



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

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PRESS RELEASE

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

1st quarter 2010

The Hellenic Statistical Authority of Greece announces the Labour Force Survey's results for the 1st quarter 2010. 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 31,475 (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 1st quarter of 2010 the unemployment rate (that is, the percentage of unemployed persons over the labour force, which is the sum of employed and unemployed persons) was 11.7%. During the corresponding quarter of 2009, unemployment rate was 9.3%. (Table 1).

Table 1. Unemployment rate: 1st quarter, 1998-2010

Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Unemployment rate	11.8	12.2	12.3	11.2	11.4	10.4	11.3	10.4	9.7	9.1	8.3	9.3	11.7

During the 1st quarter of 2010, the percentage of labour force over population aged 15 years old and over was 53.9%

I. UNEMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

Females' unemployment rate (15.5%) is considerably higher than males' unemployment rate (9.0%).

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 (22.3%). For young females, the unemployment rate is 27.4% (Table 2).

Table 2. Unemployment rate (%) by sex and age groups: 1st quarter 2009 and 2010

Age Groups	1st Quarter					
	2009			2010		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Total	6.8	13.0	9.3	9.0	15.5	11.7
15-29	15.0	23.1	18.5	18.1	27.4	22.3
30-44	5.6	12.4	8.5	7.8	15.1	10.9
45-64	4.2	7.6	5.5	6.3	9.0	7.4
65+	0.9	0.7	0.9	1.3	0.7	1.1

Considering educational level, unemployment rate is highest among persons who have not attended school (18.1%) , for those who have completed ISCED 2 programs (14.0%) and for those who have completed ISCED 5b level programs (13.4%). Lowest unemployment rates are observed among persons completed ISCED 5A (7.1%) and ISCED 5AS and ISCED 6 programs (7.4%) (Table 3).

Table 3. Unemployment rate (%) by sex and educational level: 1st quarter 2009 and 2010

Level of education	1st quarter					
	2009			2010		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Total	6.8	13.0	9.3	9.0	15.5	11.7
ISCED 5AS, 6	4.3	7.5	5.7	5.5	9.6	7.4
ISCED 5A	4.5	7.3	5.9	4.9	9.2	7.1
ISCED 5 B	7.3	14.8	11.0	8.8	18.3	13.4
ISCED 3	7.4	15.3	10.5	10.0	18.1	13.2
ISCED 2	7.8	17.7	10.9	11.8	18.7	14.0
ISCED 1	6.3	11.9	8.3	8.8	13.8	10.6
Did not complete ISCED 1	8.8	4.0	7.0	9.0	15.3	11.5
Did not attend school	14.2	14.9	14.5	20.6	11.9	18.1

The number of unemployed persons is estimated at 586,767. The 87.3% of the unemployed persons are looking for a full time job as employees. In particular, 51.0% of those looking for job as employees is looking only for a full time job, while 39.7% is looking for full time job, but, if needed, would accept to work part time.

A significant part of the unemployed persons (8.9%) did not accept an offer for job, for various reasons. Main reported reasons were:

- a) wage was not satisfactory (17.8%),
- b) the place of job was not suitable (22.3%),
- c) working hours were not convenient (17.3%).

The percentage of “new” unemployed, that is the percentage of persons that entered for the first time into labour market, is 23.6%. 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 44.6%.

Unemployment rate is higher for persons of foreign nationality (14.5% compared to 11.4%). In contrast, the percentage of economically active persons with foreign nationality is much higher than the corresponding percentage for persons of Greek nationality (73.8% compared to 52.4%).

Geographical (NUTS II) areas with the highest unemployment rate are Ionian Islands (20.4%) and South Aegean (18.9%). The lowest unemployment rates are observed in North Aegean (7,6%) , and Peloponnese (8.8%) (Table 4).

