

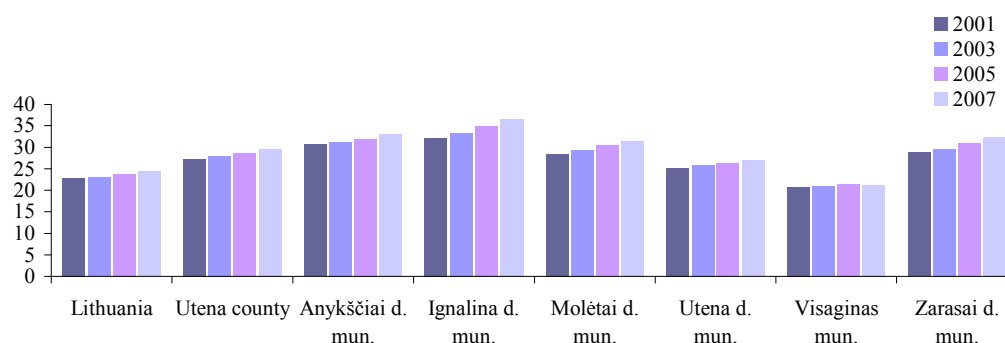
## ENVIRONMENT OF UTENA COUNTY

### Housing

The provision of the residents of Utena county with living space is much better than the national average: at the end of 2007, there were 29.5 m<sup>2</sup> of useful floor area per capita in the county, which is by 5.1 m<sup>2</sup> more than the national average. The useful floor area per capita was lower than the national average only in a densely populated Visaginas municipality. In Ignalina, Anykščiai and Zarasai district municipalities, useful floor area per capita was by almost one-third larger than the national average; in the rest of municipalities, the indicator in question also considerably exceeded the national average. A good supply of living space in Utena county 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, most of the county's 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

