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Overview of Economic Situation of Lithuania

Key facts about Lithuania



Population 3.4 million

Area 65300 sq. km

Government Democratic Republic

(Parliament and President)

Currency Litas (pegged to EUR)

1 EUR = 3.4528 LTL

Ethnic structure (% of total population)
Lithuanians 84.0

Lithuanians 84.0 Poles 6.1 Russians 4.9

Sovereign ratings

S&P BBB Moody's Baa1 Fitch BBB



Monetary policy in Lithuania



- Lithuania's monetary policy is based on <u>currency board</u> regime, and therefore Lithuania does not implement independent monetary policy.
 - On April 1, 1994, Lithuania pegged its national currency to US dollar at 4:1 rate;
 - On February 2, 2002, Lithuania re-pegged litas to euro at 3.4528:1 rate.
- According to EU Treaty, Lithuania <u>is obliged to join euro zone</u> and in preparation for future euro introduction, currently participates in ERM-II since June 2004.













Starting from 2009, Lithuania changed the rates of main taxes



Standard rates of main taxes in CEE countries as of September 2009 (%)

	Profit tax	Personal income tax	VAT
LITHUANIA in 2008	15	24	18
LITHUANIA Sept 2009	20	21	21
Latvia	15	23	21
Estonia	21*	21	20
Poland	19	18, 32; 19**	22
Czech Republic	20	12,5	19
Slovakia	19	19	19
Hungary	16 + 4***	18, 36****	20
Bulgaria	28, 34,3****	15, 22, 26, 29	20
Romania	16	16	19

^{* 0%} rate for undistributed profits.

Source: websites of national investment development agencies.

^{**} Flat tax rate for persons having business activity.

^{*** 4%} is temporary added "solidarity tax".

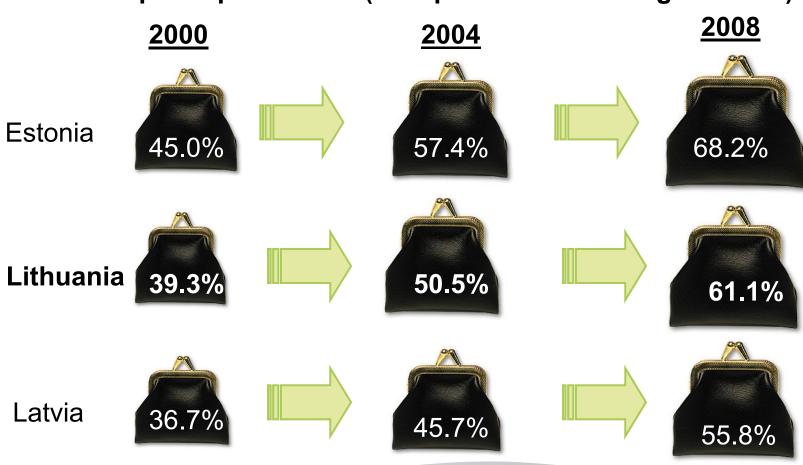
^{****} Individuals whose annual income exceeds the amount of the individual pension contribution cap are subject to 4% solidarity surtax.

^{*****} Corporate income plus municipal tax.

Since 2000, Lithuania showed notable progress in converging with living standard of European Union



GDP per capita in PPS (European Union average = 100%)

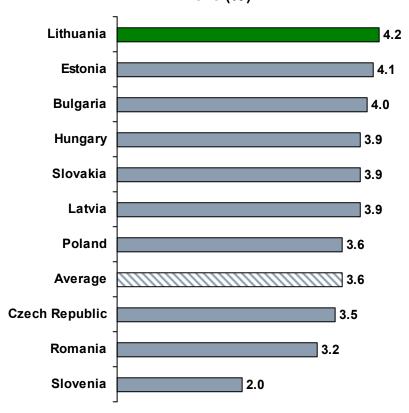


Source: Eurostat.

