

FOREWORD

Dear readers,

It is a great pleasure for me to introduce the first 2012 issue of *Statistika, Statistics and Economy Journal*. The Czech version of this journal published by the Czech Statistical Office has a long history starting back in 1964. This issue opens the second year of *Statistika* provided in English version only.



Development of statistical science along with improvement of tools supporting the routine statistical work in the recent years significantly improve the value of statistics as a tool supporting decision making. Synergy of methodological and application-focused papers makes the journal an appropriate platform enabling national statistical and research institutions present and support further progress and development in the field.

The new English language format has opened the new horizons for our periodical. On the one hand, the journal has managed to maintain the majority

of the former readers and authors. On the other hand, the new international character of the journal enables the constant acquisition of more and more new readers and authors from all over the world. The electronic open-access version of the journal also greatly contributes to these processes.

This year we plan to continue improving our periodical by extending its reader base as well as attracting new authors. I am also pleased to introduce the new visual style of the journal designed in line with the new corporate identity of the Czech Statistical Office. We also offer an updated version of our website (www.czso.cz/statistika_journal). I believe that these changes will find appreciation and popularity among the readers' community.

I wish the journal a lot of inspired readers and plenty of creative authors. I also hope that the range of articles we offer is useful both for your everyday work and professional growth.

Iva Ritschelová

President of the Czech Statistical Office

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About Statistika

The journal of Statistika has been published by the Czech Statistical Office since 1964. Its aim is to create a platform enabling national statistical and research institutions to present the progress and results of complex analyses in the economic, environmental, and social spheres. Its mission is to promote the official statistics as a tool supporting the decision making at the level of international organizations, central and local authorities, as well as businesses. We contribute to the world debate and efforts in strengthening the bridge between theory and practice of the official statistics. Statistika is a professional journal included in the list of peer-reviewed scientific periodicals published in the Czech Republic and rated by the methodology of the Council for Research, Development and Innovation of the Government of the Czech Republic. Since 2011 is Statistika published quarterly in English only.

Publisher

The Czech Statistical Office is an official national statistical institution of the Czech Republic. The Office main goal, as the coordinator of the State Statistical Service, consists in the acquisition of data and the subsequent production of statistical information on social, economic, demographic, and environmental development of the state. Based on the data acquired, the Czech Statistical Office produces a reliable and consistent image of the current society and its developments satisfying various needs of potential users.

Contact us

Journal of Statistika | Czech Statistical Office | Na padesátém 81 | 100 82 Prague 10 | Czech Republic
e-mail: statistika.journal@czso.cz | web: www.czso.cz/statistika_journal