

## SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF PANEVĖŽYS COUNTY

### Population

Panevėžys county ranks fifth in Lithuania in terms of the population. At the beginning of 2008, it was inhabited by 284.2 thousand persons, or 8.4 % of the country's population.

### Population at the beginning of the year, 2001–2008

	Population, thousand							Females per 1000 males
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2008			2008
					Total	Males	Females	
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>3487.0</b>	<b>3462.6</b>	<b>3425.3</b>	<b>3384.9</b>	<b>3366.4</b>	<b>1567.0</b>	<b>1799.4</b>	<b>1148</b>
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	<b>300.3</b>	<b>297.5</b>	<b>292.4</b>	<b>287.1</b>	<b>284.2</b>	<b>132.4</b>	<b>151.8</b>	<b>1147</b>
Biržai d. mun.	35.5	35.1	34.4	33.5	33.0	15.6	17.4	1123
Kupiškis d. mun.	24.6	24.4	23.9	23.4	23.1	10.7	12.4	1149
Panevėžys t. mun.	119.8	118.8	116.3	114.6	113.7	51.8	61.9	1197
Panevėžys d. mun.	42.9	42.9	43.2	43.2	43.0	20.7	22.3	1078
Pasvalys d. mun.	35.0	34.6	33.9	33.0	32.5	15.4	17.1	1107
Rokiškis d. mun.	42.5	41.7	40.7	39.4	38.9	18.2	20.7	1134

In 2001–2007, the county's population decreased by 16.1 thousand (5.4 %). Over the said period, the population was decreasing in all county's municipalities, except for that of Panevėžys district municipality, where it increased by 0.2 %; the most considerable decrease was recorded in Rokiškis (by 8.5 %) and Pasvalys (7.1 %) districts municipalities, the least considerable – in Panevėžys town municipality (5.1 %).

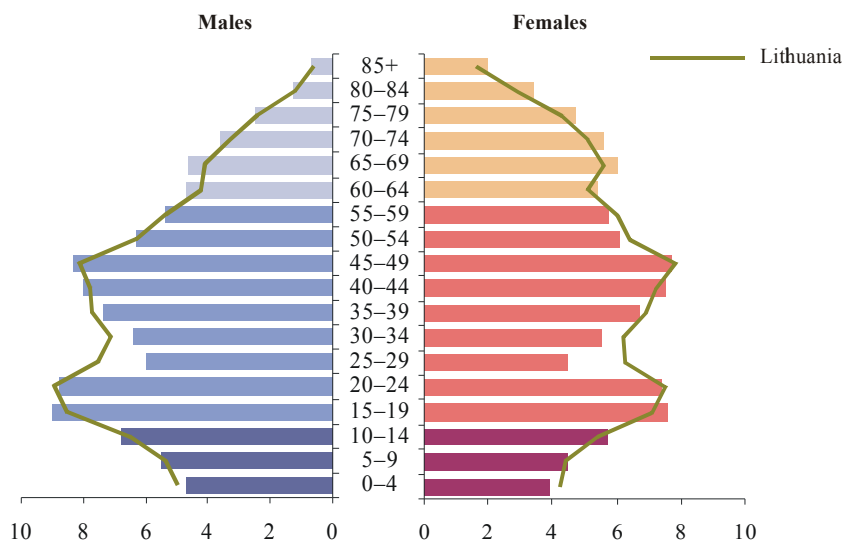
At the beginning of 2008, Panevėžys county was inhabited by 46.6 % of men and 53.4 % of women (national averages – 46.5 and 53.5 % respectively); there were 1147 women per 1000 men (national average – 1148). The number of women per 1000 men in Panevėžys town municipality is higher than the respective indicators of the rest of county's municipalities, as well as the county and national averages.

In 2001–2007, due to the natural decrease, the population in Panevėžys county declined by 9.2 thousand (57.1 %), while due to negative net migration – by 6.9 thousand (42.9 %).

Changes in the structure of the Panevėžys county population by sex and age are demonstrated in the pyramid diagram below.

## Population by sex and age in Panevėžys county, beginning of 2008

Per cent

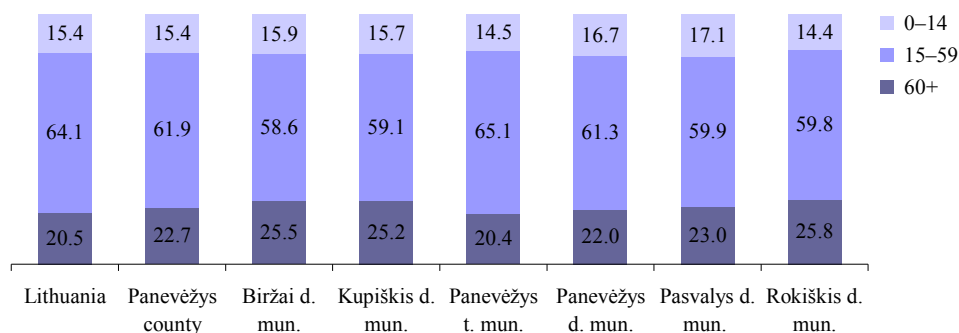


Panevėžys county is demographically one of the “oldest” in Lithuania. Elderly people (aged 60 and older) in the county make up 22.7 % (national average – 20.5 %). Currently, each sixth man and each fourth woman in Panevėžys county (as in Lithuania) are aged 60 and older.

At the beginning of 2008, the number of children aged under 15 was by 32.1 % (national average – 25.2 %) lower than that of elderly people. In 2001–2007, the number of children in the county decreased by 27.7 % (national average – 24.7 %).

## Population structure by main age groups, beginning of 2008

Per cent



The “oldest” municipalities in the county are those of Rokiškis, Biržai and Kupiškis districts, where elderly people make up 26–25 % of the population. Better age structure is in Panevėžys town municipality, where elderly people make up 20.4 % of the population.

At the beginning of 2008, there were 25 children and 36 elderly persons per 100 Panevėžys county population aged 15–59 (national averages – 24 and 32 respectively), while at the beginning of 2001 – 34 and 36. The heaviest economic burden on the population aged 15–59 was in Biržai and Kupiškis districts municipalities, where there were 71–69 children and elderly persons per 100 population of the respective age.

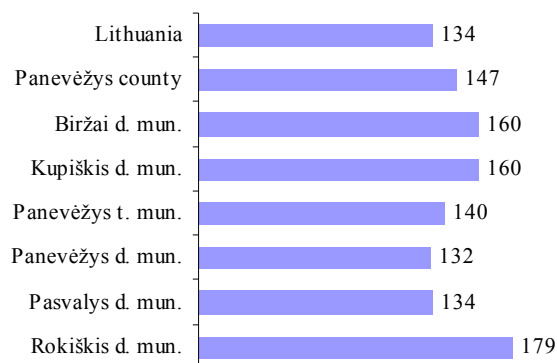
### Age dependency ratios, beginning of 2001 and 2008

	Persons of certain age per 100 population aged 15–59					
	0–14		60+		0–14 and 60+	
	2001	2008	2001	2008	2001	2008
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>61</b>
Biržai d. mun.	37	27	44	44	81	71
Kupiškis d. mun.	37	26	44	43	81	69
Panevėžys t. mun.	31	22	27	31	58	53
Panevėžys d. mun.	37	27	39	36	76	63
Pasvalys d. mun.	40	29	40	38	80	67
Rokiškis d. mun.	34	24	46	43	80	67

At the beginning of 2008, there were 147 elderly persons per 100 children in Panevėžys county (national average – 134), while at the beginning of 2001 the shares of children and elderly people were almost equal. The highest number of elderly people per 100 children was in Rokiškis district municipality (179), the lowest – in Panevėžys district municipality (132).

### Index of ageing, beginning of 2008

Number of persons aged 60 and older per 100 children aged 0–14



The mean age of the Panevėžys county population exceeds the national average. At the beginning of 2008, this indicator in the county was 39.9 years (national average – 39 years), while at the beginning of 2001 – 37.9 years.

### Migration

In 2001–2007, based on the data of the declaration of the place of residence, about 5 thousand persons, on average, would annually arrive in Panevėžys county to take up the usual residence for a period longer than 6 months, while about 6 thousand persons would leave it. There were, on average, 15.5 persons who arrived in the county and 18.9 who left it per 1000 county population. In 2007 for Panevėžys district municipality more people arrived to than left.

