

A MULTIDIMENSIONAL ANALYSIS OF YOUNG PEOPLE NEITHER IN EDUCATION NOR IN EMPLOYMENT (NEETS) IN TÜRKİYE

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Executive Summary

Young people “neither in education nor in employment” (NEET) constitute one of the most important indicators of the labor market. The NEET indicator tracks the situation of individuals aged 15–24 or 15–29 who have completed their education but are not currently employed. The higher the NEET rate, the larger the share of young people who are disconnected from both production and education in one country.

Türkiye has by far the highest NEET rate in Europe. As of 2024, the NEET rate among those aged 15–24 stands at 22.9 percent, placing Türkiye first among European Union countries. This figure reveals the existence of a structural problem in employment and education within the country.

Türkiye stands out not only for having a high NEET rate but also for an exceptional characteristic. In most European countries, the youth unemployment rate exceeds the NEET rate. In Türkiye, however, the opposite is true: while the youth unemployment rate is 16.4 percent, the NEET rate reaches 22.9 percent. This discrepancy indicates that the NEET phenomenon in Türkiye arises not only from unemployment but also from early withdrawal from education, gender-based roles, and structural barriers.

Within the scope of this study, the number of NEETs was revised using microdata from the 2023 Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS) conducted by TURKSTAT, and recalculated as 2.36 million (a detailed explanation is provided in the report). Accordingly,

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the NEET rate among the population aged 15–24 stands at 19.9 percent. Even with this revised figure, Türkiye continues to hold the highest NEET rate in Europe.

Approximately two-thirds of NEETs are women, and the female NEET rate exceeds that of men at every level of education. One of the most striking structural features of NEET in Türkiye is regional inequality. The highest rates are found in Southeastern Anatolia (31.5 percent) and Central-Eastern Anatolia (28.3 percent). Roughly 28 percent of all NEETs (745 thousand young people) live in these two regions. In Southeastern Anatolia, nearly half of all young women (40.6 percent) are neither in education nor in employment; in Central-Eastern Anatolia, the rate is 35.1 percent. This disparity is closely linked to the limited non-agricultural job opportunities in rural areas and the prevalence of unpaid family labor. The lowest NEET rate is observed in Istanbul (12.8 percent).

The 2023 microdata also show that a portion of NEET youth are, in fact, actively seeking employment. By definition, those looking for work are part of the labor force. As of 2023, 632 thousand young people (26.8 percent of NEETs) reported that they were seeking employment. When these individuals are excluded, the number of “pure NEETs” drops to 1.72 million, of whom 71.7 percent are women. The share of job seekers within the NEET population varies significantly across regions: the lowest share is in Southeastern Anatolia (14.3 percent) and the highest in the Eastern Black Sea region (45.9 percent).

From an educational perspective, the highest NEET rate is among those with higher education (26.7 percent). However, more than half of this group (53.5 percent) are actively looking for a job. This indicates that the main challenge facing young university graduates lies not in inactivity, but in obtaining employment that matches their qualifications.

Among the 464 thousand potential workers not actively seeking employment, nearly 70 percent state that they either previously searched for a job without success or believe that no suitable opportunities are available to them. This highlights the widespread job-related discouragement among young people.

Finally, marriage dramatically increases the likelihood of being NEET among young women. While 36 percent of female NEETs are married, only 4 percent of male NEETs are. The withdrawal of women from the labor market after marriage is closely associated with prevailing social norms and childcare responsibilities.

The persistently high NEET rates in Türkiye should be understood as the outcome of multiple structural factors—weak linkages between education and employment, gender inequality, and regional disparities. Addressing this issue requires not only employment policies but also comprehensive social programs and gender equality-oriented reforms.

Introduction

The Turkish Statistical Institute (TURKSTAT) has long published a key indicator describing the employment and education status of young people: the share of “youth neither in education nor in employment.” The European Statistical Office (Eurostat) defines this category as “young people neither in employment nor in education or training,” commonly abbreviated as NEET. Likewise in this study, the term NEET is used to refer to young people aged 15–24 who are neither in education nor in employment or training.

As its name suggests, the NEET category covers young individuals who have interrupted their education at some stage and who are neither employed nor participating in any vocational course or apprenticeship training. In Türkiye, this group represents a substantial share of the youth population. According to the latest TURKSTAT data for April–June 2025 (second quarter), the NEET rate stands at 22.1 percent, compared with 20.8 percent in the same period of 2023 and 2024. Since the data are not seasonally adjusted, NEET rates typically peak during the summer months (July–September), rising by about 3–5 percentage points — reaching 24.7 percent in 2023 and 26.3 percent in 2024.

These figures reveal that roughly one in five young people in Türkiye is not contributing to production, representing a substantial economic loss and a serious structural problem. Although the NEET issue occasionally appears in economic media discussions, no prior study—to our knowledge—has examined the socioeconomic characteristics or regional distribution of this group to understand the underlying causes of Türkiye’s high NEET rate.

This research berief aims to fill that gap by analyzing the regional, educational, and demographic characteristics of NEET youth in Türkiye using microdata from the 2023 Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS). The findings show that NEET rates are closely linked not only to unemployment levels, but also to educational disengagement, gender roles, and structural barriers in the school-to-work transition.

