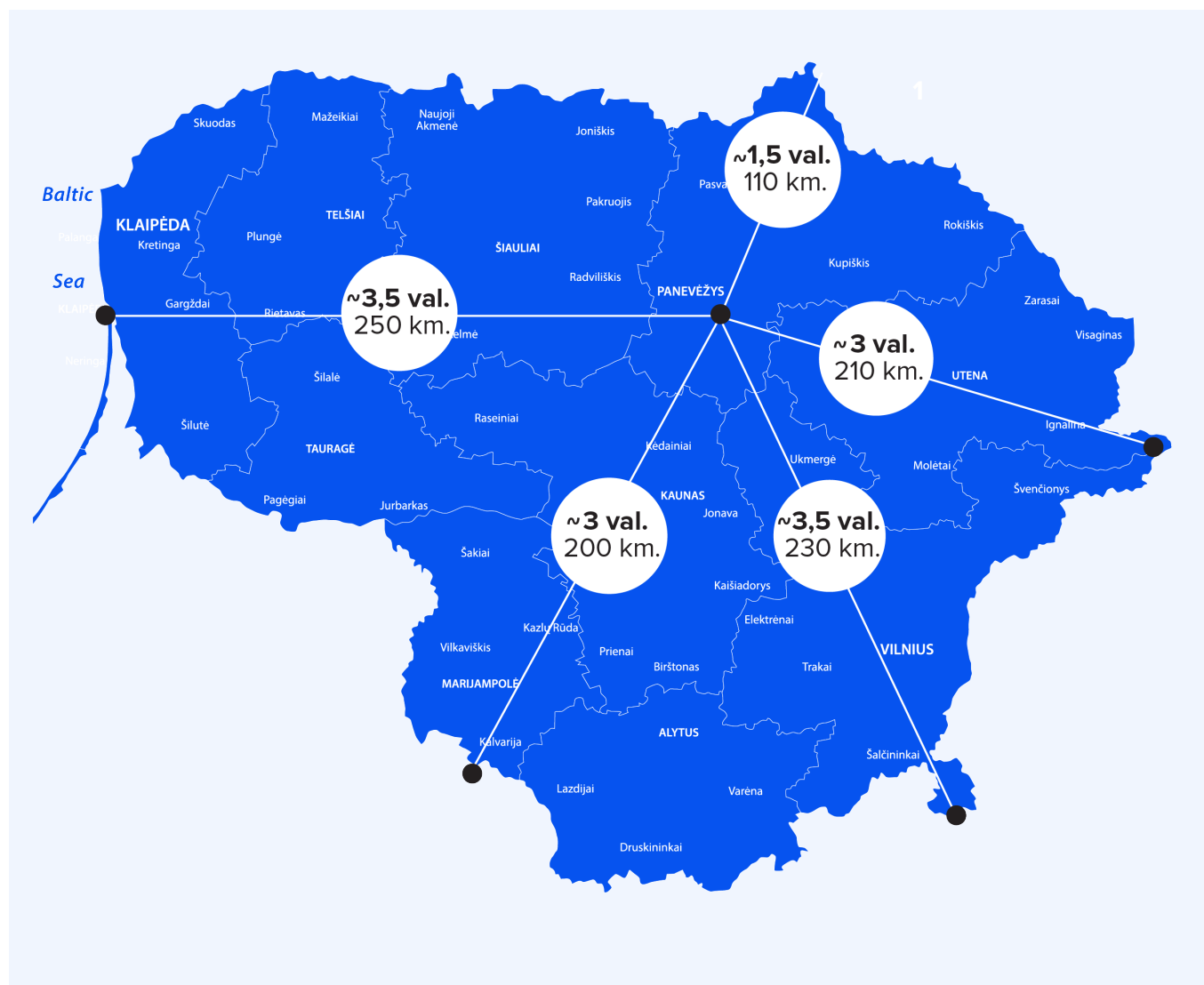


BUSINESS

The centre of Lithuania's North-eastern region, where transportation infrastructure is highly developed, attracts potential investors, concentrates the businesses, and provides a logistical benefit while integrating into European and global value chains.

