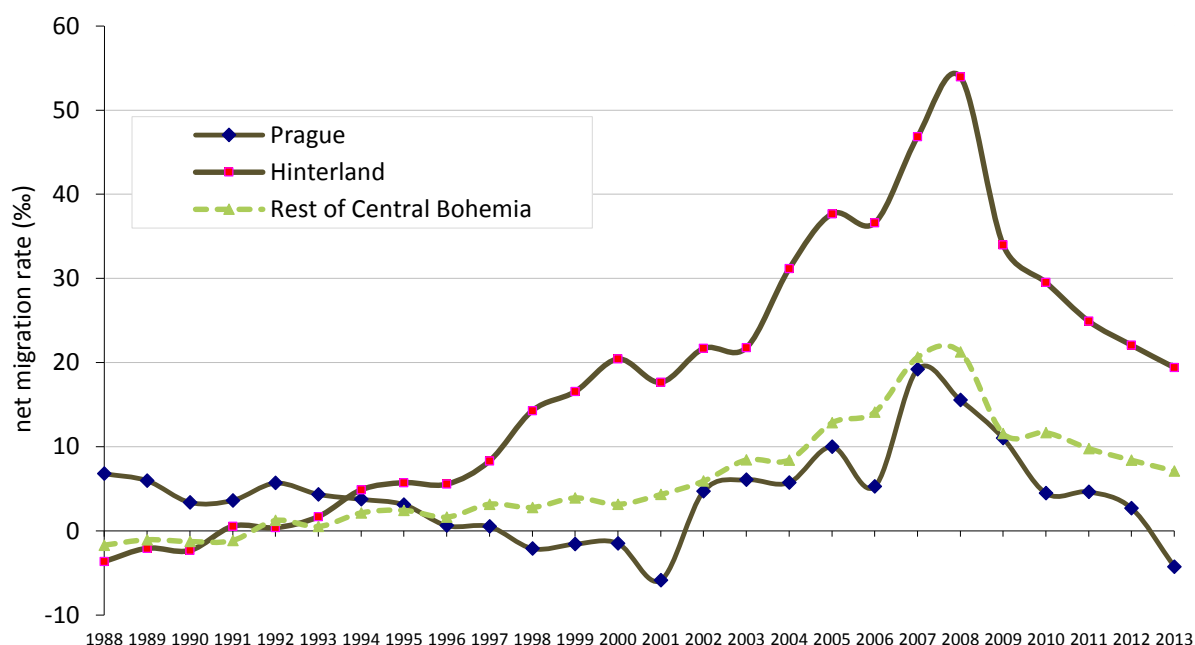


### 3.2 MIGRATION IN PRAGUE 2000–2013

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Prague's net migration is the difference of people moving into the capital's administrative borders and people moving out. As a general rule, migration is the decisive element of population growth in large cities. Roughly half of the capital's migration gain is due to international migration, the other half is due to inner migration from the country's municipalities. Nevertheless, Prague is not a functionally closed system sealed by its administrative borders, this is why it is better to examine migration in a larger, regional context. Figure 3.2.1 shows the long-term evolution of the net migration rate in Prague, the Prague-East and Prague-West districts (hinterland) and the rest of the region of Central Bohemia in 1988–2013. The evolution of net migration clearly shows the beginning and the gradual progress of suburbanization, first in the nearest hinterland and gradually further away from the city, as well as the two stages in the evolution of net migration in 2000–2013 (for the analysis of the 1990s see for ex. Čermák 1999). While the 2000–2007 period features dynamic population growth both in Prague and its hinterland, the economic crisis brought a post-2008 slowdown in housing development, inner migration and, above all, international migration. These tendencies have been particularly pronounced in the capital: its annual net migration has been falling since 2007 resulting in a loss of population through out-migration in 2013.



**Figure 3.2.1:** The evolution of the net migration rate in Prague, the Prague-East and Prague-West districts (hinterland) and the rest of the region of Central Bohemia in 1988–2013.

