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	<i>TITLE :</i> 142		
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WRITTEN BY		August 25, 2022	

REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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Chapter 1

142

1.1 142.guide

Texified version of data for Lithuania.

Texified using wfact from

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Lithuania

1.2 142.guide/Lithuania

Lithuania

Geography (Lithuania)

People (Lithuania)

Government (Lithuania)

Government (Lithuania 2. usage)

Economy (Lithuania)

Economy (Lithuania 2. usage)

Communications (Lithuania)

Defense Forces (Lithuania)

1.3 142.guide/Geography (Lithuania)

Geography (Lithuania)

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Location:

Eastern Europe, bordering the Baltic Sea, between Sweden and Russia

Map references:

Asia, Europe, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

65,200 km²

land area:

65,200 km²

comparative area:

slightly larger than West Virginia

Land boundaries:

total 1,273 km, Belarus 502 km, Latvia 453 km, Poland 91 km, Russia (Kaliningrad) 227 km

Coastline:

108 km

Maritime claims:

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

dispute with Russia (Kaliningrad Oblast) over the position of the Neman River border presently located on the Lithuanian bank and not in midriver ← as by international standards

Climate:

maritime; wet, moderate winters

Terrain:

lowland, many scattered small lakes, fertile soil

Natural resources:

peat

Land use:

arable land:

49.1%

permanent crops:

0%

meadows and pastures:

22.2%

forest and woodland:

16.3%

other:

12.4%

Irrigated land:
 430 km² (1990)
 Environment:
 risk of accidents from the two Chernobyl-type reactors at the Ignalina Nuclear Power Plant; contamination of soil and groundwater with petroleum products and chemicals at military bases

1.4 142.guide/People (Lithuania)

People (Lithuania)

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Population:
 3,819,638 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 0.76% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 14.95 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 10.94 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 3.62 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 16.9 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 71.12 years
 male:
 66.39 years
 female:
 76.08 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 2.03 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Lithuanian(s)
 adjective:
 Lithuanian
 Ethnic divisions:
 Lithuanian 80.1%, Russian 8.6%, Polish 7.7%, Belarusian 1.5%, other 2.1%
 Religions:
 Roman Catholic, Lutheran, other
 Languages:
 Lithuanian (official), Polish, Russian
 Literacy:
 age 9-49 can read and write (1970)
 total population:
 100%
 male:
 100%
 female:
 100%
 Labor force:

1.836 million
 by occupation:
 industry and construction 42%, agriculture and forestry 18%, other 40%
 (1990)

1.5 142.guide/Government (Lithuania)

Government (Lithuania)

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Names: conventional long form:
 Republic of Lithuania
 conventional short form:
 Lithuania
 local long form:
 Lietuvos Respublika
 local short form:
 Lietuva
 former:
 Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic
 Digraph:
 LH
 Type:
 republic
 Capital:
 Vilnius
 Administrative divisions:
 NA districts
 Independence:
 6 September 1991 (from Soviet Union)
 Constitution:
 adopted 25 October 1992
 Legal system:
 based on civil law system; no judicial review of legislative acts
 National holiday:
 Independence Day, 16 February
 Political parties and leaders:
 Christian Democratic Party, Egidijus KLUMBYS, chairman; Democratic Labor
 Party of Lithuania, Algirdas Mykolas BRAZAUSKAS, chairman; Lithuanian
 Democratic Party, Saulius PECELIUNAS, chairman; Lithuanian Green Party,
 Irena IGNATAVICIENE, chairwoman; Lithuanian Humanism Party, Vytautas
 KAZLAUSKAS, chairman; Lithuanian Independence Party, Virgilijus CEPAITIS,
 chairman; Lithuanian Liberty League, Antanas TERLECKAS; Lithuanian Liberal
 Union, Vytautas RADZVILAS, chairman; Lithuanian Nationalist Union, Rimantas
 SMETONA, chairman; Lithuanian Social Democratic Party, Aloizisas SAKALAS,
 chairman; Union of the Motherland, Vytautas LANDSBERGIS, chairman
 Other political or pressure groups:
 Sajudis; Lithuanian Future Forum; Farmers Union
 Suffrage:
 18 years of age; universal
 Elections:
 President:
 last held 14 February 1993 (next to be held NA); results - Algirdas

