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PRESS RELEASE

Unemployment rate at 12.6% in September 2010

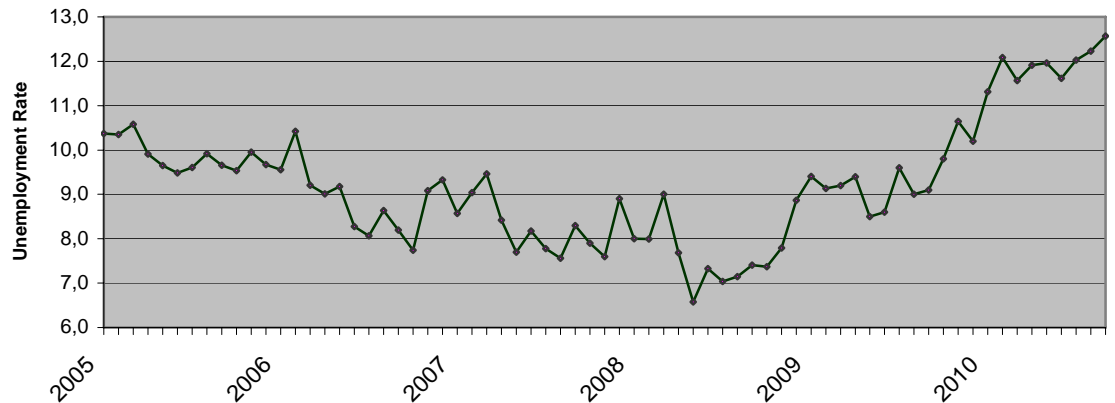
LABOUR FORCE SURVEY: September 2010

Unemployment rate in September 2010 was 12.6% compared to 9.1% in September 2009 and 12.2% in August 2010. The number of employed amounted to 4,366,495 persons while the number of unemployed amounted to 627,715 and the number of inactive to 4,319,930. The corresponding figures for September 2005 to 2010 are presented in Table 1.

The number of employed decreased by 211,349 persons compared with September 2009 (a 4.6% rate of decrease) and by 32,395 persons compared with August 2010 (a 0.7% rate of decrease).

Unemployed increased by 170,912 persons (a 37.4% rate of increase) compared with September 2009 and by 14,607 persons compared with August 2010 (a 2.4% rate of increase).

Unemployment rate by month (January 2005 – September 2010)



Tables 2, 3 and 4 illustrate unemployment rate by NUTS II regions, gender and age groups from September 2005 to 2010.

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Table 1. Employed, unemployed, economically non-active and unemployment rate (September 2005-2010)

	September					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Employed	4,381,375	4,500,606	4,503,793	4,550,911	4,577,844	4,366,495
Unemployed	468,590	401,743	410,324	363,869	456,803	627,715
Inactive	4,265,728	4,267,002	4,298,786	4,325,644	4,240,986	4,319,930
Unemployment rate	9.7	8.2	8.3	7.4	9.1	12.6

Table 2: Unemployment rate by region (NUTSII): September 2005-2010

Region	September					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Anatoliki Makedonia Thraki (East Macedonia and Thrace)	11.4	9.0	10.9	7.6	11.9	12.9
Kentriki Makedonia (Central Macedonia)	11.5	8.8	9.2	8.4	10.0	14.0
Dytiki Makedonia (West Macedonia)	21.9	19.0	12.7	9.4	10.2	16.3
Ipeiros (Epirus)	12.6	11.5	9.8	10.4	12.3	12.8
Thessalia (Thessaly)	10.6	8.4	9.4	10.3	10.2	13.7
Ionioi Nisoi (Ionian Islands)	5.8	8.8	4.4	3.3	6.3	10.3
Dytiki Ellas (West Greece)	8.3	6.3	9.6	8.2	9.8	13.1
Stereia Ellas	10.3	6.2	7.5	7.0	9.7	11.5
Attiki (Attica)	8.9	8.4	8.2	7.0	8.9	12.6
Peloponnissos (Peloponnese)	7.8	6.3	8.3	6.7	8.3	11.0
Voreio Aigaio (North Aegean)	10.8	8.3	7.2	4.2	4.0	12.2
Notio Aigaio (South Aegean)	6.5	6.9	5.0	4.6	3.6	7.5
Kriti (Crete)	5.4	3.5	3.5	4.7	5.4	10.1
Total Country	9.7	8.2	8.3	7.4	9.1	12.6

Table 3. Unemployment rate by gender: September 2005-2010

Gender	September					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Male	6.4	5.3	5.3	5.1	6.0	9.6
Female	14.5	12.5	12.7	10.7	13.4	16.7
Total	9.7	8.2	8.3	7.4	9.1	12.6

Table 4: Unemployment rate by age groups: September 2005-2010

Age Group	September					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
15-24 years old	28.0	25.6	23.3	24.3	25.7	33.6
25-34 years old	12.3	11.4	11.7	10.0	12.6	17.8
35-44 years old	8.0	6.3	6.1	5.4	7.3	10.0
45-54 years old	5.1	4.1	5.1	4.0	5.2	8.0
55-64 years old	3.6	2.7	3.2	3.4	4.1	6.1
65-74 years old	1.7	1.0	0.5	0.0	0.3	2.7
Total	9.7	8.2	8.3	7.4	9.1	12.6

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 modified in 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** 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 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 2010, 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.