

**EMPLOYMENT OBSERVATORY
RESEARCH- INFORMATICS S.A.**

No 7

**THE LABOUR MARKET IN GREECE
IN THE PERIOD 1992 – 2002**

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DISCUSSION PAPERS

ATHENS

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THE LABOUR MARKET IN GREECE IN THE PERIOD 1992 - 2002

by

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The Employment Observatory is a non-profit company operating under the supervision of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, as well as of OAED. The company's mission covers a wide range of activities, including research projects concerning the labour market, the development of an informatics system serving the functions of OAED and its affiliates, the monitoring of national, European and international developments and prospects of the labour market, the evolution of occupations, and the forecasting of educational and vocational needs.

The present edition of the series entitled "Discussion Papers" is part of the research work of the company.

This series aims at the regular production of discussion papers, which present statistical analyses of labour market data, and/or are research projects in progress. The purpose of the present edition is to provide timely information to the state, the social partners, other interested social agents or the public on matters concerning the labour market and social protection in general. Through this series we aspire to create a solid background for the exchange of views on these subjects.

The present issue aims at the description of the current position of women in the labour market. The analysis is based on data made available from the Labour Force Survey.

V. Dertilis

President & Managing Director

DISCUSSION PAPERS

No 7

THE LABOUR MARKET IN GREECE IN THE PERIOD 2000 -2002

SUMMARY

The statistical data on the labour market in Greece, from the Labour Force Survey conducted by ESYE for the second quarter of 1992 and 2002 are presented within the scope of the present article. More specifically, labour supply and the features of employment and unemployment are analyzed herein. Women present a relatively low rate of participation in the labour market compared to men, they show a greater shift from and to the labour market than men and they are proportionately more afflicted by unemployment. Employment increased significantly in the tertiary sector, while it fell in the secondary sector. The number of salaried rose and the number of self-employed fell.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<i>page</i>
1. Introduction	6
2. Overview of the Greek labour market in the period 1992 – 2002	7
3. Labour supply in the period 1992 – 2002	11
4. Employment in the period 1992 – 2002	14
4.1. General characteristics of employment	14
4.2. Employment and educational level in the period 1992 – 2002	16
4.3. Employment and position in the enterprise in the period 1992 – 2002	18
4.4. Employment and sector of economic activity in the period 1992 – 2002	20
5. Unemployment in the period 1992 – 2002	21
5.1. General characteristics of the unemployed in the period 1992 – 2002	21
5.2. Unemployment and educational level in the period 1992 – 2002	23
5.3. Duration of unemployment in the period 1992 – 2002	25
6. Conclusions	27

The labour market in Greece in the period 1992 - 2002

1. Introduction

Over the last years, significant changes have occurred both at the level of economy as a whole and in the labour market. Those changes are not only quantitative, i.e. improvement of the economic and of the labour market indicators, but also qualitative.

The transformation of the Greek economy is apparent. The contribution of the tertiary sector both to the GDP and to employment has risen, mainly against the primary, but also against the secondary sector.

There is a change in the role of the state. The presence of the state is being limited in the field of production, while it is reinforced in the field of social protection.

Over the last ten years, equally significant changes have been observed in the labour market. The rate of participation is rising. Employment is decreasing in the primary sector, mainly in favour of the tertiary sector. The number of salaried individuals is rising significantly, while the number of the self-employed and of assistants in the family business is decreasing. The number of people involved in new or informal patterns of employment is rising.

The changes occurring in the labour market bring about new conditions and new social needs. They call for a modern educational system, capable of meeting contemporary social needs. At the same time, such changes bring about a new set of parameters for the social protection system. The need for an “employment-friendly” social protection system, which would reinforce social cohesion and protect individuals from unemployment, poverty and social exclusion, is becoming apparent.

This brief paper aims at a rough depiction of the situation in the labour market in the period 1992 – 2002, based mainly on the data taken from the Labour Force Survey (2nd semester) for the years 1992 – 2002.

The depiction of the situation in the Greek labour market for the said period will be determined on the basis of: a) labour supply b) characteristics of employment and c) unemployment.

Differences of gender, age and educational level will be taken into account.

2. Overview of the Greek labour market in the period

1992 – 2002

The pace of growth of the Greek economy is particularly impressive in the last years. In Table 1, some basic economic and labour market indicators are presented for the period 1992 – 2002.