### Internal and international migration, 2001–2007<sup>1</sup>

	Arrivals				Departures				Net migration			
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2001	2003	2005	2007	2001	2003	2005	2007
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>42166</b>	<b>62124</b>	<b>59522</b>	<b>65044</b>	<b>44725</b>	<b>68428</b>	<b>68304</b>	<b>70288</b>	<b>-2559</b>	<b>-6304</b>	<b>-8782</b>	<b>-5244</b>
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	<b>4337</b>	<b>5166</b>	<b>4234</b>	<b>4634</b>	<b>4554</b>	<b>6328</b>	<b>5574</b>	<b>5851</b>	<b>-217</b>	<b>-1162</b>	<b>-1340</b>	<b>-1217</b>
Biržai d. mun.	536	581	432	517	562	649	666	711	-26	-68	-234	-194

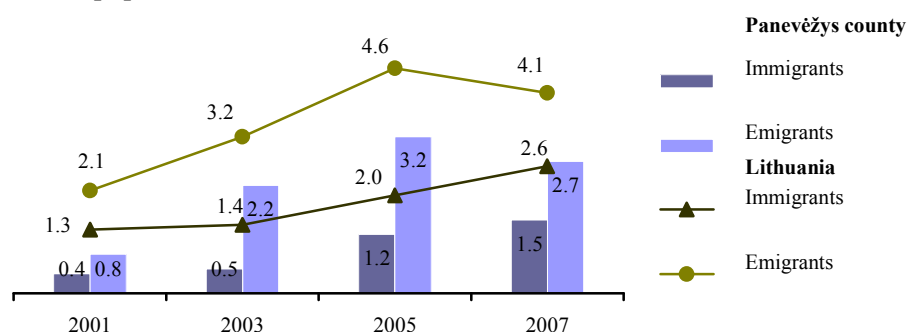
<sup>1</sup> By data of the declaration of the place of residence.

	Arrivals				Departures				Net migration			
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2001	2003	2005	2007	2001	2003	2005	2007
Kupiškis d. mun.	553	433	468	462	455	531	546	580	98	-98	-78	-118
Panevėžys t. mun.	1496	1748	1390	1484	1663	2786	2113	2100	-167	-1038	-723	-616
Panevėžys d. mun.	929	1375	999	1139	804	1028	795	1126	125	347	204	13
Pasvalys d. mun.	383	461	347	416	488	653	629	604	-105	-192	-282	-188
Rokiškis d. mun.	440	568	598	616	582	681	825	730	-142	-113	-227	-114

In 2001–2007, on average, 5.7 % of those who arrived in the county were immigrants, i.e. persons who arrived in or returned to Panevėžys county from abroad, while 11.3 % of those who left it – emigrants, i.e. persons who left Panevėžys county to live abroad. In 2007, the major share of immigrants (85.5 %) were citizens of the Republic of Lithuania, returning to their homeland, while in 2001 this figure stood at 41.6 %.

### International migration, 2001–2007<sup>2</sup>

Per 1000 population



### Fertility

The crude birth rate in Panevėžys county has been decreasing. In 2001, there were 9 live births per 1000 county population, while in 2007 – just 8.2.

#### Number of live births and the crude birth rate, 2001–2007

	Live births				Live births per 1000 population			
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2001	2003	2005	2007
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>31546</b>	<b>30598</b>	<b>30541</b>	<b>32346</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>9.6</b>
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	<b>2698</b>	<b>2547</b>	<b>2487</b>	<b>2355</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>8.2</b>
Biržai d. mun.	317	312	282	254	9.0	8.9	8.3	7.6
Kupiškis d. mun.	242	209	206	180	9.8	8.6	8.7	7.7
Panevėžys t. mun.	929	901	951	925	7.8	7.6	8.2	8.1
Panevėžys d. mun.	459	442	455	415	10.7	10.3	10.5	9.6
Pasvalys d. mun.	390	361	284	300	11.2	10.5	8.4	9.2
Rokiškis d. mun.	361	322	309	281	8.5	7.8	7.6	7.2

The average number of children to whom a woman could give birth during her fertile period in 2007 in Panevėžys county was 1.33 (national average – 1.35). The total fertility rate was the highest (1.62) in Panevėžys district, the lowest (1.17) – in Panevėžys town municipalities.

The mean age of women giving birth has been further increasing. In 2007, the mean age of women giving birth in Panevėžys county was 28.1 years (national average – 28 years), while in 2001 – 26.8 years (national average – 26.9 years).

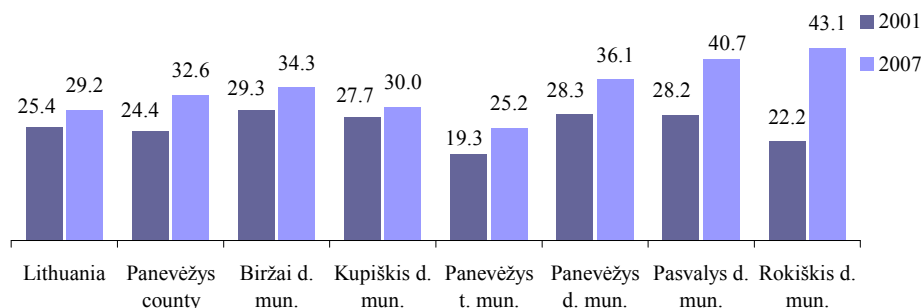
<sup>2</sup> By data of the declaration of the place of residence.

Compared with all live births recorded in the county, the share of higher order (third, fourth, fifth, sixth and higher) births decreased from 21.9 % in 2001 to 17 % in 2007.

In 2007, the number of illegitimate live births in Panevėžys county was 767, while in 2001 – 659, which made up, respectively, 32.6 and 24.4 % (national averages – 29.2 and 25.4 %), as compared to the total number of live births. In 2007, the highest number of illegitimate live births (43.1 %) was in Rokiškis district, while the lowest (25.2 %) – in Panevėžys town municipalities.

### Illegitimate live births, 2001 and 2007

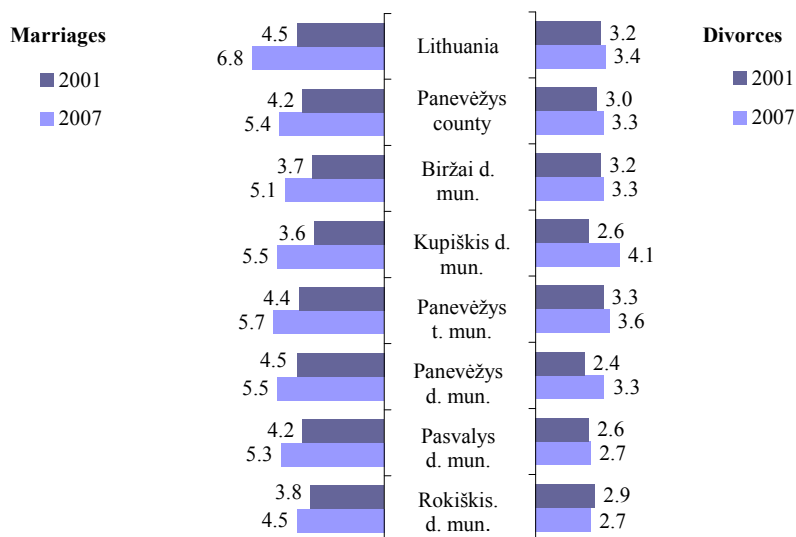
As compared to the total number of live births, per cent



### Marriages and divorces

In 2001–2007, the number of marriages in Panevėžys county was increasing. In 2007, 1528 marriages were registered; there were 5.4 marriages per 1000 county population, while in 2001, respectively, 1243 and 4.2. In 2007, the crude marriage rate in Panevėžys county, as compared with other counties, was the lowest.

### Number of marriages and divorces per 1000 population, 2001 and 2007



In 2007, the mean age at first marriage of men in the county was 27.8, that of women – 25.9 years (national averages – 27.7 and 25.5 years respectively).

In 2001–2007, the number of divorces in Panevėžys county was changing insignificantly. In 2007, 948 divorces were registered; there were 3.3 divorces per 1000 population, while in 2001 – 886 and 3 respectively. The crude divorce rate in Panevėžys county in 2007 was slightly lower than the national average. In Kupiškis district municipality, as compared with other county's municipalities, the crude divorce rate is the highest: in 2007, there were 4.1 divorces per 1000 population.

## Mortality

In 2007, 4022 deaths were registered in Panevėžys county. Over 2001–2007, the number of deaths increased by 5 %. In 2007, there were 14.1 deaths per 1000 Panevėžys county population (national average – 13.5), while in 2001 – 12.8.

In 2001–2007, crude death rates were increasing in all Panevėžys county municipalities, except for that of Panevėžys district. In 2007, mortality was the highest in Rokiškis and Kupiškis districts municipalities (17.4 and 16.6 ‰ respectively).

