



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE

GENERAL SECRETARIAT



NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE  
OF GREECE

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### ***LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 2nd quarter 2009***

The General Secretariat of National Statistical Service of Greece announces the Labour Force Survey's results for the 2nd quarter 2009. 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 throughout whole Greece, and the total number of interviewed households was 30,910 (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.

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# CHANGES IN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AND LABOUR FORCE

During the 2nd quarter of 2009 the unemployment rate (that is, the percentage of unemployed persons over the labour force, which is the sum of employed and unemployed persons) was 8.9%. During the corresponding quarter of 2008, unemployment rate was 7.2%. (Table 1).

**Table 1. Unemployment rate: 1st quarter, 1998-2009**

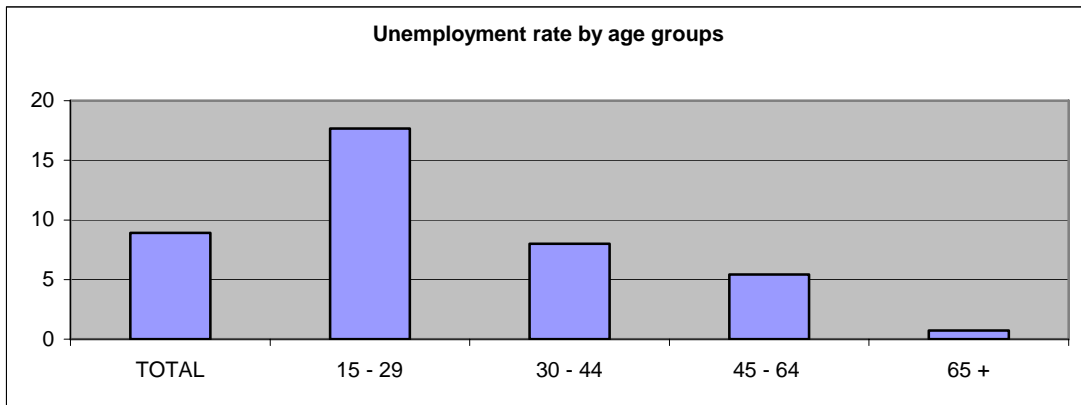
Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Unemployment rate	10.8	11.9	11.2	10.4	9.9	9.3	10.2	9.6	8.8	8.1	7.2	8.9

During the 2nd quarter of 2009, the percentage of labour force over population aged 15 years old and over was 53.7%

## I. UNEMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

Females' unemployment rate (12.5%) is almost double than males' unemployment rate (6.3%).

*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 (17.7%). For young females, the unemployment rate is 22.6% (Table 2).

**Table 2. Unemployment rate (%) by sex and age groups: 2nd quarter 2008 and 2009**

Age Groups	2nd Quarter					
	2008			2009		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>8.9</b>
15-29	11.5	20.7	15.5	13.9	22.6	17.7
30-44	3.5	10.3	6.4	5.1	11.9	8.0
45-64	2.5	5.6	3.7	4.2	7.4	5.4
65+	1.0	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7

Considering educational level, unemployment rate is higher than the total rate for persons who have not attended school (13.0%) , for those who have completed ISCED 2 programs (10.7%) and for those who have completed ISCED 5b level programs (10.0%). Lower unemployment rates are observed in the case of persons that completed ISCED 5AS and 6 programs (6.8%) and ISCED 5 programs (6.3%) (Table 3).

**Table 3. Unemployment rate (%) by sex and educational level: 2nd quarter 2008 and 2009**

Level of education	2nd quarter					
	2008			2009		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>8.9</b>
ISCED 5AS, 6	5.4	4.9	5.2	5.3	8.7	6.8
ISCED 5A	3.4	7.3	5.3	4.7	7.9	6.3
ISCED 5 B	5.8	13.6	9.6	6.3	14.0	10.0
ISCED 3	5.1	11.7	7.7	6.7	14.6	9.8
ISCED 2	4.6	15.1	7.8	8.3	15.8	10.7
ISCED 1	3.9	9.4	5.9	5.5	11.5	7.7
Did not complete ISCED 1	4.9	6.5	5.5	10.4	8.8	9.7
Did not attend school	8.6	16.7	12.3	17.1	6.6	13.0

The number of unemployed persons is estimated at 442,563. The 73.7% of the unemployed persons are looking for a full time job as employees. In particular, 39.5% of those looking for job as employees is looking only for a full time job, while 47.0% 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 reported reasons were:

- a) wage was not satisfactory (25.5%),
- b) the place of job was not suitable (22.6%),
- c) working hours were not convenient (19.3%).

