

Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS)

Country: Greece

Compiling agency: ELSTAT

Domain name: ESTIMATED POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

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2. Introduction

The survey of Vital Statistics is exhaustive whereas estimation methods are used for the migratory movements.

3. Metadata update

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3.1 Metadata last certified	28.01.2020
3.2 Metadata last posted	28.01.2020
3.3 Metadata last update	28.01.2020

4. Statistical presentation

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4.1 Data description

This sector includes vital statistics of population (Weddings, Births, Deaths, Registered Partnerships) 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).

4.2 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

4.3 Sector coverage

Vital and migration statistics

4.4 Statistical concepts and definitions of basic variables

"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 a newborn individual 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.

4.5 Statistical unit

Individuals

4.6 Statistical population

The usual resident population in the greek territory. Vital events of residents in the greek territory occurring abroad are not covered.

4.7 Reference area

At national level: Total Geographical country
Geographical Level of data analysis: Municipal Units

4.8 Time coverage

Since 1956.

4.9 Base period

Non applicable.

5. Unit of measure

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Number of individuals.

6. Reference period

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Calendar year.

7. Institutional mandate

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7.1 Legal acts and other agreements

The legal framework concerning the organization and operation of ELSTAT is as follows:

➤ Law 3832/2010 (Government Gazette No 38, Issue A): *"Hellenic Statistical System Establishment of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) as an Independent Authority"*, as amended by article 90 paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Law 3842/2010 (Government Gazette No 58, Issue A): *"Restoration of fiscal justice, confrontation of tax evasion and other provisions"*, by article 10 of the Law 3899/2010 (Government Gazette No 212, Issue A): *"Urgent measures for the implementation of the assistance program of the Greek Economy"*, by article 45 of the Law 3943/2011 (Government Gazette No 66, Issue A): *"Combating tax evasion, staffing of auditing services and other provisions falling within the competence of the Ministry of Finance"*, by article 22 paragraph 1 of the Law 3965/2011 (Government Gazette No 113, Issue A): *"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” and by article 51 of the Law 4021/2011 (Government Gazette No 218, Issue A): “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.”

➤ 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): “*National Export Council, tax regulations and other provisions*”.

➤ Article 3, paragraph 1c, of the Law 3448/2006 (Government Gazette No 57, Issue A): “*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*”.

➤ 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 73/2019 (Government Gazette No 114/A/4-7-2019): “*Organization of the General 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

7.2 Data sharing

8. Confidentiality

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8.1 Confidentiality policy

Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics (recital 24 and Article 20(4)) of 11 March 2009 (OJ L 87, p. 164), stipulates the need to establish common principles and guidelines ensuring the confidentiality of data used for the production of European statistics and the access to those confidential data with due account for technical developments and the requirements of users in a democratic society.

The issues concerning the observance of statistical confidentiality by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) are regulated 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.

8.2 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.
- ELSTAT may grant researchers conducting statistical analyses for scientific purposes access to data that enable the indirect identification of the statistical units concerned. The access is granted provided the following conditions are satisfied:
 - a. an appropriate request together with a detailed research proposal in conformity with current scientific standards have been submitted
 - b. the research proposal indicates in sufficient detail the set of data to be accessed, the methods of analyzing them and the time needed for the research;
 - c. a contract specifying the conditions for access, the obligations of the researchers, the measures for respecting the confidentiality of statistical data and the sanctions in case of breach of these obligations has been signed by the individual researcher, by his/her institution, or by the organization commissioning the research, as the case may be, and by 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:
 - a. 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;
 - b. the anonymization criteria for the microdata provided to users;
 - c. the granting to researchers access to confidential data for scientific purposes.
- The staff of ELSTAT, under any employment status, as well as the temporary survey workers who are employed for the collection of statistical data in statistical surveys conducted by ELSTAT, who acquire access by any means to confidential data, are bound by the principle of confidentiality and must use these data exclusively for the statistical purposes of ELSTAT. After the termination of their term of office, they are not allowed to use these data for any purpose.
- Violation of data confidentiality and/or statistical confidentiality by any civil servant or employee of ELSTAT constitutes the disciplinary offence of violation of duty and may be punished with the penalty of final dismissal.
- ELSTAT, by its decision, may impose a penalty amounting from ten thousand (10,000) up to two hundred thousand (200,000) euros to anyone who violates the confidentiality of data and/or statistical confidentiality. The penalty is always imposed after the hearing of the defense of the person liable for the breach, depending on the gravity and the repercussions of the violation. Any relapse constitutes an aggravating factor for the assessment of the administrative sanction.

