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| PRESS RELEASE |
| **March 2025** |

**Average net wage in February amounted to 1,475 BAM**

**Real annual wage growth of 2.3%**

The average monthly net wage paid in Republika Srpska in February 2025 amounted to 1,475 BAM. Compared to January 2025, it recorded a nominal increase of 2.9% and a real increase of 2.0%, while in comparison with the same month of the previous year, it was higher by 6.0% nominally and by 2.3% in real terms. The average monthly gross wage amounted to 2,261 BAM.

By section, in February 2025, the highest average net wage was paid in the *Financial and insurance activities*, amounting to 1,896 BAM, while the lowest average net wage was recorded in the *Real estate activities*, amounting to 1,158 BAM.

In February 2025, compared to February 2024, all sections recorded nominal growth in net wages, with the highest increases observed in the sections of *Professional, scientific and technical activities* (15.0%), *Administrative and support service activities* (10.4%), and *Arts, entertainment and recreation* (10.2%).

BAM



Chart 1. Average net wage by month

**Monthly inflation in February 2025: 0.8%**

**Annual inflation (February 2025 / February 2024): 3.6%**

The prices of goods and services used for personal consumption in Republika Srpska, measured by the Consumer Price Index, were on average 0.8% higher in February 2025 compared to the previous month, and 3.6% higher compared to the same month of the previous year.

Out of the 12 main sections of goods and services, price increases were recorded in nine sections, while decreases were recorded in three sections.

The highest annual price growth in February 2025 was recorded in the *Health* at 9.0%, due to an increase of 37.9% in the Medical services group. This was followed by the *Restaurants and hotels*, which increased by 7.3%, due to a 7.9% rise in the Food and beverage group in catering. *Food and non-alcoholic beverages* recorded an increase of 6.6%, as a result of higher prices in the Non-alcoholic beverages group (33.8%) and Oils and fats group (15.7%).

*Alcoholic beverages and tobacco* recorded a price increase of 6.2%, driven by a 6.3% rise in the Tobacco group. *Other goods and services* increased by 3.4%, due to an 11.0% rise in the Personal care services group. *Recreation and culture* recorded a growth of 2.3%, owing to an 11.5% increase in the Veterinary and other services for pets group.

Price increase of 0.8% was recorded in the *Furniture and furnishings*, due to an 18.0% rise in the Repair of household appliances group, as well as in *Education*, also 0.8%, driven by a 7.2% increase in the Education not defined by level group. The same percentage increase, 0.8%, was recorded in *Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels*, as a result of a 12.4% rise in the Other services related to the dwelling group and a 10.6% increase in the Actual rentals paid by tenants group.

On an annual level, in February 2025, price decreases were recorded in the *Clothing and footwear* by 4.4%, due to seasonal discounts on clothing and footwear throughout the year. *Transport* recorded a decrease of 0.8%, owing to a reduction in prices in the Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment group and the Motorcycles group, both by 3.7%. A decline of 0.1% was recorded in *Communications*, due to a 1.9% decrease in prices in the Telephone equipment group.

Graph 2. Monthly and annual inflation

**Seasonally adjusted industrial production (February 2025 / January 2025) increased by 5.0%**

Seasonally adjusted industrial production in Republika Srpska in February 2025 increased by 5.0% compared to January 2025. Calendar adjusted industrial production in February 2025 decreased by 4.8% compared to February 2024.

Calendar adjusted industrial production in Republika Srpska for the period January – February 2025 decreased by 5.5% compared to the same period in 2024.

Graph 3. Industrial production indices, February 2020 – February 2024 (∅2021=100)

**Number of persons employed in industry (February 2025 / January 2025) increased by 0.3%**

The number of persons employed in industry in February 2025 increased by 0.3% compared to January of the same year. Compared to the 2024 average, the number of persons employed in industry in February 2025 was lower by 1.6%, and compared to the same month of the previous year, it was lower by 3.1%.

**In the period January – February 2025, exports were highest to Croatia, while imports were highest from Serbia**

In the period January – February 2025, exports amounted to BAM 787 million, which is 3.9% more than in the same period of 2024. Imports amounted to BAM 1.13 billion, representing an increase of 10.4% compared to the period January – February 2024. The export-import coverage ratio was 69.6%.

In February 2025 alone, exports totalled BAM 435 million, an increase of 6.7% compared to February 2024, while imports amounted to BAM 633 million, representing a 7.8% increase compared to February 2024. The export-import coverage ratio in February was 68.7%.

Regarding the geographical distribution of Republika Srpska's foreign trade, during January – February 2025, the largest share of total exports was to Croatia, amounting to BAM 150 million (19.0%), followed by Serbia with BAM 123 million (15.6%). In the same period, the highest value of imports originated from Serbia, totalling BAM 194 million (17.2%), followed by Italy with BAM 162 million (14.3%).

By product groups, in the period January – February 2025, the largest share of exports was accounted for by electricity, with BAM 85 million, representing 10.9% of total exports. The largest share of imports was made up of petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals (excluding crude), with a total value of BAM 78 million, representing 6.9% of total imports.

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2025

2024

Graph 4. Export and import by month

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