In 2007, there were 3.4 infant deaths (under 1 year of age) per 1000 live births in Panevėžys county (national average – 5.9).

In 2007, life expectancy at birth (LE) for men in Panevėžys county was 66.2 years, that for women – 77.4. Compared to the national average, the LE for men was higher by 1.4 years, that for women – by 0.2 year. In 2001–2007, the LE both for men and for women remained almost unchanged. Although the difference between the LE for men and for women had decreased, it remained vast: in 2007, the LE for men was by 11.2 years shorter than that for women (in 2001 – by 11.3 years).

The structure of causes of death in Panevėžys county is similar to that across the country. In 2007, the three main causes of death were as follows: diseases of the circulatory system, malignant neoplasms, and external causes of death, which caused 85.2 % of deaths in the county (national average – 83 %), in 2001 – 89.2 % (national average – 87 %).

### Mortality by main cause of death, 2001 and 2007

Number of deaths per 100 000 population

	2001				2007			
	Malignant neoplasms	Diseases of the circulatory system	Diseases of the respiratory system	External causes of death	Malignant neoplasms	Diseases of the circulatory system	Diseases of the respiratory system	External causes of death
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>223.9</b>	<b>628.2</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>157.9</b>	<b>245.3</b>	<b>720.1</b>	<b>57.9</b>	<b>155.4</b>
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	<b>252.3</b>	<b>723.9</b>	<b>37.4</b>	<b>163.5</b>	<b>271.6</b>	<b>782.4</b>	<b>46.2</b>	<b>145.6</b>
Biržai d. mun.	305.2	898.7	33.9	147.0	297.7	944.3	36.1	153.4
Kupiškis d. mun.	223.5	877.6	44.7	207.2	305.0	910.6	64.4	201.9
Panevėžys t. mun.	223.2	499.9	19.2	135.4	237.5	606.4	34.2	90.3
Panevėžys d. mun.	256.7	907.9	63.0	193.7	239.0	812.3	46.4	208.9
Pasvalys d. mun.	249.4	771.0	22.9	166.2	308.4	897.8	48.9	168.0
Rokiškis d. mun.	305.1	896.3	73.3	198.6	334.2	951.7	76.5	178.6

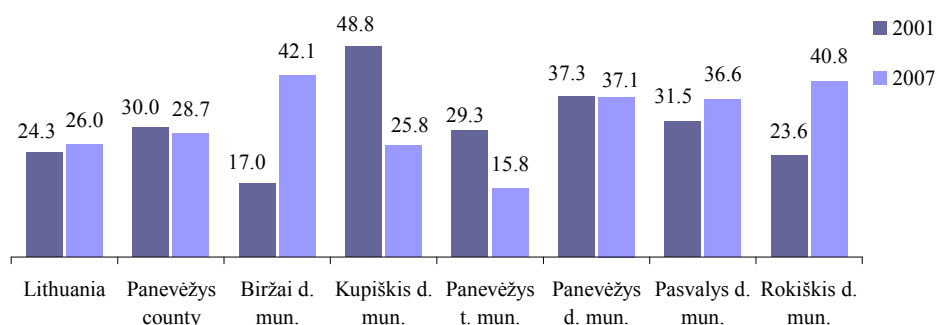
In 2007, more than half (55.6 %) of deaths in the county were due to diseases of the circulatory system (in 2001 – 56.7 %). Mortality due to these diseases for men exceeded the national average 1.4 times in Biržai district municipality, the one for women – exceeded the national average 1.4 times in Kupiškis district municipality.

In 2007, there were 776 deaths due to malignant neoplasms (almost one-fifth of all deaths in Panevėžys county). As compared to other county's municipalities, the highest death rate due to malignant neoplasms for men was in Rokiškis district, while that for women – in Pasvalys district municipalities.

In 2007, there were 416 deaths due to external causes of death (one-tenth of all deaths in the county). The death rate due to the said cause for men was 1.5 times higher than the county average in Panevėžys district municipality, that for women – 1.3 times higher than the county average in Rokiškis district municipality. In 2007, mortality due to suicides for women in Panevėžys county was the highest in the country, while by mortality due to transport accidents for men the county ranked third in Lithuania.

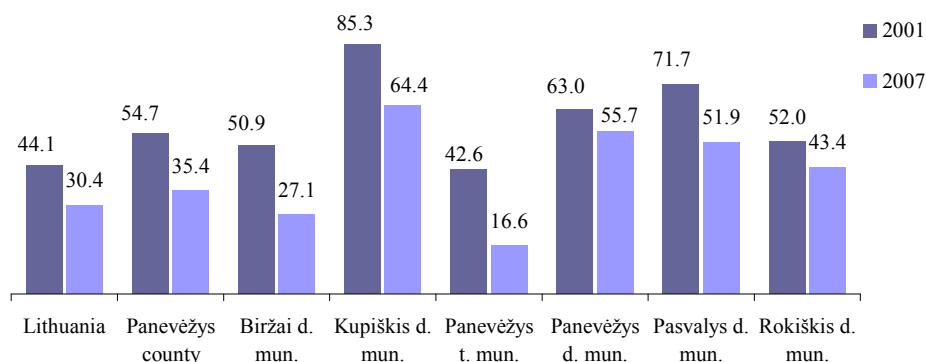
### Mortality due to transport accidents, 2001 and 2007

Number of deaths per 100 000 population



### Mortality due to suicides, 2001 and 2007

Number of deaths per 100 000 population



### Health

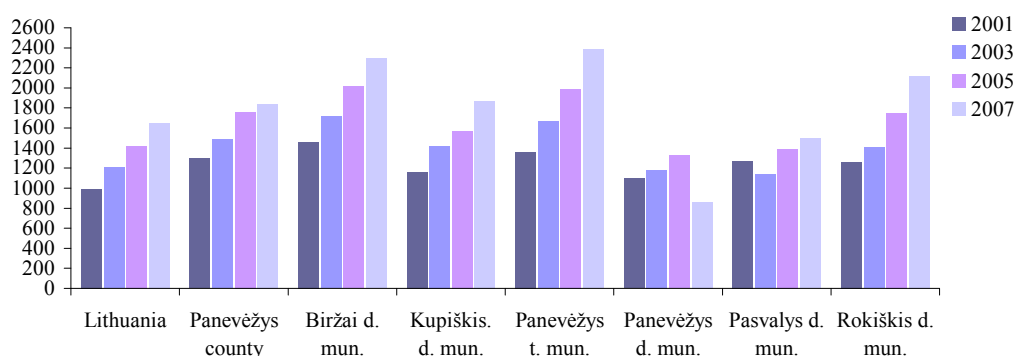
Based on the data of the Lithuanian Health Information Centre<sup>3</sup>, in 2007, 73.3 thousand persons, or each fourth resident of Panevėžys county, were treated in hospital. The residents of Panevėžys district municipality were using inpatient services the least (just each eighth). The number of visits to health professionals providing primary outpatient health care services per capita in Panevėžys county made 4 times (national average – 5 times).

As compared with the indicators of other counties, prevalence rates in Panevėžys county are rather poor. The prevalence of malignant neoplasms in 2007 in the county was the highest in Lithuania (1842 cases per 100 000 population) – by 12 % higher than national average (1650). In the municipalities of Biržai and Rokiškis districts, as well as Panevėžys town, the indicators of the prevalence of malignant neoplasms were the highest, as compared with other country's municipalities. Over 2001–2007, the prevalence of malignant neoplasms was increasing evenly in all county's municipalities, except for that of Panevėžys district.

<sup>3</sup> Indicators of inpatient services and prevalence of diseases calculated based on the data of the information system of the State Patient Fund SVEIDRA.

## Changes in prevalence of malignant neoplasms, 2001–2007

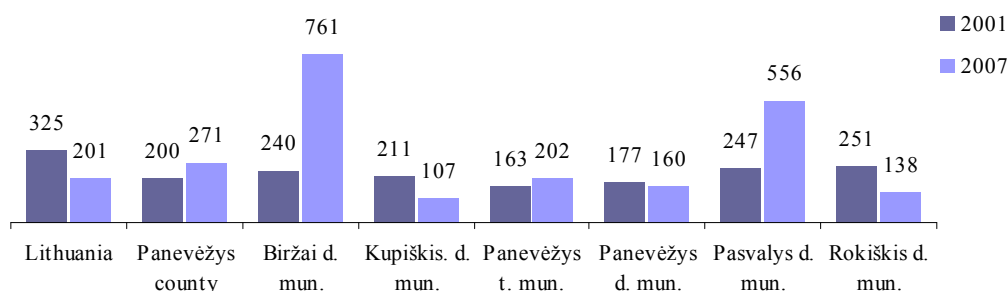
Number of sick persons per 100 000 population



Panevėžys county also stands out among other counties by the prevalence of dangerous, so-called social disease – tuberculosis. In 2007, the prevalence rate of tuberculosis in the county was by as much as 35 % higher than the national average (271 sick persons per 100 000 population; national average – 201), while in Biržai district municipality it exceeded the national average almost 4 times (761 cases per 100 000 population). Over 2001–2007, the prevalence of tuberculosis grew the most in Biržai and Pasvalys district municipalities (3 and 2 times respectively), whereas in Kupiškis district municipality it decreased almost 2 times.

