



This country report is going to examine the significant social problem such as poverty and social exclusion and unemployment in Turkey. This report also includes best practices in Nazilli and the description of Nazilli District Directorate of National education which is the one of the partners of this LEMOR project



POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION IN TURKEY

Turkey is now officially a candidate country to the EU, research about and strategies devised against poverty in Turkey must be in line with the stance taken by the EU. The dominant approach in the EU considers poverty as a problem of “social exclusion” and devises policies to promote “social inclusion”.

One of the main aspects of this approach is that it addresses poverty as a multi-dimensional problem that prevents members of the society who enjoy the same legal status from equal participation in society. Inadequacy of income is recognized to be one of the primary barriers to social participation. Therefore, in every EU member country, those who are seen to be at risk of poverty are defined as individuals who have an income that is below 60 percent of the median national income.

Additionally, there is separate consideration of special risk groups. In this context, aside from groups such as children and elderly which require special care, the problems of other groups that may be susceptible to discrimination, for example due to disability, ethnicity or gender, are also taken into account. In other words, apart from the various traits of the economic system leading to poverty, the term social exclusion also highlights the difference in the capacity of different individuals to access social resources. In doing this, it implies that poverty can ossify as an economic problem, and that those groups most exposed to the risk of poverty are also susceptible to cultural and spatial exclusion. Regional inequalities are also considered as one aspect of the problem of poverty and social exclusion. When viewed through this approach, it can clearly be seen that social exclusion is a serious problem in Turkey.

Methods	Percentage of Poor Individuals (%)										
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 ⁽²⁾	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
TURKEY											
Below 2,15 \$ per capita per day ⁽¹⁾	3.04	2.39	2.49	1.55	1.41	0.52	0.47	0.22	0.21	0.14	0.06
Below 4,3 \$ per capita per day ⁽¹⁾	30.3	23.75	20.89	16.36	13.33	8.41	6.83	4.35	3.66	2.79	2.27
URBAN											
Below 2,15 \$ per capita per day ⁽¹⁾	2.37	1.54	1.23	0.97	0.24	0.09	0.19	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.02
Below 4,3 \$ per capita per day ⁽¹⁾	24.62	18.31	13.51	10.05	6.13	4.40	3.07	0.96	0.97	0.94	0.60
RURAL											
Below 2,15 \$ per capita per day ⁽¹⁾	4.06	3.71	4.51	2.49	3.36	1.49	1.11	0.63	0.57	0.42	0.14
Below 4,3 \$ per capita per day ⁽¹⁾	38.82	32.18	32.62	26.59	25.35	17.59	15.33	11.92	9.61	6.83	5.88

(1) Here 0,618 TL, 0,732 TL, 0,780 TL and 0,830 TL, 0,921 TL, 0,926 TL, 0,983 TL, 0,917 TL, 0,990 TL which are the equivalents of 1 \$ purchasing power parity (PPP), are used for 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively and 1,004 TL is used for years 2011 and 2012.

(2) New population projections are used since 2007.

It is important to recognize that poverty in Turkey exists within a society undergoing massive social change. Turkey is no longer an agricultural society where the main proportion of the population lives in rural areas.

This general observation must be complemented with a perspective on regional variations in the conditions of poverty and social exclusion. Hence, in a city like **Mardin**, which does not receive migration, poverty is not experienced with as much intensity as in a city like **Diyarbakir** which receives large numbers of migrants from rural areas. Yet in both cities, it is clearly visible that poverty is both the cause and the result of the low levels of purchasing power, hence of the inability to increase production and employment opportunities. As the present workforce is unskilled and the region in general is economically backward, the planning-era policies based on offering incentives to private investors are doomed to be unsuccessful in breaking this vicious cycle of poverty.

Apart from these provinces where the general poverty of the region is the main consideration, in cities like **Izmir**, highly visible discriminatory practices and attitudes against the new immigrant populations have to be taken into account when dealing with social exclusion. In **Samsun**, however, poverty exists together with outmigration. The local social assistance administrators explain this fact as the result of the closing of State Economic Enterprises (thus the decline in formal employment) and the severe decline in tobacco production due to changes in agricultural support policies.

