



CZSO DATA REVISION POLICY

As of December 8, 2015

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	3
1 GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF ORDINARY REVISIONS	6
1.1 National Accounts Statistics	6
1.2 Price Statistics.....	6
1.3 Short-Term Business Statistics of Respective Industries.....	6
1.4 Annual and Long-Term Business Statistics of Respective Industries	7
1.5 Social and Demographic Statistics	7
2 OVERVIEW OF ORDINARY REVISIONS	9
2.1 Quarterly National Accounts Statistics	9
2.2 Annual National Accounts Statistics	9
2.3 Price Statistics.....	10
2.4 Statistics of External Trade in Goods according to the Movement (Cross-Border Concept)	10
2.5 Statistics of External Trade in Goods according to the Change of Ownership (National Concept)	10
2.6 Short-Term Business Statistics of Respective Industries: Monthly Tasks	11
2.7 Short-Term Business Statistics of Respective Industries: Quarterly Tasks	11
2.8 Annual and Long-Term Business Statistics of Respective Industries	12
2.9 Production of Manufactured Goods (PRODCOM).....	12
2.10 Energy Statistics.....	13
2.11 Tourism Statistics.....	13
2.12 Business Cycle Statistics	13
2.13 Agriculture and Environmental statistics	14
2.14 Outcomes from the Labour Force Sample Survey	15
2.15 Statistics of the registered numbers of employees, wages, and labour costs	15
2.16 Household Budget Survey Statistics.....	16
2.17 Outcomes from the Sample Survey on Income and Living Conditions of Households (EU-SILC)	16
2.18 Demographic Statistics	17
2.19 Statistics of Science, Technology, and Innovation	17
2.20 Statistics of the ICT Use.....	17
3 OCCASIONAL REVISIONS	18
3.1 Price Statistics – Revision of the Weighting System	18
3.2 Occasional revisions of national accounts	18
3.3 Demographic Statistics – Revisions Following the Population and Housing Census	19
SOURCES	20



INTRODUCTION

The Czech Statistical Office (CZSO) defines *revisions* as a controlling process (or process of change, as the case may be) of data employing statistical and mathematical methods or methods applied for production of forecasts and qualified estimates. A data revision is carried out as a result of newly found relevant pieces of information or in an objective manner created rules, methodological procedures, definitions, classifications, recommendations, legal regulations, and so on. The inevitable condition for a revision to be carried out is there are one or more rational reasons for the revision defined in an understandable way.

The objective of the CZSO Data Revision Policy is to provide for transparency and consistence of revisions of released data as an integral part of the CZSO strategy implementation. The data revision policy defines generic rules to follow when performing revisions, methods of their evaluation and disclosure. It is an important tool of communication and explanation of the process of the statistical data production to their users.

CZSO Data Revision Policy

The Czech Statistical Office takes the revisions as a tool for regular improvements in data quality. The process of data revisions forms a natural part of the statistics production process following the objective development of the knowledge of socio-economic phenomena. The achievable level of accuracy of statistical data is bound to objective possibilities of the State Statistical Service both concerning the availability of information (data) and also concerning the aspect of available resources and technical and methodological capacities.

The Czech Statistical Office determines optimum dates for the statistics releases always within a broader discussion and complete analysis of needs of the interested and engaged, including requirements of national and European legislation. Doing so the CZSO takes into account globalization processes and the European integration process, needs for the construction of international statistical aggregates, and ever growing needs of international comparison, which have higher and higher requirements for data comparability and require a higher level of coordination and harmonisation, inter alia, from the point of the data revision policy as well.

The Czech Statistical Office recognises the fact that users, as a rule, require first statistical estimates are published in the shortest possible time after the reference period has expired yet a limited range of data is available in that time. This always brings a compromise between timeliness and accuracy of the statistics released, which are in general set in accordance with the main purpose of the given outcome (for example short-term statistics versus annual statistics). Because data quality gradually grows as the time period since the end of the reference period becomes longer before it becomes stable, the CZSO uses revisions, which professional public recognises as a tool, in a broader sense, improving quality of the first statistical estimates.

