HELLENIC REPUBLIC

HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY   Piraeus, 23 September 2021

PRESS RELEASE
OVER-INDEBTEDNESS, CONSUMPTION AND WEALTH OF HOUSEHOLDS
2020 Survey on Income and Living Conditions (SILC)

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) announces the indicators on Over-indebtedness, Consumption and Wealth of households, on the basis of the available data of the 2020 Survey on Income and Living Conditions of Households (SILC) *with reference income period the* **previous calendar** *year, 2019*. The reference period as regards Over-indebtedness, Consumption and Wealth of households indicators is the year when the survey is conducted, i.e., the year 2020.

A. Over-indebtedness of the households

- 71.6% of households are not obliged to repay any loan, excluding any mortgage loan for the purchase of the main residence, while 28.4% of households are obliged to repay at least one loan, of which 20.1% of one loan, 6.4% of two loans, 1.6% of three loans and 0.3% of four loans (Graph 1, Table 1).

Graph 1. Percentage of households according to the number of loans that they are obliged to repay, with the exception of any mortgage loan for the purchase of a main residence.

20.1%
6.4%
1.9%
71.6
0.3%
1.6%

■ No loans at all ■ 1 loan ■ 2 loans ■ 3 loans ■ 4 loans
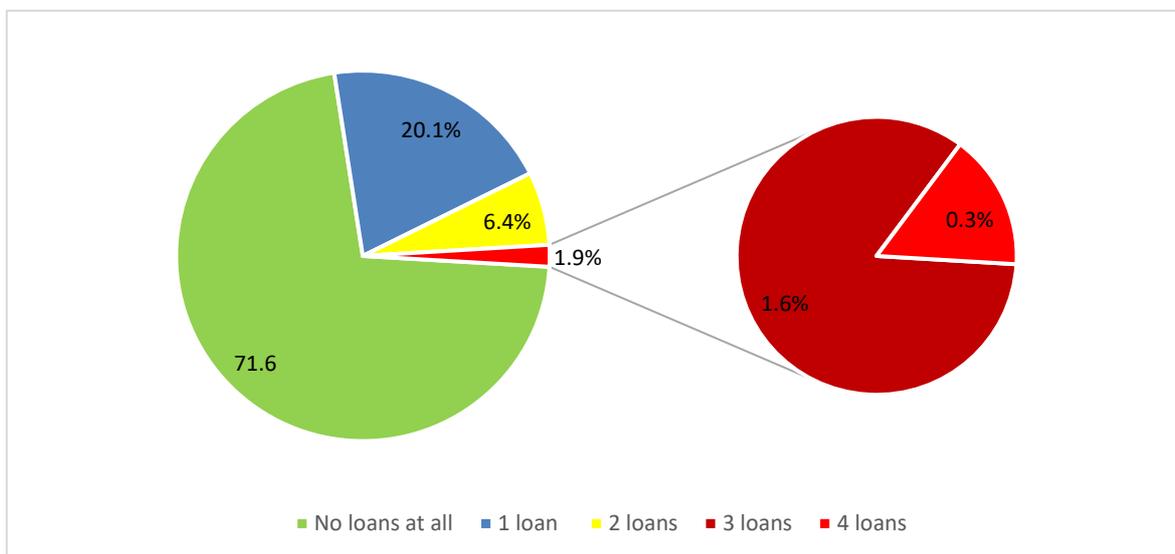
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- 16.1% of poor households declare the obligation to repay at least one (1) loan, while the corresponding percentage of non-poor households is estimated at 30.9% (Table 1).

- The main reason for taking a loan is the purchase of assets (including home furniture and appliances and interior decoration), inside or outside the country of residence (55.1%), followed by the coverage of daily living expenses (45.8%), education (9.0%), transport (7.7%), holidays (6.9%), medical care (3.7%), personal loan to finance own business (1.7%) and loan refinancing (1.4%) (Graph 2, Table 2).

