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Session 1: Experiences with the use of registers in the censuses

The 2011 Population and Housing Census of Turkey

Note by the Turkish Statistical Institute ¹

I. BACKGROUND

1. 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 census** was carried out **on 22 October 2000**. Until the last census in 2000, **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.

2. **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 Population and Citizenship Affairs (GDPCA) 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.

¹ Prepared by Emel Ural.

3. Each year 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.**
4. According to **the 2007-2011 Official Statistics Program of TurkStat, 2011 Population and Housing Census of Turkey** 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 applied **combined method** by using population registers and by conducting register based large-scaled sampling survey.
5. Our main challenge is the decision of using population registers combined with field enumeration by conducting a survey, instead of a full-enumeration. Because of the earthquake occurred in October 23, in Van province there were delays in the field application in the region.
6. **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.

II. Preparatory Works for the 2011 Population and Housing Census

A. Management of the Census

7. 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
8. In the scope of census studies, **6 working groups** were established for the following subjects of study;
 - Methodology
 - Census application

- Data processing
- Finance
- Publicity
- Dissemination

9. Methodology working group mainly focused on searching the census methods, studying on the technical documents and exploring international needs, identifying the national needs in cooperation with the other governmental organizations and preparations of questionnaires and other technical documents.

B. Pilot Census

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. **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.

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

C. 2011 Population And Housing Survey

14. **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.

15. **Sampling size** is about **2.4 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 for each province). **Complete enumeration** was realized in **institutional places**.

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

IV. Questionnaires

17. 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.

18. While **topics which are included in the census questionnaire** were being discussed, 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).

19. By the reason of information related to sex and age distribution of the resident people and the number of households by territorial levels available in the system is adopted as the basic results of the 2011 PHS, calibration procedure will be applied during the estimation process. Based on the population distribution of 2nd October, the survey estimates having non response adjustments will be calibrated according to sex and age groups and size of household groups.

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

V. Field Application

21. Field application of the survey is organized in all (81) provinces by the Headquarters and the regional offices of TurkStat. Approximately **3.600 enumerators, 400 supervisors, and also responsible persons of regions, provinces and districts** are charged in the survey. Complete enumeration is being realized in institutional places.

22. **Field application of the survey** was realized in **2-stages**:

a) Controlling the addresses in the field (*in household and institutional places application*)

b) i) Checking the registered persons in ABPRS with the actual situation in the addresses in the sample enumeration areas by using household lists (*only in household application*;

ii) Visiting 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, face to face interviewing with netbooks and paper based questionnaires in household application and complete enumeration of institutional places by face to face interviewing with paper based questionnaires.

VI. Monitoring the Field Application

23. Monitoring the field application was done by using various instruments:

- Daily reports which were taken from central web based system including response/non response rates, completion ratio by enumeration areas etc. during field application,
- Analysis reports which can be visualised on central web based system during the field application,
- Results of the additional analysis on transmitted records including comparisons with the registers were also reported to the regional offices for control during field application,
- Specific modules for checking and recoding ISCO and NACE codes were available on the central web based system.

VII. Publicity of the Census

24. A series of publicity activities were implemented 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.

25. 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. Regional Offices of TurkStat made it available that the posters were seen by the public.

26. In addition, bookends and a leaflet was also designed in order to deliver to the households. Household letters were posted to the households before the field application for informing the households about;

- . 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

27. A web page designed and at the beginning of the field application this page was released to the public on the website of TurkStat. Web page included;

- information on previous population censuses,
- information on the field application of 2011 Population and Housing Survey,
- turkish and english questionnaires,
- frequently asked questions, etc.

VIII. Post Enumeration Survey

28. Within one month after the start of the field application, Post Enumeration Survey (PES) of 2011 PHC was carried out from mid-November to mid-December. PES was conducted in approximately 5% of the sample enumeration areas (1111 out of 22 thousand enumeration areas).

XI. Dissemination of the Census Results

29. The results of 2011 Population and Housing Census of Turkey will be provided to users by various means. The primary methods of census data dissemination will be news release, paper publications, CDs, static tables in web-page and interactive online database.
