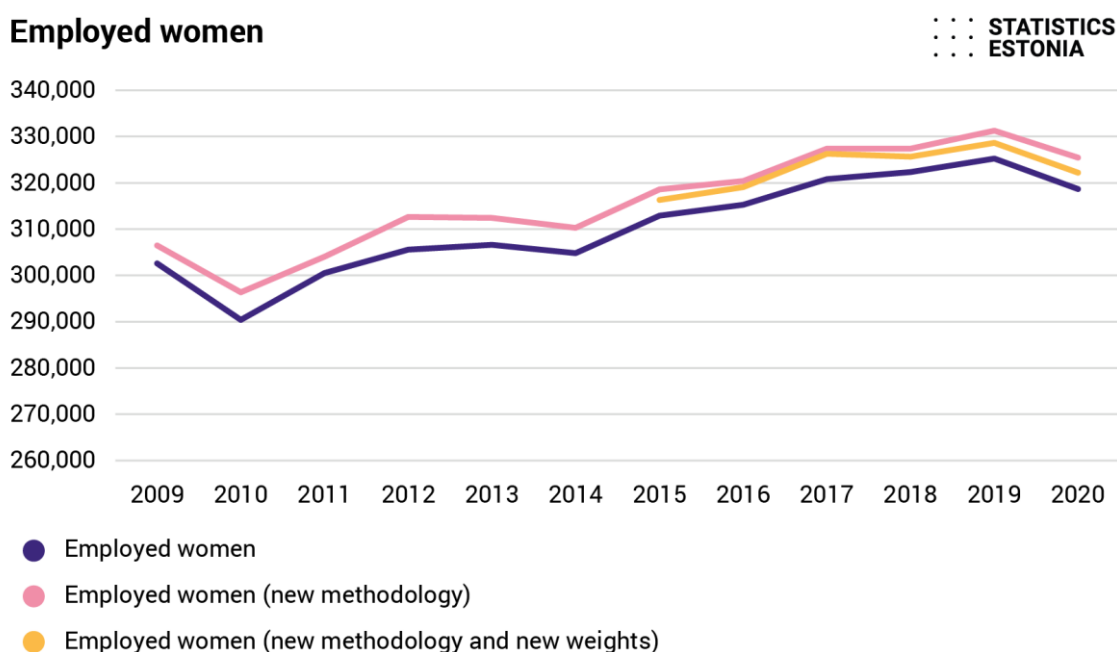


Methodological summary on recalculation of Estonian Labour Force Survey back series

Due to the requirements of the Integrated European Social Statistics (IESS) regulation, as of 2021, the Estonian Labour Force Survey is based on a new methodology. Statistics Estonia has done recalculations for the years 2009 to 2020. The reason was to provide a measure that is stable over time and comparable with other countries.

Input for break correction

We have a break-corrected time series. This series includes data from Q1 2009 until Q4 2020. For these years we have introduced new definitions in previous years because the definitions of employment and unemployment have changed. For example, people who report absence from work due to parental leave are now classified as employed if they receive a compensatory income. Also, persons living in institutions are not included in the survey.



This figure shows that the number of employed women increased with the new methodology, which is expected, as persons who are on child care leave and received or had the right to receive work-related income or (parental) benefit are now considered employed.

Years 2015–2020

For the years 2015 to 2020, we have also improved the weighting. The calculation of weights for these years is the same we have from 2021 onwards. Now we also use educational level in the calculation of weights. The reason for this is that we knew from previous analyses that there were some

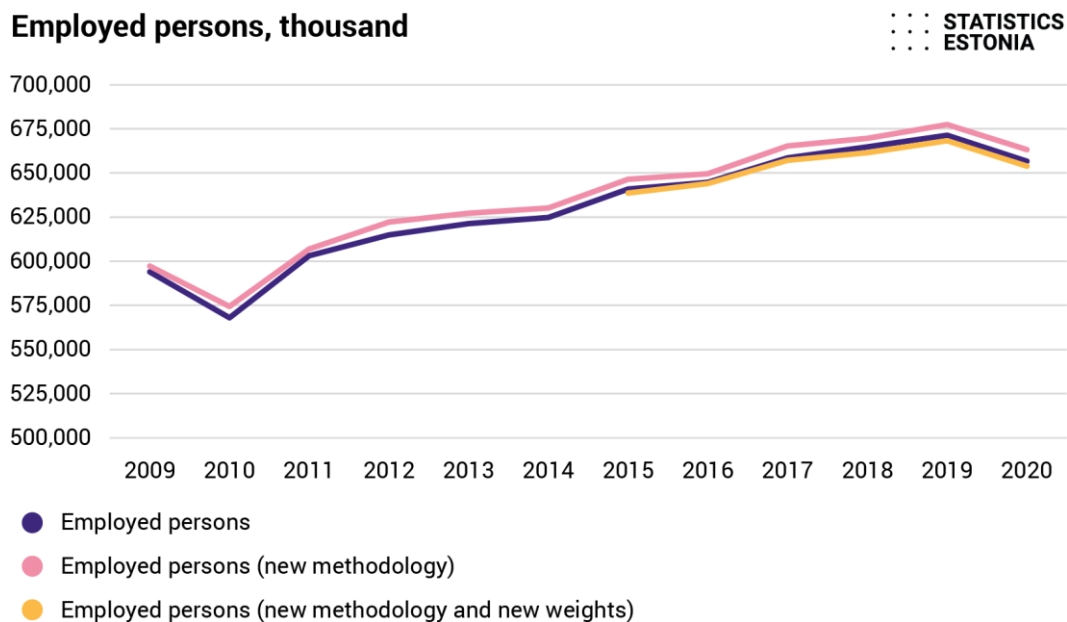
differences between weighted education from the ELFS and education information from the register. As a result, the education indicators obtained from the survey correspond to register-based data more than before.

As said before, persons living in institutions are not included in the survey with the new methodology and for these years we use the population number without such persons for weighting. Before, we used the population number where we included persons living in institutions for calculating the weights.

Years 2009–2014

For the years 2009 to 2014, we have introduced new definitions and excluded persons living in institutions just as in 2015–2020. For these years, we have not calculated the weights taking into account the level of education. The reason for this is that we do not have education microdata for all these years. The results of the analysis showed that, if we exclude persons living in institutions and calculate variables according to the new definitions, there is no big break in the timeline.

Employed persons, thousand



Conclusion

For the years 2009 to 2020, we have introduced new definitions and excluded persons living in institutions. For the years 2015 to 2020 we have improved the weighting. We use educational level in the calculation of weights and we use the population number without persons living in institutions for weighting.