



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ

ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΟΙΚΟΝΟΜΙΑΣ & ΟΙΚΟΝΟΜΙΚΩΝ

GENERAL SECRETARIAT



NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE  
OF GREECE

*Piraeus, 21st of September 2007*

# **PRESS RELEASE**

## *LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007*

The General Secretariat of National Statistical Service of Greece announces the Labour Force Survey's results for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2007. Greek Labour Force Survey is harmonized with Commission's Regulation? 577/98.

Labour Force Survey is a sample survey. Sample design was based on the 2001 Census results. A two stage-sampling scheme is used for sample selection, with "areas" (that is, one or more groups of building blocks) serving as primary sampling units, and dwellings as secondary sampling units. 2,640 primary sampling units are selected throughout whole Greece, and the total number of interviewed households was 30,651 (about 0.73% of the total number of households).

Survey characteristics (number of employed, unemployed etc.) were estimated by an unbiased estimator, which was calculated by taking into consideration: a) the probability of selection of a household, b) the non response rate in each primary sampling unit and c) and the estimated population distribution by sex and group ages in every NUT II level area, for the 2<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2007. The estimation of population distribution was based on population trends by sex and group ages and on the number of births, deaths and immigrants.

## CHANGES IN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AND IN LABOUR FORCE

During the 2nd Quarter of 2007 the unemployment rate (that is, the percentage of unemployed persons over the labour force, which is the sum of employed and unemployed persons) was 8.1%. During the corresponding quarter of 2006, unemployment rate was 8.8%. That percentage of 8.1% is the lowest unemployment rate for the first quarter of all the years since 1998 when Labour Force Survey started to be conducted every three months (Table 1).

**Table 1. Unemployment rate during the second quarter of each year, 1998-2007**

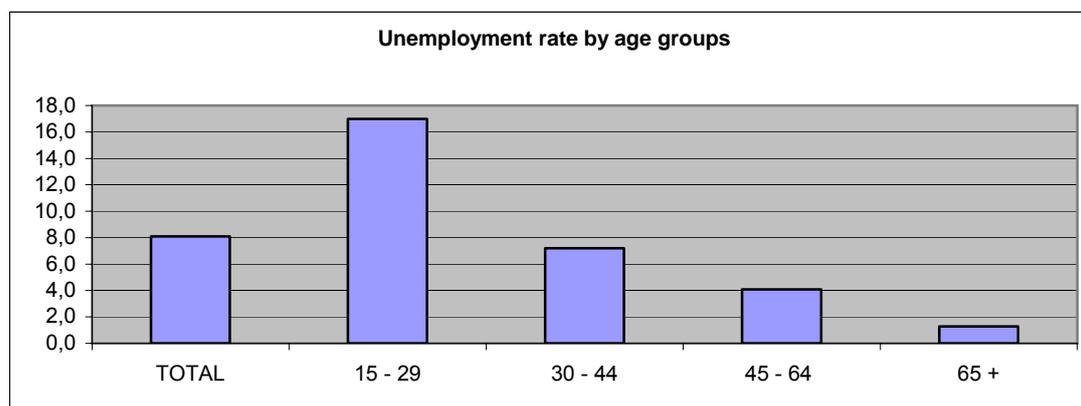
Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Unemployment rate	10.8	11.9	11.2	10.4	9.9	9.3	10.2	9.6	8.8	8.1

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2007, the percentage of labour force over population aged 15 years old and over is 53.4%

### I. UNEMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

Females' unemployment rate (12.6%) is still more than double of males' unemployment rate (5.0%).

*Chart 1*



By observing the unemployment rate for different age groups, we see that the highest unemployment rate is found among young people aged 15-29 years old (17.8%). Especially for young females, the unemployment rate is 23.6% (Table 2).

