



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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## PRESS RELEASE

### RISK OF POVERTY

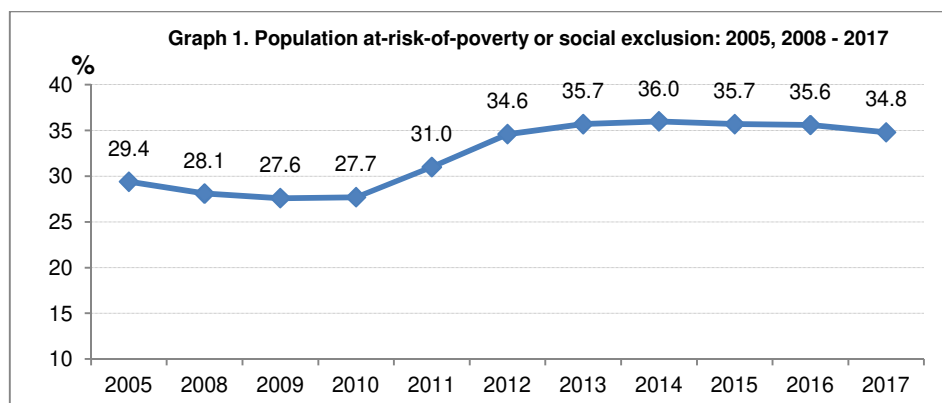
2017 Survey on Income and Living Conditions  
(Income reference period 2016)

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) announces the results of the 2017 Survey on Income and Living Conditions of households (EU-SILC), **with reference income period the year 2016**. This survey is the main source for comparable statistics on income distribution and social exclusion at European level. The results of the 2018 survey, with reference income period the year 2017, will be announced on 21 June 2019.

#### A. Europe 2020 strategy Indicators

The Europe 2020 has set the target of reducing poverty by *'lifting at least 20 million people out of the risk of poverty and social exclusion'<sup>1</sup>* by 2020.

According to the results of the 2017 Survey on Income and Living Conditions, persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion represent 34.8% of the total population (3,701,800 persons), recording a decrease compared to the previous year (3,789,300 persons representing 35,6% of the total population). Graph 1 shows the evolution of the indicator over the last decade (following an upward trend from 2010 onwards and decreased in 2015 for first time after a series of years).



\*It is noted that the reference period as regards income is the year previous to the year the survey is conducted, that is, the data on income refer to the period 2004, 2007 - 2016.

- The risk of poverty or social exclusion is higher for persons aged 18-64 years (38.6%) (Table 1).

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<sup>1</sup> People at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion: population at-risk-of-poverty or living with severe material deprivation (lack of at least four out of nine material deprivation items in the "economic strain and durables" dimension") or living in households with very low work intensity (for further information see Explanatory Notes).

- The share of persons at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion aged 18-64 years amounts to 36.5% as regards Greek nationals and to 62.9% as regards foreign nationals residing in Greece (Table 2).
- The share of persons at risk-of-poverty or social exclusion aged 18-64 years amounts to 61.6% for persons residing in Greece but born in another country (Table 3).
- Population not at-risk-of-poverty but severely materially deprived and not living in a household with low work intensity is estimated at 9.1% (Table 5).
- Population not at risk-of-poverty and not severely materially deprived but living in a household with low work intensity amounted to 4.2% (Table 5).
- Population at-risk-of-poverty but not severely materially deprived and not living in a household with low work intensity is estimated at 7.7% (Table 5).
- Table 4 presents the components of the at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion indicator. 20.2% of the total population is at-risk-of-poverty (after social transfers), 21.1% of the total population is under material deprivation and 15.6% of the population aged 0-59 years lives in households with very low work intensity.
- Table 19 presents the at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion rate for years 2008-2017 for those European countries whose 2017 EU-SILC survey results are available at the moment..

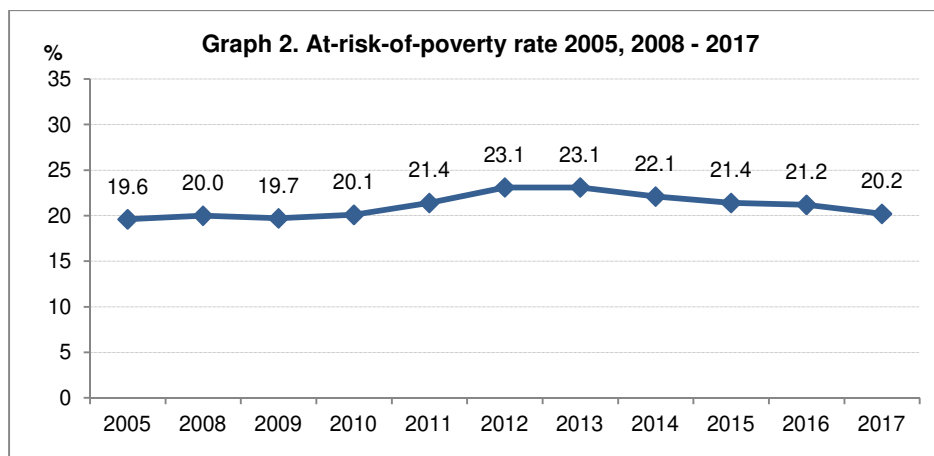
#### **B. At risk-of-poverty rate<sup>2</sup> and poverty threshold after social transfers**

- The poverty threshold amounted to 4,560 euros per person annually and to 9,576 euros for households with two adults and two dependent children under 14 years old (Table 6). By definition it is set at 60% of the median of the total equivalised disposable household income, which was estimated at 7,600 euros, while the mean annual disposable income of the households of the country was estimated at 15,106 Euros.
- In 2017, 20.2% of the total population was at risk of poverty<sup>3</sup>. This indicator amounted to 19.6% in 2005 (with reference income period 2004) and recorded an upward trend up to 2012 (23.1%), starting to decrease from 2014 onwards, as depicted in Graph 2 that follows.