Data Revision Policy and the CZSO Strategy

The CZSO declared *mission* is “to provide consistent and trustworthy image on the state and development of society and to respect developing needs of uses of services of the State Statistical Service under conditions of changing social-economic environment.” This is reflected in the established *strategic objective* of “maximizing usefulness for users and their comfort” in accord with standardisation principles, operativeness, dialog, statistical data confidence, creation of added value, aimed communication, and personalisation. The continuous evaluation and direction of development in contents of statistical surveys taking into account both national and international conditions belong to *crucial priorities* of the Office.

Principles of the CZSO Data Revision Policy

The European Statistics Code of Practice requires that standard, verified and transparent procedures are applied for data revisions. Under the conditions of the CZSO data revisions are carried out according to predefined rules, which are established keeping concepts and purposes in mind to be effective concerning the use of data sources, published variables, and types of revision.

The European Statistics Code of Practice furthermore requires that studies and analyses of revisions are regularly performed within the processes of statistical data production. In order to evaluate revisions quality indicators, which deal with quality of revised estimates, or potentially with evaluation of changes impacts onto the description and perception of the phenomena described by statistics, are applied. Results of the analyses serve as background materials for potential adjustments and modifications to the production process of statistical information and of schedules of revisions.

Categories of Released Data

The Czech Statistical Office publishes types of data as follows:

- *Forecast* is an outcome dealing with a period, which has not been elapsed or will occur in the future, in time the forecast is published.
- *Qualified (expert) estimate* is an outcome based on results of statistical surveys, administrative data sources, and registers etc., which are not primarily created to make a given qualified estimate.
- *Flash estimate* is an outcome similar to the qualified estimate (produced by an expert), which is published first and the aforementioned qualified estimate is published after a certain delay. Because of the nature of the flash estimates no revision of them is expected to be made.
- *Statistical estimate* is an outcome based on data from statistical surveys, or potentially from registers established for the purpose of making statistical estimates. Statistical estimates are formed primarily by means of mathematic-statistical methods.



Finalised data are data, for which no further ordinary revision is planned (see types of revisions by reason). But potential occasional revision, date of which is unknown in time of the finalised data release, is not excluded.

Types of Revision by Reason

The Czech Statistical Office carries out types of revision by reason as follows:

- *Ordinary revision* is such a revision, at which there are no essential changes to methodology and adjustments of essential errors made, impacts of which would cause a disruption of data comparability. These revisions are carried out before finalised data are released, usually on pre-planned dates.
- *Occasional revisions* are the revisions of data, which the CZSO declared to be finalized data. These are not revisions carried out before the latest ordinary revision has been published (such a revision is a mixed revision). Reasons for these revisions may be changes to applied methods, including implementations of Eurostat requirements, changes in terms, classifications, nomenclatures, significant changes to parameters for seasonal adjustments, or corrections of essential errors found. In certain cases a statistical variable may be changed (as a change to the definition thereof in accord with a modification of methodology, which has caused disruption in comparability of certain times series and a new times series formation).
- *Mixed revisions* are combinations of ordinary and occasional revisions. They occur in cases when within the ordinary revision reasons characteristic for an occasional revision may be met. A mixed revision shall be published by the date of finalised data release, at the latest.

Types of Revision by Frequency

Revisions are subdivided to *monthly*, *quarterly*, and *annual* ones by frequency of the statistical task, which is the basic source of revisions.

Principles for the Revision Release

The release of the *planned ordinary* revisions is performed in accord with the annual calendar of revisions, which shall be available by the end of the previous year, at the latest. Notice on an *occasional* revision carried out in time after the finalised data have been released shall be given as soon as possible, however, as minimum one week (168 hours) in advance by means of a press release posted on the CZSO website. Revisions out of the calendar of revisions in the periods before the finalised data are released shall be carried out in entirely exceptional cases and their publishing shall be informed of as soon as possible, however, 24 hours before, at the latest, by means of a press release posted on the CZSO website.

More detailed information on reasons for the data revision, if and when further revisions are planned and also evaluation of the revision by means of relevant quality indicators (as a difference against the previous estimate, etc., for instance) are published along with the revised data unless this has followed from the data revision objective defined in advance.

