



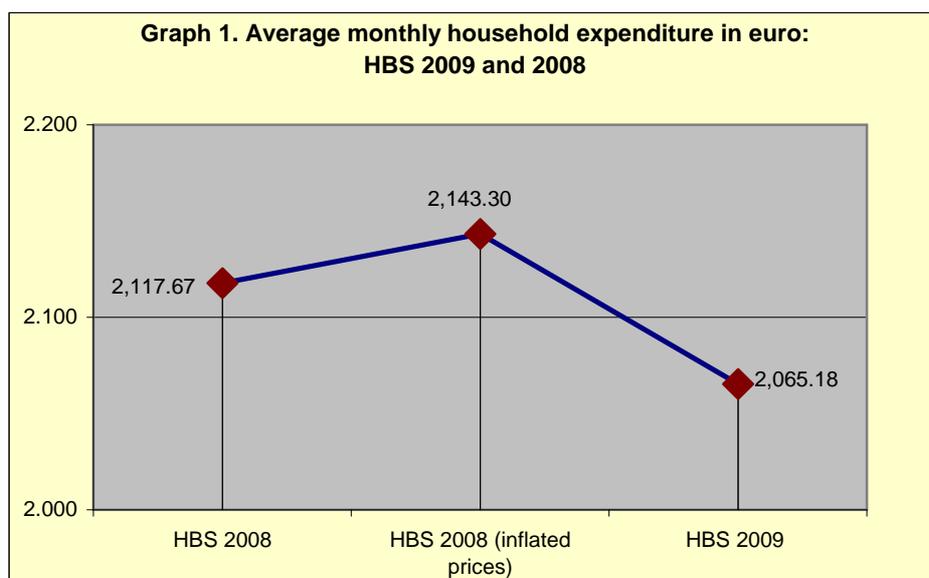
PRESS RELEASE

HOUSEHOLD BUDGET SURVEY 2009

The Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) announces the results of the Household Budget Survey (HBS) conducted in 2009 (reference periods of goods and services are mentioned in detail in the explanatory notes). The survey was conducted in a sample of private households throughout the country. The data are fully harmonised with the survey data of other EU Member States. Standard errors for all the 12 Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP) categories were calculated in the form of coefficients of variation (CV) and they are provided in table 18. The results of the HBS for reference year 2010 will be announced in September of 2012.

A. *Change in average household consumption expenditure*

- The estimated average monthly expenditure for all households in 2009 amounted to 2,065.18€ (a 2.5% decrease in comparison with 2008) - Graph 1, Table 1. In order to adjust for the effect of inflation, we multiplied the average monthly expenditure of 2008 by the Consumer Price Index of 2009, thus concluding in a decrease in real terms of 3.6% (Graph 1).

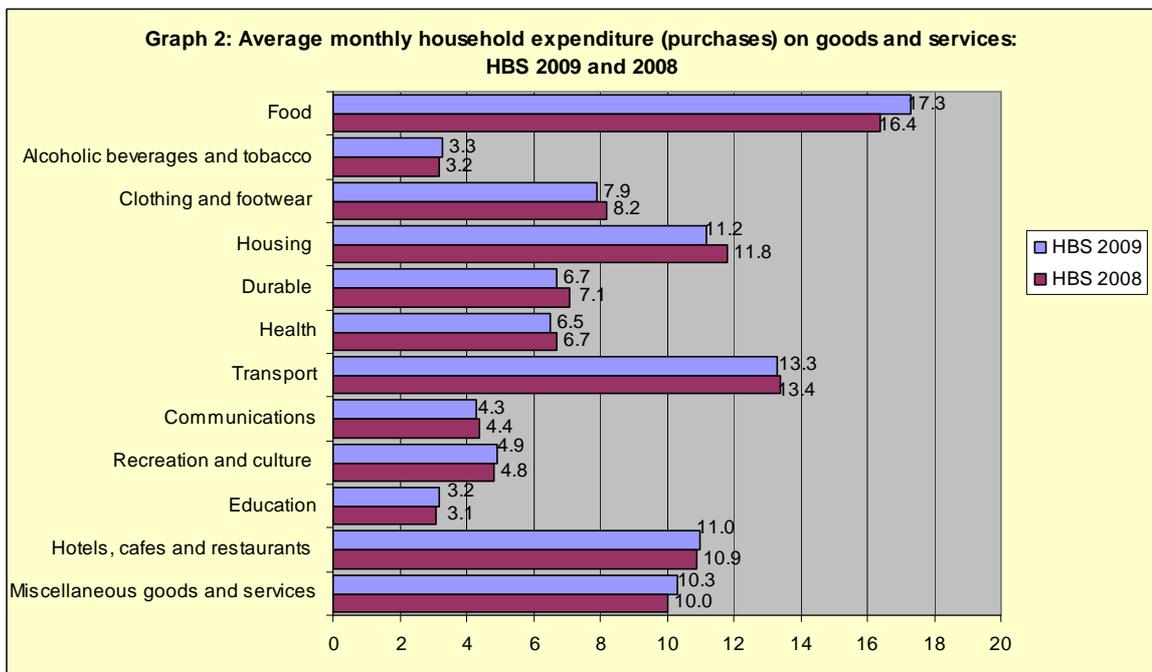


For further information:
Population and Labour
Market Statistics
Division
Household Surveys'
Section
Giorgos Ntouros:
tel: 0030 213 1352174
fax: 0030 213 1352906
e-mail:
geodouro@statistics.gr

