



Vysočina

Annual Report **2006**

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Dear Reader,

It is my pleasure to be able to present the Annual Report of the Vysočina Region 2006 to you. By way of introduction, it is a good idea, I believe, to mention that the Annual report is the result of relatively long and extensive discussions. For several years, namely, the majority amongst us believed that since all the data and other information normally presented in annual reports are available to anyone over the Internet anyway, as part of the public access policy, it is not necessary to summarize these data every year and issue them in the form annual reports.

Despite this quite logical point of argumentation, we finally decided to start publishing annual reports about our Region from the year 2006 onwards, the reason being that we want expand the opportunity and make the public's access to information on Vysočina more user-friendly.

The main objective of issuing this Annual Report on Vysočina (this year and in the years to come, I hope) is to present summarized information on the status of our Vysočina Region and on the changes that took place or impacted substantially on the life in Vysočina during the given year.

Let me point out, in this introductory part, some of the events that were of key importance to Vysočina in 2006, as some of the circumstances were interesting and substantial in my opinion.

The year 2006 was a turning point for Vysočina as the Region's political representation finally reached an agreement as to how to proceed in the area of long-term reparation of the transport infrastructure of Vysočina, i.e., the roads. Voting about taking out a loan from the European Investment Bank and about approval of the Regional Operational Program found support across the whole political spectrum of the Regional Board's representatives.

Unfortunately, we were unable to find complete consensus in 2006 in the area of future functioning of our health care institutions. Although centralization of the medical rescue services, hence improvement of the quality of these services, was agreed upon, we did not record much progress in the area of organizing the provision of health care in the Region's hospitals.

Our Region achieved very good results in further development of information technology, as it is an area where Vysočina is one of the most rapidly developing regions.

We were equally successful in the area of drawing down from the European Funds as well as in preparation for further drawdowns in the planning period from 2007 to 2013.

In 2006, Vysočina very intensively endeavored to improve traffic safety on the D1 highway, build up telematic provisions, and press for better coordination of the Integrated Rescue System's units in emergencies. The safety of our citizens was and is our Region's long-term priority.

In closing, let me express our gratitude to all those who have – in their communities, towns, and cities – enriched Vysočina day after day with new ideas and activities, or taken constant and systematic care of our Region's beautiful natural and historic sites. If you take time to leaf through our Annual Report, you will find that you live in a wonderful region that is inhabited by many smart and skilful people. I think it is a pleasantly reassuring finding, and I believe it makes sense to make an effort to keep up the good work in the future.



Miloš Vystrčil

Regional President of Vysočina

About Vysočina



- Vysočina is the 5th largest region in the Czech Republic, covering 6,796 km², which constitutes about 9 % of the country's total area.
- The name of the Region – Vysočina, i.e., Bohemian-Moravian Highlands – directly indicates that it is situated in the geological formation along the border between Bohemia and Moravia, which consists of a typical undulating landscape at an altitude of 600–800 meters above sea level. The highest point in the Region is Javořice near Telč (837 meters above sea level).
- Four towns in the Region have more than 20,000 inhabitants, and one city has over 50,000 inhabitants. The Region has a total of 511,150 inhabitants (as of 30. 6. 2006). There are 75 inhabitants per km², which is the 3rd lowest density amongst Czech regions. Vysočina has therefore preserved its singular status of a wholesome rural region.
- The regional seat of Vysočina is Jihlava; but the Region's administration is broken down into 15 administrative districts with extended jurisdiction. In all, the Region has 704 municipalities, which is the 2nd highest number in all the regions.

MUNICIPALITIES WITH EXTENDED JURISDICTION

Bystřice nad Pernštejnem, Havlíčkův Brod, Humpolec, Chotěboř, Jihlava, Moravské Budějovice, Náměšť nad Oslavou, Nové Město na Moravě, Pacov, Pelhřimov, Světlá nad Sázavou, Telč, Třebíč, Velké Meziříčí, Žďár nad Sázavou



VYSOČINA IN FIGURES:

Size: 6,796 km², ranked fifth amongst 14 Czech regions, approx. 9 per cent of the Czech Republic's total size

Population: 511,000

Number of municipalities: 704, second highest of the regions

Population density: 75 persons per km²

Average age of inhabitants: 39.5 years

Value of regional property in 2006: CZK 21,261,576,000

Number of allowance organizations in the Region: 141

Number of allowance organizations' employees: 11,500

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

... there are 2,700 kilometers of marked hiking trails and 2,400 biking trails in Vysočina?

... there are two protected land reserves, nine nature parks, and 170 small-scale protected areas in Vysočina?

... one third of Czech potatoes and 15 per cent cows in the Czech Republic are grown in Vysočina?

... approx. one third of the Region's total area is wooded?

... unemployment in Vysočina has for a long time been about one per cent below the country's average?

... both the Bohemian and Moravian metropolises – Prague and Brno – are supplied with drinking water from Vysočina?

... Vysočina has three UNESCO sites, more than any other Czech region?

Some of Vysočina's superlatives...	
Highest altitude point	Javořice, 837 meters above sea level
Lowest altitude point	Jihlava River at regional border crossing: 239 meters above sea level
Largest municipality	Jihlava 50,859 inhabitants
Smallest municipality	Vysoká Lhota, 21 inhabitants, District of Pelhřimov
Municipality with highest average age	Vysoká Lhota, 60.5 years, District of Pelhřimov
Municipality with lowest average age	Ždírec, 32.5 years, District of Havlíčkův Brod

Source: ČSÚ Jihlava (Statistical Office)

The Regional Government



VYSOČINA REGIONAL COUNCIL

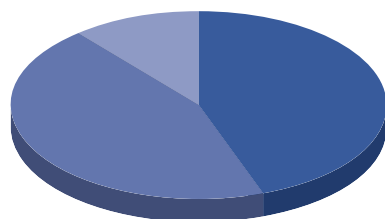
The Council is the executive body of the Region's government. The Vysočina Council has nine members (Councillors).



Members of the Regional Council and Directress of the Regional Authority



Political structure of the Vysočina Region's Council



- ODS (Civic Democratic Party) – 4
- KDU-ČSL (Christian and Democratic Union – Czechoslovak People's Party) – 4
- SNK ED (SNK European Democrats) – 1

The Council forms Commissions, both as auxiliary and advisory bodies, for its decision-making.

The Council's Commissions		
Security	Social and Drug Abuse Policy	Transport
Agriculture and the Environment	Health Care	Sports and Leisure
Culture and Historic Conservation	Tourism and Public Relations	Budget

THE VYSOČINA REGION'S ASSEMBLY

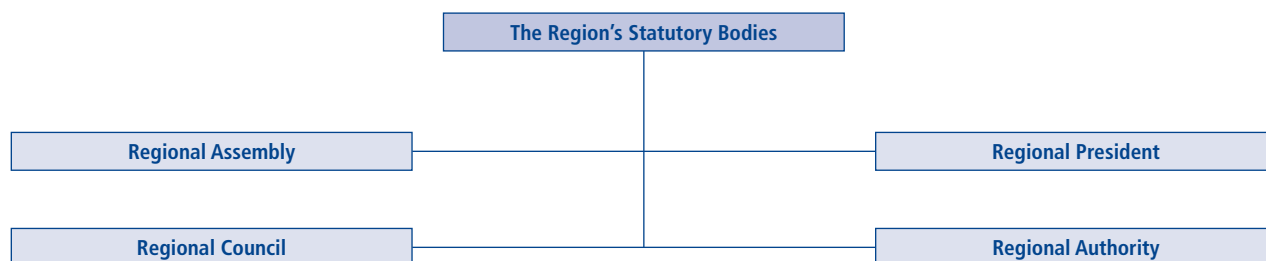
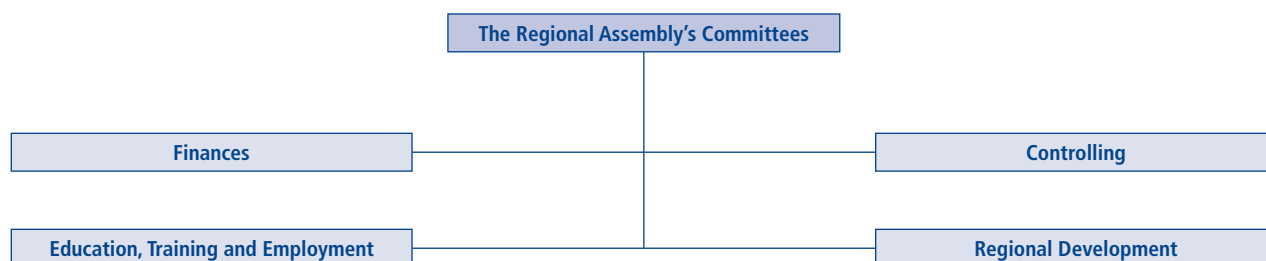
The Regional Assembly is the supreme administrative body of the Region's government. The Vysočina Region's Assembly has 45 members (Assembly members).

Members of the Vysočina Region's Assembly:

■ Jaroslava Bambasová	KSČM	■ Ing. Václav Kodet	KDU-ČSL
■ Mgr. Miroslav Báňa	ČSSD	■ Ing. Bohumil Kotlán	KSČM
■ MUDr. Jiří Běhounek	ČSSD	■ Zdeňka Marková	SNK ED
■ Ing. František Bradáč	KDU-ČSL	■ PaedDr. Martina Matějková	ODS
■ Ladislav Brož	KSČM	■ Ing. Vladislav Nechvátal	ODS
■ Mgr. Jaromír Brychta	ODS	■ Ing. Jan Nekula	ODS
■ PhDr. Zdeněk Dobrý	KSČM	■ Ing. Vladimír Novotný	ČSSD
■ Ing. Marie Černá	SNK ED	■ JUDr. Drahošlav Oulehla	KSČM
■ Ing. Martin Čížek	ODS	■ Milan Plodík	KSČM
■ Ing. Jana Fischerová, CSc.	ODS	■ Jaroslav Poborský	KDU-ČSL
■ Ing. Pavel Hájek	ODS	■ Ivo Rohovský	ODS
■ Mgr. Milan Havlíček	KSČM	■ Zdeněk Ryšavý	ČSSD
■ Ing. Tomáš Havlík	KDU-ČSL	■ Jan Slámečka	KSČM
■ Ing. Miroslav Houška	KDU-ČSL	■ RSDr. Karel Tvrđý	KSČM
■ Jaroslav Hulák	KDU-ČSL	■ Ing. Josef Vašíček	ČSSD
■ Dr. Ing. arch. Jaroslav Huňáček	NPA*	■ RSDr. Jiří Vlach	KSČM
■ Ing. Bc. Jiří Jež	ODS	■ Bc. Jiří Vondráček	KDU-ČSL
■ Zdeněk Jirsa	SNK ED	■ RNDr. Miloš Vystrčil	ODS
■ Vítězslav Jonáš	ODS	■ Ing. Pavel Šlechtický	KSČM
■ Ing. Libor Joukl	ČSSD	■ Mgr. Milan Šmíd	ODS
■ Simona Kafoňková	ODS	■ Mgr. Jan Štefáček	NPA*
■ Ing. Jan Karas	KDU-ČSL	■ Hana Žáková	KDU-ČSL
■ Mgr. Petr Kesi	KDU-ČSL		

* no political affiliation

Political structure of the Vysočina Region's Assembly



Financial Management





The Region manages a large volume of financial resources and considerable assets. In comparison with the business sector, one could see the Region as a relatively large corporation whose prosperity is subject to numerous internal relations and external factors.

Managing the Region's financial resources and material assets appears to be a very complex task. At first sight, it looks very complicated – so many figures and accounting operations, so many objectives, projects, negotiations in progress, etc. The number of issues to handle is really great and each of them requires careful focusing and takes time, i.e., a great deal of work and patience.

The very substance of management is somewhat simpler. "I cannot not spend more than I make, and I have to keep a reserve for worse days." In short, the same principles apply as in managing a family budget or the strategy of a well-managed company.

Precisely there, however, is the hitch. I realized it in 2006 during our decision-making about taking out a large loan for mending our roads.

If a corporation or an entrepreneur takes out a loan, they do so with a single purpose in mind, namely, to expand and improve their activities, in order to be able to offer a new product or service in the market. A corporation or an entrepreneur takes out a loan to purchase a new machine that generates returns. No company takes out a loan for things that do not pay for themselves, as it would be frivolous or make no sense at all.

A public administration institution, such as a region, needs a loan for repairing roads. However, the borrowed funds are put into something that does not earn any money, on the contrary, it costs more and more money over time. Simple economic principles obviously do not work here and common sense must be applied, instead, which says: Can we afford to take out such a loan? How long is it going to take us to pay it off? How much is it going to affect our other expenditures? We have to seek answers to such questions and then make a decision.

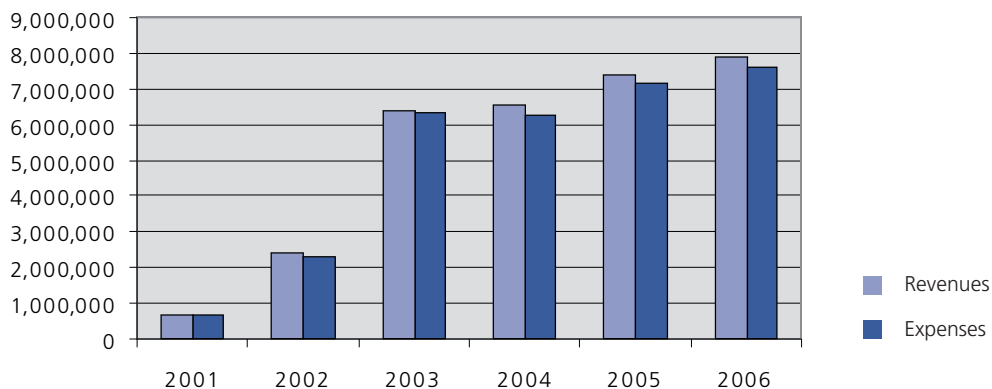
In short – the economic principles applicable to public administration differ from those used in the business sector. This is not to say, however, that public institutions can afford to be wasteful or irresponsible, and we in our Region prove not to be with every step we take or decision we make.

Miroslav Houška

Councillor responsible for management of assets and finances

In 2006, like in the years before, the Vysočina Region's revenues from the budget exceeded its expenditures. Both the revenues and expenditures of regions keep growing along with the Regions' factual competences. In 2006, the revenues of Vysočina amounted to CZK 7.863 billion and expenditures to CZK 7.611 billion.

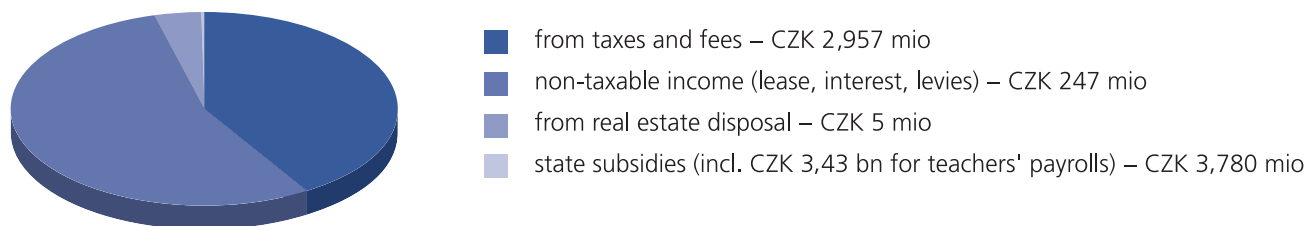
Development of the Region's budget in 2001–2006 (CZK)



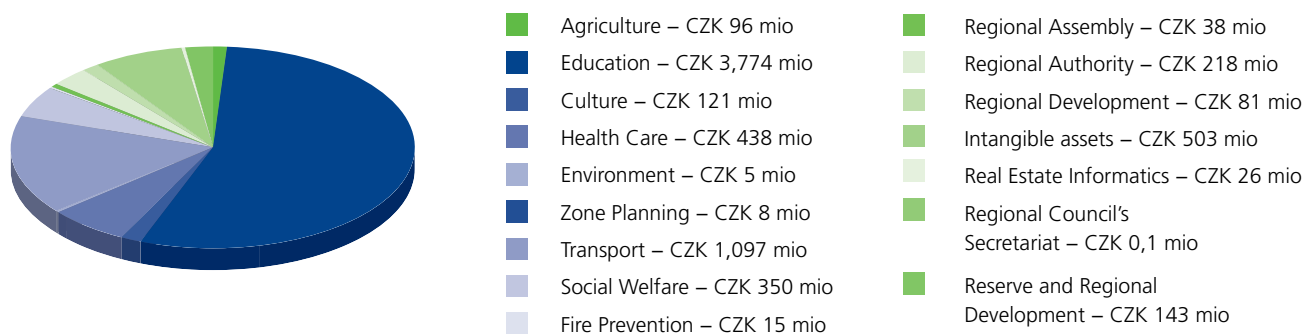
In September 2006, the Region drew down the first part (tranche) of the loan from the European Investment Bank in the amount of CZK 150 million. The loan is subject to a variable interest rate, and the Region pays the interest semi-annually, always by March 15 and September 15. Repayment of the principal portion of the loan will begin on September 15, 2008, in the form of equal payments, payable semi-annually, until September 15, 2028. The maturity period of the principal portion of the loan is 20 years. The Region will draw down the second tranche of the loan, in the amount of CZK 350 million, in 2007.

With a total amount of CZK 500 million, this is the first large loan in Vysočina's history. The funds are designated to reparation of the Region's roads, exclusively.

Structure of Vysočina's revenues in 2006, in CZK mio (total revenues CZK 6,989 mio)

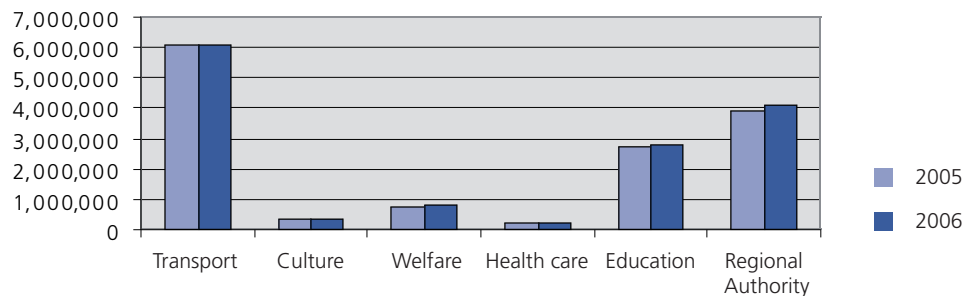


Structure of Vysočina Region's Expenditures in 2006, in CZK mio



ASSETS AND INVESTMENTS

Value of real estate owned by Vysočina Region and allowance organizations



Value of real estate owned by Vysočina Region and allowance organizations in CZK

Resort	2005	2006
Transport	6,058,110	6,086,663
Culture	344,266	348,139
Welfare	744,248	771,202
Health care	178,185	219,216
Education	2,683,678	2,793,107
Reg. Authority Administration	3,926,814	4,075,015
Total	13,935,301	14,293,342

The Region's total assets (Regional Authority + allowance organizations) in CZK

	2005	2006
Total long-term intangible and tangible assets:	20,509,540	21,261,576
Long-term intangible assets	147,232	164,348
thereof:		
Intangible assets	142,671	155,304
Long-term intangible assets under construction	4,561	9,044
Long-term tangible assets	20,362,308	21,097,228
thereof:		
Immovables (real estate)	13,935,301	14,293,342
Movables	5,136,501	5,334,343
Long-term tangible assets under construction	1,290,184	1,469,483
Advances paid	323	60

Major investments into real estate in 2006 in CZK

■ II/360 Třebíč – Velké Meziříčí, road capacity augmentation (CZK 38.26 mio from SFDI)	39,252,922
■ II/130 Koberovice – Reconstruction of a bridge	28,242,482
■ VOŠ and ISŠ Ledec n. S. – Construction of a gymnasium	27,233,474
■ II/133, III/1333, 1335, 1336 Nový Rychnov – Throughway	18,226,048
■ SPŠS, SOUS, and OU Třebíč – Construction of Hrotovická Workshop	12,529,318
■ II/403 Urbanov – Emergency repair of bridge no. 403-008	10,909,007
■ II/360, II/388 Bobrová	9,757,624
■ III/15245 Dalešice – Bridge	8,337,157
■ SUS Jihlava – Garages in Telč	8,336,129
■ II/112, III/40610 Telč – Slav., Staň., and Masaryk Streets – Reconstruction	8,023,712
■ III/34728 Světlá n. S. – Komenského, Reconstruction	7,816,616
■ DD Proseč-Obořiště – Attic reconstruction at Hájenka	7,526,566
■ ÚSP Jinošov – ÚT and ZTI alterations	5,910,277
■ III/34740 Lipnice n. Sázavou – Reconstruction	5,371,539
■ II/128 Pacov – Lukavec	4,720,440
■ II/405 Brtnice – Zašovice	4,483,148
■ III/3791a Velká Bíteš, Kostelní St.	4,288,902
■ VOŠ, gymnasium in SOU Světlá n.S. – Reconstruction of social facilities (WC), DM	4,094,068
■ High School, VOŠ, ISŠ Ledec n. S. – Reconstruction of electrical wiring and ZTI	4,061,781
■ VOŠ a SPŠ Žďár n. S. – Reconstruction of ÚT	3,922,876
■ SUS Pelhřimov – Construction of garages in Pacov	3,441,040
■ Reconstruction of a structure at Seifertova 24 (financed with a state subsidy)	3,072,561
■ SUS Havl. Brod – Salt storage facility	3,065,884
■ Jihlava High School – Reconstruction of heating system	3,003,013
■ II/405 Příseka – Brtnice	2,162,230

The Vysočina Fund



The Region established the Vysočina Fund in 2002 as a tool to support activities and events in Vysočina that correspond to its long-term strategic Regional Development Program. Moreover, as part of the Vysočina Fund, the Region promulgates a wide range of grant programs (GP) in support of certain types of development. Almost anyone may apply – municipalities, microregions, non-profit organizations, companies, as well as individuals.



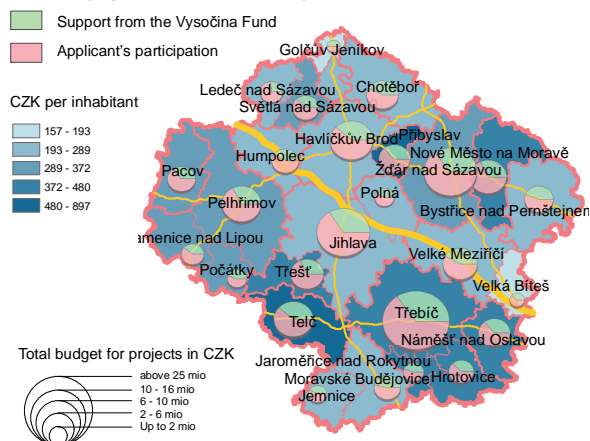
The Vysočina Fund is one of the most progressive endeavors of the Vysočina Region – there exists no comparably systematic and thought-out way of supporting regional development in the country's other regions.

