

24. CRIME AND ACCIDENTS

Data on crime and on traffic accidents were compiled from sources of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic.

The data on registered and solved **criminal offences** (non-indictable offences, indictable offences, and crimes) include also criminal offences at railway and criminal offences registered by the Foreign Police Service. Solved criminal offences include criminal offences committed and solved in the reported year.

General crime includes crimes of violence, sexual crimes, property crimes, frauds, embezzlements, other property crimes, and other criminal offences. Economic crime includes mainly criminal offences in business and financial relations.

Traffic accidents encompass all accidents reported to the Police of the Czech Republic; in 2009 rules for their reporting changed. Numbers of the killed, seriously injured, and slightly injured persons refer to the status within 24 hours of the accident. Property damage includes damage to vehicles, their cargos, or to roads and their equipment.

Drivers who received penalty points are drivers who committed a traffic offence (criminal offence) counted within the penalty point system and therefore accumulated penalty points in their driving licence record. Such a driver thus has at least one point.

Data on **fires and interventions of fire units** were received from source materials of the Fire and Rescue Service of the CR. A **fire** is any undesirable combustion, at which people or animals were killed or injured, or at which property or the environment were damaged. A fire is also any undesirable combustion, which poses an imminent threat to human or animal life, property, or the environment.

A **natural disaster** is a large-scale emergency caused by adversely acting forces and phenomena in a global or a local manner that jeopardise lives, health, property, or the environment, such as floods, spates, heavy rains, influence of snow and icing (ice accretion), windstorms, landslides, and earthquakes.

Natural disasters are registered by means of an attribute always in connection with the type of the emergency the consequences of which were eliminated. This category incorporates mainly events connected with the declaration of a state of emergency, level of flood control activities, etc.

Technical emergencies are interventions in emergencies resulting in removals of dangers or hazardous conditions. The interventions comprise:

- a technical emergency – a removal of dangers or hazardous conditions of a large scale or of huge consequences for health of persons, animals or property (e.g. an imminent building collapse);
- a technical assistance – a removal of dangers or hazardous conditions out of technological operation or plants (excluding traffic accidents). It applies to assistance with equipment of fire units without connection to any technological operation or manufacture (e.g. an extrication of persons or objects, emergency opening, unlocking of locked premises, a rescue of persons and animals; drawing, closing, and delivering of water, temporary or other repairs, and the like);
- a technological assistance – a removal of dangers or hazardous conditions especially in technologies or operations. It applies to assistance with equipment of fire units (e.g. an emergency supply of air, water, electricity; fire assistance, support of efforts to extinguish centres of a forest fire, and the like);
- other assistance – it cannot be classified to the previous categories of technical emergencies. It applies e.g. to taking down, carrying away, or transporting of a patient or a physician, searching for missing persons, monitoring of watercourses, placing of containment booms (scum baffles, scum boards), road capacity (traffic flow) checks, and the like, assistances upon request of another entity (directly or indirectly provided assistance).

Killed persons, total are all killed persons found at the site of fire. The piece of data includes also persons the death of whom provably did not occur in direct connection with fire, e.g. as a result of a heart attack, murder, and the like.

Persons killed in direct connection with fires are persons who died as a result of burns, combustion gas intoxication, and the like as well as persons regarding whom it was impossible to find out whether they have provably died in direct connection with a fire.