

COUNTRY NOTE

Database on Social Expenditure (www.oecd.org/social/expenditure.htm)

OECD - Social Policy Division - Directorate of Employment, Labour and Social Affairs

GREECE

Nomenclature

IKA	Social Insurance Institution
LAEK	Employment and Vocational training fund
OAED	Manpower Employment Organisation
OGA	Agriculture' Insurance Organisation
TEAM	Employees Supplementary Insurance Fund
TEBE	Professionals and Craft Workers Fund of Greece

Monetary unit

Social spending is expressed in millions of Euros (EUR).

General notes

The social security system in Greece is based on two pillars: the basic protection and the supplementary protection (called "auxiliary" in Greece). It comprises a great number of insurance funds and a large variety of schemes.

- The main insurance institution is the Institute for Social Insurance (IKA) of which the greater majority of salaried workers and other categories of assimilated employees are members. The IKA scheme is the "general scheme for the insurance of salaried workers in Greece". Apart from the IKA scheme there are special schemes for salaried workers, (occupational funds) to which certain categories coming from the civilian population are affiliated, e.g. the insurance fund for employees of the public electricity company. The IKA scheme covers the risks of sickness, maternity, old-age, invalidity and death.
- Farmers are members of the insurance scheme for agricultural employees (OGA - Agricultural Insurance Organisation).
- As regards the social security of self-employed persons, there are special schemes for persons belonging to certain socio-professional categories (e.g. lawyers, the medical professions, persons engaged in a business, craftsmen, civil engineers, etc.).
- The OAED (Office for Employment) is a special institution in charge of the risk of unemployment; it is also in charge of family benefits; however, it is the IKA which collects the contributions for the OAED.

Each insurance institution is subject to a different legislation. In some cases the benefits, the conditions for granting these benefits and the corresponding formalities differ from one institution to the other.

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All social security institutions are under the authority and supervision of the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Social Security. The OAED is under the authority and supervision of the Ministry of Labour. Finally, there are a small number of social security institutions which are subordinate to and supervised by other ministries.

The individual country notes of the OECD Benefits and Wages (www.oecd.org/social/benefits-and-wages.htm) provide a comprehensive description of characteristics of social programmes (e.g. conditions for receipt, calculation of payment rates, tax treatment of social support, benefit duration, etc.) for the working-age population, including: unemployment insurance and assistance, social assistance, employment-conditional benefits, housing benefits, family benefits, childcare support, and support for sole parent households.

Break in series

Data for 1990 onwards are based on the new ESSPROS methodology format. Coherent spending series for 1980 onwards at the individual programme level were obtained on basis of information for a few years in the early 1990s for which both historical spending series and information based on the new ESSPROS format were available. For certain programmes and aggregate categories, breaks in series (between 1989 and 1990) were inevitable. In general, programmes from the old ESSPROS format which could not be matched with a figure from the new ESSPROS format were set to “missing” from 1990 onwards; similarly, figures from the new ESSPROS format which could not be matched to a programme from the old methodology were set to “missing” for the period 1980-89.

Secretariat estimates

For “Employees and self-employed: other funds” and “Employees and self-employed: auxiliary funds” (in the category “Disability pension”), for the year 1989, the 1988-89 growth rate of the general scheme series was applied to the 1988 observation.

For “Employees and self-employed: other funds” in the category “Survivors”, for the year 1990, the 1989-90 growth rate of the general scheme series was applied to the 1989 observation.

Public expenditure for health has been estimated by extrapolation for the years from 1981 to 1986.

Data on public ALMP expenditure were missing for 1999-2001, and 2003. They are estimated as constant from 1998 to 2001, and from 2002 to 2003.

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Sources

1980-1989

EUROSTAT (1995), *Social Protection Expenditure and Receipts 1980-1993*, Luxembourg.

EUROSTAT (1996), *Digest of Statistics on Social Protection in Europe – Old Age and Survivors: an update*, Luxembourg.

1990 onwards

Data provided by EUROSTAT (ESSPROS database), except for:

1980 onwards 4. Health: OECD Statistics (www.oecd.org/health/healthdata)

1985 onwards 6. ALMP: OECD Labour Market Policy database.

(See Table “Passage from ESSPROS to SOCX” next page).

