



**Convention on the Elimination
of All Forms of Discrimination
against Women**

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**Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination
against Women**

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**Responses to the list of issues and questions with regard to
the consideration of the fourth periodic report**

Estonia*

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



Constitution, laws and national machinery

1. Please provide information on the implementation of the Gender Equality Act and its impact on the promotion of gender equality.

The Gender Equality Act entered into effect on 1 May 2004. For its better implementation, the Ministry of Social Affairs in cooperation with other relevant organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) has launched a number of projects aimed, for example, at raising awareness about the Act and the pertinent issues in general.

In order to facilitate the implementation of § 6 and 11 of the Act and comply with the duties set out in § 22(1) the Ministry of Social Affairs has planned to carry out a project entitled “Equality between men and women – the principle and aim for efficient and sustainable companies” in 2007-2008 with the co-financing received from the European Union Transition Facility. One of the aims of the project is to raise awareness of the private sector about gender equality in terms of legal norms, policies, measures and best practices. In the framework of the project, a survey will be carried out to find out the knowledge and attitudes of employers about and towards gender equality and the implementation of the norms of equal treatment of women and men and the promotion of gender equality in the private sector.

The project will help to obtain an overview of the guidelines, methods and measures used in the private sector in the European Union member States for the implementation of equal treatment between women and men and the promotion of gender equality; guidelines for the private sector employers in Estonia will be developed, including basic principles for the calculation of pay and assessment of the value of work (in order to eliminate the wage gap between women and men); the awareness of the private sector employers about the relevant legislation will be raised and their knowledge and skills for the use of measures and methods for the promotion of gender equality will be improved. The project intends to create a network of private sector employers and interest groups for the exchange of information, experience and best practices for the promotion of gender equality.

In connection with the implementation of § 9 of the Gender Equality Act, the Association of Estonian Cities participates in an international project aimed at supporting local governments in the ratification and implementation of the European Charter for Equality of Women and Men in Local Life. The project envisages that each new party acceding to the Charter has to prepare a gender equality action plan including specific actions within a reasonable period. The party acceding to the Charter also undertakes to carry out a periodic review of the action plan and to make amendments in it if necessary.

For the implementation of § 23(1) of the Gender Equality Act, officials of the gender equality department of the Ministry of Social Affairs in accordance with their competencies reply to questions and queries made by individuals about gender equality issues.

About the implementation of § 15-21 of the Act (gender equality commissioner) see the reply to question 4.

2. The report states that, under the Gender Equality Act, “it is also not considered discriminatory to afford a different treatment of a person based on sex in hiring or enabling the person training necessary to be hired, if the person’s sex is a genuine and determining requirement due to the nature of the particular occupational activities concerned or due to the context in which they are carried out, provided that the objective of discrimination is legitimate and the requirement is proportionate”. The report refers to a similar provision in respect of education and training offers. Please provide examples of what is envisaged under these provisions and how they are implemented in practice.

In some cases there can be factors that require the hiring of a person of a particular gender, for example due to the nature of the work. For example, hiring a male actor for a man’s role in a performance. Or a situation where a person is hired as an individual caregiver. In that case it would be justified to hire a person of the same gender as the persons under care. It would also be appropriate to hire female staff to work at a women’s shelter.

Similar situations can also be mentioned with regard to job offers. In terms of training offers, what was envisaged were situations of training in connection with a particular job, as well as training that is aimed to improve the position of persons who are in a disadvantaged situation due to their gender. Examples would include self-defence courses for women or training for the promotion of entrepreneurship among women, as well as training aimed at creating equal opportunities for women to compete with men in the labour market.

The Government does not currently have an overview of the implementation of these provisions, nor has the gender equality commissioner received any applications to demonstrate that employers have made use of the right given to them under § 5(2) clause 4 of the Gender Equality Act.

3. Considering that there is no information that the provisions of the Convention have been directly applied by the courts, please provide information on the reasons that may explain this situation.

The protection of women and men against discrimination provided for by the Convention is ensured through the Gender Equality Act, and in the case of discrimination disputes the courts first and foremost apply the provisions of the Act, which prohibits discrimination based on gender. The aim of the Act is to guarantee the requirement of equal treatment of persons of both genders under the Constitution of Estonia, and to promote equality between women and men as one of the basic human rights and a common good in all areas of society.

Discrimination disputes are settled either by courts or labour dispute committees. The Chancellor of Justice also settles discrimination disputes under the conciliation procedure. The gender equality commissioner provides opinions to persons who have suffered from discrimination and, if necessary, to persons who have a legitimate interest in monitoring compliance with the requirements of equal treatment.

4. The report states that two new institutions – Gender Equality Commissioner and Gender Equality Council – will be created under the Gender Equality Act . Please provide information on whether those institutions have been created and on their activities, staffing and resources.

The first Gender Equality Commissioner, Margit Sarv, assumed office in October 2005. From then until the beginning of April 2007, the Gender Equality Commissioner has received 72 written applications. The Commissioner has provided an assessment/opinion to 50 persons with regard to possible gender discrimination. On 10 occasions the Commissioner has advised and informed government agencies and local government bodies about the issues concerning the implementation of the Gender Equality Act (among them the Riigikogu, the State Chancellery, the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, a local government council, an educational establishment and a judge).

To promote gender equality the Commissioner has given 28 public presentations. In connection with her tasks of counselling and promotion, the Commissioner has also been involved in the European Union-funded project, "Equality for local development: gender mainstreaming in municipalities", in the framework of which training seminars for local governments are held, a round table for the general public is organized and training material is prepared (a manual on gender mainstreaming).

In addition to the Commissioner herself, there is one more official in her office, thus a total of two persons. The budget allocated to the Commissioner in 2007 was 887,550 Estonian kroons, of which 827,550 were staff expenses and 60,000 were administrative expenses.

The statute of the Gender Equality Council was approved by the Government of the Republic in its regulation No. 34 on 16 February 2005. The founding and convening of the Council has been delayed, on the one hand due to the excessive workload of the small number of persons who are competent in these issues and, on the other hand, the burden of carrying out the extensive tasks related to servicing the Council that would rest on the already limited staff capacity of the Ministry of Social Affairs.

5. Please provide information on the activities of the inter-ministerial committee to promote gender equality and the outcomes of those activities, as well as the relationship of this body with the above mentioned new institutions. Please also indicate the status of the basic document for gender equality policy, including whether it was adopted as well as the activities under the policy and their impact on the promotion of gender equality.

Members of the inter-ministerial committee to promote gender equality were involved as persons to be trained in the Phare partnership project on raising the administrative capacity of the Estonian public sector for the implementation of gender mainstreaming in 2004-2005. The aim of the project was to promote gender mainstreaming as a strategy for achieving gender equality. Gender mainstreaming is a strategy that is based on the analysis of the causes of gender inequality, consideration of different interests and needs of women and men, and the implementation of measures that help to break barriers to the achievement of gender equality objectives.

Gender mainstreaming is related to making decisions that are based on the assessment of gender impact on all the planned activities, including legislation, policymaking, as well as programmes and projects on all levels in all areas of life. In 2005, 15 training seminars for State and local government officials were held throughout Estonia in the framework of the project. Altogether 181 officials

participated in the training. In addition to training about gender equality and gender mainstreaming there was also separate training on the implementation of gender mainstreaming in the European Union structural funds. Officials in different ministries were explained the opportunities for integrating gender mainstreaming in the programming of structural funds.

Members of the committee have become a useful contact network for the Ministry of Social Affairs which is the coordinator for gender equality and gender mainstreaming, and the network can be used to exchange information with officials in other ministries.

