



SOCIAL SECTOR IN FIGURES

2004

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS OF ESTONIA

SOCIAL SECTOR IN FIGURES

2004

TALLINN 2004

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

... reliable data not available
.. term not applicable
- magnitude nil

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
GDP Gross Domestic Product
M Males
F Females

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DEAR READER!

In the past few years, more attention has been paid to basing the policy making process on knowledge - a better understanding of ongoing processes. The changes in the society can be better understood by making use of a consistent system of indicators. Indicators are of assistance in designing policies, evaluating the results of implemented measures and drawing attention to problems that need to be solved.

The collection "Social sector in figures 2004" contains basic statistical data on social security, health and labour domains.

Various statistical data from several sources have been used for compiling this collection, the majority of which have been gathered by the Ministry of Social Affairs and its subordinate boards and inspectorates. Statistical survey data produced by the Statistical Office and other relevant institutions have also been used. The collection generally reflects the period 1995-2003, while in exceptional cases data start with the year 1998. In order to provide a better overview of different topics, the introduction to each section gives an outline of existing systems, important changes in legislation and indicator trends.

The Ministry of Social Affairs has been publishing this collection since 1999, thereby creating a significant consistency of indicators to be observed. As a new feature, this year's collection includes indicators on poverty and social exclusion agreed upon by European Union Member States - the Laeken indicators. In addition, basic data on the parental benefit system, launched in 2004, have been added. Thorough supplements have been included in sections concerning unemployment insurance and funded pension system. Social protection expenditure brought out in the last chapter has been calculated based on the methodology of ESSPROS (European System of Social Protection Statistics).

Foremost, this collection is directed at policy designers, aiming to provide assistance with initiating, elaborating and evaluating policies. However, the presented information can certainly be a useful and interesting source of data for everyone interested in changes occurring in the Estonian society.

Best regards,

Maarja Mändmaa

Secretary General

Ministry of Social Affairs

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GENERAL DATA

Official name of the state	THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
Political regime	Parliamentary Republic
Capital	TALLINN
Currency unit	Kroon (EEK) 1 EUR = 15,6466 EEK
Administrative division	Counties 15 Local governments 241 towns 39 rural municipalities 202 towns without municipal status 8
Population as of January 1, 2004	1 351 000
Population density (inhabitants per km ²)	30
Total area (km ²)	45 227
Administrative division of Estonian territory	



I POPULATION

The statistical data on the population is given mainly for the years 1995-2002, since due to the amendments of the Personal Data protection Act, processing of statistical data on population has been suspended in the Statistical Office. Only a prognosis of the size of population was presented (1,351,000 on 1 January 2004).

The decreased proportion of young people is due to a rapid decrease in the birth rate starting in the 1990s. In 1995, people from the age of 0-14 formed 21 percent of the population, but by 2003 this percentage had sunk to 16.6 percent. At the same time the percentage of people over 65 rose from 13.3 percent to 15.9 percent. The lowest point in the birth rate was in 1998. Ever since, the birth rate has shown an increasing trend (although with slight fluctuations).

For nearly all of the 1990s, the number of the birth of second- or later-born children decreased faster than the number of the first-born. In recent years, the increase of the birth rate has mainly been due to the growth of the number of second and third-born children. The age of mothers giving birth, including the average age at first birth, has continuously increased since 1993. In recent years there have been more births by women between the age of 30-39. At the same time, birth activity among women under 25 has continuously decreased. Bearing witness to positive changes in family planning habits is the fact that in recent years the absolute number of induced abortions and the number of abortions per 1,000 women between the ages of 15-49 have steadily decreased. In 2000, the number of induced abortions fell below the number of live births for the first time and this tendency of decrease has continued ever since.

Life expectancy at birth was the lowest in 1994 (66.9 years). Since then, the average age has risen slightly, but still the difference in life expectancy between men and women is approximately 11-12 years.

Death indicators have been quite stable in recent years, only crossing the 18 000 margin slightly. Half of the deaths are caused by diseases of circulatory system, followed by neoplasms and accidents, poisonings and acute injuries. The causes of death differ by gender - in 2002 62% of women's deaths were caused by diseases of circulatory system (for men-46%), 18% cancers (men-20%) and 5% accidents, poisonings and acute injuries (men-16%).

The mortality coefficient (deaths per 100,000 inhabitants) for men exceeds the figure for women by far. The difference in the age group 25-64 is almost threefold (in 2002, 1,202 for men and 409 cases per 100,000 for women).

Population by sex and age, 1 January

Age group	Population						Age structure, %	
	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003	1995	2003
Total	1 448 075	1 393 074	1 372 071	1 366 959	1 361 242	1 356 045	100	100
of whom,								
M	46,4	46,2	46,1	46,1	46,1	46,1		
F	53,6	53,8	53,9	53,9	53,9	53,9		
0-4	83 940	65 842	61 440	61 538	61 352	62 175	5,8	4,6
5-14	218 550	205 621	189 063	180 870	172 477	162 586	15,1	12,0
15-39	503 233	482 595	479 245	478 946	478 942	480 457	34,8	35,4
40-64	449 469	436 462	436 693	437 547	437 331	435 377	31,0	32,1
65-74	123 752	132 051	130 577	130 693	130 878	131 984	8,5	9,7
75-84	53 493	53 454	56 970	59 453	63 067	67 227	3,7	5,0
85+	15 638	17 049	17 642	17 471	16 754	15 798	1,1	1,2
Unknown	-	-	441	441	441	441	-	0,03
Total	1 448 075	1 393 074	1 372 071	1 366 959	1 361 242	1 356 045	100	100
0-14	302 490	271 463	250 503	242 408	233 829	224 761	20,9	16,6
15-64	952 702	919 057	915 938	916 493	916 273	915 834	65,8	67,5
65+	192 883	202 554	205 189	207 617	210 699	215 009	13,3	15,9
M	671 264	642 999	632 444	630 184	627 326	624 696	100	100
0-14	154 779	138 978	128 511	124 559	120 184	115 433	23,0	18,5
15-64	455 686	438 453	437 015	437 544	437 822	438 260	67,9	70,1
65+	60 799	65 568	66 918	68 081	69 320	71 003	9,1	11,4
F	776 811	750 075	739 186	736 334	733 475	730 908	100	100
0-14	147 711	132 485	121 992	117 849	113 645	109 328	19,0	15,0
15-64	497 016	480 604	478 923	478 949	478 451	477 574	64,0	65,3
65+	132 084	136 986	138 271	139 536	141 379	144 006	17,0	19,7

Number and structure of households, based on the 1989 and 2000 population censuses

Size of households	Number of households		Change 1989-2000, %	Structure of households with children, %		Number of households, 2000 ²
	1989	2000 ¹		1989	2000	
Total number of households	...	582 089	...			582 089
Single-member households	...	195 119	...			195 119
With two and more members	426 843	386 970	90,7			386 970
with children under the age of 18	241 850	191 463	79,2	100	100	195 396
of whom with 1 child	122 519	108 552	88,6	50,7	56,7	111 102
with 2 children	94 234	63 695	67,6	39,0	33,3	64 611
with 3 children	19 480	14 562	74,8	8,0	7,6	14 859
with 4 children	3 642	3 191	87,6	1,5	1,7	3 304
with 5 or more children	1 975	1 463	74,1	0,8	0,8	1 520
of whom with 6 and more ch.	...	...	...	...	...	540

1 - Total number of households with children as compared to that of 1989 census (shows the households with children composed of relatives or kinsmen).
 2 - Surveys conducted according to the methods of 2000 census. The total number includes children under the age of 18 living in family-households without a parent in the same household.

Main demographic indicators

Indicator	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002
Number of live births	13 509	12 167	13 067	12 632	13 001
Live births per 1000 women aged 15-49	38,2	35,3	38,1	36,9	38,0
Crude birth rate (per 1000 inhabitants)	9,4	8,8	9,5	9,3	9,6
Total fertility rate ¹	1,38	1,28	1,39	1,34	1,37
Number of deaths	20 828	19 445	18 403	18 516	18 355
Crude death rate (per 1000 inhabitants)	14,5	14,0	13,4	13,6	13,5
Infant mortality rate ²	14,8	9,3	8,4	8,8	5,7
Maternal mortality rate ³	51,8	16,4	38,3	7,9	7,7
Mortality rate of 0-64-year-olds (per 1000 in.)	6,5	5,7	5,2	5,4	5,2
M	9,7	8,4	7,6	8,0	7,8
F	3,4	3,1	3,0	3,0	2,8
Mortality rate of 65-year-olds and older (per 1000 inhabitants)	65,3	62,3	58,7	57,8	57,8
M	79,0	75,3	71,0	71,5	70,8
F	58,9	56,0	52,8	51,2	51,4
Suicides per 100 000 inhabitants	41,4	34,7	27,5	29,4	27,3
Natural increase	-7 319	-7 278	-5 336	-5 884	-5 354
Rate of natural increase (per 1000 inhabitants)	-5,1	-5,3	-3,9	-4,3	-3,9
Dependency ratio⁴, end of year	52,0	50,6	49,1	48,5	48,0
Labour market reprisal index⁵, end of year	1,27	1,23	1,18	1,14	1,09
Age dependency rate⁶, end of year	...	...	...	2,84	2,84

1 - The average number of live-born children per woman during her life time (based on age-specific fertility rates of a current year).

2 - Deaths under 1 year of age per 1000 live births.

3 - Per 100 000 live births.

4 - Proportion of inhabitants aged 0-14 and 65 and older to those aged 15-64.

5 - Proportion of inhabitants aged 5-14 to those aged 55-64.

6 - Proportion of inhabitants of working age to those of retirement age.

Average age of birthgiver

Indicator	1995	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Average age of a woman at delivery	25,6	26,4	26,5	26,9	27,1	27,4
Average age of a woman at first delivery	23,0	23,6	23,7	23,9	24,1	24,5

Live births by birth order

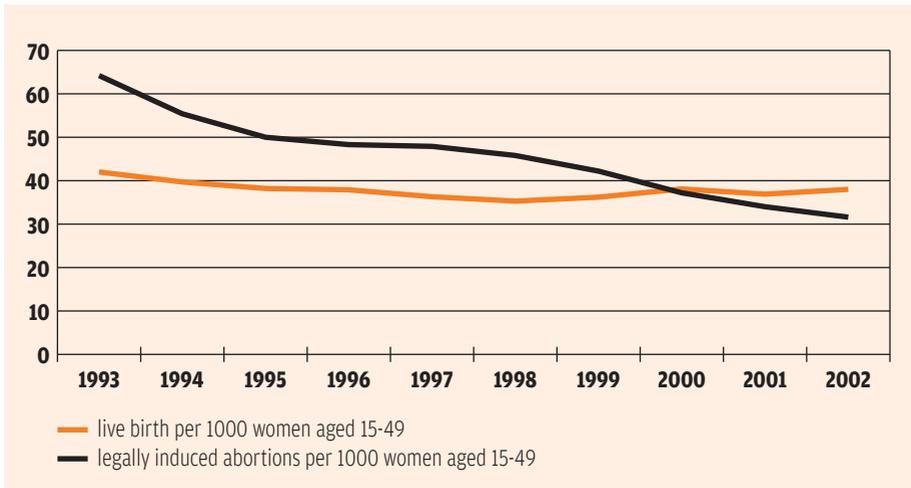
Indicator	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	% of all births				
						1995	1998	2000	2001	2002
Number of live births	13 509	12 167	13 067	12 632	13 001	100	100	100	100	100
as 1st child	6 705	6 103	6 320	6 099	6 264	49,7	50,2	48,4	48,3	48,2
as 2nd child	4 316	3 804	4 195	4 106	4 299	31,9	31,3	32,1	32,5	33,0
as 3rd child	1 514	1 392	1 582	1 542	1 567	11,2	11,4	12,1	12,2	12,1
as 4th and subsequent child	970	866	969	883	870	7,2	7,1	7,4	7,0	6,7

Abortions

	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002
Total number of abortions	20 518	18 424	15 331	14 055	13 158
per 1000 women aged 15-49	58,1	53,4	44,7	41,0	38,4
per 100 live births	151,9	151,4	117,3	111,2	101,2
The total number of legally induced abortions¹	17 671	15 798	12 743	11 656	10 839
per 1000 women aged 15-49	50,0	45,8	37,2	34,0	31,6
per 100 live births	130,8	129,8	97,5	92,3	83,4

1 - The termination of the pregnancy at the pregnant woman's wish and on medical indications.

Live births and abortions per 1000 women between 15-49



Life expectancy at birth*

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Average	67,9	70,4	70,4	69,9	70,8	70,7	70,5	71,1
M	61,7	64,7	64,4	64,4	65,3	65,1	64,7	65,2
F	74,3	76,0	75,5	76,1	76,1	76,0	76,2	77,0

Total number of deaths and mortality rate by age and cause of death, 2002

Cause of death	Number of deaths				Mortality rate per 100 000 inhabitants			
	Total ¹	0-24	25-64	65 and older	Total	0-24	25-64	65 and older
Total	18 355	408	5 564	12 298	1 351	94	781	5 778
M	9 369	313	4 017	4 967	1 496	141	1 202	7 079
F	8 986	95	1 547	7 331	1 227	45	409	5 138

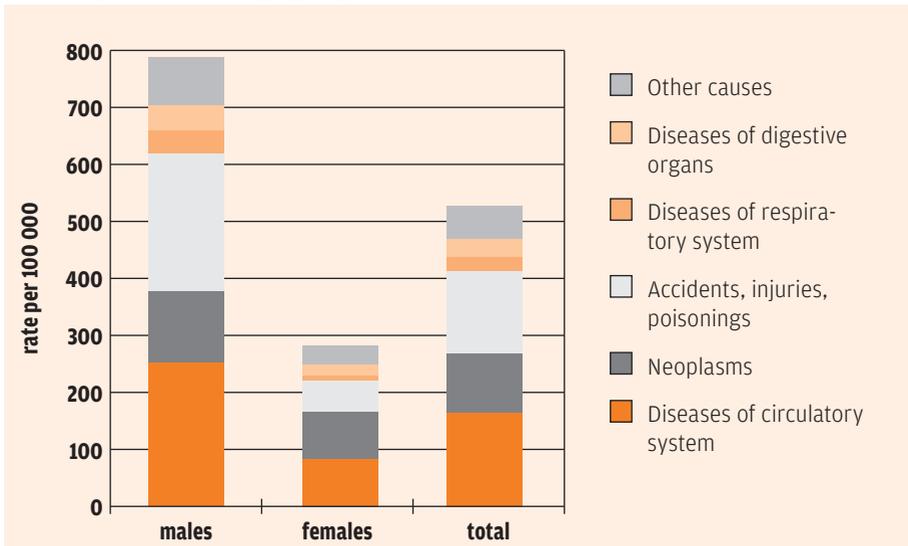
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Cause of death	Number of deaths				Mortality rate per 100 000 inhabitants			
	Total ¹	0-24	25-64	65 and older	Total	0-24	25-64	65 and older
Diseases of the circulatory system	9 983	14	1 849	8 111	735	3	259	3 811
M	4 338	9	1 374	2 947	693	4	411	4 200
F	5 645	5	475	5 164	771	2	126	3 619
Neoplasms	3 453	25	1 152	2 275	254	6	162	1 069
M	1 878	16	672	1 189	300	7	201	1 695
F	1 575	9	480	1 086	215	4	127	761
Accidents, injuries and poisonings	2 009	246	1 395	321	148	57	196	151
M	1 566	204	1 125	200	250	92	337	285
F	443	42	270	121	60	20	71	85
Diseases of the digestive organs	673	2	351	318	50	0	49	149
M	385	1	238	145	61	0	71	207
F	288	1	113	173	39	0	30	121
Diseases of the respiratory system	578	16	260	294	43	4	36	138
M	431	12	213	198	69	5	64	282
F	147	4	47	96	20	2	12	67
Other causes	1 659	105	557	979	122	24	78	460
M	771	71	395	288	123	32	118	410
F	888	34	162	691	121	16	43	484

1 - Including deaths of persons of unidentified age.

Mortality rates in the age group 0-64, 2002



II LIVING STANDARD AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

The following chapter reflecting the population's living standards and social exclusion is mainly based on data from the Statistical Office's household budget surveys and consumer price statistics.

Changes in the living standards are reflected through real income and changes in income of various types of households. The data in the tables show the income of various households per household member in a month, not considering the scale of consumption. When using consumption scales, a special note is shown under the table.

Indicators of absolute poverty, the Gini coefficient and the Laeken indicators¹ are used for measuring and assessing the changes in poverty, inequality and social exclusion. The Laeken indicators are commonly accepted indicators agreed upon by the members of the European Union and therefore also comparable indicators for poverty and exclusion. They are often used by the member states for designing national action plans for social inclusion and shaping poverty and social exclusion policy. In addition to income indicators, the Laeken indicators² include indicators for employment, education, health and others. In the given chapter, only those Laeken indicators have been handled which are of relevancy to the household budget³.

If evaluating changes in living standard through changes in the consumer price index, positive tendencies can be noted for recent years, mostly shown in the change of the real income. The real growth of the average pension in 2002 and 2003 was higher than the growth of average gross wages and of average net income. Thus the old-age pension increased in 2003 by 11.6 percent, the average net income of households by 10.2 percent and the average monthly gross wages by 8.3 percent (in 2002 the respective figures were 7.2, 5.4 and 7.0 percent). What is also important is the fact that Estonia has managed to adhere to the minimum standard of the European Social Insurance Code, according to which the average pension of a pensioner with 30 years of pensionable service must be at least 40 percent of the average net wages of an unskilled male-worker.

Differences between the monthly income per household member in various types of households and in households with different levels of income (income deciles) have still remained worthy of note, despite the continuous growth of income in all households. Normally a single adult or households with two adults receive the largest average income. Households with 3 or more children, households with a single parent, and households with a pensioner or head of household⁴ without professional training, receive the smallest income. Households with a head of household with higher education receive the largest average income—in 2003, 56 percent higher than the per capita income of an average household. The difference between the incomes of households with males or females as the head of household has remained within a 9-12 percent margin, meaning that in recent years the income of a household with a

1 - Due to the differences in calculating methods, the indicators reflecting inequality and poverty in section of living standards and in the tables of Laeken indicators are different. Net income per unit of consumption and consumption scales 1; 0.5 and 0.3 were used for calculating Laeken indicators.

2 - The Laeken indicators for Estonia are available in full scale in the appendix on the „National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2004-2006“, which can be viewed on the website of the Ministry for Social Affairs under www.sm.ee in the section “Social welfare” under topic „social inclusion“.

3 - In other sections of the collection an * sign has been used for separating the according indicators.

4 - In the household budget survey in 2002 the term “head of household” was replaced with the term “the responsible member of an household”.

female head is 220-330 EEK lower than the income of the households headed by a male.

Due to positive changes in the Estonian economy (job creation, increased wages and pensions) the percentage of people living below poverty line has fallen, and thus the percentage of people outside poverty risk rose.

Compared to 1997, the percentage of households living under the poverty line decreased from 36.1 percent to 17.0 percent of all households (i.e. 19.1 percentage points), with the most important decrease (5.6 percentage points) in 2003. At the same time, the percentage of households living outside poverty risk has risen from 44.6 percent to 68.4 percent - an increase of 23.8 percentage points. The percentage of children living under poverty line has decreased by 20.4 percentage points i.e. from 47.1 percent in 1997 to 26.7 percent in 2003.

Changes in the consumer price index, compared to the year before, %

	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Total	29,0	8,2	4,0	5,8	3,6	1,3
goods	18,0	6,2	3,3	4,9	1,9	-0,2
food	16,3	6,0	2,6	7,1	2,7	-0,6
manufactured goods	20,8	6,5	4,2	2,4	1,1	0,3
services	45,3	12,7	5,4	7,6	6,8	4,3
dwelling	...	11,2	2,7	9,8	8,2	3,0
health care	...	5,1	5,5	11,0	8,3	13,6
transport	...	9,6	16,1	2,9	-2,3	-0,3
communications	...	11,4	6,1	-2,0	1,6	5,2
education and children's institutions	...	19,8	8,1	7,4	4,7	3,8

Changes in incomes

Indicator	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Average disposable income per household member (EEK per month)	...	1 911	2 183	2 289	2 500	2 789
Average gross wage per month (EEK) ¹	2 375	4 125 (4 021)	4 907	5 510	6 144	6 723
Average old age pension per month (EEK)	670	1 247	1 532	1 583	1 758	1 985
Average old age pension as percentage of average net wage ² , %	36,5	39,2	39,9	36,5	36,9	38,3
Average old age pension as percentage of a unskilled male production worker's average net wage ² (in October), %	...	51,7	56,9	48,0	52,4	...
Average old age pension of a receiver with 30 years of pensionable service as percentage of a male production worker's average net wage ² (in October), %	...	41,4	44,4	37,4	41,6	...
Growth compared to the previous year, %						
average disposable income	...	16,4	8,3	4,9	9,2	11,6

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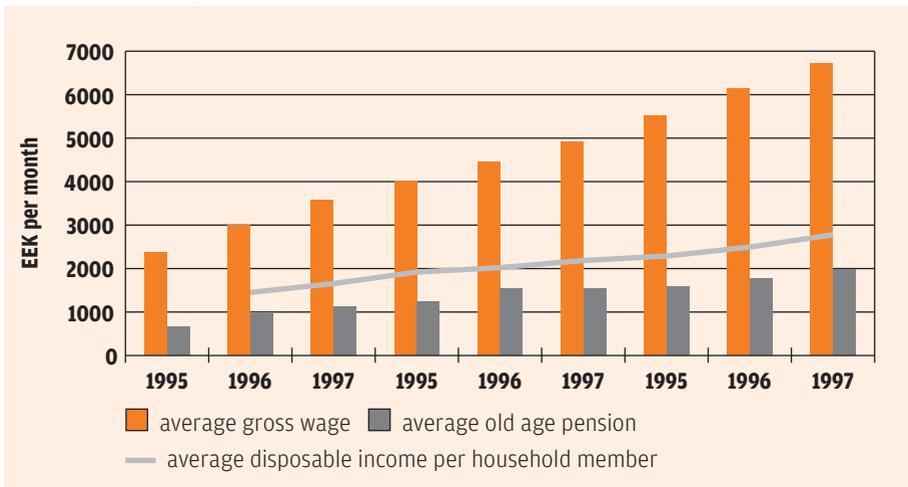
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Indicator	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
average gross wage	37,0	12,5	10,5	12,3	11,5	9,4
average old age pension	48,1	12,3	-0,8	3,3	11,1	12,9
Change in real income compared to the previous year, %						
average disposable income	...	7,6	4,1	-0,9	5,4	10,2
average gross wage	6,2	6,7	6,3	6,1	7,0	8,3
average old age pension	14,8	3,8	-4,7	-2,3	7,2	11,6

1 - Since 1999 the average gross wage does not include the benefits of temporary incapacity for work as these are paid by The Estonian Health Insurance Fund. The recalculated average gross wages without the benefits of temporary incapacity for work are given in brackets.

