

Contents

Introduction	3
Office management	4
Important activities and projects	6
Total Quality Management (TQM)	6
Presidency of the Czech Republic to the EU Council in the area of statistics	9
Conference Statistics - Investment in the Future 2	11
Development projects	12
General methodology and registers	15
Statistical processing	18
Production statistics	20
Macroeconomic statistics	21
Demography and social statistics	23
Election statistics	24
Population and Housing Census 2011	25
Products and services	26
International cooperation	30
Human resources management	32
Economic activity	34
Contacts	37

Introduction

Every year can be classified as important and extraordinary. It definitely applies to 2009.

The year 2009 was most different compared to the previous year because in April 2009 Mr. Jan Fischer, the CZSO President, was offered to act for a definite period of time as the Prime-Minister of the caretaker government. Mr. Fischer had accepted the offer and took the time off without paid. The activity of the CZSO had to continue and Jiří Křovák, First Vice-President, was charged with the representation of the Office. Taking into account that the extraordinary elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic scheduled originally for October 2009 were cancelled the out-of-Office tenure of Jan Fischer was extended accordingly.

In 2009 the CZSO received the National Quality Award of the Czech Republic and was qualified the Excellent organization in 2009 in the public sector. The CZSO was the first statistical institution ever in Europe (and probably in the world) which was awarded the national quality prize. The hand-over of the award in the Spanish Hall of the Prague Castle in November 2009 ranked among the most important achievements of the year.

The next and very successful event was the statistical conference - Statistics - Investment in the future 2. The opening was attended by Walter Radermacher, Director General of Eurostat, Jan Fischer, the Prime-Minister of the Government of the CR, Richard Hindls, President of the University of Economics and Zdeněk Tůma, Governor of the Czech National Bank.

Presidency of the Czech Republic in the EU Commission in the area of statistics can also be quali-

fied as successful - in the respective chapter of the Annual Report you may learn how many discussions were held and how many draft regulations of the European Parliament and the EU Council and amendments thereof were discussed. It is useful to remind that during our presidency the Regulation on European Statistics (no. 223/2009) which will shape markedly the activity of the European Statistical System in the upcoming years was adopted.

We should also mention the introduction of Preliminary Information on industry which was published 10-14 days in advance to current News Releases. Although the Preliminary Information offered only running results from the processing it was appreciated by analysts and economists.

A significant part of our capacities went to the preparation of the Population and Housing Census 2011 - almost in every chapter you may find a note specifying how different units contributed to the preparation of the census. In 2009 the census seemed to be a distant future, nevertheless, this year its preparation reached full intensity. It will be an expensive event whose organization and arrangement requires much efforts. Not everything has gone as well as we would have liked but the census must be realized anyway and we believe so.

Similar demanding projects are being prepared also in other areas - e.g. the Redesign of Statistical Information System project, Personal Register, statistical registers, complex transformation of the CZSO into a modern institution, introduction of data box system, etc. Since the CZSO current budget is unable to cover all these activities we apply for financial support from the European Structural Funds.



Jiří Křovák
First Vice-President
charged with representation of the CZSO President

Office management

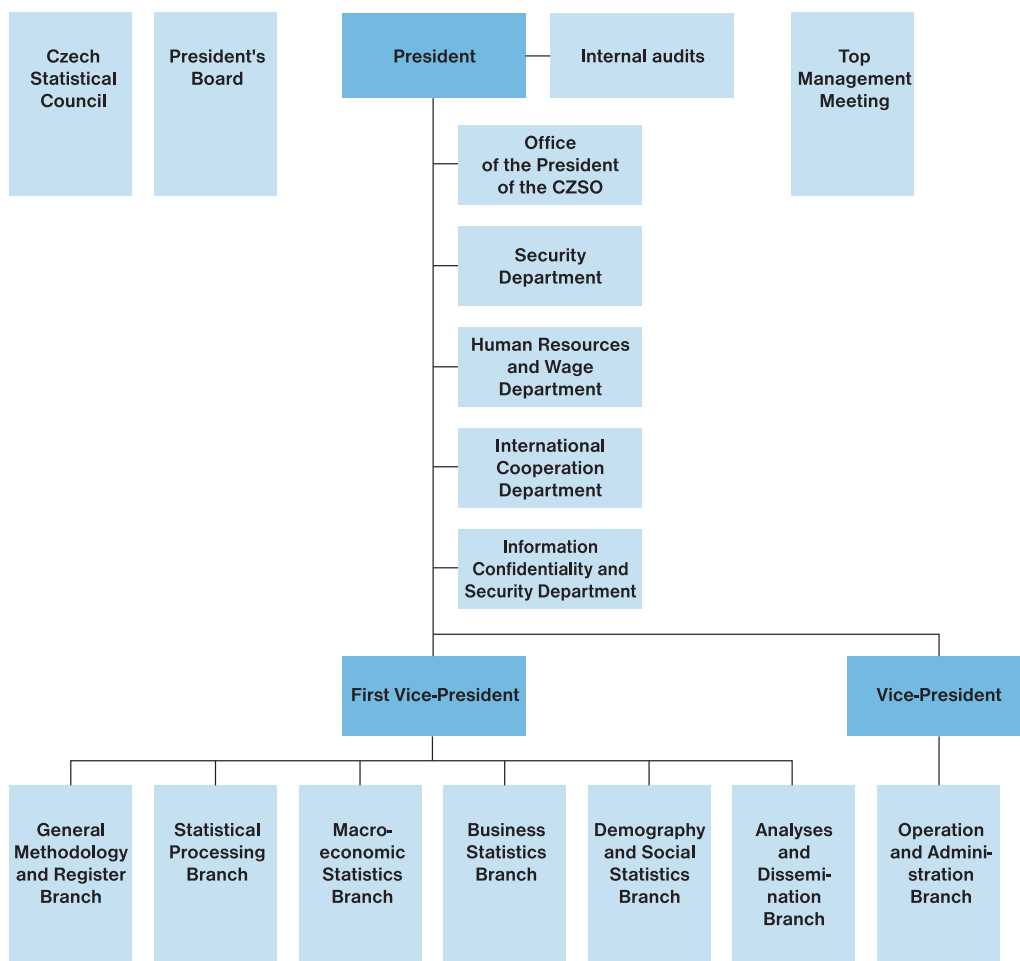
The Czech Statistical Office is headed by the **CZSO President** appointed by the President of the Government on the proposal of the Government. The CZSO President appoints his representatives - vice-presidents and specifies the scope of their powers.

Under the Act on State Statistical Service the **Czech Statistical Council** headed by the CZSO President is a consultative body to the CZSO. Members of the Council are appointed from among the statistical experts in theory and practice. The Council deals with and takes stand on proposals of principles and contents of statistical surveys, drafts of generally binding legal regulations on statistical service and conceptual issues of the state statistical service development.

Advisory bodies of the CZSO President include the **Top Management Meeting** and the **President's Board**.

The **Top Management Meeting** deals with fundamental issues of the CZSO activities and issues of the Office operative management and secures and performs its current tasks.

The **President's Board** discusses mainly conceptual materials related to the state statistical service resulting from powers of the Czech Statistical Office, annual contents of the Statistical Surveys Programme and other tasks decided upon by the CZSO President. Members of the President's Board are all members of the Top Management Meeting, directors of the General Methodology Branch and secretary of the President's Board.



The Czech Statistical Council

Chairman:

Jan Fischer, Prime-Minister of the Government of the Czech Republic and the CZSO President

Deputy-chairman:

Jan Seger, Dean of the Faculty of Informatics and Statistics, University of Economics in Prague

Members:

Stanislav Cysař, Chief Director of the Office Management Branch, Ministry for Local Development of the CR

Jaroslav Dostal, Representation of the Czech Association of Insurance Companies

Richard Hindls, President of the University of Economics in Prague

Václav Henych, Director of the General Administration Department, Ministry of Interior of the CR

Ivo Hering, Director of the Analyses and Statistics Department, Ministry of Industry and Trade of the CR

Michal Illner, Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Science of the Czech Republic

Stanislava Janáčková, Advisor to the President of the Czech Republic

Jana Jurečková, Department of Probability and Mathematical Statistics, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics of the Charles University

Jiří Kohoutek, Member of the Board of the Chamber of Commerce of the Czech Republic

Josef Kraus, Research Institute of Agricultural Engineering

Zdeněk Liška, Director General of the Union of Industry and Transportation of the CR

Václav Matyáš, President of the Union of Businessmen in the Building Industry in the CR

Vlasta Mazánková, Advisor to the Director of the Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the CR

Bedřich Moldan, Senator, Director of the Environmental Research Centre at the Charles University

Bedřich Myšička, Manager of the Economic Department of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the CR

Edvard Outrata
Zdeněk Pavlík, Faculty of Natural Sciences of the Charles University

Eduard Souček

Michal Ševera, Vice-President of the Union of Trade and Tourism of the CR

Pavel Štěpánek, Representative of the Czech Republic in the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Eva Zamrazilová, Member of the Bank Council and Branch Director, Czech National Bank

Tomáš Zidek, Deputy Minister of Finance of the CR

Permanently invited:

Jiří Křovák, First Vice-President of the CZSO

Ing. Stanislav Drápal, Vice-President of the CZSO, Secretary of the Czech Statistical Council

The President's Board

Jan Fischer, Prime-Minister of the Government of the Czech Republic and President of the CZSO

Jiří Křovák, First Vice-President of the CZSO charged with representation of the President of the CZSO