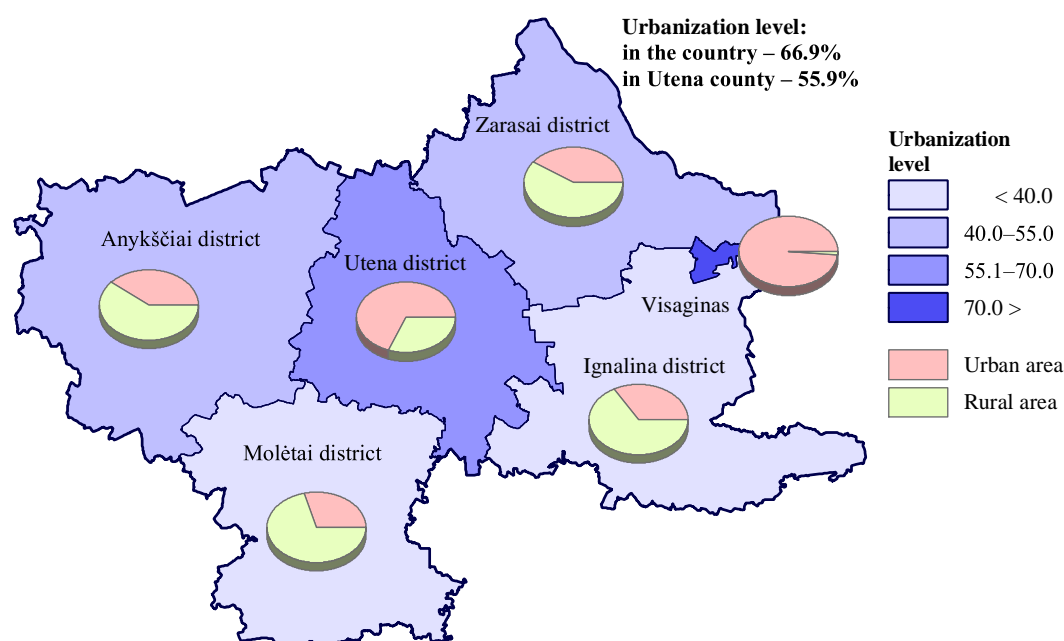
m<sup>2</sup>



### Social infrastructure

#### Urbanization level in municipalities, beginning of 2008

Per cent



There are 2 major towns in Utena county – Utena (32.5 thous. inhabitants) and Visaginas (28.3 thous.); other towns – Anykščiai, Zarasai, Molėtai and Ignalina (11.8, 7.8, 6.9 and 6.1 thous. inhabitants respectively) – are much smaller. Although there were not big towns in the county, the share of the urban population was rather large (but slightly lower than the national average). Almost all inhabitants of Visaginas municipality lived in Visaginas town, two-thirds of inhabitants of Utena district municipality – in Utena town. In the rest of municipalities, the share of the urban population was lower than half of the total population (slightly lower – in the mixed municipalities of Anykščiai and Zarasai districts, while the rest of municipalities were rural).

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. The geographic distribution of the social infrastructure in the municipalities of Utena county and integration of territories with Utena, Anykščiai and Visaginas towns 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. Residents of urbanised municipalities can easier access most of the important objects of the social infrastructure; nevertheless, their number is also often insufficient.

### Preschool education institutions

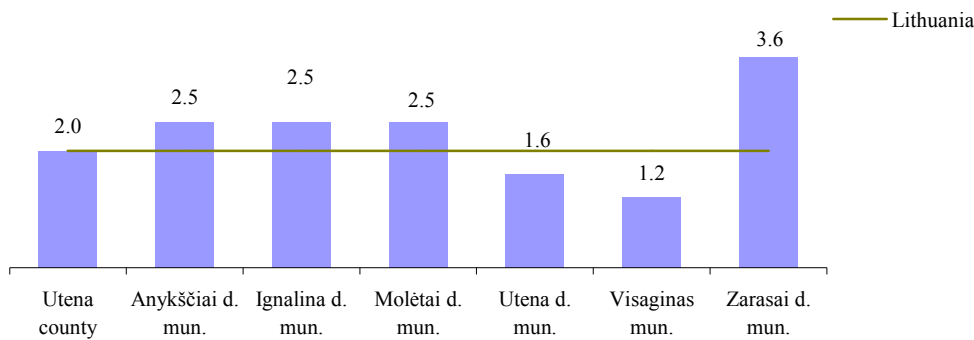
The distribution of preschool education institutions in Utena county was relatively even, except for Ignalina district municipality, where there was just one preschool education institution in 2007 (since 2001, 4 out of 5 kindergartens were closed). The highest number of preschool education institutions was in Anykščiai and Molėtai district municipalities.

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

	2001	2003	2005	2007
<b>Utena county</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28</b>
Anykščiai d. mun.	10	9	10	7
Ignalina d. mun.	5	2	2	1
Molėtai d. mun.	6	5	6	6
Utena d. mun.	4	3	4	4
Visaginas mun.	6	5	5	5
Zarasai d. mun.	5	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 Utena county indicator equalled the national average. The lack of places in kindergartens has been observed in all county's municipalities; however, in urbanised municipalities, this shortage was less prominent. The difference between the ratios of the number of children to that of places in preschool education institutions in Visaginas and Zarasai district municipalities was threefold (1.2 and 3.6 children respectively). The rest of municipalities did not lag behind Visaginas municipality as substantially; however, it was only in Visaginas and Utena district municipalities that the supply of preschool education services was higher than, on average, in the country, while the rest of municipalities lagged behind the national average. 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. From 2001, the number of preschool education institutions in most of the county's municipalities has been stable or just slightly decreased; only in Ignalina district municipality the indicator in question decreased as much as 5 times.

### 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 Utena county is close to the national average; however, the differences between rural and urban areas are rather considerable, while Zarasai district municipality even lags far behind. Thus, there are areas where the activities of bringing up children and participation in the labour market are hard to combine. 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.