Graph 2. Purpose of household loans with the exception of any mortgage loan for the purchase of a main residence: 2020

%

Purpose	%
Property	55.1
To cover daily living expenses	45.8
Education	9.0
Purchase of means of transport	7.7
Holidays	6.9
Other (not listed above)	5.6
Healthcare	3.7
Personal loan to finance own business	1.7
To refinance loan	1.4
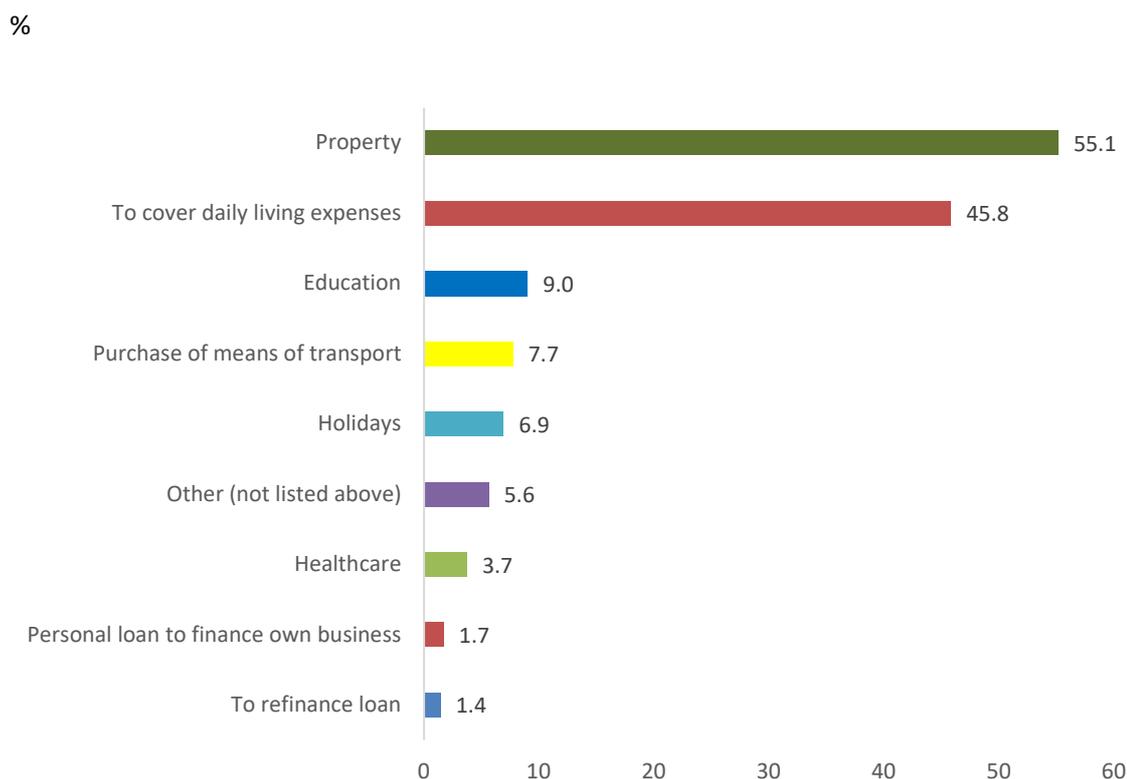
- The main source of financing of the above household loans is a Bank or other financial institution (98.3%), followed by a private source (relatives, friends, etc.) at a rate of 1.5% and other source 0.3% (Table 3).

- The average amount due, including interest and capital, of household loans for all its members, paid last month (excluding any mortgage loan for the purchase of the main residence) is estimated to 236.15 euros, while the corresponding amount of poor households at 175.48 euros and non-poor households at 242.64 euros (Table 4).

B. Households' consumption

- The average amount spent by households last month on food and non-alcoholic beverages consumed / to be consumed at home amounted to 295.82 euros, while the corresponding amount of poor households is estimated at 245.18 euros and non-poor households at 306.22 euros (Table 5).

- The average amount spent by households last month on food and beverage consumption outside the home is estimated at 120.46 euros, while the corresponding amount of poor households at 102.39 euros and non-poor households at 123.63 euros (Table 6).

- The average amount spent by households on the use of public transport last month is estimated at 32.00 euros, while the corresponding amount of poor households at 31.00 euros and non-poor households at 32.18 euros (Table 7).

