

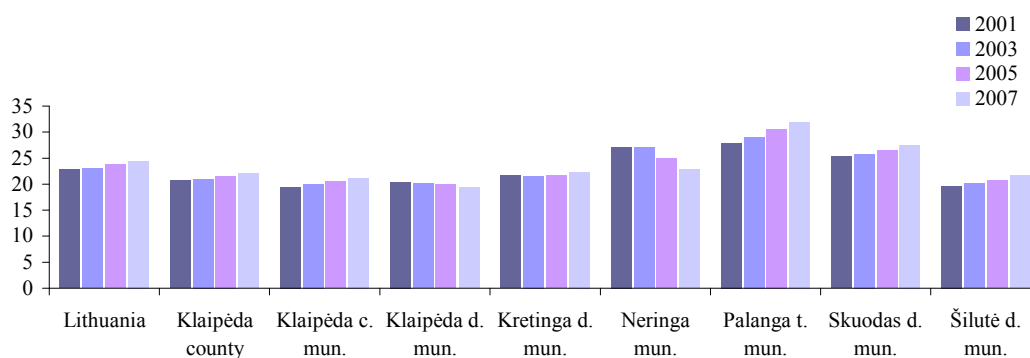
## ENVIRONMENT OF KLAIPĖDA COUNTY

### Housing

The provision of the residents of Klaipėda county with living space is poorer than the national average: at the end of 2007, there were 22 m<sup>2</sup> of useful floor area per capita in the county, which is by as much as 2.4 m<sup>2</sup> less the national average. The useful floor area per capita was lower in all municipalities, except for those of Skuodas district and Palanga town. Better supply of the living space in Skuodas district municipality may be one of the relative advantages of the latter; however, an adequate social infrastructure has to be created alongside. The stock of dwellings in Palanga town municipality is used for providing accommodation services. The lowest supply of the useful floor area was in Klaipėda district municipality – just 19.3 m<sup>2</sup>; this may become one of the factors inhibiting the social and economic development of the municipality.

### Useful floor area per capita, 2001–2007

m<sup>2</sup>



### Social infrastructure

Klaipėda county centre – Klaipėda city – ranks third in Lithuania in terms of size; in 2008, it was inhabited by 184.6 thousand persons (half of the county population), while Neringa municipality (and Neringa town) – by just 3371 persons. All residents of Klaipėda city, Palanga town and Neringa municipalities lived in urban areas, while in Skuodas, Šilutė and Klaipėda district municipalities more persons lived in rural areas. In Kretinga district municipality, the shares of the urban and rural population were almost equal. The level of urbanisation in Klaipėda county is higher than the national average; therefore, the quality of the living environment in most of the county's municipalities is first of all determined by the urban infrastructure.

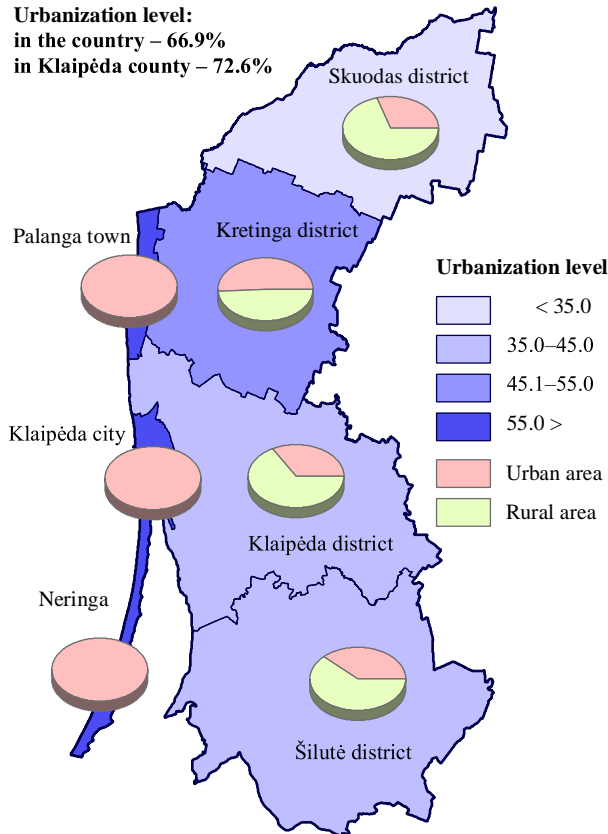
Inhabitants of less populated municipalities are more often faced with problems arising due to insufficiently developed social services; in such municipalities, private enterprises also provide fewer services. Geographic distribution of the social infrastructure in the municipalities of Klaipėda county often conditions the attractiveness of its territories for living. The issues of accessibility of the social infrastructure are of particular importance to the territories where the density of the population and settlements is low, and the objects of the social infrastructure are situated far from each other, which is typical of Skuodas and Šilutė district municipalities. The geographical location of Neringa municipality is exceptional: it is separated from the rest of Lithuania by the Curonian (Kuršių) Lagoon; therefore, given the lack of an adequate local infrastructure, making use of services provided in other municipalities is problematic.

