

# Comparative Demographic Structures of the European Union Countries and Turkey

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## A. Social Characteristics of Population

There are four important functions of economic life: production, consumption, trade and apportionment. Production function consists of 4 main elements; labour, enterprise, capital and natural resources. Labour and enterprise are related to human elements and capital and natural resources are related to material elements. If material elements are assumed to be equal (*ceteris paribus*), it can be said that, economic development of nations is bound to their power of utilising the human element within the economical life (Zaim, 1972; p. 1). In this respect, social characteristics of population are of vital importance. The present and potential labour demand and supply of a country is determined by the rate of population growth, the death and birth rates, sex rates, and socio-economic and cultural values.

### 1. Geographical Situation and Population Density

**a. Geographical Situation:** When the European Union was founded in 1958 by France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg, its area was 1.277.000 square kilometre. The first enlargement of the union was made in 1973 towards north. By the inclusion of Britain, Denmark and Ireland, the area of the union enlarged to 1.631.000 square kilometres. The second enlargement was made towards the south. After Greece had been included in the union in 1981, the area enlarged to 1.763.000 square kilometres. The third enlargement of the union was made in 1986 by the inclusion of Spain and Portugal, the area of the union enlarged to 2.360.000 square kilometres. Finally, in 1995, by the inclusion of Austria, Finland and Sweden the area of the Union became 3.232.000 square kilometres. As can be seen from the figures, the physical area of the Union enlarged at a rate of 153 percent between 1958 and 1995.

At present, France, which occupies 16.83 percent of the Union, is the largest country of the EU. It is followed by Spain (15,63 percent), Sweden (13,92 percent), Germany (11,05 percent) and Finland (10,46 percent) and the smallest shares belong to Luxembourg (0,09 percent), Belgium (0,96 percent), Holland (1,27 percent) and Denmark (1,33 percent). (See the table 1).

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Table 1 Total Population, Area and Urban Population Rates of EU and Turkey

| Countries  | Total Area    | Total Population |             | EU Country Population / EU Total Area and Pop. |             | EU and Turkey Population / Total Area and Population |                |             | Population Densities |             | Growth of City Populati. | Urban Popu.    |                  |
|------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|--|-------------|--|----------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|
|            | <i>000 km</i> | <i>1960</i>      | <i>1996</i> | <i>000 km2</i>                                 | <i>1960</i> | <i>1996</i>  | <i>000 km2</i> | <i>1960</i> | <i>1996</i>          | <i>1960</i> | <i>1996</i>              | <i>1980-85</i> | <i>as % 1992</i> |
| Belgium    | 31            | 9 129            | 10 143      | 0,96   | 2,88        | 2,72   | 0,77           | 2,66        | 2,33                 | 294         | 327                      | 0,4            | 96               |
| Denmark    | 43            | 4 566            | 5 251       | 1,33   | 1,44        | 1,41   | 1,07           | 1,33        | 1,21                 | 106         | 122                      | 0,3            | 87               |
| F. Germany | 357           | 72 409           | 81 818      | 11,05  | 22,86       | 21,96  | 8,91           | 21,06       | 18,82                | 203         | 229                      | 0,1            | 83               |
| Greece     | 132           | 8 300            | 10 465      | 4,08   | 2,62        | 2,81   | 3,30           | 2,41        | 2,41                 | 63          | 79                       | 1,9            | 62               |
| Spain      | 505           | 31 954           | 39 242      | 15,63  | 10,09       | 10,53  | 12,61          | 9,29        | 9,02                 | 63          | 78                       | 1,6            | 79               |
| France     | 544           | 45 465           | 58 256      | 16,83  | 14,36       | 15,63  | 13,58          | 13,22       | 13,40                | 84          | 107                      | 1              | 74               |
| Ireland    | 69            | 2 832            | 3 616       | 2,13   | 0,89        | 0,97   | 1,72           | 0,82        | 0,83                 | 41          | 52                       | 2,7            | 60               |
| Italy      | 301           | 50 026           | 57 333      | 9,31   | 15,80       | 15,38  | 7,51           | 14,55       | 13,19                | 166         | 190                      | 0,9            | 68               |
| Luxembourg | 3             | 314              | 413         | 0,09   | 0,10        | 0,11   | 0,07           | 0,09        | 0,09                 | 105         | 138                      |                | 84               |
| Holland    | 41            | 11 417           | 15 494      | 1,27   | 3,61        | 4,16   | 1,02           | 3,32        | 3,56                 | 278         | 378                      | 0,9            | 89               |
| Austria    | 84            | 7 030            | 8 055       | 2,60   | 2,22        | 2,16   | 2,10           | 2,04        | 1,85                 | 84          | 96                       |                | 92               |
| Portugal   | 92            | 8 997            | 9 921       | 2,85   | 2,84        | 2,66   | 2,30           | 2,62        | 2,28                 | 98          | 108                      | 3,3            | 33               |
| Finland    | 338           | 4 413            | 5 117       | 10,46  | 1,39        | 1,37   | 8,44           | 1,28        | 1,18                 | 13          | 15                       |                | 15               |
| Sweden     | 450           | 7 471            | 8 838       | 13,92  | 2,36        | 2,37   | 11,23          | 2,17        | 2,03                 | 17          | 20                       |                | 20               |
| England    | 242           | 52 373           | 58 694      | 7,49   | 16,54       | 15,75  | 6,04           | 15,23       | 13,50                | 216         | 243                      | 0,3            | 89               |
| EU Total   | 3 232         | 316 696          | 372 656     | 100,00   | 100,00      | 100,00   | 80,68          | 92,11       | 85,70                | 98          | 115                      |                | 69               |
| Turkey     | 774           | 27 120           | 62 176      |  |             |  | 19,32          | 7,89        | 14,30                | 35          | 80                       | 4,4            | 61               |
| TOTAL      | 4 006         | 343 816          | 434 832     |  |             |  | 100,00         | 100,00      | 100,00               | 86          | 109                      |                | 68               |

**Source:** EUROMONITOR; European Marketing Data and Statistics 1993, London, 1993, p. 57, 59, 63, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76 and 78 and The Istanbul Chamber Commerce; World Countries in Figures, Istanbul, 1991, p.12 and T.C. State Institute of Statistics; Turkey and European Union in Figures 1991-1996, Ankara 1999, p. 4 and 5

**Note:** Including the former East Germany.

Turkey's area is 779.452 square kilometres. However, if Turkey becomes a full member of the Union, the total area of the Union will be 3.414.452 square kilometres and it will account for ¼ of the total area of the Union. This will make Turkey the largest country in terms of geographical size.

**b. Population Density:** When we study the European Union and Turkey in terms of the number of people per square kilometre, there arises a very different structure. When we consider 15 EU countries together, 115 people fall in per square kilometre. When Turkey is included in the Union, this figure decreases to 109. In Turkey, the corresponding figure is 80. Turkey is followed by Spain with 78 people and Greece with 79 people. (See the table 1).

Between 1960 and 1996, there were important differences between the EU countries and Turkey regarding population density. Parallel to the population growth in Turkey, the population density also increased rapidly. Between these years, Turkey's population density increased at a rate of 129 % and the EU countries' only increased at a rate of 17 %. (See the table 1).

## **2. The Size of Population and Rate of Growth**

With a population of 60 million, Turkey accounts for 1 % of world population within the EU, Turkey comes second following Germany in terms of population (Sadık, 1992; p.42). As a result of policies which enabled the population growth rate to increase and which was applied until the beginning of 1960, the population growth rate reached to a high level of 28,5 between 1955-1960. The total population, which was 13,6 million in 1927, reached to 27.7 million in 1960, and to over 62 million in 1997. Holland is the most densely populated country in the EU with 378 people per square kilometre.

The population growth rate within the planned period, inclined to decrease, partly because of preventive measures taken and partly because of achieving social and economical development. While the total population growth rate of Turkey was 28,5 per thousand in the 1955-60 period, it decreased to 20,6 per thousand in 1975-80 period. Because of the return of the population who had migrated abroad and the migration of population from the neighbouring countries in the south-east, the population growth rate increased 24,9 per thousand in 1980-1985 period. It decreased to 21,71 in the 1985-1990 period. It was 15 per thousand at the 1997 census.

Regarding the population figure, Turkey was behind Germany, Britain, Italy, France and Spain in 1960's, and in 1996, except for Germany, Turkey was ahead of all the EU states. While the population of Turkey accounted for 8 percent of EU population in 1960, this exceeded 4 percent in 1996. (See the table 1).

In the 1960's, Turkey's population growth rate (24,91 per thousand) was above the world's average (20,16 per thousand) and EU's (7,86 per thousand). In these years, within the EU, the highest rates of population growth belonged to Holland (12,68 per thousand), Spain (10,86 per thousand) France (0,36 per thousand) and Germany (9,08 per thousand). In Portugal, there was a negative growth, (- 2,27 per thousand).

Between 1980 and 1985, except for Ireland and Portugal, in all the other countries, there was a decline in the population growth rate, reaching to a level of zero in Luxembourg and a level of below zero in Germany and Denmark. It is estimated that there will be a decrease in the population growth rate of the EU countries and Turkey, between 2000 and 2005. Nevertheless, it is also estimated that the population growth rate of Turkey (17,05 per thousand) will be beyond that of the world average (13,25 per thousand) and far beyond the average of the EU (0,28 per thousand).

## **3. The Age and Sex Structure of Population**

**a. Population Percent of Age Groups:** When we study the percentage of 3 main age groups of the total population of EU countries; it can be seen through the Table 3 that, in the 1960-

1985 period, the rate of 0-14 age group decreased in all the countries. Although it fluctuated among the Union countries, the rate of the age group 15-64 generally did not change, but the rate of the group over 65 increased in all the countries. It is estimated that, because of the low population growth rate of the EU countries in the past years, the population of the age groups below 15 and between 15-64 will decline in most of them, and except for Ireland, the old age group of the rest of the countries within the Union will increase.

