

Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS)

Country: Greece

Compiling agency: ELSTAT

Domain name: National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), 2009.

ELSTAT metadata	
Reference metadata	
1.	Contact
2.	Introduction
3.	Metadata update
4.	Statistical presentation
5.	Unit of measure
6.	Reference period
7.	Institutional mandate
8.	Confidentiality
9.	Release policy
10.	Frequency of dissemination
11.	Dissemination format
12.	Accessibility of documentation
13.	Quality management
14.	Relevance
15.	Accuracy and reliability
16.	Timeliness and punctuality
17.	Comparability
18.	Coherence
19.	Cost and burden
20.	Data revision
21.	Statistical processing
22.	Comment

1. Contact Top	
1.1 Contact organisation	ELSTAT (Hellenic Statistical Authority)
1.2 Contact organisation unit	Population and Labour Market Statistics Division Special Household Surveys Section (G53)
1.3 Contact name	1. Ntouros Giorgos 2. Varoucha Chrysanthi 3. Chalkiadaki Maria 4. Zouliatis Ioannis

1.4 Contact person function	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Head of Section 2. Responsible person for the survey conduct/ survey design/data base operation/ data dissemination etc. 3. Responsible person for the survey conduct/ survey design/data base operation/ data dissemination etc. 4. Responsible person for NHIS support issues(e.g. logical checks, completeness checks,flow checks,etc).
1.5 Contact mail address	Pireos 46 & Eponiton 18510 - Piraeus
1.6 Contact email address	Ntouros Giorgos : g.ntouros@statistics.gr Varoucha Chrysanthi : c.varoucha@statistics.gr Chalkiadaki Maria : m.chalkiadaki@statistics.gr Zouliatis Ioannis : i.zouliatis@statistics.gr
1.7 Contact phone number	(+30) 213 - 135 - 2174 (Ntouros Giorgos) (+30) 213 - 135 - 2905 (Varoucha Chrysanthi) (+30) 213 - 135 - 2896 (Chalkiadaki Maria) (+30) 213 - 135 - 2941 (Zouliatis Ioannis)
1.8 Contact fax number	(+30) 213 135 2906

2 Introduction

[Top](#)

The National Health Survey is part of the implementation of the European Health Interview Survey (EHIS) instrument and aims to study and provide valuable information as regards the population health status and the determinants affecting it such as physical exercise, healthy food consumption, smoking consumption of alcoholic beverages etc. The survey will be conducted every 5 years. Next survey will be conducted at the year 2014.

3 Metadata update

[Top](#)

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

4 Statistical presentation

[Top](#)

4.1 Data description

The **European Health Interview Survey (EHIS)** is part of a broader community statistical program in which all EU Member States participate. The **EHIS** aims to study and provide valuable information as regards the population health status and the determinants affecting it, both at European and National level.

In order to have comparable data among Member States, the survey guidelines and questionnaires were drawn up in accordance with EU requirements, taking into account the National Health System and some national particularities.

More specifically data have been collected as regards:

- The demographic characteristics (gender and age), educational level and employment
- Health status (general health status, health problems, accidents, physical condition, self reliance for household activities)
- Use of Health Care Services (inpatient and outpatient hospital care), visits to doctors or dentists, use of medicines, satisfaction from the provided health care services, cost of the provided health care services, flu vaccination, measuring blood pressure and blood cholesterol level, etc.)
- Factors that influence health status –positively or negatively– such as physical exercise, healthy food consumption, smoking, consumption of alcoholic beverages etc.
- The net monthly income of the household

4.2 Classification system

NUTS, ISCO 88, ISCED 97

4.3 Sector coverage

4.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

The following concepts and definitions have been used in the survey:

1. Dwelling

Dwelling is a separate and independent structure, which has been built or converted to cover the habitation needs of a family (household). Dwelling is also considered every space neither constructed nor converted for the purpose of habitation, used, however, as a dwelling during the reference period.

The following are also considered as dwellings:

- A detached house, semi-detached house or groups of similar dwellings, apartment or flat in a building
- A room or more rooms, where the household lives
- A storage house, hut, shack, etc. used as main dwelling during the survey conduct.

The following is not considered as dwelling:

The space which although fulfilling the above definition is used for other purposes (i.e. office, warehouse, collective household, laboratory etc.)

