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Facts about adolescents from the Demographic and Health Survey—Statistical tables for program planning: Turkey 1993

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FACTS ABOUT ADOLESCENTS FROM THE DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEY

Statistical Tables for Program Planning

TURKEY 1993

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Foreword

The Population Council initiated its work on adolescents in earnest in the mid-1990s. At that time, those advocating greater attention to adolescent issues were concerned about adolescent fertility—particularly fertility outside of marriage—and, responding to the experiences of Western countries, about adolescent “risk-taking” behavior. As an international scientific organization with its mandate centered around the needs of developing countries, the Population Council sought a more nuanced and context-specific understanding of the opportunities and problems confronting adolescents in the developing world.

As a first step, the Council published a book titled *The Uncharted Passage: Girls’ Adolescence in the Developing World* (Mensch, Bruce, and Greene, 1998). In working with our colleagues inside and outside of the Council, at national and international levels, it became clear that information on adolescents, and the way data are organized, were limiting our ability to understand the diversity of their experiences or to develop programs to address that diversity. Even the words used to describe the 10-19-year-old age group (in English) presented an obstacle. Terms such as youth, adolescents, young people, and teenagers are gender-free. An age group spanning a decade was singularly inappropriate given the rapidity of transitions in this period; even five-year cohorts (10-14 and 15-19) are arguably unreasonably large.

While recognizing these limitations, we nonetheless saw the Demographic and Health Survey results as extremely useful to those seeking to understand and plan for adolescents, provided the data were organized with full understanding of their strengths and weaknesses. In the absence of data, many adolescent policies were implicitly based on the premise that the lives of adolescents in developing countries were like those of adolescents in Western countries; that is, mainly living at home with families, not working, in school, and unmarried. In fact there are significant numbers of young people in the West who do not fit this description, but even larger groups within the developing countries. Perhaps the starkest difference is the context of sexual activity: whereas the vast majority of sexually active adolescent girls in the West are unmarried, in the developing countries the vast majority are married.

In dialogue with colleagues at UNICEF, UNFPA, and PATH, and with the financial support of the United Nations Foundation, we have created tables to more clearly describe the diversity of the adolescent experience by drawing on the rich Demographic and Health Survey data. These tables are descriptive. We have included small points of commentary where something is particularly striking. We offer them to you for reflection, as a basis for developing programs, and as a basis, indeed, for arguing for an enrichment of the research attention devoted to the many transitions that occur between the ages of 10 and 19.

In addition to highlighting, wherever we could, salient dimensions and experience (e.g., schooling, work, and marital status) by age, gender, urban/rural, and economic class groupings, we also draw attention to adolescents’ living arrangements and the

shape of their families. Earlier work conducted cooperatively between the Council's International Programs and Policy Research Divisions highlighted some very surprising—often counterintuitive—facts about the “family.” Whether adolescents live with one, both, or neither parent, and whether they live with and are responsible for their younger siblings, significantly shape their schooling, work, and migration status. With increasing levels of rural-to-urban migration, and the AIDS epidemic, families under stress may tend to transfer adult burdens to their oldest children—especially to girls. Adolescent girls may be required to leave school or work for wages, sometimes in unsafe ways and away from their homes.

Another often neglected dimension of the “adolescent problematique” is the contrast between the experience of married and unmarried adolescents. Very often the experiences of married and unmarried adolescents are considered together—for example, on issues such as their level of information about and use of contraceptives. We believe that married and unmarried adolescents represent significantly different populations. Although differences between the groups may vary by topic, the difference between them is the point. In treating the adolescent population as homogeneous, the profile and needs of married adolescents have very often been completely ignored. Married girls are plausibly the most vulnerable adolescents. Detached from a supportive peer group and from their natal or native home, often married by arrangement and facing a first pregnancy, married adolescent girls deserve our attention. The tabulations presented for some countries provide preliminary and rudimentary evidence that married adolescents are, if not at greater disadvantage than their unmarried counterparts, at least different, and we should plan for those differences.

