

Zpráva o životním prostředí České republiky 2015, Zprávy o životním prostředí v krajích České republiky 2015, Statistická ročenka životního prostředí České republiky 2015

CENIA, česká informační agentura životního prostředí 2016

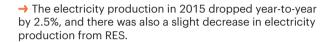
Dostupný z http://www.nusl.cz/ntk/nusl-264798

Dílo je chráněno podle autorského zákona č. 121/2000 Sb.

Tento dokument byl stažen z Národního úložiště šedé literatury (NUŠL).

Datum stažení: 25.04.2024

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## **Transportation**

- → The overall transport performance of passenger and freight transport is growing.
- → Emissions of VOC, CO and suspended particles from transport continued to decline in 2015, on the other hand, the consumption of energy in transport and thus the production of greenhouse gas emissions and PAHs from transport is increasing.
- → To levels of noise from road traffic in excess of the limit values are all day exposed 2.5% of the population of the Czech Republic and 6.2% of the population in agglomerations of over 100 thousand of inhabitants.

#### Waste and material flows

- → Total waste generation stagnated since 2009 until 2015, when there was a more significant increase compared to the year 2014 of 16.6% to 37,338.3 thous. t.
- → The generation of municipal waste oscillating around a value slightly above 5 mil. t, the proportion of landfilling in the total generation of municipal waste is decreasing (47.4% in 2015).
- → The share of materially recovered waste in the total generation of waste is increasing (83.2% in 2015), the share of landfilling in the total waste generation is being reduced (8.6% in 2015).
- → The generation of packaging waste is increasing (1,084.8 thous. t in 2015), however, on the other hand, the extent of recycled packaging waste is also increasing.
- → The take-back of selected products is slightly increasing, especially for portable batteries and accumulators.

## Financing

- → In 2015 the growth of investment in environmental protection continued by significant 27.8%, reaching CZK 40.1 bil. In the context of public support in the area of environmental protection in 2015 expenditure on environmental protection from central resources have increased by 12.2% to CZK 43.1 bil. and from the local budgets by 32.5% to the total CZK 44.9 bil., in both cases reaching 1% of GDP.
- → In the framework of the original Operational Programme Environment 2007–2013, almost the entire financial allocation (99.7%) of a total of EUR 4.6 bil. (approx. CZK 122.9 bil.) has been paid by the end of 2015. In the context of the subsequent calls already concluded in the follow-up Operational Programme Environment, there were 1,138 project applications registered in 2015.



2015

Report
on the Environment
of the Czech Republic

Reports
on the Environment
in the Regions
of the Czech Republic

Statistical Environmental **Yearbook of the Czech Republic** 

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#### Dear Readers.

Let me present to you the annual Report on the Environment of the Czech Republic. The positive news after the last year is that, despite the significant economic growth and the associated growth of industrial production and construction, total energy consumption and passenger and freight transport, the state of the environment has not deteriorated in comparison with 2014. Some components of the environment continue to show improvement nevertheless.

In 2015, however, the Czech Republic was affected by a period of serious drought influencing the state of the environment and impacting on the national economy. The drought that we have seen in recent years is undoubtedly the result of increasingly extreme weather events which are due to climate change. In the context of combating drought, the Ministry of the Environment continues in the preparation of entirely new legislative and preventive measures, in particular aimed at ensuring the safety of citizens and concerning, for example, drinking water supply. The fight with drought is greatly financially supported from the European as well as national funds. At the same time we are aware that we cannot rule out flood situations in the future and, therefore, the Ministry continues to support also flood protection projects. Another tool to minimizing the negative impacts of climate change is the National Action Plan on Adaptation to Climate Change that was approved by the government on 16 January 2017 and that addresses the issue of water management in the landscape comprehensively.

Although the trend in the reduction of emissions of pollutants into the air continues, air quality in the Czech Republic was not satisfactory in 2015. However, the Air Protection Act amendment came into effect on 1 January 2017, facilitating a more flexible response to the current situation in air pollution and so a faster regulation of the pollution sources. In 2016, the Ministry started to gradually release CZK 9 billion from European funds for boiler grants that will help Czech households to replace up to 100 thousand of the oldest environmentally unfriendly sources of heating. We believe, therefore, that already in 2018 or 2019 the first replacements of boilers will reflect positively in the improved air quality in the Czech Republic.

Apart from air quality or fighting the drought, the Ministry pays equally intensive attention to the issue of waste management, in particular to the gradual reduction of landfilling and cutting down on the amount of packaging waste, which together with other objectives will be addressed in new legislation.

