

**UN STATISTICAL COMMISSION and
UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (EUROSTAT)**

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

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INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION'S DATA SOURCES IN CZECH REPUBLIC

Submitted by the Czech Statistical Office

Statistics on migration flows .

1. The Czech Statistical Office receives notifications of migration. A database file was established summarising individual notifications. This file covers variables like:
 - birth-number
 - firstname, surname
 - sex
 - date of birth
 - country of birth
 - family status
 - educational status
 - citizenship
 - reason of migration (work, school, health, family reunification, marriage, divorce)
 - former address (in case of international migration only the country of previous residence)
 - new address (in case of international migration only the country of next residence)
 - date of event
2. The file covers two major subsets of migration: internal migration (permanent residence change from one municipality to the other) and international migration (crossing the borderline movement)
3. This old migration file covered:
 - foreigners, who got the permanent residence permission, regardless the previous length of stay in Czech Republic, were covered as 'immigrants' to the Czech Republic
 - in above mentioned category were also Czech citizens who came back from abroad to the Czech Republic
 - foreigners with permanent residence permit leaving the Czech Republic and mentioning this fact to Immigration Police; and Czech citizens who told to registration office of residence, that they leave the Czech Republic on a permanent base are covered as 'emigrants' from the Czech republic.
 - Czech citizens and foreigners, who changed their permanent residence in the Czech Republic (both addresses are in CR) made 'internal migration'
4. From 2001 on, there are many changes in international and internal migration statistics following to the 1998 UN Recommendations.

5. According to the fact, that it is impossible to differ a-priori the group of long-term migrants (UN Recommendations) it was necessary to redefine former group of 'immigrants' for foreigners with visa over 90 days which length of stay at first exceeds 1 year. The new Foreigners Stay Act unfortunately does not provide for covering the one year length of stay. The following represents the only possible approximation, because it is not possible to keep two sets of files and outputs (preliminary and definitive)

6. Foreigners are registered as international immigrants after passing one year of stay; at the moment when they change their usual residence in the Czech Republic. They are registered as emigrants, when leaving the Czech Republic for longer time (the end of the residence permit, deregistration, repatriation, etc.). Data on foreigners-international immigrants, foreigners-international emigrants and foreigners who acquired the Czech citizenship are being sent to the Czech Statistical Office through automatically generated export batch from district offices of the Immigration Police . Internal migration of foreigners is also registered by the Immigration Police, but in a paper form. Immigration Police does not consider migration between the two municipalities within one district as a significant change (thus does not generate an electronic record). However, this is considered as an important change by the Czech Statistical Office (for the population balance to the level of municipalities).

7. Migration of Czech citizens is registered in an old way -- using the "permanent residence" concept.

Statistics on Foreigners in the Czech Republic - Stock data.

8. Till the end of 2000 Czech Statistical Office did not have any separate inhabitant's balance by citizenship. There was only the balance of inhabitants. It covered Czech citizens and foreigners with permanent residence in the Czech republic but without any breakdown by citizenship. Any available information about the stock data of long-term resident foreigners came from the database of foreigners operated by Immigration Police.

9. The following variables are stored in the database (covering either long-term or permanently resident foreigners):

- personal identification number;
- all names;
- sex;
- date of birth;
- type of the residential permit (asylum, visa under 90 days; visa over 90 days; permanent residence);
- purpose of residence;
- the beginning of the residence in the Czech Republic;
- the end of validity of the residential permit;
- ISO- Alpha-3 code of the state of citizenship (published by the UN Statistics Division in ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/49/Rev.4);
- nationality;
- country of birth;
- country of previous residence;
- address of the residence in the Czech Republic;
- name, address and identification number (business register) of the employer;
- selected spouse's data;
- number of children.

10. The data are available from the Immigration Police. Possibilities of providing the stock data to Czech Statistical Office are being discussed. Data from the Immigration Police will have to be completed with the identification number (business register) of the employer. This would permit a linkage with the business register of the Czech Statistical Office's Register, in order to obtain data according to the International Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC Rev. 3 / NACE, Rev. 1).

11. Presently, data on economic activity of foreigners are obtained from the register of the Ministry of Industry and Trade and from databases of local labour offices. Unfortunately, there is no centralised register of work permits for foreigners.

12. Czech Statistical Office will start balancing the population by citizenship with the base stock according to the 2001 round of Population Census (rebalanced to 1st of January 2001).

Problems with the 1998 UN Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration.

13. A basic problem is represented by the fact, that this area isn't solved by any new EU regulation. It is not necessary to reproduce the content of the UN Recommendations in the Regulation. It is impossible due to different approaches among countries and to the fact, that immigration policy is an integral part of policy system of each state. However, some basic principles of the Recommendations should be regularised officially and be obligatory (for example the definitions in Box 1 and Table 1 of Recommendations) One year time point isn't regularised in the Czech Foreigners' Stay Act. If there is no EU regulation on this, there is no chance to make the Ministry of Interior and the Immigration Police to support relevant changes in the law. Probably, in majority of the EU countries, NSIs have better position in the legislation process, but the Czech Statistical Office is not in a position to initiate a change of the law only on a basis of the UN Recommendations.

14. Another problem is not so good cooperation of the Czech citizens, particularly in the area of emigration. There is a legal obligation to announce the to go abroad for long time (1 year and over) to the Registration Office. This is often neglected, because there are no sanctions specified in the legislation. This (together with the difference to the past definitions – only a “permanent residence” change to abroad) is the reason for substantial discrepancies between data on emigration provided by the Czech Republic and immigration provided by the other countries. Probably, it is not a specific problem only for the Czech Republic.

