

FOREWORD

The Statistical Yearbook of the Středočeský Region is a crucial publication of the Regional Office of the Czech Statistical Office. It has been bringing a complete statistical overview of all economic activities of the national economy derived from available data. It is published, similarly as in other regions, in already the thirteenth edition of continuous series, both in the electronic version and printed one. These traditional publications present a structure-unified content and follow the national Statistical Yearbook of the Czech Republic, which is developed at the headquarters of the Czech Statistical Office. Data on the region are basically published for the period 2010 – 2012 and for selected indicators, also in a longer time series since 2000.

This year, regional yearbooks have been altered only slightly as for their contents and formal side. The main change is that selected final results from the 2011 Population and Housing Census have been included. The results document structure of the population, its educational attainment, economic activities, composition of households, and structure of housing. The Census results are in greater detail published and dealt with on the CZSO web pages. In the chapter on Elections the regional yearbook readers find the results of the first ever direct elections of the President of the Czech Republic, which were held in January 2013, and the results of October elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic.

Other changes consists only in omitting of information from ad hoc surveys, indicators, which have lost their reason, and in adding new pieces of information more and more reflecting processes of the economy transformation, harmonization of the Czech statistics with procedures, standards, and classifications used by Eurostat, and a wider use of administrative data sources. Published tables do not contain more detailed data. If readers are interested in such breakdowns, they can address directly the nearest Information Services Unit of the Czech Statistical Office. Besides information on regions, available data by district and by administrative district of municipalities with extended powers, selected data on towns, and several indicators on individual municipalities can be found there as well. The enclosed CD contains, first of all, inter-regional comparisons and also time series trends of selected indicators in 2000 – 2012 in the entire Czech Republic. Methodological notes on individual chapters are summarised after the publication data section. References and links to data sources, which were used in the preparation of the regional statistical yearbook, are cited in the methodological notes.

The basic source for the data published is state statistical surveys. Besides data sources of the Czech Statistical Office, available data from areas administered by respective ministries were also used, especially from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the CR, Ministry of Finance of the CR, Ministry of the Interior of the CR, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the CR, Ministry of Health of the CR, Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic, and the Ministry of Transport of the CR. A vast portion of the data published is kept in the regional databases of KROK (data on regions and districts) and MOS (statistics of towns and municipalities), and in long-term time series. The Public Database (VDB) has been an important information source for users. It is accessible on the CZSO website and enables to view statistical data in the pre-defined tables from the standpoint of their subject matter and territorial breakdowns in ever greater detail. The database includes, inter alia, results of the 2011 Population and Housing Census and this section offers the option to compile proprietary tables as the user may wish. Information on the Public Database you can find at: <http://vdb.czso.cz/vdb/>.

The regional yearbook, of course, cannot contain all pieces of information collected and processed by the state statistics. More detailed data from respective sections of demographic, economic, and social development of the regions, districts, municipalities, or micro-regions are published in specialized products (Statistical Bulletin, publications on demographic matters, thematically focused analytical materials, etc.), which are mostly available in the electronic form on the Internet. Many other pieces of information can be found on the website of the CZSO Regional Office (www.stredocesky.czso.cz), not merely the latest updates of results of statistical surveys, but information on the CZSO activities as well. On the website, you can also find the publication “2011 Population and Housing Census – Středočeský Region – analysis of results” issued in the end of September 2013 and other analytical and data documents.

The sense of obtaining and processing of statistical data is acquiring knowledge, seeking for trends in the development, but, first of all, finding the data utilisation in practise. Long-term experience with the users' interest in information in regional breakdown, which has been constantly growing recently, make us believe that the regional statistical yearbook will continue to be a sought-after source of information both for the professional public and the general one. Like in the previous years, we will welcome your potential suggestions and comments on the yearbook's content. We hereby thank you for all remarks very much. They are very helpful in our work on the yearbook and will be a valuable contribution to the preparation of regional publications in 2014.

We express our thanks to all authors and colleagues for the effort and time they devoted to the preparation of the content as well as technical matters of this publication.