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The objective of this chapter is to provide a demographic and socioeconomic profile of the TDHS-2003 sample and a descriptive assessment of the environment in which women and children live. This is accomplished by examining the general characteristics of the households in the sample. Information is presented on the age, sex, and education of the household population, as well as on housing facilities and household possessions. The profile of the TDHS-2003 households provided in this chapter will help in understanding the results presented in the following chapters. In addition, it may provide useful input for social and economic development planning.

2.1 Characteristics of the Household Population

The questionnaire for the TDHS-2003 included two questions distinguishing between the *de jure* population (persons who usually live in selected household) and the *de facto* population (persons who spent the night before the interview in the household). The differences between these populations are small. However, since past surveys and censuses were based on *de facto* populations, and since the sampling probabilities were based on *de facto* population information, tabulations for the household data presented in this chapter are based on the *de facto* definition, unless otherwise stated. A household was defined as a person or group of persons living together and sharing a common source of food.

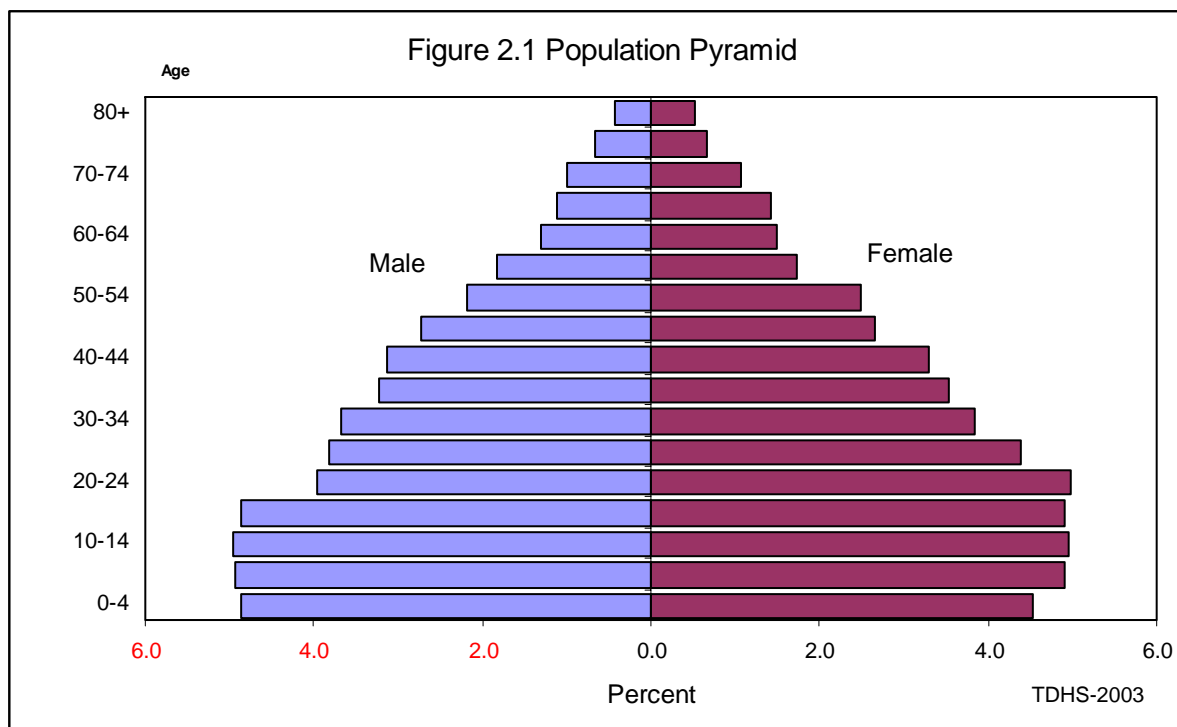
2.1.1 Age and Sex Composition

Table 2.1 presents the percent distribution of the *de facto* population by age, according to urban-rural residence and sex. The table shows the effects of past demographic trends on the structure of the Turkish population and indicates the context in which a variety of demographic processes are operating. The total *de facto* population in the selected households was 42,851 persons. In general, the survey results show that females outnumber males in Turkey (51 and 49 percent respectively). The proportion of females is slightly higher in rural areas (52 and 48 percent). The information on sex and age distribution is used to construct a population pyramid describing the TDHS-2003 household population (Figure 2.1). The pyramid has a wide base, with a large concentration (29 percent) of the population under 15 years of age. This pattern is typical of countries that have experienced relatively high fertility in the recent past. The effect of recent fertility declines is evident in the fact that the proportions of children under age 5 and age 5 to 9 are smaller than the proportion age 10 to 14. The proportion under age 15 is greater in the rural population than in the urban population (Table 2.1). The differences in the urban-rural age distributions reflect the lower recent fertility in urban areas compared with rural areas.

