

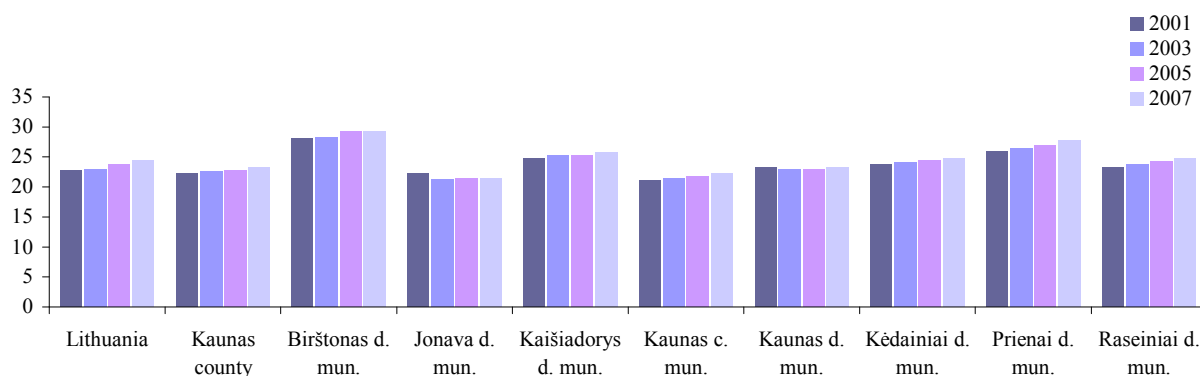
ENVIRONMENT OF KAUNAS COUNTY

Housing

The provision of the residents of Kaunas county with living space is poorer than the national average: at the end of 2007, there were 23.2 m² of useful floor area per capita in the county, which is by 1.2 m² less than the national average. The useful floor area per capita was lower than the national average in Jonava district, Kaunas city and district municipalities. The national average was slightly exceeded in Birštonas and Prienai municipalities. A better supply of living space in these municipalities is one of the factors which could contribute to the increasing attractiveness of these areas. Given a sufficiently developed social infrastructure and service sector, these municipalities could become more attractive for living, as well as to persons arriving from other areas, and stimulate socioeconomic development of the entire region.

Useful floor area per capita, 2001–2007

m²



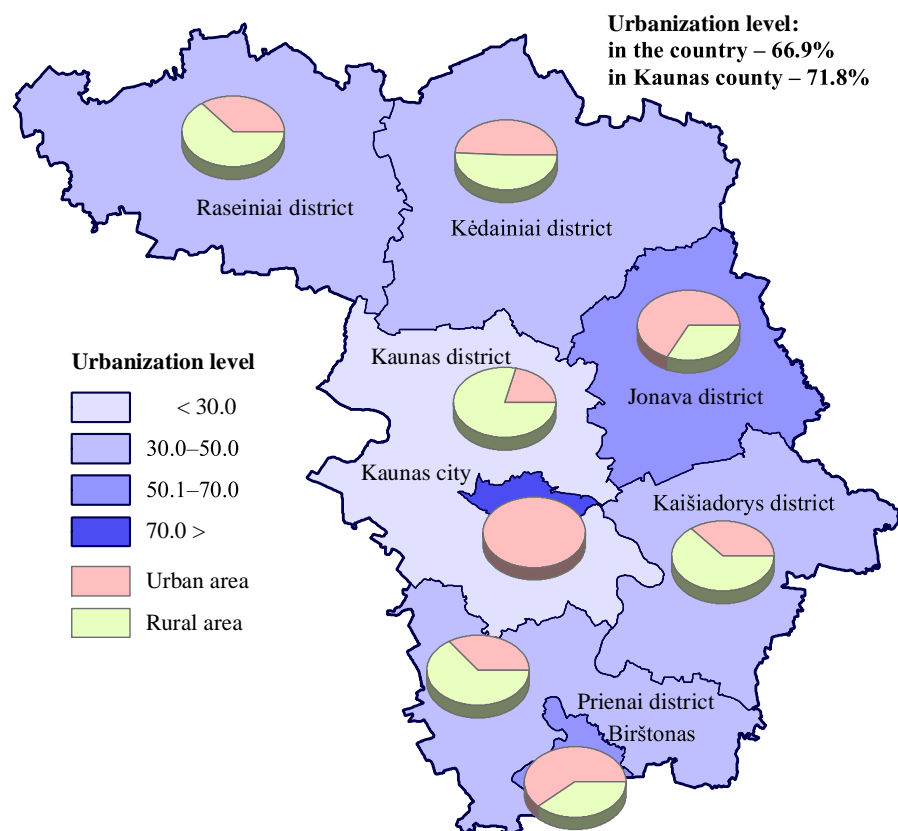
Social infrastructure

Kaunas county centre – Kaunas city – ranks second in Lithuania in terms of size; in 2007, it was inhabited by 358.1 thousand persons, while the centre of Birštonas municipality – Birštonas town – by just 3127. The most urbanised municipalities were those of Kaunas city and Jonava district. In most of the Kaunas county municipalities, a largest share of the population lived in rural areas.

