

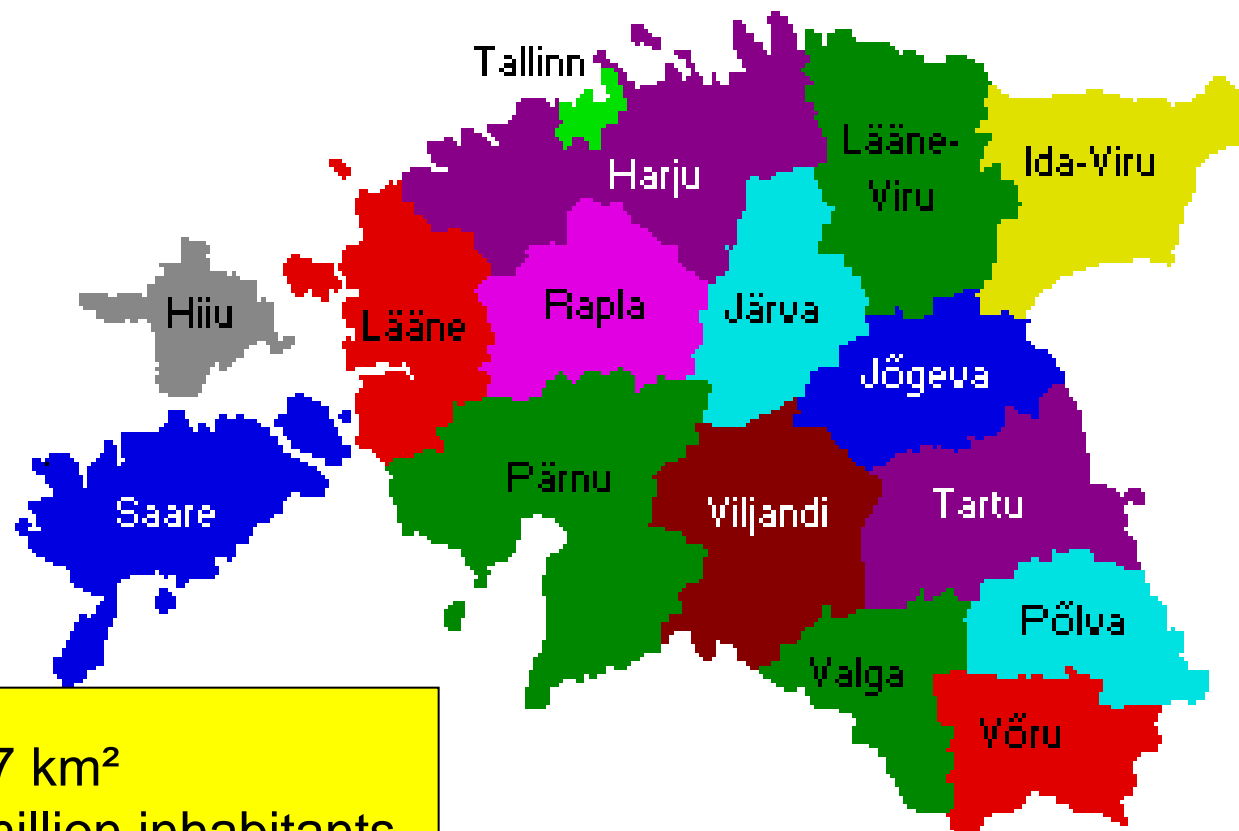


SOTSIAALMINISTEERIUM

# The Estonian Social System and Elderly Care

Siiri Aulik, Social Welfare Department  
3 December 2014

# Estonia



45 277 km<sup>2</sup>  
1.29 million inhabitants  
15 counties  
215 municipalities

# Ministry of Social Affairs

- 3 areas, 2 ministers
- Minister of Social Protection **Helmen Kütt**  
(social policy) (SDE)
- Minister of Health and Labour  
**Urmas Kruuse** (RE)

# Social Protection in Estonia

## Social Security

- Benefits
  - Old Age, Incapacity for Work and Survivor's Pensions
  - Health Care Services and Sickness Benefits
  - Maternity Benefit
  - Parental Benefit
  - Unemployment Benefit
  - Family Benefits
  - Social Benefits for Disabled
  - Benefits to Crime Victims