Table 2.1 Household population by age, sex, and residence

Percent distribution of the de facto household population by five-year age groups, according to sex and residence, Turkey 2003

Age	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
<5	9.8	8.5	9.1	10.4	9.5	9.9	10.0	8.8	9.4
5-9	9.7	9.4	9.5	11.1	9.9	10.5	10.1	9.5	9.8
10-14	9.6	9.5	9.6	11.4	9.9	10.6	10.2	9.7	9.9
15-19	10.4	9.3	9.8	9.0	10.1	9.6	10.0	9.6	9.8
20-24	8.6	9.9	9.3	7.1	9.3	8.3	8.1	9.7	8.9
25-29	8.6	9.5	9.0	6.2	6.5	6.4	7.8	8.5	8.2
30-34	8.2	7.9	8.0	6.1	6.7	6.4	7.5	7.5	7.5
35-39	7.0	7.1	7.0	5.8	6.4	6.1	6.6	6.9	6.7
40-44	6.6	6.8	6.7	5.9	5.5	5.7	6.4	6.4	6.4
45-49	5.8	5.4	5.6	5.1	4.7	4.9	5.6	5.2	5.4
50-54	4.5	4.9	4.7	4.4	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.9	4.7
55-59	3.5	3.1	3.3	4.3	4.0	4.2	3.8	3.4	3.6
60-64	2.3	2.6	2.5	3.5	3.4	3.5	2.7	2.9	2.8
65-69	1.9	2.4	2.2	3.2	3.4	3.3	2.3	2.8	2.5
70-74	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.0	2.1	2.1
75-79	1.0	1.1	1.0	2.1	1.8	1.9	1.4	1.3	1.3
80 +	0.6	0.9	0.8	1.5	1.2	1.3	0.9	1.0	1.0
Don't know/missing	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	14,314	14,894	29,208	6,528	7,116	13,644	20,842	22,010	42,851



The population age 65 and over accounts for 7 percent of the total population in Turkey. The share of elderly population is approximately 6 percent in urban areas, as opposed to over 9 percent in the rural areas. The percentage of elderly has risen to the highest proportion in the demographic history of Turkey. This may mainly be attributable to two factors: the rapid decline in fertility and increased life expectancy at all ages.

Table 2.2 presents a comparison of the distribution of the household population by broad age groups for the last three demographic surveys and the last two censuses carried out in 1990 and 2003. The dependency ratio, defined as the ratio of the non-productive population (persons under age 15 and age 65 and over) to the population age 15-64, is calculated based on these figures. The dependency ratio, which was above 65 at the time of the 1990 Population Census, had declined to 56 at the time of the TDHS-2003. The decline reflects a significant decrease in the burden placed on persons in the productive ages to support older and younger household members. Table 2.2 also indicates that the median age of household population is 24.7 years, 2.5 years higher than the median age in 1990. Both changes in dependency ratio and in the median age of population are consistent with the gradual aging of the population that occurs as fertility declines.

Age group	CP 1990	TDHS-1993	TDHS-1998	CP 2000	TDHS-2003
Less than 15	35.0	33.0	31.5	29.8	29.1
15-64	60.7	61.4	62.6	64.5	64.0
65 and +	4.3	5.5	5.9	5.7	6.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Median age	22.2	23.1	24.3	24.8	24.7
Dependency ratio	64.7	62.7	59.7	55.1	56.3

Sources: 1990 and 2000 Census of Population (CP), TDHS-1993, TDHS-1998 and TDHS-2003

2.1.2 Household Composition

Table 2.3 presents the distribution of households in the TDHS-2003 sample by sex of the head of the household and by the number of household members. These characteristics are important because they are often associated with socioeconomic differences between households. For example, female-headed households frequently are poorer than households headed by males. In addition, the size and composition of the household affects the allocation of financial and other resources among household members, which in turn influences the overall well-being of these individuals. Household size is also associated with crowding in the dwelling, which can lead to unfavorable health conditions. Unlike earlier tables, Table 2.3 is based on de jure members, i.e. usual residents. The household head is female in 13 percent of households. Although there is little variation in the proportion of female-headed households by residence, female-headed households are more common in urban areas (13 percent) than in rural areas (11 percent).

There are on average 4 persons per household. More than four in ten households have fewer than four members, while another quarter of the households have five members, and

one-third of households has six or more members. In general, rural households are larger than urban households. For example, less than five percent of urban households have eight or more members, compared with 11 percent of rural households. Household size varies from an average of 3.9 persons in the urban areas to 4.5 persons in rural areas.

Characteristic	Urban	Rural	Total
Sex of head of household			
Male	87.0	88.6	87.5
Female	13.0	11.4	12.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of usual members			
0	0.3	0.4	0.3
1	6.3	6.3	6.3
2	16.5	17.3	16.8
3	21.8	13.7	19.4
4	26.3	19.3	24.2
5	14.5	15.0	14.7
6	6.8	10.6	7.9
7	3.4	6.1	4.2
8	1.9	3.8	2.4
9+	2.2	7.5	3.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number of households	7,643	3,193	10,836
Mean size	3.9	4.5	4.1

Note: The table is based on *de jure* members, i.e., usual residents.

2.2 Fosterhood and Orphanhood

Foster children are children under 18 years of age who are not living with either of their biological parents. Orphaned children are children under 18 years of age who have lost one or both of their biological parents. To measure the prevalence of child fostering and orphanhood, four questions were asked in the Household Questionnaire on the survival and residence of the parents of children under 18 years of age.

Information on children's living arrangements and orphanhood is presented in Table 2.4. In Turkey, 92 percent of children under age 18 live with both parents. The proportion of children living with both parents decreases with increasing age. Children living in the North are somewhat less likely to live with both parents than children in other regions.

