

1. BASIC CHARACTERISTIC

In long-term time series an emphasis is put mainly on the data comparability in terms of the applied methodology. A number of changes, due to efforts of the State Statistical Service to keep methods and results of surveys comparable internationally, occurred over the whole period. The organizational structure of the national economy was gradually changing, too. Therefore it was necessary to recalculate the time series of indicators according to the methodology and organizational structure of the latest year published (i.e. 2011) in order to be able to assess the long-term development in correct manner. All the value indicators are given at current prices because sufficiently relevant data on price developments in neither the production area nor the consumption one to carry out conversions into constant prices have been available in the regional breakdown.

Concerning the territorial arrangement, all the data were converted to the territorial structure valid as at 31 December 2011. Wherever the data are surveyed in a sample survey and are only estimated by means of mathematical and statistical methods for lower territorial levels, the recalculation is more difficult and for a part of indicators it is impossible at all. Due to the carried out conversions some data differ from those published before. In some cases the contents differ from data published in interregional and inter-district comparisons (Chapter 28) and, as the case may be, from data given in other chapters as well.

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

*Data on the **population** until 2000 followed the results of the Census as at 3 March 1991. Since 2001 they have followed the results of the Population and Housing Census as at 1 March 2001, in 2011 they follow the final results of the Population and Housing Census as at 26 March 2011. Based on the census, demographic balances of the given decade are being processed. Moreover, in accordance with international conventions, the data also include numbers of foreigners staying long-term in the country.*

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

- 2000 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 2010 - all entities, including the units of the Ministry of the Interior of the CR and the Ministry of Defence of the CR not published before*

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

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

*In **industry** the data referring to years since 1997 are the only comparable. They refer to enterprises with 100+ employees having their registered offices on the territory concerned. Since 1997 sales from industrial activity have also been monitored instead of the former goods production (gross production).*

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

*In **health** the time series is comparable since 2000, when data on the health establishments falling under all ministries have been given. Detached units of the health establishments are not covered (unlike in Chapter 27). Since 2007 the number of physicians includes also contractual workers.*

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

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