1 GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF ORDINARY REVISIONS

1.1 National Accounts Statistics

Revisions of time series of quarterly national accounts are performed annually following released corrections of indicators. Since 2013 the revised annual and quarterly time series have been published simultaneously, which has provided they have been *fully mutually consistent*.

The *first published* annual indicators are a mere cumulation of quarterly accounts. Complete and internally interconnected system of annual national accounts is based on partial results of structural surveys and therefore it is only *preliminary*.

The *first revision* is based on annual data after the final processing of structural statistics. International institutions also acknowledge *potential further revisions* based on both acquisition of additional information from administrative data sources (Ministry of Finance of the CR, Czech National Bank), and on the basis of results for the next reference period indicating incomparability over time.

It follows from the aforementioned that in case of the revision policy of business statistics the reference period plays an important role. Under the current conditions of the CZSO the primary objective is not to harmonise monthly data to quarterly ones, but to the annual ones, and vice versa the way respective data are fully in accord. The principle of *purposefulness of data*, which is different for data of different frequency, is preferred to the principle of rigid coincidence of monthly, annual, and quarterly statistics. The CZSO strives to use acquired pieces of information mutually and namely to project specific characteristics in a uniform way into all types and levels of tasks and to move to the accord as close as possible.

1.2 Price Statistics

No revision of released data is usually carried out within the price statistics. The exemption is data for construction work index, which are revised on the basis of a completed quarterly survey. Finalised data are released in the second month of the next quarter. Average prices of real estate and price indexes derived from them are also subject to revision, namely in cases in which administrative data serve as a data source. The finalised data are released along with the publishing of data for the next reference period (see occasional revisions as well).

1.3 Short-Term Business Statistics of Respective Industries

Monthly Revisions

Monthly revisions deal *merely* with releasing of *monthly data*. The reasons are specifics related to the start-up of tasks for a new annual reference period. This mostly means the revision of data for January when data for February of the current year are published.



Quarterly Revisions

Because of the processing of quarterly data and potential comparison with data from monthly tasks and the quarterly data from previous periods revisions are carried out as the need may be as follows:

- of *monthly* data for the latest quarter, while data for all months of the same calendar year may be revised when data for the first month of the next quarter are released;
- of *quarterly* data for the previous quarter, while data for all quarters of the same calendar year may be revised.

Quarterly tasks also use monthly data. Because of different primary purposes (i.e. usability) of monthly and quarterly data, the monthly data are usually not made more precise on the basis of quarterly ones.

Annual Revisions

On the basis of processed annual structural statistics for the reference year Y, which may be closed not earlier than a year since the reference period has elapsed (that means in the year Y+2) due to legal requirements and process demands, the following are revised:

- monthly and quarterly data for all periods of the year Y+1 (so-called *1st Annual Revision*);
- monthly and quarterly data for all periods of the year Y (so-called *2nd Annual Revision*).

Data after *1st Annual Revision* are the basis for the creation of estimates of *short-term statistics* for the next reference period. Data after *2nd Annual Revision* are considered *finalised data*.

1.4 Annual and Long-Term Business Statistics of Respective Industries

In time when first estimates from structural business statistics are prepared the CZSO has not all tax administrative data sources available. Moreover, in this time the process of data acquisition from reporting units, included in the sample, is not completed. It is necessary, for the aforementioned reasons, *first estimates revision* must be carried out once later available administrative data sources have been obtained and the entry of received questionnaires has been completed.

1.5 Social and Demographic Statistics

In social statistics preliminary results of respective surveys at households are revised, especially in the cases of household accounts statistics, sample survey of statistics on income and living conditions, and annual sample survey on information technologies. Statistics based on business (enterprise) surveys are revised on the basis of similar principles as those of other business statistics.

* * *

Because requirements for data timeliness are different for different statistics the aforementioned principles in this chapter form just a framework. There are statistics which do not need to employ any of the options offered for the data revision (i.e. some types of revisions). It is not seldom there is enough time to perform high quality processing so no revision is necessary and is not expected as well. On the other hand, there are some statistics so specific they in part (external trade statistics a tourism statistics), or entirely (statistics of economic accounts for agriculture) exceed the aforementioned framework. Therefore the following chapter contains a complete overview of ordinary revisions for respective areas of statistics released by the CZSO.



