

Health Policy Analysis of Written Question Motions Submitted to the Presidency and Ministries By the Deputies Between 2018–2022 in Türkiye

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Introduction

- Written question motion is a constitutional way of obtaining information that allows a deputy to receive written information in the form of an official statement with a proposal from the relevant minister on behalf of the government on a matter related to the government's mandate¹.
- The aim of this study is to analyze written question motions submitted by parliamentarians to the ministers and the vice president of Türkiye.

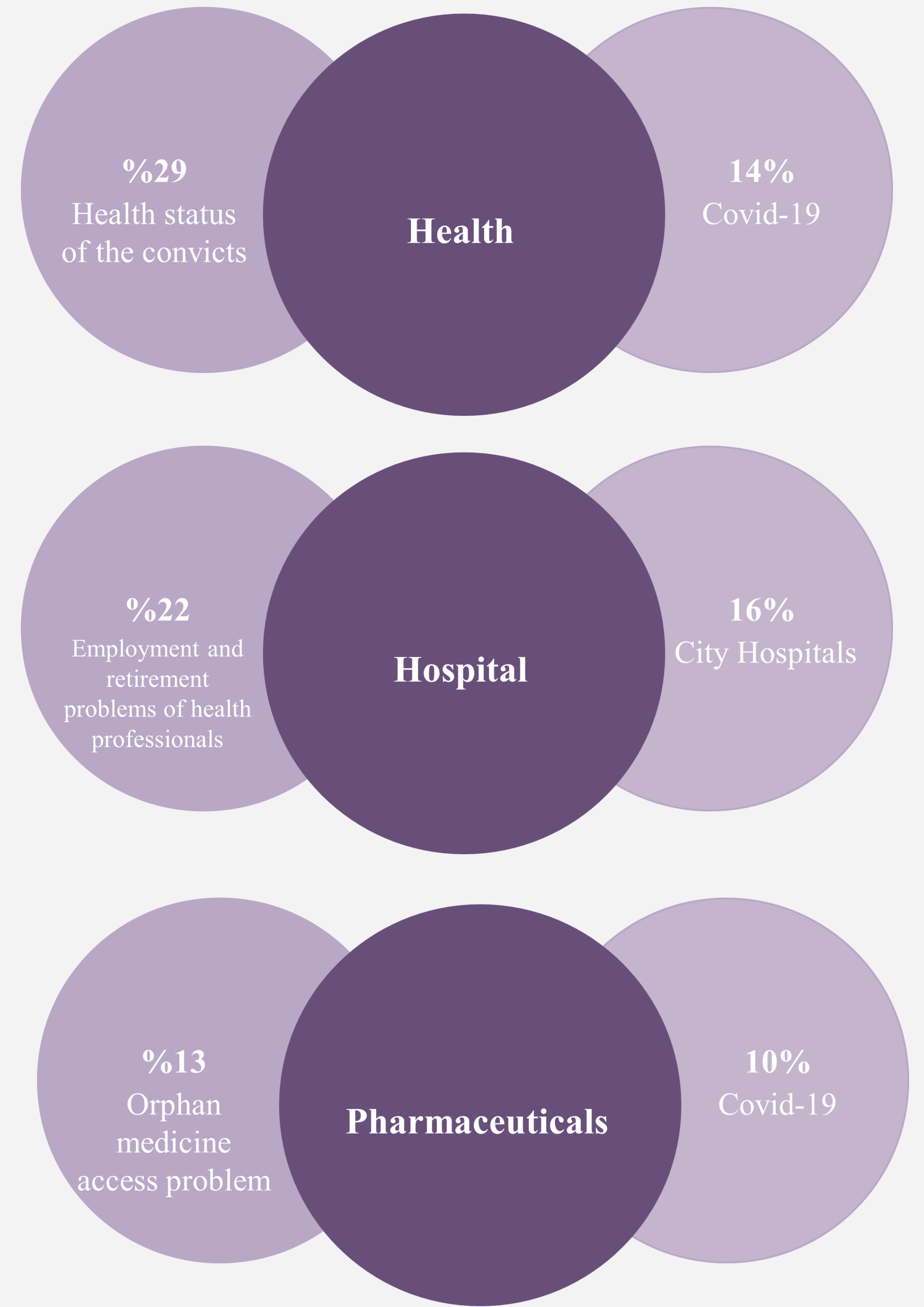
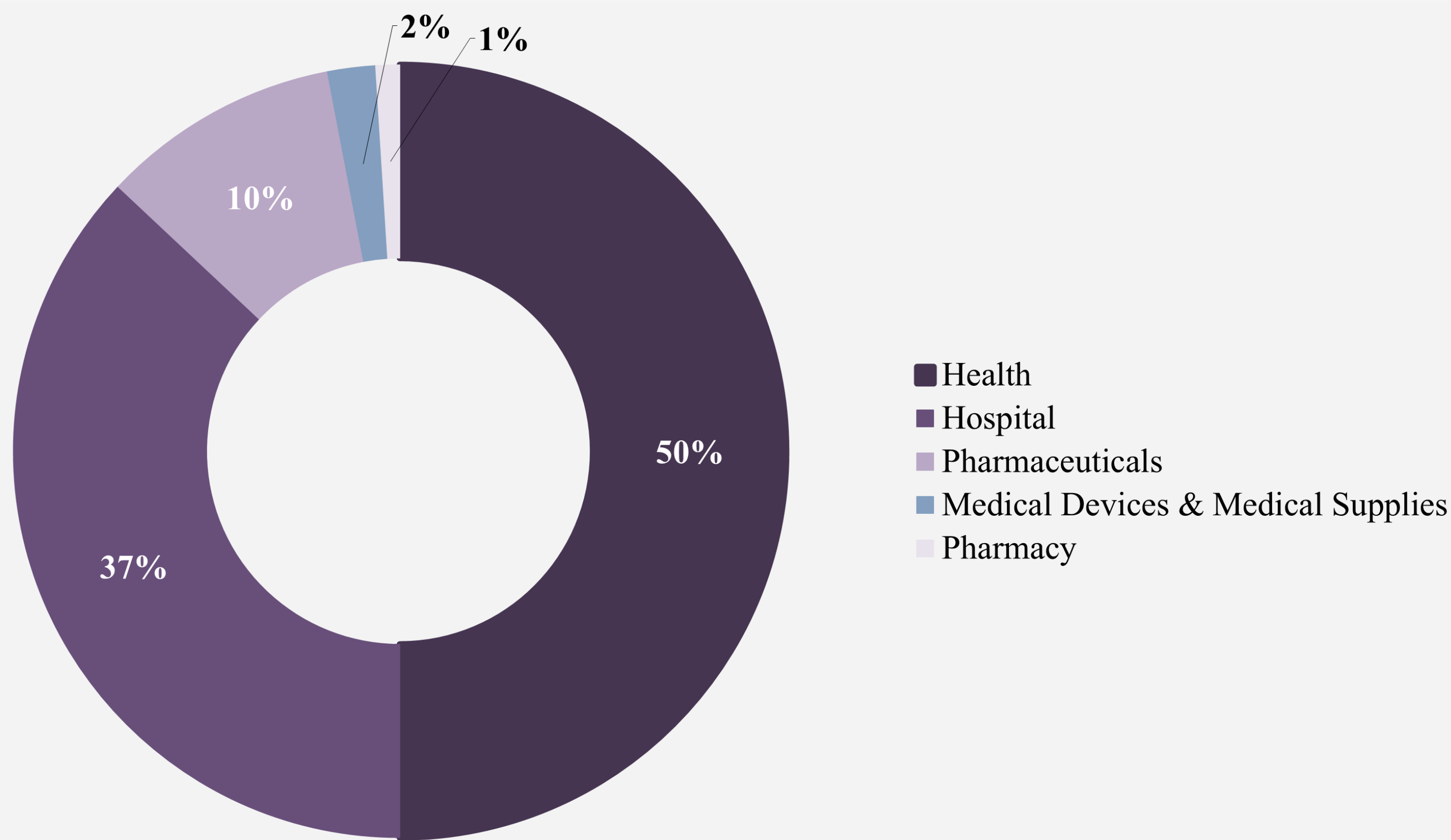
Methods