2. Household

Household is either one person living alone or a group of persons, not necessarily related, living at the same address with common housekeeping. The household members share household's expenses or benefit from them due to lack of income.

More specifically:

One – person household

- One person living alone in one dwelling or in one room of the latter and does his own housekeeping
- Two or more persons living at the same address, related or not, without common housekeeping and each one of them has the exclusive use of at least one room.

Multi-person household

- One couple or parents with their children or one parent with children
- One couple with or without children, parents of the couple and the domestic live - in servant, if any, under the condition that he/she will stay for more than 12 months
- Two or more persons, not necessarily related, living at the same address with common housekeeping
- One or less than 5 boarders residing within a private household.

3. Household members

Household members can either usually reside in the household or temporarily absent.

Individuals usually residing in the household are the individuals that during the last 12 months have spent most of their time in the specific household. Individuals having moved in the household can be considered as usual residents if they intend to stay for more than 12 months. Similarly, individuals planning to move out for more than 12 months, in another private household or in a collective household, wouldn't be considered as usual resident, hence household members.

Individuals temporarily absent from the household, **either** because they were in another private household **or** in a collective household (e.g. hospital, elderly house, etc.) will be considered as household members and will be registered in the questionnaire EEY.1, according to the conditions mentioned below:

- **Persons usually resident, related to other members** (unmarried or married children, parents, grandchildren, etc.) sharing expenses or benefiting from them due to lack of income (e.g. under-aged children, persons with no income).
- **Persons usually resident, not related to other members** (partners, etc.) sharing expenses or benefiting from them due to lack of income (e.g. under-aged children, persons with no income).
- **Resident boarders, lodgers, tenants** sharing expenses or benefiting from them due to lack of income and which during the survey conduct either have no private address elsewhere or their actual or intended duration of stay is more than 12 months.
- **Visitors, relatives or not**, sharing expenses or benefiting from them due to lack of income

and which during the survey conduct either have no private address elsewhere or their actual or intended duration of stay is longer than 12 months. Visitors not intending to stay for more than 12 months from the day they came are not considered household members and are not interviewed.

- **Live-in domestic servants, au-pairs residing in the household**, during the survey conduct, and which during the survey conduct have no private address elsewhere or their actual or intended duration of stay is longer than 12 months. Not live-in domestic servants are not considered household members and hence are not interviewed.
- **Persons usually resident, but temporarily absent from the dwelling** (for reasons of holiday travel, work, education, etc) sharing expenses or benefiting from them due to lack of income and which during the survey conduct have no private address elsewhere and their actual or intended duration of absence from the household must be less than 12 months.
- **Children of the household being educated away from home and children in military service**, sharing expenses or benefiting from them due to lack of income, irrespective of the actual or intended duration of absence, such persons must currently have no private address elsewhere, must be the partner or child of a household member and must continue to retain close ties with the household and must consider this address to be his/her main residence.
- **Persons absent for long periods**, persons working away from home e.g. sailors, working in railways, in buses, public servants away from office for work in other region sharing expenses or benefiting from them due to lack of income, Irrespective of the actual or intended duration of absence, such persons must currently have no private address elsewhere, must be the partner or child of a household member and must continue to have close ties with the household and must consider this address to be his/her main residence.
- **Persons temporarily absent**, persons in hospital, nursing homes or other institutions, sharing expenses or benefiting from them due to lack of income. Such person must have clear financial ties to the household and must be actually or prospectively absent from the household for less than 12 months.

Finally, children living in more than one household (e.g. children of divorced families) will be considered members of the household in which they live the longer time during the year. In case they live in both households for equal time-periods, then they will be considered member of that household in which they were found the day of the survey conduct.

Registration of household members in the EEY.1 questionnaire

Interviewers have been given guidelines in order to properly register the household members in the

Household and Members' Register Questionnaire. More specifically, the proposed order is as follows:

- Responsible person of the household
- Spouse/partner
- Children of the responsible person (from the elder to younger one)
- Parents of the responsible person
- Other relatives
- Live-in domestic servants
- Visitors whose actual stay is longer than 12 months during the day of survey or their intended stay will be longer 12 months.

Responsible person

As **responsible** person is the owner of the household or the person who rents the dwelling or the person who makes free of charge usage of the dwelling – the dwelling may have been conceded by the state, by a relative or by the employer. In case of two responsible members in the household then responsible member of the household is considered the older one.

