

Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS)

Country: Greece

Compiling agency: ELSTAT

Domain name: ESTIMATED POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

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2. Introduction [Top](#)

The survey of Vital Statistics is exhaustive whereas estimation methods are used for the migratory movements.

3. Metadata update [Top](#)

3.1 Metadata last certified	4.7.2014
3.2 Metadata last posted	4.7.2014
3.3 Metadata last update	4.7.2014

4. Statistical presentation [Top](#)

4.1 Data description

This sector includes Vital Statistics of population (Weddings, Births, Deaths, cohabitation agreements) during the reference year and estimated resident population at the middle and at the end of the reference year. The key variables per event are: age, sex, marital status, citizenship, place of birth, place of residence, place of incident (region, regional unity, municipality), education level, occupation, causes of death, etc. Moreover, it includes demographic indicators (nuptiality, natality, ageing and mortality), as well as life tables and population projections. The sources of data are the administrative records (registries).

4.2 Classification system

Geographical classification: 6-digit Geographical Division of the country "KAPODISTRIAS 2009" and from 2013 onwards, 8-digit Geographical Division of the country "KALLIKRATIS",
Classification of Occupations: 2-digit STEP '92 and from 2013 onwards, 2-digit ISCO 08
Classification of education: National classifications and from 2013 onwards, ISCED
Classification of diseases: 4-digit ICD 09 and from 2014 onwards, 4-digit ICD 10
Classification of religion: National classifications
Classification of citizenship: 2-digit National classification

4.3 Sector coverage

Vital Statistics – Estimated Population

4.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

"Birth" is the birth of a child which breathes or shows any other evidence of life, regardless of gestational age.
"Death" is the permanent disappearance of all evidence of vital functions, at any time after birth.
"Stillbirth" is the fetal death regardless of the duration of pregnancy.
"Neonatal death" is death occurring among live births during the first 28 days of life.
"Parity" is the number of previous live births or stillbirths.
"Underlying cause of death" is the disease or injury which initiated the train of morbid events leading directly to death, or the circumstances of the accident or violence which produced the fatal injury.
"Citizenship" is the particular legal bond between an individual and their own state, gained by birth

or naturalization, whether it is by declaration, choice, marriage or other means in accordance with national law.

"Resident" is the 'usual resident' in the place where a person normally spends the daily period of rest, regardless of temporary absences, for a period of at least 12 months.

"Country / place of birth" is the country / place of residence (within current borders, if information is available) of the mother at the time of birth or, if not existed, the country (within current borders, if information is available) in which the birth took place.

"Neonatal mortality" The ratio of deaths of infants under the age of 28 days during the reference year to the number of live births in the same year. The ratio is expressed per 1,000 live births.

"Infant mortality" The ratio of deaths of infants under one year of age during the reporting year to the number of live births in the same year. The ratio is expressed per 1,000 live births.

"Perinatal mortality" The ratio of deaths of infants under the age of one week and stillbirths during the reference year to the number of births (stillbirths included) in the same year. The ratio is expressed per 1,000 births.

"Life expectancy at birth" The average number of years that an infant is expected to live if subject to current mortality conditions throughout its life (specific probabilities of death according to age).

"Ageing index" The ratio of youth population (aged 0-14 years old) to senile population (aged 65 years old and over).

"Total fertility rate" The mean number of children that would be born alive to a woman during her lifetime if she were to pass through her childbearing years conforming to the fertility rates by age of a given year. The total fertility rate is also used to indicate the replacement level fertility; in more developed countries, a rate of 2.1 is considered to be replacement level.

"Total Marriage rate" The number of Marriages conducted per population of 1000 residents.

"Age dependency rate" The ratio of economically inactive population (aged 0-14 and 65+ years old) to the economically active population (aged 15-64 years old).

4.5 Statistical unit

Individuals

4.6 Statistical population

The usual resident population regardless of where the events took place

4.7 Reference area

At national level: Total Geographical country
Geographical Level of data analysis: Municipality

4.8 Time coverage

Since 1956.

4.9 Base period

Non applicable.

