



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

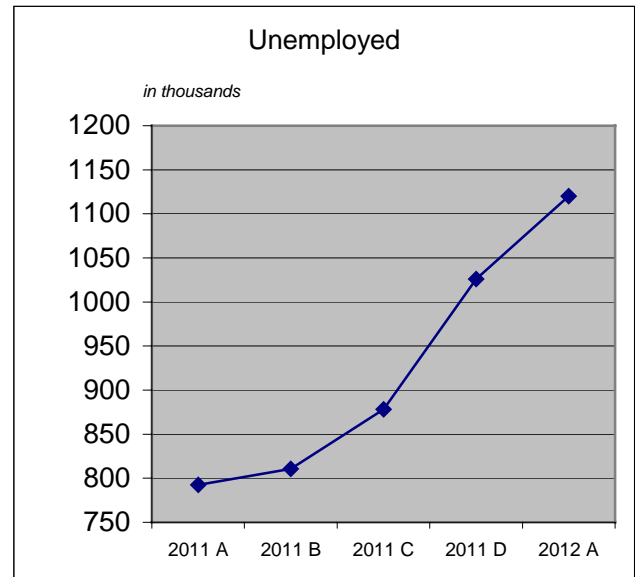
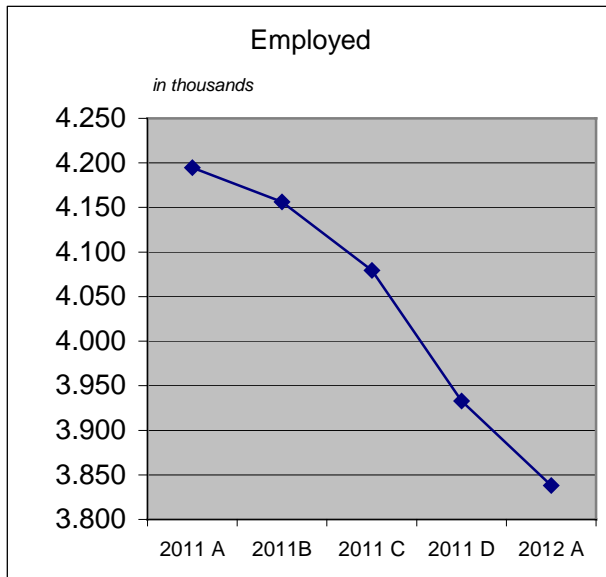
Piraeus, 14 June 2012

PRESS RELEASE

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 1st Quarter 2012

In the 1st Quarter of 2012 the number of employed amounted to 3,837,950 persons while the number of unemployed amounted to 1,120,097. The unemployment rate was 22.6% compared with 20.7% in the previous quarter, and 15.9% in the corresponding quarter of 2011

The number of employed persons decreased by 2.4% compared with the previous quarter, and by 8.5% compared with the 1st Quarter of 2011. The number of unemployed persons increased by 9.2% compared with the previous quarter and by 57.3% compared with the 1st Quarter of 2011.



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I. UNEMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

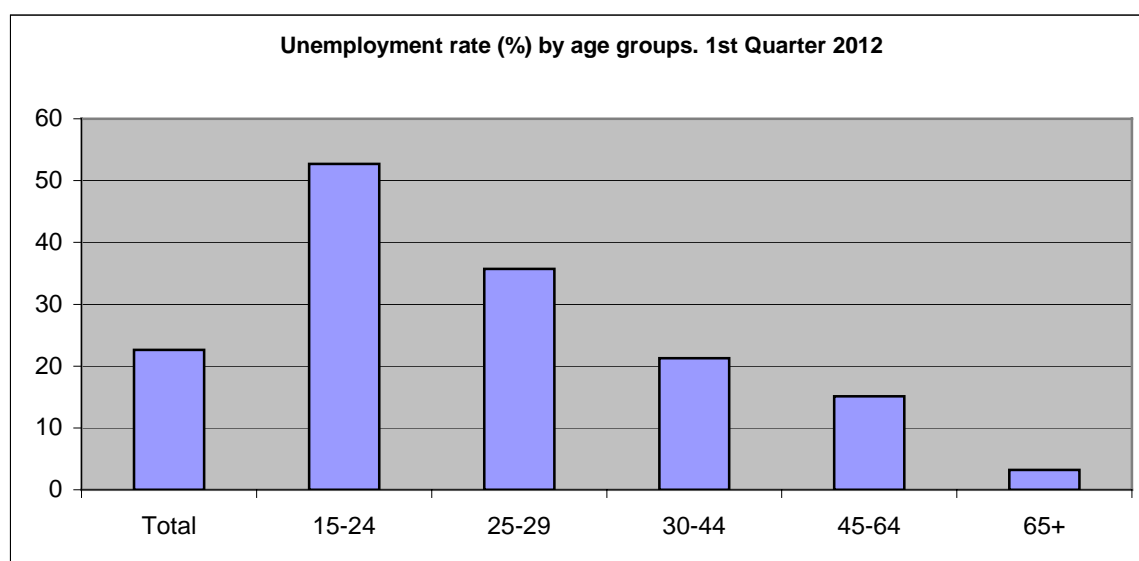
The unemployment rate for females (26,5%) is considerably higher than the unemployment rate for males (19.7%).

