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Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina Social Inclusion Strategy

for 2021-2027

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CONTENT

INTRODUCTION 4
1 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SOCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGY 5
1.1 COVID-19 pandemic and ramifications for development 5
1.2 Measures put in place in the Brčko District of BiH to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic 6
1.3 New approach and actions, in response to the effects of COVID-19 7
1.4 Social policy and employment 9
2 STRATEGY SECTION 12
2.1 Geographic position and natural characteristics 12
2.2 Demographic characteristics and changes 13
2.2.1 Population and population density 13
2.2.2 Population structure estimates 14
2.2.3 Natural change in population 15
2.2.4 Migrations 16
2.2.5 Key demographic challenges 17
3 POVERTY, IN TERMS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, NET WAGES, AND SOCIAL PROTECTION FUNCTION OF THE BD BIH 18
3.1 Key challenges of economic development 28
3.2 Key challenges of labor market development 30
3.3 Overview of the status and changes in the labor market 31
3.4 Employment 31
3.5 Unemployment 33
3.6 Net wages 36
3.7 Pensioners/third age persons 38
4 SOCIAL PROTECTION 39
5 CHILDREN 42
6 PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES 46
7 YOUTH 48
8 STATUS OF WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY IN BD BIH 50
9 SOCIAL INCLUSION POLICIES 55
10 ANNEX: ACTION PLAN WITH FIVE KEY SOCIAL INCLUSION PRIORITIES/OBJECTIVES/MEASURES 57
11 ANNEX - STATISTICAL INDICATORS 69

INTRODUCTION

Advancement of social inclusion and drafting of strategic documents intended to serve this purpose are of great importance in Bosnia and Herzegovina's EU accession process. This was clearly indicated in the European Commission's Opinion on the BiH application for EU membership of May 2019.

Priority 13, which relates to social inclusion of marginalized groups, and Chapter 19, „Social Policy and Employment“ from the EC Analytical Report specify enhancement of social inclusion as one of the total of 14 priorities that constitute the prerequisite for granting BiH the status of a candidate for the EU membership.

The development of the social inclusion strategies, in line with the constitutional prerogatives in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH), Republika Srpska (RS) and Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BD BiH) are important for the EU integration process.

Consequently, the 2021-2027 Social Inclusion Strategy of the Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina is vital for the integrity of the process of creating preconditions for accession of BiH to the EU.

The social inclusion strategies of the FBiH and RS were also developed in parallel.

The process of developing the social inclusion strategies of the FBiH, RS, and BD BiH began in early 2019. The following two documents were prepared as a methodological basis for the drafting of these strategies:

1. „Towards the European Union – Key Social Inclusion Issues in BiH“, considered and adopted at the Round Table in the BD BiH on July 8, 2019.

2. „Towards the European Union – Recommendations for Advancement of Social Inclusion in BiH“, whose consideration had been scheduled for March 17, 2020 in the BD BiH, but was cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The document was disseminated to the workshop invitees.

The COVID-19 pandemic and its long-lasting social and economic effects have underscored the importance of a proactive approach and new policies in the entire society, particularly in the field of social welfare.

This development added to the significance of the 2021-2027 Social Inclusion Strategy of the Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as it is no longer about the accession of BiH to the EU. but also about addressing mounting social issues.

The strategy is fully aligned with the Strategic Platform and with the preparation of the 2021-2027 Development Strategy of the Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The adoption of the 2021-2027 Social Inclusion Strategy of the Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina represents the achievement of one of the conditions for the accession of BiH to the EU and it puts in place the policies that will enable more effective enhancement of the overall social situation, and particularly for the marginalized groups in the BD BiH.

The Delegation of the European Union and UNICEF supported the project "Building a Social Inclusion Advocacy Platform in Bosnia and Herzegovina – Will You Stop and Listen!", implemented by the Social Inclusion Foundation in BiH (SIF in BiH) and the Initiative for Better and Humane Inclusion (IBHI). Launching and preparation of the social inclusion strategies in the FBiH, RS, and BD BiH is one of the project's objectives. The working drafts of the strategies are being developed by the expert team which includes Dr. Žarko Papić, Team Leader, Professor Ljubo Lepir, Fahrudin Memić, Maida Fetahagić, MSc, and Nataša Stevanović, MSc.

1 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SOCIAL INCLUSION STRATEGY

1.1 COVID-19 pandemic and ramifications for development

Since mid-March 2020, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has vastly affected the totality of the economic and social development of all the countries of the world. Its start and spread completely upended the perception of development priorities. As a short-term response, restrictive measures that limited people's movements and contacts were introduced, which has largely halted all social progress.

With the introduction of the state of emergency, mass gatherings were banned, operation of businesses was curtailed, and in some companies even completely suspended, mandatory hygienic and epidemiological measures were introduced, national borders were closed, etc.

Development policies will have to be urgently revised and adapted to the new conditions imposed by the pandemic. Economic policies will have to deal with devastating consequences of the pandemic on the society's economic power, while social policies will need to focus on the issues of social inequality, which is bound to intensify. Social inclusion policies will need to provide effective solutions, starting with the recognition that novel forms of exclusion require new legislative solutions and new types of action.

The most severe consequences are felt in the economy. Some branches of the economy have been completely paralyzed, while numerous companies all over the world have been forced to suspend operations and start laying off workers even in the early months of the crisis.

Service industry was the first to feel the blow, as they had to suspend their operations completely. Measures adopted at the outset of the crisis included total ban on operation of catering facilities, hair salons, retail stores and malls.

Healthcare has been the domain mostly affected by the crisis. Providing effective healthcare and managing contagion risk have constituted the greatest challenge in the current crisis. In general, the world's healthcare systems have not been prepared for this level of risk escalation, so it was entirely certain that healthcare facilities would collapse under the pressure of the large numbers of the infected and diseased. Whether the shortage of resources will permit the provision of healthcare to all those in need is one of the crucial and central questions in the pandemic.

1.2 Measures put in place in the Brčko District of BiH to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic

Having established that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy of the BD BiH has been very severe, the BD BiH Assembly adopted the Law on Mitigation of the Negative Effects the State of Natural Disaster Caused by the COVID-19 in the BD BiH at its 19th emergency session on May 5, 2020.

This law stipulated: partial subsidies for gross wages and pension fund contributions paid by employers, up to the total amount of BAM 860, partial subsidies for paid wage taxes and contributions, monitoring of the appropriate spending of the earmarked funding, suspension of accrual and payment of default interest on public revenues, exemption from the requirement for advance payment of the profit tax, sole trader tax, flat rate gaming revenue tax, postponement of payment of the property tax, exemption from payment of rent on business premises and public spaces owned by the District, modalities of settling disputes related to cancelled tourist trips purchased in advance with tourist agencies in the District, disbursement of the full amount of farming subsidies for 2019, suspension of debt enforcement activities, continuation of regular payment of some social benefits, grants, transfers and subsidies, postponement of enforcement of the regulations governing appropriate spending, penalty provisions, and state aid.

The economy of the BD BiH faces a series of both short- and long-term challenges related to revitalization of all sorts of businesses, in all sectors, from negative effects of the pandemic-induced crisis. These revitalization measures should be adapted to the particular features of each target group of entrepreneurs and firms. Revitalization from negative effects should be accompanied with the support for introduction of preventive business adaptation measures to mitigate negative effects of similar future crises.

Information and regulatory challenges can and should be addressed in the near term, by implementation of the following measures and activities: ensuring better flow of data and information required for adoption of targeted policies and support instruments in various areas of economic development (primarily through better structuring and procession of the data from legal persons' financial reports); ensuring more exact data and information necessary for more intensive involvement of the diaspora in the economic development of the BD BiH and harmonizing the BD BiH Law on Business Subsidies with the recommendations of the European Commission in terms

of the definition of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and the principles of the Small Business Act, as well as the harmonization with the BiH Law on State Aid and the corresponding EU directives.

1.3 New approach and actions, in response to the effects of COVID-19

The social inclusion policy in the European Union originated in the effort to reinforce the social dimension of the European integration, already well advanced in the economic sphere. It became evident that without new forms of social integration, which entail the respect of citizens' social rights, their inclusion in development processes and their protection of evolving social risks, the legitimacy of the EU may not be ensured. While primarily a component of social policy, social inclusion policy is essentially an intersectoral policy that ought to ensure that particular policies are formulated in a manner that encourages citizens' social inclusion and their wellbeing, thereby also ensuring their support for further integration processes.

In that regard, a social inclusion policy is a novelty for Bosnia and Herzegovina and, consequently, for the BD BiH, and it should facilitate a successful incorporation into the social process in the EU, which necessitates endowing various social actors with appropriate knowledge and skills to enhance the efficiency of this adaptive process.

Social inclusion policies are also among the objectives contained in strategic pillars defined for the BD BiH through the **Strategic Platform** as part of the preparation of the 2021-2027 BD BiH Development Strategy, as follows:

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1: COMPETITIVE ECONOMY, SMOOTHLY EMBEDDED INTO GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT TRENDS AND VALUE CHAINS, AS THE ENGINE OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE BD BiH, prioritizes the following measures:

- ensure greater systemic support to the economy and business, drawing on the administrative status and geostrategic position of the BD BiH;
- provide systemic support to the economy and development of businesses, to strengthen competitiveness in international value chains and ensure embedding into global development trends, particularly the digitalization and deglobalization trends;
- the ultimate objective is that the economy, supported in this fashion, in turn engenders a sustained renewal in all aspects of life and work in the BD BiH.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2: ENHANCE PROVISION OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION, CULTURE, SPORTS, AND PUBLIC SECURITY SERVICES IN LINE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF GOOD PUBLIC SECTOR MANAGEMENT AND EU STANDARDS, prioritizes the following measures:

- harmonize the approach of key political stakeholders regarding a reduction of politicization of individual public services for citizens and the professionalization of the public sector management in the BD BiH;
- taking into account the District's comparative advantages, embark on the strategic development of education, healthcare and social protection in a balanced, fair, and consistent way for all citizens;
- in parallel with the development processes, undertake the development of the fundamental principles of the individual civic, political and bureaucratic accountability for provision of public services;
- next to the previous successes in the creation of a multiethnic environment, and in securing resources, create the preconditions to strengthen coordination and quality management in all areas of social development, particularly to increase citizen satisfaction with public services and overall quality of life (particularly for the youth), both in the BD BiH and in the diaspora;
- initiate reform processes in all aspects of social life, while creating the conditions to adopt the 2021-2027 BD BiH Development Strategy.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3: SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL AND INFRASTRUCTURAL RESOURCES, prioritizes the following measures:

- reduce environmental pollution through upgrading and rehabilitation of damaged pollution-preventing filters;
- hold the management of the BD BiH healthcare sector accountable for the present state of healthcare, while ensuring provision of higher-quality and enhanced health care for BD BiH citizens;
- align other interests of the BD BiH with the environmental protection requirements;
- establish international cooperation in the field of environmental protection;
- accept realistic initiatives of BD BiH citizens that aim at environmental protection;
- promote dynamic infrastructural development of the BD BiH; and
- establish institutional support for protection and preservation of the environment.

Social inclusion implies that the government focuses on addressing weaknesses and overcoming systemic obstacles and on creation of conditions to improve the quality of life of the excluded, or those at the society's margin, particularly of children and youth, the unemployed, persons with disabilities, elderly and other marginalized groups. The approach focused on human beings constitutes the core of the concept of social inclusion.

The social inclusion concept corresponds with the notions of social cohesion and human development. In other words, the core principles of a cohesive and humane society imply social inclusion as a fundamental pillar of a just and democratic society. According to the redefined concept, "Human development is the expansion of people's freedoms to live long, healthy and creative lives; to advance other goals they have reason to value; and to engage actively in shaping development equitably and sustainably on a shared planet. People are both the beneficiaries and drivers of human development, as individuals and in groups."[1]

The duties arising from the European Union accession process are of particular importance for the social inclusion context in BiH, which is in this area linked with the implementation of the principles and rights established by the European Pillar of Social Rights.[2]

The factors that determine social development and the processes of social inclusion in the BD BiH are shaped by the current internal socio-economic processes, policies and practices of social action, as well as by the influences of global economic, social, and environmental developments, including the ramification of the ongoing pandemic crisis caused by the COVID-19 virus.

1.4 Social policy and employment

In the social sector, the EU rules include minimum standards in the area of labor law, equality, health and security in the workplace, and prohibition of discrimination, and a social dialogue on the European level is favored.

Pursuant to the Stability and Accession Agreement (SAA), BiH and the EU Member States shall cooperate to develop social policies and employment policies to ensure equal access and effective support to all vulnerable persons and to support BiH in harmonization of its regulations with the EU acquis.

Pursuant to the constitutional and legal framework, the two entities and BD BiH have most prerogatives in the field of social policy and employment. State-level powers primarily take the form of internal coordination on the basis of its constitutional responsibilities for representing BiH and assumption of international obligations. There are ministries of social policy and employment on both the entity and cantonal levels.

[1] UNDP, 2010. Human Development Report (HDR 2010). Available at: http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/reports/270/hdr_2010_en_complete_reprint.pdf. Accessed on March 25, 2020.

[2] The section "Social protection and inclusion" lists ten priorities for the Member States to act on, as follows: care and support for the children; social protection; unemployment benefits; minimum income; old age income and pensions; healthcare; inclusion of people with disabilities; long-term care; housing and assistance for the homeless; and access to essential services. Available at: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/social-summit-european-pillar-social-rights-booklet_en.pdf. Accessed on March 20, 2020

The BD BiH is statutorily entrusted with public responsibility for the following sectors: a) economy; b) finances; c) public property; d) public services/infrastructure; e) culture; f) education; g) healthcare; h) environmental protection; i) social protection; j) judiciary and legal services; k) law enforcement; l) housing affairs; m) urbanism and spatial planning; and n) other responsibilities essential to ensure the functioning of the District as an integral local administrative unit.

The District shall exercise these responsibilities and powers through the institutions listed in the Statutes of the BD BiH.

It follows that, by its Statutes, the BD BiH is, *inter alia*, entrusted with the responsibility for healthcare and social protection, and this responsibility is exercised by the Department for Healthcare and Other Services.

The BD BiH lacks an adopted strategy or social programme measures for protection of its inhabitants and, as a result, implementation of anything with a "social" connotation is entrusted to the Social Protection Division, an organizational unit of the Department for Healthcare and Other Services, which has the prerogatives to manage social, family, psychosocial, and child protection affairs. This Division is an administrative body, its staff members are either government officials or employees, and all applications related to entitlements in the field of social, family, and child protection submitted by BD BiH inhabitants are handled pursuant to the BD BiH Law on Administrative Procedure and material laws in force whose enforcement has been entrusted to this unit.

A mitigating circumstance for the work of the Social Protection Division is that, in the context of social changes and the passage of time since the adoption of material laws in force, it may, through the Department for Healthcare and Other Services and in its work programme for coming year, submit and present to the Government of the BD BiH proposals for reform of social, family, and child protection policies (along with the required funding through the Framework Budget Document (FBD) for the next two years). This was recognized and utilized in the last 10 years, through the adoption of legal amendments, e.g., for persons with disabilities, an innovative form of the carer's allowance (in the social protection domain) or the child allowance for twins, triplets, or quadruplets irrespective of means testing are being introduced. The adoption of the Law on Amendments to the BD BiH Law on Child Protection is expected soon, as a result of the already submitted legislative proposal of one of the caucuses of the BD BiH Assembly (whose mandate lasts until October 2020), and these amendments will introduce the entitlement to child allowance for each child in the family (aged 0 to 18 years) irrespective of means testing (as well as for children until the age of 26, on condition that they are enrolled in full-time education).

The rule that applied during the past decade was that each legislative proposal in the BD BiH must undergo an assessment of its conformity with the EU acquis, which is conducted by the competent Department for European Integration.

Its Statutes have not entrusted the BD BiH with jurisdiction in the domain of labor and labor relations or of employment policies.

But it is a fact that the BD BiH adopted a Labor Law in 2005, at the proposal of the Legislative Committee of the BD BiH Assembly (and in accordance with the Decree on Authorization of the Legislative Committee of the BD BiH Assembly no. 0-02-022-294/05 of November 7, 2005) and that, at the proposal of the BD BiH Government, in 2019 the BD BiH Assembly adopted a "new" BD BiH Labor Law ("BD BiH Official Gazette" no. 34/19). It is unknown whether the 2019 law had been submitted for assessment of conformity with the EU acquis, but it is certain that the bylaw submitted to the BD BiH Government by the Department for Healthcare and Other Services underwent the EU acquis conformity assessment procedure as well as the consultation with the BD BiH Economic and Social Council (the bylaw in question is the Rule Book on the Criteria and Modalities of Eligibility for Working Half-Time or for Eligibility of Parents of Children with Psychological or Physical Disorders).

In the BD BiH, employment policies are discharged by the Employment Bureau and there is no Department (Ministry) of Labor and Labor Relations.

2 STRATEGY SECTION

2.1 Geographic position and natural characteristics

The BD BiH constitutes a separate administrative unit in Bosnia and Herzegovina[3], in addition to the two Entities: the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) and Republika Srpska (RS). The BD BiH comprises the entire territory of the former Brčko Municipality.

The District is located along the border with the Republic of Croatia, an EU Member State, from which it is separated by the Sava River. The BD BiH lies on the right bank of the Sava River and covers the area of 493.5 km^2, which is less than 1% of the entire surface area of Bosnia and Herzegovina (51,129 km^2). The surface area of the central urban zone is 183 km^2. With regard to internal administrative boundaries in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the BD BiH adjoins several RS municipalities and two of the ten FBiH cantons, the Tuzla Canton in the southwest and the Posavina Canton in the northwest.

