



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE

GENERAL SECRETARIAT



NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE
OF GREECE

Piraeus, 12th of August 2008

PRESS RELEASE

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

May 2008

The General Secretariat of National Statistical Service of Greece announces the Labour Force Survey's results for May 2008. **The Unemployment rate in May 2008 is 6,6% against 7,7% in May 2007**

For monthly estimations, a sub sample of the quarterly Labour Force survey's sample was used. In total, 28,823 persons, belonging to 12,051 different households, were interviewed.

Monthly employment's characteristics (number of employed, unemployed etc.) were estimated by an unbiased estimator, which was calculated based on: a) the probability of selection of a household, b) the 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 May.

Contact Person: Stelios Zachariou

Tel: 210 4852173

Fax: 210 4852948

E-mail: zacharis@statistics.gr

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT MAY 2008

In May 2008, the number of employed people is estimated to 4,612,670. The number of unemployed people is estimated to 324,777, while economically non-actives were estimated to 4,292,662.

The corresponding figures for May 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 are presented in **Table 1**.

Table 1. Employed, unemployed, economically non-active and rate of unemployment (May, 2004 - 2008)

	May				
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Employed	4,344,593	4,423,020	4,459,885	4,518,652	4,612,670
Unemployed	486,210	472,397	450,520	378,299	324,777
Economically non active	4,226,045	4,207,457	4,239,721	4,309,757	4,292,662
Unemployment rate	10.1	9.6	9.2	7.7	6.6

In Table 1 data we observe:

The number of employed persons increases from 2004 to 2008. The rate of increase in employment between May 2004 and May 2005 was 1.8%, between May 2005 and May 2006 was 0.8%, between May 2006 and May 2007 was 1.3 %, while between May 2007 and May 2008 was 2.1%.

The number of unemployed persons decreased from 2004 to 2008. Between May 2004 and May 2005, the rate of decrease was 2.8%. Between May 2005 and May 2006, the number of unemployed decreased by 4.6%, between May 2006 and May 2007 by 16.0%, while between May 2007 and May 2008 decreased 14.1%.

These changes in the number of employed and unemployed persons led to the reduction of unemployment rate, from 10.1% in May 2004 to 9.6% in May 2005. The unemployment rate was 9.2% in May 2006, 7.7% in May 2007 and 6.6% in May 2008.

Tables 2,3, and 4 present unemployment rates by region, sex and group ages in May 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Table 2: Unemployment rate by region: May 2004 - 2008

Region	May				
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
ANATOLIKI MAKEDONIA, THRAKI	12.7	10.5	11.2	9.8	8.3
KENTRIKI MAKEDONIA	11.6	10.0	9.8	7.9	7.8
DYTIKI MAKEDONIA	14.0	16.9	14.7	12.1	13.4
IPEIROS	11.4	10.7	9.5	8.2	7.3
THESSALIA	10.7	10.4	7.8	8.0	6.9
IONIA NISIA	8.5	9.3	8.5	6.6	5.2
DYTIKI ELLADA	15.0	13.1	10.4	9.8	10.0
STEREA ELLADA	14.1	10.6	9.0	7.7	7.2
ATTICI	8.5	8.5	8.8	7.6	5.3
PELOPONNISOS	9.1	9.1	8.2	6.6	6.5
VOREIO AIGAIO	5.1	11.8	11.1	9.4	4.3
NOTIO AIGAIO	6.8	8.8	9.1	6.4	3.2
KRITI	5.1	6.1	6.3	3.4	4.4
Greece, total	10.1	9.6	9.2	7.7	6.6

Table 3. Unemployment rate by sex: May 2004-2008

Sex	May				
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Men	6.2	5.8	5.8	4.9	4.2
Women	15.7	15.1	14.0	11.8	10.0
Total	10.1	9.6	9.2	7.7	6.6

Table 4: Unemployment rate by age groups: May 2004-2008

Group ages	May				
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
15-24 years	24.3	24.7	24.8	23.2	18.6
25-34 »	13.3	12.6	12.5	10.8	9.9
35-44 »	8.2	8.4	7.5	5.9	5.1
45-54 »	5.5	5.5	5.0	4.3	3.4
55-64 »	3.7	3.8	3.8	2.8	2.7
65-74 »	0.8	1.6	0.9	1.0	0.8
Total	10.1	9.6	9.2	7.7	6.6