



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

ELSTAT

Annual Report

2019

PIRAEUS 2020

A. INTRODUCTION

In this Annual Report, ELSTAT accounts for its activities in 2019. Besides the activities concerning the statistical surveys and tasks outlined in the 2019 Statistical Work Programme, the Chapters of this Annual Report also contain information about the major issues in the area of statistics in 2019.

In 2019, ELSTAT continued its actions to improve the completeness, quality and timeliness of its statistics through the continuous implementation of the Greek and European statistical legal framework in force and by adopting the higher European and international statistical standards. Furthermore, it continued its cooperation with the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System (ELSS) to improve the quality of their statistics by coordinating their statistical activities and assessing their statistics for their certification as "official".

ELSTAT maintained its active role within the European Statistical System (ESS), in 2019, through its close cooperation with the other members of the ESS, in the framework of Task Forces/Working Groups and Sector/Directors' Groups organised by Eurostat on various statistical issues, as well as through its participation in European decision-making centers on statistical issues.

The important events of 2019 for ELSTAT included the implementation of the new Organisation for its operation, as well as a number of actions aimed at: a) its compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and b) fostering statistical literacy, encompassing actions in the field of education, as well as in terms of familiarising citizens with the statistical concepts and procedures.

B. IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND RELIABILITY OF STATISTICS

1. Implementation of improvement actions in response to the recommendations of the Peer Review Report

In response to the recommendations of the Peer Review Report on Greece, ELSTAT undertook, in June 2015, to implement 47 recommendation actions with a specific timetable for completion. These improvements actions have been incorporated by Eurostat, with ELSTAT's consent, to the actions under pillar A of the Joint Overall Statistical Greek Action Plan (JOSGAP), which are aimed at enhancing the institutional framework of the ELSS.

Out of the above actions, 36 had been completed by 31 December 2018. In 2019, 1 additional action was concluded, which concerns the approval of the new Organisation of ELSTAT. Consequently, a total of 37 out of the 47 improvement actions were completed by 31 December 2019.

Out of the 10 outstanding improvement actions, ELSTAT has the responsibility for the implementation of 4 of them –actually, it is about 3 actions, since 1 of them is included in the list of improvement actions for 2 separate recommendations of the Peer Review Report and, therefore, it has been counted twice– while the implementation of the remaining 6 improvement actions depends on agencies other than ELSTAT.

2. New Organisation of ELSTAT

The new Organisation of ELSTAT was elaborated on the basis of its response to the obligations and requirements of a modern Statistical Institute, in order to successfully carry out its tasks in the ELSS and be an active member of the ESS. The Organisation is included in Presidential Decree 73/2019 (Government Gazette, Series A, No 114) and entered into force on 4 August 2019.

In accordance with the new Organisation⁽¹⁾, ELSTAT consists of:

(1) <https://www.statistics.gr/en/organisation-chart>.

- 3 Independent Offices and 1 Office of the Legal Adviser, affiliated to the President of ELSTAT
- 2 Directorates General
- 13 Divisions
- 104 Sections, including 49 Regional Statistical Offices, which operate at the level of the Section.

The new Organisation is aiming at addressing malfunctions observed in the production of ELSTAT statistics and adapting the production and dissemination of statistics to technological developments and resource-sharing processes. It also aims at adjusting the ELSS to the main orientations of the future statistics production system of the European Union, as promoted by the relevant legislation (single regulatory framework for business statistics – EBS, social statistics – IESS and agricultural statistics – IFS). In addition, the new Organisation is oriented to modern data collection practices by using data of administrative sources, big data, etc., combined with the implementation of innovative digital applications (webscraping, scannerdata, etc.).

3. Coordination of statistical activities within and between the ELSS agencies

Article 5 of the Statistical Law 3832/2010, as in force, provides for the compilation, every 3 years, of a three-year statistical work programme for the ELSS, the Hellenic Statistical Programme (ELSP). The ELSP sets out the priorities for the work of the ELSS, i.e., ELSTAT and the other agencies of the ELSS, so that the Country's statistical system can meet its national, Union and international statistical obligations.

During 2019, the fourth ELSP for the three-year period 2020 – 2022 was compiled, which includes the main areas and objectives of the statistical actions envisaged for the above period. These statistical actions are either scheduled actions or ad hoc actions to respond to new needs. The ELSP for 2020 – 2022 is the basis for the agencies of the ELSS to draw up their annual statistical work programmes for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022. The guide and the reference point for the compilation of the ELSP for 2020 – 2022 was the extension of the European Statistical Programme for the period 2018 – 2020, as well as the strategic priorities of the ESS beyond 2020, which were adopted at the meeting of the European Statistical System Committee (ESSC), on 16 November 2017, and are grouped into 3 main areas:

- Satisfying the needs of users of statistical data: ensure the relevance of the statistics produced for users and the satisfaction of their needs to the maximum extent possible.
- Developing appropriate skills: making the most of the resources available for producing statistics and the potential of modern technologies.
- Developing effective partnerships in the ESS: close cooperation between the ESS members, as well as between the ESS and other agencies (international organisations, the European System of Central Banks, Universities, the media, etc.), for the continuous improvement of European statistics.

In the context of the compilation of the ELSP for the period 2020 – 2022, the "List of Statistics of the ELSS Agencies" (apart from ELSTAT) was updated, in cooperation with the ELSS agencies. This is about the list of statistics, which are scheduled to be produced in the three-year period 2020 – 2022 and it is annexed to the ELSP for 2020 – 2022, available at the following link:

https://www.statistics.gr/documents/20181/301385/Statistical_Program_2020_2022_en.pdf/65d31e90-99bc-8e5a-40e3-72d8c067a028.

With regard to the statistical monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the role of ELSTAT, which is responsible for the statistical coordination of the project, was decisive.

Following close cooperation with the General Secretariat of the Government, which is the body responsible, at national level, to monitor and coordinate the work on the implementation of the Agenda, ELSTAT has been actively involved in the selection of the individual National Indicators, on the basis of which the progress of the implementation of the National Implementation Plan for the Sustainable Development Goals⁽²⁾ will be monitored. In the same context, ELSTAT will assess the indicators under the competence of the ELSS agencies in the process of certification of their statistics, with a view to ensuring their quality.

4. Certification as "official" of the statistics of the ELSS agencies

The certification by the ELSTAT of the statistics produced by the ELSS agencies is an important task and, at the same time, a mechanism to improve the quality and reliability of the statistics of the ELSS.

