


Lithuania

Data provided by Dr. Audrius Ščeponavičius and Dr. Gelena Kriveliene, MoH of Lithuania, May 2006.

Alcohol Control Policy and Harm Done by Alcohol in Lithuania

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Alcohol Control Policy and Harm Done by Alcohol in Lithuania


CONTENT:

- Consumption and sales of Alcoholic Beverages
- Harm Done by Alcohol
- Alcohol Policy in Lithuania




Republic of Lithuania (2004)

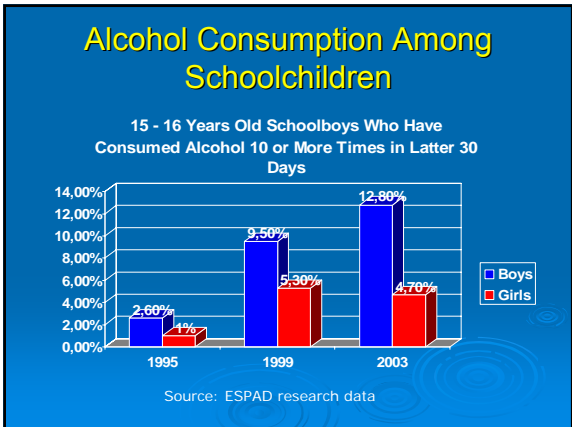
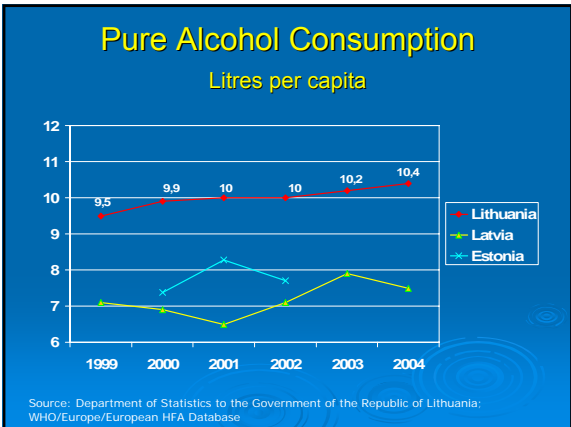


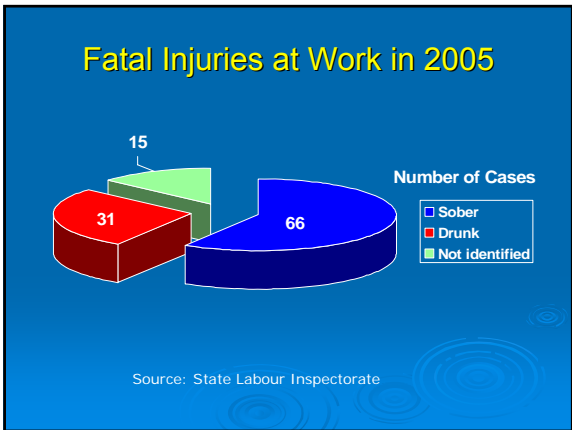
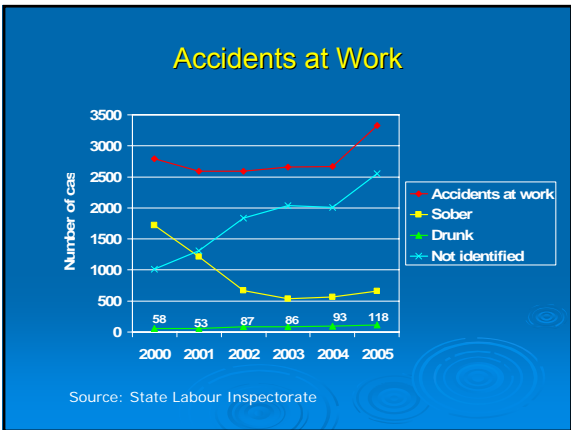
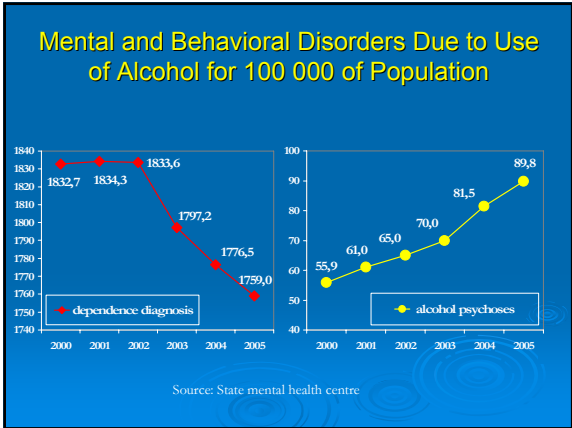
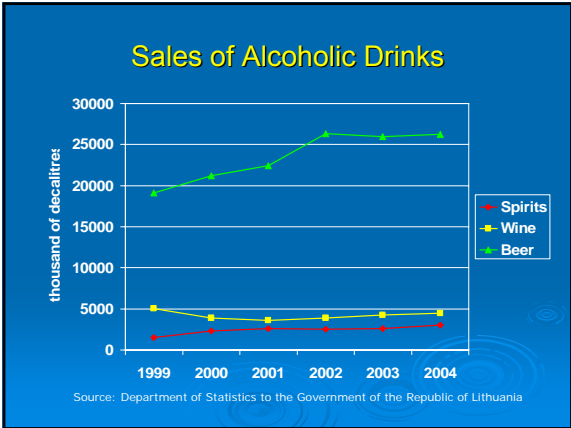
- Territory: 65 303 km²
- Population: ~3.43 mln.
- Urban population: 69%
- Life expectancy at birth among males: 67,6
- Life expectancy at birth among females: 77,9
- Infant mortality per 1000 live births: 7.9



Structure of the main causes of death in Lithuania and European Union countries (%; 2003)

Causes of death	Lithuania	EU-10	EU-15
Cardiovascular diseases	54.4	49.7	40.0
Malignant neoplasms	19.1	23.9	25.9
External death causes	12.8	7.4	5.0
Diseases of the respiratory system	4.0	4.4	8.2
Infectious and parasitic diseases	1.2	0.6	1.2
Other causes	8.5	14.0	19.7

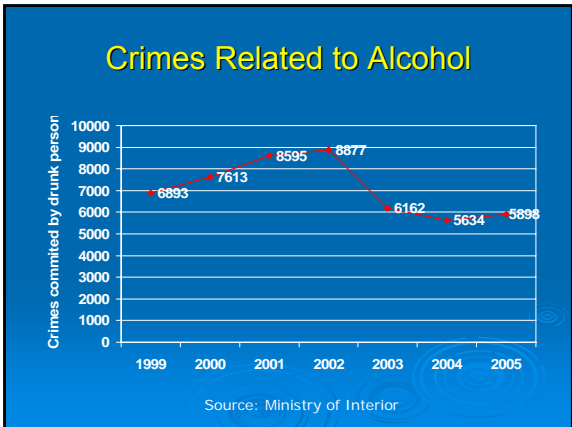




Road Accidents Caused by Drunk Drivers

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total (number of accidents)	5972	6091	5963	6360	6790
Drunk drivers (number of accidents)	770	766	649	752	850
Deaths caused by drunk drivers (number of persons)	101	78	68	84	90
Injured persons by drunk drivers (number of persons)	1071	1112	918	1094	1257

Source: Lithuanian police traffic supervision service



The Main Purpose and Strategy Related to Alcohol Control Stated in Lithuanian Health Programme 1998

Main target:

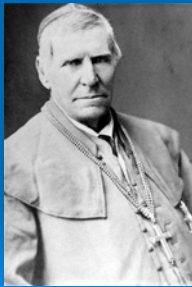
by the year 2010 to reduce alcohol consumption by 25 %

- To decrease annual alcohol production by 2 %
- To increase alcohol costs depending on the overall economic situation
- To increase proportion of people not using strong alcoholic beverages
- To develop a system for the quantitative monitoring of alcohol use

State Programme of Alcohol Control 1999 – 2011 as Long Term Target

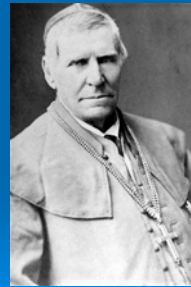
- To decrease alcohol consumption by 25 % until 2009
- To drop of mortality from cirrhosis by 15 %, from accidents related to consumption of alcohol by 25%
- Reduced number of crimes committed in connection with alcohol
- Reduced number of drunk drivers

Tackle a Problem of Alcohol Consumption (Historical Facts)



- Bishop M. Valančius in 19 century declared ideas of temperance and established temperance brotherhood
- In 1860 in parishes of Žemaitija there were 408096 inhabitants and 388458 of them were abstainers (95% of all catholic inhabitants)

Tackle a Problem of Alcohol Consumption (Historical Facts)



- In 1858 the treasure-house got 934475 roubles from consumed vodka and in 1859 – only 304170 roubles.
- After 4 and a half years the successful activity, temperance was forbidden by governor of Vilnius M. Muravjov as political activity.

Obstacles for Implementation of Alcohol Control Policy

- Liberalization of alcohol production and market
- Frequent amendments of the Law on Alcohol Control
- Prices of alcoholic beverages fell down while disposable cash income edged up;
- Weak NGOs

Proposals done by the Ministry of Health in 2005-2006

- Limit free distribution of alcohol beverages for promotional purposes
- Reduce blood alcohol concentration (BAC) level from 0.4 mg % to 0.2 mg % for all vehicles drivers and to 0.00 mg % for 'young' drivers
- Ban advertising of all kinds of alcohol beverages (spirits, beer, cider etc.) on television, radio stations, cable radio and cable television stations registered in Lithuania from 8 a.m to 10.30 p.m
- To increase excise for alcopops

**Proposals done by the Parliament and the
Ministry of Economy
in 2005-2006**

- To reorganize State Tobacco and Alcohol control institution by passing over its functions to other institutions under different ministries
- To allow sales of alcohol beverages via the Internet
- To allow home made strong alcohol production
- To allow sales of alcohol beverages during sport and cultural events

MORBIDITY, HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS FROM ALCOHOL USE

Traditionally popular in Lithuania strong alcohol has partially given way to beer. Sale volumes of beer expanded in particular – 3.9 mill dekalitres. Sale volumes of strong alcoholic drinks underwent a slight drop.

