

1. Summary

Results of the Population and Housing Census on March 26 2011 have documented the changes of demographic, social and economic structures in the region, both as a whole and in its individual territorial parts.

- Since the beginning of nineties the settlement structure of Královéhradecký region is characteristic by its stability. There are numerous small and middle-sized municipalities in the region and a rural settlement pattern with a low degree of urbanization. Since 1995 there are 448 municipalities in the region and on Census Day 48 municipalities had a town status. Unchanged number of municipalities implies very little changes in the settlement structure in comparison with 2001 census, not even within municipality size groups. In the most notable change the number of smallest municipalities (with up to 199 inhabitants) decreased, while the count of municipalities with 200-499 inhabitants increased. The inland areas of the region are characteristic by a higher population density, which is still low in the borderline mountain and foothill areas. For decades population of the region migrated to towns, but since the beginning of the new millennia the flow has turned and the population of towns moves out into surrounding municipalities.
- The population of the region resumed its growth. According to the Census data Královéhradecký region has a total of 554 155 permanent residents on its territory, increase of 3.4 thousand persons compared to the last census enumeration in 2001. This small increase is caused by a positive net balance of population migration (in the years 2003-2008) and by natural increase between 2007-2010.
- Complying with international recommendations results of 2011 census were processed using the place of usual residence. In total 547 916 persons declared Královéhradecký region to be their place of usual residence. Difference of 1.1 % between this figure and number of permanent residents is among the lowest in the nation's regions. There are 13.6 thousand foreign citizens in the region, mostly citizens of Ukraine, Slovakia, Poland and Vietnam. Their population share of 2.5 % is among the lower ones in the regions.
- Age structure of the region's population has changed considerably within the last 40 years. The share of children up to 15 years decreased to 14,4 % since the 2001 Census. The share of people 15-64 years old decreased (to 68.4 %) and is the lowest nationwide. The share of population aged over 65 years further increased (to 16.8 %) and is the highest in the nation. Average age grew to 41.6 years in 2011 and is the highest in the nation as well.
- Just as in the rest of the Czech Republic, the share of never-married grew at the expense of married in the region. Young people postpone their marriage to a later age or live in a common household without a marriage. Ever more frequent common life of cohabiting couples affects the statistics - there are 12.2 thousand enumerated in the region and their number about doubled since 2001.
- The trend of lifestyle change developed by the young generation after 1989 has been confirmed – postponing marriage and maternity to a later age led to a pronounced decline of fertility and to higher average maternity age. Fertility of women outside of marriage grew considerably as well. There are 1 630 children born alive per 1 000 women aged 15 years and older in the region. Women, who attained lower education levels and with a religious belief tend to have more children.
- Ethnicity structure of the region remains fairly homogenous..The 2011 census results are affected by the fact that over a quarter of the population opted not to respond to the ethnicity question. Of those region inhabitants, who provided the information, 95.6 % declared the Czech ethnicity. The biggest ethnic minorities are Slovak (5.6 thousand persons), Ukrainian (2.1 thousand persons), German and Polish (both 1.3 thousand persons).
- Strong ties with the place of birth persist in the region, since 45.6 % of population live in the municipality they were born in. Men show a firmer bondage to their birthplace than women, who often follow their husbands to their place of usual residence.
- The religious belief question was responded by 46 % of population. Religious belief declared 16.5 % of the region's population (30.4 % of those responding). Nationally the region ranks ninths among the regions of the Czech Republic. Almost two thirds of believers declared their Roman Catholic Church denomination. The share of believers decreases with growing size of their place of usual residence.
- In the period between 2001 and 2011 further improvements in population education level were achieved in the region. The share of people with a primary education and no formal education decreased and the share of people with upper secondary and tertiary education increased. This development may be attributed to growing interest of young people in higher education in relation to better labour market opportunities for educated people and also to a natural exchange of older population with higher proportion of lower-educated population. People with higher education tend to concentrate in towns (just as in the other regions) where commensurate employment opportunities are more likely.
- The share of economically active people in the region has been decreasing. It is related, aside from the aging population, with a higher rate of population attending secondary and tertiary training or education. The region's economic activity rate (59 %) is markedly below the national average, the fourth lowest of all regions.

