



HELLENIC REPUBLIC



HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

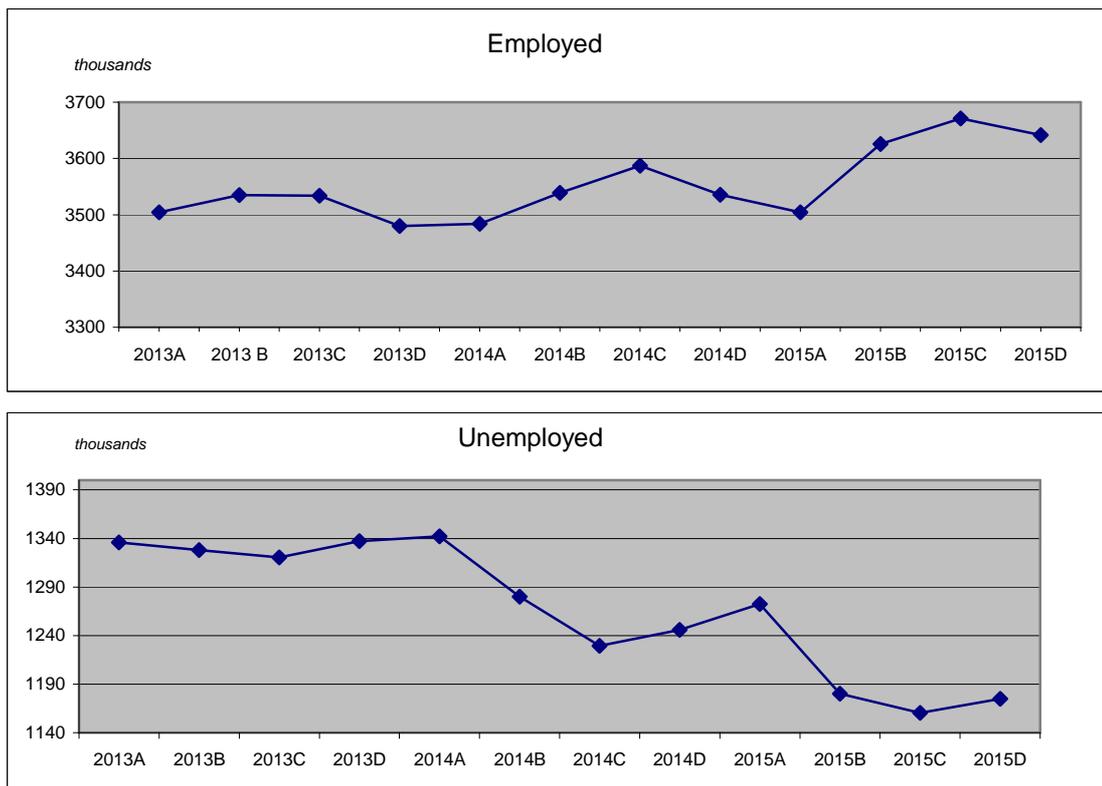
Piraeus, March 17, 2016

PRESS RELEASE

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 4th Quarter 2015

In the 4th Quarter of 2015 the number of employed amounted to 3,641,682 persons while the number of unemployed amounted to 1,174,658. The unemployment rate was 24.4% compared with 24.0% in the previous quarter, and 26.1% in the corresponding quarter of 2014

The number of employed persons decreased by 0.8% compared with the previous quarter and increased by 3.0% compared with the 4th quarter of 2014. The number of unemployed persons increased by 1.2% compared with the previous quarter and decreased by 5.7 compared with the 4th Quarter of 2014.



The estimates presented in this press release are based on the quarterly Labour Force Survey (LFS). It is noted that unlike monthly results the quarterly results of the Labour Force Survey are not seasonally adjusted.

