

## CENSUS COSTS

The required funding for the Census was allocated from the state budget (Art. 8 of the Law on Population and Housing Census). It covered organisation of the census, including preparation of cartographic material, salaries of the personnel in Statistics Lithuania and local statistical offices, field managers and their deputies, supervisors and enumerators.

In addition to the national funding, there was a 4.4 % external contribution from the PHARE programme (for equipment) and the UNPFA project (support for data dissemination and analysis). In total, about EUR 10 million were used in the period 1997-2003, which is about EUR 3 per capita. The major costs included those for the field work (enumeration staff).

## THE NUMBER OF POPULATION

The preliminary results of the census were announced by Statistics Lithuania on 30 October 2001. On 6 April 2001, the usually resident population was 3.5 million, of which 2.3 million in urban and 1.2 million in rural areas. The population has decreased as a result of the negative natural increase, emigration and temporary migration of the usually resident population.

The main reasons for this decrease are as follows:

- Residents of the Republic of Lithuania who were temporarily absent (went abroad on tourist visits, for studies or work and stayed there) were not enumerated;
- The census allowed eliminating the number of population centrally added during the last soviet census.
- Soviet army personnel and members of their families who left the country after the restoration of independence without formalities of registration.

It should be noted that Lithuania has maintained the slowest population contraction rate in comparison with Estonia and Latvia.

The census data are used for many different purposes, including inter-censal revisions and population estimates.

According to the requirements, Statistics Lithuania transmitted the results to Eurostat in the form of statistical tables described in the Community Table Programme.

## LESSONS LEARNED

Our experience of the 2001 Population and Housing Census has shown that the key points for the successful census are as follows:

- Suitable legal basis
- Quality and timeliness of preparation and execution of the project
- Testing every stage of the census