

## Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS)

**Country:** Greece

**Compiling agency:** ELSTAT

**Domain name:** Qualitative Characteristics of resident tourists  
(Vacation Survey)

### ELSTAT metadata

#### Reference metadata

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1. Contact			<a href="#"><u>Top</u></a>
1.1	Organization	HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY (ELSTAT)	
1.2	Contact organization unit	Division of Trade and Services Statistics (G4) Tourism Statistics Section (G43)	
1.3	Contact name	A.Pateraki	
1.4	Contact person function	Employee in the Tourism Statistics Section	
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<b>1.6</b>	<b>Contact e-mail address</b>	ar.pateraki@statistics.gr
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<b>2. Introduction</b>		<b><u>Top</u></b>
The Vacation Survey is a yearly sampling survey conducted on households and refers to the number of holiday trips made by resident tourists. The survey results provide information on the characteristics of the resident tourists' vacation, such as the number of trips, the overnight stays and the corresponding expenditure.		
<b>3. Metadata Update</b>		<b><u>Top</u></b>
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Metada last certified</b>	May 2015
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Metadata last posted</b>	May 2015
<b>3.3</b>	<b>Metadata last updated</b>	May 2015
<b>4. Statistical Presentation</b>		<b><u>Top</u></b>
<b>4.1 Data description</b>		
Number of tourists, trips, overnight stays (nights spent) and expenditure broken down by type of trip and characteristics of the trip (purpose, destination, transportation means, hotel establishment)		
<b>4.2 Classification system</b>		
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<b>4.3 Sector coverage</b>		
The characteristics of the trips, overnight stays and expenditure of resident tourists.		
<b>4.4 Statistical concepts and definitions</b>		
The definitions of the survey characteristics are laid down in Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council.		
Further information on the definitions and the methodology of the survey are available at: <a href="http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/tourism/methodology">http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/tourism/methodology</a>		
<b>4.5 Statistical unit</b>		
The statistical unit is: Participation in tourism: individual Tourism trips: the trip made by the individual		
<b>4.6 Statistical population</b>		
All the residents of Greece – All the persons living in private hotel establishments. Persons living in collective living quarters (hospitals, prisons, asylums, orphanages, etc) are not covered by the survey (corresponding to 2% of the total population and the vast majority belongs to the economically inactive population).		
<b>4.7 Reference area</b>		
Greece total.		
<b>4.8 Time coverage</b>		
There are available data since 1999.		
<b>4.9 Base period</b>		
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<b>5. Unit of measure</b>	<b><u>Top</u></b>
Number of resident tourists, number of trips, number of overnight stays (nights spent), expenditure data in euro.	
<b>6. Reference period</b>	<b><u>Top</u></b>
2013	
<b>7. Institutional mandate</b>	<b><u>Top</u></b>
<b>7.1 Legal acts and other agreements</b>	
<p>The legal framework concerning the organization and operation of ELSTAT is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Law 3832/2010</b> (Government Gazette No 38, Issue A): <i>"Hellenic Statistical System Establishment of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) as an Independent Authority"</i>, as amended and in force</li> <li>➤ <b>Regulation on the Operation and Administration of the Hellenic Statistical Authority</b> (ELSTAT), 2012, (Government Gazette No 2390, Issue B, 28-8-2012)</li> <li>➤ <b>Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council</b>, on the European statistics (Official Journal of the European Union L 87/164).</li> <li>➤ <b>Article 14 of the Law 3470/2006</b> (Government Gazette No 132, Issue A): <i>"National Export Council, tax regulations and other provisions"</i>.</li> <li>➤ <b>Article 3, paragraph 1c, of the Law 3448/2006</b> (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>.</li> <li>➤ <b>European Statistics Code of Practice</b>, 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.</li> <li>➤ <b>Presidential Decree 226/2000</b> (Government Gazette No 195, Issue A): <i>"Organization of the General Secretariat of the National Statistical Service of Greece"</i>.</li> <li>➤ <b>Articles 4, 12 , 13, 14, 15 and 16 of the Law 2392/1996</b> (Government Gazette No 60, Issue A): <i>"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"</i>.</li> </ul> <p>The Legal Framework is detailed in the following link:  <a href="http://www.statistics.gr/en/legal-framework">http://www.statistics.gr/en/legal-framework</a>  Regulation (EU) No 692/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council.</p>	
<b>7.2 Data sharing</b>	
Data are transmitted to Eurostat, OECD, World Tourism Organisation and the UN.	
<b>8. Confidentiality</b>	<b><u>Top</u></b>
<b>8.1 Confidentiality policy</b>	
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.

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:

- 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 defence 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**

The publication of data is not included in the Announcements Calendar.

