

I Introduction

The present analysis of the existing state of research, development and innovation in the Czech Republic and a comparison with the situation abroad in 2006 is arranged somewhat differently from the previous versions. Research and development inputs and outputs are measured independently in separate chapters II and III, respectively. Parts dealing with innovation are given far more space. It also contains a separate chapter on evaluation of the Innovation Policy of CR approved by the Government upon the proposal of the Research and Development Council in Resolution No. 851 of 7 July 2005 (Chapter VIII). The selection of evaluated countries remains the same like in previous analyses. For certain indicators, the figures for EU-15 and EU-25 are given, too. Sometimes data do not include same periods depending on the used data sources.

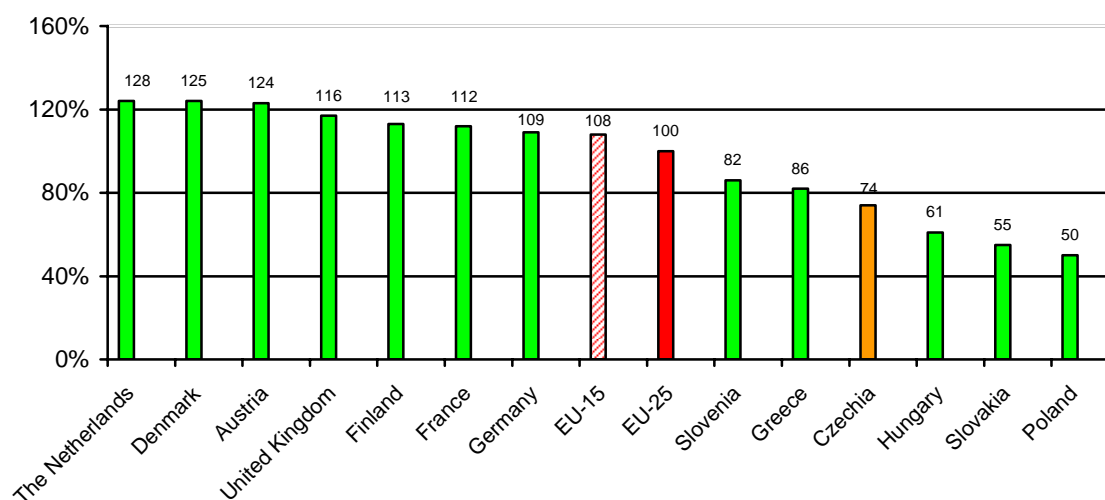
Table I.1 Basic data on evaluated countries

	Area (thous. kms ²) ¹⁾	Number of inhabitants (mil) ¹⁾	GDP per capita (USD, current prices, PPS) ¹⁾
Denmark	43.1	5.4	31 600
Finland	338.0	5.2	30 600
France	550.0	60.4	29 600
Germany	356.9	82.5	28 500
The Netherlands	41.9	16.3	31 100
Austria	83.9	8.2	31 700
Greece	132.0	11.1	21 500
United Kingdom	242.5	58.6	31 400
EU-15		383.3	28 700
Czechia	79.0	10.2	18 500
Hungary	93.0	10.1	15 900
Poland	313.0	38.2	12 600
Slovakia	49.0	5.4	14 300
Slovenia	20.0	2.0 ²⁾	20 300 ²⁾
EU-25		459.5	21 400
Japan	378.0	127.7	29 664
USA	9 376	293.7	39 700

¹⁾ Source: OECD, OECD in Figures 2005; number of inhabitants and GDP per capita – all data for 2004

²⁾ Eurostat, Yearbook 2005

I.1 Relative GDP per capita in 2005 (%) – EU-25 average = 100 %



Source: Eurostat, Structural Indicators - October 2006

All monitored EU-15 countries, with the exception of Greece, report higher GDPs per capita than is the EU-25 average. The highest value is in the Netherlands (128 %) and the lowest in Germany (109 %), which obviously still has not been able to cope with the unification issues. Of the new EU Member States, the highest GDP value is reported by Slovenia (86 %) and Czechia (74 %), with the lowest being in Poland (50 %).

Eurostat monitors also indicators of individual EU regions. In 2003, the GDP per capita values of 254 NUTS-2¹ regions moved between 33 % of the EU-25 average in the Polish region of Lubelskie and 278 % in the Inner London region. In every seventh of the total 254 regions, GDP per capita exceeded 125 % of the EU-25 average.

Five regions with the highest GDPs per capita are as follows: Inner London (United Kingdom) – 278 % of the EU-25 average; Brussels (Belgium) – 238 %; Luxembourg – 234 %; Hamburg (Germany) – 184 %; Île de France (France) – 173 %. All data about the economic development level of regions, including data of Tables I.2 and I.3, were taken from the Eurostat Press release 63/2006 of 18 May 2006.

Table I.2 Economic development level of regions

	Total number of NUTS-2 regions	Number of regions with GDP per capita exceeding 125 % of the EU-25 average	Number of regions with GDP per capita below 75 % of the EU-25 average
Denmark	1	-	-
Finland	5	1	-
France ²	26	1	4
Germany	41	7	3
The Netherlands	12	5	-
Austria	9	3	-
Greece	13	-	5
United Kingdom	36	5	-
Czechia	8	1	7
Hungary	7	-	6
Poland	16	-	16
Slovakia	4	-	3
Slovenia	1	-	-
EU-25	254	37	63

In the Netherlands, nearly half of the regions (5 out of 12) reports higher GDP per capita than 125 % of the EU-25 average; in Austria it is one third of the regions (3 out of 9). Of the monitored new EU Member States, only Czechia has one region – Prague – in the group with GDP per capita higher than 125 % of the EU-25 average. Other Czech regions are in the group with GDP per capita below 75 % of the EU-25 average. Czechia therefore shows the largest polarization of economic level of individual administrative regions, with none of them reporting values close to the average.

¹ NUTS – Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics.

² Including 4 overseas regions (Guadeloupe, Martinique, Guayana, Réunion)

Table I.3 Economic development level of NUTS-2 regions in Czechia

Region	GDP per capita in % of the EU-25 average
Prague	138.2
Central Bohemia	64.2
Southwest	62.0
Northwest	56.0
Northeast	59.0
Southeast	61.9
Central Moravia	54.4
Moravia-Silesia	53.4

The highest GDP per capita of all Czech NUTS-2 regions is attained by Prague (nearly 140 % of the EU-25 average). In three other regions, this indicator exceeds 60 % of the EU-25 average; in four regions it is lower than 60 % of the EU-25 average. The lowest per capita GDP is in the Moravia-Silesia Region (53.4 % of the EU-25 average).