9. Release policy

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9.1 Release calendar

Annual data on vital statistics are announced 9 months after the end of the reference year whereas

migration statistics 12 months after the end of the reference year.
Provisional weekly death figures are released 5-7 weeks after the last reference week.

9.2 Release calendar access

<https://www.statistics.gr/en/calendar#12020>

9.3 User access

Data is available simultaneously to all interested parties in accordance with the calendar announcements through press releases and posting tables on the website

<https://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/pop>

Equal access of users to the data as proclaimed by Eurostat's European Statistics Code of Practice is verified by means of an objective, professional and transparent manner by which all users are treated with equality.

10. Frequency of dissemination

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Annually

11. Dissemination format

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11.1 Press release

On annual basis:

- Press release on Vital Statistics
- Press release on Population and migration flows.

On monthly basis:

- Press release on Weekly Death Counts

11.2 Publications

E-publications:

- Living conditions in Greece
- Greece in numbers
- Infographics.

11.3 On-line database

<https://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/pop>

11.4 Micro-data access

Microdata are not disseminated at the moment. Nevertheless, there is an ongoing process of developing the dissemination format of Public Use Files and Scientific Use Files.

11.5 Other

Users can have access to ELSTAT's digital library through the link

<http://dlib.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/>

as well as Eurostat's website:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database>

Finally there is the possibility of providing data (usually via fax or e-mail) upon request to the Data Dissemination Section. In that case demands can be addressed to the following e-mails:

data.dissem@statistics.gr and data.supply@statistics.gr

or to the special ELSTAT webpage:

<https://www.statistics.gr/en/statistical-data-request>

11.5.1 metadata (user's traffic on webpage)

12. Accessibility of documentation

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12.1 Documentation on methodology

Basic methodological information on the population estimation is published on the website of ELSTAT at the following link:
https://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics?p_p_id=documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG&p_p_lifecycle=2&p_p_state=normal&p_p_mode=view&p_p_cacheability=cacheLevelPage&p_p_col_id=column-1&p_p_col_count=4&p_p_col_pos=1&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_javax.faces.resource=document&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_ln=downloadResources&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_documentID=431814&documents_WAR_publicationsportlet_INSTANCE_0qObWqzRnXSG_locale=en

12.2 Quality documentation

All rational and numeral checks safeguarding quality are being performed.

13. Quality management

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13.1 Quality assurance

Comparative checks are being performed. ELSTAT 's Quality Policy and Quality Guidelines are applied.

<https://www.statistics.gr/en/quality-asurance-framework>

13.2 Quality assessment

Quality is assessed as very good. Vital statistics data is highly accurate for this statistic has been compiled since 1956 and therefore there is long time experience. Furthermore, concepts, definitions and methodology follow European and international standards and guidelines.

14. Relevance

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14.1 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.

14.2 User satisfaction

The Statistical Information and Publications Division of ELSTAT conducts a survey on user satisfaction the results of which can be seen in the following link:

<https://www.statistics.gr/en/user-satisfaction-survey>

14.3 Completeness

Data covers the 95% of the user requirements. All the obligations arising from the regulations of the European Union are met.

15. Accuracy and reliability

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15.1 Overall accuracy

Since 2013 vital events data are drawn by Ministry of Interior central data base. Overall accuracy is therefore up to a certain degree ensured.

15.2 Sampling error

Non applicable because the survey is exhaustive and data of the whole population under survey is being recorded.