During 2018, all the ELSS agencies recorded, with a detailed timetable, their planned work for the two-year period 2018 – 2019, in the context of the implementation of the key actions necessary to continue the process of certification of their statistics. In 2019, ELSTAT continued to provide the ELSS agencies with guidance and to monitor the observance of the implementation of the timetable for the above work. In June 2019, the ELSS agencies were asked to update the timetable for the implementation of key actions for the certification of their statistics, during the 3rd or 4th quarter of 2019.

In July 2019, a reorganisation of the structure of the public sector took place, which resulted in changes in the structure of the ELSS agencies. The main changes were: i) the Ministry of Digital Governance was established, ii) the Ministry of Citizen Protection and the Ministry of Migration Policy were merged into the Ministry of Citizen Protection, iii) the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Administrative Reconstruction were merged into the Ministry of the Interior. As a result of these changes, ELSTAT updated the list of ELSS agencies and national authorities.

At the same time, ELSTAT continued to organise technical meetings with the Statistical Heads and officials of the ELSS agencies, to provide clarifications and guidance, with a view to improving the compilation of the quality reports (SIMS) and the documentation of their statistical procedures. A useful aid to the ELSS agencies was the "Guide to the Agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System for the Implementation of the European Statistics Code of Practice" drawn up by ELSTAT, in 2018, pursuant to Article 5a(2) (g) of Regulation (EC) 223/2009, as amended by Regulation (EC) 2015/759. This Guide includes guidance to the ELSS agencies, to facilitate the practical and effective implementation of the European Statistics Code of Practice(COP) by them.

On 21 May 2019, the English version of the above Guide was published on the website of ELSTAT and it is available at the following link:

https://www.statistics.gr/documents/20181/1196143/Guide_to_ELSS_agencies_1_0_en.pdf/f28f50db-2e62-4e2d-8364-e5c550029c1f.

5. Compliance with the requirements of the Union Statistical Legislation

In order to fully comply with European regulations, ELSTAT undertook, in 2019, the following actions, by Regulation:

- *Regulation (EU) 2016/792 on Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices*

Non-compliance with the Regulation concerns the compilation of the Housing Price Index for the period from the 1st quarter of 2008 to the 1st quarter of 2018 and of the Owner-occupied Price Index for the period from the 1st quarter of 2010 to the 1st quarter of 2018.

(2) https://gslegal.gov.gr/?page_id=334.

During 2019, ELSTAT continued the work of processing the publicly available data in the Real Estate Values Register ("MAMA" in Greek) and elaborated a programme for the calculation of the residential housing price indices. On the basis of this programme, the indices for the year 2018 have been calculated, while, at the same time, the residential housing price indices of the Bank of Greece were used for the retroactive calculation of the indices, for the period 2008 – 2017.

Given the fact that, since August 2019, the new Organisation of ELSTAT has entered into force, providing for the establishment of a Section of Administrative and Big Data, the coordinated efforts are ongoing to make the data of the "MAMA" database available, in order to continue compiling the residential indices and to implement a similar programme for compiling the commercial real estate price indices, as well.

- *Regulation (EU) 691/2011 on the European Economic Environmental Accounts*
- *Regulation (EC) 2150/2002 on Waste Statistics*

As regards the above Regulations, the required tables have been compiled and transmitted to Eurostat and their final checking is under way, while some other modules of statistics are in the process of being compiled.

6. Protection of personal data and statistical confidentiality

A. Implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation

In the context of the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council "General Data Protection Regulation – GDPR", ELSTAT carried out a number of important initiatives, in 2019, with a view to complying with the provisions of the GDPR.

The Regulation provides for derogations from the data subject's rights, where data are processed, including, for statistical purposes, whereas Article 89 of the Regulation allows Union or Member States law to provide for additional derogations from the data subject's rights referred to in specific Articles of the Regulation (Articles 15, 16, 18 and 21), when the data are processed for statistical purposes. In addition, the implementation of the GDPR by ELSTAT and all National Statistical Institutes (NSIs) of the EU Member States should also take into account the obligation of the NSIs for the unhindered production of European statistics.

The following actions undertaken by ELSTAT, in order to comply with the GDPR, were completed, in 2019:

1. Completion of the mapping of the controller's activities, by compiling the files on all the processing activities by all the organisational units of ELSTAT and for all processing operations. For the materialisation of this work, the Data Protection Officer of ELSTAT informed the Heads of the organisational units on the key concepts and provisions of the GDPR.
2. A training and information seminar for ELSTAT staff was developed, organised and implemented on issues concerning the GDPR, in the framework of the production of official statistics. The training took place: a) for the staff of the Central Service, on the premises of ELSTAT, in groups of 80 persons, and b) for the staff of the Regional Statistical Offices, in the capitals of the relevant Prefectures of their Region. The training consisted of 2 cycles and was conducted by the Special Advisor to the Office of President of ELSTAT, who is specialised on issues pertaining to the implementation of the GDPR, and by the Data Protection Officer of ELSTAT. This whole action is to be completed in 2020, with the implementation of specialised training courses.
3. In 2019, the project for the reform and full adoption by ELSTAT of an information security management system was implemented.

4. Works on adapting the website of ELSTAT to the requirements of the Regulation have been carried out. In the context of ELSTAT's response to the transparency requirements, the enrichment of the electronic and online applications of ELSTAT with the necessary privacy notices and of the related printed material (questionnaires) has been completed. A specialised section was created on the website of ELSTAT (only in Greek, link: <https://www.statistics.gr/en/privacy-info>), entitled "Personal Data Protection", where basic information on the implementation of the GDPR by ELSTAT, as well as the contact details of ELSTAT's Data Protection Officer have been posted; all other relevant issues concerning the implementation of GDPR will be posted on this section.
5. Checks and necessary adjustments, where required, were carried out in procedures and forms used by ELSTAT. Indicatively: legal clauses on the implementation of the Regulation have been introduced to the contracts concluded with suppliers, external statistical interviewers, researchers, etc.; procedures have been put in place to ensure privacy –in particular with regard to the printing of a picture by mechanical means– in ELSTAT's actions, for example, in the context of educational visits, in its annual actions in the Thessaloniki International Fair (TIF), etc. Any necessary actions to ensure lawfulness for the retention of previously collected data, such as the lists of e-mail addresses of journalists, have also been assessed.
6. A number of cases were considered for which issues were raised with regard to the implementation of the Regulation. In particular, among the cases that can be reported are the refusal of public services to provide administrative data or the refusal of private individuals to provide data for reasons related to the Regulation (e.g., hospitals and health institutions, annual agricultural production survey, students, etc.).
7. In August 2019, the Greek Law 4624/2019 on the implementation of the GDPR was adopted, following a public consultation of the relevant draft law, to which ELSTAT participated.

