



# 2011 POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS OF TURKEY

## 1. BACKGROUND

In Turkey, **the first population census** was carried out in **1927**. The following population censuses were carried out between 1935 and 1990 regularly, in years ending with 0 and 5. After 1990, population censuses were decided to be carried out in years ending with 0 by a law and in this regard, **the last traditional census** was carried out **on 22nd October 2000**. Including 2000 Population Census, **14 population censuses** were conducted in Turkey. All population censuses were carried out in one day by the application of national curfew according to the **de facto population definition** which means that persons were enumerated at localities where they were present on the census day.

In the absence of reliable data from the registration system, population censuses were main data sources on population size and the characteristics of population. But **obtaining usually resident population (de jure)**, which is a core variable recommended by the UNECE/Eurostat, **is not possible** from population censuses because of de facto population definition. On the other hand, **there was limited information** for plans and programs of administrative work, because information on the size and characteristics of population was obtained from population censuses conducted in every five/ten years.

Because of these problems, **Address Based Population Registration System (ABPRS)** were established in order to obtain the updated information on population of localities and to follow the population movements. The aim of this study is to develop existing administrative records based on addresses. Population Registration Law No. 5490 dated April 25, 2006 charged Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) for establishing the system and the Ministry of Interior, General Directorate of Civil Registration and Nationality for developing and maintaining the system. According to the Law, the National Address Database (NAD), which covers all address information in Turkey, was established firstly. And then the ABPRS was established by obtaining usual residence addresses of Turkish Citizens and foreigners living in the country and matching these information with the population registers. Furthermore, all governmental organizations and establishments use the system in all their administrative works.

After **the establishment of the ABPRS in 2007**, **annual information** on population size by administrative division (province, district, town, village and quarter), and its basic characteristics (age-sex structure, place of registration, nationality, literacy and educational attainment, legal marital status, and internal migration in province level) is **announced to the public in January of the following year based on the registers**.

According to **the 2007-2011 Official Statistics Program of TurkStat**, **2011 Population and Housing Census of Turkey** was conducted with respect to the international recommendations and in the line of EU Requirements in the 2010 round of population and housing censuses for all over the world. Turkey was applied **combined method** to census-taking (by using population registers and by conducting register based large-scaled sampling survey) in 2011.

Our main challenge is the decision of using population registers combined with field enumeration by conducting a survey, instead of a full-enumeration. As a result TurkStat decided to use registers and **conducting a large-scaled sampling survey**.

In this context, **2011 Population and Housing Survey** was conducted for the purpose of obtaining information on demographic, social and economic characteristics of population such as labor force, employment, fertility, mortality, international migration, reason for migration, disability, and information on building and housing characteristics, which are not available in the ABPRS and other administrative registers, or cannot be obtained from regular household surveys in provincial level.

## **2. PREPARATORY WORKS FOR THE 2011 POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS**

### **i. Management of the Census**

In order to manage the census operation; preparatory works, application stages and evaluation of the 2011 Population and Housing Census of Turkey in coordination with stakeholders, the **Advisory Committee** which consists of the managers of the related organizations was established:

- Ministry of Interior, the General Directorate of Population and Citizenship Affairs,
- Ministry of Interior, the General Directorate of Local Authorities,
- Ministry of Interior, the General Directorate of Provincial Administration,
- Ministry of Development,
- Hacettepe University Institute of Population Studies,
- Ministry of National Education,
- Ministry of Health,
- Ministry of Labor and Social Security, Social Security Institution,
- Ministry of Judgement

First meeting of the Advisory Committee was held in December 11, 2009. In the meeting, the decision of establishing working groups was approved. According to the results of the meeting, **6 working groups** were established in order to search the census methods and prepare technical documents, and suggest the topics covered in the census. Working groups were established on the following subjects;

- . Methodology
- . Census application
- . Data processing
- . Finance
- . Publicity
- . Dissemination

### **ii. Pilot Census**

In order to test all stages of the census, **Pilot Census** was conducted in September-October, 2010 **by all Regional Offices of TurkStat**. For the Pilot Census, reference date is October 3, 2010, and reference week is 27 September-3 October, 2010.

Pilot Census was conducted in 214 localities (81 provinces, 81 district centers and 52 villages), and in **275 enumeration areas**. Approximately **50,000 households** were enumerated. Field application of the Pilot Census was finished by the end of October.

**Ad-hoc meeting for discussion of the methodology of the census** and evaluation of current studies was held on December 27, 2010 by the participation of Ministers and managers of related organizations;

- . State Planning Organization (SPO),
- . Ministry of Interior, the General Directorate of Population and Citizenship Affairs (GDPCA),
- . Ministry of Health (MoH),
- . Ministry of National Education (MoNE),
- . High Council of Education, etc.

