ISBN 92-64-01788-7 Taxing Wages: 2003/2004

Special Feature: Broadening the Definition of the Average Worker

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Turkey

	Turkey	2004				
	The tax/benefit position of single persons					
	Wage level (per cent of APW)	67	100	167	67	
	Number of children	none	none	none	2	
1.	Gross wage earnings	9113526492	13670289738	22783816230	9113526492	
2.	Standard tax allowances					
	Basic allowance	0	0	0	0	
	Married or head of family					
	Dependent children					
	Deduction for social security contributions and income taxes	1367028974	2050543461	3417572435	1367028974	
	Work-related expenses					
	Other					
	Total	1367028974	2050543461	3417572435	1367028974	
3.	Tax credits or cash transfers included in taxable income	0	0	0	0	
4.	Central government taxable income (1 - 2 + 3)	7746497518	11619746277	19366243796	7746497518	
5.	Central government income tax liability (exclusive of tax credits)	1249299504	2023949255	3841560949	1249299504	
6.	Tax credits					
	Basic credit	0	0	0	0	
	Married or head of family					
	Children					
	Other					
	Total	0	0	0	0	
7.	Central government income tax finally paid (5-6)	1303980663	2105970994	3978263846	1303980663	
8.	State and local taxes	0	0	0	0	
9.	Employees' compulsory social security contributions					
	Gross earnings	1367028974	2050543461	3417572435	1367028974	
	Taxable income					
	Total	1367028974	2050543461	3417572435	1367028974	
10.	Total payments to general government (7 + 8 + 9)	2671009636	4156514455	7395836281	2671009636	
11.	Cash transfers from general government					
	For head of family					
	For two children	0	0	0	0	
	Total	0	0	0	0	
12.	Take-home pay (1-10+11)	6442516856	9513775283	15387979949	6442516856	
13.	Employer's compulsory social security contributions	1959408196	2939112294	4898520489	1959408196	
14.	Average rates					
	Income tax	14.3%	15.4%	17.5%	14.3%	
	Employees' social security contributions	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	
	Total payments less cash transfers	29.3%	30.4%	32.5%	29.3%	
	Total tax wedge including employer's social security contributions	41.8%	42.7%	44.4%	41.8%	
15.	Marginal rates					
	Total payments less cash transfers: Principal earner	32.6%	32.6%	36.8%	32.6%	
	Total payments less cash transfers: Spouse	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
	Total tax wedge: Principal earner	44.5%	44.5%	48.0%	44.5%	
	Total tax wedge: Spouse	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	

	Turkey 2004					
	The tax/benefit position of married couples					
	Wage level (per cent of APW)	100-0	100-33	100-67	100-33	
	Number of children	2	2	2	none	
1.	Gross wage earnings	13670289738	18227052984	22783816230	18227052984	
2.	Standard tax allowances					
	Basic allowance	0	0	0	0	
	Married or head of family					
	Dependent children					
	Deduction for social security contributions and income taxes	2050543461	2734057948	3417572435	2734057948	
	Work-related expenses					
	Other					
	Total	2050543461	2734057948	3417572435	2734057948	
3.	Tax credits or cash transfers included in taxable income	0	0	0	0	
4.	Central government taxable income (1 - 2 + 3)	11619746277	15492995036	19366243796	15492995036	
5.	Central government income tax liability (exclusive of tax credits)	2023949255	2604936569	3273248759	2604936569	
6.	Tax credits					
	Basic credit	0	0	0	0	
	Married or head of family					
	Children					
	Other					
	Total	0	0	0	0	
7.	Central government income tax finally paid (5-6)	2105970994	2686958308	3355270498	2686958308	
8.	State and local taxes	0	0	0	0	
9.	Employees' compulsory social security contributions					
	Gross earnings	2050543461	2734057948	3417572435	2734057948	
	Taxable income					
	Total	2050543461	2734057948	3417572435	2734057948	
10.	Total payments to general government (7 + 8 + 9)	4156514455	5421016255	6772842932	5421016255	
11.	Cash transfers from general government					
	For head of family					
	For two children	0	0	0	0	
	Total	0	0	0	0	
12.	Take-home pay (1-10+11)	9513775283	12806036729	16010973298	12806036729	
13.	Employer's compulsory social security contributions	2939112294	3918816392	4898520489	3918816392	
14.	Average rates					
	Income tax	15.4%	14.7%	14.7%	14.7%	
	Employees' social security contributions	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	15.0%	
	Total payments less cash transfers	30.4%	29.7%	29.7%	29.7%	
	Total tax wedge including employer's social security contributions	42.7%	42.2%	42.2%	42.2%	
15.	Marginal rates					
	Total payments less cash transfers: Principal earner	32.6%	32.6%	32.6%	32.6%	
	Total payments less cash transfers: Spouse	27.8%	27.7%	32.0%	27.7%	
	Total tax wedge: Principal earner	44.5%	44.5%	44.5%	44.5%	
	Total tax wedge: Spouse	40.5%	40.5%	44.0%	40.5%	