Table 2.4 Children's living arrangements and orphanhood

Percent distribution of de jure children under age 18 by children's living arrangements and survival status of parents, according to background characteristics, Turkey 2003

Background characteristic	Living with both parents	Living with mother but not father		Living with father but not mother		Not living with either parent					Total	Number of children
		Father alive	Father dead	Mother alive	Mother dead	Both alive	Only father alive	Only mother alive	Both dead	Missing		
Age												
<2	98.5	1.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,457
2-4	95.8	2.0	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.3	100.0	2,509
5-9	94.6	2.1	1.4	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	100.0	4,199
10-14	91.1	2.5	3.2	0.5	0.8	1.5	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	100.0	4,326
15-17	83.1	3.3	4.7	0.9	1.7	5.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	100.0	2,717
Sex												
Male	92.4	2.4	2.2	0.5	0.7	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	100.0	7,729
Female	91.8	2.3	2.3	0.5	0.6	2.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	100.0	7,478
Residence												
Urban	91.8	2.5	2.0	0.7	0.5	2.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	100.0	9,976
Rural	92.6	1.9	2.6	0.1	0.8	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	100.0	5,231
Region												
West	92.2	2.5	1.6	0.6	0.5	2.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	100.0	4,926
South	91.5	3.1	1.8	0.6	0.8	1.9	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	100.0	2,102
Central	91.8	2.9	2.4	0.5	0.4	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	100.0	3,066
North	90.5	1.8	2.1	0.5	1.1	3.1	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	100.0	1,076
East	93.0	1.4	3.1	0.3	0.8	1.0	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.0	100.0	4,038
NUTS 1 Region												
İstanbul	92.2	2.0	1.7	0.5	0.4	2.7	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	100.0	2,285
West Marmara	90.3	2.5	1.8	1.0	0.6	2.5	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.6	100.0	472
Aegean	91.7	3.2	2.0	0.7	0.4	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	100.0	1,607
East Marmara	93.5	2.2	1.8	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,071
West Anatolia	92.6	2.9	1.7	0.6	0.5	1.5	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	100.0	1,344
Mediterranean	91.5	3.1	1.8	0.6	0.8	1.9	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	100.0	2,102
Central Anatolia	90.8	3.3	3.1	0.4	0.7	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	100.0	854
West Black Sea	90.4	3.5	1.7	0.5	0.3	3.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	100.0	874
East Black Sea	91.3	0.7	2.3	0.4	1.6	2.4	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.0	100.0	560
Northeast Anatolia	91.9	2.2	4.2	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	100.0	689
Central East Anatolia	93.5	0.8	3.1	0.1	0.8	1.0	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.0	100.0	1,128
Southeast Anatolia	93.0	1.4	2.8	0.4	0.9	1.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	100.0	2,221
Total	92.1	2.3	2.2	0.5	0.6	1.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	100.0	15,207

Six percent of children live with only one parent—5 percent with their mothers and 1 percent with their fathers. Three percent of children live with only one parent because the other parent is dead. Foster children—children not living with either parent—account for only 2 percent of children under 18, and orphaned children—children who have lost one or both parents—account for 3 percent. The proportion of orphaned children at age 15-17 is approximately 7 percent.

2.3 Education of the Household Population

The educational level of household members is among the most important characteristics of the household because it is associated with many phenomena including reproductive behavior, use of contraception, and the health of children. Results from

household interviews can be used to look at both educational attainment among household members and school attendance among children and young adults.

2.3.1 Educational Attainment of Household Members

Primary education in Turkey starts at age 6 and continues for 8 years. Eight years of education is considered as basic education and has been compulsory since 1997. High school, which includes another three years of schooling, is not compulsory.

Tables 2.5.1 and 2.5.2 present data on the educational level of the household population age 6 and over for males and females, respectively. The results confirm that there is a gap in educational attainment between males and females. Overall, about 77 percent of males in the TDHS-2003 households have completed at least first level primary school, compared with 61 percent of females. However, among the population with any schooling, over one-third of males as well as females have completed at least second level primary school. The median number of years of schooling for men is 4.8 which is about 0.5 year higher than the median level for women (4.3 years).

An examination of the changes in educational indicators over successive cohorts indicates that there have been substantial increases over time in the educational attainment of both men and women. For example, the median number of years of schooling is 9 years for males age 20-24 years, compared with 4.9 years in the 40-44 age group. Women have experienced substantial improvements in education as well. As a result, the differentials in educational attainment between males and females have narrowed among younger cohorts.

Urban residents are more likely to have attended school and to have remained in school for a longer period than rural residents. Gender differences in educational attainment are also less evident in rural than in urban areas. The median number of years of schooling is 4.5 years among rural men, compared with 4.0 years among rural women. The difference is much bigger in urban areas, where the median years of schooling are 5.4 and 4.5, respectively for men and women.

Gender differences in the likelihood of attending school are greatest in the East, and least in the West. In the East, 85 percent of men have ever attended school, compared with about 61 percent of women. In the West, the gap is much smaller, with nearly 85 percent of women having had some education, compared with 95 percent of men.

