

## METHODOLOGICAL EXPLANATORY NOTES

Methodological explanatory notes comprise basic methodological information on published data.

The publication is compiled solely from data saved in the Public Database of the CZSO.

As for the territorial structure, the data are always published relating to the structure valid in the relevant year. As at 1 January 2016, the *Brdy* military district was abolished and territories of other military districts were reduced. It was reflected in a change to the territories of several regions (districts). However, that applied mainly to transfers of empty areas; no significant changes to the population numbers occurred. Since the year 2000, larger transfers were made as at 1 January 2005 between the *Vysočina* Region and the *Jihomoravský* Region and between the *Moravskoslezský* Region and the *Olomoucký* Region. As at 1 January 2007, territories of some districts changed. As of January 1, 2021, the borders of some districts were adjusted in connection with Act 51/2020 Coll., on the territorial and administrative division of the state.

Where no data source is provided, tables show data from statistical surveys of the CZSO.

### TERRITORY

Based on the Constitutional Act No 347/1997 Sb, on the Establishment of Higher Territorial Self-Governing Units of 3 December 1997, the Czech Republic was divided into 14 regions on 1 January 2000. The Czech Statistical Office introduced the **Classification of Territorial Statistical Units (CZ-NUTS)** according to this Act and the Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No 707/1998, and Section 19, paragraph 1 of the Act No 89/1995 Sb on the State Statistical Service, and following an agreement with Eurostat – Statistical Office of the European Commission.

The NUTS classification (from the French version *Nomenclature des Unités Territoriales Statistiques*) is a fundamental systematic tool for the needs of statistics, analyses, and needs of providing of statistical information to the European Union. It is used for the statistical monitoring and analyses of social and economic conditions in the regions, as well as for the preparation, implementation, and evaluation of regional policies. At the NUTS 2 level it is used mainly for drawing of funds from the EU Structural Funds.

The NUTS classification was updated in the Czech Republic with effect from 1 January 2008, 1 August 2011, and for the last time from 1 January 2013. At present, it comprises 4 NUTS levels, which are characterized by the population size and area (the lowest is the NUTS 3 level). At lower levels, so-called Local Administrative Units (LAU) have been introduced. Prague is not broken down into LAU levels. The EU legislation instruments, however, do not introduce the LAU system.

NUTS 0 refers to the **state of the Czech Republic**  
NUTS 1 refers to the **territory of the Czech Republic**  
NUTS 2 refers to **cohesion regions**, i.e. to 8 groupings of NUTS 3 regions  
NUTS 3 refers to **regions**, i.e. to 14 higher territorial self-governing units  
LAU refers to **municipalities**, i.e. to 6 258 municipalities (as at 1 January 2023)

#### Summary of cohesion regions (NUTS 2) and regions (NUTS 3):

NUTS 2	NUTS 3
<i>Praha</i>	<i>Hl. m. Praha</i> Region
<i>Střední Čechy</i>	<i>Středočeský</i> Region
<i>Jihozápad</i>	<i>Jihočeský</i> Region and <i>Plzeňský</i> Region
<i>Severozápad</i>	<i>Karlovarský</i> Region and <i>Ústecký</i> Region
<i>Severovýchod</i>	<i>Liberecký</i> Region, <i>Královéhradecký</i> Region, and <i>Pardubický</i> Region
<i>Jihovýchod</i>	<i>Vysočina</i> Region and <i>Jihomoravský</i> Region
<i>Střední Morava</i>	<i>Olomoucký</i> Region and <i>Zlínský</i> Region
<i>Moravskoslezsko</i>	<i>Moravskoslezský</i> Region

Data on the area of regions and land types as at 31 December were obtained from official data of the Czech Office for Surveying, Mapping and Cadastre in Prague.

## SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE

The **municipality** shall mean the basic territorial self-governing community of citizens; it forms a territorial unit, which is defined by borders of the municipality territory. The structure of municipalities by size was worked out according to the administrative territorial structure in the given year, always as at 31 December.

The list of **municipalities with extended powers** and of **municipalities with authorized municipal authority** was established by the Act No 314/2002 Sb on establishing of administrative districts of municipalities with authorised municipal authority and administrative districts of municipalities with extended powers of 13 June 2002, that came into force on 1 January 2003. Following the Act, the Ministry of the Interior established administrative districts of municipalities by the Decree No 388/2002 Sb establishing administrative districts of municipalities with authorised municipal authority and administrative districts of municipalities with extended powers. . As at 1 January 2005, which administrative district competence a municipality falls in was adjusted and determined by the Decree of the Ministry of the Interior No 388/2004 Sb of 24 June 2004 amending the Decree of the Ministry of the Interior No 388/2002 Sb of 15 August 2002 establishing administrative districts of municipalities with authorised municipal authority and administrative districts of municipalities with extended powers. In 2020, the Act No 51/2020 Sb, on the Territorial Administrative Division of the State was approved, which came into force on 1 January 2021. The boundaries of Regions have not changed; however, boundaries of several Districts and administrative districts of municipalities with extended powers or with an authorised municipal authority have changed. Another change occurred pursuant to the Decree No 389/2022 Sb effective since 1 January 2023 (the municipality of Přemyslovice was reclassified from the administrative district of the town of Prostějov to the administrative district of the town of Konice).

Translator's note: Sb stands for the Collection of Laws of the Czech Republic

A **municipality part** (formerly a settlement) shall mean the registered settlement unit having separated series of land register numbers and registration numbers. It can be described also as a city part or a market town part.

A **town** is the municipality, which was given the status of town by law on the basis of the Act on Municipalities.

- The municipality, having at least the population of 3 000, is a town if the Chairperson of the House of Deputies, following the statement of the Government of the Czech Republic, has determined so upon a request of the municipality.
- The municipality, that used to be a town before 17 May 1954, shall be a town, if it has asked for.

**Statutory towns** (there are 27 statutory towns, including the Capital City of Prague, in the Czech Republic) have the right to establish **city parts** or **city districts** and delegate a portion of the town powers to them.

A **market town** shall mean the municipality, which has been given the market town status on the basis of the Act on Municipalities.

- A municipality shall be a market town, if the Chairperson of the House of Deputies, following to a statement of the Government of the Czech Republic and upon the proposal of the municipality, has determined so.
- A municipality, which was entitled to use the market town denomination prior 17 May 1954, shall be the market town, if the municipality has requested the Chairperson of the House of Deputies to have such denomination.