2 - 1% unemployment insurance (since 1 January 2002) and 26% income tax (taking into account the income tax free minimum) is deducted for the average calculated net wages.

Average gross wage, old age pension and disposable income per household member



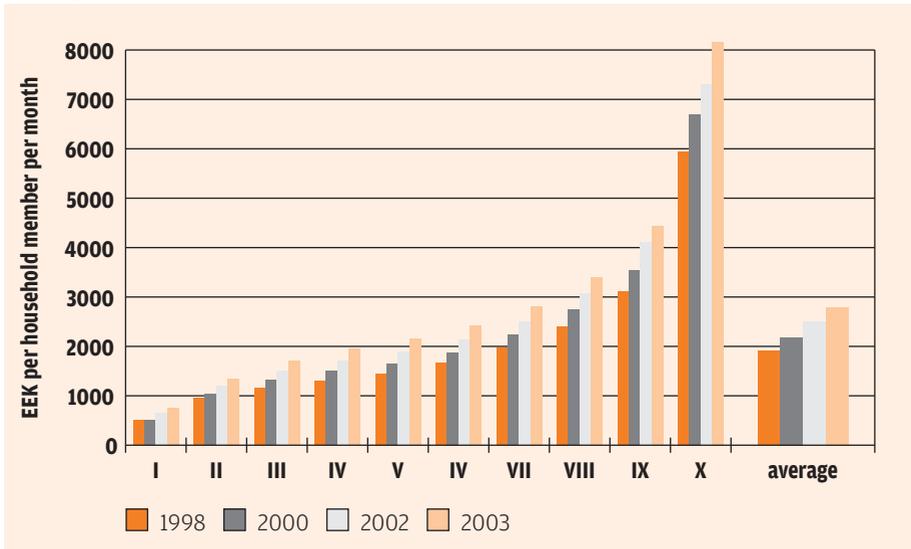
Average monthly disposable income in income deciles*, average and median of the households, per household member monthly, EEK

Year	Income deciles ¹										Average	Median ²
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X		
1996	326	708	888	1 015	1 133	1 291	1 519	1 832	2 330	4 274	1 433	1 200
1998	500	956	1 158	1 298	1 452	1 661	1 964	2 410	3 110	5 942	1 911	1 539
2000	505	1 030	1 320	1 503	1 657	1 874	2 229	2 741	3 549	6 704	2 183	1 750
2001	608	1 116	1 394	1 571	1 742	1 974	2 313	2 863	3 811	6 710	2 289	1 833
2002	652	1 193	1 515	1 717	1 898	2 128	2 493	3 064	4 105	7 295	2 500	1 994
2003	754	1 347	1 705	1 945	2 148	2 417	2 809	3 401	4 431	8 159	2 789	2 211

1 - The income deciles are brought out by dividing all households according to the size of the average income per household member into 10 equal groups (deciles). The first decile contains the households with the lowest and the tenth with the highest income per household member.

2 - The median is calculated by ranking all households according to the size of an average income per household member and the household that is in the middle is the median - 50% of all households had lower incomes than the median and 50% of all households had higher incomes than the median per household member.

Average disposable income in income deciles



Gini coefficient¹ according to expenditure

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Without consumption scales ²	0,34	0,37	0,38	0,38	0,37	0,38	0,37	0,36
Consumption scales 1.0 and 0.8 ³	0,34	0,36	0,37	0,37	0,36	0,37	0,36	0,35
Consumption scales 1,0; 0,5 and 0,34 ⁴	0,33	0,36	0,37	0,37	0,36	0,36	0,36	0,35

1 - The Gini coefficient shows the level of economical inequality in the society. The closer its value is to 1, the bigger the inequality. Income distribution is considered very uneven when the coefficient's value falls between 0.5-0.7 and relatively even when the scale is between 0.2-0.35.

2 - All members of the household are calculated with the coefficient 1.0.

3 - The first member of the household is calculated with the coefficient 1.0 and every following member with the coefficient 0.8.

4 - The modified OECD scale, where the first member of the household is calculated with the coefficient 1.0, the following members over 14-years with 0.5 and children under with 0.3.

Inequality in the distribution of income (Laeken indicators)

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Inequality in income distribution – S80/S20 proportion of the decile*	7,0	7,0	6,7	6,5	6,3	6,1	6,1	5,9
Relative interstice of poverty risk ¹ (poverty threshold – 60% of the average income)*	29,0	27,1	23,2	28,0	24,7	23,8	24,0	23,7
Gini coefficient, % (incomes method)*	36,8	37,5	37,0	36,5	36,2	35,3	35,2	34,4

1 - The indicator for relative poverty used in the Laeken indicator is 60% of the median household members' income.

Average disposable income in different household types, per household member in month

Household type	Average monthly disposable income (EEK)						Compared to average household, %		
	1996	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003	1996	2002	2003
Average of households	1 433	1 911	2 183	2 289	2 500	2 789	100	100	100
single adult	1 769	2 292	2 520	2 561	2 829	3 186	123	113	114
2 adults	1 780	2 282	2 743	2 833	2 975	3 379	124	119	121
2 adults with children	1 343	1 864	2 144	2 274	2 539	2 755	94	102	99
with 1 child	1 593	2 216	2 510	2 547	2 733	3 149	111	109	113
with 2 children	1 301	1 719	2 006	2 116	2 525	2 568	91	101	92
with 3 or more children	1 007	1 553	1 556	1 910	2 021	1 874	70	81	67
single adult with a child (children)	1 051	1 410	1 659	1 763	2 106	2 385	73	84	86
pensioner's household	...	1 382	1 640	1 659	1 848	2 035	...	74	73
urban household	1 501	2 044	2 326	2 430	2 668	2 952	105	107	106
rural household	1 237	1 551	1 866	1 973	2 119	2 453	86	85	88
household with a male as head of household ¹	...	2 048	2 272	2 409	2 594	2 930	...	104	105
household with a female as head of household ¹	...	1 755	2 077	2 139	2 371	2 596	...	95	93
household with the head of it with no professional training ¹	...	1 566	1 937	1 989	2 119	2 378	...	85	85
household, with the head of it with higher education ¹	...	2 913	3 225	3 334	3 639	4 364	...	146	156

1 - In the household budget survey in 2002 the term "head of household" was replaced with the term "the responsible member of a household".

Poverty layers¹. Distribution of households, inhabitants and children by poverty levels

	Year	Below poverty line ²	incl		In poverty risk	Out of poverty risk
			in direct poverty	in poverty endangering coping		
Income per household member by poverty layers¹, (EEK)						
	1997	up to 1250	up to 1000	1001-1250	1251-1563	over 1563
	1998	-"- 1353	-"- 1082	1083-1353	1354-1691	-"- 1691
	1999	-"- 1398	-"- 1118	1119-1398	1399-1748	-"- 1748
	2000	-"- 1454	-"- 1163	1164-1454	1455-1818	-"- 1818
	2001	-"- 1538	-"- 1230	1231-1538	1539-1923	-"- 1923
	2002	-"- 1593	-"- 1274	1275-1593	1594-1991	-"- 1991
	2003	-"- 1614	-"- 1291	1291-1614	1615-2018	-"- 2018
Distribution by poverty layers, %						
Households	1997	36,1	17,7	18,4	19,3	44,6
	1998	32,1	16,2	16,0	18,3	49,5
	1999	25,8	15,4	10,4	20,3	53,9
	2000	25,8	15,2	10,6	20,3	53,9
	2001	26,2	14,4	11,8	20,1	53,7
	2002	22,6	13,6	9,0	19,2	58,2
	2003	17,0	10,6	6,5	14,6	68,4

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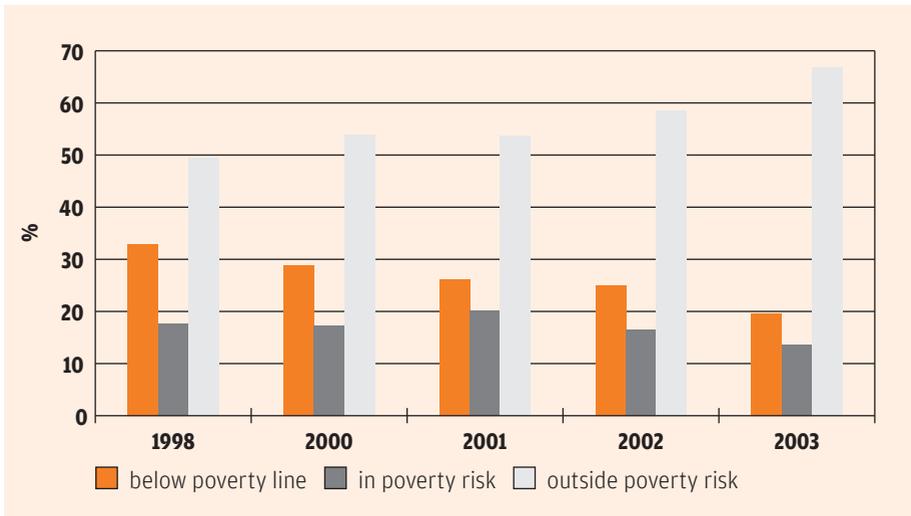
	Year	Below poverty line ²	incl		In poverty risk	Out of poverty risk
			in direct poverty	in poverty endangering coping		
Inhabitants	1997	37,3	21,0	16,3	18,4	44,3
	1998	32,8	19,2	13,6	17,7	49,5
	1999	30,7	19,6	11,1	17,4	51,9
	2000	28,9	18,6	10,3	17,2	53,9
	2001	26,2	14,4	11,8	20,1	53,7
	2002	25,0	15,3	9,7	16,5	58,5
	2003	19,6	12,1	7,4	13,6	66,8
Children	1997	47,1	32,0	15,1	17,6	35,3
	1998	40,4	27,7	12,7	16,9	42,7
	1999	44,1	30,4	13,7	14,1	41,8
	2000	39,1	27,8	11,3	14,1	46,8
	2001	36,6	24,2	12,4	14,7	48,7
	2002	33,7	20,3	13,4	14,1	52,2
	2003	26,7	17,1	9,7	14,7	58,5

1 - With consumption scales 1.0 (1st member of the household) and 0.8 (the following member of the household).

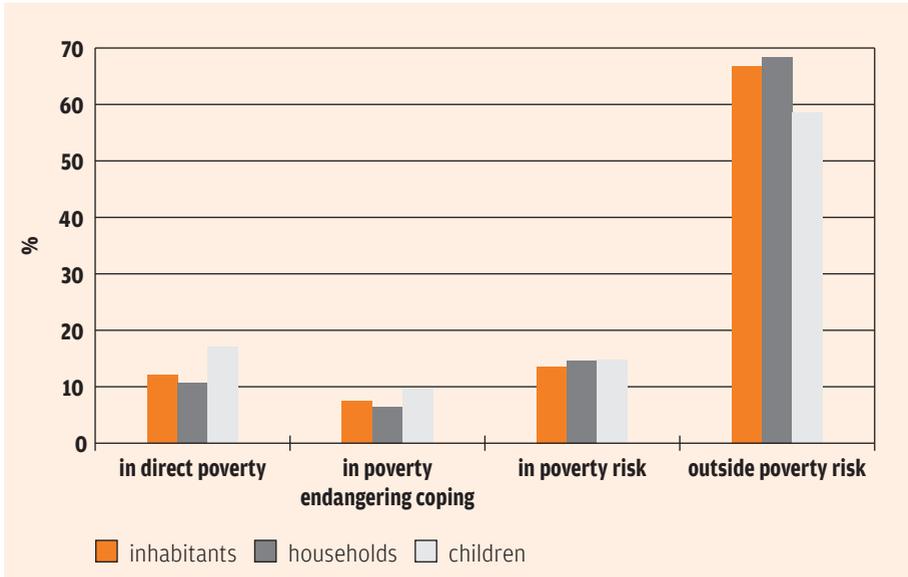
2 - The methods for calculating the absolute poverty level (APL) were developed in spring 1999 in mutual cooperation between the Ministry of Social Affairs, University of Tartu and UN Development Program within the framework for the project "Alleviating poverty in Estonia. Background and goal-settings."

In calculating the APL per member of a household, the following factors were considered: minimal cost of the food basket, empirically determined residence costs, essential expenditures for clothing, education and transportation. The 1997 level of minimal expenditures was taken as a basis; consumption scales 1.0 and 0.8 used in Estonia were applied. The poverty layers were indicated according to the absolute poverty limit (direct poverty - up to 80% APL; endangered coping - 81-100% APL; poverty risk 101-125%; outside poverty risk - above 125% APL). Differently to the initial methods, since 2002 the average annual consumer price index has been used instead of December's consumer price index in calculating the poverty level. All data in the tables is recalculated by the Statistical Office.

Distribution of inhabitants by poverty layers. %



Distribution of inhabitants, households and children by poverty layers, 2003, %



Estimated subsistence minimum and minimum foodbasket¹, EEK

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
subsistence minimum	1 177	1 172	1 229	1 306	1 389	1 411
incl minimum foodbasket	599	579	593	646	669	657

1 - The calculated subsistence minimum is the lowest set of essential means of subsistence that enables capacity for work to be maintained and restored. The calculated subsistence minimum per person per month (30 days) includes the minimum food basket and the costs of essential industrial goods and services. In calculating the minimum food basket, the suggestions of nutritionists were considered and a sample food basket created, the components of which must ensure the essential "average" human energy need of 2400 kcal and accord to average prices. For calculating the subsistence minimum for industrial goods and services, average costs of a household survey were applied, corrected with various coefficients calculated by experts. The methods for calculating the subsistence minimum were developed in 1997 by a workshop created during trilateral negotiations between the representatives of government, employers and employees. Since then the Statistical Office has calculated its value. The value of the subsistence minimum has always been lower than the absolute poverty line, since the methods of calculating it vary.

Poverty risk threshold*, per household member in year

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
in EEK								
1-member household	11 261	12 497	14 929	15 744	17 880	18 904	20 768	23 236
2 adults + 2 dependent children	23 648	26 244	31 351	33 062	37 548	39 700	43 613	48 796
in EUR								
1-member household	737	795	948	1 006	1 143	1 208	1 327	1 485
2 adults + 2 dependent children	1 548	1 670	1 990	2 113	2 400	2 537	2 787	3 119
purchasing power according to standard								
1-member household	...	1 861	2 058	2 132	2 380	2 375	2 523 ¹	...
2 adults + 2 dependent children	...	3 908	4 322	4 478	4 998	4 987	5 299 ¹	...

1 - initial data

Level of poverty risk¹ * (after social transfers)

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
According to economic activity and gender								
Employed								
total	11,9	11,0	10,4	10,9	9,0	9,1	8,7	9,1
men	11,2	10,5	9,4	10,8	7,8	8,1	7,7	8,4
women	12,5	11,4	11,3	11,1	10,1	10,0	9,7	9,7
Self-employed persons								
total	23,4	25,5	26,1	19,8	16,8	15,8	13,1	15,7
men	20,9	23,4	25,3	18,5	16,3	15,2	13,8	16,3
women	27,9	29,5	27,3	21,6	17,8	...	...	...
Unemployed								
total	48,1	44,3	50,1	48,2	49,5	46,9	48,4	49,0
men	50,3	44,3	52,6	53,9	49,0	50,0	49,8	49,4
women	46,1	44,3	47,3	41,9	50,0	43,4	46,8	48,6
Pensioners								
total	22,8	20,1	27,2	11,2	18,1	21,0	20,6	19,4
men	13,9	13,7	19,2	8,3	14,3	15,7	15,2	14,5
women	26,5	22,9	30,7	12,5	20,0	23,7	23,4	22,2
Other economically passive								
total	23,9	22,4	21,0	22,8	27,9	27,0	28,3	30,9
men	23,3	22,6	21,2	21,6	27,3	29,1	30,0	30,2
women	24,4	22,1	20,9	23,8	28,3	25,7	27,2	31,4
According to the type of household								
1-member household								
total	34,1	28,5	33,5	17,2	30,1	33,3	34,9	33,2
men	32,5	29,3	29,2	24,2	31,7	32,5	35,2	29,4
women	34,6	28,2	35,1	14,9	29,3	33,6	34,8	34,8
1-member household according to age:								
under 30-years	25,9	20,3	14,3	...	33,6	31,2	39,0	...
30-64-years	29,6	28,1	30,3	20,1	28,5	32,3	35,9	32,6
over 65-years	41,8	30,5	43,0	13,8	31,0	34,9	32,7	35,0
Single parent household, 1 or more dependent children								
total	...	29,0	26,8	28,6	37,2	29,2	35,2	32,8
2 adults household without dependent children:								
up to 65-years	...	12,7	14,7	14,7	11,8	13,6	14,6	13,4
1 member 65 or older	...	9,0	8,9	6,7	9,0	10,2	6,9	9,3
2 adults household with dependent children, with:								
1 child	...	15,4	13,0	14,1	13,0	15,6	12,7	14,9
2 children	...	13,6	14,1	16,2	16,4	15,1	15,2	18,1
3 or more children	...	29,6	24,7	24,7	22,9	20,8	20,0	24,4
According to the form of ownership of the residence								
Owner or free residence	19,3	17,7	19,6	16,0	16,9	16,9	16,9	17,8
Tenant	21,0	21,1	18,6	20,0	27,0	29,0	26,3	22,7

1 - Proportion of the population at large whose net income remains under the poverty line (60% of the median income of the household members).

III FAMILY AND CHILDREN

Following chapter contains data from Social Insurance Board.

The types and extent of state family benefits and the conditions under which they are granted are regulated by the State Family Benefits Act, which aims to partially cover the costs of care, raising and education in families with children. Family benefits are paid to permanent residents of Estonia and foreigners living in Estonia who have a temporary residence permit or who are in Estonia on the basis of the Aliens Act. Monthly family benefits are child allowance, childcare allowance, single parent child allowance, conscript's child allowance and foster care allowance. Lump-sum family benefits include childbirth allowance, adoption allowance and the starting an independent life allowance. One family benefit is disbursed quarterly: an allowance paid to families with three or more children or triplets. The school allowance is paid out once a year. Family benefits are financed by the state budget. If a person is entitled to several types of family benefits, these benefits are determined and disbursed simultaneously.

Child benefits are calculated on the basis of child allowance rate (which is also the child allowance for the first child). Childcare allowances are calculated on the basis of childcare allowance rate. The State Budget Act establishes both rates for every year. In 2004, child allowance rate was 150, childcare allowance rate 1200 EEK. All benefits are coefficients of those rates.

The system of child and family benefits was substantially changed in 2000. The most important change was the introduction of a childcare allowance which replaced the former maintenance benefit and is also granted to a working parent. Differently from the previous system the amount of the childcare allowance is the same for all children under 3 years of age. Childcare allowances are granted to families with a child under 3 years of age and to families with 3 or more children also for children aged 3 to 8 years.

In 2001, families with four or more children and families raising triplets started receiving a quarterly allowance (in 1999-2001 families with four or more children were paid an allowance once a year). On 1 January 2004, the allowance for families with three or more children superseded the former allowance for families with four or more children. In this case the size of the allowance paid to the family is the multiplication of the number of children receiving the allowance and the amount of the child allowance rate.

A new type of allowance was launched in 2002 – the adoption allowance. Child allowance for the second child, the foster care allowance and starting an independent life allowance all increased. Since 2003, additional 100 EEK of childcare allowance is being paid monthly for a child up to 1 year of age. On 1 January 2004, the child allowance for the first child increased to 300 EEK.

Expenditure on family benefits from state budget increased significantly in 1998 and 2000 due to enforcement of amendments or new acts, in 2000 especially on account of child

care allowance. In 2001 the expenditure on family benefits from state budget remained the same as in 2000 (due to the decrease in the number of children), although since the start of the year 2001 allowance to a family raising four or more children or raising triplets (once in a quarter) was introduced. In 2002 the expenditure increased in connection with the rise of the allowance of the second child and of the foster care allowance as well as due to the enlarged number of recipients of single parent's child allowance. In 2003, the family benefits expenditure increased foremost due to an increase in the number of people receiving the childcare allowance and single parent allowance.

On 1 January 2004, the Parental Benefit Act entered into force, which aims to compensate for income not received by stay-at-home parents in the first year of the child's life. The right to the parental benefit is granted to the parent, adoptive or foster parent, guardian or caregiver, who is a permanent resident in Estonia or a foreigner living in Estonia on terms of a temporary residence permit. Generally, only mothers are eligible for parental benefit during the first months of child's life. From the child's 6th month of age also fathers can receive this benefit.

Payments of the parental benefit start at the end of the maternity benefit period—on condition that the mother went on pregnancy and maternity leave at least 30 days before the presumed date of birth. If the mother did not have the right to maternity benefit, the parental benefit is paid up to the time when the child turns 11 months old.

The size of the benefit is calculated according to the applicant's average monthly income in the previous calendar year.

In 2004 the calculation of the parent allowance is based on the following numbers:

1. The parental benefit rate, which in 2004 is 2200 EEK. This amount is paid to a person who did not have an income taxed with social tax (e.g. not working students) in the previous year.
2. Minimum monthly wage, which was 2480 EEK in 2004. Parental benefit in the amount of the minimum monthly wage is paid to a person whose monthly income in the previous calendar year was less than or equal to the minimum wage.
3. The maximum amount of the benefit in a month, which is three times average taxed income per month, in 2004 was 15 741 EEK. The maximum benefit is paid to a person whose monthly income in 2003 was higher than or equal to the sum.

In accordance to the Income Tax Act the parental benefit is a taxable benefit.

