

# Business Passport Haskovo Region

Regional integration  
makes cities stronger

Deliverable 3.2.1. Update of the information on: Haskovo Region Business Passport; Interactive Business Maps; needs of business in Haskovo region with up to date statistics. The information is to be used for the common E-Library and database for supporting SMEs within the Project

Regional Municipalities Association  
"Maritza"

The Project is co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and by national funds of the countries participating in the Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A "Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020".

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# Interreg Greece-Bulgaria

## GR-BG BUSINESS PASSPORT

European Regional Development Fund



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## Greece-Bulgaria

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„This document is developed on the Project „Greek Bulgarian Business Partnership by Assistance, Services, Solutions to Promote Open Regions Team” with acronym „GR-BG BUSINESS PASSPORT”, funded by Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A “Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020”, Subsidy contract №B6.3a.07/13.04.2021. The project is co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and by national funds of the countries participating in Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A “Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020”. The contents of this document are sole responsibility of RMA “Maritza” and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union, the participating countries the Managing Authority and the Joint Secretariat“

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## Why in Haskovo region?

Location - A favorable factor for the region is the presence of a border with two countries - Greece and Turkey. Two key trans-continental roads cross the territory of the region. The first connects Western and Central Europe with Istanbul and Asia, and the second - Northern Europe with the Mediterranean. The distance from the town of Haskovo to the border with Greece is 70 km, to Turkey - 80 km, and to the capital Sofia - 230 km. Haskovo region is generally characterized by a mild climate, beautiful and clean nature, and diverse flora and fauna. The topography in the region is very diverse. The northern and central part of the region is occupied by the Upper Thracian lowland, and in the south, extensive territories of the region are occupied by the low branches of the Eastern Rhodopes and the western slopes of the Sakar mountain.

The municipalities in Haskovo region aim for sustainable development by building strong relationships with each other in the context of the region. They apply collaborative economic and planning approaches where responsibility is balanced with the well-being of the region as a whole. These municipalities work to build common systems in their region: infrastructure, natural resources, waste, as well as cultural and social behavior. With growing local, regional and national challenges, municipalities are looking for ways to pool their resources in order to reduce environmental impact and increase crisis resilience.

To enhance mutually beneficial municipal and district development for broader sustainability goals, municipal governments apply several sets of approaches:

**Declared readiness for dialogue and interaction between civil society and politicians**, with great care being taken to incorporate diverse opinions and knowledge gained from experience. This, according to the plans of the municipalities, will be carried out through:

- ✓ joint training and exchange of experience and knowledge;
- ✓ multi-stakeholder partnership – policy refers to approaches to local governance that enable transformations related to sustainable development by connecting multi-sector networks with local individuals and organizations;
- ✓ data collection - the exchange of digital data related to transport, energy or other fields promises to increase efficiency, reduce waste, provide more information, improve decision-making and allow real-time updates for both citizens and for the region.
- ✓ pathways and scenarios - can be applied to a diverse range of topics, from climate action plans, to mobility scenarios and economic development concepts.

**Support for innovative management processes**, which enable effective and empowered participation of all stakeholders, for example through:

- ✓ focus on inclusiveness in decision-making and policy processes. Different actors come together in different and original ways to incorporate multiple perspectives into sustainable development efforts;
- ✓ the processes of governance and participation aimed at urban sustainability, which emphasize envisioning the future of municipalities, mainly based on the joint "production" of knowledge through innovative, diverse and strategic partnerships;
- ✓ introducing a decision-making process through which citizens discuss and negotiate the distribution of public resources.

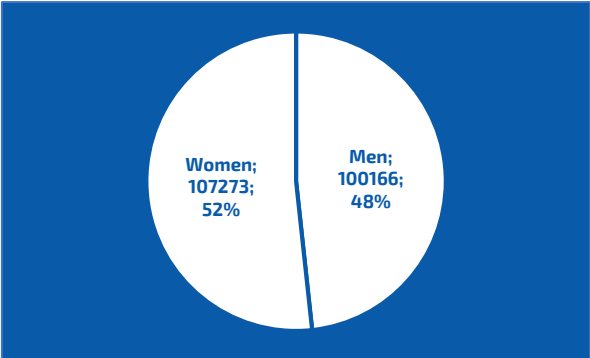
Creating conditions so that the initiatives and policies that shape the territory lead to integrated design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and adaptation of interventions. Specific solutions proposed within this approach are:

- ✓ nature-based solutions that involve stakeholders, with the aim of sustainable development of the territory;
- ✓ developing governance tools and processes to engage a diverse group of stakeholders in the implementation of climate mitigation and adaptation strategies;
- ✓ Regeneration of unused lands in municipalities focuses on sustainable, socially and economically profitable revitalization.

