42 | PRAGUE
Code Together

MAKING TECH EDUCATION ACCESSIBLE:

IMPACT REPORT 2024

The Answer to the Great Question... Of Life, the Universe and Everything...is... Forty-two.

Hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy, Douglas Adams

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Together with strategic partners such as Škoda Auto and ČSOB, among others, we are building a more digital, inclusive, and future-ready Czech society – one where technology is not a barrier, but a bridge to opportunity.

In just three years, 42 Prague has become a key force in reshaping how tech education is delivered in the Czech Republic. Since its founding in **2021, 2,000 people have joined our short-term or long-term programs** — many of them changing careers and lives.

100 % of our long-term program graduates have successfully entered the IT job market.

33 % of our student body is women, with a target of reaching 40% by 2030.

2024 **marked our best year yet** – the first Core Curriculum graduates completed the program, we welcomed a record **350 active students**, and strengthened collaborations with new and existing partners.

Our mission is clear:

train more than 8,000 people in tech by 2030

offering high-quality, tuition-free education open to all, regardless of age, background, or prior experience.

TABLE OF CONTENT

In just three years, we've proven that quality IT education can be truly accessible. 2,000 people have already completed our short courses or started long-term studies. Our students have a 100% success rate of finding a job in IT.

With the support of our partners, we aim to train more than 8,000 tech talent by 2030.

Petra Meliška
CEO of 42 Prague

CHALLENGE AND OUR ANSWER

CHALLENGE ON THE JOB MARKET

Qualified IT specialists remain in high demand despite layoffs in some sectors. Digitalization is reshaping the job market —according to Coderslab, **330,000 jobs in the Czech Republic are expected to disappear by 2030**, while over **500,000 new positions requiring digital skills will emerge**. Also, Deloitte research predicts that **60% of company employees will need to be retrained by 2030** in order for companies to remain competitive.

42 PRAGUE IS THE ANSWER

Traditional education struggles to keep pace with the fast-changing tech landscape. As companies face a shortage of skilled IT professionals, innovative learning models are needed. A project-based, peer-to-peer approach prepares talent for real-world challenges, equipping them with the digital skills essential for the jobs of tomorrow.

At 42 Prague will train more than 8,000 people by 2030.

BUILT ON A PROVEN GLOBAL MODEL

Originally founded in Paris in **2013**, the 42 network is a globally recognized, tuition-free programming education model that has since expanded to 56 campuses across more than 30 countries. In **2021**, Škoda Auto brought this proven concept to the Czech Republic by establishing **42 Prague** as a non-profit institute focused on accessible and innovative tech education.

KEY FACTS ABOUT 42 PRAGUE

100% success rate of finding the job in IT.

In 3 years 2,000 people found their way to 42 Prague through short-term courses or long-term studies to kickstart their coding journey and a new job chapter.

29 graduates*
Meet them at slide 19

33% of our students are women.

*≈ 1,560 hours of studies to become a graduate

VISION & MISSION

VISION:

Training more than 8,000 people by 2030 through long-term tech studies and short-term courses.

MISSION:

Using a peer learning model with no tuition, we are empowering individuals to gain tech skills and propel Czechia's digital transformation.

WE CONTRIBUTE TO THE FOLLOWING UNITED NATIONS SDG GOALS

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

Using our unique peer-to-peer learning model, we aim to open the world of IT to over 8,000 people by 2030.

5 GENDER EQUALITY

Increase the share of women to 40% in our student body by 2030. In 2024, we tracked 33%.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Generate 50 graduates every year and maintain our 100% succces rate of finding a work in IT.

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, or economic or other status.

