

Metadata in Euro-SDMX format (ESMS)

Country: Greece

Compiling agency: ELSTAT

Domain name: European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics (ESSPROS) Core system

ELSTAT metadata

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1. Contact

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1.1 Contact organisation	Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT)
1.2 Contact organisation unit	Division of Social Statistics, Department of Health Statistics and Social Security and Protection
1.3 Contact name	Karvountzis Nikolaos
1.4 Contact person function	Recording of revenues-expenditures of the social protection systems

	according to the methodology of the European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics-ESSPROS, monitoring of the implementation of the relevant methodology, compilation of the quality report, clarifications requested by Eurostat following the data transmissions and monitoring the survey's improvement.
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2. Metadata update Top	
2.1 Metadata last certified	
2.2 Metadata last posted	
2.3 Metadata last update	01/10/2014

3. Statistical presentation Top	
3.1 Data description	
<p>Data refer to the revenues and expenditures of the Core system of social protection which constitutes a basic part of the European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics and refer to all the 8 functions of the social protection system , that is , the purpose for which revenues and expenditures are realized.</p> <p>1. Sickness 2. Disability 3.Survivors 4.Old age 5.Family/Children 6.Unemployment 7.Housing 8.Social exclusion</p> <p>The methodology for recording the above mentioned revenues and expenditures is described in the relevant manual of Eurostat which is available at the following link: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/product_details/publication?p_product_code=KS-RA-11-014</p> <p>Data on expenditures appear in 8 analytical Tables by function and in two concise Tables.</p> <p>In each one of the 8 analytical tables , each for every function, expenditures are further distinguished with respect to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income criterion of the beneficiary of the transfer (non means tested or universal benefit which is independent of the income) • The nature of the benefit (if in cash or in kind) • The type of the financial aid (periodic or lump sum) <p>The two abridged tables contain the total expenditures for each of the functions for a series of years with the last year being the reference year. In the first abridged table the expenditures are shown in the form of pecuniary amounts in million of euro and in the second Table in the form of percentages.</p> <p>Benefits are targeted to physical persons –social groups that are eligible for their inclusion in one of the above described functions and their expenditures are borne by some collective agency such as : respective Agencies , Governmental and non Governmental Organisations that are labelled as systems of Social Protection and refer to the following :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Social Security Funds 2. Social Security of public servants 3. Manpower Employment Organization 4. National Health System and other health protection 5. Local Authorities 	

6. Occupational collective pension schemes
7. Employers obligatory contributions to employees
8. Other governmental actions of social protection
9. Social Protection Institutions
10. The Church of Greece and non Governmental agencies

Expenditures data are presented in the group 'Social Protection' that contains 'Expenditures' tables at the following link:

http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/PAGE-themes?p_param=A2104.

3.2 Classification system

European Regulation (EC) No 10/2008 of the 8th January 2008, for the implementation of the Regulation (EC) No 458/2007 of the European Parliament and the Council regarding ESSPROS stipulates the main concepts and classifications that are used in ESSPROS for the data related to expenditures and revenues of social protection for the total of the social protection systems.

<http://old.eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32008R0010:EL:NOT>

Detailed definitions and classifications can be found in the ESSPROS manual – European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics, the reference document for the two Regulations of the Committee for the implementation of the European Parliament and the Council ESSPROS (No 458/2007). The present manual replaces the previous Manual of ESSPROS 1996, it is in force from the reference year 2006 onwards, and contains mainly adaptations of definitions and classifications.

