



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ

ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΟΙΚΟΝΟΜΙΑΣ & ΟΙΚΟΝΟΜΙΚΩΝ

GENERAL SECRETARIAT



NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE
OF GREECE

Piraeus , March 19, 2008

PRESS RELEASE

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 4th quarter 2007

The General Secretariat of National Statistical Service of Greece announces the Labour Force Survey's results for the 4th 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 30,702 (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) the estimated population distribution by sex and group ages. The estimation of population distribution was based on population trends and on the number of births, deaths and legal immigrants.

Contact person: Stelios Zachariou
Phone number : 210 4852173
Fax: 210 4852948
E-mail: zacharis@statistics.g

CHANGES IN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AND LABOUR FORCE

During the 4th 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 8.1%. During the corresponding quarter of 2006, unemployment rate was 8.8%. That percentage of 8.1% is the lowest unemployment rate since 1998 when Labour Force Survey started to be conducted every three months (Table 1).

Table 1. Unemployment rate: 4th quarter, 1998-2007

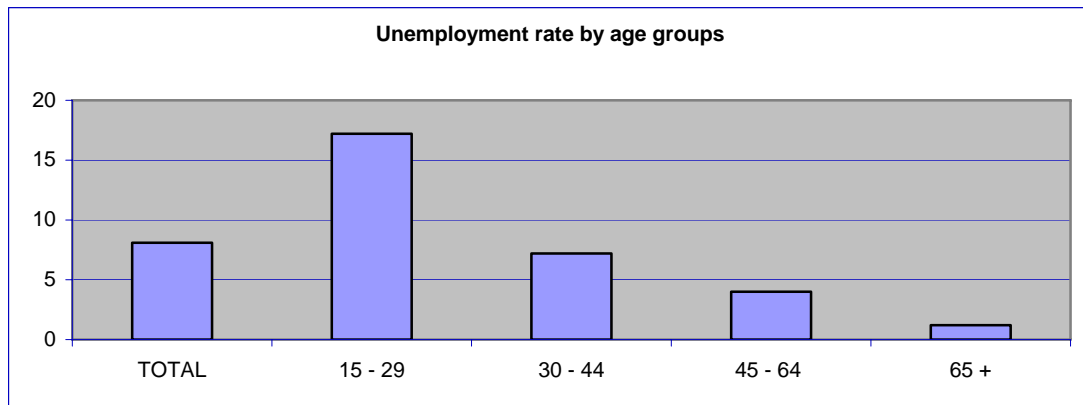
Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Unemployment rate	11,4	12,7	11,0	11,2	10,2	9,9	10,4	9,7	8,8	8,1

During the 4th quarter of 2007, the percentage of labour force over population aged 15 years old and over was 53.3%

I. UNEMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

Females' unemployment rate (12.3%) is still more than double of males' unemployment rate (5.2%).

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 (17.2%). For young females, the unemployment rate is 22.7% (Table 2).

Table 2. Unemployment rate (%) by sex and age groups: 4th Quarter 2006 and 2007

Age Groups	4th Quarter					
	2006			2007		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Total	5,5	13,5	8,8	5,2	12,3	8,1
15-29	12,9	25,2	18,3	12,9	22,7	17,2
30-44	4,5	12,3	7,9	4,1	11,3	7,2
45-64	2,7	7,3	4,4	2,4	6,6	4,0
65+	0,9	1,4	1,0	1,2	1,0	1,2

Considering educational level, unemployment rate is higher than the total rate for persons who have not attended school (14.5%) and those who have completed programs of ISCED 5b level (10.3%) and ISCED 3 level (8.9%). Lower unemployment rates are observed in the case of persons that completed programs of ISCED 5AS and 6 (5.9%) and in the case of persons that have not completed ISCED 5a level (6.2%) (Table 3).