## Urbanization level in municipalities, beginning of 2008

Per cent

Urbanization level:  
in the country – 66.9%

in Klaipėda county – 72.6%



## Preschool education institutions

Half of preschool education institutions in Klaipėda county were concentrated in Klaipėda city municipality, whereas in the rest of municipalities their number was several times lower.

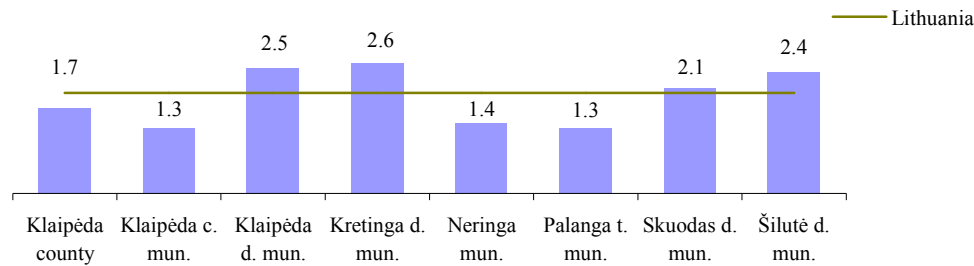
### Number of preschool education institutions, 2001–2007

	2001	2003	2005	2007
<b>Klaipėda county</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>70</b>
Klaipėda c. mun.	43	42	43	40
Klaipėda d. mun.	8	8	8	7
Kretinga d. mun.	7	7	6	6
Neringa mun.	2	2	2	2
Palanga t. mun.	5	5	4	4
Skuodas d. mun.	4	4	3	3
Šilutė d. mun.	6	6	8	8

At the end of 2007, there were, on average, 2.1 children of preschool age per place in the country's preschool education institutions; thus, the lack of preschool education services has been conspicuous in the entire country. The Klaipėda county indicator was lower than the national average – 1.7 children. The lack of places in kindergartens has been observed in all county's municipalities; however, in Klaipėda city, Palanga town and Neringa municipalities, this shortage was relatively inconsiderable (about 1.3 children per place in a preschool education institution). The most prominent difference between the number of children and that of places in preschool education institutions was in Kretinga and Klaipėda district

municipalities. In principle, a relatively high (as compared with the national average) supply of preschool education services is conditioned by higher indicators of Klaipėda city and Palanga town municipalities. The high indicator of Neringa municipality is explainable by its specific location: 2 preschool education institutions were enough to reach good indicators of accessibility of preschool education institutions in this municipality, populated by just 3371 persons. However, taking into consideration the fact that the length of Neringa town (situated in the municipality) alone reaches almost 50 km, the distance to the nearest preschool education institution may be rather long.

### Number of children aged 1–6 per place in preschool education institutions, end of 2007



The number of places in preschool education institutions and density of the network of such institutions in Klaipėda county differs from the national average just slightly; however, in a couple of municipalities (those of Kretinga and Skuodas districts), there is a threat of them becoming less attractive to the youth and women wishing to participate in the labour market. Shortage of preschool education institutions may condition not only insufficient quality of provided services, but also further depopulation of scarcely populated territories and slowdown in local economic development. In the county's, as well as in most of the country's, municipalities, there is a need of further development of preschool education services.

### General schools

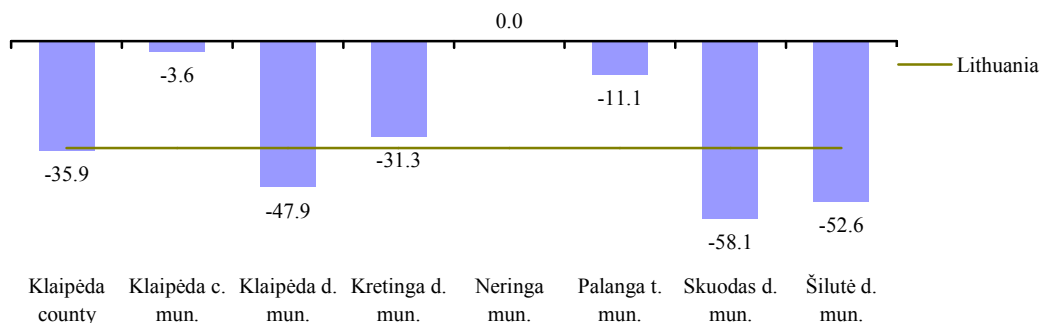
In Klaipėda county, as well as in the entire country, a trend towards the decrease in the number of general schools has been observed. The network of general schools in Klaipėda county has been thinning out at a similar pace as the national average. The most considerable decrease in the number of general schools was observed in Skuodas district municipality – 2.4 times over 2001–2007, in Šilutė district municipality – 2.1 times. The density of the network of general schools in Klaipėda city and Palanga town municipalities remained almost unchanged; in Neringa municipality, the number of schools remained unchanged.