## Social Welfare

- Social Services
  - Counselling
  - Rehabilitation
  - Personal Assistance and Care
  - Housing
  - Technical Aids
  - etc
- Social Assistance Benefit

# Organisation of Services

<p><b>STATE SERVICES</b></p> <p>Social Services financed and administered by the state</p>	<p><b>MIXED SERVICES and BENEFITS</b></p> <p>Social Services/benefits financed by the state and organized by the local communities or/and counties</p>	<p><b>LOCAL SERVICES</b></p> <p>Social services and benefits financed and organized by the local communities</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Community based and institutional services for people with special mental needs</li> <li>› Rehabilitation services for people with disabilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Maintenance of children without parental care</li> <li>› Technical aids, assistive devices for the disabled and elderly persons</li> <li>› Social assistance benefit (subsistence benefit)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› social counselling</li> <li>› Home-based services</li> <li>› care in social welfare institution</li> <li>› social housing</li> <li>› child care</li> <li>› day centers</li> <li>› personal assistant or support person</li> <li>› social transport</li> <li>› benefits incl care benefits</li> <li>› Sheltered homes</li> <li>› Etc</li> </ul>

# Duties of Minister of Social Protection

- development of national social welfare policy
- drafting of legislation
- specification of training standards for welfare workers
- organizing state funded social welfare services
- administration of the national social register and maintenance of national social statistics

# Social policy field

5 departments (about 50 employees):

- Social Welfare Department
- Social Security Department
- Gender Equality Department
- Department of Children and Families
- Social Policy Information and Analysis Department

The head of this domain is the Deputy Secretary General for social policy.

# Social Welfare Department

Main task:

- to coordinate the policy of welfare services and organize its implementation (incl. to assure coherence in the society and decrease of poverty; efficient functioning of welfare services and a support system that is balanced, needs-based and supports independent coping, and promotes participation on the labour market.



# Duties of the county governments

- controlling and monitoring the quality of social welfare services.
- also monitored by the [Chancellor of Justice](#) and the [State Audit Office](#).

# Duties of the local governments

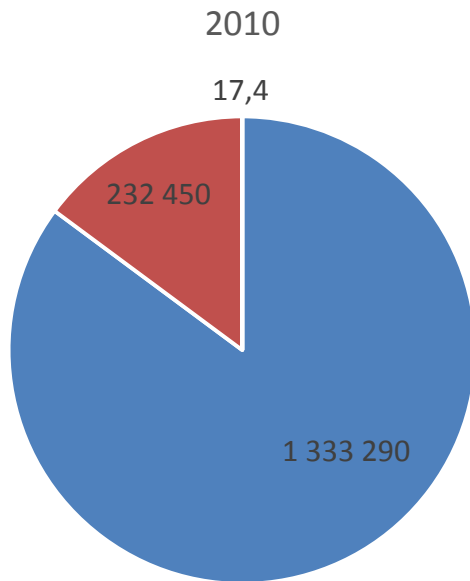
- local social welfare development plan and service standards, conditions for receiving/payment of services
- administration of the provision of social services, emergency social assistance and other assistance
- establishment and maintenance of a local social register
- organisation of the work of guardianship authorities

# Social Services

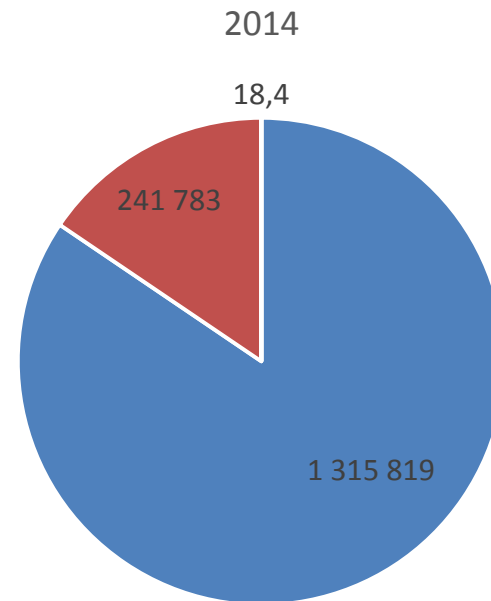
- **Responsibility of Local Municipalities**
  - personal assistance for people with disabilities
  - care services (incl long-term care facilities, home-based care, day centres,
  - social counselling,
  - housing services (incl adaptation of housing)
  - foster care, childcare service
  - social transport
  - other social services needed for coping

# Overall situation

- **The proportion of elderly persons (65+) is rising**
  - from 15% in 2000 to 18% in 2014
  - Prognosis for 2050 is 25–26%.



