



Economy Profile:
Turkey

DOING BUSINESS 2013

**Smarter Regulations for
Small and Medium-Size Enterprises**



COMPARING BUSINESS REGULATIONS FOR DOMESTIC FIRMS IN 185 ECONOMIES

10TH EDITION

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INTRODUCTION

Doing Business sheds light on how easy or difficult it is for a local entrepreneur to open and run a small to medium-size business when complying with relevant regulations. It measures and tracks changes in regulations affecting 11 areas in the life cycle of a business: starting a business, dealing with construction permits, getting electricity, registering property, getting credit, protecting investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts, resolving insolvency and employing workers.

In a series of annual reports *Doing Business* presents quantitative indicators on business regulations and the protection of property rights that can be compared across 185 economies, from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe, over time. The data set covers 46 economies in Sub-Saharan Africa, 33 in Latin America and the Caribbean, 24 in East Asia and the Pacific, 24 in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, 19 in the Middle East and North Africa and 8 in South Asia, as well as 31 OECD high-income economies. The indicators are used to analyze economic outcomes and identify what reforms have worked, where and why.

This economy profile presents the *Doing Business* indicators for Turkey. To allow useful comparison, it also provides data for other selected economies (comparator economies) for each indicator. The data in this report are current as of June 1, 2012 (except for

the paying taxes indicators, which cover the period January–December 2011).

The *Doing Business* methodology has limitations. Other areas important to business—such as an economy's proximity to large markets, the quality of its infrastructure services (other than those related to trading across borders and getting electricity), the security of property from theft and looting, the transparency of government procurement, macroeconomic conditions or the underlying strength of institutions—are not directly studied by *Doing Business*. The indicators refer to a specific type of business, generally a local limited liability company operating in the largest business city. Because standard assumptions are used in the data collection, comparisons and benchmarks are valid across economies. The data not only highlight the extent of obstacles to doing business; they also help identify the source of those obstacles, supporting policy makers in designing regulatory reform.

More information is available in the full report. *Doing Business 2013* presents the indicators, analyzes their relationship with economic outcomes and presents business regulatory reforms. The data, along with information on ordering *Doing Business 2013*, are available on the *Doing Business* website at <http://www.doingbusiness.org>.

THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

For policy makers trying to improve their economy's regulatory environment for business, a good place to start is to find out how it compares with the regulatory environment in other economies. *Doing Business* provides an aggregate ranking on the ease of doing business based on indicator sets that measure and benchmark regulations applying to domestic small to medium-size businesses through their life cycle. Economies are ranked from 1 to 185 by the ease of doing business index. For each economy the index is calculated as the ranking on the simple average of its percentile rankings on each of the 10 topics included in the index in *Doing Business 2013*: starting a business, dealing with construction permits, getting electricity, registering property, getting credit, protecting investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts and resolving insolvency. The ranking on each topic is the simple average of the percentile rankings on its component indicators (see the data notes for more details). The employing workers indicators are not included in this year's aggregate ease of doing business ranking, but the data are presented in this year's economy profile.

The aggregate ranking on the ease of doing business benchmarks each economy's performance on the indicators against that of all other economies in the *Doing Business* sample (figure 1.1). While this ranking tells much about the business environment in an economy, it does not tell the whole story. The ranking on the ease of doing business, and the underlying indicators, do not measure all aspects of the business environment that matter to firms and investors or that affect the competitiveness of the economy. Still, a high ranking does mean that the government has created a regulatory environment conducive to operating a business.

ECONOMY OVERVIEW

Region: Eastern Europe & Central Asia

Income category: Upper middle income

Population: 73,639,596

GNI per capita (US\$): 10,410

DB2013 rank: 71

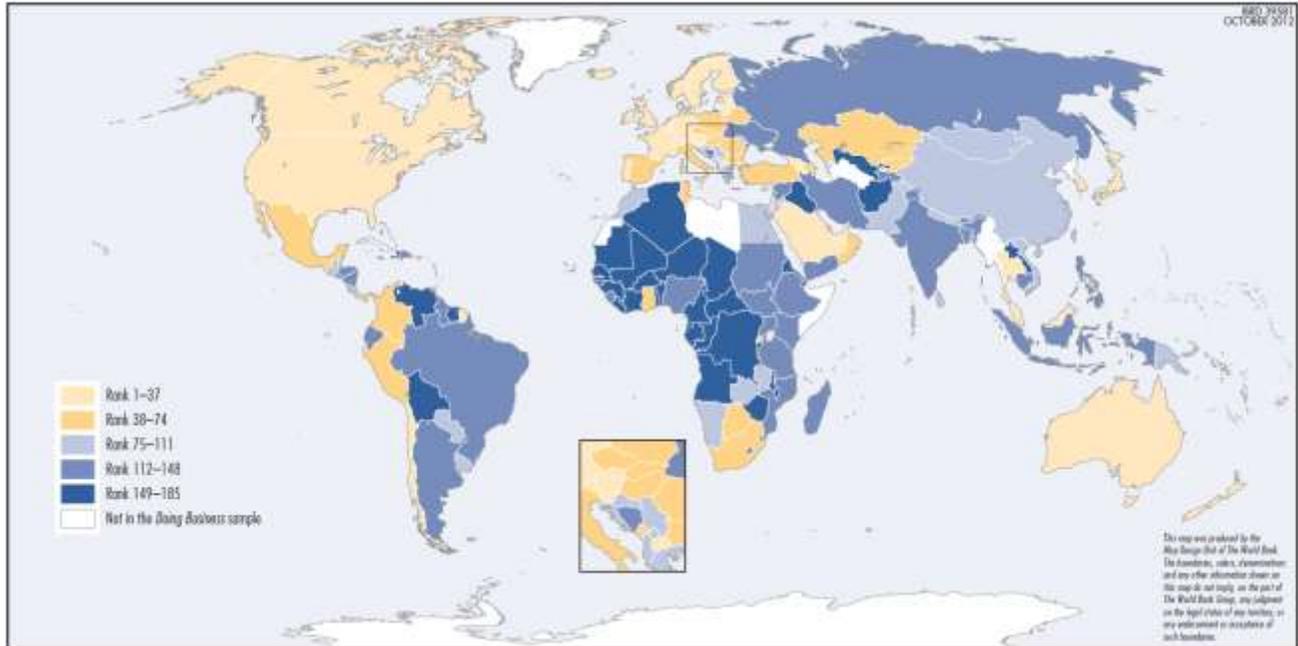
DB2012 rank: 68*

Change in rank: -3

* DB2012 ranking shown is not last year's published ranking but a comparable ranking for DB2012 that captures the effects of such factors as data corrections and the addition of 2 economies (Barbados and Malta) to the sample this year. See the data notes for sources and definitions.

THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Figure 1.1 Where economies stand in the global ranking on the ease of doing business



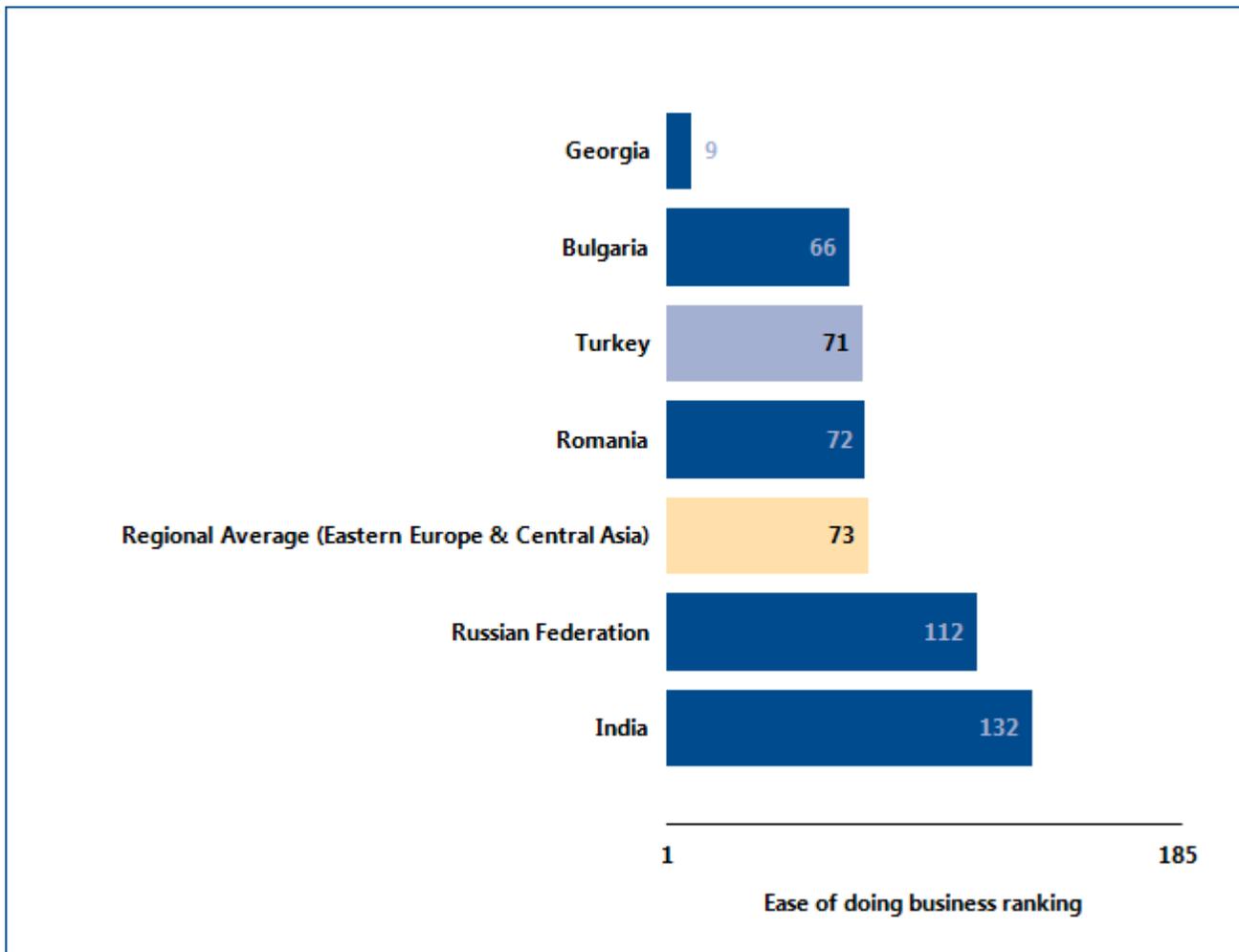
Source: Doing Business database.

THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

For policy makers, knowing where their economy stands in the aggregate ranking on the ease of doing business is useful. Also useful is to know how it ranks relative to comparator economies and

relative to the regional average (figure 1.2). The economy's rankings on the topics included in the ease of doing business index provide another perspective (figure 1.3).

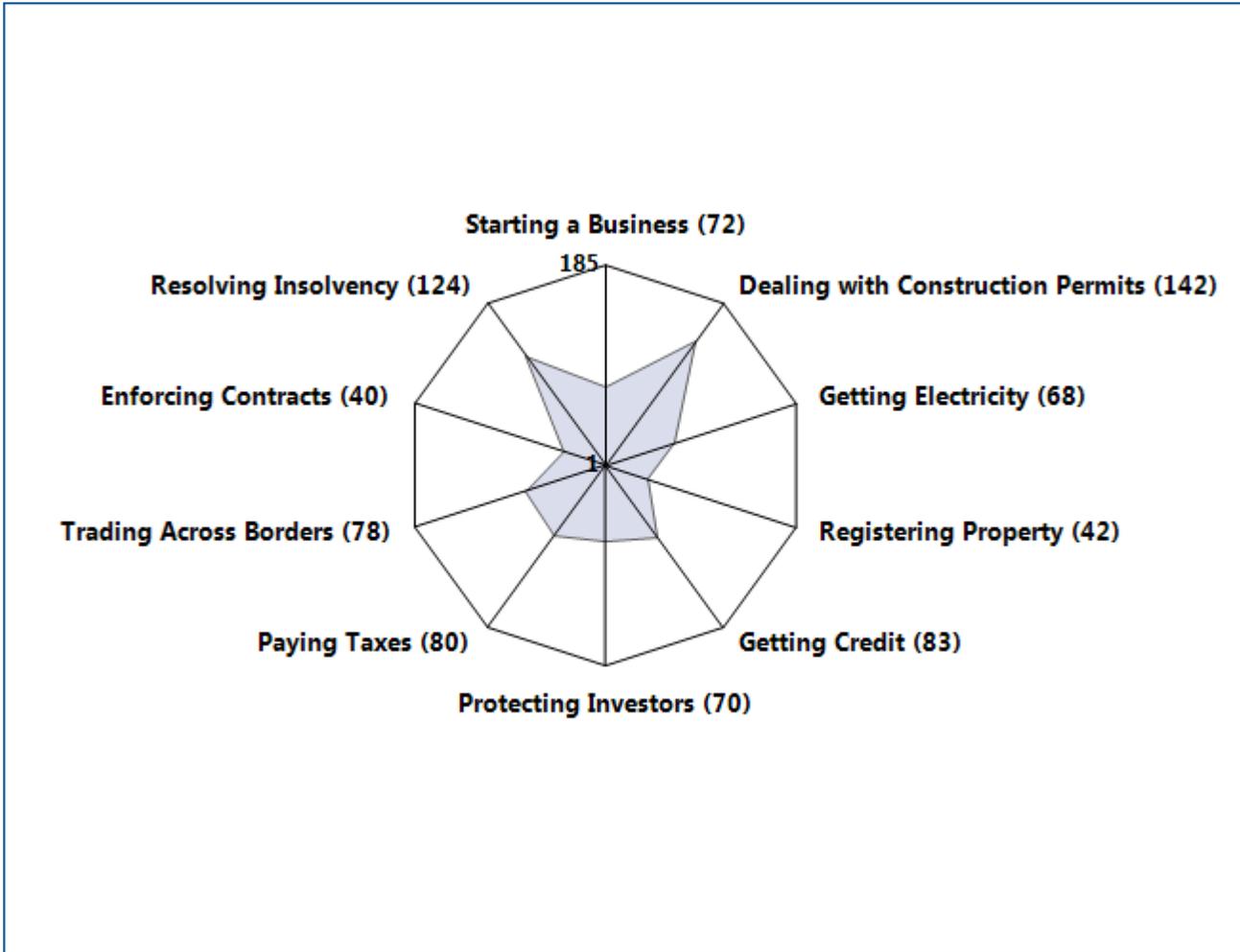
Figure 1.2 How Turkey and comparator economies rank on the ease of doing business



Source: Doing Business database.

THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Figure 1.3 How Turkey ranks on *Doing Business* topics



Source: *Doing Business* database.

THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

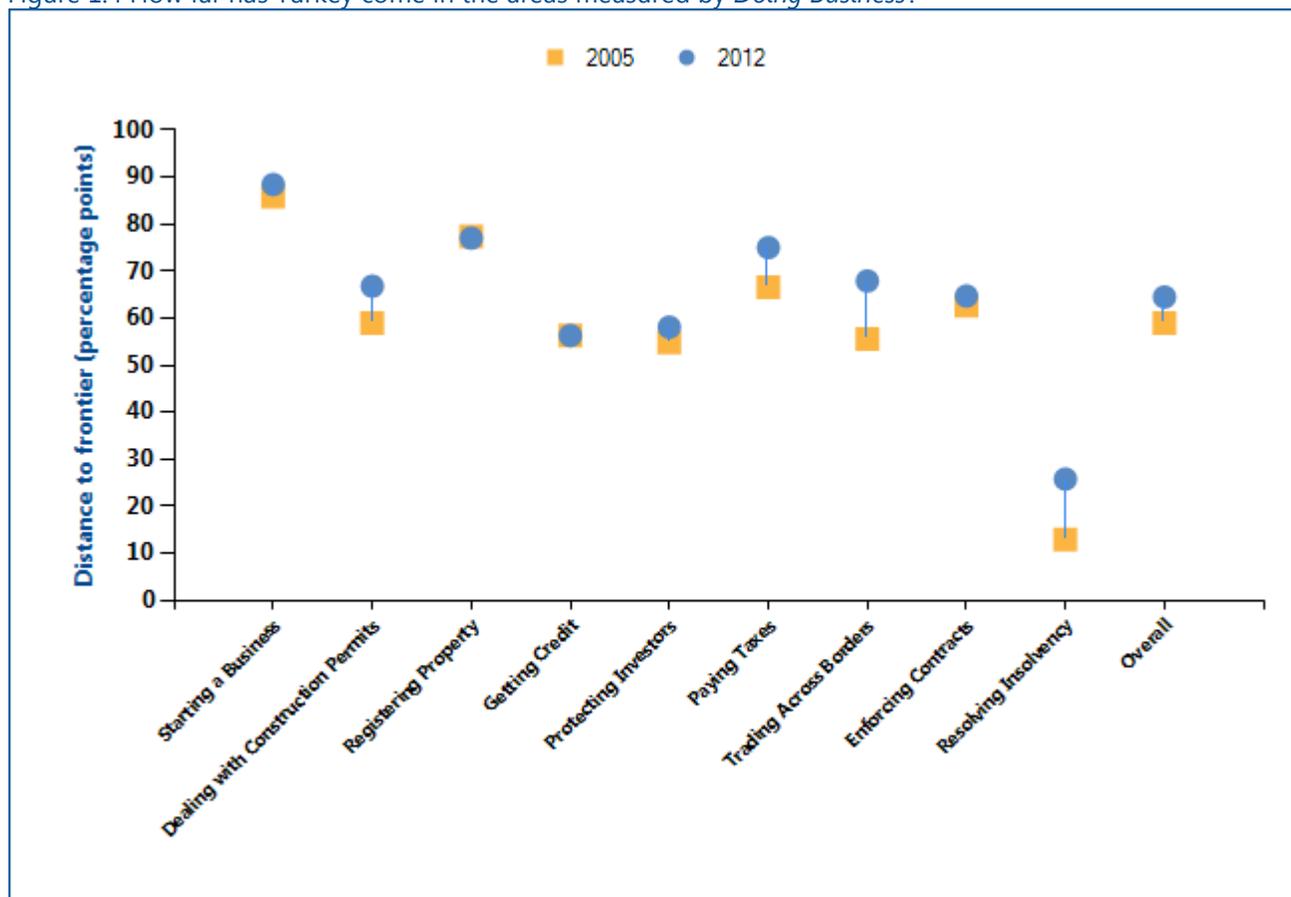
Just as the overall ranking on the ease of doing business tells only part of the story, so do changes in that ranking. Yearly movements in rankings can provide some indication of changes in an economy’s regulatory environment for firms, but they are always relative. An economy’s ranking might change because of developments in other economies. An economy that implemented business regulation reforms may fail to rise in the rankings (or may even drop) if it is passed by others whose business regulation reforms had a more significant impact as measured by *Doing Business*.

Moreover, year-to-year changes in the overall rankings do not reflect how the business regulatory environment in an economy has changed over time—or how it has changed in different areas. To aid in assessing such changes, last

year *Doing Business* introduced the distance to frontier measure. This measure shows how far each economy is from the best performance achieved by any economy since 2005 on each indicator in 9 *Doing Business* indicator sets.

Comparing the measure for an economy at 2 points in time allows users to assess how much the economy’s regulatory environment as measured by *Doing Business* has changed over time—how far it has moved toward (or away from) the most efficient practices and strongest regulations in areas covered by *Doing Business* (figure 1.4). The results may show that the pace of change varies widely across the areas measured. They also may show that an economy is relatively close to the frontier in some areas and relatively far from it in others.

Figure 1.4 How far has Turkey come in the areas measured by *Doing Business*?



Note: The distance to frontier measure shows how far on average an economy is from the best performance achieved by any economy on each *Doing Business* indicator since 2005. The measure is normalized to range between 0 and 100, with 100 representing the best performance (the frontier). The overall distance to frontier is the average of the distance to frontier in the 9 indicator sets shown in the figure. See the data notes for more details on the distance to frontier measure.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

The absolute values of the indicators tell another part of the story (table 1.1). The indicators, on their own or in comparison with the indicators of a good practice economy or those of comparator economies in the region, may reveal bottlenecks reflected in large numbers of procedures, long delays or high costs. Or they may reveal unexpected strengths in an area of

business regulation—such as a regulatory process that can be completed with a small number of procedures in a few days and at a low cost. Comparison of the economy's indicators today with those in the previous year may show where substantial bottlenecks persist—and where they are diminishing.

Table 1.1 Summary of *Doing Business* indicators for Turkey

Indicator	Turkey DB2013	Turkey DB2012	Bulgaria DB2013	Georgia DB2013	India DB2013	Romania DB2013	Russian Federation DB2013	Best performer globally DB2013
Starting a Business (rank)	72	62	57	7	173	68	101	New Zealand (1)
Procedures (number)	6	6	4	2	12	6	8	New Zealand (1)*
Time (days)	6	6	18	2	27	10	18	New Zealand (1)
Cost (% of income per capita)	10.5	11.2	1.1	3.8	49.8	2.8	2.0	Slovenia (0.0)
Paid-in Min. Capital (% of income per capita)	7.2	8.7	0.0	0.0	140.1	0.8	1.4	91 Economies (0.0)*
Dealing with Construction Permits (rank)	142	154	123	3	182	129	178	Hong Kong SAR, China (1)
Procedures (number)	20	23	21	9	34	15	42	Hong Kong SAR, China (6)*
Time (days)	180	189	107	74	196	287	344	Singapore (26)
Cost (% of income per capita)	164.3	197.7	293.5	17.7	1,528.0	79.1	129.2	Qatar (1.1)

Indicator	Turkey DB2013	Turkey DB2012	Bulgaria DB2013	Georgia DB2013	India DB2013	Romania DB2013	Russian Federation DB2013	Best performer globally DB2013
Getting Electricity (rank)	68	70	128	50	105	168	184	Iceland (1)
Procedures (number)	5	5	6	4	7	7	10	Germany (3)*
Time (days)	70	70	130	71	67	223	281	Germany (17)
Cost (% of income per capita)	517.9	624.4	340.7	561.8	247.3	584.2	1,573.7	Japan (0.0)
Registering Property (rank)	42	44	68	1	94	72	46	Georgia (1)
Procedures (number)	6	6	8	1	5	8	5	Georgia (1)*
Time (days)	6	6	15	2	44	26	44	Portugal (1)
Cost (% of property value)	3.3	3.3	2.9	0.1	7.3	1.2	0.2	Belarus (0.0)*
Getting Credit (rank)	83	80	40	4	23	12	104	United Kingdom (1)*
Strength of legal rights index (0-10)	4	4	8	9	8	9	3	Malaysia (10)*
Depth of credit information index (0-6)	5	5	4	6	5	5	5	United Kingdom (6)*
Public registry coverage (% of adults)	23.5	23.8	56.3	0.0	0.0	14.0	0.0	Portugal (90.7)
Private bureau coverage (% of adults)	63.0	60.5	0.0	35.5	14.9	44.9	45.4	United Kingdom (100.0)*
Protecting Investors (rank)	70	66	49	19	49	49	117	New Zealand (1)
Extent of disclosure index (0-10)	9	9	10	9	7	9	6	Hong Kong SAR, China (10)*

Indicator	Turkey DB2013	Turkey DB2012	Bulgaria DB2013	Georgia DB2013	India DB2013	Romania DB2013	Russian Federation DB2013	Best performer globally DB2013
Extent of director liability index (0-10)	4	4	1	6	4	5	2	Singapore (9)*
Ease of shareholder suits index (0-10)	4	4	7	6	7	4	6	New Zealand (10)*
Strength of investor protection index (0-10)	5.7	5.7	6.0	7.0	6.0	6.0	4.7	New Zealand (9.7)
Paying Taxes (rank)	80	74	91	33	152	136	64	United Arab Emirates (1)
Payments (number per year)	15	15	15	5	33	41	7	Hong Kong SAR, China (3)*
Time (hours per year)	223	223	454	280	243	216	177	United Arab Emirates (12)
Trading Across Borders (rank)	78	73	93	38	127	72	162	Singapore (1)
Documents to export (number)	7	7	5	4	9	5	8	France (2)
Time to export (days)	13	13	21	9	16	12	21	Singapore (5)*
Cost to export (US\$ per container)	990	990	1,551	1,355	1,120	1,485	2,820	Malaysia (435)
Documents to import (number)	7	7	6	4	11	6	11	France (2)
Time to import (days)	14	14	17	10	20	13	36	Singapore (4)
Cost to import (US\$ per container)	1,235	1,063	1,626	1,595	1,200	1,495	2,920	Malaysia (420)
Enforcing Contracts (rank)	40	52	86	30	184	60	11	Luxembourg (1)

Indicator	Turkey DB2013	Turkey DB2012	Bulgaria DB2013	Georgia DB2013	India DB2013	Romania DB2013	Russian Federation DB2013	Best performer globally DB2013
Time (days)	420	420	564	285	1,420	512	270	Singapore (150)
Cost (% of claim)	24.9	27.9	23.8	29.9	39.6	28.9	13.4	Bhutan (0.1)
Procedures (number)	36	36	39	33	46	32	36	Ireland (21)*
Resolving Insolvency (rank)	124	126	93	81	116	102	53	Japan (1)
Time (years)	3.3	3.3	3.3	2.0	4.3	3.3	2.0	Ireland (0.4)
Cost (% of estate)	15	15	9	4	9	11	9	Singapore (1)*
Outcome (0 as piecemeal sale and 1 as going concern)	0		0	0	0	0	0	
Recovery rate (cents on the dollar)	23.6	22.3	31.7	35.7	26.0	29.2	43.4	Japan (92.8)

Note: DB2012 rankings shown are not last year's published rankings but comparable rankings for DB2012 that capture the effects of such factors as data corrections and the addition of 2 economies (Barbados and Malta) to the sample this year. The ranking methodology for the paying taxes indicators changed in *Doing Business 2013*; see the data notes for details. For more information on "no practice" marks, see the data notes. Data for the outcome of the resolving insolvency indicator are not available for DB2012.

* Two or more economies share the top ranking on this indicator. A number shown in place of an economy's name indicates the number of economies that share the top ranking on the indicator. For a list of these economies, see the *Doing Business* website (<http://www.doingbusiness.org>).

Source: *Doing Business* database.

STARTING A BUSINESS

Formal registration of companies has many immediate benefits for the companies and for business owners and employees. Legal entities can outlive their founders. Resources are pooled as several shareholders join forces to start a company. Formally registered companies have access to services and institutions from courts to banks as well as to new markets. And their employees can benefit from protections provided by the law. An additional benefit comes with limited liability companies. These limit the financial liability of company owners to their investments, so personal assets of the owners are not put at risk. Where governments make registration easy, more entrepreneurs start businesses in the formal sector, creating more good jobs and generating more revenue for the government.

What do the indicators cover?

Doing Business measures the ease of starting a business in an economy by recording all procedures officially required or commonly done in practice by an entrepreneur to start up and formally operate an industrial or commercial business—as well as the time and cost required to complete these procedures. It also records the paid-in minimum capital that companies must deposit before registration (or within 3 months). The ranking on the ease of starting a business is the simple average of the percentile rankings on the 4 component indicators: procedures, time, cost and paid-in minimum capital requirement.

To make the data comparable across economies, *Doing Business* uses several assumptions about the business and the procedures. It assumes that all information is readily available to the entrepreneur and that there has been no prior contact with officials. It also assumes that the entrepreneur will pay no bribes. And it assumes that the business:

- Is a limited liability company, located in the largest business city.
- Has between 10 and 50 employees.
- Conducts general commercial or industrial activities.

WHAT THE STARTING A BUSINESS INDICATORS MEASURE

Procedures to legally start and operate a company (number)

- Preregistration (for example, name verification or reservation, notarization)
- Registration in the economy's largest business city
- Postregistration (for example, social security registration, company seal)

Time required to complete each procedure (calendar days)

- Does not include time spent gathering information
- Each procedure starts on a separate day
- Procedure completed once final document is received
- No prior contact with officials

Cost required to complete each procedure (% of income per capita)

- Official costs only, no bribes
- No professional fees unless services required by law

Paid-in minimum capital (% of income per capita)

- Deposited in a bank or with a notary before registration (or within 3 months)
- Has a start-up capital of 10 times income per capita.
- Has a turnover of at least 100 times income per capita.
- Does not qualify for any special benefits.
- Does not own real estate.
- Is 100% domestically owned.

STARTING A BUSINESS

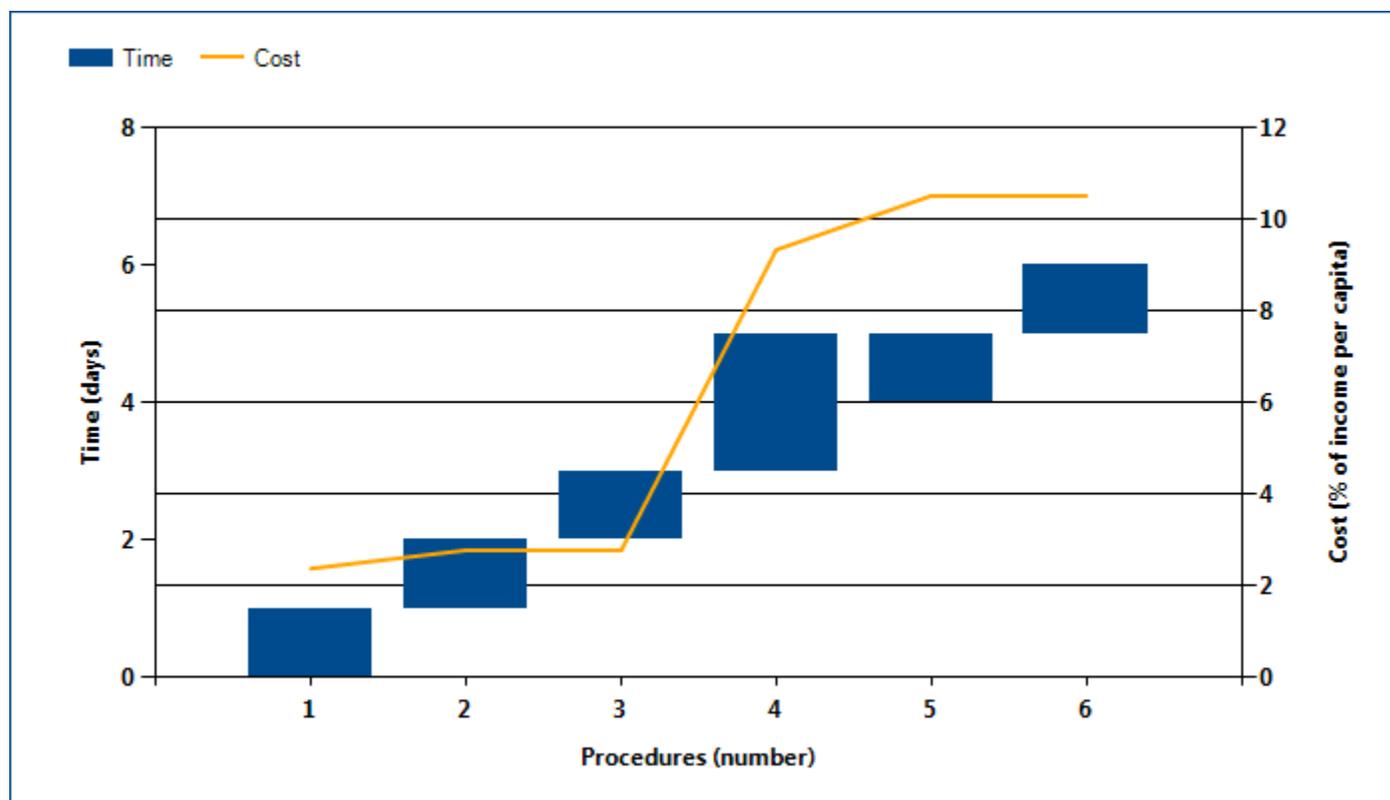
Where does the economy stand today?

What does it take to start a business in Turkey? According to data collected by *Doing Business*, starting a business there requires 6 procedures, takes 6 days,

costs 10.5% of income per capita and requires paid-in minimum capital of 7.2% of income per capita (figure 2.1).

Figure 2.1 What it takes to start a business in Turkey

Paid-in minimum capital (% of income per capita): 7.2



Note: Time shown in the figure above may not reflect simultaneity of procedures. For more information on the methodology of the starting a business indicators, see the *Doing Business* website (<http://www.doingbusiness.org>). For details on the procedures reflected here, see the summary at the end of this chapter.

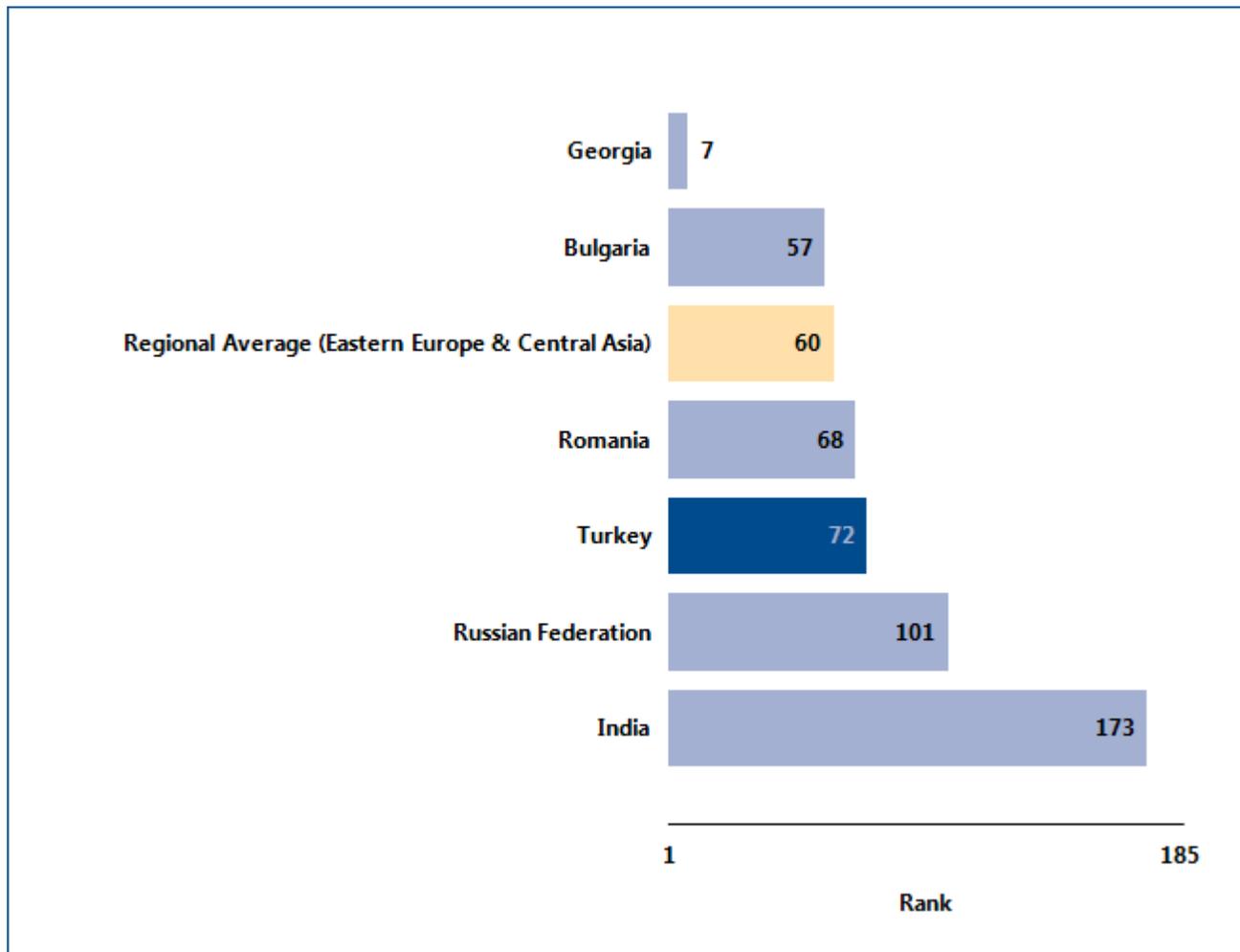
Source: *Doing Business* database.

