



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

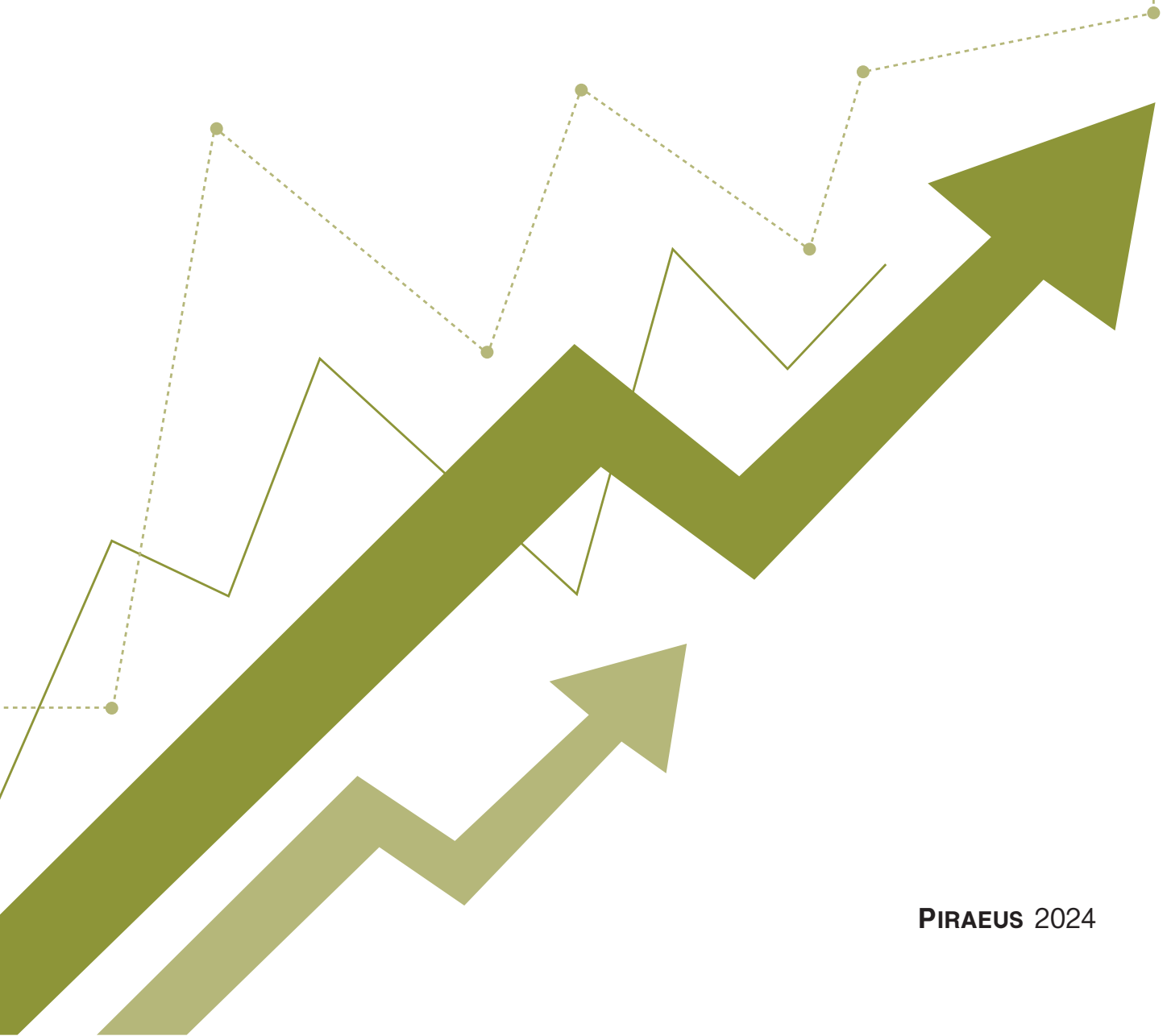


HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

ELSTAT

Annual Report

2023



PIRAEUS 2024

A. INTRODUCTION

In this Annual Report, ELSTAT accounts for its activities in 2023. Besides the activities concerning the statistical surveys and tasks outlined in the 2023 Statistical Work Programme, the Annual Report also contains information on the major statistical events of 2023.

In 2023, ELSTAT continued its actions to improve the completeness, quality and timeliness of its statistics by implementing the Greek and European statistical legal framework and by adopting the higher European and international statistical standards. In the context of its mission to produce timely and relevant statistics for citizens, companies and policymakers, ELSTAT has established the production of experimental statistics. These statistics have as their main objective to provide immediate statistical information on selected important issues of the economic and social life of the Country, reflecting, among other things, the short-term economic situation. Furthermore, ELSTAT continued its cooperation with the agencies of the Hellenic Statistical System (ELSS), to improve the quality of their statistics, through the coordination of their statistical activities and the certification process of their statistics.

ELSTAT maintained, in 2023, its active role in the European Statistical System (ESS), through its close cooperation with the other ESS members, in the framework of working meetings (Task Forces/Working Groups and Sector/Directors' Groups) organised by Eurostat on statistical issues, as well as through its participation in the European decision-making centers on statistical issues. The election, since July 2022, of the President of ELSTAT, Mr. Athanasios Con. Thanopoulos as head of the Partnership Group, the high-level group of elected Heads of the National Statistical Institutes of the ESS, has marked the significant and steady progress made in recent years in the field of official statistics of our Country and the consolidation of the reliability of statistics of Greece.

Important events in 2023 for ELSTAT include the completion of the Peer Review at the ELSS, in the context of the 3rd round of peer reviews at the ESS, with the publication of the relevant report of the Reviewers and the planning of improvement actions in the context of implementing the recommendations formulated in the above report.

B. IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND RELIABILITY OF STATISTICS

The Common Quality Framework of the European Statistical System (ESS) is based on the European Statistics Code of Practice (CoP). The ESS is equipped with a mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the CoP, the Peer Reviews.

The aim of the Peer Reviews is to strengthen the integrity, professional independence and accountability of the Statistical Authorities of the ESS members, thereby reassuring users of the ESS's commitment to quality and ensuring their trust in European statistics.

