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Items for information and discussion: household surveys

COUNTRY NOTE OF TURKEY

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys

The history of the household surveys in Turkey goes back to the rather early and we have many years' experience in that context. Household surveys in Turkey can be listed as; labour force survey, household budget survey, income and living conditions survey, life satisfaction survey, health survey, ICT usage survey, consumer tendency survey, rent survey, time use survey, family structure survey, etc.

These surveys are carried out in line with the international standards and carried out using advanced tools for data entry and data transmission and advanced statistical techniques for data analysing and data validation.

For the all household surveys, data is collected using Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI). Additionally data is collected by Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI) for rent survey and it is also planned to be used for other household surveys to start with labour force survey. Computer Assisted Web Based Interview (CAWI) technique are used for business statistics.

An integrated data collection system, "Harzemli", which is developed by the Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) is used for data collection. This is a generic tool allowing a standard data production system and applicable for all household and business surveys. By this system data collected with CAPI technique are directly transferred to the main database and by this way the delays in the preparation of the database are decreased. The use of integrated database system for different surveys allows for using time efficiently and also for standardization as well as improving data editing and analyzing process. Thus, the advanced data analysis methods, such as data mining and text mining are included in the system more effectively.

In order to improve the quality of the field survey, quality control by CATI is applied as part of statistical production by monitoring, measuring and reporting of quality of field application. It helps to reduce problems of data collection process from field.

Quality reports, containing all statistical process and outputs are prepared and published in TurkStat website for the use of general public both in Turkish and English.

In the recent years, studies on modernization of social statistics are carried out in order to increase the effectiveness of the household surveys by standardization and integration of the

system. In that context, TurkStat has undertaken efforts for standardization of common variables; align with their metadata and definition to ensure comparability and accuracy of the results among different source of data. It will improve the analytical potential of the available data sets as well as improving estimates using statistical data matching, linking, imputation and data modelling.

For household surveys, efforts are also made to enhance use of administrative data for statistical purpose in order to decrease the burden on household surveys and also increase the available information regarding households.