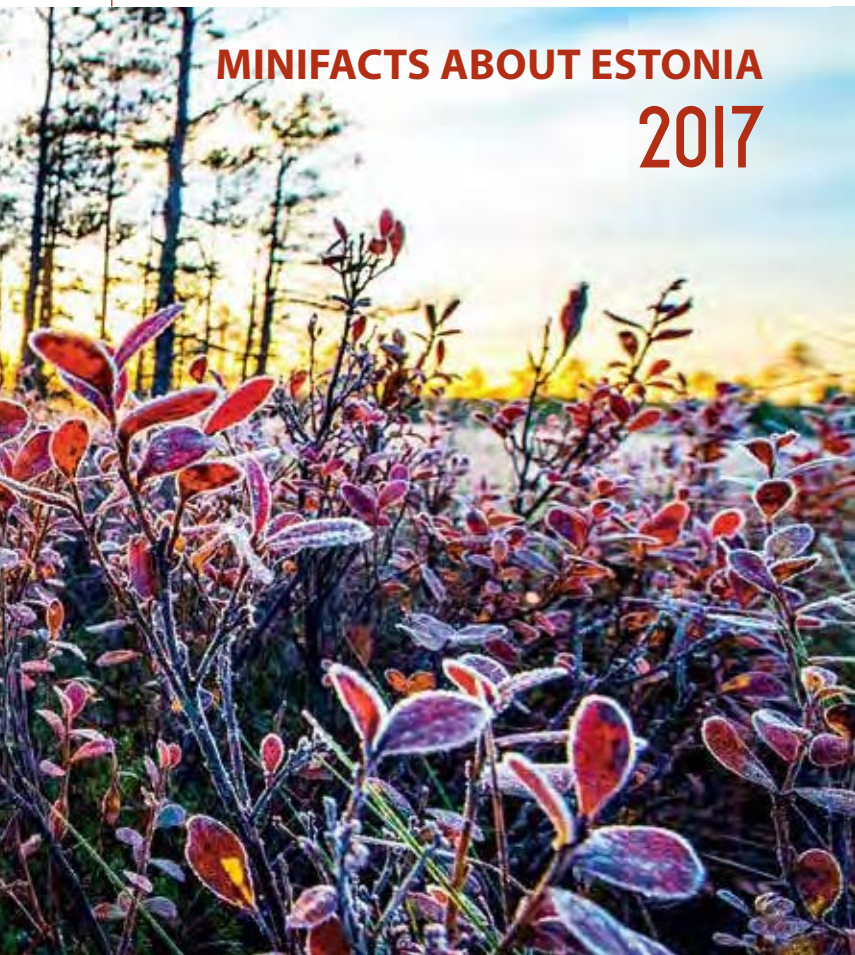


**MINIFACTS ABOUT ESTONIA
2017**



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1 Republic of Estonia

The Republic of Estonia was proclaimed on 24 February 1918. Therefore, in 2018, it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

Authorities

The Republic of Estonia is a parliamentary republic. The Head of State is the President, elected for five years. The incumbent President is Kersti Kaljulaid, who was elected on 3 October 2016.

The Government of the Republic exercises executive power in Estonia. The government led by Jüri Ratas took office on 23 November 2016. In addition to the prime minister, there are 14 other ministers in the government.

The national legislature is a unicameral Parliament of 101 members – it is called the Riigikogu and elected for a term of four years. The 13th Riigikogu was elected on 1 March 2015. Six political parties (Conservative People's Party of Estonia, Estonian Reform Party, Estonian Centre Party, Estonian Free Party, Pro Patria and Res Publica Union, Social Democratic Party) crossed the 5% electoral threshold and obtained seats in the Riigikogu.

Representation in international organisations

The Republic of Estonia is:

- a member of the United Nations (UN) since 17 September 1991 (candidate for non-permanent membership of the UN Security Council for 2020–2021)
- a member of NATO since 29 March 2004
- a member of the European Union (EU) since 1 May 2004
- a full member of the OECD since 9 December 2010
- a member of the euro area since 1 January 2011

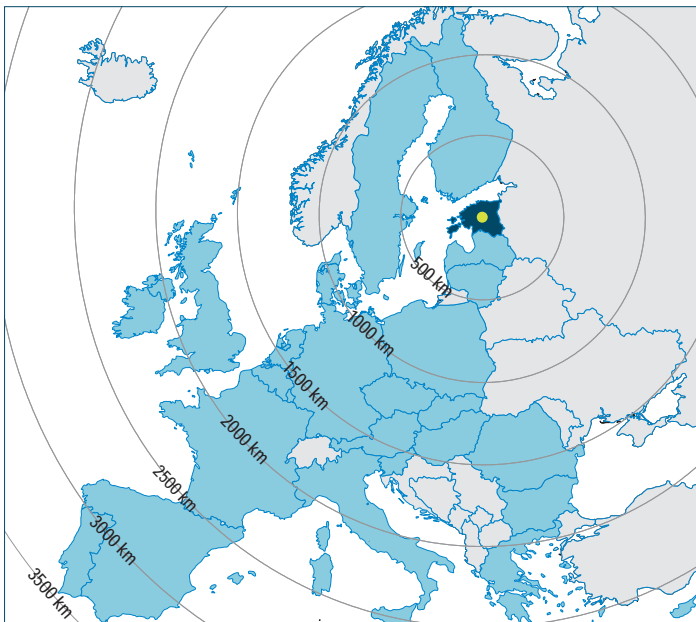


National symbols

- The national flag is a tricolour of blue, black and white.
- The national coat of arms depicts three blue lions on a golden shield.
- The national flower is the cornflower.
- The national bird is the barn swallow.
- The national stone is limestone.
- The national fish is the Baltic herring.

National day, public holidays and days of rest in 2017

- 1 January – New Year's Day
- 24 February – Independence Day, anniversary of the Republic of Estonia
- 14 April – Good Friday
- 16 April – Easter Sunday
- 1 May – May Day
- 4 June – Pentecost
- 23 June – Victory Day
- 24 June – Midsummer Day
- 20 August – Day of Restoration of Independence
- 24 December – Christmas Eve
- 25 December – Christmas Day
- 26 December – Boxing Day



Population	1,316,000
Total area	45,336 km ² (17,504 sq mi)
Population density	30 inhabitants per km ² (75 inhabitants per sq mi)
Capital city	Tallinn
Administrative division	15 counties, 213 administrative units, including 30 cities and 183 rural municipalities
Official language	Estonian (English, Russian, Finnish and German are widely spoken as well.)
National currency	euro (1 euro = 100 cents)
Time zone	GMT +2 hours

2 Estonian Presidency

On 1 July 2017 – for the first time in its history – Estonia will assume the six-month rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union. It comes at a critical time, when the European Union is facing unprecedented internal and external challenges. The EU needs to act as a team to successfully tackle all the challenges, and make the most of all the possibilities. There is so much more that unites us than divides us. We all want to feel safe, we all want to live well. Our role as the member state holding the presidency is to find a balance between all the views, traditions and interests in Europe today to achieve the best possible outcome for European citizens.

The Estonian Presidency will focus on four priorities:

- **An open and innovative European economy.** A prosperous European economy, built on openness and innovation, is at the heart of the Estonian Presidency. A strong economy is not only essential for economic growth and employment; it also supports policy implementation in all other areas. Estonia will do its utmost to develop a predictable, clear and transparent European business environment to realise new opportunities and enhance existing industries.
- **A safe and secure Europe.** The security and safety of our citizens is high on the agenda of the Estonian Presidency. Estonia will focus on strengthening internal security and the EU's external borders, as well as external security through closer cooperation with our allies.
- **A digital Europe and the free movement of data.** We believe that in order to create a prosperous and sustainable Europe, we must embrace technological transformation. The digital agenda and the free movement of data is an important priority of the Estonian Presidency. The Presidency programme will focus on the establishment of a Digital Single Market, increased use of e-solutions and data, and the development of cross-border e-services.
- **An inclusive and sustainable Europe.** The EU must balance a strong economy with core European values of inclusiveness and sustainability. During its presidency, Estonia will re-examine ways in which the EU can offer equal opportunities for people who wish to live and work across the EU. It will also consider how to balance the economy with environmental concerns, to ensure that future generations can enjoy a Europe which is free, prosperous, safe and beautiful.



Presidency symbol

The symbol for the Estonian EU Council Presidency contains many stories. The two main ones are the story of the presidency and the story of Estonia.

The story of Estonia is depicted in two values. At the top is a story of new technologies and ways of living. The aim of finding balance and synergy between natural and man-made, old and new, is our unfolding story.

Our story

A connection with nature

- Estonia might have a relatively small population, but there are many trees, wild beaches, marshes and islands. Estonians have a special connection with nature, and this is reflected in our everyday life and values.
- A dialogue between the land and the people of this country has been going on for thousands of years – it has shaped our history, our values, our lifestyle, and our way of thinking.
- Unlike in many other cultures, a forest is, for Estonians, a naturally-safe environment that provides peace and protection.
- One can view Estonia as the world's largest spa. The openness, cleanness and the quiet rhythm is relaxing for the mind and promotes clear thinking.
- The sea has always been a door to the world for us. Connections and trading via waterways with other nations has been a natural part of our lives for thousands of years.



