# RESEARCH TRENDS IN EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY IN TURKEY: 2010-2018 YEAR THESIS AND META-ANALYSIS OF ARTICLES

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this research is the analysis using meta-analysis of studies in the field of Educational Technology in Turkey and in the field is to demonstrate how to get to that trend. For this purpose, a total of 263 studies were analyzed including 98 theses and 165 articles published between 2010-2018. Purpose sampling method was used when selecting publications. In the research, while selecting articles and theses; Turkey addressed; YOK Tez Tarama Database, Journal of Hacettepe University Faculty of Education, Educational Sciences : Theory & Practice Journal, Education and Science Journal, Elementary Education Online Journal, The Turkish Online Journal of Education and The Turkish Online Journal of Educational Technology used in journals. Publications have been reviewed under 11 criteria. Index, year of publication, research scope, method, education level, sample, number of samples, data collection methods, analysis techniques, and research tendency, research topics in Educational Technology Research in Turkey has revealed. The data is interpreted based on percentage and frequency and the results are shown using the table.

# Keywords

Educational Technologies, Research Trends, Meta Analysis, Publication Classification.

# **1.INTRODUCTION**

Educational Technology manages the fields of activity of personnel and teaching tools in humanmachine systems for a more effective learning-teaching process; It is a discipline based on applied scientific research that controls environmental factors, integrates theory and practice and continuously modernizes and improves educational activities (Alkan, 2011). The definition of educational technologies is most recently defined by AECT. Educational technologies according to this definition; it is the ethical implementation and study of technological processes and resources in order to support learning, and to design, use and coordinate the learning performance (AECT, 2004). With the developments in the information boom and the development of information and communication technologies, the theory, method and subject areas in which Education Technologies are affected in time have also changed. Constructivist learning theory and student-centered education approach have focused on these issues in educational technologies (Erdoğmuş and Çağıltay, 2009). In addition, Educational Technology is not a single area; it is a discipline covering very large areas. This discipline includes different fields such as primary education, high school, higher education and military. That is why; within the framework of this wide range of educational technologies, many studies have been carried out by researchers in Turkey and abroad.

Educational technology research falls into the general category of applied research. The basic

approach is to take what basic research has established in areas such as the psychology of human learning and apply basic research findings, associated theories and prior applied research findings to improve learning and instruction with [and sometimes without] technology (Spector, 2013).

When we look at the literature, it is possible to mention the studies that determine trends in educational technology research. Cafarella, one of the pioneers of these studies, examined the trends in doctoral dissertations in the USA from 1977 to the present. According to the study, the trends in doctoral theses completed from 1977 to 1998; Educational Technologies has increased in favor of computer use in education, educational software design, individual differences and the effectiveness of computers in education. According to this study, the studies of media comparison (effect of media on learning) decreased and the use of qualitative research methods increased (Caffarella, 1999).

Tuncay, Keser and Uzunboylu conducted a meta-analysis in the field of educational technology research in 2010. As a result; 815 documents were examined; mixed learning, distance learning, distance learning, e-learning, information and communication technologies, instructional design, mobile learning, online education, online learning, web-based learning are frequently found in the keywords.

In Turkey Erdoğmuş and Cağıltay (2009), 248 master's research and have reached the doctoral thesis and methodology used in this thesis, sample creation techniques, research circles, has examined in terms of data collection, inventory and research topics that they use and they classified. When the theses are evaluated in terms of the subjects studied, the first two subject areas are; Media (Computer assisted education, distance education, internet, educational materials etc.), and Media Comparison studies. As the reason for the popularity of media comparison studies; the desire of researchers to prove the positive impact of the media on learning and the adoption of new media studies as a completely new study have been shown. When the research methods used in the theses are examined, experimental studies, screening method and case studies are the most frequently used research methods. In the sample selection; random sampling and random sampling methods are the most used sampling methods.

Sert (2010), master's thesis Social Science Citation Index's (SSCI) has made screening, published between 1989 to 2009 date, Turkey addressed and the audience was addressed by 173 article content analysis within Turkey. At the end of the study, it was revealed that learner outputs are the most studied subject.

Göktas, Kücük, Aydemir, Telli, Arpacık, Yıldırım and Reisoglu (2012), in their study between 2000-2009 revealed in 32 international journals published in 2010 under the SSCI Educational Technology field Turkey addressed 460 articles were analyzed using content analysis method. According to the results, it was revealed that most of the articles were researched in the fields of teaching environments and technology. In researches, quantitative methods and research method as a method of screening have been emphasized. As a data collection tool; survey; as a sample; objectives of sample; as data analysis; descriptive analysis was used in research.

