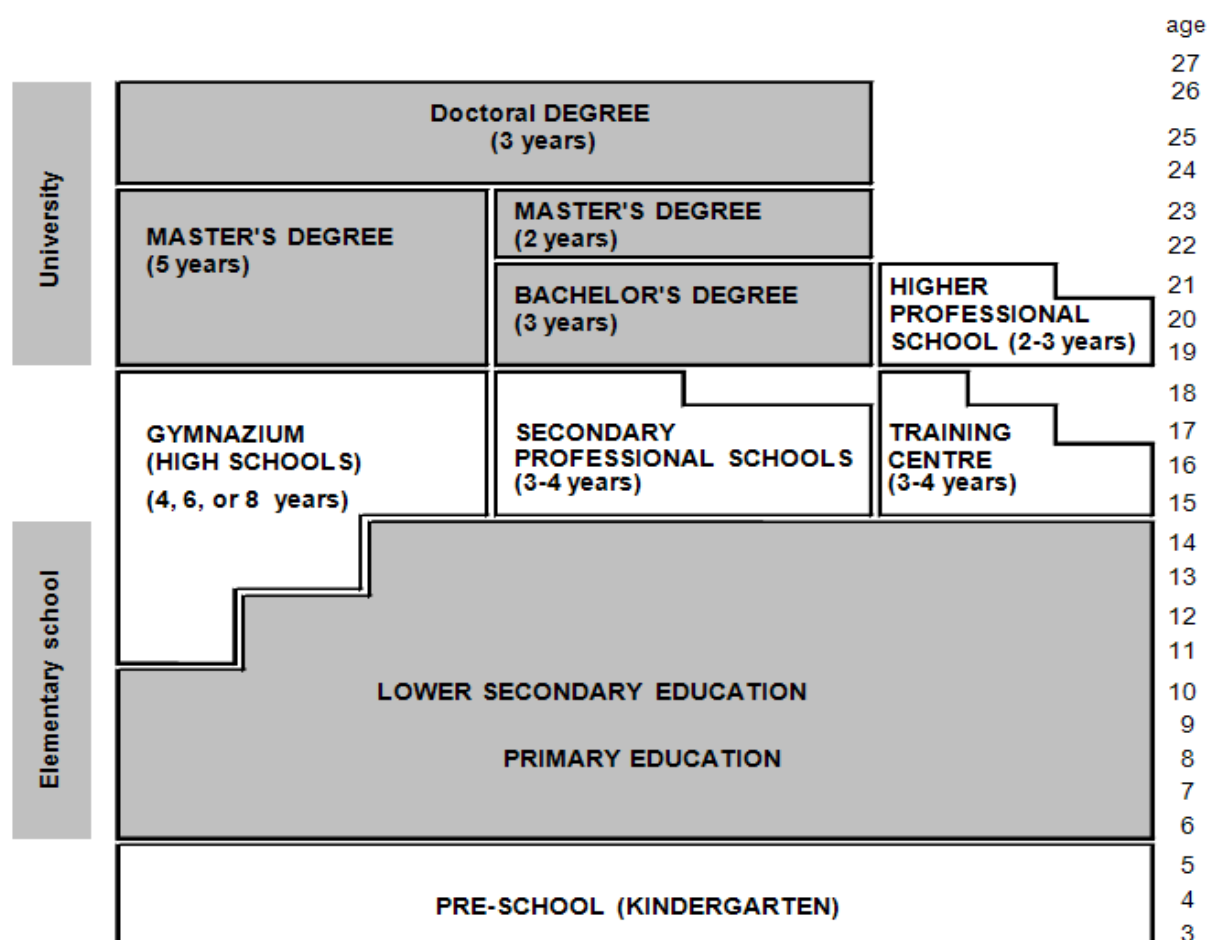


## 10. Education System

The Czech Republic combines an outstanding level of general education with strong science and engineering disciplines. For generations the Czech education system has generated high-level, technical problem-solving skills in environments where standard solutions are inadequate.