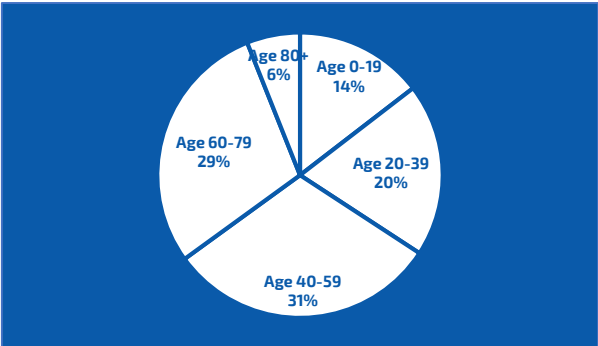
The plans drawn up at municipal level in Haskovo region create a comprehensive vision for change that includes and integrates aspirations from the regional level to the local and community level, is crucial for achieving greater sustainability in the region. By joining forces, municipalities become interdependent and integrated members of the region and thus coordinate policies and make effective decisions to achieve good governance at different scales. Regional thinking brings a deeper planning capacity that disrupts the status quo, especially in terms of investment decisions and the allocation of resource flows.

### Haskovo Region Business Passport

Haskovo Region is located in the central part of southern Bulgaria and extends over 5,543 sq. km. which is 5% of the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria. The region includes 261 settlements grouped into 11 municipalities - Haskovo, Dimitrovgrad, Svilengrad, Lyubimets, Harmanli, Madzharovo, Simeonovgrad, Ivaylovgrad, Topolovgrad, Mineralni Bani and Stambolovo.

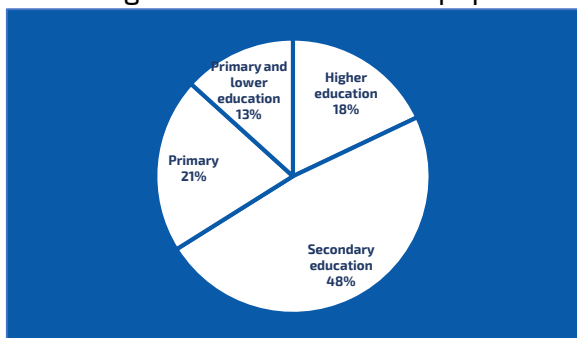


According to NSI data, as of 31.12.2022, the population of Haskovo region is 207,439 people, which represents 3.2% of the country's population.



As of December 31, 2022, the working-age population in the region is 116,854 people (56.33% of the regions's population). The coefficient of economic activity in the region is 52.5 compared to 56.6 for the country. The share of the population in towns is 72.2%. The employment rate for Haskovo region is 52.1% for 2022. The unemployment rate in the region in 2022 is 0.9% with a total of 4.3% for the country.

According to data from the last population and housing census as of September 2021, the number of persons with higher education in Haskovo region is 35,670, or 17.9% of the population aged 7 and over have higher education; 89,952 persons in the region have completed the highest level of secondary education with secondary education, and the share of persons aged 7 and over with primary and lower education in Haskovo district is 13.4%.



Haskovo region ranks last in terms of GDP per capita in the South Central region, and in 2021 it is only BGN 9,817/capita, while for the country it is BGN 20,212/capita. In terms of gross added value, the region ranks 13th in the country and 3rd in the South Central region with BGN 1.906 million.

According to data from the Territorial Statistical Bureau - South, the average monthly salary in the first quarter of 2023 is BGN 1,244, and for the country it is BGN 1,882. In terms of the average monthly salary in the first quarter of 2023, Haskovo region occupies the 26th place among the 28 regions in the country.

**Unemployment:** As of 2022, according to data from the Employment Agency, the unemployment rate in Haskovo region is 6.4%, with an average value for the country of 5.2%. The unemployment rate is defined as the share of registered unemployed persons in the labor offices to the economically active population aged 15-64 years, established in the 2021 Census.

## Economics

According to NSI data for 2021, wholesale and retail trade (5,103 enterprises; net sales revenue – BGN 1,976,496 thousand) is of dominant importance for the regional economy, followed by the processing industry (1,186 enterprises; net sales revenue – BGN 1,352,304 thousand). They are followed by: transport (745 enterprises; net sales revenue – BGN 358,950 thousand); Construction (383 enterprises; net sales revenue – BGN 318,403 thousand); Agriculture, forestry and fisheries (735 enterprises; net sales revenue – BGN 264,500 thousand); Culture, sports and entertainment (87 enterprises; net sales revenue – BGN 207,845 thousand); Human health care and social work (334 enterprises; net sales revenue – BGN 104,420 thousand). The hotel and restaurant industry is in 8th place in terms of net sales revenues and in 5th place in terms of the number of enterprises in the sector (685 enterprises; net sales revenues – BGN 67,399 thousand).

Region/Municipality	Economic activities (A21)	Enterprises	Net sales revenue	Fixed assets
<b>HASKOVO REGION</b>	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>11 528</b>	<b>4 851 263</b>	<b>1 507 735</b>
HASKOVO REGION	G Commerce; car and motorcycle repair	5 103	1 976 496	201 512
HASKOVO REGION	C Processing industry	1 186	1 352 304	380 048
HASKOVO REGION	H Transport, storage and post	745	358 950	82 319
HASKOVO REGION	F Construction	383	318 403	74 991
HASKOVO REGION	A Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	735	264 500	280 674