This project will be ongoing. As data for additional countries and more recent data for the countries covered here become available, we will produce new sets of tables. And as we identify other tables of potential interest we will include them. We welcome your feedback and hope you find these tables useful.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge the significant creative and analytic efforts of our colleagues in producing these tables. We thank Brian Pence, Carey Meyers, Erica Chong, Christine Pace, and Roberta Scheinman for their intellectual contributions and hard work in this undertaking.

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Technical Notes:

1. All tables in this report are calculated from data collected for the 1993 Turkey Demographic and Health Survey (DHS), conducted by the General Directorate of Mother and Child Health and Family Planning of the Ministry of Health, Hacettepe University Institute of Population Studies, and Macro International, Inc. The Turkey DHS surveyed a nationally representative sample of 8,619 households. The information presented in Tables 1-8 is based on all usual residents within the age group(s) of the selected households. Calculations for Tables 8-11 are based on 6,519 ever-married women between ages 15 and 49 who responded to a more detailed individual questionnaire. Data on awareness of HIV/AIDS, experience with sexually transmitted diseases, and female genital circumcision were not collected for Turkey.

More information on the design of and results from the 1993 Turkey DHS is provided in the final report (Ministry of Health [Turkey], Hacettepe University Institute of Population Studies, and Macro International, Inc. 1994. *Turkish Demographic and Health Survey 1993*. Calverton, Maryland: Macro International, Inc.). More information on the Demographic and Health Surveys, including reports, other publications, and original data, is available on the DHS Web site at <http://www.measuredhs.com/>.

2. The tables report values for which data are available for the 1993 Turkey DHS. An X indicates that the information was not collected for that group in the 1993 survey.
3. Unless specifically designated as "percent distribution," the cells represent percentages that do not sum to 100%. In most cases, the categories either are not mutually exclusive or do not exhaust the total population for the group. A guide to reading and interpreting the tables is included at the bottom of each page.
4. The measurement of economic status used to define the poorest 40%, middle 40%, and richest 20% of households in Tables 4-6 is based on a methodological approach discussed in Filmer, Deon and Lant Pritchett, 1999: "The Effect of Household Wealth on Educational Attainment: Evidence from 35 Countries," *Population and Development Review*, vol. 25(1): 85-120. Derived from their work, indicators of household asset ownership (car, bicycle, television, etc.) and household characteristics (piped water, electricity, etc.) were used to create a single measure of economic status. Although the classification of economic status can be used for relative comparisons of socioeconomic groups within a country, comparisons of groups across countries are not appropriate.

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A Summary of 1993 DHS Data on Adolescents in Turkey

Table 1. Urban-Rural Residence and Population Distribution

- Adolescents ages 10-19 comprise almost one-quarter of Turkey's total population.
- More than half of Turkey's adolescents live in urban areas.

Table 1. Urban-Rural Residence Distribution

Table 2. Parental Survival Status and Residence in Household

- Nearly all adolescents 10-14 years old have both parents living, and eight out of nine live with both parents.
- Adolescents ages 10-14 living with only one parent are more likely to live with only their mother than with only their father.
- Very few adolescents live in households in which neither parent is present.

Table 2. Patterns of Parent/Child Co-residence

Table 3. Characteristics of Head of Household

- About one out of fourteen adolescents ages 10-14 lives in a female-headed household.
- One out of eight 10-14-year-olds lives in a household headed by someone other than their mother or father.

Table 4. Educational Enrollment and Attainment

- Most adolescents ages 10-14 are enrolled in school. In contrast, the majority of adolescents ages 15-19 are not in school; those who are enrolled are primarily in secondary school.
- Boys are more likely than girls to be enrolled in school.
- More than nine out of ten 15-19-year-olds have completed primary school.
- A gender gap in educational attainment remains, although girls' completion rates have increased more than boys' rates in the last ten years.
- The positive relationship between economic status and educational attainment is stronger for girls than for boys.

Tables 5-7. Educational Enrollment and Attainment in Urban and Rural Areas

- More urban adolescents are enrolled in school than rural adolescents. For instance, 36% of urban girls ages 15-19 are in school compared to 8% of rural girls in the same age group.
- Urban adolescents are much more likely than rural adolescents to be enrolled in secondary school.
- Rural girls have made the largest strides in educational attainment over the past ten years.
- The relationship between economic status and educational attainment is similarly weak in both rural and urban areas; it is strongest for urban girls.