The strategic development plan for the elimination of inequality between women and men and integrating equality in the action plans, programmes and projects of State agencies in various fields (the Gender Equality Strategy) has not yet been submitted to the Government for approval. However, the gender equality aspect has been integrated in the national strategy for the use of the structural funds and in the State budget strategy both as a horizontal topic as well as in the form of specific measures.

Measures/projects that support equal opportunities of women and men are those that help to ensure:

- Economic independence of women and men
- More equal participation of women and men in decision-making
- Reconciliation of work and family life
- Reduction of gender stereotypes
- Reduction of gender segregation in the labour and education market
- Reduction of the pay gap between women and men
- More active participation of disadvantaged persons and groups in society, including access to training and labour market

Horizontal topics are taken into consideration when implementing action plans on the level of measures, and they are expressed in the following:

- Planning of specific objectives and activities into the conditions of the measure, if necessary
- Establishment of the relevant compatibility and assessment criteria, including giving additional points in the assessment of projects that have a positive impact on the relevant topics

The basic document for these activities is the Ministry of Social Affairs action plan that has been drawn up on the basis of the State budget strategy. According to the action plan, the gender equality information centre will be created as a pilot project to support measures within the structural funds.

6. In its concluding comments of 2002, the Committee noted that the economic transition, from a centrally planned economy to a market economy, during the last decade had posed serious challenges to the effective implementation of the Convention, and that the restructuring processes had disproportionately affected women. Please provide information on any continuing disproportionate impact on women of the country's current macroeconomic framework, and steps taken by the Government to mitigate, prevent or overcome such impact.

Temporary special measures

The measures used for solving the problems (social inclusion, reduction of poverty, labour market training, measures to support cooperation among women and women's networks) are specifically described under other topics.

7. In its concluding comments of 2002, the Committee recommended that the State party introduce temporary special measures, in accordance with article 4, paragraph 1, of the Convention in, inter alia, the educational, employment and political fields. In its general recommendation 25, the Committee emphasized that temporary special measures were part of a necessary strategy to accelerate the achievement of women's de facto equality and should be distinguished from permanent, general social policies to improve the situation of women and girls. The report states that the Gender Equality Act contains a number of special measures. Please provide further details on the types of such measures, the status of their implementation, and the results achieved.

The Gender Equality Act contains § 5(2) clause 5 that allows the implementation of special measures to promote gender equality and that give advantages to the underrepresented gender or reduce gender inequality, and which can also be implemented to comply with the requirement set out in § 9(4).

Participation in political and public life, and decision-making

8. Considering that the position of women in decision-making posts has not significantly changed since the last report, please provide further details about the measures undertaken or foreseen by the Government to improve women's participation in political and public life, particularly at senior levels, including in the Estonian Parliament, Government Ministries and local government, taking into account general recommendation 25 on article 4, paragraph 1, of the Convention and general recommendation 23 on women in public life.

First, with regard to this question we would like to point to pages 16 and 25 of the report (CEDAW/C/EST/4) where the survey "Power in Estonia: equality between female and male politicians" is mentioned. The survey was carried out in 2004 within the framework of the European Union gender equality framework strategy (2001-2005) under the project "The role of mass media in the (re)shaping of power relationships". The aim of the survey was to explain the role of women in Estonian politics and what top female politicians, as part of the political elite, thought about gender equality. For the collection of basic data, interviews were conducted with 14 women politicians. The analysis of the interviews demonstrated that in comparison to men Estonian women did not have equal opportunities to reach top-level elected positions. Top women politicians in Estonia felt themselves to be in an unequal situation as compared to their male colleagues, but not all of them were prepared to challenge such a situation. More information about the project is available on the internet at <http://www.medijuprojekts.lv/>

In 2004 the Ministry of Social Affairs announced the second project competition "Promotion of cooperation among women". Thirty-five project applications were received, and the projects were financed from the targeted funds from the State budget in the total amount of approximately 400 000

kroons. Several projects aimed at increasing political representation of women were also funded, for example the project “The forum women decide 2004” by the non-profit association Kodanikukoolitus, the project “Russian women decide!” by the non-profit association Karre-Klubi, the project “The impact of women’s organizations on local decision-making” by the Estonian Women’s Union, the project “The impact of women’s organizations in the Lääne-Viru County on local decision making” by the Tudu Rural Women’s Society “Loit”. At the project competition held in 2005 it was also decided to finance several projects on similar topics, for example “The Forum Women Decide 2005” by the non-profit association Kodanikukoolitus, and the project “Power and decision-making” by the Estonian Women’s Union.

In view of the parliamentary elections in 2007, the theme of the gender equality project competition in 2006, has been organized by the Ministry of Social Affairs in cooperation with the Open Estonia Foundation since 2006, was “More women into politics”. The aim of the project competition was to increase the participation of women in politics through improved cooperation between civic associations and by raising the awareness of the public. The competition aimed to identify information and training projects that would help to step up debates about the necessity of women in politics, that value of gender-balanced representation and expand understanding of the roles of women in politics and the issues of gender equality in different policy fields. Nine projects were financed in the framework of the competition. For example, financing was given to a series of radio programmes and a compilation of articles and interviews “Women Ministers in the Republic of Estonia”, a collection “Women in top-level politics”, a pre-election round of debates, a film with interviews with women politicians and officials in Brussels called “How are we doing? Stories of women in Estonian politics”, and a project “Changing attitudes” aimed at young students. In addition, within the framework of the projects, seminars, training events, conferences and roundtables were organized, articles were published and interviews were made in the press.

At the local government council elections in 2005 there were 39.9 per cent female and 60.7 per cent male candidates (in comparison, in 2002 the respective numbers were 37.7 per cent and 62.3 per cent). Among those elected in 2005, 29.6 per cent were women and 70.4 per cent men (in comparison, 28.4 per cent and 71.6 per cent respectively in 2002).

At the general elections in March 2007, there were 27 per cent of women and 73 per cent men among the candidates (in comparison, 21 per cent and 79 per cent respectively in 2003). Among those elected, there were 24 per cent women and 76 per cent men in 2007 (in comparison, 19 per cent and 81 per cent respectively in 2003).

The above statistics demonstrate that in comparison with the previous elections the proportion of women has risen both at the local and national levels, and both in terms of candidates and those elected.

It should also be noted that two women – Ene Ergma and Kristiina Ojuland – were elected as the President and one of the Vice-Presidents of the Riigikogu (the Parliament) that started its work in April 2007. The new Government that assumed office in April 2007 includes three women ministers (Minister of Social Affairs, Maret Maripuu; Minister of Population and Ethnic Affairs, Urve Palo; and the Minister of Culture, Laine Jänes).

Women are in majority in all the main categories of public officials – 75 per cent among junior officials, 63 per cent among senior officials and 55 per cent among higher officials.

Violence against women

9. As mentioned in the report, in its 2002 concluding comments, the Committee recommended the introduction of specific domestic violence legislation, which would provide for protection and exclusion orders and access to legal aid. The report states that “there is no need for a separate law on domestic violence as the issue is regulated in the Penal Code which also provides for protection against domestic violence”. Please elaborate on how the Penal Code provides for protection of women against domestic violence. Please also clarify whether, and under what circumstances, women victims of domestic violence are entitled to, or have access to legal aid.

Chapter 9 of the Penal Code provides for the punishment of criminal offences against person (manslaughter, causing of bodily injury, physical mistreatment, threat, rape and so on) regardless of the victim’s gender or his or her relationship to the perpetrator. An exception are some sexual criminal offences against minors. Since June 2004 physical mistreatment is no longer a matter of private accusation that was only initiated on the basis of a complaint by a victim, but now this criminal offence is also subject to investigation and prosecution under general procedure.