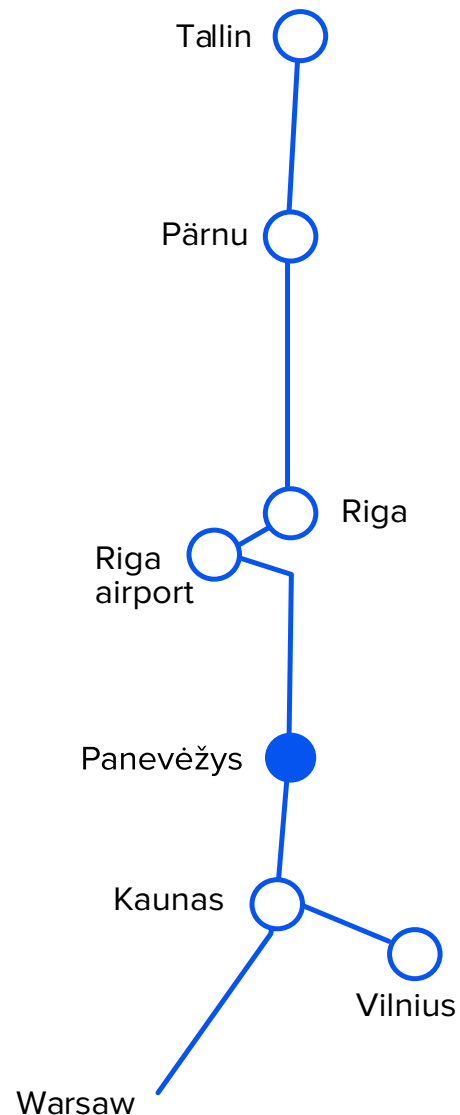


Main Lithuanian road junctions which have connections with the main cargo and passengers' streams from West and South cross the city of Panevėžys in Northern and Eastern directions.

- The route “Via Baltica” (the first transportation corridor) Warsaw – Tallinn;
- European route E272 (Vilnius–Panevėžys–Šiauliai–Palanga–Klaipėda);
- Routes A2 (Vilnius–Panevėžys),
- A8 (Panevėžys–Aristava–Sitkūnai),
- A9 (Panevėžys–Šiauliai),
- A10 (Panevėžys–Pasvalys–Bauska);

Railway line Rokiškis–Šiauliai is a railway corridor of international importance, which connects Moscow with Kaliningrad region.

Railway route “Rail Baltica” is projected to be finished in 2026, which will become a part of the international transportation corridor “Northern sea – Baltic sea”, and will connect Helsinki, Tallinn, Pärnu, Riga, Panevėžys, Kaunas, Vilnius, and Warsaw. Once the project is complete, a new intermodal cargo terminal will be built in Panevėžys.



Industry – the business sector that distinguishes the region of Panevėžys in Lithuania

- **30 per cent** of the total value-added in the Panevėžys region is being created by industrial companies of Panevėžys (data of 2017).
- The most value-added in the Panevėžys region – **28.6 per cent** – was created in industry (data of 2019).
- 24 per cent of Panevėžys region employees work in manufacturing companies (data of 2019).
- **More than 550** companies of manufacturing industry work in the region.

To achieve harmonious and geographically balanced economic growth, Panevėžys region is developing directions of economical specializations, based on resources available in the region, fully formed business traditions and perspective areas of economic development.

Robotics and automation

Regarding the resources of the Panevėžys region, robotics, and automation were identified as one of the main directions of economic development.

At the beginning of 2018, the municipality of Panevėžys city signed a collaboration contract with 14 institutions (such as Panevėžys Region Industry Association, Panevėžys' Faculty of Technologies and Business of Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuanian Robotics Association, Association of School Managers, etc.).



A company that offers high-quality products and engineering solutions for electricity generation, transport and management using cutting edge technologies and components. More than 150 employees work in the company

Transportation, industry, and logistics

Panevėžys region is highly specialized in transportation and transportation equipment manufacturing areas – a part of employees working in the sector is 10 times higher than in the whole country on average. Also, more than one-third of the value of this sector of the country is created in the region. 3 large companies of this sector work in Panevėžys region.



The Trailer Company.

One of the leaders of trailers and semitrailers manufacturing companies in Europe is a part of the Schmitz Cargobull AG group. More than 600 employees work in the company

Food and beverages

This sector is distinguished by the significant number of companies working in the sector, the number of employees, turnover and the volume of exports. The food industry development tradition was historically decided by geographical position and climate, beneficial to agriculture (especially to dairy and crop production).



