

Single Integrated Metadata Structure (SIMS v2.0)

Country: Greece

Compiling agency: ELSTAT

Domain name: CIVIL JUSTICE STATISTICS – Bankruptcies Survey

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1. Contact Top	
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2.1 Metadata last certified	January 2017
2.2 Metadata last posted	October 2022
2.3 Metadata last update	October 2022

3. Statistical presentation Top	
3.1 Data description	
<p>Data on bankruptcies are collected annually through a standard statistical questionnaire filled in and transmitted to ELSTAT by the competent Courts of First Instance (Bankruptcy Courts) according to the relevant orders issued. Data are collected on:</p> <p>a) companies declared bankrupt in accordance with the relevant court orders which have been issued according to the Bankruptcy Code (Law 3588/2007)</p> <p>b) data on bankruptcies for which the claims of creditors were verified, on the amount of ascertained indebtedness and on the number of employees who have claims (art.93 of Bankruptcy Code).</p>	
3.2 Classification system	
<p>Judicial District: Data are collected and classified according to the Judicial Districts of the Civil Courts of first instance and by Courts of Appeal</p> <p>Economic Activity of the companies declared bankrupt: Until 2007 the classification used was NACE Rev 1.1. From 2008 onwards NACE Rev.2 is used.</p> <p>Geographic Regions are classified according to NUTS.</p> <p>Legal form: The companies are grouped into 4 types of legal form.</p>	
3.3 Sector coverage	
<p>The Economic Activity of companies follows NACE Rev 2 at 4-digit level of analysis.</p>	
3.4 Statistical concepts and definitions	
<p>Main variables: judicial District, legal form of company, sector of economic activity, registered office of a company, amount of liabilities established in Euros (including the credits in question) and number of employees who have a claim.</p> <p>The definitions for the bankruptcies are based on the Bankruptcy Code (Law 3588/2007, as in force).</p> <p>Courts hearing the bankruptcies (Bankruptcy courts): the competent Court of first instance in the geographical region where the debtor has its main economic activities.</p> <p>Bankruptcy is declared at the request of a creditor who has a legitimate interest, as well as at the request of a prosecutor, if this is justified on grounds of public interest (Article 5, para 1, Law 3588/2007).</p> <p>Company declared bankrupt: Traders, as well as other legal persons pursuing economic activities are eligible to file for bankruptcy. If a company fails to pay accrued liabilities indefinitely and permanently (e.g. suspend payments), it is declared bankrupt.</p> <p>Decision (order): By the decision declaring bankruptcy, the court appoints a magistrate judge and a bankruptcy administrator and orders the seizure of the bankruptcy real estate.</p> <p>Publicity: The court decision declaring a bankrupt company is one of the acts that are announced publicly in accordance with article 8 of Law 3588/2007.</p> <p>Legal Form of a company is grouped into the following categories:</p>	

- "Sole proprietorship"
- "Companies with individual ownership": General and Limited partnerships are included. (Until the reference year 2014, "Companies with individual ownership" included only the general partnerships companies. From year 2015 onwards, the limited partnership companies are also included).
- "Business partnerships": this category includes Private Limited Liability Companies, and General Societe Anonyme i.e. General Societe Anonyme, Anonymous Industrial Commercial Companies, Anonymous Trading Companies, etc. (Until the reference year 2014, "Business partnerships" included limited partnerships and companies with other or unknown legal form).
- "Other": includes companies with other type or unknown legal form. These companies, until 2014 were classified under "Business partnerships" category. Since 2015 they hold a separate category and concern enterprises whose legal form has not been reported in the statistical questionnaires. Moreover, from 2015 onwards legal forms of business that do not fall under the three previous legal forms (e.g. cooperatives, IKE, etc.) are classified in the category "Other or unknown".

Class of Economic Activity: The classification used for economic activity is in accordance with the applicable Greek Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (STAKOD). The class of economic activity is coded on the basis of the description reported in the questionnaire filled in by the Court of First Instance. Until 2007, STAKOD 2003 was used, which is the Greek version of NACE Rev1.1. From 2008 onwards, STAKOD 2008 is used at four-digit level, which is identical to NACE Rev2. From 2015 onwards the economic activity is cross checked with the relevant information from ELSTAT's Business Register, where available.

Verification of Creditor Claims: The Credit Verification process checks the claims according to Article 93 of the Bankruptcy Code. ELSTAT collects data, per Court of First Instance, on the number of bankruptcies for which the verifications were completed during the reference period and on the amount of liabilities established and the number of employees who have claims corresponding to the above bankruptcies.

3.5 Statistical unit

- Number of bankruptcy decisions issued by the Courts.
- Number of bankruptcies for which the claims of creditors were verified.

3.6 Statistical population

The statistical population pertain to the total of bankruptcy decisions issued by the Courts and the total of bankruptcies for which the claims of creditors were verified.

3.7 Reference area

All the Judicial Districts of Greece are covered. Companies declared bankrupt are distributed geographically according to the seat of the court which delivered the judgment.

