

Physical Growth of Czech Children and Some Socio-economic Factors

J. Vignerova¹, P. Blaha² and L. Lhotska¹

¹*National Institute of Public Health, Srobarova 48, 100 42, Prague 10, Czech Republic*
²*Institute of Sport Medicine, Nad Kralovskou oborou 53, 170 00 Prague 7, Czech Republic*

KEYWORDS Growth of Children. Height. Body Weight. Czech Child Population. Socio-economic Factors

ABSTRACT In the 5th Nationwide Anthropological survey of Children and Adolescents in 1991 (Czech Republic) anthropometric characteristics of some three percent of the Czech population aged 0-18 years were assessed. The survey comprised also a questionnaire addressed to concerning the child's health status, family background, dietary habits and basic data on the parents, and the family history. This paper deals with the impact of the number of children in the family, birth order, the mother's education and size of the community of the child lives, on height and the height-weight ratio of the child. The interaction of the effect of investigated factors on the mean height and weight-height ratio by using the Z-score of both investigated parameters the effect of age was eliminated. The highly significant effect of different factors on the height and weight-height ratio of the child was confirmed. The interactions of these factors are not significant in any combination. The result were compared with WHO reference data.