The percentage of “new” unemployed, that is the percentage of persons that entered for the first time into labour market, is 29.3%. 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 43.0%.

Unemployment rate is higher for persons of foreign nationality (9.8% compared to 8.8%). In contrast, the percentage of economically active persons with foreign nationality is much higher than the corresponding percentage for persons of Greek nationality (73.0% compared to 52.3%).

Geographical (NUTS II) areas with the highest unemployment rate are Dytiki Makedonia (12.3%) and Notio Aigaio (11.7%). The lowest unemployment rates are observed in Voreio Aigaio (6,4%) and in Peloponnisos (7.5%) (Table 4).

<b>Table 4. Unemployment rate by NUTS II regions</b>		
<b>NUTS II Region</b>	<b>2nd quarter 2008</b>	<b>2nd Quarter 2009</b>
<b>TOTAL COUNTRY</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>8.9</b>
ANATOLIKI MAKEDONIA, THRAKI	8.4	9.9
KENTRIKI MAKEDONIA	8.3	9.3
DYTIKI MAKEDONIA	12.4	12.3
IPEIROS	9.2	10.9
THESSALIA	7.1	8.2
IONIA NISIA	9.0	8.4
DYTIKI ELLADA	9.3	9.8
STEREA ELLADA	8.3	10.5
ATTIKI	6.0	8.2
PELOPONNISOS	7.1	7.5
VOREIO AIGAIO	4.2	6.4
NOTIO AIGAIO	7.1	11.7
KRITI	5.1	8.0

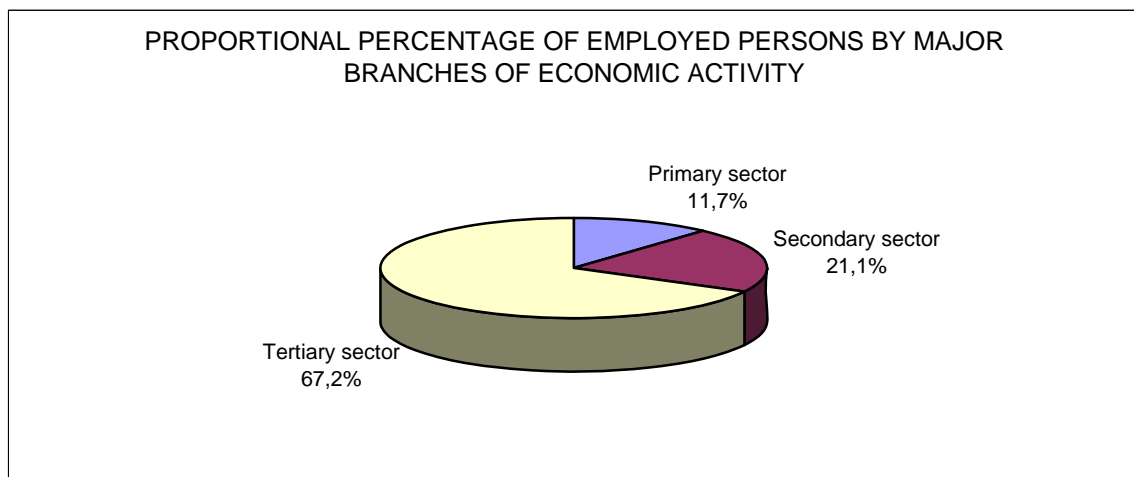
## II. EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

**The number of employed in 2nd quarter 2009 is estimated at 4,485,758 persons.**

During 2nd quarter 2009, 90,230 persons who were unemployed one year ago found a job. During the same period, 80,626 persons that were inactive one year ago, got in to employment. In contrary, 112,122 persons who were working one year ago, during the 2nd quarter 2009 are unemployed and 73,146 persons that were working, are now inactive. In addition, 86,366 persons who were inactive one year ago, during 2nd quarter 2009 entered labour market, and are searching for a job.

If we examine changes in employment by different sector of economic activity, we see that compared to the 2nd quarter 2008 there was an increase in employment in primary and in tertiary sector by 2.1%, and 0.1%, respectively. In contrary, during the same period, there was a decrease in employment in secondary sector by 6.4%. In tertiary sector, the branches with the largest increase were the branch of Information and communication (11.2%), and the branch of households as employers (18.7%). In secondary sector, branches with the largest decrease are the branch of Mining and quarrying (22.2%), and the branch of Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (15.5%).

