

# Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS v2.0)

(user oriented)

**Country:** Greece

**Compiling agency:** ELSTAT

**Domain name:** System of Health Accounts (SHA)

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1. Contact <span style="float: right;"><a href="#">Top</a></span>	
<b>1.1 Contact organisation</b>	Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT)
<b>1.2 Contact organisation unit</b>	Division of Sectoral Statistics, Department of Health Statistics and Social Security and Protection, code 010104Γ6
<b>1.3 Contact name</b>	A. Krasadakis
<b>1.4 Contact person function</b>	Compilation of the System of Health Accounts data according to the SHA Manual , 2011 Edition.
<b>1.5 Contact mail address</b>	46, Peiraeus & Eponiton str., 185 10 Peiraeus
<b>1.6 Contact email address</b>	a.krasadakis@statistics.gr
<b>1.7 Contact phone number</b>	+30 213 135 2807
<b>1.8 Contact fax number</b>	

## 2. Metadata update

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<b>2.1 Metadata last certified</b>	March 2022
<b>2.2 Metadata last posted</b>	March 2022
<b>2.3 Metadata last update</b>	September 2022

## 3. Statistical presentation

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### 3.1 Data description

The purpose of the SHA is to determine the total health expenditure, which constitutes an essential piece of information for effective public policy-making in the health sector. The compilation of SHA allows the provision of reliable data to International Organizations and especially to Eurostat, taking into account that the health sector accounts for approximately 10% of the GDP in the Eurozone.

The legal framework for the compilation of SHA data is European Regulation (EU) 1338/2008 and the respective Implementing Regulation. After the adoption of the above Implementing Regulation, ELSTAT will be obliged to transmit SHA data to Eurostat and to International Organizations (OECD, and World Health Organization). Until March 2015 the transmission of data to the above Organizations is on a voluntary basis.

Health care expenditure data provide information on expenditure in the functionally defined area of health broken down by provider category (e.g. hospitals, general practitioners), function category (e.g. services of curative care, rehabilitative care, clinical laboratory, patient transport, prescribed medicines) and financing agent (e.g. social security funds, private insurance companies, households).

The definitions and classifications of the System of Health Accounts (SHA) are followed, e.g. International Classification for Health Accounts - Providers of health care (ICHA-HP).

Data related to Health Expenditure are mainly collected from the administrative sources of the country, such as:

- Ministry of Health for data related to General Government excluding Social Security Funds (SSFs),
- Ministry of Health for Social Security Funds,
- Hellenic Association of Insurance Companies and
- Non Government Organizations (NGO's), the Church of Greece etc. for other health expenditures,

And, from ELSTAT's survey results

- Household Budget Survey (HBS).

ELSTAT publishes SHA data on an annual basis, within the first quarter of the second year after the reference year of the data, according to the timetable of publications of the OECD and of Eurostat.

Health care data on expenditure are largely based on surveys and administrative (register) data sources of the country.

The database is based on a co-operation between EUROSTAT, the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development) and the WHO (World Health Organisation), executing a Joint Questionnaire on Health expenditure since 2005.

### 3.2 Classification system

For all data on expenditure the source for classification is described in:

- A System of Health Accounts 2011 Edition

- (<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3859598/7985806/KS-05-19-103-EN-N.pdf/60aa44b0-2738-4c4d-be4b-48b6590be1b0>)

as presented by the OECD, EUROPEAN UNION, WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION 2017.

Data are classified at 2-digit level of SHA codes, thus fully covering the requirements of the international organizations. Moreover, there is correspondence between the functions of health activities as they are defined by SHA (for example in-patient, outpatient care etc.) with the international system of classification of general government COFOG (Classification of the Functions of Government).

### 3.3 Sector coverage

Health Expenditures of General Government, Households, Private Insurance Companies and the Rest of the World

### 3.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Health care statistics describe the process of providing and financing health care in Greece by referring to health care goods and services, its providers and financing.

Current expenditure on health measures the economic resources spent by Greek residents on health care services and goods, including administration and insurance. Total expenditure on health care represents current expenditure on health enlarged by the expenditure on capital formation of health care providers.

For the collection of the data on health care expenditure the System of Health Accounts (SHA) comprises the goals of the System of National Account (SNA) to constitute an integrated system of comprehensive, internally consistent, and internationally comparable accounts, which should as far as possible be compatible with other aggregated economic and social statistical systems.

