

Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS v2.0)

Country: Greece

Compiling agency: ELSTAT

Domain name: DIVORCE STATISTICS

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1. Contact Top	
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2. Metadata update Top	
2.1 Metadata last certified	March 2018
2.2 Metadata last posted	April 2019
2.3 Metadata last update	April 2019

3. Statistical presentation Top	
3.1 Data description	
<p>The Survey on Divorces is conducted on a yearly basis, gathering data from divorce decisions issued by the Courts of First Instance of the Country. From 2016 onwards, the Survey is carried out by a separate statistical form at the Courts of First Instance. Prior to 2016, the requested data was included in a common statistical form referring to the decisions of Civil courts in general.</p> <p>For each divorce decree issued by the competent Judge a specialized "statistical form" should be completed and submitted through the Secretariat of the Court to ELSTAT.</p>	
3.2 Classification system	
The data collected are broken down by Judicial Regions, at first and second level of jurisdiction.	
3.3 Sector coverage	

3.4 Statistical concepts and definitions	
<p>Civil Courts: Courts with jurisdiction over private disputes.</p> <p>Types of divorce: a) of mutual consent, b) contested (Law 1329/1983, Chapter 7 Divorce, articles 1438 – 1441 of the Civil Code).</p> <p>Reasons of divorce (apply to the contested divorces): 4-years / 2-years separation, serious breakdown of marital relationship, other reasons like spouse missing according to the Civil Code. Divorces with "Unknown" reasons (or not reported) are added to the "Other" reasons (from 2016 onwards)</p> <p>Party against whom the divorce was issued (apply to the contested divorces): The accountability of the spouse on account of whom the marriage was terminated.</p> <p>Number of children: Number of children under and over 18 years from the marriages that end in divorce, so that dependent and non-children can be calculated. The variable is available from 2016 onwards.</p> <p>Age of spouses: The age of the spouses at the time the petition is filed.</p> <p>Citizenship of spouses: a) national citizenship, β) citizenship of other country of the European Union (EU), c) citizenship of a country not member of the EU, d) Unknown. In the case of dual citizenship, one of which is Greek, Greek is registered. The citizenship variable is available from 2016 onwards.</p>	
3.5 Statistical unit	
Decision of divorce, individuals	
3.6 Statistical population	
The statistical population pertain to the total of divorce decisions issued by the Courts. Divorce statistics do not include rejections and annulments that took place in the reference year.	
3.7 Reference area	
All the Judicial Districts of Greece are covered.	
3.8 Time coverage	
Annual data are available since 1960.	
3.9 Base period	

Not applicable.

4. Unit of measure

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Divorces' Court decisions, individuals

5. Reference period

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One calendar year.

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 and in force
- **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 Legal Framework governing ELSTAT and the Hellenic Statistical System is described analytically at the following link:

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/legal-framework>

Furthermore, the legal acts governing the Divorce Survey is the Joint Ministerial Decision No 10498/8115/63

EU legal basis: Regulation 1260/2013, divorces on a voluntary basis

6.2 Data sharing

Not applicable.

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.

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistical-confidentiality?inheritRedirect=true>

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 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.

8. Release policy

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8.1 Release calendar

There is no specific announcement date. The final annual results are announced 15 months after the end of the reference year.

8.2 Release calendar access

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8.3 User access

The information is available at the same time to all interested parties, with tables posted on the website <http://www.statistics.gr>, at the "Statistics> Population and Social Conditions> Civil Justice> Divorces" link <http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SJU09/->

Equal access for users to data is governed by Eurostat's European Code of Good Practice with respect to professional independence, in an objective, professional and transparent manner in which all users are treated equally.

9. Frequency of dissemination

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Annually.

10. Accessibility and clarity

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10.1 News release

Press Releases are issued on ad hoc basis.