Türkiye Ranks First in the European Union in Terms of NEET Rate

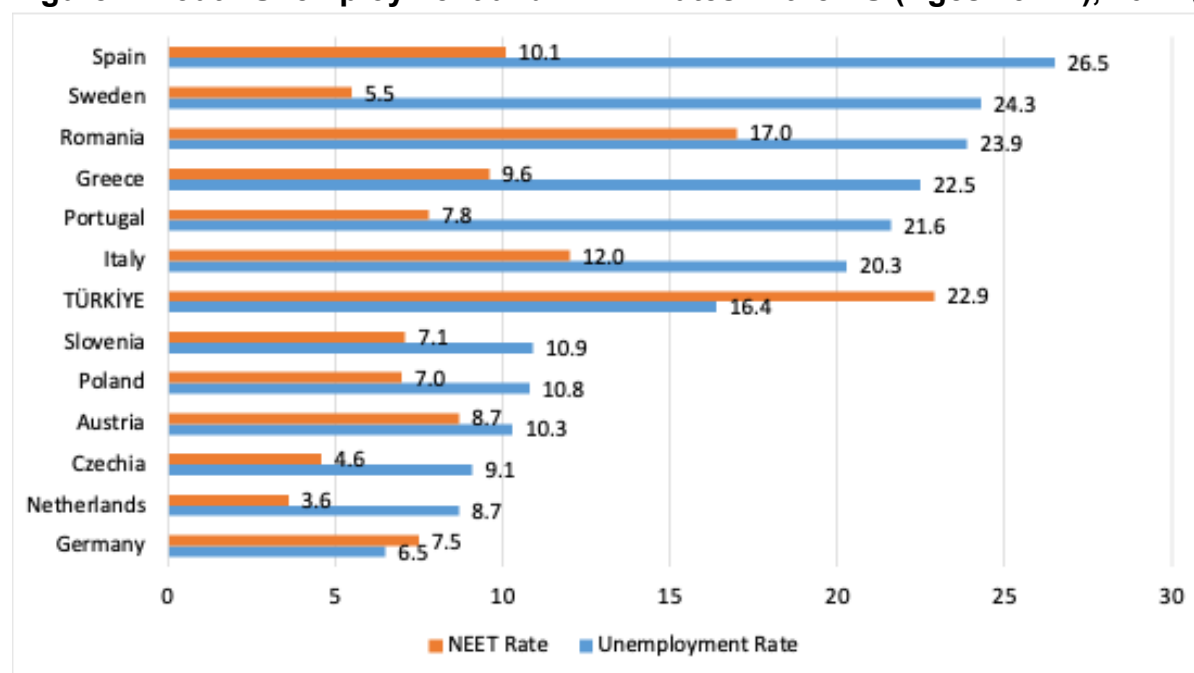
According to Eurostat data, as of 2024, Türkiye has the highest NEET rate in Europe among young people aged 15–24, at 22.9 percent. This figure is considerably higher than that of the second-ranked country, Romania (17 percent). Figure 1 presents both the youth unemployment and NEET rates, allowing for a comparative assessment of the relationship between the two indicators. Since the NEET measure also includes

unemployed youth, examining these two rates together is crucial for understanding structural differences among countries.¹

Another noteworthy finding is that in the six countries with the lowest youth unemployment rates, NEET rates also remain low. In these countries, the relatively small number of young job seekers—*ceteris paribus*—tends to lower NEET rates as well. However, this relationship is not always one-to-one. For instance, in Sweden and Portugal, youth unemployment rates are relatively high, yet NEET rates are quite low. This can be explained by the fact that a significant share of unemployed youth in these countries remain engaged in education or vocational training, and by the strong active labor market policies that help maintain their connection to the labor force. A similar pattern can be observed, though to a lesser extent, in Spain and Greece.

By contrast, in Romania and Italy, both youth unemployment and NEET rates are high. In these countries, weak school-to-work transition mechanisms and insufficient social policy instruments lead to a direct conversion of youth unemployment into NEET status.

Figure 1. Youth Unemployment and NEET Rates in the EU (Ages 15–24), 2024 (%)



Source: Eurostat

¹ The youth unemployment rate measures the share of young people who are not employed but actively seeking work. The NEET rate refers to the proportion of the entire youth population (both those seeking and not seeking work) who are neither in employment, education, nor in training or apprenticeship programs. In other words, the youth unemployment rate captures only NEET individuals who are actively looking for a job.

Indeed, Türkiye stands out as an exceptional case in this context. As shown in Figure 1, in all countries listed—except Germany—the NEET rate is lower than the youth unemployment rate. In Germany, both rates are already quite low and nearly identical. In Türkiye, however, while the youth unemployment rate is 16.4 percent, roughly in line with the European average, the NEET rate reaches 22.9 percent. This indicates that the level of youth unemployment alone cannot account for Türkiye’s high NEET rate. If the relationship between the two indicators in Türkiye resembled that observed in Romania, the European country with the next-highest NEET rate, Türkiye’s NEET rate would be expected to be around 12 percent.

This gap demonstrates that Türkiye’s elevated NEET rate is closely associated not only with youth unemployment, but also with other structural factors such as early educational disengagement, gender roles, and barriers to labor market entry. Türkiye’s position as the clear leader in Europe underscores a structural weakness in the integration of its young population into the labor market.

Revision of the NEET Estimate

According to TURKSTAT data, the total population of young people aged 15–24 in 2023 was 11.83 million. Within this group, the number of individuals neither in education nor in employment (NEET) was 2.66 million, corresponding to 22.5 percent. TURKSTAT calculates this figure in line with Eurostat standards, based on responses to the following questions from the Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS):

In the last four weeks,

- Have you attended a school, a formal education institution, or an open education program?
- Have you participated in any apprenticeship training organized by the Ministry of National Education?
- Have you attended any course or non-formal education program for your current job, for a future job, or for personal/hobby-related development?