The Vysočina Fund (V. F.)	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Volume of funds in the V. F. (CZK mio)	81.4	159.9	93.9	84.1	65.5
Number of announced grant programs (GP)	25.0	32.0	40.0	36.0	31.0
Volume of announced GP (CZK mio)	49.0	72.5	90.4	74.9	67.5
Support allocated (CZK mio)	36.7	56.4	67.7	84.5	63.5
Applicants' participation (CZK mio)	109.7	124.9	155.3	192.1	108.5
Number of applications submitted	1,137	1,706	1,692	2,260	1,661

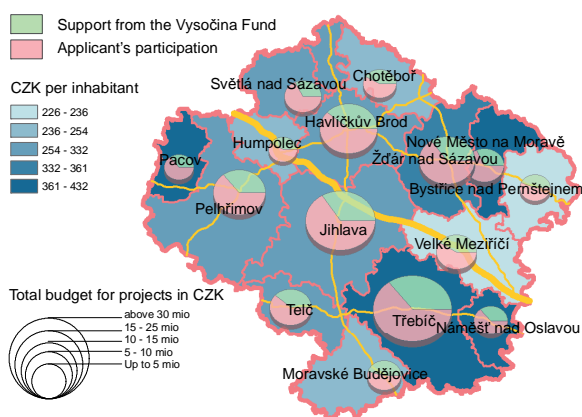
In 2006, the Region distributed through the Vysočina Fund CZK 63,527,242 amongst the applicants, thus satisfying 55.3 % of applications. A prerequisite to eligibility is the applicant's own participation, which amounted to CZK 108,527,743 in 2006. Inception of new projects amounting to a total of CZK 172,054,985 can be credited to the Vysočina Fund.

Vysočina Fund 2006 – Summarized Analysis of Grant Programs

Volume of projects in authorized municipalities

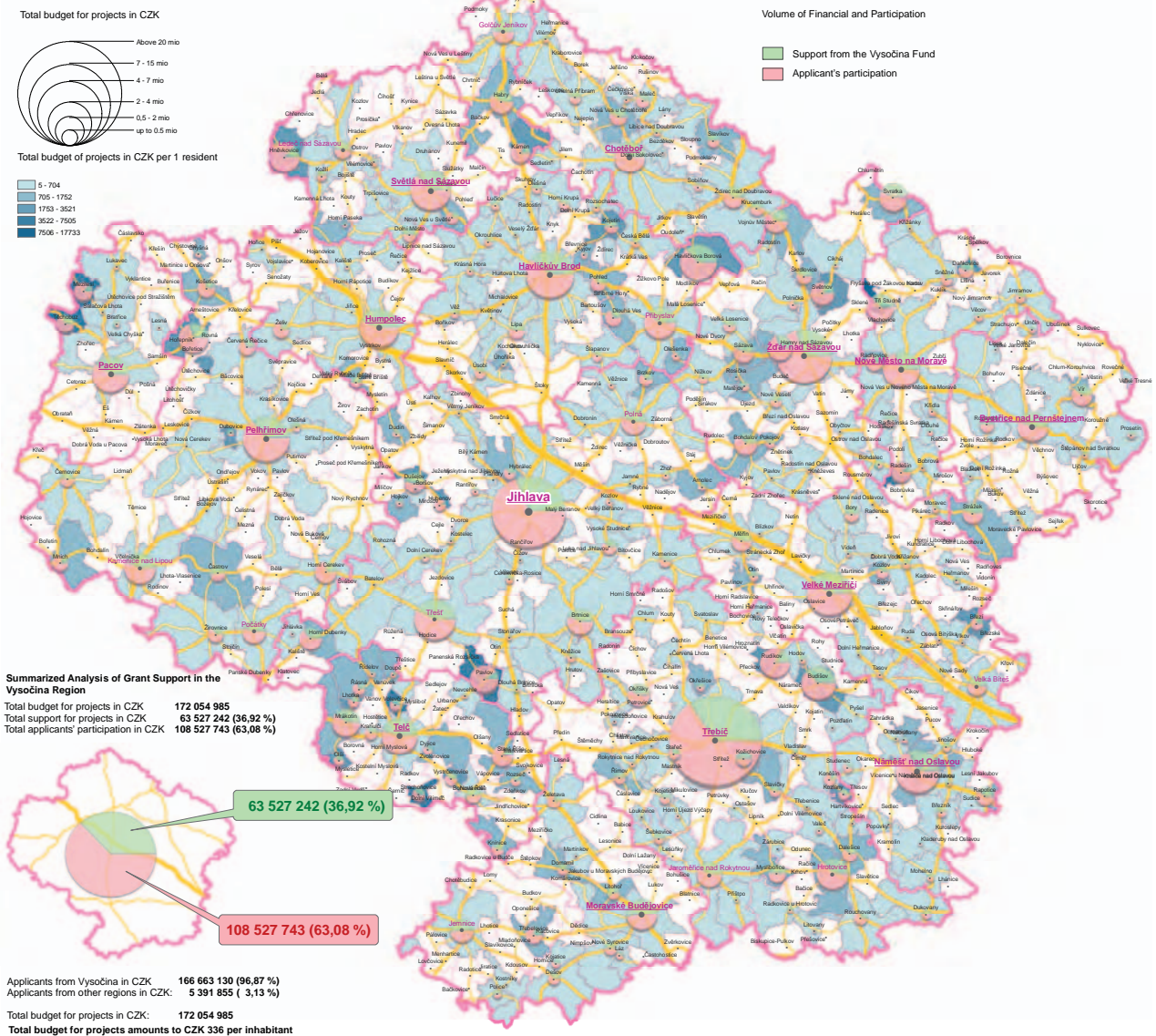


Volume of projects in municipalities with extended jurisdiction



Vysočina Fund 2006 – Summarized Analysis of Grant Programs

Volume of Financial Support and Participation in Projects by Municipality



Regional Development





What actually is regional development? The Region's basic development priorities are specified in the Chapter on Vysočina Region's Development Programs. Specifically, the main priorities are: economic development, human resources, infrastructure, and the environment.

This basic information does not have much reporting value to the average citizen.

On the other hand, to put it in plain terms, it reflects efforts on the part of politicians and regional officials to make life in Vysočina as good as possible. "This is as it should be," the citizen might add quite rightfully, "after all, you are paid from our taxes."

The objective of our endeavor is not merely to generate documents, concepts, programs, and projects per se – although they are the very means of streamlining our energy into areas that help our Region, towns, and municipalities. By extension, they will help their inhabitants live in a pleasant environment and find work that matches their qualifications. Moreover, they help them find places suitable for relaxation and entertainment in their leisure time, or satisfaction of their spiritual needs.

This is the reason for our endeavors, whether in the form of furthering development of continuing education or supporting our scientific technology center, information technology, or exploiting our tourism potential. Through support for research and innovation, we aim to become more than a mere workshop, rather, we want to become the country's think tank, so that qualified and educated people – motivated by opportunities for self-actualization – would be encouraged to stay or move here.

On the other hand, we need to keep our villages alive and support their development and create job opportunities in them. After all, activities in agriculture and forestry not only keep the employment rate low, but also help maintain the character of the countryside that is so attractive to visitors and tourists.

Let us extend our gratitude to all the regional development personnel for their pursuit of a better future for our Region.

Marie Černá

Regional Vice-President responsible for Regional Development

The Vysočina Region's fundamental strategic document is titled "The Regional Development Program". In practical terms, it is a guideline defining what to do and when to do it, so that life would constantly improve for the inhabitants of Vysočina.

It also incorporates management of new investment ventures, i.e., the very reason for creating industrial zones, primarily in the town and municipalities of Vysočina.

Backbone road network and regional position



As part of its support for business development, the Region also furthers industrial clusters. In 2006, the following clusters were formed:

- Přesná Vysočina (Precision Vysočina)
- Dřevozpracující klastr (Wood-processing Cluster)
- Klastr přesného strojírenství a přesné zámečnické výroby (Precision Machine Engineering and Precision Metal Works Cluster)
- Nábytkářský klastr (Furniture Manufacturers' Cluster)

Investment opportunities in the Vysočina Region were presented at two trade fairs in 2006. One of them, URBIS INVEST 2006, was a trade fair of investment opportunities. The Vysočina Region presented itself on 20m², jointly with the City of Jihlava. The second one was REAL VIENNA, a real estate and investment trade fair, held at the new fairgrounds in Vienna, with main focus on Central and Eastern Europe. On the part of demand stood representatives of investment funds and institutions oriented on Central and Eastern Europe.

The attractive business environment of the Region was presented in the form of a catalogue titled "Investment Opportunities in Vysočina", which was published in a Czech and English version and contained complete information on the Region's industrial zones and development areas.

Well-rounded development of rural areas is promoted with a traditional popular contest called Vysočina's Village.

Results of the regional round of the Village of the Year 2006 Contest: Vysočina's Village	
Vysočina's Village	Mladoňovice (District of Třebíč)
Blue Ribbon for Social Life	Horní Krupá (District of Havlíčkův Brod)
White Ribbon for Youth Activities	Nová Ves u Nového Města na Moravě (District of Žďár n. S.)
Green Ribbon for Countryside and Environment Protection	Kaliště (District of Pelhřimov)
Diploma for Exemplary Chronicles	Bohuňov (District of Žďár nad Sázavou)
Diploma for Exemplary Public Library	Myslibořice (District of Třebíč)
Diploma for Furthering Folklore Traditions	Jinošov (District of Třebíč)

Pursuant to approved rules, the Region distributed CZK 69,127,000 among 570 applicants (municipalities) in 2006 under the Rural Renaissance Program.

Grant Programs of the Vysočina Fund in the Area of Regional Development for 2006

Title and Focus of Grant Program	Breakdown of support from V.F. (CZK)	Respective share of successful candidates (CZK)	Total extent of completed projects (CZK)
Development of Microregions 2006 (support for rural microregions)	6,500,000	9,109,442	15,609,442
Development of Small Entrepreneurs 2006 (acquisition of production technologies, MP)	5,497,642	10,247,074	15,744,716
Village Development 2006 (renaissance of town and municipal districts)	2,500,000	3,858,566	6,358,566
Research and Development for Innovations 2006 (support for research and development activities, MSP)	1,566,600	1,302,400	2,869,000
Certification 2006 acquisition of certificates ISO 9000, 14001, 22000, OHSAS 18001, HACCP, EMAS)	1,602,896	2,117,823	3,720,719
Live in the Country 2006 (project documentation for housing construction)	1,476,772	1,956,839	3,433,611
Total	19,143,910	28,592,144	47,736,054

Tourism



www.region-vysocina.cz

The support of tourism is one of the Region's greatest priorities. It goes about this in several ways, primarily through its grant policies, aimed at modernizing the fundamental and supporting tourism infrastructure, improving the quality of its services, and producing tourist products. In addition to the grant policies of the Vysočina Fund, the Region has also been a successful candidate in the European SROP grant plan. The Region, for its own part, publishes theme-specific materials that are meant to help visitors to find their way to the Region's attractive sites.

Since 2004, the regional tourist portal has been operating at www.region-vysocina.cz, giving complete information on elaborately-themed trips with an interactive database of cultural and social events, accommodations, and so on.

The tourist, who decides to visit Vysočina, will encounter all services there.

The Region promotes its tourist offers very seriously in the form booths at fairs, workshops, press tours, professional tour providers' trips, and advertisements.

Several long-term projects in the region in the field of tourism

Bicycle Tourism in Vysočina	Equine Tourism in Vysočina	Regional Tourist Information System
Establishing the basis for the creation of tourist materials for Vysočina by Bicycle, concentrating cycling transit information in one place, preparing the system to support and maintain bicycle trails	Mapping out levels of services, connecting riding stations via trails, and marking trails along the way	Making tourist travel more comfortable in the region, refining information on the state of tourism, expanding and supporting the sale of tourism activities offered in the region

Based on an analysis of the tourism potential in the Region and leading source markets, the Vysočina's palette of tourism activities was presented at 7 domestic and 11 international tradeshows in 2006. At the domestic shows, the displays of more than 30 m² were built by contractors (Regiontour, Holiday World); for smaller tradeshows, the Region uses a booth that meets tradeshow requirements and its graphic design is executed to correspond with the Region's design manual. For the international tradeshows, the presentation of the individual tourist regions was handled by the national exposition agency CzechTourism, under which each region was given a counter for graphic exhibits and a conference desk. The exception was the tradeshow in Bratislava, where the Vysočina Region had its own booth.

Tradeshows at which the Region presented its Tourism Palette in 2006:

■ VAKANTIE Utrecht	10. 1.–15. 1. 2006
■ REGIONTOUR Brno	12. 1.–15. 1. 2006
■ VAKANZ Luxembourg	20. 1.–22. 1. 2006
■ FITUR Madrid	25. 1.–29. 1. 2006
■ ITF Slovakiatour Bratislava	26. 1.–29. 1. 2006
■ TOUR EXPO Olomouc	3. 2.– 5. 2. 2006
■ VACANCES Brussels	9. 2.–13. 2. 2006
■ BIT Milan	18. 2.–21. 2. 2006
■ CBR Munich	18. 2.–22. 2. 2006
■ HOLIDAY WORLD Prague	23. 2.–26. 2. 2006
■ ITB Berlin	8. 3.–12. 3. 2006
■ MITT Moscow	22. 3.–25. 3. 2006
■ INFOTOUR Hradec Králové	23. 3.–24. 3. 2006
■ MOBIL SALON České Budějovice	7. 4.– 9. 4. 2006
■ VACATION Ostrava	21. 4.–23. 4. 2006
■ TT Warsaw	21. 9.–23. 9. 2006
■ MADI Prague	1. 11.–3. 11. 2006
■ TUC Leipzig	22. 11.–26. 11. 2006

In 2006, the Region, in the scope of supporting tourism, released 11 publications in various languages, which serve to help tourists plan their stay in the Region more easily.

The publications serve to present the tourism potential at Tourism tradeshow, workshops, and specifically focused events, such as press tours (preview trips for journalists), professional tour providers' trips (preview trips for travel agents). The materials are available in limited quantities at tourist information centers.

Summary of tourism publications released by the Region in 2006

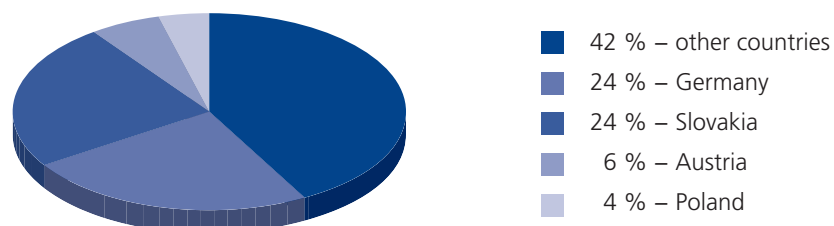
Name of Publication	Language Mutation	Brief Description
The Magic of Nature	Czech	A summary of accessible protected lands, nature reserves, and educational trails. Publicly accessible look-out towers, centers for environmental enlightenment, and rescue stations for endangered species are also listed.
UNESCO Landmarks in Vysočina	Czech, Italian, Spanish, Russian	A summary of the three towns with sites listed on the UNESCO's World Heritage List of Cultural and Natural Sites with an introduction to traditional cultural events and tips for accommodation
Jewish Heritage Sites in Vysočina	Czech	A summary of locations with preserved Jewish settlements and relevant contact information
Heritage of the Past	Czech	A summary of accessible landmarks (fortresses, castles, monasteries, museums, galleries, and ruins) with photographs of their interiors and exteriors, a brief write-up of their structural and historic evolution, along with a listing of available services and essential contact information
Holidays in the Country	Czech, German, English, Flemish	A summary of rural pensions, summer apartments, and farms designated for families with children on summer holidays. Every proprietor is shown in a photograph, with directions to the property, a description of services and amenities offered, tips on outings in the area, and a price guide
Tips for Outings	Czech	Detailed hiking and biking tours (description of the course of the trails, map, kilometer gauge, degree of difficulty, photos of sights along the way), including descriptions of complementary services on the trails (lodging, food, landmarks, information centers)
Historical Towns	Czech, German, English, French	A summary of the region's historical towns with an emphasis on cultural and sporting events (fortresses, castles, museums, swimming areas, regular events) and essential contact information
Accommodations	Combined Czech and English with icons	A summary of accommodation possibilities in the Vysočina region, individual properties are presented with photographs, contact information, information on the capacity of the lodging, amenities of the properties and rooms and a price guide
Camping in Vysočina	Czech, German, English	A summary of camp-sites with directions to the locality, available sport and recreational activities, facilities in the area, suggestions for sights in the vicinity, necessary contact information and photographs
Regional Map		Informative map at 1:160 000 scale, with pedestrian and bicycle trails marked, icons indicating fortresses, castles, museums, scenic overlooks, downhill trails; on the reverse side is a list of the most interesting sites in the region with the addresses for tourist information centers; descriptions in Czech, English, and German, and supplemented with photographs
Full of Life		A brochure of images with a general description of tourist options in the Vysočina Region for more remote markets

For the year 2006, the Region of Vysočina made 18,803 beds in 354 lodgings available to its visitors, of which 154 were hotels and pensions.

Numbers of guests in group accommodations in the Vysočina Region

Year	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total guests	399,905	399,005	389,135	407,720

Structure of foreign guests in 2006, by country of origin



Tourists to Vysočina may enjoy 20 accessible fortresses and castles, 2 monasteries, 160 small-scale protected sites, 37 educational trails, 2,700 kilometers of hiking trails, 2,400 kilometers of biking trails, 30 winter resorts for downhill skiing, 230 kilometers of regularly maintained running trails, three funicular centers, 180 horseback riding stations, 6 scenic look-out towers, and 40 tourist information centers.

Grant Programs of the Vysočina Fund in the Area of Tourism for 2006

Title and Focus of Grant Program	Breakdown of support from V.F. (CZK)	Respective share of successful candidates (CZK)	Total extent of completed projects CZK
Modernization of accommodations and equipment for 2006 (support for accommodations and equipment CR)	3,624,930	8,875,998	12,500,928
Accompanying infrastructure CR 2006 (construction and modernization DI CR)	2,000,000	3,376,533	5,376,533
Total	5,624,930	12,252,531	17,877,461

Transportation





Everyone familiar with public administration knew, when the state delegated the upkeep of grade II and III roads onto the country's regions, that the state was ridding itself off one of the biggest burdens: namely, these roads account for the greatest portion of the country's domestic deficit. Frankly speaking, this status quo is to be attributed primarily to the fact that the country's roads are in a very bad shape as no one was taking good care of them for a long time.

In this context, our Region is quite specific due to a great number of small and tiny roads, because there are many small villages in Vysočina and each one of them has at least one road.

We had therefore a detailed analysis done, thanks to which we know which roads must be fixed as soon as possible and which later, and how long it can be postponed so as not to deteriorate too much.

In short, road maintenance is clearly one of the Region's highest priorities. With this aim in mind, we insisted emphatically, in 2006, that the largest portion of European subsidies be allocated to the Region's road infrastructure. We therefore decided in 2006 to take out a major loan for road reparation from the European Investment Bank. This also accounts for the fact that the Transport Chapter takes up the second largest portion of the Region's budget.

We realize that quality roads and good transportation network are most important for the Region's development. Rather than having a huge regional capital surrounded by mouse-poor villages, it is essential for the Region to have a network of equally thriving towns and municipalities.

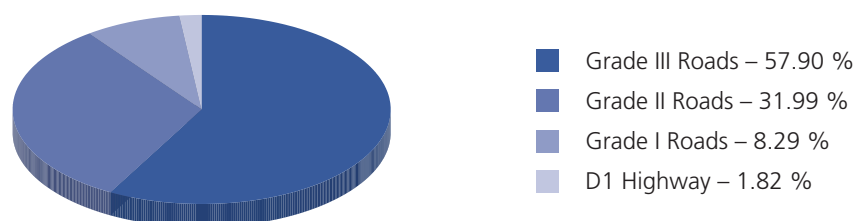
Václav Kodet

Regional Vice-President for Transport

The Vysočina Region is the proprietor of 4,578.82 kilometers of grade II and III roads. The State is the proprietor of grade I roads, of which there are 422.026 kilometers in Vysočina; running through Vysočina is a section of D1 highway (under repair by the State) with a total length of 92.902 kilometers.

District	D1 divided highway, length in km	Grade I roads, length in km	Grade II roads, length in km	Grade III roads, length in km	Total length of roads in km
Havlíčkův Brod	11.611	111.263	240.237	704.575	1,067.686
Jihlava	25.806	64.480	326.400	380.014	796.700
Pelhřimov	20.143	69.196	290.869	606.690	986.898
Třebíč	–	71.075	356.499	697.073	1,124.647
Žďár nad Sázavou	35.342	106.012	415.375	561.088	1,117.817
Vysočina	92.902	422.026	1,629.380	2,949.440	5,093.748

Ratio of state and regional roads in Vysočina by length



Going by the number of kilometers of grade II and III roads in the Region's network, the Vysočina Region ranks fourth in the framework of the whole Czech Republic.

Region	Grade II & III roads, length in km	Rank	Grade I roads, length in km	Grade I, II & III totals, length in km	Rank
Central Bohemia	8,645	1	942	9,587	1
Southern Bohemia	5,475	2	708	6,183	2
Pilsen	4,602	3	456	5,058	3
Vysočina	4,579	4	422	5,001	4
Southern Moravia	4,024	5	448	4,472	5
Ústí	3,673	6	581	4,254	6
Hradec Králové	3,333	7	346	3,679	7
Pardubice	3,162	8	458	3,620	8
Olomouc	3,130	9	391	3,521	9
Moravia-Silesia	2,651	10	760	2,727	10
Liberec	2,111	11	371	2,482	11
Karlovy Vary	1,841	12	312	2,153	12
Zlín	1,787	13	342	2,129	13
Total CR	49,010		6,627	55,637	



REHABILITATION OF THE ROAD NETWORK IN VYSOČINA IN 2006

In July 2006, the Vysočina Region closed a deal with the European Investment Bank for a loan in the amount of CZK 500 million to finance repairs on grade II and III roads. In the years 2006–2007, the Region invested a minimum of CZK one billion (of that, 500 million of its own resources) into the roads in its jurisdiction. The assumption is that, in the framework of the loan, a total of 83 sections of roads measuring a total of about 600 kilometers will be repaired and reconstructed.

