

Section 7. Geography of Population

Секция № 7. География населения

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**DEVELOPMENT OF THE POPULATION
IN THE CZECH SOCIALIST REPUBLIC (ČSR)
AFTER WORLD WAR II.**

The present state and development of the population of the ČSR is conditioned in many respects by the previous economic development. Reduction of fertility began already as a result of the economic crisis of the seventies of the past century.

After the origin of the independent Czechoslovak Republic in 1918 a short temporary improvement of the natural population increase took place. But as early as in the period 1925–1937 the simple reproduction of population was no more secured. This was the result of two main reasons — the world economic crisis (its consequences appear even nowadays in the age structure of the population) and weaker population years.

The war years (1939–1945) manifested themselves by increased mortality and natality and, owing to the war assignment of population, the transfer of Czech population and the germanization, by important changes in the settlement structure.

At the beginning of 1945 altogether 14.3 mill. inhabitants lived on Czechoslovakia's territory, 10.8 mill. of this total in the ČSR. After the evacuation of the German population on the basis of Potsdam convention a population decrease by 2.5 mill. occurred the active reemigration amounting to 140,000 persons.

From Czechoslovakia's liberation until 1949 the main features of the population development are extensive migrations from the interior parts of the country in the borderland of the Czech Socialist Republic. These resulted in regional changes in the age structure and economic structure of the population and thus even in regional differences in natural population increase. The main migration directions led into the border and industrial regions strengthening thus the urban category of communities in the settlement structure of the ČSR.

Fundamental changes took place in the composition of nationalities of the ČSR owing to the evacuation of German population. Whereas in 1921 in the ČSR 67.5 % of population of Czech nationality, 0.2 of Slovak nationality, 30.6 % of German nationality and 1.7 % of other nationalities were living the number of Czech nationality increased to 94.1 % and of Slovak nationality to 3.7 % in 1974. Considerable immigration of Slovak people in the ČSR raised their

share to more than 10 % in some districts mainly in North Bohemia. At the Czech-Polish frontier in the Ostrava region a Polish minority (0.7 %) kept preserved.

In the first census carried out after the War in 1950 8.9 mill. of inhabitants were counted on the territory of the ČSR (in Czechoslovakia 12.3 mill. inhabitants). Social security and full employment rate after the origin of socialist Czechoslovakia resulted in an unusual natural population increase. The mean annual increase in the period 1945—1950 was 7.8 persons per 1000 inhabitants, in the period 1950—1961 7.5 ‰. This favourable population development lasted approximately until 1956. In the decade 1961—1970 a systematic decrease of the natural population increase manifests itself (4.5 ‰ annual increase) so that in the years 1968—1969 the net reproduction rate was not secured. This fact was affected besides the weaker population years even by delayed housing construction. The increase of the living standard in general and that of young couples especially and the increasing employment rate of women manifest themselves distinctly in the need of the establishment of a network of nursery and infant-schools, the improvement of the standard of services which affects again the reproduction of population.

A substantial change takes place after the adoption of extensive population measures in 1971. Owing to this fact the natural population increase in the last 5 years increased to 6.8 ‰ (in 1974) in spite of the fact that a further increase of mortality to 12.6 ‰ (1974) takes place due to increasing mortality caused by blood circulation diseases about 50 %) and cancer (about 21 %) and the still less favourable age structure of the population.

After 1945 a favourable development in the number of marriages set in. This number increased to more than 10 marriages per 1000 inhabitants until the beginning of the fifties owing to after-war compensation and decreased to 7.6 ‰ in 1953. Since that time it has been increasing systematically attaining again 9.8 ‰ in 1974. But there is an unfavourable situation in the number of divorces which increased from 11.9 divorces per 100 marriages in 1950 to 25.5 divorces in 1974. About one half of the divorces goes to couples younger than 35 years and highest rate of divorces occurs in big towns and/or industrial regions. The main motive can be found both in the high share of marriages of very young people, material problems, lack of sense of responsibility and interest in family.

The distribution of the population of the ČSR is uneven. The mean population density increased from 113 inhabitants . km⁻² in 1950 to 126 inh. . km⁻² in 1974. Highest density occurs in industrial regions (North Bohemia and Ostrava region) and the hinterland of big towns (Praha—Kladno—Brno, etc.). Deep below average are in the ČSR all agricultural regions since the collectivization and mechanization allowed all excessive population to move to towns. An intensive population decrease takes place with increasing altitude above sea level, the highest highland and mountainous regions being wooded. 95.8 % of the population of the ČSR are concentrated in regions situated below 500 m above sea level.

