



The New Standards of Measuring Employment and Possible Effects on the Turkish Labour Market Indicators

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Household Labour Force Survey is our main source to observe labour market situation in Turkey. Survey (LFS) has been applied regularly since 1988 in line with the ILO definitions and starting with January 2014, LFS started to be implemented in every week of the year.

Employment and unemployment rates are not only important and most used labour market indicators but also regarded as important indicators of labour market performance. According to the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS), five exclusive forms of work are identified. One of them is own-use production for household final use. This form of work is no longer included in the scope of employment. Individuals in the household only producing goods for their own final use will not be counted in the employment. However if they sell these products in the market, these are considered as employed. In the current situation, individuals are included in employment if the value of their producing products satisfies a significant amount of their annual food expenditures (at least 51%). But according to the new ICLS definitions, this type of activity will not covered in employment. They involve in either unemployed or outside the labour force. This is a major change for countries where most or many workers are engaged in subsistence agriculture with little or no engagement with the market economy like Turkey. At the beginning of 2014, Turkish LFS covers the new questions reflecting the new ICLS status. These questions are about main activity of work (agriculture or other than agriculture), primary goal of agricultural activity and the value of the products which produce their own consumption.

This presentation will provide an overview of the main changes introduced in the new international standards on statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization. Also, the potential impact of new resolutions, especially persons engaged in the production of goods for own-consumption, will assess by using 2014 results.

Keywords: Labour Force Survey; ICLS; Employment; Own-use production