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Statistical Yearbook – 2021 released

Today, the Czech Statistical Office released the Statistical Yearbook of the Czech Republic – 2021. On more than 800 pages, the publication brings summary data on the economy, demography, and social sphere in the last year. Since the establishment of an independent state in 1993, it is already the 29th volume of this edition, which is available for free to the users at the [website of the CZSO](https://www.czso.cz/csu/czso/statistical-yearbook-of-the-czech-republic-rtnih2q42g).

While last year’s Statistical Yearbook comprised data from 2019, i.e. the last pre-crisis year before the covid-19 disease pandemic broke out, this year’s Statistical Yearbook brings a view of the year 2020, in which our society and its economy and health were affected by a difficult epidemic situation.

The gross domestic product slumped by 5.6% in real terms, which was the deepest decrease during the existence of an independent Czech Republic. The gross value added dropped by 5.5% last year and the slump affected most of economic activities (industries). The economic decline also influenced employment, which dropped by 1.5% last year. The state budget performance ended up with a deficit of CZK 367.4 billion last year and in the year-on-year comparison the deficit deepened by almost CZK 340 billion. Anti-pandemic measures contributed to the deficit in a crucial way – they considerably increased the budget expenditure on one side (18.8%), however, they also resulted in a decrease in the state budget revenue on the other side (–3.1%).

*“Data from statistical yearbooks enable us to effectively compare data from periods of crises with the data of pre-crisis periods. The current turbulent situation also shows us in full how trustworthy and quality statistical data are important for responsible decision-making,”* Marek Rojíček, President of the Czech Statistical Office, says.

As every year, the Statistical Yearbook also brings some novelties. In the chapter focusing on the population, in the tables devoted to causes of death, readers can also find a piece of data on deaths due to the covid-19 disease. In the part on health, data are shown on the number of cases of the disease confirmed by laboratory testing, the number of deaths, and cases of hospitalisation obtained from the Information system on infectious diseases.

Further novelties are brought, for example, by selected information from the Integrated Farm Survey, Regional Tourism Satellite Account of the Czech Republic, and information on utilisation of the online environment by Czech enterprises. The chapter devoted to sport is specific as it brings data on the participation of Czech athletes in the XXXII Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo (which were originally planned to take place in 2020) and their ranking down to the 6th place.

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