**Table 2. Unemployment rate (%) by sex and age groups**

Age Groups	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter					
	2006			2007		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
15-29	12.5	24.4	<b>17.8</b>	11.8	23.6	<b>17.0</b>
30-44	4.4	12.4	<b>7.9</b>	4.0	11.5	<b>7.2</b>
45-64	3.1	6.6	<b>4.4</b>	2.5	6.7	<b>4.1</b>
65+	0.8	1.7	<b>1.1</b>	1.4	1.1	<b>1.3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>8.1</b>

Considering educational level, unemployment rate is higher than the total rate for persons who have not attended school (9.6%) and those who have completed programs of ISCED 5b level (10.1%) and ISCED 3 level (8.9%) and , while is lower for persons who have completed programs of ISCED 5A (5.8%) and ISCED 1 level (6.9%) and for those who have not completed ISCED 1 level (5.4%) (Table 3).

**Table 3. Unemployment rate (%) by sex and educational level**

Level of education	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter					
	2006			2007		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
ISCED 6	5.8	6.9	<b>6.3</b>	4.6	8.6	<b>6.2</b>
ISCED 5A	4.0	8.1	<b>6.0</b>	4.0	7.8	<b>5.8</b>
ISCED 5 B	7.0	15.6	<b>11.2</b>	5.7	14.7	<b>10.1</b>
ISCED 3	5.7	16.7	<b>10.0</b>	5.2	14.7	<b>8.9</b>
ISCED 2	6.8	16.9	<b>9.8</b>	4.8	17.0	<b>8.6</b>
ISCED 1	4.8	10.7	<b>7.0</b>	4.8	10.4	<b>6.9</b>
Did not complete ISCED 1	2.4	4.1	<b>3.1</b>	2.1	9.7	<b>5.4</b>
Did not attend school	6.2	5.4	<b>5.8</b>	7.3	12.3	<b>9.6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>8.1</b>

The number of unemployed persons is estimated at 398,006. The 88.5% of the unemployed persons are looking for a full time job. In particular, 38.5% of unemployed is looking for a full time job only, while 50.0% is looking for full time job, but, if needed, would accept to work part time.

A significant part of the unemployed persons (12.9%) denied an offer for job for various reasons. Main reasons for denial were a) the place of job was not suitable (24.3%) b) wage was not satisfactory (20.4%) and c) working hours were not convenient (15.7%).

The percentage of “new” unemployed, who are persons that entered for the first time into labour market, is 35.2%. We must note that the percentage of “long term” unemployed, that is the percentage of persons that were looking for a job for more than 1 year (irrespectively of being “new” or “old” unemployed), is 52.3%.

**Unemployment rate for persons of foreign nationality is almost equal to the mean “national” rate (8.0% compared to 8.1%). On the other hand, the percentage of economically active persons with foreign nationality remains considerably higher than the corresponding mean “national” rate (71.3% compared to 53.4%).**

Concerning differences in unemployment rates in different regions, we must note that the highest rate is observed in Dytiki Makedonia (11.6%) and in Ipeiros (10.1%). The lowest unemployment rates are observed in Kriti (4.2%) and in Notio Aigaio and Thessalia (7,2%) (Table 4).

<b>Table 4. Unemployment rate by NUT II regions</b>		
<b>NUT II Region</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2006</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2007</b>
<b>TOTAL COUNTRY</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>8.1</b>
ANATOLIKI MAKEDONIA, THRAKI	11.3	9.6
KENTRIKI MAKEDONIA	9.5	9.0
DYTIKI MAKEDONIA	14.8	11.6
IPEIROS	9.2	10.1
THESSALIA	7.8	7.2
IONIA NISIA	11.8	8.6
DYTIKI ELLADA	9.4	9.0
STEREA ELLADA	8.8	9.5
ATTIKI	8.1	7.5
PELLOPONNISOS	7.8	7.7
VOREIO AIGAIO	9.8	8.6
NOTIO AIGAIO	7.5	7.2
KRITI	5.8	4.2