Table 2.5.1 Educational attainment of household population: Males

Percent distribution of the de facto male household population age six and over by highest level of education attended or completed, according to background characteristics, Turkey 2003

Background characteristic	No education/ Primary incomplete	First level primary	Second level primary	High school and higher	Missing	Total	Number of males	Median number of years
Age								
6-9	99.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.5	100.0	1,706	0.4
10-14	36.6	53.4	9.9	0.1	0.0	100.0	2,119	4.7
15-19	5.0	19.0	55.0	21.0	0.1	100.0	2,078	8.0
20-24	3.6	33.0	15.7	47.6	0.2	100.0	1,696	9.1
25-29	4.0	41.1	11.7	42.8	0.4	100.0	1,636	7.5
30-34	4.6	46.9	12.9	35.3	0.3	100.0	1,572	6.4
35-39	6.5	48.1	15.5	29.5	0.5	100.0	1,379	5.4
40-44	6.3	53.8	11.2	28.0	0.6	100.0	1,338	4.9
45-49	8.6	53.5	9.4	28.1	0.5	100.0	1,166	4.8
50-54	12.9	55.4	7.2	23.8	0.7	100.0	931	4.7
55-59	21.1	53.6	9.5	14.9	0.9	100.0	785	4.6
60-64	32.5	45.9	5.3	15.2	1.2	100.0	557	4.4
65+	53.5	34.9	3.0	6.7	1.9	100.0	1,369	2.5
Residence								
Urban	19.8	36.3	15.4	28.1	0.4	100.0	12,638	5.4
Rural	30.5	45.6	13.2	10.1	0.7	100.0	5,713	4.5
Region								
West	18.8	42.3	13.9	24.5	0.4	100.0	7,221	4.9
South	24.6	40.2	15.5	19.0	0.8	100.0	2,376	4.8
Central	19.2	38.3	16.0	26.1	0.4	100.0	4,021	5.0
North	22.9	38.9	16.3	21.2	0.7	100.0	1,409	4.8
East	36.5	32.7	13.6	16.5	0.6	100.0	3,324	4.5
NUTS 1 Region								
İstanbul	17.6	40.1	15.1	26.6	0.6	100.0	3,244	5.1
West Marmara	20.0	45.5	13.9	19.8	0.9	100.0	752	4.8
Aegean	21.2	45.0	12.5	21.2	0.1	100.0	2,423	4.8
East Marmara	17.2	40.2	15.4	27.2	0.0	100.0	1,619	5.2
West Anatolia	17.3	36.4	15.4	30.7	0.2	100.0	1,696	5.7
Mediterranean	24.6	40.2	15.5	19.0	0.8	100.0	2,376	4.8
Central Anatolia	20.3	38.8	15.6	24.3	1.0	100.0	1,031	4.9
West Black Sea	22.7	40.6	16.5	19.5	0.6	100.0	1,173	4.8
East Black Sea	23.9	37.0	16.4	22.0	0.8	100.0	714	4.8
Northeast Anatolia	29.3	33.7	15.9	20.4	0.7	100.0	607	4.7
Central East Anatolia	35.7	30.6	13.5	19.6	0.6	100.0	962	4.6
Southeast Anatolia	39.4	33.6	12.9	13.5	0.5	100.0	1,755	4.4
Total	23.2	39.2	14.7	22.5	0.5	100.0	18,351	4.8

Table 2.5.2 Educational attainment of household population: Females

Percent distribution of the de facto female household population age six and over by highest level of education attended or completed, according to background characteristics, Turkey 2003

Background characteristic	No education/ Primary incomplete	First level primary	Second level primary	High school and higher	Missing	Total	Number of females	Median number of years
Age								
6-9	99.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	100.0	1,691	0.4
10-14	38.5	51.5	9.9	0.0	0.1	100.0	2,126	4.6
15-19	14.9	28.7	41.6	14.8	0.0	100.0	2,103	7.4
20-24	12.3	43.5	9.7	34.5	0.0	100.0	2,137	4.9
25-29	13.2	48.3	7.4	31.1	0.0	100.0	1,876	4.8
30-34	18.0	55.0	7.3	19.7	0.0	100.0	1,647	4.6
35-39	22.6	54.4	6.4	16.5	0.1	100.0	1,508	4.5
40-44	30.0	48.9	5.1	15.9	0.1	100.0	1,408	4.4
45-49	33.9	49.3	4.7	12.1	0.0	100.0	1,135	4.3
50-54	54.5	32.3	3.3	9.6	0.3	100.0	1,070	2.5
55-59	66.2	24.9	2.3	6.0	0.6	100.0	743	0.0
60-64	68.3	23.5	1.9	5.3	0.9	100.0	636	0.0
65+	82.6	12.7	1.5	2.4	0.0	100.0	1,576	0.0
Residence								
Urban	33.8	36.4	10.8	18.8	0.2	100.0	13,368	4.5
Rural	48.8	40.1	6.6	4.4	0.2	100.0	6,293	4.0
Region								
West	31.5	40.7	10.0	17.6	0.2	100.0	7,520	4.5
South	40.9	35.9	10.1	12.8	0.3	100.0	2,601	4.3
Central	31.8	42.0	10.9	15.3	0.0	100.0	4,431	4.5
North	38.2	38.5	9.8	13.1	0.3	100.0	1,531	4.3
East	60.2	26.6	6.1	6.9	0.2	100.0	3,579	1.8
NUTS 1 Region								
Istanbul	30.5	39.4	10.5	19.2	0.4	100.0	3,295	4.6
West Marmara	30.8	46.3	9.2	13.5	0.2	100.0	822	4.5
Aegean	32.1	42.7	9.1	16.1	0.0	100.0	2,610	4.5
East Marmara	32.4	41.1	10.9	15.4	0.2	100.0	1,652	4.5
West Anatolia	27.7	39.6	12.3	20.4	0.1	100.0	1,881	4.6
Mediterranean	40.9	35.9	10.1	12.8	0.3	100.0	2,601	4.3
Central Anatolia	38.1	40.3	9.5	12.1	0.0	100.0	1,157	4.3
West Black Sea	34.4	44.3	9.2	11.9	0.3	100.0	1,308	4.4
East Black Sea	43.1	32.2	10.6	13.9	0.2	100.0	756	4.2
Northeast Anatolia	52.4	30.7	7.5	9.2	0.2	100.0	667	3.2
Central East Anatolia	59.8	25.5	5.8	8.7	0.2	100.0	1,044	1.6
Southeast Anatolia	63.2	25.8	5.7	5.1	0.2	100.0	1,868	1.3
Total	38.6	37.6	9.5	14.2	0.2	100.0	19,661	4.3