Tables 5 and 6. Educational Attainment

Urban youth 15-29 completing 4+ years of school

Rural youth 15-29 completing 4+ years of school

Girls

Boys

Table 7. Educational Enrollment

Table 8. Marital Status

- Thirteen percent of girls and 3% of boys ages 15-19 are married or in a cohabiting union.
- Half of girls 25-29 years old were married by age 20.
- Fewer percentages of girls ages 20-24 were married by ages 15, 18, and 20 than girls ages 25-29.

Table 8. Age at Marriage

Table 9. Sexuality and Childbearing

- Sixty-nine percent of ever-married girls 15-19 years old have been pregnant, and 46% have had a child.

Table 10. Educational Enrollment and Work Status

- Less than 1% of married girls 15-19 years old are in school.
- The work/school profiles of married girls 15-19 years old with children and without children are nearly identical.
- About three-quarters of married 15-19-year-old girls are neither in school nor working.
- *Additional Information on Work Status from the U.S. State Department: Opportunities for National Service*
 - Service in the enlisted ranks is currently closed to women but the Turkish military plans to recruit women into several non-commissioned officer specialties in the near future.
 - Military training is available to women at the three national war academies (army, navy, and air force).
 - Five percent of the cadets at each of these four-year officer schools are women.
 - The Turkish Air Foundation offers an opportunity for young men and women of high school and university age to obtain free pilot training.

Table 10. Educational Enrollment and Work Status of Girls 15-19 Years Old

Table 11. Awareness and Use of Modern Contraceptive Methods

- Nearly all ever-married 15-19-year-old girls know of a modern method of contraception.
- Only 17% of ever-married girls ages 15-19 have ever used a modern method of contraception.

Table 1
Urban-Rural Residence and Population Distribution

	Percent Distribution			Percent of Total Population
	Urban ^a	Rural ^a	Total	
Girls				
10-14	57.5	42.5	100.0	6.1
15-19	58.3	41.7	100.0	6.1
Boys				
10-14	57.6	42.4	100.0	6.4
15-19	59.5	40.5	100.0	5.6

^a Refer to the DHS report cited in the Technical Notes for the definitions used for urban and rural areas.

Guide to reading the table:

- In the first column of percentages (under “Urban”), read the first number as the percentage of girls 10-14 years old who live in urban areas.
- In the fourth column of percentages (under “Percent of Total Population”), read the first number as the percentage of the total population who are girls 10-14 years old.

Table 2
Parental Survival Status and Residence in Household
(Percent Distribution)

Parental Survival Status					
	Both Parents Alive	Father Alive, Mother Dead	Mother Alive, Father Dead	Neither Parent Alive	Total
Girls					
10-14	94.5	1.4	4.0	0.1	100.0
15-19	X	X	X	X	X
Boys					
10-14	95.2	0.8	3.9	0.1	100.0
15-19	X	X	X	X	X
Parents Resident in Household^a					
	Both Parents in Household	Father Only in Household	Mother Only in Household	Neither Parent in Household	Total
Girls					
10-14	88.0	2.0	6.9	3.1	100.0
15-19	X	X	X	X	X
Boys					
10-14	89.5	1.5	6.3	2.7	100.0
15-19	X	X	X	X	X

^a An adolescent is defined as not living with a parent if the parent is deceased or does not live in the household in which the adolescent resides.

Guide to reading the table:

- In the first column of percentages in the upper panel (under “Both Parents Alive”), read the first number as the percentage of girls 10-14 years old whose parents are living.
- In the first column of percentages in the lower panel (under “Both Parents in Household”), read the first number as the percentage of girls 10-14 years old who live in households in which both parents reside.

Table 3 Characteristics of Head of Household^a (Percent)		
	Female Household Head	Non-Parent Household Head
Girls		
10-14	6.7	12.2
15-19	7.7	X
Boys		
10-14	5.9	12.5
15-19	7.7	X

^a The head of each household was identified by the member of that household responding to the household survey.