B. Statistical confidentiality and personal data protection declaration signed by the personnel of ELSTAT

By virtue of indicator 2 of Principle 5 "Statistical Confidentiality and Data Protection" of the CoP, the staff of ELSTAT signed a commitment on statistical confidentiality and personal data protection.

7. Pre-census works, in the framework of the preparation of the 2020 Agricultural – Livestock Census

The Agricultural – Livestock Census is conducted by virtue of the EU Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 on Integrated Farm Statistics (IFS) in all the EU Member States. The purpose of the census is to record all the agricultural and livestock holdings in the Country and to collect data on the basic characteristics of their structure and on the population employed in them.

More specifically, the Agricultural – Livestock Census is conducted in all the Municipal and Local Communities of Greece. It covers all agricultural and livestock holdings, irrespective of their legal form (natural persons or legal entities under public or private law), whether the production is intended for sale, own-consumption or for both and irrespective of the holder's place of residence or of the place where the land or the animals of the holding are located (urban, semi-urban and rural areas).

In 2019, in the framework of the preparation for the Agricultural – Livestock Census planned to be conducted in 2020, ELSTAT carried out the following activities:

- Design of the Census questionnaire.
- Elaboration a study to record and present geo-referenced data.

- Update of the Statistical Agricultural Register from the available administrative sources.
- Development of an electronic application to fill in the questionnaires via tablets, in the context of the modernisation of data collection and compliance with the deadlines laid down in the Framework Regulation on Integrated Farm Statistics, i.e., Regulation (EU) 2018/1091.
- Conduct of a pilot survey, during the period from 14 March to 3 May 2019, for evaluating the e-application.
- Initiation of the drafting of the legislative framework and the budget for the conduct of the Agricultural – Livestock Census.

8. Pre-census works, in the framework of the preparation of the 2021 General Censuses for Buildings and for Population – Housing

In 2021, ELSTAT is going to conduct the General Censuses for Buildings and for Population – Housing. The 2021 Population Census will be carried out in all the EU Member States, in the framework of the implementation of European Regulations (EC) 763/2008, (EU) 2017/543, (EU) 2017/881 and (EU) 2017/712, based on the United Nations Recommendations on the Population Census for 2021. The purpose of these General Censuses, which are conducted every 10 years, is to collect data on the demographic, economic and social characteristics of the population, the composition of households and their housing conditions and the buildings wealth of Greece.

In 2019, ELSTAT carried out the following pre-census works in preparation of the 2021 General Censuses for Buildings and for Population – Housing:

- Drafting of the Census questionnaires, in accordance with Regulation (EU) 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council and in cooperation with national bodies, as well as following consultation, within the Advisory Committee of the ELSS (SYEPELSS) and the User Conference, to include questions in the Census questionnaires.
- Submission of a request to the Ministry of the Interior to inform the Municipalities of Greece on the procedures for setting administrative boundaries and naming roads and squares.
- Creation of an electronic application to update data and record changes, as regards the definition of autonomous settlements, with a view to speeding up the relevant works and ensuring the integrity of the procedure.
- Start compiling the draft law, the explanatory memorandum and the impact assessment report required for the conduct of the General Censuses.
- Submission of a request to the jointly competent Ministries of Finance and Interior for the recruitment of 301 seasonal staff from different specialties under fixed-term contracts of private law, for the purposes of the General Censuses.

C. ENHANCED RESPONSIVENESS TO USER NEEDS AND CLOSER COOPERATION WITH PRODUCERS OF STATISTICAL DATA

ELSTAT's main concern is to produce statistics tailored to the needs and requirements of users, at national, European and international level. In this context, ELSTAT collects the feedback and interventions of participants in the Annual User Conferences that it has established since 2010. It also takes into account the results of the User Satisfaction Survey, as well as the positions and opinions of the members of the SYEPELSS, with the aim of improving its statistical product and services, as well as identifying new needs and requirements for the production of statistics.

- **Advisory Committee of the Hellenic Statistical System**

During the meeting of SYEPELSS, held on 15 February 2019, a draft of the ELSP for 2020 – 2022 was presented to its members and, pursuant to Article 3(8) of the Law 3832/2010, as in force, the members of the Committee were asked to give their opinion on the above draft, with any comments being sent within a period agreed, so that they could be taken into account for its finalisation.

In addition, in the light of the 2021 General Population – Housing Census, an information note was handed to the members of the Committee, containing the mandatory variables provided for in the European Regulation governing the Census. The members were also asked to submit proposals for including other variables in the Census questionnaire, while taking into account the cost – effectiveness and the fact that the addition of additional variables is likely to have a negative impact on the quality of the data collected for the mandatory variables.

- **Signing of memoranda of cooperation**

ELSTAT continued to sign memoranda of cooperation with producers and users of statistics. In this context, in 2019, the following Memoranda were signed between ELSTAT and the: a) Ministry of Tourism, aiming at the compilation of tables for the Greek Tourism Satellite Account, with the support of the Hellenic Observatory for Tourism, b) Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, for exploiting data on various areas, such as public health, energy, economy, transport, urban planning and culture, c) Municipality of Athens, focusing on the compilation of urban indicators on the social inclusion of immigrants and refugees and the exploitation of data on immigrants and refugees for the production of relevant statistics.

- **Actions taken in 2019, on the basis of the conclusions of the Annual User Conferences held from 2010 to 2018**

On the basis of the comments and suggestions made by the users during the 9 User Conferences held, during the period 2010 – 2018, ELSTAT included in its 2019 Annual Work Programme the following:

1. Incorporation of questions on persons with disabilities in the questionnaire of the 2019 Survey on Income and Living Conditions of Households (EU-SILC).
2. Submission of a proposal to add questions in the 2019 Health Interview Survey, with a view to recording the needs for statistical information on persons with disabilities.
3. Conduct of the Survey on Income and Living Conditions of Households (EU-SILC), with reference year 2019, on the basis of the methodological changes decided and aimed at extracting reliable survey results at the level of the Region (NUTS 2).
4. Accelerating the procedures for granting access to anonymised micro-data of statistical surveys.
5. Further exploiting the data of administrative sources, as well as the use of new technologies, with a view to improving quality, saving resources and reducing the production time of statistical results in different sectors, such as business, education and health statistics.
6. Addressing the occurrence of discrepancies between statistical results produced by different agencies and refer to the same variable, in the context of the certification of the statistics of ELSS agencies by ELSTAT.
7. Continuous update of the central list of open data with new ELSTAT statistics.
8. Availability of more up-to-date business statistics.

