4 September 2023

Average wage decreased by 3.1% in real terms

Average wages – Q2 2023

**In the Q2 2023, the average gross monthly nominal wage per full-time equivalent (FTE) employee in the national economy increased by 7.7% compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. In real terms, it decreased by 3.1%. The median wage was CZK 36 816.**

*“The real wage decreased for the seventh successive time. In the Q2 2023, the nominal wage per full-time equivalent (FTE) employee increased by 7.7% to CZK 43 193, year-on-year, however, after taking the inflation into account, it decreased in real terms by 3.1%,”* Jitka Erhartová, Head of the Labour Statistics Unit of the Czech Statistical Office (CZSO), comments.

**In the Q2 2023**, 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 43 193, which is by CZK 3 101 (7.7%) more than in the corresponding period of 2022. In the aforementioned period, consumer prices increased by 11.1% and the wage therefore decreased in real terms by 3.1%. The volume of wages increased by 8.3%; the number of employees increased by 0.6%.

**Compared to the previous quarter**, the seasonally adjusted average wage increased by 1.5% in the Q2 2023.

According to the breakdown of economic activities (industries) by CZ-NACE section, the highest increase of the average wage **compared to the corresponding period of 2022** was recorded in ‘electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply’ (13.7%). It is followed by ‘real estate activities’ (10.6%), ‘mining and quarrying’ (10.4%), and ‘financial and insurance activities’ (10.0%). The smallest increase by 2.9% occurred in ‘other service activities’.

The median wage (CZK 36 816) increased by 7.8% compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. The male median wage reached CZK 39 847 and the female one was CZK 33 862. Eighty per cent of employees earned wages within the interval from CZK 19 320 to CZK 70 247.

**In the first half-year of 2023**, the average wage reached CZK 42 249; in the year-on-year comparison, the increment was CZK 3 198 (8.2%). Consumer prices increased in the aforementioned period by 13.7%; the wage thus decreased in real terms by 4.8%.

*Notes:*

The data are preliminary. Refined data will be available in December 2023.

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Related data set: 110024-23 Registered number of employees and their wages (the second quarter of 2023),

 [/current-product/41269](https://www.czso.cz/current-product/41269)

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Annexes:

Table 1 Employees, average gross monthly wages by economic activity in Q2 2023 (absolute numbers, changes year-on-year)

Table 2 Employees, average gross monthly wages by economic activity in Q1 and Q2 2023 (absolute numbers, changes year-on-year)

Table 3 Employees, average gross monthly wages by territory of CZ-NUTS in Q2 2023 (absolute numbers, changes year-on-year)

Table 4 Employees, average gross monthly wages by territory of CZ-NUTS in Q1 and Q2 2023 (absolute numbers, changes year-on-year)

Table 5 Gross monthly median 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.) per 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) only contain aggregated data for a whole enterprise or an 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)