15.3 Non-sampling error

Due to the nature of the data (administrative sources) non-sampling errors that may occur relate only to measurement errors and processing errors. The detection is achieved through detailed checks.

15.3.1 Coverage error

Vital events being registered late (>1 year) are not included in the ELSTAT database.

15.3.1.1 Over-coverage – rate

15.3.1.2 Common units – proportion

0.005%

15.3.2 Measurement error

This type of error can be due to wrong information provided in some variables from the questionnaires researched units or administrative records and can be corrected after communication with relevant bodies.

15.3.3 Non response error

n.a.

15.3.4 Processing error

This error results from incorrect values on data entry or during processing and is detected and corrected by performing logical checks and audits on the annual changes.

15.3.5 Model assumption error

n.a.

16. Timeliness and punctuality

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16.1 Timeliness

Annual data is announced 9 months after the end of the reference year.

Estimated population, life tables and other demographic indexes are announced 12 months after the end of the reference year.

Provisional weekly death counts are disseminated 5-7 weeks after the last reference week.

16.2 Punctuality

Data is produced and disseminated according to the predefined timetable

17. Comparability

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17.1 Comparability - geographical

Differences between countries are observed due to different concepts, definitions and data sources (mostly in Registered Partnerships).

Greece has started using ICD-10 (2008 Edition) from 01.01.2014 onwards. Data for the years 2014-2016 are available in both ICD-9 and ICD-10. From 2017 onwards data will be available only in ICD-10.

17.1.1 Assymetry for mirror flows statistics – coefficient

n.a.

17.2 Comparability over time

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

It is also noted that a limitation to comparability over time can be due to a classification change

(eg causes of death) for which, however, users are informed.

18. Coherence

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18.1 Coherence cross-domain

Difference between Estimated Population 1.1.2011 – Results of Census 2011.
For this reason data concerning Estimated Population during intercensal years (2001-2011) was revised.

18.1.1 Coherence – sub annual and annual statistics

18.1.2 Coherence – National Accounts

18.2 Coherence - internal

In order to ensure the internal coherence common data collection framework (concepts, definitions, classifications, etc.) in all geographic areas and a common methodology in the compilation of results are applied.

19. Cost and burden

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The cost and burden of the data processing, coding and validating is reduced by using IT tools.

20. Data revision

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20.1 Revision policy

Data, if necessary, can be revised according to the most recently updated data. The revision policy of ELSTAT is documented in the following link:
https://www.statistics.gr/documents/20181/1195539/ELSTAT_Revisions_Policy_25_10_2018_EN.pdf/604b51dd-5dc2-4c7c-8b74-2766bda16e5e

20.2 Revision practice

As already stated in paragraph 18.1 data are revised after the dissemination of population census results.

21. Statistical processing

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21.1 Source data

Sources of information for vital statistics are administrative records (marriage, birth and death certificates) provided by vital registries from all over the country.

21.2 Frequency of data collection

Monthly

21.3 Data collection

Employees of vital registry offices register the relative information in the IT systems of the Ministry of Interior. ELSTAT draws the information required for statistical purposes from the central database of the Ministry.

21.4 Data validation

In addition to the checks carried out by the administrative sources, validation checks are carried out by ELSTAT and Eurostat.

21.5 Data compilation

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.

Compilation of estimated total population tables usaging Vital Statistics data and the estimation of annual net migration.

Compilation of rates or indexes:

- 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.
- 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).
- Compilation of **total mortality rate**: Deaths during the reference year, per 1000 residents.
- 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.
- Compilation of **total marriage rate**: Marriages conducted per population of 1000 residents.
- 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).
- Compilation of **ageing index**: The ratio of young population (aged 0-14 years old) to senile population (aged 15-64 years old).
- Compilation of **Life tables** by sex and age.

21.5.1 Imputation – rate

n.a.

21.6 Adjustment

n.a

21.6.1 Seasonal adjustment

n.a.

22.Comments

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