The habit of drinking heavily at weekends and during holidays is being replaced by another mode of alcohol use frequent (several times a week, or even daily) but smaller quantities of wine or beer. Changes in people's habits haven't enough positive influence on mortality. For years approximately 1000 people still die each year due to alcohol abuse.

In 2002 against 2001, prices for alcoholic drinks edged up by 0.1 per cent. It was prompted by a price rise for beer (0.3 per cent), wine and its production (0.2 per cent) as well as by price fall (0.2 per cent) for strong alcoholic drinks. In 2003 – prices for many alcoholic drinks fall by 0.2 per cent.

During last 5 years the total pure alcohol consumption rose slightly from 9 l till 10.2 l per capita.

Public debates are often raised by the investors into the alcohol beverages trade or their promoters in Parliament (Seimas). Often it is very difficult to oppose because argument are based on economic interests and huge profit. Alcohol Control Law from it beginning in 1995 was added about twenty times.

Beer drinking is becoming more and more popular in Lithuania. According to 2002 survey 51 percent of 11- 15 years-old boys and 40 percent of girls reported that they have been drunk at least once in their life (in 1994 - 33 per cent boys and 21 per cent girls and in 1998 - 39 per cent boys and 27 percent girls were drunk at least once). Frequency of regular alcohol consumption among schoolchildren was increasing during 1994-2002. Boys consumed alcohol twice more often in comparison to girls. Alcohol beverages market is full of variety of different drinks. You can get different alcohol beverages when ever you want. Drinking is one of the ways to solve psychological problems - the reasons named for alcohol use in 51.4 per cent of cases were wishes to forget problems.

Different kinds of preventative means were used: legislation on drinking and driving, mandated minimum legal age for buying and selling, regulations on licensing of beverage alcohol outlets, legislation on advertising and promotion, guidelines on drinking, mandated alcohol education for young people. The amount of strong alcoholic drinks produced in 2003 was 2.6 mill. dekalitres. Production output of brandy was climbing fast, while that of whisky, gin and mead spirits was tapering off. Regarding weaker alcoholic drinks, the output production of vermouth and varied kinds of flavoured grape wine was heightening, while that of fruit and berry wine – dropping. The largest produced amount is that of beer – 26.4 mill. dekalitres. Production output of this drink has been lately increasing, and over 2002 it rose the most, i.e. by one fifth.

On the view of the MoH we strongly believe that high taxes on alcohol give possibility to keep alcohol consumption on lower level, but I don't think it is available now, because during last years prices of many sorts of different alcohol beverages were going down.

Disposable monetary income of households over 2002 rose by 3.9 per cent, in 2003 - by 9.1 per cent against previous year. Due to the fact that income growth overtook the price growth

for alcoholic drinks, residents could buy more various alcoholic drinks for their monthly income.

In 2003 consumption of absolute alcohol was 10.2 litres per capita. In 2002 (as well as in 2001) consumption of absolute alcohol on the average amounted to 10 litres per capita. That high alcohol consumption makes a detrimental effect on the health of population. Though the number of persons applying for the first time to medical institutions with the disease of chronic alcoholism in 2003 against 2002 was lesser on the list, morbidity by alcoholic psychosis increased. At the end of 2003 there were 70 persons per 100 000 (2002 – 65 persons per 100 000) population who underwent treatment for alcoholic psychosis, and, respectively, 1797 (2002 – 1834) – for chronic alcoholism. According to the data provided by the Ministry of Social Security and Labour, the surveillance list of the Service for Children Rights Protection included as many as 17.9 thousand social risk families raising 39.2 thousand children. It should be noted that this number is slightly less than that in 2002.

In 2003 as many as 86 persons suffered from accidents at work, and 16 – on the way to work (back from work); that makes by 33 persons more than in 2001.

The number of lethal cases from alcohol abuse again increased over 2001 after the reduction in previous decade. Last year (2003) accidental poisoning by alcohol ended with a lethal result for 436, in 2002 – for 418 and in 2001 – for 426 persons. Also, during the last two years the number of people died from other causes related to alcohol abuse (alcoholic liver cirrhosis, chronic alcoholism, etc.) reached 589 in 2002 and 576 in 2003 persons, of whom 73 per cent were men.

According to the data provided by the Ministry of Interior, in 2003 as many as 6163 (2002 – 8877) crimes committed by those under the effect of alcohol were cleared up (21 per cent (2002 – 25.3) of all crimes cleared up). Each fifth crime was heavy.

According to the data provided by the Police Department to the Public Order and Traffic Supervision Board of the Ministry of Interior in 2003 as many as 882 (in 2002 – 995) road traffic events caused by persons under alcoholic effect were registered; or it was each sixth event. Casualties were as follows: 84 (2002 - 90) – killed, 1147 (2002 - 1338) – wounded. The number of road accidents caused by the drivers under alcoholic effect was 651 (2002 – 766) with the following sad statistics: 68 (78) – killed, 917(1112) – wounded.

Table 1. Manufacture of alcoholic drinks
thousand dekalitres

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002 ¹⁾
Vodka, cognac, brandy, spirits, liquors, whisky, rum, gin	2616	1585	1417	2248	2377	2470
Grape, fruit and berry wines, vermouth, no-sparkling fermented beverages	1493	2234	2394	1570	1270	1351
Sparkling grape wines and fermented beverages	1129	588	615	673	1023	1045
Beer	26417	15589	18474	20796	21925	26348

¹⁾ Provisional data.

Table 2. Imports of alcoholic drinks
thousand dekalitres

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Vodka, cognac, brandy, spirits, liquors, whisky, rum, gin	424	139	87	154	234	293
Grape, fruit and berry wines, vermouth	2097	1664	1861	1576	1430	1924
Champagne, sparkling wines and fermented beverages	237	248	204	141	95	153
Beer	1250	923	773	751	1255	1138

Table 3. Exports of alcoholic drinks
thousand dekalitres

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Vodka, cognac, brandy, spirits, liquors, whisky, rum, gin	59	35	18	22	13	29
Grape, fruit and berry wines, vermouth	146	7	21	16	70	216
Champagne, sparkling wines and fermented beverages	59	3	6	12	20	43
Beer	509	166	55	98	78	1147

Table 4. Sales of alcoholic drinks
In all trading enterprises, restaurants and other catering enterprises; thousand dekalitres

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002 ¹⁾
Vodka, cognac, brandy, spirits, liquors, whisky, rum, gin	2609	1679	1489	2315	2568	2542
Grape, fruit and berry wines, vermouth	2993	3851	4148	3095	2502	2831
Champagne, sparkling wines and fermented beverages	1289	794	874	812	1073	1052
Beer	25941	16325	19092	21167	22447	26308

¹⁾ Provisional data.

Table 5. Retail prices for alcoholic drinks

ITL

	Measurement unit	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Vodka (produced in Lithuania), 40% alc.	1 l	23.98	36.56	35.34	25.70	24.90	23.90
Imported vodka, 40% alc.	1 l	85.36	...	95.50	90.24	86.34	87.98
Desert liquors, 30%–35% alc.	1 l	26.24	32.37	32.70	24.76	24.28	24.10
3-stars brandy ¹⁾	1 l	42.61	85.08	85.39	45.07	38.59	36.34
Sweet spirits, 20%–25% alc.	0,5 l	13.67	...	11.69	9.30	9.09	9.08
Non-alcoholic grape wine, 9%–12% alc.	1 l	14.48	14.55	14.56	14.75	14.68	14.93
Alcoholic desert wine, 13%–17% alc.	0,7 l	12.11	...	15.74	15.61	15.29	14.82
Vermouth (imported)	1 l	31.24	24.41	24.55	23.44	23.94	24.27
Sparkling grape wine	0,75 l	11.60	14.88	14.20	12.22	11.37	11.33
Pasteurized beer (produced in Lithuania)	0,5 l	1.99	2.13	2.12	1.99	1.97	1.98
Canned beer (imported)	0,5 l	1.95	3.22	2.26 ²⁾	1.99 ²⁾	1.66 ²⁾	1.93

¹⁾ In 1995 – 1999 imported 3-stars brandy; in 2000 – 2002 Lithuanian and imported 5-stars brandy.

²⁾ 0,33 l.

Table 6. Retail price indices for alcoholic drinks

Against previous year

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
All alcoholic drinks	99.8	116.1	99.4	86.9	98.5	100.1
Strong drinks ¹⁾	99.3	123.7	98.2	76.1	99.2	99.8
Wine and wine products ²⁾	100.0	102.7	97.4	94.6	98.7	100.2
Beer	100.2	102.3	97.3	93.5	97.7	100.3

¹⁾ Vodka, desert liquors, brandy, spirits.

²⁾ Non-alcoholic grape wine, alcoholic desert wine, sparkling grape wine, imported vermouth.

Table 7. Disposable cash income
Per household member per month, LTL

	Disposable cash income
2003	384.2
1998	350.4
1999	360.4
2000	349.4
2001	346.1 ¹⁾

2002	359.7
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¹⁾ The estimate is calculated on the basis of the 2001 Population census data on population distribution by place of residence, sex and age.

Table 8. Changes in disposable cash income
Against previous year, per cent

	Growth, drop (-)
2003	9.1
1998	18.0
1999	2.8
2000	-3.1
2001	-1.1
2002	3.9

Table 9. Purchasing power of disposable monthly cash income
litters

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001 ²⁾	2002
Vodka (produced in Lithuania), 40% alc.	16.0	9.6	10.2	13.6	13.9	15.1
Imported vodka, 40% alc.	4.5	...	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.1
Desert liquors, 30%–35% alc	14.6	10.8	11.0	14.1	14.3	14.9
3-stars brandy ¹⁾	9.0	4.1	4.2	7.8 ¹⁾	9.0	9.9
Sweet spirits, 20%–25% alc	14.1	...	15.4	18.8	19.0	19.8
Non-alcoholic grape wine, 9%–12% alc	19.9	24.1	24.8	23.7	23.6	24.1
Alcoholic desert wine, 13%–17% alc	22.2	...	16.0	15.7	15.8	17.0
Vermouth (imported)	12.3	14.4	14.7	14.9	14.5	14.8
Sparkling grape wine	24.8	17.7	19.0	21.4	22.8	23.8
Pasteurized beer (produced in Lithuania)	96.5	82.3	85.0	87.8	87.8	90.8
Canned beer (imported)	98.5	54.4	53.2	57.9	68.8	93.2

¹⁾ In 1995–1999 imported 3-stars brandy; in 2000–2002 Lithuanian-made and imported 5-stars brandy.