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I. UNEMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

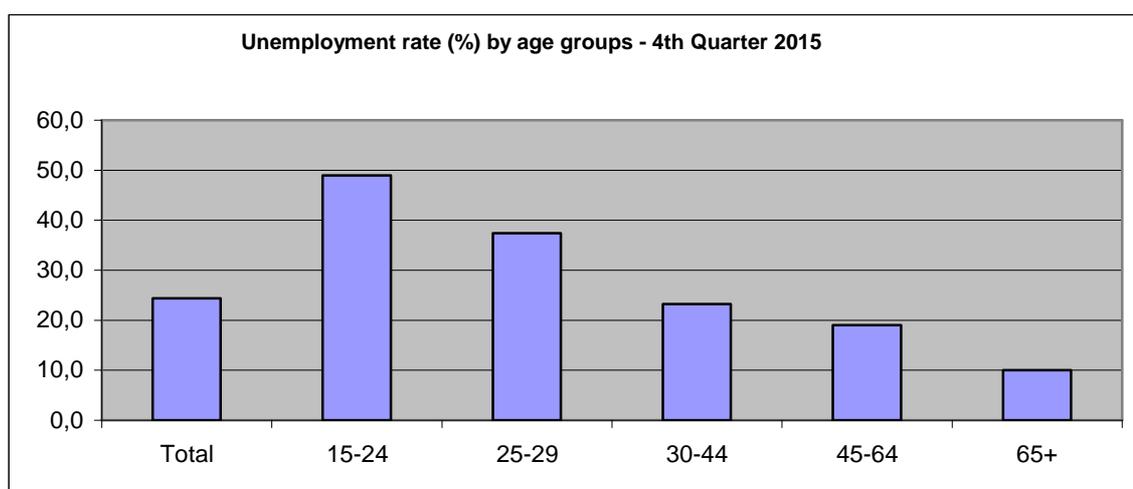
The unemployment rate for females (28.4%) is considerably higher than the unemployment rate for males (21.2%).

As regards the unemployment rate for different age groups, the highest unemployment rate is recorded among young people in the age group of 15-24 years (49.0%). For young females the unemployment rate is 54.3% (Table 1, Chart 1).

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

| Age Groups | 4th Quarter | | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2014 | | | 2015 | | |
| | Males | Females | Total | Males | Females | Total |
| Total | 23.3 | 29.6 | 26.1 | 21.2 | 28.4 | 24.4 |
| 15-24 | 46.6 | 56.9 | 51.5 | 44.1 | 54.3 | 49.0 |
| 25-29 | 39.4 | 43.0 | 41.1 | 33.5 | 41.9 | 37.4 |
| 30-44 | 21.4 | 28.7 | 24.7 | 19.2 | 27.9 | 23.2 |
| 45-64 | 17.6 | 21.5 | 19.3 | 17.3 | 21.4 | 19.0 |
| 65+ | 13.2 | 5.8 | 10.9 | 12.6 | 5.9 | 10.0 |

Chart 1



As regards the educational attainment level, the unemployment rate is higher among persons who did not attend school (45.6%). The lowest unemployment rates are observed among persons, who have completed post-graduate studies or have a doctorate (13.7%), and among university graduates (19.6%), (Table 2).

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

| Level of education | 4th Quarter | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2014 | | | 2015 | | |
| | Males | Females | Total | Males | Females | Total |
| Total | 23.3 | 29.6 | 26.1 | 21.2 | 28.4 | 24.4 |
| Post Graduate Studies, Phd | 8.9 | 18.4 | 13.1 | 10.8 | 17.0 | 13.7 |
| University | 16.4 | 22.6 | 19.8 | 16.0 | 22.6 | 19.6 |
| Tertiary Vocational Educational, Post – Secondary Vocational Education | 23.3 | 31.3 | 27.2 | 19.4 | 29.9 | 24.6 |
| Secondary Education | 24.9 | 34.8 | 28.9 | 22.1 | 32.3 | 26.2 |
| Lower Secondary Education | 28.3 | 33.4 | 30.1 | 25.5 | 33.7 | 28.4 |
| Primary Education | 24.6 | 25.6 | 25.0 | 24.6 | 24.8 | 24.7 |
| Did not complete Primary Education | 35.8 | 57.6 | 43.0 | 35.7 | 42.9 | 38.0 |
| Did not attend school | 39.8 | 42.4 | 41.0 | 39.3 | 52.6 | 45.6 |

The 12.1% of those looking for job as employees are looking exclusively for a full time job, while 83.1% are looking for full time job but would accept to work part time, if needed. 4.8% are looking for a part time job or they do not care if they find a full or a part time job.