## Prevalence of tuberculosis, 2001 and 2007

Number of sick persons per 100 000 population



In 2007, the prevalence of hypertension (high blood pressure) diseases in Panevėžys county was the highest in Lithuania (13 272 cases per 100 000 population); it was by 10 % higher than the national average (12 043). The prevalence of these diseases in county's municipalities was different – in Panevėžys district municipality, it was relatively low (7014 cases per 100 000 population), whereas in Kupiškis district municipality – almost 3 times higher (20 044).

In 2007, Panevėžys county stood out with the prevalence of diseases of the stomach and duodenum, as well as joint diseases. The number of persons having a chronic obstructive pulmonary disease was relatively lower than in other counties.

## Social protection

In 2007, 53.8 thousand (or each fifth resident of the county; national average – each sixth) residents of Panevėžys county were state social insurance old age pensioners; 21.1 thousand persons received a work incapacity (disability) pension. There were 308 old age and 121 work incapacity (disability) pensioners per 1000 working age population in the county. The highest relative share of old age pensioners was in Rokiškis district municipality (372 old age pensioners per 1000 working age population), while the lowest – in Panevėžys town and district municipalities<sup>4</sup> (272).

<sup>4</sup> Data provided broken down by regional divisions of the State Social Insurance Fund Board.



In 2007, 31.4 thousand residents of Panevėžys county received child benefits; almost one-third thereof were residents of Panevėžys town municipality. 1020 persons received guardianship (curatorship) benefits, 125 persons – support to acquire or rent housing. Pregnancy grants were received by 561 women, birth grants – 2.2 thousand residents in the county. In 2007, in total, families bringing up children in Panevėžys county were paid LTL 33 344.9 thousand of benefits.

The number of residents of the county receiving social services at home has been constantly increasing. In 2007, 871 residents of the county were nursed or attended at home (in 2006 – 831, in 2001 – 526), each second thereof – in Panevėžys town municipality.

At the end of 2007, there were 247 persons living in ten care institutions for the elderly, and 830 persons – in five care institutions for disabled adults. There were also 9 care institutions for children functioning in the county, where 452 children were taken care of; 26 children were fostered in families. In 2007, 153 persons stayed in three temporary residence institutions (shelters and crisis centres) of Panevėžys county.

Based on the data of the State Child Rights Protection and Adoption Service under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour, there were about 1.5 thousand families at social risk living in Panevėžys county in 2007, with 3.6 thousand children brought up in them (27 % thereof – in Pasvalys district municipality).

#### Families at social risk and children in them, 2005–2007

	Number of families at social risk			Number of children in them		
	2005	2006	2007	2005	2006	2007
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	<b>1625</b>	<b>1594</b>	<b>1464</b>	<b>3926</b>	<b>3815</b>	<b>3565</b>
Biržai d. mun.	145	155	146	375	418	381
Kupiškis d. mun.	203	172	173	473	391	388
Panevėžys t. mun.	382	386	284	688	715	538
Panevėžys d. mun.	270	310	306	768	791	779
Pasvalys d. mun.	361	337	336	1010	946	947
Rokiškis d. mun.	264	234	219	612	554	532

#### Education

At the end of 2007, there were 61 preschool education institutions in the county, where 7.6 thousand children were enrolled. The number of preschool education institutions increased only in Panevėžys town, while the number of children in them decreased by almost 2 %. The number of children enrolled in preschool education institutions in different municipalities was changing differently: in Panevėžys district – increased by almost 20 %, while in Pasvalys district – decreased by 8 %.

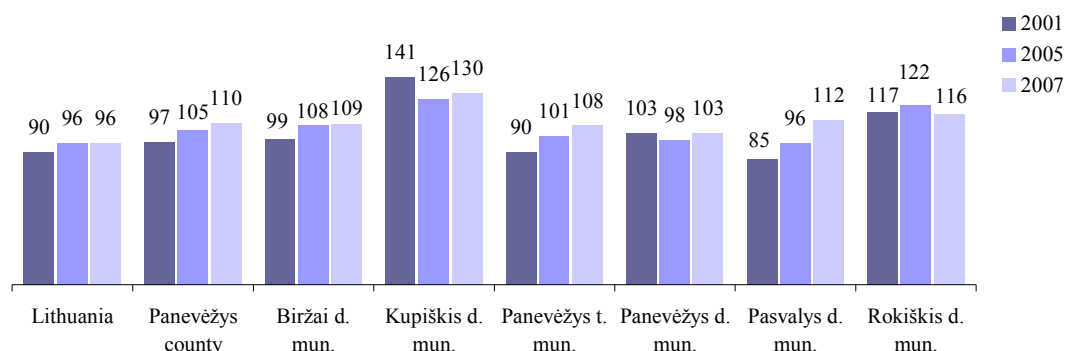
#### Number of children in preschool education institutions, 2001–2007

	2001	2003	2005	2007	2007, against 2001, growth, drop (-), %
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>89841</b>	<b>89469</b>	<b>90021</b>	<b>93044</b>	<b>3,6</b>
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	<b>7571</b>	<b>7675</b>	<b>7495</b>	<b>7602</b>	<b>0,4</b>
Biržai d. mun.	752	729	762	798	6,1
Kupiškis d. mun.	358	387	399	385	7,5
Panevėžys t. mun.	4415	4408	4291	4337	-1,8
Panevėžys d. mun.	570	652	645	682	19,6
Pasvalys d. mun.	559	575	526	515	-7,9
Rokiškis d. mun.	917	924	872	885	-3,5

In 2007, there were, on average, 110 places per 100 children enrolled in preschool education institutions. The number of places for children in preschool education institutions was sufficient in all municipalities.

### Ratio of the number of children in preschool education institutions to that of places in them, 2001–2007

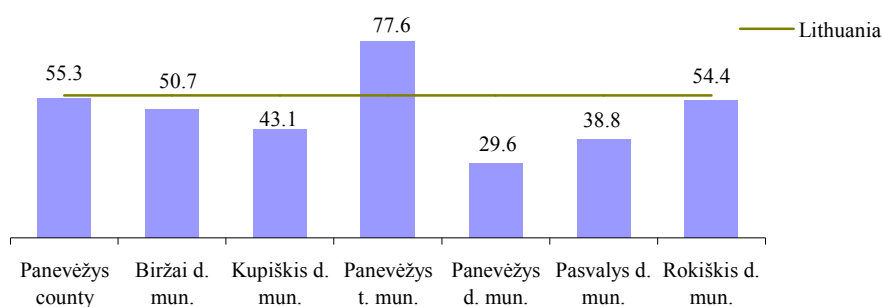
Places per 100 children



The share of children educated according to preschool and pre-primary educational programmes has been increasing. At the end of 2007, the share of children educated according to such programmes in Panevėžys county made up more than half (55 %) of children aged 1–6. The change in this indicator in the county's municipalities ranged from 30 % in Panevėžys district to 78 % in Panevėžys town municipalities. Over 2005–2007, the share of children aged 1–6 educated according to preschool and pre-primary educational programmes in Kupiškis and Rokiškis districts was growing at the fastest pace (by 5 and 4 percentage points respectively).

### Children in preschool and pre-primary education, 2007

Against all children aged 1–6, per cent



At the beginning of the 2007–2008 academic year, there were 132 general schools in the county, where 43 thousand pupils were enrolled. Against the 2001–2002 academic year, the number of schools decreased from 223 to 132 (by 41 %), while that of pupils – by almost 10 thousand (19 %).

The number of schools has been decreasing in all municipalities, the most – in those of Biržai and Pasvalys districts (2.5 and 2 times respectively). The most considerable decrease in the number of pupils was observed in Kupiškis and Panevėžys district municipalities, where the number of pupils decreased by 21 % in each.

