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**GENERAL SECRETARIAT**

**NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE  
OF GREECE**



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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### ***LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 3rd quarter 2007***

The General Secretariat of National Statistical Service of Greece announces the Labour Force Survey's results for the 3rd Quarter 2007. Greek Labour Force Survey is harmonized with Commission's Regulation 577/98.

Labour Force Survey is a sample survey. Sample design was based on the 2001 Census results. A two stage-sampling scheme is used for sample selection, with "areas" (that is, one or more groups of building blocks) serving as primary sampling units, and dwellings as secondary sampling units. 2,640 primary sampling units were selected through out whole Greece, and the total number of interviewed households was 30,651 (about 0.70% of the total number of households).

Survey characteristics (number of employed, unemployed etc.) were estimated by an unbiased estimator, which was calculated taking into consideration: a) selection probabilities of households, b) non response rate in each primary sampling unit and c) and the estimated population distribution by sex and group ages in every NUT II level area, for the 2<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2007. The estimation of population distribution was based on population trends and on the number of births, deaths and legal immigrants.

## CHANGES IN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AND LABOUR FORCE

During the 3rd Quarter of 2007 the unemployment rate (that is, the percentage of unemployed persons over the labour force, which is the sum of employed and unemployed persons) was 7.9%. During the corresponding quarter of 2006, unemployment rate was 8.3%. That percentage of 7.9% is the lowest unemployment rate since 1998 when Labour Force Survey started to be conducted every three months (Table 1).

**Table 1. Unemployment rate: 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter , 1998-2007**

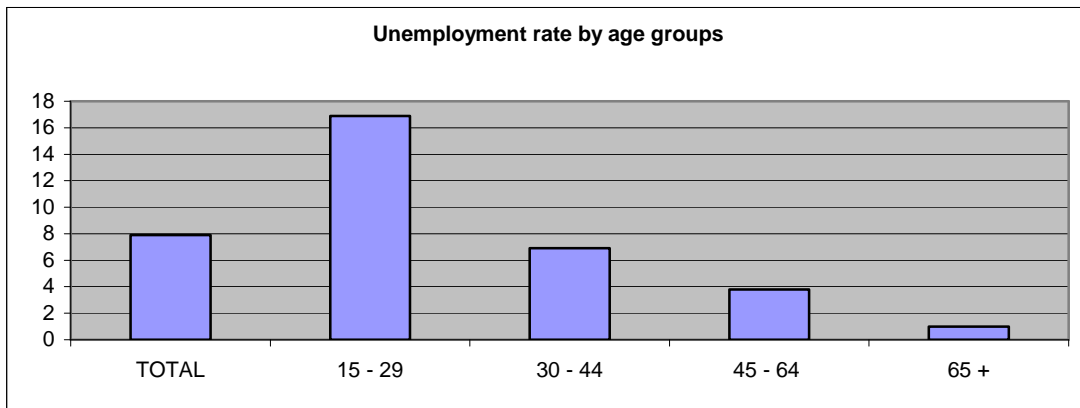
Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Unemployment rate</b>	10,8	11,7	10,9	10,2	9,8	9,3	10,1	9,7	8,3	7,9

During the 3rd quarter of 2007, the percentage of labour force over population aged 15 years old and over was 53.5%

### I. UNEMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

Females' unemployment rate (12.2%) is still more than double of males' unemployment rate (4.9%).

*Chart 1*



By observing the unemployment rate for different age groups, we see that the highest unemployment rate is found among young people aged 15-29 years old (16.9%). For young females, the unemployment rate is 23.4% (Table 2).

**Table 2. Unemployment rate (%) by sex and age groups: 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2006 and 2007**

Age Groups	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter					
	2006			2007		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,1</b>	<b>13,0</b>	<b>8,3</b>	<b>4,9</b>	<b>12,2</b>	<b>7,9</b>
15-29	11,8	25,0	17,6	11,9	23,4	16,9
30-44	4,2	11,6	7,4	3,8	11,1	6,9
45-64	2,6	6,3	4,0	2,4	6,2	3,8
65+	0,4	1,4	0,6	1,0	1,0	1,0

Considering educational level, unemployment rate is higher than the total rate for persons who have not attended school (8.0%) and those who have completed programs of ISCED 5b level (9.8%) and ISCED 3 level (8.5%). Lower unemployment rates are observed in the case of persons that completed programs of ISCED 5A (6.8%) and in the case of persons that have not completed ISCED 1 level (5.8%) (Table 3).

