# Women in Politics
# Opinion Research Report
# Istanbul, September 2006

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## 1 RESEARCH TEAM

> **THIS RESEARCH REPORT HAS BEEN PREPARED BY
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> FOR UNDP**

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# 2 INTRODUCTION

The Country Program Document (CPD) of the Government of Turkey and the UNDP identifies gender inequalities in social, political and economic empowerment. The CPD further describes women in this country as a disadvantaged social group who "have been excluded from involvement in public, political, and economic life resulting in exclusion from economic opportunities and limited political representation and empowerment." (CPD, 2006-2010)

The Millennium Development Goal Report (MDGR) of the Government of Turkey acknowledges unequal access of women to political decision making as a shortcoming of Turkey's democratic practice:

"Participation of women in the political decision-making mechanism is one of the crucial elements of democracy. However, Turkey is still far from claiming gender equality in politics, where there is a major problem of gender representation. Although the promotion of women in the Turkish Grand National Assembly has more than doubled from 1.8 to 4.4 within twelve years, women currently hold only 24 seats in the 550-member parliament. Women are grossly under-represented in political decision-making in Turkey." (MDGR 2005)

The Government's MDG Report also recognizes that progressive legal action is necessary to enable Turkish women to have a level playing field with men in all areas of social, political and economic life:
"It is only with such a progressive legal approach that women will be able to play their full part on an equal footing with men. To achieve equality in the family, at work, in the political and civil rights arenas, and in social and cultural life, the primary strategy is the definition and implementation of the principle of equal rights and opportunities for both sexes." (MDGR 2005)

The Government's MDG Report also sets specific targets for women's political empowerment under the MDG Goal 3:

| Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1991 | 1995 | 1999 | 2002 | **Target 2015** |
| Proportion of Women Parliamentarians (%) | 1.8 | 2.4 | 4.2 | 4.4 | 17 |
| Parliamentary seats occupied by women | 8 | 13 | 23 | 24 | 94 |

*(Source: MDGRR 2005)*

Formal acknowledgement of women's empowerment through legislative activism in order to advance democratic practice is a relatively new phenomenon in Turkey. The women's movement – a loosely associated group of women's activists including feminist and other perspectives- had made similar diagnosis and proposals in the period leading up to the 2002 general elections. Their proposals run the gamut from women's quotas in party tickets to a total re-haul of the electoral laws. None of these proposals however have had the required political support in order for legislative change.

Despite the Government's formal endorsement of legal activism for gender equality in the MDGR, the project at hand is based on the assumption that neither the electoral laws nor the political party system will change dramatically in the period leading up to the 2007 general elections. In the absence of such legislative change, potential women candidates to the 2007 elections will require support in order to exercise their basic right to stand for elections. The capacity gaps exist both within political parties and the grass roots social structures that can support female candidates. Essentially, the political parties do not have the tools –such as toolkits, training material, guidance material – tailored to the special needs of female candidates. Potential candidates do not possess the necessary knowledge and skills to maneuver the complexities of the candidacy registration process and often are discouraged by the seeming "insider" knowledge required to be able to do so. The project will address these capacity gaps while tackling the broader issues of political empowerment of women through continued policy dialogue.

And in accordance with this, in order to make it become the basis of future studies, UNDP has planned to have a research related with the perception of women in politics in Turkey.

Konsensus Research and Consultancy is one of the leading institutions in its sector with its experienced crew on political and social researches. Konsensus is the contract research association of the European Union for the Eurobarometer for Candidate Country (CCEB) research project executed in 13 candidate countries[1] between September 2001 and March 2004 in partnership with the Gallup Organization Consultancy Company.

Konsesus has declared that parliamentarians of only two parties will enter the Turkish National Grand Assembly (TBMM) in the General Turkish Parliamentarian Elections of November 2002 two months prior to the elections. Later, it was the only research association in the Siirt Parliamentarian renewal elections of March 9, 2003 to estimate the election results with a very small margin of error[1] 3 days prior to the election and it was the research association to make the best prediction in the three major cities and in the Beşiktaş and Beykoz administrative districts in the elections of March 2004.

Konsensus Research and Consultancy is trying to determine Turkish Public Opinion about "Women in Politics" with this research it conducts in the name of UNDP.

## 3 AIM OF THE STUDY

The main aim of the research is to determine how the Turkish society perceives the participation of women in politics. The following matters were considered at length in the perspective of this main aim.

- Political opinion leadership
- Expectations about the increase in the number of women in political decision making mechanisms
- Perception of family members going into active politics
- The number of women politicians in TBMM
- The changes that the increase in women politicians will create in Turkish politics
- Political preferences
- The role of the number of women politicians in political preferences
- Point of view about gender inequality in TBMM
- Point of view about the women's quota that needs to be appended to the statutes of the Political parties.
- Associations that might be able to resolve the gender inequality in politics

# 4  METHODOLOGY AND SAMPLE

## 4.1 METHODOLOGY

The research has been carried out in the urban and rural areas of Turkey on 1000 people who are 18 or older with face to face interviews conducted in households. The incidence levels within the 95% reliability point are ±3%. This incidence level increases with respect to regions. The interviews were conducted with target persons selected according to random household selection rules between 08:00-22:00 in week days and between 08:00-22:00 on weekends.



**TIME PERIOD THAT THE INTERVIEWS WERE DONE**
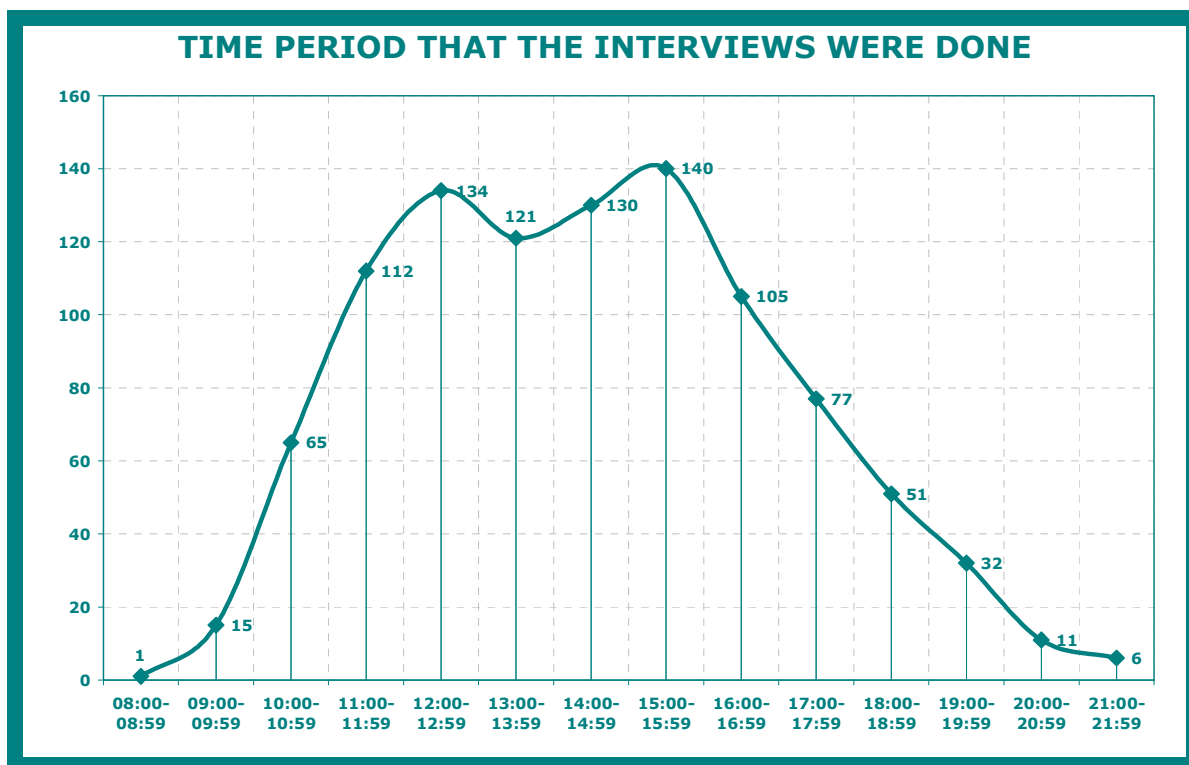
The fieldwork team is comprised of a total of 99 persons, 17 being supervisors and 82 being interviewers. During the field work interviewers were held responsible from making the interviews and the supervisors were held responsible to check 30% of the interviews made by the interviewers connected with them. During the field study of the research female survey takers conducted 597 interviews and male survey takers conducted 403 interviews. The field team worked with Konsensus identification cards during the field study. The fact that the research was being made in the name of UNDP was concealed.

A questionnaire that will take 15-20 minutes and will not be misleading was prepared by UNDP with the contribution of Konsensus. In order to eliminate the errors that might occur during the data collection and sampling exercise, 30 pilot interviews were conducted and some questions were precluded. Technical errors were updated during this pilot study. After these updates and after receiving approval for the question form from UNDP the field study commenced on July 9, 2006.