The **cadastral district** consists of a jointly registered set of land lots (plots) of continuous area. The cadastral districts cover the whole territory of the country.

The **basic settlement unit** shall mean a unit representing parts of the territory of a municipality with unambiguous territorial, technical, and urbanistic conditions or of adjoining territories of groups of residential or recreational premises. The basic settlement units cover the whole territory of the country.

## THE ENVIRONMENT

The environment shall mean all things that create natural conditions for the existence of organisms, including humans, and are prerequisites for their future evolution. Environmental compartments are especially air, water, rocks, soil, organisms, ecosystems, and energy.

The Act of the Czech National Council No 114/1992 Sb, on nature conservation and landscape protection, distinguishes six categories of specially protected areas classified into two groups by size as follows.

### Large-size specially protected areas

- National parks are large areas unique at the national or international scales, major parts of which are occupied by natural or nature-close ecosystems where species of flora and fauna, and abiotic nature are of extraordinary scientific and educational importance;

- Protected landscape areas are large areas with harmonically formed landscape, characteristic relief, significant shares of forest and permanent grassland natural ecosystems, high abundance of tree species, or, as the case may be, preserved monuments of historical settlements.

#### **Small-size specially protected areas**

- National natural monuments are smaller natural formations (including those formed by human activity, besides the forces of nature), deposits of minerals or habitats of endangered species on fragments of ecosystems of the national or international environmental, scientific, or aesthetic importance;
- National nature reserves are smaller areas where ecosystems important at the national or international levels of extraordinary natural value are bound to natural their relief with a typical geological structure;
- Natural monuments are areas defined similar way as the national natural monuments yet important at the regional level only;
- Natural reserves are smaller areas of concentrated natural value with represented ecosystems characteristic to and important for the given geographical area.

The data on the numbers and areas of specially protected areas were taken from the Nature Conservation Agency of the Czech Republic.

On 1 March 2017, the methodology for the calculation of total land areas of protected areas changed. Since then the land areas of specially protected areas have been calculated using borders of the specially protected areas (instead of data from the respective decrees establishing the areas that were used before).

Here the **emission** shall mean pollutants of various states which are released into the atmosphere. Amounts of these pollutants are given in kilograms per hour or in tonnes per year. For the given pollutants, their amounts released into the air are kept in the **Register of Emissions and Stationary Sources (REZZO)**. Data in tables are broken down by type of pollution sources to REZZO 1 – 3 for stationary pollution sources and REZZO 4 for mobile pollution sources (especially road and motor vehicles, railway vehicles, boats, vessels, and aircraft).

The data on emissions are taken from the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute in Prague.

The **industry of water supply and sewerage systems** involves water management activities related to the administration and operation of water supply and sewerage collection systems that means with the providing for sufficient supply of quality drinking water and for removal of waste water and its treatment. **Public water supply systems and sewerage systems** include water supply systems and sewerage systems established and run in the public interest. The **water produced** includes both invoiced and non-invoiced water. The sum of data for invoiced and non-invoiced water may differ from amounts of the water produced for an amount of water taken from other organizations, or for water handed over to other organizations.

Since 2004 there has been a more precise definition of sewerage and of water invoiced to households due to an amendment to the Decree No 428/2001 Sb establishing execution of the Act No 274/2001 Sb on public water supply and sewerage systems.

Since 2013 the **wastewater discharged into public sewerage systems** includes also levied rainwater, besides sewerage, industrial, and other wastewater.

## **POPULATION**

The data showing the size and distribution of the population are derived from population censuses, which are followed by annual statistical balances of data on births, marriages, divorces, deaths, and migration. Unless otherwise stated, statistical reports from registries are the data sources. Since 2021, data on the population size and distribution follow the final results of the 2021 Population and Housing Census as at 26 March 2021; they are not comparable with the data for the previous years (before the year 2020 data on the population followed the Census results as at 26 March 2011, from 2001 to 2010 they followed the Census results as at 1 March 2001).

All data refer to citizens of the Czech Republic and foreigners with permanent residence in the Czech Republic, third-country nationals with temporary residence in the territory of the Czech Republic based on a long-term visa (over 90 days) or a permanent residence permit, nationals of the EU Member States, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, and their family members with notified temporary residence in the territory of the Czech Republic and foreigners with valid asylum status in the Czech Republic. Since 2022, the population also includes persons granted temporary protection in the Czech Republic with usual residence in the CR.

The data also include information on events (marriages, births, and deaths) of Czech citizens with the permanent residence in the territory of the Czech Republic that occurred abroad and were registered in the CR in the term, which enables their inclusion in the statistics.

Data on the number of events come from the processing of statistical reports on marriages, births, and deaths provided by registry offices and from processing of data obtained from other information systems (administrative data sources). The information system of the Ministry of Justice is the source of data on divorces. The data on abortions and causes of death are provided to the Czech Statistical Office (CZSO) by the Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the CR (IHIS CR). The data on migration the CZSO obtains from information systems of the Ministry of the Interior and the Directorate of the Foreign Police Service.

The **mid-year population** is the population of the given territory balanced as at midnight from 30 June to 1 July of the reference year, which is based on the population balance in the given territory from the beginning of the year to the end of June. The **natural change** of the population is the difference between live births and the total number of deaths. The **total population change** is the sum of the natural change and net migration. The **migration** is a change of permanent residence, as for foreigners it is also a change of temporary residence (see above), across the border of a given territory..

**Births** – a born child is counted in the region (district) according to the residence of the mother at the delivery. The **average age of mother** at childbirth is calculated from the distribution of numbers of births by age of mother.

Data on **abortions** are classified territorially according to the place of residence of the woman at the time of the abortion.

The **infant mortality rate** is the number of deaths among children under 1 year of age per 1 000 live births. The **neonatal mortality rate** is the number of deaths among children under 28 days of age per 1 000 live births.

Data on **deaths by cause of death** are classified according to the 10th decennial revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10) in force since 1 January 1994.

The **standardized mortality rate** is applied the direct method of standardisation, in which the age structure determined by Eurostat is considered as the population standard (European Standard Population - revision 2012, Eurostat) to eliminate the influence of the different age structure of the population of individual regions on the intensity of mortality and at the same time it was possible to evaluate differences in mortality by sex.

**Marriages** are counted in the respective territory according to the place of residence of the groom. **Divorces** are broken down by territory according to the last common place of residence of the spouses.