5. Unit of measure

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Number of individuals

6. Reference period

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Calendar year

7. Institutional mandate

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7.1 Legal acts and other agreements

The legal framework concerning the organization and operation of ELSTAT is as follows:

- **Law 3832/2010** (Government Gazette No 38, Issue A): "Hellenic Statistical System Establishment of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) as an Independent Authority", as amended by article 90 paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Law 3842/2010 (Government Gazette No 58, Issue A): "Restoration of fiscal justice, confrontation of tax evasion and other provisions", by article 10 of the Law 3899/2010 (Government Gazette No 212, Issue A): "Urgent measures for the implementation of the assistance program of the Greek Economy", by article 45 of the Law 3943/2011 (Government Gazette No 66, Issue A): "Combating tax evasion, staffing of auditing services and other provisions falling within the competence of the Ministry of Finance", by article 22 paragraph 1 of the Law 3965/2011 (Government Gazette No 113, Issue A): "Operations Reform of the Consignment and Loan Fund, Public Debt Management Agency, Public Enterprises and Government bodies, the establishment of the General Secretary of Public Property and other provisions", by article first of the Law 4047/2012 (Government Gazette No 31, Issue A): "Ratification of the Act of Legislative Content "Very urgent measures for the implementation of the Medium-term Fiscal Strategy 2012-2015 and of the State Budget for 2011" and of the Act of Legislative Content "Regulation of very urgent issues for the implementation of law 4024/2011 "Pension provisions, uniform pay scale - grading system, labour reserve and other provisions for the implementation of the Medium-term Fiscal Strategy Framework 2012-2015" and of issues falling within the competence of the Ministries of Administrative Reform and E-Governance, Interior, Finance, Environment, Energy and Climate Change, and of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs and related to the implementation of the Medium-term Fiscal Strategy Framework 2012-2015" and other provisions", by article 323 of the Law 4072/2012 (Government Gazette No 86, Issue A): "Improvement of the business environment New corporate form - Trade Marks - Realtors - Regulating maritime, port and fishing matters and other provisions" and by article 7 paragraph 1 of the Act of Legislative Content dated 18/11/2012 (Government Gazette No 228, Issue A): "Financial rules and other provisions", by Article 93 of the Law 4182/2013 (Government Gazette No 185, Issue A): "*Code of charitable estate, inheritances in abeyance and other provisions*", by Article 6 paragraph 8 of the Law 4244/2014 (Government Gazette 60, Issue A): "*Integration in Greek law of the Council Directive 2013/1/EU of 20 December 2012 amending Directive 93/109/EC as regards certain detailed arrangements for the exercise of the right to vote and stand as a candidate in elections to the European Parliament for citizens of the Union residing in a Member State of which they are not nationals and amendment of law 2196/1994 (A' 41) and other provisions*", by Article first subparagraph C.3 of the Law 4254/2014 (Government Gazette No 85, Issue A): "*Measures for the support and development of the Greek economy, in the context of the implementation of Law 4046/2012, and other provisions of law*" and by Article 33, paragraphs 5a and 5b of the Law 4258/2014 (Government Gazette No 94, Issue A): "*Demarcation process and arrangements of matters for streams - arrangements of Urban Planning legislation and other provisions*".
- **Regulation on the Operation and Administration of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT)**, 2012, (Government Gazette No 2390, Issue B, 28-8-2012)
- **Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council**, on the European statistics (Official Journal of the European Union L 87/164).
- **Article 14 of the Law 3470/2006** (Government Gazette No 132, Issue A): "*National Export*

Council, tax regulations and other provisions”.

- **Article 3, paragraph 1c, of the Law 3448/2006** (Government Gazette No 57, Issue A): *“For the further use of information coming from the public sector and the settlement of matters falling within the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization”.*
- **European Statistics Code of Practice**, adopted by the Statistical Programme Committee on 24 February 2005 and promulgated in the Commission Recommendation of 25 May 2005 on the independence, integrity and accountability of the national and Community statistical Authorities, after its revision, which was adopted on 28 September 2011 by the European Statistical System Committee.
- **Presidential Decree 226/2000** (Government Gazette No 195, Issue A): *“Organization of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece”.*
- **Articles 4, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of the Law 2392/1996** (Government Gazette No 60, Issue A): *“Access of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece to administrative sources and administrative files, Statistical Confidentiality Committee, settlement of matters concerning the conduct of censuses and statistical works, as well as of matters of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece”.*

7.2 Data sharing

Data are sent to international organisations (i.e. Vital Statistics to O.E.C.D., U.N.O., number and causes of death to WHO etc)

8. Confidentiality

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8.1 Confidentiality policy

- The issues concerning the observance of statistical confidentiality by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) are arranged by articles 7, 8 and 9 of the Law 3832/2010 as in force, by Articles 8, 10 and 11(2) of the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System and by Articles 10 and 15 of the Regulation on the Operation and Administration of ELSTAT.