STARTING A BUSINESS

Globally, Turkey stands at 72 in the ranking of 185 economies on the ease of starting a business (figure 2.2). The rankings for comparator economies and the

regional average ranking provide other useful information for assessing how easy it is for an entrepreneur in Turkey to start a business.

Figure 2.2 How Turkey and comparator economies rank on the ease of starting a business



Source: Doing Business database.

STARTING A BUSINESS

What are the changes over time?

While the most recent *Doing Business* data reflect how easy (or difficult) it is to start a business in Turkey today, data over time show which aspects of the process have changed—and which have not (table 2.1). That can help identify where the potential for improvement is greatest.

Table 2.1 The ease of starting a business in Turkey over time
By *Doing Business* report year

Indicator	DB2004	DB2005	DB2006	DB2007	DB2008	DB2009	DB2010	DB2011	DB2012	DB2013
Rank	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	62	72
Procedures (number)	13	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Time (days)	38	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Cost (% of income per capita)	36.8	26.0	27.4	26.5	20.7	14.9	14.2	17.2	11.2	10.5
Paid-in Min. Capital (% of income per capita)	31.6	25.0	20.9	18.7	16.2	10.9	9.5	9.9	8.7	7.2

Note: n.a. = not applicable (the economy was not included in *Doing Business* for that year). DB2012 rankings shown are not last year's published rankings but comparable rankings for DB2012 that capture the effects of such factors as data corrections and the addition of 2 economies (Barbados and Malta) to the sample this year.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

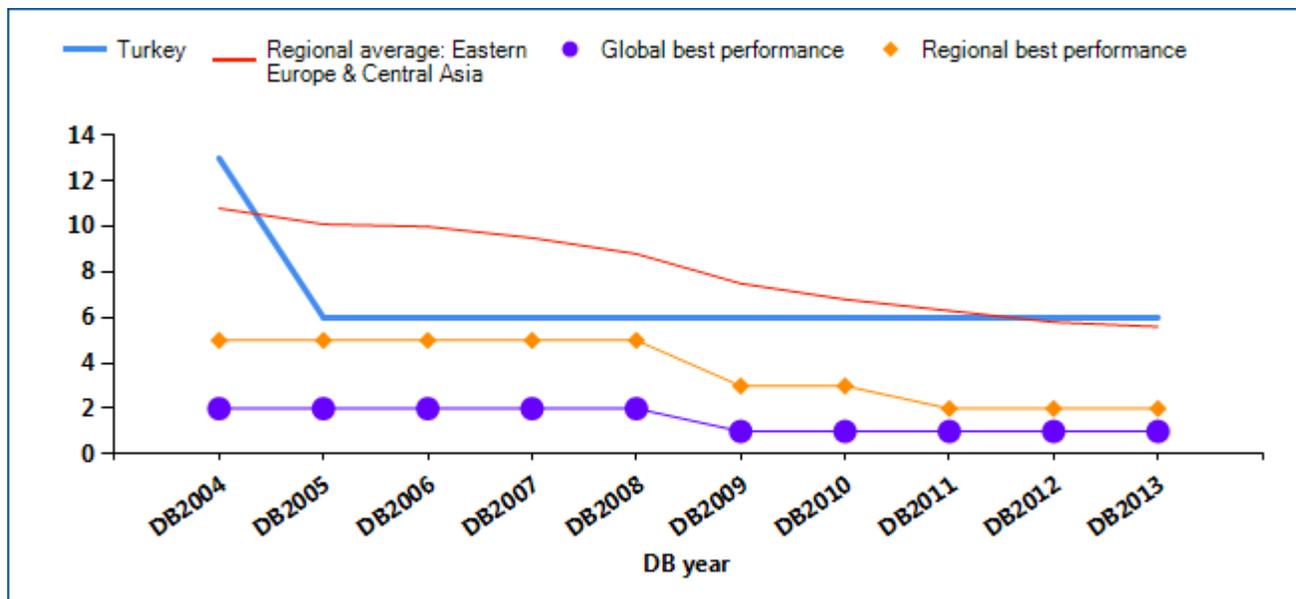
STARTING A BUSINESS

Equally helpful may be the benchmarks provided by the economies that over time have had the best performance regionally or globally on the procedures, time, cost or paid-in minimum capital required to start

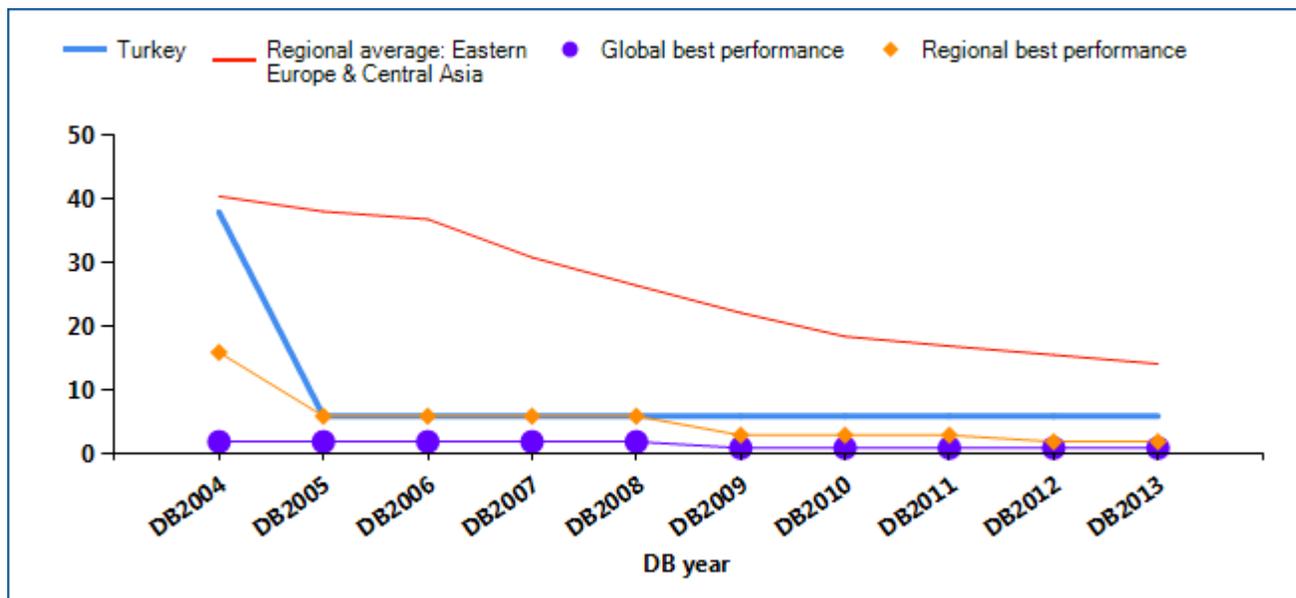
a business (figure 2.3). These benchmarks help show what is possible in making it easier to start a business. And changes in regional averages can show where Turkey is keeping up—and where it is falling behind.

Figure 2.3 Has starting a business become easier over time?

Procedures (number)

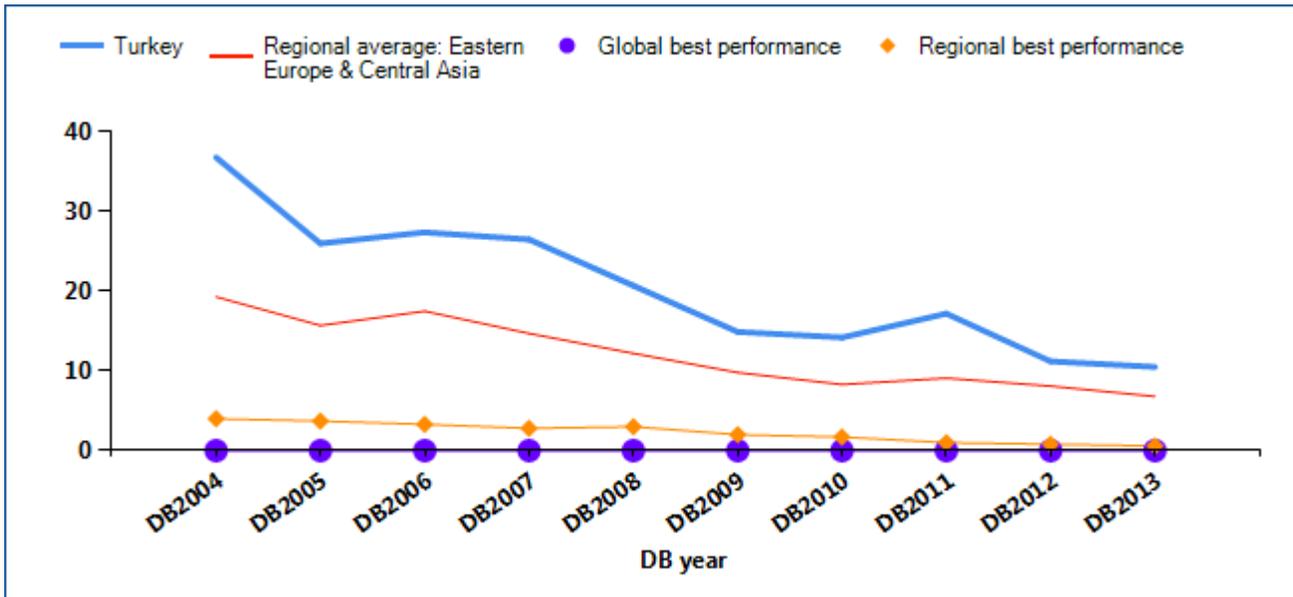


Time (days)

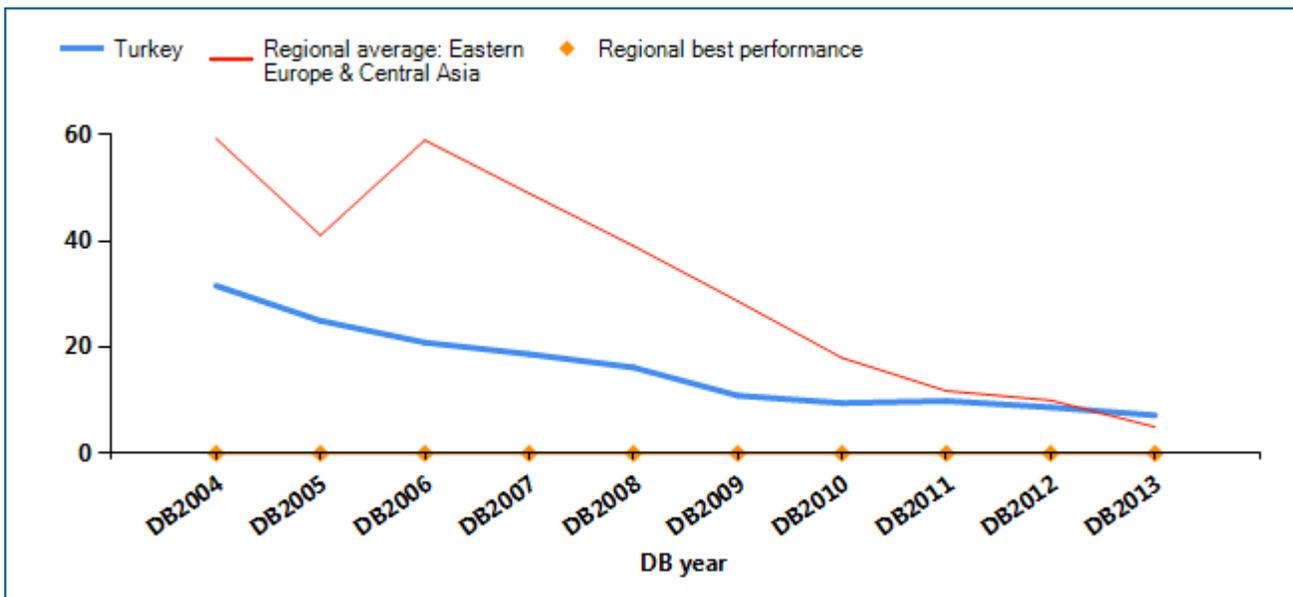


STARTING A BUSINESS

Cost (% of income per capita)



Paid-in minimum capital (% of income per capita)



Note: Ninety-one economies globally have no paid-in minimum capital requirement.

Source: Doing Business database.

STARTING A BUSINESS

Economies around the world have taken steps making it easier to start a business—streamlining procedures by setting up a one-stop shop, making procedures simpler or faster by introducing technology and reducing or eliminating minimum capital requirements. Many have undertaken business registration reforms in stages—and they often are part of a larger regulatory reform program. Among the benefits have been

greater firm satisfaction and savings and more registered businesses, financial resources and job opportunities.

What business registration reforms has *Doing Business* recorded in Turkey (table 2.2)?

Table 2.2 How has Turkey made starting a business easier—or not?
By *Doing Business* report year

DB year	Reform
DB2008	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2009	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2010	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2011	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2012	Turkey made starting a business less costly by eliminating notarization fees for the articles of association and other documents.
DB2013	No reform as measured by Doing Business.

Note: For information on reforms in earlier years (back to DB2005), see the *Doing Business* reports for these years, available at <http://www.doingbusiness.org>.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

STARTING A BUSINESS

What are the details?

Underlying the indicators shown in this chapter for Turkey is a set of specific procedures—the bureaucratic and legal steps that an entrepreneur must complete to incorporate and register a new firm. These are identified by *Doing Business* through collaboration with relevant local professionals and the study of laws, regulations and publicly available information on business entry in that economy. Following is a detailed summary of those procedures, along with the associated time and cost. These procedures are those that apply to a company matching the standard assumptions (the “standardized company”) used by *Doing Business* in collecting the data (see the section in this chapter on what the indicators measure).

STANDARDIZED COMPANY

City: Istanbul

Legal Form: Limited Sirket (LS)

Paid in Minimum Capital Requirement: TRY 1,250

Start-up Capital: 10 times GNI per capita

Summary of procedures for starting a business in Turkey—and the time and cost

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
1	<p>Execute and notarize articles of association, signature declaration of the managers and commercial books.</p> <p>The following documents are required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notarized articles of association (three, one original) • Notarized signature declarations (two copies) • Notarized identity cards of company managers (two copies) <p>The incorporation documents are exempt from the stamp tax. There are no fees to be paid for the articles of association and the signature declarations. However, there still are fees for notary services and for the valuable papers.</p>	1 day	<p>Paper cost: YTL 118.13</p> <p>Notary services: YTL 296.65</p> <p>Total = YTL 414.78</p>
2	<p>Deposit a percentage of capital to the account of Competition Authority</p> <p>To register with the Commercial Registry, founders must obtain the original receipt from Halk Bankas. This receipt shows that 0.04% of the company's capital has been paid to the Competition Authority at the central bank or a public bank.</p>	1 day	0.04% of capital
3	<p>Deposit the initial capital in a bank and obtain the certificate of paid-in capital</p> <p>If the whole capital of the Company is not paid in advance, the capital of the Company can also be paid in within three months following the registration. Kindly note that another option is; 25% of the capital can be paid in the first 3 months following the registration of the company,</p>	1 day	no charge

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
	and the balance of the subscribed capital shall be paid within 3 years of incorporation.		
4	<p>File the incorporation notice form, commitment letter, and Chamber registration statement at the Trade Registry Office</p> <p>Founders must submit a petition for the establishment, incorporation notice form, the commitment letter, and the chamber of commerce registration statement to the Commercial Registry Office. On the other hand, the formation of a limited liability company does not require a court application. Thus, upon gathering the following documents, founders may apply for the registration process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For each individual shareholder, who is a Turkish citizen or for a Turkish representative of such shareholder, two certified copies of the identity card • Three copies of an establishment notification form (kurulus bildirim formu) • Three copies of the notarized articles of association (one original) • Bank deposit receipt with respect to the payment made to the bank account of the Competition Authority (0.04% of the company's share capital) • An undertaking (taahhutname) signed by the authorized company representatives • For each person authorized to represent the founders of the limited liability company, two copies of the signature declarations <p>Following the completion of the registration phase before the Commercial Registry, the Commercial Registry notifies the relevant tax office and the Social Security Administration ex-officio regarding the incorporation of the company. The Commercial Registry arranges for an announcement in the Commercial Registry Gazette within approximately 10 days as of the company registration.</p> <p>A tax registration certificate must be obtained from the local tax office following the Commercial Registry Office notifies the local tax office.</p> <p>If there will be employee(s), a social security number for the company must be obtained from the relevant Social Security Administration. For the employees, a separate application has to be made following the registration of the company with the Social Security Administration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The registration fee for a limited liability company is: TL 300 • Initial registration fee of Chamber of Commerce is: TL 695 • Publication or announcement fee is: TL 0,3 per word. • Startup notice is: TL 50 • Commercial Registry Gazette fee is: TL 2 • Registration fee for manager's signature <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First manager's signature is: TL 350 - Each additional manager's signature is: TL 250 <p>Annual fee schedule for annual membership in Istanbul Chamber of</p>	2 days	<p>YTL 150 (initial registration fee of Chamber of Commerce) + YTL 695 (commercial registration including first manager's signature) + YTL 246.20 (for each additional manager) + YTL 0.30 per word for publication+ YTL 2 (Trade Registry Gazette fee)+ YTL 50 (fee for start-up announcement)</p>

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
	<p>Commerce (based on capital)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TL 1 - 999 (capital): TL 95 • TL 1,000 - 24,999 (capital): TL 100 • TL 25,000 - 249,999 (capital): TL 150 • TL 250,000 - 999,999 (capital): TL 200 • TL 1,000,000 and up (capital): TL 225 <p>Fee schedule for annual membership in the Istanbul Chamber of Commerce (based on capital):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YTL 1 - 999 (capital): YTL 70 • YTL 1,000 - 24,999 (capital): YTL 100 • YTL 25,000 - 249,999 (capital): YTL 150 • YTL 250,000 - 999,999 (capital): YTL 200 • YTL 1,000,000 and up (capital): YTL 225 		
5	<p>* Have a notary certify the legal books</p> <p>The founders must certify the legal books the day they register the company with the Commercial Registry. The notary public must notify the Tax Office about the commercial book certification.</p> <p>Fee schedule for legal book certification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certification up to 100 pages: YTL 45 • Certification up to 200 pages: YTL 56 	1 day (simultaneous with previous procedure)	TL 206 (4 books)
6	<p>Follow up with the tax office on Commercial Registry's notification</p> <p>The Commercial Registry Office notifies the Tax Office and the Social Security Administration of the company's incorporation. In practice, to expedite the registration process, company representatives follow up on whether the notification has been received. A tax officer comes to the company headquarters to prepare a determination report. There must be at least one authorized signature in the determination report. Trade Registry Officers send company establishment form which includes tax number notification to Tax Office.</p>	1 day	no charge

* Takes place simultaneously with another procedure.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

DEALING WITH CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

Regulation of construction is critical to protect the public. But it needs to be efficient, to avoid excessive constraints on a sector that plays an important part in every economy. Where complying with building regulations is excessively costly in time and money, many builders opt out. They may pay bribes to pass inspections or simply build illegally, leading to hazardous construction that puts public safety at risk. Where compliance is simple, straightforward and inexpensive, everyone is better off.

What do the indicators cover?

Doing Business records the procedures, time and cost for a business to obtain all the necessary approvals to build a simple commercial warehouse in the economy's largest business city, connect it to basic utilities and register the property so that it can be used as collateral or transferred to another entity.

The ranking on the ease of dealing with construction permits is the simple average of the percentile rankings on its component indicators: procedures, time and cost.

To make the data comparable across economies, *Doing Business* uses several assumptions about the business and the warehouse, including the utility connections.

The business:

- Is a limited liability company operating in the construction business and located in the largest business city.
- Is domestically owned and operated.
- Has 60 builders and other employees.

The warehouse:

- Is a new construction (there was no previous construction on the land).
- Has complete architectural and technical plans prepared by a licensed architect.

WHAT THE DEALING WITH CONSTRUCTION PERMITS INDICATORS MEASURE

Procedures to legally build a warehouse (number)

Submitting all relevant documents and obtaining all necessary clearances, licenses, permits and certificates

Completing all required notifications and receiving all necessary inspections

Obtaining utility connections for water, sewerage and a fixed telephone line

Registering the warehouse after its completion (if required for use as collateral or for transfer of the warehouse)

Time required to complete each procedure (calendar days)

Does not include time spent gathering information

Each procedure starts on a separate day

Procedure completed once final document is received

No prior contact with officials

Cost required to complete each procedure (% of income per capita)

Official costs only, no bribes

- Will be connected to water, sewerage (sewage system, septic tank or their equivalent) and a fixed telephone line. The connection to each utility network will be 10 meters (32 feet, 10 inches) long.
- Will be used for general storage, such as of books or stationery (not for goods requiring special conditions).
- Will take 30 weeks to construct (excluding all delays due to administrative and regulatory requirements).

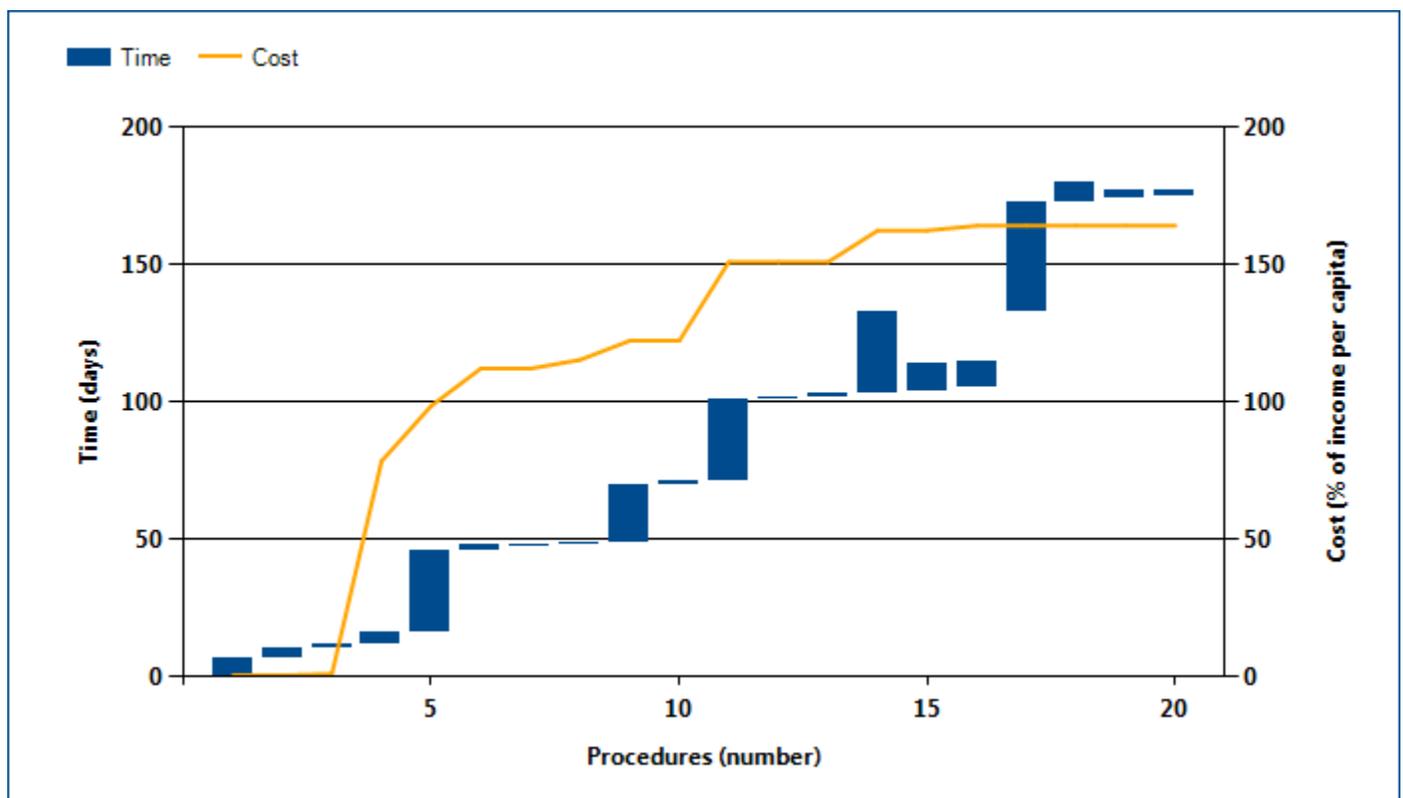
DEALING WITH CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

Where does the economy stand today?

What does it take to comply with the formalities to build a warehouse in Turkey? According to data collected by *Doing Business*, dealing with construction

permits there requires 20 procedures, takes 180 days and costs 164.3% of income per capita (figure 3.1).

Figure 3.1 What it takes to comply with formalities to build a warehouse in Turkey



Note: Time shown in the figure above may not reflect simultaneity of procedures. For more information on the methodology of the dealing with construction permits indicators, see the *Doing Business* website (<http://www.doingbusiness.org>). For details on the procedures reflected here, see the summary at the end of this chapter.

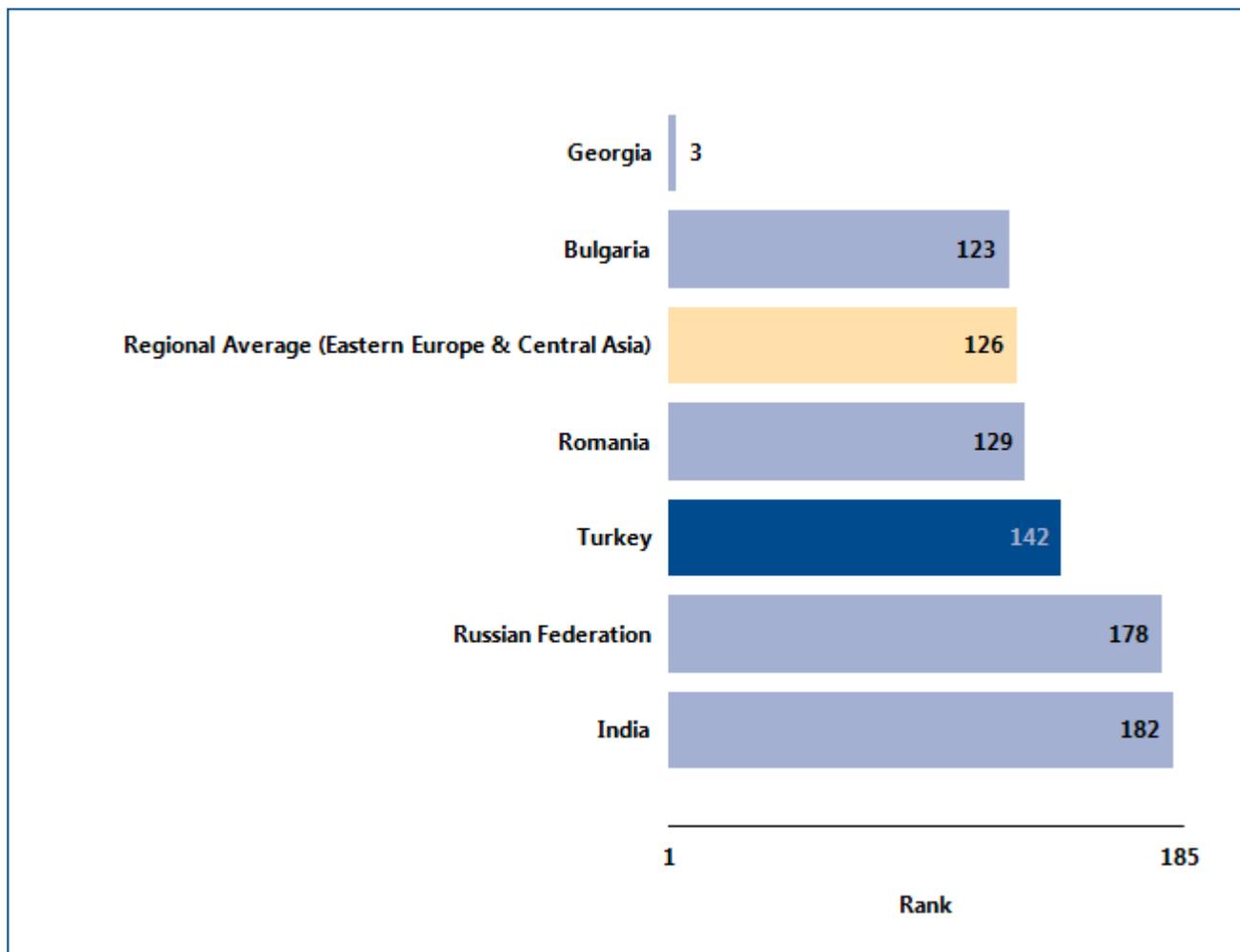
Source: *Doing Business* database.

DEALING WITH CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

Globally, Turkey stands at 142 in the ranking of 185 economies on the ease of dealing with construction permits (figure 3.2). The rankings for comparator

economies and the regional average ranking provide other useful information for assessing how easy it is for an entrepreneur in Turkey to legally build a warehouse.

Figure 3.2 How Turkey and comparator economies rank on the ease of dealing with construction permits



Source: Doing Business database.

DEALING WITH CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

What are the changes over time?

While the most recent *Doing Business* data reflect how easy (or difficult) it is to deal with construction permits in Turkey today, data over time show which aspects of

the process have changed—and which have not (table 3.1). That can help identify where the potential for improvement is greatest.

Table 3.1 The ease of dealing with construction permits in Turkey over time
By *Doing Business* report year

Indicator	DB2006	DB2007	DB2008	DB2009	DB2010	DB2011	DB2012	DB2013
Rank	..	..	..	..	..	..	154	142
Procedures (number)	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	20
Time (days)	189	189	189	189	189	189	189	180
Cost (% of income per capita)	431.5	385.8	357.0	240.6	211.2	223.5	197.7	164.3

Note: n.a. = not applicable (the economy was not included in *Doing Business* for that year). DB2012 rankings shown are not last year's published rankings but comparable rankings for DB2012 that capture the effects of such factors as data corrections and the addition of 2 economies (Barbados and Malta) to the sample this year. For more information on "no practice" marks, see the data notes.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

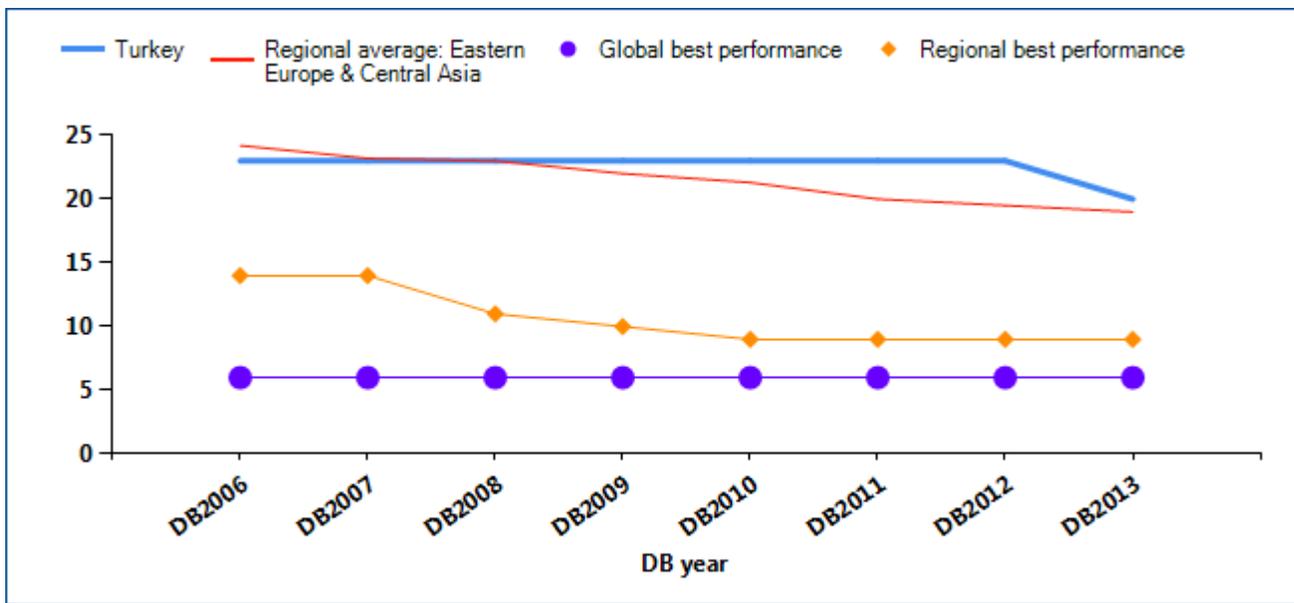
DEALING WITH CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

Equally helpful may be the benchmarks provided by the economies that over time have had the best performance regionally or globally on the procedures, time or cost required to deal with construction permits (figure 3.3). These benchmarks help show what is

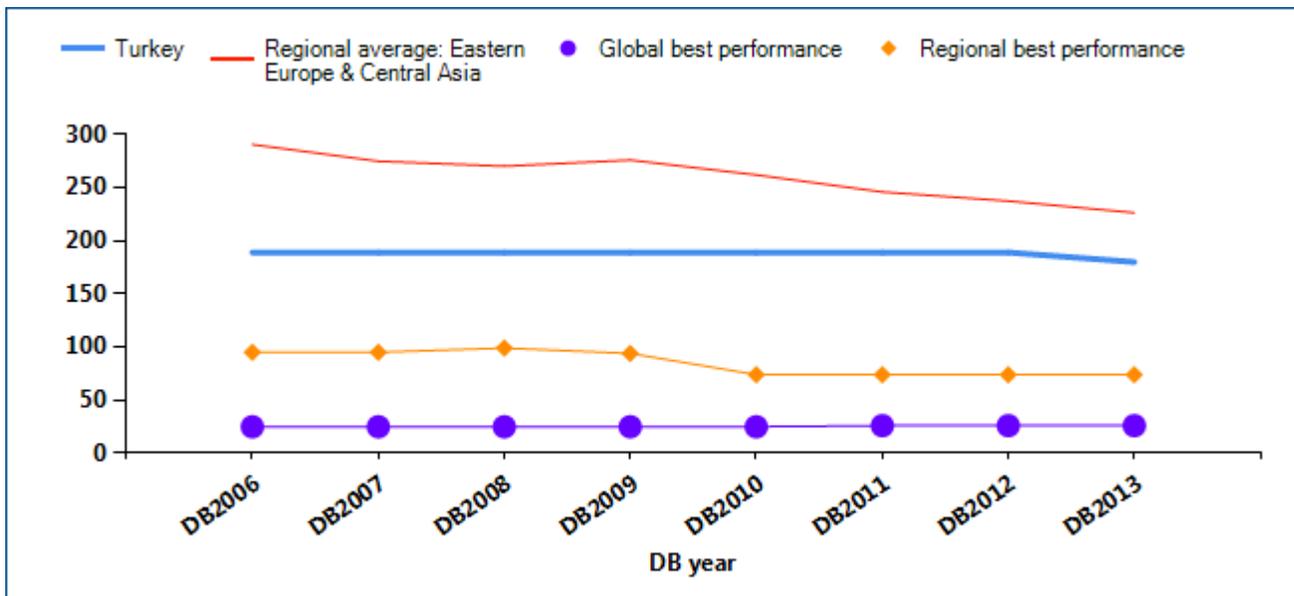
possible in making it easier to deal with construction permits. And changes in regional averages can show where Turkey is keeping up—and where it is falling behind.