2 OVERVIEW OF ORDINARY REVISIONS

2.1 Quarterly National Accounts Statistics

Quarterly Estimates and Revisions

- preliminary estimate of HDP development for the latest elapsed quarter is released in the second month of the quarter on approx. 15th day of the month (T+45 d) within the appropriate News Release. Data for preceding reference periods are not revised;
- statistical ("standard") estimate for the last elapsed quarter is released in the second month of the quarter, approx. on 30th day of the month (T+60d), within the appropriate News Release. It includes indicators of the GDP formation and use and trends in employment. Data for previous quarters of the current year are revised;
- *more accurate estimate* for the last elapsed quarter, including complete quarterly available data sources, is released at the end of the third month of the quarter (T+90 d). The estimate also includes a balance of quarterly non-financial sector accounts. Data for previous quarters of the current year are revised.
- estimate of deficit and debt of the general government sector is published at the beginning of the fourth month for the purposes of the Excessive Deficit Procedure (EDP). The data are revised within the current year pursuant to rules for revision of quarterly national accounts of the current year.

Annual Revisions

Revisions of quarterly estimates following the annual national accounts have been carried out once a year since 2013 as follows:

- *revised quarterly data* are released at the end of June following to the *preliminary* (Y+1 y) balance of annual national accounts.

2.2 Annual National Accounts Statistics

- First preliminary estimates (based on continuous processing of annual statistics by industry for small enterprises and on 1st annual revision of quarterly statistics by industry) are released at the end of June of the year Y+1y. Simultaneously, half-finalised versions of annual national accounts for the year Y+2 y and the final revision for the year Y+3y are released;
- Annual regional accounts in relation to the preliminary annual national accounts are released in the middle of December (Y+1y);
- Notifications of deficit and debt of the general government sector are released at the end of March (Y+1y through Y+4y); further refined data are released at the end of September within second notifications of deficit and debt of the general government sector (Y+1y through Y+4y).

- Annual and quarterly national accounts and the second notifications of government deficit and debt are harmonised at the end of the year.

2.3 Price Statistics

The first estimates are simultaneously *finalised data* – that means no ordinary revision is carried out. Data for construction work index are an exemption. They are revised on the basis of elapsed quarter. Finalised data are released in the second month of the next quarter. Average real estate prices and indices derived from them are also revised, namely in the case their source is an administrative data source. Finalised data are released along with the publishing of data for the next reference period.

2.4 Statistics of External Trade in Goods according to the Movement (Cross-Border Concept)

Monthly Revisions

Rules of revisions are determined by related legislation and Eurostat recommendations.

When preliminary data of the current month of statistics of external trade in goods according to the movement (*cross-border concept*) are released, simultaneously data for the three previous months are made more accurate. When data for January of the current year are released simultaneously data for all months of the previous year are made more accurate.

Finalised Data

Finalised data of statistics of external trade in goods according to the movement (*cross-border concept*) for a given year are released by the CZSO in September of the next year within the News Release for July along with all monthly data made more accurate for the given as well previous year

2.5 Statistics of External Trade in Goods according to the Change of Ownership (National Concept)

Monthly Revisions

When preliminary data for the reference month of external trade statistics according to the change of ownership (*national concept*) are released then data for the last expired quarter and for respective months of the reference quarter are refined. When data for January of the current year are released data for all months of the previous year are revised.

Finalised Data

Finalised outcomes from statistics of external trade external in goods according to the change of ownership (*national concept*) are released in September of the next year.



2.6 Short-Term Business Statistics of Respective Industries: Monthly Tasks ¹

Monthly Revisions

- When data for February of the year Y are released data for January of the year Y are revised. Main reasons here are specific issues related to the start-up of tasks for the new reference period (partial exchange of units of the sample, increased non-response, updates of registers (basis for the sampling) – the vast changes carried out during the year).