More precisely:

- ELSTAT disseminates the statistics in compliance with the statistical principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice and in particular with the principle of statistical confidentiality.

8.2 Confidentiality – data treatment

- ELSTAT protects and does not disseminate data it has obtained or it has access to, which enable the direct or indirect identification of the statistical units that have provided them by the disclosure of individual information directly received for statistical purposes or indirectly supplied from administrative or other sources. ELSTAT takes all appropriate preventive measures so as to render impossible the identification of individual statistical units by technical or other means that might reasonably be used by a third party. Statistical data that could potentially enable the identification of the statistical unit are disseminated by ELSTAT if and only if:

- a) these data have been treated, as it is specifically set out in the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System (ELSS), in such a

- way that their dissemination does not prejudice statistical confidentiality or
- b) the statistical unit has given its consent, without any reservations, for the disclosure of data.
- The confidential data that are transmitted by ELSS agencies to ELSTAT are used exclusively for statistical purposes and the only persons who have the right to have access to these data are the personnel engaged in this task and appointed by an act of the President of ELSTAT.
 - ELSTAT may grant researchers conducting statistical analyses for scientific purposes access to data that enable the indirect identification of the statistical units concerned. The access is granted provided the following conditions are satisfied:
 - a) an appropriate request together with a detailed research proposal in conformity with current scientific standards have been submitted;
 - b) the research proposal indicates in sufficient detail the set of data to be accessed, the methods of analyzing them, and the time needed for the research;
 - c) a contract specifying the conditions for access, the obligations of the researchers, the measures for respecting the confidentiality of statistical data and the sanctions in case of breach of these obligations has been signed by the individual researcher, by his/her institution, or by the organization commissioning the research, as the case may be, and by ELSTAT.
 - Issues referring to the observance of statistical confidentiality are examined by the Statistical Confidentiality Committee (SCC) operating in ELSTAT. The responsibilities of this Committee are to make recommendations to the President of ELSTAT on:
 - the level of detail at which statistical data can be disseminated, so as the identification, either directly or indirectly, of the surveyed statistical unit is not possible;
 - the anonymization criteria for the microdata provided to users;
 - the granting to researchers access to confidential data for scientific purposes.
 - The staff of ELSTAT, under any employment status, as well as the temporary survey workers who are employed for the collection of statistical data in statistical surveys conducted by ELSTAT, who acquire access by any means to confidential data, are bound by the principle of confidentiality and must use these data exclusively for the statistical purposes of ELSTAT. After the termination of their term of office, they are not allowed to use these data for any purpose.
 - Violation of data confidentiality and/or statistical confidentiality by any civil servant or employee of ELSTAT constitutes the disciplinary offence of violation of duty and may be punished with the penalty of final dismissal.
 - ELSTAT, by its decision, may impose a penalty amounting from ten thousand (10,000) up to two hundred thousand (200,000) euros to anyone who violates the confidentiality of data and/or statistical confidentiality. The penalty is always imposed after the hearing of the defense of the person liable for the breach, depending on the gravity and the repercussions of the violation. Any relapse constitutes an aggravating factor for the assessment of the administrative sanction.

9. Release policy	Top
9.1 Release calendar	
Monthly provisional figures are announced 7 months after the end of the reference month (Based on the month of entry). Annual data is announced 10 months after the reference year (based on the year event).	
9.2 Release calendar access	
http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/BUCKET/General/release_calendar_en.pdf	
9.3 User access	

Data is available simultaneously to all interested parties in accordance with the calendar announcements through press releases and posting tables on the website <http://www.statistics.gr> in the link Statistical Themes>Population>Vital statistics and also Statistical Themes>Population>Indices. Equal access of users to the data is covered by Eurostat's European Statistics Code of Practice respecting professional independence and in an objective, professional and transparent manner by which all users are treated with equality. There is no access to the data by any user before the announcement.