### **9.2 Release calendar access**

The announcements calendar is posted on the website of ELSTAT:  
[www.statistics.gr](http://www.statistics.gr)

### **9.3 User access**

The data are made available to all users simultaneously, by posting the tables on the webpage of ELSTAT:  
<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/STO15/2013> .

Equal access of users to data is governed by the European Statistics Code of Practice of Eurostat, by respecting scientific independence and in an objective, professional and transparent manner in which all users are treated equitably.

## **10. Frequency of dissemination**

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The annual data are transmitted to Eurostat 6 months after the end of the reference year and are published on the webpage of ELSTAT.

## **11. Dissemination Format**

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### **11.1 News release**

No press release is compiled.

### **11.2 Publications**

Tables of the survey are posted on the website of ELSTAT: <http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/STO15/2013> .

Moreover, the survey results are published in the regular publications of ELSTAT, namely, "Living Conditions in Greece", "Greece in Figures", as well as in a special publication issued for the Thessaloniki International Fair.

### **11.3 On-line database**

There is no an on-line database.

#### **11.3.1 Data tables - consultations**

Total access to the website as regards the Vacation Survey amounts to 2538 hits.

### **11.4 Micro-data access**

Microdata are made available to users after their submitting a request to the:

Division of Statistical Information and Publications  
46, Peiraos and Eponiton Str.,  
18510 Piraeus  
Tel: +30 213 135 2022

Fax: +30 213 135 2312

e-mail: [data.dissem@statistics.gr](mailto:data.dissem@statistics.gr)

Confidentiality of data is always ensured.

## 11.5 Other

Furthermore, relevant data can be found on the webpage of Eurostat: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/tourism>

### 11.5.1 Metadata - consultations

Metadata for the survey were posted for the first time on the webpage in November 2014.

## 12. Accessibility of documentation

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### 12.1 Documentation on methodology

Methodological note available at:

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/STO15/2013>

and

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/tourism/methodology/manuals-and-guidelines>

#### 12.1.1 Metadata completeness (percentage)

Metadata completeness as regards the applicable fields amounts to 100%.

### 12.2 Quality documentation

There is not any relevant document.

## 13. Quality management

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### 13.1 Quality assurance

The survey is compiled in compliance with Regulation 692/2011 and the European Statistics Code of Practice.

### 13.2 Quality assessment

All the checks, crosschecks and comparisons of data taking place at each stage of the production- where any identified errors are duly corrected- ensure that the produced results are considered high quality results.

## 14. Relevance

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### 14.1 User needs

The main users of the survey are:

- The Ministry which is responsible for Tourism (drawing policy on tourism)
- Agencies that elaborate and compile studies and researches, such as the Bank of Greece, the Institute for Tourism Research and Forecasts (ITEP), universities, etc.
- Local Government
- Enterprises, individual users (for investing in tourism or other issues.)

### 14.2 User satisfaction

For every data request, users have to fill in a questionnaire on user satisfaction.

More information on the latest results of the User Satisfaction Survey are available by the Section of Dissemination of Statistical Information at : <http://www.statistics.gr/en/user-conference> .

### 14.3 Completeness

The survey collects information on all the variables stipulated in the EU Regulation 692/20011 and it takes into consideration the guidelines laid down in the methodological manual on tourism statistics.

## 15. Accuracy and reliability

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<b>15.1 Overall accuracy</b>
Overall accuracy of the survey data is good. The concepts and definitions of variables, as well as the survey methodology are in line with European standards and Regulation. The estimations methods which are used ensure the production of accurate results. Furthermore, an ESTAT tool (EDIT- EBB) is used to check and validate data.
<b>15.2 Sampling error</b>
There are sampling errors.
<b>15.3 Non-sampling error</b>
<b><u>15.3.1 Coverage error</u></b> No coverage error is observed.  <b><u>15.3.1.1 Over-coverage rate</u></b> No over-coverage is observed.  <b><u>15.3.1.2 Common units (percentage)</u></b> Not applicable. The data are collected from administrative sources.  <b><u>15.3.2 Measurement error</u></b> In order to eliminate measurements errors, the following steps are taken: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructions are given to the external interviewers on how to fill in the survey questionnaire</li> <li>• The staff of the Tourism Statistics Section is duly trained in order to correct properly the questionnaires</li> <li>• Automated checks during data entry ensured by an electronic application.</li> </ul> <b><u>15.3.3 Non response error</u></b> Non- response error amounts to 16,5%. <b><u>15.3.4 Processing error</u></b> Qualitative and quantitative checks are conducted on the data of the database in order to detect and duly correct errors during data entry.  <b><u>15.3.5 Model assumption error</u></b> No model.