**TIME PERIOD THAT THE INTERVIEWS WERE DONE**
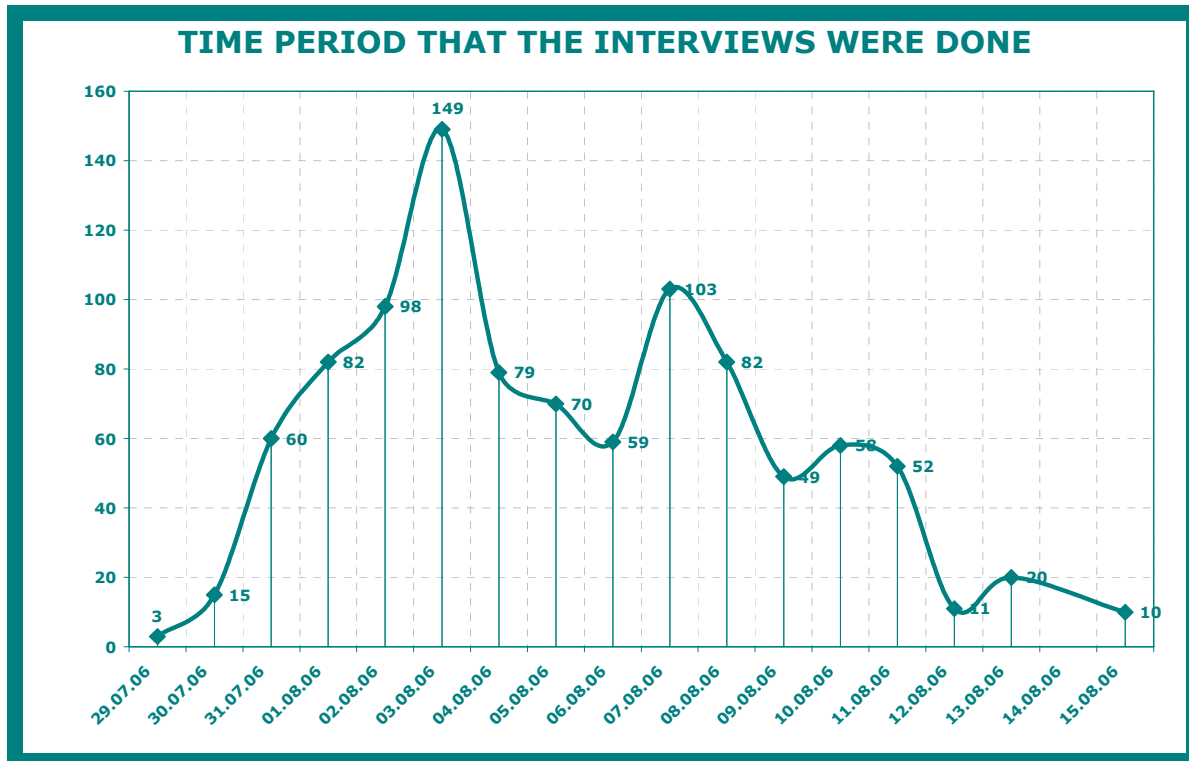
After the fieldwork all the data collected during the interviews were edited. The interviews that were found to be erroneous were eliminated and that particular interview was repeated. 152 interviews were cancelled as a result of these controls and repeated. 15 control staff members were assigned for the controls. 30% of the interviews were conducted by telephonic conversation.

No major problems, in reference to the content of the interview, were encountered during the field study. In some cases, it was not permitted to conduct the survey in some villages due to special security reasons.
Suitable replacements were found and the survey was conducted.

No difficulty was experienced especially in finding people willing to answer the questionnaire in regard to this project. Due to the nature of the survey the people's approach has been positive. The same observations apply to the study conducted in the villages. It was observed that the participation and answers of the source persons were sincere throughout the field study.

Data entry was facilitated with a program prepared with "FoxPro 2.6 for DOS". All logical controls were made during data entry by this program developed especially for this research. Data entry was made concomitantly during the face-to-face interviews.

The question form comprised of a total of 40 questions 27 of which was closed end, 4 was scaled, 4 was open-ended, 3 semi-open end, 3 source person questions and Konsensus personnel information. Each interview lasted an average of 18 minutes. And the entry of the data for one interview took 2 minutes 51 seconds on the average. The logical controls, which were impossible to make with the program, were subjected to SPSS 11" analysis after the data entry and all the internal inconsistencies were removed. Later 25% of the interviews were reexamined and the data quality was enhanced.

## 4.2 SAMPLE

### 4.2.1 GEOGRAPHICAL REGION THAT THE INTERVIEWS WERE DONE

| Geographical region that the interviews were done | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Mediterranean | 140 | 14,0 |
| Eastern Anatolia | 100 | 10,0 |
| Aegean | 130 | 13,0 |
| Southeastern Anatolia | 100 | 10,0 |
| Central Anatolia | 180 | 18,0 |
| Blacksea | 120 | 12,0 |
| Marmara | 230 | 23,0 |
| Total | 1000 | 100,0 |



GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF SAMPLE
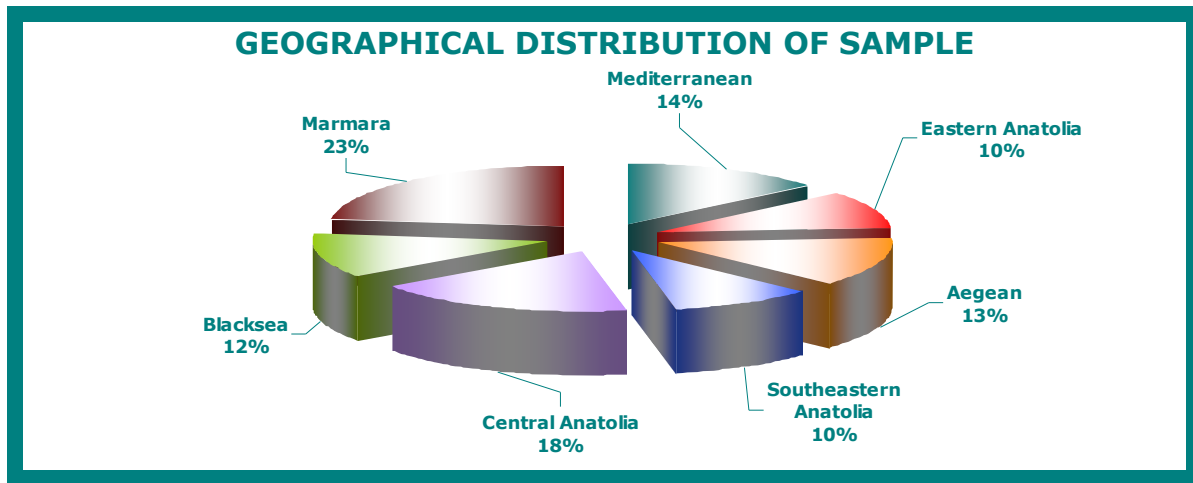
### 4.2.2 SETTLEMENT THAT THE INTERVIEWS WERE DONE

| The settlement unit that the interviews were done | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| **Urban** | 650 | 65,0 |
| **Rural** | 350 | 35,0 |
| **Total** | 1000 | 100 |



THE SETTLEMENT UNIT THAT THE INTERVIEWS WERE DONE
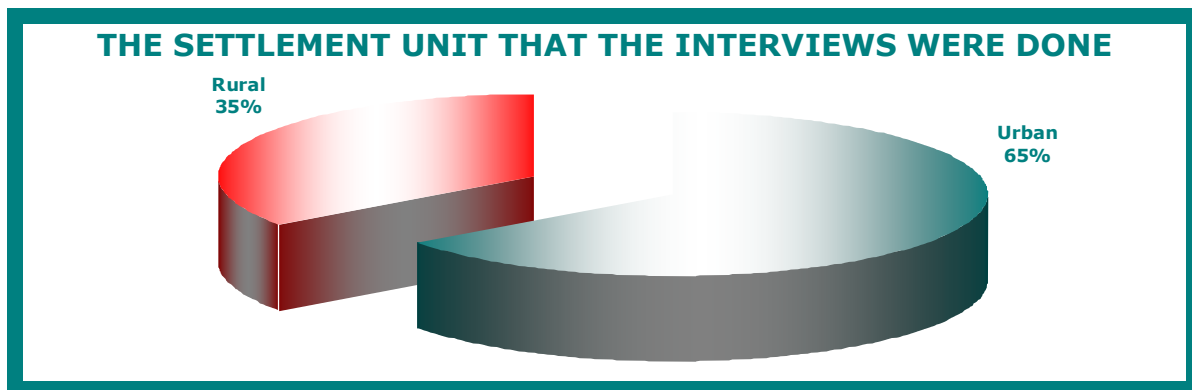
### 4.2.3 THE CITIES THAT THE INTERVIEWS WERE DONE

The interviews are conducted in 26 cities, which can represent Turkey. These cities are the Level 2 regions in statistical regional distribution of Turkey.