Stanislav Drápal, Vice-President of the CZSO

František Konečný, Director of General Methodology and Registers Branch

Ivo Makalouš, Director of Statistical Processing Branch

Marek Rojíček, Director of Macroeconomic Statistics Branch

Josef Vlášek, Director of Business Statistics Branch

Jan Srb, Director of Demography and Social Statistics Branch

Petra Kuncová, Director of Analyses and Dissemination Branch

Ladislava Schwarzová, Director of the Operations and Administration Branch

Marcela Provazníková, Director of Human Resources and Wages Department

Hana Šlégrová, Director of the International Cooperation Department

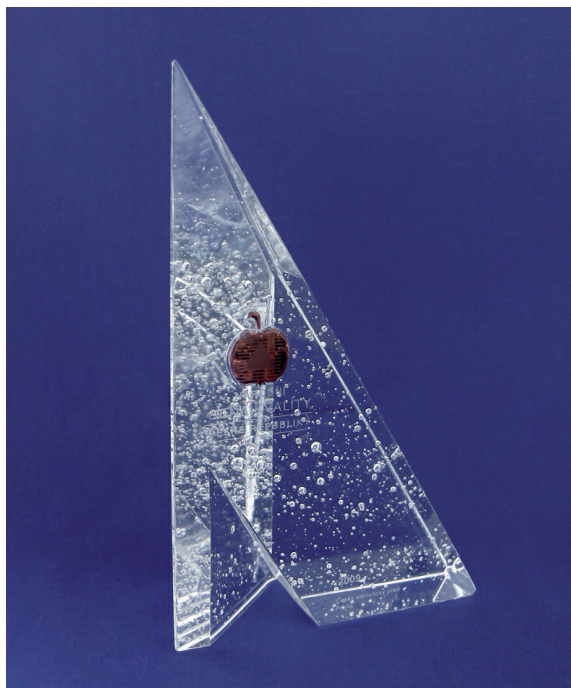
Hana Novotná, charged with management of the Office of the President of the CZSO

Total Quality Management (TQM)

The Czech Statistical Office was awarded the National Quality Award of the Czech Republic and won the title "Excellent Organization 2009".

Public awards

The most important event in 2009 in the area of quality management in the CZSO was the National Quality Award of the Czech Republic and the title "Excellent Organization 2009" in the category Public sector – public administration by self-assessment through the Excellence Model EFQM. Thereby, the CZSO performed its commitment to win the supreme quality award and to become the only statistical institution in Europe receiving such award.



Perception of the CZSO by the Czech public

In public opinion sample survey "Perception of the CZSO by the Czech public" held already for the fourth

time by the Public Opinion Research Centre of the Institute of Sociology of the Academy of Sciences the CZSO ranked again among the institutions enjoying the highest trust in the country.

- The CZSO enjoys the confidence of 65% of the population, the lack of confidence was reported for 16% (in the previous year the confidence expressed by 62% of respondents and the lack of confidence was reported for 15%)
- After the President of the Czech Republic the CZSO is considered the second most creditworthy institution in the Czech Republic

At the turn of 2008 and 2009 the CZSO for the sixth time organized the users' satisfaction survey. Despite the drop of the number of responses the results were yet very good. The total mark of satisfaction with the CZSO products and services was 2.1 which is the best result for the last three years.

The CZSO for the third time organizes the CZSO's respondents' survey which provides a feedback from the reporting units in the area of statistical reports, methodological explanations and the manner of communication with them. The results of the survey were positive: satisfaction with relation between the CZSO and respondents is growing, comprehensibility of statistical reports and notes shows also a constant improvement. The change of the concept of short-term and annual questionnaires receives a positive assessment from respondents.

Implementation of the of European Statistics Code of Practice

The CZSO continued to perform the set of measures related to the implementation of the European Statistics Code of Practice in the Czech statistical service. In May 2009 the CZSO was asked to assess the

process of implementation and to specify the scope of changes for the previous 12 months. In the area of the Code implementation in relation to users it has been stated that all requirements except for the self-assessment which is not realized in the CZSO in accordance to the Code but through the EFQM model had been fulfilled. The monitoring results related to the Code implementation were useful for the preparation of other events – e.g. setting up the European management group Sponsorship on Quality which is to care for relation between the quality obligation and actual quality of products and processes.

Quality in statistics and system of methodological audits

Within the Redesign of statistical information system project the CZSO further developed the subsystem Quality which lies in definition, creation and use of excerpts from the central database focused on the quality of statistical processes and products. The attention was paid especially to the questionnaire on quality and preparation of updates and imputations measurement units. The preparation of the concept and methodology of the second round of methodological audits was under way. The control of subject matter contents and the quality of process and its outputs belongs to the proposed aims. It will be possible to use the process of audit also for the assessment of the level of monitored quality of statistical task and its outputs focused on completeness of information.

Process management and cost controlling

In 2009 the process model in the CZSO was further specified and completed and finally defined up to the level of processes (16 principal and support) and sub-processes (119). In addition, in partial areas there exist also detail process maps. In the CZSO the efficiency of the processes is measured by a set of internal key performance indicators. Monitoring of process/sub-process and other objects of controlling is supported by an application Monitoring of time intensity which in 2009 was currently used in the CZSO. Upon the cost controlling software installation the database will enable also to distribute costs/expenses among the objects of controlling including, in addition to the above mentioned processes and sub-processes, also orders (statistical tasks and projects) and centres.

Annual assessment talks and carrier growth of employees

Annual assessment talks serve for the sixth year already an assessment tool of work performance and create a platform for dialogues concerning personal and professional growth of employees. Human Resources and Wage Department released in 2009 the Annual Assessment Talks Manual with description of aims and meaning of annual assessment talks along with instructions how to conduct the dialogue effectively and how to prepare for it. Conclusions of annual assessment talks create basis for further professional growth of employees and also for implementation of changes in employees' remuneration in 2009. The project of Career growth of employees is being implemented for the 2nd year already. Three employees took part in management training, 13 employees were prepared for expert positions. Besides professional courses the preparation was aimed also at short-term internal internships.



Important activities and projects

Staff survey, psychosocial climate at workplace survey

Staff survey was conducted from 1st to 12th December 2008. Basic results were presented on the Intranet in January 2009. Compared to the previous staff survey the return rate of completed questionnaires fell from 48.1% to 43.9%. Among the approved and implemented measures responding to the survey results is e.g. the construction of a shower for employees in the

Skalka building or flexible working time for employees with shorter weekly working time. The Office management trying to improve work relations and social climate at workplaces prepared in co-operation with an external company the psychosocial climate survey. The survey was conducted by means of questionnaires and also in form of workshops. Measures adopted on the basis of survey results include three new questions incorporated into the Staff Survey 2009 questionnaire.

Presidency of the Czech Republic to the EU Council in the area of statistics

In the first half of 2009 the Czech Republic for the first time presided the EU Council. In the latter half of 2009 the Czech Republic co-operated with the Kingdom of Sweden in the Trio presidency to finish the joint presidency of France, Czech Republic and Sweden.

The Czech Statistical Office performed the presidency especially in the Working group of Statistical Council. This activity subsisted not only in the preparation of and chairing the discussions of the Council but also in co-operation with the European Commission (represented by Eurostat) and the European Central Bank, European Parliament, General Secretariat to the EU Council, Permanent Representation of the CR in Brussels and with the EU Member States in the search for compromises in discussing the European legislation. Besides immediate tasks of the six month presidency of the Czech Republic the CZSO contributed to the preparation and implementation of joint procedure of France, CR and Sweden within their eighteen month presidency (TRIO Presidency). Presidency of the Czech Republic itself started by an official takeover of presidency from France on 19 December 2008 in Paris and terminated on 3 July 2009 in Prague when Sweden took over presidency from the Czech Republic. During the Czech presidency the CZSO dealt with the following drafts of the EU legislation (mainly draft regulations and amendments sponsored by the European Parliament and the EU Commission):

1. Draft regulation on the European statistics,
2. Draft regulation on trade in goods between the EU Member States (Intrastat) statistics,
3. Draft regulation on external trade with third countries statistics (Extrastat),
4. Draft regulation on information society statistics,
5. Draft regulation of crops statistics,
6. Draft regulation on crops protection (pesticides) statistics,
7. Draft regulation of the Council on statistical data collection by the European Central Bank.

In the course of the Czech presidency 4 subjects out of 7 were finally discussed and published in the Official

Journal. In the remaining three cases generally acceptable drafts were prepared and finally approved by EU Council during the presidency of Sweden. Exceptionally difficult was to reach agreement on draft regulation on crops protection (pesticides) statistics. Similarly, during discussion concerning draft regulation on statistical data collection by the European Central Bank a compromise was reached thanks to professional approach exceeding the framework of original intentions and the text was handed over for final approval to Swedish presidency.

The discussion concerning the Council's regulation charging the Member States with the duty to maintain minimum supplies of crude oil and/or oil products was also contributed to by the CZSO. The regulation represented an important item among priorities of the Czech presidency in terms of the EU energy safety. During the Czech presidency other activities were carried out, e.g. co-ordination of EU countries during the preparation and the course of the UN Statistical Commission session in February 2009 or the update of the presidency website used as basic source of information for other Member States and those interested in statistics.

Achievements in the area of statistics during the presidency of the Czech Republic are the following:

- 7 draft legal provisions were discussed out of which 4 were completely solved and 1 almost finished, for the remaining 2 issues the final agreement on expert level was reached. The effort not to increase burden due to the legislation changes represented also an important aspect.
- 3 trilogues of the European Parliament, European Commission and Presidency took place.

Important activities and projects

- 4 technical discussions of the European Parliament, European Commission and Presidency were held.
- 5 work discussions of Presidency with the European Central Bank and European Commission took place.
- The CZSO closely co-operated with colleagues for other ministries especially with experts from the

State Phytosanitary Administration and the Czech National Bank.

The Czech Republic contributed to the implementation of the Czech presidency intentions in the area of statistics and strengthened its good repute in abroad.



Meeting of the Swedish and French presidency teams with the representatives of the European Commission at the occasion of termination of the Czech Presidency on 3 July 2009 in Prague.