Table 2 Total Population Rate of Growth of the EU Countries and Turkey (1960-2005) (Per thousand)

| Countries  | 1966-1970 | 1980-1985 | 2000-2005 | Countries | 1966-1970 | 1980-1985 | 2000-2005 |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Belgium    | 5,16      | 1,03      | 0,22      | Holland   | 12,68     | 4,89      | - 0,17    |
| Denmark    | 7,32      | 0,04      | - 2,25    | Austria   |           | 0,08      | - 0,73    |
| F. Germany | 9,08      | -2,25     | -3,92     | Portugal  | - 2,47    | 6,53      | 4,63      |
| Greece     | 5,45      | 4,82      | 1,95      | Finland   |           | 2,67      | - 0,63    |
| Spanish    | 10,86     | 5,86      | 4,39      | Sweden    |           | 0,48      | 0,20      |
| France     | 10,36     | 3,35      | 1,33      | England   | 5,41      | 0,64      | - 0,40    |
| Ireland    | 4,15      | 11,82     | 9,68      | EU Total  | 7,86      | 1,82      | 0,28      |
| Italy      | 6,61      | 0,80      | - 0,35    | Turkey    | 24,91     | 24,88     | 17,05     |
| Luxemburg  | 7,66      | 0,00      | - 1,97    | World     | 20,16     | 16,68     | 13,25     |

**Source:** Kocaman, Tuncer; Avrupa Birliği Ülkeleriyle Türkiye'nin Demografik Yapı ve Nüfus Politikaları, Ankara: DPT, Sosyal Planlama Başkanlığı, 1988, p.20

The situation is different in Turkey where the population of the below-15 age group decreased during the 1960-1985 period. However, Turkey's population rate of the below-15 age group is 36,59 percent. No member of the EU has such a high young population rate. When we include 15-24 year-old youths in this group, this rate goes up to 57,26 percent. The rate of 15-64 age group, which is in working age, was inclined to increase due to the population growth in the previous years. In 1960, the rate of the 15-64 age group was 55,22 percent, and in 1985 it increased to 59,26 percent. Nevertheless, the rate of this age group started to decrease in the following years. In the same way, the rate of the 15-64 age group within the total population was 61 percent in 1991 and it decreased to 52 percent in 1996. However, the rate of work-age group in Turkey is smaller than that of all EU countries. The rate of old-age group (4,15 percent) within the total population of Turkey accounts for 1/3 of that of the member states. (See the table 3, 4).

As can be seen, in spite of its younger population structure, Turkey is projected not to be

able to keep this structure in the future. While the rate of births decreases, the youth population will stabilise and the old-age population will increase. The old-age population, which was 5 percent in 1996, is projected to be 9 percent by the year 2025 (TÜSİAD, 1999; p.22).

Table 3 Distribution of EU Countries and Turkish Population According to Age Groups (%)

| Countries  | Years | 0-14  | 15-24 | 25-64 | 15-64 | 65+   |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| F. Germany | 1 960 | 21,34 | 15,91 | 51,91 | 67,82 | 10,84 |
|            | 1 985 | 15,37 | 16,51 | 53,64 | 70,15 | 14,48 |
|            | 2 005 | 15,73 | 12,63 | 53,28 | 65,91 | 18,36 |
| France     | 1 960 | 26,37 | 12,40 | 49,59 | 61,99 | 11,64 |
|            | 1 985 | 21,34 | 15,45 | 50,85 | 66,30 | 12,36 |
|            | 2 005 | 18,49 | 12,88 | 53,90 | 66,78 | 14,73 |
| Italy      | 1 960 | 24,93 | 15,41 | 50,34 | 65,75 | 9,32  |
|            | 1 985 | 19,40 | 15,94 | 51,67 | 67,61 | 12,99 |
|            | 2 005 | 17,73 | 11,65 | 54,00 | 65,65 | 16,62 |
| Holland    | 1 960 | 29,99 | 14,97 | 46,02 | 60,99 | 9,02  |
|            | 1 985 | 19,62 | 17,21 | 51,40 | 68,61 | 11,77 |
|            | 2 005 | 15,69 | 11,69 | 57,97 | 69,66 | 14,65 |
| Belgium    | 1 960 | 23,53 | 12,20 | 52,30 | 64,50 | 11,97 |
|            | 1 985 | 18,93 | 15,41 | 52,20 | 67,61 | 13,46 |
|            | 2 005 | 17,39 | 12,10 | 54,70 | 66,80 | 15,81 |
| Luxembourg | 1 960 | 21,34 | 13,06 | 54,77 | 67,83 | 10,83 |
|            | 1 985 | 17,58 | 15,61 | 54,17 | 69,78 | 12,64 |
|            | 2 005 | 15,94 | 11,42 | 56,56 | 67,98 | 16,08 |
| England    | 1 960 | 23,26 | 13,30 | 51,76 | 65,06 | 11,68 |
|            | 1 985 | 19,50 | 15,96 | 49,46 | 65,42 | 15,08 |
|            | 2 005 | 18,47 | 12,56 | 53,47 | 66,03 | 15,50 |
| Ireland    | 1 960 | 31,09 | 13,90 | 43,83 | 57,73 | 11,18 |
|            | 1 985 | 29,57 | 18,29 | 41,77 | 60,06 | 10,37 |
|            | 2 005 | 25,83 | 18,57 | 46,56 | 65,13 | 9,04  |
| Denmark    | 1 960 | 25,23 | 14,93 | 49,25 | 64,18 | 10,59 |
|            | 1 985 | 18,68 | 15,40 | 50,98 | 66,38 | 14,94 |
|            | 2 005 | 15,40 | 11,65 | 56,54 | 68,19 | 16,41 |
| Greece     | 1 960 | 26,49 | 16,37 | 48,89 | 65,26 | 8,25  |
|            | 1 985 | 21,55 | 15,18 | 50,14 | 65,32 | 13,13 |
|            | 2 005 | 19,68 | 13,37 | 50,55 | 63,92 | 16,40 |
| Spain      | 1 960 | 27,43 | 15,26 | 49,10 | 64,36 | 8,21  |
|            | 1 985 | 24,30 | 16,74 | 47,88 | 64,62 | 11,08 |

|          |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|          | 2 005 | 21,06 | 13,87 | 51,35 | 65,22 | 13,72 |
| Portugal | 1 960 | 29,15 | 16,33 | 46,53 | 62,86 | 7,99  |
|          | 1 985 | 24,60 | 17,34 | 47,52 | 64,86 | 10,54 |
|          | 2 005 | 21,56 | 14,44 | 51,68 | 66,12 | 12,32 |
| EU Total | 1 960 | 24,82 | 14,51 | 50,31 | 64,82 | 10,36 |
|          | 1 985 | 19,90 | 16,14 | 50,77 | 66,91 | 13,19 |
|          | 2 005 | 18,24 | 12,72 | 53,39 | 66,11 | 15,65 |
| Turkey   | 1 960 | 41,25 | 16,63 | 38,59 | 55,22 | 3,53  |
|          | 1 985 | 36,59 | 20,67 | 38,59 | 59,26 | 4,15  |
|          | 2 005 | 31,40 | 18,43 | 44,67 | 63,10 | 5,50  |

**Source:** Kocaman, *ibid.*, p. 22

According to the estimates, there will be no change in the population of work force in the EU countries. Possibly, this situation will cause an instability of work force supply and demand and require work force to be demanded from abroad. Moreover, the EU countries will have to pay social insurance and social benefit premiums to an old-age population which is nearly equal to the total population of Turkey in the 2000's. On the other hand, Turkey will keep its situation in meeting its own work force demand and its potential to supply work force to send abroad (Kocaman, 1988; p. 5).

According to the studies, the EU will face important demographic changes at the beginning of the next century. Recently, decreasing birth and death rates caused the old-age population to make up an increasingly larger section of the total population structure. In short, this fact brings various economical and social problems both for the member states of the EU (TISK, 1990; p.10-14). Besides, it is obvious that investments made on the older-age population costs much more than the investments made on youth population (Economic and Social Consultative, 1986; p. 18).

The basic reason of the growth of old-age population whose effects will be obviously seen in the 2000s is the decline in the birth rates due to the increasing prosperity particularly in Europe. The people who were born after the World War II (Baby Boom) will constitute the older-age population group at the beginning of the next century. Another effect of the increasing prosperity is the increase in life expectancy due to better nourishment and developments made in medical science.

The change in the structure of population has various effects on economical development, work force market, productivity and social expenditures. First of, the low birth and death rates cause the youth and work force population to decline. It is projected that the work force population will decrease, or an optimistic projection that this will remain the same in many countries at the beginning of the next century. This matter draws attention to the possible effects of ageing population on the economic development and to the capacity of financing the social expenditures. For this reason, the most important problem that governments face is the

way of distribution of resources between working group and old-age group and whether the working group will cover the increasing social expenditures.