## FOREIGNERS

A **foreigner** is a natural person, who is not a citizen of the Czech Republic. The total number of foreigners includes foreigners with permanent residence, nationals of the Member States of the EU, the EEA, and Switzerland and their dependants with temporary residence, third-country nationals with a long-term residence permit or with long-term visas.

Data on foreigners are from the records of the Directorate of the Alien Police Service.

## MACROECONOMIC INDICATORS

**Regional accounts**, the most important source of regional macroeconomic indicators, are a regional analogy to national accounts. They result from annual national accounts compiled for the Czech Republic; as for the methodology they correspond to the European System of Accounts (**ESA 2010**) and consistently observe rules and recommendations valid for Member States of the European Union, which means that they are comparable to them – harmonized.

In accordance with the ESA 2010 methodology indicators are surveyed by a **workplace method**, which means that indicators for enterprises are allocated to regions according to the real location of workplace of a unit. Gross value added for multi-regional organizations is allocated based on the volume of wage funds paid to employees in individual Regions. Indicators of household accounts are related to the place of **residence of the households**.

**Gross domestic product (GDP)** is a key indicator of the development of the economy. It is a sum of values added of individual institutional sectors or individual industries in activities considered by the ESA to be productive (i.e. including both market and non-market services) and net taxes on products (it is thus expressed in purchaser prices). From the point of view of use, the GDP is equal to the sum of final consumption (of households, general government, and non-profit institutions serving households), gross capital formation (fixed capital and balance of inventories and acquisitions less disposals of valuables), and the external trade balance.

**Gross value added (GVA)** is the sum of values added of individual industries (i.e. GDP excluding net taxes on products, which cannot be divided among individual industries). The industrial structure is arranged according to the CZ-NACE classification, which corresponds as for its content to the European NACE Rev. 2 classification.

**Gross fixed capital formation (GFCF)** includes the value of acquisition of both tangible and intangible fixed assets (purchased, taken over free of charge or produced by own activities), deducted by the value of its sale and the value of assets handed over free of charge. It also includes acquisition in the form of financial leasing. The target of the acquisition is always to use the fixed assets for productive activity including housing in the dwelling of its owner. Only assets used in production for a period longer than one year are fixed capital. It includes also e.g. equipment for military purposes, research and development expenditure and the like.

**Net disposable income of households** is an amount that households can give to final consumption, savings in the form of financial assets, and to accumulation of tangible and intangible assets. Disposable income results from the generation and distribution of income and it is the balancing item of the secondary distribution of income account.

Regional macroeconomic indicators are revised in harmony with the revisions of annual national accounts. Up-to-date data include results of an occasional revision of the annual national accounts in 2024 applied to the whole time series. Data for 2023 are based on a notification version of the annual national accounts, for the time being, data for the year 2022 on a half-finalised version.

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The chapter contains selected data on revenue and expenditure of regions, municipalities, and voluntary unions of municipalities.

Data are taken over from the Ministry of Finance, which processes the necessary data from accounting and financial statements of individual territorial units.

Revenue and expenditure are after **consolidation**, i.e. after elimination of entries, which are not a direct part of the financial performance and after removal of duplicates.

## EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

The source of information on the labour market surveyed in the households of respondents is the **Labour Force Sample Survey (LFSS)**. The methodology of indicators measured by the LFSS is in line with the definitions and recommendations of the International Labour Organisation (ILO). Thus the data may serve as a basis for direct international comparability of labour market characteristics in various countries. At the same time, the implementing methodology of Eurostat, which explains the contents of particular market characteristics, is adhered to.

The sample includes almost 23 thousand **random selected dwellings** on the territory of the entire Czech Republic (over 0.6% of all permanently occupied dwellings). All persons usually living in the sampled dwellings, irrespective of the type of their residence, are included in the LFSS. The set of chosen dwellings varies during the survey. Each quarter of year 20% of newly chosen dwellings are incorporated into the panel and then, after being on the panel for five quarters, they are dismissed from.

**The decisive criterion for surveyed characteristics of every respondent is the respondent's actual activity on the labour market in the reference week.** If a respondent stated that he/she had worked at least one hour in the reference week for wage, salary, or for other reward, he/she is strictly classified, according to the ILO methodology, as a person in employment. The **number of employed persons (the employed)** includes all persons aged 15+ years who belonged to employees during the reference week, including members of producer cooperatives, own-account workers, employers, or unpaid contributing family workers. Persons who reported that they were temporarily absent from work during the reference week are considered to be employed if their absence for other (personal, family, etc.) reasons was shorter than 3 months. Persons employed as professional members of the armed forces, persons on maternity leave who worked before taking maternity leave and also seasonal workers who temporarily do not work, yet continue to regularly complete tasks and duties related to a given work or business, are included in the employed.

All surveyed data are weighted to the age structure of the population according to population totals from the demographic statistics **taking into account the 2021 Census. As of 2023, estimates** of the number of **people living outside private households**, i.e. estimates of the number of persons living in collective households (penal institutions, social care institutions, retirement homes (community care homes), etc.) based on data from social security statistics, as well as estimates of the number of prisoners and the number of immigrants not living in dwellings **are newly deducted** from demographic data. The mentioned method of recalculation corresponds best to the range of persons covered by the survey, i.e. the population usually living in private households.

All tables give average annual data for respective years.

**As the sample size decreases reliability of data collected by a sample survey is falling.** The annual averages lower than 3 000 persons are considered as low reliability data and annual data for a number less than 500 persons are not published at all as their relative standard deviation is higher than 50% (represented by dots in tables). For all data obtained from the sample survey the 95% confidence interval can be constructed. That means the interval, in which the real value of the estimated indicator lies with the 95% probability. The interval size is affected by both frequency of the characteristic surveyed in respective region and the sample size in the region.

**Job applicants kept in the labour office register** are natural persons, who have asked in person for an arrangement of a suitable job at a regional office of the Labour Office of the CR, in the region where they have residence and they have complied with conditions established by law and the regional offices of the Labour Office of the CR have entered them into the register of job applicants.

**Available job applicants kept in the labour office register** are registered job applicants (including the EU and EEA citizens), ready to take a job immediately, when an appropriate one is offered, because there is no objective obstacle for them to become employed.

The **partly unemployed** are registered job applicants with additional earnings (coming from an activity based on employment or service relationship, or under contracts for work carried out outside contracts of employment provided that their monthly earnings or remunerations per month do not exceed a half of the minimum wage).