Conference Statistics - Investment in the Future 2

For the second time already the CZSO held an international conference. The Conference was attended by 119 statisticians and 82 speeches from all areas of statistics were delivered there.

On 14 - 15 September 2009 the Czech Statistical Office in co-operation with the Czech National Bank and the University of Economics in Prague held an international conference Statistics - Investment in the Future 2 at the occasion of the 90th anniversary of Czech official statistics. The Conference was held under the auspices of Václav Klaus, President of the Czech Republic, and pursued the aims of the first conference which took place in Prague in September 2004.

The conference was attended by 119 participants mostly from Eurostat. As for individual countries strongly represented was Germany, Slovakia and Italy. Attendants from altogether 27 European countries took part in the conference as well as participants from the USA, Canada, Chile and Russia.

The Conference agenda was divided into 21 topics starting from those more generally conceived such as "Statistics: Necessity or luxury?" to purely technical ones such as "National accounts". The total of 82 contributions were delivered.

21 participants from the CZSO attended the Conference including chairing persons, lecturers and

administrators of individual sections. Lectures were attended by more than 80% of the CZSO experts.

All information about the Conference including presented contributions are available on the conference website www.czso.cz/conference2009.



The opening ceremony of the conference - Walter Radermacher (Eurostat), Richard Hindls (University of Economics in Prague), Zdeněk Tůma (Czech National Bank), Jan Fischer (Office of the Government of the Czech Republic)

Development projects

In 2009 the CZSO realized and prepared a number of development projects - all with financial support from the EU funds. This applies especially to projects co-financed from the European Structural funds (Integrated Operational Programme and Operational Program Human Resources and Employment) and completion of the project Statistical metainformation system which was implemented within the Transition Facility 2006.

Population Register (ROS)

The Czech Statistical Office administers basic register of legal entities, register of private entrepreneurs entities and the general government register (hereinafter only the "Population Register"). The Population Register is an inseparable part of the system of basic public administration registers and is regulated by Act No. 111/2009 Sb., on Basic Registers and the amendment act No. 227/2009 Sb. By the approval of the Act on Basic Registers legislative work in the CZSO in the area of legal determination of the Population Register culminated and other activities were focused on specification of the system and data architecture of basic register. In the latter half of 2009 the tender documentation for implementation of the Population Register was prepared.

In basic Population Register the reference data on legal entities, private entrepreneurs and the general government including all their organizational units will be kept and made accessible to the public. Basic Population Register creates two identifiers, i.e. (1) identification number of an individual (Id-No.) and (2) business identification number (Business Id-No.). The update of the Population Register will be made through the authorised editors of places of agenda. The register data update and making the data accessible will be carried out by adjusted current agenda information systems and newly designed integrated information agenda system determined for those agendas lacking their own information system. Information from the register will be provided directly as information on an individual or in form of data files for the purpose of mass processing. Introduction of basic Population Register will enhance accessibility of updated information on all persons covering both the general government, citizens

and the public in general, will simplify the assignment of personal identifiers and will reduce administrative burden place on persons themselves and the general government institutions. Important is also the increased personal data protection. Basic register will provide the statistical service with a complete and updated description of statistical population which will result into more precise statistical information.

Reform of statistical survey system

The CZSO is aware of a significant respondents' burden and hence in 2009 the preparation of the statistical survey system reform commenced in 2005 continued. The notified minimising of respondents' burden which was prepared in 2007 and 2008 mainly in terms of contents by itemized stock-taking and analysis was in 2009 implemented and respondents received modified questionnaires and respective application program equipment. Following the change of contents and scope of surveyed statistical variables the survey system SBS 2009 and STS 2009 was implemented respecting also the principle of negative co-ordination of respondents selection which brings reduction of respondent' burden per unit. The result of the CZSO priority task showed by reduction of respondents burden in the respective segment of statistical tasks by approximately 23%.

The implementation of the reform in the next years is expected to be co-financed from the Integrated Operational Programme. In 2009 two feasibility studies were prepared plus variation analyses of costs and revenues which are to be used as compulsory annexes to applications to be filed by the CZSO in compliance with Call No. 07 - Computerization of public administration services of Integrated Operational Programme.

Modernization of the CZSO

In connection with the European Structural Funds within the project Smart Administration the CZSO started to prepare the project "Modernization of the CZSO, improvement of efficiency of its management and related human resources development" which was included into the indicative list approved by the Government of the CR. With the aim to increase the success probability rate of the Modernization project a Feasibility study was prepared in 2009 covering areas to be resolved within the Project. This applies e.g. to the CZSO process model Data Management System (DMS) and Workflow, redesign and optimisation of the CZSO, modern methods of the CZSO performance assessment, introduction of Service Level Management (SLM), integrated information system and financial registration. Upon Call no. 48 Effective administrative office announced by the Ministry of Internal Affairs the Modernization project had to be split into three parts and for each an application for financial support from the Operational Programme Human Resources and Employment was prepared and dispatched. The above mentioned parts are the following:

- Introduction of systems of monitoring and performance management in the CZSO.
- Rationalization and reduction of administrative burden of internal processes within the CZSO.
- Redesign of the Intranet as a platform for communication of information, methodological and co-ordination support of statistical decision-making.

Statistical registers

The work on the project aimed at creation of the system of mutually interlinked statistical registers respecting the links to basic registers of public administration belonged to important activities in 2009. Within this project duplicity of data in individual registers and databases will be eliminated and conditions for new, combined data will be set up. The whole system of statistical registers should be related in terms of data to basic registers of public administration, it should enable a long-distance management of administered elements for basic registers and contribute to the fulfilment of the Office commitments in the area of national and European geoportals.

This project should also be co-financed from the European structural funds. To this end, a feasibility

study to this project was prepared and by the end of 2009 source materials for application for a financial support from the Integrated Operating Programme within the Call no. 07 – Computerization of public administration services were prepared.

StatGIS

The full name of this project is "Extension and quality improvement of the database of regional accounts and regional statistics in the Czech Republic in relation to creation of special graphic data levels over the Register of territorial identification, addresses and real estate (RUIAN) and to other basic public administration registers". The aim of the project is to set up production environment within the Czech Statistical Office for creation of public data and map services provided by the Czech Statistical Office (integrated data and map portal of statistical data) and related applications which will use space data by a different mode and, to a different extent, to improve quality, quantity and accessibility of statistical data and to increase effectiveness of their collection by modern information and communication technologies.

The completed project should be of great importance for all users of space statistical data including general government, international organization bodies, media, academic institutions and research, students of secondary schools and universities, analysts of various institutions and organizations, private sphere/businesses. The project will be useful for data providers – respondents in statistical surveys and naturally for the CZSO internal users.

In 2009 within the preparation of the project a study of its feasibility was prepared and work was started on drafting the application for financial support from the Integrated Operational Programme within the Call No. 07 – Computerization of public administration services.

ISDS Data boxes – Compatibility of filing service

Another project funded partly from the Integrated Operational Programme is ISDB project – Compatibility of filing service. The aim of this project is creation of software interlink between the filing service systems and information system of data boxes (ISDB).

Important activities and projects

The Czech Statistical Office activated on 15 July 2009 as one of the first general government institutions its data box and started thereby receiving and dispatching of electronic documents in compliance with Act No. 300/2008 Sb., on Electronic acts and authorized conversion of documents. The information system of data boxes (ISDB) is, besides traditional communication with the general government institutions and other entities which have the data box installed, used also for communication with the reporting units. In 2009 the pilot system of data box connection with electronic system of filing service (eSSL) was started and central electronic filing service was established. Final solution concerning the implementation of data boxes in all processes of filing service will be realized in the CZSO in 2010 with financial support from the EU structural funds. Data boxes as one of possibilities of mailing the electronic form will be used by the CZSO for electronic data collection during the Population and Housing Census in 2011.

The above pilot project, in addition to the electronic filing service and related processes, will check the methods of takeover of statistical reports in electronic form. The deadline for data box activation was, according to the amendment of Act No. 300/2008 Sb., 1 November 2009. Since then the general government institutions started to mail more extensively statistical questionnaires and reports in converted electronic form which required an immediate change of processes related to manners of identifications and distribution of electronic documents in the system of statistical processing. To this end, work on the increased use of converted electronic documents and questionnaires was started. Software for electronic data collection was adjusted so that the reporting units could mail the export data files from electronic data collection through data box. The preparation of a new mechanism of mailing communications on reporting duty was started as well as the check of statistical surveys in form of interactive electronic questionnaires which are to supplement and gradually replace the current electronic data collection.

Systematic use of data boxes in the area of communication with the CZSO's reporting units is expected to be realized in 2011 after the completion of the filing service implementation in the CZSO and following the

adjustment of related systems of processing. An important precondition is the final solution of completion of interlink between the Data Box Information System with the provider because at one moment the Office will make an input of tens thousand of data reports along with the notification of the reporting duty in the given year.

Statistical Metainformation System (SMS)

Work in this area was focused mainly on completion of all unfinished activities so that the whole system could be put into production operation as at 1 July 2009. Contents specifications and development of the programme apparatus for SMS KLAS and UKAZ subsystems were completed. In the latter half of 2009 the operation of METIS metainformation system was terminated. A new statistical metainformation system has thus become the only reference source of statistical metainformation both for external and internal users and applications. Basic precondition of full use of SMS is the completion of description of input and output statistical variables in compliance with specified methodological processes. According to the approved plan of work the full coverage of all statistical areas will be completed in 2012.

Within the Transition Facility 2006 (TF 2006) project in 2009 the subsystem ÚLOHY whose aim was to interconnect the statistical tasks creation directly with the SMS metainformation sources was completed and tested on pilot task. New procedure of input and output statistical variable description significantly emphasize the role of general methodology and strengthen the standardization of accompanying metainformation.