²⁾ Revised data.

Table 10. Consumption of alcoholic drinks
In absolute alcohol per capita per year, litters

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2002	2002 ¹⁾
Lithuania	10.2	9.1	9.5	9.9	10.0	10.0
Belarus	9.3	8.6	9.9	8.8	8.8	9.7

Latvia	7.9	7.3	7.1	6.9	6.5	7.1
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¹⁾ Provisional data.

Diagram 1. The share of males and females, drinking beer at least once per week

The Living habits survey data provided by the Kaunas medical university, population aged 20–64, per cent

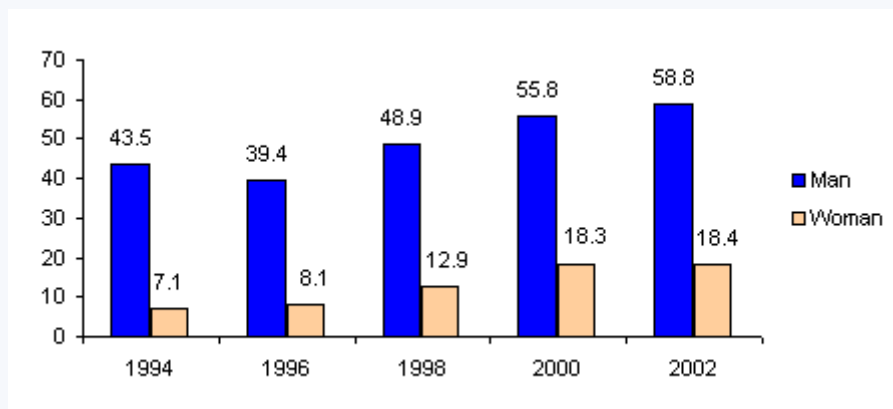


Diagram 2. The share of males and females, drinking strong alcoholic drinks at least once per week

The Living habits survey data provided by the Kaunas medical university, population aged 20–64, per cent

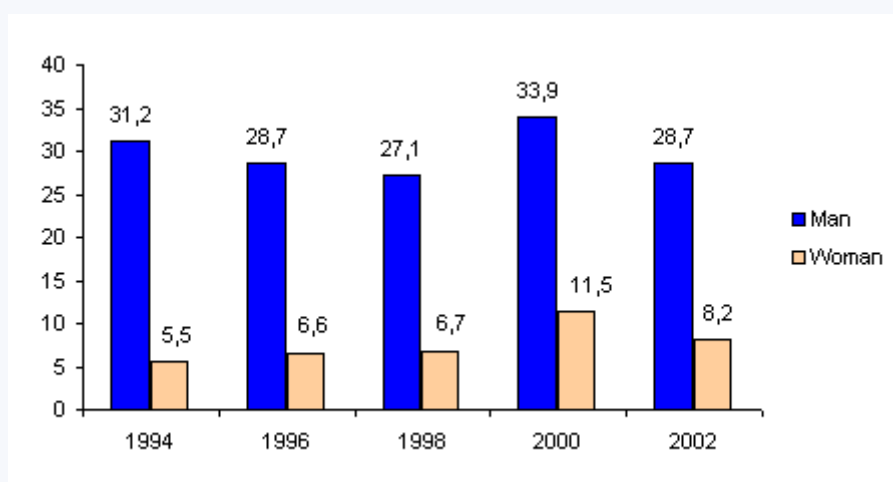


Table 11. Morbidity with alcohol-addiction¹⁾
Data provided by the Public mentality health centre

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Registered first time:						
alcoholic psychosis	778	1017	831	764	783	831
chronic alcoholism	1383	5360	2785	1944	1861	1466
At the end of year:						
alcoholic psychosis	2412	2070	1892	2065	2129	2250
chronic alcoholism	61930	69322	66202	63905	63752	63489

Registered first-time per 100 000population:						
alcoholic psychosis	22.5	28.7	23.6	21.8	22.5	24.0
chronic alcoholism	40.0	151.0	79.0	55.6	53.5	42.3
Per 100 000 population:						
alcoholic psychosis	70.0	58.5	53.9	59.2	61.3	65.0
chronic alcoholism	1797.2	1960.2	1885.0	1832.7	1834.3	1833.6

¹⁾ Patients, entered into the lists of health care institutions.

Table 12. Morbidity with alcohol-addiction by sex
Data provided by the Public mentality health centre

	2000		2001		2002	
	males	females	males	females	males	females
Registered first time:						
alcoholic psychosis	641	123	634	149	678	153
chronic alcoholism	1564	380	1531	330	1218	248
At the end of year:						
alcoholic psychosis	1716	349	1753	376	1816	434
chronic alcoholism	56645	7260	56371	7381	56163	7326
Registered first-time per 100 000population:						
alcoholic psychosis	39.1	6.6	39.0	8.0	41.8	8.3
chronic alcoholism	95.5	20.4	94.1	17.8	75.1	13.4
Per 100 000 population:						
alcoholic psychosis	105.2	18.8	107.9	20.3	112.3	23.5
chronic alcoholism	3473.2	391.1	3470.1	398.7	3472.6	397.0

Table 13. Morbidity with alcohol-addiction by urban and rural area
Data provided by the Public mentality health centre

	2000		2001		2002	
	urban	rural	urban	rural	urban	rural
Registered first time:						
alcoholic psychosis	479	285	433	350	459	372
chronic alcoholism	1301	643	1204	657	976	490
At the end of year:						

alcoholic psychosis	1271	794	1285	844	1426	824
chronic alcoholism	47394	16511	47180	16572	47005	16484
Registered first-time per 100 000population:						
alcoholic psychosis	20.4	24.7	18.6	30.4	19.8	32.4
chronic alcoholism	55.5	55.7	51.7	57.1	42.0	42.7
Per 100 000 population:						
alcoholic psychosis	54.5	68.9	55.2	73.4	61.5	71.9
chronic alcoholism	2030.4	1432.3	2028.2	1441.8	2028.5	1439.3

Table 14. Casualties from accidents at work
Data provided by the State labour inspection

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002 ¹⁾
Casualties from accidents, total	2660	3279	3016	2797	2586	2595
o which:						
sober	540	2072	1835	1724	1218	669
drunk	86	59	58	58	53	87
not identified	2034	1148	1122	1015	1311	1839
under investigation	-	-	1	-	4	1

¹⁾ Provisional data.

Table 15. Casualties from accidents on the way to work place (from work place)
Data provided by the State labour inspection

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002 ¹⁾
Casualties from accidents, total	1843	2411	2487	2035	1781	1899
of which:						
sober	290	1505	1425	1146	728	390
drunk	16	6	12	7	11	10
not identified	1537	900	1050	882	1039	1499
under investigation	-	-	-	-	3	-

¹⁾ Provisional data.

Table 16. Deaths from accidents, poisoning, traumas

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Total	5241	5358	5269	5102	5498	5280

of which:						
road accidents	852	1002	903	769	847	828
drowning	358	405	526	362	454	410
suicides	1455	1554	1552	1631	1535	1551
murders	332	303	297	345	356	248
Per 100 000 population						
Total	151.7	151.0	149.5	145.8	157.9	152.2
of which:						
road accidents	24.7	28.2	25.6	22.0	24.3	23.9
drowning	10.4	11.4	14.9	10.3	13.0	11.8
suicides	42.1	43.8	44.0	46.6	44.1	44.7
murders	9.6	8.5	8.4	9.9	10.2	7.1

Table 17. Mortality from alcohol consumption

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Deaths from alcohol consumption, total ¹⁾	1112	1142	835	893	1032	1007
of which accidental poisoning with alcohol	436	401	331	344	426	418
Per 100 000 population:						
Deaths from alcohol consumption, total	32.2	32.2	23.7	25.5	29.6	29.0
of which accidental poisoning with alcohol	12.6	11.3	9.4	9.8	12.2	12.0

¹⁾ Deaths from chronic alcoholism, alcoholic cardiomyopathy, alcoholic liver cirrhosis and other alcohol abuse related diseases.

Table 18. Male and female mortality from alcohol consumption

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Males						
Deaths from alcohol consumption, total ¹⁾	828	850	590	656	779	746
of which accidental poisoning with alcohol	343	317	247	258	341	314
Per 100 000 population:						
Deaths from alcohol consumption, total	51.3	51.1	35.7	40.1	47.9	46.0
of which accidental poisoning with alcohol	21.3	19.0	15.0	15.8	20.9	19.4
Females						

Deaths from alcohol consumption, total ¹⁾	284	292	245	237	253	261
of which accidental poisoning with alcohol	93	84	84	86	85	104
Per 100 000 population:						
Deaths from alcohol consumption, total	15.4	15.5	13.1	12.7	13.6	14.1
of which accidental poisoning with alcohol	5.1	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.6	5.6

Table 19. Urban and rural mortality from alcohol consumption

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Urban						
Deaths from alcohol consumption, total ¹⁾	740	758	553	602	693	692
of which accidental poisoning with alcohol	283	245	212	228	284	282
Per 100 000 population:						
Deaths from alcohol consumption, total	32.1	31.7	23.4	25.7	29.7	29.8
of which accidental poisoning with alcohol	12.3	10.3	9.0	9.7	12.2	12.1
Rural						
Deaths from alcohol consumption, total ¹⁾	372	384	282	291	339	315
of which accidental poisoning with alcohol	153	156	119	116	142	136
Per 100 000 population:						
Deaths from alcohol consumption, total	32.4	33.1	24.4	25.2	29.5	27.5
of which accidental poisoning with alcohol	13.3	13.4	10.3	10.1	12.3	11.9

Table 20. Crimes committed by persons under effect of alcohol
Data by the Ministry of Interior

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Cleared-up crimes committed by drunk persons, total	6162	7443	6893	7613	8595	8877
Against total number of cleared-up crimes, %	21.0	23.5	21.9	23.1	24.1	25.3
Heavy crimes against the total crimes committed by drunk persons		1998	1823	1766	1759	1814
Against total number of crimes committed by drunk persons, %		26.8	26.4	23.2	20.5	20.4

Table 21. Road accidents and their consequences
Data provided by the Public order and transport supervision board

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Road accidents, total	5963	6445	6356	5807	5972	60910
Perished	709	829	748	641	706	697

Of which children (under 18)	55	59	71	54	51	637
Wounded	7263	7667	7696	6960	7103	7428
Of which children (under 18))	1499	1512	1674	1451	1414	1576

Table 22. Road accidents caused by drunk persons
Data provided by the Public order and transport supervision board

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Road accidents caused by drunk persons, total	882	1167	1109	1109	1031	995
Of which caused by drunk drivers	651	824	823	831	770	766
Perished	84	141	100	84	118	90
Of which caused by drunk drivers	68	111	76	69	101	78
Wounded	1147	1452	1425	1428	1321	1338
Of which caused by drunk drivers	917	1125	1156	1159	1071	1112

Perished – persons killed instantly or died 30 days after the event.