42 Prague Impact Report 2024

OUR VALUES

PEER-TO-PEER LEARNING

A collaborative, teacher-free environment fosters independence, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.
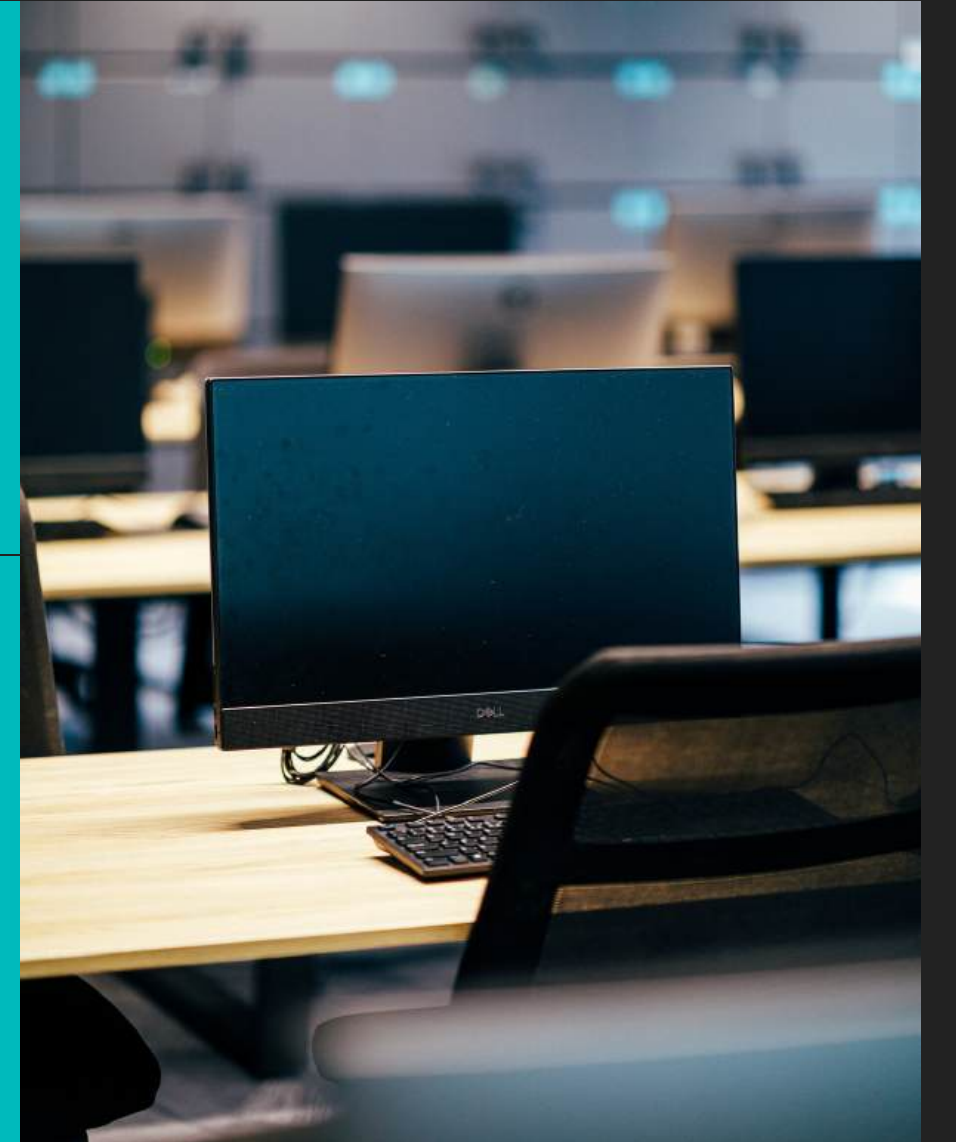
INCLUSIVITY & ACCESSIBILITY

Education is free of charge and open to everyone, regardless of background or prior experience. Talent and motivation are what truly matter.

PRACTICALITY & JOB READINESS

The program focuses on real-world applications, equipping students with the skills that companies need.

INNOVATION & ADAPTABILITY

The curriculum evolves with industry trends, ensuring students gain the latest tech skills to solve real-world problems.

COMMUNITY & COLLABORATION

A strong network of like-minded individuals encourages teamwork, innovation, and continuous learning.

2024 = OUR BEST YEAR YET

The highest number of selected students, the most partner events, and the most active students entering the job market. Our first graduates are successfully completing their core studies. Every year, we grow stronger, building a leading tech hub in the heart of Europe.