BRAZAUSKAS was elected
 Seimas (parliament):
 last held 26 October and 25 November 1992 (next to be held NA); results -
 Democratic Labor Party 51%; seats - (141 total) Democratic Labor Party 73
 Executive branch:
 president, prime minister, cabinet
 Legislative branch:
 unicameral Seimas (parliament)
 Judicial branch:
 Supreme Court, Court of Appeals
 Leaders:
 Chief of State:
 Seimas Chairman and Acting President Algirdas Mykolas BRAZAUSKAS (since 15
 November 1992); Deputy Seimas Chairmen Aloyzas SAKALAS (since NA December
 1992) and Egidius BICKAUSKAS (since NA December 1992)

1.6 142.guide/Government (Lithuania 2. usage)

Government (Lithuania 2. usage)

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Head of Government:
 Premier Adolfas SLEZEVICIUS (since NA)
 Member of:
 CBSS, CSCE, EBRD, ECE, FAO, IBRD, ICAO, ILO, IMF, INTERPOL, ITU, NACC, UN,
 UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WHO, WIPO
 Diplomatic representation in US:
 chief of mission:
 Ambassador Stasys LOZORAITIS, Jr.
 chancery:
 2622 16th St. NW, Washington, DC 20009
 telephone:
 (202) 234-5860, 2639
 FAX:
 (202) 328-0466
 consulate general:
 New York
 US diplomatic representation:
 chief of mission:
 Ambassador Darryl N. JOHNSON
 embassy:
 Akmenu 6, Vilnius 232600
 mailing address:
 APO AE 09723
 telephone:
 011 [7] (012-2) 222-031
 FAX:
 011 [7] (012-2) 222-779
 Flag:
 three equal horizontal bands of yellow (top), green, and red

1.7 142.guide/Economy (Lithuania)

Economy (Lithuania)

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Overview:

Lithuania is striving to become an independent privatized economy. Although it was substantially above average in living standards and technology in the

old USSR, Lithuania historically lagged behind Latvia and Estonia in economic development. The country has no important natural resources aside from its arable land and strategic location. Industry depends entirely on imported materials that have come from the republics of the former USSR. Lithuania benefits from its ice-free port at Klaipeda on the Baltic Sea and its rail and highway hub at Vilnius, which provides land communication between Eastern Europe and Russia, Latvia, Estonia, and Belarus. Industry produces a small assortment of high-quality products, ranging from complex machine tools to sophisticated consumer electronics. Because of nuclear power, Lithuania is presently self-sufficient in electricity, exporting its surplus to Latvia and Belarus; the nuclear facilities inherited from the USSR, however, have come under world scrutiny as seriously deficient in safety standards. Agriculture is efficient compared with most of the former Soviet Union. Lithuania held first place in per capita consumption of meat, second place for eggs and potatoes, and fourth place for milk and dairy products. Grain must be imported to support the meat and dairy industries. Lithuania is pressing ahead with plans to privatize at least 60% of state-owned property (industry, agriculture, and housing), having already sold almost all housing and many small enterprises using a voucher system. Other government priorities include encouraging foreign investment by protecting the property rights of foreign firms and redirecting foreign trade away from Eastern markets to the more competitive Western markets.

For

the moment, Lithuania will remain highly dependent on Russia for energy, raw materials, grains, and markets for its products. In 1992, output plummeted by 30% because of cumulative problems with inputs and with markets, problems

that were accentuated by the phasing out of the Russian ruble as the medium of exchange.

National product:

GDP \$NA

National product real growth rate:

-30% (1992 est.)