HASKOVO REGION	R Culture, sport and entertainment	87	207 845	22 984
HASKOVO REGION	Q Human healthcare and social work	334	104 420	36 062
HASKOVO REGION	I Hotels and restaurants	685	67 399	88 971
HASKOVO REGION	D Production and distribution of electric and heat energy and gaseous fuels	159	45 132	138 035
HASKOVO REGION	E Water supply and sewerage services, waste management and recovery	25	40 624	5 922
HASKOVO REGION	M Professional activities and scientific research	674	33 858	14 406
HASKOVO REGION	J Creation and distribution of information and creative products; telecommunications	126	23 416	23 169
HASKOVO REGION	N Administrative and auxiliary activities	160	23 039	10 072
HASKOVO REGION	L Real estate operations	406	20 800	142 879
HASKOVO REGION	S Other activities	654	10 651	4 640
HASKOVO REGION	B Mining industry	17	1 941	725
HASKOVO REGION	P Education	49	1 485	326

According to the average listed number of persons employed under a labor or service legal contract in 2021, NSI ranks Processing industry in first place with 13,811. It is followed by: Trade – 8,438; Education - 4,462; Transport, storage and post – 3 693. In the last place is the Mining industry - 33.

Sector	Total
Mining industry	13811
Commerce; car and motorcycle repair	8438
Education	4462
Transport, storage and post	3693
Human healthcare and social work	3434
State government	2677
Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	2559
Construction	2066
Hotels and restaurants	1979
Water supply and sewerage services, waste management and recovery	1385
Administrative and auxiliary activities	1326
Culture, sport and entertainment	1104
Professional activities and scientific research	583
Financial and insurance activities	544
Production and distribution of electric and heat energy and gaseous fuels	535
Other activities	493
Creation and distribution of information and creative products; telecommunications	399
Real estate operations	237
Mining industry	33

Wine production, food and beverage production, tailoring and textile industry, construction and mechanical engineering for the food industry, chemical industry are traditionally developed in Haskovo region.

Important factors for the development of the local economy are the presence of good natural resources, as well as the strategic location of the region as a whole.

## Agriculture

Agriculture is one of the developed industries for Haskovo region. There are extremely favorable soil and climatic conditions for the development of crop production in the region. The moderate Mediterranean climate, combined with the abundant water resources in the region, are important prerequisites for growing a wide variety of agricultural crops. Haskovo region is known for the production of watermelons, melons, excellent grapes, tomatoes, cucumbers and many other fruits and vegetables. A priority in the development of crop production is planting and replanting with young vines, increasing the areas sown with perennials and creating nurseries for certified species.

In terms of income from the activity in 2021, the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry ranks fifth in Haskovo region with an income of BGN 264,500 thousand. Agriculture is the leading industry for the municipalities: Madzharovo, Mineralni Bani, Stambolovo and Topolovgrad.

Animal husbandry in Haskovo region is concentrated in the private sector and is characterized by a high relative share of small farms. Cattle, pigs and poultry are raised in the plain areas of the region, and sheep and goats are raised in the semi-mountainous areas. The prospects for animal husbandry in the region are related to the expansion of livestock farms in order to increase productivity and make optimal use of funding under international programs. According to the report on the activities of "Agriculture" Regional Directorate in 2021, the largest number of birds (364,900 pcs) were raised in the region, followed by sheep (65,862 pcs); cattle and buffaloes (41,503 pcs.); bee colonies (24,039 pcs.).

Haskovo region has potential in terms of the development of the viticulture industry. The area has been known since time immemorial for its excellent grapes and the high-quality wine that is produced from them. There are traces of winemaking since the time of the Thracians, in the so-called "sharapani" - winemaking stones near the village of Mineralni Bani. Today, all the wineries on the territory of the region are specialized in the production of high-quality wines, which are well sold on the international market. As a result of the combination of favorable climatic conditions and the increased technological skills of local winemakers, Dimyat, Merlot, Pamid, Chardonnay, Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Tamyanka, Mavrud, Rubin, Traminer, Rosé wines with a protected designation of origin Haskovo, Lyubimets, Ivaylovgrad and Stambolovo have established themselves in the region, as well as a declared geographical region, which with their brilliance, noble bouquet, soft and harmonious taste leave lasting impressions on all connoisseurs of elite wines. An important indicator of the prosperity of winemaking in recent years is the creation of many new wineries equipped with state-of-the-art equipment - lines for receiving and processing grapes, vinifiers for white and red wines with controlled fermentation processes, vinimatics, high-tech and fully automated bottling lines. An extremely positive trend is that, as part of their strategy, wine companies rely on planting their own young vines with the classic Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon varieties, as well as valuable Bulgarian varieties. In 2021, according to the Activity Report of Agriculture Regional Directorate, the planted areas with wine vineyards were 56,290 decares, and with dessert vineyards - 5,624 decares.

The climatic conditions in the region favor the development of agriculture.