Based on the State Legal Aid Act, legal aid is ensured to victims of domestic violence on the same basis with other persons in need. In addition to court proceedings, legal aid by the State also covers other forms of legal counselling (§ 4 of the State Legal Aid Act). The provision of State legal aid is connected with the economic situation of the person. Based on § 41(3) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the court can initiate the provision of legal aid to victims of crime on its own initiative. The Victim Assistance Act also provides for the service of victim assistance which can also be related to the initial counselling of the person and referral him or her to the provider of legal aid.

10. The report states that “in 2004 the Prosecutor’s Office carried out proceedings of 292 criminal cases relating to family violence”. Please provide updated information on the number of cases of violence against women and also indicate the number of convictions and the average sentence imposed.

In 2005, the police registered 2,739 family quarrels, of which 1,858 took place without the participation of a child and 872 with the presence of a child. Of the family quarrels without the participation of a child, 308 were registered as criminal offences, and of the family quarrels with the presence of a child 128 cases were registered as criminal offences. In addition, 2,684 cases of problematic families were registered, among them 441 as criminal offences.

In 2006, the police registered 3,922 family quarrels, of which 2,710 took place without the participation of a child and 1,212 with the presence of a child. Of the family quarrels without the participation of a child, 492 were registered as criminal offences and of those with the presence of a child 134 were registered as criminal offences. In addition, 809 cases of problematic families were registered, among them 139 as criminal offences.

As compared to 2000, the number of persons coming to shelters due to domestic violence has increased. In 2000, 164 persons came to shelters (among them 105 women and 59 men), while the number was 146 persons in 2001 (105 women and 41 men), 162 persons in 2002 (110 women and 52 men), 326 persons in 2003 (231 women and 95 men), 254 persons in 2004 (158 women and 96 men) and 309 persons in 2005 (226 women and 83 men).

According to the Social Insurance Board, 3,005 victims have contacted the State victim insurance system that was launched in 2005. Among them, in 841 cases the reason for this was domestic violence, in 278 cases violence of parents against children and in the remaining cases other reasons.

According to the Estonian Centre for Social Programmes, on average from 60 to 70 women each month participate in women's support groups. The number of persons contacting the support groups, including both the persons who participated in the groups and the number of telephone contacts, was on average from 110 to 120 women per month in 2005.

11. In its 2002 concluding comments, the Committee urged the State party to amend the Criminal Code in order to explicitly define the offence of rape as sexual intercourse without consent, and it also recommended the amendment of the law on statutory rape. What steps have been taken in response to the Committee's recommendations?

Section 141 of the Penal Code, which was passed on 6 June 2001 and entered into effect on 1 September 2002, provides for the following definition of rape: sexual intercourse with a person against his or her will by using force or taking advantage of a situation in which the person is not capable of initiating resistance or comprehending the situation. Thus, the present Penal Code is compatible with the Committee's recommendation that was made to amend the earlier Criminal Code.

Trafficking

12. Please provide information on the status of the draft national action plan against trafficking in human beings, including whether it was adopted and if so, the programmes implemented under the plan and their impact.

On 26 January 2006 the Government approved the development plan against trafficking in human beings for 2006-2009, and on 8 March 2007 the report on the implementation of the development plan against trafficking in human beings for the period of 1 January 2006 until 31 December 2006 and the amendments to the development plan. These documents are publicly available on the Internet at <http://www.just.ee/28014>.

The development plan provides for strategic objectives in the fight against human trafficking and defines the main measures and actions for achieving these objectives in 2006-2009.

The overall goal of the development plan is to improve the fight against trafficking in human beings. The achievement of this objective contains six strategic sub-objectives:

1. Consistent mapping of the problems of trafficking in human beings in order to obtain a diverse and reliable overview of the actual extent of the problem of human trafficking and its various forms.

2. The prevention of trafficking in human beings through raising public awareness about the nature and threats of human trafficking.
3. Development of the skills of and cooperation among experts dealing with the problem of trafficking in human beings.
4. The restriction of trafficking in human beings through improved border checks and control of employment exchange.
5. Effective reaction to offences related to trafficking in human beings.
6. Assistance and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking in human beings.

13. Please provide available data on the number of women and girls who are trafficked to, from and through Estonia.

There is no information about the exact number of victims of trafficking in human beings, and due to the latent nature of this type of crime it is difficult to obtain such data. According to the data of the survey, "Sexual exploitation and trafficking in human beings in Estonia", commissioned by the International Organisation for Migration (2005) and carried out by the University of Tartu Law Institute, the number of victims trafficked from Estonia for purposes of sexual exploitation was approximately 100 in 2001-2004. Very little firm evidence of regular trafficking of women into Estonia was found. In addition, no facts were ascertained concerning the use of Estonia as a transit country for trafficking in human beings for sexual exploitation.

14. Please provide updated information on the numbers of prosecutions and convictions of traffickers and also provide further information on the support and assistance programmes that are available for victims of trafficking.

For the development of services provided to victims of trafficking in human beings, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Social Affairs together with non-governmental organizations are participating in the activities of the 2005-2008 pilot project of Nordic and Baltic countries "Support, protection and safe return and rehabilitation of women who have been trafficked for sexual exploitation".

One of the aims of the pilot project is to create a regional network of Nordic and Baltic countries involving State institutions and non-governmental organizations from all the Nordic and Baltic countries. The existence of the network helps to ensure the best assistance to victims. The jointly developed methods of assistance help to achieve the best possible result. At the end of the project all the participating countries will have a system of assistance to victims of human trafficking that guarantees the necessary assistance to victims in their return to normal life.

In the framework of the project, each country created a national network involving the key organizations in that country. There are training seminars for the members of the network, as well as conferences introducing the regional network. The most important is that shelters for assisting victims of human trafficking and a help line have been created that help to prevent trafficking as well as to assist victims.

During the period 2005-2008 Estonia is participating in the European Union cooperation project EQUAL, called "the integration into the legal labour market of women involved in prostitution,

including victims of human trafficking”. A rehabilitation centre has been created for trafficked women and women involved in prostitution, where they can get all-round assistance and counselling. The national system of support persons for victims of trafficking and women involved in prostitution is currently under creation.

Victims can also make use of the national victim assistance system. The new Victim Assistance Act entered into effect on 1 January 2004, and the part concerning the victim assistance service entered into force on 1 January 2005. The Act provides for the creation of the network of victim assistance centres in all counties. The most important task of the regional victim assistance services is to create and use a network of organizations in the particular region that provide assistance and services to victims of crime, and if possible to develop and strengthen the network.

According to the new Act, all persons who have become victims of negligence or mistreatment, physical, mental or sexual violence have the right to victim assistance; that is, every person who has been subject to suffering or damage has the right to victim assistance. The actual commission of a criminal offence is not a precondition for receiving assistance. It is also possible to receive compensation: victims of violent crime committed due to negligence as well as victims of intentional crime can both obtain compensation. The severity of the crime (e.g. whether a serious bodily injury was caused) is ascertained through forensic medical assessment. After the forensic medical assessment the person must apply to the pension board of his or her residence for receiving the compensation.

These rights also extend to citizens of the European Union, regardless of their permanent residence (e.g. tourists) and to citizens of States that are parties to the European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crimes. However, the rights will extend to parties to the Convention only after Estonia itself accedes to it. Besides the costs of rehabilitation of physical health, compensation is also available for the rehabilitation of mental health. The law also extends the compensation of treatment costs to psychological counselling and psychotherapy.

