



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE



**GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF  
THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE  
OF GREECE**

# **SHORT-TERM STATISTICS**

**NATIONAL METHODOLOGY**

**Services employment (2007)<sup>1</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> This is part of the STS Sources Update 2007, which was sent to Eurostat.

# GREECE

## Services employment (2007)

### Base information

#### Contact

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### The Data: coverage, periodicity and timeliness

#### Coverage characteristics

**Activities covered**

According to the STS- Regulations data has to be transmitted for 50,51,55,72 and 74. Section I.

**Geographical area covered**

The geographical coverage of the survey is the whole Greece.

**Size classes covered**

All size classes are covered.

**Other inclusions or exclusions**

None

**Reporting unit**

Enterprise

**Observation unit(s)**

Enterprise

**Planned changes in the population surveyed**

None planned.

#### Periodicity

According to the STS-R, the reference period is the quarter . Therefore data collection is quarterly.

#### Timeliness

The Number of persons employed in other services should be published as following: 60 days after the end of the reference quarter for. When published, data are considered final.

#### Access by the public

**Advance dissemination of release calendar**

Release dates are fixed in advance for a calendar year. Precise dates of release are published by NSSG before the end of each year for the forthcoming calendar year. The calendar is distributed to the press and is available to all interested parties.

This calendar with information on release dates for the whole year is also available on the official website of the NSSG ([www.statistics.gr](http://www.statistics.gr)) under the item "Calendar of Press Releases".

**Simultaneous release to all interested parties**

No users or anyone else outside NSSG have prior access to the data before its general release.

Data is released simultaneously to all interested parties through a special table, which is posted on the official NSSG website([www.statistics.gr](http://www.statistics.gr)), according to the release calendar schedule. This table is also available by fax or e-mail to all interested parties. In addition data is

transmitted to Eurostat on the pre-announced day of release. According to the release calendar data is transmitted to Eurostat at the same time of national publication.

## **Integrity**

### ***Dissemination of terms and conditions under which official statistics are produced, including confidentiality of individual responses***

The National Statistical Service of Greece is a public agency, supervised by the Ministry of Economy and Finance, responsible for the conduct and dissemination of official statistics. Provision has been made in specific articles of the Foundation Law 3627/56 and of the Law 2392/96 so as to assure confidentiality of individual data. These laws govern all individual statistics collected by the NSSG. According to the above laws, individual data are subject to confidentiality and cannot be published or made available to any person or organization. Principles of methodology as well as data dissemination can be freely determined by the NSSG, taking into account international practices and, in particular, existing Eurostat recommendations, instructions and norms related to the corresponding statistical item.

### ***Identification of internal government access to data before release***

There is no governmental access to data before its release.

### ***Identification of ministerial commentary on the occasion of statistical releases***

No ministerial commentary is attached to the data released by NSSG.

### ***Provision of information about revision and advance notice of major changes in methodology***

There is a formal revision policy. The index is revised every five years according to STS requirements. Major changes in methodology of the Services Employment, are provided through a special publication at the completion of the entire procedure of the revision simultaneously with the first release of the revised data.

The above revision as it was said takes place every 5 years accompanying the re-basing of the index and the re-adaptation of the weighting system. For these major changes in methodology the public is informed in all relevant publications at the time they are introduced.

## **Quality**

### ***Dissemination of documentation on methodology and sources used in preparing statistics***

A special methodological document is published containing detailed information on the sources and the methodology used. This can be found at the official website of the NSSG ([www.statistics.gr](http://www.statistics.gr)).

### ***Dissemination of information that support statistical cross-checks and provide assurance of reasonableness***

No such information is disseminated.

## **Dissemination**

### ***Name of national paper publications***

Not applicable as at present there is only electronic dissemination.

### ***Name of national electronic dissemination***

Every three months, around at present around 75 days after the end of the reference quarter, the Division of Population and Labour Market Statistics / Wages and Salaries statistics section of NSSG draws up a table on the newly calculated Labour Input Indicators in Greek and English. This table is available on the NSSG's website <http://www.statistics.gr>.

### ***Description of standard tables produced***

Data is presented in the form of indices.

Indices are published only at 2-digit level in a gross and working day adjusted form.

### ***Planned changes in national dissemination methods***

None currently planned.

# Summary methodology

## Analytical framework, concepts, definitions and classifications

### **Type of source**

NSSG uses direct statistical survey in order to compile the Services Employment. This statistical survey covers Section

### **Name of indicator/source**

Services Employment:

Number of persons employed(210)

Hours worked(220)

Gross Wages and Salaries(230).