In 2006, the Region launched the first phase in these repairs by means of individual Regional Road Management and Maintenance organizations. It has been possible continuously to fulfill the practical objective of the project of rehabilitating the Region's roads. Thus far, 24 sections of roads have been completed out of the 42 sections planned under the project. By February 2007, the Region paid more than CZK 310 million, having drawn down CZK 150 million of the first portion of the EIB loan. In total, with these funds, the Region was able to repair 126 kilometers of roads.

Road repairs in the Region's jurisdiction by district in 2006 (CZK'000)

District	Total amount	thereof:		Length of roads repaired in km
		EIB Loan	Region's participation	
Havlíčkův Brod	60,563	26,850	33,713	23,246
Jihlava	50,779	25,350	25,429	18,397
Pelhřimov	42,415	20,750	21,665	30,200
Třebíč	65,281	31,500	33,781	24,232
Žďár nad Sázavou	91,456	45,550	45,906	29,952
Region total	310,494	150,000	160,494	126,027

Investment into road construction in the Region's jurisdiction in 2006 (CZK'000)

Resources	Vysočina Region	SFDI (State Road Infrastructure Fund)	SÚS Levies (Road Management and Maintenance)	Vysočina Region – Strategic Reserves Fund	European Funds	Total
	139,299	38,256	8,759	110,629	2,238	299,181

PROJECTS CO-FINANCED WITH RESOURCES FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION
Joint Regional Operations Program

- Reconstruction of Route II/405 in the Jihlava–Třebíč Section, Phase II, Section No. 1 – Jihlava–Příseka, km 0.000–4.276
Construction in progress. Expected date of completion is July 2007. A subsidy of CZK 138.75 million is expected to be paid out by the turn of 2007 and 2008.
- Reconstruction of bridge no. 35114-4 in Příbyslavice, and reconstruction of Route III/35114
The project has been completed. A subsidy of CZK 14.7 million will be paid out in 2007.
- Reconstruction of bridge no. 152-018 in Jaroměřice
Expected date of completion is May 2007. A subsidy in excess of CZK 21.4 million is expected to be paid out by the turn of 2007 a 2008.
- Reconstruction of route II/150 in Pavlíkov–Vilémovice
Application was submitted in 2006. This project will be implemented in 2007.
- III/03821 Havlíčkův Brod , Lidická-Havířská, 2nd construction
In 2006 an application was submitted. This project will be implemented in 2007.

Interreg III A

- II/411, II/152, III/15226 Moravské Budějovice – circular intersection
The project was completed in 2006. EU's participation in excess of CZK 2.28 million for Phase I has been paid out.
- North-South connector in Vysočina Region
In 2006, the work-up of engineering documentation was launched, which will be completed in 2007. EU portion of CZK 8.8 million will be paid out at the turn of 2007–2008.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ROAD MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

■ SÚS Havlíčkův Brod	112,995,000 CZK
■ SÚS Jihlava	105,036,000 CZK
■ SÚS Pelhřimov	112,277,000 CZK
■ SÚS Třebíč	135,933,000 CZK
■ SÚS Žďár nad Sázavou	131,849,000 CZK
■ Vysočina Total	598,090,000 CZK

Allocation of funds to individual Road Management and Maintenance organizations is based on the cost intensity of winter maintenance, length of grade II and III roads maintained by the individual SÚS, and other parameters, such as traffic density and pavement condition.

In 2006, the Region contributed CZK 130,600 per kilometer for road operations.

Use of materials for winter maintenance for 2006

District	Salt (in tons)	Salt water (in liters)	Gravel, sand (in tons)
Havlíčkův Brod	4,029	611,250	7,506
Jihlava	3,617	381,600	17,010
Pelhřimov	2,433	276,177	24,480
Třebíč	3,165	63,013	14,602
Žďár n. Sáz.	3,027	438,915	25,816
Total	16,271	1,770,955	89,414

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES UTILIZATION CAPACITY IN 2006

The basic capacity of transportation services is assessed by regional representatives.

For public bus service, the Region subsidized providers with a total of CZK 220,634,000, and for student fares, CZK 23,000,000. The per capita subsidy amount needed is estimated to amount to CZK 478 a year.

The Region has public service contracts (basic transportation services) with 22 providers. The Vysočina Region has a total of 50 active transportation firms, though some have only one stop in the region. In the basic transit service network, there are 352 lines, which means 4,023 connections. In the Vysočina Region, there are 2,555 bus stops.

Range of basic personal transportation services by the public transit line

	2004	2005	2006
Kilometers traveled (millions)	15.2	15.1	15.1
Compensation for providers' losses (CZK Mio)	211.1	214.0	220.6

The Region contributed CZK 248,000,000 to public train transportation, and CZK 7,000,000 for student fares. The per capita subsidy is estimated to amount to CZK 500 a year.

The Region has public service contracts (public transport services) with two providers (České dráhy, a. s., and Jindřichohradecké místní dráhy, a. s.).

The total length of railway tracks in Vysočina is 592 kilometers and the density of the railway network is 0.086 km of track/km², which is the second lowest in the Czech Republic. The railway network serves 195 of the Region's 704 municipalities.

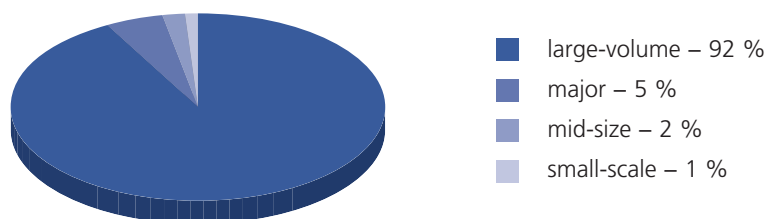
On a typical business day (24 hours), 389 regional transport trains and 40 express trains pass through Vysočina.

Of 704 municipalities, 83 % have guaranteed transport service by bus only, 16 % by bus and train, and only four municipalities by train only (Sedlejev, Mysliboř, Slaviboř in the Jihlava District, and Plačkov in the Pelhřimov District).

In 2006, the Region contributed:

- CZK 14.70 for each kilometer traveled in the framework of basic bus transport services (total CZK 221 million)
- CZK 55.10 for each kilometer traveled in the framework of railway transport services (total CZK 248 million)

Breakdown of bus service providers by number of kilometers traveled in basic transport services in 2006



Large-volume transport providers: ICOM transport, a. s., Jihlava; TRADOBUS, s. r. o., Třebíč; ZDAR, a. s., Žďár n. S.; CONNEX Východní Čechy, a. s., Chrudim

Major transport providers: ČSAD Jindřichův Hradec, a. s., J. Hradec; BDS, s. r. o., Velká Bíteš; TREDOS, s. r. o., Třebíč; Tourbus, a. s., Brno

Mid-size transport providers: Zlatovánek, s. r. o., Polička; COMETTPLUS, s. r. o., Tábor; ČSAD Benešov, a. s., Benešov; BK BUS, s. r. o., Moravské Budějovice; ČSAD Tišnov, s. r. o., Tišnov; ADOSA, a. s., Rosice; ČAD Blansko, a. s., Blansko; Oldřich Řezanina, Koněšín

Small-scale transport providers: Josef Štefl – Tour, Dačice; Dopravní podnik, a. s., Jihlava; Fr. Kolář – ČASAD, Kamenice nad Lipou; Hema Jaroslav, Nový Rychnov; Václav Seifert, Vortová; BODOS, a. s., Boskovice

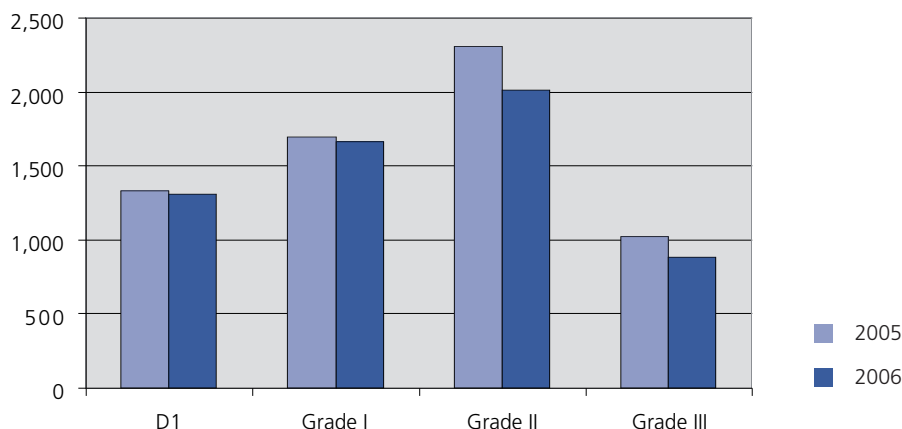
SAFETY OF ROAD TRAFFIC IN VYSOČINA

In 2006, the Region accepted the strategic document „Concepts for Safe Road traffic in the Vysočina Region“ (BESIP Concept). This document defines the fundamental scope of the problem areas, which the Region is capable of affecting; lays out possible solutions; and designates objective, both short-term and long-term, leading to better safety on the roads.

Vehicular accidents in Vysočina

	2005	2006	Difference
Vehicular accidents	8,688	8,132	–556
Persons killed	79	53	–26
Persons w/ severe injuries	229	201	–28
Persons w/ light injuries	1,683	1,367	–316
Accidents on D1 highway	1,335	1,308	–27
On grade I roadways	1,695	1,663	–32
On grade II roadways	2,309	2,016	–293
On grade III roadways	1,018	881	–137

Number of Accidents in Vysočina by Road Type



As part of fulfilling the BESIP Guidelines, the Vysočina Region:

- accepted a long-term budgetary measure for the support of constructing, renovating, and modernizing children's traffic playgrounds, for which a loan was released in the amount of CZK 1.5 million for the year 2006; the same amount was approved for 2007, as well. This support allowed for the implementation of projects in the total amount of CZK 2,367,183, which, for example, purchased 64 bicycles, 5 little cars, cycling helmets, and educational aids for vehicular training; a system of signal lights was put into service or was newly purchased for intersections at the traffic playgrounds; three trailers were rebuilt as classrooms and bicycle storage; several classrooms near children's playgrounds were repaired; a new fence was built around one playground; and one completely new playgrounds was built;
- adopted a grant program called "Safe Roads 2006" for the support of activities and measures contributing to more safety in road traffic, particularly in terms of reducing speeding in municipalities, which the Region supported with a financial amount of CZK 2,119 million. The cost-intensive activities involved projects aiming to help the police implement law enforcement measures, such as purchase of laser speed meters for the local police corps (2), building speed retarders, and installation of speed meters in municipalities (16);
- supported educational sessions in traffic rules and training of new traffic teachers with a subsidy in the amount of CZK 150,000 was approved;
- appointed traffic safety agents in municipalities with extended jurisdiction was initiated, who obtain methodical assistance;
- assumed the role of a BESIP coordinator and encouraged other authorities and institutions in the Region to participate;
- assumed the role of an organizer of Young Cyclist, a regional traffic contest;
- gave direct financial support to implementation of preventive measures in road traffic safety in the amount of CZK 7.1 million.

Grant Programs of the Vysočina Fund in Transportation for 2006

Title and Focus of Grant Program	Breakdown of support from V.F. (CZK)	Respective share of successful candidates (CZK)	Total volume of completed projects (CZK)
Safe Roads 2006 (improvement of road traffic safety)	2,119,000	2,400,266	4,519,266

Health Care





Health care is one of the most complex problem areas that public administration authorities have to tackle, the reason being that it is an area of direct confrontation of diverse interests. Namely, business interests, land development interests, and interests of highly specialized professionals combined with the simple demand for qualified, professional, and deeply compassionate care. Yet, all these interests are equally and crucially important.

The year 2006 was a major milestone in Vysočina's health care sector. Despite the fact that the state turned hospitals over to the regions in a dismal state, they managed to keep at least the basic financial results at a level necessary for their survival, albeit with significant financial support from the Region, which, for its part, continues to search for an economic model that would enable hospitals to have long-term viability.

It is clearly evident that the health care sector needs an all-encompassing intervention. It is obvious that the minimal results that hospitals have hitherto achieved were due to major economic measures and financial inputs from the regional budget. Keeping up this practice would mean that, before long, we would face the dilemma: do we finance the operation of the hospitals from the regional budget at the expense of other sectors or, on the contrary, do we not increase contributions to hospitals and thereby jeopardize medical care standards?

Everyone who has at least some sense of responsibility can see this emerging dilemma and knows that a well-contemplated intervention is inevitable. We are aware of having to deal with it in the near future.

The end of the year was a great lesson for physicians, medical personnel, and everyone in the health care sector. For the first time in history, a case of a mass murderer in a white uniform was unveiled in our Region. None of the measures that our hospitals or the Region have adopted, and none of the checkpoints and checkpoint controls implemented since then can reverse the situation and bring back to life the victims. However, they can ensure that no such situation may reoccur. Moreover, they can help all other Czech hospitals. I very sincerely hope that our physicians and nurses never lose the most precious asset they have – their patients' confidence.

Pavel Hájek

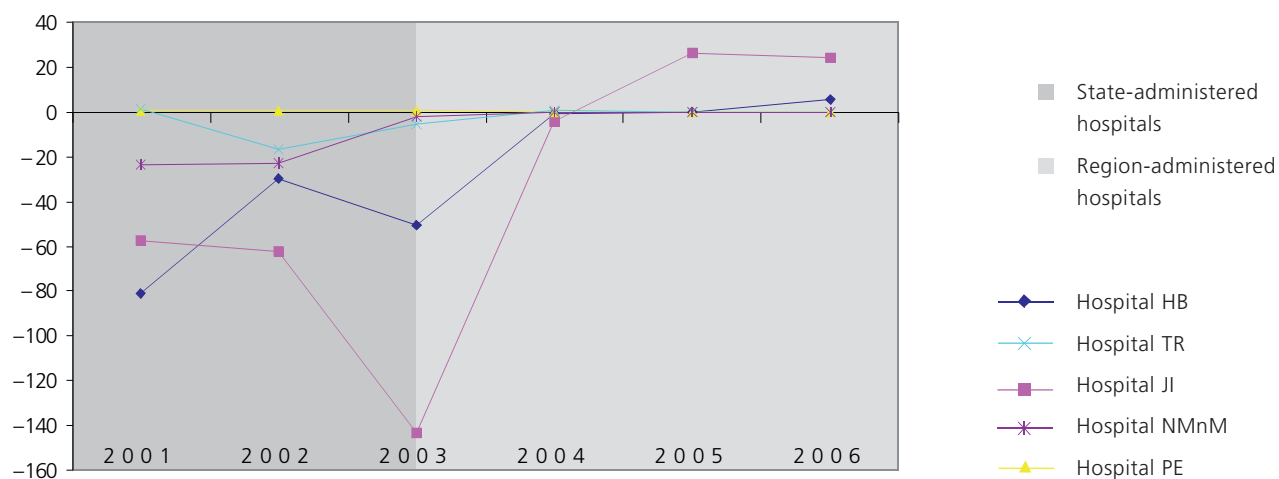
Regional Vice-President for Health Care

The Region administers 5 hospitals. In 2006, there were 2,977 in-patient beds available in them.

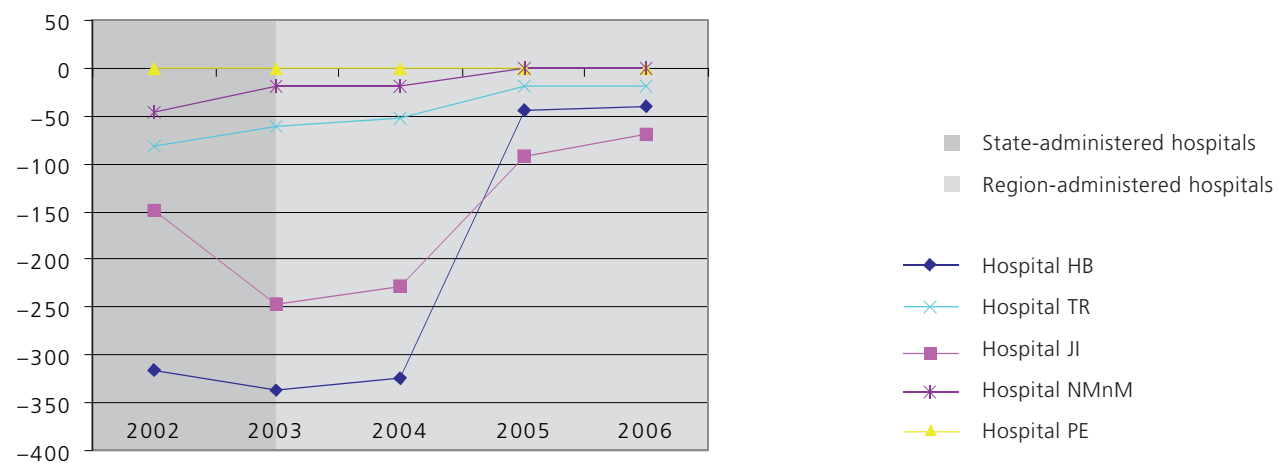
Number of beds in the Vysočina Region's hospitals	
Hospital in Havlíčkův Brod	561
Hospital in Jihlava	758
Hospital in Nové Město na Moravě	631
Hospital in Třebíč	677
Hospital in Pelhřimov	350
Total	2,977

The Region took the hospitals over from the state in 2003 and their financial operations have obviously changed since then.

Regional hospitals results in CZK mio



Cumulative hospital losses in CZK mio



Despite the change, the Region has to subsidize its hospitals every year in the amount of approximately CZK 300 million.

Selected important expenditures in the Health Care Chapter in 2006

Organization	Purpose	Amount (CZK mio)
Medical Rescue Services of the Vysočina Region	Contribution to operations	128.4
Children's Center Jihlava	Contribution to operations	14.2
Children's Home Kamenice nad Lipou	Contribution to operations	9.1
Regionally established hospitals	Contribution to operations	104.5
	Investment in health care and partial debt clearance	144.1
	Assurance of first-aid medical services in the Region	32.7
	Assurance of a sober-up station in Jihlava	3.7

Overview of non-state in-patient facilities in Vysočina:

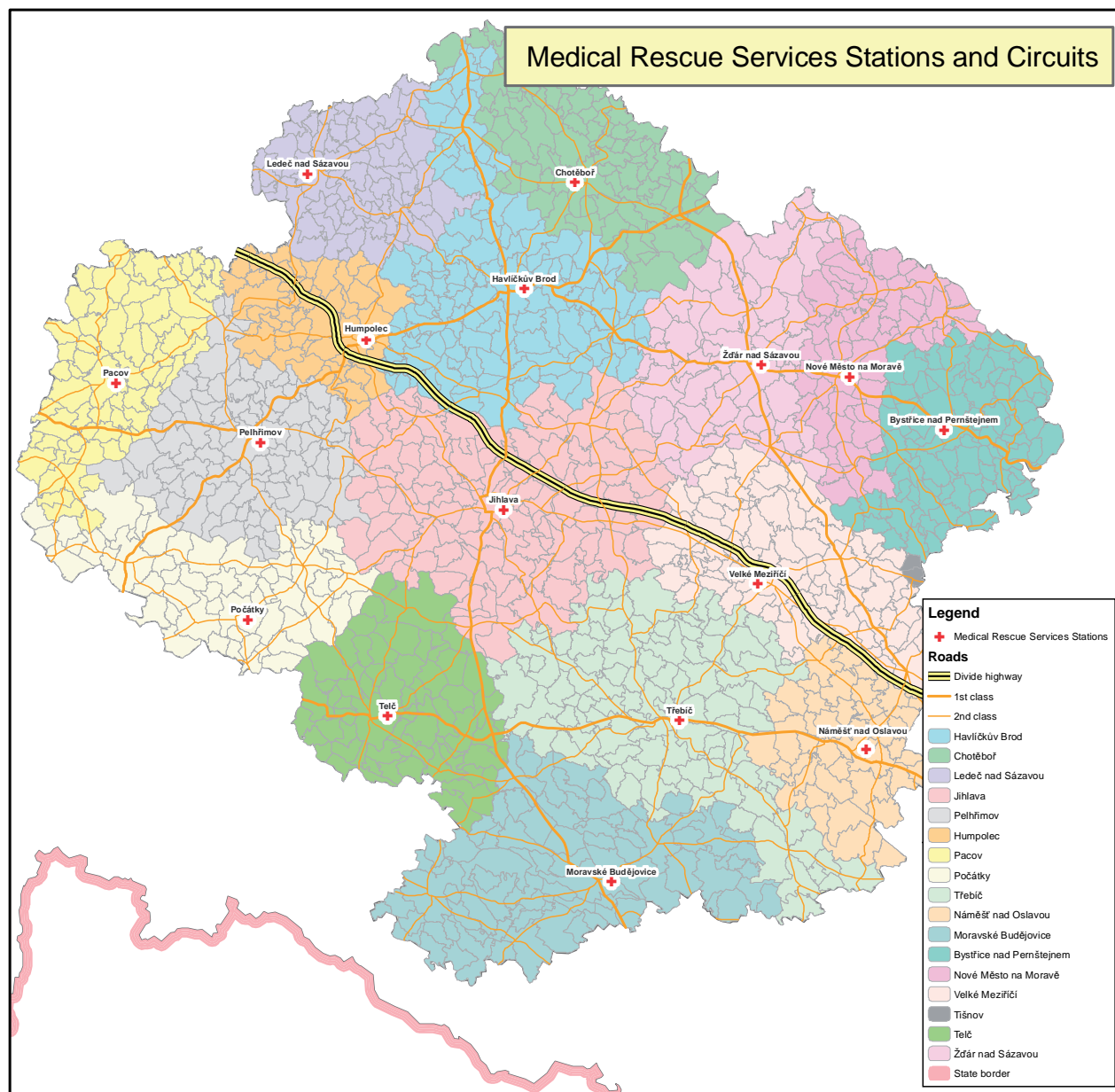
- Hospital in Jihlava, allowance organization, Vrchlického 59, Jihlava
- Hospital in Havlíčkův Brod, allowance organization, Husova 2624, Havlíčkův Brod
- Hospital in Pelhřimov, allowance organization, Slovanského bratrství 390, Pelhřimov
- Hospital in Nové Město na Moravě, allowance organization, Žďárská 610, Nové Město na Moravě
- Hospital in Třebíč, allowance organization, Purkyňovo nám. 2, Třebíč
- Hospital in sv. Zdislavy, a. s., Mostiště č. 93, Velké Meziříčí
- Hospital in Počátky, s. r. o., Havlíčkova 206, Počátky
- CTM HOSPITAL, a. s., Antala Staška 16070/80, Prague 4 –LDN unit, 5. května 319, Humpolec
- Hospital in LEDEČ – HÁJ, spol. s r. o. (LDN unit), Habrecká 450, Ledec nad Sázavou
- LTRN Humpolec (tuberculosis and respiratory diseases), Jihlavská 803, Humpolec
- Rehabilitační ústav pro cévní choroby mozkové, spol. s r. o. (rehabilitation of brain stroke patients), Na Vyhliďce 859, Chotěboř
- Psychiatric Hospital, Havlíčkův Brod, Rozkošská 2322, Havlíčkův Brod
- Psychiatric Hospital, Jihlava, Brněnská 54, Jihlava
- Psychiatric Hospital for Children, U Stadionu 285, Velká Bíteš
- Children's Home in Kamenice nad Lipou, allowance organization, Vítězslava Nováka 305, Kamenice nad Lipou
- Jihlava Children's Center, allowance organization, Jiráskova 67, Jihlava
- PATEB (alcohol and drug abuse facility and psychiatric asylum), s. r. o., Budějovická 625, Jemnice

VYSOČINA REGION'S MEDICAL RESCUE SERVICES

Pre-admission emergency medical care (PNP) in Vysočina is provided by a single allowance organization – Vysočina Region's Medical Rescue Services (ZZS).

