

023 Istanbul (Turkey)

9.4 million inhabitants according to the UN's *Urban Agglomerations 2003*.

1. Territorial Levels, Population and Area

Name	Population	% of total	Area, km ²	Density, people/km ²
Istanbul	8,566,823	15.2%	1,539 Km2	5,636 hab/Km2
	10,807,000	15.6%	1,830 Km2	5,905 hab/Km2
Metropolitan Area of Istanbul	**12,000,000	17.4%	5,398 Km2	2,223 hab/Km2
Turkey	***68,893,918	100%	780,580 Km2	88.2 hab/Km2

The first data corresponds with the estimation offered by the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality. It takes into account just 27 out of the 32 District Municipalities that, at the moment, compose the Metropolitan Municipality. The second data is an estimation for 2004 including the entire area of the Metropolitan Municipality.

According to the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality the metropolitan area perfectly matches with the territory of the Province of Istanbul.

** Estimation offered by the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality for January 2005.

*** Estimate by the company World Factbook 2004, for July 2004.

2. Administrative Designation and Number of Municipalities

Name	Designation	Number of Municipalities
Istanbul	Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, <i>Istanbul Buyuksehir Belediyesi</i>	1 Metropolitan Municipality 28 District Municipalities: Avcılar, Küçükçekmece, Bakırköy, Bahçelievler, Bağcılar, Güngören, Esenler, Bayrampaşa, Zeytinburnu, Fatih, Eminönü, Beyoğlu, Beşiktaş, Şişli, Kağıthane, Sarıyer, Gaziosmanpaşa, Eyüp, Üsküdar, Beykoz, Kadıköy, Kartal, Pendik, Tuzla, Ümraniye, Adalar, Maltepe and Sultanbeyli.
Metropolitan Area of Istanbul	Province of Istanbul <i>Istanbul Il</i>	1 Province (<i>Il</i>) 1 Metropolitan Municipality: Istanbul 4 Independent District Municipalities: Büyükçekmece, Çatalca, Silivri and Şile. 17 Towns (with less than 2.000 inhabitants)
Turkey	Republic of Turkey <i>Turkiye Cumhuriyeti</i>	1 Capital: Ankara 7 Geographical Regions: Marmara, Ege, Akdeniz, Guney Dogu, Dogu, Blacksea Karadeniz and Ic Anadolu 81 Provinces (<i>iller</i>) 16 Metropolitan Municipalities 3.215 Municipalities 35.128 Rural Municipalities

3. Institutional framework and political powers

Istanbul

General Aspects

The Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality forms part of the administration of the state and has the duty of developing and applying the rules and regulations approved by the state. The Municipality is responsible for approving the Municipal Master Plan, checking the suitability of the district plans in relation to the Master Plan, construction and management of major infrastructures (water, sewerage, drainage, solid waste, gas and central heating systems) and the construction and maintenance of streets, highways, bridges and squares. Other areas of activity include the construction and maintenance of parks, passenger and goods terminals, the police and fire brigade, the coordination and control of the activities of the Municipal Districts, the transport system, housing, culture, libraries and museums. It also collects municipal rates.

Mayor (*Baskan*)

Has municipal executive power. Responsibilities include monitoring, controlling and supervising the whole of the administration. Elected by simple majority vote to serve for a period of five years.

Istanbul Municipal Assembly (*Byuksehir Belediye Meclisi*)

Main organ of government in the city. This legislative chamber establishes the main areas of the Municipality's policies. It is made up of the one-fifth of the District Councilors with the most number of votes and the District Mayors. Led by the Mayor. Has the power to discuss and approve some decisions of the municipalities in the district, such as budget reforms. Can also take decisions on the provision of the uniformity of services carried out by the different municipalities in the district.

Istanbul Executive Committee (*Buyuksehir Belediye Encumeni*)

Organ that supports the Mayor and is responsible for decision-making and subsequent execution. Also exercises a function of a consultative organization for the municipality. Main powers are limited to the areas of urban planning, urban development, public works, finances, legal affairs, administration and human resources. As well as the Mayor, it includes a secretary general and six councilors, all appointed by the Mayor.

District (*Yilce*)

The districts carry out the ordinary municipal functions not performed by the Metropolitan Municipality and also act in coordination with the latter. The main functions are limited to the areas of waste management and urban development control and construction. Institutionally made up of a District Municipal Council (*Yilce Belediye Meclisi*) and a Mayor (*Baskan*).

Public Companies

The Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality is the owner of 20 public companies that operate public and administrative services: data processing, infrastructure projects, ferries, gas stations, basic foodstuffs, drinking water, gas distribution, maintenance of transport infrastructures, public housing, the supply of asphalt and cement, healthcare, sports infrastructures, etc.

Prime Minister (*Bapbakan*)

Leads the Council of Ministers and is responsible for the good working of the Council and the coordination of the activities of the Ministers.

Turkish Grand National Assembly (*Turkiye Buyuk Millet Meclisi*)

The assembly has legislative power in the state. Decrees and amends laws, supervisions the actions of the Council of Ministers and the ministers, discusses budgets, ratifies international agreements and has the ability to declare a state of war. The chamber is composed of 550 members elected by majority vote in single-member districts.

4. Relevant websites and online documents

Istanbul Buyuksehir Belediyesi: <http://www.ibb.gov.tr>

T.C. Istanbul Valiligi: <http://www.istanbul.gov.tr>

Turkish Embassy at Washigton DC: <http://www.turkishembassy.org/>

Turkiye Buyuk Millet Meclisi: <http://www.tbmm.gov.tr/>

Devlet Planlama Teskilati Mustesarligi: <http://www.dpt.gov.tr>

State Institute of Statistics – SIS: <http://www.die.gov.tr>

Documents:

Constitution of the Republic of Turkey, Official Paper No 17863, 9 de November 1982.

2002 Annual Report, Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Department of Planning, Research Co-ordination, Research Direction, March 2003.

Eyuboglu, Engin. *The power of Physical plans on spatial development of Istanbul*, Istanbul Technical University (ITU), School of Architecture, Department of Urban and Regional Planning.

Baycant-Levent, Tuzin. *Globalisation and Development Strategies for Istanbul: Regional Policies and Great Transformation Projects*, Istanbul Technical University (ITU), School of Architecture, Department of Urban and Regional Planning.