Table 1: Annual percentage variation of basic macroeconomic values in the period 2000 – 2002

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
RGDP	0,7	-1,6	2,0	2,1	2,4	3,6	3,4	3,6	4,1	4,1	3,7
EMPL	1,4	1,0	1,9	0,9	-0,4	-0,6	4,1	-0,8	-0,3	-0,1	0,3
LP	-0,7	-2,6	0,2	1,2	2,8	4,2	-0,7	4,4	4,4	4,2	3,4
PDGDP	-2,9	-4,1	-0,2	2,9	1,4	8,5	0,1	2,4	2,3	2,9	3,2
RCPE	-3,5	-3,9	-0,1	3,9	0,6	7,7	0,8	3,3	2,6	3,0	3,2

Source: European Commission, Employment in Europe 2002, page 167

where: RGDP = GDP in real prices (deflated)

EMPL = employment

LP = labour productivity

PDGDP = price deflator of the Gross Domestic Product

RCPE = Real compensation per employed

Table 1 depicts the annual changes of the above mentioned economic and labour market indicators. Based on the data of Table 1, we observe that:

- Since 1994, there is a real growth of the GDP
- Employment rises until 1995, then it fluctuates, and it rises again from 2002 onwards.
- Labour productivity rises from 1994 until nowadays, except for 1998, when labour productivity shows a decrease.

Based on the data taken from the Labour Force Survey conducted by ESYE (2nd quarter), the number of employed rose from 3.680.039 individuals in 1992 to 3.948.902 individuals in 2002 (increase by 268.863 individuals). In the same period, the labour force increased by 340.092 individuals (from 4.028.917 individuals in 1992 to 4.369.009 in 2002), while the number of unemployed rose from 348.878 individuals to 420.107 (an increase by 71.229 individuals). One of the reasons for the increase in unemployment in the period 1992 – 2002 is that the labour force increased more than employment.

Table 2: Absolute and percentage changes in labour force, employment and unemployment in the period 1992-2002

	Absolute changes			Percentage changes		
	Employed	Unemployed	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Labour Force
1992-1993	35324	48202	83526	1,0	13,8	2,1
1993-1994	70794	6655	77449	1,9	1,7	1,9
1994-1995	34353	20248	54601	0,9	5,0	1,3
1995-1996	47773	21720	69493	1,3	5,1	1,6
1996-1997	-14948	-6299	-21247	-0,4	-1,4	-0,5
1997-1998	113832	39131	152963	3,0	8,9	3,6
1998-1999	-27376	44839	17463	-0,7	9,4	0,4
1999-2000	6483	-32294	-25811	0,2	-6,2	-0,6
2000-2001	-28775	-46368	-75143	-0,7	-9,4	-1,7
2001-2002	31403	-24605	6798	0,8	-5,5	0,2

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

According to the data of Table 2, we observe that the highest increase in employment occurred in the period 1997 – 1998, whereas the highest increase in unemployment occurred in the period 1992 – 1993. Since 1999, unemployment has been decreasing at a relatively quick pace. In the period 2001 – 2002, unemployment falls, whereas both the labour force and employment rise. The increase in employment in that period is higher than the increase in the labour force.

Table 3 : Labour market indicators in the period 1992 – 2002

	1992			2002		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Population of working age (15 - 64 years old)	6640161	3202288	3437873	6760323	3300253	3460070
Labour Force (15 – 64 years old)	3908894	2452969	1455925	4358393	2527203	1831190
Labour Force (15 years old or older)	4028917	2537519	1491398	4369010	2604225	1764785
Employed (15 – 64 years old)	3561113	2316198	1244915	3843600	2366301	1477300
Employed (15 years old or older)	3680039	2399943	1280096	3948902	2442508	1506395
Unemployed	348878	137576	211301	420107	161717	258390
Long-Term Unemployed	172098	52149	119950	116387	44125	72261
Full-Time Employed	3504649	2332142	1172507	3770850	2386020	1384830
Part-Time Employed	175390	67801	107589	178052	56488	121564
Employed in Agriculture	806661	468681	337980	623819	354834	268985
Employed in Industry	753708	535751	217957	593389	430341	163048
Employed in Services	2124059	1398728	725331	2731694	1657333	1074361
Salaried	1937552	1244550	693002	2377232	1420396	956836
Self-employed (without staff)	1045609	823410	222199	963805	679757	284048
Assistants in the family business	445496	112270	333226	309271	94942	214329
Rate of participation	58,87	76,60	42,35	64,47	76,58	52,92
Rate of employment	53,63	72,32	36,21	56,86	71,70	42,70
Rate of Full-Time Employment	95,2	97,2	91,6	96,26	97,69	91,93
Rate of Part-Time Employment	4,8	2,8	8,4	3,74	2,31	8,1
Rate of Salaried Employment	52,65	51,86	54,14	60,20	58,15	63,52
Rate of Self-Employment	28,41	34,31	17,36	24,41	27,83	18,86
Rate of Employment for Assistants in Family Businesses	12,11	4,68	26,03	7,83	3,89	14,23
Rate of Employment in Agriculture	21,92	19,53	26,40	15,80	14,53	17,86
Rate of Employment in Industry	20,48	22,32	17,03	15,03	17,62	10,82
Rate of Employment in Services	57,72	58,28	56,66	69,18	67,86	71,32
Rate of unemployment	8,66	5,42	8,04	9,62	6,21	14,64
Rate of unemployment for young people aged 15 – 24	26,96	18,43	36,85	26,97	18,67	33,75
Rate of long-term unemployment.	49,43	37,99	56,88	46,30	43,41	48,26