## II. EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

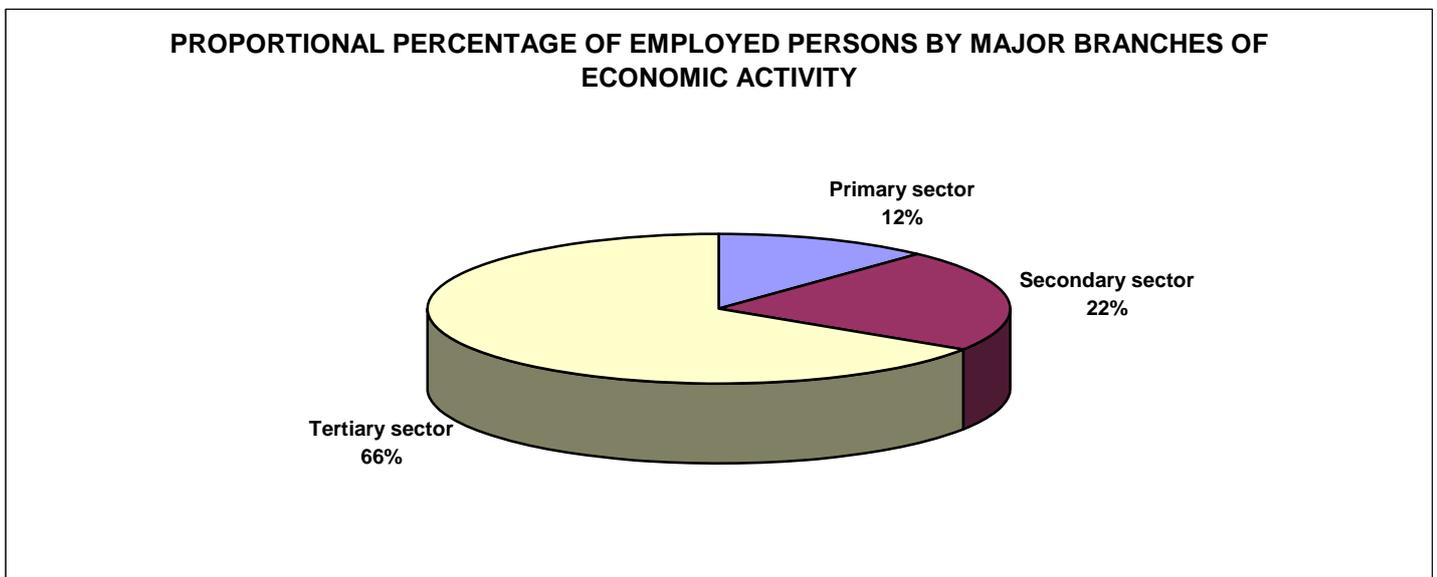
**The number of employed in 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2007 is estimated at 4,519,853 persons.**

During 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2007, there were 95,624 persons who found a job, and who were unemployed one year ago. During the same period, 77,095 persons that were inactive the previous year got in to employment. In contrary, 70,180 persons who were working one year ago, during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2007 are unemployed and other 81,891 persons that were working, are now inactive. In addition, 72,365 persons who were inactive one year ago, during 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2007 got in labour market, and are searching for a job.

