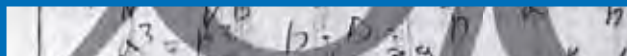
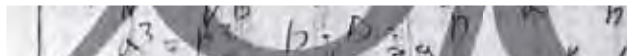


ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021





ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021



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FOREWORD



Marek Rojíček
President of the CZSO



Dear Readers,

we are pleased to present to you the annual report of the Czech Statistical Office (CZSO), which gives an overview of the activities of our institution in 2021.

One of the external circumstances that affected our activities in the past year was the ongoing epidemic of the covid-19 disease and the resulting restrictions and challenges. In this regard, the Czech Statistical Office passed with honours. It used the given situation to modernise and electronicise further its systems and improve the methods of long-distance communication, which will remain in the future. The Office also became one of the key institutions in informing about the epidemic's effects on demographic development in our country. The CZSO moved forward despite the difficult situation. It is good that even in hard times, we are perceived as a stable and professional institution that fulfils its tasks and social mission well.

From the perspective of public perception, our activity in 2021 was marked by two significant societal events. Elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, the results of which the Czech Statistical Office processes, took place in autumn. In this regular, albeit highly specialised, activity on our part, we had to deal not only with the current epidemic situation and the change in legislation in the way of converting votes cast into seats, but also with the deteriorating international situation, which also evoked potential cyber threats.

In the spring, the 'statistical event of the decade' took place, namely the regular population and housing census, which was carried out primarily in electronic form for the first time in our history. The importance of the online form of the census was amplified by the unfavourable epidemic situation in the spring of last year, which required an exceptional and unprecedented commitment not only from our employees but also from other collaborating entities in public and private spheres.

We had to change the initially planned system of additional field surveys significantly and, at the same time, extend the online data collection until the end of the entire census. We have also markedly strengthened the communication aspect of the project. Our contact centre alone handled almost 600,000 queries. The census was supported by a successful positive, explanatory, and responsive information campaign, which boosted high participation of the population both during the pandemic and during the period of strong impact of the societal discussion

about personal data protection. Despite the difficulties of preparation and some initial problems, 85% of the respondents reported online. This number greatly exceeded all expectations, and the amount of data from the conducted surveys increased. The fact that 64% of the population currently trusts the Czech Statistical Office, i.e. three percentage points more than in 2019, is also positive for us. Last but not least, the population census was a pilot test of the state of public administration electronicisation, as it required the consolidation of data from a total of nine administrative registers managed by the state.

Despite an exceptionally challenging year, we continued to improve the functioning of the Office towards the public and its employees. At the end of the year, we defined five key strategic areas that will determine our activities in the coming years. First, it is about increasing the availability of statistics by developing user-friendly data presentation tools. We are preparing a completely new public database with the possibility of customised outputs, which will include a geoportal with spatial data. We are also striving to consistently reduce the burden on respondents by actively supporting sharing data already provided to the state and using data from corporate information systems. The third area of development is to increase the prestige of and the respect for the Czech Statistical Office. The current critical project is the preparation of a dignified presidency of the Czech Republic in the Council of the European Union. The fourth priority area is the modernisation of the CZSO's operation as part of the Redesign of the Statistical Information System 5.0 project. The last and no less crucial priority is to make the CZSO more attractive as a good employer. Related to this is the introduction of new internal communication tools and other applications created as part of the ongoing quality management project, especially the contracted revitalisation of our buildings in Prague, Brno, and Zlín, which will not only increase employee comfort, but will also bring economic and ecological savings.

Allow me to use this opportunity to thank all partners, respondents and users of the Office's outputs for their cooperation and feedback in the difficult year 2021. Your interest is a real motivation for us to strive for continuous improvement and to make the State Statistical Service in the Czech Republic more attractive. Special thanks go to our employees for their proactive approach and work efforts, which are positively reflected in the quality of products of the Czech Statistical Office and in increasing our institution's social prestige. ■

MANAGEMENT OF THE CZECH STATISTICAL OFFICE

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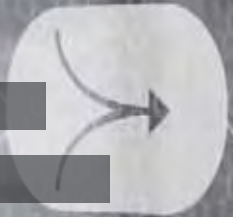
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The Czech Statistical Office is a professional and highly specialised institution with a long tradition. The scope of authority is laid down by the State Statistical Service Act and the Regulation on European statistics. In its activities, the Office follows the fundamental principles of official statistics adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission, which, in the context of the EU, are further elaborated in the European Statistics Code of Practice.



Mission of the Czech Statistical Office

We produce official statistics for fact-based decision-making.

Vision of the Czech Statistical Office

The Czech Statistical Office is a modern, professionally independent institution. Our official statistics support the decision-making and activities of a wide range of users. They are available without distinction to all based on equal access to information. We actively respond to the changing needs of the information environment. We are constantly reducing the burden on respondents. We are a trusted and respected partner in the country and abroad. We rely on motivated and qualified experts for whom we create appropriate conditions. People like to work for us.

Strategic Objectives and Strategy of the Czech Statistical Office

Strategic objective: To improve the relevance and accessibility of official statistics to users

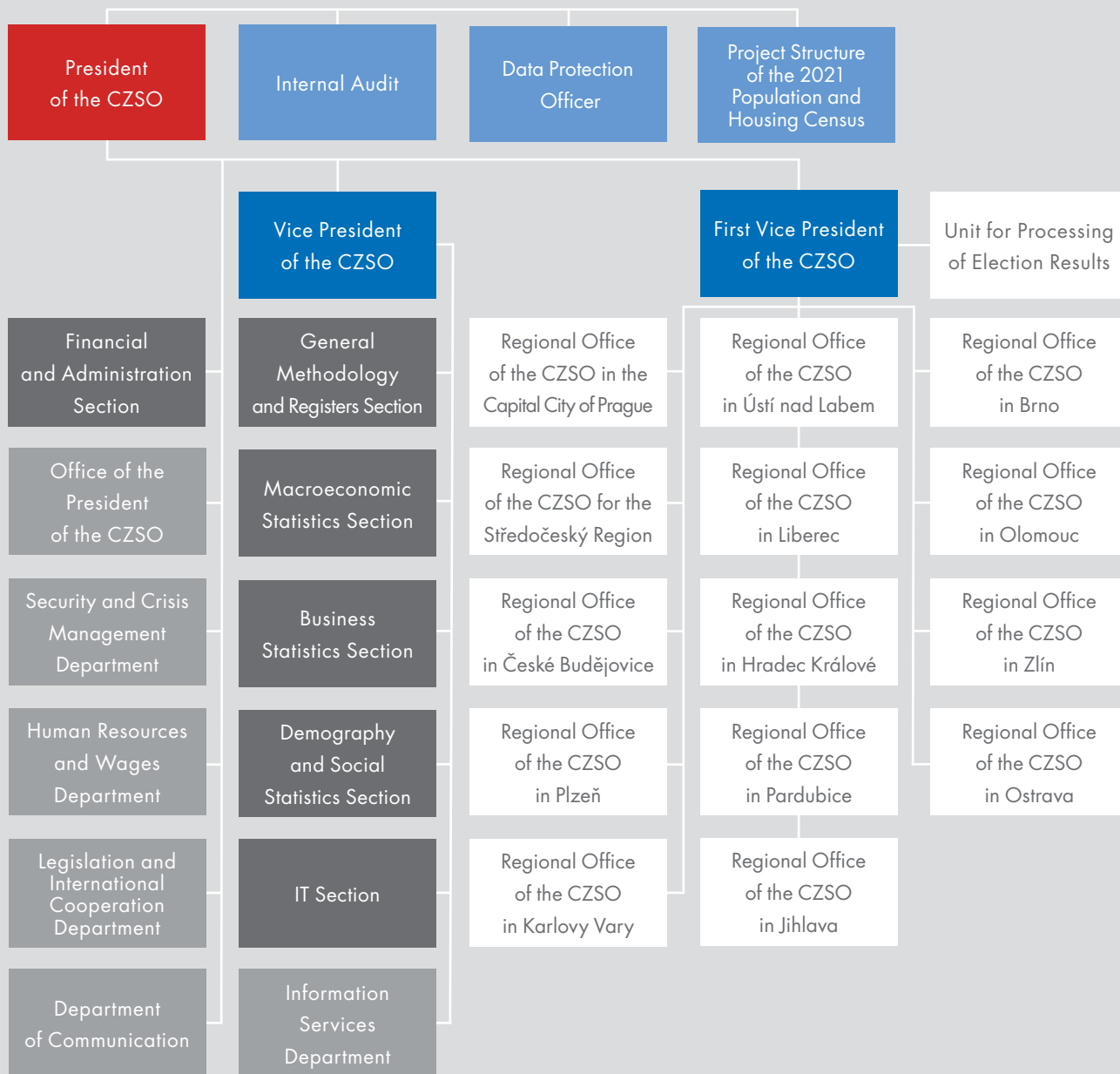
- Increase the relevance of statistics through an active dialogue with users of CZSO services; explain the reasons and extent of changes in produced statistics actively.
- Ensure appropriate methodological support so that it is clear how the given indicator is created and what it tells about.

- Develop methods of data dissemination using modern technologies so that users have easy access to data, can work with it effectively and adapt (customise) outputs with regard to their specific needs.
- Be proactive so that statistical information reaches all potential users; use effective communication channels and implement new tools and routes for the dissemination of statistical information, taking into consideration the needs of persons with disabilities.
- Increase statistical literacy and promote the use of statistics for decision-making.

Strategic objective: Reduce the administrative burden on respondents

- Use all available and appropriate administrative data sources; promote the sharing of data already provided to the state for statistical purposes; be proactive in creating and changing administrative data sources so that they can be used for the needs of statistics.
- Use conventional statistical reporting only where there are no administrative or other usable data sources.
- Digitise data collection in businesses and households to the maximum extent. Develop data collection tools by integrating reporting directly with corporate information systems. Create electronic reports in a simple and clear style.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE (as at 31 December 2021)





- Reduce the scope of reporting and the burden on respondents by analysing the up-to-dateness of the main users' needs, using modern selection methods and intelligent grossing-up and modelling techniques.
- Develop the use of new, alternative data sources, such as Big Data or corporate data.

Strategic objective: Increase the prestige and respect of the CZSO

- Actively present successes and develop key competencies in areas where we show good results. In the field of development activities, choose a rational approach combining innovation and conservatism.
- Strengthen the position of the CZSO as the coordinator of the State Statistical Service of the Czech Republic and establish relations based on the principles of partnership. Proactively build close partnership relations within the state administration and other institutions at work and at the top management level. Be a respected partner providing input data for creating a wide range of policies, their evaluation and for supporting decision-making at all levels. Strengthen active communication and cooperation within the state administration of the Czech Republic in the area of elections and in keeping the Administrative Business Register (ROS).

- Develop reciprocal cooperation with the academic sphere and professional scientific societies, both in the field of statistics promotion and expertise and personnel (training of future CZSO employees).
- Consolidate the position of the CZSO within the European Statistical System and other international structures. Actively participate in European legislative processes in the field of statistics, offer knowledge in areas of expertise and promote the national interests of the Czech Republic.
- Be a good partner of Eurostat and other members of the European Statistical System, with which other countries are interested in cooperating. Offer development assistance in the area of our core competencies.

Strategic objective: Modernise the operation of the CZSO

- Continuously reduce dependence on suppliers or one supplier (vendor lock-in). Primarily use standardised and open source tools and optimise the number of tailor-made solutions.
- Professionally educate employees in modern statistical methods, data processing methods and information technology. Optimally extend in-house competencies in the field of development and operation of software solutions, support own teams of 'data scientists' using in-house or standardised software without the need for intervention of external suppliers.

- Establish and comprehensively support systematic quality and innovation management. Optimise internal processes, their digitalisation and the associated reduction of administrative complexity. Develop managerial reporting and availability of information needed for decision support purposes.
- Develop and implement shared collaboration tools.
- Introduce a system of strategic and operative planning, including an outline of measurable goals and their evaluation process.

Strategic objective: Become a recommended employer

- Offer interesting job enabling versatile professional realisation and professional development. Provide feedback on what, why and how employees are doing. Encourage innovation.
- Support self-education and personal development. Increase employees' competencies in using modern information and communication technologies and sophisticated work with data. Clearly define demands and expectations in relation to employees.
- Introduce modern management methods. Set up a performance-based incentive pay system so that the remuneration is tied to the employees' contributions and efforts.
- Actively present the Office as a good employer. Support activities leading to the popularisation of statistics and marketing of the Office's key competencies.

President of the Czech Statistical Office

The President of the Czech Statistical Office is Ing Marek Rojíček, PhD, appointed by the President of the Czech Republic in 2018 upon the government's nomination. Essential prerequisites for being selected to be head of the Office are professionalism, impartiality and political neutrality. These are the primary guarantees of objectivity and credibility of official statistics, which are enshrined in the legal system of the Czech Republic. In performing the State Statistical Service, the President of the CZSO follows laws and other regulations, applies professional viewpoints and requirements for practical use, respects professional ethics and guarantees that exclusively scientific methods of statistical work are used.

Permanent Advisory Bodies of the President of the Czech Statistical Office

The permanent advisory bodies of the President of the CZSO are the Czech Statistical Council, the Collegium of the President, the Meeting of the CZSO Management, the Election Steering Team and the Crisis Staff.

- The Czech Statistical Council mainly discusses the Programme of Statistical Surveys, the strategic plans of the Office, the results of audits of professional statistics, etc. The statute issued by the President of the CZSO regulates its other tasks and way of working. Council members are appointed from among experts in statistical theory and practice.



- The Collegium of the President is an organisational tool for the strategic management of the CZSO. It mainly discusses conceptual materials related to the State Statistical Service and draft decisions intended to affect the activities of the CZSO significantly.
- The Meeting of the CZSO Management is an organisational tool for the operational management of the CZSO. It debates draft decisions, specific tasks, procedures and coordination of all activities of the CZSO, especially those that have an impact on financial and human resources management.
- The Election Steering Team is an organisational tool of the CZSO management in preparing and processing election results and their presentation to the public. It deals with relevant legislative, methodological, organisational, technical, personnel and budgetary matters.

The Crisis Staff is an organisational tool for the CZSO crisis management. It deals with resolving situations related to the declaration of a state of emergency or a state of threat when a crisis or other serious situations that affect the security interests of the CZSO threaten to arise.

Organisational Structure

At the end of 2021, the organisational structure of the CZSO consisted of four tiers of line management. Units of the CZSO Headquarters in Prague primarily manage methodological, statistical and technical-economic agendas. They are

responsible for providing key statistical processes, starting with methodology development, through the functionally methodical management of data collection and processing, to the dissemination of statistical information. An integral part is units dealing with support processes, including international cooperation, legislation, HR, financial management, IT, public procurement, security and communication. Regional Offices of the CZSO operate in each of the fourteen Regions. There are two types of them: the large ones and the small ones. Both the types have the same internal structure, which includes the Field Surveys Unit, the Information Services Unit and, since 2018, the Population and Housing Census Unit. Furthermore, the large regional offices have specialised statistical processing units with nationwide scope. ■



QUALITY MANAGEMENT



The year 2021 was marked by the 2021 Population and Houses Census. Publication of data in the open format continued to expand.



A year marked by the realisation of the project Implementation of Quality Management in Service Offices and preparation for Peer Review

The State Statistical Service of the Czech Republic is an integral part of the European Statistical System formed by the EU statistical office - Eurostat, national statistical offices and other national authorities responsible for developing, preparing and disseminating European statistics. The system aims to achieve the required quality level of European statistics through harmonising national statistical systems, coordination of concepts, methods, documentation and common rules.

The Regulation on European statistics is the primary document establishing the legal framework for developing, producing and disseminating European statistics. It defines, among other things, the general principles of professional independence, impartiality, objectivity and reliability of the State Statistical Service, the preservation of confidentiality of individual data and the effectiveness of costs associated with its implementation. It contains general quality requirements that are elaborated in detail in the European Statistics Code of Practice.

The Code is the cornerstone of the common quality framework of the European Statistical System (ESS). It is a self-regulatory tool

based on 16 principles covering the institutional environment, statistical processes and statistical outputs. A set of indicators of best practices and standards for each of the principles provides guidance and reference for reviewing the implementation of the Code in practice. Fulfilment of the principles of the Code is reviewed by a system of audits (the so-called Peer Reviews), where, based on a pre-filled self-assessment questionnaire, a three-member expert team, composed of representatives of the European Statistical System, assesses the compliance of the principles described in the Code with the practice of the national office.

Ensuring the necessary level of quality of the State Statistical Service in terms of statistical outputs and relevant production activities is an integral part of all key and support processes of the CZSO, which is clearly declared in the framework of the published CZSO Quality Commitment. A more detailed description of how these requirements are ensured in the conditions of the CZSO is contained in the Quality Policy of the Czech Statistical Office, which is based on and fully reflects the individual principles of overall quality management, the European Statistics Code of Practice, and last but not least, the Methodological Instruction for Quality Management in Service Offices¹⁾ approved by the government of the Czech Republic.

¹⁾ Approved by Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No 214 of 4 April 2018; in the conditions of the CZSO worked up in the Analysis of the Current State of the CZSO Improvement Criteria and in the resulting project Implementation of Quality Management System in the CZSO.

Implementation of Quality Management in the CZSO

The above Methodological Instruction was preceded in 2018 by adopting the Strategic Plan of the Czech Statistical Office for 2018–2022, which contained the mission, vision, strategic objectives and areas of interest for the said period. The CZSO Strategic Plan was updated in 2021 and approved for the years 2022–2026. With the new management of the CZSO came the resumption of more substantial activities in the area of quality management in March 2018. They supported the initiative of the Section for Civil Service of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, which issued the Methodological Instruction for Quality Management in Service Offices approved by Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No 214 of April 4, 2018. The Instruction was a follow-up to Resolution of the Government of the Czech Republic No 275/2017 on the Introduction of Quality Management in Service Offices. It defined the target scope of the minimum quality management level mandatorily introduced into activities of all service offices. Based on the Methodological Instruction, the Quality Committee was established in the CZSO. Subsequently, following the Peer Review recommendation, the position of the CZSO Quality Manager was filled.