10. Frequency of dissemination

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Annually

11. Dissemination format

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11.1 Press release

Usually, the press release regarding Vital Statistics is announced at the end of September, each year.

11.2 Publications

- A special edition containing the main results of the Vital Statistics survey is published each year.
- Monthly Statistical Bulletin (provisional data).
Statistical Yearbook of Greece.

11.3 On-line database

www.statistics.gr (http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/PAGE-database/custom_database?user_param=A1605)

11.3.1 Data tables - consultations

To be completed

11.4 Micro-data access

Non applicable

11.5 Other

Users can have access to ELSTAT's digital library through the link :

<http://dlib.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/>.

Moreover tables can be found using the following link :

http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/PAGE-themes?p_param=A1605 και

http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/PAGE-themes?p_param=A1699

as well as Eurostat' web

site :http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/statistics/search_database.

Finally there is the possibility of providing data (usually via fax or e-mail) upon request to the Department of Data Provision or to the Population and Labour Force Division-Department of Vital and Migration Statistics. In that case demands can be addressed to the following e-mails :

data.dissem@statistics.gr και data.supply@statistics.gr, k.voulgaris@statistics.gr.

11.5.1 Metadata – consultations

To be completed

12. Accessibility of documentation

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12.1 Documentation on methodology

Basic methodological information on the survey (in Greek) is included in the survey's guidelines, posted on the website of ELSTAT, at:
http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/BUCKET/A1605/Other/A1605_SPO18_MT_AN_00_2002_00_2002_01_F_BI.pdf

Sufficient documentation can also be found in Eurostat's methodological note : «Working paper 3/2003/E/n. 25 "Demographic statistics: [Definitions and methods](#) of collection in 31 European Countries".»

12.1.1 Metadata completeness - rate

12.2 Quality documentation

All rational and numeral safeguarding quality checks are being performed.

13. Quality management

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13.1 Quality assurance

Comparative checks are being performed. ELSTAT 's Quality Policy and Quality Guidelines are applied. <http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/PAGE-codepractice>

13.2 Quality assessment

Very good. The output data is highly accurate for this statistic has been compiled since 1956 and therefore there is long time experience. Furthermore, concepts, definitions and methodology follow European and international standards and guidelines.

14. Relevance

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14.1 User needs

The main data users are researchers (university community, international organizations, research centers etc.), Ministries and journalists.
 User requirements are mainly time series for different variables of population and causes of death.

14.2 User satisfaction

<http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/PAGE-conferences>

14.3 Completeness

Data covers the 95% of the user requirements. All the obligations arising from the regulations of the European Union are met.

15. Accuracy and reliability

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15.1 Overall accuracy

To ensure the accuracy of the data, cross checking of data received at the end of each year from other sources, is being performed: In order to control the total number of marriages, data is compiled on the number of marriage licenses issued by the Cathedrals (political, religious or other religions). To control the total number of births, data is being compiled by the number of male-registered, held on Prefectures.

15.2 Sampling error

Non applicable because the survey is exhaustive and data of the whole population under survey is

being recorded.

15.3 Non-sampling error

Due to the nature of the data (administrative sources) non-sampling errors that may occur relate only to measurement errors and processing errors. The detection is achieved through detailed checks both from administrative sources and from the ELSTAT. Normally all registrars disseminate the data, the coders are experienced and relevant data has primarily been checked.

15.3.1 Coverage error

n.a.

15.3.1.1 A2 Over-coverage – rate

n.a.

15.3.1.2 A3 Common units – proportion

n.a.

15.3.2 Measurement error

This kind of error can be due to wrong information provided in some variables from the questionnaires researched units or administrative records and can be corrected after communication with relevant bodies.

15.3.3 Non response error

n.a.

15.3.4 Processing error

This error relates to incorrect values on data entry or incorrect results when processing, which are detected and corrected by performing logical checks and audits on the annual changes.

15.3.5 Model assumption error

n.a.

16. Timeliness and punctuality

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16.1 Timeliness

Monthly provisional figures are announced 215 days after the end of the reference month (Based on the month of entry).

Annual data are announced 305 days after the reference year (based on the year event).