#### General schools

In Utena county, as well as in the entire country, a trend towards the decrease in the number of general schools has been observed. The number of schools has been decreasing both in urban and in rural areas, the rate of decrease being by one-fourth faster than, on average, in the country. However, from 2006, this process has slowed down, and, as the number of children of school age has been further decreasing, the number of pupils enrolled per school has started growing.

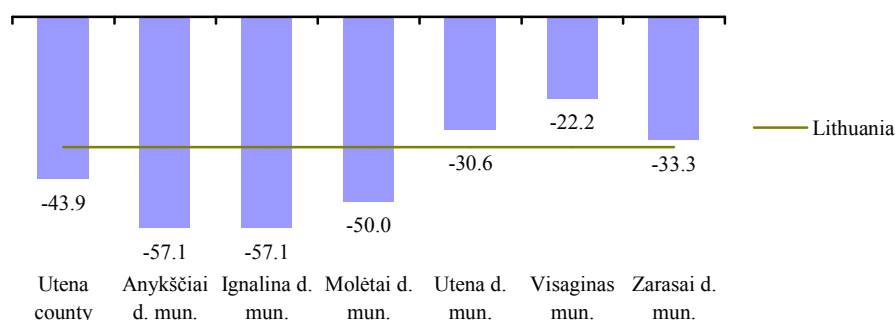
In 2001–2007, the number of schools in 3 out of 6 municipalities (those of Anykščiai, Ignalina and Molėtai districts) decreased more than twice, in Utena and Zarasai district municipalities – by one-third.

#### 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>Utena county</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>205.5</b>	<b>266.7</b>	<b>293.2</b>	<b>269.4</b>
Anykščiai d. mun.	28	24	13	12	205.5	231.3	394.2	374.6
Ignalina d. mun.	28	12	11	12	118.9	261.7	261.6	212.2
Molėtai d. mun.	30	19	17	15	134.7	203.8	211.9	217.7
Utena d. mun.	36	28	27	25	243.0	300.6	285.4	278.0
Visaginas mun.	9	9	7	7	690.1	594.3	612.6	476.3
Zarasai d. mun.	24	20	16	16	157.0	177.2	192.6	177.8

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

Per cent



The number of schools has been decreasing in all municipalities. A trend common both to Lithuania and Utena county has been observed – schools serve more pupils, while in more remote areas general educational services become less accessible to pupils. It was also observed that from the year 2006 this process in the county has slowed down; with a further reduction in the number of pupils, the number of pupils enrolled per school in Zarasai and Ignalina district municipalities even decreased, notwithstanding that small, rural schools already predominated in these municipalities. The indicator of Anykščiai district municipality, which in 2001–2005 had suddenly increased and exceeded the national average, later also slightly decreased. In Visaginas municipality, where schools were big, as it is characteristic of towns, their number has been changing inconsiderably, while the number of pupils notably decreased. The indicator of the latter municipality has also been approaching the national average.

With the further decrease in the number of schools and enlargement of the remaining ones, as well as with the decrease in the number of pupils, schools should be further concentrating in larger towns – a heavier load in future should fall within educational institutions located in Anykščiai, Utena towns, to some extent – in Visaginas (if demographic trends in this municipality change), 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

Utena county is characterised by a 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, 120 libraries in Utena county, the major share whereof fell within less populated areas. The number of libraries was relatively high in all municipalities, except for that of Visaginas.

### 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>Utena county</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.7</b>
Anykščiai d. mun.	23	22	22	22	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7
Ignalina d. mun.	23	23	23	23	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1
Molėtai d. mun.	26	26	25	25	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.1
Utena d. mun.	25	25	25	25	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5

