

Abstract

Today innovations are one of the major competitive advantage for firms. If the companies are prospering, the region where they are located are prospering too. Innovative activity is different from region to region. Innovation itself is difficult to evaluate because there is no statistics on innovation of companies. However, we can assess the factors behind the creation of innovation. The diploma thesis is focused on assessing the innovative potential of regions of the Czech Republic through a passive factor in the innovation potential - research and development.

Classification is based on the data provided by Czech Statistical Office, which conducts statistical investigation annually on research and development in the Czech Republic. R & D potential are monitored only in the corporate sector, which is the main producer of innovations.

Keywords: innovation, innovation potential, economic development, competitiveness