Situated in the Posavina Region, at the foot of Mt. Majevica, Brčko is positioned in a rather low-lying river valley that is part of the basin of the Sava, Brka, and Velika Tinja rivers. Depending on the respective terrace formed by these rivers, its altitude varies from 85-200 meters above sea level. The sole exception are the northern slopes of Mt. Majevica in the District's southern part, whose altitude is 200-400 meters above sea level.

The BD BiH is an important intersection of vital east-west and north-south transport routes and a rare multimodal transportation hub (roads, navigable river, railway) in BiH. Brčko offers an exit to Croatia and, through it, to Central Europe, as well as access to the Sava River and beyond, via the Danube, to Western and Eastern Europe. The distance to major cities, Sarajevo, Zagreb and Belgrade is around 200 km; the distance to Tuzla, the regional center, is considerably smaller, around 50 km; Osijek, the regional center of Slavonia, is around 100 km away, while Bijeljina, the center of Semberija Region, is at around 40 km. The access to the regional highway (Zagreb-Belgrade) is around 20 km away or more precisely near the town of Županja (Croatia). A bypass road has been constructed, and there are plans to build two highway routes through the BD BiH, one is the Banja Luka-Bijeljina Highway, and the other is a possible branch of the future Corridor Vc. The port on the Sava River is of considerable economic importance.

On the other hand, on the basis of available data and studies, the BD BiH lacks any significant natural resources and deposits, with the exception of the waterway and agricultural land. The Sava River is the major hidrographic feature of the BD BiH. In addition, in the territory there are numerous smaller rivers, canals and other water courses. The wellsprings of these water courses are mainly in the area of Mt. Majevica. The water table contains extensive reserves for supplying the

[3] Pursuant to the Final Arbitration Decision, the BD BiH represents a condominium of the two Entities under the direct sovereignty of the State.

needs of the population and the economy. The slopes of Mt. Majevica hold tested and confirmed sources of potable water. Initial soundings confirmed that the sources have the capacity of 185-200 liters per second, which is within the European standards. It is of particular importance that the water is of high quality, although the stability of this level of capacity cannot be established with certainty.

The climate is moderate continental, with high temperatures in the summer. The mean annual temperature is around 11^{o}C. The annual rainfal is 760mm. The Sava River is navigable for more than 310 days per year.

2.2 Demographic characteristics and changes

2.2.1 Population and population density

According to the official population estimate, in 2018 there were 83,234 inhabitants in the Brčko District living in 26,763 households[4], while according to the 1991 population census, the population of the former Brčko Municipality was 87,332.

The 2018 population estimate revealed an increase in the population of 1% relative to the number of inhabitants in 2013. The population density in 2018 in the District was 169 inhabitants per km^2, which places the District in the category of more densely populated territories (average population density in BiH is 69 inhabitants per km^2).

Average household size in the BD BiH was slightly larger relative to the average population size in BiH and in 2018 it was 3.11 members per household (3.04 for BiH).

Table: Population estimate 2013-2018[5]

Year	Total	Households
2013	82,410	26,820
2014	83,309	26,787
2015	83,236	26,764
2016	83,254	26,770
2017	83,243	26,766
2018	83,234	26,763

Data source: „Demographics in the Brčko District, 2014-2018“, BiH Statistics Agency

[4] Data source: „Demographics in the Brčko District, 2014-2018“, BiH Statistics Agency

[5] Based on the results of the 2013 Census of Population, Households and Dwellings in BiH, does not include data on external migrations.

2.2.2 Population structure estimates

According to the estimate of gender breakdown, in 2018 there were 50.63% women and 49.37% men in the BD BiH. The 2018 estimate reveals that the share of women in the population was somewhat greater relative to the share of women in the population in 2013 (50.02%).

Table: Population breakdown by gender, 2013-2018

Year	Women	Women, in %	Men	Men, in %
2013	41,219	50.02	41,191	49.98
2014	42,190	50.64	41,119	49.36
2015	42,131	50.62	41,105	49.38
2016	42,150	50.63	41,104	49.37
2017	42,149	50.63	41,094	49.37
2018	42,141	50.63	41,093	49.37

Data source: „Demographics in the Brčko District, 2014-2018“, BiH Statistics Agency

In 2018, the average age of the population in the BD BiH was 39.81 years (38.5 and 41.1 for men and women, respectively)[6]. The average age of the population in BiH according to the 2013 Census was 39.51 years, while for Brčko it was 39.67 years.

Using the data from the 2013 Population Census, the aging index (the relationship between the elderly (age 60 and older) and young (age 0-19) population was 94% in the BD BiH and it was somewhat higher than the aging index for BiH, which was 92% in 2013 (for comparison, the aging index for the FBiH and RS was 80% and 118%, respectively)[7].

The changes in the age structure of the population in 2018 relative to 2013 reflect the increased share of the elderly (65+) population in the total population of the BD BiH. The elderly category of the population increased by 5.03%, while the population aged 15-64 decreased by 1.49%. The youth share did not change significantly (0.20% lower in 2018).

The age data by gender indicate that the share of women in the population is greater because of the greater share of women in the elderly category (65 years of age and over), which was 58.40% in

[6] Data source: „Demographics in the Brčko District, 2014-2018“, BiH Statistics Agency.

[7] Data source: 2013 BiH Population Census Bulletin, BiH Statistics Agency

2018, while the number of men was greater than the number of women in the remaining two age groups (under 15 and 15-64 years of age).

Table: Population in 2013 and 2018 estimate of actual population, by age groups and gender

	2013	2013 (in %)	2018	2018 (in %)	2018/2013	2018, women	2018, women (in %)
Total	83,516	100%	83,234	100%	-0.34%	42,141	50.63%
0-14	13,081	15.66%	13,055	15.68%	-0.20%	6,195	47.45%
15-64	58,299	69.81%	57,432	69.00%	-1.49%	28,502	49.63%
65 +	12,136	14.53%	12,747	15.31%	5.03%	7,444	58.40%

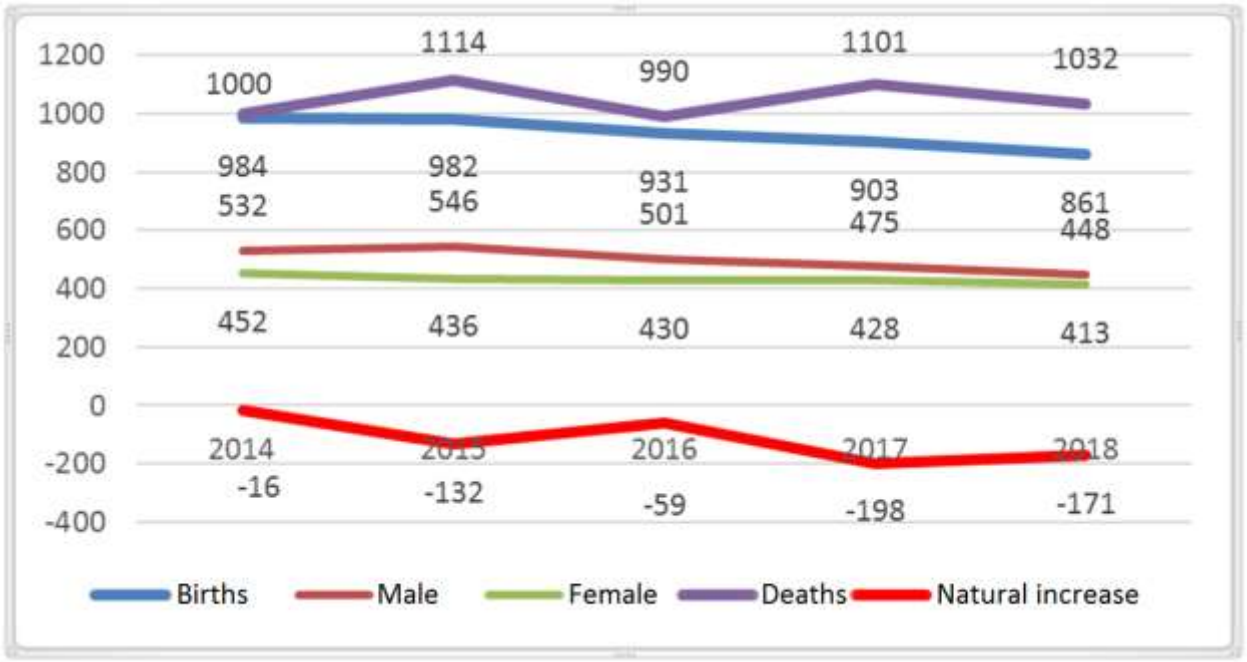
Data source: „Demographics in the Brčko District, 2014-2018", 2013 Population Census, BiH Statistics Agency

2.2.3 Natural change in population

The data on the natural increase of the population show that the natural increase is negative, with a persistent decline in the number of births over the observed period. According to the population growth data, in the past five years the District lost 576 inhabitants due to the negative rate of natural increase, which is equivalent to 0.7% of the population in 2013.

The data on new births broken down by gender show that the number of male babies born in the last five years was greater than the number of female babies.

Graph: Population growth (by gender), end-of-year, 2014-2018



Data source: „Demographics in the Brčko District, 2014-2018", BiH Statistics Agency

2.2.4 Migrations

The data on external migrations of the population are available from the 2013 Population Census[8], whereby 1,337 persons domiciled in the BD BiH are residents abroad. Most reside in Germany (20%), followed by Austria (15%), Australia (14%) and the U.S. (12%). For comparison, according to the same data source, of the total number of people with domiciles in BiH who reside abroad (63,014 persons), most reside in Germany, 16%, Croatia, 15%, Sweden, 12% and Austria – 9%.

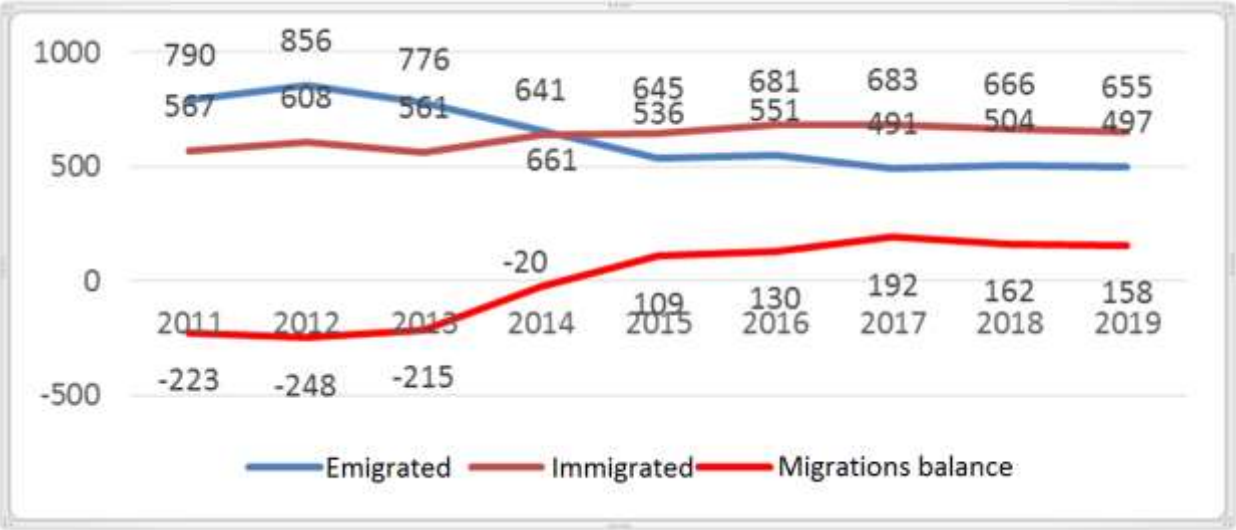
Employment is listed as the most frequent reason for residence abroad (31%), followed by „forced reasons" (27%), and family reasons (16%). Seven percent of persons listed education as the reason for residence abroad.

The data on internal migration since 2015 showed a positive migratory balance for the BD BiH, although it had been markedly negative between 2011 and 2013. On the basis of the data on the number of immigrants and emigrants from the District, we conclude that the positive migratory

[8] Data source: 2013 Census – Census of person with residence abroad, BiH Statistics Agency

balance was a result of a diminished number of emigrants from the District, as the number of immigrants to the District in recent years was stable.

Graph: Internal migration trends



Data source: Internal Migrations Bulletin, BiH Statistics Agency

The data on diaspora is still not collected and maintained. The 2020-2024 BD BiH Diaspora Cooperation Development Strategy[9] envisages *the development a a database (register) of the diaspora and diaspora organizations and associations that gather emigrants from the District or wish to cooperate with it.*

2.2.5 Key demographic challenges

In the terms of demography, the BD BiH faces a range of challenges that are common with other parts of the country. These are:

- deterioration of the age structure of the population;
- negative rate of increase, with a constant decline in the number of new births; and
- a scarcity of data on the diaspora.

Under these conditions, protection of children and families with children, and support to the development of children and engagement of youth is not only an essential component of social policy, but also a precondition of overall future development. Without human resources and their

[9] The strategy was adopted on February 13th 2020 and published in the BD BiH Official Gazette, no. 6 of February 24th 2020.

strengthening there will be no future development. Therefore, spending on child protection and child development is an investment, and not a „cost“.

3 POVERTY, IN TERMS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, NET WAGES, AND SOCIAL PROTECTION FUNCTION OF THE BD BIH

Poverty is an expression that means inability to meet basic human needs, i.e., the shortage of material resources essential for preservation of life and health. In this sense, regular nutrition, as well as protection from natural elements (housing) are most often understood as basic human needs. Expressions such as extreme (destitution) or absolute poverty are also used to refer to the scarcity of basic needs.

Absolute poverty is defined as the level of consumption expenditures below a certain threshold, relative to the cost of a certain consumer basket. A consumer basket is defined that, according to chosen criteria, contains essential products and then its cost is calculated by adding all values obtained by multiplication of quantities by prices. This cost is considered the minimum level of consumption that a household must meet to reach the consumption expenditure level defined as „sufficient“, i.e., an arbitrary threshold below which households are deemed to be poor, as their consumption does not reach that level. The criterion of „sufficiency“, which we juse here and which is in conformity with the proposal of the World Bank (2003), relates to the minimum caloric value of a food consumption basket. People require food to survive, i.e., a certain quantity of calories, vitamins and protein is required to sustain life and maintain energy needed to live, work and take part in the activities of the community. Nutritionists calculated the minimum caloric values individuals need to ingest in accordance with their age, gender and level of effort expended. Once a table of minimum caloric needs is defined, requisite quantities may be calculated, and their cost established using the appropriate market price of each product. The total level of consumption that corresponds to the share of food consumption extablished in this way then determines the overal poverty threshold, below which households are deemed to be poor.

The concept of poverty includes the condition when a person is able to meet its basic needs, but not its other needs (hygiene, education, recreation, etc.) that are considered part of living standards of a given state. This state is referred to as relative poverty.

Relative poverty is defined as the level of consumption expenditure below a certain threshold, depending on the total consumption expenditure of the entire population. After all households are ranked by their consumption levels, a proportion of the median consumer value is set as an arbitrary threshold below which households are deemed to be poor, as their consumption does not reach that level. So such households are deemed poor relative to others: for instance, if the median consumption rises because just the consumption of middle- and high-income households rises, then

the poverty threshold will rise, which will increase the number of households that are deemed to be poor. Evidently, this is the reason why it is not possible to compare poverty rates of two countries with different median consumptions and poverty thresholds.

While criteria for determining poverty vary over regions, cultures, or epochs, it is generally considered that the majority of the population throughout history was in the state of absolute or relative poverty.

Only the industrial revolution, with related economic and social transformations, created conditions for successful elimination of poverty in the developed world. Poverty is traditionally viewed as a major cause of most forms of contemporary social pathologies and a catalyst of political instability and armed conflict.

Absolute poverty profile in the BD BiH

The absolute poverty profile in the BD BiH (BiH and FBiH) was determined on the basis of the data from the Extended Household Budget Survey conducted in BiH in 2015. The estimates for BiH were used to obtain the absolute poverty line.

The 2015 absolute poverty line for BiH was 270 BAM per household member, and it was calculated by adjusting the 2007 absolute poverty line, which was 238 BAM, for the 2007-2015 inflation, using the data on the increase of the consumer index in BiH.

Absolutely poor persons are those persons who are unable to meet the minimum of their non-food needs (and as such they should be distinguished from extremely poor persons, who by definition are unable to meet the minimum of their food needs).

The 2015 EHBS estimated that number of inhabitants living, i.e., present in BiH and BD BiH at the time the study was conducted was 2,995,603 and 66,236, respectively.[10]

In 2015, around 17,000 of inhabitants of the BD BiH, or some 26% of the population, were absolutely poor, i.e., about one in four inhabitants was in absolute poverty.

Age structure of the absolutely poor

-Table: Percentage share of population age groups in BiH and BD BiH in the total population of BiH and BD BiH, 2015 EHBS

	0-14	15-24	25-64	65+	Total

[10] This data differs from the official 2013 Census data.

BD BiH	16%	13%	55%	17%	100%
BiH	14%	14%	55%	18%	100%

More than half (55%) of the population of the BD BiH are in the 25-64 age group. Persons aged 65 and older constitute 17% of the population of the BD BiH and the 0-14 cohort makes up 16% of the inhabitants of the District.

Table: Share of the absolutely poor in the BD BiH by age group, 2015 EHBS

	0-14	15-24	25-64	65+	Total
BD BiH	42%	30%	24%	17%	26%
BiH	34%	24%	22%	17%	23%

On the level of the BD BiH, the children aged 0-14 are the poorest, with 42%, or two in five children, in poverty.