A thoroughly made Analysis of the Current State of Improvement Criteria and Selected Principles of the CZSO Quality Management from previous years became the starting point of the project Implementation of Quality Management System

in the CZSO. The project receives funding under the Operational Programme Employment (OPE). It was dealt with in 2020–2021 and further with an overlap until the end of 2022. The project focused in particular on those measures of the individual improvement criteria from the Methodological Instruction, which were not introduced in the CZSO or need to be developed further.

In the past period of 2021, many activities of the project were successfully completed in all criteria, in particular:

- System of measurable goals: In 2021, the directive on strategic management and planning at the CZSO was approved, which set up a strategic management system to ensure the development of the CZSO (procedures, principles for defining goals, implementation).
- Development strategy of the service office: Based on the directive on strategic management and planning at the CZSO, the Strategic Plan of the Czech Statistical Office 2022–2026 was prepared; the Priority Tasks of the CZSO for 2021 were approved; and at the end of 2021, the process commenced to prepare and approve the Priority Tasks of the CZSO for 2022.
- System of responsibilities: In 2021, comments on the draft Staff Regulations and the amended Conditions of Employment were settled, with an overlap until the beginning of 2022. Furthermore, a public contract entitled 'Creation of Competence Model and Process Model II' was successful, with first and second stages accepted. The third stage of the contract was approved at the beginning of 2022.



- System of internal regulations: A list of currently valid internal regulations was drawn up and reviewed, including preparing the relevant report.
- System of communication in the service office: A draft of the Internal Communication Strategy of the CZSO was drawn up, and a directive on internal communication, which is still in the phase of settling comments.
- Change management system: The Methodology for preparing and implementing internal grants, the Change Management Policy and a document providing an overview of the scope of the CZSO and the outputs and services provided were drawn up.
- Human resources policy: Preparation of the relevant document started in 2021.
- Adaptation process: The New Employee Handbook and accompanying leaflets-guides for new employees were successfully completed and approved.
- Employee satisfaction survey: An internal survey was conducted; the management discussed the results, and the identified issues and recommendations of the employees were reflected in the relevant documents.
- Related education: As part of the Project, dozens of trainings and courses focused on process, strategic and project management, the adaptation process, HR, salary agendas and soft skills took place. Anti-pandemic measures greatly complicated the organisation; however, arranging most of the planned events was possible.

Two Implementation Reports and Payment Requests were approved in the area of Project Administration (period 1/1/2021 – 12/31/2021). The total amount of submitted and approved Requests was CZK 1,433,221.75 (the EU share is CZK 1,158,946.10).

Peer Review

As part of the preparation for the third round of Peer Review, which will be held in the CZSO in the 1st quarter of 2023, in 2021, the Office conducted training for the State Statistical Service workplaces (Other National Authorities - ONAs) on the European Statistics Code of Practice. The lectures focused on recommendations for the fulfilment of individual principles, indicators and methods so that the participants of various departments were inspired by the Office's course of action and could use the shared knowledge in the practice of their departments. Furthermore, work started on the critical material, a self-assessment questionnaire (SAQ), where the facilitators of the individual principles described the current state of fulfilment of the principles of the Code. The update will take place the following year, together with the preparation of other critical materials necessary for the Peer Review in the CZSO to succeed. In 2021, SAQs were also sent to the selected ONAs (Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs) for pilot completion. Their final outputs are expected by the end of January 2022, when an ongoing review is planned. ■

A futuristic server room with glowing blue lines and a grid floor. The room is filled with server racks and glowing lights, creating a high-tech atmosphere. The floor is a grid of metal grates, and the walls are lined with server racks. The lighting is a mix of cool blues and bright whites, highlighting the intricate details of the server infrastructure. The overall scene is a blend of physical hardware and digital connectivity, represented by the glowing lines.

GENERAL METHODOLOGY AND REGISTERS

As for the area of general methodology and registers, work continued to improve the coordination of the State Statistical Service necessary for developing, preparing and disseminating national and European statistics. In accordance with the European Statistics Code of Practice, for example, methodologies and a review of their implementation at other producers of statistics in the Czech Republic were developed. In November 2021, the Decree on the Programme of Statistical Surveys for 2022 was published in the Collection of Laws of the Czech Republic. Based on it, the Czech Statistical Office and the other six producers of statistics will conduct statistical surveys, which are one of the fundamental

General Methodology

On the basis of Act No 89/1995 Sb, on the State Statistical Service, as amended, the Decree on the Programme of Statistical Surveys for 2022 (hereinafter referred to as the 'Programme') was prepared and published. The Programme includes 92 statistical surveys conducted by the CZSO and 65 surveys conducted by six departments performing the State Statistical Service. The surveys stem mainly from the requirements of 45 European legal regulations and the requirements of significant users of statistical information, which are assessed and evaluated as part of the standard internal and legislative process of preparing the Programme.

In preparing the Programme, the work continued to optimise statistical surveys further, aiming to ease the administrative burden placed on their respondents, especially entrepreneurs. There have been partial modifications to electronic reports that will contribute to easier completion, the introduction of new processing methods, and the integration of new administrative data sets into the processing. When sharing administrative data, the Czech Statistical Office acts under Regulation (EU) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and the Council

sources of data for creating aggregate statistical information. Implementation of data from administrative sources into statistical processing, standardisation of processing and consolidation of data in data markets continued. The essential Administrative Business Register (ROS), managed by the Czech Statistical Office, was operated and developed without interruptions. The CZSO actively cooperated with the National Registers Authority on implementing the target concept of 'Basic Registers 2.0'.

on European statistics, which declares the right of national statistical offices to have fast and free access to administrative and other data sources. Significant results include the reduction of the Annual Report of Selected Production Sectors for Economical Entities (P 5-01) due to the implementation of an expanded set of administrative data (from tax returns, modification of statistical surveys in the area of prices and cancellation of statistical survey Cený Prům 1-12 (Prices Ind 1-12). In 2021, the Czech Statistical Office used over a hundred administrative sources, the number of which thus exceeded the number of statistical surveys.

In 2021, some statistical classifications and nomenclatures, the basis for statistical processing, were updated. These include the Classification of Hospitalised Patients (CZ-DRG), the Nomenclature of Countries (CZEM) and the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10). Furthermore, the List of selected goods with supplementary statistical sign (DOPL_KN) and the List of goods not intended for simplified reporting to the Intrastat system (ZJEDVYK) were introduced and published in the Collection of Laws of the Czech Republic. In 2021,

the explanatory notes to the International Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose (COICOP), prepared to be published in the Collection of Laws of the Czech Republic in 2022, were translated, and the Eurostat's proposals for revising the Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE) underwent comments.

Statistical Registers

The CZSO operates two statistical registers, the Statistical Business Register (RES) and the Register of Census Districts and Buildings (RSO). In 2021, all activities concerning the registers' administration, operation and security were ensured, and the required outputs were provided. A public contract to ensure support and development of statistical registers for 2023 was successfully realised. Activities related to modifying the register of enterprise groups took place intending to provide better national data for the register of European groups of enterprises (EuroGroups Register - EGR). In accordance with the implementation of the ESS Vision 2020, the first stage of European profiling was realised, in the framework of which more detailed data on selected multinational companies were obtained for foreign affiliates statistics (FATS) and other globalisation statistics. As part of the implementation of Regulation 2152/2019 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European Business Statistics (EBS), the data sets of business demography were expanded and adapted

to a new control mechanism and transmission format. Furthermore, the batch update of data from the register of trades and the generation of status copies from the RES were adjusted.

As part of the RSO agenda, all planned activities related to the territorial preparation for the 2021 Population and Housing Census (SLDB) were completed, including preparation of reference data for the online and field data collection for this survey. In addition, microdata were prepared for creating and disseminating the first outputs from SLBD 2021 for the housing fund, and the overall harmonisation of basic settlement units needed for disseminating outputs from SLBD 2021 was ensured. In 2021, geographic coordinates were also assigned to agricultural entities, and the grid was geocoded as part of the Integrated Farm Statistics (IFS) 2020. Furthermore, the modernisation of the RSO interface to the Information System of Basic Registers (ISZR) and the Information System of Territorial Identification (ISÚI) started.

Data Warehouse and Data Markets, Standardisation of Processes

As for the processing methodology and its realisation, the creation of statistical information and outputs based on input data (from statistical surveys, administrative and other sources, e.g. scanner data), statistical analysis and dissemination



of outputs were ensured as standard. In addition, a review of the requirements model and a feasibility study were carried out to modernise the statistical information system, reduce the administrative burden and improve the relevance and availability of outputs for users of official statistics.

Data sets from the Statistical Business Register (RES) were also made available as Open Data. The implementation of meta-descriptions, used in central processing tools (such as data warehouses, data markets and public databases for presenting data to external users), continued to expand. The data warehouse, data markets and their presentation layers enter the processing process primarily as integration tools enabling data interoperability between individual statistical domains, statistical registers and administrative data. The data warehouse as a repository and source of consolidated statistical data was populated with data from all statistical domains in 2021, including test data from the SLDB. Consolidation of data also took place in individual data markets, which provide structured data, especially for analysing and creating statistical information. In 2021, data markets' development continued, allowing internal users to have controlled access to current statistical data, including microdata. Applications were continuously modified based on updating the software environment, taking into account compliance with cyber security standards. At the same time, due to the integration of new

indicators from tax returns and the capture of the effects of the covid-19 epidemic, methodological tools were developed in the processing of statistical estimates, and the relevant procedures for adjusting short-term time statistics for seasonal effects were adapted.

As part of the modernisation of the statistical information system, requirements models and feasibility studies were prepared for tools in the areas mentioned above, including a proposal for a subsystem to build an interface for providing nomenclatures and classifications in an Open Data format.

Administrative Business Register

As administrator of the Administrative Business Register (ROS), the CZSO ensured its operation and development. Change requirements based on the Basic Registers 2.0 framework strategy realised on the basis of Government Resolution No 650/2018 and Act No 12/2020 Sb, on the Right to Digital Services (furnishing contact details of persons in the ROS) were implemented in the ROS. Simultaneously, modifications to ROS-IAIS were made, aimed at increasing the quality and security of recording selected reference data in the ROS and enhancing user comfort. During the year, new editors were provided with methodical assistance, requests for removing possible errors in reference data were continuously addressed, and user queries and complaints were assessed. ■

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PRODUCTION STATISTICS

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Besides providing standard outputs of the required quality, in 2021, the Business Statistics Section paid particular attention to activities aimed at modernising business statistics, which also related to the CZSO priority task of the same name. In this context, many successful activities involving energy, agriculture, tourism and structural business statistics took place, aiming to adapt to new user requirements or reduce the administrative burden. The imple-



mentation of a substantial part of the framework regulation on European business statistics (EBS) requirements, which entered into force on January 1, 2021, was also completed.

Industry, Construction, Energy, Agriculture, and Forestry

In industrial statistics, attention was focused on implementing methodological changes in the statistical surveys on the production of industrial products and services, which concerned not only the data collection and processing methodology but also publication outputs. Among other things, a new form of the publication Production of selected industrial products was proposed, the aim of which was to comprehensively map the production of products according to individual types of production modes. As part of the short-term statistics, the news releases and related outputs have been expanded to include seasonally adjusted data for sales and orders.

In the area of construction statistics, close cooperation continued within working groups dealing with the issue of introducing the government concept of the BIM method in the Czech Republic and the related digitisation of building procedures with the aim of subsequent use of digitised data for the needs of housing construction statistics.

In energy statistics, as part of the fulfilment of priority tasks for the year 2021, among other things, the preparation for processing of a new annual report on fuel and energy supplies (EP 6-01) from the information systems of distribution companies and the associated optimisation of existing statistical surveys was completed. In the second half of the year, data on fuel

and energy consumption in households were successfully collected (Energó 2021). Furthermore, analytical and methodical work started on the use of data from the Ministry of Transport to meet new requirements for more detailed data on the distribution of consumption in transport.

As part of the agricultural statistics, work aimed at its fundamental modernisation commenced and will continue in the following years. In 2021, the available administrative data sources of the Ministry of Agriculture were mapped and analysed, which could be used for the needs of plant and animal production statistics. To replace the survey on the areas under farm crops with the data provided by farmers within the Ministry of Agriculture's subsidy applications, the Ministry prepared a special output from the LPIS (Land Parcel Identification System) application for testing, following the requirements of the CZSO for the data structure. The data collection and processing of the results of the Integrated Survey on Agriculture (Zem IŠ 1-01) was successfully completed, and the results of this survey are continuously published. In cooperation with the Institute of Agricultural Economics and Information (ÚZEI), up-to-date typology of farms was created based on the outputs of the integrated survey. Work connected with the discussion and subsequent implementation of the requirements resulting from the newly prepared European legislative framework for agricultural statistics (SAIO - Statistics of Agricultural Input and Output) continued.



Trade, Transport, Services, Tourism and the Environment

As part of the priority task Extending the areas of use of scanner data for constructing the statistics, it was possible to enlarge the set of companies providing scanner data. This made it possible to reduce the administrative burden in retail statistics, where for the year 2022, the annex to the monthly statistical survey SP 1-12 will no longer be used. The monthly transmission of data to Eurostat for the wholesale trade sector, which results from the requirements of the EBS Regulation, has started. The data, which are compiled exclusively with the support of administrative resources, were also made available to domestic users. The number of published data for the four-digit NACE code from the annual survey has been expanded in the area of trade. An update of the website for trade, transport and services reflecting the new data structure required by Eurostat was prepared. A new indicator, the Index of services production, was published in the public database.

Fulfilment of the priority task Modernisation of business statistics in tourism statistics meant the introduction of Web scraping methods as a standard statistical activity. This led to an improvement in the quality of the information in the register of collective accommodation establishments. As a follow-up to the Eurostat project, the CZSO prepared for publication outputs on accommodation arranged through the most important transnational intermediary platforms (Airbnb, Booking.com, Expedia, TripAdvisor). Thanks to this, users will receive more



detailed information about the number of overnight stays negotiated using these platforms, including classification by Region. For the first time, the publication of this data has the character of so-called experimental statistics, representing a progressive and agile way of responding to user requests. Cooperation with the Ministry for Regional Development (MMR) and the CzechTourism agency on analyses of the most suitable options for obtaining information on inbound tourism and foreign visitor expenditures and their further use continued. Regional tourism satellite accounts were published on the CZSO website. Furthermore, the technical assistance project with Georgia was completed with success. Cooperation with the Academy of Sciences on creating an ecosystem account of tourism has begun.

In environmental statistics, preparatory work has started to implement the extensions resulting from EU Regulation 691/2011 on European Environmental Economic Accounts (EEEA). This is an extension of the existing six modules and the addition of three more modules of environmental accounts. In 2021, work continued on the project Mechanisms for promoting the principles of sustainable development in state administration, together with other project partners (MŽP, MMR and CENIA). As part of this project, the CZSO coordinated data collection activities from all involved institutions. In waste statistics, the publication Waste Generation, Recovery and Disposal was prepared and published in a new methodology using administrative data (ISPOP), which fully corresponds to the Eurostat definition.

Cross-sectional Business Statistics

In accordance with the CZSO's priority task, in 2021, work continued within the framework of cross-sectional business statistics on reducing the scope of the P 5-01 report using data available from administrative sources. The report modification and the definition of the reporting obligation aim to reduce the burden on micro and small units, starting in 2022, when data for the reference year 2021 will be collected through the P 5-01 report. Work started on the project to introduce a new format for transferring data from structural business statistics following the Eurostat requirements. The preparation of a new survey on the relocation of corporate functions (so-called international/domestic sourcing) and organisation of value creation chains (so-called Global Value Chains), which are among the new requirements of the EBS Regulation, also continued, as well as work related to the issue of a new interpretation of the definitions of statistical units.

Even in 2021, business cycle surveys proved their role as an essential source of the earliest information on the development of the economic cycle. The standard production of data was particularly monitored in 2021, as in the previous year, and the questionnaires were modified according to the requirements of the European Commission. In addition, the CZSO and several other member states participated in a pilot project to test a new indicator to estimate the production gap and other economic phenomena, constructed on data from business cycle surveys among entrepreneurs. ■



MACROECONOMIC STATISTICS

1,120	1,355	1,440	1,300	1,610	1,230	1,070	1,545
1,060	1,080	1,385	1,235	1,560	1,175	1,030	1,410
0	1,255	1,425	1,270	1,550	905	1,010	1,410
1,385	1,405	1,108	1,570	1,590	1,145	1,000	1,200
1,480	1,475	860	1,465	1,190	1,050	1,285	1,105
1,200	1,040	1,350	1,465	810	1,514	1,280	1,430
1,200	1,200	1,300	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200

In macroeconomic statistics, intensive work was carried out in 2021, both in obtaining and processing new data sources and verifying data by Eurostat. In November, an inspection mission regarding the fulfilment of the Regulation on the application of the Protocol on the excessive deficit procedure (479/2009) was underway. A household satellite account was finalised, which augments the national accounts statistics. The use of scanner data was extended to include the drug segment. In cooperation with the General Directorate of Customs and the Ministry of Finance, the legislative process of preparing the Government Regulation on the implementation of some provisions

National Accounts Statistics

During the year, the preparation of the household satellite account was completed, thus enlarging the family of satellite accounts. The satellite account links macroeconomic statistics with social statistics based on household surveys. Users have selected national accounts indicators broken down by household type at their disposal, enabling a better understanding of households. The satellite account improved the availability of official statistics to users. In the last quarter, work also began on a new set of annual national accounts, which should consider current data from the October notification of general government deficit and debt. As part of development activities, work began on the expansion of available productivity indicators. The CZSO was active in the international field by participating in Eurostat working groups, mainly in the areas of productivity estimates, calculation of reinvested earnings on direct foreign investment and preparation of the revised ESA 2010 standard.