The SHA is organised around a tri-axial system for the recording of health expenditure, defining:

- health care **by function (HC)**
- health care service **provider industries (HP)** and
- health care **financing agencies (HF)**

#### Function category (HC):

The boundaries of a functionally defined health care system delimit the subject area of health accounts. This approach is "functional" in the sense that it refers to the purposes of health care. Health care in Greece comprises the sum of activities performed either by institutions or individuals pursuing, through the application of medical, paramedical and nursing knowledge and technology, the purposes of:

- promoting health and preventing disease;
- curing illness;
- caring for persons affected by chronic illness who require nursing care;
- caring for persons with health-related impairment, disability, and handicaps who require nursing care;
- providing and administering public health;

providing and administering health programmes, health insurance and other funding arrangements.

#### Provider category (HP):

The production and the provision of health care services along with their financing take place in a wide range of institutional settings that vary across countries. The way of organising health care services reflects the country-specific division of labour between providers of health care services. A classification of health care providers serves the purpose of arranging country-specific institutions into common, internationally applicable categories and provide tools for linking data on personnel and other resource inputs as well as

output measurement.

#### **Financing agency (HF):**

The financing of health care is one of the reporting dimensions. A detailed breakdown of expenditure on health by financing agencies is an essential component of a comprehensive SHA.

Cross-classification tables refer to:

- **HC x HP: Health care expenditure by function and provider:** data on which type of health care goods and services are supplied by which health care provider;
- **HC x HF: Health care expenditure by function and by financing agency:** data on who pays for which type of services and goods;
- **HP x HF: Health care expenditure by provider and by financing agency:** data on who pays which health care provider.

### **3.5 Statistical unit**

SHA relies on three axes:

- **The financing of health services by financing agency** (demand)
- **The direction of health expenditure by health provider and by health care activity** (supply)
- **The financing of health providers by financing agency** (consumption)

### **3.6 Statistical population**

Data related to the provision of health goods and services consumed by domestic residents within the boundaries of domestic economy and the rest of the Rest of the World.

### **3.7 Reference area**

Greece.

### **3.8 Time coverage**

ELSTAT publishes SHA data on an annual basis, within the first quarter of the second year after the reference year of the data, according to the timetable of publications of the OECD and of Eurostat.

ELSTAT publishes statistical data of the System of Health Accounts (SHA) for the years 2003-2021 with first reference year, the year 2003.

### **3.9 Base period**

Non applicable.

## **4. Unit of measure**

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In millions of euro.

## **5. Reference period**

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Calendar Year.

## 6. Institutional mandate

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### 6.1 Legal acts and other agreements

The legal framework concerning the organization and operation of ELSTAT is detailed in the following link:

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/legal-framework>

### 6.2 Data sharing

Data collection is conducted in agreement with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

## 7. Confidentiality

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### 7.1 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 and by Articles 10 and 15 of the Regulation on the Operation and Administration of ELSTAT.

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>

#### Protection of personal data

ELSTAT abides by the commitments and obligations arising from the applicable EU and national legislation on the protection of the individual from the processing of personal data and the relevant decisions, guidelines and regulatory acts of the Hellenic Data Protection Authority.

Pursuant to the Regulation on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data [Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 (General Data Protection Regulation - GDPR)], ELSTAT implements the appropriate technical and organisational measures for ensuring adequate level of security against risks for the personal data it collects and has access to, in the context of carrying out its tasks, in order to meet the requirements of this Regulation and to protect these personal data from any unauthorised access or illegal processing.

The personal data collected by ELSTAT are used exclusively for purposes related to the conduct of surveys and the production of relevant statistics. Only ELSTAT has access to the data. The controller is the person appointed by law pursuant to the relevant provisions concerning the Legal Entities of Public Law and the Independent Authorities. The data are stored in the databases of ELSTAT for as long as required by the relevant legislation.

Legal basis of the processing: Article 6, para 1(c) and 1(d) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

<https://www.statistics.gr/el/privacy-info>

### 7.2 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;
  - 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.
- Pursuant to the Regulation on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data [Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 April 2016 (General Data Protection Regulation - GDPR)], ELSTAT implements the appropriate technical and organisational measures for ensuring adequate level of security against risks for the personal data it collects and has access to, in the context of carrying out its tasks, in order to meet the requirements of this Regulation and to protect these personal data from any unauthorised access or illegal processing.

