VITAL STATISTICS
from administrative registries

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- Statistics Law of Türkiye – Official Statistics Programme
- MERNIS (Civil Registration)
- Birth & Death Registration System in Türkiye
- Birth and Death Statistics
- Suicide Statistics
- Causes of Death Statistics
- Marriage and Divorce Statistics
Statistics Law of Türkiye

- No. of the Law : 5429
- Published Official Gazette Date : 18 November 2005

Purpose (Article 1)

- To determine basic principles and standards concerning the production and organization of official statistics
- To regulate the duties of the Turkish Statistical Institute
- To ensure coordination among institutions and organizations that are involved in the statistics producing process
Official Statistics Programme
Statistics Law of Türkiye

TURKISH STATISTICAL SYSTEM

accurate
qualified
reliable
unbiased
comparable

Statistical Council

TurkStat-Coordination Point

Ministries
Institutions
Universities
NGO’s
Official Statistics Programme

- National data needs are defined
- Prepared for five-year periods
- Drafted by TurkStat by soliciting the opinions of the related organizations in line with the comments of the Statistical Council
- Approved by Council of Ministers

GOAL:

- Increasing the standards of administrative records and ensuring the use of them as official statistics
MERNIS

- MERNIS is a centrally administered system including information on vital events of all citizens
- Headquarter is in Ankara, 970 registration offices are in districts
- Online data transfer from the offices in districts to the Headquarter in Ankara
- MERNIS is based on family ledgers
- Maintenance of the system supplied by the Ministry of Interior, General Directorate of Civil Registration and Citizenship Affairs

National Address Database (NAD)

- Established by the municipalities in coordination with TurkStat in 2006

Address Based Population Registration System

- Established by TurkStat in 2007, transferred to the Ministry of Interior
MERNIS

BEFORE 2000s

- In ledgers (paper based)
- No ID numbers for citizens and foreigners
- No updated usual residence addresses
- Late registration of vital events
- Difficulties on the data transfer to the Headquarter

AFTER 2000s

- In electronic format
- Unique ID number with 11 digits for citizens and foreigners
- Updated information on place of usual residence
- Registration of vital events on time
- Online data transfer from regional registration offices
VITAL STATISTICS

- **AIM:** Producing annual, accurate and qualified figures of the population size and the dynamics of the population (vital events)

TurkStat produces vital statistics from registers **in line of Eurostat and UN recommendations**

Main data source

MERNIS

Central Civil Registration System
BIRTH & DEATH STATISTICS

BEFORE 2000s

- Population and Housing Censuses
  - Number of live births, crude birth rate, total fertility rate
  - Number of infant deaths, infant mortality rate
  - No information on deaths in total
  - No information on detailed characteristics of mothers etc.
  - Some estimations by using indirect estimation techniques (Brass Trussell etc.) (with 5 or 10-year interval)

- Demographic and Health Surveys
  - Fertility and infant mortality estimations
  - No information on deaths in total
BIRTH REGISTRATION

- According to the Population Law No. 5490, births in Türkiye must be registered **within 30 days** of the child being born to the District Population and Civil Registration Offices. (**within 60 days** - to the embassies if the birth event occurred abroad)

- There is **no fee**

- When the baby was born at the hospital, **birth certificate** is issued and given to the family before the mother leaves from hospital.

- Who can report the birth?
  - Parents
  - Guardian
  - Grandfather, grandmother or adult sibling
  - Police or gendarme officer (If baby/child found)
HOSPITAL/HEALTH CENTER
When the birth event is occurred in hospitals/health centers, information on newborn and mother are entered to the system (birth certificate) by health personnel.

APPLICATION OF A FAMILY MEMBER
Family decided the name of newborn, and one eligible family member applies to the district registration office.

(online notification of birth)

REGISTRATION OFFICE
Civil registration office keeps the information according to the ID no of mother. After the application of families, ID no of newborn is assigned and identity card of baby is given to parents/relatives.
DEATH REGISTRATION

- According to the Population Law No. 5490, deaths in Türkiye must be registered within 10 days to the District Population and Civil Registration Offices (to embassies abroad).

- There is no fee

- Who can report the death?
  - Physician
  - Municipality physician
  - Prosecutor (Forensic case)
  - Mukhtar (Deaths in the village)
DEATH NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

- Improved by the Ministry of Health in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior, General Directorate of Civil Registration and Citizenship Affairs
- Web based system
- Accessible from all health centers and hospitals (government/private/university hospitals)
- Every physicians have password to enter the system
- When the ID number of deceased person is entered to the system, connection is provided with the Central Civil Registration System (MERNIS), and all information of deceased person come to the screen
- Physicians enter causes of death (ICD-10) in detail
- Causes of death information is classified by specific working groups in 26 regional offices of TurkStat in coordination with the MoH
BIRTH STATISTICS

- **Coverage**: Whole country

- **Data collection**
  - 2001-2008: Place of event
  - After 2009: Usual residence of mother

- **Data source**: MERNIS Database

  The Central Civil Registration System

  The Ministry of Interior

  General Directorate of Civil Registration and Citizenship Affairs

- Birth data were **revised 5 years retrospectively** due to late registration
- New born infant deaths may not be registered as "birth" (checking the Death Notification System data)
BIRTH STATISTICS