10.2 Publications

A. "Statistical Yearbook of Greece" 1930-2009 -. In paper form is available for a small fee to subscribers or users, or upon request to the Hellenic Statistical Authority. Digitally it is available at the link below:

http://dlib.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/categoryyears?p_cat=10007369&p_topic=10007369

B. "Concise Statistical Yearbook" 1962-2009 - In paper form is available for a small fee to subscribers or users, or upon request to the Hellenic Statistical Authority. Digitally it is available at the link below:

http://dlib.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/categoryyears?p_cat=10007372&p_topic=10007372

C. "Justice Statistics" 1961-1996 (available only in the Greek language) –

In paper form is available for a small fee to subscribers or users, or upon request to the Hellenic Statistical Authority. Digitally it is available at the link below:

http://dlib.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/categoryyears?p_cat=10007927&p_topic=10007927

http://dlib.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/categoryyears?p_cat=10007927&p_topic=10007927

For more information on all the above publications, please contact:

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e-mail: library@statistics.gr, info@statistics.gr

10.3 On-line database

10.3.1 Data tables - consultations

The tables on divorces are available on the website of ELSTAT, as described in 8.3

<http://www.statistics.gr/el/statistics/-/publication/SJU09/->

There is no on-line database that can be accessed.

10.3.1 Data tables - consultations

The total access to the Divorces statistical data on the website of ELSTAT for the year 2017 amounts to 1795 hits.

10.4 Micro-data access

Micro data can be made available in accordance with the relevant procedure of ELSTAT, fully ensuring data confidentiality (Chapter 8) http://www.statistics.gr/en/scientific_provision_data

10.5 Other

Users can be provided with tailor-made data by following the procedure described on the website of ELSTAT:

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/provision-of-statistical-data>

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/tailor-made-products>

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

10.5.1 Metadata – consultations

Information on metadata consultations is included in the data provided in par. 10.3.1.

10.6 Documentation on methodology

Not compiled.

10.6.1 Metadata completeness – rate

Metadata is complete (number of metadata provided / number of metadata applied).

10.7 Quality documentation

Not applicable.

11. Quality management

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11.1 Quality assurance

Quality controls are carried out throughout the whole production process, from the data collection phase to the compilation of the relevant tables.

Checks refer to coverage i.e. whether questionnaires have been collected from all the administrative sources of the Country, as well as if all the variables of the questionnaires have been correctly filled in. If any omissions are detected, reminders (by letters or by telephone) are made to Secretariats of the Courts and the corresponding additions or corrections are made.

Experienced staff is involved in the successive phases of the survey, such as collection, editing and coding, data entry, verification, tabulation of the data and final checks of the tables. This enables staff to have a global and longitudinal picture of the surveyed units.

The data is validated, through logical checks, in order to detect significant variations and eventually correct possible errors. If there are large deviations in the number of decisions issued compared to previous years, further investigation is being carried out in conjunction with the administrative sources to confirm that this is a mistake or whether there are real deviations.

11.2 Quality assessment

The quality of the data obtained is considered satisfactory taking into account the checks, cross-checks and comparisons carried out at each stage, where any identified errors are corrected and the necessary adjustments are made.

12. Relevance

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12.1 User needs

The most important users of the data are:

- ✓ United Nations Statistics Division: Demographic Yearbook
- ✓ Eurostat
- ✓ Universities and researchers
- ✓ Media, Journalists

12.2 User satisfaction

The Statistical Data Dissemination Section conducts a survey on users' satisfaction.

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

12.3 Data completeness

The completeness of data and breakdowns are considered satisfactory on the basis of users' needs.

13. Accuracy and reliability

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13.1 Overall accuracy

The divorce survey is a census survey; therefore any non-sampling errors (non-response or processing errors) are detected by means of appropriate checks and in collaboration with the administrative sources are corrected. Thus, the production of high precision statistics is achieved.

13.2 Sampling error

Not applicable. The survey is a census survey based on the collection of administrative data.

13.3 Non-sampling error

a. Unit non response:

Any non-response errors due to the non-response of some administrative sources are treated with reminders (by letters or by telephone) in order to achieve maximum coverage.

b. Item non-response:

Any non-response errors due to the non-correct or inadequate completion of some variables are treated by contacting the associated administrative sources in order to complete or correct the incomplete data.