Digital society

- New digital technology makes our everyday life better by leaving more time for the important matters of the day.
- Public digital services and communications allow for a more efficient use of time, money and paper.
- The Estonian experience shows that an e-state and information society can be built without jeopardising security and privacy.
- People of Estonia have access to their data and the possibility to check how the government is using it. Electronic identification tools grant security to individuals and organisations.
- The Estonian information and communications technology (ICT) sector and an ambitious startup community continue to create innovative e-services ranging from mobile-parking to e-Residency, that not only simplify people's lives in Estonia, but also all over the world.

3 Nature

Estonia is one of the most forest-rich countries in Europe – 51% of its land is forest land. In terms of forest coverage, Estonia ranks sixth after Finland, Sweden, Slovenia, Montenegro and Latvia. 27% of the total forest land is under protection. The most common tree species are pine, birch and spruce.

18.7% of Estonia's land and 26% of its waters are under protection. In 2016, there were a total of 3,864 protected natural sites, including 5 national parks, 158 nature conservation areas and 152 landscape conservation areas.

Semi-natural communities in Estonia are among the most diverse in Europe. Diversity is greatest in the wooded meadows, where a record number of 76 plant species have been counted per square metre (in the Laelatu wooded meadow).

There are also 17 wetlands of international importance. 5.5% of Estonia's land are bogs (the largest bog is the Puhatu bog – 468 km²) that form ancient pristine ecosystems, more than 10,000 years old. Approximately 70% of Estonia's mires have been preserved.

Estonia is located on the East Atlantic flyway for waterfowl, an important key site of which is Matsalu National Park.

Estonia provides attractive habitat for over 300 species of birds. The record for number of bird species seen in 24 hours is 194, making Estonia the second most diverse region after Spain.

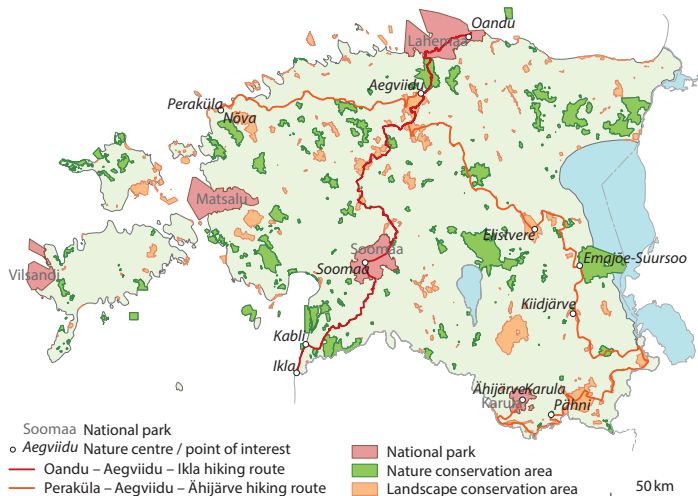
The approximately 300 km-long North-Estonian Klint as a symbol of Estonian nature is the most notable and highest part of the Baltic Klint. It reaches its maximum height of 56 m above sea level at Ontika in Ida-Viru county.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), ambient air quality in Estonia is among the best in Europe and the world, ranking fourth in Europe after Sweden, Finland and Iceland.

Estonia is exceptional also because it is a country where ground water can be used for consumption in most areas, with surface water being used only in Tallinn and Narva.

There is a great tradition in Estonia to choose the Animal, Bird and Tree of the Year. In 2017, the European roe deer is the Animal of the Year, the European turtle dove is the Bird of the Year and the hawthorn is the Tree of the Year.

Hiking trails of Oandu-Ikla and Peraküla-Ähijärve, 2017



Sources: Estonian Environment Information Centre, State Forest Management Centre

Coastline	3,800 km (2,361 mi)
Number of islands	2,222
Largest islands	Saaremaa (2,671 km ² / 1,031 sq mi), Hiiumaa (989 km ² / 382 sq mi), Muhu (198 km ² / 76 sq mi)
Longest rivers	Võhandu (162 km / 101 mi), Pärnu (144 km / 89 mi), Põltsamaa (135 km / 84 mi)
Largest lakes	Peipsi (3,555 km ² / 1,373 sq mi, with 1,529 km ² / 590 sq mi belonging to Estonia), Võrtsjärv (271 km ² / 105 sq mi)
Highest point	Suur Munamägi (317.2 m / 1,040 ft)
National parks	Lahemaa (730 km ² / 282 sq mi), Matsalu (490 km ² / 189 sq mi), Soomaa (400 km ² / 154 sq mi), Vilsandi (240 km ² / 93 sq mi), Karula (124 km ² / 48 sq mi)
Average daily temperature	Annual mean +6.7 °C / 44.1 °F, in January -7.7 °C / 18.1 °F, in July +17.8 °C / 64.0 °F (2016)

Units of measurement are listed on p 47.

4 Population

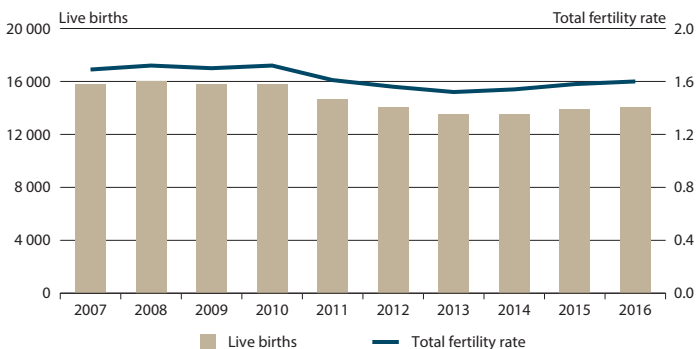
On 1 January 2017, the population of Estonia was 1.32 million, which makes us the fourth smallest country in the European Union after Malta, Luxembourg and Cyprus. The population of Estonia accounts for 0.26% of the total EU population.

The population of Estonia has been decreasing for a long time. The change in the population number is influenced by natural increase and external migration. Natural increase is negative in Estonia but net migration has been positive for two years. In 2016, natural increase was -1,300 persons and net migration 1,000 persons.

The total fertility rate, which shows the number of children per woman, was 1.60 in 2016. Estonia's indicator equals the EU average.

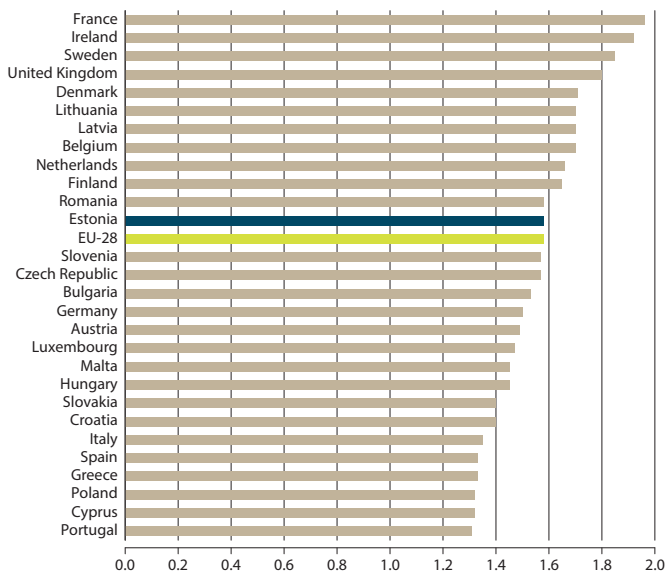
In 2015, the average life expectancy at birth for males was 73.1 years and for females 81.9 years. Over the past decade, life expectancy has increased by 5.4 years for males and by 3.3 years for females.

Live births and total fertility rate, 2007–2016





Fertility rates in the European Union, 2015



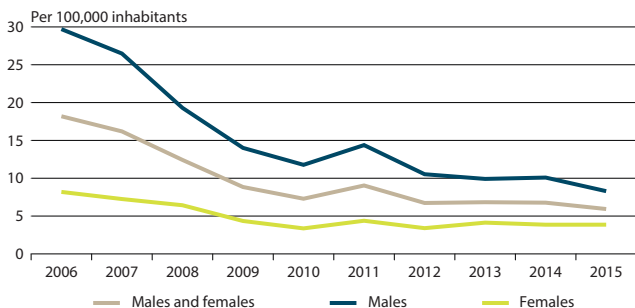
Population, 1 January 2017

	Total	Males	Females
Population	1 315 635	617 538	698 097
Aged 0–14	213 609	109 660	103 949
Aged 15–64	847 552	421 332	426 220
Aged 65+	254 474	86 546	167 928
Population, %	100.0	100.0	100.0
Aged 0–14	16.2	17.8	14.9
Aged 15–64	64.4	68.2	61.1
Aged 65+	19.3	14.0	24.1
Estonians	68.8	69.2	68.4
Russians	25.1	24.1	26.0
Other ethnic nationalities	6.1	6.8	5.6

