

1. Summary

The Census results, as of March 26, 2011, have shown changes in the structure of settlements, demography, households, housing and dwelling stock of the region and its municipalities. Both common and specific features of the region, stemming mostly from the rural character of Vysočina region, have been confirmed as well.

- The settlement structure of Vysočina region has a typically rural character with a low degree of urbanization. Although the region's area is among largest in the Czech Republic, population density is the third lowest of all regions. There are 704 municipalities in Vysočina region (second highest count next to Středočeský region), of which over 540 has less than 200 inhabitants who comprise less than one fifth of the region's population. To the contrary, over a quarter of the region's population live in 4 largest towns. In Vysočina region 34 municipalities possess the town status and include over 57 % of the region's population.
- In compliance with international recommendations results of 2011 Census were processed by usual place of respondents' residence. There were 505 565 persons who declared Vysočina region their usual place of residence, of which 50.5 % were women. Vysočina is the third least populated region of the Czech Republic. It constitutes 4.8 % of the nation's population. Most people live in the district of Žďár nad Sázavou, the least in the district of Pelhřimov.
- The region's population has been aging faster than the nation. Average age reached 41.1 years and surpassed slightly the national average. This was caused by young people moving out of the region, by lower birth rates and also by a gradual increase of life expectancy. Although the share of children younger than 15 years is above the national average, so is the share of people in the post-productive age. The highest share of people aged 65 years or older live both in the smallest municipalities with less than 200 inhabitants or in the largest towns of the region.
- In Vysočina region, just as in the Czech Republic nation-wide, the share of never married and divorced persons has grown at the expense of married ones. It is caused by postponing marriages to a later age and ever more frequent co-habiting of unmarried couples. Vysočina region has the lowest divorce rate in the nation. Even this reflects the rural character of the region and prevalence of small municipalities, where people tend to be closer to religious belief, to traditional values and to get divorced less often.
- In addition to a general decrease in fertility rate the trend of postponing maternity to a later age is confirmed as well. Most frequently the age of mother at her first birth is almost 28 years. There were 1 731 children born alive for every 1 000 women aged 15 or older, which is above the nationwide average. Mothers with lower education or mothers with a religious belief tend to have more children.
- There are 7.5 thousands of foreign citizens enumerated in the region, the least among the regions. Most foreign citizens come from Ukraine, Slovakia and Vietnam. Vysočina region, along with Olomoucký and Zlínský region, has the lowest share of foreign citizens on the population. There are less than one per cent of foreign citizens in the smallest region's municipalities with less than 500 hundred inhabitants. However, there are over 3 % of foreign citizens in Jihlava.
- 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 took advantage of their right to declare no ethnicity. About 331 thousands of respondents declared their Czech ethnicity, i.e. less than two thirds of the region's population. Less than 36 thousand people declared Moravian ethnicity, mostly in Třebíč and Žďár districts, the fourth highest share in the nation.
- In Vysočina region 51 % of population live in the same municipality where they was born. The region's population has fairly strong ties to their place of birth, as evidenced by the fact that the share of natives in the region is higher than the national average by almost 4 percentage points. Ties of men are traditionally stronger than those of women. A prominent share of natives is especially observed in the Moravian districts of the region: Žďár nad Sázavou, Jihlava and Třebíč, while the share of natives in the Czech districts of Pelhřimov and Havlíčkův Brod remained below 50 % threshold.
- About 45 % of the region's population did not address the religion issue (just in the rest of the regions). A religious belief was declared by 29.3 % of usually resident population. Vysočina region thus ranks second behind Zlín region. Less than two thirds of believers declared their Roman Catholic Church denomination. However, a significant portion of population did not declare any church affiliation. The share of religious believers in population decreases with growing municipality size, there are more believers among women and older persons.
- Population structure by attained education confirms the trend of gradual rise of education levels. People with lower secondary and vocational education still form the most populous group. Vysočina region has the highest share in the nation of people, older than 15 years, who attained this education. This is again related to the rural character of the region – people from small municipalities mostly obtain this type of education. People with higher education tend to concentrate in towns, where adequate employment

opportunities are more likely. People with tertiary education constitute 9.5 % of population older than 15 years, their share in the region is the third lowest nationwide.