Table: Share of the absolutely poor in the BD BiH by age group relative to the total absolutely poor population in the BD BiH, 2015 EHBS

	0-14	15-24	25-64	65+	Total
BD BiH	25%	15%	49%	11%	100%*
BiH	20%	14%	52%	13%	100%**

* 100% - all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH, estimated at 17,000.
** 100% - all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH, estimated at 687 thousand.

The greatest share of the poor in the BD BiH belongs to the 25-64 age group, which comprises 49%, or half of all poor in the District. Next are children aged 0-14 years, who account for 25% or one in four poor persons in the BD BiH, while 11%, or one in nine poor persons in the District are 65 years old and older.

Single person elderly households

Table: Share of the population living in single person elderly households in the BD BiH relative to the total population of the BD BiH, 2015 EHBS

	Single person elderly households	Total
BD BiH	4%	100%
BiH	5%	100%

Four percent of the BD BiH population lives in single person elderly households

Table: Share of the absolutely poor in the BD BiH who live in single person elderly households

	Single person elderly households	Total
BD BiH	2%	26%
BiH	8%	23%

On the level of the FBiH, 6%, or nearly one person in 15, of 65+ year olds who live alone in their own household are absolutely poor.

Table: Share of the absolutely poor in the BD BiH living in single person elderly households in the total absolutely poor population in the BD BiH, 2015 EHBS

	Single person elderly households	Total
BD BiH	<1%	100%*
BiH	2%	100%**

* 100% - all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH, estimated at 17,000.
** 100% - all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH, estimated at 687 thousand.

The share of the absolutely poor living in single person elderly households in the total absolutely poor population in the BD BiH is 1%

Single parent households

Table: Share of the population living in single parent households in the BD BiH, 2015 EHBS

	Single parent households	Total
BD BiH	<1%	100%
BiH	<1%	100%

Fewer than 1% of the total population of the BD BiH lives in single parent households.

Table: Share of the absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH living in single parent households, 2015 EHBS

	Single parent households	Total
BD BiH	(*)	26%
BiH	26%	23%

(*) Data based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases.

The share of persons living in single parent households in the BD BiH is not available because of the insufficient number of respondents in the survey.

Table. Share of the absolutely poor in the BD BiH living in single parent households in the total absolutely poor population in the BD BiH, 2015 EHBS

	Single parent households	Total
BD BiH	<1%	100%*

BiH	<1%	100%**

* 100% - all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH, estimated at 17,000.
** 100% - all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH, estimated at 687 thousand.

Around 1% of all absolutely poor in the BD BiH live in single parent households.

Households with five or more members

Table: Share of the population in households with five or more members in the total population of the BD BiH, 2015 EHBS

	Households with five or more members	Total
BD BiH	32%	100%
BiH	29%	100%

Around 32%, or one in three inhabitants of the BD BiH live in households with five or more members.

Table: Share of the absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH living in households with five or more members, 2015 EHBS

	Households with five or more members	Total
BD BiH	45%	26%
BiH	39%	23%

On the level of the BD BiH, 45%, or more than two in five persons living in households with five or more members are absolutely poor

Table: Share of the absolutely poor living in households with five or more members in the total absolutely poor population in the BD BiH, 2015 EHBS

	Households with five or more members	Total
BD BiH	55%	100%*
BiH	48%	100%**

* 100% - all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH, estimated at 17,000.
** 100% - all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH, estimated at 687 thousand.

Absolutely poor persons living in households with five or more members constitute 55% or more than half of all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH.

Young unemployed persons

Table: Share of young (15-24 years of age) unemployed persons in the BD BiH in the total population, 2015 EHBS

	Young unemployed persons	Total
BD BiH	4%	100%
BiH	3%	100%

Young (15-24 years of age) unemployed persons make up 4%, or one in 25 inhabitants of the BD BiH

Table: Share of the absolutely poor young (15-24 years of age) unemployed persons in the BD BiH, 2015 EHBS

	Young unemployed	Total

	persons	
BD BiH	39%	26%
BiH	33%	23%

On the level of the BD BiH, 39%, or almost two in five young unemployed persons are in absolute poverty.

Table: Share of the absolutely poor young (15-24 years of age) unemployed persons in the BD BiH in the total absolutely poor population in the BD BiH, 2015, EHBS

	Young unemployed persons	Total
BD BiH	4%	100%*
BiH	5%	100%**

* 100% - all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH, estimated at 17,000.
** 100% - all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH, estimated at 687 thousand.

Absolutely poor young persons constitute 4% of all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH

Educational structure of the absolutely poor

Table: Share of the population (15 years of age and over) in the BD BiH by completed level of education in the total population of the BD BiH, 2015 EHBS

	No education	Incomplete elementary education (eight-year elementary)	Incomplete elementary education (nine-year elementary)	Elementary school	Secondary school	Post-secondary specialization	Junior college	University, academia	Master programs	Doctorate	Total – persons 15 years old and over
BD BiH	4%	7%	3%	23%	40%	0%	1%	4%	<1%	<1%	84%

BiH	5%	5%	3%	19%	44%	0%	2%	6%	<1%	<1%	86%

In the BD BiH, nearly two in five persons, or 40% of the population, have completed secondary education as their highest completed level of education, while around 4%, or approximately one in 25, have university degrees as their highest completed level of education.

Table: Share of the absolutely poor in the BD BiH 15 years of age and older, by the highest completed level of education, 2015 EHBS

	No education	Incomplete elementary education (eight-year elementary)	Incomplete elementary education (nine-year elementary)	Elementary school	Secondary school	Post-secondary specialization	Junior college	University, academia	Master programs	Doctorate	Total
BD BiH	34%	28%	(33%)	31%	19%	(*)	(*)	10%	(*)	(*)	26%
BiH	32%	22%	25%	28%	20%	11%	9%	7%	2%	(*)	23%

() – Data based on 25-49 unweighted cases
(*) – Data based on fewer than 25 unweighted cases

In the BD BiH, absolute poverty is most widespread among persons with no education, with 34%, or one in three persons without education in absolute poverty.

Table: Share of the absolute poor persons in the BD BiH 15 years old and over by the highest completed level of education, 2015 EHBS

	No education	Incomplete elementary education (eight-year elementary)	Incomplete elementary education (nine-year elementary)	Elementary school	Secondary school	Post-secondary specialization	Junior college	University, academia	Master programs	Doctorate	Total
BD BiH	6%	8%	4%	27%	29%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	100%*
BiH	7%	5%	3%	23%	38%	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%	100%**

* 100% - all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH, estimated at 17,000.

** 100% - all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH, estimated at 687 thousand.

Persons with completed secondary education account for the greatest share – 29% of all poor in the BD BiH.

Absolutely poor by type of activity

Table: Share of the population (15 years old and over) by employment status in the total population of the BD BiH, 2015 EHBS

	Employed full-time	Employed less than full time	Unemploed, formerly employed	Unemployed, looking for work	Homemaker	University/ secondary school student	Unable to work	Pensioners (old-age and early)	Other	Total – persons 15 years old and over
BD BiH	21%	4%	5%	8%	19%	8%	3%	13%	4%	84%
BiH	26%	3%	5%	7%	17%	9%	3%	16%	1%	86%

Employed persons constitute 21% or one in five inhabitants of the BD BiH.

Table: Share of the absolutely poor in the BD BiH 15 years old and over by employment status, 2015 EHBS

	Employed full-time	Employed less than full time	Unemployed, formerly employed	Unemployed, looking for work	Homemaker	University/ secondary school student	Unable to work	Pensioners (old-age and early)	Other	Total – persons 15 years old and over
BD BiH	15%	28%	31%	38%	28%	24%	24%	17%	21%	26%
BiH	17%	31%	29%	32%	24%	19%	30%	15%	29%	23%

On the level of the BD BiH, unemployed persons looking for work for the first time are most likely to be poor, with 38%, or two in five persons, in absolute poverty. Also, nearly one in five persons unable to work, or 24%, are in absolute poverty.

Table: Share of the absolutely poor 15 years old and over in the BD BiH by employment status, 2015 EHBS

	Employed full-time	Employed less than full time	Unemployed, formerly employed	Unemployed, looking for work	Homemaker	University/ secondary school student	Unable to work	Pensioners (old-age and early)	Other	Total – persons 15 years old and over
BD BiH	12%	4%	6%	11%	20%	7%	3%	9%	3%	100%
BiH	19%	4%	7%	10%	17%	7%	3%	11%	1%	100%

* 100% - all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH, estimated at 17,000.
** 100% - all absolutely poor persons in the BD BiH, estimated at 687 thousand.

Homemakers are the most widespread category of the absolute poor, as they constitute 20% or one in five persons in absolute poverty.

3.1 Key challenges of economic development

Having established that the impact of the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic severely affected the economy of the BD BiH, the BD BiH Assembly, at its 19th extraordinary session, held on May 5, 2020, adopted the Law on Mitigation of Negative Consequences Caused by the State of Natural Disaster Due to COVID-19 in the BD BiH.

The above law stipulated: partial subsidies for gross wages and pension fund contributions paid by employers, up to the total amount of BAM 860, partial subsidies for paid wage taxes and contributions, monitoring of the appropriate spending of the earmarked funding, suspension of accrual and payment of default interest on public revenues, exemption from the requirement for advance payment of the profit tax, sole trader tax, flat rate gaming revenue tax, postponement of payment of the property tax, exemption from payment of rent on business premises and public spaces owned by the District, modalities of settling disputes related to cancelled tourist trips purchased in advance with tourist agencies in the District, disbursement of the full amount of farming subsidies for 2019, suspension of debt enforcement activities, continuation of regular

payment of some social benefits, grants, transfers and subsidies, postponement of enforcement of the regulations governing appropriate spending, penalty provisions, and state aid.

The economy of the BD BiH faces a series of both short- and long-term challenges. Short-term challenges are related to revitalization of all sorts of businesses, in all sectors, from negative effects of the pandemic-induced crisis. These revitalization measures should be adapted to the particular features of each target group of entrepreneurs and firms. Revitalization from negative effects should be accompanied with the support for introduction of preventive business adaptation measures to mitigate negative effects of similar future crises.

Information and regulatory challenges can and should be addressed in a relatively near term, by implementation of the following measures and activities:

1. ensuring better flow of data and information required for adoption of targeted policies and support instruments in various areas of economic development (primarily through better structuring and procession of the data from legal persons' financial reports);
2. ensuring more exact data and information necessary for more intensive involvement of the diaspora in the economic development of the BD BiH; and
3. harmonizing the BD BiH Law on Business Subsidies with the recommendations of the European Commission in terms of the definition of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and the principles of the Small Business Act, as well as the harmonization with the BiH Law on State Aid and the corresponding EU directives.

In the longer term, the economic development of the BD BiH faces some more challenging measures:

1. strengthen the position of export-oriented companies, as the engine of development of the local economy, in global value chains, with the orientation on *smart growth*[11], including innovations, not just in the production stage, but also in pre- and post-production, where greater value added is generated;
2. increase the share of knowledge-intensive products/services and sectors in the structure of the economy, also with the orientation on *smart growth* and increasing value added;
3. ensure greater attractiveness of entrepreneurial careers and employment in small and medium enterprises for young people and women (as their preferences increasingly lean

[11] Pursuant to the UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the BiH Sustainable Development Framework: ***Smart growth****, which aims to ensure the transformation of innovative and productive ideas into products and services that can generate highly skilled and highly paid jobs, which would boost productivity and growth while safeguarding available resources and addressing social inequality. This thematic area also entails entrepreneurship development, introduction of industrial policy, and transformation in key sectors, combined with proactive promotion of innovative capacities and productivity, providing incentives for fast-growing companies, and creation of the innovative sector as the necessary preconditions for prosperity that is primarily build through generation of highly paid jobs.*

towards emigration and public sector careeers), along with strengthening youth and women's entrepreneurship as vital fulcrums of economic development;
4. transformation of geographic, transportation and administrative advantages into competitive advantages to attract investors, primarily from the EU countries and from the diaspora, to raise the export profile and results and strengthen local supply chains;
5. gradually integrate the BD BiH economy into broader European digitalization and decarbonization trends;
6. better utilize human and financial capital of the diaspora and returnees;
7. reach a higher level of specialization of farming and its stronger integration into the value chains of the manufacturing sector, tourism, and trade; and
8. strategically profile the tourism offer (key tourist products) of the BD BiH within the broader regional offer and ensure the preconditions for successful tourist destination management.

3.2 Key challenges of labor market development

Labor market challenges are closely related to the above challenges of economic development in the coming period. They are summed up in the following measures and activities:

1. recovery from the negative impact of the pandemic crisis in terms of the reduction in employment;
2. gradual rising of the wage levels, improvement of working conditions and of human resource management in the BD BiH, to reverse the trend of departures of young and skilled workers for jobs abroad and in the public sector;
3. shift to joint planning and action by the institutions in the public, private and NGO sector (departments of the BD BiH Government, BD BiH Employment Bureau, secondary and higher education institutions, BD BiH Chamber of Commerce, businesspeople and their associations, other stakeholders) to determine key elements of education and employment policies on the basis of the concept of local partnership for education and employment;
4. ensuring timely learning of high-quality business and specialized skills required to attract new business investment and implement digitalization and decarbonization of the economy;
5. introduction of entrepreneurial education into secondary and higher education institutions, to create a long-term pipeline of new highly educated entrepreneurs;
6. reduction of the share of unemployed women in the total number of the unemployed register with the BD BiH Employment Bureau; and
7. activation and employment of vulnerable groups in the labor market, with support for development of social entrepreneurship, in the pursuit of achieving social inclusion, in accordance with the UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the BiH Sustainable Development Framework.

Most of these challenges have been defined by comparing the present state of affairs and economic trends in the BD BiH with the trends in the broader region, as well as with the strategic objectives on the level of BiH, included primarily in the *2030 BiH Framework for Sustainable Development* and *2021-2027 Strategic Guidelines for Harmonization of Support for Development of SMEs and Entrepreneurship in BiH*, which is currently in development.

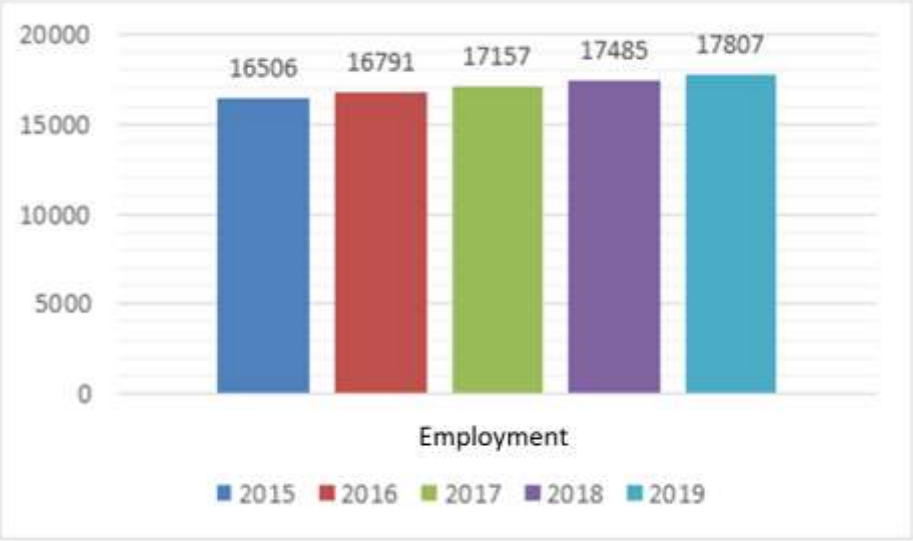
3.3 Overview of the status and changes in the labor market

Active employment programs of the BD BiH Employment Bureau include programs of self-employment, employment of the elderly, and reskilling programs in line with the needs of the business sector. The general reskilling programs are also adapted to targeted programs, based on the needs of businesses.

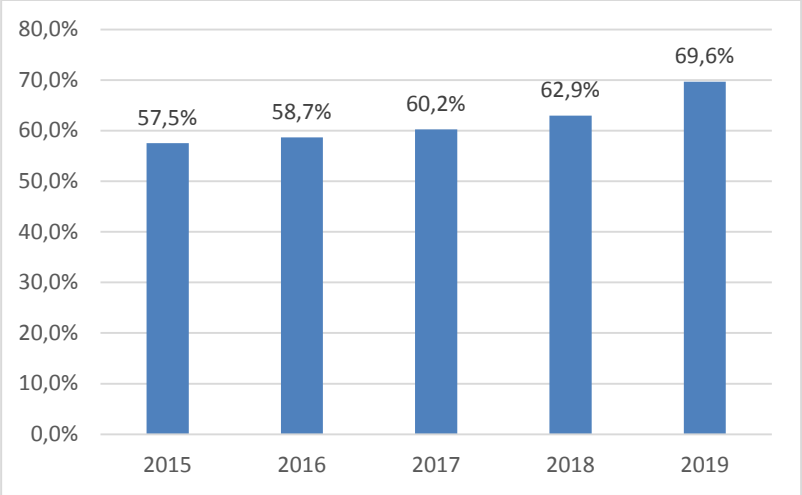
3.4 Employment

In 2019, companies and sole traders in the BD BiH employed 17,807 persons, which was 1.8% more than the year before. The number of employees in the last five years exhibited a continuous rising trend (employment in 2019 was 7.9% higher than in 2015). The formal employment rate in 2019 was 69.6% and also exhibited a rising trend in the last five years (it was 57.5% in 2015).

