



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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PRESS RELEASE

SOCIAL PROTECTION (provisional data)

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) announces, for the first time, data on social protection receipts and expenditures for the period 2012-2014 in the frame of the European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics (ESSPROS- Core system). ESSPROS is a harmonized system which is the tool that helps analyzing and comparing social protection financial flows at European and international level.

Social protection expenditures are recorded and presented at an aggregated and analytical level, by function, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 458/2007 of the European Parliament and the Council, governing the ESSPROS statistics. The data on social protection receipts and expenditure have been produced in line with a revised methodology on data collection and recording, which has been recently elaborated for national purposes.

In accordance with the survey methodology the social protection expenditures are allocated to eight (8) functions, namely disability, sickness/health care, old age, survivors, family/children, unemployment, housing and social exclusion. The biggest share of expenditures refers to “old age” benefits, which account for, approximately, half of the social protection expenditures. More specifically, expenditure on “old age” benefits ranges from 53.2% of total social protection expenditures in 2012 to 55.0% in 2014. In descending order, expenditures on “sickness/health care” benefits follow, ranging from 22.1% of total social protection expenditures in 2012 to 19.6% in 2014 and “survivors” expenditures, amounting from 9.6% in 2012 to 10.0% in 2014.

The comparison of expenditures by function in 2013 with the corresponding figures in 2012 indicates a decrease for all functions with two, only, exceptions, namely expenditures on family/children benefits, which increased by 9.5% and expenditures on social exclusion benefits, which increased by 3.2%.

Accordingly, a similar comparison between expenditure by function in 2014 and the corresponding expenditure in 2013 shows a decrease in the expenditure for all functions, excluding the expenditure on old age benefits for which no significant change is observed (0.8%).

It should be noticed that in 2014 a social dividend was granted amounting to 470 million euro, according to Law 4254/2014, which is not included in the functions depicted in the following tables. The distribution of this dividend to each function is going to be announced once the data are finalized.

Tables 2 to 8 present analytically the expenditure on social protection benefits by function and Table 9 depicts in detail social protection receipts.

Information

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Table 1. Social Protection Expenditures by function, 2012 – 2014 (in mio euros)

Functions	Benefits			Percentage distribution (%)			Percentage change (%)	
	2012	2013	2014	2012	2013	2014	2013/2012	2014/2013
Sickness	11,650	10,261	8,897	22.1	21.8	19.6	-11.9	-13.3
Disability	3,361	2,979	2,937	6.4	6.3	6.5	-11.4	-1.4
Old age	28,081	24,743	24,952	53.2	52.6	55.0	-11.9	0.8
Survivors	5,042	4,558	4,552	9.6	9.7	10.0	-9.6	-0.1
Family/Children	1,855	2,028	1,983	3.5	4.3	4.4	9.5	-2.4
Unemployment	2,641	2,352	1,938	5.0	5.0	4.3	-10.8	-17.6
Housing ¹	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Social exclusion	124	128	108	0.2	0.3	0.2	3.2	-15.6
Total	52,754	47,049	45,367	100.0	100.0	100.0	-10.8	-3.6

⁽¹⁾ Data regarding the Housing Function are not available and will be published by the finalization of the Social Protection Statistics

Graph 1. Distribution of Expenditures for Social Protection Benefits by function, year 2014

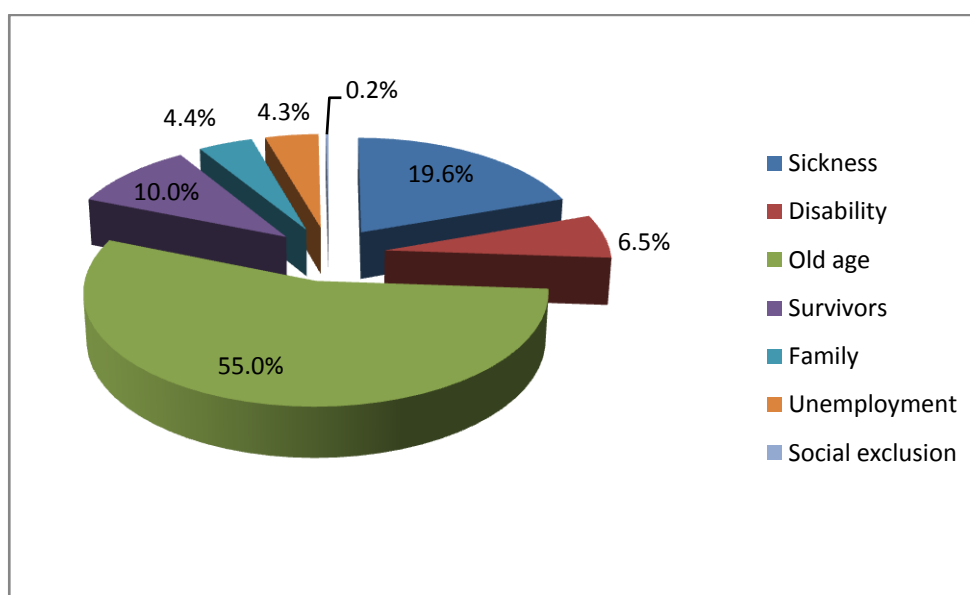


Table 2. Social Protection Benefits: Sickness (in mio euros)