- The share of economically active persons in the region has been declining. Besides demographical developments this is related to a greater share of students attending secondary and tertiary education establishment. Economic activity rate (58.7 %) is the lowest in the country. The reasons should be sought in the unfavourable age structure of the population (next to the lowest share of people in the productive age) and in a low economic activity in small municipalities (few employment opportunities, lack of competitive wages).
- The region is ranked 10th nationally by the employment rate (53.1 %), the share of employed women is very low. Almost a half of not economically active population is constituted by not working pensioners (almost a quarter of the region's population), while the other big group is formed by pupils, students and apprentices. Women form the majority in all not economically active groups.
- Of the total population employed 80.1 % is comprised by employees (the second highest share nationwide). Entrepreneurial activity is well below the national average – the share of employers is next to the lowest and the share of own-account workers the fourth lowest in the nation.
- With regard to employment structure by the branch of economic activity industrial production takes the most prominent place, its share being almost one third of employed people, followed by trade and automotive vehicle repair (9.1 %) and construction (7.2 %). Agriculture, forestry and fishery take up 6.3 %, in a long run the highest share in the Czech Republic. 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 in Vysočina as well. The share of people employed in the tertiary sector remains low in comparison with the national average.
- As far as commuting to work is concerned, the region shows, just as all other regions with the exception of the Capital of Prague, of commuting since 7.1 thousand more commute out of rather than into the region. About three tenths of employed people commute outside of their place of 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 supply of employment opportunities in their community.
- The total number of housekeeping households in Vysočina is nearing 200 thousands, of which almost 57 thousands are one-person households, which comprise over 28 % of households in the region (the lowest share of all regions in the Czech Republic). One-person households are most often found in larger towns. Lone-parent families make up for over 11 % of households, again the lowest share in the nation.
- Over two fifths of one-couple families are constituted by households with dependent children, of which most often families with two children. Lone-parent families with dependent children are most frequently formed by a single mother with one child.
- With regard to dwelling household technical facilities the only data were collected on personal computer equipment and Internet connectivity. In the region 56 % of dwelling households are equipped with a personal computer and 52.2 % are connected to the Internet. Computers and Internet connectivity worked their way somewhat faster into households in larger municipalities.
- Total number of buildings in Vysočina exceeded 136 thousand, of which 92.5 % are family houses (with the exception of Zlínský and Středočeský regions the highest rate in the nation). Unoccupied buildings comprise over one fifth of the housing stock (the second highest share behind Jihočeský region). The most frequent reason of vacancy is seasonal or recreational usage (61.2 % of unoccupied buildings).
- Average age of occupied buildings in the region is 45.9 years, average age of family houses is 46.0 years. The smallest municipalities have the oldest housing stock.
- The total number of dwellings in the region is 230 thousand units, of which over 188 thousand are occupied. Almost three fifths of occupied dwellings are in family houses. Almost a half of all dwellings are found in privately owned houses, private ownership and renting being other frequent forms of dwellings' tenure status. Number of vacant dwellings in Vysočina is close to 42 thousand. Among known reasons of vacancy the most frequent one is seasonal or recreational usage.
- Renovation of dwelling stock and new construction in the past decades led to gradual improvement of qualitative housing characteristics. Presently 2.48 inhabitants fall on one occupied dwelling and 0.74 inhabitants fall on one room. Similarly, technical facilities of dwellings are fairly well established too. Piped water is available in 99.7 % of dwellings, public sewage disposal in 74.1 % and central heating in 88.6 % (of all responding households). These figures are about the national average with the exception of public sewage disposal. Piped gas is available in 61.2 % of occupied dwellings, lower rate than most regions in the Czech Republic. Only 4.2 % of occupied dwellings are of lower quality, the lowest rate in the nation.