Average monthly temperatures in °C for Haskovo region are as follows:

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
Haskovo	0.2	2.6	6.2	12.3	17.2	21	23.6	23.4	19.1	13.4	8.1	3
Dimitrovgrad	0.1	2.8	6.4	12	17.4	21.2	23.8	23.6	19.3	13.2	8.1	2.8
Svilengrad	1.1	3.7	7	12.8	17.8	21.7	24.5	24.1	19.7	13.9	8.9	3.8
Harmanli	0.3	3	6.5	12.4	17.2	21.1	23.8	23.7	19.5	13.5	8.3	3.1
Lyubimets	0.7	3.4	6.8	12.6	17.5	21.4	24.4	23.9	19.6	13.7	8.6	3.4
Ivaylovgrad	1.4	3.6	6.4	12.1	16.9	20.5	23.5	23.5	19.2	13.9	8.9	4.1

The average monthly maximum values in °C:

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
Haskovo	4.6	7.5	11.9	18.7	23.8	27.6	30.5	30.8	26.7	20.1	13	7
Dimitrovgrad	4.1	7.2	11.9	18.6	23.7	27.8	30.7	30.8	26.5	19.9	12.9	6.6
Svilengrad	5.4	8.6	12.7	19.2	24.4	28.9	31.8	32	27.4	20.6	13.9	8
Harmanli	4.4	7.5	12	18.9	24	28.1	30.9	31.2	26.9	20.3	12.9	6.8
Ivaylovgrad	5	7.6	11.1	17.4	22.5	26.5	29.4	29.2	25	18.9	12.9	7.4

The average monthly minimum values in °C:

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
Haskovo	-3.7	-1.6	1.2	6	10.7	14.2	16.2	15.8	12.2	7.8	4	-0.7
Dimitrovgrad	-4.1	-1.9	0.8	6.2	10.5	14.1	16	15.6	11.7	7.3	3.7	-0.7
Svilengrad	-2.6	-0.8	1.5	6.4	10.9	14.6	16.3	15.8	11.9	8.1	4.6	0.5
Harmanli	-3.5	-1.2	1.5	5.8	10.3	14	15.9	15.5	11.8	7.2	4.1	-0.3
Ivaylovgrad	-1.9	-0.2	1.8	6.6	11.1	14.9	16.8	17	13.2	9	5.1	1

Data from the National Institute of Metrology and Hydrology show that the first and last frosts in the region are as follows:

For the area of:	Last medium frost	At the latest	First medium frost	The earliest
Haskovo	12.04	7.05	21.10	28.09
Svilengrad	7.04	10.05	7.11	30.09
Harmanli	7.04	7.05	23.10	26.09
Simeonovgrad	29.03	20.05	4.11	20.09
Ivaylovgrad	2.04	7.05	15.11	4.10

The annual trend of precipitation in the region by seasons in l/sq.m is:

	Winter	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Annually
Dimitrovgrad	150	158	148	150	606
Haskovo	186	174	146	162	668
Harmanli	154	140	130	152	576
Svilengrad	178	145	120	153	596



Ivaylovgrad	230	178	118	185	711
Lyubimets	156	140	116	146	558

Apart from wine production, the food industry on the territory of the region is represented by bakery and confectionery, meat processing industry, milk processing and canning industry. In the field of bread production and confectionery in Haskovo region, there are many private companies, bakeries and confectionery workshops, with relatively modern technological equipment, which produce a diverse range of products. The situation is the same with meat and milk processing companies. In the region there are many small workshops for processing meat and meat products, dairies for the production of cheese, yellow cheese and butter, equipped with modern equipment and producing products with high capacity and quality that meet modern international requirements.

To characterize the regional economy and the priorities for the development of the industry in Haskovo region in general, it is necessary to emphasize that they are related to the establishment of the region as one of the main centers in the country in terms of machine building for the food industry; preservation of traditions in the field of textile and sewing industry; distinguishing the district as one of the leading wine regions in the country.

Haskovo region, and in particular the Haskovo Municipality, is one of the main centers of Bulgarian mechanical engineering for the food industry. The specialization of the regional city in the field of production of technological lines and machines for the food industry, heating and household appliances, technological lines for the production of meat, dairy products and wine production is preserved.

Sewing and knitting industries are developed in Haskovo region, where both large companies and numerous small and medium-sized enterprises operate, relatively evenly distributed throughout the region.

According to income from the activity, the economic activities in Haskovo region are arranged as follows:

	Economic activities (A21)	Enterprises /no./	Income from the activity /BGN thousand/
1	G COMMERCE; CAR AND MOTORCYCLE REPAIR	5 103	2 014 937
2	C MINING INDUSTRY	1 186	1 456 038
3	A AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES	735	384 964
4	H TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND POST	745	376 902
5	F CONSTRUCTION	383	338 568
6	R CULTURE, SPORT AND ENTERTAINMENT	87	214 270
7	Q HUMAN HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL WORK	334	119 208
8	I HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS	685	82 901
9	D PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC AND HEAT ENERGY AND GASEOUS FUELS	159	65 313
10	E WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE SERVICES, WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RECOVERY	25	47 477
11	M PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH	674	37 993
12	L REAL ESTATE OPERATIONS	406	37 410
13	J CREATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION AND CREATIVE PRODUCTS; TELECOMMUNICATIONS	126	27 272
14	N ADMINISTRATIVE AND AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES	160	24 118
15	S OTHER ACTIVITIES	654	11 025
16	B MINING INDUSTRY	17	2 227
17	P EDUCATION	49	1 516

Commerce is the leading sector for the municipalities: Ivaylovgrad (income from activity – BGN 14,839 thousand), Lyubimets (income from activity – BGN 77,391 thousand), Simeonovgrad (income from activity – BGN 15,314 thousand), Harmanli (income from activity – BGN 218,228 thousand) and Haskovo (income from activity – BGN 1,004,486 thousand).