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<sup>2</sup> The "at-risk-of poverty rate (after social transfers)" is defined as the percentage of persons (over the total population) with an equivalised disposable income below the 'at-risk of-poverty threshold' (i.e. below the 60% of the median equivalised disposable income).

<sup>3</sup> It should be noted that the population groups which are by inference poor, such as homeless, persons living in institutions, part of illegal economic immigrants, Roma who are on the move and change residence, etc. are underrepresented in the survey.



\*It is noted that the income reference period is the year previous to the year the survey is conducted, that is, the data on income refer to the period 2004, 2007 - 2016.

- The households at risk-of-poverty amount to 789,585 out of a total of 4,162,442 households, and the members of these households amount to 2,152,691 out of a total of 10,634,925 persons which is the country's total population.
- The at-risk-of-poverty rate for children aged 0-17 years (child poverty) amounted to 24.5%, recording a decrease of 1.8 percentage points compared to 2016. The at-risk-of-poverty rate recorded a decrease of 1 percentage point both for the total population and the population aged 18-64 years, while it remained the same for persons aged 65+ years (12.4%) (Table 7).
- In general, the at-risk-of-poverty rate recorded a decrease in 2017 compared to 2016 for some sub-populations with specific characteristics both for some types of households and for individuals by gender and employment status, as well as individuals by gender, age group and tenure status. The most important differences compared to 2016 were recorded as follows:
  - ✓ The at-risk-of-poverty rate for households with two adults and three or more dependent children decreased by 7.8 percentage points (24.2%) (Table 9).
  - ✓ The at-risk-of-poverty rate for employed women decreased by 2.4 percentage points (9.9%) (Table 10).
  - ✓ The at-risk-of-poverty rate for children aged 0-17 years living in household with tenant tenure status decreased by 3.0 percentage points (24.9%) (Table 11).
- The percentage of the population at-risk-of-poverty increased only in the following cases compared to 2016:
  - ✓ Regarding household types, by 0.5 percentage point (22.8%) in the case of households with two adults and two dependent children, (Table 9).
  - ✓ Regarding individuals by gender and employment status, by 0.3 percentage point (25.7%) in the case of inactive (other than retired) and by 0.5 percentage point (25.7%) for the respective subpopulation of women (Table 10).
  - ✓ Regarding individuals by gender, age group and tenure status, a very small increase of 0.1 percentage point was recorded for several cases and specifically, for owners in age groups 60+, 65+, 75+ years while the increase is a little higher for the respective subpopulations of men

(0.5, 0.5 and 0.3 percentage points, respectively). Furthermore, the biggest increase, 1.3 percentage points, was recorded for tenants aged 75+ years and 2.8 percentage points for the respective subpopulation of women (19.1% and 20.8%, respectively) (Table 11).

- The risk-of-poverty rate using thresholds different than 60% of the median of the total equivalised disposable household income amounted to:
  - ✓ 9.3%, when the risk of poverty threshold is defined at 40% of the median of the total equivalised disposable household income,
  - ✓ 14.6%, when the risk of poverty threshold is defined at 50% of the median of the total equivalised disposable household income and,
  - ✓ 26.5%, when the risk of poverty threshold is defined at 70% of the median of the total equivalised disposable household income, respectively.

