

Bjelovar-Bilogora County

The Bjelovar-Bilogora County is located in the eastern part of central Croatia and covers the area of Bilogora, the surrounding massifs of Papuk and Ravna Gora, Moslavačka Gora, and the valleys of Česma and Ilova. It borders Koprivnica-Križevci County to the north, Virovitica-Podravina County to the northeast, Sisak-Moslavina County to the south, Požega-Slavonia County to the east, and Zagreb County to the west. The county spans an area of 2,638.86 km², administratively divided into 5 cities (Bjelovar, Daruvar, Čazma, Garešnica, Grubišno Polje) and 18 municipalities (Berek, Dežanovac, Đulovac, Hercegovac, Ivanska, Kapela, Končanica, Nova Rača, Rovišće, Severin, Sirač, Šandrovac, Štefanje, Velika Pisanica, Velika Trnovitica, Veliki Grđevac, Veliko Trojstvo, Zrinski Topolovac), with a population of 101,879.

Bjelovar-Bilogora County is undergoing a period of significant changes related to the diversification of the economy, modernization of industry, and the development of the agricultural-food sector. In recent years, there has been stable economic growth based on strategic investments in infrastructure, industry, education, and rural development. Traditionally, the economy is based on agriculture, and the processing industry plays an important role in the regional economy.

Agriculture has an extremely important role in the economic structure of the region and is one of the key sectors for employment, rural development, the preservation of tradition and cultural heritage, and sustainable economic growth. Its agricultural potential is based on favorable climatic conditions, fertile land, and a long tradition of agricultural production, including developed crop farming, livestock farming, fruit growing, and viticulture. The fertile and preserved agricultural land offers opportunities for the development of ecological production of crops and livestock in the ecological production system. Global trends in food consumption, growing interest in ecological products, and increasing awareness of health and sustainability are significant potentials for the development of organic farming. The processing industry, based on the wealth of agricultural resources that enable the development of various sectors, from food, wood, and metal industries to the textile industry, holds a significant share in the regional economy.

Bjelovar-Bilogora County is one of the richest areas in the country when it comes to forest resources, which, along with developed industrial capacities, form the basis for the development of the wood industry. The wood industry includes various sectors, from the production of sawn timber to wood processing into final high-quality products, employing a significant number of workers (Bjelin, Kronospan CRO d.o.o., DI Čazma, Prima d.o.o.).

The food production industry stands out with its recognizable assortment and quality of dairy products, especially a diverse range of high-quality cheeses, based on experience and tradition. The centuries-old tradition of the confectionery industry offers a wide range of top-quality products, and significant production capacities include meat, fish, and potato processing. The most significant companies in food production in Bjelovar-Bilogora County are Zdenka d.o.o., Intersneck Adria d.o.o., Koestilin d.o.o, Irida d.o.o., and the Dukat plant in Bjelovar.

International trade fairs, spring and autumn international agricultural fairs, organized by the Bjelovar Fair d.o.o., allow entrepreneurs, investors, experts, and consumers from different countries to connect, promote new technologies, foster international cooperation, and expand markets.

The county has significant potential for tourism development, especially eco-tourism, agro-tourism, health, active, ethnographic and gastro, cultural, and cycling tourism. By investing in infrastructure and promoting specific tourist products, the county is becoming a desirable destination for visitors. Daruvarske Toplice, known for their healing thermal water and a rich offer of wellness and spa services, play a key role in strengthening the tourism offer of Bjelovar-Bilogora County.

Entrepreneurial zones and support institutions for entrepreneurs, as part of the entrepreneurial infrastructure, are a significant tool for encouraging the development of entrepreneurship, the transformation of local economies, and the economic growth of the entire region.

Twenty infrastructurally equipped business zones in Bjelovar-Bilogora County provide entrepreneurs with various administrative benefits, incentive measures, and privileges:

City of Bjelovar (Business Zone East, Business Zone South, Business Zone Novi Borik-Lepirac, Business Zone Korenovo), City of Čazma (South Zone, Ninkovica), City of Daruvar (West II, West I, Dalit Business Zone), City of Garešnica (PZ Kapelica), City of Grubišno Polje (MSP Grubišno Polje Zone), Municipality of Đulovac (PZ Maslenjača), Municipality of Kapela (PZ Dr. Franjo Tuđman), Municipality of Severin (Zone P), Municipality of Šandrovac (Industrial Zone Doljani), Municipality of Štefanje (GZ Laminska), Municipality of Velika Pisanica (Economic Zone Velika Pisanica), Municipality of Veliki Grđevac (Business Zone Bregovci), Municipality of Veliko Trojstvo (Production 2).