Table 4  
Distribution of EU Countries and Turkish Population  
According to Age Groups and Years (1991-1996) (%)

| Countries  | - 15 |      | 15 - 64 |      | 65 + |      |
|------------|------|------|---------|------|------|------|
|            | 1991 | 1996 | 1991    | 1996 | 1991 | 1996 |
| Belgium    | 18   | 18   | 67      | 66   | 17   | 16   |
| Denmark    | 17   | 18   | 67      | 67   | 15   | 17   |
| F. Germany | 16   | 16   | 68      | 68   | 16   | 16   |
| Greece     | 19   | 17   | 67      | 68   | 14   | 15   |
| Spain      | 19   | 16   | 67      | 68   | 14   | 16   |
| France     | 20   | 19   | 65      | 66   | 15   | 15   |
| Ireland    | 27   | 24   | 61      | 65   | 12   | 11   |
| Italy      | 16   | 15   | 69      | 69   | 15   | 16   |
| Luxembourg | 17   | 18   | 69      | 68   | 14   | 14   |
| Holland    | 18   | 18   | 69      | 68   | 13   | 14   |
| Austria    | 17   | 18   | 68      | 67   | 15   | 15   |
| Portugal   | 20   | 18   | 66      | 67   | 14   | 15   |
| Finland    | 19   | 19   | 68      | 66   | 13   | 15   |
| Sweden     | 18   | 19   | 64      | 64   | 18   | 17   |
| England    | 19   | 19   | 65      | 66   | 16   | 15   |
| EU Total   | 19   | 18   | 67      | 67   | 15   | 15   |
| Turkey     | 35   | 32   | 61      | 63   | 4    | 5    |

**Source:** T.C. State Institute of Statistics, *ibid.*, p. 8

The increase in life expectancy means rises in health expenses because the old-age population costs more compared to the youth population. For example, the studies, which were made by taking the average costs in the member countries of OECD into account, showed that the expenses made for the people over 65 are four times more than the one calculated for the people below 65 and that the expenses for the people over 75 is six times more than this one (TİSK, 1990; p. 10-14).

According to the EU, the high rate of child and youth groups in Turkey compared to other age groups is important in turns of work force, education and economy. Since this group has a demanding and consuming characteristic, it causes the dependency rate to increase.

Table 5 Distribution of EU Countries and Turkish Population According to Sex Groups (%)

| Countries  | Men   |       |       | Women |       |       |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|            | 1995  | 1996  | 1997  | 1995  | 1996  | 1997  |
| Belgium    | 48,91 | 48,89 | 48,89 | 51,09 | 51,11 | 51,11 |
| Denmark    | 49,34 | 49,37 | 49,38 | 50,66 | 50,63 | 50,62 |
| F. Germany | 48,59 | 48,62 | 48,68 | 51,41 | 51,38 | 51,32 |
| Greece     | 49,37 | 49,35 | 49,42 | 50,63 | 50,65 | 50,58 |
| Spain      | 48,95 | 48,94 | 48,92 | 51,05 | 51,06 | 51,08 |
| France     | 48,70 | 48,69 | 48,68 | 51,30 | 51,31 | 51,32 |
| Ireland    | 49,67 | 49,65 | -     | 50,33 | 50,35 | -     |
| Italy      | 48,53 | 48,52 | 48,54 | 51,47 | 51,48 | 51,46 |
| Luxembourg | 49,14 | 49,15 | 49,04 | 50,86 | 50,85 | 50,96 |
| Holland    | 49,45 | 49,45 | 49,44 | 50,55 | 50,55 | 50,56 |
| Austria    | 48,49 | 48,51 | 48,53 | 51,51 | 51,49 | 51,47 |
| Portugal   | 48,16 | 48,16 | 48,15 | 51,84 | 51,84 | 51,85 |
| Finland    | 48,67 | 48,70 | 48,72 | 51,33 | 51,30 | 51,28 |
| Sweden     | 49,41 | 49,40 | 49,41 | 50,59 | 50,60 | 50,59 |
| England    | 48,99 | 49,04 | 49,09 | 51,01 | 50,96 | 50,91 |
| EU Total   | 48,79 | 48,80 | 48,82 | 51,21 | 51,20 | 51,18 |
| Turkey     | 50,59 | 50,56 | 50,54 | 49,41 | 49,44 | 49,46 |
| TOTAL      | 49,05 | 49,06 | 49,07 | 50,95 | 50,94 | 50,93 |

**Source:** Council of Europe; Recent Demographic Developments in Europe, Belgium, 1997, p. 81, 112, 126, 135, 145, 161, 188, 193, 220, 241, 269, 321, 328, 352 and 364

**Note:** Including the former East Germany

**b. Sex Structure of Population:** The sex structure of the population is important demographically, socially and economically. If there is an imbalance in the number of males and females at marriage age, it is obvious that there will be some difficulties and this will cause social problems.

On the other hand, from an economic perspective, the sex structure of the population is also important. The supply of labour in a country, where male population rate is high, is greater than the one in a country where female population is high. This relation can also be applied to the rate of participation to the work force.

As can be seen in the table 5, female population is higher than male population in the EU member states. In general, the situation in Turkey presents similar characteristics. However, the male rate in Turkey is higher than female rate to some extent. This is because of the high rate of births and low rate of life expectancy. The number of females for every 100 males is also used as a measurement in the evaluation of sex structure of the population. Table 6 illustrates that, except for Turkey, the female number for 100 males is in excess. The increase of this number causes the above mentioned problems to occur.



Table 6 Women Per 100 Men in EU Countries and Turkey

| Countries  | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 |
|------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Belgium    | 105  | 105  | 104  | 104  | 104  | 105  |
| Denmark    | 103  | 103  | 103  | 103  | 103  | 103  |
| F. Germany | 107  | 107  | 106  | 106  | 106  | 105  |
| Greece     | 103  | 103  | 103  | 102  | 103  | 103  |
| Spain      | 104  | 104  | 104  | 104  | 104  | 104  |
| France     | 105  | 105  | 105  | 105  | 105  | 105  |
| Ireland    | 101  | 101  | 101  | 101  | 101  | 101  |
| Italy      | 106  | 106  | 106  | 106  | 106  | 106  |
| Luxembourg | 104  | 104  | 104  | 104  | 104  | 104  |
| Holland    | 102  | 102  | 102  | 102  | 102  | 102  |
| Austria    | 108  | 107  | 107  | 106  | 106  | 106  |
| Portugal   | 107  | 107  | 108  | 108  | 108  | 108  |
| Finland    | 106  | 106  | 106  | 106  | 105  | 105  |
| Sweden     | 102  | 102  | 102  | 102  | 102  | 102  |
| England    | 105  | 105  | 104  | 104  | 104  | 104  |
| Turkey     | 97   | 97   | 97   | 98   | 98   | 98   |

Source: T.C. SIS, *ibid.*, p. 14

**c. Median Age:** We need to calculate an average age covering the whole population in order to determine whether the population of a country is young or old, or ageing or not. In order to achieve this, the “median age” is calculated. The median age is determined by taking into account the people from 0 age to the oldest one and the age which is just in the middle of this row is taken. Thus, half the population is below the median age and the other half is over. Consequently, when the median age is low, it means that the population is young, when it is high it means the population is old.

When we look at the table 7, we can see that the population of the EU is rather older than Turkey. The average median age of the Union was 34,3 in 1988, and the average median age of the world population was estimated to be 24. The median age in Turkey is far below the average of both of the EU and the world. This matter shows that Turkey has a young population structure with a Median age of 22. In the EU, the country with the youngest population is Ireland with 27,7 Median age, and the countries with the oldest population is Germany with a Median age of 37,2 and Denmark with a Median age of 35,6.

In 1988, in the EU, 1/4 of the total population was below the age of 20 and 1/5 was over the age of 60. Because the population is getting older in the Union, it is predicted that by 2010, the youth and old-age population will have a 23 percent share and by 2020 the old-age population in the EU will be more than the youth population (EUROSTAT, 1991; p. 22).

Table 7 Median Age in EU Countries and Turkey

| Countries  | 1988 | Countries  | 1988 | Countries | 1988 |
|------------|------|------------|------|-----------|------|
| Belgium    | 24,7 | Ireland    | 27.7 | Finland   |      |
| Denmark    | 35.6 | Italy      | 35.0 | Sweden    |      |
| F. Germany | 37.2 | Luxembourg | 35.2 | England   | 34.5 |
| Greece     | 34.9 | Holland    |      | EU Total  | 34.3 |
| Spain      | 31,6 | Austria    |      | Turkey    | 21.9 |
| France     | 33.3 | Portugal   | 31.3 |           |      |

**Source:** Eurostat; A Social Portrait of Europe, Brussels, 1991, p. 10 and T.C. SIS; 1989 Türkiye Nüfus Araştırması, Ankara, 1991, p.11

**d. Dependency Rate:** The whole population of a country is consumer, but those in their working-age are both consumers and producers. In order to establish a balance between production and consumption, those who take part in production have to manufacture and produce enough for those who do not involve in. This is called the dependency rate. It is the rate of the population which is out of working-age to the population of working-age.

There is an inverse proportion between the rate of dependency and population of the working-age. That is, while the population of work force participants increases the dependency rate decreases and vice-versa.

As illustrated in the table 8, the dependency rate is below 60 percent both in the EU and Turkey. However, Turkey has the highest dependency ratio (57,1 percent). A similar trend was observed in 1985. In this year, while the dependency ratio of Turkey decreased to 69 percent, the dependency rate in the EU countries was about 50 percent. Because of a decrease in the rate of children in the total population and the increase in the population of old-age people and the decrease in the population of working people, it is predicted that, the dependency rate in most of the EU countries will be in a rising trend by 2005.

#### 4. Household

**a. Household Size:** There is a close relationship between the household size and industrialisation and modernisation. Because the number of families, which consists of a single parent increases. When we take into consideration the fact that the industrialisation and modernisation cause a decrease in the number of children, the matter becomes more obvious.

The size of the household in Turkey was 5,8 in the 1975 census and 5,3 in the 1980 census. Parallel to modernisation and industrialisation and urbanisation, the number decreased to 4,9 in 1990. Although the number of people in the family presents a decreasing trend in Turkey, it is rather above from 2,8 of the EU countries. With regard to the population increase and fertility, the closest EU country to Turkey is Ireland; however, the household size of Ire-

land (3,6), is much below the household size of Turkey. As illustrated in the table 9, countries like Greece, Spain, Portugal and Italy, where a high number of people per household is observed, are mainly in the southern part of the EU.