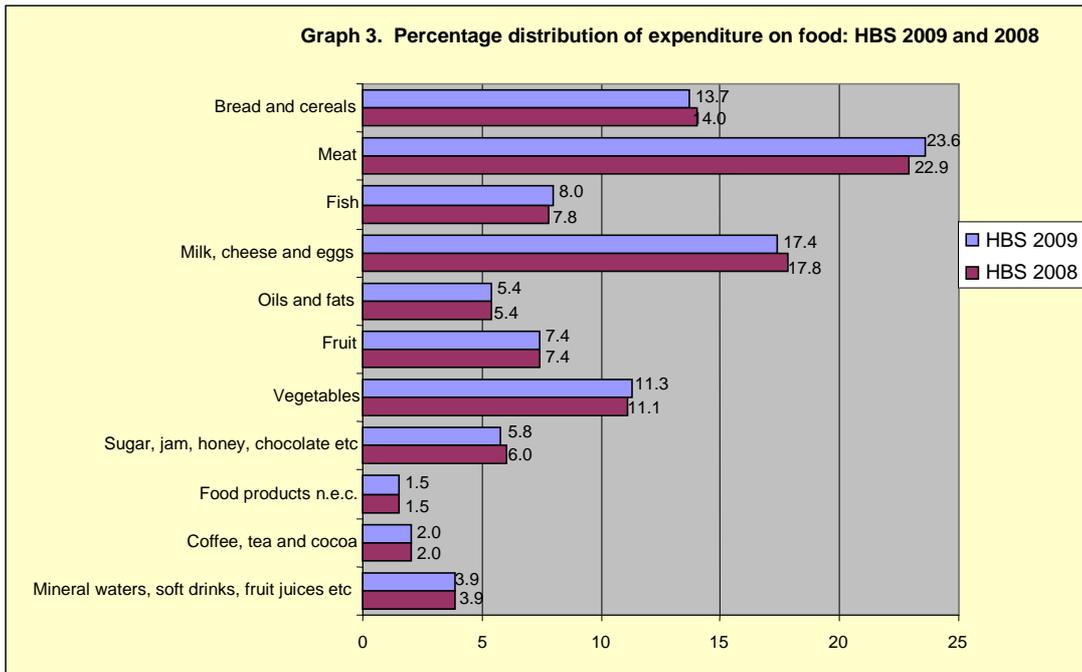
- Food accounts for the relatively larger share of the expenditure (17.3%), and then follows transport (13.3%) and housing (11.2%), whereas education services represent the smallest share of the expenditure (3.2%) - Graph 2, Table 1.

B. Changes in the pattern of household expenditure consumption

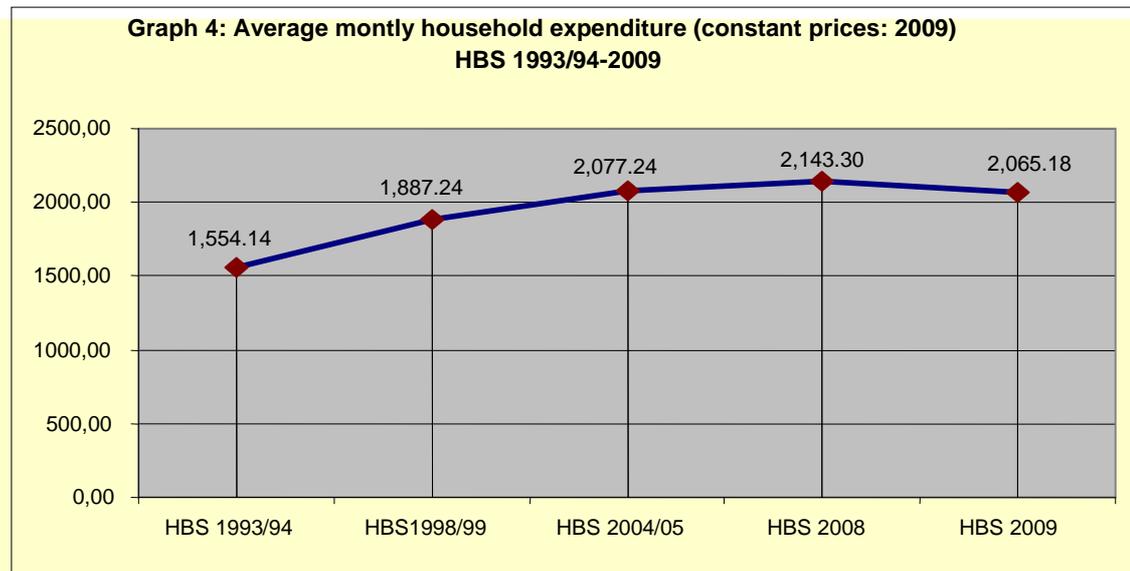
- The consumption pattern, shown in the form of percentages of total average household expenditure in the 12 Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP-HBS 2003) categories, is provided in graph 2 and Table 1.
- Between 2008 and 2009 there has been a change in the consumption pattern and, in particular, there has been a significant shift from spending on durables, housing, clothing – footwear, health, transport, hotels, cafes and restaurant services, recreation and culture, towards spending on food, alcoholic beverages and tobacco and education (Graph 2, Table 1).



- In comparison with the previous year's survey (2008) a reduction is observed in the percentage of expenditure on dairy products and eggs (-0.4%), flour, bread, cereals (-0.3%) and sugar, jam, honey, sweets and candies (-0.2) %), while an increase is recorded in the percentage of expenditure on meat (0.7%), fish (0.2%) and vegetables (0.2%) - Graph 3, Table 3.



