

6. HEALTH CARE FOR FOREIGNERS

Data on foreigners provided in this chapter, which are in the framework of the National Health Information System (NHIS) processed by the Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the CR (IHIS CR), have been obtained from national health registers (the National Register of Reproduction Health), an information system of bodies for public health protection (the Register of Tuberculosis), and from reports on the utilization of health care by foreigners. The aforementioned selected data sources on the health sector provide only partial information on the total utilization of health care by foreigners in the CR and their state of health.

Further information can be obtained on the IHIS CR's website at: <http://www.uzis.cz/en>.

Health Insurance Bureau publishes data on utilization of health care by foreigners – citizens of the EU/EEA and Switzerland, and foreigners from countries with which it has signed an agreement on social security, including the area of health insurance and provision of health care, and data on costs spent on that health care. However, it has to be stressed that the Health Insurance Bureau uses different definitions than the Act on the Residence of Aliens on the Territory of the Czech Republic. More information can be obtained at: <https://www.kancelarzp.cz/index.php/en>.

Methodological notes on the Tables

Tables 6-1a (6-1b) and 6-2a (6-2b) Utilization of health care by foreigners

Data on the utilization of health care by foreigners are measured by an annual report “V (MZ) 1-01”. It is filled in only by hospitals regardless the type of care they provide (both in-patient and out-patient care). It regards foreigners who cover health care from health insurance policies concluded in the CR, insurance policies concluded abroad, in cash, or whose health care is reimbursed by state authorities (the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Justice, regional authorities, and the like). The figures also include asylum applicants accommodated in asylum facilities of the Ministry of the Interior, whose health care is paid by the Ministry of the Interior. Foreigners, whose health care is paid from the public health insurance, are not included in the report.

The publication “Foreigners in the Czech Republic” contains since 2011 a clearly arranged table, which applies to utilization of health care by foreigners by Region broken down by persons utilising health care (Table 6-1b) or total costs (Table 6-2b).

In 2017, 117,287 foreigners in total found a medical treatment in hospitals of all ministries in the Czech Republic, i.e. by 1,108 persons less compared to the previous year. Of the total number of treated foreigners, 62,236 persons (53.1%) were from Member States of the EU. From the point of view of distribution by Region, the highest number of foreigners was treated again in hospitals of the Hl. m. Praha Region, i.e. 52,039 persons. As for the number of treated foreigners, other Regions ranked as follows: the Jihomoravský Region (15,103 persons), the Plzeňský Region (7,015), the Karlovarský Region (6,741), and the Moravskoslezský Region (6,190). In 2017, the highest number of foreigners treated in the CR was among citizens of the Slovak Republic (27,925). They were followed by Ukrainians (14,401), Russians (8,776), Germans (8,303), and Vietnamese (5,864).

In 2017, health care provided to foreigners in hospitals of the CR required costs in the total amount of CZK 931.4 million, of which 63.4% (CZK 590.4 mil.) were costs for patients from Member States of the EU. The highest costs were for citizens of Slovakia (CZK 308.3 mil.) followed by citizens of the Ukraine (CZK 94.7 mil.), Germany (CZK 75.4 mil.), Great Britain (CZK 52.7 mil.), and the Russian Federation (CZK 43.8 mil.). As at 31 December 2017, for health care provided to foreigners, the total of CZK 28 million (i.e. 3.0% of the total amount of costs for health care provided to foreigners in hospitals) remained unpaid after the maturity date. For foreigners from Member States of the EU, CZK 11 million was unpaid in due time.

Tables 6-3 and 6-4 Abortions in female foreigners

Data on abortions in female foreigners come from the National Register of Abortions. All types of abortions made in health establishments of the CR have to be reported on the form "Application for Induced Abortion - Report of Abortion and Ectopic Pregnancy". This report is compulsory and both are liable to it: Czech nationals – females with permanent residence on the territory of the CR as well as female foreigners regardless of the type and length of their stay. Data on abortions are published only as for female foreigners with a permanent or a long-term residence on the territory of the CR.

In 2017, 1,691 abortions in female foreigners were registered in the Czech Republic, which is again a decrease in comparison to the previous year (-4.6 p. p.). 981 (58%) out of the total number were induced abortions of which 17.8% were therapeutic abortions. Vacuum aspirations (menstrual regulations) made up 70.7% of all induced abortions. Compared to the previous year, they again decreased in their number by 9.0 p. p. (763 in 2016 and 694 in 2017).

The total number of abortions in female foreigners had been decreasing gradually since 2002 (from 2,751 in 2002 to 2,238 in 2005). From 2006 to 2008, the number of abortions was increasing. Since 2009, after three years of growth, the number of abortions in female foreigners in the CR has been continuously decreasing. The evaluation of the data by region is influenced by the biggest concentration of foreigners in the Hl. m. Praha Region and the Středočeský Region, in which there is the biggest proportion of abortions within the entire CR.

Table 6-5 Newly notified TB cases in the CR by the patient's country of birth

The table gives the number of newly notified cases of tuberculosis (TB) in the CR broken down by the country of birth of patients (not necessarily foreigners).

505 TB cases were newly notified in 2017, which was a slight decrease compared to the previous year (12 cases less compared to 2016). For a long-term, the number of TB cases in the CR has been continually decreasing. The number of TB cases in Czech citizens dropped by 20 cases, year-on-year, while the number of TB cases in persons born outside the CR increased by 8 cases. The share of persons born outside the CR is 31.5% out of the total number of recorded TB cases. The highest numbers of newly notified TB cases in the CR in 2017 were among nationals of the Ukraine (30 cases), Slovakia (25), Viet Nam (23), Romania (16), and Mongolia (16).

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Chapter 6 on the health care for foreigners in the Czech Republic has been published since 2010 with a more narrow scope than in the preceding years. It applies to omission deletion of the former first Table 6-1 Health insurance contracts of foreigners and the scope of the present Tables 6-1 and 6-2 Utilization of health care by foreigners. Another change occurred in 2016 by deletion of the table about foreigners treated in hospitals (former Table 6-3). Due to changes in information systems of hospitals, the way of validation of reporting of health care for foreigners in hospitals is now being solved.

The data are provided for health sector as a whole. Until and including 2002, only data for the Ministry of Health were provided in the tables.