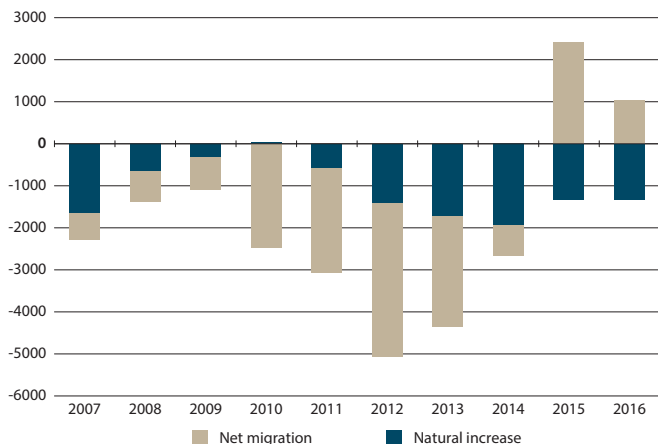
Vital events, 2016

	Total	Males	Females
Live births	14 053	7 365	6 688
Deaths	15 392	7 335	8 057
Natural increase	-1 339	30	-1 369
Immigration	14 822	8 894	5 928
Emigration	13 792	8 096	5 696
Net external migration	1 030	798	232

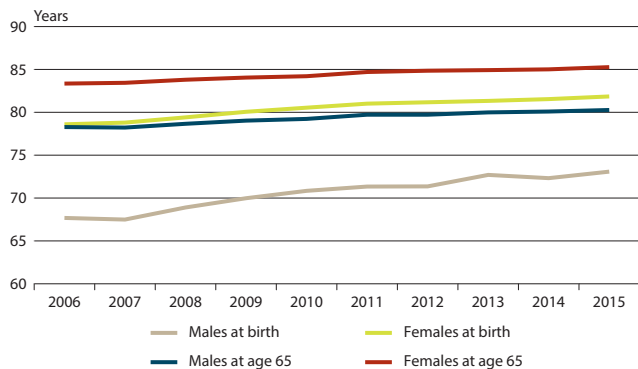
Deaths caused by transport accidents, 2006–2015



Natural increase and net migration, 2007–2016



Life expectancy at birth and at age 65 by sex, 2006–2015



5 Culture

The year 2017 in Estonia has been declared the Children and Youth Year of Culture; keywords of the year are independence and collaboration. To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Republic of Estonia, a series of events called Children's Republic are organised.

In 2017, the XII Youth Song and Dance Celebration "I will stay" will take place, which focuses on the younger generations' connections to the land, culture and older generations. The song and dance celebration is part of the world's intellectual heritage.

Estonians are among the most avid museum-goers in Europe. In 2016, there were 3.5 million museum visits in Estonia. 277,000 of all visits were made by children under the age of 9. Almost 450,000 young people under the age of 19 participated in educational programmes organised by museums. In 2016, the new building of the Estonian National Museum was opened, receiving over 97,000 visits in the first three months.

According to the 2015 cultural participation survey, Estonians are active cultural consumers. 81% of persons aged 15 and over have read books in the previous 12 months. The reading habit is even greater among younger people, with nine out of ten people having read some books. 84% had attended at least one cultural event in the previous 12 months.

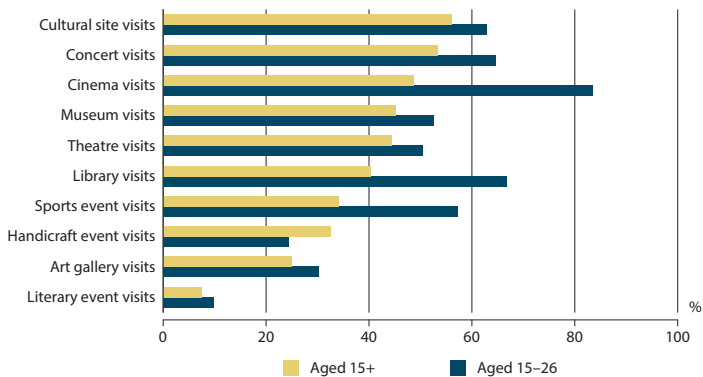
In 2016, there were 1,064 different periodicals published in Estonia in 26.6 million copies, i.e. 20 copies per inhabitant. The number of different newspapers published was 109.

Cultural institutions and their attendance, 2016

	Cultural institutions	Visits (attendance)
Museums	246	3 457 000
local lore museums	87	322 000
archaeology and history museums	40	527 000
art museums	19	804 000
Public libraries	536	5 555 000
Cinemas	50	3 291 000
Theatres	26	1 071 000
state and city theatres	11	872 000
other theatres supported by the state	15	199 000



Share of persons aged 15 and over having visited at least one cultural event in the previous 12 months, 2015



6 Education

At the beginning of the academic year 2016/2017, there were about 222,000 persons enrolled in formal education in Estonia. Over 149,000 of them were enrolled in general education, 25,000 in vocational education and nearly 48,000 in higher education.

In 2016, there were 653 preschool child care institutions and 67,600 children attending preschool institutions. The number of first graders was 15,200 in the autumn of 2016.

The share of people having completed at least upper secondary education among persons aged 25–64 has remained relatively stable in the past decade, standing at 89.1% in 2016 (77% in the EU).

In the academic year 2016/2017, there were 24 higher education institutions in Estonia. The number of students was 48,000 in 2016.

In 2016, there were over 3,900 foreign students in Estonian universities, which is twice as much as five years earlier. The majority of foreign students come from Europe (63%), followed by Asia and Africa.

The share of 30–34-year-olds with tertiary education is one of the most important indicators in the domain of education. In Europe, a target has been set to raise this indicator level to 40% by 2020. In Estonia, the share of 30–34-year-olds with tertiary education was 45% in 2016.

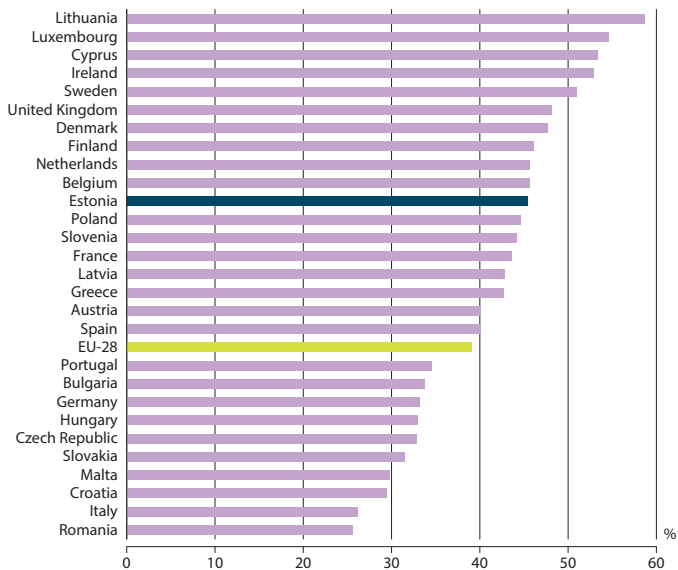
The OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) reviews the knowledge and skills of 15-year-old students in natural sciences, maths and functional reading. In 2015, in the field of natural sciences, Estonian students ranked first in Europe and third globally, in terms of math skills, they were second in Europe and ninth globally and in terms of functional reading skills, they ranked third in Europe and sixth globally.

Formal education, 2016

	Schools	Students	incl. female pupils and students
General education	519	149 200	74 500
basic school level	351	122 900	59 800
gymnasium level	168	26 200	14 800
Vocational education	39	25 100	11 800
Higher education	24	47 800	28 100



Tertiary educational attainment in the 30–34 age group in the European Union, 2016



7 Information technology

Estonia is a successful e-country. Its IT success stories are e-solutions, which speed up inter-agency procedures and increase opportunities for communication between the citizen and the state.

96.3% of income tax returns for 2016 were submitted electronically.

Estonia is the first country in the world to issue e-residency to non-citizens. E-residency is a government issued secure digital identity that allows digital authentication and digital signing of documents from anywhere on the globe. In 2017, there are more than 20,000 e-residents.

In 2011, Estonia broke the e-census world record – 67% of the estimated population participated in the census over the internet, beating Canada's previous record of 54.6%.

In 2016, more than a fifth (22%) of Estonian enterprises used paid cloud services on the internet. The most frequently bought cloud services were e-mail services, financial or accounting software applications, storage and saving of files.

13% of Estonian enterprises have experience in analysing big data. Most experienced are information and communication (29%), water supply and waste management (28%) and financial and insurance enterprises (21%).

More than three quarters (78%) of Estonian enterprises have their own website and 37% of enterprises use social networking services such as Facebook and LinkedIn.

77% of Estonian enterprises give their employees remote access to the enterprise's mailing system, documents or applications.

87% of 16–74-year-old Estonian residents used the internet in the 1st quarter of 2016, surpassing the EU average by 5 percentage points.

85% of 16–74-year-olds used the internet daily (the EU average stood at 79%). In the 16–34 age group, almost everyone uses the internet.

