3 September 2021

Average wage increased by 8.2% in real terms

Average wages – Q2 2021

**In the Q2 2021, the average gross monthly nominal wage per full-time equivalent (FTE) employee in the national economy increased by 11.3% compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. In real terms, it increased by 8.2%. The median wage was CZK 32 408. Year-on-year indices are, to a considerable extent, influenced by a low comparison basis (the second quarter of 2020).**

**In the Q2 2021**, the average gross monthly nominal wage[[1]](#footnote-1) (hereinafter only referred to as ‘the average wage’) per FTE employee in the national economy in total was CZK 38 275, which is by CZK 3 893 (11.3%) more than in the corresponding period of 2020. In the aforementioned period, consumer prices increased by 2.9% and the wage thus increased by 8.2% in real terms. The volume of wages increased by 12.1%; the number of employees increased by 0.7%.

**Compared to the previous quarter**, the seasonally adjusted average wage increased by 1.2% in the Q2 2021.

According to the breakdown of economic activities (industries) by the CZ-NACE section, the average wage **compared to the corresponding period of 2020** decreased in the following economic activity (CZ-NACE section): ‘financial and insurance activities’ (by 1.6%), a low increase was recorded in ‘public administration and defence; compulsory social security’ (0.8%). The highest growth was reported by the following economic activity: ‘human health and social work activities’ (43.8%), in which extraordinary bonuses for work during the pandemic were paid. A high increase was also in ‘other service activities’ (19.2%) and in ‘accommodation and food service activities’ (17.3%).

The median wage (CZK 32 408) increased by 11.5% compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. The male median wage reached CZK 34 461 and the female one was CZK 30 026. Eighty per cent of employees earned wages within the interval from CZK 16 447 to CZK 63 731.

**In the first half-year of 2021**, the average wage reached CZK 36 807; in the year-on-year comparison, the increment was CZK 2 519 (7.3%). Consumer prices increased for the aforementioned period by 2.5%; the wage increased by 4.7% in real terms.

*Notes:*

The data are preliminary. Refined data will be available in December 2021.

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Annexes:

Table 1 Employees, average gross monthly wages by economic activity in Q2 2021 (absolute numbers, changes year-on-year)

Table 2 Employees, average gross monthly wages by economic activity in Q1 through Q2 2021 (absolute numbers, changes year-on-year)

Table 3 Employees, average gross monthly wages by territory of CZ-NUTS in Q2 2021 (absolute numbers, changes year-on-year)

Table 4 Employees, average gross monthly wages by territory of CZ-NUTS in Q1 through Q2 2021 (absolute numbers, changes year-on-year)

Table 5 Median wages of average gross monthly wages by sex

Chart 1 Average gross monthly wages, quarterly data (absolute numbers, changes year-on-year)

1. *The average gross monthly wage is a share of wage funds (including extra pay for overtime work, bonuses, compensation of wages, etc.) for one employee per month. Therefore, it does not indicate what wage one specific employee has. The earnings structure statistics, in which data on earnings of individual employees are available, show that about two thirds of employees have a wage below the national average.*

   *The median wage represents a value of an employee wage in the middle of the wage distribution. It means that one half of the wages is lower and the second half of the wages is higher than the median wage. Unlike the average wage, which is calculated based on background data from enterprise reports, the median must be derived from a statistical-mathematical model based on a sample survey, because enterprise questionnaires (reports) contain only aggregated data for a whole enterprise or organisation.*

   *It has to be kept in mind that from the gross wages the employers pay appropriate amounts for premiums for health insurance and social security and income tax advances of natural persons for their employees. The employees are paid net wages.*  [↑](#footnote-ref-1)