Key numbers:

210 selected students

from 2,702 applications

Up to **350** active students

+ 15% vs 2023

25 inspiring events we organised with our partners

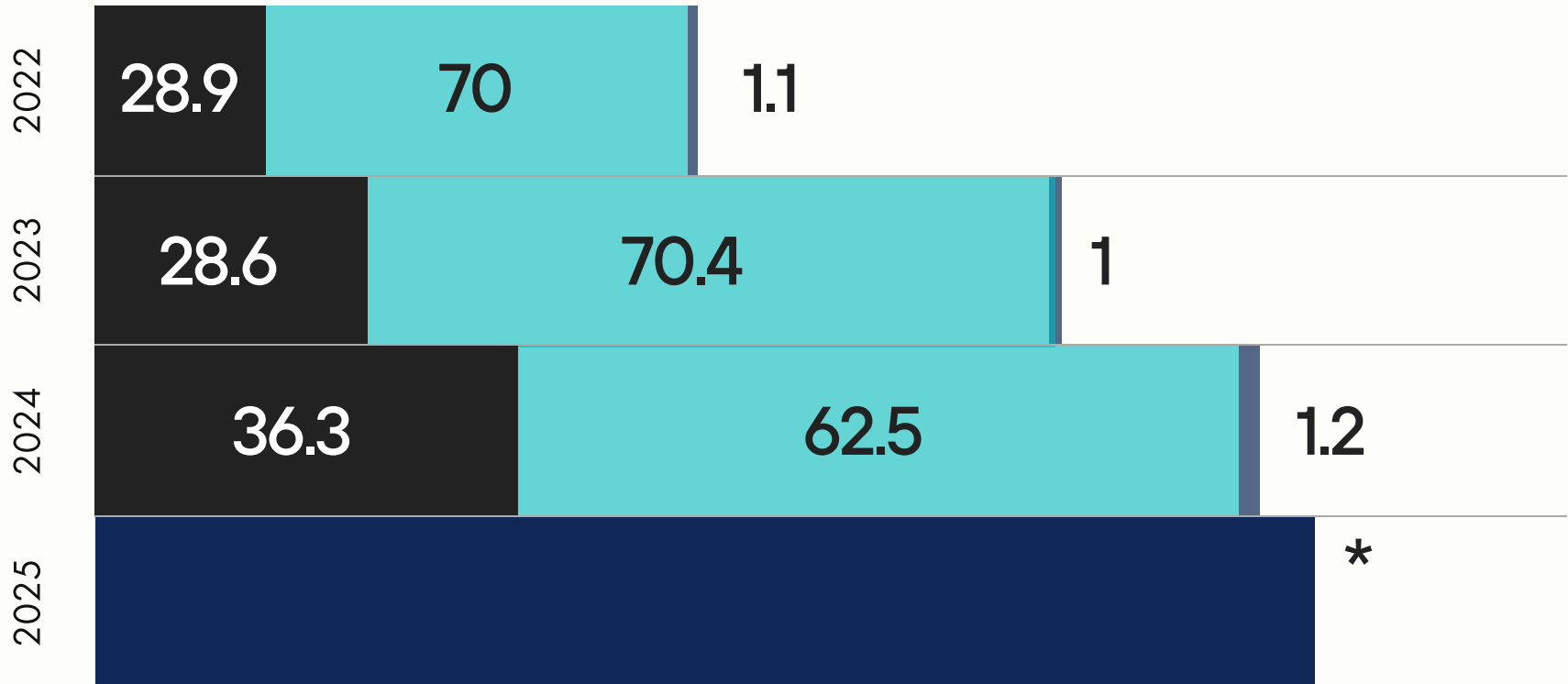