REDISTRIBUTIVE EFFECTS OF INDIRECT TAXES IN TURKEY 2003

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Abstract

This article examines the redistributive impacts of indirect tax policies in Turkey. By applying S-Gini Indices to measure progressivity with different inequality aversion parameters, we examine if indirect taxes are progressive or not in Turkey. We make the standard tax incidence analysis by using statutory tax rates on final goods. In addition to the standard tax incidence analysis, we estimate effective tax rates by using Input-Output tables to cover the impact of taxation on imported and intermediary goods. The results show that the incidence of indirect taxes is sensitive to the welfare indicator chosen. While the indirect taxes reduce expenditure inequality, they increase income inequality. Effective indirect tax rates prove the importance of taxation on imported goods and intermediate goods, which are ignored by the standard tax incidence analysis.

Keywords: Inequality • tax incidence • redistributive effect • progressivity

TÜRKİYE'DE DOLAYLI VERGİLERİN GELİR DAĞILIMINA ETKİSİ

Öz

Bu çalışma, dolaylı vergilerin gelir dağılımı üzerine etkisini incelemektedir. S-Gini indekslerini farklı gelir dağılımına duyarlık parametreleri ile birlikte kullanarak dolaylı vergilerin yeniden dağıtımcı etkileri araştırılmıştır. Yerli nihai mallar üzerindeki yasal vergi oranlarını kullanarak yapılan standart vergi yansıma analizinin yanı sıra, Girdi-Çıktı tabloları yardımıyla efektif vergi oranları hesaplanmış ve bu sayede ithal mallar ve ara mallar üzerine konulan dolaylı vergilerin etkileri de incelenmiştir. Sonuçlar, kullanılan refah göstergesine göre vergilerin etkilerinin değiştiğini göstermiştir. Buna göre vergiler hanehalkı harcamasının refah göstergesi olarak kullanıldığı durumda harcama eşitsizliğini küçük de olsa düzeltici etki yaparken, hanehalkı gelirinin kullanıldığı durumda vergiler gelir dağılımını bozucu çıkmaktadır. Efektif vergi oranları ile yapılan analizin sonucunda ara mallar ve ithal mallar üzerinden gelen vergi yükünün etkilerinin ihmal edilemeyeceği görülmüştür.

Anahtar sözcükler: Eşitsizlik • vergi yansıması • yeniden dağıtımcı politikalar • progresif vergi

Introduction

In the last three decades there has been a rising trend in inequalities all over the world (Gottschalk and Smeeding, 1997; Mitra and Yemtsov, 2007; OECD, 2008) and researchers' focus has been turned to investigate the sources of income inequality and the

ways to reduce it. Reflecting these efforts, since the 1990s a huge body of empirical literature has been produced on the redistributive impacts of government revenue and expenditure policies, particularly in developing countries, to find out if government policies have been one of the sources contributing to rising inequalities (regressivity of the policies) as well as if government policies can be used as an effective instrument to mitigate inequalities and poverty (progressivity). Tax policies are one of the main redistributive instruments available to the public authorities in addition to public expenditures and this paper is concerned with this issue for Turkey.

Since the 80s, Turkey and other developing countries have cut most trade taxes to open up their domestic markets to world trade, decreased the share of direct taxes in the total tax revenues to support private investment and used domestic indirect taxes to compensate the tax revenue loss from these policies¹. As a result of these tax policies, indirect taxes have obtained the largest share in total tax revenues (over 60%). Since indirect taxes are known to be mostly borne by poorer parts of the society, the redistributive impact of these taxes is generally expected to be regressive. Hence in 1990s the main motive behind tax incidence analyses for developing countries was to examine the distributional impacts of these policy changes (Devarajan, and Hossain, 1998; Sahn & Younger, 1998, 2003; Rajemison & Younger, 2000; Younger, et.al., 1999; Pinar, 2004)². Although the results change with the shifting assumptions adopted and with countries, the general results from these studies showed that direct taxes and property taxes are mostly progressive; indirect taxes are generally regressive but vary with the particular indirect tax examined; the overall tax system varies with countries but is regressive at low incomes.

This paper addresses the measurement of the redistributive effects of indirect tax policies in Turkey, where high inequality has been a persistent problem for a long time. The first study on the distributional impact of indirect taxes in Turkey was conducted by Pınar (2004) for 1994 and 2002. Pınar applied the fiscal incidence method by comparing quintiles' share of household incomes before and after tax policies. However Pınar (2004) does not use the progressivity indices we are using and ignores the statistical robustness of the results,

¹ See Albayrak (2010), Emran ve Stiglitz (2000, 2005 ve 2007), Mankiw et al. (2007), Penalosa ve Turnovsky (2005) and Tanzi and Zee (2000) for the theoretical and empirical discussion about tax policies after 80s in the ² See Chu et al. (2000), Gemmell and Morrissey (2003) and Martinez-Vazquez (2004), Shah and Whalley (1991) among others for detailed survey on developing countries' tax systems and tax incidence analysis.

which may cause one to question their reliability. Also the author uses only household income as a welfare indicator. Pinar found that VAT has almost no impact on income inequality, but has a small negative impact on lower income groups. Zenginobuz et al. (2010) also examined the indirect tax burdens of income groups in Turkey and found that the indirect tax burden of the poorest 5% of Turkey is over the average indirect tax burden, implying potential inequality increasing impact of indirect taxes. Zenginobuz et al. makes a descriptive analysis only and ignores the statistical robustness of the results.

The main contribution of this paper is threefold. First, it examines the distributional impacts of indirect tax policies by applying the different global summary statistics of progressivity with the statistical dominance testing methodology. This will give us more confidence in the findings. The second contribution of the article is to examine effective tax rates for indirect taxes by using Input-Output tables to capture the incidence of indirect taxes, not only on final goods but also intermediate inputs and imported goods. The studies done on indirect tax incidence in recent years make use of nationally representative household survey data. Survey data are used to attain households' pattern of demand to determine the tax paid by each household. However, these studies generally capture tax incidence only on final domestic goods or make some strong assumptions to include these issues in the analysis. Thirdly, we use both household income and expenditure as welfare indicators to see if the results are sensitive to the welfare indicator chosen. This issue is generally ignored in tax incidence studies. However, our study shows the results can be sensitive to the welfare indicator.

The structure of the remainder of the article is as follows. Section 2 provides an overview of the Turkish tax structure. Section 3 discusses measurement issues, beginning with measurement of progressivity and redistribution and then moves on to relevant income and expenditure concepts, followed by explanations on the data we shall use. Section 4 gives the results and the final section offers concluding remarks.

Turkish Revenue System

Turkey's tax system took its present structure after the 1980s, when Turkey implemented structural adjustment programs with IMF and World Bank support³. One of the aims of these structural adjustment programs was to improve fiscal imbalances in the economy, including the introduction of VAT in 1985. With the introduction of VAT, the share of indirect taxes in total tax revenues (TTR) increased dramatically from 37% in 1980 to 52% in 1985 and made indirect taxes the main source of tax revenue for the government budget, while the percentage share of the direct taxes kept declining in time. The percentage share of direct taxes are included) in 2003. In this respect, Turkey represents a typical developing country, which has limited coverage of direct taxes and a predominance of domestic indirect taxes over tax policies (Chu et. al. 2000).

The major components of government tax revenue in Turkey are personal income tax (PIT) and indirect taxes. The former is considered a progressive tax in the sense that (average) tax rate increases with taxable income and is expected to have an equalizing impact on income distribution (Kakwani, 1986; Lambert 1993). The latter is usually levied at a standard rate, which may result in a pro-rich redistribution due to a relatively higher propensity to consume among the poor. In order to prevent such an effect, some differential lower rates are applied to some goods, such as basic needs.

The common sales tax is the Value-Added Tax (VAT) in Turkey. VAT is applied to various components of household spending at different rates: 1% on raw food (VAT1), 8% on processed food (VAT8), and 18-% (VAT18) as the standard rate. There is an excise tax for luxury goods called Private Consumption Tax (PCT), issued in various rates on different products. Even if PCT is not levied as widely as VAT, the share of the tax in total indirect tax revenue is higher than that of VAT. Private Communication Tax (PCOT) is another excise tax: all types of installation, transfer and telecommunication services given by mobile phone operators are subject to 25% PCOT.

³ For the historical background of Turkish tax system, see Bulutoglu and Thirsk (1997).

Trade taxes are another important part of indirect taxes. The share of trade taxes (import tariffs and VAT on imported goods) in indirect tax revenues accounted for 15.91% in 2003⁴ and 70% of the total import volume was made up by intermediate goods⁵. In the first part of our work, we exclude import taxes, since we do not know which goods in the consumption bundle of households in the data are imported. In the second part of the chapter, we estimate effective tax rates by using Input-Output Tables for the indirect tax incidence analysis, so we will be able to cover the effects of import taxes and indirect taxes on intermediate goods.

