

**Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS v2.0)**  
**(user oriented)**

**Country:** Greece

**Compiling agency:** ELSTAT

**Domain name:** Labour Force Survey

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<b>1. Contact</b>	<a href="#">Top</a>
<b>1.1 Contact organisation</b>	Hellenic Statistical Authority
<b>1.2 Contact organisation unit</b>	Population, Employment & Cost of Living Statistics Division
<b>1.3 Contact name</b>	Loizos Konstantinos
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<b>2. Metadata update</b>		<a href="#">Top</a>
<b>2.1 Metadata last certified</b>	June 2025	
<b>2.2 Metadata last posted</b>	June 2025	
<b>2.3 Metadata last update</b>	June 2025	

<b>3. Statistical presentation</b>		<a href="#">Top</a>
<b>3.1 Data description</b>		
<p>The EU Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS) is the largest European household sample survey. Its main statistical objective is to classify the population of working age (15 years and over) into three mutually exclusive and exhaustive groups: employed persons, unemployed persons, which together represent the 'labour force', and the people outside the labour force.</p> <p>In addition, Labour Force Survey collects information on demographic characteristics, main job characteristics, the existence and characteristics of a second job, educational attainment, participation in education, previous working experience and on search of job.</p> <p>Greek LFS collects some additional information on the characteristics of main job: the ownership of the business, and information about the insurance of employees.</p>		
<b>3.2 Classification system</b>		
<p><b>Economic activity</b>, until 2007, was classified according to STAKOD 03 (ΣΤΑΚΟΔ 03) which is the Greek version of NACE Rev1.1. From 2008 onwards STAKOD 08 (ΣΤΑΚΟΔ 08) is used, which is identical (at 3 -digit level) to NACE Rev2. The classification is based on the 3-digit level for the main job, and on the 2-digit level for the second and previous job.</p> <p><b>Occupation</b>, until 2011, was classified according to STEP-92 (ΣΤΕΠ-92), which is the Greek version of the International Standard Classification of Occupations - ISCO-88 (Com). From 2011 onwards, ISCO-08, at 3-digit level was used. Since 2021, classification is based on the 4-digit level for the main.</p> <p><b>Nationality</b> and <b>Country of birth</b> are classified according to according to the Eurostat Standard Code list (SCL) GEO which is largely based on the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 3166</p> <p><b>Level of education</b> is classified according to a specific classification used for the Labour Force Survey, which allows for the classification of educational level according to International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-A-2011).</p> <p><b>Field of education</b> is classified according to International Standard Classification of Education: Fields of Education and Training 2013 (ISCED-F-2013), 3 digits.</p> <p><b>Geographical areas</b> are classified according to NUTS classification.</p>		
<b>3.3 Sector coverage</b>		
<p>LFS is a household survey which covers individuals living in private households in Greece</p> <p>Households residing in dwellings outside settlements are not included in the sampling frame of the survey and are therefore not surveyed.</p> <p>Included in the household are persons who:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have multiple residences, but stay in the household for 6 months or more</li> <li>Work during the week in another town but return regularly in the weekends in the household</li> <li>Persons working in merchant shipping are always considered members of the household irrespectively of the duration of absence</li> <li>persons temporarily away (less than 6 months)</li> </ol> <p>Excluded from the household are persons who:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>are conscripts</li> <li>Students of tertiary education studying and living in a different city</li> <li>A person is not considered member of the household if he/she is absent more than 6 months.</li> </ol> <p>Question relating to labour status are put to all persons aged 15-89.</p>		

### 3.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

**Employed:** comprise persons aged 15 to 89 (in completed years at the end of the reference week) who, during the reference week, were in one of the following categories:

- a) persons who during the reference week worked for at least 1 hour for pay or profit, including contributing family workers
- b) persons with a job or business who were temporarily not at work during the reference week but had an attachment to their job, where the following groups have a job attachment:
- persons not at work due to holidays, working time arrangements, sick leave, maternity or paternity leave;
  - persons in job-related training;
  - persons on parental leave, either receiving and/or being entitled to job-related income or benefits, or whose parental leave is expected to be 3 months or less;
  - seasonal workers during the off-season, where they continue to regularly perform tasks and duties for the job or business, excluding fulfilment of legal or administrative obligations;
  - persons temporarily not at work for other reasons where the expected duration of the absence is 3 months or less.

*Note: contributing family workers, persons in own-use production work, voluntary workers, unpaid trainees and individuals involved in other forms of work are defined in the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) Resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilisation, adopted on 11 October 2013.*

**Unemployed** are persons aged 15-74 who were without work during the reference week (they were not classified as employed), were currently available for work and were either actively seeking work in the past four weeks or had already found a job to start within the next three months.

**Inactive** are those persons who neither classified as employed nor as unemployed.

**Self-employed with employees** are persons who work in their own business, professional practice or farm for the purpose of earning a profit, and who employ at least one other person.

**Self-employed person without employees** are persons who work in their own business, professional practice or farm for the purpose of earning a profit, and who employ no other persons.

**Employees** are defined as persons who work for a public or private employer and who receive compensation in the form of wages, salaries, fees, gratuities, payment by results or payment in kind.

**Family workers** are persons who help another member of the family to run a farm or other business, provided they are not classified as employees (they are not receiving a salary, and they have not a direct profit from the business).

**Part-time job , Full-time job.** The distinction between these two forms of job is based on the spontaneous response of the respondent to a relevant question.

**Temporary job.** A job may be considered temporary if the employer and the employee agree that the termination of the job is determined by objective conditions such as a specific date, the completion of a task or the return of another employee who has been temporarily replaced. This agreement is not necessarily based on a written work contract.

**Duration of unemployment** is defined as the duration of search for a job, or the length of the period since the last job was held (if this period is shorter than the duration of search for a job).