4.5 Statistical unit

Households and individuals aged 15 years and over, residing in private households.

http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics?p_p_id=documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_RptARNVUa6vm&p_p_lifecycle=2&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_p_cacheability=cacheLevelPage&p_p_col_id=column-1&p_p_col_count=4&p_p_col_pos=2&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_RptARNVUa6vm_javax.faces.resource=document&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_RptARNVUa6vm_in=downloadResources&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_RptARNVUa6vm_documentID=115801&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_RptARNVUa6vm_locale=en

http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics?p_p_id=documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_RptARNVUa6vm&p_p_lifecycle=2&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_p_cacheability=cacheLevelPage&p_p_col_id=column-1&p_p_col_count=4&p_p_col_pos=2&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_RptARNVUa6vm_javax.faces.resource=document&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_RptARNVUa6vm_in=downloadResources&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_RptARNVUa6vm_documentID=115806&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_RptARNVUa6vm_locale=en

4.6 Statistical population

The survey covers all the private households with their members; irrespective of their size or other socio-economic characteristics under the condition that there at least one member aged 15+.

Excluded are :

- Individuals permanently residing in collective houses (hospitals, hotels, asylums, houses of

old people, orphanages etc). These individuals are members of institutional households. In addition, collective houses are all the households providing accommodation for more than five boarders.

- Households having as members foreign citizens serving in Diplomatic Missions.

The initial sample size of individuals amounted to 6,325 individuals (sampling fraction $\cong 0.068\%$) and

the total initial sample size of households to 6,325 households (sampling fraction: $\frac{1}{\lambda} \cong 0.15$)

4.7 Reference area

The whole Greek territory.

4.8 Time coverage

The survey was conducted for the first time during the last quarter of the year 2009 (October - December) and will be conducted every five (5) years.

4.9 Base period

5 Unit of measure

[Top](#)

Percentage (%), number of individuals.

6 Reference period

[Top](#)

As already mentioned the data were collected during the last quarter of 2009. Therefore, the reference period of the survey varies and depends on the question. Reference periods were considered:

- **Day for the survey:** related questions HH.8, HS.1, PL.1, PL.2, PL.4, BMI.1 etc.
- **The past 12 months** (the period ends one day before the survey day): questions HS.6, HS.7, HS.9, HS.10, HS.11 etc.
- **The past 4 weeks** (the period ends one day before the survey conduct day): questions SF.1, SF.2, SF.3, SF.4 etc.
- **The past 2 weeks** (the period ends one day before the survey conduct day): questions MD.1-MD.4 etc.
- **The past 7 days** (the period ends one day before the survey conduct day): questions PE.1, PE.2, PE.3, PE.4 etc.

7 Institutional mandate

[Top](#)

7.1 Legal acts and other agreements

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

- **Law 3832/2010** (Government Gazette No 38, Issue A): "Hellenic Statistical System Establishment of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) as an Independent Authority", as amended and in force

- **Regulation on the Operation and Administration of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT)**, 2012, (Government Gazette No 2390, Issue B, 28-8-2012) <http://www.statistics.gr/en/legal-framework>
- **Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council**, on the European statistics (Official Journal of the European Union L 87/164).
- **Article 14 of the Law 3470/2006** (Government Gazette No 132, Issue A): "National Export Council, tax regulations and other provisions".
- **Article 3, paragraph 1c, of the Law 3448/2006** (Government Gazette No 57, Issue A): "For the further use of information coming from the public sector and the settlement of matters falling within the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization".
- **European Statistics Code of Practice**, adopted by the Statistical Programme Committee on 24 February 2005 and promulgated in the Commission Recommendation of 25 May 2005 on the independence, integrity and accountability of the national and Community statistical Authorities, after its revision, which was adopted on 28 September 2011 by the European Statistical System Committee.
- **Presidential Decree 226/2000** (Government Gazette No 195, Issue A): "Organization of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece".
- **Articles 4, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of the Law 2392/1996** (Government Gazette No 60, Issue A): "Access of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece to administrative sources and administrative files, Statistical Confidentiality Committee, settlement of matters concerning the conduct of censuses and statistical works, as well as of matters of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece".

The Health Survey has been conducted upon the decision of the Minister of Finance and on the basis of the contract signed by the Commission (Eurostat) and the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT).