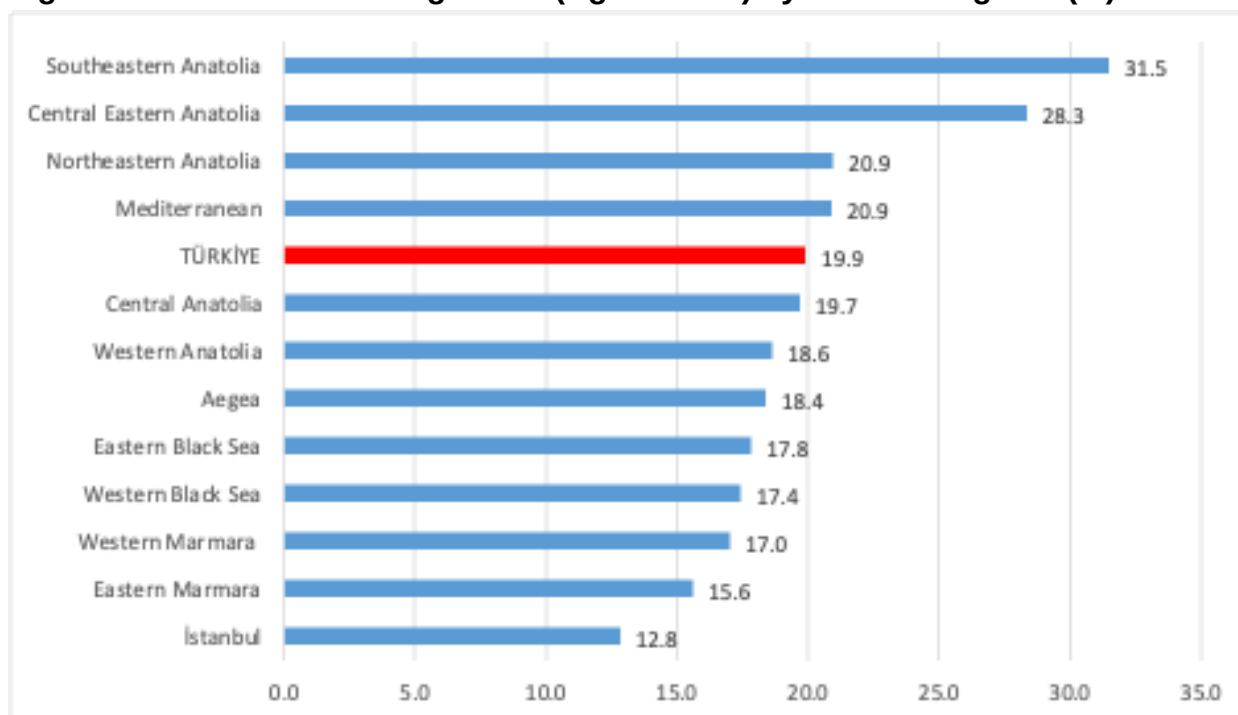
However, our analysis revealed an inconsistency in the survey responses. Some participants who indicated that they were not attending any school or training program—and were therefore classified as NEETs—also reported “continuing education” as their reason for not wanting to work in subsequent questions. The source of this contradiction remains unclear. For the scope of this study, BETAM revised the estimates using the 2023 HLFS microdata. With this adjustment, individuals who stated “continuing education” as their reason for not wanting to work were excluded from the NEET category.

Based on this revision, the number of NEETs in Türkiye in 2023 is estimated by BETAM at 2.36 million, accounting for 19.9 percent of the population aged 15–24. Of this group,

64.8 percent are women and 35.2 percent are men (Table A1). Notably, even with this adjusted figure, Türkiye continues to have the highest NEET rate in Europe.

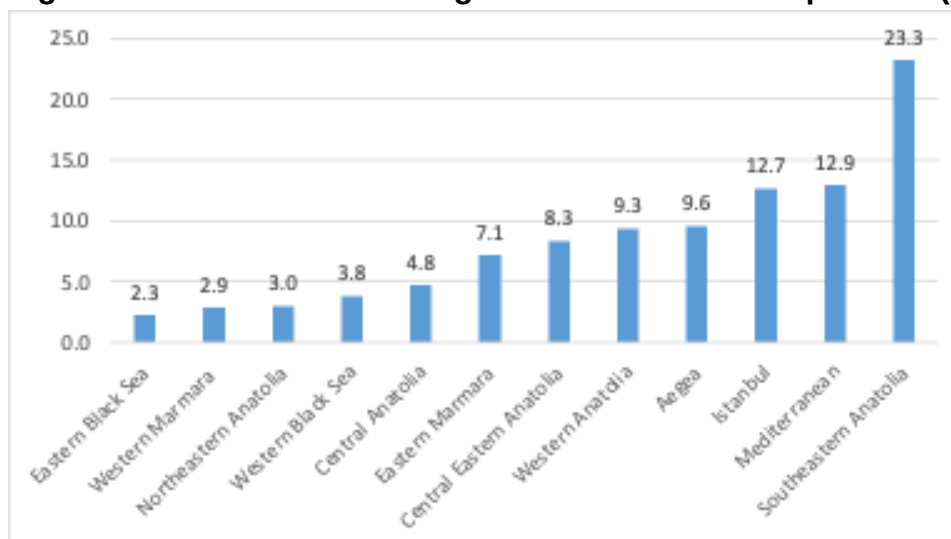
Regional Inequalities in NEET Rates

Figure 2. NEET Rates among Youth (Ages 15–24) by NUTS-1 Regions (%)



Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

Figure 3. Share of NUTS-1 Regions in Total NEET Population (2023) (%)