Today, it is widely acknowledged that poverty constitutes the most serious social problem faced by Turkish society. Almost every day, we come across a policy-oriented report full of statistical data on the incidence of poverty and quantitative methods of threshold estimation, categorization, and eligibility criteria. Families who are fed by charities are exposed to the public by TV programs and newspapers greedily cover the stories of “undeserving poor” abusing the system.

It seems that the more we exclude the poor the more they attract our attention. This particular way of “covering poverty” completely misses the dimension of social exclusion that defines the problem and concentrates on the issues of daily survival which is often assumed to lie in the realm of charity.

This is important since the society’s culturally informed outlook on poverty significantly shapes the welfare system. In fact, the Solidarity Fund, currently the most important social assistance scheme in Turkey, is largely designed as a charitable institution, which provides cash and in kind benefits without any clear criteria of eligibility and, hence, without appeal to well defined social rights (Buğra/Keyder 2003). The Fund is concerned with daily survival of the poor and the assistance is provided largely on a temporary basis. The Directorate of Social Services and Protection of Children, in its restructured form since 1983, is designed to deal with social exclusion by acknowledging the multidimensional character of the problem. The targeted beneficiaries of the services provided mainly include children in need of protection for material as well as social and psychological reasons. However, targeted groups also include the elderly, the disabled, women exposed to violence in particular and families with problems in general.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Household Labour Force, February 2014

In Household Labour Force Survey, new regulations in order to ensure full compliance with the European Union have been started since the period of February 2014. According to these changes, the reference week of the survey and duration of unemployment in unemployment criteria have been changed, and also the new administrative division and new population projections were based on. Also in this news release, basic labour market indicators for the population of 15-64 age group are given in order to provide comparability with OECD and other international organizations.

Unemployment rate was realized as 10.2%

Number of unemployed persons has realized as 2 million 825 thousand persons in the period of February 2014 in Turkey. Unemployment rate realized as 10.2%. Unemployment rate realized as 9.6% for male and 11.5% for female. Non-agricultural unemployment rate was realized as 12.1%, youth unemployment rate including 15-24 age group was realized as 17% and unemployment rate for 15-64 age group was realized as 10.3%.

Employment rate was realized as 44.1%

Number of employed persons (15 years and over) was realized as 24 million 999 thousand persons in the period of February 2014 and employment rate was realized as 44.1%. Employment rate realized as 63.3% for male and 25.4% for female.

Agricultural employment realized as 5 million 55 thousand persons and non-agricultural employment realized as 19 million 944 thousand persons in this period. Of those who were employed in February 2014; 20.2% was employed in agriculture, 21.4% was employed in industry, 7% was employed in construction and 51.3% was employed in services.

Non-seasonally adjusted main labour force indicators, February 2014

	Total	Male	Female
Population 15 years old and over			
Population (Thousand)	56 648	27 981	28 667
Labour force (Thousand)	27 824	19 599	8 225
Employed (Thousand)	24 999	17 717	7 282
Agriculture	5 055	2 822	2 234
Non-agriculture	19 944	14 895	5 049
Unemployed (Thousand)	2 825	1 882	942
Not in the labour force (Thousand)	28 824	8 381	20 443
Labour force participation rate (%)	49.1	70.0	28.7
Employment rate (%)	44.1	63.3	25.4
Unemployment rate (%)	10.2	9.6	11.5
Non-agricultural unemployment rate (%)	12.1	10.9	15.5
15-64 age group			
Labour force participation rate (%)	53.6	75.3	31.8
Employment rate (%)	48.0	67.9	28.1
Unemployment rate (%)	10.3	9.8	11.7
Non-agricultural unemployment rate (%)	12.2	10.9	15.6
Youth unemployment rate (15-24 age)	17.0	16.1	18.8

Figures in table may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Labour force participation rate was realized as 49.1%

Labour force participation rate (LFPR) realized as 49.1% with 27 million 824 thousand persons in the period of February 2014 in Turkey. LFPR was realized as 70% for male and 28.7% for female.