Table 8 Age Dependency Ratios in EU Countries and Turkey (%), 1997

| Countries  | 0-14 ve 65+ / |            |       |           |               |
|------------|---------------|------------|-------|-----------|---------------|
|            | 0-14 / 15-64  | 65 / 15-64 | 15-64 | 65 / 0-14 | 60-64 / 15-19 |
| Belgium    | 27,0          | 24,7       | 51,7  | 91,3      | 86,0          |
| Denmark    | 26,4          | 22,4       | 48,8  | 84,6      | 79,7          |
| F. Germany | 23,7          | 22,8       | 46,5  | 96,2      | 102,0         |
| Greece     | 23,9          | 23,6       | 47,5  | 98,4      | 84,8          |
| Spain      | 23,4          | 23,1       | 46,5  | 98,9      | 71,3          |
| France     | 29,4          | 23,6       | 53,0  | 80,2      | 72,4          |
| Ireland    | 37,2          | 17,8       | 55,0  | 47,7      | 39,8          |
| Italy      | 21,6          | 25,1       | 46,7  | 116,5     | 96,9          |
| Luxembourg | 27,7          | 21,2       | 48,8  | 76,5      | 87,9          |
| Holland    | 26,9          | 19,6       | 46,6  | 72,8      | 75,1          |
| Austria    | 25,8          | 22,7       | 48,5  | 88,3      | 76,3          |
| Portugal   | 25,5          | 21,9       | 47,4  | 86,1      | 71,4          |
| Finland    | 28,3          | 21,7       | 50,0  | 76,7      | 73,8          |
| Sweden     | 29,5          | 27,4       | 56,8  | 92,9      | 80,1          |
| England    | 29,7          | 24,2       | 53,9  | 81,3      | 77,6          |
| EU Total   | 27,1          | 22,8       | 49,8  | 85,9      | 78,3          |
| Turkey     | 49,4          | 7,7        | 57,1  | 15,6      | 27,0          |

**Source:** Council of Europe, *ibid.*, p. 28 and Kocaman, *ibid.* p. 21

**Not:** Data represent 1996 for F. Germany and Ireland including the former East Germany

**b. Distribution of Households:** The one-person families are mainly seen in Sweden (40 percent), Denmark (34 percent), Germany (34 percent), Finland (32 percent), Holland (30 percent). The one-person households account for more than 1/5 of the total households in the EU and most of the one-person households consist of females over 65 years old (EUROSTAT, 1991; p.22).

As a neologism, “a family with one parent” is used to express fathers or mothers living with their children. Their rate in Ireland is 9,5 percent, in Britain 8,4 percent and in Italy 8,1 percent. Most of the families with a single parent are the families that consist of a mother and her children. The rate of these in Germany is 30,8 percent, in Denmark 29,5 percent, but in Spain it is quite low with 10,2 percent rate. It is also comparatively low in Portugal (12, 8

percent) and in Greece (14,6 percent). All these data reveal that the families in EU countries are faced with loneliness and serious shocks.

The situation is different in Turkey where, the householders account for 28,59 percent of the 38,5 million population. This share is larger in urban areas (31,37 percent). The share of the householder's spouse is 26,48 percent. The difference is caused by one-person households (single people) and polygamy. The share of the children in household is 35,5 percent. This share is higher in rural areas with 37,61 than in urban. The share of the grandchildren and spouses of the children of the householder (the son-in-laws and daughter-in-laws) is higher in rural areas with 6,38 than in urban areas. The same applies for the relatives of the householder and/or of his/her spouse, living with the household (Atalay, 1992; p. 49). The share of one-person households in Turkey is 5 percent and the share of the households with 4 or more people is 70 percent (See the table 9).

Table 9 Size of Households in EU Countries and Turkey

|           | Total Number of Households |             | Size of Households |      | Size of Households as % |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-----------|----------------------------|-------------|--------------------|------|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|           | 1981                       | 1991        | 1981               | 1991 | 1                       | 2    | 3    | 4    | 1    | 2    | 3    | 4    |
| Countries | 1981                       | 1991        | 1981               | 1991 | 1981                    | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 | 1981 | 1991 |
| Belgium   | 3 569 000                  | 3 953 000   | 2,7                | 2,5  | 23                      | 28   | 30   | 30   | 20   | 19   | 26   | 23   |
| Denmark   | 2 069 000                  | 2 274 000   | 2,4                | 2,2  | 29                      | 34   | 31   | 33   | 16   | 15   | 23   | 18   |
| F. Germ.  | 25 099 000                 | 35 246 000  | 2,5                | 2,3  | 31                      | 34   | 29   | 31   | 18   | 17   | 23   | 18   |
| Greece    | 2 974 000                  | 3 204 000   | 3,1                | 3,0  |                         | 16   |      | 27   |      | 21   |      | 37   |
| Spain     | 10 586 000                 | 11 836 000  | 3,6                | 3,3  | 10                      |      | 21   |      | 20   |      | 49   |      |
| France    | 19 590 000                 | 21 542 000  | 2,7                | 2,6  | 25                      | 27   | 29   | 30   | 19   | 18   | 28   | 26   |
| Ireland   | 911 000                    | 1 029 000   | 3,6                | 3,3  | 17                      | 20   | 20   | 21   | 15   | 15   | 48   | 43   |
| Italy     | 16 632 000                 | 19 909 000  | 3,0                | 2,8  | 18                      | 21   | 24   | 25   | 22   | 22   | 36   | 33   |
| Luxem.    | 128 000                    | 145 000     | 2,8                | 2,6  | 21                      | 25   | 28   | 28   | 21   | 20   | 30   | 27   |
| Holland   | 5 011 000                  | 6 162 000   | 2,7                | 2,4  | 23                      | 30   | 30   | 33   | 15   | 14   | 32   | 23   |
| Austria   | 2 764 000                  | 3 013 000   | 2,7                | 2,5  | 28                      | 30   | 26   | 28   | 17   | 18   | 28   | 25   |
| Portugal  | 2 924 000                  | 3 146 000   | 3,3                | 3,1  | 13                      | 14   | 25   | 25   | 23   | 24   | 39   | 37   |
| Finland   | 1 782 000                  | 2 037 000   | 2,6                | 2,4  | 27                      | 32   | 26   | 29   | 19   | 16   | 28   | 23   |
| Sweden    | 3 498 000                  | 3 830 000   | 2,3                | 2,1  | 33                      | 40   | 31   | 31   | 15   | 12   | 21   | 17   |
| England   | 19 949 000                 | 22 422 000  | 2,7                | 2,5  | 22                      | 27   | 32   | 33   | 17   | 16   | 30   | 24   |
| EU Total  | 117 486 000                | 139 748 000 | 2,8                | 2,6  |                         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Turkey    | 8 522 000                  | 11 188 000  | 5,3                | 5,0  | 6                       | 5    | 11   | 11   | 13   | 14   | 69   | 70   |

**Source:** EUROSTAT; *Eurostat Yearbook 1996*, Belgium, 1997, p. 58 and Sedat Murat (and others); *Nüfus ve Demografi 1927-1990 I*, İstanbul: Municipality of Greater Publication No. 56, p. 384.

**Not:** Data represent 1980 and 1990 Population Census for Turkey

## 5. Urban And Rural Population

The table 1 below illustrates the rate of urban population to the total population in Turkey and in the EU countries. However, because the definition of “rural” is different in every country and because the statistics are issued according to their own definition, it is not possible to make a healthy comparison with the numbers stated on the table.

Urbanisation in the West started with industrialisation. Since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, these countries experienced a very rapid urbanisation. In 1900, the only country with the higher population living in urban areas than in rural was Britain.

An average of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the population in the EU countries live in urban areas and in most of the countries urbanisation has come to a saturation point. Only Portugal (3,3) and Ireland (2,7) among the EU countries have a rapid urbanisation rate.

### B. Marriages and Divorces

#### 1. Marriages

**a. Number of Marriages:** The table 10 below illustrates the number of marriages and its rate to general population. Except for Germany and Luxembourg, there was a rise in the number of marriages in all the EU countries, between 1960 and 1970. The number of marriages in the Union increased from 2.521.159 in 1960 to 2.624.803 in 1970. In the following years, the number of marriages in all the EU countries displayed a decreasing trend and in 1996 the number of marriages totalled to 1.573.567. This shows that the preference of the citizens of the Union concerning marriage has started to change. Contrary to the EU countries, the marriage number in Turkey, except for the 1990-1994 period, increased simultaneously. Likewise, the number of marriages increased from 117.495 in 1970 to 460.763 in 1989. In 1996, it increased to 486.734 (See the table 10).

**b. Marriage Rates:** When we look at the rate of the marriages to the general population in the EU countries, the rate has been in a continuous decrease starting from 1960's to present, except for 1987. While 7,96 out of every 1000 people were married in 1960's, this rate decreased to 5,84 in 1985 and to 4,22 in 1996. When we look at the rate of marriages to general population in Turkey, we see that this rate was far below the rate of the EU countries before 1975, and over after. The rate of marriages to general population in Turkey was 3,37 per thousand in 1970, and in the EU it was 7,72. On the other hand, the rate increased considerably between 1980 and 1988 in Turkey and went beyond the rate of the EU. The rate of marriages to general population in Turkey in 1980 and 1988 was 8,39 and 7,70 per thousand respectively. With regard to marriages, Portugal and Denmark show similarities to Turkey. Sweden has the lowest marriage rate among the EU countries (See the table 10).

