

## EDUCATION AT A GLANCE 2015

*Education at a Glance: OECD Indicators* is the authoritative source for information on the state of education around the world. It provides data on the structure, finances and performance of education systems in the 34 OECD countries and a number of partner countries.

# Turkey

## Initial education

*Turkey needs to value pre-primary education more for its positive impact on the future performance of students.*

- In 2012, less than 30% of 15-year-olds in Turkey reported that they had attended pre-primary education. Results from the OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) show that 15-year-old students who had attended at least one year of pre-primary education perform better than those who had not, even after accounting for their socio-economic status.
- Just 7% of 3-year-olds and 36% of 4-year-olds in Turkey were enrolled in early childhood education in 2013, among the lowest rates of all OECD countries (the OECD averages were 74% and 85%, respectively). However, enrolment rates of 4-year-olds increased by more than 30 percentage points between 2005 and 2013.
- Despite low enrolment rates, pupil-teacher ratios are high in pre-primary education, with 17 children per teaching staff member in Turkey, against the OECD average of 14.

## Equity in education and the labour market

*Education pays off handsomely in Turkey, but too many young people are out of the education system and the labour market altogether, with women particularly badly affected.*

- Among 20-24 year-olds, 36% are neither employed, nor in education or training (NEET), compared to 18% on average across OECD countries. Some 60% of 25-29 year-old women were NEET in 2014, one of the highest rates among OECD countries.
- Turkey has one of the highest earnings premiums for upper secondary and tertiary education among OECD countries. In 2013, tertiary-educated adults earned 88% more on average than adults with upper secondary education (the OECD average proportion was 60%). An adult with upper secondary education earned 35% more than an adult with a below upper secondary education (the OECD average difference was 23%).
- In 2013, 25-64 year-old tertiary-educated women earned 111% more than those with an upper secondary education, while women with an upper secondary education earned 50% more than women without that level of education. Across OECD countries, the average relative earnings differences were 63% and 25%, respectively.

*Unlike in most OECD countries, women are well represented in the fields of sciences, technology, engineering and mathematics.*

- In Turkey, 14% of graduates in sciences from upper secondary vocational programmes in 2014 were women, compared to 3% on average across OECD countries.
- Some 48% of tertiary graduates in science and 25% of graduates in engineering, manufacturing and construction were women, a greater share than the OECD averages of 39% and 24%, respectively.

## Financing of education

*Despite huge increases since 2005, levels of expenditure per student remain low compared to OECD and European averages.*

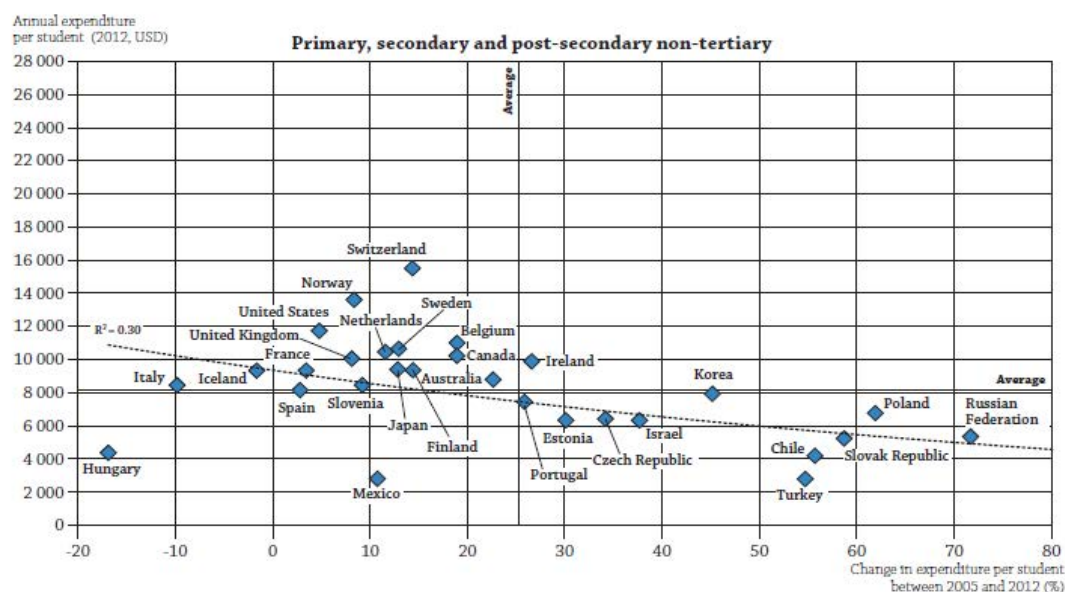
- Between 2005 and 2012, expenditure at primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary levels increased by 65%, while the number of students increased by 7%, meaning expenditure per student increased 55%, compared to an OECD average of 21%.
- Expenditure on tertiary education rose by 93% between 2005 and 2012. The number of students also increased by 59%, leading to an increase in expenditure per student of 22%, above the OECD average of 11%.
- At all levels of education, expenditure per student in 2012 was low compared to the OECD average: USD 2 577 at the primary level (OECD average: USD 8 247); USD 2 904 at the secondary level (OECD average: USD 9 518); and USD 7 779 at the tertiary level (OECD average: USD 15 028).
- Some 85% of Turkey's students are enrolled in primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education (OECD average: 80%), but just 68% of expenditure (OECD average: 70%) covers these levels. In contrast, 32% of all expenditure goes to tertiary educational institutions (OECD average: 29%), which enrol just 15% of students (OECD average: 20%).