As aforementioned, Turkey has differential rate for VAT to reduce its regressive character. Table 1 presents consumption patterns in Turkey by expenditure deciles calculated from 2003 HICES. It is accepted that households bear a greater burden of a tax if the expenditure share of the product is above the national average. From the table it is seen that the poorest first quintile's expenditure share is over the national average on food, alcohol and tobacco, and housing, fuel, light and water. For food, VAT rates are either 1% or 8%, which may help reduce the potential regressive impact of VAT. Although alcohol and tobacco products are subject to the high PCT, 72% of people consuming alcohol is concentrated in the 4th and 5th expenditure quintiles, which may imply a progressive character to PCT. Therefore we may expect that despite the fact that the share of indirect taxes in TTR is very high in Turkey, regressivity of indirect taxes could be small.

⁴ State Planning Organisation, Economic and Social Indicators 1950-2006

⁵ Undersecretariat of the Prime Ministry for Foreign Trade

Table 1: Consumption Pattern in Turkey, 2003									
Expenditure Quintiles	1	2	3	4	5	Turkey			
Food	43.1	38.3	34.5	30	18.9	27.5			
Alcohol and Tobacco	5.6	5.4	5	4.7	3	4.1			
Clothing	3.1	4.4	5.3	6.2	7.5	6.2			
Housing, fuel, light and water	32.6	30.9	30.3	29.4	25.8	28.3			
Durable&Non-durable Household Goods	2.5	3.7	4.4	5.4	7.3	5.7			
Health	1.3	1.3	1.6	2.1	2.8	2.2			
Transportation	3.7	5.1	6.3	7.6	14	9.8			
Communication	3.3	3.9	4.1	4.4	4.6	4.3			
Recreational goods and services	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.7	3.4	2.2			
Education	0.1	0.3	0.6	1.1	3.5	2			
Restaurants and other catering services	2.4	3.7	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.1			
Other	1.6	2.2	2.6	3.1	4.7	3.5			
Source: TURKSAT 2003 HICES									

Measurement Issues

Progressivity Measures

The impacts of public policies on income distribution are assessed by the notion of progressivity. The reason for focusing on progressivity comes from the role of governments in reducing discrepancies in the well-being of individuals (equity) as well as increasing welfare (efficiency). Progressivity (regressivity) is defined as a measure of the deviation of a tax or benefit system from proportionality in favour of the poorer (richer) (the first requirement of progressivity). Also, any progressive policy instrument is supposed to improve the distribution of welfare in the society, so it is expected to have positive redistributive impacts (the second requirement of progressivity) (Kakwani, 1986; Lambert, 1993). The second requirement refers to the redistributive power of public policies and demands that if a tax system does not produce less unequal post-tax incomes, that tax system should not be called progressive.

Jacobsson (1976) and Fellman (1976) showed that if tax liabilities are distributed more unequally than pre-tax incomes, in other words, if the tax is progressive, then the after-tax distribution is less unequal than the pre-tax distribution if there is no reranking as a result of taxes. This means that public policies satisfying the first requirement of progressivity may not produce less unequal post-tax distribution if there is reranking⁶. Reranking is an issue related to horizontal inequity. If a tax creates reranking, therefore it is also horizontally inequitable and decreasing the redistributive power of the tax, which will be shown below by decomposing the redistributive impact of a policy.

In this paper, we try to answer two questions at the same time: whether indirect taxes are satisfying the first requirement of progressivity in Turkey or not and, if they are found to be progressive in this respect, whether the redistributive impact is positive or not. In other words we are not only examining the distribution of indirect tax liabilities in Turkey, but also expecting to understand if post-tax incomes are distributed more equally than pre-tax incomes to obtain some policy implications from the analysis. This point is particularly important as most studies in the tax incidence literature recently are focusing only on the distribution of tax liabilities - in other words on only the first requirement of progressivity - and ignore the question of whether the policies have a meaningful impact on income distribution. In this respect, we think that a progressivity measure which pays attention both requirements of progressivity should be used in the analysis of redistribution.

Lorenz curves, Lorenz based S-Gini (Single-Parameter Gini) inequality indices, and the corresponding progressivity measures are the measures commonly used in the fiscal incidence literature and we will also use them in our analysis. The Gini index as a method to measure inequalities tends to be most sensitive to welfare changes (or transfers) around the middle of the distribution and least sensitive to changes among the very rich or the very poor. In other words, the Gini coefficient gives equal weight to all incomes regardless of whether they are received by the rich or the poor. As a result of this, it computes the average distance between cumulated population shares and cumulated income shares and it does not satisfy the *principle of diminishing transfers*⁷. The principle of diminishing transfers demands that an inequality index be more sensitive to the transfers taking place at the lower income levels.

⁶ For the causes of reranking and more detailed discussion on reranking and progressivity measures, see Albayrak (2009), Lambert (1993) and Duclos and Araar (2006).

⁷ See Allison (1978), Atkinson (1970), Creedy (1998), Jenkins (1991), Sen (1997) and Shorrocks (1988) for the assessments of different inequality measures and principles of inequality indices.

The advantage of S-Gini indices is particularly based on the opportunity to introduce ethical weights to the measurement process which can make the Gini index sensitive to the principle of diminishing transfers. Following Atkinson (1970), which introduced an inequality aversion parameter into the measurement of inequalities, different ethical weights have been introduced to determine to which side of a distribution researchers want to give more importance while estimating inequality. Using the Lorenz curve and these weights, S-Gini inequality and progressivity indices can be computed. The general formula below for ethical weights suggested by Yitzhaki (1983) will be used in this paper:

$$\kappa(p;\rho) = \rho(\rho-1)(1-p)^{(\rho-2)}$$

where ρ is the value of a single "ethical" parameter indicating inequality aversion, p is the proportion of individuals in the population who receive a level of income that is less than or equal to y, y is a welfare indicator which can be income or consumption. ρ must be greater than 1 to make the weights, $\kappa(p;\rho)$, positive everywhere. The larger the value of ρ is, the larger the value of $\kappa(p;\rho)$ for small p, in other words for lower parts of the distribution. Ethical weights make us to choose to focus on different part of the societies. In other words, ethical weights make progressivity and inequality measures more sensitive to welfare changes in the chosen part of the society (the poor, middle class or the rich). As put by Lambert (1993:119), therefore, S-Gini Indices of inequality provide the analyst with the opportunity to select a range of values of ρ to check the robustness of the implied inequality ranking of different distributional judgements or different social welfare functions.

Before defining S-Gini indices of inequality and progressivity we need to explain concentration curves and the concentration index. Analogous to the Lorenz curve, the concentration curve was introduced as a descriptive and normative tool for assessing the impact of tax and transfer policies⁸. Concentration curves plot households from the poorest to the richest, ranked by a chosen welfare indicator (e.g. gross incomes or expenditures), on the horizontal axis against the cumulative proportion of taxes paid by households. Hence, S-Gini inequality and concentration indices respectively are defined as below:

⁸ Kakwani (1977) thinks that the Lorenz curve is a special case of concentration curves for the welfare indicator.

$$I(\rho) = \int_{0}^{1} (p - L(p))\kappa(p;\rho)dp$$
$$IC(\rho) = \int_{0}^{1} (p - C(p))\kappa(p;\rho)dp$$

where L(p) and C(p) are Lorenz and Concentration curves respectively. As $\rho=2$ makes $\kappa(p;\rho=2)$ take the value, 2, I(2) gives the usual Gini index, which gives equal weight to all distances, p-L(p). There are two approaches to attaining global summary measures of progressivity, namely Tax-Redistribution (TR) and Income-Redistribution (IR). Globally, TR involves comparing the Lorenz curve for gross income (pre-tax income), $L_X(p)$, and the concentration curves ,C(p), for taxes. Therefore, the TR approach deals with the first distributive feature of progressivity, namely departure from proportionality. On the other hand, the IR approach takes into account the difference between the concentration curves of net income and the Lorenz curve for gross income. Hence, the IR approach measures redistributive impacts. If there is no reranking, TR and IR approaches give the same ranking of public policies, since concentration curves for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes and the Lorenz curve for post-tax incomes connected.

Thus, S-Gini Indices of TR $(IT(\rho))$ and IR $(IV(\rho))$ progressivity, reranking (*RR*) and redistribution (*IR*) are given by following equations respectively:

$$IT(\rho) = \int_{0}^{1} (L_{Y}(p) - C_{T}(p))\kappa(p;\rho)dp$$
$$IV(\rho) = \int_{0}^{1} (C_{Y-T}(p) - L_{Y}(p))\kappa(p;\rho)dp$$
$$RR(\rho) = \int_{0}^{1} (C_{Y-T}(p) - L_{Y-T}(p))\kappa(p;\rho)dp$$
$$IR(\rho) = \int_{0}^{1} (L_{Y-T}(p) - L_{Y}(p))\kappa(p;\rho)dp$$

where, C_T is the concentration curve for tax liabilities ranked by pre-tax incomes (gross) incomes, $L_{Y-T}(p)$ is the Lorenz curve for post-tax (net) incomes and $C_{Y-T}(p)$ is the concentration curve for post-tax (net) incomes ranked by pre-tax (gross) incomes (Y).