As regards the above actions, the following progress was made, in 2019:

1. Incorporation of questions on persons with disabilities in the questionnaire of the 2019 Survey on Income and Living Conditions of Households (EU-SILC)

In cooperation with the Confederation of People with Disabilities (SYN-AMEA), questions related to disability were incorporated in the questionnaire of the Survey on Income and on Living Conditions of Households (EU-SILC). These questions relate to persons in need of care or support (people with a chronic problem, disability, certified disability, who are in receipt of a pension or disability allowance), and, in particular, the difficulties they face in their functions and activities, the burden they cause to other members of the household, etc.

2. Recording the needs for statistical information on persons with disabilities and including related questions in the 2019 Health Interview Survey

The Working Group, set up in November 2018 with the participation of the Health institutions of the Country, including the National Confederation of People with Disabilities, examined the suitability of the terminology included in the questionnaire, studied the survey guidelines, in order to see whether the relevant terms used were appropriate, widely used, and understood both by researchers and respondents, and recorded further needs for statistical information. It also incorporated variables for national needs.

3. Conduct of the Survey of Income and Living Conditions of Households (EU-SILC), with reference year 2019, on the basis of the methodological changes decided and aimed at extracting reliable results of survey at the level of the Region (NUTS 2)

In the context of the EU 2020 strategy, Eurostat had asked Member States to produce reliable EU-SILC results at the level of the Region (NUTS 2). With the assistance of an expert from the University of Economics of Athens, on sampling in household surveys using alternating models (panels), a report has been drawn up and submitted, including a detailed plan of actions aimed at improving the design of the survey sampling, producing reliable results at NUTS 2 level, and improving the method and procedure for calculating the reducing factors and sampling errors of the main survey indicators.

4. Accelerating the procedures for granting access to anonymised micro-data of statistical surveys

In the context of improving users' accessibility to anonymised micro-data of ELSTAT's statistical surveys, the following actions were completed, in 2019:

- Updating the anonymisation criteria for the standard public use files of the Labour Force Survey.
- Study and elaboration of the anonymisation criteria for the standard scientific use files of the Labour Force Survey.
- Study and elaboration of anonymisation criteria for the standard scientific use files for road traffic accident statistics.
- Updating the anonymisation criteria for the standard public use files of the Survey on Income and Living Conditions of Households (EU-SILC).
- Study and elaboration of the anonymisation criteria for the standard scientific use files for mortality statistics.
- Preparatory work and study for the elaboration of anonymisation criteria for the standard public use files for mortality statistics.

– A study on users' access to the standard micro-data files for scientific use.

5. Further exploiting the data of administrative sources in various sectors, such as business, education and health statistics

In the context of further exploiting administrative data, in 2019, ELSTAT continued the cooperation with other bodies, such as the Independent Authority for Public Revenue (IAPR), the Bank of Greece, the Payment and Control Agency for Guidance and Guarantee Community Aids (OPEKEPE), the Single Institution for Social Security (EFKA), the Single Payment Authority (SPA), the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Justice, etc.

Aiming at better leveraging administrative sources data in the production of statistics, ELSTAT has envisaged in its new Organisation the establishment of a Section for Administrative and Big Data.

6. Addressing the occurrence of discrepancies between statistical results produced by different agencies bodies and refer to the same variable

Addressing discrepancies between similar statistical results produced by different agencies is a constant concern of ELSTAT. A significant development in this respect is expected in the context of the certification by ELSTAT of ELSS statistics and the cooperation between ELSTAT and the various producers of statistics, which continued in 2019.

7. Continuous update of the central list of open data with new ELSTAT statistics

In 2019, ELSTAT updated the central list of open data kept by the Ministry of Interior with new ELSTAT statistics. The relevant data are available at the following link:
<http://www.data.gov.gr/organization/elstat>.

8. Availability of more up-to-date business statistics

The use, from 2016 onwards, of data of the IAPR for the annual update of the Statistical Business Register and the production of Business Statistics has contributed to a significant reduction in the time taken to complete the above works, thus, leading to improving the timeliness of business statistics.

Following the publication, in 2018, on the website of ELSTAT, of tables with data from the Statistical Business Register for the reference years 2014 – 2016, in 2019, ELSTAT published on its website tables with data from the Statistical Business Register for the reference years 2011 – 2013, as well as time series for the years 2011 – 2016, broken down by 21 divisions of economic activity, in order to inform users on the developments in the Statistical Business Register over time.

• **Compilation of Statistical Work Programmes**

In response to its regular obligations under the Greek Statistical Law, ELSTAT compiled the ELSP for 2020 – 2022, which includes the main areas and objectives of the statistical actions envisaged by the ELSS agencies for the aforementioned 3 years. It also compiled the 2020 Statistical Work Programme and the 2018 Annual Report.

• **Organisation of the 10th Annual User Conference**

In accordance with its 2019 Annual Statistical Work Programme, ELSTAT convened, on 23 December 2019, on its premises in Piraeus, the 9th Annual User Conference, which was a thematic conference on "Micro-data of Statistical Surveys".

The topic of the Conference was chosen with a view to highlighting the importance of producing and disseminating micro-data of statistical surveys for scientific purposes, both for ELSTAT and for users of statistics. Furthermore, the need to ensure statistical confidentiality and respect for both users and surveyed units was highlighted. Finally, reference was made to the significant work concerning the forthcoming Censuses (Agricultural – Livestock Census, at the end of 2020, and the Population – Housing Census, in 2021).

62 representatives from the public and private sector, as well as educational and research institutions, participated to the conference and the following 3 presentations were made:

1. Access of users to micro-data of statistical surveys
2. Results of the 2018 User Satisfaction Survey
3. Implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation in Statistics.

In addition, the team of the 1st General Upper Secondary School of Karditsa was invited to the Conference and honoured for its distinction (3rd place), in the 2nd European Statistics Competition.