**Persons in education.** A person is considered in education if he/she is following any educational program, including initial education, additional education, vocational education, continuing or additional training, training in enterprises, apprenticeships, on-the-job training, seminars and workshops, distance education, evening classes, self-learning, etc. Also are included courses for personal interest only, which may cover all forms of learning, and training in subjects such as languages, computer studies, business studies, art and culture, health and medicine.

**Household** is defined using the housekeeping concept, that is it consist of members regularly living together in the same dwelling sharing income, household expenditures, food and other essentials for living.

### 3.5 Statistical unit

Observation units are persons belonging to the same private households. Statistics are compiled mainly at personal level, but also at household level.

### 3.6 Statistical population

Population residing in private households and staying (or intend to stay) at least 1 year in Greece.
<b>3.7 Reference area</b>
All NUTS 3 areas of Greece, with the exception of Mount Athos area.
<b>3.8 Time coverage</b>
Labour Force Survey has been producing results since 1981 on a yearly basis (spring quarter). From 1998 onwards it is a continuous survey, providing quarterly results.
<b>3.9 Base period</b>
There is no base period in Labour Force Survey.

<b>4. Unit of measure</b>	<a href="#">Top</a>
Number of persons, %, years (age), hours (of work).	

<b>5. Reference period</b>	<a href="#">Top</a>
<p>The Labour Force Survey's sample is spread uniformly in the 13 (or 14) weeks of the quarter. Every sampled household corresponds to a particular week, namely the reference week (from Monday to Sunday).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For employment, the reference period is the reference week.</li> <li>• For job search, working time arrangements, and participation in education, the reference period is the four-week period, ending with the reference week. Since 2021, in even years, the reference period for the participation in education is 12 months.</li> <li>• For availability to start, or resume, a job the reference period is the two-week period after the reference week.</li> </ul>	

<b>6. Institutional mandate</b>	<a href="#">Top</a>
<b>6.1 Legal acts and other agreements</b>	
<p><b>EU level:</b></p> <p>The EU-LFS is based on European legislation since 1973. The principal legal acts, currently in force, are the Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 establishing a common framework for European social statistics, the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/256 establishing a multiannual rolling planning, the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2181 regarding items common to several datasets, and the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2240 which specifies the implementation rules, technical items and contents of the EU-LFS.</p> <p><b>National level:</b></p> <p>Hellenic Statistical Authority is an independent authority responsible for the production and dissemination of official statistics.</p> <p>The legal framework concerning the organization and operation of ELSTAT is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Law 3832/2010 (Government Gazette No 38, Issue A): "<i>Hellenic Statistical System Establishment of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) as an Independent Authority</i>", as amended by article 90 paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Law 3842/2010 (Government Gazette No 58, Issue A): "<i>Restoration of fiscal justice, confrontation of tax evasion and other provisions</i>", by article 10 of the Law 3899/2010 (Government Gazette No 212, Issue A): "<i>Urgent measures for the implementation of the assistance program of the Greek Economy</i>", by article 45 of the Law 3943/2011 (Government Gazette No 66, Issue A): "<i>Combating tax evasion, staffing of auditing services and other provisions falling within the competence of the Ministry of Finance</i>", by article 22 paragraph 1 of the Law 3965/2011 (Government Gazette No 113, Issue A): "<i>Operations Reform of the Consignment and Loan Fund, Public Debt Management Agency, Public Enterprises and Government bodies, the establishment of the General Secretary of Public Property and other provisions</i>" and by article 51 of the Law 4021/2011 (Government Gazette No 218, Issue A):</li> </ul>	

*“Enhanced measures for the supervision and restructuring of Credit Institutions – Regulation of issues of financial nature – Ratification of the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF) Framework-Agreement and its amendments and other provisions.”*

- 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”*.
- Presidential Decree 226/2000 (Government Gazette No 195, Issue A): *“Organization of the General Secretariat of the Hellenic Statistical Authority”*.
- Articles 4, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of the Law 2392/1996 (Government Gazette No 60, Issue A): *“Access of the General Secretariat of the Hellenic Statistical Authority 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 Hellenic Statistical Authority”*.

## 6.2 Data sharing

Member States shall make available to the Commission (Eurostat) the data and metadata required under the Regulation 2019/2240 using the statistical data and metadata exchange standards specified by the Commission (Eurostat) and the Single Entry Point.

The Commission (Eurostat) shall, in cooperation with Member States, publish the aggregated data on the Commission (Eurostat) website, in a user-friendly way, as soon as possible and within six months of the transmission deadline for annual and infra-annual data collection.

Data sharing and exchange between international data producing agencies, for example, a Eurostat data collection or production that is in common with the OECD or the UN.

## 7. Confidentiality

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### 7.1 Confidentiality - policy

#### EU level:

[Regulation \(EU\) No 557/2013](#) 17 June 2013 as regards access to confidential data for scientific purposes and repealing Commission Regulation (EC) No 831/2002. It implements the Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European Statistics, which sets criteria for confidentiality of data.

#### National level:

The issues concerning the observance of statistical confidentiality by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) are arranged by articles 6, 7 and 8 of the Law 3832/2010, as amended by article 90 paragraph 8 of Law 3842/2010 and by article 10 of Law 3899/2010, as well as by article 8 of Law 2392/1996, which was brought back into force, in accordance with article 90 paragraph 8 of Law 3842/2010.

Furthermore, 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.

### 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
- 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.

– 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 recommend 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.

For more information, see the website of the Hellenic Statistical Authority:

[Public Use Files - ELSTAT \(statistics.gr\)](http://www.statistics.gr)

[Access to confidential data for scientific purposes - ELSTAT \(statistics.gr\)](http://www.statistics.gr)

## 8. Release policy

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### 8.1 Release calendar

At the end of December of each year ELSTAT publishes a release calendar announcing the precise release dates for the next year. The calendar is distributed to the press and is available free of charge to all interested parties.