Entrepreneurial support institutions provide various forms of support and services to entrepreneurs, especially those in the early stages of business and small and medium-sized enterprises, to help them enter the market, increase their competitiveness, and grow.

The County, especially the City of Bjelovar, is implementing initiatives to encourage the development of startups, innovations, and technological solutions in order to attract investors from the IT sector.

[Source: Public Institution Development Agency of Bjelovar-Bilogora county, April 2025]

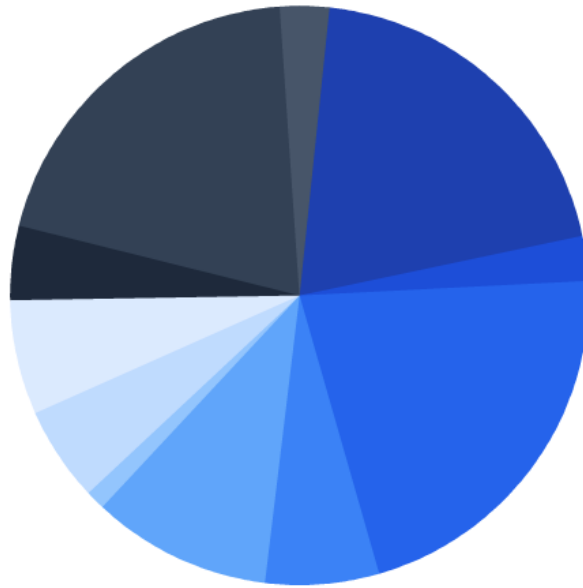
Main Indicators

GDP EUR	1.343.427.917
Population	98.596
Men	48.342
Women	50.254
Age 0-14	14.016
Age 15+	84.580
GDP Per Capita EUR	13.657,41
Area Size km ²	2.640

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics: GDP (2023), Population (2024, Estimate), Area size (2021)

Gross Value Added by Activities

EUR



- Agriculture, forestry and fishing: 242392811.42
- Mining and quarrying and other industries: 27462407.52
- Manufacturing: 237879588.73
- Construction: 69141116.64
- Wholesale and retail trade, transportation, storage, accommodation and food service activities: 110119279.02
- Information and communication: 10389890.07
- Financial and insurance activities: 57007131.86
- Real estate activities: 70239090.62
- Professional, scientific, technical, administrative and support service activities: 44906053.67
- Public administration and defence, education, human health and social work activities: 224721999.22
- Other service activities: 29715877.06

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, data for 2023

Infrastructure

Motorways km	0
Broadband Connections number and density	18.278 / 49%
Number of issued building permits	308

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics: Motorways (2024), Building permits (2024), Croatian Regulatory Agency for Network Industries: Broadband Connections (Q2 2024)

Investments

	Amount
Foreign Direct Investments million EUR	70

Source: Croatian National Bank, 1993 - 2025

Foreign Direct Investment by Activity

mil. EUR

Activity	Amount
Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products	45,30
Manufacture of food products	25,97
Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	16,97
Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	15,93
Real estate activities	2,21
Other	-36,68

Source: Croatian National Bank, 1993 - 2025

Foreign Direct Investment by Country

mil. EUR

Country	Amount
Austria	42,20
Slovenia	24,13
Sweden	15,46
Bosnia & Herzegovina	12,87
Netherlands	12,26
Other	-37,23

Source: Croatian National Bank, 1993 - 2025

Gross Investment in new Fixed Assets, by Location of Investment Constructions and Types of Assets

Asset type	Amount (EUR, 000)
Buildings, spaces and structures	102.080
Machinery and equipment with fittings	81.545
Transport equipment	46.497
Cultivated biological resources	9.262
Intellectual property products	6.010
Total	251.144