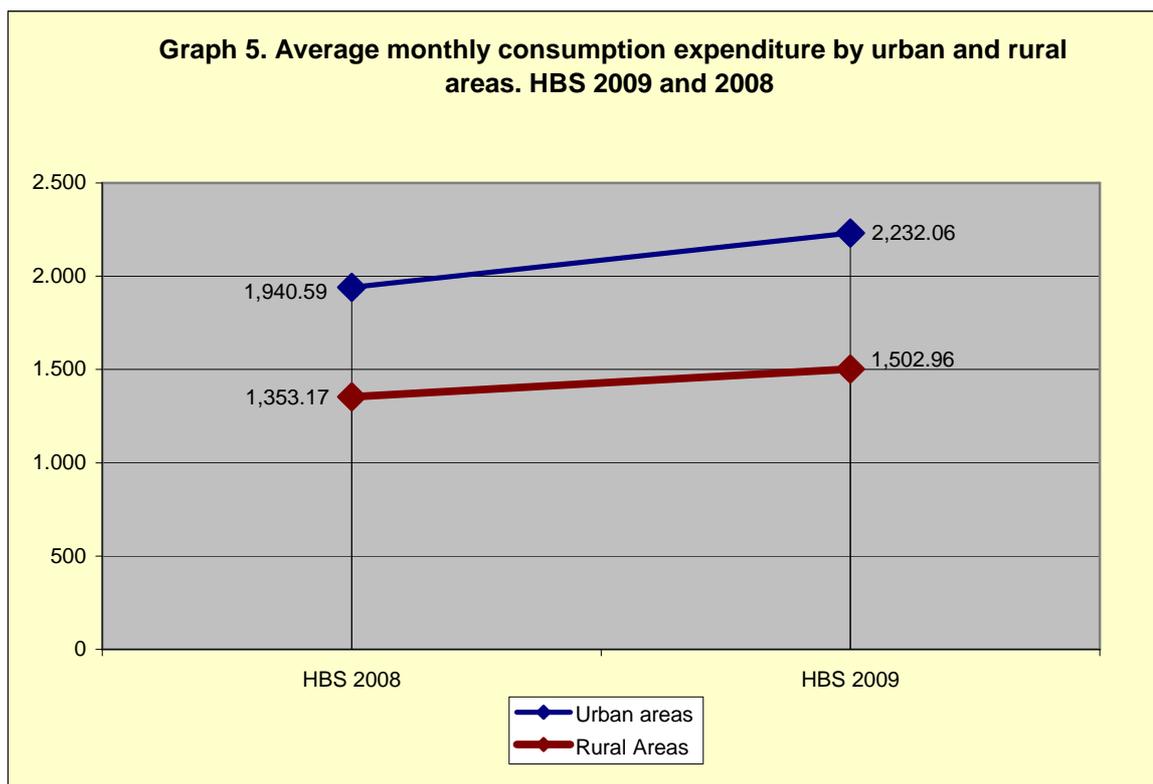
- Graph 4 and Table 2 show the evolution of the estimated average monthly expenditure for all households between 1994 and 2009 in constant prices 2009.
- The comparison of the 2009 HBS with previous surveys shows an increase from 1,554.14 € (1994) to 2,065.18 € (2009) for the average monthly household expenditure, which corresponds to a nominal growth of 142.5% and in constant prices (2009) of 32.9%.
- During the period 1994-2009, spending was highest on food. Transport and housing were the next highest categories of expenditure.
- The share of expenditure on hotels, cafes and restaurants continuously increased in the period 1994-2009 (7.5% in 1994 and 11.0% in 2009).
- In the period 1994-2009, there was a continuous decline in the share of expenditure on clothing and footwear (10.6% in 1994 and 7.9% in 2009) and on durables (8.3% in 1994 and 6.7% in 2009).
- The share of expenditure on alcoholic beverages and tobacco was stable in the period 1994-2009.



- The percentage distribution on household monthly expenditure, by mode of acquisition, is provided in Table 4. In comparison with previous surveys, a steady decrease is observed in the consumption of goods coming from own production (from 1.6% at 1994 to 0.8 at 2009).

C. Different consumption patterns depending on household type

- The top twelve (12) expenditure categories of goods and services by type of household are ranked in Table 5. Food accounts for the largest share of the monthly average household expenditure followed by transport, housing, hotels, cafes and restaurants, etc., while it is pointed out that independently of the different consumption patterns recorded by type of household, the largest expenditure is recorded for food products for all types of households, with the exception of single parent households with one or more children aged up to 16 years.
- Single households with members aged 65 and over spend a big part of their household budget on health services (14.1%) and couple or one-parent households with one or more children up to 16 years of age spend a large part of their budget on transport (16.4%) (Table 5).
- The expenditure of households with only one person aged 65 and over amounts to 37.2% of the average monthly total household expenditure. The expenditure of households consisting of a couple with three or more children up to 16 years of age amounts to 129.7% of the average household expenditure (Table 6).
- The average monthly expenditure consumption of the households whose household head was non economically active or was unemployed amounted to 74.7% of the average monthly expenditure in all households. In the case of households whose household head was self-employed with employees, the average monthly expenditure amounted to 172.1% of the average monthly expenditure of all households, The 2009 expenditure of households whose the household head was an employee recorded the smallest decrease (-1.7%) compared with 2008, while the largest decrease (-7.8%) was recorded for households whose household head was self-employed with employees (Table 7).
- Average monthly expenditure varied with the age of the household head. As in 2008, households whose household head was aged 45 to 54 years had the highest average expenditure. The average expenditure of households whose household head was 45-54 years old amounted to 136.8% of the average monthly expenditure in all households, while where household head was 75 years old and over amounted to 50% of the average monthly expenditure of all households (Table 8).
- Households living in rural areas spent 1,502.96 € monthly, while those living in urban areas spent 2,232.06 € (Graph 5), i.e., households living in rural areas spent on average 67.3% of what households living in urban areas spent.