On 1 February 2007 an amendment to the Aliens Act entered into force that provides for the possibility of granting of a temporary residence permit to victims of trafficking; the preliminary description of services to be provided in women’s shelters to victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation, which will be revised in 2007.

Statistical information concerning criminal cases, court judgements and convictions in 2005 and 2006 has been provided in Annex I.

The tables in annex I contain the number of criminal cases and convicted persons broken down according to the respective sections on human trafficking in the Penal Code. Thus, one and the same criminal case and the convicted person may be reflected in several parts of the table on different lines corresponding to different sections of the Penal Code. Based on the court judgements that have entered into effect, there were 44 different criminal cases related to human trafficking in 2005 and 51 cases in 2006.

Stereotypes and education

15. The report discusses the strong gender prejudices that are prevalent in Estonia and also refers to the Committee's 2002 concluding comments, where the Committee urged the State party to design and implement comprehensive programmes in the educational system and to encourage the media to promote cultural changes regarding the roles and tasks attributed to women and men. The report states that Estonia has yet to fully implement that recommendation but the problem has been acknowledged. Please indicate the reasons for this delay as well as the intentions of the State party to take comprehensive action in follow-up to the Committee's recommendation, including a timeline.

Estonia has not implemented any special educational programmes that would be aimed only at avoiding the development of gender prejudices. Currently the national curriculum for basic and upper secondary schools is being revised. A new draft version of a curriculum has been developed that has been published for public comments and amendments. The syllabuses for human, environmental and social studies under the new curriculum would also deal with the topics of prejudices and discrimination. According to the draft curriculum, by the end of the second school stage (years 4-6) pupils must be able to understand the concept of prejudices and the causes of discrimination. In the fourth school stage (years 10-12) the topics of prejudiced thinking and avoidance of discrimination are covered in more detail. According to the draft, special textbooks for the implementation of the curriculum will be developed and further training on these topics will be provided to teachers.

16. Table 10.2 indicates that in 2003/04, there were 76 women professors out of a total of 467. Please provide updated data, and indicate what measures are being taken to increase the number of women professors among academic staff and the anticipated short- and medium-term impact of those measures.

While during the initial period a constant rise in the number of women students could be noted (during the academic year 1993/94 the proportion of women students was 51 per cent), in the period 2001/02-2005/06 the proportion of women students remained at approximately 62 per cent. However, in the academic year 2006/07 the proportion had declined a bit (61 per cent). In the academic year 2006/07 the proportion of women students was still the largest in the one-year teacher training programme (69 per cent; 72 per cent in 2005/06) and in the 3 plus 2 years master's studies (67 per cent). The number of women students has been smaller in vocational higher education (46 per cent) (53 per cent in 2005/06), diploma studies (54 per cent) and doctoral studies (55 per cent) (53 per cent in 2005/06). By field of study, the smallest number of women students throughout the period has been in technical fields as well as in production and building (26 per cent of students in 2006/07). The proportion of women students was also below average in the fields of natural and exact sciences, service and agriculture. In the fields of education and welfare the proportion of women students has been the largest (92 per cent and 90 per cent respectively in 2006/07). See <http://www.hm.ee/index.php?popup=download&id=5810>.

The number of women professors as compared to 2003/2004 has increased (see table 1). Seventeen per cent of professors are women (16 per cent in 2003/2004). In terms of measures, it should be pointed out that Estonia does not have State universities and the Ministry of Education and

Research does not have direct possibilities to take measures to increase the number of women professors in public universities.

Table 1
Data for 2004/2005

Position	Number of academic staff	Number of women professors
Professor	481	83
Professor Extraordinary	67	11

Source: Statistical Office of Estonia.

17. The report states that on the basis of a study on gender roles in school textbooks, “it appeared that textbooks of different topics and of different levels construct and support stereotypical gender roles, do not reflect equally the experiences of men and women and do not teach contemporary ideology of human rights and the distribution of roles between men and women”. What measures have been taken in response to this assessment, and is there a timeline for expected results?

On 4 October 2005 the Minister of Education approved the regulation on The conditions and procedure for the approval of conformity of textbooks, workbooks and study books to the national curriculum and the requirements for textbooks, workbooks, study books and other educational literature”, which also provides for the requirement to avoid approaches in teaching materials that emphasise gender prejudices (see § 3(4) Texts and illustrations in textbooks shall avoid stereotypes that emphasise gender based, ethnic, cultural or racial prejudices).

The conformity of teaching materials to the requirements is monitored by the syllabus councils at the National Examination and Qualification Centre, where experts of various subjects assess the new teaching materials, and on the basis of this permission is given to use the materials as the core teaching materials. In the recent past no studies about the teaching materials used at schools have been carried out, thus it is not possible to elaborate on to which extent the requirements provided for in the regulation are complied with.

Employment

18. The report indicates that both Estonian women and men share the view that there is a clear distinction between the so-called men’s and women’s jobs. The report further indicates that horizontal and vertical gender segregation has not declined since the submission of the previous report. Please elaborate further on the efforts being made to address this situation.

The efforts to address the problem have mainly focused on the first stage – raising awareness of the problem in the context of gender roles and gender stereotypes as one of the causes of the wage gap. It is an important process, the development of which depends on very many factors, institutions and policies.

Thirteen development partnerships in the framework of the European Commission's EQUAL initiative have been funded in Estonia. Five of the development partnerships were aimed at improving the situation of women on the labour market. The main activities included training, motivating women to start their own businesses, raising the general awareness of society about gender equality, information about the possibilities of reconciling work and family life, the creation of new methods of work and the like.

Projects aimed at entrepreneurship among women have also been funded from the European Social Fund measure 1.3 "Equal opportunities on the labour market". The general aim of this measure is more widespread and effective prevention and alleviation of poverty and social exclusion and an increase in social inclusion. Other projects that have been financed include "The reduction of unemployment among women and young mothers and the promotion of entrepreneurship in Valga County" and "From women to women – the more successful helping the weaker; reintegration of women with many children and long-term unemployed women to the labour market and supporting them to start entrepreneurship" and others. The projects have offered training and counselling and provided support for entrepreneurship.

19. In its 2002 concluding comments, the Committee recommended additional wage increases in female-dominated sectors of public employment to decrease the wage differential in comparison with male-dominated sectors. Please provide information on the steps being taken to implement the Committee's recommendation.

We are of the opinion that in order to reduce the wage differential it is necessary to implement complex measures that are based on a comprehensive impact analysis and the assessment of jobs and that ensure the changing of the previous gender system. Therefore, we believe that the mechanical reduction of wage differences will not solve the problem. Raising the awareness, systematic collection of data and knowledge-based analysis are the preconditions for achieving the aim of reduction of the wage differential between women and men that is provided for in the State budget strategy and in the structural funds implementation plan.

20. The report includes information that a social involvement action plan has been developed in Estonia which aims to reduce poverty and refers to some specific measures taken. Considering the concern expressed by the Committee in its concluding comments of 2002, please provide information about any further measures to respond to its recommendations. The response should discuss in particular the situation of certain groups of women, such as women heads of households, those with small children, as well as women who are not legally married but live in long-term relationships.

In 2006 Estonia drew up a new national social protection and involvement report for 2006-2008. The aims set out in the area of social involvement include the prevention and reduction of long-term unemployment and exclusion from the labour market, and the prevention and alleviation of poverty and exclusion among families with children.

The challenges related to poverty and social exclusion are diverse and concern various areas of life. One of the main causes of poverty and exclusion in Estonia continues to be unemployment.

