

Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS)

Country: Greece

Compiling agency: ELSTAT

Domain name: SURVEY ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE (persons finally sentenced)

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1. Contact Top	
1.1 Contact organisation	Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT)
1.2 Contact organisation unit	Social Statistics Division /Justice and Public Order Statistics Section
1.3 Contact name	Sofia BALLA, Kleoniki THEODORAKI
1.4 Contact person function	Head of Justice and Public Order Statistics Section, Administrator
1.5 Contact mail address	46, Pireos & Eponiton Str. 18510 - Piraeus
1.6 Contact email address	s.balla@statistics.gr , k.theodoraki@statistics.gr justistat@statistics.gr

1.7 Contact phone number	(+30) 213135 2135, 213135 2771
1.8 Contact fax number	(+30) 213135 2764

2 Introduction

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Statistics on Criminal Justice (persons finally sentenced) aim to depict, on a yearly basis, the number of decrees and decisions issued by every Criminal Court in Greece.

The tables are compiled on the basis of the personal statistical questionnaires, which are filled in by the Secretaries of the Criminal Courts for every finally sentenced person for serious crime (felonies) or minor offences (misdemeanours).

3 Metadata update

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3.1 Metadata last certified	April 2015
3.2 Metadata last posted	April 2015
3.3 Metadata last update	April 2015

4 Statistical presentation

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4.1 Data description

The survey on criminal justice refers to the persons finally sentenced during the year by the Criminal Courts (common and military) for serious crime (felonies) or minor offences (misdemeanours).

For every finally sentenced person and in the case of a juvenile submitted to reformative and corrective measures or penal correction (in first instance or after appeal) for serious crime or minor offence, the Secretaries of all Criminal Courts (Single and Three-member Minor Offence Courts, Single and Three-member Juvenile Courts, Market Courts, Serious Crime Courts, Military Courts, Three-member and Five-member Courts of Appeal) are obliged, within 15 days after the end of the reference quarter, to directly submit to ELSTAT / Justice and Public Order Statistics Section, through a written report, the relevant Personal Statistical Returns. In the case where nobody was sentenced during the reference quarter, the written report should be sent again with the indication "ZERO".

4.2 Classification system

Offences are classified according to the chapters of the Greek Penal Code (the Greek Criminal Law), with a special breakdown for the offences having an increased criminal interest. Moreover, cases of violation of certain Special Penal Statutes and the offences of the Military Penal Code are surveyed in a detailed level.

The place of residence of the person sentenced and the place where the offence was committed for the Survey on Criminal Justice (Finally Sentenced) are codified in accordance with NUTS (level 2).

Citizenship is classified in accordance with a special classification used for the Survey on Criminal Justice.

Occupation is codified according to the national classification of occupations "STEP-92" (one-digit codes of the major groups).

The Judicial District is codified by the use of a special classification for the Survey on Criminal Justice.

The offence (Penal Act) is codified according to the classification of the offences of the Greek Penal Code and the

provisions of the special Penal Statutes.
4.3 Sector coverage
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4.4 Statistical concepts and definitions
<p>Criminal Courts try crimes (criminal offences) and impose penalties to the perpetrators. The simplest crimes (minor offences -misdemeanours) are heard by Single-member Courts (Single-member minor offences Courts). However, more serious crimes (serious indictable offences and major crimes) are tried by Courts consisted of many members. Apart from the regular Criminal Courts, there are also the special Criminal Courts, such as the Military Criminal Courts, which hear all the crimes committed by members of the Armed Forces.</p> <p>A serious crime (felony) is every act that is punished with the penalty of imprisonment (life or temporary).</p> <p>Minor offences (misdemeanour) are acts punishable by the penalty of sentence or fine or confinement in reformatory institutions.</p> <p>The main variables for the Persons Finally Sentenced are: 1) Place of residence, 2) Citizenship 3)Sex, 4) Age, 5) Occupation, 6) Occupational status, 7) Education, 8) Marital status, 9) Type of court in which the offence was tried, 10) Legal provisions related to the offence, 11) Place where the offence was committed, 12) Main penalty imposed, 13) Incidental penalty, 14)Characterization of the main penalty, 15) Recidivisms of persons sentenced 16) non-residents sentenced.</p>
4.5 Statistical unit
The statistical unit is the person finally sentenced for minor offences or serious crime or in the case of juveniles the person submitted to reformative and corrective measures or confinement in reformatory or psychiatric institutions.
4.6 Statistical population
The total of persons sentenced all over Greece.
4.7 Reference area
All the judicial districts of Greece are covered.
4.8 Time coverage
The survey on criminal justice has been producing results for persons finally sentenced for minor offences or serious crime since 1958, on a yearly basis.
4.9 Base period
Not applicable.