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

The data of Table 3 show that in the period 1992 – 2002:

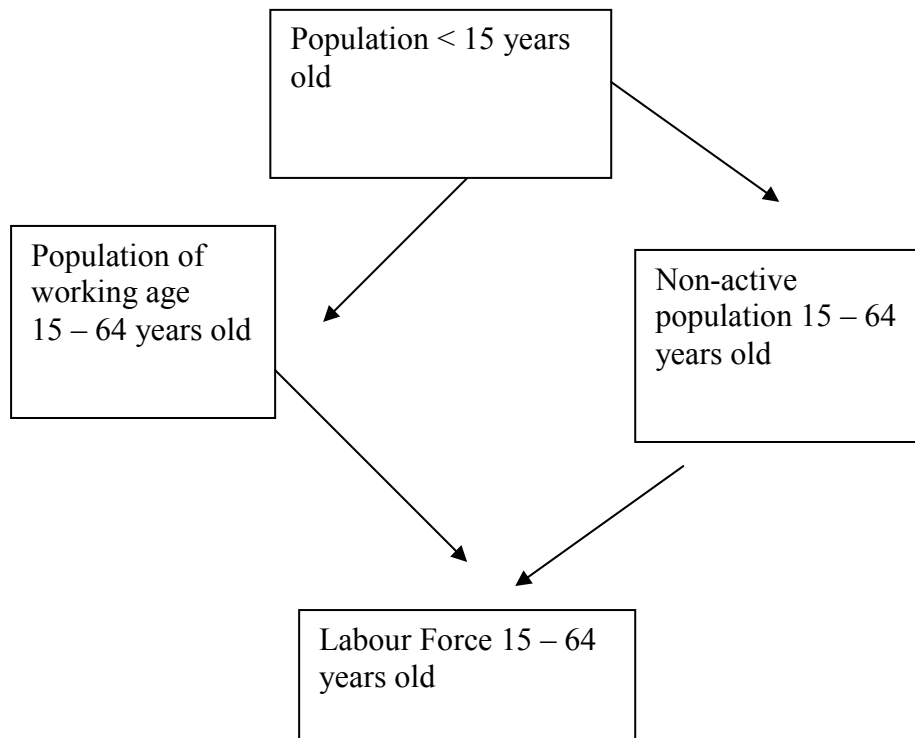
- The population of working age increased by 1,81%. The highest increase is mainly due to males and, subsequently, to females. The male population of working age increased by 97.965 individuals, whereas the female population of working age increased by 22.197 individuals.
- The rate of participation rose from 58,87% in 1992 to 64,47% in 2002. The increase in the rate of participation stemmed exclusively from the increase in the rate of female participation from 42,35% to 52,92%.
- The total number of employed rose by 282.487 persons. The male employed rose by 50.103 individuals and the female employed rose by 232.385 individuals.
- The rate of participation of those employed in the branch of Agriculture decreased from 21,92% to 15,80%, with regard to the total number of employed. Such a decrease is mainly due to the decrease in the number of females employed in the branch of Agriculture (from 26,40% to 17,86%).
- Employment in the branch of Industry fell from 20,48% to 15,03% (with regard to the employment total), whereas employment in the branch of Services rose from 57,72% to 69,18% (with regard to the employment total).
- The rate of the salaried individuals increases from 52,65% to 60,20%, with regard to the total number of employed. In the same period, the rate of self-employed and of assistants in the family business falls.
- Part-time employment remained stable in the period 1992 - 2002
- The average rate of unemployment rises from 8,66% to 9,62%. The increase in the rate of unemployment is mainly due to the increase in the rate of female unemployment from 8,04% to 14,64%.
- The rate of unemployment for young people aged 15 – 24 remains almost stable (26,95% in 1992 and 26,97% in 2002). The rate of unemployment for females aged 15 – 24 decreases from 36,85% to 33,75%.

- The rate of long-term unemployment decreases from 49,63% to 46,30%.

3. Labour supply in the period 1992 – 2002

As it was mentioned above, the population of working age (15 – 64 years old) rises from 6.640.161 individuals in 1992 to 6.760.323 individuals in 2002 (increase by 120.162 individuals, that is by 1,81%). In the same period, the labour force rises by 449.499 individuals, whereas the non-active population aged 15 – 64 falls by 233.837 individuals. The flows among the population of working age, the non-actives and the labour force are depicted in the following diagram.