1. 3rd round of Peer Reviews

Following the Peer Review of the ELSS, the relevant Report of the Reviewers was completed and published, in July 2023, on the websites of Eurostat and ELSTAT.

The Report reflects the full compliance, for the first time, of ELSTAT with the CoP principles. The main conclusions of the Report underline the strong institutional framework of ELSTAT's operation, which is complemented and strengthened by specific and unique features, such as the transparent and impartial selection process of the President of ELSTAT, the existence of the Commitment on Confidence in Statistics by the respective Greek government, which guarantees and defends the professional independence of ELSTAT, and the operation of the permanent independent Good Practice Advisory Committee (GPAC). Furthermore, the consolidation of ELSTAT's professional independence in practice is highlighted.

The Report notes the progress achieved by ELSTAT over the last 7 years, regarding access to a wide range of administrative data, which reflects the trust that ELSTAT enjoys from data providers, improves the quality of its official statistics and contributes to the creation of new

statistical products. Special reference is also made to the statistical programmes (Triennial and Annual), to the significant progress that has been made in the field of communication and dissemination of the official statistics of the Country, to the actions of ELSTAT's strategy for the development of statistical literacy in Greece and the active cooperation of ELSTAT with Greek universities.

The Report includes recommendations for further improvement and development of the ELSS. After its publication, ELSTAT, following its cooperation with the other 3 national Authorities that participated in the Peer Review, compiled a list of improvement actions for the ELSS, with a deadline for their implementation that varies, from the 4th quarter of 2023 to the 4th quarter of 2027.

The list of improvement actions (Improvement Action Plan - IA Plan) was posted in November 2023 on the websites of ELSTAT and Eurostat. Subsequently, it was communicated to the organic units of ELSTAT and to the ELSS agencies, for information and implementation, as appropriate. The progress of the implementation of the actions will be monitored by Eurostat on an annual basis.

The Peer Review Report for the ELSS, the improvement actions as well as information on the review process are available at the link: <https://www.statistics.gr/en/peer-review>.

2. Coordination of statistical activities within and among the ELSS agencies

In 2023, ELSTAT, within the framework of its coordinating role in the ELSS, continued to cooperate with the ELSS agencies and provide them with information, instructions and clarifications regarding the implementation of the CoP in the development, production and dissemination of their official statistics.

Furthermore, as above mentioned, after the publication of the Reviewers' Report on the ELSS, ELSTAT, based on their recommendations, collaborated with the other 3 national Authorities that participated in the Peer review, with the aim of compiling the improvement actions that concern them and the timetable for their implementation.

Following the publication of the improvement actions, ELSTAT began their implementation, according to the established timetable. In this context, it organised, on 4 December 2023, a training seminar for the Statistical Heads and other employees of the ELSS agencies involved in the production of statistics, concerning the implementation of Recommendation (EU) 2023/397 on the preparation of quality reports of statistics produced, according to the SIMS (Single Integrated Metadata Structure) standard. There was great interest from ELSS agencies in the above seminar, and a total of 41 employees of them participated in it.

The participants completed a questionnaire to determine their statistical training needs. During the current period, ELSTAT is processing the responses, in order to incorporate relevant training seminars into its annual statistical training programme.

3. Compliance with the requirements of the EU Statistical Legislation

With the aim of fully complying with the European Statistical Regulations, ELSTAT undertook, in 2023, the following actions:

- Regulation (EU) 2022/918 laying down the technical specifications for data requirements relating to Global Value Chains (GVC), in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The design of the survey for the production of Global Value Chains statistics, to be conducted in 2024, has begun, regarding the number of enterprises with more than 50 employees, in the economic activity branches B to N of the NACE Rev.2 classification, broken down by business function and geographical area, for the reference period 2021 – 2023. Also, the development of an electronic web application for conducting the survey is underway.

- Greater currency breakdown, within the framework of the Survey of International Trade in Goods Statistics, by invoicing currency (Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 on European Business Statistics (EBS) and its Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197).
- Linking international trade in goods statistics, by business characteristics, with variables of business statistics and foreign affiliates trade statistics, and changing the deadline for compiling the above statistics, from T+18 months to T+12 months since the end of the reference year, in the context of the International Trade in Goods Statistics Survey, by business characteristics (Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 on European Business Statistics (EBS) and its Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197).
- Continuation of the efforts for the full compliance of ELSTAT with Regulation (EU) 2016/792, regarding the compilation of House Price Indices. Based on the data made available by the electronic application myProperty of the Independent Authority for Public Revenue (IAPR), a methodology for compiling quarterly house price indices was developed specifically for this purpose and the first indices were transmitted to Eurostat for evaluation, while working meetings were also held on the subject.

4. Protection of personal data and statistical confidentiality – Implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation

ELSTAT, a pioneer in the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council “General Data Protection Regulation – GDPR”, implemented, within 2023, a series of important initiatives, with the aim of complying with the GDPR provisions.

More precisely, in 2023, the following actions undertaken by ELSTAT, with the aim of complying with the GDPR, were completed:

- Training and information of staff on the GDPR and various issues of its implementation, both general and specialised, which had begun in 2019, continued in the context of the production of official statistics. The above training and information covered all ELSTAT’s staff, both in the Central Office and the Regional Statistical Offices, with an emphasis on newly hired employees. More specifically, targeted training and information actions were carried out on specialised issues of the GDPR implementation in the field of the production of official statistics. The actions aimed to cultivate a culture and continuously inform the staff on issues and procedures for implementing the GDPR.
- Instructions were given on specialised issues, such as handling and protecting personal data files, minimising access data, defining and recording access, utilising the 2021 Population - Housing Census register, managing information messages for external users, etc.
- Audits and necessary adjustments, as appropriate, to procedures and forms used by ELSTAT were continued.
- Various cases were examined, for which there were issues regarding the implementation of the Regulation as well as related requests from citizens.
- The updating of the files of activities related to the processing of personal data by the organic units of ELSTAT continued, in order to cover any changes that occurred since the initial compilation of the files.
- Internal policies related to GDPR implementation issues were developed and/or updated.

