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PRESS RELEASE

SURVEY ON IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL CARE, 2015

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) announces the results of the In-patient Hospital Care Survey of the year 2015.

The In-patient Hospital Care Survey is a census survey and refers to the annual collection of data from public and private hospitals in Greece for the monitoring of the morbidity, at national and regional level. More specifically, the survey aims to record data on the number of patients discharged, their demographic characteristics and the disease diagnosed, in line with the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD 10), provided that they stayed at least one night in the hospital.

The survey data were compiled from 275 hospitals/clinics. As regards the geographical location of hospitals, 36.4% (100) of them are located in Attiki and 24.0% (66) in Makedonia, while as regards their legal form, 45.5% (125) were public hospitals/clinics.

In year 2015, the total number of discharges amounted to 1,484,485 presenting a decrease of 2.2% (1,517,886) compared to year 2014, out of which 740,094 (49.9%) concerned male and 744,391 (50.1%) female patients. The 75.1% (1,114,792) of patients discharged were hospitalized in public hospitals/clinics.

As regards age, the largest number of patients discharged was observed in the age group 60-79 with 492,501 patients (33.2%), out of which 281,591 (57.2%) were males and 210,910 (42.8%) females (Table 1).

Table 1. Total of hospital discharges by age group and gender, 2015

Age groups	Number of discharges	%	Males	%	Females	%
Total	1,484,485	100.0	740,094	100.0	744,391	100.0
0 - 5 years	86,332	5.8	48,528	6.6	37,804	5.1
6 – 19 years	78,678	5.3	42,397	5.7	36,281	4.9
20 -39 years	253,375	17.1	85,333	11.5	168,042	22.6
40 -59 years	303,171	20.4	155,868	21.1	147,303	19.8
60 -79 years	492,501	33.2	281,591	38.1	210,910	28.3
80 years and over	265,112	17.9	123,282	16.7	141,830	19.1
Not reported	5,316	0.4	3,095	0.4	2,221	0.3

According to the survey data from the total number of 1,484,485 patients discharged, 84.9% were cured or presented an improvement in their health status, 11.6% had no change or deterioration in their health status and 3.5% passed away.

Furthermore, in year 2015, data on day-care cases amounted to 1,070,005 presenting an increase of 0.4% (1,065,227) compared to 2014 (Table 5).

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The “Diseases of the circulatory system” accounted for the most of the patients discharged in 2015, with 206,205 (13.9%) incidents, followed by “Neoplasms” with 172,074 (11.6%), “Diseases of the digestive system” with 157,422 (10.6%), “Diseases of the respiratory system” with 138,743 (9.3%), “Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified” with 126,298 (8.5%) and “Diseases of the genitourinary system” with 118,168 (8.0%)(Table 2).

Table 2. Total of hospital discharges by diseases category and gender, 2015

Category of diseases	Discharges	%	Males	%	Females	%
Grand total	1,484,485	100.0	740,094	100.0	744,391	100.0
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases	32,800	2.2	16,825	2.3	15,975	2.1
Neoplasms	172,074	11.6	93,578	12.6	78,496	10.5
Diseases of the blood and bloodforming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism	25,468	1.7	11,520	1.6	13,948	1.9
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	29,133	2.0	10,574	1.4	18,559	2.5
Mental and behavioural disorders	34,346	2.3	19,188	2.6	15,158	2.0
Diseases of the nervous system	45,269	3.1	24,342	3.3	20,927	2.8
Diseases of the eye and adnexa	39,742	2.7	19,156	2.6	20,586	2.8
Diseases of the ear and mastoid process	6,753	0.5	3,608	0.5	3,145	0.4
Diseases of the circulatory system	206,205	13.9	125,847	17.0	80,358	10.8
Diseases of the respiratory system	138,743	9.3	78,650	10.6	60,093	8.1
Diseases of the digestive system	157,422	10.6	87,537	11.8	69,885	9.4
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	20,564	1.4	11,928	1.6	8,636	1.2
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	54,668	3.7	22,580	3.1	32,088	4.3
Diseases of the genitourinary system	118,168	8.0	53,200	7.2	64,968	8.7
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	106,415	7.2	-	0.0	106,415	14.3
Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	20,471	1.4	11,215	1.5	9,256	1.2
Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities	6,518	0.4	3,873	0.5	2,645	0.4
Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	126,298	8.5	69,234	9.4	57,064	7.7
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	111,354	7.5	60,070	8.1	51,284	6.9
External causes of morbidity and mortality	12,063	0.8	7,268	1.0	4,795	0.6
Factors influencing health status and contact with health services	20,011	1.4	9,901	1.3	10,110	1.4

Table 3 shows the average length of hospital stay by category of diseases (ICD-10). The longest average length of stay in 2015 was observed in the category “Mental and behavioural disorders” (80.3 days), followed by “Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period” (9.9 days), “Diseases of the nervous system” (6.6 days), “Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities” (6.4 days), “Neoplasms” (6.3 days), and “Certain infectious and parasitic diseases” (6.0 days).