The **share of unemployed persons** expresses the share of available job applicants kept in the labour office register aged 15–64 years in the whole population of the same age. The indicator is established since 2013. Some comparable time series is available since 2005. The indicator of the registered unemployment rate ceased to be used in 2012.

Since 1 January 2012 there has been effective an amendment to the Act No 435/204 Sb on employment, which in Section 35 cancels the so far applied obligation of the employers to report **job vacancies**. The employer **may** report job vacancies and their characteristics to a regional labour office (Section 37). Job vacancies kept in the labour office register shall mean newly created or vacated jobs, which the employer intends to acquire employees or to occupy them with temporary employees from a **labour agency** (Section 35).

Data on the numbers of **job applicants kept in the labour office register**, their structure, and on the number of jobs kept in the labour office register are taken from the information system of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

## NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES AND WAGES

Data on the **number of employees** (as headcount) and on **average gross monthly wages by CZ-NACE section** are drawn from results of the processing of annual statistical questionnaires. They cover all businesses and non-commercial organisations with no regard of their number of employees. The territorial breakdown of the data by region is obtained directly from the reporting units and is carried out depending on the location of actual workplaces of employees, by the so-called **workplace method**. The data breakdown by industry has been **processed according to the national version of the Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community (CZ-NACE)**. Data are classified to industries by principal activity of the whole enterprise.

The data on **numbers of employees** and on **average wages** are also drawn from the results of the processing of quarterly statistical questionnaires and are published **by workplace location**. Data are given for all enterprises with the numbers of employees converted to the **full-time equivalent** employees, which reflects the length of worked hours.

The data on numbers of employees and on average gross monthly wages do not cover persons at public offices (as, for instance, deputies, senators, full-time members of assemblies at all levels), judges, women on maternity leave, persons on parental leave (unless they simultaneously work under employment contract), trainees of voluntary training, persons working for companies on the basis of the agreement on work performed out of the employment contract.

The data on **wages** from the **Structural Earnings Survey** were obtained by merging of data from the **Information System on Average Earnings** (ISAE) of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs; which covers the wage sphere by sample surveys, and from administrative data source of the **Information System on Salaries** (ISS) of the Ministry of Finance, which covers exhaustively the salary sphere. They relate to the sample of employees with the number of paid hours of 1 700 and more, which roughly corresponds to full-time employees who worked in the reporting unit for the most of the year and were not long-term ill, for instance.

The **average wage** of the employee is calculated from the paid working hours of the employee (unpaid absence, illness, etc. are not included) and therefore it is not identical with the average wage from the business surveys of the CZSO, which is calculated from the registered number of employees (headcount).

Since 2011 the **Structural Earnings Survey** has cover **the whole employee population of the Czech Republic** because newly employees of businesses with less than 10 employees and also employees of non-profit organizations and employees of the self-employed have been included. This change means the statistical data are more representative and also the fact the data for 2011 are not comparable to those for previous years. The **breakdown by occupation** has been processed **according to the classification of CZ-ISCO** (effective since 1 January 2011).

The **median wage** is the value of the employee's wage in the middle of the wage distribution. This means that one half of wages is below the median wage, while the other half is above it.

## ECONOMIC ENTITIES

This statistic draw data from the **Statistical Business Register** (RES). The Statistical Business Register is a public list, which is made and maintained by the CZSO pursuant to the Act No 89/1995 Sb, on the State Statistical Service, as amended. It serves mainly for preparation and conducting of statistical surveys. It is kept updated with data from statistical surveys and data from the Commercial Register, trade licensing offices, and other administrative sources. After basic registers of public administration were put into operation on 1 July 2012, the Administrative Business Register (ROS) became the main source for updates of the Statistical Business Register.

The Statistical Business Register keeps records of **legal persons** including organizational units of the state and **natural persons** with the status of an entrepreneur. **Natural persons** include private entrepreneurs in business under the Trade Act, agricultural entrepreneurs – natural persons, natural persons in business under other acts, and since 2014 foreign natural persons and branches of foreign natural persons.

**Business companies and partnerships** include general commercial partnerships, limited liability companies, limited partnerships, joint-stock companies and since 2010 also European economic interest groupings and European companies (Societas Europaea, SE). **Cooperatives** include also European cooperative societies (Societas Cooperativa Europaea, SCE).

Economic entities are classified in the **territory** according to their registered office, not according to the place of performed activity. The breakdown of the Statistical Business Register by **principal activity** corresponds to sections of the **Classification of Economic Activities (CZ-NACE)**. A **business with identified activity** is that, which is an income tax payer, value added tax payer, or pays social security contributions for its employees or as a self-employed person (own-account worker)..

## AGRICULTURE

The data are mostly sample surveyed and respondents are businesses engaged in the agricultural primary production recorded in the statistical **Farm Register**. The **results found are grossed-up to the whole agricultural industry** (excluding households outside the agricultural industry). The reporting unit in the agricultural statistics is an entity with agriculture as principal activity complying with at least one of **threshold values** (e.g. area from 1 ha of utilised agricultural area or farming of livestock from 1 head of cattle, etc.). Smaller agricultural businesses were classified to the sector of households as hobby activities of the population, extent of which may not be determined with sufficient reliability at the regional level.

The **utilised agricultural area** shall mean land utilised for the agricultural production and also land, which has been and shall be utilised for agriculture, yet temporarily is not in such usage.

**Areas under crops**, measured by their surveys taken as at 31 May, shall mean the spring production area, of which harvest is expected in the reference year. Besides crops sown on arable land areas, it also includes potential areas under crops in orchards and gardens, and areas of permanent grasslands temporarily ploughed and used for sowing. Areas under crops do not include the item of set-aside arable land, i.e. fallows and arable land, which is not sown or planted for various reasons.

The **harvest** represents the total quantity of a crop, harvested at standard moisture and purity, including inferior portions of the crop that can be used as livestock fodder. The **per hectare yield** is the ratio of harvest to the harvested area. The **harvested area** is equal to the areas under crops, except for grain maize, green maize, maize for silage, and permanent grasslands areas. The number of fruit trees and bushes and the **fruit** harvest are measured by means of questionnaires on final harvests of crops as at the end of the year.

Before 2023, the number of **livestock** was given as at 1 April of the reference year and as of 2023, it is as at 31 December of the reference year. **Cows** and **sows** are breeding dams that have already calved or farrowed, respectively, at least once. Before 2023, **poultry** included domestic fowl (gallus gallus domestica), geese, ducks, and turkeys regardless of their utility type and category. As of 2023, besides the already mentioned species, we also include other poultry (quails, pheasants, guinea fowl, and pigeons raised as farm animals) and ostriches.