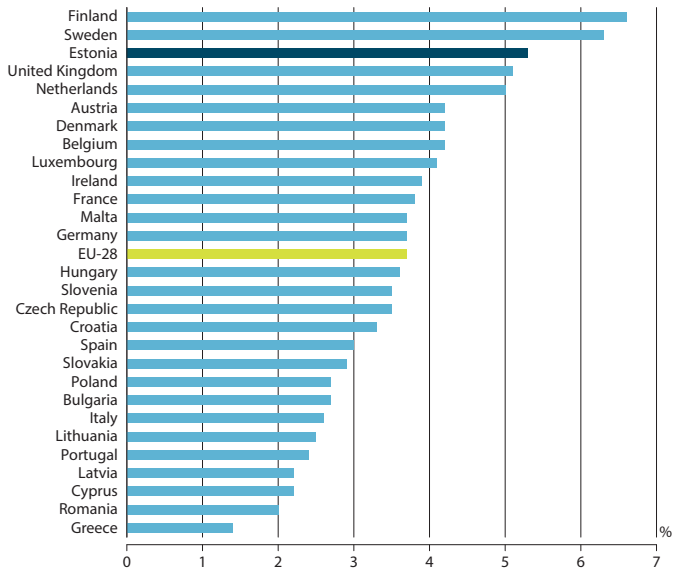
Of the 16–24-year-old internet users, 91% used the internet on the mobile phone while on the move.

In the previous 12 months, 64% of Estonian internet users ordered some product or service from the internet and slightly more than a third (37%) made a financial transaction of some kind on the internet.

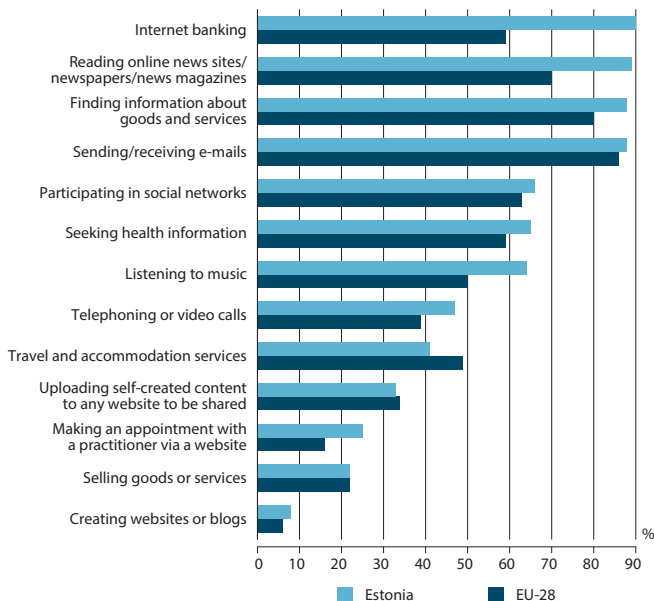
87% of 16–74-year-old internet users in Estonia used public sector services and information, sharing second place with Finland among the EU member states.



Share of employed ICT specialists in total employment in the European Union, 2016



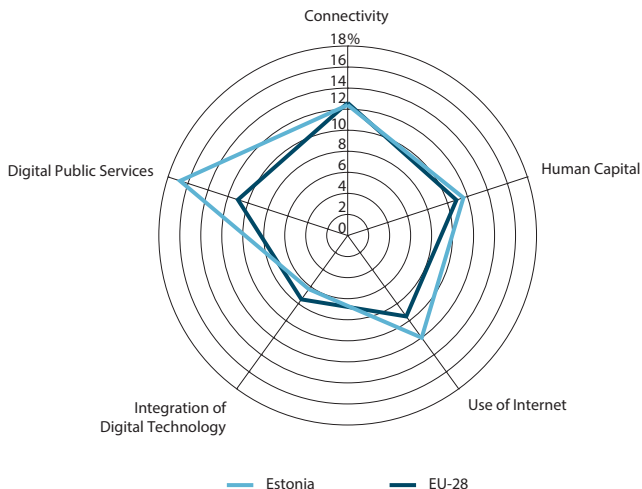
Purpose of using the internet in the previous 3 months by 16–74-year-old internet users in Estonia and in the European Union, 2016



Share of 16–74-year-old internet users having used e-government services via the internet in the previous 12 months in Estonia and in the European Union, 2016 (percentages)

	Estonia	EU-28
Interaction with public authorities	87	58
Obtaining information from the websites of public authorities	75	50
Downloading official forms	47	35
Submitting completed forms	78	34

Digital Economy and Society Index^a, 2017



^aThe Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) is a composite index that summarises relevant indicators on Europe's digital performance and tracks the evolution of EU member states in digital competitiveness.

- The Connectivity dimension measures the deployment of broadband infrastructure and its quality.
- The Human Capital dimension measures the skills needed to take advantage of the possibilities offered by a digital society. Such skills go from basic user skills that enable individuals to interact online and consume digital goods and services, to advanced skills that empower the workforce to take advantage of technology for enhanced productivity and economic growth.
- The Use of Internet dimension accounts for the variety of activities performed by citizens already online. Such activities range from consumption of online content (videos, music, games, etc.) to modern communication activities or online shopping and banking.
- The Integration of Digital Technology dimension measures the digitisation of businesses and their exploitation of the online sales channel.
- The Digital Public Services dimension measures the digitisation of public services, focusing on e-Government.

8 Labour market

In the European Employment Strategy, a goal has been set to raise the employment rate of the population aged 20–64 to at least 75% by 2020. In Estonia, this indicator was higher than 75% in 2007–2008 but dropped during the economic crisis. Estonia reached the goal again in 2015 and in 2016, the employment rate of 20–64-year-olds was 76.6% (80.8% for males and 72.6% for females).

The employment rate of 15–74-year-olds with tertiary education was more than twice as high as that of persons with below upper secondary education – 78% and 36.1%, respectively. The employment rate of persons with upper secondary or post secondary non-tertiary education was 67.9%.

The unemployment rate of 15–74-year-olds decreased in 2010–2015 but increased in 2016 by 0.6 percentage points, reaching 6.8%. In 2016, the EU-28 unemployment rate was 8.5%.

The high unemployment rate of 15–24-year-olds (13.4%) is mainly due to postponing the entry to labour market because of ongoing studies.

Since 2013, the unemployment of 15–24-year-olds has decreased the most (5.3 percentage points), while the unemployment of 50–74-year-olds has decreased the least (0.1 percentage points).

In 2016, 3.8% of employed persons were working at home, 15% up to 1 km and 4.4% more than 50 km from home.

Employment rate of persons aged 20–64 by sex, 2007–2016



Labour status of persons aged 15–74 by sex, 2016

	Total	Males	Females
Persons aged 15–74 total, thousands	982.2	473.6	508.7
Labour force, thousands	691.4	355.8	335.6
Persons employed, thousands	644.6	329.4	315.3
primary sector	25.0	18.7	6.3
secondary sector	191.1	136.7	54.4
tertiary sector	428.5	173.9	254.6
urban settlement	447.7	226.3	221.4
rural settlement	196.9	103.1	93.9
public sector	161.5	53.7	107.8
private sector	483.2	275.7	207.5
Estonians	455.0	229.2	225.7
non-Estonians	189.7	100.1	89.5
Unemployed persons, thousands	46.7	26.4	20.4
less than 6 months	25.4	13.8	11.6
6–11 months	6.6	3.9	2.7
12 months or more	14.8	8.7	6.1
24 months or more	7.4	4.7	2.7
Inactive population, thousands	290.8	117.8	173.0
Studying	72.8	36.5	36.4
Ill or disabled	60.3	28.4	31.9
Taking care of children or other family members	44.2	3.0	41.2
Retirement-age	92.6	37.1	55.4
Discouraged persons (lost hope to find work)	6.3	3.8	2.5
Other reason	14.6	8.9	5.7
Labour market rates, %			
Labour force participation rate	70.4	75.1	66.0
Employment rate	65.6	69.6	62.0
Unemployment rate	6.8	7.4	6.1

9 Labour costs and wages

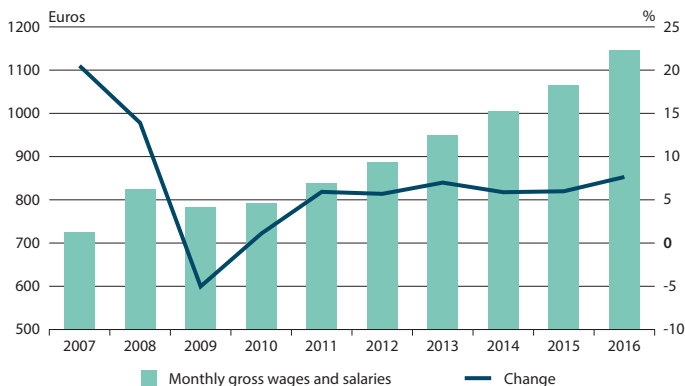
In 2009, the economic downturn led to a decrease in the monthly gross wages and salaries. The monthly gross wages and salaries have been rising again since 2011, and the year-over-year growth has been in the range of 5.7–7.6%. In 2016, the average monthly gross wages and salaries were 1,146 euros – an increase of 7.6% compared to 2015.

In 2016, the average monthly gross wages and salaries were 1,172 euros in the public sector and 1,136 euros in the private sector – the growth was 6.1% in the public sector and 8.2% in the private sector.

The employer's average monthly labour costs per employee in 2016 were 1,548 euros, having increased 7.7% year-over-year. In addition to gross wages and salaries, labour costs include employer's social contributions and imputed social contributions to employees.

Hourly labour costs vary significantly in the EU member states. According to the data published by Eurostat, in 2016, the hourly labour costs were the highest in Denmark (42 euros) and the lowest in Bulgaria (4.4 euros), whereas the European Union average was 25.4 euros. In Estonia, the hourly labour costs were 10.9 euros.