### Number of general schools

	Number of general schools				Number of pupils per general school			
	2001–2002	2003–2004	2005–2006	2007–2008	2001–2002	2003–2004	2005–2006	2007–2008
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>2270</b>	<b>1932</b>	<b>1534</b>	<b>1472</b>	<b>265.4</b>	<b>301.8</b>	<b>351.1</b>	<b>332.5</b>
<b>Klaipėda county</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>295.2</b>	<b>327.1</b>	<b>385.4</b>	<b>361.9</b>
Klaipėda c. mun.	55	54	54	53	602.2	573.3	524.9	477.5
Klaipėda d. mun.	48	41	25	25	160.6	180.9	272.5	253.1
Kretinga d. mun.	32	31	22	22	257.9	265.7	356.9	328.5
Neringa mun.	2	2	2	2	193.5	173.5	160.5	154.5
Palanga t. mun.	9	9	9	8	379.4	363.2	333.0	334.3
Skuodas d. mun.	31	30	15	13	164.9	162.8	301.8	299.6
Šilutė d. mun.	57	34	30	27	194.5	313.2	322.0	316.3

## Change in the number of general schools, 2001–2008

Per cent



A trend towards a decrease in the number and amalgamation of schools has been observed in the entire Lithuania, particularly in those municipalities where schools having a low number of pupils dominate (e.g. in those of Skuodas and Šilutė districts). In Klaipėda city and Palanga town municipalities, the number of schools has been decreasing at a slower pace than that of pupils; therefore, the number of pupils per general school was lower than in 2001. The average number of pupils per school has been approximating the national average in all county's municipalities (except for that of Neringa).

With the further decrease in the number of schools and enlargement of the remaining ones, a heavier load in future should fall within educational institutions located in Klaipėda city, Palanga, Šilutė, Kretinga towns, and other municipal centres; transport issues, related to trips to school of pupils living in more remote areas, will have to be solved; attention will have to be directed towards the demand for the teaching staff, which will be growing in future.

### Cultural infrastructure

There were, in total, 115 libraries in Klaipėda county at the end of 2007, the major share whereof fell within less populated areas – Klaipėda, Šilutė, Kretinga, Skuodas district municipalities. In Klaipėda city municipality, the number of libraries was lower – 15; there were just 3 libraries in each Palanga town and Neringa municipalities.

### Libraries, end of 2001–2007

	Number of libraries				Number of libraries per 1000 population			
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2001	2003	2005	2007
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>1449</b>	<b>1418</b>	<b>1396</b>	<b>1395</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.4</b>
<b>Klaipėda county</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Klaipėda c. mun.	16	15	15	15	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Klaipėda d. mun.	26	26	26	26	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5
Kretinga d. mun.	25	23	23	23	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Neringa mun.	3	3	3	3	1.3	1.1	1.0	0.9
Palanga t. mun.	3	3	3	3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Skuodas d. mun.	20	20	20	21	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9
Šilutė d. mun.	24	24	24	24	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5

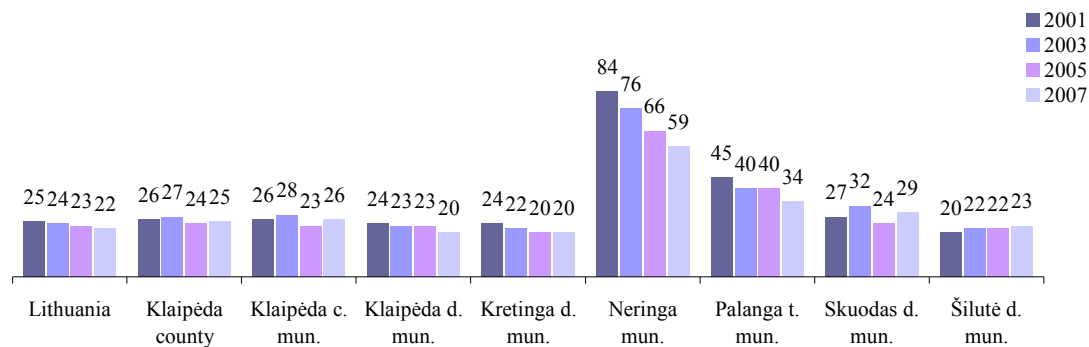
Such a low value of the indicator is conditioned by the fact that in the municipalities of cities/towns the number of libraries is lower, but they service more residents. It may also be observed that traditionally higher indicators of peripheral municipalities in Klaipėda county exceeded the national average just slightly. High – almost twice as high as the national average

– relative density of the network of libraries in 2007 was only in Skuodas district and Neringa municipalities.

