



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

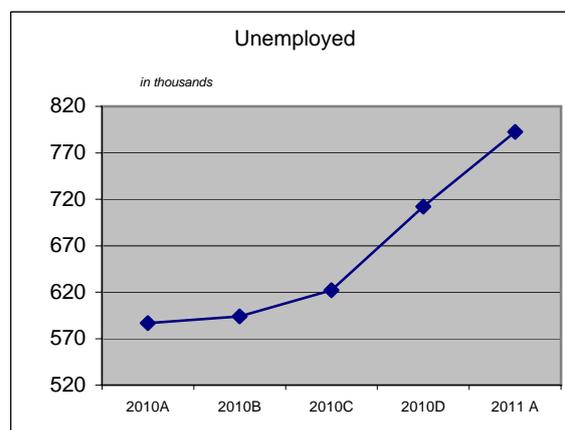
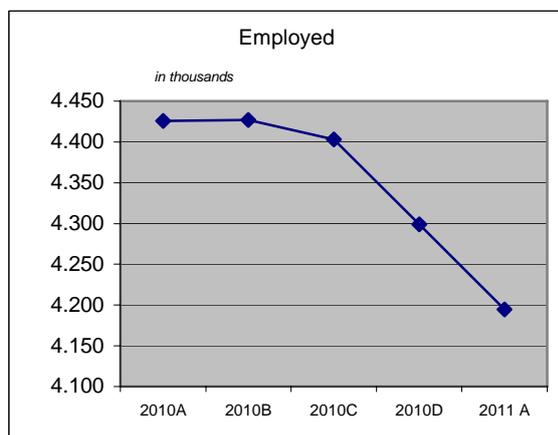
Piraeus, 16 June 2011

PRESS RELEASE

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 1st Quarter 2011

In the 1st Quarter of 2011 the number of employed amounted to 4,194,429 persons while the number of unemployed amounted to 792,601. The unemployment rate was 15.9% compared with 14.2% in the previous quarter, and 11.7% in the corresponding quarter of 2010

The number of employed persons decreased by 2.4% compared with the previous quarter, and by 5.2% compared with the 1st Quarter of 2010. The number of unemployed persons increased by 11.3% compared with the previous quarter and by 35.1% compared with the 1st Quarter of 2010.



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I. UNEMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

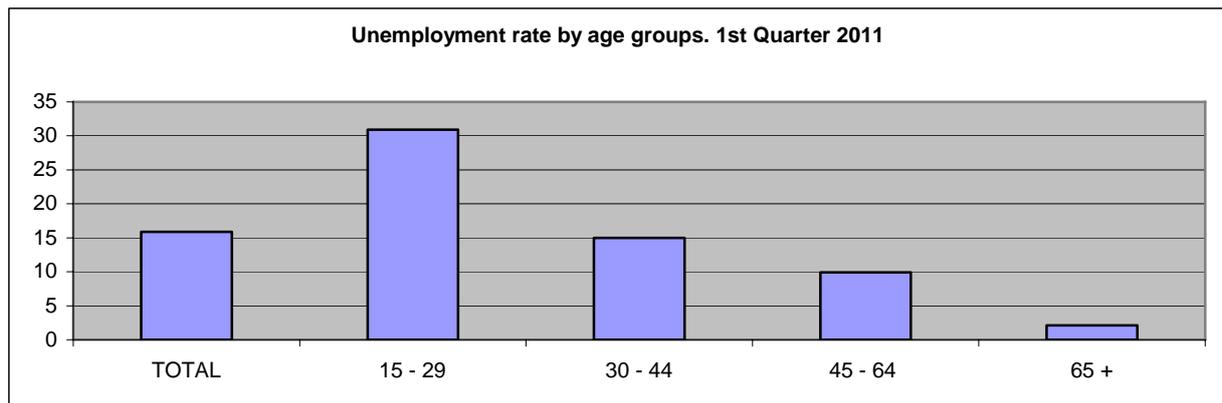
The unemployment rate for females (19.5%) is considerably higher than the unemployment rate for males (13.3%).