7.2 Data sharing

8 Confidentiality

[Top](#)

8.1 Confidentiality policy

The issues concerning the observance of statistical confidentiality by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) are arranged by articles 7, 8 and 9 of the Law 3832/2010 as in force, by Articles 8,

10 and 11(2) of the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System [Regulation on Statistical Obligations](#) and by Articles 10 and 15 of the Regulation on the Operation and Administration of ELSTAT [ELSTAT REGULATION](#).

More precisely:

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

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistical-confidentiality?inheritRedirect=true>

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistical-confidentiality>

8.2 Confidentiality – data treatment

- ELSTAT protects and does not disseminate data it has obtained or it has access to, which enable the direct or indirect identification of the statistical units that have provided them by the disclosure of individual information directly received for statistical purposes or indirectly supplied from administrative or other sources. ELSTAT takes all appropriate preventive measures so as to render impossible the identification of individual statistical units by technical or other means that might reasonably be used by a third party. Statistical data that could potentially enable the identification of the statistical unit are disseminated by ELSTAT if and only if:
 - a) these data have been treated, as it is specifically set out in the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System (ELSS), in such a way that their dissemination does not prejudice statistical confidentiality or
 - b) the statistical unit has given its consent, without any reservations, for the disclosure of data.
- The confidential data that are transmitted by ELSS agencies to ELSTAT are used exclusively for statistical purposes and the only persons who have the right to have access to these data are the personnel engaged in this task and appointed by an act of the President of ELSTAT.
- ELSTAT may grant researchers conducting statistical analyses for scientific purposes access to data that enable the indirect identification of the statistical units concerned. The access is granted provided the following conditions are satisfied:
 - a) an appropriate request together with a detailed research proposal in conformity with current scientific standards have been submitted;
 - b) the research proposal indicates in sufficient detail the set of data to be accessed, the methods of analyzing them, and the time needed for the research;
 - c) a contract specifying the conditions for access, the obligations of the researchers, the measures for respecting the confidentiality of statistical data and the sanctions in case of breach of these obligations has been signed by the individual researcher, by his/her institution, or by the organization commissioning the research, as the case may be, and by ELSTAT.
- Issues referring to the observance of statistical confidentiality are examined by the Statistical Confidentiality Committee (SCC) operating in ELSTAT. The responsibilities of this Committee are to make recommendations to the President of ELSTAT on:
 - the level of detail at which statistical data can be disseminated, so as the identification, either directly or indirectly, of the surveyed statistical unit is not possible;
 - the anonymization criteria for the microdata provided to users;
http://www.statistics.gr/en/anonymized_criteria
 - the granting to researchers access to confidential data for scientific purposes.
- The staff of ELSTAT, under any employment status, as well as the temporary survey workers who are employed for the collection of statistical data in statistical surveys conducted by ELSTAT, who acquire access by any means to confidential data, are bound by the principle of confidentiality and must use these data exclusively for the statistical purposes of ELSTAT. After the termination of their term of office, they are not allowed to use these data for any

purpose.

- Violation of data confidentiality and/or statistical confidentiality by any civil servant or employee of ELSTAT constitutes the disciplinary offence of violation of duty and may be punished with the penalty of final dismissal.
- ELSTAT, by its decision, may impose a penalty amounting from ten thousand (10,000) up to two hundred thousand (200,000) euros to anyone who violates the confidentiality of data and/or statistical confidentiality. The penalty is always imposed after the hearing of the defense of the person liable for the breach, depending on the gravity and the repercussions of the violation. Any relapse constitutes an aggravating factor for the assessment of the administrative sanction.

9 Release policy

[Top](#)

9.1 Release calendar

The 1st Press Release for the Health Survey is scheduled for the beginning of December of the year following the year of the survey conduct.

9.2 Release calendar access

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/calendar>

9.3 User access

The users are informed for each survey data release through ELSTAT's website. The European Statistics Code of Practice governs equal access of users' to data.

10 Frequency of dissemination

[Top](#)

The frequency of the survey conduct is five years. The 2nd wave of the survey will be conducted within 2014.

11 Dissemination format

[Top](#)

11.1 News release

Initial date for the announcement of the Press Release for the Health Survey 2009 was the 15th of July 2011, with a short delay because of the conduct of the 2011 Population Census. Additional Press Releases will follow in the near future focusing on specific variables.

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE22/>

11.2 Publications

None.

11.3 On-line database

On line database, for the time being, does not exist

11.3.1 Data tables - consultations

Information is not available.