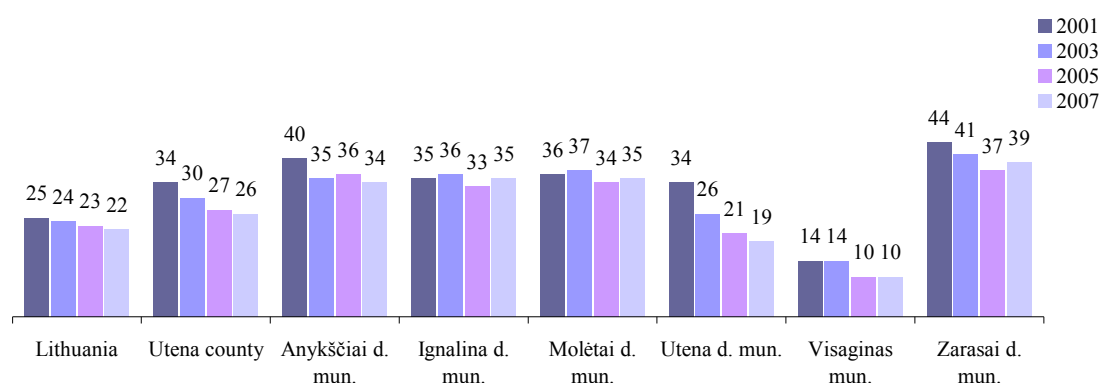
	Number of libraries				Number of libraries per 1000 population			
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2001	2003	2005	2007
Visaginas mun.	2	2	2	2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Zarasai d. mun.	23	23	23	23	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1

It has been observed that in terms of accessibility of libraries more densely populated municipalities of Utena county (those of Visaginas, Utena) lagged behind less populated, rural municipalities, whereas in Zarasai, Ignalina and Molėtai district municipalities the number of libraries per 1000 population was almost three times as high as the national average. Libraries are rather easily accessible in Anykščiai district municipality. Most of the residents of peripheral settlements have a possibility to use library services. Visaginas and Utena district municipalities are characterised by bigger libraries, serving a large number of users.

Densely distributed and easily accessible libraries attract considerable attention of the locals. At the end of 2007, more than a quarter of the Utena county population used library services (national average – 22 %). The highest number of users was received by the libraries of Zarasai (39 % of the population), as well as Molėtai, Ignalina and Anykščiai district municipalities. The lowest share of library users, as compared with the total population, was in Visaginas municipality – just 10 % of the population; in Utena district municipality, a relatively low share of library users also corresponded to a large share of the urban population. It was observed that libraries in more distant and less populated areas attract more attention of the locals.

### 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. Thus, the living environment and quality of life are improving namely in those areas where the supply of other social services is rather poor, whereas residents of the territories where this potential is underused may be faced with a problem of increasing "information exclusion".

The number of cultural centres per 1000 population in Utena county exceeded the national average. In Ignalina district municipality, the national average was exceeded 3 times; in the rest of municipalities (except for that of Visaginas), the national average was also exceeded. These data allow making a conclusion that main cultural services were provided even in small settlements of Utena county; however, a high number of cultural centres was observed only in part of the county's municipalities. The number of cultural centres was relatively low in Visaginas municipality, slightly lower than in other municipalities – in Utena

district municipality, where the demand for cultural centres was not as strong due to the availability of other, bigger cultural establishments, located in towns.