<http://old.eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32007r0458:EL:NOT>

3.3 Sector coverage

The Social Protection systems

3.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

The Core System of the social protection encompasses all interventions from public or private bodies intended to relieve households and individuals of the burden of a defined set of risks or needs, provided that there is neither a simultaneous reciprocal nor an individual arrangement involved. The list of risks or needs that were briefly described in 3.1 and were classified as functions, constitute the basic variables and are analytically described as follows:

1. Sickness/medical care a) benefits in cash that counterbalance in part or in total the income loss which is due to the temporary inability of a person to work which is due to sickness or injury b) health care that is provided in the context of social protection in order to maintain, restore or improve the health of the protected persons,
2. Disability: a) benefits that ensure income to individuals which have not yet reach retirement age stipulated by law and which do not have the ability to provide employed labour due to a physical or mental damage b) benefits that provide for rehabilitation services required by the very nature of the specific disability c) benefits that provide goods and services besides medical coverage to persons with disabilities.
3. Old age : a) benefits that ensure income provision to the insured persons that leave the labour market due to age b) benefits that ensure the provision of a specific level of income to insured persons that have reached a specified age limit c) benefits that provide goods and services required by the personal or social conditions of the elderly.
4. Survivors: a) benefits that ensure a temporary or permanent income to individuals that have not yet reached the legal limit of retirement but have lost a husband or some other close relative

that provided the financial means for them b) benefits that remunerate survivors for funeral expenses and for any adverse situation they find themselves into because of a death incident of a member of their family c) benefits that provide goods and services to survivors that have establish a claim towards these benefits

5. Family/children: a) benefits that provide financial support to households for children's nutritional needs b) benefits that provide financial support to individuals that maintain relatives excluding children c) benefits that provide for social services aiming especially to the support and protection of family and especially of children
6. Unemployment: a) benefits that replace in part or in total the income lost of an employed person because of the loss of his remunerated employment b) benefits that ensure subsistence income to persons that are introduced for the first or additional time to the labour market c) benefits that counterbalance the income loss due to partial unemployment d) benefits that replace in part or in total the income loss of an older employed person who is retired from remunerated employment before the completion of the legal retirement age due to redundancies to employment positions for economic reasons e) benefits that contribute to educational expenses or to the supplementary education of persons that seek employment f) benefits that provide support to unemployed persons in the coverage or travel expenses or to their relocation in order to find employment g) benefits for the provision of proper goods and services.
7. Housing: the specific function consists of Government interventions aiming at supporting households in order to cope their housing needs. .
8. Social exclusion: refers to 'socially excluded' or to those who face the risk of social exclusion and includes actions that are not covered by any other function. Since this definition is wide enough, target groups are mainly the homeless, immigrants, refugees, drug-addicts or alcoholics, victims of criminal acts etc.

The separation of the above mentioned expenditures regarding the 8 functions is further distinguished with regard to the nature , the kind and the type of benefits as follows :

Mean tested benefit: yes or no

Kind of benefit (in cash or in kind)

Type of financial aid (periodical or lump sum).

3.5 Statistical unit

Basic unit in the ESSPROS system is the scheme of social protection. The system, as stated above, constitutes a mechanism of provision of social services, consisting of units or agencies which should have common legal and financial characteristics and to provide conceptually similar benefits to the beneficiaries. Here are 10 schemes in total which are analysed as follows:

1. Social security funds: this scheme includes all the social security funds for health and pension protection (main pension, supplementary pension, and lump sum payment) regardless of the supervising agency.
2. Social security of civil servants: this scheme includes the total of state's actions as an employer of civil servants, which are financed through the state budget (usually through the General Accounting Office). In this scheme, pensions of civil and military employees are included, as well as those employed in local government and the Greek Railways Organization. Also health care expenditures of the civil servants are included.
3. Manpower Employment Organisation (OAED): this scheme includes the total of OAED activities regarding employment orientation of the labour force, the technical vocational education and training, so as to make easy the contact among supply and demand for labour, various benefits such as the unemployed's subsidies, birth and maternity allowances provided by IKA, etc.