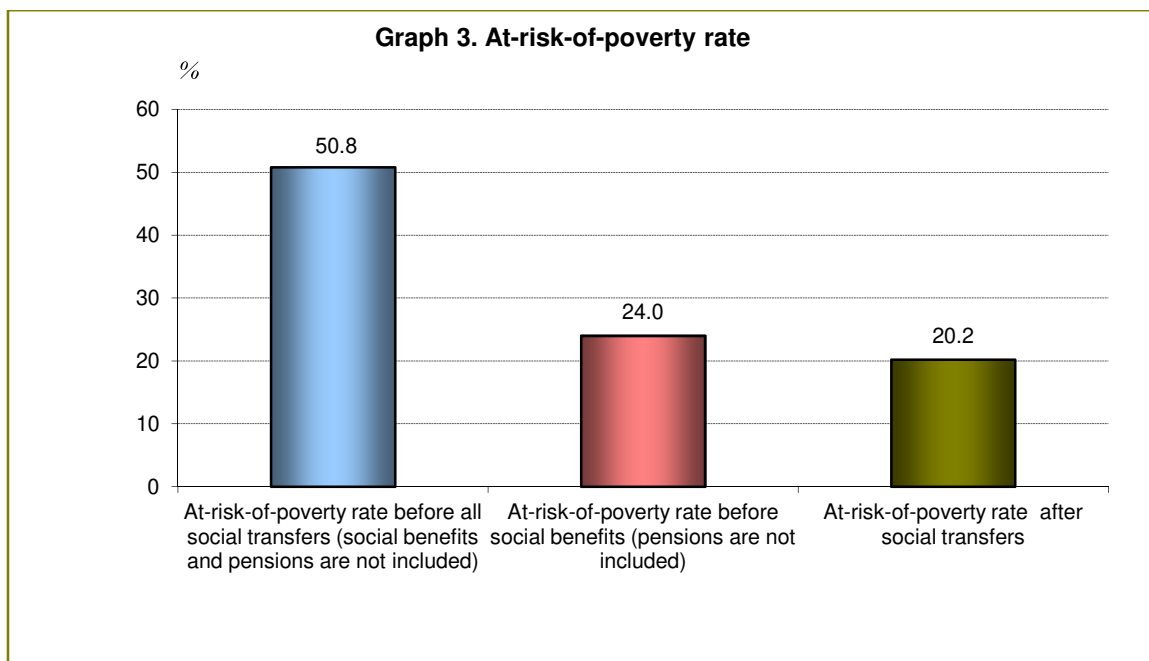
### **C. Social transfers and the at-risk-of-poverty rate**

- The at-risk-of-poverty rate before all social transfers (excluding social benefits<sup>4</sup> and pensions<sup>5</sup> in the total disposable household income) is 50.8%, while when only pensions are included, (social benefits are excluded), the risk of poverty rate drops to 24.0% (Graph 3, Tables 14 and 15). As regards social benefits, it should be noted that they include certain social assistance allowances (such as the allowance of social solidarity for pensioners – EKAS, allowances to long-standing unemployed aged 45-65, etc.) family benefits (such as children allowances), as well as unemployment, sickness, disability/invalidity benefits or education allowances.
- Given that, as already stated, the at-risk-of-poverty rate for the total population after social transfers is 20.2%, it can be concluded that the inclusion of social benefits contributes to a decrease of 3.8 percentage points in the at-risk-of-poverty rate, while the inclusion of pensions contributes to a decrease of 26.8 percentage points. Social transfers in total, decrease the at-risk-of-poverty rate by 30.6 percentage points (Graph 3, Tables 7, 14 and 15).

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<sup>4</sup> *Social benefits* include the social assistance (the allowance of social solidarity for pensioners – EKAS, social dividend, a lump sum payment to poor households in mountainous and disadvantageous areas, allowances for children under 16 years old who live in poor households, allowances to repatriates, refugees, persons released from prison, drug-addicts, alcoholics, allowances to long-standing unemployed aged 45-65, benefits to households that faced an earthquake, flood etc.) and allowances such as family, unemployment, sickness, disability/invalidity benefits /allowances as well as the education allowances.

<sup>5</sup> *Pensions* include old-age pensions and survivor's pensions and benefits.

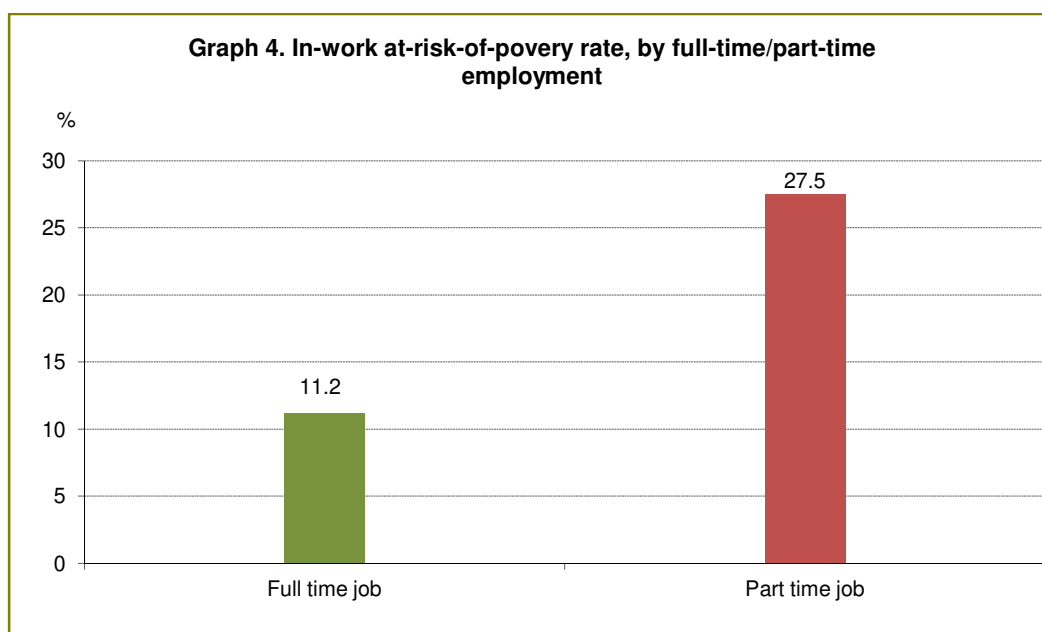


- The at-risk-of-poverty rate before all social transfers (excluding social benefits and pensions in the total disposable household income) for persons aged 65 years and over is 87.4%, whereas before social benefits (but including pensions) it amounts to 14.7% of the aforementioned population (Tables 14 and 15).
- The at-risk-of-poverty rate, before all social transfers (not including social benefits and pensions in the total disposable household income) for persons aged 18-64 years is 42.2%, whereas before social benefits (but including pensions) it amounts to 25.3% of the above-mentioned population (Tables 14 and 15).
- Social transfers (including pensions) represent 32.2% of total disposable income of the country's households, of which pensions account for a significant share of 85.9% while social benefits represent 14.1%.

