



Czech Republic

Basic Data in a nutshell

Area	78,866 sq km
Coastline	0 km (landlocked)
Administrative division	13 regions (kraje) and 1 capital city* (hlavni mesto)
Capital	Prague
Population / habitat density	10,228,744 = 130 habitants/sq km
Population growth rate	-0.071%
Official Language	Czech
Economy	Agriculture products: wheat, potatoes, sugar beets, hops, fruit; pigs, poultry Industries: metallurgy, machinery and equipment, motor vehicles, glass, armaments
Terrain	Bohemia in the west consists of rolling plains, hills, and plateaus surrounded by low mountains; Moravia in the east consists of very hilly country
Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - inter-penetration and intermixing of oceanic and continental forces - characterized by westerly winds and intense cyclonal activity, causing relatively high precipitation - The oceanic influence is felt primarily in Bohemia, while continental weather forces predominate in Moravia and Silesia
Natural Resources	hard coal, soft coal, kaolin, clay, graphite, timber
No Biodiversity hotspot (according to Conservation International)	
Read more:	
- CIA World Factbook: https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/	
- Human Development Reports: www.undp.org	
- National Reports to the CBD: http://chm.nature.cz/cooperation/fol605719/fol397575	



(Source: CIA World Factbook)

(Sources: CIA World Factbook; Biodiversity hotspots of Conservation International; Czech Republic's Third National Report to the CBD)



Selected indicators of development status	
HDI *)	0.891 (rank 32 of 177)
Life expectancy at birth	<i>male</i> : 73.14 years <i>female</i> : 79.88 years
GDP per capita (UNDP, 2005)	20,538 US\$/year
GDP composition by sector	<p>2,40% 39,70% 57,90%</p> <p>■ agriculture ■ industry □ services</p>
Infant mortality	3.86 deaths/1,000 live births
Adult literacy rate (15 years and older)	99%
Population using an improved water source 1990/2004	100% / 100%
Children underweight for age (under age 5)	1%
Population below poverty line (2 US\$/day)	No up-to-date information available
Gini-Index for income distribution **)	0.254
Official Development Assistance (ODA)	
Total amount / per capita (UNDP, 2005)	No up-to-date information available
% of ODA in GDP 1990/2005	No up-to-date information available
Read more:	
- Human Development Reports: www.undp.org	
- UNDP Statistics for Czech Republic: http://hdrstats.undp.org/countries/data_sheets/cty_ds_CZE.html	

(Sources: UNDP Human Development Report 2007; CIA World Factbook)

*) The Human Development Index (HDI) is a comparative index of social development status. The HDI is calculated on the basis of life expectancy, the literacy rate and real purchasing power per capita. The HDI is expressed as a value between 1 (high) and 0 (low)

***) The Gini coefficient is a measure of personal income distribution within a country or region. It is expressed as a value between 0 (distribution fully equitable) and 1 (distribution fully inequitable)



Biological Diversity in Czech Republic is ...

...the diversity of ecosystems:

Phytogeographical Regions of the Czech Republic:

- Thermophyticum: extrazonal thermophilous vegetation and flora in the lowland and hill country belt
- Msophyticum: vegetation and flora of the temperate zone with deciduous forest in the major part of the country
- Oreophyticum: mountain flora and vegetation with conifers dominating in natural forests in the mountains

- forest area (2005): 26,500 sq km (33.6% of the national area)
- X% of the total land area was naturally forested (no data available)

...the diversity between and within species:

- more than 2 700 vascular plants and 2 400 lower plants
- 50 000 invertebrates and 390 vertebrates
- in total, 72,000 to 102,000 species (excl. viruses and bacteria)

- The flora represents approximately 25 % of the 11,000 species known from Europe
- high level of diversity of species and habitats, partly due to its position in a region where the geographical ranges of numerous animal species and vegetation communities overlap
- one of the most important crossroads on the migration routes for several floristic elements

Efforts to protect Czech biodiversity:

- 1,792 protected areas (2003) which cover 16% of the total land area
- 1,1% of total land area (860 sq km) are strictly protected (according to IUCN categories I and II)
- 12 Ramsar Sites (i.a. Poodří, Litovelské Pomoraví), 5 biosphere reserves (i.a. Sumava, Trebon Basin) and 12 UNESCO World Heritage Sites (i.a. Historic Centre of Prague, Gardens and Castle at Kroměříž)

Read more:

- biodiversity hotspots: <http://www.biodiversityhotspots.org/xp/hotspots/Pages/default.aspx>
- Global Environmental Outlook of the UNEP (GEO-4): http://www.unep.org/geo/geo4/report/GEO-4_Report_Full_en.pdf
- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAB) of the Czech Republic: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/cz/cz-nbsap-01-en.pdf>
- Nature Protection Agency: <http://www.nature.cz/>
- Ministry of the Environment: <http://www.env.cz/>
- National Clearing House Mechanism (CHM): <http://www.chm.nature.cz>
- National Reports to the CBD: <http://chm.nature.cz/cooperation/fol605719/fol397575>
- Earthtrends Country Profiles: http://earthtrends.wri.org/country_profiles/
- UNESCO World Heritage List: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list>
- UNESCO Man and Biosphere: <http://www.unesco.org/mab/>
- Ramsar Sites: <http://www.ramsar.org/sitelist.pdf>

(Sources– Biodiversity Hotspots of Conservation International; CBD Country Profiles; World Resources Institute – Earthtrends; UNDP 2005)



Czech Republics' current environmental challenges are:

air and water pollution in areas of northwest Bohemia and in northern Moravia around Ostrava present health risks

historically intensive agriculture and industrial development

efforts to bring industry up to EU code should improve domestic pollution

Industrial air pollution / acid rain → forests in the Czech Republic are among the most heavily damaged in Europe

(Sources: CIA World Factbook; CBD Country Profiles; First National Report to the CBD)

Cultural diversity in Czech Republic is based on...

...different ethnic groups:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Czech 90.4%, - Moravian 3.7% - Slovak 1.9% - other 4%
...different religions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roman Catholic 26.8% - Protestant 2.1% - other 3.3%, unspecified 8.8%, unaffiliated 59%

(Source: CIA World Factbook)

Ecological Footprint	4.9 global ha/person
Biocapacity	2.6 global ha/person

Within the global comparison, Czech Republic ranges on place no. 13 - see bar chart:
http://globalis.gvu.unu.edu/indicator_detail.cfm?country=CZ&indicatorid=13

(Source: www.footprintnetwork.org)