### Number of pupils in general schools

	2001–2002	2003–2004	2005–2006	2007–2008	2007, against 2001, growth, drop (-), %
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>602419</b>	<b>583063</b>	<b>538541</b>	<b>489442</b>	<b>-18.8</b>
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	<b>52477</b>	<b>51140</b>	<b>47466</b>	<b>42604</b>	<b>-18.8</b>
Biržai d. mun.	5973	5870	5487	4914	-17.7
Kupiškis d. mun.	4434	4273	3871	3496	-21.2
Panevėžys t. mun.	22688	22270	20783	18612	-18.0
Panevėžys d. mun.	5794	5544	4990	4580	-21.0
Pasvalys d. mun.	6317	6190	5733	5163	-18.3
Rokiškis d. mun.	7271	6993	6602	5839	-19.7

At the beginning of the 2007–2008 academic year, there were 3.6 thousand teachers in the general schools of the county. Against the 2001–2002 academic year, the total number of teachers and school managers, to whom this job was the main one, decreased from 4025 to 3631, or by almost 10 %. The number of teachers has been decreasing in all county's municipalities, while the most notable decrease was observed in that of Kupiškis district – in 2007, against 2001, by 21 %.

In 2007, general schools were finished by more than 3 thousand pupils, of whom 82 % continued their studies in the same year: 53 % entered universities, 24 % – colleges, 5 % – vocational training institutions.

At the beginning of the 2007–2008 academic year, there were 8 vocational schools operating in the county, where more than 3 thousand students were enrolled. Against 2003, the number of students in vocational schools dropped by 6 %.

### Number of vocational schools and students in them

	Number of vocational schools			Number of students			Number of graduates		
	2003–2004	2005–2006	2007–2008	2003–2004	2005–2006	2007–2008	2003	2005	2007
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>44403</b>	<b>46334</b>	<b>43880</b>	<b>14465</b>	<b>12980</b>	<b>12565</b>
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3587</b>	<b>3662</b>	<b>3363</b>	<b>1023</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>869</b>
Biržai d. mun.	2	2	2	639	613	545	180	137	139
Kupiškis d. mun.	1	1	1	415	421	456	96	126	83
Panevėžys t. mun.	3	3	3	2059	2146	2021	655	595	560
Pasvalys d. mun.	-	-	1	313	310	252	53	89	61
Rokiškis d. mun.	1	1	1	161	172	89	39	26	26

The biggest vocational education institution in the county – Panevėžys Vocational Education Centre, situated in Panevėžys town, where more than a thousand students are enrolled.

There is the only higher education establishment, providing higher non-university education, in Panevėžys town – Panevėžys College – with a branch functioning in Rokiškis. A professional bachelor's degree here is pursued by more than 2 thousand students.

### Number of colleges and students in them

	Number of colleges			Number of students			Number of graduates		
	2003–2004	2005–2006	2007–2008	2003–2004	2005–2006	2007–2008	2003	2005	2007
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>40472</b>	<b>55949</b>	<b>60096</b>	<b>4602</b>	<b>11173</b>	<b>11940</b>
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1509</b>	<b>2344</b>	<b>2254</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>560</b>
Panevėžys t. mun.	1	1	1	1399	2131	2032	77	364	527
Rokiškis d. mun.	-	-	-	110	213	222	-	23	33

There is Panevėžys Institute of Kaunas University of Technology, where a bachelor's or master's degree is pursued by about 1.5 thousand students (a bachelor's degree is pursued by 92 %, master's – by 8 % of students). Students may choose intramural or evening programmes. The largest share of students (61 %) enrol in evening courses.

### Number of universities and students in them

	Number of universities			Number of students			Number of graduates		
	2003–2004	2005–2006	2007–2008	2003–2004	2005–2006	2007–2008	2003	2005	2007
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>130245</b>	<b>141771</b>	<b>144336</b>	<b>22959</b>	<b>28089</b>	<b>31153</b>
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	-	-	-	<b>1646</b>	<b>1609</b>	<b>1589</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>294</b>
Panevėžys t. mun.	-	-	-	1646	1609	1589	285	311	294

In the 2007–2008 academic year, 65 % of students were studying management and business administration, 35 % – engineering study programmes.

### Employment

The number of employed persons in the county is rather low. In 2007, 119.2 thousand, or 61 % of the population aged 15–64 were working in Panevėžys county, which made up about 8 % of the employed population in the country.

Although due to increasing emigration the population in the county, as well as countrywide, has been decreasing, the number of employed persons has not been (except for 2006) changing.

### Employed population, 2001–2007

Thousand

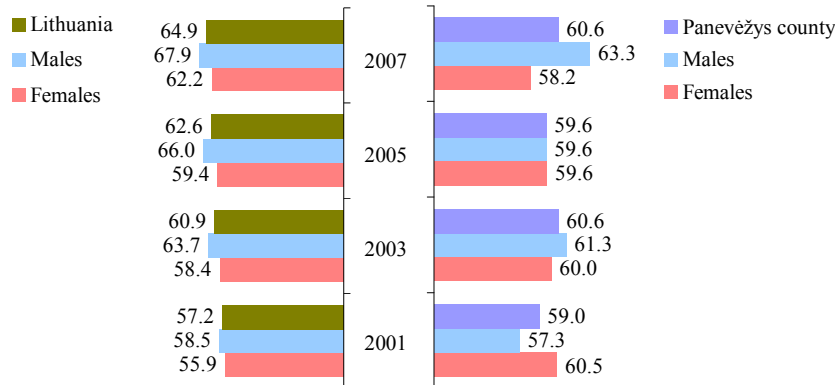
	2001	2003	2005	2007
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>1351.8</b>	<b>1438.0</b>	<b>1473.9</b>	<b>1534.2</b>
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	<b>118.9</b>	<b>119.2</b>	<b>117.3</b>	<b>119.2</b>
Biržai d. mun.	11.6	12.1	11.8	13.1
Kupiškis d. mun.	8.2	8.7	8.3	10.3
Panevėžys t. mun.	56.0	53.5	50.5	49.3
Panevėžys d. mun.	15.4	17.1	18.0	18.0
Pasvalys d. mun.	13.0	12.6	12.5	12.2
Rokiškis d. mun.	14.7	15.2	16.2	16.3

In 2007, 41 % of persons employed in Panevėžys county were working in Panevėžys town, while those in Panevėžys district made up 15 %, Rokiškis district – 14 %, Biržai district – 11 % of persons employed in the county. In 2001–2007, the number of employed persons in different municipalities was changing at a different pace. The number of employed persons in Panevėžys town was almost constantly slightly decreasing over the entire period in question; however, in 2007, a growth was observed. In Pasvalys district, the number of employed persons has been decreasing almost annually as well. In the rest of municipalities, the number of employed persons has been changing just insignificantly.

In 2007, the employment rate of the population aged 15–64 in Panevėžys county made up 60.6 %, i.e. was by 4 % less than the national average (64.9 %). The employment rate in Panevėžys county in 2007 was the lowest as compared with other counties. The lowest employment rates in the county were recorded in 2006 and 2001 – 57.3 and 59 % respectively. The male employment rate in the county in 2007 made up 63.3 %, the female one – 58.2 %, although in 2006 they were equal.

## Employment rate of the population aged 15–64, 2001–2007

Per cent

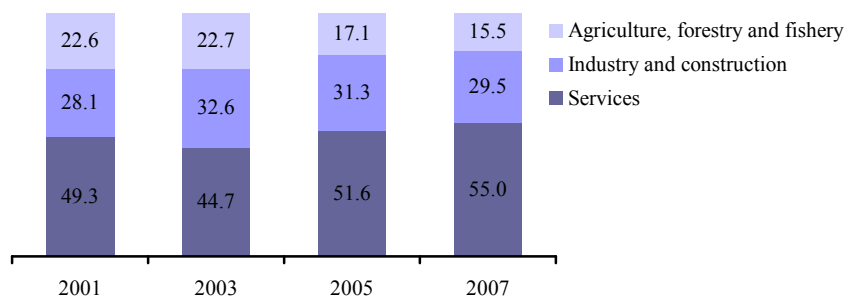


Given the shortage of the labour force, it is important to make use of the reserves of all population groups in the labour market. One of the methods is increasing employment of older (aged 55–64) persons. In 2007, 53.4 % of the population of this age group were working in Lithuania, while in Panevėžys county – 49.6 %. The employment rate of elderly men has been annually increasing, and in 2007 reached 57.3 %, while that of elderly women – just 43.2 %. Although from 2001 their share grew by 14 percentage points, this indicator is still among the lowest in the country. Relatively low employment rates of people of working age and the elderly are impacted on by a rather slow economic growth in the county.

