

## EDUCATION AT A GLANCE 2013

# TURKEY

### 15-29 year-olds: where are they?

Despite a significant decrease of 7 percentage points in the proportion of young people neither employed nor in education or training (NEET) between 2008 and 2011, Turkey still has the highest proportion of NEETs among 15-29 year-olds across OECD countries: 35% compared with an OECD average of 16%. The proportion of NEETs is more than twice as high among women than men: 50% of women are NEET compared with 20% of men. This may reflect the large proportion of women who are neither in education nor employed because they are raising families and responsible for household tasks.

Rates, however, vary significantly depending on the level of education. The transition from school to work in Turkey can be challenging for young adults, particularly for those without an upper secondary education. Only a third of 15-29 year-olds in Turkey continued their studies after completing lower secondary education in 2011, in contrast with the OECD average of about 68%. This represents, however, an increase of almost 10 percentage points since 2008. The proportion of those who were employed and not in education among this age group and with this level of education decreased by 1 percentage point during the same period; in 2011, 30% of them were employed and another 37% of them were NEET.

At the same time, young adults holding a university degree found it difficult to match their recently developed skills with the needs of the labour market. The share of employed among tertiary-educated 15-29 year-olds decreased by 8 percentage points since the start of the financial crisis, from 62% in 2008 to 54% in 2011, a higher decrease than the average fall across OECD countries of 4 percentage points. Furthermore, this is the only level of education for which the proportion of NEETs actually increased in Turkey between 2008 and 2011: a rise of 3 percentage points, similar to the OECD average increase for this group of 2 percentage points.

### Turkey is making progress in attainment rates at all levels of education

In 2011, virtually all children aged between 5 and 14 were enrolled in education in Turkey (95%). The enrolment rate of 15-19 year-olds has more than doubled in the last decade from 30% in 2001 to 64% in 2011 but is still well below the OECD average of 84%. The further lengthening of compulsory education from 8 to 12 years in 2012 is likely to increase participation in education in the future.

Tertiary attainment levels in Turkey have improved strongly over the last decade, but they are still low compared with other OECD countries. In 2011, 14% of the adult population had attained a tertiary qualification against an OECD average of 32%. The potential for future growth in the attainment rate is

relatively limited since attainment among young adults (25-34 year-olds) is only 19%, well below the OECD average of 30%.

## Secondary and tertiary education: an asset in the labour market

Although employment rates for people who have achieved upper secondary and tertiary levels of education are lower than the OECD average at 62% and 76% compared with 74% and 83% respectively, they are similar for those who have not attained upper secondary education: 51% against an OECD average of 55%. Having a tertiary education in Turkey increases the likelihood of being employed even more than in many other countries. The employment rate among 25-64 year-olds with a tertiary qualification was 14 percentage points higher than for those with an upper secondary education compared with an average difference of 9 percentage points for OECD countries as a whole.

A tertiary education also makes a significant difference to an individual's wages. Adults aged 25-64 with a tertiary education can expect to earn 49% more than their counterparts with only upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education, although this is a lower premium than average for OECD countries, where the earnings premium is about 57%. At the same time, those without an upper secondary education earn, on average, 31% less than their peers educated to upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary level.

## Other findings:

- While in most OECD countries more girls than boys go to school in the 15-19 year-old age group, the enrolment rate in Turkey is 6 percentage points higher for boys (67%) than for girls (61%).
- Teachers' salaries in Turkey doubled in real terms over the past decade, one of the highest increases seen in OECD countries. However, they remain well below the OECD average: after 15 years of experience, primary school teachers earn USD 25 189 compared to the OECD average of USD 38 136.
- Graduation rates at upper secondary education have increased significantly between 1995 and 2011 (from 37% in 1995 to 56% in 2011), at one of the highest annual growth rate (2.6%) across the OECD (0.6%). Similarly, graduation from tertiary-type A education have increased almost four times during the same period, reaching 23% in 2011.
- The proportion of obese adults among 25-64 year olds in Turkey is 19%. When comparing the results for individuals who have completed tertiary education with those who have not completed upper secondary education, Turkey shows a gap of 11 percentage points, 10% for the former and 21% for the latter.

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Key Facts for Turkey in Education at a Glance 2013