### 8.2 Release calendar access

The calendar is disseminated on ELSTAT's website (<http://www.statistics.gr>) at the link: "*Press Releases Calendar*".

### 8.3 User access

European social statistics are provided on the basis of equal treatment of all types of users, such as policy-makers, public administrations, researchers, trade unions, students, civil society representatives including non-governmental organisations, and citizens, which can access statistics freely and easily through Commission (Eurostat) databases on its website and in its publications.

- In Greece, the data are released simultaneously to all interested parties through the Press Release entitled "*Labour Force*" which is made available to the media at 12:00. At the same time, the press release is distributed electronically to the subscribers. The press release is subsequently posted on the website of ELSTAT (<http://www.statistics.gr>).
- There is no internal government access to the data before their release to the public.

## 9. Frequency of dissemination

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Monthly results are announced, up to 31 days after the end of the reference month, for all 12 months of the year. The complete (quarterly) survey results are disseminated on a quarterly basis, up to 10 weeks after the end of the last week of the reference quarter. Data are disseminated at 12.00 on the predefined date of the press release.

## 10. Accessibility and clarity

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### 10.1 News release

- Labour Force Survey Monthly results
- Labour Force Survey Quarterly results

Published in ESLTAT website, path: Population and Social Conditions > Labour Market > Employment – Unemployment, <http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/pop>

### 10.2 Publications

Labour Force estimations are included in the following editions, accesibe at ELSTAT's website [www.statistics.gr](http://www.statistics.gr)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Greek Economy (fortnight edition, “e-publications” link)</li> <li>• Living Conditions in Greece (bimonthly edition, “e-publications” link)</li> <li>• Greece in Figures (quarterly edition, “e-publications” link)</li> <li>• Labour Force Statistics (special edition for Thessaloniki International Fair, “in Greece” link)</li> </ul>
<p><b>10.3 On-line database</b></p> <p>Does not exist</p> <p><b>10.3.1 Data tables - consultations</b></p> <p>No data for data table views is collected.</p>
<p><b>10.4 Micro-data access</b></p> <p>Micro-data are available to users for free upon request to the Hellenic Statistical Authority, Statistical Information and Publications Division. Path: Products and Services&gt;Statistical data request  <a href="http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistical-data-request">http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistical-data-request</a>  Confidentiality of the data is assured by the implementation of anonymization criteria (see 8.2).</p>
<p><b>10.5 Other</b></p> <p>A number of tabulated data are available to users on the website <a href="http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/pop">http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/pop</a> . Also, statistical data are provided to users by on-line application in ELSTAT, Statistical Information and Publications Division (see 11.4).</p> <p><b>10.5.1 Metadata – consultations</b></p> <p>Annual “User satisfaction survey” after having collected information from the User Satisfaction Questionnaire, filled by users to whom data was provided after a request, presents annual data on the number of users, in combination with other indicators, such as the response level to users’ requests, the kind of requested data, as well as the dissemination mode of statistical information.  Path: Products and Services&gt; User satisfaction survey, <a href="http://www.statistics.gr/en/user-satisfaction-survey">http://www.statistics.gr/en/user-satisfaction-survey</a></p>
<p><b>10.6 Documentation on methodology</b></p> <p>The following scientific publications available only in the Greek language:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ανασχεδιασμός του δείγματος της Έρευνας Εργατικού Δυναμικού από το έτος 1998 και εξής</i> Ν. Πανταζίδης .</li> <li>• <i>Αποτελεσματικότητα των εκτιμήσεων της Έρευνας Εργατικού Δυναμικού από το έτος 1998 και εξής</i> Ν. Πανταζίδης</li> </ul> <p>Documents are available in pdf format (only in the Greek language), upon request</p> <p>Short methodological notes and survey questionnaires are available at ELSTAT website, path Population and Social Conditions &gt; Labour Market &gt; Employment – Unemployment, <a href="http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/pop">http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/pop</a> .</p> <p>For the assessment of break in labour force surveys’ timeseries due to (EU) 2019/1700 the relevant methodological note is available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SJO02/">https://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SJO02/</a> .</li> </ul> <p><b>10.6.1 Metadata completeness – rate</b></p> <p>Not requested for the LFS quality report.</p>
<p><b>10.7 Quality documentation</b></p> <p>A “User oriented quality report” is available at ELSTAT website <a href="http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SJO01/2024-Q4">http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SJO01/2024-Q4</a>.</p>

<b>11. Quality management</b>	<a href="#">Top</a>
<b>11.1 Quality assurance</b>	
<p>Labour Force Survey complies with Eurostat standards concerning the selection and the size of the sample, the design of questionnaires, the survey's frequency and the information collected.</p> <p>Collected questionnaires are checked for completeness and quality of information. The final data base is checked for data validity by ELSTAT and Eurostat.</p> <p>Since 2021 data are collected exclusively by electronic means (CAPI), thus helping to significantly accelerate the production of research results.</p>	
<b>11.2 Quality assessment</b>	
<p>Labour Force Survey is considered a reliable source of information with a methodology that meets high standards. Nevertheless, Labour Force Survey is a sample survey and as a result, the results are accompanied by sampling errors. Basic quality indicators of Labour Force Survey, (sampling errors, response rates) are computed quarterly and annually and included in a standard quality report submitted to Eurostat.</p>	