**Source:** ČSÚ, 2014

These two stages in the evolution of migration caused by the latest economic boom and crisis respectively must be taken into account when interpreting the capital's net migration and age-specific migration, both shown on the map sheet. These indicators can also be examined and compared on the map sheet featuring migration in Czech municipalities (see Map sheet section A 3.2 Migration in Czechia 2000–2013). The main purpose of this map sheet is to assess the inner differentiation of migration behaviour on the level of Prague's urbanistic districts and cadastral territories. The map sheet contains two maps assessing the migration balance of urbanistic districts, using both absolute figures and net migration rate, and age structure respectively. These maps draw on Czech Statistical Office's (ČSÚ) continuous records on migration, i.e. reports on migration between Prague's urbanistic districts. Prague is the only Czech municipality providing data in such a detail. These contain information on the municipality the person is leaving and the municipality the person is moving into, plus different characteristics of the person, such as age, nationality and marital status (until 2004 it also included education and reasons for migration). The first map shows the average annual net migration (the number of people moving into the urbanistic district less the number of people moving out) and the net migration rate in a choropleth map (net migration per 1,000 mid-year population). The second map combines data on migrants' age structure by urbanistic districts and cadastral territories. The choropleth map shows the difference between the average ages of people moving in and moving out; this single indicator provides basic information on the change of the age structure in a given urbanistic district. Bar charts depicting age-specific net migration for five-year age groups show the overall change in age structure by cadastral territory.

Type of residential area	Number of (2011)		Average age of those			Net migration	
	urbanistic districts	population	moving in	moving out	Difference	Total	Rate (‰)
Historical core	23	49 190	32.8	41.8	-9.0	-5 775	-8.4
Tenement houses	141	320 812	32.4	39.3	-6.9	18 715	4.2
Villas	52	97 105	31.7	42.6	-10.9	6 476	4.8
Housing estates	153	529 671	32.2	36.8	-4.6	1 854	0.3
Working class houses	82	92 297	32.4	43.3	-10.9	26 207	20.3
Inner suburbs	131	126 887	30.6	42.6	-12.1	45 375	25.5
Non-residential areas	334	2 348	33.1	46.2	-13.1	4 495	136.7
<b>Prague total</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>1 218 309</b>	<b>32.1</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>-7.3</b>	<b>97 347</b>	<b>5.7</b>

**Table 3.2.1:** The evolution of net migration by Prague's urbanistic districts

**Source:** Own typology (Ouředníček et al., 2012, see Map sheet section B 9.2 A Typology of Residential Areas; ČSÚ, 2011)

*Note:* Net migration for 14 years in total, annual average net migration rate

The distribution of areas gaining population through in-migration and losing population through out-migration is quite differentiated. In general, migration gains dependence on actual housing development is observed. New residential housing is characterised by its

