INTRODUCTION

In mid-2015, the Czech Statistical Office presented to statistical data users a new version of the Public Database (https://vdb.czso.cz/vdbvo2/faces/en/index.jsf), which, among others, enables much larger utilization of data sources of the CZSO to fulfil needs of statistical data users.

This publication, which has been compiled (since its 2015 issue) in the Public Database web presentation solely from data saved in the Database, provides rather detailed scope of information from various statistical domains that are available in the Database for regional territorial units. Compared to issues of the publication in previous years, what remains to be the basis of the publication are data on individual regions and data in comparisons of regions.

While entering most of the tables a user can change parameters (above the table on the right) and thus display data for another territorial unit, for different years in a time series, or another view of a relevant indicator (e.g. total x males x females). In many cases, a user can display data in a simple chart or a cartogram.

The publication consists of 3 basic parts as follows:

- Time series of data on individual regions (NUTS 3)
  - are set for years 2011–2016; however, a user can select the end year for a 5-year time series;
  - lengths of times series, which are available in the Public Database, are not the same in all parts; they depend on the length of the period for which the CZSO has available data that are comparable in terms of methodology.

- Comparisons of regions (NUTS 3)
  - is set for data for 2016 (or as at 31 December 2016), in some statistics (e.g. gross fixed capital formation, emissions) data for 2016 are not available, yet; therefore the table shows the year 2015;
  - to enable development comparisons, a next row of a table contains data (usually) by 4 years older;
  - a user can select the end period there, too, by which the period by (usually) 4 years older changes as well.

- Comparisons of cohesion regions (NUTS2)
  - A user has similar possibilities there like when working with the comparisons of regions. Nevertheless, the data available in the Public Database are of a much narrower scope, for the time being.

In the Public Database web presentation, users can obtain statistical information on individual regions also as follows: in the menu bar Statistics they can set in the filter (which is on the right above the list of tables) the territorial level of a Region. The Public Database contains many pieces of information also on Districts, administrative districts of municipalities with extended powers as well as on individual municipalities. By application of the relevant filter users can select tables with data also on other territorial units; the filter allows various combinations.

Users can use also the possibility of various views on selected data on a certain territorial unit starting from the entire Czech Republic down to individual municipalities; it can be done so in the menu bar by clicking at All about territory. The number of profiles will be gradually extended.

Users can compile their own tables according to their requirements by clicking at Customized selection in the menu bar. Step by step, users select statistical indicators, territory, and time period and then display a table, which they can further modify.

All tables in the Public Database web presentation (both pre-defined as well as customized by a user) can be exported including metadata (in the xlsx, xml, or pdf formats) and users can further work with them.

The publication includes an archive containing exported tables (in xlsx format) with data updated as at the date of release of the publication. Besides the archive, data in the publication from before the year 2016 have been updated concurrently with updates of data in the Public Database (it applies mainly to data from external administrative sources, e.g. in the chapters on education and health).