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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **July 2021** |

**The number of employed persons increased in the year of corona**

On 31 March 2021 there were 275,358 employed persons in Republika Srpska, which represented an increase by 0.7% compared to September 2020, while it represented an increase by 0.1% compared to the same month of the previous year. Of the total number of employed persons, 125,685 are female.

By type of ownership, 81,269 persons were employed by business entities in state ownership, 162,712 by business entities in private ownership, 288 by business entities in cooperative ownership, and 31,089 by business entities in mixed ownership.

When it comes to educational attainment of persons employed by business entities, of the total number of 233,749 employed persons, among others, 62,973 persons have a university degree, 111,432 had completed secondary education, 27,424 are skilled, and 11,256 persons are unskilled workers.

**The real decline in GDP in 2020 amounted to 2.5%**

In Republika Srpska, the nominal Gross domestic product (GDP) in 2020 amounted to 11 billion and 130 million KM, which represented a nominal increase by 1.1% compared to 2019, while the real decrease amounted to 2.5%. The calculation of GDP is based on the international methodology European System of Accounts 2010 (ESA 2010).

GDP per capita in 2020 amounted to 9,795 KM.

**The decline in GDP was mostly caused by the following sections of economic activity:**

- Manufacturing (real decline rate 9.2%) with a share in the GDP structure of 11.2%;

- Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (real decline rate 2.8%) with a share in the GDP structure of 11.4%;

- Accommodation and food service activities (real decline rate 34.5%);

- Transportation and storage (real decline rate 11.9%);

- Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply (real decline rate 3.9%).

Summed, these sections of economic activity had a share of 31.7% in the GDP structure.

**The economic activities that contributed to mitigating the real decline in GDP are:**

- Agriculture, forestry and fishing with a share of 9.0% in the Gross domestic product structure recorded a real growth of 4.8%;

- Construction with a share of 6.1% in the GDP structure recorded a real growth of 6.5%;

- Information and communication (share of 4.9% in the GDP structure) recorded a real growth of 7.2%.

According to currently available data, in 2020 Republika Srpska recorded the smallest decline in GDP in the region after Serbia.

**Investments increased by 9.2% in 2020**

Investment activity in 2020 increased by 9.2% compared to 2019. Investments of business entities with headquarters in Republika Srpska in 2020 amounted to one billion and 954 million KM, while the financing of investments amounted to one billion in 846 million KM. In terms of distribution by economic activities, most investments were recorded in the economic activity *Public administration and defense; compulsory social security*, as a consequence of large investments in roads in Republika Srpska.

The most significant contribution to the growth of investments in 2020 was produced by large investments in roads and hospitals. Precisely due to significant investments in civil engineering, the section of economic activities *Public administration and defense; compulsory social security* has the most important role in the structure of investments by activity of investor, with 22.4%.

Republika Srpska also made large investments in hospital capacities, which led to an increase in the section *Human health and social work activities by* 132.1%.

In the structure of investments according to the activity of investor, *Public administration and defense*; *compulsory social security*

had the largest share with 22.4%, followed by *Human health and social work activities* with 13.9%, *Construction* with 13.6%, and *Manufacturing* with 12.8%.

**Survey on areas and plantations and the end of spring sowing**

Between 25 May and 14 June this year, the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics conducted the „Annual survey on sown areas at the end of spring sowing and estimates of yields of early-season crops“, as on 25 May.

Based on the survey results, data on sown areas by individual crop groups were published, as well as by some of the most significant crops at the level of Republika Srpska.

The data obtained through the survey indicate an increase in sown areas compared to the previous, namely for vegetables by 26.0%, for industrial crops by 24.0%, and for cereals by 12.9%.

Overall, sown areas in Republika Srpska increased by 22.0% compared to the previous year. The most significant sown area by individual crops in that of maize. Its sown area increased by approximately 20% compared to the previous year, while other major crops also recorded an increase compared to the previous year.