2.3.2 School Attendance Ratios

The TDHS-2003 collected information on current school attendance for the population age 6-24 years. Figure 2.2 presents the percentage of the population in this age range that was attending school at the time of the survey. The comparatively low age-specific attendance rate for children age 6 reflects that some of these children had not had their sixth birthday at the time the school year started and thus were not eligible to attend school. Overall, the majority of children of both sexes age 15 and under were attending school. However, Figure 2.2 shows that school attendance rates are generally higher among boys than among girls. The gender gap in school attendance increases somewhat with age, particularly among the post-first level primary ages (i.e., 11-24 years).

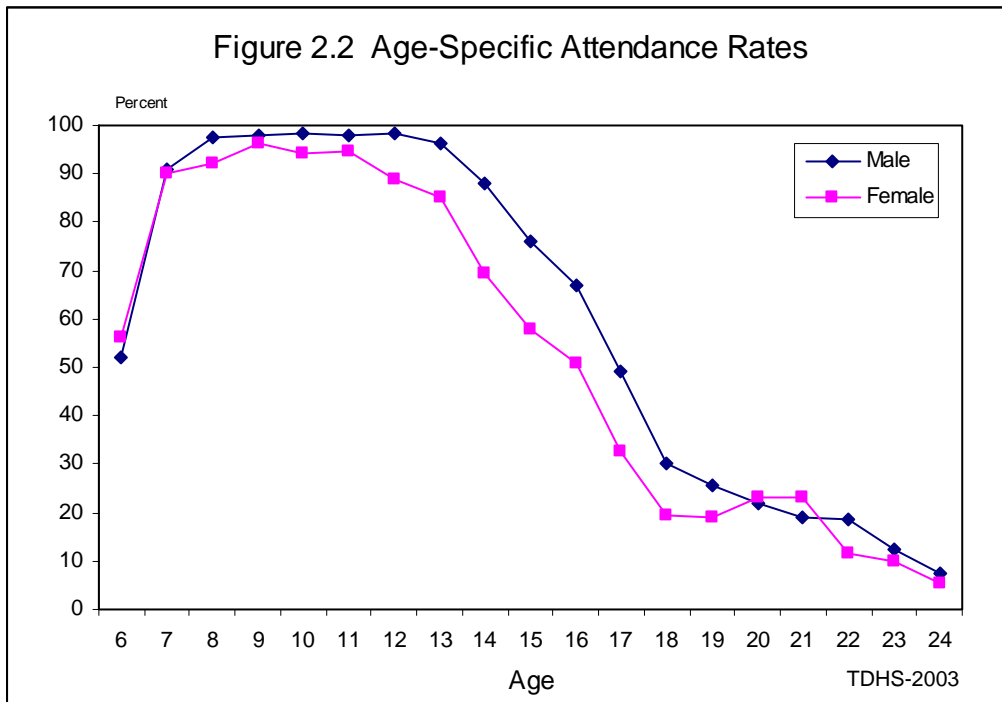


Table 2.6 provides net attendance ratios (NAR) and gross attendance ratios (GAR) by residence and region according to sex and school level. The NAR for primary school is the percentage of the primary school-age (6-13 years) population that is attending primary school. The NAR for high school is the percentage of the high school age (14-16 years) population that is attending high school. By definition, the NAR cannot exceed 100 percent. The GAR for primary school is the total number of primary school students of any age, expressed as the percentage of the official primary school age population. The GAR for high school is the total number of high school students up to age 24, expressed as the percentage of the official high school age population. If there are significant numbers of over-age and under-age students at a given level of schooling, the GAR can exceed 100 percent. Children are considered to be attending school currently if they attended at any point during the current school year.