# 1.1 Purpose

The aim of this study is; trends in research work in the field of Educational Technology in Turkey, classification is put forward by the publish.

# **1.2 Importance**

This research resulted in the publication of studies in the execution of Educational Technology

area between the years 2010-2018 index in Turkey, according to; release dates, number of authors, research fields, methods, educational level, sample, number of samples, data collection methods, analysis techniques, research purposes and research tendency and research topics in the field are examined. It is foreseen that the results obtained will provide guidance for the researchers who will work in this field. Other than this, researchers will be able to identify the gaps in the field and put forth new studies in this direction.

# **1.3 Limitations**

This research includes studies between the years 2010-2018 in the field of Educational Technology held in Turkey and is limited to 263 publications.

# **2.** Method

#### 2.1 Research Design

This research is an example of a meta-analysis study included in content analysis studies. Meta analysis is a method to bring together the results obtained from the experiments and researches which are studied independently on the same subject, to explain the diversity in these results, to use the statistical methods to obtain more reliable and accurate results (Creswell, 2018). In this study, meta-analysis method was used in order to determine how a trend has been made in the field of Educational Technologies.

#### **2.2 Population and Sample**

The population of research, Education Technology consists of articles and theses published in databases published by the journal in the area of Turkey addressed. The sample of the study, which was published between the years 2010-2018 in the field of Educational Technology of Turkey addressed; YOK Tez Tarama Database, Journal of Hacettepe University Faculty of Education, Educational Sciences : Theory & Practice Journal, Education and Science Journal, Elementary Education Online Journal, The Turkish Online Journal of Education and The Turkish Online Journal of Educational Technology.

#### 2.3 Data Collection

The researches which were published by the researcher in the related journals in the last 8 years were examined and interpreted.

#### Inclusion Criteria of the Data;

- publication index names,
- publication dates,
- scope of research,
- the methods used,
- education level,
- sample group,
- number of samples,
- data collection methods,
- analysis techniques,
- research tendency,
- research topics

# 2.4 Data Analysis

The data obtained in this research are presented as related tables. Purpose of this; to create a visualization of the work as well as the possibility of having an idea about the researches carried out at first sight. The data were interpreted based on percentage and frequency. After the general explanations under the tables, the similarities and differences in the studies were analyzed in detail using the meta-analysis method.

# 2.5 Findings and Results

In this section, the findings obtained from the analysis of the data are given.

Table 1. The Distribution of the studies in the field of Educational Technologies according to publication indexes

Publication Indexes	F	%
YOK Tez Tarama Database	88	30.1
Education and Science Journal	64	26.8
Elementary Education Online Journal	53	23.9
Journal of Hacettepe University Faculty of Education	26	7.8
Educational Sciences:Theory & Practice Journal	19	5.9
TOJDE	8	3.2
TOJET	5	2.3
Total	263	100

When the data in Table 1 are examined, it is revealed that the YOK Tez Tarama database has the most publication for the researches in the field of Educational Technologies. Of the 263 studies, 88 belong to YOK Tez Tarama and have a percentage of 33.6%. It is thought that the reason of this situation is to include both master and doctorate theses in this area. In addition, the Journal of Education and Science is ranked second as the number of publications (64) and the percentage (26.8%).

Publication Years	F	%
2018	37	20.9
2017	46	23.9
2016	37	10.9
2014	30	8.8
2015	30	8.8
2012	27	8.1
2010	21	6.5
2011	20	6.2
2013	15	5.9
Total	263	100

Table 2. The Distribution of the studies in the field of Educational Technologies according to publication years

According to the year classification in Table 2, it is seen that the most publications were made in 2017 year when the researches in the field of Educational Technologies were examined in the last 8 years. The number of publications in 2017 is 46; the percentage is 23.9%. The year 2018 and 2016 are followed by the same number of publications and percentage (37 publications and 20.9%).

As can be seen in the table, researches in the field of Educational Technologies are continuing with increasing momentum in recent years. The reason for this increase; in recent years, information and communication technologies in the rapid development and changes occurred with the information boom is seen.