The average parental benefit from 1 January 2004 to 1 September 2004 was 4 294 EEK per month. There were a total of 17,764 people who received parental benefits; 57.5 percent of them (i.e. 10,213 persons) received a benefit of up to 3,000 EEK. There was 4.4% maximum parental benefit receivers (i.e. 774 persons).

Amounts of state family benefits, in January 1st, EEK

Type of benefit	Date of validation							
	1996	1997	1998-99	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Birth allowance (single benefit)								
1 st child (incl multiple birth since year 2000)	1560	1800	3000	3750	3750	3750	3750	3750
2 nd and subsequent children	1560	1800	2250	3000	3000	3000	3000	3000
Adoption allowance (single benefit)	-	-	-	-	-	3000	3000	3000
Child allowance (per month)								
1 st child	130	150	150	150	150	150	150	300
2 nd child	165	185	225	225	225	300	300	300
3 rd and subsequent child	215	235	300	300	300	300	300	300
Childcare allowance (per month)								
for a child aged 0-1,5 ¹	260	300	600	600	600	600	600	600
for a child aged 1,5-3 ¹	130	150	300	600	600	600	600	600
for children between 3 and 8 years in families with a child under 3 years	-	-	-	300	300	300	300	300
for children between 3 and 8 years in families with 3 or more children	-	-	-	300	300	300	300	300
supplementary child care benefit for a child up to 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	100
to families with 4 and more children (per family)	230	230	300	-	-	-	-	-
Allowance for families with 3 or more children (per child quarterly) ²	-	-	-	-	150	150	150	150
Allowance for families with triplets (per family quarterly) ³	-	-	-	-	600	600	600	600
Child's school allowance (at the start of the schoolyear)	130	300	450	450	450	450	450	450
Single parent's child allowance (monthly)	78	90	150	300	300	300	300	300
Allowance for a child in guardianship or in foster care (monthly)	260	300	300	300	300	900	900	900
Conscript's child allowance (monthly)	130	150	600	750	750	750	750	750
Start in independent life allowance ⁴	4000	4000	5000	5000	5000	6000	6000	6000

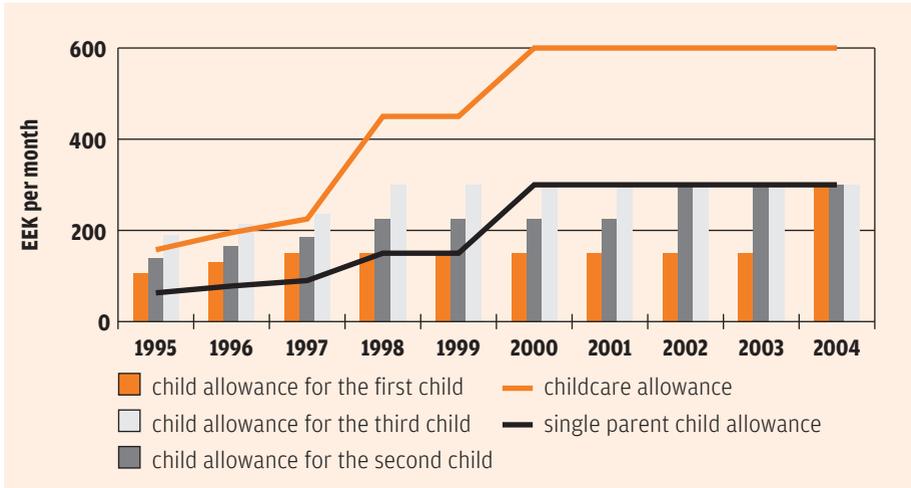
1 - In 1998 and 1999 for 0-2 and 2-3-year-old children.

2 - Since 1 January 2004, the allowance for families with three or more children is paid instead of the former allowance for families with four or more children. The size of the allowance paid to the family is the factor of the number of children receiving the allowance and child allowance rate.

3 - For families with triplets only. (In other cases the benefit amount equals to the number of children multiplied with the child allowance rate).

4 - For orphan wards and for children without parental care raised in the schools for children with special needs.

Amount of family benefits, as of January 1st



Receivers of state family benefits¹

Type of benefit	1995 ²	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Birth allowance	12 722	12 173	12 636	12 526	12 986	13 100
Child allowance³	360 409	339 578	312 172	311 043	301 115	293 880
1 st child	220 644	212 530	198 337	199 483	194 173	190 670
2 nd child	104 661	95 444	87 267	84 173	80 903	78 311
3 rd and subsequent child	35 104	31 604	26 568	27 387	25 939	24 899
Child care allowance	..	..	55 065	58 618	58 762	58 800
for children up to the age of 3	37 133	33 456	35 712	38 242	38 834	39 039
to families with 4 or more children	1 730	1 497	-	-	-	-
for children aged 3-8 in families with a child under 3 years	-	-	10 597	11 126	11 087	11 000
for children aged 3-8 in families with 3 or more children	-	-	8 747	9 250	8 841	8 761
Allowance to a family raising four or more children or raising triplets	-	-	-	22 561	24 997	23 670
School allowance	230 629	249 031	228 091	222 770	213 253	205 509
Single parent's child allowance	24 502	24 804	22 300	25 266	27 958	28 432
Allowance for a child in guardianship or in foster care	2 411	2 575	2 407	2 927	2 982	2 949
Conscript's child allowance	59	63	56	54	21	9
Start in independent life allowance	71	112	76	64	88	71
Single supplementary allowance to a family raising four or more children	-	-	22 953	22 252	-	-

1 - The number of people receiving the allowance at the end of the year (the growing number of one-time allowances from the beginning of the year). The exception is the support allowance paid to families with four or more children, which was valid until 1999, which showed the number of the families.

2 - The number of people receiving the monthly allowance in 1995 is the average number of allowance recipients; the receivers of the allowance in families with four or more children or families raising triplets is calculated according to the number of payments during the year.

3 - The number of children for whom the allowance is paid. The number of people receiving the allowance for the first child shows the general number of the families to whom children allowances are paid, at the same time.

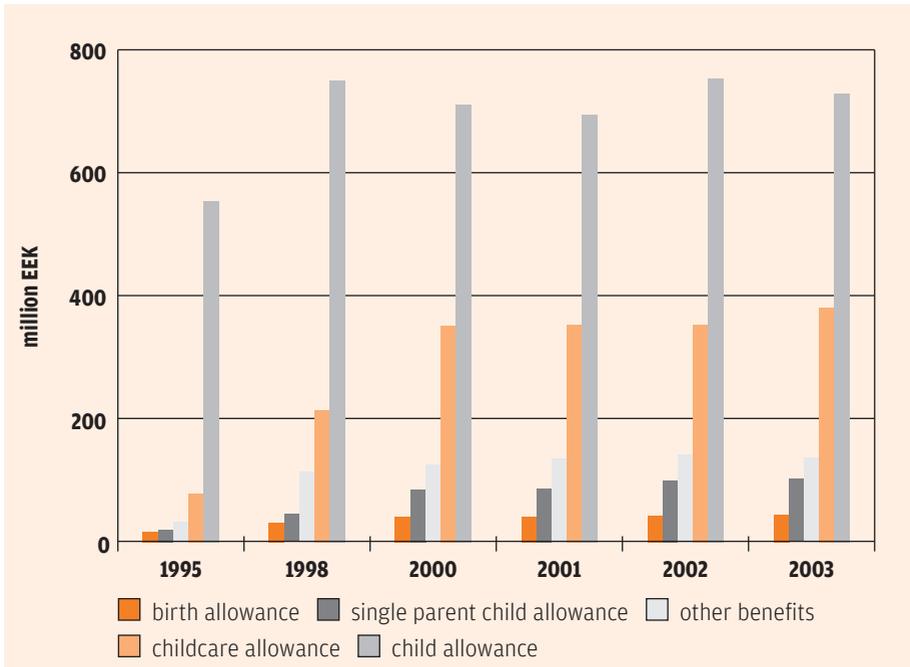
Expenditure on state family benefits, million EEK

Type of benefit	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Total	704,4	1 158,9	1 317,0	1317,2	1 395,4	1 382,1
birth allowance	16,7	31,3	42,0	42,3	44,0	44,4
child allowance	554,6	751,1	711,8	696,5	754,1	730,0
childcare allowance ¹	79,7	215,2	352,8	353,4	354,0	366,0
single parent's child allowance	20,2	45,7	85,1	88,0	100,6	103,0
school allowance	26,5	105,4	102,5	100,2	95,9	92,5
allowance for a child in guardianship or in foster care	6,4	9,2	10,3	10,7	32,4	32,6
maintenance allowance to a family raising four or more children or raising triplets	-	-	-	14,0	13,6	12,8
single grant to families with 4 or more children	-	-	11,5	11,1	-	-
other allowances	0,3	1,0	1,0	0,9	0,8	0,6
Expenditure as a share of GDP, %	1,64	1,48	1,42	1,26	1,19	1,10
Social tax paid form state budget ²	-	-	108,5	103,2	106,8	107,7
Disbursement expenses of family benefits	12,0	7,7	7,0	5,5	4,7	3,9

1 - Since 2003, an additional 100 EEK of childcare allowance is paid monthly for a child up to 1 year. This has caused the sum paid as childcare allowances to rise.

2 - In 1999 state paid social tax for persons at child care leave or non-working parent of an under 3-year-old child. Since 2000 social tax is also paid for a non-working parent of a family with 3 or more children (having children of age 3 to 8). In 1999 state paid social tax on minimum wage, since 2000 - on 700 EEK.

Expenditure on state family benefits



Other family benefits financed from the state budget

	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Holiday pay for additional holidays of minors, disabled persons and additional child care leave¹						
number of recipients	58 401	78 365	59 736	50 487	53 663	44 026
days for which payment was granted	...	...	...	182 539	193 980	176 023
total amount of compensation paid, million EEK	16,5	35,7	17,3	12,6	13,5	11,9
Paid breaks for feeding child²						
number of recipients, end of year	158	96	213	134	156	228
hours of compensated breaks, total	...	...	...	17 010	17 624	20 304
total amount of compensation paid, million EEK	0,05	0,4	0,7	0,9	1,1	1,2
Funeral benefit						
amount of benefit, EEK	900	1250	1500	1650	1800	1800
total amount of benefits paid, million EEK	18,1	25,7	28,7	32,3	32,8	32,4

1 - The following is financed from the state budget: extended annual holidays (7 days) of minors and disabled persons (who are granted a pension for incapacity for work or the national pension on the basis of incapacity for work), additional child care leave for one parent (3 or 6 days, subject to the number of children) and as of 2002 the additional child care leave of a father (14 days). A father has a right to be granted additional child care leave during the pregnancy leave or maternity leave of the mother or within two months after the birth of the child. The pay for the extended annual holiday (up to 2000 also the additional child care leave) depends on the employee's average daily wages. Beginning with 2000 the holiday pay for a day of additional child care leave is 66 EEK.

2 - A working person raising a child under 1,5 years of age is entitled to additional breaks at least every three hours for duration of 30 minutes for feeding the child. These breaks may be added up and the working day reduced by the corresponding period of time. Payment of average wages for the additional breaks shall be conducted from the state budget funds.

In 2000 the additional holiday for taking care of children under the age of 14 was less made use of, mainly due to the change of the system of financing. In recent years only one third of the families with children under the age of 14 have used the additional child care leave, compared to that of 50% before the year 2000.

Distribution of parental benefit recipients, according to the size of benefit, January-August 2002

Size of the allowance, EEK	Number of benefit recipients	Proportion, %
2 200	5 481	30,9
2 201 - 3 000	4 732	26,6
3 001 - 4 000	1 264	7,1
4 001 - 5 000	1 065	6,0
5 001 - 6 000	931	5,2
6 001 - 7 000	759	4,3
7 001 - 8 000	721	4,1
8 001 - 9 000	502	2,8
9 001 - 10 000	391	2,2

Cont. ►

► *Cont.*

Size of the allowance, EEK	Number of benefit recipients	Proportion, %
10 001 - 11 000	305	1,7
11 001 - 12 000	254	1,4
12 001 - 13 000	187	1,1
13 001 - 14 000	178	1,0
14 001 - 15 000	138	0,8
15 001 - 15 740	82	0,5
15 741	774	4,4
Total	17 764	100

Parental benefits, by September 2004

Type of parental benefit	Number of benefit cases	Sum, thousand EEK	Average benefit, EEK
Parental benefit in 100% total sum of the income of a calendar month	3 553	22 584,9	6 357
Parental benefit in the maximum amount	247	3 888,0	15 741
Parental benefit equal to minimum monthly wage	2 311	5 731,3	2 480
Parental benefit equal to the benefit rate	2 798	6 155,6	2 200
Parental benefit equal to minimum monthly wage, if the previous child is younger than 2.5 years and income is missing in 2003	103	255,4	2 480
Total	9 012	38 615,3	4 285

Slightly over 39 percent of the recipients of the benefit are parents who are paid a sum equalling their previous calendar year's monthly income. Fathers, as benefit recipients, make up only slightly more than 1 percent of all those eligible.

IV LABOUR MARKET

Since October 1st 2002, benefits and services to job seekers and persons registered as unemployed are regulated by two laws: the Social Protection of the Unemployed Act and the Employment Service Act. The Social Protection of the Unemployed Act regulates filings for unemployment and the disbursement of unemployment benefits and employment training stipends. The Employment Service Act regulates the provision of employment service to job seekers and employers. The employment service enables job seekers to find work and promote job creation. It also enables employers to find an appropriate work force. The employment services are: providing information about the situation on the labor market and about possibilities for employment training, employment mediation, employment training, vocational guidance, employment subsidies for starting a business, employment subsidies to employers for employing a less-competitive employee and community placement. All persons registered as job seekers and are looking for work have the right to employment services.

An unemployed person (as in terms of Social Protection of the Unemployed Act) is a person with full or partial working capacity, who is of age 16 to retirement, who is not working, is ready to get to work immediately and who is also looking for work. A person has the right to receive state unemployment benefits, if he/she has during the 12 months prior to registration for unemployment been employed or been engaged in an activity equivalent to employment at least for 180 days, except for the following cases: has as a one parent or guardian raised an up to 18-year old child with a moderate, severe or profound disability; raised an up to 8-year old or an 8-year old child until finishing the first school grade; has been hospitalized; has taken care of a sick person, a person permanently incapable of work or an old person on the basis of foster care contract; has been categorised as disabled or has been in custody or incarcerated in a prison.

The amount of the unemployment benefit has been 400 EEK since the beginning of 1999. The unemployment benefit is normally paid for up to 270 days.

In 2002, unemployment insurance was launched—a type of mandatory insurance based on the principle of solidarity, which serves the purpose of paying benefits to employees in case they lose their jobs, if there is collective termination of employment contracts and service relations, or if the employer goes bankrupt. The Unemployment Insurance Act regulates unemployment insurance. An insured person, who has been registered as unemployed according to the Social Protection of the Unemployed Act and who has an insurance period of at least 12 months during the 24 months prior to registration as unemployed, has the right to receive unemployment insurance benefits.

The collection of unemployment insurance payments started in 2002. The unemployment insurance rate is 1% paid by the insured person and 0.5% paid by employers from the insured person's salary and other fees. Payments of benefits to unemployed persons started in 2003. The size of the unemployment insurance benefit for one day is calculated on the basis of the insured person's average one-calendar-day-salary during the previous 12 months, not to exceed three times the average Estonian one-calendar-day-salary during

the previous calendar year. The rate of unemployment insurance benefit is 50% from day 1-100 and 40% from day 101-360. The length of insurance period depends on the insurance payment duration; the insurance period is calculated from the start of insurance payment collection (January 1st, 2002). An insured person whose insurance period is shorter than 5 years has the right to receive unemployment insurance benefits for 180 days. Persons with an insurance period of 5 to 10 years have the right to receive the unemployment insurance benefit for 270 calendar days, in case of an insurance period over 10 years they have the right to receive the benefit for 360 calendar days.

The Statistical Office's Labour Force Survey data and statistics from Labour Market Board and Unemployment Insurance Fund were used as the main sources in preparing the chapter on the labor market overview.

Positive tendencies continued on the Estonian labor market in 2003 according to the Labour Force Survey. The number of employed rose by 8,800 from 2002, increasing to 594,300. The employment rate (15-64) increased to 62.6 percent. The number of the unemployed decreased by 1,000, sinking to 66,2 thousands. The unemployment rate was 10% in 2003 (declining by 0.3 percentage points).

In analyzing unemployment indicators from various sources, some differences can be noted. According to the Labour Force Survey, there are more unemployed men than women, but in the state employment offices women file for unemployment more often than men. One of the reasons for this is the fact that women with children have more favorable conditions for receiving unemployment benefits, since raising an up to 8-year-old child and an up to 18-year-old child with a disability is equivalent to previous employment. Women are also more interested in participating in labor market training.

The unemployment increased from the beginning of the 1990s until 2000, according to the labour Force Survey. Since 2001, the employment rate has increased and the unemployment has slowly decreased. The 2003 unemployment rate was the lowest in last 5 years—10%. On average the indicators for men's unemployment have always outstripped women's unemployment rates, but the difference has decreased during the last few years. In 2003 unemployment decreased only among men, while women's unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage points.

On the background of a general improvement of the labor market situation, a turn took place concerning the unemployment of young people in 2003, which has risen again (increase by 3 percentage points compared to 2002) reaching 20.6 percent. The unemployment rate for young women has been notably higher than that for men in the last three years. Since many youth in this age group are still studying, the percentage of young unemployed people in the population of the respective age is notably smaller than the rate of unemployment, making up only 7.5%.

The proportional percentage of long-term unemployment decreased to 46 percent by 2003 and this mainly due to a decrease in men's unemployment rates. At the same time there are

still more men among the long-term unemployed. The number of the unemployed looking for job longer than 2 years has risen.

In connection with the decrease of the number of the unemployed, the expenditure on social protection of the unemployed has decreased as well. The expenditure on unemployment benefits has decreased the most and its share in total expenditure for the unemployed has continuously decreased. The sum of social tax paid for an unemployed person decreased as well due to the changes of the charge-rate from the state budget. In 1999 the state paid social tax for receivers of the unemployment benefit from the minimum monthly wage, in 2000 and 2001 - 33% from the prescribed monthly rate (700 EEK), then starting 2002 only 13% from the same monthly rate—i.e. the share of medical insurance in social tax. The expenditure on active labor market measures has risen 1.5 times compared to 1999 and it's proportion reached 50 percent of social protection of the unemployed expenditure.

Working-age population by sex and economic status, thousands

	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Population of age 15-74 total	1 051,1	1 046,5	1 047,2	1 047,2	1 047,8
M	486,1	485,2	486,4	487,0	487,7
F	565,0	561,3	560,8	560,2	560,1
Population of age 15-64 total	919,1	915,9	916,5	916,3	915,8
M	438,5	437,0	437,5	437,8	438,3
F	480,6	478,9	478,9	478,5	477,6
Labour force¹ (15-74)	672,6	662,4	660,8	652,7	660,5
M	346,7	340,6	337,6	333,6	336,7
F	326,0	321,8	323,1	319,1	323,8
Labour force¹ (15-64)	658,7	645,2	642,1	632,0	638,9
M	339,3	332,5	328,9	324,6	326,3
F	319,5	312,7	313,2	307,5	312,6
employed (15-74)	606,5	572,5	577,7	585,5	594,3
M	309,3	291,1	293,9	297,5	302,5
F	297,2	281,4	283,8	288,1	291,8
employed (15-64)	593,0	555,9	560,1	565,6	572,9
M	302,1	283,1	285,5	289,0	292,2
F	290,9	272,7	274,6	276,6	280,8
unemployed (15-74)	66,1	89,9	83,1	67,2	66,2
M	37,4	49,5	43,7	36,1	34,2
F	28,7	40,5	39,3	31,0	32,0
incl longterm unemployed²	31,1	40,8	40,1	35,5	30,4
M	17,0	23,5	22,8	21,3	16,2
F	14,1	17,3	17,3	14,3	14,2
Inactive population (15-74)	378,5	384,1	386,4	394,4	387,4
M	139,4	144,7	148,7	153,4	151,0
F	239,1	239,4	237,7	241,0	236,4

Cont. ►

► *Cont.*

	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Labour force participation rate³ (15-64), %	71,7	70,4	70,1	69,0	69,8
M	77,4	76,1	75,2	74,1	74,5
F	66,5	65,3	65,4	64,3	65,5
Employment rate⁴ * (15-64), %	64,5	60,7	61,1	61,7	62,6
M	68,9	64,8	65,2	66,0	66,7
F	60,5	57,0	57,3	57,8	58,8
Unemployment rate⁵ *(15-74), %	9,8	13,6	12,6	10,3	10,0
M	10,8	14,5	12,9	10,8	10,2
F	8,8	12,6	12,2	9,7	9,9
Youth unemployment rate⁵ * (15-24), %	15,8	23,8	22,2	17,6	20,6
M	17,0	23,9	19,3	14,3	16,9
F	14,2	23,7	26,4	22,5	26,0
Share of unemployed youth in the population aged 15-24, %	6,9	9,8	8,9	5,9	7,5
M	8,4	11,2	8,9	5,6	7,1
F	5,4	8,4	8,9	6,3	8,0
Longterm unemployed² as share of all unemployed*, %	47,0	45,4	48,3	52,8	45,9
M	45,5	47,5	52,2	59,0	47,4
F	49,1	42,7	44,0	46,1	44,3

1 - Employed and unemployed persons

2 - 12 months or longer

3 - Share of labour force out of working age population

4 - Share of employed out of working age population

5 - Share of unemployed out of labour force

Source: Labour Force Survey

Employed, by occupation

Field of occupation	Employed, thousands					Share of women, %	
	1995 ¹	2000	2001	2002	2003	1995	2003
Total	633,4	572,5	577,7	585,5	594,3	48,3	49,1
Agriculture, hunting, fishing, forestry	64,5	41,2	40,0	40,7	36,7	38,3	30,5
Mining and quarrying	9,2	7,2	5,8	5,7	5,7	14,1	...
Manufacturing	157,7	129,2	134,1	128,2	134,1	44,3	45,2
Electricity, gas and water supply	15,4	14,7	11,4	10,5	10,2	33,8	21,6
Construction	34,5	39,7	39,3	38,9	42,9	14,2	7,0
Wholesale and retail trade	80,1	79,3	83,6	86,3	80,8	57,6	59,5
Hotels and restaurants	17,2	19,9	17,4	17,9	17,4	74,4	79,3
Transport, storage, communication	63,7	56,9	53,7	54,5	56,2	32,8	34,7

Cont. ►

► Cont.