Average monthly gross wages and salaries and the change compared to the preceding year 2007–2016



Average monthly gross wages and salaries, and labour costs per employee by economic activity, 2016

Economic activity	Monthly gross wages and salaries, euros	Labour costs, euros	Change over previous year, %	
			Monthly gross wages and salaries	Labour costs
Average of economic activities	1 146	1 548	7.6	7.7
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1 060	1 421	11.7	11.5
Mining and quarrying	1 361	1 858	0.7	1.4
Manufacturing	1 107	1 496	7.2	7.2
Electricity and gas supply	1 597	2 169	4.4	3.7
Water supply; waste management	1 146	1 545	5.4	5.1
Construction	1 112	1 501	6.1	6.5
Wholesale and retail trade	1 028	1 388	5.0	5.2
Transportation and storage	1 129	1 527	6.4	6.6
Accommodation and food service activities	756	1 016	9.4	9.6
Information and communication	1 900	2 592	10.2	10.2
Financial and insurance activities	1 856	2 545	4.4	4.6
Real estate activities	951	1 278	14.3	14.1
Professional, scientific and technical activities	1 321	1 770	3.7	3.1
Administrative and support service activities	1 058	1 419	16.4	16.0
Public administration and defence	1 364	1 841	5.7	5.8
Education	1 006	1 354	7.8	7.7
Human health and social work activities	1 209	1 621	9.0	9.1
Arts, entertainment and recreation	901	1 213	7.0	7.2
Other service activities	617	833	6.2	7.3

10 Gross domestic product

In 2016, the gross domestic product (GDP) at current prices was 20.9 billion euros. The year was characterised by a slow but steady growth of the GDP. In Estonia, the real growth of the GDP was 1.6%, while the European Union's GDP increased 1.9%.

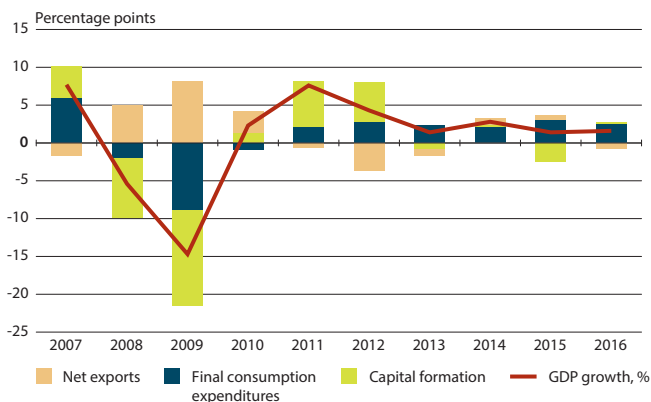
More than half of economic activities had a positive effect on the economy. Information and communication contributed the most to the increase in the GDP due to strong growth in software development services.

The GDP grew faster than the number of hours worked and persons employed. Labour productivity per employee and labour productivity per hour worked increased.

Exports and imports of goods and services increased and the share of net exports in the GDP was 3.9%.

Domestic demand grew faster than the GDP, affected mainly by increased household consumption expenditures. Real gross fixed capital formation decreased 2.8%. Domestic demand was smaller than the GDP by output method – 97.8% of the GDP.

Contribution to GDP growth, 2007–2016



GDP by economic activity, and expenditure components, 2016

	At current prices, million euros	Real growth, %	Share in GDP, %
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	526.3	-8.6	2.5
Mining and quarrying	215.4	-6.4	1.0
Manufacturing	2 825.9	0.7	13.5
Electricity and gas supply	536.6	-6.2	2.6
Water supply and waste management	138.7	2.5	0.7
Construction	1 074.9	-0.1	5.1
Wholesale and retail trade	2 184.5	4.3	10.4
Transportation and storage	1 356.8	3.6	6.5
Accommodation and food service activities	356.4	6.4	1.7
Information and communication	1 135.1	9.8	5.4
Financial and insurance activities	726.3	-0.9	3.5
Real estate activities	1 773.4	-3.0	8.5
Professional, scientific and technical activities	926.0	-2.8	4.4
Administrative and support service activities	732.9	9.9	3.5
Public administration and defence	1 333.7	0.5	6.4
Education	860.0	-0.5	4.1
Human health and social work activities	745.1	0.5	3.6
Arts, entertainment and recreation	310.7	5.1	1.5
Other service activities	177.9	2.0	0.9
GROSS VALUE ADDED	17 936.6	1.1	85.8
Net taxes on products	2 979.8	4.8	14.2
GDP AT MARKET PRICES	20 916.4	1.6	100.0
Household final consumption expenditure	10 786.4	4.2	52.7
General government final consumption expenditure	4 314.5	1.0	20.4
Final consumption expenditure of non-profit institutions serving households	363.1	7.5	1.7
Gross fixed capital formation and valuables	4 604.9	-2.8	22.2
Change in inventories	386.8	..	3.1
DOMESTIC DEMAND	20 455.7	2.7	97.8
Exports of goods and services	16 702.4	4.0	79.9
Imports of goods and services	15 880.7	5.3	75.9

11 Finance

In 2016, the state budget ended up in balance, as both the total revenue and total expenditure amounted to 8.6 billion euros.

All tax revenues were received according to plan, except for VAT with 97.6% of the planned amount accrued.

Income from excise duties rose by 11% year-over-year.

Receipts of corporate income tax fell by 13%, while personal income tax amounted to 6% more than in 2015.

There were no changes in the division of expenditures: grants accounted for 47%, operating expenses for 32% and administrative costs for 17% of the budget expenses.

The general government consolidated debt level remained the lowest in the EU at 9.5% of the GDP.

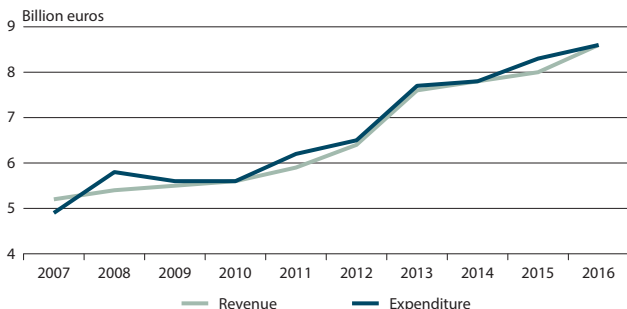
Foreign direct investments in Estonia rose by 0.7 billion euros compared to 2015.

Swedish and Finnish investors both contributed about one-quarter of the total direct investments in Estonia.

The Estonian direct investment position abroad increased 8% compared to 2015.

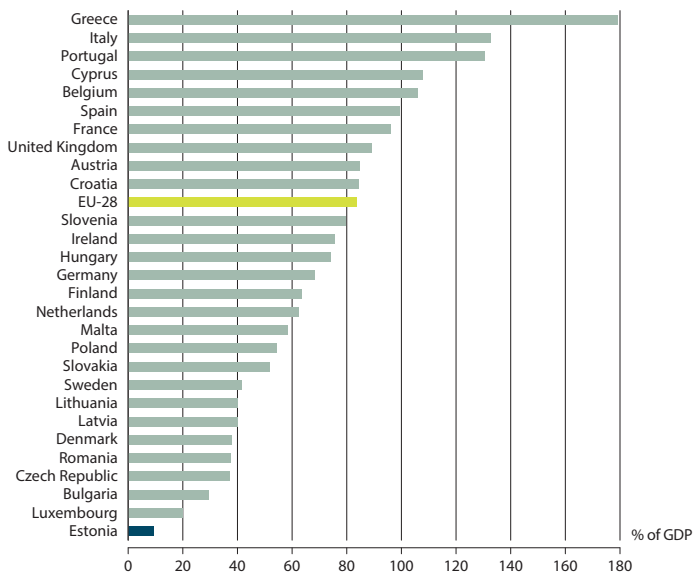
Estonian investors invested mostly in Lithuania, Cyprus and Latvia.