The **production of livestock for slaughter** (cattle, pigs) and poultry shall mean the amount (as live weight) of livestock which was sold to market for to be slaughtered. Includes also livestock, which was in-house slaughtered or slaughtered in own slaughterhouses on in other slaughterhouses for reimbursement, or potentially slaughtered outside slaughterhouses. The **milk production** shall mean the amount of milk that have been milked and sucked by sucking calves of milked dairy cows and does not include milk sucked by calves of meat cows.

The **meat production** (except for poultrymeat) includes data on slaughter from all registered slaughterhouse operations. It is given in the carcass weight, which is the weight of carcasses processed in slaughters. It includes meat (from forced slaughters as well) that was recognised as suitable for human consumption. The live weight is the weight of livestock for slaughter prior they are slaughtered. The average live weight of pigs for slaughter excludes sows and boars.

The **consumption of fertilizers** is given for reporting units covered by the sample survey (with no grossing-up to the whole agricultural industry, that means it does not cover small farmers) per 1 hectare of reported utilised agricultural area. The crop year is the period from 1 July of the previous year to 30 June of the current year.

## FORESTRY

Forestry includes data for businesses with 20+ employees and having forestry and logging as their principal activity and furthermore businesses managing forest land areas of 200+ hectares.

**Afforestation/reforestation** shall mean the artificial afforestation, i.e. planting and sowing of forests (the natural forest regeneration is excluded), which includes, besides areas forested for the first time, also improvements and additions to forest cultures and natural seeding areas converted to the area of fully forested land. Roundwood removals involve logged timber (excluding bark) as volume of large timber and a portion of small-diameter timber (felling residues are not included), counted irrespective of what kind of thinning or felling it has been acquired from and includes salvage felling as well the so-called self-production felling. The **salvage felling** includes data on salvage felling and disasters of all types. The overall roundwood removals include also dry trees, sporadic windfalls, blowdowns, and all wood used in beetle traps to catch bark beetles, and also tree specimen that serve as a winter refuge of harmful insect (bark beetles, etc.). The wood volume processed in a given year is counted in.

**Cleanings** are treatments of young stands, purpose of which is to reduce the stand density and to adjust health and quality of the stand. **Thinning** refer to intentional silvicultural measures in premature stands. The thinning is carried out by removing from the stand trees, which are economically inappropriate and undesirable in favour of the crop trees.

Table also contains data on **gamekeeping and hunting** as spring stock and hunting of game species. Data published are data for reporting units covered by the ministerial statistical surveys carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture and by the Ministry of Environment, including data for hunting grounds acknowledged on lands designated for defence of the state.

## CONSTRUCTION AND HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

The **construction enterprise** shall mean an enterprise with construction as principal activity (it corresponds with divisions 41, 42, and 43 of the CZ-NACE).

**Construction work "S" (according to delivery contracts)** represents the total value of outputs from construction activity of the reporting unit (including built-in material) performed on the basis of a delivery contract for the final user (developer), including the value of subcontracts for construction work received from other contractors in order to fulfil the delivery contract for the final user. The **public ordering party** (party placing an order for a public project) shall mean a legal person which, in accordance with valid regulations on financial management, utilises, in full or in part, public resources for funding of public projects (public work).

**Building permit** shall mean the total number of building permits, building notifications, constructions permitted on the basis of a public contract, and constructions permitted in the shortened building proceedings by an authorised inspector, which have been granted and registered by a competent building authority in the sense of the Act No 183/2006 Sb on land-use planning and Construction Code (Construction Act). The **approximate value of constructions** involves total costs, including technologies (at current prices) incurred for the preparation, implementation, and putting of the construction into operation. **Environmental protection structures** shall mean constructions for protection of water, soil, and climate, for air pollution control, nature conservation, for environmentally friendly waste management, and to reduce environmental impacts of physical factors.

Data on **housing construction** include construction of new dwellings on the given territory by means of all types of construction activities. The **dwelling** shall mean one room or a set of rooms designed for living by the planning and building control authority decisions and can serve the purpose as independent dwelling units. **Dwellings started** are before 2006 dwellings in buildings which construction was permitted in the reference period by building permits have been granted. Since 2007 these shall mean dwellings construction of which commenced on the basis of building permit granted or building notifications. It does not matter whether they were completed in the reference period or not. **Dwellings completed** are dwellings located in new buildings that have been allocated a description/registration house number or newly completed dwellings in already existing buildings.

The **living floor area of the dwelling** shall mean the floor area of habitable rooms. The living floor area includes neither areas of **ancillary rooms** (as an entrance hall, for instance) nor **facilities** (as a toilet and bathroom, for instance). The **useful floor area of the dwelling** shall mean the area of all habitable and ancillary rooms, including facilities of the dwelling. It excludes floor area of non-dwelling rooms.

## TOURISM

Tourism statistics includes data on capacity and outputs of collective tourist accommodation establishments and also data from a sample survey among households on travel behaviour of residents.

**Collective accommodation establishments** are establishments with at least five rooms and at the same time ten beds that on a regular (or irregular) basis provide guests (including children) with temporary accommodation for a holiday, a tour, a spa treatment, a business trip, a training, a course, a congress, a symposium, stays of children at schools in nature, and in summer and winter holiday camps. They are divided by category determining the type of accommodation establishment and the class defining requirements for the equipment, level, and range of services connected with the accommodation. The collective accommodation establishments include hotels, boarding houses, hostels, holiday dwellings, campsites, and other accommodation establishments.

**Bed places** in accommodation establishments include only permanent bed places serving to tourism (excluding extra beds). Places for tents and caravans mean the number of places for tents, caravans, and campers. The number of rooms, bed places, and places for tents and caravans includes the maximum capacity of each collective accommodation establishment in the given year.

Provided data on the number of guests in collective accommodation establishments are a summary of data from processed questionnaires and estimated non-response. **Guests** in an accommodation establishment are all persons (including children and excluding owners and operating personnel of the accommodation establishment) who have used services of the accommodation establishment for their temporary accommodation. Persons, who use an accommodation establishment for their temporary accommodation for the purpose of employment or full-time studies, are not included. The length of the temporary accommodation shall not exceed 1 year for the guest to be considered a tourist.