Field of occupation	Employed, thousands					Share of women, %	
	1995 ¹	2000	2001	2002	2003	1995	2003
Financial intermediation, real estate activities, renting and business activities	38,1	47,7	45,4	52,2	51,9	47,2	42,4
Public administration and defence, compulsory social insurance	34,5	34,1	34,8	33,2	34,5	38,0	44,9
Education	53,8	44,6	51,0	55,6	56,9	79,7	81,0
Health and social care	35,7	28,5	30,9	31,6	36,4	84,0	84,6
Other	29,0	29,6	30,4	30,1	30,4	59,3	60,2

1 - Until 1996 the data is on population from age 15-69, since 1997 on population in age of 15-74.

Source: Labour Force Survey

Indicators of registered unemployment, thousands

	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003
Registered unemployed persons¹ total, during the year	77,3	120,9	136,9	108,0	99,0
incl new entrants	46,6	81,5	89,6	64,5	59,8
Recipients of unemployment benefit	39,8	67,4	70,4	56,9	45,9
Participants in labour market services					
employment training	9,8	8,2	10,2	10,0	8,8
community placements ²	5,7	4,2	0,1	0,5	0,6
employment subsidy for unemployed for starting a business	0,5	0,4	0,4	0,4	0,4
employment subsidy for employer	0,1	0,2	0,3	0,2	0,5
vocational guidance ³	-	2,1	8,2	8,1	8,9
Vacancies received by state employment offices, per year	15,1	14,9	15,0	16,1	14,4
Employed persons, per year ⁴	15,0	21,8	23,5	23,4	17,3
Registered unemployed¹, monthly average	34,9	46,3	54,1	48,2	43,3
incl unemployment benefit recipients	13,9	26,6	28,9	23,5	19,6
Registered unemployed (average per month) by sex, %					
M	42,5	42,5	44,9	44,3	45,6
F	57,5	57,5	55,1	55,7	54,4
Share of registered unemployed (average per month) of the whole population between 16 to retirement age, %	4,1	5,3	6,5	5,9	5,3

1 - The number of unemployed persons may contain cases in which the person registered as unemployed several times during a year.

2 - The number of participants in community placement decreased sharply in 2001 due to the cut of financing for services from state budget.

3 - Since October 1st, 2000, a new type of service set by Employment Service Act, which aims to help a job seeker to solve problems concerning work choice, professional career, and getting and losing work.

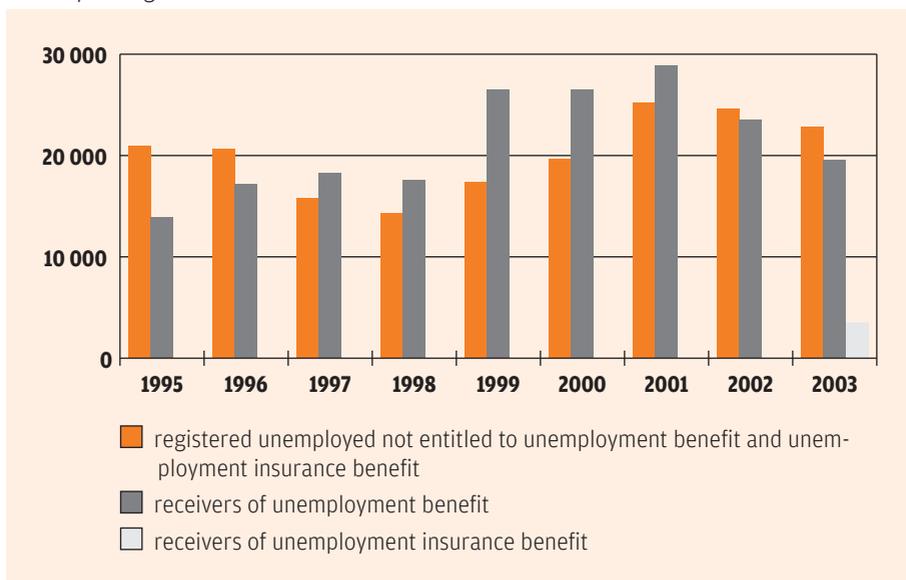
4 - Employed also on vacant positions not offered by employment offices.

Source: Labor Market Board

Changes in unemployment benefits and employment training stipends, EEK

	Date of validation				
	01.10.1992	01.10.1994	01.07.1996	01.03.1998	01.01.1999
Unemployment benefit	180	-	240	300	400
Employment training stipends	270	450	-	-	600

Registered unemployed, receivers of unemployment benefit and insurance benefit, monthly average



Expenditure on social protection in case of unemployment

Type of expenditure	Total expenditure, million EEK					Structure of expenditure, %	
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	1999	2003
Total	263,0	286,3	290,8	217,7	197,1	100	100
Expenditure on passive measures:	199,0	220,5	212,9	129,3	97,3	75,7	49,4
unemployment benefit	120,3	119,8	132,7	104,1	81,1	45,7	41,1
social tax for the unemployed	78,7	100,7	80,2	25,2	16,2	29,9	8,2
Expenditure on active measures:	64,0	65,8	77,9	88,4	99,8	24,3	50,6
employment training	32,0	32,2	42,3	47,5	46,5	12,1	23,6
employment training stipends	6,0	6,1	7,3	7,1	7,2	2,3	3,7
community placements ¹	3,3	3,2	-	-	-	1,3	-
employment subsidy for unemployed	4,2	4,3	4,2	4,2	6,4	1,6	3,2
employment subsidy for employer	1,8	2,1	3,2	3,1	3,8	0,7	1,9
Labour Market Board administrative expenses ²	16,7	17,9	20,9	26,4	35,9	6,3	18,2

Cont. ►

► Cont.

Type of expenditure	Total expenditure, million EEK					Structure of expenditure, %	
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	1999	2003
Expenditure as a share of GDP, %	0,32	0,31	0,28	0,19	0,16		
Expenditure including Unemployment Insurance Fund's expenditure as a share of GDP, %	..	..	..	0,19	0,32		

1 - According to the Labor Market Service Act the payment to an unemployed person participating in community placement is disbursed by the organizer of the community placement at the minimum rate of the community placement benefit prescribed by the Government.

2 - Includes Regional Employment Office administrative expenses.

Unemployment insurance

	2002 ¹	2003
Number of persons with unemployment insurance, during a year	638,2	592,4
Total sum of unemployment insurance payments, million EEK	535,8	573,0
Unemployment insurance expenditure, million EEK:	7,3	205,4
unemployment insurance benefit	-	108,4
benefit for collective termination of employment contracts	-	30,9
benefit in case of insolvency of the employer	-	23,0
operating costs of the Unemployment Insurance Fund	7,3	11,2
social tax paid on benefits	-	31,9
Recipients of unemployment insurance benefit:		
unemployment insurance benefit		10 033
benefit for collective termination of employment contracts		4 247
benefit in case of insolvency of the employer		2 058

1 - Paying benefits to unemployed persons in case of job loss started in 2003.

Source: *Unemployment Insurance Fund*

In 2003 the average unemployment insurance benefit was 2188 EEK (exceeded the unemployment benefit by more than 5 times).

V WAGES AND SALARIES

The following tables include data from Statistical Office's wage statistics. In the tables "Full-time employees by gross wage groups" and "Average hourly wages of male and female workers by profession," data only goes up to 2001, since at the time of publication, Statistical Office had not yet published new figures for this area ("Hourly wages 2003" should be published in December 2004).

The average gross wages increased continuously in 2003 and reached 6,723 EEK. The lowest salaries are in hotels and restaurants (4,180 EEK), the highest in financial intermediation (14,556 EEK). The average gross wages decreased only in the fishing industry. Women's hourly wages reached 75.7% of men's average hourly wages in 2001.

Average monthly gross wages by economic activity, EEK

Economic activity	Average gross wage					Compared to average wage, %		
	1995 ¹	2000	2001	2002	2003	1995	2002	2003
Average wage	2 375	4 907	5 510	6 144	6 723	100	100	100
Financial intermediation	4 951	10 889	12 249	13 258	14 556	208	216	217
Real estate, renting and business activities	2 562	4 980	6 299	8 122	8 090	108	132	120
Public administration, defence, compulsory social insurance	2 825	6 287	6 958	7 844	8 524	119	126	127
Electricity, gas and water supply	3 262	5 916	6 727	7 321	8 000	137	119	119
Transport, storage, communication	3 101	6 027	6 468	7 074	7 362	131	115	110
Construction	2 568	4 379	5 232	5 891	6 684	108	94	99
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and household goods	2 051	4 706	5 359	5 885	6 737	86	96	100
Manufacturing	2 421	4 772	5 149	5 665	6 177	102	92	92
Education	1 900	4 187	4 770	5 366	5 873	80	87	87
Forestry	2 419	4 379	5 048	5 219	5 912	102	85	88
Health and social care	1 975	4 387	4 768	4 983	5 729	83	81	85
Agriculture	1 405	2 823	3 293	3 896	4 242	59	63	63
Hotels and restaurants	1 570	3 054	3 771	3 551	4 180	66	57	62
Minimum wage	450	1 400	1 600	1 850	2 160	19	30	32

1 - In 1995 benefits for temporary incapacity for work (sickness benefit) are included.

Full-time employees by gross wage groups, in October, %

Wage group	Total				Men				Women			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<1000	0,9	0,5	0,2	0,2	0,8	0,5	0,2	0,2	0,9	0,5	0,2	0,3
1001-2000	28,1	25,8	20,9	16,6	24,0	23,3	18,9	14,3	32,1	28,0	22,7	18,9
2001-3000	19,6	16,9	17,2	15,8	16,7	14,1	14,9	13,4	22,3	19,4	19,3	18,1
3001-4000	17,2	15,8	16,1	15,2	16,7	13,8	14,1	14,0	17,7	17,5	17,8	16,5

Cont. ►

▶ *Cont.*

Wage group	Total				Men				Women			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
4001-5000	12,1	12,9	12,8	13,1	12,9	12,6	12,0	12,5	11,3	13,1	13,6	13,7
5001-7000	11,7	14,4	16,4	17,8	14,0	16,3	17,8	18,5	9,5	12,7	15,1	17,1
7001-10000	6,3	8,0	9,3	11,7	8,3	10,4	11,6	13,8	4,3	5,9	7,1	9,6
10 000<	4,3	5,9	7,0	9,3	6,6	9,0	10,3	13,1	2,0	2,9	4,0	5,6
Less than minimum wage	...	9,0	6,5	7,4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Average hourly wages of male and female workers by profession¹, in October, EEK

Occupation	Average hourly wage								Women's wage of men's wage, %	
	Men				Women				1995	2001
	1995	1998	2000	2001	1995	1998	2000	2001		
Average hourly wage	16,3	25,9	31,5	34,1	11,9	19,2	23,8	25,8	73	76
Legislators, senior officials, managers	27,1	42,8	52,6	54,6	20,1	31,4	40,3	45,5	74	84
Professionals	21,4	35,5	46,8	47,4	16,3	28,5	33,3	35,2	76	74
health care specialists	18,4	35,6	45,8	48,2	17,1	29,7	38,3	40,1	93	83
nursing and midwifery professionals	19,6	...	...	...	14,6	28,0	26,2	29,4	75	...
social work professionals	21,2	...	...	...	14,3	21,5	25,1	28,2	68	...
public service professionals	...	...	33,7	36,5	...	...	31,4	33,8	...	93
Technicians and midlevel specialists	18,5	30,1	36,3	40,0	13,3	21,2	25,6	27,8	72	70
associate health care professionals	10,9	20,9	23,2	26,6	10,4	18,8	21,5	22,5	95	85
nursing and midwifery associate professionals	10,8	...	23,6	26,1	10,4	21,0	24,0	25,2	96	97
work safety and quality inspectors	...	...	31,6	39,5	...	...	23,7	28,1	...	71
Clerks	15,8	22,4	29,2	32,6	12,0	18,3	22,9	24,2	76	74
Service and sales workers	13,0	18,4	21,8	22,1	8,0	11,8	14,9	16,1	62	73
care workers at medical institutions	7,02	12,22	14,1	19,0	6,72	11,22	12,8	14,8	96 ²	78
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	10,1	13,0	19,0	18,5	7,9	11,8	14,9	16,9	78	92
Craft and trade workers (excl. agriculture, fishing)	15,7	23,1	24,6	27,7	12,1	17,7	20,7	21,6	77	78
Plant and machine operators	14,9	21,4	27,2	26,4	12,7	18,6	22,4	22,4	85	85
Unskilled labour	8,9	14,0	16,3	18,7	6,4	10,5	12,2	13,4	72	72
production workers	11,3	19,8	20,9	25,0	10,5	17,1	18,9	20,2	93	81

1 - Both full-time and part-time workers. The main categories reflect the wages in general, as for the enterprises and organisations with less than 20 employees (excl. enterprises and institutions in state and municipal ownership), a method of sample survey was used. The subcategories reflect only enterprises in state and municipal ownership and other institutions and organisations with more than 19 employees.

2 - Also in welfare institutions.

VI WORKING ENVIRONMENT

Working environment is the surroundings in which a person works. Physical, chemical, biological or psychological factors in the working environment may not endanger the employee's life and health or any other person's life and health staying in the working environment.

First and foremost, this sphere is regulated by the Occupational Health and Safety Act, which defines occupational health as implementation of work-related organizational and medical measures for preventing personal injuries to employees, customizing the work according to the employee's capacities and promoting employees' physical, mental and social welfare. Occupational safety is understood as putting the system of work-related organizational and technical measures into a state enabling the employee to do the work without endangering his/her health. National enforcement of this act and the requirements prescribed with legislation on the basis of the act is carried out by the Labor Inspectorate.

Since 2000-2003, i.e. after the Occupational Health and Safety Act and its implementing provisions entered into force, 23,045 companies and institutions have been systematically audited, of which in 9,656 the employer's activities concerning the duties which arise from the act were evaluated, and in 5,590 the state of the working environment in general was scrutinized according to the methods developed by the Labor Inspectorate. The employer's actions in organizing working environment-related programs in the company are one of the basics for providing safe and healthy working conditions.

Employers who did not fulfill the requirements prescribed by legislation regulating occupational health, occupational safety and occupational relations were presented with a list of requirements to remedy these violations. It can be concluded that, as a result of the inspection, the working environment has improved markedly in the companies inspected before.

The number of registered occupational accidents and of lost days due to occupational accidents increased until 2002, a fact caused by neglect of safety requirements, more accurate recording of accidents and amendments to laws. A benefit for temporary incapacity for work of 100% of average income has been paid since 1999 for all occupational accidents (not just those caused by the employer, as was the case previously).

Compared to the previous year, the number of fatal occupational accidents (decrease 14%), occupational accidents resulting in severe injury (decrease 4%) and number of first diagnoses of occupational diseases (decrease 22%) decreased in 2003. The decrease of the number of occupational accidents and lost working days caused by accidents in 2003 is related to amendments to laws, according to which accidents which happen on the way to or from work are no longer considered occupational accidents since July 1st, 2003. The number of occupational diseases has continuously decreased (a significant decrease took place in 2001-2002), but these statistical indicators are not completely unequivocal. Diagnosis of occupational diseases is aggravated by several factors: interpreting the links between the disease and the working environment's risk factors, for instance, causes many problems. The accessibility to occupational health services also influences this indicator (e.g. whether an occupational health doctor exists in a county).

Evaluation of working environment in enterprises inspected in 2000-2003, %

	Low	Average	High
Risks arising from technical risk factors	31	64	5
Risks arising from physical, chemical, biological and physiological risk factors	35	61	4
	Satisfactory	Deficiencies found	Unsatisfactory
Employer's activities in fulfilling the requirements	25	62	13
Workers' rest conditions	67	28	5
Working environment on the whole	22	75	3

Violation of occupational health and safety requirements in inspected enterprises

Activity or situation inspected and evaluated	Number and share of enterprises			
	2000	2001	2002	2003
Number of enterprises inspected	2 379	2 005	1 661	1 378
Share of enterprises where the occupational health and safety requirements were not met, %:				
existing and active working environment council (enterprises with over 50 workers)	26	20	24	6
training of members of the working environment council	27	24	31	7
election of working environment representatives	38	35	37	31
training of working environment representatives	44	43	47	36
working environment risk assessment plan for reducing health risks	68	51	47	36
organisation of internal control	55	41	38	32
health care service agreement	72	67	68	57
medical examination of workers	31	32	41	30
first aid training	39	32	33	26
instruction of workers in the sphere of occupational health and safety	13	12	13	8
provision with personal protective equipment	9	4	8	3
investigation of occupational accidents and cases of occupational disease	12	10	12	4
fulfilment of the plan of measures for prevention of occupational accidents and diseases	11	8	6	2

Occupational accidents and diseases¹

	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Number of persons injured or dead due to occupational accidents	2 460	2 664	2 965	3 293	4 033	3 782
incl, % M	...	...	67,0	62,2	62,2	70,3
N	...	...	33,0	37,8	37,8	29,7
accidents resulting in severe health injury	290	500	692	1 180	1 316	1 163
incl at work	236	389	496	770	935	900
fatal accidents	...	60	27	36	39	32
incl at work	61	56	26	30	35	30

Cont. ►

► *Cont.*

	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Share of injured or dead due to occupational accidents of employed population, %	0,36	0,44	0,52	0,57	0,69	0,63
Number of persons diagnosed with occupational disease for the first time	...	204	296	247	117	95
Number of occupational diseases diagnosed for the first time	145	269	355	282	129	101
First diagnosed occupational diseases per 10 000 employees	1,7	4,2	5,8	4,9	2,2	1,7
Workdays lost due to accidents and occupational diseases	83 643	73 744	157 051	148 508	171 850	146 411
The proportion of lost working days due to occupational diseases and accidents in the total number of working days of employees, %	...	...	3,1	3,2	3,7	3,1

1 - A work-related accident is a sudden injury or death, which occurs during the fulfillment of duties assigned by the employer or other work performed with his/her permission, on work breaks which are counted as working time, on the way to or from work or in other situations related to working. An occupational disease is a disease caused by a risk factor or type of working environment on the list of professional diseases.

Source: Labor Inspectorate

Occupational diseases

Indicator	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Total	269	359	355	282	129	101
By diseases						
diseases caused by vibration	109	154	137	117	45	15
diseases caused by overload	72	115	128	96	47	54
hearing impairment caused by noise	37	59	60	42	22	21
other occupational diseases	51	31	30	27	15	11
By occupations						
tractor drivers	90	132	114	90	41	28
farm labourers, stock farmers	26	54	55	42	17	21
car and bus drivers	32	56	50	44	16	2
excavator and crane drivers	16	17	15	14	6	3
sewers, weavers	5	15	12	9	3	5
joiners	17	7	6	3	1	1
processors at fish and meat-preserving industry	15	0	8	12	6	6
other	68	78	95	68	39	35

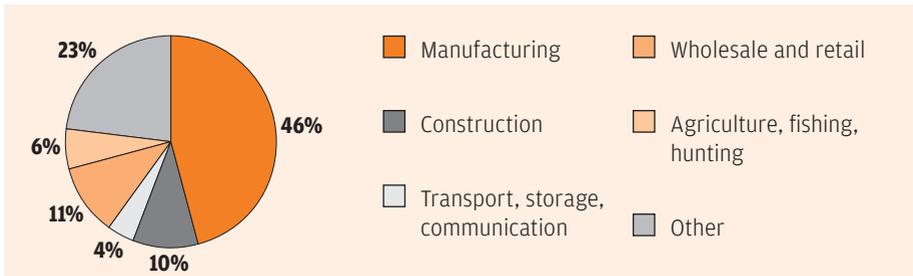
Source: Labor Inspectorate

Occupational accidents resulting in death and severe health injury during work,
by the field of activity

Economic activity	Number of persons injured due to occupational accidents					Number of persons dead due to occupational accidents				
	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Total	389	496	770	935	900	56	26	30	35	30
Agriculture, hunting, fishing, forestry	47	27	46	79	54	8	3	2	3	2
Mining and quarrying	16	11	13	30	14	5	0	1	2	1
Manufacturing	96	179	282	336	410	10	9	10	6	14
Electricity, gas and water supply	27	10	20	15	14	2	3	2	0	1
Construction	60	64	92	102	92	12	3	6	9	4
Wholesale and retail trade	19	29	72	83	99	2	2	3	5	3
Transport, storage, communication	72	72	90	95	37	9	5	2	5	1
Financial intermediation, real estate activities	5	23	37	51	49	3	0	0	2	2
Public administration and defence, compulsory social insurance	...	40	39	55	58	...	0	2	2	1
Education	...	11	22	41	35	...	0	0	0	1
Health and social care	...	17	24	23	17	...	0	1	0	0
Other	47	13	33	28	21	5	1	1	1	0

Source: Labor Inspectorate

Occupational accidents resulting in death and severe health injury during work by field of activity, 2003, %



Occupational accidents at work resulting in severe health injury and death,
by groups of occupation

Occupation	Number of persons injured			Number of persons dead		
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Total	770	935	900	30	35	30
skilled workers and manufacturers	269	304	275	13	12	7
plant and machine operators	192	203	206	4	8	7
unskilled labour	133	177	121	5	7	4
service and sales workers	41	61	77	0	2	2
professionals	36	51	45	1	2	0
technicians and midlevel specialists	31	54	38	3	0	3
clerks, office workers	29	31	29	1	2	0
skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	17	20	18	1	0	0
legislators, senior officials, managers	20	28	10	2	2	1
other	2	6	81	0	0	6

Source: Labor Inspectorate

VII GENDER EQUALITY

In compiling current publication, two discourses of gender equality have been used. On one hand, integrating the principle of gender balancing into all spheres of politics (gender equality as a horizontal topic) is used. According to that, throughout all topics gender-specific data is presented, if possible. On the other hand, a principle has been considered, where various (positive) measures are implemented for decreasing gender inequality. The following chapter has been edited with this in mind.

Similarly to other developed countries, Estonian men and women are occupied in somewhat different occupations. Women are traditionally more occupied with professions enshrined by society and where the income is lower than the average (the horizontal gender segregation). The share of women in leading positions is also notably lower than that of men (the vertical gender segregation).

