

1. BASIC CHARACTERISTIC, DISTRICTS

In the long time series, an emphasis is placed on the methodological comparability of data in particular. A number of changes occurred over the whole period, which were brought about by the Czech Statistical Service striving for the international comparability of methods and results of surveys. The organizational structure of the national economy saw changes, too. This was why the time series of indicators had to be adjusted to correspond to the methodology and organizational structure of the latest year published (2009) so that a correct assessment could be placed on the long-term development. All the value indicators are given at current prices as sufficient relevant data on price developments in both production and consumption areas have not been available in the regional breakdown needed.

From the territorial breakdown point of view, all the data were converted to the territorial structure valid as at 31 December 2009. Wherever the data are surveyed in a sample survey and are only estimated for the lower territorial level by mathematical and statistical methods, the recalculation is more difficult and for part of indicators it is not possible at all. Due to the conversions some data are not the same as those published before. In some cases the subject-matter contents differ from data published in Chapter 27 – Territorial comparisons and, as the case might be, from data in other chapters.

From the point of view of methodology, long-term time series are always recalculated to methodology valid in the last year. Where the recalculation to a comparable methodology was impossible, it is mentioned in methodological notes under individual tables or it is explained in the methodology of individual chapters. Therefore, in this part, we draw attention only to changes, which apply to comparability of long-term time series.

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

*In the **labour market** section, comparability of data on the number of employees and average wages resulting from statistics of enterprises is unfavourably influenced by changes in the borderline between large (surveyed) and small (not surveyed) enterprises. These changes concern the trend in the number of employees in particular and, to a lesser extent, the development of the average monthly wage. The set of reporting units concerned developed as follows:*

- 1993 and 1995 - enterprises with 25+ employees incorporated, (in agriculture: holdings with 1 000 ha of agricultural land and over, specialized agricultural holdings; in industry, trade, hotels and restaurants: enterprises with 100+ employees), all entities classified to financial intermediation, all entities classified to the non-business sphere, excluding the armed forces;*
- 1997 to 2001 - enterprises with 20+ employees, incorporated and unincorporated, all entities classified to financial intermediation, all entities classified to the non-business sphere, excluding armed forces;*
- 2002 to 2008- all entities including the parts of Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Defence not published before.*

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

Agriculture: *from 2002 classified in agriculture according to standards of the EU are units which exceed specified "threshold limits". Smaller agricultural activities have been classified under the household sector as "hobby activities" of the population and their extent at the regional level is impossible to establish with sufficient reliability. Any retroactive conversion of time series to a comparable basis is impossible, either.*

Industry: *only the data referring to years since 1997 are comparable. They refer to enterprises with 100+ employees having their head offices on the territory concerned. Since 1997 industrial activity sales are also monitored, in place of the former production of goods (gross production). In construction the indicators published have changed; the long-term time series now includes construction work by construction site.*

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

Health: *The time series is comparable since 2000, when data on the health establishment falling under all ministries are given (before 2000, only health establishments of the Ministry of Health of the CR). Detached units of the health establishments are not covered (unlike Chapter 26). From 2007 the number of physicians includes also contract workers.*

Social security: *In 2007 in relation to the amendment of the act significant changes in the structure (also in names) of individual social care establishments were made.*

Crime and accidents: *Older data cannot be published, as they are not available itemized by district, which is why it was impossible to recalculate data in the breakdown by the new territorial structure of regions.*