During the 4th Quarter of 2015, the 6.4% of the unemployed persons did not accept a job offer because of various reasons. The main reasons reported were:

- a) the location of the job was not suitable (31.5%),
- b) the working hours were not convenient (18.4),
- c) the wage was not satisfactory (13.2%).

The percentage of unemployed persons who have never worked in the past, is 22.6% (over the total unemployed). It should be noted that the percentage of the “long term” unemployed, that is the percentage of persons that have been looking for a job for 1 year or more, is 74.3%.

The unemployment rate is higher for persons of foreign nationality (30.8%) compared with those of Greek nationality (23.9%). It should also be noted that the percentage of the economically active persons with foreign nationality is much higher than the corresponding percentage of persons with Greek nationality (71.3% compared to 51.1%).

The geographical areas (NUTS 2 regions) with the highest unemployment rate are Western Macedonia (32.2%) and Western Greece (28.9%). The lowest unemployment rates are observed in Southern Aegean (11.4%) and Ionian Islands (16.4%), (Table 3.).

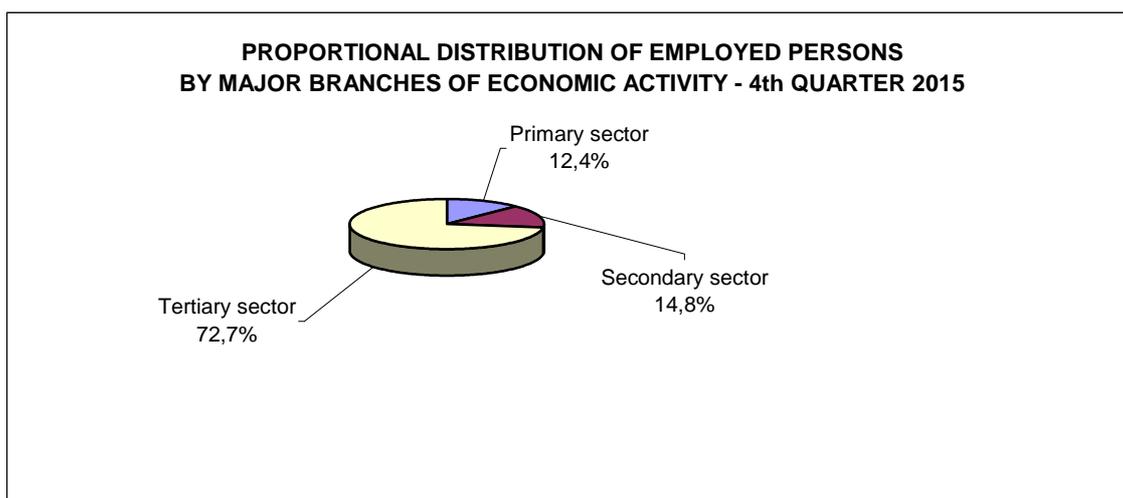
| NUTS 2 Region | 4th Quarter 2014 | 4th Quarter 2015 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Greece, total | 26.1 | 24.4 |
| Anatoliki Makedonia Thraki (Eastern Macedonia and Thrace) | 24.4 | 22.7 |
| Kentriki Makedonia (Central Macedonia) | 27.9 | 25.4 |
| Dytiki Makedonia (Western Macedonia) | 27.9 | 32.2 |
| Ipeiros (Epirus) | 24.5 | 24.4 |
| Thessalia (Thessaly) | 25.8 | 28.6 |
| Ionioi Nisoi (Ionian Islands) | 21.2 | 16.4 |
| Dytiki Ellas (Western Greece) | 27.8 | 28.9 |
| Stereia Ellas | 27.0 | 26.2 |
| Attiki (Attica) | 26.8 | 24.2 |
| Peloponnissos (Peloponnese) | 23.4 | 19.9 |
| Voreio Aigaio (Northern Aegean) | 20.5 | 16.6 |
| Notio Aigaio (Southern Aegean) | 16.9 | 11.4 |
| Kriti (Crete) | 25.3 | 26.5 |

II. EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS

During the 4th Quarter of 2015, 151,110 persons, who were unemployed one year ago found a job. During the same period, 41,841 persons who were inactive one year ago got into employment. On the contrary, 111,421 persons, who were working one year ago, are unemployed and 55,582 persons, who were working, are now inactive. In addition, 111,733 persons who were inactive one year ago, during the 4th Quarter of 2015 entered labour market and are looking for a job.

By examining changes in employment by sector of economic activity, there is a 5.7% decrease in employment level in Primary Sector during the 4th Quarter of 2015 compared to the 4th Quarter of 2014. In the Secondary Sector there is an increase of 2.5% and an increase of 4.8% in the Tertiary Sector. Chart 2 presents the proportional distribution of employed persons by major branches of economic activity in the 4th Quarter of 2015.

Chart 2



¹ NUTS 2 Regions are the lowest geographical areas for which Labour Force Survey (LFS) publishes estimates. LFS results are not published at lower level (NUTS 3) because, due to small population and sample size, estimates in these areas have large sampling errors. It should be noted that in 4 NUTS 2 Regions, namely Western Macedonia, Ionian Islands, Northern Aegean and Southern Aegean, there is the problem of small populations and sample sizes and as a result estimates in these areas have large sampling errors.

The percentage of part time employed amounts to 9.4% 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 69.5%, while 6.8% choose a part time job for other personal or family reasons, 4.7% because they are in education, 2.9% because they are looking after children or incapacitated adults and 16.0% for other reasons.

The percentage of employees is estimated at 65.7% of the total of the employed persons (Chart 3) and is the lower amongst all European Union countries, where the mean percentage of employees over all employed persons is 83.5%.