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 Kaunas 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 Raseiniai, Prienai, Kaišiadorys district and other rural municipalities. Residents of urbanised municipalities can easier access most of the important objects of the social infrastructure; nevertheless, certain problems related to the provision of public services occur there as well.

Urbanization level in municipalities, beginning of 2008

Per cent



Preschool education institutions

Most of the preschool education institutions in Kaunas county were concentrated in Kaunas city and district municipalities (71.2 % of the county's preschool education institutions).

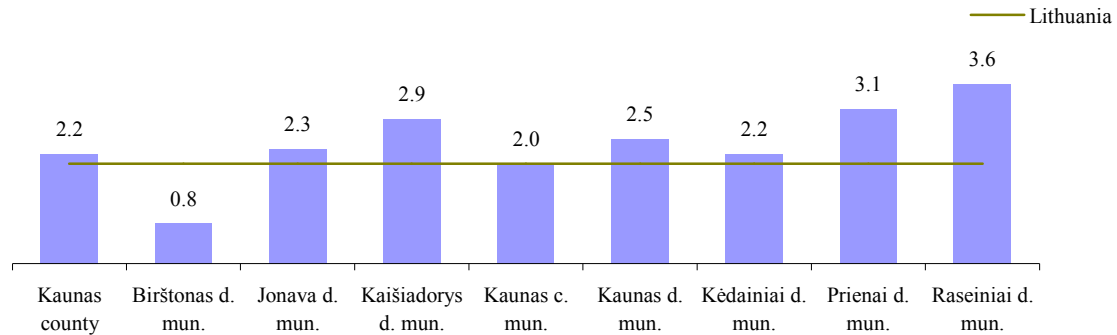
Number of preschool education institutions, 2001–2007

	2001	2003	2005	2007
Kaunas county	142	139	136	139
Birštonas mun.	1	1	1	1
Jonava d. mun.	11	12	12	12
Kaišiadoriai d. mun.	7	7	7	7
Kaunas c. mun.	74	76	76	76
Kaunas d. mun.	24	23	23	23
Kėdainiai d. mun.	11	7	7	9
Prienai d. mun.	8	8	5	6
Raseiniai d. mun.	6	5	5	5

At the end of 2007, there were, on average, 2 children of preschool age per place in the country's preschool education institutions. The Kaunas county indicator was slightly higher than the national average. The lack of places in kindergartens has been observed in all county's municipalities, except for that of Birštonas, where the number of places in the only preschool education institution was higher than that of children aged 1–6. The most prominent difference between the number of children and that of places in preschool education institutions was in Prienai and Raseiniai district municipalities. In Kaunas city municipality, the ratio of the

number of children of preschool age to that of places in preschool education institutions was close to the national average. The poorest respective ratio was in rural municipalities – a large part of their settlements did not have a single preschool education institution. In more urbanised municipalities and towns, the distance to the nearest preschool education institution is usually relatively short; however, the number of places in preschool education institutions is much lower than the demand.

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



The density of the network of preschool education institutions in Kaunas county is close to the national average; however, in several municipalities (those of Raseiniai, Prienai, Kaišiadorys districts), there is a threat of them becoming less attractive to the youth and women wishing to participate in the labour market. The 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 their economic development. The demand for preschool education institutions is fully satisfied only in Birštonas municipality, while the rest of the county's, as well as country's, municipalities have to further expand preschool education services.