### **Legal basis**

1)General NSSG Legislation: Decree 3627/56 and Law 2392/96, governing the organisation of the National Statistical Service of Greece and the obligation of respondents to supply data and safeguard the confidentiality of data.

2)Eurostat legislation:The legal basis for the STS indices is Council Regulation No 1165/98 of 19 May 1998 concerning short-term statistics (STS-R) and Regulation (EC) No 1158/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 July 2005 amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1165/98. The definitions of short-term statistics variables are laid down in Commission Regulation No 588/2001 of 26 March 2001 implementing Council Regulation No 1165/98 of 19 May 1998 and in the Commission Regulation 1503/2006. The derogations of STS-R are laid down in the Commission Regulation 606/2001 and in the Commission Regulation 1502/2006.

### **Obligation on units to provide data**

Decree 3627/56 and Law 2392/96. Fines may be imposed on non-respondents but they are not applied in practice.

### **Date of first use as a source**

2005

### **Reference year of this report**

2007.

### **Register on which the source is based**

NSSG Business Register

### **Planned changes in legal basis, obligation to respond and register used**

None planned.

### **Questionnaires used in the survey**

A unique pre-codified quarterly questionnaire is used for the collection of data .

### **Planned changes in national questionnaires**

None.

### **List and definition of variables**

According the methodological manual as following:

- Number of persons employed (210)

The objective of the index of the Number of Persons Employed is to show the development of employment in Services.

The number of persons employed is defined according STS methodology as the total number of persons who work in the observation unit (inclusive of working proprietors, partners working regularly in the unit and unpaid family workers), as well as persons who work outside the unit who belong to it and are paid by it (e.g. sales representatives, delivery personnel, repair and maintenance teams). It includes persons absent for a short period (e.g. sick leave, paid leave or special leave), and also those on strike, but not those absent for an indefinite period. It also includes part-time workers who are regarded as such under the laws of the country concerned and who are on the payroll, as well as seasonal workers, apprentices and home workers on the payroll.

The number of persons employed excludes manpower supplied to the unit by other enterprises, persons carrying out repair and maintenance work in the observation unit on behalf of other enterprises, as well as those on compulsory military service.

Unpaid family workers refer to persons who live with the proprietor of the unit and work regularly for the unit, but do not have a contract of service and do not receive a fixed sum for the work they perform. This is limited to those persons who are not included on the payroll of another unit as their principal occupation.

According to this definition, the groups included are:

- all paid employees, including the following categories as long as they are included on the payroll:
  - home workers,
  - apprentices / trainees,
  - paid working proprietors and paid family workers,
  - persons on temporary leave (maternity, sickness leave, strike, lock-out, etc.) for a definite period,
  - part time workers,
  - temporary workers,
  - seasonal workers,
- unpaid persons employed:
  - unpaid working proprietors (owners),
  - unpaid family workers.

The groups excluded are:

- agency workers (except for the activity in which such employment agencies are classified),
- persons on indefinite leave (e.g. long term sickness, military service or social service),
- persons carrying out repair or maintenance work on behalf of other observation units and other staff borrowed from other observation units,
- family workers included on the payroll of another unit as their principal occupation.

***Planned changes in information collected***

None planned.

**Scope of the data**

***Activities covered***

According to the STS- Regulations data has to be transmitted for 50,51,55,72 and 74. Section I.

***Geographical area covered***

The geographical coverage of the survey is the whole Greece.

***Size classes covered***

All size classes are covered.

***Other inclusions or exclusions***

None

***Reporting unit***

Enterprise

***Observation unit(s)***

Enterprise

***Planned changes in the population surveyed***

None planned.

**Accounting conventions**

Data collected refers to employment during the calendar quarter period.

**Nature of the basic data**

***Data collection media***

Data is collected by a postal questionnaire.

***Timetable of data collection***

Questionnaires are sent to the enterprises at the end of the reference quarter asking for a reply within 20 days. The survey closes in t+71 days.

***Sample or census***

For the purpose of the complete survey not only for industry and Construction but also for Services, a sample of enterprises was selected. The method of one – stage stratified sampling was applied in the survey, considering the enterprise as the survey unit.

The sampling frame was based on data coming from the register of enterprises compiled by administrative sources (Social Insurance Foundation).