Subsequently, the users commented on the statistical output and the services provided by ELSTAT, in relation to the satisfaction of their needs. The users pointed out, inter alia, the need for:

- i. Developing cooperation between ELSTAT and National Statistical Offices in neighbouring countries, as part of the data collection on population flows from Greece to the above countries and vice versa, and their mapping.
- ii. Guidance and expertise by ELSTAT on issues concerning the observance of statistical confidentiality.
- iii. Collecting data on persons with the minimum wages through statistical surveys conducted by ELSTAT.
- iv. Adding a variable on gross income to the next 2021 Population – Housing Census.
- v. Matching the values of the variables of anonymised micro-data surveys with the questions of the respective questionnaires.
- vi. Exploring the possibility of matching overtime employees with their employers, in the context of economic analysis and public policy assessment.
- vii. Carrying out, in the future, cross-sectoral surveys, for policy-making.
- viii. Preparing ELSTAT to have access, in the near future, to interconnected databases of administrative data in the context of producing statistics.
- ix. ELSTAT to take into account the needs of the research community in terms of the publication of statistics, along with its respective obligations arising from European Regulations.
- x. Further developing dialogue with the users of statistics and not only once a year, in the context of the annual User Conference.
- xi. Publishing more statistical data on ELSTAT website, in relation to the data collected from the questionnaires of its statistical surveys.
- xii. Publishing statistics at a more detailed breakdown than the existing one.

xiii. Publishing more timely statistics, even provisional, on arrivals – nights spent and expenditure of tourists in Greece.

More information on the 10th User Conference can be found on the website ELSTAT, at the following link:

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/user-conference-2019>.

ELSTAT has prioritised the aforementioned needs, on the basis of their importance to users and their criticality for the statistical product, and has begun to explore the possibility of satisfying these needs, taking into account its available resources and its national and international obligations.

- **ELSTAT's portal and web presence**

ELSTAT aims at continuously improving the various aspects of the layout and content of its portal and of the other dissemination modes of its statistics, with a view to adapting them to users' needs, both at national and international level.

The central website receives a large number of visitors on a daily basis. In 2019, the Greek version of the central website of ELSTAT had 625,150 unique user visits. Compared to 2018, an increase of 1.0 % is observed for unique user visits. On its twitter account (@ StatisticsGR), ELSTAT published 449 tweets, in 2019, and 4,103 tweets, overall, since the opening of the account in 2010 until the end of 2019. The number of tweets by other twitter users (in 2019) was 621,200.

Moreover, on ELSTAT's account at LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/hellenic-statistical-authority-elstat>, in 2019 (more precisely, the period from 1 February 2019 to 31 January 2020) ELSTAT had 103 posts and the number of posts from other users was 287,019.

On its Instagram account (@ statistics.gr), ELSTAT delivered 57 posts, in 2019, had 5,157 likes and 600 followers. In addition, a high penetration rate among young people was observed, with 69 % of the followers being aged 18 to 34 years old.

It should be noted that the Library and Website Content Management Section and Geospatial Data Section served 2,500 users, in 2019. In addition, an additional 390 users were directly addressed to the External Trade Statistics Section for the provision of statistics. From the requests of the above users:

- 89 Contracts have been signed for access to confidential data for research purposes,
- 79 requests related to the provision of anonymised statistical survey data were served. Since the summer of 2019, these data have been posted on the website of ELSTAT, giving many users the opportunity to have direct access to them.

In the framework of the User Satisfaction Survey, conducted by ELSTAT on a continuous basis, in 2019, a total of 268 questionnaires were completed.

According to the survey results, the categories of statistics with the highest demand, for 2019, were the Population – Housing Census (13.1 %), Demography (6.7 %), Employment – Labour cost (9.7 %) and Agriculture (7.1 %). 96.3% of users' requests were fully met, 3.4 % were partly met, while 0.4 % of user requests were not met. 98.0% of users reported being satisfied or very satisfied in terms of the response time to their request and 98.9 % reported being satisfied or very satisfied in terms of the services provided.

With the aim of enriching ELSTAT's website (the Greek and its English version), the following steps were taken, in 2019:

- Continuing the illustration of selected statistical surveys and production processes by means of infographics. The full collection of infographics produced by ELSTAT is available at the following link:
<http://www.statistics.gr/en/elstat-infographics>.
- Continuation of the work to covering the gaps in the time series on the website of ELSTAT, including the enrichment of the website with the metadata and the quality reports of all statistical surveys in line with the latest version (2.0) of SIMS (Single Integrated Metadata Structure).

- **Fostering Statistical Literacy**

In 2019, ELSTAT carried out the following actions:

- 1. Certification of the first Greek University with the EMOS (European Master in Official Statistics) label**

On 7 February 2019, the ESSC unanimously adopted the proposed list of master's degrees programmes, which were assessed by the EMOS Board and, therefore, received EMOS certification.

The postgraduate programme in "Mathematics – Statistics and Modelling" of the Faculty of Mathematics of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH) is the first Greek Master's degree programme that succeeded to enter in the select group of the postgraduate programmes with the prestigious Eurostat certification "EMOS".

The certification with the EMOS label was achieved after several months of intensive efforts on the part of ELSTAT, which was also the sponsor of the effort (coelaborating the curriculum and participating in the programme, as far as official statistics are concerned), and of the Faculty of Mathematics of the AUTH.

This is another milestone in ELSTAT's strategy for fostering statistical literacy in Greece.

The EMOS certification will be valid for 4 years, from spring 2019 to the end of spring 2023 (academic year) and is recognised by all European National Statistical Institutes, Central Banks of the Member States and many European and national agencies.

In the context of the programme curriculum, 11 students of AUTH, who attend the certified master programme, and the competent professor paid a visit to the central premises of ELSTAT.

- 2. Developing partnerships with academia**

In the context of developing partnerships with the academic community, ELSTAT signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering of the AUTH, with the aim of jointly developing sampling methodologies for "smart statistics", using the data generated by sensors and individual "smart" devices.

- 3. Information visits/speeches by the President of ELSTAT on the work of the Authority**

In the context of informing and promoting the work of ELSTAT, the President of ELSTAT carried out visits and briefings to schools and universities. More specifically, the President of ELSTAT gave a speech during the educational visits organised on the central premises of ELSTAT (22 January and 5 February), as well as in the Regional Statistical Office of Thessaloniki (17 October), in the University of Macedonia (11 April) and in the University of Patra (16 April). Moreover, he delivered the keynote speech at the swearing-in ceremony of the Department of Mathematics of the AUTH (November 2019).