General schools

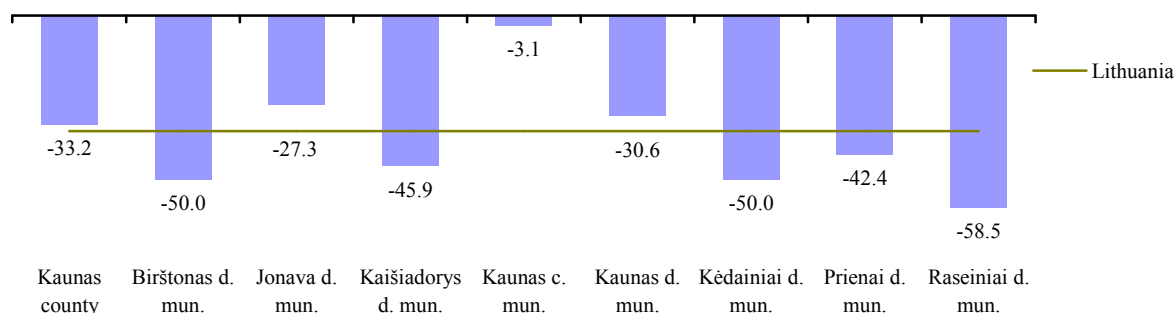
In Kaunas county, as well as in the entire country, a trend towards the decrease in the number of general schools has been observed. The most considerable decrease in the number of general schools was observed in Raseiniai district municipality – 2.4 times over 2001–2007, in Kėdainiai district municipality – 2 times. The density of the network of general schools in Kaunas city municipality remained almost unchanged (the number of schools decreased by 3).

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
Lithuania	2270	1932	1534	1472	265.4	301.8	351.1	332.5
Kaunas county	368	338	256	246	311.7	333.3	405.7	392.7
Birštonas mun.	4	3	3	2	242.3	309.7	284.3	376.0
Jonava d. mun.	33	31	24	24	277.0	290.3	353.8	334.0
Kaišiadorys d. mun.	37	23	22	20	159.8	253.4	245.9	251.8
Kaunas c. mun.	97	96	96	94	631.6	627.0	573.2	546.5
Kaunas d. mun.	49	47	34	34	262.0	272.7	351.2	332.0
Kėdainiai d. mun.	62	58	35	31	177.2	185.8	284.9	293.7
Prienai d. mun.	33	30	20	19	180.0	189.9	263.2	245.7
Raseiniai d. mun.	53	50	22	22	144.8	148.5	313.8	289.4

Changes in the number of general schools, 2001–2008

Per cent



The number of schools has been rapidly decreasing (schools being amalgamated) in those municipalities where schools having a low number of pupils dominated (e.g. in Raseiniai district municipality, where the number of pupils enrolled per school in 2001 made 144.8, while in 2007 – as many as 283.4, as well as in Kaišiadorys and Kėdainiai district municipalities). The number of pupils enrolled per school slightly decreased in Kaunas city municipality. The said indicator in Kaunas county has been approaching the national average – small schools in rural areas were being closed, the number of schools in the municipalities with a large share of the rural population has been decreasing at a faster pace.

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 Kaunas city, Jonava, Kėdainiai 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

Kaunas county is characterised by a relatively well-developed cultural infrastructure, which allows satisfying cultural needs of the locals, as well as provides them a possibility to engage in social activities. At the end of 2007, there were, in total, 214 libraries in Kaunas county, a large share whereof fell within Raseiniai and Kėdainiai district municipalities. In a small Birštonas municipality, there were just 4 libraries.

Libraries, end of 2001–2007

	Number of libraries				Number of libraries per 1000 population			
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2001	2003	2005	2007
Lithuania	1449	1418	1396	1395	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Kaunas county	222	215	215	214	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Birštonas mun.	4	4	4	4	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8
Jonava d. mun.	17	17	17	17	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Kaišiadorys d. mun.	25	25	25	25	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Kaunas c. mun.	33	32	32	32	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Kaunas d. mun.	34	34	34	34	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Kėdainiai d. mun.	45	39	39	39	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6
Prienai d. mun.	30	30	30	29	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9
Raseiniai d. mun.	34	34	34	34	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8

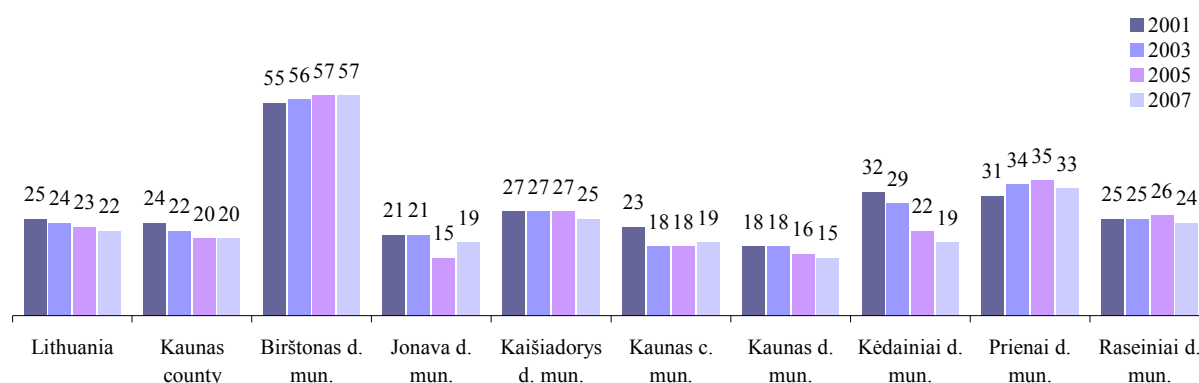
Although the number of libraries per 1000 population in Kaunas county was lower than the national average, it was mostly conditioned by the indicator of Kaunas city municipality.