The medical rescue personnel is very successful at providing high-quality pre-admission medical care to approx. 704 municipalities and towns in a territory measuring about 6,800 km² with half a million inhabitants; although this number is significantly higher in tourism-popular areas in winter and summer. In the absolute majority of cases, the required arrival time limit of 15 minutes is achieved.

Organization-wise, ZZS is divided into 5 area centers. There are 16 standby stations with 22 ZZS emergency teams and 1 flying squad at a standby station in Jihlava (LZS).



Medical Rescue Services – Standby Stations

Area Center	Emergency Team	Station
Pelhřimov	RLP	Pelhřimov
	RLP RV	Pelhřimov
	RZP	Pacov
Havlíčkův Brod	RLP	Humpolec
	RLP	H. Brod
	RLP RV	H. Brod
	RZP	H. Brod
	RZP	Ledeč n. S.
	RZP	Chotěboř

Area Center	Emergency Team	Station
Třebíč	RLP	Třebíč
	RLP/RZP	Třebíč
	RLP	M. Budějovice
	RLP	Náměšť n. O.
Žďár nad Sázavou	RLP	Nové Město n. M.
	RLP	V. Meziříčí
	RLP	Bystřice n. P.
	RZP	Žďár n. S.
Jihlava	RLP	Jihlava
	RLP	Jihlava
	RZP	Jihlava
	RZP advance	Jihlava
	RLP	Telč
	RLP	Počátky
	LZS	Jihlava
	ZOS	Jihlava
RLP – Emergency Doctor's Assistance, RZP – Emergency Medical Assistance, RV – Meeting Point, LZP – Air Rescue Services, ZOS – Medical Assistance Call Center Hotline 155		

All of the emergency teams and the flying squad are controlled from a single operating switchboard in Jihlava. Individual ZZS standby stations are assigned to designated circuits of municipalities, but the operating switchboard dispatches the individual teams according to convenience and accessibility over the entire territory of the Region, irrespective of the circuits' limits.

THE SOBERING-UP STATION

In 2006, the sobering-up station in Jihlava (the only one in Vysočina) treated a total of 923 clients, at a cost of CZK 1,700 per admission. By March 2007, the clients paid CZK 527,925, which amounts to 33.7 % of the overall costs that amounted to CZK 1,569,100 in 2006.

Social Welfare





An uplift and very true saying claims that one can tell how advanced and developed a society is by the way it takes care of those who are unable to take care of themselves.

I am immensely happy that we in Vysočina do know how to take care of our fellow citizens, thanks to patient and hard work on the part of the employees of social welfare institutions, retirement homes, home nursing services, and all others who work in social services. Day after day, they devote their clients not only professional care, but also love and attention – ordinary, yet extraordinary human attention.

It does not matter whether the given institution is being administered by the municipality, the Region, or a non-governmental non-profit organization.

The Region makes no differences in its effort to set up optimal operating conditions for all providers of social care. On the other hand, it is said that only one's own family can give the best care. We therefore aim to enable our clients to stay in their home environment, which is intimately familiar and most natural to them, as long as possible.

The family is the healthiest and most natural environment for a human being. Generation after generation, families teach children the joys and the sorrows of living, as such experience is the assurance of natural development and preservation of our society.

The year 2006 brought many changes in the sphere of social welfare. It was a year of major investments as well as changes in financing by the state. Both the recipients and the providers of social welfare had to begin to prepare themselves for independent purchasing of services on the basis of contracts with providers. We devoted considerable time to explaining, giving seminars, as well as common discussions to make sure that everyone in Vysočina would know what the changes were about to bring. I am confident that our common efforts and time have not been wasted.

Jiří Vondráček

Regional Councillor for Social Affairs

The Region conscientiously attends to its network of social services to ensure that the needs of its citizens are accommodated to the extent possible. The Region cooperates very closely with municipalities as well as the non-profit sector, and co-finances the operation of the facilities under their administration.

For its own part, the Region administers 21 social welfare institutions and retirement homes, as well as one marriage and family counseling facility.

Allowance organizations in the Region	Revenues from own activities:	Subsidies for operations			Investment subsidies from the Region	In-patient beds 2006
		2006	thereof		2006	
		Total	Region*	State budget**		
Social Welfare Center Ledec nad Sázavou	6,953	12,002	12,002			80
Social Welfare Center Zboží	4,818	9,079	9,079			60
Social Welfare Center for Adults Věž	5,977	13,034	13,034			80
Social Welfare Center Jinošov	5,208	11,321	11,321			79
Social Welfare Center Nové Syrovce	7,292	13,538	13,538			110
Diagnostic Social Welfare Center Černovice	9,799	49,821	49,821			159
Social Welfare Center Lidmaň	7,501	14,542	14,515	27	2	104
Social Welfare Center for the Mentally Handicapped Těchobuz	5,225	10,494	10,444	50		69
Social Welfare Center Křižanov	10,337	21,492	21,374	118		152
Retirement Home Havlíčkův Brod	5,179	10,148	10,148		599	68
Retirement Home Ždírec	8,649	14,711	14,711			119
Retirement Home Humpolec	16,447	20,891	20,891		646	203
Retirement Home Onšov	3,251	4,503	4,503			41
Retirement Home Proseč-Obořiště	5,904	7,564	7,537	27		68
Retirement Home Proseč u Pošné	5,228	7,318	7,318			69
Retirement Home Třebíč – Manž. Curieových 603	15,657	21,857	21,857			193
Seniors’ Home Třebíč, Koutkova – Kubešova	11,840	17,860	17,860			182
Retirement Home Třebíč – Kubešova***	3,125	4,902	4,902			
Retirement Home Náměšť nad Oslavou	8,613	12,269	12,263	6		92
Retirement Home Velký Újezd	10,007	11,940	11,940			135
Retirement Home Mitrov	11,350	15,306	14,724	582		136
Retirement Home Velké Meziříčí	13,698	18,401	18,255	146		180
Psychocentrum –Vysočina Marriage and Family Counseling Center	18	5,280	5,280			0
Total	182,076	328,273	327,317	956	1 247	2 379

* The source for this subsidy were the Region's own revenues, allocation from the tax-generated state budget, and a state subsidy to the Region in the amount of CZK 286 mio, combined, for assuming the competences of former district offices.

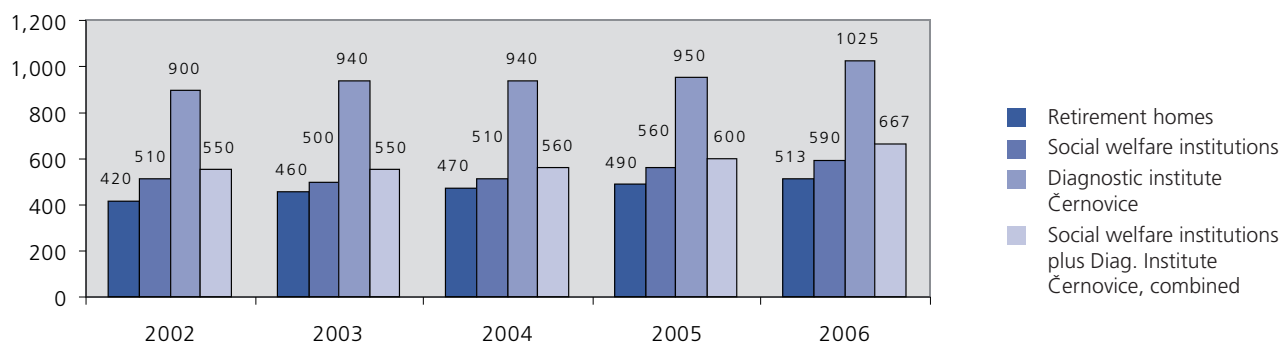
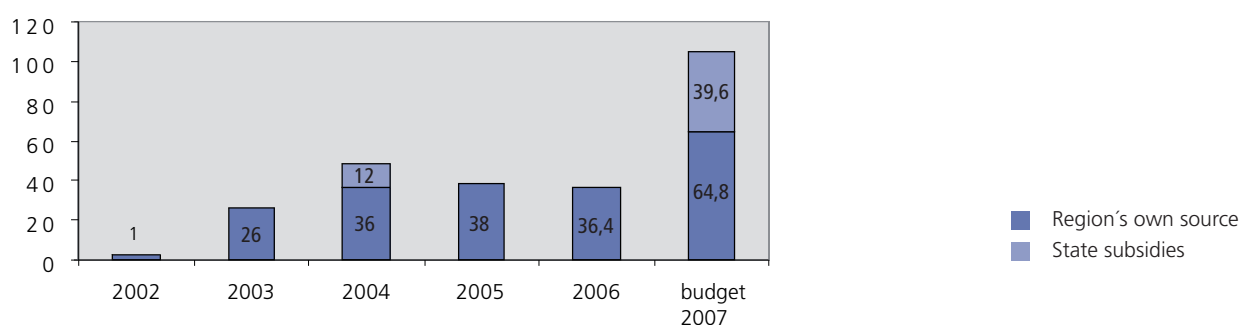
** Purpose-dedicated subsidy to the Region's allowance organizations.

All amount are quoted in CZK'000.

*** As of 1.7.2006, the organization is merged with DD (Retirement Home) Třebíč Koutkova. Seniors' Home Třebíč, Koutkova –Kubešova, was established on 1. 7. 2006.

Average costs per bed and day in social welfare institutions, in CZK

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Retirement homes	420	460	470	490	513
Social welfare institutions	510	500	510	560	590
Diagnostic institute Černovice	900	940	940	950	1025
Social welfare institutions plus Diag. Institute Černovice, combined	550	550	560	600	667

Average costs per bed and day in social welfare institutions, in CZK

Repairs and investments into social welfare institutions in CZK mio

Grant Programs of the Vysočina Fund in Social Welfare in 2006

Title and Focus of Grant Program	Breakdown of support from V.F. (CZK)	Respective share of successful candidates (CZK)	Total extent of completed projects (CZK)
General Guidelines for barrier-free Routes (elaboration of barrier-free routes)	1,327,704	941,437	2,269,141
Volunteerism 2006 support for development of volunteerism in social and health services)	1,173,481	1,086,094	2,259,575
Total	2,501,185	2,027,531	4,528,716

Financing of services not administered by the Region, in CZK'000

(specifying the source budget by service type, regional subsidies, and certain other important revenue sources)

Service type	MPSV* 2006	Another state admin. 2006	User 2006	Vysočina Region 2006	Budget 2006
Weekly nursing centers	0	2,389	592	299	8,581
Interpreting services	314	6	0	0	472
Emergency care	918	0	397	157	3,519
Social rehabilitation	1,505	0	250	594	3,740
Social consultancy	5,522	0	515	1,621	11,187
Social therapeutic workshops	518	0	0	155	765
Social activation services for seniors and handicapped persons	1,035	0	15	206	2,635
Social activation services for families with children	350	86	0	20	796
Extended-care services	1,137	0	0	399	1,878
Early care services	1,345	0	0	550	2,649
Home care services	10,282	0	21,518	12,328	105,506
Personal assistance	4,140	100	1,020	1,353	10,843
Facilitation services	431	0	0	475	1,800
Low-doorstep centers for children and youths	6,011	744	14	2,506	17,361
Crisis assistance	0	0	0	0	840
Contact centers	1,614	100	0	1,103	5,749
Protected housing	1,117	0	171	258	1,951
Half-way homes	523	0	80	57	1,005
Special-program homes	1,329	0	958	68	2,510
Homes for seniors	21,881	0	16,947	1,337	43,522
Day care centers	7,296	3,030	2,329	3,137	33,893
Day service centers	3,763	0	208	1,057	8,152
Asylums	3,802	0	2,353	2,150	12,934
Total	74,839	6,456	47,370	29,837	282,296

Service type	MPSV 2006	Another state admin. 2006	User 2006	Vysočina Region 2006	Budget 2006
Municipal DDs	0	38,527	41,207	5,500	119,161
Total	0	38,527	41,207	5,500	119,161

	MPSV 2006	Another state admin. 2006	User 2006	Vysočina Region 2006	Budget 2006
Total	74,839	44,984	88,577	35,337	401,458

MPSV* – Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs; Municipal DDs – Municipal Retirement Homes

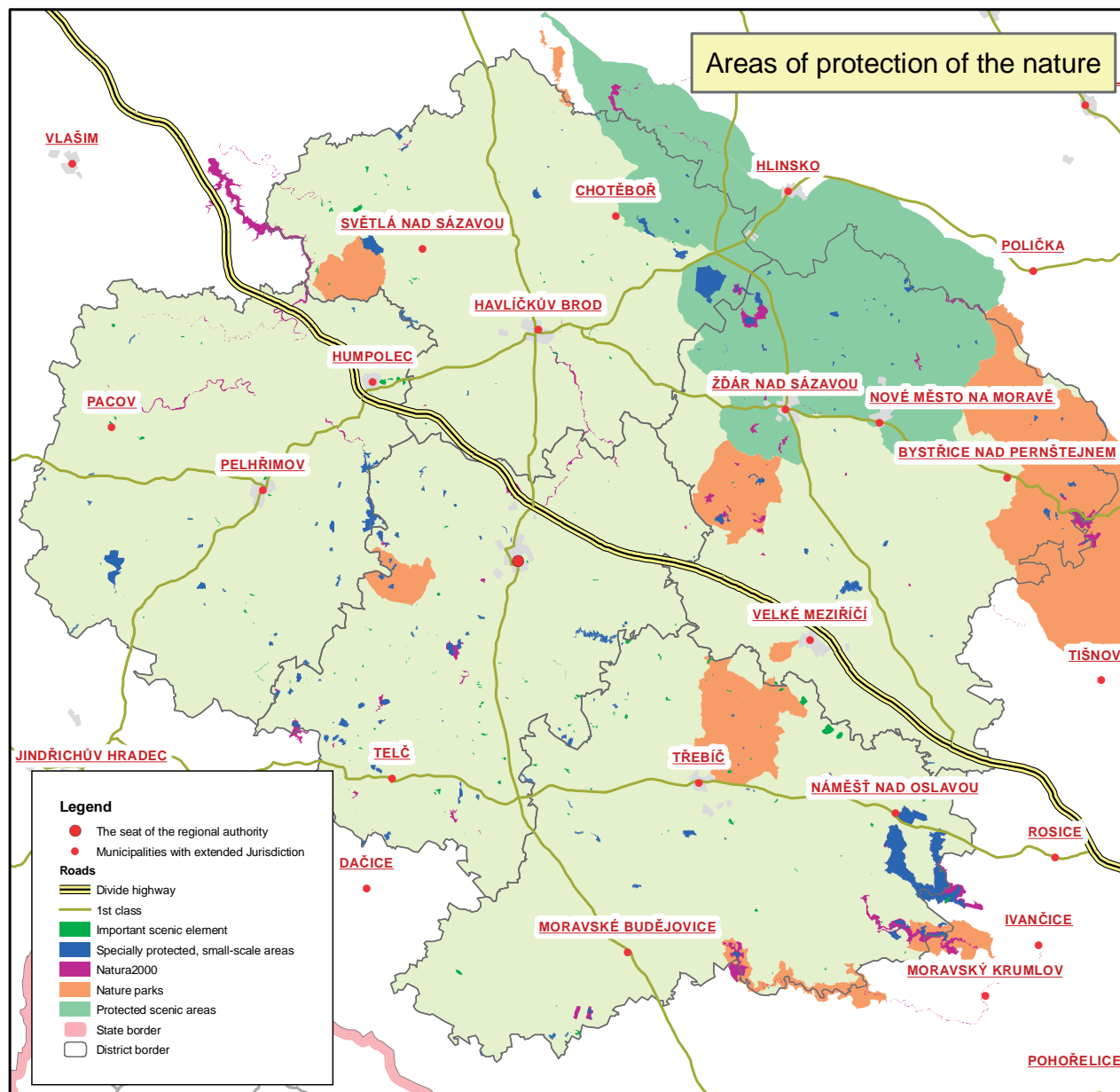
The Environment



In Vysočina, there are two protected scenic areas – the Žďárské Hills and the Železné Mountains, 9 nature parks, and 170 small-scale protected territories.

The Žďárské Hills protected area covers an approximate 709 km² of land. Situated in that area are 49 specially protected, small-scale areas – 4 national nature reserves, 9 nature reserves, 36 natural landmarks, and 46 landmark trees and alleys.

The Železné Mountains protected area covers an approximate 284 km² of land. Situated in the area are 24 specially protected, small-scale areas – 1 national nature reserve, 12 nature reserves, 11 natural landmarks, and 14 landmark trees.



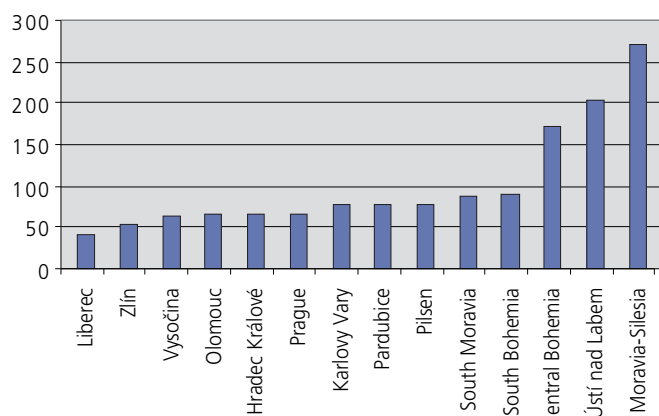
Within Vysočina, people consume nearly 29 % of the electrical power generated there. This is accountable to the presence of the Dukovany nuclear power plant, which itself generates about a fifth of Czech electrical energy.

The most widespread heating fuel in the Region is natural gas, followed by coal and electricity. Out of a total 179,784 homes in Vysočina, 73.1 % are heated with central heating systems (thereof 13.3 % by means of long-distance pipelines), 9.7 % floor-level heating, 13.8 % with stoves and other heating devices, or combined heating modes are used in 2.8 % of homes.

In 2005, the amount of emissions at stationary sources fell in comparison to the previous year by 6.6 %, i.e., by 4.45 kilotons of pollutants. At the large-scale stationary source level, using the same comparison, the volume of emissions went up by 0.57 kilotons, which corresponds to the inception of new industries, such as furnaces using fuels other than natural gas, wood-processing industries, varnishes, etc. At the middle source level, the volumes are somewhat lower.

Emissions from Stationary Sources

Rank	Region	Kt/year
1	Liberec	40.50
2	Zlín	52.74
3	Vysočina	63.07
4	Olomouc	65.06
5	Hradec Králové	66.73
6	Prague	67.02
7	Karlovy Vary	78.20
8	Pardubice	78.53
9	Pilsen	79.03
10	Southern Moravia	88.25
11	Southern Bohemia	90.38
12	Central Bohemia	171.17
13	Ústí	202.81
14	Moravia-Silesia	270.89



WASTE DISPOSAL

In recent years, the volume of waste disposal has been slightly increasing.

Year	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Dump disposal of waste in tons	170,468	126,179	403,919	159,432	225,412	162,907	184,072

In Vysočina, the following is permitted:

- 36 facilities for waste disposal, thereof 26 landfills
- 109 facilities for collection and waste redemption (and 122 mobile facilities)
- 35 facilities for waste management (and 15 mobile facilities)
- 17 scrap yards for auto wreckage

EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL BURDENS

The Region assumed responsibility for examining old environmental burdens (old landfills) from the former district authorities. In recent years, there had been no updating of data and the current status of the old environmental burden is not centrally recorded, and there has been lack of funds for conducting extensive research. In the future, it will be necessary to update the relevant database, identify the most problematic locations, and launch step-by-step solutions toward their sanitation.

Examples of existing environmental burdens:

- the landfill of hazardous waste in Pozdátky
- the landfill of galvanization sludge near Nový Rychnov (sanitation practically began in 2006)
- the landfill of neutralization sewage in Brtnice
- the landfill of neutralization sewage near Horní Hradec at Ledec nad Sázavou
- the landfill of neutralization sewage and other industrial waste in Svratce

REIMBURSEMENT FOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY PROTECTED, ENDANGERED SPECIES

Fishermen may file for a State subsidy, paid by the Region, as compensation for damages caused by otters and cormorants; last year, the Region paid out nearly CZK 3,000,000. The number of applications for compensation goes up every year. In 2003, 15 applicants filed for compensation of damages caused by otters; a year later, there were 38 applicants, and, in 2006, the Region gratified 69 applications. As for damages caused by cormorants, the Region registered 8 applicants in 2006, and 7 in 2005.

Note: The data presented in the chapter "The Environment" are for the year 2005, unless another date is specified. Statistical updates are always available only in the last quarter of the following year.

Grant Programs of the Vysočina Fund in the Scope of the Environment for 2006

Title and Focus of Grant Program	Breakdown of support from V.F. (CZK)	Respective share of successful candidates (CZK)	Total extent of completed projects (CZK)
Bio-Waste 2005 (Bio-Waste disposal)	1,199,738	1,457,032	2,656,770
Energy Use of Renewable Resources 2005 (support of renewable resources)	2,000,000	2,117,102	4,117,102
The Vysočina Countryside 2005 (projects for water conservation and environmental protection)	1,092,280	1,090,029	2,182,309
System for Collecting and Separating Waste 2006 (support for collection and separation of communal waste)	2,200,000	3,156,070	5,356,070
Bio-Waste 2006 (Bio-Waste disposal)	703,725	1,984,369	2,688,094
Total	7,195,743	9,804,602	17,000,345

Agriculture and Forestry





Ask anyone to describe Vysočina and you can be certain you will hear words like “forests”, “fields”, “meadows”, and “fish ponds”. That is, namely, what Vysočina is about – in short, it is about agriculture, forestry, and hydrology, the most important facets of the Region.