Quarterly Revisions

- As the need may be *revisions of monthly and quarterly data* for the last elapsed quarter are carried out. Simultaneously, *revisions of previous periods* of the reference year may also be *performed*. All these ordinary revisions are released once a quarter elapsed along with the appropriate News Release for the first month of the following quarter. In case results of monthly surveys are released by means of News Releases for a quarter the revised data may be published by means of another standardised outcome, as times series, for instance. The revisions are based on knowledge and more accurate data from quarterly tasks.

Annual Revisions

- 1st annual revision of monthly estimates for all reference periods of the last elapsed year (Y) is released along with the quarterly revision for 1st quarter. In order to make these estimates revised data from quarterly tasks for the year Y, or potentially from annual tasks for the reference year Y-1y are employed if this can be applied due to the character of respective tasks.
- As the need may *2nd annual revision* of monthly estimates for all reference periods of the last elapsed year (Y-2y) is released. If there is no reason to do so, the revision is not carried out. If there are some, data from annual tasks for the same reference year (Y-2y) are used.
- Data released in the second year since the reference period has elapsed at the latest are considered to be *finalised data*.

2.7 Short-Term Business Statistics of Respective Industries: Quarterly Tasks ²

Quarterly Revisions

- As data for the second, third, and fourth quarters are processed, data for previous quarters of the same reference year are usually revised. Simultaneously *revisions* of all previous quarters since the beginning of the reference year may be carried out, that means when data for the third quarter are processed data for the second quarter are usually under ordinary revision, however, a revision of data for the first quarter may be performed as needed.

¹ Basic data source – quarterly tasks.

² Basic data source – quarterly tasks.

Annual Revisions

- Once the processing of annual data for the period Y-2 has been finished, quarterly data related to the year are revised and simultaneously quarterly data for the year Y-1. In 2013 the revision was carried out as follows: finalised annual data for the reference year 2011 were available in the first half of February 2013, based on these data the revision of quarterly data for 2011 and simultaneously that of data for 2012 were carried out in March 2013.
- Data released in the second year since the reference period has elapsed at the latest are considered *finalised data*.

2.8 Annual and Long-Term Business Statistics of Respective Industries

- In August Y+1 y the first estimate of results of annual structural business statistics is compiled for the needs of the preliminary balance of annual national accounts. The estimate is based on incomplete administrative data available in that time and on received and processed statistical questionnaires till that time. Data are not released separately and serve exclusively for internal needs of the annual national accounts.
- In October Y+1 y data are processed using also the second batch of administrative data and on received and processed statistical questionnaires till that time. The processing results are as *preliminary data* transmitted to Eurostat in accordance with requirements of Regulation (EC) No. 295/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2008 concerning structural business statistics (recast). The CZSO transmits to Eurostat and publishes merely a very limited set of indicators.
- Data for needs of national accounts are prepared in November Y+1 y.
- In February Y+2y the *last processing* of the annual structural business statistics business is carried out using all available administrative data and processed questionnaires. Data from the processing are in June Y+2y, at the latest, transmitted to Eurostat in accordance with requirements of Regulation (EC) No. 295/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2008 concerning structural business statistics (recast).
- If needed *occasional revision* of annual data may be carried out in February Y+3 y, at the latest.

2.9 Production of Manufactured Goods (PRODCOM)

- On date Y+6m *preliminary data* are published (transmitted to Eurostat pursuant to Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3924/91 of 19 December 1991 on the establishment of a Community survey of industrial production).
- On date Y+10m more accurate data for the reference period are released (dataset Production of Selected Manufactured Goods is published).
- In the year Y+2y *1st data revision* (corrections performed on the basis of the processing of the next period data) is carried out; the data are then considered *finalised data* and are released along with results for the period Y+1y.



Because of the survey nature, which offers a higher potential for misclassification, *occasional revisions* over the whole length of the time series can be carried out.

2.10 Energy Statistics

- Monthly data (data on exports and imports) for months of the current year are revised every month till August of the year Y+1y.
- Annual data are processed as *preliminary* data till 30 November of the year Y+1y. These data are in next annual cycles revised always by 30 November namely depending on refinement of data from other administrative data sources.