**Table 3. Unemployment rate (%) by sex and educational level: 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2006 and 2007**

Level of education	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter					
	2006			2007		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,1</b>	<b>13,0</b>	<b>8,3</b>	<b>4,9</b>	<b>12,2</b>	<b>7,9</b>
ISCED 6	5,6	9,8	7,3	6,0	9,3	7,3
ISCED 5A	3,9	9,1	6,4	4,6	9,1	6,8
ISCED 5 B	6,7	15,8	11,2	5,6	14,3	9,8
ISCED 3	5,4	15,6	9,4	5,1	13,8	8,5
ISCED 2	5,5	14,6	8,2	4,4	15,3	7,8
ISCED 1	4,1	9,7	6,2	4,4	9,4	6,2
Did not complete ISCED 1	4,1	4,0	4,1	3,2	9,5	5,8
Did not attend school	6,8	5,5	6,2	5,1	11,2	8,0

The number of unemployed persons is estimated at 387,521. The 87.9% of the unemployed persons are looking for a full time job. In particular, 40.0% of unemployed is looking for a full time job only, while 47.9% is looking for full time job, but, if needed, would accept to work part time.

A significant part of the unemployed persons (12.6%) did not accept an offer for job, for various reasons. Main reasons reported reasons were:

- a) wage was not satisfactory (21.8%),
- b) the place of job was not suitable (21.6%),
- c) working hours were not convenient (16.2%).

The percentage of “new” unemployed, who are persons that entered for the first time into labour market, is 37.1%. We must note that the percentage of “long term” unemployed, that is the percentage of persons that were looking for a job for more than 1 year (irrespective of being “new” or “old” unemployed), is 54.8%.

Unemployment rate is considerably lower for persons of foreign nationality (6.2% compared to 7.9%). Similarly, the percentage of economically active persons with foreign nationality remains much higher than the corresponding mean “national” percentage (71.3% compared to 53.4%).

Geographical areas with the highest unemployment rate are Dytiki Makedonia (11.9%) and Dytiki Ellada (10.0%). The lowest unemployment rates are observed in Kriti (3.0%) and in Notio Aigaio (4.3%) (Table 4).

<b>Table 4. Unemployment rate by NUT II regions</b>		
<b>NUT II Region</b>	<b>3rd Quarter 2006</b>	<b>3rd Quarter 2007</b>
<b>TOTAL COUNTRY</b>	<b>8,3</b>	<b>7,9</b>
ANATOLIKI MAKEDONIA, THRAKI	10,2	9,2
KENTRIKI MAKEDONIA	8,9	8,9
DYTIKI MAKEDONIA	14,0	11,9
IPEIROS	9,9	9,9
THESSALIA	8,2	8,0
IONIA NISIA	7,4	4,4
DYTIKI ELLADA	9,2	10,0
STEREA ELLADA	8,8	9,1
ATTIKI	8,1	7,5
PELLOPONNISOS	7,3	7,3
VOREIO AIGAIO	8,3	6,4
NOTIO AIGAIO	5,3	4,3
KRITI	4,7	3,0

## II. EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

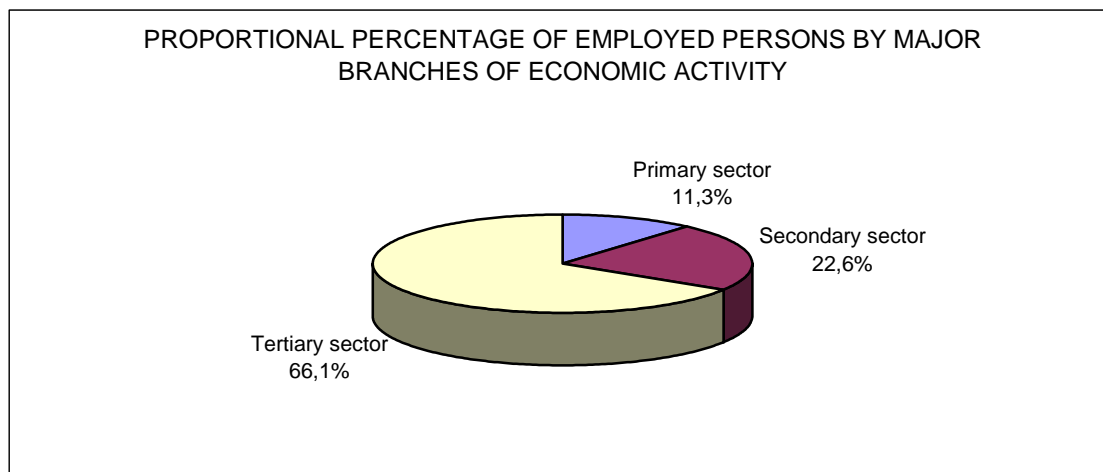
**The number of employed in 3rd Quarter 2007 is estimated at 4,539,288 persons.**