In 2006, a number of interesting and unique occurrences happened in the Region. I randomly recall the Potato Days in Havlíčkův Brod, Exposition of Bohemian Red-spotted Cattle in Radešínská Svratka, extensive preventive measures against the avian flu, or the Organic Food Month in September. In cooperation with a private farm that promoted milk from Vysočina, we organized an arts and crafts contest for schools. Systematically and persistently, we support small breeders, their expositions, and especially their work with students.

In my opinion, namely, every inhabitant of Vysočina is a countryman in the best sense of the word. Every one of us knows what it is like to have dirty hands from the soil and a red neck from the scorching sun. Every one of us knows how important integrity and reciprocity is in the country. They are part of our Region and we have the right to be proud of it. Our children grow up amidst the examples of raw life – maybe it is not a very sterile environment, sometimes it kicks or bites, but it is life in its purest form, a healthy and natural life.

Vysočina is also a region that provides virtually a half of the Czech Republic with drinking water. Taking care of our water resources is therefore another very important task we attend to with particular dedication. In 2006, we completed a major repair of the Mostišťe Dam’s dike that was in danger of breaking. The repair was to become a unique masterpiece of civil engineering. With the exceptionally huge spring thaw and heavy summer rainstorms safely behind us, we now know it was work well done. New wastewater purification plants have popped up all over the Region – they help keep our rivers, creeks, and springs as clean as we all, the citizens and the loving and enthralled visitors of Vysočina, want them to be.

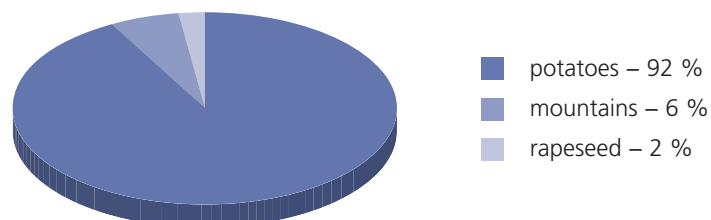
Ivo Rohovský

Regional Councillor for Agriculture and Water Management

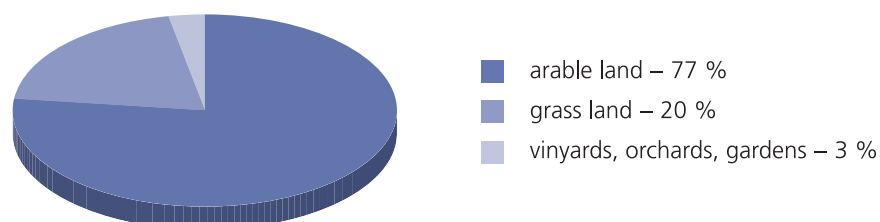
In Vysočina, agricultural production is the most traditional and typical activity. Of the Region's total area, agricultural land constitutes over 60 %, i.e., the highest of all Czech regions.

Vysočina's agricultural production comprises 11 % of the country's total agricultural production.

Diversification of agricultural land in Vysočina as of 31. 12. 2006



Structure of agricultural land in Vysočina as of 31. 12. 2006

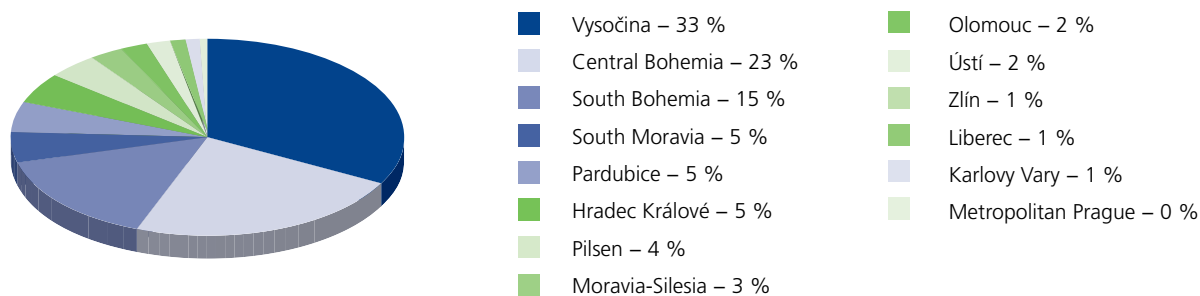


Most of the Region has moderately warm climate with an average annual temperature of 6–8 °C and precipitation of approx. 600 mm p.a. Of the Region's total area, mere 15 % is not in the category of less favorable conditions and environmental limitations. This corresponds to Vysočina's dominant position in potato production.

Potato harvests by region in 2006 (in tons)	
Vysočina	188,669
Central Bohemia	132,781
South Bohemia	87,597
South Moravia	31,445
Pardubice	29,445
Hradec Králové	28,567
Pilsen	21,559
Moravia-Silesia	16,328
Olomouc	13,273
Ústí	13,188
Zlín	8,497
Liberec	7,238
Karlovy Vary	4,870
Metropolitan Prague	129
Czech Republic	583,586

Source: ČSÚ

Potato harvest by region in 2005



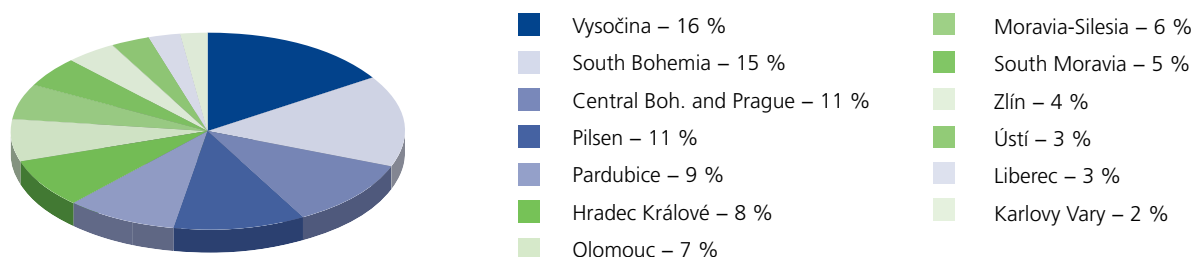
More than one half of the Region's farmed land is used for grain; by production volume, the most important types of grain are wheat, barley, and rye, which holds a special position, as one quarter of the country's rye production is grown in Vysočina in recent years. Another important commodity in Vysočina is flax: 35 % of Czech flax fields are in Vysočina.

In addition to potato growing, animal farming – especially cattle – has a strong tradition in Vysočina.

Number of heads of cattle by region in 2006	
Vysočina	215,553
South Bohemia	211,871
Prague + Central Bohemia	154,704
Pilsen	153,935
Pardubice	119,475
Hradec Králové	108,369
Olomouc	93,294
Moravia-Silesia	81,665
South Moravia	74,738
Zlín	59,152
Ústí	42,030
Liberec	40,986
Karlovy Vary	33,857
Czech Republic	1,389,629

Source: ČSÚ

Heads of cattle by region as of 1. 4. 2006



Pig farming is demanding, especially in terms of grain consumption, and is therefore concentrated in the warmer area of Třebíč. Of the Czech pig farms, those in Vysočina are the second most intensive ones; in terms of the number of pigs, Vysočina ranks third amongst the regions and fourth in pork production. Nearly one half of the Vysočina poultry is produced in the Třebíč District. The Žďár district, on the other hand, excels at sheep breeding, whereas goats are found in the area of Třebíč and Havlíčkův Brod.

Number of farm animals in Vysočina as of 1. 4. 2005 and 1. 4. 2006

	2005	2006	Difference	Index in %
Poultry	1,231,383	1,029,533	−201,850	83.6
Goats	972	1,136	164	116.9
Sheep	7,655	7,642	−13	99.8
Horses	717	775	58	108.1
Pigs	391,482	387,100	−4,382	98.9
Cattle	218,625	216,474	−2,151	99.0

Source: ČSÚ

ENVIRONMENTAL FARMING

Environment-friendly farming (organic farming), without artificial fertilizers and pesticides has been developing dynamically in the Region, mostly in cattle breeding without dairy production.

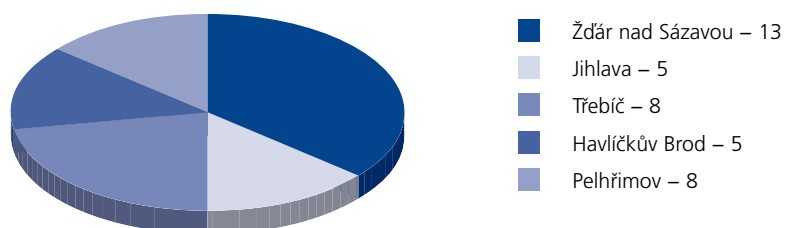
List of organic farmers in Vysočina as of 1. 1. 2007

Name of organic farm/farmer	Location	Animals
Petr Endrle	Vadín	cattle
Ing. Martin Chadim	Horní Dubenky	cattle
František Matoušek	Brzkov	–
Martin Šenigl	Telč	sheep
Bukovjan Karel, Doc. MVDr. CSc.	Přibyslav	horses, sheep
Domkářová Marta	Havlíčkův Brod	sheep
Dvorský Jan, Ing.	Olešenska	sheep, goats
Klement Vladimír – BIO Farma Kojetín	Pohled	BTPM cattle
Marek Petr	Častonín	BTPM cattle
Sklenář Josef – Farma Sasov	Sasov	horses, BTPM cattle, pigs, goats, sheep
Hana Habermannová	Ctiboř	goats
RNDr. Miroslav Šrůtek	Pelhřimov	cattle
Jan Bazala	Rokytnice nad Rokytnou	cattle, sheep
Václav Veleta	Lukavec	–
Bradová Věra – Family farm – dairy cows	Nová Cerekev	cattle for milk production, BTPM cattle
Dobrovolný Pavel, Ing.	Ratibořice	sheep, goats
Hejátková Květuše, Ing.	Ocmanice	no animals
Holub František, Ing.	Číhalín	BTPM cattle
Kříšťan Tomáš Ing. – Organic farm Kříšťan a spol.	Humpolec	sheep
Nechyba Pavel	Pelhřimov	BTPM cattle horses
Stýblo Pavel, Ing. – Organic farm Kordovsko	Zeleneč	BTPM cattle
School farm Humpolec – Farma Plačkov	Dusilov	no animals
Vaněk František	Hynkov	BTPM cattle, goats
Horák Aleš	Lesoňovice	cattle, goats
Ludmila Pospíšilová	Holubí Zhoř	cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, horses, poultry

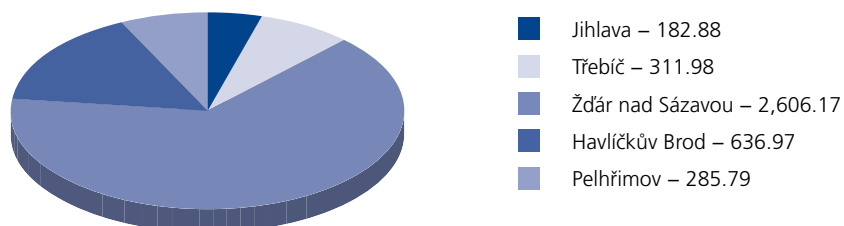
Name of organic farm/farmer	Location	Animals
Žofie Konvalinková	Krátká	cattle
AGRO – Měřín, a. s. – ekofarma Měřín	Měřín	no animals
Buršík Oldřich	Ruda	cattle for milk production, BPM cattle, poultry
Husák Radmil – Organic family farm	Javorek	BPM cattle
Kadeřávek Miroslav, Ing.	Věcov	sheep
Mach Jaroslav	Osová Bitýška	pigs, BPM cattle, poultry
Raková Hana	Kuklík	horses, sheep, cattle for milk production
Institute for Structural Policy in Agriculture – Organic farm Herálec	Měřín	cattle for milk production, BPM cattle
Institute for Structural Policy in Agriculture – Organic farm Chlumeck	Měřín	cattle for milk production
Vařejka Libor – Meziboří	Meziboří	pigs, BPM cattle
Žďárský Jaroslav – Habitation	Břeží, Ondrušky	BPM cattle, sheep

Source: ČSÚ

Number of organic farms as of 1. 1. 2007 in Vysočina



Land used for organic farming (hectares) as of 1. 1. 2007 in Vysočina



In 2006, the second round of a campaign entitled "September – Organic Food Month" took place, in the form of a cycle of successful markets, open-door days, and other popularizing activities.

Vysočina is doing particularly well in selected organic products (bio products). For example, it has practically a monopoly in pork farming, and delivers also great volumes of cow milk and one half of the country's goat milk.

	Volume	Units	thereof Vysočina	Percentage
Cow milk	11 210.19	per thousand liters	3 687.70	32.90
Goat milk	504.04	per thousand liters	250.40	49.70
Sheep milk	8.00	per thousand liters	0	0
Lambs wool	32.16	tons	1.00	3.10
Eggs	131 735.00	pcs	9 635.00	7.30
Beef, including veal	513.80	tons	208	40.50
Pork	202.51	tons	161	80.00
Lamb	8.20	tons	0	0

APICULTURE

Bee-keeping is yet another traditional sphere of activity that has its steady position in the agricultural spectrum of Vysočina. The number of bee-keepers as well as bee hives is distributed throughout the Region quite evenly, but the warmer climate of the Třebíč District tops the list.

Bee-keeping in Vysočina as of 15. 9. 2006

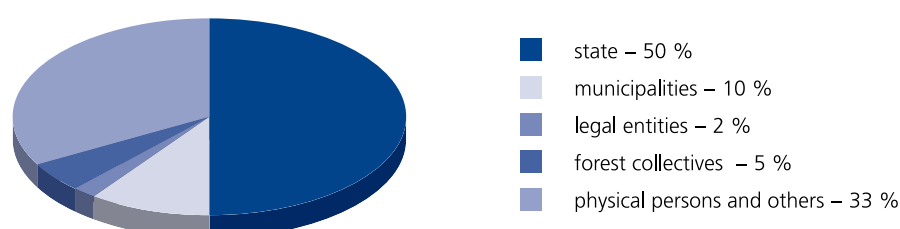
ČSV (Czech Bee-keepers Association) organizations by district	ČSV organizations	Bee-keepers	Bee hives
Jihlava	10	850	9,000
Třebíč	9	1,000	13,000
Žďár nad Sázavou	12	900	9,000
Havlíčkův Brod	11	900	9,000
Pelhřimov	14	780	8,500
Total	56	4,430	48,500

Source: Czech Bee-keepers Association

FORESTRY

Vysočina is one of the regions with average forest coverage. The Region's total wooded area measures about 203,000 hectares. The woods are owned by approximately 48,000 legal and physical entities. The wooded ratio is about 30 %. The health condition of the Vysočina forests has been improving. In general, however, recent conditions for development of the woods have not been favorable, particularly due to climatic fluctuations. On the one hand, overall temperatures have been above average, on the other, precipitation has been distinctly below average. There has been little rainfall, specifically during the growing season. Due to these circumstances, the strength of the Region's forests has been deteriorating.

Structure of the owners of the Vysočina forests



About one third of Vysočina's woods consist of spruce or, rather, spruce monoculture. This relatively high share of coniferous trees slowed down the thawing process in the spring of 2006, thus mitigating the impact of spring flooding. In forests with mostly deciduous trees, the spring thaw is much faster. Deep spruce forests, on the contrary, hold water very well as they do not allow the snow to thaw too quickly, so that spring flooding is far more moderate.

Forest coverage in Vysočina by district as of 1. 4. 2005

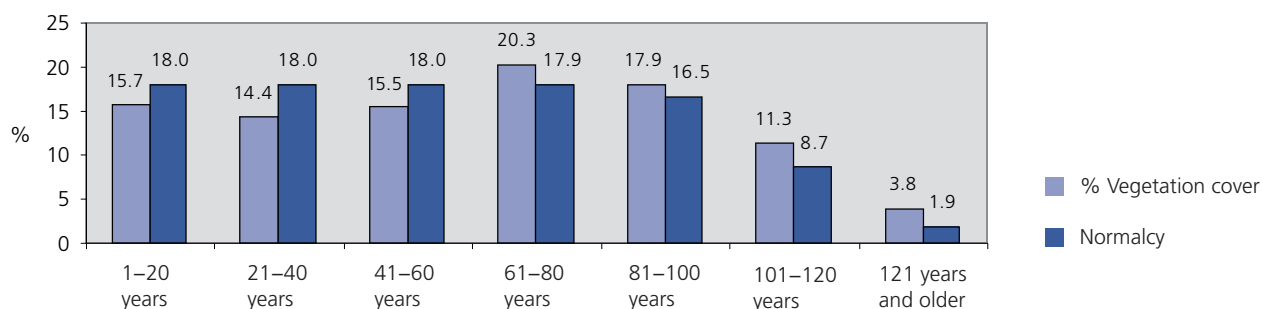
	Hectares		Forest cover in %
Bystřice nad Pernštejnem	34,797	11,443	32.9
Havlíčkův Brod	63,185	15,196	24.1
Humpolec	22,792	7,010	30.8
Chotěboř	32,901	9,553	29.0
Jihlava	92,182	28,236	30.6
Moravské Budějovice	41,416	9,920	24.0
Náměšť nad Oslavou	21,137	6,868	32.5
Nové Město na Moravě	29,286	10,230	34.9
Pacov	23,458	7,076	30.2
Pelhřimov	82,741	23,935	28.9
Světlá nad Sázavou	29,021	10,304	35.5
Telč	29,137	8,961	30.8
Třebíč	83,767	22,060	26.3
Velké Meziříčí	47,333	13,420	28.4
Žďár nad Sázavou	46,434	18,505	39.9
Vysočina	679,585	202,716	29.8

Share of coniferous and deciduous forests in Vysočina

	Hectares	Share in %
coniferous	181,138	89.4
deciduous	19,251	9.5
bare land	2,326	1.1
total	202,716	100.0

Percentage share of woods in Vysočina forests by age class

Note: normalcy is based on estimation derived from the features and economic activities in the countryside of Vysočina.



Financial contributions paid out from the Vysočina budget, in CZK, to support economic activities

Subsidy purpose	2005	2006
Restoration of forests damaged by emissions	0	0
Restoration, procurement, and cultivation of forests	16,843,970	14,249,602
Collectivization of small forest owners	1,650,650	1,565,250
Selected game-keeping activities	454,791	5,445
Evaluation of forestry planning maps in digital form	7,467,294	959,608
Other economic activities in forests	27,389	21,952
Breeding & training of national hunting dog breeds and birds of prey	26,000	0
Total	29,746,974	20,284,407

GAME KEEPING

Vysočina has 617,482 hectares of hunting grounds. Foresters use 522 recognized hunts, thereof 16 game preserves and 27 pheasantries. 2,719 hunting dogs help them with their work

Status of game in Vysočina (as of 31. 3. 2006)	
European deer	174
Fallow deer	1,006
Mouflon	746
Roebuck	28,433
Wild boar	2,074
Hare	27,935
Pheasant	10,497
Wild duck	8,066

Note: Numerical data in Chapter "Agriculture, Forestry, and Water Management" are from 2005, unless another date is specified.

Water Management



Vysočina is the source area of important Czech and Moravian rivers. From the perspective of the flow rate, the most important streams or rivers are Jihlava (11.4 m³/sec), Sázava (9.9 m³/sec), Želivka (7.2 m³/sec), and Svatka (7.2 m³/sec). Vysočina is the location of the main European water divide between Doubrava, Sázava, and Želivka, on the one hand, and Svatka, Oslava, Jihlava, Rokytna, and Moravská Dyje (Moravian Thaya), on the other.

Large water dams were built on a number of the Region's water streams, several of which are important sources of drinking water, not merely on a regional but also on a national scale. The Pelhřimov and Havlíčkův Brod districts supply drinking water from the Švihov (Želivka) water reservoir to metropolitan Prague; the Žďár nad Sázavou district supplies drinking water from the Vír reservoir to Brno. The most important water reservoirs in the Vysočina Region are: Hubenov, Mostišť, Nová Říše, Švihov, and Vír. On the Jihlava River is a large water dam, Dalešice, consisting of reservoirs Kramolín and Mohelno, whereby the Kramolín reservoir has the highest dike in the country (100 m).

The borderline of the divide of large Bohemian and Moravian rivers runs through Vysočina.



The sewer and wastewater management system in municipalities is, despite highly dispersed settlement structure and large number of small municipalities, on a relatively good level. Municipalities work hard on fulfillment of the EU requirements, according to which all municipalities with more than 2,000 equivalent inhabitants must be connected to waste water purification plants (ČOVs). Not all ČOVs have the technical parameters necessary for wastewater sanitation at a level that meets current legislative requirements. The condition of older sewer networks in small settlements, especially those from the 1950's –1970's, lack certain elements to be functioning as full-cycle sewer systems.

