



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

Piraeus, 27 July 2022

## PRESS RELEASE RISK OF POVERTY

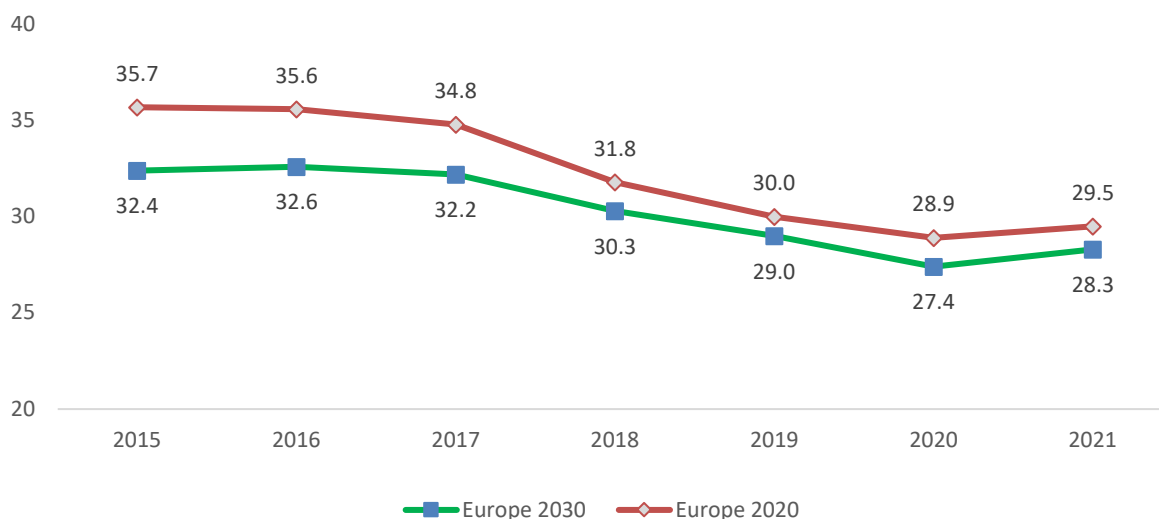
### 2021 Survey on Income and Living Conditions (Income reference period: 2020)

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) announces data on risk of poverty, based on the 2021 Survey on Income and Living Conditions of Households (EU-SILC), **with income reference period the year 2020**. This survey is the main source for comparable statistics on income distribution and social exclusion at European level.

#### A. Risk of poverty or social exclusion

Based on the data of the 2021 Household Income and Living Conditions Survey, the population at risk of poverty or social exclusion, according to the revised definition<sup>1</sup> (the target set in social protection by the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan “EU 2030 targets” is: ‘The number of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion should be reduced by at least 15 million, out of them, at least 5 million should be children’ by 2030), amounts to 28.3% of the country's population (2,971,200 people), showing an increase compared to 2020 by 0.9 percentage points.

**Graph 1. Percentage of population at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion: 2015-2021**



*Information on methodological issues:*

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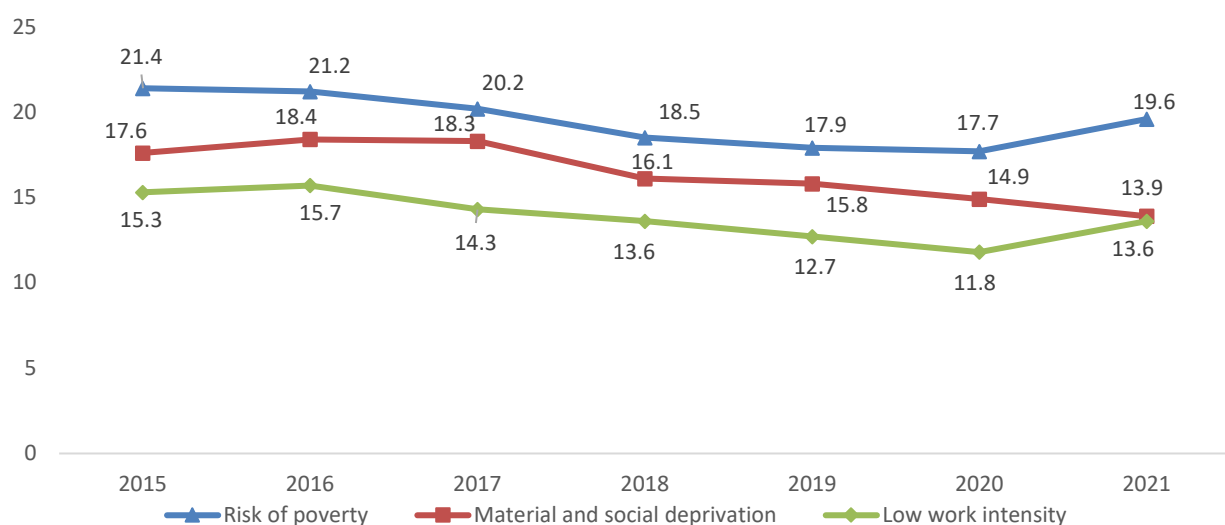
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<sup>1</sup> **Revised definition - Population at risk of poverty or social exclusion:** population at risk of poverty or with material and social deprivation (i.e., Proportion of the population experiencing an enforced lack of at least 7 out of 13 deprivation items) or living in households with very low work intensity – more information in explanatory notes.