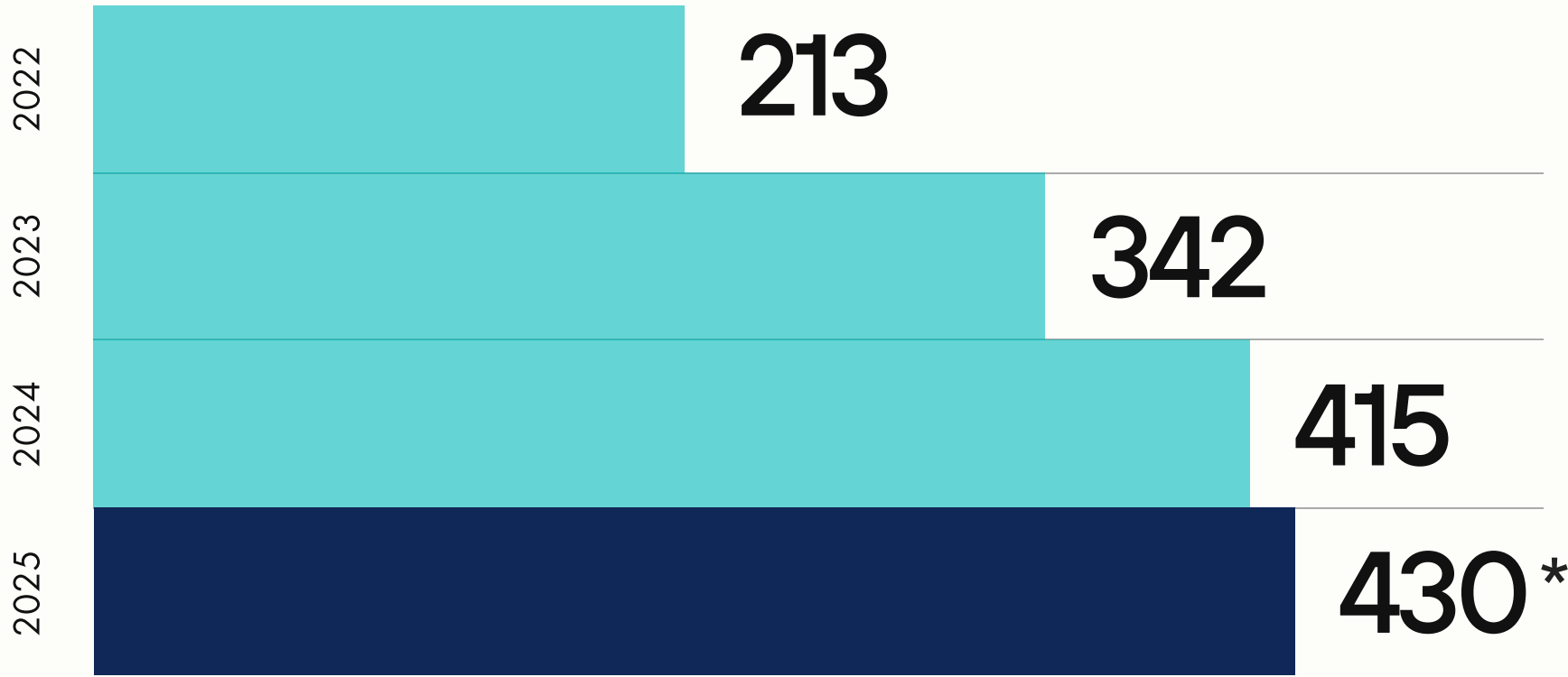**29** first ever Common Core student graduates in 2024
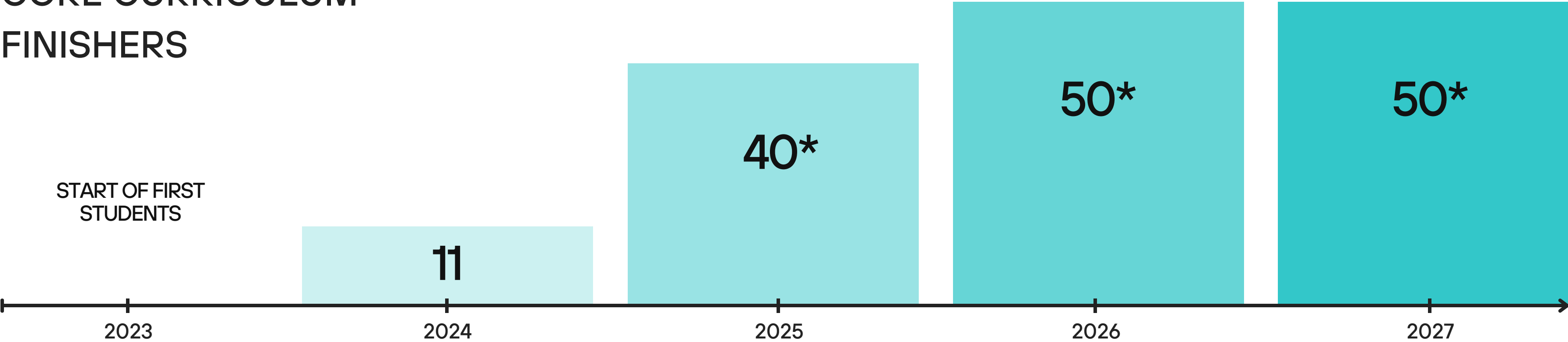
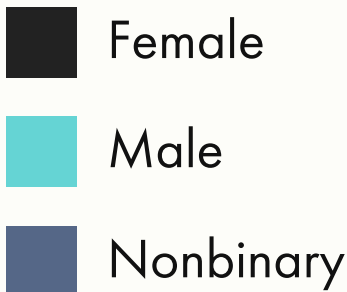# PISCINE — OUR POOL OF APPLICANTS