	2012	2013	2014	Change 2013/2012	Change 2014/2013
Social Protection Benefits: Sickness	11,650	10,261	8,897	-1.9%	-13.3%
A. Non Means-tested	11,606	10,228	8,860	-11.9%	-13.4%
1. Cash benefits	472	434	428	-8.1%	-1.4%
i) Periodic	439	397	392	-9.8%	-1.3%
-Paid sick leave	380	334	330	-12.1%	-1.2%
-Other cash periodic benefits	59	63	62	6.8%	-1.6%
ii) Lump sum	33	38	36	15.2%	-5.3%
- Other cash lump sum benefits	33	38	36	15.2%	-5.3%
2. Benefits in kind	11,134	9,793	8,432	-12.1%	-13.9%
i) In-patient care	5,811	5,251	4,682	-9.6%	-10.9%
-Direct provision	5,726	5,151	4,601	-10.0%	-10.7%
-Reimbursement	85	100	81	17.6%	-19.0%
ii) Out-patient care	5,248	4,483	3,691	-14.6%	-17.6%
-Direct provision of pharmaceutical products	3,593	2,922	2,355	-18.7%	-19.4%
-Other direct provision	1,613	1,509	1,278	-6.4%	-15.3%
-Reimbursement of pharmaceutical products	0	0	0		
-Other reimbursement	42	52	58	23.8%	11.5%
-Other benefits in kind	75	59	59	-21.3%	0%
B. Means-tested	44	33	37	-25.0%	12.1%
1. Cash benefits	0	0	0		
2. Benefits in kind	44	33	37	-25.0%	12.1%

Table 3. Social Protection Benefits: Disability (in mio euros)

	2012	2013	2014	Change 2013/2012	Change 2014/2013
Social Protection Benefits: Disability	3,361	2,979	2,937	-11.4%	-1.4%
A. Non Means-tested	3,229	2,846	2,839	-11.9%	-0.2%
1. Cash benefits	3,200	2,833	2,826	-11.5%	-0.2%
i) Periodic	3,191	2,830	2,822	-11.3%	-0.3%
-Disability pension	2,439	2,156	2,103	-11.6%	-2.5%
-Care allowance	0	0	0		
-Economic integration of the handicapped	0	0	0		
-Other cash periodic benefits	752	674	719	-10.4%	6.7%
ii) Lump sum	9	3	5	-66.7%	66.7%
-Care allowance	0	0	0		
-Other cash lump sum benefits	9	3	5	-66.7%	66.7%
2. Benefits in kind	29	13	13	-55.2%	0.0%
- Accommodation	0	0	0		
- Assistance in carrying out daily tasks	0	0	0	0	
-Rehabilitation	29	13	13	-55.2%	0.0%
- Other benefits in kind	0	0	0	0	
B. Means-tested	132	133	98	0.8%	-26.3%
1. Cash benefits	111	102	71	-8.1%	-30.4%
2. Benefits in kind	21	31	27	47.6%	-12.9%

Table 4. Social Protection Benefits: Old-age (in mio euros)

	2012	2013	2014	Change 2013/2012	Change 2014/2013
Social Protection Benefits: Old Age	28,081	24,743	24,952	-11.9%	0.8%
A. Non Means-tested	27,361	24,191	24,466	-11.6%	1.1%
1. Cash benefits	27,361	24,191	24,466	-11.6%	1.1%
i) Periodic (old age pensions)	25,465	22,805	23,240	-10.4%	1.9%
ii) Lump sum	1,896	1,386	1,226	-26.9%	-11.5%
2. Benefits in kind	0	0	0		
B. Means-tested	720	552	486	-23.3%	-12.0%
1. Cash benefits	718	550	484	-23.4%	-12.0%
2. Benefits in kind	2	2	2	0.0%	0.0%

Table 5. Social Protection Benefits: Survivors (in mio euros)