Based on the initial definition<sup>2</sup> (the “Europe 2020” program had set the target of reducing poverty by ‘lifting at least 20 million people out of the risk of poverty and social exclusion’ by 2020) of the above indicator, the population at risk of poverty or social exclusion amounts to 29.5% (3,092,300 people) of the country’s population, recording an increase compared to 2020 by 0.6 percentage points (2020: 28.9%). The Graph 1 below presents the evolution of the index since 2015.

**Graph 2. Percentage of population at-risk-of-poverty, material social deprivation and low work intensity (Europe 2030): 2015-2021**



The increase in the percentage of the at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion is due to the increase in the percentage of the population in low work intensity (from 11.8% in 2020 to 13.6% in 2021) and the population at risk of poverty from 17.7% in the year 2020 to 19.6% in the year 2021 (Graph 2).

The risk of poverty or social exclusion is higher in the case of children aged 17 and under (32.0%) (Table 1.1).

The percentage of the population aged 18-64 living in households with low work intensity is estimated at 13.6% of the total population of this age group, showing an increase of 1.8 percentage points compared to the year 2020. The percentage for men amounts to 12.5% and for women to 14.6% (Table 1.2).

Table 12 presents the at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion rate for the years 2015-2021 for those European countries whose 2020 EU-SILC survey results are available now.

## B. At risk-of-poverty rate<sup>3</sup> and poverty threshold after social transfers

The poverty threshold amounted to 5,251 Euros per single person household annually and to 11,028 Euros for households with two adults and two dependent children under 14 years old (Table 3). By definition, it is set at

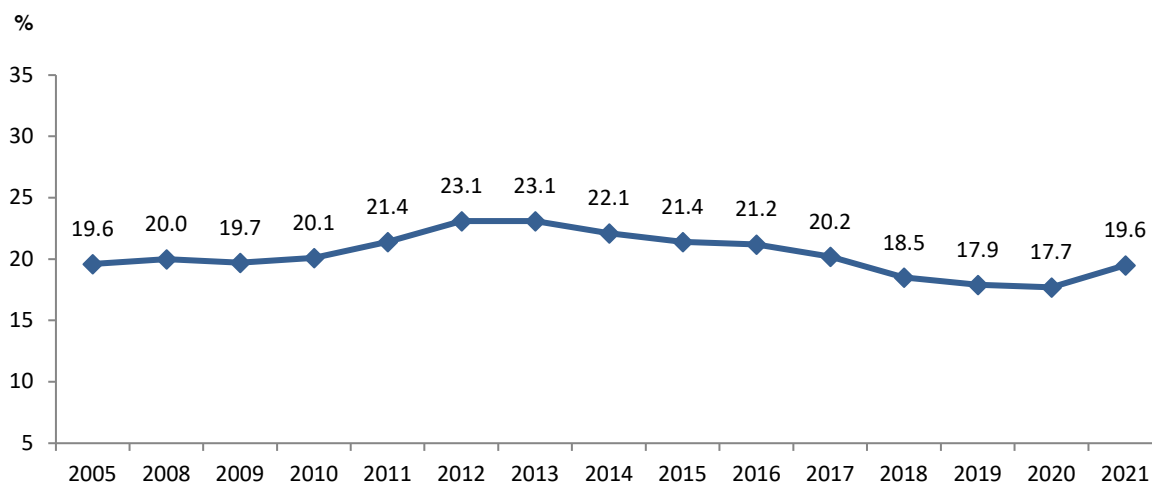
<sup>2</sup> **Initial definition - Population at risk of poverty or social exclusion:** population at risk of poverty or material deprivation (i.e., Proportion of the population experiencing an enforced lack of at least 4 out of 9 deprivation items) or living in households with low work intensity - more information in the explanatory notes.

<sup>3</sup> The “at-risk-of poverty rate (after social transfers)” is defined as the percentage of persons (over the total population) with an equivalised disposable income below the ‘at-risk-of-poverty threshold’ (i.e., below the 60% of the median equivalised disposable income).

60% of the median of the total equivalised disposable household income, which was estimated at 8,752 Euros, while the mean annual disposable income of the households of the country was estimated at 17,089 Euros.

In 2021, 19.6% of the total population was at risk of poverty<sup>4</sup> registering an increase of 1.9 percentage points. This indicator amounted to 19.6% in 2005 (with income reference period 2004) and recorded an upward trend up to 2012 (23.1%), starting to decrease from 2014 onwards, as depicted in Graph 3 that follows.

**Graph 3. Population at risk of poverty: 2005, 2008 – 2021\***



*\*It is noted that the income reference period is the year prior to the year the survey is conducted, that is, the data on income refer to the period 2004, 2007 - 2020.*

The households at risk-of-poverty amount to 765,372 out of a total of 4,108,895 households, and the members of these households amount to 2,054,015 out of a total of 10,498,099 persons which is the country's estimated total population, living in private households.

The at-risk-of-poverty rate for children aged 0-17 years (child poverty) amounted to 23.7%, recording an increase of 2.8 percentage points compared to 2020, while for the population 18-64 years old and 65 years old and over is 20.6% (2020: 18.4%) and 13.5% (2020: 13.0%), respectively (Table 4).

