

Czech Republic – ANED country profile

The information contained in this summary was compiled by the Academic Network of European Disability experts (ANED) in April 2009.

Academic networks and resources

There is currently no academic network on disability studies in the Czech Republic.

[Journal of Special Needs Education](#). Speciální pedagogika. Pedagogická fakulta Univerzity Karlovy. Publisher: Pedagogická fakulta Univerzity Karlovy. ISSN 1211-2720.

Policy and enforcement bodies

The key national bodies with responsibility for disability law and policy implementation include:

[Czech National Disability Council](#) (CNDC) The aim of the CNDC as an NGO is to advocate, promote and satisfy the interests and needs of disabled people, in co-operation with both national and local government in the Czech Republic as well as with international institutions.

[Government Board for Persons with Disabilities](#): the main task of the Board is to highlight problems and to suggest solutions. The Board co-operates with the public administration authorities as well as with the non governmental sphere. It consists of the representatives of the government and ministries and representatives of associations of persons with disabilities and their employers.

Organisations of disabled people

The national organisation representing disabled people at the European level (European Disability Forum) is:

[Czech National Disability Council](#)

[Union of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in the Czech Republic](#) (SNNCR)

[Czech Blind United](#) (SONS)

[Czech Association for Support of Persons with Intellectual Disability](#) – SPMP/Inclusion Czech Republic – NGO for persons with intellectual disability and their families

Other significant national organisations of disabled people include:

[National Association for Parents and Friends of People with Disabilities](#)

National law and strategy

The Czech Republic has ratified the [United Nations Convention](#) and the [Optional Protocol](#).

Important national laws, policies and strategies concerning disabled people include:

[Act No. 561, 2004 on Pre-school, Basic, Secondary, Tertiary Professional and Other Education](#) (the Education Act)

[Act no. 563, on Pedagogical Staff and their Career Development](#)

Civil Procedure Code, art. 193(3) in conjunction with art. 178(1).

The Building Act No. 50/176 Coll., Edict No. 369/2001 Coll. On general technical



requirements assuring the use of public buildings for persons with limited mobility and orientation

Family Act (No. 94/1963 Coll.)

Czech National Council Resolution No. 2/1993 Coll. on Promulgation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms

Law on Employment No. 435/2004 Coll.

Law on Social Services No. 108/2006 Coll.

National Plan of Support and Integration for Persons with Disabilities for Period 2006

– **2009** NÁRODNÍ PLÁN PODPORY A INTEGRACE OBČANŮ SE ZDRAVOTNÍM POSTIŽENÍM NA OBDOBÍ 2006 - 2009 (NPPI) (PDF)

[National Employment Reform Programme](#)

National Report on Strategies for Social Protection and Social Inclusion

Facts and figures

Data on population indicate that:

The 2007 [Czech Bureau of Statistics, Sample Survey of people with disabilities in the Czech Republic](#) estimates a population of 1,015,548 disabled persons from a total population of 10,287,189 (52% women and 48% men, although in every age category up to the age of 74 the number of men with disabilities slightly predominates over the number of women).

Of this population: 46,208 aged under 14; 407,695 aged 15-59; 560,018 aged 60 and over.

Data on employment indicate that:

Data from the Ministry of Works and Social Affairs Statistics 2005-2008 suggest that disabled people make up 17.4% of the official unemployment.

While the general unemployment rate fell that for disabled people remained static or increased slightly between 2005 and 2008. The number of unemployed people evidenced by labour offices in the Czech republic has decreased but the number of unemployed individuals with disabilities has increased (and those who receive Full Disability Pension are not obliged to present at the labour office).

A 2005 study 'Analyzing causes of women with disabilities low employment' for the Czech Ministry of Work and Social Affairs suggested that 9 out of 10 people viewed disabled persons as disadvantaged in the labour market.

Only 15% of disabled people use the services of a local labour office to search for employment (most relying on self-initiative or the help of families and friends). Although few use non-profit organizations, these were found to be very effective.

Disabled people prefer to find work in the open labour market (although around one in ten would prefer to have a job in a sheltered work environment and a similar proportion do not want to enter the labour market).



Data on education indicate that:

According to 2008 *Database of Institute of information in Education* there were 45,046 children with special educational needs in mainstream schools in 2007/8. Of these, 36,085 were integrated in common classes (with 8,961) integrated in common schools but in special classes.

According to the [2007 national sample survey](#), approximately one third of disabled men have attained only basic education (graduated from a Primary School), while 30% have secondary education without passing a leaving exam (a level that does not allow the student to apply to a University). Only 8% of disabled men reached higher education.

Among women 45% attained basic education and 21% of those who attained a comprehensive secondary education that enable them to sit for an entrance exam for a University. Only 5% of women attained a University degree.

The ratio of comprehensive secondary education attained by disabled people compared to the general population is 20% : 27%.

Representation of 81% economically active people aged 15-59 years old in the Czech Republic have at least secondary education. For disabled people it is only 50%.

Data on accessibility indicate that:

We do not currently have any systematic data on accessibility in the Czech Republic.

Data on poverty and incomes indicate that:

A [research study](#) on the 'Territorial dimension of social exclusion' identified disabled people as a group most at risk of social exclusion but with high visibility for policy makers (e.g. in relation to work and physical accessibility).

Data on attitudes indicate that:

There is a lack of representative studies on attitudes towards disability (and the Czech Republic was not included in the Eurbarometer Attitudes of Europeans module).