4. Inclusion of the "Fostering Statistical Literacy" project in the "School Activities Programme" of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs

The educational programme for "Fostering Statistical Literacy" has been included, at the request of ELSTAT, in the "School Activities Programme" of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, which concerns primary and secondary education. This was followed by an information campaign in educational establishments throughout the Country.

5. Dedicated webpage for pupils, students and teachers

The content of the dedicated user-friendly web page of ELSTAT for statistical literacy (<https://www.statistics.gr/en/edu>) was updated. This webpage is addressed to pupils, students and teachers and contains detailed information on all the actions, the latest developments as regards "Fostering Statistical Literacy" actions, educational videos and games.

6. Organisation of the 3rd Panhellenic Statistics Competition

During the 2nd semester of 2019, ELSTAT initiated the procedures for the conduct of the 3rd Panhellenic Statistics Competition. The general rules and relevant information material have been updated, actions for the promotion of the Competition have been undertaken and the teams of pupils of secondary education of public and private school units in Greece have made their registration to the Competition.

A total of 436 teams were registered (272 teams of lower secondary school pupils and 164 teams of upper secondary school students) from 136 school units from all over Greece. The total number of participants of lower secondary and upper secondary schools amounted to 717 and 426, respectively.

Information concerning the Competition can be found on the website of ELSTAT (<https://www.statistics.gr/en/edu>) and more specifically at: <https://www.statistics.gr/en/edu-statistics-competition>.

In May 2019, the award ceremony of the 2nd Panhellenic Statistics Competition was held at ELSTAT premises in Attiki, during which prizes were awarded to the first 5 winning teams of students of lower secondary and upper secondary schools, respectively. Furthermore, in the context of the 2019 User Conference, the team of the 1st General Upper Secondary School of Karditsa was awarded a prize, for winning the 3rd place to the 2nd European Statistics Competition.

7. Organisation and conduct of the Graphic Design Competition for the Logo of the 2021 Population – Housing Census

In 2018, ELSTAT had organised a Graphic Design Competition for the Logo of the 2021 Population – Housing Census. During 2019, the following actions were undertaken:

- A meeting of the Competition's Jury was convened; the jury consisted of personalities from the art, advertising and journalism sectors. The jury was chaired by the President of ELSTAT.
- The awards ceremony was organised.
- A relevant website was created, where all the works submitted have been posted, as well as the name and the school of the creator.

8. Implementation of the "Census at School" programme

With an original design, ELSTAT developed and implemented, for the first time in Greece, the educational programme "Census at School". The tool that was used for the development of the electronic platform is the open source online learning platform "Moodle". The platform

includes the questionnaire, educational material and guidance on the procedure and the works to conduct a census survey. In this way, the pupils can work, gathering and analysing statistical data, and understand similarities and differences, at the level of section, class or school. High-standard security procedures have been documented and are in place for the protection of the data of citizens/students, in accordance with the legislation on the protection of personal data and the observance of statistical confidentiality.

The procedure and the electronic platform of the "Census at School" programme were presented to "The DIGICOM project Final event", organised in Brussels.

9. Participation of ELSTAT in the 84th Thessaloniki International Fair

ELSTAT participated in the 84th TIF having as main topic the "Fostering of Statistical Literacy".

Despite the fact that these events were organised before the official beginning of the school year (2019/2020), hundreds of pupils from schools in the Region of Thessaloniki, as well as university students of different specialities, visited the stand of ELSTAT and attended the specially designed presentations on the mission and actions of ELSTAT. The presentations were made by the staff of ELSTAT and referred to its work, as well as to the way in which official statistics are developed, produced and disseminated. This was followed by examples of how selected statistics of wider interest were produced and, subsequently, the survey results were presented to participants in an easily understandable manner with the help of infographics.

For the first time, the Moodle platform was presented to the public; this platform was created for the "Census at School" programme. For the presentation of the platform in the TIF, questions were used from selected ELSTAT surveys. The pupils, through the platform, answered the questions raised by the survey questions and then they could see the visualised results on the basis of their answers.

The visitors of the stand of ELSTAT were given information material, such as the special information publications of ELSTAT, exercise books, programmes and bookmarks with fancy illustrations of the results of ELSTAT's surveys, the statistical workbooks "Numbers and our life", volume I, II and III. Furthermore, the following material was distributed: a collection with the most important infographics for 2019, the paper publication "Young people in Greece 2019", as well as a special leaflet entitled "GREECE – INDIA in figures", which includes statistics outlining the relations between the 2 countries –India being the honoured country, during the 84th TIF.

The material is available on the website of ELSTAT, at the following link:
<https://www.statistics.gr/en/elstat-84-tif>.

10. Internships of students on the premises of ELSTAT

ELSTAT, during 2019, gave students the opportunity to have a traineeship on its premises. In this context, 15 students from all over Greece carried out their traineeship relating to the field of their studies.

The students came from: the Athens University of Economics and Business (1 student from the Economic Science Department in the Central Office of ELSTAT), the National Technical University of Athens (2 students in the Central Office of ELSTAT and 1 in the Regional Statistical Office of Fthiotida), the Harokopio University (2 students from the Geography Department in the Central Office of ELSTAT), the University of Piraeus (4 students from the Department of Statistics and Insurance Science in the Central Office of ELSTAT) and the University of Ioannina (2 students in the Central Office of ELSTAT, 2 students in the Regional Statistical Office of Kozani and 1 in the Regional Statistical Office of Ioannina).

This action aims, inter alia, to promote the work of ELSTAT and the possibility of ELSTAT being a career destination for the trainees.

11. Organisation of educational visits and presentations for pupils/students

In the framework of the programme "Fostering Statistical Literacy", ELSTAT continued, in 2019, to organise educational visits of educational institutions to ELSTAT premises in Attiki, which recorded a significant increase compared with the previous year. More specifically, 57 visits of educational establishments took place, of which 8 concerned primary education institutions, 40 secondary, 4 post-secondary (Vocational Institutes/Colleges) and 5 tertiary education institutions.

2,559 pupils and students, accompanied by 180 teachers, visited the premises and the Library of ELSTAT, they were informed about the work and the mission of ELSTAT, the statistical material they can draw from its website, as well as the services provided to users by the specialised ELSTAT Library (e-library catalogue, the Digital Library, the Centre for European Statistics Data Support in Greece – ESDS).