In 2007, library services were used by 25 % of the county population, which is slightly more than the national average (22 %). Although library services are usually used by the residents of rural, less populated areas, Klaipėda county was characterised by a large share of library users in urban (Palanga town and Klaipėda city) municipalities. The number of library users was high in Skuodas district and Neringa municipalities. In Neringa municipality, the share of library users was the highest in the county and one of the highest in Lithuania; however, since 2001, it had already considerably decreased (from 89 to 59 %). Although the accessibility of libraries in more remote municipalities of Klaipėda county is similar to the national average, potential of libraries is not used to the full. In many rural areas, libraries become centres of attraction to their residents, provide a possibility to use information technologies. In Klaipėda county, libraries are more popular in urban areas, while the rural population may be faced with the increasing threat of informational exclusion.

### Share of library users, 2001–2007

Against the total population, per cent



The distribution of cultural centres in Klaipėda county is uneven – as many as 40 out of 57 cultural centres are situated in Klaipėda and Kretinga district municipalities, while in other municipalities their number is much lower. In Skuodas district municipality, the number of cultural centres since 2001 decreased almost three times.

In 2007, the number of cultural centres per 1000 population in Klaipėda county was by one-third lower than the national average. The national average was exceeded in three municipalities (in that of Neringa – as much as 2 times); however, in the rest of municipalities, cultural institutions were relatively difficult to access; relatively high density of the network of cultural centres was observed only in part of the county's territory.

### Number of cultural centres, 2001–2007

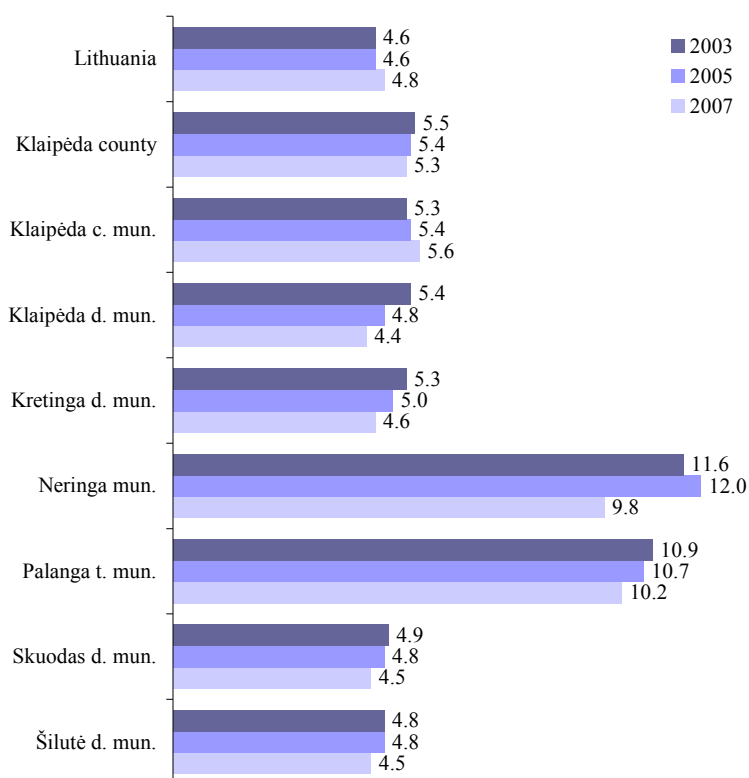
	Number of cultural centres				Number of cultural centres per 1000 population			
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2001	2003	2005	2007
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<b>Klaipėda county</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>
Klaipėda c. mun.	5	6	6	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Klaipėda d. mun.	21	21	20	20	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Kretinga d. mun.	20	19	21	20	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4
Neringa mun.	2	2	2	2	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6
Palanga t. mun.	2	1	1	2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Skuodas d. mun.	17	6	6	6	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.3
Šilutė d. mun.	5	6	5	5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Although the distribution of part of cultural establishments is rather uneven, a network of cultural centres and libraries was created in the county. However, in order to make key cultural services available for all residents, both qualitative and quantitative development of cultural services, as well as public participation in these processes are necessary. The existing infrastructure per se, although affording possibilities for the provision of cultural services and increasing public activity, does not ensure good quality of offered services.