Another serious problem alongside unemployment is that poverty still concerns a large number of children. The poverty level of households with children is generally significantly higher than among households without children. There is also a greater likelihood among families with single parent to remain under the poverty line by their level of income. This is characterized by the following table:

Table 2
Relative poverty level in households with and without children

	1998	2000	2003	2004
Household with 2 adults and no dependent children				
Both under 65 years old	14.7	11.8	14.9	14.8
1 member aged 65 or older	8.9	9.0	11.6	10.6
Household with a single parent and at least one dependent child	26.8	37.2	44.7	40.3
Household with 2 adults and with dependent children				
With 1 child	13.0	13.0	16.1	13.0
With 2 children	14.1	16.4	17.2	12.4
With 3 or more children	24.7	22.9	26.3	25.0

Source: Statistical Office of Estonia.

There are no significant differences in the poverty indicators among women and men, but households with a female breadwinner are at a greater risk of poverty. On the one hand, due to the gender division of the labour market women are overwhelmingly employed in low-paying jobs – the wage difference between women and men has been around 25 per cent in the recent years. On the other hand, women are more likely than men to be a single parent or to be taking care of an elderly or disabled family member, which affects their opportunities of earning an income and the social protection of the retirement age. The above facts explain why households with a female breadwinner are at a greater risk of poverty than those with a male breadwinner, in two life periods – between the ages of 20 and 40 (often families with a single mother) and in very advanced ages (mainly pensioners living alone).

This is also confirmed by the results of the gender equality monitoring carried out in 2005. The results of the monitoring showed that among all the households where the man was the one earning a higher income, the proportion of families with coping difficulties was smaller (20 per cent) than among families where the woman had a higher income (27 per cent). On the contrary, there were 10 per cent more families whose level of well-being was better than average among families with a male breadwinner than among families where the woman was earning the higher wage.

The coping ability of a family is to a large extent affected by the type of the family. More than half (51 per cent) of the families with single parents raising a minor child, but only 7 per cent of the families with two parents, belong to the category where the net income of the family (net wage, allowances, maintenance benefit etc) is below 5,000 kroons per month. In 17 per cent of families with a single parent there is even less money, below 3,000 kroons a month. The income of these single parents is only slightly higher than the monthly pension or minimum wage. The majority of single parents (93 per cent) are women (Statistical Office of Estonia 2005).

The promotion of flexible forms of work in the coming years will increase job opportunities for the people for whom full-time or regular work is not suitable (including parents with small children and families with a caretaking duty). In addition, such opportunities will help to maintain the qualifications of the worker, thus reducing the risk of unemployment. In order to diversify and improve the availability of child-minding services that facilitate taking up employment by parents, the childcare system is being developed, providers of childcare services are being trained and counselling is being provided to them in starting their business.

Health

21. The report states that one of the results of the project, “reproductive health counselling of young people and the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases 2002-2006” was the decrease of abortions by 25 per cent and the decrease by 10 per cent of the number of first-time pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases among 15-19 year olds. Please indicate whether this project will continue after 2006. Please also provide updated information on the rate of abortion, early pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases among the 15-19 year old age group.

Although the objectives of this project were set for the period 2002-2006, its activities will continue because there is a constant need and permanent structures and services need to be organized, and the activities so far have been very successful. In 2007 new objectives for the following five years will be set. Tables with the information requested by the Committee have been presented in Annex II.

22. The report states that the Estonian Family Planning Union and various NGOs promote the use of modern high-quality methods of contraception and act with the aim of making contraceptives available for the public at large. Please indicate what measures the State party is implementing to ensure that there is wide access, including by poor women, to family planning information, as well as to contraceptives, and trends over time.

In the field of sexual and reproductive health the activities of the counselling centres for young people aged 15-25 will continue in all counties with the financing from the Estonian Health Insurance Fund and the Estonian Sexual Health Association.¹ The aim of the project is the promotion of good reproductive health among young people in Estonia, which is expressed in the decline of legally induced abortions, including the decline in the number of pregnancies among young people aged 15-19 and the decrease in the incidence of first-time infections of sexually transmitted diseases. The problem is the limited number of young men who come to the counselling centres: in 2006 young men

¹ Former Estonian Family Planning Union.

made up only 5 per cent of all the persons coming to the counselling centres. The majority of persons (58 per cent) coming to youth counselling centres were aged 20-24, 39 per cent were aged 15-19 and 3 per cent of visitors were under the age of 15. The work of the counselling centres is advertised among young people in cooperation with other sexual health projects and active use is also made of anonymous counselling via the internet at <http://www.amor.ee> Services provided by the youth counselling centres are free of charge. Since 2007 persons not covered by health insurance can also use the services of the centre free of charge through the national HIV/AIDS prevention strategy.

Sexual health information is spread through various channels. In order to ensure uniformity and raise the quality of sexual health education, the Estonian Sexual Health Association in 2006 drew up methodological manuals (teachers' manuals) for teachers carrying out health education in the second and thirds school level (years 4-9).

A wide range of different contraceptives (medicines, plasters, intrauterine devices, vaginal rings) are available in pharmacies for everybody. Besides the counselling centres, information about their use can also be obtained from women's doctors and general practitioners. The Estonian Health Insurance Fund compensates 50 per cent of the cost of contraceptive medicines to insured persons, and compensation of the cost of contraceptive medicines at a higher rate (75 per cent or 100 per cent) is provided in the case of medical indications stipulated in legislation, for example in cases where pregnancy may endanger the life of a woman.

With the aim of increasing the birth rate, the State compensates insured persons for the partial cost of medicines for out-patient treatment in the case of medical indications and the conditions stipulated by law for up to three external fertilization procedures.

Pre-abortion and post-abortion counselling is provided by women's doctors in conformity with the general principles set out in the guidelines drawn up by the Estonian Society of Women's Doctors.

According to the Termination of Pregnancy and Sterilization Act, the pregnancy can be terminated only at the woman's own request. No one may force or influence a woman to terminate her pregnancy. A request for the termination of a pregnancy must be made in writing. The doctor who is going to perform the termination of pregnancy is required to explain to the woman prior to the termination procedure the biological and medical nature of the termination of pregnancy and the associated risks, including possible complications. A document is drawn up confirming the counselling and it is signed by the counselled person and the doctor. Within two weeks after the termination of pregnancy the woman whose pregnancy was terminated has the right of priority to immediately consult with the doctor who ascertained the existence and duration of pregnancy and to do it under the conditions of the provision of emergency assistance. For birth statistics see <http://www.tai.ee/?id=3796>.

According to the Termination of Pregnancy and Sterilization Act, the Ministry of Social Affairs is required to collect and process the data concerning the termination of pregnancies for purposes of drafting national social policy with respect to issues of family planning, raising the birth rate and reducing the number of abortions, as well as ensuring the quality of the health service and exercising supervision over those who perform the termination of pregnancies; and, as a member of the World

Health Organization, to fulfil the duty of submitting reliable information that is comparable with statistics from other countries. Statistical overviews based on the collected data are available on the homepage of the National Institute for Health Development at <http://www.tai.ee/?id=3797>.

Reports submitted by all doctors involved in family planning-related counselling (women's doctors, family doctors) have been used to collect information about the use of contraceptives.

To a large extent the information necessary for obtaining that data was collected earlier manually from health cards.

The transfer of the health-care establishments to electronic data processing, which was meant first and foremost for filling out and submitting of invoices for treatment, enables the collection only of diagnosis-based statistics that are included in the invoices (fitting or control of an intrauterine spiral, visits made in connection with hormonal contraception). The reliability of such data has declined from year to year, and therefore the collection of data by reports will finish as of 2007.