Also this scheme includes all the activities of the former Workers Housing Organizations and Labour Housing Organization, since their activities were transferred to OAED (Law 4046/2012 Government Gazette article A no. 39 dated 29/02/2012)

4. National Health System and other health protection schemes: this scheme includes the activities of the National Health System, various non profit hospitals (e.g Onaseio , Evgenidio) and military hospitals of public nature. It is funded by the social security funds (scheme1), Central Government and through grants.
5. Local Government: includes actions performed directly by prefectures or municipalities as well as by municipal bodies (orphanages, homes for the elderly etc) and municipal enterprises.
6. Professional collective pensions: includes collective professional pensions that are disbursed to the employees and which are funded outside the scope of the system of social security funds (by the private insurance companies)
7. Obligatory employers' contributions to the employees: it includes actions, which are obligatory for the employers without the employee's contribution and are funded by the enterprises themselves.
8. Other governmental actions of social protection: it includes actions funded through the State Budget directly by the Ministries. It includes social benefits, as well as various subsidies that are not directly included in any other scheme.
9. Agencies of social welfare: it mainly refers to bodies supervised by the Ministry of Labour, Social Insurance and Welfare.
10. Church of Greece and non-governmental bodies: it includes an evaluation of the social actions undertaken by the Church of Greece and charity foundation. In this scheme, evaluations of the social protection activities are included referring to the non governmental (voluntary) bodies.

3.6 Statistical population

Revenues and expenditures for all the individuals covered by the 10 schemes of the social protection network in Greece total.

3.7 Reference area

Greece total.

3.8 Time coverage

The survey on the recording of revenues and expenditure has been producing results since 1998 on an annual basis.

3.9 Base period

4. Unit of measure

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All units are expressed in million euro.

5. Reference period

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The survey on revenues and expenditures of the Social Protection according to the ESSPROS methodology refers to the time period with a time lag of 18 months (N+18)

N: reference year and 18 months afterwards and until the end of June for the period of data transmission.

6. Institutional mandate

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6.1 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 and Loan Fund, Public Debt Management Agency, Public Enterprises and Government bodies, the establishment of the General Secretary of Public Property and other provisions"*, by article first of the Law 4047/2012 (Government Gazette No 31, Issue A): *"Ratification of the Act of Legislative Content 'Very urgent measures for the implementation of the Medium-term Fiscal Strategy 2012-2015 and of the State Budget for 2011' and of the Act of Legislative Content 'Regulation of very urgent issues for the implementation of law 4024/2011 'Pension provisions, uniform pay scale - grading system, labour reserve and other provisions for the implementation of the Medium-term Fiscal Strategy Framework 2012-2015' and of issues falling within the competence of the Ministries of Administrative Reform and E-Governance, Interior, Finance, Environment, Energy and Climate Change, and of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs and related to the implementation of the Medium-term Fiscal Strategy Framework 2012-2015' and other provisions"*, by article 323 of the Law 4072/2012 (Government Gazette No 86, Issue A): *"Improvement of the business environment New corporate form - Trade Marks - Realtors - Regulating maritime, port and fishing matters and other provisions"* and by article 7 paragraph 1 of the Act of Legislative Content dated 18/11/2012 (Government Gazette No 228, Issue A): *"Financial rules and other provisions"*, by Article 93 of the Law 4182/2013 (Government Gazette No 185, Issue A): *"Code of charitable estate, inheritances in abeyance and other provisions"*, by Article 6 paragraph 8 of the Law 4244/2014 (Government Gazette 60, Issue A): *"Integration in Greek law of the Council Directive 2013/1/EU of 20 December 2012 amending Directive 93/109/EC as regards certain detailed arrangements for the exercise of the right to vote and stand as a candidate in elections to the European Parliament for citizens of the Union residing in a Member State of which they are not nationals and amendment of law 2196/1994 (A´ 41) and other provisions"*, by Article first subparagraph C.3 of the Law 4254/2014 (Government Gazette No 85, Issue A): *"Measures for the support and development of the Greek economy, in the context of the implementation of Law 4046/2012, and other provisions of law"* and by Article 33, paragraphs 5a and 5b of the Law 4258/2014 (Government Gazette No 94, Issue A): *"Demarcation process and arrangements of matters for streams - arrangements of Urban Planning legislation and other provisions"*.

[Regulation on the Operation and Administration of the Hellenic Statistical Authority \(ELSTAT\), 2012, \(Government Gazette No 2390, Issue B, 28-8-2012\)](#)

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).