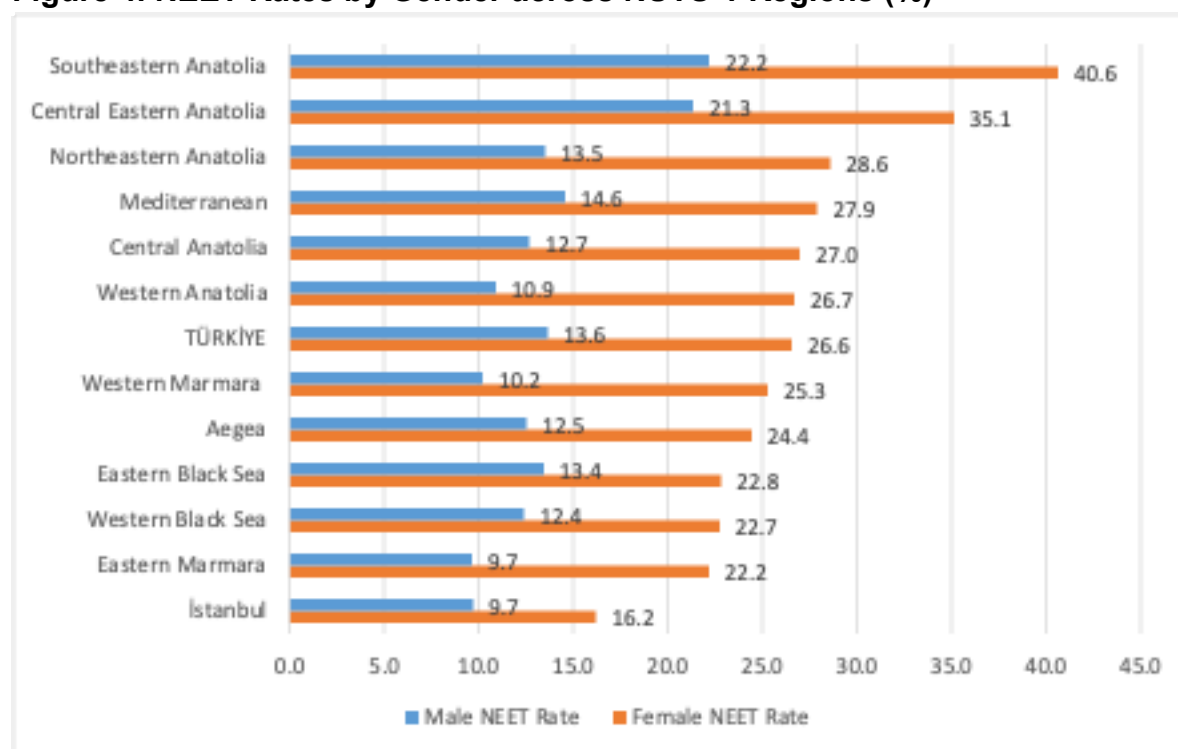
Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

The distribution of NEET rates across regions in Türkiye shows significant disparities. According to NUTS-1 level data, the highest rate is observed in Southeastern Anatolia (31.5 percent), followed by Central-Eastern Anatolia (28.3 percent) (see Figure 2). The total number of NEETs living in these two regions amounts to 745 thousand, accounting for approximately 32 percent of the national NEET population. These two regions are also the main contributors keeping the national average NEET rate close to 20 percent (see Figure 3 and Table A3).

In other regions, NEET rates are considerably lower. Northeastern Anatolia records a rate of 20.9 percent—about seven points below the regions with the highest rates—while Istanbul, at 12.8 percent, has the lowest NEET rate in the country.

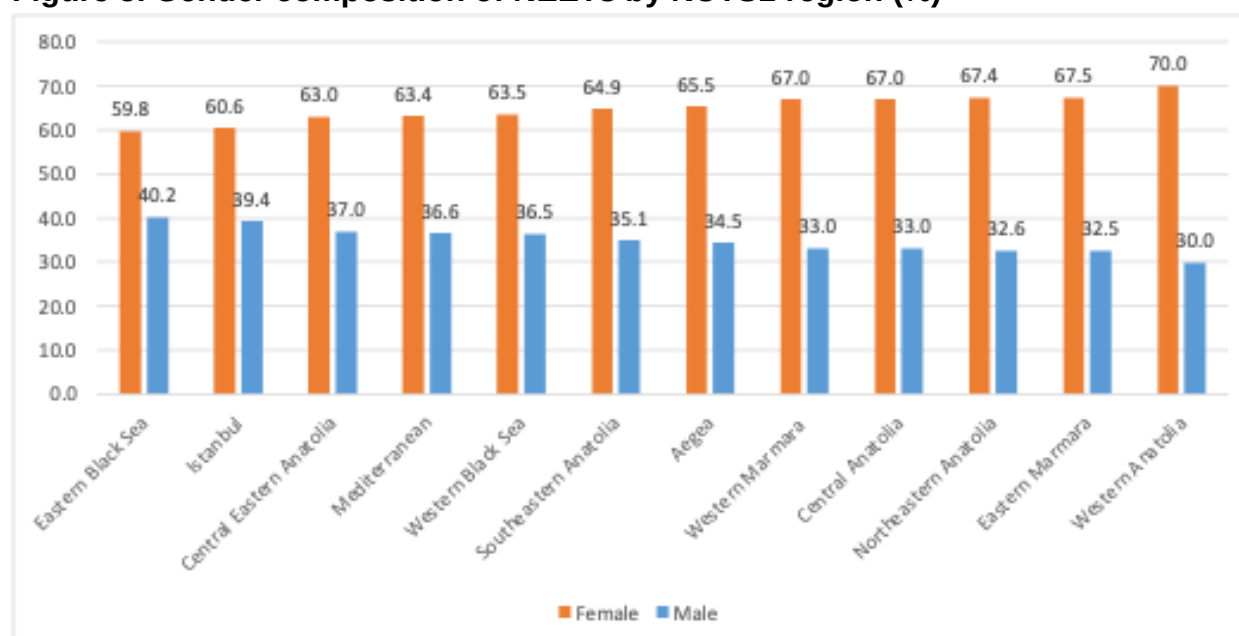
An examination of gender distribution reveals that in every region, the NEET rate for women is higher than that for men. In Southeastern Anatolia and Central-Eastern Anatolia, the female NEET rate reaches 40.6 percent and 35.1 percent, respectively. In these regions, nearly half of all young women are neither in education nor in employment. In contrast, the corresponding rates for men are 22.2 percent and 21.3 percent (see Figure 4). Across all regions, women constitute the majority of the NEET population, with their share ranging from 59.8 percent in the Eastern Black Sea region to 70 percent in Western Anatolia (see Figure 5).