Table 23. Social risk families
Table provided by the Ministry of Social care and labour; end of year; thousands

	2003	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Families	17.9	15.1	16.0	18.1	18.7	18.5
Children in them	39.2	34.4	36.9	40.3	42.8	40.0

REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
LAW ON THE AMENDMENT OF THE LAW ON ALCOHOL CONTROL

18 April 1995 No. I-857

Vilnius

(New edition by March 9, 2004. No. IX – 2052)

Article 1. New Version of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Alcohol Control

The Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Alcohol Control shall be revised and set forth to read as follows:

“LAW ON ALCOHOL CONTROL

CHAPTER 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Purpose of the Law

1. The purpose of this Law is to reduce the general consumption of alcohol, its availability, especially to minors, alcohol abuse, the damage caused by it to health and the economy and to establish the legal principles of granting economic entities the right to manufacture, sell, bring in, import and export the alcohol products, regulated in this Law.

2. This Law shall regulate the relations involving the production, sale, stocking, transporting, bringing in, importing, exporting, consumption, advertising and sponsorship and shall establish the basics of State alcohol control of the Republic of Lithuania.

3. The provisions of this Law have been harmonised with the legal acts of the European Union which are indicated in the Annex of the Law.

Article 2. Definitions

1. **Alcoholic beverages** means beverages, whose ethyl alcohol strength by volume amounts to more than 1.2 % (of beer more than 0.5%).

2. **Alcohol Control** means all of the State regulation measures, set forth in this Law and other legal acts, of alcohol product production, bringing in, import, export, sale, consumption and alcohol advertising, intended to reduce the general consumption of alcohol and the harmful consequences of the consumption of alcoholic beverages and other products containing ethyl alcohol to health and economy.

3. **Alcohol products** means non denatured alcohol and denatured (including dehydrated and denatured) ethyl alcohol (hereinafter ethyl alcohol) both of agricultural and non agricultural origin, alcoholic beverages, alimentary and non alimentary alcoholic solutions with fragrant material additives (hereinafter alcoholic solutions) and raw materials containing ethyl alcohol (hereinafter raw materials).

4. **Advertising of alcohol** means information disseminated in any form and through any means, which is connected with the commercial, economic and financial activities of undertakings and which promotes the acquisition or consumption of alcohol products.

5. **Export** means the taking out of alcohol products (by entering these products in the Republic of Lithuania for outright exportation procedure) to countries or territories which do not belong to the customs territory of the European Community.

6. **Ethyl Alcohol** (hereinafter **alcohol**) means saturated monohydroxyl alcohol which affects the mind and may result in habit forming and dependency on it.

7. **Import** means the bringing in of the alcohol products (by entry of these products in the Republic of Lithuania for release for free circulation procedure) from the countries or territories which do not belong to the customs territory of the European Community.

8. **Bringing in** means the bringing in of alcohol products having EC product status into the Republic of Lithuania (except for the alcohol products brought in by natural persons) from other countries or territories attributed to the customs territory of the European Community.

9. **Mass events** means holidays, festivals, and other events, which are organised by State or municipal institutions and also other legal or natural persons upon co-coordinating the time of the event and other procedure of the event organization with the appropriate municipal institutions (when such co-ordination is required under the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Assemblies).

10. **Home brewed alcoholic beverages** means alcoholic beverages produced by a natural person.

11. **Naturally fermented alcoholic beverages** means beverages in which all of the ethyl alcohol is obtained through alcohol souring means, without further distilling and adding any alcohol products which contain distilled or rectified ethyl alcohol.

12. **Temporary catering establishments** means catering establishments set up in accordance with hygiene standards and regulations applicable to catering establishments in temporary structures (where public catering activities are carried on) which are not subject to registration in the Register of Immovable Property.

13. **Ethyl alcohol of non-agricultural origin** means ethyl alcohol, produced from products, which are not listed in Annex I of the EC Treaty.

14. **Specialised alcoholic beverages retail establishment (specialised alcoholic beverages retail division)** means retail establishment (division of a retail establishment) the goods assortment whereof is comprised of alcoholic beverages and related goods assortment (non-alcoholic beverages, juices, gadgets for opening and sealing bottles, bottle packing, tobacco products, matches and lighters).

15. **Permanent retail establishments and permanent catering establishments** means retail establishments and catering establishments the buildings whereof (in which sale or catering activities are carried on) are subject under the laws and other legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania to legal registration as immovable property.

16. **Educational institutions** means formal and informal educational institutions, except for universities.

17. **Ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin** means ethyl alcohol, produced from products of agricultural origin listed in Annex I of the EC Treaty.

Article 3. Principles of State Policy of Alcohol Control

The principles of the State policy of Alcohol Control are as follows:

- 1) to reduce availability of alcoholic beverages through taxation;
- 2) to ensure through State regulation measures the State control of alcohol, protection and strengthening of the health of the population and funding of the programmes of education of minors;
- 3) to extend priority to production of alcoholic beverages by natural fermentation and import and sale thereof;
- 4) to limit promotion of the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages;
- 5) to prohibit the means of promotion of buying and consumption of alcoholic beverages by youth;
- 6) to encourage legal persons who are engaged in alcohol business to join in implementing the State alcohol control policy;
- 7) to increase public information regarding the issues of the social and economic harm inflicted on health and economy through the consumption of alcohol;

8) to sponsor action programmes of health and temperance societies and thus augment the number of people who don't consume alcoholic beverages;

9) to promote the production and sale of non alcoholic beverages;

10) to support planning of an alcohol-free living environment;

11) to promote the creation of a social environment free of alcohol;

12) to promote scientific research and dissemination of information concerning the harm caused to health by the consumption of alcohol;

13) to strengthen the cooperation with other Member States of the European Union and international organisations regarding the issues of the reduction of the consumption of alcohol.

CHAPTER II

PECULIARITIES OF STATE REGULATION OF PRODUCTION, SALE, BRINGING IN, IMPORT, EXPORT AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER PRODUCTS CONTAINING ETHYL ALCOHOL. REGULATION OF ALCOHOL PRODUCTS CLASSIFICATION, QUALITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND INDICATORS

Article 4. Peculiarities of State Regulation of Production, Sale, Bringing in, Import and Export of Alcohol products

1. Alcohol products shall be attributed to special goods the registration, production, bringing in, import, export, sale and consumption whereof shall be subject under this law and other laws and legal acts to a special state regulation regime.

2. The Ministry of Agriculture and the State Food and Veterinary Service shall be responsible for the implementation of the requirements of EU legal acts which regulate the wine sector.

Article 5. Peculiarities of State Regulation of Production, Sale, Bringing in, Import and Consumption of Products Containing Ethyl Alcohol

1. If the liquids (technological products, products of perfumery, cosmetic and household chemistry industry etc.), which contain ethyl alcohol are consumed as beverages which have an intoxicating effect, the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it shall have the right, based upon statistical sample survey data on the harmful consequences to health caused by consumption of these liquids, to set their

accounting, production, bringing in, import, sale and consumption according to the norms prescribed by this Law.

2. Guided by this Law and other laws and legal acts the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it may set the procedure of accounting, production, bringing in, import and sale of food products which contain alcohol.

Article 6. Regulation of Safety and Quality Indicators of Alcohol Products

The safety and quality indicators of alcohol products produced, imported, brought in and sold in the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter - alcohol products) by legal persons as well as branches and representations of foreign legal persons registered in the Republic of Lithuania in the established manner who, according to the laws of a foreign state, have the right to engage in economic commercial activity (hereinafter branches and representations of foreign legal persons) must conform to the requirements valid in Lithuania.

Article 7. Establishment of Conformity of Alcohol Products with the Requirements of Legal Acts

1. The State Food and Veterinary Service shall within the scope of its competence control the conformity of alcohol product safety and quality indicators with the requirements of the legal acts in force in the Republic of Lithuania. Laboratories confirmed by an institution authorised by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, who have the right to issue documents certifying the conformity of alcohol products, shall test the alcohol products.

2. The State Food and Veterinary Service shall control the winemaking technologies employed in the production of wine products.

3. Should the control institutions authorised by this Law and other legal acts, in testing the samples of alcohol products taken in accordance with the set procedure, determine that these do not meet the requirements of legal acts, it shall be deemed that the entire shipment of alcohol products from which the samples have been selected does not meet these requirements and measures of market restriction established by law shall be applied.

Article 8. Classification of Alcoholic Beverages

Alcoholic beverages produced in Lithuania, imported, brought in into the Republic of Lithuania and sold there shall be distributed in-groups, subgroups and (or) categories. An institution authorised by the Government of Lithuania shall determine the groups, subgroups

and (or) categories, except for those, the classification whereof is determined by directly applicable legal acts of the European Union.

Article 9. Labeling of Alcoholic Beverages

Alcoholic beverages sold in the Republic of Lithuania must be labelled according to the procedure set forth in legal acts.

CHAPTER III RESTRICTION OF ALCOHOL AVAILABILITY

SECTION ONE STATE REGULATION OF ALCOHOL PRODUCT PRODUCTION

Article 10. State Regulation of Home-brewed Alcoholic Beverage Production

Production of home-brewed alcoholic beverages shall be prohibited in the Republic of Lithuania, except for those intended for personal consumption of natural persons (i.e. not for sale, but only for meeting own or family needs), being produced naturally fermented alcoholic beverages, whose ethyl alcohol strength by volume is not over 18 per cent (for beer - no higher than 9.5 %).