The national currency is the Lira (TRL). In 2004, TRL 1 430 289 was equal to USD 1 (estimated average of eleven months daily exchange rates). In that year, the Average Production Worker earned TRL 13 670 289 738 (Country estimate).

1. Personal income tax systems

1.1. Central government income tax

1.11. Tax unit

Spouses are taxed separately on earned income. This applies since 1 January 1999.

1.12. Tax allowances and tax credits

Income tax is levied on the real net value of wage and salary. The real net value of wage and salary is calculated by making the following deductions from the total cash payments made and fringe benefits given by the employer:

- Legal deductions for public institutions such as OYAK (Social Aid Institution for Military Officers).
- Contributions to social security organisations and premiums for social insurance (provided that the organisation or the institution are resident in Turkey).
- Premiums paid by the wage-earner for himself (or herself) and his (or her) spouse and dependent children for personal insurance covering, death, accident, illness, disablement, maternity, birth and education, provided that the insurance is contracted with a company established in or with a main office in Turkey.
- As of July 2001, the total deductions for public institutions, contributions to social security organisations and premiums for social insurance are limited to 10% of declared earnings. The deduction for personal insurance premiums is limited to 5% of declared earnings. In total, the deductions can not exceed the annual minimum wage.

After calculating the real net value of the wage and salary, the deductions mentioned below are made to obtain taxable income.

1.121. Standard reliefs

- Reliefs for disabled: Employees with a disability may claim a deduction that varies depending upon the severity. The monthly deduction amounts range from TRL 110 000 000 to 440 000 000.
- Reliefs for social security contributions: Employees' social security contributions are deductible from gross income. This contribution is 15 per cent of gross income as stated by the social insurance act. The contribution to the unemployment fund is included in this amount and amounts to 1 per cent of the gross income. It is applied after 01.06.2000.
- Work-related expenses: None.

1.122. Main non-standard tax reliefs applicable to an APW

- Special Tax Credit for Wage and Salary Earners: For 2004, the provision that has applied
 in previous years will continue to apply to all wage and salary earners. The basic
 requirement is to provide the appropriate invoice/receipt for five types of expenditures
 and to file a special expenditure deduction return. Base for the tax credit is of expenses.
 Upper limit for the tax credit is 35 per cent of the tax base.
- A new special tax credit system will apply beginning in 2005 that will be based on the expenditures of the previous year. Wage and salary earners will receive a credit in 2005 based on their expenditures in 2004 that will either be credited from tax due in 2005 or refunded by the employer. The credit is calculated based on specified expenditures based on the following schedule:

Value of specified expenditures	Tax credit rate
0 to TRL 3 billion	8 per cent
TRL 3 billion to TRL 6 billion	6 per cent
Over TRL 6 billion	4 per cent

1.13. Tax schedule

The tax schedule in 2003 was as follows:

Taxable income (one million TRL)	Tax on lower threshold (one million TRL)	Tax on excess amount above lower threshold (%)
Up to 6 000		15
6 000 up to 14 000	900	20
14 000 up to 284 000	2 500	25
28 000 up to 70 000	6 000	30
70 000 up to 140 000	18 600	35
140 000 and over	43 100	40

1.2. State and local income taxes

Income tax is levied only by the central government.

1.3. Stamp tax

The stamp tax base is gross earnings. The tax rate is 0.006 per cent for the year 2004.