While these criteria were included in the study, Alkan (2011) used the items in the book of Education Technology (target, student, manpower, environment, methods and techniques, learning situations, evaluation and theoretical principles). According this;

Table 3. The distribution of scope of research in Educational Technologies

Educational Technologies Items	F	%	
Student	54	28.7	
Theoretical Principles	34	9.9	
Manpower-Evaluation	34	9.9	
Environment	30	9.4	
Evaluation	29	8.6	
Humanpower	9	3.3	

Student-Evaluation	9	3.3
Method and Technic	9	3.3
Learning Situations	7	2.8
Student-Environment	7	2.8
Student-Learning Situations	6	2.5
Others	5	2.3
Target	4	2.0
Humanpower-Environment	3	1.7
Humanpower-Method and Technic	3	1.7
Humanpower- Theoretical Principles	3	1.7
Environment-Evaluation	3	1.7
Environment - Theoretical Principles	3	1.7
Environment-Method and Technic	3	1.7
Student- Humanpower	2	0.5
Student- Theoretical Principles	2	0.5
Student- Learning Situations	2	0.5
Student-Method and Technic	2	0.5
Total	263	100

According to Table 3; the intensity of the Educational Technology elements included in the research; "student" was found to be on. According to Alkan (2011), this element, which is a raw material that is processed during the education, changes in terms of socio-economic situation, mental and physical development, expectations, developmental differences, different talent areas. On the other hand, due to the change in the quality of the educational objectives, it is also possible to determine the students' readiness to learn and to develop and disseminate the methods of determining the interests and abilities of their past lives. According to the table, "theoretical principles ","manpower and evaluation" are followed by other research scopes. It is noteworthy that manpower is used in combination with other research scopes. In terms of manpower, in our age, the formation of new human organizations, change of school-environment relations, utilization of new technologies in education and application of new methodological approaches in

processes changed the concept and practice of traditional teaching in education. Instead a brand new structure has been replaced; there is also the phenomenon of diversification of the tasks arising from the division of labor in the size of education today (Alkan, 2011).

Table 4. The distribution of studies in the field of Educational Technologies according to research methods

Research Methods	F	%
Scanning	69	27.3
Experimental Model	58	19.6
Meta analysis	32	9.1
Mixed Method	25	7.0
Qualitative Research Method	25	7.0
Scale Development	18	6.3
Case Study	10	5.6
Descriptive Scanning	7	4.9
Scale Adaptation	4	2.8
Database Scanning	4	2.8
Relational Scanning	3	2.1
Cross-sectional Scanning	2	1.4
Phenomenology	2	1.4
Thematic Content Analysis	1	1.4
Causal Comparison	1	1.4
Relating to Comparison	1	1.4
Data Mining	1	1.4
Toplam	263	100

According to Table 4; When the distribution of the studies in the field of Educational

Table 5. The distribution of the studies in the field of Educational Technologies according to the relevant educational level

Education Level	F	%
University	115	52.5
Primary School	53	16.1
Middle School	53	16.1
Middle-High School	10	3.5
High School	9	2.8
Distance Education	8	2.1
Primary-High School	7	1.4
Pimary-Middle-High School	2	1.4
Master	1	.7
Primary-Middle	1	7
Special Education	1	.7
Adult Education	1	7
Informal Education	1	7
Pre-School	1	.7
Total	263	 100

Technologies according to research methods are examined; it has been shown that the most commonly used research method is screening. This method is followed by the Experimental Model in 58 studies and a percentage of 19.6%. In addition to these methods, mixed model, qualitative research, case study, scale development, descriptive scanning, scale adaptation, field literature review, relational screening method, case science, cross-sectional scanning, causal comparison, relationship determination, comparison with thematic content analysis and data mining are used. It is noteworthy that the scale development and adaptation methods are also used in the research in a significant way.

As seen in Table 5, when the distribution of the studies in the field of Educational Technologies according to educational levels is examined; It is seen that the researches are frequently done on the University "level. When it is examined with frequency and percentage, it is observed that it contains 115 publications and its percentage is 52.4%. The reason for this situation; It is envisaged that an innovation or practices in Educational Technologies is first accepted to teacher candidates or instructors. "Primary School" and "Secondary School" education levels are followed by the same frequency and percentage. There are also researches covering all primary and secondary school-high school education levels. According to the table, Distance Education, Adult Education, Special Education and Informal Education have taken their places as educational levels in the studies conducted in the field of Educational Technologies.

