

## **Turkey's GDP grows 2.2 pct in 2012**

ANKARA, April 1 (Xinhua) -- Turkey's economy grew slower than expected in 2012 at a rate of 2.2 percent, the Turkish Statistics Institute (TurkStat) said Monday. According to data released by the TurkStat, Turkey's annual gross domestic product (GDP) in 2012 reached 1416.8 billion Turkish Liras (about 782.5 billion U.S. dollars), increased by 2.2 percent from the previous year. In the same year, Turkish per capita GDP increased to 10,504 dollars. The data indicated that Turkey's GDP growth was registered a record low at 1.4 percent in the fourth quarter of 2012 over the same months of 2011. There had been a progressive decrease in Turkey's growth rate last year, from 3.4 percent in the first quarter to 1.4 percent in the fourth quarter. Turkey expected a growth rate of 4 percent for 2012 at the beginning of the year, and it was later revised to 3.2 percent. In 2011, Turkey's economy expanded by 8.5 percent, becoming one of the fastest-growing economies across the world. The International Monetary Fund previously forecast that Turkey's GDP would grow by 2.3 percent in 2012 and accelerate to 3.2 percent in 2013.