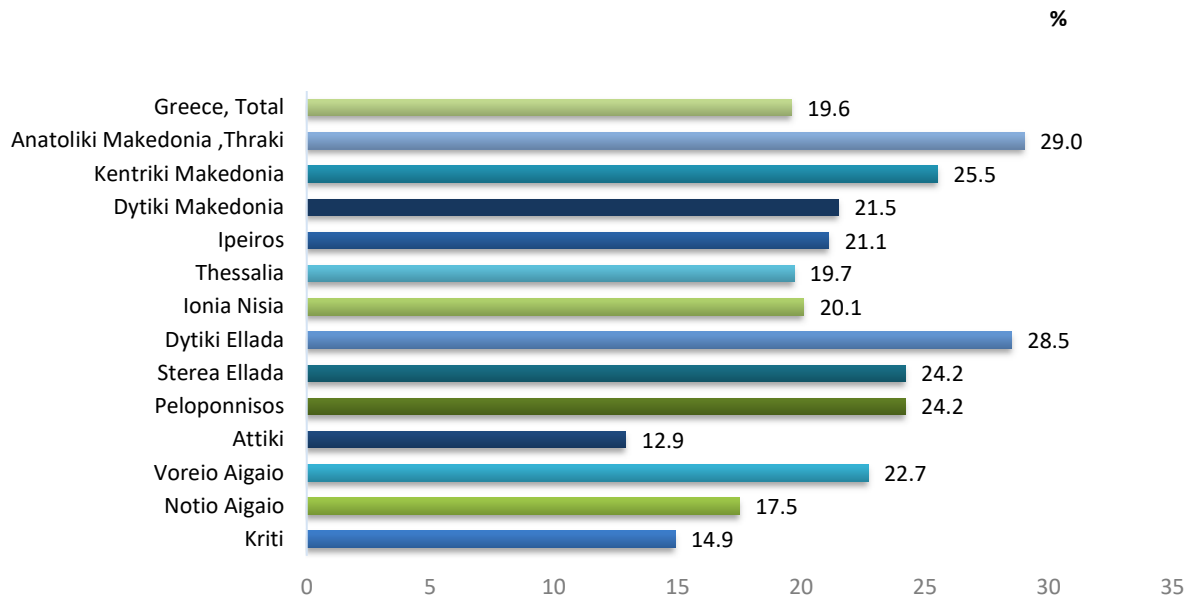
The at-risk-of-poverty rate, using thresholds different than 60% of the median of the total equivalised disposable household income, amounts to:

- 8.3%, when the risk of poverty threshold is defined at 40% of the median of the total equivalised disposable household income,
- 13.3%, when the risk of poverty threshold is defined at 50% of the median of the total equivalised disposable household income and,
- 26.7%, when the risk of poverty threshold is defined at 70% of the median of the total equivalised disposable household income, respectively.

In three (3) Regions (Attiki, Kriti and Notio Aigaio) the at-risk-of-poverty rate is lower than that of the Country total, while in the remaining ten (10) Regions (Thessalia, Ionia Nisia, Ipeiros, Voreio Aigaio, Dytiki Ellada, Peloponnisos, Dytiki Makedonia, Sterea Ellada, Kentriki Makedonia and Anatoliki Makedonia and Thraki) the corresponding percentages are higher (Graph 4).

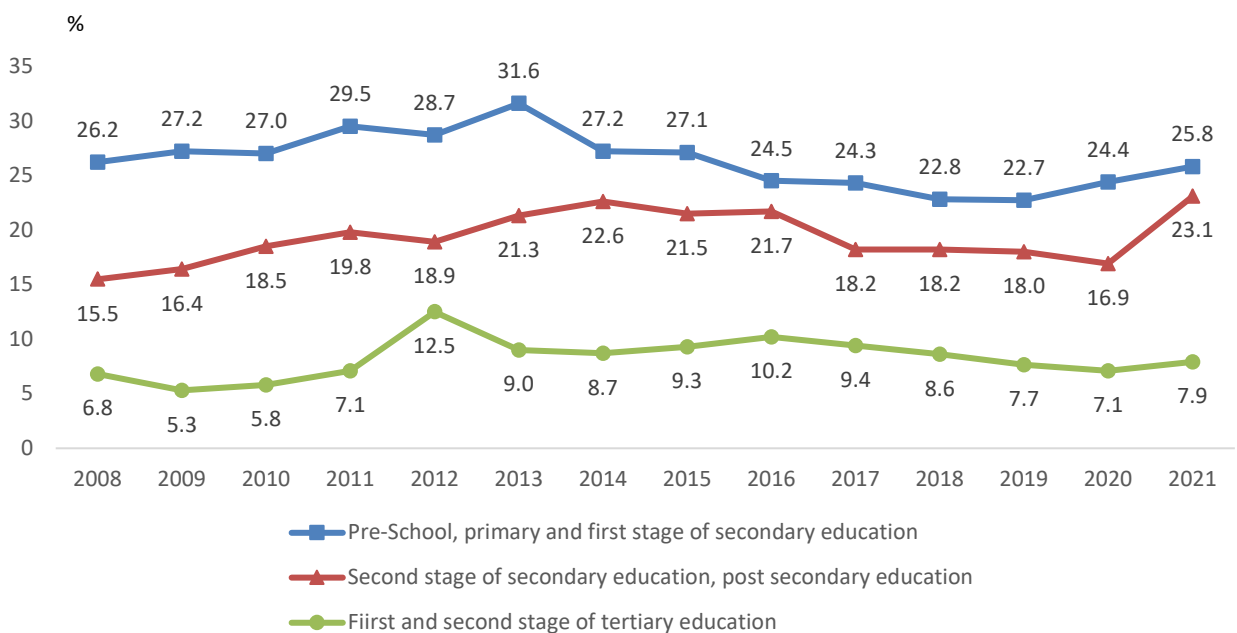
<sup>4</sup> It should be noted that the population groups which are by inference poor, such as homeless, part of illegal economic immigrants, Roma who are on the move and change residence, etc. are underrepresented in the survey.