Table 2.6 School attendance ratios

Net attendance ratios (NAR) and gross attendance ratios (GAR) for the de jure household population by level of schooling and sex, according to background characteristics, Turkey 2003

Background characteristic	Net attendance ratio			Gross attendance ratio			Gender Parity Index
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
PRIMARY SCHOOL							
Residence							
Urban	91.5	89.2	90.3	100.4	94.3	97.3	0.94
Rural	88.8	82.8	85.9	100.4	88.0	94.5	0.88
Region							
West	93.9	93.5	93.7	102.8	98.0	100.3	0.95
South	91.7	90.0	90.8	99.3	94.8	97.1	0.95
Central	91.2	90.7	91.0	99.8	96.6	98.1	0.97
North	93.3	90.4	91.9	101.5	96.6	99.1	0.95
East	84.8	73.0	79.1	98.4	78.5	88.8	0.80
NUTS 1 Region							
İstanbul	94.6	92.3	93.4	102.3	96.9	99.4	0.95
West Marmara	94.7	91.7	93.1	103.7	95.2	99.2	0.92
Aegean	92.2	95.6	93.8	102.7	101.6	102.2	0.99
East Marmara	95.1	88.9	92.0	105.3	94.0	99.6	0.89
West Anatolia	91.2	91.2	91.2	100.3	94.4	97.2	0.94
Mediterranean	91.7	90.0	90.8	99.3	94.8	97.1	0.95
Central Anatolia	92.4	94.8	93.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	1.00
West Black Sea	90.6	92.0	91.3	98.5	102.1	100.3	1.04
East Black Sea	92.0	88.2	90.2	98.2	91.6	95.0	0.93
Northeast Anatolia	88.1	78.9	83.6	97.0	86.5	91.9	0.89
Central East Anatolia	81.6	73.3	77.6	101.4	79.1	90.6	0.78
Southeast Anatolia	85.4	70.9	78.5	97.3	75.7	87.0	0.78
Total	90.6	87.0	88.8	100.4	92.2	96.3	0.92
HIGH SCHOOL							
Residence							
Urban	60.9	57.1	59.0	89.9	76.6	83.4	0.85
Rural	38.3	28.1	33.3	62.6	37.9	50.4	0.61
Region							
West	56.7	56.2	56.5	83.8	76.4	80.4	0.91
South	56.2	47.0	51.5	85.5	63.8	74.4	0.75
Central	61.2	59.4	60.3	86.9	76.7	81.6	0.88
North	61.6	53.7	57.9	95.2	75.1	85.7	0.79
East	36.6	22.8	29.7	62.5	31.0	46.8	0.50
NUTS 1 Region							
İstanbul	58.6	57.4	58.1	86.7	73.7	80.5	0.85
West Marmara	60.9	60.5	60.7	86.7	85.8	86.3	0.99
Aegean	44.3	48.9	46.6	66.4	66.2	66.3	1.00
East Marmara	59.3	56.5	58.1	91.4	85.0	88.5	0.93
West Anatolia	70.5	69.8	70.1	91.8	85.0	88.2	0.93
Mediterranean	56.2	47.0	51.5	85.5	63.8	74.4	0.75
Central Anatolia	56.6	57.0	56.8	81.3	75.5	78.4	0.93
West Black Sea	63.1	46.0	54.1	100.2	62.7	80.5	0.63
East Black Sea	68.3	67.6	68.0	104.1	102.1	103.2	0.98
Northeast Anatolia	49.5	32.4	41.1	79.9	44.0	62.3	0.55
Central East Anatolia	35.6	23.0	29.3	66.1	31.0	48.6	0.47
Southeast Anatolia	32.8	19.5	26.1	54.3	26.6	40.4	0.49
Total	53.0	46.9	50.0	80.4	63.0	71.8	0.78

Table 2.6 shows that 89 percent of primary school age children in Turkey are attending primary school. The NAR is higher in urban areas than in rural areas (90 and 86 percent, respectively), as is the GAR (97 and 95 percent, respectively). There is significant variation between the East and other regions: the NAR in the East is 79 percent while it is over 90 percent in all other regions. At the high school level, the NAR is 50 percent and the GAR is 72 percent. Regional disparities at the high school level are even more pronounced than at the primary school level: the NAR, for example, ranges from a low of 26 percent in Southeast Anatolia, to a high of 70 percent in West Anatolia.

The Gender Parity Index (GPI) represents the ratio of the GAR for females to the GAR for males. It is presented for both the primary and high school levels and offers a summary measure of the extent to which there are gender differences in attendance rates. A GPI of less than 1 indicates that a smaller proportion of females than males attend school. The GPI for primary school is 0.92 and for high school is 0.78. Although there is little urban-rural differential at the primary school level, there is significant difference at the high school level. Once again, regional differentials are significant; the data indicate that girls residing in the eastern part of Turkey are particularly disadvantaged. Gender disparities by age in school attendance at any level are also shown in Figure 2.2.

2.3.3 Repetition and Dropout Rates

The repetition rate is the percentage of students in a given grade the previous school year who are repeating that grade in the current school year. The dropout rate is the percentage of students who were enrolled in school in the previous school year but were not attending school during the current school year. By asking about the grade that children were attending during the previous school year, it is possible to calculate dropout rates and repetition rates. Repetition and dropout rates approach zero where students nearly always progress to the next grade at the end of the school year. Repetition and dropout rates often vary across grades, indicating points in the school system where students are not regularly promoted to the next grade or they decide to drop out of school.

Although an automatic promotion policy does not operate officially in Turkey, very few primary school students repeat grades. Table 2.7.1 indicates that apart from first grade, at which 3 percent are repeating, the rates for grades 2 to 8 are all below 2 percent.

