

Minimum Expenditure Basket After the Earthquake Disaster in Türkiye

Following the twin earthquakes that took place in Southern Türkiye on February 2023, UN WFP, Türk Kızılay (Turkish Red Crescent) and IFRC worked on a Minimum Expenditure Basket¹ (MEB)² methodology and analysis to contribute to the emergency response programs on quantifying and inform basic needs. Considering that 7 months have gone by since the earthquake, emergency response activities continue in areas that were most affected. Meanwhile, Türkiye has struggled with escalating prices and economic stabilization. But one of the reasons for this is also linked to the deterioration in the global economy.



Through the pre-earthquake population figures and the field observations, an average earthquake-affected household is composed of 5 people – 2 children and 3 adults. The food component of the MEB consists of a nutritionally balanced diet and the costs related to health, shelter, education, transportation and communication expenditure are calculated based on the Sphere standards. The monthly Consumption Price Index (CPI) data from Turkish Statistical Institute is used for calculation.

The cost of MEB increased by 10% between July and August, reaching 1955 TRY per person and 9776 TRY for a 5-person household. Although there is a dramatic increase of over 20% in gas and transportation costs, the main reason for the increase in the MEB is the 10% change in food and rent expenditures, which make up 70% of the total basket. Inflation, which broke its downward trend in July and started to move upwards, keeps its upward movement and increased by 9.09% in August 2023 and reached 58.94%.

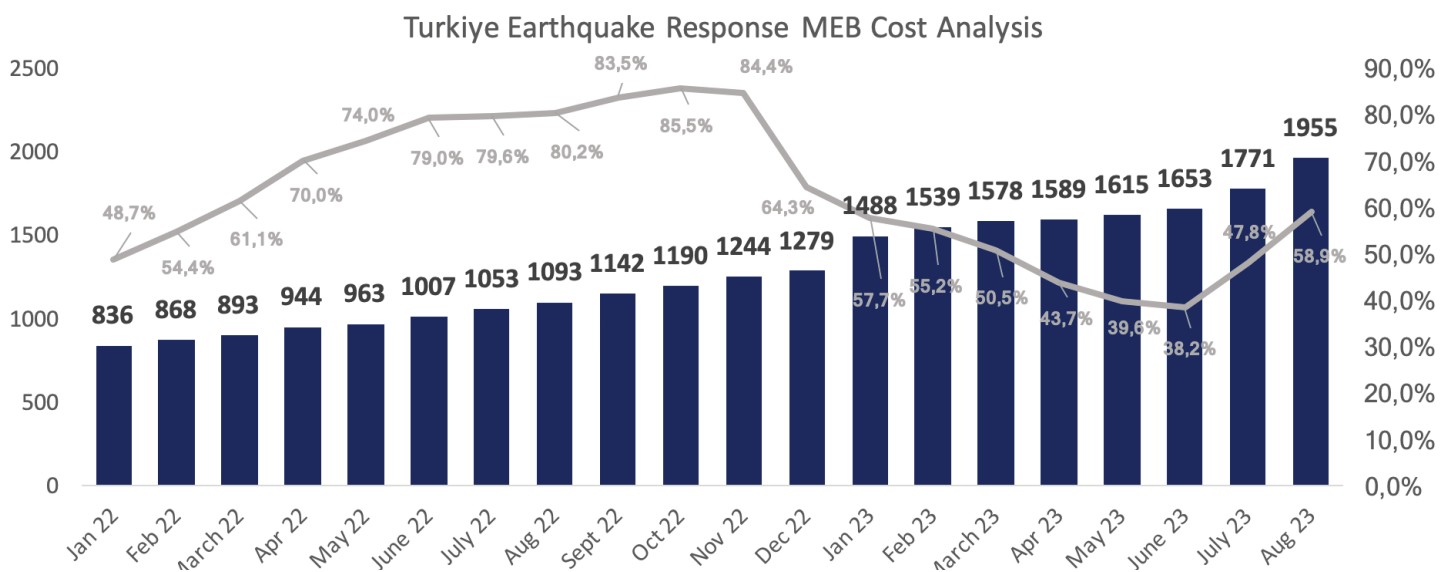


Figure 1 Türkiye Earthquake Response MEB Cost Analysis

1 This term refers to "Estimated Minimum Expenditure Basket Value"

2 For details of the MEB methodology and analysis: <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/minimum-expenditure-basket-methodology-and-analysis-turkiye-earthquake-emergency>

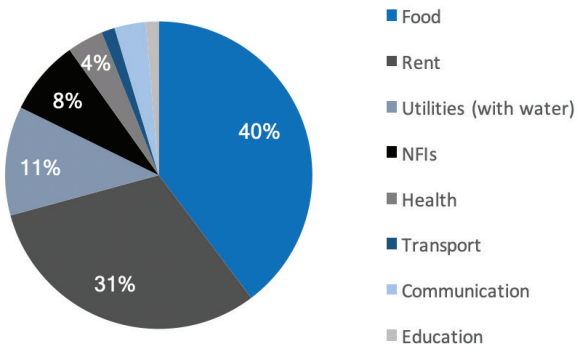


Figure 2 Share of MEB Items

As can be seen in Figure 2, the percentage of MEB items is shown. A percentile analysis shows the largest contributor to the MEB share is food (40%), this is followed by the rent cost (31%), and utilities (11%). Non-food items make 8 percent of the MEB cost, the minimal cost contribution to the MEB is education (1%). In this regard, Figure 3 above shows the cost per household and per person for each expenditure component of the MEB.

Commodities	5 People Household (TRY)	Per Person (TRY)
Food	3.883	777
Rent	3.036	607
Utilities (with water)	1.112	224
NFIs	771	154
Health	372	74
Education	137	27
Transport	322	64
Communication	133	27
MEB Cost	9.776	1.954

Figure 3 Households MEB Components

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