

21. Regions of the Czech Republic



The Czech Republic is divided into 14 regions (Higher Territorial Self-governing Units), which came into effect on 1st January 2000. The Basic Territorial Self-governing Unit is the municipality. In the Czech Republic there are three categories of municipalities. These categories differ in the range of selected competencies that have been transferred from the central government.

BASIC DATA ON THE REGIONS

Region	Regional capital	Area (km ²)	Population (09/2006)	Labour force (12/2006)	Unemployment rate % (12/2006)	GDP total per capita (2005, €)	FDI stock in the region (2004, mil. €)	Average gross monthly wage (2006, €)
Czech Republic	Prague	78 868	10 280 968	5 495 811	7.7	9 745	42 035.0	713
Praha	Prague	496	1 186 618	720 113	2.7	20 379	19 649.5	892
Central Bohemia	Prague	11 015	1 171 200	629 287	5.3	9 055	4 222.5	701
South Bohemia	Ceske Budejovice	10 057	630 063	331 240	5.7	8 685	1 361.4	625
Plzen	Plzen	7 561	553 896	302 462	5.6	9 345	1 551.5	661
Karlovy Vary	Karlovy Vary	3 315	304 770	168 470	9.2	7 569	506.9	600
Usti	Usti nad Labem	5 335	823 725	437 556	13.8	7 899	2 489.4	638
Liberec	Liberec	3 163	430 285	227 088	7.0	7 800	1 431.6	639
Hradec Kralove	Hradec Kralove	4 758	549 620	289 431	6.3	8 708	848.0	611
Pardubice	Pardubice	4 519	507 425	265 950	6.9	8 039	1 139.0	609
Vysocina	Jihlava	6 796	511 406	265 108	7.1	8 210	1 098.1	621
South Moravia	Brno	7 197	1 132 350	590 492	8.8	8 981	2 985.3	648
Olomouc	Olomouc	5 267	639 857	326 595	9.0	7 609	1 108.8	603
Zlin	Zlin	3 964	589 975	303 246	7.8	7 809	949.0	613
Moravia-Silesia	Ostrava	5 427	1 249 778	638 773	12.6	7 966	2 691.3	659

Source: Czech Statistical Office 2007, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs 2007

REGIONAL OFFICES OF CZECHINVEST

At the beginning of 2004, CzechInvest established a regional network of 13 offices in every regional capital. The reason for establishing this regional network was to provide CzechInvest's services directly from the regions where companies' investment and development plans are focused. Employees from regional offices help foreign and domestic companies with their investment and development projects and provide them with information and counselling on Structural Funds programmes.

Regional offices:

- Provide information and counselling on services of CzechInvest
- Provide information on the given region's investment climate
- Act as partners to companies which intend to invest or expand in the given region
- Provide consultation on possibilities of business support through Structural Funds programmes
- Cooperate with state and regional authorities, schools and other regional institutions in seeking out opportunities for development of the region's business environment

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