 $IT(\rho=2)$, $IV(\rho=2)$ and $RR(\rho=2)$ are known as the Kakwani index of TR progressivity, Reynolds-Smolensky of IR progressivity and Atkinson-Plotnick index of reranking (Duclos and Araar, 2006). We can decompose the total redistributive impact, that is, the difference between the Lorenz curve of net and gross incomes in a way including both IR-progressivity and horizontal inequity. This would indicate the extent of the redistribution caused by public policies and sources of the redistributive impact.

$$L_{Y-T}(p) - L_{Y}(p) = \left[C_{Y-T}(p) - L_{Y}(p)\right] - \left[C_{Y-T}(p) - L_{Y-T}(p)\right]$$

The first term on the left hand side gives us IR-progressivity (vertical equity) caused by the benefit, *B*, and the second term is the horizontal inequity or reranking, which apparently decreases the progressive impact of the tax (Duclos and Araar, 2006; Kakwani 1986).

Statistical Inference

Since Lorenz and concentration curves (similarly inequality and progressivity indices) are computed from a sample, not from the whole population, statistical robustness should be checked. In order to decide if a tax is progressive, we need to test if there is a statistically significant difference between a concentration curve and a Lorenz curve. If the differences are statistically different from zero, this would also give us that the indices obtained as differences from these curves are also statistically significant. Davidson and Duclos (1997) derived the distribution-free⁹ standard errors for the difference between two concentration curves that may be dependent. We use Software for Distributive Analysis (DAD) by Duclos and Arrar (2006) to produce asymptotic standard errors for progressivity indices with different values of inequality aversion parameter, ρ . After deriving asymptotic standard errors, we apply the t-test by using DAD if the progressivity indices are different.

⁹ By distribution-free standard errors, the authors mean that their results do not require a specification of the population distributions from which the samples are drawn.

from zero for each level of the inequality aversion parameter. Progressivity indices are positive (negative) when the tax in question is progressive (regressive) and zero if the tax is proportional or does not cause any change on distribution of welfare.

We calculate indices for the increasing inequality aversion parameter, ρ , which offers a sense of how a more progressive social welfare function ranks the value of a tax policy. The inequality aversion parameter takes values from 1.01 to 4 or 5¹⁰ in steps of 0.5. The higher the parameter, the greater the emphasis on the bottom of the distribution; in other words on the poorer. If we find that for all parameter values one tax is found to be progressive, we call that tax progressive under different progressivity measures.

Data and Welfare Indicator

The basic data are the Household Income and Consumption Expenditure Surveys (HICES), conducted by the Turkish Statistical Institute (Turkstat) to measure households' living standards and utilization of public services. The sample of HICES is designed to be representative of the population of Turkey, and two of the surveys - 1994 and 2003 - are also regionally representative. There are 8 surveys and the latest published survey is for 2008. We use one year cross-sectional data (2003) and aim at attaining not only the trends in redistributive impacts of public policies in 2003 but a general trend valid for today's Turkey by using different welfare indicators. The reason for utilising only 2003 survey (with 25,920 households) is that the 2003 HICES is the most recent, comprehensive and regionally representative household survey. As the surveys conducted after 2003 have smaller sample size (8,640 households), they are not regionally representative and they are not as comprehensive as the 2003 HICES, particularly in terms of consumption data.

Before discussing the welfare indicator, it is necessary to discuss which unit of analysis should be used. The main concern of theoretical welfare economics and measurement methodologies is the well-being of individuals. However, from the empirical point of view, households become much more appropriate units to focus on, particularly for developing countries. The family unit is typically viewed as the most appropriate unit of

¹⁰ "4" is the upper limit suggested by Duclos (2000) in most of the empirical studies cited above.

measure because of the income or consumption-sharing phenomena that occur within families. Moreover, as opposed to income, the data on consumption is collected generally at the household level. However, there are problems with using family units. The problems concern the heterogeneity of household units in terms of size and demographic indicators. In order to make welfare comparisons among families with different sizes and demographic indicators, the common practice is to convert each family into a certain number of "equivalent adults" by the use of some "equivalence scale" (Deaton, 2000).

To consider the heterogeneity of household units, household size is converted into adult equivalent (AE) using the following formula for the household *i*:

$$AE_i = (A_i + \alpha C_i)^{\theta}$$

where A_i is the number of adults in the household, C_i is the number of children, and α and θ are parameters. Children are individuals aged 14 and below. We apply a value of θ =0.6 and α =0.9 following World Bank (2005). Adjusted adult equivalent size of the household *i* (AE*_i) following Deaton and Zaidi (2002) is defined as:

$$AE_{i}^{*} = \frac{A_{0} + C_{0}}{(A_{0} + \alpha C_{0})^{\theta}} AE_{i}$$

where A_0 and C_0 are the number of adults and children in the "pivotal" households (average number of adults and children in Turkey) and A_i and C_i are the number of adults and children in the *i*th household. The modal or pivotal household in Turkey is a 4-member household with 2 adults and 2 children (Mean household size is 4.13 for Turkey in 2003).

There are two main, widely used, welfare indicators, namely expenditure on consumption and income¹¹. It is thought in the literature that consumption is superior to income. Two reasons can be put forward to support this view. The first relies on Friedman's (1957) permanent income hypothesis. Consumption is seen as a better measure of lifetime welfare than is current income, because of the consumption smoothing behaviour of individuals. In the absence of reliable data on lifetime income, it has been generally thought

¹¹ Income and consumption are also called unidimensional welfare indicators and critisized for focusing only on one aspect of welfare. Multidimensional welfare indicators have other aspects such as health, education and political rights. Human Development Index can be given as an example of multidimensional welfare indicators. See Albayrak (2009) for further discussion and references.

that current consumption is a better indicator of permanent income (Fields, 1980). The second reason is based on data quality. Although measurement difficulties such as imputations (for such as in-kind incomes and own-productions), recall bias, seasonality, and long questionnaires apply to both income and expenditure, it is commonly accepted that income is more sensitive than consumption in most respects. As Deaton (2000: 29) puts it: *accurate estimates of income also require knowledge of assets and their returns, a topic that is always likely to be difficult, and where respondents often have incentives to underestimate.* This is a more serious problem for families engaged in agricultural activities since they are required to have proper accounting systems to obtain profits over agricultural activities, which is not the case for small-scale farmers in most developing countries.

Despite the advantages of using consumption, this choice is criticized on the grounds that it does not consider the impact of saving behaviours and the accumulation of wealth, which is a very important element affecting inequality. It is known from the empirical literature that consumption generates lower inequality than income does; and this is the case for Turkey too. The impact of wealth accumulation and high savings of rich households are thought to lead to consumption measures' underestimating inequality. However, it is also widely accepted that rich households tend to underreport their incomes to hide their true income for a number of reasons. Properly working credit markets are crucial for individuals to smooth their consumption. Another important criticism against using consumption as an indicator of permanent income argues that in developing countries credit market imperfections prevail, so individuals are not as successful as their developed country counterparts at smoothing their consumption. This criticism can be answered by the existence of informal or nonmarket borrowing opportunities¹² in developing countries. In light of all these advantages and disadvantages of both indicators, it appears that the choice of welfare indicator should not be made only on the basis of theoretical considerations, the data quality and country facts should also be taken into account. We think that the best way is to use both income and expenditure in order to provide a sensitivity analysis based on the welfare indicator¹³.

¹² See Besley (1995) for an analysis of informal or nonmarket credit institutions in developing countries.

¹³ Gradin and Del Rio (2008) and Johnson and Smeeding (1998) are among the researchers emphasizing the importance of using both indicators. See also Annad and Harris (1994) for the choice of the welfare indicator.

Results

Standard Incidence Analysis

We report the indices for a wide range of inequality aversion parameters, ranging from 1.01 to 4. This allows us to see if the progressivity and redistributive power of the taxes vary with the ethical parameter values (ρ). To put it differently, we would like to see if the results change with different distributional judgements (different social welfare functions). We also use the inequality aversion parameter to see if any part of the society is affected more or less by the policies. Tables 2 and 3 provide the Kakwani index of TR-Progressivity and the Reynolds-Smolensky index of IR-Progressivity, as well as the indices for redistribution and horizontal inequity, in other words the indices for the inequality aversion parameter, $\rho=2$ for household income and household expenditure respectively. S-Gini indices with $\rho=2$ provide us the values of the indices when we focus more on the middle of the distribution. These tables are summaries of the tables in Appendix 1 (from tables A1 to A6) which give the results for the whole range of the inequality aversion parameter. As can be seen from asymptotic standard errors, all indices calculated are statistically robust.

The progressivity of the indirect taxes is sensitive to the welfare indicator chosen. We confirm that apart from VAT1¹⁴ and VAT8, all indirect taxes are progressive according to both the TR and IR approaches with household expenditure as welfare indicator. Thanks to the differential rates on VAT, the total VAT is progressive, although VAT1 and VAT8, on general food products, are regressive. TR-progressivity rates confirm that the most progressive tax is PCOT, which is a special tax on mobile phone services. PCT seems to be more progressive than VAT when ρ is smaller than 3 (when we put more weight on middle and upper middle classes); as we increase our ethical focus on the poor, progressivity rates for PCT decline and PCT becomes less progressive than VAT. This change in the size of progressivity of these two taxes comes from differentiated rates of VAT. VAT rates on food, whose share in total expenditures for the poor is around 40%, are 1% or 8% and these smaller rates help increase the progressivity of VAT relative to PCT when the poor is focused on. VAT is the most progressive tax with the IR approach, which is the result of the bigger share of VAT in the household expenditures relative to PCOT and PCT. For VAT18, VAT, and

¹⁴ VAT1, VAT8 and VAT18 indicate VAT with 1%, 8% and 18% respectively.