Figure 3.3 Has dealing with construction permits become easier over time?

Procedures (number)

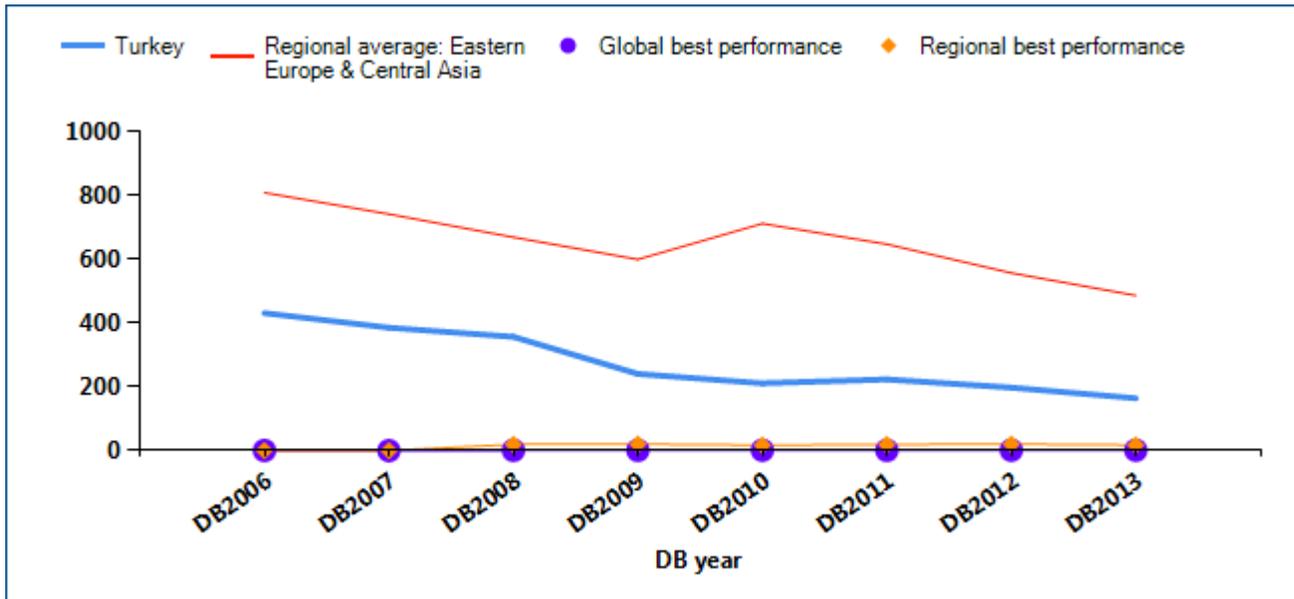


Time (days)



DEALING WITH CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

Cost (% of income per capita)



Source: Doing Business database.

DEALING WITH CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

Smart regulation ensures that standards are met while making compliance easy and accessible to all. Coherent and transparent rules, efficient processes and adequate allocation of resources are especially important in sectors where safety is at stake. Construction is one of them. In an effort to ensure

building safety while keeping compliance costs reasonable, governments around the world have worked on consolidating permitting requirements. What construction permitting reforms has *Doing Business* recorded in Turkey (table 3.2)?

Table 3.2 How has Turkey made dealing with construction permits easier—or not?

By *Doing Business* report year

DB year	Reform
DB2008	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2009	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2010	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2011	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2012	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2013	Turkey made dealing with construction permits easier by eliminating the requirement to build a shelter in non-residential buildings with a total area of less than 1,500 square meters.

Note: For information on reforms in earlier years (back to DB2006), see the *Doing Business* reports for these years, available at <http://www.doingbusiness.org>.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

DEALING WITH CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

What are the details?

The indicators reported here for Turkey are based on a set of specific procedures—the steps that a company must complete to legally build a warehouse—identified by *Doing Business* through information collected from experts in construction licensing, including architects, construction lawyers, construction firms, utility service providers and public officials who deal with building regulations. These procedures are those that apply to a company and structure matching the standard assumptions used by *Doing Business* in collecting the data (see the section in this chapter on what the indicators cover).

BUILDING A WAREHOUSE

City : Istanbul

Estimated Warehouse Value : TRY 449,650

The procedures, along with the associated time and cost, are summarized below.

Summary of procedures for dealing with construction permits in Turkey —and the time and cost

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
1	<p>Obtain lot plan</p> <p>BuildCo applies to the Land Registry. Technicians from the Land Registry peg the corners of the plot, fix its location on the land, and prepare the plan for application.</p> <p>According to annual indexation of official fees for issuing the lot plan by the Land Registry, the new official fee schedule as of December 10, 2010 is as follows:</p> <p>1 -- 1,000 sq. m.: 100.00 1,001 -- 3,000 sq. m.: 150.00 3,001 -- 5,000 sq. m.: 300.00 5,001 -- 10,000 sq. m.: 400.00 10,001 -- 20,000 sq. m.: 550.00 20,001 -- 50,000 sq. m.: 715.00 50,001 -- 100,000 sq. m.: 870.00 100,001 -- 200,000 sq. m.: 1,000.00 200,001 -- 500,000 sq. m.: 1,200.00</p> <p>The fee applied for BuildCo case is TRY 100.00, which may be multiplied by a ratio based on the actual location of the warehouse in certain district.</p>	7 days	TRY 100
2	<p>Obtain cadastral plan</p> <p>BuildCo submits an application to the Cadastral Plan Branch of the relevant municipality, along with the two documents described in the previous procedure, and obtains the Cadastral Plan Document. This document states the development conditions applicable to the plot.</p>	3 days	no charge
3	<p>Obtain road datum document</p>	2 days	TRY 105

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
	<p>BuildCo must apply to the Road Datum Branch of the relevant municipality with the documents obtained in the previous procedures. The branch technicians set all the necessary levels -- road, entrance, plot, building corners, and the like -- to be the basis for the design process of the works that will follow, and issue a "road datum document".</p>		
<p>4</p>	<p>Hire an independent building inspector</p> <p>The company must select an independent building inspector and sign a service contract with this inspector. The inspector must check and approve all the project's plans before they are submitted to the municipality. The list of project plans is extensive and includes the architectural design of the building done by design consultants; the reinforced concrete and insulation project plans prepared by a civil engineer; the fire safety project plans prepared jointly by an architect and the mechanical engineer for utilities; the project plans and documents for hot water, and those of central heating facilities prepared by a mechanical engineer; the electrical wiring project plans prepared by an electrical engineer; the telecommunications system project plans prepared by an electrical engineer; and the landscape project plans prepared by a landscape engineer.</p> <p>Selecting an independent building consultant takes only a day. However, practitioners agree that it takes at least 3 days for the building inspector to review and approve all the documents before they are submitted to the municipality. Hence, for the case considered here, it is assumed that 4 days are needed to complete this procedure.</p> <p>The building inspector charges a fee of 3% of the total building cost. On February 5, 2008, "Regulation on the Implementation of Building Inspection" was adopted. According to it there have been several amendments in amount of the building inspector's fee. Accordingly, upon the period of the construction, the building inspector's fee changes between 2.57% and 5.31% of total construction cost. This fee is now paid in six installments whereas before was in four installments.</p> <p>The inspector receives the following payments at the following stages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% when the building permit is obtained • 10% when the foundation is completed • 40% when the static structure is completed • 20% when the detailed works are completed • 15% when the mechanical and electricity system are completed • 5% when the construction completion minute is approved by the municipality <p>However, for the case considered here, it is assumed that any interaction with the independent building inspector is an internal process within BuildCo. Hence, the phased-out payment is included in this procedure as a one lump sum, for methodological reasons.</p>	<p>4 days</p>	<p>TRY 13,490</p>

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
5	<p>Obtain approval of architectural drawings from the municipality</p> <p>The company must submit the documents listed below along with the architectural drawings to the project branch of the municipality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The authorization document of the architect • The plan for the application • The cadastral plan document • The road datum document • The title deed registration document • The plot share distribution table, if there is more than one independent section on the land (for instance, an apartment building) • Built-up area breakdown table in square meters • Ratified geological study • Three sets of the elevator preliminary report (not applicable in the warehouse case) <p>The municipality must approve the project’s proposed designs. The fire safety project should also be submitted to the municipality for approval and can be included in this procedure.</p> <p>If the municipality asks for changes to be made to the architectural designs during the approval process, these changes should be reflected in the engineering and landscaping projects as well. For final approval, these project plans are submitted to the municipal project branch, for static, sanitation facility, heating and heat insulation, and landscaping project plans to the Turkish Electricity Distribution Corporation (TEDAS), for the electricity project plans; and to the telephone company, for the telecommunication project plans. Fire-electricity and fire-mechanical project plans must be approved by the Fire Department.</p> <p>Article 22 of the Land Development Law establishes a 30-day statutory time limit for this procedure. Although in some cases the approval may be granted within 7 days, practitioners agree that most cases require the full 30 days allowed by law.</p> <p>The cost estimated for this procedure ranges from TRY 3,000.00 to TRY 3,500.00. The fees found on one district municipality’s Web site show the cost breakdown to include fees for examination, approval, and various other taxes (e.g., sign posts, trees).</p>	30 days	TRY 3,500
6	<p>Obtain approval from the Fire Department</p> <p>BuildCo must apply for fire facilities approval to the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality Fire Brigade. As of July 1, 2011 the fee schedule for issuing fire approval of construction projects has been updated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 1 buildings: exempted • Group 2 buildings: TRY 0.46 per sq. m. • Group 3 buildings: TRY 0.78 per sq. m. • Group 4 buildings: TRY 1.00 per sq. m. • Group 5 buildings: TRY 1.52 per sq. m. • Group 6 buildings: TRY 1.82 per sq. m. • Group 7 buildings: TRY 4.20 per sq. m. 	2 days	TRY 2,367

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
	BuildCo would fall into group 6 (factory buildings, hospitals, hotels, warehouses). Therefore, the applicable fee would be: $1,300.6 \times 1.82 = \text{TRY } 2,367.00$		
7	<p>* Obtain approval of technical drawings from the phone company</p> <p>If the building requires new telecommunication facilities from the Post and Telephone Corporation (PTT), the PTT charges a fee for these new facilities.</p>	1 day	no charge
8	<p>Obtain contractor registration document from the chamber of commerce</p> <p>The contractor (BuildCo) must obtain the "contractor registration document" for the year in which the building permit is issued.</p>	1 day	TRY 555
9	<p>Obtain proof of payment and clearance of water and sewerage infrastructure</p> <p>The company contacts the water and sewerage department to pay the fees and participation share in the cost of the water and sewerage infrastructure. A clearance document is obtained, that shows that complete payment was made.</p>	21 days	TRY 1,208
10	<p>Receive foundation registration number from the Social Security Institution</p> <p>The company must register the staff that will be working at the construction site with the Social Security Institution.</p>	1 day	no charge
11	<p>Obtain building permit</p> <p>The company requests a building permit from the licensing branch of the municipality. The approved design, engineering drawings, and other necessary documents (described in Procedures 7 to 16) must be attached to this request. The company must pay the fees before receiving the building permit and starting foundation work.</p> <p>Building permits are usually issued 1 -- 2 months after submission of the application. The law provides for a statutory time limit of 30 days for the municipality issuing the permit. There are frequent complaints from applicants about not receiving the building permit within the specified time.</p> <p>Following the building permit issuance, the municipal building control authority will randomly conduct inspections during the construction on site, in addition to private inspection.</p>	30 days	TRY 5,000
12	<p>Obtain proof of tax payment</p> <p>The company must pay all taxes owed, and obtain a tax clearance document from the appropriate tax departments. This document states that all taxes owed have been paid.</p>	1 day	no charge

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
13	Receive final inspection from the municipality	1 day	no charge
14	<p>* Obtain occupancy permit</p> <p>Land Development Law No. 3194 requires an occupancy permit for all new constructions. The company applies for the occupancy permit by submitting the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The invoice for the building • The building permit • The built-up area breakdown table in square meters • The original copy of the plot title deed • The real estate tax declaration • The real estate tax receipt <p>An authorized commission from the municipality inspects the building and verifies that it complies with the project. This commission then issues the occupancy permit.</p> <p>The law specifies a statutory time limit of 30 days for the municipality to issue an occupancy permit. Practitioners observe that this statutory time limit is not frequently observed, and so, this process can take on average 2 months.</p>	30 days	TRY 2,000
15	<p>* Obtain proof of real estate tax payment</p> <p>Real estate taxes must be submitted to the tax office within 3 months of receipt of the title deeds. The company must obtain a copy of the real estate tax form and a tax clearance statement from municipal accounting office.</p>	10 days	no charge
16	<p>* Change the title deed from a land title deed to a building title deed</p> <p>The company must submit the following documents to the title deed department in order to register the building:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The title deed • The plot share distribution table • The occupancy permit • The cadastral survey pages <p>Registering the warehouse takes some time due to backlogs and long waiting times at the Land Registry. However, with connections at the Land Registry, the process may take as little as 3 days.</p>	10 days	TRY 300
17	<p>Request water connection and permission for discharge of sewerage and rainwater</p> <p>The company must request permission from the water and sewerage department to discharge sewage and rainwater. The technicians from this department perform their inspections at the site and grant permission for connection of wastewater and rainwater to the system.</p>	40 days	no charge

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
	The company can also request the water connection at the same time. The technicians from the same department check that the canal connections comply with the approved design. The technicians then issue a letter of approval for connection.		
18	Receive inspection and obtain connection from the water and sewerage department	7 days	no charge
19	* Obtain approval of telephone system from the Telephone Regional directorate	3 days	no charge
20	* Obtain telephone connection	2 days	TRY 7

* Takes place simultaneously with another procedure.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

GETTING ELECTRICITY

Access to reliable and affordable electricity is vital for businesses. To counter weak electricity supply, many firms in developing economies have to rely on self-supply, often at a prohibitively high cost. Whether electricity is reliably available or not, the first step for a customer is always to gain access by obtaining a connection.

What do the indicators cover?

Doing Business records all procedures required for a local business to obtain a permanent electricity connection and supply for a standardized warehouse, as well as the time and cost to complete them. These procedures include applications and contracts with electricity utilities, clearances from other agencies and the external and final connection works. The ranking on the ease of getting electricity is the simple average of the percentile rankings on its component indicators: procedures, time and cost. To make the data comparable across economies, several assumptions are used.

The warehouse:

- Is located in the economy's largest business city, in an area where other warehouses are located.
- Is not in a special economic zone where the connection would be eligible for subsidization or faster service.
- Has road access. The connection works involve the crossing of a road or roads but are carried out on public land.
- Is a new construction being connected to electricity for the first time.
- Has 2 stories, both above ground, with a total surface of about 1,300.6 square meters (14,000 square feet), and is built on a plot of 929 square meters (10,000 square feet).

The electricity connection:

- Is a 3-phase, 4-wire Y, 140-kilovolt-ampere (kVA) (subscribed capacity) connection.

WHAT THE GETTING ELECTRICITY INDICATORS MEASURE

Procedures to obtain an electricity connection (number)

Submitting all relevant documents and obtaining all necessary clearances and permits

Completing all required notifications and receiving all necessary inspections

Obtaining external installation works and possibly purchasing material for these works

Concluding any necessary supply contract and obtaining final supply

Time required to complete each procedure (calendar days)

Is at least 1 calendar day

Each procedure starts on a separate day

Does not include time spent gathering information

Reflects the time spent in practice, with little follow-up and no prior contact with officials

Cost required to complete each procedure (% of income per capita)

Official costs only, no bribes

Excludes value added tax

- Is 150 meters long.
- Is to either the low-voltage or the medium-voltage distribution network and either overhead or underground, whichever is more common in the economy and in the area where the warehouse is located. The length of any connection in the customer's private domain is negligible.
- Involves installing one electricity meter. The monthly electricity consumption will be 0.07 gigawatt-hour (GWh). The internal electrical wiring has been completed.

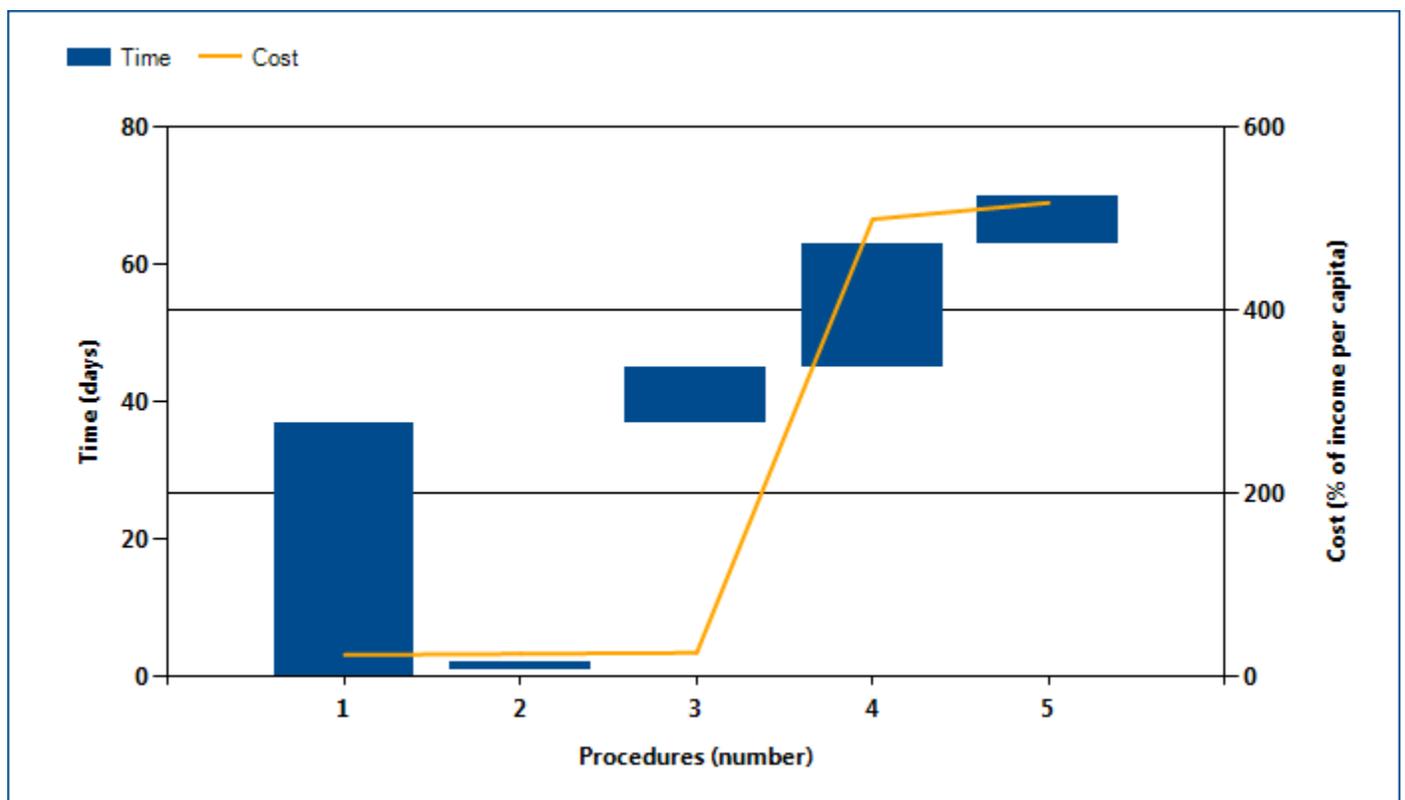
GETTING ELECTRICITY

Where does the economy stand today?

What does it take to obtain a new electricity connection in Turkey? According to data collected by *Doing Business*, getting electricity there requires 5

procedures, takes 70 days and costs 517.9% of income per capita (figure 4.1).

Figure 4.1 What it takes to obtain an electricity connection in Turkey



Note: Time shown in the figure above may not reflect simultaneity of procedures. For more information on the methodology of the getting electricity indicators, see the *Doing Business* website (<http://www.doingbusiness.org>). For details on the procedures reflected here, see the summary at the end of this chapter.

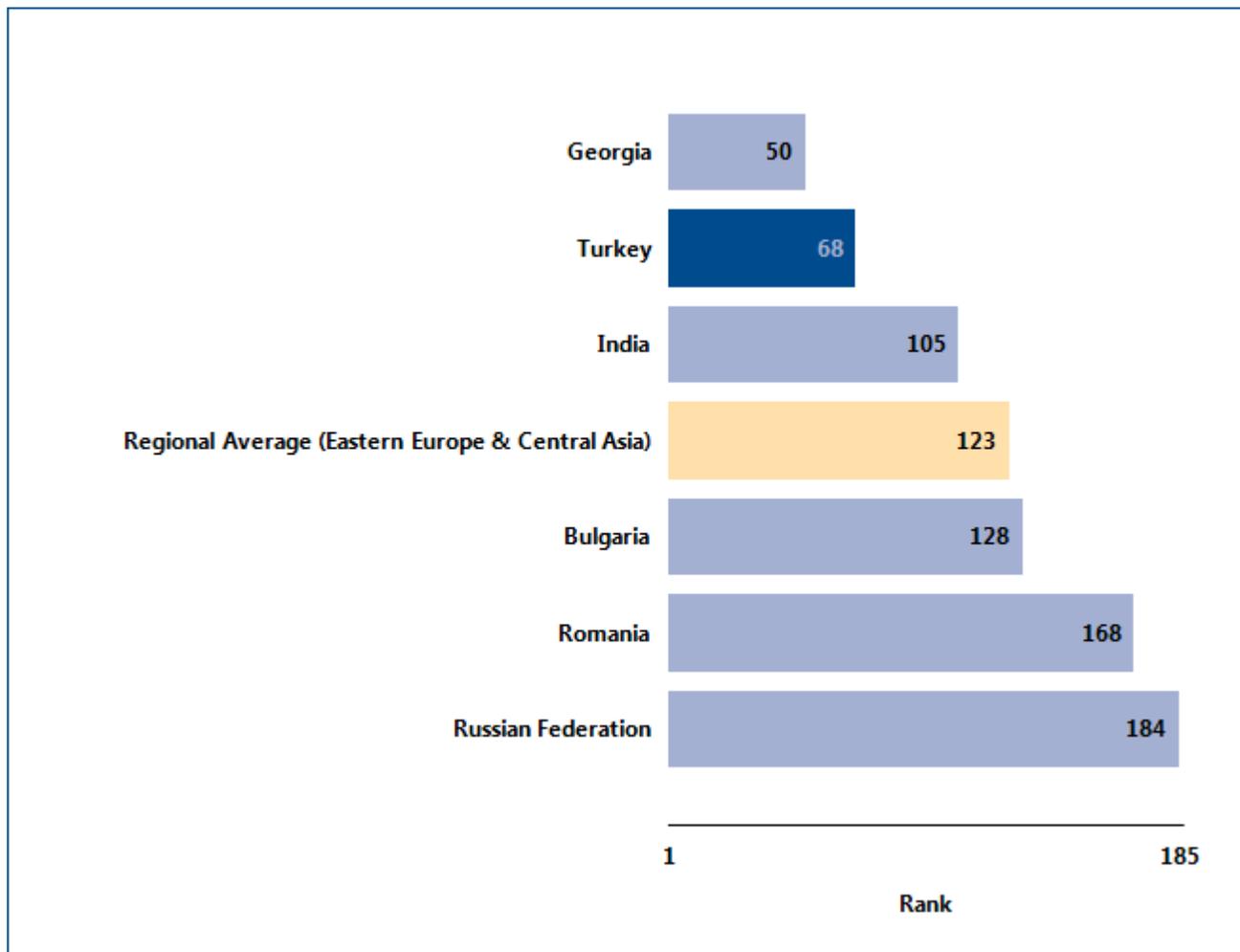
Source: *Doing Business* database.

GETTING ELECTRICITY

Globally, Turkey stands at 68 in the ranking of 185 economies on the ease of getting electricity (figure 4.2). The rankings for comparator economies and the

regional average ranking provide another perspective in assessing how easy it is for an entrepreneur in Turkey to connect a warehouse to electricity.

Figure 4.2 How Turkey and comparator economies rank on the ease of getting electricity



Source: Doing Business database.

GETTING ELECTRICITY

Even more helpful than rankings on the ease of getting electricity may be the indicators underlying those rankings (table 4.1). And regional and global best performers on these indicators may provide useful benchmarks.

Table 4.1 The ease of getting electricity in Turkey

Indicator	Turkey DB2013	Turkey DB2012	Best performer in Eastern Europe & Central Asia DB2013	Best performer globally DB2013
Rank	68	70	Georgia (50)	Iceland (1)
Procedures (number)	5	5	Georgia (4)	Germany (3)*
Time (days)	70	70	Kosovo (48)	Germany (17)
Cost (% of income per capita)	517.9	624.4	Lithuania (55.4)	Japan (0.0)

Note: DB2012 rankings shown are not last year's published rankings but comparable rankings for DB2012 that capture the effects of such factors as data corrections and the addition of 2 economies (Barbados and Malta) to the sample this year.

* Two or more economies share the top ranking on this indicator. For a list of these economies, see the *Doing Business* website (<http://www.doingbusiness.org>).

Source: *Doing Business* database.

GETTING ELECTRICITY

Obtaining an electricity connection is essential to enable a business to conduct its most basic operations. In many economies the connection process is complicated by the multiple laws and regulations involved—covering service quality, general safety, technical standards, procurement practices and internal wiring installations. In an effort to ensure

safety in the connection process while keeping connection costs reasonable, governments around the world have worked to consolidate requirements for obtaining an electricity connection. What reforms in getting electricity has *Doing Business* recorded in Turkey (table 4.2)?

Table 4.2 How has Turkey made getting electricity easier—or not?

By *Doing Business* report year

DB year	Reform
DB2012	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2013	No reform as measured by Doing Business.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

GETTING ELECTRICITY

What are the details?

The indicators reported here for Turkey are based on a set of specific procedures—the steps that an entrepreneur must complete to get a warehouse connected to electricity by the local distribution utility—identified by *Doing Business*. Data are collected from the distribution utility, then completed and verified by electricity regulatory agencies and independent professionals such as electrical engineers, electrical contractors and construction companies. The electricity distribution utility surveyed is the one serving the area (or areas) in which warehouses are located. If there is a choice of distribution utilities, the one serving the largest number of customers is selected.

OBTAINING AN ELECTRICITY CONNECTION

City:	Istanbul
Name of Utility:	Boğaziçi Elektrik Dağıtım A.Ş. (BEDAŞ)

The procedures are those that apply to a warehouse and electricity connection matching the standard assumptions used by *Doing Business* in collecting the data (see the section in this chapter on what the indicators cover). The procedures, along with the associated time and cost, are summarized below.

Summary of procedures for getting electricity in Turkey—and the time and cost

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
1	<p>The client hires an electrical engineer to prepare connection scheme, applies for electricity connection to, awaits estimate of connection fees from, and signs connection agreement with BOGAZIÇI ELEKTRİK DAGITIM A.S. (BEDAS)</p> <p>The customer hires one or many electrical engineers registered with the Chamber of Electrical Engineers (EMO) or an engineering company (with an engineer on the payroll who is registered with the Chamber of Electrical Engineers).</p> <p>The Engineer prepares the electrical project based on the facility's architectural project. Part of the electricity project, the engineer prepares a connection scheme (for both internal and external installations). For connection applications, this project is obligatory. The engineer will be in charge of the external works, and most of the time also carries out the internal installation.</p> <p>BOGAZIÇI ELEKTRİK DAGITIM A.S. (BEDAS) will check the network to see if at the point of connection a transformer is needed. If so, the client is required to install a transformer. Along with the application, the engineer submits the electricity project.</p> <p>The client submits the following in addition to the electricity project to BEDAS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter of application • Copy of ID card of Company Representative • Company seal • Rental contract / ownership documentation (land deed, certificate of 	37 calendar days	TRY 4,202.3

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
	<p>occupancy)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Production Form (Description of the business) • Consent License (from shareholders for the tenants) • Trade Registry Gazette • Tax Registration Certificate • List of authorized signatories • Letter of authorization from public notary for the people managing the process, but not listed in the company's list of authorized signatories • Requested capacity • Invoice of payment of connection fees <p>The application for connection is evaluated by BEDAS, taking into consideration the requirements for expansion investment or new investment within the framework of the existing circumstances of the distribution system.</p> <p>BOGAZIÇI ELEKTRİK DAGITIM A.S. (BEDAS) comes and inspects the site. Accordingly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the existing circumstances of the distribution system are suitable for connection, the connection scheme is approved and a connection agreement is signed between the utility and the client upon submission of required documents; • If the existing circumstances of the distribution system are not suitable for connection (as in our case where a substation is needed), the client is advised about a reasonable period to complete the connection. 		
2	<p>* The client receives external inspection from Boğaziçi Elektrik Dağıtım A.Ş. (BEDAŞ)</p>	1 calendar day	TRY 195.0
3	<p>The client obtains an excavation permit from Istanbul Municipality</p> <p>The customer needs to obtain an excavation permit from Istanbul Municipality in order to carry out the works. The permit can be applied for after the electricity project has been approved. The customer needs to submit the approved electricity project, the occupancy permit, and state their address (no official document is needed).</p>	8 calendar days	TRY 200.0
4	<p>The client receives external works by a private firm/ electrical engineer(s) registered with the Chamber of Electrical Engineers (EMO)</p> <p>In the assumed area connections are generally made underground.</p> <p>Physical implementation of both internal and external wiring is outsourced to the same Engineer or any other similar Engineers.</p> <p>The external works consist of the construction of private substation and underground connection to a central substation. The Engineer(s) will need to purchase the material for the external connection.</p>	18 calendar days	TRY 82,500.0

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
5	<p>The client submits Electricity Structural Project and awaits meter installation and final connection from Bogaziçi Elektrik Dagitim A.S. (BEDAS)</p> <p>Following the wiring and completion of implementation, the client is required to submit a post-implementation electricity project called "Electricity Structural Project."</p> <p>This is followed by BOGAZIÇI ELEKTRİK DAGITIM A.S. (BEDAS) inspection of the internal wiring. Connection is made by the utility following its checking of the wiring (no inspection of entire internal wiring is done during the process, just of the interface).</p> <p>The compatibility of the metering devices and the circuits of the client are tested, and the relevant parts of the meters and measurement circuits are sealed and first index read on the meter. Connection to the system is then recorded by the distribution licensee.</p>	7 calendar days	TRY 3,127.5

* Takes place simultaneously with another procedure.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

REGISTERING PROPERTY

Ensuring formal property rights is fundamental. Effective administration of land is part of that. If formal property transfer is too costly or complicated, formal titles might go informal again. And where property is informal or poorly administered, it has little chance of being accepted as collateral for loans—limiting access to finance.

What do the indicators cover?

Doing Business records the full sequence of procedures necessary for a business to purchase property from another business and transfer the property title to the buyer's name. The transaction is considered complete when it is opposable to third parties and when the buyer can use the property, use it as collateral for a bank loan or resell it. The ranking on the ease of registering property is the simple average of the percentile rankings on its component indicators: procedures, time and cost.

To make the data comparable across economies, several assumptions about the parties to the transaction, the property and the procedures are used.

The parties (buyer and seller):

- Are limited liability companies, 100% domestically and privately owned.
- Are located in the periurban area of the economy's largest business city.
- Have 50 employees each, all of whom are nationals.
- Perform general commercial activities.

The property (fully owned by the seller):

- Has a value of 50 times income per capita. The sale price equals the value.
- Is registered in the land registry or cadastre, or both, and is free of title disputes.
- Is located in a periurban commercial zone, and no rezoning is required.

WHAT THE REGISTERING PROPERTY INDICATORS MEASURE

Procedures to legally transfer title on immovable property (number)

Preregistration (for example, checking for liens, notarizing sales agreement, paying property transfer taxes)

Registration in the economy's largest business city

Postregistration (for example, filing title with the municipality)

Time required to complete each procedure (calendar days)

Does not include time spent gathering information

Each procedure starts on a separate day

Procedure completed once final document is received

No prior contact with officials

Cost required to complete each procedure (% of property value)

Official costs only, no bribes

No value added or capital gains taxes included

- Has no mortgages attached and has been under the same ownership for the past 10 years.
- Consists of 557.4 square meters (6,000 square feet) of land and a 10-year-old, 2-story warehouse of 929 square meters (10,000 square feet). The warehouse is in good condition and complies with all safety standards, building codes and legal requirements. The property will be transferred in its entirety.