The Piscine is a four-week intensive selection bootcamp. It's held four times a year and is designed to select new students.

1145

Total number of Piscine applicants to date (as of June 10, 2025)

2022 — 213
2023 — 342
2024 — 415
2025 — 430*

Legend:
- Female
- Male
- Nonbinary

2022 — 28.9 | 70 | 1.1
2023 — 28.6 | 70.4 | 1
2024 — 36.3 | 62.5 | 1.2
2025 — *

*estimation

OUR STUDENTS AND THEIR STORIES

Every story is unique. At 42 Prague, all stories are welcomed.

MEET VERONICA

BEFORE:

"Before joining 42 Prague, I studied architecture and worked in the field for a few years. After moving to Prague, I took a temporary job at Accenture, which turned into a 14-year journey. During that time, I discovered my passion for automation and coding, which eventually led me to pursue a career in IT."

Studied architecture

Worked in Accenture

Mother of three kids

AFTER:

"I work as a developer at Paxray, focusing on frontend and leading the dev team as a Scrum Master. I'm also enjoying my studies at 42 Prague, where the flexible, hands-on approach helps me balance learning with being a mother of three kids."

Level 6 (almost finishing the Core Curriculum)

Made a career switch

MEET ŠTĚPÁN

BEFORE:

"I always loved to solve some logical stuff, to automate, to make things and do something. I chose 42 since I didn't like how classical university works and I knew that a normal school would keep me from learning what I want due the difficult in other subjects. Since I was used to learning things on my own without any greater authority (like teachers), this was exactly what I was searching for."

🎓 Studied high school

💼 Worked before as a lower developer/tester

AFTER:

"I moved to a much higher position in that startup. The startup itself grew over the years, and now I work as a backend/infra developer there. Also, I recently joined Apify.com in a similar role. The greatest thing that 42 gave me was the people. The experience is greatly bound to your personal motivation, dedication, and time that you give to the thing."

📊 Level 5 (almost finishing the Core Curriculum)

✅ He got a better position in IT

MEET YEVGENIY

BEFORE:

"I've always had a strong interest in IT, but life took me in a different direction. I spent 15 years working as a professional driver in the transportation industry. I hold a high school diploma from a technical lyceum and am now motivated to transition into a career in technology."

🎓 High school diploma from a technical lyceum

💼 Worked as a professional driver in the transportation industry.