Background information

European Social Statistics, Social Protection, ESSPROS qualitative information

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/social-protection/data/qualitative-information>

General report from Social Security Department (<http://www.mss.etat.lu/publications.htm>)

MISSOC, Mutual information system on social protection in the Member states of the European Union and of the European Economic Area

(<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=815&langId=en>)

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 Passage from Esspros to SOCX (public / mandatory-voluntary private)
 Greece, in millions of Euro

ESSPROS/SOCX		Code	1990	2000	2005	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
(1)	ESSPROS Social protection benefits	1100000	8,419	24,734	39,698	57,484	45,470	45,607	44,894	44,954	45,419
+	(2) - ESSPROS Disability	Economic integration of the handicapped	1121114	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
			1121122	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
			1122114	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
			1122122	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
-	(3) - ESSPROS Sickness	Benefits in kind	1111200	1,721	6,050	10,876	14,868	8,141	8,682	8,585	8,229
			1112200	0	0	17	51	38	38	40	38
-	(4) - ESSPROS Unemployment	Cash - Vocational training allowance	1161114	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
			1161121	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
			1162114	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
			1162121	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Benefits in kind	1161200	152	111	132	128	104	73	82	87
			1162200	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
+	(5) SOCX/ Health HEALTH	Public benefits in kind	300.10.4.0.0.0	1,496	6,305	10,381	14,821	8,470	9,050	8,715	8,634
+	(6) SOCX / EDU-EAG FAMILY	Services	300.10.5.2.1.7	a	a	a	a	456	466	440	481
+	(7) SOCX/ALMP ACTIVE LABOUR MARKET PROGRAMMES		300.10.6.0.0.0	81	331	133	522	397	318	331	380
-	(8) = SOCX MANDATORY PRIVATE SOCIAL EXPENDITURE		300.20.90.0.0.0	a	a	a	1,533	902	928	902	906
	ESSPROS Scheme 22	Mandatory occupational insurance		a	0	0	0	107	108	101	99
	ESSPROS Scheme 28	Employers provided statutory benefits in the Private Sector		a	0	0	1,533	794	819	801	807
-	(9) = SOCX VOLUNTARY PRIVATE SOCIAL EXPENDITURE		300.30.90.0.0.0	925	63	626	863	821	879	862	939
	ESSPROS Scheme 93	Occupational insurance + Employer statutory provided benefits + Semi autonomous welfare institutions + Church and non-Government organisations		925	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
	Scheme 30	Private insurance benefits provided by employers to employees through group policies		a	90	227	363	218	279	250	294
	Scheme 21	Optional occupational insurance		a	0	0	3	5	4	8	5
	Scheme 27	Church and other non-Government organisations		a	0	97	196	180	164	162	157
	Scheme 13	Lump sum pension benefits provided by Social Security Funds		a	573	845	1,614	800	855	282	264
(10)	SOCX/ Health HEALTH	Voluntary private insurance, benefits in kind	300.30.4.2.0.0	a	a	391	608	570	597	614	686
=	(11) SOCX PUBLIC SOCIAL EXPENDITURE		300.10.90.0.0.0	7,159	25,067	38,921	56,079	45,356	45,439	44,550	44,927

Notes:

(1) "ESSPROS / Social protection benefits" are Total ESSPROS expenditures (1000000) less Administration costs (1200000) and other expenditure (1400000, property income and other).

(2) The ESSPROS data within "Disability / Economic integration of the handicapped" are not included in SOCX database to avoid any double counting with SOCX "Active Labour Market Programmes / Measures for the disabled".

(3) The ESSPROS data within "Sickness / Benefits in kind" are not included in SOCX database to avoid double counting with SOCX "Health / Benefits in kind".

(4) The ESSPROS data within "Unemployment / Cash Vocational training allowances" "Unemployment / Benefits in kind" are not included in SOCX database to avoid any double counting with SOCX "Active Labour Market Programmes".

(5) SOCX Health benefits in kind are from "OECD Health Data (www.oecd.org/health/healthdata)".

(6) SOCX includes public spending on pre-primary education from OECD education database, unless such data are already included in "5.2.1. Day care services".

(7) SOCX Active Labour Market Programmes are from "OECD database on labour market programmes".

(8) No programmes are classified in SOCX as Mandatory private.

(9) Spending on some programmes recorded under the schemes below are categorised as Voluntary private in SOCX. (9) Includes (10).

(10) SOCX Private insurance Health benefits in kind are from "OECD Health Data (www.oecd.org/health/healthdata)".

(11) = (1) - (2) - (3) - (4) + (5) + (6) + (7) - (8) - (9) + (10).