**Graph 4. Population at risk of poverty by region: 2021**



Graph 5 depicts the importance of the level of education in reducing the risk of poverty. The higher the level of education is, the lower the risk of poverty. For the year 2021, the risk of poverty is estimated at 25.8% for those having completed pre-school, primary and first stage of secondary education, at 23.1% for those having completed second stage of secondary education and post-secondary education, and at 7.9%, for those having completed first and second stage of tertiary education.

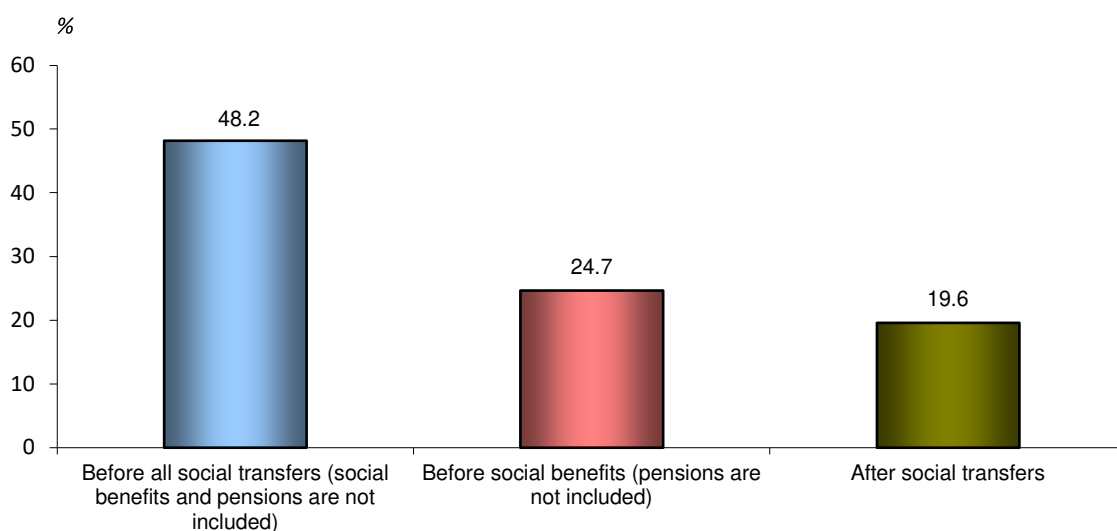
**Graph 5. Population aged 16 years and over at risk of poverty by education level completed: 2008-2021**



### C. Social transfers and the at-risk-of-poverty rate

The at-risk-of-poverty rate before all social transfers (excluding social benefits<sup>5</sup> and pensions<sup>6</sup> in the total disposable household income) is 48.2%, while when only pensions are included, (social benefits are excluded), the risk of poverty rate drops to 24.7% (Graph 6, Tables 9 and 10). As regards social benefits, it should be noted that they include certain social assistance allowances (such as the allowance of social dividend, allowances to long-standing unemployed, etc.) family benefits (such as children's allowances), as well as unemployment, sickness, disability/invalidity benefits or education allowances. The at-risk-of-poverty rate for the total population after social transfers is 19.6%, from which it can be concluded that the inclusion of social benefits contributes to a decrease of 5.1 percentage points in the at-risk-of-poverty rate, while the inclusion of pensions contributes to a decrease of 23.5 percentage points. Social transfers in total, reduce the at-risk-of-poverty rate by 28.6 percentage points (Graph 6, Tables 4, 9 and 10).

**Graph 6. At-risk-of-poverty rate**



### D. Characteristics of at risk-of-poverty population

In 2021, the at-risk-of-poverty rate is slightly higher for females (19.8%) compared to that of males (19.4%) (Table 4).

The at-risk-of-poverty rate for males and females increased by 1.9 and 2.0 percentages points respectively.

The at-risk-of-poverty rate for persons aged 65 years and over amounted to 15.6% for women and to 11.0% for men (Table 4).

The at-risk-of-poverty rate for persons aged 75 years and over amounted to 14.0%, while for persons under 75 years old to 20.2% (Table 5).

<sup>5</sup> **Social transfers** are considered to be social benefits, i.e., social assistance (Minimum Guaranteed Income, heating allowance, housing allowance, a lump sum amount for assistance to poor households in mountainous and disadvantaged areas as well as low-income families, children with compulsory education, children with compulsory education, Social Solidarity Allowance for Uninsured Elderly, assistance for the basic needs of people affected by earthquakes, floods, etc.), family benefits, unemployment benefits / allowances, sickness benefits / allowances, disability benefits / allowances and disability benefits, and pensions.

