Quality of life for older people in Turkey

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Eurofound

International Istanbul Initiative on Ageing
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• A decentralised agency of the EU established in 1975
• Administered by a Governing Board
  ‣ composed of national representatives of the social partners, national governments and the European Commission
• Generates policy-relevant research and findings which contribute to improving the quality of work and life in Europe, through:
  ‣ Comparative research and analysis of developments affecting living and working conditions
  ‣ Monitoring of trends in living and working conditions
  ‣ Identification of emerging issues

3rd EQLS – 34 countries (EU27, TR, HR, MK, IS, ME, RS, XK)

Residents (18+)

- Register based stratified random sampling
  - Random routes if no register available
  - Stratification by urbanisation and region

43636 interviews

- 1000-3000 interviews per country; 2000 in Turkey
- Response rate (RR3) 41.3% (EU27); 44.7% (non-EU); 60% in Turkey

38 minute ‘face to face’ interviews at peoples’ homes

25 languages and 13 language variants
Core surveyed aspects of quality of life

Subjective well-being
Living standards and deprivation
Home, housing, local environment

Employment and work-life balance
Family and social life
Social exclusion and community involvement

Public services, health, healthcare
Quality of society

EQLS 2011:
73 questions
183 items
Subjective well-being: Turkey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjective well-being</th>
<th>TR</th>
<th>Range of 34 surveyed countries</th>
<th>EU27</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>Maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life satisfaction (1-10)</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>BG 5.5</td>
<td>DK 8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Happiness (1-10)</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>BG 6.3</td>
<td>IS 8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optimism about the future (% agree or strongly agree)</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>EL 20%</td>
<td>IS 87%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Optimistic about the future: Turkey in comparison with the EU

Agree/Strongly agree

- Greater than 64 years
- 50 to 64 years
- 35 to 49 years
- 25 to 34 years
- 18 to 24 years
Satisfaction with health: Turkey

- > 64 years
- 50 to 64 years
- 35 to 49 years
- 25 to 34 years
- 18 to 24 years
- All ages
Mental well-being: Turkey

- All ages
- > 64 years
- 50 to 64 years
- 35 to 49 years
- 25 to 34 years
- 18 to 24 years
Rating quality of health services

(Scale 1-10)

65+
50 to 64 years
35 to 49 years
25 to 34 years
18 to 24 years

EU
Turkey
Economic situation: ability to make ends meet
Proportion ‘with (great) difficulty’

- 65+
- 50 to 64 years
- 35 to 49 years
- 25 to 34 years
- 18 to 24 years

EU: [Bar Chart]
Turkey: [Bar Chart]

- 10% 12% 14% 16% 18% 20% 22% 24% 26% 28% 30%
Satisfaction with economic situation in country

(Scale 1-10)
Trust in government: Turkey in comparison with the EU
Trust in people: Turkey in comparison with the EU

18 to 24 years

25 to 34 years

35 to 49 years

50 to 64 years

> 64 years

EU

Turkey
Older people (aged 65+) in Turkey:

• Rate their global satisfaction with life somewhat below the EU average (6.8 compared with 7.3)
• No clear relationship between subjective well-being and age
• Not surprisingly have lower ratings for their health and mental well-being than younger people
• But are inclined to be more positive in their ratings of public services, including health care
• Likewise, older people tend to express more trust in public institutions, such as parliament, national government and municipal authorities
• In the EU social capital (trust in others) tends to fall with increasing age, but is actually higher in Turkey
Thank you

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