#### **D. Characteristics of at risk-of-poverty population**

- The at-risk-of-poverty rate during the previous years was slightly higher for females compared to that of males. In 2014 and 2015 it was very close for both genders (higher for males by 0.2 and 0.3 percentage points, respectively), while according to 2017 data, as in 2016, is the same for men and women and equal to the share for the total population (both genders), that is 20.2% (Table 7).
- The at-risk-of-poverty rate for the total population (and consequently for both genders) decreased by one percentage point in 2017 compared to 2016 (Table 7).
- The at-risk-of-poverty rate for persons aged 65 years and over amounts to 13.5% for women and to 11.1% for men (Table 7).
- The at-risk-of-poverty rate for persons aged 75 years and over amounts to 12.7%, while for persons younger than 75 years old to 21.1% (Table 8).
- The at-risk-of-poverty rate for women aged 75 years and over amounts to 15.2%, while for men of the same age group amounts to 9.5% (Table 8).

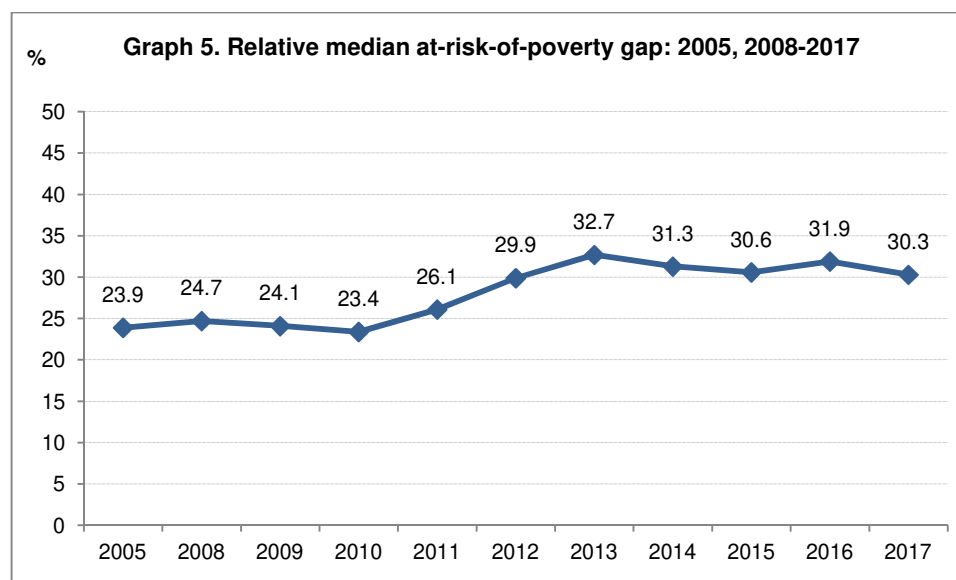
- The at-risk-of-poverty rate for various household types decreased in 2017 compared to 2016, with the only exception the case of households with two adults and two dependent children that increased by 0.5 percentage point (22.8%). The decrease of the at-risk-of-poverty-rate for all other household types ranges from 0.2 percentage point for households with three or more adults without dependent children (19.4%) to 7.8 percentage points for households with two adults and three or more dependent children (24.2%). The next biggest decrease was recorded for male one-person households and it is 2.3 percentage points with the respective percentage being 19.8%. The case of households with two adults younger than 65 years of age without dependent children follows, with a decrease by 2.1 percentage points and the respective percentage being 18.8% (Table 9).
- Employed persons face a lower risk-of-poverty compared to unemployed or economically inactive persons (housewives, etc). At-risk-of-poverty rate for employed persons amounts to 12.9% and it decreased by 1.3 percentage points compared to 2016. A decrease was recorded both for employed women, by 2.4 percentage points, and employed men, by 0.3 percentage points, with the respective percentages at 9.9% and 15.0%. For unemployed persons, as already mentioned, the at-risk-of-poverty rate amounts to 45.5%, and it is significantly different between males and females (50.5% and 41.0% respectively). The at-risk-of-poverty rate for economically inactive persons (excluding pensioners) increased by 0.3 percentage point for both genders and by 0.5 percentage point for women, while it decreased by 0.7 percentage point for men with the respective percentages being 25.7%, 25.7% and 25.5% (Table 10).
- The at-risk-of-poverty rate for persons working full-time amounts to 11.2%, while for part-time employed persons amounts to 27.5% (Graph 4, Table 13).



- At-risk-of poverty rate for households residing in owned dwellings is 19.4%, while for those residing in rented dwellings is higher and it amounts to 23.3%. The at-risk-of-poverty rate for owner-occupiers aged between 18 and 64 years is 21.1%, while for those at the same age group who live in rented dwellings the at-risk-of-poverty rate rises to 23.7% (Table 11).