### Trade and service enterprises

It has been observed that the number of shops per 1000 Klaipėda county population has been higher than the national average. The highest number of shops per 1000 population was in Palanga town and Neringa municipalities (first of all, due to the high number of holidaymakers coming to these municipalities). Despite the fact that the highest number of trade and service enterprises was in resort areas and Klaipėda city municipality, the rest of – more remote – municipalities lagged behind the latter just slightly. In all county's municipalities, the number of shops was higher than the national average. However, in 2007, the situation changed – the number of shops decreased in all county's municipalities, except for that of Klaipėda city, while the national average was growing. At the end of 2007, the network of shops was denser than the national average only in Klaipėda city, Palanga town and Neringa municipalities.

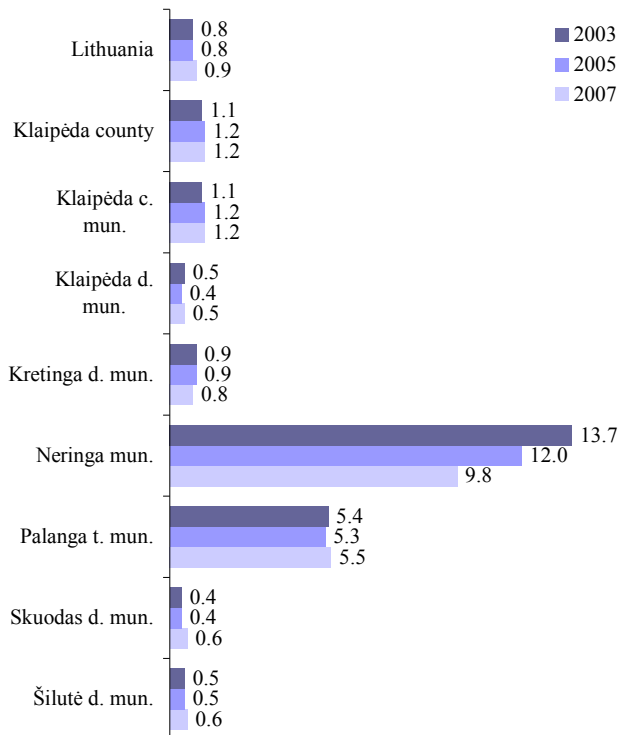
### Number of shops per 1000 population, 2003–2007



The number of restaurants, bars and canteens in the county (1.2 public catering enterprises per 1000 population) substantially exceeded the national average; however, this indicator was mostly influenced by that of the Klaipėda county centre – Klaipėda city, as well as those of resort municipalities – Palanga town and Neringa. In resort municipalities, the national average was exceeded 5–10 times. The indicator of Kretinga district municipality slightly lagged behind the national average. In the rest of municipalities, respective indicators were 1.5–2 times lower than the national average. Positive trends have been observed – in those municipalities where the number of public catering enterprises was lower, this number

was growing and approximated the national average. Although the number of restaurants, bars and canteens in Klaipėda county was relatively high, their territorial distribution evidences the fact that they are meant for arriving tourists, but not for the locals.

### Number of restaurants, bars, canteens per 1000 population, 2003–2007

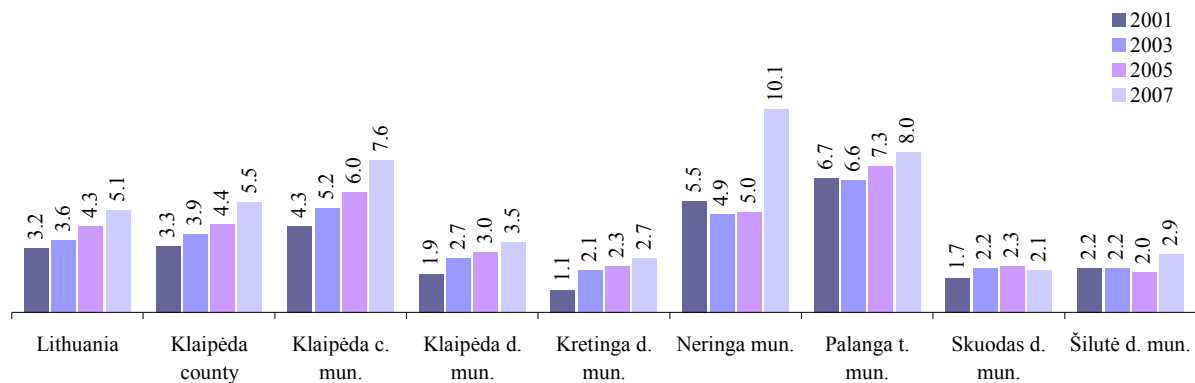


The total number of service enterprises in Klaipėda county exceeded the national average (5.5 and 5.1 service enterprises per 1000 population respectively); however, differences between municipalities were huge: in Klaipėda city municipality, the number of service enterprises per 1000 population was by 49 %, in Palanga town municipality – by 57 %, while in Neringa municipality – as much as two times higher than the national average; meanwhile, in the three municipalities which were lagging behind, the number of service enterprises made up just about half of the national average. Although in 4 out of 7 county's municipalities the number of service enterprises lags behind the national average, it has been gradually approximating the latter. In Kretinga district municipality, the number of service enterprises since 2001 increased more than twice, in Klaipėda district municipality – by 84 %. In Šilutė district municipality, the number of service enterprises, which had not been growing up to 2005, started increasing; however, it stopped growing in Skuodas district municipality. The worst situation was in Šilutė district municipality, where the number of service enterprises per 1000 population was the lowest and has been further decreasing.