*Chart 2*



**The percentage of part time employment** is low and amounts to 6.0% of the total employed. 47.6% of part timers choose to work part time because they cannot find a full time job, while 8.6% choose part time job, because they are looking after children or incapacitated adults.

The percentage of employees is estimated at 64.5% and is still lower than the mean percentage of employees in European Union.

**Chart 3**

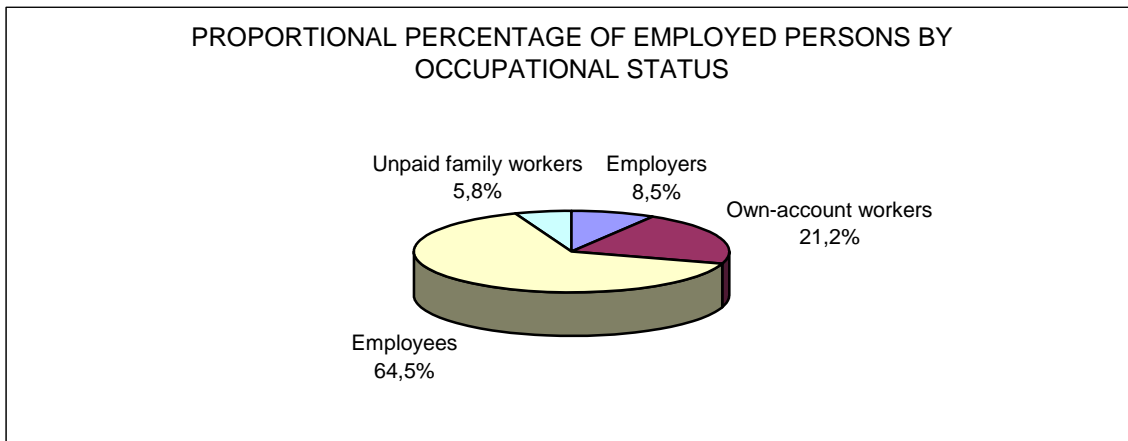


Table 5 shows the number of employed by branch of economy for the 2nd quarter of 2009, the 1st quarter of 2009 and 2nd quarter of 2008, while Table 6 gives the percentage allocation of employed in different branches of economy for the 13 NUTS II regions of Greece. Finally, Table 7 shows the total number of employed, and the percentage of women, employees, part time workers, and persons with contracts of limited duration, by occupation, for the 2nd quarter 2009.

**Table 5. Employed persons of 15 years and over by economic activity:  
2nd quarter 2008 – 4th quarter 2008 – 2nd quarter 2009**

*In thousands*

I. Branch of economic activity (NACE Rev. 2)	2nd Quarter 2008	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2009	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2009
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,582.5</b>	<b>4,485.8</b>	<b>4,531.9</b>
A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	518.7	520.0	529.6
B. Mining and quarrying	18.0	13.5	14.0
C. Manufacturing	538.8	529.0	516.0
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	36.1	30.9	30.5
E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	30.0	28.4	29.9
F. Construction	399.3	367.7	366.6
G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles	832.6	837.2	828.2
H. Transportation and storage	215.4	208.9	219.8
I. Accommodation and food service activities	325.5	279.7	314.8
J. Information and communication	73.9	84.1	82.2
K. Financial and insurance activities	121.0	111.7	114.1
I. Real estate activities	9.2	9.2	8.7
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	221.6	237.6	232.2
N. Administrative and support service activities	77.8	70.6	78.6
O. Public administration and defence; compulsory social	381.9	372.8	378.6
P. Education	323.7	326.5	331.9
Q. Human health and social work activities	231.1	229.4	225.9
R. Arts, entertainment and recreation	59.0	55.9	55.9
S. Other service activities	94.0	88.5	86.3
T. Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated	73.4	82.5	87.1
U. Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	1.5	1.7	1.0

**Table 6. Proportional percentage of employed persons aged 15 years and over by branches of economic activity and regions: 2nd quarter 2009**

