WHERE TO LIVE VS WHERE THEY LIVE
Turkey’s Provinces: People Migrate to and Suitable Ones to Live

Background

Since the location of living area determines the quality of life and lifestyle, the question of ‘where should I live?’ has been a matter of problem for satisfaction and happiness for everyone all the time. However, there is a lot of indicators beyond admiration or attractiveness of place effects our choices such as economic conditions, security, climate and social facilities. As migration became much easier respective to old times, well-being indexes prepared by different indicators get more importance. In this project, I aim to construct a well-being index for Turkey’s provinces to determine the most suitable cities to live and compare it with Turkey’s internal migration.

Methodology

This project collected data at the level of province (level 1) in Turkey. In order to do so, this project focuses on three questions:
- What provinces in Turkey are the most suitable (ideal) cities to live?
- What provinces in Turkey are preferred (reality) to live?
- Is there any correlation between ideal and reality?

For the first question, to determine the most suitable provinces to live, suitability analysis along with vulnerability analysis were used. The reason behind that is to determine safe provinces detecting risky areas. To create a suitability score, 9 indicators were included in three categories: Economy, Security and, Facility.

Economy: GDP per capita, housing and, unemployment rate.
Security: Number of terrorist attacks, murder rate per million people, and risk of earthquake.
Facility: Number of applications per physician, number of students in higher education, and percentage of forest area.

Each attribute was given scores based on natural breaks (Jenks), with five representing the most suitable and one the least suitable provinces. The suitability scores of provinces were aggregated, and a final map was created to show the total suitability scores for each province.

For the second question, to determine the in-migrated provinces, a 4-year period (2015-2018) was taken into account considering that decision to migrate to suitable provinces can take time. And final map was created according to 2% limit due to that the visualization in that limits fits best to correlation results.

According to the results of the analysis, there is a positive correlation (0.67) between high well-being scored provinces and in-migrated provinces which is displayed in the graph.

Internal Migration map shows that Turkey has 24 provinces out of 81 with more than 2% net in-migration rate. While 8 of them are in the highest rank of well-being score (32-36) and 13 of them are in the second highest well-being rank (29-31), only 3 of them are in the middle well-being rank (25-28).

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