Figure 4. NEET Rates by Gender across NUTS-1 Regions (%)



Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

Figure 5. Gender composition of NEETs by NUTS1 region (%)



Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

Another noteworthy finding is that the gap between male and female NEET rates is quite large in some regions. For instance, in Southeastern Anatolia, the difference is 18.4 percentage points, which remains below the male rate of 22.2 percent, whereas in Western Anatolia, the difference is 15.8 percentage points, exceeding the male rate of 10.9 percent. A similar pattern is observed in Western Marmara, Eastern Marmara, and Central Anatolia.

In three of the four regions exhibiting this pattern (Western Marmara, Eastern Marmara, and Western Anatolia), women's labor force participation rates are actually above the national average, making this outcome rather unexpected. A possible explanation is that in these regions, the share of married women among NEETs is significantly higher than the national average of 36.1 percent. Indeed, the proportion of married NEET women is 49.5 percent in Western Marmara, 43.5 percent in Western Anatolia, and 42.2 percent in Eastern Marmara. This issue will be revisited in the section discussing marital status.

In conclusion, the regional distribution of NEET rates in Türkiye reflects not only economic conditions but also the influence of gender roles, rural structures, and marriage patterns.

Job Seekers Represent a Smaller-than-Expected Share within the NEET Group

By definition, the NEET category includes young people who are neither in education nor in employment, and therefore also encompasses those who are actively seeking work.

Consequently, the NEET group cannot be regarded as a completely inactive segment of the labor force. Job seekers (i.e., the unemployed) are, after all, part of the labor market. As shown in the first section, countries in the EU with lower youth unemployment rates also tend to have lower NEET rates. However, in countries with high youth unemployment, the NEET rate is not always proportionally high, indicating that other factors are also at play.

In Türkiye, the number of job seekers among NEET youth is lower than expected. According to the 2023 HLFS data, only 632 thousand (26.8%) of the 2.36 million NEETs aged 15–24 were actively looking for a job. Of these, approximately 290 thousand were women and 342 thousand were men. When job seekers are excluded from the NEET group, the remaining inactive youth population amounts to 1.72 million, including 1.24 million women and 488 thousand men. Because the number of job-seeking women is lower than that of men, women constitute as much as 71.7% of the completely inactive NEET population (Table 1).

Table 1. Potential Labor Force and Job Seekers within the NEET Population

	NEET	Potential Labor Force in NEET	Job Seekers in NEET	Potential Labor Force (%)	Job Seekers (%)
Total	2,355,724	463,644	632,248	19.7	26.8
Female	1,526,191	246,405	290,433	16.1	19.0
Male	829,532	217,238	341,815	26.2	41.2

Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

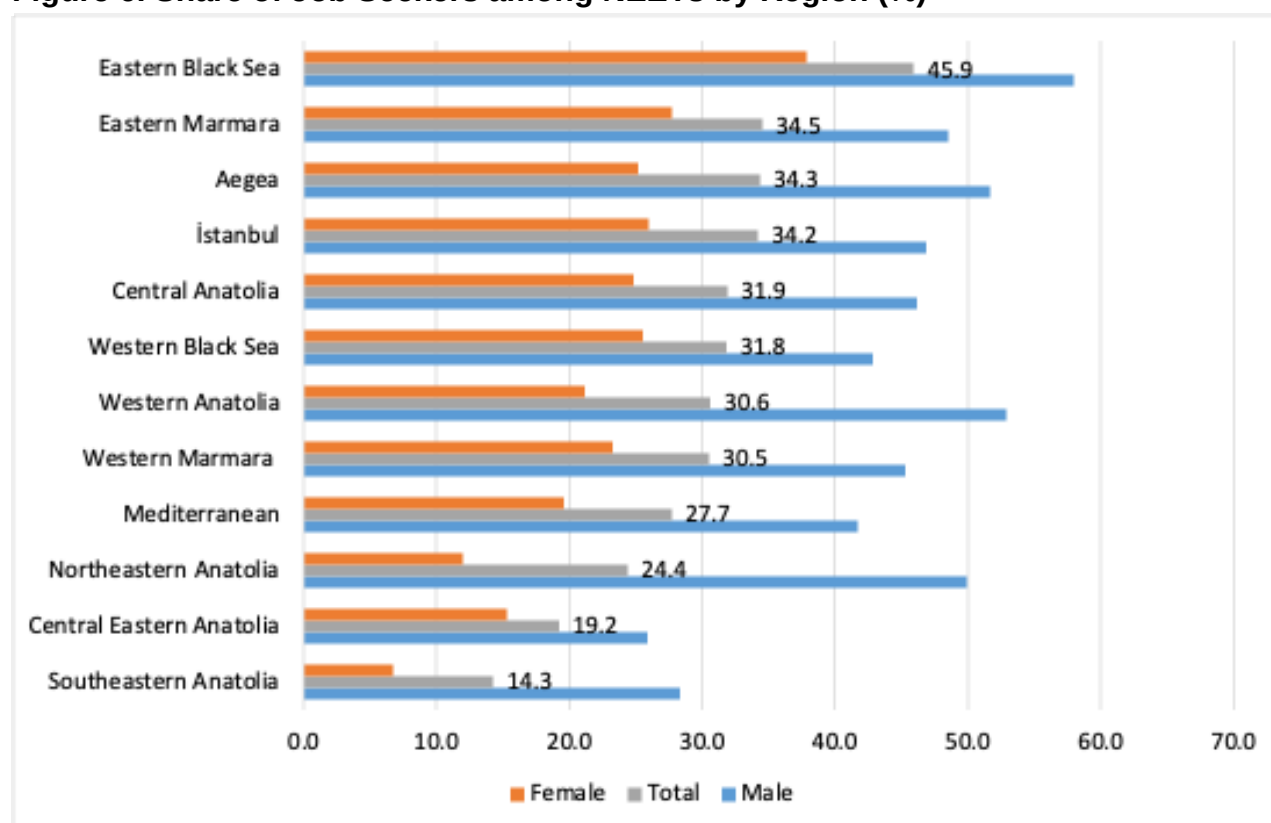
It is also informative to briefly examine the potential labor force within the NEET group — that is, young people who wish to work but are not currently looking for a job for various reasons. Among NEETs, the share of the potential labor force is 19.7% overall, 16.1% for women and 26.2% for men (Table 1). Although the number of young women in this category is slightly higher than that of men, their proportion is significantly lower. This suggests that female NEETs tend to be more detached from the labor market than their male counterparts.

When examining the reasons why these young people are not looking for work despite wanting to, the most frequently cited explanations are: “previously looked for a job but could not find one” (30.2%), “believe there are no jobs matching their qualifications” (22.3%), and “believe there are no jobs available in their region” (16.3%). These findings indicate that discouragement and lack of confidence in finding employment are widespread among youth.

There are also striking regional differences in job-seeking behavior. The lowest shares of job seekers in NEET are observed in Southeastern Anatolia (14.3%) and Central Eastern Anatolia (19.2%) — the very regions that have the highest NEET rates. In contrast, the Eastern Black Sea region has the highest share of job seekers (45.9%), yet it also has the lowest NEET population (54,000) and a relatively low NEET rate (17.8%) (Figure 2, Figure 6). Similarly, in İstanbul, which records the lowest NEET rate (12.8%), the share of job-seeking youth is relatively high at 34.2%. These examples demonstrate that the number of job seekers does not exhibit a direct or systematic relationship with regional NEET rates.

Therefore, the drivers of NEET levels extend beyond job search behavior. While discouragement and regional disparities in opportunities contribute to higher rates, the roles of education and gender dynamics must also be examined to fully understand the issue.

Figure 6. Share of Job Seekers among NEETs by Region (%)



Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

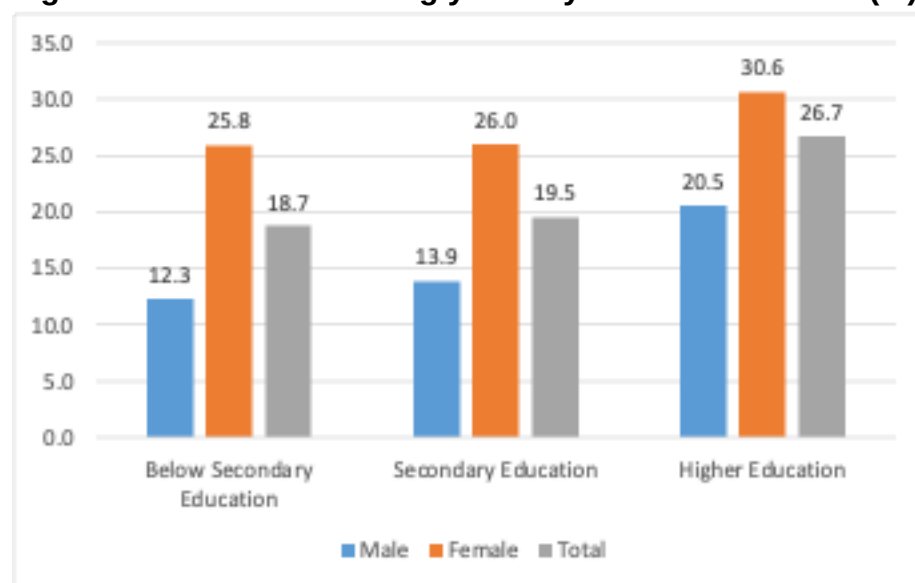
Composition of NEETs by Educational Attainment

NEET rates vary significantly by level of education. According to the 2023 HLFS data by TURKSTAT, the majority of NEETs aged 15–24 are below secondary school (47%) or graduates of secondary school (39%), while the share of those with higher education is around 15% (Tables A5 and A6).

