

Correlation between Logistics and Higher education in Latvia

Inguna Jurgelane-Kladava

Riga Tehnical University, e-mail: inguna.jurgelane-kaldava@rtu.lv

Abstract

The role of logistics in Latvian national economy is very important. The fourth part of services of Latvia forms field of logistics and transit. However, the support of government to higher education institutions who provides training programs for potential logistic specialists are minimal or does not exist. The author of the paper analyses is there any correlation between demand of logistics specialists, transit, development of logistics sector and support of the government to the higher education institutions who provides training programs for logistic specialists.

Keywords: logistics, higher education institution, employability

Introduction

To find out tendencies of transport and logistics field, author of the paper analyses statistical data.

Table 1: Freight transport carried by vehicles on roads in Latvia, year 1997–2017 (thsd. t) (author's calculation according data of csb.gov.lv)

Year	Domestic	Growth rate %	International	Growth rate %
1997	23500	X	1669	X
1999	31718	34.97	1683	0.84
2001	29992	-5.44	2307	37.08
2003	38665	28.92	3151	36.58
2005	46633	20.61	4892	55.25
2007	51533	10.51	8372	71.14
2009	31595	-38.69	6225	-25.65
2011	44787	41.75	9149	46.97
2013	50484	12.72	11674	27.60
2015	48517	-3.90	14052	20.37
2017	52189	7.57	15823	12.60

Applying calculation of chain growth rate, it can be seen that, the most significant increase of inland freight was in 2011 (41.75 %), but international in 2005 (55.25 %).

Table 2: Shipped by sea, cargo received at Latvian ports, year 1993–2017 (thsd. t)

Year	Shipped loads	Growth rate %	Cargo received	Growth rate %
1993	25765	X	1642	X
1995	36370	41.16	2615	59.26
1997	46695	28.39	3994	52.73
1999	45145	-3.32	3887	-2.68
2001	54372	20.44	2546	-34.50
2003	50918	-6.35	3837	50.71
2005	55890	9.76	4152	8.21
2007	55178	-1.27	7256	74.76
2009	57565	4.33	4152	-42.78
2011	61028	6.02	7793	87.69
2013	62350	2.17	8130	12.05
2015	62551	0.32	7019	-13.67
2017	54156	-13.42	7721	10.00

According the data in the table, it can be seen that, the most significant increase of shipped goods from ports of Latvia was in 1995 but increase of received cargo in ports of Latvia in 2011.

Table 3: Freight transport by rail in Latvia, year 1993–2017 (thsd. t)

Year	Domestic	Growth rate %	International	Growth rate %
1993	2736	x	27838	x
1995	3545	29.57	25295	-9.13
1997	2522	-28.86	38497	52.19
1999	1938	-23.16	31270	-18.77
2001	2011	3.77	35873	14.72
2003	2329	15.81	46026	28.30
2005	2633	13.05	52228	13.47
2007	2000	-24.04	50164	-3.95
2009	1299	-35.05	52380	4.42
2011	1193	-8.16	58192	11.10
2013	1178	-1.26	54653	-6.08
2015	1671	41.85	53974	-1.24
2017	1649	-1.32	42136	-21.93

Table 4: Data of University of Latvia on the program “E-business and logistics management system” 2010–2018

Study year	Budget places in the 1st year	Applications for budget places	Charge places	Applications for charge places	Part time applications
2010/2011	2	285	300	168	33
2011/2012	2	235	300	156	51
2012/2013	2	248	300	158	41
2013/2014	3	224	300	147	28
2014/2015	4	248	100	140	42
2015/2016	7	252	70	127	34
2016/2017	6	258	70	99	29
2017/2018	4	205	50	98	52
2018/2019	5	202	50	84	23

On average, for one budget place there are 62 applications.

Table 4: Data of Riga Technical University on the program “Business logistics” 2010–2018

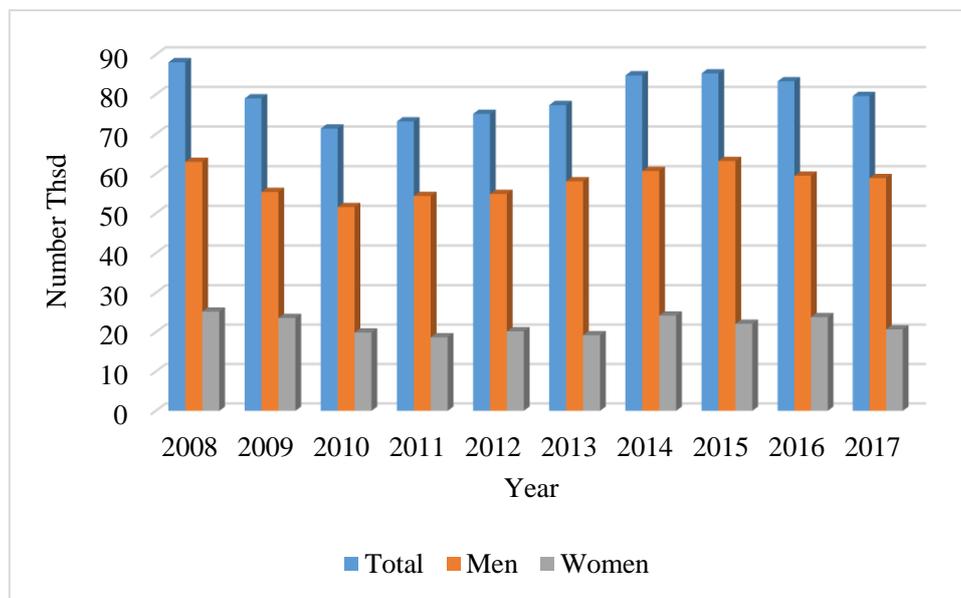
Study year	Budget places in the 1st year	Applications for budget places	Charge places	Applications for charge places	Part time applications
2010/2011	5	429	200	210	19
2011/2012	10	545	200	256	21
2012/2013	6	485	200	276	29
2013/2014	5	378	200	217	22
2014/2015	8	384	*	191	22
2015/2016	10	322	*	145	23
2016/2017	10	339	*	131	17
2017/2018	5	228	*	115	26
2018/2019	4	195	*	99	22

* Unlimited

On arithmetic mean, for one budget place there are 52 applications.

According the data of The State Employment Agency of Latvia (<https://cvvp.nva.gov.lv/#/pub/vakances/saraksts#eyJvZmZzZXQiOjI1LCJsaW1pdCI6MjUsInBhZ2VZljoXMD9>), for example in 13.07.2018 employers were searching for 200 employees in the field of transportation and logistics. For comparison - on this date there were 25 vacancies in the field of production, 50 in the field of trade and marketing, 50 in the field of security and rescue services and 50 vacancies in the field of IT and telecommunication.

Figure 1: Employed in the transport and storage industry in Latvia 2008–2017 (Number thsd.)



The author's conclusion in the compilation and analysis of all the data that the state support in the preparation of new specialists does not correlate the transport and logistics sector with its development and demand for logistics specialists in Latvia.

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