

1. Summary

The Census results, as of March 26, 2011, prove that changes have occurred in demographic, social and economic structure of the region, both as a whole and in its individual parts as well.

- The settlement structure of Jihočeský region has always had a typical country-like pattern with a lower level of urbanization. Although the region is the second largest in the Czech Republic (next to Středočeský region), population density is the lowest of all regions. A higher population density is typical for inland areas of this region, while it is still very low in areas along the borderlines. There are 623 municipalities in the region, of which 230 has less than 200 inhabitants who comprise less than 4 % of the region's population. To the contrary, 32 % of the region's population live in 5 largest towns. For decades region's population migrated to towns, but in the last 15 years population of larger towns decreased, mostly due to its partial moving out to neighbouring smaller municipalities.
- In the past decade the region's population has resumed its growth again. On the Census day there were 635 750 permanent residents registered in the region. This is 10 000 more inhabitants than in 2001. The increase is mostly due to positive migration balance of the region. Also, since 2006 there has been observed more new-born than deaths too. Population developments in the region are territorially uneven. The highest rate of population growth was observed in administrative districts of ORP Trhové Sviny, Vodňany and Kaplice, while the most significant drop was observed in Milevsko and Dačice districts.
- In compliance with international recommendations results of 2011 Census were processed on the basis of the usual residence. There were 628 336 persons with the usual place of residence in Jihočeský region. There is only 1.2 % difference between this count and number of permanent residents of the region, among the smallest in the regions of the Czech Republic. In 2011 there were almost 14 000 foreign citizens in the region, mostly from Ukraine, Slovakia and Vietnam. The share of foreign citizens is, however, among the lowest in the regions of the Czech Republic.
- Age composition of the region's population has changed dramatically within the last 40 years. Average age increased from 35.6 years in 1970 to 41.2 years in 2011. Population aging is mostly affected by low fertility observed at the turn of the last and this century, and also by a gradual increase of life expectancy. In the last decade the share of persons younger than 15 years further decreased (to 14.5 %), the share of age group 15 – 64 years old decreased slightly and the share of persons aged 65 years and older increased (to 15.9 %). The highest share of people aged 65 years and older live both in the smallest municipalities and the largest towns of the region. To the contrary, younger people live in municipalities sized between 1 000 and 4 999 inhabitants.
- Just as in the Czech Republic nation-wide, the share of never married persons has grown at the expense of married ones. It is caused by postponing marriages to a higher age or even not getting married at all. There is increasing number of cohabiting couples. Their count has almost doubled since 2001 – to 13 315 cohabiting couples.
- The trend of lifestyle change developed by the young generation after 1989 has been confirmed – postponing of maternity to a later age. Most frequently the age of mother at her first birth is 28 years. There were 1 633 children born alive for every 1 000 women aged 15 or older. Mothers with lower education or mothers with a religious belief tend to have more children.
- With regard to ethnicity, the region's territory is a homogenous entity. The 2011 Census results are affected by the fact that about a quarter of the population used their right to not answer the question about ethnicity. Over 96 % of respondents who declared their ethnicity chose Czech. Slovak ethnicity remain the most prominent national minority (with 6.6 thousand people), followed by Ukrainians (with 2.1 thousand people) and Vietnamese (1.4 thousand people).
- The region's population has fairly strong ties to their place of birth. This is evidenced by the fact that 44 % of population live in their native municipality. Ties of men are stronger than those of women, mostly due to enduring tradition of women following their life partners. Lower territorial mobility of respondents relative to their birthplace is observed in the inland areas of the region, while higher mobility is typical along the country border, where consequences of the settlement structure disturbances from the last century are still in effect.
- Only about a half of the region's population answered the religious belief question. 20.8 % of region's population declared themselves as believers (40.3 % of respondents who answered the question). Among the regions of the Czech Republic, Jihočeský region ranks sixth in number of believers (behind all Moravian regions). Of all believers identified with a church 80 % declared their Roman Catholic Church denomination. The share of religious believers in population grows with size of their place of usual residence.