By observing the unemployment rate for different age groups, we notice that the highest unemployment rate is recorded among young people in the age group of 15-29 years (30.9%). For young females, the unemployment rate is 35.8% (Table 1, chart 1).

Table 1. Unemployment rate (%) by sex and age groups

Age Groups	1st Quarter					
	2010			2011		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Total	9.0	15.5	11.7	13.3	19.5	15.9
15-29	18.1	27.4	22.3	26.9	35.8	30.9
30-44	7.8	15.1	10.9	12.0	18.8	15.0
45-64	6.3	9.0	7.4	9.0	11.3	9.9
65+	1.3	0.7	1.1	1.7	2.9	2.1

Chart 1



As regards the educational attainment level, the unemployment rate is higher among persons who have not attended school (23.4%), and for those who not completed ISCED 2 level programs (18.9%). The lowest unemployment rates are observed among persons who have completed ISCED 5AS and ISCED 6 programs (9.8%), and among those who have completed ISCED 5A (10.6) (Table 2).

Table 2. Unemployment rate (%) by sex and educational level

Level of education	1st Quarter					
	2010			2011		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Total	9.0	15.5	11.7	13.3	19.5	15.9
ISCED 5AS, 6	5.5	9.6	7.4	10.6	8.7	9.8
ISCED 5A	4.9	9.2	7.1	7.4	13.7	10.6
ISCED 5 B	8.8	18.3	13.4	13.0	23.3	17.9
ISCED 3	10.0	18.1	13.2	14.1	22.9	17.6
ISCED 2	11.8	18.7	14.0	16.3	22.3	18.2
ISCED 1	8.8	13.8	10.6	14.4	15.4	14.8
Did not complete ISCED 1	9.0	15.3	11.5	21.9	12.8	18.9
Did not attend school	20.6	11.9	18.1	27.5	17.0	23.4

88.9% of unemployed persons are looking for a full time job as employees. More specifically, 51.7% of those looking for job as employees are looking exclusively for a full time job, while 39.7% are looking for full time job, but, if needed, would accept to work part time.

A significant part of the unemployed persons (6.8%) did not accept a job offer, during the 1st Quarter of 2011, because of various reasons. The main reasons reported were:

- a) the location of the job was not suitable (25.4%),
- b) the wage was not satisfactory (25.1%),
- c) the working hours were not convenient (16.3%).

The percentage of the “new” unemployed, that is the percentage of persons who entered for the first time labour market, is 22.8%. We should note that the percentage of the “long term” unemployed, that is the percentage of persons that have been looking for a job for more than 1 year (irrespectively of being “new” or “old” unemployed), is 46.6%.

The unemployment rate is higher for persons of foreign nationality (19.8%) compared with those of Greek nationality (15.5%). On the contrary, the percentage of the economically active persons with foreign nationality is much higher than the corresponding percentage for persons of Greek nationality (73.3% compared to 52.0%).

The geographical areas (NUTS II regions) with the highest unemployment rate are South Aegean (24.3%) and West Macedonia (22.3%). The lowest unemployment rates are observed in Peloponnese (12.4%) and North Aegean (12.6%) (Table 3).

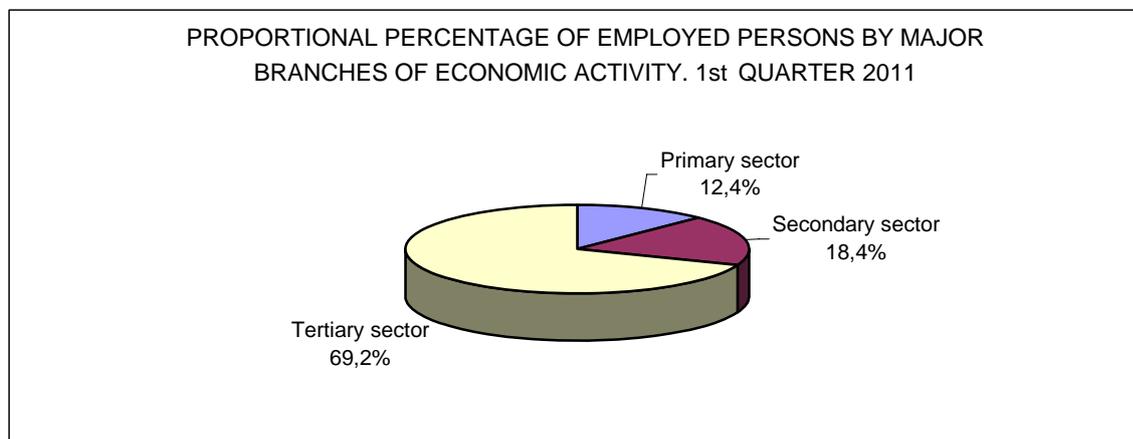
Table 3. Unemployment rate by regions (NUTS II)