5. 2021 General Censuses

5.1 2021 Agriculture - Livestock Census

During 2023, draft analytical tables were prepared with the results of the 2021 Agriculture - Livestock Census. Due to the complexity of the procedure and the high percentage of data

suppression that resulted from the processing of the tabulated results, the work was not completed within 2023.

5.2 2021 General Censuses for Buildings and for Population - Housing

During 2023, the processing and checks of the 2021 Population - Housing Census data continued. To carry out the checks (quality and completeness checks), data from administrative sources (IAPR), Register of Citizens, ERGANI, mySchool) and the Statistical Registers of ELSTAT (Agricultural Register, Business Register) were utilised.

Following the publication, in 2022, of the results for the resident and registered population of the Country, results for the resident population by Municipal Community and for Settlements with a population of 100,000 or more, as well as for key variables of the resident population at Region level: age groups, country of citizenship, place of birth, legal marital status, household size and composition were announced.

Moreover, the investigation of the availability of sources and their evaluation for drawing up and updating the Statistical Registers for Buildings and for Population-Housing, which are provided for in Law 4772/2021 (Government Gazette A' 17) continued.

C. INCREASED RESPONSIVENESS TO USER NEEDS AND CLOSER COOPERATION WITH PRODUCERS OF STATISTICAL DATA

A key priority for ELSTAT is the production of statistics adapted to the needs and requirements of users, at national, European and international level. In this context, ELSTAT collects the comments and interventions of participants in the Annual User Conferences it has established since 2010. It takes into account the results of the User Satisfaction Survey it conducts, as well as the positions and opinions of the members of the Advisory Committee of the Hellenic Statistical System (SYEPELSS), with the aim of improving its statistical products and services provided, as well as identifying new needs and requirements for the production of statistics.

1. Work carried out in 2023, for the production and dissemination of statistics

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

- Completion of the regular work concerning the production and publication of National Accounts and Public Finances data as referred to in the annex to the 2023 Annual Statistical Work Programme of ELSTAT, in the framework of the implementation of Regulation (EC) 549/2013 on the European System of National and Regional Accounts of the European Union (ESA 2010) and Regulation (EC) 479/2009 on the Excessive Deficit Procedure.
- Introduction of further methodological improvements and publication of Excessive Deficit Procedure data without reservations for the 27th consecutive time since November 2010.
- Continuation of work to improve the sources and methods of estimating national accounts data, within the framework of the verification cycle for the Gross National Income (GNI), with the aim of incorporating them into the major revision of 2024.

POPULATION AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

DEMOGRAPHY

- Continuation and completion – for the majority of variables – of the work of checking and processing the 2021 Population-Housing Census data, for the resident population of the Country and publication of results, by gender, age groups, country of citizenship, country of birth, legal marital status, size and composition of households, at Region level.
- Change in the compilation of statistics relating to divorces, by using data from the National Registry Offices, with the aim of continuing the production of relevant statistics by the Population and Migration Statistics Section. Publication of the relevant data for the years 2018 – 2022.

LABOUR MARKET

- Reduction of the time interval for sending quarterly Labour Force Survey data to Eurostat, from ten to eight weeks, after the end of the reference period (quarter), since the 3rd quarter of 2022 (Regulation (EU) 2019/1700), with a corresponding presentation of the data at national level, since 2023.
- Collection, within the framework of the Labour Force Survey of 2023, of data on "Pensions and participation in the labour market", pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 and its Implementing Regulations (EU) 2020/1640 and 2020/1642. The relevant data will be published in 2024.
- Improvement of the seasonal adjustment model using Jdemetra+ instead of Demetra 2.0, since the 1st quarter of 2023, and change of the base year, from 2016=100.0 to 2020=100.0, for the Labour Cost Indices in Enterprises.
- Collection of the data of the Adult Education Survey using an electronic questionnaire (web application). The results of the survey were published in 2023.
- Collection, from the 3rd quarter of 2023, of the data of the Job Vacancy Survey using electronic means (electronic questionnaire), with the aim of improving the quality of the results, and reducing the administrative burden and processing time of the collected data.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND LIVING CONDITIONS

- Collection, in the framework of the 2023 Income and Living Conditions Survey, of data on: (a) the labour market and housing, (b) the intergenerational transmission of advantages and disadvantages, (c) housing difficulties and (d) the energy efficiency of dwellings to address energy poverty, in the framework of Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 and its Implementing Regulation (EU) 2052/2021.
- Completion of the preparatory work (design and organisation of the survey, compilation of forms and instructions) of the pilot survey on the living conditions and any discrimination of LGBTI+ people, which is to be conducted in 2024.
- Completion of the work to change the classification of goods and services of the Household Budget Survey (HBS), according to the new classification of individual consumption by purpose COICOP 2018, to be implemented from 2024 onwards.
- Completion of the process of compiling the House Price Indices (Residential Real Estate) and starting their transmission to Eurostat, initially as experimental statistics. The first national publication is planned for 2024.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Start of cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports, to collect data for the needs of the Private Primary and Secondary Schools Survey, through the platform myschool. The relevant data has already been transmitted.

INDUSTRY, TRADE AND SERVICES

BUSINESS REGISTERS

- Completion of the compilation of the analytical specifications for the design and development of a database software for the Statistical Business Register and initiation of the required work for the selection of a contractor for the implementation of the project, which is scheduled to begin in 2024 with a completion time frame the end of 2025. The implementation of this project will allow for the change in the way data is processed for setting up the European Business Group Register (EGR), through the development of a database, with the aim of: a) automating the relevant setting-up procedures, b) improving the quality and comparability of its data over time, by integrating automated checks and c)

automating the production of tables with data from the Register, which are transmitted to Eurostat and launching a special application for the data processing and the production of the final results of the Intra-Group Transactions Survey, aiming at automating the relevant procedures and improving the quality of the data, by integrating automated checks.

- Continuation of the cooperation with the Independent Authority for Public Revenue (IAPR), for the collection of data from the Income Tax Forms, for the updating of the Statistical Business Register and the compilation of structural business statistics. The IAPR tax data are also used, in the context of the compilation of experimental statistics. Investigation of the possibility of gathering data from the Tax Form "Country-by-Country Report on Multinational Enterprise Groups".
- Continuation of the cooperation with both the Electronic National Social Security Entity (e-EFKA), which provides annual and monthly employment data, and the Single Payment Authority (EAP), which provides annual data on employment and remuneration. The data was used to update the Statistical Business Register. Also, for the first time, the monthly employment data was used to update the EuroGroups Register (EGR).