■ Citizens ■ 65 and older ■ %



■ Citizens ■ 65 and older ■ %

# Elderly care

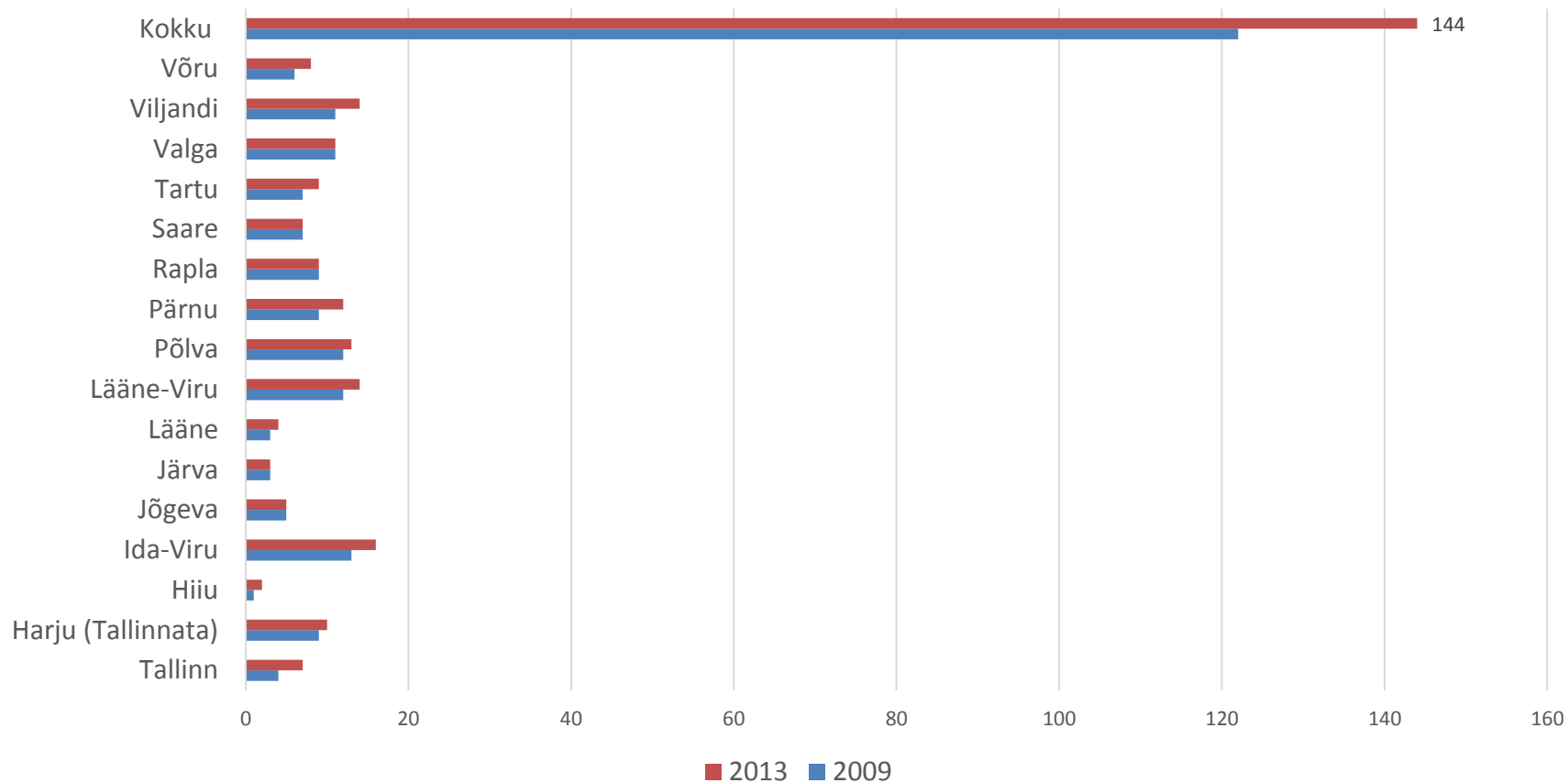
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- Local municipalities are responsible for organizing care for their residents, and they are free to choose the way and means.
- There is a tendency to concentrate too much on institutional care and therefore the trend is to better develop home-based and community-based services.
- Greatest deficit in service provision is in home-based services, transport services and 24/7 care.
- The estimated expenditure on elderly care was 41.4 million EUR (2013), with ca 65% spent on institutional care.