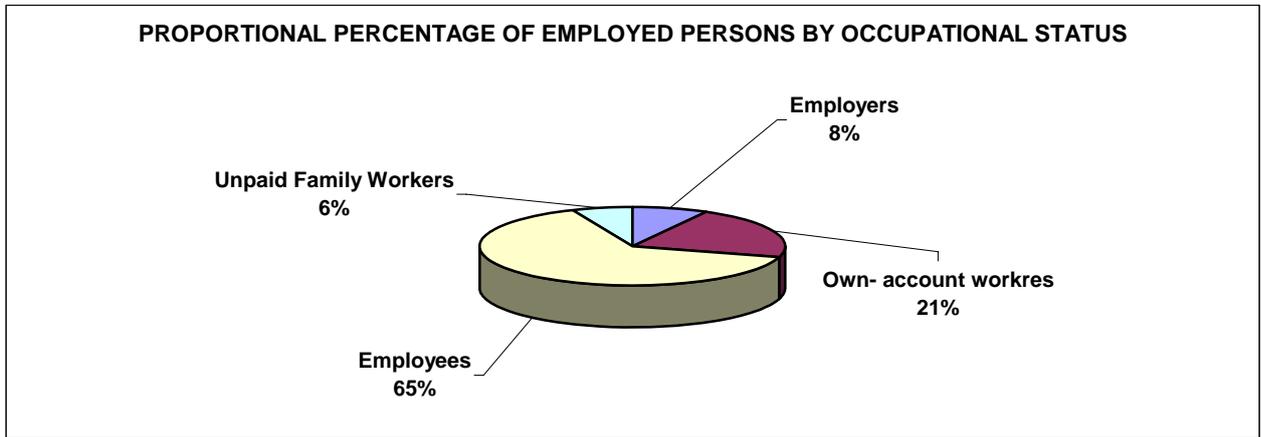
If we examine changes in employment by different sector of economic activity, we see that there was a decrease in employment in primary sector by 2.6%, compared to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2006. In contrary, during the same period, there was an increase in employment in secondary and tertiary sector, by 3.1% and 1.7%, respectively. In tertiary sector, the branches with the largest increase were the branch of Health (5.8%), the branch of other community, social and personal service activities (8.0%) and the branch of Hotels and Restaurants (5.6%). In secondary sector, the branch with the largest increase is the branch of Contraction (10.0%), while in primary sector, there is an increase in employment in the branch of Fishery (15.3%).

**The percentage of part time employment is still low.** Persons that are working part time are 5.8% of the total employed. 43.0% of part timers choose to work part time because they cannot find a full time job, while 12.0% choose part time job, because they are looking after children or incapacitated adults.

*Chart 2*



*Chart 3*



The percentage of employees is estimated at 64.1% and is still lower than the mean percentage of employees in European Union (about 80% of the total employed). Table 5 shows the number of employed by branch of economy from 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2006 to 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2007, while Table 6 shows, for the same period of time, the change in employment in different branches of economy, using as base (=100) the employment at 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2004. Table 7 presents employment by branch of economy and sex, for 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2006 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2007, and Table 8 gives the allocation of employed in different branches of economy (as percentage) for the 13 NUT II regions of Greece.

**Table 5. Employed persons of 15 years and over by economic activity**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2006 – 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007**

(Source: NSSG, Labour Force Survey)

In thousands

I. Branch of economic activity	2006			2007	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter
<b>Total</b>	4,452.8	4,494.2	4,462.1	4,461.2	4,519.9
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	523.0	515.8	513.4	511.1	507.3
Fishing	13.1	14.8	15.8	17.0	15.1
Mining and quarrying	18.2	18.4	18.4	16.8	18.1
Manufacturing	563.2	563.8	564.6	560.8	558.9
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	40.9	41.8	42.7	41.6	40.0
Construction	358.5	365.3	368.5	383.0	394.4
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	789.3	790.8	780.3	794.4	800.6
Hotels and restaurants	300.9	324.4	297.4	281.1	317.9
Transport, storage and communication	281.7	284.7	276.5	270.5	267.6
Financial intermediation	115.8	116.1	116.8	116.9	112.7
Real estate, renting and business activities	284.1	289.4	296.8	290.7	294.8
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	380.9	386.7	381.5	383.6	390.9
Education	331.1	325.6	330.7	328.3	328.4
Health and social work	227.8	226.2	234.0	241.3	240.9
Other community, social and personal service activities	150.4	157.7	150.6	152.9	162.4
Private households with employed persons	73.4	72.3	73.0	69.5	68.5
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	0.6	0.4	1.1	1.6	1.4