NUTS II Region	1st Quarter 2010	1 st Quarter 2011
Greece, total	11.7	15.9
Anatoliki Makedonia Thraki (East Macedonia and Thrace)	14.2	18.0
Kentriki Makedonia (Central Macedonia)	12.4	17.5
Dytiki Makedonia (West Macedonia)	15.1	22.3
Ipeiros (Epirus)	12.2	15.4
Thessalia (Thessaly)	11.3	14.3
Ionioi Nisoi (Ionian Islands)	20.4	20.3
Dytiki Ellas (West Greece)	9.3	15.1
Stereia Ellas	11.7	16.1
Attiki (Attica)	10.7	14.7
Peloponnisos (Peloponnese)	8.8	12.4
Voreio Aigaio (North Aegean)	7.6	12.6
Notio Aigaio (South Aegean)	18.9	24.3
Kriti (Crete)	12.9	15.7

II. EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

During the 1st Quarter of 2011, 84,278 persons who were unemployed one year ago found a job. During the same period, 47,690 persons who were inactive one year ago, got into employment. On the contrary, 195,193 persons who were working one year ago, during the 1st Quarter of 2011 are unemployed and 101,609 persons, who were working, are now inactive. In addition, 102,329 persons who were inactive one year ago, during the 1st Quarter of 2011 entered labour market and are searching for a job.

If we examine changes in employment by different sector of economic activity, we see that compared to the 1st Quarter of 2010 there was a decrease in employment in all sectors. In the primary sector the decrease was 7.7%, in the secondary 13.8%) and the tertiary sector 2.2% (chart 2).

Chart 2

The percentage of part time employment is low and amounts to 6.8% of the total of the employed. The percentage of part timers who choose to work part time because they cannot find a full time job is 54.1%, while 5.9% choose a part time job because they are looking after children or incapacitated adults.

The percentage of employees is estimated at 63.4% of the total of the employed persons and is by far lower than the mean percentage of employees in the European Union which is 80% (Chart 3).

Chart 3

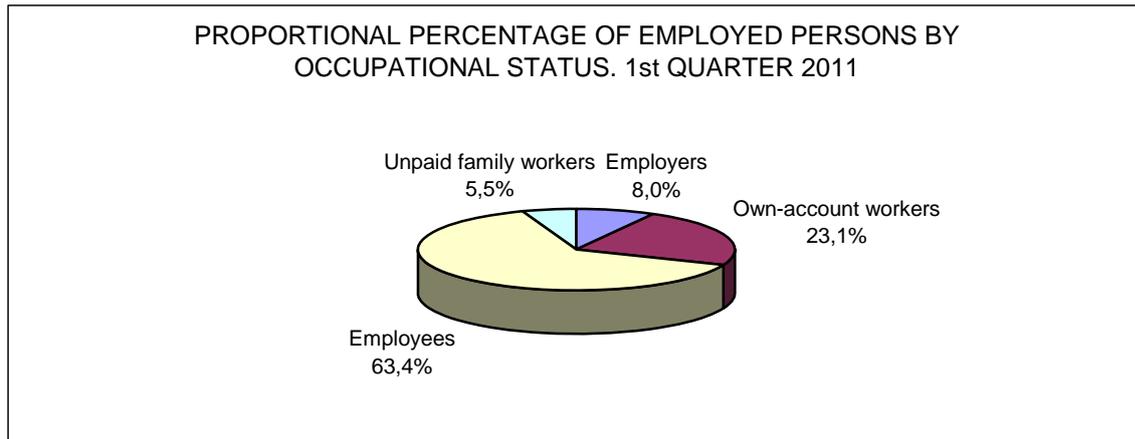


Table 4 illustrates the number of the employed by branch of economic activity for the 1st Quarter of 2011 compared to the 4th quarter of 2011 and the 1st Quarter of 2010, while Table 5 gives the percentage allocation of the employed for the different branches of economic activity in the 13 regions of Greece (NUTS II).