PCOT the progressivity rates rise with ρ , but for PCT and total indirect taxes the progressivity rates take the highest values when ρ is between 1.5 and 2.5 and it starts decreasing once ρ is 2.5, which indicates the high indirect tax burden on the poor. Although the redistributive impact from total indirect taxes is positive for the whole range of ρ , the extent of redistribution is quite limited: indirect taxes cause less than 1% inequality reduction in expenditure inequality.

When we use household income as the welfare indicator, all indirect taxes turn to be regressive for the whole range of inequality parameters according to both TR and IR approaches except PCOT. The most regressive tax is VAT1, followed by VAT8 and VAT18 on the TR approach. The reason for this ranking is the higher share of food consumption of the poor as a percentage of their incomes. Regressivity rises with ρ , so the tax burden increases with incomes. The ranking according to the IR approach suggests that the most regressive impact comes from the overall VAT, followed by PCT, VAT8, and VAT1. Although PCOT corrects the income inequality with positive values of S-Gini indices of redistribution for the whole range of ρ except 1.01, the impact of PCOT is not big enough to make the total indirect taxes have an improving affect on income inequality. The disequalising impact of total indirect taxes on income inequality increases with the inequality aversion parameter and when ρ is 4, the taxes cause a 4% increase in income inequality.

Table 2: S-Gini Indices for Taxes (ρ=2) (Income)									
	Kakwani Index TR Progression	Reynolds-Smolensky Index, IR Progression	Horizontal Inequity Atkinson-Plotnick Index	Redistribution					
VAT1	-0.2569	-0.0002	0	-0.0002					
	0.0083	0	0	0					
VAT8	-0.2302	-0.0025	0	-0.0025					
	0.0089	0.0001	0	0.0001					
VAT18	-0.0565	-0.0047	0.002	-0.0067					
	0.0077	0.0006	0.0002	0.0006					
VAT	-0.0795	-0.0077	0.0021	-0.0098					
	0.0069	0.0006	0.0002	0.0006					
РСТ	-0.047	-0.0029	0.0036	-0.0066					
	0.0171	0.001	0.0004	0.001					
PCOT	0.0662	0.0003	0	0.0003					
	0.005	0	0	0					
Total Indirect Taxes	-0.0627	-0.0111	0.0149	-0.026					
	0.0105	0.0017	0.0018	0.0011					
Notes: Asymptotic	c standard errors estir	nated by DAD are in italic							

Table 3: S-Gini Indices for Taxes (ρ=2) (Expenditure)

	Kakwani Index TR Progression	Reynolds-Smolensky Index, IR Progression	Horizontal Inequity Atkinson-Plotnick Index	Redistribution
VAT1	-0.1416	-0.0001	0	-0.0001
	0.0074	0	0	0
VAT8	-0.1449	-0.0019	0	-0.002
	0.0077	0.0001	0	0.0001
VAT18	0.069	0.0071	0.0003	0.0067
	0.0043	0.0006	0	0.0006
VAT	0.041	0.0049	0.0003	0.0046
	0.0034	0.0006	0	0.0006
РСТ	0.0515	0.004	0.0012	0.0027
	0.0142	0.0012	0	0.0012
РСОТ	0.119	0.0006	0	0.0006
	0.0048	0	0	0
Total Indirect	0.0473	0.0107	0.0036	0.0071
Taxes				
	0.0075	0.002	0.0001	0.002
Notes: Asymptotic	standard errors estir	nated by DAD are in italic		

Incidence Analysis with Effective Tax Rates

Effective Tax Rate Estimation Using Input-Output Tables

Ahmad and Stern (1991) provide a method for estimating effective tax rates using Input-Output (I-O) Tables, so that researchers can take into account not only taxation on final consumption goods but also taxation on intermediary goods. Rajemison et al. (2003) is the first work to make use of effective tax rates to allocate tax burdens to households. They overcome an important drawback of standard incidence analysis in terms of excluding taxes on imports and inputs from the analysis.

Rajemison et al. (2003) examine indirect tax incidence in Madagascar by estimating effective tax rates using I-O tables. However, the effective tax rates estimated are marginal rates, which show the marginal impact of a change in a tax rate on the distribution of welfare. Since we focus on average tax incidence, we use a simpler model (discussed below) to calculate effective tax rates.

We have input-output tables including the tax payments of each sector for import duties, purely domestic taxes (such as PCT and PCOT), VAT on domestic goods and VAT on imported goods¹⁵. Hence, we calculate four effective tax rates using I-O tables. The formula in matrix form for the effective tax rates are given below:

$$VAT _ D^{e'} = VAT _ D' + VAT _ D'*VAD * A$$
$$VAT _ M^{e'} = VAT _ M' + VAT _ M'*M2$$
$$S^{e'} = S' + S'*A$$
$$D^{e'} = D' + D'*M1$$

where e indicates effective rate and prime indicates row vectors. VAT D, VAT M, S and D are the nominal tax rates¹⁶ for VAT on domestic goods, VAT on imported goods,

¹⁵ 1998 I-O tables provide only one VAT table. However, by using the shares of each I-O sector's share for imported and domestic goods, we have produced two I-O tables for VAT paid by each sector: VAT on imported goods and VAT on domestic goods. ¹⁶ Calculations for nominal tax rates are given in Appendix 2.

domestic taxes and import duties respectively. These are Jx1 vectors, where *j* is the number of industries in the IO table, VAD is the diagonal matrix with each industry's unit value added on the diagonal. *A* is the technical coefficient matrix for domestic inputs from industry *i* to industry *j* (a_{ij}); and *M* (m_{ij}) is the technical coefficient for imported inputs. *A* and *M* are JxJ matrices. In Turkey, VAT on imported goods is applied to the post-duty price. Therefore, to obtain an effective tax rate for VAT on imported goods, we use the technical coefficient matrix (*M2*) attained from the Input-Output Table for imported goods after duty prices instead of the table at *cif* prices (*M1*).

Although we estimate VAT rates on imported goods and import duty rates for I-O industries, HICES expenditure survey does not provide the origin (imported or domestic) of the goods purchased by households. However, we can use I-O tables to attain households' consumption share of imported and domestic goods for each I-O industry to overcome this drawback. Therefore, we use calculated effective tax rates weighted by domestic and import shares of sectors.

We use 1998 Turkey I-O Tables to estimate effective tax rates for each industry to examine indirect tax incidence¹⁷. Hence, we assume that from 1998 to 2003 no structural change had happened in the Turkish economy. The 1998 I-O table has 97 sectors; we aggregate some I-O sectors to match the consumption goods in the 2003 HICES expenditure survey. After this aggregation process, we end up with 88 sectors.

Results

The estimated effective tax rates and the nominal rates by I-O industries are presented in Table 1 in Appendix 2. S-Gini Indices of progressivity and redistribution for $\rho = 2$ are given in Tables 4 and 5. The results with all ranges of the inequality aversion parameter are provided in the tables (from TableA 7 to TableA 12) in Appendix 1. Let's first discuss the results with household expenditure. Both VAT on imported goods and domestic taxes are progressive as their progressivity indices are positive for all values of ρ . Yet, progressivity

¹⁷ 2002 IO Tables were released after we have finished the analysis. However, we do not expect very big structural changes from 1998 to 2002 which could have an impact on the results.

rates for domestic goods fall as we focus more on the poor. This finding is consistent with the standard analysis for the most important excise tax, PCT. However, VAT on domestic goods, which we found to be progressive with the legal tax rates, is regressive. The reason for this difference between the two analyses can be understood when we check the effective tax rates on food products which are higher than the legal rates (1 and 8%). Overall, VAT was found to be progressive under the standard analysis thanks to the differentiated and lower rates on food products. The higher effective rates on food products can be explained by taxation on intermediary goods and services.

Import duty is also regressive and the explanation for this finding may also be the high taxation on imported food products. But as can be seen from the tables in Appendix 1, the regressivity rates take the highest values for the middle of the distribution, yet decrease with the inequality aversion parameter, since poorer people consume imported food products less. In line with the standard analysis, the total indirect taxes are progressive under household expenditure. For the total progressive impact, both TR and IR progressivity rates take the smallest value for 1.01 of ρ , and then increase with ρ up to 2 and stay constant.

When we consider household income as a welfare indicator, all taxes are regressive and regressivity increases with values of ρ , suggesting that the poor are more affected by the negative impact of indirect taxes. The degree of regressivity with the effective rates is higher than that of the statutory rates. As explained above, this happens mainly because of the tax rates on food products.