**c. The Earliest Marriage Ages:** The average earliest marriage age represents the manner, model and changing view of the population of the EU towards marriage. During the years

between 1950 and 1975, the earliest marriage age was 25,6 for males and 23,0 for females. Later, the marriage age rose. For instance, in 1987, the marriage age for males was 27,1, and for females 24,6 (EUROSTAT, 1991: p. 24).

Compared to the EU countries, the earliest marriage age in Turkey is rather low. The first marriage age for males is 22,67 and for females it is 18,91. These averages in rural areas are lower than in urban (Atalay, 1992; p. 40).

Table 10

Number of Marriages, Crude Marriage Rates and Mean Age at First Marriage in EU Countries and Turkey

| Count.   | Number of Marriages |           |           |           | <i>Crude Marriage Rates</i> |      |      |      |      | <i>Mean Age</i>   |      |      |      |
|----------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|-------------------|------|------|------|
|          |                     |           |           |           | (Per thousand)              |      |      |      |      | At First Marriage |      |      |      |
|          | 1960                | 1980      | 1990      | 1996      | 1960                        | 1970 | 1980 | 1990 | 1996 | 1970              | 1980 | 1990 | 1996 |
| Belgium  | 65 220              | 66 369    | 64 554    | 50 601    | 7,14                        | 7,58 | 6,73 | 6,49 | 4,99 | 22,4              | 22,3 | 26,8 | -    |
| Denm.    | 35 897              | 26 448    | 31 513    | 35 953    | 7,86                        | 7,41 | 5,16 | 6,14 | 6,85 | -                 | 24,8 | 27,6 | 29,5 |
| F. Germ. | 689 028             | 496 603   | 516 388   | 427 091   | 9,52                        | 7,35 | 6,35 | 6,53 | 5,22 | 22,5              | 22,6 | 24,8 | -    |
| Greece   | 58 165              | 62 352    | 59 052    | 47 000    | 7,01                        | 7,68 | 6,50 | 5,83 | 4,49 | 22,9              | 22,3 | 23,8 | 24,5 |
| Spain    | 253 917             | 220 674   | 220 533   | 194 635   | 7,95                        | 7,37 | 5,90 | 5,68 | 4,96 | 24,8              | 23,7 | 25,5 | -    |
| France   | 319 900             | 334 377   | 287 099   | 279 000   | 7,04                        | 7,79 | 6,22 | 5,07 | 4,79 | 22,4              | 23,0 | 25,6 | -    |
| Ireland  | 15 465              | 21 792    | 17 838    | 16 255    | 5,46                        | 7,21 | 6,78 | 5,09 | 4,50 | 24,8              | 24,1 | 26,3 | -    |
| Italy    | 387 683             | 322 968   | 319 711   | 272 049   | 7,75                        | 7,37 | 5,73 | 5,64 | 4,75 | 24,1              | -    | 25,6 | -    |
| Luxemb.  | 2 236               | 2 149     | 2 312     | 2 105     | 7,12                        | 6,36 | 5,90 | 6,10 | 5,10 | 23,2              | 23,0 | 25,4 | 26,7 |
| Holland  | 89 100              | 90 182    | 95 649    | 85 140    | 7,80                        | 9,54 | 6,40 | 6,42 | 5,50 | 22,7              | 23,1 | 25,9 | 27,6 |
| Austria  | 58 508              | 46 435    | 45 212    | 42 298    | 8,32                        | 7,08 | 6,15 | 5,88 | 5,25 | 23,1              | 23,1 | 25,1 | 26,9 |
| Portugal | 69 457              | 72 164    | 71 654    | 63 672    | 7,72                        | 9,32 | 7,43 | 7,22 | 6,42 | 24,3              | 23,3 | 24,2 | -    |
| Finland  | 32 834              | 29 388    | 24 997    | 24 464    | 7,44                        | 8,83 | 6,16 | 5,03 | 4,78 | 23,0              | 24,5 | 26,5 | 27,9 |
| Sweden   | 50 149              | 37 569    | 40 477    | 33 304    | 6,71                        | 5,41 | 4,52 | 4,75 | 3,77 | 24,0              | 26,4 | 27,5 | 29,0 |
| England  | 393 600             | 418 400   | 375 409   |           | 7,52                        | 8,47 | 7,43 | 6,53 | 0,00 | 22,4              | 23,0 | 25,2 | -    |
| EU Tot.  | 2 521 159           | 2 247 870 | 2 172 398 | 1 573 567 | 7,96                        | 7,72 | 6,34 | 5,97 | 4,22 | 23,3              | 23,5 | 25,7 | 27,4 |
| Turkey   | -                   | 366 403   | 459 907   | 486 734   | -                           | 3,37 | 8,39 | 8,29 | 7,83 | 19,9              | 20,7 | 21,5 |      |
| TOTAL    | 2 521 159           | 2 614 273 | 2 632 305 | 2 060 301 | 7,33                        | 7,31 | 6,56 | 6,28 | 4,74 | 21,6              | 22,1 | 23,6 |      |

**Source:** Council of Europe, *ibid.*, p. 74, 82, 113, 127, 136, 148, 162, 189, 194, 221, 242, 270, 322, 329, 353 and 365

**Note:** Including the former East Germany

It is observed that, as the number of marriages decreases, the youth get less interested in marriage and the marriages end in divorce easily in the EU countries. The number of divorces was relatively low in 1960, but it increased very rapidly during the following 20

years. The number of divorces in 1960, in all the EU countries was 125.000, but in 1988 it rose to 534.000. In the 1970's, the EU countries made reforms in divorce laws and the divorces were made legitimate but only Ireland did not supply a legal support to divorces. When the numbers of divorces for the years 1960 and 1988 are compared, the divorces increased 3,5 times in France, 4,5 times in Belgium and 5 times in Holland (EUROSTAT, 1991; p. 25).

Table 11 Number of Divorces and Crude Divorces Rates in EU Countries and Turkey

|          | Number of Divorces |         |         |         |         | Crude Divorces Rates |       |       |       |       |
|----------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|          | 1960               | 1970    | 1980    | 1990    | 1996    | 1960                 | 1970  | 1980  | 1990  | 1996  |
| Count.   | 1960               | 1970    | 1980    | 1990    | 1996    | 1960                 | 1970  | 1980  | 1990  | 1996  |
| Belgium  | 4 589              | 6 403   | 14 457  | 20 331  | 28 384  | 5,03                 | 6,63  | 14,67 | 20,44 | 27,98 |
| Denm.    | 6 682              | 9 524   | 13 593  | 13 731  | 12 773  | 14,63                | 19,41 | 26,54 | 26,74 | 24,32 |
| F. Germ. | 73 418             | 103 927 | 141 016 | 154 786 | 142 774 | 10,14                | 13,28 | 18,04 | 19,57 | 17,45 |
| Greece   | 2 463              | 3 492   | 6 684   | 6 037   | 9 000   | 2,97                 | 3,98  | 6,97  | 5,96  | 8,60  |
| Spain    | -                  | -       | -       | 23 191  | -       | -                    | -     | -     | 5,97  | -     |
| France   | -                  | 38 949  | 81 143  | 105 813 | -       | -                    | 7,71  | 15,10 | 18,70 | -     |
| Ireland  | -                  | -       | -       | -       | -       | -                    | -     | -     | -     | -     |
| Italy    | -                  | -       | 11 844  | 27 682  | -       | -                    | -     | 2,10  | 4,88  | -     |
| Luxemb.  | 153                | 217     | 582     | 760     | 817     | 4,87                 | 6,40  | 15,99 | 20,05 | 19,78 |
| Holland  | 5 672              | 10 317  | 25 735  | 28 419  | 34 871  | 4,97                 | 7,96  | 18,26 | 19,08 | 22,51 |
| Austria  | 8 011              | 10 356  | 13 327  | 16 282  | 18 079  | 11,40                | 13,89 | 17,66 | 21,17 | 22,44 |
| Portugal | 749                | 509     | 5 843   | 8 708   | 13 429  | 0,83                 | 0,58  | 6,02  | 8,78  | 13,54 |
| Finland  | 3 655              | 6 044   | 9 464   | 13 169  | 13 795  | 8,28                 | 13,10 | 19,84 | 26,48 | 26,96 |
| Sweden   | 8 958              | 12 943  | 19 887  | 19 357  | 21 324  | 11,99                | 16,17 | 23,95 | 22,70 | 24,13 |
| England  | 25 900             | 63 200  | 159 700 | 167 537 | -       | 4,95                 | 11,36 | 28,37 | 29,16 | -     |
| EU Tot.  | 140 250            | 265 881 | 503 275 | 605 803 | 295 246 | 4,43                 | 7,82  | 14,20 | 16,65 | 7,92  |
| Turkey   | 11 072             | 9 568   | 15 901  | 25 712  | 29 552  | 4,08                 | 2,74  | 3,64  | 4,63  | 4,75  |
| TOTAL    | 151 322            | 275 449 | 519 176 | 631 515 | 324 798 | 4,40                 | 7,35  | 13,04 | 15,06 | 7,47  |

**Source:** Council of Europe, *ibid.*, 1997, p. 74, 82, 113, 127, 136, 148, 162, 189, 194, 221, 242, 270, 322, 329, 353 and 365

**Note:** Including the former East Germany

## 2. Divorces

Marriages in Turkey do not generally end in divorce. The continuity of 94 percent of the first marriages of females prove this. 96 percent of females and 92,5 percent males get married before the age of 30 (Bircan, 1993; p. 6).

**a. Divorce Numbers:** The divorce numbers in the EU countries show continuous increase as to years. As a matter of fact, the total number of divorces in the EU countries was 140.250

(except Spain, France, Ireland, Italy) in 1960 and it was 661.040 in 1994. The only country where the divorces are not legal is Ireland. The highest divorce numbers are seen in Britain (173.604 divorce cases in 1994), Germany (166.052 divorce cases in 1994) and France (115.658 divorce cases in 1994). And in Turkey, before 1980, the annual divorce number fluctuated below 15.000, it approached to 30.000 in 1996. However, Turkey is far behind the EU countries in this respect. For instance, when we consider the years 1985 and 1994, the divorce cases in Turkey only doubled (See Table 11).

