

## **PART 5. FLOWS AND NON-EU EUROPE**

**Lithuania**



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## Lithuania<sup>1</sup>

### 1. Introduction

Lithuania has unique experience in enforced migration of its people in period of 1940-1953. Soviet deportation in 1940 was directed mainly to highly educated people. This frightened population and at the end of 1940-1945 war part of higher educated people emigrated from Lithuania. Most of them left Europe, which was desolated by the war and went to USA and Australia. The other part of educated people was deported to the Siberia as the enemies of Soviet authorities in the year 1946 -1947. Changes in the number of teachers and doctors in 1940-1946 years, illustrate changes of highly educated people in Lithuania. In the 1940 there were 19000 teachers and 1971 doctor. In 1945 year in Lithuania remained 1055 doctors and 9360 teachers [1]. That is why Lithuania was forced to begin its education from the very beginning. Statistic data show that this work was done successfully. According the [1] 11328 doctors (year 1975), 39000 teachers (year 1985), 14825 scientists (year 1985), 71000 –students (year 1980/81) and 10,4 engineers to 10000 inhabitants were in Lithuania.

In the period of 1945-1990 migration of all Lithuanian population was restricted by the area of Soviet Union (SU). Emigration from Lithuania among highly skilled population was proposed by SU authorities but not popular among Lithuanians. Such trends were conditioned by the registration rules. One was able to change living place if got the permission to registration. Only exception was if you are returning to your family. So the best students were going to Moscow and St. Petersburg universities but after graduation most of them returned home. By the same token, in the 60-ies the number of working places for highly skilled population was growing rapidly in Lithuania. Flow from SU was limited by the absence of flats to newcomers (flats in all SU were built and distributed by municipalities according the ranks). That is why in Lithuania we had 80% of native population and only 20% the other nationalities.

From the year 1990 situation basically changed and new trends in migration are seen.

### 2. Immigration

The main part of the data collected by Lithuanian institutions concerns very different aspects of migration, covering some data on brain drain and gain as well.

The most part of immigrants from former USSR in 1991-92 are persons returning both from military service in the Soviet army (no army movements included) and prisons (no information about localisation). Ethnic Lithuanians repatriates (see Table 1) were the most part of emigrants from Western countries in the year 1991.

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<sup>1</sup> This paper was prepared by *Leonid Ribickis* and coordinated by IKU for the project *The Brain Drain — Emigration Flows for Qualified Scientists*

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
Total	14.2	6.7	2.9	1.7	2.0
of which:					
- former USSR	10.7	6.2	2.7	1.6	1.9
- Western countries	1.1	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1
All other countries	2.4	•	•	•	•

*Source: Mobility of Scientists in Lithuania: Internal and External Brain Drain. Vilnius, 1996, p.148 [2]*

Data on education at college is different from international classification. The school system itself is different. So the data on HE is not precise (Table 2).

	Date of Entry				
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
University (including uncompleted)	398	566	486	475	241

*Source: Demographic yearbook, 2000. p. 140[3]*

After restoration of independence, private capital appeared again in Lithuania in 1991. Foreign capital became interested in Lithuania's market after complete turning out of the soviet army in 1992. Since this year the flow of foreigners became notable. In the country the process of privatisation of state owning industrial and other objects was started in 1994. This process still is going on, thus stimulating arrival and increase in volume of foreign capital in Lithuania accompanied by increase of the flow of HE specialists from outside. As it was indicated (see Table 3), great majority of incomers are leading specialists, heads of firms and institutions.

Occupied position	Number of HE immigrants	% of all HE flow
Deputy director	2	1.55
Director	51	39.53
Engineer	4	3.10
Head of Department	6	4.65
Instructor	28	21.70
Professor, researcher	23	17.83
Teacher	9	6.98
Technical director	3	2.33
Others	3	2.33
<b>In total:</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: survey carried by the Institute of Scientific Society.  
The non-representative sample size was 129.  
The results of this survey have not published yet although few data were provided to this project.*

These results are in line with the level of qualification of HE immigrants (see Table 3). In the sample were to about 20,2% specialists with the 3-rd level of qualification. (Table 4.)