It is not possible to provide time-series data on the basis of the obtained through questionnaires. The adult health behaviour survey carried out in 2004 contained a question that shows that among women aged 16-24, 18.7 per cent had used contraceptive pills in the previous seven days, and 1.6 per cent of the respondents had used plasters and hormonal spirals. In a similar survey in 2006 there was also a question to persons who had had sexual intercourse within the last 30 days about the use of contraceptives. According to this, 29 per cent of the respondents aged 16-24 had used pills, and 5.9 per cent had used an intrauterine device. However, unfortunately due to the different questions the data from 2004 and 2006 are not comparable. When comparing the data of the health behaviour survey of 2006 with the data from the 1996 Estonian Health Survey, it can be pointed out that in 1996 17.6 per cent of the young persons aged 15-19-year olds and 11.2 per cent of those aged 20-24 mentioned the use of contraceptive pills in the previous four weeks. The proportion of users of an intrauterine device was then 4.4 per cent among those aged 15-19 and 20.8 per cent among those aged 20-24.

23. The report states that the percentage of HIV-positive women has increased in recent years. It also states that prevention work against HIV/AIDS is based on the national development plan for the prevention of HIV/AIDS 2002-2006. Please indicate whether this plan has been updated and how it integrates a gender perspective and also provide information on the impact of the plan on women's awareness of the risks of HIV/AIDS and their infection rate. Please also provide information on the availability and affordability of antiretroviral medication and psychosocial services for women living with HIV/AIDS and their children.

The Estonian national HIV/AIDS prevention programme for 2002-2006 has now been abolished and instead a new national HIV and AIDS strategy for 2006-2015 has been drawn up together with an action plan for 2006-2009. In the preparation of the new action plan the developments of the epidemic, including the increasing number of infected women, were taken into account. The action plan contains separate measures to prevent the spread of infection from mother to child. HIV tests are offered to all pregnant women in Estonia, and almost all of them give consent for testing.

Organizations working with HIV-positive women have been trained on various topics: reproductive health of women, contraceptives, normal development of pregnancy, most frequent problems during pregnancy, HIV treatment during pregnancy, principles of counselling and newborns and their care. Information materials on the topic “HIV and pregnancy” have been drawn up. Antiretroviral treatment is available without charge to all who need it, and the case management of pregnant women has also been planned (it will be launched in 2007). Food mixtures for babies born from HIV-positive women are being distributed. At the same time, the majority of HIV-positive persons in Estonia today are men (64 per cent in 2006), and the main problem is how to cover more young men with the prevention work. The experience of youth counselling centres shows that their services are mostly used by young women and only rarely by young men.

Table 3
Total new cases of HIV by gender

	Total	Men	Women
2004	743	497	245
2005	621	389	232
2006	668	427	241

Source: West Tallinn Central Hospital HIV reference laboratory

Note: The difference in the total is due to the unknown gender of some persons.

Table 4
Number of babies born from HIV-positive mothers

	Total	HIV-negative	HIV-positive
2004	82	75	7
2005	88	84	4
2006	105	101	4

Source: West Tallinn Central Hospital HIV reference laboratory.

24. In its 2002 concluding comments, the Committee recommended that structures be established aimed at addressing the mental health problems faced by women as well as those areas where negative developments have occurred. Please provide information on the steps being taken to implement the Committee’s recommendation, and results achieved.

In recent times, new possibilities have been created to improve the availability of psychological counselling and assistance in crisis situations. Psychological counselling is aimed at preventing and solving the coping problems caused by personalities and relationships, and its main aim is to raise the client’s ability to cope and adapt by adjusting their value judgements and self-assessment, and by improving their mental and behavioural patterns and communication skills. In the case of

psychological counselling, women make up approximately 66 per cent and men 34 per cent of the clients.

The aim of crisis counselling is to restore the psychological balance of the person and his or her ability to cope in daily life, and if necessary to inform the person about the possibilities of obtaining medical and social assistance. According to the definition, crisis counselling is used to solve crises caused by grief or diseases as well as development and situational crises. Men make up 28 per cent and women 72 per cent of the clients of crisis counselling.

Both psychological and crisis counselling is provided either at the location of the service provider or by telephone or Internet. With the support of the Ministry of Social Affairs and a private initiative, the Association "Usaldus" opened a national free help line (126) that is accessible 24 hours and provides emergency psychological assistance service in both Estonian and Russian in accordance with the rules of the International Federation of Telephone Emergency Services. Everyone can obtain emergency psychological assistance of uniform quality by calling the help line. Calling is free of charge, and counselling is professional and anonymous to the maximum extent because the network of telephone consultants is dispersed all over the country. Regional trust lines have also been integrated into the round-the-clock uniform short number system. In addition, psychological counselling and crisis assistance is also provided via telephone and Internet by many other organizations (e.g. Eluliin (lifeline)).

A more detailed summary in English about the system of mental health services in Estonia is available at the following address:

[http://www.sm.ee/eng/HtmlPages/AnOverviewofthesystemofmentalhealthservices/\\$file/An%20Overview%20of%20the%20system%20of%20mental%20health%20services%20\(Final\).pdf](http://www.sm.ee/eng/HtmlPages/AnOverviewofthesystemofmentalhealthservices/$file/An%20Overview%20of%20the%20system%20of%20mental%20health%20services%20(Final).pdf)

Rural women

25. In its 2002 concluding comments, the Committee recommended that the State party monitor existing programmes and develop comprehensive policies and programmes aimed at the economic empowerment of rural women. Please elaborate further on the steps being taken to implement this recommendation, including results achieved and provide information on whether the Estonian regional development strategy includes a gender dimension.

The Estonian national development plan for the implementation of EU structural funds – single programming document for 2004-2006, measure 3.3, "Diversification of economic activities in rural areas", in the framework of which it is possible to apply for support to invest in rural areas, includes as one of the performance indicators the projects of women entrepreneurs. Among the 180 projects that were planned, 54 were expected from women entrepreneurs. After the first round of applications, 72 projects were implemented (40 per cent of the plan), and among them there were 11 projects from women entrepreneurs, which is 20 per cent of what was planned. The second round of applications took place in autumn 2006. By the time of writing this reply there was not yet information as to how many applications were approved.

Women entrepreneurs could also apply for all the measures under “The Estonian national development plan for the implementation of EU structural funds – single programming document for 2004-2006” priority No. 3 and the Estonian rural development plan for 2004-2006, which contribute to the sustainable development of the economy in rural areas and the sustainable use of the agricultural environment.

Marriage and family relations

26. The report states that “a minor between 15 and 18 years of age may marry”. Please provide further information on when such a marriage is considered to be “in the interest of a minor”. Please also provide updated statistical data on marriages between minors after 2002, disaggregated by sex.

According to § 3(4) of the Family Law Act, a court may grant permission to marry on the application of one parent or the guardianship authority to a minor between ages of 15 and 18 if the marriage is in the interest of the minor. The interest of a minor may, for example, be a situation where the minor is expecting a child from a person with whom she wishes to marry or if they already have a common child. For example, in Germany there is a similar possibility of authorization of a marriage of persons aged 16-18 by a court, and the German legal literature also points out the birth of a common child as the only possible ground. There is unfortunately no overview of the case law concerning the marriage of minors, but probably the relevant case law in Estonia is scarce if not non-existent.

Table 5
Number of marriages in which at least one of the spouses was under 18 years of age, 2000-2005

Prospective spouses		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Gender	Age						
Men	Under 16	0	0	0	0	0	0
	16	0	0	1	1	0	0
	17	3	4	2	3	2	2
Women	Under 16	3	1	3	4	1	4
	16	21	12	7	11	16	12
	17	47	50	34	39	29	39

Table 6
Number of marriages between persons under 18 years of age, 2000-2005

Age of husband	Age of wife		
	15	16	17
15	0	0	0
16	0	1	0
17	0	2	2

Optional Protocol and amendment to article 20, paragraph 1

27. Please indicate any progress made towards ratification/accession to the Optional Protocol to the Convention and acceptance of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention.