BUSINESS STRUCTURE

- Production of new statistics, in the context of extending the coverage of the Structural Business Statistics to the sectors P (Education), Q (Health), R (Arts, Entertainment and Recreation) and the division 96 (Other personal service activities) of the statistical classification of economic activities NACE rev.2. These statistics were transmitted to Eurostat and published in Greece within the stipulated deadlines.
- Implementation, for the first time, of the new way of collecting data of the Structural Business Survey, using a web application, with the aim of: a) facilitating enterprises in completing the questionnaire and b) reducing the time for collecting and processing data, and for producing results. After the completion of data collection for the Structural Business Survey, with reference year 2021, improvements were made to the existing web application for the collection of the data of the Structural Business Survey, with reference year 2022.

USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES AND E-COMMERCE IN ENTERPRISES

- In the Survey on the Use of Information Technologies and Electronic Commerce in Enterprises, a significantly increased sample of surveyed enterprises (by 40%) was used, resulting in further improvement in the accuracy of the survey results, mainly with regard to qualitative variables.

SHORT-TERM INDICES

- Carrying out preparatory work for the revision, with the new base year 2021, of the manufacturing, construction, trade and services indices (in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 and its Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197), in the branches of sectors H, G, I, J, L, M, N, which will be completed within 2024.
- Carrying out preparatory work for the compilation of new monthly value and volume indices in services sectors (in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 and its Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197), which will be completed within the 1st quarter of 2024.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

- Completion of the PRODCOM product list, of 2022, for the Survey on the Production and Sales of Manufactured Products, with the inclusion of the annex with personal protective equipment products.

TOURISM

- Design of a study to compile experimental statistics on arrivals and overnight stays in short-term accommodation (Sharing Economy).

- Continuation of the cooperation with the IAPR for the provision of data regarding short-term rental and accommodation tax, in the context of improving tourism statistics.
- Continuation of the cooperation with the Ministry of Tourism, in the context of compiling Tourism Satellite Accounts.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS

- Compilation of international trade statistics in goods, by invoicing currency, on a voluntary basis.
- Compilation of international trade statistics in goods, by business characteristics within the new foreseen shortest deadline.
- Assessing of the quality of the exchanged microdata on intra-EU exports of goods, with the aim of reducing the burden on enterprises for compiling intra-EU trade imports. The use of exports data of Member States for compiling imports concerns a revision of the methodology and not of the results (Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 and its Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197).
- Continuation, at national and European level, of the work on the exchange of data for the compilation of trade statistics with third countries, without affecting the results, through the customs data exchange program . In particular, central customs clearance data SASP (Single Authorisation for Simplified Procedures) and quasi exports are exchanged between Member States, in the context of the Survey on the Compilation of Statistics on International Trade in Goods (Regulation (EU) 2019/2152 and its Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1197).
- Continuation of the compilation of monthly statistics on bilateral trade (imports, exports) of goods between Greece and Russia and between Greece and Ukraine, in order to meet the needs for the provision of specialised statistical information due to the ongoing developments related to the war in Ukraine.
- Methodological study on the compilation of statistics for the specific good of electricity, by exploring new data sources.
- Continuation of the cooperation with the IAPR, by utilizing data on electronic distance sales from businesses to individuals in another Member State, in the context of the compilation of intra-EU trade statistics.
- Continuation of the cooperation with the Customs Authorities, with the aim of utilising available data, in the context of the compilation of trade statistics with third countries.
- Continuation of the cooperation with the IAPR and the Bank of Greece (BoG), with the aim of utilising available data for the needs of the BoG's International Trade in Services Survey.

AGRICULTURE – LIVESTOCK – FISHING

AGRICULTURAL PRICES AND INDICES

- Completion of the work to change the base year of the Agricultural Price Indices (API), from 2015=100.0 to 2020=100.0, which had begun in 2022.

TRANSPORT

SEA TRANSPORT

- Start of cooperation with the Ministry of Shipping and Insular Policy, for the utilisation of the administrative data of its information systems, such as the National Single Window NSW/SSNET, for the production of statistics on freight traffic in Greek ports.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, DIGITAL SOCIETY

INFORMATION SOCIETY

- Completion of production and publication of statistics on: a) the use of electronic identification (e-ID), b) the e-skills and c) the protection of privacy and personal data, in the context of the Survey on the Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) by Households and Individuals, of 2023 (Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/1399 of Regulation (EU) 2019/1700).

2. Production of experimental¹ statistics in 2023

POPULATION AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

DEMOGRAPHY

- Continuation of production of statistics on weekly death data, with data coming from the Civil Registry Offices. This is an extraordinary processing of death data that began during the COVID-19 pandemic in order to capture the evolution of deaths and is continuing, due to the high interest of users and the priority given by Eurostat.

INDUSTRY, TRADE AND SERVICES

BUSINESS REGISTERS

- Continuation of production of statistics on the evolution of the turnover of enterprises.
- Continuation of production of statistics on the evolution of the turnover of enterprises providing accommodation and catering services.
- Continuation of production of statistics on the evolution of the turnover of retail trade enterprises and further enrichment of them with further data on the turnover of small and medium-sized enterprises.

The compilation and publication of the above statistics on the evolution of turnover of enterprises, accommodation and catering enterprises and retail trade enterprises, was completed according to the schedule of ELSTAT's Announcement Calendar for 2023, with the exception of the reference periods, "August 2023", "September 2023 and 3rd quarter of 2023" and "October 2023", for which the publication schedule was modified, following the decision of the Tax Authorities to grant an extension for the submission of tax returns data of enterprises based in areas affected by extreme weather events, data which constitute primary material for the compilation of these statistics.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS

- Due to the volatility of the international economic environment (supply chain disruptions, high inflation, war conflicts, etc.) and as a result of the difficulty of the enterprises in providing data/estimates, the production of statistics on the estimates of goods exports for 2023, in terms of percentage change compared to 2022 has been temporarily postponed. It concerns experimental statistics, with the aim of capturing the expectations of enterprises for the exports they are going to carry out during the current/next calendar year, providing an early estimate of the trend of change in Greek exports of goods.