- The average amount spent by households on the use of private transport last month is estimated at 150.36 euros, while the corresponding amount of poor households at 136.94 euros and non-poor households at 152.47 euros (Table 8).

B. Households' wealth

Graph 3. Percentage of households that at the end of a typical (normal) month, have the financial ability or not with their current income for savings, with distinction between poor and non-poor households: 2020

%

Category	Value
Household neither puts money aside nor needs to draw on saving or borrow	19.1
Household needs to borrow money	16.9
Household needs to draw on savings	27.0
Household puts money aside	36.9
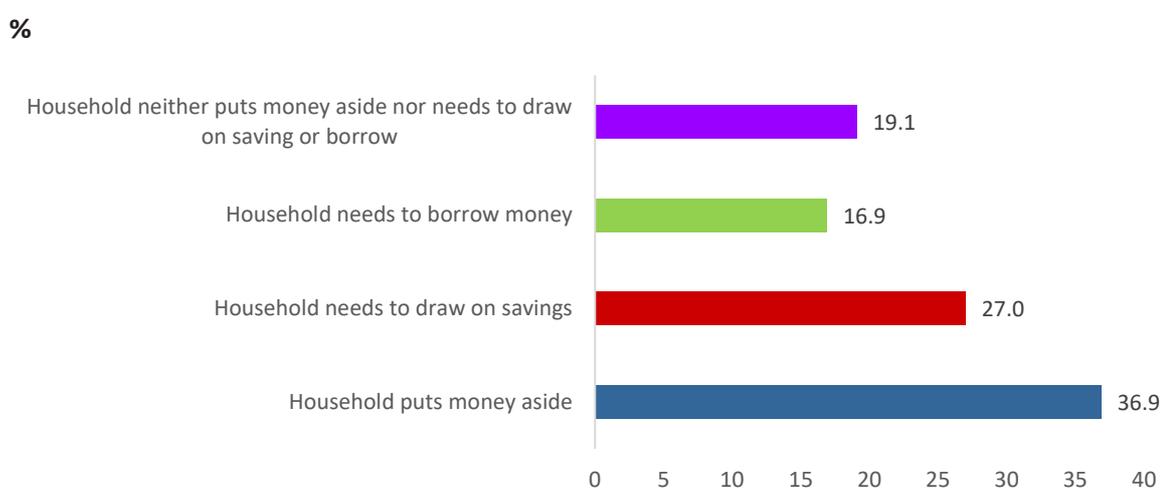
- At the end of a typical (normal) month, households that put money aside amount to 36.9%, while 27.0% need spending from their savings (whether it is bank deposits or money kept at home), 16.9% need borrowing from third parties, and 19.1% neither save nor in need of disbursement or borrowing. The corresponding percentages of poor households are estimated at 9.2%, 29.8%, 37.8% and 23.2%. (Table 9).

- 32.9% of households stated that they could maintain the same standard of living using savings (in banking or at home) for less than 3 months, 17.0% for 3 to 6 months, 8.2% for 7 to 12 months and 5.9% for more than 12 months, while 36.0% do not have savings. The corresponding percentages of poor households are estimated at 28.1%, 6.3%, 2.7%, 2.0% and 60.9% (Table 10).

- The current value (sale price) of the main household dwelling, i.e., the amount that the household assumed it would receive if they sold their main dwelling, amounted to 104,005 euros, while the corresponding amount of poor households is estimated at 89,658 euros and non-poor households at 106,810 euros (Table 11).

- The average amount remaining to repay the mortgage loan of the main residence amounts to 39,959 euros, while the corresponding amount of poor households is estimated at 29,570 euros and non-poor households at 41,743 euros (Table 12).

- 40.6% of households stated that they own some real estate other than main residence, while the respective percentages of poor and non-poor households are estimated at 28.1% and 43.2% (Table 13).