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>
A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	11.7	25.7	12.2	19.8	19.4	19.6	17.2
B. Mining and quarrying	0.3	0.7	0.1	5.3	0.1	0.2	0.1
C. Manufacturing	11.4	9.3	13.8	11.8	9.2	12.9	3.2
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0.7	0.3	0.4	4.2	0.7	0.5	0.0
E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.3
F. Construction	8.1	6.8	7.6	8.8	10.4	6.7	10.3
G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles	18.3	15.3	20.6	13.6	15.6	15.8	21.3
H. Transportation and storage	4.8	3.4	3.7	3.1	2.8	2.7	5.6
I. Accommodation and food service activities	6.9	6.1	5.7	5.6	7.2	5.7	16.7
J. Information and communication	1.8	0.6	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.2
K. Financial and insurance activities	2.5	1.6	1.8	0.4	1.6	1.2	1.0
L. Real estate activities	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	5.1	2.5	5.4	1.9	3.3	4.3	2.9
N. Administrative and support service activities	1.7	1.0	1.5	0.9	1.1	1.0	3.6
O. Public administration and defense; compulsory social	8.4	11.5	6.1	8.1	8.0	9.3	5.1
P. Education	7.3	6.9	8.3	8.2	8.7	10.8	6.3
Q. Human health and social work activities	5.0	4.0	5.3	3.6	6.4	4.6	1.8
R. Arts, entertainment and recreation	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.2	0.8
S. Other service activities	1.9	1.5	1.9	1.4	2.6	1.6	2.1
T. Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated	1.9	0.5	1.9	0.4	0.6	0.9	0.6
U. Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0



**Table 6. Proportional percentage of employed persons aged 15 years and over by branches of economic activity and regions: 2nd quarter 2009 (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>
A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	21.3	18.5	1.0	31.8	12.2	6.7	15.9
B. Mining and quarrying	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.8	0.1
C. Manufacturing	8.4	16.1	12.7	6.6	6.4	5.9	8.2
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.5
E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0.3	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.0	1.3	0.6
F. Construction	8.9	9.9	7.2	9.4	7.0	10.8	11.0
G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles	17.5	15.4	19.5	14.8	19.8	18.1	17.7
H. Transportation and storage	4.8	3.6	6.7	3.5	5.0	6.4	3.2
I. Accommodation and food service activities	6.2	7.5	5.5	7.2	6.4	20.5	13.2
J. Information and communication	0.8	0.6	3.4	0.4	1.6	0.9	0.9
K. Financial and insurance activities	2.1	1.4	4.1	1.2	2.3	1.0	1.6
I. Real estate activities	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.2
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	3.6	3.1	7.2	2.7	2.7	2.9	4.6
N. Administrative and support service activities	0.9	1.0	2.4	0.8	1.2	2.2	1.6
O. Public administration and defense; compulsory social	8.1	8.2	9.2	6.4	15.9	9.6	6.7
P. Education	7.7	5.6	6.8	6.0	8.8	4.8	6.8
Q. Human health and social work activities	5.1	3.2	5.9	3.0	5.8	3.1	4.1
R. Arts, entertainment and recreation	0.9	0.9	1.3	1.4	1.9	1.2	0.6
S. Other service activities	2.2	1.6	2.0	1.7	2.1	2.3	1.5
T. Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated	0.6	0.8	3.4	0.9	0.0	0.3	0.9
U. Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

**Table 7. Employed, age 15 years old and over, and percentage of employed women, of employees, of part time workers and of persons with limited duration contracts, by occupation: 2nd quarter 2009**

*In thousands*

Occupation	Total employed	% of women	% of employees	% with limited duration contract	% Part time workers
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,531.9</b>	<b>39.8</b>	<b>64.5</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>6.0</b>
Legislators, senior officials and managers	474.2	29.6	12.9	4.2	1.2
Professionals	668.2	49.7	75.6	10.0	6.1
Technicians and associate professionals	387.5	51.4	83.4	9.0	4.0
Clerks	492.2	59.9	94.6	9.6	4.5
Service workers and shop and market sale workers	664.5	55.1	77.5	14.6	8.4
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	499.9	40.9	4.3	26.4	11.7
Craft and related trade workers	617.9	7.7	67.5	13.0	2.9
Plant and machine operators and assembler	338.4	7.6	74.3	6.7	1.4
Elementary occupations	330.9	55.7	91.9	24.4	15.6
Other unclassified persons	58.3	12.6	100.0	2.8	0.0

*Percentage of women, employees, and part time workers are computed over the total of persons in employment. Percentage of persons with limited duration contract is computed over the total of employees.*