Implementation of SMS subsystem – the data fund enabled to determine and create central consolidated statistical data and metainformation store (data store). Supplying of data store by statistical data was tested on UNP 1-04 pilot task including the test of access to output information. In the following period the data and metadata of short-term statistics will be stored in data store (monthly and quarterly reports) and when the description of inputs statistical variables of structural economic statistics is completed the data from relevant annual statistical tasks will be supplied to the data store.

General methodology and registers

Activities in the area of general methodology and statistical registers like in the previous years were significantly linked with priority tasks. These tasks were related mainly to basic Population Register and the system of statistical registers, statistical meta-information system and introduction of CZ-NACE classification into the statistical surveys. In the list of activities we should not forget the use of administrative data as one of important sources of improvement of statistical outputs and reduction of respondents' burden.

Classification, methodology

In this area the vital issue was the implementation of international classifications and creation of their national versions including their current update. Classification of construction work (CZ-CC) was updated as well as the International Refined Diagnosis Related Groups (IR-DRG). By the CZSO Communication effective from 1 July 2010 the International classification of functioning, disability and health (MKF) was introduced. Changes in Combined Nomenclature were discussed on annual basis. CZ-NACE classification was fully implemented and consequent activities were focused mainly on consultations, training and methodological support. Release of statistical outputs according to a new classification CZ-NACE required the statistical time series conversion, adjustment of statistical processing methodology and a complete change of algorithm of grossing up to statistical population.

Like in the previous year a significant attention was given to minimising the respondent's burden. In compliance with two government decisions regulating the reduction of bureaucratic burden placed on entrepreneurs and public administration, a detailed analysis of administrative burden was completed in co-operation with the Ministry of Industry and Trade as a response to Act No. 189/1995 Sb., regulating the State Statistical Service. The analysis reveals that compared to 2007 the administrative burden placed on statistical service was reduced by CZK 114.7 million, i.e. 21.13% of which CZK 111.8 million came from the CZSO statistical surveys.

Reduction of administrative burden owed to the reduction of the scope of statistical surveys and their ratio-

nalization. In 2009 a new system of short-term statistics survey (STS 2009) based on direct link between monthly and quarterly surveys and co-ordination of reporting duties was implemented. Last, but not least, the reduction of administrative burden came from direct use of administrative data sources and mainly of selected accounting data from the Ministry of Finance of the CR. As a rule, the process of the statistical survey programme preparation is part of the Regulation Impact Assessment (RIA) process.

Registers

Businesses registered in Business Register were broken by statistical activity, i.e. according to both OKEČ and CZ-NACE classifications. Further improvement of quality of information kept in statistical registers mainly by more effective use of administrative data sources from tax registers was subject to an increased attention. Business Register has become the source of information for the European register of groups of businesses.

For the purpose of consistent provision of information to the public administration and citizens in the half of 2009 functionality of the Internet version of the Register of Census Districts was extended by a new search for buildings and territorial units. In this application not only standard information on buildings, their technical parameters and prevailing use is available but also the information on their inclusion into territorial units and selected administrative offices (financial, birth register, construction). Now, it is possible to display the map offering better space orientation to the user. Further improvement of territorial register of the CZSO was initiated by territorial preparation of the Population

Important activities and projects

and Housing Census. In 2009 in this connection links to addresses of information system of the Population Register kept by the Ministry of Interior and to the points of delivery of the Česká pošta, s.p. were provided.

Reporting duties

In 2009 in the process of statistical survey preparation a new methodology of reporting duty creation for businesses was fully implemented. Questionnaires for businesses were prepared (tailored to measure) respecting the information capabilities of a respondent and monitoring of the respondent's burden was introduced to reduce the burden to minimum. According to the survey conducted in May 2009 respondents gave positive assessment to this change. No negative impact on the quality of statistical outputs of statistical surveys in question has been registered.

Quality

To support quality (perceived according to criteria of the European Statistical System – i.e. relevance, preciseness, timeliness, availability and comprehensibility, comparability and consistency) a programme mechanism has been developed in the CZSO to systematically store metainformation on quality including qualitative information and quantitative indicators on quality of statistical task and its outputs processing. The CZSO is involved in the international process of standard quality



indicators preparation (QPI) and in the preparation of European statistical metainformation structure (Euro SDMX). Like in the previous year the quality of statistics of quarterly national accounts, foreign trade, Business Register, structural survey of industrial enterprises, environment, innovation and LFSS was subject to regular assessment.

In connection with current economic development significant capacities were allocated to time series and their seasonal adjustment modelling. In the framework of international discussion held principally by Eurostat the CZSO participated in harmonization of methodological approaches in work with time series containing current data.

Information and communication technologies

The main attention in this area was paid to further stage of restoration of the main computing centre, especially to put central communication, application and database servers into operation. Statistical applications and databases were gradually transferred into a new technological environment and put into routine operation. At the same time, versions of database systems were unified. Operation of original central computing equipment was completed as at 30 June 2009 and since then all applications were operated on new central servers in unified or virtual environment.

In connection with preparation of extraordinary elections to the Council of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic regional data centres were restored including their active communication elements. To this end, preconditions for successful handling of election results processing in all elections in 2010 were created and additional capacities were formed for operation of election applications and data store. Due to replacement of active communication elements the Office secured compatibility of its communication system with the Internet protocol of version 6 (IPv6) as required by the Government resolution No. 727/2009.

In compliance with the information system development policy in 2009 the press conditions in the CZSO were gradually restored with the aim to make the press and reproduction equipment standard and optimum and to reduce markedly the costs in this area. Central and regional filing departments were equipped with

Important activities and projects

basic technological system enabling the conversion of documents from/to electronic form in compliance with Act No. 300/2008 Sb., on Electronic Acts and Authorized Document Conversion. By the end of 2009 further improvement of the computing centre was started to secure the operation of regime work place of the Population and Housing Census.

Information security

In the area of confidential statistical data protection and information security in 2009 attention was paid to the preparation of European and national legislation and mainly thought the participation in the Working Group on Statistical Confidentiality of Eurostat within the project Population and Housing Census 2011. From the aspect of internal regulation drafts of new regulations and rules in the area of security were prepared, e.g. work rules of Security Control and Methodological Group in the Population and Housing Census. New confidentiality rules for the statistics on tourism, sci-

ence and research and innovations were implemented and confidentiality rules to protect the data sent from Business Register to Eurostat were adjusted. An analysis was made and new algorithms of data protection in structural company tasks were implemented and basic analysis of capacities of - ARGUS programme system was made.

The general security policy of the CZSO was implemented into the system and technical policies of new sub-systems of central computing centre. Tender documentation of risks analysis and security project for the Population and Housing Census 2011 needs was prepared. In 2009 the certification of the long-term management of Public Administration Information Systems by the CZSO was implemented to comply with requirements of Act No. 365/2000 Sb., regulating the Information System of Public Administration and regulation No. 529/2006 Sb., as amended. For the needs of electronic filing service certain employees were granted electronic signature certifications.

Important activities and projects

Statistical processing

In 2009 Statistical Processing branch focused on changing the data processing and work organization with the aim to improve productivity, effectiveness and quality of statistical task processing. Numbers of employees and departments were reduced in the area of field surveys and a universal network of interviewers was set up.

The area of statistical processing in the CZSO is broken by prevailing processes and methods of obtaining of statistical information from respondents into field survey departments and statistical processing departments. Field survey departments using mainly personal talks or contact with the respondent arrange for the population surveys, price statistics and data processing for natural persons in agricultural statistics. Statistical processing departments secure the data processing for businesses and for governmental and non-profit institutions. The data are collected by the correspondence method when the paper or electronic form are used.

Methods of statistical processing

For input statistical processing the following modern methods currently applied by statistical institutions in Europe and all over the world are used to a different extent:

- Electronic questionnaires with interactive controls (CAPI – Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing) which are used for personal and phone talks with respondents (this applies to 65% of standard household surveys and 100% of consumer price surveys),
- Electronic data collection takes place locally at respondent's place or by e-mail and through the data box the data are sent to the CZSO for processing (28% of questionnaires for which the electronic data collection is available),
- Optical character recognition (OCR) of paper questionnaires and reports (almost 4% of the total number of reports and questionnaires).

Household surveys

In 2009 Czech households were addressed by standard survey types, i.e. Family accounts statistics, Labour Force Sample Survey, Tourism Sample Survey,

Information Technology Sample Survey and Survey on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC). In selected 62 thousand dwellings 378 thousand talks with individual household members were conducted (in continual surveys also repeated talks are included). In consideration that in the Czech Republic household surveys are voluntary for respondents the above mentioned volume of obtained responses is considered to be a sufficient input for further processing. In 2009 also a pilot sample survey on Prevention of and struggle against criminal activity which addressed 1 thousand respondents was conducted.



Data collection in businesses

Businesses performing their activities in the Czech Republic were addressed by the CZSO in 2009 according to the Statistical Survey Programme that

Important activities and projects

established the reporting duty in form of 121 reports compiled by the CZSO. These reports cover the needs of inputs for individual statistics users and differ not only in terms of their contents in general but they respect also the economic activity and financial sector of the respondent. For almost 95 thousand of selected units the total of 822 thousand questionnaires were processed including the questionnaires of monthly and quarterly periodicity.

In 2009 the Statistical Processing Section introduced an important change into the data processing and work organization with the aim to increase productivity, effectiveness and quality in statistical tasks processing. Staff numbers, numbers of departments as well as the number of managerial staff were reduced, numbers of employees of individual departments were optimised in proportion to the volume of processed statistical tasks, to territorial cover in terms of human resources and technical resources and to the number of employees managed by one chief. Statistical tasks processing

using the method of field survey was secured by creating the network of universal interviewers. In connection with the change of the respondents' reporting duty, structure of statistical reports, technological environment of main and dislocated data centres and with the introduction of negative co-ordination in creation of samples and composition of reports from the aspect of surveyed statistical variables it was also necessary to change and detune new application software for input and central statistical processing.

