

The thesis deals with the development of availability of preschool childcare in the Czech Republic after 1990 and its relation to the harmonization of family and working life of women. The aim of this work is to identify possible future perspectives of this development and its potential impact on the economy of the country. In the introduction, it is firstly outlined how the demographic development and the approach to family policy changed in the Czech Republic after 1990. After that follow a specification of the system of preschool care in the Czech Republic and an analysis of development of the availability of preschool childcare and of employment of women in the labour market. For the estimation of future development, a projection of potential candidates for preschool care services and a projection of expected number of mothers with young children in 2020 are conducted. The results of the projections indicate that the current capacity of kindergartens could be sufficient already in the school year 2019/2020, in the context of the decreasing number of live births. Nevertheless, the Czech Republic is likely to fail to fulfil timely the objectives of the European Union for the minimum participation of children in preschool education based on the Barcelona criteria and the strategy Europe 2020. Insufficient availability of preschool care facilities has a significantly negative impact on employment of women with small children. The Czech Republic thus loses a relatively big economic potential. According to a rough estimate, integrating these women into the labour market could bring an increase of state budget of the Czech Republic in 2020 approximately by 10.5 billion CZK in income tax and by 23.42 billion CZK in social security contributions.