D. Average monthly consumption of goods (in quantities)

- An upward tendency is observed in the average monthly quantities of food with the exception of bakery products (- 3.5%), cigarettes (-7.7%) and alcoholic beverages (-0.5%). The largest increase is recorded for eggs (15.4%), yogurt (12.3%), rice (7.7%), fish (6.7%) and olive oil (6.2%). Then follow the fresh fruit, preserved and dried (5.7%), vegetables fresh, preserved and dried (4.9%), milk (4.5%), meat (3.7%) and pasta (2.3%) – Table 9.
- The average monthly quantities of natural gas and liquid solid fuels consumed in the main residence increased by 36.3%, 1.2% and 9.2% respectively, while gas and electricity decreased by 36.9%, and 1.6% respectively. (Table 10)

E. Improvement of living conditions

The survey data (Table 11) reflect:

- Significant increase from 42% to 46.4% of households having a personal computer in their main dwelling (change 11.5%).
- Increase in the percentage of households having, at least one, mobile phone (change 2.2%).
- Increase from 13.6% to 13.9% of households having indoor garage in the dwelling (change 3.4%).
- Decrease from 66.9% to 66.6% in the percentage of households with, at least one private car (change 0.5%), and by 5.9% in the number of private cars.
- Increase by 1.4% in the number of households with a secondary or country residence.
- Decrease by 1.5% in the number of households with a fixed telephone line.

F. Inequality

- The share of the median equivalent expenditure for the richest 20% of the population is 5.4 times higher than the share of the median equivalent consumption expenditure of the poorest 20% of the population (5.5 at 2008). The indicator is reduced to 4.5 regarding the final household expenditure, which includes imputed consumption expenditure¹ (4.6 at 2008) - Table 12.
- The share of the median equivalent expenditure for food by the poorest 20% of the population amounted to 32.2% of total household expenditure, while the respective percentage by the richest 20% of the population amounted to 10.7% (Table 13).
- The average monthly consumption expenditure of poor households² is estimated at 32.6% of the expenditure consumption of non-poor households³. Poor households spent 32.3% of their family budget on food, while the corresponding percentage of non-poor households amounted to 16.1%. Because of the composition of poor households (elderly, uninsured, etc.) their expenditure on health amounted to 11.5% of the family budget, while the corresponding percentage for the non-poor households amounted to 6.6% (Table 14).
- Finally, 19.6% of total population is at risk of poverty (19.0 at 2008), when the indicator of poverty only takes into consideration consumption expenditure coming from purchases, while this percentage decreases to 15.3 % of total population (16% at 2008), when final monthly household expenditure is also taken into consideration, irrespective of the mode of acquisition (imputed rent for ownership-occupancy, own produced goods, goods and services provided for free from employer, other households, non profitable organizations, the state, etc.) - Tables 15 and 16.

G. Consumption patterns in Europe

- For most of the countries with available data the first three highest expenditure categories are the same, food, transport and housing (not necessarily in this order) - Table 17.
- Consumption patterns differ somewhat for Austria, Norway and the United Kingdom for which the first three highest expenditure categories are transport, housing and recreation and culture.
- Education expenditure ranges from 0.3% in Norway and 1.8% in the United Kingdom and Latvia to 3.4% and 3.2% in Cyprus and Greece, respectively.
- Italy and Greece present the highest private expenditure on health, at 8.3% and 6.5%, respectively.

⁽¹⁾ **Final household expenditure:** it is considered the value, in cash, of the goods and services that the household bought or received in kind (from own production, own store or from elsewhere) in order to cover family and social needs.

⁽²⁾ **Poor population:** The percentage of population under the poverty threshold. According to the methodology on measuring poverty, the poverty threshold is calculated with its relative concept and it is defined at (fixed at) 60% of the median equivalized expenditure of the household, using modified OECD equivalized scale. (for further information see on explanatory notes).

⁽³⁾ **Non poor population:** The percentage of population over the poverty threshold (for further information see on explanatory notes).

Tables

**Table1. Average monthly household expenditure (purchases) on goods and services:
HBS 2009 and 2008**

Goods and services	HBS 2009		HBS 2008		HBS 2009/2008
	Value in euro	Distribution %	Value in euro	Distribution %	Change %
Total	2,065.18	100.0	2,117.67	100.0	-2.5
Food	356.60	17.3	347.40	16.4	2.6
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	68.63	3.3	68.39	3.2	0.4
Clothing and footwear	162.84	7.9	174.24	8.2	-6.5
Housing	232.18	11.2	249.55	11.8	-7.0
Durable	138.80	6.7	149.45	7.1	-7.1
Health	134.27	6.5	142.10	6.7	-5.5
Transport	274.37	13.3	283.36	13.4	-3.2
Communications	89.63	4.3	94.04	4.4	-4.7
Recreation and culture	100.17	4.9	102.05	4.8	-1.8
Education	66.80	3.2	64.82	3.1	3.1
Hotels, cafes and restaurants	228.18	11.0	229.79	10.9	-0.7
Miscellaneous goods and services	212.70	10.3	212.48	10.0	0.1

Table 2. Average monthly household expenditure (purchases) on goods and services: HBS 2009 and 2008

Goods and services	HBS 2009		HBS 2008		HBS 2004/05		HBS 1998/99		HBS 1993/944	
	Value in euro	%	Value in euro	%						
Total	2,065.18	100.0	2,117.67	100.0	1,792.28	100.0	1,383.24	100.0	851.66	100.0
Food	356.60	17.3	347.40	16.4	306.44	17.1	240.65	17.4	172.91	20.3
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	68.63	3.3	68.39	3.2	71.52	4.0	50.59	3.7	30.74	3.6
Clothing and footwear	162.84	7.9	174.24	8.2	150.15	8.4	128.94	9.3	90.46	10.6
Housing	232.18	11.2	249.55	11.8	191.6	10.7	139.72	10.1	100.95	11.9
Durable	138.80	6.7	149.45	7.1	134.49	7.5	112.47	8.1	71.05	8.3
Health	134.27	6.5	142.10	6.7	128.17	7.2	94.30	6.8	48.23	5.7
Transport	274.37	13.3	283.36	13.4	225.83	12.6	168.40	12.2	110.52	13.0
Communications	89.63	4.3	94.04	4.4	80.95	4.5	48.87	3.5	15.04	1.8
Recreation and culture	100.17	4.9	102.05	4.8	90.11	5.0	68.01	4.9	34.10	4.0
Education	66.80	3.2	64.82	3.1	51.34	2.9	38.68	2.8	20.78	2.4
Hotels, cafes and restaurants	228.18	11.0	229.79	10.9	172.24	9.6	129.40	9.4	64.13	7.5
Miscellaneous goods and services	212.70	10.3	212.48	10.0	189.42	10.6	163.20	11.8	92.76	10.9