The Czech Statistical Office prepared for respondents to statistical surveys a new website www.vykazy.cz, to obtain all necessary information and reference for presentation of statistical reports and electronic data collection with the aim to simplify the respondent's search for information in statistical reports, methodological, organizational and technical information. It also communicated contacts to all processing units. In 2009 a feedback of this website was assessed through the Respondents' survey.

Production statistics

In the area of production statistics the work related to the implementation of NACE Rev. 2 was completed. The deadline for News Releases on industry, construction, trade, services and tourism was cut short. Currently, the work on EU grants focused on problems related to the administrative data use, tourism and environment continued.

Industry, construction, trade, market services

Within the Statistical Information System Redesign project (SIS) the scheduled changes in methodology of individual surveys were implemented. In the area of business cycle statistics this applied especially to the completion of work related to NACE Rev. 2 implementation including the release of recalculated time series for selected indicators. Further, a new methodology of calculation of the Construction Output Index was implemented. Following the increased demand of users for fresh results of the economic development basic indicators in the period of global economic crises a Preliminary Information was temporarily introduced mapping out the development in industry. Our efforts to meet such requirements received a positive assessment from users. In the Statistical Metainformation System (SMS) the work related to the description of statistical variables of selected tasks was going on as well as the co-operation with other departments within the CZSO in performance of priority tasks set for 2009.



Energy

In connection with the Regulation Amendment No. 201/2005 Sb., regulating statistics of imported and exported goods, work on the introduction of the system of below-the-threshold processing of imported and exported goods for monthly tasks in the area of energy statistics was under way. At the same time, the work on securing requirements stemming out from the Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council on the Energy Statistics, Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council regulating the Energy Effectiveness and Final Consumption and last, but not least, the Regulation of Council regarding the Emergency Supplies of Oil and Oil Products which was approved during the presidency of the Czech Republic, continued.

Agriculture and environment

In the area of farm statistics structural surveys on vineyards and wine-growing zones (vineyard census) were conducted. The main stages of pilot survey on meliorations of farms, preparation of questionnaires and methodology of farm census – Agrocensus 2010 were performed. Following new EU legislation regulating farm statistics changes of regular reporting were prepared.

In the area of environment a new economic (rotation) model of data collection on waste was created and approved. Preparation and testing of methodology within the preparation of a new regulation on environmental accounts was under way. Work on two Eurostat grants – water statistics and environmental charges and tax statistics were started. By the end of 2009 Eurostat approved a common grant of the CZSO and the University of J. E. Purkyně in Ústí nad Labem focused on environmental services and goods.

Macroeconomic statistics

In the area of quarterly accounts the quality of the system of GDP time series adjustment for seasonal and calendar effects has been improved. In price statistics the introduction of the consumer price chain index was prepared to be introduced in 2010. In the foreign trade statistics positive impact of a new regulation on Intrastat started to show.

National accounts

In quarterly national accounts the system of time series adjustment of GDP and related indicators for seasonal and calendar effects has been extended and improved in terms of quality. In co-operation with the Czech National Bank the work on harmonization of quarterly non-financial and financial sector accounts continued.

In the national accounts statistics the implementation of conclusions of the Eurostat control missions in respect to the average VAT rate and GDP and GNI (national income) calculations took place. To improve the quality of the VAT average rate calculation a brand new method of direct use of tax statement has been developed. This updated version has been made available in full extent also to our users. In November the second Eurostat control mission focused on the calculation of gross national income testing in detail methodological correctness of calculations in selected branches and of expense items took place.

In the area of international co-operation the process of preparation of the national accounts system revision took place both at global and European levels. The CZSO took part in the process at the expert level. The CZSO staff actively participated in international assistance projects aimed at less developed countries mainly in area where the Czech statistic enjoys good repute (e.g. estimates of illegal economy or capital account formation).

In the area of government accounts the monitoring of EU grants in order to assess the government deficit and debt was developed in terms of methodology and put into the stage of implementation. In co-operation with the Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic there was an intensive communication concerning the final form of the central state book-keeping system was

which should (starting from 2011) markedly reduce an administrative burden caused by statistical surveys conducted in the general government institutions. Without any reservations the April and October government deficit and debt notifications were accepted and the CZSO received a positive assessment from Eurostat during its control visit held in August with the aim to check the quality of calculation of these key indicators.

Price statistics

Besides a regular routine production of price indices which is the main activity of the price statistics department, the preparation of general revision was started to be performed in 2010. In the meantime, the transition to the chain consumer price index which is to be completed the next year with the aim to better reflect the price level changes in the period of current economic recession was finished. In connection with the transition to a new NACE classification the calculation of retrospective index time series in all areas affected by this change was completed.



Important activities and projects

In the real estate prices two new quarterly surveys were introduced which contributed to the construction of a new pilot real estate price index under the methodological supervision by Eurostat.

From a relatively wide international co-operation in price statistics the most important was the price survey for the purpose of a regular international comparison project (ECP) which is conducted for a few years by the CZSO as required by the European legislation.

External trade

In the external trade in goods statistics a positive impact came from the Regulation Amendment to Intrastat statistics due to a marked reduction of reports sent in hard form. Compulsory reporting for all sub-items of goods except for radioactive substances and electricity enabled to improve the collected data control. Increase of the threshold levels determined by the above Regulation will also show by a marked reduction of the number of reporting units with reporting duty while the necessary data quality is maintained. Owing to close co-operation with the General Directorate of Customs (GŘC) the Intrastat data control over the data given in tax statements was extended. Owing to the

use of a special software the current check of reporting units activities was more intensive. In the system of data collection the processing of group Tax Id-Nos. was respected. Transition of the General Directorate of Customs to electronic filing of Unified Administrative Document (JSD) in exports enabled to set the corresponding control mechanisms also for Eurostat. In co-operation with the General Directorate of Customs the training of the Intrastat respondents and the customs offices selected staff took place.

Representatives of the CZSO took an active part in discussions of the Eurostat working groups and the EU Council on Statistics regarding new Intrastat and Extrastat regulations during the presidency to the EU. Activities performed in the framework of the Eurostat project Simplification of Intrastat enabled to reveal the causes of the imbalances in Intrastat in co-operation with selected EU member states and Eurostat and to reduce them.

In the export and import of services statistics whose outputs serve mainly for production of the balance of payments and national accounts statistics the selection of monitored services and reporting units was extended and grossing-ups to non-response were adjusted.

Demography and social statistics

In demographic statistics the estimate of the population growth up to 2065 has been compiled in three versions (low, mediocre, high). In the 1st half of 2009 results of sample survey on life-long education of the population were published.

Population statistics

At the end of 1st half of 2009 in demographic statistics the estimate of the population growth up to 2065 was compiled in three versions (low, mediocre, high). The estimate outlined the population growth in the Republic and pointed out changes in age structure which are to be vital and irreversible.

The concept of selection and processing of statistical data related to migration and integration of foreigners in the Czech Republic was largely updated and is ready for presentation to the government. The concept includes the already ninth edition of the publication "Foreigners in the Czech Republic" as well as the publication "Demographic Events of Foreigners" which will be released soon. Further, finalization of outputs according to the Regulation EU-2007/862 on foreign migration statistics and international security for the reference year 2008 was done.

In December 2009 the brochure "Seniors in the Czech Republic in Figures" was published as part of tasks included in the National programme of preparation to aging for the period 2008 to 2012.

Household survey

Living conditions survey (EU-SILC) was conducted in 2009 without financial support from EU-Eurostat. In the 1st half of 2009 results of the life-long education of the population sample survey were published. The survey was conducted in 2008 in households of the CR for the first time in compliance with the Eurostat methodology. Over the year 2009 two test surveys were conducted in co-operation with Eurostat with the aim to check feasibility of other two new statistical surveys on households. One of the surveys was focused on the criminal rate (crime victims) and the second on the disabled. Work on large grant programme of Eurostat

(ESSnet-culture) was commenced with the CZSO managing the project working group 2 (aimed at culture funding), managing and co-ordinating the activity of the group of individual countries and presenting the achieved solutions.

Society development statistics

In statistics on research, development and innovations and in information society statistics the emphasis was put like every year especially on the presentation of large information sources which are available to statistics within the competence of the CZSO and to their accessibility to users including international comparison. The CZSO also contributed to the publication prepared by the Council for Research and Development "Analysis of the existing state of research, development and innovation in the Czech Republic and a comparison with situation abroad in 2009" which is presented annually to the Government of the Czech Republic.

With the aim to provide source documents for the financial statistics of the government, for notification of the government deficit and debt and compiling national accounts for the sector of the Government of the Czech Republic according to the EU requirements, the CZSO and the Ministry of Finance of the CR prepared the annual draft report on utilization of the financial means from abroad Grants 1-01 and pilot survey for 2008 was conducted. In co-operation with interdepartmental working groups the work on satellite account of non-profit institutions in terms of its further specification and extension of the output tables in compliance with the EU methodology continued. Currently, a five-year time series of these satellite accounts is available.

Information on the stage of preparation of the Population and Housing Census 2011 is available in part Important activities and projects – Population and Housing Census.

Election statistics

Election statistics was aimed especially at elections of deputies to the European Parliament. In the latter half of the year the statistics went through rapid preparation for extraordinary elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic which were finally cancelled.