Since the regaining of independence, the average salary of women has been almost 25% lower than that of men. Among the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, this income difference by gender is one of the highest. A rather high socioeconomic stratification (by net income) by gender was clearly viewed in equality monitoring. 60% per cent of women have monthly net income up to 3,500 EEK, whereas only 41% of men. The biggest difference is notable in the higher income-group. In the income-bracket of over 5,000 EEK, women represent 7% and men 19%. Thus there are 2,7 times more men than women in the higher income group. Women depend financially three times more on their husbands, than men do on their wives. Women's dependence on their husbands declines with their age, in men's case—on the contrary, the dependence from their wife/partner somewhat grows with aging.

An important indicator concerning gender equality is the participation in the decision-making process. During the period of independence there have been 7-8 times fewer female representatives in the Estonian parliament than men. The number of women running for parliament or local governing councils has increased, but is still in the minority compared to male candidates. In the second half of 2004, there were two female ministers in the 14-member government cabinet.

As an indicator of gender inequality, many countries have also examined how the time balance is divided between the sexes. Based on the information about Estonia it can be stated, that if the men spend more time at paid work compared to women, then women's unremunerated contribution to household work is much higher than men's, and so women's amount of spare time is also much smaller during their lifespan. The main reason for the differences in time use between genders lies in the traditional gender role model. According to it, the men primarily have the role of breadwinner and women traditionally take care of home and family members.

The high level of violence towards women also indicates gender inequality in society. Police

1 - The survey conducted by the Estonian Open Society Institution and the Ministry of Social Affairs "The system of indicators and monitoring of gender equality in Estonia (2003)". 1,006 persons were questioned in an interview, of those 538 being women and 468 men. The survey sample was prepared randomly and it was representative of the population model. The respondents gave an assessment of their net income. Unlike in the chapter on living standards, the income per household member was not considered in this case.

and court statistics do not provide us with an adequate picture of violence towards women in society, but the violence surveys show that every fifth woman experiences violence in a given year. Two-thirds of all cases of violence against women take place at home. In the cases of domestic violence, 9 of 10 victims are women. Because of violence, 41 000 women are injured every year, whereby 7,000 of them receive heavy, life-threatening injuries.

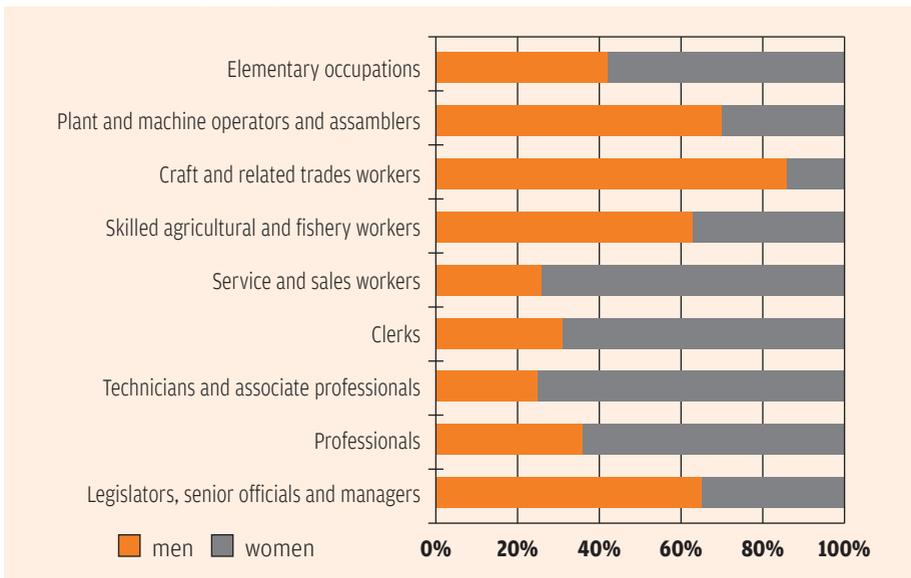
Employment

Employed population by sex and occupation, 2003

Occupation	Average number of the employed, thousands			Share of the employed, %	
	Total	Men	Women	Men	Women
Legislators, senior officials and managers	69,8	45,4	24,4	65	35
Professionals	82,6	29,9	52,7	36	64
Technicians and associate professionals	71,7	17,6	54,1	25	75
Clerks	30,2	9,3	20,9	31	69
Service and sales workers	76,3	20,0	56,3	26	74
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	15,0	9,4	5,6	63	37
Craft and related trades workers	93,6	80,7	12,9	86	14
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	83,0	58,5	24,6	70	30
Elementary occupations	68,4	28,4	40,0	42	58

Source: Labour Force Survey, 2003

Men and women by occupation, 2003, %



Participation in the decision making process

Persons participating in elections and persons elected to legislative bodies by sex

		Year	Total number		Share, %	
			Men	Women	Men	Women
Candidates and elected members of the Parliament	Candidates	1992	541	88	86	14
		1995	1 034	222	82	18
		1999	1 376	508	73	27
		2003	757	206	79	21
	Elected members	1992	88	13	87	13
		1995	89	12	88	12
		1999	83	18	82	18
		2003	82	19	81	19
Candidates and elected members of the councils of local municipalities	Candidates	1993	6 436	2 535	72	28
		1996	7 454	3 674	67	33
		1999	8 240	4 562	64	36
		2002	9 464	5 739	62	38
	Elected members	1993	2 469	834	75	25
		1996	2 533	920	73	27
		1999	2 404	951	72	28
		2002	2 345	928	72	28

Opinion about the participation of women in the decision making process, % of all respondents

	All respondents	Men	Women
There should be more women			
in the Parliament	34	24	43
among ministers	28	19	36
among managers	18	13	22
among mayors and chairmen of rural municipalities	17	12	21
The number of women should remain as it is			
in the Parliament	23	24	22
among ministers	25	25	25
among managers	25	25	25
among mayors and chairmen of rural municipalities	25	25	25
There should be less women			
in the Parliament	4	6	3
among ministers	4	6	3
among managers	6	7	6
among mayors and chairmen of rural municipalities	9	9	9
It is not important			
in the Parliament	39	46	32
among ministers	43	50	36
among managers	51	55	47
among mayors and chairmen of rural municipalities	49	54	45

Source: Equality monitoring conducted by the Estonian Open Society Institute in April 2003, 1006 respondents.

Education

Population (over 10-year old) according to gender and level of education, 2000

Level of education ¹	Men	Women	Structure, %		Women's proportion, %
			Men	Women	
I level: primary or basic education, or education level not known	238 467	253 651	42,6	37,9	51,5
II level: secondary education, vocational education and vocational secondary education after basic education	220 140	250 696	39,4	37,4	53,2
III level:	100 828	165 265	18,0	24,7	62,1
vocational secondary education after secondary education	34 863	74 381	6,2	11,1	68,1
higher education	62 801	88 780	11,2	13,3	58,6
master's level degree	1 222	1 213	0,2	0,2	49,8
doctoral level degree/degree of scientific candidate	1 942	891	0,3	0,1	31,5

1 - Estonian classification of educational levels.

Source: Population Census 2000

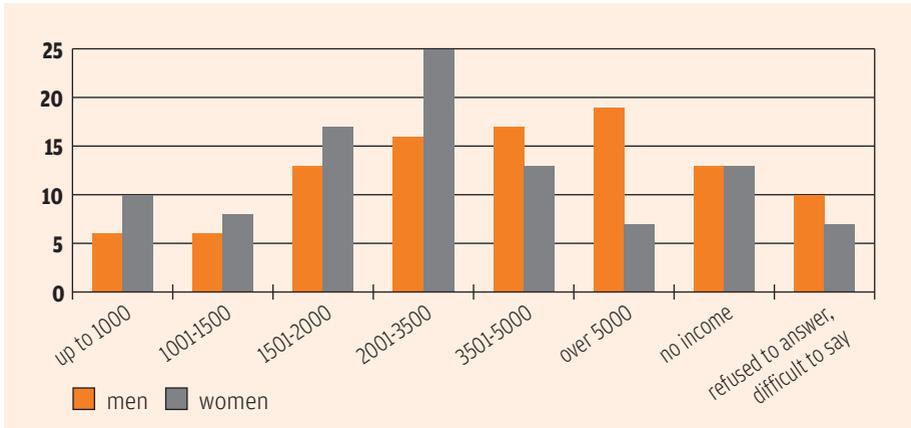
Personnel at educational institutions by sex, 2003

Profession	Men	Women	Total	Proportion of women, %
Kindergartens and general education schools				
Kindergarten educators	25	7 769	7 794	99,7
General education school teachers	2 550	15 377	17 927	85,8
Academic personnel				
Professor	391	76	467	16,3
Special professor	52	10	62	16,1
Docent	438	242	680	35,6
Lecturer	467	579	1 046	55,4
Senior teacher and teacher	112	456	568	80,3
Assistant	151	267	418	63,9
Senior researcher	205	103	308	33,4
Researcher	213	244	457	53,4

Source: Statistical Office

Material situation

Disposable incomes of men and women, 2003, %



Material dependence from husband/wife/partner, % of respondents

	Women	Men	Average
Am dependent	57	17	37
Am not dependent	40	71	56
Wife/husband/partner is my dependent	3	12	7
Total	100	100	100

Proportion of materially dependent persons¹ in the age groups, % of those, who evaluated themselves as dependent

	Women	Men
Up to 20 years old	80	...
21-30 years old	65	6
31-40 years old	73	14
41-50 years old	59	17
Over 50 years old	23	26

1 - Answers from only those who live with husband/wife or in partnership.

Source: Estonian Open Society Institution monitoring on gender equality, April 2003, 1006 respondents.

Use of time

Average time use in a day by primary activity of employed population aged 15 and older (hours, minutes per day and %)

Main activity	All		Employed		Women as compared to men (+ - hours:minutes)	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	All	Employed
Total time	24:00	24:00	24:00	24:00		
Personal care	10:43	10:42	10:33	10:29	- 0:01	- 0:04
Employment	4:16	3:01	5:38	4:48	- 1:15	- 0:50
Study	0:28	0:23	0:04	0:06	- 0:05	+ 0:02
Household work and family care	2:52	5:02	2:37	4:21	+ 2:10	+ 1:44
Volunteer work and meetings	0:20	0:17	0:19	0:15	- 0:03	- 0:04
Leisure time	5:20	4:34	4:47	4:00	- 0:46	- 0:47
Unspecified time use	0:01	0:01	0:02	0:01	-	- 0:01

Source: Estonian Time Use Survey 1999-2000

Violence

Real cases of becoming a victim of violence¹, % of respondents

	Men	Women
Victims of violence in last 12 months	15	20
Becoming a victim of physical and sexual violence ² by the place of occurrence, %		
All places	100	100
at home	28	70
in a public place	69	30
at work	3	-
Informed the police of the last case of violence	14	10

1 - Physical, mental and sexual violence.

2 - Sexual violence in the case of women only.

Source: "Violence and women's health", Open Society Institute, 2003 (<http://www.oef.org/ee/valjaanded/index.php?an=v&i=15>)

Being afraid of becoming a victim of violence, % of respondents

Place	Afraid		Not afraid	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
In the street (at night, in the dark)	49	83	43	15
At home (afraid of intruders)	20	45	70	49
At cinemas, restaurants, parties	21	35	60	50
In the lobby/stairwell of one's apt. building	12	35	80	60
In the street (at daytime)	18	33	77	63
Driving a car	11	31	78	58
In public transport (bus, tram)	12	29	78	66
At work	4	13	86	71
At home (afraid of the members of one's own family)	3	8	94	89
Average	17	35	74	58

Source: Estonian Open Society Institute, 2001, 2003

VIII HEALTH CARE

Statistics from Estonian Health Insurance Fund, the Health Protection Inspectorate, Tuberculosis Registry and the Ministry of Social Affairs is used for the review of health care. Because of the modernization of health statistics system, the ministry is switching to a new electronic data processing method, due to which the statistical data on health services for 2003 is not yet available. The proceedings on 2003 will be ready at the end of 2004. These results will be available on the website (www.sm.ee in the heading “public health”) in February-March 2005 and in the health care statistics collection in March 2005.

The sphere of health care is mainly regulated by the Health Services Organization Act and by the Health Insurance Act. The Health Services Organization Act stipulates the regulation and requirements for providing health care services, directing, financing health care, its supervision and the requirement for health care personnel's registration¹. Health care service is an action taken by a health care employee for preventing, diagnosing and curing an illness, injury or poisoning with the purpose of alleviating discomfort, preventing the deterioration of conditions or the progression of diseases and restoring health.

Health Insurance is a system for covering health care service costs for an insured person for preventing and curing his/her illness, funding purchases of medicines and medical appliances and paying benefits in case of temporary inability for work. Health Insurance uses following principles: providing a service according to the insured person's needs, regional accessibility of treatment and using the insurance funds expediently. The Estonian health insurance functions on the solidarity principle: in case of illness, provision and range of health care services does not depend on the sum of social tax paid for the person. The health insurance fund also pays for the services provided to non-working insured persons from the social tax paid for the working population.

The mandatory health insurance in Estonia applies since January 1st, 1992. The employer is obliged to pay social tax for the employee, incl. for health insurance—13% of gross wages. Persons involved in entrepreneurship must pay the social taxes from their income themselves.

An insured person is a permanent resident in Estonia or a person owning a temporary residence permit in Estonia, for whom social tax is paid or he/she pays it him/herself and other persons equated with the latter by the Health Insurance Act:

- Pregnant women starting from the 12th week of the pregnancy
- Children up to 19 years of age
- Recipients of state pension
- Dependent husbands/wives of insured persons (if there are less than 5 years left until their old-age pension)

¹ - The Act is not customized for the organization of health care services in the army (except for: concerning the registration of health care employees and as to rooms and equipment). The Act is customized in prisons to the requirement of providing health care services in prisons with the specification Imprisonment Act.

- Persons acquiring education (person acquiring basic education until the age of 21, person acquiring secondary education and vocational education on basis of basic education until the age of 24 and pupils acquiring vocational education on basis of secondary education and a permanent resident students in Estonia.

The state pays social tax for following groups:

- Recipients of parental benefits
- Persons on parental leave with an up to 3-year-old child
- Single non-working parents rising an up to 3-year-old child
- Persons receiving a caregiver's allowance on the basis of Social Benefits Act.
- Non-working husbands/wives of diplomats and public servants working in the foreign service
- Persons in military service
- Non-working persons participated in liquidation of the consequences of a nuclear disaster, nuclear test or a nuclear power plant accident until old-age pension age is reached
- Recipients of unemployment benefit.

Unemployment Insurance Fund pays social tax for a person receiving unemployment insurance benefit.

Slightly over 94 percent of the population has been covered with health insurance in the past two years.

Non-insured persons have the right to emergency care. Emergency aid is a health care service provided by a health care employee in a situation where postponing or not giving the needed treatment could cause death or permanent health impairment to the person needing help.

The main targets of the Estonian health care reform in the 1990s were reorganizing state financing system and of the effusive hospital system, decreasing the number of hospitals and beds, increasing the quality and accessibility of the primary level health care service and a more effective use of the resources (incl. introducing the system of family physicians or G.P.s).

The design and the incremental launch of the development plan of the network of Estonian hospitals² has been an important change in the health care system in recent years. The decrease of the number of hospitals in 2000 was mainly due to the creation of SA TÜ Kliinikum (Foundation of Tartu University Clinic), according to which many separately operating clinics were joined as one foundation. As a result of the hospital reform in Tallinn, three institutions providing health care services were founded: SA Põhja-Eesti regionaalhaigla, AS Ida-Tallinna Keskhaigla and AS Lääne-Tallinna Keskhaigla. Due to this, the number of hospitals decreased to 51 by the end of 2002 (68 in 2001).

2 - The development plan of the network of hospitals is regulated by the state government, which also sets the listing of regional, central, general, local and special hospitals in order to ensure egalitarian access to health care services, and also determines the investments for building, renovating and reprofiling the hospitals shown on the hospital list. The Ministry of Social Affairs organizes the preparation of the development plan, which covers 15 years.

With the implementation of the Health Care Services Organisation Act on January 1st, 2002, the classification of the hospitals was changed as well. This is shown in the tables on independent health care institutions below.

Reorganizing primary level health care was one of the main elements of the Estonian health care reform. The changes started in 1991 with the implementation of retraining courses for acquiring the vocation of family medicine. Teaching family medicine as an academic specialty was launched in the Faculty for Medicine in the University of Tartu in 1993. The Ministry for Social Affairs recognized family medicine as a specialty in the same year and the first 25 family physicians received the diploma. By 2002, 701 family physicians were working in Estonia.

New principles for financing the family medicine system were adopted in 1998 - capitation fee constitutes the majority of financing. Also practice lists of patients were adopted and family physicians started their work as private business operators, by signing a contract with the Estonian Health Insurance Fund. Until that primary level health care services were mainly provided by polyclinics, especially in Tallinn, where the family physician reform started somewhat later than in the rest of Estonia (in 1999). By 2000 the transition to the family physician system was complete in the whole of Estonia.

The total costs of health care have slightly exceeded 5 percent of the GDP in past few years. Health care is mainly financed from the state budget-through the health insurance budget of the Estonian Health Insurance Fund (in 2002 65,6% of the total health expenditure) and also by direct allocation from the state budget (in 2002 8.1% of total expenditure).

The Health Insurance Fund finances the services provided to insured persons (70% of the total sum of health insurance benefits in 2003), pays benefits in case of a temporary incapacity to work (17%), and partially or exclusively compensates for the costs of prescription medicines (approximately 13%). The first two cost categories have continuously increased during the past years. The expenditure on subsidised pharmaceuticals, which till now had increased the fastest, started to drop in 2003 (due to fixed reference prices). Health insurance expenditure has increased year after year and constituted 5.3 billion EEK in 2003 (i.e. 4.2% of the GDP).

A range of services is covered from the state budget, in which the most expensive are the compensation for the costs to the provider of aid for emergency services given to non-insured persons and purchasing emergency medical service.

People covered with health insurance, end of the year

	2000	2001	2002	2003
Number of persons with health insurance	1 276 923	1 278 086	1 284 076	1 272 051
share of total population, %	93,4	93,9	94,7	94,2

Source: Health Insurance Fund

Health care institutions, end of the year

Type of institution	Number of institutions					
	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Hospitals total¹	83	78	68	68	51	50
regional hospital ²	..	..	..	..	3	3
central hospital	..	..	..	..	4	4
specialized hospital	..	..	..	..	5	5
general hospital	48	44	39	37	24	19
children's hospital	4	3	2	2	..	..
hospital for infectious diseases	2	2	1	1	..	..
oncology hospital	2	2	1	1	..	..
psychiatric hospital	7	6	5	5	..	..
pulmonary hospital	3	3	2	2	..	..
rehabilitation hospital	..	..	..	..	2	3
care hospital	8	8	12	14	13	16
other hospital	9	10	6	6	-	-
Outpatient clinics	300	485	540	587	625	693
incl general practitioners	...	349	367	401	439	474
incl family doctor centres	...	234	292	361	435	467
Dental care institutions	181	328	364	387	384	427
Institutions providing emergency aid³	...	...	7	8	7	7

1 - A hospital in a unit founded for providing ambulatory and stationary health care services. Since 2002 the types of hospitals are regional hospital, central hospital, general hospital, special hospital, rehabilitation hospital and care hospital. Since 2001 the number of hospitals also includes the Central Hospital for Prisons (from type: general hospital).

2 - Regional hospitals: SA Tartu Ülikooli Kliinikum, SA Põhja-Eesti Regionaalhaigla and SA Tallinna Lastehaigla.

3 - In addition to independent emergency units, emergency units also exist as subunits under other health facilities (normally hospitals).

Health care personnel¹, end of the year

	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002
Physicians²	4 832	4 461	4 477	4 354	4 268
incl family physicians	104	299	448	557	701
Number of physicians per 10 000 inhabitants	33,9	32,3	32,8	32,0	31,5
Dentists²	929	1 014	1 034	1 108	1 078
Number of dentists per 10 000 inhabitants	6,5	7,4	7,6	8,1	7,9
Nursing staff³ and other graduates of medical schools	11 416	10 419	10 095	9 942	9 982
incl nursing staff	9 948	9 055	8 661	8 547	8 725
Number of nursing staff per 10 000 inhabitants	69,8	65,7	63,4	62,8	64,3

1 - A doctor, a dentist and a midwife, if they are registered in the Health Care Board. A health care employee can provide health services in the range of the acquired specialization, which is proven by an according certificate issued by the Health Care Board at the place where they are registered as a health care employee.

2 - The number of practicing doctors and dentists incl. interns. Since 2001 the data also contains the number of employees of the Central Hospital for Prisons.

3 - Incl. midwives.

Ambulatory medical service

	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002
Number of receptions in a year, thousands	8 005	8 142	8 151	8 013	7 955
family physician's receptions, thousands	..	1 337	1 972	2 763	3 615
Ambulatory receptions per one inhabitant in a year	5,5	5,9	6,0	5,9	5,9
ambulatory receptions by family physician per one inhabitant in a year	..	1,0	1,4	2,0	2,7
Number of home visits in a year, thousands	689	651	503	399	292
home visits by a family physicians, thousands	..	170	197	237	248
Home visits per one inhabitant in a year	0,5	0,5	0,4	0,3	0,2

Emergency aid

	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002
Total number of persons who received emergency aid by calls, thousands	277	225	232	242	238
accidents	31	28	35	39	38
illnesses	218	179	178	186	187
transportation of sick and prenatal persons	28	18	19	17	13
Persons who themselves addressed the emergency aid institutions and were provided ambulatory aid, thousands	49	61	54	45	29
Persons who received aid per 1000 inhabitants	227	205	209	211	197

Dental care

	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002
Number of dentist's receptions in a year, thousands	2 053	1 926	1 891	1 825	1 728
Dentist's receptions per one inhabitant in a year	1,4	1,4	1,4	1,3	1,3

Treatment at hospitals and in day-care

	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002
Hospital					
Hospital beds, total, end of the year	11 994	10 509	9 828	9 320	8 248
Hospital beds per 10 000 inhabitants	84,2	76,2	71,9	68,5	60,8
active hospital beds per 10 000 inhabitants	60,8	58,7	55,6	52,0	45,1
Number of hospitalisations per year, thousands	266,3	282,9	279,5	270,6	261,3
Number of in-patients per 1000 inhabitants	185,4	204,1	204,1	198,3	192,3
Average number of bed days per patient	12,7	10,3	9,2	8,8	8,5
Day care hospital¹					
Hospital beds, total, end of the year	244	371	380	395	403
Hospital beds per 10 000 inhabitants	1,7	2,7	2,8	2,9	3,0
Number of hospitalisations per year, thousands	6,2	19,1	21,0	24,9	29,5
Number of in-patients per 1000 inhabitants	4,3	13,8	15,3	18,3	21,7

1 - Operates in a hospital or in an ambulatory facility. There were 51 daily stationaries operating in 2000, in 2001 - 49 and in 2002 - 43.