11.4 Micro-data access

The micro data files are provided to users upon request submitted to the Department of Statistical Information Dissemination using the links:

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistical-data-request>

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/data-for-scientific-purposes>

11.5 Other

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

11.5.1 Metadata – consultations

Information is not available.

12 Accessibility of documentation

[Top](#)

12.1 Documentation on methodology

Basic methodological information on the Health Survey can be found on ELSTAT's website and specifically in the guidelines of the survey (in Greek).

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE22/2009>

www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE

In addition, more detailed information concerning the implemented method for the survey design and for the total data processing, is included in the Quality Report posted on the website of ELSTAT

http://www.statistics.gr/el/statistics?p_p_id=documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG&p_p_lifecycle=2&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_p_cacheability=cacheLevelPage&p_p_col_id=column-

[1&p_p_col_count=4&p_p_col_pos=1&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_javax.faces.resource=document&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_in=downloadResources&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_documentID=115804&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_locale=el](http://www.statistics.gr/el/statistics?p_p_id=documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_javax.faces.resource=document&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_in=downloadResources&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_documentID=115804&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_locale=el)

12.1.1 Metadata completeness - rate

12.2 Quality documentation

Quality documentation is included in the survey's Quality Report

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE22/2009>

http://www.statistics.gr/el/statistics?p_p_id=documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG&p_p_lifecycle=2&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_p_cacheability=cacheLevelPage&p_p_col_id=column-

[1&p_p_col_count=4&p_p_col_pos=1&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_javax.faces.resource=document&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_in=downloadResources&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_documentID=115804&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_locale=el](http://www.statistics.gr/el/statistics?p_p_id=documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_javax.faces.resource=document&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_in=downloadResources&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_documentID=115804&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_locale=el)

13 Quality management

[Top](#)

13.1 Quality assurance

In order to improve the comparability of the survey results among all the Member-States of the EU,

data quality of the Health survey is ensured and achieved through the adherence to the Statistical principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice, as well as by using a common standard questionnaire.

In particular, all methods for data collection, which had been suggested by Eurostat were prepared and elaborated in details in order to address any comparability and harmonisation issues. The standard questionnaire suggested by Eurostat (questions, answers categories, filter etc) has been already translated in the Greek language after taking into account the national particularities. The same has happened with the guidelines and their justifications. In addition, list of control checks that will send by Eurostat and control checks that will be conducted by ELSTAT itself (logical, completeness, flow etc), will contribute to the collection of high quality data as well. These data will be accompanied by the relevant national quality report documenting their accuracy, coherence and comparability with the relevant survey data of other Member – States. Finally, ELSTAT is in continuous and fruitful contact with Eurostat which helps resolving any problems emerging from the survey.

13.2 Quality assessment

Quality assessment is carried out by ELSTAT and Eurostat.

The sample size ensures the production of high accuracy results. Consequently, the sample size was representative of the reference population of the survey and all the appropriate measures were taken in order to minimize any errors during the survey conduct. As a result all the above mentioned actions contributed to the total high quality of the statistical product of the survey.

14 Relevance

[Top](#)

14.1 User needs

Main users of the survey data are Eurostat, the OECD, Universities (teachers/graduate and post graduate students) and researchers on the field of health. In general the users' requests are being satisfied.

14.2 User satisfaction

The Department of Statistical Information and Dissemination of ELSTAT conducts a survey on users' satisfaction.

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

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/user-satisfaction-survey>

14.3 Completeness

According to Community Regulations, the completeness of the produced data reaches approximately 100%.

15 Accuracy and reliability

[Top](#)

15.1 Overall accuracy

The concept of accuracy refers to the precision of estimates computed from a sample rather than from the entire population. Accuracy depends on sample size, sampling design effect and structure of the population under study. In addition to that, sampling errors and non sampling errors need to be taken into account.

The sample size has been defined from the Division of Organization, Methodology and Public Relations, according to the provisions set in the surveys' implementing regulation, allowing thus the production of high accuracy estimations for the country and also for the 4 great geographical areas of the country (NUTS1 level).

Sampling errors have been calculated from the competent division (see § 15.2 below).

15.2 Sampling error

The sampling errors are depicted by estimating the coefficient of variation for the main survey variables and their values are within the acceptance limits. Sampling errors are presented in the Quality Report.