Table 2.7.1 Grade repetition rates								
Repetition rates for the de jure household population age 6-24 years by school grade, according to background characteristics, Turkey 2003								
Background characteristic	School grade							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sex								
Male	3.4	2.1	1.4	1.1	1.2	0.7	2.3	2.1
Female	2.7	1.4	0.1	1.6	0.5	1.5	0.5	0.6
Residence								
Urban	3.0	1.9	0.6	1.6	1.0	0.8	1.5	1.3
Rural	3.1	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.6	1.3	1.4	1.8
Region								
West	3.4	2.1	0.6	0.8	0.3	0.0	0.9	2.2
South	4.2	1.7	2.0	2.8	3.4	1.7	1.5	0.5
Central	0.0	2.3	0.0	1.8	0.0	2.2	3.3	1.3
North	0.0	3.6	0.0	1.1	1.5	1.5	0.6	2.2
East	4.8	0.5	1.3	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.8
NUTS 1 Region								
İstanbul	0.0	4.4	1.2	1.6	0.8	0.0	2.2	1.4
West Marmara	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4
Aegean	6.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
East Marmara	5.0	2.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	1.3	6.9
West Anatolia	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	2.1	2.1	0.0
Mediterranean	4.2	1.7	2.0	2.8	3.4	1.7	1.5	0.5
Central Anatolia	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.0	1.9	6.7	0.0
West Black Sea	0.0	8.0	0.0	1.3	1.1	3.8	1.3	5.1
East Black Sea	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	1.3	0.0
Northeast Anatolia	5.5	0.0	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Central East Anatolia	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	1.7	0.0	0.0
Southeast Anatolia	5.2	0.8	1.1	2.0	0.7	0.6	0.8	1.8
Total	3.1	1.8	0.8	1.4	0.9	1.0	1.4	1.5

As Table 2.7.2 indicates, dropout rates are also low (2 percent or less) from grades 1 through 7. At the eighth grade, the dropout rate increases to 20 percent. The reason for the high dropout rate at grade 8 is probably because many of the students who complete the 8-year compulsory primary school do not or are unable to move to the next educational level (i.e., high school). There is variation in the rates by residence. For example, rural children are more than two times as likely as urban children to drop out of school at grade 8. Differentials in the dropout rate by region are small. However, at grade 8, significant differentials exist in dropout rates by NUTS 1 regions.

Table 2.7.2 Dropout rates
Dropout rates for the de jure household population age 6-24 years by school grade, according to background characteristics, Turkey 2003

Background characteristic	School grade							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sex								
Male	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.2	1.7	1.0	0.0	19.1
Female	0.4	0.5	0.8	1.9	2.6	1.3	0.0	21.3
Residence								
Urban	0.0	0.7	0.2	1.0	1.8	0.9	0.0	14.8
Rural	0.6	0.0	0.8	1.2	2.8	1.7	0.0	32.0
Region								
West	0.0	1.1	0.0	1.5	1.5	0.0	0.0	17.8
South	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.5	2.1	0.0	20.7
Central	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	19.9
North	1.7	0.0	2.8	2.2	0.0	1.6	0.0	21.5
East	0.3	0.3	0.8	1.0	4.9	3.1	0.0	22.9
NUTS 1 Region								
İstanbul	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.8	1.2	0.0	0.0	13.6
West Marmara	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.1
Aegean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	31.6
East Marmara	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.5	2.6	0.0	0.0	13.5
West Anatolia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.2
Mediterranean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.5	2.1	0.0	20.7
Central Anatolia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.8
West Black Sea	0.0	0.0	3.7	0.0	3.5	0.0	0.0	21.9
East Black Sea	2.5	0.0	0.0	4.4	0.0	3.2	0.0	12.1
Northeast Anatolia	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.9	3.3	5.3	0.0	24.8
Central East Anatolia	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.2	2.7	5.1	0.0	18.2
Southeast Anatolia	0.5	0.4	0.5	1.0	7.0	1.3	0.0	25.4
Total	0.2	0.4	0.4	1.0	2.1	1.1	0.0	20.0

2.4 Housing Characteristics

The TDHS-2003 gathered information on housing characteristics such as sources of drinking water and time to the nearest water source, type of toilet facilities, main material of the floor, and the number of sleeping rooms in the house. These characteristics are highly correlated with health and are also indicative of socioeconomic status. Table 2.8 presents this information by urban–rural residence.

Table 2.8 Housing characteristics

Percent distribution of households by housing characteristics, according to urban-rural residence, Turkey 2003