Pensions comprise old-age pensions from work and pensions / allowances from the spouse.

<sup>6</sup> **Pensions** are considered old-age pensions from work and pensions / allowances from the spouse.

The at-risk-of-poverty rate for women aged 75 years and over amounted to 17.4%, while for men of the same age group amounted to 9.5% (Table 5).

The at-risk-of-poverty rate for households with a single parent and at least one dependent child amounts to 30.1%, while for households with three or more adults with dependent children amounts to 31.5% and for households with two adults and 2 dependent children to 18.1% (Table 6).

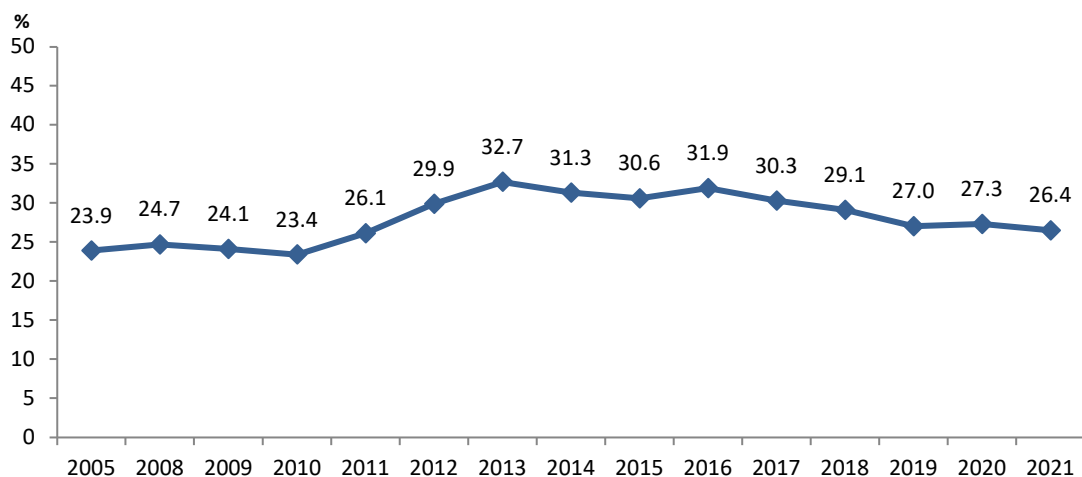
Employed persons over 18 years face a lower risk-of-poverty compared to unemployed or economically inactive persons (housewives, etc). The at-risk-of-poverty rate for employed persons over 18 years amounts to 11.3% increasing by 1.2 percentage points compared to 2020. An increase was recorded for employed women over 18 years, by 1.6 percentage points, while for employed men an increase was recorded by 0.9 percentage points, with the respective percentages at 8.8% and 13.0% (Table 7).

For unemployed persons, as already mentioned, the at-risk-of-poverty rate is significantly higher and amounts to 45.4% showing a significant difference between males and females (54.3% and 38.6% respectively). The at-risk-of-poverty rate for economically inactive persons (excluding pensioners) increased by 2.2 percentage points and it was estimated at 27.3% (Table 7).

### E. Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap

The relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap refers to the intensity of the poverty risk of people with an equivalised disposable income below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold. It is calculated as the difference between the at-risk-of-poverty threshold of the total population and the median equivalised disposable income of persons below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold, expressed as a percentage of the at-risk-of-poverty threshold.

**Graph 7. Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap: 2005, 2008-2021**



In 2021, this indicator was 26.4% of the at-risk-of-poverty threshold and it decreased compared to the previous year (Graph 7, Table 11). Based on this percentage, it is estimated that 50% of the poor population has an income lower than 73.1% of the at-risk-of-poverty threshold (5,251 euros), i.e., lower than 3,838 euros per person, per year.

As shown in Graph 7, the relative at-risk-of-poverty gap was 23.9% in 2005, while following an upward trend it was estimated at 32.7% for 2013 (highest recorded value). From then on, it fluctuated and amounted to 26.4% in 2021, recording a decrease of 0.9 percentage points compared to 2020.