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, data for 2024

Biggest Investors

Company	Activity	Website
VODNE USLUGE d.o.o.	WATER SUPPLY; WASTEWATER REMOVAL, WASTE MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION	http://www.vodneusluge-bj.hr
INVICTUS d.o.o.	TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	http://www.invictus-cazma.hr
KOESTLIN d.d.	MANUFACTURING	http://www.koestlin.hr
MATIĆ PROMET d.o.o.	WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	http://-
CUP UP d.o.o.	MANUFACTURING	http://-
PRIMA MOBILIS d.o.o.	MANUFACTURING	https://nord.cupup.hr/
CESTE d.d.	CONSTRUCTION	http://-
RIBNJAČARSTVO KONČANICA d.d.	BUSINESS ENTITY WITHOUT ACTIVITY IDENTIFICATION	http://-
ZDENKA-mliječni proizvodi d.o.o.	MANUFACTURING	http://www.zdenka.hr
ČAZMATRANS PROMET d.o.o.	TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	http://-

Source: Financial Agency, data for 2024

Maximum Investment Incentives' Intensity according to the Investment Promotion Act

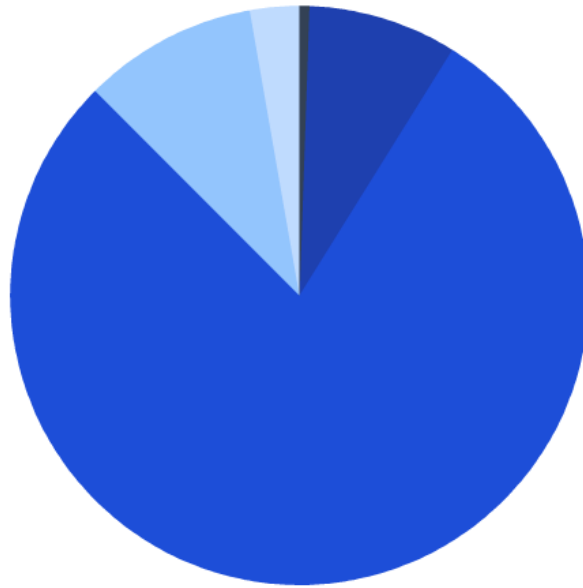
Large enterprises	Medium enterprises	Small and micro-enterprises
50%	60%	70%

Source: 2022-2027 Regional Aid Map for Croatia

International Trade

Export by Activity

000 EUR

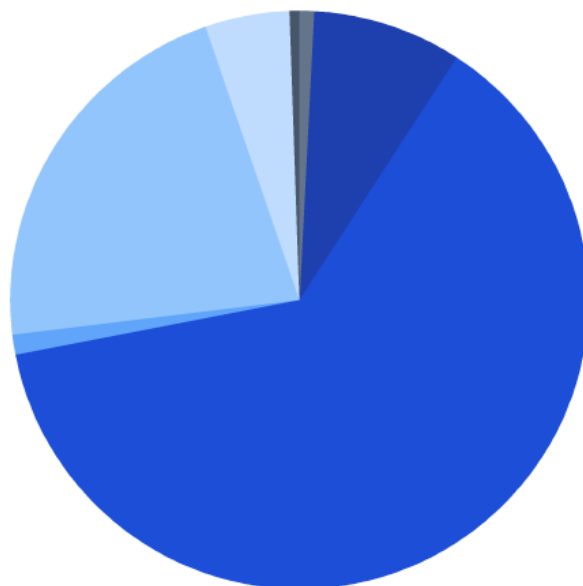


- Agriculture, forestry and fishing: 23875
- Manufacturing: 214895
- Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply: 3
- Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities: 229
- Construction: 387
- Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles: 25914
- Transportation and storage: 7412
- Information and communication: 28
- Professional, scientific and technical activities: 37
- Administrative and support service activities: 1263
- Human health and social work activities: 1
- Other service activities: 26
- Not classified: 79

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, data for 2024

Import by Activity

000 EUR





Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, data for 2024

Export by Country

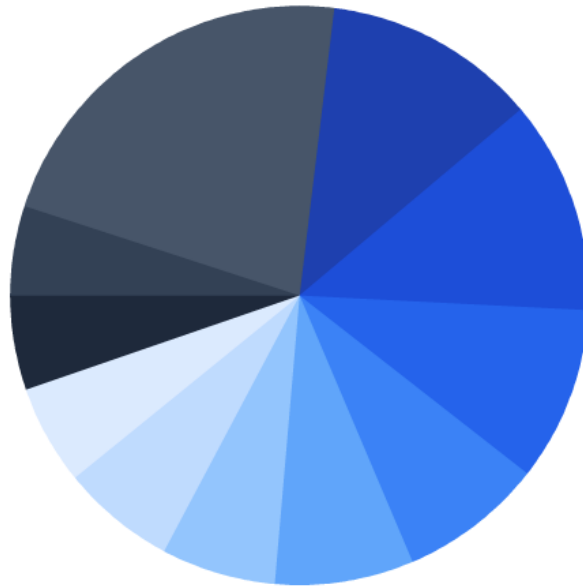
000 EUR



Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, data for 2024

Import by Country

000 EUR



- Germany: 43899
- Italy: 37371
- Slovenia: 30009
- Poland: 24831
- Hungary: 23807
- Serbia: 20096
- Bosnia & Herzegovina: 19441
- Netherlands: 17170
- Slovakia: 15962
- Turkey: 15325
- Other: 68964

