

## INTRODUCTION

*This is the sixteenth publication in the series of “Foreigners in the Czech Republic” published by the Czech Statistical Office. The first one was issued in December 2001.*

*The publication concentrates, in a complete manner, update data on foreigners who have chosen the Czech Republic to be the place of their permanent or long-term residence, who have found their jobs here, or have been conducting their business activities here, and those who came to the Czech Republic to escape political persecution or severe economic conditions in their native countries. The focal point of this publication lies in statistical data for the year 2015, which are often supplemented with time series of data for the previous years. Since there is not enough space in the printed version of the publication, data for all years available are not included in tables containing time series. In such case readers can find the whole time series at the CZSO website:*

***[https://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci/1-ciz\\_pocet\\_cizincu](https://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci/1-ciz_pocet_cizincu)***

*This publication issuing is based, the same as in the previous years, on a Decision of the Government of the Czech Republic (this year it is the Decision of the Government of the Czech Republic No 26 of 18 January 2016). Similarly to the publications issued before, the information presented in this book was gained from information systems administered by the Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports, Ministry of Health, and the Czech Statistical Office, and coordinated by the Editorial Board composed of representatives of all the aforementioned institutions. It is the Ministry of the Interior, which initiated the publishing of this book and which since 2008 has undertaken repeatedly the role of the coordinator for implementation of the concept of integration of foreigners on the territory of the CR.*

*Because of repeated editions of the publication its layout has become substantially stable. In accord with requirements made to the CZSO, recent publications have more emphasised the subdivision of foreigners into groups by their citizenship, which means into foreigners coming from the EU Member States and those from the so-called third countries. Chapter 1 – Demographic aspects of the life of foreigners includes (the same as in the previous year) also a table with information on third-country nationals with temporary residence permit by purpose of the stay (Table 1-9). Chapter 3 – Economic activity of foreigners has a more detailed structure than in the previous years, when (due to the introduction of a new information system of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, i.e. since 2012) most of the data for foreigners-employees were unavailable. For 2015, Chapter 3 thus provides data in similar breakdowns as were available before 2012. Similarly as in the previous years, also this year’s publication contains in Tables 3-12 and 3-13 information on salaries and wages of foreigners in the CR.*

*Respective information systems keep records on foreigners, which are not always comparable. It is not intentional in order to make the orientation in the information on foreigners more complicated - it is rather caused by the fact that the respective information sources are adjusted to the needs of the relevant ministry, which they were established at, and the process of harmonization of data sources to reach their mutual comparability is not easy in any case. In order to help readers understand which foreigners respective tables provide information on, we made a summary table – see the next page (numbers of tables relate to this year’s issue of the publication).*

*Dear readers, if you have some comments on the contents and form of the publication, now it is the right time to let us know about them so that we can take them into account while preparing the next issue of the publication.*

*The publication is provided for free to libraries, schools, universities, research institutes and workplaces, and non-government non-profit organizations and institutions. The information contained is also intended for the use of members of the Parliament of the Czech Republic and the Government of the Czech Republic, as well as of central and local governments of the state administration, journalists, and all citizens of the Czech Republic.*

Prague, 2016