By observing the unemployment rate for different age groups, we notice that the highest unemployment rate is recorded among young people in the age group of 15-24 years (52.7%). For young females, the unemployment rate is 60.4% (Table 1, chart 1).

Table 1. Unemployment rate (%) by sex and age groups

Age Groups	1 st Quarter					
	2011			2012		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Total	13.3	19.5	15.9	19.7	26.5	22.6
15-24	33.9	46.6	39.6	46.1	60.4	52.7
25-29	23.2	30.1	26.3	33.3	38.7	35.7
30-44	12.0	18.8	15.0	18.1	25.4	21.3
45-64	9.0	11.3	9.9	13.9	17.0	15.1
65+	1.7	2.9	2.1	2.4	4.8	3.2

Chart 1



As regards the educational attainment level, the unemployment rate is higher among persons who have not attended school (34.3%), for those who did not completed primary education (33.1%) and those who have completed lower secondary education (25.2%). The lowest unemployment rates are observed among persons who have completed post-graduate studies or have doctorate (12.0%), and among those who have completed university (15.7%) (Table 2).

Table 2. Unemployment rate (%) by sex and educational level

Level of education	1st Quarter					
	2011			2012		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Total	13.3	19.5	15.9	19.7	26.5	22.6
ISCED 5AS, 6 (Post Graduate Studies, Phd)	10.6	8.7	9.8	11.7	12.4	12.0
ISCED 5A (University)	7.4	13.7	10.6	11.9	19.3	15.7
ISCED4, 5 B (Tertiary Vocational Educational, Post – Secondary Vocational Education)	13.0	23.3	17.9	20.9	29.3	25.0
ISCED 3 (Secondary Education)	14.1	22.9	17.6	20.9	30.5	24.7
ISCED 2 (Lower Secondary Education)	16.3	22.3	18.2	21.4	32.7	25.2
ISCED 1 (Primary Education)	14.4	15.4	14.8	22.4	23.1	22.7
Did not complete ISCED 1	21.9	12.8	18.9	35.1	29.2	33.1
Did not attend school	27.5	17.0	23.4	35.4	32.5	34.3

46.8% of those looking for job as employees are looking exclusively for a full time job, while 45.6% are looking for full time job, but, if needed, would accept to work part time. 7.5% are looking for a part time job or they do not care if they found a full or a part time job.

5.7% of the unemployed persons did not accept a job offer, during the 1st Quarter of 2012, because of various reasons. The main reasons reported were:

- a) the location of the job was not suitable (30.0%),
- b) the wage was not satisfactory (24.6%),
- c) the working hours were not convenient (17.0%).

The percentage of the “new” unemployed, that is the percentage of persons who entered for the first time labour market, is 23.8%. We should note that the percentage of the “long term” unemployed, that is the percentage of persons that have been looking for a job for more than 1 year (irrespectively of being “new” or “old” unemployed), is 56.5%.

The unemployment rate is higher for persons of foreign nationality (30.5%) compared with those of Greek nationality (21.8%). On the contrary, the percentage of the economically active persons with foreign nationality is much higher than the corresponding percentage for persons of Greek nationality (71.7% compared to 51.7%).

The geographical areas (NUTS II regions) with the highest unemployment rate are West Macedonia (28.5%) and Central Macedonia (24.7%). The lowest unemployment rates are observed in South Aegean (13.9%) and Ionian Islands (15.9%) (Table 3).