### E. Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap

The relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap refers to the intensity of the poverty risk of people with an equivalised disposable income below the at risk-of-poverty threshold. It is calculated as the difference between the at-risk-of-poverty threshold of the total population and the median equivalised disposable income of persons below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold, expressed as a percentage of the at-risk-of-poverty threshold.



- In 2017, this indicator was 30.3% of the at-risk-of-poverty threshold and it decreased compared to the previous year (Graph 5, Table 17). On the basis of this percentage, it is estimated that 50% of the poor population has an income lower than 69.7% of the at-risk-of-poverty threshold (4,560 Euros), i.e., lower than 3,178 Euros yearly per person.
- As shown in Graph 5, the relative at-risk-of-poverty gap was 23.9% in 2005, while following an upward trend during the decade, it was estimated to 32.7% for 2013 (highest value). From then on it fluctuated and amounted to 30.3% in 2017, recording a decrease of 1.6 percentage points compared to 2016.
- The relative at-risk-of-poverty gap for children aged 0-17 years, amounted to 29.6%, recording a decrease of 3.7 percentage points compared to 2016, while for persons aged 65 years and over, it amounted to 19.7%, presenting an increase of one percentage point compared to 2016 (Table 17).

#### **F. Risk of poverty after social transfers calculated on the basis of the 2008 poverty threshold (adjusted according to the 2016 harmonized index of consumer prices)**

The at-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers, anchored at a fixed point in time – and specifically for year 2008 – is used to indicate whether there is an improvement in the living standards for low-income groups. The aim of this comparison is to record whether the risk of poverty has changed over time in absolute rather than in relative terms, that is, when the poverty threshold is fixed in terms of real purchasing power.

In 2017, the risk-of-poverty rate on the basis of the poverty threshold of 2008 (i.e., the percentage of persons whose equivalised disposable income is less than 60% of the median equivalised disposable income in 2008, expressed in 2016 prices according to the Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices) was 46.3%. In other words, 46.3% of the population in 2017 would be classified as “at risk of poverty” on the basis of conditions of 2008 (Table 16).

#### **G. Persons living in households with very low work intensity**

- Persons aged 18-59 years, living in households with very low work intensity represent 17.6% of the total population of this age group, recording an increase compared to 2016 (by 1.6 percentage points). The corresponding share is 15.8% for men and 19.3% for women (Table 18).
- Persons aged 0-59 years, living in households with very low work intensity represent 15.6% of the total population of this age group, also recording a decrease compared to 2016 (by 1.6 percentage points). The corresponding share is 14.2% for men and 17.0% for women (Table 18).
- The percentage of persons aged less than 18 years, living in households with low work intensity amounted to 9.4% of the total population of this age group in 2017 (Table 18).



## TABLES

**Table 1. Population at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion by gender and age groups: 2017**

%

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
Total	34.8	35.7	33.9
0-17	36.2	-	-
18-64	38.6	39.5	37.7
65+	22.8	25.1	19.9

**Table 2. Population at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion by age groups and citizenship: 2017**

Age groups	Broad group of citizenship	%
18-64	Greek nationals	36.5
	Foreign nationals residing in Greece	62.9
	EU 28 foreign nationals residing in Greece	53.3
	Non EU-28 foreign nationals residing in Greece	64.3
18+	Greek nationals	32.7
	Foreign nationals residing in Greece	62.4
	EU-28 Members States-Foreign nationals residing in Greece	48.2
	Non EU-28 Members States- Foreign nationals residing in Greece	64.6

**Table 3. Population at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion by age groups and country of birth: 2017**

Age groups	Broad group by country of birth	%
18-64	Greece	36.0
	Other country	61.6
	EU 28 Members States –excl. Greece	44.9
	Non EU 28 Members States	64.3
18+	Greece	32.2
	Other country	60.6
	EU 28 Members States –excl. Greece	41.3
	Non EU 28 Members States	63.9

**Table 4. Population at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion, components: 2017**

%

Indicator/Component	Total	Female	Male
Population at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion	34.8	35.7	33.9
Population at-risk-of-poverty (after social transfers)	20.2	20.2	20.2
Population under material deprivation	21.1	21.2	21.0
Population 0-59 years old living in households with very low work intensity	15.6	17.0	14.2

**Table 5. Intersections of Europe 2020 Poverty Target Indicators by age groups: 2017**

Age groups	Indicator	%
Total	Population at-risk-of-poverty but not severely deprived and not living in a household with low work intensity	7.7
	Population not at-risk-of-poverty, not severely deprived but living in a household with low work intensity	4.2
	Population not at-risk-of-poverty but severely deprived and not living in a household with low work intensity	9.1
18-64	Population at-risk-of-poverty but not severely deprived and not living in a household with low work intensity	7.5
	Population not at-risk-of-poverty, not severely deprived but living in a household with low work intensity	6.4
	Population not at-risk-of-poverty but severely deprived and not living in a household with low work intensity	8.6
0-17	Population at-risk-of-poverty but not severely deprived and not living in a household with low work intensity	9.1
	Population not at-risk-of-poverty, not severely deprived but living in a household with low work intensity	1.4
	Population not at-risk-of-poverty but severely deprived and not living in a household with low work intensity	9.5