Life tables and other demographic indexes are announced 365 days after the reference year.

Estimated Population is announced 365 days after the reference year.

Population projections are announced 553 after the base year.

16.2 Punctuality

Data is produced and disseminated according to the predefined timetable.

17. Comparability

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17.1 Comparability - geographical

Some differences between countries exist because there are no common meanings, definitions and data sources (mostly in Cohabitation agreements).

Moreover, countries use different classification of diseases. Most countries use the ICD 10 while ELSTAT will start using ICD10 from 1.1.2014 onwards.

17.1.1 Assymetry for mirror flows statistics – coefficient

n.a.

17.2 Comparability over time

1. Data of Vital Statistics: since 1956
2. Life Tables: since 1960
3. Estimated Population: since 1956
4. Population Projection: since 1960

It is also noted that a limitation to comparability over time can be due to a classification change (eg causes of death) for which, however, users are informed.

18. Coherence

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18.1 Coherence cross-domain

Difference between Estimated Population 1.1.2011 - Results of Census 2011. For this reason data concerning Estimated Population during intercensal years (2001-2011) was revised.

18.1.1 Coherence – sub annual and annual statistics

18.1.2 Coherence – National Accounts

18.2 Coherence - internal

In order to ensure the internal coherence common data collection framework (concepts, definitions, classifications, etc.) in all geographic areas and a common methodology in the compilation of results are applied.

19. Cost and burden

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Not estimated

20. Data revision

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20.1 Revision policy

Data, if necessary, can be revised according to the most recently updated data always according to the Revision Policy of ELSTAT. Relevant link:

http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/BUCKET/General/ELSTAT_Revisions_Policy_22_5_2013_GR.pdf

20.2 Revision practice

As already stated in paragraph 18.1 data are revised after the dissemination of population census results.

21. Statistical processing

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21.1 Source data

Sources of information for vital statistics are administrative records (Marriage, Birth and Death Certificates) provided by Registries from all around country.

21.2 Frequency of data collection

Monthly

21.3 Data collection

Employees of Registry Offices register the Certificates mentioned above in the Registrations Information System of the Ministry of Interior. ELSTAT draws the information required for statistical purposes from the Ministry's central database.

21.4 Data validation

In addition to the checks carried out by the administrative sources, validation checks are carried out by ELSTAT and Eurostat.

21.5 Data compilation

Compilation of tables by event and by age, sex, marital status, citizenship, place of birth, place of residence, place of event, geographical region, prefecture, education level, occupation, cause of death and other variables and comparative tables (time series), showing the evolution of the Vital Statistics.

Compilation of **estimated total population tables** with the usage of Vital Statistics data and the estimation of yearly net migration.

Compilation of **total fertility rate**_ The mean number of children that would be born alive to a woman during her lifetime if she were to pass through her childbearing years conforming to the fertility rates by age of a given year. The total fertility rate is also used to indicate the replacement level fertility; in more developed countries, a rate of 2.1 is considered to be replacement level.

Compilation of **life expectancy at birth**_ The mean number of years that an infant is expected to live if subjected throughout its life to the current mortality conditions (age specific probabilities of death).

Compilation of **total mortality rate**_ Deaths during the reference year, per 1000 residents.

Compilation of **infant -neonatal- perinatal mortality rate**_ The ratio of the number of deaths of children under the age of 1 year-28 days-1week old respectively, during the reference year, to the number of live births (total births for perinatal) in that year. The ratio is expressed per 1000 births.

Compilation of **perinatal mortality rate**_ The ratio of deaths of infants under the age of one week and stillbirths during the reference year to the number of births (stillbirths included) in the same year. The ratio is expressed per 1,000 births.

Compilation of **total marriage rate**_ Marriages conducted per population of 1000 residents.

Compilation of **age dependency rate**_ The ratio of economically inactive population (aged 0-14 and 65+ years old) to the economically active population (aged 15-64 years old).

Compilation of **ageing index**_ The ratio of youth population (aged 0-14 years old) to senile population (aged 15-64 years old).

Compilation of **Life tables** by sex and age.

21.5.1 Imputation – rate

n.a.

21.6 Adjustments

n.a

21.6.1 Seasonal adjustment

n.a.

22. Comments

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