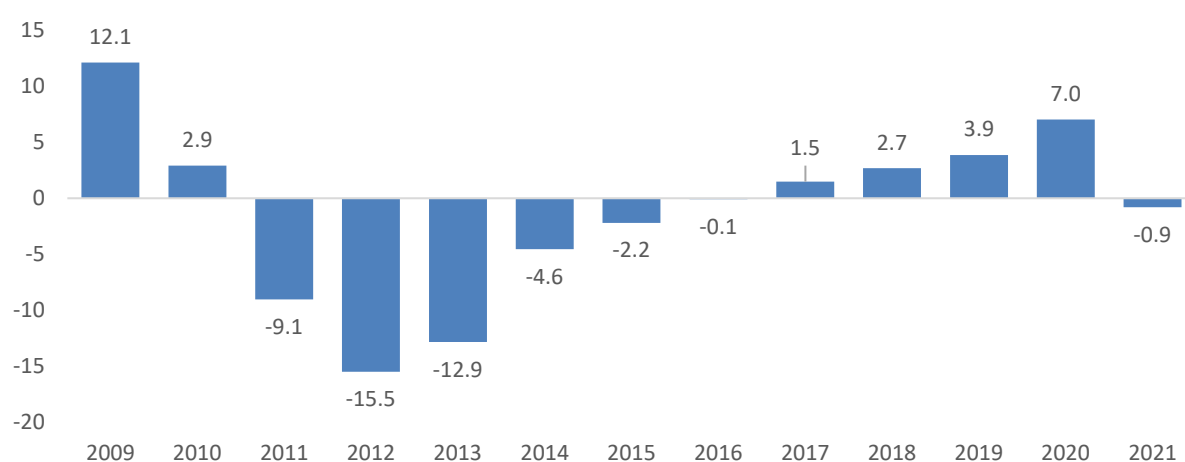
## H. Evolution of household Income

6.9% of households declared that their income has increased in the last 12 months, while for 26.3% of households it decreased, and for 66.7% of households it remained the same (Table 13).

23.7% of households declared that the main reason for the increase or decrease of income was the COVID-19 pandemic, of which 3.4% stated that their income increased and 20.4% that it decreased (Table 14).

The average equivalized income per person reached 9.952 Euros, decreased by 0.9% as compared to that recorded in the previous year. Graph 8 presents the annual growth of the average income per person for the years 2009-2021.

**Graph 8. Change (%) of average equivalized disposable income per person: 2009-2021**



### Average equivalized income per person, 2009-2021

Survey year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Income reference year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Average equivalized income per person (in euro)	13,505	13,896	12,637	10,676	9,303	8,879	8,682	8,672	8,800	9,034	9,382	10,041	9,952

## TABLES

**Table 1.1**  
**Population at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion by gender and age group: 2021**

%

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
Total	28.3	29.2	27.3
0-17	32.0	-	-
18-64	30.6	31.5	29.7
65+	19.3	22.3	15.6

**Table 1.2**  
**At risk-of-poverty rate for people living in households with very low work intensity, after social transfers, by gender and age group: 2021**

%

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
18-64	13.6	14.6	12.5
0-17	7.5	-	-
0-64	12.1	12.9	11.4

**Table 2**  
**Population at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion, components: 2021**

%

Indicator/Component	Total	Female	Male
Population at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion	28.3	29.2	27.3
Population at-risk-of-poverty (after social transfers)	19.6	19.8	19.4
Population under material and social deprivation	13.9	14.5	13.2
Population 0-64 years old living in households with very low work intensity	12.1	12.9	11.4

**Table 3**  
**At-risk-of-poverty threshold after social transfers, by household type: 2021**

Household type	Poverty threshold (in Euros)
Single person	5,251
Two adults with two children younger than 14 years	11,028



**Table 4**  
**At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers, by age group and gender: 2021**

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
Total	19.6	19.8	19.4
0-17	23.7	-	-
18-64	20.6	20.4	20.9
65+	13.5	15.6	11.0

**Table 5**  
**At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers, for older persons, by age group and gender: 2021**

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
60+	14.8	15.8	13.7
75+	14.0	17.4	9.5
0-59	21.5	21.4	21.5
0-74	20.2	20.1	20.4

**Table 6**  
**At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers, by household type: 2021**

Household type	%
Total	19.5
<b>Households without dependent children</b>	<b>15.4</b>
One adult under 65 years	22.9
One adult 65 years or older	21.8
Single female	22.3
Single male	22.4
Two adults younger than 65 years without dependent children	16.1
Three or more adults without dependent children	14.6
<b>Households with dependent children</b>	<b>22.0</b>
Single parent with dependent children	30.1
Two adults with one dependent child	15.7
Two adults with two dependent children	18.1
Two adults with three or more dependent children	28.5
Two adults or more with dependent children	21.8
Three adults or more with dependent children	31.5

**Table 7**  
**At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers, by gender and most frequent activity status (18+): 2021**

Activity status	Total	Female	Male
Employed	11.3	8.8	13.0
Employees	6.4	5.2	7.3
Not employed	23.9	24.0	23.7
Unemployed	45.4	38.6	54.3
Retired	10.6	11.4	9.8
Inactive population - Other	27.3	26.8	28.9

**Table 8**  
**In-work at-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers for population aged 18-64, by gender: 2021**

Employed	Total	Female	Male
	11.1	8.6	12.8

**Table 9**  
**At-risk-of-poverty rate before all social transfers <sup>(1)</sup>, by gender and age group: 2021**

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
Total	48.2	50.3	45.9
0-17	35.4	–	–
18-64	38.4	39.5	37.2
65+	84.2	86.2	81.9

(1) Total disposable household income before all social transfers

**Table 10**  
**At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers <sup>(2)</sup>, by gender and age group: 2021**

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
Total	24.7	25.0	24.4
0-17	32.4	-	-
18-64	25.7	25.5	25.9
65+	16.1	18.7	13.0

(2) Total disposable household income before social benefits including old age and survivors' benefits

**Table 11**  
**Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap, after social transfers, by gender and age group:**  
**2021**

%

Age groups	Total	Female	Male
Total	26.4	25.5	27.9
0-17	27.1	-	-
18-64	30.3	30.3	30.6
65+	17.8	17.3	19.6
75+	15.1	14.7	15.3

**Table 12**  
**Population at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion by country, 2015-2021, for countries**  
**with available data for 2021**