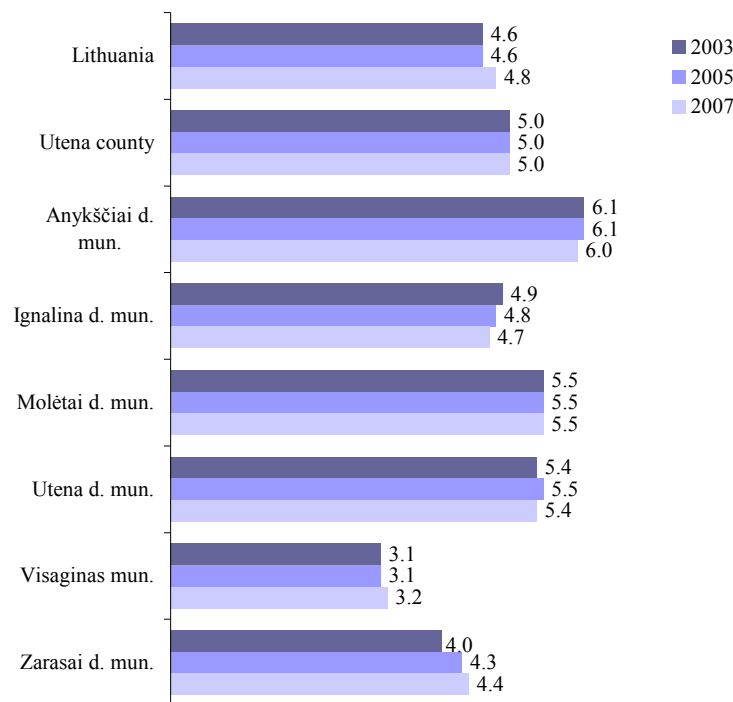
### Number of cultural centres, 2001–2007

	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>Utena county</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Anykščiai d. mun.	19	15	15	15	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5
Ignalina d. mun.	20	19	19	19	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Molėtai d. mun.	9	7	7	12	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5
Utena d. mun.	19	20	18	18	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Visaginas mun.	4	4	3	3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Zarasai d. mun.	14	14	13	13	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6

Even and dense distribution of cultural centres and a well-developed network of libraries provide favourable conditions for the provision of cultural services in less populated municipalities and form centres of attraction to the population. However, 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

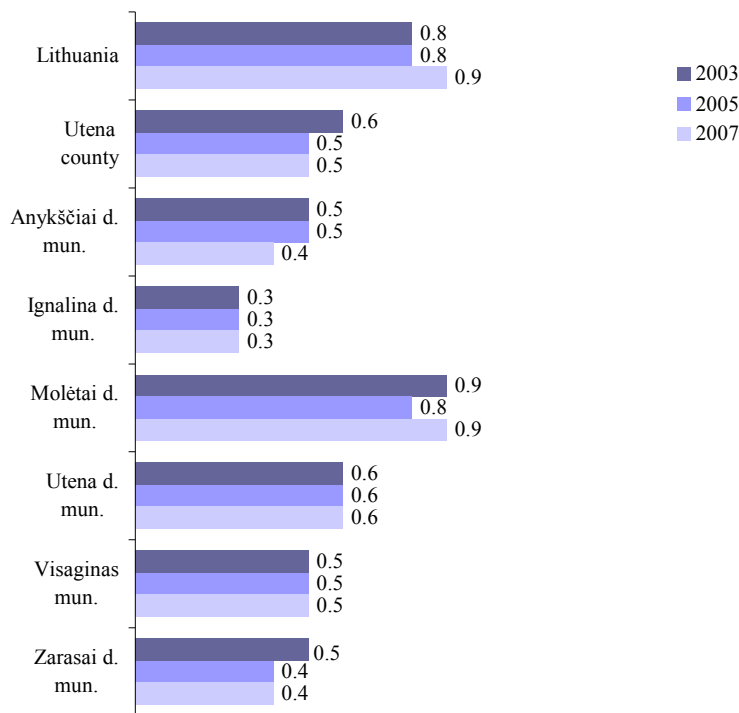
#### Number of shops per 1000 population, 2003–2007



It was observed that at the end of 2007 the number of shops per 1000 Utena county population was higher than the national average. This indicator, although slightly fluctuating in certain municipalities, remained stable at the county level. In Anykščiai district municipality, the number of shops per 1000 population was by a quarter higher than the national average; the said indicator was also relatively high in Molėtai and Utena district municipalities, much lower – in Visaginas municipality. Although the

county average is higher than the national average, the indicator in question markedly varies from municipality to municipality.