State budget execution, 2007–2016





Level of general government gross debt in the European Union, 2016



State budget revenue, 2016

	Planned annual amount, million euros	Actual amount, million euros	Execution, %
Total revenue	8 836.2	8 583.1	97.1
Taxes	7 499.4	7 531.9	100.4
income tax	718.4	719.6	100.2
social contributions	2 505.0	2 547.8	101.7
VAT	2 012.7	1 964.3	97.6
excise duties	958.6	970.5	101.2
alcohol excise	248.0	251.0	101.2
tobacco excise	186.0	190.4	102.4
fuel excise	489.5	493.9	100.9
other tax revenues (incl. prepayments of taxes)	64.7	65.5	101.2
transferrable taxes	1 240.0	1 264.2	102.0
Sale of goods and services	163.3	168.2	103.0
Grants	821.9	616.4	75.0
Sales of tangible and intangible assets	16.9	16.3	96.4
Revenues from property	10.9	31.5	289.0
Other income	323.8	218.8	67.6

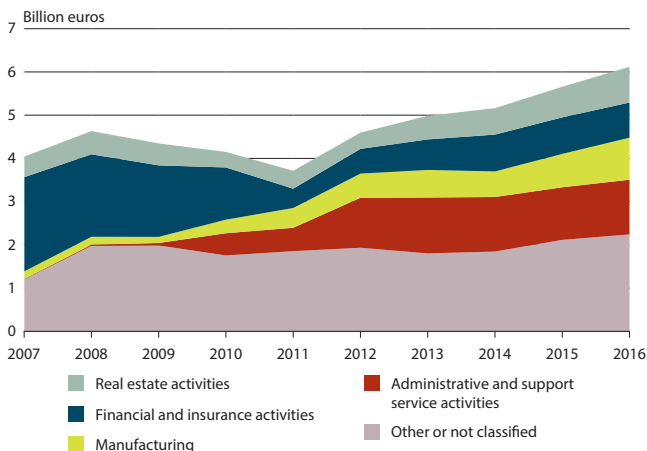
State budget expenditure, 2016

	Planned annual amount, million euros	Actual amount, million euros	Share of actual amount in total expenditure, %
Total expenditure	9 038.2	8 558.4	100.0
Grants and other transfers	4 493.7	4 049.5	47.3
Administration and labour costs	1 501.5	1 484.9	17.4
Other operating costs	2 707.7	2 712.2	31.7
Financial costs	12.4	12.5	0.1
Acquisition and renovation of tangible and intangible assets	322.9	299.3	3.5

Direct investment position by country, 31 December 2016

	Million euros	Share, %
Foreign direct investments in Estonia, total	18 208.4	100.0
Sweden	4 663.3	25.6
Finland	4 188.9	23.0
Netherlands	1 713.3	9.4
Lithuania	681.4	3.7
Russia	677.8	3.7
Latvia	636.8	3.5
Other countries or not classified	5 646.9	31.0
Estonia's direct investments abroad, total	6 117.8	100.0
Lithuania	1 276.0	20.9
Cyprus	1 253.4	20.5
Latvia	1 186.6	19.4
Finland	409.9	6.7
Russia	267.4	4.4
Ukraine	238.5	3.9
Other countries or not classified	1 486.0	24.3

Estonia's direct investment position abroad by economic activity, 31.12.2007–31.12.2016



12 Foreign trade

In 2016, exports of goods from Estonia accounted for 11.9 billion euros and imports to Estonia for 13.5 billion euros at current prices. Compared to 2015, exports of goods increased 3% and imports 3%.

The trade deficit amounted to 1.6 billion euros in 2016. The biggest deficits were recorded in the trade of transport equipment and in the trade of raw materials and products of the chemical industry. The biggest surpluses were announced in the trade of wood and products thereof and in the trade of miscellaneous manufactured articles (incl. furniture, prefabricated buildings).

Compared to 2015, the exports of goods of Estonian origin increased 4%. The goods of Estonian origin that were exported the most in 2016 were machinery and equipment, wood and products thereof and miscellaneous manufactured articles.

Compared to 2015, the turnover of exports for goods of Estonian origin increased the most in the sections of mineral products, machinery and equipment, and wood and products thereof. The largest decrease in the exports of goods of Estonian origin occurred in the exports of agricultural products and food preparations.

The main articles imported to Estonia included machinery and equipment, transport equipment and agricultural products and food preparations. In imports to Estonia, the biggest increase occurred in the imports of transport equipment. The growth of imports was impeded the most by the imports of mineral products (incl. motor spirit, fuel oils, natural gas).

The European Union countries (EU-28) accounted for 74%, euro area (EA-19) for 46% and non-European Union countries (non-EU) for 26% of Estonia's total exports.

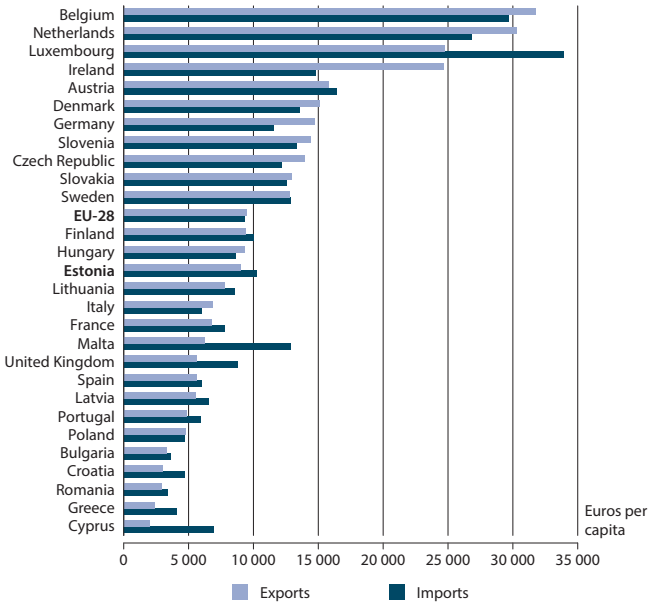
In Estonia's total imports of goods, the share of EU-28 was 82%, the share of EA-19 was 59% and the share of non-EU countries was 18%.

In the European Union, Estonia accounted for 0.2% of total exports and for 0.3% of total imports. In terms of both the turnover of exports and that of imports, Estonia outperformed Latvia, Malta and Cyprus.

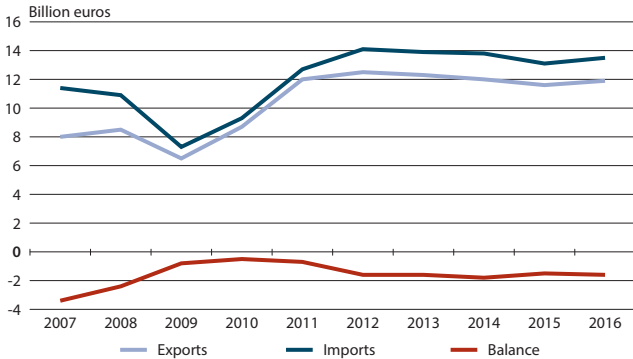
The turnover of exports per capita amounted to 9,041 euros (9,518 euros in EU-28).

Estonia's imports per capita stood at 10,257 euros (9,294 euros in EU-28).

Exports and imports in the European Union, 2016



Exports, imports and balance, 2007–2016



Exports and imports by main partner country, 2016

Country	Total exports and imports		incl. goods of Estonian origin
	Million euros	Share, %	Million euros
Exports total	11 897.2	100.0	8 623.2
Sweden	2 131.1	17.9	1 925.3
Finland	1 905.3	16.0	1 568.8
Latvia	1 096.0	9.2	511.6
Russia	776.0	6.5	198.1
Lithuania	712.3	6.0	268.7
Germany	696.3	5.9	577.4
Norway	482.9	4.1	427.0
Denmark	378.8	3.2	315.3
Netherlands	327.2	2.8	282.9
United States of America	317.7	2.7	214.7
Other countries	3 073.6	25.7	2 333.4
Imports total	13 492.9	100.0	..
Finland	1 758.4	13.0	..
Germany	1 481.0	11.0	..
Lithuania	1 277.3	9.5	..
Latvia	1 127.7	8.4	..
Sweden	1 121.5	8.3	..
Poland	975.1	7.2	..
Netherlands	848.3	6.3	..
Russia	747.8	5.5	..
China	556.0	4.1	..
Italy	355.3	2.6	..
Other countries	3 244.5	24.1	..

Exports and imports by commodity section, 2016

Commodity section by Combined Nomenclature (CN)	Total exports and imports		incl. goods of Estonian origin
	Million euros	Share, %	Million euros
Exports total	11 897.2	100.0	8 623.2
Machinery and equipment (XVI)	3 497.7	29.4	2 579.1
Wood and products thereof (IX)	1 209.9	10.2	1 176.7
Agricultural products and food preparations (I-IV)	1 082.5	9.1	778.4
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (XX)	1 070.7	9.0	971.6
Mineral products (V)	930.8	7.8	535.6
Metals and products thereof (XV)	841.2	7.1	629.7
Transport equipment (XVII)	740.1	6.2	295.8
Raw materials and products of chemical industry (VI)	572.6	4.8	366.3
Optical, measuring, checking, precision or medical instruments (XVIII)	403.1	3.4	280.4
Plastics and articles thereof (VII)	390.8	3.3	235.5
Textiles and products thereof (XI)	382.7	3.2	249.6
Paper and articles thereof (X)	334.7	2.8	289.4
Other	440.4	3.7	235.1
Imports total	13 492.9	100.0	..
Machinery and equipment (XVI)	3 774.6	28.0	..
Transport equipment (XVII)	1 442.1	10.7	..
Agricultural products and food preparations (I-IV)	1 435.6	10.6	..
Mineral products (V)	1 182.2	8.8	..
Raw materials and products of chemical industry (VI)	1 125.8	8.3	..
Metals and products thereof (XV)	1 106.0	8.2	..
Plastics and articles thereof (VII)	728.0	5.4	..
Textiles and products thereof (XI)	643.1	4.8	..
Wood and products thereof (IX)	422.9	3.1	..
Miscellaneous manufactured articles (XX)	364.1	2.7	..
Optical, measuring, checking, precision or medical instruments (XVIII)	312.2	2.3	..
Paper and articles thereof (X)	270.7	2.0	..
Other	685.6	5.1	..

13 Industry

In 2015, industrial production at current prices amounted to approximately 11.4 billion euros.