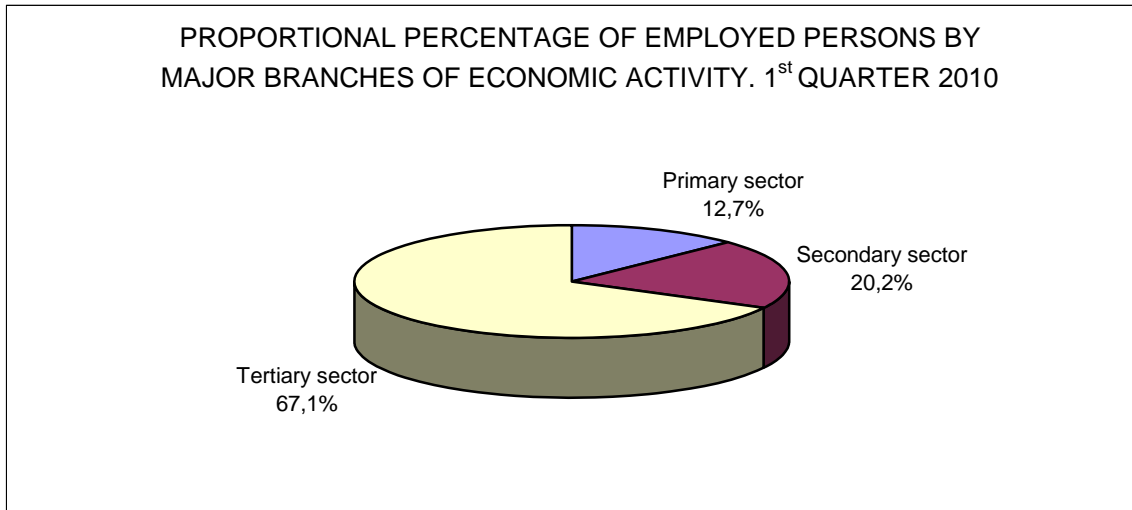
Table 4. Unemployment rate by NUTS II regions		
NUTS II Region	1st Quarter 2009	1st Quarter 2010
Greece, total	9.3	11.7
Anatoliki Makedonia Thraki (East Macedonia and Thrace)	10.6	14.2
Kentriki Makedonia (Central Macedonia)	9.5	12.4
Dytiki Makedonia (West Macedonia)	14.4	15.1
Ipeiros (Epirus)	11.4	12.2
Thessalia (Thessaly)	8.8	11.3
Ionioi Nisoi (Ionian Islands)	14.1	20.4
Dytiki Ellas (West Greece)	10.1	9.3
Stereia Ellas	10.7	11.7
Attiki (Attica)	7.6	10.7
Peloponnissos (Peloponnese)	8.3	8.8
Voreio Aigaio (North Aegean)	7.0	7.6
Notio Aigaio (South Aegean)	16.9	18.9
Kriti (Crete)	10.9	12.9

II. EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

The number of employed in 1st quarter 2010 is estimated at 4,425,625 persons.

During 1st quarter 2010, 85,244 persons who were unemployed one year ago found a job. During the same period, 65,734 persons that were inactive one year ago, got in to employment. In contrary, 132,356 persons who were working one year ago, during the 1st quarter 2010 are unemployed and 77,349 persons that were working, are now inactive. In addition, 92,061 persons who were inactive one year ago, during 1st quarter 2010 entered labour market, and are searching for a job.

Chart 2



The percentage of part time employment is low and amounts to 6.4% of the total employed. 50.5% of part timers choose to work part time because they cannot find a full time job, while 7.3% choose part time job, because they are looking after children or incapacitated adults.

The percentage of employees is estimated at 63.5% and is still lower than the mean percentage of employees in European Union.