<b>8. Release policy</b>	<a href="#">Top</a>
<b>8.1 Release calendar</b>	
Annually, by end of March.	
<b>8.2 Release calendar access</b>	
The Announcements Calendar is available on ELSTAT's website at: <a href="http://www.statistics.gr/el/calendar">http://www.statistics.gr/el/calendar</a>	
<b>8.3 User access</b>	
Data are available on ELSTAT's website at: <a href="http://www.statistics.gr/el/statistics/-/publication/SHE35/">http://www.statistics.gr/el/statistics/-/publication/SHE35/-</a>	

<b>9. Frequency of dissemination</b>	<a href="#">Top</a>
Annually.	

<b>10. Accessibility and clarity</b>	<a href="#">Top</a>
<b>10.1 News release</b>	
News release available on ELSTAT's website at: <a href="http://www.statistics.gr/el/statistics/-/publication/SHE35/">http://www.statistics.gr/el/statistics/-/publication/SHE35/-</a>	
<b>10.2 Publications</b>	
Data on the System of Health Accounts for the years 2003-2021 are available on ELSTAT's website at: <a href="http://www.statistics.gr/el/statistics/-/publication/SHE35/">http://www.statistics.gr/el/statistics/-/publication/SHE35/-</a> and on Eurostat's website: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/hlth_sha11_hp/default/table?lang=en">https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/hlth_sha11_hp/default/table?lang=en</a>	
<b>10.3 On-line database</b>	
There are no data available in ELSTAT's data base	
<b>10.3.1 Data tables - consultations</b>	
The total access to the networking page regarding the specific survey for the year 2022 is 4,266 page views (total hits). There is no feasibility to separate page views between data and metadata.	
<b>10.4 Micro-data access</b>	
The micro data are available upon request at: Division of Statistical Information and Publications 46, Peiraeus & Eponiton str., 185 10 Peiraeus Tel. (+30) 213-1352173, FAX : (+30) 213-1352022 e-mail : <a href="mailto:data.dissem@statistics.gr">data.dissem@statistics.gr</a>	
Confidentiality of data is always ensured (Chapter 8)	
<b>10.5 Other</b>	
Please visit: <a href="http://dlib.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/">http://dlib.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/</a>	

### **10.5.1 Metadata – consultations**

Has not been calculated, the latest micro data have been validated in September 2022.

## **10.6 Documentation on methodology**

Categorization of health expenditures is based and is analytically described at:

A System of Health Accounts <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3859598/7985806/KS-05-19-103-EN-N.pdf/60aa44b0-2738-4c4d-be4b-48b6590be1b0>

as presented by the OECD, EUROPEAN UNION, WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION 2017.

### **10.6.1 Metadata completeness-rate**

Metadata completeness is 100%.

## **10.7 Quality documentation**

Please visit ELSTAT's website at:

[http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/PAGE-themes?p\\_param=A2103&r\\_param=SHE35&y\\_param=MT&mytabs=0](http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/PAGE-themes?p_param=A2103&r_param=SHE35&y_param=MT&mytabs=0)

where a concise quality presentation of the years 2003-2021 is presented.

## **11. Quality management**

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### **11.1 Quality assurance**

The quality assurance system is presented on ELSTAT's website at:

[http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/BUCKET/A2103/Other/A2103\\_SHE35\\_MT\\_AN\\_00\\_2009\\_0\\_0\\_2012\\_01UO\\_F\\_EN.pdf](http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/BUCKET/A2103/Other/A2103_SHE35_MT_AN_00_2009_0_0_2012_01UO_F_EN.pdf)

As well as within the European Statistics Code of Practice, which was established by the Statistical Programme Committee in February 24, 2005 and published as Commission Recommendation in May 25, 2005, regarding the independence, integrity and responsibility of national and community statistical Authorities after its revision which was adopted in September 28, 2011 by the Commission of the European Statistical System.

### **11.2 Quality assessment**

The basic advantages of the overall quality of the System of Health Accounts compilation refer to the availability of primary data sources from the official national administrative sources (Ministry of Health, Social Security Funds, ELSTAT, Church of Greece etc.).

However, the need of a detailed classification of total health expenditures by provider and by health care activity defines the need of re-examining the total operational structure of the health sector in every data revision for each reference year.

## **12. Relevance**

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### **12.1 User needs**

The basic users of the System of Health Accounts data are the Ministry of Health, various Universities and



other scientific agencies (researchers, students etc.).

## 12.2 User satisfaction

Currently, incidents of non-satisfaction by users have not been recorded referring to the published System of Health Accounts results. The last available results of the User's Satisfaction Survey 2019, are presented on ELSTAT's website at:

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

The Division of Statistical Information and Publications of ELSTAT, conducts the survey on User's satisfaction every six months:

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

## 12.3 Data completeness

The completeness rate of data is considered satisfactory.