The redistributive impact of the indirect taxes with effective tax rates on expenditure inequality is around 0.15% when $\rho=2$ (it was around 0.7% with statutory tax rates) which is lower than the impact with statutory rates and negligible, whereas the negative impact on income inequality ranges from 0.07% for the smallest ρ , to 3% for the highest ρ . The inequality increasing impact of indirect taxes on income inequality was 4% for the highest ρ with the standard incidence analysis. We think this difference comes from the high effective tax rates on fuel. With the help of Input-Out Tables we could see the bigger share of taxation in the final price of goods, whereas with the standard analysis we could examine only the domestic legal rates on final goods. Fuel is a good that is mostly imported

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and is also both a final and intermediary product for many goods and services (transportation). Since higher income households consume relatively more of these goods and services, the tax liabilities of these households due to the fuel goods and transportation services are higher with the effective tax rates than the statutory rates. As a result of this, the degree of negative redistributive impact is found to be lower with the effective tax rates than that with the legal rates on final goods.

Table 4: S-Gini Indices for Taxes (ρ=2) (Income)									
	Kakwani Index TR Progression	Reynolds- Smolensky Index, IR Progression	Horizontal Inequity Atkinson- Plotnick Index	Redistribution					
Domestic VAT	-0.14	-0.01	0	-0.01					
	0.005	0	0	0					
Import VAT	-0.092	-0.005	0	-0.005					
	0.005	0	0	0					
Import Duty	-0.191	-0.002	0	-0.002					
	0.004	0	0	0					
Domestic Excises	-0.024	-0.001	0	-0.001					
	0.013	0	0	0					
Total Indirect Taxes	-0.106	-0.019	0.006	-0.025					
	0.006	0.001	0.0003	0.001					
Notes: Asymptotic st	andard errors estim	ated by DAD are in it	alic.						

Table 5: S-Gini Indices for Taxes (ρ=2) (Expenditure)									
	Kakwani Index TR Progression	Reynolds- Smolensky Index, IR Progression	Horizontal Inequity Atkinson- Plotnick Index	Redistribution					
Domestic VAT	-0.019	-0.002	0	-0.002					
	0.002	0	0	0					
Import VAT	0.035	0.002	0	0.002					
	0.002	0	0	0					
Import Duty	-0.089	-0.001	0	-0.001					
	0.003	0	0	0					
Domestic Excises	0.075	0.003	0.001	0.002					
	0.01	0	0.0002	0					
Total Indirect Taxes	0.011	0.003	0.001	0.002					
	0.003	0.001	0.0001	0.001					
Notes: Asymptotic st	andard errors estim	ated by DAD are in it	talic.						

Conclusions

This article's main aim was to examine the redistributive impact of Turkish indirect taxes. In order to do this, in addition to the estimations of tax burdens with statutory tax rates, effective tax rates have been estimated by using Input-Output tables which allowed us to take into account the taxation on intermediary and imported goods.

The results have shown that the incidence of indirect taxes is sensitive to the welfare indicator chosen. While the total indirect taxes are progressive with household expenditure, the taxes become regressive with household income as a welfare indicator. As discussed previously, inequality is generally underestimated with household expenditure as it does not take into account savings and wealth accumulation. However, there has been a trend of using household expenditure to rank the households particularly for developing countries. The main reason for this choice concerns generally the data quality issues and the lack of regular income earning opportunities for the poor. Using expenditure may prevent researchers from overestimating poverty, but at the same time this may lead them to underestimate the gap between the poorest and the richest. Hence, as our results have shown, the sensitivity analyses should be performed over choices which may be arbitrary and analyses using only one welfare indicator should be approached with caution

According to the results, the most progressive tax in Turkey with higher redistributive impact is VAT under household expenditure because of its larger share in household expenditure, even if PCT and PCOT are distributed more unequally than VAT in favour of the poor. Although the redistributive impact from total indirect taxes is positive for the whole range of the inequality aversion parameter, the extent of redistribution is quite limited: the indirect taxes generate a less than one per cent reduction in expenditure inequality.

When we use household income, all indirect taxes are regressive, except PCOT, and the most regressive impact is felt by the poor. Total indirect taxes increase income inequality with greater inequality aversion. The indirect tax incidence with effective tax rates is less progressive in the case of household expenditure and more regressive in the case of household incomes, because of the impact of taxation on imported and intermediate goods.

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Domestic excises have been found to be progressive with household expenditure, which is consistent with the standard incidence analysis. However VAT on domestic goods is regressive in contrast with the standard analysis. This finding is important in the sense that focusing only on the taxation on domestic goods and final goods may underestimate the tax burden on households. While import duty is regressive, VAT on imported goods is progressive. Indirect taxes with effective tax rates become regressive with income in line with the standard indirect tax incidence.

The paper also provides some considerations regarding the importance of the measurement methods for progressivity. According to the results, PCT and PCOT seem to help decrease perverse effects of indirect taxes on inequality as they are distributed more unequally than gross expenditures or incomes in favour of the poor (TR progressivity). However, since the share of these taxes in poorer households' tax burden is limited, the final redistributive impact from these taxes is not as strong as the redistributive impact from VAT, which is on all goods that the poor consume. If we pay attention only to the distribution of tax liabilities, as most studies in this area do, we may end up advising higher rates for PCT and PCOT to correct inequalities. However, this policy change would not be able to improve the tax burden of households with low incomes. Therefore, the second requirement of progressivity (IR progressivity and redistributive impact) should be taken into account in tax incidence analyses.

Another important point on measurement issues concerns employing the inequality aversion parameter to measure inequalities and progressivity of government policies. The results show that the degree of progressivity and redistribution changes with the ethical parameter. If the welfare level of the poorer matters to the society, the measurement procedure giving the opportunity to focus on the poor is valuable and policy advice from this sort of analysis should be different from that based on an analysis which takes the society as a homogenous unit.

As a final point, we would like to discuss possible policy advice. It is clear that indirect taxes are the main revenue sources because of limited coverage of direct taxes, especially income tax (both personal and corporation tax) for Turkey. Indirect taxes offer an easier way to raise revenue for governments with less administrative and, more importantly, political cost, as people do not realise how much indirect tax they pay when the tax comes with the prices. It seems that Turkish governments have been enjoying this convenient way of collecting taxes for 30 years and there is very little evidence that they are changing this habit. However, as this paper has indicated, unless the tax burden on poorer households is reduced, the indirect taxes will keep having a negative impact on inequalities in Turkey. In order to prevent this, there should be more serious efforts at expanding the tax base for the direct taxes, which are progressive, by decreasing informal employment and tax evasion.

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Table A1: S-Gini Indices of TR-Progressivity for the Indirect Taxes (expenditure)									
Parameter Values (ρ)	VAT1	VAT8	VAT18	VAT	РСТ	РСОТ	Total Indirect Taxes		
1.01	-0.0047	-0.0036	0.0025	0.0017	0.0038	0.0016	0.0025		
	0.0003	0.0003	0.0002	0.0001	0.0006	0.0002	0.0003		
1.5	-0.1143	-0.1076	0.0562	0.0347	0.0569	0.0752	0.0444		
	0.0066	0.0069	0.0043	0.0034	0.0134	0.0042	0.0073		
2	-0.1416	-0.1449	0.069	0.041	0.0515	0.119	0.0473		
	0.0074	0.0077	0.0043	0.0034	0.0142	0.0048	0.0075		
2.5	-0.1495	-0.1609	0.0737	0.043	0.0438	0.1433	0.0462		
	0.0073	0.0074	0.0039	0.0032	0.013	0.0048	0.0068		
3	-0.1513	-0.1691	0.0759	0.0439	0.0382	0.1579	0.045		
	0.0071	0.0071	0.0035	0.003	0.012	0.0048	0.0063		
3.5	-0.1508	-0.1736	0.077	0.0443	0.0343	0.1673	0.044		
	0.0069	0.0069	0.0033	0.0028	0.0113	0.0047	0.0059		
4	-0.1492	-0.1761	0.0775	0.0444	0.0315	0.1737	0.0431		
	0.0068	0.0067	0.0031	0.0027	0.0108	0.0047	0.0056		

APPENDIX 1

Notes: Asymptotic standard errors are in italic. Gross expenditure is equal to household expenditure the data provided, net expenditure is equal to gross expenditure minus indirect tax burden The null hypothesis could not be rejected for the values in bold at 5% significance level

Table A2: S-Gini Indices of IR-Progressivity for the Indirect Taxes (expenditure)								
Parameter Values (ρ)	VAT1	VAT8	VAT18	VAT	РСТ	РСОТ	Total Indirect Taxes	
1.01	- 0.000004	-0.00005	0.0003	0.0002	0.0003	0	0.0006	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0001	
1.5	-0.0001	-0.0014	0.0058	0.0042	0.0044	0.0004	0.01	
	0	0.0001	0.0006	0.0005	0.0012	0	0.0019	
2	-0.0001	-0.0019	0.0071	0.0049	0.004	0.0006	0.0107	
	0	0.0001	0.0006	0.0006	0.0012	0	0.002	
2.5	-0.0001	-0.0022	0.0076	0.0052	0.0034	0.0008	0.0104	
	0	0.0001	0.0005	0.0005	0.0011	0	0.0018	
3	-0.0001	-0.0023	0.0078	0.0053	0.0029	0.0008	0.0101	
	0	0.0001	0.0005	0.0005	0.001	0	0.0016	
3.5	-0.0001	-0.0023	0.0079	0.0053	0.0026	0.0009	0.0099	
	0	0.0001	0.0005	0.0004	0.0009	0	0.0015	
4	-0.0001	-0.0024	0.008	0.0053	0.0024	0.0009	0.0097	
	0	0.0001	0.0004	0.0004	0.0009	0	0.0015	

Notes: Asymptotic standard errors are in italic.