Chart 3

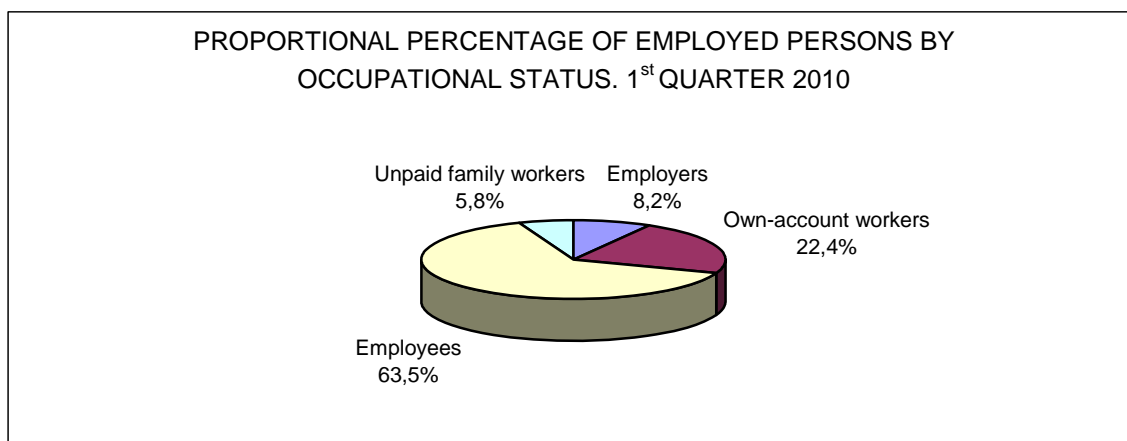


Table 5 shows the number of employed by branch of economy for the 1st quarter of 2010, the 4th quarter of 2009 and 1st quarter of 2009, while Table 6 gives the percentage allocation of employed in different branches of economy for the 13 NUTS II regions of Greece. Finally, Table 7 shows the total number of employed, and the percentage of women, employees, part time workers, and persons with contracts of limited duration, by occupation, for the 1st quarter 2010.

**Table 5. Employed persons of 15 years and over by economic activity:
1st quarter 2009 – 4th quarter 2009 – 1st quarter 2010**

In thousands

I. Branch of economic activity (NACE Rev. 2)	1st quarter 2009	4th quarter 2009	1st quarter 2010
Total	4,485.8	4,476.8	4,425.6
A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	520.0	551.2	562.4
B. Mining and quarrying	13.5	14.6	13.4
C. Manufacturing	529.0	494.3	481.9
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	30.9	27.1	27.0
E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	28.4	31.6	31.3
F. Construction	367.7	364.1	340.4
G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles	837.2	791.7	785.5
H. Transportation and storage	208.9	214.5	217.1
I. Accommodation and food service activities	279.7	315.8	288.0
J. Information and communication	84.1	87.9	88.6
K. Financial and insurance activities	111.7	112.7	114.5
I. Real estate activities	9.2	7.0	7.2
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	237.6	226.5	226.1
N. Administrative and support service activities	70.6	70.4	69.1
O. Public administration and defence; compulsory social	372.8	373.5	373.2
P. Education	326.5	325.3	331.2
Q. Human health and social work activities	229.4	240.5	243.9
R. Arts, entertainment and recreation	55.9	48.6	47.0
S. Other service activities	88.5	84.5	85.8
T. Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated	82.5	93.2	90.1
U. Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	1.5	1.9	1.8

Table 6. Proportional percentage of employed persons aged 15 years and over by branches of economic activity and regions: 1st quarter 2010