Degree	Number of HE persons	%	Males	Females	% of females
1 <sup>st</sup>	56	43.4	50	6	10.7
2 <sup>nd</sup>	47	36.4	33	14	29.8
3 <sup>rd</sup>	26	20.2	21	5	19.2
<b>In total:</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>20.2</b>

*Source: survey carried by the Institute of Scientific Society.  
The non-representative sample size was 129.  
Survey carried by the Institute of Scientific Society.*

In Lithuania among the incoming of HE foreign specialists clearly prevails 1st degree holders. They make 43% of all incomers, 2nd degree holders make up 36% and those of the 3rd 20% only (Table 4). All the latter group is related to scientific research and higher education institutions. About 20% of working HE specialists in our sample were women (Table 4). Most of them had the second (29%) and third (19%) qualification level.

Gender	Data of entry					
	1995*	1996*	1997	1998	1999	2000
Females	182	253	225	225	217	106
Males	216	303	261	245	258	135
<b>In total:</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>241</b>

*Note: \*Data may include several people with college education  
Source: Demographic yearbook. 2000*

According to the statistical data percent of immigrating HE woman differs from year to year (table 6), but is always less than man. The overwhelming majority (~60%) of HE immigrants belong to the productive ages (see Table 6). It should be noted that incomers from Middle and East Europe on age average are younger than those from the West.

Age	Number of HE immigrants	% of all HE flow
21-30	14	10.8
31-40	35	27.1
41-50	36	27.9
51-60	22	17.0
61-70	21	16.3
71-80	1	0.8

*Source: survey carried by the Institute of Scientific Society.*

The flow of HE specialists is slowed by official permissions necessary for foreigners to get a job in Lithuania. The permissions are not necessary for owners of companies and factories with 100% of foreign capital only. In Lithuania annually are given from 900 to 1200 permissions to work for foreign specialists. There are no precise and official data on the level of their education, so it is impossible to state precisely about the proportion of HE personal inflow.

Some processes accelerate the flow of HE specialists at present going on in the country. Among such processes should be mentioned establishment of new private schools of higher

education as well as increasing contacts between already existing (state) universities as well as research institutes and their partners abroad (for examples, High School of Christians' Fund; Soros International House) It should be noted, that quite a lot of foreigners come into Lithuania as teachers of foreign languages etc.

<b>Table 7. Data on HE immigrants by sector of employment</b>		
<b>Sector of employment</b>	<b>Number of HE immigrants</b>	<b>% of all HE flow</b>
Banking	8	62
Building	2	1.6
Commerce	14	10.9
Education and training	59	45.7
Finances	6	4.7
Insurance	2	1.2
Mass media	1	0.8
Research	2	1.6
Service	12	9.3
IT and communications	23	17.8
<b>Total:</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>100,0</b>
<i>Source: survey carried by the Institute of Scientific Society</i>		

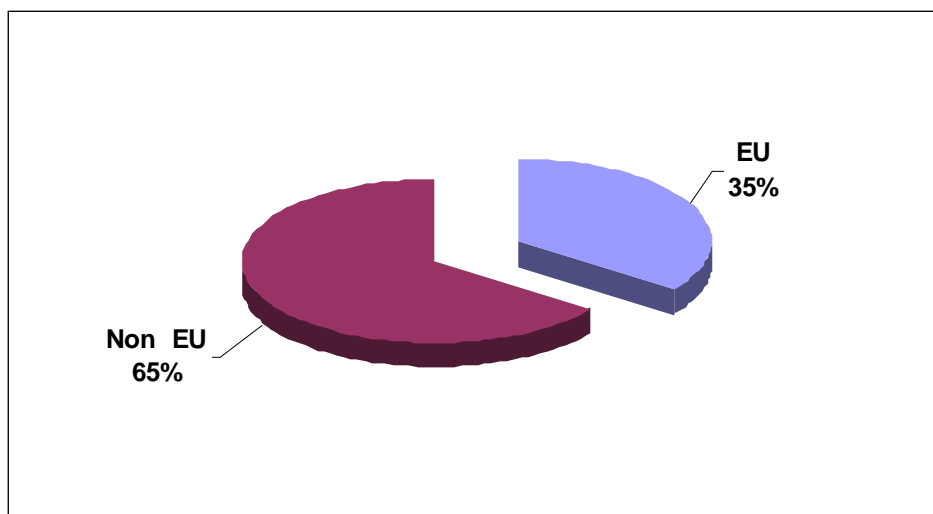
At the state institutions of Lithuania salaries for HE specialists are low comparing to those abroad. This is the reason why inflow of foreign HE specialists is close to zero or extremely low into such institutions. The situation is different in the institutions of private capital. The salaries in such institutions are not under governmental regulation and can be high enough to be attractive for foreigners. Besides, there are no progressive taxes in Lithuania. These moments are essential as the reasons why the great majority of HE specialists appears namely in institutions of such kind.