AFTER:

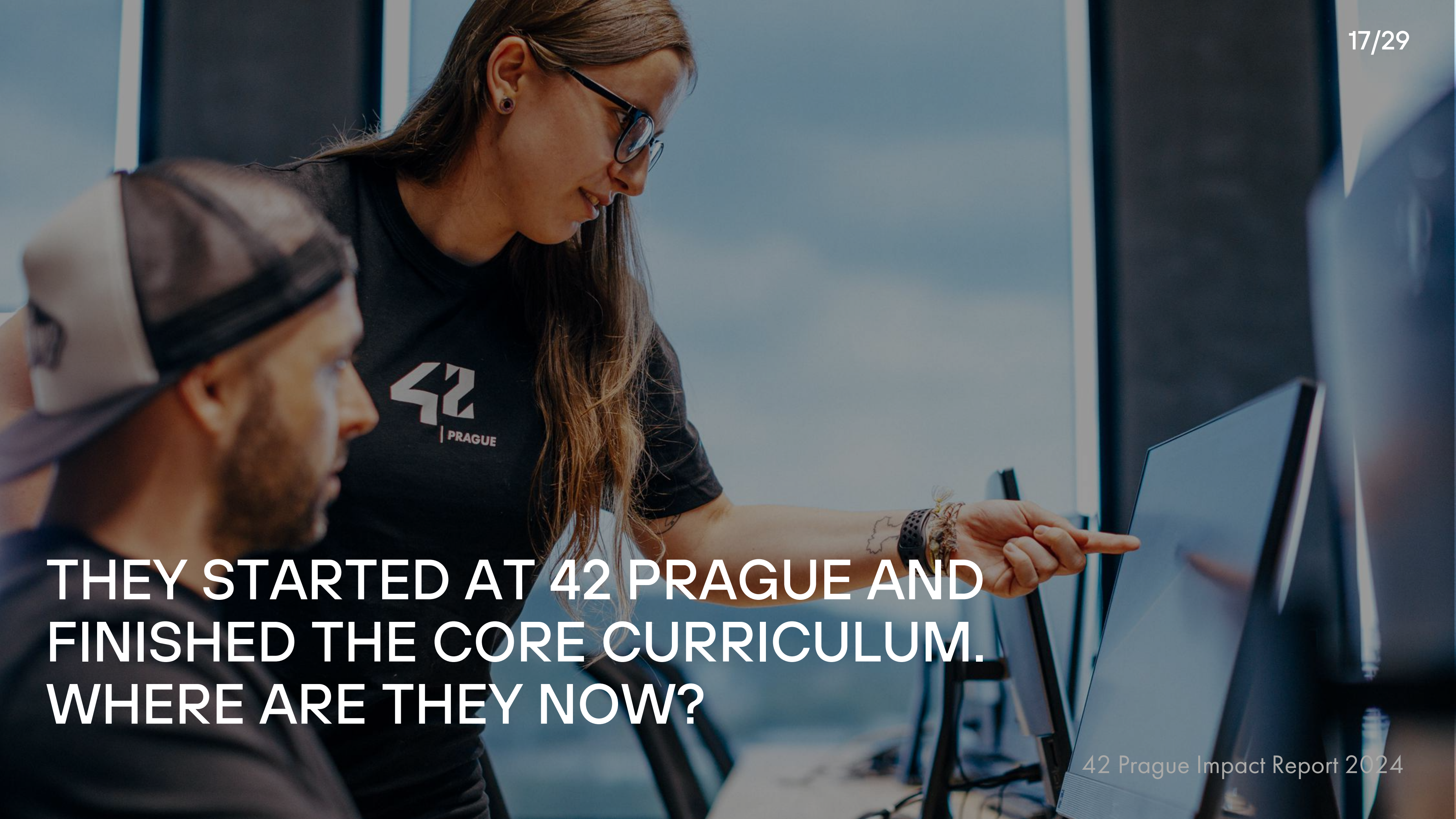"42 Prague gave me the chance to enter IT with no prior experience. I was drawn to its passionate, supportive community—something I lacked in transport. Since early this year, I've worked as an IT Support Engineer at Trinity Bank."

📊 Level 2 (in the first third of the Core Curriculum)

✅ He was employed in IT and had no programming experience.

THEY STARTED AT 42 PRAGUE AND FINISHED THE CORE CURRICULUM. WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

MEET FILIP

A cybersecurity enthusiast and one of the first 42 Prague students to finish the Core.