The said indicator was close to the national average in Kaunas and Jonava district municipalities. In peripheral municipalities, as well as in the municipalities with a large share of the rural population, this ratio was much better – e.g. in Birštonas and Raseiniai district municipalities, the national average was exceeded twice, in Prienai district municipality – more than twice.

Densely situated and easily accessible libraries did not attract much attention of the locals – the share of library users in the total county population made up just 20 % (national average – 22 %); this share was higher only in Birštonas and Prienai district municipalities, whereas the lowest – in Kaunas district municipality.

Share of library users, 2001–2007

Against the total population, per cent



In addition to their primary function of providing information, libraries have considerable potential for becoming centres of attraction to the population, contributing to the improvement of the residents' qualification and activeness, providing a possibility to use information technologies. Residents of the territories where this potential is underused may be faced with a problem of increasing "information exclusion".

The distribution of cultural centres in Kaunas county is relatively even. The highest number of cultural centres – in Kaunas, Raseiniai and Kaišiadorys district municipalities; it is also relatively high in other municipalities, characterised by a relatively large rural population. At the end of 2007, there were just 2 cultural centres in Kaunas city municipality (however, there were much more other cultural establishments, as compared with the rest of the county's municipalities); one cultural centre was opened in Birštonas municipality, which lagged far behind the rest of the county's municipalities in respect of both the area and the population.

Number of cultural centres, 2001–2007

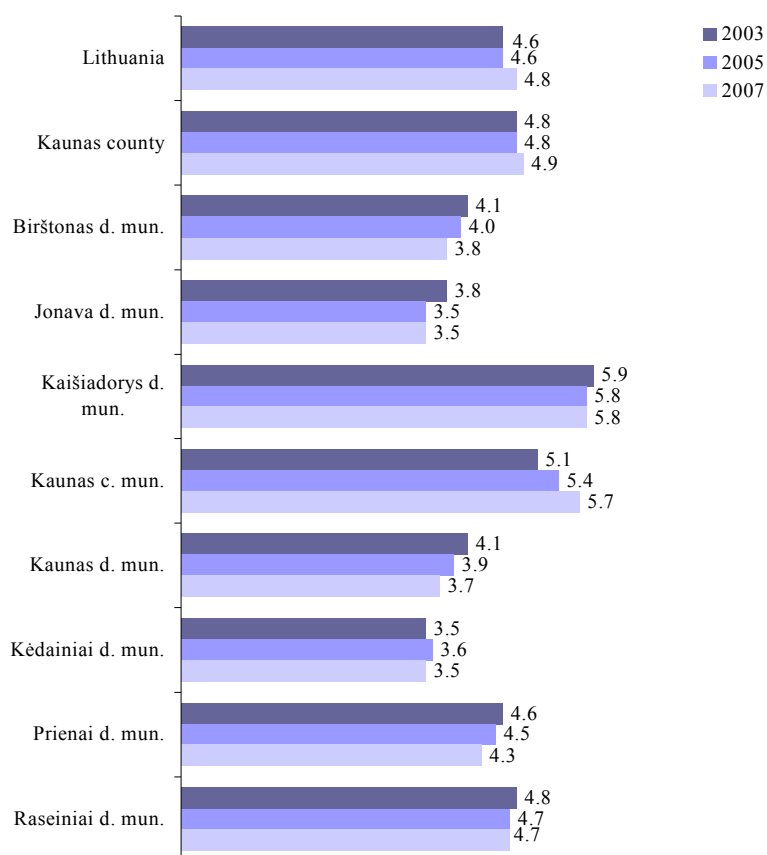
	Number of cultural centres				Number of cultural centres per 1000 population			
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2001	2003	2005	2007
Lithuania	947	882	850	853	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
Kaunas county	125	122	121	126	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Birštonas mun.	1	1	1	1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Jonava d. mun.	15	15	15	15	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Kaišiadorys d. mun.	14	17	17	20	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6
Kaunas c. mun.	7	2	2	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kaunas d. mun.	28	28	28	28	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Kėdainiai d. mun.	17	18	18	18	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Prienai d. mun.	19	17	16	16	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Raseiniai d. mun.	24	24	24	26	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6

The number of cultural centres per 1000 population in Kaunas county was by one-third lower than the national average. The low indicator of the county was conditioned by the low number of cultural centres in Kaunas city municipality (just two), whereas in two municipalities (those of Raseiniai and Kaišiadorys) the national average was exceeded more than twice; the indicators of the rest of municipalities, except for those of Kaunas city and Birštonas, also equalled or exceeded the national average. Thus, a conclusion may be drawn that main cultural services are provided even in small settlements of Kaunas county municipalities; however, a high number of cultural institutions was observed only in part of the county's territory.