3. Advisory Committee of the Hellenic Statistical System (SYEPELSS)

During the SYEPELSS meeting, which took place on 22 November 2023, the draft of the 2024 Annual Statistical Programme was presented to the members of the Committee and, pursuant to

¹ Experimental statistics are the new developing and innovative statistics. They are published characterized as experimental, in order for users and other stakeholders to be able to be involved in the assessment of their usefulness and relevance, and to contribute to their adaptation to their information needs.

Article 3, paragraph 8, of the Statistical Law 3832/2010, in force, the members of the Committee were requested to provide their opinion and any comments on the above draft, so that they could be taken into account during its finalisation.

The members of the Committee were also informed on the 3rd round of the Peer Reviews of the European Statistical System and in particular on the improvement actions decided for the ELSS. It was pointed out that, according to a recommendation of the reviewers' report, which concerns the SYEPELSS, its Chair should, in consultation with ELSTAT, review the practical functioning of the Committee.

Within the framework of the above recommendations, 3 improvement actions were developed:

- The 1st improvement action concerns the consultation between ELSTAT and SYEPELSS, with the aim of improving the operational efficiency of the Committee, with an implementation time of the 2nd quarter of 2024.
- The 2nd improvement action concerns the compilation of the Regulation of Internal Organisation and Operation of the Committee, with an implementation time of the 3rd quarter of 2024.
- The 3rd improvement action concerns the preparation of an annual work programme for SYEPELSS starting from the 4th quarter of 2023, which will include a list of the topics for discussion, the scheduled meetings of the Committee for the next year and the time of the meetings. This action for 2024 was implemented in December 2023.

4. Signing of Memoranda of Cooperation

The signing of memoranda of cooperation of ELSTAT with producers and users of statistics continued. In this context, in the year 2023:

a) A memorandum of cooperation was signed between ELSTAT and the National Actuarial Authority (NAA) to cover the needs of the National Accounts of the Country, regarding the compilation of data on social security pension rights on a specific date, with 2021 as a reference year, within the framework of the ESA 2010 transmission program. The memorandum is available at the link:

https://www.statistics.gr/documents/20181/306935/memorandum_EEA_DEC+2023.pdf/3f75c088-0804-061a-8d6c-08d41baae7c7

b) Work has begun on the drafting of the detailed technical part of the Memorandum of Cooperation between ELSTAT and the Bank of Greece (BoG), which will cover issues of business statistics, with emphasis on the Statistical Business Register.

5. Additional actions

- ELSTAT, responding to the needs of users to improve the accuracy of statistical data, carried out the following actions in 2023:
 - In the annual survey on the Use of Information Technologies and Electronic Commerce in enterprises, a larger sample of enterprises was selected to improve the accuracy of the data, regarding e-commerce carried out by enterprises. Specifically, the sample of 6,000 enterprises increased to 10,568 (an increase of 76.1%).
 - In the annual survey on the Use of Information and Communication Technologies by Households and Individuals, a larger sample of households and individuals was selected to improve the accuracy of the survey results. Specifically, the sample of 8,147 households and individuals increased to 10,992 (an increase of 34.9%).
- In the context of improving user accessibility to anonymised microdata of ELSTAT's statistical surveys, the following tasks were completed in 2023:
 - Compilation of an English version of the application for user access to standardised public use files.

- Compilation of an English version of the application for the User Satisfaction Survey, for the users of standardised public and scientific use files.
 - Compilation of anonymisation criteria for standardised scientific use files of the Job Vacancy Survey and Labour Cost Surveys in enterprises.
 - Drafting of texts to improve the content of ELSTAT's website in the "Products and Services" section.
 - Consideration of user needs for the production of additional standardised public and scientific use files.
- ELSTAT's key role in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations continued after its contribution, in 2022, to the compilation of the "2nd Voluntary National Review by Greece". As in the 1st Review (2018), ELSTAT was responsible for the statistical annex of the publication, which was presented in the context of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). In 2023, ELSTAT proceeded to the issue of the new, special annual publication "Greece: Sustainable Development Goals 2030", which presents the most recent statistical data for Greece on the individual sustainable development indicators, compiled by ELSTAT and the other ELSS agencies.

This publication, which is a Country Report, presents in an understandable and clear manner the main national indicators that monitor the progress of the implementation of each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals in recent years. Modern graphic tools are utilised to visualise data, tables and graphs. It includes data related to the eradication of poverty and hunger, the promotion of education, health and well-being of the population, the gender equality, the sustainable use of natural resources, the environmental protection and sustained, sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

All information, publications and available data regarding the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals can be found on ELSTAT's website, at the link <https://www.statistics.gr/en/sdgs> .

- Further exploitation of data from administrative and other sources, as well as of the use of new technologies, with the aim of improving the quality and reducing the production time of statistical results in various sectors. In this context, ELSTAT's cooperation with the other agencies, such as the Independent Authority for Public Revenue (IAPR), the e-Government Center for Social Security (IDIKA), the Ministry of Development, the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports, the Ministry of Health, the Payment and Control Agency for Guidance and Guarantee Community Aid (OPEKEPE), the Electronic National Social Security Entity (e-EFKA), the Single Payment Authority, the Bank of Greece (BoG), the Hellenic Electricity Distribution Network Operator S.A., etc., continued in 2023.
- ELSTAT, in the context of its outreach and continuous promotion of its work in the international statistical community, proceeded, in 2023, to the publication of the "Handbook for Improving the Capacity to Produce Data on Children on the Move", which is the result of a highly collaborative, multi-level and systematic effort, in which ELSTAT participated together with many members of the International Data Alliance for Children on the Move (IDAC).

IDAC operates under the auspices of Eurostat, the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and UNICEF.

The manual was designed and developed by IDAC Working Group 1, led by the Director of the Independent Office of the President of ELSTAT, Mr. Apostolos Kasapis, and focuses on strengthening the capacity of national statistical systems as well as of international organisations to develop and produce reliable data in order to ensure that migrant children or displaced minors are counted and taken into account in the design of policies and programmes.