Diagram 1: Flows among the population of working age, the labour force and the non-active population in the period 1992 – 2002.



Based on the above-mentioned data, the increase in the labour force stemmed from the shift of a part of the population of working age and of a part of the non-active population towards the labour force.

Table 4: Percentage changes of the population of working age (15 – 64 yrs old), of the non-active population, and of the labour force by gender, in the period 1992 – 2002

	Absolute variations			Percentage Variations		
	Population of working age	Labour Force	Non-active population	Population of working age	Labour Force	Non-active population
Total	120162	353999	-233837	1,8	9,1	-8,6
Males	97965	74234	23731	3,1	3,0	3,2
Females	15198	279765	-257568	0,4	19,2	-13,0

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

From Table 4, it arises that the increase in the labour force stemmed mainly from females, more specifically from females of the non-active population that became integrated in the labour force.

In 1992, the population aged 15 – 19 constitutes 8,9% of the population of working age (15-64 years old), 3,3% of the labour force and 2,5% of the employed. Table 5 depicts the distribution of the population of working age, of the labour force and of the employed by age group in the period 1992 – 2002.

Table 5: Distribution of the population of working age, of the labour force and of the employed by age group, in the period 1992 – 2002

	1992			2002		
	Population of working age	Labour Force	Employed	Population of working age	Labour Force	Employed
15-19 yrs old	8,9	3,3	2,5	6,7	1,6	1,3
20-24 yrs old	8,0	10,1	8,2	7,5	9,0	7,4
25-29 yrs old	7,6	11,8	11,2	7,6	13,0	12,1
30-44 yrs old	24,1	37,7	38,7	23,8	39,9	40,6
45-64 yrs old	32,1	34,1	36,1	29,7	34,1	36,0
65+ yrs old	19,2	3,0	3,2	24,7	2,4	2,7

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

Based on the data of Table 5, we conclude that in the period 1992 – 2002 the participation of the 15 – 24 and the 25 – 29 age groups decreases in the population of working age, as well as in the labour force and in the employed. This is possibly a first indication that a part of the population of working age returns to the educational process, thus bringing about a decrease in the rate of participation of the labour force, as well as of the non-active assistants in the family business.

The highest percentage of the population of working age comes under the 45 – 64 age group. In the case of the labour force, 39,9% consists of individuals aged 30 – 44 and 34,1% consists of people aged 45 – 64 in 2002. With regard to the employed in 2002, the 30 – 44 and 45 – 64 age groups constitute 40,6% and 36% of the total number of employed respectively. The data depict an ageing trend for the population of working age and for the labour force. The ageing of the labour force has a negative impact on labour productivity itself and on economic growth, unless the labour force is «rejuvenated» and life-long learning and training is generalized for the labour force total.

Table 6: Rate of participation by age group in the period 1992 – 2002

	1992		2002	
	Rate of participation	Rate of employment	Rate of participation	Rate of employment
Total	49,0	44,8	48,7	44,0
15 – 29 years old	18,3	12,7	11,7	8,2
20 – 24 years old	61,9	46,0	58,4	43,9
25 – 29 years old	76,5	66,6	83,5	70,1
30 – 44 years old	76,8	72,1	81,4	74,8
45 – 64 years old	52,2	50,3	55,9	53,3
65+ years old	7,6	7,6	4,8	4,7

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

Based on the data of Table 6 we observe that:

- The rate of participation and employment is higher for the age group 30 – 44 and it increases between 1992 and 2002
- The rate of participation falls in the age group 45 – 64, due to early or regular retirements from the labour market. The rate of participation for those individuals rises from 52,2% in 1992 to 55,9% in 2002.
- The rate of participation falls in the case of people aged 15 – 19 and 20 – 24, due to their return to the educational process

Table 7: Rates of participation and employment by age and gender in the period 1992 – 2002

	1992				2002			
	Males		Females		Males		Females	
	RP	RE	RE	RE	RP	RE	RP	RE
Total	64,7	61,2	34,7	29,8	60,6	56,8	37,7	32,2
15-19	20,1	16,3	16,5	9,2	13,6	10,7	9,8	5,6
20-24	70,3	57,5	54,3	35,6	63,6	52,0	53,5	36,2
25-29	92,5	83,7	61,5	50,5	92,5	82,3	74,0	57,3
30-44	96,8	93,7	56,8	50,7	96,5	92,1	67,3	58,7
45-64	74,7	72,7	31,0	29,4	74,4	71,8	38,5	35,9
65+	11,7	11,6	4,2	4,1	7,7	7,6	2,4	2,4

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

RP= Rate of Participation, RE = Rate of Employment

The rate of participation and employment is higher for males than for females. The rate of participation and employment falls in the case of males, whereas it rises for females in the period 1992 – 2002. The decrease in the rate of participation and employment for males is mainly due to the respective decrease in those rates in the case of the 15 – 19, 20 – 24 and 65+ age groups. By contrast, the increase in the rates of participation and employment for females is mainly due to the respective increase in those rates, in the case of the 25 – 29, 30 – 44 and 45 – 64 age groups.