Table 3. Average length¹ of hospital stay by diseases category, 2015

Category of diseases	Days
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases	6.0
Neoplasms	6.3
Diseases of the blood and bloodforming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism	4.7
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	5.0
Mental and behavioural disorders	80.3
Diseases of the nervous system	6.6
Diseases of the eye and adnexa	1.7
Diseases of the ear and mastoid process	4.2
Diseases of the circulatory system	5.7
Diseases of the respiratory system	5.7
Diseases of the digestive system	4.4
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	5.5
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	5.3
Diseases of the genitourinary system	4.3
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	3.7
Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	9.9
Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities	6.4
Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	4.1
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	5.7
External causes of morbidity and mortality	4.0
Factors influencing health status and contact with health services	5.3

¹ Patients with over 1-year length of stay are also included in the data of table 3

A total of 452,223 operations were carried out in the 1,484,485 patients hospitalised in year 2015. Most of them were carried out in the category “Diseases of the digestive system”, accounting for 18.7% of the total number of operations (Table 4), followed by the “Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes” with 12.1%, the “Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium” with 11.8% and the “Diseases of the genitourinary system” with 11.2%.

As regards males, the three categories with the highest number of operations concerned “Diseases of the digestive system” (24.1%), “Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes” (13.6%) and “Diseases of the circulatory system” (11.7%). As regards females, the three categories with the highest number of operations concerned “Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium” (21.3%), “Diseases of the digestive system” (14.4%) and “Diseases of the genitourinary system” (12.4%).

Table 4. Surgical operations of patients discharged by diseases category and gender, 2015

Category of diseases	Operations	%	Males	%	Females	%
Grand total	452,223	100.0	201,968	100.0	250,255	100.0
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases	31	0.0	14	0.0	17	0.0
Neoplasms	50,163	11.1	23,475	11.6	26,688	10.7
Diseases of the blood and bloodforming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism	14	0.0	8	0.0	6	0.0
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	8,680	1.9	2,259	1.1	6,421	2.6
Diseases of the nervous system	2,828	0.6	1,146	0.6	1,682	0.7
Diseases of the eye and adnexa	35,229	7.8	16,722	8.3	18,507	7.4
Diseases of the ear and mastoid process	1,316	0.3	654	0.3	662	0.3
Diseases of the circulatory system	36,722	8.1	23,588	11.7	13,134	5.2
Diseases of the respiratory system	25,914	5.7	15,779	7.8	10,135	4.0
Diseases of the digestive system	84,630	18.7	48,655	24.1	35,975	14.4
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	8,310	1.8	5,463	2.7	2,847	1.1
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	28,440	6.3	10,780	5.3	17,660	7.1
Diseases of the genitourinary system	50,571	11.2	19,430	9.6	31,141	12.4
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	53,380	11.8	-	0.0	53,380	21.3
Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	93	0.0	42	0.0	51	0.0
Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities	3,586	0.8	2,410	1.2	1,176	0.5
Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	1,178	0.3	794	0.4	384	0.2
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	54,875	12.1	27,510	13.6	27,365	10.9
External causes of morbidity and mortality	822	0.2	631	0.3	191	0.1
Factors influencing health status and contact with health services	5,441	1.2	2,608	1.3	2,833	1.1

The one-day clinic patients (Table 5) amounted to 1,070,005, out of which 516,073 (48.2%) were male and 553,932 (51.8%) females. The total number of discharges of one-day clinic patients in 2015 represented the 41.9% of total 2.554.490 discharges. The category of diseases with the biggest share of day care patients was "Neoplasms" (39.2%), followed by "Diseases of the genitourinary system" with 10.1% and "Diseases of the eye and adnexa" with 9.1% and "Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism" with 8.8%.