Housing characteristic	Urban	Rural	Total
Source of drinking water			
Piped water in house/garden	64.1	16.5	50.1
Public piped water outside house/garden	0.5	0.1	0.4
Public well	0.6	1.8	0.9
Well in house/garden	0.7	6.4	2.4
Piped surface water in house/garden	2.5	60.6	19.6
Spring/public fountain	4.5	10.9	6.4
River/stream/pond/lake/dam	0.0	0.2	0.1
Rainwater	0.0	0.1	0.0
Tanker truck	0.3	0.2	0.3
Bottled water	26.4	2.8	19.5
Water station	0.2	0.1	0.2
Other	0.1	0.2	0.1
Missing	0.1	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Time to water source			
Percentage <15 minutes	96.1	93.0	95.2
Sanitation facility			
Flush toilet	92.7	35.7	75.9
Open pit	1.8	22.9	8.0
Closed pit	5.0	38.5	14.8
No facility, bush/field/public toilet	0.2	1.1	0.5
Other	0.3	1.8	0.7
Missing	0.1	0.0	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Flooring material			
Earth	0.8	12.0	4.1
Wood planks	10.8	27.1	15.6
Parquet/polished wood	22.1	4.9	17.1
Karo	10.4	4.5	8.6
Cement	22.5	42.0	28.3
Carpet	8.6	4.0	7.2
Marley	21.1	3.3	15.8
Mosaic	2.8	1.0	2.3
Other	0.9	1.0	0.9
Missing	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Persons per sleeping room			
1-2	77.5	64.9	73.8
3-4	18.5	25.4	20.5
5-6	2.8	6.8	4.0
7+	0.5	2.1	1.0
Don't know/missing	0.7	0.8	0.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mean number of persons per sleeping room	2.2	2.6	2.3
Number of households	7,643	3,193	10,836

Overall, about half of the households get their drinking water from pipes, mainly within their dwelling. The source for drinking water differs considerably by residence. Among urban households, 64 percent get drinking water from pipes in their residence, and less than 1 percent obtains water from a public tap. The second most common source of drinking water in urban areas is bottled water (26 percent), while 5 percent obtain drinking water from a spring/public fountain. Around two-thirds of rural households report having piped water; however, for nearly half of these households, the source for the piped water is a river, stream or other surface water. More than one in ten rural households obtains water from a spring. Households in rural Turkey are somewhat more likely to be relying on well water than households in urban Turkey (8 percent and 1 percent respectively).

Households with no access to drinking water within their own premises were also asked about the time required to fetch water. Overall, 95 percent of households have access to water within 15 minutes. As expected, there is better access to water in urban areas than in rural areas.

The lack of availability of sanitary facilities poses a serious health problem. Two-thirds of households have modern sanitation facilities in Turkey. Modern sanitation facilities are much more common in urban areas (93 percent) than in rural areas (36 percent). Twenty-three percent of households have a traditional pit toilet or improved pit toilet (7 percent in urban areas, and 61 percent in rural areas).

With regard to flooring, more than a quarter of the TDHS-2003 households live in dwellings with cement floors, and 17 percent in dwellings with a polished wood floor. Another 16 percent have wood planks as flooring material in their dwelling. There are substantial differences in the flooring materials in urban and rural dwellings. Among rural households, 42 percent have a cement floor, compared with about 23 percent of urban households. Wood and marley are also common as a flooring material in urban households: about a half of urban households live in dwellings with wood or marley floors. Twelve percent of households in rural areas have earth floors, compared to less than 1 percent of households in urban areas.

Information on the number of rooms that a household uses for sleeping was collected to determine the extent of crowding. Table 2.8 shows that approximately 74 percent of households have one or two persons per sleeping room, and 21 percent have three to four persons per sleeping room. On average, there are 2.3 persons per sleeping room in Turkey. Rural households have more people per sleeping room than urban households (2.6 and 2.2 persons per sleeping room, respectively).

2.5 Household Durable Goods

The availability of durable consumer goods is a good indicator of household socio-economic level. Moreover, particular goods have specific benefits. For example, having access to a television exposes household members to innovative ideas, and a refrigerator prolongs the wholesomeness of foods. Table 2.9 presents the availability of selected consumer goods by residence.

Table 2.9 Household durable goods			
Percentage of households possessing various durable consumer goods, by urban-rural residence, Turkey 2003			
Durable consumer goods	Urban	Rural	Total
Refrigerator	96.4	89.5	94.3
Gas or electric oven	78.9	53.0	71.3
Washing machine	86.5	58.8	78.3
Iron	91.3	70.2	85.1
Vacuum cleaner	85.1	52.9	75.6
Television	96.8	89.8	94.7
Telephone	81.5	75.2	79.6
Cellular phone	74.2	50.4	67.2
None of the above	0.4	2.6	1.0
Microwave oven	9.1	2.7	7.2
Dishwasher	28.9	5.7	22.1
Blender/mixer	47.2	19.9	39.2
DVD/VCD player	38.8	14.6	31.7
Video camera	4.4	1.3	3.5
Digiturk/CINE 5/satellite antenna	12.0	19.6	14.3
Air conditioner	6.1	1.4	4.7
Video	8.9	3.4	7.3
Cable TV	8.6	0.4	6.2
Camera	40.3	18.5	33.9
CD player	22.7	7.6	18.2
Computer	15.4	2.6	11.6
Internet	8.4	1.2	6.3
Car	28.1	20.3	25.8
Taxi/minibus/commercial vehicles	4.7	6.6	5.3
Tractor	1.7	19.6	7.0
Motorcycle	3.3	7.6	4.5
Bicycle	20.9	15.3	19.3
Number of households	7,643	3,193	10,836

Most of the population in Turkey enjoys the convenience of electrical appliances. Television sets and refrigerators are present in more than nine in ten households, while almost eight in ten households have a telephone. More than seven in ten households own an oven, a vacuum cleaner or a washing machine. Ownership of various durable goods varies by place of residence, with higher proportions of ownership for all items reported among households in urban areas as compared to rural areas.