Article 11. Peculiarities of State Regulation of Alcohol Product Production in the Republic of Lithuania

1. Ethyl alcohol, which is used in the production of alcoholic beverages, food and products having ethyl alcohol, must be produced only from agricultural products and be non-denatured. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it shall set the criteria of recognition of ethyl alcohol as denatured.

2. Each shipment of alcohol products produced in the Republic of Lithuania must have a document certifying the conformity of these products. The State Food and Veterinary Service shall set the form of the document certifying the conformity of alcohol products and, having co-ordinated it with the Ministry of Agriculture, shall approve the laboratories which have the right to issue such documents.

Article 12. Granting of Right to Produce Alcohol Products

1. Production of alcohol products (except for the home-brewed alcoholic beverages referred to in Article 10 of this Law which are produced by natural persons for their own consumption) shall only be permitted for undertakings and branches of foreign legal persons (hereinafter - undertaking) registered in the Republic of Lithuania in the established manner, which hold a license issued by the State Tobacco and Alcohol Control Service under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter-Service) for the production of these products. Licenses shall be issued for an unlimited period

2. The license to produce alcohol products shall only be issued to those undertakings, which hold certified standard documents, which determine the safety and quality indicators of these products and also equipment and premises which meet the technological requirements, a laboratory for examining the quality of the alcohol products and personnel of necessary qualifications. An institution authorised by the Government of Lithuania shall establish the requirements of personnel qualification. Undertakings, which produce up to 100,000 decalitres of beer annually and do not have the possibility of setting up their own laboratory, shall according to contract use the services of food product quality research laboratories of other institutions and undertakings, which have been certified in accordance with established procedure.

3. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania, guided by this Law, the Civil Code of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter-Civil Code) and the requirements of the EU law, shall approve the licensing regulations of the production of alcohol products. Licenses to produce alcoholic beverages shall not be issued to newly founded undertakings if their founders or administration heads had been the founders, administration heads or other employees indicated in Article 34(18) of this Law of undertakings whose licenses had been revoked based upon Article 34(18) of this Law.

SECTION TWO

STATE REGULATION OF BRINGING IN, IMPORT AND EXPORT OF ALCOHOL PRODUCTS

Article 13. Procedure of Bringing in and Import of Alcohol Products

1. Only the undertakings which hold an import license issued by an institution authorised by the Government of Lithuania may import wine, grape must (hereinafter - wine products) and ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin.

2. Only the undertakings which have informed the institution authorised by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania about this in accordance with the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it shall be permitted to import other alcohol products which have not been indicated in paragraph 1 of this Article. Having imported alcohol products, the undertakings must conform to the requirements of sale, storage and transportation set in Section two of Chapter III of this Law.

3. Undertakings shall be permitted to import alcohol products only provided that they are in possession of documents certifying conformity of the alcohol products, issued by the entities (a laboratory or any other institution or the producer of alcohol products) approved by a foreign state competent authority, in which quality and harmless indicators must also be presented and declared and, when importing wine products, who are in possession of the transportation document and a document containing the data of the wine product analysis. Cases when possession of these documents is not required when importing wine products shall be established in the legal acts which are in force in the Republic of Lithuania.

4. Legal persons and branches and representations of foreign legal persons shall be permitted to bringing in of alcohol products. Having brought in alcohol products, legal persons and branches and representations of foreign legal person must conform to the requirements of sale, storage and transportation, set forth in Section three of Chapter III of this Law.

Article 14. Procedure of Issuance of Licenses to Import Wine Products and Ethyl Alcohol of Agricultural Origin

1. An institution authorised by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania shall issue licenses to import wine products and ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin.

2. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it shall set the regulations of the licensing of the import of alcohol products indicated in paragraph 1 of this Article, based on this Law and the requirements of the EU law.

Article 15. State Regulation of Export of Alcohol Products

1. Only the undertakings which hold an export license issued by an institution authorised by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania shall be permitted to export wine products and ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin.

2. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it shall set regulations for the export of alcohol products licensing indicated in paragraph 1 of this Article, based on this Law and the requirements of the EU law.

SECTION THREE

STATE REGULATION OF WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE IN ALCOHOL PRODUCTS

Article 16. Licenses for Wholesale and Retail Trade in Alcohol Products

1. Only undertakings holding licenses to engage in wholesale trade in alcohol products issued by the Service shall be allowed to engage in wholesale trade in the said products. Licenses shall be issued for an unlimited period. Licenses to engage in wholesale trade in alcohol products must among other things have a listing of the alcohol products permitted to be sold, and must indicate the groups of alcoholic beverages as well as the location of their sale and storage.

2. Undertakings holding licenses to produce alcohol products shall also have the right to engage in wholesale trade in the products they produce.

3. Only the undertakings holding licenses to engage in retail trade in alcoholic beverages shall be permitted to engage in retail trade in alcoholic beverages. Licenses shall be issued for an unlimited period by the executive institution of an appropriate municipality. Licenses to engage in seasonal retail trade in beer and alcoholic beverages, whose ethyl alcohol concentration volume, does not exceed 22 %, in resorts and other recreational and tourist areas designated by the municipal councils shall be issued for the resort, recreational and tourist season period set by the municipal councils. Onetime licenses issued to retail establishments and catering establishments to engage in sale of alcoholic beverages, whose ethyl alcohol strength by volume is not over 13 %, at public events, exhibitions and fairs, and also, to engage in the sale of all alcoholic beverages at exhibitions and fairs held in permanent buildings, shall be issued for no longer than the time of the event's duration.

4. The municipal council shall establish the procedure of license issuance for retail trade in retail establishments and catering establishments and publish it in the mass media. The Service shall control the issuance of licenses in the municipalities.

5. The licenses to engage in retail trade in alcoholic beverages must, *inter alia*, also have entries indicating the groups of alcoholic beverages whose sale shall be permitted, as well as the location of sale and storage of the alcoholic beverages.

6. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania shall set the regulations of licensing wholesale and retail trade in alcohol products, based upon this Law, the Civil Code and the requirements of EU law. Newly founded undertakings shall be refused issuance of licenses for a five-year period if their founders or administration heads had been the founders or administration heads of the undertakings whose licenses were revoked based upon Article 34(17) of this Law. Licenses shall not be issued to newly founded undertakings, if their founders or administration heads had been the administration heads or founders or other employees, listed in Article 34(18) of this Law, of the undertakings whose licenses were revoked according to Article 34(18) of this Law.

Article 17. Requirements of Sale, Storing and Transportation of Alcohol Products

1. It shall be prohibited to sell in the Republic of Lithuania:

1) alcohol products without possessing documents certifying the conformity of the products according to the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it;

2) alcohol products not recorded on the licenses for the production, import and sale thereof, and alcohol products without holding at the place of their sale/storage a copy of mandatory legally valid documents of product acquisition or transportation;

3) alcoholic beverages (except for beer and naturally fermented cider of not more than 8.5 % ethyl alcohol strength by volume), which are not labelled with special marks - tax stamps according to the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania;

4) alcoholic beverages, which have been produced using ethyl alcohol of non-agricultural origin;

5) alcohol products whose safety and/or quality indicators do not meet the requirements in force in the Republic of Lithuania;

6) alcoholic beverages, whose labelling does not meet the requirements in force in the Republic of Lithuania;

7) counterfeit alcohol products;

8) home-brewed alcoholic beverages;

9) ethyl alcohol for natural persons, except for non-denatured ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin, sold in pharmacies to natural persons in accordance with the procedure established by the Ministry of Health;

10) contraband alcohol products;

11) alcohol products without holding a license issued according to the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.

2. Legal persons and branches and representations of foreign legal persons shall be prohibited from storing and transporting in the Republic of Lithuania:

1) alcohol products without having documents certifying the conformity of the alcohol products in accordance with the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it;

2) alcohol products, which are not recorded on the licenses for the production, import, sale thereof and alcohol products without holding a copy of mandatory legally valid documents for the acquisition or transportation of these products at the sales outlet (at the place of storage or keeping) and/or during the transportation thereof;

3) alcoholic beverages (except for beer and naturally-fermented cider of not more than 8.5 % ethyl alcohol strength) not labeled with special marks - tax stamps according to the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania;

4) alcoholic beverages, which are produced using ethyl alcohol of non-agricultural origin;

5) alcoholic beverages, whose labelling does not meet the requirements in force in the Republic of Lithuania;

6) counterfeit alcoholic beverages;

7) home-brewed alcoholic beverages;

8) contraband alcohol products;

9) alcohol products without holding a license issued in accordance with the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania for alcohol product production, import and wholesale or retail trade, except for the cases set forth in paragraph 3 of this Article.

3. The requirements of sub-paragraph 9 of paragraph 2 of this Article shall not apply to:

1) alcoholic beverages which are stored or transported by undertakings which use these beverages as food product raw materials, also legal persons and branches and representations of foreign legal persons, which have acquired alcoholic beverages for

representational purposes in accordance with the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it;

2) dehydrated and denatured ethyl alcohol, which is used for the production of fuel or fuel compounds with ethyl alcohol which conform to technical regulations or standards, as well as ethyl alcohol which is stored and transported by undertakings which have the right to import ethyl alcohol and undertakings, institutions and organisations, which have permits issued according to the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and are using ethyl alcohol in production, for technical, medical, veterinary needs or for scientific research operations;

3) raw materials stored and transported by undertakings which have the right to import raw materials as well as undertakings which use cider, grape, fruit and berry wine raw materials to produce vinegar;

4) alcoholic solutions stored and transported by undertakings which have the right to import alcoholic solutions, undertakings which use alcoholic solutions for production purposes as well as undertakings which engage in retail trade in alcoholic solutions bottled in disposable packaging of not more than 20 millilitres;

5) alcohol products which are stored or transported by persons providing transport services and economic entities of the states belonging to the European economic area, who are in possession of the mandatory legally valid documents of the acquisition or transportation of these products.

4. For natural persons the procedure of storing and transportation of alcohol products shall be established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it.

5.Undertakings which hold licenses to produce alcohol products, engage in wholesale trade in such products or engage in retail sale of alcoholic beverages shall be prohibited from authorising other persons to engage in the activities indicated in the license or to transfer this right to other persons under a contract.