A person with a permanent residence in the Czech Republic is considered a **resident**. It can therefore be a citizen of the Czech Republic as well as a foreign national permanently living on the territory of the Czech Republic. A **non-resident** is a person, who permanently lives in other country and on the territory of the Czech Republic stays for a period shorter than 1 year (including citizens of the Czech Republic).

A **conference** is a formal meeting of a higher number of people with some specialization the subject of which are presentations, lectures, discussions, and consultations. It can be a congress of academics, a meeting of diplomatic representatives of individual states, and the like; an accompanying programme is a typical feature.

Based on the results of the project of the Ministry of Regional Development called "Quality Improvement of Data on Selected Tourism Sectors" and the following update of the Register of Collective Accommodation Establishments of the CZSO, data on capacities and number of guests have been refined since 2012 and therefore cannot be compared to those for previous years.

## INFORMATION SOCIETY

The term of **information and communication technologies (hereinafter as ICTs)** generally refers to technologies, systems, activities, and processes that participate in the imaging, processing, storage, and transmitting of information and data in an electronic form.

Data on the **penetration of selected information technologies in households** come from a separate annual survey carried out as personal interview of a sample of approx. 10 000 individuals (persons) aged 16+ years. Results have been grossed up to the whole population in Regions of the Czech Republic aged 16+ years. As for data on households, current state is surveyed (for the second quarter of the reference year). In order to have more representative data sets the data breakdowns by region are published as three-year moving averages.

**Households with PC/Internet** include all households, which stated that, at least, one member of the household had access to a computer/Internet at home in time of the survey.

Data on **broadband Internet subscriptions** are based on data sources of the Czech Telecommunication Office. Fixed broadband Internet subscriptions in this publication include fixed connections with the nominal transmission speed of 256 kbit/s and higher by means of a DSL technology, connections via cable TV modem (CATV), fixed wireless connections by means of Wi-Fi technology.

## SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

The terms **research and development (R&D)** are defined in the Czech Republic by the Act on the Support of Research, Experimental Development, and Innovations from Public Funds (as amended). **R&D** is defined as systematic creative work conducted for the purpose of broadening of existing knowledge (including knowledge of humans, culture, and society), obtaining new pieces of knowledge or application of pieces of knowledge in practice using methods allowing their confirmation, addition, or refutation.

**Reporting units** in the R&D statistical survey are all legal and natural persons conducting R&D on the territory of the Czech Republic as their principal (CZ-NACE 72) or secondary economic activity, irrespective of the number of their personnel, sector, or CZ-NACE activity they are active in.

The **breakdown of data by region** has been available since 2001 and is processed by the location of R&D workplaces of respective reporting units. In the case of the higher education sector it applies mainly to respective faculties of public universities.

**R&D personnel** by occupation are:

- **researchers** – professionals engaged in or managing projects that include the concept or generation of new pieces of knowledge, products, processes, methods, and systems;
- technicians and equivalent staff (hereinafter as **technicians**) who participate in R&D activities by performing scientific and technical tasks, applying concepts and operating methods (usually under the supervision of researchers);
- **other supporting staff** participating or involved in R&D activities (e.g. craftsmen and administrative, secretarial, and clerical staff).

The **average registered number of employees converted to full-time equivalent (FTE) devoted to research and development activities** brings information about real time devoted to research and development activities. One FTE is equal to one year of full-time work of an employee fully dedicated to R&D activities. This indicator is important especially at R&D personnel whose job content consists also of other activities than R&D (e.g. academics), because it counts only that part of their hours worked, which is devoted to R&D.

**R&D expenditure** represents total expenditure (current and capital expenditure) designated to own research and development carried out within the reporting unit or the economic sector irrespective of the source of funds. Expenditure incurred outside the reporting unit (extramural expenditure on R&D) is included in the total R&D expenditure only on condition that it directly serves to support own R&D (e.g. purchase of supplies for R&D).

Data on **indirect (tax) government support of research and development** result from data stated in tax returns of legal persons.

Data on **patents and utility models** were processed on the basis of data sources of the Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic (IPO CR), which is responsible for the patent protection on the territory of the Czech Republic. The table contains only data on patent activity of entities doing their business on the territory of the Czech Republic.

## EDUCATION

Data on **education** are taken from sources of authorities of the State Statistical Service of the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports.

Data on all the below mentioned types of schools except for universities include all schools included in the Register of Schools and School Facilities regardless their founder and are published for the school year (and reported according to the status as at 30 September or as at 31 October in case of higher professional schools of the reference year). The totals include also data on schools for pupils with special education needs. These children with disabilities or with health or social handicap need to be taken a special care of. They can attend schools for pupils with special education needs or, eventually, can be integrated within common classes in regular schools or included in special classes in regular schools.

Children/pupils/students in nursery schools up to higher professional schools are given as the number of studies. New entrants to the 1st grade include all pupils admitted to the 1st grade excluding pupils, who repeat the 1st grade and excluding pupils, who resume their studies after having them interrupted.

The numbers of **teachers** (including headmasters, their deputies, guidance counsellors, and vocational trainers) are converted to full-time equivalent persons.

**Nursery schools** provide pre-school education, which is organized for children usually from three to six years of age.

**Basic schools** provide primary education, which is part of the compulsory school education. Children start their compulsory school education in the age of 6 years (or 8 years as a maximum in cases of children with postponed compulsory school education). The compulsory school education usually lasts for nine years: five years at the first stage and four years at the second stage of basic schools. Pupils with special education needs have a possibility to prolong their primary education up to ten years; their first stage then ends by the sixth grade of the basic school. Gifted pupils may leave the basic school earlier and complete their compulsory school education in lower grades of several-year grammar schools or in eight-year specialism of dance in conservatoires.

**Secondary schools** are designated for obtaining secondary education. It can be attained in schools teaching programmes of grammar schools and of technical education in secondary schools. Programmes of technical education include also follow-up courses, which are given separately.