- *During the period between 2001 and 2011 the share of people with primary and lower secondary (incl. vocational) education decreased, while 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 population due to decreasing share of generations born in the first half of the last century with higher proportion of people with primary education. People with higher education tend to concentrate in towns (just as in the other regions) where commensurate employment opportunities are more likely. There are slightly more men than women who have tertiary education, however in younger age groups the share of tertiary educated women begins to prevail.*
- *Compared with the 2001 Census results, the share of economically active persons in the region has decreased. Besides demographic development it is related to a greater share of population attending secondary and tertiary education establishments and also to more opportunities for entering internships abroad before getting engaged in full time employment. The region ranks 7th in the Czech Republic with regard to the share of economically active population (60.2 %), slightly below the national average.*
- *The share of employed population (55.0 %) reflects lower unemployment rate in the region, the fifth lowest in the Czech Republic. The biggest share of economically inactive population belongs to not working pensioners (48.5 %), the fifth lowest among the regions in the Czech Republic.*
- *In the period between 2001 and 2011 the entrepreneurial sector grew in Jihočeský region as well. Of the total population employed 3.4 % are employers and 13.0 % are own account workers (both rates are about the national average).*
- *With regard to employment structure by branch of economic activity the most prominent share belongs to industry (26.7 % of persons in the identified branch), trade and automotive vehicle repair (10.0 %) and construction (7.8 %). Agriculture, forestry and fishing take up 5.0 %, the second highest share in the Czech Republic next to Vysočina region. 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.*
- *As far as commuting to work is concerned, the region shows, just as all regions do with the exception of the Capital of Prague, negative net balance since 7.6 thousand more commuters travel outside than into the region. Over two fifths of employed people travel outside of their place of usual residence to work, of those more men than women. The share of commuting persons clearly decreases with the size of their place of residence, as it is related mostly to a number of employment opportunities in their community.*
- *The total number of housekeeping households grew by 4.3 % in 10 years, however the number of one-family households decreased by 4.1 %. The number of one-person households grew by 14.9 % and makes up for almost a third of households in the region. A significant increase is also observed in a number of lone-parent families without 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 household technical facilities the only data were collected on personal computer equipment and Internet connectivity. In the region 55 % of households are equipped with a personal computer and 51.3 % are connected to the Internet. Computers and Internet connectivity expanded somewhat faster into households in larger municipalities.*
- *Within the period 2001-2011 total number of building increased by 10.8 %, while number of occupied buildings increased by 10.3 % and number of vacant buildings by 12 %. Vacant buildings comprise a quarter of the housing stock. The most frequent reason for vacancy is seasonal use (60.9 % of vacant buildings). Family houses comprise 88.1 % of housing stock of the region.*
- *Average age of occupied buildings in the region is 48.6 years, up by 3 years in comparison with the 2001 Census. The smallest municipalities have the oldest housing stock.*
- *Number of occupied dwellings increased by 7.1 % during the last 10 years. This is mainly due to*

resumption of housing construction in the first half of the past decade. With regard to the type of dwelling ownership, the most prominent increase can be seen in private ownership (up from 8.6 % to 19.3 %) on the contrary to co-operative and rental ownership. The biggest share, however, belongs to dwellings in privately owned houses – over 40 %. Number of vacant dwellings increased in 10 years by over a quarter. Reasons for vacancy were not identified for every 7th dwelling (14 %), while among known reasons almost half is due to seasonal usage.

- *Renovation and new construction of the region's dwelling stock led to improvement of qualitative housing characteristics. There are now 2.48 inhabitants per one occupied dwelling and 0.73 inhabitants per one room. Technical facilities of dwellings have been improved as well. Piped water is available in 99.6 % of dwellings, public sewage disposal in 81.0 % and central heating in 89.6 % (ignored not stated data). These figures are about the national average. Piped gas is available in 44.2 % of occupied dwellings, the lowest rate among the Czech Republic regions. Only 4.8 % of the dwelling stock is of lower quality, the third lowest rate among the country's regions.*