INTRODUCTION

One year on, the Czech Statistical Office has again issued the publication Information Society in Figures, this time with the year 2012 in the title. The aim of this publication is to provide readers with basic statistical information about the development of use of modern information and communication technologies (ICT) in the main areas of our society.

The brochure consists of the following seven chapters:

- A. The ICT Infrastructure chapter contains basic data on the available telecommunication and Internet infrastructure and its structure.
- B. The Households chapter contains information on households' access to selected ICT. Information about households ICT consumption expenditures is newly included here.
- C. The Individuals chapter includes basic information on ICT uptake by adult population. This basic information is supplemented with data on selected Internet activities with a focus on Internet shopping.
- D. The Enterprises chapter provides an overview on ICT use by enterprises with a main focus on e-commerce activities. New information related to usage of ICT by employees (incl. use of ICT for doing homeworking) is also added.
- E. The Public Authorities chapter provides information on the spread and the use of Internet among public authorities, on the provision of services via websites of public authorities and on the use of the Internet for interaction with them by individuals and enterprises.
- F. In the Schools chapter the reader learns about how well equipped schools are with computers and Internet or about the percentage of students using Internet at all and for selected activities.
- G. The Health establishments chapter gives an overview of how well equipped independent physicians offices are with information technologies. Data on the selected Internet activities of independent physicians and information on the use of the Internet by individuals for seeking health-related information are also included here.

Data on ICT use by individuals are further classified according to the main socio-demographic characteristics, data related to enterprises according to the industry or their size. Data on ICT use in public authorities, schools and health establishments are available according to their types.

In addition to data for the Czech Republic, in the majority of cases this publication also presents data for other states of the European Union.

Data given in this brochure were acquired, in most cases, from regular statistical surveys or databases of the Czech Statistical Office. International comparisons were compiled by the Czech Statistical Office based on freely available Eurostat, OECD or ITU data sources.

If you need any further information, do not hesitate to contact us directly. Your suggestions will be incentives for future releases.

For further information, please visit our website titled Information society: http://www.czso.cz/eng/redakce.nsf/i/information_society

For information on the production and the supply of advanced ICTs, including data on investments, trade or qualified human resources in this field see our annual publication Information economy in figures at: http://www.czso.cz/eng/redakce.nsf/i/information economy in figures

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