

LRS Labour Research Service

Knowledge is too important to leave in the hands of the bosses



Industry Median Wage Settlements
Median wage increases (Q1) Jan - March 2019

Industry	Jan-Mar 19
Agriculture, Hunting, Forestry & Fishing	7.3%
Community, Social & Personal Services	7%
Construction	6.1%
Electricity, Gas & Water	
Financing, Insurance, Real Estate & Business Services	7%
Manufacturing	7%
Mining & Quarrying	8%
Transport, Storage & Communication	7%
Wholesale & Retail Trade, Catering & Accommodation	7.3%
AWARD Benchmark	7%

The table above shows unions secured wage settlements above inflation rate. The median wage settlement was 7% while inflation rate was at 4.5%.

The highest median wage settlement in the first quarter of 2019 was reported in the mining sector at 8% and the lowest in construction sector at 6.1%.

The median and why we like to use it

The mean is the sum of all the numbers in a given set divided by the amount of numbers in the set. The median is the middle point of the number set, in which half the numbers are above the median and half are below. For example, if the range of numbers is 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 then the median is 10.

We prefer using median when analyzing wage data as the result can't get distorted by an outlier (very big or small number) as is the case with calculating averages.

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