In Svilengrad Municipality, the leading sector is: "Culture, sports and entertainment", which includes the groups Organization of gambling games, Sports and other activities related to entertainment and recreation and Other activities in the field of culture. The income from this activity in the municipality of Svilengrad in 2021 is BGN 172,072 thousand.

For Dimitrovgrad Municipality, the leading sector in 2021 is Processing industry, with revenues from the activity - BGN 588,832 thousand. It is followed by Commerce (revenues from the activity - BGN 485,675 thousand) and Agriculture, forestry and fishing (revenues from the activity – BGN 87,830 thousand).

For the regional center, as it was mentioned, the leading sector is Commerce with revenues from the activity - BGN 1,004,486 thousand, followed by the sectors: Processing industry - BGN 638,016 thousand, Construction - BGN 288,705 thousand and Transport, storage and post – BGN 166,574 thousand.

## Tourism in Haskovo region

The tourist potential in Haskovo region is more limited compared to other regions. A good prerequisite for its development is the rich cultural and historical heritage of the region: architectural and construction monuments from antiquity and the Middle Ages, archaeological values, monuments from the Renaissance (fortresses, monasteries, old churches and houses), historical places and museums. In 2000, near the village of Alexandrovo, Haskovo municipality, a tomb from the 4th century BC was discovered, one of the most striking monuments of Thracian culture. Its impressive dimensions rank it among the most monumental tombs in the Bulgarian lands.

An important element for the development of tourism is the specific way of life, traditions, customs and crafts of the local population. In the last few years, many new luxury hotels and catering establishments have been established in the big cities of the district. According to NSI, there are a total of 2,757 beds in the 69 places of accommodation on the territory of the region in 2022. According to the data for May, 2023, the accommodation places in the region are 65 with 2651 beds.

In the town of Haskovo, in 2003, the "Holy Virgin" Monument was opened - the tallest statue of the Virgin Mary in the world, entered in the "Guinness Records" book and included in the 100 national tourist sites. 20 km away from the town of Haskovo is the spa resort of Mineralni Bani, where the mineral water is unique in its composition and healing properties /with the only European analogue of the resort "Karlovi Vari"/.

Along with the traditional forms of mass tourism (mainly ecotourism, medical tourism and rural tourism), the region has the potential to develop some new forms of tourism: specialized wine-growing tourism; hobby tourism (cycling sports, water tourism, fishing); transit tourism, mainly determined by the "Maritsa" highway; religious tourism related to visiting churches, holy places and religious holidays; exploratory tourism, based on the creation of targeted routes and attractions in previously undeveloped places; alternative and recreational tourism.

From the NSI data, it can be seen that for 2022, the number of overnight stays in accommodation facilities in the district is 188,094 for 93,296 persons. Revenues from overnight stays total BGN 11,202,843, of which BGN 4,447,495 or nearly 40% are revenues from overnight stays of foreign citizens.

South Central Region	Foreign direct investments in non-financial sector enterprises as of 31.12.2021 thousand EUR
Plovdiv	2 145 606.9
Kurdzhali	413 064.5
Pazardzhik	450 608.3
Haskovo	136 242.2
Smolyan	69 577.4

Direct foreign investments are also an indicator of the investment climate in the region. Foreign investments in 2021 in the region are 136,242.2 thousand EUR, while for the country they are 28,184,293 thousand EUR. According to this indicator, Haskovo region is in the golden middle - 18th place. Among the regions of South Central Region, it is in the penultimate place, followed by the Smolyan region.

No.		Foreign direct investments in non-financial sector enterprises as of 31.12.2021 thousand EUR
	Total for the country	28 184 293,0
1	Sofia (capital)	14 693 932,2
2	Burgas	2 309 356,5
3	Plovdiv	2 145 606,9
4	Sofia	1 720 421,0
5	Varna	1 548 314,6
6	Stara Zagora	1 101 944,6
7	Blagoevgrad	507 343,9
8	Ruse	473 044,1
9	Pazardzhik	450 608,3
10	Kurdzhali	413 064,5
11	Gabrovo	353 712,1
12	Pleven	348 248,9
13	Dobrich	306 582,3
14	Turgovishte	293 350,3
15	Pernik	223 719,0
16	Razgrad	208 518,4
17	Vratsa	193 036,1
18	Haskovo	136 242,2
19	Sliven	131 628,4
20	Lovech	129 999,5
21	Shumen	120 838,8
22	Veliko Turnovo	74 090,3
23	Smolyan	69 577,4
24	Montana	54 950,4

25	Vidin	47 760,8
26	Yambol	45 666,6
27	Silistra	42 306,7
28	Kyustendil	40 428,2

## Communal services

In 2022, there are two Regional Associations of Municipalities registered in Haskovo region, which operate two facilities for the disposal of solid household waste - in the land of the village of Garvanovo, Haskovo municipality, which serves the municipalities of Haskovo, Dimitrovgrad and Mineralni Bani, and in the land of Harmanli, serving the municipalities of Harmanli, Lyubimets, Stambolovo, Svilengrad, Simeonovgrad, Madzharovo and Topolovgrad. The municipalities of Svilengrad, Lyubimets, Stambolovo, Simeonovgrad and Madzharovo have been designated for the Harmanli landfill. In 2022, 53,429 tons of household waste were collected from the served settlements according to data from the Regional Inspectorate for the Environment and Water - Haskovo, and for 2021, according to NSI data, 70,877 tons were generated. 321 kg per person from the served population for 2021 is the collected household waste, and for 2022 – 258 kg.