Table 3. Unemployment rate (%) by sex and educational level: 4th Quarter 2006 and 2007

Level of education	4th Quarter					
	2006			2007		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Total	5,5	13,5	8,8	5,2	12,3	8,1
ISCED 5AS, 6	5,6	9,5	7,2	4,5	7,9	5,9
ISCED 5A	3,7	7,9	5,7	4,2	8,3	6,2
ISCED 5 B	6,7	16,2	11,3	6,3	14,6	10,3
ISCED 3	6,1	16,7	10,2	5,9	13,7	8,9
ISCED 2	5,8	16,3	9,1	4,3	15,5	7,7
ISCED 1	4,6	10,9	6,9	4,6	10,2	6,6
Did not complete ISCED 1	5,5	6,9	6,1	5,6	12,1	8,1
Did not attend school	11,6	2,8	7,7	10,3	20,3	14,5

The number of unemployed persons is estimated at 396,498. The 86.4% of the unemployed persons are looking for a full time job. In particular, 39.5% of unemployed is looking for a full time job only, while 46.9% is looking for full time job, but, if needed, would accept to work part time.

A significant part of the unemployed persons (11.9%) did not accept an offer for job, for various reasons. Main reasons reported reasons were:

- a) wage was not satisfactory (19.4%),
- b) the place of job was not suitable (22.0%),
- c) working hours were not convenient (17.1%).

The percentage of “new” unemployed, who are persons that entered for the first time into labour market, is 35.6%. 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 (irrespectively of being “new” or “old” unemployed), is 51.0%.

Unemployment rate is considerably lower for persons of foreign nationality (6.6% compared to 8.1%). Similarly, the percentage of economically active persons with foreign nationality remains is much higher than the corresponding mean “national” percentage (71.7% compared to 53.3%).

Geographical areas with the highest unemployment rate are Dytiki Makedonia (11.9%) and Ditiki Ellada (10.1%). The lowest unemployment rates are observed in Kriti (5.3%) and in Voreio Aigaio (6,2%) (Table 4).

Table 4. Unemployment rate by NUT II regions		
NUT II Region	4th Quarter 2006	4th Quarter 2007
TOTAL COUNTRY	8,8	8,1
ANATOLIKI MAKEDONIA, THRAKI	10,6	9,3
KENTRIKI MAKEDONIA	8,6	8,9
DYTIKI MAKEDONIA	12,0	11,9
IPEIROS	9,9	9,8
THESSALIA	7,9	8,7
IONIA NISIA	8,9	9,3
DYTIKI ELLADA	9,4	10,1
STEREA ELLADA	9,6	9,5
ATTIKI	8,7	6,9
PELLOPONNISOS	7,4	7,7
VOREIO AIGAIO	9,0	6,2
NOTIO AIGAIO	8,1	8,8
KRITI	7,2	5,3

II. EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

The number of employed in 4th Quarter 2007 is estimated at 4,519,123 persons.

During 4th Quarter 2007, 102,084 persons who were unemployed one year ago found a job. During the same period, 79,575 persons that were inactive one year ago, got in to employment. In contrary, 62,877 persons who were working one year ago, during the 4th Quarter 2007 are unemployed and 73,259 persons that were working, are now inactive. In addition, 74,811 persons who were inactive one year ago, during 4th 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 2.5%, compared to the 4th Quarter 2006. In contrary, during the same period, there was an increase in employment in secondary and tertiary sector, by 2.7% and 1.5%, respectively. In tertiary sector, the branches with the largest increase were the branch of Other Community, Social and Personal Service activities (11.6%), the branch of Health (4.3%) and the branch of Private Households (5.1%). In secondary sector, the branch with the largest increase is the branch of Contraction (8.4%), while in primary sector, there is decrease in all branches.

The percentage of part time employment is low and amounts to 5.3% of the total employed. 42.3% of part timers choose to work part time because they cannot find a full time job, while 11.2% choose part time job, because they are looking after children or incapacitated adults.