4. Employment in the period 1992 - 2002

4.1. General characteristics of employment

Employment rose from 3.680.039 individuals in 1992 to 3.948.902 individuals in 2002, which is an increase by 268.863 individuals.

Table 8: Structure of the labour force and of employment by gender and age in the period 1992 – 2002, as a share of total labour force and employment by age

	1992				2002			
	Labour Force		Employed		Labour Force		Employed	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Total	63,0	37,0	65,2	34,8	59,6	40,4	61,9	38,1
15 – 19 yrs old	53,3	46,7	62,3	37,7	58,7	41,3	66,1	33,9
20 – 24 yrs old	53,8	46,2	59,2	40,8	52,7	47,3	57,4	42,6
25 – 29 yrs old	58,7	41,3	61,1	38,9	56,6	43,4	60,0	40,0
30 – 44 yrs old	61,3	38,7	63,1	36,9	57,2	42,8	59,4	40,6
45 – 64 yrs old	69,3	30,7	69,8	30,2	64,5	35,5	65,3	34,7

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey,

Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

In 1992, women constituted 37% of the total labour force and 34,8% of total employment. In 2002, those rates reached 40,4% and 38,1% respectively. There was an increase in the female participation in the labour force and in employment. In the 20 – 24 age group, women show the highest rate of participation in the labour force and in employment. Women coming under the 45 - 64 age group show the lowest rate of participation in the labour force, obviously because of their withdrawal from the labour market due to retirement.

Table 9: Structure of employment by age and gender in the period 1992 – 2002

	1992			2002		
	Total	Males	Female	Total	Males	Females
15 – 19 yrs old	2,5	2,4	2,7	1,3	1,3	1,1
20 – 24 yrs old	8,2	7,4	9,6	7,4	6,9	8,3
25 – 29 yrs old	11,2	10,5	12,6	12,1	11,7	12,7
30 – 44 yrs old	38,7	37,5	41,1	40,6	38,9	43,2

45 – 64 yrs old	36,1	38,6	31,3	36,0	38,0	32,8
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

Based on the data of the above table, we observe that in the period 1992 – 2002:

- The age groups 25 – 29 and 30 – 44 increased their participation in employment
- The age group 30 – 44 participates in the total employment more than any other age group
- In the age groups of 20 – 24, 25 – 29 and 30 – 44, females participate more in the total female employment than men of the respective age groups do in the total male employment. The contrary applies to the 45 – 64 age group.

4.2. Employment and level of education in the period 1992 – 2002

In the period 1992 – 2002, the number of individuals having an advanced level of education rose significantly. The same occurred for those having an intermediate level of education. On the contrary, the number of individuals at an elementary level of education decreased for the said period.

Table 10: Absolute and percentage variations of the employed by level of education in the period 1992 – 2002

	Absolute variations	Percentage variations
Doctoral or Postgraduate Degree	13680	94,5
University Degree	172541	39,4
Studies at the University (for at least, 1 year, no completion of the degree)	-3213	-72,0
Diploma of Higher Technical & Vocational School	264053	130,5
Secondary Education Graduates	322123	36,8
Lower Secondary Education Graduates	99687	30,3
Primary School Certificate	-434122	-27,7
Several Classes at Primary School	-135872	-72,9
No School	-30014	-47,2

<i>Elementary level of Education</i>	-500321	-23,3
<i>Intermediate Level of Education</i>	318910	36,2
<i>Advanced Level of Education</i>	450274	68,8

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

From the data of the above table, it arises that in the period 1992 – 2002 the number of employed having an elementary level of education fell by 500.321 individuals. The number of individuals having an intermediate level of education rose by 318.910 and the number of those having an advanced level of education rose by 450.274 individuals. The decrease in the number of employed having an elementary level of education may be attributed to the fact that those were aged individuals, which have withdrawn from the labour market. People currently entering the labour market remain in the educational process longer than the older people.