According to the edition of NSI "Districts, regions and municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria 2021" 99.5% of the population of the region is connected to public water supply. In the same year, 0.6% of the population was subjected to water regime. 53.2% of the population in Haskovo region is connected to wastewater treatment plants, 19.1% of the population is connected to public sewage without treatment. According to the edition of NSI " Districts, regions and municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria 2021" in Haskovo region, 72.3% of the population is connected to public sewage.

## Healthcare in Haskovo region

From the register of the Ministry of Health of medical institutions for hospital care, mental health centers, centers for skin-venereal diseases, complex oncology centers, homes for medical and social care and dialysis centers as of 2023, it is clear that there are a total of 12 medical facilities in Haskovo region:

"Multi-profile hospital for active treatment - Svilengrad" EOOD, Svilengrad

- ✓ department - Surgery
- ✓ department - Obstetrics and Gynecology
- ✓ department - Internal Diseases
- ✓ department - Pediatrics
- ✓ department - Neurological Diseases
- ✓ department - Anesthesiology and Intensive Care
- ✓ department - Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine
- ✓ Hemodialysis Department
- ✓ department - Diagnostic Imaging
- ✓ Department of Clinical Pathology
- ✓ Medical Diagnostic Laboratory -
- ✓ Microbiology
- ✓ Medical Diagnostic Laboratory -
- ✓ Clinical Laboratory

- ✓ department for long-term treatment of internal and nervous diseases
- ✓ department for long-term surgical treatment

„Multi-profile hospital for active treatment – Harmanli“ EOOD, Harmanli

- ✓ department - Surgery
- ✓ department - Obstetrics and Gynecology
- ✓ department - Internal Diseases
- ✓ department - Pediatrics
- ✓ department - Neurological Diseases
- ✓ department - Diagnostic Imaging
- ✓ department - Anesthesiology and Intensive Care
- ✓ department - Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine
- ✓ Medical Diagnostic Laboratory

“Multi-profile hospital for active treatment – Haskovo” AD, Haskovo

- ✓ department - Surgery
- ✓ department - Obstetrics and Gynecology
- ✓ department - Internal Diseases
- ✓ department - Cardiology
- ✓ department - Pediatrics
- ✓ department - Neurological Diseases
- ✓ department - Anesthesiology and Intensive Care
- ✓ department - Neonatology
- ✓ department - Orthopedics and Traumatology
- ✓ department - Ophthalmology
- ✓ department - Otorhinolaryngology
- ✓ department - Urology
- ✓ department - Infectious Diseases
- ✓ department - Neurosurgery
- ✓ emergency department - Emergency Medicine
- ✓ department - Physical And Rehabilitation Medicine
- ✓ department - Diagnostic Imaging
- ✓ department - Forensic Medicine
- ✓ Department of Clinical Pathology
- ✓ department - Transfusion Hematology
- ✓ Hemodialysis department
- ✓ Medical diagnostic laboratory

“Multi-profile hospital for active treatment “St. Ekaterina” – Dimitrovgrad” EOOD, Dimitrovgrad

- ✓ department - Ophthalmology
- ✓ department - Anesthesiology and Intensive Care
- ✓ department - Surgery
- ✓ department - Obstetrics and Gynecology
- ✓ department - Internal Diseases
- ✓ department - Children's Diseases
- ✓ department - Neurological Diseases
- ✓ department - Orthopedics and Traumatology

- ✓ department - Diagnostic Imaging
- ✓ department - General and Clinical Pathology
- ✓ Medical diagnostic laboratory

"Multi-profile hospital for active treatment " Hygia"" Ltd., Haskovo

- ✓ department - Ophthalmology
- ✓ department - Otorhinolaryngology
- ✓ department - Surgery
- ✓ department - Obstetrics and Gynecology
- ✓ department - Internal Diseases
- ✓ department - Anesthesiology and Intensive Care

"Specialized hospital for active oncology treatment - Haskovo" EOOD, Haskovo

- ✓ department - Medical Oncology
- ✓ department - Radiation Therapy
- ✓ surgery department in the field of oncology
- ✓ gynecology department in the field of oncology
- ✓ department - Diagnostic Imaging
- ✓ department - General and Clinical Pathology
- ✓ Medical diagnostic laboratory

"Specialized hospital for active treatment in internal diseases – Topolovgrad" EOOD, Topolovgrad

- ✓ department - Internal Diseases
- ✓ department - Diagnostic Imaging
- ✓ Medical diagnostic laboratory
- ✓ department for treatment and long-term treatment with a therapeutic orientation

"Specialized hospital for active treatment of pneumophtisiatric diseases – Haskovo" EOOD, Haskovo

- ✓ Pneumo-phthisiatric department
- ✓ Medical diagnostic laboratory

"Specialized hospital for long-term treatment and rehabilitation – Lyubimets" EOOD, Lyubimets

- ✓ department - Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine
- ✓ department for long-term treatment of neurological diseases

Specialized rehabilitation hospital "Ailin" EOOD, Mineralni Bani village

- ✓ department - Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine

"Center for skin and venereal diseases – Haskovo" EOOD, town of Haskovo

- ✓ skin and venereal disease medical office
- ✓ mycology medical office
- ✓ laboratory diagnostics medical office
- ✓ physical therapy medical office

"Center for mental health – Haskovo" EOOD, town of Haskovo

- ✓ Reception and advisory unit
- ✓ Unit for emergency and mobile psychiatric care
- ✓ Unit for active treatment of persons with severe mental disorders
- ✓ Unit for psychosocial rehabilitation, resocialization and occupational therapy
- ✓ Department "Day Hospital"

As of 2022, there will be 1,093 beds in the medical facilities in the region, with over 55% of them in the region's center - the town of Haskovo.