- The size of employed population (54.1 %) reflects lower unemployment rate in the region, among the lowest in the Czech Republic. Related to the population aging under way, almost a half of not economically active population belongs to not working pensioners (49.6 %), the second highest share behind Plzeňský region.
- In the period between 2001 and 2011 the entrepreneurial sector continued growing in the region. Of the total employed population of the region 3.5 % are employers and 12.9 % are own account workers (both rates are about the national average).
- With regard to employment structure by the branch of economic activity industrial production retained the most prominent share (28.8 % of persons in the identified branch), followed by trade and automotive vehicle repair (9.7 %), Human health and social work activities (7.0 %) and construction (6.4 %). Agriculture and forestry take up 3.5 %, the fifth highest share in the nation. Just as in the rest of the Czech Republic, the share of people employed in manufacturing sectors decreased whereas the share of people employed in the service sector increased.
- The region shows, just as all regions with the exception of the Capital of Prague, negative net balance of commuters to work (3 thousand people). Over two fifths of employed people commuting outside of their municipality of their usual residence to work, more males than females. The share of commuting persons decreases with the size of the place of usual residence, in relation to number of employment opportunities in the community.
- Number of housekeeping households has been steadily growing during the past fifty years. Their number increased most in the seventies and then in nineties, since the last census only by 1.5 %, constituting over 3 thousand households. Household size, however, has been turning smaller. A single household included on average 2.7 persons in 1970, in 2011 only 2.4 persons. This is related to changes in household structure, where the share of one-couple families, with a higher average number of family members, is in decline.
- One-person households lead the growth, their number increased by 8.5 % in 10 years and the trend continues. However, one-family households tend to decline, their number decreased by 5.7 %. The share of lone-parent families has been growing at the expense of one-couple families. Similarly, the share of families without dependent children has been growing at the expense of families with dependent children. Changes in household structure are mainly affected by the trend of establishing a family in a later age. This trend is related to better education and travel opportunities, attitude to build a sound financial base for family and, last but not least, obtaining an independent housing.
- Within the last 10 years the structure of one-family household with dependent children has changed due to the fertility development. While the share of families with two children remains stable, the share of families with a single child steadily increases, but the share of families with 3 children decreases. Lone-parent families with dependent children are most frequently formed by a parent with one child. The reference person of the lone-parent families is most frequently a mother.
- With regard to dwelling household technical facilities the only data were collected on personal computer equipment and Internet connectivity. In the region 56.5 % of dwelling households are equipped with a personal computer and 53.1 % are connected to the Internet. Computers and Internet connectivity worked their way somewhat faster into households in larger municipalities.
- The region's housing stock is formed in four fifth by occupied buildings and 88 % of the stock is comprised by family houses. Within the period 2001-2011 building total increased by 6.4 %, while occupied building count increased by 7.9 %. The count of unoccupied buildings remained virtually unchanged and their share on the housing stock actually slightly decreased. Over a half of unoccupied buildings are used for seasonal recreation.
- Average age of occupied buildings in the region is 52 years. With regard to ownership status 85 % of buildings are privately owned, only 2.6 % are publicly owned. Almost 90 % of buildings were constructed with stone, bricks and prefabricated blocks. Technical facilities of houses improve with a number of inhabitants in municipalities.
- The region's dwelling stock is comprised by 83 % of occupied dwellings and 17 % of unoccupied ones. Total dwelling count increased by 7.6 % in the last 10 years, occupied dwelling count increased by 5 % and the count of unoccupied ones by 20 %. The share of unoccupied dwellings in the region is among the highest in the nation, every third unoccupied dwelling is used for recreation. With regard to dwelling ownership forms, over three fifths of occupied dwellings are in a private ownership (either in own building or in private ownership). The count of privately owned dwellings has doubled since 2001. Almost one third of the dwelling stock was built or reconstructed in the past 30 years.
- In over 90 % of dwellings piped water, flush toilet and bathroom is available. However only 56 % of dwellings connected to piped gas and 72 %, to public sewage disposal are well below the national average. Standard quality living requirements are met in 92 % of occupied dwellings, 5 % of dwellings were enumerated as lower quality ones. The highest share of these dwellings is found in small municipalities. There are now 2.48 inhabitants per an occupied dwelling, average floor space per one dwelling is 66.1 sq. m. Quality of living characteristics were above the region's average for dwellings in family houses, but below the average for dwellings in apartment buildings.