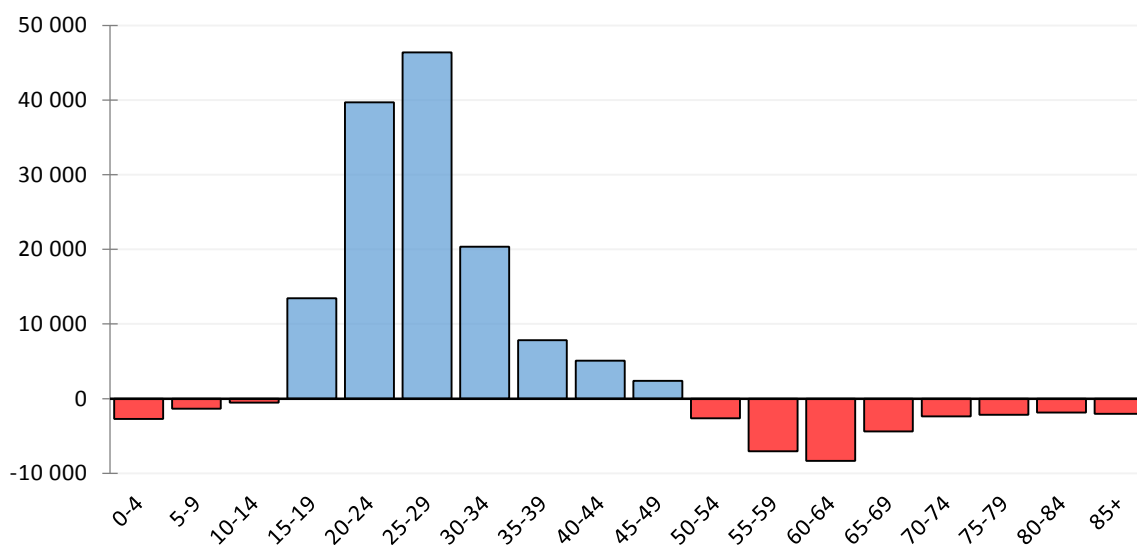
location on building-free sites in various parts of the city, regardless of the character of local original buildings. This is why population growth through migration is recorded in selected parts of the inner city and housing estates with new housing development. The differentiation inside the inner city is clearly visible in the neighbourhoods of Karlín and Vinohrady for instance, where the knowledge of local situation helps to identify the dependence of migration gains on new housing development projects being built in the area. A generalised view of the evolution of net migration is obtained by applying the typology of urbanistic districts (see Map sheet section B 9.2 A Typology of Residential Areas for method) which distinguishes six types of buildings (see Table 3.2.1). The table shows that Prague's population growth through migration of roughly 100,000 people in 2000–2013 was spread among all types of urbanistic districts with the exception of the city's historical core. Nevertheless, its distribution is considerably uneven. Both outer parts of Prague, outer city working class houses and inner suburbs, as well as the area of tenement houses with a large share of newly built residential houses, have recorded the biggest absolute gains. The situation is similar when comparing the net migration rate, with the difference of villa neighbourhoods which have a higher rate than the group of tenement houses. Housing estates seem to be the most stable category of urbanistic districts, the stability is due to the recent housing privatisation. A large number of housing estates is experiencing slow and gradual population loss through out-migration, positive net migration is a result of several new housing projects being built in these areas.

Prague's inner migration differentiation draws on a different type of households and individuals' migration behaviour than the migration balance of Prague as a whole. Data based on new methods of migration record keeping show that migration intensity in Prague has considerably increased since 2000. If we break down migrants in Prague into migrants coming from/leaving for a foreign country, coming from/leaving for another municipality within the country and people moving inside Prague, migration flows have intensified in all three categories. The volume of moves grew from around 60,000 in 2001 to 140,000 in 2007 and currently amounts to around 100,000 moves a year (Přidalová 2013). We can therefore assume that on average every inhabitant of Prague moved once during the observed period of 14 years. Half of these moves is accounted for by migration within the city's borders caused by specific migration behaviour, i.e. moving for family reasons, from and to an already existing building, within close neighbourhoods etc. In this case, migration motives connected to different life cycle stages prevail over economic reasons. This is partially visible from the chart showing age-specific net migration (see Figure 3.2.2) which is negative for children and people over 50.

The second choropleth map shows the differences in the average age of people moving in and out of Prague's urbanistic districts. When analysing these indicators, it is again very convenient to apply the already mentioned typology (see Table 3.2.1). The biggest differences in the average age of people moving in and out are observed in areas where there is a large difference in the age structure of inhabitants in old and new buildings, i.e.

mainly in areas with different types of family houses, inner suburbs, compact built-up areas or villa neighbourhoods. These areas lose elderly inhabitants while the lowest average age of people moving out is recorded in housing estates. In general, people moving within Prague are older than people moving out of Prague or within Czechia. On the level of urbanistic districts, lower average age of people moving in is again observed in areas with new residential development.

Age-specific net migration by cadastral territories shown on the choropleth map is an excellent analytical tool for the assessment of age-specific population gains/losses. The pronounced age-specific net migration differentiation between Prague's neighbourhoods is considerably influenced by their age structure. All cadastral territories have experienced substantial population growth in the age group of young adults (15–29 years of age) with the exception of the housing estate cadastral territories of Chodov, Kamýk and Bohnice and the territory of Josefov; these areas have also seen the biggest population losses through migration. The inner city as a whole loses mainly children and the elderly and gains people in the category of adults under 50. Peripheral suburbs have seen population growth in all age categories – the biggest population gains were recorded in Kunratice, Uhříněves, Běhovice, and Újezd nad Lesy, for instance.



**Figure 3.2.1:** Age-specific net migration in Prague by five-year age groups.

**Source:** ČSÚ, 2014

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