**b. Divorce Rates:** With regard to divorce rates, Turkey is far below the average rates of the EU as a whole and of the EU countries separately. Only the rates of Italy and Portugal were below that of Turkey in the first years. While the divorce rate is below 5 per ten thousand in Turkey recently, it is over 20 per ten thousand in many of the EU countries. The low rate of divorces in Turkey is, before all, due to effects of religious rules. Also, it is related with the education and economic status of the females, the attitude of society towards divorce and the laws regarding the subject (DPT, 1989; p. 8).

## C. Fertility

### 1. Legitimate Births

Three factors that play a big role on the growth of population are births, deaths and migration movement. Births and deaths are natural factors of population growth. With regard to population growth today, the essential factor is births. Because the deaths were reduced or are still being reduced to a minimum level, the growth trend of a population will be related to the level of the birth rates to a large extent in the future. In addition to this, the level of births affects age and even sex structure of a population and thus causes not only a demographic, but also social and cultural problems to occur. On the other hand, the changes that occur in social, cultural and consequently in the family structure of the society affect the type of the births (legitimate or illegitimate births). The evaluation of the demographic structure of Turkey and the EU is possible by the analysis of the crude birth and total birth rates.

**a. Crude Birth Rates:** Both in the EU and Turkey, the birth rates decrease as regards to the years. However, while the crude birth rates in the EU countries is approximately 10 per thousand, it is over 20 per thousand in Turkey. The crude birth rate calculated for Turkey is one time more than the average rate of the EU countries. However, the decreasing trend of crude births in Turkey is faster than that of EU countries. The countries with the fastest decreasing crude birth rates are Turkey (from 37,40 per thousand to 22 per thousand), Spain (from 19,60 per thousand to 9 per thousand), Ireland (from 21,80 per thousand to 13,90 per thousand) and Italy (from 16,80 per thousand to 9,20 per thousand). But, the projections indicate that there will be no significant changes in the rate of crude births in EU countries that completed their demographic transition process but the births rates in Turkey will keep their level for some more time (See the table 12).



Table 12 Crude Birth Rates in EU Countries and Turkey

| Countries | Crude Birth Rates<br>(Per thousand) |       |       |       | Total Fertility Rates |      |      |      | Llegitimate Births<br>(Per 100 Births) |       |       |       |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------------|------|------|------|--|-------|-------|-------|
|           | 1970                                | 1980  | 1990  | 1996  | 1970                  | 1980 | 1990 | 1996 | 1970                                   | 1980  | 1990  | 1996  |
| Belgium   | 14,80                               | 12,60 | 12,40 | 11,40 | 2,25                  | 1,69 | 1,62 | 1,55 | 2,80                                   | 4,10  | 14,40 | -     |
| Denmark   | 14,40                               | 11,20 | 12,30 | 12,90 | 1,95                  | 1,55 | 1,67 | 1,75 | 11,00                                  | 33,20 | 16,40 | -     |
| F. Germ.  |                                     |       | 11,40 | 9,70  |                       |      |      | 1,30 | -                                      | -     | 15,30 | -     |
| Greece    | 16,50                               | 1,40  | 10,10 | 9,70  | 2,43                  | 2,23 | 1,43 | 1,31 | 1,10                                   | 1,50  | 2,20  | 3,00  |
| Spain     | 19,60                               | 15,20 | 10,30 | 9,00  | 2,86                  | 2,21 | 1,36 | 1,15 | 1,40                                   | 3,90  | 9,60  | -     |
| France    | 16,70                               | 14,90 | 13,40 | 12,60 | 2,47                  | 1,94 | 1,78 | 1,72 | 6,80                                   | 11,40 | 30,10 | -     |
| Ireland   | 21,80                               | 21,80 | 15,10 | 13,90 | 3,87                  | 3,23 | 2,12 | 1,91 | 2,70                                   | 5,00  | 14,60 | -     |
| Italy     | 16,80                               | 11,30 | 10,00 | 9,20  | 2,43                  | 1,68 | 1,36 | 1,22 | 2,20                                   | 4,30  | 6,50  | -     |
| Luxem.    | 13,00                               | 11,40 | 12,90 | 13,70 | 1,97                  | 1,5  | 1,62 | 1,76 | 4,00                                   | 6,00  | 12,90 | 15,00 |
| Holland   | 18,30                               | 12,80 | 13,20 | 12,20 | 2,57                  | 1,6  | 1,62 | 1,52 | 21,00                                  | 4,10  | 11,40 | 16,90 |
| Austria   | 15,00                               | 12,00 | 11,70 | 11,00 | 2,29                  | 1,65 | 1,45 | 1,42 | 12,80                                  | 17,80 | 23,60 | 28,00 |
| Portugal  | 16,80                               | 19,50 | 14,30 | 11,10 | 2,76                  | 2,19 | 1,57 | 1,44 | 7,30                                   | 9,20  | 14,7  | 18,30 |
| Finland   | 14,00                               | 13,20 | 13,10 | 11,80 | 1,83                  | 1,63 | 1,78 | 1,76 | 5,80                                   | 13,10 | 25,20 | 35,40 |
| Sweden    | 13,70                               | 11,70 | 14,50 | 10,80 | 1,94                  | 1,68 | 2,14 | 1,61 | 18,40                                  | 39,70 | 47,00 | 53,90 |
| England   | 16,20                               | 13,40 | 13,90 | 12,50 | 2,45                  | 1,89 | 1,83 | 1,70 | 8,00                                   | 11,50 | 27,90 | -     |
| Turkey    | 37,40                               | 31,70 | 24,80 | 22,00 | 5,68                  | 4,36 | 2,99 | 2,55 | -                                      | 2,90  | 4,40  | -     |

Source: Council of Europe, *ibid.*, p. 42

**b. Fertility Rates:** When we study the status of the average number of children given birth by women in Turkey and in the EU countries on the table 12, it will be seen that the fertility of Turkish women is far more than the fertility of women in all the member countries. The EU countries do not have the fertility rate which will enable their population grow. Supposing that the fertility rate is 2 (replacement index: one male and one female child) and a country is to keep its population at the same level; Turkey is a country that increases its population with a 2,55 total fertility rate.

On the other hand, the table 25 clearly reveals that the difference in the fertility rates of Turkey and the EU countries is decreasing in time. In 1970 the number of children per women in the EU countries was about 2 and 3, and in Turkey it was 5,68. In 1996, this number decreased below 2 in EU countries and to 2,55 in Turkey (See the table 12).

Despite the fluctuations in the birth numbers, the total fertility rate is far below the generation-replacement threshold. Since the 1960's, a continuous decrease has been observed in the birth rates in EU countries. Although there have been some positive developments since 1975, they have been below 2,1 children per woman rate which is required to keep the population stabilised.

Only Ireland and Sweden were above the generation-replacement threshold until 1992, but they experience a rapid decrease in the birth rates. The approach of the birth rates to the “generation-replacement threshold” indicates that the matter is too serious.

Nevertheless, the decrease of the birth rates is not peculiar to Europe. The same situation is also observed in the U.S.A., Japan, Australia, and in other developed countries. Consequently, it is possible to say that the decrease of birth rates is the result of economic and social development.

Besides the reasons mentioned above, there are other factors that affect the births negatively. These factors are summarised below. Having children requires renunciation from a specific life style. After the second and third children, the holiday opportunities of the families decrease, the families are required to save money, mother has to leave work, despite for a temporary period, and when she tries to find a new job they are faced with some psychological and economic problems which put mothers and fathers in hesitation about having children. The matters like corruption in the social and economic structure, the anxiety of the level of unemployment particularly among the youth population make the future uncertain and affect birth rates negatively. The reality that the human love is essential element for marriage, causes the pairs’ avoidance from the responsibilities that the birth will bring forth.

Liberal tendencies that the young people wish to make their own decisions concerning marriage and children, decreases the birth rates. In addition to these fears concerning the future including taxing system, residence problems, excessive crowd which the urbanisation causes, environmental and industrial pollution, fears concerning the excessive population of the world, the hole on the ozone layer and nuclear hazard all have negative effects on the births.

When we consider the subject from the point of view of our country, although there is some partial corruption in the family, we see that the family structure in Turkey is very firm when compared to that of the EU countries. The reason for this firmness lies in the family structure, the religious beliefs, customs, traditions and historical ethics, etc. Although it is important, the economical prosperity for the family must not be evaluated as the sole requirement for the power of the family. Besides prosperity, it is utmost important to keep moral perceptions alive (Işık, 1991; p.64-70).

There are some certain domestic and foreign organisations that work to decrease the birth rates in Turkey, and from time to time the government support them. It is not democratic to intervene in the family with various means. The duty of the specialised foundations and government is not to direct the society but to educate. Otherwise, it will be inevitable for us to be in the same situation with the EU and Western countries which they are striving to get rid of this problem.

## **2. Births Outside Marriages**

The decrease of the birth rates is also affected from the changes in the marriage models and from the rapid growth of divorces. In the EU countries, the traditional marriage models are corrupted, while the marriage rate decreases the marriage age gets older, and beyond all, the marriages do not last long and end in divorce. The number of single-parent families also in-

crease and this status causes negative outcomes with regard to the physical, psychological and moral aspects.

Today, the EU has some serious problems concerning births without marriage. In some of the EU countries, 50 percent of the total births occur between unmarried couples. For example, this rate is 53,90 in Sweden, 46,50 in Denmark, 35,40 in Finland. The corresponding rate in Turkey was 4,40 as of 1990 (See the table 12).