Table 4. Employed persons aged 15 years and over by branch of economic activity*Thousands*

I. Branch of economic activity (NACE Rev. 2)	1st Quarter 2010	4th Quarter 2010	1st Quarter 2011
Total	4,425.6	4,299.0	4,194.4
A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	562.4	533.8	519.0
B. Mining and quarrying	13.4	14.4	11.1
C. Manufacturing	481.9	448.8	440.7
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	27.0	24.7	24.5
E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	31.3	32.9	27.4
F. Construction	340.4	298.6	267.2
G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	785.5	795.0	782.0
H. Transportation and storage	217.1	209.8	203.2
I. Accommodation and food service activities	288.0	296.7	272.3
J. Information and communication	88.6	83.2	83.1
K. Financial and insurance activities	114.5	113.9	113.7
L. Real estate activities	7.2	5.1	4.7
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	226.1	213.0	218.9
N. Administrative and support service activities	69.1	76.7	79.1
O. Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	373.2	369.9	373.2
P. Education	331.2	313.1	308.8
Q. Human health and social work activities	243.9	243.1	244.6
R. Arts, entertainment and recreation	47.0	47.9	46.7
S. Other service activities	85.8	87.9	87.6
T. Activities of households as employers	90.1	89.3	84.6
U. Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies	1.8	1.6	2.1

Table 5. Proportional percentage of employed persons aged 15 years and over by branch of economic activity and region

Branch of economic activity	1st Quarter 2011						
	Greece, total	Anatoliki Makedonia Thraki (East Macedonia and Thrace)	Kentriki Makedonia (Central Macedonia)	Dytiki Makedonia (West Macedonia)	Ipeiros (Epirus)	Thessalia (Thessaly)	Ionia Nisia (Ionian Islands)
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	12.4	27.2	12.0	18.2	18.9	24.6	17.7
B. Mining and quarrying	0.3	0.2	0.1	5.1	0.3	0.5	0.0
C. Manufacturing	10.5	9.9	13.9	11.2	9.9	9.1	4.5
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0.6	0.4	0.3	2.7	0.7	0.3	0.2
E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0.7	0.3	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.8
F. Construction	6.4	4.1	4.9	6.0	7.9	5.5	11.3
G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	18.6	15.4	20.6	17.0	17.6	16.3	19.4
H. Transportation and storage	4.8	2.7	4.8	2.7	2.3	3.0	4.1
I. Accommodation and food service activities	6.5	6.2	6.2	7.1	8.5	8.2	8.5
J. Information and communication	2.0	1.1	1.3	0.8	0.4	0.6	1.1
K. Financial and insurance activities	2.7	1.3	2.2	0.9	1.6	1.7	2.2
I. Real estate activities	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	5.2	3.8	5.3	2.6	5.1	3.9	4.0
N. Administrative and support service activities	1.9	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.1	1.3	2.0
O. Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	8.9	11.1	6.5	8.4	8.0	8.8	6.7
P. Education	7.4	6.2	8.3	7.4	7.9	8.2	8.4
Q. Human health and social work activities	5.8	5.9	6.5	5.0	6.6	4.0	4.2
R. Arts, entertainment and recreation	1.1	0.5	1.3	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.2
S. Other service activities	2.1	1.6	2.1	1.6	1.5	1.9	2.6
T. Activities of households as employers	2.0	0.9	1.2	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.9
U. Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 5. Proportional percentage of employed persons aged 15 years and over by branch of economic activity and region (continued)