EU Structural Funds offer substantial support to economic growth in Lithuania

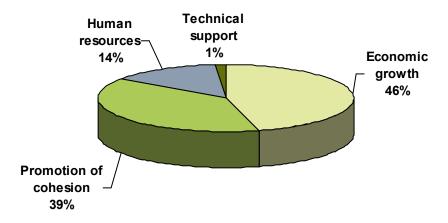


EU structural support to GDP ratio in 2007-2013 (%)



In 2007-2013 period, EUR 6.8 billion is allocated for Lithuania from EU Structural Funds

Breakdown of 2007-2013 EU structural funds' allocations by purpose

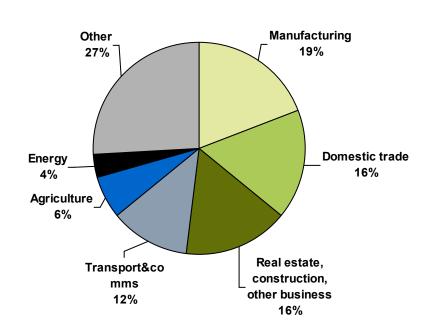


Source: Ministry of Finance, Economist Intelligence Unit.

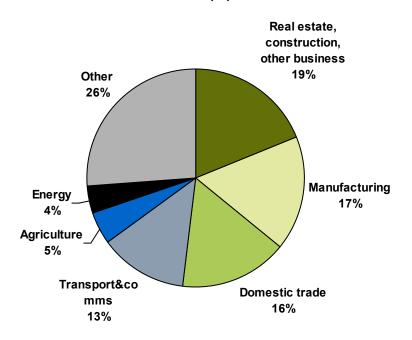
Development of real estate, construction and other services was especially swift over recent nine years



Breakdown of value added by economic sectors in 2000 (%)

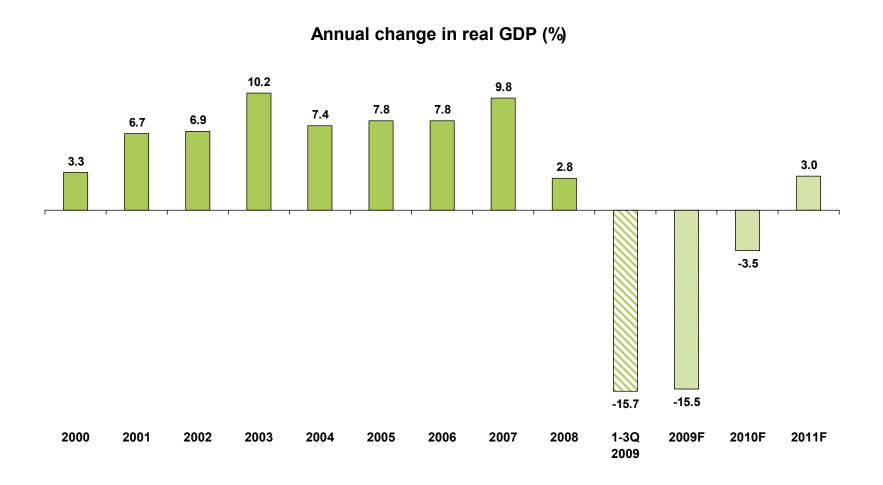


Breakdown of value added by economic sectors in 1H 2009 (%)



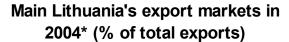
After deep recession in 2009, Lithuania's economy will gain more strength in 2010

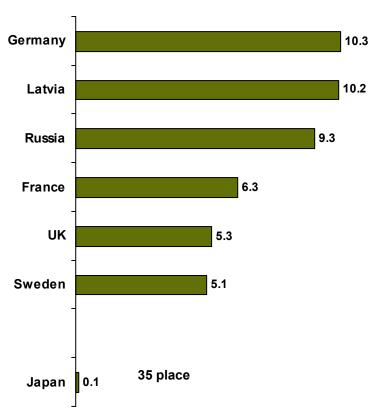




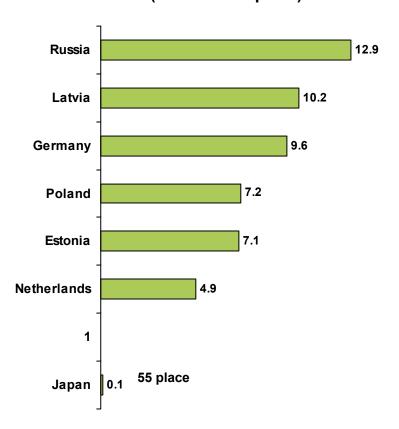
Most of Lithuanian exports are sold in European Union countries







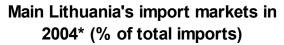
Main Lithuania's export markets in 1-3Q 2009 (% of total exports)

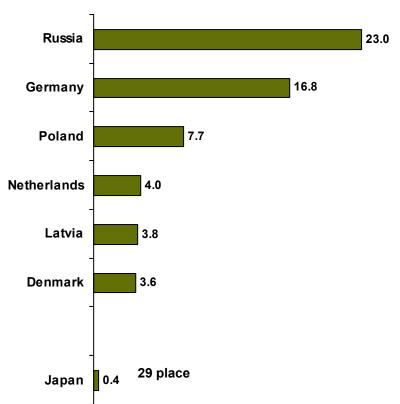


^{*} Data for exports by country prior to 2004 and afterwards are not comparable, therefore year 2004 is given as base year.