Table 6. Distribution of the studies in the field of Educational Technologies according to the sample group

Sample	F	%
Middle School Students	49	16.8
Teacher Candidates Faculty of Education	42	16.2
Teacher Candidates Department of CEIT	39	15.7
Others	28	12.6
Primary School Students	23	7.0
Lectures	21	5.9
Teacher Candidates Department of Classroom Teacher	15	3.9
Primary School Teacher	12	3.1
Computer Programming Students	8	2.1
Middle and High School Teacher	8	2.1
Formator Teachers	7	1.8
Teacher Candidates Department of Pre-School Teacher	6	1.6
Distance Education Students	3	1.5
Educational Technology Research SSCI comprehensive journals	2	1.4
Total	263	100

When the distribution of the studies in the field of Educational Technologies according to Table 6 is analyzed according to the sample group, it is seen that the sample with the most frequency is on the incel "Middle School Students" (5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Grade). The reason for this; the impact of smart board and tablet use on the Secondary School Students within the scope of Fatih Project is predicted as an increase in research. Secondary school students are followed by Teacher Candidates Faculty of Education. In addition to these, articles and theses in the researches carried out by the meta-analysis method were also included in the sample group.

Number of Samples	F	%
200 and more	90	33.6
30-59	52	25.6
1-29	37	13.7
90-119	21	7.5
60-89	20	7.8
120-159	19	5.9
160-200	19	5.9
Total	258	100

Table 7. Distribution of the studies conducted in the field of Educational Technologies according to the number of samples

Table 8. Distribution of the studies in the field of Educational Technologies according to data collection method

Data Collection Method	F	%
scale	85	32.5
survey	59	25.5
interview	40	20.5
achievement test	17	4.4
scale-success test	15	3.9
survey-interview	14	3.6
video recordings	2	1.4
interview-survey	2	1.4
interview-observation	2	1.4
multiple choice testing	2	1.4
personal information form	2	1.4
software evaluation form	1	.7
survey-voice recordings	1	.7
open ended questions	1	.7
scale-interview	1	.7
document analysis	1	.7
Total	245	100

Table 9. Distribution of the studies in the field of Educational Technologies according to analysis

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	F	%
Analysis Techniques		
T-test	59	23.5
Nonparametric Tests	59	23.5
Others	43	21.3
Frequency/Percent/Chart	24	9.3
Anova	15	6.3
Content Analysis	9	2.3
Cronbach alpha coefficient	7	1.8
Pearson Correlation coefficient	7	1.8
Pearson Correlation	7	1.8
Cronbach alpha coefficient	7	1.8
EFA ve CFA	6	1.5
Average/Standart Deviation	5	1.3
Ancova	5	1.3
Regrasyon Analysis	5	1.3
Manova	3	.7
Factor Analysis	2	.5
Total	263	100

Since of the publications reviewed 5 were report and 13 were meta analysis studies so data collection method was not included. Therefore, frequency and percentage were calculated by 245 research. When the Table 8 is examined, it is seen that the density is above the scale. The scale was followed by "survey", "interview" and "achievement test". According to the table, it is seen that qualitative researches are frequently used in data collection tools such as observation, interview, document analysis, video recordings, open-ended questions.

When the table 9 is examined, it is revealed that the maximum frequency are t test and Nonparametric tests. The percentage and frequency of both analysis techniques were found to be the same. Nonparametric tests; Chi-square, Mann-Whitney U, Wilcoxon tests are at the forefront. The reason for this frequency; the normal distribution of research data and the use of parametric tests for this purpose are foreseen. The ranking continues from "other" and "frequency / percentage / chart" to qualitative analysis techniques

Table 10. Distribution of the studies in the field of Educational Technologies according to research tendency

Research Tendency	F	%
academic success	34	12.1
perception	28	11.1
attitude	27	10.0
research tendency	15	6.1
teacher opinions	12	5.7
lecturer opinions	9	4.4
anxiety	8	3.7
professional development	8	3.7
teacher candidate opinions	8	3.7
perceptions of self-efficacy	7	3.0
student opinions	6	3.3
success and attitude	6	3.3
behavioral intent	5	2.6
pre-learning	5	2.6
learning strategies	4	1.9
In-service training qualifications	2	1.4
perceptions of pre-service training	2	1.4
quality standards	2	1.4
satisfaction	2	1.4
motivation	2	1.4
permanent learning	2	1.4
reading achievements	2	1.4
negative attitudes	2	1.4
student properties	2	1.4
student, teacher field expert opinions	1	.7
	1	.7
teacher candidate attitudes	1	.7
self-learning	1	.7
family opinions	1	.7
perceived learning	1	.7
self-perception	1	.7
risks, factors affecting the risks and their metadological tendencies	1	.7
technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge	1	.7
technology planning opinions	1	.7
cognitive and social	1	7