Chart 3

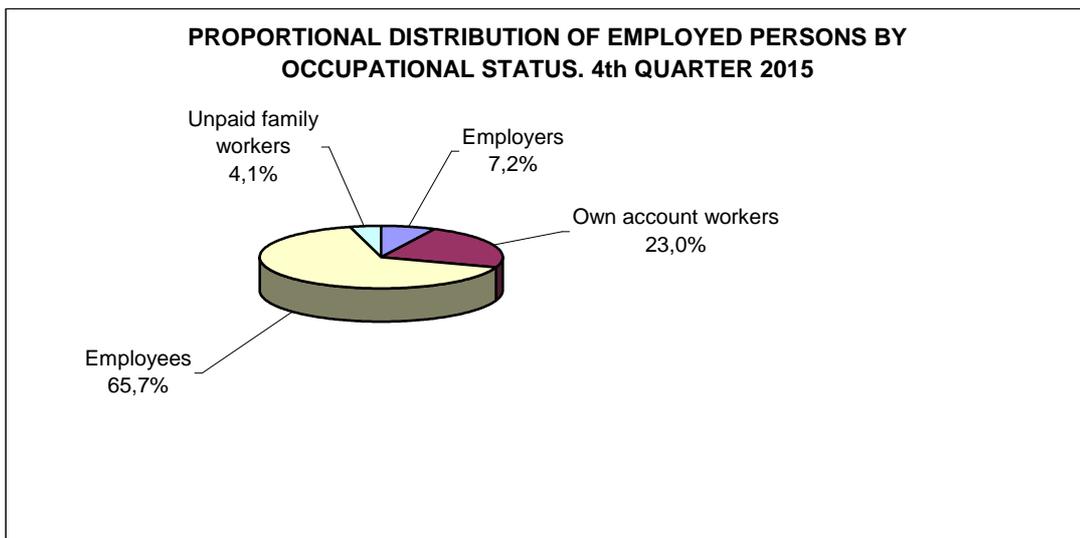


Table 4 illustrates the number of the employed by Section of economic activity for the 4th Quarter of 2015 compared to the 3rd Quarter of 2015 and the 4th Quarter of 2014, while Table 5 gives the percentage allocation of the employed for the different Sections of economic activity in the 13 Regions of Greece (NUTS 2).

Table 4. Persons employed aged 15 years and over by economic activity²*Thousands*

| I. Economic activity (NACE Rev. 2 Sections) | 4th Quarter 2014 | 3rd Quarter 2015 | 4th Quarter 2015 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Total | 3,535.3 | 3,671.1 | 3,641.7 |
| A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 480.4 | 461.3 | 452.8 |
| B. Mining and quarrying | 11.8 | 9.7 | 11.8 |
| C. Manufacturing | 317.8 | 345.3 | 333.5 |
| D. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply | 26.0 | 25.7 | 27.8 |
| E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities | 19.4 | 24.7 | 23.5 |
| F. Construction | 151.8 | 145.9 | 143.2 |
| G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | 626.5 | 676.8 | 667.5 |
| H. Transportation and storage | 168.1 | 166.7 | 169.5 |
| I. Accommodation and food service activities | 300.8 | 365.0 | 327.0 |
| J. Information and communication | 78.7 | 73.4 | 74.6 |
| K. Financial and insurance activities | 84.2 | 90.0 | 90.7 |
| L. Real estate activities | 5.1 | 6.2 | 6.4 |
| M. Professional, scientific and technical activities | 204.7 | 210.4 | 210.7 |
| N. Administrative and support service activities | 86.1 | 89.2 | 85.6 |
| O. Public administration and defense; compulsory social security | 296.8 | 318.7 | 330.7 |
| P. Education | 295.2 | 280.9 | 298.6 |
| Q. Human health and social work activities | 211.6 | 214.3 | 217.3 |
| R. Arts, entertainment and recreation | 48.2 | 45.7 | 47.7 |
| S. Other service activities | 72.9 | 72.4 | 74.5 |
| T. Activities of households as employers | 48.3 | 47.1 | 45.4 |
| U. Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies | 1.1 | 1.8 | 2.8 |

² Estimates of "rare" characteristics, that is estimates of characteristics that refer to 10,000 persons of the country as a whole, are accompanied by large sampling errors.

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

| Economic activity | 4th Quarter 2015 | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| | Greece, total | Anatoliki Makedonia Thraki (Eastern Macedonia and Thrace) | Kentriki Makedonia (Central Macedonia) | Dytiki Makedonia (Western 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 | 26.7 | 14.6 | 18.1 | 18.7 | 23.6 | 4.9 |
| B. Mining and quarrying | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 6.9 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| C. Manufacturing | 9.2 | 8.4 | 12.2 | 10.3 | 9.2 | 11.8 | 5.5 |
| D. Electricity, Gas, steam and air conditioning supply | 0.8 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 3.6 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 1.9 |
| E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.0 |
| F. Construction | 3.9 | 1.8 | 3.6 | 5.1 | 5.1 | 2.7 | 5.2 |
| G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | 18.3 | 15.9 | 18.5 | 13.7 | 16.0 | 15.2 | 22.0 |
| H. Transportation and storage | 4.7 | 2.1 | 4.2 | 2.2 | 2.8 | 3.1 | 4.4 |
| I. Accommodation and food service activities | 9.0 | 8.8 | 8.2 | 6.6 | 8.1 | 8.6 | 22.2 |
| J. Information and communication | 2.0 | 0.5 | 1.5 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| K. Financial and insurance activities | 2.5 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 0.4 | 1.6 | 1.1 | 1.4 |
| L. Real estate activities | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 0.2 |
| M. Professional, scientific and technical activities | 5.8 | 4.6 | 5.3 | 2.6 | 3.4 | 4.7 | 3.6 |
| N. Administrative and support service activities | 2.4 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.2 | 5.2 |
| O. Public administration and defense; compulsory social security | 9.1 | 12.0 | 7.5 | 8.9 | 9.0 | 8.6 | 7.6 |
| P. Education | 8.2 | 7.1 | 9.1 | 9.8 | 10.0 | 8.5 | 7.4 |
| Q. Human health and social work activities | 6.0 | 4.8 | 6.1 | 5.4 | 8.1 | 5.0 | 3.6 |
| R. Arts, entertainment and recreation | 1.3 | 0.5 | 1.2 | 2.2 | 1.7 | 0.9 | 0.5 |
| S. Other service activities | 2.0 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 3.9 |
| T. Activities of households as employers | 1.2 | 0.3 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.4 |
| U. Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