Government and Financial Accounts

In the area of government and financial accounts statistics, in addition to routine activities, Eurostat's mission to fulfil the Regulation on the application of the Protocol on the excessive deficit procedure (Regulation 479/2009) took place. In the



of the Customs Act in the area of statistics was completed. In addition to these activities, the CZSO continued to be intensively involved in international activities, such as technical assistance and Eurostat projects, aiming to increase the quality of individual statistics. At the national level, the CZSO continued its intensive cooperation with the Czech National Bank (CNB) and the Ministry of Finance (MF) in macroeconomic statistics.

international field, the CZSO joined the discussion on the statistical aspects of the new EU instruments aimed at mitigating the effects of the covid-19 pandemic on national economies. The preparation of the new reporting of government aid to subjects affected by government measures in the excessive deficit procedure (EDP) statistics and the discussion of the new Manual on government deficit and debt were also in motion. In cooperation with the CNB, intensive negotiations were conducted to harmonise the financial statistics of both institutions, while work on the harmonisation of transactions is ongoing. Even in 2021, it was still true that Eurostat had no reservations about the data compiled by the CZSO on the economic balance and debt of the general government sector.

Price Statistics

The most crucial task of price statistics in 2021 was the preparation for further introduction of electronic data from the cash registers of selected retail chains into the process of calculating the consumer price index. At the same time, these data were successfully taken over from other chains based on the statistical surveys decree and analysed in detail. Since January, field price collection has been entirely replaced by electronic data from cash register systems in selected segments of the consumer





basket (mainly food, beverages and chemist). During the year, data was obtained and tested for the drug segment. The processing of scanner data using machine learning, which significantly speeds up the whole process, is gradually being introduced. The CZSO considers scanner data to be a promising data source, so the expansion of use and modernisation of processing were among the priority tasks. All planned activities for 2021 were completed with success. An update of the weighting scheme for the consumer price index was prepared. Cooperation with the CNB and the Czech Office for Surveying, Mapping and Cadastre (ČÚZK) on the exchange of data from the real estate cadastre and for real estate price statistics continued. Preparatory work was also carried out to produce commercial real estate price statistics. In the international statistical cooperation, the key task was to fulfil the requirements of the Purchasing Power Parities project, which took place within the framework of the Eurostat Purchasing Power Parities 2020 grant.

International Trade Statistics

In the statistics of international trade in goods, the preparation for implementing the regulation on business statistics (EBS) was completed. In cooperation with the Ministry of Finance and the General Directorate of Customs, Government Regulation on implementing some provisions of the Customs Act in the area of statistics was prepared and approved. The new regulation

will enable the selected units to use simplified Intrastat reporting, thus reducing the administrative burden on the selected respondents. Work continued on creating a new international trade database, which will provide users with detailed data on trade in goods and replace the current database on the movement of goods across borders. In accordance with the schedule of the priority task, a new methodology was set up that allows for the estimation of imports and exports at a detailed commodity level. Preparatory work in the planned exchange of microdata with other EU member states continued. Several test exchanges of Intrastat data and metadata took place. Following the approved implementing act for the EBS Regulation on trade in services statistics, preparations for meeting the new requirements were started in cooperation with the CNB. In the international field, the CZSO participated in working group meetings and held bilateral consultations with colleagues from Slovakia regarding the EBS Regulation. ■



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DEMOGRAPHY AND SOCIAL STATISTICS

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In 2021, the CZSO processed and published all planned outputs of demographic statistics on schedule. Special attention was paid to the extended publishing of data on the number of deaths on a monthly and weekly basis. The annual Labour Force Sample Survey, Living Conditions Survey, Household Budget Survey and Sample Survey on ICT Usage in Households were conducted as part of the household surveys. The satellite account on culture and health accounts were compiled according to the common international methodology of Eurostat and OECD. It was possible to



complete the processing of the European Health Interview Survey (EHIS), which takes place every five years. In research, development, innovation and advanced technology statistics, regular surveys were conducted on research and development and ICT usage in enterprises. Data from the European survey on innovation in enterprises were newly published.

Demographic Statistics

In 2021, all planned regular data and analytical outputs for the area of annual demographic statistics were issued (a total of 22, of which three quarterly, one weekly, and later bi-weekly). Monitoring the impacts of the covid-19 pandemic on total mortality continued with the output 'Weekly number of deaths of the Czech Republic in the 2011-2021 time series', including the regular transmission of data to Eurostat. The CZSO also participated in monitoring excess mortality by the World Health Organisation. As in previous years, one monothematic analytical publication was prepared in 2021, this time dedicated to deaths due to suicide in the last ten years (Suicides in the Czech Republic 2011–2020). An online press conference accompanied the release of this publication. The press conference (with ÚZIS CR) also took place when the causes of death were first made public in 2020, i.e. in the first year of the covid-19 pandemic. Selected findings from demographic statistics data, especially mortality, were also presented in press releases.

In addition to data sources needed for the processing of cross-sectional statistical outputs, a number of non-standard demographic outputs were processed based on individual user requests, including microdata for scientific and research purposes. All data requirements of Eurostat, the provision

of which is imposed by Regulation (EU) No 1260/2013 of the European Parliament and Council on European demographic statistics (smaller-scale questionnaires, in SDMX format for the first time) and Commission Regulation (EU) No 328/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on health and health and safety at work, as regards statistics on causes of death, were met within their specified deadlines.

Once again, the UN IGME was consulted in detail on their infant and child mortality estimates. In 2021, the CZSO continued to participate in Eurostat's working meetings actively, specifically the working group for population statistics, population projections and the group for future population and housing censuses or the new framework concept of European population statistics, the primary task of which is the preparation of new unified European legislation for the entire area of population statistics (census, demographic, and migration statistics). At the national level, the unit's representative continued to work in the Inter-ministerial Working Commission to prepare and coordinate the introduction of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11) in the Czech Republic. Selected issues of the cause of death statistics and the 'Signs of Life' application



for specifying the population numbers were presented at the 50th annual conference of the Czech Demographic Society. Topics from population statistics were popularised in the Statistika & My magazine.

As for the data collection, negotiations with the Ministry of Justice continued in 2021 to revise the Statistical Report on Divorce Obyv 4-12 (with an impact on the production of the CZSO's divorce statistics), which is also the basis for the Divorce Statistics Sheet of the Ministry of Justice. The implementation of the revised Obyv 4-12 report and the monthly transmission of relevant data will occur from the data for 2022 onwards. An internal discussion on the process of changing the primary data source for demographic statistics from statistical reports to processing data from administrative sources was initiated.

Labour Market and Equal Opportunities

In the area of labour market and equal opportunities statistics, the above-standard collection of data on the impact of extraordinary measures adopted to prevent the further spread of covid-19 as part of the Labour Force Sample Survey (LFSS) continued. A unique table of data on changes in the time worked continued to be published every month as part of the CZSO's news releases on rates of employment, unemployment and



economic activity. In connection with the Labour Force Sample Survey, a special ad hoc module on the topic of Accidents at work and work related health problems finished in 2021. The resulting data, including the quality report, were forwarded to Eurostat. In the field, the data were collected for the ad hoc module on Labour market situation of migrants and their immediate descendants. Preparation was underway for additional LFSS questions for 2022 on the topic of Job skills.

In the business statistics of labour, further progress was achieved in processing results after a fundamental change in quarterly business reporting in connection with the R-SIS 5.0 project. An interdepartmental project was launched to reduce the burden on respondents through the negative coordination of the Labour 2-04 (Práce 2-04) statistical report with ISPV 4-01 (MPSV) data. In the European Labour Cost Index (LCI), the results were adjusted for state subsidies for employers based on administrative data from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MPSV), the Antivirus program.

Several analytical articles were published, and two press conferences were held on foreigners working in the Czech Republic and the development of wages during the corona crisis. In cooperation with the Ministry of the Interior, the Directorate of the Foreign Police Service, the Ministry of Labour and Social

Affairs and the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the outputs on foreigners in the Czech Republic were updated for the CZSO web presentation. As every year, in addition to the standard numeric outputs for the quarter, data yearbooks Focus on Women and Men and Foreigners in the Czech Republic were published, and a comprehensive analytical publication Seniors in the Czech Republic in 2021 data was prepared for publishing.

Social Statistics

The regular annual Living Conditions Survey – the national version of the EU SILC pan-European survey – was conducted in the area of social surveys of households. In 2021, this survey included an internationally harmonised module focused on the Health of children under 16 years, Material and social conditions of children under 16 and Caring for children under 18 years. The results of the survey were presented at the regular annual press conference. In addition, the Statistics of Family Accounts (SRÚ) survey on the structure of household consumption expenditures and the Household Finance and Consumption Survey (HFCS), which are integrated into the Living Conditions survey, were carried out.

Regular annual activities took place related to the acquisition, processing and presentation of data in education, health, culture, sports, social security and crime. An extensive cross-sectional



publication was compiled with data on teachers, children, pupils and students at individual levels of schools over the last ten years, for which a press conference was organised at the start of the school year. Besides regular annual publications, a new publication, Teacher Salaries in Regional Education, was issued. It contained detailed data on the average gross monthly salary of teachers in preschools and primary and secondary schools according to their gender, age, educational attainment and length of employment.

Activities worth noting include the compilation of the Satellite Account on Culture of the Czech Republic in cooperation with the National Information and Consulting Centre for Culture (NIPOS) and the compilation of Health Accounts according to the common methodology of Eurostat and OECD. In addition, detailed half-year and yearly data on temporary incapacity for work due to illness and injury from the Information System of the Czech Social Security Administration were processed in a whole spectrum of new classifications and subsequently published. In 2021, a new publication, Teacher Salaries in Regional Education, was issued, containing detailed data on the average gross monthly salary of preschool and primary and secondary school teachers according to their gender, age, educational attainment and length of employment. Results from data processing for regional education were presented at a press conference. As for international cooperation, the CZSO



coordinated the collection of data on crime and criminal justice for the UN and Eurostat, including implementing the new International Classification of Crimes for Statistical Purposes (ICCS).

Science, Research and Innovation, ICT

Similar to previous years, detailed data on the state and development of science, research, innovation and information technology in the Czech Republic were collected and processed through in-house surveys (sample or comprehensive) or using administrative sources. In addition to regular summary publications with detailed results of individual surveys, regular and extraordinary outputs (tables, reports, etc.) were continuously prepared to meet the needs of data users – individuals and national and international organisations. These were mainly data outputs for national and regional research and innovation strategies, smart specialisation and for the Innovation Strategy of the Czech Republic for 2019–2030 titled ‘The Czech Republic: The Country for the Future’. At the forefront of regular statistical surveys, the Annual Survey on Research and Development VTR 5-01 was carried out, the results of which were presented at a press conference.

Based on available administrative sources, the CZSO also processed detailed statistical information on direct and indirect (tax incentives) public support for research and development, which was provided and presented to the professional public

in the Czech Republic and abroad (OECD, Eurostat). Furthermore, the statistics on qualified human resources, patents and licenses were updated in this area.

In the area of information and communication technology (ICT) statistics, another repetition of two annual European sample surveys focused on the use of ICT by the population and businesses in the Czech Republic is worth mentioning. As in previous years, the thematic composition of the questionnaires was aligned with the needs and requirements of the European Commission embodied in Eurostat’s model questionnaires. The main findings from both surveys were presented at separate CZSO press conferences. The data from both surveys were used to monitor the fulfilment of the individual goals and objectives of the Digital Agenda for Europe and the State Policy in Electronic Communications - Digital Czech Republic.

In addition to the mentioned surveys, a wide range of statistics serving the comprehensive monitoring of the use and importance of ICT in terms of strengthening the information society and digital economy in the Czech Republic was covered. The individual statistical survey results and available administrative data were used to compile the following cross-sectional and overview publications - Information Society in Figures and Digital Economy in Figures. They map the development of ICT production and its use in the Czech Republic and EU countries through official statistical data. ■



REGIONAL OFFICES OF THE CZSO

In 2021, regional offices traditionally performed tasks in the area of field surveys, statistical processing, information services and register administration and in the processing of election results, through its 660.5 systemised positions. Regional offices played an indispensable role in the realisation of the 2021 Census project with the number of 233 allocated systemised positions. As of July 1, 2021, their number for the 2021 Population and Housing Census (SLDB) project was reduced and set to 42.



Field Surveys

In 2021, interviewers of the Regional Offices of the CZSO standardly collected data that cannot be ascertained other than by directly interviewing households. In addition, they continued to obtain data for consumer price statistics and agricultural statistics at the reporting units - natural persons. Like last year, the core interviewer network (311 systemised positions) had to cope with the epidemic situation caused by covid-19, which complicated fieldwork and limited the possibilities of personal meetings between interviewers and respondents.

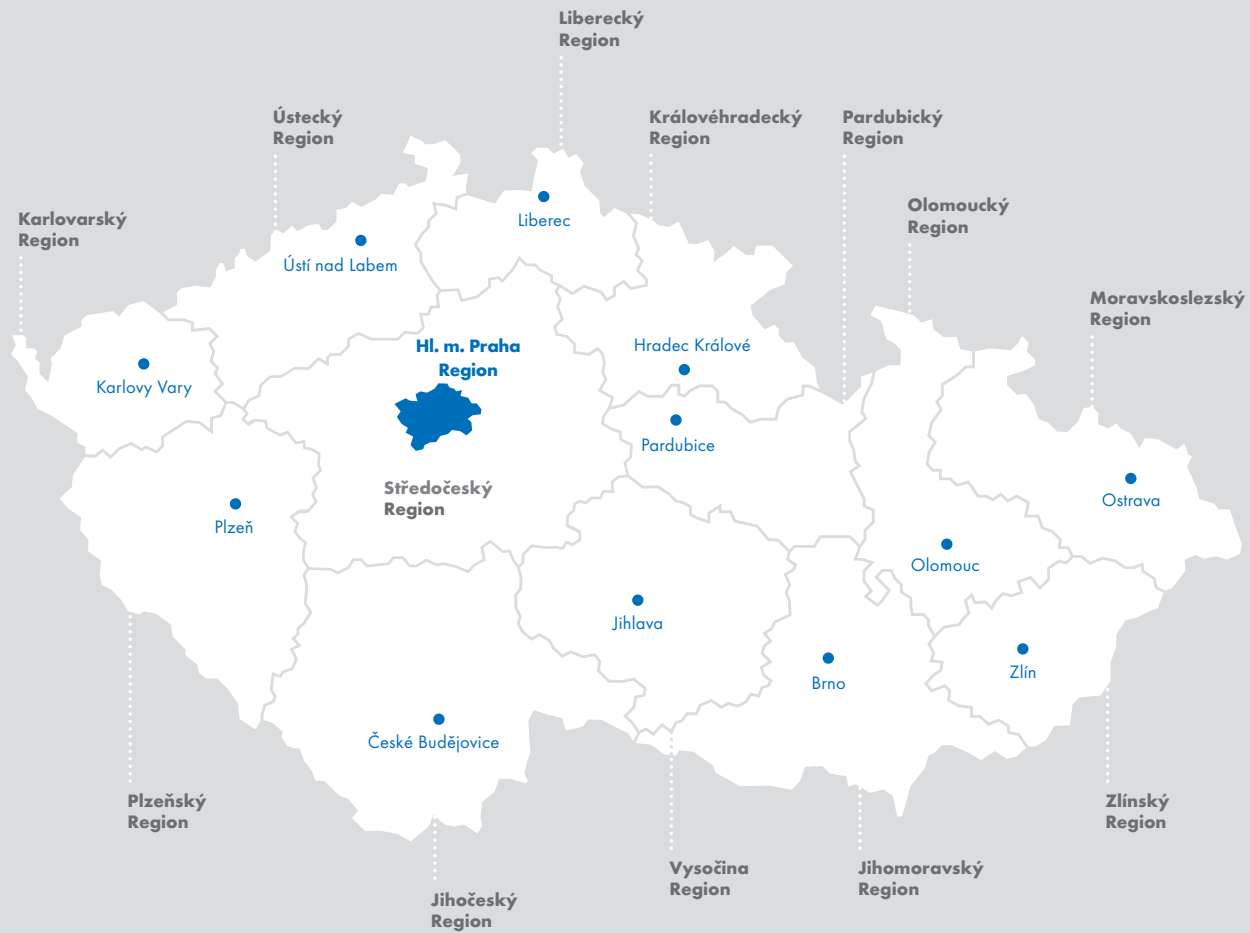
The organisation and the course of sample surveys of households did not fundamentally change compared to previous years. The household survey builds on two branches: Integrated Household Survey and Integrated Living Conditions Survey. For both branches, the basis is a random selection of dwellings from the Register of Census Districts and Buildings. Interviewers contact households living in these randomly selected dwellings and ask them to cooperate in filling out questionnaires. A big thank you goes to all respondents who provided information about themselves and their family members to our interviewers in 2021.

The most extensive household survey is the Labour Force Sample Survey (the basis of the Integrated Household

Survey), in which the sample set includes 33,900 dwellings. The interviewing takes place in quarterly waves. It focuses on acquiring information on the nature of employment and unemployment of the population and provides data on the economically inactive people. Some of these households are also interviewed as part of the Tourism Sample Survey, which monitors the current situation in the tourism industry, whether it concerns the household members' trips around the country or abroad. For another part of the households, interviewers in the Sample Survey on ICT Usage ask about information and communication technology equipment, access to them and how they are used. Both of these follow-up surveys cover the same sample of 6,780 households.

Another part of households, specifically 12,400 of them, were approached by interviewers in 2021 as part of the irregular Energo Survey, which took place after six years. The aim of this sample survey on household energy consumption was to obtain data on fuel and energy consumption in households according to the purpose of use or data on the energy efficiency of selected appliances.