Table	Indicator	Turkey		OECD average		EU21 average		Rank among OECD countries and other G20 countries*
Educational Access and Output								
	Enrolment rates	2011	2005	2011	2005	2011	2005	
C2.1	3-year-olds (in early childhood education)	4%	2%	67%	64%	77%	73%	34 of 36
	4-year-olds (in early childhood and primary education)	19%	5%	84%	79%	90%	84%	36 of 36
C1.1a	5-14 year-olds (all levels)	95%		99%		98%		34 of 38
	Percentage of population that has attained below upper secondary education	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
A1.4a	25-64 year-olds	68%	77%	26%	34%	25%	34%	1 of 35
	Percentage of population that has attained upper secondary education	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
A1.4a	25-64 year-olds	18%	15%	44%	44%	48%	46%	35 of 36
	Percentage of population that has attained tertiary education	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
A1.3a A1.4a	25-64 year-olds	14%	8%	32%	22%	28%	20%	35 of 36
	30-34 year-olds	17%		39%		37%		33 of 34
	25-34 year-olds	19%	9%	39%	26%	36%	24%	35 of 36
	55-64 year-olds	10%	6%	24%	15%	21%	14%	35 of 36
	Entry rates into tertiary education	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
C3.1a	Vocational programmes (Tertiary-type B)	27%	9%	19%	16%	15%	11%	10 of 32
	University programmes (Tertiary-type A)	39%	21%	60%	48%	59%	46%	32 of 36
	Graduation rates	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
A2.1a	Percentage of today’s young people expected to complete upper secondary education in their lifetime	56%	37%	83%	76%	83%	77%	26 of 27
A3.1a	Percentage of today’s young people expected to complete university education (tertiary-type A) in their lifetime	23%	9%	39%	28%	41%	27%	24 of 26
Economic and Labour Market Outcomes								
	Unemployment rate of 25-64 year-olds - Men and Women	2011	2008	2011	2008	2011	2008	
A5.4b	Below upper secondary	8.4%	9.6%	12.6%	8.8%	15.6%	10.4%	22 of 35
	Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary	8.9%	9.2%	7.3%	4.9%	8.5%	5.2%	9 of 36
	Tertiary	7.6%	7.3%	4.8%	3.3%	5.2%	3.2%	5 of 36
	Unemployment rate of 25-64 year-olds - Women	2011	2008	2011	2008	2011	2008	
A5.4d	Below upper secondary	7.7%	8.1%	12.2%	9.5%	15.1%	11.0%	24 of 35
	Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary	17.3%	15.9%	8.0%	5.7%	9.1%	6.1%	3 of 35
	Tertiary	10.9%	9.3%	5.1%	3.6%	5.5%	3.6%	3 of 36
	Average earnings premium for 25-64 year-olds with tertiary education**	2011 or latest year available		2011		2011		
A6.1	Men and women	149		157		158		19 of 33
	Men	153		162		164		18 of 33
	Women	154		161		161		20 of 33
	Average earnings penalty for 25-64 year-olds who have not attained upper secondary education**	2011 or latest year available		2011		2011		
A6.1	Men and women	69		76		77		25 of 33
	Men	72		77		78		23 of 33
	Women	43		74		75		33 of 33
	Percentage of people not in employment, education or training for 15-29 year-olds, by level of education attained	2011	2008	2011	2008	2011	2008	
C5.4d	Below upper secondary	36.5%	44.9%	15.8%	14.4%	15.3%	13.5%	1 of 34
	Upper secondary	33.0%	41.3%	16.2%	13.6%	15.1%	11.8%	2 of 34
	Tertiary	27.3%	24.4%	13.3%	10.6%	12.3%	9.6%	2 of 34

Key Facts for Turkey in Education at a Glance 2013

Table	Indicator	Turkey		OECD average		EU21 average		Rank among OECD countries and other G20 countries*
Financial Investment in Education								
	Annual expenditure per student (in equivalent USD, using PPPs)	2010		2010		2010		
B1.1a	Pre-primary education	2490 USD		6762 USD		7085 USD		29 of 32
	Primary education	1860 USD		7974 USD		8277 USD		34 of 34
	Secondary education	2470 USD		9014 USD		9471 USD		34 of 34
	Tertiary education	m		13528 USD		12856 USD		m
	Total expenditure on educational institutions as a percentage of GDP	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	
B2.1	As a percentage of GDP	m	2.5%	6.3%	5.4%	5.9%	5.2%	m
	Total public expenditure on education	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	
B4.1	As a percentage of total public expenditure	m	m	13.0%	12.6%	11.4%	11.4%	m
	Share of private expenditure on educational institutions	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	
B3.2a	Pre-primary education	m		17.9%		11.3%		m
B3.2a	Primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education	m	m	8.5%	7.1%	6.1%	5.6%	m
B3.2b	Tertiary education	m	4.6%	31.6%	22.6%	22.7%	14.3%	m
B3.1	All levels of education	m	1.4%	16.4%	12.1%	10.7%	7.9%	m
Schools and Teachers								
	Ratio of students to teaching staff	2011		2011		2011		
D2.2	Pre-primary education	23 students per teacher		14 students per teacher		13 students per teacher		4 of 31
	Primary education	21 students per teacher		15 students per teacher		14 students per teacher		4 of 35
	Secondary education	18 students per teacher		14 students per teacher		12 students per teacher		5 of 36
	Total intended instruction time for students (hours)	2011		2011		2011		
D1.1	Primary education	6912 hours		4717 hours		m		2 of 31
	Lower secondary education	m		3034 hours		m		m
	Number of hours of teaching time per year (for teachers in public institutions)	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
D4.2	Pre-primary education	1080 hours		994 hours		977 hours		11 of 29
	Primary education	639 hours	639 hours	790 hours	780 hours	777 hours	776 hours	25 of 31
	Lower secondary education	m	m	709 hours	697 hours	669 hours	658 hours	m
	Upper secondary education	567 hours	504 hours	664 hours	628 hours	651 hours	635 hours	22 of 31
	Index of change in statutory teachers' salaries for teachers with 15 years of experience/minimum training (2000 = 100)	2011	2008	2011	2008	2011	2008	
D3.4	Primary school teachers	197	182	120	120	121	122	2 of 23
	Lower secondary school teachers	m	m	116	116	121	121	m
	Upper secondary school teachers	217	202	117	118	118	119	1 of 22
	Ratio of teachers' salaries to earnings for full-time, full-year adult workers with tertiary education***	2011		2011		2011		
D3.2	Pre-primary school teachers	m		0.80		0.77		m
	Primary school teachers	m		0.82		0.80		m
	Lower secondary school teachers	m		0.85		0.84		m
	Upper secondary school teachers	m		0.89		0.89		m

\* Countries are ranked in descending order of values.

\*\* Compared to people with upper secondary education; upper secondary = 100.

'm': data is not available. 'n': magnitude is either negligible or zero.



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