The unique in its kind manual for “Children on the Move” (e.g. migrant children, refugee children or asylum seekers) adequately and clearly captures the individual aspects, challenges and process standards for the design, collection, processing and publication of data on children on the move due to war conflicts, changes of socio-economic conditions, natural disasters, etc.

The manual was presented by ELSTAT, at a brilliant event at the Athens Conservatory, with the participation of a large number of guests from Greece and abroad, on 20 and 21 November 2023. The event was honored with the presence of six Heads of Statistical Authorities of the European Union (Bulgaria, Estonia, Croatia, Latvia, Malta, Slovakia), the Diplomatic Representative of UNICEF in Greece, the Secretary General of Vulnerable Citizens and Institutional Protection of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, as well as high-ranking officials of UNHCR, IOM, OECD, UNICEF and Central Government entities of the Country.

The manual is available at the link: <https://www.statistics.gr/en/international-data-alliance-for-children-on-the-move> .

6. Compilation of the Annual Statistical Programme

In response to its regular obligations provided for in the Greek Statistical Law 3832/2010, ELSTAT compiled its 2024 Annual Statistical Work Programme and the 2022 Annual Report.

7. Organisation of the 12th Annual User Conference

On December 18, 2023, ELSTAT organised the 12th annual User Conference at its premises in Piraeus. The main thematic sections of the conference concerned informing users about: a) new experimental statistics and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals b) the presentation of the manual “Manual on Child-Specific Data Capacity-Strengthening on Children on the Move”, c) the results of the 2022 User Satisfaction Survey, d) the use of administrative data in the production of official statistics of the Country and e) the calculation of the Gross Domestic Product in National Accounts.

8. Participation of ELSTAT in the 87th Thessaloniki International Fair

For another year, ELSTAT participated, with great success, in the 87th Thessaloniki International Fair with renewed informative and audiovisual material on the official statistics of the Country, interactive applications and educational events.

The main theme of the stand of ELSTAT (number 15, stand 30) was the detailed results of the recent Population and Housing Census, part of which was published for the first time, according to the planned schedule up to the binding date of announcement of all the data (March 31, 2024).

The visitors to the stand and internet users were informed about data on the population and the characteristics of the residents of each region through posters, special printed and electronic publications with tables and graphic illustrations, as well as through an interactive application.

At the same time, the printed edition of the new, annual publication of ELSTAT “Greece: 2030 Sustainable Development Goals” was presented for the first time in Greece. It aims to present and highlight the most recent statistical data for the Country regarding the sustainable development indicators compiled, mainly, by ELSTAT, in the context of the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations (UN).

In the context of strengthening its actions for the “Development of Statistical Education”, ELSTAT, during the TIF, held educational events for pupils of lower and upper secondary schools of Northern Greece. The pupils had the opportunity to be “introduced” to the world of statistical science in a creative and enjoyable way, through games, educational presentations and special digital applications. They also were informed about the ways to search and find reliable statistics.

The visitors to the TIF were informed about the most recent official statistics on the economy, society, living conditions, tourism and agriculture. In the context of the established institution of the honored country at the TIF, a special informative publication with demographic, trade and tourism data on the bilateral relations between Greece and Bulgaria was distributed.

Finally, those interested had the opportunity to watch for the first time a video about the survey of ELSTAT regarding the living conditions and the identification of any discrimination against LGBTI+ people.

The material presented at the 87th TIF is available on ELSTAT's website, at the link: <https://www.statistics.gr/en/elstat-87-tif> .

9. Web presence

ELSTAT, aiming at the continuous upgrading and improvement of the dissemination of statistical information (data democratisation), utilises both its web portal and social media.

Specifically:

- The web portal of ELSTAT (www.statistics.gr) receives a large number of visitors on a daily basis. In 2023, the Greek version of the website received visits from 742,865 unique visitors.
- The account of ELSTAT on Twitter (@StatisticsGR) had 201,402 impressions in 2023.
- The account of ELSTAT on LinkedIn had 2,024 visits by unique users in 2023.
- The account of ELSTAT on Instagram (@statistics.gr) made 54 posts and received 4,124 likes in 2023.
- The account of ELSTAT on YouTube was strengthened through the enrichment of ELSTAT's official channel with 10 new videos, which constitute original content of internal production. The posted videos of the account had 12,852 views in 2023.

In 2023, the Data Dissemination Section served 1,732 user requests in total. Based on these requests, 121 Contracts were concluded with users for access to anonymised microdata suitable for research purposes.

According to the users who completed the questionnaire of the 2023 User Satisfaction Survey, the categories of statistical data with the highest percentage of demand, for 2023, were the following: Population - Housing Census (17.2%), Foreign and International Trade (10.2%), and Demography, Industry – Manufacture – Mines and Tourism (5.5%). User requests were fully satisfied at a rate of 95.3% and partially at a rate of 4.7%. Users were satisfied to very satisfied with the response time to their request at a rate of 97.1%, and with the level of service at a rate of 98.1%.

In 2023, the Library and Website Content Management Section of ELSTAT served 2,276 user requests (196 requests electronically and 2,080 requests by phone). The visitors to the Digital Library of ELSTAT were 65,787.

Finally, the Cartography and Geospatial Data Section served 219 user requests.

To enrich ELSTAT's website (in its Greek and English version), the following actions were taken in 2023:

- Creation of a new webpage containing information on the purpose and method of conducting the 2023 Farm Structure Survey: <https://www.statistics.gr/en/fss-2023>.
- Creation of a new webpage and posting of the new special annual publication of ELSTAT "Greece: 2030 Sustainable Development Goals", which presents the most recent statistical data for Greece, regarding the individual sustainable development indicators, which are compiled, mainly, by ELSTAT, in the context of the 2030 UN Agenda.