The investment and financial support in the area of environmental protection continued to grow also in 2015. That growth was also significantly fostered by the full absorption of European funds resources under the Operational Programme Environment 2007–2013 and by specifically targeted national programmes.

The enclosed USB disc contains not only the Report on the Environment of the Czech Republic 2015, but also the Statistical Environmental Yearbook of the Czech Republic 2015 as well as the Reports on the Environment in the Regions of the Czech Republic 2015.

Mgr. Richard Brabec
Minister of the Environment

## Air and climate

- → The total aggregate greenhouse gas emissions in the Czech Republic in 2014 (data for the year 2015 are not available) decreased year-to-year by 3.7%. Emissions of air pollutants into the atmosphere also declined between the years 2014–2015 by 2.2% in the case of acidifying substances and ozone precursors and by 2.8% in the case of precursors of secondary particles.
- → Limit values for suspended particulates, benzo(a)pyrene and ground-level ozone have been exceeded repeatedly in 2015. On two traffic-loaded locations the limit values for NO₂ were exceeded, and in one location even the limit values for cadmium were exceeded.

## Water management and water quality

- → In 2015, the total abstraction of water (that is, the sum of the abstractions of surface water and groundwater) dropped, while the largest decrease was recorded in the energy sector. Year-to-year, there was an increase in water abstraction for water industry and agriculture.
- → The reduction of the total amount of discharged waste water continues. The biggest contribution to the decrease was made by the energy industry (decrease of 10.2%) and, in particular, agriculture (decrease of 47.7%). An important factor in the decrease was the drought.
- → 19.2% of the population is still not connected to a sewerage system ending in a waste water treatment plant. In 2015, 52.3% out of the total number of waste water treatment plants were equiped with the tertiary degree of treatment.
- → The quality of the bathing water according to the rating of the Czech Republic is generally good.



### **Nature**

- → In 2015 around 17% of the area of the Czech Republic was protected by means of specially protected areas, and through the Natura 2000 network it was approximately 14% of the Czech Republic. Due to the overlap of these areas approximately 22% of the total area of the Czech Republic is protected.
- → Since 1982, there is a continual decline in the numbers of common species of birds in the Czech Republic. Numbers of populations of common species of birds in the Czech Republic between the years 1982–2015 dropped by 5.9%.

forest bird species by 16.6% and the population of the birds in the agricultural landscape by 31.2%.

#### **Forests**

- → The damage to forest stands in the Czech Republic expressed as a percentage of defoliation still remains at a high level. In the category of older stands (60 years and over) the sum of the defoliation classes 2–4 for conifers was 73.0% and for deciduous trees it was 39.3%.
- → The proportion of deciduous trees in the total forest area of the Czech Republic gradually increases, in 2015 it accounted for 26.5% of the total forest area.
- → Between 2014 and 2015, there was an increase in the total area of forest land by about 2,016 ha. The area of forests, which are certified in accordance with the principles of sustainable management of forests according to PEFC and FSC, dropped from 70.0% to 68.2%.

## Soil and landscape

- → The total acreage of agricultural land resources of the Czech Republic is decreasing, in particular in favour of urban and other areas.
- → Although the decline in unfragmented areas is slowing down, the landscape fragmentation process still continues.
- → In the Czech Republic in 2015 there was 47.3% of agricultural land potentially threatened by water erosion and 18.0% by wind erosion.
- → In the Czech Republic there is less than 10,000 old environmental burdens, i.e. contaminated sites. In the territorial analytic documents there are 9,242 sites registered, including those registered in the Evidence System of Contaminated Sites (4,746 sites). Based on the database of the Evidence System of Contaminated Sites, in 2015 remediation was completed on 52 sites and 6 other remedial actions have been completed in an unsatisfactory condition.

## Agriculture

- → The consumption of plant protection products in 2015 dropped year-to-year by 3.3%, and on the contrary, the consumption of calcium substances increased by 7.1%, enhancing the production capabilities of soils, and the consumption of livestock manure has increased year-to-year by 4.9%.
- → In 2015 there was a growth of organic farming, about 11.8% of the total cultivated acreage Agricultural Land Resources was farmed ecologically.

# Industry and energy

- → The volume of the abstraction of mineral resources in the Czech Republic has been declining since 2000. The area affected by mining in the Czech Republic is decreasing every year, and on the other hand, the amount of reclaimed areas is increasing.
- → The method of heating homes in the Czech Republic does not vary, in 2015 there was a majority of central heat supply (35.8%) and natural gas heating (34.7%). Solid fuel heating (15.0%) is not falling.