New cases of selected infectious and main sexually transmitted diseases

	Number of new cases					
	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Active tuberculosis	516	650	642	573	525	490
M	367	448	448	396	348	338
F	149	202	194	177	177	152
New cases of active tuberculosis per 100 000 inhabitants	35,9	46,9	46,9	42,0	38,6	36,1
Tick-borne viral encephalitis	175	387	272	215	90	237
Lyme disease	262	494	601	342	319	562
Viral hepatitis	487	1 986	1 070	1 090	676	542
incl acute hepatitis A	267	989	79	82	23	10
acute hepatitis B	154	495	437	449	244	173
acute hepatitis C	65	367	365	306	199	154
cases of hepatitis C and B per 100 000 inhabitants	15,2	62,2	58,6	55,3	32,6	24,2
Syphilis	1 034	1 050	587	418	287	234
Urogenital chlamydial diseases	5 348	3 916	3 805	4 283	4 114	2 972
HIV infection status	10	10	390	1 474	899	840
M	10	9	312	1 127	632	606
F	-	1	78	347	267	234
AIDS	4	4	3	2	4	10
M	4	4	3	2	4	7
F	-	-	-	-	-	3
Cases in outbreaks caused by microbiological food pollution per 100 000 inhabitants	2,5	0,9	9,9	6,3	9,3	-

Source: Tuberculosis Registry (tuberculosis data) and Health Protection Inspectorate (other infectious diseases).

The notable increase in HIV started in the second half of 2000 and reached a peak in 2001. During the past two years, the registered number of HIV carriers has remained relatively stable, showing a slight tendency of decrease.

The number of days covered by the health insurance benefit for the temporary incapacity for work ¹

Indicator	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Number of health insurance benefit covered days total, thousands	6 755	7 304	6 763	6 328	6 411	6 717
incl sickness benefit days, thousands	4 882	5 244	4 819	4 443	4 504	4 733
average number of sickness benefit days per a registered case	13,2	13,8	12,9	12,8	13,0	12,4
Average number of benefit covered days per 1 employed person	10,7	12,0	11,8	11,0	11,1	11,3
sickness benefit	7,7	8,6	8,4	7,7	7,7	8,0
care benefit	1,2	1,3	1,1	1,1	1,0	1,0
maternity benefit	1,4	1,8	1,9	1,8	2,0	2,1

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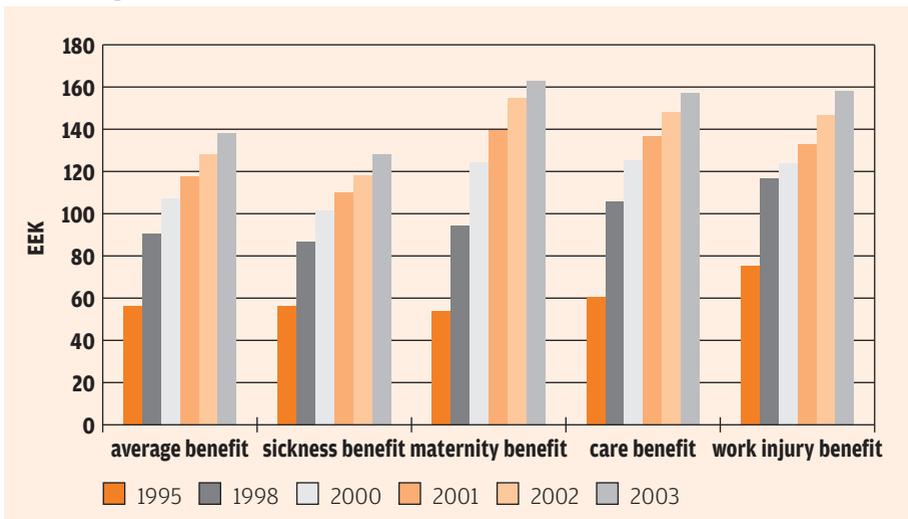
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Indicator	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
work injury benefit	0,1	0,1	0,3	0,3	0,3	0,2
benefit on personal application	0,2	0,2	-	-	-	-
other benefits (temporary transfer to easier work)	-	0,0	0,2	0,1	0,1	-
Average number of benefit covered days (excl maternity benefit) per 1 employed person	9,3	10,2	10,0	9,1	9,1	9,2

1 - Since sickness benefits are not paid for the first sick day, the number of sickness days is somewhat larger.

Source: Estonian Health Insurance Fund

The average sum of benefit for temporary incapacity for work per day



The benefit for incapacity for work (per one day) is lower in case of an illness, compared to other cases of work-incapacity, since 80% of the one-calendar-day-income is paid in case of hospital treatment (until 01.10.2002 - 60%), 80% in case of ambulatory treatment; in case of birth, working-trauma and nursing an up to 12-years old children (until 01.10.2002 - 14-years old) at home 100%. The average income of a calendar day is calculated on the basis of taxed income of the insured person in previous year.

Health insurance expenditure, million EEK

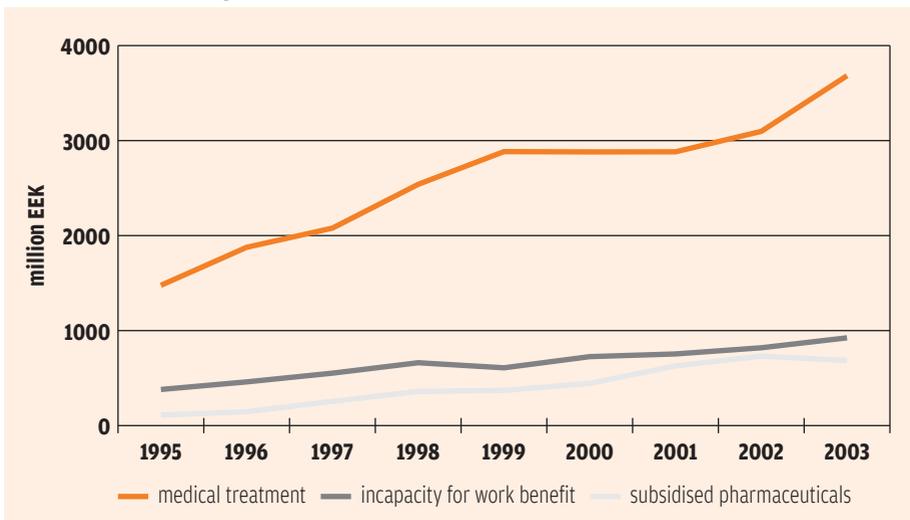
Indicator	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Health insurance benefits, total	1 967,3	3 560,7	4 050,8	4 263,6	4 647,9	5 292,2
Benefits in kind	1 587,1	2 899,0	3 325,0	3 509,4	3 828,6	4 368,3
medical treatment ¹	1 476,6	2 539,5	2 881,0	2 881,5	3 097,2	3 683,2
subsidised pharmaceuticals	110,5	359,5	444,0	627,9	731,4	685,1
Cash benefits in case of temporary incapacity for work	380,2	661,7	725,8	754,2	819,3	923,9
sickness benefit	271,4	455,8	488,1	494,1	529,8	604,2
care benefit	49,4	81,0	77,0	86,8	82,3	91,9
maternity benefit	46,3	100,4	132,3	148,3	182	204,7
benefit on personal application	6,9	14,0	-	-	-	-
work injury benefit	6,3	8,6	19,5	20	25,2	23,1
other benefits (temporary transfer to easier work) ²	-	1,9	8,9	5	..	..
Health insurance benefits as a share of GDP, %	4,57	4,55	4,37	4,09	3,98	4,21
Administration expenses of the Health Insurance Fund	21,6	33,3	46,9	79,0	82,9	86,6

1 - Expenditure on medical services, health promotion and prevention of diseases and centrally purchased pharmaceuticals.

2 - Alates 2002. aastast sisaldub haigushüvitistes

Source: Estonian Health Insurance Fund

Health insurance expenditure



Health care financing from the state budget, million EEK

Functions ¹	1998	2000	2001	2002
Total expenditure	355,0	518,6	508,4	557,4
Medical services	51,6	87,5	91,2	95,1
emergency medical aid to uninsured persons	42,3	72,0	77,1	76,3
forensic psychiatric expertise and coercive treatment	7,4	9,2	8,3	9,8
Rehabilitative care (medical care vouchers)	14,3	5,7	1,0	2,0
Long term nursing care (home care of cancer patients)	-	0,3	0,3	-
Ancillary services to health care	112,3	126,0	141,4	145,3
support to emergency medical aid	111,6	122,5	139,5	144,6
Pharmaceuticals and medical goods	15,5	26,3	28,1	26,2
pharmaceuticals ²	15,5	23,8	20,6	18,0
Preventive and public health programmes	11,9	23,5	31,4	34,6
Health care administration	54,2	62,1	76,5	101,8
Interrelated functions	31,9	110,6	95,1	98,3
Estonian Health Care Project	17,8	20,0	16,0	14,2
compensations in case of work accident ³	13,4	21,6	29,7	34,6
food, hygiene and drinking water inspection; environment monitoring	...	38,3	37,4	35,5
Capital expenses	63,3	76,6	43,4	54,1
State financed health care expenditure as a share of GDP, %	0,45	0,56	0,49	0,47

1 - The table is compiled on the basis of the OECD classification of health care functions ICHA-HC, which is used in calculating total health care expenditure.

2 - Including data on pharmaceuticals used at welfare institutions and other state financed institutions.

3 - The cost of compensation in case of work injuries has been growing due to the liquidation of enterprises without a legal successor. Generally, it is the employer who compensates for the damage in case of a work accident. If the enterprise is liquidated, the compensation is granted from the state budget.

Total health expenditure¹, million EEK

	1999	2000	2001	2002
Total health expenditure	4 949,8	5 145,5	5 353,8	5 958,8
Financing sources, %:	100	100	100	100
state health insurance	66,0	66,0	67,0	65,6
state budget	8,7	8,4	8,2	8,1
local government	2,2	2,0	2,6	2,6
private sector	19,6	23,3	22,2	23,7
households	14,0	19,7	18,8	19,9
insurance	0,8	1,0	1,1	1,0
employers	4,8	2,6	2,3	2,8
foreign assistance, loan	3,5	0,3	-	-

1 - Calculated according to OECD methodology.

Indicators presented to World Health Organisation on the basis of national health accounts, %

	1999	2000	2001	2002
Total health expenditure as a share of GDP	6,06	5,55	5,13	5,09
Public health expenditure as a share of total health expenditure	80,4	76,7	77,8	76,3
Total stationary care expenditure as a share of total health expenditure	35,4	36,2	29,6	30,5
Public stationary care expenditure as a share of total stationary care expenditure	99,2	98,1	96,6	94,3
Total pharmaceutical expenditure as a share of total health expenditure	19,4	22,3	25,1	26,3
Public pharmaceutical expenditure as a share of total pharmaceutical expenditure	40,1	43,6	51,1	50,6
Total capital investment expenditure as a share of total health expenditure	2,2	2,1	1,3	2,3
Salaries as a share of public health expenditure	35,9	35,0	35,0	34,9

IX OLD AGE, DISABILITY, SURVIVORS

Following chapter mainly contains data from Social Insurance Board.

A state pension payable in the case of old age, incapacity for work and loss of provider is a social insurance benefit based on solidarity principle and paid from the resources designated for the expenditures of state pension insurance in the state budget.

The types of state pensions are as follows: old age pension, incapacity for work pension, survivor's pension and national pension. All of these pensions are paid to permanent residents of Estonia and aliens residing in Estonia on the basis of temporary residence permits (the conditions whereby they receive the pension are different according to the types of pension).

A person who has attained 63 years of age and whose length of service acquired in Estonia is at least 15 years, has the right to receive an old age pension. The age limit stated in the law is in force for men since 2001 and for women it will be fulfilled by 2016.

According to the Pension Insurance Act, it is possible to receive an early retirement pension from 2000 and a deferred old age pension from 2002. A person is eligible to receive an early retirement pension not earlier than 3 years before retirement age. In 2000, pursuant to the act, it was possible to receive early retirement 2 years before retirement age. A three-year time period is valid pursuant to the act since 2001. Early retirement pension is calculated by reducing the pension by 0.4% for every month of retirement prior to retirement age. Deferred old age pensions are calculated by increasing the pension by 0.9 % for every month passing retirement age.

Persons at least 16 years old and declared permanently incapacitated for work¹ with a 40 to 100% loss of work capacity and who have worked for the required amount of time set by law (14 years for persons from 60-62) have the right to receive a pension for incapacity for work. There is no requirement for length of service for persons aged 16-20. In the case of permanent incapacity for work arising from a work injury or occupational disease, the length of service requirement is waived. Persons declared permanently incapacitated for work shall be granted a incapacity for work pension until retirement age.

Upon a death of a provider, dependent family members are eligible for a survivor's pension². The right of the provider's children, parents and the widow/widower to receive a survivor's pension does not depend on whether they were maintained by the provider or not. Granting of a survivor's pension is related to the length of service acquired in Estonia by a provider (on the same grounds as a pension for incapacity of work). If a provider died because of work injury or occupational disease, the length of service requirement is waived.

1 - Permanent incapacity for work has two levels: total and partial incapacity. Total incapacity for work equals 100% loss of working capacity, partial - 10-90% loss of working capacity. Permanent incapacity, the cause and duration is determined by medical expertise on incapacity.

2 - The amount of survivor's pension for 3 or more family members is 100%, for 2 members - 80% and 1 member -50% of old age pension as a basis for calculation.

3 - The amount of pension is 100% of national pension rate. For surviving family members national pension is paid as follows: for 3 and more members - total of 100% of national pension rate, for 2 members - 80% and 1 member - 50% of the rate.

The right to receive a national pension³ is enjoyed by persons who are at least 63 years of age, are not eligible for old age pension due to insufficient length of service, and have been permanent residents of Estonia or have resided in Estonia on the basis of a temporary residence permit for at least five years immediately before they filed for a pension.

According to the State Pension Insurance Act, in force since 2000, the basis for assigning pensions was significantly changed together with the numbers of pensioners in every category of pension. Thus since January 1, 2001, the number of persons receiving pensions in every category of pension has no longer been comparable to past years but it helps us evaluate the internal changes connected to pension reform. The disabled persons of retirement age who received disability pension generally started receiving old age pensions; disabled persons of working age started to receive the incapacity for work pension. Thus the number of persons receiving the old age pension increased significantly (by 13,000 or 4.6%) and the number of persons on incapacity for work pension decreased (approximately 35%). By these changes in the number of persons receiving pensions in these two important pension categories, the number of persons receiving old age pension increased to 79.7% of all pension receivers by the beginning of 2001 (in the beginning of 2000 the percentage was 75%), the proportion of persons receiving incapacity for work pension decreased at the same time from 17.6% to 11.6%. Already starting from the year 2001, the number of persons receiving the incapacity for work pension started to rise again and reached 55,500 (14.7% of all pensioners) by the beginning of the year 2004. The growing number of persons on incapacity for work pension has been mainly due to the number of persons with the lowest percentage of loss in capacity of work (40% to 70% loss of capacity of work). Over 8,500 people with this profile receiving incapacity for work pension were added during the past 3 years, increasing the share of persons with a 40% to 70% loss of capacity of work to 42.6% of the total number of persons receiving incapacity for work pension by the beginning of 2004 (in the beginning of 2001 the percentage was 34.5).

The opportunity for early retirement pension enacted by the State Pension Insurance Act was employed immediately. In the past few years, the number of persons receiving this pension has increased significantly. While in the year 2001, when the possibility of receiving pensions 3 years before the retirement age was created, the number of persons using this opportunity was 4,620 (1.5% of all old age pensioners), by the beginning of 2004 the number was 7,715 or 2.6%. The reasons for this increase are different but it is certainly affected by the increasing level of unemployment among persons close to retirement age. The number of persons receiving national pension has increased on the account of the persons who do not have the required length of service for receiving incapacity for work pension or on the account of those whose provider does not have the required length of service for receiving a survivor's pension.

Disabled children started receiving disabled child allowances on the basis of the Social Benefits for the Disabled Persons Act, instead of former child disability pensions.

A part of the Social Benefits for Disabled Persons Act came into force in 2000 while the law entered fully into force in January 2001. New types of benefit are disabled adult allow-

ance and caregiver's allowance, education allowance for a non-working disabled student, rehabilitation allowance and in-service training allowance. Other benefits were previously regulated by different acts - the disabled child allowance was paid as a child disability pension, disabled parent's allowance and a benefit for taking care of a disabled child were paid based on Child Benefits Act, transport and telephone subsidies were provided as social assistance based on Social Welfare Act. Since 2002 the transportation and telephone subsidies are added to disabled child allowance and have not been drawn out separately.

Until 2000, disability group status was given to persons of working age as well as those of pension age. Starting April 1, 2000, the percentage of the loss of capacity of work is generally determined only for persons in working age (also for persons of pension age in the case of work injury and occupational diseases).

Implementing funded pension system (in 2002) allows additional income to be earned for retirement age, in addition to the state pension insurance, by persons who have contributed to the pension funds. Signing up for the compulsory funded pension (pillar II) is voluntary for those born before 1983 and compulsory for those born in 1983 or later. The additional funded pension (III pillar) is a voluntary system. Contributions to the funded pension are income tax-deductible to a maximum of 15% of the taxpayer's income in a taxation period.

Average pension sizes by type¹

Type of pension	1995 ²	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Average pension	637	1 152	1 413	1 477	1 625	1 816
Old age pension	670	1 247	1 532	1 583	1 758	1 985
early-retirement old age pension	-	-	1 316	1 328	1 471	1 657
deferred old age pension	-	-	-	-	1 766	2 061
state special pension ³	-	-	...	...	5 548	5 903
Superannuated pension⁴	501	827	1 093	1 341	1 408	1 562
Incapacity for work pension	536	902	1 067	1 026	1 067	1 199
100% loss of working capacity	..	..	1 281	1 310	1 459	1 664
80-90% loss of working capacity	..	..	1 160	1 133	1 194	1 346
40-70% loss of working capacity	..	..	826	831	907	1 004
Survivor's pension						
per family member incapable for work	447	692	825	777	705	707
per family receiving survivor's pension	685	1 250	1 138	1 080	1 028	996
National pension	375	630	913	913	948	989
per member of family receiving pension	-	-	941	872	839	808

1 - Data from two different statistical reports have been used in the table above. The sizes of the main types of pension (bold) are yearly averages. The rest of the sizes of the types of pension have been calculated based on the number of accounted pensioners and the amount of monthly pension paid to them by the state as of January 1. The data on January 1st is presented for previous year - the situation in the beginning of the year reflects more the level of the pensions of the last year because it has been generally paid for three quarters of the year. Pensions are indexed at April 1st.

2 - Up to 1996, the working pensioners did not receive full pension.

3 - Pensions granted to police officers, State Audit Office workers, judges, prosecutors and the Legal Chancellor.

4 - Pensions paid to certain occupation groups on the basis of Superannuated Pensions Act (police, aeronautics, mining, certain categories of education and medical specialists, entertainment artists etc) and regular members of Defence Forces with sufficient length of service on the basis of Defence Forces Service Act.

The base amount of pension, the value of a year of pensionable service and national pension rate, EEK¹

Date of enforcement	Base amount of pension	Value of a year of pensionable service (annual factor)	National pension rate
01.04.2000	410	26.24	800
01.04.2001	410	27.40	800
01.01.2002	410	27.85	800
01.04.2002	444	30.19	867
01.07.2002	444	31.69	867
01.04.2003	477	34.04	931
01.07.2003	577	34.04	931
01.04.2004	664	37.31	990

1 - The amount of the old-age pension depends on the base amount, a component of years of service and an insurance component. The amount of the component of years of pensionable service equals the number of these years (calculated until 1998) multiplied by the value of a year of pensionable service; the amount of the insurance component equals the sum of the annual factors (since 01.01.1999) multiplied by the value of a year of pensionable service. Since April 1, 2002 pensions are indexed by an index the value of which is the arithmetic average of the yearly increase of the consumer price index and the yearly increase in receipt of the pension insurance part of social tax. In 2002 the index was 1.084, in 2003- 1.074 and in 2004 - 1,063.

Average social tax for calculating the value of the year of pensionable service of the insured person, EEK

Year	Average amount of individually registered social tax, per year	Average wages calculated on the basis of social tax, per month
1999	14 891	3 760
2000	16 606	4 193
2001	18 445	4 658
2002	20 778 / 12 593 ¹	5 247
2003	13 977 ¹	5 824

1 - Average amount of pension insurance part of individually registered social tax (20%).

The individually registered social tax depending on the wages has been calculated since 1999. In 1999-2001 the annual factor of insured person equaled the total of the insured person's social tax divided by average amount of individually registered social tax (33%), since 2002 it equals the insured person's state pension insurance part of social tax (so called I pillar) divided by average amount of the state pension insurance part of the individually registered social tax (20%).

Reaching the retirement age

Year of reaching retirement age	Women		Men
	year of birth	age (years)	age (years)
2003	1944	58,5	63
2004	1945	59	
2005/2006	1946	59,5	
2007	1947	60	
2008/2009	1948	60,5	
2010	1949	61	
2011/2012	1950	61,5	
2013	1951	62	
2014/2015	1952	62,5	
2016	1953	63	

The age limit for men set by law is in force since year 2001, for women it will be fulfilled by the year 2016.