	2012	2013	2014	Change 2013/2012	Change 2014/2013
Social Protection Benefits: Survivors	5,042	4,558	4,552	-9.6%	-0.1%
A. Non Means-tested	4,675	4,210	4,225	-9.9%	0.4%
1. Cash benefits	4,605	4,125	4,144	-10.4%	0.5%
i) Periodic	4,588	4,116	4,130	-10.3%	0.3%
-Survivors pension	4,588	4,116	4,130	-10.3%	0.3%
-Other cash periodic benefits	0	0	0		
ii) Lump sum	17	9	14	-47.1%	55.6%
- Other cash lump sum benefits	17	9	14	-47.1%	55.6%
2. Benefits in kind	70	85	81	21.4%	-4.7%
-Funeral expenses	70	85	81	21.4%	-4.7%
-Other benefits in kind	0	0	0		
B. Means-tested	367	348	327	-5.2%	-6.0%
1. Cash benefits	367	348	327	-5.2%	-6.0%
2. Benefits in kind	0	0	0		

Table 6. Social Protection Benefits: Family/Children (in mio euros)

	2012	2013	2014	Change 2013/2012	Change 2014/2013
Social Protection Benefits: Family/Children	1,855	2,028	1,983	9.3%	-2.2%
A. Non Means-tested	1,630	1,121	881	-31.2%	-21.4%
1. Cash benefits	1,615	1,113	870	-31.1%	-21.8%
i) Periodic	1,422	791	767	-44.4%	-3.0%
-Income maintenance in the event of childbirth	224	196	188	-12.5%	-4.1%
-Parental leave benefit	251	231	295	-8.0%	27.7%
-Family or child allowance	774	362	284	-53.2%	-21.5%
-Other cash periodic benefits	173	2	0	-98.8%	-100.0%
ii) Lump sum	193	322	103	66.8%	-68.0%
-Birth grant	46	24	5	-47.8%	-79.2%
-Other cash lump sum benefits	147	298	98	102.7%	-67.1%
2. Benefits in kind	15	8	11	-46.7%	37.5%
-Child day care	0	0	0		
-Other benefits in kind	15	8	11	-46.7%	37.5%
B. Means-tested	225	907	1,102	303.1%	21.5%
1. Cash benefits	47	716	936	1423.4%	30.7%
2. Benefits in kind	178	191	166	7.3%	-13.1%

Table 7. Social Protection Benefits: Unemployment (in mio euros)

	2012	2013	2014	Change 2013/2012	Change 2014/2013
Social Protection Benefits: Unemployment	2,641	2,352	1,938	-10.8%	-17.6%
A. Non Means-tested	2,612	2,281	1,888	-12.6%	-17.3%
1. Cash benefits	2,460	2,162	1,796	-12.1%	-16.9%
i) Periodic	1,446	1,083	803	-25.1%	-25.9%
ii) Lump sum	1,015	1,079	994	6.4%	-8.0%
2. Benefits in kind	152	119	92	-20.5%	-23.3%
B. Means-tested	28	71	50	153.6%	-29.6%

Table 8. Social Protection Benefits: Social Exclusion (in mio euros)

	2012	2013	2014	Change 2013/2012	Change 2014/2013
Social Protection Benefits: Social Exclusion	124	128	108	3.2%	-15.6%
A. Non Means-tested	0	0	0		
B. Means-tested	124	128	108	3.2%	-15.6%
1. Cash benefits	0	0	0		
2. Benefits in kind	124	128	108	3.2%	-15.6%

Table 9. Social Protection Receipts (in mio euros)

	2012	2013	2014	Change 2013/2012	Change 2014/2013
Total receipts	50,123	48,436	45,888	-3.4%	-5.3%
A. Social contributions	28,104	26,381	25,394	-6.1%	-3.7%
1. Employers social contributions	16,680	15,306	14,870	-8.2%	-2.8%
-Actual employers social contributions	9,280	8,433	7,894	-9.1%	-6.4%
-Imputed employers social contributions	7,400	6,873	6,976	-7.1%	1.5%
2. Social contributions by the protected persons	11,424	11,076	10,524	-3.0%	-5.0%
- Employees, pensioners and other	9,196	8,715	8,279	-5.2%	-5.0%
-Self-employed persons	2,228	2,361	2,245	6.0%	-4.9%
B. General government contributions	20,512	19,992	18,276	-2.5%	-8.6%
-Earmarked taxes	1,121	1,216	1,662	8.5%	36.7%
-General revenue	19,391	18,776	16,614	-3.2%	-11.5%
C. Other receipts	1,507	2,063	2,218	36.9%	7.5%

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Purpose of the survey	The purpose of this survey is to record and present data on social protection in Greece in accordance with the methodology of European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics (ESSPROS), so as to ensure comparability of the relevant data at European and international level.
Legal framework	Regulation (EC) 458/2007 of the European Parliament and the Council and the implementing Regulations (EC) 1322/2007 and 10/2008 of the Commission.