***Criteria for stratification***

The enterprises included in the survey were stratified as follows:

- By economic activity (two – digit NACE Rev.1 code)
- By the size of enterprises. The enterprises were stratified into 6 size classes determined by their average annual employment as presented below:

Size class h	Number of employees
1	1-9
2	10-49
3	50-249
4	250-499
5	500-999
6	1000+

#### **Threshold**

#### **values and percentages**

The total sample size for the complete survey that includes industry, Industrial services was 1.500 enterprises (sampling rate = 0.77%).

All the enterprises are surveyed on a sample basis while the distribution of sampling units in each division of all geographical regions was conducted by applying the optimal allocation method.

The enterprises belonging to the 6<sup>th</sup> size class were surveyed exhaustively.

#### **Frequency of updating the sample**

#### **Response rate**

The response rate depends on the size of the firm. The response rates are higher when measured by value covered than by number of units.

#### **Actions to speed up or increase the rate of response**

There is a telephone follow up of non-respondents, while personal interviews can be used too.

#### **Frequency of data collection**

Data is collected quarterly.

#### **Planned changes in data collection methodology**

None planned.

### **Compilation practices**

#### **Estimates for non-response**

Non-response is treated by using results of previous periods.

#### **Estimates for grossing-up**

Not applicable

#### **Confrontation with other data sets**

Regular crosschecks are made with information from the other surveys.

Comparison is done with Services and Labour Force Survey.

#### **Type of index :Simple chain index as follows:**

For each division (division= two-digit economic activity)

$y$  : the value of variable  $y$  (employment, wages, hours worked)

$N$  : the total number of enterprises belonging to stratum  $h$

$n_{kh}$  : the number of the respondent enterprises

$\alpha_{kh}$  : the extrapolation factor

$Y$  : the total for variable  $y$  of all enterprises in stratum  $h$  for the quarter  $q$

$Y$  : the total for all enterprises in all strata belonging to division  $k$

The estimation of  $Y_{kq}$  is calculated as follows:

Estimation of the index

The base year is the year 2000 (2000=100) and the index is computed by the formula:

$$I_{kq} = I$$

For the first quarter of the base year 2000 the index was calculated as follows:

$$I = \frac{Y_{k,0}}{Y_{tot,0}}, \text{ where } Y_{k,0} =$$

For the aggregated index the next formulas were applied:

$$I = \frac{\sum I_{kq} W_k}{\sum W_k}, \text{ where } W_k = \text{ and}$$

$Y_{k,0}$  : the total annual values of  $y_{k,0}$ , obtained from the structural business surveys with reference year 2000

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#### **Calculations made**

Working day adjustment is also applied to the collected data. The correction for the working days is done by taking into account the number of working days in the reference quarter. The method used for WDA is the proportional method according to the following procedure:

Greece classified the KAUs into groups according to the days these KAUs operate every quarter. For Industrial, there is only one group of KAUs, those that belong into enterprises that operate only in official working days because only in official working days function the enterprises.

Then, for this group, for each quarter and for each year, Greece calculates the working day adjustment.

NSSG applies working day adjustment (WDA) to the collected data but does not apply any seasonal adjustment method to the collected data.

Verification of data: Data is validated by comparing responses with the data for the corresponding quarter of the previous year of the same enterprise. Direct communication with the establishment follows up on detected outliers.

#### **Base year**

2005

#### **Method of weighting**

For the aggregated index the next formulas were applied:

$$I_{tot} = \frac{\sum I_{kq} W_k}{\sum W_k}, \text{ where } W_k = \frac{Y_{k,0}}{Y_{tot,0}} \text{ and}$$

$Y_{k,0}$  : the total annual values of  $y_{k,0}$ , obtained from the structural business surveys with reference year 2000

$$\hat{Y}_{tot,0} = \sum \hat{Y}_{k,0}$$

***Planned changes in production methods***

None planned.

**Other aspects**

***Summary description of quality criteria calculated for national purposes***

None specific.

***Costs of data collection***

According the results of the 2006 cost and burden survey it is estimated that there are needed 2694 human hours of work for the permanent staff for the Services Employment of STS regulation for one year for the NSSG.

***Treatment of confidential data***

Not applicable. The reporting is done at the 2-digit level of NACE Rev.1. At these levels the data is not considered confidential.

***Transmission to Eurostat and further use of the statistics***

Data is transmitted to Eurostat at the time of the national publication, that is for the time being 75 days after the end of the reference quarter, using the GESMES coding system taking into account the special cases for Other Services via GENEDI. Data can be presented either in its gross form or in a working day adjusted form.