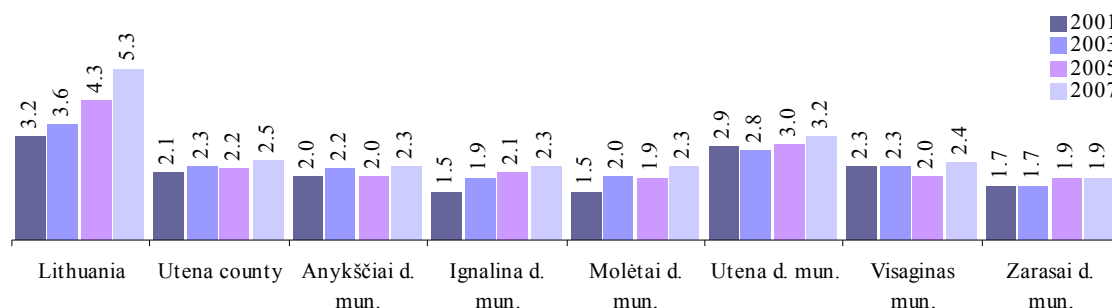
### Number of restaurants, bars, canteens per 1000 population, 2003–2007



The number of restaurants, bars and canteens in Utena county was relatively low. Only in Molėtai municipality the number of restaurants, bars and canteens at the end of 2007 equalled the national average, while in Utena district municipality – was by one-third lower. In the rest of municipalities, the indicator in question was 2–3 times lower than the national average. No obviously positive trends have been observed – since 2003, the indicator in question has not increased in a single municipality.

In 2007, the number of service enterprises in Utena county (2.5 service enterprises per 1000 population) was more than twice as low as the national average (5.3). The indicator of Utena district municipality was better (3.2 service enterprises per 1000 population); however, even it was as much as 1.5 times lower than the national average. The indicators of other municipalities (both with the urban and with the rural population predominating) lagged behind the national average 2–2.5 times. The poorest indicator was that of Zarasai district municipality – just 1.9 service enterprises per 1000 population. Although the number of service enterprises in Utena county has been gradually growing, this growth from 2001 was 3.5 times slower than in the country, and was insufficient for the county average to approach the national average – the gap between them has been constantly broadening.

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



The relatively low number of service enterprises may be an indicator of insufficiently exploited tourism development potential in the region, as well as insufficient income of its residents. On the other hand, service supply and quality may be the decisive factors when choosing the place of residence, particularly in case of the high-income population. Negative trends in the development of the service sector in Utena county may condition a notable deterioration in the living environment and quality of life in future.

## Communication

The best developed communication infrastructure – in Visaginas municipality; however, due to a small area and high population density thereof, the indicators of this municipality are not comparable with national averages. Nevertheless, in the rest of the county's municipalities, except for that of Anykščiai district municipality, the density of the road network was higher than the national average. The best developed communication infrastructure, except for that in Visaginas municipality, was in Molėtai and Utena district municipalities, where the density of the road network was the highest. However, the share of roads with an improved roadway surface, except for that in Visaginas municipality, was lower than the national average in all municipalities. When assessing the road infrastructure of the county's municipalities in terms of the density of roads with an improved roadway surface, it may be observed that indicators of all peripheral municipalities are the same – 0.3 km/km<sup>2</sup> (by one-fourth lower than the national average). Thus, in summary, it may be stated that the road network in the region is dense; however, the share of roads with an improved roadway surface is lower than the national average.

### 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>Utena county</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>23</b>
Anykščiai d. mun.	1.1	1.0	0.3	26
Ignalina d. mun.	1.3	0.9	0.3	25
Molėtai d. mun.	1.6	1.1	0.3	18
Utena d. mun.	1.6	1.0	0.3	19
Visaginas mun.	1.9	1.8	1.8	94
Zarasai d. mun.	1.4	1.3	0.3	22

In Utena district municipality, the number of cars per 1000 population in 2007 was higher than the national average; the indicators of this municipality considerably improved the county average. Meanwhile, in Visaginas municipality, the indicator in question was by 21 % lower than the national average; however, from 2001, the indicator of Visaginas municipality grew more than three times. Meanwhile, the indicator of Ignalina district municipality, which in 2001 had exceeded the national average, later started lagging behind it. The indicators of the rest of municipalities were lagging behind the national average; however, this gap has been narrowing.