<b>12. Relevance</b>	<a href="#">Top</a>
<b>12.1 User needs</b>	
<p>The main users of the Labour Force Survey data are international organizations (European Commission, OECD, European Central Bank, Unesco, IMF, etc) and a large number of national authorities and institutions (Ministries, Banks, Universities, Institutes) but also the press, researchers and the general public.</p> <p>The main indicators produced by the Labour Force Survey describe the evolution in main labour market (changes in the level of employment, unemployment), provide information on the allocation of working population in different sectors of economy and on the characteristics of labour force (age, educational level, participation in education, etc.)</p>	
<b>12.2 User satisfaction</b>	
<p>ELSTAT does not carry out a user satisfaction survey specifically for the users of the Labour Force Survey. However, there is continuous communication with the main users of survey results and their opinion and remarks are taken in to account in the development of Labour Force Survey and the production and dissemination of its results.</p>	
<b>12.3 Data completeness</b>	
<p>Labour Force Survey collects information on all variables that are included in the relevant Council Regulations and additionally on a small set of characteristics that are surveyed only at national level.</p>	

<b>13. Accuracy and reliability</b>	<a href="#">Top</a>
<b>13.1 Overall accuracy</b>	
<p>The size of the Labour Force Survey sample allows for the production of estimates with high accuracy at the country level and at the most of NUTS 2 areas of Greece.</p>	
<b>13.2 Sampling error</b>	

**Coefficient of variation, Standard error and confidence interval for selected indicators (Total Greece)**

<b>Employment rate</b>			
<b>Age group: 15-74</b>			
<b>CV</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>CI (*)</b>	
		<b>Lower</b>	<b>Upper</b>
0.65	0.35	54.16	55.55
<b>Unemployment-to-population ratio</b>			
<b>Age group: 15-74</b>			
<b>CV</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>CI (*)</b>	
		<b>Lower</b>	<b>Upper</b>
2.84	0.17	5.83	6.51
<b>Youth unemployment rate as a percentage of labour force</b>			
<b>Age group: 15-24</b>			
<b>CV</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>CI (*)</b>	
		<b>Lower</b>	<b>Upper</b>
6.31	1.42	19.68	25.24

**Coefficient of variation, Standard error and confidence interval for selected indicators (NUTS2 areas)**

		<b>Unemployment-to-population ratio</b>			
<b>Regional Code</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Age group: 15-74</b>			
		<b>CV</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>CI</b>	
				<b>Lower</b>	<b>Upper</b>
<b>EL30</b>	<b>Attiki</b>	6.30	0.60	8.00	10.20
<b>EL41</b>	<b>Voreio Aigaio</b>	13.20	0.90	5.30	9.00
<b>EL42</b>	<b>Notio Aigaio</b>	10.70	1.10	7.80	11.90
<b>EL43</b>	<b>Kriti</b>	9.30	0.80	7.10	10.20
<b>EL51</b>	<b>Anatoliki Makedonia, Thraki</b>	7.70	0.90	9.80	13.30
<b>EL52</b>	<b>Kentriki Makedonia</b>	5.70	0.70	11.40	14.20
<b>EL53</b>	<b>Dytiki Makedonia</b>	11.20	1.40	9.80	15.20
<b>EL54</b>	<b>Ipeiros</b>	8.80	0.90	8.80	12.50
<b>EL61</b>	<b>Thessalia</b>	11.30	1.10	7.80	12.20
<b>EL62</b>	<b>Ionia Nisia</b>	9.00	1.50	13.30	19.10
<b>EL63</b>	<b>Dytiki Elláda</b>	8.20	0.80	8.50	11.70
<b>EL64</b>	<b>Stereia Elláda</b>	10.90	0.90	6.80	10.50
<b>EL65</b>	<b>Peloponnisos</b>	10.30	0.80	6.00	9.10

The calculation of the CV for the employment rate is based on the assumption that the denominator (population) is random. The computation is implemented using SPSS complex samples.

**13.3 Non-sampling error**

**a. Unit non – response**

Non response errors are due to non-contacts (failure to come into contact with the household) or to the refusal of the household to provide information.

Non-response error rate for 2024 LFS were as follows:

QUARTER	Non-response rate		
	Non-response rate Total (%)	of which:	
		Refusals (%)	Non-contacts (%)
Q1	42.49	7.29	27.13
Q2	44.14	8.23	27.36
Q3	42.51	9.27	26.24
Q4	42.76	9.06	26.17
Annual	42.97	8.48	26.71

Non-response rates by NUTS-2 region. Annual averages (% of the theoretical yearly sample)		
NUTS-2 region		Non response rate (%)
EL30	Attiki	64.09
EL41	Voreio Aigaio	34.01
EL42	Notio Aigaio	42.00
EL43	Kriti	19.62
EL51	Anatoliki Makedonia. Thraki	30.11
EL52	Kentriki Makedonia	45.48
EL53	Dytiki Makedonia	33.06
EL54	Ipeiros	37.99
EL61	Thessalia	38.97
EL62	Ionia Nisia	58.41
EL63	Dytiki Elláda	23.99
EL64	Stereá Elláda	33.44
EL65	Peloponnisos	33.91

**b. Item non - response**

There are cases when a person participating in the survey, fails to answer some of the survey questions. Next table presents variables (questions) with non-response higher than 10% in one or more quarters of 2024

Variable Identifier	Variable description	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
EXTRAHRS	Work overtime during reference week	11.45%	7.37%	7.69%	6.06%

	Comment	In general, there was no high non-response in this variable. If the problem persist we will investigate the issue
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Non-response for variable INCGROSS is high and the missing values are imputed using a generalized linear model (see below for details)

