



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE

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**NATIONAL STATISTICAL SERVICE
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PRESS RELEASE

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

March 2009

The General Secretariat of National Statistical Service of Greece announces the Labour Force Survey's results for March 2009. Unemployment rate was 9.2% in March 2009.

For the monthly estimates, a sub sample of the quarterly Labour Force survey's sample was used. In total, 22,369 persons, belonging to 9,282 different households, were interviewed.

Monthly employment's characteristics (number of employed, unemployed etc.) were estimated by an unbiased estimator, which was calculated based on: 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 age groups in every NUTS II level area, for March.

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EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT MARCH 2009

For March 2009, the number of employed persons is estimated to 4,489,672. The number of unemployed persons is estimated to 457,024, while economically non-actives were estimated to 4,309,170. Unemployment rate is 9.2%.

The corresponding figures for March 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 are presented in **Table 1**.

Table 1. Employed, unemployed, economically non-active and unemployment rate (March, 2004 - 2009).

	March					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Employed	4,234,344	4,293,940	4,425,928	4,418,510	4,494,724	4,489,672
Unemployed	536,029	508,138	448,627	462,042	442,558	457,024
Economically non active	4,279,263	4,294,597	4,266,141	4,292,428	4,287,843	4,309,170
Unemployment rate	11.2	10.6	9.2	9.5	9.0	9.2

In Table 1, we observe:

The number of employed persons increases from 2004 to 2008. The rate of increase in employment between March 2004 and March 2005 was 1.4%, between March 2005 and March 2006 was 3.1%, between March 2006 and March 2007 the rate of decrease was 0.2 %, while between March 2007 and March 2008 was 1.7%. The number of employed persons decreased by 0.1% between March 2008 and March 2009.

The number of unemployed persons decreased from 2004 to 2006, increased in 2007 and decreased again from 2007 to 2008. Between March 2004 and March 2005, the number of unemployed persons decreased by 5.2%. Between March 2005 and March 2006, decreased by 11.7%, between March 2006 and March 2007 increased by 3.0%, while between March 2007 and March 2008 decreased 4.2%. The number of unemployed persons increased by 3.3% between March 2008 and March 2009.

These changes in the number of employed and unemployed persons led to the reduction of unemployment rate, from 11.2% in March 2004 to 10.6% in March 2005. The unemployment rate was 9.2% in March 2006, while it increased in 9.5% in March 2007 and decreased in 9.0% in March 2008. The unemployment rate increased to 9.2% in March 2009.

Tables 2,3, and 4 present in detail the unemployment rate by region, sex and age groups in March 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009.

Table 2: Unemployment rate by region: March 2004 – 2009

Region	March					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
ANATOLIKI MAKEDONIA, THRAKI	13.1	12.4	10.6	9.9	11.8	12.3
KENTRIKI MAKEDONIA	12.5	12.6	10.3	9.4	9.4	9.2
DYTIKI MAKEDONIA	17.3	19.9	19.2	14.1	8.0	11.3
IPEIROS	9.7	10.9	10.6	9.4	10.2	10.1
THESSALIA	10.5	8.7	9.6	6.2	9.1	9.1
IONIA NISIA	15.7	15.6	19.6	19.1	8.6	18.7
DYTIKI ELLADA	10.9	10.6	7.8	8.2	9.8	9.2
STEREA ELLADA	10.4	11.4	7.7	8.9	9.0	9.7
ATTICI	10.2	9.2	7.7	8.7	7.2	7.8
PELOPONNISOS	12.1	9.1	7.0	7.5	9.1	8.4
VOREIO AIGAIO	9.9	8.2	9.1	10.1	5.4	4.9
NOTIO AIGAIO	12.6	15.0	11.5	21.8	20.8	15.2
KRITI	10.1	7.3	9.2	10.0	10.7	10.3
<i>Total</i>	11.2	10.6	9.2	9.5	9.0	9.2

Table 3. Unemployment rate by sex: March 2004-2009

Sex	March					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Men	7.4	6.6	5.9	6.2	6.3	6.6
Women	16.9	16.5	14.1	14.2	12.7	12.9
<i>Total</i>	11.2	10.6	9.2	9.5	9.0	9.2

Table 4: Unemployment rate by age groups: March 2004-2009

Group ages	March					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
15-24 years old	30.2	26.3	25.3	25.6	27.1	24.5
25-34 »	14.1	13.8	11.4	12.4	11.9	12.7
35-44 »	8.1	8.7	7.9	7.7	7.1	7.5
45-54 »	5.9	5.9	5.5	5.6	5.4	6.0
55-64 »	5.5	4.8	3.9	4.6	3.4	3.9
65-74 »	0.0	0.9	1.9	0.5	0.0	0.7
<i>Total</i>	11.2	10.6	9.2	9.5	9.0	9.2