According to the results of the meeting, application of **combined method** was decided **instead of a complete enumeration**.

### 3. 2011 POPULATION AND HOUSING SURVEY

**2011 Population and Housing Survey** was conducted on **October-November, 2011** with **combined method** (by using population registers and by conducting register based large-scaled sampling survey). **Reference date of the survey was October 2, 2011**. Field application was started in October 3, 2011. The period of data collection was two months. In the 2011 Population and Housing Survey, enumerators were collected information by **face to face interviewing with CAPI**. **National budget** was used for the application.

**Sampling size** is about **2.5 million households** of the application (approximately 13,5% of the total households). Estimations will be made in **province and district level** (for each province, for each province centers, for each district centers which have over 20 thousands population, and for the total of villages belong to each district). **Complete enumeration** was realized in **institutional places**.

**Enumeration areas** were determined in August, 2011 by taking into consideration of all addresses in Turkey by using updated National Address Databases (NAD) by the Department of Methodology. After defining enumeration areas, sample units (enumeration areas) were selected.

### 4. QUESTIONNAIRES

Studies on the questionnaires were realized by the Working Group on Methodology. Two types of questionnaires; **household questionnaire** and **the questionnaire for institutional places** were used in the field application of the survey.

While **topics which are included in the census questionnaire** were being discussing, the core topics of the UNECE/Eurostat Recommendations and national data needs were taken into consideration. Information which was collected from the 2011 Population and Housing Census are;

- Building and housing characteristics,
- Marital status,
- Place of usual residence one and five years prior to the census,
- Reason for migration,
- Ever resided abroad and year of arrival in the country,
- Disability,

- Literacy and educational attainment,
- Attendance to pre-primary/pre-school/kindergarten,
- Labor force,
- Fertility,
- Deaths (infant, child and adult).

Population size by administrative units will be calculated from the system for the reference date (**October 2, 2011**). After that, population size, age-sex structure and size of households will be directly taken from the registers, and than other characteristics, obtained from the survey, will be calibrated according to the full-scale information.

**Hand held devices (netbooks)** were used for data collection. **Paper based questionnaire** were also used.

## 5. FIELD APPLICATION

Field application of the survey is organized in all (81) provinces by the Headquarter and the regional offices of TurkStat. Approximately **3.600 enumerators, 550 supervisors, and also responsible persons of regions, provinces and districts** are charged in the survey. Complete enumeration is being realized in institutional places.

**Field application of the survey** was realized in **2-stage**:

1. Controlling the addresses in the sample enumeration areas, *(and controlling and updating the addresses of institutional places in the system)*
2. i) Checking the registered persons in ABPRS with the actual situation in the addresses in the sample enumeration areas by using household lists *(checking the ABPRS registers in the institutional places is not being done)*
  - ii) Visiting the all addresses (including conventional dwellings and other housing units that is not designed for human habitation, such as shelters, barns, tents, etc.) in the sample enumeration areas for checking whether a household lives or not in these addresses, and interviewing the households and filling the questionnaires, *(complete enumeration of institutional places by face to face interviewing with paper based questionnaires)*

During the field application, it was checked in different ways by using various instruments:

- Daily and weekly reports which were taken from central system with different extent for supervisors and responsible persons of the regions, provinces and districts,
- Controlling the enumerators' works in the field by the supervisors, and controlling the supervisors' work by the responsible persons,
- Simultaneous web based SAS reports visualised to the Regional Offices during the field operation,
- Some SAS anaysis by enumeration areas and some analysis by records including comparisons with the registers were also reported to the regional offices for control.

During the field application, unexpected situation was realized in the Van province. Because of the earthquake which was occurred in the Van province and damaged all neighboring localities in October 23, 2012, field application in that region was affected. In order to complete the field application and data entry, studies were done intensively by the regional office in January-February, 2012.

After the field application, detailed analyses of the survey data according to the registers are being done for the quality check and control.

## 6. PUBLICITY OF THE CENSUS

A series of publicity activities are being implemented regarding the 2011 Population and Housing Census in order to inform public about the importance of the census, create consciousness on the importance of the statistical information, and provide support by effective informing. Official campaign was started with **the Press-Statement**.

A **logo** was designed for using in all census instruments. A competition for the census **poster** was organized. According to the result of the competition, one poster was chosen for the publicity campaign of the census in April, 2011. The copies of poster were spread through the Regional Offices of TurkStat after finishing the printing of them in July, 2011.

In addition, **bookends** were designed. A **leaflet** was also designed in order to deliver to the households. Before the field application, **household letters** were posted to the households for informing the households. They cover the following information:

- . Why a census is needed?
- . How the sample addresses were chosen?
- . How the field application will be carried out?
- . Basic definitions used in the questionnaire
- . Contact information of the Headquarter and the Regional Offices of TurkStat