### EDUCATION SYSTEM – BASIC STRUCTURE

School attendance is compulsory from ages 6 to 15 (elementary and lower secondary school). After nine years, students may continue at three basic types of upper secondary school: vocational training centres, secondary schools and high schools (gymnasium). Undergraduate and graduate studies are offered by colleges (offering three to four-year bachelor programmes) and universities, which also offer master and doctoral programmes.



### How the education system meets the needs of a competitive economy, ranking by country

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Czech Republic	6.12	4.67	5.06	5.68	5.58	5.00	5.00	5.15	5.02	5.46	5.57	5.32
Hungary	4.83	5.13	4.32	4.46	3.46	4.40	4.11	4.08	4.19	3.90	3.65	3.35
Poland	3.47	3.67	4.49	4.03	5.05	5.02	5.15	7.16	5.57	5.40	5.61	4.95
Slovak Republic	3.73	3.67	3.60	4.14	3.14	3.53	2.67	3.42	3.28	3.65	4.27	4.40

**Source:** IMD World Competitiveness Index, October 2017

**Note:** Executive Opinion Survey based on a scale of 0 to 10

**Explanation:** The rankings were obtained from the average value for each country. The data were converted from a scale of 1 to 6 (from which the survey respondents chose the most appropriate answer) to a scale of 0 to 10. The standard deviation values were then calculated for the responses to determine the rankings.

The Czech education system has a very strong position in upper secondary education, which serves as the foundation for advanced learning and training opportunities, as well as preparation for direct entry into the labour market. Ninety-three percent of the Czech population aged 24-64 has completed at least upper secondary education, compared to an OECD average of 76%. (Source: Education at a Glance 2015, OECD).

Vocational education and training are thoroughly integrated into both secondary and higher education institutions, and enrolment in vocational education is exceptionally high by OECD standards. The Czech Republic also has a very good position in tertiary education. There has been an increase in university-level skills in the adult population, as measured by levels of educational attainment.

## UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

Public universities offer programmes ranging from ICT and electronics to life sciences and humanities, while a number of private institutions offer mainly business administration or economics studies. University education is generally focused on meeting the needs of a competitive economy and cooperation between universities and the corporate sector has been expanding in recent years.

### How **university education** meets the needs of a competitive economy, ranking by country

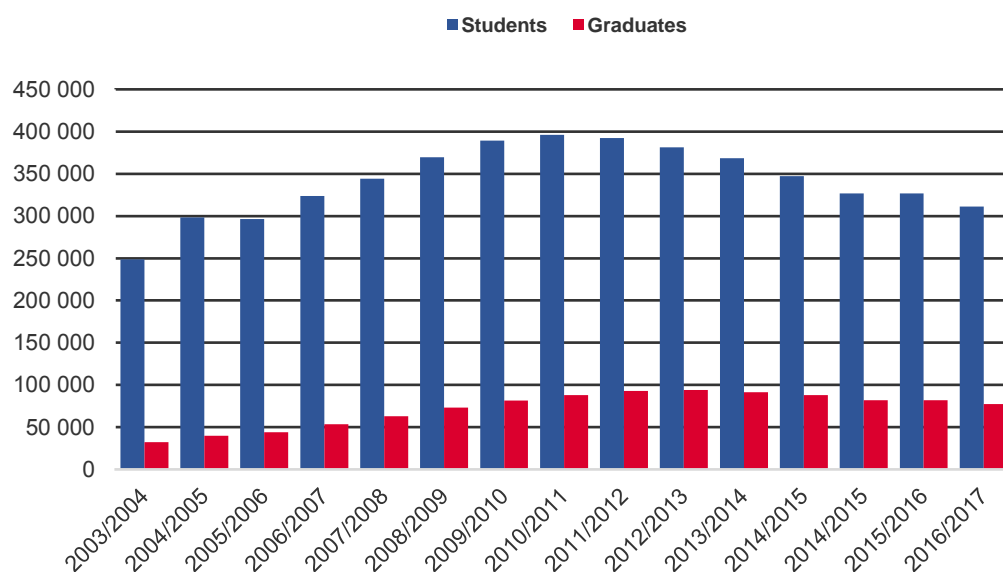
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Czech Republic	6.12	4.87	5.64	5.84	5.70	5.21	5.33	5.55	4.98	5.45	5.77	5.66
Hungary	5.47	5.74	5.04	4.87	4.27	5.02	5.14	4.35	4.72	4.46	4.73	4.35
Poland	4.77	4.59	5.13	4.64	5.39	5.43	5.10	4.98	5.57	5.47	5.47	5.47
Slovak Republic	4.04	4.13	3.85	4.00	3.56	3.82	2.71	3.09	3.62	3.38	4.20	4.57