Identifier		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
	Gross monthly pay from the main job	40.0%	40.4%	42.8%	51.1%
INCGROSS	<p>1. Income is collected through 2 questions. Firstly, the respondent is asked to provide the exact (net) salary, and in case that does not answer, is asked to provide the salary in bands. As a result, after the data collection there are 3 categories of employees: The first category comprises of persons reporting the exact net salary, the second comprises of employees reporting the net salary as an interval and the third comprises of employees not reporting their net salary.</p> <p>2. In a first step, we impute exact values for net salary for all employees belonging to the 2nd and 3rd category. Imputation is performed using a generalized linear model, separately for 6 net-salary bands (0-500, 501 - 1000, 1001 - 1500, 1501 - 2000, 2001 - 6000, 6000+). For the cases where the salary band was not reported a generalized linear model is used based on all cases.</p> <p>3. Before running the model, we estimate a mean number of usual working hours for the persons that did not report usual working hours: we impute the usual working hours as the mean usual hours by sector (and part-time, full-time distinction).</p> <p>4. For each of the 6 net-salary bands we run the model starting with the following predictors: NUTS2 area, degree of urbanization, education (3-levels), sex, occupation (1-digit), sector (1-digit), usual working hours and age. After identifying statistically significant predictors, we re-run the model to produce "salary forecasts".</p> <p>5. At this point, we have a net salary for all employees responding to LFS. This net salary is converted in gross, with the following procedure: The net salary is the result of deduction of tax and insurance contributions from gross salary. Taxation depends on the level of salary and insurance contributions on salary, number of children, work in private or public sector, work in heavy and unhealthy occupations and working part-time or full time. We create a table, with all possible values of gross salary from 10 euros to 200,000 euros (in 10 euros increments) and compute for each gross salary value (and each combination of number of children, work in private or public sector, etc.) the corresponding net salary. Finally, we can use this table in the "reverse" order to assign a gross salary to every reported net salary. We should point out that the tax and contributions values are updated every year (since they usually change at the beginning of the fiscal year).</p>				

### **13.3.1 Coverage error**

Refers to deviations between sampling frame and target population. The sampling frame is based on the last census results. The primary sampling units consist of a number of building blocks.. The design and selection of the primary sampling units is based on the number of private households residing permanently in these areas at last census. The secondary sampling units (that is households and dwellings) are selected after the selection of the primary sampling unit and after the compilation of a complete list of the private household dwellings in the PSU. The list is updated every 6 quarters (when a new systematic sample of dwellings is selected in the primary sampling unit). The main issues pertaining to the frame quality are:

- The more the time interval elapsed since the census, the less accurately the probabilities of selection reflect the "real size" of the selected primary sampling units.
- Sample size can be different, and even significantly different from the expected size, due to considerable changes in the "size" (that is, the number of household dwellings) of a PSU.
- It is difficult to control the way listings are updated. Over-coverage and under-coverage can be both present.

	Value(%)	Comments
<b>Under-coverage rate</b>	Not available	The sample in Greek LFS is a sample of dwellings. All households residing in the selected dwellings at the first wave are surveyed (apart those who choose not to respond or they are absent). The only households that are not covered are those who started residing in any new building which was built after the first wave. We have no exact information on the number of these cases
<b>Over-coverage rate</b>	6.3	The percentage of over-coverage is computed as the percentage of dwellings that are either used as "secondary residence" of the household or they are used solely for business purposes (e.g, a doctor's office).

### **13.3.2 Measurement error**

Measurement errors are distinguished into:

a) response errors, i.e. when respondents provide untrue or incorrect information, caused, among others, by the following :

- Sensitive questions (like the existence of a second job, income, receiving unemployment allowances, etc)
- Proxy answering, mostly for questions about the motives or wishes of a person
- Repeated interviewing of the same household for 6 consecutive waves imposes a serious burden on the interviewed households
- Cases involving false data registration due to responses. For example, it may be the case of incorrect or incomplete description of the occupation, incorrect number of hours worked during the reference week, false salary etc.

b) interview errors, i.e. all cases of false data registration caused by mistakes made by the interviewer . For example, the interviewer may formulate a question incorrectly, or incompletely record open-ended answers (eg. profession description).

Methods that are used to reduce measurement errors are

- A letter introducing the survey is sent to respondents
- A phone call for booking or introducing the survey
- Periodical training (1 time per year) of interviewers
- Monitoring directly by contacting the respondents after the fieldwork (Only a small percentage of respondents is re-contacted)
- Monitoring remotely through performance indicators
- On-line checks (for computer assisted interviews)

### **13.3.3 Processing error**

The number of records with errors is about 8% (with a mean number of 3 errors per record). There is no information on the source of these errors (that is, codification, data capture or editing). These errors are eventually corrected after the application logic controls.

### **13.3.4 Model assumption error**

No models for estimation of non-sampling errors are applied.

## **14. Timeliness and punctuality**

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### **14.1 Timeliness**

Quarter	Start date of data collection	Date of national publication	Days after the end of reference period
Q1	15/01/2024	6/6/2024	67
Q2	08/04/2024	5/9/2024	67
Q3	15/07/2024	5/12/2024	66
Q4	07/10/2024	7/3/2025	66

#### 14.2 Punctuality

There were no delays in the publication of results.

### 15. Coherence and comparability

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#### 15.1 Comparability - geographical

The definitions of the variables used in the Greek Labour Force Survey are fully in line with Eurostat Regulations.

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

Refers to the estimation of differences of inbound and outbound flows between a pair of countries (e.g. labour force mobility). Does not concern LFS estimations.

#### 15.2 Comparability over time

Consistency of time series and comparability of the estimates over time are affected by changes in key parameters of the survey as sample design, population estimates, the questionnaire, definitions of characteristics surveyed and classification systems. Most noticeable changes concern the following:

- Until 1997, the Labour Force Survey had been producing estimates on a yearly basis (spring quarter). From 1998 onwards the Labour Force Survey is a continuous quarterly survey.

