

NEWS RELEASE

13 June 2022

February 22 was extremely attractive for marriages**Additional information to NR Population change – 1st quarter of 2022**

The **population** of the Czech Republic increased from 10.517 million (on 1 January) to 10.520 million (on 31 March), by 3.2 thousand. The population growth was due to a positive balance of international migration, which offset and exceeded the decrease in natural change. Although it was 2.5 times lower than in previous year (–7.6 thousand in 2022 vs. –19.1 thousand in the first quarter of 2021), it was nevertheless deeper compared to the first quarters before the outbreak of the covid-19 pandemic.

The number of live **births** during the first quarter reached 24.2 thousand, 3.5 thousand fewer than in the same period of 2021. The increase in the number of births recorded in 2021, after the previous three-year decline, seems to be temporary. There were 11.2 thousand (46%) first-born children, 9.3 thousand (38%) second-born children and 3.8 thousand (16%) children of higher birth order. The children born in all birth orders decreased year-on-year, with the lowest decrease in the third and higher order. Proportion of live births outside marriage increased from 48.5 to 50.3% year-on-year. This figure exceeded level of one-half for the first time.

The number of **deaths** from the beginning of January to the end of March this year reached 31.9 thousand, with the relatively similar monthly numbers of deaths (11.0 thousand in January, 10.3 thousand in February and 10.6 thousand in March). Compared to the average from 2015–2019, the number of deaths was slightly above average (by 3–4%), which is partly due to changes in the age structure of the population when the strong cohorts born in the 1940s are entering the age of higher mortality. Within the five-year age groups, the most deaths were recorded between the people aged 75–79 years, as well as for men, while the highest number of deceased women were at the age of 85–89. A total of 59 children died within one year of age, similarly to a year earlier, and infant mortality was slightly higher year-on-year (2.4‰).

During the first quarter of 2022, 4.2 thousand couples entered into **marriage**, and more than half of them, 2.2 thousand, got married in February. Another more than 1.2 thousand marriages took place in March and the fewest (0.8 thousand) in January. As in previous years, fiancés was attracted by numerically attractive calendar dates. This year, the palindromic (symmetrical) date of 22 February 2022 was clearly the most attractive. This Tuesday, 1,080 couples got married, while on the second-highest frequent day for marriage – Saturday 12 February 2022 – ‘only’ 283 couples got married. The third was Saturday 22 January 2022. Most grooms were aged 28–33 years, most brides were aged 27–31 years. A total of 62% of the couple married for the first marriage, for the remaining 38% it was already their second or further marriage.

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Tab. Population change in the 1st quarter by month

	2022			2021			2020		
	I	II	III	I	II	III	I	II	III
Marriages	782	2 211	1 249	758	1 138	1 028	889	2 306	647
Live births	8 434	7 567	8 231	9 305	8 856	9 602	9 330	8 586	8 830
Deaths	10 965	10 306	10 593	16 211	13 820	16 789	10 226	9 802	10 219
Natural increase	-2 531	-2 739	-2 362	-6 906	-4 964	-7 187	-896	-1 216	-1 389
Net migration	3 783	3 360	3 695	3 053	3 848	5 671	467	2 360	1 620
Total increase	1 252	621	1 333	-3 853	-1 116	-1 516	-429	1 144	231

According to data taken from administrative sources of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, a total of 19.2 thousand persons immigrated to the Czech Republic during the first three months of the year, by 0.8 thousand more than in the same period of 2021. In contrast, the termination of the stay in the Czech Republic was recorded for 8.3 thousand persons, which represented a year-on-year increase of 2.6 thousand. The **balance of international migration** reached 10.8 thousand persons, which was 1.7 thousand lower year-on-year. Almost two-thirds of the net migration was due to cross-border migration of Ukrainian citizens (6.9 thousand), who dominated both among immigrants (9.3 thousand; 49% of all immigrants) and emigrants (2.4 thousand; 29% of the total). The citizens of Slovakia had the second highest net migration (0.9 thousand), and the citizens of Russia the third (0.8 thousand). */These figures do not include persons granted temporary protection in connection with the war in Ukraine (see table 2 in NR)./*

Notes:

All data for 2022 are preliminary.

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Related publication:

*130062-22 Population of the Czech Republic – 1st quarter of 2022
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