%

Country	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Bulgaria	31.7	33.6	33.2	33.0	38.0	41.0	43.3
Greece	28.3	27.4	29.0	30.3	32.2	32.6	32.4
Spain	27.8	27.0	26.2	27.3	27.5	28.8	28.7
Latvia	26.1	25.1	26.7	28.4	28.5	28.2	30.0
Estonia	22.2	22.8	23.7	23.6	23.3	23.1	23.6
Ireland	20.0	20.0	20.6	20.8	22.4	23.8	25.4
Belgium	19.3	20.3	20.0	20.5	22.0	22.2	21.6
Denmark	17.3	16.8	17.3	17.5	17.8	17.5	18.6
Austria	17.3	16.7	16.5	16.8	17.1	17.2	16.9
Sweden	17.2	17.7	18.4	17.7	17.2	17.7	18.2
Finland	14.2	15.9	15.4	16.6	16.0	16.5	16.9
Czechia	10.7	11.5	12.1	11.8	12.1	12.4	13.0

**Table 13**  
**Change in household income compared to previous year: 2021**

%

Change in income	Increased	Remained more or less the same	Decreased
	6.9	66.7	26.3

**Table 14**  
**Change in household income due to COVID-19: 2021**

Percentage of households declaring that their income changed due to COVID-19	Total (%)	Of which,	
		Households (%) with increase in income	Households (%) with decrease in income
	23,7	3,4	20,4

## 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 in 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 ensure data comparability.

**Legal basis** The survey is in compliance with the Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning Social Statistics and is being conducted upon decision of the President of ELSTAT.

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

**Coverage** The survey covers all private households throughout the country irrespectively 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 centres, camps, etc.). Households with more than five lodgers are considered institutional households.
- Households with foreigners serving in diplomatic missions.

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

Every year the sample consists of 4 replications, which have been in the survey for 1-4 years. Except for the first three years of the 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. In order to have a complete sample the first year of the survey, the four panels began simultaneously. For the EU-SILC longitudinal component, the people who were initially selected 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 frame of sampling 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 total area of the country into thirteen (13) formal administrative regions corresponding to the European NUTS II level. The two major city agglomerations of Greater Athens area and Greater Thessalonica area constitute two separate major geographical strata.

ii) The second level of stratification entails grouping municipalities and communes within each NUTS II Region by degree of urbanization. i.e., according to their population size.

The scaling of urbanization was finally designed in four groups:

- $\geq 30,000$  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 a sample of dwellings is drawn. 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. 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 2021 the survey was conducted on a final sample of 12,617 households and on 27,710 members of those households 24,333 of them aged 16 years and over. The average household size was calculated at 2.2 members per household.

**Weightings** For the estimation of the survey characteristics, 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 the individual, that coincides with the reverse probability of selection of the household.

b. The reverse of the response rate 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 (NUTSII) coincides with the corresponding number that was calculated with projection based on vital statistics (2011 population census, births, deaths, migration) for the reference year of the survey.

ii) The estimation of the number of households by size class (1, 2, 3, or 4+ members) and by tenure status coincides with the corresponding numbers calculated with projection based on the trend of the 2001 and 2011 population censuses for the reference year of the survey.

**Methodology for measuring poverty** According to the methodology for measuring poverty, the poverty line is calculated with its relative concept (poor in relation to others) and is defined at 60% of the median total equivalised disposable income of the household, using the modified OECD equivalised scale which differs from the concept of absolute poverty (lacking basic means of living).

Total equivalised disposable income of the household is considered the total net income (that is, income after 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 a company car.

Income components, such as imputed rent from ownership-occupancy, indirect social transfers, income in kind and loan interest, may influence the results significantly and are not included.

**Equivalised income** As equivalised disposable income of the individual is considered the total disposable income of household after being divided by the equivalent size of household. The equivalent size of household is calculated according to the modified scale of OECD.

It is pointed out that in the income distribution per person it is suggested that each member of the household possesses the same income, i.e., the equivalised disposable income of the household. This means that each member of the household enjoys the same level of living. Consequently, in the income distribution per person, the income that is attributed to each person does not represent wages but an indicator of the level of living.

The total disposable income of the household is calculated as the sum of incomes of all household members (income of employees, of self-employed persons, pensions, benefits of unemployment, income related to real estate, family benefits, regular monetary transfers etc.) that is to say, the total of net earnings coming from all the sources of income after the deduction of any transfers to other households. To this amount, any tax returns related to potential netting of income of the previous year, should also be added.

**Equivalence scale** Equivalent household size refers to the OECD modified scale which gives a weight of 1.0 to the first adult of the household, 0.5 to other persons aged 14 or over and 0.3 to each child under 14 years of age. Example: The income of a household with two adults and two children under 14 years is divided with a weight of  $(1+0.5+(2 \times 0.3))=2.1$ , of a household with two adults is divided with  $(1+0.5=)$  1.5, of a household with two adults and two children above 14 years is divided with  $(1+(3 \times 0.5)=)$  2.5, etc.

**Dependent children** Dependent children are considered all the children until the age of 16 years, as well as the children up to 24 years who are economically inactive (pupils, students, soldiers etc.).