- Creation of a new webpage on the “Manual on Child-Specific Data Capacity Strengthening on Children on the Move”, which is the result of a highly collaborative, multi-level and systematic effort in which ELSTAT participated together with many members of the International Data Alliance for Children on the Move (IDAC).
- The website of ELSTAT was enriched with additional audiovisual content, in its individual sections, according to the relevant posts made on the official channel of ELSTAT on YouTube (Results of the 2021 Population and Housing Census, Manual on Child-Specific Data Capacity Strengthening on Children on the Move, Participation in the 87th TIF, etc.).
- Update of special websites related to the 2021 Censuses. Specifically:
 - Website: 2021 Population and Housing Census Results
<https://www.statistics.gr/en/2021-census-pop-hous-results> where those interested can find information regarding the Resident Population of the Country:
 - by Age Groups, Citizenship, Place of Birth, Marital Status, and Household Size and Composition, 31.08.2023,
 - by Municipality and Gender, 17.03.2023,
 - by Municipal Community, 21.04.2023.
- Update of the special website for Experimental Statistics (<https://www.statistics.gr/el/exp-stats>). On this website, statistics classified as experimental are made public, so that users and other interested parties can be involved in the evaluation of their usefulness and suitability, to adequately capture the subject of the survey and ultimately to contribute to their adaptation to the information needs.
- Continuation of the selected visualisation of the results of ELSTAT's statistical surveys, as well as their production processes, with infographics. The full series of infographics produced by ELSTAT is available at the link: <https://www.statistics.gr/en/elstat-infographics>.

10. Fostering Statistical Literacy

In 2023, ELSTAT carried out the following actions:

- **EMOS (European Master in Official Statistics) and Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH)**

In October 2023, the 5th cycle of lectures on "Official Statistics" for students of the Postgraduate Programme in "Statistics and Modeling", of the Faculty of Mathematics of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH) began.

- **Organisation of the 7th Panhellenic Statistics Competition**

In the 2nd semester of 2023, ELSTAT initiated the procedures for the conduct, for the sixth consecutive year, of the Panhellenic Statistics Competition. A total of 446 teams were registered in the 7th Competition (321 teams of lower secondary school pupils and 125 teams of upper secondary school pupils) from 88 school units across Greece (54 lower secondary schools and 34 upper secondary schools). The total number of participants of lower secondary and upper secondary schools amounted to 868 and 324, respectively.

Information related to the competition is available on ELSTAT's website, at the link: <http://www.statistics.gr/en/edu-statistics-competition>.

- **Workbooks “Numbers in our life”**

Following the three workbooks “Numbers in our life”, the 5th issue, which is addressed to upper secondary school pupils, was drafted, always following the different educational approach of the previous issues. It is recalled that the 1st issue is addressed to pupils from

kindergarten to 3rd grade of primary school, with the aim of gaining a first contact with statistics. The next two issues are addressed to pupils from 6th grade of primary school to 3rd grade of secondary school and the 4th issue is addressed to upper secondary school pupils, where with a different educational approach basic concepts of Statistics are presented, using data from surveys conducted by ELSTAT.

All educational workbooks are freely available on ELSTAT's website:
<https://www.statistics.gr/en/edu-publications> .

- **Educational Programme “Census at School”**

The promotion of the educational programme “Census at School – Census @ School” to teachers and pupils continued, with the ultimate goal of integrating it into the educational programme of primary and secondary education.

The tool used to create the electronic platform is the web asynchronous distance learning platform Moodle. The platform includes the questionnaire, educational material and instructions for the process and tasks of conducting a statistical census survey. In this way, pupils collect and analyse statistical data and understand similarities and differences, at the level of section, class or school unit.

To protect the data of citizens/pupils, high-standard security procedures have been recorded and are being observed, in accordance with the legislation for the protection of personal data and for the observance of statistical confidentiality.

In 2023, the programme received applications from 44 school sections (15 different school units), which included 1,150 pupils.

- **Internships of students at ELSTAT premises**

ELSTAT, during 2023, provided students with the opportunity to carry out internships at its premises. The action aims, inter alia, to familiarise interns with the way ELSTAT operates so that, when their studies and qualifications meet the specifications for its personnel selection, ELSTAT becomes their professional destination.

In this context, in 2023, 22 students carried out their internships at ELSTAT, in a field of work corresponding to their studies. The students came from Harokopio University (1 student from the Department of Economics and Sustainable Development), the University of Piraeus (5 male and 7 female students from the Department of Statistics and Insurance Science, 1 female student from the Department of Digital Systems and 1 female student from the Department of Economics), the University of the Aegean (1 student from the Department of Statistics and Actuarial-Financial Mathematics), the University of Ioannina (1 male and 1 female student from the Department of Economics), the University of Macedonia (1 student from the Department of Economics) and the National Technical University of Athens (2 male and 1 female student from the Department of Applied Mathematical and Physical Sciences).

- **Organisation of educational visits and presentations for pupils/students**

The purpose of the visits is to introduce pupils and students to the world of statistical science and to inform them about the processes of development, production and dissemination of official statistics, in line with European and international standards. In addition, the important role and usefulness of official statistics in politics, economy and everyday life is highlighted. Participants are then informed about how to obtain the information they are looking for, while, at the same time, they are given the opportunity to navigate the websites of ELSTAT and Eurostat.

A total of 55 visits took place to the Central Office of ELSTAT in Attiki by 2,182 pupils and students, from 5 Primary Schools, 14 Lower Secondary Schools, 24 Upper Secondary Schools, 4 Vocational Training Institutes, 3 visits from the School of Public Administration, 3 visits from the Athens University of Economics and Business, 1 visit by German students

from the Munich University as well as 1 visit from a group of foreign students in the framework of the “Semester at Sea” Programme.

A total of 10 educational visits took place to ELSTAT’s premises in Thessaloniki by 427 pupils (and 22 teachers) from 5 Lower Secondary Schools and 5 Upper Secondary Schools. Moreover, at the Regional Statistical Office of Rodopi (Komotini), a presentation was held for 51 pupils (and 5 teachers) of the 5th and 6th grades of the 8th Primary School of Komotini.

- **Communication with Secondary Education Directorates**

After communication with the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports, actions were planned for communication with Secondary Education Directorates, with the aim of promoting the strategy for the “Development of Statistical Education” throughout Greece.