During 3rd Quarter 2007, 98,435 persons who were unemployed one year ago found a job. During the same period, 82,108 persons that were inactive one year ago, got in to employment. In contrary, 64,285 persons who were working one year ago, during the 3rd Quarter 2007 are unemployed and 77,154 persons that were working, are now inactive. In addition, 71,365 persons who were inactive one year ago, during 3rd Quarter 2007 got in labour market, and are searching for a job.

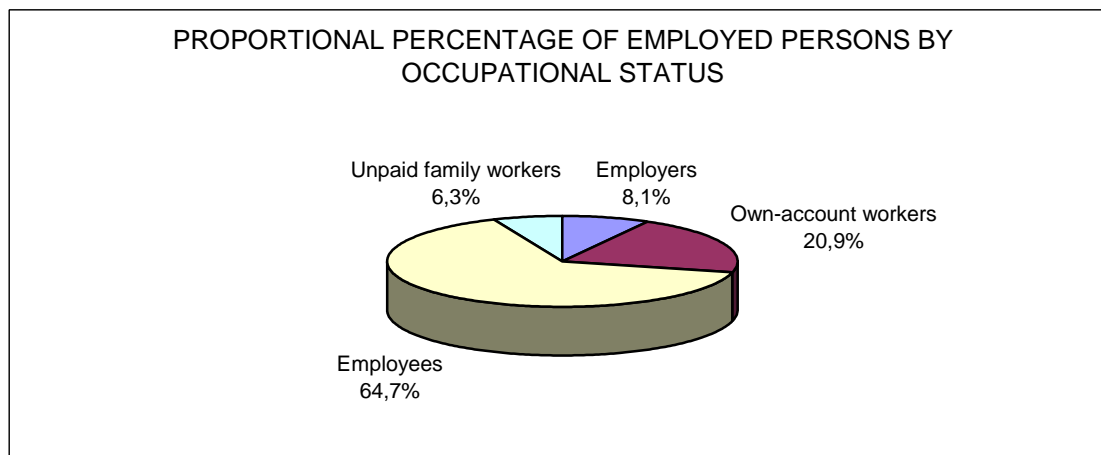
If we examine changes in employment by different sector of economic activity, we see that there was a decrease in employment in primary sector by 3.5%, compared to the 3rd Quarter 2006. In contrary, during the same period, there was an increase in employment in secondary and tertiary sector, by 3.8% and 0.9%, respectively. In tertiary sector, the branches with the largest increase were the branch of Other Community, Social and Personal Service activities (7.0%), the branch of Health (5.8%) and the branch of Private Households (6.7%). In secondary sector, the branch with the largest increase is the branch of Contraction (10.0%), while in primary sector, there is an increase in employment in the branch of Fishery (4.8%).

**The percentage of part time employment** is low and amounts to 5.8% of the total employed. 42.5% of part timers choose to work part time because they cannot find a full time job, while 11.4% choose part time job, because they are looking after children or incapacitated adults.

*Chart 2*



*Chart 3*



The percentage of employees is estimated at 64.7% and is still lower than the mean percentage of employees in European Union (about 80% of the total employed). Table 5 shows the number of employed by branch of economy from 3rd Quarter 2006 to 3rd Quarter 2007, while Table 6 shows, for the same period of time, the change in employment in different branches of economy, using as base (=100) the employment at 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2004. Table 7 presents employment by branch of economy and sex, for 3rd Quarter 2006 and 3rd Quarter 2007, and Table 8 gives the percentage allocation of employed in different branches of economy for the 13 NUT II regions of Greece.