Table 5. Discharges of day care patients by diseases category and gender, 2015

Category of diseases	Patients discharged	%	Males	%	Females	%
Grand total	1,070,005	100.0	516,073	100.0	553,932	100.0
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases	6,679	0.6	3,080	0.6	3,599	0.6
Neoplasms	419,944	39.2	211,159	40.9	208,785	37.7
Diseases of the blood and bloodforming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism	94,691	8.8	43,629	8.5	51,062	9.2
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	9,080	0.8	4,024	0.8	5,056	0.9
Mental and behavioural disorders	4,097	0.4	2,217	0.4	1,880	0.3
Diseases of the nervous system	30,346	2.8	11,339	2.2	19,007	3.4
Diseases of the eye and adnexa	97,592	9.1	46,007	8.9	51,585	9.3
Diseases of the ear and mastoid process	1,944	0.2	1,087	0.2	857	0.2
Diseases of the circulatory system	31,356	2.9	19,167	3.7	12,189	2.2
Diseases of the respiratory system	13,982	1.3	7,826	1.5	6,156	1.1
Diseases of the digestive system	39,432	3.7	20,912	4.1	18,520	3.3
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	17,274	1.6	9,630	1.9	7,644	1.4
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	44,718	4.2	16,897	3.3	27,821	5.0
Diseases of the genitourinary system	108,238	10.1	46,679	9.0	61,559	11.1
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	17,362	1.6	-	0.0	17,362	3.1
Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	1,028	0.1	598	0.1	430	0.1
Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities	2,868	0.3	1,690	0.3	1,178	0.2
Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	58,652	5.5	32,238	6.3	26,414	4.8
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	20,291	1.9	11,957	2.3	8,334	1.5
External causes of morbidity and mortality	3,976	0.4	2,390	0.5	1,586	0.3
Factors influencing health status and contact with health services	46,455	4.3	23,547	4.6	22,908	4.1

The average age of adult patients discharged in 2015 was 60.8 years (males 62.6 and females 59.0). Table 6 presents the average age of discharged patients over 18 years old for the most frequent categories of diseases by gender.

Table 6. Average age of patients discharged aged 18 years and over by diseases category and gender, 2015

Category of diseases	Average age	Patients discharged	Average age	Males	Average age	Females
Diseases of the circulatory system	69.1	203,766	67.1	124,274	72.3	79,492
Neoplasms	64.0	167,273	66.2	91,021	61.3	76,252
Diseases of the digestive system	61.1	143,883	61.2	80,132	61.0	63,751
Diseases of the genitourinary system	60.5	110,759	65.9	48,633	56.3	62,126
Diseases of the respiratory system	65.1	110,081	63.8	62,353	66.8	47,728
Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	63.1	104,289	63.0	57,892	63.2	46,397
Pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	32.0	103,914	-	-	32.0	103,914
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	59.6	96,792	51.9	50,707	68.2	46,085

As regards the breakdown discharges by patient's place of residence (Table 7), the biggest share of discharges was recorded in the Region of Attiki (32.5%), followed by Kentriki Makedonia (17.4%) and Thessalia (6.9%).

Table 7. Number of discharges by NUTS 2 region of the place of permanent residence, 2015

NUTS 2 Region	Patients discharged	(%)
Anatoliki Makedonia, Thraki	84,627	5.7
Kentriki Makedonia	258,602	17.4
Dytiki Makedonia	39,217	2.6
Thessalia	101,795	6.9
Ipeiros	50,447	3.4
Ionia Nisia	30,905	2.1
Dytiki Ellada	84,314	5.7
Stereia Ellada	50,568	3.4
Peloponnisos	68,667	4.6
Attiki	482,789	32.5
Voreio Aigaio	26,390	1.8
Notio Aigaio	35,335	2.4
Kriti	87,092	5.9
Out of Greece	10,705	0.7
Not reported	73,032	4.9
Total	1,484,485	100.0

EXPLANATORY NOTES

In-patient Hospital Care Survey (Hospital discharges) The Survey on In-patient Hospital Care (hospital discharges) is conducted for national needs on a yearly basis. The main purpose of the survey is to provide users with reliable and comprehensive information on the morbidity of the population. The questionnaires are filled in by the administrative departments of the hospitals in electronic format and are transmitted to ELSTAT.

Legal framework The survey on in-patient hospital care is conducted by virtue of the Circular 795/27.11.1959 by the Ministers of Coordination and Social Welfare on the "Collection of statistical data on incoming and out coming patients of all hospitals in Greece". Moreover, it is conducted in accordance with the Regulation 1338/2008 on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work.

Reference Period The calendar year when the patient was discharged from the hospital.