In 2007 and 2006, the largest share (55 %) of the employed population were working in the service sector. In 2001–2007, about one-third of the employed population were working in industrial enterprises and the construction sector. The share of persons working in the field of agriculture, forestry and fishery has been decreasing in the county, as well as across the country. In 2007, 16 % of the Panevėžys county population were working in agriculture, forestry and fishery, while in 2001–2002 – as much as 23 % of persons employed in the county. Such a relatively large share of persons working in agriculture is determined by rich soils, which prevail in the county, and other conditions favourable for farming. In Lithuania, in 2007, 10 % of the employed population were working in this sector.

## Employment by economic sector, 2001–2007

Per cent



## Unemployment

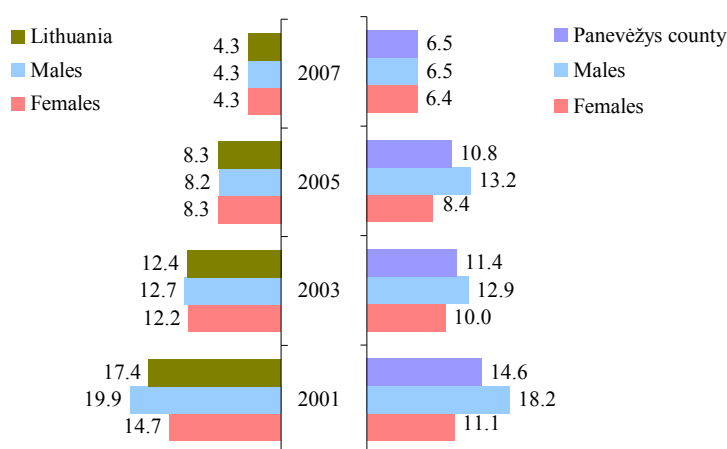
Unemployment, which for a long time had been one of the country's burning problems, rapidly decreased. In Lithuania, over 2001–2007, the number of the unemployed decreased from 284 to 69 thousand, or 4 times. In Panevėžys county, the highest number of the unemployed (20 thousand) was recorded in 2001. By 2007, this number decreased 2.4 times – to 8.3 thousand. In 2001–2006, the number of male unemployed was higher than that of female unemployed.

With the decrease in the number of the unemployed, the unemployment rate was decreasing as well. In Panevėžys county, it was decreasing at a similar pace as the national average. The unemployment rate in the county decreased from 14.6 % in 2001 to 6.5 % in 2007, and was higher than the national average, which in 2007 made up 4.3 %. A decrease in the male unemployment rate was particularly prominent: in 2001, it was as high as 18.2 %, while in 2007 dropped to 6.5 %.

However, these seemingly positive changes in unemployment rates did not lead to higher territorial social cohesion of country's regions. The decrease in the unemployment rate and the number of the unemployed was first of all determined by emigration, which was stimulated by Lithuania's accession to the EU, as well as people moving to major country's cities. The largest share of those who emigrated from Lithuania are people of working age, moving to other regions of Lithuania or abroad due to unfavourable social, economic and local living conditions.

### Unemployment rate of the population aged 15–74, 2001–2007

Per cent

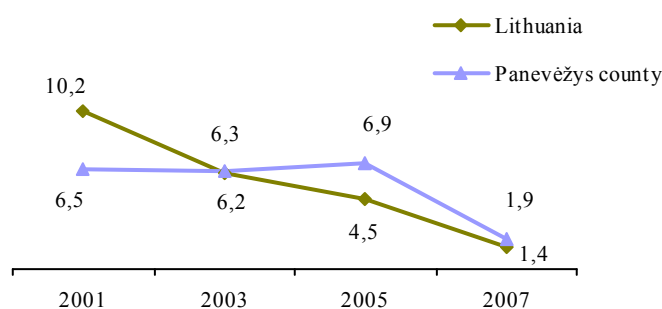


Not only the total number of the unemployed, but also that of the long-term unemployed, i.e. people looking for a job for a year or longer, have been decreasing. The number of the long-term unemployed in Panevėžys county decreased from 9 thousand in 2001 to 2.5 thousand in 2007, while the long-term unemployment rate decreased from 6.5 % in 2001 to 1.9 % in 2007. In 2007, the male and female long-term unemployment rates were similar. The number of long-term unemployed in Panevėžys county is lower than the national average. In 2001, the share of the long-term unemployed in the county made up 44 % of the total number of the unemployed (national average – 59 %), while in 2007 it decreased in the county, as well as in the entire country, and made up 30 and 32 % respectively. The major share of the long-term unemployed are unqualified persons, who are not ready to compete in the labour market due to the lack of professional skills, necessary for successful competition, or have lost touch with the labour market, as well as persons at various social risks or exposed to social exclusion. These are the main obstacles for integrating into the labour market.

The decrease in the number of such unemployed in Panevėžys county positively impacted on the decrease in the number of the long-term unemployed and unemployment rate at the national level.

### Long-term unemployment rate of the population aged 15–74, 2001–2007

Per cent



### Labour force

In recent years, the shortage of the labour force has been prominent in the county, as well as in the entire country. Although the number of employed persons has been annually increasing, a rapid decrease in the number of the unemployed alongside emigration to better-developed EU countries, which have opened their labour markets, conditioned the decrease in the labour force both in Panevėžys county and in the entire country. In 2007, the number of residents attributable to the labour force, i.e. employed or unemployed but wanting to work, in the county was 127 thousand, while the labour force activity rate made up 64.9 %, i.e. was by 3 % lower than the national average. This indicator is one of the lowest in Lithuania, which reflects a relatively low activity rate in the county.

### Earnings

In 2007, average gross monthly earnings in Panevėžys county made LTL 1507, and were by 16.4 percentage points lower than the national average. In 2001–2007, the highest earnings in the county were in Panevėžys town municipality. Over the period in question, the most rapid growth in earnings was observed in Panevėžys district municipality (92 %), while the slowest – in Rokiškis district municipality (65 %).

### Average gross monthly earnings and indices, 2001–2007

	Average gross monthly earnings, LTL				Indices, per cent	
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2007 against 2006	National economy - 100
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>1073</b>	<b>1276</b>	<b>1802</b>	<b>120.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>1094</b>	<b>1507</b>	<b>119.8</b>	<b>83.6</b>
Biržai d. mun.	779	840	959	1347	120.8	74.8
Kupiškis d. mun.	804	835	985	1358	122.4	75.4
Panevėžys t. mun.	975	1026	1195	1635	119.4	90.7
Panevėžys d. mun.	676	804	907	1298	120.1	72.0
Pasvalys d. mun.	721	768	921	1311	122.2	72.8
Rokiškis d. mun.	853	895	1016	1405	118.3	78.0

**Average gross monthly earnings by major occupational group and level of education, 2006**

	Lithuania	Panevėžys county						
		Total	Primary	General lower secondary	General upper secondary	Special secondary	Post-secondary	Higher
Total	1596	1350	•	1003	1047	1091	1445	2037
Legislators, senior officials and managers	2779	2317	–	•	•	1518	2214	2705
Professionals	1924	1739	–	•	1167	1220	1508	1914
Technicians and associate professionals	1536	1360	–	•	1172	1220	1393	1804
Clerks	1322	1291	•	•	•	(1144)	1276	•
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	991	880	–	758	877	834	913	•
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	816	•	–	•	–	•	–	–
Craft and related trades workers	1337	1185	•	1211	1182	1116	1373	•
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	1316	1149	•	1140	1105	1140	(1458)	•
Elementary occupations	888	784	•	778	807	755	821	•

In 2006, in Panevėžys county, earnings of employees of different major occupational groups, having the same level of education, were different. Average gross monthly earnings of legislators, senior officials and managers, etc. having higher education were by 41 % higher than earnings of professionals and by 50 % higher than earnings of technicians and associate professionals having the same educational level. In Panevėžys county, earnings of non-manual workers were by 16 %, while those of manual workers – by 14 % lower than the national average.

In 2006, the highest average gross monthly earnings (LTL 1691) were those of employees with the length of service in the enterprise of 20–29 years, by one-third less – those of employees with the length of service in the enterprise under one year. Employees aged 40–49 had the highest earnings (LTL 1407); their earnings were by 50 % higher than earnings of those aged under 19.