2. Compulsory social security contributions to schemes operated within the government sector

2.1. Employees' contributions

2.11. Pensions (disability, old age and death insurance): 9 per cent

2.12. Sickness: 5 per cent

2.13. Unemployment: 1 per cent

2.2. Employers' contributions

2.21. Pensions (disability, old age and death insurance): 11 per cent

2.22. Sickness: 6 per cent

2.23. Unemployment: 2 per cent

2.24. Work injury

Varies from 1.5 per cent to 7.0 per cent according to the industry (includes occupational disease insurance). For the purposes of this Report, the lowest rate is used (1.5 per cent).

2.25. Others (maternity insurance): 1.0 per cent

There is no distinction by marital status or sex and the contributions apply to gross earnings. Compulsory social security contributions of employees and their employers are calculated according to the above mentioned schemes.

For employees whose gross earnings are below the base or above ceiling earnings, which are determined at least twice a year, these contribution rates are applied to the base or ceiling amounts respectively. The ceiling effective July 1, 2004 amounted to TLR 2 886 975 000 per month. The ceiling that is used in this Report amounts to TRL 33 810 750 000. The base amount, which is not relevant to the calculations contained in this Report, amounts to TRL 5 962 680 000, which is equal to the minimum wage as required by the Social Security Law.

3. Universal cash transfers

Employees obtain universal cash transfers according to the collective labour agreements that are signed between the employer and the labour union. These agreements vary according to bargaining power of the parties for all sectors in the economy. This is the reason why there is no standard amount reflecting the general transfers.

4. Main changes in tax/benefit system since 2000

In 2004, the tax schedule was modified and the basic allowance was eliminated.

The Special Credit for Wage and Salary Earners has been amended.

5. Memorandum items

5.1. Identification of an APW

The earnings figure refers to all production workers in the manufacturing sector. The data have been built up from monthly data and refer to the calendar year.

5.2. Contribution to private pension and health schemes

In accordance with Article 128 of Social Insurance Act No. 506, business enterprises as employers are permitted only to make arrangements for pension to their employees on their retirement in addition to national retirement schemes. Such additional pension arrangements, which are optional, are not widely used.

5.3. Saving premium and employer contribution

According to the Act No. 4447, this was abolished on June 1, 2000.

2004 Parameter values

Average earnings/yr	Ave_earn	13 670 289 738	Country estimate
Allowances	Basic_al	0	
Income tax	Tax_sch	0.15	6 000 000 000
		0.20	14 000 000 000
		0.25	28 000 000 000
		0.30	70 000 000 000
		0.35	140 000 000 000
		0.40	
Stamp tax	Stamp_rate	0.006	
Employees SSC	SSC_rate	0.15	
	SSC_ceil	33 810 750 000	
Employers SSC	SSC_empr	0.215	

2004 Tax equations

The equations for the Turkish system are on an individual basis.

The functions which are used in the equations (Taper, MIN, Tax etc) are described in the technical note about tax equations. Variable names are defined in the table of parameters above, within the equations table, or are the standard variables "married" and "children". A reference to a variable with the affix "_total" indicates the sum of the relevant variable values for the principal and spouse. And the affixes "_princ" and "_spouse" indicate the value for the principal and spouse, respectively. Equations for a single person are as shown for the principal, with "_spouse" values taken as 0.