**Indicators**

*Main indicators*

1. At-risk-of-poverty rate (after social transfers)
  - By age and gender
  - By most frequent activity status and gender
  - By household type
  - By accommodation tenure status
  - By work intensity of the household
  - At-risk-of-poverty threshold (illustrative values)
2. Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap, by age and gender

*Secondary indicators*

3. Dispersion around the at-risk-of-poverty threshold
4. At-risk-of-poverty rate anchored at a moment in time (2008)
5. At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers
6. Mean equivalised disposable income

Indicators for “Europe 2020” strategy

**Definitions of indicators**

*1. At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers*

The “at-risk-of poverty rate after social transfers” is calculated as the percentage of persons (over the total population) with an equivalised disposable income below the ‘at-risk of-poverty threshold’ (60% of the median equivalised disposable income).

*2. Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap*

It is the difference between the median equivalised disposable income of persons below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold and the at-risk of poverty threshold itself, expressed as a percentage of the at-risk-of-poverty threshold.

*3. Dispersion around the at-risk-of-poverty threshold*

The percentage of persons, over the total population, with an equivalised disposable income below 40%, 50% and 70% of the national median equivalised disposable income.

*4. At-risk-of-poverty rate anchored at a moment in time, 2008*

For 2019 at-risk-of-poverty rate is calculated with 2008 at-risk-of-poverty threshold (inflated by the harmonised consumer price index of 2009-2019). It is defined as the

percentage of the population whose equivalised total disposable income at a given year (2019) is below the risk-of-poverty threshold of an earlier year (2008) up-rated for inflation.

#### 5. *At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers*

##### 5.1. *At-risk-of-poverty rate before all social transfers*

The 'at-risk-of-poverty rate before all social transfers (neither other social benefits nor old-age and survivors' benefits are included) shows the percentage of persons (over the total population) having an equivalised disposable income before all social transfers below the national 'at risk- of-poverty threshold'.

Social transfers are considered to be social benefits, i.e., social assistance (Minimum Guaranteed Income, heating allowance, housing allowance, a lump sum amount for assistance to poor households in mountainous and disadvantageous areas as well as low-income families, children in compulsory education, Social Solidarity Allowance for Uninsured Elderly, assistance for the basic needs of people affected by earthquakes, floods, etc.), family benefits, unemployment benefits / allowances, sickness benefits / allowances, disability benefits / allowances and disability benefits, and pensions.

Pensions comprise old-age pensions from work and pensions / allowances from the spouse.

##### 5.2. *At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers other than old age and survivors' benefits)*

The 'at-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers other than old age and survivors' benefits (does not include other social benefits but does include old age and survivors' benefits) shows the percentage of persons (over the total population) having an equivalised disposable income before social transfers other than old age and survivors' benefits below the national 'at risk-of-poverty threshold'.

#### 6. *Mean equivalised disposable income*

The mean equivalised disposable income is defined as the mean of the equivalised disposable income of all household members of the country.

#### 7. *Indicators for "Europe 2020" strategy*

People at risk of poverty or social exclusion (*union of the three indicators below*)

- People at-risk-of-poverty after social transfers
- People living under severe material and social deprivation rate (SMSD)  
Proportion of the population experiencing an enforced lack of at least 7 to 13 deprivation items (6 related to the individual and 7 related to the household)

The 13 items considered are:

List of items at household level:

- Capacity to face unexpected expenses
- Capacity to afford paying for one week's annual holiday away from home
- Capacity to being confronted with payment arrears (on mortgage or rental payments, utility bills, hire purchase instalments or other loan payments)
- Capacity to afford a meal with meat, chicken, fish or vegetarian equivalent every second day
- Ability to keep home adequately
- Have access to a car/van for personal use
- Replacing worn-out furniture

List of items at individual level:

- Having internet connection
- Replacing worn-out clothes by some new ones
- Having two pairs of properly fitting shoes (including a pair of all-weather shoes)
- Spending a small amount of money each week on him/herself
- Having regular leisure activities
- Getting together with friends/family for a drink/meal at least once a month

### *Children material deprivation*

Seven out of the 13 deprivation items included in the new indicator collected at the household level and apply equally to all household members. The remaining six items are only collected for people aged 16 or over and have therefore to be estimated for children below 16. The rule applied for this estimation is the following: “if at least half the number of adults for which the information is available in the household lack an item, then the children living in that household are considered as deprived from that item”. The same set of 13 items and the same threshold is used for both children and adults. However, when computing deprivation with regards to children, a lower weight is given to adult items, in order to avoid making the indicator of children too sensitive to adult deprivations; among the deprivations required to be considered as deprived, at least three need to be household deprivations (out of the seven household deprivations items included in the list). Hence, when the 13-item indicator is broken down for children, it provides information on the proportion of children living in a “deprivation context”. It should be clearly mentioned that these children live in (socially and materially) deprived households. This information will be available annually.

- **People living in households with very low work intensity**

People from 0-64 years living in households where the adults (those aged 18-64, but excluding students aged 18-24 and people who are retired according to their self-defined current economic status or who receive any pension (except survivors pension), as well as people in the age bracket 60-64 who are inactive and living in a household where the main income is pensions) worked a working time equal or less than 20% of their total combined work-time potential during the previous year.

### **References**

For further information on the survey please visit ELSTAT’s webpage at [Statistics on Income and Living Conditions \(EU-SILC\)](#)