- Total sample replacement was made in 1983, 1993, 1998 and 2004. Also, the sample was gradually replaced during the 2009-2010 period as well as from the 2nd quarter of 2015 to the 3rd quarter of 2016.
- In 2004, the method of substitutions, for dealing with non-response was discontinued.
- **Derivation of survey results:**
  1. From 1981 to 1997 the survey estimations were derived by applying a reducing factor equal to the product of the inverse of the sampling fraction for a population adjustment factor, uniform for the whole country. From 1998 the reducing factor is based on the estimated population distribution by sex and age groups in every NUTS-2 level.
  2. Since 2004 a correction factor adjusting for non-response is applied.
  3. The population adjustment factors are calculated using the current population estimates, which in turn are based on the results of the latest census.
- **Changes in codification:**
  1. 2006: Codification of NACE in 3-digit level
  2. 2008: Introduction of NACE Rev2 for the codification of economic sector (see 4.2)
  3. 2011: Introduction of ISCO-08 for the codification of occupation (see 4.2)
  4. 2021: Use of the ISCED-F-2013 for the classification of field of education in 3-digit level.
- Changes in the survey questionnaire occur almost every year with major changes in 1992, 1998 and 2006 and 2021. Changes of a lesser extent occurred in 1983, 1987, 1999, 2003, 2019 and 2020. Most important changes were:

1999	-Introduction of variables that describe relationships between household members. -Introduction of separate questions on “search-job” activities -Introduction of questions on employees salary
2003	Introduction of questions on field of studies
2011	Introduction of questions for job-related education
2019	- Introduction of questions for insurance of employees in main job - Changes in the questions concerning non-formal education
2020	Introduction of questions concerning the effect of COVID pandemic on employment situation during the reference week (if the pandemic was the reason for absence from work during the reference week, if the pandemic was the reason for stopping to work, and if the pandemic was the reason for not looking for work)
2021	- Change in data collection mode (generalized use of computers during interviews) - Change in the wording of the questions concerning the employment status of the respondent during the reference week (due to the adoption of the standard questionnaire prepared by Eurostat) - Change in the way weights are calculated (use of calibration, calculate different weights for variables with a lower frequency of collection than quarterly) - Change in the definition of employment and, in particular, the treatment of people who claim to have a job but have not worked in it for an hour - The surveyed characteristics are divided into 2 categories: characteristics that are surveyed every quarter and for which quarterly estimates are produced and characteristics that are researched with less frequency (annual, biennial and 8-year variables) and for which estimates are produced with corresponding frequency (annual, biennial). or 8-year-olds). These characteristics are surveyed only in a subset of the sample and specifically in households surveyed for the first time (1/6 of the total quarterly sample)
2024	- Changes in the questions concerning non-formal education -Gradual renewal of the sample (from the 3rd quarter of 2024)

Main changes in Labour Force Survey since 2021 are summarized as follows:

	Up to 2020	From 2021 onwards
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<b>Data collection</b>	Paper questionnaires	By electronic means (CAPI)
<b>Questionnaire</b>	The number of the surveyed characteristics and the relevant questions remained the same for every quarter of the year.	The number of the surveyed characteristics and the relevant questions changes every quarter. For specific characteristics, only annual estimates are produced.
<b>Definition of employed</b>	<p>Population: Persons aged 15 years and over.</p> <p>Persons who reported that they did not work in the reference week but had a job from which they were temporarily absent are classified as employed, except in the following cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employees who are non-active, are absent for more than 3 months and receive less than 50 % of their salary.</li> <li>• Employees who are absent from work due to seasonality.</li> </ul> <p>Self-employed persons are employed in all cases (including family workers).</p>	<p>Population: Persons aged 15-89 years.</p> <p>Persons who reported that they did not work in the reference week but had a job from which they were temporarily absent are considered to be employed only if the duration of their absence is less than 3 months or if they continue to receive income from their work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sick leave, maternity/paternity leave, and educational leave are excluded, and in these cases, persons are classified as employed.</li> </ul> <p>Seasonal workers, regardless of professional status, who reported that they did not work in the reference week but had a job from which they were temporarily absent due to seasonality are considered to be employed only if they perform tasks related to their work (e.g. renovation, business trip) excluding legal or administrative obligations</p>
<b>Weighting</b>	Population adjustment according to gender, age and NUTS-2 Region.	Equal sample weights are assigned to all members of the same household and in addition the computation of the weights takes into account the estimated number of households in the country.

### 15.3 Coherence cross-domain

#### 15.3.1 Coherence – sub annual and annual statistics

##### Consistency between LFS quarterly and annual statistics

For all data collected each quarter, and based on the full sample of the survey, the annual estimates emerge as a simple

arithmetic mean of the 4 quarterly estimates.

For the data collected only in the 1st wave of the survey, the estimates are derived from the weighting of the total annual sample, which is a subset of the complete sample.

The weightings for the annual estimates are calculated so that the estimate of the number of employed, unemployed, and non-employed persons by sex and age groups based on the annual sample is consistent with the estimate of these figures based on the full sample.

### **15.3.2 Coherence – National Accounts**

There are differences between the two estimates that are due to different definitions, concepts and coverage. National Accounts cover all population while LFS covers only population living in private households. National Accounts use LFS as the main source of data on employment but in certain cases, Business Surveys are also used. The National Accounts estimation for the number of persons in employment is higher than the LFS estimation.