Although the distribution of part of cultural establishments is not very even, a dense network of cultural centres and libraries provides favourable conditions for the provision of cultural services in less populated municipalities and form centres of attraction to the population. A high number of small cultural establishments causes problems related to the maintenance and renovation of the available infrastructure; both qualitative development of cultural services and 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

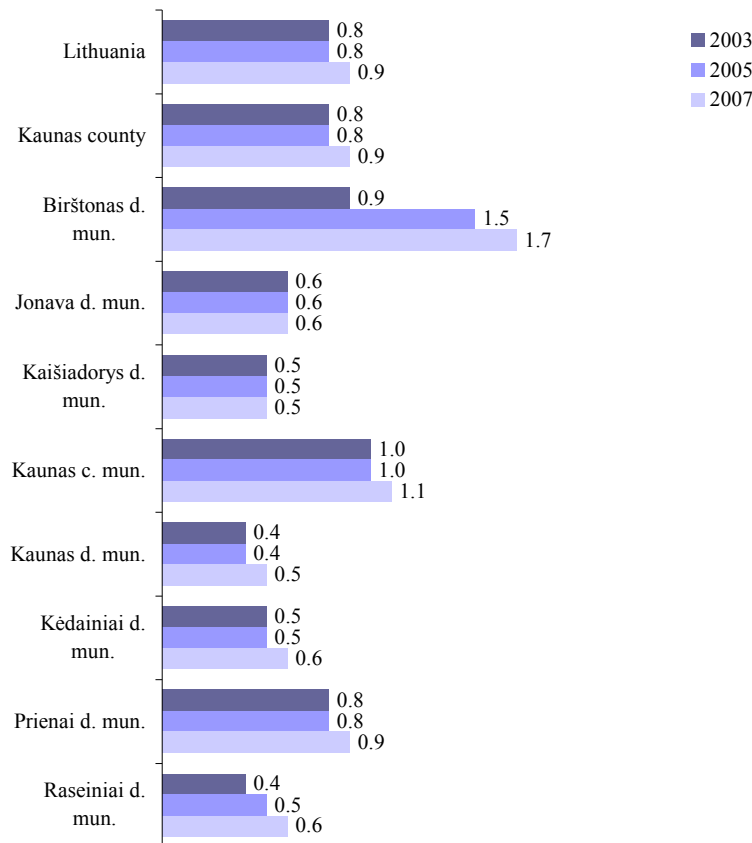
Number of shops per 1000 population, 2003–2007



It was observed that at the end of 2005 the number of shops per 1000 Kaunas county population was higher than the national average. This indicator slightly fluctuated from municipality to municipality; however, at the national level, it was stable. The highest number of shops per 1000 population was in Kaišiadorys district and Kaunas city municipalities, the lowest – in Jonava district municipality. Municipalities including larger towns, however, were not undisputed leaders in respect of the number of shops per 1000 population (that of Jonava district – even lagged behind), while the network of shops was denser than in the

country, on average. The network of trade enterprises was relatively well-developed on the entire territory of Kaunas county.

