28 June 2024

Population declined back below 10.9 million number

Population change – 1st quarter of 2024

During the first quarter of the year, the population in Czechia decreased by 41 thousand to 10.86 million. The decline was caused not only by the excess of deaths over live births (by 9.2 thousand), but also by the negative balance of international migration (−31.8 thousand). The number of marriages, births and deaths decreased year-on-year.

According to the population balance of the CZSO, the **population** of Czechia as at 31 March included 10.86 million persons. "*At the end of the first quarter of this year, the population of Czechia was 41 thousand lower than at the beginning of the year, thus decreased back below the 10.9 million mark. The population decline was caused mainly by the high number of emigrants, a large part of whom were persons whose granted temporary protection expired at the end of March and did not apply for its prolongation. Thus, international migration ended in the first quarter with a negative balance of −31.8 thousand persons,*" said Michaela Němečková from the Demographic Statistics Unit of the Czech Statistical Office. The number of persons who moved abroad was 62.3 thousand, ten times more than in the first quarter of 2023. The number of immigrants from abroad to Czechia was 30.5 thousand, which was 8.2 thousand less year-on-year, but still representing a double of the average number for the first quarter of 2017–2021.

Figure Population change of 1st quarter of 2023 and 2024


More than one-fifth of the population decline was caused by the excess of deaths over live births. This has been recorded regularly in the first quarter of the year since 2011. The largest (−19 thousand) natural decline was in January-March 2021, while this year there were more deaths than live births by 9.2 thousand during the first quarter. The number of live **births** during January-March reached 20.3 thousand and was lower by 2.6 thousand (or 11%) year-on-year. The highest decrease in the number of births was in the 25–29 age group of women. A total of 47.8% of children were born outside marriage. The number of **deaths** reached 29.5 thousand and was 1.0 thousand (or 3%) lower than in the same period last year.

During the first quarter, a total of 3.2 thousand couples entered into **marriage**; it was 0.8 thousand (or one-fifth) fewer than a year earlier. According to preliminary data, there were 5.0 thousand divorces, of which 2.1 thousand were without minor children at the time of the divorce and 2.9 thousand with a minor child or children.

Notes:

All data refer to citizens of the Czech Republic and foreigners with permanent residence in the Czech Republic, third-country nationals with temporary residence in the territory of the Czech Republic based on a long-term visa (over 90 days) or a permanent residence permit, nationals of the EU Member States, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland, Liechtenstein and their dependants with notified temporary residence in the territory of the Czech Republic and foreigners with valid asylum status in the Czech Republic. Since 2022, the population has included persons granted temporary protection in the Czech Republic with usual residence in the Czech Republic. 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 and were registered by the special registry office in Brno.

All data for 2024 are preliminary.

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*Data source: Demographic statistics – results of processing statistical reports of Obyv series and data from Census Information System*

*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)*

*End of data collection: 20 June 2024*

*Related publication: 130062-24 Population of the Czech Republic – 1st quarter of 2024*

[*https://vdb.czso.cz/vdbvo2/faces/en/index.jsf?page=statistiky&katalog=30845#katalog=34275*](https://vdb.czso.cz/vdbvo2/faces/en/index.jsf?page=statistiky&katalog=30845#katalog=34275)

*Related time series:* [*https://vdb.czso.cz/vdbvo2/faces/en/index.jsf?page=statistiky&katalog=33157*](https://vdb.czso.cz/vdbvo2/faces/en/index.jsf?page=statistiky&katalog=33157)

*Next News Release: 27 September 2024*

Annexes:

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

Chart 1 Population, quarterly data (numbers)

Chart 2 Population change, 1st quarter (numbers)

Chart 3 Live births, quarterly data (numbers)

Chart 4 Deaths, quarterly data (numbers)

Chart 5 Marriages, quarterly data (numbers)

Chart 6 Divorces, quarterly data (numbers)