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MINISTRY OF FINANCE



GENERAL SECRETARIAT  
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## PRESS RELEASE

Unemployment rate at 9.8 in October 2009

### LABOUR FORCE SURVEY: October 2009

Unemployment rate in October 2009 was 9,8% compared to 7,4% in October 2008 and 9.1% in September 2009. The number of employed amounted to 4,505,100 persons while the number of unemployed amounted to 491,139 and the number of inactive to 4,282,772. The corresponding figures for October 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 και 2009 are presented in Table 1.

The number of employed decreased by 110,708 persons compared to October 2008 (a 2.4% rate of decrease) and by 72,743 persons compared to September 2009 (a 1.6% rate of decrease).

Unemployed increased by 123,935 persons (a 33.8% rate of increase) compared to October 2008 and increased by 34,336 persons compared to September 2009 (a 7.5% rate of increase).

#### Unemployment rate by month (January 2004 – October 2009)



Tables 2, 3 and 4 present unemployment rate by NUTS II areas, gender and age groups for October 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 και 2009.

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**Table 1. Employed, unemployed, economically non-active and unemployment rate (October 2004 - 2009).**

	October					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Employed	4,356,349	4,393,928	4,512,818	4,544,534	4,615,808	4,505,100
Unemployed	474,018	463,144	378,574	387,743	367,204	491,139
Inactive	4,247,761	4,261,912	4,282,842	4,282,192	4,260,063	4,282,772
Unemployment rate	9.8	9.5	7.7	7.9	7.4	9.8

**Table 2: Unemployment rate by region: October 2004 – 2009**

Περιφέρεια	October					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Anatoliki Makedonia Thraki	12.0	11.8	9.6	7.2	10.7	9.8
Kentriki Makedonia	11.5	11.2	8.2	9.0	7.6	10.1
Dytiki Makedonia	19.3	12.0	9.7	10.1	10.7	9.3
Ipeiros	10.7	8.1	8.3	12.8	10.4	12.7
Thessalia	9.6	8.5	6.1	7.2	8.7	9.7
Ionia Nisia	6.6	5.0	7.9	4.9	8.7	5.4
Dytiki Ellada	10.7	9.8	10.7	9.5	10.7	10.0
Stereia Ellada	14.1	13.2	9.6	11.5	9.0	9.9
Attiki	8.6	9.1	7.5	7.3	6.1	10.4
Peloponnissos	6.8	7.3	6.8	8.1	7.0	9.0
Voreio Aigaio	9.5	8.5	7.2	4.7	1.9	2.2
Notio Aigaio	8.6	9.1	5.6	5.0	4.2	9.1
Criti	6.3	6.3	3.9	4.0	5.4	8.7
<b>Total Country</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>9.8</b>

**Table 3. Unemployment rate by sex: October 2004-2009**

Φύλο	October					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Male	6.0	5.8	4.5	4.7	4.5	7.1
Female	15.4	15.0	12.4	12.4	11.5	13.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>9.8</b>

**Table 4: Unemployment rate by age groups: October 2004-2009**

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>October</b>					
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
15-24 years old	26.0	25.5	22.6	21.9	21.2	27.5
25-34 years old	12.9	13.6	10.7	11.7	10.5	12.6
35-44 years old	6.8	6.5	5.6	6.0	6.2	8.0
45-54 years old	6.0	5.8	4.3	3.7	3.9	7.1
55-64 years old	3.5	3.1	3.0	3.4	2.8	5.0
65-74 years old	1.5	0.0	1.3	2.7	1.1	1.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>9.8</b>

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

- Labour Force Survey** Labour Force Survey produces early estimates since 1981 (second quarter of the year). Since 1998 is a continuous quarterly survey. The main statistical objectives of Labour Force Survey is to divide the population of working age (15 years and above) into three mutually exclusive and exhaustive groups - persons in employment, unemployed persons and inactive persons. In addition, Labour Force Survey collects information on demographic characteristics, on main job characteristics, on the existence and characteristics of second job, on educational attainment, on participation in education, on previous working experience and on search of job.
- Legislation** 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. Survey framework was modified in successive Commission regulations. (Regulation (EC) No 1372/2007 , Regulation (EC) No 2257/2003 , Regulation (EC) No 1991/2002).
- Reference Period** October 2009
- Coverage** For the monthly estimates, a sub-sample of the quarterly Labour Force survey's sample was used.
- Definitions** **Employed** are persons aged 15 years or older, who during the reference week had worked, even for just one hour, for pay or profit or they have worked 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 neither classified as employed nor as unemployed.
- Economically active population (labour force)** are persons that 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) response rate in every primary sampling unit, c) the estimated population for October 2009, allocated by NUTS II areas, sex and age group).
- References** Analytical description of Labour Force Survey' s methodology and definitions can be found at [www.statistics.gr](http://www.statistics.gr).