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

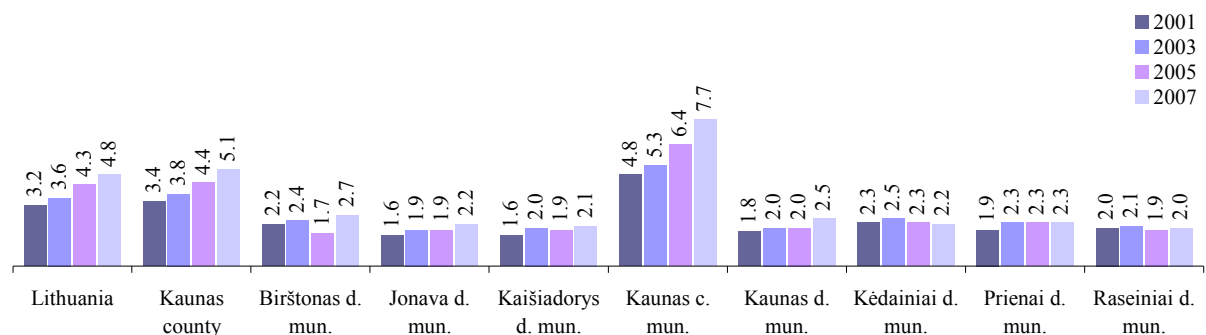


The number of restaurants, bars and canteens in the county equalled the national average. At the end of 2007, the number of restaurants, bars and canteens per 1000 population in the resort Birštonas municipality exceeded the national average almost 1.5 times; from 2003, this indicator grew by as much as 88.8 %. In Kaunas city, the number of restaurants, bars and canteens per 1000 population also exceeded the national average. In Prienai district municipality, having considerable recreational potential and situated in a favourable place (between Kaunas and Marijampolė, Kaunas and Alytus, and Marijampolė and Vilnius), the

indicator in question equalled the national average. In the rest of municipalities, the said indicator was 1.5–2 times lower than the national average.

In 2007, the total number of service enterprises in Kaunas county exceeded the national average; however, the differences between municipalities were very broad: in Kaunas city municipality, there were 7.7 service enterprises per 1000 population, whereas in Raseiniai district municipality – just 2. Except for Kaunas city municipality, the limit of half the national average was exceeded only in Kaunas district and Birštonas municipalities. As compared with 2001, the number of service enterprises dropped in Kėdainiai district municipality. Thus, although the number of service enterprises in Kaunas county has been increasing, this growth was mostly conditioned by the high indicators of Kaunas city municipality.

Number of service enterprises per 1000 population, 2001–2007



Service supply and quality may be the decisive factors when choosing the place of residence, particularly in case of the high-income population. According to this criterion, Kaunas city municipality may offer the highest number and variety of services. Birštonas municipality is also characterised by a relatively good potential for improving the living environment and quality of life; trade and catering enterprises are easily accessible in Prienai district and other municipalities. A slow increase (or even decrease) in the number of service enterprises in all county's municipalities, except for that of Kaunas city, is a matter of great concern. The concentration of service supply in a single centre may pose a threat of deteriorating quality of life in the rest of the county's municipalities, increasing socioeconomic differences.

Communication

Kaunas county, located in the centre of Lithuania, is characterised by a well-developed communication infrastructure. The best-developed communication infrastructure – in Kaunas city municipality; however, due to a low area and a large population thereof, its indicators are not comparable with national averages. In the rest of Kaunas county municipalities, the communication infrastructure was relatively well-developed as well – it was only in Raseiniai district municipality that the density of the road network equalled the national average, while in the rest of municipalities the national average was exceeded. In 2007, the density of the road network in Kaunas county was by 18.5 % higher than the national average. The densest road network (excluding Kaunas city municipality) – in Kaišiadorys district municipality; however, the share of roads with an improved roadway surface in the said municipality was relatively low. The most favourable ratio of the density of the road network to the quality of roads was in Kaunas district municipality – the density of the road exceeded the national average by 18.5 %, while the share of roads with an improved roadway surface made up as much as 51 %. The share of roads with an improved roadway surface was the lowest in Kėdainiai, Prienai and Raseiniai district municipalities; however, even their indicators were close to the national average.

Density of the network of national and local roads, 2007

km/km²

	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	
Lithuania	1.2	1.1	0.4	29
Kaunas county	1.5	1.3	0.5	35
Birštonas mun.	1.4	1.0	0.5	37
Jonava d. mun.	1.3	1.3	0.4	30
Kaišiadorys d. mun.	1.6	1.3	0.4	24
Kaunas c. mun.	5.8	4.8	3.8	65
Kaunas d. mun.	1.5	1.3	0.8	51
Kėdainiai d. mun.	1.4	1.2	0.4	29
Prienai d. mun.	1.4	1.2	0.4	26
Raseiniai d. mun.	1.2	1.2	0.3	27

Many residents of Kaunas county own cars. The highest number of private cars per 1000 population was in Kaunas district and city, Prienai district and Birštonas municipalities, the lowest – in Raseiniai and Jonava district municipalities. It was observed that the indicator of the number of cars and that of the density of the road network in Raseiniai and Jonava district municipalities tallied: both of these indicators in the said municipalities were the poorest.

Respectively, in Kaunas district and Birštonas municipalities, where optimum conditions for using the road infrastructure were provided, the number of registered cars was the highest.