Q2: WHERE DO YOU CURRENTLY WORK, AND WHAT IS YOUR ROLE THERE?

I work at ČSOB as part of the CI/CD* team.

*Continuous Integration and Continuous Delivery

Q1: HOW HAS STUDYING AT 42 PRAGUE HELPED YOU GROW PROFESSIONALLY?

Studying at 42 Prague taught me to learn independently, adapt quickly, and not be afraid to ask questions or collaborate with others.

Q3: WHICH TECHNICAL SKILLS GAINED AT 42 PRAGUE DO YOU RELY ON MOST IN YOUR JOB?

While I gained universal know-how during the Common Core, which serves as a great foundation for other IT skills, the curriculum at 42 Prague also taught me how to learn new technologies quickly, and that's what I rely on most.

Q4: HOW DID YOUR TIME AT 42 PRAGUE PREPARE YOU IN TERMS OF COLLABORATION, COMMUNICATION, AND AUTONOMY?

The 42 curriculum taught me how to navigate teamwork naturally, express ideas clearly, and stay comfortable working independently, even under pressure.

Q5: HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE, IN ONE SENTENCE, WHAT 42 PRAGUE MEANS TO YOU?

42 Prague is where I learned how to develop real-world skills, not just pass exams.

MEET PENNY

A creative and positive tech guy.

Q2: WHERE DO YOU CURRENTLY WORK, AND WHAT IS YOUR ROLE THERE?

I'm currently working as an intern at Škoda Auto in the IT department, where I develop and manage AI-based solutions for both internal systems and external applications.

Q1: HOW HAS STUDYING AT 42 PRAGUE HELPED YOU GROW PROFESSIONALLY?

Studying at 42 Prague taught me how to approach problems independently, collaborate effectively under pressure, and quickly adapt to new technologies. skills that have been crucial in my current role.

Q3: WHICH TECHNICAL SKILLS GAINED AT 42 PRAGUE DO YOU RELY ON MOST IN YOUR JOB?

Strong programming fundamentals, especially in C and Python, as well as version control with Git, are skills I use daily when developing and deploying AI solutions.

Q4: IS THERE A SPECIFIC TECHNOLOGY OR APPROACH YOU LEARNED THAT GAVE YOU A COMPETITIVE EDGE AT WORK?

Learning how to learn, rapidly understanding and applying new technologies is probably the biggest edge. Also, having a solid foundation in algorithmic thinking and problem solving has helped me solve problems easily at work.

Q5: HOW DID YOUR TIME AT 42 PRAGUE PREPARE YOU IN TERMS OF COLLABORATION, COMMUNICATION, AND AUTONOMY?

The peer-to-peer model at 42 Prague pushed me to be self-driven while learning how to clearly communicate technical concepts and collaborate across diverse skill sets, which mirrors real-world teamwork in a tech environment.

Q6: HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE, IN ONE SENTENCE, WHAT 42 PRAGUE MEANS TO YOU?

42 Prague is where I learned to think like a developer, solve like an engineer, and grow like a professional.

MEET OUR PARTNERS

42 Prague can operate and offer education free of cost in programming and IT thanks to our partners. Thanks to these companies, we have been able to offer thousands of people the opportunity to step into 42 Prague and learn the digital skills of the future.

A WORD FROM THE FOUNDER

As 42 Prague celebrates its third anniversary, I feel proud of how far this bold idea has come. What started as a vision to make IT education more open and inclusive has become a respected and modern learning space. Since its start in 2022, more than 1,200 candidates have joined the challenging bootcamps, and in 2024, the first students successfully completed the Core Curriculum. This is an exciting beginning, as the institute now expects around 50 graduates to finish the program each year.

42 Prague is not only about coding. It teaches collaboration, resilience, feedback, and adaptability – all key skills for today's world. It also reflects our values at Škoda Auto: lifelong learning, diversity, and preparing people for the future of work. Many students move into internships or jobs with our partners, startups, and innovative companies. This shows the model is not just new – it works. 2024 was a year of strong progress. We welcomed two ministers of the Czech Government to our campus, and in autumn we had more than 350 active students – our highest number so far.