**Table 5. Employed persons of 15 years and over by economic activity:  
3rd quarter 2006 – 3rd quarter 2007**

*In thousands*

I. Branch of economic activity	2006		2007		
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.494,2</b>	<b>4.462,1</b>	<b>4.461,2</b>	<b>4.519,9</b>	<b>4.539,3</b>
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	515,8	513,4	511,1	507,3	496,7
Fishing	14,8	15,8	17,0	15,1	15,5
Mining and quarrying	18,4	18,4	16,8	18,1	19,9
Manufacturing	563,8	564,6	560,8	558,9	562,4
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	41,8	42,7	41,6	40,0	42,8
Construction	365,3	368,5	383,0	394,4	401,8
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	790,8	780,3	794,4	800,6	800,9
Hotels and restaurants	324,4	297,4	281,1	317,9	340,6
Transport, storage and communication	284,7	276,5	270,5	267,6	264,3
Financial intermediation	116,1	116,8	116,9	112,7	113,5
Real estate, renting and business activities	289,4	296,8	290,7	294,8	298,7
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	386,7	381,5	383,6	390,9	384,0
Education	325,6	330,7	328,3	328,4	311,4
Health and social work	226,2	234,0	241,3	240,9	239,4
Other community, social and personal service activities	157,7	150,6	152,9	162,4	168,7
Private households with employed persons	72,3	73,0	69,5	68,5	77,1
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	0,4	1,1	1,6	1,4	1,5

II. Sector of economic activity	2006		2007		
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.494,2</b>	<b>4.462,1</b>	<b>4.461,2</b>	<b>4.519,9</b>	<b>4.539,3</b>
Primary sector	530,6	529,2	528,1	522,4	512,3
Secondary sector	989,3	994,1	1.002,2	1.011,4	1026,9
Tertiary sector	2.974,3	2.938,8	2.930,9	2.986,1	3000,1

**Table 6. Evolution of the employment by braches of economic activity**  
(Base period 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2004=100)

I. Branch of economic activity	2006		2007		
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter
<b>Total</b>	<b>105,8</b>	<b>105,0</b>	<b>105,0</b>	<b>106,4</b>	<b>106,8</b>
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	97,7	97,3	96,9	96,1	94,1
Fishing	121,8	129,8	139,7	124,1	127,5
Mining and quarrying	138,0	138,4	126,3	136,1	149,9
Manufacturing	101,6	101,8	101,1	100,8	101,4
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	98,7	100,8	98,2	94,4	101,1
Construction	107,1	108,1	112,3	115,7	117,8
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	104,5	103,1	104,9	105,8	105,8
Hotels and restaurants	134,9	123,7	116,9	132,2	141,6
Transport, storage and communication	107,0	103,9	101,7	100,6	99,4
Financial intermediation	101,8	102,5	102,6	98,9	99,6
Real estate, renting and business activities	104,8	107,5	105,3	106,8	108,2
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	109,6	108,1	108,7	110,8	108,8
Education	104,7	106,3	105,5	105,6	100,1
Health and social work	103,1	106,7	110,0	109,8	109,1
Other community, social and personal service activities	105,6	100,8	102,3	108,7	112,9
Private households with employed persons	103,2	104,2	99,2	97,7	110,1
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	34,4	84,2	122,5	107,2	114,0

II. Sector of economic activity	2006		2007		
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter
<b>Total</b>	<b>105,8</b>	<b>105,0</b>	<b>105,0</b>	<b>106,4</b>	<b>106,8</b>
Primary sector	98,3	98,0	97,8	96,8	94,9
Secondary sector	104,0	104,5	105,3	106,3	107,9
Tertiary sector	107,9	106,6	106,3	108,3	108,8

**Table 7. Employed persons of 15 years and over by economic activity and gender for 3rd quarter 2006 and 2007**

*Σε χιλιάδες*

I. Branch of economic activity	2006			2007		
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter			3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.494,2</b>	<b>2.744,1</b>	<b>1.750,1</b>	<b>4.539,3</b>	<b>2.777,0</b>	<b>1.762,3</b>
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	515,8	290,9	224,9	496,7	287,1	209,7
Fishing	14,8	12,8	2,0	15,5	12,8	2,7
Mining and quarrying	18,4	17,0	1,3	19,9	18,2	1,7
Manufacturing	563,8	406,8	157,0	562,4	407,0	155,4
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	41,8	34,5	7,4	42,8	33,9	8,9
Construction	365,3	356,7	8,6	401,8	393,6	8,2
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	790,8	459,4	331,4	800,9	465,3	335,6
Hotels and restaurants	324,4	176,0	148,5	340,6	181,9	158,6
Transport, storage and communication	284,7	228,9	55,8	264,3	213,1	51,3
Financial intermediation	116,1	62,7	53,4	113,5	56,5	57,0
Real estate, renting and business activities	289,4	153,9	135,4	298,7	165,5	133,2
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	386,7	255,0	131,7	384,0	247,5	136,5
Education	325,6	124,8	200,8	311,4	117,8	193,5
Health and social work	226,2	80,1	146,0	239,4	82,5	156,9
Other community, social and personal service activities	157,7	81,3	76,5	168,7	88,2	80,5
Private households with employed persons	72,3	3,2	69,2	77,1	4,7	72,4
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	0,4	0,1	0,3	1,5	1,4	0,1