Share of population supplied with water from the public water system

ord.no.	Region	%
1	Prague	99.5
2	Karlovy Vary	98.2
3	Moravia-Silesia	96.4
4	Pardubice	96.2
5	Ústí	95.7
6	South Moravia	93.6
7	Hradec Králové	90.8
8	South Bohemia	90.6
9	Vysočina	90.2
10	Zlín	88.2
11	Liberec	88.1
12	Olomouc	87.0
13	Central Bohemia	82.4
14	Pilsen	81.2

Population connected to a public sewer system

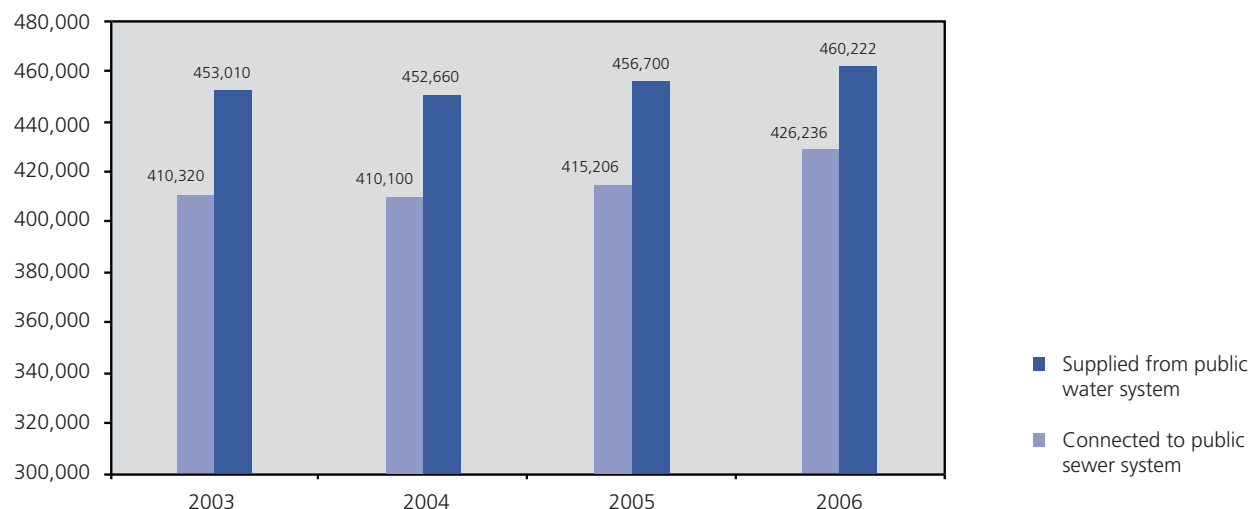
ord.no.	Region	%
1	Prague	99.2
2	Karlovy Vary	91.6
3	South Bohemia	84.3
4	Vysočina	83.6
5	South Moravia	83.1
6	Ústí	81.0
7	Zlín	80.0
8	Pilsen	77.4
9	Moravia-Silesia	75.9
10	Hradec Králové	74.3
11	Olomouc	73.5
12	Liberec	68.4
13	Pardubice	68.1
14	Central Bohemia	63.9

Since 2004, the Vysočina Region provides subsidies for construction and reconstruction of waste purification plants (ČOVs) and sewer systems. Thanks to this support, dozens ČOVs and kilometers of public sewer systems have been built or reconstructed.

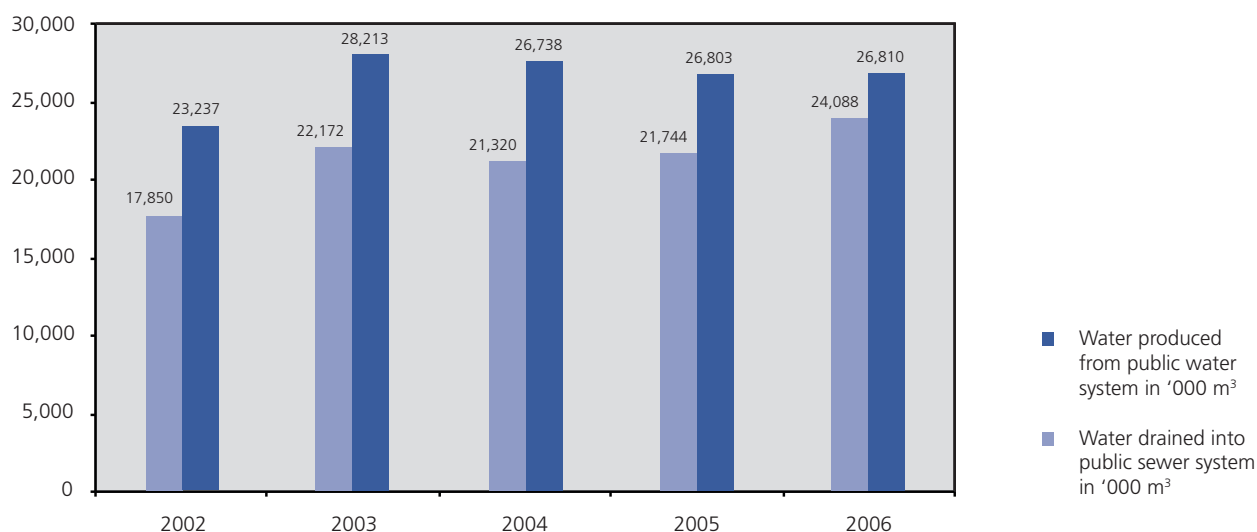
Subsidies to construction and reconstruction of ČOVs and public sewer systems

	2004	2005	2006
Approved in Region's budget (CZK mio)	45,425,000	50,700,000	46,700,000
Municipalities required (CZK mio)	88,719,260	66,687,064	60,729,292
Number of applications	22	13	19
Number of satisfied applications	13	10	12

Vysočina's population supplied with water from public water system and connected to public sewer system from 2002 to 2005



Development of water produced from public water system and volume of wastewater drained into public sewer system in Vysočina from 2002 to 2005



FLOODS AND OTHER CRISES

Major floods in Vysočina occurred in 1997, 2002, 2005, and 2006. The Region was also stricken by sudden flooding with local impact and short duration in the summertime due rains storms, e.g., in July 2002 in Štěpánov nad Svratkou and in May 2005 in Ledec nad Sázavou.

Also, the spring thaw of large quantities of snow in 2006 was a tough test of the quality of the dike of the Mostišťe water dam on the Oslava River, where the severely damaged clay core of the dike had just been repaired. The following April, the dike withstood the enormous spring thaw after the winter of 2005/2006 during which Vysočina experienced an unprecedented volume of snow.

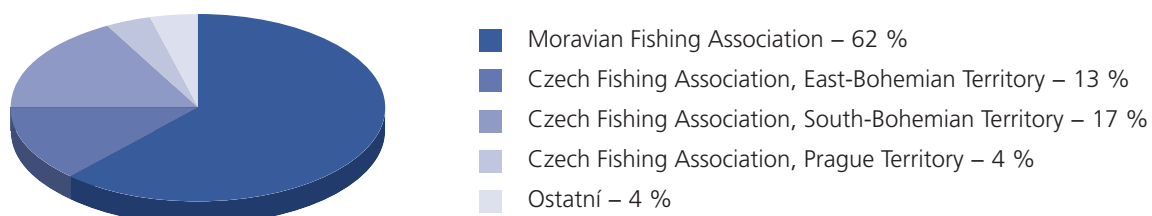
FISHING

In Vysočina, there are about 150 fishing preserves, of which about one third are trout preserves.

Users of fishing preserves in Vysočina

Fishing preserve user	Share of used fishing preserves in %
Český rybářský svaz, Prague Fishing Society	4
Český rybářský svaz, South-Bohemian Fishing Society	17
Český rybářský svaz, East-Bohemian Fishing society	13
Moravian Fishing Society	62
Other	4

Users of fishing preserves in Vysočina



Grant Program of the Vysočina Fund in Hydrology Water Management in 2006

Title and Focus of Grant Program	Breakdown of support from V.F. (CZK)	Respective share of successful candidates (CZK)	Total extent of completed projects (CZK)
Clean Water 2006 (water supply, waste water purification)	5,499,252	8,904,769	14,404,021

Culture and Historic Heritage



Vysočina is the only region in the Czech Republic that can claim to have three sites registered on the UNESCO World Heritage List of Cultural and Natural Sites in its territory, namely: the historical center of the town of Telč; the Pilgrim Church of St. Jan Nepomuk on Zelená Hora (Green Mountain) in Žďár nad Sázavou; and the Jewish Quarter and the St. Prokop Basilica in Třebíč. To all three towns with UNESCO sites, the Region gives grants in excess of CZK 3,000,000 – i. e., CZK 1,000,000 each.

Moreover, Vysočina stands out in terms of the number of other monumental objects, both immovable and movable, of which Vysočina listed 3,035 and 3,321 in 2006, respectively. In 2006, the Ministry of Culture declared 12 sites in the Vysočina region to be valuable cultural landmarks and 7 previously existing cultural sites had their entitlement to conservation protection withdrawn.

Greater Municipality	Immovable landmarks	Movable landmarks
Havlíčkův Brod	278	283
Světlá nad Sázavou	40	38
Chotěboř	69	94
Jihlava	674	549
Telč	260	216
Pelhřimov	333	365
Humpolec	80	122
Pacov	99	153
Třebíč	273	412
Moravské Budějovice	199	196
Náměšť nad Oslavou	51	146
Velké Meziříčí	178	194
Nové Město na Moravě	242	173
Žďár nad Sázavou	164	207
Bystřice pod Pernštejnem	95	173
Total	3 035	3 321

In 2006, the Vysočina region also registered 8 real estate (immovable) national landmarks, which are among the most significant in the nation's cultural wealth and are proclaimed as such by a governmental decree.

National Cultural Landmarks in Vysočina

- The Birth House of Karel Havlíček Borovský
- The Telč Castle
- The Pilgrim Church of Saint Jan Nepomuk on Zelená Hora (Green Mountain)
- The Ruins of the Castle at Lipnice nad Sázavou
- The Jaroměřice nad Rokytnou Castle
- The Náměšť nad Oslavou Castle
- The Monastery and Church of Saint Prokop in Třebíč
- The Jewish Cemetery in Třebíč

One important instrument in the support of cultural heritage is the turnover of monetary dues from the budget of the Vysočina Region or from grant programs under the Vysočina Fund to property owners for the renovation of cultural landmarks. In 2006, the Vysočina Region supported the renovation of 156 cultural landmarks, with the overall extent of the work reaching nearly CZK 52,000,000. The Region contributed a sum of more than CZK 15 million, and property owners invested CZK 28.5 million toward their own memorial sites. The relevant municipalities' participation exceeded CZK 8,000,000.

Number of Applications	Total Expenditure	Owners' Share	Municipalities' Share	Region's Endowment
156	51,900,454	28,525,541	8,309,875	15,065,038

The competences of the Section of Culture and Memorial Conservation include independent decision-making concerning ten allowance organizations, which means, among other things, that the Region covers some of their operating costs.

Allowance Organization	Contribution to operating costs (CZK'000)	Investment Grants* (CZK'000)	Number of Visitors
The Horácko Theatre in Jihlava	30,063	0	57,203
The Vysočina Regional Library	19,510	0	177,486
The fine arts Gallery in Havlíčkův Brod	4,913	0	23,528
The Horácko Gallery in Nové Město na Moravě	7,796	0	16,633
The Vysočina Regional Gallery in Jihlava	7,003	277	13,377
Galleries total	19,712	277	53,538
The Vysočina Museum in Havlíčkův Brod	4,100	0	16,613
The Vysočina Museum in Jihlava	12,293	0	62,023
The Vysočina Museum in Pelhřimov	4,852	0	10,812
The Vysočina Museum in Třebíč	13,986	0	24,844
The Kámen Castle	1,680	0	23,739
Museums total	36,911	0	138,031
Total	106,196	277	426,258

* investment grants for the outfitting of the authorized depository

Endeavoring to raise public awareness about cultural heritage and cultural events in Vysočina, the Region organizes a contest called "The Golden Rowanberry"; the first three activities in each category earn the Region's prize, along with a cash prize. The contest is open to the public and has two categories – "Cultural Activities" and "Conservation of Cultural Heritage". In 2006, the contest was met with a huge response: more than 16,000 contestants participated. In the "Cultural Activities" category, the greatest number of responses came from regular gatherings of artistic blacksmiths in Brtnice, called "Brtnice Anvil". In the "Conservation of Cultural Heritage" category, the restored portal of a granary in Luka nad Jihlavou won the top prize.

In 2006, the Vysočina Region also awarded the "Vysočina Regional Prize" for the most beautiful non-fiction (or popular non-fiction) book with a financial award to the book's publisher, based on the number of points awarded by a jury made up of the librarians of the Vysočina Region. In addition, financial and other gifts were awarded to Jan Šikl, director of the winning Czech documentary film in the category "Czech Delight" at the Jihlava International Documentary Film Festival, and sculptor Radomír Dvořák for the creation of two sculptural reliefs in the quarries near Lipnice nad Sázavou.

Every year, the Vysočina Region supports efforts in the field of amateur art:

- to organizers of local run-up and national shows of amateur art held in the Vysočina Region
- to artists from the Vysočina Region for participating in national shows in other regions

Financial support for amateur art in the year 2006 (in CZK):		
Total financial support for amateur art		246,232
thereof	regional run-up shows	150,402
	national shows	70,228
	participants from Vysočina in national shows	25,602

Individual events in non-professional arts in 2006 (national shows – support in CZK)	
Theatrical Trebic – national show of drama and musical theater ensembles	60,000
National festival of non-professional chamber and symphonic bodies	10,228
Total	70,228

Individual projects in the field of amateur art in 2006 (regional run-up shows – support in CZK)	
Wolkerův Prostějov – competition for solo elocutionists and theatre in verse	20,000
JID 20-06 – student amateur theater festival	20,000
Třešť Spring Theater Project – competition for amateur theater companies	20,000
Adults to Children – theater competition focusing on plays for children	20,000
Little Singers – children's choirs interpreting folk songs	13,428
Třebíč Spring Marionette Project – show of amateur marionette companies	20,000
Dance, Dance... scenic choreography by adults and youths	17,634
Porta – interpretive competition for bands	19,340
Total	150,402

Participation at performances by performers from the Vysočina Region (support in CZK)	
National show of children's scenic dance troupes in Kutná Hora	3,814
National show of adult and youth scenic dance troupes in Jablonec nad Nisou	10,000
National show Jiráskův Hronov	10,000
National show Wolkerův Prostějov	1,788
Total	25,602

VYSOČINA BOOK SERIES

A very successful grant program regularly supports the publication of books with local and regional subject matter; without such funding these books could never be published. In 2006, the following publications were released:

■ Milan Salaš	Rohovští z Tasova: Nejstarší žijící selský rod v českých zemích (The Rohs of Tasov: The Oldest Surviving Peasant Family Clan in the Czech Lands)
■ Jindřich Hegr	Betlém (Bethlehem)
■ PhDr. Jan Sucharda	Hrotovické album (The Hrotovice Album)
■ Milan Peňáz	Chudobín, historie zaniklé obce (Chudobín – History of a Vanished Village)
■ Jan Prchal	Polná ve 20. století (Polná in the 20th Century)
■ PaedDr. Jitka Měřínská	Janu Zrzavému s láskou (To Jan Zrzavý with Love)
■ Jaroslav Sadílek	Kamenice u Jihlavy: tvrz čp. 20, kostel sv. Jakuba Většího (Kamenice u Jihlavy, Stronghold No. 20, St. Jacob the Greater Church)

■ Josef Pěňčík	Z dějin obce Jinošova (From the Chronicles of Jinošov)
■ Marie Hrušková, Marie Holečková	Krajinou řeky Doubravy (Through the Countryside of the Dobrava River Basin)
■ Antonín Hampl	Pacov a motorismus (Pacov and Motoring)
■ Vladimír Makovský	Mlýny a mlynáři na Velkomeziříčsku, svazek IV. (1370–2005) (The Mills and Millers in the District of Velké Meziříčí, Volume IV)
■ Radovan Zejda	Jaroměřice nad Rokytnou Kulturní (Cultural Jaroměřice nad Rokytnou)
■ Marie Holečková	Vysočinou po stopách Santiniho (Through Vysočina Following Santini's Footprints)
■ Jaroslava Stránská	Havlíčková Borová: Ve svědectví starých pergamenů (Havlíček's Borová: Old Parchments Testify)

Grant Programs of the Vysočina Fund in the scope of Culture and Memorial Conservation for 2006

Title and Focus of Grant Program	Breakdown of support from V.F. (CZK)	Respective share of successful candidates (CZK)	Total extent of completed projects (CZK)
Regional Culture V. (support for cultural events in the area of amateur arts)	1,999,270	9,526,230	11,525,500
Unexploited memorials (a study for the improvement of cultural landmarks)	1,075,900	1,166,899	2,242,799
The Treasury of Vysočina 2006 (cultural activities in the area of movable cultural heritage in museums and galleries)	1,500,000	1,418,605	2,918,605
Vysočina Book Series IV. (publication initiatives with ties to culture, history, and nature)	1,964,451	3,705,187	5,669,638
Total	6,539,621	15,816,921	22,356,542

Education, Youth, and Sports





The year 2006 was particularly demanding for schools and educational institutions due to the coming into effect of the new Education Code, as many of its provisions were not clearly defined and some of them complicated hitherto established systems, forcing schools to adapt.

Vysočina schools submitted more educational projects per student under the state policy on information technology than any other region. 91 primary and secondary schools applied to the program with 118 projects, of which 64 projects were accepted and received nearly CZK 10 million. According to a statistical survey (UIV), the Vysočina Region reached the best parameters in academic performance per 100 students in all levels of education, as well as the most computers connected to the Internet, and the most computers with high-speed Internet access, of all of the country's regions.

The Vysočina Region launched a special program to help educational institutions acquire computer technology, with CZK 7 million distributed amongst 36 secondary and primary schools (formerly special-education schools).

Particularly successful was a project that was partly financed from European resources, called Adaptable Schools, in which nine specialized secondary schools enrolled. The project focused on variability of education as part of initial education. In the first years of the program, all students follow the same syllabus, sample diverse specialized subjects, and after completing the first year, they select a specialization. The second part of the program focuses on centers that provide adult education as part of life-long educational opportunities. Since no major school mergers and transformations took place, the year 2006 was relatively peaceful.

However, since the process of earlier school mergers continued, in order to reduce the number of school campuses, numerous modernization measures were taken and the specialization palette of schools in the Region has changed.

Primary schools worked on and further elaborated their educational programs, as they have to adjust to diminishing enrollment due to demographic factors (population decline).

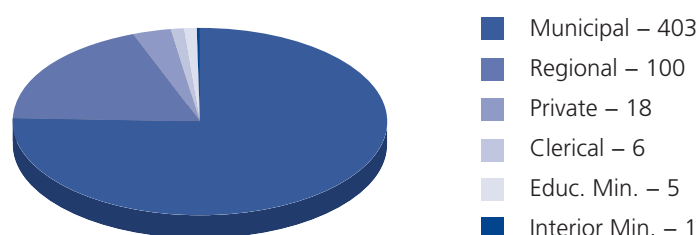
In all, the year 2006 was hardly easy, but it can be said that teachers managed to adjust to the changes successfully and education in Vysočina meets the high standards required of education in this country.

Martina Matějková

Regional Councillor for education and culture

In 2006, 533 schools and educational institutions (legal entities) were in operation in the Region. Comprising these legal entities were 336 nursery schools, 283 elementary schools (including former special-education schools), 69 secondary schools, and 29 schools that offer a secondary school education with a vocational (apprenticeship) certificate. Furthermore, there were 14 secondary technical schools, 19 homes for children and youths, and 25 elementary-level art schools. As auxiliary facilities, these schools operated 479 after-school programs and 326 school clubs. The students were provided with meals by 449 school cafeterias, and with housing in 34 homes for youths and boarding houses. Full-time care was provided by 15 institutional and protective facilities.

Structure of schools and educational institutions in Vysočina by administrator



Also operating in the Region are 2 high schools and another 11 educational facilities that offer tertiary-level education as day programs or so-called distance programs for working adults.

Attending the schools were 90,600 students; 13,785 children and youths participated in organized leisure activities; 94,153 students and adults were served in school cafeterias; 3,658 students were provided with housing; 631 individuals were treated in institutional and protective facilities.

Educational and care-taking services, in accordance with the Education Code, were provided primarily by a total of 13,212 employees (their wages collectively amounted to CZK 2,708.9 million), of which 8,242 were professional teachers. In all, about 5 % of all employees in Vysočina work in the education sector.

Total direct costs of the main activities all the Vysočina schools and educational institutions amounted to CZK 3,917.3 million, thereof wages comprised CZK 2,642.2 million.

In the education sector, wages are paid by the state via dedicated subsidies. The Region finances mainly investment and, above all, development and above-standard activities.

Over 30 advancement contests and shows, declared and subsidized by the Ministry of Education, took place in 2006. Approximately 25,000 primary and secondary-level students took part in various district and regional competitions, in sports and other disciplines. Total support provided to the organizers amounted to CZK 2.2 million, thereof CZK 1.3 was from the Ministry's budget and CZK 0.9 million from the Region's budget.

At year-end, the winners of the regional rounds of selected competitions promulgated by the Ministry obtained the traditional Regional President's Award. Also in 2006, 98 primary and secondary school students were officially honored and received, in addition to material prizes, financial awards ranging from CZK 700 to 4,000. The total amount of the financial awards distributed was CZK 114,200.

In addition to competitions organized by the Ministry, the Region supported a number of events in which the Ministry was not involved. In 2006, the Region granted financial support to 36 organizers of regional or national competitions and special events for children and youths; the total amount of this support reached CZK 600,000. Examples include: the Pre-medical First Aid Competition, The Plumbing Apprentice, The Machinist of the Year, The Jihlava Nightingale, The Apprentices' Wall, Children's Choir Show, the Know-It-All regional knowledge contest, the Green Path – Golden Leaf, the national finals of Sedmikvítek, the Environmental Olympics, the Open Contest in Sokol Well-roundedness, regional competition in athletics, and other. The subsidy recipients were 15 secondary schools, 15 organizers from non-profit organizations, 7 DDMs (Centers for Children and Youths), and 1 ZUŠ (Elementary Art School).

The Region demonstrated its interest in gifted primary and secondary school students in Vysočina, from the 5th grade of primary school and from the 4th grade of secondary school upwards (including students of classical lyceums or gymnasiums), who prove to have extraordinary and consistent achievements in certain subjects and work on their talent systematically. These students qualify for the Vysočina Scholarship. Of the 86 recommendations for the Vysočina Talent 2006 Award, the commission nominated a total of 41 primary and secondary-level students, of which nine received a 10-month scholarship (total amount of CZK 130,000) and 32 received a lump-sum scholarship (total amount of CZK 51,000). The students who were granted a 10-month scholarship received regular payments of CZK 1,000 or 2,000 from September 2006 until June 2007. These students have simultaneously been honored as Vysočina Talent 2006 in the relevant subject for which they were nominated.

THE YOUTH

The Region also subsidizes the activities of the Vysočina Council for Children and Youths – an association of organizations that work with children and youths in their free time. The Council is the Region's partner for communication with non-profit organizations that focus on children and youths. Thanks to a subsidy in the amount of CZK 200,000 from the Region, for instance, the Council was able to issue a third edition of a handbook on summer camps in Vysočina; this overview of camps is also available in electronic form on-line.

In 2006, the Vysočina Region provide top-up financing of 21 European projects realized as part of educational programs of the EU (Socrates, Leonardo da Vinci, and Youth) and the INTEREG III.A program, in the amount of CZK 1,194,930.

In 2006, yet another Great Regional Experience Exchange (RVVZ), the largest gathering of children's camp guides, advisors, instructors, and other workers of the country's leisure-time organizations took place, with participation of other persons and entities from Vysočina, who are interested in or work with children during leisure time. The gathering was organized by the H-Hour Civic Association and was attended by dozens of participants, lecturers, and organizers. The Vysočina Region contributed CZK 30,000 to this event.