Chart 2

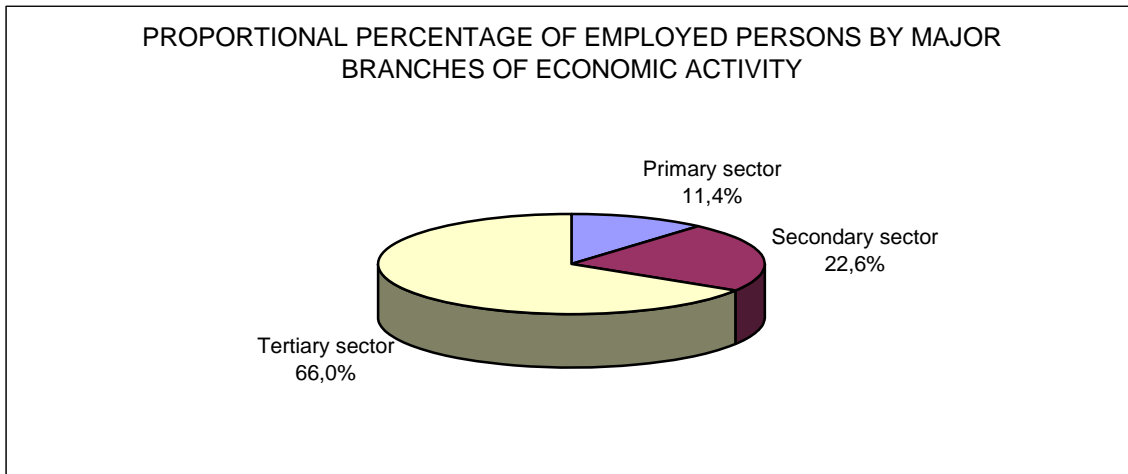
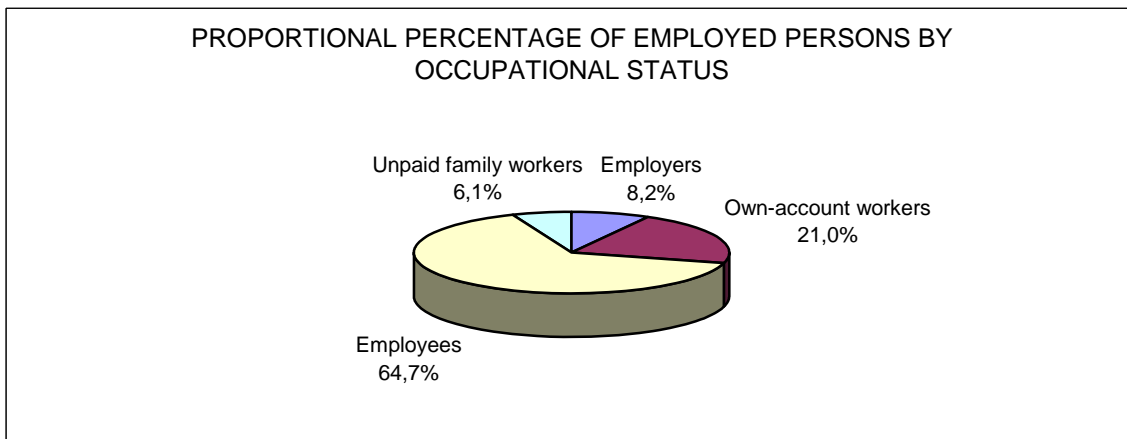


Chart 3



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 4th Quarter 2006 to 4th 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 1st Quarter 2004. Table 7 presents employment by branch of economy and sex, for 4th Quarter 2006 and 4th 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 9 shows the annual average employment rate by NUT III level for the years 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007.