In preparation for the ratification of the Optional Protocol, the Ministry of Social Affairs translated the text of the protocol into Estonian at the end of 2006.

Annex I

Additional information on trafficking in human beings

Table A.I.1
Recorded trafficking-related offences in human beings in Estonia, 2005-2006

Type of offence	Number of offences in 2005	Number of offences in 2006
§ 133. Enslaving	1	1
§ 134. Abduction	0	0
§ 136. Unlawful deprivation of liberty	55	44
§ 138. Illegal conduct of human research	0	0
§ 139. Illegal removal of organs or tissue	0	0
§ 140. Inducing person to donate organs or tissue	0	0
§ 143. Compelling person to engage in sexual intercourse	5	7
§ 172. Child stealing	6	0
§ 173. Sale or purchase of children	1	0
§ 175. Disposing minors to engage in prostitution	0	0
§ 176. Aiding prostitution involving minors	3	2
§ 177. Use of minors in manufacture of pornographic works	26	10
§ 178. Manufacture of works involving child pornography or making child pornography available	3	29
§ 259. Illegal transportation of aliens across State border or temporary borderline of the Republic of Estonia	2	5
§ 268. Provision of opportunity to engage in unlawful activities, or pimping	59	38
Total	161	136

Table A.I.2
Imposed penalties for trafficking-related offences in Estonia, 2005-2006

Type of offence	Number of criminal cases in 2005 ^a	Number of criminal cases in 2006 ^a
§ 133. Enslaving	2	0
§ 134. Abduction	0	0
§ 136. Unlawful deprivation of liberty	18	20
§ 138. Illegal conduct of human research	0	0
§ 139. Illegal removal of organs or tissue	0	3
§ 140. Inducing person to donate organs or tissue	0	1
§ 143. Compelling person to engage in sexual intercourse	3	2
§ 172. Child stealing	1	2
§ 173. Sale or purchase of children	0	0
§ 175. Disposing minors to engage in prostitution	1	0
§ 176. Aiding prostitution involving minors	4	1

§ 177. Use of minors in manufacture of pornographic works	3	4
§ 178. Manufacture of works involving child pornography or making child pornography available	1	10
§ 259. Illegal transportation of aliens across State border or temporary borderline of the Republic of Estonia	2	3
§ 268. Provision of opportunity to engage in unlawful activities, or pimping	17	18
Total	52	54

^a The number of criminal cases and convicted persons is being broken down according to the respective sections on human trafficking in the Penal Code. Thus, one and the same criminal case and the convicted person may be reflected in several parts of the table on different lines corresponding to different sections of the Penal Code. Based on the court judgements that have entered into effect, there were 44 different criminal cases related to human trafficking in 2005, and 51 cases in 2006.

Table A.I.3
Persons convicted of trafficking related crimes in Estonia, 2005-2006

Type of offence	Number of criminal cases in 2005 ^a	Number of criminal cases in 2006 ^a
§ 133. Enslaving	7	0
§ 134. Abduction	0	0
§ 136. Unlawful deprivation of liberty	22	33
§ 138. Illegal conduct of human research	0	0
§ 139. Illegal removal of organs or tissue	0	7
§ 140. Inducing person to donate organs or tissue	0	1
§ 143. Compelling person to engage in sexual intercourse	3	2
§ 172. Child stealing	1	2
§ 173. Sale or purchase of children	0	0
§ 175. Disposing minors to engage in prostitution	1	0
§ 176. Aiding prostitution involving minors	15	1
§ 177. Use of minors in manufacture of pornographic works	3	4
§ 178. Manufacture of works involving child pornography or making child pornography available	1	10
§ 259. Illegal transportation of aliens across State border or temporary borderline of the Republic of Estonia	2	4
§ 268. Provision of opportunity to engage in unlawful activities, or pimping	40	21
Total	95	85

^a The number of criminal cases and convicted persons is being broken down according to the respective sections on human trafficking in the Penal Code. Thus, one and the same criminal case and the convicted person may be reflected in several parts of the table on different lines corresponding to different sections of the Penal Code. Based on the court judgements that have entered into effect, there were 44 different criminal cases related to human trafficking in 2005, and 51 cases in 2006.

Annex II

Information about reproductive health care

Figure A.II.1
Live births and legally induced abortions (coefficients), 1992-2004

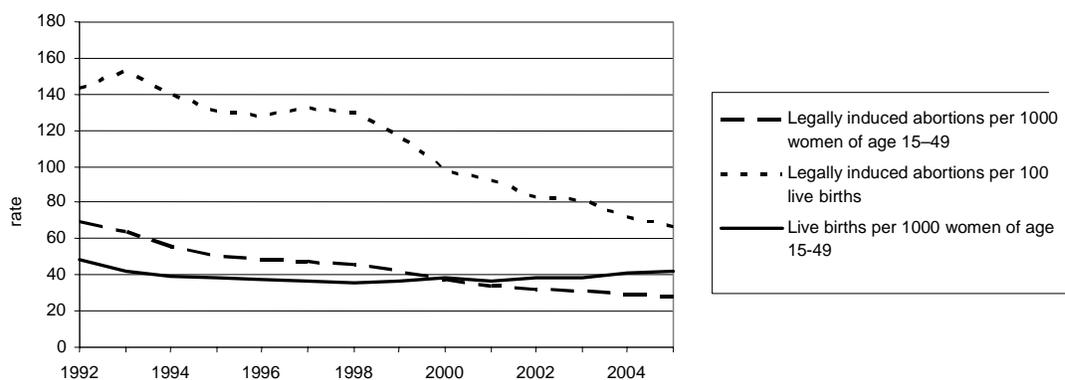


Table A.II.1

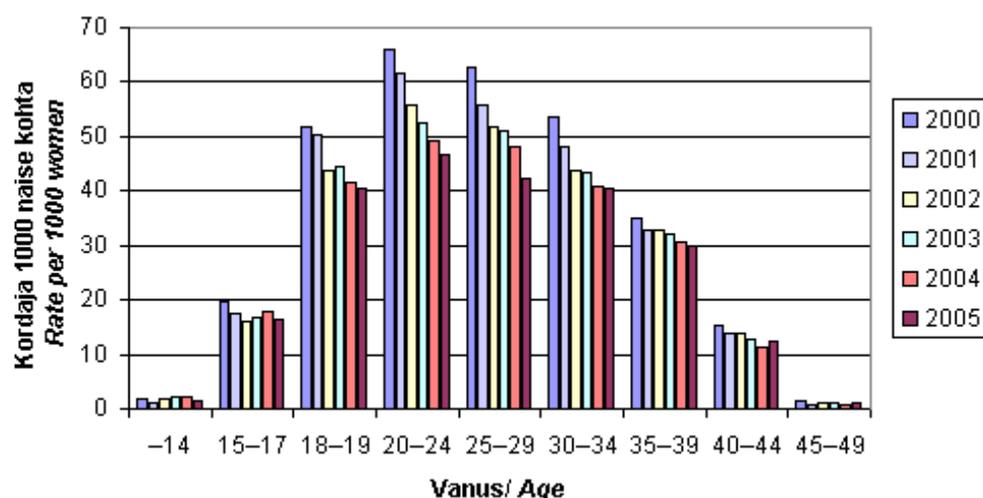
Naiste vanus (aastates),
1996, 2001–2005*