Table 3. Average monthly household expenditure (purchases) on food and non alcoholic beverages: HBS 2009 and 2008

Food and non-alcoholic beverages	HBS 2009		HBS 2008		HBS 2009/2008	Difference of percentage distribution %
	Value in euro	%	Value in euro	%	Change %	
Total	356.60	100.0	347.40	100.0	2.6	
Bread and cereals	48.69	13.7	48.76	14.0	-0.1	-0.3
Meat	84.01	23.6	79.40	22.9	5.8	0.7
Fish	28.53	8.0	27.27	7.8	4.6	0.2
Milk, cheese and eggs	62.12	17.4	61.90	17.8	0.4	-0.4
Oils and fats	19.11	5.4	18.70	5.4	2.2	0.0
Fruit	26.47	7.4	25.77	7.4	2.7	0.0
Vegetables	40.41	11.3	38.63	11.1	4.6	0.2
Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	20.72	5.8	20.93	6.0	-1.0	-0.2
Food products n.e.c.	5.32	1.5	5.35	1.5	-0.6	0.0
Coffee, tea and cocoa	7.17	2.0	6.97	2.0	2.9	0.0
Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	14.04	3.9	13.72	3.9	2.3	0.0

Table 4. Average monthly household expenditure by mode of acquisition of goods and services: HBS 2009 and 2008

Mode of acquisition of goods and services	HBS 2009		HBS 2008	
	Value in euro	Distribution %	Value in euro	Distribution %
Purchases and receipts in kind	2,483.08	100.0	2,556.48	100.0
Purchases	2,065.18	83.2	2,117.67	82.8
Own production	18.63	0.8	19.36	0.8
Own enterprise	335.45	13.5	349.78	13.7
Other sources	58.18	2.3	62.00	2.4
From employer	5.63	0.2	7.66	0.3

Table 5. Average monthly expenditure (%) of 12 categories of goods and services, by household type, in descending order: HBS 2009

Goods and services	All households	1 person aged 65 and over	Couple with 1 child up to 16 years	Couple with 2 children up to 16 year	Couple with 3 or more children up to 16 years	1 parent with 1 or more children up to 16 years	Couple or 1 parent with 1 or children over 16 years
Food	17.3	24.7	16.3	16.7	20.6	13.3	17.1
Transport	13.3	4.8	14.6	12.8	13.0	11.8	16.4
Housing	11.2	17.3	10.6	9.3	10.1	11.9	9.3
Hotels, cafes and restaurants	11.0	6.6	9.8	10.9	10.4	8.2	12.4
Miscellaneous goods and services	10.3	8.3	10.5	8.8	7.3	15.7	11.1
Clothing and footwear	7.9	6.6	8.3	9.3	7.9	8.2	7.5
Durable	6.7	8.9	7.2	7.1	6.4	5.9	5.5
Health	6.5	14.1	6.3	5.3	4.8	6.4	5.3
Recreation and culture	4.9	3.3	5.8	6.2	6.1	6.2	4.3
Communications	4.3	3.9	4.2	4.1	3.7	3.3	5.0
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	3.3	1.4	2.9	3.0	2.7	2.5	4.1
Education	3.2	0.0	3.4	6.6	7.0	6.7	2.0

Table 6. Average monthly expenditure (purchases) by household type: HBS 2009

Household type	Value in euro	Percentage %
All households	2,065.18	100.0
1 person aged under 65 years old	1,396.17	67.6
1 person aged 65 and over	769.17	37.2
Couple	1,680.48	81.4
Couple with 1 child up to 16 years	2,489.34	120.5
Couple with 2 children up to 16 years	2,730.45	132.2
Couple with 3 children or more up to 16 years	2,677.52	129.7
1 parent with 1 or more children up to 16 years	2,425.64	117.5
Couple or 1 parent with children over 16 years	2,559.81	124.0
Other	2,394.49	115.9

Table 7. Average monthly household expenditure (purchases) classified by status in employment of the household head: HBS 2009 and 2008

Status in employment	HBS 2009	HBS 2008	HBS 2009 /2008
	Value in euro	Value in euro	Change %
Total purchases	2,065.18	2,117.67	-2.5
Employee	2,429.87	2,471.38	-1.7
Self employed with employees	3,553.67	3,853.04	-7.8
Self employed without employees	2,513.80	2,568.62	-2.1
Non economically active or in unemployment	1,542.06	1,580.73	-2.4

Table 8. Average monthly household expenditure (purchases) classified by age groups of the household head: HBS 2009 and 2008

Age groups	HBS 2009		HBS 2008	
	Value in euro	Participation %	Value in euro	Participation %
All households	2.065,18	100.0	2,117.67	100.0
>25	1195,28	57.9	1,021.36	48.2
25 - 34	2014,37	97.5	2,061.03	97.3
35 - 44	2423,58	117.3	2,643.86	124.8
45 - 54	2826,38	136.8	2,715.70	128.2
55 - 64	2404,31	116.4	2,502.01	118.1
65-74	1538,51	74.5	1,554.54	73.4
75 +	1033,14	50.0	1,081.75	51.1