Private cars per 1000 population, 2001–2007

	2001	2003	2005	2007
Lithuania	304	336	395	429
Kaunas county	307	347	405	442
Birštonas mun.	400	325	403	447
Jonava d. mun.	234	297	355	407
Kaišiadorys d. mun.	241	304	365	424
Kaunas c. mun.	323	361	417	446
Kaunas d. mun.	334	371	441	487
Kėdainiai d. mun.	283	334	384	416
Prienai d. mun.	339	356	406	446
Raseiniai d. mun.	260	289	354	404

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 211 out of 514 bus routes in the county fell within Kaunas city municipality, the differences between the density of public transport networks in the municipalities were not as broad as in other counties. Except for Kaunas city municipality, the smallest territory per bus route was in Kaišiadorys district municipality, the largest – in Prienai district municipality.

Number of bus routes, 2001–2007

	2001	2003	2005	2007
Lithuania	3859	4001	3807	3155
Kaunas county	519	616	514	486
Birštonas mun.
Jonava d. mun.	48	82	46	46
Kaišiadorys d. mun.	56	96	84	76
Kaunas c. mun.	268	283	211	180
Kaunas d. mun.	45	42	44	51
Kėdainiai d. mun.	39	38	42	53
Prienai d. mun.	27	28	28	28
Raseiniai d. mun.	36	47	59	52
Territory per route, km²				
Lithuania (average)	16.9	16.3	17.2	20.7
Lithuania (median)*	30.8	29.9	28.1	29.3
Kaunas county	15.5	13.1	15.7	16.6
Birštonas mun.
Jonava d. mun.	19.7	11.5	20.5	20.5
Kaišiadorys d. mun.	18.9	11.3	12.9	14.3
Kaunas c. mun.	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.9
Kaunas d. mun.	33.2	35.6	34.0	29.3
Kėdainiai d. mun.	43.0	44.1	39.9	31.6
Prienai d. mun.	38.2	36.8	36.8	36.8
Raseiniai d. mun.	43.7	33.5	26.7	30.3

*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; however, the value of this indicator was mostly influenced by trips of the residents of Kaunas city municipality. In the rest of municipalities, the public transport system was used less actively; however, the differences between municipalities were not as vast as in other counties. It was only in case Prienai district municipality that the indicator in question was lower than the national median value. Despite the average density of routes of shuttle buses, the lowest number of bus trips per capita was in Raseiniai district municipality, whereas in Kėdainiai district municipality, on the contrary, the number of bus trips per capita, despite a lower density of bus routes, in 2005 made as much as 61 (this indicator was higher only in Kaunas city municipality).

Transport (both public and private) systems of Kaunas city and district, Kėdainiai district municipalities allow accessing the necessary parts of the social infrastructure and obtaining services as fast and comfortable as possible. In the rest 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 a relatively sparse distribution thereof, a sparser network of settlements and the infrastructure connecting them.

Public safety

In 2007, the number of criminal offences and crimes registered in Kaunas county was somewhat higher than the national average. In 2007, the number of registered criminal offences per 100 000 Kaunas county population made 2204 (by 0.8 % more than the national average), that of crimes – 2036 (by 0.1 % more than the national average). The highest number of criminal offences and that of crimes per 100 000 population was registered in Kaunas city and Jonava district municipalities. Prienai and Raseiniai district municipalities, located further from larger towns, were characterised by a much lower crime rate. The safest municipality was that of Birštonas, where the number of criminal offences and crimes registered in 2007 was 2.3 times lower than the national average.

Registered criminal offences per 100 000 population, 2007

	Criminal offences	Crimes
Lithuania	2185	2014
Kaunas county	2204	2036
Birštonas mun.	932	894
Jonava d. mun.	2409	2243
Kaišiadorys d. mun.	2333	2219
Kaunas c. mun.	2558	2349
Kaunas d. mun.	1733	1651
Kėdainiai d. mun.	1826	1640
Prienai d. mun.	1346	1245
Raseiniai d. mun.	1222	1132

A trend of the number of registered criminal offences being lower in peripheral, rural municipalities has been observed (only Kaišiadorys district municipality went against the trend). Thus, although these municipalities are usually characterised by poorer developed services and a social infrastructure, they are much safer.

Environmental protection and management

In 2007, 4 540 557 thous. m³ of domestic, municipal and industrial waste water was discharged into Lithuanian surface waters, of which 4 331 486 thous. m³ – that not requiring treatment. The largest share in this amount was made up of water used at the Ignalina Nuclear Power and Kruonis Pumped Storage plants. In 2007, out of 209 073.3 thous. m³ of waste water

requiring treatment, 72.3 % was treated to meet the maximum allowable pollution (MAP) standard in the country.

