# LITHUANIA

## INTRODUCTION

Lithuanian lands were united in 1236. Over the next century, through alliances and conquest, Lithuania extended its territory to include most of present-day Belarus and Ukraine. By the end of the 14th century Lithuania was the largest state in Europe. Lithuania was annexed by the USSR in 1940. On 11 March 1990, Lithuania became the first of the Soviet republics to declare its independence.

## GOVERNMENT

**Chief of State**
President Gitanas NAUSEDA
**Head of Government**
Prime Minister Ingrida SIMONYTE
**Government Type**
semi-presidential republic
**Capital**
Vilnius
**Legislature**
unicameral Parliament or Seimas (141 seats)
**Ambassador to US**
Ambassador Audra PLEPYTE
**US Ambassador**
Ambassador Robert S. GILCHRIST

## GEOGRAPHY

**Area**
Total: 65,300 sq km
Land: 62,680 sq km
Water: 2,620 sq km
**Climate**
transitional, between maritime and continental; wet, moderate winters and summers
**Natural Resources**
peat, arable land, amber

*as of May 2023*

## ECONOMY

**Economic Overview**
high-income, EU-member, largest Baltic economy; privatized most state-owned enterprises; continued youth emigration issues; systemic corruption; issued Europe's first bank-backed digital coin (LBCOIN); highly educated workforce; lowest EU household debt
**GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)** $110.1 billion (2021 est.)
**GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)** $39,300 (2021 est.)
**Industries -** metal-cutting machine tools, electric motors, televisions, refrigerators/freezers, petroleum refining, shipbuilding, furniture, textiles, food processing, fertilizer, agricultural machinery, optical equipment, lasers, electronic components
**Agricultural products -** wheat, milk, sugar beets, rapeseed, barley, triticale, potatoes, oats, peas, beans
**Exports** $53.4 billion (2021 est.)
refined petroleum, wooden furniture, wheat, laboratory reagents, cigarettes (2021)
**partners:** Russia 10%, Latvia 9%, Germany 8%, Poland 7%, United States 6% (2021)
**Imports** $50.38 billion (2021 est.)
crude petroleum, cars, electricity, packaged medicines, broadcasting equipment, natural gas (2021)
**partners:** Poland 12%, Germany 12%, Russia 11%, Latvia 8%, Netherlands 5% (2021)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

**Population**
2.7 million (2023 est.)
**Population Growth**
-1.04% (2023 est.)
**Ethnicity**
Lithuanian 84.6%, Polish 6.5%, Russian 5%, Belarusian 1%, other 1.1%, unspecified 1.8% (2021 est.)
**Language**
Lithuanian (official) 85.3%, Russian 6.8%, Polish 5.1%, other 1.1%, two mother tongues 1.7% (2021 est.)
**Religion**
Roman Catholic 74.2%, Russian Orthodox 3.7%, Old Believer 0.6%, Evangelical Lutheran 0.6%, Evangelical Reformist 0.2%, other (including Sunni Muslim, Jewish, Greek Catholic, and Karaite) 0.9%, none 6.1%, unspecified 13.7% (2021 est.)