A long-term technical, methodological and organizational preparation in the area of election statistics was aimed for the second time in the history of the Czech Republic and of the Czech Statistical Office as well as securing elections of deputies representing the Czech Republic in the European Parliament. Elections were held on 5 and 6 June 2009. The task of the CZSO was to take over the election results from 14 777 constituencies at more than 500 take-over points. Representatives of 33 parties took part in the elections. In total, they ran for 22 posts of deputies which was by 2 points less compared to the previous elections. Of 8 401 thousand of registered votes 28.22% appeared

at voting boxes which approximately corresponded to the turnout at previous elections to the European Parliament. As a rule, the CZSO performed its task within a few hours informing regularly via the Internet about the progress of processing the results.

In the course of the year political representation of the Czech Republic decided on holding extraordinary elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic in October. Despite the time for the preparation was cut short to be less than 5 months the CZSO succeeded to secure all technical, methodological and organizational conditions. The CZSO managed to keep the prepared systems also for the postponed date of these extraordinary elections to November. For the first time in the history and responding to political development the preparation was terminated in respect of cancellation of premature elections. However, without undue delay the preparation for regular elections in May 2010 was started. The CZSO succeeded to make maximum use of the already expanded costs for the preparation of extraordinary elections so that all what had been purchased and prepared for extraordinary elections can be used for regular elections in 2010.



Population and Housing Census 2011

In 2009 the preparation of the Population and Housing Census 2011 proceeded from the already adopted Regulation of the European Parliament and the EU Council No. 763/2008. An important event was the approval of Act No. 296/2009 Sb., on Population and Housing Census 2011 which formed a legislative basis for solution of specific conditions of this event preparation in the Czech Republic.

By the approval of Act No. 296/2009 Sb., regulating the Population and Housing Census 2011 any and all terms, rights and obligations related to the preparation and implementation of this census in the CR have been approved and specified. The Act is based on principles and rules outlined by the EP and The EC Regulation No. 763/2008 specifying common terms for implementation of the population census in all EU Member States.

Among the main tasks of the Population and Housing Census in 2011 belonged the preparation and implementation of tender procedure for external supplier of all key services related to the preparation and implementation of the census. All necessary tenders were realized and assessed by the beginning of December 2009. In respect of criticism which appeared in some mass media the CZSO as a client decided to ask the Office for the Protection of Economic Competition to review the objectiveness of tender documentation of public order for General supplier of information technologies. For all other tender procedures contracts were signed in December and the work with suppliers on the preparation of the Population and Housing

Census 2011 was started. Considerable attention was paid to the selection and preparation of employees hired for time-limited contracts for the Population and Housing Census 2011 needs. By the end of 2009 the number of the Czech Statistical Office employees increased by more than 150 persons for the purpose of census.

During the year methodological preparation was going on. New employees coming to regional and district workplaces began to prepare the update of the Census District Register from the aspect of checking correctness of multi-dwelling houses addresses. The contacts between local and municipal offices co-operating on this task have been established.

Over the year more than CZK 220 million was spent on preparatory work and over 97% of the determined budget was exhausted. These funds fully covered all activities planned for 2009 and enabled, in addition, to economically purchase material which is to be used in the next two years and, thereby, to ease the burden placed on the already determined budget for the next years.



Logo Population and Housing Census 2011

Population and Housing Census mark is designed as a variable symbol consisting of basic components of the project:

- pictogram of a human being
- pictogram of a house or dwelling

The symbol contains also the following components:

- crossing out in questionnaire
- mathematic mark of multiplication
- addition below the line (basic bottom line)
- Roman figure 11

Products and services

In the last year the CZSO Internet presentation showed approximately the same level of visiting rate. New were statistics in form of video releases. Since April 2009 extraordinary Preliminary Information has been published. In 2009 the implementation of a new presentation system brought about a significant reduction of the number of printed publications - the Catalogue of Publications shrank by almost two thirds.

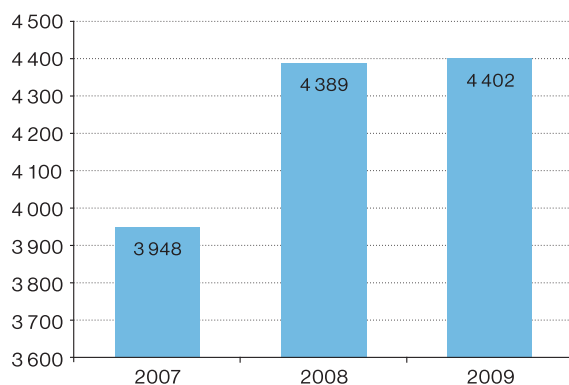
The CZSO website

In 2009 the Internet presentation of the CZSO has maintained the same level of visiting rate. Its (main page) portal visited 1 606.9 thousand of unique visitors (by 2.4 thousand more compared to 2008). The main page was displayed 2 958.6 times (by 258.9 thousand times less than in 2008). The average number of visitors was 4 402 (4 389 in 2008).

Visiting rate of the CZSO website in 2007–2009 (monthly average)

	2007	2008	2009
Unique visitors	120 081.9	133 874.5	133 905.3
Number of displays	253 375.2	268 291.2	246 552.2

Average number of visitors of the CZSO website in 2007–2009



Among the most frequently visited website belonged, the same as in the last year, Inflation Rate, Population,

Regions, town, municipalities, Business Register and Electronic Data Collection. The most popular on-line publications on the CZSO website was the Statistical Yearbook of the Czech Republic.

In the last year approximately 22 thousand new documents were put on the website and by the year-end the databases contained almost 172 thousand documents. The development of data visualization continued by adding 109 new dynamic charts on the CZSO website.

Statistics presented in form of video reports belonged to new products. Since March 2009 the CZSO has presented in 23 video recordings - not only on its own website but also on YouTube.com.

At the year-end the CZSO prepared the "Catalogue of Products 2010" providing a review of all published data sources and statistical information. Putting this application into operation was from technological aspect a breakthrough event since the merge of two different technologies (Oracle, Lotus Notes) took place offering new possibilities of data administration and presentation.

In January 2009 a new website for statistical survey respondents www.vykazy.cz was put into use. Users can test the reporting duty to statistical reports, download programme for electronic report collection, find contacts to individual staff members who are able to help to the reporting units and to provide methodological assistance in completing the questionnaire. Completion dates for presentation of the CZSO statistical reports are also displayed interactively.

New was also the extraordinary the "Preliminary Information" on industry - informing about the develop-

ment of indicators of short-term industry statistics advancing by 10-14 days the standard monthly News Release. The CZSO by this product met the increased demand of users for basic indicators of economic development in the period of global economic crisis. Preliminary Information offered current results from the on-going data processing.

In May 2009 a new unified layout of the website of all regional workplaces of the CZSO was put into use. Users may search for clearly arranged and structured regional statistical data and information. In 2009 the CZSO also started the preparation of the Population and Housing Census 2011 via the Internet.

Public Database (VDB) is basic gateway to dynamic presentation of statistical data covering all areas of statistics. Upon successful transfer of the database into a new computing centre an innovated application enabling more comfortable access of users to data was put into operation. Changes were implemented on the basis of testing results of the Public Database applicability in the previous year. New design of Public Database offers also new forms of statistical data display - interactive animated charts. The data export in XML format enabling the public administration institutions and other users to save large data files including metainformation in their systems has been prepared. Growing interest of users is attested by growing visiting rate which increased by 12% in the year-on-year comparison. In 2009 further modifications and improvements of Public Database were prepared so that the Database could be used for the presentation of preliminary and final results of the Population and Housing Census 2011. Public Database of the CZSO offered by the end of 2009 over 30 million data, i.e. an increase of 28% compared to the previous year.

The CZSO Internet presentation now meets criteria of mediocre accessibility according to the Blind Friendly Web rules. The work aimed on improving accessibility of website continues. It is encouraging that the number of dynamic applications meeting the accessibility of website requirements is growing continuously. In the development of new applications the rules of accessible website have become a constant part of functionality of presentations and therefore the elections into the European Parliament were adjusted by the CZSO in cooperation with an external company so that users with disabilities could follow the elections.

Statistics promotion

Over the year the data and information of the Czech Statistical Office were used by the media. Especially the New Releases were mentioned presenting regularly the most important indicators of the economic development. The biggest interest raised the reports on GDP, wage growth, inflation and external trade. Attention was paid to Preliminary Information on industry mentioned in the previous chapter. Frequently sought for were data concerning the population development including data on foreigners.

In 2009 the CZSO held altogether 8 press conferences and two specialized seminars.

In the last year the CZSO took part, among other things, in the conference Internet in State Administration and Self government ISSS 2009 (Hradec Králové, 6 - 7 April 2009), international conference EMAN 2009: Environmental Accounting - Sustainable Development Indicators (University of J. E. Purkyně in Ústí nad Labem and University Pardubice, Praha, 23 - 24 April 2009), 36th year of the international farm exhibition Země žitelka (České Budějovice, 27 August - 1 September 2009), International Scientific Conference on Environmental Accounting at Macroeconomic and Micro-economic level ENVI (Brno, 26 - 28 May 2009). Besides conferences held in the Czech Republic the CZSO representatives presented its activities also in many other specialized discussions and forums in abroad.

Over the year 2008 the CZSO organized at its own premises 16 excursions and presentations for secondary school and university students. The total of 448 students were informed about the CZSO activities. The CZSO also organized presentations of its experts directly at secondary schools and universities in Prague and in the regions.

The area of Statistics promotion includes also the conference Statistics: Investment in the Future 2. For more details see the chapter Important activities and projects.

Publication activity

Implementation of a new presentation system in 2009 resulted into a marked reduction of the number of printed publications. The Catalogue of Publications shrank

Products and services

by almost two thirds - it originally included 77 and 53 titles and one regional publication in 14 versions. Information in printed publications was transferred in form of datasets, time series and various users interviewer's applications to the Office website. Another output of a new presentation system was the Catalogue of Products which was for the first time prepared for 2009 providing a better overview of what individual statistics offer. Part of the Catalogue referring to data series replacing a number of printed outputs was published on the CZSO website. Concurrently, the work on the preparation of the Catalogue 2010 and its improvement including preparation of the complete version on the website was under way.