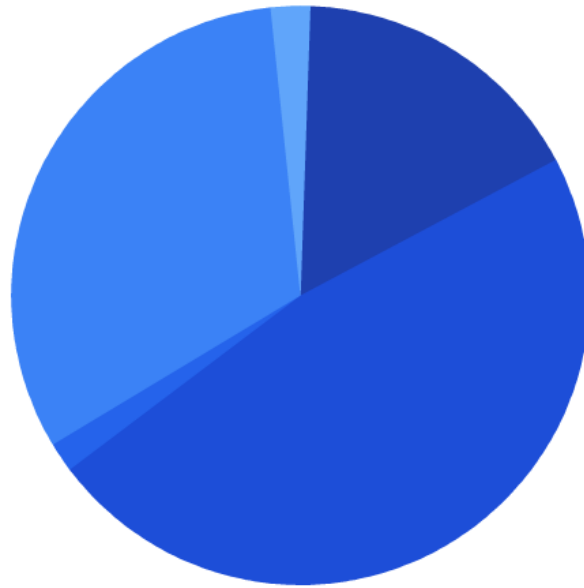
Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, data for 2024

Education

Education level	Number of pupils
Kindergartens and Other Legal Entities Implementing Preschool Education Programmes	3.435
Basic Schools, Beginning of School Year	7.602
Upper Secondary Schools, Beginning of School Year	4.325
Students Enrolled on Professional and University Study, According to Place of Permanent Residence	1.866

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, data for 2024/2025

Number of High School Students Who Have Completed Their Education



- Grammar schools: 190
- Technical and related schools: 528
- Secondary art schools: 17
- Industrial and crafts schools: 354
- Special secondary schools: 24
- Secondary schools for adults: 3

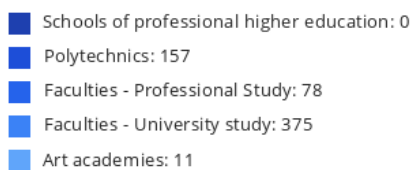
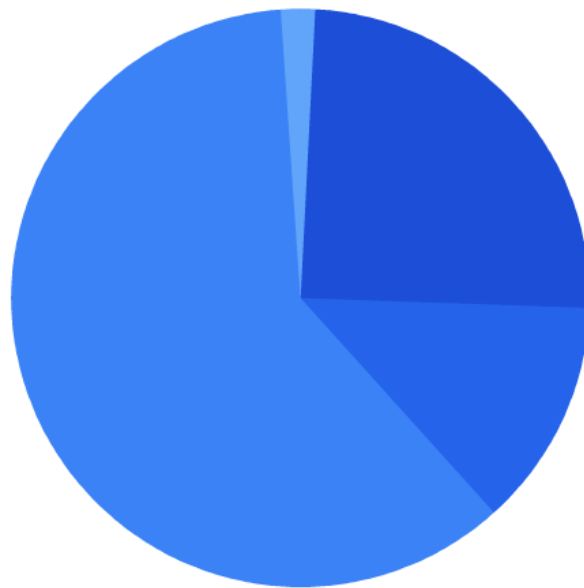
Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, data for 2023/2024

Number of Students and Institutions by Educational Sectors

Educational Sector	Number of Institutions	Number of Students
Economics, trade and business administration	3	675
Tourism and catering	5	603
Mechanical engineering, shipbuilding and metallurgy	6	568
Electrical engineering and computing	4	539
Health and social work	1	411
Transport and logistics	2	298
Construction and geodesy	2	111
Agriculture, food and veterinary	3	85
Personal, security and other services	2	59
Graphic technology and audio-visual design	1	45
Forestry, wood processing and wood processing	2	28

Source: Ministry of Science and Education, data for 2024/2025

Students Who Graduated From University Study or Completed Professional Studys



Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, data for 2024

Institutions of Higher Education and Graduated Students

Name	Students who graduated from or completed university or professional study
Bjelovar University of Applied Sciences	151