Secondary schools offer to graduates from basic schools the following types of education:

- secondary education – two-year education programmes finished by a final examination;
- secondary education with an apprenticeship certificate – two-year (exceptionally) or three-year education programmes, by successful finishing of which a graduate acquires an apprenticeship certificate;
- secondary education with an A-level examination – education programmes with an A-level examination, graduates from which acquire an A-level certificate. There are two types of programmes:
  - general education – a non-professional (non-specialised) type of education dedicated mainly to preparation for further studies at a university. These programmes are usually provided by grammar schools, which have two types of education programmes – four-year grammar schools joined by basic school leavers after a successful completion of the ninth grade of basic schools and several-year grammar schools (eight-year and six-year grammar schools) for gifted pupils of lower grades of basic schools (from the fifth and the seventh grade, respectively);
  - technical education – focuses on the professional side of education, lasts for four years;
- follow-up courses – for graduates who earned secondary education with an apprenticeship certificate from three-year full-time studies in a field, which is related to that from which they want to pass their A-level examination;
- shortened studies to earn secondary education with an apprenticeship certificate – for graduates who earned secondary education with an A-level examination or secondary education with an apprenticeship certificate from a different field of education;
- shortened studies to earn secondary education with an A-level examination – for graduates, who earned secondary education with an A-level examination in a different field of education.

Another type of school is a **conservatoire** in which pupils can earn either secondary education with an A-level examination (no sooner than after four years in full-time studies of a six-year education programme) or a higher professional education in a conservatoire (by passing the final (graduate) examination called “*absolutorium*” after having successfully finished a six-year or an eight-year education programme). Pupils are admitted for education in an eight-year education programme with the specialism of dance after having completed the fifth grade of a basic school. For education in the first grade of a six-year education programme of a conservatoire applicants are admitted after having successfully completed their primary education.

**Higher professional schools** offer education in three-year up to three-and-half year fields (distance studies are lasting for up to four years) to graduates with an A-level examination. This type of education is completed by passing the final (graduate) examination called “*absolutorium*”.

All types of secondary education and higher professional education may be arranged as full-time studies or in other types of education (evening, extramural, distance, and combined studies).

The system of schools providing higher education comprises public, private, and state **universities**. Information on public and private universities is drawn from the SIMS database (i.e. Union Information from Students’ Registers). Numbers of schools and students are reported according to the status as at 31 December and numbers of graduates for the entire calendar year. Two state universities founded by the Ministry of Defence (University of Defence, which is in the City of Brno) and by the Ministry of the Interior (Police Academy of the Czech Republic in Prague) do not have the duty to send information on their students to the central SIMS database and therefore they are not included in the tables.

**Students and graduates** from public and private universities are published as headcount, i.e. each student is counted only once, including students studying concurrently in more universities or faculties. The total number of students and graduates from universities thus may differ from the sums for individual universities, types of education, or types of study programmes.

Universities offer bachelor, master, follow-up master, and doctoral study programmes. Studies can be delivered in full-time, distance, or combined type of education.

## SOCIAL SECURITY

Data on social security are taken mostly from administrative sources of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MLSA), for certain selected indicators also from the information system of the Czech Social Security Administration and from sources.

The **social security scheme** includes pension insurance, sickness insurance, state social support benefits, foster care benefits, material need benefits, providing of social services (including the care benefit), and other systems of benefits and allowances. The **pension insurance scheme** provides old-age, disability, widows’, widowers’,

and orphans' pensions. The full old-age pension may be received either once the age limit for retirement has been reached (regular old-age pension) or before the age limit for retirement has been reached, in the period determined by law (early old-age pension, sometimes called "premature"). In 2023, so-called child-raising bonus was introduced, i.e. an increase in the old-age pension of one of the parents for each child raised by CZK 500 per month. Before 2010 disability pensions were provided as full and partial ones. Effective since 1 January 2010 full disability pensions were partly transformed into disability pensions, third level and partly were subdivided into disability pensions of first level and second level depending on percentage of the working ability reduction of the insured person due to long-term adverse condition *and the higher age determined by law*. Data starting from 2010 show, on the contrary to the previous years, the numbers of recipients, average monthly amount of old-age pensions, partial old-age pensions (after a determined shorter insurance period has been achieved) from other standpoint. They are newly based on the Ministry methodology, in which partial pensions granted pursuant to Section 29 2) of the Act No 155/1995 Sb on pension insurance, are strictly classified as partial old-age pensions. In the approach applied to that time they were classified as a part of the old-age pensions. Furthermore, since 2010 disability pensions paid on the day when 65 years of age is reached are converted into old-age pensions on that day. Average old-age and disability pensions are given in as a single-received pension, that is not combined with widow's or widower's pension.

The **sickness insurance** system of benefits comprises six **benefits**, namely sickness benefit, carer's allowance (till 2008 it was allowance in care for a family member), maternity benefit, pregnancy and maternity compensation benefit and then paternity leave for fathers and long-term carer's allowance which became effective in the course of 2018. Sickness insurance benefits are provided per calendar day of a given period of time. The sickness insurance of the self-employed without employees (own-account workers) is voluntary. The self-employed without employees are entitled to two of the benefits only – the sickness benefit and the maternity benefit. Job applicants are not sickness insured, but they are paid the maternity benefit from sickness insurance. Tables relating to sickness and pension insurance do not include data concerning the armed forces of the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of the Interior, and Ministry of Justice.

The state social support system provides for targeted assistance to families with dependent children in determined social conditions, which the families are not able to cope with using their own resources and strength. Some of the **state social support benefits** are paid as applicant and jointly assessed persons income tested benefits, i.e. child allowance, housing allowance, and birth grant. Other are provided as non-income-tested benefits as parental allowance and funeral grant. In 2022 and 2023, a one-off child allowance of CZK 5 000 also falls under this category of benefits. **Foster care benefits** have been regulated by a separate legal regulation since the beginning of 2013 and have not been included into state social benefits. They are used to contribute to needs related to care of a child, whose parents may not or does not want to care of and who is in foster care. As of 2022, there has been a change in the payment of benefits for the provision of unmediated foster care (most often provided by a person related to the child or close to the child) – reclassified from foster parent allowance to the newly introduced foster care allowance. The care leaver's grant/allowance introduced as of 2022 is intended for young adults leaving substitute family care or residential care.

**Material need benefits** serve as an aid to natural persons, who have insufficient income, providing for their basic living conditions. The benefits meaning is to motivate persons to make active efforts to acquire finances to satisfy their basic living needs and to prevent their social exclusion. The system of material need benefits involves living allowance, supplementary housing allowance, and extraordinary immediate assistance. **Care benefit** is for persons older than 1 year who for reasons of long-term adverse health conditions are in need for assistance of other natural person when managing their basic life needs in the extent as determined by law. The persons may, upon their own free will, reimburse professional social services or use it to cover inevitable expenses while providing the care needed within the family. In 2022, a humanitarian benefit provided to citizens of Ukraine granted temporary protection was included in this benefit scheme.

