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PRESS RELEASE

Unemployment rate at 15.1% in January 2011

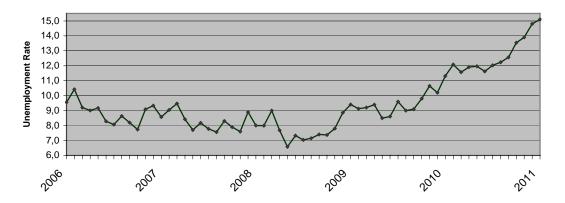
LABOUR FORCE SURVEY: January 2011

Unemployment rate in January 2011 was 15.1% compared to 11.3% in January 2010 and 14.8% in December 2010. The number of employed amounted to 4,267,584 persons while the number of unemployed amounted to 756,795 and the number of inactive to 4,302,315. The corresponding figures for January 2006 to 2011 are presented in Table 1.

The number of employed decreased by 178,159 persons compared with January 2010 (a 4.0% rate of decrease) and increased by 33,820 persons compared with December 2010 (a 0.8% rate of increase).,

Unemployed increased by 189,663 persons (a 33.4% rate of increase) compared with January 2010 and by 23,149 persons compared with December 2010 (a 3.2% rate of increase).

Unemployment rate by month (January 2006 – January 2011)



Tables 2, 3 and 4 illustrate unemployment rate by NUTS II regions, gender and age groups from January 2006 to 2011.

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Table 1. Employed, unemployed, economically non-active and unemployment rate (January 2006-2011)

	January						
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
Employed	4,369,914	4,491,606	4,511,585	4,485,015	4,445,743	4,267,584	
Unemployed	461,640	421,130	390,210	465,692	567,132	756,795	
Inactive	4,299,836	4,254,469	4,318,462	4,298,759	4,276,258	4,302,315	
Unemployment rate	9.6	8.6	8.0	9.4	11.3	15.1	

Table 2: Unemployment rate by region (NUTSII): January 2006-2011

Region	January						
Region	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
Anatoliki Makedonia Thraki (East Macedonia and Thrace)	12.6	9.4	8.2	8.8	10.9	19.3	
Kentriki Makedonia (Central Macedonia)	10.8	9.0	8.7	10.4	12.2	17.1	
Dytiki Makedonia (West Macedonia)	12.5	13.7	13.3	16.4	17.7	22.7	
Ipeiros (Epirus)	8.8	11.6	9.8	12.8	12.6	13.7	
Thessalia (Thessaly)	7.3	6.3	7.6	9.4	10.0	12.0	
Ionioi Nisoi (Ionian Islands)	17.9	9.5	13.8	10.9	19.1	17.0	
Dytiki Ellas (West Greece)	10.1	9.3	8.8	9.2	9.7	11.7	
Sterea Ellas	10.0	11.7	9.2	11.9	11.8	17.0	
Attiki (Attica)	8.1	7.7	6.7	7.1	10.7	14.6	
Peloponnissos (Peloponnese)	8.4	6.6	8.0	9.5	9.0	10.3	
Voreio Aigaio (North Aegean)	7.0	5.0	4.1	8.2	3.0	7.1	
Notio Aigaio (South Aegean)	14.4	14.9	12.1	16.3	15.3	20.2	
Kriti (Crete)	10.2	7.3	5.6	12.4	12.1	14.6	
Total Country	9.6	8.6	8.0	9.4	11.3	15.1	

Table 3. Unemployment rate by gender: January 2006-2011

Gender	January					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Male	6.5	5.0	5.1	6.7	8.7	12.4
Female	14.1	13.6	12.1	13.3	14.9	18.8
Total	9.6	8.6	8.0	9.4	11.3	15.1

Table 4: Unemployment rate by age groups: January 2006-2011

Age Group	January						
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
15-24 years old	23.9	23.7	20.6	25.0	30.4	37.0	
25-34 years old	13.1	12.1	11.3	12.0	14.6	21.3	
35-44 years old	6.7	7.0	6.4	8.3	9.7	12.6	
45-54 years old	5.7	4.3	4.5	6.2	8.4	10.5	
55-64 years old	4.6	3.2	4.0	4.0	4.6	6.9	
65-74 years old	1.7	2.4	1.5	1.3	2.0	1.1	
Total	9.6	8.6	8.0	9.4	11.3	15.1	

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 employmen,. 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 <u>Council Regulation (EC) No. 577/98</u> that stipulates the provisions on design. survey characteristics and decision-making processes. The survey framework was modified in successive Commission regulations. (<u>Regulation (EC) No 1372/2007</u>, <u>Regulation (EC) No 2257/2003</u>, <u>Regulation (EC) No 1991/2002</u>).

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

For the monthly estimates, a sub-sample of the quarterly Labour Force survey's sample was used.

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 $\underline{www.statistics.gr}.$