The Integrated Living Conditions Survey represents the second group of household surveys with a random sample set of over 11,300 dwellings. The basis is the Living Conditions Survey





(SILC), which maps data on households' social and economic situation and data for calculating indicators of monetary poverty and material deprivation. Over three thousand households are subsequently approached with a request for further cooperation in the Family Accounts Statistics survey. This survey takes the form of diary entries and mainly monitors the financial expenditures of all household members for a certain period. The last follow-up survey is the Financial Situation of Households survey. In this case, the data collection focuses on the financial and property conditions of approximately two thousand selected households.

CZSO interviewers also perform irreplaceable work when collecting consumer price statistics data. Although the amount of data received directly from retail chains (so-called scanner

data) continued to increase in 2021, much data on the prices of products and services had to be collected by fieldwork directly in shops and service establishments.

Last but not least, CZSO interviewers also participate in data collection and acquisition for agricultural statistics. They obtain and process data from reporting units (natural persons) for eleven agricultural reports and data for updating and managing the Farm Register.

Statistical Processing

The generation of Announcements about a reporting duty to the CZSO and their distribution took place without complications or significant anomalies. In 2021, 137,078 Announcements about a reporting duty and 15,341 Addenda were sent



out as of 12/31/2021. Of these, 121,674 Announcements or Addenda were sent to data mailboxes, and 30,745 were sent by traditional registered mail (primarily agricultural statistics questionnaires).

In 2021, statistical tasks were processed in regional offices under increased stress associated with measures against covid-19 (working from home, individual technical conditions of connection, etc.). 493,827 questionnaires were processed (as of 12/31/2021), of which 64.5% were delivered electronically via ePDF or DANTE WEB application. All data were submitted according to the schedules. The Innovation questionnaire (TI) saw a significant increase in the size of the set by 2,000 reporting units. There was also an increase in the sample set for the tourism survey, thanks to the COVID-2020 subsidies. In price statistics, intensive work was done on transitioning from Oracle Forms to standard CZSO tools.

Preparations for the new processing year began in the last quarter of 2021. In connection with this, regional offices started an implementation project of current tools for multichannel self-service and assisted communication with the respondent, such as ChatBot or virtual switchboard, which increases at the beginning of the processing year.

In 2021, preparations continued for the Redesign of the Statistical Information System RSIS 5.0 project (funded under the National Recovery Plan), in which regional office workers participated. All requirements for applications were defined, and proposals were presented to interested employees of the office and discussed with the management of the CZSO and all factually relevant departments to align their perceptions to a more digitised way of working.

Information Services

During the year, the Information Services Units at individual regional offices of the CZSO accomplished the tasks set out in the approved action plans for 2021. In addition to providing data and information on the current results of statistical surveys, they also processed answers to users' queries and requests and provided methodological consultations on the use of data for various project documents or graduates' theses. Representatives of some regional offices continued to cooperate within the framework of regional round tables and projects of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. In the online mode, they prepared almost twenty presentations, mainly on SLDB 2021 and the office's activities. Each regional office managed and regularly updated their web presentation in the form of regional publications, links to regional data, time series or by publishing



short analytical texts in the form of news on current events, which were subsequently reflected or quoted by the regional press.

As for the publishing activity, three titles were jointly coordinated and published as scheduled - a quarterly statistical bulletin, regional statistical yearbooks and an analytical output dealing with the long-term development of housing construction in the regions. Other separate outputs of some workplaces included, for example, 'First-hand Figures Prague' (incl. an English version), 'Population Change in Municipalities of the Jihočeský Region', 'Municipalities of the Královéhradecký Region', 'Population of the Plzeňský Region', 'Statistical Guide to Municipalities of the Jihočeský Region'. The Jihomoravský, Jihočeský, and Zlínský Regions also produced a publication on the age distribution and population change in the Region in 2020. Five regional offices prepared the publication 'Basic Development Trends in the Region' on an optional basis for this year. The Regional Office in Pardubice and the Regional Office in České Budějovice prepared special monthly newsletters with new data, and the Regional Office in Zlín produced regular quarterly reports for the Regional Authority. Several foldable data and information booklets were issued during the year. In the last quarter, a farm theme planning calendar was prepared to support the interviewers during fieldwork.

The information services workers also took part in supporting the SLDB 2021 project. Before the decisive moment of the census, they were involved as operators of the virtual switchboard for the SLDB 2021 information line. At the time of the ongoing census, they participated in the operation of the newly established contact points for the public, available at all regional CZSO workplaces, including Prague.

Cross-border Activities of the Regional Offices of the CZSO

Despite reduced personal contacts during the pandemic, representatives of regional offices managed to continue cross-border projects and working group activities.

Representatives of the Regional Office of the CZSO in České Budějovice continued their cooperation on the CentropeMAP/CentropeSTATISTICS project. In mid-October 2021, an online workshop of Czech, Austrian, Slovak and Hungarian regional statisticians was held to update and further develop the CentropeSTATISTICS cross-border database, especially the incorporation of the prepared census results into the database, including subsequent maps of the Centrope area.

Within the EUREX Statistika working group, only electronic communication took place; due to the pandemic, it was impossible to hold regular face-to-face meetings. Employees of the CZSO

Regional Office in Liberec concentrated on preparing documents for the publication to be issued on the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion. New 'Basic Statistical Indicators of the Neisse-Nisa-Nysa Euroregion' were published on the regional website.

In 2021, the fourth edition of the brochure 'EURES-TriRegio – Labour and Professional Education Market in a Nutshell' was successfully published as a result of cross-border cooperation, in which the CZSO Regional Office in Ústí nad Labem also participated.

The CZSO Regional Office in Plzeň welcomed a delegation from the Greek Statistical Office to its workplace, to which the director of the RO made a presentation of the activities of the regional statistical offices in the Czech Republic within the structure of the CZSO.

Financial Performance of Regional Offices of the CZSO

The economy of regional offices has been affected by the ongoing covid-19 pandemic for the second year. The operation and economic activity were a reflection not only of the fulfilment of the ordinary tasks of the regional offices but also of the observance of valid anti-epidemic measures aimed at health protection.

The covid-19 disease and the observation of the announced extraordinary regulations disrupted the normal course of drawing financial resources under some budget items or deformed the expenditures in regional offices compared to previous years, i.e. before the onset of the covid-19 pandemic.

The reduction in business trips connected with the performance of work (restriction of personal visits during field surveys and trips to conferences, meetings, training, etc.) was repeatedly reflected in the reduction of travel expenses compared to last year, despite the year-on-year increase in meal allowance rates. The amount of budget funds spent on travel expenses in 2021, similarly to 2020, decreased significantly compared to previous years, and reached 70 to 74% of the level of expenses in the years before the onset of the epidemic, even with the annual increase in mandatory expenditure. On the other hand, there was an extraordinary increase in some expenses, such as for health and hygiene products and materials.

The specific consequences of the extraordinary regime measures associated with the covid-19 pandemic were the changes in the organisation of work and some work procedures, the use of Home Office, VPN, internal electronic signatures, an increase in telephone and e-mail communication, the transfer of conferences, training and meetings to a virtual environment,



the expansion of mobile computer technology and other changes having impacts on the economy and operation of regional offices.

Purchasing, maintenance and repairs continued despite the complexities caused by the pandemic. However, some work planned for 2021 was not realised due to a shortage of craftsmen and problems with available supplier companies.

Despite the unfavourable development of the covid-19 disease in 2021 and the resulting restrictions, the regional offices managed (using the experience gained in 2020) to deal with the impacts of the pandemic and to fulfil the assigned tasks in an economical and timely manner and with high quality.

Involvement of CZSO Regional Offices within the 2021 Population and Housing Census Project (SLDB 2021)

In the first half of 2021, the Population and Housing Census Units at Regional Offices of the CZSO devoted themselves intensively to preparing and realising the census. Before the decisive moment of the actual census, the Regional Offices of the CZSO recruited census enumerators in individual census districts under the responsibility of the CZSO and provided them with training and distributed materials to them.

During the census itself (27 March to 11 May 2021), employees of the Population and Housing Census Units at Regional Offices of the CZSO provided methodical assistance to census enumerators and carried out control activities in the field, primarily concerning the fieldwork contractor (Česká pošta, s.p.).

After the end of data collection as part of the 2021 Census project, the activities of the Population and Housing Census Units at Regional Offices of the CZSO were phased out. Most of these external workplaces ended their operations on 30 June 2021. By the end of 2021, all Population and Housing Census Units at Regional Offices of the CZSO have ceased to exist.

The preparation and realisation of the real census were largely affected by the epidemic situation due to the spread of the covid-19 disease. Despite this, Population and Housing Census Units at Regional Offices of the CZSO completed all tasks within the 2021 Census project on time.

A separate chapter POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS is also dedicated to the 2021 Census project. ■



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ELECTION STATISTICS

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In 2021, the CZSO mainly processed the results of the elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic held in the regular autumn term. It also processed the results of the new elections to the councils of 28 municipalities on the four announced election dates: March, June, September and December. Attention was also paid to electoral legislation, including statements made as part of the inter-ministerial comment procedures. The change in the electoral law and the preparation of special voting methods due to the covid-19 epidemic required cooperation.



The most demanding task of the CZSO in 2021 in terms of organisation and methodology was the processing of results of the regular elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic announced for Friday, 8 October and Saturday, 9 October 2021. Act No 247/1995 Sb governed the processing of voting results. All 200 deputies were duly elected in the elections. The task of the Office was to establish a system for ascertaining and processing election results, prepare methodological materials, train legally designated representatives of district electoral committees and collect voting results from almost 15,000 electoral districts. The results of the elections were known within a few hours of the closing of the polling stations.

Besides nationwide elections, the CZSO organised extraordinary elections for municipal councils, which were scheduled successively on four different dates. New elections to municipal councils in 2021 were announced for March 20 in 5 municipalities, June 19 in 6 municipalities, September 18 in 14 municipalities (they were held in 13 municipalities; in one case, no list of candidates was submitted) and December 11 in 4 municipalities. During the year, a total of 28 new municipal councils were elected.

The decision of the Constitutional Court, Pl ÚS 44/17, and, as a result, the adopted Act No 189/2021 Sb, changing, among other things, the method of counting votes into mandates, influenced the preparation of elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic. This had to be taken into account in the entire system of processing and presenting election results in the CZSO.

Furthermore, it was necessary to respond to the epidemic situation related to the covid-19 disease and implement the new Act No 296/2021 Sb, which introduced the election through special voting methods for voters in quarantine or isolation. The CZSO implemented special districts for the results by special voting methods, adjusted programmes, prepared methodological materials and conducted training for enumeration commissions established at regional authorities. The epidemic placed increased demands on workers, the number of trainings increased, and it was necessary to observe safe distances and use protective equipment, namely respirators and disinfection.

Attention was paid to further improving the training of district electoral commissions. The methodological materials were converted into a new form, a new instructional video was shot,





and a well-arranged presentation with examples of the evaluation of preferential votes was made available on the Internet. For the first time in history, a test was prepared for the members of the district electoral commissions. The commission members could check their knowledge anonymously and voluntarily, even repeatedly, including evaluation. The analysis of the answers made it possible to determine the areas in which mistakes occurred more often and on which it would be appropriate to focus even more in future training.

The security of election processing was examined and deepened. Load, penetration, and processing tests were carried out, and cooperation with professional institutions was ongoing. The CZSO also reflected on the need for information media security and prepared a series of infographics on selected sections of the election process, helping to avoid misinformation.

In the legislative area, the CZSO worked together with the Ministry of the Interior and provided election models according to the required parameters during the preparation of the draft amendment to the electoral law. The CZSO also participated in preparing the law on special voting methods

for voters in quarantine or isolation, including commenting on the subsequent implementation methodology. In the course of the year, suggestions and comments on proposed changes to laws were applied in the framework of inter-ministerial comment procedures.

Towards the public, the CZSO maintains an active year-round presentation system of election results at volby.cz. This system makes available the basic results of the voting in the elections of recent years down to the lowest level of electoral districts and is gradually being supplemented for users with analytical outputs in various territorial breakdowns, and in 2021 with a historical view. In addition, time series of fundamental election indicators are updated annually, and data, including methodology, are published after the elections. Users' queries were continuously answered, and non-standard data outputs were prepared for citizens and institutions.

The results of all elections held during the year were processed by the CZSO without any defects and submitted to the State Election Commission for approval and publishing in the Collection of Laws. ■



POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS

7068
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7

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2948

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337

5823
5511

The year 2021 saw the completion of final preparations and realisation of the 2021 Population and Housing Census. It was a global project coordinated by the United Nations, the results of which will allow obtaining a picture of the present for future generations and historical comparisons. The census was carried out in a combined form: data were obtained both from available administrative sources and through household data collection. The collection of data for households was designed in a modern way as an online census,



with subsequent investigation using paper census forms. The course of the census itself was largely influenced by the development of the covid-19 pandemic, which necessitated some changes to the originally planned procedures.

A demanding stage of territorial preparation preceded data collection. It included verification of inconsistent and missing territorial identifications of buildings and addresses, reviewing definitions and descriptions of basic residential units, looking for missing technical-economic attributes of buildings and mass addressing of owners of apartment buildings from among municipalities, housing cooperatives and other legal entities and subsequent processing data on dwellings in these houses. As part of horizontal cooperation with Česká pošta, s.p., collection and contact points were selected. At the same time, standard and individual census districts were delimited. In cooperation with the Ministries of Defence, Justice, Interior and Foreign Affairs, departmental census districts were defined.

Household data collection took place after the decisive moment between March 27 and May 11, 2021, through census forms, both electronic (online) and paper, with the online census being the primary and preferred method. It started on the day of the decisive moment and was supposed to last 14 days. In view of the technical problems on the first day of the census and in connection with the epidemic situation, it was decided to extend it until May 11, 2021. Households not counted online were given the opportunity to be counted through the paper census forms during a field

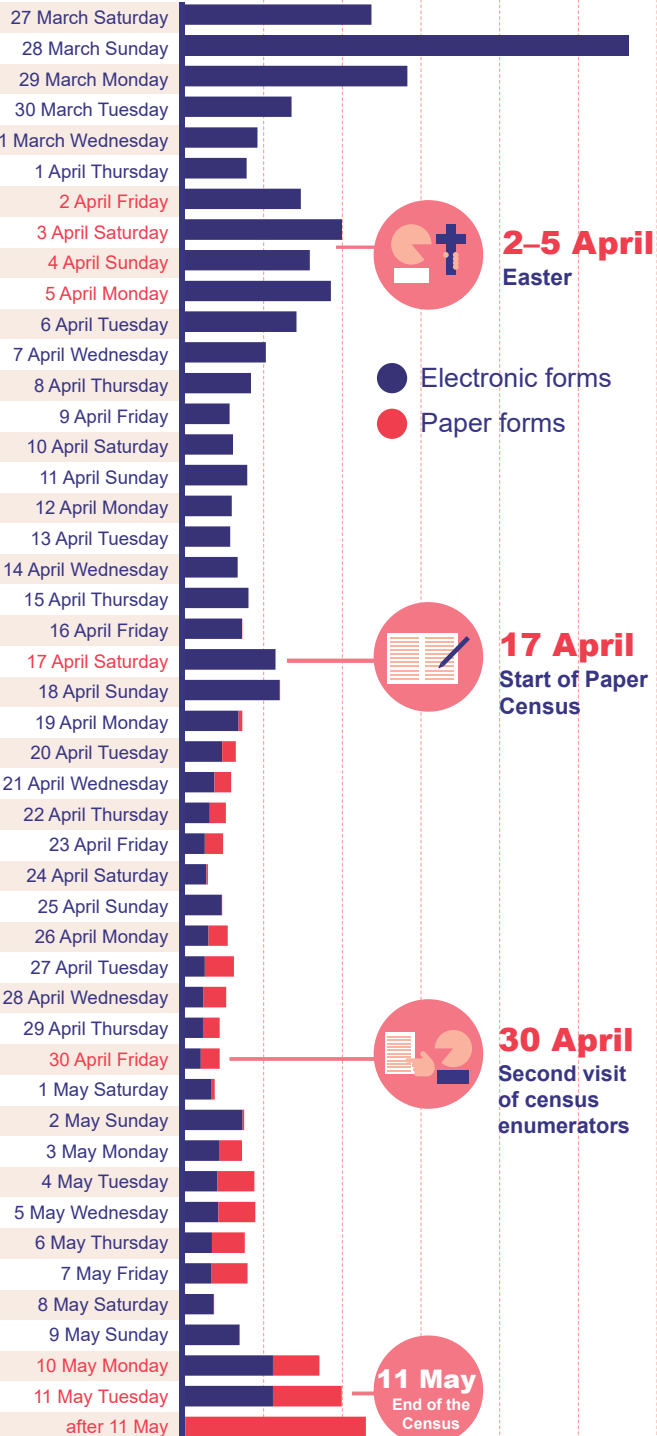
survey that started on April 17, 2021, and lasted 24 days. Paper census forms were distributed through census enumerators or contact points of Česká pošta s.p. and the CZSO contact points at individual regional offices and the headquarters. The collection of paper census forms was ensured through contact points and P.O.BOXES. The collection of forms through census enumerators of Česká pošta s.p. was cancelled entirely due to the unfavourable epidemiological situation. A total of 4,217,300 electronic and 816,300 paper forms were collected.

After the data collection at households was finished, the processing of collected forms started. This was significantly easier with electronic forms, as the information obtained was inherently digitised, and the occurrence of errors or ambiguous answers was substantially lower. The correct filling of forms was supported by extensive help and selection from pre-set options. The need for manual coding was thus limited to only a relatively small number of cases that could not be handled by specialised software.

Paper census forms were first digitised, i.e. converted into electronic form. At the specialised secure workplace of Česká pošta s.p., they went through scanning, and an automated

Thousand forms

0 100 200 300 400 500 600



process wherein the recognised characters were converted into digital form. Specialised operators added characters not recognised by machine. Scanning began at the turn of April and May 2021, and the last batch of machine-readable data was handed over to the CZSO in October. The error rate detected by the checks was around one per thousand, which can be assessed as a very good level.

