

3.1 HISTORICAL ASPECTS OF MIGRATION IN PRAGUE

Martin Ouředníček, Ivana Přidalová



The map sheet depicts principal historical stages of migration in Prague from the interwar period up to the present time. It is thematically linked to other parts of the map set, mainly to the map sheets from section B 1.1 Net migration and natural increase in Prague and the map of current migration trends 3.2 Migration in Prague 2000–2013. The main focus is on the description and explanation of internal migration within Prague between different cadastral territories or municipal districts, captured in four time periods. Most analytical texts evaluating migration in Prague focused on the overall migration balance at city level, with internal differentiation being mentioned only rarely and usually in the form of a verbal commentary (Boháč 1923). An exception among the oldest texts is the work of Josef Pohl (1933) who thoroughly evaluates the individual neighbourhoods of Prague on the basis of the balance between the censuses in 1921–1930 and figures on natural population change and housing construction at cadastral territories level. The internal differentiation of migration is later evaluated at municipal district level (Praha v číslech 1963; Hovorková 1982) and since the 1990s also on the example of cadastral territories or urban districts.

Migration statistics based on migration reports was established in Czechoslovakia during 1949, earlier information is obtained primarily from balancing natural and total population increase or on the basis of various questions asked during censuses (for more details on obtaining statistical migration data in Prague see e.g. Konečná 1982). The main migration trends in Prague within its administrative boundaries in the individual years of continuous records (1920–2014) are evident from the figures shown in Table 3.1.1 and Figure 3.1.1. Net migration exceeding 20‰ is observed only in the 1920s, a high fluctuation of population in Prague also in the 1950s and after 2000. The thesis of a relatively demographically closed and largely stable population in Prague, proposed by Musil (1977, p. 37) using data from 1966–1972, can be adopted for the whole 1960s and 1970s. These decades were characterized by a lack of housing, which was reflected in the relatively low migration rates in the capital city (Kühnl 1971, Čermák 1999). The disparity between the natural attractiveness of Prague and the lack of housing can be observed e.g. in the high proportion of people with temporary residence in Prague or in the enormous increase in commuting (Koubek 1982, Čermák 1999). A widening gap between the decreasing number of emigrants and increasing number of immigrants does not appear until the 1980s. While in the 1970s the strategy of Complex Housing Construction compensated for the needs of Prague inhabitants in particular, in the mid-1980s a substantial part of migration into the new residential areas seemed to consist of people moving from other parts of the republic. Other trends are heavily influenced by a very low housing construction in the mid-1990s and at present time by the increasing attractiveness of the capital city for foreign migrants in particular (for more details see the text in section B 3.2 Migration in Prague 2000–

2013). A more detailed evaluation of the various stages of migration balance can be found e.g. in Koubek (1982) or Ouředníček (1994).

The main purpose of the specialized map is to offer an analysis of the spatial differentiation of migration with the available unit of internal classification. The map sheet contains four maps depicting the absolute and relative expression of net migration and also the directions of migration between cadastral territories or districts of Prague. The maps are based on several sources. In the first period they are based on the population balance between the two interwar censuses, since the 1960s the data is obtained from the continuous evidence of migration conducted by the Czech Statistical Office, i.e. migration reports. Data for the 1960s map was obtained from Hovorková's thesis (1982), since the early 1990s from the database of individual migration data at basic settlement unit level (ČSÚ).

Period	Net migration (in thousands)	Annual crude net migration rate (in ‰)
1920–24	69	21.0
1925–29	91	23.5
1930–34	78	18.1
1935–39	84	17.8
1940–44	-30	-6.2
1945–49	-20	-4.3
1950–54	17	3.6
1955–59	19	3.8

Table 3.1.1: Basic indicators of migration in Prague in 1920–1959.

Source: Vitoušek et al. (1963, p. 31)

