

LITERACY RATE IN TURKEY



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- According to the source of United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Institute for Statistics

Literacy rate, youth total (% of people ages 15-24)

- Literacy rate, youth total (% of people ages 15-24) in Turkey was 97.81 as of 2009.
- Its highest value over the past 34 years was 97.81 in 2009, while its lowest value was 80.05 in 1975.

Literacy rate, adult total (% of people ages 15 and above)

- Literacy rate, adult total (% of people ages 15 and above) in Turkey was 90.82 as of 2009.
- Its highest value over the past 34 years was 90.82 in 2009, while its lowest value was 61.63 in 1975.

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- Even though literacy is more widespread among the younger population, there are still 406 thousand people between the ages 15 to 24 who cannot read or write.

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- According to the Household Labor Force Survey data, there are still 5 million 674 thousand people in Turkey over the age of 15, who are illiterate.

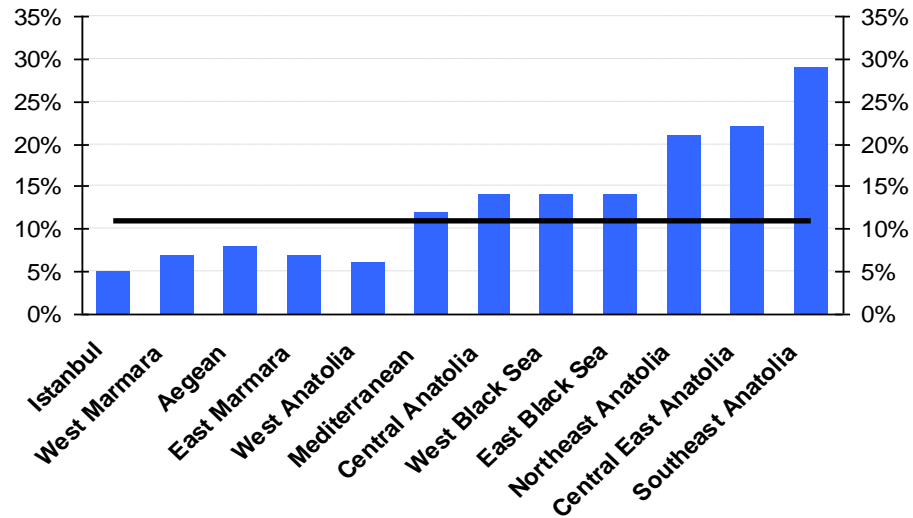
Unfortunately,

84 percent of them are women.

Moreover,

There are unacceptable differences across regions in terms of illiteracy.

Figure 1 Illiteracy by Regions



Clearly, the illiteracy rates differ markedly on the east – west axis.

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- **Southeast Anatolia needs a literacy campaign**

Being illiterate is the unsurpassable
obstacle to participation in the economic
and social sphere.

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- This shows illiterate people have been left out of the educational system.
 - State-led or state-supported literacy campaigns should be expedited immediately to combat illiteracy.

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- In 2002, the Social Solidarity and Assistance Fund (SYDTF) distributed financial aid to families of students from the lowest 6% income group in six provinces as an incentive to promote school attendance.

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- **In Public Education Centres, free courses are opened for adult people in every time of the year. If a person becomes literate, he/she is awarded by district governorship.**