Working conditions for HE foreigners are quite good in Lithuania, especially taking into consideration the moment related to leading positions they occupy. The general level of the services in the country is significantly less in comparison to that in western countries. However, there are no problems with food, and expenses for staying in the country are very low for foreigners. Cultural needs (at least in part) can be satisfied even better than in western countries due to low prices for theatres, concerts, performances, etc.

The data collected for the present small-scale research indicate that Lithuania already has gained HE specialists not less than from 23 countries (Table 8). The specialists from western countries prevail significantly. Very small amount only (1-2 specialists from some countries, e.g. Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Poland and Russia) HE specialists from Central and Eastern Europe as well as from FSU countries were registered. By two countries only specialists from Asia are represented, both with very few persons: India (2 HE specialists) and Syria (1 HE specialist, besides, graduated from Russia). Representatives of South America are almost absent: there was registered only 1 specialist from Columbia. In our survey the predominant number of HE specialists were from USA (36 specialists) and Canada (21 person).

<b>Table 8 Data on HE immigrants by country of birth (origin), citizenship</b>		
	<b>Country</b>	<b>Number of HE persons</b>
EU Countries	Finland	12
	Sweden	12
	Denmark	7
	Germany	6
	UK	6
	Belgium	2
	France	2
	Ireland	2
	Italy	2
EFTA	Switzerland	4
	Norway	2
Candidates	Bulgaria	1
	Estonian	3
	Hungary	1
	Poland	1
Other Europe	Russia	3
	Ukraine	1
NAFTA	USA	36
	Canada	21
South America	Columbia	1
Asia	India	2
Other Asia	Kazakhstan	1
	Syria	1
<b>Total:</b>		<b>129</b>

HE specialists from EU compose about 35% of all brain gain part (Fig. 1). Among the EU countries, very few specialists represent such countries as Germany (6 specialists) and France (2 specialists), representatives from Austria and Spain were not found at all (Table 8). Big group of HE specialists from Scandinavian countries should be pointed out separately. Significant brain inflow from these countries is directly related both with geopolitical situation and the level of investments of the countries into Lithuania. Most of HE specialists were registered from Finland (12), Sweden (12) and Denmark (7). It is interesting to admit, that despite all European countries geographically are much more closely related to Lithuania than America, at present there are even about 44.2% of HE specialists from USA and Canada. At least in part this may be related to strong emigration into these countries in the past: the biggest colonies of Lithuanian emigration are established namely in the USA. Also of great importance are already existing good relations between Lithuania and these countries.

**Figure 1. Proportion of brain gain flow into Lithuania from EU and non-EU countries**

The most common specialties among gained are the following: business management, finances, economics and teaching/lecturing (see Table 9). The most of Lithuanian institutions employ only 1 or 2 HE specialists from abroad. Only very few were found employing ten and more specialists. The most of HE personal employed by one Lithuanian institution registered reached 48 persons. This was recently established private high school in Klaipeda, the third town of Lithuania according to economic importance for the country.

<b>Table 9 Data on HE immigrants into Lithuania by field of specialisation</b>		
<b>Speciality</b>	<b>Number of HE persons</b>	<b>%</b>
Agriculture (agronomy)	1	0.8
Applied sciences	3	2.3
Banking and Finances	10	7.8
Business management	14	10.9
Economics	30	23.3
Education	10	7.8
Engineering and Telecommunications	14	10.9
Geography	1	0.8
History	5	3.9
International relations	1	0.8
Law	2	1.6
Medicine	3	2.3
Philosophy	10	7.8
Philology and journalistic	5	3.9
Psychology	7	5.4
Sociology	3	2.3
Theology	10	7.8
<b>In total:</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The present small-scale analysis, carried out in Lithuania, demonstrates occurrence or the brain gain process in the country. For evaluation of the scale of the process further investigations and analysis of data are necessary.