5 Unit of measure

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The unit of measure is the individual sentence, on the basis of which all eventual consecutive final sentences for the same persons are measured separately, with the exception of cases of consolidated or total penalties. In cases where there are many offences, the sentence with the most serious penalty is measured.

6 Reference period

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One 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 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”*.

Moreover, the Survey on Criminality is governed by the Joint Ministerial Decision No 10498/B115/16.05.1963, as well as by the circular order of the Ministry of Justice No 84889/14.08.1968.

7.2 Data sharing

None

8 Confidentiality

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8.1 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 precisely:

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 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

There is no predefined release date for the survey results. The final results of the survey are published one year after the end of the reference year.

9.2 Release calendar access

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9.3 User access

The data are released simultaneously to all users when the tables are posted on the webpage of ELSTAT, <http://www.statistics.gr>, and at the link “Statistical Themes > Justice >Criminal Justice”.

Equal access of all users to data is governed by the European Statistics Code of Practice 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 final results of the survey are published one year after the end of the reference year.

11 Dissemination format

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11.1 News release

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11.2 Publications

A. The “**Statistical Yearbook of Greece**” is available for a fee to subscribers and upon request to the Hellenic Statistical Authority.

Final annual results are published pertaining to the following:

- Crimes committed and persons sentenced
- Persons sentenced for minor offenses of serious crimes
- Persons sentenced for minor offenses of serious crimes, by type of penalty and reformatory or corrective measures for juveniles
- Persons sentenced for minor offenses of serious crimes by general category of offences
- Persons sentenced by marital status and educational attainment
- Persons sentenced by age and gender
- Persons sentenced by place where the offence was committed
- Recidivisms of persons sentenced by penalty and age group
- Recidivisms of persons sentenced by general category of offences
- Recidivisms of persons sentenced by marital status and educational attainment

B. The “**Concise Yearbook of Greece**” is available for a fee to subscribers and upon request to the Hellenic Statistical Authority.

Final annual results are published pertaining to the following:

- Crimes committed and persons sentenced
- Persons finally sentenced for minor offence or serious crime, by general category of offenses
- Persons sentenced by age and gender
- Persons Sentenced by type of penalty and reformatory or corrective measures for juveniles
- Recidivisms of persons sentenced, by the time elapsed between the first sentence and the date when the last offence was committed.

All the above publications are available at:

Statistical Information and Publications Division

46, Pireos & Eponiton str, P.O. BOX 80847, Postal Code 18510 Piraeus

Tel. (+30) 213-1352173, FAX: (+30) 213-1352022

e-mail: data.dissem@statistics.gr

11.3 On-line database

The on-line database is available on the website of the Hellenic Statistical Authority:
<http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/PAGE-database>

11.3.1 Data tables - consultations

Total access to the website as regards the above survey for the year 2013 amounts to 2.773 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, Peireos and Eponiton Str.,

18510 Piraeus

Tel: +30 213 135 2023/ 2022/ 2346/ 2308

Fax: +30 213 135 2819/2312

e-mail: data.dissem@statistics.gr

Confidentiality of data is always ensured (see chapter 8).

