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Compiling agency: ELSTAT

Domain name: VITAL STATISTICS

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2. Metadata update	
2.1 Metadata last certified	4.7.2014
2.2 Metadata last posted	4.7.2014
2.3 Metadata last updated	4.7.2014

3. Statistical presentation

3.1 Data description

This sector includes vital statistics of population (Weddings, Births, Deaths, cohabitation agreements) during the reference year. The key variables per event are: age, sex, marital status, citizenship, place of birth, place of residence, place of incident (region, regional unity, municipality), education level, occupation, causes of death, etc. Moreover, it includes demographic indicators (nuptiality, natality, ageing and mortality), as well as life tables and population projections. The source of data is the administrative records (registries).

3.2 Classification system

Geographical classification: 6-digit Geographical Division of the country "KAPODISTRIAS 2009" and from 2013 onwards, 8-digit Geographical Division of the country "KALLIKRATIS",
Classification of Occupations: 2-digit STEP92' and from 2013 onwards, 2-digit ISCO 08
Classification of education: National classifications and from 2013 onwards, ISCED
Classification of diseases: 4-digit ICD 09 and from 2014 onwards, 4-digit ICD 10
Classification of religion: National classifications
Classification of citizenship: 2-digit National classification

3.3 Sector coverage

VITAL STATISTICS

3.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

"Birth" is the birth of a child which breathes or shows any other evidence of life, regardless of gestational age.
"Death" is the permanent disappearance of all evidence of vital functions, at any time after birth.
"Stillbirth" is the fetal death regardless of the duration of pregnancy.
"Neonatal death" is death occurring among live births during the first 28 days of life.
"Parity" is the number of previous live births or stillbirths.
"Underlying cause of death" is the disease or injury which initiated the train of morbid events leading directly to death, or the circumstances of the accident or violence which produced the fatal injury.
"Citizenship" is the particular legal bond between an individual and their own state, gained by birth or naturalization, whether it is by declaration, choice, marriage or other means in accordance with national law.
"Resident" is the 'usual resident' in the place where a person normally spends the daily period of rest, regardless of temporary absences, for a period of at least 12 months.
"Country / place of birth" is the country / place of residence (within current borders, if information is available) of the mother at the time of birth or, if not existed, the country (within current borders, if information is available) in which the birth took place.
"Neonatal mortality" The ratio of deaths of infants under the age of 28 days during the reference year to the number of live births in the same year. The ratio is expressed per 1,000 live births.
"Infant mortality" The ratio of deaths of infants under one year of age during the reporting year to the number of live births in the same year. The ratio is expressed per 1,000 live births.
"Perinatal mortality" The ratio of deaths of infants under the age of one week and stillbirths during the reference year to the number of births (stillbirths included) in the same year. The ratio is expressed per 1,000 births.
"Life expectancy at birth" The average number of years that an infant is expected to live if subject to current mortality conditions throughout its life (specific probabilities of death according to age).
"Ageing index" The ratio of youth population (aged 0-14 years old) to senile population (aged 65 years old and over).
"Total fertility rate" The mean number of children that would be born alive to a woman during her lifetime if she were to pass through her childbearing years conforming to the fertility rates by age of a given year. The total fertility rate is also used to indicate the replacement level fertility; in more developed countries, a rate of 2.1 is considered to be replacement level.

3.5 Statistical units

Individuals

3.6 Statistical population

The usual resident population regardless of where the events took place
3.7 Reference area (geographical coverage)
At national level: Total Geographical country Geographical Level of data analysis: Municipality
3.8 Time coverage
Since 1956
3.9 Base period
Non applicable

