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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **March 2020** |

**Average after-tax wage in February 957 КМ**

**The highest average after-tax wage in the section *Financial and insurance activities* 1,413 КМ; the lowest one in the section *Construction* 657 КМ**

Average monthly after-tax wage in Republika Srpska paid in February 2020 amounted to 957 КМ, while average monthly gross wage was 1,485 КМ.

Average after-tax wage paid in February 2020, compared to the same month of the previous year, was nominally 6.7% higher and really 6.6% higher, while compared to January 2020 it was nominally 4.6% higher and really 4.5% higher.

In February 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 1,413 KM. On the other hand, the lowest average after-tax wage in February 2020 was the one paid in the section *Construction* 657 KM.

In February 2020, compared to February 2019, the highest nominal increase in after-tax wages was recorded in the section *Accommodation and food service activities* 19.2%, followed by *Administrative and support service* *activities* 13.5% and *Arts, entertainment and recreation* 8.7%.

During the same period, a decrease in nominal wages was recorded only in the section *Professional*, *scientific and* *technical* *activities* 0.3%.

 KM



Graph 1. Average after-tax wages by month

**Monthly inflation 0.1% in February 2020**

**Annual inflation (February 2020/February 2019) 0.1%**

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

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

The highest annual increase in prices in February 2020 was recorded in the division *Alcoholic beverages and tobacco*, namely by 5.4%, due to higher prices recorded since the beginning of the year in the group tobacco by 7.0%. An increase in prices was also recorded in the division *Recreation and culture*, by 3.0%, due to higher prices in the groups travel arrangements by 7.8%, recreation and sport services by 5.8% and major durables for recreation by 5.6%. Higher prices were also recorded in the division *Health*, by 0.8%, due to an increase in prices in the group other medical products by 2.4%. In the divisions *Housing* and *Communication* an increase by 0.7% was recorded, while an annual increase in prices by 0.6% was recorded in the division *Restaurants and hotels*. Higher prices in the division *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*, in which an increase by 0.4% was recorded, occurred in the groups fruit by 8.4%, bread and cereals by 3.4% and meat by 3.0%.

In the division *Education* prices remained unchanged on average.

The highest decrease in prices at the annual level in February was recorded in the division *Clothing and footwear*, by 8.7%, due to seasonal discounts on ready-made clothing and footwear during the year. A decrease in prices was also recorded in the division *Furnishings and household equipment*, by 2.2%, due to lower, discounted prices in the groups carpets and other floor coverings by 5.7%, large tools and equipment by 4.9% and household consumables by 4.2%. Lower prices in the division Transport, in which a decrease by 0.3% was recorded, occurred in the groups bicycles by 4.1% and air transport of passengers by 3.7%, while in the division Other goods and services a decrease by 0.1% was recorded.

Annual inflation

Monthly inflation

Graph 1. Monthly and annual inflation

**Coverage of import with export 77.7% in the period January - February 2020**

In February 2020, the value of export was 286 million KM, while the value of import was 391 million KM.

In the total external trade of Republika Srpska in February 2020, the percentage of coverage of import with export was 73.3%.

In the period January - February 2020, the value of export was 537 million KM, which represented a decrease by 4.6% compared to the same period of the previous year. During the same period, the value of import was 692 million KM, which represented an increase by 2.9% 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 2020, the highest value of export was that of export to Croatia, with 79 million KM or 14.8%, followed by Italy, with 78 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 111 million KM or 16.0%, followed by Italy, with 97 million KM or 14.1% of the total realised import.

By group of products, in the period January - February 2020, the highest share in export was that of electricity, with the total value of 54 million KM, which was 10.0% of the total export, while the highest share in import was that of petroleum and oils obtained from bituminous minerals, with the total value of 38 million KM, which was 5.5% of the total import.

thous. КМ

Export

Import

Graph 4. Export and import by month

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| **SYMBOLS** |
| **∅** - average¹ - estimate |

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| Prof. Dr. Jasmin Komić, Acting Director, Editor in ChiefVladan Sibinović, Head of the DivisionRepublika Srpska, Banja Luka, Veljka Mlađenovića 12dPublished by the Republika Srpska Institute of StatisticsThe Release is published online, at: www.rzs.rs.batelephone. +387 51 332 700; E-mail: [stat@rzs.rs.ba](file:///%5C%5Ckordun%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CLow%5CContent.IE5%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CLow%5CContent.IE5%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CLow%5CContent.IE5%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.IE5%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.Outlook%5CHVIF4827%5Cstat%40rzs.rs.ba)**Data may be used provided the source is acknowledged** |