Statistical population The hospitals (public hospitals, Legal Entities of Private and Public Law, private clinics) and the patient who was hospitalized. The survey refers to all the patients who were hospitalized at least once in all the hospitals/clinics of Greece. From 2013 onwards, the survey also records day care incidents, surgical operations and other medical activities requiring the hospitalization of patients only for some hours, without staying in the hospital and refer to several medical specialties.

Definitions

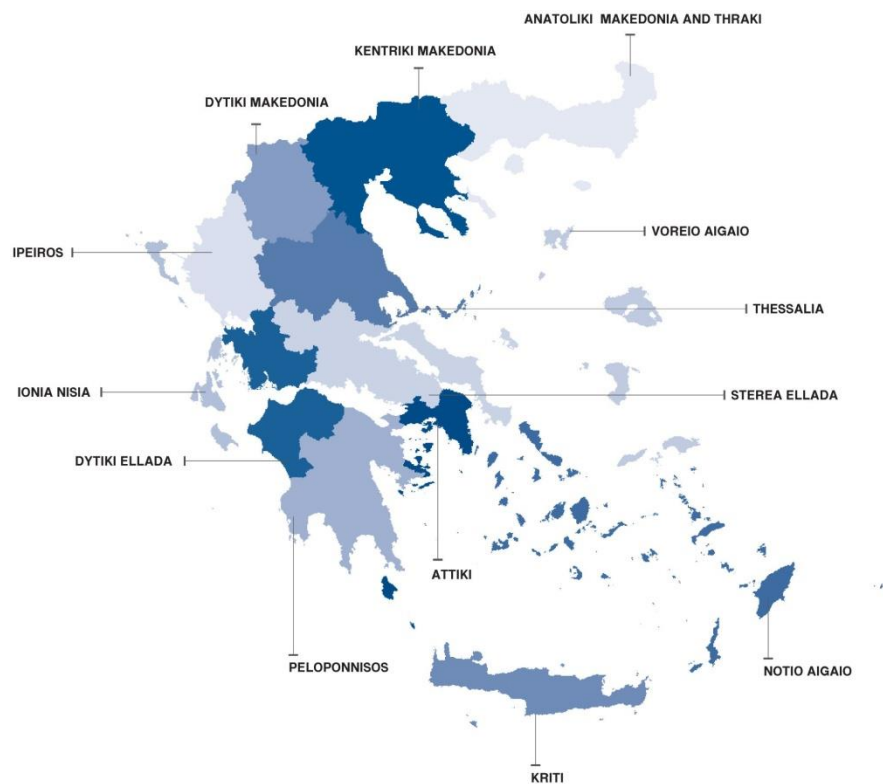
- **"Hospital"** is a health care institution where health care treatment is provided to patients by specialised medical or non-medical personnel. Hospitals, depending on their legal form, are classified as Legal Entities under Public Law, Legal Entities under Private Law, and private hospitals. Depending on the medical cases hospitalized, hospitals are distinguished into General, Mixed and Specialised (depending on the Medical Specialties: to cancer, dermatological, cardiological, gynaecological, psychiatric, orthopaedics, pathological, paediatrics, surgical and otolaryngology hospitals).
- **"Patient"** is the person who has been hospitalized for at least one day in the above mentioned hospitals. The survey refers to patients discharged from hospitals and their personal data are recorded every month, once the patient is discharged.
- **"Category of the disease"** according to the International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems ICD-10 is the main disease diagnosed for which the patient was hospitalised, irrespectively whether another less important disease was diagnosed.
- **"Agency which is bearing the expenditure"** is the agency disbursing the payment, i.e. the social security fund or the patient himself.
- **"Number of operations"** is the number of operations which the patient had.

- “**The outcome of the hospitalisation**” may be a full recovery, a health improvement, a stable condition, a worsening of patients’ condition, or death
- “**Days of hospitalisation**” are the days during which the patient was hospitalized starting from the day the patient was admitted to hospital until the day when the patient was discharged.

Methodology, classifications

Until 2012, the data processing was conducted on a sample representing 12.5% of the total of the hospital discharges. Furthermore, the total number of discharges (2,196,864 in 2012) also included the day care incidents. From 2013 onwards, the data processing is conducted on a census basis. Data on the patient’s occupation are classified according to ISCO-08. The diseases are classified in accordance with the International Classification of Disease and Related Health Problems, ICD-10. The geographical break down of data is in accordance with NUTS II classification.

Map of 13 NUTS 2 Regions of Greece



References More information on the Survey on In-patient Hospital Care can be found on the website of ELSTAT, at the link:

<https://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE12/->