6.Undertakings which hold licenses to engage in wholesale trade in alcoholic beverages shall be permitted to acquire them in the Republic of Lithuania only from undertakings which have licenses to produce alcoholic beverages, licenses to engage in wholesale trade in them, and to sell them to undertakings which hold licenses to engage in wholesale or retail trade in them, licenses to export wine products as well as, in accordance with the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it, to legal persons, branches and representations of foreign legal persons purchasing alcoholic beverages for representational needs, to economic entities of other states belonging to the European economic area and to foreign state diplomatic

missions, consular posts and representations of international organisations accredited with the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Republic of Lithuania.

7. Undertakings which hold licenses to engage in retail trade in alcoholic beverages shall be permitted to acquire them in the Republic of Lithuania only from undertakings, which hold licenses to produce alcoholic beverages or licenses to engage in wholesale trade in them, and shall only be permitted to sell them to natural persons for their personal, family or household needs not related to business or profession and also, in accordance with the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it, to legal persons, to branches and representations of foreign legal persons, which are purchasing alcoholic beverages for representational needs, and to foreign state diplomatic missions, consular posts and representations of international organisations accredited with the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Republic of Lithuania.

8. Undertakings which hold licenses to produce alcoholic beverages shall be permitted to sell them to:

1) undertakings which hold licenses to engage in wholesale or retail trade in alcoholic beverages and licenses to export wine products;

2) undertakings which use these beverages as raw materials of food products;

3) legal persons, branches and representations of foreign legal persons, who purchase alcoholic beverages for representational needs in accordance with the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it and foreign diplomatic missions, consular posts and representations of international organisations accredited with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania;

4) economic entities of other states belonging to the European Economic Area.

9. Undertakings which hold licenses to produce ethyl alcohol or engage in wholesale trade therein shall be permitted to sell it to:

1) institutions and organisations which use ethyl alcohol for production, technical, medical, veterinary needs and in scientific operations, according to the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania;

2) undertakings which hold licenses to engage in wholesale trade therein and licenses to export ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin;

3) economic entities of other states belonging to the European Economic Area.

10. Undertakings which have licenses to produce raw materials or engage in wholesale trade therein shall be permitted to sell them to:

1) undertakings, which hold licenses to produce alcohol products, licenses to engage in wholesale trade in raw materials and licenses to export wine products;

2) undertakings, using cider, grape, fruit and berry wine raw materials in the production of vinegar;

3) economic entities of other states belonging to the European Economic Area.

11. Undertakings which hold licenses to produce alcoholic solutions or to engage in wholesale trade therein shall be permitted to also sell them (bottled in disposable containers of more than 20 millilitres to:

1) undertakings using alcoholic solutions for production needs;

2) undertakings which hold licenses to engage in wholesale trade in alcoholic solutions;

3) economic entities of other states belonging to the European Economic Area.

12. Undertakings which hold licenses to produce alcohol products and licenses to engage in wholesale trade therein shall also be permitted to export these products (exportation of wine, grape must and ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin shall be permitted only possessing an export license).

Article 18. Procedure of Sale of Alcoholic Beverages in Retail Establishments and Catering Establishments

1. In the Republic of Lithuania it shall be permitted sell:

1) alcoholic beverages at permanent specialised alcoholic beverages retail establishments, specialised alcoholic beverages retail divisions of permanent retail establishments, permanent catering establishments, in general sections of permanent petrol stations and retail establishments located in rural settlements, international trains, narrow-gauge railway trains and ships, which have separate catering places, at exhibitions and fairs which are held in permanent buildings;

2) bottled by the plant naturally-fermented cider (whose ethyl alcohol strength by volume is not more than 8.5 %) and beer in kiosks, temporary petrol stations, pavilions, automobile-shops (which serve the rural population according to the procedure established by the municipal council) and in general sections of permanent retail establishments;

3) alcoholic beverages, whose ethyl alcohol strength by volume is not more than 22 %, in temporary catering establishments during the resort, recreational and tourist season period set by the municipal councils;

4) alcoholic beverages, whose ethyl alcohol strength by volume is not more than 13 %, at mass events, exhibitions and fairs.

2. It shall be permitted to engage in retail trade in alcoholic beverages in retail establishments and catering establishments established in multi-family dwellings, according to the procedure established by the Law on of the Republic of Lithuania, “On the Associations of Multi-Family Apartment House Owners” and Resolution of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania of February 23, 1995, No. I-808, “On the Implementation of the Law of

the Republic of Lithuania “On the Associations of Multi-Family Apartment House Owners.”

3. In the Republic of Lithuania, sale of alcoholic beverages shall be prohibited:

1) in places of confinement, premises housing military and equated services, police and other statutory, healthcare, education institutions and their areas (except for the catering establishments set up in sanatoriums, where the municipal council may permit to sell alcoholic beverages), also, near these institutions and houses of prayer (at a distance set by the municipal council having accordingly agreed it with the heads of these institutions and religious communities);

2) in retail establishments in which the amount of goods intended for children and adolescents comprises 50 or more percent of the turnover of the retail goods;

3) at mass events, exhibitions and fairs (except for the alcoholic beverages, whose ethyl alcohol strength by volume does not exceed 13 % and alcoholic beverages, sold at exhibitions and fairs taking place in permanent buildings);

4) from vending machines;

5) to persons younger than 18 years of age;

6) at temporary retail establishments and catering establishments. This prohibition shall not apply to alcoholic beverages sold on international trains, narrow-gauge railway trains and ships which have separately set up catering places, at exhibitions and fairs held in permanent buildings, and also in the cases listed in sub-paragraphs 2-4 of paragraph 1 of this Article;

7) at retail establishments, catering establishments and kiosks, set up in the warehouses of wholesale establishments and importers, in which wholesale trade in alcoholic beverages is carried on;

8) at retail establishments which are not totally isolated from the living or other quarters not connected with the organisation of sale or stocking of goods;

9) during sport competitions. This prohibition shall not apply to alcoholic beverages, whose ethyl alcohol strength by volume does not exceed 6 %.

4. It shall be prohibited in the Republic of Lithuania to sell:

1) alcoholic beverages on tap. This prohibition shall not apply to alcoholic beverages, which are being sold at permanent catering establishments, at exhibitions and fairs taking place in permanent buildings, international trains, narrow-gauge railway trains and ships, which have separately set up catering places, alcoholic beverages, (whose ethyl alcohol strength by volume does not exceed 22 %), which are being sold at temporary catering establishments, during the for the resort, recreational and tourist season period set by the municipal council, and also beer and naturally-fermented cider on tap sold in the company shops of the production undertakings, beer and naturally-fermented cider on tap (whose ethyl alcohol strength by volume does not exceed 6 %) sold at mass events, exhibitions and fairs;

- 2) alcoholic beverages to intoxicated persons;
- 3) alcoholic beverages to persons under 18 years of age.

5. The salespersons of alcoholic beverages shall have the right, and when doubts shall arise that a person is younger than 18 years of age, must require from the person purchasing alcoholic beverages to show a document indicating his age. Should such a person fail to show a document indicating his age, the alcoholic beverage salespersons must refuse to sell him alcoholic beverages.

6. Purchasers of alcoholic beverages shall have the right to obtain thorough, correct, accurate and transparent information concerning the goods being purchased.

7. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania shall approve the regulations of the sale of alcoholic beverages at catering and retail undertakings, including tax-free shops, in accordance with this Law and the Civil Code.

8. Municipal councils shall have the right to restrict or prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages on official holidays and mass event days.

CHAPTER IV

REDUCTION AND CONTROL OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONSUMPTION

SECTION I

ORGANISATIONAL MEASURES TO REDUCE GENERAL CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL

Article 19. Planning of Reduction in General Consumption of Alcohol

Long-term indicators of the reduction in general consumption of alcohol must be established in the programme of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 20. Statistics of Harm Caused to Health and Economy through the Consumption of Alcohol products

1. Monitoring of the harm caused to health and the economy by the consumption of alcohol and the economic damage caused by it to health and economy is being conducted in the Republic of Lithuania according to the procedure established by the Government of Lithuania and co-ordinated with the National Health Council.

2. The Law on Statistics of the Republic of Lithuania establishes the principles of organising selective statistical research on alcohol consumption and the damage caused by it to health and economy.

Article 21. Peculiarities of Determination of Minimum Standard of Living

It shall be prohibited to include alcoholic beverages in the minimum assortment of food products and non-food products and services in order to estimate the minimum standard of living.

Article 22. Restriction of Alcoholic Beverage Consumption

In the Republic of Lithuania consumption of alcoholic beverages shall be prohibited in:

1) places of confinement, premises housing military and equated services, police and other statutory, healthcare, education institutions and areas thereof (except for the catering establishments set up in sanatoriums, in which the municipal council may allow the sale of alcoholic beverages);

2) State government and administration institutions, except for official receptions and other functions involving protocol. This provision shall not apply to catering establishments set up in these institutions, which have licenses to engage in retail trade in alcoholic beverages;

3) all types of public transport, except international trains, narrow-gauge railway trains and ships, which contain separate catering establishments, and also planes, flying beyond the borders of the Republic of Lithuania;

4) in public places, except catering establishments having licenses to engage in retail trade in alcoholic beverages, and at exhibitions, fairs and mass events, where undertakings have been issued licenses in the established manner by the municipal councils for the sale of alcoholic beverages.

Article 23. Provision of Information to the Public about Alcohol, about the Damage to Health and the Economy Caused by Consumption thereof

1. The Ministry of Education and Culture must draft health promotion programmes in all general education schools and other educational institutions and include health issues in newly published textbooks.

2. All educational institutions having co-ordinated with the Ministry of Health must include in programmes of education some information on alcoholic beverages, the damage caused by them to health and economy, and also regarding the creation of a favourable to the

health environment, barring the way to the damage occasioned through the consumption of alcohol and on the promotion of a healthy life style.

3. Lithuanian National Radio and Television must transmit broadcasts, which propagate a healthy lifestyle and provide information regarding the damage caused through the consumption of alcohol, and the broadcast must be transmitted at least twice weekly and for at least 5 minutes from 18:00 to 22.30 hrs.

