12 June 2018

Population change – 1st quarter of 2018

The population growth resulted from the positive net migration

**At the end of March this year, the Czech Republic had a total of 10.613 million inhabitants. From the beginning of the year, the population increased by 3.3 thousand, due to net migration which balance amounted to 7.9 thousand. The number of deaths (31.6 thousand) was higher than the number of live births (27.0 thousand).**

According to the preliminary statistical balance the **population** of the Czech Republic increased by 3.3 thousand to 10 613.4 thousand from 1 January to 31 March 2018. The whole increase was caused by the international migration, which balance amounted to 7.9 thousand persons. The balance of natural change was negative, as the number of deaths exceeded the number of live births by 4.6 thousand.

According to the preliminary data a total of 27.0 thousand **children** were **born alive** during the first three months of 2018, which was by 0.3 thousand less than in the same period a year before. The moderate decrease was noticed in all birth order. The number of children born to married women (13.6 thousand) was slightly lower and the number of children born to unmarried women (13.4 thousand) was stagnating in the year-on-year comparison. The share of live births outside marriage increased to 49.6%, while it was 49.3% in the same period of 2017. The most children were born to women aged 30, the first born children to women aged 27 years.

In the first quarter of 2018, according to the preliminary data there were 31.6 thousand **deaths**. It was by 0.5 thousand less than in the first quarter of 2017. The highest monthly number of deceased people (11.9 thousand) fell on March this year. A total of 15.7 thousand men and 15.8 thousand women died in the first quarter. The average age of women at death was on average seven years higher than age of men (80.0 vs 72.9 years). A total of 89 children died during their first year of life. In comparison with the whole year 2017 the infant mortality rate increased from 2.7 to 3.3‰.

According to the preliminary data a total of 3.4 thousand **marriages** were entered into during the first three months of 2018, by 0.2 thousand fewer than in the same period in the previous year. The half of grooms and brides entered into their first marriage. The second largest group of engaged couples represented the divorced people. Most common grooms were 30 years old and among brides they were aged 27 years.

According to the preliminary data, the Czech courts issued 5.6 thousand decisions about **divorces** in the months of January to March 2018. It was by 0.7 thousand fewer than in the same period in 2017. Four-fifths of men and women were divorced for the first time. The average duration of marriage at divorce was 14.9 year. A total of 60% divorces terminated marriages with minors and 40% without minors.

The balance of **net migration** amounted to 7.9 thousand during the period of January-March 2018 and it was by 2.2 thousand higher than in the same period of 2017. The number of both immigrants and emigrants increased in the year-on-year comparison. A total of 14.1 thousand people immigrated to the Czech Republic from abroad and 6.2 thousand people emigrated from the Czech Republic in the first quarter of 2018. The highest positive migration balance was registered with citizens of Ukraine (2.5 thousand), which accounted for almost one third of the total balance and contributed to the year-on-year growth of the balance by more than four tenths. The second highest migration balance belonged to citizens from Slovakia (1.4 thousand). Then the migration balance of Bulgarian and Romanian nationals (each 0.5 thousand) followed.

Notes:

*All data refer to the resident population of the Czech Republic, irrespective of citizenship. Since 2001 (in relation to the 2001 Population and Housing Census) the data include also foreigners with visa for stay over 90 days (pursuant to the Act No 326/1999 Sb) and foreigners with asylum granted (pursuant to the Act No 325/1999 Sb). Since 1 May 2004, in accordance with the Act No 326/1999 Sb, as amended, data apply also to EU nationals with temporary residence on the territory of the Czech Republic and third- country nationals with long-term residence permit. The data contain also information on events (marriages, births, and deaths) of Czech citizens with the permanent residence in the Czech Republic that occurred abroad.*

*All data for 2018 are preliminary.*

Data on abortions in the first quarter of 2018 are not included due to incomplete d*ata set provided by the Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the CR.*

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Data source: Demographic statistics – results of processing statistical reports of Obyv series

Divorces – Information system of the Ministry of 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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**Annexes:**

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

This press release was not edited for language.