The 2005 research study 'Analyzing causes of women with disabilities low reports that three quarters of the general public think that disable people are disadvantaged in looking for a job (one in fourteen thinks that they experience similar situations as non-disabled people, one in fifteen thinks that they are privileged when looking for a job).

One quarter of the public felt the state paid enough attention to the problem of employing disabled people but two thirds thought the contrary.



Only half of employers agreed that employing disabled people is a moral obligation for the private sector. Three quarters acknowledged that such an obligation could be applied to bigger companies.

The public is more sceptical about employing disabled people than employers themselves. The public more often thinks that employing a person with a disability brings up problems and also that for employers it is more convenient to have a fine levied by the state for not employing their quota.

Data on public spending indicate that:

According to the Basic Indicators of Work and Social Welfare field 2007 (MPSV, Praha 2008) there were 3,398 pensions funded in 2007, of which 389 were 'full' and 208 'partial' disability pensions.

The number of partial disability pensions has increased more rapidly than for full disability pensions since 1990.

Disability pensions made up 16.4% of all pensions (11.8% full and 5.6% partial) The value of full disability pensions fell in relation to average wages from 60% in 1997 to 51.5% in 2007; and for partial pensions from 40.2% to 31.3%.

3,094,823 Social Care allowances were provided in 2007 (costing 14,607,633CZK). The average income per allowance was 4,720CZK.

Social protection

Key features of the national system include (including adapted items from the [MISSOC](#) database December 2008):

Disability benefits

The main body of Social Administration is the Ministry of Work and Social Affairs. It operates the following systems:

Social Insurance Administration: three types of insurance schemes: a pension insurance that is compulsory by the law; a compulsory state employment policy contribution; a sickness insurance that is voluntary. The following welfare contributions and allowances are redistributed from these schemes: from the pension insurance, old age pensions, full and partial disability pensions, widow's and widower's pensions, orphan's pension; from the sickness insurance, sickness benefit, benefit for care of a family member, compensation benefit in motherhood, financial aid in motherhood, parental benefit.

Employment Services Administration: coordinates fields such as employment relationships, work safety policy, employment, retraining programmes, occupational rehabilitation services, wages and other fields - coordinated through the local work offices. They implement passive employment policy (through redistributing an unemployment benefits) and active employment policy (through job counselling, retraining programmes or occupational rehabilitation programmes, etc.).

State Social Benefit Administration: The Ministry of Work and Social Affairs coordinates administration through the local work offices. The administration assists people with different kinds of life situations, not only disabled people.

Social Services Administration: the 2007 Social Services Act brought significant changes in financing and access to social services. People who need to use certain social services can decide upon their own needs and choose the provider. To people in need (are concretized by the act), a special social care allowance is provided to people in need (the amount is based on the severity of disability and varies from 2,000 to 11,000 Czech crowns).

Preferential employment and quotas

In the Czech Republic there is a regulation for companies employing more than 25 employees to employ at least 4% individuals with disabilities of a total number of employees

Long-term support and care

There is no single, discrete system of long-term care. Health care is financed from the health insurance, social care is financed by the state care allowance, state and regional grants to providers. There are no age limits.

Social assistance provided in the recipient's home may include personal assistance, domiciliary services, emergency assistance, respite care etc. These services usually include assistance with self-care, hygiene, food, running a household, and mediating contacts with the social environment according to individual contract (usually from 4 to 8 hours per day).

Recurrent or one-off benefits in cash (based on Decree of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs No 182/1991) are available for special aids, home adaptations, costs of motor vehicle, individual transport, food for a guide dog.

Additional information

Useful sources of more detailed information about the situation of disabled people, and the policies and support available, include:

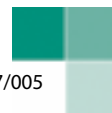
Český statistický úřad. *Výběrové šetření zdravotně postižených VŠPO 07*. [Sample Survey of people with disabilities in the Czech Republic] [online]. 2007. [cit. 2009 – 05 – 03]. Dostupné z: <http://www.czso.cz/csu/2008edicniplan.nsf/p/3309-08>.

Mareš P., Horáková M., Rákoczyová M.: *Sociální exkluze na lokální úrovni*. [Territorial dimension of social exclusion]. Praha: VÚPSV 2008. 77 s. ISBN 978-80-7416-014-1.

MPSV ČR. *Analýza příčin nízké zaměstnanosti zdravotně postižených žen, závěrečná zpráva pro MPSV ČR – projekt HR137/05*. [Analyzing causes of women with disabilities low employment] [online]. 2005. [cit. 2009 – 07 – 03]. Dostupné z: <http://www.vlada.cz/assets/clenove-vlady/ministri-pri-uradu-vlady/michael-kocab/rovne-prilezitosti-zen-a-muzu/dokumenty/Nizka-zam-zdrav-post-zen.pdf>.

MPSV ČR. *Národní akční plán sociálního začleňování 2008 – 2010*. [National Social Protection and Social Inclusion Plan]. [online]. 2008. [cit. 2009 – 05 – 03]. Dostupné z: <http://www.mpsv.cz/cs/5130>.

MPSV ČR. *Základní ukazatele z oblasti sociálního zabezpečení v České republice*. [Basic Indicators of Work and Social Welfare field] [online]. 2008. [cit. 2009 – 07 – 03]. Dostupné z: <http://www.mpsv.cz/cs/3867>.



Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic (2006 b) National Report on Strategies for Social Protection and Social Inclusion for 2006-2008 Czech Republic. MPG/MEDE, Country Report – Czech Republic,