**Table 5. Employed persons of 15 years and over by economic activity:
4th quarter 2006 – 4th quarter 2007**

In thousands

I. Branch of economic activity	2006	2007			
	4th Quarter	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Total	4.462,1	4.461,2	4.519,9	4.539,3	4.519,1
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	513,4	511,1	507,3	496,7	500,6
Fishing	15,8	17,0	15,1	15,5	15,6
Mining and quarrying	18,4	16,8	18,1	19,9	18,8
Manufacturing	564,6	560,8	558,9	562,4	560,1
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	42,7	41,6	40,0	42,8	43,0
Construction	368,5	383,0	394,4	401,8	399,5
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	780,3	794,4	800,6	800,9	802,3
Hotels and restaurants	297,4	281,1	317,9	340,6	306,2
Transport, storage and communication	276,5	270,5	267,6	264,3	260,6
Financial intermediation	116,8	116,9	112,7	113,5	115,4
Real estate, renting and business activities	296,8	290,7	294,8	298,7	303,1
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	381,5	383,6	390,9	384,0	382,7
Education	330,7	328,3	328,4	311,4	320,6
Health and social work	234,0	241,3	240,9	239,4	244,0
Other community, social and personal service activities	150,6	152,9	162,4	168,7	168,1
Private households with employed persons	73,0	69,5	68,5	77,1	76,7
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	1,1	1,6	1,4	1,5	1,9

II. Sector of economic activity	2006	2007			
	4th Quarter	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Total	4.462,1	4.461,2	4.519,9	4.539,3	4.519,1
Primary sector	529,2	528,1	522,4	512,3	516,1
Secondary sector	994,1	1.002,2	1.011,4	1.026,9	1.021,4
Tertiary sector	2.938,8	2.930,9	2.986,1	3.000,1	2.981,6

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

I. Branch of economic activity	2006	2007			
	4th Quarter	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Total	105,0	105,0	106,4	106,8	106,3
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	97,3	96,9	96,1	94,1	94,8
Fishing	129,8	139,7	124,1	127,5	128,3
Mining and quarrying	138,4	126,3	136,1	149,9	141,6
Manufacturing	101,8	101,1	100,8	101,4	101,0
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	100,8	98,2	94,4	101,1	101,6
Construction	108,1	112,3	115,7	117,8	117,1
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	103,1	104,9	105,8	105,8	106,0
Hotels and restaurants	123,7	116,9	132,2	141,6	127,3
Transport, storage and communication	103,9	101,7	100,6	99,4	98,0
Financial intermediation	102,5	102,6	98,9	99,6	101,3
Real estate, renting and business activities	107,5	105,3	106,8	108,2	109,8
Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	108,1	108,7	110,8	108,8	108,4
Education	106,3	105,5	105,6	100,1	103,1
Health and social work	106,7	110,0	109,8	109,1	111,2
Other community, social and personal service activities	100,8	102,3	108,7	112,9	112,5
Private households with employed persons	104,2	99,2	97,7	110,1	109,5
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	84,2	122,5	107,2	114,0	144,4

II. Branch of economic activity	2006	2007			
	4th Quarter	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Total	105,0	105,0	106,4	106,8	106,3
Primary sector	98,0	97,8	96,8	94,9	95,6
Secondary sector	104,5	105,3	106,3	107,9	107,3
Tertiary sector	106,6	106,3	108,3	108,8	108,1

Table 7. Employed persons of 15 years and over by economic activity and gender for 4th quarter 2006 and 2007

Σε χιλιάδες

I. Branch of economic activity	2006			2007		
	4th Quarter			4th Quarter		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total	4.462,1	2.734,6	1.727,5	4.519,1	2.763,8	1.755,3
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	513,4	292,8	220,6	500,6	293,5	207,1
Fishing	15,8	13,1	2,8	15,6	12,5	3,0
Mining and quarrying	18,4	17,3	1,1	18,8	17,0	1,8
Manufacturing	564,6	408,4	156,2	560,1	405,6	154,5
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	42,7	34,8	7,9	43,0	32,8	10,2
Construction	368,5	360,9	7,6	399,5	391,7	7,8
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	780,3	451,6	328,8	802,3	463,9	338,4
Hotels and restaurants	297,4	164,0	133,4	306,2	164,9	141,4
Transport, storage and communication	276,5	225,7	50,8	260,6	210,2	50,5
Financial intermediation	116,8	63,0	53,8	115,4	57,4	58,0
Real estate, renting and business activities	296,8	162,0	134,8	303,1	172,0	131,1
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	381,5	245,0	136,5	382,7	243,8	138,9
Education	330,7	129,1	201,6	320,6	119,0	201,6
Health and social work	234,0	82,8	151,1	244,0	85,5	158,4
Other community, social and personal service activities	150,6	79,2	71,4	168,1	87,8	80,3
Private households with employed persons	73,0	4,4	68,6	76,7	4,7	72,0
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	1,1	0,5	0,6	1,9	1,5	0,4