Table 9. Average monthly consumption of goods (in quantity): HBS 2009 and 2008

Goods	Unit	HBS 2009	HBS 2008	Difference	Change %
Rice	Grams	1,250.59	1,161.62	88.97	7.7
Bread and bakery products	Grams	11,019.97	11,421.90	-401.93	-3.5
Pasta	Grams	2,498.14	2,441.44	56.70	2.3
Meat	Grams	12,006.94	11,578.18	428.76	3.7
Fish	Grams	3,550.60	3,326.87	223.73	6.7
Milk	Mililitres	13,530.99	12,951.34	579.65	4.5
Eggs	Unit	15	13	2	15.4
Yogurt	Grams	1,831.54	1,630.53	201.01	12.3
Cheese	Grams	3,600.99	3,519.14	81.85	2.3
Fruit fresh, preserved and dried	Grams	20,172.31	19,088.58	1,083.73	5.7
Vegetables fresh, preserved and dried	Grams	30,203.96	28,779.21	1,424.75	4.9
Olive oil	Mililitres	3,244.1	3,053.37	190.73	6.2
Cigarettes	Unit	372	403	-31	-7.7
Alcoholic beverages	Mililitres	3,911.56	3,931.48	-19.92	-0.5

Table 10. Average monthly consumption (in quantity) of electricity, gas and other fuels: HBS 2009 and 2008

Electricity, gas and other fuels	Unit	HBS 2009	HBS 2008	Difference	Change %
Electricity	KW	336.57	341.98	-5.41	-1.6
Natural gas	M ³	6.77	4.31	2.46	36.3
Gas	Grams	780.89	1069.26	-288.37	-36.9
Liquid fuels	Litres	80.75	79.77	0.98	1.2
Solid fuels	Kg	31.72	34.93	3.21	9.2

Table 11. Living conditions indicators: HBS 2009 and 2008

Amenities	HBS 2009		HBS 2008		Change in the number of households %
	Number of households	%	Number of households Households	%	
All households	4,114,150	100.0	4,072,177	100.0	1.0
Colour TV	4,062,127	98.7	4,018,524	98.7	1.1
Personal computer	1,907,269	46.4	1,710,367	42.0	11.5
Mobile telephone	3,536,351	86.0	3,459,523	85.0	2.2
Second residence	733,365	17.8	723,384	17.8	1.4
Dish washing machine	1,520,301	37.0	1,506,724	37.0	0.9
Telephone fixed line	3,519,237	85.5	3,571,465	87.7	-1.5
Microwave oven	2,018,345	49.1	1,835,107	45.1	10.0
DVD	2,599,149	63.2	2,436,721	59.9	6.7
Central heating, common and individual	3,022,939	73.5	3,094,848	76.0	-2.3
Private car	2,739,120	66.6	2,725,690	66.9	0.5
Indoor garage	570,946	13.9	552,071	13.6	3.4

Table 12. Quintiles of expenditure and inequality of expenditure distribution (S80/S20): HBS 2009 and 2008

Quintiles of expenditure	Expenditure (purchases) in euro		Final expenditure in euro	
	HBS 2009	HBS 2008	HBS 2009	HBS 2008
1 st quintile	440.88	433.47	618.62	611.57
2 nd quintile	719.43	733.57	916.33	940.97
3 rd quintile	975.35	1,000.63	1,199.68	1,234.48
4 th quintile	1,310.27	1,349.75	1,585.67	1,615.44
5 th quintile	2,385.71	2,397.17	2,757.71	2,807.81
<i>S80/S20</i>	5.4	5.5	4.5	4.6

Table 13. Quintiles of expenditure distribution in percent: HBS 2009

Goods and services	Expenditure	
	1° quintile (lowest 20%)	5° quintile (top 20%)
Total	100.0	100.0
Food	32.2	10.7
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	3.5	2.4
Clothing and footwear	4.3	9.2
Housing	17.8	8.8
Durable	4.9	8.2
Health	11.4	6.3
Transport	6.0	17.2
Communications	5.4	3.4
Recreation and culture	2.3	5.8
Education	0.7	3.4
Hotels, cafes and restaurants	6.7	11.6
Miscellaneous goods and services	4.8	13.1

Table 14. Monthly average purchases for goods and services: HBS 2009

Goods and services	Non poor population		Poor population		Poor/ Non poor
	Value in euro	%	Value in euro	%	Change %
Total	1,343.71	100.0	437.83	100.0	32.6
Food	216.51	16.1	141.44	32.3	65.3
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	42.54	3.2	15.62	3.6	36.7
Clothing and footwear	108.14	8.0	18.88	4.3	17.5
Housing	156.36	11.6	76.94	17.6	49.2
Durable	93.99	7.0	21.67	4.9	23.1
Health	88.56	6.6	50.32	11.5	56.8
Transport	180.79	13.5	26.28	6.0	14.5
Communications	56.26	4.2	23.53	5.4	41.8
Recreation and culture	66.22	4.9	10.06	2.3	15.2
Education	38.35	2.9	3.07	0.7	8.0
Hotels, cafes and restaurants	151.40	11.3	29.01	6.6	19.2
Miscellaneous goods and services	144.60	10.8	21.01	4.8	14.5

Table 15. At-risk-of-poverty threshold in euro: HBS 2009 and 2008

At-risk-of-poverty threshold (Expenditure (purchases))		At-risk-of-poverty threshold (Final expenditure)	
2009	2008	2009	2008
7,124.92	7,170.10	8,643.80	8,819.71

Table 16. At-risk-of-poverty rate in percentage: HBS 2009 and 2008

At-risk-of-poverty rate (Expenditure (purchases))		At-risk-of-poverty rate (Final expenditure)	
2009	2008	2009	2008
19.6	19.0	15.3	16.0

Table 17. Average monthly household expenditure (purchases) on goods and services in some European countries in percentages: HBS 2009

