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| Prvi.jpg  |   22 October 2021, No **333/21**  |
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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **September 2021** |

**Record value of average after-tax wage in September – 1,026 КМ**

**A nominal increase in after-tax wages recorded in all the sections (September 2021/September 2020)**

Average monthly after-tax wage in Republika Srpska paid in September 2021 amounted to 1,026 KM; once again, this is the highest average after-tax wage by month recorded so far.

Average after-tax wage paid in September 2021, compared to the same month of the previous year, was nominally 6.4% higher and really 3.7% higher, while compared to August 2021 it was nominally 0.2% higher and really 0.4% lower. Average monthly gross wage amounted to 1,568 KM.

In September 2021, the highest average after-tax wage, by section of economic activities, was paid in the section *Financial and insurance activities* and it amounted to 1,592 KM. On the other hand, the lowest average after-tax wage in September 2021 was the one paid in the section *Construction*, 748 KM.

In September 2021, compared to September 2020, a nominal increase in after-tax wages was recorded in all the sections of economic activities, with the highest increase being recorded in the sections *Administrative and support service activities* 24.5%, *Construction* 11.9% and *Arts, entertainment and recreation* 11.4%.

 KM



Graph 1. Average after-tax wages by month

**Monthly inflation 0.6% in September 2021**

**Annual inflation (September 2021/September 2020) 2.6%**

Prices of products and services used for personal consumption in Republika Srpska, measured with the consumer price index, in September 2021, compared to the previous month, were on average 0.6% higher, while compared to the same month of the previous year they were on average 2.6% higher.

Of the 12 main divisions of products and services, an increase in prices at the annual level was recorded in eight divisions, a decrease was recorded in three divisions, while prices in one division remained unchanged.

The highest annual increase in prices in September 2021 was recorded in the section *Transport,* namely by 9.2%, due to higher prices in the group fuels and lubricants by 16.7%. An increase in prices was also recorded in the division *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*, by 4.5%, due to higher prices in the groups oils and fats by 23.2% and vegetables by 14.6%. Higher prices were also recorded in the division *Recreation and culture,* by 1.8%, due to higher prices in the group newspapers and magazines by 10.9% and in the division *Furnishings and household equipment*, by 1.7%, due to higher prices in the group large tools and equipment by 2.4%. An increase by 1.3% recorded in the division *Alcoholic beverages and tobacco* occurred due to higher prices in the group tobacco by 2.1%, while an increase by 0.9% recorded in the division *Health* occurred due to higher prices in the group outpatient services by 3.6%. In the division *Housing* an increase in prices by 0.4% was recorded, due to higher prices in the groups liquid fuels by 26.9% and gas by 15.8%. An increase in prices by 0.4% was also recorded in the division *Restaurants and hotels,* due to higher prices in the group restaurant and café services by 0.5%.

In the division *Other goods and services* prices remained on average at the same level.

The highest decrease in prices at the annual level in September 2021 was recorded in the division *Clothing and footwear,* by 7.8%, due to seasonal discounts on ready-made clothing and footwear during the year. Lower prices were also recorded in the division *Education,* by 0.2%, due to a decrease in prices in the group preschool education by 1.6%. A decrease in prices by 0.1% was recorded in the division *Communication*, due to lower prices in the group telephone and telefax equipment by 3.4%.

Annual inflation

Monthly inflation

Graph 2. Monthly and annual inflation

**Working-day adjusted industrial production (Sep 2021/Sep 2020) increased by 8.1%**

**Seasonally-adjusted industrial production (Sep 2021/Aug 2021) decreased by 2.2%**

**Working-day adjusted industrial production** in Republika Srpska in September 2021, compared to September 2020, increased by 8.1%. During the same period, in the section *Manufacturing* an increase by 9.0% was recorded and in the section *Mining and quarrying* an increase by 2.3%, while in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* a decrease by 0.1% was recorded.

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production** in September 2021, compared to August 2021, decreased by 2.2%. During the same period, in the section *Manufacturing* an increase by 1.9% was recorded, while in the section *Mining and quarrying* a decrease by 2.1% was recorded and in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* a decrease by 17.8%.

Industrial production in the period January – September 2021 increased by 14.0% compared to the same period of 2020.

Trend indices

Seasonally adjusted indices

Graph 3. Indices of industrial production, September 2017 – September 2021 (∅2015=100)

**Number of employees in industry (Sep 2021/Sep 2020) increased by 0.5%**

**Number of employees in industry** in September 2021, compared to the same month of the previous year, was 0.5% higher, while compared to August 2021 it was 0.3% higher.

Number of employees in industry in the period January – September 2021, compared to the same period of the previous year, was 1.5% lower. During the same period, in the section *Manufacturing* a decrease by 0.4% was recorded, in the section *Mining and quarrying* a decrease by 0.5% and in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* a decrease by 8.9%.

**Record value for exports in September**

In the period January-September 2021, the value of export was three billion and 176 million KM, which represented an increase by 29.9% compared to the period January-September 2020, while the value of import was three billion and 985 million KM, which represented an increase by 22.1% compared to the period January-September 2020. The percentage of coverage of import with export was 79.7%.

In September 2021, the value of export was 424 million KM, which represented an increase by 34.7% compared to the same month of 2020, while the value of import was 528 million KM, which represented an increase by 35.0% compared to September 2020.

The value of export of Republika Srpska in September 2021 was the highest value ever recorded if observing export by month, which is the fourth time this year, after records were set in March, June and July.

In terms of the geographical distribution of external trade of Republika Srpska, in the period January – September 2021, the highest value of export was that of export to Croatia, with 470 million KM or 14.8%, followed by Serbia, with 463 million KM or 14.6% of the total realised export. During the same period, the highest value of import was that of import form Serbia, with 748 million KM or 18.8%, followed by Italy, with 589 million KM or 14.8% of the total realised import.

By group of products, in the period January – September 2021, the highest share in export was that of electricity, with the total value of 264 million KM, which was 8.3% of the total export, while the highest share in import was that of petroleum oils, with the total value of 195 million KM, which was 4.9% of the total import.

thous. КМ

Export

Import

2020

2021

Graph 4. Export and import by month

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| The Release prepared by the Division for Publications, Public Relations and Statistical Data Confidentiality |
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