

Brief analytical comments

In Q4 2008 the number of active units operating in the area of health insurance changed. Compared to the corresponding quarter of 2007, there was a total of ten health insurance companies in the CR, i.e. one health insurance company more than in 2007.

*In Q4 2008 health insurance companies employed in total 7 091 persons (FTE), which was 1 % more than in Q4 2007 (7 026 persons). **The average monthly wage** (calculated from wages free of other personnel expenses and from the above number of employed persons) increased from CZK 31 399 in Q4 2007 to CZK 36 486 in Q4 2008 (+16.2 % year-on-year).*

***Premiums written** (excl. those paid by the state) make up a substantial part of total revenues of health insurance companies. In Q4 2008 they amounted to CZK 41.1 billion. The total amount of premiums written for 2008 increased by 3.7 % compared to 2007. The amount of premiums written is stipulated by Act no. 592/1992 on the General Health Insurance Premium, whose change, affecting also the determination of the assessment base for the insured, applies already for 2008. Premiums written – revenues (accrual based) do not, however, show revenues of health insurance companies to cover the general health insurance. The actual revenues compared with premiums written are reduced by health insurance not paid.*

*According to data of the **Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic**, the **actual revenues** of the insurance companies – collection of premiums incl. those for persons paid by the state (hereinafter "state insurants" – reached CZK 208.9 billion in 2008, which was an increase by 4.88 % compared with 2007 when the revenues accounted for CZK 199.2 billion (data of the Ministry of Health on results of the 1st to 12th relocation of revenues of the health insurance companies - collected premiums in 2007 and 2008).*

*Of the **total costs** of health insurance companies in **Q4 2008** (costs and expenses established by expenditure approach from respective funds of health insurance companies), 88 % accounted for **health care costs** paid from the basic health insurance fund and the prevention fund or possibly from the preventive care fund; these costs increased by 2 % year-on-year. Costs of in-patient services make up a key proportion of health care costs (51.6 %); they grew by 6.5 % compared to the corresponding period of 2007.*

*In **Q4 2008**, the health insurance companies **acquired** intangible and tangible **fixed assets** (incl. land) worth CZK 58.2 million and CZK 145.7 million, respectively. The **balance sum** of the health insurance companies (the total of assets or liabilities) reached CZK 97 billion at the end of Q4 2008 and, compared to the end of Q3 2008, it decreased by CZK 2.6 billion. The acquisition **value of intangible and tangible fixed assets (depreciated) – net** in assets of the health insurance companies was CZK 87.2 million up on Q3 2008.*