1. Earnings 2. Allowances: tax_al B Basic_al+SSC 3. Credits in taxable income taxbl_cr B 0 4. CG taxable income tax_inc B Positive(earn-tax_al) Stamp tax stamp_tax B earn*stamp_rate 5. CG tax before credits CG_tax_excl B Tax(tax_inc,tax_sch) + stamp_tax 6. Tax credits tax_cr B 0 7. CG tax CG_tax B CG_tax_excl 8. State and local taxes local_tax B 0 9. Employees' soc security SSC B Min(earn,SSC_ceil)*SSC_rate 11. Cash transfers cash_trans B 0				
2. Allowances: tax_al B Basic_al+SSC 3. Credits in taxable income taxbl_cr B 0 4. CG taxable income tax_inc B Positive(earn-tax_al) Stamp tax B earn*stamp_rate 5. CG tax before credits CG_tax_excl B Tax(tax_inc,tax_sch) + stamp_tax 6. Tax credits tax_cr B 0 7. CG tax CG_tax B CG_tax_excl 8. State and local taxes local_tax B 0 9. Employees' soc security SSC B Min(earn,SSC_ceil)*SSC_rate 11. Cash transfers cash_trans B 0	Line in country table and intermediate steps	Variable name	Range	Equation
Stamp tax Stam	1. Earnings	earn		
4. CG taxable income tax_inc B Positive(earn-tax_al) Stamp tax stamp_tax B earn*stamp_rate 5. CG tax before credits CG_tax_excl B Tax(tax_inc,tax_sch) + stamp_tax 6. Tax credits tax_cr B 0 7. CG tax CG_tax B CG_tax_excl 8. State and local taxes local_tax B 0 9. Employees' soc security SSC B Min(earn,SSC_ceil)*SSC_rate 11. Cash transfers cash_trans B 0	2. Allowances:	tax_al	В	Basic_al+SSC
Stamp tax stamp_tax B earn*stamp_rate 5. CG tax before credits CG_tax_excl B Tax(tax_inc,tax_sch) + stamp_tax 6. Tax credits tax_cr B 0 7. CG tax B CG_tax_excl 8. State and local taxes local_tax B 0 9. Employees' soc security SSC B Min(earn,SSC_ceil)*SSC_rate 11. Cash transfers cash_trans B 0	3. Credits in taxable income	taxbl_cr	В	0
Tax (tax_inc,tax_sch) + stamp_tax	4. CG taxable income	tax_inc	В	Positive(earn-tax_al)
6. Tax credits tax_cr B 0 7. CG tax B CG_tax_excl 8. State and local taxes local_tax B 0 9. Employees' soc security SSC B Min(earn,SSC_ceil)*SSC_rate 11. Cash transfers cash_trans B 0	Stamp tax	stamp_tax	В	earn*stamp_rate
7. CG tax	5. CG tax before credits	CG_tax_excl	В	Tax(tax_inc,tax_sch) + stamp_tax
B. State and local taxes local_tax B 0 B. Employees' soc security SSC B Min(earn,SSC_ceil)*SSC_rate 11. Cash transfers cash_trans B 0	6. Tax credits	tax_cr	В	0
9. Employees' soc security SSC B Min(earn,SSC_ceil)*SSC_rate 11. Cash transfers Cash_trans B 0	7. CG tax	CG_tax	В	CG_tax_excl
11. Cash transfers cash_trans B 0	8. State and local taxes	local_tax	В	0
	9. Employees' soc security	SSC	В	Min(earn,SSC_ceil)*SSC_rate
13. Employer's soc security SSC_empr B Min(earn,SSC_ceil)*SSC_empr	11. Cash transfers	cash_trans	В	0
	13. Employer's soc security	SSC_empr	В	Min(earn,SSC_ceil)*SSC_empr

Key to range of equation:

B calculated separately for both principal earner and spouse.

P calculated for principal only (value taken as 0 for spouse calculation).

J calculated once only on a joint basis.

Table of Contents

Part I

Basic Methodology and Main Results

1.	Basic	methodology	12
2.	Revie	w of results for 2004	12
3.		lts for 2003	23
4.		rical trends	25
	Specie	al Feature. Broadening the Definition of the Average Worker	33
		Part II	
		Comparative Tables and Charts	
1.	Tax I	Burdens, 2004 (Tables)	44
	II.1. II.2.	Income tax, by family-type and wage level (as % of gross wage), 2004 Employee contributions, by family-type and wage level	44
	II.3.	(as % of gross wage), 2004	45
		(as % of gross wage), 2004	46
	II.4.	Income tax plus employee contributions less cash benefits, by family-type and wage level (as % of gross wage), 2004	47
	II.5.	Income tax plus employee and employer contributions less cash benefits,	
		by family-type and wage level (as % of labour costs), 2004	48
	II.6.	Marginal rate of income tax plus employee contributions less cash	
		benefits, by family-type and wage level (as % of gross wage), 2004	49
	II.7.	Marginal rate of income tax plus employee and employer contributions less cash benefits, by family-type and wage level (as % of labour costs),	
		2004	50
	II.8.	Increase in net income after 1% increase in gross wage, by family-type	50
		and wage level (%), 2004	51
	II.9.	Increase in net income after 1% increase in labour costs, by family-type	
		and wage level (%), 2004	52
	II.10.	Annual gross wage and net income, by family-type and wage level	- 0
	TT 11	(in US dollars), 2004	53
	11.11.	Annual labour costs and net income, by family-type and wage level (in US dollars), 2004	55
		(III 00 dollars), 2001	,,