4. Unit of measure
Number of individuals

5. Reference period
Calendar year

6. Institutional mandate
6.1 Legal acts and other agreements
<p>The legal framework concerning the organization and operation of ELSTAT is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Law 3832/2010 (Government Gazette No 38, Issue A): “<i>Hellenic Statistical System Establishment of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) as an Independent Authority</i>”, as amended by article 90 paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Law 3842/2010 (Government Gazette No 58, Issue A): “<i>Restoration of fiscal justice, confrontation of tax evasion and other provisions</i>”, by article 10 of the Law 3899/2010 (Government Gazette No 212, Issue A): “<i>Urgent measures for the implementation of the assistance program of the Greek Economy</i>”, by article 45 of the Law 3943/2011 (Government Gazette No 66, Issue A): “<i>Combating tax evasion, staffing of auditing services and other provisions falling within the competence of the Ministry of Finance</i>”, by article 22 paragraph 1 of the Law 3965/2011 (Government Gazette No 113, Issue A): “<i>Operations reform of the Consignment deposits and Loans Fund, Public Debt Management Agency, Public Enterprises and Government bodies, the establishment of the General Secretariat of Public Property and other provisions</i>” and by article 51 of the Law 4021/2011 (Government Gazette No 218, Issue A): “<i>Enhanced measures for the supervision and restructuring of Credit Institutions – Regulation of issues of financial nature – Ratification of the European Financial Stability Facility (EFSF) Framework-Agreement and its amendments and other provisions.</i>” ➤ Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council, on the European statistics (Official Journal of the European Union L 87/164). ➤ Regulation (EC) No 1260/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, on European demographic statistics (Official Journal of the European Union L 330/39). ➤ Article 14 of the Law 3470/2006 (Government Gazette No 132, Issue A): “<i>National Export Council, tax regulations and other provisions</i>”. ➤ Article 3, paragraph 1c, of the Law 3448/2006 (Government Gazette No 57, Issue A): “<i>For the further use of information coming from the public sector and the settlement of matters falling within the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization</i>”. ➤ European Statistics Code of Practice, adopted by the Statistical Programme Committee on 24 February 2005 and promulgated in the Commission Recommendation of 25 May 2005 on the independence, integrity and accountability of the national and Community statistical Authorities, after its revision, which was adopted on 28 September 2011 by the European Statistical System Committee. ➤ Presidential Decree 226/2000 (Government Gazette No 195, Issue A): “<i>Organization of the General</i>

Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece”.

➤ Articles 4, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 of the Law 2392/1996 (Government Gazette No 60, Issue A): *“Access of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece to administrative sources and administrative files, Statistical Confidentiality Committee, settlement of matters concerning the conduct of censuses and statistical works, as well as of matters of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece”.*

➤ Law 344/76 (Government Gazette 143/Issue A) «Law on Birth and Death Certificates» and Law 4144/2013 «Law combating delinquency in Social Security» which imposes all amendments

6.2 Data sharing

7. Confidentiality

7.1 Confidentiality policy

The issues concerning the observance of statistical confidentiality by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) are arranged by articles 6, 7 and 8 of the Law 3832/2010, as amended by article 90 paragraph 8 of the Law 3842/2010 and by article 10 of the Law 3899/2010, as well as by article 8 of the Law 2392/1996, which was brought back into force, in accordance with article 90 paragraph 8 of the Law 3842/2010. Furthermore, ELSTAT disseminates the statistics in compliance with the statistical principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice and in particular with the principle of statistical confidentiality.

7.2 Confidentiality – data treatment

- ELSTAT protects and does not disseminate data it has obtained or it has access to, which enable the direct or indirect identification of the statistical units that have provided them by the disclosure of Individual information directly received for statistical purposes, or indirectly supplied from Administrative or other sources. ELSTAT takes all appropriate preventive measures so as to render impossible the identification of individual statistical units by technical or other means that might reasonably be used by a third party. Statistical data that could potentially enable the identification of the statistical unit are disseminated by ELSTAT if and only if:

a) These data have been treated, as it is specifically set out in the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System (ELSS), in such a way that their dissemination does not prejudice statistical confidentiality or

b) The statistical unit has given its consent, without any reservations, for the disclosure of data.

– The confidential data that are transmitted by ELSS agencies to ELSTAT are used exclusively for statistical purposes and the only persons who have the right to have access to these data are the personnel engaged in this task and appointed by an act of the President of ELSTAT.

– Issues referring to the observance of statistical confidentiality are examined by the Statistical Confidentiality Committee (SCC) operating in ELSTAT. The responsibilities of this Committee are to make recommendations to the President of ELSTAT on:

- the level of detail at which statistical data can be disseminated, so as the identification, either directly or indirectly, of the surveyed statistical unit is not possible;
- the anonymization criteria for the microdata provided to users;
- the granting to researchers access to confidential data for scientific purposes.

8. Release policy

8.1 Release calendar

Monthly provisional figures are announced 7 months after the end of the reference month (Based on the month of entry).

Annual data is announced 10 months after the reference year (based on the year event).

8.2 Release calendar access

http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/BUCKET/General/release_calendar_en.pdf
8.3 User access
Users are informed on data release dates through ELSTAT's website. At http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/PAGE-themes?p_param=A1605

9. Frequency of dissemination
Annually

10. Dissemination format
10.1 Press release
Usually, the press release regarding Vital Statistics is announced at the beginning of December, each year.
10.2 Publications
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A special edition containing the main results of the Vital Statistics survey is published each year. ▪ Monthly Statistical Bulletin (provisional data). ▪ Statistical Yearbook of Greece.
10.3 On-line database
www.statistics.gr (http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/PAGE-database/custom_database?user_param=A1605)
10.4 Micro-data access
Non applicable
10.5 Other
http://dlib.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/

11. Accessibility of documentation
11.1 Documentation on methodology
Basic methodological information on the survey (in Greek) is included in the survey's guidelines, posted on the website of ELSTAT, at: http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/BUCKET/A1605/Other/A1605_SPO18_MT_AN_00_2002_00_2002_01_F_BI.pdf
11.2 Quality documentation
All rational and numeral checks safeguarding quality are being performed.