TABLES

Table 1
Percentage of households according to the number of loans that they are obliged to repay, with the exception of any mortgage loan for the purchase of a main residence, with distinction between poor and non-poor households: 2020

%

Number of loans	Households		
	Total	Poor	Non poor
No loans at all	71.6	83.9	69.1
At least 1 loan	28.4	16.1	30.9
1 loan	*20.1*	11.1	21.9
2 loans	*6.4*	4.3	6.8
3 loans	*1.6*	0.6	1.8
4 loans	*0.3*	0.1	0.3

Table 2
Purpose of loans (excluding mortgages on purchase of main residence), with distinction between poor and non-poor households: 2020

%

Purpose of loans	Households		
	Total	Poor	Non poor
Property (incl. household furniture, appliances and interior decoration) inside or outside the country of residence	55.1	55.2	55.0
Car, motorcycle, caravan, van, bike or other means of transport	7.7	5.5	7.9
Holidays	6.9	2.0	7.4
Health care	3.7	1.9	3.8
Education	9.0	18.5	8.0
To cover daily living expenses	45.8	39.0	46.6
Personal loan to finance own business	1.7	5.0	1.3
To refinance loan	1.4	0.9	1.4
Other reason (not listed above)	5.6	8.1	5.3

Table 3
Source of loans with distinction between poor and non-poor households: 2020

%

Source of loans	Households		
	Total	**Poor**	**Non poor**
Bank or other financial institution (e.g. credit union, microcredit provider)	98.3	98.0	98.3
Payday loan company or pawnbroker/cash converter	-	-	-
Private sources (e.g. family, friends)	1.5	1.6	1.5
Other	0.3	0.6	0.2

Table 4
Average total amount due, including interest and principal, of household loans for all their members, paid last month (excluding any mortgage for the purchase of the main residence): 2020

in euros

	Households		
	Total	**Poor**	**Non poor**
Average total amount due, including interest and capital, of household loans for all their members, paid last month (excluding any mortgage for the purchase of the main residence)	236.15	175.48	242.64

Table 5
Average amount spent by households last month on consumption of food and beverages outside the home, with distinction between poor and non-poor households: 2020

in euros

	Households		
	Total	**Poor**	**Non poor**
Average amount spent by households last month on consumption of food and beverages outside the home	295.82	245.18	306.22

Table 6
Average amount spent by households last month on consumption of food and beverages outside the home, with distinction between poor and non-poor households: 2020

in euros

	Households		
	Total	**Poor**	**Non poor**
Average amount spent by households last month on consumption of food and beverages outside the home	120.46	102.39	123.63

Table 7

Average amount spent by households on public transport last month, with distinction between poor and non-poor households: 2020

in euros

	Households		
	Total	**Poor**	**Non poor**
Average amount spent by households on public transport last month	32.00	31.00	32.18

Table 8.

Average amount spent by households on the use of private transport last month, with distinction between poor and non-poor households: 2020

in euros

	Households		
	Total	**Poor**	**Non poor**
Average amount spent by households on the use of private transport last month	150.36	136.94	152.47

Table 9

Percentage of households that at the end of a typical (normal) month, have the financial ability or not, with their current income, for savings, with distinction between poor and non-poor households: 2020

%

Percentage of households that at the end of a typical (normal) month:	Households		
	Total	**Poor**	**Non poor**
Put money aside	36.9	9.2	42.6
Need to draw on savings	27.0	29.8	26.5
Need to borrow money	16.9	37.8	12.6
Neither put money aside nor need to draw on savings or borrow	19.1	23.2	18.3

Table 10

Period of maintenance of the same standard of living using only their savings (in bank accounts or at home, in case households were not going to receive any income in the future), with distinction between poor and non-poor households: 2020

%

Period of maintenance of the same standard of living	Households		
	Total	**Poor**	**Non poor**
Less than 3 months	32.9	28.1	33.9
Between 3 and 6 months	17.0	6.3	19.2
Between 7 and 12 months	8.2	2.7	9.4
More than 12 months	5.9	2.0	6.7
Household has no savings	36.0	60.9	30.9

Table 11

Value of main residence, with distinction between poor and non-poor households: 2020

in euros

Value of main residence	Households		
	Total	**Poor**	**Non poor**
	104,005	89,658	106,810

Table 12

Total amount left to repay for the mortgage on main residence, with distinction between poor and non-poor households: 2020

in euros

	Households		
	Total	**Poor**	**Non poor**
Total amount left to repay for the mortgage on main residence	39,959	29,570	41,743

Table 13

Percentage of households that own some real estate other than main residence, with distinction between poor and non-poor households: 2020

%

	Households		
	Total	**Poor**	**Non poor**
Percentage of households that own some real estate other than main residence	40.6	28.1	43.2

EXPLANATORY NOTES

European Union - Statistics on Income and Living Conditions - EU-SILC

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

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

Legal basis

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

Income reference period used

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

Coverage

The survey covers all private households throughout the country irrespective of their size or socio-economic characteristics.