15. In the context of this problem, we would like to ask, how the problem of free movement among the EU countries is solved by EU member states?

16. One more problem is related to the separate evidence of the international civil servants. A possible solution is to assign dummy business identification numbers of the international organisations (as employers of international civil servants), and to distinguish these numbers from the other ones in database.

17. The Czech Statistical Office is positioned low in the hierarchy of the national civil service. The right to obtain data from administrative sources is legally based on the Statistical Service Act. However, provision of administrative data for statistical purposes has not become a common practise in majority of areas (e.g. tax and, income, driving licences, vehicle registration, etc.). The data do exist, but the Czech Statistical Office does not have an easy access to the data maintained by other parts of civil service.

Legal base

- Stay of Foreigners Act (conditions of entry and stay in the Czech republic for foreigners; visa types; stay types; requirements on foreigners; competence of the Immigration Police); approved 1999; novelized 2000; in use from 1 January 2000

- Asylum Act – (conditions of the asylum process in the Czech Republic; requirements on asylum seekers; competencies of particular institutions participating on asylum process; conditions for asylum houses, commerce residence renting...) approved 1999; in use from 1 January 2000
- Inhabitants' Evidence and Birth Number Act (register of inhabitants – both citizens and foreigners; covered variables; ...) approved 1999; in use from 1 July 2000 some paragraphs in use from 2003
- Acquirement and Losing of the Citizenship Act; approved 1992; three-times novelised; in use from 1 July 1993
- Trading Act (some paragraphs special for foreigners; conditions for obtaining of the trading licence; register of trading licences....)
- Labour Codex
- State Statistical Service Act
- State Service Act
- Free Access to Information Act
- State Information System Act

INFLOWS

	Short-term			Long-term			Total		
	Czech citizens	Non-citizens	Total	Czech citizens	Non-citizens	Total	Czech citizens	Non-citizens	Total
Education and training	Not possible	Foreigner's register of Immigration Police	Not possible	Notification of migration (CSO); only permanent residence change; low quality	Notification of migration (CSO)	Notification of migration (CSO)	Not possible	Foreigner's register of Immigration Police	Not possible
Employment		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police		Notification of migration (CSO); only permanent residence change; low quality	Notification of migration (CSO)	Notification of migration (CSO)		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police	
International civil servants		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police		Notification of migration (CSO); Not separately identified	Notification of migration (CSO); Not separately identified	Notification of migration (CSO); Not separately identified		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police	
Free establishment				Notification of migration (CSO); low quality	Notification of migration (CSO)	Notification of migration (CSO)			
Settlement				Notification of migration (CSO); low quality	Foreigner's register of Immigration Police	Notification of migration (CSO)			
Family reunification or family formation		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police		Notification of migration (CSO); only permanent residence change; low quality	Notification of migration (CSO)	Notification of migration (CSO)			
Seeking asylum		Records of the Ministry of Interior		Not possible	Records of the Ministry of Interior			Records of the Ministry of Interior	
Other (repatriation....)		Records of the of Border Police		Records of the of Border Police	Records of the of Border Police	Records of the of Border Police		Records of the of Border Police	

OUTFLOWS

	Short-term			Long-term			Total		
	Czech citizens	Non-citizens	Total	Czech citizens	Non-citizens	Total	Czech citizens	Non-citizens	Total
Education and training	Not possible	Foreigner's register of Immigration Police	Not possible	Notification of migration (CSO); only permanent residence change; low quality	Notification of migration (CSO)	Notification of migration (CSO)	Not possible	Foreigner's register of Immigration Police	Not possible
Employment		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police		Notification of migration (CSO); only permanent residence change; low quality	Notification of migration (CSO)	Notification of migration (CSO)		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police	
International civil servants		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police		Notification of migration (CSO); Not separately identified	Notification of migration (CSO); Not separately identified	Notification of migration (CSO); Not separately identified		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police	
Free establishment		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police							
Settlement		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police		Notification of migration (CSO); low quality	Foreigner's register of Immigration Police				
Family reunification or family formation		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police		Notification of migration (CSO); only permanent residence change; low quality	Notification of migration (CSO)	Notification of migration (CSO)			
Seeking asylum		Evidence of Ministry of Interior		Not possible	Evidence of Ministry of Interior			Evidence of Ministry of Interior	
Other (repatriation....)		Evidence of Border police			Evidence of Border police			Evidence of Border police	

STOCK DATA

	Citizens living abroad	Non-citizens living in the country	
Education and training	Not possible	Foreigner's register of Immigration Police Evidence of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Physical Training - foreign students at secondary schools and universities - at 1st November	
Employment on a permanent base (long-term)		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police Evidence of the local Labour Offices (employees from abroad) and Ministry of Industry and Trade (self-employed or employers with Trade Licence) Labour Force Survey - only individual households - for that reason is representative only for Czech citizens	
Employment on a temporary or seasonal base		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police Evidence of the local Labour Offices (employees from abroad) and Ministry of Industry and Trade (self-employed or employers with Trade Licence) Labour Force Survey - only individual households - for that reason is representative only for Czech citizens	
International civil servants		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police (Not separately identified, i.e. see previous two categories)	
Free establishment		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police	
Settlement		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police	
Due to family relationship		Foreigner's register of Immigration Police	
Refugees		Evidence of Ministry of Interior Foreigner's register of Immigration Police	
Seeking asylum		Evidence of Ministry of Interior	
Diplomatic and consular status		Evidence of Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Evidence of Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Military personnel		Evidence of Ministry of Defence	Evidence of Ministry of Defence
