

Gross wage per employee, growth index	Wages in SIT April 2004	In nominal terms		In real terms ¹	
		April 2004/ March 2004	April 2004/ April 2003	April 2004/ March 2004	April 2004/ April 2003
Gross wage per employee, total	260,231	99.6	105.4	99.1	101.8
Private sector (activities A to K)	239,796	99.0	106.4	98.5	102.8
A Agriculture	214,037	99.4	104.6	98.9	101.0
B Fisheries	196,736	99.6	104.3	99.1	100.7
C Mining and quarrying	309,688	97.2	104.5	96.7	101.0
D Manufacturing	218,540	97.7	106.5	97.2	102.9
E Electricity, gas and water supply	299,965	99.0	106.5	98.5	102.9
F Construction	213,240	98.2	106.9	97.7	103.3
G Wholesale, retail; certain repairs	230,937	100.4	106.1	99.9	102.5
H Hotels and restaurants	197,490	103.0	107.7	102.5	104.1
I Transp., storage & communications	280,164	99.8	108.2	99.3	104.5
J Financial intermediation	370,250	102.0	104.0	101.5	100.5
K Real estate, renting, business service	283,234	98.9	105.3	98.4	101.8
Public services (activities L to O)	316,343	100.8	102.7	100.3	99.2
L Public administration	318,420	100.0	100.3	99.5	96.9
M Education	316,831	99.9	104.4	99.4	100.9
N Health services and social work	309,154	100.9	101.1	100.4	97.7
O Other social and personal services	327,855	106.0	109.0	105.5	105.3

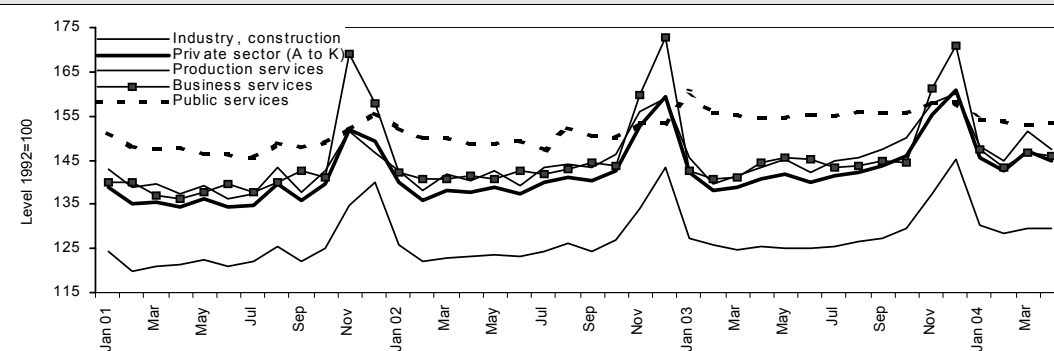
Source of data: SORS, private sector and public services wages calculated by the IMAD.
 Note: ¹deflated by the consumer price index.

April's gross wage per employee fell by 0.4% in nominal and 0.9% in real terms over March. The nominal fall in Slovenia's average gross wage was due to a drop in wages of the **private sector** (activities from A to K). Here, the gross wage fell by 1% mainly because April was three working days shorter than March. This fall, however, was even slightly weaker than implied by March's strong growth so some sectors must already have carried out wage adjustments in April because the wage policy negotiations were dragged out. The biggest fall in the gross wage was seen in **industry and construction** (activities C, D, E and F), going down by 2.2% in nominal terms, which was not unusual given wages' strong dependence on the length of the working month in manufacturing. In **production services** (activities G, H, and I) the gross wage edged up 0.4% owing to the seasonal rise in hotels and restaurants. The gross wage per employee rose by 0.8% in **business services** (activities J, K), mainly due to the rise in wages in financial intermediation.

In **public services** (activities from L to O), the gross wage per employee fell by 0.8% in nominal terms. While wages stagnated in the public administration and education, they climbed by close to 1% in health probably due to the greater number of hours worked on duty in April due to holidays.

In the **first four months**, the average gross wage per employee rose by 5.7% in nominal terms and by 2.0% in real terms over the same period last year. While the gross wage rose by 7.3% in nominal and 3.6% in real terms in the **private sector**, it climbed by 1.8% in nominal terms and fell by 1.7% in real terms in **public services**. The forecast of the pick-up in the private sector's wages in 2004 compared to 2003 is underpinned by the expectations of economic recovery and a five-day longer working year, which will have a particularly strong impact on wages in manufacturing. In public services, the real fall in wages should turn into a rise in the second half of the year because wages should be adjusted by 2.5% in July, while promotions, which also influence wage growth in this sector, are being approved regularly. These movements can be assessed to progress in line with the spring forecasts. Real wages will of course also depend on movements in consumer prices.

Graph: **Monthly real gross wage per employee**



Source of data: SORS, calculations by IMAD. Note: deflated by consumer price index.