

CITY HEALTH PROFILE PREPARATION GUIDE: THE CASE OF TÜRKİYE (2024)

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Hipokrat
Yayıncılık

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THE CASE OF TÜRKİYE
(2024)

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Preface

The process of urbanization has become an inevitable reality of modern societies, and this transformation has emerged as one of the major factors directly affecting public health. The development of city health profiles not only helps identify existing health problems but also serves as a guide for formulating strategic health policies for the future. Until now, there has been a noticeable lack of a scientifically grounded, practically applicable, and systematically structured guide for this process in Türkiye.

To address this gap and to provide cities with a comprehensive guide for developing their own health profiles, Dr. Hayriye Çisem Akyıldız proposed this study as part of her specialty thesis and conducted it with great dedication. Every stage of the process from the identification of indicators to content analyses, expert evaluations, and content validity studies was approached with scientific rigor.

The preparation of this guide greatly benefited from the collaboration of public health specialists, academics, and experts from various disciplines. Dr. Hayriye Çisem Akyıldız's determination and commitment to the study significantly contributed to the successful progress of the process. I would like to express my gratitude to her for the scientific effort and dedication she demonstrated in producing this much-needed guide for Türkiye.

I would also like to thank the following individuals for their valuable contributions throughout the process: Prof. Dr. Çiğdem Coşkun Hepcan, Prof. Dr. Süleyman Toy, Assoc. Prof. Asım Mustafa Ayten, Assoc. Prof. Çiğdem Tugaç, Dr. Ayşe Taş, Public Health Specialist Dr. Çiğdem Yılmaz Aydın, Public Health Specialist Dr. Esra Çelik, Public Health Specialist Dr. Selen Gürsoy Turan, Dr. Aysun Akgün, and Engineer Nalan Fidan. Their expert opinions and field-based assessments have strengthened the scientific quality of the guide.



I believe that this work will serve as a valuable resource for local governments, public health professionals, academics, and policymakers who seek to improve urban health policies. I sincerely hope that it will guide the process of developing city health profiles in Türkiye and contribute to the healthy development of cities.

Respectfully,

Emine Didem Evci Kiraz, Prof. Dr.

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Preface

Cities are not merely physical spaces; they are dynamic environments shaped by social, economic, and environmental factors that directly influence the health of their inhabitants. In Türkiye, there has been no scientifically based guide available for the systematic evaluation of city health profiles tools considered essential for capturing a city's health status and guiding forward-looking planning efforts.

Since the beginning of my specialization training in public health, my deep interest in urban health and the methodological gaps I observed in related educational activities motivated me to develop a comprehensive City Health Profile Guide tailored to the Turkish context. When I selected this topic as my specialty thesis, the guidance and academic support of Prof. Dr. Emine Didem Evci Kiraz transformed this work from a simple research project into a scientific publication.

The creation of this guide goes beyond an academic endeavor; it is a multifaceted collaborative effort that adopts a holistic approach to urban health. The identification of indicators, expert assessments, content validity analyses, and the construction of the guide's content were all conducted with meticulous scientific attention. I believe this guide will fill a critical gap by providing a robust scientific foundation for developing city health profiles in Türkiye.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to the esteemed academics and professionals whose valuable contributions enhanced the scientific depth of the study: Prof. Dr. Çiğdem Coşkun Hepcan, Prof. Dr. Süleyman Toy, Assoc. Prof. Asım Mustafa Ayten, Assoc. Prof. Çiğdem Tugaç, Dr. Ayşe Taş, Public Health Specialist Dr. Çiğdem Yılmaz Aydın, Public Health Specialist Dr. Esra Çelik, Public Health Specialist Dr. Selen Gürsoy Turan, Dr. Aysun Akgün, and Engineer Nalan Fidan. Their scientific insights, support during analysis phases, and valuable recommendations enriched the content of the guide.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Prof. Dr. Emine Didem Evci Kiraz, who supported, guided, and encouraged me at every stage of this journey. Her profound knowledge in public health and extensive experience in urban health greatly enhanced the scientific integrity of this study.

Her vast expertise enabled the early and accurate identification of the study's weaknesses and areas needing improvement. Furthermore the methodology we employed allowed the emergence of many critical points that had previously gone unnoticed, thanks to expert input. Thus her guidance not only lent academic depth to this work but also enabled it to become a strong and practical tool for implementation.

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