Questionnaires

Two questionnaires were used in the TDHS-2008: “Household Questionnaire” and “Ever-Married Women’s Questionnaire”. Moreover, information on never-married women and elderly people were collected through “Never-married Women” and “Elderly” modules in household questionnaire.

In addition to model questionnaires of international MEASURE/DHS+ surveys, other questionnaires used in international surveys such as GGS, FFS and LSS, and national surveys such as Family Survey and Household Labour Force Survey were used during the preparation process of the questionnaires. During this process, workshops were held to receive the comments and suggestions of the representatives of all related national and international institutions on the topics that should take place in the questionnaires. The aim of the workshops is to cover all possible topics that Turkey needs data to be collected.

In the different phases of the preparation process of the questionnaires, three pre-tests were conducted in order to test the wording and order of the questions. The results of the pre-tests were discussed with the representatives of all related national and international institutions during the questionnaire preparation meetings, and then questionnaires were modified accordingly.

Sample Design and Listing

In the selection of the TDHS-2008 sample, a weighted, multi-stage, stratified cluster sampling approach was used. The sampling unit of the survey is households.

The sample design and sample size of the TDHS-2008 makes it possible to perform analysis for Turkey as a whole, for urban and rural areas and for the five demographic regions of the country (West, South, Central, North and East). This design also gives the opportunity to make analysis for some of the subjects in the survey for 12 geographical regions.

The distribution of the target sample of the survey was based on the results of the 2007 Address Based Population Registration System. Sample selection for the TDHS-2008 was undertaken in three stages. In the first stage, settlements were selected for the sample. The sampling units at this stage were settlements that differ in population size. The frame for the selection of primary sampling units was prepared using the results regarding population sizes of settlements obtained by the 2007 Address Based Population Registration System.
The selection of a pre-determined number of clusters out of the settlements selected in the first stage is the second stage of the sample selection. For the selection procedures in this stage, National Address Database (UAVT) was used for settlements with municipalities.

Total number of clusters in TDHS-2008 is specified as 634. For 502 settlements with municipalities, the cluster lists, each including approximately 100 households was provided by TURKSTAT, using UAVT. For 132 clusters for which TURKSTAT was unable to provide data, lists were prepared by listing teams during household listing.

In the third stage, a fixed number of households were selected from each cluster by systematic random sampling method using the updated household lists. 25 households were selected from clusters of urban settlements (clusters in settlements with populations 10,000 and more) and 15 households from clusters of rural settlements (clusters in settlements with populations less than 10,000). The total number of households selected in TDHS-2008 is 13,521.

Cluster lists provided by TURKSTAT were updated during listing and mapping activity. Listing activity was carried out by 17 teams. Each team was consisted of 2 members. Listing activity was took 37 person-days, between the days of 18th of June 2008 and 25th of July 2008

**Training and Pilot Study**

There were 655 applicants for the training process of the field staff of TDHS-2008 as a result of announcements that were made through newspapers and universities. The selection of applicants for the training program was made through the interview conducted by interview comities, which were composed of Hacettepe University Institute of Population Studies academic staff. As a result of those interviews, 240 persons were selected for the TDHS-2008 fieldwork training program.

The fieldwork training of TDHS-2008 took place in three-week periods between 8th and 27th of September 2008, and held in 6 different classrooms at the same time. In addition to theoretical training, practical training was also given to candidates through pilot fieldwork that took 4 days long. In addition to these, seminars about special subjects that exist in questionnaires were given by experts. In the training process, “Interviewer’s Manuel” was given to candidates. “Team Supervisors’ Manuel” or “Field Editor’s Manual” were also handed out to candidates that were chosen as a team supervisor or a field editor during their training.

At the end of the training process, 19 teams were composed with 152 successful candidates. Each team consisted of 8 people; 5 female interviewers, one male measurer, one field editor and a team supervisor. 25 persons were selected for data entry. And the rest of the candidates were declared as back up field staff.
Fieldwork

Teams sent out to their duty-provinces at the 7th and 8th of October 2008. Official letters, which were written by The Ministry of Health, the Rectorate of Hacettepe University, and Directorate of Hacettepe University Institute of Population studies, were sent to duty-provinces of teams before their departure; in order to inform authorities about teams and their work plan. Furthermore, Health Directorates of provinces were also informed by the field coordinator.

The main contact person for the teams in all provinces was the Head of MCHFP Unit of Health Directorates. Accommodations and vehicles for the teams were mostly provided by Health Directorates of the provinces.

Fieldwork took 49.5 person-days, and ended in 4th of December 2008. During the fieldwork, each household was visited at least three times. In cases where eligible women were existed, 3 additional visits were made for those women in order to increase response rates.

78 percent of households in TDHS-2008 sample design were interviewed. Response rate was 89 percent when occupied households were considered. When compared to TDHS-2003 results, an increase in proportions of the “households that were away during the visit”, or “addresses which were not dwelling units” and the proportion of households “who refused to make an interview” was observed. Eligible Women’s response rate is 93 percent. In TDHS-2008, an increase in the proportion of eligible woman who refused to make an interview was also observed.

Data Entry and Analysis

Data entry began at 4th of October 2008 with a staff of 22 data enterers, 1 questionnaire admission personnel and 2 team leaders. Data enterers worked 6 hours a day in 2 shifts. During data entry process, full verification between the field data and data entered was reached by entering each questionnaire to the computers twice by different data editors. Data entry took 44.5 person-days. Data entry and editing were done using CSPro software. Data entry and verification process was ended in 10th of October 2009.

After the data entry was completed, in order to examine the data in details, all variables were checked by producing frequencies and cross tabulations. Imputations were also made for the standardization of time-dependent variables. After the control process of the data in Institute, data were sent to DHS Macro in order to make a second check. After all these procedures, data sets were crated and data became ready to use for preliminary report.
**Reporting and Meeting**

Since the preparation of the *Main Report* will take time, firstly the *Preliminary Report* was published. The meeting for dissemination of preliminary results with related persons and institutions was held in Ankara-Kızılcahamam Patalya Hotel in 13 March 2009. Approximately 50 participants which are representatives of related institutions, universities and international organizations, were attended to the preliminary report meeting. PDF format of the *Preliminary Report* and presentations that were presented in the meeting are available at our Institute’s web site.

The *Main Report*, the *Further Analysis Report* and the *Report of the Demographic Change of Turkey in the Last 40 Years* will be published in October 2009, March 2010 and September 2010 respectively. In addition to these, progress reports are submitted to TUBİTAK in every 6-month. At the end of the project, the Final Report will be submitted to TUBİTAK at September 2010.