The biggest branches of manufacturing were the manufacture of wood and wood products (1.7 billion euros), the manufacture of electronic products (1.6 billion euros) and the manufacture of food products (1.3 billion euros).

In 2015, production increased in manufacturing but decreased in energy and mining. The previous year's volume was surpassed in half of the branches of industry.

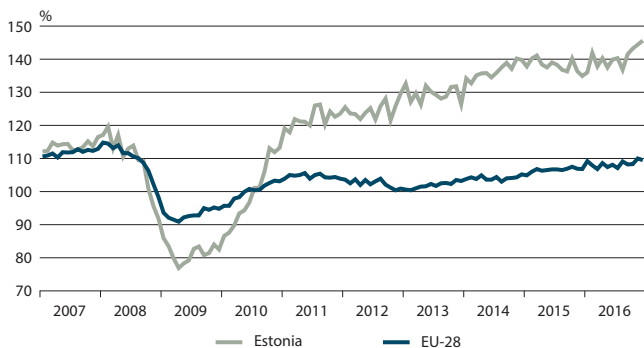
Production growth in manufacturing was positively affected by the branches holding bigger shares: the manufacture of textiles increased 13%, the manufacture of furniture 11%, the manufacture of wood products 10%.

66% of the whole production of manufacturing was sold on the external market. The share of exports in the sales of manufacturing production was the biggest (97%) in the manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products and the smallest (33%) in the manufacture of food products and beverages.

Export sales fell 1% and sales on the domestic market rose 1% compared to the previous year.

The greatest number of enterprises (1,100) and persons employed (about 17,200) were recorded in the manufacture of wood and wood products.

Volume indices^a of manufacturing in Estonia and in the European Union, 2007–2016 (2010 = 100)



^a Seasonally and working-day adjusted



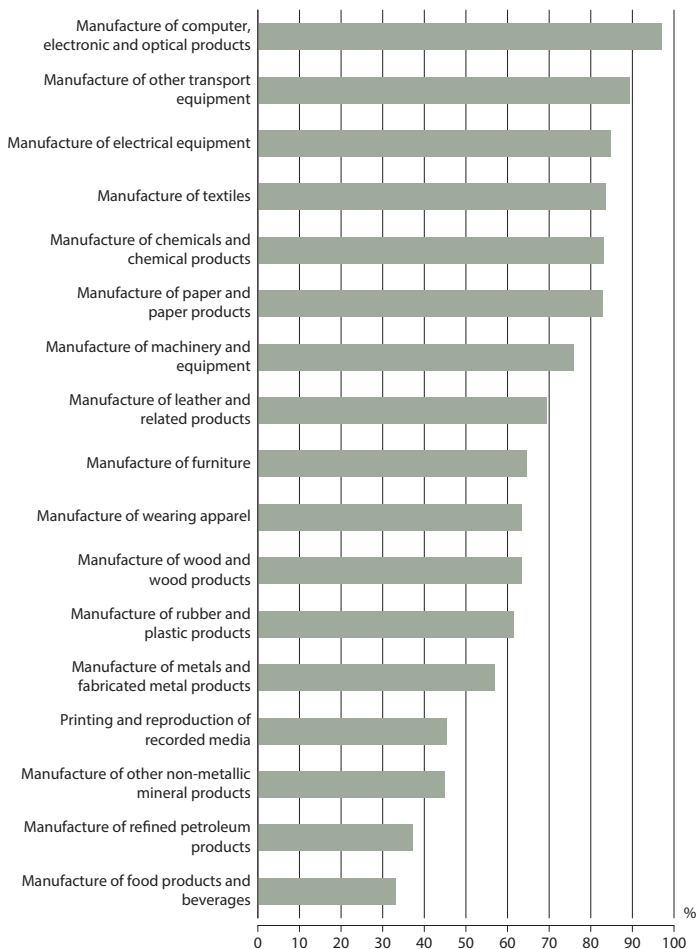
Economic activities of manufacturing with the greatest number of persons employed, 2015

	Number of enterprises	Share, %	Number of persons employed	Share, %
Total	7 053	100.0	109 538	100.0
manufacture of wood and wood products	1 102	15.6	17 185	15.7
manufacture of food products	552	7.8	13 837	12.6
manufacture of fabricated metal products	1 223	17.3	13 001	11.9
manufacture of furniture	704	10.0	7 942	7.3
manufacture of wearing apparel	529	7.5	6 131	5.6
manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	114	1.6	5 816	5.3
manufacture of electrical equipment	131	1.9	5 482	5.0
repair and installation of machinery and equipment	603	8.5	4 785	4.4
manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products	255	3.6	4 413	4.0

Industrial production by economic activity, 2015

	Production, million euros	Share, %
Economic activities total	11 406	100.0
Electricity, steam and hot water supply	636	5.6
Mining	397	3.5
Manufacturing	10 373	90.9
manufacture of food products	1 312	11.5
manufacture of beverages	190	1.7
manufacture of textiles	306	2.7
manufacture of wearing apparel	134	1.2
manufacture of leather and related products	31	0.3
manufacture of wood and wood products	1 743	15.3
manufacture of paper and paper products	210	1.8
printing and reproduction of recorded media	217	1.9
manufacture of refined petroleum products	239	2.1
manufacture of chemicals and chemical products	392	3.4
manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and preparations	42	0.4
manufacture of rubber and plastic products	307	2.7
manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products	368	3.2
manufacture of basic metals	77	0.7
manufacture of fabricated metal products	992	8.7
manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	1 590	13.9
manufacture of electrical equipment	559	4.9
manufacture of machinery and equipment	355	3.1
manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers	324	2.8
manufacture of other transport equipment	54	0.5
manufacture of furniture	469	4.1
other manufacturing	130	1.1
repair and installation of machinery and equipment	334	2.9

Share of exports in sales of manufacturing production, 2015



14 Agriculture

In 2016, there were 1,003,500 hectares of utilised agricultural area in Estonia, of which 994,300 hectares were in the possession of agricultural holdings and 9,200 hectares in home gardens and small units.

The most important crops on the arable land were cereals, forage crops, industrial crops and legumes.

The size of utilised agricultural area has increased 10% compared to 2007. Mainly the sown area of cereals and legumes increased, while the sown area of potatoes and permanent crops decreased.

In 2015, the share of organic farming area in total utilised agricultural area was 16% – one of the largest in the European Union.

At the end of 2016, the number of cattle in Estonia was 248,200, including 86,100 dairy cows. There were 265,900 pigs, 90,600 sheep and goats and slightly over 2.1 million poultry.

Milk production in 2016 was at 783,200 tonnes and milk yield per cow at 8,878 kg, which is 37% more than in 2007.

Meat production amounted to 77,900 tonnes, of which 55% was pork, 25% poultry meat and 19% beef.

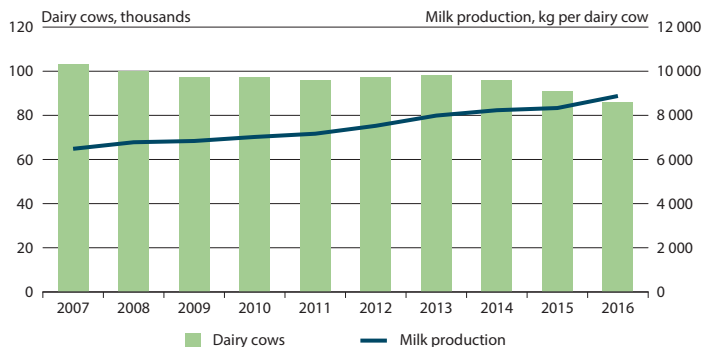
199 million eggs and 1,097 tonnes of honey were produced.

Use of agricultural area, 2007, 2016

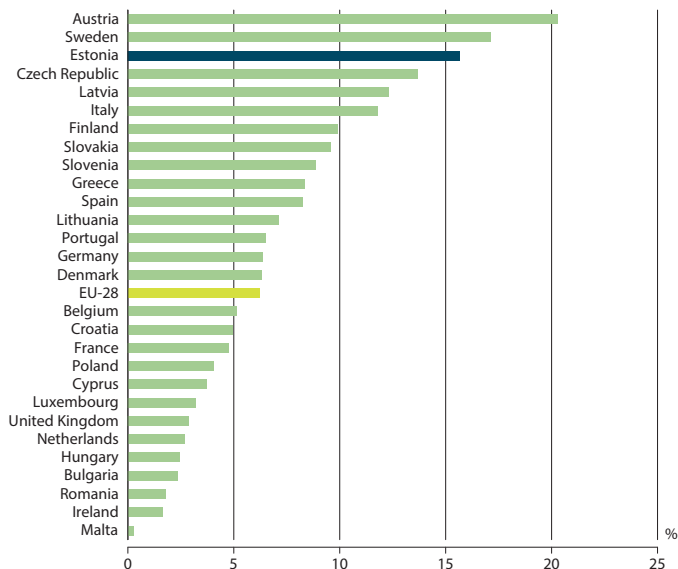
(thousand hectares)

	2007	2016	Change, %
Utilised agricultural area	914.7	1 003.5	10
Arable land	599.3	690.2	15
cereals	292.3	351.4	20
dry pulses	5.7	55.4	872
industrial crops	74.7	75.3	1
potatoes	11.2	5.6	-50
fresh vegetables and strawberries	3.4	3.7	7
fodder plants	187.7	178.3	-5
Permanent grassland	307.1	306.8	0
Permanent crops (fruits and berry plantations, nurseries and other)	8.3	6.5	-21

Number of dairy cows and milk production, 2007–2016



Share of organic farming area^a in total utilised agricultural area in the European Union, 2015



^a Fully converted and under conversion to organic farming

15 Energy

In 2016, the production of electricity totalled 12 TWh (terawatt-hours) and the consumption 7.7 TWh.

