

1. BASIC CHARACTERISTIC, DISTRICTS

In long-term time series an emphasis is placed on the data are comparable in terms of the methodology applied. A number of changes, due to efforts of the Czech Statistical Service to keep methods and results of surveys comparable internationally, occurred over the whole period. The organizational structure of the national economy saw gradual changes, too. Therefore it was necessary to recalculate the time series of indicators according to the methodology and organizational structure of the latest year published (i.e. 2010) in order to be able to assess the long-term development in correct manner. All the value indicators are given at current prices because sufficient relevant data on price developments in neither the production area nor the consumption one to carry out conversions into constant prices have been available in the regional breakdown.

Concerning the territorial arrangement, all the data were converted to the valid territorial structure as at 31 December 2010. Wherever the data are surveyed in a sample survey and are only estimated by means of mathematical and statistical methods for lower territorial levels, the recalculation is more difficult and for a part of indicators is impossible at all. Due to the carried out conversions some data differ from those published before. In some cases the contents differ from data published in interregional and interdistrict comparisons in Chapter 26 and, as the case might be, from data given in other chapters as well.

If a conversion to a comparable methodology was not feasible, the fact is mentioned in methodological notes under respective tables or it is explained in the methodology sections of respective chapters. Therefore in this section we draw attention only to changes, which concerns the comparability of long-term time series.

*Data on the **population** until 2000 followed the results of the Census as at 3 March 1991. Since 2001 they have already follow the final results of the Population and Housing Census as at 1 March 2001, on the basis of which demographic balances of this decade are being processed. Moreover, in accordance with international conventions, the data also include numbers of foreigners staying long-term in the country.*

*In the **labour market** comparability of data on the number of employees and average wages taken from business statistics is adverse affected by changes in the limits between larger enterprises (surveyed) and smaller ones (not surveyed). These changes are mostly reflected in the trend of the number of employees and, to a lesser extent, of the development of the average monthly wage. The set of reporting units developed as follows:*

- o 1995 - enterprises with 25+ employees incorporated, (in agriculture holdings with 1 000+ hectares of agricultural land, specialized agricultural holdings; in industry, trade, hotels and restaurants: enterprises with 100+ employees), all entities classified to financial intermediation, all entities classified to the non-business sphere, excluding the armed forces;*
- o 1997 to 2001 - enterprises with 20+ employees, incorporated and unincorporated, all entities classified to financial intermediation, all entities classified to the non-business sphere, excluding armed forces;*
- o 2002 to 2009 - all entities, including the units of the Ministry of the Interior of the CR and the Ministry of Defence of the CR not published before.*

*The methodology of calculation of the **registered unemployment rate** changed in the middle of 2004 since the numerator of the fraction contains available unemployed job applicants and the denominator was extended by the number of foreigners available for work.*

*Since 2002 entities, which holdings exceed specified co-called "threshold values", have been classified to **agriculture** in accordance with standards of the European Union. Smaller agricultural holdings have been classified to the household sector as "hobby activities" of the population and their extent at the regional level is impossible to determine with sufficient reliability. It is impossible to recalculate backward the time series to a comparable basis as well.*

*In **industry** the data referring to years since 1997 are the only comparable. They refer to enterprises with 100+ employees having their registered offices on the territory concerned. Since 1997 industrial activities sales have also been monitored instead of the former goods production (gross production). In **construction** the indicators published have changed. Nowadays, the long-term time series involves construction work by location of the construction site.*

*In **education** the secondary education cannot be clearly broken by individual types of schools any more (secondary technical schools, secondary vocational schools). In addition, all types of schools now cover pupils who were before independently reported by special schools.*

*In **health** the time series is comparable since 2000, when data on the health establishments falling under all ministries have been given (before 2000, only health establishments of the Ministry of Health of the CR are covered). Detached units of the health establishments are not covered (unlike in Chapter 26). Since 2007 the number of physicians includes also contractual workers.*

*In 2007 due to the amendment of the act significant changes in the structure (also in names) of respective social care facilities occurred in **social security**.*

*In **crime and accidents** older data cannot be published, as they are not available itemized by district and therefore it was impossible to recalculate data in the breakdown according to the new territorial structure of regions.*