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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **April 2022** |

**Average net wage in March – 1,091 КМ**

**A nominal increase in net wages recorded in all 19 sections (March 2022/March 2021)**

Average monthly net wage in Republika Srpska paid in March 2022 amounted to 1,091 KM and it was nominally 11.6% higher and really 2.2% higher compared to the same month of the previous year, while compared to February 2022 nominally it remained at the same level and really it was 2.5% lower. Average monthly gross wage amounted to 1,642 KM.

In March 2022, the highest average net wage, by section of economic activities, was paid in the section *Financial and insurance activities* and it amounted to 1,559 KM. On the other hand, the lowest average net wage in March 2022 was the one paid in the section *Construction*, 797 KM.

In March 2022, compared to March 2021, a nominal increase in net wages was recorded in all 19 sections of economic activities, with the highest increase being recorded in the section *Real estate activities* 23.7%, followed by *Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles* 20.2% and *Accommodation and food service activities* 15.9%.

 KM



Graph 1. Average net wages by month

**Monthly inflation 2.6% in March 2022**

**Annual inflation (March 2022/March 2021) 9.1%**

Prices of products and services used for personal consumption in Republika Srpska, measured with the consumer price index, in March 2022, compared to the previous month, were on average 2.6% higher, while compared to the same month of the previous year they were on average 9.1% higher.

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

The highest annual increase in prices in March 2022 was recorded in the section *Transport,* namely by 24.8%, due to higher prices in the group fuels and lubricants for passenger cars by 42.2%. An increase in prices was also recorded in the division *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*, by 13.9%, due to higher prices in the groups oils and fats by 32.5% and vegetables by 24.2%. Higher prices were also recorded in the division *Restaurants and hotels,* by 7.8%, due to higher prices in the group restaurant and café services by 9.2%. An increase in prices was recorded in the following divisions as well: *Furnishings and household equipment,* by 7.0%, due to higher prices in the group furniture and pieces of furniture by 13.7%; *Recreation and culture,* by 4.3%, due to higher prices in the group newspapers and magazines by 20.0%; *Housing,* by 3.8%, due to higher prices in the group liquid fuels by 52.6%; *Other goods and services*, by 3.2%, due to higher prices in the group other financial services, by 9.3%. An increase in prices by 0.9% recorded in the division *Alcoholic beverages and tobacco* occurred to higher prices in the group spirits by 4.1%, while an increase in prices by 0.3% recorded in the division *Communication* occurred due to higher prices in the group telephone and telefax services by 0.5%. In the division *Health* an increase in prices by 0.1% was recorded, due to higher prices in the group outpatient services by 2.8%.

The highest decrease in prices at the annual level in March 2022 was recorded in the division *Clothing and footwear*, by 4.6%, due to seasonal discounts on ready-made clothing and footwear during the year. Lower prices were also recorded in the division *Education*, by 0.1%, due to lower prices in the group preschool education by 0.8%.

Annual inflation

Monthly inflation

Graph 2. Monthly and annual inflation

**Working-day adjusted industrial production (March 2022/March 2021) increased by 7.9%**

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production (March 2022/February 2022) increased by 4.2%**

**Working-day adjusted industrial production** in March 2022, compared to March 2021, increased by 7.9%.

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production** in Republika Srpska in March 2022, compared to February 2022, increased by 4.2%.

Industrial production in Republika Srpska in the period January – March 2022, compared to the same period of 2021, increased by 0.9%. During the same period, in the section *Mining and quarrying* an increase by 8.8% was recorded and in the section *Manufacturing* an increase by 6.7%, while in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* a decrease by 9.5% was recorded.

Trend indices

Seasonally adjusted indices

Graph 3. Indices of industrial production, March 2018 – March 2022 (∅2015=100)

**Number of employees in industry (March 2022/March 2021) increased by 1.4%**

**Number of employees in industry** in March 2022, compared to the same month of the previous year, was 1.4% higher, while compared to the 2021 average it was 0.7% higher.

Number of employees in industry in the period January – March 2022, compared to the same period of the previous year, was 1.3% higher.

**Record values of exports and imports during March**

**Coverage of import with export 81.2%**

In the period January – March 2022, the value of export was one billion and 283 million KM, which represented an increase by 34.7% compared to the period January- March 2021, while the value of import was one billion and 580 million KM, which represented an increase by 38.8% compared to the period January-March 2021. The percentage of coverage of import with export amounted to 81.2%.

In March 2022, the value of export was 479 million KM, which represented an increase by 28.4% compared to the same month of 2021, while the value of import was 667 million KM, which represented an increase by 41.8% compared to March 2021. The values of export and import in March 2022 were the highest values recorded since export and import are observed by month.

In terms of the geographical distribution of external trade of Republika Srpska, in the period January – March 2022, the highest value of export was that of export to Serbia, with 232 million KM or 18.1%, followed by Croatia, with 179 million KM or 13.9% of the total realised export. During the same period, the highest value of import was that of import form Serbia, with 269 million KM or 17.0%, followed by Italy, with 237 million KM or 15.0% of the total realised import.

By group of products, in the period January - March 2022, the highest share in export was that of electricity, with the total value of 160 million KM, which was 12.4% of the total export, while the highest share in import was that of petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (other than crude), with the total value of 108 million KM, which was 6.8% of the total import.

thous. КМ

Export

Import

2022

2021

Graph 4. Export and import by month

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