The settlement structure of the ČSR is typical by a high number of small communities (up to 2000 inhabitants). Their share amounted to 95.4 % in 1950, to 91.7 % in 1970. In these small communities lived 46.0 % inhabitants in 1950, 35.3 % inhabitants in 1970. More than 2/3 of settlements have less than 500 inhabitants.

The population density of small towns (up to 10,000 inhabitants) which are simultaneously industrial centres is typical of the ČSR. Towns of medium size (20,000 up to 50,000 inhabitants) are also characteristic. There are only 4 big

cities in the ČSR and only the metropolis of Praha belongs to the category of million cities. Larger towns and exceptionally even medium-size towns substitute big cities with their functions. For instance opposite to 4 cities there are 9 university towns in the ČSR.

Whereas the first phase of migration movements was directed predominantly at the border regions of the ČSR, since the beginning of the construction within the frame of the 5 years plan main migrations were directed at new enterprises and industrial regions. Even the structural modifications of industry in industrial regions were of significance for migrations. Another extensive migration source was the movement of agricultural population to towns.

In the decade between 1950 and 1959 altogether 1.1 mill. people changed their domicile most of them settled in towns. Greatest relative increase registered the towns of Pardubice, Hradec Králové, Plzeň and Mladá Boleslav and the regions of West Bohemia, České Budějovice, Jablonec and Teplice.

During 1961—1970 about 400,000 persons i. e. 2.8 % of inhabitants changed their domicile in the course of one year. The migration to towns and industrial regions has continued. During 1970—1974 altogether 2.6 % of inhabitants moved per year.

Most intensive is the migration from community to community within the frame of a district. It amounts to about 45 % (1974) of inhabitants, 25 % of inhabitants moving from district to district within the frame of the region and 30 % moving from region to region. The migration between the ČSR and the SSR is about 5 % on behalf of the ČSR. A part of migration movements proceed gradually from small communities to larger ones, to small towns and finally to large towns. The increase of the population of urban communities is two times faster than the total population increase of the ČSR. In 1970 a decrease of migration from the country to towns can be observed the significance of the migrations between towns increases on the contrary. Movements from smaller towns to medium and large towns prevail. Owing to this fact strongly industrialized regions exhibit a higher migration rate than less industrialized regions.

In the ČSR commuting to work was very frequent already before World War II. It increased during the war by mass assignment of labour in armament industry. After the liberation commuting registered an opposite development to that of migration. It decreased systematically owing to extensive migrations to places of work till 1948 when it decreased to about 1 mill. commuters. Since the beginning of socialistic industrialization commuting has increased again.

In 1961 (first census involving commuting) altogether 1.601 mill. people commuted to work in the ČSR (in the ČSSR 2.297 mill.). This represented 35.0 % of economically active population (in the ČSSR 36.5 %). In 1970 1.769 mill. persons commuted to work in the ČSR (in the ČSSR 2.630 mill.). This was 35.5 % of economically active population in the ČSR (37.7 % in the ČSSR). The increase of commuting amounted to 110.5 % in the ČSR in this decade (114.5 % in the ČSSR).

Largest commuting centres are the cities: Praha — 100,000, Ostrava 80,000, Brno 60,000 and Plzeň 32,000 commuters. Some regional towns as well as towns of the same level (Kladno, Hradec Králové, Gottwaldov, Olomouc) are of similar significance.

In 1945, there was only one urbanized region in the ČSR of a relatively small extent — in the surroundings of Praha. The increase of urban population and the decrease of country population in connection with high increase of com-

muting led to the development of numerous urbanized regions. A specific feature of the urbanization of the ČSR with respect to its settlement structure is the fact that it manifests itself distinctly already from towns with 20,000 inhabitants. Another important feature is the increase of the marginal zones of most urbanized regions. In the ČSR there are altogether 36 urbanized regions and subregions (1970) occupying more than 1/4 of the territory. More than 3/5 of the population of the ČSR are concentrated in these urbanized regions.

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РАЗВИТИЕ НАСЕЛЕНИЯ В ЧЕХСКОЙ СОЦИАЛИСТИЧЕСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКЕ (ЧСР) ПО 2-ОЙ МИРОВОЙ ВОЙНЕ

Современное положение и развитие населения ЧСР обусловлено не только предшествующим хозяйственным развитием, но и развитием населенности.