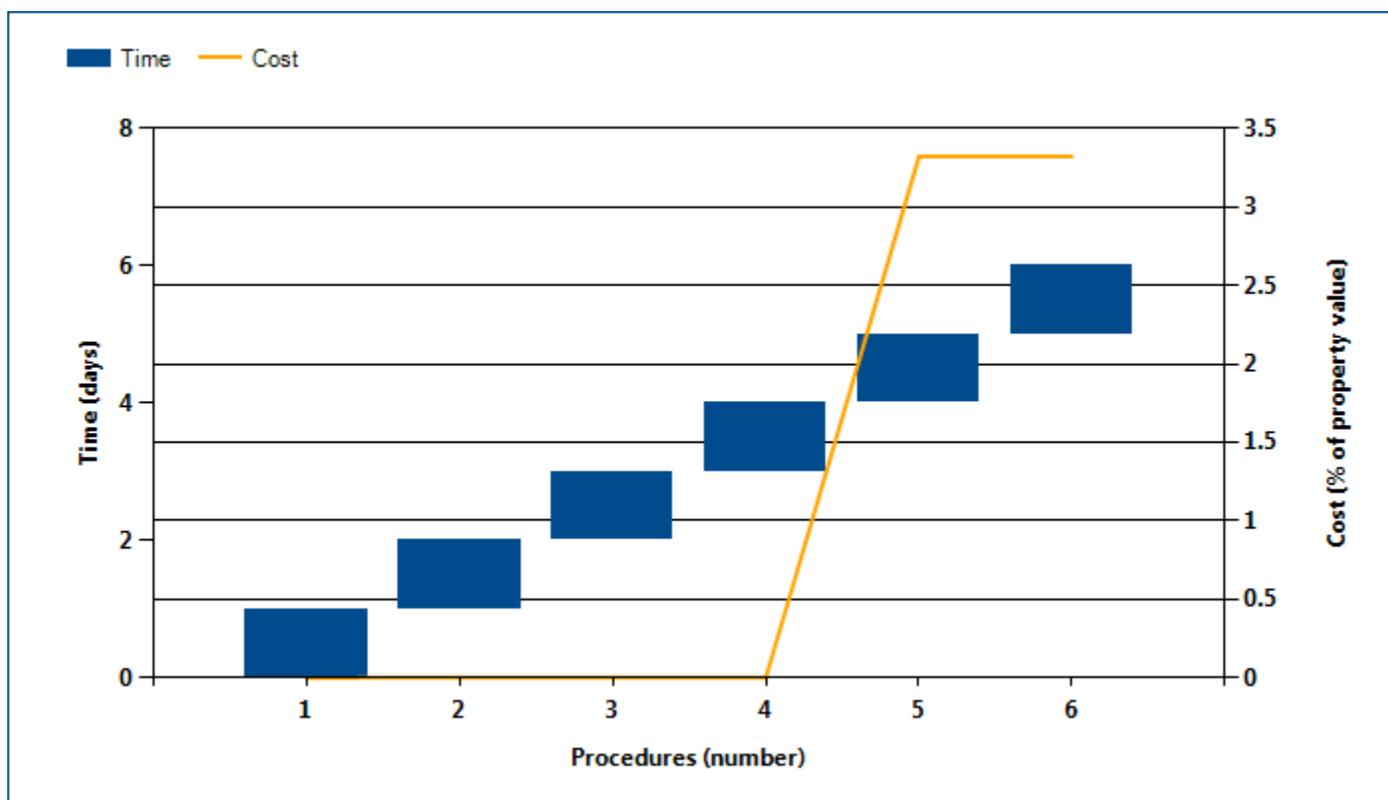
REGISTERING PROPERTY

Where does the economy stand today?

What does it take to complete a property transfer in Turkey? According to data collected by *Doing Business*, registering property there requires 6 procedures, takes

6 days and costs 3.3% of the property value (figure 5.1).

Figure 5.1 What it takes to register property in Turkey



Note: Time shown in the figure above may not reflect simultaneity of procedures. For more information on the methodology of the registering property indicators, see the *Doing Business* website (<http://www.doingbusiness.org>). For details on the procedures reflected here, see the summary at the end of this chapter.

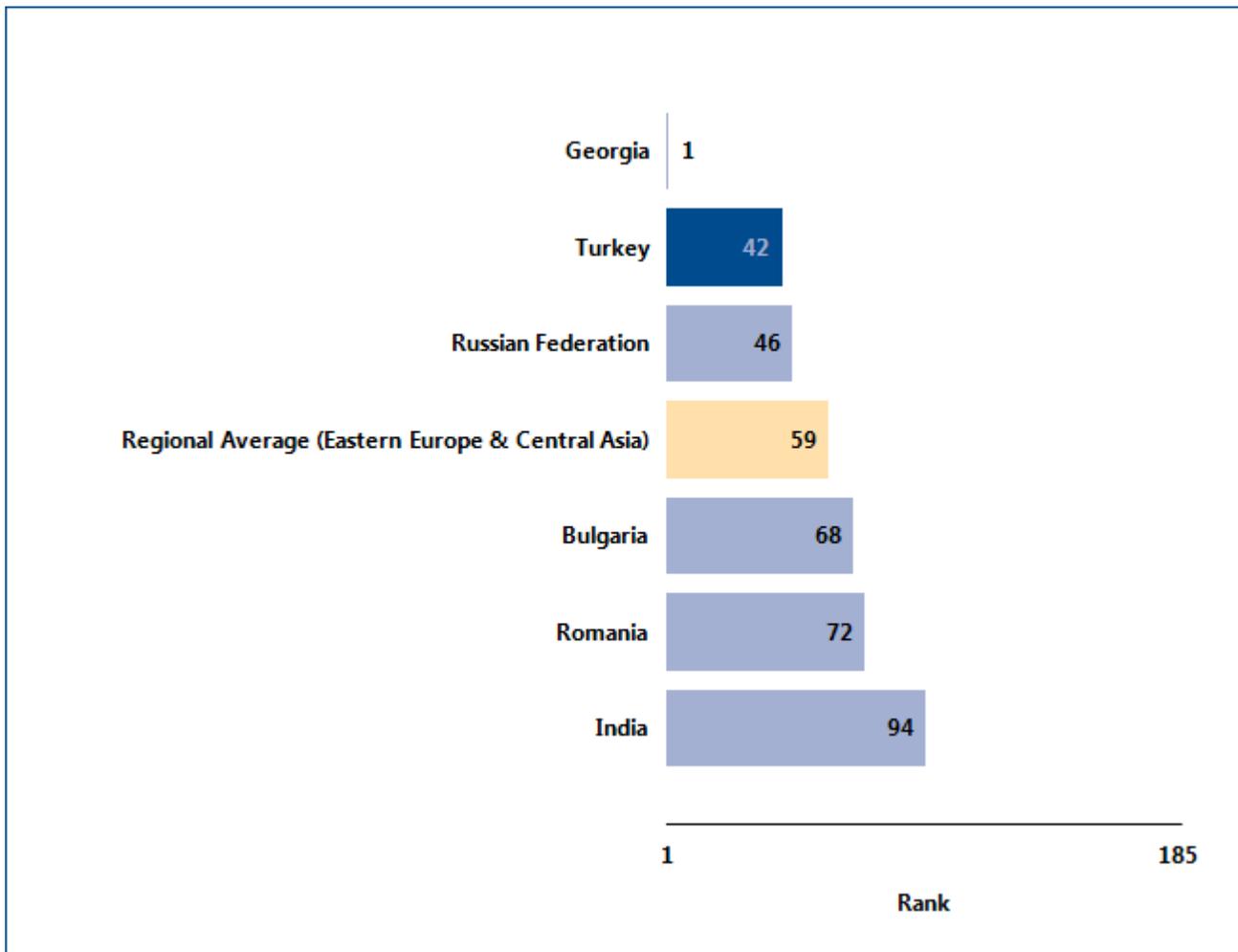
Source: *Doing Business* database.

REGISTERING PROPERTY

Globally, Turkey stands at 42 in the ranking of 185 economies on the ease of registering property (figure 5.2). The rankings for comparator economies and the

regional average ranking provide other useful information for assessing how easy it is for an entrepreneur in Turkey to transfer property.

Figure 5.2 How Turkey and comparator economies rank on the ease of registering property



Source: *Doing Business* database.

REGISTERING PROPERTY

What are the changes over time?

While the most recent *Doing Business* data reflect how easy (or difficult) it is to register property in Turkey today, data over time show which aspects of the process have changed—and which have not (table 5.1). That can help identify where the potential for improvement is greatest.

Table 5.1 The ease of registering property in Turkey over time
By *Doing Business* report year

Indicator	DB2005	DB2006	DB2007	DB2008	DB2009	DB2010	DB2011	DB2012	DB2013
Rank	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44	42
Procedures (number)	6	6	8	6	6	6	6	6	6
Time (days)	6	6	9	6	6	6	6	6	6
Cost (% of property value)	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.3

Note: n.a. = not applicable (the economy was not included in *Doing Business* for that year). DB2012 rankings shown are not last year's published rankings but comparable rankings for DB2012 that capture the effects of such factors as data corrections and the addition of 2 economies (Barbados and Malta) to the sample this year. For more information on "no practice" marks, see the data notes.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

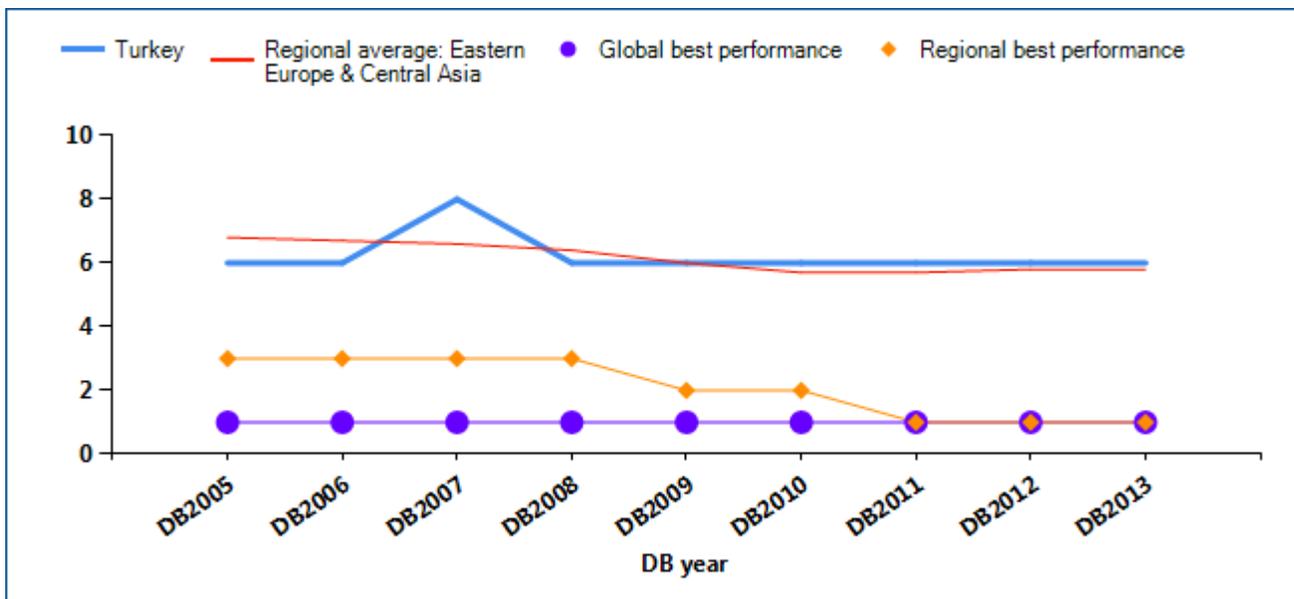
REGISTERING PROPERTY

Equally helpful may be the benchmarks provided by the economies that over time have had the best performance regionally or globally on the procedures, time or cost required to complete a property transfer

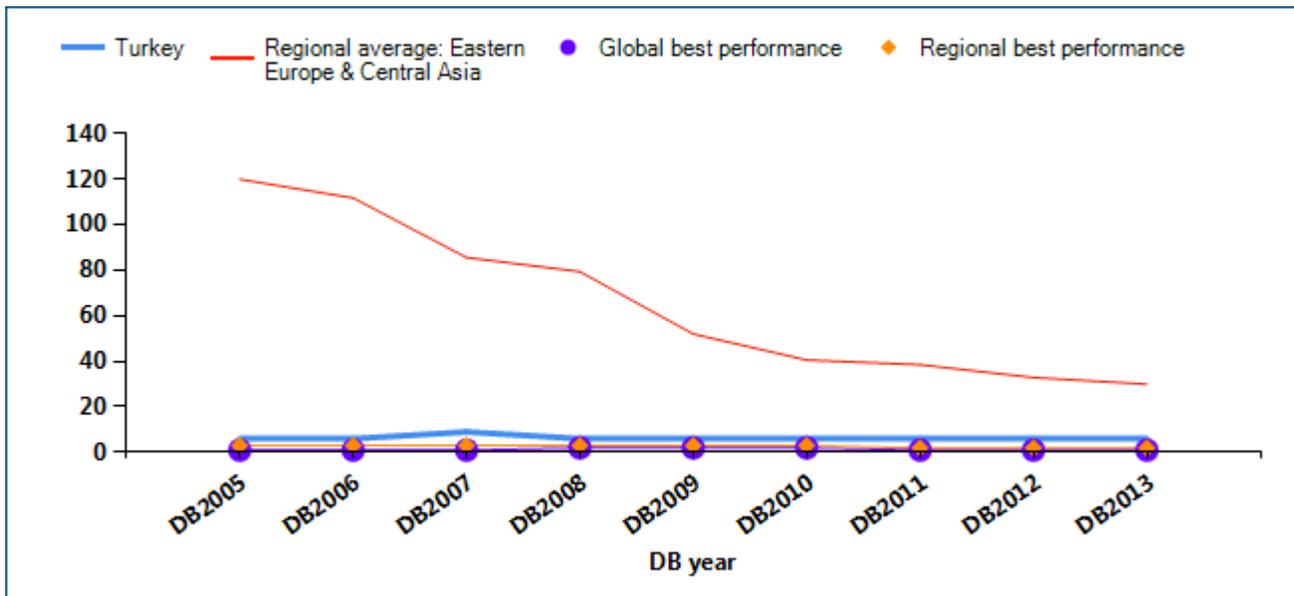
(figure 5.3). These benchmarks help show what is possible in making it easier to register property. And changes in regional averages can show where Turkey is keeping up—and where it is falling behind.

Figure 5.3 Has registering property become easier over time?

Procedures (number)

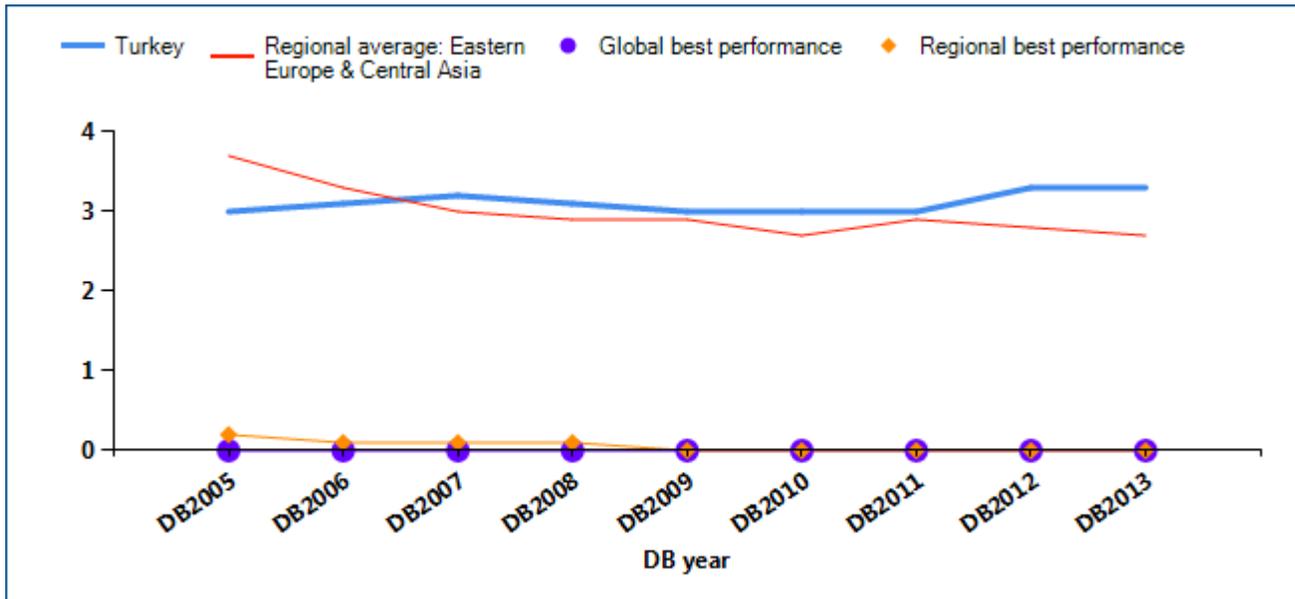


Time (days)



REGISTERING PROPERTY

Cost (% of property value)



Source: Doing Business database.

REGISTERING PROPERTY

Economies worldwide have been making it easier for entrepreneurs to register and transfer property—such as by computerizing land registries, introducing time limits for procedures and setting low fixed fees. Many

have cut the time required substantially—enabling buyers to use or mortgage their property earlier. What property registration reforms has *Doing Business* recorded in Turkey (table 5.2)?

Table 5.2 How has Turkey made registering property easier—or not?
By *Doing Business* report year

DB year	Reform
DB2008	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2009	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2010	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2011	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2012	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2013	No reform as measured by Doing Business.

Note: For information on reforms in earlier years (back to DB2005), see the *Doing Business* reports for these years, available at <http://www.doingbusiness.org>.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

REGISTERING PROPERTY

What are the details?

The indicators reported here are based on a set of specific procedures—the steps that a buyer and seller must complete to transfer the property to the buyer's name—identified by *Doing Business* through information collected from local property lawyers, notaries and property registries. These procedures are those that apply to a transaction matching the standard assumptions used by *Doing Business* in collecting the data (see the section in this chapter on what the indicators cover).

STANDARD PROPERTY TRANSFER

City: Istanbul
Property Value: TRY 871,132

The procedures, along with the associated time and cost, are summarized below.

Summary of procedures for registering property in Turkey—and the time and cost

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
1	<p>The buyer conducts a non-encumbrance check on the property</p> <p>Although not mandated by law, non-encumbrance check is a must Procedure without which buyers do not proceed with the transfer process. The buyer almost always checks whether or not the property is free of liens and encumbrances. For this, the seller would need to obtain the document showing that the property is free of disputes. By law, the records are not open to public: the buyer can obtain this document only with a power attorney of the seller. Therefore, this document is typically obtained by the seller who is often accompanied by the buyer. For transactions that are undertaken by lawyers, this Procedure is taken care of by lawyers (who have the power of attorney from the seller and have a legal right to search titles). The information is computerized, takes minutes to check and is free of charge.</p>	1 day	no cost
2	<p>Managers obtain an authorization certificate of their authority to conduct transactions on companies' behalf</p> <p>If the sale transaction will be made in person by the company signatories, the managers should obtain a separate document from the trade registry, showing that they have the authority to conduct transactions before land registry on their companies' behalf. If the sale transaction will be made in proxy given by the company signatories, the representatives should be given special proxies, which will be issued before the notary and inclusive of the authorized managers' statement as well as the photographs. The notary might ask the manager to show the above mentioned authorization document or a signature circular of the company.</p>	1 day	TL 22.95
3	<p>Obtain an earthquake insurance policy, or amend the existing one</p> <p>If a "compulsory earthquake insurance policy" had not been issued for</p>	1 day	no cost (unless a new insurance is

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
	<p>the building, one must be prepared since in practice, when selling the building or asking for a loan on it, it is usually required. The cost of this insurance policy depends on the features such as the area of the building and the place thereof, and the insurance brokers automatically calculate it.</p> <p>If there is an existing "compulsory earthquake insurance policy" which is still valid at the date of the sale (i.e. if the term of the insurance policy has not yet expired), then there is no need to issue another one just as a result of the change of ownership. However, the new owner of the property shall have the insurance policy amended to indicate his own name under the policy, which will be arranged between the insurance company and the new owner.</p>		needed)
4	<p>Parties apply for registration and obtain tax payment assessment</p> <p>It is possible for parties to make an online appointment from the general IT system of the Land Registry in order to pick a date/time when to submit an application to the registration.</p> <p>The seller and the purchaser (or their representatives) meet at the registry office and fill in an application form. Once the required documents are presented, the parties declare the consideration to be paid by the purchaser. The officer calculates the mortar dues, and gives the account details of the registry office for the payment, and makes an appointment on the very day or on the consecutive day for the parties to pay the dues and come back again for signature.</p> <p>The documentation shall include: Annual property tax declaration of the seller company The Authorization Certificate of the manager obtained from trade registry, if transactions are carried out by the company signatories. The notarized proxies of the representatives (if they will perform the transaction) The identity cards of signatories (passport for foreigners) Two photographs of each person who would actually sign the registry documents Signature Circular Title deed copy or information regarding the title deed of the property A document showing the current value of the property, issued by the Municipality An earthquake insurance policy</p> <p>Signatories shall keep the seal of the company during the Procedure. The Land Registry Office accepts application when all of the above listed documents are submitted and informs interested parties (with a text message generated through the general IT system of the Land Registry) giving them the application number and notifying that the application is being processed.</p>	1 day	no cost
5	<p>Registration fee is paid at a commercial bank</p> <p>Mortar dues are paid to the bank account of the land registry, and the</p>	1 day	TL 162.50 (registration fee) +

No.	Procedure	Time to complete	Cost to complete
	<p>bank will give a receipt of the payment. The mortar due is equal to 3.3% of the declared amount in Turkish Lira, collected 1.65% each from the parties, but in practice usually the purchaser pays all. The parties also pay a registration fee to cover overall expenses of Land Registries in Turkey. This is usually paid by the purchaser to the bank account of the Land Registry.</p> <p>General IT system informs the concerned parties with a text message when the registration fee and mortar dues should be paid at the commercial bank. This message is being sent to the parties after the evaluation process is completed by the Land Registry officers. The commercial bank to which the registration fees and mortar dues are deposited is a bank designated by the Land title registry. In other words, the parties have to deposit the concerned amounts to the bank account of Land Registry at a bank determined by the Registry itself.</p>		<p>3.3% of declared transaction price (mortar dues) or 3.3% of the taxable value of the real estate (whichever is higher)</p>
6	<p>Transaction is completed at the registry office</p> <p>Once all the above Procedures are fulfilled, a text message sent from general IT office of land title registry that the parties should be present at the land registry office at the appointment hour decided previously by the Land Registry for the finalization of the transaction. The parties meet at registry office before the registry manager or his deputy at the appointment hour decided previously. The purchaser pays the consideration at that time. If it is already paid, the seller declares that it is fully paid. Then the parties both sign the land record sheet as well as the photographs of each other are attached to the document. Each person witnesses that he/she had made the transaction mutually with the person in the picture, the transfer of the title is then completed. The documentation shall include: payment receipts, ID cards</p>	1 day	Already paid in Procedure 5

* Takes place simultaneously with another procedure.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

GETTING CREDIT

Two types of frameworks can facilitate access to credit and improve its allocation: credit information systems and the legal rights of borrowers and lenders in collateral and bankruptcy laws. Credit information systems enable lenders to view a potential borrower's financial history (positive or negative)—valuable information to consider when assessing risk. And they permit borrowers to establish a good credit history that will allow easier access to credit. Sound collateral laws enable businesses to use their assets, especially movable property, as security to generate capital—while strong creditors' rights have been associated with higher ratios of private sector credit to GDP.

What do the indicators cover?

Doing Business assesses the sharing of credit information and the legal rights of borrowers and lenders with respect to secured transactions through 2 sets of indicators. The depth of credit information index measures rules and practices affecting the coverage, scope and accessibility of credit information available through a public credit registry or a private credit bureau. The strength of legal rights index measures whether certain features that facilitate lending exist within the applicable collateral and bankruptcy laws. *Doing Business* uses case scenarios to determine the scope of the secured transactions system, involving a secured borrower and a secured lender and examining legal restrictions on the use of movable collateral. These scenarios assume that the borrower:

- Is a private, limited liability company.
- Has its headquarters and only base of operations in the largest business city.

WHAT THE GETTING CREDIT INDICATORS MEASURE

Strength of legal rights index (0–10)

Protection of rights of borrowers and lenders through collateral laws

Protection of secured creditors' rights through bankruptcy laws

Depth of credit information index (0–6)

Scope and accessibility of credit information distributed by public credit registries and private credit bureaus

Public credit registry coverage (% of adults)

Number of individuals and firms listed in public credit registry as percentage of adult population

Private credit bureau coverage (% of adults)

Number of individuals and firms listed in largest private credit bureau as percentage of adult population

- Has 100 employees.
- Is 100% domestically owned, as is the lender.

The ranking on the ease of getting credit is based on the percentile rankings on the sum of its component indicators: the depth of credit information index and the strength of legal rights index.

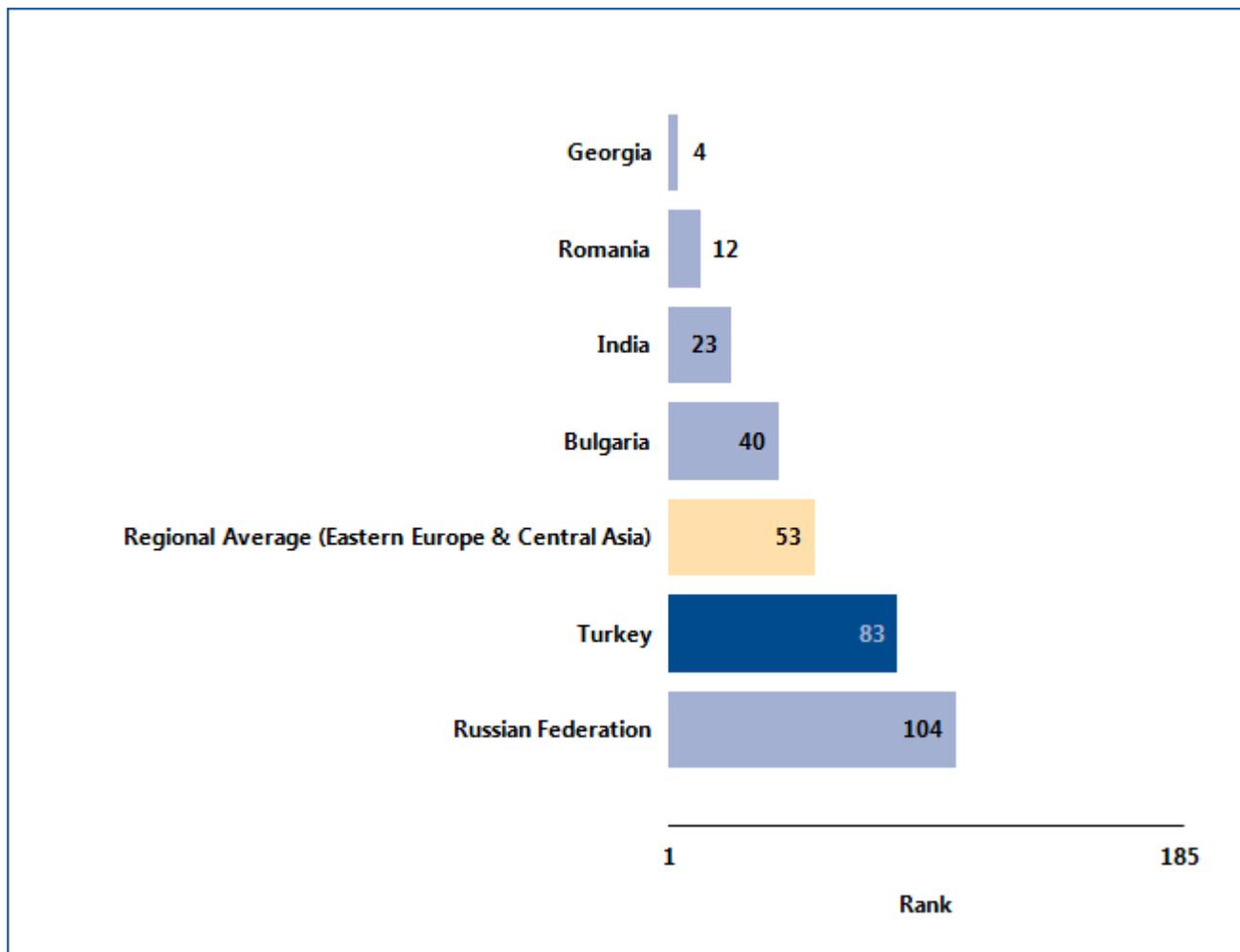
GETTING CREDIT

Where does the economy stand today?

How well do the credit information system and collateral and bankruptcy laws in Turkey facilitate access to credit? The economy has a score of 5 on the depth of credit information index and a score of 4 on the strength of legal rights index (see the summary of scoring at the end of this chapter for details). Higher scores indicate more credit information and stronger legal rights for borrowers and lenders.

Globally, Turkey stands at 83 in the ranking of 185 economies on the ease of getting credit (figure 6.1). The rankings for comparator economies and the regional average ranking provide other useful information for assessing how well regulations and institutions in Turkey support lending and borrowing.

Figure 6.1 How Turkey and comparator economies rank on the ease of getting credit



Source: Doing Business database.

GETTING CREDIT

What are the changes over time?

While the most recent *Doing Business* data reflect how well the credit information system and collateral and bankruptcy laws in Turkey support lending and borrowing today, data over time can help show where

institutions and regulations have been strengthened—and where they have not (table 6.1). That can help identify where the potential for improvement is greatest.

Table 6.1 The ease of getting credit in Turkey over time
By *Doing Business* report year

Indicator	DB2005	DB2006	DB2007	DB2008	DB2009	DB2010	DB2011	DB2012	DB2013
Rank	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	80	83
Strength of legal rights index (0-10)	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Depth of credit information index (0-6)	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Public registry coverage (% of adults)	3.2	4.9	6.7	10.3	12.7	15.9	18.3	23.8	23.5
Private bureau coverage (% of adults)	30.0	27.6	n.a.	27.0	26.3	42.9	42.2	60.5	63.0

Note: n.a. = not applicable (the economy was not included in *Doing Business* for that year). DB2012 rankings shown are not last year's published rankings but comparable rankings for DB2012 that capture the effects of such factors as data corrections and the addition of 2 economies (Barbados and Malta) to the sample this year.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

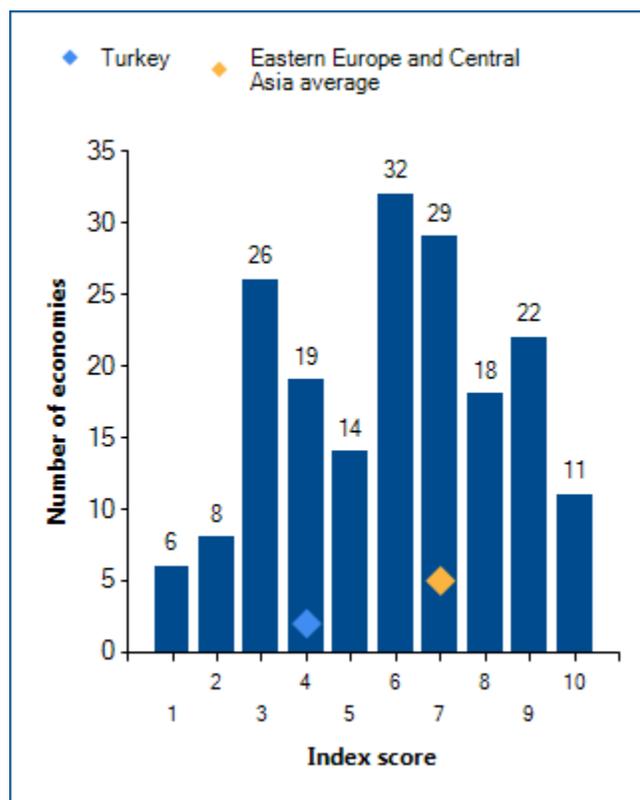
GETTING CREDIT

One way to put an economy's score on the getting credit indicators into context is to see where the economy stands in the distribution of scores across economies. Figure 6.2 highlights the score on the strength of legal rights index for Turkey in 2012 and

shows the number of economies with this score in 2012 as well as the regional average score. Figure 6.3 shows the same thing for the depth of credit information index.

Figure 6.2 How strong are legal rights for borrowers and lenders?

Number of economies with each score on strength of legal rights index (0–10), 2012

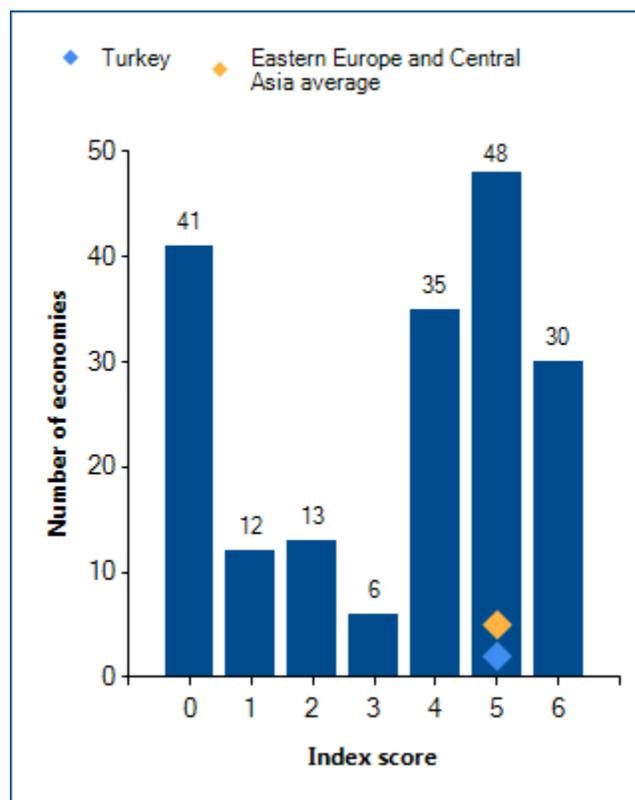


Note: Higher scores indicate that collateral and bankruptcy laws are better designed to facilitate access to credit.