Article 24. Programme of Alcohol Control

1. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania shall draft, approve and implement the State programme of alcohol control.

2. The implementation measures of the State programme of alcohol control shall be funded from the State Budget and from approved general subsidies and other funds, in the State Investment Programme for corresponding ministries, State institutions and other economic entities, responsible for the implementation of the programme.

3. The municipals draft, approve, fund and implement programmes of alcohol control

4. Other natural and legal persons may draft also other alcohol control programmes and submit proposals regarding their drafting and implementation to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, National Health Council and other institutions which form and implement the State alcohol control policy.

Article 25. Sponsorship of Action Programmes of Temperance Organisations

The programmes of temperance organisations shall be sponsored according to the established procedure as follows:

- 1) from the State Budget and from municipal budget funds;
- 2) by natural and legal persons in accordance with the procedure set forth in the Law on Charity and Sponsorship of the Republic of Lithuania;
- 3) from other funds.

SECTION TWO

RESTRICTION OF ALCOHOL ABUSE

Article 26. Procedure of Insobriety (Drunkenness) Control

1. Persons driving vehicles in the Republic of Lithuania may be tested for insobriety (drunkenness) and the amount of alcohol in the blood. Employers must ensure, that prior to a

journey verification be done to see whether their employees, who drive the vehicles of undertakings, institutions and organisations, are sober (not drunk).

2. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it shall establish the procedure for determining insobriety (drunkenness) control of persons driving/piloting means of transport and of other persons, the permitted maximum concentration of ethyl alcohol in the expelled breath, in blood and other body fluids of persons while driving/piloting ground, water and air means of transport in the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 27. Organisation of Narcological Supervision

1. Narcological supervision shall be performed in accordance with the procedure established by the “Law on Narcological Supervision,” other laws and legal acts.

2. Persons who have alcohol poisoning may be detoxified in personal healthcare institutions according to the procedure set forth in laws and other legal acts. The police may bring such persons by force to the personal healthcare institutions only in the cases, when they may bring harm to their own health and life or that of the people around them, by their actions (or failure to act).

3. The competence of persons, who exhibit the alcohol dependency syndrome, may be restricted in cases defined by law.

SECTION THREE

RESTRICTION OF PROMOTION OF SALE AND ADVERTISING OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Article 28. Restriction of Promotion of Alcoholic Beverage Sales

1. For undertakings having the right to sell alcoholic beverages it shall be prohibited to employ the following means of promoting alcoholic beverage sales:

- 1) to give alcoholic beverages as a premium, an addition to goods or as a present;
- 2) to apply fixed discounts to those possessing coupons printed in mass media offerings;
- 3) to organise dissemination of alcoholic beverage samples free of charge, except for tasting sessions at exhibitions and fairs;
- 4) to organise retail sale entity competitions in order to promote alcoholic beverage sales;
- 5) to sell specialized advertising publications, published in the Republic of Lithuania or abroad, and brought into the Republic of Lithuania, with the intention of promoting the sale of alcoholic beverages.

2. It shall be prohibited to invite as assistants in promotion campaigns persons under 18 years of age.

Article 29. Restriction of Alcohol Advertising

1. Alcohol advertising of all forms shall be prohibited in the Republic of Lithuania if it:

- 1) aims at children and adolescents up to 18 years of age;
- 2) features persons under 18 year of age in promotion campaigns;
- 3) has among participants athletes, doctors political figures and persons famous in art and science circles, and other famous public figures participate in, and their person or uses their person, name, picture, etc.;
- 4) links consumption of alcohol with improvement in physical condition;
- 5) links consumption of alcohol with driving;
- 6) links consumption of alcohol with physical activity improvement, personal problem resolution;
- 7) links consumption of alcohol with stimulating, sedating and other beneficial characteristics;
- 8) links consumption of alcohol with social success and sexual energy;
- 9) favourably portrays immoderate consumption of alcoholic beverages or negatively responds to abstinence or moderation;
- 10) presents greater ethyl alcohol strength by volume as an advantage of alcoholic beverages
- 11) presents false and (or) deceptive information about alcoholic beverages.

2 Alcohol advertising shall be prohibited:

- 1) on the outside covers of newspapers and independent supplements thereof, also outside covers of journals and books
- 2) in newspapers, journals, books television and radio programmes aimed at children and adolescents;
- 3) in programmes (except direct or continuous broadcasts being rebroadcast from abroad) of radio and television stations, cable radio and cable television stations registered in the Republic of Lithuania, being broadcast and rebroadcast from 15:00 to 22:30 hours, and

Saturdays, Sundays and school holidays from 8 o'clock to 22:30 hours (except for advertising of alcoholic beverages whose ethyl alcohol strength by volume does not exceed 22 %);

4) at concerts, circus, discotheques, youth sport and leisure time events, other mass events, theatre presentations, movie and video film demonstration locations, except for retail outlets located at sites of such events. At mass events (except for events intended for children and adolescents of up to 18 years of age) the name and (or) trade mark of the undertaking which is sponsoring the event and is the producer and seller of alcoholic beverages whose sales are permitted at mass events, may also be displayed provided that by their content and form they do not contradict the requirements of legal acts;

5) at education, science and training institutions;

6) at all healthcare institutions;

7) inside and outside of public transportation vehicles;

8) at petrol stations and areas thereof, except for alcohol retail outlets located there;

9) on postcards, envelopes and postage stamps.

3. It shall be prohibited to give out alcoholic beverages as prizes or along with them, at lotteries, games and contests.

4. Outdoor alcohol advertising, except for beer and naturally fermented wine and cider shall be prohibited in the Republic of Lithuania.

5. In outdoor advertising of beer and naturally fermented wine and cider (except in cases when only the names and (or) trademarks of the undertakings which produce or sell the alcoholic beverages are displayed on outside advertising) a warning inscription must appear regarding the harmful effect of alcohol upon health. The Ministry of Health shall determine the form and content of this text and its place in advertising.

6. Information about alcoholic beverages in information announcements which are intended only for specialists engaged in alcohol business and also the registered names of undertakings which produce or sell alcoholic beverages (if the name of the producer of alcoholic beverages is an integral part of the registered name of these undertakings) and trademarks, when these names and trademarks are displayed on signboards on the headquarters of these undertakings or branches thereof and on the transport vehicles of the undertakings shall not be treated as advertising.

7. Compliance with the requirements set in this Article shall be controlled by the Service (except for violations in mass media), municipal institutions (violations of prohibitions in outdoor advertising), and the National Consumer Rights Protection Board (violations in the mass media).

CHAPTER V

COMPETENCE OF STATE ALCOHOL CONTROL MANAGEMENT INSTITUTIONS

Article 30. System of Formulating State Alcohol Control Policy

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, the National Health Council, municipal councils shall within the scope of their competence formulate and co-ordinate the State alcohol control policy. Their authorisation in the area of alcohol control shall be established by this and other laws and legal acts.

Article 31. System of Executive Institutions in State Alcohol Control Policy

The ministries, the Service and other State institutions, municipal executive institutions, police, and healthcare institutions shall within the scope of their competence carry on State alcohol control. Their competence within the area of alcohol control shall be established by this and other laws and legal acts.

Article 32. State Tobacco and Alcohol Control Service

The Law on the Health System of the Republic of Lithuania, this Law and Regulations of the Service approved by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, shall establish the competence of the Service.

CHAPTER VI

PROCEDURE FOR HOLDING A PERSON LIABLE FOR THE VIOLATION OF THIS LAW AND FOR INSTITUTING PROCEEDINGS

Article 33. Administrative Liability for Violations of this Law

1. For violations of this Law natural persons shall be held administratively liable.

2. Contraband, counterfeit alcohol products, alcoholic beverages without special tax stamps, which are sold, held in stock and transported in the Republic of Lithuania and also alcohol products, which do not meet the quality requirements in force in the Republic of Lithuania, or the acquisition whereof is not certified by legally valid documents, shall be confiscated in accordance with the Code of the Republic of Lithuania of Administrative Offences (hereinafter-Code of Administrative Offences).

3. Confiscated alcohol products shall be destroyed or used in the production of bio-fuels in accordance with the procedure established by the Government of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it.

Article 34. Application of Economic Sanctions for Violations of the Law

1. The Service, the National Consumer Rights Protection Board, the State Food and Veterinary Service, State Tax Inspectorate under the Ministry of Finance (hereinafter- State Tax Inspectorate), local State tax inspectorates, institution authorised by the Government to issue licenses for the import and export of wine and ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin on legal persons and branches of foreign legal persons for violations of this Law and the institution authorised by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, which must be informed about the import of alcohol products (except for wine products and ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin), municipal institutions and the police shall have the right to impose, within the scope of their competence, fines for violations of this Law,

2. For the production and sale of alcohol products which do not conform to the safety and quality requirements in force in the Republic of Lithuania, import and export of wine products and ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin, production, stocking, transportation and sale of alcohol products without possessing an appropriate license for this activity, import of alcohol products (except wine products and ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin) if the institution authorised by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania is not informed according to the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or the institution authorised by it, also for the failure to comply with the requirements of the sale, stocking and transportation of alcohol products set in Article 17(1,2,5,11) of this Law, legal persons and branches and representations of foreign legal persons shall be imposed a fine in the amount from LTL 1000 to LTL 80 000.

3. For failure to comply with the requirements set forth in paragraphs 1, 3 and subparagraphs 1 and 2 of paragraph 4 of Article 18 of this Law undertakings shall be imposed a fine in the amount from LTL 500 to LTL 2000 and for repeated noncompliance with the said requirements committed within five years from the imposition of the fine, from LTL 2000 to LTL 5000.

4. For failure to comply with the requirement of sub-paragraph 3 of paragraph 4 of Article 18, undertakings shall incur a fine in the amount from LTL 1000 to LTL 3000.

5. For failure to comply with the requirements of Article 28 of this Law undertakings shall incur a fine in the amount from LTL 1000 to LTL 10 000, and for each repeated noncompliance with the same requirement committed during a five-year period from the imposition of the fine, in the amount from LTL 10 000 to LTL 20 000.

6. For failure to comply with the requirements of Article 29 of this Law legal persons and branches and representations of foreign legal persons shall be imposed a fine in the amount from LTL 1000 to LTL 10 000, and for each repeated violation of that same requirement committed within five years from imposition of the fine, in the amount from LTL 10 000 to LTL 20 000.