A brewery that has been in business since 1902, the production of which travels to many countries of the world. More than 300 employees work in the company.

Furniture and textiles

The impulse for the growth of the textiles industry in the region was given by AB Linas – formerly the biggest flax textiles manufacturer in Baltic states, which has been developing its activities for over 60 years. On this day, the company that is still working successfully exports over 90 per cent of its production and holds a firm position in the global market of textiles products.

Convenient logistical position of Panevėžys is beneficial to the growth of the furniture industry in the region – it is possible to reach the manufacturers of wooden, foam, textiles, metal, and other components. The furniture industry on this day is represented by several large and medium companies and a lot of small furniture manufacturers.



One of the leading furniture manufacturers in the Baltic states and Eastern Europe, which is founded in the Panevėžys region. Over 1000 employees work in the company.

Biotechnology

Biotechnology is a direction of region's specialization, that connects region's natural resources, the potential of industry and science cooperation, and allows developing business in the green European course.



One of the 3 largest manufacturing companies in Northern Europe, which extracts plant-based products for food and industry sectors from wheat using biorefining methods. The company, oriented towards the development of modern solutions, produces products dedicated to food, paper, industrial production, and the animal nutrition industry. The company was founded in Panevėžys, in the capital of the agricultural industry and the centre of the Baltic wheat belt.

Area

Representatives

Agriculture and natural resources

The sector's development has been based on beneficial geographical position of the region, which is especially favourable for crop production (the region is located in the centre of the Baltic wheat belt). The resources are successfully integrated into the food, beverages, and biotechnology sectors.

linas agro

One of the leaders in Lithuania in supplying certified seeds, fertilizers, and plant protection products and one of the biggest Lithuanian grain exporters. Over 100 employees work in the company.

Having evaluated and seeking to employ the latter economic strengths, Panevėžys region strives to become a competitive centre of Industry 4.0 solutions creation and application. While closely cooperating between business, education, science and public sectors, the ecosystem of Industry 4.0 of high value-added is being purposefully created in the region. The knowledge and experience of engineering area accumulated in the region, infrastructure accommodated for scientific research and experimental development grant necessary prerequisites to develop competencies and specialists needed for Industry 4.0.



Solution providers



Educational and scientific institutions



Associated structures and non - governmental organizations



Public sector and public institutions providing services to business



The general search for innovative solutions, technological development, and integration into international value chains is based on the networking of regional and state businesses. Industrial companies of Panevėžys are engaged in the following cluster cooperation networks:

Cluster representatives in Panevėžys

Cluster	Representatives in Panevėžys
ABBI cluster, joining together companies of the beverage industry	 Warta GLASS Group
SMART FOOD cluster, joining together companies of the Lithuanian food industry	
BACC cluster, joining together the Baltic suppliers of automotive parts	 
LAuGEA, association, joining together Lithuanian manufacturers of automotive parts and exporters	
Cluster of Lithuanian plastics	
Cluster of plastics and innovative materials	
Cluster of Lithuanian wooden prefabricated houses	

Especially for business creation and development, an infrastructure for that is being built and potential for scientific research and experimental growth is being developed.

Panevėžys has a Free Economic Zone, which covers an area of 47 ha, and offers all the infrastructure needed to create and develop businesses. The area has well-lit and paved internal routes, electricity line of 7000 kW has been installed together with gas and water pipelines and

sewage. A build-to-suit building has been constructed already and is ready to open its doors, as a part of the complex service package “EasyStart”, offered by Panevėžys FEZ.



Special services and support base creates and helps implement Industry 4.0 solutions to companies.

Panevėžys centre of mechatronics (further referred to as PMC) offers solutions of IT, electronics, electricity, and mechanics for business innovation, starting with construction and design and ending with the creation of technological solutions. Scientific research using micro/nanotechnology equipment is being carried out in the institution.

Success stories of cooperation

AQ Wiring company - PMC :

- Equipment for electric connectors sealing in transportation vehicles;
- Ergonomic, mobile workstation for cable loom assembly;
- Visual recognition system, which measures voids in cable cross-sections.