The null hypothesis could not be rejected for the values in bold at 5% significance level

Gross expenditure is equal to household expenditure the data provided, net expenditure is equal to gross expenditure minus indirect tax burden

Table A3: S-Gini I	Table A3: S-Gini Indices of Redistribution for the Indirect Taxes (expenditure)								
Parameter Values (ρ)	VAT1	VAT8	VAT18	VAT	РСТ	PCOT	Total Indirect Taxes		
1.01	- 0.000004	- 0.000049	0.0002	0.0002	0.0002	0	0.0003		
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0001		
1.5	-0.0001	-0.0015	0.0055	0.0039	0.0032	0.0004	0.0067		
	0	0.0001	0.0006	0.0005	0.0012	0	0.0019		
2	-0.0001	-0.002	0.0067	0.0046	0.0027	0.0006	0.0071		
	0	0.0001	0.0006	0.0006	0.0012	0	0.002		
2.5	-0.0001	-0.0022	0.0072	0.0048	0.002	0.0008	0.0067		
	0	0.0001	0.0005	0.0005	0.0011	0	0.0018		
3	-0.0001	-0.0023	0.0074	0.0049	0.0015	0.0008	0.0062		
	0	0.0001	0.0005	0.0005	0.001	0	0.0016		
3.5	-0.0001	-0.0023	0.0075	0.0049	0.0011	0.0009	0.0057		
	0	0.0001	0.0005	0.0004	0.001	0	0.0015		
4	-0.0001	-0.0024	0.0075	0.0049	0.0008	0.0009	0.0054		
	0	0.0001	0.0004	0.0004	0.0009	0	0.0015		

Notes: Asymptotic standard errors are in italic.

The null hypothesis could not be rejected for the values in bold at 5% significance level

Gross expenditure is equal to household expenditure the data provided, net expenditure is equal to gross expenditure minus indirect tax burden

Table A4: S-Gini Indices of TR-Progressivity for the Indirect Taxes (income)									
Parameter Values (ρ)	VAT1	VAT8	VAT18	VAT	РСТ	РСОТ	Total Indirect Taxes		
1.01	-0.0075	-0.0065	-0.0021	-0.0027	-0.0012	0.0002	-0.002		
	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003	0.0006	0.0002	0.0004		
1.5	-0.1954	-0.1718	-0.0453	-0.0621	-0.0323	0.0365	-0.0477		
	0.0071	0.0077	0.0071	0.0063	0.0159	0.0042	0.0098		
2	-0.2569	-0.2302	-0.0565	-0.0795	-0.047	0.0662	-0.0627		
	0.0083	0.0089	0.0077	0.0069	0.0171	0.005	0.0105		
2.5	-0.2842	-0.2594	-0.0616	-0.0878	-0.0572	0.0828	-0.071		
	0.0086	0.009	0.0073	0.0067	0.0161	0.0053	0.01		
3	-0.2986	-0.2769	-0.0647	-0.0927	-0.065	0.0923	-0.0766		
	0.0087	0.0089	0.007	0.0064	0.0152	0.0054	0.0094		
3.5	-0.3068	-0.2885	-0.0667	-0.096	-0.0711	0.0977	-0.0808		
	0.0089	0.0088	0.0068	0.0063	0.0145	0.0055	0.009		
4	-0.312	-0.297	-0.0682	-0.0984	-0.076	0.1009	-0.0839		
	0.009	0.0087	0.0066	0.0062	0.014	0.0057	0.0088		

Notes: Asymptotic standard errors are in italic.

The null hypothesis could not be rejected for the values in bold at 5% significance level

Gross income is equal to net disposable income, net income is equal to net disposable income minus indirect tax burden

Table A5: S-Gini Indices of IR-Progressivity for the indirect Taxes (income)									
Parameter Values (ρ)	VAT1	VAT8	VAT18	VAT	РСТ	РСОТ	Total Indirect Taxes		
1.01	-0.00001	-0.0001	-0.0002	-0.0003	-0.0001	0	-0.0004		
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0001		
1.5	-0.0001	-0.0019	-0.0037	-0.006	-0.002	0.0002	-0.0085		
	0	0.0001	0.0006	0.0006	0.001	0	0.0016		
2	-0.0002	-0.0025	-0.0047	-0.0077	-0.0029	0.0003	-0.0111		
	0	0.0001	0.0006	0.0006	0.001	0	0.0017		
2.5	-0.0002	-0.0028	-0.0051	-0.0084	-0.0036	0.0004	-0.0126		
	0	0.0001	0.0006	0.0006	0.0009	0	0.0016		
3	-0.0002	-0.003	-0.0053	-0.0089	-0.004	0.0004	-0.0136		
	0	0.0001	0.0005	0.0005	0.0008	0	0.0014		
3.5	-0.0002	-0.0031	-0.0055	-0.0092	-0.0044	0.0004	-0.0143		
	0	0.0001	0.0005	0.0005	0.0008	0	0.0013		
4	-0.0002	-0.0032	-0.0056	-0.0095	-0.0047	0.0004	-0.0149		
	0	0.0001	0.0005	0.0005	0.0007	0	0.0013		

Table A5: S-Gini Indices of IR-Progressivity for the Indirect Taxes (income)

Notes: Asymptotic standard errors are in italic.

The null hypothesis could not be rejected for the values in bold at 5% significance level Gross income is equal to net disposable income, net income is equal to net disposable income minus indirect tax burden

Table A6: S-Gini Indices of Redistribution for the Indirect Taxes (income)									
Parameter Values (ρ)	VAT1	VAT8	VAT18	VAT	РСТ	РСОТ	Total Indirect Taxes		
1.01	-0.00001	-0.0001	-0.0002	-0.0003	-0.0002	0	-0.0007		
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
1.5	-0.0001	-0.0019	-0.0051	-0.0074	-0.0046	0.0002	-0.0184		
	0	0.0001	0.0006	0.0006	0.0009	0	0.0009		
2	-0.0002	-0.0025	-0.0067	-0.0098	-0.0066	0.0003	-0.026		
	0	0.0001	0.0006	0.0006	0.001	0	0.0011		
2.5	-0.0002	-0.0029	-0.0075	-0.011	-0.0078	0.0003	-0.0311		
	0	0.0001	0.0006	0.0006	0.001	0	0.0014		
3	-0.0002	-0.0031	-0.008	-0.0118	-0.0088	0.0004	-0.0351		
	0	0.0001	0.0006	0.0006	0.0009	0	0.0018		
3.5	-0.0002	-0.0032	-0.0085	-0.0124	-0.0096	0.0004	-0.0386		
	0	0.0001	0.0006	0.0006	0.001	0	0.0022		
4	-0.0002	-0.0033	-0.0088	-0.0129	-0.0103	0.0004	-0.0418		
	0	0.0001	0.0006	0.0006	0.001	0	0.0026		

Notes: Asymptotic standard errors are in italic.

The null hypothesis could not be rejected for the values in bold at 5% significance level

Gross income is equal to net disposable income, net income is equal to net disposable income minus indirect tax burden

Table A7: S-Gini I	Table A7: S-Gini Indices of TR-Progressivity for the Indirect Taxes (expenditure)									
	Indirect Taxes under Effective Tax Rates									
Parameter Values (ρ)	Domestic VAT	Import VAT	Import Duty	Domestic Excises	Total Indirect Taxes					
1.01	0	0.001	-0.003	0.004	0.001					
	0	0	0	0	0					
1.5	-0.015	0.026	-0.076	0.07	0.01					
	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.01	0.003					
2	-0.019	0.035	-0.089	0.075	0.011					
	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.01	0.003					
2.5	-0.021	0.039	-0.091	0.074	0.012					
	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.009	0.003					
3	-0.021	0.041	-0.09	0.072	0.012					
	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.008	0.003					
3.5	-0.021	0.042	-0.089	0.071	0.012					
	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.008	0.002					
4	-0.021	0.043	-0.088	0.069	0.012					
	0.002	0.001	0.003	0.007	0.002					
Notes: Asymptot	ic standard erro	ors are in								

italic.