7. The specific amount of an imposed fine shall be set by taking into account the extenuating and aggravating circumstances indicated in paragraphs 8 and 9 of this Article. If there are any extenuating circumstances present, the amount of the fine shall be reduced from the average to the minimum, and in the presence of any aggravating circumstances the fine shall be increased from the average to the maximum amount. If there are both extenuating and aggravating circumstances present, the fine shall be imposed taking into account their amount and significance. The reduction or increase of the amount of the fine shall be substantiated in the decision by the institution imposing the fine for non-observance of the regulations established in this Law.

8. The fact that, having committed a violation, legal persons and branches and representations of foreign legal persons have voluntarily barred the way of the harmful consequences of the violation, assisted competent institutions in the course of the investigation, compensated for losses or eliminated the caused damage shall be treated as extenuating circumstances. The institution which imposes the penalty may also recognise other circumstances which have not been indicated in this paragraph as extenuating.

9. The fact that legal persons and branches and representations of foreign legal persons hindered the investigation, concealed the committed violation, continued to violate the requirements of this Law ignoring the instruction of a competent institution to terminate the illegal actions shall be treated as aggravating circumstance.

10. Fines for the production and sale of alcohol products which do not conform to the safety and quality requirements and for failure to comply with the requirements established in sub-paragraphs 1, 4, 5 and 6 of paragraph 1 and sub-paragraphs 1, 4, 5 of paragraph 2 of Article 17 of this Law shall be imposed by the State Food and Veterinary Service.

11. Fines for failure to comply with the requirements of sub-paragraphs 2, 3, 7-11 of paragraph 1 and sub-paragraphs 2, 3, 6-9 of paragraph 2, paragraphs 5-11 of Article 17 of this Law, paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 of Article 18, shall be imposed by the Service and the police. The

heads of police institutions or persons authorised by the police shall have the right to impose fines on behalf of the police.

12. Fines for failure to comply with the requirements of sub-paragraphs 2, 3, 7, 9-11 of paragraph 1, sub-paragraphs 2, 3, 6, 8 and 9 of paragraph 2 and paragraphs 5-11 of Article 17, paragraph 1, sub-paragraphs 6-8 of paragraph 3, sub-paragraph 1 of paragraph 4 of Article 18 shall be imposed by the State Tax Inspectorate and territorial State Tax Inspectorates.

13. Fines for the production of alcohol products without a license required for this activity and for failure to comply with the requirements set in sub-paragraph 6 of paragraph 1, sub-paragraph 5 of paragraph 2 of Article 17 and in Article 28 of this Law shall be imposed by the Service.

14. Fines for non-compliance with the requirements set in Article 29 of this Law shall be imposed by the Service (except for advertising violations in the mass media), the municipal institutions (for violations in outdoor advertising) and the National Consumer Rights Protection Board (for advertising violations in the mass media).

15. An institution authorised by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania shall impose fines for importing and exporting wine products and ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin without possessing a license for such activity.

16. Fines for importing alcohol products (except for wine products and ethyl alcohol of agricultural origin), if the institution authorised by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania is not informed of this according to the procedure established by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or an institution authorised by it, shall be imposed by the institution which must be informed about the import of these alcohol products.

17. For undertakings, having licenses to engage in wholesale or retail trade in alcohol products which do not comply with the requirements of sub-paragraphs 1, 2, 4, 5, 8 and 9 of paragraph 1 and sub-paragraphs 1, 2, 4 and 7 of paragraph 2 of Article 17 of this Law, the licenses shall be revoked and new licenses shall not be issued for five years from the day of the revocation of the licenses.

18. The licenses shall be revoked and licenses shall not be reissued to undertakings, if a judgment of conviction has become effective or a judgement or a decision of the court, a decision of the customs, the tax inspectorate, the police or the Service concerning the imposition of a fine or penalty has become effective in respect of them or in respect of the heads of their administration or other employees (if they have acted on behalf of the undertaking or in its interests) for contraband of alcohol products, unlawful stocking, transportation or sale of alcoholic beverages without tax stamps and also for sale, transportation or stocking of counterfeit alcohol products.

19. An undertaking possessing a license to engage in retail trade in alcoholic beverages (except for the undertakings indicated in paragraph 20 of this Article) which within

one year from the imposition for the first time of a fine for violation of the requirement set in subparagraph 3 of Article 18(4) of this Law repeatedly commits a violation of the said requirement in the same sales outlet shall have its license revoked in the sales outlet where violations have been previously determined and a new license shall not be reissued for one year from the day of revocation of the license.

20. The undertakings which are engaged in the sale of alcoholic beverages at mass events, exhibitions and fairs and which violate the requirement of sub-paragraph 3 of Article 18(4) of this Law shall be refused for one year from the day of establishment of the violation the issue of a one-time license to engage in retail trade in alcoholic beverages at mass events, exhibitions and fairs held in the municipality where the violation was established.

21. Revocation of licenses shall not relieve undertakings from the payment of fines established in paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of this Article, imposed on the undertakings.

Article 35. Record of Law Violations and Time Limits of Hearing of the Cases

1. The employees (officers) of the control institutions indicated in Article 34(1) of this Law, who have the authorisation for this, having determined that the requirements of this Law have been violated, shall draw up a record of the content set forth in the Code of Administrative Offences.

2. The institutions indicated in Article 34(1) of this Law shall hear the cases and impose fines within one month from the day of the establishment of a violation.

Article 36. Participants in the Proceedings

1. The following shall participate in the proceedings regarding the violations indicated in Article 34 of this Law:

- 1) a person, suspected of violating this Law;
- 2) other economic entities according to a decision by the institutions indicated in Article 34(1) of this Law, with whose interests the case being heard is linked;
- 3) State administration and municipal institution representatives upon their request;
- 4) experts and specialists and other persons on the decision of the institutions indicated in Article 34(1) of this Law.

2. The persons indicated in sub-paragraphs 1 and 2 of paragraph 1 of this Article shall be hereinafter referred to as parties to the proceedings.

3. Representatives authorised by the parties may represent them in the proceedings.

Article 37. Notification Regarding Proceedings

The parties to the proceedings shall be given written notification regarding the established violations of this Law, the time and place of the hearing of the case and shall also be offered access to the case material and requested to present written explanations.

Article 38. Hearing of Case

1. The case shall be heard in the presence of the parties to the proceedings and other participants in the proceedings.

2. During the hearing of the case the parties shall have the right to familiarise themselves with the collected material, give oral and written explanations, present evidence, lodge applications.

3. If the parties to the proceedings do not participate in the hearing of the case, the case may only be heard in those instances, when information is available, that the parties to the proceedings have been informed in due time of the place and time of the hearing of the case.

Article 39. Decisions Adopted upon the Hearing of the Case

1. The institutions indicated in of Article 34(1) of this Law, having heard the case, shall have the right to adopt a decision to:

- 1) apply the economic sanctions established by this Law;
- 2) refuse to apply economic sanctions, when there are no grounds established by this Law;
- 3) terminate the case, when a violation of this Law does not exist;
- 4) return the case for additional investigation.

2. A decision shall be adopted following the hearing of the case. It must indicate: the name of the institution which has adopted the decision; the date and place of the case hearing; information regarding the violator; circumstances of the violation; proof of the violator's guilt on which the decision is based, the Article of this Law, which establishes liability for the violation; the explanations of the violator and the assessment thereof; the adopted decision; the terms and procedure of the appeal against the decision;

3. The decisions of the institutions indicated in Article 34(1) of this Law shall be delivered to persons in respect of whom such decisions have been adopted within two working days from their adoption.

Article 40. Exaction of Fines

1. Fines must be paid into the State Budget and in instances, when the fines are imposed by municipal executive institutions, into the budget of the municipality which

imposed the fine, no later than within one month of the day, when the decision to impose a penalty was delivered to the persons who violated this Law.

2. Bailiffs shall collect the unpaid fines enforcing the decisions of the institutions indicated in Article 39 of this Law in accordance with the procedure established by the Code of Civil Procedure of the Republic of Lithuania. Decisions may be referred for enforcement no later than within 3 years of the day of adoption thereof.

Article 41. Appeal against Decisions regarding Application of Economic Sanctions

1. Economic entities, which object to the decisions, of the institutions indicated in Article 34(1) of this Law regarding application of economic sanctions shall have the right to appeal against the decision to the court within a month's period from the delivery of the decision to them according to the procedure established by the Law on Administrative Proceedings of the Republic of Lithuania.

2. A court appeal shall suspend the implementation of the decisions of the institutions indicated in Article 34(1) of this Law regarding the application of economic sanctions.

Article 42. Disputes about Violations of this Law

1. Disputes about violations of this Law shall be resolved in accordance with the procedure established by the laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

**LEGAL ACTS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION WITH WHICH THE LAW OF
REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA ON ALCOHOL CONTROL HAS BEEN
HARMONISED**

The Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Alcohol Control is harmonised with the following legal acts of the European Union:

1) Council Directive of 3 October 1989 on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation of administrative action in Member States concerning the pursuit of television broadcasting activities, 89/552/EEC (with the latest amendments, enacted on 30 June 1997 in the Directive of the European Parliament and Council 97/36/EC).

2) Council Regulation (EEC) of 29 May 1989 No 1576/89, laying down general rules on the definition, description and presentation of spirit drinks (with the latest amendments, enacted on 22 December 1994 in the Council and European Parliament Regulation (ECN) No 3378/1994);

3) Council Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 of 17 May 1999 on the common organisation of the market in wine (with the latest amendments, enacted in Council Regulation (EC) No 2585/2001 of 19 December 2001);
Commission Regulation (EC) No 1622/2000 of 24 July 2000 laying down certain detailed rules for implementing Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 on the common organisation of the market in wine and establishing a Community code of oenological practices and processes (with the latest amendments, enacted in Commission Regulation No 2244/2002 of 16 December 2002);

Article 2. Recommendations to the Government of the Republic of Lithuania

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania shall by 15 April 2004 approve the legal acts necessary for the implementation of this Law or authorise other institutions to do this.

Article 3. Entry into Force of the Law

The Law shall enter into force as of 1 May 2004.

I promulgate this Law passed by the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania.

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC ROLANDAS PAKSAS