## The teaching profession

*The youngest teaching workforce of all OECD countries still faces difficult working conditions, despite improvements.*

- Some 61% of primary teachers in Turkey are under 40, the largest share, along with that in the United Kingdom, across all OECD countries. Some 24% are under 30, compared to 13% on average across OECD countries. Some 76% of lower secondary teachers are under 40, far above the OECD average of 38%.
- In Turkey, the students-per-teaching-staff ratio is high, especially at the primary level: 20 pupils per teaching staff, compared with the OECD average of 15 pupils and the EU21\* average of 14 pupils.
- According to PISA 2012, significant numbers of students are in schools whose principals reported shortages of or inadequate equipment that hampers teaching. These include science laboratories (22% compared to 8% across OECD countries) and computers for instruction (15% compared to 9%).
- PISA data also reveal a shortage of computers in Turkey's classrooms: in 2012, there were 45 15-year-olds to every computer far above the OECD average of 5 students per computer and even above Turkey's 2009 ratio of 12 students per computer.
- In addition, during a typical weekday, 63% of 15-year-old Turkish students do not use the Internet at all in school and 26% use it for a maximum of one hour, against 36% and 47% on average for OECD countries.

**Figure 1. Annual expenditure per student by educational institutions in 2012 related to change since 2005, by level of education**  
In equivalent USD converted using PPPs, based on full-time equivalents



**Notes:** Average values refer to countries with available data for both 2005 and 2012. At the primary, secondary, and post-secondary non-tertiary levels, Brazil does not appear in the chart as expenditure per student increased by more than 110% between 2005 and 2012.

**Source:** OECD, Tables B1.2, B1.5a and B1.5b.

See Annex 3 for notes ([www.oecd.org/education/education-at-a-glance-19991487.htm](http://www.oecd.org/education/education-at-a-glance-19991487.htm)).

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933283927> (*Education at a Glance 2015*, Chart B1.4)

## References

OECD (2015), *Education at a Glance 2015: OECD Indicators*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/eag-2015-en>.

\* EU21 countries are those that are members of both the European Union and the OECD. These 21 countries are Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, the Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.


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### Note regarding data from Israel

The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and are under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.

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Updated data can be found on line at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/eag-data-en> and by following the **StatLinks**  under the tables and charts in the publication.

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<http://gpseducation.oecd.org/CountryProfile?primaryCountry=TUR&threshold=10&topic=EO>

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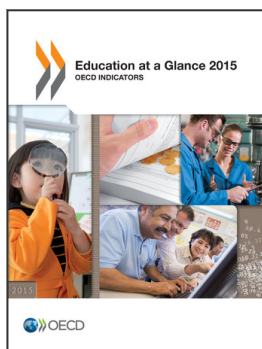
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## Key Facts for Turkey in Education at a Glance 2015

Table	Indicator	Turkey	OECD average
<b>Educational Access and Output</b>			
	<b>Enrolment rates</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2013</b>
C2.1	3-year-olds (in early childhood education)	7%	74%
	<b>Highest educational attainment level of 25-64 year-olds</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2014</b>
A1.4a	Below upper secondary	64%	24%
	Upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary	19%	43%
	Tertiary	17%	34%
	<b>Highest educational attainment level of 25-64 year-olds (disaggregation at tertiary level)</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2014</b>
A1.1a	Short cycle tertiary	5%	8%
	Bachelor's or equivalent	10%	16%
	Master's or equivalent	1%	11%
	Doctoral or equivalent	0%	1%
	<b>Entry and graduation rates</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2013</b>
C3.1	Percentage of today's young people expected to enter tertiary education at least once during their lifetime	70%	67%
A3.1	Percentage of today's young people expected to graduate with a bachelor's or equivalent degree in their lifetime	27%	36%
<b>Economic and Labour Market Outcomes</b>			
	<b>Unemployment rate of 25-64 year-olds</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2014</b>
A5.4a	Below upper secondary	8.5%	12.8%
	Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary	9.1%	7.7%
	Tertiary	8.2%	5.1%
	<b>Average earnings premium for tertiary-educated 25-64 year-olds (upper secondary = 100)</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2013</b>
A6.1a	Short cycle tertiary	**	125
	Bachelor's or equivalent	**	157
	Master's, Doctoral or equivalent	**	214
	All tertiary	188	160
	<b>Percentage of people not in employment, education or training (NEET) for 15-29 year-olds</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2014</b>
C5.2b	Men	17.2%	13.2%
	Women	46%	17.9%
<b>Financial Investment in Education</b>			
	<b>Annual expenditure per student (in equivalent USD, using PPPs)</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2012</b>
B1.1a	Primary education	2577 USD	8247 USD
	Secondary education	2904 USD	9518 USD
	Tertiary (including R&D activities)	7779 USD	15028 USD
	<b>Total expenditure on primary to tertiary educational institutions</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2012</b>
B2.2	As a percentage of GDP	3.8%	5.2%
	<b>Total public expenditure on primary to tertiary education</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2012</b>
B4.2	As a percentage of total public expenditure	**	11.6%
<b>Schools and Teachers</b>			
	<b>Ratio of students to teaching staff</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2013</b>
D2.2	Primary education	20 students per teacher	15 students per teacher
	Secondary education	17 students per teacher	13 students per teacher
	<b>Average actual teachers' salaries</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2013</b>
D3.4	Pre-primary school teachers	**	37798 USD
	Primary school teachers	**	41248 USD
	Lower secondary school teachers (general programmes)	**	43626 USD
	Upper secondary school teachers (general programmes)	**	47702 USD

The reference year is the year cited or the latest year for which data are available.

\*\* Please refer to the source table for details on this data.



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