### 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>Utena county</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>419</b>
Anykščiai d. mun.	317	358	408	426
Ignalina d. mun.	411	296	349	395
Molėtai d. mun.	254	297	378	420
Utena d. mun.	371	414	473	487
Visaginas mun.	103	249	296	338
Zarasų r. sav.	215	255	331	384



Most of the areas of Utena county municipalities are rather easily accessible by private cars (due to high density of the network of roads (although of an average quality) and a relatively high number of private cars); public transport systems in the county are developed relatively evenly. The number of bus routes in Utena district municipality was higher than the rest of the county's municipalities; however, this number approximately corresponded to the size of the municipality. The territory per bus route in the county was higher than the national average, while in the peripheral municipalities – below the national median value, i.e. in most of the country's municipalities the density of bus routes was higher. It was only in Visaginas and Utena district municipalities, which included the biggest towns of the county (Visaginas municipality, moreover, covered a very small area), the territory per bus route was lower than the national average. Although the number of bus routes in the country has been decreasing, their number in Utena county slightly increased (from 2001 – by 13 %). The situation improved considerably in Visaginas municipality, where the number of bus routes grew 10 times. In a larger part of the county, communication by regular buses became easier accessible; however, the gap between the county and the national average remained.

#### 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>Utena county</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>257</b>
Anykščiai d. mun.	47	40	40	40
Ignalina d. mun.	41	41	40	40
Molėtai d. mun.	32	31	31	31
Utena d. mun.	62	67	70	73
Visaginas mun.	3	3	51	35
Zarasai d. mun.	42	40	38	38
<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>Utena county</b>	<b>31.7</b>	<b>32.4</b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>28.0</b>
Anykščiai d. mun.	37.6	44.1	44.1	44.1
Ignalina d. mun.	36.5	35.3	36.2	36.2
Molėtai d. mun.	42.8	44.1	44.1	44.1
Utena d. mun.	19.8	18.3	17.6	16.8
Visaginas mun.	3.0	3.0	1.1	1.7
Zarasai d. mun.	31.8	33.4	35.1	35.1

\*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.

The indicator of bus trips per capita shows that the public transport system in Utena county has been used only averagely. The lowest number of bus trips per capita was in Anykščiai and Ignalina district municipalities. Public transport systems operated more efficiently in Utena district and Visaginas municipalities, which had the densest network of bus routes. The indicator of Molėtai district municipality was close to the indicators of the latter municipalities; the said municipality was connected not only with the county's territories but also with Vilnius town. Negative trends have been observed – in all municipalities, except for those of Molėtai district and Visaginas, the locals were using bus services less actively, as compared with 2001. A rapidly growing number of personal cars, bus routes and bus trips shows that the connection between Visaginas municipality and the surrounding areas has been

strengthening, although not too long ago this municipality was very isolated; the residents of Molėtai district municipality have also been extending the range of their connections.

### Public safety

In 2007, the number of criminal offences per 100 000 Utena county population made 1569, which is by 28.1 % less than the national average. A usual trend of the number of registered criminal offences being lower in peripheral, rural municipalities proves to be true in the county – the number of criminal offences and crimes registered in more urbanised Utena district, Visaginas and Anykščiai district municipalities was higher than in the rest of the county's municipalities. The rest of the county's municipalities are relatively safe; it is particularly true of Molėtai district municipality, where the crime rate was twice as low as the national average.

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

	Criminal offences	Crimes
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>2185</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Utena county</b>	<b>1569</b>	<b>1437</b>
Anykščiai d. mun.	1637	1510
Ignalina d. mun.	1570	1432
Molėtai d. mun.	1079	1010
Utena d. mun.	1582	1456
Visaginas mun.	1956	1774
Zarasai d. mun.	1452	1298

### 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 4 331 486 thous. m<sup>3</sup> – 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. m<sup>3</sup> of waste water requiring treatment, 72.3 % was treated to meet the maximum allowable pollution (MAP) standard in the country.