National product per capita:

\$NA

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

10%-20% per month (first quarter 1993)

Unemployment rate:

1% (February 1993); but large numbers of underemployed workers

Budget:

revenues \$258.5 million; expenditures \$270.2 million, including capital expenditures of \$NA (1992 est.)

Exports:

\$NA

commodities:

electronics 18%, petroleum products 5%, food 10%, chemicals 6% (1989)
 partners:
 Russia 40%, Ukraine 16%, other former Soviet republics 32%, West 12%

Imports:
 \$NA

commodities:
 oil 24%, machinery 14%, chemicals 8%, grain NA% (1989)

partners:
 Russia 62%, Belarus 18%, former Soviet republics 10%, West 10%

External debt:
 \$650 million (1991 est.)

Industrial production:
 growth rate -50% (1992 est.)

1.8 142.guide/Economy (Lithuania 2. usage)

Economy (Lithuania 2. usage)

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Electricity:
 5,925,000 kW capacity; 25,000 million kWh produced, 6,600 kWh per capita
 (1992)

Industries:
 employs 25% of the labor force; shares in the total production of the ←
 former
 USSR are: metal-cutting machine tools 6.6%; electric motors 4.6%; ←
 television
 sets 6.2%; refrigerators and freezers 5.4%; other branches: petroleum
 refining, shipbuilding (small ships), furniture making, textiles, food
 processing, fertilizers, agricultural machinery, optical equipment,
 electronic components, computers, and amber

Agriculture:
 employs around 20% of labor force; sugar, grain, potatoes, sugarbeets,
 vegetables, meat, milk, dairy products, eggs, fish; most developed are the
 livestock and dairy branches, which depend on imported grain; net exporter
 of meat, milk, and eggs

Illicit drugs:
 transshipment point for illicit drugs from Central and Southwest Asia to
 Western Europe; limited producer of illicit opium; mostly for domestic
 consumption

Economic aid:
 US commitments, including Ex-Im (1992), \$10 million; Western (non-US)
 countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-86), \$NA million;
 Communist countries (1971-86), \$NA million

Currency:
 using talonas as temporary currency (March 1993), but planning introduction
 of convertible litas (late 1993)

Exchange rates:
 NA

Fiscal year:
 calendar year

1.9 142.guide/Communications (Lithuania)

Communications (Lithuania)

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Railroads:

2,100 km; does not include industrial lines (1990)

Highways:

44,200 km total 35,500 km hard surfaced, 8,700 km earth (1990)

Inland waterways:

600 km perennially navigable

Pipelines:

crude oil 105 km, natural gas 760 km (1992)

Ports:

coastal - Klaipeda; inland - Kaunas

Merchant marine:

46 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 282,633 GRT/332,447 DWT; includes 31 cargo, 3 railcar carrier, 1 roll-on/roll-off, 11 combination bulk

Airports:

total:

96

useable:

19

with permanent-surface runways:

12

with runways over 3,659 m:

0

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

5

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

11

Telecommunications:

better developed than in most other former USSR republics; operational NMT-450 analog cellular network in Vilnius; fiber optic cable installed between Vilnius and Kaunas; 224 telephones per 1000 persons; broadcast stations - 13 AM, 26 FM, 1 SW, 1 LW, 3 TV; landlines or microwave to former USSR republics; leased connection to the Moscow international switch for traffic with other countries; satellite earth stations - (8 channels to Norway); new international digital telephone exchange in Kaunas for direct access to 13 countries via satellite link out of Copenhagen, Denmark

1.10 142.guide/Defense Forces (Lithuania)

Defense Forces (Lithuania)

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Branches:

Ground Forces, Navy, Air Force, Security Forces (internal and border troops), National Guard (Skat)

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 933,245; fit for military service 739,400; reach military

age (18) annually 27,056 (1993 est.)
Defense expenditures:
exchange rate conversion - \$NA, 5.5% of GDP (1993 est.)
