



# Lithuania

**Population**

2,794,000

**Area**62,643 km<sup>2</sup>**Capital**

Vilnius

**3 largest cities**

Vilnius (559,000)

Kaunas (293,000)

Klaipeda (149,000)

**Neighboring countries**Belarus, Latvia, Poland,  
the Russian Federation  
(Oblast Kaliningrad)

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## 1. Migration history

Lithuania does not have a long migration history. The Balkan state has developed from a country with a positive migration balance (between the 1960s and 1980s) to an emigration country (since the 1990s). From 1940 to 1958, Lithuania lost about one million people through expulsions, acts of war, and the Holocaust. The end of the Second World War was characterised by the expulsion of the Baltic Germans and the resettlement of ethnic groups from the Soviet Union. Then, industrialisation led to an influx of workers from the Soviet Union. Until the end of the 1980s, Lithuania had a positive migration balance of 6,000 to 8,000 people per year. After 1991, migration patterns changed. Previously expelled people from Lithuania returned home and the newly settled ethnic groups left the country. After the opening of the state to the West, emigration of workers began. Since the restoration of independence in 1990, Lithuania has experienced a significant population decline. In the first years after the declaration of independence, mainly

members of ethnic minorities emigrated to the Russian Federation and Ukraine. In the second half of the 1990s, there was increased emigration to Western Europe and North America. With the EU accession in 2004, the number of people from Lithuania working or studying abroad increased significantly. Between 2004 and 2006, most people left the country to the UK, Sweden and, Ireland. Since 1990, Lithuania has experienced negative net migration [1]. In 2013, people from the Russian Federation (62,100), Belarus (35,700), Ukraine (13,300), Latvia (6,400), and Kazakhstan (5,400) represented the largest migrant groups [2]. Between 1990 and 2019, the migrant population (born abroad) decreased from just under 350,000 to 117,200. The proportion of migrants in the total population has declined from 9.4 to 4.2% [3]. As of 2020, the net migration rate is -11.6 [4]. These figures show, that Lithuania has a significantly smaller migrant population than the other Baltic states [1].



## 2. Estimated number of people with a migration background with dementia

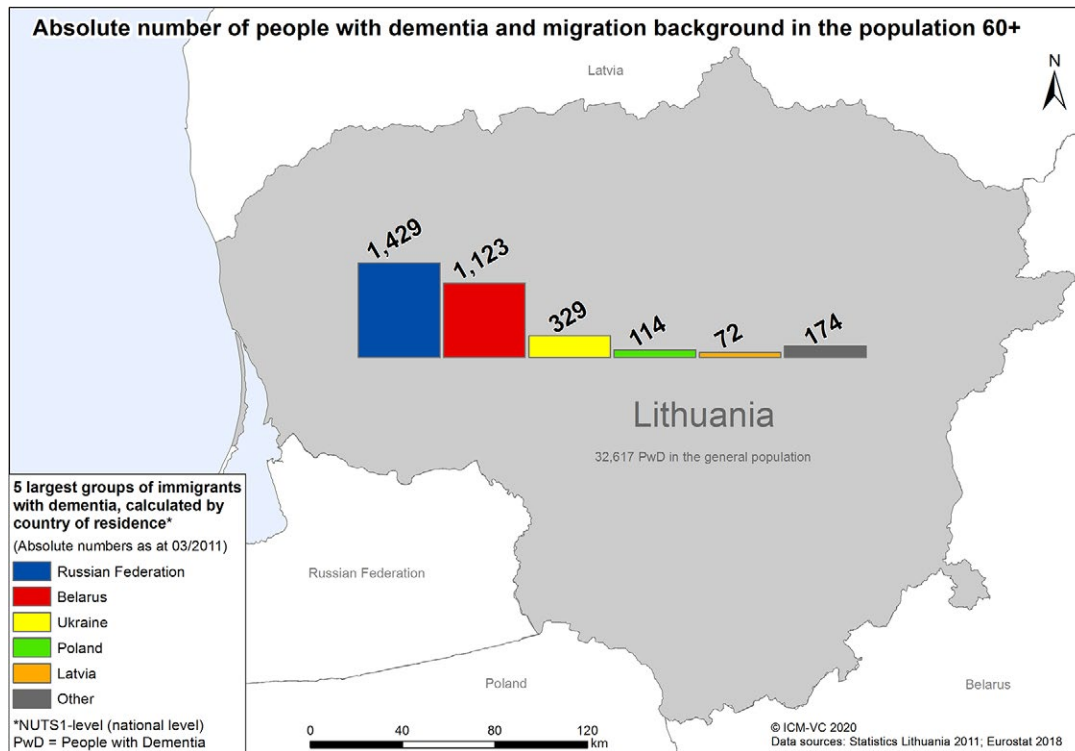


Fig. 3.7.19.1: Absolute number of PwM with dementia aged 60+ (Lithuania – Nation)