There are 62 medical facilities for outpatient care in Haskovo region, distributed among the municipalities as follows:

Municipality	Medical facilities for outpatient care – total		Diagnostic and consultative centers		Medical centers		Independent medical-diagnostic and medical-technical laboratories
	Establishments	Beds	Establishments	Beds	Establishments	Beds	Establishments
Dimitrovgrad	9	-	-	-	3	-	6
Ivaylovgrad	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Lyubimets	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Svilengrad	5	-	-	-	1	-	4
Harmanli	3	8	-	-	2	8	1
Haskovo	41	36	2	7	14	29	25

There are 645 doctors in Haskovo region, 192 dentists, and 1119 health care specialists in total.

Internal diseases	23
Cardiologists	44
Pneumology and Phthisiatry	20
Pediatricians	44
Surgeons	37
Orthopedic traumatologists	10
Urologists	6
Infectionists	6
Obstetricians and gynecologists	37
Ophthalmologists	32
Otorhinolaryngologists	12
Neurologists	44
Psychiatrists	10
Skin and Venereal Diseases	5
Radiologists	21
Physical therapy and rehabilitation	18
Laboratory doctors	16
General practitioners	113
Other specialties	142
More than one major	5

The emergency medical care system in Haskovo region consists of: Center for emergency medical care - Haskovo (serves the population of all municipalities) with 9 opened units:

- ✓ the town of Haskovo serves the population of the municipalities of Haskovo, Mineralni Bani and Stambolovo;
- ✓ the town of Dimitrovgrad serves the population of the municipality of Dimitrovgrad;
- ✓ the town of Harmanli serves the population of Harmanli municipality;
- ✓ the town of Svilengrad serves the population of the municipality of Svilengrad;
- ✓ the town of Simeonovgrad serves the population of the municipality of Simeonovgrad;
- ✓ the town of Topolovgrad serves the population of the municipality of Topolovgrad;
- ✓ the town of Ivaylovgrad serves the population of the municipality of Ivaylovgrad;
- ✓ the town of Lyubimets serves the population of the municipality of Lyubimets;
- ✓ an outsourced team from the town of Madzharovo serves the population of the municipality of Madzharovo.

According to the indicator "population per one doctor" in 2022 in Haskovo region NSI reports 322 people per one doctor, with an uneven distribution in different municipalities:

Haskovo	198
Svilengrad	371
Harmanli	392
Dimitrovgrad	482
Topolovgrad	718
Lyubimets	727
Mineralni bani	785
Ivaylovgrad	1662
Simeonovgrad	2495
Stambolovo	2842

For comparison, in South Central region there are 227 people per one doctor, and at the national level - 218. According to the indicator "population per doctor", the regions in the Southern Central Region are arranged as follows:

Plovdiv	181
Pazardzhik	247
Smolyan	308
Haskovo	322
Kurdzhali	382

In terms of population per dentist, Haskovo region is in the last place in South Central Region:

Plovdiv	537
Smolyan	778
Pazardzhik	1010
Kurdzhali	1048
Haskovo	1080

In the South Central region, there are an average of 704 people per 1 dentist, and for the country – 848.

There are a total of 25 nurseries in Haskovo district with a capacity of 865 places.



## Education

According to NSI data for the 2022/23 academic year, 17,719 students studied in general education schools, and 4,894 students studied in vocational schools in Haskovo region. There are a total of 77 schools in the district, of which 67 are general education, 9 are vocational high schools and 1 sports school.

In the region, in municipal profiled and vocational high schools, state vocational high schools, classes with profiled training in secondary schools, in classes with vocational training in unified schools and in secondary schools, professionals are trained in the following specialties of professions:

- ✓ Application Programming;
- ✓ Machines and systems with Digital Program Control;
- ✓ Electrical machines and apparatus;
- ✓ Electrical equipment of production;
- ✓ Automation of continuous production;
- ✓ Production and service in catering and entertainment establishments;
- ✓ Motor transport equipment;
- ✓ Carrying out thermal procedures in balneological and other recovery centers;
- ✓ Organization of activities in places of accommodation;
- ✓ Small and medium business;
- ✓ Economic informatics;
- ✓ Mechanization of agriculture;
- ✓ Hotel organization;
- ✓ Metalworking machines;
- ✓ Production of culinary products and beverages;
- ✓ Metal cutting machines;
- ✓ Industrial electronics;
- ✓ Production of clothing from textiles;
- ✓ Electrical equipment of transport equipment;
- ✓ Field farming;
- ✓ Vegetable production;
- ✓ Operation of road transport;
- ✓ Banking;
- ✓ Customs and tax administration;
- ✓ Operational accounting;
- ✓ Economic informatics;
- ✓ Electronic commerce;
- ✓ Advertising graphics;
- ✓ Court Administration;
- ✓ Production of bread and bakery products;
- ✓ Production of confectionery products;
- ✓ Hotel organization;
- ✓ Catering;
- ✓ Production of culinary products and beverages;
- ✓ Real estate;
- ✓ System programming;
- ✓ Furniture production;
- ✓ Geodesy;