The differences between LFS and NA estimates for 2024 are presented in the following tables:

	2024	
	Total (thousands)	Employees
<b>Employment -LFS estimates<sup>1</sup></b>		
NO ANSWER	2,587	2,281
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	469,568	46,043
Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	513,125	419,225
Construction	185,776	107,259
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; transportation and storage; accommodation and food service activities	1355,806	954,247
Information and communication	106,603	95,341
Financial and insurance activities	82,610	71,984
Real estate activities	11,524	4,746
Professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support service activities	383,811	245,741
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security; education; human health and social work activities	994,040	898,082
Arts, entertainment and recreation, repair of household goods and other services	169,270	116,449
<b>TOTAL A10</b>	<b>4,274,720</b>	<b>2,961,397</b>

	2024 <sup>2</sup>	
	Total	Employees
<b>Employment - NA estimates</b>		
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	505,439	118,214
Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	488,572	406,638
Construction	210,405	136,680
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; transportation and storage; accommodation and food service activities	1,878,640	1,427,523
Information and communication	117,338	101,253
Financial and insurance activities	82,308	68,850
Real estate activities	25,179	18,001

Professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support service activities	492,401	319,113
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security; education; human health and social work activities	1,071,584	980,677
Arts, entertainment and recreation, repair of household goods and other services	233,826	175,550
<b>TOTAL A10</b>	<b>5,105,691</b>	<b>3,752,498</b>
	<b>2024</b>	
<b>%difference (NA est. - LFS est)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Employees</b>
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	7.1	61.1
Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	-5.0	-3.1
Construction	11.7	21.5
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; transportation and storage; accommodation and food service activities	27.8	33.2
Information and communication	9.1	5.8
Financial and insurance activities	-0.4	-4.6
Real estate activities	54.2	73.6
Professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support service activities	22.1	23.0
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security; education; human health and social work activities	7.2	8.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation, repair of household goods and other services	27.6	33.7
<b>TOTAL A10</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>21.1</b>
	<b>2024</b>	
<b>Absolute difference (NA est. - LFS est)</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Employees</b>
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	35,871	72,171
Mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply; water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	-24,553	-12,587
Construction	24,629	29,421
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; transportation and storage; accommodation and food service activities	522,834	473,276
Information and communication	10,735	5,912
Financial and insurance activities	-302	-3,134
Real estate activities	13,655	13,255
Professional, scientific and technical activities; administrative and support service activities	108,590	73,372
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security; education; human health and social work activities	77,544	82,595
Arts, entertainment and recreation, repair of household goods and other services	64,556	59,101
<b>TOTAL A10</b>	<b>830,971</b>	<b>791,101</b>
<sup>1</sup> LFS estimates do not include NACE code 99		

<sup>2</sup> Provisional estimates

### 15.3.3 Coherence – Registered Unemployment

There are differences between these estimates due to differences both in measurement and definitions. LFS is using the ILO concept of unemployment while Unemployment register includes a person if he has contacted the unemployment office and declared him of herself as unemployed. As a consequence, persons with "small" jobs or part-timers, can be included in registered unemployment. At the same time, it is not always the case that someone who is LFS unemployed is registered at the unemployment office.

Moreover, LFS estimations are the “mean” of 13 estimations that record unemployment level for each reference week. Registered unemployment estimations record the number of unemployment at the end of each month.

Table A presents the difference between LFS estimates and registered unemployed and Table B presents the difference between LFS estimates and the number of registered unemployed receiving unemployment benefit.

**Table A**

	2024_Q1	2024_Q2	2024_Q3	2024_Q4
<b>Persons registered in Public Unemployment Office (LFS estimation)</b>	695,936	534,103	517,874	558,226
<b>Persons registered in Public Unemployment Office (administrative data)</b>	1,010,968	826,341	822,823	924,265
<b>% Differene (Administrative data - LFS estimation )</b>	45,3	54,7	58,9	65,6

**Table B**

	<b>Persons registered in Public Unemployment Office receiving benefit (LFS estimation)</b>			
	2024_Q1	2024_Q2	2024_Q3	2024_Q4
Males	74,419	37,863	29,871	56,491
Females	81,305	41,832	54,752	77,191
15 - 24	10,557	2,447	5,225	10,347
25 - 74	145,166	77,248	79,397	123,335
	<b>Persons registered in Public Unemployment Office receiving benefit (administrative data)</b>			
	2024_Q1	2024_Q2	2024_Q3	2024_Q4
Males	85,614	46,999	45,565	76,122
Females	106,760	65,381	93,072	107,433
15 - 24	19,077	8,900	7,625	17,341
25 - 74	173,297	103,480	131,011	166,215
	<b>% Differene (Administrative data - LFS estimation )</b>			
	2024_Q1	2024_Q2	2024_Q3	2024_Q4
Males	15,0	24,1	52,5	34,8
Females	31,3	56,3	70,0	39,2
15 - 24	80,7	263,8	45,9	67,6
25 - 74	19,4	34,0	65,0	34,8

### 15.4 Coherence - internal

The LFS estimates have full internal coherence, as they are all based on the same set of microdata and they are calculated using the same estimation methods.

## 16. Cost and burden

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Number of staff involved in the LFS in central and regional offices, excluding interviewers

Total	of which professional and managerial
23	2

Total cost for data collection (by not permanent staff of ELSTAT): 496,747 euros

## 17. Data revision

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### 17.1 Revision policy

Survey estimates are based on the latest census data. When the latest census data are available, data weights are revised to reflect the new information on population totals.

### 17.2 Revision practice

Data weights are revised for the 4 years before the census and for the years between the census and the first year when the latest census results are available.

In June 2004 the results of the period from 1998 to 2003 were revised in accordance with the results of the 2001 census. In June 2014 the results of the period from 2001-2013 were revised in accordance with the results of the 2011 census. Initially, results for the period from 1998 to 2003 were based on the 1991 census, whereas results for the period from 2004 to 2013 were based on the 2001 census.

Following the introduction of the new Social Statistics Framework Regulation, (EU) 2019/1700, and due to the change it brought to the survey estimates, break-free time series were calculated for the number of employed, unemployed and persons outside labour force by sex and age groups for the period 2009-2020, <https://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SJO02/>.

