

Turkey-Central Budget

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July 2021 - Tax revenue growth decelerates

In July, the central government budget balance yielded a deficit of TRY45.8bn and the primary balance a deficit of TRY22.2bn. There was a significant deterioration in the budget performance compared to the previous year due to the heavy monthly interest payments and deceleration in tax revenues.

In addition to limited expenditures, the base effect caused by weak domestic demand and postponed tax payments within the scope of Covid-19 measures last year had led to a significant improvement in the budget in the February-May 2021 period. We expect revenue performance to lose pace in the second half of the year, as the aforementioned base effects weaken and domestic demand enters a more moderate trend. In July, the expansion in the budget deficit accelerated due to weakening base effect as well as the redemption of one of the highest interest payments of the year. With these effects continuing in the coming months, we estimate that the budget deficit, which we calculated as 1.7% of GDP at the end of June, will be close to the updated target of 3.5% for 2021 by the end of the year.

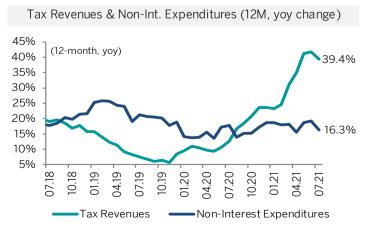
Budget deficit widened significantly in 12-month cumulative terms

- •The budget deficit increased by TRY16.1bn to TRY111.9bn compared to the previous month (Ministry 2021 estimate is TRY200bn deficit)
- •The primary surplus decreased by TRY0.9bn to TRY56.8bn compared to the previous month (Ministry 2021 estimate is TRY20.3bn deficit)

Tax revenue growth decelerates

- •The base effect led by the deferred tax payments in 2020 and the acceleration trend created by strong consumption in tax revenues came to an end in July. Thus, tax revenue growth slowed down both on a mom and 12month basis. Total tax revenue growth was 11% in July, the lowest increase in the last 14 months. In July, there was a slowdown in all main tax groups except banking&insurance transaction tax and special communication tax. Total SCT revenues fell by 15% as revenues from motor vehicles, durable goods, petroleum, natural gas products and tobacco decreased yoy. Although VAT and import VAT revenues rose high at 38% yoy, there was a slowdown compared to previous months. In addition to the continuation of VAT support in some sectors, the sliding scale system in fuel prices limit tax revenue growth.
- •The yoy increase in non-interest expenditures was limited to 9% in July. Even though investment expenditures gained momentum, the 1% yoy decrease in current transfer expenditures contained the increase in total noninterest expenditures.
- •In July, hefty interest payments were one of the reasons for the deterioration in the budget performance. In July, interest payments rose 180% yoy to TL 23.6bn. Thus, interest expenditures ytd increased by 44% yoy. According to Ministry data, interest expenditures, which are calculated to increase by c. 34% in 2021, will create an expansionary effect on the budget deficit.

Central Budget Details



bn TRY	Jul'20	Jul'21	Change (yoy)	Jan-Jul 20	Jan-Jul 21	Change (yoy)
Expenditures	116.2	141.1	21%	681.1	804.4	18%
1-Non-Interest Exp.	107.8	117.4	9%	601.4	689.9	15%
Personnel	25.8	30.7	19%	171.7	201.2	17%
Goods&Services	6.3	7.5	19%	41.9	47.3	13%
Current Transfers	58.9	58.4	-1%	298.0	337.6	13%
Capital Exp.	10.1	14.1	40%	45.0	53.0	18%
Others	6.8	6.8	1%	44.8	50.9	14%
2-Interest Exp.	8.5	23.6	180%	79.7	114.5	44%
Revenues	86.5	95.3	10%	541.9	726.1	34%
Tax Revenues	76.0	84.7	11%	412.0	581.7	41%
Non-tax Revenues	10.5	10.5	0%	130.0	144.4	11%
Budget Balance	-29.7	-45.8	54%	-139.1	-78.3	-44%
Primary Surplus	-21.2	-22.2	4%	-59.4	36.2	-161%

Source: Ministry of Treasury and Finance, Garanti BBVA Securities



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