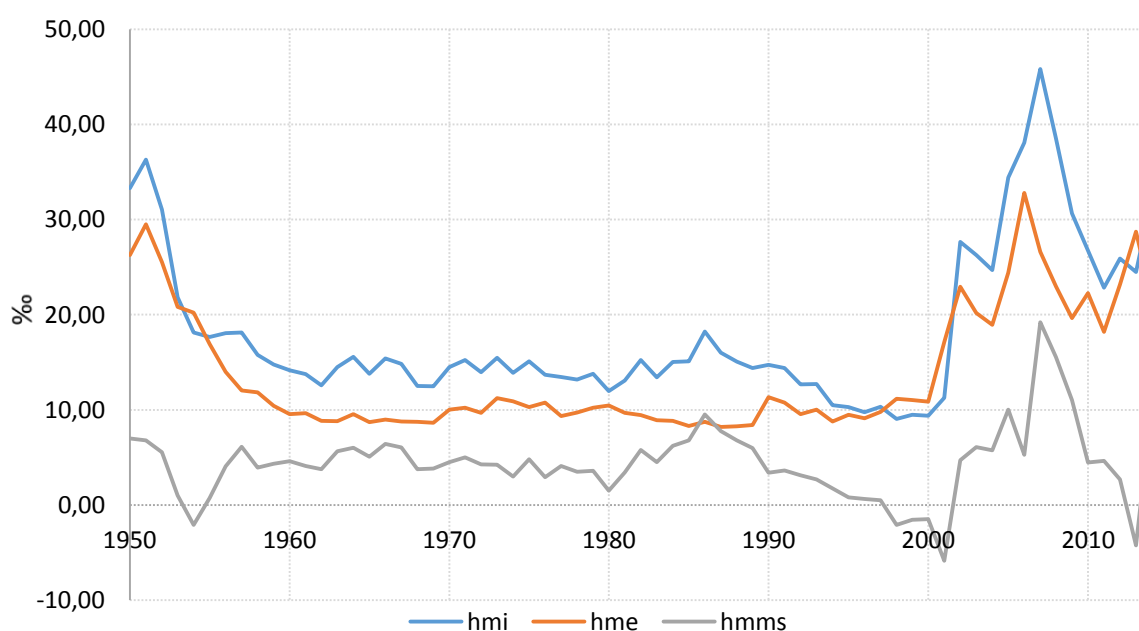


Figure 3.1.1: Migration balance in Prague in 1950–2014.

Source: ČSÚ, 2014b

Note: hmi – crude immigration rate; hme – crude emigration rate; hmms – crude net migration rate

Cartograms on the individual maps depict the crude net migration rate. High net migration rates of the neighbourhoods or districts of Prague are clearly dependent on housing construction. As Prague has had the character of an "overbounded city" with large undeveloped areas on the outskirts, virtually in all the analysed years the highest net migration rates are observed on the outskirts. By contrast, depopulation areas create different spatial patterns in the individual periods of the city development. The interwar period saw the *citization* of central districts, mainly due to the transformation of residential function into commercial use. In the 1960s, the map of Prague districts is differentiated according to new housing construction, which at that time concentrated primarily in Prague 10 and 6. In the 1990s with generally low net migration rates, the darkest shades represent the completion of the newest Prague housing estates (Černý Most, Barrandov) and the first constructed suburbia (Újezd, Vinoř etc.). The latest map shows a slight population loss in the cadastral territories with large older housing estates (e.g. Chodov, Kamýk or Bohnice). Apart from them, a similar trend can be seen only in six historical districts within the city walls, Karlín and Nusle.

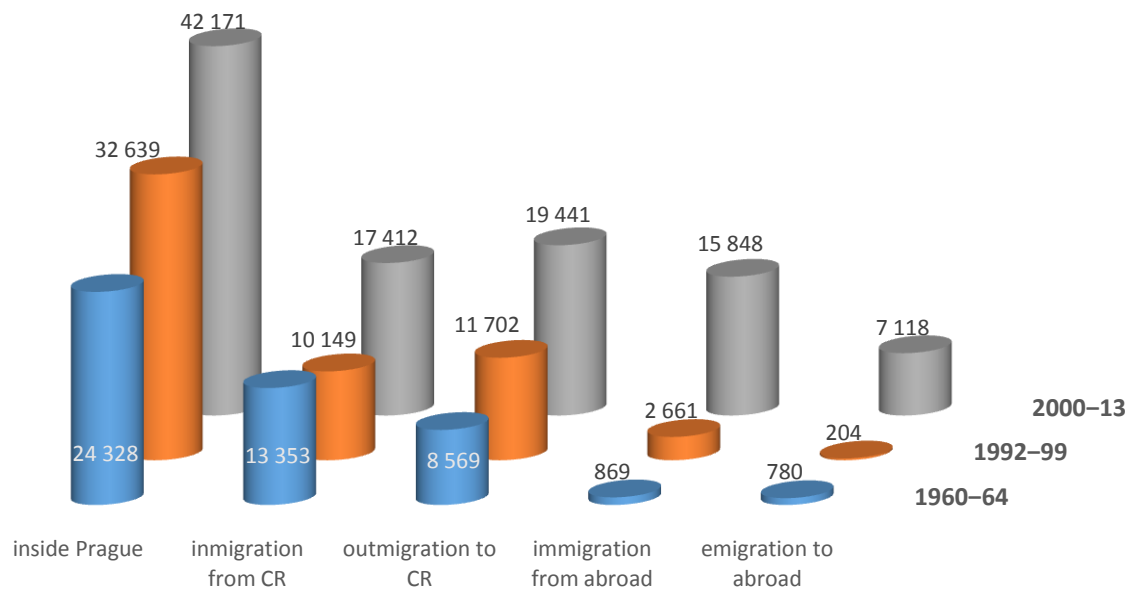


Figure 3.1.2: Number of migrations by its direction in three time periods.