As part of further processing, the data from the forms were compared with the population register so that each person was counted only once. In the process, duplications were removed. On the other hand, those who did not fill out the forms despite a strong communication campaign and appeals in the media were added. The subsequent processing step was coding. All data were classified into categories, and a code was assigned to each verbal entry so that it could be statistically processed further. Automated processes can solve this only partially. Other cases had to be assessed and logically classified one by one. This manual coding at the CZSO took place from the beginning of July. This work was done by 50 to 80 operators who had to enter approximately 2.4 million pieces of data into the census database. Meanwhile, 27.5 million pieces of data have gone through automatic coding.



Population and Housing Census

In the last quarter of 2021, all non-anonymised data processing steps required to define the usually resident population have been completed. It was mainly about linking data from census forms and administrative data sources, prioritising records of persons enumerated multiple times and making signs-of-life analysis of data from forms and the population register. As part of processing data for houses, the first outputs were prepared for publishing. From the census information system, anonymised data from administrative data sources and anonymised input data from electronic and paper census forms were exported to the processing database, where the majority of statistical processing takes place. The first census results were presented at the CZSO press conference on January 13, 2022, in accordance with the original processing schedule.

In the course of 2021, preparatory work on the dissemination of the census results culminated. The realisation of public contracts regarding creating three applications intended for data publishing began. First, the preparation of a completely new application, User-defined outputs, was started, which should enable users to work with predefined tables, graphs and maps and create their own output reports. The second in order is the Dissemination Portal, which includes a new

editorial system and web interface. The third contract, which was in the tender stage before the end of 2021, is to provide geographic outputs for which census data are well suited.

During the census, great attention was also paid to other components of this large project. These were mainly issues of security, cyber security and personal data protection, including the issue of statistical confidentiality.

One of the key prerequisites for the successful completion of the census was an effective communication, marketing and PR campaign. To inform respondents about the census, the CZSO made use of leaflets, social media, advertising on the Internet, television and radio, online webinars and partners from the state administration and local government. It organised three press conferences and issued 85 press releases on the census. As part of information support, the Office provided a modern contact centre and used a virtual census advice centre for the first time - ChatBot.

When evaluating the past year, it can be stated that the 2021 Population and Housing Census project met its goals, in the complicated conditions of the covid-19 pandemic and with the effective use of the original budget. ■



PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

The year 2021 was marked by preparations for the 2021 Population and Housing Census. Furthermore, the publishing of data in an open format expanded.



CZSO Website

The key event of 2021 was undoubtedly the Population and Housing Census. The website www.scitani.cz with information for citizens was launched in the last quarter of 2020. In the live phase of the census, it was a key source of information and the main point of access to the electronic census form. It was a new experience to host this website in the cloud. In cooperation with an external supplier, a user-friendly online census form was prepared, which was successfully deployed and used at www.onlinescitani.cz. It was used by 85% of households, and it was very positively evaluated by the professional and lay public.

Another innovation tested and implemented during the census was the ChatBot, the knowledge base of which is constantly being updated and expanded. After the end of the live census, a ChatBot version was also prepared and deployed for the central presentation of the Office at www.czso.cz.

In the second half of the year, preparations were underway for the presentation of the first SLDB results, which were published on www.scitani.cz on January 13, 2022.

In the summer of 2021, work began on the new dissemination portal (a new editorial system and a new look of the CZSO web presentations). In September, the PDI Design project was launched, i.e. the preparation of the information structure and visual appearance of the site with the results of the 2021

Census and the central web presentation of www.czso.cz. In the last quarter, work was also underway on awarding the contract for realizing the new Information Dissemination Portal (PDI), which was successfully tendered at the end of the year.

Based on the tightened GDPR legislation, the monitoring of web presentations via Google Analytics was terminated in September 2021. Presently, presentation traffic is monitored only through the Statistical Information System integrated tool. Furthermore, the solution for tracking cookies on websites was updated so that, in addition to necessary cookies, without which web presentations cannot function properly, only statistical cookies are used, which are needed precisely for internal traffic monitoring. Through the newly updated cookies bar, users can refuse the use of statistical cookies at any time. As a result of these measures, it is only possible to provide comparable visitor data for the 1st to 3rd quarter of 2021. The data for the following periods will be largely underestimated.

The number of visitors to the website of the Czech Statistical Office, www.czso.cz, increased significantly due to the Census. In the 1st to 3rd quarter of 2021, it reached 1,815,000 users (half a million more than in 2020), 3,088,000 visits (700,000 more) and 7,975,000 views (1.3 million more). On average, users viewed 2.6 pages, and their visit lasted 2.14 minutes.

Among the most visited pages of www.czso.cz in 2021 were: number of deaths (weekly time series update) – time series, population, reports, inflation – consumer prices, online filling of questionnaires (DANTE WEB), statistics, inflation - types, definitions, tables. The traffic was affected by the 2021 Census and the covid-19 pandemic, which was also reflected in the most searched terms: inflation, population, deaths, unemployment, consumption and mortality.

The majority of visitors use a PC (66.2%), another group of visitors use a mobile phone (32.2%), and only a tiny remainder of them access our website from a tablet (1.6%). Among web browsers, Chrome holds the leading position (58.5% of users), Safari is second (12.9% of users), Firefox in third place (9.2% of users), and Edge browser is in fourth place (almost 9.0% of users).

During the year, the most frequent foreign visitors to the CZSO web presentation were from the United States (57,000), Germany (24,000) and Slovakia (almost 23,000); even here, the influence of the Census is evident.

The www.scitani.cz web presentation was visited by 5,275,000 users between March 27, 2021 and May 11, 2021. It recorded 33,579,000 views and 8,974,000 visits. During visits to www.scitani.cz, users viewed an average

of 3.7 pages, and their visit to the web presentation lasted almost two minutes. Among the most visited pages were 'Sčítání online (Census online)' (switching to the Electronic Census Form - ESF), 'Nápověda k ESF (Help to ESF)' and 'Jak se sečíst (How to count yourself)'. More than half of users accessed the site using a PC (57%), followed closely by mobile phone users (40%), while the smallest portion of users accessed the site from a tablet (3%).

Public Database

The Public Database (VDB) represents one of the basic sources of statistical data for internal and external users. It serves not only for data dissemination but also as an effective tool for preparing publications and open data (i.e. data sets that contain data in an open format, most often XML or CSV). APIs are also actively used for direct user access to open data.

During 2021, 47 million new entries were stored in the VDB. At the end of the year, there were more than 604 million current statistical data entries in the database.

Last year, compared to the previous one, interest in VDB increased, as the number of users increased to 950,000 (including users who visited the site repeatedly). On the contrary, the number of views decreased slightly (by almost 6%). 4.2 million pages were viewed in VDB. Users made nearly 100,000 data exports from VDB, of which 86,500 in xlsx format.



Traditionally, the greatest interest was in the demographics chapter data, i.e. the Population Change table (40,000 views) and the Deaths by Week table (41,000 views). Then followed the tables Number of Employees (25,000 views) and Consumer Price Indices according to COICOP (30,000 views). In response to the covid-19 pandemic, VDB presented weekly data on the number of deaths – tabular data and an interactive graph.

The most searched terms continued to be deaths, deaths by week, nationality, unemployment, mortality and death. It is obvious that today's times are also reflected in the use of statistical data.

Open Data

In 2021, the CZSO continued to expand the offer of data in an open format. From the Public Database, 236 new distributions with statistical data in an open format were generated. In 2021, users downloaded more than 35,000 of these data sets, most often for the number of deaths by week and population by age groups, data on unemployment, logging, average wages, use of ICT by households, foreigners and others. The automated generation and publishing of open data for the Statistical Business Register (RES), including related nomenclatures, was put into operation. The Official Notice Board of the CZSO was also registered in the National Catalogue of Open Data.

Publishing Activities

The basic document governing the publishing activities of the CZSO is the Catalogue of Products containing an overview of all planned outputs, such as publications, news releases, analyses, data sets or open data. The Catalogue of Products is available to users on the CZSO website. It can be searched according to various criteria – for example, by a group of statistics, territorial division, publication type or date of publishing. All presented products are available on the website free of charge.

By the end of 2021, the Catalogue of Products contained 523 items – among other things, 67 printed titles and 21 types of news releases, many data sets, analyses, time series and press releases. A total of 1,229 outputs were published in 2021, the most from the area of price statistics (280), then – especially given the weekly products on the number of deaths – population statistics (149) and also, as usual, regional statistics (96). Last year, the journals *Demografie*, *Review for Population Research* and *Statistika: Statistics and Economy Journal* belonged to the most requested printed outputs, and traditionally the *Statistical Yearbook of the Czech Republic*.

The year 2021 was much more favourable for the Central Statistical Library than the previous one. Despite the extensive restrictions due to the coronavirus pandemic and the



ČESKO V ČÍSLECH 2021



anti-epidemic measures imposed by the government of the Czech Republic, the number of visitors to the library increased, and the services offered came back to life. By the end of 2021, the library had 2,153 registered users. During the year, the library was visited by 287 users who borrowed 614 publications, mainly for full-time study.

Services Provided

In 2021, almost 16.4 thousand orders were handled at information service workplaces of the CZSO Headquarters and Regional Offices, which is 39.8% more than the previous year. The year-on-year increase in the number of requests for information was primarily related to a significant number of queries from respondents about filling in the census forms and the possibility of submitting them (even after the end of the census). There was also interest in the census results themselves. A large number of queries related to the preparation and results of the elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic and a third of the Senate. The demands, complexity and interconnectedness of the requirements with which the users approach the information service workplaces continue to increase. This is because they can easily find answers to simple queries on the Internet thanks to the ease of access to the information published, its extensiveness and clarity. Despite a significant reduction in the prices of many products and services, in 2021, sales for the products and services reached almost CZK 1.14 million.

As usual, the biggest part of the income was the sale of data from the Statistical Business Register (RES), followed by the processing of demanding orders and the provision of microdata.

A novelty that was introduced to the CZSO information services in 2021 in connection with the Census is a virtual switchboard, which allows significantly more workers to be involved in answering queries, regardless of their physical location, thereby spreading the load. At the same time, the caller can choose from a range of topics at the beginning of the call and thus get to a competent worker more quickly.

The Czech Statistical Office has been part of the European Statistical Data Support (ESDS) network of national contact centres for 17 years. In 2021, the CZSO employees handled 135 requests for data on the entire European Union or its states and regions.

Although measures against the coronavirus pandemic marked a significant part of 2021, these measures did not have much impact on providing products and services. All products were published, and with exceptions, it was on the originally planned dates. Services for the public were not significantly limited either, which was made possible by the fact that these workplaces have been communicating with customers for a long time mainly electronically. ■

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COMMUNICATION

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In 2021, the Czech Statistical Office actively continued to provide statistical information to the public and raise statistical awareness. To do this, the CZSO used a wide range of communication tools. Information was published on websites and social networks, press conferences were held, press releases and journals were published, and the presentation of the results of statistical surveys in the form of data visualisation, exhibitions and other methods continued.



Media relations

In the area of external communication, the CZSO organised 16 press conferences in 2021, all held online via the MS Teams application. One hundred and fifty-eight press releases were issued, supplemented by audio recordings of the statements of quoted experts. The CZSO regularly drew the media's attention to the currently published news releases through press releases.

In 2021, 9,261 quotations of 157 CZSO employees were noted in the monitored media. The President of the CZSO, Ing Marek Rojíček, PhD, was quoted most often with a total of 2,662 quotations. All CZSO employees receive a daily overview of media outputs by e-mail.

2021 Census

In 2021, the CZSO realised the Population and Housing Census project, which takes place once every ten years. The CZSO held three press conferences on the census, all held online via the MS Teams application, and issued 85 press releases. To inform respondents about the census, the CZSO made use of leaflets, social media, advertising on the Internet, television and radio, online webinars and partners from the state administration and local government. It organised three press conferences and issued 85 press releases on the census. As part of information support, the Office provided a modern contact centre and used a virtual census advice centre for the first time – ChatBot.

The visual style of the 2021 Population and Housing Census created by Jan Moucha gained recognition at several international competitions. It was the winner of the Design – Corporate category in the advertising creativity competition, ADC Czech Creative Awards, and of the Corporate Identity category in the World Logo Design Awards competition. It was placed second in the Creative Design Award category in the World Brand Design Society Award competition.

The 2021 Census Contact Centre project won third place in the Operational Effectiveness Awards category, Best Cross-Functional Collaboration subcategory in the ECCCSA 2021 international competition of contact centres. Only projects that demonstrate highly functional cooperation between the client and the customer within the project and provide added value and excellent results can win in this category.

Magazines and Journals of the CZSO

In 2021, 10 issues of the magazine Statistika & My and four issues of each of the peer-reviewed quarterly CZSO journals Demografie and Statistika were published.

In the 19th year of the Golden Semicolon corporate media competition, organised annually by the industry association PR Klub, in June 2021, the magazine Statistika & My won sixth place in the External Printed Magazine and Newspaper



category. In the Fénix Content Marketing competition, it was rated third in the B2B Magazine category. The jury particularly appreciated how statistical data and information are presented in the magazine so that even readers who are not experts in statistics can understand them. These awards confirm that the magazine *Statistika & My* goes beyond the boundaries of an ordinary professional corporate periodical and is one of the essential tools of the CZSO's external communication. The magazine also went through a partial modernisation of its visual appearance and changed the layout of the Topic section.

The journal *Demografie, Review for Population Research*, published by the CZSO since 1959, retained its content structure in 2021. It published many exciting articles (main and overview articles – Czech, English), reviews of demographic literature and population data. It also commemorated significant life anniversaries of personalities from the field and informed readers about conferences and other news from the field of demography.

In 2021, another quarterly, *Statistika: Statistics and Economy Journal*, published by the CZSO since 1964 (since 2011 only in English) - issued many primarily analytical articles (mainly by foreign authors), but also articles in the Consultation section or reports from professional conferences.



Both of these professional, peer-reviewed and open access journals of the CZSO (Statistika and Demografie) are indexed in the international peer-reviewed scientific literature database Scopus and in the Emerging Sources Citation Index of the Web of Science database.

Social Media

In 2021, the Office continued its social media activities. The official Twitter account *@statistickyurad* was followed by 22,436 users, which was 2,986 more than the previous year, with 1,215 posts. At the end of the year, the CZSO's Instagram account was followed by 3,310 subscribers, i.e. 1,140 more than in 2020. The YouTube channel had 673 subscribers, an increase of 520. On the LinkedIn platform, 1,536 employees and members of the public joined the CZSO profile, i.e. 284 more compared to last year. Social media published the Office's outputs and popular infographics processed thematically on the occasions of important days or anniversaries. The Office regularly updated information about the institution, basic statistical concepts, indicators, etc., on the Czech version of Wikipedia, the free Internet-based encyclopaedia.

Enhancing Statistical Literacy

In January 2021, the results of the fifth year of the entertainment-educational Mini-Census project were announced,

introducing children aged 9-15 to the importance of statistics and the upcoming census. The project was intended for pupils of the 4th to 9th grades of elementary schools and students of lower grades of multi-year gymnasiums. Pupils tried out how statistical data collection, processing and interpretation work. In total, 1,593 classes from 298 schools participated in the 2020 Mini-Census, and 18,833 respondents filled out online questionnaires with 21 questions. One class from each Region was drawn in the presence of a notary, which won exciting prizes from competition partners such as Microsoft, DinoPark, Lego, Crew and Albi. The media partner of the project was Czech Radio - Radio Junior.

In March 2021, the winners of the national round of the international competition for the best statistical poster, organised for the sixth time by the Czech Statistical Office in cooperation with the University of Economics in Prague, were announced. The competition was for teams of 2 to 5 students of the second-grade elementary school, secondary school and university bachelor's programmes in three categories. Last year's theme was the environment, biology and sustainable development. A total of 482 students, divided into 17 teams from 20 schools, participated in the national round of the competition. They submitted 23 posters, of which ten were in the category of elementary schools, 12 in the category of secondary schools and one in the category of universities.





The winning posters advanced to the international round of the competition. The results were announced in July 2021 in The Hague, Netherlands, as part of the 63rd World Statistical Congress of the International Statistical Institute.

On Wednesday, October 20, the statistical community commemorated European Statistics Day. The Czech Statistical Office joined the celebrations as tradition dictated. On the Instagram profile, the CZSO launched an interactive quiz in which followers could test their knowledge of various fields of statistics. Visitors to the CZSO Prague headquarters had the opportunity to see an exhibition made up of popular infographics that the Office uses when communicating with the public on its website, social media platforms or in the magazine *Statistika & My*.

Direct Presentation of Outputs

In 2021, four exhibitions were organised in the exhibition spaces of the CZSO in Prague, at which the CZSO presented author photos by employees or the results of the Mini-Census project. This realisation won **first place in the Fénix Content Marketing** competition, Best Illustration and its Use category. There was also an exhibition of original infographics, with which the Statistical Office symbolically celebrated European Statistics Day.

Easter and Christmas Markets

The traditional Easter and Christmas markets did not take place last year due to the pandemic and quarantine measures. However, for Christmas 2021, the Office handed over their gifts to Children's Homes, which the CZSO has supported long-term. The charity project Tree of Fulfilled Wishes took place online, and many employees participated. Gifts from this project delighted children from the Children's Homes in Litoměřice and Ústí nad Labem and the residents of the Centre for Women and Mothers with Children in Need in Prague 10. The employees also made their donations to the Endowment Fund for premature babies and their families. ■





INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Despite the ongoing restrictions caused by the spread of the covid-19 disease, the CZSO continued to fulfil the tasks associated with EU membership, including preparation for the upcoming presidency of the Council of the EU, involvement in other international activities, and overcame the difficult conditions of cooperation with statistical offices of other countries.



