

*Marešová, Alena*

**Resortní statistiky – základní zdroj informací o kriminalitě v České republice**

**Departmental statistics - basic sources of information on crime in the Czech Republic**

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### *Summary*

As a rule, two departments present departmental statistics on crime in the Czech Republic (“CR”) and guarantee their accuracy: 1) the Ministry of the Interior of the CR, specifically the Police of the CR and 2) the Ministry of Justice, specifically state prosecutors and courts. Within both departments, there exist separate systems for data collection, compilation and use for internal activity with the objective of providing information on crime in the broader relationship. Each year, the information systems of both departments provide to state administration, by means of the MI CR, a Report on Public Order and Internal Security in the Czech Republic. This situation is mainly assessed based on statistical data on crime provided by the aforementioned departments for the elapsed year in comparison with the year prior to that, and based on an assessment of the overall development of the status and structure of crime in the CR within roughly the past five years. However, both departments describe a status, structure and dynamics of crime in the assessed period only on the basis of the data available to them, i.e. the situation in the CR is only described by statistical data on crime by registered departmental statistics and on natural persons, perpetrators of crimes, who were investigated, criminally prosecuted, accused, convicted, i.e. identified as perpetrators by agencies active in criminal proceedings.

One of the objectives of the presented work is to make accessible to police and to other agencies active in criminal proceedings and students of the State Police Academy and other interested parties, a deeper, mainly criminological (and critical) view of the data on crime, presented at this time by individual agencies active in criminal proceedings. It further provides an analytical view of information on crime in the CR published officially for over 100 years (except during the occupation). It is also an overview of the historical development of compiling statistical data on crime and its interpretation.

It asks whether the basic arguments used in official documents, and which are derived solely from statistical data compiled by the police and criminal justice authorities on their registered crimes, are correct, or have they forgotten to state other circumstances that may alter the generally recognized view on crime trends in recent years? Is other information missing amongst all information, as an argument of the utilized numbers, on crime, on changes to its content and structure, on general laws affecting its level and development, or on characteristics of its perpetrators? What information has the statistical data compiled in the departments MI and MJ actually provided in full? Does its explanatory value change over time or is it comparable? What true explanatory value does the data have regarding a phenomenon, for which it is chiefly used for interpretation? Do departmental statistics have any explanatory value for comparing the level of crime in the CR with that of other countries?

The first chapter contains a list of basic terms used for assessing crime, such as status, structure, and dynamics of crime. What a crime index is, etc.

The second chapter expresses in detail the results of an analysis of available materials on crime from the end of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, through the period of the First Republic, and the period after 1946 up to 1974.

The third chapter describes and analyzes crime statistics compiled in the department Ministry of the Interior of the CR (specifically criminal police), from 1974 to 2010, and their use in the Report on Public Order and Internal Security in the Czech Republic. Along with this, the chapter also contains a proposal for a way of gaining information on latent crime (yet unmapped, unregistered and thus parts of true existing crime not taken into account by the department statistics), using a victimology investigation.

The fourth chapter provides similar insight into crime statistics compiled in the department Ministry of Justice of the CR, and a description of crime in reports on the activities of state prosecutors.

The fifth chapter summarizes the positive and negative aspects of the current method of assessing crime in the CR while using departmental statistics.

The sixth chapter contains a summary of the previous chapters, and proposals for further use of departmental statistics. It contains a specified proposal for gaining information on latent crime.

Figure 1 Breakdown of departmental statistics

Figure 2 Specification of registered crime and latent crime

Translated by: Marvel s.r.o.