The amount of waste water requiring treatment generated in Kaunas county in recent years has been changing relatively inconsiderably – in 2007, this amount was by 11.6 % higher than in 2005 and by 14.9 % higher than in 2001. Due to increasing total water consumption, waste water discharge in Kaunas county has been decreasing; however, the share of waste water treated is lower than the national average. The highest share of insufficiently treated waste water was in Kaunas city municipality. In 2007, 100 % of waste water was treated in Birštonas, 99.2 % – in Jonava district, 98 % – in Raseiniai district municipalities, whereas in the rest of municipalities the share of waste water treated was insufficient.

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

Thousand m³

	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
Lithuania	171169.6	167064.5	192212.4	209073.3	76.8	54.6	70.5	72.3
Kaunas county	32862.4	30884.8	33840.7	37752.1	13.2	13.1	11.4	23.3
Birštonas mun.	441.0	566.0	874.0	838.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Jonava d. mun.	1997.0	1967.0	1789.0	3343.0	20.3	23.8	25.8	99.2
Kaišiadorys d.	1614.0	1459.0	1542.0	1568.0	92.0	98.6	60.2	52.0
Kaunas c. mun.	23550.0	21498.0	23197.0	26200.0	1.3	0.4	0.5	0.4
Kaunas d. mun.	500.0	658.0	671.0	709.0	86.6	73.7	84.9	93.7
Kėdainiai d. mun.	3645.0	3884.0	5009.0	4375.0	7.8	6.2	3.4	53.9
Prienai d. mun.	354.4	196.8	131.7	84.1	70.0	91.2	89.5	88.7
Raseiniai d. mun.	761.0	656.0	627.0	635.0	95.9	86.4	98.6	98.0

Expectedly, a sufficient amount of waste water generated in Kaunas city municipality will be treated after biological waste water treatment facilities of a wastewater treatment company are put into operation (planned for 2008); the share of treated waste water should increase up to 95 %, while the pollution rate of the Nemunas and Neris rivers should decrease.

In 2006, against 2005, the amount of municipal waste generated in Kaunas county grew by 6 %, while against 2004 – decreased by as much as 24 %. 88.8 % of generated municipal waste was managed.

Municipal waste generated, 2004–2006

Tonnes

	2004	2005	2006
Kaunas county	387104.1	278438.7	295259.8
Birštonas mun.	108.3	2074.8	2753.4
Jonava d. mun.	20524.9	19523.2	22014.8
Kaišiadorys d. mun.	5768.4	7160.5	7977.2
Kaunas c. mun.	289978.7	180330.1	182716.3
Kaunas d. mun.	29362.4	24583.3	37578.4
Kėdainiai d. mun.	19316.3	19641.7	20982.6
Prienai d. mun.	2134.2	8577.5	9652.1
Raseiniai d. mun.	19911.0	16547.6	1158.5

In 2006, in most of the Kaunas county municipalities, waste was managed in situ – regional landfill sites were not used yet. Meanwhile, Birštonas and Prienai district municipalities have already joined the Alytus regional waste management system – in the said municipalities, waste was not already managed in situ. In Kaunas district municipality, waste generated both in Kaunas district and Kaunas city was managed.

The amount of municipal waste taken to landfill sites has been decreasing, whereas as the system of sorting waste is introduced, an increasing amount of secondary raw materials is segregated from the common flow of municipal waste and recycled. Nevertheless, in 2006, the share of waste generated in Kaunas county that was disposed of on landfill sites was by 11.5 % larger than the national average.

Municipal waste managed, 2004–2006

Tonnes

	2004	2005	2006
Kaunas county	246972.8	248256.1	252265.8
Birštonas mun.	0.0	0.0	0.0
Jonava d. mun.	19306.5	19212.6	20412.8
Kaišiadorys d. mun.	6693.0	6492.9	7411.8
Kaunas c. mun.	25419.1	27666.6	19660.7
Kaunas d. mun.	156552.4	160574.3	173780.6
Kėdainiai d. mun.	19077.8	19461.3	20066.4
Prienai d. mun.	22.5	0.0	0.0
Raseiniai d. mun.	19901.5	14848.5	10933.5

The attractiveness of certain territories 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 subjective factors, which are hardly expressible in quantitative terms. The municipalities analysed are very different: in terms of the population (differing several or even several tens of times), area, other characteristics. The fact that both the advantages and drawbacks of these municipalities are very different comes as no surprise as well. Larger towns are characterised by higher crime rates, as reflected by statistics on certain municipalities. The larger municipalities of Kaunas county are also faced with higher environmental pollution rates. Smaller municipalities, in turn, are safer and cleaner, but have a sparser social infrastructure network. Nevertheless, a well-developed communication infrastructure at least partially compensates for this drawback, whereas it allows using the social infrastructure of towns, accessing different qualitative services.