### 3. Emigration

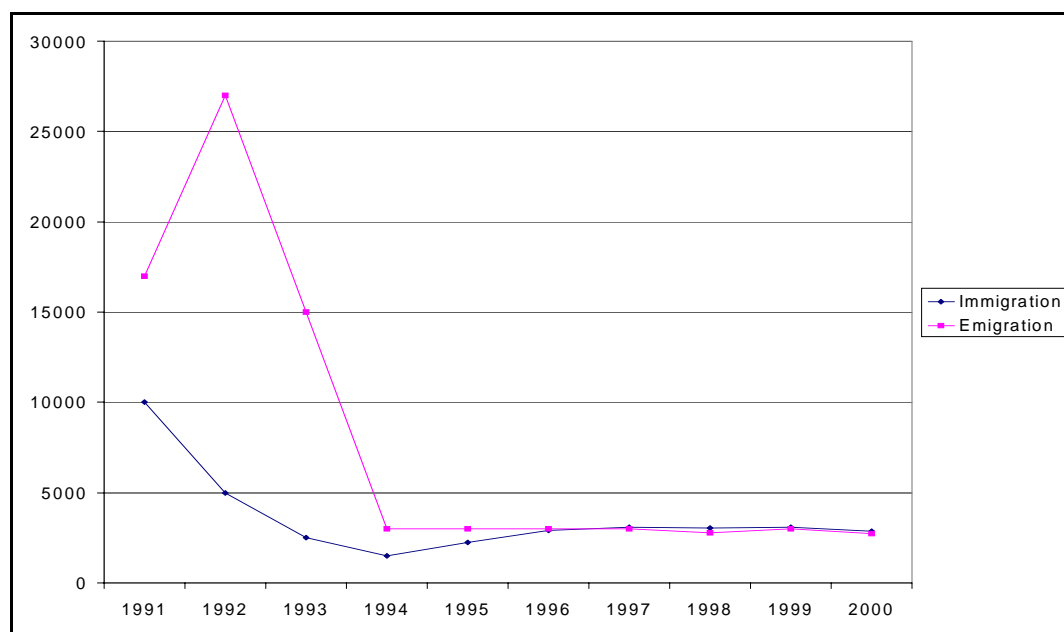
The problem of unreliable statistics has to be addressed in this case. The number of population between the census conducted in 1989 and that in 2001 contracted by 190,8 thousand (Source: *Statistic Lithuania* <http://www.std.lt/>). The natural population increase from 1989 till 6 April 2001 totalled 33,7 thousand (births accounted for 546,1 thous., deaths made up 512,4 thous.) so negative net migration equalled 224,5 thousand. But according statistical data migration balance (saldo) is about -12,8 thousand without data 1991-1994 year (see Table 10).

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Number of immigrants	14744	2020	3025	2536	2706	2679	1510
Number of emigrants	23592	3773	3940	2457	2130	1369	2616
Migration balance (saldo)	-8848	-1753	-915	79	576	1310	-1106

Source: *Statistic Lithuania* <http://www.std.lt/>

Migration department data (<http://www.vrm.lt/informacija/mdbendra.htm>) by this period of time is reflected in fig. 2.

Fig. 2. Migration with the CIS countries.



The main part of emigrants in the year 1991-1993 from Lithuania, were coming to the former USSR republics. They not wanted to stay in independent Lithuania and repatriated to their native countries.

If basing on the migration department data the migration balance (saldo) evaluate in the year 1992-1994 50-80 thousand, we lost about 100 thousand people. So we become illegal emigrant producing country.

Level of HE	Year of entry									
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
University (including uncompleted)	3297	5325	3608	952	671	588	391	366	240	436

*Source: Demographic yearbook. 2000*

The number of HE emigrants from Lithuania decreased significantly in the year 1994 and from the official point of view does not rise the problems.