- Keywords in the field of health were determined in order to examine written question motions published on the official website of the Turkish Grand National Assembly.
- The keywords that have been determined are pharmacy, hospital, medicine, health, medical device, and medical equipment.
- Motions published between 01.01.2018 and 31.01.2022 were included in the research.
- Written question motions containing the determined keywords were documented through the Microsoft Office Excel program and analyzed.

Results

- There were 3,727 motions containing the determined keywords, of which 50% were in the field of health, 37% in hospitals, 10% in pharmaceuticals, 2% in medical devices & medical supplies and 1% in the field of pharmacy.
- It was found that 29% of the motions presented in the field of health were related to the health status of the convicts and 14% were related to COVID-19. It was also found that 16% of the motions presented on the subject of hospitals were related to city hospitals and 22% were related to regarding the need, resignation and retirement of employment and problems of health personnel in hospitals.
- Furthermore, 13% of the motions presented in the field of medicine are related to the problems experienced in accessing and supplying medicines for rare diseases. In addition, motion topics related to COVID-19 are presented in every field.

Main Topics of Motions



Conclusions

- Considering that convicts face many problems while accessing health services and medicines and supplying medicines in the written question motions submitted in Türkiye, it can be said that policy arrangements are needed in this area.
- In addition, the shortage, resignation, retirement and employment of health professionals is one of the important problem areas in Türkiye.
- Türkiye lags behind developed countries in terms of health workforce, especially in the number of physicians and nurses, and regional inequalities are evident.
- A sustainable health system is one of the most important resources, and the issue of labor is one of the areas that should be prioritized in Türkiye.

References

- Bülbül, M. (2007). Written Question in Parliament as a Way of Parliamentary Control. Yasama Dergisi, (4), 27-56.