Graph: Employment in 2015-2019 (annual average)



Graph: Employment rates in 2015-2019



Data source: Bulletin 1, BD BiH Statistical Data, BiH Statistics Agency, March 17, 2020

The employment structure in companies and sole traders reveals that the greatest share are employed in the trade sector (27.58% in 2019), followed by the manufacturing industry, with 20.17% employees in 2019. The previous annual data shows that the employment in the manufacturing sector is rising (from 19.17% in 2015 to 20.17% in 2019), while the employment in the trade sector is decreasing (from 28.70% in 2015 to 27.58% in 2019).

The annual rates of change (indices) highlight several activity sectors that currently do not contribute significantly to total employment in absolute terms, but these sectors exhibit potential for increased employment in the coming period, i.e., they exhibited higher rates of change in employment relative to other sectors, which accounts for their increasing contribution to total employment over the recent years. Agriculture, hunting, and forestry, and real estate activities stand out on these grounds. The information and communications sector, as well as arts, entertainment, and recreation are also activities that exhibit potential for increased employment in the future.

Table: Employment by economic activity, 2011 BiH Classification of Economic Activities

Activity	Average 2015	Share in 2015	Average 2018	Share in 2018	Average 2019	Share in 2019	Index 2019 Average / 2018 Average	Index 2019 Average / 2018 Average

A Agriculture, forestry and fishing	88	0.53%	140	0.80%	193	1.08%	137.86	219.32
C Manufacturing	3164	19.17%	3413	19.52%	3592	20.17%	105.24	113.53
D Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	266	1.61%	239	1.37%	258	1.45%	107.95	96.99
E Water supply; sewerage, waste management, and remediation activities	101	0.61%	132	0.75%	128	0.72%	96.97	126.73
F Construction	923	5.59%	892	5.10%	880	4.94%	98.65	95.34
G Trade	4737	28.70%	5007	28.63%	4911	27.58%	98.08	103.67
H Transportation and storage	888	5.38%	935	5.35%	945	5.31%	101.07	106.42
I Accommodation	867	5.25%	758	4.33%	692	3.89%	91.29	79.82
J Information and communications	137	0.83%	188	1.08%	181	1.02%	96.28	132.12
K Financial activities	298	1.81%	354	2.02%	352	1.98%	99.44	118.12
L Real estate activities	24	0.15%	59	0.34%	66	0.37%	111.86	275.00
M Professional, scientific and technical activities	468	2.84%	409	2.34%	469	2.63%	114.67	100.21
N Administrative and support service activities	401	2.43%	449	2.57%	430	2.41%	95.77	107.23
O Public administration and defense	1646	9.97%	1719	9.83%	1834	10.30%	106.69	111.42
P Education	953	5.77%	1091	6.24%	1114	6.26%	102.11	116.89
Q Human health and social work activities	756	4.58%	884	5.06%	908	5.10%	102.71	120.11
R Arts, entertainment, and recreation	159	0.96%	166	0.95%	198	1.11%	119.28	124.53
S Other service activities	630	3.82%	651	3.72%	656	3.68%	100.77	104.13
Total	**16,506**		**17,486**	**100.00%**	**17,807**	**100.00%**	**101.84**	**107.88**

Data source: Bulletin 1, BD BiH Statistical Data, BiH Statistics Agency, March 17, 2020 and *Bulletin 1, 2016 BD BiH Statistical Data, BiH Statistics Agency*

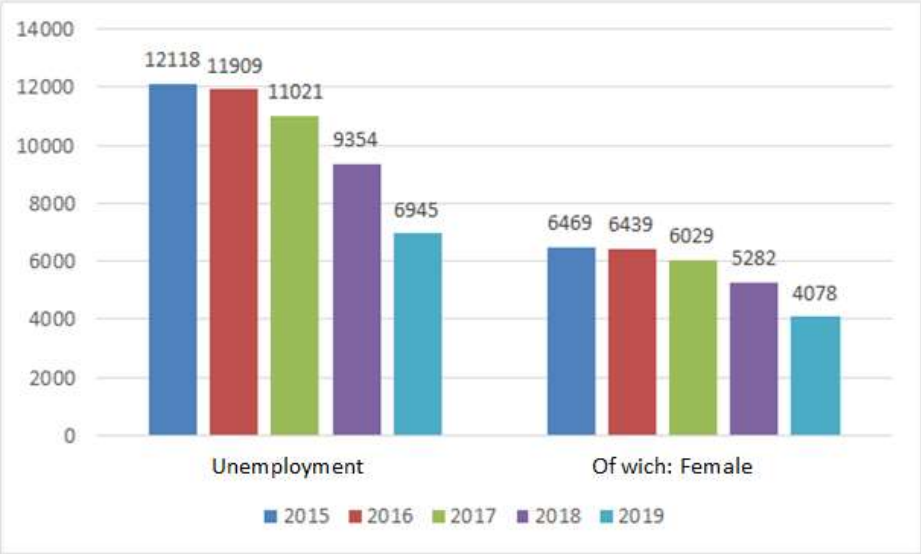
3.5 Unemployment

The number of job seekers (unemployed) decreased in 2019. The number of the unemployed in the District at the end of the 2019 reporting period was 6,945 (of whom women were 4,078, or 58.72%), which was one-quarter (25.75%) lower relative to the end of the previous year's reporting period, when the number of unemployed was 9,354.

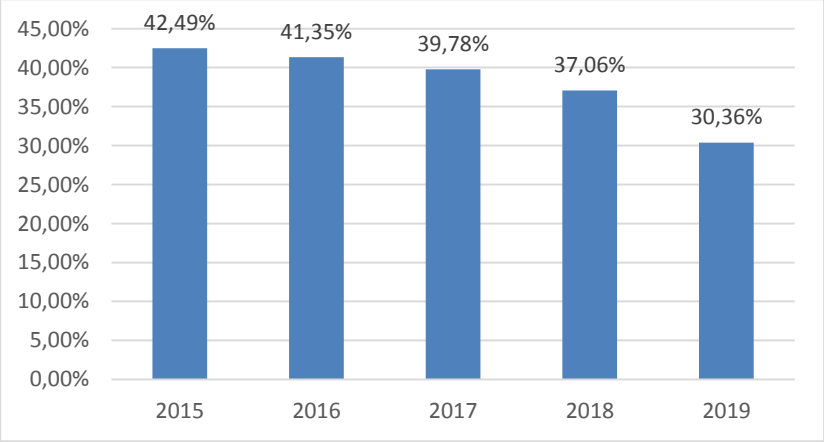
The employment data does not reveal a significant increase in employment in 2019 (322 more employees relative to the year before). The monthly unemployment numbers reveal the monthly trend of the decline in the number of the unemployed, which started in January 2018. In this respect, the formal unemployment rate in 2019 was 30.36%, relative to 37.06% in the year before.

Despite the decrease in the number of unemployed women, the share of women in the total unemployment rose from 53.3% in 2015 to 58.7% in 2019.

Graph: Unemployment by gender, end of reporting period, 2015-2019



Graph: Formal unemployment rate, 2015-2019



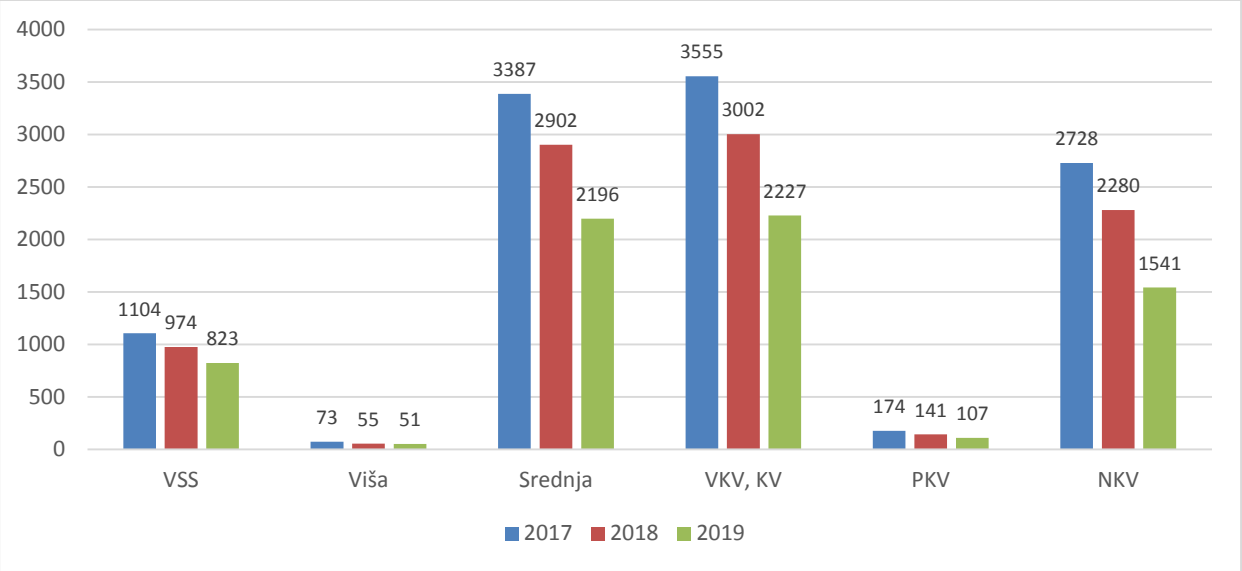
Data source: BD BiH Employment Bureau

By qualification structure, the unemployed persons with completed secondary education and vocational programs for highly skilled and skilled occupations comprise the most numerous groups in the total number of the unemployed in 2019, with 31.6% and 32.1%, respectively.

The data on qualification structure of the unemployed showed the greatest decreases in unemployment in 2019 relative to the year before were in the category of the unemployed with no education (32.4%), with highly skilled and skilled vocational qualifications (25.8%) and with completed secondary education (24.3%).

The rate of decrease in the number of university educated unemployed persons in 2019 relative to the year before was the lowest (15.5%) relative to other qualification categories, causing the share of this category in the total unemployment to rise from 10.4% in 2018 to 11.9% in 2019.

Graph: Unemployment by level of education, end of reporting period, 2017-2019



Elementary education: NKV and PKV; Secondary school: KV, VKV, Srednja; Terciary school: VSS

Data source: BD BiH Employment Bureau

The breakdown by gender of the unemployed classified by the level of qualifications reveals that women are more numerous across the qualification structure, with the exception of highly skilled and skilled occupations, in which the share of unemployed women (48.9%) is lower than for men. By qualifications, women with university degrees (67.8%) and secondary education degrees (67.8%) account for the largest share in the total number of the unemployed.

Table: Breakdown of the unemployed by gender and level of qualifications

	Unemployed persons	Of whom: Women	Unemployed women, in %
University degree	823	558	67.8
Junior college	51	27	52.9
Secondary education	2196	1489	67.8
Highly skilled and skilled qualifications	2227	1090	48.9
Semi-skilled qualifications	107	55	51.4
Unskilled qualifications	1541	859	55.7
Total	**6945**	**4078**	**58.7**

Data source: BD BiH Employment Bureau

3.6 Net wages

The average wage in the BD BiH in 2019 was BAM 914.87 and it was 4.9% higher than the year before, while it was 0.67% lower than the average net wage in BiH.

Graph: Comparative overview of net wages in the BD BiH with the entities and BiH, 2019

	Average net wage, 2019	BD BiH = 100
BD BiH	914.87	100,00
RS	906.00	99.03
FBiH	928.00	101.44

BiH	921.00	100.67

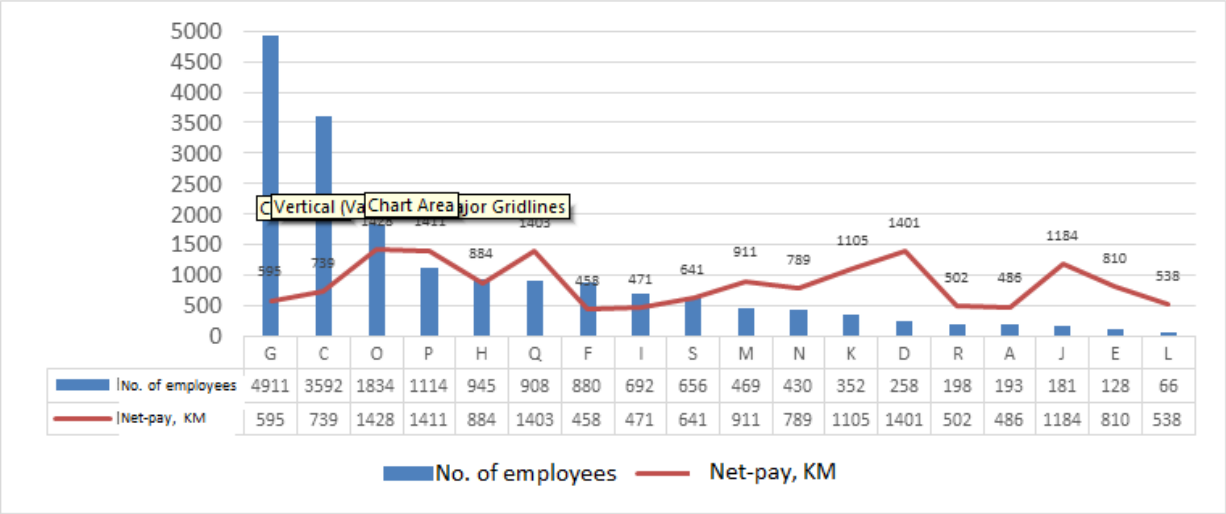
Data source: Bulletin 1, Statistical Data of the BD BiH, BiH Statistics Agency, March 17 2020

The disbursed net wages and employment by economic activity[12] (presented in the graph below) show that the companies in the activities that employ most workers in the BD BiH pay net wages that are below the average wages in the BD BiH. These are the activity G – Trade (4,911 employees, with a net wage of BAM 595) and C – Manufacturing industry (3,592 employees, net wage BAM 739).

Also, the companies in the activity F – Construction and I – Accommodation and food service activities employ more workers, but pay lowest average net wages relative to companies in other activity sectors (F – Construction employs 880, with the net wage of BAM 458 and I – Accommodation and food services employs 692, with the net wage of BAM 471). Employment is also large (908) in the activity H – Transportation and storage, and its average net wage for 2019 was BAM 884. The highest average net wages in 2019 were in the activity sectors of Public administration and in public enterprises (O – Public administration, P – Education, Q – Human health and social work activities, and D – Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply).

Graph: Average net wages and employment, by 2010 Classification of activities, 2019

[12] A - Agriculture, forestry and fishing; C – Manufacturing; D - Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; E - Water supply; sewerage, waste management, and remediation activities; F – Construction; G – Trade; H - Transportation and storage; I – Accommodation; J - Information and communications; K - Financial activities; L - Real estate activities; M - Professional, scientific and technical activities; N - Administrative and support service activities; O - Public administration and defense; P - Education; Q - Human health and social work activities; R - Arts, entertainment, and recreation; S - Other service activities.



Data source: Bulletin 1, Statistical Data of the BD BiH, BiH Statistics Agency, March 17 2020

3.7 Pensioners/third age persons

In December 2019, the number of pensioners registered in the BD BiH was 11,849[13], of whom 6,915 from the RS and 4,943 from the FBiH. The number of pensioners has been in the rise, with an average rate of increase of 1.70% in the December 2015 – December 2019 period.

The average pension disbursed in December 20919 was BAM 361.17. The average rate of increase of pensions in the December 2015 – December 2019 period was 2.96%, with the highest rates of growth in the last two years, 4.22% and 5.38% in 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Pursuant to the Dayton Peace Accords (BiH Constitution), the pension and disability insurance system is in jurisdiction of the entities (its organization, determination of eligibility, and management, etc.) and it covers the risks of old age, disability and demise of the insured person. All four risks are funded from a single contribution levied on wages.

The two entity pension insurance systems are a legacy of the single pension insurance system that was in place in former Yugoslavia. Both entity systems preserved the same organizational and operational principles. There are almost no differences in the organization of the two entity systems. The differences exist in their financing modalities, since in the RS it involves budget transfers, while in the FBiH budget funding is on an *ad hoc* basis; the ration for setting pension levels vary, which results in different amounts of pensions; the RS pension fund, unlike its counterpart in the FBiH, holds capital and shares in a number of companies as a result of the privatization process in the RS.

[13] Data source: Bulletin 1, Statistical Data of the BD BiH, BiH Statistics Agency, March 17 2020

Taking into account that the BD BiH is a particular political and administrative unit, created by an arbitration decision in March 2000, as a district of BiH, which is why it is entitled to create its own legal and economic regulations within BiH, a practice was established that the employees in the BD BiH will choose one of the two entity funds in which they would pay in their pension contributions. One of the consequences is that the resultant cost of labor varies, e.g., two employees with the same net wage, who chose different pension funds, represent different costs of labor to their employer.

In their previous efforts to alleviate pressing existential issues for the pensioner population resident in the BD BiH, since the establishment of the District to this day, in its annual budgets the BD BiH Government allocated funding for one-off cash grants, for subsidizing utilities and for spa treatments dispensed through the Association of Pensioners.

4 SOCIAL PROTECTION

The BD BiH Government is in charge of social protection on the territory of the District, which is implemented by the Division for Social Protection, which is organizationally affiliated with the Department for Healthcare and Other Services. Funding for benefits and services within the systems of social, family, and child protection is provided from the budget of the District. The following categories are eligible for social, family, and child protection benefits and services:

adults – financially unprovided for and unable to work, elderly without family care, persons with disabilities, persons exhibiting socially unacceptable behavior; persons in the state of social need due to special circumstances; persons victims of abuse; single parents, and minors: children without parental care; children with disorders in psychological and physical development; neglected and uncared-for children.