THE CITIES THAT THE INTERVIEWS WERE DONE
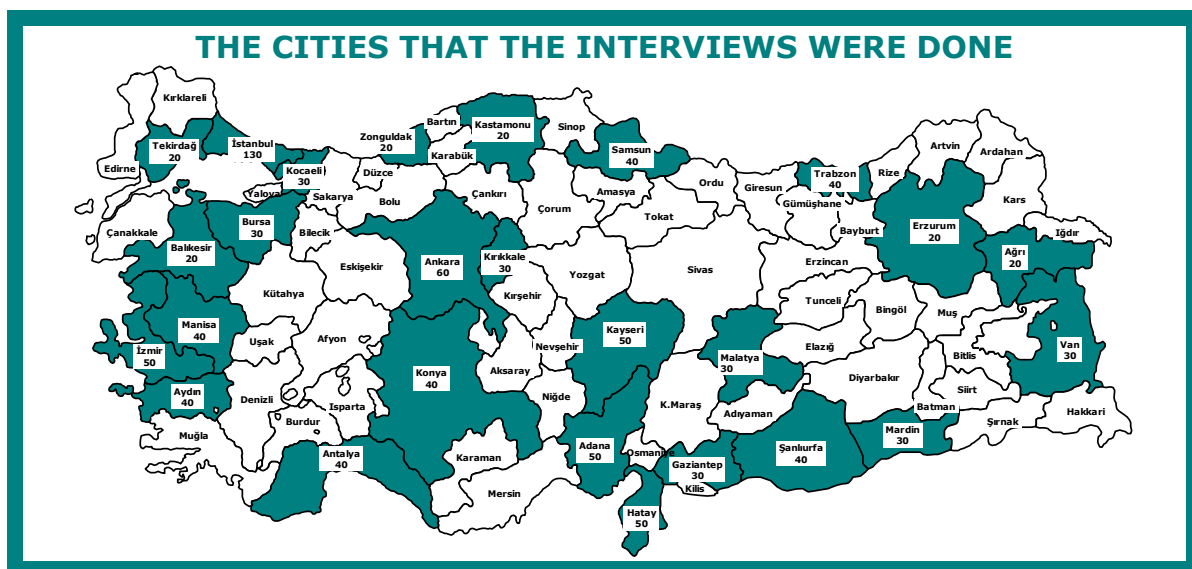
| City | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| **Adana** | 50 | 5,0 |
| **Agri** | 20 | 2,0 |
| **Ankara** | 60 | 6,0 |
| **Antalya** | 40 | 4,0 |
| **Aydin** | 40 | 4,0 |
| **Balikesir** | 20 | 2,0 |
| **Bursa** | 30 | 3,0 |
| **Erzurum** | 20 | 2,0 |
| **Gaziantep** | 30 | 3,0 |
| **Hatay** | 50 | 5,0 |
| **Istanbul** | 130 | 13,0 |
| **Izmir** | 50 | 5,0 |
| **Kastamonu** | 20 | 2,0 |
| **Kayseri** | 50 | 5,0 |
| **Kocaeli** | 30 | 3,0 |
| **Konya** | 40 | 4,0 |
| **Malatya** | 30 | 3,0 |
| **Manisa** | 40 | 4,0 |
| **Mardin** | 30 | 3,0 |
| **Samsun** | 40 | 4,0 |
| **Tekirdag** | 20 | 2,0 |
| **Trabzon** | 40 | 4,0 |
| **Sanliurfa** | 40 | 4,0 |
| **Van** | 30 | 3,0 |
| **Zonguldak** | 20 | 2,0 |
| **Kirikkale** | 30 | 3,0 |
| **Total** | 1000 | 100,0 |

### 4.2.4 THE TOWNS THAT THE INTERVIEWS WERE DONE

The interviews are conducted in 68 towns.

| Town | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Adana-Seyhan | 30 | 3,0 |
| Adana-Yuregir | 20 | 2,0 |
| Agri-Diyadin | 10 | 1,0 |
| Agri-Dogubeyazit | 10 | 1,0 |
| Ankara-Cankaya | 10 | 1,0 |
| Ankara-Elmadag | 10 | 1,0 |
| Ankara-Kecioren | 20 | 2,0 |
| Ankara-Mamak | 20 | 2,0 |
| Antalya-Korkuteli | 20 | 2,0 |
| Antalya-Merkez | 10 | 1,0 |
| Antalya-Merkez Muratpasa | 10 | 1,0 |
| Aydin-Buharkent | 10 | 1,0 |
| Aydin-Merkez | 20 | 2,0 |
| Aydin-Soke | 10 | 1,0 |
| Balikesir-Burhaniye | 10 | 1,0 |
| Balikesir-Merkez | 10 | 1,0 |
| Bursa-Merkez | 10 | 1,0 |
| Bursa-Nilufer | 10 | 1,0 |
| Bursa-Yildirim | 10 | 1,0 |
| Erzurum-Ilıca | 10 | 1,0 |
| Erzurum-Merkez | 10 | 1,0 |
| Gaziantep-Merkez | 10 | 1,0 |
| Gaziantep-Nizip | 10 | 1,0 |
| Gaziantep-Sahinbey | 10 | 1,0 |
| Hatay-Iskenderun | 20 | 2,0 |
| Hatay-Merkez | 30 | 3,0 |
| Istanbul-Avcilar | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Beyoglu | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Buyukcekmece | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Eminonu | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Gaziosmanpasa | 50 | 5,0 |
| Istanbul-Kadikoy | 20 | 2,0 |
| Istanbul-Kartal | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Sisli | 10 | 1,0 |
| Izmir-Bornova | 10 | 1,0 |
| Izmir-Buca | 10 | 1,0 |
| Izmir-Konak | 20 | 2,0 |
| Izmir-Merkez | 10 | 1,0 |
| Kastamonu-Arac | 10 | 1,0 |
| Town (cont.) | Frequency | Percent |
| Kastamonu-Tosya | 10 | 1,0 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Kayseri-Caucasian** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Kayseri-Melikgazi** | 40 | 4,0 |
| **Kirikkale-Merkez** | 20 | 2,0 |
| **Kirikkale-Yahsihan** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Kocaeli-Gebze** | 20 | 2,0 |
| **Kocaeli-Merkez** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Konya-Cumra** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Konya-Karatay** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Konya-Merkez** | 20 | 2,0 |
| **Malatya-Colakli** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Malatya-Merkez** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Malatya-Yesilyurt** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Manisa-Merkez** | 40 | 4,0 |
| **Mardin-Mazidagi** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Mardin-Nusaybin** | 20 | 2,0 |
| **Samsun-Bafra** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Samsun-Carsamba** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Samsun-Merkez** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Samsun-Terme** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Sanliurfa-Merkez** | 20 | 2,0 |
| **Sanliurfa-Siverek** | 20 | 2,0 |
| **Tekirdag-Corlu** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Tekirdag-Hayrabolu** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Trabzon-Akcaabat** | 20 | 2,0 |
| **Trabzon-Arsin** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Trabzon-Of** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Van-Caldiran** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Van-Catak** | 20 | 2,0 |
| **Zonguldak-Merkez** | 20 | 2,0 |

### 4.2.5 THE DISTRICTS AND THE VILLAGES THAT THE INTERVIEWS WERE DONE

The interviews were conducted in 65 districts and 35 villages, a total of 100 sample points.

| District/village | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Adana-Seyhan-Kayisli | 10 | 1,0 |
| Adana-Seyhan-Mithatpasa | 10 | 1,0 |
| Adana-Seyhan-Sucuzade | 10 | 1,0 |
| Adana-Yuregir-Merkez-Camilikoy | 10 | 1,0 |
| Adana-Yuregir-Seyhan | 10 | 1,0 |
| Agri-Diyadin-Merkez-Surmelikoc | 10 | 1,0 |
| Agri-Dogubeyazit-Buyukagri | 10 | 1,0 |
| Ankara-Cankaya-Esatoglu | 10 | 1,0 |
| Ankara-Elmadag-Merkez-Hasanoglan | 10 | 1,0 |
| Ankara-Kecioren -Tepebasi | 10 | 1,0 |
| Ankara-Kecioren-Kalaba | 10 | 1,0 |
| Ankara-Mamak-Cengizhan | 10 | 1,0 |
| Ankara-Mamak-Kostence | 10 | 1,0 |
| Antalya-Korkuteli-Karsiyaka | 10 | 1,0 |
| Antalya-Korkuteli-Merkez-Tatkoy | 10 | 1,0 |
| Antalya-Merkez Muratpasa-Kiziltoprak | 10 | 1,0 |
| Antalya-Merkez-Demirtas-Duaci | 10 | 1,0 |
| Aydin-Buharkent-Uceylul | 10 | 1,0 |
| Aydin-Merkez-Merkez-Isikli | 10 | 1,0 |
| Aydin-Merkez-Merkez-Kuyulu Koy | 10 | 1,0 |
| Aydin-Soke-Kemalpasa | 10 | 1,0 |
| Balikesir-Burhaniye-Yunus | 10 | 1,0 |
| Balikesir-Merkez-Cayirhisar | 10 | 1,0 |
| Bursa-Merkez-Merkez-Irfaniye | 10 | 1,0 |
| Bursa-Nilufer-Ataevler | 10 | 1,0 |
| Bursa-Yildirim-Yesil | 10 | 1,0 |
| Erzurum-Ilıca-Yarımcaköyü | 10 | 1,0 |
| Erzurum-Merkez-Dadas | 10 | 1,0 |
| Gaziantep-Merkez-Merkez-Beylerbeyi | 10 | 1,0 |
| Gaziantep-Nizip-Tahtani | 10 | 1,0 |
| Gaziantep-Sahinbey-Kozluca | 10 | 1,0 |
| Hatay-Iskenderun-Merkez-Akarca | 10 | 1,0 |
| Hatay-Iskenderun-Merkez-Pirinclik | 10 | 1,0 |
| Hatay-Merkez-Iplikpazari | 10 | 1,0 |
| Hatay-Merkez-Meydan | 10 | 1,0 |
| Hatay-Merkez-Sehitler | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Avcilar-Gumuspala | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Beyoglu-Kucukpiyale | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Buyukcekmece-Esenyurt | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Eminonu-Hocagiyasettin | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Gaziosmanpasa-Gazi | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Gaziosmanpasa-Karadeniz | 10 | 1,0 |

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| District/village (cont.) | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Istanbul-Gaziosmanpasa-Karlitepe | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Gaziosmanpasa-Pazarici | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Gaziosmanpasa-Zubeydehanim | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Kadikoy-Icerenkoy | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Kadikoy-Zuhtupasa | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Kartal-Yukari | 10 | 1,0 |
| Istanbul-Sisli-Fulya | 10 | 1,0 |
| Izmir-Bornova-Gurpinar | 10 | 1,0 |
| Izmir-Buca-Dumlupinar | 10 | 1,0 |
| Izmir-Konak-Kadifekale | 10 | 1,0 |
| Izmir-Konak-Özgur | 10 | 1,0 |
| Izmir-Merkez-Merkez-Besyolkoyu | 10 | 1,0 |
| Kastamonu-Arac-Merkez-Gemi | 10 | 1,0 |
| Kastamonu-Tosya-Camiatik | 10 | 1,0 |
| Kayseri-Kocasinan-Ugurevler | 10 | 1,0 |
| Kayseri-Melikgazi-Anbar | 10 | 1,0 |
| Kayseri-Melikgazi-Aydinlikevler | 10 | 1,0 |
| Kayseri-Melikgazi-Bogazkopru | 10 | 1,0 |
| Kayseri-Melikgazi-Tinaztepe | 10 | 1,0 |
| Kirikkale-Merkez-Etiler | 10 | 1,0 |
| Kirikkale-Merkez-Kizilirmak | 10 | 1,0 |
| Kirikkale-Yahsihan-Merkez-Haciobali | 10 | 1,0 |
| Kocaeli-Gebze-Mollafeneri-Tepecik | 10 | 1,0 |
| Kocaeli-Gebze-Yeni | 10 | 1,0 |
| Kocaeli-Merkez-Dumlupinar | 10 | 1,0 |
| Konya-Cumra-Meydan | 10 | 1,0 |
| Konya-Karatay-Tasrakaraaslandede | 10 | 1,0 |
| Konya-Merkez-Hatip | 10 | 1,0 |
| Konya-Merkez-Kozagac | 10 | 1,0 |
| Malatya-Colakli-Yenicekoyu | 10 | 1,0 |
| Malatya-Merkez-Tastepe | 10 | 1,0 |
| Malatya-Yesilyurt-Hiroglu | 10 | 1,0 |
| Manisa-Merkez-Arda | 10 | 1,0 |
| Manisa-Merkez-Ishakcelebi | 10 | 1,0 |
| Manisa-Merkez-Selimsahlar | 10 | 1,0 |
| Manisa-Merkez-Yenikoy | 10 | 1,0 |
| Mardin-Mazidagi-Kayalar | 10 | 1,0 |
| Mardin-Nusaybin -Celikyurt | 10 | 1,0 |
| Mardin-Nusaybin-Durakbasi | 10 | 1,0 |
| Samsun-Bafra-Hacinabi | 10 | 1,0 |
| Samsun-Carsamba-Cumhuriyet | 10 | 1,0 |
| Samsun-Merkez-Merkez-Kiran | 10 | 1,0 |
| Samsun-Terme Ilcesi-Yali | 10 | 1,0 |
| Sanliurfa-Merkez-Karakopru | 10 | 1,0 |
| Sanliurfa-Merkez-Topdagi | 10 | 1,0 |
| Sanliurfa-Siverek-Esmercayi | 10 | 1,0 |
| Sanliurfa-Siverek-Yenisehir | 10 | 1,0 |
| Tekirdag-Corlu-Camiatik | 10 | 1,0 |
| Tekirdag-Hayrabolu-Merkez-Danisment | 10 | 1,0 |
| Trabzon-Akcaabat-Derecik | 10 | 1,0 |
| Trabzon-Akcaabat-Merkez-Helvaci | 10 | 1,0 |

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| District/village (cont.) | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| **Trabzon-Arsin-Nuroglu** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Trabzon-Of-Yukarikislacik** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Van-Caldiran-Merkez-Burcakalan** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Van-Catak -Cumhuriyet** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Van-Catak-Adnanmenderes** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Zonguldak-Merkez-Merkez-Elvanpazarcik** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Zonguldak-Merkez-Ondokuzmayis** | 10 | 1,0 |
| **Total** | 1000 | 100,0 |

## 4.2.6  AGE OF RESPONDENT

| Age of respondent | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| **18-24** | 203 | 20,3 |
| **25-29** | 200 | 20,0 |
| **30-34** | 153 | 15,3 |
| **35-39** | 102 | 10,2 |
| **40-44** | 102 | 10,2 |
| **45-49** | 58 | 5,8 |
| **50-54** | 65 | 6,5 |
| **55-59** | 50 | 5,0 |
| **60+** | 62 | 6,2 |
| **No answer** | 5 | 0,5 |
| **Total** | 1000 | 100 |

| | N | Min. | Max. | Mean |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Age of respondent** | 995 | 18 | 77 | 35,8 |



AGE OF RESPONDENT

Mean:36
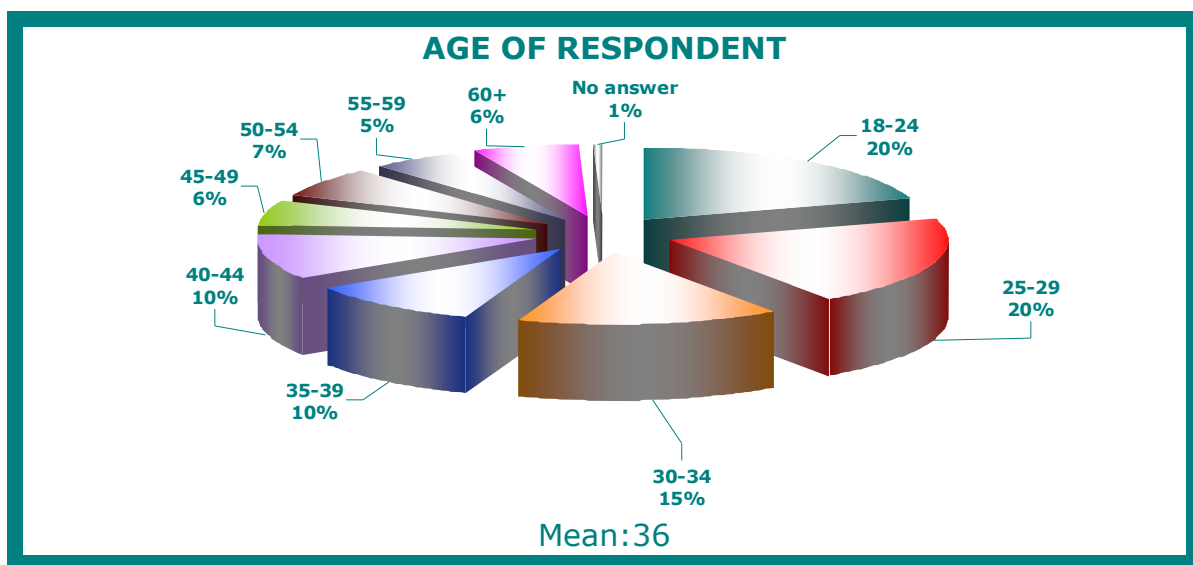
## 4.2.7   EDUCATION LEVEL OF RESPONDENT

| What is the highest level of education or schooling you have completed? | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Not a graduate | 60 | 6,0 |
| Graduate of elementary school | 427 | 42,7 |
| Graduate of elementary (middle school) | 132 | 13,2 |
| Graduate of high school | 272 | 27,2 |
| Graduate of higher education + | 109 | 10,9 |
| Total | 1000 | 100,0 |

**EDUCATION OF RESPONDENT**
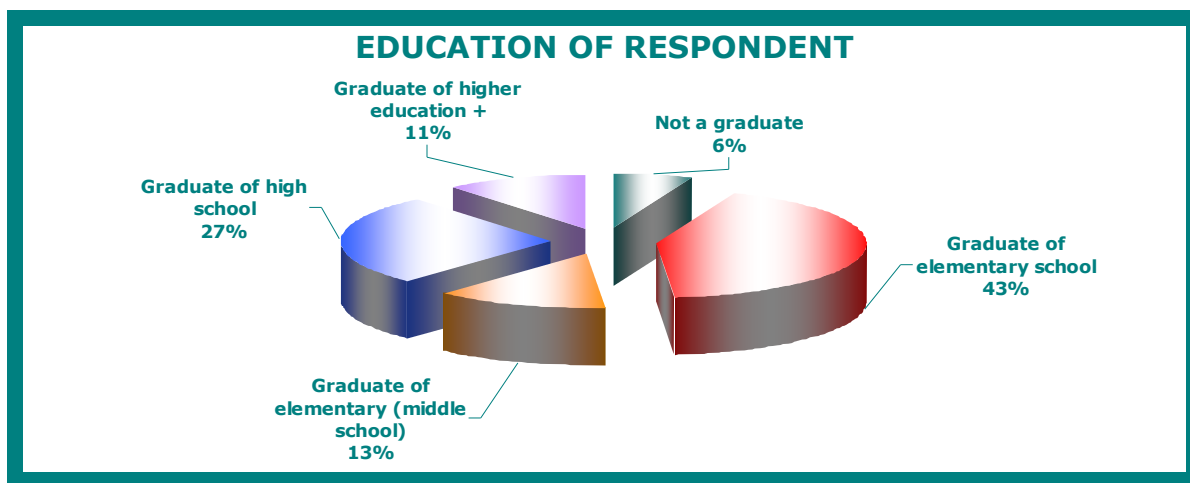


## 4.2.8   GENDER OF RESPONDENT

| Gender of respondent | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Male | 499 | 49,9 |
| Female | 501 | 50,1 |
| Total | 1000 | 100,0 |

**GENDER OF RESPONDENT**
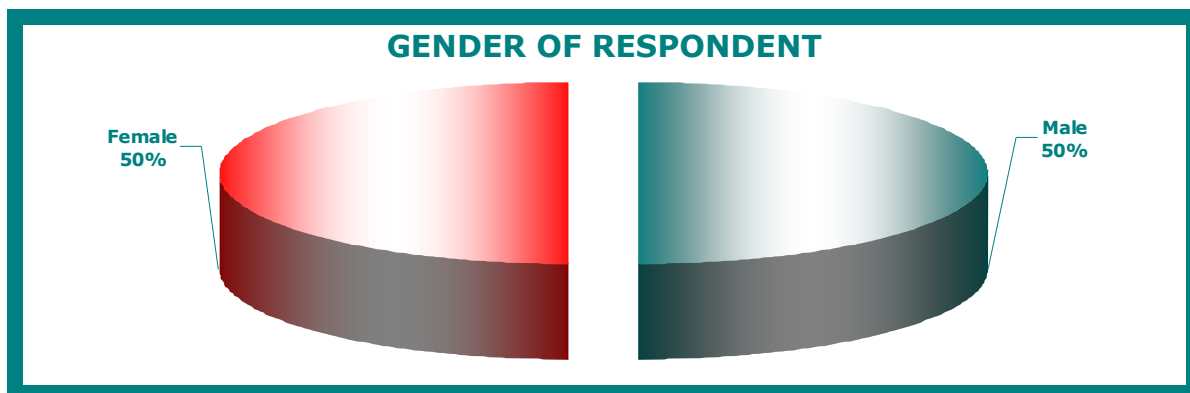
### 4.2.9 OCCUPATION OF RESPONDENT

| Occupation of respondent | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| **Not Working** | 575 | 57,5 |
| **Self Employed** | 188 | 18,8 |
| **Employed** | 237 | 23,7 |
| **Total** | 1000 | 100,0 |



OCCUPATION OF RESPONDENT
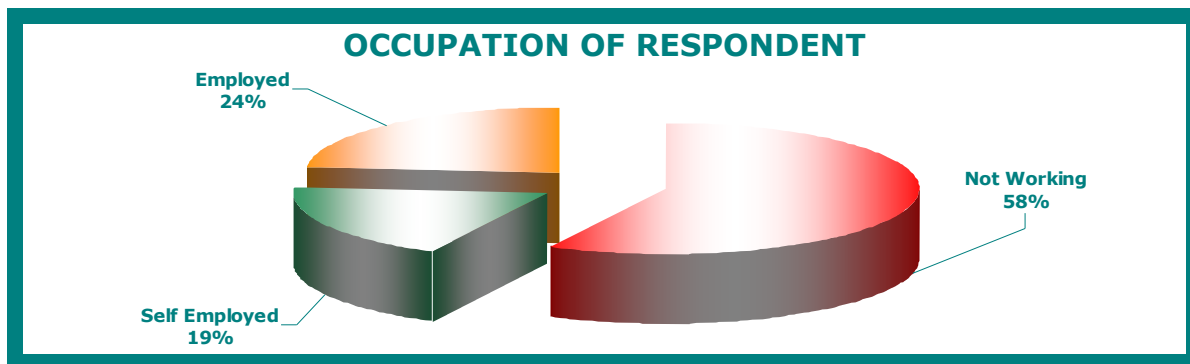
| | Current occupation | | Last Occupation | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Frequency** | **Percent** | **Frequency** | **Percent** |
| **NOT WORKING** | **575** | **57,5** | | |
| Responsible for ordinary shopping and looking after the home, or without any current occupation, not working | 352 | 35,2 | | |
| Student | 76 | 7,6 | | |
| Unemployed or temporarily not working | 54 | 5,4 | | |
| Retired or unable to work through illness | 93 | 9,3 | | |
| **SELF EMPLOYED** | **188** | **18,8** | **27** | **4,7** |
| Farmer | 56 | 5,6 | 10 | 1,7 |
| Fisherman | 3 | 0,3 | 0 | 0,0 |
| Professional (lawyer, medical practitioner, accountant, architect, …) | 3 | 0,3 | 1 | 0,2 |
| Owner of a shop, craftsmen, other self employed person | 113 | 11,3 | 15 | 2,6 |
| Business proprietors, owner (full or partner) of a company | 13 | 1,3 | 1 | 0,2 |
| **EMPLOYED** | **237** | **23,7** | **143** | **25,0** |
| Employed professional (employed doctor, lawyer, accountant, architect) | 9 | 0,9 | 1 | 0,2 |
| General management, director or top management (Managing directors, director general, other director) | 1 | 0,1 | 0 | 0,0 |
| Middle management, other management (department head, junior manager, teacher, technician) | 39 | 3,9 | 11 | 1,9 |
| Employed position, working mainly at desk | 37 | 3,7 | 23 | 4,0 |
| Employed position, not at desk but traveling (salesmen, driver, …) | 26 | 2,6 | 6 | 1,0 |
| Employed position, not at a desk, but in a service job (hospital, restaurant, police, fireman, …) | 31 | 3,1 | 9 | 1,6 |
| Skilled manual worker | 71 | 7,1 | 52 | 9,0 |
| Skilled manual worker | 23 | 2,3 | 42 | 7,3 |
| Never did any paid work | | | 404 | 70,3 |
| **Total** | **1000** | **100,0** | **575** | **100,0** |

### 4.2.10 MARITAL STATUS OF RESPONDENT

| Marital status of respondent | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Married | 684 | 68,4 |
| Single | 286 | 28,6 |
| Divorced/Widow | 30 | 3,0 |
| Total | 1000 | 100 |

**MARITAL SATUS OF RESPONDENT**



Divorced/Widow 3%
Single 29%
Married 68%
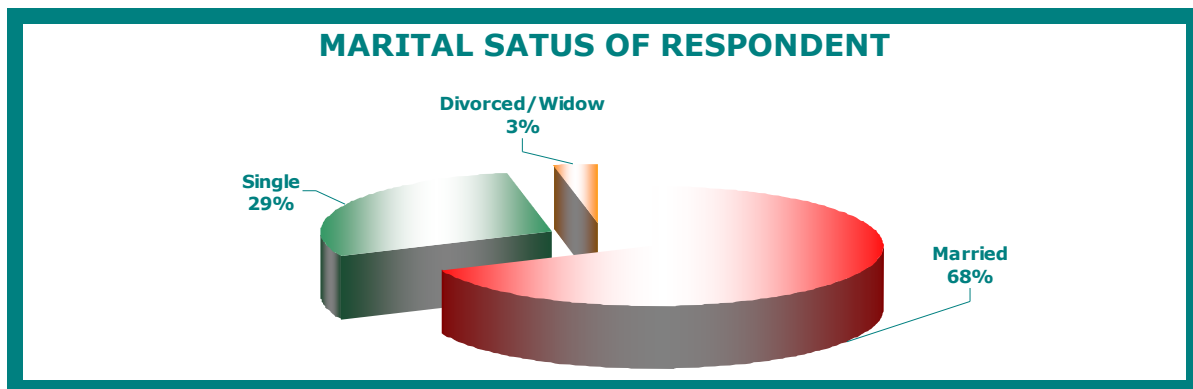
### 4.2.11 HOUSEHOLD SIZE

| Including yourself, how many members live at your home? | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| 1-2 persons | 122 | 12,2 |
| 3-4 persons | 428 | 42,8 |
| 5-6 persons | 312 | 31,2 |
| >6 persons | 133 | 13,3 |
| No answer | 5 | 0,5 |
| Total | 1000 | 100,0 |

| | N | Min. | Max. | Mean |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Including yourself, how many members live at your home? | 995 | 1 | 20 | 4,6 |

**HOUSEHOLD SIZE**



>6 persons 13%
No answer 1%
1-2 persons 12%
5-6 persons 31%
3-4 persons 43%
Mean:4,6

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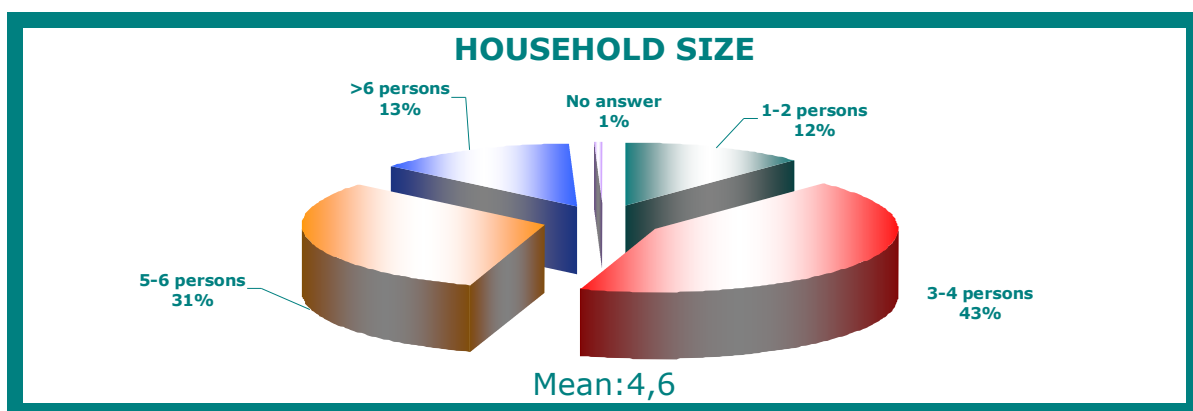
### 4.2.12 CHILDREN OF RESPONDENT

| Do you have any children? | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Have child | 671 | 67,1 |
| Do not have child | 329 | 32,9 |
| Total | 1000 | 100,0 |

| | N | Min. | Max. | Mean |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total number of children | 671 | 1 | 13 | 2,7 |



**DO YOU HAVE ANY CHILDREN?**

Have children 67%

No child 33%

Mean: 2,7 children
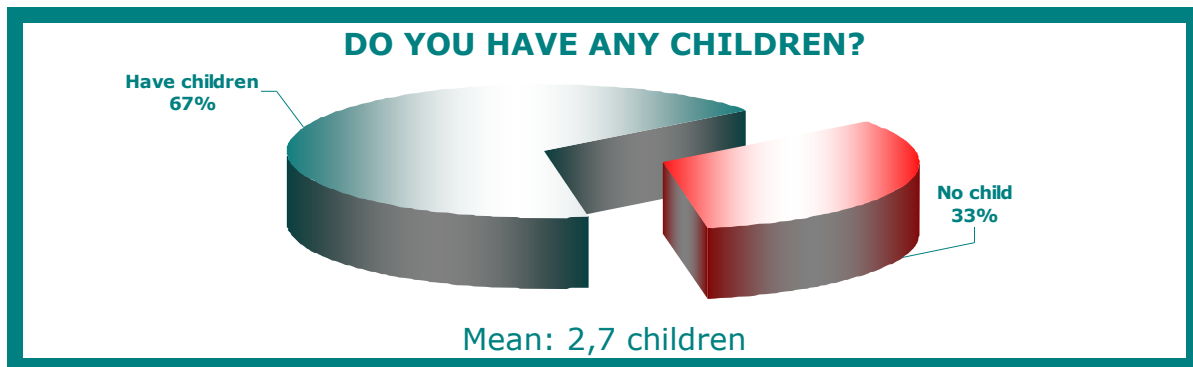
| Do you have any children? | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Male | 155 | 15,5 |
| Daughter | 127 | 12,7 |
| Son & Daughter | 389 | 38,9 |
| No child | 329 | 32,9 |
| Total | 1000 | 100,0 |



**DO YOU HAVE ANY CHILDREN?**

Son & Daughter 39%

Son 16%

Daughter 13%

No child 33%

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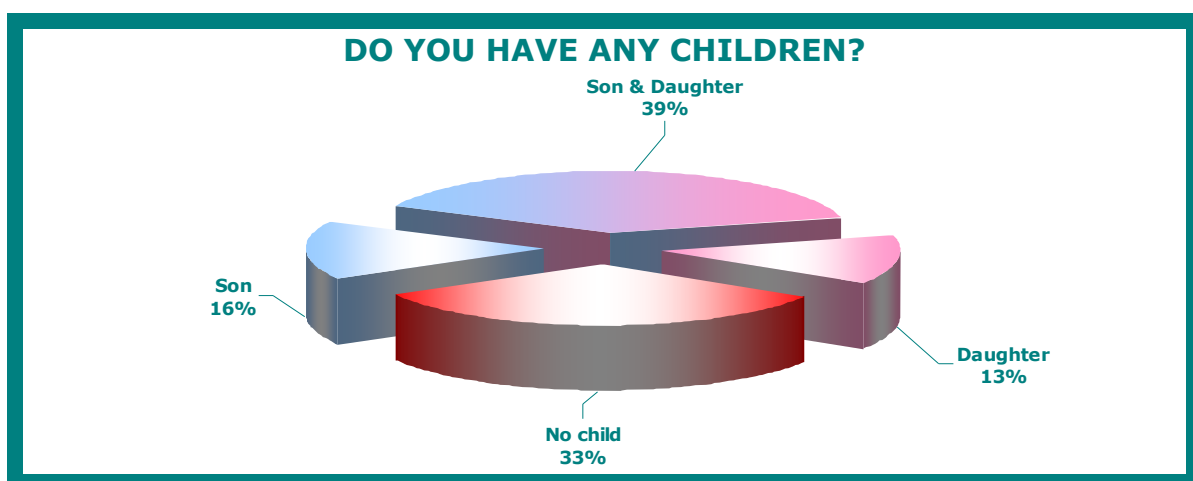
### 4.2.13  LIVING AREA OF RESPONDENT AND IMMIGRATION

| For how long have you been living in this city? | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| After birth | 236 | 23,6 |
| From birth | 762 | 76,2 |
| No answer | 2 | 0,2 |
| Total | 1000 | 100 |

**LIVING AREA OF RESPONDENT AND IMMIGRATION**



| For how long have you been living in this city? | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| 1-9 years | 83 | 8,3 |
| 10-19 years | 106 | 10,6 |
| 20-29 years | 326 | 32,6 |
| 30-39 years | 216 | 21,6 |
| >39 years | 263 | 26,3 |
| No answer | 6 | 0,6 |
| Total | 1000 | 100 |

| | N | Min. | Max. | Mean |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| For how long have you been living in this city? | 994 | 1 | 76 | 30,7 |

**FOR HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN LIVING IN THIS CITY?**
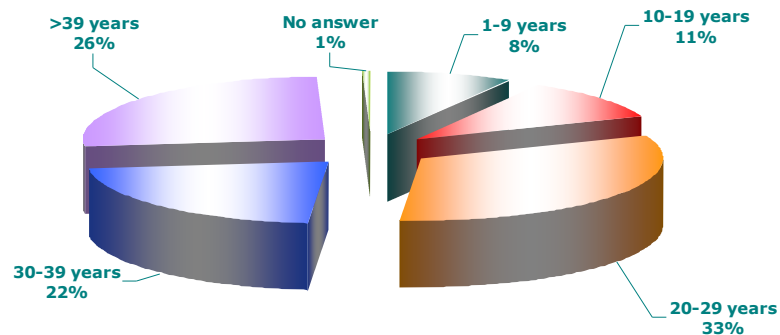


Mean:32 years

| What is the name of the city that you are registered at? | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| **Adana** | 48 | 4,8 |
| **Adiyaman** | 6 | 0,6 |
| **Afyon** | 3 | 0,3 |
| **Agri** | 21 | 2,1 |
| **Amasya** | 1 | 0,1 |
| **Ankara** | 38 | 3,8 |
| **Antalya** | 34 | 3,4 |
| **Artvin** | 8 | 0,8 |
| **Aydin** | 37 | 3,7 |
| **Balikesir** | 22 | 2,2 |
| **Bilecik** | 1 | 0,1 |
| **Bolu** | 3 | 0,3 |
| **Burdur** | 2 | 0,2 |
| **Bursa** | 27 | 2,7 |
| **Canakkale** | 1 | 0,1 |
| **Cankiri** | 5 | 0,5 |
| **Corum** | 3 | 0,3 |
| **Diyarbakir** | 5 | 0,5 |
| **Edirne** | 2 | 0,2 |
| **Elazig** | 5 | 0,5 |
| **Erzincan** | 6 | 0,6 |
| **Erzurum** | 20 | 2 |
| **Eskisehir** | 1 | 0,1 |
| **Gaziantep** | 28 | 2,8 |
| **Giresun** | 3 | 0,3 |
| **Gumushane** | 1 | 0,1 |
| **Hatay** | 46 | 4,6 |
| **Isparta** | 1 | 0,1 |
| **Icel** | 1 | 0,1 |
| **Istanbul** | 42 | 4,2 |
| **Izmir** | 29 | 2,9 |
| **Kars** | 3 | 0,3 |
| **Kastamonu** | 24 | 2,4 |
| **Kayseri** | 36 | 3,6 |
| **Kirklareli** | 3 | 0,3 |
| **Kirsehir** | 3 | 0,3 |
| **Kocaeli** | 19 | 1,9 |
| **Konya** | 42 | 4,2 |
| **Kutahya** | 1 | 0,1 |
| **Malatya** | 30 | 3 |
| **Manisa** | 34 | 3,4 |
| **K.Maras** | 7 | 0,7 |
| **Mardin** | 38 | 3,8 |

| What is the name of the city that you are registered at?(cont.) | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Mugla | 2 | 0,2 |
| Mus | 3 | 0,3 |
| Nevsehir | 1 | 0,1 |
| Nigde | 4 | 0,4 |
| The Military | 4 | 0,4 |
| Rize | 3 | 0,3 |
| Sakarya | 4 | 0,4 |
| Samsun | 48 | 4,8 |
| Siirt | 4 | 0,4 |
| Sinop | 4 | 0,4 |
| Sivas | 27 | 2,7 |
| Tekirdag | 16 | 1,6 |
| Tokat | 6 | 0,6 |
| Trabzon | 41 | 4,1 |
| Tunceli | 1 | 0,1 |
| Sanliurfa | 38 | 3,8 |
| Van | 32 | 3,2 |
| Yozgat | 8 | 0,8 |
| Zonguldak | 12 | 1,2 |
| Aksaray | 3 | 0,3 |
| Bayburt | 1 | 0,1 |
| Kirikkale | 31 | 3,1 |
| Batman | 2 | 0,2 |
| Sirnak | 1 | 0,1 |
| Bartin | 2 | 0,2 |
| Ardahan | 1 | 0,1 |
| Igdir | 5 | 0,5 |
| Kilis | 1 | 0,1 |
| Osmaniye | 3 | 0,3 |
| No answer | 2 | 0,2 |
| Total | 1000 | 100 |

| Immigration Status | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Did not immigrate | 748 | 74,8 |
| Immigrated | 250 | 25,0 |
| No answer | 2 | 0,2 |
| Total | 1000 | 100,0 |

**IMMIGRATION**
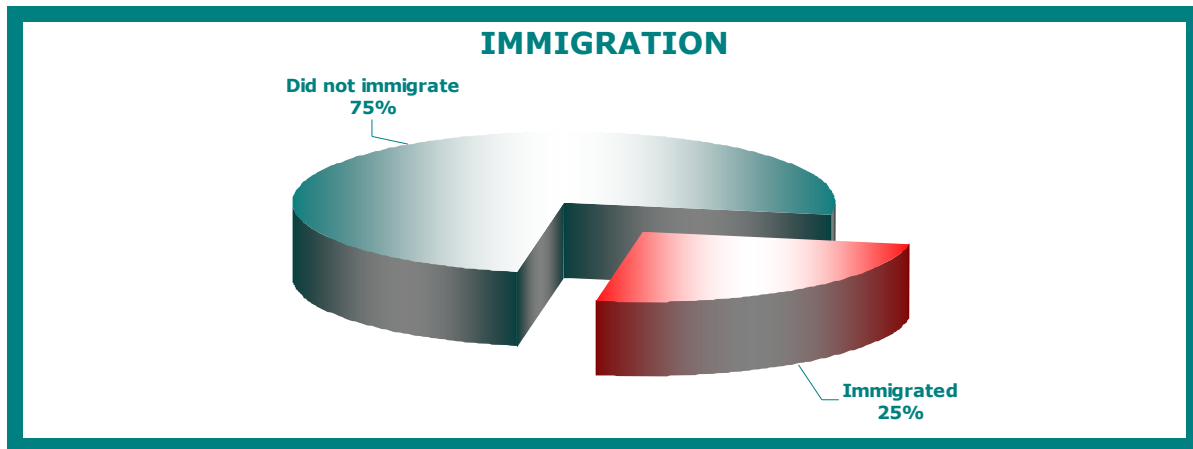


### 4.2.14 PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVE POLITICS OF RESPONDENT

| Have you participated in active politics until now, or are you still a part of active politics? | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Yes | 104 | 10,4 |
| No | 895 | 89,5 |
| No answer | 1 | 0,1 |
| Total | 1000 | 100,0 |

**PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVE POLITICS OF RESPONDENT**
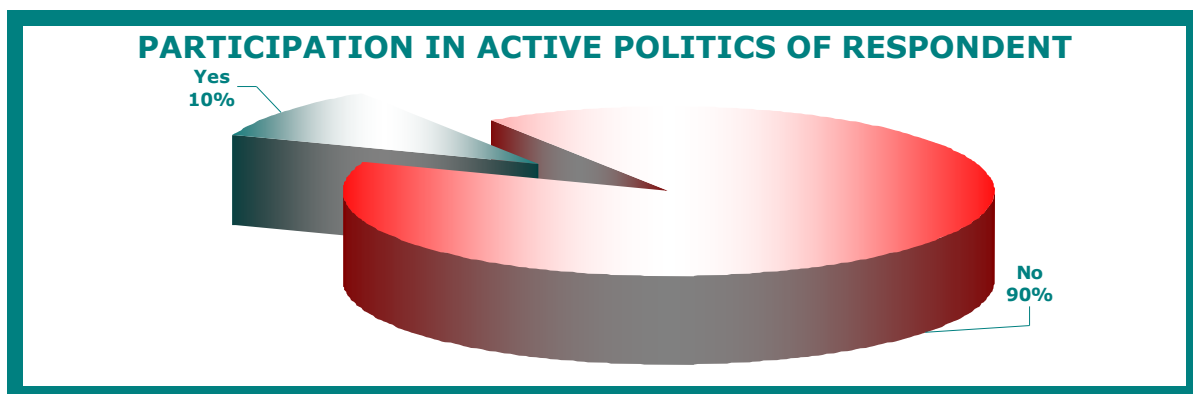
## 4.2.15 OPINION LEADERSHIP RATING (COGNITIVE MOBILIZATION)[1]

What is an "opinion leader"? It is a person who, in the Context of certain social functions, generally exerts more influence on the opinions of others than they exert on him. If all the members of a given social group were equal and substitutable in the influence they exerted on the formation of the opinions, attitudes and behavior of the group, the group would continue to function in some way even if one or other member were to leave it. The leader, on the other hand, is the person who makes things different in a group: as we have said, he influences others more than they influence him – and not only occasionally but in a relatively constant and predictable way.

Both market and opinion research, and more generally surveys by social psychologists, set out top in-point the opinion leaders. There are only three accepted methods of doing this:

1. Sociometric study of the respective influences within a given group; this is practicable only in the laboratory or with small groups.
2. Questioning well-informed journalists, etc, who will name the persons who, in their opinion, exert opinion leadership in a given group. This method suffers from the limitations of the first method and in addition there is the risk that the people named will merely be the official leaders, people with obviously important social functions, rather than real opinion leaders genuinely involved in the activities of the group.
3. Self-selection of the opinion leaders by questionnaire. Fort his purpose opinion leaders are defined as individuals exhibiting certain characteristics generally held to be typical of a "leadership" role, e.g. interest in certain problems and a certain degree of involvement – in both scope and intensity – in the life of the group.

This third method was the one we used; it seemed to be the only practicable one for dealing with surreys based on samples representing large and varied populations.

Analysis of the results obtained during previous surveys showed that it was statistically meaningful to construct an index based on the replies given by all the respondents to two questions, one of them on their propensity to discuss politics with friends and the other on their propensity to convince others of the rightness of opinions which they hold strongly themselves. This index describing a respondent's opinion leadership rating must not be confused with the concept of institutional leadership, often used by other researchers; to avoid confusion, our index may alternatively be referred to as an index of cognitive mobilization.

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[1] Definition from Eurobarometer Surveys of European Commission

The index has been constructed to contain four degrees, the highest of which designates those people we shall call opinion leaders (about 14% of the Turkey population) while the lowest corresponds to the non-leaders (about 13%); the two intermediate levels correspond to individuals who show, respectively, slightly more opinion leadership and less opinion leadership than the average.

The following table shows how the opinion leadership rating index has been constructed.

| DISCUSSING POLITICS… | CONVINCING OTHERS…. | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | often | from time to time | rarely | never | don't know |
| often | ++ | ++ | + | + | + |
| from time to time | + | + | - | - | - |
| never | - | - | -- | -- | -- |
| don't know | - | - | -- | -- | -- |

| Opinion leadership indicator | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Opinion Leader (++) | 138 | 13,8 |
| Opinion Leader (+) | 471 | 47,1 |
| Not an opinion Leader (-) | 264 | 26,4 |
| Not an opinion Leader (--) | 127 | 12,7 |
| Total | 1000 | 100,0 |



**OPINION LEADERSHIP RATING**

Not an opinion Leader (--) 13%
Opinion Leader (++) 14%
Not an opinion Leader (-) 26%
Opinion Leader (+) 47%

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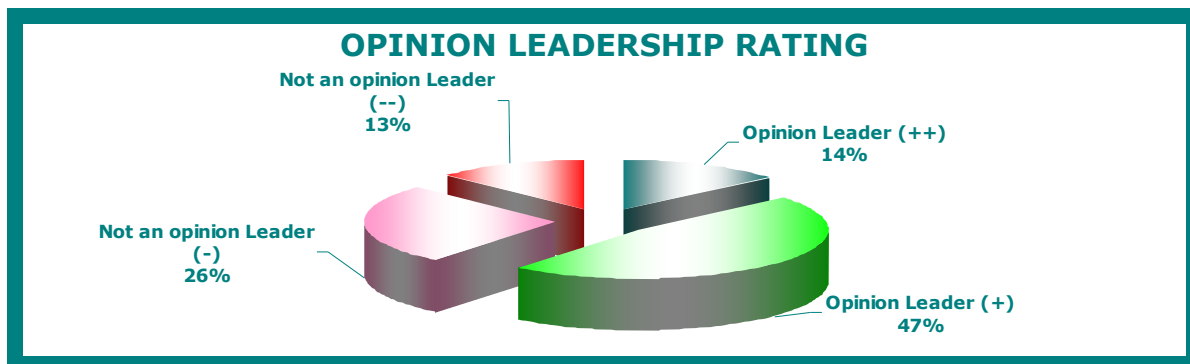
| When you hold a strong opinion, do you ever find yourself persuading your friends, relatives or fellow workers to share your views? Does this happen…? | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Often | 330 | 33,0 |
| From time to time | 402 | 40,2 |
| Rarely | 154 | 15,4 |
| Never | 112 | 11,2 |
| No opinion | 2 | 0,2 |
| Total | 1000 | 100,0 |

| When you get together with friends, would you say you discuss political matters… | Frequency | Percent |
|---|---|---|
| Often | 152 | 15,2 |
| From time to time | 584 | 58,4 |
| Never | 264 | 26,4 |
| Total | 1000 | 100,0 |

# 5 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The most important result of the research is that as is the result of many published researches there is a small amount of women in political decision making mechanisms in Turkey and that the Turkish society is not happy with this situation.

82% of the respondent wants the number of women politicians to increase. Especially the women (90%) and people on the left wing of the political spectrum (91%) give full support to the increase of women politicians. Those who do not want the increase of women politicians with the highest rate (only 23%) are the self-employed people. "Self-employed people" who have emerged as a group that should not be overlooked and should be dealt with specially have given answers in opposition of women to all sorts of questions matching women and politics.

The most important mainstay put forth by those who want the number of women politicians increased is that women have a more developed capacity of taking responsibility (92% within the group – 76% on the general). Politics is the work of those who know how to take responsibility. Those who can not take responsibility can not be successful in politics. The high responsibility taking capability of women necessitates for them to participate more in politics.

The most important mainstay put forth by those who do not want the number of women politicians increased is that women have obligations regarding family, which they must prioritize (91% within the group – 13% on the general). The high capacity of women for taking responsibility brings before them family obligations and this is the most important reason why people want them to be represented less in politics.

While in western democracies "being a politician" is a voluntary matter, in our country "being a politician" has become a profession. The rate of thinking positively about one of the family members being involved in politics is more that 40%. When the respondents were asked "would you approve of your spouse going into politics" 43% replied they would. Women (39%) approve of their husbands going into politics in comparison to men (37%). Here the conclusion is that men do not want to see their wives in politics.

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While 50% says they would approve in replying the question would you approve of your daughter going into politics, for sons this increases to 58%. Here the idea of "gender inequality in politics" is put forth. Nevertheless the number of those who want to see their daughters in politics is more than those who don't (48%)

20% of the guesses made about the current number of women parliamentarians in the Turkish National Grand Assembly (TBMM) are close to the actual number of parliamentarians. What is interesting here is that men (25%) make better guesses with respect to women (15%). This points out to the fact that large blocks of people, that is women need to be made aware about politics. While 39% of women say that they do not know the number of women parliamentarians in TBMM, 21% of men say that they do not know the number of women parliamentarians in TBMM.

77% of those participating in the research think that the most important reason why women are represented with a small percentage in the decision making process of politics is that "women are not given many chances".

It is thought that the fastest progress will be achieved in Education (77%), Health (74%) and Human rights problems (73%) as a result of women participation in politics.
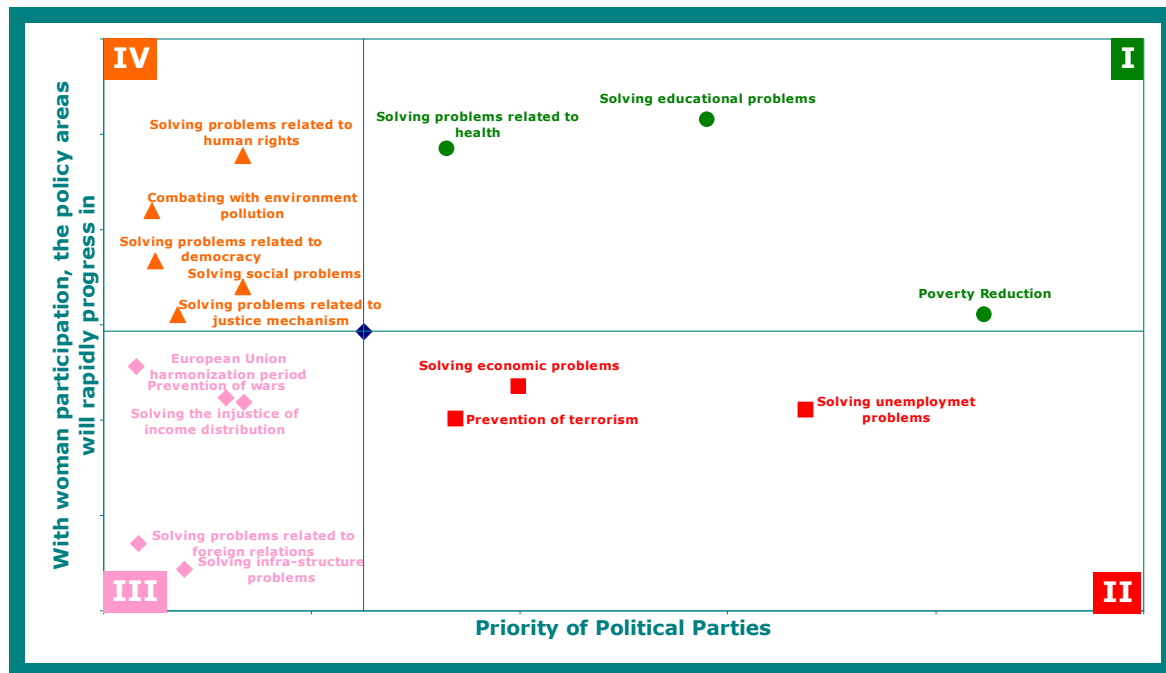
In the diagram above window I is composed of the factors that political parties want to be handled in the short run and that are problems in which fast progress can be achieved with the participation of women, window II is composed of factors that political parties want to be handled in the short run in which slower progress will be achieved with respect to other areas with the participation of women, window III is composed of factors that political parties want to be handled in the long run and in which fast progress can be achieved with the participation of women, and window IV is composed of problems political parties want to handle in the medium term in which fast progress can be achieved with the participation of women.

Having more women involved in areas found in window I is indispensable from the point of view of political parties.

The parties that can convince that they will lessen poverty, that they will solve the unemployment problem, that they will solve the education problem, that they will solve the economical problems, that they will solve health problems, and that they will prevent terrorism will be advantageous with respect to their competitors. It is thought that in 3 of these 6 main problems faster progress will be achieved with the participation of women. With straight forward thinking the political parties pointing out that there will be efficient women in the positions of National Education Minister, Health Minister and to a certain extent State Minister in charge of Economy in the probable elections will be starting of with a major advantage.

The percentage of those who believe that the participation of women in the political process will make positive changes both in the quality of politics in terms of the way and content of political attitude and also the results obtained in every field is 78%. The grey color of politics will be enlivened with the participation of women in politics.

The percentage of those who are not happy with the policies of the parties they voted for in November 3, 2002, regarding women equality and rights is 16%, the percentage of those who do not have an idea about these policies is 18%. Under the light of these results it is possible to conclude that the present political parties have to create more efficient policies regarding equality of women and women rights and that they have to execute and explain these policies more efficiently.
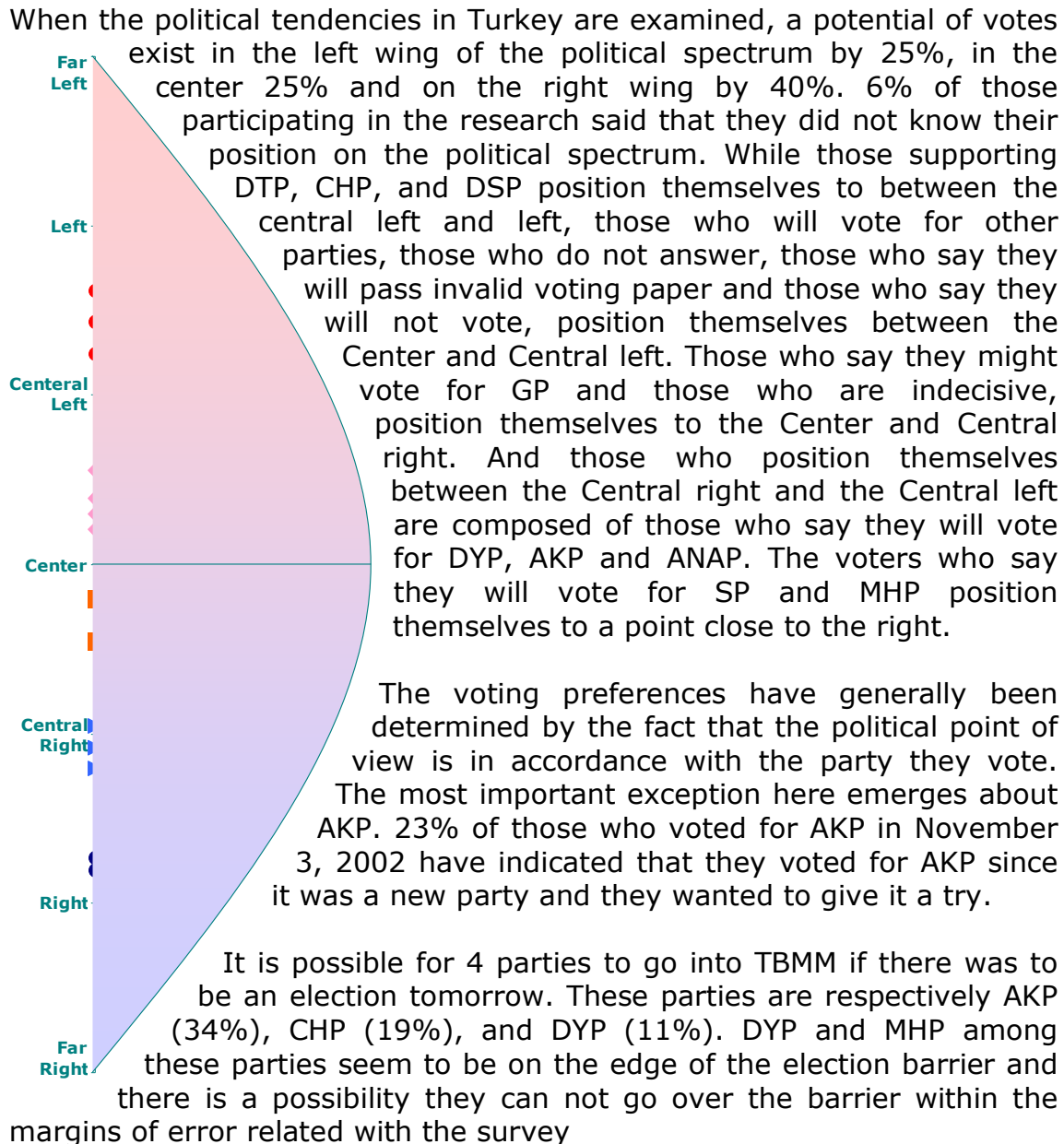
30% of those who are not happy with the policies of the party they voted for in November 3, 2002 think that the party they voted for has to increase its percentage of women politicians.

While the fact that the percentage of women politicians in one party is higher to those in another increases the votes of that party by 30% it makes them drop by 5%. Straight forward analysis conclusion is that if the number of women politicians in one party is higher than the others this will bring about 25% more of its overall votes to that party.

"Political parties stipulating gender quota by implementing it to their party statute" which is one of the most effective ways of making sure women take part in the decision making mechanisms of politics is supported by 78%.

The belief in the necessity of making legal reforms in the election law to increase the number of women in TBMM is 77%.

The belief that applications about changing the gender inequality in TBMM for an increased representation of women in politics will be realized is less than the two issues explained above. The ratio of those who believe that the applications about changing the gender inequality in TBMM for an increased representation of women in politics will be realized is 52%. Under the light of these results the political parties in TBMM have important responsibilities in making the laws securing the gender inequality in politics. That is because one of the institutions believed to make the most benefit out of a change in the gender inequality in politics is TBMM (68%).

When the political tendencies in Turkey are examined, a potential of votes exist in the left wing of the political spectrum by 25%, in the center 25% and on the right wing by 40%. 6% of those participating in the research said that they did not know their position on the political spectrum. While those supporting DTP, CHP, and DSP position themselves to between the central left and left, those who will vote for other parties, those who do not answer, those who say they will pass invalid voting paper and those who say they will not vote, position themselves between the Center and Central left. Those who say they might vote for GP and those who are indecisive, position themselves to the Center and Central right. And those who position themselves between the Central right and the Central left are composed of those who say they will vote for DYP, AKP and ANAP. The voters who say they will vote for SP and MHP position themselves to a point close to the right.

The voting preferences have generally been determined by the fact that the political point of view is in accordance with the party they vote. The most important exception here emerges about AKP. 23% of those who voted for AKP in November 3, 2002 have indicated that they voted for AKP since it was a new party and they wanted to give it a try.

It is possible for 4 parties to go into TBMM if there was to be an election tomorrow. These parties are respectively AKP (34%), CHP (19%), and DYP (11%). DYP and MHP among these parties seem to be on the edge of the election barrier and there is a possibility they can not go over the barrier within the margins of error related with the survey

Far Left

Left

Centeral Left

Center

Central Right

Right

Far Right

Most of the voters have indicated that they will vote according to their political point of view (except for the voters of AKP). 52% of those who said they might vote for AKP said they might do so because they think the work and services of AKP are successful. Under the light of these results AKP emerges as a party of action and the other parties as political vision parties.

36% of the voters have changed their party preferences since the elections of November 3, 2002, 53% has not changed their political preferences of November 3, 2002. New voters in the ratio of 9% will gain the right to vote in case of a possible election.