Source: Hovorková, 1982; ČSÚ, 2014a, b

Note: The territory of Prague was smaller in 1960-64 (186 km² in comparison to the current 496 km²); internal migration was recorded only between 10 districts.

Approximately 2/3 of the overall migration flows in Prague traditionally fall within intra-city migration (see Figure 3.1.2). These flows are specific in terms of the reasons for migration as well as the direction of the migration flows. While migration to Prague is characterized mainly by economic reasons (changing workplace, proximity to workplace, or study dominated), migration within the city is related to the different stages of life cycle, family and housing reasons. In this context, the geographical distance of such migrations is well evident from the arrows showing the strongest migration

flows. Although there is a clear dependence of the major flows on the source and target area population size (or the size of the housing stock and new housing construction), many exchanges of population in neighbouring cadastral territories are observed as well.

References:

- BOHÁČ, A. (1923): Hlavní město Praha. Studie o obyvatelstvu. Státní úřad statistický, Bursík a Kohout, Praha.
- ČERMÁK, Z. (1999): Migrační aspekty dlouhodobého vývoje Prahy se zvláštním zřetelem k transformačnímu období devadesátých let. *Geografie*, 104, n. 2, pp. 122–132.
- HOVORKOVÁ, E. (1982): Stěhování obyvatelstva v rámci hlavního města Prahy podle obvodů v letech 1960–1979. Diplomová práce. Univerzita Karlova v Praze, Přírodovědecká fakulta, Katedra ekonomické a regionální geografie, Praha.
- KONEČNÁ, (1982): Migrační statistika v hl. m. Praze. In: *Migrace do velkoměst*. VÚSEI, Praha, *Acta Demographica*, V, pp. 76–85.
- KOUBEK, J. (1982): Pražská migrace v posledních třiceti letech a její demografické, sociální a ekonomické aspekty. In: *Migrace do velkoměst*. VÚSEI, Praha, *Acta Demographica* V, pp. 105–152.
- KÜHNL, K. (1971): K perspektivě vývoje obyvatelstva v pražské metropolitní oblasti. *Acta Universitatis Carolinae – Geographica*, 56, n. 1–2, pp. 59–67.
- MUSIL, J. (1977): Demografická struktura a vývoj Prahy. *Sociologický časopis*, 13, n. 1, pp. 28–38.
- OUŘEDNÍČEK, M. (1994): Vývoj a současné změny sociálně prostorové struktury Prahy. Diplomová práce. Univerzita Karlova v Praze, Přírodovědecká fakulta, Katedra sociální geografie a regionálního rozvoje, Praha.
- POHL, J. (1932): *Vylidňování venkova v Čechách v období 1850–1930*. Prometheus, Praha.

Data sources:

- ČSÚ (2014a): Databáze individuálních migračních dat za urbanistické obvody Prahy v letech 1992–2013. Český statistický úřad, Praha.
- ČSÚ (2014b): Obyvatelstvo v Praze 1919–2014. Český statistický úřad, Praha. Available online https://www.czso.cz/csu/xa/dalsi_casove_rady_obyvatelstvo.
- ČSÚ (1991): Databáze výsledků ze Sčítání lidu, domů a bytů k 3. 3. 1991. Elektronická databáze dat. Český statistický úřad, Praha.
- ČSÚ (2001): Databáze výsledků ze Sčítání lidu, domů a bytů k 1. 3. 2001. Elektronická databáze dat. Český statistický úřad, Praha.
- ČSÚ (2011): Databáze výsledků ze Sčítání lidu, domů a bytů k 26. 3. 2011. Elektronická databáze dat. Český statistický úřad, Praha.
- SÚS (1934): Sčítání lidu v Republice československé ze dne 1. prosince 1930. Státní úřad statistický, Praha.

VITOUŠ, J., ROUBÍČEK, V., FORMÁNEK, J., JUREČEK, Z., FABEL, K. (1963): Praha v číslech: ekonomický rozvoj, výsledky sčítání lidu, domů a bytů, perspektiva vývoje do roku 1980. Edice: Knihnice Ústřední komise lidové kontroly a statistiky. SEVT, Praha.