2.11 Tourism Statistics

Accommodation Facility Statistics

- When data for the third (last) month of the quarter are released, results of the previous two months are *revised*.
- Data since the beginning of the year are *revised* with appropriate New Release as the need may be.
- When data for 4th quarter are released the *revision* of all previous quarters of the year is carried out.
- *Finalised data* for all quarters are released within 3 months since the reference year has elapsed.

Tourism Sample Survey

- *Revisions* of previous quarters are carried out only if needed.

Tourism Satellite Account

- First *preliminary* results of the tourism satellite account are in full released within 14 months since the appropriate reference period has elapsed (Y+14 m), as maximum.
- 1st *ordinary revision* is released within 26 months since the appropriate reference period has elapsed (Y+26 m), as maximum.
- The last revision (2nd *ordinary revision*) is released within 38 months since the appropriate reference period elapsed (Y+38m), as maximum.

Revisions are bound to the data revision policy of the national accounts statistics.

2.12 Business Cycle Statistics

No revision is carried out; the first data released are the *finalised data* at the same time.

2.13 Agriculture and Environmental statistics

No ordinary revisions are carried out of all agriculture and forestry statistics and also of environmental statistics, except for the statistics given here below.

Estimates of Per Hectare Yields and Production of Crops

- They are implemented in accordance with the Regulation (EC) No. 543/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2009 concerning crop statistics and repealing the Council Regulations (EEC) No. 837/90 and (EEC) No. 959/93; the survey deadlines are 20 June, 15 July, 15 August, and 15 September.
- The *statistical estimates* are to be released in July, August, September, and October.
- Some indicators Verze platná k 8. prosinci 2015 are released repeatedly in several months, which can be considered as *ordinary revisions*, because they are made more accurate on the basis of further statistical surveys of estimates.

Economic Accounts for Agriculture

- They are implemented in accordance with the Regulation (EC) No. 138/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 December 2003 on the economic accounts for agriculture in the Community.
- First *statistical estimates of the economic accounts for agriculture* (production account, income account, entrepreneurial income account) are implemented as at 30 November of the appropriate reference period.
- *1st ordinary revision of the economic accounts for agriculture* (production account, income account, entrepreneurial income account) is released in the third month since the reference period has elapsed (T+3 m).
- *2nd ordinary revision of the economic accounts for agriculture* (production account, income account, entrepreneurial income account, elements of the capital account) is released in the ninth month since the reference period has elapsed (T+9 m).
- A revision is officially allowed in 21st month since the reference period has elapsed.

Gross Indigenous Production – GIP

- *It is implemented in accordance with the Regulation (EC) No 1165/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 concerning livestock and meat statistics and repealing the Council Directives 93/23/EEC, 93/24/EEC and 93/25/EEC; date of the data transmission to Eurostat is 15 February.*
- The forecasts of the number of live animals (bovine animals, pigs) produced by the agricultural industry on the reference area for the reference period. For bovine animals – 1 time per year for 4 half-years (the first two half-year periods are *revised forecasts* for the last year); reference periods: Y/M1, Y/M2, Y+1/M1, Y+1/M2. For pigs – 1 time per year for



6 quarters (the first two quarters are *revised forecasts* for the last year); reference periods: Y/Q1, Y/Q2, Y/Q3, Y/Q4, Y+1/Q1, Y+1/Q2.

Economic Accounts for Forestry and Logging

- The *statistical estimate* of the economic accounts for forestry and logging (for the period T+17 m) forms every year a part of Forestry and Gamekeeping. Date of the publication release – May.
- The *ordinary revision* of the economic accounts for forestry and logging is released in the next year (T+29 m); source data are more accurate in relation to national accounts. Then the data are considered as *finalised data*.

2.14 Outcomes of the Labour Force Sample Survey

This survey is carried out continuously. Preliminary data for respective months and quarters are published in the form of appropriate News Releases. Finalised data are published within three months since the end of the latest quarter (q+3 months).