**Table 6. At-risk-of-poverty threshold after social transfers, by household type: 2017***in euros*

Household type	Poverty threshold
Single person	4,560
Two adults with two children younger than 14 years	9,576

**Table 7. At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers, by age groups and gender: 2017**

%

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
Total	20.2	20.2	20.2
0-17	24.5	-	-
18-64	21.7	21.7	21.8
65+	12.4	13.5	11.1

**Table 8. At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers, for older persons, by age groups and gender: 2017**

%

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
60+	13.6	14.2	12.9
75+	12.7	15.2	9.5
0-59	22.7	22.6	22.8
0-74	21.1	20.8	21.3

**Table 9. At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers, by household type: 2017**

Household type	%
Total	20.2
<b>Households without dependent children</b>	16.9
One adult younger than 65 years	23.1
One adult 65 years or older	17.8
Single female	20.7
Single male	19.8
Two adults younger than 65 years without dependent children	18.0
Three or more adults without dependent children	19.4
<b>Households with dependent children</b>	23.9
Single parent with dependent children	30.5
Two adults with one dependent child	18.5
Two adults with two dependent children	22.8
Two adults with three or more dependent children	24.2
Two adults or more with dependent children	23.7
Three adults or more with dependent children	29.3

**Table 10. At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers, by most frequent activity status and by gender (18+): 2017**

%

Activity status	Total	Female	Male
Employed	12.9	9.9	15.0
Not employed	23.3	23.6	22.8
Unemployed	45.5	41.0	50.5
Retired	9.5	10.2	9.0
Inactive population - Other	25.7	25.7	25.5

**Table 11. At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers by accommodation tenure status, gender and age groups: 2017**

%

Age groups	Owner			Renter		
	Total	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male
Total	19.4	19.4	19.4	23.3	23.2	23.4
0-17	24.3	–	–	24.9	–	–
18-64	21.1	20.9	21.4	23.7	24.2	23.2
60+	13.4	14.1	12.6	15.7	15.6	15.8
65+	12.3	13.4	10.9	13.9	14.0	13.9
75+	12.3	14.7	9.3	19.1	20.8	15.1

**Table 12. In-work at-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers for population aged 18-64, by gender: 2017**

%

	Total	Female	Male
Employed	12.8	9.8	14.9

**Table 13. In-work at-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers by full-time/part-time employment: 2017**

	%
Full time	11.2
Part time	27.5

**Table 14. At-risk-of-poverty rate before all social transfers<sup>(1)</sup>, by gender and age groups: 2017**

%

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
Total	50.8	52.8	48.7
0-17	36.0	–	–
18-64	42.2	43.9	40.5
65+	87.4	87.9	86.8

*(1) Total disposable household income before all social transfers***Table 15. At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers<sup>(2)</sup>, by gender and age groups: 2017**

%

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
Total	24.0	24.2	23.8
0-17	30.9	-	-
18-64	25.3	25.3	25.3
65+	14.7	16.2	12.8

*(2) Total disposable household income before social benefits including old age and survivors benefits***Table 16. At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers anchored at a fixed moment in time (2008), by gender and age groups: 2017**

%

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
Total	46.3	46.9	45.6
0-17	52.6	-	-
18-64	45.9	46.2	45.6
65+	42.4	44.9	39.3

**Table 17. Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap, after social transfers, by gender and age groups: 2017**

%

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
Total	30.3	29.8	30.9
0-17	29.6	-	-
18-64	32.6	32.6	32.7
65+	19.7	17.5	22.5
75+	16.2	16.0	16.7

**Table 18. At risk-of-poverty rate for people living in households with very low work intensity, after social transfers, by gender and age groups: 2017**

%

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
18-59	17.6	19.3	15.8
0-17	9.4	-	-
0-60	15.6	17.0	14.2

**Table 19. Population at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion by country, 2008-2017, for countries with available data for 2017**

%

Country	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Bulgaria	44.8	46.2	49.2	49.1	49.3	48.0	40.1	41.3	40.4	38.9
Romania	44.2	43.0	41.5	40.9	43.2	41.9	40.3	37.4	38.8	35.5
Greece	28.1	27.6	27.7	31.0	34.6	35.7	36.0	35.7	35.6	34.8
Latvia	34.2	37.9	38.2	40.1	36.2	35.1	32.7	30.9	28.5	28.2
Hungary	28.2	29.6	29.9	31.5	33.5	34.8	31.8	28.2	26.3	25.6
Belgium	20.8	20.2	20.8	21.0	21.6	20.8	21.2	21.1	20.7	20.3
Denmark	16.3	17.6	18.3	17.6	17.5	18.3	17.9	17.7	16.7	17.2
Finland	17.4	16.9	16.9	17.9	17.2	16.0	17.3	16.8	16.6	15.7

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

**European Union - Statistics on Income and Living Conditions - EU-SILC** The Survey on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC) is part of a European Statistical Programme to which all Member States participate and which replaced in 2003 the European Household Panel Survey with a view of improving the quality of statistical data concerning poverty and social exclusion.