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 226/2000 (Government Gazette No 195, Issue A): *"Organization of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece"*.

Articles 4, 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".

The Hellenic Statistical Service (ELSTAT) is an Independent Authority supervised by the Hellenic Parliament and is responsible for the compilation and diffusion of official statistics. The task of data recording is totally harmonized with the European legislation.

The main legislative act is the Regulation (EC) no.458/2007 of the European Parliament and the Council dated 25 April 2007, which in the directives determining the methodology based on common standards, definitions, classifications and accounting rules.

<http://old.eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32007R0458:EL:NOT>

Also the Regulation (EC) no.10/2008 of the Commission (08/01/2008) for the implementation of the Regulation (EC) no.458/2007 regarding ESSPROS and referring definitions, the detailed classifications and updating of the diffusion rules for the ESSPROS central system and for the part related to pensions beneficiaries

<http://old.eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32008R0010:EL:NOT>

Finally Regulation (EC) no.1322/2007 of the Commission (12/11/2007) for the implementation of the Regulation (EC) no. 458/2007 regarding ESSPROS, referring to the proper forms for data transmission, the transmitted results and the criteria of accessing quality regarding the ESSPROS central system, and also for the module concerning pension beneficiaries.

<http://old.eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32007R1322:EL:NOT>

6.2 Data sharing

Eurostat transmits detailed data on expenditures and revenues by scheme to users (e.g., Department of the Commission, international organizations, etc.). These users have the capability to publish groups of schemes.

7. Confidentiality

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7.1 Confidentiality policy

The issues concerning the observance of statistical confidentiality by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) are arranged by articles 7, 8 and 9 of the Law 3832/2010 as in force, by Articles 8, 10 and 11(2) of the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System and by Articles 10 and 15 of the Regulation on the Operation and Administration of ELSTAT.

More specifically :

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.

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:

- 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.

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.

8. Release policy

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8.1 Release calendar

A News Release is not compiled and the release data of data is not included in the releases calendar.

Regulation (EC) 458/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council on ESSPROS sets out the deadline for the transmission of ESSPROS data by Eurostat (until i the 31st of October of the year N+2), social protection expenditure at the level of the scheme, as well as the total number of beneficiaries of each one of the 7 functions for the reference year N. (The above data are posted on the website of ELSTAT).

8.2 Release calendar access
N/A
8.3 User access
<p>According to the legal framework of the Commission and the 'European Statistics Code of Practice' ELSTAT announces all the national statistical data at the Commission's web site respecting the professional independence and in an objective, professional and transparent manner in which all users are treated equally.</p> <p>There is no access of any kind to data from the users prior to their announcement.</p>

9. Frequency of dissemination	Top
<p>The frequency of dissemination of the survey is annual. European Commission publishes data of all the schemes until 31st October of the year N+2 based on data that refer to the economic year N.</p> <p>Updates are provided for in if revisions occur..</p>	

10. Dissemination format	Top
10.1 News release	
Not compiled.	
10.2 Publications	
Not compiled.	
10.3 On-line database	
Not available.	
10.4 Micro-data access	
Not available.	
10.5 Other	
Users can be informed on the survey data on ELSTAT's web page, at the following electronic address to which all the interested parties have access.	
http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/PAGE-themes?p_param=A2104	

11. Accessibility of documentation	Top
11.1 Documentation on methodology	
<p>Data collection until the year 2007 was conducted based on the methodology stated in the ESSPROS Manual of the European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics (ESSPROS Manual 1996). Starting data collection for the year 2008, the last version of the methodology was renamed to ESSPROS Manual – The European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics (ESSPROS) by implementing the decisions of the European Commission and the European Parliament on ESSPROS Regulation.</p> <p>Finally from 2011 onwards the current methodology is in accordance with the last version of the publication on ESSPROS Manual - The European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics (ESSPROS) which is available on the official webpage of Eurostat</p> <p>http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/product_details/publication?p_product_code=KS-RA-11-014</p>	
11.2 Quality documentation	
<p>Quality is documented through the process of data validation which is conducted by Eurostat and the</p>	

Member State's obligation to transmit an annual quality report (Quality Report Core System) to Eurostat. The report for the reference year N must be transmitted to Eurostat until the end of September of the year N+2. On this basis, Eurostat compiles and disseminates (along the national quality reports) a consolidated quality report.