In context of the adoption of the Act No. 108/2006 Sb. on social services, as amended, in 2007 a change was carried out to classification of **social services** provided and the Register of Social Service Providers was established. Before 2007 the data were collected for respective social service establishments when the establishment reported detailed figures solely on the prevailing type of the social service provided and merely additional information on other provided social services. Since 2008 a **different methodology approach** has been applied consisting in the observation of data on each registered social service in a separate statistical report. This approach has enabled to obtain more detailed and precise data on the registered social services provided. For this reason, some data for the years from 2007 to 2009 are not comparable with the data for the previous years and, moreover, the data for 2007 cannot be compared to those for the following years. Data on capacity of social service establishments are based on actual allocation of the services provided. Data on social care establishment capacities are based on actual locations of the services provided.

## CULTURE

Data on culture are taken over from the National Information and Consulting Centre for Culture (NIPOS; established by the Ministry of Culture) and capture the status as at 31 December or the total for a calendar year.

**Public libraries** are: the National Library of the Czech Republic and the Moravian Library in Brno (which are directly managed by the Ministry of Culture), regional scientific libraries established by regional authorities, and furthermore libraries established by municipalities and towns. **Loans, total** refer to loans of all library items (in-house and outside loans). A **library item** is each separate volume of a document i.e. every printed volume or a part of multi-volume piece, a complete volume or several issues of a periodical bound or inserted into a folder, each separate map, a graphic sheet, a carrier of special type documents (a magnetic tape cassette, a CD, etc.), which is registered as a separate item in the item register.

## CRIME AND ACCIDENTS

Data on crime and traffic accidents were compiled from sources of the Police Presidium of the CR.

Data on registered and solved **criminal offences** (offences, crimes, and criminal acts) include also criminal offences at railway and criminal offences registered by the Alien Police Service. Solved criminal offences include criminal offences committed and solved in the reported year.

**General crime** includes crimes of violence, sexual crimes, property crimes, frauds, embezzlements, other property crimes, and other criminal offences. **Economic crime** includes mainly criminal offences in business and financial relations.

**Traffic accidents** encompass all accidents reported to the Police of the Czech Republic; in 2009 rules for their reporting changed. The numbers of killed, seriously injured, and slightly injured persons refer to the status within 24 hours after the accident. Material damage includes damage to vehicles, their cargos, or to roads and their equipment.

Data on **fires** and main reasons for interventions of fire and rescue services were taken over from background materials processed by the fire and rescue services. A **fire** – any undesirable combustion, in which people or animals were killed or injured or in which property or the environment were damaged. A fire is also any undesirable combustion, which poses an imminent threat to human or animal life, property or the environment.

**Killed persons, total** – all killed persons found on the site of fire. The piece of data includes also persons the death of whom provably did not occur in direct connection with fire, e.g. as a result of a heart attack, murder, and the like.

## ELECTIONS

**Elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic** are held every 4 years provided that the Chamber of Deputies is not dissolved by the Decision of the President of the Czech Republic before the end of that period. Execution of the elections is governed by the Act No 247/1995 Sb, on Elections to the Parliament of the Czech Republic and on Amendments to Some Other Acts, as amended. Pursuant to the Constitution of the CR, 200 deputies are elected in a proportional electoral system; individual regions are electoral districts. It is possible to vote also abroad (in polling stations installed in embassies and consulates-general or consular agencies of the Czech Republic); these results are added to results of an electoral region as decided by a lot drawn by the State Electoral Committee.

**Elections to the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic** are held concurrently with elections to local councils or with elections to regional councils. Execution of the elections is also governed by the Act No 247/1995 Sb, on Elections to the Parliament of the Czech Republic. Electoral districts are made up so that the expected number of voters is roughly the same in all of the electoral districts; they are not determined based on regions (an electoral district can be located on the territory of several regions). The electoral system is majority. In case that none of the candidates wins in the first round of the presidential election an overall majority of the total amount of returned valid votes, two candidates advance to the second round run-off, who won in the first round the highest number of returned valid votes. The second round takes place after 14 days.

**Elections to local councils, city districts, and city parts and to the Prague City Assembly and councils of Prague city parts** are held every four years. Execution of the elections is governed by the Act No 491/2001 Sb, on Local Council Elections, as amended. The electoral system is based on the principle of proportional representation, each voter has as many votes as there are seats available in the relevant council (members of the elected council).

**Elections to regional councils** are governed by the Act No 130/2000 Sb, as amended. The elections are held every four years according to the principle of proportional representation. They take place in all regions of the Czech Republic except for the Capital City of Prague (the *Hl. m. Praha* Region), where councillors are elected pursuant to the Act on Local Council Elections. The number of seats in a regional council is determined based on the current population size of the region.

The **election of the President of the Czech Republic** is governed by the Constitution of the Czech Republic and by the Act No 275/2012 Sb, on the Election of the President of the Czech Republic and on Amendments to Some Acts. A presidential term of office is five years; the territory of the Czech Republic makes up a single electoral district. In case that none of the candidates wins in the first round of the presidential election an overall majority of the total amount of returned valid votes, two candidates advance to the second round run-off, who won in the first round the highest number of returned valid votes. The second round takes place after 14 days.

**Elections to the European Parliament** take place concurrently in all Member States of the European Union (EU). In the Czech Republic, the execution of the elections is governed by the Act No 62/2003 Sb, on Elections to the European Parliament, as amended. Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) are elected for a five-year period; the territory of the Czech Republic makes up a single electoral district. The number of MEPs being elected is determined on the basis of the share of the population of the respective EU Member State in the population of the entire EU. The electoral system is based on the principle of proportional representation.

**Registered voters** are voters in the electoral rolls (lists of persons who meet statutory conditions for execution of their active right to vote). The **number of issued official envelopes** is equal to the number of voting voters who came to vote and were given an official envelope in the polling station to put their ballot paper in. The **number of returned official envelopes** is the number of official envelopes cast by the voting voters to ballot boxes. **Turnout** is calculated as the share of the number of voting voters (persons who were issued an official envelope in the polling station) in registered voters (persons included in the electoral rolls).

Basic data on elections and voting results including elections to the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic can be found in the Public Database in the Election chapter. Complete voting results of all types of elections down to the level of individual electoral districts are available on the Internet website at: [www.volby.cz/index\\_en.htm](http://www.volby.cz/index_en.htm).