Number of persons receiving state pensions by type of pension, on January 1st

Type of pension	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Pension recipients total¹	381 709	374 085	379 292	372 972	376 549	377 136	377 343
Old age pensioners	302 099	286 198	284 327	297 363	298 490	296 836	294 063
early retirement old age pension recipients	-	-	-	2 349	4 620	6 274	7 715
deferred old-age pension recipients	-	-	-	-	-	91	168
special pension recipients	-	...	...	...	...	916	1 031
Recipients of a superannuated pension	4 168	3 567	3 240	3 369	3 386	2 839	2 820
Recipients of the pension for incapacity for work	52 339	59 938	66 814	43 394	47 140	51 339	55 480
1st group; 100% loss of the capacity for work	6 860	7 163	7 496	4 449	5 449	6 644	7 538
2nd group; 80-90% loss of the capacity for work	33 402	37 725	41 098	23 994	23 560	23 636	24 297
3rd group; 40-70% loss of the capacity for work	8 392	10 573	13 468	14 951	18 131	21 059	23 645
disabled children	3 685	4 477	4 752	..	..	..	..
Recipients of survivor's pension							
family members	21 283	22 476	23 256	21 936	19 429	11 960	11 613
families	15 810	15 267	15 318	15 712	14 017	8 183	7 924
Recipients of national pension²	1 787	1 906	1 655	6 910	8 104	14 162	13 367
The share of pensioners of total population, %	26,4	26,9	27,6	27,3	27,7	27,8	27,9

1 - With all types of pensions, number of persons receiving pension has been taken into account.

2 - Recipients of the national pension due to the age and the loss of capacity for work; and in case of loss of the provider also the family members incapable for work to whom the national pension has been granted.

State pension insurance expenditure, million EEK

	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Total	2 865,6	5 205,2	6 473,7	6 621,1	7 285,6	8 154,2
incl pensions and supplements financed from state budget ¹	-	145,2	259,5	257,0	360,9	391,4
old-age pension	2 388,9	4 303,5	5 467,8	5 704,2	6 309,2	7 049,0
pension for incapacity for work	340,5	664,2	663,3	578,4	655,9	794,6
survivor's pension	107,7	185,8	229,4	206,0	156,0	102,8
superannuated pension	19,3	26,8	36,9	43,8	44,4	48,6
national pension	7,2	13,4	67,3	77,3	105,7	141,1
parliamentary pension, occupational pension of the President of the Republic ²	2,0	5,5	9,1	11,5	14,4	18,1
Pension expenditure as a share of GDP, %	6,65	6,64	6,98	6,35	6,23	6,48
Disbursement expenses, informing the insured persons	43,0	32,3	39,7	38,4	37,4	33,1
Administrative expenses of Social Insurance Board	...	81,8	79,6	76,7	80,6	77,4

1 - Different pensions and additions to pensions are financed from the state budget: national pension, pensions and additions for public servants (judge, attorney, the servant of a State Audit Office, executive of law, member of the defence forces, policeman, member of the parliament, president).
 2 - These pensions are paid from the budgets of the Office of the President and the Riigikogu (the Parliament of Estonia). These figures include old-age pensions for MPs (75 per cent of the salary) and survivor's pensions for the MP's family members (30 per cent of the salary per each family member incapable for work) and occupational pension of the President (75 per cent of the salary). The state old-age pensions for parliamentarians are not paid to the MPs during their time in office. For 2002 and 2003 the data is based on the budget.

Making contributions to Funded Pension¹

Mandatory funded pension (II pillar)			
Year	Number of contributors, end of year	The sum of payments, million EEK	The whole capacity of funds - final balance, end of the year, million EEK
2002	209 610	83,6	172,0
2003	353 176	982,8	991,8

1 - It is obligatory to make contributions to the mandatory funded pension (II pillar) for those born in 1983 and later, for the rest it is voluntary. As of July 1, 2002 the rate of contribution to the mandatory fund is 2% on wages and other remuneration specified in Social Tax Act. From the social tax of those making contributions, an additional 4% is added into the II column, by which the share of contributions into the state pension insurance (I pillar) fund is reduced.

Source: Estonian CSD

Supplementary funded pension (III pillar)			
Year	Number of contributors, end of year	Funds received, million EEK	Total insurance contribution, end of the year, million EEK
1998	348	1,3	15,4
1999	10 452	43,4	885,1
2000	24 430	111,3	2 123,5
2001	34 883	166,4	2 658,9
2002	46 732	235,8	3 685,7
2003	58 317	307,5	4 935,8

Source: Finance Inspection

Amounts of social benefits for disabled persons and number of benefit recipients

Type of benefit	Amount of benefit, EEK per month			Recipients, end of period			
	2000	2001	2002, 2003	2000	2001	2002	2003
Disabled child allowance				4 409	4 722	4 923	5 125
moderate disability	840	840	860	2 691	1 778	1 720	1 783
severe or profound disability	940	940	1020	1 718	2 944	3 203	3 342
Disabled adult allowance				-	84 168	88 794	92 605
moderate disability	-	200	200	-	29 251	31 780	32 038
severe disability	-	420	420	-	41 427	43 947	48 038
profound disability	-	640	640	-	13 490	13 067	12 529
Caregiver's allowance (by the number of wards)				2071	26 841	31 813	35 230
to a non-working parent of a disabled child aged 3-16	300	300	300	2 071 ¹	2 194	2 157	2 024
to a non-working parent of a disabled child aged 16-18 and to a non-working caregiver or guardian of a disabled person of aged 18 and older:				-	24 647	29 656	33 206
severe disability	-	240	240	-	15 979	20 566	24 381
profound disability	-	400	400	-	8 668	9 090	8 825
Disabled parent's allowance ²	300	300	300	1 472	1 784	1 591	1 525
Education allowance to a non-working disabled student		100-400		15	32	27	31
Rehabilitation allowance (for persons aged 16-65)	-	Up to 800 EEK per year		-	115	1 381	1 614
In-service training allowance (lump-sum)	-	Up to 9600 EEK in 3 years			4	30	52

1 - For a parent of a disabled child aged 3-18.

2 - Allowance per child and number of children.

Expenditure on social benefits for disabled persons, million EEK

Type of benefit	2000 ¹	2001	2002	2003
Total	75,7	441,2	565,2	588,8
incl disabled child allowance	46,9	50,0	57,2	59,7
disabled adult allowance	-	318,4	396,8	408,0
caregiver's allowance	7,0	63,8	104,6	114,2
other allowances	21,8	9,0	6,6	6,9
Share of benefits in the GDP, %	0,08	0,42	0,48	0,47
Disbursement expenses	1,1	6,9	9,3	7,6

1 - The Social Benefit for Disabled Persons Act was completely in force in the beginning of the year 2001.

First-time permanent incapacity for work

Indicator	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
New cases of disability, permanent incapacity for work¹	7 427	9 957	8 855	9 684	9 574	9 760
1st group; 100% loss of capacity for work	988	1 398	1 179	1 305	1 461	1 490
2nd group; 80-90% loss of capacity for working	4 677	6 273	3 949	3 348	2 852	2 749
3rd group; 40-70% loss of capacity for work	1 762	2 286	3 507	4 741	4 839	5 079
10-30% loss of capacity for work ²	..	..	220	290	422	442
Persons with temporary incapacity for work³	874	855	646	782	892	922

1 - Until 2000 persons in both working and retirement age could be registered under a disability group, since April 1, 2000 the degree of the loss of capacity for work is determined only in case the person is in working age (in case of occupational accidents or disease also for persons in their retirement age).

2 - Determined in case of occupational accidents and diseases because in these cases the employer is also obligated to compensate 10130% loss of capacity for work.

3 - In case of a lasting illness (121 to 182 days, in case of tuberculosis from 128 to 240 days) the medical assessment committee has made a decision to prolong the certificate for sick leave.

Source: medical expertise data

Results of recurrent assessment of incapacity for work

Year	Number of cases of recurrent assessment	Determined incapable for work ¹	incl percentage of loss of capacity for work			Determined capable for work
			raised	not changed	lowered	
Number of persons						
2000	23 633	23 435	3 587	14 835	5 013	198
2001	23 437	23 213	4 782	14 628	3 803	224
2002	27 419	27 321	5 451	18 276	3 594	98
2003	28 969	28 932	5 594	20 241	3 097	37
%						
2000	100	99,2	15,2	62,8	21,2	0,8
2001	100	99,0	20,4	62,4	16,2	1,0
2002	100	99,6	19,9	66,7	13,1	0,4
2003	100	99,9	19,3	69,9	10,7	0,1

1 - Permanent incapacity for work may be determined for a term of 6 months or 1, 2 or 5 years or until the retirement age, in case the retirement age is gained earlier than the term mentioned before ends. The term is determined proceeding from the degree of severity of the illness and the state of functioning of the organism, the changes that have taken place so far and the future prognosis. In case of continuous loss of capacity for work, a recurrent assessment shall be carried out.

Source: medical expertise data

Determination of disability for the first time¹ according to the degree of severity of disability and person's age

Degree of severity of disability	Number of persons				Structure, %			
	2000 ²	2001 ²	2002	2003	2000	2001	2002	2003
Degree of disability determined for the first time, total	45 433	57 281	19 899	17 237	100	100	100	100
incl under 16	3 134	2 285	996	1 015	6,9	4,0	5,0	5,9
16–63	28 984	18 488	6 124	5 577	63,8	32,3	30,8	32,3
63 and older	13 315	36 508	12 779	10 645	29,3	63,7	64,2	61,8
Severe disability	7 356	9 851	2 870	2 315	16,2	17,2	14,4	13,4
incl under 16	764	328	145	138	1,7	0,6	0,7	0,8
16–63	3 512	1 686	491	415	7,7	2,9	2,5	2,4
63 and older	3 080	7 837	2 234	1762	6,8	13,7	11,2	10,2
Profound disability	23 488	26 451	9 128	8 211	51,7	46,2	45,9	47,7
incl under 16	1 303	1 086	492	450	2,9	1,9	2,5	2,6
16–63	14 738	7 940	2 294	2 142	32,4	13,9	11,5	12,4
63 and older	7 447	17 425	6 342	5 619	16,4	30,4	31,9	32,6
Moderate disability	14 589	20 979	7 901	6 711	32,1	36,6	39,7	38,9
incl under 16	1 067	871	359	427	2,4	1,5	1,8	2,5
16–63	10 734	8 862	3 339	3 020	23,6	15,5	16,8	17,5
63 and older	2 788	11 246	4 203	3 264	6,1	19,6	21,1	18,9

1 - Since 2000 for payment of social benefits to the disabled persons the degree of severity of disability is determined.

2 - As the disabled adult allowance and caregiver's allowance are paid since 2001, in 2000 and 2001 the degree of severity of disability was determined for both, former disabled pensioners as well as new disabled persons.

Source: medical expertise data

X SOCIAL WELFARE

The aim of social welfare is providing help to a person or family for preventing, solving or easing coping difficulties and promoting the social security, development and adjustment in the society for people with special social needs. The Social Welfare Act regulates organizational, economic and juridical bases of social welfare and relations arising in social welfare.

The following section contains statistical data collected and processed at the Ministry of Social Affairs of Estonia¹. The content and volume of the collected data changed significantly in 2003, due to the conversion from institution-centered reporting to service-centered. Reports given by institutions providing social welfare services are now divided into two separate reports: reports of service and of the institution. According to this, it is not possible to present full-range data for 2003 to be compared to previous years. This mainly concerns the matter of expenditure, where only direct costs concerning providing of service and financing sources can be highlighted in the report. Monthly costs of providing service cannot be referenced to a specific service, since one institution often provides several services, but only one annual economic report is presented by the institution. Still, in the big picture, the contents of the tables comply with the data presented in the collections of previous years.

Due to the shift to service-centered reporting, there have been significant changes in the sphere of welfare services concerning adults with mental disabilities. While until 2003, only persons in special care institutions and special departments of hospitals were recorded, then for 2003 all persons with mental disabilities receiving welfare services and the institutions that provided them (special care institutions, day centres, social centres etc) are presented.

Compared to previous years, the type of institutions providing welfare services for orphans and children without parental care changed in 2003. Since 2003, family type welfare institutions do not exist as a separate type of welfare institution anymore, but are recorded as children's homes. SOS-type institutions are not treated as children's welfare institutions since 2003, and children living there are treated as children in foster care. The changes in the number of orphans and children without parental care in different types of institutions are caused by these changes.

Since 2003, only rehabilitation service provided to persons released from custodial institutions has been listed as rehabilitation services, in previous years also rehabilitation service provided to clients with other causes. For that reason, the number of service clients has decreased significantly compared 2002.

1 - Since 2003 following data are compiled at the Ministry of Social Affairs: subsistence benefit; foster care; domestic services; children without parental care; inevitable social aid; providing welfare services to orphans and children without parental care at welfare institution; welfare services for adults with mental disabilities; rehabilitation services for adults with mental disabilities; rehabilitation services for disabled persons; providing prosthetic, orthopedic and other devices under preferential conditions; welfare services to adults at welfare institutions; housing service at social housing and support homes; shelter service and rehabilitation service to persons released from custodial institutions; day centre service; lodging service for the homeless; welfare institution.

The most important indicators for the previously mentioned services are presented in the current collection. Full-scale reports can be seen in the S-web (social register based reports since 2001 collected by local governments) and H-web (reports since 2003 collected by institutions providing welfare services) on the website www.sm.ee/sveeb and www.sm.ee/hveeb.

Data on disabled persons receiving prosthetic and orthopedic devices and other devices under preferential conditions is presented for the first time. These devices are products, instruments, equipment or technical systems that help prevent an injury-caused or congenital defect or handicap from getting worse, compensate for functional disorders caused by the damages or handicap, or improve or maintain the highest possible level of physical and social independence and capacity to function. Following persons can apply buying, leasing or compensation for the relevant services of technical devices under preferential conditions: parents or child's guardians; persons of working age who have the loss of working capacity over 40% or the level of impairment has been assigned; old age pensioners, whose ability to function can be improved by the devices, diabetics injecting insulin.

The number and range of welfare services has increased in the last years. So providing prosthetic, orthopedic and other devices, as well as homecare services have grown from year to year, also the number of social housing allocations, which more and more helps to meet the demand for housing service. The number of small and comfortable general-type welfare institutions has increased which enables to meet the need of elderly people for care service in welfare institution more efficiently. The number of services provided to persons with mental disabilities and the number of persons receiving these services in general, has increased.

Expenditure on welfare services is mainly covered by the state, by local governments and the service recipients themselves. The welfare costs for orphans and children without parental care, also of persons released from custodial institutions, are covered by the state. Costs related to offering welfare and rehabilitation services to adults with mental disabilities is also covered by the state, with some involvement of the person or family members. As to other services, the main financier is the local government, but the tendency is increasing payment for the services by the person or by the individuals closest to them. Until 1999, foster care was mainly financed from the local budget. In 1999 and 2000 the state covered up to 1,700 EEK/month for a child in foster care. Since 2001 a monthly allowance of a six-time child allowance (900 EEK) is paid to a child in foster care from the state budget.

Subsistence benefits are paid to persons whose monthly income, after standard housing costs are covered, is below the subsistence level set by the government (since 2002 with State Budget Act). Since November 1997, the subsistence level of the family's first member is 500 EEK. In determining the subsistence allowance for the family, a consumption coefficient of 0.8 (until 1999, 0.7) is used for other family members. The sum paid for the benefits from subsistence benefits resources has decreased in the last years, as have the number of families who received the allowance. However, the size of the allowance per application has increased. The most common recipients of the allowance are families with long-term

unemployed or unemployed persons looking for a job, also families with children. In 2003, families with a long-term unemployed person or with an unemployed person looking for a job, received allowances an average of 8.6 times (state average 6.1 times). Compared to 2002, the proportion of student families and, slightly, that of pensioners decreased in 2003. The significant decrease of the proportion of student families is due to the fact that since September 5th, 2003, only married students receive allowance as a separate family, according to the Adjustment Act of the Social Welfare Act.

Institutions providing welfare services, end of the year

Institution	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Welfare institutions for children and youth/ institutions providing welfare services to orphans and children without parental care	31	37	37	35	39	37
children's homes	24	24	27	24	26	28
school-homes	7	7	4	1	1	2
family type care homes	-	3	4	4	4	-
youth homes	-	2	1	2	5	1
mixed type institutions	-	1	1	4	3	6
Welfare institutions for adults/Institutions providing welfare services to adults	82	107	115	117	122	179
general welfare institutions/institutions providing welfare services to adults (except for persons with mental disabilities)	68	89	96	97	101	108
special welfare institutions/institutions providing welfare- and rehabilitation services to adults with mental disabilities	14	18	19	20	21	71

Wards in welfare institutions/number of persons receiving welfare service, end of the year

Institution	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Welfare institutions for children and youth/ Children receiving welfare services at institution	1 470	1 699	1 715	1 814	1 881	1 542
children's homes	1 081	1 143	1 179	1 280	1 367	987 ¹
school-homes	389	409	330	108	108	60
family type care homes	-	88	153	161	153	-
youth homes	-	36	23	46	75	30
mixed type institutions	-	23	30	219	178	465 ¹
Welfare institutions for adults/Adults receiving welfare services at institution	4 961	5 609	5 785	5 825	5 966	8 008
general welfare institutions/adults receiving welfare service (except for persons with mental disabilities)	2 453	3 013	3 276	3 356	3 509	3 890
special welfare institutions/adults with mental disabilities receiving welfare service	2 508	2 596	2 509	2 469	2 457	4 118

1 - Caused by the change in the types of institutions.

Wards of the service in the welfare institutions and their proportion in the population by age group¹, end of the year

	Age group								Total
	0-2	3-6	7-17	18-29	30-49	50-64	65-74	>75	
Number of wards									
1998	110	186	1 205	550	1 011	1 185	1 028	2 033	7 308
2000	111	145	1 221	528	1 040	1 281	1 103	2 071	7 500
2001	96	156	1 243	595	1 041	1 324	1 073	2 111	7 639
2002	100	160	1 295	578	1 047	1 374	1 140	2 153	7 847
2003 ²	81	150	1 118	233	190	602	830	2 228	5 432
incl at special care institutions and school-homes									
1998	0	25	269	432	888	787	382	222	3 005
2000	0	13	180	382	864	789	384	227	2 839
2001	0	1	58	286	852	783	382	215	2 577
2002	0	0	50	271	878	820	362	184	2 565
2003 ³	0	1	46	13	-	-	-	-	60
Share of population, %⁴									
1998	...	...	...	...	0,26	0,49	0,78	2,83	0,53
2000	0,30	0,28	0,56	0,23	0,27	0,53	0,84	2,69	0,55
2001	0,26	0,32	0,59	0,26	0,27	0,55	0,82	2,64	0,56
2002	0,26	0,33	0,64	0,25	0,28	0,57	0,86	2,59	0,58

1 - The given table does not contain data about the welfare services and rehabilitation services given to persons with mental disabilities in 2003. A separate table shows the mentioned contingent, which shows the recipients of the service during the year.

2 - Only wards and adults at children and youth's welfare institutions (except for persons with mental disabilities) receiving welfare service.

3 - Only wards at school-homes.

4 - Data is missing for 2003 due to lack of data on population age distribution.

Persons with mental disabilities receiving welfare and rehabilitation services by age¹, during the year

	Welfare services			Rehabilitation services		
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Number of service recipients	3 906	4 325	4 491	281	350	669
under 18	25	20	12	48	24	33
18-29	762	808	949	81	93	233
30-39	712	836	889	45	89	145
40-49	765	877	898	55	94	135
50-59	643	757	757	36	46	113
60-64	372	396	337	14	4	10
65-74	429	438	439	2	0	0
75 and older	198	193	210	0	0	0

1 - Every recipient is counted once, irrespective of how many welfare services he/she used during the year.

Adults with mental disabilities receiving welfare service by service type¹, the year

Type of service	2001	2002	2003
Supporting everyday life	1 097	1 279	1 525
Assisted living	349	421	565
Living in a community	24	26	28
Supporting work	523	451	516
Twenty-four hour nursing	1 996	2 060	2 130
Twenty-four hour nursing with reinforced support	120	85	94
Twenty-four hour nursing with reinforced supervision	113	161	189
Total number of persons	4 222	4 483	5 047

1 - The number of recipients is bigger than in the previous table, since one and the same person can receive several services during the year.

Movement of wards in the welfare institutions/movement of persons who received welfare services

	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Welfare institutions for children and youth/ children receiving welfare services					
Number of new wards arriving	428	352	396	416	286
Number of wards leaving	376	310	326	362	293
incl to parents	128	93	74	87	44
to another welfare institution	54	25	56	75	58
adopted	52	54	62	40	50
to foster families and guardianship	19	59	35	30	29
to work; started independent life (since 2001)	45	25	78	101	92
other	78	54	21	29	20
General welfare institutions for adults/ adults receiving welfare services					
Number of new wards arriving	1 321	1 459	1 459	1 610	1 850
Number of wards leaving	1 153	1 352	1 385	1 466	1 514
incl to another welfare institution	52	82	84	83	86
started independent life	224	258	226	265	289
dead	829	956	1 021	1 065	1 098
other/gone on to assisted living	48	56	54	53	41
Special welfare institutions for adults/adults receiving welfare services					
Number of new wards arriving	191	136	183	296	...
Number of wards leaving	219	262	236	314	...
incl to another welfare institution	21	41	67	158	...
started independent life	13	25	17	12	...
dead	179	179	143	127	...
other	6	17	9	17	...

Movement of adults with mental disabilities receiving welfare or rehabilitation services

	Welfare service			Rehabilitation service		
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Number of persons arrived for the service	1 065	999	849	266	330	593
incl from other welfare services	443	377	254	77	97	217
from hospital	111	101	74	23	23	26
from home	350	403	430	162	196	334
from elsewhere	161	118	91	4	14	16
Number of persons leaving the service	570	715	626	181	237	517
incl to another welfare service	265	238	206	-	-	-
to live independently	137	177	209	5	10	48
dead	145	123	136	-	-	-
to twenty-hour supervision	-	-	-	82	82	185
onto supporting services	-	-	-	54	129	202
onto public services	-	-	-	34	5	67
elsewhere	23	177	75	6	11	15

Shelters and rehabilitation centers/sheltering service and rehabilitation service for persons released from custodial institutions¹

	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003 ²
Number of institutions	24	28	35	32	28
Number of persons who received the service/ who stayed in the institution	5 291	6 696	5 218	6 223	3 243
men	2 560	3 409	3 482	4 175	2 037
women	2 731	3 287	1 736	2 048	1 206
Persons who received the service/who stayed in the institution by age:					
0-6	385	419	342	280	471
7-17	1 309	2 022	1 691	1 503	1 327
18-24	449	719	389	489	244
25-49	1 990	2 244	1 469	2 285	948
50+	1 158	1 292	1 327	1 666	253
Persons who received the service/who stayed in the institution by cause:					
release from custodial institution	... ³	376	983	815	698
drug abuse	84	486	202	524	211
vagrancy	253	373	617	724	368
alcohol abuse	268	310	324	345	380
homelessness	284	392	891	1 517	595
carelessness at home	403	438	261	307	238
other violence	347	126	53	110	33
family violence	287	262	156	195	326
other/cause not known	2 877	3 312	1 160	1 394	394
difficult financial situation	488	621	571	292	...