The Division comprises three sections, which perform the following duties and tasks: the Child Protection Section (work and protection of children without parental care, children with special needsa and children with behavioral disorders, determination of eligibility pursuant to the BD BiH Law on Child Protection); Section for General Social Protection, Protection of Marriage anf Family (regulation of family law relations between spouses, parents and children, relations between relatives in a conjugal family, domestic partnership or an adopted family, and the actions of competent authorities in family law affairs and determination of eligibility pursuant to the Law on Social Protection), and the Section for Psycho-Social Protection (working with the mentally ill, guardianship of adults, initiation of incompetency procedures for deprivation of legal capacity; protection and treatment of minors in criminal proceedings). Bearing all this in mind, along with the available information on the trends in the number of beneficiaries and social protection systems, it becomes clear that the BD BiH devotes considerable attention to vulnerable groups in its population. In 2018 and 2019, this division initiated reform processes in the field of social

protection by adapting provisions of the Law on Social Protection (adopted in 2003, amended in 2004, 2007, and 2008) to the time and needs of the marginalized propulation of the BD BiH.

Table: Benefits, beneficiaries, and annual budgetary funding

Benefit	No. of beneficiaries (July)	Annual funding from the BD BiH Budget
Basic permanent cash allowance	**911**	**2,103,000**
Carer's allowance	**3,113**	**4,648,100**
Extended social protection benefit: Personal assistance	**580**	**900,000**
Accommodation in a social protection institution (for minors and adults)	**76**	**775,000**
Foster care	**33**	**120,000**
Soup kitchens	**180**	**300,000**
Child allowance	**6,798**	**9,210,000**
Maternity benefit	**366**	**2,500,000**
Infant support grant	**65**	**315,300**
Maternity leave refund	**124**	**1,600,000**

The Social Protection Division is also entrusted with implementation of government decisions about the Annual Spending Program (nearly from the establishment of the BD BiH) for the following types of expenditures:

- One-off grants for pensioners resident in the BD BiH, which was paid to 10,849 pensioners in 2020, and the amount earmarked for this purpose was BAM 1,370,000;
- Utilities' subsidy for beneficiaries of social program services:

a) pensioners eligible for one-off pensioner grants of BAM 150;
b) unemployed persons registered until April 1, 2020, with the BD BiH Employment Bureau, as follows: women 55 years old and over and men 60 years old and over;

c) beneficiaries of the basic permanent cash allowance according to the most recent records for the month for which the Decision applies, foster families for children without parental care and adults placed in foster families;
d) families of children with disorders in psychological and physical development, according to the most recent records for the month for which the Decision applies;
e) disabled war veterans and civilian persons with disabilities registered with the Section for Protection of War Veterans and Persons with Disabilities, whose disability allowance does not exceed BAM 371.77;
f) blind persons eligible for carer's allowance:

for the total amount of BAM 830,000;

- grants to pensioner associations (RS and FBiH) for spa stay and treatment, BAM 50,000 each.

While it is extremely difficult to estimate the level of extreme poverty, it is clear that there are some citizens who exist below the general poverty line (a set level of total consumption), as such citizens have less than BAM 2,198 of income per persons per annum (this amount is the general poverty line for BiH, according to the BiH Statistics Agency, while the amount for minimum food needs, i.e., the extreme poverty line, is BAM 760 per person per annum), which is of exceptional importance from the standpoint of SDG 1.

In developing recommendations to improve the social protection systems, the following challenges arise:

1. Improve social, family, and child protection policies

1.1. Detach the Social Protection Division, an organizational unit of the Department for Healthcare and Other Services, from administrative bodies and the BD BiH Assembly should create an authorized public social protection institution – a Center for Social Work (the BD BiH Law on Social Protection contains provisions in this regard, but so far the political leadership in the BD BiH has not been willing to create an authorized public institution of social protection – Center for Social Work);

2. Implementation of reform process in the field of social protection

2.1. Introduction of a "new" benefit into the social protection system: permanent cash allowance;

3. Implementation of reform processes in the field of social, family, and child protection

3.1. Introduction of non-institutional services (deinstitutionalization);

4. Upgrading of the structure and system of social protection to respond to natural and other disasters

5. Implementation of reform processes in the field of social, family, and child protection

5.1. Harmonization with the EU acquis;

6. Creation of mixed-ownership social protection institutions,

6.1. The BD BiH Government could adopt a conclusion to approve that the BD BiH Mayor may sign a contract with an NGO on equal participation in a project/projects to operate, e.g., a day care center for children, a day care center for adults, marriage and family counseling center, a youth counseling center, etc. (on the basis of the approach to create mixed-ownership social protection institutions within the social protection system);

7. Develop social entrepreneurship through intersectoral cooperation in all segments of social life, with labor market institutions and NGOs to include socially excluded categories in the labor market

7.1. Adopt the Law on Social Entrepreneurship

5 CHILDREN

Children are the most vulnerable segment of society and, unlike adults, they are unable to independently improve their status, since they depend on their families and communities. Various forms of deprivation (dietary deprivation, deprivation of healthcare, education and security in childhood) and family violence may have long-term irreparable consequences that would lead to intergenerational transfer of poverty, as well as to criminal inclinations and proclivity for various forms of addiction. The family represents a central pillar of optimal development, which is why improving the situation of vulnerable families with children constitutes the basis for improvement of social development of children.

The situation of children and vulnerable families with children is considered in the context of parental poverty, their labor activity and level of education, national minority status, disability, absence of parental care, etc. Exclusion of children implies that a child is unable to equally participate in activities with other children and that his/her access to services offered by the family and community is impeded; such services include: access to healthcare and social protection, access to preschool education, access to learning and education resources, etc.

Categories that increase the risk of children's social exclusion and poverty include:

- children from poor families
- Roma and minority children
- children with difficulties in psychological and physical development
- children without parents and parental care
- children deprived of care and children in conflict with the law.

The social and child protection system, pursuant to the laws of the BD BiH, has recognized the legal institution of a child in the state of social need, i.e., a minor beneficiary of social protection, as follows:

a) a child without parental care,

b) a child with difficulties in psychological and physical development,

c) a child neglected or deprived of care, and

d) a child whose development is disrupted because of family circumstance.

Table: Services and benefits for children as beneficiaries of social protection (in the state of social need)

Children without parental care	Placement in a foster family or Placement in a social protection institution Beneficiary of augmented child allowance Subsidizing utility costs
Children with difficulties in psychological and physical development	Placement in a social protection institution Beneficiary of augmented child allowance Subsidizing utility costs Beneficiary of carer's allowance
Children neglected or deprived of care	Placement in a social protection institution Beneficiary of child allowance
Children whose development is disrupted because of family circumstance	Placement in a social protection institution Beneficiary of child allowance

Note: Pursuant to Article 16 of the BD BiH Law on Child Protection – Consolidated Text ("BD BiH Official Gazette" no. 18/20 and 29/20): "Children place in child and social care institutions and social education institutions are eligible for child allowance."

Data source: Unpublished data of the Social Protection Division

Eligibility for child allowance in the BD BiH is a child protection benefit governed by the BD BiH Law on Child Protection. Families with children who are in the state of social need, have no registered private business and whose incomes do not exceed a set threshold relative to the average wage in the BD BiH per household member are eligible for child allowance. Children placed in social protection institutions (children without parental care and children with developmental difficulties), as well as children with developmental difficulties without regard to the level of classification (with special needs), children whose parents are persons with disabilities or single parents, and children without parental care regardless of financial situation are eligible for augmented child allowance. The eligibility is linked with the name of the guardian or one of the child's parents.

Although the focus of the section above was on the legal institution of the child, i.e., of the underage beneficiary of social protection, other benefits within the child protection system will be presented here, as the BD BiH offers a positive example, particularly in 2018-2019, with the adoption of the Law on Amendments to the Law on Child Protection, particularly in the section related to the maternity benefit, which in the new provisions expanded the earlier 3-month entitlement, which is valid for 12 months for every newborn child in the family, and for twins for 18 months, while the previous amount set at 15% of the average wage in the District was increased to 50% of the average net wage in the District, according to the most recent published data by the BD BiH Finance Directorate.

In recent work with UNICEF on the Social Protection and Inclusion System (SPIS) Project, specifically on the "Analysis of the situation with regard to social protection and inclusion of children in the BD BiH", the following priority groups of socially excluded children were identified:

1. Children with difficulties in psychological and physical development;

2. Children from families without financial security; and

3. Children victims of violence (bullying and family violence).

The following issues were identified as main causes that push the above groups of children into the state of social need:

- Insufficient number of employment and self-help programs (for children's guardians and parents);
- Nonexistence of a protocol on treatment and cooperation of competent institutions, NGOs and other social development stakeholders on strengthening of social protection and inclusion of socially excluded children.

- Nonexistence of a comprehensive electronic database on socially excluded children and of institutional systemic tracking;
- There are preventative programs for early identification of children with psychological and physical problems, but they are only partially implemented because their implementers face a shortage of financial and technical resources;
- Insufficient number of programs for specialization and professional development of personnel working on social protection issues to follow new trends in the field of social protection and inclusion of children; and
- Insufficient targeting of donor funding for NGOs that implement projects and programs in the field of social inclusion and provide additional support to children from socially excluded families.

The following issues were recognized as additional causes that push the above groups of children into the state of social need:

- The existing Law on Elementary and Secondary Education does not provide for extended stay as an activity of education institutions;
- Inadequate instruction of children on prevention of school bullying by competent trainers; and
- Inadequate social sensibility and presence of prejudices toward children from socially excluded categories.

The core problem of the social protection in the BD BiH is its failure to address all needs of the beneficiaries, and a very limited impact on poverty reduction.

It is necessary to advocate for and relaunch the reforms in this field, with the aim to implement the following measures:

1. Provide need-tailored assistance in non-institutional forms,

1.1. Link with the Social Protection measure pt. 5.

2. Implement activities to prevent social exclusion

2.1. Introduce the system and criteria for better targeting of beneficiaries, revision and monitoring, and harmonize these with the EU acquis.

3. Adopt the BD BiH Law on Amendments to the Law on Child Protection.

3.1. Every child in a family (age 0-18), regardless of the family's financial situation, should be eligible for child allowance (as well as children up to the age of 26, on condition that they are enrolled in full-time education).

4. Adopt the bylaw to the BD BiH Labor Law: Rule Book on the Criteria and Modalities of Eligibility for Working Half-Time or for Eligibility of Parents of Children with Psychological or Physical Disorders).

4.1. Regulate the manner and procedure to permit employed parents to work half-time to ensure augmented care for their children, until the age of three years, and for children with psychological and physical developmental disorders, to involve certified medical doctors and certified medical institutions, that would set the duration, i.e., the start and end of the eligibility for augmented child care, approve wage allowance for the second half of working time and decide about the employers' eligibility for refundation of the disbursed wage allowance.

6 PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

In BiH there is no consensus about the definitions of disability and persons with disability. The BiH legislation regulates benefit levels for persons with disabilities by degree of disability and in accordance with different categorizations and benefit scales defined in the constitutions, entity laws in the sector of social protection, protection of veterans and the disabled, and labor. Disabled workers, children and women with disabilities are particularly vulnerable groups of persons with disabilities. The BD BiH is peculiar in that eligibility for basic veteran benefits is governed by one of the entity laws, while the District is in charge of enforcement of the Law on Supplementary Benefits of Families of Fallen Soldiers and Disabled War Veterans and the Decree on Protection of Civilian Victims of War.

Protection of "civilian" persons with disabilities had been expected through the reform in the social protection system. Among other things, the reform process introduced increase for carer's allowances for persons with greater rate of dependence on other people, i.e., that a person whose functional disability was rated as total dependence – 25% receives a nominal amount of BAM 218 for 2019, for functional disability rated as severe dependence – 18%, a nominal amount of BAM 157, for functional disability rated as moderate dependence – 12% a nominal amount of BAM 105, and for functional disability rated as mild dependence – 7% receives a nominal amount of BAM 61 for 2019. Another good example is that the BD BiH 2019 Budget set aside the funding for these benefits to be provided immediately upon the review of all cases of recipients of carer's allowance (*conversion of the previous into the new benefit*). The allocated amount was BAM 4,648,100, plus the funding for support for personal assistance for persons with total and severe dependence on other persons, BAM 900,000 (*pursuant to the Government's Decree on Extended Social Protection Benefit: Allowance for personal assistance services*).

When discussing the core challenges in this field, social inclusion of persons with disabilities cannot be only the domain of competent line ministries or special laws. By the nature of their plight, this category of the population faces particular challenges in all domains and spheres of life, therefore it is essential to make efforts to develop laws, policies and budgets sensitive to the needs of persons with disabilities in all fields, which would permit their comprehensive social inclusion. Moreover, most public institutions in Brčko is not physically adapted for adequate access, and there are differences in provision of comprehensive healthcare measures for persons with disabilities,

depending on the cause of disability. For instance, persons with disabilities originated as a consequence of war receive full healthcare as part of the mandatory health insurance and above the level of coverage of health insurance, while persons with civilian disability receive only treatment and rehabilitation measures offered within the scope of the mandatory health insurance. Such a situation particularly affects persons with multiple disabilities, for whom supplementary healthcare is of particular importance. No less importantly, inclusion of persons with disabilities and socially excluded categories of the population into the active labor market constitutes one of the soundest manners of inclusion of these categories into all social and economic aspects of life, so it is essential to take appropriate measures aligned with EU practices to improve this situation. With incorporation into the labor market, socially excluded categories become economically independent, which reduces the burden and social transfers from the BD BiH Budget, while contributing to their faster resocialization.

In addition, regulations governing the accessibility standards for persons with disabilities in the District, such as the Law on Spatial Planning and Development, in most cases are not enforced. New facilities are not adapted, and those considered to be adapted are inaccessible for persons with disabilities. Until recently, possible efforts to eliminate architectural barriers were disorganized and off-and-on, mainly undertaken at the initiative of organizations of persons with disabilities and with support of foreign donors. The sign language is not recognized as an official language. Difficult access to information for persons with disabilities, particularly those with visual and auditory impairments, is a markedly pronounced problem. Also, the number of qualified instructors is insufficient for the needs of children and young people who wish to learn the sign language and/or Braille alphabet.

In developing recommendations to improve the position of persons with disabilities in the BD BiH, the following challenges arise:

1. Strengthening the legislative framework and securing legal support and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities

1.1. Amendments to the BD BiH Statutes, regarding the assignment of responsibility for disability protection

1.2. In the legislative frameworks of the BD BiH, implement reforms to increase significance of working with and meeting demands of persons with disabilities

1.3. Adopt the Law on Protection of Persons with Disabilities (persons with both congenital and acquired disabilities)

2. Elimination of architectural and information and communications barriers

2.1. Full inclusion of persons with disabilities into the community

3. Inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of life on equal footing with others

3.1. Multisector action in education, culture, sports, public and political sphere

4. Strengthen the programs of disability prevention and programs for early detection and intervention in early growth and development

5. Improve the quality and availability of services, and create new services aligned with the needs of persons with disabilities

5.1. Reform processes in social protection policies, until the passage of the Law on Protection of Persons with Disabilities

6. Strengthen the segment of employment and self-employment of persons with disabilities

6.1. Reform processes in employment policies

7. Prevent any form of exploitation, abuse and violence against persons with disabilities

7.1. Multisector action of signatories of the Protocol on Treatment of Victims of Family Violence

8. Raise public awareness of the issues of disability to combat prejudice, cultural and psychological barriers

8.1. Media campaigns

9. Strengthen the capacity of organizations of persons with disabilities and ensure their participation in all social processes

9.1. Creation of a coordination body of associations of persons with disabilities

7 YOUTH

Rights and duties of young people, youth associations, care for youth, institutional participation of young people in decision-making and in other issues of importance for life, status and activities of youth in the BD BiH are governed by the 2017 Youth Law. This is particularly important, as the law governs improvements in individual and social development of youth and prevention of their possible neglect; implementation of policies that counteract negative trends for youth; preservation and creation of favorable living conditions for youth, as well as of a youth-friendly environment, and protection of youth from dangers inherent in their age, which they may find themselves exposed to. The law stipulates adoption of the BD BiH Youth Strategy, which has not been developed yet, but this process is under way.

On the other hand, the Brčko Youth Council was created and it conducted two types of research into the issues and needs of youth in the BD BiH. One study was conducted for the needs of the Conference that was a part of 2019 Brčko Youth Encouners, i.e. for development of the Action Plan

(not adopted), and the other for the preparation of the 2021-2025 BD BiH Youth Strategy (development is under way). In the course of the sampling, the criteria of selected demographic characteristics important for comparison of results were observed, so the sample comprises approximately the same number of women and men, and an adequate number of young people who live in urban and non-urban communities in the BD BiH, on a sample of 386 young persons (15-30 years old).