Source: Doing Business database.

Figure 6.3 How much credit information is shared—and how widely?

Number of economies with each score on depth of credit information index (0–6), 2012



Note: Higher scores indicate the availability of more credit information, from either a public credit registry or a private credit bureau, to facilitate lending decisions. Regional averages for the depth of credit information index exclude economies with no public registry or private bureau.

Source: Doing Business database.

GETTING CREDIT

When economies strengthen the legal rights of lenders and borrowers under collateral and bankruptcy laws, and increase the scope, coverage and accessibility of

credit information, they can increase entrepreneurs' access to credit. What credit reforms has *Doing Business* recorded in Turkey (table 6.2)?

Table 6.2 How has Turkey made getting credit easier—or not?
By *Doing Business* report year

DB year	Reform
DB2008	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2009	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2010	Turkey's private credit bureau now includes firms in its database.
DB2011	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2012	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2013	No reform as measured by Doing Business.

Note: For information on reforms in earlier years (back to DB2005), see the *Doing Business* reports for these years, available at <http://www.doingbusiness.org>.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

GETTING CREDIT

What are the details?

The getting credit indicators reported here for Turkey are based on detailed information collected in that economy. The data on credit information sharing are collected through a survey of a public credit registry or private credit bureau (if one exists). To construct the depth of credit information index, a score of 1 is assigned for each of 6 features of the public credit registry or private credit bureau (see summary of scoring below).

The data on the legal rights of borrowers and lenders are gathered through a survey of financial lawyers and verified through analysis of laws and regulations as well as public sources of information on collateral and bankruptcy laws. For the strength of legal rights index, a score of 1 is assigned for each of 8 aspects related to legal rights in collateral law and 2 aspects in bankruptcy law.

Summary of scoring for the getting credit indicators in Turkey

Indicator	Turkey	Eastern Europe & Central Asia average	OECD high income average
Strength of legal rights index (0-10)	4	7	7
Depth of credit information index (0-6)	5	5	5
Public registry coverage (% of adults)	23.5	31.9	31.5
Private bureau coverage (% of adults)	63.0	44.8	74.6

Note: In cases where an economy's regional classification is "OECD high income," regional averages above are only displayed once. Regional averages for the depth of credit information index exclude economies with no public registry or private bureau. Regional averages for the public registry coverage exclude economies with no public registry. Regional averages for the private bureau coverage exclude economies with no private bureau.

Strength of legal rights index (0-10)	Index score: 4
Can any business use movable assets as collateral while keeping possession of the assets; and any financial institution accept such assets as collateral ?	Yes
Does the law allow businesses to grant a non possessory security right in a single category of movable assets, without requiring a specific description of collateral?	No
Does the law allow businesses to grant a non possessory security right in substantially all of its assets, without requiring a specific description of collateral?	No
May a security right extend to future or after-acquired assets, and may it extend automatically to the products, proceeds or replacements of the original assets ?	No
Is a general description of debts and obligations permitted in collateral agreements; can all types of debts and obligations be secured between parties; and can the collateral agreement include a maximum amount for which the assets are encumbered?	Yes
Is a collateral registry in operation, that is unified geographically and by asset type, with an electronic database indexed by debtor's names?	No

Strength of legal rights index (0–10)	Index score: 4
Are secured creditors paid first (i.e. before general tax claims and employee claims) when a debtor defaults outside an insolvency procedure?	Yes
Are secured creditors paid first (i.e. before general tax claims and employee claims) when a business is liquidated?	No
Are secured creditors either not subject to an automatic stay or moratorium on enforcement procedures when a debtor enters a court-supervised reorganization procedure, or the law provides secured creditors with grounds for relief from an automatic stay or	Yes
Does the law allow parties to agree in a collateral agreement that the lender may enforce its security right out of court, at the time a security interest is created?	No

Depth of credit information index (0–6)	Private credit bureau	Public credit registry	Index score: 5
Are data on both firms and individuals distributed?	Yes	Yes	1
Are both positive and negative data distributed?	Yes	No	1
Does the registry distribute credit information from retailers, trade creditors or utility companies as well as financial institutions?	No	No	0
Are more than 2 years of historical credit information distributed?	Yes	No	1
Is data on all loans below 1% of income per capita distributed?	Yes	No	1
Is it guaranteed by law that borrowers can inspect their data in the largest credit registry?	Yes	Yes	1

Note: An economy receives a score of 1 if there is a "yes" to either private bureau or public registry.

Coverage	Private credit bureau	Public credit registry
Number of firms	6,500,000	2,264,551
Number of individuals	25,000,000	9,484,905

Source: Doing Business database.

PROTECTING INVESTORS

Investor protections matter for the ability of companies to raise the capital they need to grow, innovate, diversify and compete. If the laws do not provide such protections, investors may be reluctant to invest unless they become the controlling shareholders. Strong regulations clearly define related-party transactions, promote clear and efficient disclosure requirements, require shareholder participation in major decisions of the company and set clear standards of accountability for company insiders.

What do the indicators cover?

Doing Business measures the strength of minority shareholder protections against directors' use of corporate assets for personal gain—or self-dealing. The indicators distinguish 3 dimensions of investor protections: transparency of related-party transactions (extent of disclosure index), liability for self-dealing (extent of director liability index) and shareholders' ability to sue officers and directors for misconduct (ease of shareholder suits index). The ranking on the strength of investor protection index is the simple average of the percentile rankings on these 3 indices. To make the data comparable across economies, a case study uses several assumptions about the business and the transaction.

The business (Buyer):

- Is a publicly traded corporation listed on the economy's most important stock exchange (or at least a large private company with multiple shareholders).
- Has a board of directors and a chief executive officer (CEO) who may legally act on behalf of Buyer where permitted, even if this is not specifically required by law.

The transaction involves the following details:

- Mr. James, a director and the majority shareholder of the company, proposes that

WHAT THE PROTECTING INVESTORS INDICATORS MEASURE

Extent of disclosure index (0–10)

Who can approve related-party transactions
Disclosure requirements in case of related-party transactions

Extent of director liability index (0–10)

Ability of shareholders to hold interested parties and members of the approving body liable in case of related-party transactions

Available legal remedies (damages, repayment of profits, fines, imprisonment and rescission of the transaction)

Ability of shareholders to sue directly or derivatively

Ease of shareholder suits index (0–10)

Access to internal corporate documents (directly or through a government inspector)

Documents and information available during trial

Strength of investor protection index (0–10)

Simple average of the extent of disclosure, extent of director liability and ease of shareholder suits indices

the company purchase used trucks from another company he owns.

- The price is higher than the going price for used trucks, but the transaction goes forward.
- All required approvals are obtained, and all required disclosures made, though the transaction is prejudicial to Buyer.
- Shareholders sue the interested parties and the members of the board of directors.

PROTECTING INVESTORS

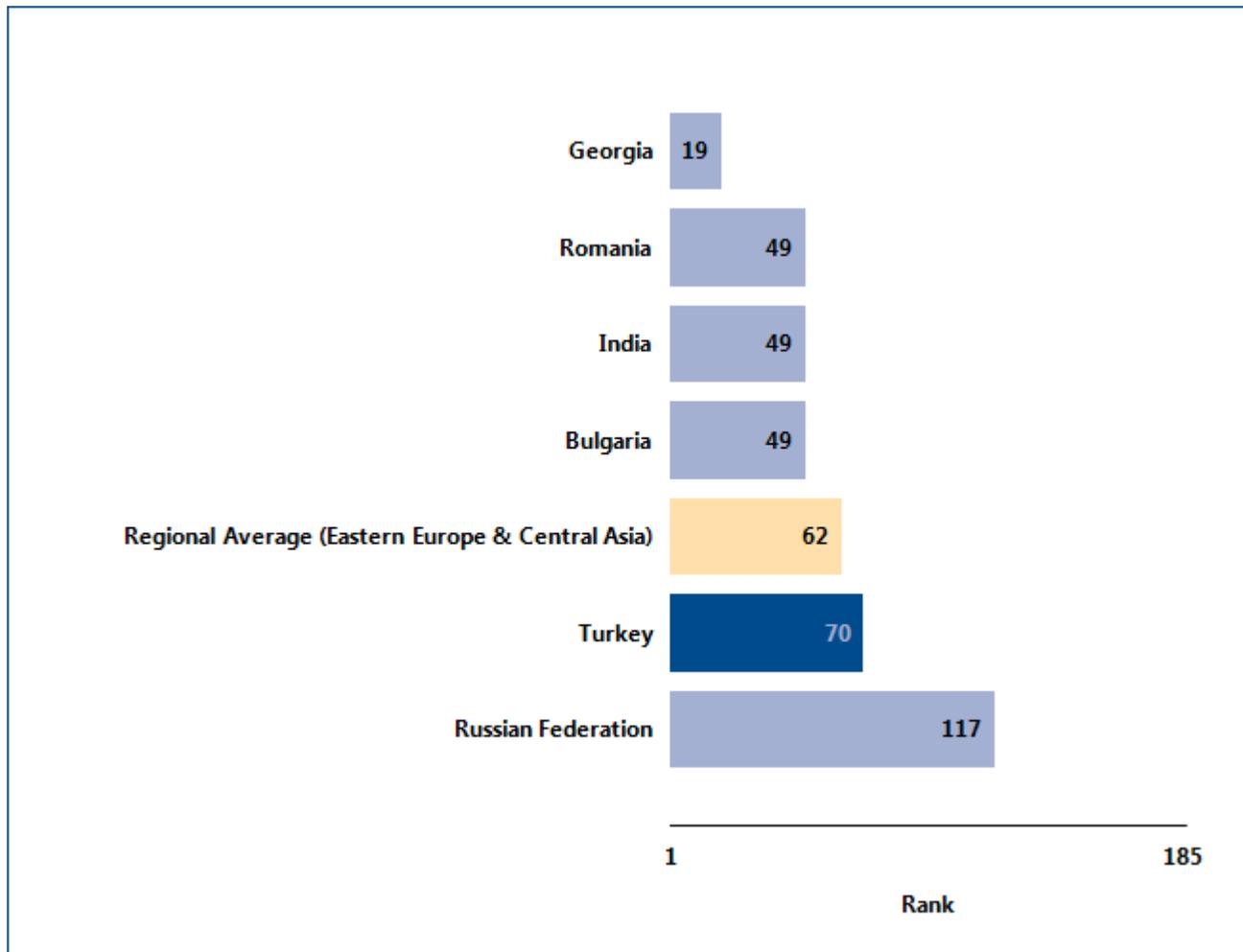
Where does the economy stand today?

How strong are investor protections in Turkey? The economy has a score of 5.7 on the strength of investor protection index, with a higher score indicating stronger protections (see the summary of scoring at the end of this chapter for details).

Globally, Turkey stands at 70 in the ranking of 185 economies on the strength of investor protection

index (figure 7.1). While the indicator does not measure all aspects related to the protection of minority investors, a higher ranking does indicate that an economy's regulations offer stronger investor protections against self-dealing in the areas measured.

Figure 7.1 How Turkey and comparator economies rank on the strength of investor protection index



Source: Doing Business database.

PROTECTING INVESTORS

What are the changes over time?

While the most recent *Doing Business* data reflect how well regulations in Turkey protect minority investors today, data over time show whether the protections have been strengthened (table 7.1). And the global

ranking on the strength of investor protection index over time shows whether the economy is slipping behind other economies in investor protections—or surpassing them.

Table 7.1 The strength of investor protections in Turkey over time
By *Doing Business* report year

Indicator	DB2006	DB2007	DB2008	DB2009	DB2010	DB2011	DB2012	DB2013
Rank	..	..	..	..	..	..	66	70
Extent of disclosure index (0-10)	8	8	8	9	9	9	9	9
Extent of director liability index (0-10)	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Ease of shareholder suits index (0-10)	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Strength of investor protection index (0-10)	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7

Note: n.a. = not applicable (the economy was not included in *Doing Business* for that year). DB2012 rankings shown are not last year's published rankings but comparable rankings for DB2012 that capture the effects of such factors as data corrections and the addition of 2 economies (Barbados and Malta) to the sample this year.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

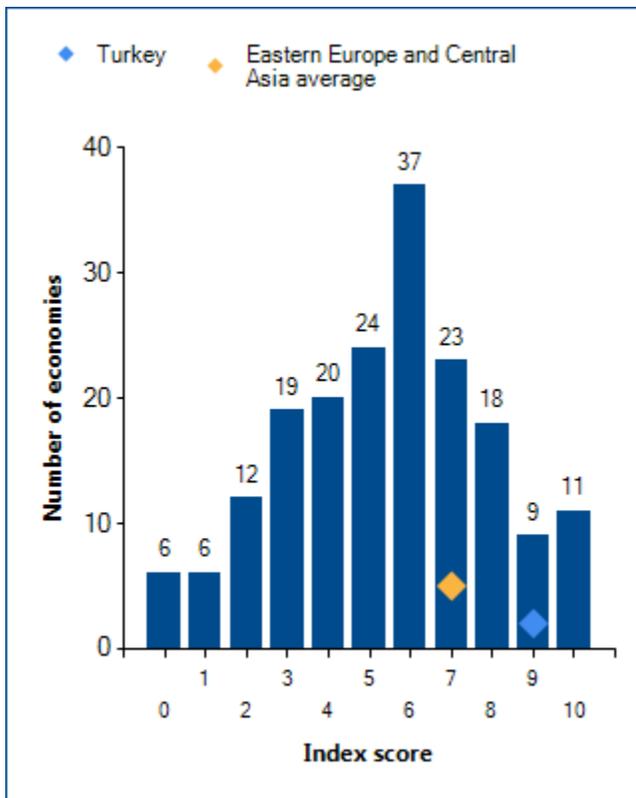
PROTECTING INVESTORS

One way to put an economy's scores on the protecting investors indicators into context is to see where the economy stands in the distribution of scores across economies. Figure 7.2 highlights the score on the extent of disclosure index for Turkey in 2012 and

shows the number of economies with this score in 2012 as well as the regional average score. Figure 7.3 shows the same thing for the extent of director liability index, and figure 7.4 for the ease of shareholder suits index.

Figure 7.2 How strong are disclosure requirements?

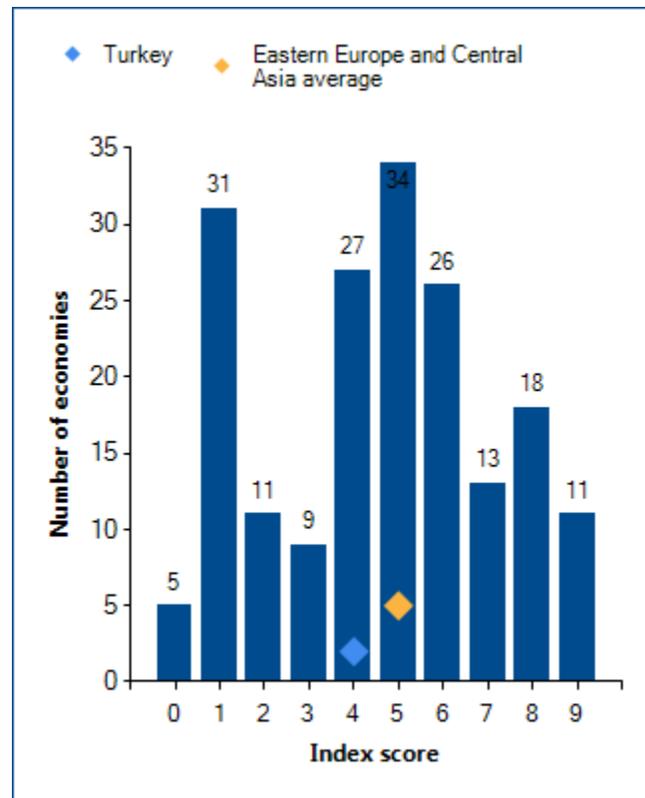
Number of economies with each score on extent of disclosure index (0–10), 2012



Note: Higher scores indicate greater disclosure.
Source: Doing Business database.

Figure 7.3 How strong is the liability regime for directors?

Number of economies with each score on extent of director liability index (0–10), 2012

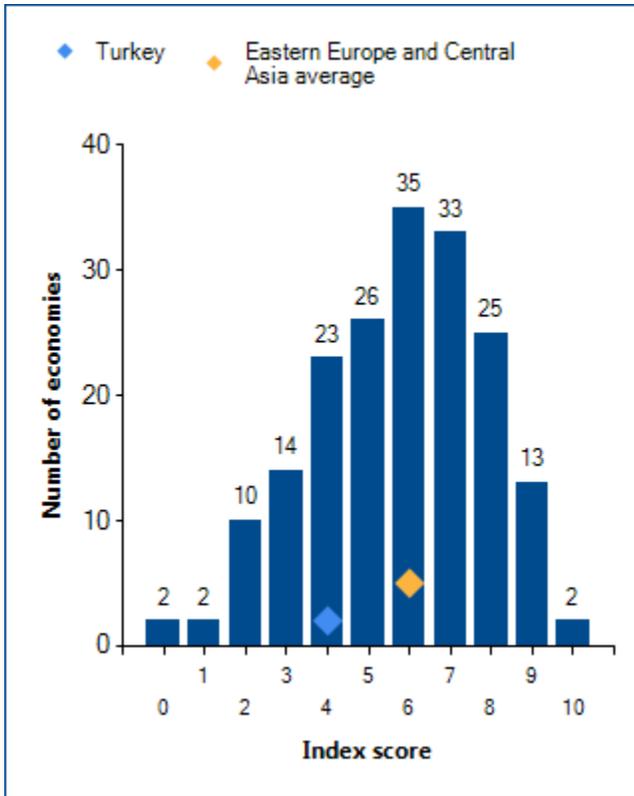


Note: Higher scores indicate greater liability of directors.
No economy receives a score of 10 on the extent of director liability index.
Source: Doing Business database.

PROTECTING INVESTORS

Figure 7.4 How easy is access to internal corporate documents?

Number of economies with each score on ease of shareholder suits index (0–10), 2012



Note: Higher scores indicate greater powers of shareholders to challenge the transaction.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

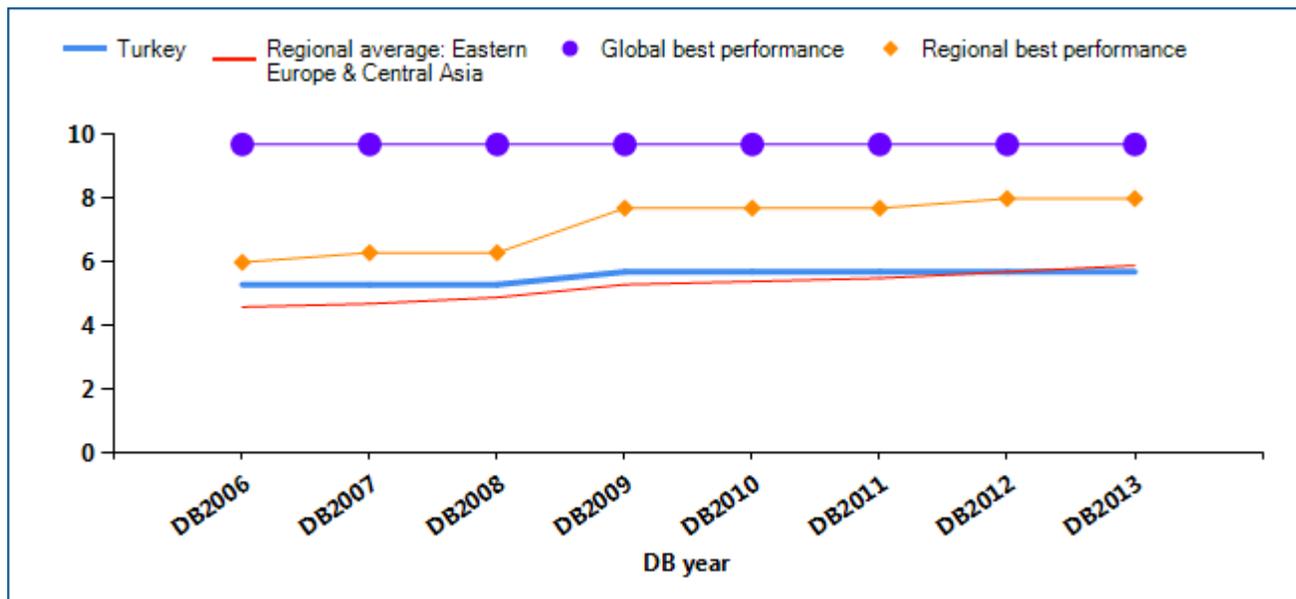
PROTECTING INVESTORS

The scores recorded over time for Turkey on the strength of investor protection index may also be revealing (figure 7.5). Equally interesting may be the

changes over time in the regional average score on this index.

Figure 7.5 Have investor protections become stronger over time?

Strength of investor protection index (0–10)



Note: The higher the score, the stronger the investor protections.

Source: Doing Business database.

PROTECTING INVESTORS

Economies with the strongest protections of minority investors from self-dealing require more disclosure and define clear duties for directors. They also have well-functioning courts and up-to-date procedural rules that give minority investors the means to prove their case and obtain a judgment within a reasonable

time. So reforms to strengthen investor protections may move ahead on different fronts—such as through new or amended company laws or civil procedure rules. What investor protection reforms has *Doing Business* recorded in Turkey (table 7.2)?

Table 7.2 How has Turkey strengthened investor protections—or not?
By *Doing Business* report year

DB year	Reform
DB2008	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2009	Turkey strengthened investor protections by requiring that an independent body (auditor) assess transactions between interested parties as a prior step to approval.
DB2010	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2011	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2012	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2013	No reform as measured by Doing Business.

Note: For information on reforms in earlier years (back to DB2006), see the *Doing Business* reports for these years, available at <http://www.doingbusiness.org>.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

PROTECTING INVESTORS

What are the details?

The protecting investors indicators reported here for Turkey are based on detailed information collected through a survey of corporate and securities lawyers as well as on securities regulations, company laws and court rules of evidence. To construct the extent of disclosure, extent of director liability and ease of

shareholder suits indices, a score is assigned for each of a range of conditions relating to disclosure, director liability and shareholder suits in a standard case study transaction (see the notes at the end of this chapter). The summary below shows the details underlying the scores for Turkey.

Summary of scoring for the protecting investors indicators in Turkey

Indicator	Turkey	Eastern Europe & Central Asia average	OECD high income average
Extent of disclosure index (0-10)	9	7	6
Extent of director liability index (0-10)	4	5	5
Ease of shareholder suits index (0-10)	4	6	7
Strength of investor protection index (0-10)	5.7	5.9	6.1

Note: In cases where an economy's regional classification is "OECD high income," regional averages above are only displayed once.

	Score	Score description
Extent of disclosure index (0-10)	9	
What corporate body provides legally sufficient approval for the transaction?	2	Board of directors and Mr. James is not allowed to vote
Whether disclosure of the conflict of interest by Mr. James to the board of directors is required?	2	Full disclosure of all material facts
Whether immediate disclosure of the transaction to the public and/or shareholders is required?	2	Disclosure on the transaction and Mr. James' conflict of interest
Whether disclosure of the transaction in published periodic filings (annual reports) is required?	2	Disclosure on the transaction and Mr. James' conflict of interest
Whether an external body must review the terms of the transaction before it takes place?	1	Yes
Extent of director liability index (0-10)	4	
Whether shareholders can sue directly or derivatively for the damage that the Buyer-Seller transaction causes to the company?	1	Yes

	Score	Score description
Whether shareholders can hold Mr. James liable for the damage that the Buyer-Seller transaction causes to the company?	1	Liable for negligence or influencing the approval of the transaction
Whether shareholders can hold members of the approving body liable for the damage that the Buyer-Seller transaction causes to the company?	1	Liable for negligence
Whether a court can void the transaction upon a successful claim by a shareholder plaintiff?	0	Not possible or only in case of Seller's fraud or bad faith
Whether Mr. James pays damages for the harm caused to the company upon a successful claim by the shareholder plaintiff?	1	Yes
Whether Mr. James repays profits made from the transaction upon a successful claim by the shareholder plaintiff?	0	No
Whether fines and imprisonment can be applied against Mr. James?	0	No
Ease of shareholder suits index (0-10)	4	
Whether shareholders owning 10% or less of Buyer's shares can inspect transaction documents before filing suit?	0	No
Whether shareholders owning 10% or less of Buyer's shares can request an inspector to investigate the transaction?	0	No
Whether the plaintiff can obtain any documents from the defendant and witnesses during trial?	3	Any information that is relevant to the subject matter of the claim
Whether the plaintiff can request categories of documents from the defendant without identifying specific ones?	1	Yes
Whether the plaintiff can directly question the defendant and witnesses during trial?	0	No
Whether the level of proof required for civil suits is lower than that of criminal cases?	0	No
Strength of investor protection index (0-10)	5.7	

Source: *Doing Business* database.

PAYING TAXES

Taxes are essential. They fund the public amenities, infrastructure and services that are crucial for a properly functioning economy. But the level of tax rates needs to be carefully chosen—and needless complexity in tax rules avoided. According to *Doing Business* data, in economies where it is more difficult and costly to pay taxes, larger shares of economic activity end up in the informal sector—where businesses pay no taxes at all.

What do the indicators cover?

Using a case scenario, *Doing Business* measures the taxes and mandatory contributions that a medium-size company must pay in a given year as well as the administrative burden of paying taxes and contributions. This case scenario uses a set of financial statements and assumptions about transactions made over the year. Information is also compiled on the frequency of filing and payments as well as time taken to comply with tax laws. The ranking on the ease of paying taxes is the simple average of the percentile rankings on its component indicators: number of annual payments, time and total tax rate, with a threshold being applied to the total tax rate.¹ To make the data comparable across economies, several assumptions about the business and the taxes and contributions are used.

- TaxpayerCo is a medium-size business that started operations on January 1, 2010.
- The business starts from the same financial position in each economy. All the taxes and mandatory contributions paid during the second year of operation are recorded.
- Taxes and mandatory contributions are measured at all levels of government.

WHAT THE PAYING TAXES INDICATORS MEASURE

Tax payments for a manufacturing company in 2011 (number per year adjusted for electronic or joint filing and payment)

Total number of taxes and contributions paid, including consumption taxes (value added tax, sales tax or goods and service tax)

Method and frequency of filing and payment

Time required to comply with 3 major taxes (hours per year)

Collecting information and computing the tax payable

Completing tax return forms, filing with proper agencies

Arranging payment or withholding

Preparing separate tax accounting books, if required

Total tax rate (% of profit before all taxes)

Profit or corporate income tax

Social contributions and labor taxes paid by the employer

Property and property transfer taxes

Dividend, capital gains and financial transactions taxes

Waste collection, vehicle, road and other taxes

- Taxes and mandatory contributions include corporate income tax, turnover tax and all labor taxes and contributions paid by the company.
- A range of standard deductions and exemptions are also recorded.

¹ The threshold is defined as the highest total tax rate among the top 15% of economies in the ranking on the total tax rate. It is calculated and adjusted on a yearly basis. The threshold is not based on any economic theory of an "optimal tax rate" that minimizes distortions or maximizes efficiency in the tax system of an economy overall. Instead, it is mainly empirical in nature, set at the lower end of the distribution of tax rates levied on medium-size enterprises in the manufacturing sector as observed through the paying taxes indicators. This reduces the bias in the indicators toward economies that do not need to levy significant taxes on companies like the *Doing Business* standardized case study company because they raise public revenue in other ways—for example, through taxes on foreign companies, through taxes on sectors other than manufacturing or from natural resources (all of which are outside the scope of the methodology). This year's threshold is 25.7%.

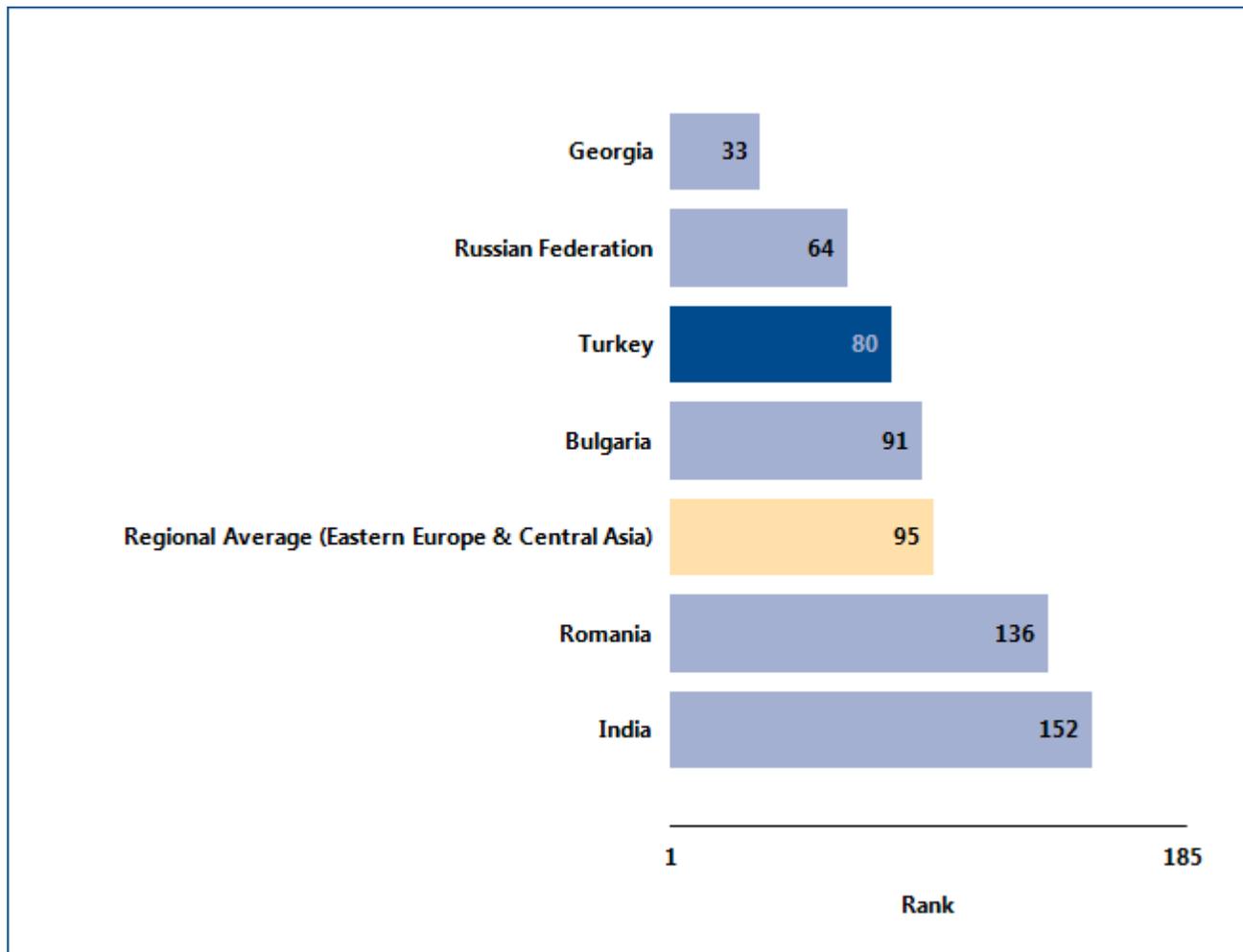
PAYING TAXES

Where does the economy stand today?

What is the administrative burden of complying with taxes in Turkey—and how much do firms pay in taxes? On average, firms make 15 tax payments a year, spend 223 hours a year filing, preparing and paying taxes and pay total taxes amounting to 41.2% of profit (see the summary at the end of this chapter for details).

Globally, Turkey stands at 80 in the ranking of 185 economies on the ease of paying taxes (figure 8.1). The rankings for comparator economies and the regional average ranking provide other useful information for assessing the tax compliance burden for businesses in Turkey.

Figure 8.1 How Turkey and comparator economies rank on the ease of paying taxes



Note: DB2013 rankings reflect changes to the methodology. For all economies with a total tax rate below the threshold of 25.7% applied in DB2013, the total tax rate is set at 25.7% for the purpose of calculating the ranking on the ease of paying taxes.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

PAYING TAXES

What are the changes over time?

While the most recent *Doing Business* data reflect how easy (or difficult) it is to comply with tax rules in Turkey today, data over time show which aspects of the

process have changed — and which have not (table 8.1). That can help identify where the potential for easing tax compliance is greatest.