Table 11: Percentage distribution of the employed by level of education, in the total number of the employed for the period 1992 – 2002

	1992	2002
Doctoral or Postgraduate Degree	0,4	0,7
University Degree	11,9	15,5
Studies at the University (for at least, 1 year, no completion of the degree)	0,1	0,0
Diploma of Higher Technical & Vocational School	5,5	11,8
Secondary Education Graduates	23,8	30,3
Lower Secondary Education Graduates	8,9	10,9
Primary School Certificate	42,6	28,7
Several Classes at Primary School	5,1	1,3
No School	1,7	0,8
<i>Elementary level of Education</i>	58,3	41,7
<i>Intermediate Level of Education</i>	23,9	30,4
<i>Advanced Level of Education</i>	17,8	28,0

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

Based on the data of Table 11, we observe that people having an elementary level of education constitute the highest portion of the employed in 1992 (58,3%). Nevertheless, this rate falls to 41,7% in 2002. Participation

in the total number of employed of those who come under an intermediate or an advanced level of education rises in the period 1992 – 2002.

The rate of participation of primary school leavers in the total number of employed decreases from 42,6% in 1992 to 28,7% in 2002. The participation of individuals who are Senior High School graduates, holders of diplomas from Higher Vocational or Technical Schools or holders of a university degree rises in the total number of those employed.

4.3. Employment and position in the enterprise in the period 1992 – 2002

The particularly large numbers of self-employed individuals without staff and of assistants in the family business has been one of the most distinct characteristics of Greek labour market compared to the rest of the E.U..

Table 12: Absolute and percentage changes of the employed by gender and by position in the enterprise in the period 1992 – 2002

	Absolute Variations			Percentage Variations		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
TOT.	268863	42565	226299	7,3	1,8	117,7
S.E.W.S.	42823	24555	18268	16,7	11,0	155,5
S.E.Wi.S.	-81731	-143653	61922	-7,8	-17,4	127,9
SA.	441289	177089	264200	22,8	14,2	138,1
AS.	-133519	-15426	-118092	-30,2	-14,0	64,5

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

where: TOT. = total number of the employed

S.E.W.S.= self-employed with staff

S.E.Wi.S.= self-employed without staff

SA. = salaried

AS.= assistants in the family business

In the period 1992 – 2002, the number of salaried showed a significant increase, which contributed substantially to the increase in the employment total. The salaried increased by 441.289 individuals, thus counterbalancing the decrease by 113.519 individuals concerning assistants in the family business and the decrease by 81.731 individuals of the self-employed without staff. Although it is not feasible with the current data, it would be interesting to investigate if and to what extent there was a shift of the assistants in the family business and of the self-employed without staff towards the salaried, the unemployed or the non-active population.

As regards the distribution of employment by gender and position in the enterprise, we observe that the number of self-employed males and of females employed as assistants in the family business fell significantly. The increase in the number of females working as employees is higher than the respective increase of males working as employees.

Table 13: Percentage distribution of the employed by gender and by position in the enterprise, in the total number of employed, 1992 – 2002

	1992			2002		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
S.E.W.S	7,0	9,3	2,6	7,6	10,1	3,4
S.E.Wi.S.	28,4	34,3	17,4	24,4	27,8	18,9
SA.	52,6	51,8	54,1	60,2	58,2	63,5
AS.	12,0	4,6	26,0	7,8	3,9	14,2
TOT.	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

Based on the data of Table 13, we observe that in 1992 the salaried (employees) constituted 52,6% of the total number of employed and the self-employed without staff constituted 28,4%. In 2002, participation of the salaried increased to 60,2% in the total number of employed, whereas participation of the self-employed without staff decreased to 24,4%.

As regards the distribution of employed according to their position in the enterprise and according to gender, we observe that the rate of the male self-employed without staff is particularly important for the male employment total. In the case of the female employed, the rate of assistants in the family business is high. In 2002, there is a decrease in the male self-employed without staff and a significant boost of females working as employees.

4.4. Employment and sector of economic activity in the period 1992 – 2002

As it was previously mentioned, employment rose by 264.401 individuals, which is a 7,2% increase, in the period 1992-2002. The increase in employment comes mainly from the increase in employment in the tertiary sector

Table 14: Absolute and percentage changes of employment by sector of economic activity and by gender

	Absolute Changes			Percentage Changes		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Total	264401	39347	225054	7,2	1,6	17,6
Primary Sector	-182842	-113847	-68995	-22,7	-24,3	-20,4
Secondary Sector	-160319	-105410	-54909	-21,3	-19,7	-25,2
Tertiary Sector	607562	258604	348958	28,6	18,5	48,1

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

From the data of the above table it arises that in the period 1992 – 2002 employment decreased in the primary and secondary sectors and it rose significantly in the tertiary sector. The increase in employment in the tertiary sector was higher in the case of employed females than in the case of employed males.