**Source:** IMD World Competitiveness Centre, October 2017

**Note:** Executive Opinion Survey based on a scale of 0 to 10

**Explanation:** The rankings were obtained from the average value for each country. The data were converted from a scale of 1 to 6 (from which the survey respondents chose the most appropriate answer) to a scale of 0 to 10. The standard deviation values were then calculated for the responses to determine the rankings.

## STUDENTS AND GRADUATES OF CZECH UNIVERSITIES



**Source:** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, 2017

## TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The Czech Republic offers a large number of skilled technical workers. An abundant supply of university graduates assures continuous enrichment of the country's available labour pool. The Czech Republic has traditionally been very strong in technical fields and approximately one-third of all university graduates have a technical degree. For more information, see the Fact Sheet on Technical Education.

Technical Education (2016/2017)	Students	Graduates
Vocational training centres	45,241	11,619
Secondary specialised schools	65,552	10,693
Higher professional schools	1,570	416
Universities	91,525	21,929

**Source:** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, 2017; CzechInvest, 2017

**Note:** According to educational programmes chosen by CzechInvest

## ECONOMICS, HR AND FINANCE EDUCATION

While public universities offer programmes ranging from economics, statistics and public administration to finance, accounting, international relations and marketing, a number of private institutions specialise in business administration courses. Several institutions are affiliated with foreign universities and colleges.

Economics and Finance (2016/2017)	Students	Graduates
Vocational training centres	3,596	837
Secondary specialised schools	64,025	11,361
Higher professional schools	4,298	1,227
Universities	67,497	20,075

**Source:** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport 2017; CzechInvest, 2017

**Note:** According to educational programmes chosen by CzechInvest

## LIFE SCIENCES EDUCATION

Universities in the Czech Republic pursue research activities as well as education in bachelor, master and doctoral programmes in fields such as technical chemistry, chemical engineering, pharmacy and food and biochemical technologies. The country also has a well-established network of research institutes; at the end of 2012, the Czech Republic had 529 biotechnology entities, based mainly in the Prague, Central Bohemia and South Moravia regions.

Life Sciences (2016/2017)	Students	Graduates
Secondary specialised schools	19,040	3,298
Higher professional schools	6,655	1,602
Universities	53,175	10,493

**Source:** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport 2017; CzechInvest, 2017

**Note:** According to educational programmes chosen by CzechInvest

## ICT EDUCATION

There is a wide range of universities with ICT education programmes and the number of ICT students is constantly growing. Students at Czech universities are engaged in research and development of various cutting-edge technologies. This allows students to gain hands-on experience with these technologies and contributes to the quality of local graduates.

ICT (2016/2017)	Students	Graduates
Vocational training centres (ICT&Electro)	7,132	2,001
Secondary specialised schools (ICT&Electro)	30,974	5,244
Higher professional schools (ICT)	1,081	293
Universities (ICT)	30,739	6,756