II. Sector of economic activity	2006			2007		
	4th Quarter			4th Quarter		
	Total	Male	Total	Male	Total	Male
Total	4.462,1	2.734,6	1.727,5	4.519,1	2.763,8	1.755,3
Primary sector	529,2	305,9	223,4	516,2	306,0	210,1
Secondary sector	994,1	821,4	172,7	1.021,4	847,2	174,2
Tertiary sector	2938,8	1607,3	1331,4	2.981,6	1.610,6	1.371,0

Table 8. Proportional percentage of employed persons aged 15 years and over by branches of economic activity and regions: 4th quarter 2007

Branch of economic activity	Total Country	Anatoliki Makedonia , Thraki	Kentriki Makedonia	Dytiki Makedonia	Ipeiros	Thessalia	Ionia Nisia
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	11,1	23,5	11,2	17,3	19,1	22,4	15,0
Fishing	0,3	0,7	0,3	0,0	0,4	0,3	0,6
Mining and quarrying	0,4	0,5	0,2	6,1	0,6	0,1	0,0
Manufacturing	12,4	10,9	16,4	10,7	8,4	11,5	4,8
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	1,0	0,5	0,6	3,8	0,7	0,7	0,5
Construction	8,8	8,4	8,7	10,2	11,4	9,3	12,0
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	17,8	13,3	19,1	12,3	15,4	15,0	19,1
Hotels and restaurants	6,8	5,6	5,6	6,1	7,8	6,6	18,2
Transport, storage and communication	5,8	3,6	4,4	2,8	3,1	3,8	5,2
Financial intermediation	2,6	1,7	1,6	1,9	1,1	1,6	0,6
Real estate, renting and business activities	6,7	4,4	6,6	3,0	3,9	3,1	3,8
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	8,5	11,2	7,3	8,6	9,2	8,8	5,9
Education	7,1	7,7	7,7	9,6	9,8	8,5	5,9
Health and social work	5,4	4,8	5,3	4,5	6,1	4,8	2,7
Other community, social and personal service activities	3,7	2,5	3,6	2,6	2,4	2,6	5,0
Private households with employed persons	1,7	0,9	1,3	0,5	0,8	0,9	0,7
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,0	0,0

Table 8. Proportional percentage of employed persons aged 15 years and over by branches of economic activity and regions: 4th quarter 2007 (continued)

Branch of economic activity	Dytiki Ellada	Stereia Ellada	Attiki	Peloponnisos	Voreio Aigaio	Notio Aigaio	Kriti
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	19,7	17,4	0,6	28,7	14,0	5,5	17,1
Fishing	0,4	1,6	0,1	0,3	1,4	1,7	0,1
Mining and quarrying	0,1	1,8	0,0	0,7	0,0	1,2	0,0
Manufacturing	8,0	16,1	13,9	8,5	8,0	5,4	8,0
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	0,8	1,2	1,0	1,4	0,6	1,5	1,0
Construction	9,7	9,9	8,0	8,2	7,7	10,6	9,8
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	17,3	15,3	19,4	14,6	16,6	20,1	18,2
Hotels and restaurants	6,7	6,7	5,5	5,8	9,3	19,1	10,8
Transport, storage and communication	4,8	4,4	8,0	4,1	6,1	7,1	5,0
Financial intermediation	1,5	1,7	4,3	1,2	2,0	1,2	1,7
Real estate, renting and business activities	4,8	3,5	9,8	3,7	2,9	4,9	6,3
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	7,5	8,5	8,8	8,2	16,4	7,0	6,5
Education	9,1	5,6	6,4	6,5	6,9	5,1	6,4
Health and social work	5,5	3,1	6,3	4,4	4,9	4,6	5,8
Other community, social and personal service activities	3,2	2,6	4,7	3,1	3,3	4,5	2,5
Private households with employed persons	0,7	0,7	3,0	0,7	0,0	0,4	0,9
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	0,0	0,0	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,1

Table 9 shows the annual average employment rate by NUT III level. We must note that Labour Force Survey is designed to produce reliable estimates at NUT II level and, as a consequence, these estimates at NUT III level have a large sampling error. Estimations are not given for NUT III areas with population less than 40,000 people (areas with asterisk).

