

INTRODUCTION

The Statistical Yearbook of the Plzeňský Region is one of the main publications of the regional workplace of the Czech Statistical Office. It is brought out – the same as in other regions – already for the tenth successive time; these content-unified regional yearbooks follow the nationwide Statistical Yearbook of the Czech Republic, which is elaborated by the headquarters of the Czech Statistical Office. Data on regions are basically published for the period 2007 – 2009, for selected indicators in a longer time series since 1993, which is the year when the independent Czech Republic was established.

This year, more substantial changes in the content and form of regional yearbooks are made. The content of regional yearbooks is split into two parts. The printed publication comprises data on the region and its territorial units, including depiction of the development in time series. Tables with comparison of regions for individual sections are shifted to an enclosed CD, which is an integral part of the printed part of the yearbook. Another important change is splitting of chapters, which contained more sections - those were split to independent chapters. Virtually in all parts of the yearbook you can find a better-arranged structure of chapters and smaller modifications. The former content of individual tables remained unchanged, because our effort is to keep the stability and continuity of data so that readers are able to find data they are used to. There is only an alteration consisting in elimination of information from ad hoc surveys - indicators, which lost their sense, while new information was added, which more and more reflects the processes of transformation of the economy and harmonization of Czech statistics with procedures, standards and classifications used in EUROSTAT (e.g. using of the new CZ-NACE classification for data breakdown by industrial activity). Further, part of the tables were simplified - more detailed data breakdown was eliminated. When readers are interested in such breakdown, they can address directly workplaces of the information services of the Czech Statistical Office. Besides information on regions, also available data by district and administrative districts of municipalities with extended powers are published together with selected data on towns and several indicators on individual municipalities. The enclosed CD contains time series with development of selected indicators in 2007 – 2009 in the entire Czech Republic. Methodological notes on individual chapters are placed together after the data part. Allocated to them are links to data sources, from which we resulted during the processing of the yearbook.

The basic sources for the published data are state statistical surveys. Besides data sources of the Czech Statistical Office, available data from especially the following ministries were used: the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports or the Institute for Information on Education, Ministry of Health or the Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic, and the Ministry of Transport. A major part of published data is from regional databases KROK (data on regions, districts) and MOS (statistics on towns and municipalities). Also the Public Database has been gradually filled-in; it is accessible on the CZSO website and enables in the pre-defined tables more and more detailed views of statistical data from the point of view of their subject-matter and territorial breakdown. More detailed information on the Public Database you can find at: <http://vdb.czso.cz/vdbvo/en/uvod.jsp>.

The regional yearbook, of course, cannot contain all pieces of information collected and processed by the state statistics. More detailed data from individual sections of demographic, economic and social development of the region, districts, municipalities or micro-regions are published in specialized products (Statistical Bulletin, publications of demographic character, thematically oriented analytical publications, and the like), which are available besides the printed form also in electronic form and on a CD-ROM. Many pieces of other information can be found also on regional websites of the CZSO (www.plzen.czso.cz), where the public can find the most topical results of statistical surveys, but also information on activity of the CZSO.

The sense of obtaining and processing of statistical data is knowledge, seeking of trends in development, however, especially their utilisation in practice. Long-term experience with the interest of users in information in regional breakdown, which has been significantly increasing recently persuades us that the regional statistical yearbook will continue to be a sought after source of information both for the professional and general public. Like in the previous years, we will welcome your suggestions and comments as to the content of the yearbook. We hereby thank you for them very much, because they help us when we work on the yearbook and they will be a valuable contribution during our preparation of regional publications in the year 2011.

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

Publishing extracts from this book is possible, except for commercial purposes, on condition that a reference to their sources is made. Quotations may only be published, if the source „Statistical Yearbook of the Plzeňský Region 2010 “ and the origin of statistics contained in it are given.

The following symbols have been used throughout:

The symbol of dash (-) in place of a figure indicates that the phenomenon did not occur.

The symbol of dot (.) shows that the figure is not available or cannot be relied on.

The symbol of horizontal small cross (x) shows that the figure is not applicable.

The symbol of (0) used in table designates figures smaller than a half of the unit of measure chosen.

The abbreviation “i.d.” used in the tables stands for individual data, which are protected and cannot be released.

The calculations in the tables are performed using unrounded figures (including the sums).

The data given in the Yearbook are valid as at 20 October 2010 and update the data and estimates published before.

Unless stated otherwise, the data published are derived from statistical surveys taken by the CZSO.