The introduction of 12 years of compulsory education in 2012 led to a short-term increase in school enrollment but did not bring about a lasting decline in NEET rates. Although only 12% of NEET youth are of secondary school age, nearly 47% have not completed secondary education (Table A7). The reform may have temporarily kept young people in school longer, but early school leaving and weak school-to-work transition mechanisms have limited its impact. Moreover, vocational and technical education programs do not sufficiently align with labor market needs, and graduates often struggle to find suitable employment opportunities.

When gender is considered, it is both a pleasant and encouraging finding that young women outnumber men at the higher education level (Table A5). However, when the focus shifts to NEETs, the number of women exceeds that of men at all three education levels (Table A6). Female NEET rates are also significantly higher than those of men across all levels of education. This indicates that gender norms continue to constrain women's participation in the labor force after completing their education (Figure 7).

Figure 7. NEET rates among youth by level of education (%)



Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

Another notable finding is that the highest NEET rates are observed among both women and men—hence in total—at the higher education level. In this group, the overall NEET rate is 26.7%, compared to 18.7% and 19.5% in the two lower education categories. However, it is important to emphasize that this high rate does not necessarily indicate a larger inactive labor force. Indeed, job seekers are most concentrated among those with higher education: within this group, 185 thousands of 346 thousand NEETs (53.5%) are actively looking for work. Thus, more than half of tertiary-educated NEETs are not detached from the labor force (Table A8). This suggests that the problem lies not in withdrawal from the labor market but in the mismatch between education and employment opportunities. Reducing unemployment among this group would therefore lead to a significant decline in overall NEET rates.

In Türkiye, the high NEET rates among women reflect not only economic conditions but also the strong influence of social norms and family expectations. Despite completing their education, many women do not enter the labor market, a pattern closely linked to traditional beliefs that confine women’s primary role to domestic responsibilities. Consequently, reducing NEET rates requires not only educational policies but also gender equality measures and broader social reforms that challenge these norms.

The Impact of Marriage on NEET Status

Marriage is a key factor contributing to young women’s withdrawal from the labor market in Türkiye. A large share of married women, particularly those with children, remain outside the labor force, while even those without children often face negative attitudes from their spouses regarding employment.

Table 2. NEET Population by Marital Status

Marital Status	Male	Female	Total
Not married	793,511	975,105	1,768,616
Married	36,022	551,087	587,108
Total	829,532	1,526,191	2,355,724

Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

Table 3. Distribution of NEETs by Marital Status

Marital Status	Male	Female	Total
Not married	95.7	63.9	75.1
Married	4.3	36.1	24.9

Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

According to the 2023 HLFS data, the number of married men within the NEET population is 36 thousand, accounting for a negligible share of 4.3%. In contrast, the number of married women among NEETs is 551 thousand, representing 36.1% of all NEET women (Tables 2 and 3). The sharp asymmetry between married men and married women is striking but not unexpected. This gap clearly shows that women's ties to the labor force weaken significantly after marriage, whereas men's role as the primary income earners of the household remains deeply entrenched.

Unmarried women also make up a substantial share of NEETs, accounting for 67.6% of the group (Table 2). However, among approximately 975 thousand unmarried women, only 25.6% are actively seeking employment. This indicates a high concentration of inactive women even among the unmarried youth population. The finding suggests that young women face structural barriers to education and employment not only after marriage but also beforehand.

The regional distribution of married NEET women reveals particularly striking contrasts. Although Central Eastern Anatolia and Southeastern Anatolia record the highest overall NEET rates, the shares of married NEET women are relatively low—27.8% and 28.4%, respectively. This suggests that in these regions, both married and unmarried women remain largely outside the labor force.

Table 4. Married Women among Female NEETs by NUTS1 Region

NUTS1 Code	Region	Married Women NEET	Women NEET	Married Women NEET / Women NEET (%)
TR1	Istanbul	74,233	180,806	41.1
TR2	Western Marmara	22,558	45,593	49.5
TR3	Aegean	57,461	147,768	38.9
TR4	Eastern Marmara	47,800	113,317	42.2
TR5	Western Anatolia	67,110	154,101	43.5
TR6	Mediterranean	71,417	192,802	37.0
TR7	Central Anatolia	28,911	75,062	38.5
TR8	Western Black Sea	19,426	57,378	33.9
TR9	Eastern Black Sea	8,685	32,276	26.9
TRA	Northeastern Anatolia	17,859	47,304	37.8
TRB	Central Eastern Anatolia	34,465	123,828	27.8
TRC	Southeastern Anatolia	101,162	355,956	28.4
TR	Türkiye	551,087	1,526,191	36.1

Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

Conversely, in regions such as Western Marmara and Western Anatolia, the shares of married NEET women are high—49.5% and 43.5%, respectively—despite low overall NEET rates. In these areas, women's labor force participation is relatively stronger; however, marriage tends to weaken their connection to the labor market.

In conclusion, marriage is a major social factor increasing the likelihood of NEET status among women. However, the strength of this relationship varies across regions, reflecting differences in cultural norms and social structures. Reducing NEET rates therefore requires not only economic incentives, but also policies that address family roles and gender norms.

Reasons for Remaining Outside the Labor Force among NEET Youth

A significant share of young people in the NEET group state that they simply do not wish to work. According to the 2023 Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS), the reasons for this preference differ sharply by gender.

Among female NEETs, the vast majority (78.9%) report “engagement in household duties” or “childcare responsibilities” as their reason for not working. This finding highlights that domestic responsibilities are overwhelmingly shouldered by women, and that gender norms continue to restrict women's participation in the labor force. The limited availability of public childcare and care services in Türkiye further reinforces this trend.