2.	Tax l	Burdens, 2003 (Tables)	57
		Income tax, by family-type and wage level (as % of gross wage), 2003	57
	11.13.	Employee contributions, by family-type and wage level (as % of gross wage), 2003	58
	II 14	Income tax plus employee contributions, by family-type and wage level	56
	11.11.	(as % of gross wage), 2003	59
	II.15.	Income tax plus employee contributions less cash benefits,	
		by family-type and wage level (as % of gross wage), 2003	60
	II.16.	Income tax plus employee and employer contributions, less cash benefits,	
		by family-type and wage level (as % of labour costs), 2003	61
	II.17.	Marginal rate of income tax plus employee contributions less cash	
		benefits, by family-type and wage level (as % of gross wage), 2003	62
	II.18.	Marginal rate of income tax plus employee and employer contributions	
		less cash benefits, by family-type and wage level (as % of labour costs),	
		2003	63
	II.19.	Increase in net income after 1% increase in gross wage,	
		by family-type and wage level (%), 2003	64
	II.20.	Increase in net income after 1% increase in labour costs,	
		by family-type and wage level (%), 2003	65
	II.21.	Annual gross wage and net income, by family-type and wage level	
		(in US dollars), 2003	66
	11.22.	Annual labour costs and net income, by family-type and wage level	
		(in US dollars), 2003	68
3.	Tax l	Burdens, 2003 (Charts)	70
	II.1.	Income tax, by family-type (as % of gross wage), 2004	70
	II.2.	Employee contributions, by family-type (as % of gross wage), 2004	71
	II.3.	Income tax plus employee contributions less cash benefits, by family-type	
		(as % of gross wage), 2004	72
	II.4.	Income tax plus employee and employer contributions less cash benefits,	
		by family-type (as % of labour costs), 2004	73
	II.5.	Marginal rate of income tax plus employee contributions less cash	
		benefits, by family-type (as % of gross wage), 2004	74
	II.6.	Marginal rate of income tax plus employee and employer contributions	
		less cash benefits, by family-type (as % of labour costs), 2004	75
		Part III	
		Historical Trends, 1979-2004	
TTT -	lo Ev	olution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Single persons without children	
111.		67% of average earnings. Income tax as a % of gross earnings	78
111 -		olution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Single persons without children	70
111.		67% of average earnings. Income tax plus employee contributions less	
		sh benefits as a % of gross earnings	79
III -		olution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Single persons without children	, ,
		67% of average earnings. Income tax plus employee and employer	
		ntributions less cash benefits as a % of gross earnings	80

III.2a.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Single persons without children	
	at 100% of average earnings. Income tax as a % of gross earnings	81
III.2b.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Single persons without children	
	at 100% of average earnings. Income tax plus employee contributions less	
	cash benefits as a % of gross earnings	82
III.2c.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Single persons without children	
	at 100% of average earnings. Income tax plus employee and employer	
	contributions less cash benefits as a % of gross earnings	83
III 3a	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Single persons without children	00
111.5u.	at 167% of average earnings. Income tax as a % of gross earnings	84
III 3h	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Single persons without children	01
111.50.	at 167% of average earnings. Income tax plus employee contributions less	
	cash benefits as a % of gross earnings	85
III 3c	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Single persons without children	65
111.5C.	at 167% of average earnings. Income tax plus employee and employer	
		86
III 40	contributions less cash benefits as a % of gross earnings	00
III. 4 a.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Single parent with two children	07
TTT 41-	at 67% of average earnings. Income tax as a % of gross earnings	87
III. 4 D.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Single parent with two children	
	at 67% of average earnings. Income tax plus employee contributions less	-00
	cash benefits as a % of gross earnings.	88
III.4c.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Single parent with two children	
	at 67% of average earnings. Income tax plus employee and employer	
	contributions less cash benefits as a % of gross earnings	89
III.5a.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. One-earner married couple	
	with two children at 100% of average earnings.	
	Income tax as a % of gross earnings	90
III.5b.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. One-earner married couple	
	with two children at 100% of average earnings. Income tax plus employee	
	contributions less cash benefits as a % of gross earnings	91
III.5c.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. One-earner married couple	
	with two children at 100% of average earnings. Income tax plus employee	
	and employer contributions less cash benefits as a % of gross earnings	92
III.6a.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Two-earner married couple,	
	one at 100% average earnings and the other at 33%.	
	Income tax as a % of gross earnings	93
III.6b.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Two-earner married couple,	
	one at 100% average earnings and the other at 33%. Income tax plus	
	employee contributions less cash benefits as a % of gross earnings	94
III.6c.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Two-earner married couple,	
	one at 100% average earnings and the other at 33%.	
	Income tax plus employee and employer contributions less cash benefits	
	as a % of gross earnings	95
III.7a.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Two-earner married couple,	
	one at 100% average earnings and the other at 67%.	
	Income tax as a % of gross earnings	96