### 3. Abortions

Although contraceptive medicines and means are very widespread and plentiful, abortion is used to a large extent both in the EU and Turkey. And although it is not disclosed by the statistics in some countries, the total number of abortion is estimated to be over 800.000 in the EU countries (See the table 13). The number of abortions in Turkey is also rather high. According to a survey made in 1973, the abortions made willingly accounted for 16 percent of the annual births; in metropolitan areas this rate went up to 31 percent (TÜSİAD, 1992; p.40).

Table 13 Legal Abortions in EU Countries and Turkey

| Countries  | Abortions |        |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|------------|-----------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|            | 1960      | 1970   | 1980    | 1990    | 1991    | 1992    | 1993    | 1994    | 1995    | 1996    |
| Belgium    | -         | -      | -       | -       | -       | 10 332  | 10 721  | 11 224  | -       | -       |
| Denmark    | 3 918     | 9 375  | 23 334  | 20589   | 19 729  | 18 833  | 18 687  | 17 593  | 17 720  | -       |
| F. Germany | -         | -      | 179 805 | 145 267 | 124 377 | 118 611 | 111 236 | 103 586 | 97 937  | 130 899 |
| Greece     | -         | -      | -       | 10 145  | 11 109  | 11 977  | 12 289  | -       | -       | -       |
| Spain      | -         | -      | -       | 37 231  | 41 910  | 44 962  | 45 503  | 47 832  | -       | -       |
| France     | -         | -      | 171 218 | 170 428 | 172 152 | 167 458 | 157 886 | 163 000 | -       | -       |
| Ireland    | -         | -      | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Italy      | -         | -      | 207 644 | 161 386 | 157 173 | 148 924 | 145 021 | 136 481 | 136 817 | 133 500 |
| Luxem.     | -         | -      | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Holland    | -         | -      | 19 700  | 18 384  | 19 568  | 19 422  | 19 804  | 20 811  | 20 932  | -       |
| Austria    | 18 926    | 15 613 | 23 394  | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Portugal   | -         | -      | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       |
| Finland    | -         | -      | 15 037  | 12 232  | 11 747  | 11 071  | 10 342  | 10 013  | 9 884   | -       |
| Sweden     | 2 769     | 16 100 | 34 887  | 37 489  | 35 788  | 34 849  | 34 169  | 32 293  | 31 391  | -       |
| England    | -         | -      | 168 808 | 197 131 | 190 590 | 182 887 | 179 780 | 178 268 | 174 781 | -       |
| EU Total   | 25 613    | 41 088 | 843 827 | 810 282 | 784 143 | 769 326 | 745 438 | 721 101 | 489 462 | 264 399 |
| Turkey     | -         | -      | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       | -       |

**Source:** Council of Europe, *ibid.*, p. 74, 82, 113, 127, 136, 148, 162, 189, 194, 221, 242, 270, 322, 329, 353 and 365

**Note:** Including the former East Germany

## **D. Deaths**

Because death is one of the three factors that effects the volume and structure of population, it is very important for demographics. An entrance to a population mass is made via birth and migrations towards the country and exit from the population mass is made via deaths and migration out of the country. The importance of death's role on the decrease of the population is as much important as the role of birth on the increase of the population.

Moreover, death is important as being the indicator of social and economical development. In short, it is a demographic indicator of civilisation and prosperity. Because, as the civilisation and prosperity rates increase the rate of deaths decrease (Gürtan, 1969; p. 217).

### **1. Death numbers**

When we look at the table 14, it can be seen that, death numbers in some countries decreased between the years 1960 and 1996 (Turkey, Austria, Belgium, Ireland, and France) and in some others it increased (Denmark, Spain, Sweden, and Finland). (See the table 28).

It is estimated that, in the following years, because of the ageing of the population and the decrease of infant mortality rate, both in the EU and in Turkey, the death will be concentrated on the very old-age group and the death rates will increase. (TÜSİAD, 1999; p. 65).

### **2. Death Rates**

As can be seen through the Table 14, there has been no significant change in the death rates in the EU countries in the last 30 years, even it has increased to some extent. The most important factor that causes this is that the EU countries have an old population. Comparatively, in our country with a young population, the small share of old population causes death rates to be small.

Between 1990 and 1996, there was not a significant change in the crude death rates of the EU countries, and in Turkey the crude death rates were in a decreasing trend. Another important point is that, while the crude death rates of the EU were below that of Turkey until 1980, they have been over Turkey's rate from 1980 onward. The most important factor why the death rates of the EU are over Turkey's is that these countries have an old population. (See the table 14).

### **3. Infant Mortality**

The adult death rates are on a desired level in Turkey. However, the infant mortality is too high compared with the EU. Even, the total infant deaths in the EU (in 1960, it was 176.741 and in 1996, 16.028) were less than that of Turkey (246.500 in 1960 and 58.200 in 1996). (See the table 15).

As of 1995, every 40 babies out of 1000 babies born alive, died before their first year in Turkey, but in the EU countries this rate was 8,10 per thousand in Greece, 6,90 per thousand

in Portugal, 3,90 per thousand in Finland. Although it is expected that the infant mortality rates will decrease parallel to social and economical developments in Turkey, it will be over the EU countries (See the table 15).

On the other hand, although the share of infant mortality in the total deaths is decreasing in time in the EU and in Turkey, this rate is below 1 percent in EU countries in recent years, but in Turkey it is around 15 percent. (See the table 15).

Table 14 Number of Deaths and Crude Death Rates in EU Countries and Turkey

| Count.   | Deaths    |           |           |           |           | Crude Death Rates |       |       |       |       |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|          | 1960      | 1970      | 1980      | 1990      | 1996      | 1960              | 1970  | 1980  | 1990  | 1996  |
| Belgium  | 113 938   | 118 660   | 113 698   | 104 130   | 105 322   | 12,48             | 12,28 | 11,54 | 10,47 | 10,38 |
| Denm.    | 43 681    | 48 233    | 55 939    | 60 926    | 61 085    | 9,57              | 9,83  | 10,92 | 11,86 | 11,63 |
| F. Germ. | 876 721   | 975 664   | 952 371   | 919 445   | 882 843   | 12,11             | 12,47 | 12,18 | 11,62 | 10,79 |
| Greece   | 60 563    | 74 009    | 87 282    | 94 152    | 100 500   | 7,30              | 8,43  | 9,10  | 9,30  | 9,60  |
| Spain    | 262 260   | 280 170   | 289 344   | 333 142   | 337 321   | 8,21              | 8,34  | 7,74  | 8,58  | 8,60  |
| France   |           | 539 679   | 547 107   | 526 201   | 536 000   | 0,00              | 10,68 | 10,18 | 9,30  | 9,20  |
| Ireland  | 32 660    | 33 686    | 33 472    | 31 370    | 31 514    | 11,53             | 11,69 | 10,41 | 8,94  | 8,72  |
| Italy    | 480 932   | 521 096   | 554 510   | 543 708   | 547 404   | 9,61              | 9,71  | 9,83  | 9,59  | 9,55  |
| Luxem.   | 3 716     | 4 154     | 4 113     | 3 773     | 3 895     | 11,83             | 12,25 | 11,30 | 9,96  | 9,43  |
| Holland  | 87 825    | 109 619   | 114 279   | 128 824   | 137 561   | 7,69              | 8,46  | 8,11  | 8,65  | 8,88  |
| Austria  | 89 603    | 98 819    | 92 442    | 82 952    | 80 790    | 12,75             | 13,26 | 12,25 | 10,79 | 10,03 |
| Portugal | 95 007    | 93 854    | 94 971    | 102 768   | 106 881   | 10,56             | 10,74 | 9,78  | 10,36 | 10,77 |
| Finland  | 39 797    | 44 119    | 44 398    | 50 058    | 49 167    | 9,02              | 9,56  | 9,31  | 10,06 | 9,61  |
| Sweden   | 75 093    | 80 026    | 91 800    | 95 161    | 94 133    | 10,05             | 10,00 | 11,06 | 11,16 | 10,65 |
| England  | 603 300   | 655 400   | 661 500   | 641 799   | 638 896   | 11,52             | 11,78 | 11,75 | 11,17 | 10,89 |
| EU Tot.  | 2 865 096 | 3 677 188 | 3 737 226 | 3 718 409 | 3 713 312 | 9,05              | 10,81 | 10,54 | 10,22 | 9,96  |
| Turkey   | 507 500   | 452 300   | 427 200   | 416 900   | 408 000   | 18,71             | 12,97 | 9,78  | 7,51  | 6,56  |
| TOTAL    | 3 372 596 | 4 129 488 | 4 164 426 | 4 135 309 | 4 121 312 | 9,81              | 11,01 | 10,46 | 9,86  | 9,48  |

**Source:** Council of Europe, *ibid.*, p. 74, 82, 113, 127, 136, 148, 162, 189, 194, 221, 242, 270, 322, 329, 353 and 365, EUROMONITOR, *ibid.*, p. 57,59,63,66,68,70,72,74,76 and 78 and T.C. SIS; **Turkey and European...***ibid.*, p. 4 and 5

**Note:** Including the former East Germany

#### 4. Life Expectancy

The high rate of infant mortality is the most important factor that affects the life expectancy negatively in Turkey. In the 1960's, the life expectancy of a baby born in Turkey was 52 years, in 1985 it increased 13 years and became 65 years, in 1996 it was 68,2. (See Table 16). In the

1960's, life expectancy in the EU countries was 8 years longer and in 1985 it was 10 years longer than in Turkey. But, in the 1960-1985 period, life expectancy from birth increased 13 years in Turkey and 5 years in the EU reaching from 69,9 years to 74,5 years (Kocaman, 1988; p. 24). Another important point concerning life expectancy is that, both in the EU and in Turkey, women have a longer life span (about 5 years) expectancy than men. (See the table 16).

