12 June 2019

Fewer births and deaths

Population change – 1st quarter of 2019

The population of the Czech Republic increased by 3.0 thousand to 10.653 million inhabitants during the first quarter. The population increase resulted from positive net migration. The number of deaths was higher by 3.6 thousand than the number of live births.

According to the preliminary statistical balance, the **population** of the Czech Republic grew from 10.650 to 10.653 million during the first three months of 2019. The whole increase was caused by the international migration, whose balance amounted to 6.6 thousand persons. The balance of natural change was negative, when the number of live births was lower by 3.6 thousand than the number of deaths.

According to the preliminary data, 26.4 thousand **children** were **born alive** during the first quarter of 2019, which was by 1.1 thousand less than in the same period of 2018. In the year-on-year comparison, the number of births was lower in all birth orders, all categories of marital status and all five-year age groups of mothers. The share of live births outside marriage reached 48.4%, when unmarried women gave a birth to 12.8 thousand children (by 0.8 thousand less in the year-on-year). Two thirds of children were born to women aged from 25 to 34 years, most to women aged 29–31 years.

During the period from January to March of 2019, the number of **deaths** was almost 30.0 thousand**,** by 2.0 thousand less than in a year before. The highest monthly number of deceased people (10.4 thousand) was registered in January this year. The average age of deceased person was 76.4 years, the same as in the first quarter of 2018. The average age at death was 73.1 years for men and 79.8 years for women. A total of 76 children died during their first year of life, or 29 of ten thousand of live births.

According to the preliminary data, a total of 3.8 thousand **marriages** were entered into during the first three months of 2019, by 71 more than in the same period in the previous year. The most of marriages (1.9 thousand) were entered into by both single groom and bride. However, the share of these marriages in the total number was traditionally lower than in the whole year (50% in the first quarter of 2019, 67% in 2018). The second largest group of couples represented divorced people (0.9 thousand). One-third of couples married in the first quarter of 2019 were aged 27–34 years, one-quarter at the age of 35–44 and another at the age 45 and over years.

According to the preliminary data, the Czech courts issued 5.7 thousand decisions about **divorces** from January until March 2019, by 0.2 thousand less in the year-on-year comparison. The half of marriages was divorced on the base of a joint petition, one-third on the ground of a female petition. A total of 3.5 thousand divorces concerned marriages with minors, who amounted to 5.5 thousand in total. The average age of a divorced man was 45.0 years in the first quarter of this year and average divorced women was 41.9 years old.

During the first quarter, a total of 16.7 thousand people immigrated to the Czech Republic from abroad and 10.1 thousand people emigrated from the Czech Republic. Flows of both immigrants and emigrants were higher in the year-on-year comparison. The balance of **net migration** amounted to 6.6 thousand during the first quarter of 2019 and it was by 1.2 thousand lower than in a year before. The highest positive migration balance was registered with nationals of Ukraine (2.7 thousand), Slovakia (1.1 thousand) and Romania (0.6 thousand). The migration balance of the Czech nationals was negative (-371).

Notes:

*All data refer to the resident population of the Czech Republic, irrespective of citizenship. Since 2001 (in relation to the 2001 Population and Housing Census) the data include also foreigners with visa for stay over 90 days (pursuant to the Act No 326/1999 Sb) and foreigners with asylum granted (pursuant to the Act No 325/1999 Sb). Since 1 May 2004, in accordance with the Act No 326/1999 Sb, as amended, data apply also to EU nationals with temporary residence on the territory of the Czech Republic and third- country nationals with long-term residence permit. The data contain also information on events (marriages, births, and deaths) of Czech citizens with the permanent residence in the Czech Republic that occurred abroad.*

*All data for 2019 are preliminary.*

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Data source: Demographic statistics – results of processing statistical reports of Obyv series

 Divorces – Information system of the Ministry of Justice of the CR

Migration data – Information System of Inhabitants Records (Ministry of the Interior of the CR) and Alien Information System (Directorate of Alien Police)

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**Annexes:**

Tab. 1 Population (absolute and relative figures, year-to-year changes)