

## A2. Basic Education

Basic education (BE) in the Czech Republic is provided in basic schools, in special basic schools, six- and eight-year secondary general schools, called in the Czech language “gymnázium” (hereinafter referred to as “secondary general school/s”) and in conservatoires (secondary schools of music and arts) where pupils fulfil their compulsory school attendance.

High participation in basic education is demonstrated in the Czech Republic by the fact that basic education is dedicated to compulsory school attendance – more or less everybody must go through basic education. According to the statistical data gathered in 2010 the share of pupils attending basic education for the first time was only 99.5 % of the total number of the population aged between 6 and 14 years. The decreased rate under 100 % is explained mainly by postponements of compulsory school attendance and by a reduction in the number of pupils who have to repeat a particular grade. The organisation of the second level of basic schools is affected by the 11.3 % of pupils who leave basic schools for six- or eight-year secondary general schools and conservatoires, where they continue their compulsory school attendance in the fields of education provided by six- or eight-year secondary general schools and in the “dance” education field provided by conservatoires.

The MEYS measures aimed at optimising the targeted support provided in the past school year to schools in small villages, to inclusive schools, to the standardisation of the content of the Framework Education Programme for Basic Education (FEP BE) in the key stages of the education path of pupils (5th and 9th grades of basic schools) and to regulation of pupils studying in six- and eight-year secondary general schools.

Changes in the capacity of networks were, when compared with the previous year, only minimal. In total 4,123 basic schools (BSs) were registered in the Register of Schools, thus no considerable change was seen. The share of publicly funded basic schools was 97.1 %, private schools accounted for 1.9 % and church schools represented 1.0 %. Basic education was also provided in the lower grades of 347 six- and eight-year secondary general schools and 13 conservatoires. The table below summarises the data concerning basic schools and year-on-year comparisons of them.

Table 23 Selected indicators of performance of the education system in basic schools

Monitored parameters – Czech Rep. (according to the IIE)	Situation in the school year		Trend
	2009/2010	2010/2011	
Total number of BSs	4,125	4,123	-
Total number of classes	41,941	41,720	-
Share of small schools (%)	53.3	53.7	+
Share of publicly funded schools (%)	97.3	97.1	-
Share of private schools (%)	1.7	1.9	+
Share of church schools (%)	1.0	1.0	0