INTRODUCTION

Information society creates new and exciting challenges for the statistical community. There is a considerable policy interest in the measurement of the information society for understanding where we are and where we are going as a society.

The Czech Statistical Office presents you with the updated brochure 'Information Society in Figures 2008'. This material strives to summarise the available information on ICT use and infrastructure in the Czech Republic and also offers international comparison for key indicators. It gives and overview on the Information Society in the Czech Republic and its development. This brochure aims to provide its users with available basic features on the ICTs in the Czech Republic.

The brochure is divided into six chapters illustrating both the status quo and the progress achieved in the area of ICT use among individuals, households, and in public administration, as well as in the business enterprise sector. Special attention was paid to the level of information in educational and healthcare institutions.

- Chapter ICT infrastructure contains basic information about telecommunication and internet infrastructure (numbers and structure of phone and internet subscribers).
- B. In chapter **Households and individuals** are presented data on access of households and individuals to selected IC technologies; use of PC and Internet by individuals (place and frequency of use, computer and internet skills, internet shopping, etc.)
- C. Chapter Enterprises brings basic data on the penetration, way and level of use of individual state-of-the-art IC technologies and systems by companies and their employees.
- D. Chapter Public administration inform about penetration and use of selected IC technologies (computer, Internet, providing of information and services on web sites, etc.) in public administration.
- E. Chapter Schools contains basic information about ICT in schools and use of computers and Internet by students and teachers.
- F. Chapter **Health institutions** inform about penetration and use of IC technologies in health institutions and about seeking health related information.

For more detailed information, please visit our Science, Research and Information Society website at www.czso.cz. If you have any questions not answered there, please contact us directly. Your suggestions will be an incentive for further improvement of future releases.

Other information in English (publications, bulletins and other materials) related to information society statistics can be found at the following dedicated link:

http://www.czso.cz/eng/redakce.nsf/i/information society

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Czech Statistical Office

Department of Research, Development and Information Society Statistics