Besides the finding that most young people see their future outside the BD BiH and BiH in general, young people generally feel that the current education system does not offer sufficient knowledge and options for the needs of the labor market, that considerably more practical instruction and more contemporary learning methods are needed, but more than half of the survey respondents are not aware of the programs with which the BD BiH supports social areas, i.e., activities of interest for young people. On the other hand, while young people have clearly defined expectations for their future, they find (more than 60% of survey respondents) that it takes more than two years to get a job, while nearly 90% of youth believe that finding employment involves „political" activation (so-called „party employment" – as defined by the survey) or family connections, which describes the general attitude of youth with regard to public policies essential for attainment of their basic rights. Particularly worrisome is the view of the majority of young people that they for the most part believe that this negative situation will only deteriorate further, and that they are more likely to fulfill their rights outside Brčko, unless better conditions are created to increase living standards, lower ethnic tensions, create jobs, reduce youth discrimination and political insecurity for youth. Taking all the above into account, the District's Youth Council created the 2020-2022 Youth Action Plan (not in implementation), which recommende 10 projects/measures in four priority areas for youth, as follows: employment and entrepreneurship, youth housing policy, education and professional development and institutional participation of young people.[14]

On the other hand, the research conducted for the purposes of the development of the Youth Strategy, conducted in cooperation with the KULT Institute for Youth Development, Department for Technical and Administrative Affairs of the BD BiH Government *(which was stipulated as the implementing agency for the preparation of a youth programmatic action document in the BD BiH Youth Law)*, revealed that young people in the BD BiH have the same, or approximately the same problems and needs as their peers in geographically and sociologically similar communities in BiH, and even the region. Youth emigration, shortcomings of formal education, inadequate quality of the healthcare system, uncertain employment prospects, difficulties in achieving socio-economic independence and limited participation in the processes of social and political decision making, as well as poor awareness of existing programs were recognized as key challenges in this important and relevant study. However, the BD BiH, as administrative unit, has a number of advantages in regard to creation of mechanisms to better the status of youth, which would require a multispectral approach and essential cooperation of competent institutions for social policy, education, labor and

[14] *Source: Survey by BD BiH Youth Council (*https://vsmbd.org/, accessed on May 22, 2020)

employment, healthcare, culture, sports, and youth affairs, which would be a precondition for creation of a sustainable policy for their social inclusion, and thereby for the development of the community itself.

In providing recommendations for improvement of the position of youth in the BD BiH, the following four areas emerged as impending challenges:

1. Development of policies for youth entrepreneurship, youth and self-employment, youth housing, and youth education and professional development

1.1. Reform processes in the field of youth policies (BD BiH Youth Law, which governs youth rights and duties, youth associations, care for youth, institutional participation of young people in decision-making and in other issues of importance for life, status and activities of the youth in the BD BiH)

8 STATUS OF WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY IN BD BIH

Equal rights of women and men are guaranteed by international treaties and domestic legislation, so the introduction of gender equality constitutes fulfillment of one of the fundamental principles in the field of human rights and freedoms. Gender equality is not solely the matter of social justice and fairness, but also an elementary precondition for social and economic development of the local community, with a particular focus on poverty reduction and improvement of the quality of life of all citizens.

The national enabling legislative framework for gender equality in the BD BiH includes:

- BiH Constitution;
- BD BiH Statutes;
- Gender Equality Law in BiH – Consolidated Text („BiH Official Gazette“ no. 32/10);
- BiH Election Law;
- BD BiH Election Law („BD BiH Official Gazette“ no. 17/08 and 43/08);
- BiH 2013-2017 Gender Action Plan; and
- Action Plan for implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325: Women, Peace, and Security (2000) in BiH (as the first action plan expired, a new one is in preparation for 2014-2017)

Introduction of the gender equality in all areas of life and work on the local level represents fulfillment of one of the fundamental principles in the area of human rights and freedoms and integration of the principle of equality of women and men, which is not just a duty of gender institutional bodies, but of all other institutions as well.

As mentioned before, Art. 20 of the Gender Equality Law in BiH stipulates that government bodies on all levels, and the local government bodies, including the legislative, executive and judicial powers, political parties, legal entities vested with public powers, legal entities owned or controlled by the state, entity, canton, city or municipality or subject to public oversight, shall ensure and promote equal representation of genders in governance, decision-making and representation. This duty applies to all persons authorized to present representatives and delegates for international organizations and bodies; that gender representation is balanced when of one gender in the above bodies is at least 40%; that a situation when the representation is not balanced is considered gender discrimination.

Article 8, Paragraph (2) of the same law stipulated also that the competent state, entity, cantonal and local government bodies enact special measures through laws and other regulations, other acts, policies and plans that regulate various areas of social life.

The BD BiH, through its Local Action Plan (hereinafter: the LAP), emphasized the following areas of action:

1. Improvement of the economic position of women and achievement of gender equality.
2. Improvement of women's health and advancement of gender equality in health and social policy.
3. Achievement of gender equality in education.
4. Prevention and combating all forms of violence against women and ensuring a comprehensive system of protection for women victims of violence.
5. Increased participation of women in decision-making processes and achievement of gender equality.

In the BD BiH, the problem is that the BD BiH laws that govern:

- education,
- healthcare, and
- social protection

are not harmonized, in the first place, with the Gender Equality Law in BiH, because these laws lack the provisions that refer to gender equality, equal treatment of male and female gender, equal opportunities for all persons regardless of gender, and other matters governed by this BiH legislation. Let us note that the BD BiH adopted the Law on Protection against Family Violence and adopted its bylaws in 2017.

There are few women in the BD BiH who are active in politics, although there are women inscribed in party lists as members of various political parties. Namely, the BiH Election Law, by stipulating that the election lists for both local and general elections must include at a minimum 40% women, compelled political parties to involve women. However, this does not mean that, as a result, women

became more involved in politics. The reason may be that women are not interested in pursuing politics, and also in political parties, that did little to involve women in politics. Women's lack of interest for political engagement we may understand as a result of:

- preoccupation with their private lives (child care, caring for the elderly, running their households);

- lack of interest in politics due to frequent confrontations of political views, party discipline, and because politics does not deal with everyday topics that matter to women as to men;

- indirect gender discrimination by political party members, media, voters, etc.

Everyday life issues in the BD BiH matter equally to both men and women and it is important that women participate equally and contribute to creation, adoption as well as to implementation of development policies and programs.

Women in rural areas have a major role in economic survival of their families and communities. However, they receive little or almost no recognition for their efforts, and are frequently denied access to the fruits of their labor or to the benefits of the development process. Women in rural areas do not have equal standing as men. Although formally equal, women to not exercise their rights in the same degree as men. This is predominantly a consequence of tradition and of patriarchal relations in rural households, which put women in a subordinate position (which is most evident in household decision-making, in the management of the family budget, and in participation in social activities) regardless of their contribution to farming activities and family life. Women in rural areas suffer from economic dependence and a certain type of social exclusion.

Of the total of 2,883 registered farms in the BD BiH, women are the heads of farms in fewer than 20% of cases. Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas is significant for numerous reasons, including: demographic revitalization of rural areas, economic empowerment of rural areas through development of agriculture and rural development in general, development of rural tourism, improvement of living standards and conditions in rural communities.

The BD BiH Government's Department for Agriculture, Forestry, and Water Management does not have the capability to disaggregate by gender the data in the registers it maintains: Farming Register and Database of Farming Subsidies. The existing registers/databases could be upgraded, and in the near future exact data can be expected about the number of women who are heads of farms, and about the exact amount of subsidies disaggregated by gender.

Regarding the number of women owners of private businesses, this data is unfortunately unavailable, because such records are not kept, even though keeping statistics is mandatory pursuant to the Gender Equality Law in BiH.

For instance, the 2013/2014 Active Employment Policy Program, implemented by the Department for Economic Development, Sports, and Culture, was a positive example, as private entrepreneurs who planned to employ women received more points, i.e., they had a preference in employment.

This was a concrete active employment policy measure focused on women.

The area of labor, employment and access to resources is extremely complicated from the standpoint of gender equality. Equal opportunities in the labor market and in economic life, economic independence and possibility to make decisions within the economic bodies are of vital importance for reaching gender equality. This is why this area requires particular attention when future programs are designed, to ensure implementation of both domestic and international standards of equal treatment and opportunities for both genders with regard to employment and working conditions, career prospects, and promotion of motherhood and fatherhood.

Introduction of gender equality into all areas of life and work represents a fulfillment of one of the fundamental principles in the field of human rights and freedoms. This principle is not just a matter of fairness, but it also constitutes a precondition for social and economic development of the community. The issue of gender equality needs to be viewed in terms of mutual respect, support and cooperation of all women and men for the benefit of the entire community, which also meets all obligations assumed by international treaties, covenants, conventions and declarations.

In developing recommendations to improve the position of women in the BD BiH, the following challenges arise:

1. Building capacity, functionality, and sustainability of institutional gender equality mechanisms, as well as other institutions in the processes of integration of gender equality on all levels in the BD BiH

1.1. Organizational and technical strengthening of institutional gender equality mechanisms (specialized trainings, publication and distribution of educational and specialized materials for improving knowledge in the field of gender equality).

1.2. Development of the BD BiH Gender Equality Strategic Plan

1.3. Establishment of the BD BiH Gender Equality Center

2. Creation of the center for collection and publication of gender-disaggregated data in the BD BiH.

2.1. Creation of an appropriate administrative unit with the BD BiH Government and defining of the modalities to collect gender-disaggregated data from all public bodies, institutions and enterprises.

2.2. Creation of a system for publication of statistical data in all agencies.

3. Integration of the gender equality dimension into policies, programs, and measures, as well as harmonization of regulations adopted and implemented on the level of the BD BiH.

3.1. Ensuring preconditions for achieving gender equality:

3.1.1. Initiating adoption of the Decree on Allocation of Budget Funds for Implementation of the BD BiH Action Plan.

3.1.2. Analysis of local policies, programs, and measures from the standpoint of their impact on achievement of gender equality according to the areas defined in the BD BiH Action Plan.

4. Strengthening the capacities of local institutions through raising awareness and improving knowledge of gender equality in political and public life.

4.1. Initiation and/or participation in creation and implementation of the program to empower representatives of the institutions to implement policies for promotion of equal opportunities, introduction of gender-sensitive budgeting and use of non-discriminatory language.

5. Introduce mechanisms for programmatic and gender-responsible budgeting with the measures to strengthen the existing and introduce new types of information gathering.

5.1. Launching reform processes that would contribute to improved respect for citizens' rights and to meeting their needs through strengthening transparency, accountability, and financial discipline in allocation and spending of public funds.

6. Protection and advancement of women's health

6.1. Education of women, particularly those in rural households, about healthcare measures (prevention and control of infectious diseases, securing and safeguarding a hygienic and epidemiological minimum under all living conditions).

6.2. Raising awareness about the needs for screening for early detection of cervical cancer

6.3. Organize a campaign for the International Health Day – April 7 to raise awareness about patient rights, and particularly to disseminate information about primary healthcare in rural areas.

7. Advancement of youth reproductive health (girls and boys)

7.1. Development of a program to advance youth reproductive health on the basis of gender equality

8. Promotion and implementation of prevention programs for women's and men's health.

8.1. Initiation of the adoption of a set of measures for early detection and prevention of transmission of sexually transmitted diseases, breast cancer, colon cancer, cervical and testicular cancer.

9. Equal access of both women and men to economic resources and creation of equal opportunities for access.

9.1. Adoption/implementation of employment programs.

9.2. Creation of an entrepreneurship database (of women entrepreneurs) to stimulate entrepreneurship by girls, young women, single mothers, rural women, and women with disabilities.

9.3. Regular collection, analysis and publication of gender-disaggregated data on the participation of women and men in the labor market.

9.4. Implementation of promotional activities and awareness-raising public information campaigns about the right of women and men to equal access to employment, labor market, and economic resources.

10. Economic empowerment of women

10.1. Inclusion of women in development of entrepreneurship.

10.2. Creation of a network of women's associations whose programs include advancement of the position of women in rural areas.

10.3. Inclusion of women in production of homemade handicraft products that would serve as an assortment of souvenirs to support promotion of ethno-tourism, particularly in the rural areas of the BD BiH.

10.4. Trainings for starting agribusiness (development of greenhouse production, knowledge and skills for vegetable and fruit production and collection of medicinal herbs).

9 SOCIAL INCLUSION POLICIES

Social inclusion policies greatly depend on factors that determine the current state of economic and social development of the community. The circumstances in which the BD BiH generates and achieves its development, which in turn directly affects social inclusion policies, are products of dynamic changes in the field of economic development, of demographic changes, of management of social risks, and of European integration.

Setting social inclusion priorities is conditioned with the position of socially vulnerable and marginalized population groups in various areas of life, which is a result of inteaction of existing systemic solutions and the practices in their implementation. On the basis of the social exclusion challenges of marginalized groups, it is possible to define five key priorities/objectives/measures of social inclusion, and thereby of social development in the BD BiH, in a way that would be presented below in the Action Plan, which constitute an integral part of this strategy. The Action Plan lists activities to be implemented for each of the mesures, implementing agencies and indicative purposes of budget allocations, which would make it possible to achieve social inclusion objectives for SOCIAL PROTECTION POLICY MEASURES, CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

MEASURES, POLICY MEASURES FOR PROTECTION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, YOUTH POLICY MEASURES, and GENDER EQUALITY POLICY MEASURES.

10 ANNEX: ACTION PLAN WITH FIVE KEY SOCIAL INCLUSION PRIORITIES/OBJECTIVES/MEASURES

SOCIAL PROTECTION POLICY MEASURES	ACTION	IMPLEMENTING AGENCY	BUDGET ALLOCATION
Improve social, family, and child protection policies	The Social Protection Division, an organizational unit of the Department for Healthcare and Other Services, should be detached from the administrative bodies and the BD BiH Assembly should create a social protection institution with vested public powers – a Center for Social Work (CSW) (the BD BiH Law on Social Protection contains provisions in this regard, but so far the political leadership in the BD BiH has not been willing to create an authorized public institution of social protection – Center for Social Work)	**BD BiH Government** - adoption of the Rule Book on Technical and Professional Conditions for Establishment and Operation of a social protection institution – Center for Social Work - Decree on Redundancy of Employees of the Social Protection Division - Transfer of employees of the Social Protection Division to the Center for Social Work - the position of the Head of the Social Protection Division should be retained and not declared redundant, its tasks and duties should be modified to permit supervision of the work of the BD BiH Center for Social Work and social protection institutions. **BD BiH Assembly** - adopt the act on establishment of the CSW; - designate an acting CSW Director;	Compensation for work of the members of the Management and Supervisory Boards of the CSW Funding to implement the registration of the CSW

		- adopt the organizational plan of the CSW; - adopt the norms and standards for operation of the CSW as an institution vested with public powers	
Implementation of reform processes in the field of social protection	Introduction of a "new" benefit into the social protection system: permanent cash allowance	Department for Healthcare and Other Services BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	When allocating funding: - use data on average net wages in the BD BiH - use data on the total population in the BD BiH - use data on the number of pensioners - use data on the beneficiaries of the social protection system - use on the beneficiaries of the child protection system - use data on farms - use data on properties and property tax payments - use data on employment - use data on registration of private companies, sole traders, private businesses (tax or „lump-sum" tax payers) - use comparative data from

			registrations with the Healthcare Fund (right to health insurance)
Development of the capacities of the social protection structures and systems in response to natural and other disasters	- Influence initiatives that aim towards social and economic equality (-initiative of maximum social protection, optimum labor conditions and standards, initiative of the World Health Organization on social determinants of health and education for all) - Strengthen community capacities to expand social and economic development - Universal application of international conventions and other instruments for social, economic, cultural, and political rights of all peoples, including the rights of children, the elderly, women, and persons with disabilities - Develop activities and programs that integrate human dimension	In cooperation with UNICEF BD BiH Government	
Implementation of reform processes in the field of social, family, and child protection	Enabling provision of non-institutional services (deinstitutionalization)	Department for Healthcare and Other Services BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	Funding earmarked for placement in institutions should be reallocated for placement in foster families
Implementation of reform processes in the field of social, family, and	Harmonization with the EU acquis	Department for Healthcare and Other	-

child protection		Services BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	
Creation of mixed-ownership social protection institutions	The BD BiH Government might adopt a conclusion that the BD BiH Mayor may sign a contract with an NGO on equal participation in a project/projects to operate, e.g., a day care center for children, a day care center for adults, marriage and family counseling center, a youth counseling center, etc. (on the basis of the approach to create mixed-ownership social protection institutions within the social protection system).	Department for Healthcare and Other Services BD BiH Government	Introduce a 50% matching grant for work of the Association that is a service providers for persons in the social protection system (which would avoid the need for payment of the Association's services, in view of this maching funding of 50% for the Association's operations)
Development of social entrepreneurship through intersectoral cooperation in all areas of social life with labor market institutions and NGOs in such a way as to include	Adopt the Law on Social Entrepreneurship	Department for Economic Development, Sports, and Culture BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	-
CHILD PROTECTION POLICY MEASURES	**ACTION**	**IMPLEMENTING AGENCY**	**BUDGET ALLOCATION**
Service provision according to needs in non-institutional forms	Link with Social Protection measure, pt. 3	Department for Healthcare and Other Services BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	Funding earmarked for placement in institutions should be reallocated for placement in foster families