The basic aim of the survey is to study, both at national and European level, the households' living conditions mainly in relation to their income. This survey is the basic source for comparable statistics on income distribution and social exclusion at European level. The use of commonly accepted questionnaires, primary target variables and concepts – definitions ensures data comparability.

**Legal basis** The survey is in compliance with the Regulation (EC) No 1177/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning Community Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC) and is being conducted upon decision of the President of ELSTAT

**Income reference period** The income reference period is a fixed twelve-month period, namely the previous calendar year of the survey.

**Coverage** The survey covers all private households throughout the country irrespectively of their size or socio-economic characteristics. The following are excluded from the survey:

- Institutional households of all types (boarding houses, elderly homes, hospitals, prisons, rehabilitation centres, camps, etc.). Households with more than five lodgers are considered institutional households.
- Households with foreigners serving in diplomatic missions.

**Methodology** The survey is conducted under a simple rotational design, which was selected as the most suitable for a single cross-sectional and longitudinal survey. The final sampling unit is the household. The sampling units are the households and their members.

Every year the sample consists of 4 replications, which have been in the survey for 1-4 years. With the exception of the first three years of the survey, any particular replication remains in the survey for 4 years. Each year, one of the 4 replications from the previous year is dropped and a new one is added. In order to have a complete sample the first year of the survey, the four panels began simultaneously. For the EU-SILC longitudinal component, the people who were initially selected are interviewed for a period of four years, equal to the duration of each panel.

EU-SILC survey is based on a two-stage stratified sampling of households from a frame of sampling which has been created on the basis of the results of the 2011 population census and covers completely the reference population.

There are two levels of area stratification in the sampling design.

i) The first level is the geographical stratification based on the division of the total area of the country into thirteen (13) formal administrative regions corresponding to the European NUTS II level. The two major city agglomerations of Greater Athens area and Greater Thessalonica area constitute two separate major geographical strata.

ii) The second level of stratification entails grouping municipalities and communes within each NUTS II Region by degree of urbanization. i.e. according to their population size. The scaling of urbanization was finally designed in four groups:

- $\geq 30,000$  inhabitants
- 5,000-29,999 inhabitants
- 1,000-4,999 inhabitants
- 0-999 inhabitants

The sample of households is selected in two stages. At the first stage, from any ultimate stratum (crossing of Region with the degree of urbanization). -say stratum  $h$ ,  $n_h$  primary units were drawn; where the number  $n_h$  of draws was approximately proportional to the population size  $X_h$  of the stratum (number of households according to the 2011

population census as updated before the survey). At the second stage, from each primary sampling unit (selected area) the sample of ultimate units (households) is selected. Actually, in the second stage we draw a sample of dwellings. However, in most cases, there is one to one relation between household and dwelling. If the selected dwelling consists of one or more households, then all of them are interviewed.

**Sample size** In 2017, the survey was conducted on a final sample of 22,743 households and on 54,041 members of those households, 46,478 of them aged 16 years and over. The average household size was calculated at 2.4 members per household.

**Weightings** For the estimation of the survey characteristics, the data of each person and household of the sample were multiplied by a reductive factor. The reductive factor results as product of the following three factors (weights):

- a. The reverse probability of selection of the individual, that coincides with the reverse probability of selection of the household.
- b. the reverse of the response rate of households inside the strata.
- c. A corrective factor, which is determined in a way that:

i) The estimation of persons by gender and age groups that will result by geographic region (NUTSII) coincides with the corresponding number that was calculated with projection based on vital statistics (2011 population census, births. deaths. immigration) for the reference year of the survey.

ii) The estimation of the number of households by size class (1, 2, 3, 4 or 5+ members) and by tenure status coincides with the corresponding numbers calculated with projection based on the trend of the 2001 and 2011 population censuses for the reference year of the survey.

**Methodology for measuring poverty** According to the methodology for measuring poverty, the poverty line is calculated with its relative concept (poor in relation to others) and is defined at 60% of the median total equivalised disposable income of the household, using the modified OECD equivalised scale.

“Equivalent size” refers to the OECD modified scale, which gives a weight of 1.0 to the first adult of the household, 0.5 to other persons aged 14 or over and 0.3 to each child under 14 years of age.

Total equivalised disposable income of the household is considered the total net income (that is, income after taxes and social contributions) received by all household members.

More specifically the income components included in the survey are:

- Income from work
- Income from property
- Social transfers and pensions
- Monetary transfers from other households and
- Imputed income from the use of company car.

Income components, such as imputed rent from ownership-occupancy, indirect social transfers, income in kind and loan interest, are possible to influence significantly the results and are not included.

**Equivalised income** As equivalised disposable income of the individual is considered the total disposable income of household after being divided by the equivalent size of household. The equivalent size of household is calculated according to the modified scale of OECD.

It is pointed out that in the income distribution per person it is suggested that each member of the household possesses the same income, i.e. the equivalised disposable income of the household. This means that each member of the household enjoys the same level of living. Consequently, in the income distribution per person, the income that is attributed to each person does not represent wages but, actually, an indicator of the level of living.

