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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **October 2020** |

**Average after-tax wage in September 965 КМ**

**The highest average after-tax wage in the section *Financial and insurance activities* 1,467 КМ; the lowest one in the section *Construction*,668 КМ**

Average monthly after-tax wage in Republika Srpska paid in September 2020 amounted to 965 KM, while average monthly gross wage was 1,498 KM.

Average after-tax wage paid in September 2020, compared to the same month of the previous year, was nominally 6.2% higher and really 8.1% higher, while compared to August 2020 it was nominally 0.3% higher and really 0.2% higher.

In September 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 1,467 KM. On the other hand, the lowest average after-tax wage in September 2020 was the one paid in the section *Construction,* 668 KM.

In September 2020, compared to September 2019, the highest nominal increase in after-tax wages was recorded in the section *Arts, entertainment and recreation*, 15.9%, followed by the sections *Accommodation and food service activities* 14.4% and *Mining and quarrying* 11.4%.

During the same period, a nominal decrease in after-tax wages was recorded only in the section *Other service activities*, by 1.5%.

KM



Graph 1. Average after-tax wages by month

**Monthly inflation 0.1% in September 2020**

**Annual inflation (September 2020/September 2019) -1.7%**

Prices of products and services used for personal consumption in Republika Srpska, measured with the consumer price index, in September 2020, compared to the same month of the previous year, were on average 1.7% lower, while compared to August 2020 they were on average 0.1% higher.

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

The highest annual increase in prices in September 2020 was recorded in the *Alcoholic beverages and tobacco*, namely by 3.6%, due to higher prices recorded in the group beer by 4.0% and in the group tobacco by 3.9%. An increase in prices was also recorded in the division *Recreation and culture*, by 2.0%, due to higher prices in the groups major durables for indoor and outdoor recreation by 6.7% and newspapers and magazines by 4.4%. Higher prices were recorded in the division *Health*, by 0.6%, due to higher prices in the group other medical products by 2.9%, and in the division *Communication*, by 0.5%, due to higher prices in the group telecommunication services. Prices in the division *Food and non-alcoholic beverages* increased by 0.3% due to an increase in prices in the groups oils and fats by 6.4% and fruit by 6.1%, while an increase in prices by 0.1% was recorded in the division *Other goods and services*.

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

The highest decrease in prices at the annual level in September 2020 was recorded in the division *Transport*, by 10.8%, due to lower prices in the group fuels and lubricants by 17.9%. A decrease in prices was also recorded in the division *Clothing and footwear*, by 10.6%, due to seasonal discounts on ready-made clothing and footwear during the year, as well as in the division *Furnishings and household equipment*, by 2.1%, due to lower prices in the groups carpets and other floor coverings by 5.1% and household textiles by 4.2%. A decrease in prices by 0.1% was recorded in the division *Restaurants and hotels*.

Annual inflation

Monthly inflation

Graph 2. Monthly and annual inflation

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production (Sep 2020/Aug 2020) decreased by 1.4%**

**Working-day adjusted industrial production (Sep 2020/ Sep 2019) decreased by 9.4%**

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production** in September 2020, compared to August 2020, decreased by 1.4%. During the same period, a decrease by 3.8% was recorded in the section *Mining and quarrying*, while in the section *Manufacturing* a decrease by 1.9% was recorded and in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* a decrease by 13.0%.

**Working-day adjusted industrial production** in Republika Srpska in September 2020, compared to September 2019, decreased by 9.4%. During the same period, a decrease by 3.6% was recorded in the section *Mining and quarrying*, in the section *Manufacturing* a decrease by 7.7% and in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* a decrease by 17.7%.

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Trend indices

Seasonally adjusted indices

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

**Number of employees in industry (Jan-Sep 2020/Jan-Sep 2019) decreased by 1.1%**

**Number of employees in industry** in September 2020, compared to the average monthly number of employees in 2019 and compared to the same month of the previous year, was 2.4% lower, while compared to August 2020 it was 0.3% higher.

Number of employees in industry in the period January-September 2020, compared to the same period of the previous year, was 1.1% lower. During the same period, in the section *Manufacturing* an increase by 0.5% was recorded, while in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* a decrease by 5.1% was recorded and in the section *Mining and quarrying* a decrease by 9.1%.

**Coverage of import with export 74.8% in the period January-September 2020**

In the period January - September 2020, the value of export was two billion and 443 million KM, which represented a decrease by 10.1% compared to the same period of the previous year. During the same period, the value of import was three billion and 266 million KM, which represented a decrease by 8.2% compared to the same period of the previous year. The percentage of coverage of import with export in the period January-September 2020 was 74.8%.

In terms of the geographical distribution of external trade of Republika Srpska, in the period January - September 2020, the highest value of export was that of export to Croatia, with 359 million KM or 14.7%, followed by Italy, with 336 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 620 million KM or 19.0%, followed by Italy, with 461 million KM or 14.1% of the total realised import.

By group of products, in the period January - September 2020, the highest share in export was that of electricity, with the total value of 197 million KM, which was 8.1% of the total export, while the highest share in import was that of medicaments, with the total value of 145 million KM, which was 4.5% of the total import.

thous. КМ

Import

Export

2020

2019

Graph 4. Export and import by month

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