



Bridges between formal and non formal
education through validation

Czech Republic

jan.bruha@nuv.cz





National Register of Qualifications

Národní soustava kvalifikací

NSK



National Register of Qualifications (NSK)

- public register of vocational and complete vocational qualifications and their qualification standards and assessment standards
- system for the validation and recognition of learning outcomes (described in terms of learning outcomes)
- 8 qualification levels descriptors described in terms of competences (compatible with the EQF descriptors)
- qualifications ranging between EQF levels 2 to 7
- based on the descriptions of occupations in the National System of Occupations (NSP)
- Act on the Verification and Recognition of Further Education Results (179/2006)
- significant support of lifelong learning and adult education in the Czech Republic



Short history of NSK

2004 - Discussions whether to put validation and further education into legislation

2005 – 2008 – Systemic project NSK1 (Development of the National register of qualifications to support link between initial and further education)

2006 - Approval of the Act No. 179/2006 Coll. on the Verification and Recognition of Further Education Results

2007 – 2008 – Systemic project National System of Occupations (NSP)

2009 - Decree No. 176/2009 Coll., that specify necessities of the application for an accreditation of the education programme, an organisation of education in a retraining institution and a way of its completion

2009 - 2015 - Project NSK2 (Development and implementation of NSK)

2012 - Amendment of the Act No. 179/2006 Coll. and Decree No. 176/2009 Coll.

2013 - Government Decree no. 135/2013 on support and active using of NSK and also Act No. 179/2006 Coll.



Concept of the validation and recognition of non-formal and informal learning processes

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and the National Institute for Education.

The process and responsibilities of different institutions are defined in the **Act No. 179/2006 Coll. On the Verification and Recognition of Further Education Results** (so called Validation Act).



Qualification and assessment standards

Developed by the sector councils (**29 sector councils**).

Approved by the **Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports**.

The sector councils are expected to be proactive in suggesting what new standards are needed and where standards should be updated.

Sector councils bring together: employers' and employees' representatives as well as the National Institute for Education (NUE), the National Council for Qualifications, relevant ministries.



Qualification standard

Qualification standard (kvalifikační standard) is a list of the skills required for a specific work activity or activities in a particular occupation. These are the skills which are required for the relevant qualification. In other words, it is a set of competences, whose acquirement must on demonstrate at an exam.



Qualification standard

Example of the qualification standard for the vocational qualification **Sports massage**

1. Building rapport with a client
2. Assessment of physical, mental and social state of a client.
3. Conducting whole body hand massage – sports and reconditional, preperformance massage.
4. Applying massage lotions when massaging clients.
5. Ordering products, tools and devices for massage center at the suppliers.
6. Keeping health and hygiene regulations.
7. Storing and using massage lotions



Assessment standards

Assessment standard (hodnotící standard) is a list of criteria and procedures for validating the skills required in a particular occupation. It describes how to verify that the candidate possesses the skills required for the qualification. It is a detailed description of ways of validating competences described in the assessment standard.



Assessment standard

Example of the assessment standard for the vocational qualification **Sports massage**

6. Keeping health and hygiene regulations.

- Observe hygiene regulations and personal hygiene principles. Practical demonstration
- Provide the necessary material and technical equipment for the massage facility and explain the details of the operating procedure. Oral verification
- Describe the optimal hygienic conditions of the massage (quiet environment, suitable room temperature, safe massage chair, personal hygiene, hygiene of work equipment, fitness of body massagers, critical points on the body ...) in accordance with hygienic standards. Oral verification
- Demonstrate a general overview of anatomy and physiology of human body functions (function and position of muscles, bones, joints, spine and internal organs). Written and oral verification
- Describe and demonstrate the provision of first aid bases (according to the rules of the first-aid kit). Written verification and practical demonstration



Authorising body

Central administrative authority **competent to decide on granting**, renewal or withdrawal of authorisation based on the fact that a mandate set out in the annex to the Act No. 179/2006 Coll. belongs a profession or work, the performance of the relevant professional qualifications is concerned, or whose scope is a profession, or work activities, the closest (law definition).

