12 June 2015

Population change – 1st quarter 2015

Population decreased due to higher number of deaths

Population of the Czech Republic decreased by 0.5 thousand to 10,537.8 thousand during the first three months of 2015. The balance of net migration, although positive (4.5 thousand), did not outnumber the decrease caused by natural change (-4.9 thousand). The number of live births (26.3 thousand) did not change in the year-on-year comparison, but the number of deaths significantly increased (to 31.2 thousand). In the comparison with January-March period of 2014 the number of marriages, divorces and abortions was lower this year.

According to the preliminary statistical balance the population of the Czech Republic decreased by 457 persons to 10,537.8 thousand from 1 January to 31 March 2015. The balance of natural change had a negative impact on the number of inhabitants, which decreased during the first quarter; the number of live births was by 4.9 thousand lower than the number of deaths. The balance of net migration remained in the positive numbers (4.5 thousand), but did not compensate the loss of natural change.

In the first quarter of 2015 according to the preliminary data there were a total of 26.3 thousand **live births**; it was the same number as in the previous year. In the year-on-year comparison the number of live births born to single mothers increased slightly (+283) and married women gave birth to children less (-261). The share of children born outside marriage increased to 47.5%; in the year 2014 it was in the total 46.7%. The most children were born to women at age 30, i.e. women with the year of birth 1984.

During the first three months the number of **deaths** was significantly higher than in the same period a year earlier. A total of deaths were 31.2 thousand, by 4.5 thousand more than in the year 2014. However, the number of deaths in the previous year was exceptionally low. In the year-on-year comparison the most significant increase was in 85-89 years age group (+1.1 thousand). In older age groups (over 90 years) the number of deaths increased more than one third, reflecting higher mortality. Up to the end of March the total number of deaths of children aged less than one year was 62. Infant mortality rate did not change in comparison with the year 2014: during January-March period it was 2.4 out of 1,000 live births.

A total of 3.3 thousand of **marriages** were entered into in the first three months of 2015; it was by 0.6 thousand fewer than in the same period in the previous year. Approximately two-thirds of them were concluded by single men and women and one third by divorced. The most common age for grooms was 30 and for brides 27.

The Czech courts issued 6.0 thousand decisions about **divorces** during the first three months of 2015. It was by 0.7 thousand fewer than in the previous year. In half of the cases the petitioner of divorce was a woman, in less than 30 percent it was a man and in one-fifth it was a joint petition. Classified to five-year duration groups, the highest number of divorces was noticed after 5 - 9 years of marriage. A total of 3.4 thousand divorces (56.9%) terminated marriages with minors.

According to the preliminary and not yet complete data a total of 9.0 thousand **abortions** were registered in the first three months of 2015; it was by 0.9 thousand fewer than a year before. Almost all year-on-year decline was caused by the decrease of induced abortions, which were in a total 5.2 thousand (by 0.8 thousand fewer than a year before). The number of spontaneous abortions was 3.6 thousand. The share of spontaneous abortions in the total number of abortions reached 39.5%, in total in the year 2014 it was 37.5%.

According to the preliminary data 10.8 thousand people immigrated from abroad to the Czech Republic and 6.3 thousand people emigrated from the Czech Republic in January-March period of 2015. The balance of **net migration** was positive at the level of 4.5 thousand; it was by 2.9 thousand fewer than in the first quarter in 2014. The immigrants were mostly the citizens of Slovakia, Ukraine and Russia. The most frequent emigrants were citizens of Ukraine, the Czech Republic, Russia and Vietnam. The highest migration balance was registered (as in the year 2014) with citizens from Slovakia (1.5 thousand). The second highest migration balance belonged to citizens from Russia (0.5 thousand). The citizens of the United States have the third place (0.4 thousand). The net migration of Czechs was slightly positive (+33), with citizens from Vietnam remained negative (-0.3 thousand).

Notes:

*All data refer to the resident population of the Czech Republic, irrespective of citizenship. Since 2001, the figures include (in accordance with the Population and Housing Census 2001) foreigners with long-term stay (i.e., the stay based on visa over 90 days, as stipulated by Act No. 326/1999 Coll.) and foreigners with granted asylum status (in compliance with Act No. 325/1999 Coll.). Since 1st May 2004, in accordance with amendment No. 326/1999 Coll., the figures include also citizens of the European Union with temporary stay on the territory of the Czech Republic, and citizens of third-countries with long-term stay. The data also contain information on events (marriages, births and deaths) of permanent residents of the Czech Republic that occurred abroad.*

*All data for 2015 are preliminary.*

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Divorces – Information system of the Ministry of the Justice of the CR

Migration data – Information System of Inhabitants Records (Ministry of the Interior of the CR) and Alien Information System (Directorate of Alien Police)

Abortions – Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the CR

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<https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/population-of-the-czech-republic-1-quarter-of-2015>

Next News Release: 11 September 2015

**Annexes:**

Tab. 1 Population (absolute and relative figures, year-to-year changes)

This press release was not edited for language.