

## Introduction

Information and communication technologies (hereinafter **ICT**) are considered one of the key driving forces for increasing competitiveness and building an innovative and knowledge-based society.

One approach to monitoring developments in ICT and its impact on the economy is to compile a set of **key statistical indicators** in this field. For this reason, the Czech Statistical Office publishes this annual statistical overview of the digital economy in Czechia and other EU countries.

This brochure provides a comprehensive set of **internationally comparable** indicators on ICT investment intensity, R&D expenditure in this area, as well as international trade and production of ICT equipment and services. These economic indicators are complemented by data on ICT specialists and their wages, as well as information on students of and graduates from ICT fields of education at tertiary education.

The brochure consists of the following **seven chapters**:

- A. **ICT specialists**: this chapter provides information about numbers and wages of ICT professionals and ICT technicians. This data is available, not only by gender, age or education of ICT specialists but also by occupation, sphere, or industry these employees are active in.
- B. **ICT students**: this chapter contains data on the number and structure of students and graduates from ICT fields of education at universities by **gender, age, citizenships** or selected **characteristics of their studies**.
- C. **ICT investments**: this chapter includes detail information about investment intensity into ICT equipment and software **by type of asset and industry**.
- D. **ICT research and development**: this chapter provides both data on the total financial resources invested in research and development (R&D) in ICT equipment and software and data about R&D expenditures and personnel in the ICT sector.
- E. **International trade in ICT goods**: this chapter include both the data based on the ownership change of goods changes between residents and non-residents, as well as the cross-border movements of ICT goods.
- F. **International trade in ICT services**: this chapter informs the reader about the export and import of ICT services, both as a whole and broken down into different categories.
- G. **ICT sector**: this chapter consists of main economic indicators for industries that are primarily engaged in the production of ICT goods and services.

In addition to detailed data for Czechia, each chapter contains a **methodological introduction** and, for most indicators, an available **international comparison**.

Data given in this brochure were acquired from **official statistics**. For more information on digital economy statistics, visit our website:

<https://csu.gov.cz/digital-economy>.

In addition to this publication, the Czech Statistical Office also publishes an annual report on **the development of the information society** in Czechia and other EU member states. This brochure provides key indicators on the use of digital technologies across different sectors of society. For more information see: <https://csu.gov.cz/produkty/information-society-in-figures-v5yawboq9v>

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