Implementing activities on prevention of social exclusion	Introduction of systems and criteria of better targeting of beneficiaries, revision, and monitoring, and harmonization with the EU acquis	BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	Linked with Social Protection Policy measures: 1. The description of tasks and duties of the position of the Head of the Social Protection Division, which should not be declared redundant in the event that a CSW is established, should be amended to include: - proposing social inclusion policies, supervision of the implementation of the measures from the BD BiH Social Inclusion Strategy and reporting to the BD BiH Government.
Adopt the Law on Amendments to the BD BiH Law on Child Protection	Every child in a family (age 0-18), regardless of the family's financial situation, should be eligible for child allowance (as well as children up to the age of 26, on condition that they are enrolled in full-time education).	BD BiH Assembly	BAM 17,352,000
Adopt the bylaw to the BD BiH Labor Law: Rule Book on the Criteria and Modalities of Eligibility for Working Half-Time or for Eligibility of Parents of Children with Psychological or Physical Disorders)	Prescribe the manner and procedure for establishing eligibility of working parents for working half-time to ensure augmented care for their children, until the age of three years, and for children with psychological and physical developmental disorders, to involve certified medical doctors and certified medical institutions, that would set the duration, i.e., the start	Department for Healthcare and Other Services BD BiH Government	BAM 350.000

	and end of the eligibility for augmented child care, approve wage allowance for the second half of working time and decide about the employers' eligibility for refundation of the disbursed wage allowance		
POLICY MEASURES FOR PROTECTION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES	**ACTION**	**IMPLEMENTING AGENCY**	**BUDGET ALLOCATION**
Strengthening of the legislative framework and provision of legal support and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities	Amendments to the BD BiH Statutes with regard to the manner of exercising protection of persons with disabilities In the legislative boundaries of the BD BiH, implement reforms to increase importance of acting upon and meeting requests of persons with disabilities Adopt the Law on Protection of Persons with Disabilities (with both congenital and acquired disabilities)	BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	-
Elimination of architectural and information-communications barriers	Full inclusion of persons with disabilities into the community	Department for Spatial Planning and Property Affairs BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	Department for Spatial Planning and Property Affairs - Prepare an assessment of budget implications
Include persons with disabilities in all aspects of life on equal footing	Multisector action in the field of education, cultural, sports, public,	Education Department	Education Department, Department for Economic Development, Sports,

with others	and political sphere	Department for Economic Development, Sports, and Culture BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	and Culture - Prepare an assessment of budget implications
Strengthen the programs of disability prevention and programs for early detection and intervention in early growth and development		BD BiH Healthcare Center Brčko Healthcare Center - Mental Health Center	BD BiH Healthcare Center Brčko Healthcare Center - Mental Health Center - Prepare an assessment of budget implications
Improve the quality and availability of services, and create new services aligned with the needs of persons with disabilities	Reform processes in social protection policies until the adoption of the Law on Protection of Persons with Disabilities Introduction of the personal cash allowance into the social protection system	Department for Healthcare and Other Services BD BiH Government	Department for Healthcare and Other Services - Prepare an assessment of budget implications
Strengthen the segments of employment and self-employment of persons with disabilities	Reform processes in employment policies	BD BiH Assembly —Amendments to the Statutes Jurisdiction over the protection of persons with disabilities Jurisdiction over labor and labor relations	-
Prevent all forms of exploitation, abuse and violence against persons with disabilities	Multisector action of signatories of the Protocol on Treatment of Victims of Family Violence	Protection agencies from the Law on Protection from Family Violence	-
Raise public awareness on disability issues to combat prejudice, cultural,	Media campaigns	BD BiH Government	

and psychological barriers		- Media campaign -Support to the work of the media	- Prepare an assessment of budget implications
Strengthen capacities of organizations of persons with disabilities and guarantee their participation in all social processes	Creation of a coordination body of associations of persons with disabilities	Department for Technical and Administrative Affairs Division for Support to Local Communities and NGOs BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	-
YOUTH POLICY MEASURES	**ACTION**	**IMPLEMENTING AGENCY**	**BUDGET ALLOCATION**
Develop policies for youth entrepreneurship, youth and self-employment, youth housing, education and professional development of youth	Reform processes in the field of youth policies (BD BiH Youth Law, which governs youth rights and duties, youth associations, care for youth, institutional participation of young people in decision-making and in other issues of importance for life, status and activities of the youth in the BD BiH	Department for Technical and Administrative Affairs BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	Department for Technical and Administrative Affairs - Prepare an assessment of budget implications
GENDER EQUALITY POLICY MEASURES	**ACTION**	**IMPLEMENTING AGENCY**	**BUDGET ALLOCATION**
Building capacity, functionality, and sustainability of institutional gender equality mechanisms, as well as other institutions in the processes of integration of gender equality on all levels in the BD BiH	Organizational and technical strengthening of institutional gender equality mechanisms (specialized trainings, publication and distribution of educational and specialized materials for improving knowledge in the field of gender equality).	BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	- Prepare an assessment of budget implications

	Development of the BD BiH Gender Equality Strategic Plan Creation of the BD BiH Gender Equality Center		
Creation of the center for collection and publication of gender-disaggregated data in the BD BiH	Creation of an appropriate administrative unit with the BD BiH Government and defining of the modalities to collect gender-disaggregated data from all public bodies, institutions and enterprises Creation of a system for publication of statistical data in all agencies	Mayor's Office Hiring one additional Ethics Officer	BAM 33.505,32 (for December)
Integration of the gender equality dimension into policies, programs, and measures, as well as harmonization of regulations adopted and implemented on the level of the BD BiH	Initiating adoption of the Decree on Allocation of Budget Funds for Implementation of the BD BiH Action Plan Analysis of local policies, programs, and measures from the standpoint of their impact on achievement of gender equality according to the areas defined in the BD BiH Action Plan	BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	- Prepare an assessment of budget implications
Strengthening the capacities of local institutions through raising awareness and improving knowledge of gender equality in political and public life	Initiation and/or participation in creation and implementation of the program to empower representatives of the institutions to implement policies for promotion of equal opportunities, introduction of gender-sensitive budgeting and use	BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	-

	of non-discriminatory language		
Introduce mechanisms for programmatic and gender-responsible budgeting with the measures to strengthen the existing and introduce new types of information gathering	Reform processes that would contribute to improved respect for citizens' rights and to meeting their needs through strengthening transparency, accountability, and financial discipline in allocation and spending of public funds	BD BiH Government BD BiH Assembly	-
Protection and advancement of women's health	Education of women, particularly those in rural households, about healthcare measures (prevention and control of infectious diseases, securing and safeguarding a hygienic and epidemiological minimum under all living conditions) Raising awareness about the needs for screening for early detection of cervical cancer Organize a campaign for the International Health Day – April 7 to raise awareness about patient rights, and particularly to disseminate information about primary healthcare in rural areas	Department for Healthcare and Other Services BD BiH Healthcare Center Health Insurance Fund - Media campaign -	Department for Healthcare and Other Services BD BiH Healthcare Center Health Insurance Fund - Prepare an assessment of budget implications
Advancement of youth reproductive health (girls and boys)	Development of a program to advance youth reproductive health on the basis of gender equality	Department for Healthcare and Other Services BD BiH Healthcare Center	-
Promotion and implementation of prevention programs for women's	Initiation of the adoption of a set of measures for early detection and	Department for Healthcare and Other Services	Department for Healthcare and Other Services

and men's health	prevention of transmission of sexually transmitted diseases, breast cancer, colon cancer, cervical and testicular cancer	BD BiH Healthcare Center Health Insurance Fund - Media campaign -	BD BiH Healthcare Center Health Insurance Fund - Prepare an assessment of budget implications
Equal access of both women and men to economic resources and creation of equal opportunities for access	Adoption/implementation of employment programs Creation of an entrepreneurship database (of women entrepreneurs) to stimulate entrepreneurship by girls, young women, single mothers, rural women, and women with disabilities Regular collection, analysis and publication of gender-disaggregated data on the participation of women and men in the labor market Implementation of promotional activities and awareness-raising public information campaigns about the right of women and men to equal access to employment, labor market, and economic resources	Department for Economic Development, Sports, and Culture BD BiH Employment Bureau Department for Economic Development, Sports, and Culture	Department for Economic Development, Sports, and Culture BD BiH Employment Bureau - Prepare an assessment of budget implications
Economic empowerment of women	Involving women in the development of entrepreneurship. Creation of a network of women's associations whose programs include advancement of the position of women in rural areas Inclusion of women in production of homemade	BD BiH Employment Bureau Department for Economic Development, Sports, and Culture	Department for Economic Development, Sports, and Culture BD BiH Employment Bureau

	handicraft products that would serve as an assortment of souvenirs to support promotion of ethno-tourism, particularly in the rural areas of the BD BiH Trainings for starting agribusiness (development of greenhouse production, knowledge and skills for vegetable and fruit production and collection of medicinal herbs)		- Prepare an assessment of budget implications

11 ANNEX - STATISTICAL INDICATORS

1. MACROECONOMIC INDICATORS

Table 1.1 Gross Domestic Product for BiH and BD, current prices

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	20181)	20191)
GDP for BiH, mil KM	26779	27359	28589	29904	31376	33444	
GDP for Brčko District, mil KM	608	670	730	768	791	813	898

1) First results
2) Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH: Gross domestic product by production, income and expenditure approach, TB 01, 2020; Statistics of Brčko District BiH 2020.

Table 1.2. Share of BD BiH in GDP of BiH (%)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	20181)	20191)
GDP for BiH	100,00	100,00	100,00	100,00	100,00	100,00	100,00
GDP for Brčko District	2,27	2,45	2,55	2,57	2,52	2,43	

1) First results
2) Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH: Gross domestic product by production, income and expenditure approach, TB 01, 2020; Statistics of Brčko District BiH 2020.

Table 1.3. GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT of BD, previous year prices
ANNUAL REAL GROWTH RATES, % (CHANGES IN COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEAR)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019[1)]
Gross domestic product, thous. KM	633747	670	730	768	791	813	898
Gross domestic product, thous. EUR	324035	343	373	393	404	416	459
Gross domestic product, thous. USD	430067	455	495	436	447	468	542
Population, mid-year estimate	83410	83309	83236	83254	83243	83234	83159
Gross domestic product per capita, KM	7407	8047	8774	9228	9507	9770	10793
Gross domestic product per capita, EUR	3885	4117	4481	4720	4853	4998	5520
Gross domestic product per capita, USD	5156	5462	5947	5237	5370	5623	6518
Average Annual Exchange Rate [2)]							
1 EUR in Convertible Marks	1,956	1,956	1,956	1,956	1,956	1,956	1,956
1 USD in Convertible Marks	1,474	1,474	1,763	1,768	1,736	1,658	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH: Gross domestic product by production, income and expenditure approach, TB 01, 2020; Statistics of Brčko District BiH 2020.
1) First results
2) Source: Central Bank of BiH

Table 1.4. Foreign trade balance of BD BiH, (000 KM)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Export		188211	220563	287731	324365	243675	267747
Chain indices for exports			117,2	130,5	112,7	75,1	109,9
Import		417619	502600	569678	622542	510519	540051
Chain indices for imports			120,3	113,3	109,3	82,0	105,8
Trade balance		-229408	-282037	-281947	-298177	-266844	-272304
Coverage of imports by exports,%		45,1	43,9	50,5	52,1	47,7	49,6

Agency for Statistics of BiH (BHAS), Statistics of Brčko District BiH 2019-2020

Table 1.5. Unemployment rate in BD BiH

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
35,5	35,4	(30,3)	33,1	(26,9)	(19,8)	(24,1)

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey, 2013-2019.

Table 1.6. Employment rate in BD BiH

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
23,7	23,9	27,6	27,2	28,1	31,5	22,9

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey, 2013-2019.

Table 1.7. Activity rate in BD BiH

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
36,7	37	39,6	40,6	38,5	39,3	30,1

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey, 2013-2019.

2. DEMOGRAPHICS

Table 2.1. Population of BD BiH by age group and gender, Census 2013

	Male	Female	Total
Total	41.250	42.266	83.516
0-14	6.824	6.257	13.081
15-64	29.342	28.957	58.299
65+	5.084	7.052	12.136

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Census of Population, Households and Dwellings in BiH, 2013.

Table 2.2. Live births in BD BiH

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
896	919	932	878	898	861	899

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Demographic Statistics of BD BiH 2013-2017; Demographic Statistics of BD BiH 2015-2020

Table 2.3. Deaths in BD BiH

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
936	1.000	1.114	990	1.101	1.032	1.132

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Demographic Statistics of BD BiH 2013-2017; Demographic Statistics of BD BiH 2015-2020

Table 2.4. Population growth in BD BiH

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
-40	-81	-182	-112	-203	-171	-233

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Demographic Statistics of BD BiH 2013-2017; Demographic Statistics of BD BiH 2015-2020

Table 2.5. Educational structure of the population (15+) in BD BiH, Census 2013

Total BD BiH	No education	Incomplete primary education	Primary school	High school	Specialization after high school	Higher school and first faculty degree	Faculty /Academy /University
70.435	3.516	7.176	18.122	33.941	338	1.842	5.500

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH; Census of Population, Households and Dwellings in BiH, 2013

Table 2.6. Educational structure of the population (15+) in BD BiH by gender, Census 2013

Gender	Total	No education	Incomplete primary education	Primary school	High school	Specialization after high school	Higher school and first faculty degree	Faculty /Academy /University
Total	70.435	3.516	7.176	18.122	33.941	338	1.842	5.500
Male	34.426	731	2.641	8.205	18.872	266	1.067	2.644
Female	36.009	2.785	4.535	9.917	15.069	72	775	2.856

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Census of Population, Households and Dwellings in BiH, 2013.

Table 2.7. Illiterate population (10+) in BD BiH by gender, Census 2013

Gender	Total / *Total*	Illiterate		No response
		Number	%	
Total	75.039	2.125	2,83	1.171
Male	36.837	364	0,99	465
Female	38.202	1.761	4,61	706

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Census of Population, Households and Dwellings in BiH, 2013.

3. DATA ON CHILDREN

Table 3.1. BD BiH population by age group, Census 2013

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total	13.823						
0-4	3.326						
5-9	3.461						
10-14	3.682						
15-17	3.354						

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Census of Population, Households and Dwellings in BiH, 2013.

Table 3. 2. Children in preschool education in BD BiH

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total admitted	473	587	540	560	556	633	693
Admitted to public preschool institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Admitted to private preschool institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total children with special needs admitted	-	-	25	12	2	14	8
Children with special needs - Admitted to public preschool institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Children with special needs - Admitted to private preschool institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total not admitted due to full capacity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not admitted to public preschool institutions due to their full capacity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not admitted to private preschool institutions due to their full capacity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Agency for Statistics BiH, Statistical Bulletin 2015/2016 and school year 2019/2020.

4. YOUTH

Table 4.1. Number of enrolled students in secondary schools in BD BiH - Total

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
3873	3575	3326	3013	2863	2802	2.698

Source: Agency for Statistics BiH, Statistical Bulletin 2015/2016 and school year 2019/2020.

Table 4.2. Number of enrolled students in secondary schools in BD BiH - Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1956	1769	1642	1467	1411	1296	1.367

Source: Agency for Statistics BiH, Statistical Bulletin 2015/2016 and school year 2019/2020.

Table 4.3. Number of enrolled students at universities in BD BiH - Total

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
2768	2108	1852	1623	1239	1117	1.036

Source: Agency for Statistics BiH, Statistical Bulletin 2015/2016 and school year 2019/2020

Table 4.4. Number of enrolled students at universities in BD BiH - Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1239	954	865	767	583	531	475

Source: Agency for Statistics BiH, Statistical Bulletin 2015/2016 and school year 2019/2020

Table 4.5. Workforce in BD BiH (000) 15 - 24 years

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(2)	(2)	((2))	(2)	(3)	(2)	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.6. Employees in BD BiH (000) 15 - 24 years

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
((1))	((0,4))	((1))	((1))	((1))	(2)	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.7. Unemployed in BD BiH (000) 15 - 24 years

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
((1))	((1))	((1))	((1))	(1)	•	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.8. Inactive in BD BiH (000) 15 - 24 years

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(6)	(6)	(5)	(4)	(6)	(5)	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.9. Unemployment rate in BD BiH, 15 - 24 years

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
69,3	71,3	(66,5)	(63,7)	57,7	((30,7))	(48,7)

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.10. Workforce in BD BiH (000) 15 - 24 years - Male

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(1)	((1))	(1)	((1))	(2)	((2))	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.11. Employees in BD BiH (000) 15 - 24 years - Male

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
((0,4))	•	((0,4))	((0,4))	((1))	(1)	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.12. Unemployed in BD BiH (000) 15 - 24 years - Male

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
((1))	((1))	((1))	((1))	((1))	•	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.13. Inactive in BD BiH (000) 15 - 24 years - Male

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(3)	(3)	(3)	((2))	((3))	(2)	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.14. Unemployment rate in BD BiH, 15 - 24 years Male

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(66,3)	72,1	(61,8)	(66,4)	(52,8)	((30,1))	(50,1)

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.15. Workforce in BD BiH (000) 15 - 24 years - Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
((0,5))	((0,5))	((1))	((1))	((1))	((1))	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.16. Employees in BD BiH (000) 15 - 24 years - Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
•	•	•	•	•	((0,5))	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.17. Unemployed in BD BiH (000) 15 - 24 years - Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
•	((0,3))	•	•	•	•	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.18. Inactive in BD BiH (000) 15 - 24 years - Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(3)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(3)	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.19. Unemployment rate in BD BiH, 15 - 24 years - Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(77,3)	(69,6)	(75,6)	((58,8))	(69,7)	•	((46,0))

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 4.20. Educational structure of youth in BD BiH, 2013 Census

Age	Gender	Total	No education	Incomplete primary education	Primary school	High school	Specialization after high school	Higher school and first faculty degree	Faculty /Academy /University
15-19	Total	5323	110	57	3621	1523	-	12	-
15-19	Male	2719	60	30	1825	800	-	4	-
15-19	Female	2604	50	27	1796	723	-	8	-
20-24	Total	4936	58	45	336	3936	20	56	485
20-24	Male	2528	28	23	169	2087	14	22	185
20-24	Female	2408	30	22	167	1849	6	34	300
25-29	Total	5729	46	77	415	3808	37	109	1237
25-29	Male	2908	27	41	206	2062	19	49	504
25-29	Female	2821	19	36	209	1746	18	60	733

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Census, Households and Apartments in BiH, 2013

