

Marriage duration specific fertility trends

Abstract

The aim of this Master thesis is to describe the development of the marital fertility in the Czech Republic with focus on the analysis of the period between the marriage and the birth of child of a given order in the current marriage. It shows trends in the marital fertility in the time period between 1974 and 2011 from transverse and longitudinal view. Using selected indicators the thesis describes different development of the marital fertility in the given period, which is closely connected with the distinct social and demographic situation in the Czech Republic prior and after the year 1989. In the whole monitored period the number of marriages is decreasing significantly. There was a significant increase both in a number and ratio of the children born alive outside of marriage, and on the opposite, decrease in the number and ratio of children born alive within the marriage. Within the framework of the current marriages substantial changes of the reproductive behavior occurred with an obvious breaking point in 1989. Since that time significant decrease in number of children, both in total and in the number of children of a given order has started. At the same time significant prolongation of the period between the start of marriage and birth of a child of a given order begins.

Keywords: marriage, fertility, duration, trends, order, time period