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Items for information: demographic statistics

COUNTRY NOTE OF TURKEY

Demographic Statistics

In Turkey, after 14 traditional censuses (the first in 1927 and the last one in 2000), Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) implemented the 2011 Population and Housing Census with combined method by using population registers (Address Based Population Registration System-ABPRS) and field data. Actually, population size by localities and basic characteristics of population (age and sex distribution, legal marital status, place of registration, place/country of birth, type of households, migration) have been produced annually from the Address Based Population Registration System and other registers since 2007.

For the 2021 Population and Housing Census, in parallel with the global tendency in the further use of administrative registers, Turkey is planning to conduct register-based census. This will provide benefits in terms of time and cost compared to the other methodologies. In order to realize this goal, TurkStat started to examine, collect and aggregate the related administrative registers in the country, particularly the registers for building and dwelling characteristics.

Data on vital events (births, deaths, marriages and divorces) are obtained online through the Central Civil Registration System. Vital statistics are produced annually by using these population registers, and are presented to the users through the official web site of TurkStat with press releases, static tables and databases. TurkStat works on developing vital statistics in line with the EU requirements.

Turkey has a well-functioning Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) mechanism and is continuing to improve the quality and completeness of vital statistics by communicating other organizations and institutions which are well-appointed by Turkish Official Statistics Programme. Turkey follows both the UN and EU methodological developments and requirements, simultaneously.

Main data sources of the international migration statistics are censuses and administrative registers in Turkey. Foreign population residing in Turkey are obtained from residence permits, work permits and foreign registers held by the General Directorate of Civil Registration and Nationality. For foreigners residing in Turkey, citizenship and country of birth statistics are produced from ABPRS.

There is a registration-deregistration problem in Turkey for foreigners, like many other countries. Another problem is that Turkish citizens moving abroad abstain from address

declaration to the foreign missions unless they need. Although this mentioned group reside abroad, they still appear in Turkey in the registers. Accurate emigration and immigration statistics cannot be produced with the current data sources and flow migration statistics could not be produced up to 2016.

In order to produce complete, reliable, regular, comparable and compatible international migration statistics, TurkStat, in cooperation with other national authorities will continue to work on transformation of registers into statistical sources by development of the existing data sources and exploring the availability of new data sources.