The purpose of the visits is to introduce pupils and students in the world of the statistical science and to inform them of the processes for the development, production and dissemination of official statistics, in line with European and international standards. In addition, the important role and usefulness of official statistics in politics, economy and everyday life is highlighted. Furthermore, the participants receive information on how to retrieve the data they are looking for, while enabling them to navigate on the website of ELSTAT and Eurostat.

Due to the increased demand for educational visits from all over Greece, ELSTAT begun to implement the action at the premises of the Regional Statistical Office of Northern Greece, as well (after carrying out the preparation works for the creation of a specially designed place to host pupils and students). More specifically, 11 visits of educational institutions took place, of which 10 concerned secondary education institutions and 1 concerned 5 tertiary education institutions. Furthermore, ELSTAT officials visited, following a relevant request, 3 schools in Komotini, presenting the relevant programme to 334 pupils.

In addition, printed educational material and infographics are made available by ELSTAT to school libraries both of schools visiting ELSTAT and of schools who request the dispatch of the relevant material, for posting it in the classrooms.

More information on the educational visits can be found at the following link:
<https://www.statistics.gr/en/edu>.

12. Participation in Eurostat's programme "Innovative and sharable products and tools"

ELSTAT, having as one of its key priorities the dissemination of statistical information to the Greek society, participates actively in the "Innovative and sharable products and tools" programme of Eurostat, which includes 3 new innovative, "flagship" publications for the ESS, developed with the support of Eurostat's tools/technology and the assistance of some Member States, including Greece, for their translation into the national languages of the parties involved. It pertains to the interactive publications "The life of women and men in Europe – a statistical portrait", "The European economy since the beginning of the millennium – a statistical portrait" and "Mobility in Europe", which have also been translated into Greek.

• International relations

In the context of developing ELSTAT's international relations, the following actions were undertaken, in 2019:

1. As part of the celebration of 100 years of bilateral relations between Greece and Poland,

ELSTAT held an one-day conference entitled "**Special Bilateral Event and Workshop**" on its premises in Piraeus, on 29 March 2019. Official guests at the event were the Ambassador of the Republic of Poland in Greece, as well as the President of the NSI of Poland. During the Conference, topics related to the presentation of the ELSS and the ELSP for the years 2020 – 2022 were presented, as well as issues of mutual interest for the Statistical Offices of the 2 countries.

2. In the context of further strengthening the bilateral relations and cooperation between the Hellenic and the Bulgarian Statistical Institutes, ELSTAT jointly organised with the Statistical Office of the neighbouring country, a **Bilateral Cross-Border Meeting**⁽³⁾, which took place on 22 and 23 April 2019, in Kartzali, Bulgaria and in Xanthi, respectively. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Central Office and the Regional Statistical Offices of the Bulgarian Statistical Institutes, as well as by the Central Office and the Regional Statistical Offices of ELSTAT in Xanthi, Rodopi and Evros. At the meeting on 23 April 2019 in Xanthi, the following topics were discussed: the ELSS and the ELSP for the years 2020 – 2022, the 2020 Agricultural – Livestock Census, Trade and Business Statistics, Social Statistics and Tourism Statistics, as well as issues of mutual interest and cooperation between the 2 Statistical Institutes.
3. **Visit to the Statistical Office of the Republic of Cyprus**⁽⁴⁾: an official visit to the Statistical Office of Cyprus by a high-level Greek delegation took place, on 11 – 13 September 2019, in Nicosia, with a view to continuing and strengthening the cooperation between the Statistical Services of Greece and Cyprus, as part of their joint actions within the European and international community, with a view to ensuring the continued quality and reliability of official statistics, as well as closer cooperation with producers and users of statistics and response to their growing needs.
4. In the light of the celebrations for the 50th Session of the United Nation Statistical Commission (UNSTATCOM), held in New York, on 5 – 8 March 2019, the Commission organised the promotional campaign "why better data make better lives?" on its official website and twitter account. ELSTAT was among the EU Member States NSIs that participated to this campaign and submitted a paper entitled "Fostering Statistical Literacy in Greece", a relevant video⁽⁵⁾ and organised the digital campaign #GreekDataMatter⁽⁶⁾ on the social media.
5. In the framework of the Conference "Towards a New Greek Miracle: Growth Policies for the Decades to Come" organised by the Yale University, on 19 September 2019, ELSTAT participated with a speech delivered by its President on "Official Statistics and Economic Growth". More information can be found on ELSTAT twitter and LinkedIn accounts.

D. INTENSIFYING COOPERATION AND UNDERTAKING OF ACTIONS IN THE EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

ELSTAT, as an active member of the ESS, continued, in 2019, to put special emphasis on the cooperation with Eurostat and the other agencies of the European Commission, as well as with the

(3) <https://www.statistics.gr/el/elstat-bnsi-meeting>.

(4) <https://www.statistics.gr/el/elstat-cystat>.

(5) <https://www.statistics.gr/en/united-nations-statistical-commission>.

(6) https://www.statistics.gr/el/news-announcements/-/asset_publisher/oj6VK3PQ0oCe/content/prosklese-symmetoches-sto-greekdatamatter-meso-twitter-kai-instagram?_com_liferay_asset_publisher_web_portlet_AssetPublisherPortlet_INSTANCE_oj6VK3PQ0oCe_redirect=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.statistics.gr%3A443%2Fen%2Fnews-announcements%3Fp_p_id%3Dcom_liferay_asset_publisher_web_portlet_AssetPublisherPortlet_INSTANCE_oj6VK3PQ0oCe%26p_p_lifecycle%3D0%26p_p_state%3Dnormal%26p_p_mode%3Dview%26_com_liferay_asset_publisher_web_portlet_AssetPublisherPortlet_INSTANCE_oj6VK3PQ0oCe_cur%3D9%26_com_liferay_asset_publisher_web_portlet_AssetPublisherPortlet_INSTANCE_oj6VK3PQ0oCe_delta%3D10%26p_r_p_resetCur%3Dfalse%26_com_liferay_asset_publisher_web_portlet_AssetPublisherPortlet_INSTANCE_oj6VK3PQ0oCe_assetEntryId%3D14904666.

NSIs of the other EU Member States. In this context, in 2019, the staff of ELSTAT continued to participate in Eurostat Working Groups and in the Council Working Party on Statistics (CWPS).

In addition, in the context of pursuing the participation and active contribution of ELSTAT in the international statistical fora, ELSTAT continued to participate in the meetings and workings of international statistical agencies.