- Births by sex (province/district level)
- Crude birth rate and general fertility rate (province level)
- Age specific birth rates/Total fertility rate (province level)
- Births by age group of mother and father (province level)
- Mean age of mother (province level)
- Births by legal marital status of mother (province level)
- Births by mother's duration of marriage (province level)
- Births by level of education of mother
- Births by citizenship of mother and father
- Births by mother's country of birth
- Births by mother’s age group and birth order
- Proportions by birth order / Births by multiple births
DEATH STATISTICS

- Coverage & data collection
  - Until 2008: Only province and district centers
  - After 2009: Usual residence of deceased (whole country)

- Data source
  - MERNIS Database
  - The Central Civil Registration System
  - The Ministry of Interior
    - General Directorate of Civil Registration and Citizenship Affairs

Death data were revised 3 years retrospectively due to late registration
DEATH STATISTICS

- Deaths by sex (province/district level)
- Deaths by age group (province level)
- Crude death rate (province level)
- Infant mortality rate and under five mortality rate (province level)
- Age specific death rates
- Deaths by legal marital status
- Deaths by level of education
- Infant deaths by level of education of mother and father
- Births by citizenship of mother and father
- Deaths by country of birth
- Deaths by causes of death and sex
- Deaths by Statistical Regions and causes of death
**BIRTH & DEATH STATISTICS**

- **Dissemination**
  - Birth Statistics: Annual, on May
  - Death Statistics: Annual, on June

(published as *Death and Causes of Death Statistics* in 2020)

through the official web site of TurkStat

- Press releases
- Statistical tables
- Search from database (Central Dissemination System- MEDAS)
SUICIDE STATISTICS

Data collection method: Place of event

- 1974 - 2008: TurkStat-by forms
- 2009 - 2011: General Directorate of Security, General Command of Gendarmerie

Suicide data were revised 1 year retrospectively due to late registration.
Suicide Statistics

- **Dissemination**
  - Annual
  - Suicide Statistics on June through the official web site of TurkStat

- Press releases (Under the coverage of Deaths and Causes of Death Statistics Press Release)
- Statistical tables
- Search from database (Central Dissemination System- MEDAS)

From 2009 onwards, age, sex, permanent residence, legal marital status, educational level, date of suicide, method of suicide, cause of suicide and crude suicide rate
CAUSES OF DEATH STATISTICS

- Legislative Issues
  - Laws give the main responsibility to health institutions for identification of death events.
  - For suspicious cases, responsibility is shared by prosecutors and judicial physicians.

- Historical Background
  - Since 2013: International death certificate, ICD 10, Electronic death certificate (DNS) (burial licence, statistical purpose, civil register, licences for transportation of deceased person).
CAUSES OF DEATH STATISTICS

- Coding

- Diagnosis coding is done at regional level in each of the 26 regions of Türkiye. There are between 2 and 10 coders in each region according to its size.

- At central level, 3 coders are in charge of quality control and training.

- All coders use a specific data entry program to access the MoH database fed with DNS to code causes of death and enter the underlying cause of death.
Physician enters into the system by ID and password accredited by MoH beforehand.

ID number of deceased [call the basic characteristics and address information of deceased from MERNIS (civil registration system) while certification]

Physician completes/corrects/validates the certificate in 24 hours. After validation/24 hours in any case, the certificate is sent to the reference physician.

Reference physician makes a quality control.

For suspicious cases, forensic or judicial physician will complete the certificate. He has no time limit for validation.

If not approved, certifier makes corrections.

If approved, data are sent to shareholders.

- Training materials are available.
- There is a hotline for all users of DNS

Ministry of Health - all data
TurkStat - all data
Ministry of Interior - nonmedical data
MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE STATISTICS

- **Data collection**
  - Until 2002: Data collection by forms
  - After 2003: Place of event

- **Data source**
  - MERNIS Database
  - The Central Civil Registration System
  - The Ministry of Interior
  - General Directorate of Civil Registration and Citizenship Affairs

*Municipalities* report marriage events to the District Population and Civil Registration Offices within 10 days (within 30 days abroad)

*Courts* report divorce events to the District Population and Civil Registration Offices within 10 days
MARRIAGE & DIVORCE STATISTICS

- **Dissemination**
  
  Annual
  
  Marriage and Divorce Statistics on February

  through the official web site of TurkStat

- Press releases
- Statistical tables
- Search from database (Central Dissemination System- MEDAS)

Marriage and Divorce statistics were **revised 1 year retrospectively** due to late registration (first time in 2020)
MARRIAGE STATISTICS

- Marriages (province/district level)
- Crude marriage rate (province level)
- Marriages by age group of spouses (province level)
- Average age at marriage (province level)
- Mean age at first marriage (province level)
- Previous marital status of spouses
- Marriages by country of birth of spouses
- Marriages by citizenship of spouses
DIVORCE STATISTICS

- Divorces (province level)
- Crude divorce rate (province level)
- Divorces by age group of couples (province level)
- Divorces by cause of divorce (province level)
- Divorces by duration of divorce case (province level)
- Divorces by duration of marriage (province level)
- Divorces by number of children given to parent's guardianship
- Divorces by country of birth of couples
- Divorces by citizenship of couples
THANK YOU . . .
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