II. Sector of economic activity	2006			2007	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter
Primary sector	536.1	530.6	529.2	528.1	522.4
Secondary sector	980.8	989.3	994.1	1,002.2	1,011.4
Tertiary sector	2,935.9	2,974.3	2,938.8	2,930.9	2,986.1
<i>Total employed</i>	4,452.8	4,494.2	4,462.1	4,461.2	4,519.9

**Table 6. Evolution of the employment by braches of economic activity**  
(Base period 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2004=100)

I. Branch of economic activity	2006			2007	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>104.8</b>	<b>105.8</b>	<b>105.0</b>	<b>105.0</b>	<b>106.4</b>
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	99.1	97.7	97.3	96.9	96.1
Fishing	107.3	121.8	129.8	139.7	124.1
Mining and quarrying	137.1	138.0	138.4	126.3	136.1
Manufacturing	101.5	101.6	101.8	101.1	100.8
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	96.4	98.7	100.8	98.2	94.4
Construction	105.1	107.1	108.1	112.3	115.7
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	104.3	104.5	103.1	104.9	105.8
Hotels and restaurants	125.1	134.9	123.7	116.9	132.2
Transport, storage and communication	105.9	107.0	103.9	101.7	100.6
Financial intermediation	101.6	101.8	102.5	102.6	98.9
Real estate, renting and business activities	102.9	104.8	107.5	105.3	106.8
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	107.9	109.6	108.1	108.7	110.8
Education	106.4	104.7	106.3	105.5	105.6
Health and social work	103.8	103.1	106.7	110.0	109.8
Other community, social and personal service activities	100.7	105.6	100.8	102.3	108.7
Private households with employed persons	104.7	103.2	104.2	99.2	97.7
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	46.9	34.4	84.2	122.5	107.2

II. Sector of economic activity	2006			2007	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter
Primary sector	99.3	98.3	98.0	97.8	96.8
Secondary sector	103.1	104.0	104.5	105.3	106.3
Tertiary sector	106.5	107.9	106.6	106.3	108.3
<i>Total employed</i>	<i>104.8</i>	<i>105.8</i>	<i>105.0</i>	<i>105.0</i>	<i>106.4</i>

**Table 7. Employed persons of 15 years and over by economic activity and gender for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2006 and 2007**

(Source: NSSG, Labour Force Survey)

*In thousand*

I. Branch of economic activity	2006			2007		
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter			2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,452.8</b>	<b>2,725.7</b>	<b>1,727.1</b>	<b>4,519.9</b>	<b>2,761.6</b>	<b>1,758.2</b>
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	523.0	295.6	227.4	507.3	289.0	218.3
Fishing	13.1	11.6	1.4	15.1	13.0	2.1
Mining and quarrying	18.2	16.9	1.3	18.1	16.9	1.3
Manufacturing	563.2	411.1	152.1	558.9	404.5	154.4
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	40.9	33.8	7.0	40.0	31.6	8.5
Construction	358.5	350.7	7.9	394.4	386.7	7.7
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	789.3	460.4	328.8	800.6	463.4	337.3
Hotels and restaurants	300.9	168.8	132.1	317.9	173.7	144.2
Transport, storage and communication	281.7	227.2	54.5	267.6	215.3	52.3
Financial intermediation	115.8	61.2	54.5	112.7	57.1	55.6
Real estate, renting and business activities	284.1	147.3	136.8	294.8	162.7	132.1
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	380.9	251.6	129.3	390.9	249.1	141.8
Education	331.1	126.7	204.4	328.4	123.1	205.4
Health and social work	227.8	79.8	148.0	240.9	86.5	154.3
Other community, social and personal service activities	150.4	79.6	70.9	162.4	83.5	78.9
Private households with employed persons	73.4	3.3	70.1	68.5	4.5	64.1
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	0.6	0.1	0.5	1.4	1.3	0.1