First place in the number of publications sold in 2009 belonged to publications "Small Lexicon of Municipalities" and "Consumer Price Indices". Traditionally, a great demand was registered for "Statistical Yearbook of the Czech Republic". The list of most popular publications released in 2009 should also include the "Demographic Yearbook", regional statistical yearbooks and analytical publications prepared in all regions "Position of Countryside".

Number of publications in 2007 – 2009*)

	2007	2008	2009
Publications with regular periodicity	169	160	62
monthly	18	18	3
quarterly	39	34	4
semi-annual	4	3	0
annual	108	105	55
Publications with irregular periodicity	73	78	31
Total	242	238	93
*) incl. Publications not included into the Catalogue of Publications			

The Central Statistical Library registered 130 new readers and by the end of 2009 the Library had 1 615 registered readers. Over the year the Library visited 2 069 users who borrowed, mainly for the purpose of full-time studies, altogether 17 571 publications. The search in on-line catalogue via the Internet were used 29 thousand times by those interested in the Library

fund. In 2009 the book fond was extended by a valuable gift from Bibliothek der Statistik Austria - CD with a complete set of publications of Tafeln zur Statistik der österreichischen Monarchie in 1828 – 1865. Twenty eight historically valuable publications of the 18th and 19th centuries were commissioned for restoration.

Services

At all workplaces providing information services more than 33 thousand inquiries were answered in 2009 which is 6% down compared to the previous year. An increasing number of users obtain information directly from the CZSO website. Almost all questions were answered the very same day and the most frequent subject of questions did not differ from those asked in the previous year. The reduced number of questions reflects in the revenues which fell compared to the previous year by 7% to reach CZK 4 733 thousand.

Information service revenues in 2007 – 2009

	2007	2008	2009
Total (CZK thousand)	5 913.0	5 086.0	4 732.9

For the sixth year already the CZSO is a member of the national contact centre the European Statistical Data Support (ESDS). In 2009 660 inquiries concerning European data were answered which is 187 inquiries down compared to the previous year. The total of 229 questionnaires for international organizations were completed which is by 16% more compared to the previous year.

Inquiries and requests in 2007 – 2009

	2007	2008	2009
Number of orders and inquiries	32 882	35 129	33 128
Orders by ESDS	710	847	660

Regional co-operation

An important task of the information services department staff was to establish at the year-start the co-

operation with new presidents of regions and regional governments. The co-operation was confirmed by signing of other co-operation agreements between the CZSO and regional offices this time in the Jihomoravský and Karlovarský regions. The co-operation agreement between the CZSO and the coherence region NUTS2 North-West was also signed. Discus-

sions between the representatives of the coherence region NUTS 2 North-East led consequently to discussions with the Ministry of Local Development on the update of the National nomenclature of indicators (NČI). The CZSO workplace in Liberec prepared the exhibition at the Regional Office of the Liberecký region to present the CZSO activity.

International cooperation

The key task of the Czech Statistical Office on the international level in 2009 was securing the presidency in the EU and especially the operation of the EU Council working group on statistics. However, other activities within the European Statistical System and of other international statistical structures were held and the cooperation with other national statistical offices continued, as well as technical assistance and participation in international projects.

European Union

Within the European statistical system (ESS) the Czech Statistical Office in 2009 participated in the development activities and was a member of working bodies of Eurostat/European Commission dealing with the preparation of the EU draft regulations in the field of statistics and other issues concerning the processing of statistics at the EU expert and top level. Upon approval of a new regulation of the European Parliament and the Council on European Statistics in spring 2009, the existing Statistical Programme Committee (SPC) was replaced by a new body - European Statistical System Committee with extended powers, especially in terms of professional management of the ESS and statistical confidentiality. In the first half-year of 2009 the CZSO as country presiding the EU was also represented in the Partnership Group, smaller groups preparing meetings of the ESS Committee and is an important component in cooperation with the EU Council. The annual conference of heads of statistical offices of the EU Member States (DGINS) was held in 2009 by the National Statistics office, Malta. The Conference dealt with the migration statistics issues and the improvement of functioning of the European Statistical System. The conference "Work in Progress" held in January in Hague was aimed at the ESS further development. The outcome of the Conference was a new plan of actions of the ESS. Participation in discussions of draft provisions in the EU Council bodies especially in the EU Council Working Group on Statistics was linked mainly with the role of the Czech Republic as presiding country which prepared and steered these discussions in the first half-year (for more detail on the Czech presidency in the field of statistics see part Important activities and projects).

Over the year the CZSO was granted by the EC bodies 20 new grants on support of projects from among different areas of statistics (e.g. use of information and communication technologies, external trade, social technologies and technologies of science and research, environment, prices or national accounts). In September 2009 the project TF 2006 Strengthening of administrative capacity of the CZSO by creation of the metainformation system was completed. The CZSO accepted contracted outputs from the project and gradually introduces them into the real use during the preparation and processing of statistical tasks.

International organizations and conferences

The CZSO participated in the UN Statistical Committee activities whose 40th session in February was held in New York. In July 2009 the CZSO representatives took part in the Conference of European Statisticians (KES) within the UN European Economic Commission and in the OECD Statistical Committee in Geneva and over the whole year they participated in discussions of expert working groups and in common event held by the European Economic Committee and the OECD, sometimes jointly with other international institutions (e.g. ILO or Eurostat). In October 2009 the CZSO delegated its representatives also to the 3rd OECD statistical forum in Busan (Korea) which was held within the project "Measuring the Progress of Societies". In August the CZSO representative participated in the congress of International Statistical Institute in the Republic of South Africa. In November 2009 the CZSO representatives were delegated to the conference "Modernization of Statistics Production" organized by Sweden which within its presidency to EU. In September 2009 the CZSO in cooperation with the University

of Economics and the Czech National Bank and under the auspices of the President of the Czech Republic a successful international conference "Statistics: Investment in the future 2" which was a follow-up of the first year of this event held in 2004 (more detail see in the chapter Important activities and projects).

Technical assistance

In 2009 the Czech Statistical Office and its experts continues to provide assistance to abroad with the aim to support the development of statistical systems of less developed countries and countries in the process of transformation and the whole development of statistics in the world. In 2009 the projects for Tajikistan, Egypt and Romania were under way and the second stages of the international project of assistance provided to Turkish statistics was completed with an active contribution of the CZSO experts who have been participating in the project since 2005. The CZSO became a member of three winning international consortiums for implementation of technical assistance projects in the area of statistics for Azerbaijan and Macedonia and the IPA 2008 project in the following years. Within technical assistance 20 expert missions of Czech statisticians were sent to abroad and 8 consultations with Turkish, Tajikistani, Ukraine, Albanian and Romanian statisticians were held. Expert assistance was realized especially in the field of national accounts statistics and non-observed economies, tourism statistics and social statistics.

Bilateral and multilateral cooperation

Cooperation with statistical offices especially of the EU countries continuing also after 2009 was focused on the exchange of expertise with the aim to improve the quality of data production both at national and European levels. Long-term exchange of experience with the Slovak Statistical Office was in 2009 aimed at the problems of environmental accounts statistics, price, research, development and innovations, external trade statistics, on methodological audits and cost controlling and the Population and Housing Census 2011 preparation. In connection with the CZSO chairing to the EU Council Working Group on Statistics the Office exchanges its experience with the colleagues from Slovakia and Poland. Trilateral cooperation between the Czech Republic, Germany and Poland in the area of regional statistical and cross-border database continued. Within the cooperation of statistical institutions of the Czech Republic, Hungary, Austria, Slovakia and Slovenia the existing cooperation commenced in 2005 was assessed and the plan of common thematic discussions for the next year was agreed on. For 2010 the CZSO became the administrator of this initiative.

In 2009 the total of 36 visits from abroad were received in the CZSO with participation of 164 foreign experts. The total of 513 employees undertook foreign business trips to take part in 374 events in abroad.

Human resources management

Human resource management subsists in respecting every employee, in guiding his professional growth and work performance. In terms of employees' relations the emphasize is put on mutual communication and active involvement.

For the year 2009 the Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic set for the Czech Statistical Office the binding staff limit of 1 500 persons and additional 101 persons for the purpose of the Population and Housing Census 2011 preparation. The actual annual average FTE number was 1 561 employees in total of which 80 employees allocated to the Population and Housing Census. As at 31 December 2009 the CZSO employed altogether 1 638 natural persons of which 151 for the preparation of the Population and Housing Census.

In 2009 the average wage of the CZSO employees including the Population and Housing Census staff accounted for CZK 31 190. The average age of the CZSO employees was 47.1 years. The majority of the CZSO staff (52.4%) reached secondary education (i.e. secondary schools with the school-leaving exam and higher technical schools), the percentage of university graduates was 43.9% of the total number of the CZSO staff which is by 6.6 percentage point more compared to 2007. Assessment of qualification structure corresponded to the started-up trend of increasing percentage of persons with university education to other employees with lower education. The gradual change of qualification structure came from an increasing difficulty of performed tasks.

In 2009 the fluctuation rate accounted for 8.4%.

Personal audit

In 2009 the implementation of internal personal audit continued. Over the first half of 2009 26 jobs were cancelled and thereby the first stage of staff cuts was completed during which the total of 289 jobs were cancelled. Before the end of 2009 the second stage of job cuts was started up on the basis of personal audit results during which the remaining 44 jobs were cancelled.