Gender	Year of entry					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Females	317	288	163	206	140	262
Males	354	300	228	160	100	174
Total:	671	588	391	366	240	436

*Source: Demographic yearbook. 2000*

Analysis of official emigration data of HE persons according the gender shows the almost equal migration of females and males. The last three years females were predominant emigrating gender (see Table 12).

On brain drain problems in Lithuania are concerned only Lithuanian scientists and some politics. According the data from USA [4,5], in the year 1999 from Lithuania there were 363 students, 60 visiting scientists and 200 scientists and engineers emigrated from Lithuania. Now in line with big quotas for programmers by USA and Germany in Lithuania there are indicating new wave of HE emigration.

Weekly journal “Veidas” [6] inquires the migration to USA. At the period 1991-1999 to USA emigrated 2486 citizens of Lithuania according to the Statistic Department’s data. But the USA embassy in Poland only on 1999 year handed 973 emigration visas to Lithuanian citizens. In this article attention is paid to extremely high number of tourist visas yearly asking Lithuanian citizens (18047). At the other Baltic countries these numbers are lower about ten times. This picture correlates with A. Sipavièiene data on the emigration changing to short term work trips [7]. Taking into attention that the survey data of socio-economic and educational background of migrants shows their extremely high level of education – over  $\frac{3}{4}$  of them have a college, university, or even post-graduate education [2], the “brain drain” problem is actual to Lithuania.

#### 4. Human Resources for Science and Technology (HRST) in Lithuania

Last census data on the population education in Lithuania are presented in the table 13. The part of HE people there is 31,9% to the all Lithuania population.

Education level	Number in thousands	%
University	388.5	12.6
College	594.9	19.3
Secondary	835.7	27.2
Basic	461.0	15.0
Primary	640.0	20.8
Without primary	141.8	4.6
No data	14.4	0.5
<i>Source:</i> <a href="http://www.std.lt/suraymas/Rezultatai/index-pirm.htm">http://www.std.lt/suraymas/Rezultatai/index-pirm.htm</a>		

The State supports and promotes research and higher education, ensures social and professional guarantees of scientists and pedagogues, and aid for students. The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania approves the sum total of all allocations for research and higher education. In 1995 it comprised 7% of the State budget or the 1.2% of the gross domestic product (GDP) (see table 14).

Year	% from GDP
1992	1.02
1993	0.94
1994	1.18
1995	1.18
<i>Source: State higher education and research institutions. Vilnius, 1996 [8]</i>	

Higher education institutions have about 75% of budgetary subsidies, State research institutes 17-18%, the remaining funds are assigned to satisfy common needs of research and higher education. The State guarantees stipends for excellent and socially supported students, assigns funds for study loans for daytime students, provides financial support for international academic exchange and students going to study in foreign countries.

Unfortunately, during the transitional period to a market economy the funds assigned from the state budget do not satisfy the needs of research and higher education institutions. The salaries of pedagogic and academic staff are very modest and support for students is small. That is why the number of students is decreased in 1989-1994 (see table 15).

	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Students, thou.	69.5	67.3	60.5	54.9	52.9	51.5
<i>Source: State higher education and research institutions. Vilnius, 1996</i>						

Nevertheless the number of HE population in Lithuania rose significantly in 2001 (see Table 16).

	<b>1959</b>	<b>1970</b>	<b>1979</b>	<b>1989</b>	<b>2001</b>
University	16	35	61	97	126
College	39	58	103	195	193
Source: <a href="http://www.std.lt/suraymas/Rezultatai/index-pirm.htm">http://www.std.lt/suraymas/Rezultatai/index-pirm.htm</a>					

## **5. Conclusions**

Changes of socio-economical and political conditions in Lithuania raises problems, which was not actual earlier. After restoration independence and struggling with economic and political transition it can become emigrant producing country.

The main problem for the state - is emigration of young people going to study or for undergraduate studies to USA, Japan, EU and after doctoral degree not returning back.

The influence of immigration of HE people is not seen in Lithuania now because of low salaries in state sector. In private sector the leading positions of firms with foreign ownership are often fulfilled by immigrants. But the number of them is not the problem now. They are managers and heads of foreign companies, who will not stay in Lithuania for the long time. The part of immigrants to Lithuania are high educated but old Lithuanian-born people who desire to live there after retirement. They do not cause the problems.

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