# Elderly care

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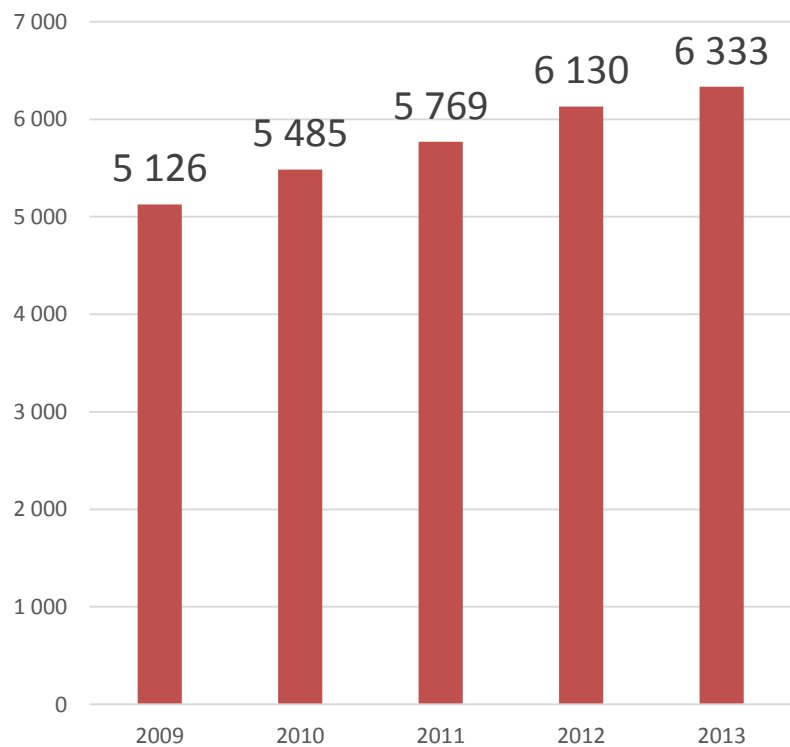
## Long-term care facilities