II. Sector of economic activity	2006			2007		
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter			3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter		
	Total	Male	Total	Male	Total	Male
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.494,2</b>	<b>2.744,1</b>	<b>1.750,1</b>	<b>4.539,3</b>	<b>2.777,0</b>	<b>1.762,3</b>
Primary sector	530,6	303,8	226,8	512,3	299,8	212,4
Secondary sector	989,3	815,0	174,3	1026,9	852,7	174,2
Tertiary sector	2.974,3	1.625,3	1.349,0	3000,1	1624,4	1375,7



**Table 8. Proportional percentage of employed persons aged 15 years and over by branches of economic activity and regions: 3rd quarter 2007**

Branch of economic activity	Total Country	Anatoliki Makedonia , Thraki	Kentriki Makedonia	Dytiki Makedonia	Ipeiros	Thessalia	Ionia Nisia
<b>Total</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	10,9	24,4	10,9	16,3	18,8	22,3	10,9
Fishing	0,3	0,7	0,3	0,0	0,4	0,3	0,5
Mining and quarrying	0,4	0,6	0,3	6,9	0,6	0,1	0,0
Manufacturing	12,4	11,3	16,6	10,1	8,7	11,6	4,2
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	0,9	0,5	0,7	3,8	1,0	0,5	0,6
Construction	8,9	7,9	8,6	10,8	11,9	9,5	11,9
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	17,6	13,4	18,9	13,2	15,1	14,5	18,0
Hotels and restaurants	7,5	5,8	6,3	6,4	8,6	6,1	24,6
Transport, storage and communication	5,8	3,5	4,7	2,4	3,1	4,2	6,1
Financial intermediation	2,5	1,6	1,5	1,8	1,0	1,2	0,9
Real estate, renting and business activities	6,6	3,9	6,6	3,4	3,6	3,7	5,2
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	8,5	11,2	7,3	9,5	9,2	8,9	5,9
Education	6,9	6,9	7,5	8,7	9,5	8,4	4,4
Health and social work	5,3	4,5	5,3	4,0	5,9	5,2	2,5
Other community, social and personal service activities	3,7	3,1	3,3	2,5	2,0	2,8	3,8
Private households with employed persons	1,7	0,6	1,3	0,2	0,5	0,7	0,6
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0

**Table 8. Proportional percentage of employed persons aged 15 years and over by branches of economic activity and regions: 3rd quarter 2007 (continued)**

Branch of economic activity	Dytiki Ellada	Stereia Ellada	Attiki	Peloponnisos	Voreio Aigaio	Notio Aigaio	Kriti
<b>Total</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	19,4	17,3	0,6	29,1	14,2	4,6	16,8
Fishing	0,5	1,2	0,1	0,3	1,7	1,8	0,1
Mining and quarrying	0,1	1,6	0,0	0,9	0,0	1,0	0,0
Manufacturing	8,0	15,6	14,0	8,9	7,4	5,2	7,6
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	0,8	1,4	0,9	1,3	0,5	1,4	0,9
Construction	9,3	9,7	8,4	7,9	9,5	8,5	9,1
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	16,8	15,7	19,5	14,1	16,1	20,7	17,5
Hotels and restaurants	6,9	7,3	5,6	5,9	10,0	23,8	13,7
Transport, storage and communication	5,1	4,5	8,0	3,8	6,0	7,2	4,7
Financial intermediation	1,7	1,9	4,2	1,6	1,6	1,5	1,6
Real estate, renting and business activities	4,9	3,6	9,5	3,6	3,1	4,3	6,0
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	7,7	8,8	8,8	8,2	15,4	6,6	6,6
Education	8,9	5,1	6,5	5,8	6,9	4,1	6,4
Health and social work	5,6	3,2	6,0	4,4	4,6	4,1	5,2
Other community, social and personal service activities	3,4	2,4	4,7	3,5	3,1	4,8	2,7
Private households with employed persons	0,8	0,6	3,2	0,6	0,0	0,4	1,0
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1

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