## 18. Statistical processing

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### 18.1 Source data

Labour force survey is a sample survey covering the population living in private households.

The base that is used for the sample is a list of cities blocks, by enumeration district, compiled at 2011 Census.

The selection of households to be surveyed follows a two stage stratified sampling scheme.

In the first sampling stage a random sample of building blocks is selected, with probability proportional to "size" (where the size is defined as the number of households residing in the building block at the time of last census).

In the second stage, we select a systematic sample of dwellings within the blocks that were selected at first stage.

All the members of the household residing in a selected dwelling provide information for the survey.

Athens agglomeration is divided in 31 final strata and Thessaloniki agglomeration is divided in 9 final strata. For these areas, the strata are defined by groups of municipalities. All other NUT III areas are divided in 2 or 3 final strata. The first stratum is composed by all settlements with population 10 000 persons or more, the second is composed by all settlements with population 2 000 - 9 999 persons and the third is composed by all settlements with population 1 - 1 999 persons.

	Overall theoretical sampling rate (i.e. including non-response) %	Size of the theoretical sample (i.e. including non-response)
1st quarter	1.05%	42,719
2nd quarter	1.05%	42,883
3rd quarter	1.08%	44,050
4th quarter	1.11%	45,228
All Year	4.29%	174,880

A number of variables (FINDMETH, HATFIELD, HATWORK, HATYEAR, HOMEWORK, HWWISH, INCGROSS, ISCOPR3D, LOOKOJ, MAINCLNT, NACEPR2D, NEEDCARE, SIZEFIRM, STAPROPR, SUPVISOR, TEMPAGCY, TEMPREAS, VARITIME, and WAYJFOUN) is surveyed using the wave approach – that is, they are surveyed only once a year using a sub-sample of the original sample (the households that are surveyed for the first time).

### 18.2 Frequency of data collection

Data are collected throughout the year.

The year is divided in 4 quarters: 1st (January, February, March), 2nd (April, May, June), 3rd (July, August, September) and 4th (October, November, December).

The quarterly sample is distributed uniformly in the 13 (or 14) weeks of the quarter.

### 18.3 Data collection

All interviews are carried out with Computer Assisted Personal Interview. 1<sup>st</sup> wave interviews are face-to-face (though during the pandemic, only telephone contacts were possible).

In the following waves, interviewers are free to choose the method of contact (either face-to-face or by phone).

Dependent interviewing is applied in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and subsequent waves – that is, questions are formulated based on answers of previous quarter.

### 18.4 Data validation

The adoption of computer assisted interview allows direct control over the recorded answers and the flow of the questions.

After integrating the interviews into the database, the validation of the data is done through a series of checks that identify inconsistencies between the dates given by the respondents, between education and profession, between profession and sectors of economic activity, between answers given to different parts of the questionnaire and inconsistencies in the composition of households. The problems identified are solved either by new contact with the household or, if possible, by using previous data from the same household.

### 18.5 Data compilation

Labor Force Survey estimates are generated by reducing the survey results to the total population of private households. This reduction is achieved by proper weighting of the sample values.

From 2021, the Labor Force Survey calculates two different weightings:

a) Individual weighting for the production of results related to characteristics that are surveyed in a quarterly basis throughout the survey sample and for which quarterly results are published (quarterly variables). This factor is calculated in three stages.

In the first stage, each person who answers the research questions is assigned a weighting factor that reflects the chances of the individual being selected, as they result from the design of the research. This coefficient is equal to the inverse of the probability of selection of the household to which the person in question belongs.

In the second stage, the weights of the individuals included in a surface unit are modified to address the non-response to the survey. The correction is made at the level of the surface unit and the correction factor is defined as:

$$\text{Non response correction} = \text{number of eligible households in primary sampling unit} / \text{number of households that responded.}$$

In the third stage, the results resulting from the weighting of the sample values with the coefficients obtained from the first two stages are adjusted at the household level (calibration) in order to satisfy the following:

- the population estimates are consistent with the corresponding population estimates derived by Region (NUTS-2), sex and age groups from the population at the last census (2011) and which incorporate births, deaths and migration in interim period until the survey year
- the distribution of the estimated number of households by household size (1,2,3,4+ persons) are consistent with the results of the last Census (2011).

The above weighting factor is the same for each person in the same household.

b) Weightings to produce results concerning characteristics investigated for a subset of the sample (annual, two-year and 8-year variables). These coefficients are calculated so that there is consistency with the estimates produced on the basis of the quarterly coefficients in terms of the average annual survey estimates (ie the average of the four quarters):

a) for the number of employed, unemployed, and persons out of the labor force by gender and age groups (annual, biennial) and b) at least for the number by gender and population group of the 8-year (ad hoc) variables. Weighting factors are calculated per person and per household (where all members of the household have the same reduction factors).

#### **18.5.1 Imputation – rate**

Imputation is used for the variable containing the gross salary declared by the employees in the LFS (see 13.3).

#### **18.6 Adjustment**

The LFS quarterly results are not adjusted

#### **18.6.1 Seasonal adjustment**

Characteristics studied by LFS (number of employed, unemployed persons etc) are subject to strong seasonal variations: for example, in Greece, employment increases in summer due to tourism (although there are countervailing factors). Therefore, seasonal adjustment is applied in monthly estimates since 2004 and for time series of employment and unemployment by sex, age groups and Decentralized Administration.

Seasonally adjusted series are produced by means of TRAMO&SEATS algorithm. It should be noted that due to seasonal adjustment the whole series with monthly estimates is recalculated every time a new month is added in time series. As a result, estimations for the previous months are often revised.

### **19. Comment**

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