Table 15: Percentage distribution of employment by sector of economic activity and gender, in the period 1992 – 2002

	1992			2002		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Primary Sector	21,9	19,5	26,4	15,8	14,5	17,9

Secondary Sector	20,5	22,3	17,0	15,0	17,6	10,8
Tertiary Sector	57,7	58,2	56,6	69,2	67,9	71,3
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

The rate of those employed in the primary sector is particularly high in Greece compared with regard to the other countries of the European Union. In the period 1992 – 2002, the rate of those employed in the primary sector fell from 21,9% to 15,8%. The decrease in those employed in the primary sector stemmed mainly from the decrease in female employment. In 1992, 26,4% of the female employment corresponded to the primary sector. In 2002, the respective rate was 17,9%.

Although the contribution of the employed in the primary and secondary sectors to the total number of the employed fell, employment in the tertiary sector rose. The rate of the employed females in the tertiary sector increased more than the rate of the employed males. The rate of males employed in the tertiary sector with regard to the total number of male employed rises from 58,2% in 1992 to 67,9% in 2002. The rate of females employed in the tertiary sector with regard to the total number of female employed rises from 56,6% in 1992 to 71,3% in 2002.

5. Unemployment in the period 1992 – 2002

5.1. General characteristics of the unemployed in the period 1992 – 2002

The number of unemployed people increased from 348.878 individuals in 1992 to 420.107 individuals in 2002. There is no doubt that the number of unemployed decreases over the last years (see table 2). In 1992, 39,4% of the unemployed were men (137.576 individuals) and 60,6% were women (211.301 individuals). Out of 420.107 unemployed in 2002, 161.717 were men (which is 38,5%) and 258.390 were women (61,5%).

Table 16: Absolute and percentage changes of unemployment by gender in the period 1992 – 2002

	Absolute Changes	Percentage Changes
Total	71229	20,4
Males	24141	17,5

Females	47089	22,3
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Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

As shown from the data of Table 16, in the period 1992 – 2002 unemployment increased more for women than it did for men. As previously mentioned, we must note that the female participation in the labour force increased much more than the male participation over the said period.

Table 17: Absolute and percentage changes in unemployment by age and gender in the period 1992 – 2002

	Absolute Changes			Percentage Changes		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Total	71229	24141	47088	20,4	17,5	22,3
15–19 yrs old	-19857	-4775	-15082	-48,4	-35,3	-54,8
20-24 yrs old	-6839	-2340	-4499	-6,6	-5,9	-7,0
25-29 yrs old	29165	8705	20460	47,2	32,7	58,3
<i>15-29 yrs old</i>	2469	1590	879	1,2	2,0	0,7
<i>30-44 yrs old</i>	47866	15230	32636	51,5	50,1	52,2
<i>45-64 yrs old</i>	21175	7310	13865	44,3	27,7	64,7
65+ yrs old	-282	10	-292	-25,7	1,2	-100,0

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

Based on the data of Table 17, we notice that in the period 1992 – 2002 unemployment increased significantly for the 30 - 44 age group. This is mainly due to the increase in female unemployment. Female unemployment in the 30 – 44 age group increased by 32.366 individuals, whereas male unemployment for the same age group increased by 15230 individuals.

Table 18: Percentage distribution of the unemployed by gender and age in the period 1992 – 2002

	1992			2002		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
15–19 yrs old	11,8	9,8	13,0	5,0	5,4	4,8
20-24 yrs old	29,9	28,9	30,5	23,2	23,2	23,2
25-29 yrs old	17,7	19,4	16,6	21,6	21,8	21,5
<i>15-29 yrs old</i>	59,3	58,1	60,1	49,9	50,4	49,5
<i>30-44 yrs old</i>	26,6	22,1	29,6	33,5	28,2	36,8
<i>45-64 yrs old</i>	13,7	19,2	10,1	16,4	20,8	13,7
65+ yrs old	0,3	0,6	0,1	0,2	0,5	0,0

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

According to the data of the above Table, the unemployed in the 15 – 29 age group constitute 59,3% of the total unemployed in 1992. This rate decreases to 49,9% in 2002. The unemployed in the 30 – 44 age group constitute 26,6% of the total number of unemployed in 1992 and 33,5% in 2002. The unemployed aged between 45 and 64 constitute 13,7% of the total number of unemployed in 1992 and 16,4% in 2002.

5.2. Unemployment and level of education in the period 1992 – 2002

The highest rate of unemployed in 1992 concerned Senior High School graduates. From out of 348.878 unemployed 40,3% are Senior High School graduates. In 2002, the rate of the unemployed who are secondary education graduates totals 38,4%.