Table 3. Unemployment rate by regions (NUTS II)¹

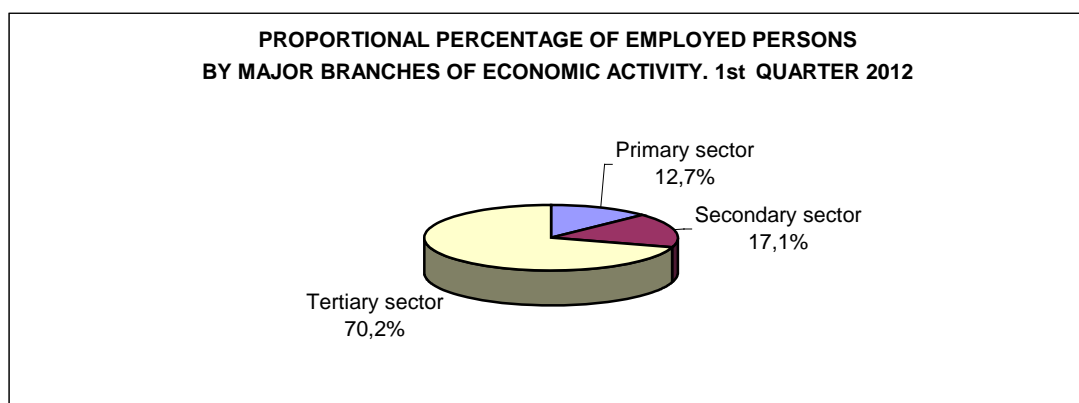
NUTS II Region	1st Quarter 2011	1st Quarter 2012
Greece, total	15.9	22.6
Anatoliki Makedonia Thraki (East Macedonia and Thrace)	18.0	22.7
Kentriki Makedonia (Central Macedonia)	17.5	24.7
Dytiki Makedonia (West Macedonia)	22.3	28.5
Ipeiros (Epirus)	15.4	20.6
Thessalia (Thessaly)	14.3	20.4
Ionioi Nisoi (Ionian Islands)	20.3	15.9
Dytiki Ellas (West Greece)	15.1	23.1
Stereia Ellas	16.1	24.5
Attiki (Attica)	14.7	22.9
Peloponnissos (Peloponnese)	12.4	19.0
Voreio Aigaio (North Aegean)	12.6	19.6
Notio Aigaio (South Aegean)	24.3	13.9
Kriti (Crete)	15.7	23.4

II. EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

During the 1st Quarter of 2012, 81,036 persons who were unemployed one year ago found a job. During the same period, 33,120 persons who were inactive one year ago, got into employment. On the contrary, 222,861 persons who were working one year ago, during the 1st Quarter of 2012 are unemployed and 93,997 persons, who were working, are now inactive. In addition, 123,968 persons who were inactive one year ago, during the 1st Quarter of 2012 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 1st Quarter of 2011 there was a decrease in employment in all sectors. In the primary sector the decrease was 5.8%, in the secondary 15.1% and the tertiary sector 7.2%. Chart 2 presents the proportional percentage of employed persons by major branches of economic activity in the 1st Quarter of 2012.

Chart 2



¹ NUTS II areas are the lowest geographical areas for which Labour Force Survey publishes estimates. LFS results are not published at lower level (NUTS III – “Nomoi”) because, due to small population and sample size, estimates in these areas have large sampling errors. We should note that in 4 NUTS II areas, and namely West Macedonia, Ionian Islands, North Aegean and South Aegean, there is the same problem of small populations and sample sizes and as a result, estimates in these areas have large sampling errors.

The percentage of part time employment amounts to 7.2% of the total of the employed. The percentage of part timers who choose to work part time because they cannot find a full time job is 59.7%, while 8.3% choose a part time job for other personal or family reasons, 5.6% because they are looking after children or incapacitated adults and 26,4% for other reasons.

The percentage of employees is estimated at 63.2% of the total of the employed persons (Chart 3) and is by far lower than the mean percentage of employees in the European Union which is 80%.