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE22/2009>

15.3 Non-sampling error

The non- sampling errors are divided into the following categories:

1. Coverage errors
2. Measurement errors
3. Non response errors
 - o Processing errors

More detailed information in Quality Report

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE22/2009>

15.3.1 Coverage error

Coverage error: It is caused by the imperfection of the sampling frame and specifically households and household members belonging to the target population being somehow outdated thus resulting in ineligible sample cases / out-of-scope units.

15.3.1.1 Over-coverage – rate

15.3.1.2 Common units – proportion

Not applicable

15.3.2 Measurement error

Measurement error: They occur at the time of data collection from the questionnaire.

In order to reduce these errors the following actions were done:

- For building up the questionnaire we adopted the questionnaire proposed from Eurostat as the basis. The structure of the questionnaires is similar. The majority of the questions are almost literally copied and translated.
- Detailed guidelines handbook is provided to all interviewers. Also, a second manual on the use of the data entry programs / electronic questionnaires designed using Oracle - SQL (in central office desktops).
- Training to interviewers takes place in Athens as well as in regional offices.
- Checks (validation/ logical/ completeness/ flow, etc.) are carried out both by ELSTAT and EUROSTAT (validation programs). Supervisors are in close communication with interviewers for attending work progress or to discuss and solve occurring problems.
- Participation in the survey of skilled and experienced, with previous health survey and other household surveys, interviewers.

For more information please consult Quality report (on ELSTAT's website).

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE22/2009>

15.3.3 Non response error

Non response error

- o Information on non response rate is included in the quality report

Actions for minimizing units' non-response are:

- o An advance notification letter sent to all households, one month before the survey conduct, among others, providing information on how the data collected are used.
- o In cases where the households cannot be accessed, mainly due to temporary absence, a

number of attempts for phone calls (at least three) are made, on different days or hours of day.
 Methods used for reducing unit non-response :
 An informative letter is sent, almost one month before the survey conduct, in order to inform the households/individuals that they have been selected for the survey, furthermore asking for their cooperation.

In cases where the respondents couldn't be accessed, mainly due to temporary absence, a number of attempts for phone calls (at least three) are made, on different days or hours of day.
 The total response rate is 95,5%.

15.3.4 Processing error

Occurring in post-data-collection processes such as data entry, keying, editing and weighting

- Data entry checks are made from ELSTAT's experienced personnel, also using ESTAT's validation programs
- Longitudinal checks with data from previous years' surveys.
- Codification of questions in accordance with the using classification systems i.e. ISCO-88 /ISCED 97 and NUTS1.

15.3.5 Model assumption error

Not applicable.

16 Timeliness and punctuality

[Top](#)

16.1 Timeliness

The time lag between data reference period and data publication is approximately twelve (12) months.

16.2 Punctuality

The survey data are produced and disseminated within the defined timetable.

17 Comparability

[Top](#)

17.1 Comparability - geographical

Because of having been applied common definitions of variables and on the other hand common methods of data production, between our country and all EU countries, therefore, no geographical comparability problem exists.

17.1.1 Assymetry for mirror flows statistics – coefficient

Not applicable.

17.2 Comparability over time

The Health survey of the year 2009, is carried out for the first time in the country.
 Therefore, no problem on comparability over time exists.

18 Coherence

[Top](#)

18.1 Coherence cross-domain

18.1.1 Coherence – sub annual and annual statistics

18.1.2 Coherence – National Accounts

18.2 Coherence - internal

No significant inconsistencies were found among the Health surveys results and the results coming from other surveys of ELSTAT pertaining to the same variables (e.g. EU - SILC for 2009 & ad-hoc survey of LFS of 2007). No coherence problem was noticed among the survey variables (variables which have strong correlation bonds among them).

19 Cost and burden

[Top](#)

Burden concerns mostly the required time, which must be spent by the respondent for data provision. Nevertheless, not much can be done to alleviate such a burden.

20 Data revision

[Top](#)

20.1 Revision policy

The revision policy concerns either the survey data or the survey itself (ie. the questionnaire, the sample etc) and takes into consideration users' needs for further statistical information.

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/policies>

20.2 Revision practice

Data transmitted to Eurostat undergo in detailed verifications by implementing automated validation procedures at the level of variables and breakdowns. Except for cross-sectional checks, longitudinal checks are conducted and whenever necessary (if data inconsistencies are found) reporting countries are asked to verify and revise their results.

