

OSKA study of real estate services and facility maintenance occupations

Key findings

In the next 10 years, the number of jobs in real estate services and facility maintenance does not change much

- Due to the construction of new buildings, the number of jobs for maintenance and facility managers and facility operations specialists will increase. In addition, the demand for facility work and cleaning supervisors is on the rise.
- Chimney sweepers will have additional tasks because of the new heating systems database. Therefore, the number of jobs for chimney sweepers will increase.
- The number of jobs for land surveyors, real estate appraisers, real estate brokers, facility maintenance technicians, cleaners and pest controllers will remain the same.

There are not enough graduates in real estate services and facility maintenance to fill all jobs in the future

- The percentage of employees over 55 years is high in real estate services and facility maintenance, therefore soon there is a need to substitute them.
- There are not enough people studying to become facility work and cleaning supervisors, maintenance and facility managers and facility maintenance technicians.
- There is no vocational educational programme for servicing technical systems.
- Vocational education would be an option to train new facility operations specialists, but none of the vocational schools offer such programme.
- There are no students enrolled in chimney sweep programme at the moment, but continuing education courses are available.

Real estate services and facility maintenance employees need to be knowledgeable about technical systems and how they work together

- The maintenance of buildings with smart technical systems requires good ICT skills from workers.
- In addition to hard skills, the employers emphasise the importance of communication and problem-solving skills
- All workers from different fields, who use biocides (e.g. disinfectants), need to advance their skills to ensure safety.
- Cleaners often change their workplace; therefore, new employees must be offered continuing education courses.

Background

- Over 23,000 people are employed in the occupations of real estate services and facility maintenance, which is 3.5% of the total number of employees in Estonia.
- Professional training in real estate services and facility maintenance can be obtained from:
 - o the institutions of higher education – TTK University of Applied Sciences and Estonian University of Life Sciences, which altogether offer three curricula;
 - o 12 vocational educational institutions, which offer altogether 20 curricula.

- The OSKA study of real estate services and facility maintenance occupations analysed the need for labour and skills until 2026 and made proposals on how to meet it.
- The OSKA forecasting system produces projections of the need for labour force and skills in all fields of the Estonian economy by 2020 and compares these to the education and training offered by higher education institutions, VET institutions and continuing education courses.
- OSKA studies are conducted by the Estonian Qualifications Authority (*Kutsekoda*) and funded by the European Social Fund.