Authorised person

A person or entity that **has been granted authorisation** by the Act No. 179/2006 Coll.



Who gives licence to authorised persons/institutions

This is done by **authorising bodies** who are the ministries under which the given vocational qualification falls (the Ministries of Regional Development, Agriculture, Health, Industry and Trade, Home Affairs, Education, Labour and Transport).

Authorisation is linked to a specific vocational qualification and is valid for the period of five years.

Those interested to become **authorised persons/institutions** need to request authorisation.

The process is described in the Act No. 179/2006 Coll.



Validation of non-formal and informal learning outcomes (based on the standard) – for vocational qualifications

Authorised person/institution – can be schools, private institutions, companies as well as individuals (for example a craftsman can become an authorised person).

Some assessment standards require the presence of a jury (two or three people).

The certificate is delivered by the authorised person or the jury.



Link between formal and non formal education (delivery of „formal“ education certificate) – based on complete vocational qualifications

Only schools can award „formal“ certificate based on completing complete vocational qualifications – (these are the same certificates as those awarded by schools to people who have achieved the qualification through formal education – VET certificate, maturita certificate).



Example 1

Sports massage is the vocational qualification.

Sports massage is also complete vocational qualification
(Sports massage consists of just 1 vocational qualification)



Example 2

Baker is the complete vocational qualification (consists of 2 vocational qualifications):

Production of bread and ordinary bakery products

Production of fine bakery products



Example 3

Gardener is the complete vocational qualification (consists of 6 vocational qualifications):

Florist

Flower gardener

Fruit gardener

Orchard gardener

Nursery gardener

Vegetable gardener

ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA

Autorizovaná osoba
INTERNATIONAL CYNOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION o.s. Číslo autorizace: MV-4864-2/08VV/VO-2013
Hyacintová 3234/11, 106 00 Praha10

s autorizací udělenou dne: 10. 1. 2013 pod spisovou značkou: MV-4864-2/08VV/VO-2013
autorizujícím orgánem: Ministerstvo vnitra

Autorizovaný zástupce autorizované osoby: «Předseda»

OSVĚDČENÍ
O ZÍSKÁNÍ PROFESNÍ KVALIFIKACE

«Jméno» «Příjmení»
«Rodné číslo», «Místo narození»

vykonal(a) dne «Den» v «Místě»
před autorizovanou osobou úspěšně zkoušku

podle § 18 zákona č. 179/2006 Sb., o ověřování a uznávání výsledků dalšího vzdělávání
a o změně některých zákonů (zákon o uznávání výsledků dalšího vzdělávání),
ve znění zákona č. 53/2012 Sb.

a získal(a) profesní kvalifikaci:

Přívod bezpečnostních služeb, 68-001-H

Podpis mluven



How to get formal education certificate based on the NSK certificate(s)?

Need to fulfill complete vocational qualification

Find the VET school

Complete the final examination for the corresponding formal education programme of study, where such exists (VET schools)

It is possible for some qualifications at EQF level 3 and 4

1253 vocational qualifications

127 complete vocational qualifications

National Register of Qualifications

This portal provides an overview of nationally recognized vocational qualifications in the Czech Republic, which can be obtained by validation of non-formal and informal learning.

This English version of the NSK portal provides simplified descriptions of vocational qualifications. Detailed descriptions of competences as defined in assessment standards are available in Czech only (in the Czech version of the portal).

[More information is available here](#)





How are qualifications included into the NSK system

New vocational qualifications in NSK are proposed by employers' representatives/sector councils.

A new qualification can be proposed by anyone - the form of the proposal can be via on-line form or sector council meetings.

The proposal is evaluated and then included/rejected in the production plan.

