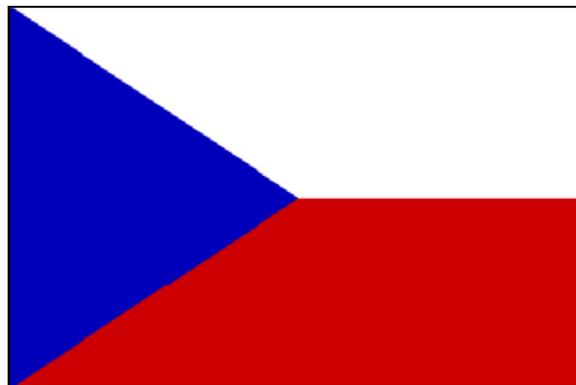




YouthPartnership

FACTSHEET

ON SOCIAL INCLUSION/ EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN CZECH REPUBLIC



YouthPartnership
Council of Europe
European Commission



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1) Risk of poverty

	Sources	Year	Age Range	Results
At risk of poverty by age (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006	Less than 18	16,00
Distribution of cross income by main sources of income for poor households with children: work income	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.158	2005		46,50
Distribution of cross income by main sources of income for poor households with children: Unemployment benefit	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.158	2005		3,90
Distribution of cross income by main sources of income for poor households with children: Family allowance	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.158	2005		27,50
Distribution of children by the type of household (lone parent) and work type of adults of the household: jobless	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		36,00
Distribution of children by the type of household (lone parent) and work type of adults of the household: in full-time job	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		60,00
Distribution of children by the type of household (couple with children) and work type of adults of the household: both in full-time job	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		56,00
Distribution of children by the type of household (couple with children) and work type of adults of the household: both jobless	Children poverty and well-being in EU. Current status and way forward. EC.2008 p.166	2005		5,0
Risk of poverty rate by household type: Single parent with dependent children (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006		41,00
Risk of poverty rate by household type: Household without dependent children (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006		6
Risk of poverty rate by household type: Household with dependent children (cut-off point: 60% of median equivalised income after social transfers)	Eurostat	2006		13

2) Social Subsistence/Protection

Social care is provided to the citizens who need them considering their health or age and also to the citizens unable to resolve their difficult social situation or unfavourable living conditions without help of the society. Older and handicapped people need assistance to secure the basic necessities of life. Such services are provided in the form of institutional social care or field of social care linked with accommodation. The most widespread from the fields social care service provided to citizens in their household, in day care centres, personal hygiene centres, etc. The most often required service is

preparation and distribution of meals, shopping, personal hygiene services and assistance services for adults as well as for families with children. (<http://www.mpsv.cz/en/1591>)

Social care homes for children and adolescents can divide into homes for disabled young people with secondary defects and homes for mentally handicapped young people, SOS villages for children, special establishments for care foster-parents, asylum houses for mothers with children, houses for un-adapted and homeless people and other combined establishments or training centres and day care centres or weekly stay centres. Last year 54,5 % of social care services were provided by the state, 25,7 % by communities and municipal magistrates, 12,9 % by church and 6,9 % by other providers. (<http://www.mpsv.cz/en/1591>)

Social benefits dramatically influence the income situations of families with an income under the level of minimum subsistence amount that resulted in a decrease in the share of families that receive social care benefits. The amount of benefits based on *the subsistence minimum amount* is kept at a real level related to the development of the living costs. Family possession is not subject of testing process. Some individual types of state social support are provided with and some without testing of the applicants incomes. Currently, the first group includes parental benefits, providing for benefits, foster care benefits, child birth benefits and funeral benefits. The second includes *child allowances, social allowances, housing and transport benefits*. (<http://www.mpsv.cz/en/1591>)

Child allowance is a basic long-term benefit provided to families with dependent children. A dependent child up to the age of 26 years, living in a family with an income of less than 2.4 times the family's minimum subsistence level is entitled to this allowance. The allowance is provided on three levels, depending on the age of the child: Up to 6 years of age, the amount of monthly child allowance is 500 CZK, from 6 to 15 years it is 610 CZK and from 15 to 26 years it is 700 CZK.

(<http://www.mpsv.cz/en/1591>)

The social allowance may be raised in cases where the child has a long-term disability or a long-term illness. Situations where the parent is a single parent or disabled are also taken into account. A higher level of social allowance is also paid to families in cases of multiple births - up to the age of three years, and to families whose child is studying secondary school on a daily basis or attending university. (<http://www.mpsv.cz/en/1591>.)

Currently, there are three systems of *sickness insurance* in the Czech Republic, namely sickness insurance on employers, officers in armed services and self-employed persons. Each of them is regulated in separate legislation. The amount of sickness benefits is derived from an income (so called assessment base) out of which each individual pays social insurance premiums. The daily amount of the benefits is determined by stipulated percentage rates. In the first three days of disability, the rate amounts to 50 % and from the fourth day to 69 % of the daily average of this income, called the daily assessment base. (<http://www.mpsv.cz/en/1591>.)