**Standard of living**

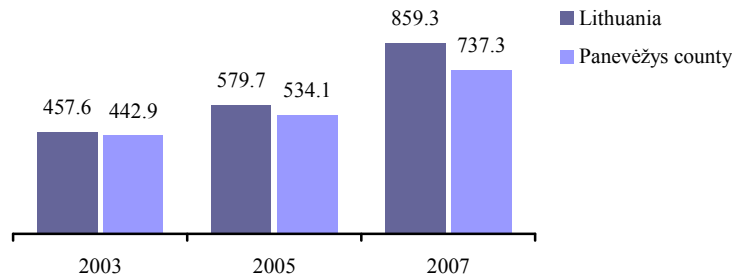
Based on the data of the Household Budget Survey, average disposable household income (in cash and in kind) in Panevėžys county in 2007 made LTL 737 per capita per month, i.e. by LTL 122 less than the national average. Against 2006, disposable income increased by 27.7 %, while against 2003 – by 66.5 %. Disposable income in cash, against 2006, increased by 32.3 %, while against 2003 –1.9 times.

Against 2006, the most visible increase was observed for earned income, of which the most considerable – for income from paid employment. The increase in earned income made up 74.3 % of the increase in disposable income.



### Changes in average disposable income, 2003–2007

Per household member per month, LTL



In Panevėžys county, income from paid employment in 2007 made up half of the total disposable income, i.e. was by 12 percentage points less than the national average. Social transfers in 2007 made up 30.6 % of disposable income of the Panevėžys county population (by 9 percentage points more than the national average), or, on average, LTL 226 per capita per month.

### Average disposable income, 2003–2007

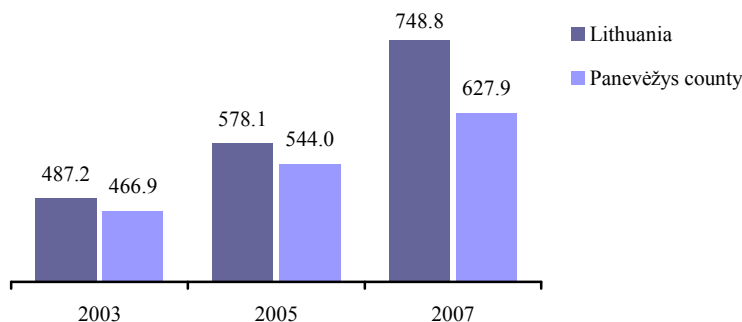
Per capita per month, LTL

	Lithuania	Panevėžys county		
	2007	2003	2005	2007
<b>Total disposable income</b>	<b>859.3</b>	<b>442.9</b>	<b>534.1</b>	<b>737.3</b>
Income from paid employment	536.4	200.5	245.3	372.7
Income from self-employment	105.0	84.8	111.0	117.3
income from agriculture	58.8	71.1	73.2	86.1
Social transfers	182.6	124.6	145.6	225.7
Income from rent and property, other income	35.3	33.0	32.1	21.5

Household consumption expenditure per capita in Panevėžys county in 2007 made LTL 628 per month, which is by LTL 121 less than the national average. Against 2006, consumption expenditure increased by 11 %, or LTL 62 per month. Almost half of this sum was due to the increased expenditure on food products.

### Average consumption expenditure, 2003–2007

Per capita per month, LTL



In 2007, households in Panevėžys county spent on food (excluding sums spent in canteens, cafes and restaurants) 38.7 % of their total consumption expenditure, which made, on average, LTL 243 per household member per month (by LTL 5.1 less than the national average). Against 2006, the share of expenditure on food products increased by 1.4 percentage points, while against 2003 – decreased by 5 percentage points.

## Structure of consumption expenditure, 2003–2007

Total consumption expenditure – 100 per cent

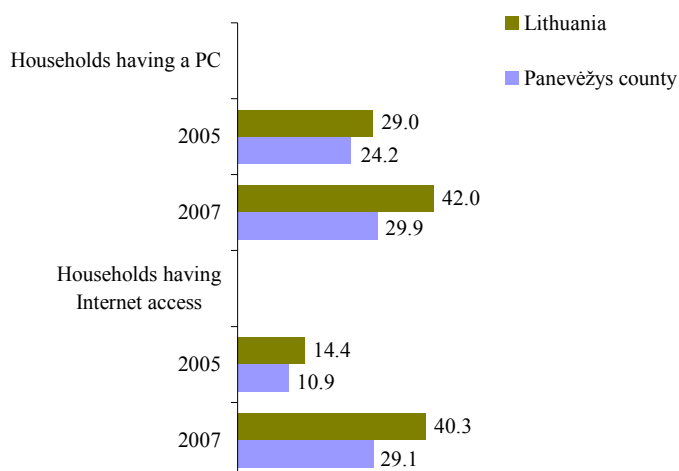
	Lithuania	Panevėžys county		
	2007	2003	2005	2007
Food products and non-alcoholic beverages	33.1	43.7	40.8	38.7
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco	3.7	3.2	3.5	3.8
Clothing and footwear	9.2	7.4	8.3	8.2
Housing, water, electricity, gas, fuel	12.0	12.4	11.8	11.4
Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house	5.8	3.7	4.5	5.3
Health care	4.8	5.2	5.0	6.1
Transport	10.4	8.7	8.5	8.8
Communication	4.9	4.7	5.3	4.8
Recreation and culture	5.5	3.2	4.0	4.7
Education	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.4
Hotels, cafes, restaurants, canteens	5.2	2.8	3.7	4.0
Miscellaneous goods and services	4.7	4.5	3.7	3.8

In 2007, consumption expenditure on housing, fuel and energy in Panevėžys county made LTL 72 per household member per month, national average – LTL 89 (respectively, 11.4 and 12 % of total household consumption expenditure). Against 2003, expenditure on the maintenance of the house in the county increased by 23.6 %, while their specific weight in consumption expenditure slightly decreased.

### Use of information technologies in households

Provision of Panevėžys county households with personal computers and use of the Internet considerably lagged behind the national average. In I quarter 2007, 30 % of Panevėžys county households had a personal computer at home, 29 % – Internet access (national averages, respectively, 42 and 40 %). Over two years, the share of Panevėžys county households having a PC increased by 6, those having Internet access – by 18 percentage points. The increase in the share of households having Internet access at home was impacted on by the increased provision of Internet services via mobile communication networks.

### Households with computers and Internet access, 2005 and 2007



In I quarter 2007, computers were used by 42 % of the Panevėžys county population aged 16–74 (national average – 52 %). 62 % of persons who were using computers used them daily (national average – 66 %), 34 % – at least once a week, but not daily.

In I quarter 2007, the Internet was used by 39 % of the Panevėžys county population (national average – 49 %).

As compared with the national average, internauts of Panevėžys county were using the Internet less often. Each second resident of the county who was using the Internet used it daily, 41 % – at least once a week, but not daily. Hence 36 % of the Panevėžys county population aged 16–74 were using the Internet regularly (at least once a week) (national average – 45 %).

Usually the Internet was used for communication, search for information, reading newspapers and magazines. E-banking services in 2007 were used by 14 % of the Panevėžys county population aged 16–74 (national average – 21 %).

In I quarter 2007, goods and services for personal use were purchased or ordered via the Internet by 1.6 % of the Panevėžys county population aged 16–74, or by 4 % of internauts (national averages – 3.7 and 7.2 % respectively).

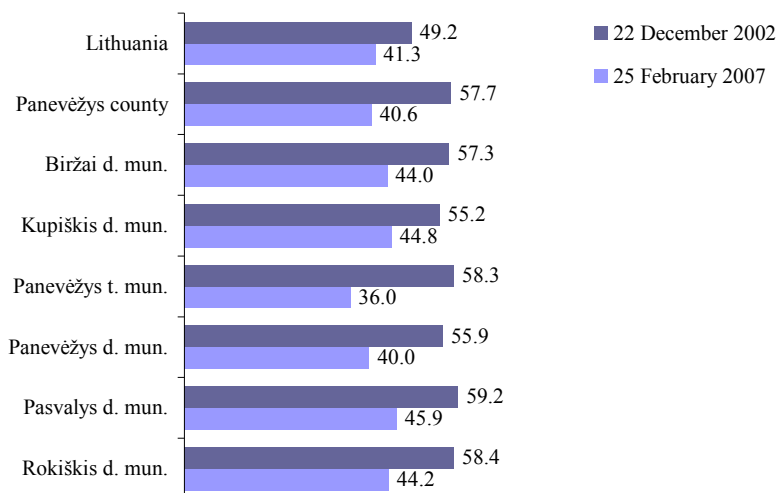
### Results of elections to municipal councils

(Data of the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Lithuania)

Electoral activity at the municipal council elections in Panevėžys county in 2007, against 2002, as compared with other counties, decreased the most – from 57.7 to 40.6 % – and was lower than the national average. In 2007, the most active were the residents of Pasvalys, Kupiškis and Rokiškis district municipalities, where 45.9–44.2 % of residents having voting rights participated in the elections. The least active were the residents of Panevėžys town municipality (just one-third (36 %) of residents having voting rights) and Panevėžys district (40 %). In other municipalities, electoral activity exceeded the national average (41.3 %).