Branch of economic activity	Greece, total	Anatoliki Macedonia Thraki (East Macedonia and Thrace)	Kentriki Macedonia (Central Macedonia)	Dytiki Macedonia (West Macedonia)	Ipeiros (Epirus)	Thessalia (Thessaly)	Ionia Nisia (Ionian Islands)
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	12.7	25.5	13.1	19.6	20.3	23.6	18.8
B. Mining and quarrying	0.3	0.6	0.1	5.6	0.1	0.3	0.1
C. Manufacturing	10.9	8.3	12.0	10.1	9.3	11.6	3.7
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0.6	0.2	0.4	3.5	0.6	0.4	0.2
E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.8	1.1
F. Construction	7.7	7.2	6.6	7.7	9.5	5.8	12.8
G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles	17.7	14.5	20.6	13.6	17.1	16.1	20.4
H. Transportation and storage	4.9	3.2	4.3	3.2	2.9	2.8	4.9
I. Accommodation and food service activities	6.5	6.3	6.2	6.3	9.0	6.4	12.4
J. Information and communication	2.0	0.5	1.6	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.8
K. Financial and insurance activities	2.6	1.5	1.8	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.6
I. Real estate activities	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	5.1	3.4	5.2	2.9	3.7	3.8	3.3
N. Administrative and support service activities	1.6	0.8	1.5	1.1	0.4	1.2	1.9
O. Public administration and defense; compulsory social	8.4	12.5	6.3	6.4	6.9	8.6	4.9
P. Education	7.5	6.8	8.5	8.5	8.5	9.3	6.5
Q. Human health and social work activities	5.5	4.9	6.1	5.4	6.0	4.3	2.6
R. Arts, entertainment and recreation	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.3
S. Other service activities	1.9	1.1	1.8	1.9	2.2	1.6	3.1
T. Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated	2.0	0.9	1.6	0.7	0.5	0.6	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: 1st quarter 2010 (continued)

Branch of economic activity	Dytiki Ellas (West Greece)	Stereia Ellas	Attiki (Attica)	Peloponnisos (Peloponnese)	Voreio Aigaiio (North Aegean)	Notio Aigaiio (South Aegean)	Kriti (Crete)
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	23.0	21.3	1.0	29.9	15.5	7.8	22.0
B. Mining and quarrying	0.1	0.6	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.9	0.1
C. Manufacturing	7.9	18.7	12.2	7.8	6.1	6.5	7.1
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0.2	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.7	1.2	0.7
E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.1	2.8	0.5
F. Construction	9.3	9.1	6.8	8.9	7.5	14.0	9.9
G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles	17.1	13.9	18.2	15.5	16.3	20.0	18.0
H. Transportation and storage	4.5	2.7	6.8	3.8	5.2	5.1	3.1
I. Accommodation and food service activities	5.8	5.6	5.3	7.1	9.2	13.3	9.5
J. Information and communication	0.8	0.3	3.8	0.7	1.3	0.7	0.8
K. Financial and insurance activities	1.4	1.4	4.5	1.1	1.7	1.2	1.1
I. Real estate activities	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	3.6	3.2	7.1	3.3	2.9	2.2	4.2
N. Administrative and support service activities	0.7	1.0	2.2	0.7	0.6	2.2	1.4
O. Public administration and defense; compulsory social	7.5	7.1	9.8	6.5	15.2	9.0	6.4
P. Education	8.2	6.3	7.3	5.0	8.7	4.1	7.0
Q. Human health and social work activities	5.2	3.6	6.6	2.9	5.1	4.3	4.5
R. Arts, entertainment and recreation	0.8	0.8	1.1	1.6	1.5	1.5	0.3
S. Other service activities	2.2	1.7	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.3	1.8
T. Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated	1.3	0.9	3.6	0.9	0.2	0.6	1.4
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: 1st quarter 2010

In thousands

Occupation	Total employed	% of women	% of employees	% Part time workers	% with limited duration contract
Total	4.425.6	39.9	63.5	6,4	11,5
Legislators, senior officials and managers	449.8	30.2	13.9	1,3	3,6
Professionals	683.5	50.6	74.7	5,8	9,1
Technicians and associate professionals	393.7	50.2	84.1	3,8	8
Clerks	460.9	59.4	94.8	4,6	9,4
Service workers and shop and market sale workers	626.2	54.8	76.4	9,6	13,8
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	525.4	41.3	3.8	11,6	24,7
Craft and related trade workers	573.6	8.1	64.9	4,1	12,2
Plant and machine operators and assembler	325.5	7.9	73.4	2,2	7,1
Elementary occupations	323.6	53.0	92.2	15,6	24,5
Other unclassified persons	63.4	13.6	100.0	0	1

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.