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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **March 2016** |

**Average net wage in February 838 КМ**

**The highest average net wage was that in the section *Financial and insurance activities* 1,260 КМ, while the lowest one was that in the section *Administrative and support service activities* 513 КМ**

Average monthly net wage of employed persons in Republika Srpskapaid in February 2016 was838 КМ, while average monthly gross wage was 1,349 КМ.

Compared to February 2015, average net wage paid in February 2016 was really 1.8% higher, while compared to January 2016 it was really 2.9% higher.

The increase in the average net wage in February 2016, compared to January 2016, occurred mainly due to a large number of entities which had no payments in January, while there were payments in February, in addition to the fact that these entities have high average wages and employ a significant number of persons.

In February 2016, the highest average net wage, by section of activities, was paid in the section *Financial and insurance activities* and it amounted to 1,260 KM. On the other hand, the lowest average net wage in February 2016 was the the one paid in the section *Administrative and support service activities* 513 KM.

In February 2016, compared to January 2016, a nominal increase in net wages was recorded in the sections *Information and communication* 45.5%, *Professional, scientific and technical activities* 7.0% and *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* 5.3%.

A decrease in nominal wages was recorded in the sections *Accommodation and food service activities* 10.5%, *Other service activities* 3.3% and *Financial and insurance activities* 2.7%.

км



Graph 1. Average net wages of employed persons by month

**Monthly inflation -0.2% in February 2016**

**Annual inflation (February 2016/February 2015) -1.3%**

Prices of products and services for personal consumption in Republika Srpska, measured with the consumer price index, in February 2016, compared to the previous month, were on the average 0.2% lower, while they were 1.3% lower at the annual level.

Of the 12 main divisions of products and services, an increase in prices was recorded in three divisions, a decrease was recorded in five divisions, while prices in four divisions remained on the average at the same level.

The highest increase in prices in February was recorded in the division *Food and non-alcoholic beverages* (0.8%), namely in the groups vegetables (5.0%) and fruit (4.6%), due to seasonal effects and new purchase prices commonly recorded in February. An increase was also recorded in the group oils and fats (1.0%), due to new purchase prices of oil and margarine, as well as in the group sugar, honey and related products (0.8%), due to a new purchase price of sugar (3.9%). Higher prices were also recorded in the division *Health care* (0.3%), in the group pharmaceutical and other medical products (0.4%), due to higher purchase prices of certain medicaments, and in the division *Alcoholic beverages and tobacco*, in which the highest increase (0.8%) was recorded in the groups spirits and beer, also due to new purchase prices.

In the divisions *Housing, Communication, Education,* and *Restaurants and hotels* prices remained on the average at the same level.

The highest decrease in prices in February was recorded in the division *Transport* (2.6%), due to lower purchase prices of fuels (5.8%) and as a result of reduced prices of local transport tickets in the City of Banja Luka (0.9%). A decrease in prices was also recorded in the division *Other goods and services* (1.2%), due to numerous discounts on personal care products. A slight decrease in prices was also recorded in the division Clothing and footwear (0.6%) and in the division Furnishing and other equipment (0.3%), due to discounts and permanently reduced prices in the group household cleaning and maintenance products.

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production (February 2016/January 2016) increased by 9.0%**

**Working-day adjusted industrial production (February 2016/February 2015) increased by 3.1%**

**Number of employees in industry (February 2016/February 2015) increased by 1.5%**

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production** in February 2016, compared to January 2016, increased by 9.0%. In the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* an increase by 12.0% was recorded, in the section *Mining and quarrying* an increase by 11.7%, and in the section *Manufacturing* an increase by 11.4%. By main industrial group, based on economic purpose of products, seasonally adjusted production of energy in February 2016, compared to January 2016, was 14.2%, production of intermediate products and production of consumer non-durables were 13.3% higher and producton of consumer durables was 12.2% higher, while production of capital goods was 15.0% lower.

**Working-day adjusted industrial production** in February 2016, compared to February 2015, increased by 3.1%. In the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* an increase by 5.5% was recorded, in the section Mining and quarrying an increase by 5.1% and in the section *Manufacturing* an increase by 3.5%. By main industrial group, based on economic purpose of products, working-day adjusted production of intermediate goods in February 2016, compared to February 2015, was 17.5% higher, production of consumer non-durables was 11.7% higher and production of consumer durables was 6.1% higher, while production of energy was 3.4% lower and production of capital goods was 15.7% lower.

**Number of employees in industry** in February 2016, compared to the same month of the previous year, was 1.5% higher. Compared to January 2016 it was 0.6% higher, while compared to the average monthly number of employed persons in 2015 it was 0.3% lower. Number of employees in industry in the period January-February 2016, compared to the same period of the previous year, was 1.2% higher. During the same peiod, in the section *Manufacturing* an increase by 1.5% was recorded and in the section *Mining and quarrying* an increase by 1.3%, while in the section *Electricity, gas, steam and air-conditioning supply* a decrease by 1.2% was recorded.

Graph 2. Indices of industrial production, February 2012 – February 2016 (∅2010=100)

**Coverage of import with export (in the period January-February 2016) 72.5%**

In February 2016, the value of export was 211 million KM and the value of import was 323 million KM.

In the total external trade of Republika Srpska in February of the current year, the percentage of coverage of import with export was 65.4%. The percentage of coverage of import with export in the period January – February 2016 was 72.5%

In the period January – February 2016, the value of export was 394 million KM, which represented an increase by 6.2% compared to the same period of the previous year. During the same period, the value of import was 544 million KM, which represented a decrease by 4.7% compared to the same period of the previous year.

In terms of the geographical distribution of external trade of Republika Srpska, in the period January – February 2016, the highest value of export was that of export to Italy, with 77 million KM or 19.6%, followed by Germany, with 53 million KM or 13.4% of the total realised export. During the same period, the highest value of import was that of import from Serbia, with 100 million KM or 18.4%, followed by Italy, with 72 million KM or 13.2% of the total realised import.

By group of products, in the period January – February 2016, the highest share in export was that of parts of footwear, with the total value of 23 million KM, which was 5.9% of the total export, while the highest share in import was that of petroleum and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (crude), with the total value of 33 million KM, which was 6.2% of the total import.

thous. КМ

export

import

2016

2015

Graph 3. Export and import by month

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| **DATA PREPARED BY:** |
| **Labour statistics**  Biljana Glušac  [3](mailto:biljana.glusac@rzs.rs.ba) |
| **Prices statistics**  Biljana Tešić  [Biljana.tesic@rzs.rs.ba](mailto:Biljana.tesic@rzs.rs.ba) |
| **Industry and mining statistics**  Mirjana Bandur  [mirjana.bandur@rzs.rs.ba](mailto:mirjana.bandur@rzs.rs.ba) |
| **External trade statistics**  Sanja Stojčević Uvalić, MSc  [sanja.stojcevic@rzs.rs.ba](file://\\kordun\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Low\Content.IE5\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Low\Content.IE5\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Low\Content.IE5\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.IE5\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\HVIF4827\sanja.stojcevic@rzs.rs.ba) |

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| **SYMBOLS** |
| **∅** - average  ¹ - estimate |

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