III.7b.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Two-earner married couple,	
	one at 100% average earnings and the other at 67%. Income tax plus	
	employee contributions less cash benefits as a % of gross earnings	97
III.7c.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Two-earner married couple,	
	one at 100% average earnings and the other at 67%.	
	Income tax plus employee and employer contributions less cash benefits	
		98
TTT O -	as a % of gross earnings	98
III.8a.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Two-earner married couple,	
	one at 100% average earnings and the other at 33%, with no children.	
	Income tax as a % of gross earnings	99
III.8b.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Two-earner married couple,	
	one at 100% average earnings and the other at 33%, with no children.	
	Income tax plus employee contributions less cash benefits	
	as a % of gross earnings	100
III.8c.	Evolution of the tax burden, 1996-2004. Two-earner married couple,	
	one at 100% average earnings and the other at 33%, with no children.	
	Income tax plus employee and employer contributions less cash benefits	
	as a % of gross earnings	101
III.9.		
	Income tax plus employee contributions (in % of gross wage), 1979-2004,	102
111.10.	single persons without children	100
111 11	· ·	103
111.11.	Income tax plus employee and employer contributions (as % of labour costs),	404
	1979-2004, single persons without children	104
III.12.	Income tax (as % of gross wage), 1979-2004, one-earner family	
	with two children	105
III.13.	Income tax plus employee contributions less cash benefits	
	(as % of gross wage), 1979-2004, one-earner family with two children	106
III.14.	Income tax plus employee and employer contributions less cash benefits	
	(as % of labour costs), 1979-2004, one-earner family with two children	107
	Part IV	
	Country Details, 2004	
	W (222 C227	
	alia (2004-2005 Income Tax Year)	
	ia	125
Belgiu	ım (French only)	
Canad	da	147
Czech	Republic	163
Denm	nark	173
Finlar	nd	183
France	e (French only)	191
	`	205
	·	215
		225
_	•	235
	d	
		245
italy .		255

	nbourg (French only)	
	20	
	erlands	
	Zealand (2004-2005 Income Tax Year)	
	ay	
	d	
_	gal (French only)	
	k Republic	
-		
	enen	
	erland (French only)	
-	y	
	d Kingdom (2004-2005 Income Tax Year)	
Unite	d States	421
	Part V	
	Methodology and Limitations	
	33	
Metho	odology	433
1. In	troduction	434
2. Ca	alculation of gross wage earnings	434
3. Es	stimating gross wage earnings in 2004	439
4. Co	overage of taxes and benefits	440
5. Ta	expayer characteristics	441
6. Ca	alculation of personal income taxes	442
7. St	ate and local income taxes	443
8. Sc	ocial security contributions	448
9. Pa	ayroll taxes	448
10. Cł	hurch tax	449
11. Fa	amily cash benefits from general government	449
12. No	on-wastable tax credits	450
Limita	ations	453
1. Ge	eneral limitations	454
	ome specific limitations on the income tax calculation	
	mitations to time-series comparisons	
	mitations to marginal rates	
	G	
A Not	te on the Tax Equations	459
Annex	A. Overall Tax Levels and Tax Structures in OECD Member Countries,	
	1990-2002	463
Annex	B. Source of Earnings Data	
	C. Exchange Rates and Purchasing Power Parities of National Currencies,	-55
	2004	467
		-



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