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

| Economic activity | 4th Quarter 2015 | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| | Dytiki Ellas (Western Greece) | Stereia Ellas | Attiki (Attica) | Peloponnisos (Peloponnese) | Voreio Aigaio (Northern Aegean) | Notio Aigaio (Southern Aegean) | Kriti (Crete) |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| A. Agriculture, forestry and fishing | 22.6 | 23.9 | 0.8 | 30.8 | 19.2 | 8.5 | 16.0 |
| B. Mining and quarrying | 0.0 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 0.0 |
| C. Manufacturing | 4.9 | 16.9 | 8.8 | 5.4 | 3.5 | 4.5 | 7.3 |
| D. Electricity, Gas, steam and air conditioning supply | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.3 |
| E. Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| F. Construction | 5.1 | 4.0 | 3.5 | 5.6 | 4.9 | 5.3 | 5.8 |
| G. Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles | 17.0 | 15.6 | 20.0 | 14.8 | 15.5 | 23.0 | 19.4 |
| H. Transportation and storage | 3.9 | 3.1 | 6.5 | 2.9 | 3.4 | 3.9 | 4.9 |
| I. Accommodation and food service activities | 8.7 | 7.9 | 6.9 | 9.1 | 9.4 | 21.5 | 14.9 |
| J. Information and communication | 1.3 | 0.1 | 4.1 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 1.1 |
| K. Financial and insurance activities | 1.6 | 1.3 | 4.2 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.9 | 1.2 |
| I. Real estate activities | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| M. Professional, scientific and technical activities | 3.4 | 2.3 | 8.9 | 3.2 | 3.0 | 3.8 | 2.3 |
| N. Administrative and support service activities | 1.3 | 1.9 | 3.2 | 1.0 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.5 |
| O. Public administration and defense; compulsory social security | 10.3 | 6.1 | 9.9 | 7.4 | 18.2 | 9.5 | 6.6 |
| P. Education | 10.3 | 8.0 | 7.7 | 7.3 | 8.6 | 5.9 | 8.5 |
| Q. Human health and social work activities | 5.0 | 3.1 | 7.5 | 4.2 | 6.1 | 3.6 | 4.6 |
| R. Arts, entertainment and recreation | 1.4 | 0.9 | 1.7 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 1.8 | 0.9 |
| S. Other service activities | 2.1 | 2.3 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 2.5 | 1.9 |
| T. Activities of households as employers | 0.5 | 0.4 | 2.0 | 1.3 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 1.1 |
| U. Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 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 objective 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, main job characteristics, the existence and characteristics of a second job, educational attainment, participation in education, previous working experience and 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 amended by 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 allocation of population by NUTS 2 Regions, gender and age group.
- References** Analytical description of the Labour Force Survey's methodology and definitions can be found at www.statistics.gr.