In co-operation with the job seeker, a labour office can develop an individual action plan. This is designed to increase the employment chances of job seekers receiving increased care from labour offices. *The labour office* is obliged to offer job seekers below the age of 25 and university graduates the opportunity to develop this plan. The plan is based on the job seeker's qualifications, capabilities and skills. (<http://www.mpsv.cz/en/1591>.)

Social counselling gives people the necessary information, mediates the followup services and offers various possibilities how to solve their problems. Usually, social counselling is a part of all kinds of social services or is provided as an independent service. It is always provided free of charge. (<http://www.mpsv.cz/en/1591>.)

The pension scheme is based on two pillars at the present. *Basic obligatory system of pension* insurance which relies on the social security principle. Its funding is continuous (not any funds – the pensions in the given period are paid directly from the contributions of working citizens). *Voluntary state –contributory supplementary pension insurance* that is conceived as individual saving and based on capital financing. (<http://www.mpsv.cz/en/1591>.)

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3) Equal opportunities

The Conception of the National Youth Policy (Conception 2002), a basic document of the Czech governmental youth policy, considers all citizens up to 18 years of age to be children and between 18 and 26 years to be the youth. The acquisition of identification card at the age of 15 is the first official symbol of adult identity. The official legal age of 18 endows every young person to act fully on his/her account and to assume all the responsibilities connected with adult age. (www.isea-cz.org/attachments/doc421/FinalReport2005_bez_jany.pdf.)

In 2001, this somewhat broadly defined group of children and youth comprised of some 3,3 million Czech citizens, out of which about 1,5 million of young people between 15 and 24 years of age, and thus falling under two respective age cohorts of 15–19 and 20–24 years. These two age cohorts represented approximately 15 % of the Czech population throughout the recent history. (www.isea-cz.org/attachments/doc421/FinalReport2005_bez_jany.pdf.)

In 2004, more than 255 000 foreigners lived in the Czech Republic, of which 40,3 % were women. The majority of foreigners were in the 20–39 age groups. (www.czso.cz.)

- Education

Girls make up the majority in secondary technical schools (55,9 %) and grammar schools (55,9 %), and especially higher professional schools (68,4 %). Boys predominate in secondary vocational schools (64,9 %) and special schools of all levels, particularly institutional and protective education establishments. (www.czso.cz.)

University students in bachelor, master and doctoral study programs in full-time, distance and combined study. The sexes are most equally represented among students of agricultural, forestry and veterinary sciences (female students 57%, male 43%), and among students of culture and art (female students 58 %, male 42 %). Women predominate in the social sciences and in disciplines in the services fields (female student 65 %, male 35 %), most frequently in health, medical and pharmaceutical sciences (female students 70 %, male 30 %). There are less women in the technical and natural sciences and disciplines, or at the military universities (female student 21%, male 79%). The different representation of men and women did not, however, affect the sequence according to study discipline, which is the same for both sexes: women and men most often study at universities that focus on social sciences and services, humanities and services, with the technical sciences and disciplines in second place. Women studying university more frequently complete bachelor studies only, and only one third of girls is among those who complete doctoral programs. (www.czso.cz.)

- Unemployment

Looking at the socio-economic status of the young people, two basic legal schemes might be traced: First, about 54 % of young people are classified as students, taking some, if not all, legal advantages (i.e., social security, tax allowances, financial aids, preferential tariffs) and disadvantages (temporary lower labour remuneration, not being entitled to unemployment welfare, etc.). Second most widely represented group among young people is the group of young people who are already employed. This group stands for some 35 % of the total. The unemployed represent approximately 8 % of the total; a relatively important figure with regard to the fact that only 43 % of young people belong to the economically active part of the population. Among other minor socio-economic schemes, we may cite parental leave or early retirement due to health problems or invalidity. (www.isea-cz.org/attachments/doc421/FinalReport2005_bez_jany.pdf.)

The regional unemployment rates (of the age group 15+) ranged from 1.8% in the Hl. m. Praha Region to 8,1 % in the Moravskoslezský Region. Year-on-year decreases in unemployment rates were observed in all of the CR regions, the highest in the Ústecký Region where high unemployment still persists. Low unemployment rates are steadily recorded for university graduates (1,4 %) and persons with full secondary education with maturita examination (2,7 %). A high unemployment rate persists among persons with basic education (18.4%). (<http://www.czso.cz/eng/csu.nsf/kalendar/aktual-zam>.)

The Labour Force Sample Survey produces data on persons who are not in work, do not actively seek a job and thus do not meet the ILO conditions for being considered as unemployed but they declare their willingness to work. In 2/2008 their number was 191,9 thousand, i.e. by 22,8 thousand fewer year - on - year. A large number of these persons are found among people aged 24 or less (62,9 thousand), mainly students or apprentices. A relatively high number of inactive people aged 25-34 (40,2 thousand) are due to the fact that women on parental leave or housewives want to have a job. (<http://www.czso.cz/eng/csu.nsf/kalendar/aktual-zam.>)

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ANNEX 5

SOCIAL SUBSISTENCE / PROTECTION IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

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ANNEX 6

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