Estonian electricity production is largely based on domestic energy sources, especially on oil shale. This is why Estonia's energy dependency rate in 2015 was 7.4%, making it one of the least energy dependent EU countries.

In recent years, the volume of shale oil production (liquid fuel produced from oil shale) has increased each year, reaching 740,000 tonnes in 2016.

The share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption is one of the indicators of sustainable development. With regard to this indicator, Estonia is in the top ten (7th) among EU countries. In 2015, electricity production from renewable sources in Estonia was 15.1%.

Wood pellets have become an important fuel on the energy market in recent years. In 2016, the production of wood pellets amounted to nearly 1.2 million tonnes. Compared to 2015, the production of pellets grew 28% and over 80% of the produced wood pellets were exported.

In 2016, imports of natural gas for domestic consumption increased compared to the previous year by about 10% to over 500 million m³.

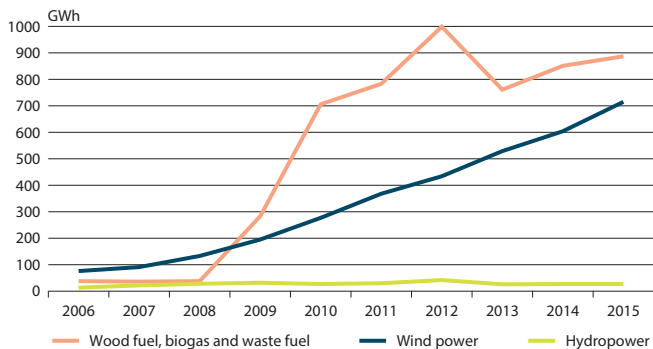
Production and consumption of electricity, 2015–2016

(gigawatt-hours)

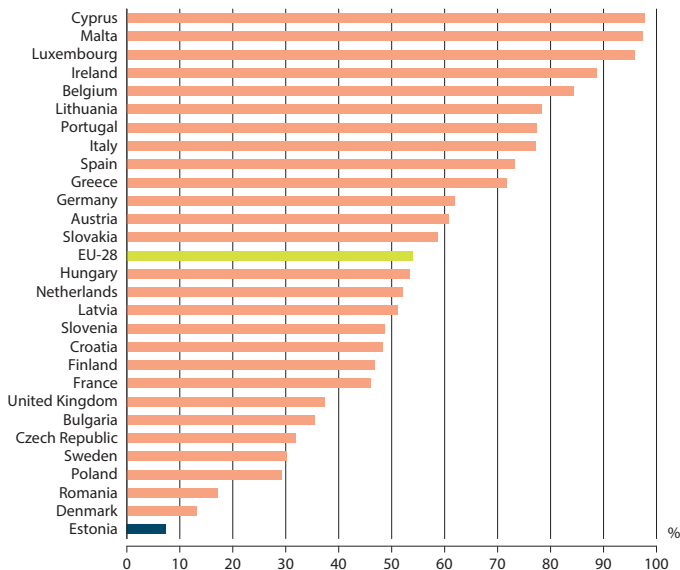
	2015	2016 ^a	Change, %
Gross production	10 417	12 050	15.7
Net production	9 062	10 424	15.0
Imports	5 452	3 577	-34.4
Latvia	175	328	87.4
Finland	5 277	3 249	-38.4
Consumption	7 440	7 664	3.0
Losses	697	723	3.7
Exports	6 377	5 614	-12.0
Latvia	6 079	4 733	-22.1
Finland	298	881	195.6

^a Preliminary data

Electricity production from renewable sources, 2006–2015



Energy dependency rate^a in the European Union, 2015



^a Energy dependency rate shows the extent to which an economy relies upon imports in order to meet its energy needs. The indicator is calculated as net imports divided by the sum of gross inland energy consumption.

16 Tourism

In 2016, the nights spent in the accommodation establishments of the European Union countries totalled 2.8 billion, with Estonian accommodation establishments accounting for 0.2% of the EU total.

Nearly 6 million foreign visitors came to Estonia, i.e. 4% more than in 2015. Every fourth trip to Estonia was made from outside the European Union.

Foreign visitors spent nearly 1.4 billion euros on goods and services in Estonia.

Compared to 2015, there were 7% more tourists staying in accommodation establishments and 8% more tourist nights spent.

Of foreign tourists who used the accommodation services, 63% were from the neighbouring countries of Finland, Russia and Latvia.

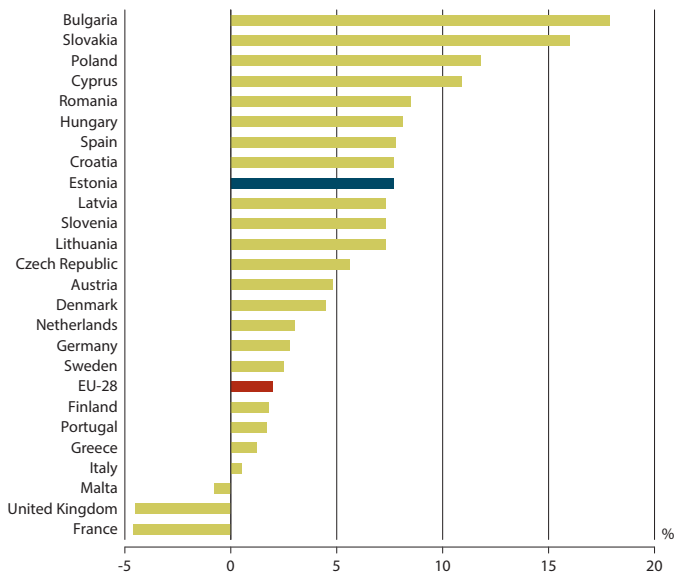
The share of domestic tourists in the nights spent in Estonian accommodation establishments was 36% and the share of foreign tourists 64%.

Accommodated tourists by country of residence, 2016

Country	Accommodated tourists	Nights spent	Average number of nights spent per tourist
Total	3 324 914	6 228 128	1.87
Estonia	1 268 388	2 213 547	1.75
Foreign visitors	2 056 526	4 014 581	1.95
Finland	951 025	1 766 623	1.86
Russia	200 972	413 292	2.06
Latvia	142 043	218 764	1.54
Germany	125 942	269 673	2.14
Sweden	74 415	152 080	2.04
Asian countries	73 093	115 801	1.58
Lithuania	61 111	110 728	1.81
United Kingdom	48 733	107 480	2.21
United States	37 865	92 904	2.45
Norway	37 725	90 418	2.40
Other countries	303 602	676 818	2.23



Change in the number of nights spent in tourist accommodation establishments in the European Union, 2015–2016^a



^a No data available for Belgium, Ireland and Luxembourg

17 Data sources

Websites on Estonia:

Estonia 100	www.ev100.ee/en
Estonian Presidency	www.eu2017.ee
Events Estonia	www.events.estonia.ee

The State Portal	www.eesti.ee/eng
Office of the President	www.president.ee/en
Riigikogu (Parliament)	www.riigikogu.ee/en
Government of the Republic	www.valitsus.ee/en
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	www.vm.ee/en
Eesti Pank	www.eestipank.ee/en
Enterprise Estonia	www.eas.ee/en
Estonian Investment Agency	www.investinestonia.com
The Digital Society	www.e-estonia.com
Gateway to Estonia	www.estonia.ee
Tourist Information	www.visitestonia.com
Estonian Institute	www.estinst.ee/en
Encyclopedia about Estonia	www.estonica.org
National Library of Estonia	www.nlib.ee/en
Estonian Cultural Events	www.culture.ee
Estonian Museums	www.muuseum.ee/en/
Welcoming programme	www.settleinestonia.ee
Study in Estonia	www.studyinestonia.ee
Work in Estonia	www.workinestonia.com

Statistics Estonia	www.stat.ee/en
Eurostat	www.ec.europa.eu/eurostat

Data sources:

Statistics Estonia, Government Office, Eurostat, European Commission (Digital Scoreboard), Estonian Land Board, Estonian Environment Agency and Eesti Pank (central bank of Estonia).

Explanation of symbols:

..	category not applicable
0	magnitude less than half of the unit employed
EU-28	28 Member States of the European Union
EA-19	19 Members States of the euro area

Units of measurement:

1 metre (m)	3.28 feet (ft)
1 kilometre (km)	0.6214 miles (mi)
1 square kilometre (km ²)	0.3861 square miles (sq mi)
1 square kilometre (km ²)	247.1 acres (ac)
1 hectare (ha)	2.471 acres (ac)
1 tonne (t)	2,204.62 pounds (lb)
1 kilogram (kg)	2.2 pounds (lb)

Currency:

1 EUR	1.1176 USD (12.06.2017)
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