I truly believe 42 Prague is building something that matters – for individuals, for companies, and for society. We are proud to be part of this institution´s journey, and I look forward to seeing what the next chapter brings.

Maren Gräf
Member of the Board of Management for People & Culture at Škoda Auto

WATCH <u>AN INTERVIEW</u> WITH MAREN GRÄF DURING THE MAJOR VISIT OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

A WORD FROM THE CO-FOUNDER

As a co-founding partner of 42 Prague, ČSOB is proud to have supported this unique educational institution since its very beginning. On the occasion of 42 Prague's third anniversary, we reflect on how significantly it has contributed to making IT education accessible to all. For us, this partnership has been not only an investment in the future workforce but also a strong commitment to corporate social responsibility. Through professional training for both skilled and unskilled employees, as well as summer camps for employees' teenagers, 42 Prague fosters digital literacy across generations. It plays an important role in driving diversity, enabling digital transformation, and opening new career opportunities.

Michaela Bauer

Member of the Board of Directors, Innovations and Operations at ČSOB

WATCH <u>AN INTERVIEW</u> WITH MICHAELA BAUER AFTER A PANEL DISCUSSION, "CODING DOESN'T KNOW GENDER", WE HELD IN 2024.

A WORD FROM THE CZECH ASSOCIATION OF AI

42 Prague plays an important role in making high-quality digital and AI education accessible to a broader community. As an institution that embraces innovation and openness, it prepares new generations for the challenges and opportunities of the AI-driven future. We appreciate the shared values between 42 Prague and the Czech Association of Artificial Intelligence, especially in building bridges between education, technological development, and the business community. Supporting young talent, promoting lifelong learning, and cultivating digital skills are crucial for a strong and resilient society, and 42 Prague is a prime example of how to turn these ambitions into reality.

Lukáš Benzl
Director of the Czech AI Association

OUR IMPACT

2,000 lives changed, hundreds of careers launched, 1 ecosystem transformed.

All of this to sustain the change on the job market.

HOW IS 42 PRAGUE CONTRIBUTING TO DIGITALIZATION AND INNOVATION IN THE COMPANY?

The collaboration between Škoda Auto and 42 Prague has proven invaluable for strengthening our IT capabilities. Dozens of 42 Prague students have already contributed to our projects, bringing a unique skillset in C programming, Unix, algorithms, web development, and databases, providing a solid foundation for continuous learning.

Additionally, 42 Prague's innovative, teacher-less model develops essential soft skills such as proactivity and communication. Last year, students participated in a hackathon with Škoda Auto is enhancing the MyŠkoda app and are now learning SAP ABAP and Fiori through a new project. This partnership strengthens Škoda Auto's digital competencies and expands our talent pool beyond traditional academia.

Holger Peters
Member of the Board for Finance, IT, and Legal Affairs at Škoda Auto.

42 Prague Impact Report 2024

OUR CURRICULUM

18 months

Common Core

Students at 42 Prague gain strong foundations in key IT areas, including C and C++ programming, system administration, network management, and web application development.

→

6 months

Work experience

Students test their skills through a paid work experience, providing an excellent opportunity for both the student and the company to integrate the student effectively into the organization.

→

2-3 years

Specialization

Through more than 100 projects, these skills and work experience lay the foundation for specialization in high-demand fields like cybersecurity, machine learning, mobile development, game development, data analysis and more.

→

6 months

Final internship

The final internship is the ultimate step where students apply their advanced skills in a real-world setting. Prepared and ready to tackle complex challenges, students gain valuable industry experience while companies engage highly trained talent.

42 PRAGUE 2030

THE FUTURE WE ARE BUILDING – TOGETHER.

We will open the doors of IT education to more than 8,000 people, regardless of age, background, or previous experience by 2030.

Our learning model will evolve, integrating AI across the curriculum to prepare developers for the age of artificial intelligence.

We will become the go-to place for creative minds and problem solvers from all walks of life – a diverse, inclusive space where tech talent grows freely.

So long, and thanks for all the code.

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This version of the impact report is available on the company's website:

www.42prague.com