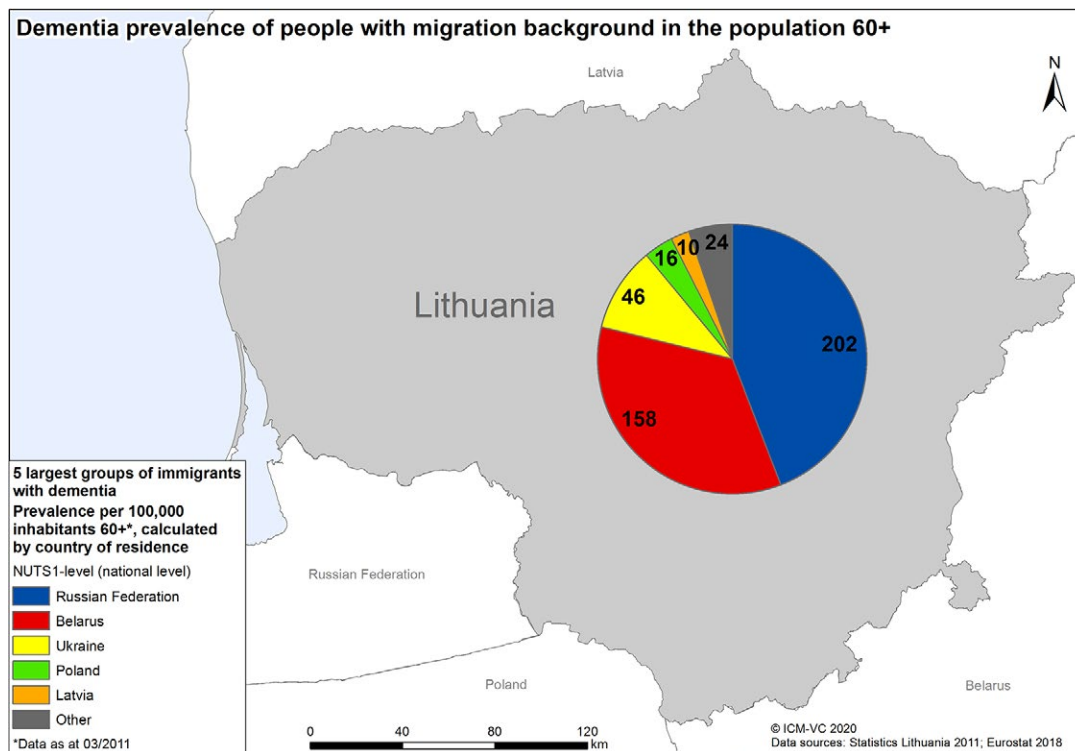


Fig. 3.7.19.2: Prevalence of PwM with dementia among the population aged 60+ (Lithuania – Nation)

**Tab. 33: PwM with dementia: Absolute numbers, prevalence among PwM aged 60+, and prevalence among overall population aged 60+ (Lithuania – Nation)**

NUTS	Total	LT	1. largest group	2. largest group	3. largest group	4. largest group	5. largest group	Other
Absolute Numbers								
Lithuania	32,617	29,376	RU 1,429	BY 1,123	UA 329	PL 114	LV 72	174
Prevalence/10,000 inhabitants with migration background 60+								
Lithuania	4,629	-	RU 203	BY 159	UA 47	PL 16	LV 10	25
Prevalence/100,000 inhabitants 60+								
Lithuania	4,600	4,143	RU 202	BY 158	UA 46	PL 16	LV 10	24

Data source: Statistics Lithuania (2011)

There are 70,500 PwM aged 60 or older. Of those, approx. 3,200 are estimated to exhibit some form of dementia. Figure 3.7.19.1 shows the most affected migrant groups presumably originate from the Russian Federation (approx. 1,400), Belarus (approx. 1,100), Ukraine

(approx. 300), Poland (approx. 100), and Latvia (approx. 70). The second graph highlights the number of PwM with dementia in Lithuania per 100,000 inhabitants aged 60 or older (figure 3.7.19.2). Table 33 displays the values depicted in the maps on the national level [5-7].

### 3. National dementia plan

For Lithuania, no NDP could be identified [8].

### 4. National dementia care and treatment guidelines

According to a representative of the ministry of health, there are no national treatment guidelines for dementia in Lithuania [9]. These findings suggest that the topic of dementia does not play a relevant role in public policy and medical discourse in Lithuania. Regarding the organisation of healthcare, it can be stated that Lithuania has a mixed healthcare system, financed mainly by the National Health Insurance Fund through a compulsory insurance system, supplemented by significant state contributions on behalf of the economically

inactive population. Most healthcare institutions in Lithuania are non-profit organisations. Administrative functions are the responsibility of the national Ministry of Health or local municipalities. The political agenda is set by the Parliament through legislative amendments as well as through state programs, strategies, and plans. The latest cuts in public health spending and high out-of-pocket payments (especially for medicines) could jeopardize the access of vulnerable groups to healthcare [10].



## 5. References

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