Table 9. Mean unemployment rate (%) by NUT III region

Region (NUTS II level)	DEPARTMENT	2004	2005	2006	2007
Anatoliki Makedonia and Thraki	DRAMA	22,3	22,3	19,5	17,5
	KAVALA	15,9	12,8	12,2	10,7
	EVROS	11,6	12,4	11,2	8,2
	XANTHI	10,1	9,0	8,1	9,5
	RODOPI	7,8	5,3	5,9	5,7
Kentriki Makedonia	IMATHIA	22,9	20,6	15,1	12,9
	THESSALONIKI	11,5	10,6	8,9	8,8
	KILKIS	13,8	14,6	15,7	15,1
	PELLA	9,7	11,0	9,3	8,9
	PIERIA	14,0	8,2	8,1	9,2
	SERRES	10,9	9,2	6,5	5,0
	CHALKIDIKI	6,1	5,1	5,8	6,0
Dytiki Makedonia	GREVENNA	*	*	*	*
	KASTORIA	24,0	28,5	24,9	15,5
	KOZANI	13,4	13,1	12,2	11,8
	FLORINA	20,9	22,3	15,2	15,5
Iniros	ARTA	12,8	16,2	10,7	12,7
	THESSPROTIA	*	*	*	*
	IOANNINA	11,3	10,6	9,3	8,6
	PREVEZA	8,6	9,4	11,7	13,7
Thessalia	KARDITSA	6,2	9,3	5,8	6,6
	LARISSA	11,5	10,4	9,0	9,5
	MAGNISSIA	9,3	8,5	7,8	5,9
	TRIKALA	10,2	8,7	8,8	7,3
Ionia Nisia	ZAKYNTHOS	12,6	7,3	15,2	9,2
	KERKYRA	13,3	10,0	11,5	11,2
	KEFALLINIA	*	*	*	*
	LEFKADA	*	*	*	*
Dytiki Ellada	ETOLIA & AKARNANIA	15,4	11,0	9,2	10,3
	ACHAIA	11,6	11,5	10,7	9,6
	ILIA	9,8	7,7	7,1	8,6
Sterea Ellada	VIOTIA	15,9	13,7	10,9	11,1
	EVIA	14,2	11,9	9,9	10,4
	EVRYTANIA	*	*	*	7,6
	FTHIOTIDA	6,9	5,8	6,0	4,4
	FOKIDA	15,5	13,1	9,3	15,5
Attiki	ATTIKI	9,1	8,8	8,3	7,6
Peloponissos	ARGOLIDA	11,6	9,8	7,7	7,1
	ARKADIA	9,9	10,2	12,2	11,3
	KORINTHIA	7,4	7,8	6,2	6,1
	LAKONIA	8,3	7,0	4,9	6,0
	MESSINIA	9,0	8,9	7,9	7,7
Voreio Aigaio	LESVOS	9,5	12,0	10,9	8,8
	SAMOS	*	*	*	*
	CHIOS	8,9	7,7	8,0	7,4
Notio Aigaio	DODEKANISSOS	9,9	10,8	9,3	11,0
	KYKLADES	7,3	7,0	8,1	5,3
Krit	IRAKLIO	8,2	7,6	7,3	5,1
	LASSITHI	6,3	5,5	6,5	5,4
	RETHYMNO	11,6	7,4	6,8	7,6
	CHANIA	5,3	6,6	6,9	4,2
ELLAS, TOTAL		10,5	9,9	8,9	8,3