5. POVERTY

Picture: Poverty in BiH according to different poverty lines 2004-2011

3. Poverty in BiH

Table: Poverty Lines and Poverty Incidence*

	2004 HBS			2007 HBS			2011 HBS		
	BiH	FBiH	RS	BiH	FBiH	RS	BiH	FBiH	RS
Official Relative Poverty Line: (regionally unadjusted)	**KM 311 PAE monthly, prices 2004**			**KM 386 PAE monthly, prices 2007**			**KM 416 PAE monthly, prices 2011**		
Poverty rate:	18,3	18,8	17,8	18,2	17,0	20,1	17,9	17,1	19,5
Source: Household Budget Survey 2007 - Final results, BHAS, FZS, RZRS; First relase Household Budget Survey 2011 -Final results, BHAS, FZS, RZRS;									
Relative poverty line for FBiH: 443,60 KM PAE 2011 prices (regionaly unadjusted)									
Poverty rate:								18,9	
Source: Authors' calculation									
Official Relative Poverty Line for RS: (regionally unadjusted)				**KM 350 PAE monthly, prices 2007**			**KM 381 PAE monthly, prices 2011**		
Poverty rate:						15,6			14,4
Source :Household Budget Survey in RS u 2007 - Final results, RZRS; First relase Household Budget Survey in RS 2011 -Final results, RZRS;									
Absolute poverty line for BIH: 205 KM PC monthly 2007 prices (regionally unadjusted)									
Poverty rate:	17,7	18,6	16,5*	14,0	13,3*	15,0*	15,0*	15,1*	14,9
Source: Protecting the poor during the Global Crisis, 2009 Bosnia and Herzegovina Poverty Update; WB,DEP BiH; Authors' calculation for 2011 on consumption expenditure aggregate EHBS 2011, BHAS, FZS, RZS.									
Absolute poverty line for BIH: 238 KM PC monthly 2007 (regionally adjusted, expenditures on health excluded)									
Poverty rate:			18,6*	17,4*	20,2*	23,4*	22,7*	25,3	
Source: Household budget survey 2007 -Poverty and living conditions, BHAS, FZS, RZRS; Authors' calculation for 2011 using EHBS 2011 consumption expenditure aggregate in 2007 prices regionally unadjusted.									
Absolute poverty line for FBIH: 238 KM PC monthly 2007 prices (regionally adjusted, expenditures on health excluded)									
Poverty rate:					17,4*			22,7*	
Source: Household budget survey 2007 -Poverty and living conditions, BHAS, FZS, RZRS; Authors' calculation for 2011 using EHBS 2011 consumption expenditure aggregate in 2007 prices regionally unadjusted.									
Official absolute poverty line for RS 2007: 201 KM PC monthly 2007 prices (regionally adjusted, expenditures on health excluded)									
Poverty rate:						16,8			15,8
Source:Household Budget Survey in RS 2007 -Final results, RZRS; Authors' calculation for 2011 using EHBS 2011 consumption expenditure aggregate for RS in 2007 prices regionally unadjusted.									

* In 2007 RSIS published a special publication "Household Budget Survey in the RS in 2007-Final Results," in which absolute and relative line for RS was published. These poverty lines differ from the absolute and relative poverty line for BiH. Also in 2011 RSIS is the bulletin, "Household Budget Survey in RS 2011-Final results, RSIS" released relative poverty line for RS for 2011. Bearing in mind that RSIS published poverty lines for RS authors have calculated relative poverty line for the Federation for 2011 in order to be able to compare two entity profiles of relative poverty. Since the FSI does not publish a separate absolute poverty line for the FBiH the BiH absolute poverty line for 2011 was used for the profile of absolute poverty in FBiH for 2011. The authors have also updated the absolute poverty line published in "Protecting the poor in a time of global crisis, an updated report for BiH 2009" SB, DEP BiH respecting the methodological approach used in this report.

5.1 Relative poverty in BD BiH

Table 5.1.1 Amount of relative poverty line in BD BiH (KM)

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
		389,26				

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, BiH Household Budget Survey, 2015.

In 2015, 60.00% of median monthly equalized consumption expenditure in Bosnia and Herzegovina amounted to 389.26 KM.

This value represents the relative poverty line (or standard poverty line) for a single-member adult household.

Table 5.1 .2 Households in BD BiH by type of household and relative poverty status, 2015

Household type	Percentage of poor households
Single household <65 years	8,9
Single household >= 65 years	16,8
Married couple without children <65 years	14,8
Married couple without children >= 65 years	17,2
Married couple with 1 child	6,7
Married couple with 2 children	16,1
Married couple with 3 or more children	35,6
Single parents	16,7
Married couple with children and other relatives	21,2
Total BD BiH	15,9

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Household Budget Survey in BiH, 2015.

5.2 Absolute poverty in BD BiH

– see the section in the Social Inclusion Strategy of BD BiH 2021-2027 (pages 17-24) –

6. DATA ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Table 6.1. BD BiH population by disability status and gender

Gender	Total	People with disabilities	People without disabilities	Unknown Status
Total	83.516	7.677	74.587	1.252
Male	41.250	3.436	37.209	605
Female	42.266	4.241	37.378	647

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Census of Population, Households and Dwellings in BiH, 2013.

Table 6.2. People with disabilities in BD BiH by type of difficulty, age and gender

Gender	Age	Total	Difficulty with						Multiple difficulties
			Vision	Listening	Walk or climb the stairs	Memory or concentration	Keeping and maintaining personal hygiene	Communication	
Total	Total	7.677	1.329	554	2.445	232	35	65	3.017
Total	Under 15	114	37	6	12	5	7	10	37
Total	15-19	89	27	7	18	4	-	4	29
Total	20-29	156	46	13	35	8	1	2	51
Total	30-49	1.038	177	72	392	63	5	22	307
Total	50-59	1.455	324	81	542	54	6	8	440
Total	60-64	946	188	70	340	22	2	3	321
Total	65 and up	3.879	530	305	1.106	76	14	16	1.832
Male	Total	3.436	608	331	1.044	118	15	38	1.282
Male	Under 15	69	22	4	4	4	4	7	24
Male	15-19	49	15	3	11	2	-	2	16
Male	20-29	91	25	8	21	2	-	2	33
Male	30-49	662	96	52	267	37	3	12	195
Male	50-59	750	152	55	273	34	3	6	227
Male	60-64	432	84	42	139	10	-	1	156
Male	65 and up	1.383	214	167	329	29	5	8	631
Female	Total	4.241	721	223	1.401	114	20	27	1.735
Female	Under 15	45	15	2	8	1	3	3	13
Female	15-19	40	12	4	7	2	-	2	13
Female	20-29	65	21	5	14	6	1	-	18
Female	30-49	376	81	20	125	26	2	10	112
Female	50-59	705	172	26	269	20	3	2	213
Female	60-64	514	104	28	201	12	2	2	165
Female	65 and up	2.496	316	138	777	47	9	8	1.201

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Census of Population, Households and Dwellings in BiH, 2013

7. THIRD AGE PERSONS

Table 7.1. Number of pensioners in BD BiH - December

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
10.562	10.928	11.068	11.292	11.447	11.651	11.849

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Statistics for BD BiH

Table 7.2. The amount of the average pension in BD BiH (KM) - December

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
313,16	324,79	321,64	325,57	328,87	346,56	361,17

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Statistics for BD BiH

Table 7.3. The of the relative poverty line in BiH (KM)

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
		389,26				

Source Agency for Statistics of BiH, Household Budget Survey in BiH, 2015

U 2015, 60.00% of median monthly equalized expenditure for consumption in Bosnia and Herzegovina amounted to 389.26 KM.

This value represents the relative line of poverty (or standard poverty line) for a single-member adult household.

Table 7.4. Coverage of BiH-level relative poverty line with pensions in BD BiH

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
80%	83%	83%	84%	84%	89%	93%

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Household Budget Survey in BiH, 2015; Statistics for BD BiH; Author's calculation

8. GENDER

Table 8.1. Judges in BD BiH by type of institution and gender

	2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Judges – Female	Judges – Male	Judges – Female	Judges – Male	Judges – Female	Judges – Male	Judges – Female	Judges – Male
Basic Court of Brčko District	8	10	8	11	7	11	7	11
Appeal Court of Brčko District	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

Source Agency for Statistics of BiH

Table 8.2. Prosecution in BD BiH by type of institution and gender

	2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Prosecutors - Female	Prosecutors - Male	Prosecutors - Female	Prosecutors - Male	Prosecutors - Female	Prosecutors - Male	Prosecutors - Female	Prosecutors - Male
Prosecutor's Office of the BD BIH	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH

Table 8.3. Workforce in BD BiH (000) - Male

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(12)	12	12	(12)	(13)	(13)	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 8.4. Unemployed in BD BiH (000) - Male

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(4)	(4)	(3)	(3)	(3)	((2))	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 8.5. Employees in BD BiH (000) - Male

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(8)	(8)	(9)	(8)	(10)	(10)	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 8.6. Activity rate in BD BiH - Male

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
48,3	48,1	51,0	48,5	49,2	50,6	43,7

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 8.7. Employment rate in BD BiH - Male

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
32,6	32,1	37,3	34,5	37,1	41,4	33,9

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 8.8. Unemployment rate in BD BiH - Male

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
32,5	(33,3)	(26,9)	(28,9)	(24,6)	(18,3)	(22,5)

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 8.9. Workforce in BD BiH (000) - Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(7)	7	7	(8)	(8)	(7)	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 8.10. Unemployed in BD BiH (000) - Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	((2))	((2))	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 8.11. Employees in BD BiH (000) - Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(4)	(4)	(4)	(5)	(5)	(6)	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 8.12. Activity rate in BD BiH - Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
25,3	26,3	28,4	33,0	27,9	28,4	17,8

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 8.13. Employment rate in BD BiH -Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(14,9)	16,0	18,1	(20,1)	(19,2)	22,0	(12,8)

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 8.14. Unemployment rate in BD BiH – Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(41,0)	39,2	(36,2)	(39,0)	(31,1)	(22,5)	(27,8)

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 8.15. Employees in BD BiH by highest completed education and gender

	Total						Male						Female					
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total	12	12	(14)	(13)	(15)	(16)	8	(8)	(9)	(8	(10	(10	(4)	(4)	(4)	(5)	(5)	(6)
Primary school and less	(3)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(3)	((3))	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2	(3	((2))	(1))	(0,5)	(1))	((1))	((1))	((1))
High school and specialization	(7)	(8)	(8)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(2)	(6)	3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
University, master's degree, PhD	(2)	(2)	(3)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	((1))	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)
Structure (%)																		
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Primary school and less	(24,2)	(18,6)	(22,8)	(25,7)	(22,4)	(20,8)	(26,3)	(22,0)	(25,5)	(26,8)	(24,8)	(21,0)	((19,8))	((12,1))	((17,5))	(23,8)	(18,0)	((20,6))
High school and specialization	61,3	62,5	58,2	58,5	59,5	62,2	61,0	59,8	59,4	60,0	61,0	67,8	61,9	67,7	55,9	55,9	56,6	52,2
University, master's degree, PhD	(14,5)	(18,9)	(19,0)	(15,9)	(18,1)	(16,9)	(12,8)	(18,2)	(15,2)	(13,2)	(14,2)	(11,3)	(18,2)	(20,3)	(26,6)	(20,3)	(25,5)	(27,1)

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

9. SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM

Table 9.1. Minor beneficiaries of social protection in BD BiH

	2013	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**	**2017**	**2018**	**2019**
Total	1.286	1.315	1.355	1.351	1.521	1.641	
Endangered by the family situation	190	197	218	181	191	214	
With disturbances in mental and physical development	881	891	899	908	1.030	1.187	
Socio-unacceptable behaviour	158	170	178	198	234	239	
Mentally ill	0	0	0	0	1	1	
In a state of different social and protective needs	57	57	60	64	65	0	
No specific category							

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Social protection of Brčko District 2015- do 2019.

Table 9.2. Adult beneficiaries of social protection in BD BiH

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
TOTAL	18.516	18.585	23.889	29.021	25.861	25.045	
Cost subsidising beneficiaries	985	894	1.143	1.231	1.254	1.193	
People who don't have enough income for subsistence	4.782	4.832	4.966	4.807	4.548	4.487	
With disturbances in mental and physical development	504	610	660	697	697	744	
Socio-unacceptable behaviour	513	569	618	660	693	745	
Mentally ill	1.005	1.150	1.249	1.303	1.352	1.372	
In a state of different social and protective needs	10.727	10.530	15.253	20.323	17.317	16.504	
No specific category							

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Social protection of Brčko District 2015- do 2019.

Table 9.3. Beneficiaries of social protection in BD BiH - Total

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
TOTAL	19.802	19.900	25.244	30.372	27.382	26.686	
Cost subsidising beneficiaries	985	894	1.143	1.231	1.254	1.193	
Endangered by the family situation	4.839	4.889	5.026	4.871	4.613	4.487	
With disturbances in mental and physical development	504	610	660	697	697	744	
Socio-unacceptable behaviour	513	569	618	660	693	745	
Mentally ill	1.005	1.150	1.249	1.303	1.353	1.373	
In a state of different social and protective needs	10.784	10.587	15.313	20.387	17.382	16.504	
No specific category							

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Social protection of Brčko District 2015- do 2019.

10. EDUCATION SYSTEM

Table 10.1. Enrolled in primary education in BD BiH

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
6361	6313	6068	6027	5971	5962	5922

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Education Statistics by the end of 2015/2016, by the end of school year 2019/2020.

Table 10.2. Number of enrolled students in high schools in BD BiH - Total

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
3873	3575	3326	3013	2863	2802	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Education Statistics by the end of 2015/2016, by the end of school year 2019/2020.

Table 10.3. Number of enrolled students in high schools in BD BiH - Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1956	1769	1642	1467	1411	1296	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Education Statistics by the end of 2015/2016, by the end of school year 2019/2020.

Table 10.4. Number of enrolled students at universities in BD BiH - Total

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
2768	2108	1852	1623	1239	1117	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Education Statistics by the end of 2015/2016, by the end of school year 2019/2020.

Table 10.5. Number of enrolled students at universities in BD BiH - Female

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1239	954	865	767	583	531	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Education Statistics by the end of 2015/2016, by the end of school year 2019/2020.

Table 10.6. Children in preschool education in BD BiH

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total admitted	473	587	540	560	556	633	693
Admitted to public pre-school institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Admitted to private pre-school institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total children with special needs admitted	-	-	25	12	2	14	8
Children with special needs - Admitted to public pre-school institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Children with special needs - Admitted to private pre-school institutions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total not admitted due to full capacity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
They were not admitted to public preschool institutions due to the full capacity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
They were not admitted to private preschool institutions due to their full capacity	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Education Statistics by the end of 2015/2016, by the end of school year 2019/2020.

11. EMPLOYMENT

Table 11.1. Workforce in BD BiH (000)

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(19)	19	19	(20)	(21)	(20)	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH

Table 11.2. Unemployed in BD BiH (000)

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(7)	(7)	(6)	(7)	(6)	(4)	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 11.3. Employees in BD BiH (000)

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(12)	12	(14)	(13)	(15)	(16)	

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 11.4. Activity rate in BD BiH

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
36,7	37	39,6	40,6	38,5	39,3	30,1

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 11.5. Employment rate in BD BiH

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
23,7	23,9	27,6	27,2	28,1	31,5	22,9

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 11.6. Unemployment rate in BD BiH

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
35,5	35,4	(30.3)	33,1	(26.9)	(19.8)	(24.1)

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, Labour Force Survey in BiH, 2013-2019

Table 11.7. Registered employment in BD BiH (000) - year-on-year average

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
239	242	246	253	261	266	272

Source: Labour and Employment Agency of BiH, May 2020.

Table 11.8. Registered unemployment in BD BiH (000) - year-on-year average

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
151	146	139	132	120	106	90

Source: Labour and Employment Agency of BiH, May 2020.

12. HEALTH SYSTEM

Table 12.1. Health care in FBiH

Indicator	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Population (mid-year estimate)						83234	
Number of doctors						143	
Number of dentists						11	
Number of hospital beds						304	
No. of inhabitants per doctor						582	
No. of inhabitants per dentist						7567	
No. of inhabitants per dentist						274	

Source: BHAS: Health Bulletin of Brčko District BiH, 2018.

13. SOCIAL INCLUSION

Table 13.1. Access of household to services in BD BiH, 2015 (%)

Service/Access	Difficult or very difficult	Easy or very easy	The service is not used
Grocery store	13.3	86.7	-
Banking services	30.9	57	12.1
Postal services	25.4	58.6	16
Public transport	17.8	67.1	15.1
Primary Health Care Institution	18.1	81.7	:
Institution of preschool and primary education	:	22.6	75.9

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, BiH Household Budget Survey, 2015

Table 13.2. Indicators of material deprivation of households in FBiH, 2015 (%)

Indicator	% of households
Households having financial difficulties paying utility bills	20.7
Households who cannot afford one week annual holiday away from home	78
Households who cannot afford a meat, chicken or fish meal or vegetarian substitute every second day	18
Households who cannot afford unexpected expenses of 380 KM	79.5
Households who cannot keeping the home adequately warm	5.5
Households who do not own a car	45.2
Households who do not own a washing machine	5.2
Households who do not own a TV	1.9

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, BiH Household Budget Survey, 2015

Table 13.3. BD BiH households facing problems related to the housing unit and the environment in which they live, 2015 (%)

Indicator	% of households
Crime, violence or vandalism in the area	3.2
Pollution, grime or other environmental problems	5.2
Noise from neighbours or from the street	6.0
Darkness, not enough day-light	2.4
Inadequate heating of housing units	5.5
Rot in window frames or floor	14.3
Damp walls/foundations	21.9
Leaky roof	14.6

Source: Agency for Statistics of BiH, BiH Household Budget Survey, 2015