- ✓ Construction and architecture;
- ✓ Park construction and landscaping;
- ✓ Forest and hunting industry;
- ✓ Construction, modeling and technology of textile clothing;
- ✓ Production of clothing from textiles;
- ✓ Hairdressing;
- ✓ Application Programming;
- ✓ Welding machines and equipment;
- ✓ Electrical equipment of production;
- ✓ Heat engineering - heat, air conditioning, ventilation and refrigeration;
- ✓ Industrial electronics;
- ✓ Computer equipment and technologies.

A total of 10 Vocational Training Centers operate on the territory of Haskovo region. 6 of them are located in the regional center - the town of Haskovo, 2 - in the town of Dimitrovgrad and 2 - in the town of Harmanli.

The professions offered by VTCs in Haskovo region are: Electrician; Technician in transport equipment; Transport equipment fitter; Lifting and transport technician; Installer of lifting - transport equipment; Transport equipment worker; Plant grower technician; Plant breeder; Animal husbandry technician; Animal breeder; Farmer; Crop worker; Livestock worker; Agroecologist; Technician - landscaper; Landscaper; Landscaping Worker; Financier; Operational Accountant; Office Manager; Baker - confectioner; Builder; Hotelier; Cook; Waiter-bartender; Hairdresser; Cosmetician; Computer operator; Welder; Electrician; Road builder; Assistant road builder; Driver of a public transport vehicle; Broker; Associate in small and medium-sized businesses; Tailor; Viticulture technician; Performer of thermal procedures; Associate social activities; Organizer of tourist agency activity; Tour guide; Animator in tourism; Organizer of sports events and championships; Assistant Fitness Instructor; Assistant coach; Manicurist-pedicurist; Security guard; Economist; Technician - technologist in the food industry; Construction technician; Hospitality Administrator; Valet; Graphic designer; Ceramic; Vendor consultant; Organizer Internet applications; Installer of energy equipment and installations; Steam and water heating plant operator; Construction Assistant; Assistant - educator; Ecologist; Tax and customs intermediary; Cashier; Office assistant; Schlosser; Electrician; Clothing manufacturing operator; Viticulture Technician; Vintner; Machine operator; installer of water supply and sewage networks; Forestry worker.

There are a total of 36 kindergartens in Haskovo region, with a capacity of 7,654 places for the 2022/23 school year, and 84.3% of the places were occupied. In the municipalities of Madzharovo, the entire capacity is filled, in the municipality of Lyubimets, there is a shortage of places in the kindergarten. The lowest occupancy during the specified period was observed in the municipality of Mineralni bani, where the number of children attending kindergarten was 103 (with a capacity of 245).

There are branches of two universities in Haskovo region.

The Regional Center for Distance Learning (RCDO) - Haskovo is a unit of the University of National and World Economy.

Haskovo branch of Trakia University - Stara Zagora is the successor of Medical College - Haskovo.

There are a total of 938 students studying at university affiliates in the region during the 2022/23 academic year, including 810 bachelor and 128 master. The graduates of higher education in 2022 in these institutions are a total of 298, of which 218 - bachelor's and 80 - master's.

## Social assistance

Available social services in Haskovo region are divided into the following groups - services for children and youth; services for the elderly and the elderly; services for children and persons with disabilities. In each of the three groups, both the specialized institutions and the services provided in the community for the respective risk groups are taken into account.

The following services operate on the territory of region:

- ✓ 3 Day care centers for adults with disabilities in the town of Haskovo, the town of Dimitrovgrad and the town of Svilengrad, with a total capacity of 62 places;
- ✓ 1 Day center for adults with disabilities - weekly care in the town of Svilengrad, with a capacity of 15 places;
- ✓ 1 Day care center for the elderly in the town of Haskovo, with a capacity of 20 places;
- ✓ 2 Centers for social rehabilitation and integration for adults in Simeonovgrad and Topolovgrad, with a total capacity of 85 places;
- ✓ 1 Family-type accommodation center for adults with mental retardation in the town of Dimitrovgrad, with a capacity of 15 places;
- ✓ 1 Crisis center for individuals in the town of Haskovo, with a capacity of 10 places;
- ✓ 1 Transitional housing for persons in the town of Svilengrad, with a capacity of 4 places;
- ✓ 1 Protected housing for persons with mental retardation in the town of Dimitrovgrad, with a capacity of 8 places;
- ✓ 2 Homes for adults with mental disorders in the town of Svilengrad and in the village of Radovets (Topolovgrad municipality), with a total capacity of 137 places;
- ✓ 1 Home for adults with sensory disorders in the town of Haskovo, with a capacity of 30 places;
- ✓ 3 Homes for adults in the town of Haskovo, in the town of Harmanli and in the town of Ivaylovgrad, with a total capacity of 220 places.