

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.

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/els/social/workincentives) 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 for the 1990-98 period to “missing”; 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. They are estimated as constant from 1998 onwards.

Sources

1980-89

EUROSTAT (1992), *Digest of Statistics on Social Protection in Europe*, Vol. 2: Invalidation/Disability, Luxembourg.

EUROSTAT (1993), *Digest of Statistics on Social Protection in Europe*, Vol. 4: Family, Luxembourg.

EUROSTAT (1994), *Digest of Statistics on Social Protection in Europe*, Vol. 5: Sickness, Luxembourg.

EUROSTAT (1995), *Digest of Statistics on Social Protection in Europe*, Vol. 6: Maternity, Luxembourg.

EUROSTAT (1994), *Digest of Statistics on Social Protection in Europe*, Vol. 7: Unemployment, Luxembourg.

EUROSTAT (1994), *Digest of Statistics on Social Protection in Europe*, Vol. 8: General Neediness, Luxembourg.

EUROSTAT (1994), *Social Protection Expenditure and Receipts 1980-1992*, Luxembourg.

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.

1990-2001

Data provided by EUROSTAT (ESSPROS database)

OECD Labour Market Policy database

OECD Health Data 2003, (www.oecd.org/health/healthdata).

MISSOC, Mutual information system on social protection in the Member states of the European Union, situation on January 1st, 1999 and evolution

(http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/soc-prot/missoc99/english/f_main.htm).

GREECE

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.
300.10.1.1.1.14	Public sector employees, including civil servants	See 1.1.1.1 and 1.1.1.6.
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.
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.
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 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.
300.10.3.1.4.1	Public and private sector employees: sickness allowance (IKA) (social security)	See 3.1.1.1
4.	HEALTH	
300.10.4.2.0.0	Public expenditure on health	See <i>OECD Health Data 2003</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 5.1.1.9		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 300.10.5.1.3.7	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.
6.	ACTIVE LABOUR MARKET PROGRAMMES	
See OECD Labour Market Policy database.		
7.	UNEMPLOYMENT	
See OECD Labour Market Policy database.		