Public sector employment increased as 3.9%

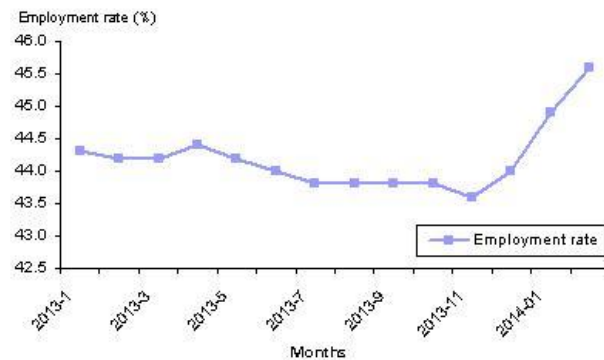
According to data gathered by The Ministry of Finance, total public sector employment realized as 3 million 349 thousand persons with 3.9% percentage point increase in the first quarter of 2014 compared to the same period of the previous year.

The number of seasonally adjusted employed and unemployed increased

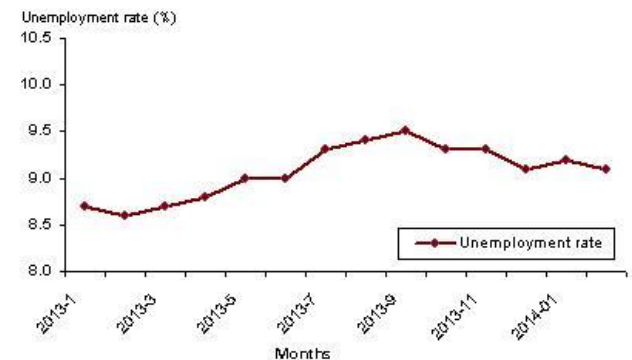
In the period of February 2014, the number of seasonally adjusted unemployed persons increased by one thousand persons. Unemployment rate realized as 9.1% by 0.1 percentage point decrease.

Seasonally adjusted employed persons increased by 418 thousand persons and reached 25 million 811 thousand persons compared to the previous period. Seasonally adjusted employment rate realized as 45.6% by 0.7 percentage point increase.

Seasonally adjusted employment rate, February 2014



Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate, February 2014



Seasonally adjusted labour force participation rate realized as 50.1% by 0.7 percentage point increase. The highest increase for employed persons by economic activity realized in agriculture sector with 135 thousand persons.

Seasonally adjusted main labour force indicators, February 2013-2014

	Labour Force	Change by previous term	Employed	Change by previous term	Unemp-loyed	Change by previous term	Labour force participation rate	Employ-ment rate	Unemp-loyment rate	Non-agricultura l unemp-loyment rate	Youth unemp-loyment rate
	(000)	(%)	(000)	(%)	(000)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
2013 February	26 856	-0.3	24 548	-0.2	2 308	-1.2	48.3	44.2	8.6	10.5	16.9
March	26 983	0.5	24 622	0.3	2 360	2.3	48.5	44.2	8.7	10.6	16.9
April	27 129	0.5	24 734	0.5	2 395	1.5	48.7	44.4	8.8	10.7	16.6
May	27 107	-0.1	24 678	-0.2	2 429	1.4	48.5	44.2	9.0	10.8	16.5
June	27 046	-0.2	24 622	-0.2	2 424	-0.2	48.4	44.0	9.0	10.8	16.8
July	27 060	0.1	24 549	-0.3	2 510	3.5	48.3	43.8	9.3	11.2	17.3
August	27 148	0.3	24 607	0.2	2 541	1.2	48.4	43.8	9.4	11.3	17.4
September	27 215	0.2	24 635	0.1	2 580	1.5	48.4	43.8	9.5	11.4	18.0
October	27 192	-0.1	24 664	0.1	2 527	-2.1	48.3	43.8	9.3	11.1	18.0
November	27 133	-0.2	24 616	-0.2	2 516	-0.4	48.1	43.6	9.3	11.1	17.5
December	27 337	0.8	24 853	1.0	2 485	-1.2	48.4	44.0	9.1	10.9	16.3
2014 January	27 963	2.3	25 393	2.2	2 570	3.4	49.4	44.9	9.2	11.1	16.2
February	28 381	1.5	25 811	1.6	2 571	0.0	50.1	45.6	9.1	11.0	15.5