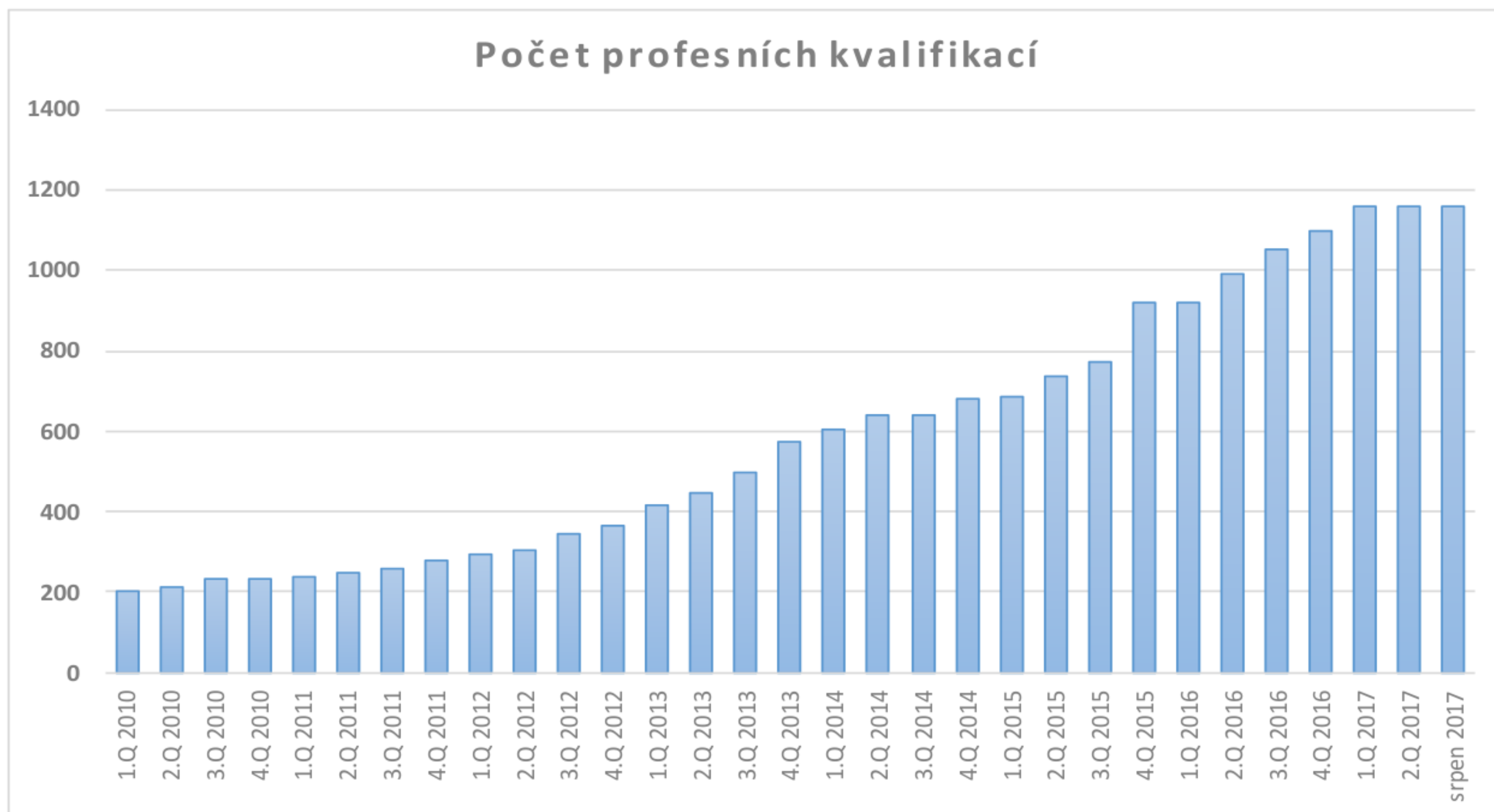
Annual production plan (list of qualifications to be developed) is proposed by sector councils and approved by Ministry of Education.