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Code	Title of the programme	Description of the programme and attached notes
1. OLD AGE		
300.10.1.1.1.1.	General scheme for employees (IKA)	Full pensions are granted from age 62 (men) and 57 (women) provided they have worked 10 000 days; from age 58 (men) provided they have worked 10 500 days; and from age 55 (women with young children) provided they have worked 5 500 days. In case of arduous or unhealthy work, pensions are granted from age 60 (men) and 55 (women). Reduced pensions are granted from age 60 (men) and 55 (women) provided they have worked 4 500 days. The last five years' wages are taken into account for calculating the pension. In general, benefits are fully liable to taxation, except for victims of war and their families, blind persons and paraplegics.
300.10.1.1.1.4	Employees and self-employed: other funds	A large number of special schemes exist in Greece. The figures cover all of them. No breakdown is available.
300.10.1.1.1.5	State Electricity Company employees	See 1.1.1.1 and 1.1.1.4.
300.10.1.1.1.6	Old age pension (means-tested)	"Public sector employees, including civil servants" programme includes figures for all types of pensions (old age, invalidity and survivors).
300.10.1.1.1.9	Employees and self-employed: auxiliary funds	See 1.1.1.1 and 1.1.1.4.
300.10.1.1.1.13	Public sector employees, including civil servants	See 1.1.1.1 and 1.1.1.6.
300.10.1.1.1.16 to 300.30.1.1.1.20	Old age pension (non means-tested)	Since 2000, old-age pension payments are reported under these items.
300.10.1.1.3.1	Severance pay: all private sector employees	Data cover both disability and survivors pensions
300.10.1.1.3.2.	Severance pay: State Electricity Company employees	See 1.1.4.1.
300.30.1.1.3.13	Lump sum pension benefits provided by Social Security Funds	Since 2000, all other cash benefits are reported under this item.
2. SURVIVORS		
300.10.2.1.1.1	General scheme for employees (IKA)	Survivor's pensions are granted to widows/widowers and also to children until the age of 18 (24 in the case of a student, or without limitation if he/she is disabled) provided contributions have been paid for at least 4 500 work days or 1 500 insured days, including 300 during the five years preceding death. The amount is equal to 50 % of the pension of the deceased. No particular insurance exists for employment injuries and occupational illness. Death occurring as a result of these is covered by survivor's benefit schemes with specific regulations. A survivor's pension is paid to a widower only if he was financially dependent on his deceased wife.
300.10.2.1.1.4	Employees and self-employed: other funds	State Electricity Company employees are also taken into account.
300.10.2.1.1.11 to 300.10.2.1.1.15	Survivors' pension	Since 2000, survivor's pension payments are reported under these items.
3. INCAPACITY RELATED BENEFITS		
300.10.3.1.1.1	General scheme for employees (IKA)	Pension granted as long as the incapacity exists; no age limit specified in legislation. Under IKA and TEBE schemes, however, invalidity pensioners can choose to convert their pension into an old age pension. Data relating to pensions which are not converted into old age pensions after retirement age are included in invalidity pensions. The amount of pension is linked to the degree of invalidity and varies between 30 and 70 per cent of the wage taken as a reference. It also depends on the number

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		of insured years, each year corresponding to 1.714 per cent of pensionable income.
300.10.3.1.1.5	Employees and self-employed: other funds	See 3.1.1.1 and 1.1.1.4.
300.10.3.1.1.14 to 300.10.3.1.1.17	Disability pension	Since 2000, disability pension payments are reported under these items.
300.10.3.1.4.1	Public and private sector employees: sickness allowance (IKA) (social security)	See 3.1.1.1
300.30.3.1.4.8 to 300.30.3.1.4.10	Paid sick leave	Earnings-related payments of wages and salaries by the to employees during a period of temporary sickness, that are not classified as sickness benefits provided by the social insurance scheme.
300.30.3.1.5.4	Other cash periodic benefits	Includes : 1) Cash periodic benefit: provided to disable people that are not entitled to receive this type of benefit from a social security fund. 2) Housing allowance : provides a non –contributory benefit paid to elderly over the age of 65, who live alone or in a couple, in a rented residence, are indigent, uninsured and cannot cover their housing needs
4. HEALTH		
300.10.4.2.0.0	Public expenditure on health	See <i>OECD Health Statistics</i> . Public expenditure for health has been estimated by extrapolation for the years from 1981 to 1986.
5. FAMILY		
300.10.5.1.1.3.	Family or child allowance: social security funds	Entitlement to family allowances until the child turns 18 (or 22 in the case of a student), and permanent if the child is disabled and his/her incapacity was certified before the age of 18. Allowances vary according to family income.
300.10.5.1.1.4 to 5.1.1.7		Same definition as for 5.1.1.3
300.10.5.1.2.1	Private sector employees (social security) (IKA)	Maternity allowances are payable to women for 56 days before and 56 days after confinement.
300.10.5.1.3.5 to 300.10.5.1.3.6	Other cash periodic benefits	The following benefits are taken into account: allowance for single parent, special allowance for handicapped child, accommodation allowance and removal grants, benefits for mothers who are not working or who are married to a soldier or a prisoner, benefits for Greek emigrants coming back to Greece, monthly special benefit for large families.
300.30.5.1.1.14	Family or child Allowance	Includes : 1) The Unified Child Support Allowance, granted to all families that support one or more dependent child, taking into account the equivalent income and the revenue category 2) The Special Allowance for Having 3 Children, granted to families with three or more dependent children, on a base of revenue test.
6. ACTIVE LABOUR MARKET PROGRAMMES		
See OECD Labour Market Policy database.		
6. UNEMPLOYMENT		
300.30.7.1.1.11	Full unemployment benefit - Unemployment benefit (non means-tested)	Regular unemployment benefit.