The total disposable income of the household is calculated as the sum of incomes of all household members (income of employees, of self-employed persons, pensions,



benefits of unemployment, income related to real estate, family benefits, regular monetary transfers etc) that is to say, the total of net earnings coming from all the sources of income after the deduction of any transfers to other households. To this amount, any tax returns related to potential netting of income of the previous year, should also be added.

**Equivalence scale** Equivalent household size refers to the OECD modified scale which gives a weight of 1.0 to the first adult of the household, 0.5 to other persons aged 14 or over and 0.3 to each child under 14 years of age. Example: The income of a household with two adults and two children under 14 years is divided with a weight of  $(1+0.5+(2*0.3))=2.1$ , of household with two adults is divided with  $(1+0.5)=1.5$ , of a household with two adults and two children above 14 years is divided with  $(1+(3*0.5))=2.5$ , etc.

**Dependent children** Dependent children are considered all the children until the age of 16 years, as well as the children up to 24 years who are economically inactive (pupils, students, soldiers etc).

**Indicators**

*Main indicators*

1. At-risk-of-poverty rate (after social transfers)
  - 1a. At-risk-of-poverty rate by age and gender
  - 1b. At-risk-of-poverty rate by most frequent activity status and gender
  - 1c. At-risk-of-poverty rate by household type
  - 1d. At-risk-of-poverty rate by accommodation tenure status
  - 1e. At-risk-of-poverty rate by work intensity of the household
  - 1f. At-risk-of-poverty threshold (illustrative values)
2. Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap, by age and gender

*Secondary indicators*

3. Dispersion around the at-risk-of-poverty threshold
4. At-risk-of-poverty rate anchored at a moment in time (2008)
5. At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers
6. Mean equivalised disposable income

Indicators for "Europe 2020" strategy

**Indicators' definitions**

*1. At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers*

The "at-risk-of poverty rate after social transfers" is calculated as the percentage of persons (over the total population) with an equivalised disposable income below the 'at-risk of-poverty threshold' (60% of the median equivalised disposable income).

*2. Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap*

It is the difference between the median equivalised disposable income of persons below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold and the at-risk of poverty threshold itself, expressed as a percentage of the at-risk-of-poverty threshold.

*3. Dispersion around the at-risk-of-poverty threshold*

The percentage of persons, over the total population, with an equivalised disposable income below 40%, 50% and 70% of the national median equivalised disposable income.

*4. At-risk-of-poverty rate anchored at a moment in time, 2008*

For 2015 at-risk-of-poverty rate is calculated with 2008 at-risk-of-poverty threshold (inflated by the harmonised consumer price index of 2006-2015). It is defined as the percentage of the population whose equivalised total disposable income at a given year (2015) is below the risk-of-poverty threshold of an earlier year (2008) up-rated for inflation.

## 5. At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers

### 5.1. At-risk-of-poverty rate before all social transfers

The 'at-risk-of-poverty rate before all social transfers (neither other social benefits nor old-age and survivors' benefits are included) shows the percentage of persons (over the total population) having an equivalised disposable income before all social transfers below the national 'at risk- of-poverty threshold'.

Social benefits include the social assistance (i.e. the allowance of social solidarity for pensioners –EKAS, a lump sum amount for assistance to poor households in mountainous and disadvantageous areas, allowances to long-standing unemployed aged 45-65 etc), family, unemployment, sickness, disability, education, etc allowances as well as old age and survivors benefits.

### 5.2. At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers other than old age and survivors' benefits)

The 'at-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers other than old age and survivors' benefits (does not include other social benefits but does include old age and survivors' benefits) shows the percentage of persons (over the total population) having an equivalised disposable income before social transfers other than old age and survivors' benefits below the national 'at risk-of-poverty threshold'.

## 6. Mean equivalised disposable income

The mean equivalised disposable income is defined as the mean of the equivalised disposable income of all household members of the country.

## 7. Indicators for "Europe 2020" strategy

People at risk of poverty or social exclusion (*union of the three indicators below*)

(1) People at-risk-of-poverty after social transfers

(2) People living under severe material deprivation

This indicator is defined as the percentage of population with an enforced lack of at least four out of nine material deprivation items in the 'economic strain and durables' dimension.

The nine items considered are:

- Arrears on mortgage or rent payments, utility bills, hire purchase instalments or other loan payments
- Capacity to afford paying for one week's annual holiday away from home
- Capacity to afford a meal with meat, chicken, fish (or vegetarian equivalent) every second day
- Capacity to face unexpected but necessary expenses (about 384€)
- Household cannot afford a telephone (including mobile phone)
- Household cannot afford a colour TV
- Household cannot afford a washing machine
- Household cannot afford a car and
- Capacity to afford keeping home adequately warm during winter and cool during summer

(3) People living in households with very low work intensity

Percentage of population aged 0-59 living in households where their members worked less than 20% of the usual (expected) work potential during the previous year. The work intensity of the household is defined as the ratio of the number of months that all household members have been working during the income reference year to the total number of months that could have theoretically worked during the same period. A person is considered economically active when he/she is 18-59 years old. Households that consist only of pupils or students aged less than 25 years and/or people aged 60 years and over are not taken into account for the computation of the indicator.

**References** For further information on the survey please visit ELSTAT's webpage at

[Statistics on Income and Living Conditions \(EU-SILC\)](#)