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, data for 2021

Business Indicators of Enterprises

Activity	Number of Business Entities	Number of Persons Employed	Average Monthly Gross Earnings per Person in Paid Employment (EUR)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	138	1.271	1.592
Mining and quarrying	11	64	1.593
Manufacturing	436	6.173	1.348

Activity	Number of Business Entities	Number of Persons Employed	Average Monthly Gross Earnings per Person in Paid Employment (EUR)
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	44	348	1.728
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	24	474	1.429
Construction	468	1.939	1.308
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	494	2.789	1.332
Transportation and storage	128	1.114	1.324
Accommodation and food service activities	228	763	1.232
Information and communication	107	381	2.050
Financial and insurance activities	7	809	2.007
Real estate activities	34	79	1.222
Professional, scientific and technical activities	312	762	1.584
Administrative and support service activities	81	432	1.184
Public administration and defence, compulsory social security	83	2.428	2.104
Education	87	2.976	1.925
Human health and social work activities	131	2.436	2.166
Arts, entertainment and recreation	492	295	1.415
Other service activities	1.254	337	1.271

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, data for 2024

Unemployed

	Rate
Unemployment Rate	9,40%

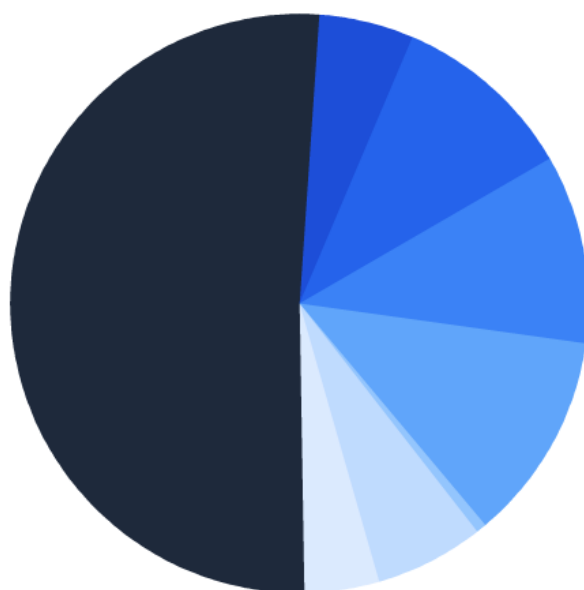
Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, data for 2024

Unemployed by Activity

Activity	Number
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	167
Mining and quarrying	2
Manufacturing	457
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	6
Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	23
Construction	211
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	244
Transportation and storage	60
Accommodation and food service activities	257
Information and communication	23
Financial and insurance activities	16
Real estate activities	5
Professional, scientific and technical activities	54
Administrative and support service activities	106
Public administration and defence, compulsory social security	231
Education	95
Human health and social work activities	125
Arts, entertainment and recreation	25
Other service activities	90
Not classified	544
Total	2.741

Source: Croatian Employment Service, data for 2024

Registered unemployed by occupation



■ Legislators, officials and directors: 2
■ Scientists, engineers and experts: 171
■ Technicians and professional associates: 276
■ Administrative officers: 288
■ Service and trade occupations: 313
■ Farmers, foresters, fishermen, hunters: 11
■ Occupations in crafts and individual production: 163
■ Plant and machinery operators, industrial manufacturers and product assemblers: 111
■ Simple occupations: 1407

Source: Croatian Employment Service, data for 2024

Support Institutions Contacts

Name	Contact	Website
Public Institution Development Agency of Bjelovar-Bilogora county	info@jurabbz.hr	https://jurabbz.hr/
Local development agency Garešnica	info@pc-garesnica.hr	https://www.pc-garesnica.hr/#!/index?language=HR
RADA Development Agency Daruvar	rada@daruvar.hr	https://rada.hr/
Technology Park Bjelovar	direktor@tpbj.hr	https://tpbj.hr/tehnoloski-park-bjelovar/

Name	Contact	Website
AGRO Development Agency Grubišno Polje	info@ra-agro.hr	https://ra-agro.hr/
Public institution Development Agency Čazma	info@razvojna-agencija-cazma.hr	https://razvojna-agencija-cazma.hr/
Business Park Velika Pisanica	park@hi.t-com.hr	https://velika-pisanica.hr/poduzetnicki-park/