Guide to reading the table:

- In the first column of percentages (under “Female Household Head”), read the first number as the percentage of girls 10-14 years old who live in households with a female head.
- In the second column of percentages (under “Non-Parent Household Head”), read the first number as the percentage of girls 10-14 years old who live in households headed by someone other than their mother or father.

Table 4
Educational Enrollment and Attainment

Current Enrollment (Percent Distribution)					
	Not in School	In Primary ^a	In Secondary ^b	In Higher	Total
Girls					
10-14	36.8	36.6	26.6	0.0	100.0
15-19	75.9	0.4	21.5	2.3	100.0
Boys					
10-14	20.8	44.0	35.2	0.0	100.0
15-19	60.2	0.8	36.5	2.5	100.0
Educational Attainment (Percent)					
	Completed 4+ Years		Completed Primary School		
Girls					
15-19		91.2		90.5 ^d	
20-24		83.1		82.5	
25-29		78.8		77.6	
Girls 15-29					
Poorest 40% ^c		79.4		78.2	
Middle 40%		86.9		86.4	
Richest 20%		93.2		92.6	
Boys					
15-19		97.0		96.2 ^d	
20-24		96.5		96.4	
25-29		95.9		95.7	
Boys 15-29					
Poorest 40% ^c		95.9		95.1	
Middle 40%		95.8		95.4	
Richest 20%		99.1		99.1	

^a Primary school in Turkey consists of five grades.

^b Secondary school in Turkey consists of six grades.

^c For an explanation of these categories, refer to the Technical Notes at the beginning of this document.

^d Because some 15-19-year-olds may still be attending primary school, caution should be used when comparing primary school completion rates of 15-19-year-olds to completion rates in older age groups or across countries.

Guide to reading the table:

- In the first column of percentages in the upper panel (under “Not in School”), read the first number as the percentage of girls 10-14 years old who are not currently enrolled in school.
- In the first column of percentages in the lower panel, read the fourth number (opposite “Poorest 40%”) as the percentage of girls 15-29 years old in the poorest 40% of households who have completed four or more years of formal education.

Table 5
Educational Enrollment and Attainment in Urban Areas^a

Current Enrollment (Percent Distribution)					
	Not in School	In Primary^b	In Secondary^c	In Higher	Total
Girls					
10-14	27.0	38.1	34.9	0.1	100.0
15-19	64.5	0.4	31.6	3.4	100.0
Boys					
10-14	14.8	43.0	42.1	0.1	100.0
15-19	54.1	0.8	42.1	3.1	100.0
Educational Attainment (Percent)					
	Completed 4+ Years		Completed Primary School		
Girls					
15-19		92.6		92.3 ^e	
20-24		86.7		85.9	
25-29		84.1		83.3	
Girls 15-29					
Poorest 40% ^d		77.2		76.0	
Middle 40%		87.6		87.1	
Richest 20%		93.5		92.8	
Boys					
15-19		97.5		96.6 ^e	
20-24		96.6		96.5	
25-29		97.1		97.0	
Boys 15-29					
Poorest 40% ^d		96.0		95.0	
Middle 40%		96.1		95.6	
Richest 20%		99.1		99.1	

^a Refer to the DHS report cited in the Technical Notes for the definitions used for urban and rural areas.

^b Primary school in Turkey consists of five grades.

^c Secondary school in Turkey consists of six grades.

^d For an explanation of these categories, refer to the Technical Notes at the beginning of this document.

^e Because some 15-19-year-olds may still be attending primary school, caution should be used when comparing primary school completion rates of 15-19-year-olds to completion rates in older age groups or across countries.

Guide to reading the table:

- In the first column of percentages in the upper panel (under “Not in School”), read the first number as the percentage of girls 10-14 years old living in urban areas who are not currently enrolled in school.
- In the first column of percentages in the lower panel, read the fourth number (opposite “Poorest 40%”) as the percentage of girls 15-29 years old in the poorest 40% of households and living in urban areas who have completed four or more years of formal education.