Table 15  
Infant Deaths, Infant Death Rates and Infant Mortality in EU Countries and Turkey (Under one year of age)

| Countries | Infant Deaths |         |        |        | Infant Deaths / Total Deaths |       |       |       | Infant Mortality<br>(Per thousand) |       |       |
|-----------|---------------|---------|--------|--------|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|------------------------------------|-------|-------|
|           | 1960          | 1980    | 1990   | 1996   | 1960                         | 1980  | 1990  | 1996  | 1991                               | 1993  | 1996  |
| Belgium   | 4 284         | 1 510   | 986    | 652    | 3,76                         | 1,33  | 0,95  | 0,62  | 8,40                               | 8,00  | 5,60  |
| Denmark   | 1636          | 484     | 473    |        | 3,75                         | 0,87  | 0,78  | 0,00  | 7,30                               | 5,4   |       |
| F. Germ.  | 44 105        | 10 779  | 6 385  | 3 962  | 5,03                         | 1,13  | 0,69  | 0,45  | 6,90                               | 5,80  | 5,00  |
| Greece    | 6 300         | 2 658   | 993    | 820    | 10,40                        | 3,05  | 1,05  | 0,82  | 9,00                               | 8,50  | 8,10  |
| Spain     | 28826         | 7048    | 3050   |        | 10,99                        | 2,44  | 0,92  | 0,00  | 7,20                               | 6,70  |       |
| France    |               | 8 010   | 5 599  |        | -                            | 1,46  | 1,06  | 0,00  | 7,30                               | 6,50  |       |
| Ireland   | 1 777         | 821     | 434    | 278    | 5,44                         | 2,45  | 1,38  | 0,88  | 7,60                               | 6,10  | 5,50  |
| Italy     | 39 950        | 9 320   | 4 654  | 3 163  | 8,31                         | 1,68  | 0,86  | 0,58  | 8,10                               | 7,10  | 5,80  |
| Luxem.    | 158           | 48      | 36     | 28     | 4,25                         | 1,17  | 0,95  | 0,72  | 9,20                               | 6,00  | 4,90  |
| Holland   | 4 286         | 1 557   | 1 397  | 1 086  | 4,88                         | 1,36  | 1,08  | 0,79  | 6,50                               | 6,30  | 5,30  |
| Austria   | 4 727         | 1 303   | 709    | 451    | 5,28                         | 1,41  | 0,85  | 0,56  | 7,50                               | 6,50  | 5,10  |
| Portugal  | 16 576        | 3 852   | 1 266  | 747    | 17,45                        | 4,06  | 1,23  | 0,70  | 10,8                               | 8,70  | 6,90  |
| Finland   | 1 717         | 481     | 368    | 211    | 4,31                         | 1,08  | 0,74  | 0,43  | 5,90                               | 4,40  | 3,90  |
| Sweden    | 1 699         | 671     | 739    | 203    | 2,26                         | 0,73  | 0,78  | 0,22  | 6,20                               | 4,80  | 4,00  |
| England   | 20 700        | 9 100   | 6 272  | 4 427  | 3,43                         | 1,38  | 0,98  | 0,69  | 7,40                               | 6,30  |       |
| EU Total  | 176 741       | 57 642  | 33 361 | 16 028 | 6,17                         | 1,54  | 0,90  | 0,43  |                                    |       |       |
| Turkey    | 246 500       | 134 600 | 80 700 | 58 200 | 48,57                        | 31,51 | 19,36 | 14,26 | 54,60                              | 49,30 | 42,20 |

**Source:** Council of Europe, *ibid.*, p. 74, 82, 113, 127, 136, 162, 189, 194, 221, 242, 270, 322, 329, 353 and 365 and T.C. SIS, **Turkey and European...***ibid.*, p. 17

**Note:** Including the former East Germany

According to the results of the Population Survey of State Institute of Statistics, in 1989 (DPT, 1989; p. 100); the number of women of every age group was more than the number of the men. The living rate of every 100.000 births until the first year was 92,8 percent for males and 93,7 for females. 91,3 percent of males and 92,1 of females survived up to the fifth year. From 5 to 40 years, the number of males decrease by 5,5 percent and the number of females

decreased by 4,5 percent. After the 40<sup>th</sup> year, as the age gets older, there is a decrease. The rate of females who live up to 70 years is 57,7 and the corresponding rate of males is 52 percent.

According to the same survey, life expectancy for each age was more for females than for males. The average age that a female was expected to live was 66,0 years and a male was expected to live 63,3 years. 69,4 percent of the female children who had overcome the infant mortality risk, are expected to live 69,4 more years and male children were expected to live 67,2 years longer. The life expectancy for the age of 5 was 66,6 for female children and 64,3 for male children.

Table 16 Life Expectancy At Birth in EU Countries and Turkey

| Countries  | Total |      |      | Men  |      |      | Women |      |      |
|------------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
|            | 1991  | 1994 | 1996 | 1991 | 1994 | 1996 | 1991  | 1994 | 1996 |
| Belgium    | 76,3  | 76,8 | 76,9 | 72,9 | 73,4 | 73,5 | 79,6  | 80,1 | 80,2 |
| Denmark    | 75,3  | 75,4 | 75,4 | 72,5 | 72,7 | 72,8 | 78,0  | 78,1 | 78,0 |
| F. Germany | 75,5  | 76,4 | 76,6 | 72,2 | 73,1 | 73,3 | 78,7  | 79,6 | 79,8 |
| Greece     | 77,2  | 77,7 | 77,7 | 74,7 | 75,2 | 75,0 | 79,7  | 80,2 | 80,3 |
| Spain      | 76,5  | 77,8 | 78,0 | 72,4 | 74,2 | 74,4 | 80,6  | 81,4 | 81,6 |
| France     | 77,0  | 77,9 | 78,0 | 72,9 | 73,8 | 74,0 | 81,1  | 81,9 | 81,9 |
| Ireland    | 75,1  | 76,0 | 75,9 | 72,3 | 73,2 | 73,2 | 77,8  | 78,7 | 78,5 |
| Italy      | 76,9  | 78,0 | 78,1 | 73,6 | 74,7 | 74,9 | 80,2  | 81,2 | 81,3 |
| Luxembourg | 75,6  | 76,5 | 76,5 | 72,0 | 73,2 | 73,0 | 79,1  | 79,7 | 80,0 |
| Holland    | 77,1  | 77,5 | 77,5 | 74,0 | 74,6 | 74,7 | 80,1  | 80,3 | 80,3 |
| Austria    | 75,7  | 76,6 | 77,1 | 72,4 | 73,4 | 73,9 | 79,0  | 79,7 | 80,2 |
| Portugal   | 73,8  | 75,1 | 74,8 | 70,2 | 71,6 | 71,0 | 77,4  | 78,6 | 78,5 |
| Finland    | 75,3  | 76,5 | 76,8 | 71,3 | 72,8 | 73,0 | 79,3  | 80,1 | 80,5 |
| Sweden     | 77,7  | 78,8 | 79,0 | 74,9 | 76,1 | 76,5 | 80,5  | 81,4 | 81,5 |
| England    | 75,9  | 76,7 | 76,9 | 73,2 | 74,1 | 74,4 | 78,6  | 79,3 | 79,3 |
| EU Total   | 76,0  | 76,9 | 77,0 | 72,8 | 73,7 | 73,8 | 79,3  | 80,0 | 80,1 |
| Turkey     | 67,0  | 67,7 | 68,2 | 64,6 | 65,4 | 65,9 | 69,3  | 70,0 | 70,5 |

Source: T.C. SIS, *ibid.*, p. 15 and 19

### 3. The Demographic Effects of Turkey's Full Membership to the EU

The "Demography" concept is getting more and more important particularly in developed countries. The demography subject plays an important role in the relations between Turkey and the EU. In the event of Turkey's full membership, when the free movement of labour is

recognised as a right, it presents an important problem.

The enlargement of the EU with Turkey also means that the EU will have larger an interior market. In this case, the total demand will increase and consequently the supply will increase, too. As a result, investments, employment and incomes will also increase.

The EU's uniting with Turkey may extend its effects to 200 million Turkish population living in the Balkans and Central Asia which have cultural and religious relations with Turkey. In the following years, it is estimated that there will be a decline in the population of the EU countries, and a rise in the population of Turkey.

The increasing rate of ageing of the population may cause state and society to face various problems. For example, we find increased expenditures concerning health care and social life. These negative affects form an anxiety source concerning economic and social development and particularly the mental and cultural structure of the society. The ageing of the population affects all social sectors negatively and causes. The decrease in the demand, which is caused by the ageing and declining population, decreases economic activities and causes unemployment to increase and working people to finance an increasing number of non-working people. This situation may cause pensions and health expenses to reach to a point that cannot be paid (Survey Centre of Turkey; year of publication unspecified, p.151).

Moreover, the decline in population and the ageing and heterogeneous state of the population may negatively effect the total labour amount and the productivity of the labour which is one of the most important factors of economic development.

Consequently, it can be derived that, the EU will need extra work force from outside its borders. This situation is seen as a requirement by demographers who study the economical results of the declining population for the continuation of the development and the stabilisation of the social prosperity.

For this reason, we can reach to the conclusion that, after its complete membership, Turkey will be able to recover the negative results of demographic events within the Union, on a middle and long term basis. Because, it is not possible for the EU to solve this problem within its borders with a structural reformation for there is an unproductive period in population in all member countries and even there is a decline in the population in some of them. With its young population, Turkey will be able to contribute to the EU in terms of recovering the decreasing demand and in supplying the dynamism required for financing the social security system.

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