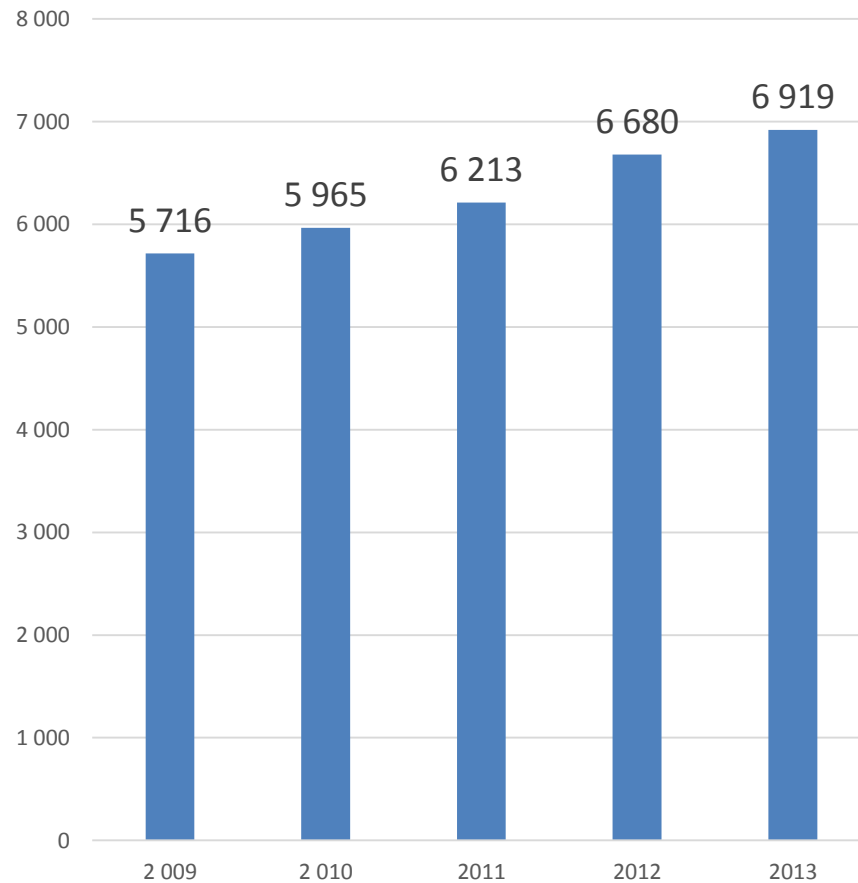
# Elderly care

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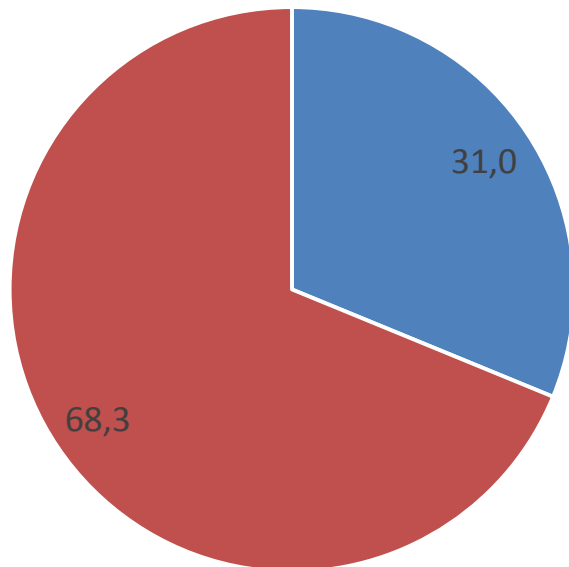
## Users of long-term care (adults)



## Number of places



# Elderly long-term care



■ Local Municipality ■ Service user or family

- Average price is 552 EUR
- 50% (3433) of places range in price from 450-549 EUR
- 8,6% (593) of places over 700 EUR



# Home-based services 2013

- In 181 local municipalities (81%)
- Provided to 6435 persons (82% 65+ yrs)
- Approximately 5 million EUR

# Future

- Population ageing is continuous; role of emigration
- Working age is rising
- Changes in the pension system
- Deinstitutionalization
- Need to develop home-based care
- Elderly are financially more capable

# Active Ageing Strategy 2013-2020

- Goal of creating an age-friendly environment and ensuring the quality of life and equal treatment of older persons (50+).

# 4 main objectives / areas

1. Older persons are included in society and are socially active.
2. Older persons are keen to learn and are active life-long learners.

# 4 main objectives / areas

3. Older persons are active on the labour market and are satisfied with their working life.
4. Older persons have more healthy years, live longer and cope well.

**Social Security, Inclusion and Equal  
Opportunities Development Plan  
2016-2023**

# Activities in 2015

- Special Care and Welfare Development Plan 2014-2020
- Social Security, Inclusion and Equal Opportunities Development Plan 2016-2023
- Analysis of needs and services for persons with dementia

# Activities in 2015

- ESF social welfare programme
  - Development of rehabilitation services
  - Assistive devices and adaptation
  - Training for employees in the social sector
  - Training for service providers, including quality assurance
  - Impact analysis of services and further development



# Activities in 2015

- Development of national telecare services; importance of cost efficiency
- ESF open calls for projects for the development and provision of social services with a view to supporting the participation of disabled persons and/or the elderly and their carers on the labour market.

# Call for projects

- Domestic assistance
- Home-based and community-based care services (interval care and day centres)
- Personal assistant
- Support person
- Social transport
- Emergency alert services

# Positive developments in welfare policy

- Wider use of IT – social services data register based on case management method (STAR )
- Co-operation between local communities (e.g. social transport)
- Co-operation at the specialist level (social workers)
- New projects and initiatives (using ESF)
- More attention to service quality
- Ratification of the UN CRPD (2012)



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# Thank you!

[siiri.aulik@sm.ee](mailto:siiri.aulik@sm.ee)