Table 6
Educational Enrollment and Attainment in Rural Areas^a

Current Enrollment (Percent Distribution)					
	Not in School	In Primary^b	In Secondary^c	In Higher	Total
Girls					
10-14	50.2	34.5	15.3	0.0	100.0
15-19	91.7	0.3	7.4	0.6	100.0
Boys					
10-14	29.0	45.3	25.7	0.0	100.0
15-19	69.2	0.9	28.4	1.6	100.0
Educational Attainment (Percent)					
	Completed 4+ Years		Completed Primary School		
Girls					
15-19		89.3		88.1 ^e	
20-24		77.3		77.0	
25-29		68.5		66.6	
Girls 15-29					
Poorest 40% ^d		80.0		78.7	
Middle 40%		83.4		82.8	
Richest 20%		86.9		86.9	
Boys					
15-19		96.4		95.5 ^e	
20-24		96.2		96.2	
25-29		93.3		92.8	
Boys 15-29					
Poorest 40% ^d		95.9		95.2	
Middle 40%		94.2		94.2	
Richest 20%		98.0		98.0	

^a Refer to the DHS report cited in the Technical Notes for the definitions used for urban and rural areas.

^b Primary school in Turkey consists of five grades.

^c Secondary school in Turkey consists of six grades.

^d For an explanation of these categories, refer to the Technical Notes at the beginning of this document.

^e Because some 15-19-year-olds may still be attending primary school, caution should be used when comparing primary school completion rates of 15-19-year-olds to completion rates in older age groups or across countries.

Guide to reading the table:

- In the first column of percentages in the upper panel (under “Not in School”), read the first number as the percentage of girls 10-14 years old living in rural areas who are not currently enrolled in school.
- In the first column of percentages in the lower panel, read the fourth number (opposite “Poorest 40%”) as the percentage of girls 15-29 years old in the poorest 40% of households and living in rural areas who have completed four or more years of formal education.

Table 7
Educational Enrollment in Urban and Rural Areas^a: Comparison Summary

Current Enrollment (Percent)				
	Not in School		In Primary ^b	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
Girls				
10-14	27.0	50.2	38.1	34.5
15-19	64.5	91.7	0.4	0.3
Boys				
10-14	14.8	29.0	43.0	45.3
15-19	54.1	69.2	0.8	0.9
	In Secondary ^c		In Higher	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
Girls				
10-14	34.9	15.3	0.1	0.0
15-19	31.6	7.4	3.4	0.6
Boys				
10-14	42.1	25.7	0.1	0.0
15-19	42.1	28.4	3.1	1.6

^a Refer to the DHS report cited in the Technical Notes for the definitions used for urban and rural areas.

^b Primary school in Turkey consists of five grades.

^c Secondary school in Turkey consists of six grades.

Guide to reading the table:

- In the first column of percentages in the upper panel (under “Not in School: Urban”), read the first number as the percentage of girls 10-14 years old living in urban areas who are not currently enrolled in school.
- In the second column of percentages in the upper panel (under “Not in School: Rural”), read the first number as the percentage of girls 10-14 years old living in rural areas who are not currently enrolled in school.

Table 8
Marital Status
(Percent Distribution)

	Never-Married	Currently Married or in Union ^a	Separated, Divorced, or Widowed	Total
Girls				
10-14	99.6	0.4	0.0	100.0
15-19	86.5	13.3	0.2	100.0
Boys				
10-14	99.9	0.0	0.1	100.0
15-19	97.1	2.9	0.0	100.0
	Married by Age 15 (Percent) ^b	Married by Age 18 (Percent) ^b	Married by Age 20 (Percent) ^b	Median Age at First Marriage (Years)
Girls				
20-24	4.7	23.3	41.1	N/A ^c
25-29	7.5	29.2	49.9	20.0
Boys				
20-24	X	X	X	X
25-29	X	X	X	X

^a "In union" refers to adolescents who are in unions of cohabitation.

^b Defined as the percentage of girls in each age group who were married or in union by their 15th, 18th, or 20th birthday, respectively. Given that the sample is of ever-married women only, the percentages are mathematically adjusted so that they are representative of all women. This is done by deflating the percentage married in the age group by the proportion never-married. The latter information is obtained from the household listing of women by marital status and age.

^c Omitted because less than 50% of girls ages 20-24 were married by age 20.

