, decreased by 8.8%. During the same period, in the section *Mining and quarrying* an increase by 61.1% was recorded and in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* an increase by 30.6%, while in the section *Manufacturing* a decrease by 34.4% was recorded.

**Number of employees in industry** in April 2020, compared to the average monthly number of employees in 2019, was 0.7% lower. Compared to March 2020 it was 0.9% lower and compared to the same month of the previous year it was 0.6% lower. Number of employees in industry in the period January-April 2020, compared to the same period of the previous year, was 0.3% higher. During the same period, in the section *Manufacturing* an increase by 1.8% was recorded, while in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* a decrease by 2.0% was recorded and in the section *Mining and quarrying* a decrease by 9.7%.

Trend indices

Seasonally adjusted indices

Graph 3. Indices of industrial production, April 2016 – April 2020. (∅2015=100)

**Coverage of import with export 75.4% in the period January - April 2020**

In April 2020, the value of export was 219 million KM, which represented a decrease by 29.4% compared to April 2019. The value of import was 293 million KM, which represented a decrease by 30.1% compared to the same month of the previous year.

In the total external trade of Republika Srpska in April 2020, the percentage of coverage of import with export was 74.5%.

In the period January - April 2020, the value of export was one billion and 49 million KM, which represented a decrease by 11.7% compared to the same period of the previous year. During the same period, the value of import was one billion and 390 million KM, which represented a decrease by 9.7% compared to the same period of the previous year. The percentage of coverage of import with export in the period January-April 2020 was 75.4%.

In terms of the geographical distribution of external trade of Republika Srpska, in the period January - April 2020, the highest value of export was that of export to Croatia, with 154 million KM or 14.7%, followed by Italy, with 131 million KM or 12.5% of the total realised export. During the same period, the highest value of import was that of import form Serbia, with 244 million KM or 17.6%, followed by Italy, with 188 million KM or 13.5% of the total realised import.

By group of products, in the period January - April 2020, the highest share in export was that of electricity, with the total value of 102 million KM, which was 9.7% of the total export, while the highest share in import was that of medicaments, with the total value of 74 million KM, which was 5.3% of the total import.

thous. КМ

Export

Import

2019

2020

Graph 4. Export and import by month

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