12. Quality management

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12.1 Quality assurance

Before 2007 data collection of ESSPROS was based on a 'gentlemen's agreement'. Since then the following Regulations by the European Union were officially established: European Parliament and Council Regulation No. 458/2007, Commission Regulation No. 1322/2007 and Commission Regulation No. 10/2008 and specifically the Commission Regulation No. 1322/2007 which sets the standards of measurement on the data quality that the Statistical Authorities are obliged to transmit to Eurostat.

In accordance with EU Regulations and as laid down in the European Statistical System –ESS, the ESSPROS data adhere to the following quality criteria: relevance, accuracy and reliability, timeliness and punctuality, coherence and comparability.

12.2 Quality assessment

The statistical data of ESSPROS are characterised by a satisfactory level of quality. Data are based on a census survey and are collected from the Social Security Funds, the General Secretariat of Information Systems, the National Accounts Division, the private insurance companies, the General Accounting Office and the Ministry of Labour.

Estimations are compiled for the data referring to the Local Government, to the non-government organisations and the Church of Greece.

As data used in the ESSPROS statistics are based on multiple data sources (administrative sources, surveys etc) the formal accuracy measures are not directly applicable. In this case, accuracy is measured through the submission of reports on non sampling errors on the data sources (such as the restrictions on the coverage and problems on measurement) through the evaluation of estimation methods used and through the evaluation of revisions.

The standardization of the statistical product is achieved through the definition of the form, as well as through the time schedule of data transmission as stipulated by the Regulation. This is submitted by Eurostat to coherence and integrity data checks, in order to ensure quality of the statistical product. Additionally, data are accompanied by quality reports where accuracy, coherence and comparability are tested, in order to ensure the quality of the statistical product. Furthermore, data are accompanied with quality reports where accuracy, coherence and comparability are analysed and which are transmitted to Eurostat within 3 months from the data transmission (until 30/09 of each year).

For a more detailed analysis of the quality of ESSPROS data, users can consult the 'Consolidated Quality Report for the Core System of ESSPROS' which refers to 2011 data and which is available on Eurostat's webpage in section 'Social Protection' and specifically at the sub-section Quality Report for the Core System.

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/social_protection/documents/CQRCS_2011_DS.pdf

13. Relevance

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13.1 User needs

The main data user is Eurostat. Other users are Ministries, Embassies, Universities, and other agencies or individual users that are involved with Social Protection and specifically Social Security System for professional, educational and research purposes.

The number of the required compiled statistics reflects in a satisfactory degree users' needs.

13.2 User satisfaction
Data on users' profile, the degree of their satisfaction and other relevant information are provided on the basis of the Users Satisfaction Survey which is conducted by the respective Department of Statistical Information of ELSTAT.
13.3 Completeness
Completeness of the survey is considered satisfactory, on the basis of users' needs.

14. Accuracy and reliability	Top
14.1 Overall accuracy	
Overall accuracy of the survey is considered satisfactory since the survey is a census survey. The accuracy of ESSPROS data is directly connected with the accuracy of the data received by the particular sources, (Social Security Funds, General Accounting Office, Banks, etc). The gaps in accuracy are related mainly with the schemes of Local Government, non-government organisations and the Church of Greece, because data are based on estimations.	
14.2 Sampling error	
Not applicable, the survey is a census survey..	
14.3 Non-sampling error	
ESSPROS data are collected by specific agencies based on a questionnaire (Social Security Funds, Ministry of Labour, General Secretariat of Information Systems, Private Insurance Companies, Banks), data from the National Account Division, and from the General Accounting Office (State Budget/Budget Outturn). Errors could may be on account either of non-response of the above-mentioned agencies or of errors and weaknesses during data processing (erroneous recordings in the ESSPROS questionnaire).	

