

tor demonstrated the highest value when compared with other levels of schools (an average of 3.51). A comparison of the final evaluation of small and large kindergartens demonstrates, in this particular case, considerable differences in favour of large kindergartens. A correlation analysis proved that the differences found substantially related, in terms of statistical data, to the level of professional qualifications of teachers (almost 90 % of teachers were fully qualified in large kindergartens while in small kindergartens this number totalled only 75 %). A more favourable **climate** and **deeper interest in education** were revealed in classes where teachers more often used activating and comprehensible methods of teaching accompanied by target verbal communication.

School consultancy services were provided by pedagogical and psychological centres and special pedagogical centres. The former registered 31,827 children attending kindergartens and the latter ones took care of 178 children from kindergartens.

Assessment of Overall Success of Children in Pre-school Education

The CSI concentrated on the level of skills achieved and the abilities of children attending the last grade of pre-school education prior to the beginning of compulsory school attendance and on the issue of the postponement of compulsory school attendance. In this case it was also difficult to assess, without any standards for pre-school education, the benefits brought about by the measures aimed at the overall success of children who are due to leave pre-school education. Below is an overview of the share of children whose compulsory school attendance was postponed, broken down according to regions.

Table 6 Share of children with postponed compulsory school attendance (PCSA), of the number of five-year old and older children in the visited kindergartens

Regions above the average of the Czech Rep.	Share of children with PCSA (%)	Regions below the average of the Czech Rep.	Share of children with PCSA (%)
Moravian–Silesian Region	24.4	Karlovy Vary	15.6
Hradec Kralove	22.7	Prague	15.0
Liberec	17.7	Zlin	14.1
Olomouc	17.2	Usti	13.0
Pilsen	17.1	Central Bohemian	11.4
Pardubice	17.0	Vysocina	11.0
South Moravian	16.8		
South Bohemian	16.5		
Czech Republic	15.7		

The most frequent causes of postponements were speech impediments and health reasons. The highest share of such children was in the Moravian–Silesian and Hradec Kralove regions, while the Vysocina region displayed the lowest share.

In a sample survey the CSI monitored what measures were implemented in kindergartens to increase the success rate of children who are about to start com-