SPORT

The Vysočina Region supports sports in several ways, mostly from the Vysočina Fund. In addition to grant programs, the Region announced a campaign entitled the Vysočina Athlete with the following categories: adults, team, youth under 15 years, seniors, trainer of the year, handicapped athlete, and a fair-play award.

In 2006, schools and educational institutions under the Region's administration had a chance to apply for a financial contribution to open public sports grounds. The contribution was allocated to schools that opened their sports grounds to the general public. In all, the Region granted CZK 1,047,340 to 16 such projects. In January 2006, the 2nd Winter Olympics for Children and Youths took place in the Region of Hradec Králové, with the participation of athletes from Vysočina. Also in 2006, the Regional Council approved the rules for allocating contributions to national, European, and world championships in sports. In accordance with these rules, the Region allocated CZK 482,050 as support to 14 organizers of top-level sports events in the Region. Simultaneously, the Council approved similar rules for allocating funds to participants of national, European, and world championships in sports. The Region granted support to 26 organizations that sent their athletes to represent Vysočina with a total amount of CZK 285,543.

A new support tool has been devised for top-performance athletes – through regional centers for gifted youths. Under this program, sports organizations may apply for financial aid through these centers in Vysočina for gifted youths. In 2006, four such centers received support.

Financial support for sports in Vysočina in 2006

Initiative	Amount (CZK)
Grant program "Sport for Everybody"	2,900,000
Grant program "Sports Place"	3,000,000
Grant program "Single Events"	552,414
Vysočina Athlete – campaign	200,000
Olympics for Children and Youth, Czech Republic	675,000
Sport event subsidized from the budget ("Golden Ski", etc.)	2,600,000
Opening of school sports grounds to the public	1,047,300
Financial support for gifted athletes (+Talent and Scholarship)	36,200
Top-up financing of athletic competitions	450,000
Regional centers for gifted youths	1,939,500
Support for organizing and travel to championships (MČR, MS, ME, SP*)	800,000
All-sports Collegium	4,000,000
Support for extraordinary athletic talents	165,000
Support for regional competitions, other than proclaimed by the Ministry	143,000
Total	18,508,414
Investments from the regional budget into important sports grounds	41,000,000
Total	59,508,414

*MČR – Czech Republic Championship, MS – World Championship, ME – European Championship, SP – World Cup

Grant Programs of the Vysočina Fund in Education, Youth, and Sports in 2006

Title and Focus of Grant Program	Breakdown of support from V.F. (CZK)	Respective share of successful candidates (CZK)	Total volume of completed projects (CZK)
Sports Grounds 2006 (construction of sports and physical education facilities)	2,999,999	11,771,199	14,771,198
Camps 2006 (replenishing facilities/provisions in summer camps)	999,746	1,034,213	2,033,959
Single-time events 2006 (individual leisure-time and sports activities)	1,534,864	3,074,146	4,609,010
Total	5,534,609	15,879,558	21,414,167

Foreign Relations



The most extensive project that the Region launched in connection with the Czech Republic's accession to the EU is "Partnership for Vysočina". The objective of the project is to prepare all the potential applicants in the Region (municipalities, entrepreneurs, farmers, non-profit organizations, microregions, etc.) as well as the Region as a whole for drawing subsidies from the European funds during the period from 2007 to 2013.

Preparation for drawing from the EU funds requires, in particular:

- formation of local partnerships and preparation of a Regional Operational Program;
- identification of development priorities and search for quality project plans;
- education of organizations in the Region in issues concerning the European funds
- improvement of the quality of public administration, in order to assert the principles of partnership more effectively, both on local and regional level

In the process of preparing the next program period, EU 2007–2013, the Vysočina Region cooperates with so-called local partnerships, i.e., informal work groups comprised of the representatives of microregions, local action groups, municipalities, local organizations, institutions, enterprises, and active individuals.

Thus, the "Regional Operational Plan of the Vysočina Region" was jointly drafted and used as one of the support materials for elaboration of the "Regional Operational Program NUTS II Southeast".

Activities under the Partnership for Vysočina Project in 2006

- educational modules – five theme-specific training sessions of several days each
- analysis of the non-governmental non-profit sector in the Vysočina Region
- seminars on CAF, BSC, and benchmarking methods
- seminar for SROP 3.3 administrators
- defense of preliminary feasibility studies of integrated projects
- long-term experience exchange in Brussels, Open Days
- other seminars supporting creation of projects for planning period 2007–2013

In December 2006, the "Partnership for Vysočina" project won second place for supporting local democracy and for cooperating with NGOs on a project called "With People about People". This was the third year of the contest proclaimed by the Center for Communitarian Work.

In numerous cases, partnerships are formed under the so-called Regional Cohesion NUTS II Southeast, i.e., Vysočina jointly with South Moravia. Both regions share a common regional operational program that is controlled by the Regional Council, which accepts and evaluates applications for subsidies from ROP and subsequently allocates subsidies to projects.

The Regional Council's bodies are: the Regional Council's Chairman and the Regional Council's Office. The domicile is in Brno, with a field office in Jihlava. At present, the Regional Council has 28 employees, thereof 19 in Brno and 9 in Jihlava.

Composition of the Regional Council's Committee

Vysočina	South-Moravian Region
Miloš Vystrčil, Regional President, Chairman of the Regional Council Committee	Stanislav Juránek, Regional President
Václav Kodet, First Regional Vice-President	Milan Vendlík, First Regional Vice-President
Marie Černá, Regional Vice-President	Václav Horák, Regional Vice-President
Pavel Hájek, Regional Vice-President	Jaroslav Pospíšil, Regional Councillor
Miroslav Houška, Regional Councillor	František Adamec, Regional Councillor
Martina Matějková, Regional Councillor	Jiří Kadrnka, Regional Representative
Vladimír Novotný, Regional Representative	Václav Božek, Regional Representative
Jiří Vlach, Regional Representative	Stanislav Navrkal, Regional Representative

The Jihlava Eurocentrum, the sixth one in the country, opened on September 4, 2006. This is where Vysočina's inhabitants may come with their inquiries concerning European issues, select from a broad range of information material, and use many other auxiliary services in order to learn details on the European Union. The Eurocentrum is located on the ground floor of the Vysočina Museum in the upper section of Masarykovo Square, House No. 55, Jihlava.

In 2006, two workers of the Regional Development Section were sent to Brussels for an extended internship. The objective of their internship was to form personal liaisons that are important for effective drawing of funds from the structural aid program during the period of 2007–2013. As part of these activities, an Open Days campaign was organized, which was attended by political representatives of the Region, members of the Steering Team of the “Partnership for Vysočina”, and the Regional Authority’s employees who participate in the implementation of programs and augmentation of the Vysočina Region’s absorption capacity.

Today, Vysočina has four regional partners in Europe. In 2006, the Regional President signed Partnership Contracts with three of them: the Slovak Nitra Region, on April 19, the French Champagne-Ardenne Region April 21, and the Italian Friuli Venezia Giulia Region on Sept. 4. Also, Vysočina has been cooperating with the Lower Austria region on a long-term basis.

Lower Austria is one of Austria’s nine federal regions. Its northern border neighbors on the Czech Republic and the northeastern border on the Slovak Republic. The region covers a total of 19,174 km² and is populated by approx. 1.55 million inhabitants. The region’s capital city is Sankt Pölten with nearly 50,000 inhabitants.

The Champagne-Ardenne Region is situated in the northeastern part of France, near the Belgian border. The total area of the region is 25,606 km², with approx. 1.34 million inhabitants. The region’s capital city is Châlons-en-Champagne with nearly 50,000 inhabitants.

The Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region is an autonomous seashore region in northern Italy, which has been enjoying its special status since 1963, thanks to specific geographical, ethnical, and historical conditions. In the west, it borders on the Venetian Region, in the north, on Austria, and in the east, on Slovenia. The region is one of 20 Italian regions, of which only five have autonomous status. The region covers a total area of 7,856 km² and is inhabited by 1.19 million inhabitants. The region’s capital city is Trieste with 200,000 inhabitants.

The autonomous Nitra Region is situated in the south of the Slovak Republic, on the border with Hungary. The region covers a total of 6,343 km² and is inhabited by 710,000 inhabitants. The capital city of the region is Nitra with 88,000 inhabitants.

Cooperation with Lower Austria took on a concrete form through contracts of future cooperation between Vysočina and Lower Austria, the municipalities of Horn and Raabs with Telč, during the Lower Austrian Exposition in 2009: all five partners signed the contract on November 22. The contract stipulates that a part the large traditional exposition will take place in Telč. Thus, for the first time in its history, the exposition will not only step outside the limits of its region, but also the limits of its country.

Another concrete accomplishment is, for example, the October visit of the workers of the Cultural Section of the autonomous Nitra Region, directors of Slovak regional museums, and Slovak conservation historians. Having viewed the Vysočina Region’s important historic sites, they agreed on without hesitation on mutual exchange of concrete exposition, exhibitions, as well as internship for their staff.

Trips abroad of regional representatives in 2006	
Belgium – Brussels (Open Days)	Bohumil Kotlán, Jiří Vlach, Václav Kodet, Miroslav Houška, Petr Kesl, Jaroslav Poborský, Jaroslav Hulák, Tomáš Havlík, Milan Havlíček, Marie Černá, Miloš Vystrčil, Jan Nekula, Jaroslav Huňáček, Vladislav Nechvátal, Milan Šmíd, Simona Kafoňková, Vladimír Novotný, Jiří Běhounek, Hana Žáková, Zdeňka Škarková, Zdeněk Jirsa, Miroslav Březina, Zdeňka Švaříčková, Jiří Hrdlička, Karel Coufal, Tomáš Kamp, Simeona Zikmundová
Netherlands, Belgium – Brussels	Jiří Vondráček
France – Champagne Ardenne	Miloš Vystrčil
France – Strasbourg	Marie Černá, Jana Fischerová
France	Simeona Zikmundová
Israel	Pavel Hájek
Luxembourg	Václav Kodet, Miroslav Houška
Germany – Ulm, Karlsruhe	Ivo Rohovský
Slovakia – Nitra	Simeona Zikmundová, Miloš Vystrčil

Public Relations



The Regional website is one of the most important tools for conveying information to the community, for the promotion of the Region, and for cooperation with the news media. The well-known site, www.kr-vysocina.cz, has since the Region's inception amassed an enormous amount of data, due to the fact that the Region uses it to publicize practically everything that laws permit. Vysočina has, in this way, twice scored in the competition "Otevřeno" (Open), which assesses openness and transparency in decision-making by Czech administrative offices. In 2004, the website won the competition, and, in 2006, it received acknowledgement for publishing a list of administrators' and politicians' telephone numbers, including to their mobile phones, thereby making it possible to determine whether or not they are at work.

Specifically for the community, the regional and non-profit organizations issue a monthly publication named *Zpravodaj* (Reporter) that has also earned several recognitions. The periodical, which informs of the latest legislation, regional decrees, subsidies, and the like, is the holder of a professional-level certificate in the competition Zlatý středník 2006 (Golden Semicolon 2006).

For the public, the Region also prints the monthly publication *Kraj Vysočina*, a very popular periodical, which took first place in the category Best Magazine for Public Information in the Zlatý středník competition in 2004. In 2006, the monthly magazine was awarded a professional-level certificate in this competition. According to a public opinion survey, conducted in 2006 by the Factum Invenio agency, 64 % of the Region's inhabitants read *Kraj Vysočina*.

The Office of Public Relations issues an abundance of news and information on a daily basis.

In 2006, the Region released 395 such communications. Of that number, 165 were issued directly by the Section of Regional President's Secretariat, and great information potential was also demonstrated by the Section of Education, Youth, and Sports, as well as the Section of Regional Development. Most frequently, journalists' inquiries were concerned with transportation and health care.

In 2006, the Region gave financial support to 39 notable sporting, cultural, and social events with a total contribution of CZK 5,415,000. The events were such that, either their impact reached beyond the limits of the Region, or they were, conversely, typical of the Vysočina Region

The Office of Public Relations also released, or participated in the release of, five publications that deal with activities in the Region

- A Pocket Guide to Vysočina
- Putting Safety First
- Vysočina, the Region of Information Technology
- RowaNet – the regional backbone network
- The Vysočina Cultural Heritage Map

In addition to the many activities that were specific to individual sections, in 2006, the Regional Authority itself was recognized for its administrative operations and for its extraordinary openness and transparency in dealing with the public and cooperating with institutions and partners.

- 3rd place in the category Otevřeno 2006 (Open 2006) – for its on-line visual display of administrators' attendance at the workplace, and for listing mobile telephone numbers, including that of the director and those of the City Council members on the web
- Corporate Medium 2005/06 – 2nd place for the monthly publication *Kraj Vysočina* in the category of periodicals of non-profit, allowance, and budgetary public administration organizations
- Certifikát profesionální úrovně Zlatý středník 2006 – *Zpravodaj* (The Golden Semicolon 2006 professional level certificate – *Zpravodaj*)
- Certifikát vysoké profesionální úrovně „Zlatý středník 2006“ – měsíčník *Kraj Vysočina*
- The Czech Republic's National Award for Quality in 2006– recognizing improved performance of an organization (rating is based on the CAF model)
- Organization of excellent public services (for applying the CAF methods), Ministry of the Interior 2006

THE VYSOČINA REGION'S SYMBOLS

Symbols of the Region

The Vysočina regional crest is presented in a four-section coat of arms: the first field of blue containing a silver-red-checked, gold--crowned eagle in gold armor; in the second and third silver fields the municipality's symbols: a red hedgehog and red rowanberries on a two-leaved green sprig, respectively; and the fourth field in red depicting a silver, gold-crowned lion in gold armor. The same symbols appear on the Region's flag.



Symbolism

1st field	the Moravian eagle – the historic national symbol of Moravia, in the eastern part of the Region
2nd field	the hedgehog – the symbol of the Region's capital (the so-called key derivative of the town crest of the region's capital city – Jihlava)
3rd field	a symbol of particular regional identity – the rowan tree, being typical to the Region of Vysočina, exemplifies its resiliency and simple beauty
4th field	the Czech lion – the historic national symbol of Bohemia, in the western part of the region

The Vysočina Region's representatives approved the regional crest on 20 November 2001.

The Vysočina Region's Logo

The Vysočina logo reflects the basic communication principles of the Region, such as proactive, accommodating, and respectful approach. The image, which simultaneously functions as an accent on one of the letters in the text, visually embodies the character of the region – Vysočina. The logo's color scheme (blue and green) brings to mind associations such as cleanliness, water, forests, fresh air, and the environment. Simultaneously, this color scheme reinforces the liveliness and the overall refreshing nature of the Region's logo.



Calendar of Noteworthy Events in Vysočina in 2006	
January	Regional Counsel members supported the preparation of Martina Sáblíková for the Winter Olympics with a sum of CZK 150,000, even before her first shining performance at the championship in Hamar.
February	Vysočina is buried under piles of snow and the Winter Stadium in Humpolec collapses under the weight like a house of cards. Dozens of roofs fall in. The Region offers to cover the residents' costs for a static engineer.
March	The Region's backbone internet network RowaNet is up and running. Fiber-optic cables interconnecting the public administration, principally, measure about 160 kilometers.
April	Only the third woman in the history of the contest and she is from Vysočina. Ivana Krumplová from the elementary school in Krásovy Domky, Pelhřimov, wins, with considerable lead, the Zlatý Ámos contest and is crowned the Queen of all Czech teachers for an entire year.
May	The winning prize in the Regional contest in cultural undertaking of the year goes to the reconstructed granary portal in Luky nad Jihlavou and the Blacksmiths Symposium called Brtnická Anvil. In reality, however, everyone who loves historical monuments was a winner. An incredible 16,000 people voted; compared to the previous year, that was fabulous.
June	The Region opens, as is traditional, its place of business to the public. People had a chance to try out what it is like to preside a region; there was entertainment in the courtyard with music, and refreshments were served.
July	The representatives decide to take out the first large bank loan in the Region's history. In order to mend its bad roads, Vysočina takes out a loan of CZK 500 million, thereof CZK 150 million in 2006.
August	A rainy summer, and, mainly, a very wet week before the harvest, causes the standing crop of wheat to germinate in the fields. All of the wheat fields were damaged, and farmers cleared only half their normal yields.
September	The unique Memorial to Eavesdropping in the Lipnický Quarry gains an addition: a relief depicting a giant Mouth of Truth, complemented with a giant Bretschneider's Ear.
October	The firm undertaking the repair of the roads from Jihlava to Přísek begins to admit, despite prior assurances, that they would not finish the project before the winter, thus confirming what everyone already knew.
November	In the first month of its existence, the Family Pass – a discounted card for families with children – draws almost one thousand interested parties. The Family Pass has a positive impact on people.
December	The police take Petr Zelenka, a male nurse from the ICU in Havlíčkův Brod, into custody. He admitted to using the blood thinner Heparin in a series of homicides.

Crisis Management



The most important tool in the management of emergency situations in the Region's territory is the Integrated Rescue System (IZS). In essence, it is a number of cooperating organizations that are able to handle professionally any kind of incident/accident.

The Integrated Rescue System comprises of two types of units: basic and others.

The basic IZS units provide assistance, on a 24/7 basis, in situations threatening to or endangering persons' life, health, or property, as follows:

- Firemen's Rescue Brigade Czech Republic
- Firefighting units allocated so as to cover individual districts of the Region
- Medical Rescue Services
- Czech Republic Police

Other IZS units provide assistance during rescue operation or liquidation of damages on a planned basis, upon request, in accordance with contractual conditions. Their list derives from the Region's IZS Emergency Plan, as follows

- Designated armed forces and means
- Other armed security units
- Other rescue units
- Public health protection authorities
- Catastrophe, emergency, processional and other services
- Civil defense facilities
- Non-profit organizations and civic associations available for rescue and liquidation work

Other selected IZS units in Vysočina:

- 153rd Rescue Battalion Jindřichův Hradec
- Customs Directorate Brno
- ČEPRO, a. s., Šlapanov Center
- České dráhy, a. s. (Czech Railways)
- Český červený kříž (Czech Red Cross), Jihlava Regional Society
- Český červený kříž (Czech Red Cross), Pelhřimov District Society
- ČEZ, a. s. – HZSp JE Dukovany (Dukovany Nuclear Power Plant's Firemen)
- ČIŽP OI Havlíčkův Brod
- DIAMO, s. p., Stráž pod Ralskem
- E.ON Česká republika, a. s.
- Hasičská záchranná služba (Czech Railway Firemen's Rescue Services)
- ICOM transport, a. s., Jihlava
- Regional Veterinary Administration for the Vysočina Region
- Jihlava City Police
- Pretol HB, s. r. o.
- TRADO-BUS, s. r. o., Třebíč
- Vodní záchranná služba ČČK Třebíč (Water Rescue Services)

In October 2006, the second year of large-scale tactical exercises of the Vysočina Region's IZS units took place, entitled "Horizont 2006". This year's theme was crash of an air carrier with passengers on board during attempted emergency landing. The exercise took place at the Jihlava-Henčov Airport, and the objective was to test the IZS procedures and tactics during joint rescue intervention and liquidation, to check the communication links amongst the IZS units, and to identify the scope and level of cooperation of the participating IZS units.

The exercise enabled the IZS units to verify their procedures and tactics during a joint action involving a major accident with a considerable number of injured persons and environmental emergency. Collaboration of the IZS units was also verified on tactical and operational level during rescue and liquidation processes, whereby emphasis was put on verification of the communication links between the Region's IZS units and their subsequent cooperation with the AČR 153th Rescue Battalion Jindřichův Hradec, the Institute for Professional Cause Assessment of Aviation Accidents, environmental protection authorities, air rescue services, and other rescue units.

The exercise proved good preparedness on the part of the Vysočina Region's Integrated Rescue System (IZS) to organize rescue of persons' lives, health, and property.

In addition to being in charge of certain IZS units, the Region also provides financial subsidies to other units in whose current operations it is not involved.

Furthermore, the Region supports with considerable financial amounts volunteer firemen's brigades every year. The Region not only appreciates their independent input, but also their contribution to the social life in their communities. In 2006, volunteer firemen received CZK 1.37 million for contests, work with young people, and prevention, and CZK 4.43 million for technical provisions and activities.

Financing of IZS units from the Region's budget, in CZK

Year	HZS*	SDH	Cynologists' Rescue Brigade	CR Police	Czech Red Cross
2002	3,500,000	5,000,000	–	–	–
2003	3,500,000	5,300,000	50,000	100,000	–
2004	3,000,000	5,300,000	50,000	100,000	–
2005	4,000,000	7,300,000	40,000	60,000	50,000
2006	4,682,000	5,800,000	–	–	–

*SDH – Volunteer Firemen's Brigade; HZS – Firemen's Rescue Brigade

THE REGIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

The Regional Security Council is the authority that coordinates preparedness for crises.

Composition of the Security Council of the Vysočina Region:		
Miloš Vystrčil	Chairman	Miloš Vystrčil, Regional President, Chairman of the Regional Council Committee
Pavel Maslák	Vice-chairman	HZS of Vysočina
Václav Kodet	member	First Regional Vice-President
Simeona Zikmundová	member	Directress of the Regional Authority of Vysočina
Drahošlav Ryba	member	Director of the Vysočina Region's Firemen's Rescue Brigade
Roman Heinz	member	Deputy Director of Czech Republic Police – South Moravian Administration
Lukáš Kettner	member	Director of the Vysočina Region's Medical Rescue Services
Vladimír Trávník	member	Director of the Regional Military Headquarters in Jihlava
Zdeněk Linhart	member	Director of the Dukovany Nuclear Power Plant
Jan Murárik	member-secretary	Head of Section for Emergencies of the Regional Authority of Vysočina

Crime Rate in Czech regions in 2005

	Total number of crimes	Crimes per 1,000 inhabitants	Number of crimes resolved
Vysočina	7,993	16	3,985
Karlovy Vary	10,081	33	5,551
Zlín	10,176	17	5,125
Pardubice	10,288	20	4,964
Hradec Králové	11,674	21	6,202
Olomouc	14,841	23	7,587
Liberec	15,037	35	8,164
Pilsen	15,138	28	6,648
South Bohemia	16,752	27	8,228
South Moravia	30,878	27	12,678
Ústí	32,751	40	17,649
Moravia-Silesia	35,139	28	16,776
Central Bohemia	37,208	32	11,297
Prague	95,731	81	20,070
Czech Republic	343,687	34	134,924

Source: ČSÚ Jihlava

Grant Program of the Vysočina Fund in Crime Prevention in 2006

Title and Focus of Grant Program	Breakdown of support from V.F. (CZK)	Respective share of successful candidates (CZK)	Total extent of completed projects (CZK)
Crime Prevention 2006 (support for specific crime prevention program)	1,022,600	1,509,853	2,532,453

Informatics





Vysočina ranks very high amongst the country's regions in the use of new technologies and development of IT. We like to mention this fact and are quite proud of ourselves in this respect. The role of informatics has been constantly growing – new technologies help us create better conditions for faster decision-making on the part of authorities, take better care of our patients, provide more comfort to our tourists, or find new job opportunities for our Region's citizens.