An important event was the appointment of the President of ELSTAT as a member of the European Statistical Advisory Committee (ESAC), which was established, on 11 March 2008. The Committee consists of 24 members representing users, respondents, producers and other parties interested in European statistics (including the scientific community, social partners and the civil society) as well as institutional users, such as the Council and the European Parliament.

Furthermore, ELSTAT participated in the 2nd phase of the project ESSnet BIGDATA II, in the following sub-projects:

- *Sub-project E: "Ship Tracking" (WPE Tracking Ships)*, which aims to develop a methodological reference framework, as well as procedures and technical specifications for the integration of data collected by the ship's transmission signal through the Automatic Identification System (AIS) in the production of official statistics.
- *Sub-project J: "Innovative Tourism Statistics" (WPJ Innovative Tourism Statistics)*, which aims to develop a conceptual framework and set up a smart pilot information system to support statistical production in the tourism sector, by integrating big and administrative data and by using innovative methods.

Moreover, ELSTAT participated, in 2019 as well, in the project ESSVIP "Digital Communication, User analytics and Innovative products (DIGICOM)", which is part of the project portfolio of ESS Vision 2020. This project aims to modernise the communication and dissemination of European statistics, notably by upgrading statistical products and services, through continuous and systematic dialogue with users and an analysis of their needs. The specific actions of the project concern:

- categorisation and analysis of user needs, in order to create products and services that meet their specific needs (WP1: User Analysis);
- developing communication tools (visualisation, animation, interactive tools and applications), in the context of an upgrade of the dissemination of European statistics, taking advantage of the opportunities provided by the digital transformation and the new data sources (WP2: Innovative and sharable products and tools);
- further development of the infrastructure for user access to open data and micro-data research data in machine-readable format, as well as the availability of tailor made data, subject to the safeguarding of the statistical confidentiality of the data (WP3: Open Data Dissemination);
- creating a strategy for communication and marketing, with the ultimate aim to optimise dissemination and communication to promote the value of national and European statistics (WP4: Communication and promotion – WP4.1: Communication and marketing strategy);
- development of the statistical literacy of citizens through joint actions and products (WP4: Communication and promotion – WP4.3: Statistical literacy).

ELSTAT actively participated in the DIGICOM project, in 2019, and more specifically, in its sub-projects WP2 and WP4, through the videoconferences and physical meetings that took place.

On 26 and 27 November 2019, the **DIGICOM Final event "Sharing landmark achievements in communication and dissemination"** took place in Brussels. The aim of this event was the overall presentation of the results and achievements of the project DIGICOM and the promotion of the

good practices followed, by working group, as well as the exchange of views on the future steps of the project.

The organisation focused on the 4 working groups of DIGICOM and the related presentations on the following issues:

- Modernising the dissemination and communication of official statistics
- Effective communication of official statistics
- Presentation of DIGICOM's achievements
- Effective dissemination of official statistics
- Official statistics from a user perspective
- E-gaming and official statistics
- Linked open statistical data
- Sharing visualisations, tools and applications
- Best practices.

The results of the DIGICOM project, which was completed by the end of 2019, are available at the following link:

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/ess/digicom>.

E. HUMAN RESOURCES OF ELSTAT

1. ELSTAT staff

On 31 December 2019, the total number of ELSTAT staff amounted to 703 employees: the permanent staff numbered 661 employees (241 men and 420 women), the staff working under Private Contract of Unlimited Duration numbered 39 employees (13 men and 26 women) and there were 3 employees (1 man and 2 women) under Private Contract of Limited Duration. In addition, out of the 703 officials of ELSTAT, 498 were employed in the Central Service and 205 in the Regional Statistical Offices.

The following table depicts the allocation of ELSTAT staff, by gender and education level, in 2018 and 2019 (31 December):

Table 1. ELSTAT staff, by gender and education level, 2018 and 2019

Education level	Men			Women			Total		
	2018	2019	Change (%)	2018	2019	Change (%)	2018	2019	Change (%)
University	167	161	-3.6	213	209	-1.9	380	370	-2.6
Technical	26	25	-3.8	56	57	1.8	82	82	0.0
Secondary	63	65	3.2	186	179	-3.8	249	244	-2.0
Obligatory	4	4	0.0	4	3	-25.0	8	7	-12.5
Total	260	255	-1.9	459	448	-2.4	719	703	-2.2

Z. ELSTAT BUDGET EXECUTION

ELSTAT's expenses, for 2018, are classified in the following categories:

- a) Labour cost (salaries of ELSTAT staff, including basic salary, allowances (family allowance, position allowance, etc.), social security contributions, overtime pay).
- b) Expenditure related to the staff's travelling within Greece and abroad, i.e., travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses for the employees of ELSTAT travelling:
 - in Greece, away of the headquarters or out of the office, for the purpose of conducting statistical surveys in the field,
 - abroad, for participating in meetings, seminars, etc. organised by Eurostat or other international organisations.

This category includes also expenses related to the transfer or detachment of ELSTAT employees to other agencies, in Greece or Eurostat.

- c) Other operating expenses, including expenses related to ELSTAT's buildings (Central and Regional Offices), such as rents, electricity, communication, water supply, security and building maintenance costs, expenses related to advertising and public relations, subscriptions, expenses for the provision of consumables (paper, stationery, medical and pharmaceutical supplies, materials for the maintenance and repair of premises and equipment), fuel, etc. In the same category are also included expenses for the provision of capital formation (furniture, PCs, printers, photocopiers and other office equipment), as well as the expenses for the remuneration of external survey workers, who are used by ELSTAT for the collection of data of conducted statistical surveys.
- d) Expenses for projects financed by Eurostat (for the conduct of surveys, studies and other statistical works).

Table 2 presents the allocation of ELSTAT's expenditure, in 2019, by type of expenditure, as well as the comparison with the corresponding debriefing expenditure, in 2018:

Table 2. ELSTAT expenses paid in 2019 in comparison with 2018

Category of expenditure	Amount paid (in euro)	
	2019	2018
Labour cost	21,883,709.99	21,553,255.31
Expenditure related to staff travelling within Greece and abroad	594,796.36	499,572.72
Other operating expenses and cost for capital formation	7,613,528.53	6,908,033.08
Projects financed by Eurostat	96,202.33	348,737.54
Total	30,188,237.21	29,309,598.65

The increase observed in 2019 compared with 2018, as regards the item "other operating expenses and cost for capital formation", is mainly due to expenditure on computer hardware and software and development of web applications.