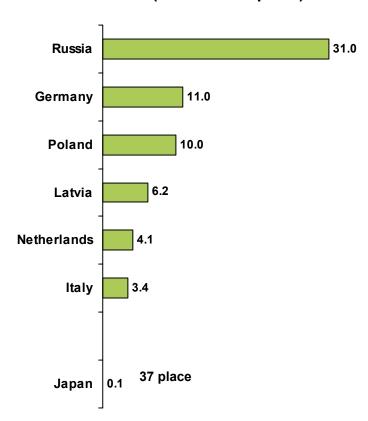
Around 60% of Lithuanian imports come from European Union







Main Lithuania's import markets in 1-3Q 2009 (% of total imports)

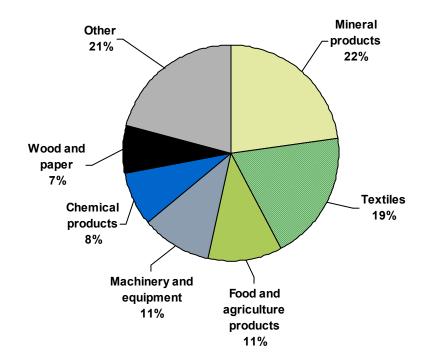


^{*} Data for imports by country prior to 2004 and afterwards are not comparable, therefore year 2004 is given as base year.

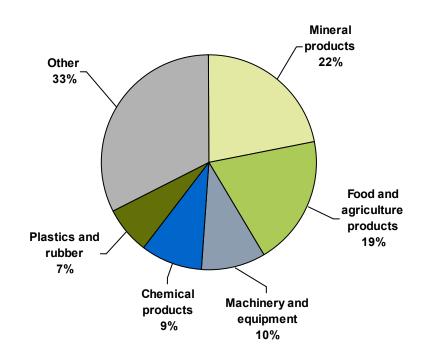
Since 2000, the share of food and plastic goods increased most notably while textiles export contracted the most



Breakdown of merchandise exports in 2000 (%)



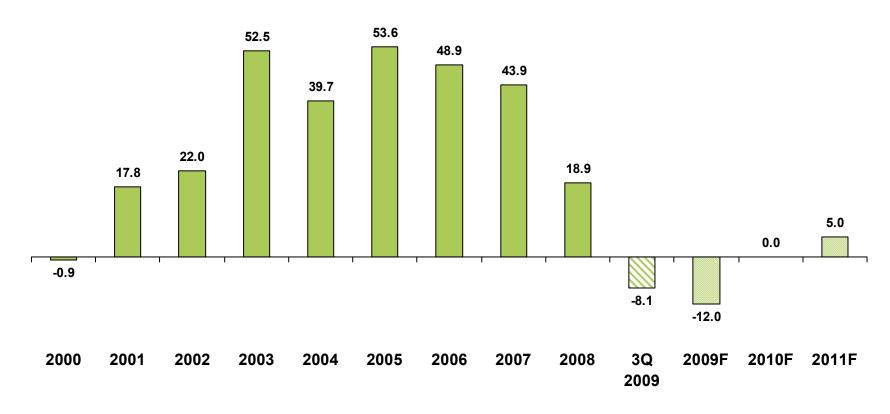
Breakdown of merchandise exports in 1-3Q 2009 (%)





Loan portfolio used to expand very fast in 2003-2007, but now is shrinking due to weaker demand and lower quality of loans

Annual change in loan portfolio of commercial banks (%, e-o-p)



Data for 2000-2006 and 2007-2011 is not strictly comparable due to changes in methodology.

Source: Bank of Lithuania.



Consequences of global financial crisis in Lithuania

- Output dramatically fell as both foreign and domestic demand suddenly dropped;
- Unemployment grew up sharply and reached 14% in 2Q 2009;
- Inflation sharply contracted due to shrinking purchasing power and will not recover until 2011;
- Large budget tensions appeared due to shrinking tax revenue;
- Substantial current account deficit turned to surplus, thus reducing pressure on national currency.



Thank you for your attention!