European Union

Within the Council of the EU, the preparation of regulations in the field of agricultural statistics, such as the draft regulation on statistics of agricultural inputs and outputs, the draft amendment to the regulation on the regional aggregate agricultural account and the draft amendment to the regulation on integrated statistics of agricultural holdings took place. The CZSO was also regularly involved in the activities of the Sub-Committee on Statistics of Economic and Financial Committee of the Council of the EU. In November, the Economic and Financial Affairs Council (ECOFIN) adopted its annual 'autumn' conclusions on statistics.

In the area of EU legislation, several implementing regulations were adopted, mainly following the previously issued framework regulations regarding social and business statistics. At the meetings organised by Eurostat (meetings of directors, working groups, task forces, committees, etc.) about the situation arising as a result of the spread of the covid-19 disease, the current topics in 2021 included the provision of the required statistical outputs, responses to new requirements and new challenges for European statistics (e.g. communication with respondents, promotion of new innovative techniques, capturing new measures to restore EU economies), but also the availability of geospatial information or a possible revision of the regulation on European statistics. Most work meetings and negotiations

took place in a virtual environment. The 45th and 46th meetings of the European Statistical System Committee were held as a video conference in February or May 2021. The exception was the 47th meeting of the European Statistical System Committee with the conference of Directors General of the National Statistical Institutes (DGINS), which took place in Warsaw in October. The President and Vice President of the CZSO participated in it on behalf of the CZSO. In November, the Slovenian Statistical Office organised a workshop for heads of statistical offices within the framework of its presidency of the Council of the EU on the topic of timeliness of official statistics.

During the year, the CZSO was involved in projects financially supported by EU grants (in agriculture, price statistics, national accounts, labour, use of ICT in households and businesses, research and development, and business cycle statistics). Preparatory activities for the Czech presidency of the Council of the EU in 2022 also continued, especially within the framework of the inter-ministerial Committee for the EU at the working level and the Central Organisational Group for the Preparation for the Presidency. In cooperation with representatives of the French and Swedish statistical offices, the CZSO joined the preparation of the programme for the presidency trio in 2021. The CZSO representatives took part in the handover meeting, during which the ending presidency trio (Germany – Portugal – Slovenia) handed over



the presidency to the starting trio (France – Czech Republic – Sweden). Due to the pandemic, this meeting was also held online.

Other International Organisations

In March 2021, the President of the CZSO joined the online meeting of the United Nations Statistical Commission. The key topic of the discussions was, as usual, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Other vital points related to the future of economic statistics, national accounts, demographic statistics, migration statistics, etc. In April 2021, an online meeting of the European Statistical Forum took place, in which the Czech Republic was represented by the President of the Czech Statistical Office. The main focus was the globalisation challenges and their impact on statistics. The annual meeting of the Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy of the OECD, which also took place online in June, mainly focused on real estate prices and innovations supporting the post-covid revival. Part of the programme was shared with the follow-up talks of the virtual Conference of European Statisticians (UNECE), which was mainly devoted to innovations in National Statistical Offices products and activities, the role of official statistics in climate action, and how national statistical systems adhere to the core values of official statistics. The President of the CZSO took part on behalf of the Czech Republic in both the meetings. In July, the Vice President of the CZSO participated online in the World Statistics Congress of the International Statistical Institute (ISI). In October, the United Nations World Data Forum took place in Bern with the participation



of the President of the CZSO. In December, an online conference of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) focused on the topic 'Data Stewardship - Chances and Challenges' was held.

Technical Assistance

As part of its long-term activities, the CZSO continued to provide technical assistance abroad to contribute in other countries to strengthen their statistical infrastructure and capacity, to create timely, reliable and internationally comparable data, and to enhance methodological soundness in line with the EU standards. At the end of 2021, a multi-year twinning project for Georgia ended. The CZSO was actively involved in several areas of household income and expenditure surveys, national accounts, non-observed economy, and tourism statistics. In 2021, Czech statisticians undertook four foreign missions to Tbilisi and five multi-day online work meetings, and in November, they welcomed the visit of Georgian statisticians to the CZSO. This international project was led by Statistics Denmark and funded by the EU.

The Czech Statistical Office and its experts again shared their experience with representatives of the State Statistical Office of North Macedonia. As part of the European IPA 2017 programme, three multi-day online meetings were held on the issue of government and financial accounts, which should continue in 2022. At the end of the year, one study visit of Turkish colleagues took place on quarterly GDP estimates.

Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperation

As usual, within bilateral cooperation, the CZSO delegation visited the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic and discussed the issue of census and coordination of the national statistical systems. The leaders of the CZSO and the Greek Statistical Office met twice in 2021 – in Athens in September and in Prague in November. They mainly debated issues related to the current census round in the Czech Republic and Greece, government account statistics, tourism statistics, or so-called experimental statistics. In June, an online meeting of high representatives of the statistical offices of the Visegrad Group (V4) countries took place on challenges for cross-border statistics in the context of information needs of V4+ countries. At the end of the year, the Presidents of the CZSO and the State Statistical Office of North Macedonia met in Skopje. During the meeting, they confirmed mutual interest in further deepening of relations. Cooperation with colleagues from Statistics Korea also continued through online consultation.

Restrictions related to the covid-19 pandemic limited the total number of trips abroad to just 22 in 2021. CZSO employees took part in 11 events during the trips. For the same reason, in 2021, three physical foreign visits and one hybrid meeting (a regular inspection mission) with representatives of EU institutions in the CZSO to verify the correctness of the general government deficit and debt took place. As in the previous period, most other negotiations were held online. ■



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HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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In 2021, personnel management focused on the implementation of changes resulting from the amendment to Act No 62/2006 Sb, the Labour Code, as amended, ensuring personnel activities in connection with the measures taken against the spread of covid-19 and key activities within the Implementation of Quality Management System in the CZSO project. Another important task was the termination of the employment or service of employees assigned to positions only established for a fixed period for the 2021 Population and Housing Census project.



For 2021, the limit on the number of employees was set to 1,480.5 people, including employees for the SLDB project. For the year 2021, the number of full-time equivalent employees was 1,438.38. As of 31 December 2021, 1,356 natural persons were employed in the CZSO, of which 1,004 were women (74%).

In 2021, 64 new employees/civil servants joined the CZSO, including employees intended for the SLDB. The employment or service of 312 employees, including SLDB employees, was terminated in 14 instances by agreement, in six instances by giving notice by the employee, in 166 instances by expiration of a fixed period, in 48 instances at the request of the civil servant under Section 73 of Act No 234/2014 Sb, on the Civil Service, as amended (CSA), in 63 instances by expiration of a fixed period determined by the CSA, in six instances during a probationary period by the employee. The employment of two employees was terminated for organisational reasons under Section 72 (1)(d) CSA.

One employee's employment was terminated per Section 74(1)(h) CSA after reaching 70 years of age. Two employees' employment was terminated per Section 190a(1) CSA due to

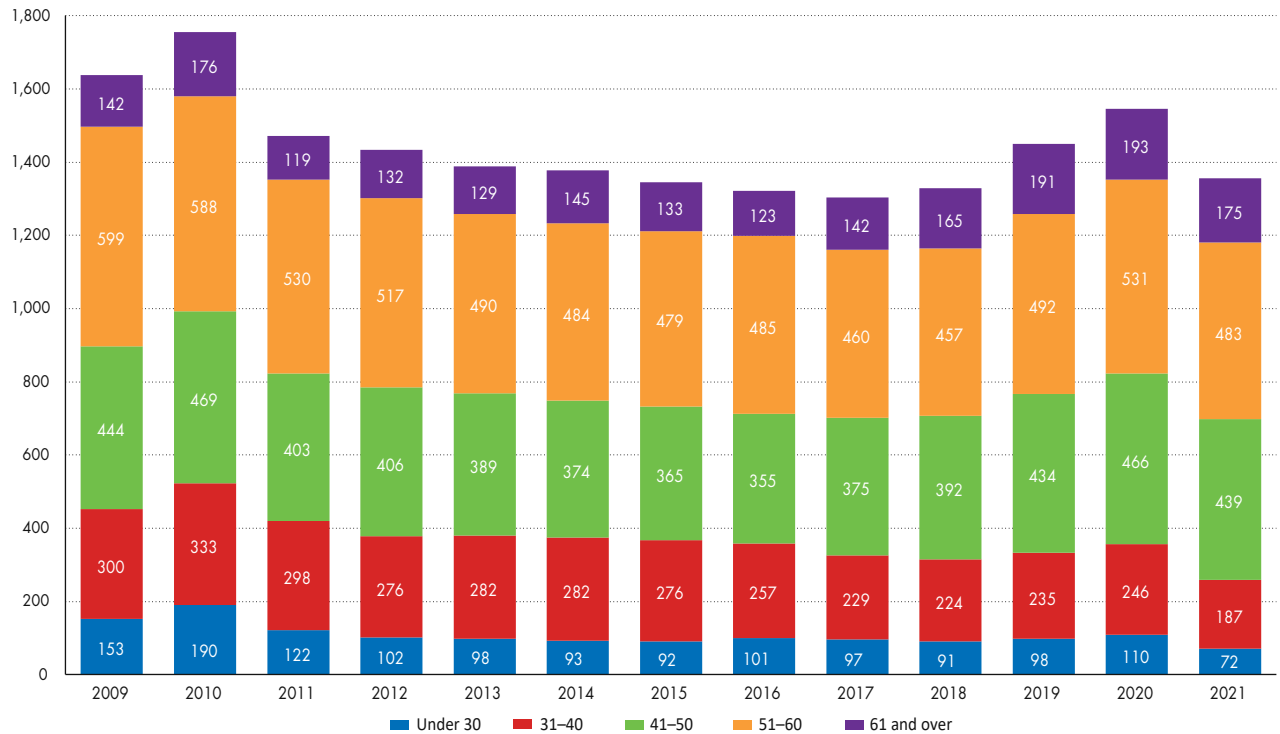
non-admission to service. Four civil servants were released to another service office. Termination of employment or service due to retirement occurred for 36 employees out of the total number of terminations. **The achieved value of staff turnover of 21.35% increased by 13.45 percentage points compared to last year due to the termination of fixed-term employment or service in the case of the SLDB project employees.**

Some selection procedures were repeatedly announced mainly due to the lack of suitable candidates for highly specialised positions or the withdrawal of selected candidates.

Fifty-seven point two per cent of the CZSO employees attained a university degree; the share of employees with a secondary level of education (i.e. a secondary school with school-leaving exams and a higher vocational school) was 37.9% of the total number.

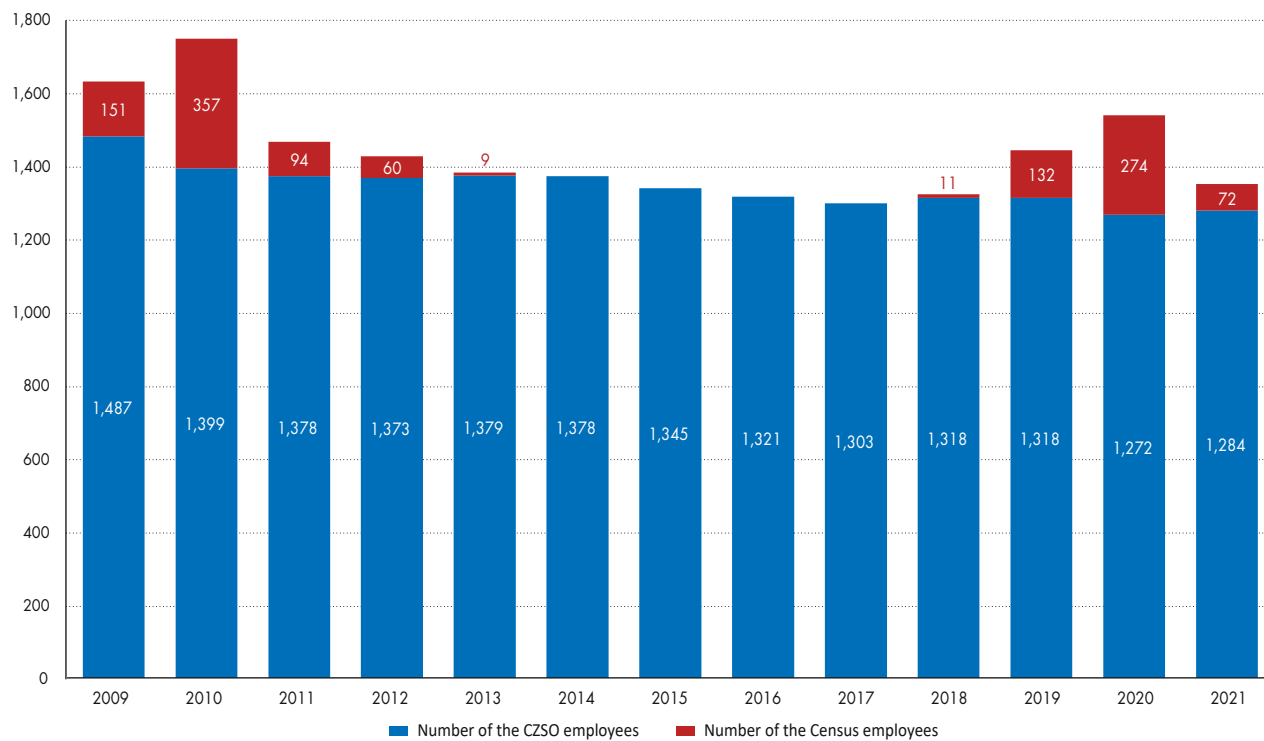
The ageing of the population was also reflected in the age structure of CZSO employees. **The average age of CZSO employees is 49.4 years.** The age structure has remained almost unchanged over the past years, with the highest share represented by employees aged 51-60 and 41-50.

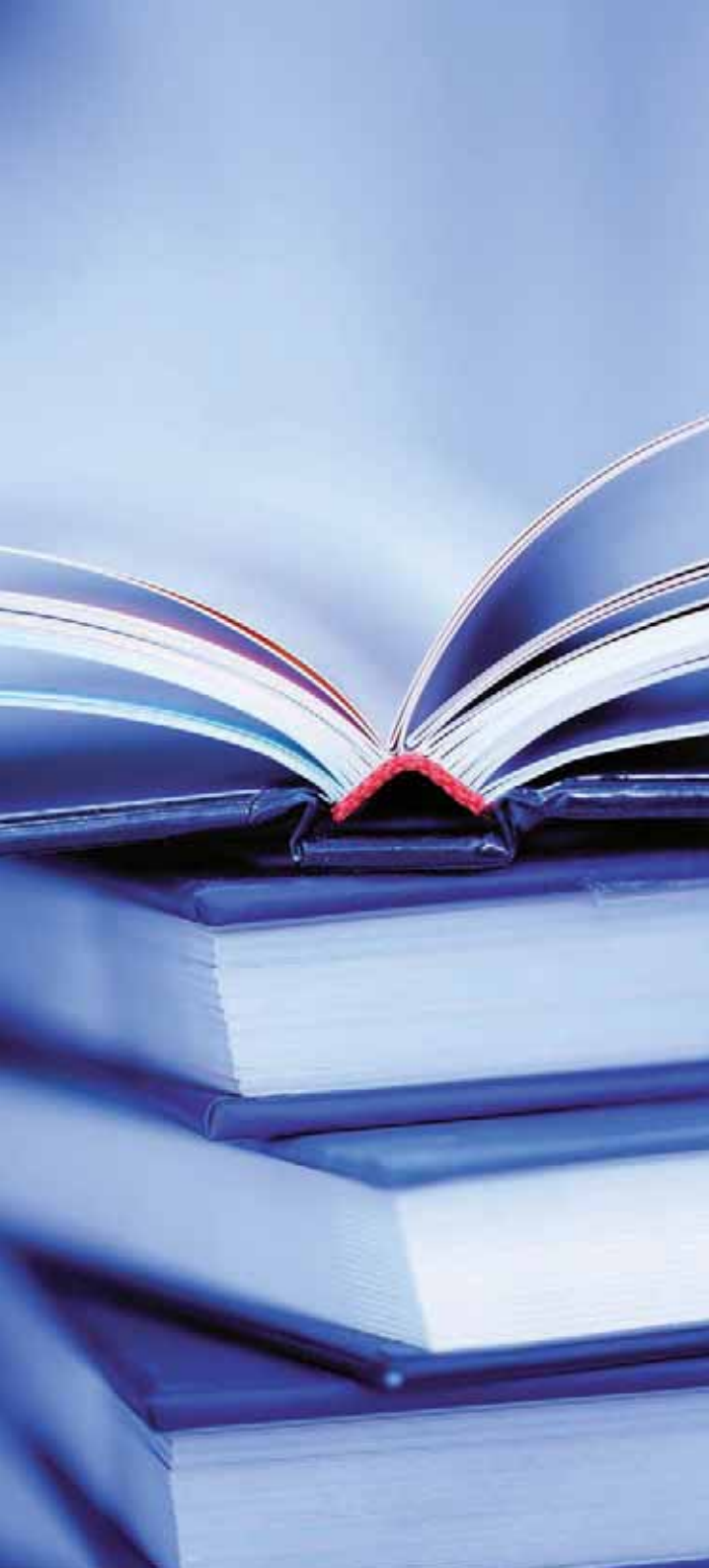
Age Structure of Employees





Number of Employees





Courses and Education

The education of CZSO employees was based on the individual personal development goals set in the employee evaluation. The newly created requirements of managers/superiors were operationally added to the Education Plan. All educational events were aimed at deepening the education of employees in areas that are important for the performance of their work/service tasks. Due to the unfavourable epidemic situation in the Czech Republic, educational activities in 2021 were limited to or replaced by online teaching or e-learning. In 2021, the CZSO organised many professional statistical courses, specialised statistical studies, training in the field of computer technology, courses for field workers, activities related to the implementation of the CSA, short-term professional courses, language courses, the training aimed at the development of managers, courses within the framework of the Implementation of Quality Management System in the CZSO project, educational events related to preparation for the presidency, etc.