Chart 3

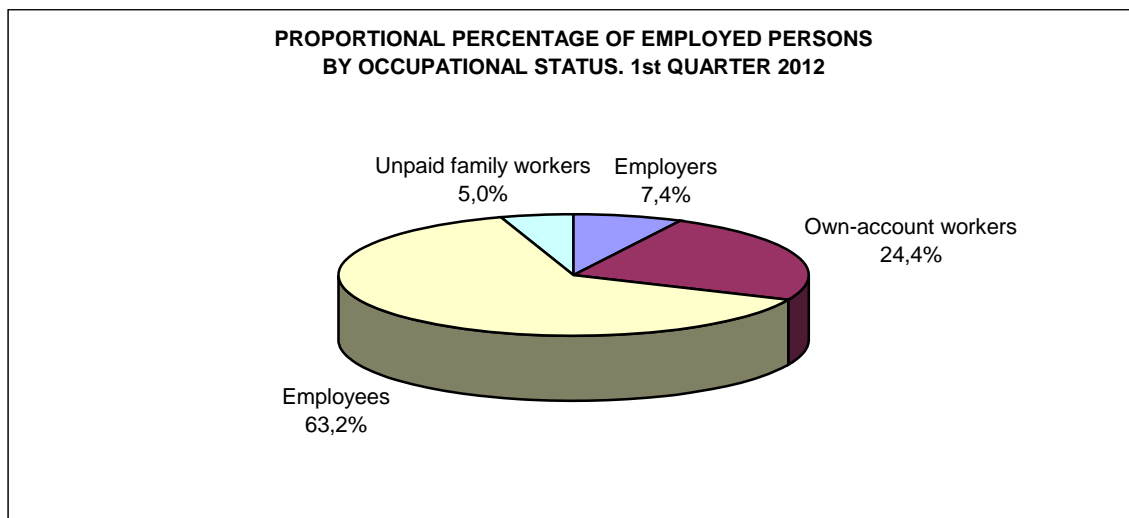


Table 4 illustrates the number of the employed by branch of economic activity for the 1st Quarter of 2012 compared to the 4th quarter of 2011 and the 1st Quarter of 2011, while Table 5 gives the percentage allocation of the employed for the different branches of economic activity in the 13 regions of Greece (NUTS II).

Table 4. Employed persons aged 15 years and over by branch of economic activity²*Thousands*

I. Branch of economic activity (NACE Rev. 2)	1st Quarter 2011	4th Quarter 2011	1st Quarter 2012
Total	4,194.4	3,932.8	3,837.9
A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	519.0	496.7	488.9
B. Mining and quarrying	11.1	12.2	11.6
C. Manufacturing	440.7	388.1	375.6
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	24.5	26.2	25.5
E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	27.4	25.8	23.0
F. Construction	267.2	227.0	218.9
G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	782.0	723.4	693.7
H. Transportation and storage	203.2	192.9	189.5
I. Accommodation and food service activities	272.3	286.8	258.2
J. Information and communication	83.1	68.2	73.6
K. Financial and insurance activities	113.7	116.8	118.6
L. Real estate activities	4.7	7.1	5.9
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	218.9	216.0	221.8
N. Administrative and support service activities	79.1	71.9	71.3
O. Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	373.2	341.8	338.9
P. Education	308.8	303.0	308.3
Q. Human health and social work activities	244.6	234.3	233.5
R. Arts, entertainment and recreation	46.7	47.0	42.5
S. Other service activities	87.6	82.4	77.0
T. Activities of households as employers	84.6	63.2	59.6
U. Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	2.1	2.0	2.0

² Estimates of "rare" characteristics, that is estimates of characteristics that refer to 10.000 persons at the total country, are accompanied by large sampling errors.

Table 5. Proportional percentage of employed persons aged 15 years and over by branch of economic activity and region

Branch of economic activity	1st Quarter 2012						
	Greece, total	Anatoliki Makedonia Thraki (East Macedonia and Thrace)	Kentriki Makedonia (Central Macedonia)	Dytiki Makedonia (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	27,6	13,1	16,0	19,5	25,2	19,4
B. Mining and quarrying	0,3	0,1	0,1	6,1	0,2	0,4	0,0
C. Manufacturing	9,8	8,7	10,8	10,8	8,9	8,6	7,3
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0,7	0,3	0,5	4,4	0,6	0,4	0,0
E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0,6	0,4	0,6	0,6	0,8	1,0	0,1
F. Construction	5,7	4,7	4,1	5,7	9,0	5,0	7,0
G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	18,1	14,7	19,8	15,7	17,2	14,4	17,2
H. Transportation and storage	4,9	3,3	4,3	2,4	2,8	2,9	4,5
I. Accommodation and food service activities	6,7	5,3	6,8	6,3	6,9	7,8	12,2
J. Information and communication	1,9	0,2	1,3	0,3	0,4	0,8	0,8
K. Financial and insurance activities	3,1	2,7	2,3	0,8	0,7	1,4	1,8
I. Real estate activities	0,2	0,3	0,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,2
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	5,8	2,8	6,3	3,7	3,3	4,5	4,4
N. Administrative and support service activities	1,9	2,0	1,7	1,1	1,0	0,9	1,5
O. Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	8,8	11,8	7,5	9,1	9,3	8,8	4,9
P. Education	8,0	7,1	9,8	8,6	9,5	8,0	7,0
Q. Human health and social work activities	6,1	5,6	6,8	3,7	7,2	5,6	3,9
R. Arts, entertainment and recreation	1,1	0,3	1,2	1,8	0,9	1,0	1,8
S. Other service activities	2,0	1,7	2,0	2,4	1,4	2,2	3,1
T. Activities of households as employers	1,6	0,4	1,0	0,3	0,4	0,9	2,9
U. Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	0,1	0,1	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0