The null hypothesis could not be rejected for the values in bold at 5% significance level

Table A8: S-Gini Indices of TR-Progressivity for the Indirect Taxes (income)									
Indirect Taxes under Effective Tax Rates									
Parameter Values (ρ)	Domestic VAT	Import VAT	Import Import Domestic T VAT Duty Excises		Total Indirect Taxes				
1.01	-0.004	-0.003	-0.006	-0.001	-0.003				
	0	0	0	0.001	0				
1.5	-0.107	-0.072	-0.149	-0.017	-0.082				
	0.005	0.005	0.004	0.012	0.006				
2	-0.14	-0.092	-0.191	-0.024	-0.106				
	0.005	0.005	0.004	0.013	0.006				
2.5	-0.155	-0.1	-0.208	-0.029	-0.118				
	0.005	0.005	0.004	0.012	0.006				
3	-0.163	-0.105	-0.218	-0.034	-0.124				
	0.005	0.005	0.004	0.011	0.006				
3.5	-0.169	-0.108	-0.224	-0.037	-0.129				
	0.005	0.005	0.004	0.011	0.005				
4	-0.173	-0.11	-0.227	-0.04	-0.132				
	0.005	0.005	0.004	0.01	0.005				
Notes: Asymptotic standard errors are in italic. Household income is household net disposable income									

The null hypothesis could not be rejected for the values in bold at 5% significance level

Table A9: S-Gini Indices of IR-Progressivity for the Indirect Taxes (expenditure)									
	Indirect Taxes under Effective Tax Rates								
Parameter Values (ρ)	Domestic VAT	Import VAT	Import Duty	Domestic Excises	Total Indirect Taxes				
1.01	0	0	0	0	0				
	0	0	0	0	0				
1.5	-0.001	0.002	-0.001	0.002	0.002				
	0	0	0	0	0.001				
2	-0.002	0.002	-0.001	0.003	0.003				
	0	0	0	0	0.001				
2.5	-0.002	0.003	-0.001	0.003	0.003				
	0	0	0	0	0.001				
3	-0.002	0.003	-0.001	0.002	0.003				
	0	0	0	0	0.001				
3.5	-0.002	0.003	-0.001	0.002	0.003				
	0	0	0	0	0.001				
4	-0.002	0.003	-0.001	0.002	0.003				
	0	0	0	0	0.001				

Notes: Asymptotic standard errors are in italic.

The null hypothesis could not be rejected for the values in bold at 5% significance level

Table A10: 5-Gini malces of ik-Progressivity for the indirect Taxes (income)									
Indirect Taxes under Effective Tax Rates									
Parameter Values (ρ)	Domestic VAT	Import VAT	Import Duty	Domestic Excises	Total Indirect Taxes				
1.01	0	0	0	0	-0.001				
	0	0	0	0	0				
1.5	-0.007	-0.004	-0.001	0	-0.015				
	0	0	0	0	0.001				
2	-0.01	-0.005	-0.002	-0.001	-0.019				
	0	0	0	0	0.001				
2.5	-0.011	-0.005	-0.002	-0.001	-0.021				
	0	0	0	0	0.001				
3	-0.011	-0.006	-0.002	-0.001	-0.022				
	0	0	0	0	0.001				
3.5	-0.012	-0.006	-0.002	-0.001	-0.023				
	0	0	0	0	0.001				
4	-0.012	-0.006	-0.002	-0.001	-0.024				
	0	0	0	0	0.001				
Notes: Asymptotic standard errors are in italic.									

Table A10: S-Gini Indices of IR-Progressivity for the Indirect Taxes (income)

Table A11: S-Gini Indices of Redistribution for the Indirect Taxes (expenditure)										
	Indirect Taxes under Effective Tax Rates									
Parameter Values (ρ)	Domestic VAT	Import VAT	Import Duty	Domestic Excises	Total Indirect Taxes					
1.01	0	0	0	0	0					
	0	0	0	0	0					
1.5	-0.001	0.002	-0.001	0.002	0.001					
	0	0	0	0	0.001					
2	-0.002	0.002	-0.001	0.002	0.002					
	0	0	0	0	0.001					
2.5	-0.002	0.002	-0.001	0.002	0.002					
	0	0	0	0	0.001					
3	-0.002	0.003	-0.001	0.002	0.002					
	0	0	0	0	0.001					
3.5	-0.002	0.003	-0.001	0.002	0.002					
	0	0	0	0	0.001					
4	-0.002	0.003	-0.001	0.002	0.001					
	0	0	0	0	0.001					

The null hypothesis could not be rejected for the values in bold at 5% significance level

Notes: Asymptotic standard errors are in

italic.

The null hypothesis could not be rejected for the values in bold at 5% significance level

Table A12: S-Gini Indices of Redistribution for the Indirect Taxes (income)										
	Indirect Taxes under Effective Tax Rates									
Parameter Values (ρ)	Domestic VAT	Import VAT	Import Duty	Domestic Excises	Total Indirect Taxes					
1.01	0	0	0	0	-0.001					
	0	0	0	0	0					
1.5	-0.008	-0.004	-0.001	-0.001	-0.019					
	0	0	0	0	0.001					
2	-0.01	-0.005	-0.002	-0.001	-0.025					
	0	0	0	0	0.001					
2.5	-0.012	-0.006	-0.002	-0.001	-0.028					
	0	0	0	0	0.001					
3	-0.012	-0.006	-0.002	-0.001	-0.031					
	0	0	0	0	0.001					
3.5	-0.013	-0.007	-0.002	-0.002	-0.032					
	0	0	0	0	0.001					
4	-0.013	-0.007	-0.002	-0.002	-0.034					
	0	0	0	0	0.001					

Notes: Asymptotic standard errors are in italic.

The null hypothesis could not be rejected for the values in bold at 5% significance level

Appendix 2: Calculations for Nominal Tax Rates

$$VAT_{D} = \frac{TPC_{VAT_{D}}}{TGVA}$$
$$VAT_{M} = \frac{TPC_{VAT_{M}}}{TPC_{M2}}$$

$$D = \frac{TPC_{TD}}{TPC_{M1}}$$

$$S = \frac{TPC_{TS}}{TPC_{D}}$$

TPC presents total private consumption of tax and other I-O tables. TPC_{VAT} is the total private consumption of VAT matrix for domestic (D) and imported (M) goods; TPC_{TD} that of import tax matrix; TPC_{TD} is that of domestic tax matrix. Moreover, subscripts M and D illustrate import and domestic IO tables. TGVA is total gross value added for each sector from Turkey I-O Table.

Table A2.1:Nominal and Effective Tax Rates, 1998 Turkey IO Table										
	Е	Ν	E	Ν	E	Ν	E	Ν		
Industries	VAT_D	VAT_D	S	S	VAT_M	VAT_M	D	D		
Cereals and crops n.e.c.	0.046	0.036	0.024	0	0.086	0.081	0.048	0.046		
Vegetables,& nursery prod.	0.101	0.094	0.007	0	0.082	0.08	0.028	0.028		
Fruit, nuts, beverage and spice crops	0.059	0.055	0.004	0	0.082	0.081	0.108	0.107		
Animals,agricultural&animal husbandry service activities (excl. veterinary act.)	0.086	0.064	0.001	0	0.044	0.042	0.046	0.045		
Forestry, and related service activities	0.025	0.022	0.004	0	0.082	0.082	0	0		
Mining of coal and lignite	0.032	0.023	0.034	0.002	0.081	0.079	0.027	0.026		
Crude petroleum and natural gas	0.006	0	0.006	0	0.001	0	0	0		
Mining of metal ores	0.012	0	0.026	0	0.003	0	0	0		
Quarrying of stone, sand and clay	0.008	0	0.036	0	0.004	0	0.001	0		
Mining and quarrying n.e.c.	0.008	0	0.013	0	0.001	0	0	0		
Processed meat and meat products	0.146	0.106	0.003	0	0.101	0.097	0.004	0.003		
Fishing&Processed fish	0.094	0.082	0.019	0	0.091	0.09	0.148	0.147		
Processed fruit and vegetables	0.141	0.108	0.005	0	0.097	0.094	0.033	0.032		
Vegetable and animal oils and fats	0.319	0.243	0.003	0	0.105	0.094	0.084	0.078		
Dairy products	0.234	0.202	0.002	0	0.086	0.083	0.149	0.148		
Grain mill products, starches& starch products	0.037	0.016	0.008	0	0.028	0.022	0.056	0.054		
Prepared animal feeds	0.113	0.067	0.003	0	0.109	0.101	0.017	0.013		
Bakery products	0.097	0.071	0.016	0	0.027	0.023	0.002	0		
Sugar	0.334	0.308	0.006	0	0.106	0.1	0.044	0.041		
Cocoa, chocolate, sugar confertionery & n.e.c.	0.189	0.139	0.005	0	0.106	0.102	0.014	0.013		
Alcoholic beverages	0.162	0.137	0.478	0.442	0.141	0.138	0.005	0.004		
Soft drinks&mineral waters	0.245	0.163	0.217	0.213	0.099	0.095	0.001	0		
Tobacco products	0.412	0.366	0.217	0.202	0.141	0.13	0.036	0.033		
Other textiles	0.058	0.034	0.007	0	0.134	0.107	0.023	0.02		
Textiles	0.098	0.072	0.008	0	0.252	0.228	0.017	0.015		
Leather; manufac.of luggage, handbags& saddler	0.053	0.025	0.005	0	0.109	0.087	0.021	0.019		
Footwear	0.403	0.367	0.015	0	0.36	0.342	0.021	0.019		
Publishing and Printing	0.068	0.043	0.005	0	0.058	0.042	0.013	0.011		
Sawmilling and planing of wood	0.014	0	0.003	0	0.006	0	0.001	0		
Coke, refined petroleum products	0.043	0.041	0.403	0.397	0.163	0.157	0.04	0.04		
Basic chemicals, plastics in primary forms and of synthetics rubber	0.041	0.027	0.02	0	0.144	0.111	0.025	0.019		
Fertilizers and nitrogen compounds	0.009	0	0.007	0	0.013	0	0.002	0		
Note: E indicates effective rates; N indicates nominal rates										