1 - Shelters are institutions that provide temporary 24-hour help and protection. Social rehabilitation centres are created for active rehabilitation of persons with special needs (e.g. persons released from prison, drug abusers, disabled persons).

2 - Since 2003 only rehabilitation service provided to persons released from custodial institutions are recorded as rehabilitation service.

3 - Classified as "other cause".

Average expenditure per ward at welfare institutions, EEK per month

	Total expenses			incl								
				staff expenses			management expenses			catering expenses		
	1998	2001	2002	1998	2001	2002	1998	2001	2002	1998	2001	2002
Welfare institutions for children												
children's homes	4 518	5 365	5 944	2 621	2 931	3 264	1 009	1 466	1 519	577	637	667
school-homes	4 650	5 022	4 923	2 884	2 101	2 265	1 099	2 307	1 958	422	505	551
family type care homes	7 052	7 345	7 345	3 666	4 093	4 203	2 151	2 113	1 813	851	886	883
Welfare institutions for adults												
general welfare institutions	4 048	4 364	4 568	1 552	1 829	2 102	1 281	1 207	1 276	575	653	683
special welfare institutions	3 408	3 820	3 850	1 457	1 738	1 995	1 058	1 197	983	543	592	612

Expenditure and financing of welfare services, 2003¹

Type of service	Number of persons receiving the service	Total costs, thousand EEK	Costs were financed by				Calculated costs per service recipients year, EEK
			person	local government	state	other sources	
Taking care of orphans and children without parental care in welfare institutions	1 767	99 697,8	547,7	4 202,9	91 434,9	3 512,3	56 422
Taking care of adults in welfare institutions (except for persons with mental disabilities)	5 404	197 210,7	86 803,9	106 758,4	3 434,3	214,2	36 493
Welfare services for persons with mental disabilities:	5 072	140 025,2	32 233,6	5 804,4	100 959,5	1 027,7	27 607
supporting everyday life	1 525	13 576,4	37,3	3 942,0	9 470,8	126,4	8 902
assisted living	565	12 472,9	3 398,5	1 152,9	7 876,0	45,5	22 076
living in a community	28	1 791,0	354,5	-	776,0	660,5	63 964
supporting working	516	3 673,0	71,1	190,9	3 345,2	65,7	7 118
twenty-four hours nursing	2 130	90 271,3	23 977,4	346,7	65 843,9	103,3	42 380
twenty-four hours nursing with reinforced support	94	6 580,3	1 240,3	-	5 340,0	-	70 003
twenty-four hours nursing with reinforced supervision	189	10 226,7	1 892,8	-	8 307,6	26,3	54 109
Rehabilitation service for adults with mental disabilities	669	4 938,8	-	-	4 938,8	-	7 382

Cont. ►

► Cont.

Type of service	Number of persons receiving the service	Total costs, thousand EEK	Costs were financed by				Calculated costs per service recipients year, EEK
			person	local government	state	other sources	
Sheltering service and rehabilitation service for persons released from custodial institutions	3 243	27 841,5	168,8	23 290,2	2 480,4	1 902,0	8 585
Housing service in social housing, in support home	3 224 ²	30 985,4	3 136,7	25 031,9	689,9	2 126,9	9 610
Day center service	65 069	38 065,3	2 818,7	33 372,5	454,8	1 419,3	585
Domestic service	6 171	33 740,8	746,6	32 873,1	121,1	-	5 468

1 - Costs directly related to providing the service.

2 - As of the end of the year.

Costs per person with mental disabilities receiving welfare and rehabilitation service by type of service, average in month, EEK

Service type	2001	2002	2003
Supporting everyday life	832	755	742
Assisted living	1 357	1 568	1 840
Living in a community	3 952	4 709	5 330
Supporting working	1 166	580	593
Twenty-hour nursing	2 615	2 846	3 532
Twenty-four-hour nursing with reinforced support	4 276	5 238	5 834
Twenty-four-hour nursing with reinforced supervision	4 591	4 498	4 509
Rehabilitation service	594	678	615

Recipients of prosthetic, orthopedic and other devices under preferential conditions, during the year

Type of device	Recipients of devices total ¹	of those:				
		children up to 18 years		persons in working age		persons in retirement age
		total	of those disabled	working	not working	
Sellable and leasable devices total						
2001	21 342	4 246	1 066	660	3 278	13 158
2002	21 694	4 421	1 630	736	3 001	13 536
2003	25 292	4 846	1 785	877	3 377	16 192
of these: moving devices						
2001	5 274	468	143	54	1 227	3 525

Cont. ►

► Cont.

Type of device	Recipients of devices total ¹	of those:					persons in retirement age
		children up to 18 years		persons in working age			
		total	of those disabled	working	not working		
2002	4 319	493	265	54	978	2 794	
2003	5 126	517	295	70	1 105	3 434	
orthoses and prostheses							
2001	5 152	2 745	522	310	467	1 630	
2002	5 577	2 744	665	301	555	1 977	
2003	6 457	3 103	802	310	679	2 365	
care- and nursing devices							
2001	8 223	659	208	113	1 378	6 073	
2002	9 083	833	453	157	1 250	6 843	
2003	9 605	826	415	117	1 266	7 396	
optical devices							
2001	782	159	83	41	164	418	
2002	817	145	97	41	159	472	
2003	797	152	105	41	206	398	
hearing devices							
2001	1 911	215	110	142	42	1 512	
2002	1 898	206	150	183	59	1 450	
2003	3 307	248	168	339	121	2 599	

1 - Every person is counted only once annually, irrespective of how many times devices were received.

Costs of prosthetic, orthopedic and other devices and state financing, thousand EEK

Type of device	Total cost of devices	of this the state paid	
		total	incl. devices for children
Total sellable and leasable devices			
2001	32 396	24 890	6 251
2002	33 938	25 981	6 550
2003	46 147	35 473	9 196
of these: moving devices			
2001	5 192	4 209	927
2002	5 575	4 582	1 069
2003	8 191	7 090	1 850
orthoses and prostheses			
2001	14 495	11 844	2 678
2002	14 807	12 010	3 142
2003	18 892	15 385	3 892
care- and nursing devices			
2001	6 488	3 698	974

Cont. ►

► Cont.

Type of device	Total cost of devices	of this the state paid		
		total	incl. devices for children	
	2002	7 012	4 046	997
	2003	8 521	4 814	1 227
optical devices				
	2001	1 624	1 419	429
	2002	1 639	1 433	321
	2003	2 155	1 884	535
hearing devices				
	2001	4 597	3 720	1 243
	2002	4 905	3 910	1 021
	2003	8 388	6 300	1 692

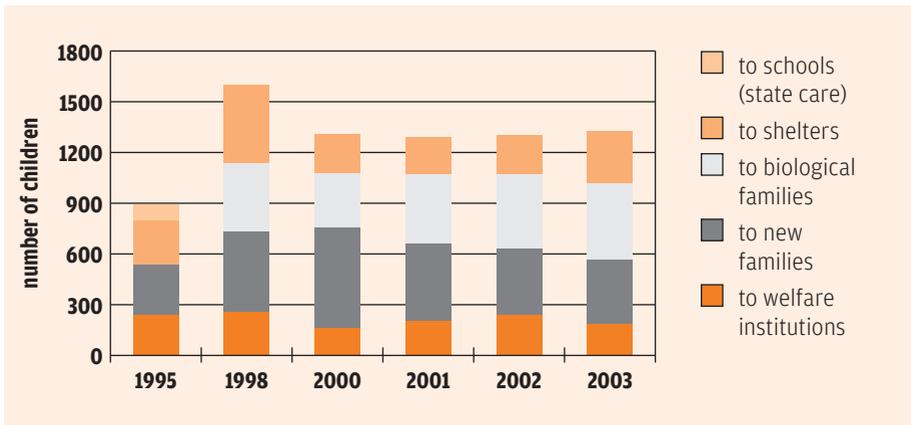
First-time registration and placement of children without parental care

	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Number of children registered during the year	1 134	1 671	1 227 ¹	1 255 ¹	1 249 ¹	1276 ¹
boys	617	905	659	703	703	685
girls	517	766	568	552	546	591
Number of children placed during the year	890	1 595	1 305 ¹	1 288 ¹	1 301 ¹	1326 ¹
to welfare institutions	239	252	157	202	238	184
to new families	296 ²	479	597	455	392	381
to biological families	-	401	320	411	441	453
to shelters	260	463	231	220	230	308
to educational institutions with full state care	95	-	-	-	-	-

1 - The number of placed children exceeds the number of registered children at the account of the children who could not be placed during the previous year.

2 - Including the children placed in their biological families.

Placement of children without parental care, during the year



Adoption and guardianship, during the year

	1995	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Adopted children in total	270	193	164	200	131	130
by the parent's new spouse	188	106	77	99	53	63
by a new family in Estonia	57	57	60	81	46	52
by a new family abroad	25	30	27	20	32	15
Children taken into guardianship	...	319	275	247	272	257

Foster care¹, during the year

	Number of persons in foster families					including the disabled				
	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Foster care service recipients, total	515	1 465	1 482	1 541	1 538	120	127	57	43	31
incl in the age of 0-17 years	291	1 265	1 420	1 461	1 467	7	21	30	32	31
18 and older	224	200	62	80	71	113	106	27	11	-
Share in population, %	0,04	0,11	0,11	0,11	0,11					

	2000	2001	2002	2003
Foster families, total	1 078	896	897	869
incl taking care of children	...	849	852	838
taking care of adults	...	47	45	31

1 - Foster care is the care of a person in an appropriate family of which he or she is not a member. A local government and a foster family have to sign a contract before taking somebody into foster care.

Domestic services¹

Age	Number of domestic service clients						incl persons with special needs					
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Total	5 638	5 429	5 638	5 553	5 964	6 171	1 972	1 906	2 225	2 339	2 927	3 129
<17	243	174	150	149	148	128	33	27	20	20	26	36
18-24	63	97	48	53	57	51	27	34	29	31	39	40
25-49	312	327	302	287	331	342	189	204	223	194	248	246
50-64	715	583	635	638	729	681	427	391	432	419	485	471
65-79	2 147	2 246	2 368	2 315	2 479	2 519	840	828	968	991	1 294	1 352
80+	2 158	2 002	2 135	2 111	2 220	2 450	456	422	553	684	835	984
Share in population, %	0,41	0,39	0,41	0,41	0,44	0,46						

1 - Domestic services are services provided to persons in their homes which help them to cope independently in habitual surroundings.

Social housing¹, end of the year

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Number of places	1 402	1 577	1 700	2 055	2 553
designed for disabled persons	80	115	89	137	141
Number of inhabitants²	1 448	1 682	1 891	2 653	3 224
living alone	1 005	1 119	1 208	1 494	1 866
living as families	443	563	683	1 159	1 358
Inhabitants include					
persons with special needs	245	340	372	718	803
persons in the retirement age	970	1 057	1 220	1 037	1 459
The share in population, %	0,11	0,12	0,14	0,20	0,24

1 - Social housing or living space in municipal ownership to a person needing social service.

2 - In 2002 some housing was retrospectively registered as social housing. Due to this the number of inhabitants in the 2001 column comparable to 2002 is 2,233.

Usage of funds of subsistence benefit, number of accepted applications and average benefit

Type of benefit	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Subsistence benefit					
number of accepted applications per year, thousands	577,2	494,8	443,3	385,7	313,4
average amount of the benefit per application, EEK	503	617	797	847	984
average number of accepted applications per month, thousands	48,1	41,2	36,9	32,1	26,1
share of families who received the benefit (average per month) of all families ¹ , %	7,8	7,2	6,5	5,7	4,6
Supplementary subsistence benefit					
number accepted applications per year, thousands	317,1	29,2	3,8	48,4	37,3
average number of accepted applications per month, thousands	26,4	2,4	0,3	4,0	3,1
the average amount of the benefit per application, EEK	381	343	279	440	454

1 - The indicator is calculated on the basis of the revised number of households given in the Household Budget Survey carried out by the Statistical Office.

Families receiving benefit from the subsistence benefit funds

Toetuse liik	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Families receiving subsistence benefit, thousands	85,1	65,4	70,4	69,3	51,1
share of all families ¹	13,9	11,4	12,4	12,2	9,0
Families receiving supplementary subsistence benefit, thousands²	170,5	24,5	3,6	37,7	35,4
share of all families ¹	27,8	4,2	0,6	6,7	6,3

1 - The indicator is calculated on the basis of the revised number of households given in the Household Budget Survey carried out by the Statistical Office.

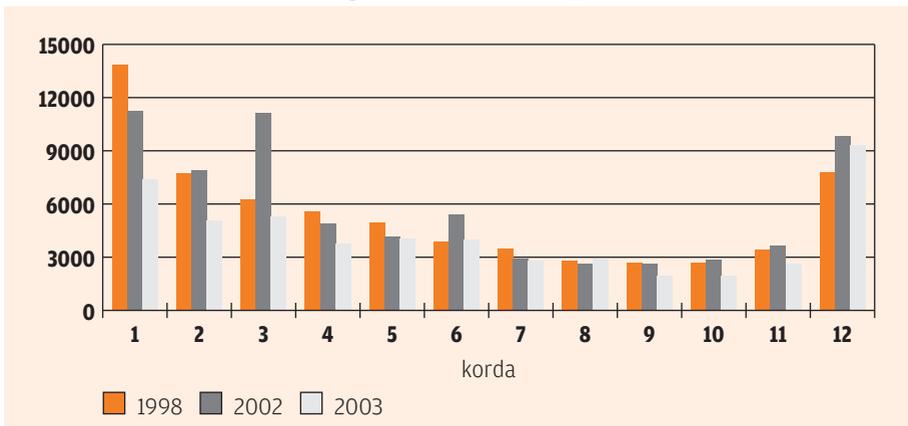
2 - The number of recipient households cannot be summarized, as one household can receive both benefits. Indicates all households notwithstanding the number of times benefit has been granted to them.

Structure of families receiving subsistence benefit¹, %

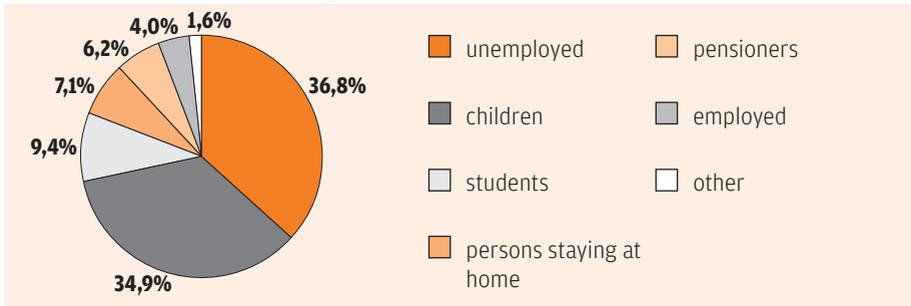
	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003
Families receiving subsistence benefit					
of whom with an unemployed member	...	60,6	59,1	56,6	61,4
incl with a recipient of unemployment benefit	30,5	27,9	31,5	26,5	26,1
with a long-term unemployed person, non-working job-seeker	...	32,7	27,6	30,1	35,3
with children	49,3	45,9	38,3	34,1	38,7
with a pensioner	12,2	5,8	7,7	7,9	7,6
with a student	...	11,7	16,7	21,7	14,6
with a disabled person	7,3	5,8	5,8	5,7	6,3
Families with children receiving subsistence benefit, by the number of children					
with a single child	51,3	54,0	56,7	58,5	54,9
with two children	30,5	29,8	29,0	27,7	27,7
with 3 and more children	18,2	16,2	14,3	13,8	17,4

1 - Calculated on the basis of accepted applications. One and the same family may belong to different household types, i.e. be considered a family with children as well as that with an unemployed person.

Distribution of families receiving subsistence benefit, by number of times in year



Members of families receiving subsistence benefit by social status, 2003



The state budget expenditure on social welfare, million EEK

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Total expenditure	667,0	639,0	570,0	601,5	607,4	593,0
Social benefits total¹	425,5	351,6	318,3	354,9	348,9	326,4
Benefits from the subsistence benefit funds	411,5	336,8	315,3	354,4	347,9	325,1
subsistence benefit	290,6	303,9	305,3	353,3	326,6	308,2
supplementary benefit	120,9	32,9	10,0	1,0	21,3	16,9
Other social benefits²	14,0	14,8	3,0	0,5	1,0	1,3
Social services total	241,4	287,4	251,7	246,6	258,5	266,6
incl state social welfare for persons with special needs ³	94,5	112,3	96,8	89,7	98,8	101,2
general welfare institutions for adults ⁴	6,5	7,1	6,2	4,3	4,0	3,4
state child welfare ⁵	75,5	91,3	88,6	102,2	105,6	105,6
occupational training centre for the disabled	9,9	11,5	11,4	11,1	13,1	14,1
partial compensation of the costs of prostheses and medical devices	23,5	24,7	23,2	25,2	26,2	35,7
state financed welfare programmes	23,7	27,9	12,6	10,0	6,4	2,4
other	7,8	12,6	10,9	4,1	4,4	4,2
Total expenditure as a share of GDP, %	0,85	0,78	0,61	0,58	0,52	0,47
Total expenditure as a share of GDP (incl social benefit for disabled persons), %	0,85	0,78	0,70	1,00	1,00	0,94
Social tax from the state budget ⁶	-	0,7	0,6	19,7	34,5	36,9
Investments into welfare institutions from the state budget and gambling tax ⁷	...	...	...	44,2	50,2	40,9
Welfare projects financed from the gambling tax	...	...	...	11,0	16,1	18,0 ⁸

1 - Social benefits for disabled persons are shown in chapter "Old age, incapacity for work, survivors".

2 - In 2001-2002 social benefits to persons who settled down in Estonia and have Estonian nationality or citizenship and compensations for victims of crime. In previous years, a benefit to casualties of the Chernobyl catastrophe and compensation of transport expenses to the disabled.

3 - Both institutional and open social care expenditure.

4 - The expenses for the person placed at general welfare institutions for adults before January 1, 1993 are covered from the state budget.

5 - For maintenance of orphans and children without parental care at welfare institutions, foster care and social rehabilitation.

6 - For recipients of caregiver allowance (until retirement age) and working disabled persons.

7 - Fo 2003 - only investments from state budget.

8 - Preliminary data.

XI SOCIAL PROTECTION EXPENDITURE

Calculation of social protection expenditure is based on the methodology of ESSPROS (European System of Social Protection Statistics). By its definition social protection is a complex of measures taken by the state, local municipalities or the private sector in order to ease the subsistence of a single person or a household in case of partial or total loss of income when certain risks or needs occur. Social protection expenses include monetary benefits paid in cash and non-monetary benefits in form of services and goods. Administrative and capital expenses are included in the social protection expenses only if they form an immediate part of the benefit (e.g. in welfare institutions).

ESSPROS proceeds from the functions, i.e. from the purpose of payment of social benefit or providing service (sickness, old age, unemployment etc.). The benefits of pension scheme are divided under the functions "old age", "disability" and "survivor's", different welfare services under the functions "old age", "disability" and "family and children". Birth grant goes under the function "family and children", subsistence benefit under that of "social exclusion" and funeral grants under the function "survivor's". As the ESSPROS proceeds from the final expenditures, the social tax as expenditure paid from the state budget belongs under the function "sickness", "old age" and "disability", not under "unemployment" or "family and children", for the recipients of which benefits it is actually paid.

Social protection expenditure¹

Function	1999	2000	2001	2002
Total expenditure, million EEK²	13 384,9	13 766,9	14 644,4	15 968,2
of which, excl. children's day-care	12 861,4	13 269,8	14 108,3	15 327,1
Sickness, health care	4 117,9	4 308,5	4 535,4	4 847,6
Disability, incapacity for work	1 045,2	867,6	1 144,2	1 350,5
Old age	5 515,1	5 739,9	6 000,7	6 653,5
Survivors	255,4	258,1	238,3	188,9
Family and children ²	1 904,6	2 065,3	2 134,7	2 358,4
of which, excl. children's day-care	1 380,5	1 568,2	1 598,6	1 717,3
Unemployment	167,7	167,8	189,7	166,0
Social exclusion, housing and other	379,0	359,7	401,4	403,3
Structure of expenditures, %				
Total	100	100	100	100
Sickness, health care	30,8	31,3	31,0	30,3
Disability, incapacity for work	7,8	6,3	7,8	8,5
Old age	41,2	41,7	41,0	41,7
Survivors	1,9	1,9	1,6	1,2
Family and children ²	14,2	15,0	14,6	14,8
Unemployment	1,3	1,2	1,3	1,0
Social exclusion, housing and other	2,8	2,6	2,7	2,5

Cont. ►

► *Cont.*

Function	1999	2000	2001	2002
Social protection expenditure of GDP², %	16,4	14,8	14,0	13,7
of which, excl. children's day-care	16,8	15,2	14,4	14,2
Sickness, health care	5,4	4,9	4,7	4,5
Disability, incapacity for work	1,4	1,0	1,2	1,2
Old age	7,2	6,6	6,1	6,1
Survivors	0,3	0,3	0,2	0,2
Family and children ²	2,5	2,4	2,2	2,2
of which, excl. children's day-care	1,8	1,8	1,6	1,6
Unemployment	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2
Social exclusion, housing and other	0,5	0,4	0,4	0,4
GDP (in current prices), million EEK	81 639,7	92 717,1	104 337,1	116 869,0

1 - The social expenditures of the local municipalities may be under financed to some extent. The missing some may raise the share of social protection expenditure in of the GDP for about 0.2 percentage point.

2 - The social protection expenditures include 70% of the expenditures of the local municipalities on pre-school children institutions (the remaining 30% are expenditures on education).