Table 5. Proportional percentage of employed persons aged 15 years and over by branch of economic activity and region (continued)

Branch of economic activity	1st Quarter 2012						
	Dytiki Ellas (West Greece)	Stereia Ellas	Attiki (Attica)	Peloponnisos (Peloponnese)	Voreio Aigaio (North Aegean)	Notio Aigaio (South Aegean)	Kriti (Crete)
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0
B. Mining and quarrying	24,2	18,3	1,2	29,4	10,6	8,0	23,0
C. Manufacturing	0,0	1,2	0,1	0,1	0,0	0,3	0,1
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	7,5	17,7	10,5	8,1	7,8	4,0	6,7
E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0,6	0,8	0,6	0,9	0,3	2,0	0,3
F. Construction	0,5	0,7	0,5	0,6	1,0	1,4	0,6
G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	7,0	7,3	4,9	8,3	8,0	12,2	5,8
H. Transportation and storage	17,2	15,0	19,8	14,0	17,1	21,0	17,1
I. Accommodation and food service activities	4,0	3,7	6,8	4,4	3,0	3,9	4,1
J. Information and communication	6,1	7,4	5,2	6,5	7,6	15,9	9,9
K. Financial and insurance activities	1,1	0,7	3,6	0,6	0,4	1,6	0,8
I. Real estate activities	1,2	1,0	5,3	1,8	1,8	1,7	1,6
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	0,1	0,0	0,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,2
N. Administrative and support service activities	3,4	3,5	7,8	3,6	6,4	4,6	4,7
O. Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	0,8	1,1	2,8	0,4	2,2	2,7	1,0
P. Education	7,4	7,6	9,6	7,4	16,7	9,3	7,7
Q. Human health and social work activities	9,5	7,2	7,9	6,0	8,5	3,4	7,3
R. Arts, entertainment and recreation	6,0	3,2	7,2	3,7	5,0	4,9	4,8
S. Other service activities	0,6	0,6	1,3	1,2	0,6	1,8	0,6
T. Activities of households as employers	2,1	2,2	2,0	2,0	2,6	1,3	2,2
U. Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	0,7	0,9	2,6	1,0	0,5	0,0	1,5

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Labour Force Survey Labour Force Survey produces estimates since 1981 (second quarter of the year). From 1998 onwards it is a continuous quarterly survey. The main statistical objectives of the Labour Force Survey is to divide the population of working age (15 years and over) into three mutually exclusive and exhaustive groups - persons in employment, unemployed persons and inactive persons. In addition, the Labour Force Survey collects information on demographic characteristics, on main job characteristics, on the existence and characteristics of a second job, on educational attainment, on participation in education, on previous working experience and on search of job.

Legislation The current survey is completely harmonized with European legislation. The principal legal act is the Council Regulation (EC) No. 577/98 that stipulates the provisions on design, survey characteristics and decision-making processes. The survey framework was amended by successive Commission regulations. (Regulation (EC) No 1372/2007, Regulation (EC) No 2257/2003, Regulation (EC) No 1991/2002).

Reference Period The sample of Labour Force Survey is equally allocated to the 4 (or 5) weeks of the month. Every selected household is assigned to a specific week, the reference week, running from Monday to Sunday.

- For employment the reference period is the reference week.
- For employment seeking the reference period is the reference week and the previous 3 weeks.

Coverage The survey covers all members of the private households who are residing at least one year in Greece and excludes the members of the collective households (i.e. hospitals, hotels, barracks, asylums, old people's homes, orphanages etc).

Definitions **Employed** are persons aged 15 years or older, who during the reference week worked, even for just one hour, for pay or profit or they were working in the family business, or they were not at work but had a job or business from which they were temporarily absent.

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 are neither classified as employed nor as unemployed.

Economically active population (labour force) are persons either employed or unemployed.

Unemployment Rate is the ratio of unemployed divided by total labour force.

Methodology Labour Force Survey's estimates are produced by a suitable unbiased estimator which takes in to account a) the probability of selection of every sampled household, b) the response rate in every primary sampling unit, c) the estimated population for January 2011, allocated by NUTS II areas, gender and age group).

References Analytical description of the Labour Force Survey's methodology and definitions can be found at www.statistics.gr.