In 2021, 268 educational events/courses were organised (including activities related to the implementation of the CSA, preparation for the 2022 Presidency and conferences), in which 3,082 people participated. The courses took place face-to-face, online, through e-learning or another form of distance education. Approximately one-fifth of the courses (including activities related to the implementation of the CSA) were taught by CZSO employees. For special professional training, employees were sent to training companies outside the CZSO or completed it by distance learning. Seven employees took part in courses abroad.

As part of the implementation of the CSA, support was provided to employees who were preparing for the civil service exams. Last year, employees were offered a question and test simulator for the general part of exams and a video recording of face-to-face training to prepare for the special part of the exams. For service branch No 54, the State Statistical Service, the civil service exam was held on 13 dates and was passed by 48 CZSO employees and four participants from other departments.

Course Type	Number of Participants ¹⁾
Short-term professional course ²⁾	2,946
Long-term course	11
Language courses	125
In total	3,082

¹⁾ Incl. external participants

²⁾ Educational events shorter than 5 days, incl. conferences and activities related to the implementation of the CSA and preparation for the 2022 Presidency

In 2021, the Unit for Personnel Training and Fund for Cultural and Social Needs managed funds in the amount of approx. CZK 2,058,000, while each employee attended an average of approx. 2.2 courses. Expenses for the education of one employee amounted to approx. CZK 1,500. ■



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FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

In 2021, the financial management of the CZSO was significantly affected by the realisation of the 2021 Census project. Of the CZSO's total expenditures, personnel expenditures amounted to CZK 1,076 million (47%), material expenditures to CZK 1,108 million (49%) and capital expenditures to CZK 97 million (4%). Compared to 2020, total expenditures were CZK 484 million higher, mainly due to the 2021 Census project cost.



Expenditure

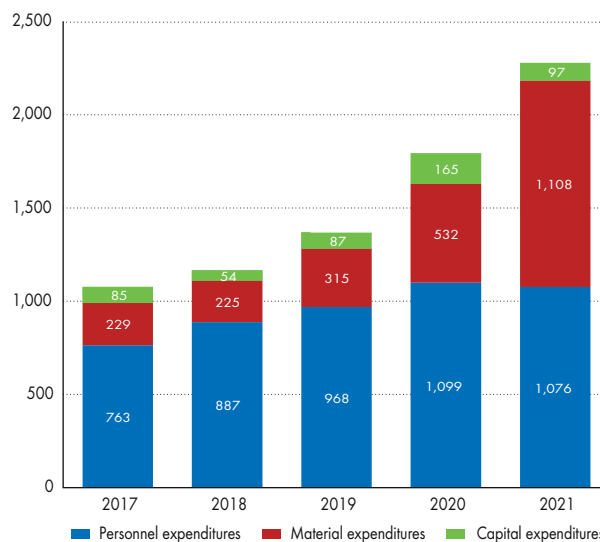
Material expenditures were CZK 576 million higher in 2021 compared to 2020. Of this, material expenditures for the operation and activities of the CZSO were higher by CZK 12 million, the use of funds for the 2021 Census raised by CZK 576 million and election expenditures decreased by CZK 13 million. In material expenditures, the purchase of services represented the most significant volume of CZK 1,035 million (93%), mainly the payment of expenses of Česká pošta, s.p. in connection with horizontal cooperation in the realisation of the 2021 Census project.

The use of capital expenditures in 2021 was CZK 69 million lower than in 2020. The 2021 Census project also had the largest share in capital expenditures (CZK 34 million, 35%), particularly the development of the Census Information System module and other systems supporting the 2021 Census, including necessary hardware.

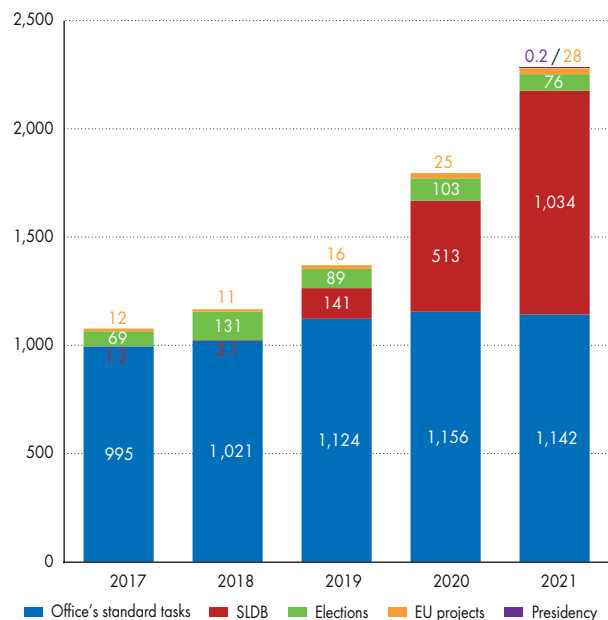
The Office's total expenditures in 2021 were related to ensuring the fulfilment of the standard tasks of the State Statistical Service (50%) and to the realisation of the most significant statistical project of the decade, the 2021 Census (45%). The use of funds was also influenced by holding elections to self-governing territorial units and regular elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic (3%). Expenditures

on EU projects amounted to 1% of total expenditures, of which the most significant in terms of volume were projects under the Community Statistical Programme and projects funded through the Operational Programme Employment. Since 2020, the item Presidency of the Czech Republic in the Council of the EU in the second half of 2022 has also been added (0.01% in 2021).

Expenditure by Type



Expenditure according to Purpose



Operations and Activities of the CZSO

In 2021, the CZSO spent CZK 1,142 million for standard operations, of which personnel expenditures amounted to CZK 889 million (78%), material expenditures CZK 194 million (17%) and capital expenditures CZK 59 million (5%).

Material expenditures were CZK 12 million higher than in 2020. This difference was mainly influenced by higher fees for the use of computer programmes due to the change in the Microsoft licensing policy in the CZSO (transition to Office 365) in 2021. The higher amounts compared to 2020 were spent on purchasing the Enterprise Architect, Adobe Acrobat Std., Irfanview licenses and extending the EIS JASU – SEPA licenses and other payments, such as upgrading the communication infrastructure, ODAC Professional Edition licenses, Vmware licenses and new DellNetworker licenses.

Capital expenditures were lower by CZK 24 million compared to 2020, when large amounts were used to modernise the CZSO's data centre. In 2021, the realisation of the Administrative Business Register (ROS) project and further modification of basic registers continued. The reduction in capital expenditures of some actions in IS EDS/SMVS was also due to the non-completion of some tenders in 2021 or the postponement of the implementation of actions until 2022.

2021 Census

A reported budget of CZK 1,034 million was spent on the 2021 Census; of this, CZK 868 million (84%) for material expenditures, CZK 132 million (13%) for personnel expenditures, and CZK 34 million (3%) for capital expenditures. The highest amount of funding was spent for the purchase of services, the largest share being the reimbursement of expenses of Česká pošta,



s. p. in the amount of CZK 708 million. Capital expenditures were primarily used for programme modifications of the Census Information System module applications and other IT systems, modernisation of the communication infrastructure and renewal of application servers for the census project.

Elections

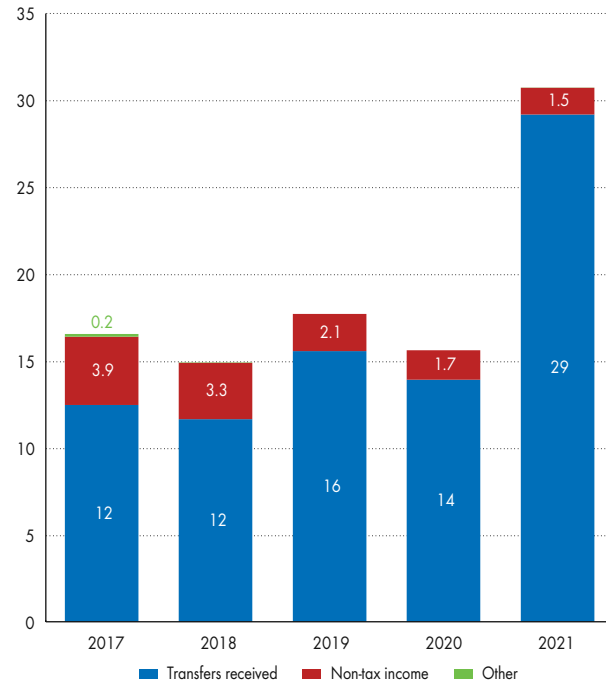
In 2021, regular and new elections were held on five dates. These were new elections to municipal councils and regular elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic. A total of CZK 76 million was used up. Mainly personnel expenditures were financed (CZK 35 million, 46%). Material expenditures (CZK 37 million, 49%) were related to purchasing electronic communications services and programming and analytical work, energy, travel and other services to ensure the processing of election results. Capital expenditures (CZK 4 million, 6%) were spent on developing the application equipment software base, modernising the communication infrastructure, acquiring communication and mobile technologies, and renewing application servers for elections.

Presidency of the Czech Republic in the Council of the EU in the second half of 2022

In the preparatory period, funds of CZK 1.3 million were allocated to the draft budget of the CZSO for 2021, mainly for personnel expenditures and foreign travel. A total

of CZK 167,000 was used up. Unspent funds have been transferred to claims from unspent expenditures and will be used for the stated purpose in 2022.

Income structure of the CZSO (in millions of CZK)





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Programmes co-financed from abroad

With the participation of the EU, the CZSO financed three projects of the Operational Programme Employment in the amount of CZK 5 million. In addition, the CZSO financed Community Programme projects in the total amount of CZK 20 million. Twinning out missions and study visits were financed by EU funds of CZK 3 million. A total of CZK 28 million was spent on projects co-financed by the EU in 2021, of which CZK 21 million came from EU funds.

Income

The CZSO also achieved higher income than in previous years due to receiving transfers from the EU budget for the realisation of projects. The amount and structure of income and their development over time are shown in the previous graph.

Non-tax income from own activities amounted to CZK 1.1 million. The most significant part of it has traditionally been the sale of RES data, followed by the processing of more demanding orders to the information services of the CZSO and the provision of microdata for scientific and research purposes. This income is gradually decreasing year on year. The reason is the reduction of product prices, the accessibility of data in electronic form as part of a web presentation, and the increasing number of data sets published in an open format. You can find more detailed information about the financial management of the CZSO at: [Závěrečný účet | ČSÚ \(czso.cz\)](#). ■



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SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Social responsibility is one of the fundamental pillars of the activities of the Czech Statistical Office as a central administrative authority and a large employer. The following report on activities in the area of social responsibility corresponds to the structure recommended by the relevant standard ISO 26000. It is also supplemented with a graphic indication of the appropriate sustainable development goals that the Office's activities support.



Social Responsibility and Official Statistics

The mission of the CZSO is to provide official statistics on the social, economic, demographic and environmental development of the Czech Republic and their parts for fact-based decision-making. By its very existence and activity, the Office performs a role directly linked to the social responsibility agenda. Official statistics serve as a basis for the most important decisions at the highest level. They are also a measure of the success of decisions already made, thus fulfilling the role of a timely and independent barometer of our advanced democratic society. As part of its mandate, the CZSO has long-term maintained a high level of trust in the Czech society compared to other public sector institutions (according to a June 2021 survey, 64% of the Czech population trusted the CZSO). It is an outstanding achievement but also a responsibility.

Role of the Czech Statistical Office in the Sustainable Development Agenda

In its activities, the CZSO respects and at the same time participates in the promotion of sustainable development principles, which cannot be evaluated without objective statistical data. Based on a government resolution, the Office coordinates the collection of data for the UN set of indicators as part of the 2030 Agenda and, at the same time, chairs the inter-ministerial Committee for Indicators of the Government Council for Sustainable Development. As part of the project

Promoting the Principles of Sustainable Development realised in cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Regional Development and the CENIA agency in the period 2018–2023, in addition to filling the sets of indicators for the 2030 Agenda, the CZSO also participates in updating and evaluating the Strategic Framework Czech Republic 2030 as part of the 2030 CR Indicator sets and Quality of Life, which represent a national perspective on the issue of sustainable development. In cooperation with 21 national institutions and several international organisations, it provides crucial input to the Report on the Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals, presented as part of a voluntary national review at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum, and the Report on the Quality of Life and its Sustainability in the Czech Republic.

1. Management and Administration of the Organisation



From the organisational perspective, the system of formally and informally set management mechanisms of the CZSO respects the principles of social and environmental responsibility, openness and ethical behaviour. It stems from knowledge and respect

for stakeholders' interests, the requirements of international treaties and standards, and national legal regulations. The CZSO actively promotes many of these principles even when performing the coordination role within the State Statistical Service of the Czech Republic. The CZSO management also actively supports the participation of employees in activities related to social responsibility.

Activities in 2021:

- For the first time, the CZSO's Report on Social Responsibility became part of the Office's Annual Report for 2021.
- The Strategic Plan of the Czech Statistical Office for 2022–2026 was updated. The aim is, among other things, to improve the relevance and accessibility of official statistics to users, reduce the administrative burden on respondents and become a recommended employer.
- The CZSO actively participated in the project Implementation of Quality Management in Service Offices, the aim of which is, among other things, to improve the management and functioning of the organisation in the areas of strategic management, internal communication, adaptation of employees, administration of internal regulations, process management and innovation.
- A pilot employee satisfaction survey was conducted. Following the survey results, dozens of measures aimed at improving working conditions, benefits and internal communication of the Office were taken.

2. Human Rights



From the organisational perspective, the setting of official and labour-legal relations (including selection procedures) in the CZSO is based on the requirements of legal regulations and international treaties regulating the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. In the specific conditions of the CZSO, individual aspects of the human rights issue are reflected by the Czech Statistical Office as an employer and service office and communicated with employees, primarily through internal regulations and other documents addressed to all employees (e.g. the Ethical Code of Employees of the CZSO, work and organisational rules, internal communication policy, anti-corruption programme, uniform and binding rules for handling petitions, complaints or submissions made through a suggestion box set up for employees). These documents are the starting point and binding standard for all personnel work minimising the risk of discrimination based on gender, persons with disabilities, national, racial or ethnic minorities, members of trade unions, etc.

Activities in 2021:

- In the field of human and employee rights, training courses for employees were provided on the topic of amendments



to the Labour Code, as well as training on conducting selection procedures, human resources and code of administrative procedure.

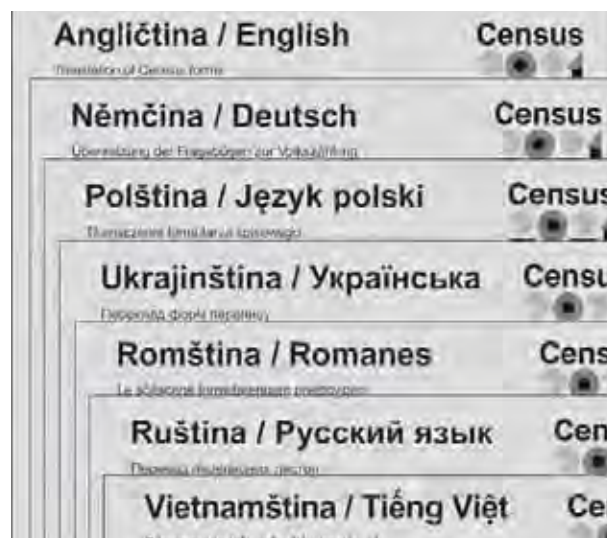
As a producer of official statistics, the CZSO has been providing informational support to the activities of governmental and non-governmental institutions in the field of human rights for a long time. In its role as an expert member, it is involved in the activities of government councils and expert groups on national minorities, disabled citizens, population ageing, gender equality and social inclusion.

It provides available data and documents for assessing the situation and directing measures in these areas, primarily within the framework of sectoral multi-year national strategies for the given areas or on an ad-hoc basis. In the case of a specific survey that the CZSO directly carries out – the Selective Survey of Disabled Persons, representatives of both the professional public and, above all, organisations of the disabled are involved in the preparation of the survey and the dissemination of the results. The CZSO very much welcomes this cooperation and their active involvement.

Activities in 2021:

- As part of the 2021 Census information support, online webinars for persons with disabilities were organised in cooperation with the relevant government committee.

- Addressing national minorities in the Czech Republic as part of information support for the 2021 Census took place in cooperation with the Government Council for Roma Minority Affairs and the Secretariat of the Government Council for National Minorities.
- To support national minorities, the 2021 Census online form was available in seven language variants.
- The scitani.cz web presentation met the accessibility requirements for disadvantaged groups of the population.



3. Practices in the Field of Labour Relations



From the organisational perspective, the working conditions in the CZSO correspond to the requirements of the labour law legislation (including the legislation regulating the conditions of civil servants) and the requirements for health and safety at work. In the field of health and safety at work, regular training and regular checks of compliance with the established rules are carried out with the subsequent implementation of measures for improvement. Societal dialogue is supported by cooperation with the trade union (under the Collective Agreement), including a procedure for early notification and discussion of changes in working conditions. The internal regulations of the CZSO respect, among other things, the principles of equal opportunities and non-discrimination, openness of selection procedures and equal pay for work of equal value. The management of the CZSO actively promotes the reconciliation of employees' work and personal lives. The strategic plan of the CZSO sets as one of the goals the active professional education of employees and the enabling of versatile professional realisation and professional development, which is supported by the system of education. Educational courses in the field of statistics are regularly organised (e.g. on the European Statistics Code of Practice, basic training for the bodies of the State Statistical

Service, professional statistical courses, etc.). Special attention is paid to the issue of personal data processing following the relevant legal regulations. In the area of personal data protection, regular trainings for new employees are held, both face-to-face and through e-learning, as well as individual educational workshops. Following the principle of responsibility (a comprehensive system for ensuring compliance with the GDPR), continuous checks of compliance with the established rules are conducted with the subsequent implementation of measures for improvement. The CZSO promotes the employment of persons with disabilities (fulfilment of the mandatory share according to the Employment Act is implemented by employing persons with disabilities in combination with purchasing services and products from suppliers with disabilities).