Adax - PMC

- Telemetry unified information system for industrial machinery;
- Programmed equipment for conveyor belt for allocation of tasks to operators who assemble the products.

Roquette Amilina – PMC - KTU

- A project of scientific research “Extraction of high nutritional value from starch production waste”.

PMC - KTU:

- A project of scientific research „Application of electrostatic structures in environmental and community health sensors“

Panevėžys Science and Technology Park – an incubator for innovative business, which provides services of business incubation and support for innovation development. Projects to activate innovative partnerships and international collaboration are being developed in the centre.

The municipality of the Panevėžys city provides support to promote the collaboration between science and business, supports public institutions, which carry out scientific research, and experimental growth.

Projects funded in 2019

A project of KTU Panevėžys' Faculty of Technology and Business "New and involving methods of didactics: design-based thinking". It is an international specialized qualification scheme created for children's and adults' educators, which enables the application of the new and involving methods of didactics

in the educational process – design-based thinking. Its goal is to promote new innovative educational ideas and to share professional experiences.

A project by Panevėžys' centre of mechatronics "Creating a weather pollution measuring system for a flying object", dedicated to creating a sensor system for a drone to measure weather pollution levels.

"The camp of ideas", organized by Panevėžys Science and Technology Park promotes youth to share ideas with their like-minded colleagues, to present projects they have, to bring together young, active and enterprising people, who are interesting in innovation.

"Weekend of ideas", organized by Panevėžys' Science and technology park for 4 years already strives to bring together scientists, researchers, the community of creators, and to provide the space, means, and opportunity to gain good practice from professional and successfully growing businesses.

40%

of companies in the Panevėžys region were carrying out innovative activities (in 2016 – 2018)

36%

of companies in the Panevėžys region were installing innovative business processes (in 2016 – 2018)

63%

of region employees were working in companies that were carrying out innovative activities

BUSINESS SUPPORT

The Panevėžys city municipality promotes the growth of socially responsible business and strengthens cooperation between public and private sectors. Discounts for state land plot rent, land, and real estate taxes are being applied for companies that offer sponsorship to social initiatives of culture, art, sport, and science and promote growth in these areas.

Promotion of small and medium business growth – discounts for state land plot rent, land, and real estate taxes also can be applied to companies of this sector in the Panevėžys region, which create and preserve places of employment.

It is aimed to improve business and investment conditions consistently and systemically in Panevėžys, to hear and expeditiously solve problems that business is facing. Aiming for this goal, the municipality of the city of Panevėžys together with the municipality of Panevėžys district have concentrated efforts and founded a public entity Panevėžys Development Agency in 2020. It consults and provides support to investors, joins together efforts of public and private sectors and the potential of their experts while creating products and services of improving investment and business climate in Panevėžys city and district.

Panevėžys brings together and unites business representatives

Panevėžys Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Crafts

brings together and represents interests of regional business in local, regional, and state institutions, provides the newest information relevant to businesses, organizes business trips, training, and projects to help the business grow and expand local and international markets.

Panevėžys Association

Region

Industry

Panevėžys Region Industry Association was established for cooperation, to grow the competitiveness of industrial companies and to create a platform, which enables collaboration between companies, to carry out common ideas, share knowledge and experience.

Industry 4.0 Development Advisory Board of the city of Panevėžys

It consists of specialists of high competencies, who represent companies of the Panevėžys region, institutions of science and education, public sector, together with independent experts of innovation, economic growth, and other areas. The goal of the advisory board is to research Industry 4.0 development changes in the Panevėžys region, in the country and on an international level, to consider any problems that may arise, to present the possible solutions for those problems to responsible institutions and make other strategic decisions.

Business Council of the Panevėžys city

It consists of representatives of Municipality of the city of Panevėžys, Panevėžys Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Crafts, Panevėžys Region Industry Association and Panevėžys Business Leaders Association, who cooperate in creating and consistently improving environment, beneficial to business growth, and conditions in Panevėžys, maintaining business growth as one of the biggest priorities in city growth and strengthening dialogue of business with local authorities.



Foreign Investors Business Association FIB Association

Actively cooperates with local authorities in creating beneficial conditions for foreign investors in creating and developing business in the Panevėžys region promotes cooperation of local and foreign investors, helps newly created businessmen of foreign countries to integrate into the local community.



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