Branch of economic activity	1st Quarter 2011						
	Dytiki Ellas (West Greece)	Sterea Ellas	Attiki (Attica)	Peloponnisos (Peloponnese)	Voreio Aigaio (North Aegean)	Notio Aigaio (South Aegean)	Kriti (Crete)
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing	20.4	20.3	1.1	29.6	11.4	8.4	22.7
B. Mining and quarrying	0.1	0.9	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.1
C. Manufacturing	7.8	17.0	10.8	7.1	6.3	8.0	6.0
D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.9	0.5
E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	0.4	0.7	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.5
F. Construction	7.9	8.6	5.8	8.1	6.5	11.5	7.8
G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	17.9	14.8	20.4	13.1	13.7	20.8	18.3
H. Transportation and storage	4.6	4.2	6.4	3.8	3.8	4.4	3.3
I. Accommodation and food service activities	6.4	6.1	5.1	7.7	10.0	9.7	9.5
J. Information and communication	0.9	0.3	3.7	0.8	2.1	1.6	0.5
K. Financial and insurance activities	1.9	1.1	4.5	1.4	1.4	1.0	1.2
L. Real estate activities	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1
M. Professional, scientific and technical activities	4.5	3.5	6.9	3.3	2.2	3.8	3.9
N. Administrative and support service activities	1.3	0.5	2.8	0.7	1.6	2.6	1.6
O. Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	6.6	8.5	9.9	7.0	24.9	11.6	7.6
P. Education	8.6	5.6	7.2	6.4	6.9	4.8	7.5
Q. Human health and social work activities	5.5	3.9	6.8	3.5	4.7	5.9	4.5
R. Arts, entertainment and recreation	0.8	0.8	1.2	1.8	0.3	1.7	0.3
S. Other service activities	2.9	1.9	2.1	2.2	1.9	1.5	2.2
T. Activities of households as employers	1.1	1.0	3.7	1.4	0.5	0.4	1.6
U. Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Labour Force Survey Labour Force Survey produces estimates since 1981 (second quarter of the year). From 1998 onwards it is a continuous quarterly survey. The main statistical objectives of the Labour Force Survey is to divide the population of working age (15 years and over) into three mutually exclusive and exhaustive groups - persons in employment, unemployed persons and inactive persons. In addition, the Labour Force Survey collects information on demographic characteristics, on main job characteristics, on the existence and characteristics of a second job, on educational attainment, on participation in education, on previous working experience and on search of job.

Legislation The current survey is completely harmonized with European legislation. The principal legal act is the Council Regulation (EC) No. 577/98 that stipulates the provisions on design, survey characteristics and decision-making processes. The survey framework was modified in successive Commission regulations. (Regulation (EC) No 1372/2007, Regulation (EC) No 2257/2003, Regulation (EC) No 1991/2002).

Reference Period The sample of Labour Force Survey is equally allocated to the 4 (or 5) weeks of the month. Every selected household is assigned to a specific week, the reference week, running from Monday to Sunday.

- For employment the reference period is the reference week.
- For employment seeking the reference period is the reference week and the previous 3 weeks.

Coverage The survey covers all members of the private households who are residing at least one year in Greece and excludes the members of the collective households (i.e. hospitals, hotels, barracks, asylums, old people's homes, orphanages etc).

Definitions **Employed** are persons aged 15 years or older, who during the reference week worked, even for just one hour, for pay or profit or they were working in the family business, or they were not at work but had a job or business from which they were temporarily absent.

Unemployed are persons aged 15-74 who were without work during the reference week (they were not classified as employed), were currently available for work and were either actively seeking work in the past four weeks or had already found a job to start within the next three months.

Inactive are those persons who are neither classified as employed nor as unemployed.

Economically active population (labour force) are persons either employed or unemployed.

Unemployment Rate is the ratio of unemployed divided by total labour force.

Methodology Labour Force Survey's estimates are produced by a suitable unbiased estimator which takes in to account a) the probability of selection of every sampled household, b) the response rate in every primary sampling unit, c) the estimated population for January 2011, allocated by NUTS II areas, gender and age group).

References Analytical description of the Labour Force Survey's methodology and definitions can be found at www.statistics.gr.