2.15 Statistics of the registered numbers of employees, wages, and labour costs

- Data of the labour statistics on the registered numbers of employees and wages are not measured using just a single source of data yet combined administrative data sources are applied here as data from the Czech Social Security Administration on the number of persons covered by social security insurance and on insurance calculation bases, data from the Information System on Average Earnings of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, and from the CZSO business questionnaires focused on respective industries. Monthly, quarterly and yearly tasks are mutually interconnected to form an internally interconnected hierarchical structure. The system of data processing and revisions reflects this structure. Data of monthly tasks are available for certain industries only and are also used for the calculation of quarterly data.
- Monthly and quarterly data on employees and wages are released at the shortest periods possible according to the Catalogue of Products and publishing calendar of News Releases, respectively. The background data are being made more precise in the course of the year, so once new quarterly results are published the results for the previous quarter (months) of the given year are revised. Subsequently, all quarters (not months) of the year are revised based on results of the yearly tasks (see hereunder). Therefore, regular revisions mean that time series of short-term statistics are being made more precise according to newly supplied data and then also according to results of the yearly structural tasks.
- The basic pillar of the labour statistics is the twin annual questionnaires UNP 4-01 and P5-01. Indicators of short-term statistics, which are calculated from samples of a smaller scope and published quarterly as preliminary data, are revised based on results collected from the aforementioned questionnaires. Results of these yearly tasks are available always in

October of the next year ($y+10$ m) as preliminary data sent to Eurostat within the structural business statistics. In June of the second year after the reference period has expired ($y+18$ m) the finalised data are ready. It is necessary, in exceptional cases (as discovering serious errors in the background materials sent in, for instance) to prepare occasional revisions (typically connected with the processing of data for the next year, i.e. at $y+30$ m).

- The labour cost survey (questionnaire UNP 4-01) is carried as an annual sample survey every year. Results of this detailed annual survey focused on the structure of wage and non-wage labour costs are published as preliminary data (in November, i.e. $y+11$ m), subsequently they are revised at $y+18$ m using the results of the crucial indicators of the business structure statistics (questionnaire P5-01), because the latter are measured on a larger sample and therefore they are taken as a more robust estimate.
- The Labour Cost Index (LCI) is calculated on the basis of an EU regulation using background materials from aforementioned both quarterly and yearly tasks and the practise of revisions is corresponding these. Its results are never taken as finalised ones.

2.16 Household Budget Survey Statistics³

Quarterly Revisions

- The survey is performed monthly; data are released quarterly.
- *Preliminary data* for the last elapsed quarter and cumulated data since the beginning of the year are released approximately two months since the appropriate reference period has elapsed so *preliminary annual data* are released along with data for 4th quarter.

Annual Revisions

- *Finalised* annual and quarterly data for the year Y based on annual accounts are released in June of the year $Y+1$. These data are then employed as a basis for continuous year-on-year comparisons.

2.17 Outcomes from the Sample Survey on Income and Living Conditions of Households (EU-SILC)

Preliminary results for a portion of indicators from the non-income part of the survey are available till the end of December of the year Y. In June of the year $Y+1$ *finalised annual data* are released.

³ The description of the Household Budget Survey Statistics revision regime is adequate to the current state and till the processing of data for 2015 will have been finished (released in June 2016) it shall remain to be valid. Since 2016 the publishing of data from the Household Budget Survey Statistics shall be changed in the form and dates of release shall be then refined within the prepared reform of the statistics. tasks.



2.18 Demographic Statistics

Monthly data since the beginning of the year are revised with quarterly News Release on Population Change. Data for the current year are considered to be *preliminary*, while annual data (cumulative data) do not differ from *finalised data*, as a rule. An *occasional revision* (more accurate or corrected data, respectively) is carried out just exceptionally. Finalised data are available since T+120d.