You can find more information about activities in HR and education in the Human Resource Management chapter.

Activities in 2021:

Benefits:

- Introduction of a standard option for the Office employees to perform civil service/work from another location (Home Office). The working conditions of employees working from home have been specified, taking into account health and safety at work.



- Completion of the reconstruction of the recreation facility for employees in Lipno (enhancement of comfort for the summer season and preparation of the pilot winter season).
- Improvement of conditions for reconciling work and family life (possibility of earlier return of employees from parental leave) as a result of the establishment and pilot year of operation of the Children's Group at the CZSO headquarters.



- Provision of a room intended for relaxation and exercising of employees at the CZSO headquarters. The offer of the possibility of implementing similar projects leading to the improvement of the working environment was also provided for regional workplaces.
- Preparation for the introduction of electronic benefit cards following the requirements of employees identified in the employee survey.

Education:

- Expanding possibilities of participation in educational events through distance learning. Electronised driver's training courses.
- Conducting educational courses within the project Implementation of Quality Management in Service Offices and in preparation for the 2022 Presidency of the Council of the EU.
- Implementation of the next course of statistics as a post-graduate specialisation.

Health:

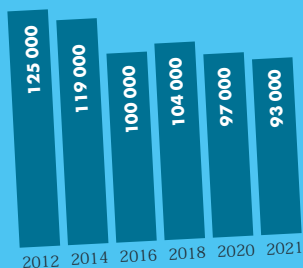
- Fitness exercises for employees and courses for field workers on how to behave in crisis situations of physical assault were held.

Working environment:

- Well-designed information brochures were prepared for the purpose of streamlining the adaptation of new employees upon joining the CZSO.

MASOPUST

ZABÍJAČKY (kusy prasat)



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JITRNICE (2020)

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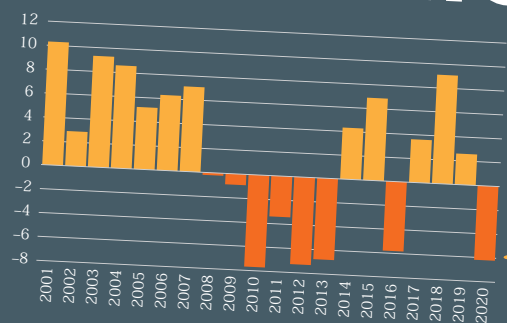
Vyrobena
v Poděštině



SPOTŘEBA
MASA CELKEM
(2020)

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kg/os/rok

STAVEBNICTVÍ



VÝVOJ STA-
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změny, v%



VODA



DĚLKA
VODNÍCH TOKŮ

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2020



VODNÍ
PLOCHY

167 tis. ha

2021



- Four exhibitions were organised in the publicly accessible premises of the CZSO in Prague, at which the CZSO presented author photos by employees from an in-house photo contest, infographics with the results of the Mini-Census project and infographics with the results of statistical surveys.
- The next stage of replacing desktop workstations with laptops took place with the aim of enabling employees to work from home.
- The meeting rooms were equipped with new technology to organise video conference calls and ensure cooperation across all regional administrations and with abroad.
- The internal and external network was strengthened to speed up communication and support work with cloud tools and applications.
- Systems were prepared to use single sign-on (SSO) for the vast majority of applications used at the CZSO while maintaining the required level of security.

Data protection:

- Many procedures, processes and information systems related to protecting personal data were successfully implemented as part of the 2021 Census project.
- The document Personal Data Protection Impact Assessment was compiled for data processing to fulfil the goals of the eGovernment Cloud project (the Information Concept of the Czech Republic approved by the government), as well as in the area of processing cookies and external web analytics services.



4. Environment



From the organisational perspective, when awarding public contracts or making purchases, the CZSO consistently takes into account the principles of environmental responsibility (especially the purchases of furniture, office computers, cleaning products or vehicles) in combination with the principles of economy, usefulness and effectiveness embedded in the management of public funds. The CZSO systematically supports the electronisation of communication with respondents (i.e. reporting) and statistical data users (limiting the number of printed publications). The CZSO has introduced waste sorting at all workplaces, of which there are several dozen throughout the Czech Republic. The CZSO Regional Office in Ústí nad Labem has a vermicomposter for biological waste processing. Also, in the case of unnecessary property disposal, it systematically requires confirmation that it was disposed of in an eco-friendly way. As part of the vehicle operation, it consistently monitors and optimises fuel consumption. During the operation of the buildings, it uses the available financial resources to renew the lighting installations towards a more economical solution. The printers' fast printing and document copying modes are set directly to black and white printing to reduce the demands for materials. Double-sided printing is recommended. Reports of printer usage according to various criteria (including by users) are available.

Activities in 2021:

- Modernisation projects for buildings in Prague, Brno, and Zlín were being prepared using the innovative service of guaranteed energy savings (Energy Performance Contracting – EPC) with a total value of approx. CZK 300 million. The largest project in the Prague headquarters envisages, for example, the introduction of cooling and forced ventilation, insulation of the facade and roof, photovoltaic elements, windows replacement, motion sensors in corridors, smart energy regulation or recovery of data centre waste heat. The CZSO project in Prague was given Honourable Mention in the tenth year of the competition for the Best Upcoming Energy Saving Project.
- The total volume of external and internal printing in 2021, expressed by the number of A4 printed pages, decreased compared to the previous year for both black and white (23%) and colour (9%) printing. A total of 1,311,236 black and white and 3,788,344 colour A4 pages were printed. The number of first editions of publications decreased by 3% to 16,599 pieces.
- The CZSO Regional Office in Ústí nad Labem organised a campaign to donate items and raise money for the Falco Rescue Station in Dolní Týnec (Litoměřice district), where medical supplies, feed and hygiene items were delivered. The Office also financially supported the Laguna Rescue Station for exotic parrots.

As a producer of official statistics, the CZSO also provides informational support for the activities of governmental and non-governmental institutions in the field of environmental protection. It participates in all domestic and international activities (Eurostat, UN, UNECE) to set a framework for monitoring sustainable development. In the area of the environment, the CZSO fulfils the role of the State Statistical Service with all the obligations arising from that. It participates in meetings at national and international levels (Eurostat, UN) - e.g. Working Group (WG) on Environmental accounts (Eurostat), WG on Monetary environmental statistics and accounts (Eurostat), WG on Water Statistics (Eurostat), Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Climate Change-related Statistics (UNECE) and Expert Group on Environment Statistics (UN). For more information on activities within the environment and waste statistics, see the Production Statistics chapter.

Activities in 2021:

- The CZSO continued its activities within the project Mechanisms to promote the principles of sustainable development in state administration (PUDR) of the Ministry of the Environment.
- The CZSO participated in the 5th Expert Meeting and Workshop on Statistics on Sustainable Development Goals (UNECE), the WG Sustainable development and Europe 2020 Indicators (Eurostat) and the 12th meeting of the IAEG-SDG (UN).

- The CZSO participated in the international conference Accounting and Reporting for Sustainable Development and presented contributions to sustainable development and environmental accounting.

5. Ethics



Within the remit of the CZSO, the ethical standards for the performance of the State Statistical Service contained in the Ethical Code of Employees of the CZSO stem from the requirements of legal regulations common to all civil servants. Beyond this framework, the standards of professional independence, impartiality, objectivity, reliability and confidentiality of the State Statistical Service, enshrined in the Regulation on European Statistics and described in detail in the European Statistics Code of Practice, are also established here. This issue is part of the initial training for new employees. The CZSO promotes these principles even in performing the role of coordinator of the State Statistical Service in the Czech Republic. The CZSO organises methodological days and workshops for partner workplaces of the State Statistical Service at ministries (focused on the performance of the State Statistical Service and the European Statistics Code of Practice) and creates uniform methodologies for them.



Activities in 2021:

- In cooperation with the workplaces of the State Statistical Service of the Czech Republic, preparations have begun for the 3rd round of Peer Review, i.e. the independent audit of the State Statistical Service in the field of meeting the requirements of the European Statistics Code of Practice, which will take place in 2023.

From the organisational perspective, the CZSO implemented measures resulting from the action plan to combat corruption (Anti-Corruption Programme of the CZSO), Act on Conflict of Interests and the subsequent internal regulation or the rules for transparent awarding of public contracts with a clear preference for open tenders and disclosure of contractual relationships in the relevant register. Last but not least, the CZSO, as a large employer, also fulfils the requirements of the Employment Act in the area of supporting persons with disabilities, if possible, in the form of direct employment of these persons (and if this is not possible, by purchasing the services and products of suppliers employing them).

Activities in 2021:

- The process of adopting measures related to the reporting of suspected illegal acts has been introduced in the CZSO in connection with Directive (EU) 2019/1937 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2019 on the protection of persons who report breaches of Union law.

- The participation of CZSO representatives at the conference Public Procurement in the Flood of Legislation 2022 and People and Work: Ethical and Social Challenges of Today.
- The head of the CZSO's Public Contracts Unit received the 2021 Business Lawyer award in the category of Public Procurement and Competition.

6. Protection of Users



Following the Dissemination Policy, the CZSO provides all statistical information free of charge and in such a way that all users have equal access to it. Statistical information is formulated and presented while respecting the Office's independence, impartiality and objectivity. It forms partnerships with state and scientific institutions in their production and dissemination. The primary tool for publishing statistics is the Office's web presentation, which offers everyone the same conditions and supports sustainability in material consumption. The CZSO applies a distinctly pro-customer approach and operates a network of information service workplaces at the headquarters and in all regions. It prepares

statistical information in such a way as to gradually expand the number of data sets transmitted not only in metadata SDMX format for Eurostat but also in open data formats for the public. Under the strategic plan of the CZSO, it implements activities to increase the public's statistical literacy, promote the use of statistics for decision-making and organises lectures for students. The CZSO is actively involved in the EMOS – European Master in Official Statistics programme implemented by the University of Economics. It cooperates with and supports professional organisations such as the Czech Demographic Society and the Czech Statistical Society. CZSO experts give lectures as part of teaching in the academic sphere. The CZSO actively investigates the needs of users, provides methodological support and publishes detailed information on data quality. It actively develops the user-friendliness of web presentation tools using modern technologies and takes into account the needs of accessibility for people with disabilities. When processing users' personal data as part of its activities, it respects the legal framework.

For more information on user relations activities, see the Products and Services chapter or the Communications chapter.

Activities in 2021:

User relations:

- During the covid-19 pandemic, telephone and e-mail communication was prioritised to protect users' health. Personal contacts took place under strict hygiene measures.

- During the 2021 Census, comprehensive information support was designed and implemented, including the provision of a virtual switchboard and the operation of CZSO Contact Points at regional workplaces.
- As part of the information support for users and respondents, the Virtual Counselling ChatBot was put into operation on the CZSO website. Together with the new telephone switchboard using an automatic voice system, it allows answering as many queries as possible from users even outside office hours.
- Changes in waste statistics were actively communicated (discussions on methodological issues of waste statistics with a focus on the registration of municipal waste production or participation in a workshop organised by the Chamber of Deputies on the methodology of waste statistics).
- The CZSO started providing data from the Statistical Business Register (RES) in the form of open data.
- A significant success was achieved in implementing the INSPIRE Directive, which imposes the obligation to maintain existing or newly created spatial data and services. Within the regular evaluation of implementation of this directive by the European Commission, the Czech Republic ranked first in the EU in 2020–2021. The activities of the CZSO, which during the implementation of the directive creates and provides harmonised data to the infrastructure for the topics of Statistical (territorial) units and Population distribution – demography, are considered in the EU as an example of good practice in the field of integration of spatial and statistical data.



Minisčítání



- In the area of user personal data protection, the Cookies policy has been modified and the use of Google Analytics has been withdrawn.
- The regional offices of the CZSO held two dozen presentations, especially for schools and universities.
- There were also presentations at workshops as part of the Implementation of Ageing Policy, and Concept of Family Policy on Regional Level projects put into practice by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.
- Information contracts were implemented to create analyses of the sustainable development of regions, concepts of educational system, social services, tourism development, monitoring of the implementation and preparation of regional development programmes, strategic development plans and estimates of the future development of the population of territorial units, for projects in the field of family policy and ageing policies etc.

Communication:

- Besides the Census, 16 press conferences were held with presentations of CZSO data for journalists and the professional public.
- The results of the 5th year of the entertainment-educational Mini-Census project, which introduced children aged 9-15 to the importance of statistics and the upcoming census, were published. In total, 1,593 classes from 298 schools participated in the 2020 Mini-Census, and 18,833 respondents filled out online questionnaires with 21 questions.



- In the 19th year of the Golden Semicolon corporate media competition, organised annually by the industry association PR Klub, in June 2021, the magazine Statistika & My won sixth place in the External Printed Magazine and Newspaper category. In the Fénix Content Marketing competition, it was rated third in the B2B Magazine category.
- The visual style of the 2021 Population and Housing Census created by Jan Moucha was the winner of the Design – Corporate category in the advertising creativity competition, ADC Czech Creative Awards, and of the Corporate Identity category in the World Logo Design Awards competition. It was placed second in the Creative Design Award category in the World Brand Design Society Award competition.

- The 2021 Census Contact Centre project won third place in the Operational Effectiveness Awards category, Best Cross-Functional Collaboration subcategory in the ECCCSA 2021 international competition of contact centres.

7. Community Engagement and Development



From the organisational perspective, the CZSO, in accordance with legal regulations when awarding public contracts or making purchases, takes into account the principles of social responsibility (in particular, inflation clauses, clauses to compensate the minimum wage, consideration of facultative compensation) in combination with the principles of economy, usefulness and effectiveness enshrined in the framework of the management of public funds. It actively implements awareness-raising, educational and charity events supporting the development of statistical literacy and other ways of expressing the social responsibility of the CZSO as an organisation. The CZSO is the contact point for registering for the European Statistical Training Programme (ESTP) courses. It provides internships for domestic and international students, including within the EMOS study programme in cooperation with the University of Economics.

Aktivita v roce 2021:

- In March 2021, the winners of the national round of the international competition for the best statistical poster, organised by the Czech Statistical Office in cooperation with the University of Economics in Prague, were announced. A total of 482 students in 171 teams from 20 schools participated in the national round of the competition.
- On the occasion of the celebration of the European Day of Statistics (October 20), the CZSO prepared an interactive quiz on its Instagram profile, in which followers could test their knowledge of various fields





of statistics. Visitors to the CZSO Headquarters in Prague could see the exhibition made up of popular infographics.

- In December 2021, the charity project Tree of Fulfilled Wishes took place in Prague and Ústí nad Labem. CZSO employees supported children from the Litoměřice and Ústí nad Labem Children's Homes and the residents of the Centre for Women and Mothers with Children in Need in Prague 10. The employees also made their donations to the Endowment Fund for premature babies and their families.
- The CZSO Regional Office in Ústí nad Labem collects used clothing for the children's home, care centres and Charita CR.
- As part of its support for electric vehicles, the CZSO temporarily included an electric car in its corporate fleet thanks to the ČEZ Elektromobilita programme, in which the Office participated.

Within its scope of activities, the CZSO, as a producer of official statistics, participates in meetings and provides data support for the actions of government councils and working groups. It is a member of the Government Council for Sustainable Development, the Waste Management Council or, for example, the Waterworks and Sewerage Committee. It actively develops reciprocal cooperation with the academic sphere and professional scientific societies.



The Office also offers development assistance to other statistical offices by implementing projects at the international level. Following its strategy, it actively reduces the scope of reporting and the burden on respondents by analysing the needs of the primary users and using modern selection methods and intelligent grossing-up and modelling techniques. The CZSO uses all available and appropriate administrative and other data sources. The CZSO currently makes use of more than a hundred such sources. It promotes sharing data already provided to the state for statistical purposes. It proactively digitises the collection of data in businesses and households. In the field of providing statistical information it builds close partnership relations with the state administration and other institutions. The Administrative Business Register (ROS), which the CZSO manages, also contributes significantly to reducing



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the overall administrative burden in the Czech Republic. ROS is part of the system of basic registers and provides reference data for almost 200 different public administration agendas. Clients thus do not have to document these data repeatedly.

Activities in 2021:

Reducing the administrative burden:

- Analyses of changes in administrative data from the General Financial Directorate regarding income tax returns continued which will make a more comprehensive database available to the CZSO and allow reducing not only the range of respondents but also the scope of reporting.
- There is a continuous development of integration tools, meta-data management, data repositories and their presentation layers, which streamline the processing and enable more efficient use of available data between respective statistical areas, statistical registers and administrative data.
- The CZSO continued to expand the use of administrative data sources for the creation of RES as part of the implementation of Regulation No 2152/2019 of the European Parliament and of the Council, which established the obligation to provide data on corporate bankruptcies. Cooperation was established with the insolvency register of the Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic, which provides the required data in full without the need to carry out additional statistical investigations.

- Work was underway to expand the list of data provided by ROS to include a contact phone number and a contact email in accordance with Section 10 of Act No 12/2020 Sb, on the Right to Digital Services.

National cooperation:

- Memoranda on Cooperation with the CENIA agency and Cooperation in Waste Statistics with the Ministry of the Environment were signed.
- Representatives of the CZSO Regional Offices in Pardubice, Jihlava, České Budějovice, for the Středočeský Region and in Zlín directly participated in the meetings of regional platforms for regional projects of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.
- The representative of the CZSO Regional Office in Plzeň regularly participated in the negotiations of the Pact of Employment and Tripartite in the Plzeň Region.
- The representative of the CZSO Regional Office in Ústí nad Labem worked in the operational group for the development of the Elbe/Labe Euroregion.

International cooperation:

- The CZSO provided technical assistance to North Macedonia in the area of government statistics and banking and insurance statistics and to the statisticians from Turkey who completed a study visit to the CZSO in the area of quarterly national accounts. The technical assistance to Georgia in the field of tourism satellite account ended with success. ■



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