<b>16. Timeliness and punctuality</b>	<b><u>Top</u></b>
<b>16.1 Timeliness</b>	
The annual data are published 180 days after the end of the reference year.	
<b>16.2 Punctuality</b>	
The survey data for the year 2013 were published with a short delay, and efforts are made in order to eliminate in the future such delays.	
<b>17. Comparability</b>	<b><u>Top</u></b>
<b>17.1 Comparability — geographical</b>	
The available data are comparable with the corresponding data of the other EU Member States, since the survey is conducted in compliance with EU Regulation 692/2011.	
<b><u>17.1.1 Assymetry for mirror – flows – statistical (coefficient)</u></b>	

Not applicable.	
<b>17.2 Comparability – over time</b>	
The data are comparable over time because there have been no changes in the definitions and methodology for the production of the results, pursuant to EU Regulation 692/2011.	
<b>18. Coherence</b>	<b><u>Top</u></b>
<b>18.1 Coherence cross-domain</b>	
The survey data are coherent with the corresponding data of the Household Budget Survey (HBS).	
<b><u>18.1.1 Coherence – sub annual and annual statistics</u></b>	
The survey data are coherent with the corresponding data of the Household Budget Survey (HBS).	
Not applicable, the survey produces only annual data	
<b><u>18.1.2 Coherence – National Accounts</u></b>	
Until 2012, no survey data are used for National Accounts. The survey data are used from year 2013 onwards.	
<b>18.2 Coherence – internal</b>	
The data are characterized by internal coherence; the same definitions, database and methodology are used.	
<b>19. Cost and Burden</b>	<b><u>Top</u></b>
Total cost and burden have not been estimated. The survey is conducted by external statistical interviewers and the average time need for filling if each questionnaire is approximately 20 minutes. The annual budget of the survey amounts to approximately 92.000 euros.	
<b>20. Data revision</b>	<b><u>Top</u></b>
<b>20.1 Revision policy</b>	
The data are revised, when necessary, in accordance with the Circular on the Revision Policy of ELSTAT, which is available at the following link: <a href="http://www.statistics.gr/en/policies">http://www.statistics.gr/en/policies</a> .	
<b>20.2 Revision practice</b>	
The data of the years 2010, 2011 and 2012 were revised on the basis of the results of the 2011 Population Census.	
<b>21. Statistical processing</b>	<b><u>Top</u></b>
<b>21.1 Source data</b>	
The survey is a census survey and it is conducted on a yearly basis, on a sample of 9.002 households (consisting of approximately 20.705 persons). For each household a questionnaire is filled in pertaining to all the trips made by each household member during the reference year.	
<b>21.2 Frequency of data collection</b>	
Annual.	
<b>21.3 Data collection</b>	
The two-stage area sampling was adopted for the survey. The primary units are the areas (one or more unified blocks) and the ultimate sampling units selected in each sampling area are the households. In each Region (NUTS 2), the stratification of primary units was conducted by allocating the Municipalities and Communes according to the degree of urbanization (urban, semi-urban, and rural regions). Except for the two former Major City Agglomerations (Athens and Thessaloniki), the produced strata according to the	



<p>degree of urbanization are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Urban: Municipalities with 10.000 inhabitants or more.</li> <li>2. Semi-urban: Municipalities and Communes with 2.000 to 9.999 inhabitants.</li> <li>3. Rural : Communes up to 1.999 inhabitants.</li> </ol> <p>The former Greater Athens Area was divided into 31 strata of about equal size (equal number of households) on the basis of the lists of city blocks of the Municipalities that constitute it and taking into consideration socio-economic criteria. Similarly, the former Greater Thessaloniki Area was divided into 9 equally sized strata. The two Major City Agglomerations account for 40% of total population and for even larger percentages in certain socio-economic variables.</p>	
<b>21.4 Data validation</b>	
<p>Analytical checks are conducted on the tabulated survey results both by ELSTAT and Eurostat. Furthermore, qualitative and quantitative checks, checks and cross-checks of primary data, as well as comparisons with corresponding data of the previous years.</p>	
<b>21.5 Data compilation</b>	
<p>Use of Access and Excel spreadsheets applications for the processing and tabulation of data. Estimation of data on the basis of the corresponding data of the previous years, taking into consideration data trend and seasonality.</p>	
<b><u>21.5.1 Imputation-rate</u></b>	
Not estimated.	
<b>21.6 Adjustment</b>	
<p>No adjustment.</p>	
<b><u>21.6.1 Seasonal adjustment</u></b>	
No seasonal adjustment.	
<b>22. Comment</b>	<b><u>Top</u></b>
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