

# V<sup>th</sup> NATION-WIDE ANTHROPOLOGICAL SURVEY 1991 IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC COMPARISON WITH 1981 DATA

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## SUMMARY

The objective of the survey was to assess whether a secular trend still affected growth of the Czech child population and, if necessary, to update national growth standards. The study was designed in such a manner so that trends in child growth, obtained from comparisons of body height, body weight and head circumference from the two successive nation-wide representative surveys (1981, 1991) of the Czech child population, could be followed. Representative random samples of the Czech child population from 0 to 18 years of age were studied with the following number of examined subjects: 86 846 in 1991 and 117 643 in 1981. Nation-wide standards and growth charts for assessment of growth and development of both individuals and specific groups present main outcome of the survey. Statistically significant differences were found in body height (both sexes) and weight (more in boys). No highly significant differences were registered in head circumference. Based on newly assembled data growth charts for assessment of body height, proportionality and head circumference were designed. The findings of this study did not support the hypothesis that the secular trend in Czech child population has already ceased.

*Key words:* growth monitoring, body height, weight, national standards

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