Table 8.1 The ease of paying taxes in Turkey over time
By *Doing Business* report year

Indicator	DB2006	DB2007	DB2008	DB2009	DB2010	DB2011	DB2012	DB2013
Rank	..	..	..	..	..	..	74	80
Payments (number per year)	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Time (hours per year)	254	254	223	223	223	223	223	223
Total tax rate (% profit)	53.0	53.0	45.1	45.5	44.5	44.5	41.1	41.2

Note: n.a. = not applicable (the economy was not included in *Doing Business* for that year). DB2012 rankings shown are not last year's published rankings but comparable rankings for DB2012 that capture the effects of such factors as data corrections and the addition of 2 economies (Barbados and Malta) to the sample this year. DB2013 rankings reflect changes to the methodology. For all economies with a total tax rate below the threshold of 25.7% applied in DB2013, the total tax rate is set at 25.7% for the purpose of calculating the ranking on the ease of paying taxes.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

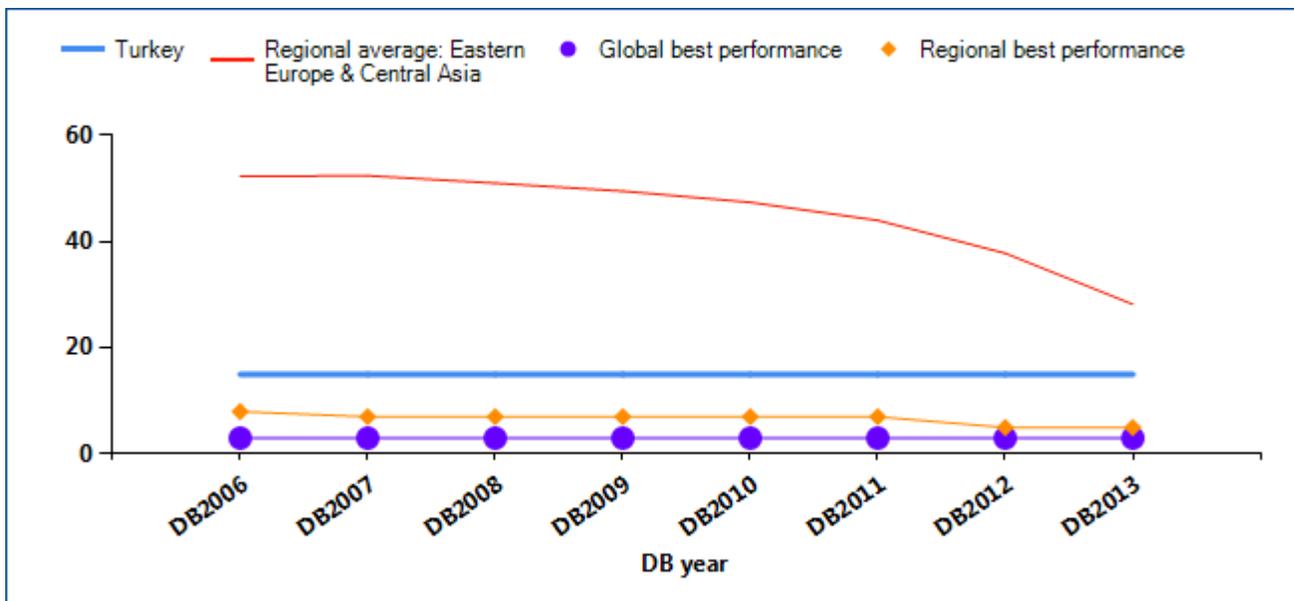
PAYING TAXES

Equally helpful may be the benchmarks provided by the economies that over time have had the best performance regionally or globally on the number of payments or the time required to prepare and file taxes (figure 8.2). These benchmarks help show what is

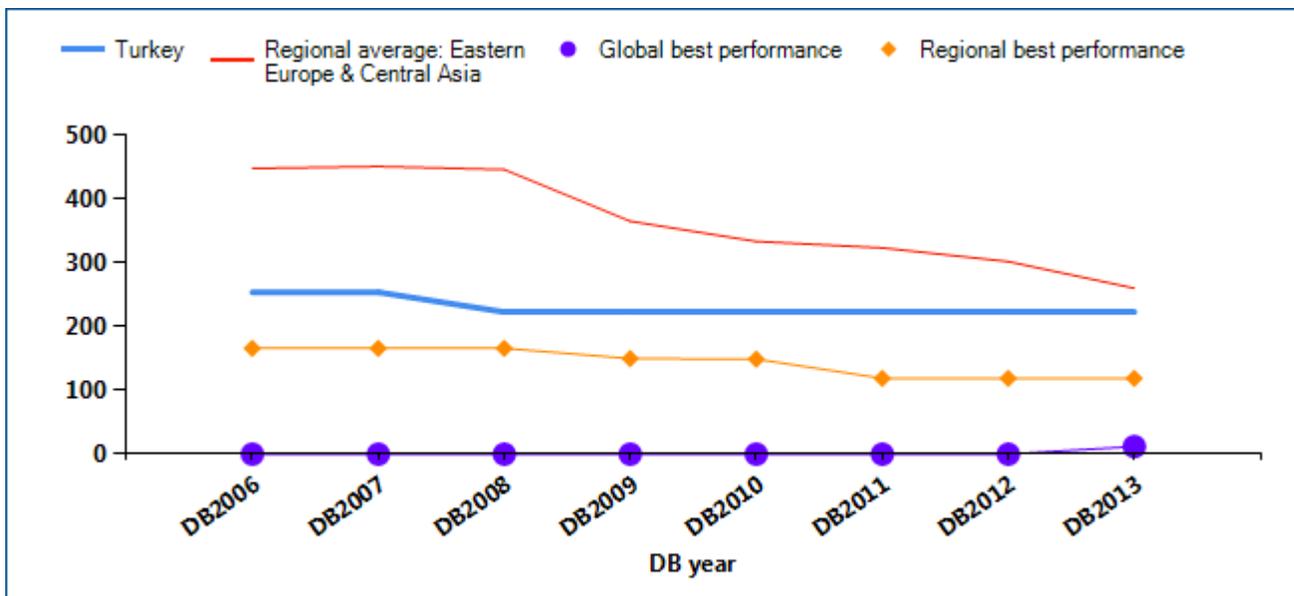
possible in easing the administrative burden of tax compliance. And changes in regional averages can show where Turkey is keeping up—and where it is falling behind.

Figure 8.2 Has paying taxes become easier over time?

Payments (number per year)

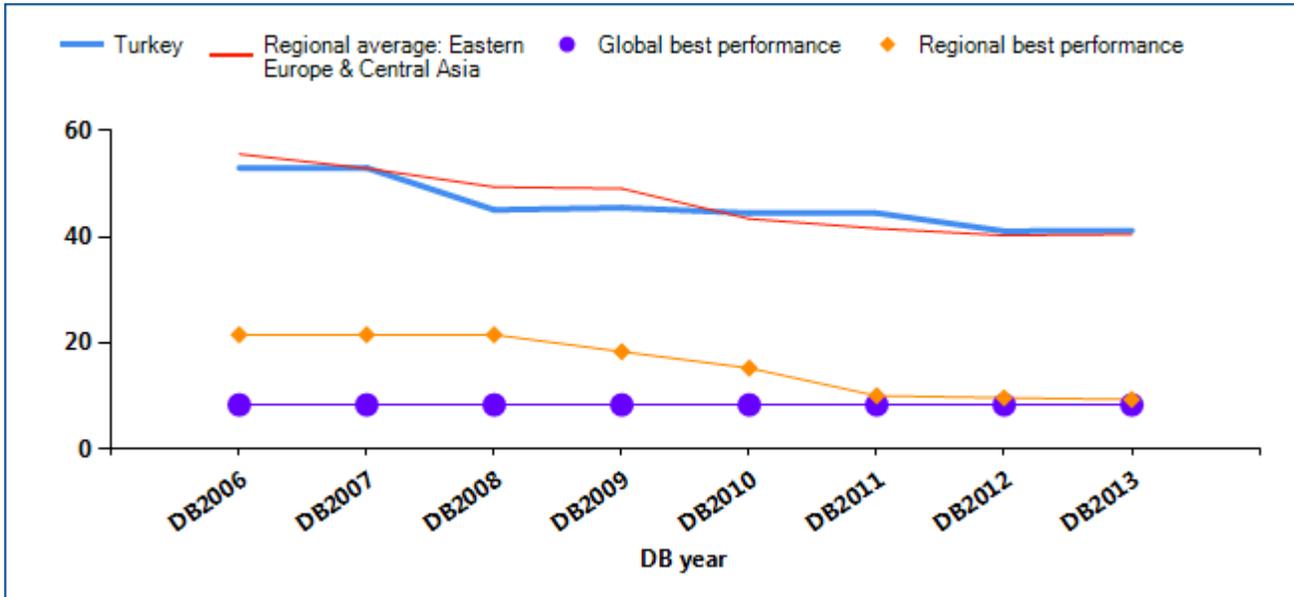


Time (hours per year)



PAYING TAXES

Total tax rate (% of profit)



Source: Doing Business database.

PAYING TAXES

Economies around the world have made paying taxes faster and easier for businesses—such as by consolidating filings, reducing the frequency of payments or offering electronic filing and payment. Many have lowered tax rates. Changes have brought

concrete results. Some economies simplifying tax payment and reducing rates have seen tax revenue rise. What tax reforms has *Doing Business* recorded in Turkey (table 8.2)?

Table 8.2 How has Turkey made paying taxes easier—or not?
By *Doing Business* report year

DB year	Reform
DB2008	Turkey reduced the tax burden for companies by reducing the CIT and the tax on interest rate.
DB2009	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2010	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2011	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2012	Turkey lowered the social security contribution rate for companies by offering them a 5% rebate
DB2013	No reform as measured by Doing Business.

Note: For information on reforms in earlier years (back to DB2006), see the *Doing Business* reports for these years, available at <http://www.doingbusiness.org>.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

PAYING TAXES

What are the details?

The indicators reported here for Turkey are based on a standard set of taxes and contributions that would be paid by the case study company used by *Doing Business* in collecting the data (see the section in this chapter on what the indicators cover). Tax practitioners are asked to review standard financial statements as well as a standard list of transactions that the company completed during the year. Respondents are asked how much in taxes and mandatory contributions the business must pay and what the process is for doing so.

LOCATION OF STANDARDIZED COMPANY

City: Istanbul

The taxes and contributions paid are listed in the summary below, along with the associated number of payments, time and tax rate.

Summary of tax rates and administrative burden in Turkey

Indicator	Turkey	Eastern Europe & Central Asia average	OECD high income average
Payments (number per year)	15	28	12
Time (hours per year)	223	260	176
Profit tax (%)	17.9	9.1	15.2
Labor tax and contributions (%)	18.8	22.1	23.8
Other taxes (%)	4.5	9.3	3.7
Total tax rate (% profit)	41.2	40.5	42.7

Note: In cases where an economy's regional classification is "OECD high income," regional averages above are only displayed once.

Tax or mandatory contribution	Payments (number)	Notes on payments	Time (hours)	Statutory tax rate	Tax base	Total tax rate (% of profit)	Notes on total tax rate
Corporate income tax	1	online filing	46	20%	taxable profit	17.9	
Employer paid - Social security contributions	1	online filing	80	14%	gross salaries	16.5	
Employer paid - Unemployment insurance contributions	0	paid jointly	0	2%	gross salaries	2.3	

Tax or mandatory contribution	Payments (number)	Notes on payments	Time (hours)	Statutory tax rate	Tax base	Total tax rate (% of profit)	Notes on total tax rate
Fuel tax	1		0	included in fuel price		1.4	
Property transfer fee	1		0	2%	sale price	1	
Property tax	2		0	0.2% and 0.3% (doubled in Istanbul)	value of building and land (reevaluated each year)	0.9	
Stamp duty on property sale	1		0	1%	sale price	0.5	
Vehicle tax	1		0	TRY 1,894	fixed fee	0.5	
Transaction tax on checks	1		0	TRY 3.30 per check	number of checks	0.2	
Environment tax	2		0	varies between TRY 21 to TRY 2.500		0.1	
Stamp duty on contracts	1		0	1%	transaction value	0	small amount
Value added tax (VAT)	1	online filing	97	general rate is 18% but varies between 1%-18%	value added	0	not included
Advertising tax	2		0	various rates	advertising expense	0	small amount
Totals	15		223			41.2	

Source: Doing Business database.

TRADING ACROSS BORDERS

In today's globalized world, making trade between economies easier is increasingly important for business. Excessive document requirements, burdensome customs procedures, inefficient port operations and inadequate infrastructure all lead to extra costs and delays for exporters and importers, stifling trade potential. Research shows that exporters in developing countries gain more from a 10% drop in their trading costs than from a similar reduction in the tariffs applied to their products in global markets.

What do the indicators cover?

Doing Business measures the time and cost (excluding tariffs and the time and cost for sea transport) associated with exporting and importing a standard shipment of goods by sea transport, and the number of documents necessary to complete the transaction. The indicators cover procedural requirements such as documentation requirements and procedures at customs and other regulatory agencies as well as at the port. They also cover trade logistics, including the time and cost of inland transport to the largest business city. The ranking on the ease of trading across borders is the simple average of the percentile rankings on its component indicators: documents, time and cost to export and import.

To make the data comparable across economies, *Doing Business* uses several assumptions about the business and the traded goods.

The business:

- Is of medium size and employs 60 people.
- Is located in the periurban area of the economy's largest business city.
- Is a private, limited liability company, domestically owned, formally registered and operating under commercial laws and regulations of the economy.

The traded goods:

- Are not hazardous nor do they include military items.

WHAT THE TRADING ACROSS BORDERS INDICATORS MEASURE

Documents required to export and import (number)

- Bank documents
- Customs clearance documents
- Port and terminal handling documents
- Transport documents

Time required to export and import (days)

- Obtaining, filling out and submitting all the documents
- Inland transport and handling
- Customs clearance and inspections
- Port and terminal handling
- Does not include sea transport time

Cost required to export and import (US\$ per container)

- All documentation
- Inland transport and handling
- Customs clearance and inspections
- Port and terminal handling
- Official costs only, no bribes

- Do not require refrigeration or any other special environment.
- Do not require any special phytosanitary or environmental safety standards other than accepted international standards.
- Are one of the economy's leading export or import products.
- Are transported in a dry-cargo, 20-foot full container load.

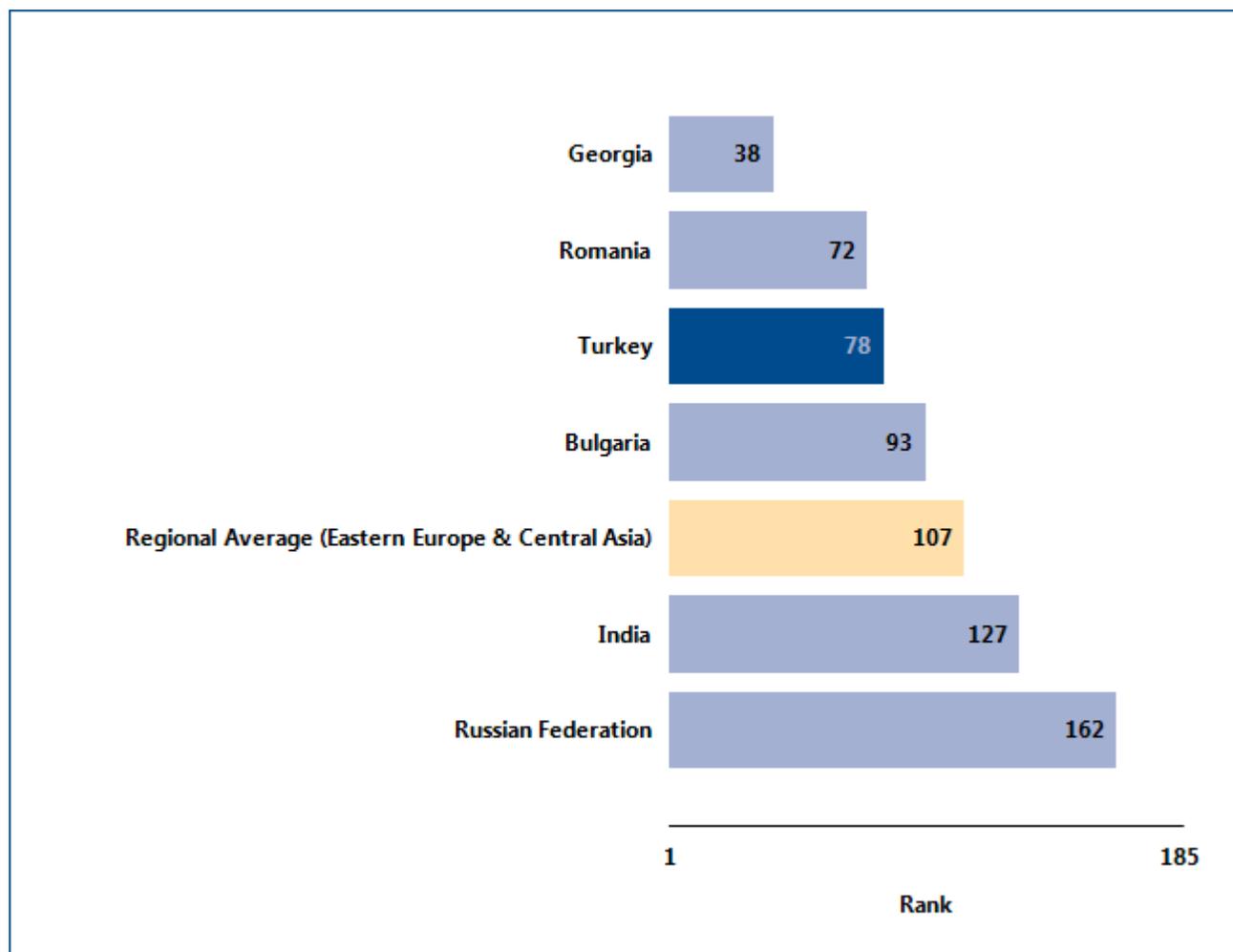
TRADING ACROSS BORDERS

Where does the economy stand today?

What does it take to export or import in Turkey? According to data collected by *Doing Business*, exporting a standard container of goods requires 7 documents, takes 13 days and costs \$990. Importing the same container of goods requires 7 documents, takes 14 days and costs \$1235 (see the summary of procedures and documents at the end of this chapter for details).

Globally, Turkey stands at 78 in the ranking of 185 economies on the ease of trading across borders (figure 9.1). The rankings for comparator economies and the regional average ranking provide other useful information for assessing how easy it is for a business in Turkey to export and import goods.

Figure 9.1 How Turkey and comparator economies rank on the ease of trading across borders



Source: *Doing Business* database.

TRADING ACROSS BORDERS

What are the changes over time?

While the most recent *Doing Business* data reflect how easy (or difficult) it is to export or import in Turkey today, data over time show which aspects of the

process have changed—and which have not (table 9.1). That can help identify where the potential for improvement is greatest.

Table 9.1 The ease of trading across borders in Turkey over time
By *Doing Business* report year

Indicator	DB2006	DB2007	DB2008	DB2009	DB2010	DB2011	DB2012	DB2013
Rank	..	..	..	..	..	..	73	78
Documents to export (number)	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7
Time to export (days)	20	20	14	14	13	13	13	13
Cost to export (US\$ per container)	713	713	865	940	990	990	990	990
Documents to import (number)	12	12	7	7	7	7	7	7
Time to import (days)	25	25	15	15	14	14	14	14
Cost to import (US\$ per container)	935	935	1,013	1,063	1,063	1,063	1,063	1,235

Note: n.a. = not applicable (the economy was not included in *Doing Business* for that year). DB2012 rankings shown are not last year's published rankings but comparable rankings for DB2012 that capture the effects of such factors as data corrections and the addition of 2 economies (Barbados and Malta) to the sample this year.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

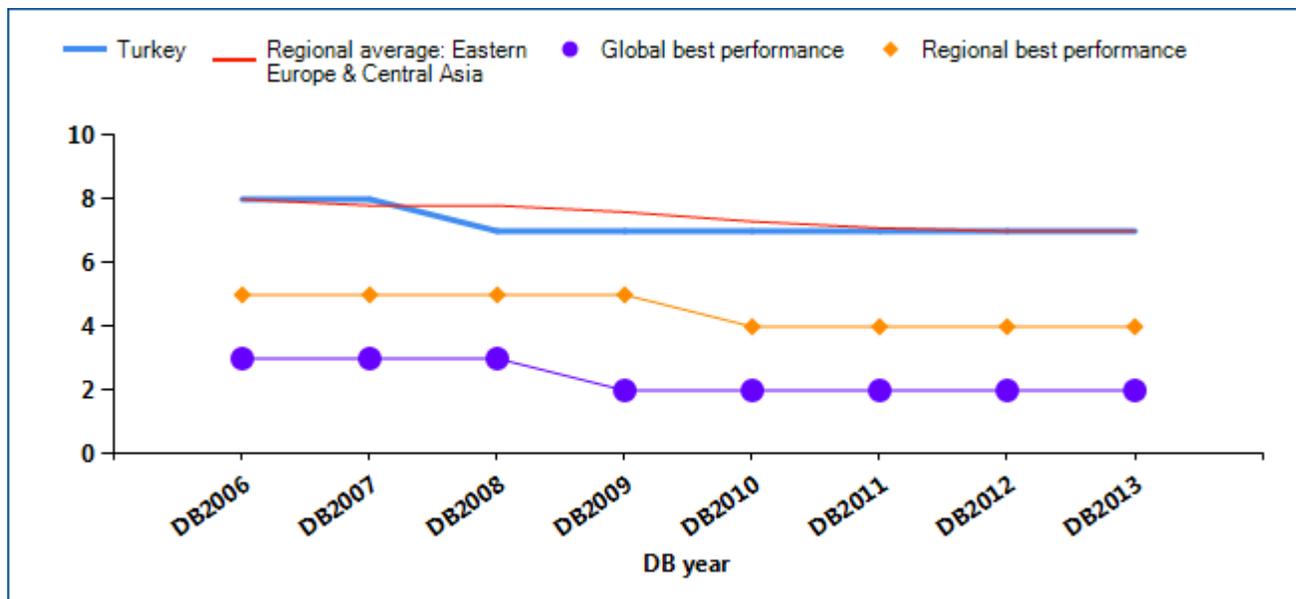
TRADING ACROSS BORDERS

Equally helpful may be the benchmarks provided by the economies that over time have had the best performance regionally or globally on the documents, time or cost required to export or import (figure 9.2).

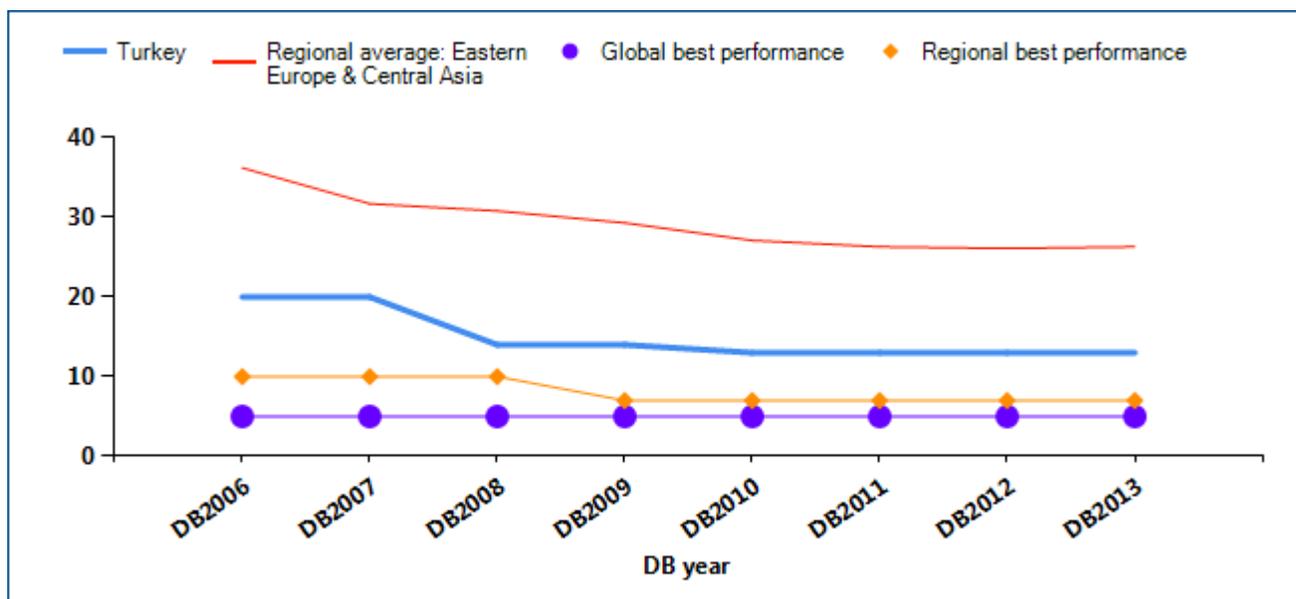
These benchmarks help show what is possible in making it easier to trade across borders. And changes in regional averages can show where Turkey is keeping up—and where it is falling behind.

Figure 9.2 Has trading across borders become easier over time?

Documents to export (number)

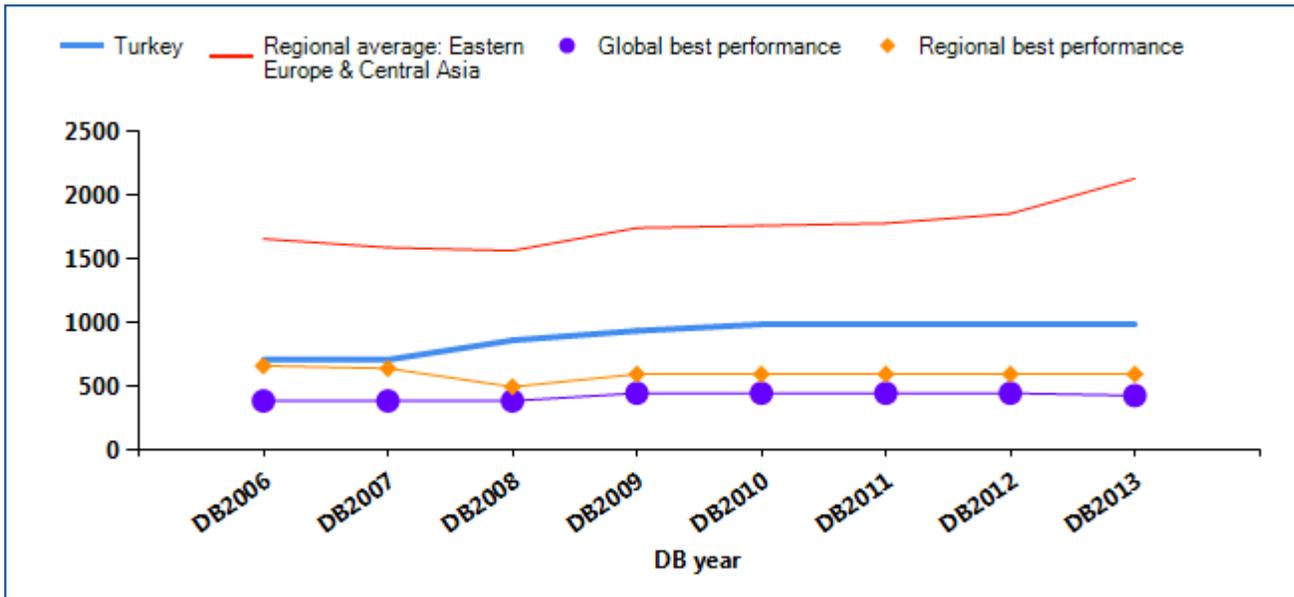


Time to export (days)

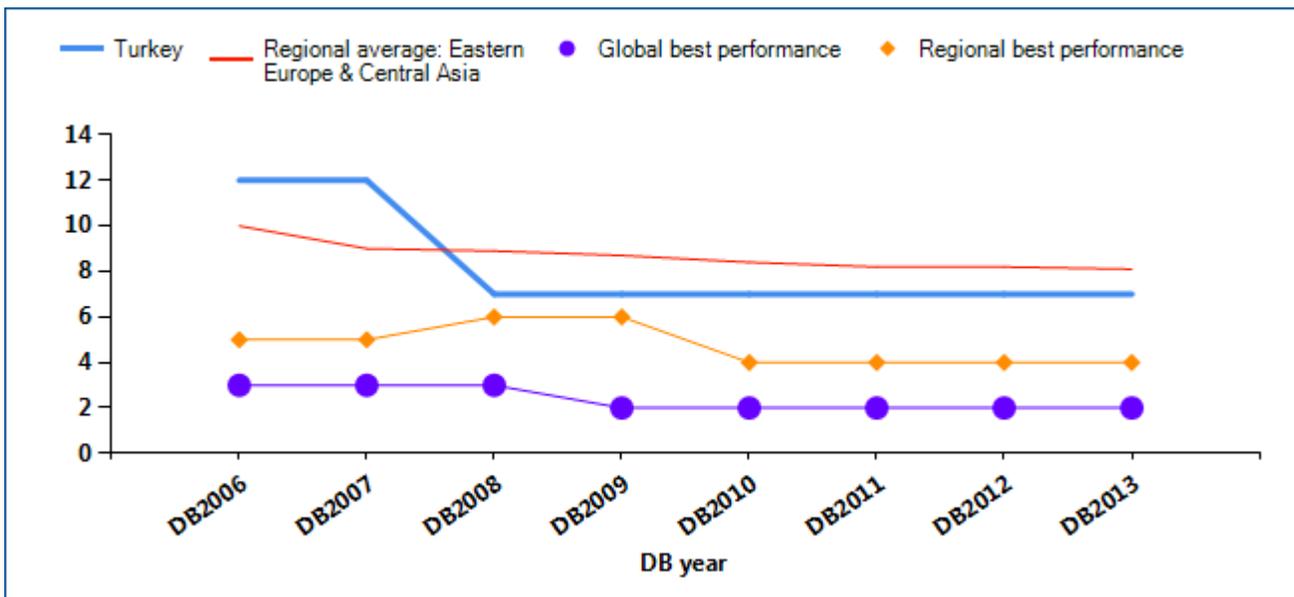


TRADING ACROSS BORDERS

Cost to export (US\$ per container)

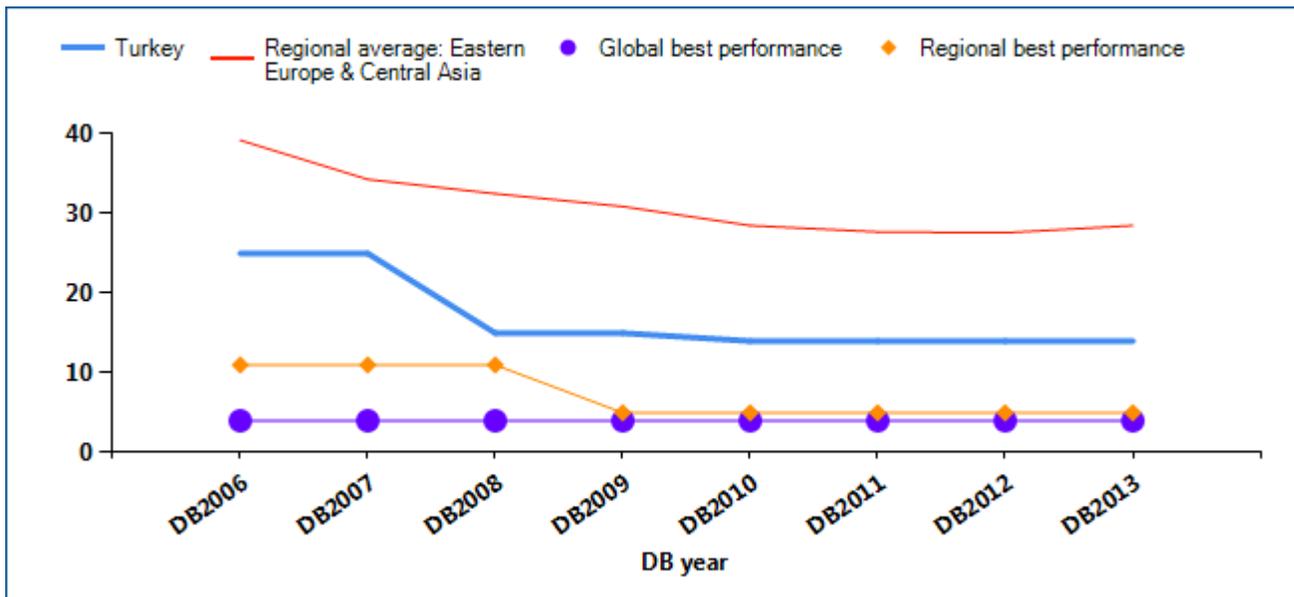


Documents to import (number)

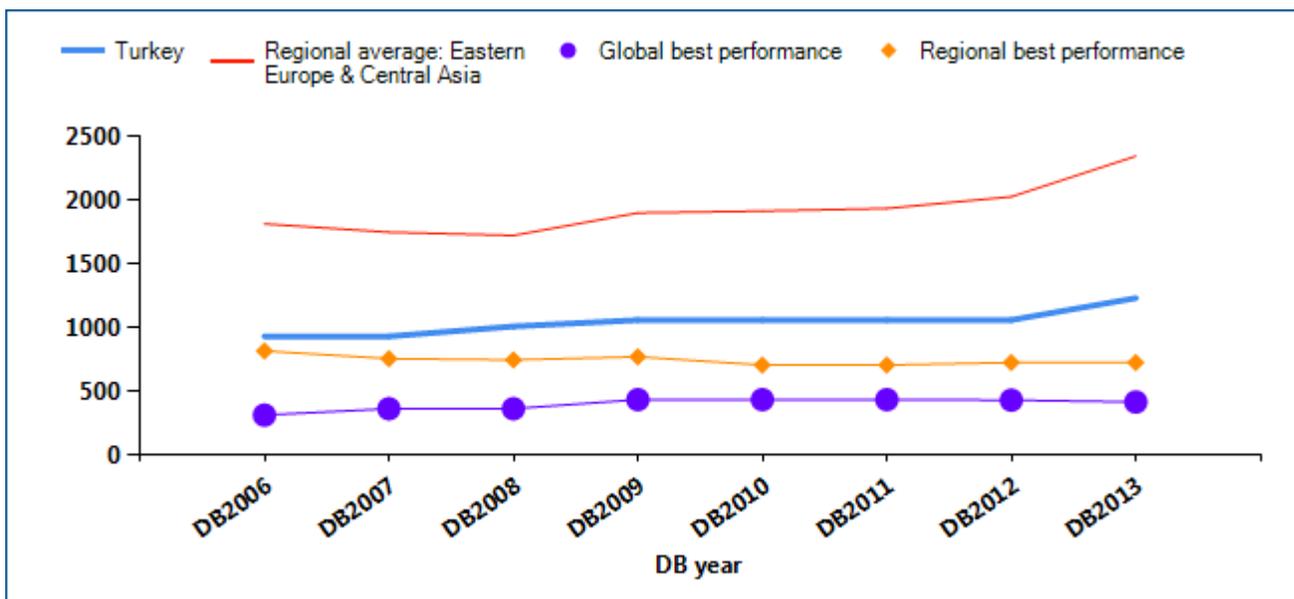


TRADING ACROSS BORDERS

Time to import (days)



Cost to import (US\$ per container)



Source: Doing Business database.

TRADING ACROSS BORDERS

In economies around the world, trading across borders as measured by *Doing Business* has become faster and easier over the years. Governments have introduced tools to facilitate trade—including single windows, risk-based inspections and electronic data interchange

systems. These changes help improve the trading environment and boost firms' international competitiveness. What trade reforms has *Doing Business* recorded in Turkey (table 9.2)?

Table 9.2 How has Turkey made trading across borders easier—or not?
By *Doing Business* report year

DB year	Reform
DB2008	Turkey eased trade by introducing an Electronic Data Interchange, improving IT infrastructure and training of some 2500 customs officers and 14,000 traders. These developments took place due to Customs Modernization Project.
DB2009	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2010	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2011	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2012	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2013	No reform as measured by Doing Business.

Note: For information on reforms in earlier years (back to DB2006), see the *Doing Business* reports for these years, available at <http://www.doingbusiness.org>.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

TRADING ACROSS BORDERS

What are the details?

The indicators reported here for Turkey are based on a set of specific procedural requirements for trading a standard shipment of goods by ocean transport (see the section in this chapter on what the indicators cover). Information on the procedures as well as the required documents and the time and cost to complete each procedure is collected from local freight forwarders, shipping lines, customs brokers, port officials and banks.