The hugest variety of services in Klaipėda county is offered in the urbanised Klaipėda city and Palanga town municipalities. In Neringa municipality, the number of service enterprises is lower; however, the number of local residents, as compared to that of arriving holidaymakers, is very low, which makes the indicator per 1000 population very high. The coastal zone of Klaipėda county is characterised by an attractive living environment, which is not only due to its nature, but also due to a well-developed service infrastructure. Klaipėda and Kretinga district municipalities also have decent potential for improving the living environment and quality; trade services are rather easily accessible across the entire county. The worst situation is in Skuodas district municipality, where the supply of services offered by the private sector does not grow. A slow growth in the supply of services may cause increasing social and

economic differences between the territories offering favourable and not as favourable living environment.

### Number of service enterprises per 1000 population, 2001–2007



### Communication

The communication infrastructure in Klaipėda county is developed better than, on average, in Lithuania (density of the road network is somewhat higher); however, it is mostly conditioned by high density of road (street) networks in Klaipėda city and Palanga town municipalities. In other county's municipalities, the communication infrastructure is developed poorer – road networks are sparser than the national average. Despite that, in 5 out of 7 Klaipėda county municipalities, the share of roads with an improved roadway surface was notably larger than the national average, while in Neringa municipality as much as 96 % of the entire, although rather sparse, road network had an improved surface. The lowest number of roads with an improved roadway surface was in Skuodas and Šilutė district municipalities (just 22 and 25 % respectively), which also significantly lagged behind the national average in terms of density of road networks.

### Density of the network of national and local roads, 2007

km/km<sup>2</sup>

	National and local roads			Share of roads with an improved roadway surface, against the total number of roads, per cent
	Total	surfaced	with an improved roadway surface	
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Klaipėda county</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>32</b>
Klaipėda c. mun.	5.6	4.6	3.3	60
Klaipėda d. mun.	1.2	1.2	0.4	35
Kretinga d. mun.	1.2	1.2	0.4	31
Neringa mun.	1.0	1.0	1.0	96
Palanga t. mun.	2.7	2.0	1.5	57
Skuodas d. mun.	1.2	1.1	0.3	25
Šilutė d. mun.	1.2	1.0	0.3	22

Quite a number of residents of Klaipėda county own cars: at the end of 2007, there were 429 private cars per 1000 population (national average – 429). In 6 out of 7 county's municipalities, the indicators of provision with personal cars were higher than the national average. The highest number of private cars per 1000 population was in Neringa municipality – as many as 583, as well as in Klaipėda district municipality – 480, while the lowest – in Skuodas and Šilutė district municipalities (410 and 423 respectively). It was observed that the indicator of the number of cars and that of density of the road network in Skuodas and Šilutė



district municipalities tallied: both of these indicators in the said municipalities were the poorest. Respectively, in those municipalities where the roadway surface is better, the number of registered cars was the highest.

#### Private cars per 1000 population, 2001–2007

	2001	2003	2005	2007
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>429</b>
<b>Klaipėda county</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>446</b>
Klaipėda c. mun.	398	371	411	436
Klaipėda d. mun.	324	353	429	480
Kretinga d. mun.	284	365	427	462
Neringa mun.	404	433	526	583
Palanga t. mun.	339	386	443	479
Skuodas d. mun.	241	281	353	410
Šilutė d. mun.	249	320	373	432

The public transport system in the county is rather well-developed: the territory per bus route in 2007 was lower than the national average. Although about one-third of routes in the county fell within Klaipėda city municipality, density of public transport networks in other municipalities was rather high, against other municipalities of Lithuania: in 4 out of 7 municipalities, territory per bus route was lower than the national median value (i.e. in more than half of the country's municipalities the number of routes was lower), while in Skuodas district municipality – almost equalled this value. Klaipėda city and Palanga town municipalities excluded, the smallest territory per route was in Kretinga district municipality (12.7 km<sup>2</sup> per route), the largest – in Neringa municipality (90 km<sup>2</sup>).