### Electoral activity at municipal council elections, 2002 and 2007

Per cent



In 2007, in Panevėžys county, out of the total of 156 municipal council mandates, women obtained 35, or 22.4 %, (national average 22.2 %). In Biržai district municipal council, women obtained one-third of mandates, this indicator being one of the highest in Lithuania. The smallest share of women (16 %) was elected to the municipal councils of Kupiškis district and Panevėžys town. In other districts, women made up about one-fourth/one-fifth of members of municipal councils.

### Number of mandates obtained at the 2007 municipal council elections by sex

	Total	Per cent	
		males	females
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>1550</b>	<b>77.8</b>	<b>22.2</b>
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>77.6</b>	<b>22.4</b>
Biržai d. mun.	25	68.0	32.0
Kupiškis d. mun.	25	84.0	16.0
Panevėžys t. mun.	31	83.9	16.1
Panevėžys d. mun.	25	76.0	24.0
Pasvalys d. mun.	25	72.0	28.0
Rokiškis d. mun.	25	80.0	20.0

In 2007, in the municipal council elections in Panevėžys county, the highest number of mandates was obtained by the Homeland Union (Conservatives, Political Prisoners and Deportees, Christian Democrats) – 37 mandates, or a quarter, Union of Peasants and New Democracy Parties – 32, Lithuanian Social Democratic Party – 30, or one-fifth; the Lithuanian Christian Democrats Party obtained twice as little mandates as the leader.

In Pasvalys district municipal council, the highest number of mandates – 11, or 44 %, in that of Panevėžys town – 8, or 26 %, was obtained by the Homeland Union (Conservatives, Political Prisoners and Deportees, Christian Democrats). In Kupiškis and Panevėžys district municipal councils, one-third of mandates were obtained by the Union of Peasants and New Democracy Parties. In Biržai district municipal council, the Lithuanian Social Democratic Party has one-third, in that of Rokiškis district – a quarter of mandates.

### Number of mandates obtained at the 2007 municipal council elections by party

	Panevėžys county	Biržai d. mun.	Kupiškis d. mun.	Panevėžys t. mun.	Panevėžys d. mun.	Pasvalys d. mun.	Rokiškis d. mun.
<b>Total</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>
Homeland Union (Conservatives, Political Prisoners and Deportees, Christian Democrats)	37	4	7	8	4	11	3
Union of Peasants and New Democracy Parties	32	7	9	2	9	3	2
Lithuanian Social Democratic Party	30	8	2	5	4	4	7
Lithuanian Christian Democrats Party	18	3	2	4	2	5	2
Party Order and Justice (Liberal Democratic)	11	–	1	5	–	–	5
Liberal and Centre Union	9	–	2	2	2	–	3
Labour Party	8	2	2	1	1	–	2
Liberal Movement of the Republic of Lithuania	6	1	–	2	3	–	–
The New Union (Social Liberals)	5	–	–	2	–	2	1

### Culture

Over 2001–2007, the number of cultural centres in the county decreased by 10 %, that of libraries – by 5 %; the number of museums remained unchanged.

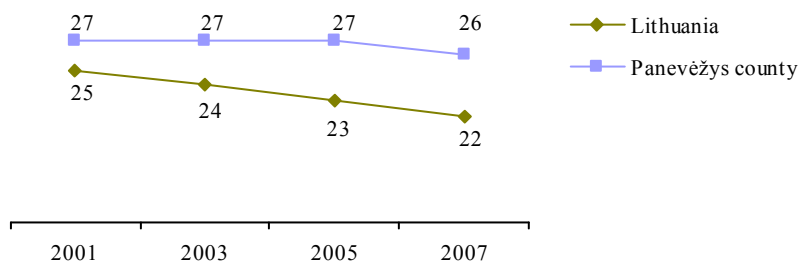
### Number of cultural institutions, 2001–2007

	Libraries				Cultural centres and branches thereof				Museums and branches thereof			
	2001	2003	2005	2007	2001	2003	2005	2007	2001	2003	2005	2007
<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>1449</b>	<b>1418</b>	<b>1396</b>	<b>1395</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>Panevėžys county</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
Biržai d. mun.	35	35	27	27	20	18	8	8	1	1	1	1
Kupiškis d. mun.	18	18	18	18	18	16	17	19	1	1	1	1
Panevėžys t. mun.	9	8	8	8	5	3	3	3	1	1	1	1
Panevėžys d. mun.	36	36	36	36	31	30	32	32	-	-	-	-
Pasvalys d. mun.	34	34	34	34	24	24	24	24	1	1	1	1
Rokiškis d. mun.	39	39	39	39	26	25	25	25	1	1	1	1

In 2007, the number of library users per 100 population in the county in 2007 was by 15 % higher than the national average. By the number of library users per 100 population, Panevėžys county is outpaced only by Alytus county (29), while the indicators of Tauragė and Utena counties equalled that of Panevėžys county. In 2007, against 2001, the number of libraries in Biržai district dropped by 23 %; the number of library users per 100 population in this county (21) is the lowest in the county. The number of libraries in Rokiškis district (39) was the highest in the county; the number of library users per 100 population in this county was 1.5 times higher than the county average. In 2007, there were, on average, 358 users per county library, or by one-third less than the national average.

### Number of county library users, 2001–2007

Per 100 population

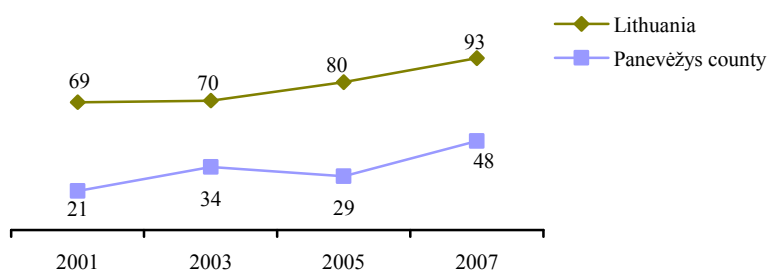


In 2007, one user would use municipal public libraries, on average, 14 times (i.e. as the national average). 53 % of the county's libraries had computers (i.e. as the national average). In 2007, there were 796 documents per 100 Panevėžys county population (national average – 840).

In 2007, there were 5 museums in Panevėžys county, which over the year were visited by 137 thousand persons. In 2001–2007, the number of museum visitors in the county grew more than twice. The indicator of museum attendances per 100 population in the county was twice as low as the national average. In 2007, the highest number of visitors was attracted to Pasvalys Regional Museum (39 thousand) and Biržai Regional Museum *Sėla* (35 thousand).

### Museum attendance, 2001–2007

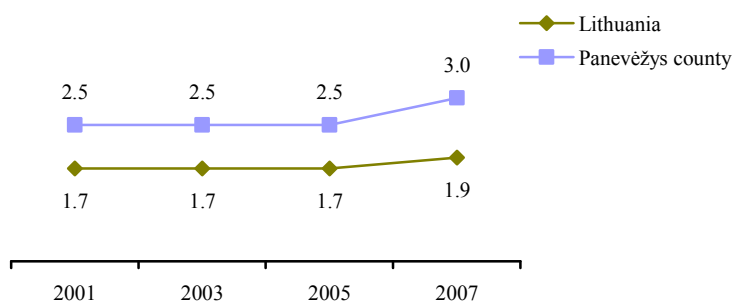
Per 100 population



The number of members of amateur art groups, against 2001, grew by 12 %. In Panevėžys county, there were 3 members of amateur art groups per 100 population. In 2007, this indicator was higher only in Utena county. Activity of cultural centres is particularly well-developed in Pasvalys region, where the number of members of amateur art groups per 100 population made 7.4, this indicator being almost 4 times higher than the national average. Over 2001–2007, the number of members of amateur art groups in this district grew by 40 %. In 2007, there were just 3 cultural centres in Panevėžys town; the number of members of amateur art groups per 100 population was as low as 0.6.

### Number of members of amateur art groups, 2001–2007

Per 100 population



In 2007, there were 5 cinema halls in the county. The number of cinemagoers over 2001–2007 decreased by 10 % (in 2001 – 99 thousand, in 2007 – 90 thousand). In 2007, cinema attendances per 100 county population made 32, or 3 times more than the national average. Against 2001, this number remained unchanged, while the national average almost doubled.

### Cinema attendances, 2001–2007

Per 100 population