**Source:** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport 2017; CzechInvest, 2017

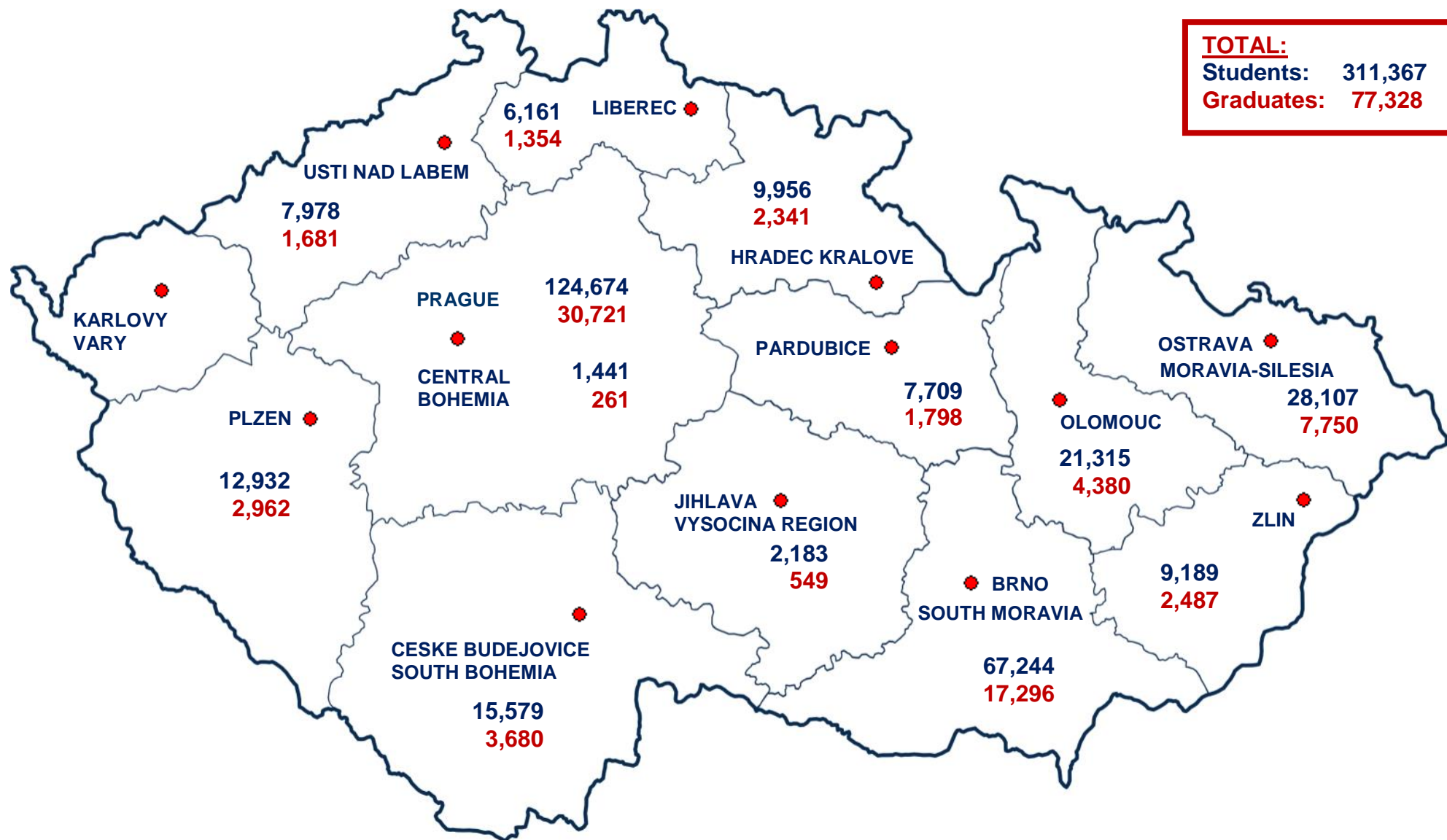
**Note:** According to educational programmes chosen by CzechInvest

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Czech Republic offers free and flexible choices in continuing education. Private training providers and non-profit organisations coexist with and complement secondary schools and universities. According to recent research, the most frequently taught courses include computer skills, accounting, finance, marketing and foreign languages. Several institutions and universities also offer high-quality MBA programmes.

# NUMBER OF STUDENTS AND GRADUATES AT UNIVERSITIES IN THE REGIONS OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Academic year 2016/2017



**Source:** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, 2017

**Note:** There is not university in Karlovy Vary

**Last update:** October 2017

**Fact Sheet No.10** – Education System