



REPUBLIC OF TURKEY  
TURKISH STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

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**MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ON THE OCCATION OF 87<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE TURKISH STATISTICAL INSTITUTE AND NATIONAL STATISTICS DAY**

In our era of rapid changes in all areas, ever-developing technology and social requirements of the society require the countries to improve and renew themselves. Nowadays, globalization is expressed as the process which includes a comprehensive transformation in economic, political, technological and intellectual areas.

User needs has recently increased and varied in accordance with the globalisation. The more timely, detailed and comprehensive statistics exist, the more powerful and consistent statistical systems arise as a necessity at this point.

One of the most important factors to determine the correct policies for the development of a country is to have accurate and timely information. It is not possible to take right decisions and make short or long-term plans without reliable statistics derived from scientific methods.

Countries that do not have accurate, reliable, consistent, timely, comparable data, can not express and promote themselves well in the international arena. Furthermore, they are not able to observe their current situation while comparing to other countries or communities. Therefore, all modern states have powerful governmental organizations converting data to official statistics by collecting data for decision-making and planning in line with national and international needs.

In our country, long before the Republican period, studies such as taking records of land distribution, demarcation, and collection of taxes had been carried out. Institutions had also been established for these purposes. "Defterhane", which was established in 1389, is the core of today's Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat). In order to illustrate the current state and support to take the right steps in the Republican Period, today's TurkStat was founded with the legal decree published in the Official Gazette on 25<sup>th</sup> of April, 1926, with the name of "Central Statistical Department" under the Prime Ministry.

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In accordance with the changing needs, the structure and functions of the Institute had been changed by the laws and legal decrees entered into force in 1930, 1956, 1962, 1984, 1989 and 1990. TurkStat was configured to meet the requirements of the new era with Turkish Statistical Law which entered into force in 2005. The functions of TurkStat have been determined as statistical data production and coordination of Turkish Statistical System. TurkStat is one of the most important data providers in the statistical system consisting of 63 governmental and non-governmental bodies.

TurkStat acts with a vision "to establish an user focused and sustainable statistical system based on international standards" and continues to work intensively to produce high quality and comprehensive statistics with the data compiled from respondents; and to contribute to our country's economic, social and cultural life.

Nowadays, statistics has become an universal language. Therefore, TurkStat always improves itself in order to advance its studies both in institutional context and in the fields of statistical methods and practices. Besides, it shares its knowledge and experiences with national and international governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to improve their statistical capacities.

TurkStat, which employs 3442 staff, obtained various data compiled directly from the field in 2012 by 62 surveys;interviewed with the 375.899 households and 1.262.156 individuals, 1.005.487 business/agricultural holdings/universities/governmental bodies. Most of these studies have been designed to give estimates for 26 regions and whole Turkey. In 2012, 267 news releases were also published regarding 80 different subjects based on the statistical data obtained from these studies.

On the occasion of 87<sup>th</sup> anniversary of TurkStat, having an honorable history, National Statistics Day and also 2013 World Statistics Day, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the whole statistical community and veterans, contributed to the statistical studies in the past and present.

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President

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