11.5 Other

A number of tabulated data are available to all users on the portal of ELSTAT at the following link:

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

Furthermore, more tabulated data are made to users after their submitting a request to the:

Division of Statistical Information and Publications

46, Peireos and Eponiton Str.,

18510 Piraeus

Tel: +30 213 135 2023/ 2022/ 2346/ 2308

Fax: +30 213 135 2819/2312

e-mail: data.dissem@statistics.gr

Confidentiality of data is always ensured (see chapter 8).

11.5.1 Metadata – consultations

Data on metadata consultations are included in paragraph 11.3.1.

12 Accessibility of documentation

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12.1 Documentation on methodology

Not compiled.

12.1.1 Metadata completeness - rate

Metadata completeness rate is 100% (number of metadata elements provided/total number of metadata elements applicable).

12.2 Quality documentation

Not compiled.

13 Quality management

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13.1 Quality assurance

Quality controls and validation of data are carried out during the whole process of the compilation of statistics: from

the data collection stage to the final compilation of the tables.

First of all, well-trained and experienced staff is utilized for all the stages of the compilation of statistic that is, for data collection (including communication with administrative data sources), initial checks, data entry and final checks, which are conducted after the tabulation of data. This way, the personnel have a comprehensive and longitudinal image of the administrative data sources under their responsibilities.

Data are validated either before or after data entry by means of logical checks. During data processing the data are checked in order to identify and correct any errors. When big differences are identified in the number of judicial decisions in comparison with the previous year, data are further investigated, in cooperation with the administrative data sources in order to confirm that it is an error or it is about a real deviation.

At the same time, a check is carried out in order to verify whether all the questionnaires have been collected from all the administrative sources of Greece and whether all the variables of the questionnaires have been filled in correctly. In case such kind of problems arises, the involved administrative sources are contacted (by letter or by phone).

13.2 Quality assessment

After all the above checks, cross-checks and comparisons taking place in every stage, the correction of any errors and the necessary adjustments, the produced results are considered high quality results.

14 Relevance

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14.1 User needs

The main users of data on Criminal Justice (finally sentenced persons) are: university students in Law Schools, professors of Universities and Higher Technological Institutes, lawyers, reporters and the press, the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights, Eurostat, the UN, etc. and generally users who are on research and need data on Criminal Justice.

14.2 User satisfaction

A Users Satisfaction Survey is conducted by the Section of Statistical Dissemination. The survey results are available at : <http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/PAGE-conferences>

14.3 Completeness

On the basis of users' needs, completeness is considered satisfactory.

15 Accuracy and reliability

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15.1 Overall accuracy

Since the survey is a census survey, any non-sampling errors (non-response or processing errors) are identified by means of appropriate checking and are duly corrected, in cooperation with the administrative data sources, thus producing high accuracy results.

15.2 Sampling error

No sampling errors, because the survey is a census survey and data are collected from administrative data sources.

15.3 Non-sampling error

Non-response errors are due to the fact the some of the administrative sources do not return the questionnaires and in these cases there is a contact with the data sources either by phone or by a reminder letter. Non-response errors may also be due to the fact that some of the variables of the questionnaire are not filled in or are erroneously filled

in; in these cases, after the checks carried out by the competent employees of ELSTAT the errors are duly corrected in cooperation with the involved administrative data sources.

15.3.1 Coverage error

The collected questionnaires are checked for completeness during the data collection phase through the updated Registers of the administrative source that supervise the surveyed units. These Registers are updated on a yearly basis, after direct contact with the responsible Agencies.

It is estimated that the coverage of surveyed units amounts approximately to 90%. In order to eliminate coverage error, reminders (by post or by telephone) are used on a regular basis.

15.3.1.1 Over-coverage – rate

No coverage is observed for units that do not belong to the population of the survey.

15.3.1.2 Common units – proportion

No common statistical processes are implemented.

15.3.2 Measurement error

During data collection, no measurement errors are observed.