Table 19: Percentage distribution of the unemployed by level of education, in the total number of unemployed, 1992 – 2002

	1992	2002
Doctoral or Postgraduate Degree	0,4	0,5
University Degree	9,0	9,1
Studies at the University (for at least, 1 year, no completion of the degree)	0,3	0,2
Diploma of Higher Technical & Vocational School	7,7	17,3
Secondary Education Graduates	40,3	38,4
Lower Secondary Education Graduates	12,3	14,2
Primary School Certificate	27,0	19,1
Several Classes at Primary School	2,1	0,8
No School	0,9	0,3
<i>Elementary level of Education</i>	42,3	34,5
<i>Intermediate Level of Education</i>	40,6	38,6
<i>Advanced Level of Education</i>	17,1	27,0

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

Based on the data of Table 19, we observe that the unemployed with an elementary level of education constitute 42,3% of the unemployed in 1992 and 34,5% of the unemployed in 2002. The participation of individuals with an intermediate educational level also presented a decrease in the total number of unemployed (from 40,6% to 38,6%). By contrast, the participation of individuals with an advanced educational level increased in the total number of unemployed, from 17,1% in 1992 to 27% in 2002.

Table 20: Rate of unemployment by level of education in the period 1992 – 2002

	1992	2002
<i>Total</i>	8,7	9,6
Doctoral or Postgraduate Degree	7,9	7,4
University Degree	6,7	5,9
Studies at the University (for at least, 1 year, no completion of the degree)	16,4	42,0 ¹
Diploma of Higher Technical & Vocational School	11,7	13,5
Secondary Education Graduates	13,8	11,9
Lower Secondary Education Graduates	11,5	12,2
Primary School Certificate	5,7	6,6
Several Classes at Primary School	3,8	6,1
No School	4,8	3,7
<i>Elementary level of Education</i>	6,4	8,1
<i>Intermediate Level of Education</i>	13,9	11,9
<i>Advanced Level of Education</i>	8,3	9,3

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

From the data of the above table, it arises that the individuals with an intermediary level of education present the highest share of the unemployed (13,9% in 1992 and 11,9% in 2002). The rate of unemployment for the Senior High School graduates is 13,8% in 1992 and 11,9% in 2002.

5.3. Duration of unemployment in the period 1992 – 2002

The number of unemployed individuals in search of a job for a period longer than 12 months rose from 172.926 individuals in 1992 to 229.840 individuals in 2002. In 1992, the long-term unemployed constituted 49,4% of the total number of unemployed. In 2002, this rate totals 54,7%.

¹ The number of individuals who studied at a university for at least one year but who have not obtained their degree is very small. This high rate is mainly due to the very significant decrease in the labour

Table 21: Duration of unemployment by gender in the period 1992 – 2002

	1992			2002		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
«NEW ² »	50,8	42,1	56,5	40,2	37,1	42,1
< 6 months	30,1	39,1	24,3	26,1	30,4	23,4
6 – 11 months	20,5	23,0	18,8	19,2	19,8	18,8
> 12 months	49,4	38,0	56,9	54,7	49,8	57,8

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

The «New» unemployed constitute 50,8% of the total number of unemployed in 1992. This rate falls to 40,2% in 2002. In the period 1992 – 2002, the unemployed in search of a job up to 6 months and from 6 to 11 months presented a decrease, whereas there was an increase in the unemployed in search of a job for a period longer than 12 months.

Table 22: Percentage changes of the unemployed, according the period of job-search, 1992 – 2002

	Total	Males	Females
«NEW»	-4,6	3,8	-8,7
< 6 months	4,6	-8,2	17,9
6 – 11 months	13,3	1,6	22,5
> 12 months	33,6	54,3	24,5

Source: ESYE, Labour Force Survey, Calculations: P.A.E.P. S.A.

According to the data of Table 22, we observe that the number of “NEW” unemployed females decreased by 8%. Nevertheless, unemployed females in search of a job for up to 6 months, from 6 to 11 months, as well as the long-term unemployed females increased. In the case of unemployed males, the number of long-term unemployed has risen significantly.

force from 5.339 individuals in 1992 to 2.153 individuals in 2002, whereas unemployment increased from 878 individuals in 1992 to 904 individuals in 2002.

² By the term «New» unemployed, we refer to the individuals currently entering the labour market in search of a job.

6. Conclusions

The analysis of the labour market data for the period 1992 – 2002 shows that:

- The rate of female participation and employment has risen significantly over the previous years.
- The rate of participation for younger ages has fallen, due to their participation in the educational process.
- Employment in the tertiary sector has risen, whereas, it has fallen in the primary and secondary sector.
- The number of salaried has increased, whereas the numbers of self-employed without staff and of assistants in the family business have decreased.
- In the period 1992-2002, the number of the unemployed increased due to the increase in unemployed females. Over the last years, the number of the unemployed has decreased.