15. Timeliness and punctuality		Top
15.1 Timeliness		
<p>In compliance with Regulation 458/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council, the time lag between the reference year of the survey on ESSPROS and the date of their transmission to Eurostat shall be 18 months. The revenues and expenditures data of the year N must be transmitted to Eurostat not later than the 30th of June of year N+2, along with any revisions for the previous years. After the data validation by Eurostat, data are published approximately 22 months after the reference period. The last available data are those of the year 2011.</p>		
15.2 Punctuality		
<p>Data are produced and disseminated in the predetermined date in accordance with Regulation 458/2007 and the implementing Regulation 10/2008 of Eurostat. In compliance with this Regulation for the reference year N data must be transmitted to Eurostat not later than the 30th June of the year N+2, along with any revisions for the previous years. As stipulated in Commission Regulation 10/2008 data by scheme can be published, without however a predetermined deadline.</p> <p>Based on the above, the last data with reference year 2011 were available to Eurostat on 10/07/2013 (difference of 10 days).</p>		

16. Comparability	Top
16.1 Comparability - geographical	
Common definitions and common methods for the production of ESSPROS data are used in all the regions	

of Greece and in all EU Member States.

More specifically, in order to achieve geographical comparability within the EU, the Member States must provide Eurostat with the following information:

- Coverage rate in terms of schemes
- Coverage rate in terms of beneficiaries
- Cases of non-application of ESSPROS methodology in the form of a comprehensive list

16.2 Comparability over time

There is no problem regarding comparability over time for data of the period 2000-2011, since common definitions and common compilation methods are implemented.

17. Coherence

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17.1 Coherence cross-domain

No

17.2 Coherence - internal

There is coherence among:

- i. Data of the survey on pensions beneficiaries and the data related the expenditures of social protection conducted in the context of the European System of Integrated Accounts of Social Protection (ESSPROS) as well as of the qualitative information collected obligatory for ESSPROS in relation with the above.
- ii. There is also coherence among the Systems of Social Protection given that the survey data are collected by Scheme by the Social Security Agencies and concern specific variables such as pensions for old age, survivors, etc.

Coherence is confirmed during the validation of data by Eurostat.

18. Cost and burden

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Not estimated.

19. Data revision

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19.1 Revision policy

The Revision policy implemented for all the surveys is posted on the website of ELSTAT at the following link:

http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ver1/ESYE/BUCKET/General/ELSTAT_Revisions_Policy_22_5_2013_EN.pdf

19.2 Revision practice

The revised edition of ESSPROS methodology was first from 2010 onwards for the data of 2008.

20. Statistical processing	Top
20.1 Source data	
Data are collected from specific agencies: Social Security Funds, National Health Service Organization, Manpower Employment Organization, ELSTAT-National Accounts (hospitals expenditures of the National Health Service), Local Government , Banks and Public Corporations, Social Budget Survey of the Ministry of Labour.	
20.2 Frequency of data collection	
Annual data collection and transmission to Eurostat on the 30 th of June of each year according to the Regulation No 458/2007 of the European Parliament and Council..	
20.3 Data collection	
Data collection is based mainly on the questionnaires method with specific reference to code numbers of revenues and expenditures (benefits). In addition information is collected from the available data during the data publication of the budget/budget outturn of the General Accounting Office, as well as through a survey on private insurance companies and banks.	
20.4 Data validation	
Prior to the data publication, validation checks are conducted by Eurostat. The validation process is based on the time series evolution and on the notifications concerning amendments in legislation on social protection.	
20.5 Data compilation	
Data collected from the respective administrative sources (Local Authorities, General Accounting Office, General Secretariat of Information Systems, etc) and after the completion of logical checks and checks based on Eurostat's methodology, they are tabulated.	
20.6 Adjustment	
No.	
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