Возникновение самостоятельной Чехословацкой республики в 1918 г. отметило временное улучшение естественного движения, но уже период 1925 - 1937 гг. находился под влиянием приближающегося экономического кризиса - понижение рождаемости и тем необеспечение собственной репродукции населения.

В начале 1945 г. жило на территории ЧССР 14,3 мил. жителей, из того 10,8 в ЧСР. Выселением немецкого населения на основе Потсдамского договора пришло к убыли 2,5 мил. жителей, реэмиграционный прирост был 140 тыс. жителей. Развитие населения после 1945 г. характеризуется огромным миграционным движением, которое стремилось к чешскому пограничью, отчасти из областей, находящихся внутри ЧСР, отчасти из Словакии. К коренным изменениям пришло не только в возрастной структуре, но и в национальном составлении, в ЧСР. Понизилось число населения немецкой национальности (на 0,7 ‰), но значительно повысилось число жителей словацкой национальности (в 1974 г. на 3,7 ‰).

Послевоенный период находился под влиянием повышения естественного прироста, который в период 1945 - 1950 гг. достиг 7,8 ‰, в период 1950 - 1961 гг. 7,5 ‰. Но это благоприятное развитие было нарушено следующим периодом в следствии понижения рождаемости и в период 1961 - 1970 гг. был прирост только 4,5 ‰. Принятием огромных популяционных мероприятий повысился прирост в период 1970 - 1974 гг. опять на 6,8 ‰ (1974 г.).

Но смертность после 1961 г. отличается постепенным повышением: в 1974 г. достигла 12,6 ‰. Повысилась прежде всего смертность от болезней сосудистых (кровообращение - приблизительно 50 ‰ смертей) и от новообразований (рак - приблизительно 21 ‰).

Благоприятное развитие брачности, которое в 1974 г. достигло 9,8 ‰, понижено значительно высоким числом расторгнений брака (в 1974 г. 25,5 на 100 браков). Основной причиной является относительно молодой возраст новобрачных, определенная неподготовленность для брака и низкая ответственность.

Размещение населения ЧСР является неравномерным, средняя величина плотности населения есть 126 жителей/км кв. (в 1950 г. 113 жителей/км кв.). Самая высокая плотность населения в промышленных областях и в тылах больших городов, очень низкая во всех сельскохозяйственных областях.

Структура поселений ЧСР обозначается великим числом малых населенных пунктов (до 2 000 жителей), доля которых до 1970 г. понизилась из 95,4 ‰ на 91,7 ‰. Но в этих населенных пунктах сосредоточено только 35,3 ‰ жителей (в 1950 году 46,0 ‰). Для ЧСР является типичной высокая плотность малых городов (до 10 тыс. жителей); большие города только 4, из них один миллионный город (Прага). Большие города и в виде исключения города средней величины представляют своими функциями большие города с больше чем 100 тыс. жителей.

Первая фаза миграционных движений, направленных к пограничным областям ЧСР,

была с начала промышленного строительства и экономической перестройки хозяйства сосредоточена в эти новые промышленные области и в города. Источником освобождения населения для роста городов было тоже земледельческое население (механизация и др.). В период 1961 - 1970 гг. изменило 2,8 % жителей своё жилище; хотя и в 1974 г. миграционное движение понизилось, но до сих пор создает 2,6 % жителей в средней величине года.

Самым сильным является переселение из населенного пункта в населенный пункт в рамках одного округа (45 %), потом из округа в округ в рамках одного края (25 %) и из края в край (30 %). Переселение между ЧСР а ССР создает 5 % в пользу ЧСР. На значении приобретает непрерывно повышающаяся иммиграция в среднее и большие города.

ЧСР обозначается тоже сравнительно значительной поездкой на работу. В первый раз было это движение исследованно - в 1961 г., когда поезжало на работу 1 601 тыс. трудящихся, это значит 35 % экономически активного населения. В 1970 г. поезжало на работу уже 1 769 тыс. жителей, т. е. 35,5 % экономически активных. Самыми большими центрами поездки являются крупные города - Прага 100 тыс., Острава 80 тыс., Брно 60 тыс. и Пльзень 32 тыс.

В 1945 г. была в ЧСР только одна урбанизованная область, относительно не очень обширная - окрестность Праги. Прирост городского населения вел к созданию дальнейших урбанизованных областей. Специфика ЧСР лежит в том, что урбанизация проявляется выразительно уже начиная городами с 20 тыс. жителей. В общем в ЧСР 36 урбанизованных областей и районов и их территория занимает больше чем 1/4 территории ЧСР и сосредоточивает больше чем 3/5 населения ЧСР.