Inclusion of the qualifications into the NSK

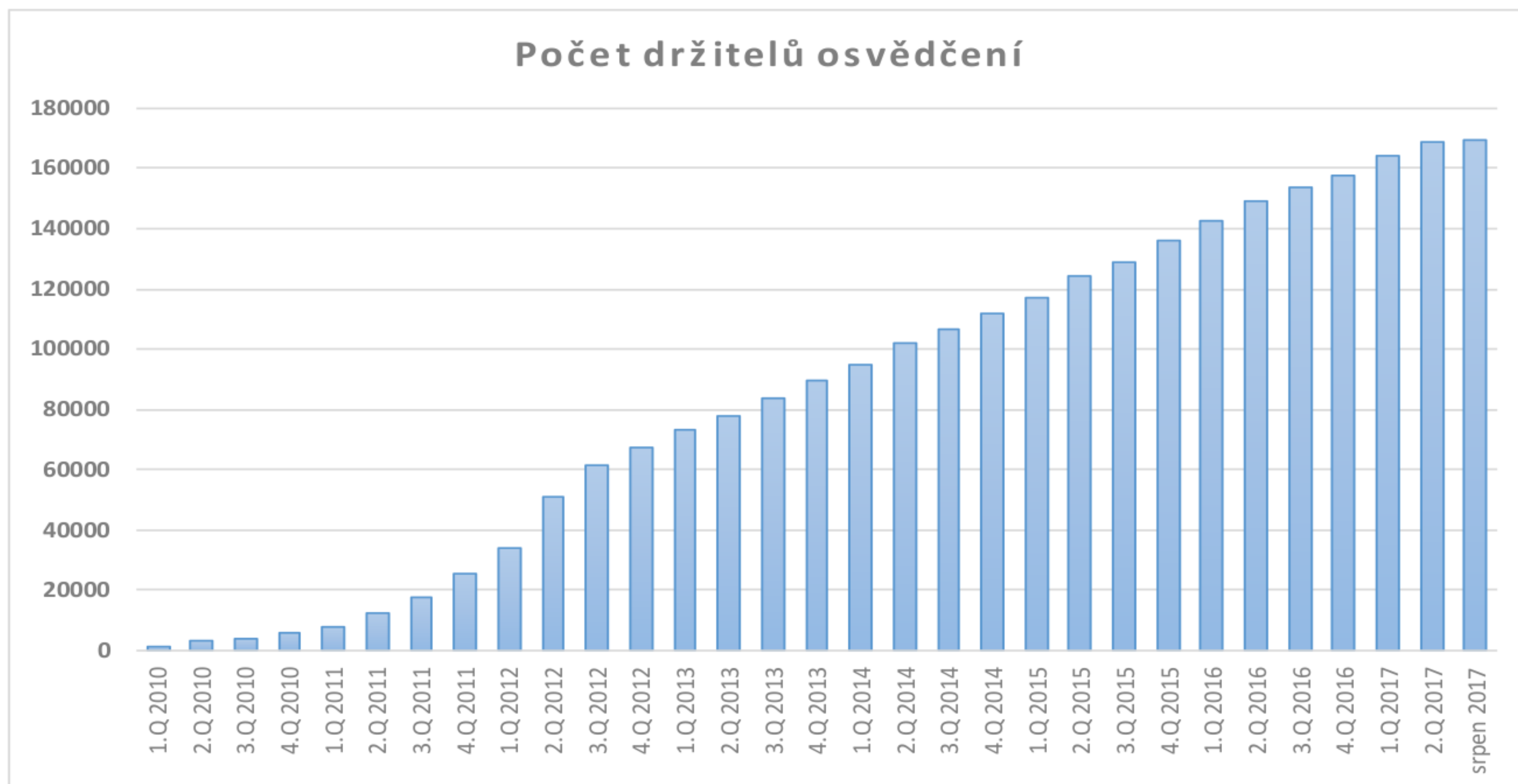
- Design of proposal (birth certificate)
- Evaluation of the proposal - sector council, authorizing body, Ministry of Education
- Inclusion in the annual production plan (and/or revision plan)
- Establishing specific working group - possibility of representation of the submitter
- Drafting a qualification and assessment standards
- Evaluation of the proposed standards by independent experts
- Evaluation by sector council
- Approval process - authorising body, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
- Publication in the NSK Information System
- Authorization and testing

Total number of vocational qualifications in the NSK system





Total number of awards in the NSK system





Figures 2018

1253 qualifications

1400 autorised persons

More than 195 000 awards



Thank you for your attention !

www.nuv.cz
www.narodnikvalifikace.cz