

Dear Readers of the Statistical Yearbook,

It is the first time, when I have the possibility to address you in the introduction to our key source of statistical data – the Statistical Yearbook of the Czech Republic 2010.

It is already more than twenty years, for which I have been using the statistical yearbook for my professional activities and over ten years, since I have participated, together with my colleagues, as an author in the processing of one of its chapters. I hold this output of the Czech Statistical Office in high regard, because up to now there is not any other source of statistical data, which is so complex. The Statistical Yearbook of the CR 2010 presents in a comprehensive form a large scale of information not only for professionals, but also for the wide public, who can find there a lot of interesting data.

An economist will get information on the development of the national economy, balance of payments or prices. An ecologist will look up for information on the condition and development of individual components of the environment or the environmental protection expenditure. A demographer will find there detailed facts related to population. To another interested the yearbook will provide data on using of mobile phones, computers and the Internet. What is also not missing are data on the structure and number of our schools and students.

All in all, the Yearbook is full of interesting figures and it provides a statistical description of virtually all areas of life of the society. A comprehensive data breakdown from regional, over nationwide, as well as comparison of individual countries within the European Union, gives a really complex statistical overview of the Czech Republic.

Especially for regular users of the Statistical Yearbook I would like to underline changes, which we have made in order to improve our data presentation further.

The concept and structure of the Yearbook have been partially changed. In some cases, you will find new titles of chapters; their order and number have changed. From chapters, in which bigger changes occurred, I remind the introductory Statistical classifications and nomenclatures in force, in which the reader will find a comparison of OKEČ and CZ-NACE classifications (national versions of NACE). It has to be reminded that data according to the new CZ-NACE classification are not comparable with those published previously in the OKEČ classification. The only exception regards data presented in the National accounts chapter, which continue to be presented according to the OKEČ classification. Other new classifications used for the first time in this Yearbook are: Classification of Occupations, CZ-ISCO according to the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-08) and the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health – ICF. Major changes have been made to the chapter Construction. I can remind also chapter 26. Culture and sport, to which data on radio and television broadcasting are added; newly presented are also data on participation of Czech athletes in the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver.

And finally, let me on behalf of users and mine express thanks to all workers for the effort they made in the processing of the Yearbook. Words of thanks go also to our partner publisher NAKLADATELSTVÍ SCIENTIA.

All of you, who will use the Statistical Yearbook for your work, study or perhaps only as a source of interesting information, I wish it is a quality aid and at the same time an inspiration for you. You are welcome to let us know of your suggestions and recommendations, which will help us improve our services for the future. Use the Yearbook well, for the benefit of us all.



Iva Ritschelová

President Czech Statistical Office

P.S. Dear Readers, three months after the publication you will find the Statistical Yearbook also in a free electronic version at the website of the CZSO: www.czso.cz.