2.19 Statistics of Science, Technology, and Innovation

- Revisions are carried out in accordance with the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 995/2012 of 26 October 2012 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Decision No. 1608/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the production and development of Community statistics on science and technology.
- Data from the annual survey Science and Development VTR 5-01 are available as preliminary data on Y+10m and as finalised data on Y+18m. .
- Data obtained within the annual task Statistics of Government Budgetary Expenditure and Subsidies for Science and Development GBAORD are provided as finalised data in the case of the variable 21.0 on Y+6m and in the case of other variables on Y+18m.
- Data from the regular survey on innovations in the business sector Innovations TI are provided as finalised data on Y+18m.
- Occasional revisions of the whole time series can be carried out due to potentially higher rate of misclassification within the classifications applied as well as potential for obtaining of additional pieces of information following from the complexity of tasks of Statistics of Government Budgetary Expenditure and Subsidies for Science and Development GBAORD and Innovations TI.

2.20 Statistics of the ICT Use

- The Annual Survey in Households VŠIT and the Annual Survey ICT 5-01 in the business sector are implemented in accordance with every year regulations of the Commission (EU) implementing the Regulation (EC) No. 808/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 concerning Community statistics on the information society.
- Data from the aforementioned two surveys are provided as *preliminary* till 5 October of the year, in which the surveys have been carried out.
- Finalised data are released by 30 November and 31 December of the same year, respectively. Data as at these dates are considered *finalised* and are no more revised under regular conditions, nevertheless an *occasional revision* may be performed.

3 OCCASIONAL REVISIONS

3.1 Price Statistics – Revision of the Weighting System

The latest revision was carried out in 2010-2013. The weighting scheme (selection of weights and relative weights) and the price base are always updated at the revision. In case adjustments or modifications to the methodology are just minor chaining to an older index base is preferred. In case changes to methodology are rather essential the index base is also updated and the data released are revised according to the new methodology if this is not troublesome for users.

Statistical variables:

- consumer price index;
- industrial producer price index and external trade price indices;
- market services price index, construction work price index, agricultural producer price index, and roundwood price index; and
- real estate price index.

Actually, the revision is not usually a correction of already released information describing exactly the same fact. It is necessary to realize that in this case the statistical variable is actually different one having a different scope by definition. In the aforementioned case it is the revision by comparison basis.

3.2 Occasional revisions of national accounts

Occasional revisions of national accounts are performed mostly as a response to changes in standards of ESA and SNA and changes in classifications. The revision carried out in 2011 served for implementation of the classifications of the CZ-CPA and CZ-NACE. The revision carried out in 2014 involved changes due to a new standard of the ESA 2010 and implemented Eurostat requirements following from efforts to make gross national income comparable. Further occasional revisions may be expected in next years in relation to issues of the evaluation of balances (assumed in 2017) and with proceeding harmonisation of national accounts of the EU Member States.

The Czech Statistical Office try to reduce impacts of occasional revisions on users especially by efforts to reduce their number and by revising longer time series the way the users may work with comparable data. Data available prior the revisions are constantly available to the users at the Czech Statistical Office website.



3.3 Demographic Statistics – Revisions Following the Population and Housing Census

Demographic statistics are revised on the basis of the Population and Housing Census results. Here there are revisions of the population and its structure carried out in the year the Census is performed. Revised demographic data (population and its structure by sex, age, and marital and family status) are available approximately a year after the Census.

SOURCES

CARSON, C. S., KHAWAJA, S., MORRISON, T. K. Revision Policy for Official Statistics: A Matter of Governance. In: *54th Session of the International Statistical Institute*, 13.-20. 8. 2003. Berlin, Germany, 2003.

De MARCH, M. et al. *Handbook on Quarterly National Accounts*. Luxembourg: European Communities, 1999.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMISSION on the independence, integrity and accountability of the national and Community statistical authorities of 25 may 2005

PEKÁRKOVÁ, J. Revize a politika revízí. *Statistika*, 3, 2004.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND TO THE COUNCIL on the independence, integrity and accountability of the national and Community statistical authorities, COM(2005) 217 final

EUROPEAN COMMISSION. *ESS Guidelines on Seasonal Adjustment*. Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, 2009 – 40 pp. ISBN 978-92-79-12307-8. ISSN 1977-0375

Abbreviations:

- T – end of the reference period
- d – day
- m – month
- Q – quarter of the year
- M – middle of the year (half-year)
- Y or y – year

Example: T+45d shall mean 45 days after the end of the reference period.