12. Quality management

12.1 Quality assurance
Comparative checks are being performed.
12.2 Quality assessment
Very good. High accuracy results.

13. Relevance
13.1 User needs
The main data users are researchers (university community, international organizations, research centers etc.), Ministries and journalists. User requirements are mainly time series for different variables of population and causes of death.
13.2 User satisfaction
The Department of Statistical Information and Dissemination of ELSTAT conducts a survey on user satisfaction, at: http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/BUCKET/General/library_news_letter.pdf
13.3 Completeness
Data covers the 95% of the user requirements.

14. Accuracy and reliability
14.1 Overall accuracy
To ensure the accuracy of the data, cross checking of data received at the end of each year from other sources, is being performed; In order to control the total number of marriages, data is compiled on the number of marriage licenses issued by the Cathedrals (either political, religious or other religions). To control the total number of births, data is being compiled by the number of male-registered, held on Prefectures.
14.2 Sampling errors
Non applicable because the survey is exhaustive and data of the whole population under survey is being recorded.
14.3 Non-sampling errors
We consider that there are no non-sampling errors because in general, all registrars disseminate the data, coders are professionals and relevant data has primarily been checked.

15. Timeliness and punctuality
15.1 Timeliness
Monthly provisional figures are announced 215 days after the end of the reference month (Based on the month of entry). Annual data is announced 305 days after the reference year (based on the year event). Life tables and other demographic indexes are announced 365 days after the reference year. Estimated Population is announced 365 days after the reference year.
15.2 Punctuality
Data is produced and disseminated according to the predefined timetable

16. Comparability

16.1 Comparability – geographical

Some differences between countries exist because there are no common meanings, definitions and data sources (mostly in Cohabitation agreements).
Moreover, countries use different classification of diseases. Most countries use the ICD 10 while ELSTAT will start using ICD10 from 1.1.2014 onwards.

16.2 Comparability over time

1. Data of Vital Statistics: since 1956
2. Life Tables: since 1960
3. Estimated Population: since 1956

17. Coherence

17.1 Cross-domain coherence

17.2 Internal Coherence

There has been a difference between the estimated population on 1.1.2011 and the results of the Census 2011.
For this reason, estimated population of inter-censal years (2002-2011) was revised.

18. Cost and burden

Non applicable

19. Data revision

19.1 Revision policy

Data, if necessary, can be revised according to the most recently updated data

19.2 Revision practice

Non applicable

20. Statistical processing

20.1 Source data

Sources of information for vital statistics are Administrative records (Marriage, Birth and Death Certificates) provided by Registries from all around country.

20.2 Frequency of data collection

Monthly

20.3 Data collection

Employees of Registry Offices register the Certificates mentioned above in the Registrations Information System of the Ministry of Interior. ELSTAT draws the information required for statistical purposes from the Ministry's central database.

20.4 Data validation
20.5 Data compilation
<p>Compilation of tables by event and by age, sex, marital status, citizenship, place of birth, place of residence, place of event, geographical region, prefecture, education level, occupation, cause of death and other variables and comparative tables (time series), showing the evolution of the Vital Statistics.</p> <p>Compilation of estimated total population tables with the usage of Vital Statistics data and the estimation of yearly net migration.</p> <p>Compilation of total fertility rate_ The mean number of children that would be born alive to a woman during her lifetime if she were to pass through her childbearing years conforming to the fertility rates by age of a given year. The total fertility rate is also used to indicate the replacement level fertility; in more developed countries, a rate of 2.1 is considered to be replacement level.</p> <p>Compilation of life expectancy at birth_ The mean number of years that an infant is expected to live if subjected throughout its life to the current mortality conditions (age specific probabilities of death).</p> <p>Compilation of total mortality rate_ Deaths during the reference year, per 1000 residents.</p> <p>Compilation of infant -neonatal- perinatal mortality rate_ The ratio of the number of deaths of children under the age of 1 year-28 days-1week old respectively, during the reference year, to the number of live births in that year. The ratio is expressed per 1000 births.</p> <p>Compilation of total marriage rate_ Marriages conducted per population of 1000 residents.</p> <p>Compilation of age dependency rate_ The ratio of economically inactive population (aged 0-14 and 65+ years old) to the economically active population (aged 15-64 years old).</p> <p>Compilation of ageing index_ The ratio of youth population (aged 0-14 years old) to senile population (aged 15-64 years old).</p> <p>Compilation of Life tables by sex and age</p>
20.6 Adjustments
21. Comments