



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE



**GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF  
THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE**

GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF STATISTICAL SURVEYS  
DIVISION OF POPULATION AND LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS  
HOUSEHOLDS' SURVEYS UNIT

Piraeus, 1.06.2006

# **P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

## **HOUSEHOLD BUDGET SURVEYS 2004/05**

### *Health expenditure*

The General Secretariat of National Statistical Service of Greece announces the results that concern in the mean total expenditure for health, in the diachronic change of health expenditure, as well as in the mean monthly expenditure for health per category of population (total, non poor, poor). The data come from the Household Budget Survey during the period from February 2004 to January 2005.

The survey has been carried out in a final sample of 6.555 private households and in 17.386 their members throughout the country and the results refer to mean monthly purchases of households, in euros.

#### **A. Background and main aim**

Through this survey, alike the previous ones, information was collected on the value of purchases and on the receipts in kind of the households as well as on the demographic and social characteristics of the households and their dwellings, aiming, mainly, to the revision of the Consumer Price Index compiled by the NSSG.

The Household Budget Survey data are fully harmonized to the respective surveys data of other European Union Countries. The new classification of goods and services ( COICOP-HBS) which was recommended from Eurostat to European countries (Household Budget Surveys in the European Union, methodology and recommendations for harmonization, 2003) has been used.

## **B. Data collection mode**

The health expenses, in order to be registered, should be the health services to have offered itself in individuals that are members of household, during the registering period, or not currently household members, but were household members during the reference period of the expenditure, and in the period of survey these individuals are not members of some other household in the country, because, for example, they live in institutional households of all types or abroad or have died. In the sum of expense is marked the total value that paid the household for the acquisition of service of health. The amounts, that recorded, are net, that means that are not included amounts that paid or that will be paid from the Social Insurance Organisation or the State, etc

Definitions by category:

### *Expenses for medicines, medical products, therapeutic appliances and equipment*

These expenses concern in medicines, medical products, therapeutic appliances and equipment, that paid the household after deducting the amounts that paid or that will be paid from the Social Insurance Organisation or the State, etc

### *Expenses for medical care except hospitals*

This group covers medical, dental and paramedical services delivered to outpatients by medical, dental and paramedical practitioners and auxiliaries. The services may be delivered at home or in individual or group consulting facilities or dispensaries or the out-patient clinics of hospitals and the like.

The group includes the medicaments, prostheses, medical appliances and equipment and other health-related products supplied to outpatients by such practitioners and auxiliaries.

A distinction is made between the services provided by medical analyses laboratories and X-ray centres and the services provided by medical and dental practitioners. Usually it is the former who carry out the tests and take the X-rays and the latter who interpret them. Fees for the taking of tests

and X-rays by medical analysis laboratories and X-ray centres are included in paramedical services, fees for interpretation are included in paramedical services and medical services as appropriate. However, fees for medical analysis, such as cardiological and echographical examinations, and X-rays, such as dental X-rays, which are undertaken by medical and dental practitioners themselves are also included under medical services or dental services.

#### *Services of dentists, oral-hygienists and other dental auxiliaries*

These expenses concern in the net amounts that paid the household, at the last 6 months and before the end of survey, for dental visits, examinations, visits in odontologists, oral-hygienists and other dental auxiliaries, eg. expenses for teeth implantation, placement of dentures etc. It is marked that are not included the expenses for artificial dentures, but only their placement.

#### *Expenses for hospital services*

Are recorded the amounts that paid the household, during the last 12 months and before the end of survey, for hospitalization of a member, in hospital, clinic of Country or abroad, with the condition it had overnight in this, at least, a night and it had paid certain amount. The recording becomes with the discrimination: public hospital (accommodation) - sanitary personnel of public hospital and private clinic (accommodation) - sanitary personnel of private clinic. In the expenses of this category are included hospital daily care and home-based hospital treatment, as well as the hospices for terminally ill persons.

Finally, this category covers the services of institutions that serve the elderly, in which the medical attention constitutes essential constitutive element of service, and the services of centres of re-establishment, that provide sanitary care and treatment of re-establishment in inpatients aiming at the treatment of patient and no the benefit of long-term support. The services of surgeries, clinical and extern surgeries, that provide care exclusively in inpatients, the nursing homes, the institutions for persons with special needs and the centers of re-establishment that provide, mainly, long-term support are not recorded.

As expenses of hospitalization are considered:

- ✓ The expenses of staying and feeding, examinations, analysis, medication and hospitalization
- ✓ The payment of attendant physician of any speciality, surgeons, anesthetists, general practitioners, pediatricians etc.
- ✓ The payment of exclusive nurse, physiotherapists, interpreters for care in the abroad etc.

The amounts, that recorded, are net, that means that are not included amounts that paid or that will be paid from the Social Insurance Organisation or the State, etc

The expenses of relatives accompanying patients are not considered as expenses of health care (hotels, food, transportation) in the cases of hospitalization abroad or in other region of the country. These expenses are recorded in the appropriate unit of questionnaire, eg. the plane tickets in the transport expenditure.

More information about the survey and methodological note in <http://www.statistics.gr> (Category : statistical data/social statistics/household budget )

## **B. Methodology for measuring risk of poverty**

The poverty line is calculated within its relative concept (poor in relation with others) and it is defined at 60% of the median total equivalized disposable expenditure of the household, using the modified OECD<sup>(1)</sup> equivalised scale, diversifies from the concept of absolute poverty (being poor when depriving of basic means for survival). As total equivalized disposable expenditure of the household is considered the total expenditure from purchases and the receipts in kind.