## 13. Accuracy and reliability

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### 13.1 Overall accuracy

Accuracy of the data that are related to administrative sources is checked by themselves. Regarding the data that derive from ELSTAT's Household Budget Survey (HBS), their accuracy is checked within the evaluation framework of the survey itself. Then, Comparability (chapter 17) and Coherence (chapter 18) checks are carried out.

### 13.2 Sampling error

The survey is a census survey; there are no sampling errors.

### 13.3 Non-sampling error

Not applicable, data collection is only performed through administrative sources.

a. Non Unit response.

Non applicable

b. Item non response

Non applicable

#### 13.3.1 Coverage error.

The data accuracy that is based on administrative sources is audited by themselves. Regarding data that are transmitted from the Household Budget Survey (HBS) of ELSTAT, data accuracy is checked within the framework of evaluation. Additional checks regarding the data comparability (Chapter 17) and consistency (Chapter 18), will follow at a later stage.

##### 13.3.1.1 Over coverage – rate

Non applicable.

##### 13.3.1.2 Common units-proportion

Non applicable, data collection is performed by administrative sources.

#### 13.3.2 Measurement error.

Non applicable

### **13.3.3 Processing error.**

Non applicable

### **13.3.4 Model assumption error.**

Not applicable.

## **14. Timeliness and punctuality**

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### **14.1 Timeliness**

Eurostat, OECD and WHO request data transmission for the reference year: N in time N+15 months.

### **14.2 Punctuality**

Until today, no issues on punctuality occurred.

## **15. Coherence and comparability**

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### **15.1 Comparability - geographical**

Data are compatible with the respective data of the rest of the countries where SHA Methodology is in force.

#### **15.1.1 Assymetry for mirror flows statistics – coefficient**

Not applicable

### **15.2 Comparability over time**

The time series for the years 2003-2021 is annually revised and data are considered fully comparable with the previous notification for the same time.

### **15.3 Coherence cross-domain**

Coherence with National Accounts data is considered satisfactory for private health expenditures since both systems rely on the Household Budget Survey. For General Government data consistency checks are regularly performed.

### **15.4 Coherence - internal**

The System of Health Accounts is compatible according to the three (3) tables compiled as they appear at ELSTAT's website at:

[http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE35/-](http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SHE35/)

## **16. Cost and burden**

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Not estimated.

## **17. Data revision**

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### **17.1 Revision policy**

Data are considered provisional and are subject to annual revision.

The Revision policy implemented by ELSTAT is presented on ELSTAT's website at:  
<http://www.statistics.gr/documents/20181/c9d89f00-8f9a-4b2d-acd7-97928aac82bf>

### 17.2 Revision practice

Usually, data are revised every March following the reference year.

ELSTAT's Revision Policy is being implemented as presented on ELSTAT's website at:  
<http://www.statistics.gr/documents/20181/c9d89f00-8f9a-4b2d-acd7-97928aac82bf>

## 18. Statistical processing

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### 18.1 Source data

The data are collected, processed and disseminated via different tables (expenditure by provider, by financing agency and by function). The data are based on:

- the Ministry of Health , the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Education, all Social Security Funds, the Household Budget Survey (HBS), various questionnaires sent to private insurance companies, NGO's, etc.

### 18.2 Frequency of data collection

Annually.

### 18.3 Data collection

Data collection method relates to direct contact with the administrative sources aiming at the transmission of health expenditure data in the form that they are available from the administrative sources themselves.

### 18.4 Data validation

Data validated by Eurostat in co-operation with OECD and WHO health accountants.  
Primarily, consistency of all the subtotals at all levels of aggregation is checked against the relevant totals.  
All identical items are checked for consistency across the various tables.

### 18.5 Data compilation

Data are compiled according to the Manual of the System of Health Accounts (SHA), 2011 edition.

#### 18.5.1 Imputation – rate

Non applicable , data are based on census .

### 18.6 Adjustment

No adjustment is performed.

#### 18.6.1 Seasonal adjustment

Not applicable.

## 19. Comment

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Please see the Methodological note on ELSTAT's website:

[https://www.statistics.gr/en/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\\_I](https://www.statistics.gr/en/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_I)

[n=downloadResources&\\_documents\\_WAR\\_publicationsportlet\\_INSTANCE\\_0qObWqzRnXSG\\_documentID=115873&\\_documents\\_WAR\\_publicationsportlet\\_INSTANCE\\_0qObWqzRnXSG\\_locale=en](#)