

A Study of Turkish High School Admissions

Umut Dur¹ Sinan Ertemel² Onur Kesten³

Abstract

This paper studies the recent reforms in the Turkish High School admissions system. There are two types of high schools in Turkey: public and private schools. Public school admissions are administered in a centralized manner, whereas private school admissions are done in a decentralized manner. Up until 2013, private school assignments followed the centralized public school assignments. Starting from 2014, private school assignments are carried out in a first round along with a policy change in the terms re-entry into the second round. We study the performance of both sequential assignment systems. We show that although the current system is an improvement over its predecessor, alternative solutions that outperform both systems are available.

1 Department of Economics, North Carolina State University, 2801 Founders Drive, Raleigh, NC 27695, USA. e-mail:umutdur@gmail.com

2 Department of Economics, Istanbul Technical University, Macka, 34367, Istanbul, Turkey. Contact: e-mail: ertemels@itu.edu.tr

3 Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, USA. e-mail: okesten@andrew.cmu.edu