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<sup>(1)</sup> The modified OECD scale attributes a weight of 1 to the first adult, 0.5 to each subsequent adult and 0.3 to each child aged less than 14

## D. Results

### a. Health expenditure distribution

**Table 1: Mean monthly distribution of health expenditure, HBS 2004/05.**

*In Euros*

Health Expenditure	Mean monthly expenditure
<b>Total</b>	<b>128,17</b>
Medicines, medical products, therapeutic appliances and equipment	25,54
Doctors' services	84,19
Hospital services	18,44

From table 1, it arises that the mean monthly households' expenditure is estimated to:

- 128,17 euros, for health services
  - from which:
    - 25,54 euros, for medicines, medical products, therapeutic appliances and equipment
    - 84,19 euros, for doctors' services and
    - 18,44 euros, for hospital services

**Table 2: Mean monthly expenditure for medicines, medical products, therapeutic appliances and equipment. HBS 2004/05.**

*In Euros*

Expenses for medicines, medical products, therapeutic appliances and equipment	Mean monthly expenditure
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,54</b>
Medicines	21,05
Other medical products	1,42
Therapeutic appliances and equipment	3,07

From table 2, it arises that the mean monthly households' expenditure is estimated to:

- 21,05 euros, for medicines
- 1,42 euros, for other medical products and
- 3,07 euros, for therapeutic appliances

**Table 3: Mean monthly expenditure for doctors services of each speciality (except hospital). HBS 2004/05.**

*In Euros*

Expenditure for services of doctors of each speciality (except hospital)	Mean monthly expenditure
<b>Total</b>	<b>84,19</b>
Services of doctors of each speciality (except dentists).	29,85
Services of dentists, oral-hygienists and other dental auxiliaries	39,91
Services of medical analysis laboratories and X-ray centres	9,59
Services of freelance nurses, midwives, optometrists etc	4,32
Other non hospital services	0,52

From table 3, it arises that the mean monthly households' expenditure is estimated to:

- 29,85 euros, for doctors services of each speciality (except dentists).
- 39,91 euros, for dentists services, oral-hygienists and other dental auxiliaries
- 9,59 euros, for services of medical analysis laboratories and X-ray centres
- 4,32 euros for services of freelance nurses, midwives, optometrists etc
- 0,52 euros for other non hospital services

**Table 4: Mean monthly expense of hospital care. HBS 2004/05**

*In euros*

Hospital services expenditure	Mean monthly expenditure
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,44</b>
Public hospital services	5,19
Private hospital services	13,2

From table 2, it arises that the mean monthly households' expenditure is estimated to:

- 5,19 euros, for public hospital services
- 13,2 euros, for private hospital services

### **b. Health expenditure change: 1994-2004**

**Table 5: Health expenditure distribution over the total households' expenditure.  
HBS 1993/94, HBS 1998/99, HBS 2004/05**

<i>Health Expenditure</i>	HBS		
	2004/2005	1998/1999	1993/1994
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,2</b>	<b>6,8</b>	<b>5,7</b>
Medicines, medical products, therapeutic appliances and equipment	1,4	1,3	1,2
Services of doctors	4,8	4,7	3,8
Hospital services	1,0	0,8	0,7

From table 5, it arises:

- The health expenditure was increased during the last decade and is estimated to 5,7% of total households' expenditure for 1994, to 6,8% for 1999 and to 7,2% for 2004.
- The doctors' services were increased by 3,8% of total households' expenditure in 1994 and by 4,8% in 2004.
- The percentage of expenses of hospital services (public and private), over the total households' expenditure, was increased by 0,7% in 1994 and by 1% in 2004.
- The percentage of medicines, medical products, therapeutic appliances and equipment, ), over the total households' expenditure, was slightly increased, from 1,2% in 1994 to 1,4% in 2004.



**Table 6: Health expenditure distribution over the total household expenditure as a percentage**

**HBS 1993/94, HBS 1998/99, HBS 2004/05.**

<i>Health Expenditure</i>	HBS		
	2004/2005	1998/1999	1993/1994
<b>Total</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>
Medicines, medical products, therapeutic appliances and equipment	19,9	18,7	21,6
Services of doctors	65,7	68,9	66,0
Hospital services	14,4	12,4	12,4

From table 6, it arises:

- Decrease in the percentage of medicines , medical products etc expenditure, over the total households' health expenditure, from 21,6% in 1994 to 19,9% in 2004.
- Slight decrease in the percentage of doctors' expenditure, over the total households' health expenditure, from 66,0% in 1994 in 65,7% in 2004.
- Increase in the percentage of expenses of hospital care, over the total households' health expenditure, from 12,4% in 1994 in 14,4% in 2004.

### c. Poverty and health expenditure

**Table 7: Health expenditure distribution per population category  
(total, non poor, poor). HBS 2004/05**

*In euros*

<i>Health Expenditure</i>	Population		
	Total	Non Poor	Poor
<b>Total</b>	<b>128,17</b>	<b>152,7</b>	<b>56,8</b>
Medicines, medical products, therapeutic appliances and equipment	25,54	27,9	22,2
Services of doctors	84,19	100,5	29,6
Hospital services	18,44	24,3	5,0

From table 7, it arises that the poor population consumes:

- The 1/3, approximately, of total health expenditure of non poor population
- The 1/3, approximately, of doctors' services expenditure of non poor population
- The 1/5, approximately, of total hospital services expenditure of non poor population

Expenses for medical products, therapeutic appliances and equipment are not differentiated between poor and non poor population.

For further information on data :

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