Total	218	100
benefit perception master student opinions perceptions of superficial learning	1	.7
	1	.7
	1	.7

In a total of 218 publications, research tendency were clearly identified and frequency and percentage were defined. Accordingly, it is seen that the most frequent frequency is on "academic achievement" research tendency. Academic achievement is followed by "perception", "attitude" and "teacher opinions". In addition to these, "academician opinions", "anxiety", "professional development", "teacher candidate opinions" and "self-efficacy perceptions" are noteworthy.

Table 11. Distribution of the studies in the field of Educational Technologies according to research topics

Research Topics	F	%
Technology Integration	45	8.2
Flipped Classroom	31	7.5
Information security	28	7.1
Digital Citizenship	24	6.5
Infographics	22	6.2
Online Learning	15	5.4
E-assessment	11	4.6
E-mentoring	7	4.2
E-book	7	4.2
Data mining	6	3.5
E-learning	6	3.5
Augmented Reality	4	2.1
Mobile Learning	4	2.1
MOOCS	4	2.1
Learning Management System	+	2.1
	4	
Eye tracking	4	2.1
Augmented Reality	4	2.1
Gamification	4	2.1
Game Based Learning	4	2.1
Instructional Technology	3	1.4
Cloud IT	3	1.4
Robotic	2	.7
Nomofobia	2	.7

Virtual Reality	2	.7
Virtual Environment	2	.7
Simulation	2	.7
Coding	2	.7
Wearable Technologies	2	.7
Learning Environments	2	.7
Research Tendency	2	.7
Lifelong Learning	2	.7
Constructivist Teaching Environments	2	.7
Total	263	100

When the research subjects are examined according to the table below, it is seen that Technology Integration and Flipped Classroom subjects are preferred by researchers. Flipped classroom is a pedogogical method which means that activities that have traditionally taken place inside the classroom take place outside the classroom and vice versa (Uzunboylu and Karagozlu, 2015). Information security, digital citizenship and infographic issues are among the other research topics that follow these two issues. The study of new technologies in education has become popular. These results are expected to fill the gap in the area.

# **3. Discussion**

Educational technology research falls into the general category of applied research. The basic approach is to take what basic research has established in areas such as the psychology of human learning and apply basic research findings, associated theories and prior applied research findings to improve learning and instruction with [and sometimes without] technology (Spector, 2013).

Educational technology can be defined as any digital device that aids or enhances student learning. In order to incorporate technology effectively into the classroom, it is important to understand the current trends in this area (Hughes, 2016).

This study was performed to determine trends in education technology publication completed in the last 8 years at major universities in Turkey is a general collective assessment.

In 2017, the frequency of publishing in the field of educational technologies is noteworthy. In the publications that have been completed in recent years, it is seen that the researches related to technology integration and filipped classroom have increased. It can be explained by the fact that information and communication technologies become an indispensable structure in human life. For all that very few studies on wearable technologies and robotic applications are noteworthy. These issues are now shown as trends in educational technologies (Sagbaş, Ballı and Yıldız, 2016). As a result; more work is needed.

It is observed that the publication is mainly based on quantitative research paradigm. There is a lack of studies designed with a qualitative or mixed model. Observational, interview and document analysis data collection tools are also scarce since qualitative studies are few. More

recently, experimental research has increased. This result is promising for educational technologies.

It was determined that the studies were mostly directed to university education level. Howevers it was determined that the studies were mostly directed to middle school students according to sample group.

# **4.**SUGGESTIONS

In summary; it is foreseen that the results obtained from the research can be useful in terms of seeing the strengths and weaknesses of the studies carried out in the field of Educational Technologies Research and it can be used as an effective and determining source in guiding the future studies. In addition, it was found appropriate to include the following suggestions within the findings of the research;

- Future studies can be structured by screening a greater number of journals to cover a larger process.
- Increasing the number of publications for qualitative and mixed methods in order to carry out the educational researches towards international tendethis article is presented in WCES 2019 in Italy Milano. ncy.

# This article is presented in WCES (World Conference on Educational Science) 2019 in Italy Milano.

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