Analyses of Internal Migration Flows in Turkey: Application of Indirect Techniques of Migration Estimations to Census Data (Bengi Uğuz)

The purpose of this study is to analyze the recent internal migration experience from census data by using indirect techniques for measuring internal migration. The findings of this study are expected to be comparable with other direct estimations done by State Institute of Statistics (SIS). Furthermore, the same purpose of comparability is valid for the recent studies conducted by other scholars and experts.

Age and sex distribution information of 1990 and 2000 censuses are the main data sources for the analyses. In addition to this, 1980 census data is going to be used in order to check the reliability of the methods used in the study and to compare the changes of internal migration trends between 1980-1990 and 1990-2000 periods. The indirect method used in the study is “Survival Ratio Method” developed by the UN for analyses of migration in countries that lacks true and completed migration information. Information for mortality needed for the calculations is going to be taken from 1993, Turkey Demographic and Health Surveys conducted by Hacettepe University Institute of Population Studies, mortality information is also going to be modified and re-structured for the analyses of the study. In the conclusion of the study, it is planned to compare the findings with direct estimations and other findings of other studies to comment on the reliability and consistency of the use of indirect techniques in analyzing internal migration by census data in Turkey, the problematic points in the data and indirect techniques and suggestions for the development of the quality and details of migration information in the country.

The units of analyses are designed to be urban and rural residences and geographical sub-regions in Turkey. It is planned to estimate migration rates for different flows (i.e. rural-rural, urban-rural, etc.); in general it is expected to describe a complete picture of trends and directions of internal migration in Turkey.

This study is designed to be a descriptive quantitative study based on calculations from age and sex distributions in census data. However, it is going to be possible to find out some other socio-demographic information about the direction of flows, attractive destinations of migration and level of urbanization. Therefore although the analyses conducted in the study is seen limited to number of people moving from one place to another, it is expected to create an insight for commenting on the reasons of move and problems or socio-economic changes in Turkey.