Job Applicants Placed in Retraining Courses

(Graph 26)

Source: Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the CR (data for the period 1999–2007)

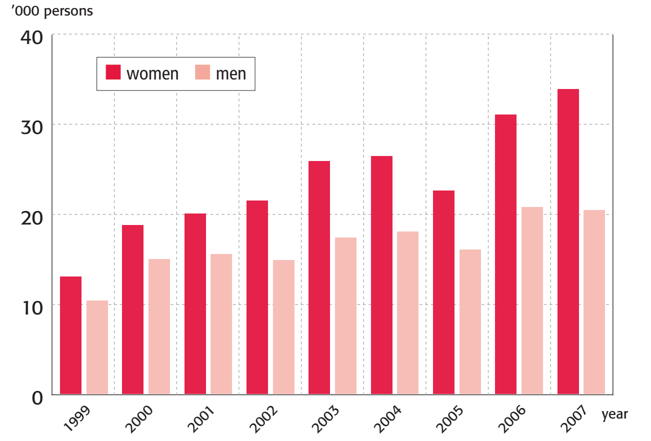
A job applicant (job seeker) means a citizen who is not in an employment or analogous relationship and who is not self-employed or preparing systematically for an occupation and who personally seeks appropriate employment at the Labour Office on the basis of a written application.

Retraining means a change in the job applicant's current qualification necessary in order to acquire new know-how and skills through theoretical or practical training, which will enable the job applicant to find suitable employment.

Between 1999 and 2004 the number of female job applicants seeking retraining has doubled (among men seeking retraining this rise was slightly less steep – slightly more than fifty percent). From 2004 to 2007 the number of female job applicants seeking retraining increased by less than fifty percent, among men this rise was again slightly less steep (roughly thirty percent).

In 1999, 22,938 people applied for retraining courses, of which women comprised 56.0 %. In 2007, already 53,846 people applied for retraining courses and the number of women increased by 6.4 percentage points compared to 1999 figures. Hence, women take advantage of the opportunity to participate in retraining courses more frequently than men.

Graph 26: Job Applicants Placed in Retraining Courses



Social benefits

(Table 5)

Source: Statistics of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic – time series

The number of paid parental benefits – monthly averages for selected years.

The data are exclusive of pensions paid abroad and are an aggregate of reduced and permanently fixed pensions.

Women are more often the recipients of social benefits than men. This holds true in particular for parental benefits, since women comprise 98.9 % of the recipients of parental benefits in 2004 and 98.6 % of the recipients of parental benefits in 2007. From 2004 to 2007, the number of parental benefits received by men rose by more than 50 percentage points, for women by 22 percentage points. Numbers of recipients of independent old age pensions and old age and widow's/widower's pensions in 2007 were not much different compared to 2004 figures – for both men and women. Numbers of women who were eligible for receiving independent widow's pension from 2004 to 2007 dropped by 17 percentage points. Among persons receiving independent widow's or widower's pension, the proportion of men in 2007 increased by 2.2 percentage points compared to 2004 figures (hence, men comprised 14.1 % of the recipients of widow's or widower's pension).

The highest share of men was found among the recipients of independent old age pensions and in the monitored period 2004–2007 stood at 43.8 %.

Table 5: Social Benefits

Average amount in CZK	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	women	men	women	men	women	men	women	men
Parental benefit	3151	3185	3618	3598	3678	3655	7103	7012
Independent old-age pension	6610	8141	7042	8671	7444	9168	7952	9796
Old age and widow´s and widower´s pension	8080	9078	8570	9645	9098	10 234	9746	10 951
Independent widow´s and widower´s pension	5028	3862	5291	4123	5546	4358	5875	4668

Number of allowances, persons	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	women	men	women	men	women	men	women	men
Parental benefit	268 363	3021	282 305	3875	398 259	4073	327 445	4574
Independent old-age pension	769 885	598 755	779 042	606 881	795 697	621 033	813 447	635 097
Old age and widow´s and widower´s pension	483 874	71 214	483 966	72 188	486 318	73 645	484 703	75 034
Independent widow´s and widower´s pension	55 839	7535	52 931	7701	49 652	7759	46 560	7635

Old-age Pensioners by Level of Pensions

(Graph 27)

Source: Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the CR (the Czech Social Security Administration)

Pension insurance secures citizens for the purposes of the old age, disability (invalidity) or the loss of a breadwinner. Under the pension insurance, with effect as of 1 January 1996, (Act No. 155/1995 Coll. on Pension Insurance) old-age pensions, full disability (invalidity) pensions, partial disability (invalidity) pensions, widow's and widower's pensions and orphan's pensions are provided. Wives' pensions, long-term service pensions, social pensions and pensions granted before 1 January 1957 are paid under this Act either as disability (invalidity) pensions or old-age pensions.

As at 31 December 2007 women receiving old-age pension outnumbered men – the proportion of women among old-age pensioners was 56.2 %. Differences between men and women were recorded in categories by the average amount of full old-age pension. More than 80 % of people receiving full old-age pension in the average amount up to CZK 8,000 are women, the proportion of women then significantly falls with the rising average amount of pensions. The recipients of average pensions in the CZK 9,000–9,999 category are already mostly men (the proportion of men in this income category comprises 65.1 %). The proportion of men is even more significant (almost 80 %) among the recipients of pensions in the CZK 10,000 and over category.

Most women (i.e. 34.4 %) receive full old-age pension in the amount of CZK 7,000–7,999,while almost 40 % of men fall within the CZK 10,000 and over category of pensions. Additional 30 % of men receive pension in the CZK 9,000–9,999 category.

Women retire sooner than men and on average live longer and therefore also receive their pension longer, however, men on average receive higher pension per capita than women.

Graph 27: Old-age Pensioners by Level of Pensions, 31 December 2007