VAT_D: VAT on domestic goods; VAT_M: VAT on imported goods; S: Domestic excises; D: Import Duty

Nominal and Effective Tax Rates, 1998 Turkey IO Table, Continued										
	E	Ν	Е	Ν	E	Ν	Е	Ν		
Industries	VAT_D	VAT_D	S	S	VAT_M	VAT_M	D	D		
Pesticides, agrochemicals &paints, varnishes	0.078	0.06	0.031	0	0.143	0.115	0.007	0.003		
Pharmaceuticals, medicinal chemicals and botanical products	0.222	0.185	0.003	0	0.145	0.128	0.001	0		
Cleaning materials, cosmatics&chemicals&man-made fibres	0.137	0.109	0.014	0	0.137	0.115	0.019	0.015		
Household Textiles	0.125	0.104	0.008	0	0.142	0.12	0.022	0.019		
Glass&glass products and ceramic products	0.068	0.054	0.012	0	0.129	0.122	0.016	0.014		
Manufacture of cement, lime and plaster related articles these items	0.009	0	0.018	0	0.002	0	0	0		
Finishing of stone and man. of other non-metallic mineral products n.e.c.	0.03	0.016	0.012	0	0.128	0.122	0.005	0.004		
Basic iron and steel	0.006	0	0.007	0	0.009	0	0.001	0		
Basic precious and non-ferrous metals	0.007	0	0.01	0	0.003	0	0	0		
Casting of metals	0.008	0	0.01	0	0.002	0	0	0		
Fabricated metal products, tanks, reservoirs and steam generators	0.011	0.003	0.006	0	0.006	0	0	0		
Other fabricated metal products; metal working service activities	0.102	0.088	0.006	0	0.133	0.126	0.018	0.017		
General purpose machinery	0.042	0.029	0.006	0	0.133	0.122	0.01	0.009		
Special purpose machinery	0.038	0.024	0.006	0	0.051	0.042	0.014	0.013		
Domestic appliances n.e.c.	0.217	0.2	0.004	0	0.138	0.131	0.008	0.007		
Office, accounting and computing machinery	0.081	0.067	0.003	0	0.136	0.12	0.004	0.003		
Electrical machinery and apparatus n.e.c.	0.118	0.1	0.006	0	0.139	0.126	0.009	0.008		
Radio, television and communication equipment and apparatus	0.087	0.072	0.004	0	0.16	0.131	0.021	0.018		
Medical, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks	0.04	0.028	0.006	0	0.135	0.113	0.011	0.009		
Motor vehicles, trailers&semi- trailers	0.175	0.15	0.312	0.292	0.164	0.147	0.004	0.003		
Transport equipment n.e.c.	0.242	0.217	0.006	0	0.142	0.131	0.012	0.011		
Furniture	0.265	0.236	0.003	0	0.128	0.117	0.003	0.002		
Paper and paper products and nec	0.175	0.155	0.006	0	0.152	0.144	0.02	0.018		
Manufacturing n.e.c.	0.213	0.199	0.003	0	0.147	0.146	0.02	0.02		
Production, collection and distribution of electricity	0.041	0.035	0.012	0	0.106	0.1	0	0		
Gas;distribution of gaseous fuels through mains	0.076	0.074	0.002	0	0.08	0.08	0	0		

Nominal and Effective Tax Rates, 1998 Turkey IO Table, Continued										
	Е	Ν	Е	N	E	N	Е	N		
Industries	VAT_D	VAT_D	S	S	VAT_M	VAT_M	D	D		
Collection, purification and distribution of water	0.024	0.019	0.003	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000		
Sale, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles; retail sale of fuel	0.013	0.007	0.010	0.000	0.019	0.018	0.000	0.000		
Wholesale trade and commission trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcyles	0.014	0.010	0.009	0.000	0.006	0.000	0.000	0.000		
Retail trade and repair of personel & household goods, exc.motor vehicles and motorcyles	0.007	0.003	0.009	0.000	0.005	0.004	0.000	0.000		
Hotels; camping sites and other provision of short-stay accommodatin	0.073	0.042	0.021	0.000	0.138	0.135	0.000	0.000		
Restaurants, bars and canteens	0.118	0.084	0.022	0.000	0.111	0.107	0.001	0.000		
Transport via railways	0.154	0.134	0.052	0.000	0.089	0.079	0.001	0.000		
Land transport; transport via pipelines	0.036	0.024	0.059	0.003	0.042	0.035	0.001	0.000		
Water transport	0.053	0.038	0.038	0.000	0.755	0.686	0.001	0.000		
Air transport	0.024	0.013	0.034	0.000	0.031	0.022	0.001	0.000		
Supporting and auxiliary transport activities; activities of travel agencies	0.076	0.042	0.009	0.000	0.068	0.066	0.000	0.000		
Post and telecommnications	0.023	0.020	0.002	0.000	0.077	0.076	0.000	0.000		
Financial intermedediation,excep t insurance and pension funding	0.010	0.000	0.104	0.092	0.004	0.001	0.000	0.000		
Insurance and pension funding,except compulsory social security	0.013	0.000	0.079	0.067	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000		
Renting of machinery and equip. without operator&personal&ho usehold goods	0.021	0.006	0.014	0.000	0.088	0.082	0.000	0.000		
Computer&related activities	0.025	0.007	0.012	0.000	0.053	0.043	0.000	0.000		
Research and	0.038	0.020	0.009	0.000	0.011	0.000	0.001	0.000		
Other husiness activities	0.066	0.051	0.012	0.006	0.001	0.000	0.020	0.010		
Education	0.000	0.051	0.013	0.000	0.091	0.088	0.020	0.019		
Euucation Health and social work	0.115	0.102	0.022	0.000	0.077	0.074	0.000	0.000		
Recreational cultural	0.120	0.117	0.008	0.000	0.098	0.093	0.000	0.000		
and sporting activities	0.005	0.055	0.015	0.000	0.122	0.105	0.001	0.000		
Other service activities	0.131	0.117	0.018	0.000	0.092	0.090	0.000	0.000		

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ÖZET

Bu çalışma, dolaylı vergilerin gelir dağılımı üzerine etkisini incelemektedir. Gelir dağılımı üzerindeki olumsuz etkisi bilinen dolaylı vergiler 1980 sonrası uygulanan vergi politikaları ile azgelişmiş ülkelerde vergi gelirlerinin yüzde 60'ından fazlasını sağlayan bir araç haline gelmiştir. Dolayısıyla, Türkiye gibi uzun yıllar eşitsizlikler ile yüz yüze kalmış ülkeler için devletin en önemli vergi kaynağının gelir dağımı eşitsizliklerini ne yönde etkilediğinin tespiti, vergi politikalarının değerlendirilmesinde büyük önem taşımaktadır.

Bu çalışmada, kamu vergi ve harcama politikalarının gelir dağılımı üzerindeki etkisini incelemek üzere geliştirilmiş S-Gini progresiflik indeksleri farklı gelir dağılımına duyarlık parametreleri ile birlikte kullanarak dolaylı vergilerin yeniden dağıtımcı etkileri araştırılmıştır. S-Gini indeksleri iki temel yaklaşım etrafında oluşturulmaktadır: Vergi Temelli Yeniden Dağılım (Tax-Redistribution) ve Gelir Temelli Yeniden Dağılım (Income Redistribution). Bu iki yaklaşım üzerine oluşturulan indeksler vergilerin farklı etkilerini incelediği için birlikte kullanılmasında fayda bulunmaktadır. Gelir Dağılımına duyarlık parametrelerinin ölçümde kullanılması ise farklı toplum kesimlerine ağırlık verildiğinde sonuçların nasıl değiştiğini görmemize olanak sağlamaktadır.

Yerli nihai mallar üzerindeki yasal vergi oranlarını kullanarak yapılan standart vergi yansıma analizinin yanı sıra, Girdi-Çıktı tabloları yardımıyla efektif vergi oranları hesaplanmış ve bu sayede ithal mallar ve ara mallar üzerine konulan dolaylı vergilerin etkileri de incelenmiştir. Sonuçlar, kullanılan refah göstergesine göre vergilerin etkilerinin değiştiğini göstermiştir. Buna göre vergiler hanehalkı harcamasının refah göstergesi olarak kullanıldığı durumda harcama eşitsizliğini küçük de olsa düzeltici etki yaparken, hanehalkı gelirinin kullanıldığı durumda, vergiler gelir dağılımını bozucu çıkmaktadır. Efektif vergi oranları ile yapılan analizin sonucunda ara mallar ve ithal mallar üzerinden gelen vergi yükünün etkilerinin ihmal edilemeyeceği görülmüştür.