

## TURKEY

As of 26 March 2020

### COVID-19 Measures - Summary

- 7 billion Turkish liras (\$1.08 billion) will be earmarked in support for workers with minimum wage.
- 1,000 Turkish liras (\$155) will be allocated to 2 million low-income families and the minimum pension will be increased to 1,500 Turkish liras (\$233)
- Government will recruit 32,000 new health sector professionals and provide up to 6 million liras (\$930,000) to firms that locally produce disinfectants, protective clothes, goggles and masks.
- The conditions to use Short-Time Working Scheme has been eased. The make-up period for working time has been increased from two to four months.
- Minimum wage support scheme has been further implemented.
- The conditions for flexible and remote work will be regulated for easy implementation.
- Six-month deferral of tax payments and social security contributions provided to certain sectors, including iron-steel, automotive, retail, shopping malls, accommodation, logistics-transportation, cinema-theatre, food-beverage, textile-garment, and event-organization services, construction, furniture, mining and quarry, industrial manufacturing of kitchen equipments, publishing and car renting. All employers and self-employed are also included in this function. Taxes included in this measure are value added tax and income withholding tax (i.e. payroll tax).
- Firms that have fallen into default in April, May and June have a force majeure note in their credit registry.
- Annual income tax filing and payment deadline for individuals related to the year 2019 has been postponed by one month to 30 April 2020.
- The accommodation tax in hotels and tourism facilities will be waived until November
- The VAT rate for domestic flights will be lowered from 18 percent to 1 percent for 3 months.
- Exporters will be given stock financing assistance to maintain capacity during the slowdown.
- State banks Ziraat, VakıfBank and Halkbank announced packages for supporting economic activities in Turkey, following the recommendations of the Turkish Banking Association (TBB). Banks will provide long-term postponements of up to 12 months for some sectors which were affected by the outbreak the most, such as tourism and public transportation. Firms will be given extra credit limit for easing their check payments and operation costs. Ziraat and Halkbank will open a special credit line for the next three months to continue paying personnel salaries, but on the condition that these firms do not drop the number of employed staff.
- The Credit Guarantee Fund increased its limits for SME loans from 3.8 to 7.7 billion US\$.

## COVID-19 Measures – More Information About Measures

- Please Note That: The further information may direct you to Turkish sources. For more details please get in contact with us.

### Health:

Institution	Measure & Action	Further Information
The Ministry of Health	Daily updates about Covid 19	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Ministry of Health	A web-site owned by the Ministry of Health. There are many information in the aspect of Covid 19 for citizens and health professionals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily updates regarding decisions of Scientific Advisory Board</li> <li>• Case Management Flowchart for 2nd and 3rd step Health Institutions</li> <li>• Follow up algorithms for passengers and flight attendants</li> <li>• Polyclinic / Emergency patient scheme</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Ministry of Health	Turkey expands health measures amid COVID-19 outbreak; Hospitals meeting specific conditions to serve as pandemic hospitals	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Ministry of Health	The number of COVID-19 labs nationwide will be boosted to 16, and diagnosis kits will be sent to all cities.	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Ministry of Health	EU Project: Improving the Health Status of the Syrian Population under Temporary Protection and related Services Provided by Turkish Authorities	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Ministry of the Interior	Turkey imposes curfew for people over 65 as virus toll rises	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Ministry of the Interior	Pavilions, discotheques, bars and night clubs would be closed temporarily starting from 10:00 on 16 March.	<a href="#">Link</a>
Directoriate of Religious Affairs	Turkey suspends mosque prayers, court hearings to halt virus	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Ministry of Culture and Tourism	Turkey to shut public libraries.	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Ministry of Youth and Sports	Turkey suspends all sports competitions	<a href="#">Link</a>

### Travel:

Institution	Measure & Action	Further Information
The Transport and Infrastructure Ministry	The Government of Turkey has suspended passenger flights to/from 68 countries	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Ministry of Health	Turkey decided to quarantine all passengers returning from the countries with travel ban for 14 days including Umrah	<a href="#">Link</a>

**Economy:**

Institution	Measure & Action	Further Information
Turkish Revenue Administration	COVID 19: Emergency tax measures for Turkish companies	<a href="#">Link</a>
Statebanks (Vakıfbank, Halkbank, Ziraatbank)	Three banks declared in separate statements that they will postpone loans of individuals and firms and also provide flexibility to their customers.	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Turkish Industry and Technology Ministry	The ministry said in a statement that SMEs Development Organization of Turkey (KOSGEB) loans were postponed for three months, and it gave additional four months for their projects.	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Ministry of Treasury and Finance	Turkey will postpone for six months the April, May and June VAT and social security payments of retail, iron-steel, automotive, logistics-transportation, cinema-theatre, housing, food-beverage, textile-garment and event-organisation sectors.	<a href="#">Link</a>
OECD	Economic precautions of Turkey and other countries	<a href="#">Link</a>

**Education:**

Institution	Measure & Action	Further Information
The Ministry of National Education	As part of measures against coronavirus, Turkish education minister says lessons to be aired on TV, Internet	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Ministry of National Education	Turkish education minister announces schools to be closed until April 30, continuing with online education	<a href="#">Link</a>

**Employment:**

Institution	Measure & Action	Further Information
The Ministry of Labour, Social Services and Family	The short-term working benefit is provided to employees during the short-term working period. In any case, the allowance is provided for a term of maximum three months, and the Presidency of the Turkish Republic is authorized to extend this term to six months.	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Ministry of Labour, Social Services and Family	Flexible work arrangements apply to employees of public institutions and organizations	<a href="#">Link</a>
The Ministry of Labour, Social Services and Family	Government underlined that the country would earmark 7 billion Turkish liras (\$1.08 billion) in support for workers with minimum wage.	<a href="#">Link</a>