Higher parental benefit as an incentive to fertility increase?

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Number of life births 1990-2007

Vývoj počtu živě narozených v ČR v letech 1990-2007
Total fertility rate and average age of mother at first birth

Vývoj úhrnné plodnosti a průměrného věku matek při narození prvního dítěte
Women’s age-specific fertility rates

Chart showing the age-specific fertility rates for women from 2000 to 2007. The chart plots the number of live births per 1000 women aged 20 to 39, with each year from 2000 to 2007 represented by a different line or symbol.

The peak fertility rates occur around age 26, with a slight decline after age 30. The fertility rates for 2007 are slightly lower compared to the earlier years.
Fertility rates by women’s birth cohorts

Generační míry plodnosti žen narozených v letech 1970-1980

The graph illustrates the fertility rates by women’s birth cohorts from 1970 to 1980. It shows the number of live births per 1000 women by age group for each birth cohort year.
Socio-economic developments in the Czech Republic after 2000

- Economic growth (increase in GDP reached over 6 per cent in 2005)
- Better housing policy (greater variability of tools)
- New family policy (National family policy concept adopted in 2005) – increase in financial support to families
  - Increase in birth grant (doubling the amount since 2006)
  - Increase in tax support (splitting system 2005-2007)
  - Increase in parental benefit
    - by 40% in 2004
    - doubling the amount in 2007 (€305)
Importance of parental benefit for the Czech Families

- The sufficient level of parental benefit gives mothers the possibility to stay at home until the child is four years old.

- It seems to work
  - as incentives in case of fertility
  - as disincentives in case of women’s employment