The following are excluded from the survey:

- Institutional households of all types (boarding houses, elderly homes, hospitals, prisons, rehabilitation centers, camps, etc.). More generally, households with more than five lodgers are considered institutional households.

- Households with foreign nationals serving in diplomatic missions.

Methodology

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

The sample for any year consists of 4 replications, which have been in the survey for 1-4 years. With the exception of the first three years of survey, any particular replication remains in the survey for 4 years. Each year, one of the 4 replications from the previous year is dropped and a new one is added. The rotation scheme started from the first year (2003). In order to have a complete sample the first year of survey, the four panels began simultaneously. For the EU-SILC longitudinal component. The persons who were selected initially are interviewed for a period of four years, equal to the duration of each panel.

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

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

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

ii) The second level of stratification entails grouping municipalities and the lowest administrative units within each NUTS II Regions by degree of urbanization, i.e., according to their population size. The scaling of urbanization was designed in four groups:

- >= 30.000 inhabitants,
- 5,000 – 29,999 inhabitants,
- 1,000 – 4,999 inhabitants,
- 0-999 inhabitants.

Sample selection schemes

i) In this stage, from any ultimate stratum (crossing of Region with the degree of urbanization) -say stratum h, n_h primary units were drawn; where the number n_h of draws was approximately proportional to the population size X_h of the stratum (number of households according to the 2011 population census).

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

The survey was designed in 2003 to provide reliable estimates of interest at the national level. The original design was gradually modified from 2015 to achieve the main objectives of the European strategy "Europe 2020" as well as national needs. In 2019 the sample design based on the results of the "Study of the current sampling design of the Survey of Income and Living Conditions (SILC) with the objective to increase/adjust the sample at regional (NUTSII) level" in order to improve the estimates of regional EU-SILC indicators.

Sample size In 2020, the survey was conducted on a final sample of 15,086 households and on 32,962 members of those households, 28,878 of them aged 16 years and over. The average size was calculated at 2.18 members per household.

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

a. The reverse probability of selection of an individual, that coincides with the reverse probability of selection of a household.

b. Reverse of the percentage of response of households inside the strata.

c. A corrective factor which is determined in a way that:

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

ii) the estimation of households by size order (1,2, 3, or 4+ members) and by tenure status coincides with the reference year that was calculated with projection that was based on the longitudinal tendency of the 2001 and 2011 population censuses.

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

More specifically the income components included in the survey are:

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

Equivalent disposable income is defined as the total disposable income of a household after its division by the equivalent household size. The equivalent household size is calculated according to the modified OECD scale.

It is pointed out that in the distribution per person it is considered, based on the above definition, that each member of the household has the same income that corresponds to the equivalent disposable income. This means that each member of the household enjoys the same standard of living. Therefore, in the individual distribution, the income attributed to each individual does not represent a monetary gain, but an indicator of a standard of living.

The total available income of the household is calculated as the sum of income of the household's members (income from salaried services, from self-employment. pensions, benefits of unemployment income from immovable property, familial benefits, regular pecuniary transfers etc) that is to say, the total of net earnings coming from all the sources of income after subtracting any benefits to other households. To this sum the tax should also be added pertaining to the tax that potentially was returned and concerned the liquidation of income of the previous year.

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

Unit Information on over indebtedness, consumption, and wealth applies at household level and refers to the household as a whole

Population status **Poor population**: The percentage of population under the poverty threshold.

Non poor population: The percentage of population over the poverty threshold.

References For further information on the survey visit ELSTAT's webpage on
Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC)