

International Population Movements in Turkey as a Result of Tourism Activities between 2010-2015

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Abstract: *In this study, international population movement within the scope of tourism activities in Turkey during the period between 2010- 2015 was examined. In this context, international population movement as a result of tourism activities was tried to be revealed taking into consideration the data such as international passenger transportation for tourism purpose, the number of people entering and leaving the country, the number of overnight stays and average spending.*

Keywords: Tourism, Population, Turkey, Economical development

1. Introduction

Tourism activities showing a rapid development all over the world also enable international population movements. Especially the development of transport systems, the increase in accommodation facilities and their becoming more comfortable have made people more willing to perform a variety of activities for both relaxation and recreational purposes. As a result of recent developments, tourism-induced population movements are occurring across the globe (Sertkaya Doğan Ö., 2015:108). Within this context, while Turkey is a scene for visits from various countries as a destination center, it is also involved in international population movements due to the increase in the visits made from the country abroad (Sertkaya Doğan Ö., 2005:238). Turkey will be able to obtain an important place at the top in the world tourism market to the extent it reflects the advantages of being in the Mediterranean Basin where intensive international tourism activities are observed, being a Middle Eastern and Balkan country, and being in the center of Asia, Europe, and Africa continents on tourism (Akova İ., 1997:264). Easily accessible areas in terms of geographical location, regions having natural and cultural attractions such as Turkey have become tourism destinations. In addition to these features, Turkey, which is located in the middle climate zone, also has favorable climatic characteristics for tourism. Climatic characteristics are decisive in determining whether a place is appropriate for tourism activities, and moreover, which tourism activities can be performed (AkovaBalcı S., 2008:15). On the other hand, the changes and differentiation in the world tourism demand also reveal the opportunities for Turkey to utilize unique touristic potentials in various regions (Bakırcı M., 2011:72). As a result of the socio-economic improvement in the level of living, the number of visits to abroad has increased remarkably in our country in recent years. Factors such as the increase in the number of organization companies operating in the tourism sector and the improvements in the visa application processes facilitating obtaining visa are highly effective in these developments. Tourism, which is a sector in which major investments are made by entrepreneurs, has renewed itself every time, the quality of products and services has increased, and universal service opportunities have emerged (Doğan M., 2011:123).

2. The Place of Tourism in the Economy of Turkey (2010- 2015)

In Turkey, which is one of the major tourism destinations, the development of tourism gained speed especially after 1980. In our country especially since the 1980s, the acceleration of various investments in transportation, communication and service sectors led to the recovery of tourism sector and enabled it to gain economic value (Sertkaya Doğan Ö., 2011:132). In the globalized world; in addition to the improvements in transportation systems, as a result of the proliferation of mass media, advertising and the activities of various promotional companies, the accessibility and recognition opportunities increased, thus tourism activities became an important sector around the world. As a result of the developments such as faster transportation vehicles with higher capacities and lower transportation costs, tourists have gained the opportunity to spend their holidays in more distant tourism regions with each passing day (Akova İ., 2013:107). Tourism activities, which are created by people's needs for daily trips or longer accommodations out of the place of their residence, sightseeing, recreation, experiencing new cultures, additionally, benefiting from educational or health facilities, nowadays, have a large share of the national income. Tourism is among the most important economic inputs of the countries all around the world. According to the United Nations World Tourism Organization's data (UNWTO), world tourism receipts which had been \$ 928 billion in 2010 reached \$ 1.245 billion in 2014. Turkey's tourism receipts were announced to be \$21.9 billion in 2009, \$27.9 billion in 2013 and \$31.5 billion in 2015. The share of tourism receipts in the Gross National Product (GNP) which had been 3.4 in 2010 reached 4.3 in 2014. The tourism receipts/export ratio increased in a similar way. This ratio which had been 18.3 in 2010 reached 21.8 in 2014.

Table 1: The share of tourism receipts inGNP and tourism receipts/export ratio by year

Year	The Share of Tourism Receipts in GNP	Tourism Receipts/ Export Ratio
2010	3.4	18.3
2011	3.6	20.8
2012	3.7	19.2
2013	3.9	21.3
2014	4.3	21.8

Source: <http://www.tursab.org.tr>

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When the share of tourism receipts in GNP for years in the period covered by the study was considered, a steady increase was observed. This value which had been 3.4 in 2010 reached 4.3 in 2014 by increasing at the rate of 26.4%. Similarly, tourism receipts/export ratio which had been 18.3 in 2010 reached 21.8% in 2014 by increasing at the rate of approximately 20%.

This increase in the share of tourism receipts in GNP is a result of efficient policies implemented in Turkish tourism during this period. Tourism, besides its contribution to the national income, is among the sectors at the center of economic and social balance because of its foreign exchange generating feature and the employment it provides. The share of the tourism sector, which can also be defined as an effective and important means of marketing and promotion, is increasingly growing every year. Turkey, which had received around five thousand foreign visitors in the years when the Republic was founded, is now the 6th popular destination in the world with 35 million foreign visitors (<http://www.aktob.org.tr/pdf/arastirma2014.pdf>).

Table 2: Accommodation facilities by year

Years	Facilities with Tourism Operation License			Facilities with Tourism Investment License		
	Facilities	Rooms	Beds	Facilities	Rooms	Beds
2010	2.647	299.621	629.465	877	114.771	252.984
2011	2.783	319.319	668.829	922	122.364	267.900
2012	2.870	336.447	706.019	960	126.592	273.877
2013	2.982	357.440	749.299	1.056	139.928	301.862
2014	3.131	384.454	807.316	1.117	145.648	309.556
Total	14.413	1.697.281	3.560.928	4.932	649.303	1.406.179

Source: <http://www.tursab.org.tr>

When table-2 was examined, the increase in the room and bed capacities, the number of facilities with tourism operation license and tourism investment license increased in parallel to the increase in the share obtained from tourism receipts in 2010-2015 period.

3. International Population Movements in Turkey as A Result of Tourism Activities

Population Arriving in Turkey

International population movements based on tourism activities are examined mainly in two groups in the tables created by utilizing the tourism statistics of Turkish Statistical Institute (TUIK) for 2015. These data were classified into two groups: the population arriving in Turkey and the population departing from Turkey. The population arriving in Turkey consists of citizens of foreign countries and Turkish citizens living abroad. In this context, when Table-3 in which the number of citizens arriving in Turkey is evaluated, it can be said that 10.921.427 individuals in total visited our country in 2010, and this figure reached 12.768.914 in 2014 by increasing at the rate of 16.9%. The arriving visitors chose mostly the airway (63%). The advantages of air transport have led to the development of this situation.

Table 3: Number of visitors who are Turkish citizens arriving annually

Means of Transport	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Airway	5.987.481	6.697.780	7.258.837	7.744.135	7.972.293
Railway	10.520	13.819	5.636	4.286	3.325
Highway	4.551.207	4.461.258	3.996.629	4.164.771	4.241.591
Seaway	372.219	419.796	470.361	561.026	551.705
Total	10.921.427	11.592.653	11.731.463	12.474.218	12.768.914

Table 4: Annual number of foreign visitors arriving by the group of countries

Group of Countries	Means of Transport	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
AFRICAN COUNTRIES	Total	377.300	445.487	713.399	807.484	888.107
	Airway	353.791	419.726	688.750	782.157	859.503
	Railway	181	49	28	30	20
	Highway	12.261	8.355	4.021	3.970	3.072
	Seaway	1.901	3.712	2.375	3.366	3.096
	Daytripper	9.166	13.645	18.225	17.961	22.416
AMERICAN COUNTRIES	Total	135.902	181.617	185.300	245.961	228.035
	Airway	94.397	114.859	125.291	165.864	168.673
	Railway	384	229	128	178	65
	Highway	3.526	3.072	2.702	3.401	3.171
	Seaway	2.886	4.950	3.789	7.535	5.788
	Daytripper	34.709	58.507	53.390	68.983	50.338
EUROPEAN OECD COUNTRIES	Total	14.209.364	15.599.564	15.583.736	15.954.808	16.376.814
	Airway	11.737.690	12.835.961	12.930.964	13.234.957	13.617.388
	Railway	16.676	10.851	7.640	6.012	3.288
	Highway	1.085.372	1.028.004	1.027.369	1.090.389	1.233.331
	Seaway	289.494	338.096	321.295	324.551	392.444
	Daytripper	1.080.132	1.386.652	1.296.468	1.298.899	1.130.363
COMMONWEALTH OF	Total	6.075.484	6.695.501	7.236.582	8.607.486	8.850.923

INDEPENDENT STATES	Airway	4.504.438	5.016.957	5.309.835	6.302.090	6.544.566
	Railway	450	169	65	116	56
	Highway	1.505.140	1.607.728	1.854.856	2.225.109	2.222.291
	Seaway	32.833	28.583	29.988	34.082	41.099
	Daytripper	32.623	42.064	41.838	46.089	42.911
WEST ASIAN COUNTRIES	Total	1.887.040	2.088.314	2.147.531	3.055.786	3.377.008
	Airway	737.978	901.106	1.156.746	1.498.174	2.005.091
	Railway	5.862	5.024	1.400	49	24
	Highway	1.116.541	1.150.037	954.655	1.493.738	1.289.049
	Seaway	19.100	21.203	20.536	35.819	66.313
OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES	Daytripper	7.559	10.944	14.194	28.006	16.531
	Total	2.412.354	2.595.476	2.646.012	2.823.049	3.066.220
	Airway	614.691	682.882	733.949	822.710	935.711
	Railway	6.923	5.567	3.072	3.940	1.718
	Highway	1.748.978	1.846.852	1.845.248	1.933.819	2.059.236
OTHER OECD COUNTRIES	Seaway	17.847	23.611	22.846	25.225	30.502
	Daytripper	23.915	36.564	40.897	37.355	39.053
	Total	1.293.272	1.499.625	1.541.518	1.604.399	1.670.819
	Airway	783.003	890.786	978.007	1.007.705	1.133.290
	Railway	4.635	2.246	1.117	1.222	487
EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES	Highway	33.835	34.245	28.983	31.856	34.144
	Seaway	51.467	65.840	58.089	63.026	64.741
	Daytripper	420.332	506.508	475.322	500.590	438.157
	Total	108.013	134.639	161.054	197.065	273.396
	Airway	99.897	122.400	145.794	177.500	250.837
SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES	Railway	159	69	17	70	130
	Highway	1.293	1.371	1.912	1.405	1.572
	Seaway	724	1.387	1.964	1.525	3.046
	Daytripper	5.940	9.412	11.367	16.565	17.811
	Total	1.986.910	2.004.059	1.330.050	1.356.997	1.797.290
SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES	Airway	514.908	668.243	683.454	683.260	1.035.531
	Railway	30.352	27.836	15.255	17.267	18.657
	Highway	1.431.756	1.288.958	612.335	638.709	721.524
	Seaway	4.265	6.178	6.086	6.712	8.717
	Daytripper	5.629	12.844	12.920	11.049	12.861
STATELESS	Total	120.487	184.917	201.217	221.087	260.962
	Airway	95.325	114.100	140.138	165.343	200.564
	Railway	185	97	59	94	15
	Highway	3.281	22.183	2.320	3.907	4.133
	Seaway	9.345	12.832	12.727	13.871	15.898
OCEANIAN COUNTRIES	Daytripper	12.351	35.705	45.973	37.872	40.352
	Total	23.208	26.518	31.739	35.501	47.654
	Airway	16.795	21.333	27.582	31.796	42.718
	Railway	337	20	1	1	
	Highway	6.047	5.019	4.034	3.581	2.222
	Seaway	29	146	122	123	451
	Daytripper					2.263
	Total	2.870	359	4.694	475	672
	Airway	2.792	289	130	203	319
	Highway	37	27	1.702	67	81
	Seaway	2	8	10	36	20
	Daytripper	39	35	2.852	169	252

When Table-4 is examined, it can be said that the number of foreign visitors arriving in Turkey was 28.632.204 in total in 2010. That the biggest group arriving in Turkey is citizens of European OECD countries draws attention. Within this group of countries which consists of Germany, UK, Holland, France, Italy, Greece, Belgium, Austria, Sweden, Poland, Spain, Denmark, Norway, Czech Republic, Finland, Ireland, Slovakia, Hungary, Portugal, Luxembourg and Iceland; the first three rankings are as follows: Germany with 31% tourist potential, UK with 19% tourist potential and Holland with 8% tourist potential. When the data for 2014 were

examined, it was observed that the figures did not change a lot, and Germany, UK, and Holland were in the first three with the tourist potential of 32%, 16%, and 8%, respectively. It can be said that the number of foreign visitors arriving in Turkey was 36.837.900 in 2014.

According to the data for 2010, citizens of the countries in the Commonwealth of Independent States constitute the second biggest group of countries arriving in Turkey. Within the Commonwealth of Independent States which consists of Russian Federation, Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan,

Kazakhstan, Belarus, Turkmenistan, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan; the first three rankings are as follows: Russia with 51%, Georgia 18% and Ukraine 9%. When the data for 2014 were examined, it was determined that the citizens of Russian Federation took place on the top with the share of 51%, Georgian citizens followed them with the share of 20%, and Azerbaijan citizens arrived in Turkey at the rate of 7%.

Except this, the total number of foreign visitors from other European Countries (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and Serbia) reached 3.066.220 by increasing at the rate 27% in 2014 while this figure was 2.412.354 in 2010.

Another remarkable group of countries in the table is South and West Asian Countries. In this context, 1.986.910 visitors from South Asian countries (Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India and Bangladesh) and 1.887.040 visitors from the West Asian countries (T.R.N.C., Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, U.A.E., Oman and Yemen) arrived in Turkey in 2010. In 2014, 1.797.290 visitors from the South Asian countries and 3.377.008 visitors from the West Asian countries arrived in Turkey.

4. Population going from Turkey Abroad

Table 5: Annual number of Turkish citizens departing for abroad

Means of Transport	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Airway	19.493.183	21.735.125	22.889.537	24.807.963	26.734.896
Railway	61.204	47.840	25.903	25.218	21.013
Highway	6.879.517	6.901.694	6.197.198	7.216.067	7.312.797
Seaway	444.553	526.989	529.104	573.616	625.170
Daytripper	1.632.395	2.112.880	2.013.446	2.063.538	1.813.308
Total	28.510.852	31.324.528	31.655.188	34.686.402	36.507.184

As can be seen from Table-5 established based on the table, a significant increase in the number of Turkish citizens departing for abroad was recorded. This can be interpreted as an indicator of developing transportation facilities and the increase in the economic income levels. The total number of Turkish citizens departing for abroad which had been

28.510.852 in 2010 reached 36.507.184 in 2014 by increasing at the rate of 28%. That airway is the most used means of transport for outgoing travels and the use of railway is at minimum draw attention.

Table 6: The annual number of foreign visitors departing

Group of Countries	Means of Transport	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
AFRICAN COUNTRIES	Total	356.918	421.270	701.167	789.422	870.300
	Airway	333.686	396.710	675.714	764.567	842.009
	Railway	173	118	91	64	55
	Highway	11.879	8.183	4.649	3.456	2.790
	Seaway	2.014	2.614	2.488	3.374	3.030
	Daytripper	9.166	13.645	18.225	17.961	22.416
AMERICAN COUNTRIES	Total	134.331	181.145	183.679	245.581	227.715
	Airway	88.131	109.036	118.668	157.984	159.828
	Railway	364	229	163	176	80
	Highway	3.340	2.488	2.499	3.005	2.856
	Seaway	7.787	10.885	8.959	15.433	14.613
	Daytripper	34.709	58.507	53.390	68.983	50.338
EUROPEAN OECD COUNTRIES	Total	14.196.096	15.606.080	15.609.238	15.985.058	16.389.956
	Airway	11.735.627	12.858.967	12.955.971	13.255.324	13.647.525
	Railway	16.907	9.928	7.101	5.734	3.910
	Highway	1.073.516	1.006.218	1.006.716	1.076.330	1.216.115
	Seaway	289.914	344.315	342.982	348.771	392.043
	Daytripper	1.080.132	1.386.652	1.296.468	1.298.899	1.130.363
COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES	Total	6.014.945	6.629.262	7.193.119	8.564.954	8.803.904
	Airway	4.470.023	4.983.468	5.291.427	6.280.460	6.530.682
	Railway	452	186	108	112	53
	Highway	1.478.005	1.573.640	1.826.619	2.198.747	2.185.763
	Seaway	33.842	29.904	33.127	39.546	44.495
	Daytripper	32.623	42.064	41.838	46.089	42.911
WEST ASIAN COUNTRIES	Total	1.862.393	2.062.994	2.045.730	2.870.375	3.102.013
	Airway	736.066	889.599	1.142.968	1.470.450	1.951.234
	Railway	4.247	2.680	514	69	31
	Highway	1.095.217	1.139.304	862.801	1.332.359	1.095.974
	Seaway	19.304	20.467	25.253	39.491	38.243
	Daytripper	7.559	10.944	14.194	28.006	16.531

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES	Total	2.424.221	2.588.786	2.655.949	2.825.264	3.069.759
	Airway	616.090	682.567	736.187	823.856	940.463
	Railway	7.085	6.417	3.330	3.692	1.907
	Highway	1.758.967	1.839.236	1.848.467	1.930.985	2.057.967
	Seaway	18.164	24.002	27.068	29.376	30.369
	Daytripper	23.915	36.564	40.897	37.355	39.053
OTHER OECD COUNTRIES	Total	1.296.678	1.500.476	1.547.894	1.609.410	1.678.024
	Airway	783.569	889.825	977.762	1.006.958	1.138.368
	Railway	4.004	2.386	1.353	1.342	638
	Highway	31.256	27.809	26.795	28.202	29.080
	Seaway	57.517	73.948	66.662	72.318	71.781
	Daytripper	420.332	506.508	475.322	500.590	438.157
EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES	Total	106.019	134.720	158.448	191.635	266.935
	Airway	97.853	122.494	143.553	171.566	243.253
	Railway	236	46	42	69	220
	Highway	1.085	1.039	1.582	1.293	1.748
	Seaway	905	1.729	1.904	2.142	3.903
	Daytripper	5.940	9.412	11.367	16.565	17.811
SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES	Total	1.973.680	1.988.758	1.327.315	1.349.970	1.792.267
	Airway	520.343	668.922	684.195	682.698	1.040.907
	Railway	27.060	25.739	13.130	13.905	14.087
	Highway	1.416.882	1.275.313	610.862	635.054	714.867
	Seaway	3.766	5.940	6.208	7.264	9.545
	Daytripper	5.629	12.844	12.920	11.049	12.861
SOUTH-EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES	Total	119.339	184.181	198.297	219.367	256.388
	Airway	92.055	112.048	135.767	162.503	195.643
	Railway	329	85	65	54	31
	Highway	3.340	23.292	2.165	3.155	3.459
	Seaway	11.264	13.051	14.327	15.783	16.903
	Daytripper	12.351	35.705	45.973	37.872	40.352
STATELESS	Total	23.421	26.658	31.330	34.920	49.284
	Airway	17.021	21.365	27.191	31.406	44.671
	Railway	347	26	5	1	1
	Highway	5.996	5.142	4.019	3.413	2.111
	Seaway	57	125	115	100	238
	Daytripper					2.263
OCEANIAN COUNTRIES	Total	2.811	198	3.022	446	639
	Airway	2.719	124	134	191	313
	Railway			1		
	Highway	34	30	24	68	67
	Seaway	19	9	11	18	7
	Daytripper	39	35	2.852	169	252

As stated in Table-6, when the data of foreign visitors departing are examined, it is observed that 50% of the total number of foreign visitors departing (28.510.852) as of 2010 are the citizens of European OECD countries. The citizens of CIS countries with 21% and the citizens of other European countries with 9% follow them. In 2014, it is observed that 45% of foreign visitors departing (36.5070.184) constitute the citizens of European OECD countries, 24% constitute the citizens of CIS countries, and 8% constitute the citizens of West Asian countries. Therefore, although the profile of foreign visitors departing from Turkey creates largely an appropriate view to the data for 2010, it can be said that the number of the citizens of West Asian Countries (T.R.N.C., Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, U.A.E., Oman and Yemen) relatively increased.

5. Results

Considering the results obtained from this study, it can be said that international population movements occurring as a

result of tourism activities in Turkey increased in the period between 2010 and 2015, and this increase will continue in the future. Tourism activities are one of the important sectors that enable the population movement (Sertkaya Doğan Ö., 2015:26). Tourism culture which develops as a result of the increase in the socio-economic level, transportation, communication, and education level also enable international tourism activities to occur more effectively.

6. Conclusion and Implications

Tourism activities which are one of the most effective factors in international population movements are on the rapid rise worldwide. In 2014, the cities attracting most visitors were Paris (18.8 million tourists), New York (18.5 million tourists), London (16.1 million tourists), Bangkok (14.6 million tourists), Barcelona (12.4 million tourists) and Singapore (10.6 million tourists). While the number of tourists visiting Istanbul, which is one of the most important destinations in the world, was 6.9 million in 2010, it reached

12 million in 2015. Antalya, which is another important tourism destination, received 12.4 million tourist arrivals in 2014. According to the predictions of the United Nations World Tourism Organization, an increase of 30.8% in the international tourism movement is expected during the period between 2010 and 2020. It is seen Spain, Italy, and France come to the fore as the main competitors of Turkey in terms of tourism infrastructure and other services. This also brings the need to reshape tourism policies and objectives of Turkey. While Turkey was the 20th in 2000, 9th in 2005, 7th in 2009 in terms of the number of tourists, it became the 6th in the world after France, the USA, China, Spain and Italy in 2015. Similarly, a similar ranking in terms of tourism receipts can be mentioned.

Among the advantages of Turkey in terms of competitiveness, its popularity particularly in terms of youth tourism, being the country best implementing the all-inclusive system, its rich natural, historical and cultural values, easy accessibility because of the geographical location, and versatile transport systems can be mentioned. On the other hand, the quick consumption of environmental resources, the concentration of tourism demand only in Istanbul, Antalya, Izmir and Mugla provinces and particularly the inefficiency of promotion of alternative tourism opportunities can be mentioned as disadvantages.

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