3.8 Time coverage

The Bankruptcy Survey has been producing results since 1958 on an annual basis. The data of the basic variables are comparable.

3.9 Base period

Not applicable.

4. Unit of measure

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The unit of measure for bankruptcies is the number of bankruptcy decisions issued by the Courts. The liabilities in terms of ascertained indebtedness are measured in Euros. The unit of measure for employees with claims is the number of persons.

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 detailed in the following link:

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

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

EU legal basis: No specific legislation for bankruptcy statistics.

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 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.

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

Protection of personal data

ELSTAT abides by the commitments and obligations arising from the applicable EU and national legislation on the protection of the individual from the processing of personal data and the relevant decisions, guidelines and regulatory acts of the Hellenic Data Protection Authority.

Pursuant to the Regulation on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal

data [Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 (General Data Protection Regulation - GDPR)], ELSTAT implements the appropriate technical and organisational measures for ensuring adequate level of security against risks for the personal data it collects and has access to, in the context of carrying out its tasks, in order to meet the requirements of this Regulation and to protect these personal data from any unauthorised access or illegal processing.

The personal data collected by ELSTAT are used exclusively for purposes related to the conduct of surveys and the production of relevant statistics. Only ELSTAT has access to the data. The controller is the person appointed by law pursuant to the relevant provisions concerning the Legal Entities of Public Law and the Independent Authorities. The data are stored in the databases of ELSTAT for as long as required by the relevant legislation.

Legal basis of the processing: Article 6, para 1(c) and 1(d) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

<https://www.statistics.gr/en/privacy-info>

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.
- Pursuant to the Regulation on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data [Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 April 2016 (General Data Protection Regulation - GDPR)], ELSTAT implements the appropriate technical and organisational measures for ensuring adequate level of security against risks for the personal data it collects and has access to, in the context of carrying out its tasks, in order to meet the requirements of this Regulation and to protect these personal data from any unauthorised access or illegal processing.

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> Bankruptcy" link <http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SJU21/->

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

Ad hoc Press Releases are issued. The most recent Press Release "Bankruptcy Statistics, 2004-2014" (in

Greek and in English) was published on 15.07.2016 <http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SJU21/2014>

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

- ✓ Bankruptcies by category of bankrupts
- ✓ Bankruptcies by branch of economic activity

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

- ✓ Bankruptcies by category of bankrupts
- ✓ Bankruptcies by category of bankrupts and branch of economic activity

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

For more information on all the above publications, please contact:
Hellenic Statistical Authority
Directorate of Statistical Information and Publications
Piraeus 46 & Eponiton, PBOX 80847, 185 10 Piraeus
Tel. (+30) 213 1352313-5, 213 1352347-9
e-mail: library@statistics.gr, info@statistics.gr

10.3 On-line database

Bankruptcy tables are available on the website of ELSTAT, as described in 8.3.

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SJU21/->

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

10.3.1 Data tables - consultations

The total access to the ELSTAT website for the bankruptcy statistics for the year 2021 is 4,594 page views.

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

In each reporting period, reference is made to the methodology in force.

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 the surveyed units 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:

- Ministry of Economy and Development, General Secretariat for Industry

- Universities and researchers
- Bank of Greece
- Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights
- 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. Lately, new data sets were made available in order to respond to specific data needs of institutional users. Tailor-made statistics are also provided (see 15.2).

13. Accuracy and reliability

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13.1 Overall accuracy

The bankruptcy survey is a census survey; therefore any non-sampling errors (non-response or processing errors) are detected by means of appropriate controls 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:

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:

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

Major changes in the survey results over the last few years:

- Economic activity (in bankruptcies) until 2007 was classified according to STAKOD 03, which is the Greek version of NACE Rev.1.1. From 2008 onwards STAKOD 08 is used, which at the three-digit level is identical to NACE Rev2.
- From 2015 onwards, changes occurred in the grouping of the variable "Legal form" of enterprises
- From 2015 onwards, the name of the bankrupt companies is registered, since according to the Bankruptcy Code, such information must be made public. These data may be provided upon request.

15.3 Coherence cross-domain

Correlations and checks of the economic activity and the legal form are made with the Business Register of ELSTAT.

15.3.1 Coherence – sub annual and annual statistics

Not applicable.

15.3.2 Coherence – National Accounts

Not applicable.

15.4 Coherence - internal

The common variables of the survey compared with the corresponding variables of other surveys (economic activity, legal form, etc.) show no significant differences.

16. Cost and burden

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Not estimated.

In the main courts of the country (Athens, Piraeus, and Thessaloniki), in terms of volume of cases, the data could be obtained from the computerized system of these Courts in order to reduce their response burden.

17. Data revision

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17.1 Revision policy

The data are revised, where necessary, in accordance with the Revision Policy of ELSTAT:

<http://www.statistics.gr/documents/20181/a49dca9a-dacf-4b52-b5df-b156216cb354>

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

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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 Section of ELSTAT by the Courts of First Instance (Bankruptcy Department) through ELSTAT's standardised statistical tables (Part A and B), which have 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.

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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