Goods and services	Greece	Austria	Cyprus	France	Italy	Latvia	Lithuania	Norway	Spain	United Kingdom
Food	17.3	13.3	12.3	13.4	16.2	26.7	28.4	11,6	17.8	13.6
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	3.3	2.7	1.3	3.2	2.9	3.6	3.5	2,6	2.6	2.9
Clothing and footwear	7.9	6.3	6.8	4.4	8.5	5.3	5.9	5,3	7.3	5.5
Housing	11.2	16.4	17.2	25.6	10.1	15.5	16.3	30,5	11.7	15.0
Durable	6.7	7.6	5.7	5.9	8.1	5.2	4.3	6,2	6.4	7.3
Health	6.5	3.9	5.3	3.9	8.3	5.3	5.8	2,6	4.0	1.4
Transport	13.3	16.5	13.9	14.0	15.2	13.1	12.0	17,3	15.1	15.2
Communications	4.3	1.9	3.5	2.8	2.7	5.0	5.0	1,9	4.0	3.1
Recreation and culture	4.9	14.0	5.4	8.6	7.6	8.0	7.0	12,1	8.6	15.1
Education	3.2	1.0	3.4	0.9	1.1	1.8	1.9	0,3	1.2	1.8
Hotels, cafes and restaurants	11.0	6.3	8.5	7.0	11.3	4.3	3.9	3,4	11.5	10.0
Miscellaneous goods and services	10.3	10.2	7.2	11.0	8.0	6.1	6.0	6,2	9.9	9.1

Table 18. Coefficients of variation in the 12 Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP) categories.

Goods and services	Coefficient Variation %
Total	1.79
Food	1.34
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	2.53
Clothing and footwear	3.24
Housing	3.64
Durable	3.92
Health	2.84
Transport	3.81
Communications	1.76
Recreation and culture	3.87
Education	4.55
Hotels, cafes and restaurants	2.42
Miscellaneous goods and services	2.70

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Household Budget Survey The Household Budget Survey (HBS) is a national survey collecting information, from a representative sample of households, on households' composition, members' employment status, living conditions and, mainly, focusing on their members' expenditure on goods and services as well as on their income. The expenditure information collected from households is very detailed. That is, information is not collected on the basis of total expenditure categories like "food", "clothing - footwear", "health", etc., but separately for each expenditure, for example, white bread, fresh whole milk, fresh beef etc, footwear for men, footwear for women etc., services of medical analysis laboratories, pharmaceutical products etc.

The main purpose of the HBS is to determine in detail the household expenditure pattern in order to revise the Consumer Price Index. Moreover, the HBS is the most appropriate source for in order to:

- complete the available statistical data for the estimation of the total private consumption,
- study the households' expenditures and their structure in relation with their income and other economic, social and demographic characteristics,
- analyze the changes in the living conditions the households in comparison with as previous surveys,
- study the relation between households purchases and receipts in kind,
- study low income limits in the different socio-economic categories and population groups and
- study the changes in the nutritional habits of the households of the country.

Survey history The 2009 HBS is the tenth survey having been conducted in Greece, on a sample of 3.524 households selected from the total number of households in Greece.

The first Household Budget Survey was conducted by the NSSG during the interval April 1957 - March 1958, in a sample of 2.500 households over the total number of households of the urban areas in the country. The survey continued in the next years and until 1972, but in a smaller scale, in a smaller sample of households, over the total number of households of the cities with 30.000 inhabitants and over.

In April 1963, the NSSG conducted, simultaneously with the survey in urban areas, a large-scale survey in semi-urban and rural areas of the country that is in municipalities and communes with less than 10.000 inhabitants. The survey lasted one year, 3.755 households of the pre-mentioned areas were surveyed, and continued to be conducted until the year 1972, but in smaller sample of households.

During the years 1974, 1981/82, 1987/88, 1993/94, 1998/99 and 2004/2005 Household Budget Surveys were conducted, covering all country areas/regions, in samples of approximately 7.500 households for the first one and approximately 6.000 to 6.800 for the other five, each one lasting for one year.

From 2008 it was decided for national needs (revision of the Consumer Price Index with greater reliability, comparable statistics for the needs of National Accounts), the survey should be annual and consistent, namely has duration one year and take place every year. Specifically, the 2008 was a sample of approximately 4,000 households and covers all areas of the country.

Legal basis The 2009 HBS was conducted after the decision of the Ministry of Economy and Finance in a sample of private households throughout the country. The data are fully harmonised with the survey data of other EU Member States

Coverage The survey covered all the private households throughout the country, irrespective of their size or socio-economic characteristics.

The following were excluded from the survey:

- Institutional households of all types (hotels, hospitals, boarding houses, elderly homes, prisons, rehabilitation centers, camps, etc.). Households with more than five lodgers are considered as such.
- Households with foreigners serving in diplomatic missions.

Sampling The HBS is a survey of a representative random sample of all private households of the country and it is carried out by applying the two-stage stratified sampling with Primary Sampling Unit (PSU) the area (one or more building blocks) and ultimate unit the household and its members. Thus, there are two frames used: the frame containing the PSUs (areas) and the frame of households within the selected PSUs.

The frame of PSUs is updated every ten (10) years on the basis of the general population census. Concerning the frame of households, within each selected PSU this is updated before the selection of the sampling households used for data collection.

So, any coverage problems that may arise are more likely to concern the frame of PSUs. However, any such problems are corrected with the use of the calibration procedure.