Employees in 2007 - 2009

	2007	2008	2009
Number of employees	1 784	1 627	1 638
Percentage of females, %	75.1	76.5	76.3
Percentage of university education, %	41.2	43.1	43.9
Average age	47.4	47.2	47.1
Age group			
up to 30	185	162	153
31 - 40	291	280	300
41 - 50	468	438	444
51 - 60	699	612	599
61+	141	135	142

Technical education of employees in 2009

Type of training	Participants
Short-term special training*)	3 466
Long-term training	23
Language courses	297
Total	3 786

*) Courses shorter than 5 days



Courses and education

Lifelong education of employees in form of improvement of their professional skills is a necessary condition of their work performance and one of priorities in human resources management. Education is secured by internal and external teachers directly in the CZSO or employees are delegated to short-term courses in external educational establishments. An important part of education is the participation in conferences, international discussions or foreign courses. Altogether 49 employees took part in courses abroad within the European Programme of Statistical Education and 46

employees participated in conferences. Involvement of the CZSO professionals within technical assistance was increasingly demanded reporting a very good response in abroad.

As a result of termination of Presidency of the Czech Republic to the EU Council cost economies were reported compared to 2008. Total costs of education in 2009 compared to 2008 fell by almost 20% to reach CZK 7 250 thousand. The average costs of education per employee in 2009 accounted for CZK 4 644 and every employee participated in 2.4 educational events on average.

Economic activity

The approved budget of expenses for 2009 in comparison with the previous year was reduced by 5.0% of which the approved budget of capital expenses in 2009 compared to 2008 shrank by 60%.

Data on the CZSO income and expense budget

In compliance with Act No. 475/2008 Sb., regulating the State Budget of the Czech Republic for 2009 the budget of income in the amount of CZK 29 721 thousand and budget of expenses in the amount of CZK 1 057 640 thousand was approved for chapter 345 – the Czech Statistical Office. Over the year the Ministry of Finance of the CR permitted the increase of budget for the chapter funding of elections, census and other statistical surveys and pre-funding of projects financed from the EU Structural funds. After the increase the adjusted income budget accounted for CZK 71 698 thousand and the budget of expenses CZK 1 510 689 thousand which, compared to 2008, was by CZK 25 792 thousand less in income and by CZK 274 558 thousand more in expenses. The biggest contribution to the adjusted budget came from wage expenses, i.e. wages and other payments for the work done, social and health insurance and allocations to the Fund of cultural and social needs (FKSP) which made the total of 58.81%. The volume of budgeted means designed for wages compared to 2008 showed a 11.19% increase. To the capital expenses the amount of CZK 87 599 thousand was allocated in the adjusted budget including CZK 35 000 thousand designed for elections and CZK 46 100 thousand for census to make 5.80% of

budgeted means. For other material expenses which made 35.39% of the total budget a 47.89% increase was registered compared to 2008. The increase of share of material expenses in the adjusted budget came mainly from strengthening the budget by purpose means designed for securing elections, census and pre-funding of Integrated operational programme projects.

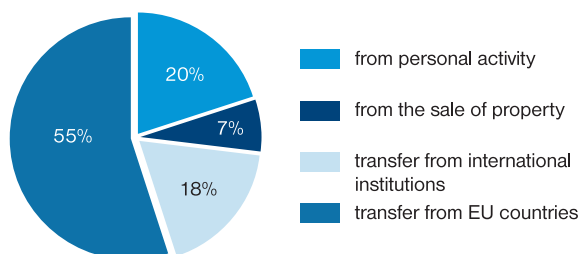
Actual reached income and drawing of expenses of the CZSO

1. Income

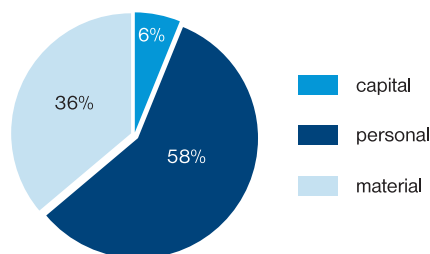
Total income in 2009 in the amount of CZK 25 730 thousand reached 24.58% of income created in 2008, while an absolute difference makes the decrease of CZK 78 951 thousand. This drop is affected by involvement of the reserve fund into income in 2009 (in 2008 the drop was CZK 83 464 thousand, in 2009 the income was strengthened by CZK 1 126 thousand).

The main source of the CZSO income was income from its own activity which made the total of CZK 5 120 thousand in 2009 of which revenues from the sale of the CZSO products reached CZK 4 733 thousand which is by CZK 353 thousand less than in 2008, i.e. drop by 7%. Income from the sale of non-capital property and other tax exempt income (returns) accounted

Income in 2009 broken by kind



Expenses in 2009 broken by kind



for CZK 1 786 thousand. An extraordinary income represented revenues in the amount of CZK 126 thousand from the sale of 9 company cars. Due to procedural reasons the sale of the building in Olomouc in the amount of CZK 11 000 thousand has not been realized.

Received transfers made CZK 18 698 thousand of which CZK 4 506 thousand were revenues from transferred funds from international organizations and CZK 13 066 thousand from the EU, CZK 1 126 thousand were means from own reserve fund. The expected income from abroad was not reached due to mainly continuing implementation of projects funded from the EU Structural funds in the total amount of CZK 41 977 thousand in 2010, when an application for payment can be filed only after the project is completed and final audit carried out.

2. Expenses

Total expenses in 2009 reached CZK 1 435 409 thousand. Financing of the CZSO activities related expenses in 2009 was covered by CZK 1 126 thousand from the reserve fund, CZK 4 454 thousand credited to the income account from technical assistance and by CZK 33 843 thousand from released claims resulting from non-utilised expenses. According to classification of expenses by activity the Office expenses in section 6146 reached the amount of CZK 1 040 979 thousand, expenses related to elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the CR made CZK 75 604 thousand and to elections to local government CZK 9 355 thousand, elections to the European Parliament CZK 72 718 thousand, preparation of census CZK 236 701 thousand and contributions to foreign institutions CZK 52 thousand.

The analysis of utilization of expenses by budget items suggests that the wage expense, mandatory insurance and allocations to the Fund of cultural and social needs in the total amount of CZK 838 256 thousand made 58.40% of expenses. Compared to 2008 the expenses were 7.25% up. In connection to personal audit carried out in 2008 the total of CZK 3 212 thousand was paid out as severance pay in 2009. Material expenses showed, compared to 2008, an increase of 79.64% and contributed by 35.55% to the total utilization of budget. The increase of material expenses owed mainly due to the preparation of elections to the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the CR, hol-

ding of municipal elections, preparation of election to the EP, preparation of census and starting of the EU SF projects. The biggest share in material expenses was reported for expenses related to purchase of services.

Capital expense registered in ISPROFIN database were utilised in the amount of CZK 3 583 thousand in the Programme 145010 Development and restoration of material and technical basis of the CZSO which consists of two sub-programmes:

Purchase, reconstruction and operation of information and communication technologies of the CZSO where the amount of CZK 2 103 thousand was utilised, of which CZK 1 321 thousand on the event Reconstruction of the main computing centre – 2nd stage, CZK 294 thousand for Reconstruction of telephone switchboard at Jihlava workplace and CZK 488 thousand on Cost controlling implementation. In the second sub-programme Purchase and restoration of property administered by the CZSO the amount of CZK 1 480 thousand was utilised for reconstruction of lifts, exchanger, security technologies, door of the server room Prague and multipurpose source of maintenance.

Capital expenses out of ISPROFIN database were utilised in the amount of CZK 48 237 thousand to cover the census, purchase of computing equipment, valuable rights and licenses in the amount of CZK 34 987 thousand for the purpose of elections and reconstruction of central access infrastructure and air-conditioning of voting room.

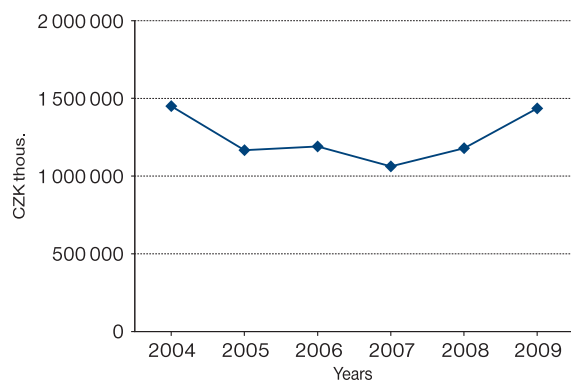
In 2009 The CZSO financed from budget means 28 projects co-financed from funds from abroad. Further, 57 projects from out-of-budget means, of which 37 projects were directly financed from means provided from abroad (34 projects from the income account and 3 from the reserve fund) and 20 projects from purpose means transferred in previous years from the CZSO budget (15 projects from claims resulting from non-utilised expenses, 5 from the reserve fund). In total, CZK 61 105 thousand was utilised for these programmes (incl. permitted overrun of budget).

Within these projects in 2009 the implementation of two projects financed from the EU SF – Basic Population Register and Compatibility of filing service

Economic activity

of the CZSO was started and financing of 4 feasibility studies of the prepared programmes IOP and OP LZZ (Human Resources and Employment Operational Programme) was secured. For the EU SF projects the total of CZK 37 987 thousand was utilized.

The CZSO expenses in 2004 - 2009



The total of CZK 142 974 thousand of claims resulting from non-utilised expenses was transferred to the year 2009. In total the amount of CZK 39 469 thousand was released, of which the total of CZK 33 843 thousand was utilised to finance the Community programmes, feasibility studies, elections and census. The CZSO transfers the claims resulting from non-utilised expenses in the total of CZK 216 734 thousand to the year 2010. This balance consists of non-applied claims resulting from non-utilised expenses in 2008 and new claims arising from non-utilisation of expenses in 2009 and due to hedging of CZK 7 100 thousand due to non-performance of expected revenue from the sale of a building in Olomouc.

Financial means allocated from the state budget to the chapter Czech Statistical Office were utilised in compliance with the CZSO tasks with utmost efficiency while the binding indicators and regulatory measures were observed.

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