15.3.3 Non response error

During the phase of codification, the collected questionnaires are checked in order to confirm that they are correctly filled in. Cases of non-response are addressed directly by the staff of the competent Sections of ELSTAT, after having contacted with the administrative sources involved and moreover reminders are sent by post.

15.3.4 Processing error

No errors are observed in the final results of the data collection-data processing phases.

Quality checks are conducted throughout the production process of the statistical output, from data collection until the compilation of tables. More specifically, during the data processing phase, in cooperation with the Division of Informatics, all the necessary logical-electronical checks are carried out in order to eliminate any errors during the processing of microdata.

15.3.5 Model assumption error

No model is required to be implemented for this survey.

16 Timeliness and punctuality

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16.1 Timeliness

The time lag between the completion of data collection and the release of the results is 365 days.

16.2 Punctuality

Any delays are due to the fact that some administrative data sources delay response to questionnaires.

17 Comparability

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17.1 Comparability - geographical

The definitions and units of measure that are used do not rely on agreements between EU Member States and

Eurostat, yet they are common with the definitions and units of measure used by the administrative sources of Greece.

17.1.1 Assymetry for mirror flows statistics – coefficient

Not applicable.

17.2 Comparability over time

Major changes in the surveys questionnaires during the last years:

- Until 2005 the grouping for age, as regards the persons finally sentenced, was based on the following age groups: 13-17 years old, 18-20 years old, 21-24 years old, etc. From 2005 onwards, the following age groups are used: 14-18 years old, 19-21 years old, 22-24 years old, etc.
- Until 2008 the place of usual residence of the persons sentenced and the place where the crime was committed were codified on the basis of the 2-digit level code of the Geographical Region. From 2009 onwards, both the place of usual residence and the place where the crime was committed are codified according to NUTS 2 (Region).
- Until 2008, occupation was codified according to the 2-digit code of the classification which was used exclusively for Criminal Justice. From 2009 onwards, occupation is classified on the basis of the 1-digit level codes of the major groups of the National Statistical Classification of Occupations (STEP-92).
- From 2009 onwards, a new variable was added, namely citizenship of persons sentenced, which is classified on the basis of a special classification.

18 Coherence

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18.1 Coherence cross-domain

The statistical surveys on Criminal Justice are not always compliant (as regards the number of decisions) with those conducted by the Courts because not all of the statistical bulletins are filled in by the Magistrate in charge or by the secretary of the court.

18.1.1 Coherence – sub annual and annual statistics

There is no problem of coherence among the monthly, quarterly and annual data because the survey is conducted on a yearly basis.

18.1.2 Coherence – National Accounts

Not applicable.

18.2 Coherence - internal

There are not significant differences between the common variables of the survey and the variables of other surveys.

19 Cost and burden

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Not estimated.

20 Data revision

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20.1 Revision policy

When amendments are made in the governing Legislation, the data are revised in compliance with the Revision

Policy of ELSTAT (May 2013).

20.2 Revision practice

After having identified users' need, the questionnaire is re-designed, when appropriate, fully ensuring comparability of data longitudinally.

21 Statistical processing

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21.1 Source data

The primary data derive from the Penal Courts of Greece (common and military).

21.2 Frequency of data collection

Data are collected on a quarterly basis.

21.3 Data collection

As regards decrees issued by Penal Courts, relative returns or tables, duly completed by the Magistrate in charge of the case or the secretary of the court, are transmitted to the Section of Justice and Public Order Statistics of ELSTAT.

21.4 Data validation

The data are validated by means of a series of quality and quantitative checks which are mainly based on:

1. Cross-checking of primary data with corresponding data of the previous year.
2. Comparisons between the main aggregates of the survey with corresponding aggregates of other statistical surveys.

21.5 Data compilation

The data after having been collected undergo logical checks, they are codified, imported in the electronic data base, tabulated and finally they are published.

21.5.1 Imputation – rate

Not applicable.

21.6 Adjustment

No

21.6.1 Seasonal adjustment

No seasonal adjustment.

22 Comment

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