Transition to adulthood and leaving the parental home in the Czech Republic

Sylva Höhne & Anna Šťastná
Leaving the parental home - selected issues:

- insight into the process of leaving the parental home
- timing of leaving home in the Czech Republic
- various determinants affecting this process
- role of certain factors in the decision-making process
- question of housing affordability in the context of housing related policies

- data source: Czech GGS (2005)
Postponement of family formation and childbearing in the Czech Republic

Mean age at first marriage - men
Mean age at first marriage - women
Mean age at first birth - women

Source: CZSO
Timing of leaving home - gender perspective

At the age of 24: 50% of men and 30% of women at parental home

Method: Kaplan-Meier survival plot
Life events and family related factors that...

encourage leaving:
- higher level of education
- living in partnership
- more than one sibling
- one step-parent (women – living in one parent family)

work against leaving:
- studying
- single
- no siblings
- both biological parents

Note: the event-history model (piecewise constant model) with time-constant and time-varying covariates.
Effects of leaving home and decision-making process

- Positive effects on:
  personal freedom, joy and satisfaction in life, sexual life

- Factors in decision-making process:
  partnership, age, economic activity, other people’s opinion
Life-course perspective

- Young generations: postponement of family formation and childbearing → no similar changes concerning leaving the parental home
  → New stage in life trajectory?
- In the past: leaving the parental home closely linked to getting married and childbearing
  → problem of housing availability
- Nowadays: life events spread over longer time period, independent life as single or in cohabitation
  → problem of housing affordability
Fear of deterioration of financial situation and real development in housing market

Consumer price index (1994 = 100)

- blue: total
- red: housing
- green: food


%: 0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350

Source: CZSO
Housing-related policies

- 2 housing market sectors: „privileged“ and „unprivileged“
- reliance rather upon state than individual (family) activity persists among young people with lower education (lower income groups)
- state housing support focuses on owner-occupied housing (higher income groups)
- (recommended) measures of supporting rental housing is slowly introduced
Thank you for your attention.

sylva.hohne@vupsv.cz
anna.stastna@vupsv.cz