LOCATION OF STANDARDIZED COMPANY

City: Istanbul

The procedural requirements, and the associated time and cost, for exporting and importing a standard shipment of goods are listed in the summary below, along with the required documents.

Summary of procedures and documents for trading across borders in Turkey

Indicator	Turkey	Eastern Europe & Central Asia average	OECD high income average
Documents to export (number)	7	7	4
Time to export (days)	13	26	10
Cost to export (US\$ per container)	990	2,134	1,028
Documents to import (number)	7	8	5
Time to import (days)	14	29	10
Cost to import (US\$ per container)	1,235	2,349	1,080

Note: In cases where an economy's regional classification is "OECD high income," regional averages above are only displayed once.

Procedures to export	Time (days)	Cost (US\$)
Documents preparation	6	220
Customs clearance and technical control	2	200
Ports and terminal handling	3	270
Inland transportation and handling	2	300
Totals	13	990

Procedures to import	Time (days)	Cost (US\$)
Documents preparation	8	280

Procedures to import	Time (days)	Cost (US\$)
Customs clearance and technical control	2	200
Ports and terminal handling	3	355
Inland transportation and handling	1	400
Totals	14	1,235

Documents to export
Bill of Lading
Certificate of Origin
Commercial invoice
Customs export declaration
Packing list
Technical standard certificate
Terminal handling receipts

Documents to import
Bill of Lading
Cargo release order
Certificate of Origin
Commercial invoice
Customs import declaration
Technical standard certificate
Terminal handling receipts

Source: Doing Business database.

ENFORCING CONTRACTS

Well-functioning courts help businesses expand their network and markets. Without effective contract enforcement, people might well do business only with family, friends and others with whom they have established relationships. Where contract enforcement is efficient, firms are more likely to engage with new borrowers or customers, and they have greater access to credit.

What do the indicators cover?

Doing Business measures the efficiency of the judicial system in resolving a commercial dispute before local courts. Following the step-by-step evolution of a standardized case study, it collects data relating to the time, cost and procedural complexity of resolving a commercial lawsuit. The ranking on the ease of enforcing contracts is the simple average of the percentile rankings on its component indicators: procedures, time and cost.

The dispute in the case study involves the breach of a sales contract between 2 domestic businesses. The case study assumes that the court hears an expert on the quality of the goods in dispute. This distinguishes the case from simple debt enforcement. To make the data comparable across economies, *Doing Business* uses several assumptions about the case:

- The seller and buyer are located in the economy's largest business city.
- The buyer orders custom-made goods, then fails to pay.
- The seller sues the buyer before a competent court.
- The value of the claim is 200% of income per capita.
- The seller requests a pretrial attachment to secure the claim.

WHAT THE ENFORCING CONTRACTS

INDICATORS MEASURE

Procedures to enforce a contract through the courts (number)

Any interaction between the parties in a commercial dispute, or between them and the judge or court officer

Steps to file and serve the case

Steps for trial and judgment

Steps to enforce the judgment

Time required to complete procedures (calendar days)

Time to file and serve the case

Time for trial and obtaining judgment

Time to enforce the judgment

Cost required to complete procedures (% of claim)

No bribes

Average attorney fees

Court costs

Enforcement costs

- The dispute on the quality of the goods requires an expert opinion.
- The judge decides in favor of the seller; there is no appeal.
- The seller enforces the judgment through a public sale of the buyer's movable assets.

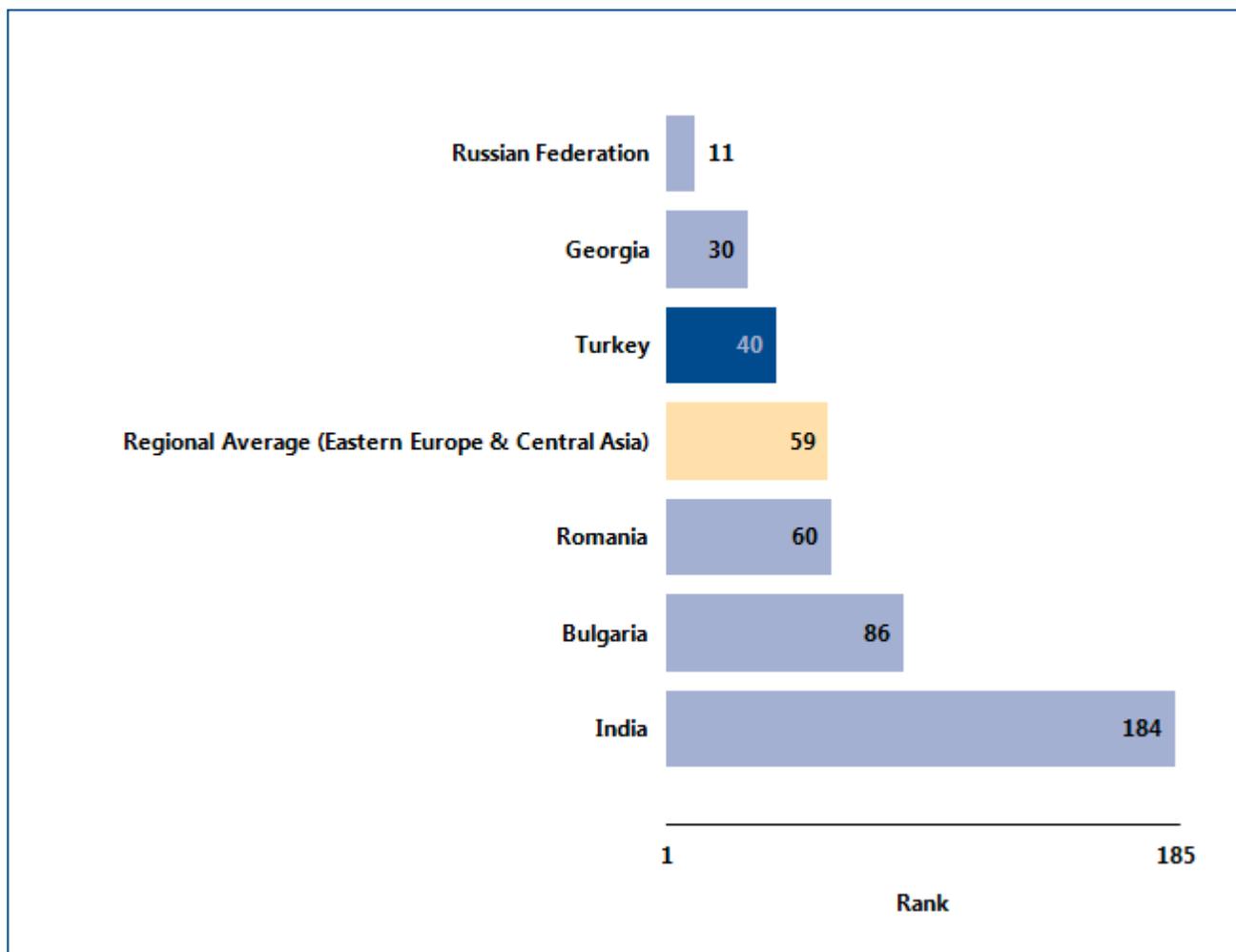
ENFORCING CONTRACTS

Where does the economy stand today?

How efficient is the process of resolving a commercial dispute through the courts in Turkey? According to data collected by *Doing Business*, enforcing a contract takes 420 days, costs 24.9% of the value of the claim and requires 36 procedures (see the summary at the end of this chapter for details).

Globally, Turkey stands at 40 in the ranking of 185 economies on the ease of enforcing contracts (figure 10.1). The rankings for comparator economies and the regional average ranking provide other useful benchmarks for assessing the efficiency of contract enforcement in Turkey.

Figure 10.1 How Turkey and comparator economies rank on the ease of enforcing contracts



Source: *Doing Business* database.

ENFORCING CONTRACTS

What are the changes over time?

While the most recent *Doing Business* data reflect how easy (or difficult) it is to enforce a contract in Turkey today, data on the underlying indicators over time help

identify which areas have changed and where the potential for improvement is greatest (table 10.1).

Table 10.1 The ease of enforcing contracts in Turkey over time
By *Doing Business* report year

Indicator	DB2004	DB2005	DB2006	DB2007	DB2008	DB2009	DB2010	DB2011	DB2012	DB2013
Rank	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	52	40
Time (days)	420	420	420	420	420	420	420	420	420	420
Cost (% of claim)	27.3	27.3	27.3	27.3	27.3	27.3	27.3	27.9	27.9	24.9
Procedures (number)	37	37	37	37	37	36	36	36	36	36

Note: n.a. = not applicable (the economy was not included in *Doing Business* for that year). DB2012 rankings shown are not last year's published rankings but comparable rankings for DB2012 that capture the effects of such factors as data corrections and the addition of 2 economies (Barbados and Malta) to the sample this year.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

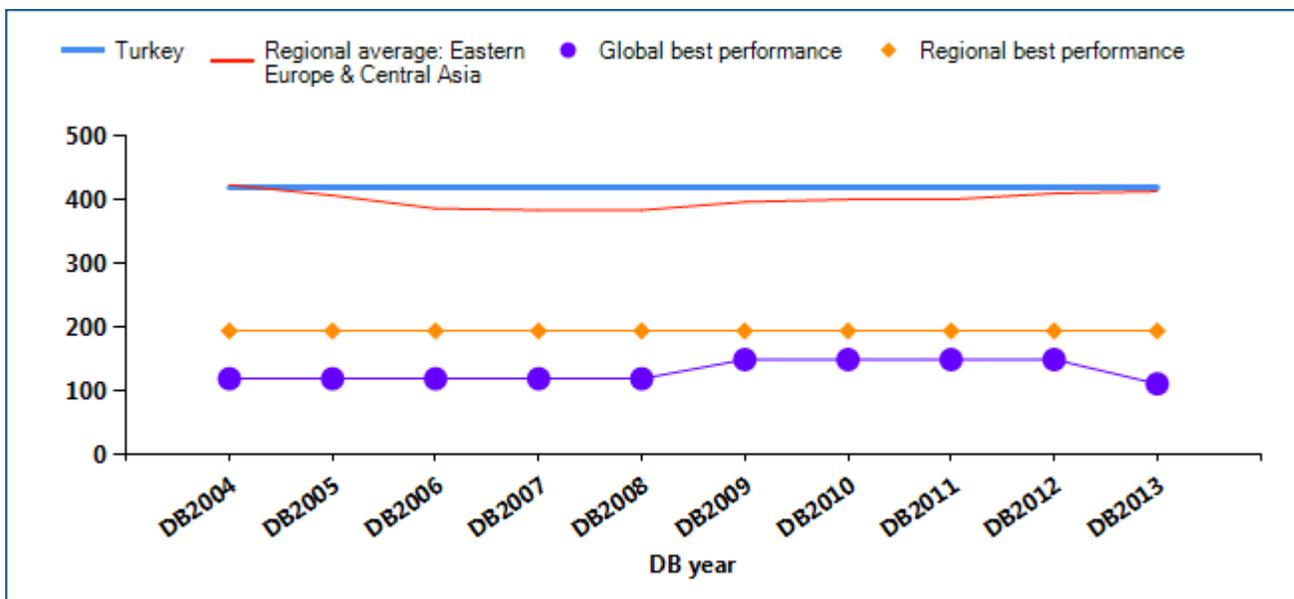
ENFORCING CONTRACTS

Equally helpful may be the benchmarks provided by the economies that over time have had the best performance regionally or globally on the number of steps, time or cost required to enforce a contract through the courts (figure 10.2). These benchmarks

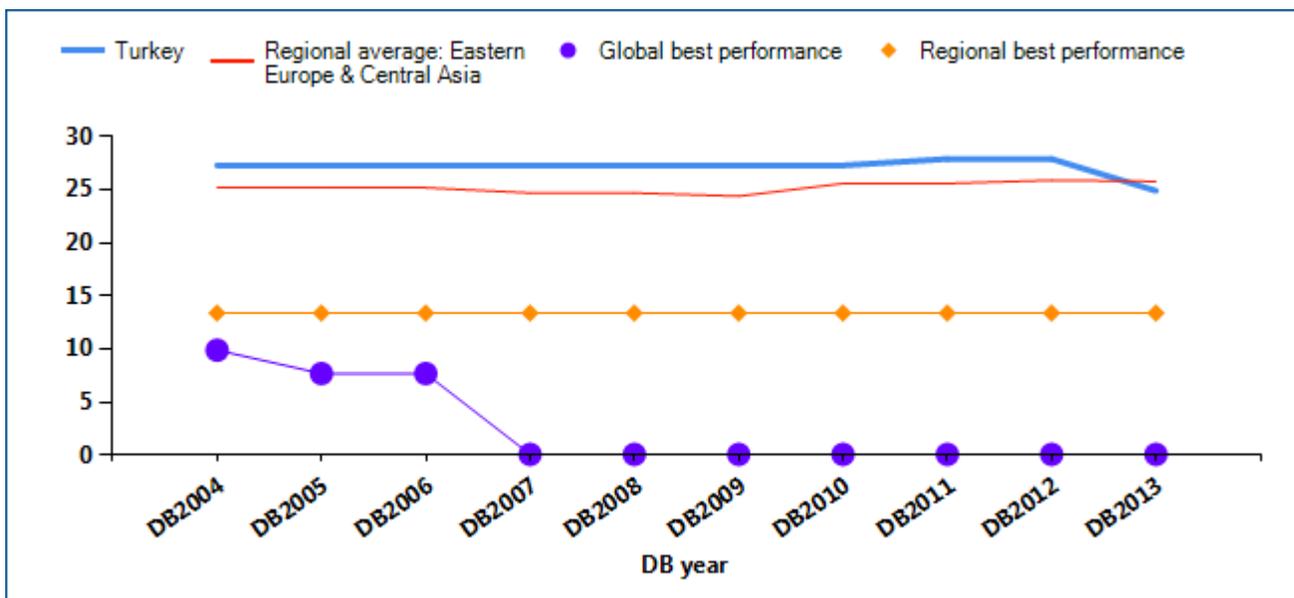
help show what is possible in improving the efficiency of contract enforcement. And changes in regional averages can show where Turkey is keeping up—and where it is falling behind.

Figure 10.2 Has enforcing contracts become easier over time?

Time (days)

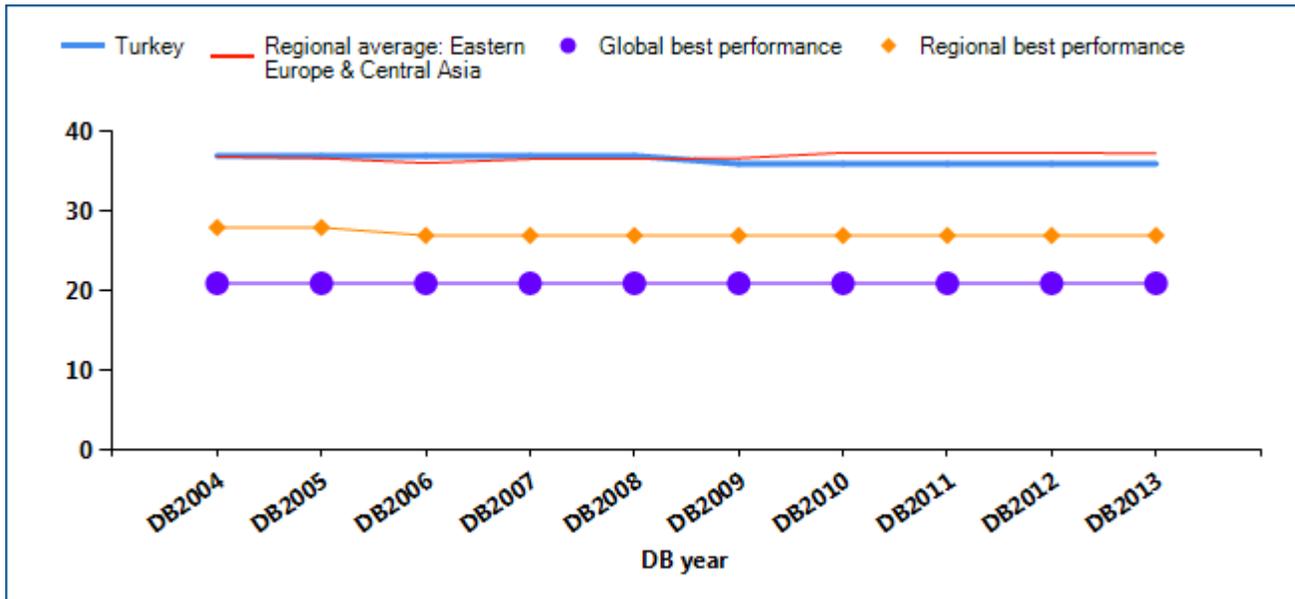


Cost (% of claim)



ENFORCING CONTRACTS

Procedures (number)



Source: Doing Business database.

ENFORCING CONTRACTS

Economies in all regions have improved contract enforcement in recent years. A judiciary can be improved in different ways. Higher-income economies tend to look for ways to enhance efficiency by introducing new technology. Lower-income economies

often work on reducing backlogs by introducing periodic reviews to clear inactive cases from the docket and by making procedures faster. What reforms making it easier (or more difficult) to enforce contracts has *Doing Business* recorded in Turkey (table 10.2)?

Table 10.2 How has Turkey made enforcing contracts easier—or not?

By *Doing Business* report year

DB year	Reform
DB2008	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2009	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2010	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2011	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2012	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2013	Turkey made enforcing contracts easier by introducing a new civil procedure law.

Note: For information on reforms in earlier years (back to DB2005), see the *Doing Business* reports for these years, available at <http://www.doingbusiness.org>.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

ENFORCING CONTRACTS

What are the details?

The indicators reported here for Turkey are based on a set of specific procedural steps required to resolve a standardized commercial dispute through the courts (see the section in this chapter on what the indicators cover). These procedures, and the time and cost of completing them, are identified through study of the codes of civil procedure and other court regulations, as well as through surveys completed by local litigation lawyers (and, in a quarter of the economies covered by *Doing Business*, by judges as well).

COMPETENT COURT

City: **Istanbul**

The procedures for resolving a commercial lawsuit, and the associated time and cost, are listed in the summary below.

Summary of procedures for enforcing a contract in Turkey—and the time and cost

Indicator	Turkey	Eastern Europe & Central Asia average	OECD high income average
Time (days)	420	414	510
Filing and service	30		
Trial and judgment	290		
Enforcement of judgment	100		
Cost (% of claim)	24.9	25.8	20.1
Attorney cost (% of claim)	12.0		
Court cost (% of claim)	3.0		
Enforcement Cost (% of claim)	9.9		
Procedures (number)	36	37	31

Note: In cases where an economy's regional classification is "OECD high income," regional averages above are only displayed once.

ENFORCING CONTRACTS

No.	Procedure
	Filing and service:
1	Plaintiff's hiring of lawyer: Plaintiff hires a lawyer to represent him before the court.
*	Plaintiff's filing of summons and complaint: Plaintiff files his summons and complaint with the court, orally or in writing.
*	Plaintiff's payment of court fees: Plaintiff pays court duties, stamp duties, or any other type of court fee.
2	Registration of court case: The court administration registers the lawsuit or court case. This includes assigning a reference number to the lawsuit or court case.
*	Assignment of court case to a judge: The court case is assigned to a specific judge through a random procedure, automated system, ruling of an administrative judge, court officer, etc.
3	Court scrutiny of summons and complaint: A judge examines Plaintiff's summons and complaint for formal requirements.
*	Judge admits summons and complaint: After verifying the formal requirements, the judge decides to admit Plaintiff's summons and complaint.
4	Delivery of summons and complaint to person authorized to perform service of process on Defendant: The judge or a court officer delivers the summons to a summoning office, officer, or authorized person (including Plaintiff), for service of process on Defendant.
*	Mailing of summons and complaint: Court or process server, including (private) bailiff, mails summons and complaint to Defendant.
5	First attempt at physical delivery: A first attempt to physically deliver summons and complaint to Defendant is successful in the majority of cases.
*	Application for pre-judgment attachment: Plaintiff submits an application in writing for the attachment of Defendant's property prior to judgment. (see assumption 5)
*	Decision on pre-judgment attachment: The judge decides whether to grant Plaintiff's request for pre-judgment attachment of Defendant's property and notifies Plaintiff and Defendant of the decision. This step may include requesting that Plaintiff submit guarantees or bonds to secure Defendant
6	Guarantees securing attached property: Plaintiff typically submits guarantees or bonds to secure Defendant against possible damages to attached property. (see assumption 5)
7	Pre-judgment attachment.: Defendant's property is attached prior to judgment. Attachment is either physical or achieved by registering, marking, debiting or separating assets. (see assumption 5)
8	Custody of assets attached prior to judgment: Defendant's attached assets are put under enforcement officer's or (private) bailiff's care. (see assumption 5)
9	Report on pre-judgment attachment: Court enforcement officer or (private) bailiff issues and delivers a report on the attachment of Defendant's property to the judge. (see assumption 5)

No.	Procedure
10	Hearing on pre-judgment attachment: A hearing takes place to resolve the question of whether Defendant's assets can be attached prior to judgment. This process may include the submission of separate summons and petitions. (see assumption 5)
	Trial and judgment:
*	Defendant's filing of preliminary exemptions: Defendant presents preliminary exemptions to the court. Preliminary exemptions differ from answers on the merits of the claim. Examples of preliminary exemptions are statute of limitations, jurisdictions, etc.
*	Plaintiff's answer to preliminary exemptions: Plaintiff responds to the preliminary exemptions raised by Defendant.
11	Judge's resolution on preliminary exemptions: Judge decides on preliminary exemptions separately from the merits of the case.
12	Defendant's filing of defense or answer to Plaintiff's claim: Defendant files a written pleading which includes his defense or answer on the merits of the case. Defendant's written answer may or may not include witness statements, expert statements, the documents Defendant relies on as evidence and the legal authority
13	Plaintiff's written response to Defendant's defense or answer: Plaintiff responds to Defendant's defense or answer with a written pleading. Plaintiff's answer may or may not include a witness statements or expert (witness) statements.
14	Filing of pleadings: Plaintiff and Defendant file written pleadings and submissions with the court and transmit copies of the written pleadings or submissions to one another. The pleadings may or may not include witness statements or expert (witness) statements.
15	Adjournments: Court procedure is delayed because one or both parties request and obtain an adjournment to submit written pleadings.
*	Court appointment of independent expert: Judge appoints, either at the parties' request or at his own initiative, an independent expert to decide whether the quality of the goods Plaintiff delivered to Defendant is adequate. (see assumption 6-b of this case)
16	Notification of court-appointment of independent expert: The court notifies both parties that the court is appointing an independent expert. (see assumption 6-b of this case)
*	Delivery of expert report by court-appointed expert: The independent expert appointed by the court delivers his or her expert report to the court. (see assumption 6-b of this case)
17	Summoning of (expert) witnesses: The court summons (expert) witnesses to appear in court for the oral hearing or trial. (see assumption 6-a)
18	Adjournments: Court proceedings are delayed because one or both parties request and obtain an adjournment to prepare for the oral hearing or trial.
19	Oral hearing (prevalent in civil law): The parties argue the merits of the case at an oral hearing before the judge. Witnesses and a court-appointed independent expert may be heard and questioned at the oral hearing.
20	Adjournments: Court proceedings are delayed because one or both parties request and obtain an adjournment during the oral hearing or trial, resulting in an additional or later trial or hearing date.
21	Closing of the evidence period: The court makes the formal decision to close the evidence period.

No.	Procedure
*	Final arguments: The parties present their final factual and legal arguments to the court either by oral presentation or by a written submission.
22	Notification of judgment in court: The parties are notified of the judgment at a court hearing.
23	Writing of judgment: The judge produces a written copy of the judgment.
24	Court notification of availability of the written judgment: The court notifies the parties that the written judgment is available at the courthouse.
25	Plaintiff's receipt of a copy of written judgment: Plaintiff receives a copy of the written judgment.
26	Notification of Defendant of judgment: Plaintiff or court formally notifies the Defendant of the judgment. The appeal period starts to run the day the Defendant is formally notified of the judgment.
27	Appeal period: By law, Defendant has the opportunity to appeal the judgment during a period specified in the law. Defendant decides not to appeal. Judgment becomes final the day the appeal period ends.
28	Reimbursement by Defendant of Plaintiff's court fees: The judgment obliges Defendant to reimburse Plaintiff for the court fees Plaintiff has advanced, because Defendant has lost the case.
	Enforcement of judgment:
*	Plaintiff's hiring of lawyer: Plaintiff hires a lawyer to enforce the judgment or continues to be represented by a lawyer during the enforcement of judgment phase.
29	Plaintiff's advancement of enforcement fees: Plaintiff pays the fees related to the enforcement of the judgment.
*	Plaintiff's request for physical enforcement: As Plaintiff fears that Defendant might physically resist the attachment of its movable goods, Plaintiff addresses a request to the judge or to the police authorities to obtain police assistance during the attachment of Defendant's movable goods.
30	Request to Defendant to comply voluntarily with judgment: Plaintiff, a court enforcement officer or a (private) bailiff requests Defendant to voluntarily comply with the judgment, giving Defendant a last chance to comply voluntarily with the judgment.
31	Identification of Defendant's assets for attachment by court official or Defendant: Judge, a court enforcement officer, a (private) bailiff or the Defendant himself identifies Defendant's movable assets for attachment.
32	Attachment: Defendant's movable goods are attached (physically or by registering, marking or separating assets).
33	Valuation or appraisal of attached movable goods: The court or court appointed valuation expert evaluates the attached goods.
34	Enforcement disputes before court: The enforcement of the judgment is delayed because Defendant opposes aspects of the enforcement process before the judge.
35	Sale through public auction: The Defendant's movable property is sold at public auction.
36	Distribution of proceeds: The proceeds of the public auction are distributed to various creditors (including Plaintiff), according to the rules of priority.
37	Reimbursement of Plaintiff's enforcement fees: Defendant reimburses Plaintiff's enforcement fees which Plaintiff had advanced previously.

* Takes place simultaneously with another procedure.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

RESOLVING INSOLVENCY

A robust bankruptcy system functions as a filter, ensuring the survival of economically efficient companies and reallocating the resources of inefficient ones. Fast and cheap insolvency proceedings result in the speedy return of businesses to normal operation and increase returns to creditors. By improving the expectations of creditors and debtors about the outcome of insolvency proceedings, well-functioning insolvency systems can facilitate access to finance, save more viable businesses and thereby improve growth and sustainability in the economy overall.

What do the indicators cover?

Doing Business studies the time, cost and outcome of insolvency proceedings involving domestic entities. It does not measure insolvency proceedings of individuals and financial institutions. The data are derived from survey responses by local insolvency practitioners and verified through a study of laws and regulations as well as public information on bankruptcy systems.

The ranking on the ease of resolving insolvency is based on the recovery rate, which is recorded as cents on the dollar recouped by creditors through reorganization, liquidation or debt enforcement (foreclosure) proceedings. The recovery rate is a function of time, cost and other factors, such as lending rate and the likelihood of the company continuing to operate.

To make the data comparable across economies, *Doing Business* uses several assumptions about the business and the case. It assumes that the company:

- Is a domestically owned, limited liability company operating a hotel.
- Operates in the economy's largest business city.

WHAT THE RESOLVING INSOLVENCY INDICATORS MEASURE

Time required to recover debt (years)

Measured in calendar years

Appeals and requests for extension are included

Cost required to recover debt (% of debtor's estate)

Measured as percentage of estate value

Court fees

Fees of insolvency administrators

Lawyers' fees

Assessors' and auctioneers' fees

Other related fees

Recovery rate for creditors (cents on the dollar)

Measures the cents on the dollar recovered by creditors

Present value of debt recovered

Official costs of the insolvency proceedings are deducted

Depreciation of furniture is taken into account

Outcome for the business (survival or not) affects the maximum value that can be recovered

- Has 201 employees, 1 main secured creditor and 50 unsecured creditors.
- Has a higher value as a going concern—and the efficient outcome is either reorganization or sale as a going concern, not piecemeal liquidation.

RESOLVING INSOLVENCY

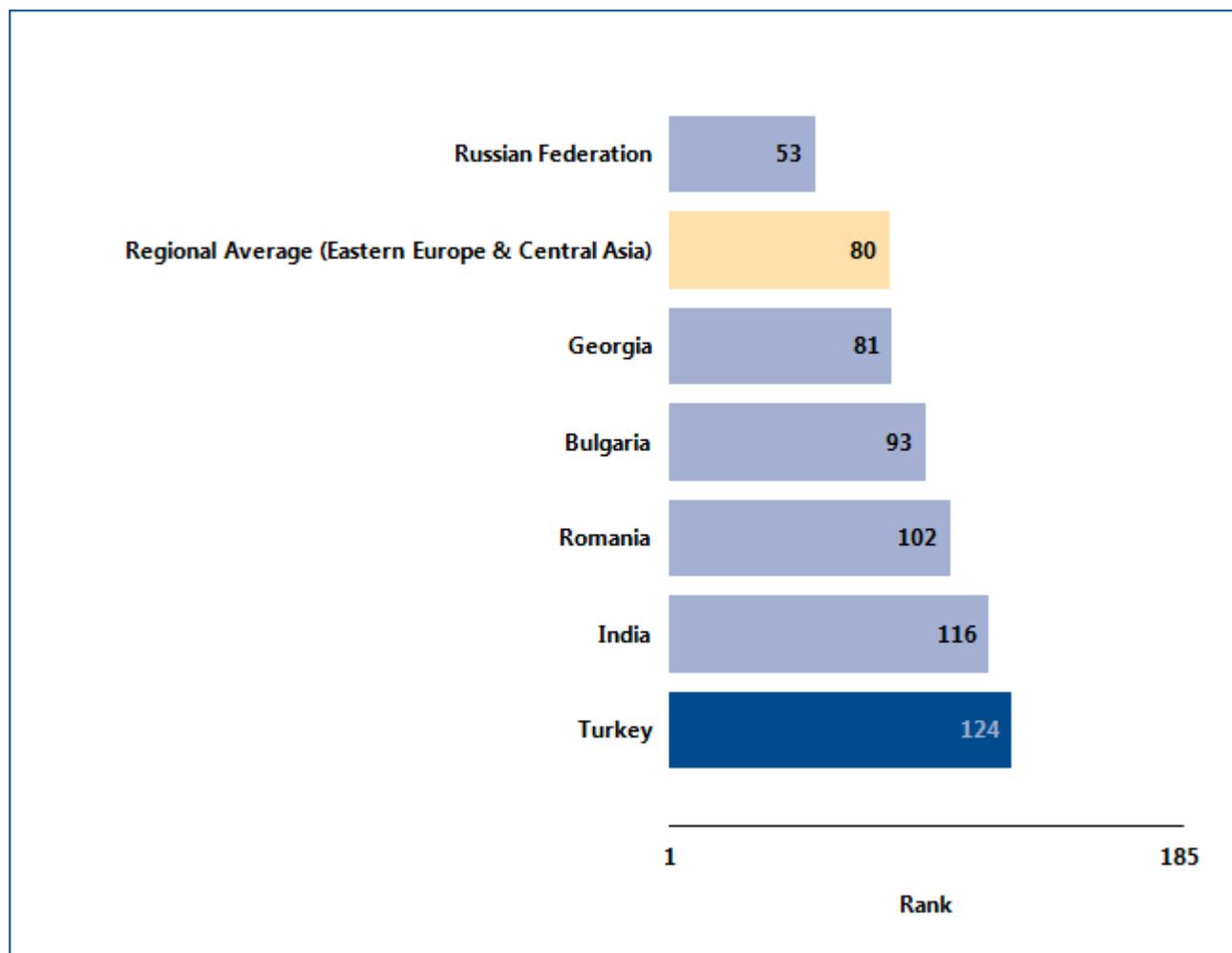
Where does the economy stand today?

Speed, low costs and continuation of viable businesses characterize the top-performing economies. How efficient are insolvency proceedings in Turkey? According to data collected by *Doing Business*, resolving insolvency takes 3.3 years on average and costs 15% of the debtor’s estate, with the most likely outcome being that the company will be sold as

piecemeal sale. The average recovery rate is 23.6 cents on the dollar.

Globally, Turkey stands at 124 in the ranking of 185 economies on the ease of resolving insolvency (figure 11.1). The rankings for comparator economies and the regional average ranking provide other useful benchmarks for assessing the efficiency of insolvency proceedings in Turkey.

Figure 11.1 How Turkey and comparator economies rank on the ease of resolving insolvency



Source: *Doing Business* database.

RESOLVING INSOLVENCY

What are the changes over time?

While the most recent *Doing Business* data reflect the efficiency of insolvency proceedings in Turkey today, data over time show where the efficiency has changed—and where it has not (table 11.1). That can help identify where the potential for improvement is greatest.