Women's age (years),
1996, 2001–2005*

Vanus (aastates)	1996		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		Age (years)
	Naised Women	%											
-14	27	0,2	13	0,1	18	0,2	22	0,2	21	0,2	12	0,1	-14
15-17	700	4,1	550	4,7	503	4,6	528	5,0	569	5,6	508	5,3	15-17
18-19	1352	8,0	1018	8,7	911	8,4	933	8,8	862	8,6	837	8,7	18-19
20-24	4435	26,3	2909	25,0	2657	24,5	2565	24,1	2457	24,4	2378	24,7	20-24
25-29	3901	23,1	2601	22,3	2406	22,2	2361	22,2	2238	22,2	1963	20,4	25-29
30-34	3097	18,3	2236	19,2	2055	19,0	2051	19,3	1925	19,1	1896	19,7	30-34
35-39	2323	13,8	1567	13,4	1526	14,1	1464	13,8	1391	13,8	1363	14,2	35-39
40-44	935	5,5	719	6,2	711	6,6	646	6,1	574	5,7	602	6,3	40-44
45-49	85	0,5	42	0,4	51	0,5	55	0,5	43	0,4	60	0,6	45-49
50+	3	0,0	1	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	1	0,0	0	0,0	50+
Teadmata	29	0,2	0	0,0	1	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	Teadmata
Keskmine vanus	28,2		28,2		28,4		28,2		28,1		28,3		Average age
Standardhälve	7,0		7,1		7,2		7,2		7,2		7,3		Standard deviation

* legaalselt indutseeritud abordid
legally induced abortions

Figure A.II.2
Age-specific rates of induced abortion, 2000-2005



Source: Based on *Public Health Yearbook 2004*, Ministry of Social Affairs updated with 2005 data.

Table A.II.2
Reported new cases of predominantly sexually transmitted diseases per 100,000 population

Disease	ICD - 10	sex	2001		2004	
			>15	15-19	>15	15-19
			Syphilis	A50-A53	M	37.5
		F	36.0	60.1	18.1	13.4
Gonococcal infection	A54	M	73.2	50.5	43.1	23.7
		F	50.4	98.9	42.1	106.9
Urogenital chlamydial disease	A55-A56	M	351.8	181.3	117.8	47.5
		F	403.5	845.3	346.3	917.8
Trichomoniasis	A59	M	176.9	134.6	135.8	36.5
		F	319.4	438.2	111.9	139.3
Anogenital herpes viral infections	A60	M	33.0	18.7	46.0	9.1
		F	60.4	93.1	70.0	63.0
Anogenital warts	A63.0	M	50.1	78.5	52.9	54.8
		F	47.1	116.3	36.7	76.3

Source: Annual reports from health care providers.

Note: ICD-10 = International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th Revision.

Table A.II.3
New cases of HIV by age and sex

A. Men

	Total	15-19 years of age
2004	497	71
2005	389	66
2006	427	29

B. Women

2004	245	93
2005	232	64
2006	241	49

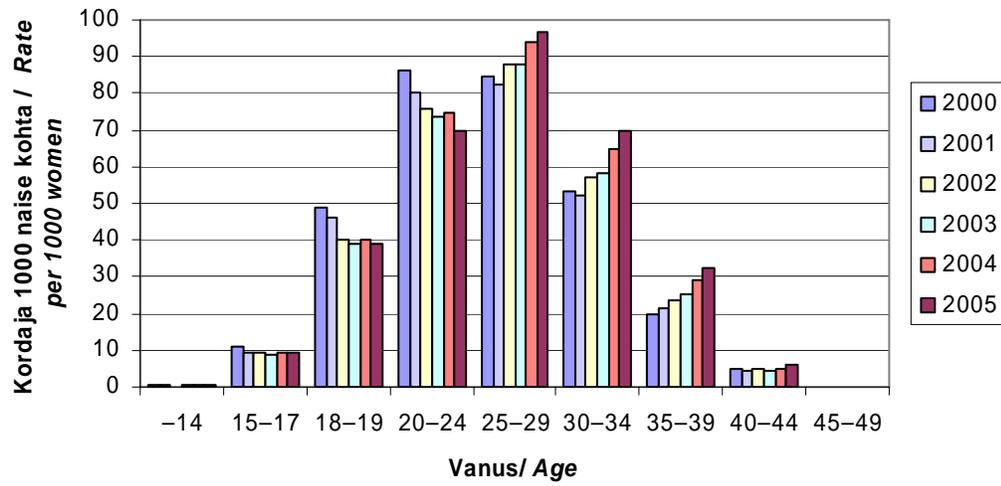
Source: HIV reference laboratory of Western-Tallinn Central Hospital.

Table A.II.4
New cases of HIV among pregnant women

	Total	15-19 years of age
2004	126	63
2005	127	50
2006	120	51

Source: HIV reference laboratory of Western-Tallinn Central Hospital.

Figure A.II.3
Age-specific fertility rates, 2000-2005



Source: Estonian Fertility Registry (mothers at age specified per 1,000 women).

Table A.II.5

Sünnitajate vanus (aastates), 1992, 2001–2005 Mothers' age (years), 1992, 2001–2005

	1992		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		
	Sünnitajad Mothers	%											
-14	8	0,0	3	0,0	2	0,0	4	0,0	3	0,0	3	0,0	-14
15–17	579	3,2	289	2,3	293	2,3	274	2,1	290	2,1	300	2,1	15–17
18–19	2052	11,4	936	7,5	943	6,5	820	6,3	829	6,0	810	5,7	18–19
20–24	7224	40,1	3782	30,2	3529	28,2	3592	27,8	3730	28,9	3556	25,0	20–24
25–29	4313	23,9	3947	30,7	4072	31,8	4079	31,5	4366	31,5	4511	31,7	25–29
30–34	2544	14,1	2422	19,3	2660	20,9	2757	21,3	3070	22,1	3272	23,0	30–34
35–39	1067	5,9	1030	8,2	1103	8,6	1159	9,0	1315	9,5	1481	10,4	35–39
40–44	237	1,3	220	1,8	250	1,9	233	1,8	253	1,8	284	2,0	40–44
45–49	5	0,0	9	0,1	6	0,0	14	0,1	12	0,1	12	0,1	45–49
50+	0	0,0	0	0,0	1	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	50+
Teadmata	2	0,0	1	0,0	1	0,0	0	0,0	1	0,0	1	0,0	Unknown
Keskmine vanus	25,5		27,1		27,4		27,5		27,7		28,0		Average age
Standardhälve	5,6		5,7		5,7		5,7		5,7		5,7		Standard deviation
Esmasünnitajate													Average age of mothers
keskmine vanus	22,7		24,1		24,5		24,6		24,8		25,0		(the first delivery)
Standardhälve	4,2		4,5		4,6		4,6		4,7		4,8		Standard deviation
Kordusünnitajate													Average age of mothers
keskmine vanus	28,3		29,9		30,2		30,4		30,6		30,8		(with 2 or more deliveries)
Standardhälve	5,4		5,2		5,2		5,1		5,1		5,0		Standard deviation

Table A.II.6
Use of intrauterine devices and oral contraceptives, 2000-2004

	<i>Number of women</i>					<i>Per 1000 women aged 15-49</i>				
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<i>Total</i>	118 727	112 109	108 859	102 348	93 025	346.2	327.2	317.9	298.6	271.2
<i>IUD</i>	58 906	49 792	45 556	43 225	35 044	171.8	145.3	133.0	126.1	102.2
<i>Hormonal contraceptives (IUD excluded)</i>	59 821	62 317	63 303	59 123	57 981	174.4	181.9	184.8	172.5	169.1

Source: Annual reports from health-care providers.