In recent years, the amount of waste water generated in Utena county, which required treatment, has been changing relatively inconsiderably – in 2007, this amount was by 16.2 % lower, as compared with 2005, and by 36.6 % lower, as compared with 2001. The amount of waste water discharged in Utena county decreases with the reduction in the amount of surface water used, which annually fluctuates mostly due to changing volumes of energy produced at the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant. The largest amount of waste water requiring treatment – 95.9 % – was generated in Visaginas municipality. In 2007, 100 % of waste water was treated in Utena and Zarasai, 99.8 % – in Molėtai, 99.6 % – in Anykščiai district municipalities.

### 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>Utena county</b>	<b>11333.8</b>	<b>8811.6</b>	<b>8565.3</b>	<b>7181.1</b>	<b>54.6</b>	<b>57.7</b>	<b>65.4</b>	<b>75.8</b>
Anykščiai d. mun.	963.4	1029.0	1010.0	1021.8	33.5	93.5	98.8	99.6

	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
Ignalina d. mun.	6028.3	358.4	296.9	277.0	25.4	93.6	97.6	97.6
Molėtai d. mun.	224.0	254.2	264.5	263.9	100.0	89.2	89.6	99.8
Utena d. mun.	3634.5	3284.4	3620.5	3525.4	99.8	99.9	100.0	100.0
Visaginas mun.	...	3610.0	3034.0	1796.0	...	0.0	3.8	4.1
Zarasai d. mun.	483.6	275.6	339.4	297.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

### Municipal waste generated, 2004–2006

Tonnes

	2004	2005	2006
<b>Utena county</b>	<b>46749.8</b>	<b>58400.2</b>	<b>47924.7</b>
Anykščiai d. mun.	11274.5	8509.6	9414.0
Ignalina d. mun.	2968.7	3681.6	6437.4
Molėtai d. mun.	2913.8	2377.1	3751.3
Utena d. mun.	15335.2	15575.6	17942.7
Visaginas mun.	6883.4	13200.6	6441.9
Zarasai d. mun.	7374.2	15055.7	3937.4

In 2006, against 2005, the amount of municipal waste collected in Utena county decreased by 17.9 %. The amount of municipal waste taken to landfill sites has been decreasing, whereas with the introduction of a system of sorting of waste an increasing amount of secondary raw materials has been segregated from the flow of municipal waste and recycled; however, in 2006, the amount of waste generated in Utena county that was disposed of at landfill sites – 93.8 % – was by 17.6 % higher than the national average (76.2 %).

### Municipal waste managed, 2004–2006

Tonnes

	2004	2005	2006
<b>Utena county</b>	<b>44016.4</b>	<b>49201.4</b>	<b>51362.4</b>
Anykščiai d. mun.	11127.7	8639.7	9274.4
Ignalina d. mun.	2851.7	3611.0	6307.0
Molėtai d. mun.	2535.0	2265.0	3685.0
Utena d. mun.	13206.8	13738.6	16278.6
Visaginas mun.	7040.5	5862.7	5845.1
Zarasai d. mun.	7254.6	15084.4	9972.4

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, area, and other characteristics. Smaller municipalities may offer a relatively large area for living and are safer; however, despite a relatively high number of general schools and local cultural establishments remaining in rural areas, they are characterised by a sparser social infrastructure network and a poorly developed private service sector. The differences in the quality of life are levelled up by integrating Visaginas town and its environs, and other towns, as well as in virtue of the impact of Utena and Anykščiai towns, the increasing attractiveness of Molėtai district municipality. Better communication between municipalities and their localities would allow making maximum use

of advantages of different areas, as well as offering more qualitative services to the locals; however, such communication is not sufficiently developed yet.