In 2006, we finalized the operability of the regional optical backbone, known as ROWANet. It got its name after a tree whose fruit is used in the Vysočina Region's emblem (rowan). The network does many very useful things. It interlinks the computers installed in the offices of administration buildings, schools, rescue teams, firemen, libraries, museums, and institutions, enabling all of them to exchange data on-line, as fast as if we were sitting under one roof. This is quite a breakthrough even today, in the e-mail era. A nearly unlimited volume of data can be processed this way, and if we add to it the data bus we have, too, it means that we can answer virtually any question, conduct any analysis, and above all monitor any process to see whether it is effective or otherwise. In short, it makes the work on our Region's development easier and more constructive. The positive impact of ROWANet could be compared to the impact of electrification in bygone days. We know how live without it, but we would hardly want to turn the clock backwards.

The account of success stories in the sphere of informatics in 2006 is quite long. By way of an example, I might mention our work on information points for entrepreneurs, public Internet in municipalities, Internet booths for tourists, and numerous other things – all of them practical and useful.

In essence, Vysočina is a rural region – we have no mega city, we only have a network of practically equally outfitted towns and villages. Interlinking them globally and mutually is the best we can do to optimize their chances for continuous development.

Jaroslav Hulák

Councillor for Informatics and Zone Planning

In the sphere of information technology and information promulgation (informatics), the Vysočina Region is generally considered to be the leader amongst the Czech regions. The Region's priorities include, in particular, support for infrastructure development, both direct and indirect, through constant intensification of public awareness of the benefits of new technologies. Another priority is development of electronic services that improve the effectiveness and openness of public administration processes in the Region. Regional, national, and international partnerships play a positive role in the quality and timelessness of projects implemented as part of information and communication technologies development. Good examples of a meaningful international cooperation are, for instance, the ICHNOS or IANIS+ projects, in which the Vysočina Region participated successfully in 2006.

The Region has successfully completed implementation of the Jihlava metropolitan network that links the hospital, the schools, and regional field offices, as well as the regional backbone network – ROWANet. Similar support has been given to facilitation of data exchange amongst the Integrated Rescue System's individual units, i.e., firemen, police, and medical rescue services.

The most visible result of the Region's efforts in this sphere is the region's website, which has gradually grown to the point of becoming a good and user-friendly information portal containing practically all information that the Region can provide.

ROWANET (www.rowanet.cz)

The Region has gradually interconnected a part of its territory by means of a backbone optical telecommunication network, called ROWANet, and, in March 2006, the network was launched into routine operation. It is primarily designated to serve the public administration, as it provides for high-speed data exchange, high-speed Internet, disk backup, voice services, and other options.



ROWANet is half-financed by the Region, 40 % by the European Union (SROP 2.2), and 10% from the state budget. On principle, the network is no competitor to commercial providers of Internet services – it is not designated for public or business use.

In 2006, the Region's investment expenditures in informatics amounted to CZK 7,404,748, thereof CZK 1,869,852 for development – primarily development of ROWANet, the regional backbone based on optical fibers and CWDM technologies (CZK 915,319). Another major investment was the SomtNet – MAX project, which was financed from regional funds (CZK 740,524), with a contribution of CZK 1,435,000 from the Broadband Fund of the Ministry of Informatics CR. Further funds were invested into the technical infrastructure of IZS (CZK 79,730) and into a survey of information sources amongst the inhabitants of the Vysočina Region.

Development of informatics in the Region

Purpose	Amount in CZK
ROWANet	915,319
SomtNet – MAX	740,524
TIIZS	79,730
Survey of information sources	134,279
Total	1,869,852

Investment in the amount of CZK 5,534,896 was laid out for activities of the regional administration, i.e., the Regional Office's agenda. This amount included, above all, acquisition of hardware (PCs, notebooks/laptops, printers, servers) and software, as well as investment into data for the GIS division and development of the metropolitan network.

Regional administration's agenda

Purpose	Amount in CZK
Hardware	2,820,048
Software	1,672,528
GIS data	752,811
Metropolitan network	289,509
Total	5,534,896

SURVEY OF INFORMATION SOURCES

In 2006, a survey of information sources amongst the population of Vysočina was conducted, with focus not only on the public, but also the degree of using IT by the public administration.

The survey revealed, inter alia, that 86 % of the population uses the Internet at home and 40 % at work. 67 % of the Region's population use the Internet on a daily basis. In the Region's households, the most common mode of linkage is the telephone line (31 %), followed by ADSL (25 %), and WiFi (13 %).

Three quarters of the Vysočina population believe that electronization would simplify communication with administrative authorities, whereas 18 % believe otherwise. 35 % of the population prefer the Internet as information source, but 56 % reject it. An overwhelming majority of the population (85 %) prefer personal contact, mere 3 % would rather choose electronic communication. As for communication with the Regional Authority, most people prefer personal contact (50 %), by phone 18 %, and on-line 7 %. 8 % of the population is familiar with and visit the Region's website, 15 % know it and have seen it, 29 % know it but have not as yet seen it, and 48 % of the population do not know this website at all.

THE GOLDEN COAT-OF-ARMS (EMBLEM)

The Vysočina Region has been very successful ever since the beginning of competitions amongst regional, municipal, and community websites and electronic services. Systematic support for development of the Internet has evidently paid itself off also for the winning municipalities. In 2006, the town of Okříšky (www.okrisky.cz) took second place in the category of "Best Municipal Website".

Accomplishments of Vysočina's municipal administrations in the Golden Emblem contest

Year	Municipality	Place	Category	www
2000	Jihlava	1st place	Towns	www.jihlava.cz
2001	Jihlava region	2nd place	Regions	www.kr-vysocina.cz
2002	Nové Město na Moravě	2nd place	Towns	www.nmmn.cz
	Vysočina Region	2nd place	Regions	www.kr-vysocina.cz
2003	Jihlava	1st place	Towns	www.jihlava.cz
	Třebíč	2nd place	Towns	www.trebic.cz
	Nové Město na Moravě	2nd place	Towns	www.nmmn.cz
	Vysočina Region	1st place	Regions	www.kr-vysocina.cz
2004	Okříšky	1st place	Best Municipal Website	www.okrisky.cz
2005	Dolní Vilémovice	1st place	Best Municipal Website	www.dolnivilemovice.cz
2006	Okříšky	2nd place	Best Municipal Website	www.okrisky.cz

Grant Programs of the Vysočina Fund in Informatics in 2006

Title and Focus of Grant Program	Breakdown of support from V.F. (CZK)	Respective share of successful candidates (CZK)	Total extent of completed projects (CZK)
Public Access Internet II (support for greater accessibility of the Internet)	948,423	1,132,050	2,080,473
GIS V (support for geoinformatic infrastructure)	1,000,000	1,054,741	2,054,741
Metropolitan Networks V (support for communication infrastructure in public administration)	1,241,378	2,504,518	3,745,896
GIS VI (support for geoinformatic infrastructure)	926,898	955,876	1,882,774
Public Access Internet III (support for greater accessibility of the Internet)	997,010	1,158,578	2,155,588
Websites for All (development of communication infrastructure)	487,764	927,631	1,415,395
Security ICT II (development of security for ISVS and communication infrastructure)	299,555	261,651	561,206
Metropolitan Networks VI (support for communication infrastructure in public administration)	1,250,000	1,957,603	3,207,603
Total	7,151,028	9,952,648	17,103,676

The Regional Authority





The very word office or administration probably does not arouse particularly pleasant feelings in anyone, as it somehow automatically associated with paperwork, grey color tones, office spaces, and waiting.

But the Regional Authority in Vysočina is completely different. Anyone who visits the Regional Authority is usually very surprised and amazed. The service is fast and professional, the premises are well lit, and the impression is pleasant. Such are the comments we hear from our visitors – and it is not accountable solely to the fact that our domicile is an extraordinary place.

The credit goes above all to the people. Every one of my colleagues knew from the very beginning that he or she wants to build up something new – an administration that would function like a real service organization for the benefit of the Region and its citizens, an administration that is very open, forthcoming, and highly professional – that was the way we have chosen to take. After all, Vysočina was founded as a new regional territory and we knew we did not want to blend in for mediocrity.

The year 2006 proved our way of thinking as correct. Namely, there exists yet another criterion that indicates objectively where we stand in terms of new, modern approach to progress, such as various competitions and prize-awarding contests proclaimed by various institutions and civic associations on a national and international level. As a rule, Vysočina places very well in these events. In 2006, we won five awards for the quality of our administration and for its conduct – i.e., for openness, informing the public, professionalism, etc.

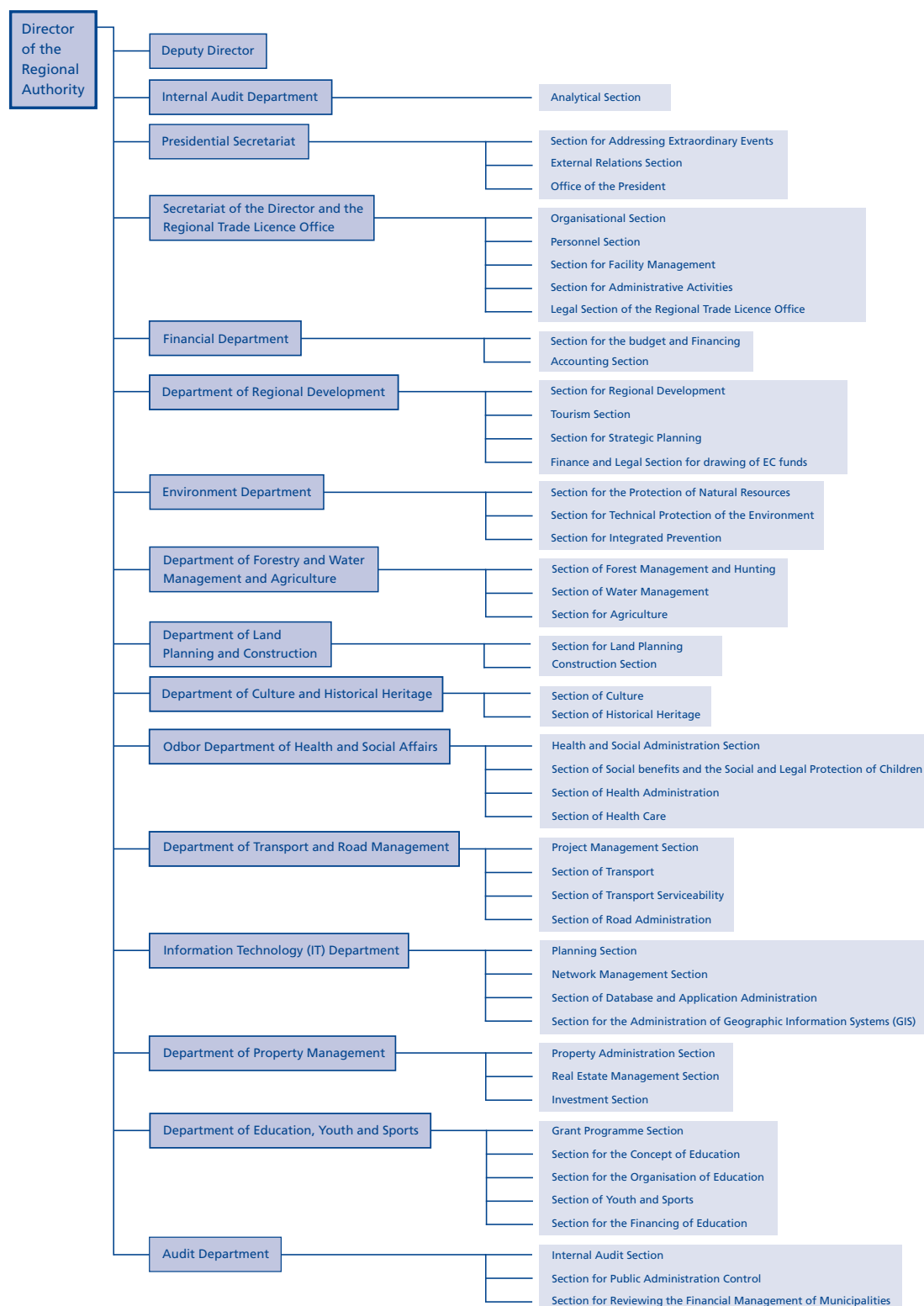
I may therefore confidently state in good conscience and with pride that such a number of awards is quite exceptional, compared to other regions, and I want to emphasize that all of the Region's employees deserve our appreciation for their extraordinary patience and assiduity, their outstanding endeavor and work input, as well as for the respect they have for their work, and for their attitude to Vysočina.

Simeona Zikmundová

Directress of the Regional Authority

The Regional Authority employs 384 workers (as of 1. 3. 2007). Organization-wise, the RA is divided into 15 departments that have a total of 47 sections. The RA is headed by a Director who manages its agenda through managers of the individual departments. For fulfillment of the RA's agenda, the Director answers to the Regional President. When absent, the Director is represented, to full extent of his powers, by the Assistant Director who is responsible, inter alia, for drafting of strategic documents and for the management system.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



Responsibilities of the Regional Office's Individual Departments

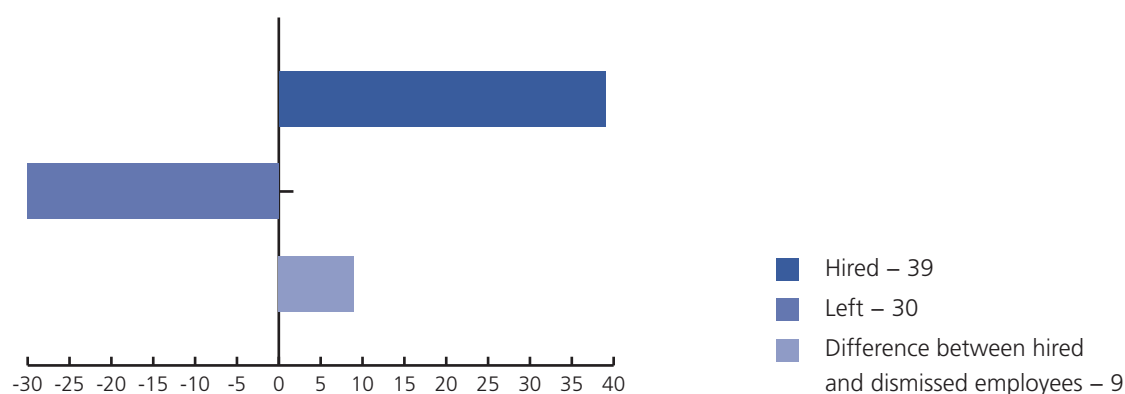
Department	Section	Autonomous competences (local admin.)	Delegated competences (state admin.)
Presidential Secretariat	Section for Addressing Extraordinary Events	crime prevention, Romany agenda, anti-drug strategy, integration of foreigners	integrated rescue system, crisis management
	External Relations Section	the Region's website, communication with the press and public, the Region's foreign relations, promotion	
	Office of the President	organization of the Council's and Assembly's meetings, work assignments and social events; information, organizational, and administrative services for elected representatives	
Secretariat of the Director and the Regional Trade Licence Office	Personnel Section	labor relations, personal and social development, education, remuneration, payroll agenda	
	Section for Facility Management	management of the Region's buildings, vehicle park management, food services, work security, technical assurance of the Region's operations	penalty/fine ticket agenda
	Organisational Section	the Region's internal regulations, management structure; documentation agenda and filing (archives), coordination and optimization of activities, file recording and services	
	Section for Administrative Activities	checking in Collection of Laws, Coll. of International Treaties, and EU Newsletter	state citizenship, election, Births & deaths Register, DSO and ZSPO registration, methodological assistance to municipalities, statutory contracts, revision of decisions on offences, supervision over delegated competences of municipalities
	Legal Section of the Regional Trade Licence Office	legal services for all Regional authorities, standpoints to legal bills and drafts of rules of procedure, collection /solicitation of the Region's receivables, representation of the Region in court proceedings, the Labor Code agenda, obligations arising from Act No. 101/2000 Coll., on privacy protection, legal regulations of the Region	state administration agenda related to trade and business agenda, state administration agenda related to agriculture, supervision over compliance with Act No. 40/1995 Coll., on advertising regulations, war victims' graves, and funerary agenda
Financial Department		travel expenses, reimbursements, the Region's loans	public collections, lotteries, raffles, review of municipal decisions about fees and taxes
	Section for the budget and Financing	the Region's budget, loans, subsidies from the EU	Procurement of state subsidies to municipalities, methodological assistance to municipalities
	Accounting Section	the Region's accounting	account statements for central authorities

Department	Section	Autonomous competences (local admin.)	Delegated competences (state admin.)
Department of Regional Development	Section for Strategic Planning	regional development strategy, management of databases, support for rural development	energy concepts
	Section for Regional Development	Investment incentives, cooperation with entrepreneurs, support for the non-profit sector, preparation of EU projects	
	Tourism Section	comprehensive support for tourism development, grant agenda in support of tourism	
	Finance and legal section for the drawing of ec funds	public assistance, economic and legal issues involved in assurance of subsidies from SF EU	
Environment Department	Section for the Protection of natural Resources	assessment of environmental factors, establishment of nature parks, genetically modified organisms	protection of the nature and countryside, damages caused by protected species, protection of arable land, construction in areas with natural resources, evaluation of environmental factors, GMOs
	Section for Technical Protection of the Environment	waste management, air protection, radon program	waste management, air protection, radon program
	Section for Integrated Prevention	integrated permits, environmental enlightenment and education	Integrated pollution register, assurance of accessibility of information about the environment, prevention of environmental disasters
Department of Forestry and Water Management and Agriculture	Section of Forest Management and Hunting	strategic materials, control over allocations into forestry management	state-managed forests, game protection, including allocation to game keeping; state management of reforestation
	Section of Water Management	subsidies in water management, flood prevention, water management planning	public water system, sewer system, fishing and fish pond management, water protection, agenda the building authority specializing in water projects
	Section for Agriculture	strategic materials, allocations to forestry and agriculture	financial contributions to forestry management, protection of animals against cruelty, veterinary services, disclosure of outstanding (due) balance
Department of Land Planning and Construction	Section for Land Planning	zone development and regulation plan	zone planning
	Construction Section		Building Code agenda in the Region's competence
Department of Education, Youth and Sports	Section for the Concept of Education	education, employment, labor market, HR development	educational system development
	Section for the Organisation of Education	administrative work with the regional schools' networks	superior administrative authority over schools
	Section of Youth and Sports	development of leisure time activities, sports areas, methodology of solutions for specific social phenomena, cooperation with NGOs	prevention of socio-pathological phenomena, Min. of Education contests, sports for the handicapped
	Section for the Financing of Education	investments, movable assets, financial management of the Region's schools	regional standards, development programs, procurement of state allocations to private and clerical schools
	Grant Programme Section	Administration of EU subsidies	

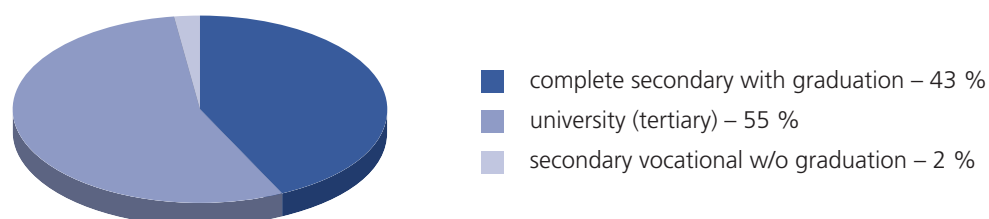
Department	Section	Autonomous competences (local admin.)	Delegated competences (state admin.)
Department of Culture and Historical Heritage	Section of Culture	development of culture in the Region, preservation and presentation of the Region's movable cultural heritage, establishing of allowance organizations, contributions to non-professional arts	competences in audio-visual arts, periodical and non-periodical publications
	Section of Historical Heritage	preservation and restoration of cultural sites, contributions to owners	state conservation issues, list of cultural heritage sites
Odbor Department of Health and Social Affairs	Section of Social benefits and the Social and Legal Protection of Children	establishing of foster care facilities, foster care	state administration of social welfare benefits, foster care – consultancy, record-keeping, preparation
	Section of Health Care	establishing of social welfare facilities, development of social services, cooperation with NGOs	execution of state administrative measures in social services
	Section of Health Administration	establishing of health care facilities, development of health care network, drafting of health care plan	
	Health and Social Administration Section	conceptual health care materials, assurance of health care services for public welfare	complaints/claims, medical evaluations, authorization to operate health care facilities, expert committees, drug abuse treatment, register of social services providers
Department of Transport and Road Management	Section of Transport		state supervision by specialists in transport, state administration in cargo transport, exemptions from driving restrictions, safety, prevention, state administration in matters involving Class I (district) roads, transport of extra-large cargo
	Section of Transport Serviceability	transport service capacity	timetables, technical controls, licenses
	Section of Road Administration	establishing of SÚS; repairs, maintenance and management of roads, biking paths, strategy	
Information Technology (IT) Department	Planning Section	development of information technologies, informatization concepts of the Region	
	Section of Database and Application Administration	administration and adjustment of applications, creation and maintenance of databases, data exchange, technical support, user support, technical administration of websites	
	Section for the Administration of Geographic Information Systems (GIS)	creation and updating of maps, GIS administration, map services, cartographic outputs	
	Network Management Section	data networks, voice services, technical admin. and support	
Department of Property Management	Property Administration Section	management of the Region's real estate	
	Real Estate Management Section	investment and non-investment projects, building security, energy economy, effective exploitation of real assets	
	Investment Section	public investment projects, central recording of commissioned work	

Department	Section	Autonomous competences (local admin.)	Delegated competences (state admin.)
Audit Department	Internal Audit Section	audits of departmental activities, proposed measures, central recording of grievances and petitions	
	Section for Public Administration Control	audits of management of public funds by the Region's allowance organizations and public support recipients	drafting/compilation of annual reports on financial audits for the Ministry of Finance
	Section for Reviewing the Financial Management of Municipalities		review of economic management of municipalities and community associations
Internal Audit Department		internal audits focused on conformity to regulations, measures, and procedures, and adherence to remedial measures	
	Analytical Section	data storage, analyses for local and regional authorities, database proposals	

Ratio of the Regional Authority's hired and dismissed employees in 2006



Educational level of RA's employees in 2006



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