



participation of school inspectors in 169 selection interviews (tenders). The summarised findings arise from analyses of school documents and from on-the-spot checks – class observations and interviews with managers and other pedagogical staff. Conclusions stemming from questionnaires completed by parents are also included.

### A.1.1

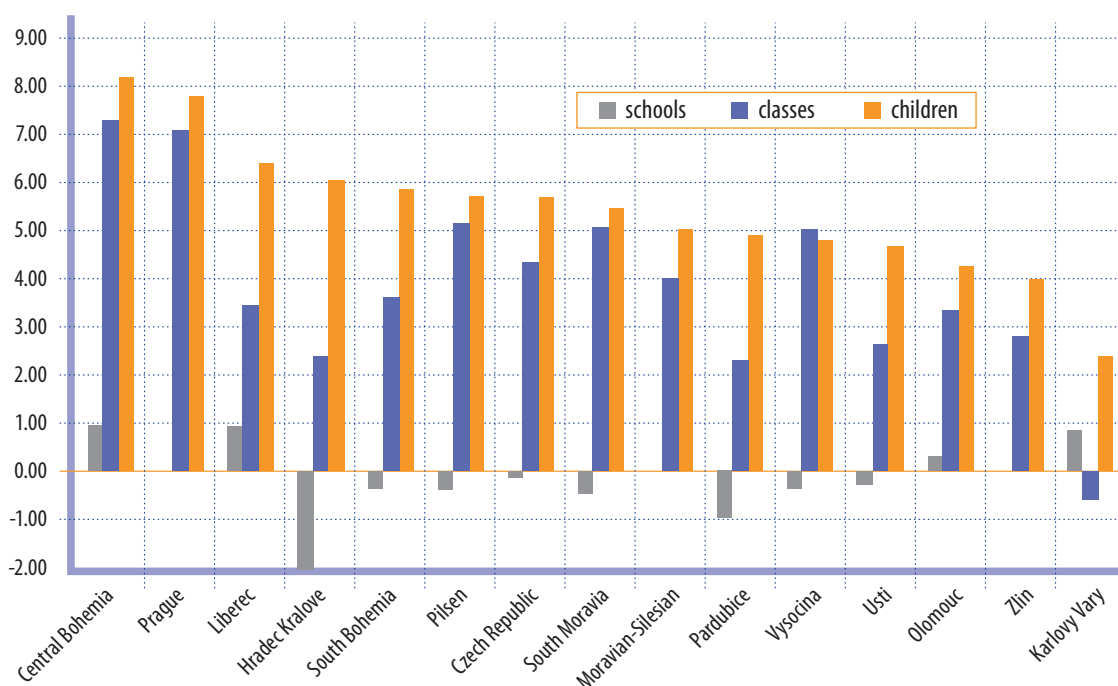
#### Provision of Pre-School Education

**The number of kindergartens** in the Czech Republic has not risen (according to the Register of Schools there was an increase only by one kindergarten). According to statistical surveys the number of small kindergartens accommodating a maximum of 50 children prevails. There are 57.7% small kindergartens of all the 4,809 kindergartens in the Czech Republic. The CSI visited 1,686 schools, of which 63% were small kindergartens educating up to 50 children. A year-by-year increase of 3.6% in the number of children involved in pre-school education was balanced by the increased number of children in individual classes. Thus the average number of children in one class has grown to 23.1. If the nationwide statistical records are taken into account one teacher is responsible for 12.8 children.

The country-wide trend of merging kindergartens and basic schools or administrative concentrations of more kindergartens into larger entities has continued. As a priority, kindergartens managed to provide education for children who are to begin compulsory schooling in one year. The number of children enrolling in kindergartens under the Education Act on a priority basis is stable and reached 92.8% of the total number of children in the population falling into this age category. If the numbers are compared with those of the previous year, the number of children below three years of age increased by 11.3%. However, the number of children who were not admitted to pre-school education has also been on the rise. In the last school year 6.2% of children were rejected.

Diagram 1

Changes in the number of kindergartens, classes and children in kindergartens from 30 September 2006 to 30 September 2008<sup>x/</sup> (the data on increase/decrease in percentage)



<sup>x/</sup> The basis for calculating a percentage increase or decrease is the number entered in the nation-wide statistical records as of 30 September 2006 and the closing number reported as 30 September 2008. Regions are sequenced according to the increase in the number of children; i.e. in a descending order.