Sample size and allocation criteria	The initial sample size was 4,000 households (the sampling fraction $\frac{1}{\lambda}$ is about 1%). This fraction was the same in each geographical region. The final sample size was 3,524 households (sampling fraction 0.08%), equally distributed within the year, so as to have 4 equally dependent samples, corresponding to the 4 quarters of a year. The total number of Prefectures and Communes selected amounted to 337 and the number of settlements to 360, while the number of sampling areas to 612.
Weightings	For the estimation of the characteristics of the survey, the data from each person and household of the sample were multiplied by a reductive factor. The reductive factor results as product of the following three factors (weights): a. The reverse probability of choice of individual, that coincides with the reverse probability of household. b. The reverse of the percentage of response of households inside the strata. c. A corrective factor, which is determined in such a way so that: i) The estimation of persons by gender and age groups that will result by geographic region coincides with the corresponding number, which was calculated with projection for the period of survey year and was based on the vital statistics of population (census of population 2001 and births, deaths, immigration). ii) the estimation of households by order of size (1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 members) and by tenure status to coincides with the estimation of the report year that was calculated with projection based on the longitudinal tendency of the 1991 and 2001 population census.
Methodology on measuring poverty	According to the methodology on measuring poverty, the poverty line is calculated with its relative concept (poor in relation to others) and it is defined at (fixed at) 60% of the median equivalized expenditure of the household, using modified OECD equivalized scale. Thus, it is diversified from the concept of absolute poverty (deprived of basic means for survival).
Equivalized expenditure and scale	Equivalised expenditure consumption is calculated as the expenditure consumption of the household divided by an equivalised number of persons in the household where a weight of 1.0 is attributed to the first household member aged 14 or over, 0.5 to each additional member aged 14 or more and 0.3 to each member aged less than 14 years old. Example: The expenditure consumption of household with two adults and two children aged less than 14 years old is divided with a weight $10,52 * 0,3 = 2,1$, for household with two adults with 1,5, for household with 2 adults and 2 children of age of 14 years and more with 2,5 etc.
Population status	Non poor population: The percentage of population over the poverty threshold Poor population: The percentage of population under the poverty threshold.
Inequality of expenditure consumption distribution S80/S20	The 'S80/S20 expenditure consumption quintile share ratio is the ratio of the sum of equivalised expenditure consumption spent by the 20% of the country's population with the highest equivalised expenditure consumption (top inter-quintile interval) to that spent by the 20% of the country's population with the lowest equivalised expenditure consumption (lowest inter-quintile interval).
Household expenditure	<i>Household expenditure</i> is considered the value, in cash, of the goods and services that the household bought.
Final Household expenditure	<i>Final Household expenditure</i> is considered the value, in cash, of the goods and services that the household bought or received in kind (from own production, own store or from elsewhere) in order to cover family and social needs.
Classification (used for) of expenses	The household expenses are encoded using the COICOP-HBS classification (Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose), proposed to EU Members States by Eurostat (Household Budget Surveys in the European Union, methodology and recommendations for harmonization, 2003). The classification is structured into the following 12 main categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food and non-alcoholic beverages • Alcoholic beverages and tobacco • Clothing and footwear • Housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels of main and secondary residence • Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house • Health • Transport • Communications • Recreation and culture • Education • Hotels, cafes and restaurants • Miscellaneous goods and services

Reference periods for expenditure	<p><i>Reference periods</i> are considered the time intervals having a specific starting and ending date, to which expenditure and income of the household referred. In order to reduce non sampling errors and difficulties in recalling the relevant details, various reference periods were used in the survey, according to the frequency of the types of expenditure incurred by the households or the received income.</p> <p><i>Reference periods</i> are considered (a) the <i>fourteen (14)days of the survey</i> for the daily expenditure on cleaning products (detergents, soaps, toilet paper, etc.), pharmaceutical products (drugs, alcohol, etc.), household members' personal expenditure (cigarettes, newspapers, magazines, tickets, tissues, etc.), restaurants, taverns, café, etc. (b) <i>One Month, two months, three months, four months, six months or year</i>, for payments made at regular intervals for services e.g.:electricity, water, phone bills, communal charges, etc. circulation fees and car insurance,. rent for main or secondary or countryside dwelling, (c) <i>The last 30 days, last 3, 6 or 12 months</i>, etc, prior the end of the household survey (including the 14 days of the survey) for expenditure on furniture, electric devices, etc., expenditure on clothes and footwear, medical appliances, etc., expenditure on health and education, on holidays.</p>
Ways of acquisition of goods and services	<p>With the survey, information is being collected on the ways households acquired goods and services, in order to cover family needs. The acquisition of goods and services may be made by purchase or other means (from own production or own enterprise or other sources or by the employer).</p> <p>In order to record an expenditure the following conditions should be fulfilled:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The expenditure should have taken place within the reference period specified for the corresponding goods or services, e.g. 14 days for food stuffs, month for clothing, 12 months for the consumption of durables, etc. • The good corresponding to the expenditure should have already been in the possession of the household and the service should have been offered within the reference period mentioned, regardless the fact that it was meant to cover its own needs or to be offered to other households. The way of acquisition of goods and services could have been «P» (in cash or on credit), from own enterprise «OE», from others «OW» or from the employer «Employer», e.g. expenditure on clothing was recorded if the household “possessed” them within the last 30 days (including the 14 days of survey conduction) before the survey end, even if their value would be paid in the future with installments, the expenditure on tuition fees was recorded, if the service was offered in the last 12 months before the survey end, etc. • Goods from households' agricultural – livestock own production, fishery, woodland or hunting, should have been consumed during the reference period, e.g. the quantity of oil consumed by the household from own production, during the last 12 months, was recorded and not that having been stored. The same applies for vegetables from own vegetable garden or agricultural enterprise, meaning that only those consumed during the 14 days were recorded. • Goods bought by a household in order to be offered as gift to other households, are being recorded for the household that makes the expenditure. The household receiving them does not record them as purchase. • For goods received by a household from owned store/shop, with no payment, in order to be offered as gift to other households, the expenditure is being recorded for the household that offers them.
Conditions for expenditure record	
Estimation of goods and services value	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchases: The value of goods and services, obtained by the households, also includes any other expenditure necessary for them to be consumed/used, e.g. for transportation, setting of electric devices, etc. When goods or services had been obtained by paying with installments or with credit card, the total value was recorded and not only the part of installments paid within the reference period. • Receipts in kind: The value of goods and services, obtained by the households for free, was estimated by the households or by the interviewer, on the basis of the retail prices of the closest local market.
References	<p>More information on the survey is available on the webpage of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) www.statistics.gr, Section: Statistical Themes > Income – Expenditure/ Family Budget».</p>