



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



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PRESS RELEASE

Unemployment rate at 16.2% in March 2011

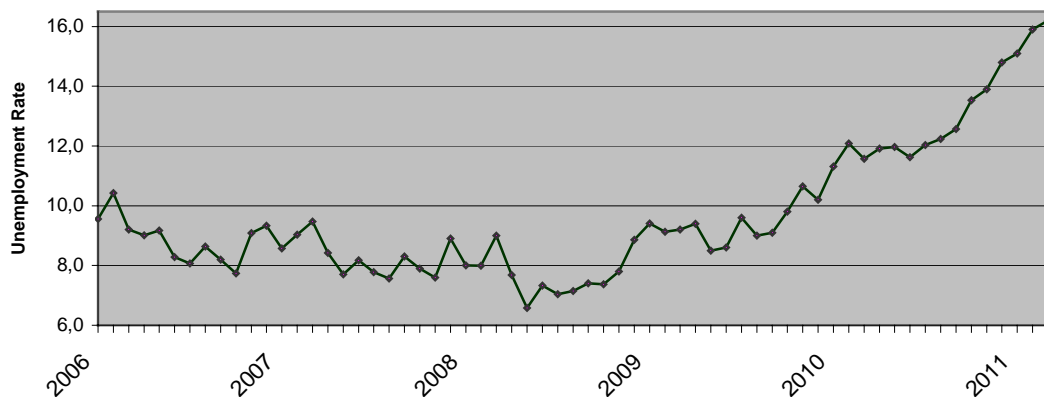
LABOUR FORCE SURVEY: March 2011

Unemployment rate in March 2011 was 16.2% compared to 11.6% in March 2010 and 15.9% in February 2011. The number of employed amounted to 4,185,325 persons while the number of unemployed amounted to 811,340 and the number of inactive to 4,335,461. The corresponding figures for March 2006 to 2011 are presented in Table 1.

The number of employed decreased by 238,574 persons compared with March 2010 (a 5.4% rate of decrease) and increased by 7,013 persons compared with February 2011 (a 0.2% rate of increase).

Unemployed increased by 232,617 persons (a 40.2% rate of increase) compared with March 2010 and by 24,111 persons compared with February 2011 (a 3.1% rate of increase).

Unemployment rate by month (March 2006 – March 2011)



Tables 2, 3 and 4 illustrate unemployment rate by NUTS II regions, gender and age groups from March 2006 to 2011.

Contact Person: Stelios Zachariou
Tel: 213 1352173
Fax: 213 1352948
E-mail: ifs@statistics.gr

Table 1. Employed, unemployed, economically non-active and unemployment rate (March 2006-2011)

	March					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Employed	4,425,928	4,418,510	4,494,724	4,489,672	4,423,899	4,185,325
Unemployed	448,627	462,042	442,558	457,024	578,723	811,340
Inactive	4,266,141	4,292,428	4,287,843	4,309,170	4,292,663	4,335,461
Unemployment rate	9.2	9.5	9.0	9.2	11.6	16.2

Table 2: Unemployment rate by region (NUTSII): March 2006-2011

Region	March					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Anatoliki Makedonia Thraki (East Macedonia and Thrace)	10.6	9.9	11.8	12.3	16.1	14.9
Kentriki Makedonia (Central Macedonia)	10.3	9.4	9.4	9.2	12.2	16.5
Dytiki Makedonia (West Macedonia)	19.2	14.1	8.0	11.3	11.6	20.6
Ipeiros (Epirus)	10.6	9.4	10.2	10.1	11.4	15.9
Thessalia (Thessaly)	9.6	6.2	9.1	9.1	13.2	15.2
Ionioi Nisoi (Ionian Islands)	19.6	19.1	8.6	18.7	23.0	24.5
Dytiki Ellas (West Greece)	7.8	8.2	9.8	9.2	7.9	15.2
Stereia Ellas	7.7	8.9	9.0	9.7	11.1	16.1
Attiki (Attica)	7.7	8.7	7.2	7.8	10.5	15.8
Peloponnissos (Peloponnese)	7.0	7.5	9.1	8.4	8.1	13.2
Voreio Aigaio (North Aegean)	9.1	10.1	5.4	4.9	10.4	13.7
Notio Aigaio (South Aegean)	11.5	21.8	20.8	15.2	16.7	30.4
Kriti (Crete)	9.2	10.0	10.7	10.3	12.0	14.5
Total Country	9.2	9.5	9.0	9.2	11.6	16.2

Table 3. Unemployment rate by gender: March 2006-2011

Gender	March					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Male	5.9	6.2	6.3	6.6	8.5	13.8
Female	14.1	14.2	12.7	12.9	15.9	19.5
Total	9.2	9.5	9.0	9.2	11.6	16.2

Table 4: Unemployment rate by age groups: March 2006-2011

Age Group	March					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
15-24 years old	25.3	25.6	27.1	24.5	29.8	42.5
25-34 years old	11.4	12.4	11.9	12.7	15.4	22.6
35-44 years old	7.9	7.7	7.1	7.5	10.0	13.1
45-54 years old	5.5	5.6	5.4	6.0	7.3	10.8
55-64 years old	3.9	4.6	3.4	3.9	6.5	9.1
65-74 years old	1.9	0.5	0.0	0.7	0.8	5.0
Total	9.2	9.5	9.0	9.2	11.6	16.2

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 March 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.