21 Statistical processing

[Top](#)

21.1 Source data

The sampling frame of the primary units (one or more unified city blocks) is based on the data from the latest 2001 population census.

The methodological information is included in the Reporting Document on the Survey Methodology and Organization. In addition, more detailed information for the survey will be included in the Quality Report.

Population under survey

The sampling units are the private households and the individuals. One individual is surveyed from each household of the sample. The target population of individuals consists of the individuals aged 15 years or over for the whole country.

Only the private households participate in the survey. Individuals permanently residing in collective

houses (hospitals, hotels, asylums, houses of old people, orphanages etc) are not covered by the survey. These individuals are members of institutional households. If however we subtract from this population the conscripts and the imprisoned, the actual percentage not covered by the survey procedure, accounts for 2% of the total population, and in its major part concerns economically non-active persons.

The national population size for households and individuals aged 15+ is:

- Households: 4,114,150 private households
- Individuals: 9,305,935 individuals aged 15 and over*

Sample design

The multi-stage area sampling method was adopted for the survey. The primary sampling units (PSUs) are the areas (one or more unified city blocks), the secondary sampling units selected in each primary unit are the households and the ultimate sampling units are the individuals, selected from the members of the sampling households. In each Region (NUTS 2), the stratification of primary units was conducted by allocating the Municipalities and Communes according to the degree of urbanization (urban, semi-urban, and rural regions). Except for the two former Major City Agglomerations (Athens and Thessaloniki), the produced strata according to the degree of urbanization are:

Areas	Stratum	Urbanization
Urban	1	Agglomerations and Municipalities with 10,000 inhabitants or more
Semi-urban	2	Municipalities and Communes with 2,000 to 9,999 inhabitants
Rural	3	Communes up to 1,999 inhabitants

The Greater Athens Area was divided into 31 strata of about equal size (equal number of households) on the basis of the lists of city blocks of the respective Municipalities and taking into consideration socio-economic criteria. Similarly, the Greater Thessaloniki Area was divided into 9 equally sized strata. The two former Major City Agglomerations account for 40% of the total population and for even larger percentages for some socio-economic variables.

Sampling fraction

The initial sample size of individuals amounted to 6,325 individuals (sampling fraction $\cong 0.068\%$). Since in each household, one individual belonging to the target population was selected for the survey, the total initial sample size of households amounted to 6,325 households (sampling fraction: $\frac{1}{\lambda} \cong 0.15\%$).

(More information in the Quality Report and on the website of ELSTAT).

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE22/2009>

21.2 Frequency of data collection

The survey will be conducted every five (5) years. Next survey will be conducted in year 2014.

21.3 Data collection

- The Health Interview survey is a sampling survey and is conducted through face to face interviews when visiting the households. The interviewers were either permanent staff of ELSTAT or private interviewers coming from the Statistical Interviewers' Register of ELSTAT. The interviewers were trained in seminars, which took place on the premises of ELSTAT. An information letter was sent almost one month before the survey conduct in order to inform the surveyed households that they had been selected for the survey and asking for their cooperation. Whenever the interviewer couldn't find the household's member, during the visit he was leaving a notification letter with the date of the next visit or his/her telephone number for contact. The interviewer had the possibility to make at least three visits to that household. It should be stressed that, after the survey conduct the interviewers had the obligation to check the data for any further errors or omissions and finally to make the data entry through an on line programme.

21.4 Data validation

The Health Survey for the year 2009 is a survey conducted for first time at national level and the next one will be conducted after five years. The data will be validated after having conducted quality and quantity checks based on:

- Cross – checks on raw material in comparison with data of the same survey concerning previous years
- Comparability among the Health survey variables and the relevant variables of other surveys/statistical sources
- Estimation of sampling errors, which are used as criterion for the confirmation and final validation of data.

21.5 Data compilation

Tabulated data are produced by extrapolating the survey data on the total population, using the appropriate extrapolation factors.

These factors are estimated taking into consideration either the selection possibilities for the survey units or the non-response rate or the appropriate corrective factors so that the resulting population coincides with the estimated one on the basis of births/deaths and emigration rate of the reference year.

See Quality Report for the Health Survey (posted on the website of ELSTAT).

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE22/2009>

21.5.1 Imputation – rate

21.6 Adjustment

21.6.1 Seasonal adjustment

22 Comment

[Top](#)