#### Number of bus routes, 2001–2007

	2001	2003	2005	2007
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>3859</b>	<b>4001</b>	<b>3807</b>	<b>3155</b>
<b>Klaipėda county</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>338</b>
Klaipėda c. mun.	276	476	169	120
Klaipėda d. mun.	21	25	28	23
Kretinga d. mun.	101	71	75	78
Neringa mun.	0	6	4	1
Palanga t. mun.	17	51	26	8
Skuodas d. mun.	28	28	30	31
Šilutė d. mun.	68	61	69	77
<b>Territory per route, km<sup>2</sup></b>				
<b>Lithuania (average)</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>20.7</b>
Lithuania (median)*	30.8	29.9	28.1	29.3
<b>Klaipėda county</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>15.4</b>
Klaipėda c. mun.	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.8
Klaipėda d. mun.	63.6	53.4	47.7	58.1
Kretinga d. mun.	9.8	13.9	13.2	12.7
Neringa mun.	–	15.0	22.5	90.0
Palanga t. mun.	4.6	1.5	3.0	9.9
Skuodas d. mun.	32.5	32.5	30.4	29.4
Šilutė d. mun.	25.1	28.0	24.7	22.2

\*the largest share of bus routes falls within the municipalities of major cities/towns; therefore, smaller municipalities may be compared with each other by means of estimation of the country's median – a middle (central) value of indicators of all municipalities.

In 2007, the number of bus trips per capita in the county was somewhat higher than the national average (100.5 and 89.6 respectively); however, the value of this indicator was mostly influenced by trips of the residents of Klaipėda city municipality. The residents of Neringa municipality travelled by bus more than in Lithuania, on average (117.3 bus trips per capita). In 4 out of 7 Klaipėda county municipalities, values of bus trips exceeded the median value of all country's municipalities; Skuodas and Šilutė district municipalities lagged behind inconsiderably. Only in Klaipėda district municipality the situation was worse (just 11.4 bus trips per capita over a year, and this number has been constantly decreasing). This indicator was partially influenced by the fact that the residents of Klaipėda district municipality are relatively well provided with personal cars, while the road network is fairly dense and qualitative. However, an assumption can be made that part of the residents of Klaipėda district municipality become isolated from a vital social infrastructure, and cannot effectively make use of services provided in larger cities and towns.

Transport (both public and private) systems in Klaipėda county allow accessing the necessary parts of the social infrastructure and obtaining services as fast and comfortable as possible. In most of the county's municipalities, the communication system functions better than, on average, in Lithuania; however, some important objects of the system are hard to access due to relatively sparse distribution thereof, sparser network of settlements and the infrastructure connecting them.

### Public safety

In 2007, the number of criminal offences and serious or very serious crimes registered in Klaipėda county was higher than in the country. The highest number of criminal offences was registered in Palanga town and Klaipėda city municipalities. These two municipalities were characterised by one of the highest crime rates not only at the county, but also at the national level (by the number of registered criminal offences per 100 000 population, they only lagged behind Vilnius city municipality). The rest of municipalities were characterised by much lower crime rates. The safest municipalities were those of Skuodas district, where in 2007 the number of registered criminal offences and crimes per 100 000 population was the lowest in Lithuania (2.6 and 2.8 times lower than the national average respectively) and Kretinga district (the number of registered criminal offences – 2.1 times, that of crimes – 2.3 times lower than in the country). Despite quite a high number of arriving holidaymakers, Neringa municipality was also very safe.

### Registered criminal offences per 100 000 population, 2007

	Criminal offences	Crimes
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>2185</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Klaipėda county</b>	<b>2285</b>	<b>2108</b>
Klaipėda c. mun.	3008	2789
Klaipėda d. mun.	1708	1587
Kretinga d. mun.	1002	893
Neringa mun.	1353	1261
Palanga t. mun.	3308	3166
Skuodas d. mun.	847	718
Šilutė d. mun.	1781	1599

Although the averages reflecting the public safety situation in Klaipėda county are relatively poor, the number of registered criminal offences and crimes in most of the county's

municipalities is not high. A much lower number of criminal offences is registered in peripheral, less populated municipalities – those of Skuodas, Kretinga districts and other, which often lag behind the municipalities of larger cities and towns in terms of other elements of the living environment. In Neringa municipality, a low crime rate tones with a well-developed communication system, as well as a decent social infrastructure.

