

TURKEY CONDUCTS THE PILOT STUDY FOR THE 2011 POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS

2011 Population and Housing Census of Turkey will be conducted in October 2011 in line with Eurostat regulation. The methodology of 2011 census is developed based on population registers (Address Based Population Registration System-ABPRS). The reference date for the 2011 census is October 23, 2011.

A Pilot Study for the 2011 Population and Housing Census has been conducted in October 2010 to test the questionnaire, enumeration method, manuals, data processing method and other activities of the census.

Before **the last census in 2000, 14 population censuses** were conducted in Turkey. All population censuses were carried out in one day by application of a 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 2007, an **Address Based Population Registration System (ABPRS)** was established in order to collect updated information on size and characteristics of population by the administrative units. Existing population registers which covered individual records of all Turkish citizens has been improved for usual residence of people living in the country including both citizens and foreigners. Population Registration Law No. 5490 dated April 25, 2006 charged Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) with 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 first. And then the ABPRS was established by collecting data on usual residence addresses of Turkish Citizens and foreigners living in the country and matching this information with that in the population registers and the national address database.

After the establishment of the ABPRS in 2007, population size and basic characteristics of the population are **announced annually based on registers**. According to the 2007-2011 Official Statistics Program of TurkStat, the 2011 Population and Housing Census of Turkey will be conducted with respect to international recommendations and in line with EU Requirements **for the 2010 round of population and housing censuses**. In addition to the information on population size, demographic, social and economic characteristics of population and housing characteristics, detailed information on migration, fertility and disability will be collected from the census. The 2011 Population and Housing Census will be conducted by the combined method which covers the field application to update information available in the ABPRS and collect new data that are not available in the ABPRS. The reference date for the census is **October 23, 2011**.

The Pilot Census for the 2011 Population and Housing Census has been conducted in October 2010. The Pilot Census aims to test the various new aspects of the census operation, the questionnaire design, the manual for enumerators and related documents, and the data processing stages. The Pilot Census is being conducted by 26 regional offices of TurkStat. Field application of the Pilot Census started on October 4, 2010, and will be finished by the end of October. For the Pilot Census, the **reference date is October 3, 2010.**

Training for the Pilot Census was given for the staff of the regional offices of TurkStat on September 20-21, 2010. Pilot census has been conducted with two phases. In the first phase, staff of regional offices controlled the enumeration areas and the National Address Database in the field. In the second stage, enumerators have applied census questionnaires and other forms related to the field work.

The Pilot Census has been conducted in 214 localities (81 provinces, 81 district centers and 52 villages), and in **275 enumeration areas. Approximately 50,000 households** will be enumerated. The Household questionnaire, the questionnaire for institutional places and the questionnaire for homeless people are being tested.