Coverage The survey covers Greece total.

Primary data used for the ESSPROS statistics derive from various sources (administrative data, surveys, etc) and are collected from agencies, such the Social Security Funds, EOPYY (National Organisation for the Provision of Health Services), OAED (Manpower Employment Organization), the General Secretariat of Information Systems and the General Accounting Office of the Ministry of Finance, the National Accounts Division of ELSTAT, private insurance companies, the Ministry of Labour, the Church of Greece, etc. The vast majority of these data are census data.

The basic unit in the ESSPROS system is the social protection scheme. The system constitutes a separate set of rules which is supported by one or more institutional units and which governs the provision of social protection benefits and their financing.

In Greece there are 19 social protection schemes as follows:

1. Basic and supplementary pensions by Social Security Funds
2. Lump sum pension benefits provided by Social Security Funds
3. Civil servants' main pension benefits
4. Pensioners Social Solidarity Benefit (non-contributory pensions)
5. Benefits for accidents at work and occupational diseases
6. Sickness, maternity and other benefits by Social Security Funds
7. Health care benefits
8. Unemployment benefits
9. Non-contributory Family benefits
10. Optional occupational insurance
11. Mandatory occupational insurance
12. Local Government
13. Housing benefits
14. Other Central Government social protection benefits
15. Social Assistance benefits (mostly housing)
16. Church and other NGOs
17. Employer's statutory benefits provided in the Private Sector
18. Employer's provided statutory benefits provided to the Civil Servants
19. Private insurance benefits provided by employers to employees through group insurance policies.

The methodology for recording the receipts and expenditures is described in the relevant manual of Eurostat which is available at the following link:

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-manuals-and-guidelines/-/KS-RA-12-014>

Definitions

Social Protection encompasses all interventions from public or private bodies intended to relieve households and individuals from the burden of a defined set of risks or needs, provided that there is neither a simultaneous reciprocal nor an individual arrangement involved.

The functions, i.e. the risks or needs, that may give rise to social protection, are as follows:

- **Sickness/medical care:** a) benefits in cash that counterbalance in part or in total the income loss which is due to the temporary inability of a person to work which is due to sickness or injury, b) health care that is provided in the context of social protection in order to maintain, restore or improve the health of the protected persons.
- **Disability:** a) benefits that ensure income to individuals which have not yet reach retirement age stipulated by law and which do not have the ability to provide employed labour due to a physical or mental damage, b) benefits that provide for rehabilitation services required by the very nature of the specific disability, c) benefits that provide goods and services besides medical coverage to persons with disabilities.
- **Old age :** a) benefits that ensure income provision to the insured persons that leave the labour market due to age, b) benefits that ensure the provision of a specific level of income to insured persons that have reached a specified age limit c) benefits that provide goods and services required by the personal or social conditions of the elderly.
- **Survivors:** a) benefits that ensure a temporary or permanent income to individuals that have not yet reached the legal limit of retirement but have lost a husband or some other close relative that provided the financial means for them, b) benefits that remunerate survivors for funeral expenses and for any adverse situation they find themselves into because of a death incident of a member of their family, c) benefits that provide goods and services to survivors that have establish a claim towards these benefits
- **Family/children:** a) benefits that provide financial support to households for children's nutritional needs, b) benefits that provide financial support to individuals that maintain relatives excluding children, c) benefits that provide for social services aiming especially to the support and protection of family and especially of children.
- **Unemployment:** a) benefits that replace in part or in total the income lost of an employed person because of the loss of his remunerated employment, b) benefits that ensure subsistence income to persons that are introduced for the first or additional time to the labour market, c) benefits that counterbalance the income loss due to partial unemployment, d) benefits that replace in part or in total the income loss of an older employed person who is retired from remunerated employment before the completion of the legal retirement age due to redundancies to employment positions for economic reasons, e) benefits that contribute to educational expenses or to the supplementary education of persons that seek employment, f) benefits that provide support to unemployed persons in the coverage

or travel expenses or to their relocation in order to find employment, g) benefits for the provision of proper goods and services.

- **Housing:** the specific function consists of Government interventions aiming at supporting households in order to cope with their housing needs. .
- **Social exclusion:** refers to 'socially excluded' or to those who face the risk of social exclusion and includes actions that are not covered by any other function. Since this definition is wide enough, target groups are mainly the homeless, immigrants, refugees, drug-addicts or alcoholics, victims of criminal acts etc.

References

More information on receipts and expenditures of Social Protection can be found on the website of ELSTAT for the period 2000-2014 under the theme: Population and Social Conditions and more specifically at the following link:

<http://www.statistics.gr/el/statistics/-/publication/SHE24/->