Source:

- 1- <http://travailderue.org/poverty-and-social-exclusion-in-turkey/>
- 2- www.tuik.gov.tr/IcerikGetir.do?istab_id=5
- 3- www.turkstat.gov.tr

NAZILLI DISTRICT DIRECTORATE OF NATIONAL EDUCATION

Nazilli İlçe Milli Eğitim Müdürlüğü (NİMEM), a public body, is the directorate that governs the educational affairs of the Nazilli district. It provides both formal and non-formal education, including adult education, for a population of more than 160,000 and numerous organizations.



In accordance with the Turkish administrative system, the directorate is the administrator and coordinator of all educational institutions in the district such as kindergardens, primary , secondary and high schools. In the field of adult education and training, all institutions such as adult education centres, education centres for disabled people and VET schools are also governed by NİMEM.



Nazilli and the surrounding region are especially susceptible to social exclusion and poverty. This is mainly because Nazilli is a major area of migration for people from the regions of Eastern and Central Anatolia.

NIMEM is responsible for developing strategies for reducing early school leaving and providing adult training for teachers working in the VET schools in the region

On the other hand, There are lots of best practices in Nazilli. Although the organization is not responsible for many of those organizations but we have collaborative work with those institutions

Therefore NIMEM works out for students came by migration in order to help their adaptation to social environment and meet the needs of poor students



BEST PRACTICES

NAZILLI ALZHEIMER'S DAY CARE CENTER

The center became a designated Alzheimer's Day Care Center by the Municipality of Nazilli in 2011, making it the first adult day care center in TURKEY.

Alzheimer's Center was founded as an integrated interdisciplinary program combining academic, clinical, and research expertise to advance research to minimize the public health burden of Alzheimer's disease and mild cognitive impairment.



Alzheimer's Disease Center also aims to reduce the human and economic costs of Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of knowledge.

Under the leadership of our Municipality, the Center's mission is focused on the conduct of innovative research examining mechanisms, risk factors, prevention, and treatment for unhealthy memory loss with age, including mild cognitive impairment, Alzheimer's disease, and related disorders.



In this center , there are doctors , nurses and our students. Our students who are being educated in our school , fulfill their internship in this center. They are not only doing their intern but also they are supporting the patients with their activities which are being performed on the whole day.

In this center , there are lots of activities which helps to cure their cognitive , affective and psycho-motor impairments.



These activities are being practised by our students such as cultural activities , handcrafts ,songs , drama , sports , competitions and trips

NAZILLI PUBLIC EDUCATION CENTER

Nazilli Public Education Center is a governmental agency regulating the "Life Long Learning Activities" to complete educational shortcomings of the groups of individuals of all ages

Nazilli Public Education Center is a training center for all ages which provides free services to non-formal education. In this institution people's education and social needs of conducted field studies to determine, in the training needs can observed, transformed into measurable education goals of education plans in preparation and implementation



Generally, they have courses about culture, education, professions and youth policies

There are lots of services given by this centre:

- ➔ teaching reading-writing, to provide education opportunities for students to finish incomplete education.
- ➔ improving learners to acquire the concepts and habits of collective living, supporting, helping, working and organizing collectively.
- ➔ teaching people from various professions the knowledge and skills they need to improve themselves.
- ➔ helping people acquire useful hobbies for their free times.
- ➔ providing vocational courses for youths.



In this institution there are vocational courses as hairdressing, clothing, handicrafts, embroidery, silver embroidery, as well as educational courses; reading-writing, elocution, drama, chess, speed-reading techniques, language courses, painting, painting, teaching courses instruments

ICT courses are one of the most desirable courses applied by adults. They have the structure that can respond to the need of every course.



aydinimrak@hotmail.com

+90 256 3135262