Table 11.1 The ease of resolving insolvency in Turkey over time

By *Doing Business* report year

Indicator	DB2004	DB2005	DB2006	DB2007	DB2008	DB2009	DB2010	DB2011	DB2012	DB2013
Rank	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	126	124
Time (years)	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
Cost (% of estate)	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Recovery rate (cents on the dollar)	11.3	1.9	11.3	18.5	20.3	20.2	20.2	21.1	22.3	23.6

Note: n.a. = not applicable (the economy was not included in *Doing Business* for that year). DB2012 rankings shown are not last year's published rankings but comparable rankings for DB2012 that capture the effects of such factors as data corrections and the addition of 2 economies (Barbados and Malta) to the sample this year. "No practice" indicates that in each of the previous 5 years the economy had no cases involving a judicial reorganization, judicial liquidation or debt enforcement procedure (foreclosure). This means that creditors are unlikely to recover their money through a formal legal process (in or out of court). The recovery rate for "no practice" economies is 0.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

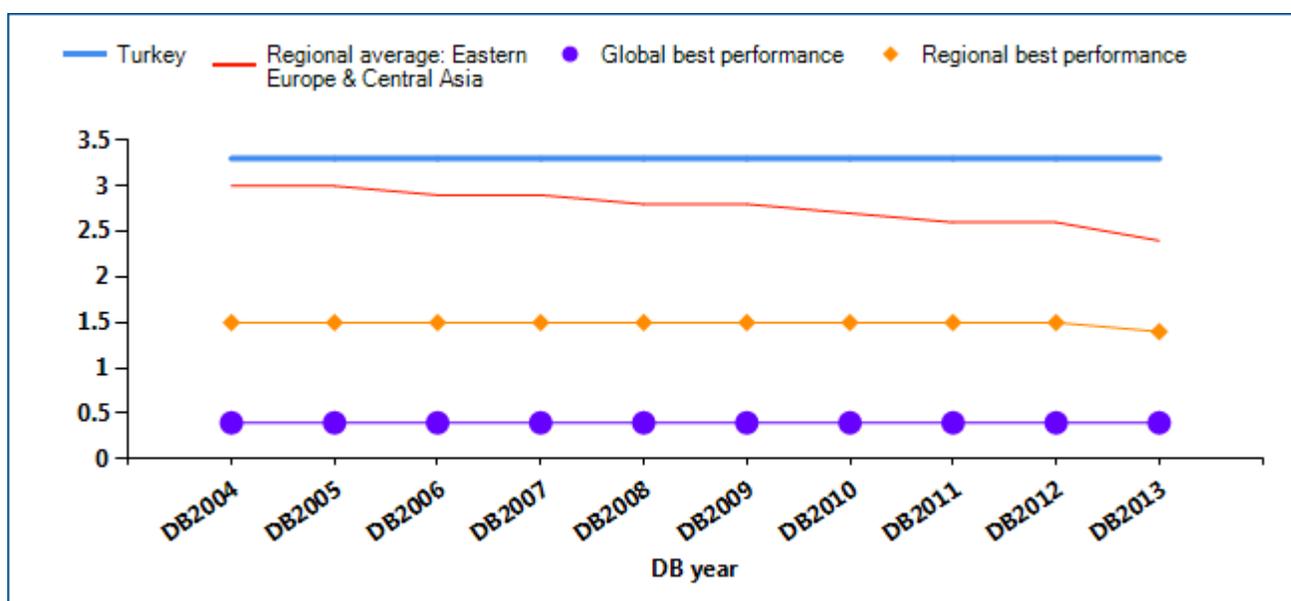
RESOLVING INSOLVENCY

Equally helpful may be the benchmarks provided by the economies that over time have had the best performance regionally or globally on the time or cost of insolvency proceedings or on the recovery rate (figure 11.2). These benchmarks help show what is

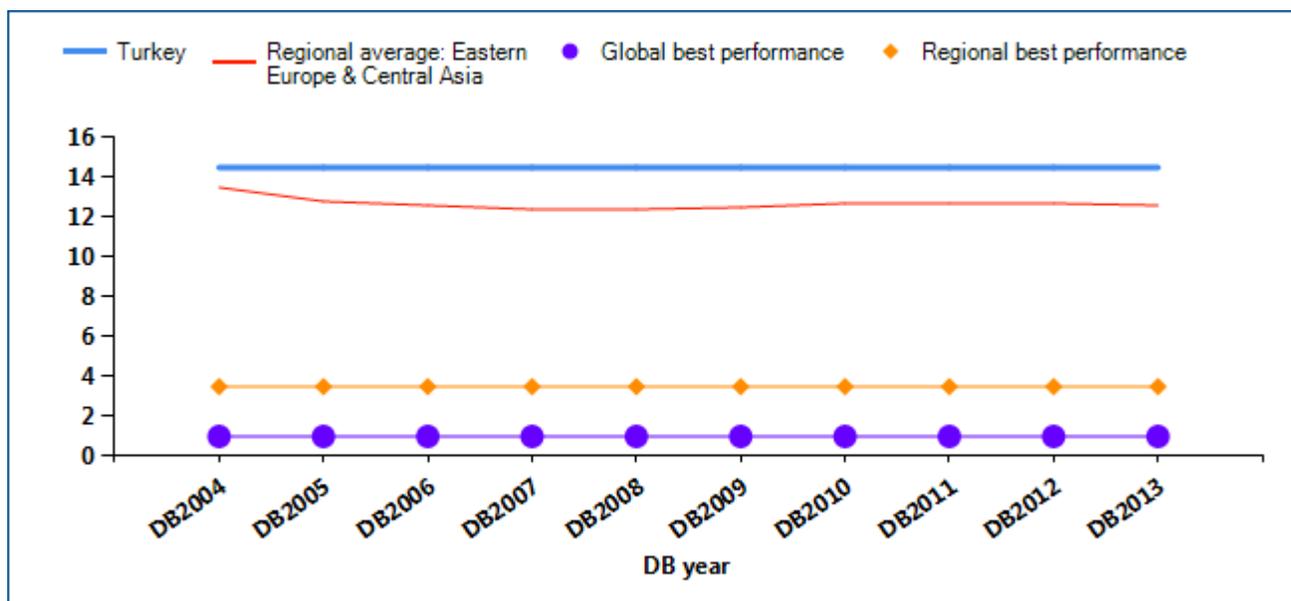
possible in improving the efficiency of insolvency proceedings. And changes in regional averages can show where Turkey is keeping up—and where it is falling behind.

Figure 11.2 Has resolving insolvency become easier over time?

Time (years)

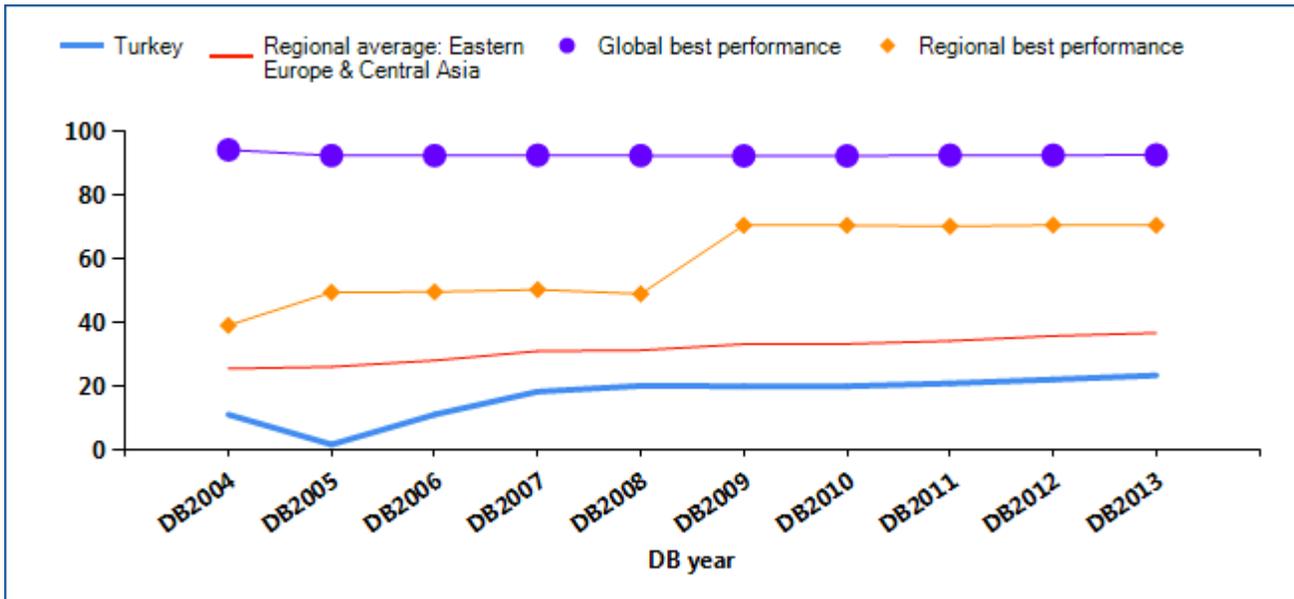


Cost (% of estate)



RESOLVING INSOLVENCY

Recovery rate (cents on the dollar)



Note: Regional averages on time and cost exclude economies with a “no practice” mark.

Source: Doing Business database.

RESOLVING INSOLVENCY

A well-balanced bankruptcy system distinguishes companies that are financially distressed but economically viable from inefficient companies that should be liquidated. But in some insolvency systems even viable businesses are liquidated. This is starting to

change. Many recent reforms of bankruptcy laws have been aimed at helping more of the viable businesses survive. What insolvency reforms has *Doing Business* recorded in Turkey (table 11.2)?

Table 11.2 How has Turkey made resolving insolvency easier—or not?

By *Doing Business* report year

DB year	Reform
DB2008	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2009	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2010	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2011	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2012	No reform as measured by Doing Business.
DB2013	No reform as measured by Doing Business.

Note: For information on reforms in earlier years (back to DB2005), see the *Doing Business* reports for these years, available at <http://www.doingbusiness.org>.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

EMPLOYING WORKERS

Doing Business measures flexibility in the regulation of employment, specifically as it affects the hiring and redundancy of workers and the rigidity of working hours. From 2007 to 2011 improvements were made to align the methodology for the employing workers indicators with the letter and spirit of the International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions. Only 4 of the 188 ILO conventions cover areas measured by *Doing Business*: employee termination, weekend work, holiday with pay and night work. The *Doing Business* methodology is fully consistent with these 4 conventions. The ILO conventions covering areas related to the employing workers indicators do not include the ILO core labor standards—8 conventions covering the right to collective bargaining, the elimination of forced labor, the abolition of child labor and equitable treatment in employment practices.

Between 2009 and 2011 the World Bank Group worked with a consultative group—including labor lawyers, employer and employee representatives, and experts from the ILO, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, civil society and the private sector—to review the employing workers methodology and explore future areas of research.

A full report with the conclusions of the consultative group is available at <http://www.doingbusiness.org/methodology/employing-workers>.

Doing Business 2013 does not present rankings of economies on the employing workers indicators or include the topic in the aggregate ranking on the ease of doing business. The report does present the data on the employing workers indicators in an annex. Detailed data collected on labor regulations are available on the *Doing Business* website (<http://www.doingbusiness.org>).

Particular data for Turkey are presented here without scoring.

To make the data on employing workers comparable across economies, several assumptions about the worker and the business are used.

The worker:

- Earns a salary plus benefits equal to the economy's average wage during the entire period of his employment.
- Has a pay period that is the most common for workers in the economy.
- Is a lawful citizen who belongs to the same race and religion as the majority of the economy's population.
- Resides in the economy's largest business city.
- Is not a member of a labor union, unless membership is mandatory.

The business:

- Is a limited liability company.
- Operates in the economy's largest business city.
- Is 100% domestically owned.
- Operates in the manufacturing sector.
- Has 60 employees.
- Is subject to collective bargaining agreements in economies where such agreements cover more than half the manufacturing sector and apply even to firms not party to them.
- Abides by every law and regulation but does not grant workers more benefits than mandated by law, regulation or (if applicable) collective bargaining agreement.

EMPLOYING WORKERS

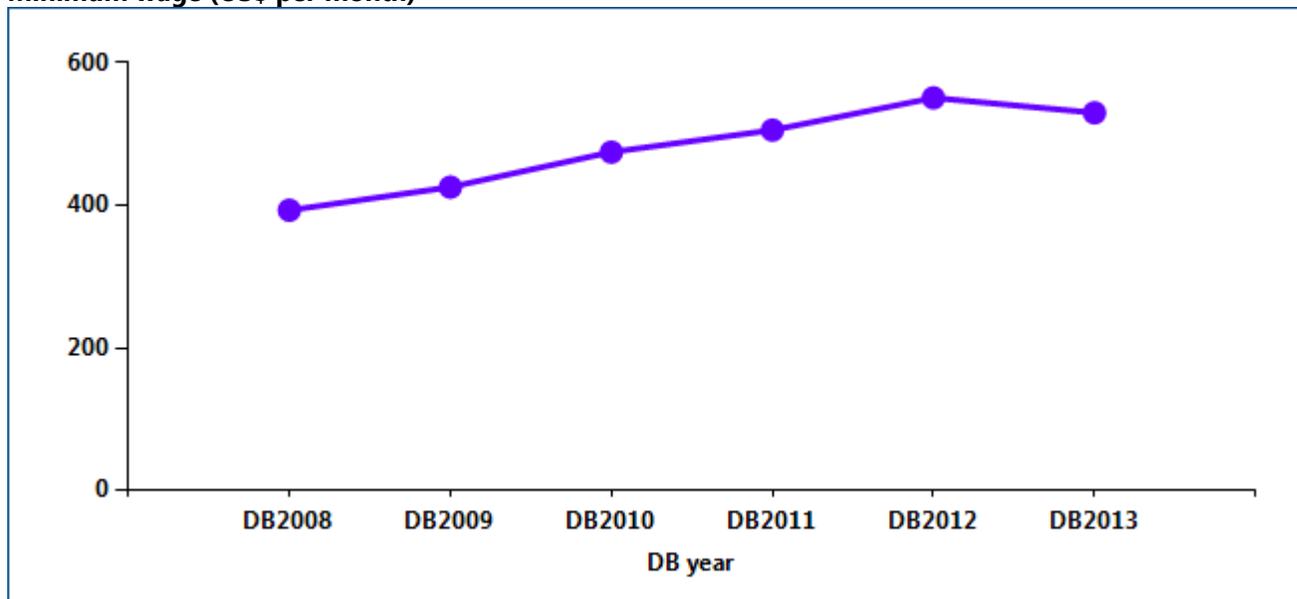
What do some of the data show?

One of the employing workers indicators is the difficulty of hiring index. This measure assesses, among other things, the minimum wage for a 19-year-old

worker in his or her first job. *Doing Business* data show the trend in the minimum wage applied by Turkey (figure 12.1).

Figure 12.1 Has the minimum wage for a 19-year-old worker or an apprentice increased over time?

Minimum wage (US\$ per month)



Note: A horizontal line along the x-axis of the figure indicates that the economy has no minimum wage.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

EMPLOYING WORKERS

Employment laws are needed to protect workers from arbitrary or unfair treatment and to ensure efficient contracting between employers and workers. Many economies that changed their labor regulations in the

past 4 years did so in ways that increased labor market flexibility. What changes did Turkey adopt that affected the *Doing Business* indicators on employing workers (table 12.1)?

Table 12.1 What changes did Turkey make in employing workers in 2012?

Reform
No reform as measured by Doing Business.

Source: *Doing Business* database.

EMPLOYING WORKERS

What are the details?

The data on employing workers reported here for Turkey are based on a detailed survey of employment regulations that is completed by local lawyers and

public officials. Employment laws and regulations as well as secondary sources are reviewed to ensure accuracy.

Rigidity of employment index

The rigidity of employment index measures 3 areas of labor regulation: difficulty of hiring, rigidity of hours and difficulty of redundancy.

Difficulty of hiring index

The difficulty of hiring index measures whether fixed-term contracts are prohibited for permanent tasks; the maximum cumulative duration of fixed-term contracts; and the ratio of the minimum wage for a trainee or first-time employee to the average value added per

worker. (The average value added per worker is the ratio of an economy's gross national income per capita to the working-age population as a percentage of the total population.)

Difficulty of hiring index	Data
Fixed-term contracts prohibited for permanent tasks?	Yes
Maximum length of a single fixed-term contract (months)	No limit - Art. 11, Labor Law No. 4857, 2003
Maximum length of fixed-term contracts, including renewals (months)	No limit
Minimum wage for a 19-year old worker or an apprentice (US\$/month)	529.7
Ratio of minimum wage to value added per worker	0.41

Source: *Doing Business* database.

EMPLOYING WORKERS

Rigidity of hours index

The rigidity of hours index has 5 components: whether there are restrictions on night work; whether there are restrictions on weekly holiday work; whether the workweek can consist of 5.5 days or is more than 6 days; whether the workweek can extend to 50 hours or more (including overtime) for 2 months a year to

respond to a seasonal increase in production; and whether the average paid annual leave for a worker with 1 year of tenure, a worker with 5 years and a worker with 10 years is more than 26 working days or fewer than 15 working days.

Rigidity of hours index	Data
Standard workday in manufacturing (hours)	No daily standard workday established by law, only a maximum of 11 hours a day and of 45 hours a week - Art. 63, Labor Law, 2003
50-hour workweek allowed for 2 months a year in case of a seasonal increase in production?	Yes
Maximum working days per week	6.0
Premium for night work (% of hourly pay) in case of continuous operations	0%
Premium for work on weekly rest day (% of hourly pay) in case of continuous operations	100%
Major restrictions on night work in case of continuous operations?	Yes
Major restrictions on weekly holiday in case of continuous operations?	No
Paid annual leave for a worker with 1 year of tenure (in working days)	14.0
Paid annual leave for a worker with 5 years of tenure (in working days)	20.0
Paid annual leave for a worker with 10 years of tenure (in working days)	20.0
Paid annual leave (average for workers with 1, 5 and 10 years of tenure, in working days)	18.0

Source: *Doing Business* database.

EMPLOYING WORKERS

Difficulty of redundancy index

The difficulty of redundancy index has 8 components: whether redundancy is disallowed as a basis for terminating workers; whether the employer needs to notify a third party (such as a government agency) to terminate 1 redundant worker; whether the employer needs to notify a third party to terminate a group of 9 redundant workers; whether the employer needs approval from a third party to terminate 1 redundant

worker; whether the employer needs approval from a third party to terminate a group of 9 redundant workers; whether the law requires the employer to reassign or retrain a worker before making the worker redundant; whether priority rules apply for redundancies; and whether priority rules apply for reemployment.

Difficulty of redundancy index	Data
Dismissal due to redundancy allowed by law?	Yes
Third-party notification if 1 worker is dismissed?	No
Third-party approval if 1 worker is dismissed?	No
Third-party notification if 9 workers are dismissed?	No
Third-party approval if 9 workers are dismissed?	No
Retraining or reassignment obligation before redundancy?	Yes
Priority rules for redundancies?	No
Priority rules for reemployment?	Yes

Source: *Doing Business* database.

EMPLOYING WORKERS

Redundancy cost

The redundancy cost indicator measures the cost of advance notice requirements, severance payments and penalties due when terminating a redundant worker, expressed in weeks of salary. The average value of

notice requirements and severance payments applicable to a worker with 1 year of tenure, a worker with 5 years and a worker with 10 years is used to assign the score.

Redundancy cost indicator	Data
Notice period for redundancy dismissal (for a worker with 1 year of tenure, in salary weeks)	4.0
Notice period for redundancy dismissal (for a worker with 5 years of tenure, in salary weeks)	8.0
Notice period for redundancy dismissal (for a worker with 10 years of tenure, in salary weeks)	8.0
Notice period for redundancy dismissal (average for workers with 1, 5 and 10 years of tenure, in salary weeks)	6.7
Severance pay for redundancy dismissal (for a worker with 1 year of tenure, in salary weeks)	4.3
Severance pay for redundancy dismissal (for a worker with 5 years of tenure, in salary weeks)	21.7
Severance pay for redundancy dismissal (for a worker with 10 years of tenure, in salary weeks)	43.3
Severance pay for redundancy dismissal (average for workers with 1, 5 and 10 years of tenure, in salary weeks)	23.1

Source: Doing Business database.

DATA NOTES

The indicators presented and analyzed in *Doing Business* measure business regulation and the protection of property rights—and their effect on businesses, especially small and medium-size domestic firms. First, the indicators document the complexity of regulation, such as the number of procedures to start a business or to register and transfer commercial property. Second, they gauge the time and cost of achieving a regulatory goal or complying with regulation, such as the time and cost to enforce a contract, go through bankruptcy or trade across borders. Third, they measure the extent of legal protections of property, for example, the protections of investors against looting by company directors or the range of assets that can be used as collateral according to secured transactions laws. Fourth, a set of indicators documents the tax burden on businesses. Finally, a set of data covers different aspects of employment regulation.

The data for all sets of indicators in *Doing Business 2013* are for June 2012.²

Methodology

The *Doing Business* data are collected in a standardized way. To start, the *Doing Business* team, with academic advisers, designs a questionnaire. The questionnaire uses a simple business case to ensure comparability across economies and over time—with assumptions about the legal form of the business, its size, its location and the nature of its operations. Questionnaires are administered through more than 9,600 local experts, including lawyers, business consultants, accountants, freight forwarders, government officials and other professionals routinely administering or advising on legal and regulatory requirements. These experts have several rounds of interaction with the *Doing Business* team, involving conference calls, written correspondence and visits by the team. For *Doing Business 2013* team members visited 24 economies to verify data and recruit respondents. The data from questionnaires are subjected to numerous rounds of verification, leading to revisions or expansions of the information collected.

² The data for paying taxes refer to January – December 2011.

ECONOMY CHARACTERISTICS

Gross national income per capita

Doing Business 2013 reports 2011 income per capita as published in the World Bank's *World Development Indicators 2012*. Income is calculated using the Atlas method (current US\$). For cost indicators expressed as a percentage of income per capita, 2011 gross national income (GNI) in U.S. dollars is used as the denominator. GNI data were not available from the World Bank for Afghanistan; Australia; The Bahamas; Bahrain; Barbados; Brunei Darussalam; Cyprus; Djibouti; Guyana; the Islamic Republic of Iran; Kuwait; Malta; New Zealand; Oman; Puerto Rico (territory of the United States); Sudan; Suriname; the Syrian Arab Republic; Timor-Leste; West Bank and Gaza; and the Republic of Yemen. In these cases GDP or GNP per capita data and growth rates from the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook database and the Economist Intelligence Unit were used.

Region and income group

Doing Business uses the World Bank regional and income group classifications, available at <http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications>. The World Bank does not assign regional classifications to high-income economies. For the purpose of the *Doing Business* report, high-income OECD economies are assigned the "regional" classification *OECD high income*. Figures and tables presenting regional averages include economies from all income groups (low, lower middle, upper middle and high income).

Population

Doing Business 2013 reports midyear 2011 population statistics as published in *World Development Indicators 2012*.

The *Doing Business* methodology offers several advantages. It is transparent, using factual information about what laws and regulations say and allowing multiple interactions with local respondents to clarify potential misinterpretations of questions. Having

representative samples of respondents is not an issue; *Doing Business* is not a statistical survey, and the texts of the relevant laws and regulations are collected and answers checked for accuracy. The methodology is inexpensive and easily replicable, so data can be collected in a large sample of economies. Because standard assumptions are used in the data collection, comparisons and benchmarks are valid across economies. Finally, the data not only highlight the extent of specific regulatory obstacles to business but also identify their source and point to what might be reformed.

Information on the methodology for each *Doing Business* topic can be found on the *Doing Business* website at <http://www.doingbusiness.org/methodology/>.

Limits to what is measured

The *Doing Business* methodology has 5 limitations that should be considered when interpreting the data. First, the collected data refer to businesses in the economy's largest business city (which in some economies differs from the capital) and may not be representative of regulation in other parts of the economy. To address this limitation, subnational *Doing Business* indicators were created (see the section on subnational *Doing Business* indicators). Second, the data often focus on a specific business form—generally a limited liability company (or its legal equivalent) of a specified size—and may not be representative of the regulation on other businesses, for example, sole proprietorships. Third, transactions described in a standardized case scenario refer to a specific set of issues and may not represent the full set of issues a business encounters. Fourth, the measures of time involve an element of judgment by the expert respondents. When sources indicate different estimates, the time indicators reported in *Doing Business* represent the median values of several responses given under the assumptions of the standardized case.

Finally, the methodology assumes that a business has full information on what is required and does not waste time when completing procedures. In practice, completing a procedure may take longer if the business lacks information or is unable to follow up promptly. Alternatively, the business may choose to disregard some burdensome procedures. For both reasons the time delays reported in *Doing Business*

2013 would differ from the recollection of entrepreneurs reported in the World Bank Enterprise Surveys or other perception surveys.

Subnational *Doing Business* indicators

This year *Doing Business* completed subnational studies for Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, the Russian Federation and the United Arab Emirates. Each of these countries had already asked to have subnational data in the past, and this year *Doing Business* updated the indicators, measured improvements over time and expanded geographic coverage to additional cities or added additional indicators. *Doing Business* also published regional studies for the Arab world, the East African Community and member states of the Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa (OHADA).

The subnational studies point to differences in business regulation and its implementation—as well as in the pace of regulatory reform—across cities in the same economy. For several economies subnational studies are now periodically updated to measure change over time or to expand geographic coverage to additional cities. This year that is the case for all the subnational studies published.

Changes in what is measured

The ranking methodology for paying taxes was updated this year. The threshold for the total tax rate introduced last year for the purpose of calculating the ranking on the ease of paying taxes was updated. All economies with a total tax rate below the threshold (which is calculated and adjusted on a yearly basis) receive the same ranking on the total tax rate indicator. The threshold is not based on any economic theory of an “optimal tax rate” that minimizes distortions or maximizes efficiency in the tax system of an economy overall. Instead, it is mainly empirical in nature, set at the lower end of the distribution of tax rates levied on medium-size enterprises in the manufacturing sector as observed through the paying taxes indicators. This reduces the bias in the indicators toward economies that do not need to levy significant taxes on companies like the *Doing Business* standardized case study company because they raise public revenue in other ways—for example, through

taxes on foreign companies, through taxes on sectors other than manufacturing or from natural resources (all of which are outside the scope of the methodology). Giving the same ranking to all economies whose total tax rate is below the threshold avoids awarding economies in the scoring for having an unusually low total tax rate, often for reasons unrelated to government policies toward enterprises. For example, economies that are very small or that are rich in natural resources do not need to levy broad-based taxes.

Data challenges and revisions

Most laws and regulations underlying the *Doing Business* data are available on the *Doing Business* website at <http://www.doingbusiness.org>. All the sample questionnaires and the details underlying the indicators are also published on the website. Questions on the methodology and challenges to data can be submitted through the website's "Ask a Question" function at <http://www.doingbusiness.org>.

Ease of doing business and distance to frontier

Doing Business 2013 presents results for 2 aggregate measures: the aggregate ranking on the ease of doing business and the distance to frontier measure. The ease of doing business ranking compares economies with one another, while the distance to frontier measure benchmarks economies to the frontier in regulatory practice, measuring the absolute distance to the best performance on each indicator. Both measures can be used for comparisons over time. When compared across years, the distance to frontier measure shows how much the regulatory environment for local entrepreneurs in each economy has changed over time in absolute terms, while the ease of doing business ranking can show only relative change.

Ease of doing business

The ease of doing business index ranks economies from 1 to 185. For each economy the ranking is calculated as the simple average of the percentile rankings on each of the 10 topics included in the index in *Doing Business 2013*: starting a business, dealing with construction permits, getting electricity, registering property, getting credit, protecting

investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts, and resolving insolvency. The employing workers indicators are not included in this year's aggregate ease of doing business ranking. In addition to this year's ranking, *Doing Business* presents a comparable ranking for the previous year, adjusted for any changes in methodology as well as additions of economies or topics.³

Construction of the ease of doing business index

Here is one example of how the ease of doing business index is constructed. In Finland it takes 3 procedures, 14 days and 4% of annual income per capita in fees to register a property. On these 3 indicators Finland ranks in the 6th, 16th and 39th percentiles. So on average Finland ranks in the 20th percentile on the ease of registering property. It ranks in the 30th percentile on starting a business, 28th percentile on getting credit, 24th percentile on paying taxes, 13th percentile on enforcing contracts, 5th percentile on trading across borders and so on. Higher rankings indicate simpler regulation and stronger protection of property rights. The simple average of Finland's percentile rankings on all topics is 21st. When all economies are ordered by their average percentile rankings, Finland stands at 11 in the aggregate ranking on the ease of doing business.

More complex aggregation methods—such as principal components and unobserved components—yield a ranking nearly identical to the simple average used by *Doing Business*.⁴ Thus, *Doing Business* uses the simplest method: weighting all topics equally and,

³ In case of revisions to the methodology or corrections to the underlying data, the data are back-calculated to provide a comparable time series since the year the relevant economy or topic was first included in the data set. The time series is available on the *Doing Business* website (<http://www.doingbusiness.org>). Six topics and more than 50 economies have been added since the inception of the project. Earlier rankings on the ease of doing business are therefore not comparable.

⁴ See Simeon Djankov, Darshini Manraj, Caralee McLiesh and Rita Ramalho, "Doing Business Indicators: Why Aggregate, and How to Do It" (World Bank, Washington, DC, 2005). Principal components and unobserved components methods yield a ranking nearly identical to that from the simple average method because both these methods assign roughly equal weights to the topics, since the pairwise correlations among indicators do not differ much. An alternative to the simple average method is to give different weights to the topics, depending on which are considered of more or less importance in the context of a specific economy.

within each topic, giving equal weight to each of the topic components.⁵

If an economy has no laws or regulations covering a specific area—for example, insolvency—it receives a “no practice” mark. Similarly, an economy receives a “no practice” or “not possible” mark if regulation exists but is never used in practice or if a competing regulation prohibits such practice. Either way, a “no practice” mark puts the economy at the bottom of the ranking on the relevant indicator.

The ease of doing business index is limited in scope. It does not account for an economy’s proximity to large markets, the quality of its infrastructure services (other than services related to trading across borders and getting electricity), the strength of its financial system, the security of property from theft and looting, macroeconomic conditions or the strength of underlying institutions.

Variability of economies’ rankings across topics

Each indicator set measures a different aspect of the business regulatory environment. The rankings of an economy can vary, sometimes significantly, across indicator sets. The average correlation coefficient between the 10 indicator sets included in the aggregate ranking is 0.37, and the coefficients between any 2 sets of indicators range from 0.19 (between dealing with construction permits and getting credit) to 0.60 (between starting a business and protecting investors). These correlations suggest that economies rarely score universally well or universally badly on the indicators.

Consider the example of Canada. It stands at 17 in the aggregate ranking on the ease of doing business. Its ranking is 3 on starting a business, and 4 on both resolving insolvency and protecting investors. But its ranking is only 62 on enforcing contracts, 69 on dealing with construction permits and 152 on getting electricity.

Variation in performance across the indicator sets is not at all unusual. It reflects differences in the degree of priority that government authorities give to particular areas of business regulation reform and the

ability of different government agencies to deliver tangible results in their area of responsibility.

Economies that improved the most across 3 or more Doing Business topics in 2011/12

Doing Business 2013 uses a simple method to calculate which economies improved the most in the ease of doing business. First, it selects the economies that in 2011/12 implemented regulatory reforms making it easier to do business in 3 or more of the 10 topics included in this year’s ease of doing business ranking.⁶ Twenty-three economies meet this criterion: Benin, Burundi, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, Georgia, Greece, Guinea, Kazakhstan, Korea, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Liberia, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates and Uzbekistan. Second, *Doing Business* ranks these economies on the increase in their ranking on the ease of doing business from the previous year using comparable rankings.

Selecting the economies that implemented regulatory reforms in at least 3 topics and improved the most in the aggregate ranking is intended to highlight economies with ongoing, broad-based reform programs.

Distance to frontier measure

A drawback of the ease of doing business ranking is that it can measure the regulatory performance of economies only relative to the performance of others. It does not provide information on how the absolute quality of the regulatory environment is improving over time. Nor does it provide information on how large the gaps are between economies at a single point in time.

The distance to frontier measure is designed to address both shortcomings, complementing the ease of doing business ranking. This measure illustrates the distance of an economy to the “frontier,” and the change in the measure over time shows the extent to which the economy has closed this gap. The frontier is a score derived from the most efficient practice or highest score achieved on each of the component indicators in 9 *Doing Business* indicator sets (excluding

⁵ A technical note on the different aggregation and weighting methods is available on the *Doing Business* website (<http://www.doingbusiness.org>).

⁶ *Doing Business* reforms making it more difficult to do business are subtracted from the total number of those making it easier to do business.

the employing workers and getting electricity indicators) by any economy since 2005. In starting a business, for example, New Zealand has achieved the highest performance on the time (1 day), Canada and New Zealand on the number of procedures required (1), Slovenia on the cost (0% of income per capita) and Australia and 90 other economies on the paid-in minimum capital requirement (0% of income per capita). Calculating the distance to frontier for each economy involves 2 main steps. First, individual indicator scores are normalized to a common unit: except for the total tax rate. To do so, each of the 28 component indicators y is rescaled to $(\max - y)/(\max - \min)$, with the minimum value (\min) representing the frontier—the highest performance on that indicator across all economies since 2005. For the total tax rate, consistent with the calculation of the rankings, the frontier is defined as the total tax rate corresponding to the 15th percentile based on the overall distribution of total tax rates for all years. Second, for each economy the scores obtained for individual indicators are aggregated through simple averaging into one distance to frontier score. An economy's distance to frontier is indicated on a scale from 0 to 100, where 0 represents the lowest performance and 100 the frontier.

The difference between an economy's distance to frontier score in 2005 and its score in 2012 illustrates the extent to which the economy has closed the gap to the frontier over time. And in any given year the score measures how far an economy is from the highest performance at that time.

The maximum (\max) and minimum (\min) observed values are computed for the 174 economies included in the *Doing Business* sample since 2005 and for all years (from 2005 to 2012). The year 2005 was chosen as the baseline for the economy sample because it was the first year in which data were available for the majority of economies (a total of 174) and for all 9 indicator sets included in the measure. To mitigate the effects of extreme outliers in the distributions of the rescaled data (very few economies need 694 days to complete the procedures to start a business, but many need 9 days), the maximum (\max) is defined as the 95th percentile of the pooled data for all economies and all years for each indicator. The exceptions are the getting credit, protecting investors and resolving insolvency indicators, whose construction precludes outliers.

Take Ghana, which has a score of 67 on the distance to frontier measure for 2012. This score indicates that the economy is 33 percentage points away from the frontier constructed from the best performances across all economies and all years. Ghana was further from the frontier in 2005, with a score of 54. The difference between the scores shows an improvement over time.

The distance to frontier measure can also be used for comparisons across economies in the same year, complementing the ease of doing business ranking. For example, Ghana stands at 64 this year in the ease of doing business ranking, while Peru, which is 29 percentage points from the frontier, stands at 43.

RESOURCES ON THE *DOING BUSINESS* WEBSITE

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News on the *Doing Business* project
<http://www.doingbusiness.org>

Rankings

How economies rank—from 1 to 185
<http://www.doingbusiness.org/rankings/>

Data

All the data for 185 economies—topic rankings, indicator values, lists of regulatory procedures and details underlying indicators
<http://www.doingbusiness.org/data/>

Reports

Access to *Doing Business* reports as well as subnational and regional reports, reform case studies and customized economy and regional profiles
<http://www.doingbusiness.org/reports/>

Methodology

The methodologies and research papers underlying *Doing Business*
<http://www.doingbusiness.org/methodology/>

Research

Abstracts of papers on *Doing Business* topics and related policy issues
<http://www.doingbusiness.org/research/>

***Doing Business* reforms**

Short summaries of DB2013 business regulation reforms, lists of reforms since DB2008 and a ranking simulation tool
<http://www.doingbusiness.org/reforms/>

Historical data

Customized data sets since DB2004
<http://www.doingbusiness.org/custom-query/>

Law library

Online collection of business laws and regulations relating to business and gender issues
<http://www.doingbusiness.org/law-library/>
<http://wbl.worldbank.org/>

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