D. INTENSIFYING COOPERATION AND UNDERTAKING OF ACTIONS WITHIN THE EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL COMMUNITY

ELSTAT, as an active member of the ESS, continued, in 2023, to place great emphasis on cooperation with Eurostat and the other agencies of the European Commission, as well as with the National Statistical Institutes (NSIs) of the EU Member States. In this context, during 2023, ELSTAT carried out the following actions:

- **Partnership Group (PG) meetings**

Following the election, in July 2022, of the President of ELSTAT, Mr. Athanasios Con. Thanopoulos, as head of the Partnership Group (PG) of the European Statistical System (ESS), the following PG meetings were organised in 2023: on 24 March the 86th meeting at the Central Office of ELSTAT, on 14-15 September the 87th meeting in Syros and on 14-15 December the 88th meeting at the Central Office of ELSTAT.

The PG is a high-level group, in which a small number of elected heads of the NSIs of the ESS participate. The group's mission is to develop the ESS, ensure the effective functioning of the European Statistical System Committee (ESSC) and highlight the strategic issues that need to be discussed in the ESSC. In parallel, it functions as the Crisis Response Group in the ESS. The PG meets 3 times a year.

- **Official visit of an ELSTAT delegation to the Statistical Office of the Czech Republic**

In the context of further strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation between the Statistical Offices of Greece and the Czech Republic, an official visit of a high-level ELSTAT delegation to the premises of the Statistical Service of the Czech Republic in Prague took place, during the period 4-5 September 2023.

The purpose of the visit was to develop cooperation and exchange know-how between the National Statistical Offices of Greece and the Czech Republic in statistical areas, including, among others, tourism statistics, the new institutional framework under development for the European population statistics, business statistics with an emphasis on large enterprises and the modernisation of the relevant statistical procedures, etc.

- **ELSTAT two-day conference for the presentation of the “Manual on Child-Specific Data Capacity-Strengthening on Children on the Move”**

On 20 and 21 November 2023, ELSTAT organised an event at the Athens Conservatory with the participation of a large number of guests from Greece and abroad for the presentation of the Manual on Child-Specific Data Capacity-Strengthening on Children on the Move.

- **Participation of ELSTAT employees in European and international fora**

In 2023, the uninterrupted representation of ELSTAT in European and international events and fora in the field of statistics continued. This was achieved through the participation of ELSTAT's employees in Working Groups/Expert Groups of Eurostat, the European Council, as well as of other international organisations, such as the United Nations (UN), the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the OECD, etc., in-person or via teleconference.

E. HUMAN RESOURCES OF ELSTAT

The total number of employees of ELSTAT on 31 December 2023 amounted to 597 (224 men and 373 women), of whom 557 (210 men and 347 women) were permanent, and of those 1 man and 2 women were transferees), 38 (14 men and 24 women) were under Private Contract of Unlimited Duration and 2 women were under Private Contract of Limited Duration (transferees). In addition, out of the above 597 employees, 409 were employed in the Central Office and 188 in the Regional Statistical Offices.

The following Table 1 depicts the allocation of ELSTAT staff, by gender and education level, in 2022 and 2023 (31 December):

Table 1: ELSTAT staff, by gender and education level, in 2022 and 2023

Education level	Men			Women			Total		
	2022	2023	Change (%)	2022	2023	Change (%)	2022	2023	Change (%)
University	146	141	-3.4	181	177	-2.2	327	318	-2.8
Technical	24	21	-12.5	50	48	-4.0	74	69	-6.8
Secondary	64	59	-7.8	153	147	-3.9	217	206	-5.1
Obligatory	3	3	0.0	2	1	-50.0	5	4	-20.0
Total	237	224	-5.5	386	373	-3.4	623	597	-4.2

It is noted that:

- The total of 387 employees in the University and Technical categories includes 28 employees holding PhD. degrees and 134 with master's degrees, which represent 4.7% and 22.4%, respectively, of all serving employees.
- 42 employees left by the end of 2023, due to resignation or automatic dismissal, while during 2023, 2 permanent employees and 2 employees of special scientific staff were recruited.

F. ELSTAT BUDGET EXECUTION

ELSTAT's expenses, for 2023, are classified in the following categories:

1. Labour cost (salaries of ELSTAT staff, permanent and temporary), which include the basic salary, allowances (family allowance, position allowance, etc.), social security contributions, overtime pay, etc.
2. Expenditure related to the staff travelling within Greece and abroad, i.e., travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses for the employees of ELSTAT travelling:
 - In Greece, away of the headquarters or out of the office, for the purpose of conducting statistical surveys in the field and
 - abroad, for participating in meetings, seminars, etc. organised by Eurostat and other international organisations.

3. Operating expenses, related to ELSTAT's premises (Central Office and Regional Statistical Offices), such as rents, electricity, communication, water supply, security and building maintenance costs, expenses related to advertising, subscriptions, expenses for the supply of consumables (paper, stationery, medical and pharmaceutical products, materials for the maintenance and repair of premises and equipment), fuel, etc. The same category also includes expenses for the supply of capital equipment (furniture, PCs, printers, photocopiers and other office equipment), as well as the expenses for the remuneration of external collaborators, who are used by ELSTAT for the collection of data of the statistical surveys it conducts.
4. Expenses related to the conduct of the 2021 Buildings and Population – Housing Censuses.
5. Expenses related to the conduct of the 2021 Agriculture – Livestock Census.
6. Expenses for projects financed by Eurostat, for the conduct of surveys, studies and other statistical work.

Table 2 below presents the allocation of the debriefing expenses of ELSTAT in 2023, by category, compared to the corresponding expenses in 2022:

Table 2: ELSTAT debriefing expenses in 2023, in comparison with 2022

Category of expenditure	Amount (in euro)	
	2023	2022
Labour cost	19,386,075.26	21,034,655.48
Expenditure related to staff travelling within Greece and abroad	518,081.69	234,721.32
Operating expenses and cost for the supply of capital equipment	7,992,037.76	7,572,708.03
Expenses of the 2021 Buildings and Population – Housing Censuses	1,571,875.83	59,825,414.21
Expenses of the 2021 Agriculture – Livestock Census	17,580.00	861,029.48
Projects financed by Eurostat	45,036.97	38,361.09
Total	29,530,687.51	89,566,889.61



#GreekDataMatter • www.statistics.gr



HELLENIC STATISTICAL AUTHORITY

46, Peiraios and Eponiton st. 185 10, Piraeus