13.3.1 Coverage error

13.3.1.1 Over-coverage – rate

Not observed

13.3.1.2 Common units – proportion

Not applicable

13.3.2 Measurement error

When collecting data, no measurement errors are observed.

13.3.3 Processing error

Quality controls are carried out throughout the production process of the statistical product, from the data collection stage to the compilation of the tables. In particular, at the processing stage and in collaboration with the IT Division, the required logical - electronic checks are carried out in order to avoid any errors in the processing of the micro data.

13.3.4 Model assumption error

Not applicable.

14. Timeliness and punctuality

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14.1 Timeliness

Data are available in the form of tables 15 months after the end of the reference year.

14.2 Punctuality

Any delays are due to the delayed response of administrative sources and/or due to the workload of ELSTAT's competent Section.

15. Coherence and comparability

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15.1 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.

The results are compiled and presented at the level of the District of the competent Court of Instance where the debtor has its main economic activity.

15.1.1 Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics – coefficient

Not applicable.
15.2 Comparability over time
<p>Comparability over time is ensured by the common methodology used for collecting and processing the data over time. Major changes in the survey questionnaires over the last few years:</p> <p>✓ Το 2016 άλλαξε το στατιστικό δελτίο διαζυγίου. Συγκεκριμένα, σχεδιάστηκε ένα ξεχωριστό δελτίο για ανάγνωση από οπτικό αναγνώστη (OCR) και αποσπάστηκε από την Έρευνα Αποφάσεων Πολιτικής Δικαιοσύνης της οποίας αποτελούσε τμήμα. Προστέθηκαν οι μεταβλητές της υπηκοότητας του/της συζύγου και ζητείται ο διαχωρισμός του αριθμού των τέκνων σε εξαρτώμενα (ανήλικα) και μη εξαρτώμενα (ενήλικα) (βλ. ορισμούς 3.4)</p> <p>In 2016, the questionnaire of divorce statistics was revised. More specifically, the questionnaire was detached from the Civil Justice Survey of which it was part and it was redesigned in an optical character reader (OCR). The variables of the spouse's nationality have been added and the number of children is divided into dependent (underage) and non-dependent (adult) (see definitions 3.4)</p>
15.3 Coherence cross-domain
<p>15.3.1 Coherence – sub annual and annual statistics</p> <p>Not applicable.</p> <p>15.3.2 Coherence – National Accounts</p> <p>Not applicable.</p>
15.4 Coherence - internal
Divorce data are coherent with marriages data and internal checks are taking place.

16. Cost and burden	Top
The cost has not been accurately estimated, but the requested data is limited and easily derived from the divorce case.	

17. Data revision	Top
17.1 Revision policy	
<p>The data are revised, where necessary, in accordance with the Revision Policy of ELSTAT:</p> <p>http://www.statistics.gr/documents/20181/a49dca9a-dacf-4b52-b5df-b156216cb354</p>	
17.2 Revision practice	
The data produced is final. Any updates to the questionnaire or to the output tables in order to take into account users' needs are communicated to users via metadata.	

18. Statistical processing	Top
18.1 Source data	
Primary data are compiled from administrative sources.	
18.2 Frequency of data collection	
The data are collected quarterly.	
18.3 Data collection	

The data requested are transmitted to the Statistics of Justice and Public Order Section of ELSTAT by the Courts of First Instance through ELSTAT's questionnaire, which has been completed by the Secretaries of the relevant Courts.

18.4 Data validation

Data are validated by means of qualitative and quantitative controls on the basis of:

1. Cross-checking of the raw data with the corresponding data of the previous year.
2. Comparisons of the basic data of the survey with the corresponding data from other statistical sources (Ministry of Justice, Registries for marriages).

18.5 Data compilation

Once collected the data are edited, coded, entered electronically in a data base, cleaned, verified and validated and tabulated and finally are published.

In this census survey, imputation, weighting, adjustment for non-response, calibration, model used etc. are not applied.

18.5.1 Imputation – rate

Not applicable.

18.6 Adjustment

Not applicable.

18.6.1 Seasonal adjustment

Not applicable.

19. Comment

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