II. Sector of economic activity	2006			2007		
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter			2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Primary sector	536.1	307.2	228.8	522.4	301.9	220.4
Secondary sector	980.8	812.5	168.3	1,011.4	839.6	171.8
Tertiary sector	2,935.9	1,605.9	1,330.0	2,986.1	1,620.1	1,366.0
<i>Total employed</i>	<b>4,452.8</b>	<b>2,725.7</b>	<b>1,727.1</b>	<b>4,519.9</b>	<b>2,761.6</b>	<b>1,758.2</b>

**Table 8. Proportional percentage of employed persons aged 15 years and over by branches of economic activity and regions 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007**

(Source: NSSG, Labour Force Survey)

	Total Country	Anatoliki Makedonia, Thraki	Kentriki Makedonia	Dytiki Makedonia	Ipeiros	Thessalia	Ionia Nisia
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	11.2	24.8	10.9	16.8	18.9	21.6	12.1
Fishing	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.6
Mining and quarrying	0.4	0.7	0.2	6.3	0.5	0.2	0.0
Manufacturing	12.4	10.7	15.7	11.3	8.3	11.4	4.8
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	0.9	0.3	0.6	3.3	1.0	0.7	0.5
Construction	8.7	7.7	8.7	9.7	11.5	8.8	13.0
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	17.7	13.9	18.8	14.3	14.6	15.0	16.7
Hotels and restaurants	7.0	5.6	6.1	5.3	8.4	6.1	19.9
Transport, storage and communication	5.9	3.2	4.6	2.1	3.5	4.5	7.3
Financial intermediation	2.5	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.1	1.1	0.8
Real estate, renting and business activities	6.5	4.0	6.7	3.2	3.5	4.3	4.6
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	8.6	11.3	7.4	8.8	9.5	9.1	6.0
Education	7.3	7.3	8.5	10.5	10.2	8.6	4.8
Health and social work	5.3	4.8	5.3	3.8	5.9	4.9	3.4
Other community, social and personal service activities	3.6	3.1	3.2	2.7	1.9	2.6	4.9
Private households with employed persons	1.5	0.6	1.3	0.2	0.7	0.9	0.6
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

**Table 8 Table 8. Proportional percentage of employed persons aged 15 years and over by branches of economic activity and regions 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007 (continued)**

(Source: NSSG, Labour Force Survey)

	Dytiki Ellada	Sterea Ellada	Attiki	Peloponnisos	Voreio Aigaio	Notio Aigaio	Kriti
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Agriculture, animal breeding, hunting and forestry	20.7	18.4	0.6	29.8	14.6	4.7	17.9
Fishing	0.5	0.9	0.1	0.4	1.9	1.8	0.1
Mining and quarrying	0.1	1.4	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.9	0.1
Manufacturing	8.5	16.3	14.1	9.5	7.5	5.0	7.7
Electricity, gas, steam and water supply	0.9	1.3	0.9	1.4	0.7	0.7	0.7
Construction	8.7	9.6	8.1	7.4	8.9	10.6	9.8
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods.	16.9	15.5	19.6	14.1	16.4	21.2	17.0
Hotels and restaurants	6.4	7.2	5.3	6.1	9.6	21.0	12.6
Transport, storage and communication	5.4	4.2	8.3	3.6	5.5	6.4	4.8
Financial intermediation	1.8	1.9	4.1	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.5
Real estate, renting and business activities	5.1	2.7	9.5	3.3	2.9	4.1	5.6
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	7.9	8.6	9.2	7.7	16.3	7.8	6.6
Education	8.4	5.4	6.7	5.8	7.0	4.6	6.9
Health and social work	5.1	3.5	6.2	4.2	4.5	4.9	5.1
Other community, social and personal service activities	3.1	2.4	4.6	3.4	2.6	4.3	2.6
Private households with employed persons	0.6	0.6	2.7	0.6	0.0	0.4	1.0
Extra-territorial organizations and bodies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2

**Detailed tables on web site [www.statistics.gr](http://www.statistics.gr)**

Contact person: Stelios Zachariou  
 Phone number : 210 4852173  
 Fax: 210 4852948  
 E-mail: zacharis@statistics.gr