### Environmental protection and management

In 2007, 4 540 557 thous. m<sup>3</sup> of domestic, municipal and industrial waste water was discharged into Lithuanian surface waters, of which 209 073.3 thous. m<sup>3</sup> – that requiring treatment. In Klaipėda county, 51 678 thous. m<sup>3</sup> of industrial waste water was discharged (about 25 % of the total amount of waste water in Lithuania). The amount of waste water generated in 2007 was by 7.6 % larger than in 2005, while against 2003 increased twice. The number of waste water treatment facilities has been annually increasing, the existing ones are being modernised; therefore, the share of waste water treated to meet the norm has been increasing as well. A larger share of waste water – 85 % – was generated in Klaipėda city municipality; however, as much as 99.9 % thereof was treated. Only in Neringa municipality, waste water is discharged into surface water being treated insufficiently or untreated. However, when the project on the reconstruction and expansion of drinking and waste water treatment systems is implemented, Neringa water economy will meet the requirements of the European Union in the field of protection of water resources, i.e. the total amount of waste generated will be treated.

### Domestic, municipal and industrial waste water generated that required treatment, 2001–2007

Thousand m<sup>3</sup>

	2001	2003	2005	2007	Share of waste water treated to meet standards (MAP) in the total amount of waste water generated, per cent			
					2001	2003	2005	2007
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>171169.6</b>	<b>167064.5</b>	<b>192212.4</b>	<b>209073.3</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>54.6</b>	<b>70.5</b>	<b>72.3</b>
<b>Klaipėda county</b>	<b>27828.0</b>	<b>25358.0</b>	<b>48034.9</b>	<b>51678.0</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>50.2</b>	<b>98.6</b>	<b>98.3</b>
Klaipėda c. mun.	20958.0	19318.0	40944.9	43654.0	0.0	44.8	99.7	99.9
Klaipėda d. mun.	157.0	227.0	258.0	232.0	64.3	55.1	91.5	90.9
Kretinga d. mun.	1660.0	1392.0	1473.0	909.0	25.2	23.3	96.9	97.2
Neringa mun.	295.0	290.0	431.0	530.0	5.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Palanga t. mun.	2650.0	2142.0	2195.0	3268.0	0.0	95.0	99.8	94.2
Skuodas d. mun.	218.0	270.0	337.0	382.0	14.7	0.0	90.8	95.5
Šilutė d. mun.	1890.0	1719.0	2396.0	2703.0	14.5	92.7	98.9	98.6

With the growth in economy and consumption, generation of municipal waste has been annually increasing. In 2006, against 2005, the amount of municipal waste collected in Klaipėda county increased by 47 %.

### Municipal waste generated, 2004–2006

Tonnes

	2004	2005	2006
<b>Klaipėda county</b>	<b>186491.1</b>	<b>184962.0</b>	<b>272345.4</b>
Klaipėda c. mun.	116223.6	104988.3	218884.4
Klaipėda d. mun.	8763.6	13756.3	11081.5
Kretinga d. mun.	8493.4	4257.0	4246.7

	2004	2005	2006
Neringa mun.	5081.8	5610.2	4416.8
Palanga t. mun.	16976.6	26801.7	17766.0

In 2006, against 2005, the amount of municipal waste collected per capita in Klaipėda county increased by 47 % and made 717 kg.

In 2006, waste generated in the county's municipalities was managed both at the same location where it was generated (in Skuodas, Šilutė district, Neringa municipalities) and in other municipalities (municipal waste generated in Palanga town and Klaipėda city was usually managed in Klaipėda and Kretinga district municipalities). A single waste management system has not been introduced in the region yet.

### **Municipal waste managed, 2004–2006**

Tonnes

	2004	2005	2006
<b>Klaipėda county</b>	<b>203890.6</b>	<b>209499.2</b>	<b>206218.0</b>
Klaipėda c. mun.	60128.7	50364.4	41778.0
Klaipėda d. mun.	83955.7	95091.1	122859.7
Kretinga d. mun.	8004.4	30424.7	21539.4
Neringa mun.	4753.0	5703.0	4617.0
Palanga t. mun.	16598.0	0.0	0.0
Skuodas d. mun.	5470.0	2362.0	2089.0
Šilutė d. mun.	24980.8	25554.0	13334.9

The attractiveness of the region for living and quality of the living environment may be determined by many other factors, which were not discussed in this chapter. These are economic development of the region, labour market situation, real estate prices, as well as other factors, which differ across the county. Such statistical information is available in other chapters of the publication. The fact that beautiful nature might compensate certain advantages of the urban infrastructure was not taken into account either. However, a relatively high number of indicators reflecting the living environment and its quality in Klaipėda county municipalities was discussed in the present chapter. The municipalities analysed are very different: in terms of the population (differing several or even several tens of times), area, other characteristics. Larger cities and towns are characterised by a higher crime rate, which is reflected by statistics on certain municipalities. Smaller municipalities are traditionally characterised by a sparser network of the social infrastructure; however, a well-developed communication infrastructure at least partly compensates the latter drawback – it allows using the urban infrastructure, make use of different, qualitative services. After all, the quality of the environment of any locality is best reflected by people's desire to stay and reside in it.