

Area: Labour Market

THE AVERAGE GROSS EARNINGS*) ON TOTAL ECONOMY IN JANUARY 2023 WERE 6831 LEI AND THE NET 4254 LEI

- In January 2023, the average gross earnings were 6831 lei, with 276 lei (-3.9%) lower than the one registered in December 2022.
- The average net earnings were 4254 lei, decreasing with 144 lei (-3.3%) as against December 2022.
- The highest values of the average net earnings were recorded in **computer programming, consultancy and related activities (including information service activities)** (10041 lei), while the lowest in **accommodation and food service activities** (2412 lei).

January 2023 as compared to January 2022

- As compared to January of the previous year, the average net earnings increased by 15.0%**).

Earnings in relation with the evolution of consumer prices

- The real earnings index¹ was 99.9% in January 2023 in relation with January 2022.
- The real earnings index was 96.4% in January 2023 as against December 2022.
- As compared to October 1990, the real earnings index was 225.4%, by 8.4 percentage points lower than the one recorded in December 2022.

Evolution of the consumer price index and of the average net earnings index during January 2021 – January 2023



[The data of the graph \(xls\)](#)

Fluctuations in earnings were recorded during the year, mainly determined by granting annual premiums and holiday bonuses (December, March/April). These are influencing the increases or decreases depending on the period they are granted, finally leading to smoothing the fluctuations in monthly earnings at the level of the whole year.

The evolution of real earnings depends on both the fluctuations of the average net earnings and the inflation rate.

*) Please see [Methodological notes](#) from item 4. Concepts and definitions

**) The evolution of the average net earnings for the period January 2022 – January 2023 is presented in the Annex

¹ Calculated as the ratio between the average net earnings index and the consumer prices index

January 2023 as compared to December 2022

In January 2023, in **the majority of activities belonging to the economic sector², the level of the average net earnings decreased** as compared to December 2022, due to granting in the previous months of occasional bonuses (quarterly, annual, winter holiday bonuses, for outstanding performance or the 13th salary), payments in kind and other allowances, amounts from the net profit and from other funds (including value tickets). Also, decreases of the average net earnings in January were determined by the production un-achievements or lower receipts (depending on contract/projects), as well as hiring staff with lower earnings as against the average, in certain economic activities.

The most significant decreases in the average net earnings at section/division level of NACE Rev.2 have been recorded as follows:

- By 31.3% in manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products, respectively by 26.4% in mining of coal and lignite;
- Between 18.5% and 24.5% in manufacture of tobacco products, financial service activities (except insurance and pension funding), electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply, manufacture of basic metals, warehousing and support activities for transportation, extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas;
- Between 8.5% and 16.5% in manufacture of basic chemicals, fertilisers and nitrogen compounds, plastics and synthetic rubber in primary forms, other mining and quarrying, printing and reproduction of recorded media, activities auxiliary to financial services and insurance activities, manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations, manufacture of other transport equipment, telecommunications, manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products, water transport, insurance, reinsurance and pension funding (except compulsory social security), sewerage, professional, scientific and technical activities, crop and animal production, hunting and related service activities.

The increases of the average net earnings as compared to the previous month were due to the application of legal basis³, granting of the occasional bonuses (quarterly, annual or performance bonuses), payments in kind and other allowances, amounts from the net profit and from other funds (including value tickets), as well as production achievements or higher receipts level (depending on contracts/projects).

The most significant increases in the average net earnings at section/division level of NACE Rev.2 have been recorded as follows:

- Between 6.5% and 9.5% in manufacture of wearing apparel, manufacture of wood and of products of wood and cork (except furniture, including manufacture of articles of straw and plaiting materials), air transport;
- Between 1.0% and 5.0% in administrative and support service activities, postal and courier activities, other manufacturing, manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c., construction.

In the **budgetary sector⁴**, in January 2023 were registered increases of the average net earnings as against the previous month in education (+5.0%), human health and social work activities (+2.8%), respectively in public administration (+2.7%), mainly due to the application of the legal basis³.

Additional Information:

***) The average gross monthly earnings are determined by reporting the amounts from the salary fund, net profit and other funds (excluding severance payments, backdated paid arrears as consequence of winning the lawsuits involving the money rights related to previous years) to the average number of employees.**

For an accurate interpretation of the indicators, please see the [Methodological notes](#) attached to the press release on the homepage.

The average monthly gross and net earnings are presented in the [Annex](#). Additional information can be obtained:

- *accessing on-line TEMPO database (starting March 16th 2023):*

<http://statistici.insse.ro:8077/tempo-online/#/pages/tables/insse-table>

- *from the Monthly Statistical Bulletin no. 1/2023: <https://insse.ro/cms/en/publicatii-statistice-in-format-electronic>*

The next press release on the average monthly earnings will be issued on April 12th 2023.

Press release archive: <https://insse.ro/cms/en/comunicate-de-presa-view>

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² Excluding activities of public administration, education, human health and social work activities

³ GD no. 1447/2022 for setting up the national minimum gross guaranteed wage in payment, GEO no. 168/2022 regarding some fiscal-budgetary measures, the extension of some deadlines, as well as for the modification and completion of some normative acts

⁴ See the [Methodological notes](#) from point 3 regarding „budgetary sector”