For male NEETs, the picture is different. The most common reasons cited are “health problems or disability” (34.9%) and “personal reasons” (45.8%). Approximately 670 thousand young men neither work nor look for a job despite having completed their education. Such high share of ambiguous responses reflect that some male NEETs may conceal unemployment or discouragement due to social stigma, instead citing “health problems” or “personal reasons”. Others could be involved in informal or undeclared work or remain dependent on family support. These factors help explain ambiguous responses and reveal the hidden nature of male inactivity in Türkiye.

In summary, non-participation among women can largely be explained by gender norms and caregiving burdens, whereas among men, the causes are more complex and partly hidden. Addressing NEET rates therefore requires social policies that go beyond job creation, focusing on redefining gender roles and strengthening the care infrastructure to support both women and men in entering the labor market.

Appendix Tables

Table A1. NEET Youth (Ages 15–24)

	Youth Population (15-24)	NEETs (2023)
Female	6.084.314	1.526.191
Male	5.746.774	829.532
Total	11.831.089	2.355.724

Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

Table A2. Youth Population by Region (Ages 15–24)

NUTS1 Code	Region	Total	Female	Male
TR1	Istanbul	2,328,631	1,115,195	1,213,436
TR2	Western Marmara	400,404	180,339	220,065
TR3	Aegean	1,226,424	605,566	620,857
TR4	Eastern Marmara	1,076,763	511,164	565,599
TR5	Western Anatolia	1,181,790	576,993	604,796
TR6	Mediterranean	1,457,126	691,195	765,932
TR7	Central Anatolia	569,527	278,229	291,297
TR8	Western Black Sea	517,857	252,550	265,307
TR9	Eastern Black Sea	302,719	141,585	161,135
TRA	Northeastern Anatolia	335,206	165,557	169,649
TRB	Central Eastern Anatolia	694,016	352,646	341,371
TRC	Southeastern Anatolia	1,740,626	875,757	864,870
TR	Türkiye	11,831,089	5,746,775	6,084,314

Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

Table A3. NEET Youth by Region (Ages 15–24)

NUTS1 Code	Region	Total	Female	Male
TR1	Istanbul	298,545	180,806	117,739
TR2	Western Marmara	68,086	45,593	22,493
TR3	Aegean	225,555	147,768	77,786
TR4	Eastern Marmara	167,999	113,317	54,682
TR5	Western Anatolia	220,040	154,101	65,939
TR6	Mediterranean	304,270	192,802	111,468
TR7	Central Anatolia	112,070	75,062	37,008
TR8	Western Black Sea	90,289	57,378	32,911
TR9	Eastern Black Sea	53,929	32,276	21,653
TRA	Northeastern Anatolia	70,218	47,304	22,914
TRB	Central Eastern Anatolia	196,666	123,828	72,838
TRC	Southeastern Anatolia	548,056	355,956	192,101
TR	Türkiye	2,355,724	1,526,191	829,532

Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

Table A4. Job Seekers among NEET Youth by Region (Ages 15–24)

NUTS1 Code	Region	Total	Female	Male
TR1	Istanbul	102,154	47,011	55,143
TR2	Western Marmara	20,773	10,585	10,188
TR3	Aegean	77,432	37,205	40,227
TR4	Eastern Marmara	57,969	31,444	26,525
TR5	Western Anatolia	67,414	32,535	34,879
TR6	Mediterranean	84,196	37,739	46,457
TR7	Central Anatolia	35,725	18,645	17,080
TR8	Western Black Sea	28,737	14,638	14,099
TR9	Eastern Black Sea	24,773	12,220	12,554
TRA	Northeastern Anatolia	17,124	5,676	11,448
TRB	Central Eastern Anatolia	37,744	18,903	18,841
TRC	Southeastern Anatolia	78,207	23,833	54,374
TR	Türkiye	632,248	290,433	341,815

Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

Table A5. Youth Population by Educational Attainment

Education Level	Male	Female	Total
Below Secondary Education	3,087,240	2,785,621	5,872,861
Secondary Education	2,489,134	2,171,743	4,660,878
Higher Education	507,940	789,410	1,297,350

Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

Table A6. NEET Youth by Educational Attainment

Education Level	Male	Female	Total
Below Secondary Education	380,456	719,936	1,100,392
Secondary Education	344,890	564,497	909,387
Higher Education	104,187	241,758	345,945

Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

Table A7. NEET by Age Group

Age	NEET	%
15	89,204	3.8
16	98,401	4.2
17	123,493	5.2
18	224,377	9.5
19	238,956	10.1
20	222,649	9.5
21	298,753	12.7
22	307,224	13.0
23	373,832	15.9
24	378,835	16.1
Total	2,355,724	100

Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations

Table A8. Job Seekers among NEET by Educational Attainment

NUTS1 Code	Region	Below Secondary Education	Secondary Education	Higher Education
TR1	Istanbul	22,250	46,263	33,640
TR2	Western Marmara	6,797	8,086	5,891
TR3	Aegean	19,023	36,495	21,914
TR4	Eastern Marmara	14,383	26,960	16,626
TR5	Western Anatolia	14,683	27,774	24,957
TR6	Mediterranean	19,108	40,419	24,669
TR7	Central Anatolia	6,692	14,596	14,437
TR8	Western Black Sea	4,636	13,892	10,209
TR9	Eastern Black Sea	4,366	11,741	8,666
TRA	Northeastern Anatolia	5,751	6,891	4,482
TRB	Central Eastern Anatolia	12,601	17,054	8,089
TRC	Southeastern Anatolia	39,212	27,174	11,820
TR	Türkiye	169,504	277,344	185,401

Source: Turkstat, Betam Calculations