Guide to reading the table:

- In the first column of percentages in the upper panel (under "Never-Married"), read the first number as the percentage of girls 10-14 years old who have never been married.
- In the first column of percentages in the lower panel (under "Married by Age 15"), read the first number as the percentage of girls 20-24 years old who were married by their 15th birthday.
- In the last column of percentages in the lower panel (under "Median Age at First Marriage"), read the second number as the age by which 50% of girls 25-29 years old were married.

Table 9
Sexuality and Childbearing
(Percent)

Ever Had Sexual Intercourse				Sexually Active			Of Sexually Active, the Percent Married
Of Never-Married	Of Total	Median Age at 1 st Sex (Years)	Of Unmarried	Of Married	Of Total		
Girls							
10-14							
15-19							
Data not collected for Turkey							
Boys							
10-14							
15-19							
Ever Pregnant ^a				Ever Had Child			
Of Never-Married	Of Ever-Married ^b	Of Total		Of Never-Married	Of Ever-Married ^b	Of Total	
Girls							
10-14	X	X	X	X	X		X
15-19	X	69.2	X	X	45.8		X

^a The DHS collected information on past live births and current pregnancy status at the time of the interview. Information was not collected on miscarriages, stillbirths, or abortions, and hence is not included in the calculation of "ever pregnant." This statistic, therefore, is likely to be an underestimate of the true percentage of girls who have ever been pregnant.

^b "Ever-married" refers to girls who are currently married, in union, separated, divorced, or widowed.

Guide to reading the table:

- In the second column of percentages in the lower panel (under "Ever Pregnant: Of Ever-Married"), read the second number as the percentage of ever-married girls 15-19 years old who have ever been pregnant.

Table 10
Educational Enrollment and Work^a Status^b
(Percent Distribution)

	Not in School, Not Working	In School Only	Working Only	In School and Working	Total
Married^c, Without Children					
Girls					
10-14	X	X	X	X	X
15-19	77.0	0.6	22.4	0.0	100.0
Married^c, With Children					
Girls					
10-14	X	X	X	X	X
15-19	75.7	0.8	23.5	0.0	100.0

^a Work is defined as both formal and informal, and excludes housework. It includes activities that are paid in cash or in kind, as well as work for a family farm or business.

^b Information on work and parental status was not collected for boys.

^c "Married" refers to girls who are currently married.

Guide to reading the table:

- In the first column of percentages in the upper panel (under "Married, Without Children: Not in School, Not Working"), read the second number as the percentage of married girls 15-19 years old, without children, who are neither in school nor working.

Table 11 Awareness and Use of Modern Contraceptive Methods (Percent of Ever-Married)		
	Heard of a Modern Method of Contraception^a	Ever Used a Modern Method^a
Girls		
10-14	X	X
15-19	98.3	16.7
Boys		
10-14	X	X
15-19	X	X

^a “Modern methods” of contraception include the oral contraceptive pill, intrauterine device, injections, diaphragm/foam/jelly, condom, female sterilization, male sterilization, and implants, including Norplant[®].

Guide to reading the table:

- In the first column of percentages (under “Heard of a Modern Method of Contraception”), read the second number as the percentage of ever-married girls 15-19 years old who have heard of a modern method of contraception.

Table 12
Awareness of HIV/AIDS
(Percent)

	Heard of HIV/AIDS	Know Someone Who Has or Has Died of HIV/AIDS
Girls		
10-14		
15-19		
	Data not collected for Turkey	
Boys		
10-14		
15-19		
	Know a Healthy-Looking Person Can Have HIV/AIDS	Perceive Themselves to Be at Moderate or Great Risk of HIV/AIDS
Girls		
10-14		
15-19		
	Data not collected for Turkey	
Boys		
10-14		
15-19		

Table 13 Experience with Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) (Percent)		
	Heard of an STD	Have Had an STD in Last 12 Months
		Sought Advice During Last Episode of an STD
Girls		
10-14		
15-19		
	Data not collected for Turkey	
Boys		
10-14		
15-19		

Table 14 Female Genital Circumcision (Percent)			
	Circumcised	Median Age at Circumcision (Years)	Have Circumcised/Will Circumcise Eldest Daughter
Girls			
10-14		Data not collected for Turkey	
15-19			
20-24			