

Minimum Expenditure Basket After the Earthquake Disaster in Türkiye

After the two devastating earthquakes that took place in South-Eastern Türkiye on February 2023, UN WFP, Türk Kızılay (Turkish Red Crescent) and IFRC jointly studied on a Minimum Expenditure Basket¹ (MEB)² methodology and analysis to contribute to the emergency response programs on quantifying and inform basic needs. Several months on from the earthquake, rapid response intervention is still underway in the most severely affected areas. In line with this, Türkiye faced inflation and economic instability during this period as a reflection of the global economic difficulties, and the Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by an average of 50 percent throughout the year.

According to 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 the Turkish Statistical Institute is used for calculation.



The cost of MEB increased by 6 percent between July and August, reaching 2,073 TRY per person and 10,365 TRY for a 5-person household. Transportation costs increased dramatically, over the last month by an estimated 20 percent. The cost contributions to the MEB were mainly food and rent 6 percent change in food and rent expenditures, which constitute 70 percent of the total basket and increased respectively 4 and 10 percent. Inflation³, which broke its downward trend in July and started to move upwards, keeps its upward movement, and increased by 4 percent in September 2023 and reached 61 percent.

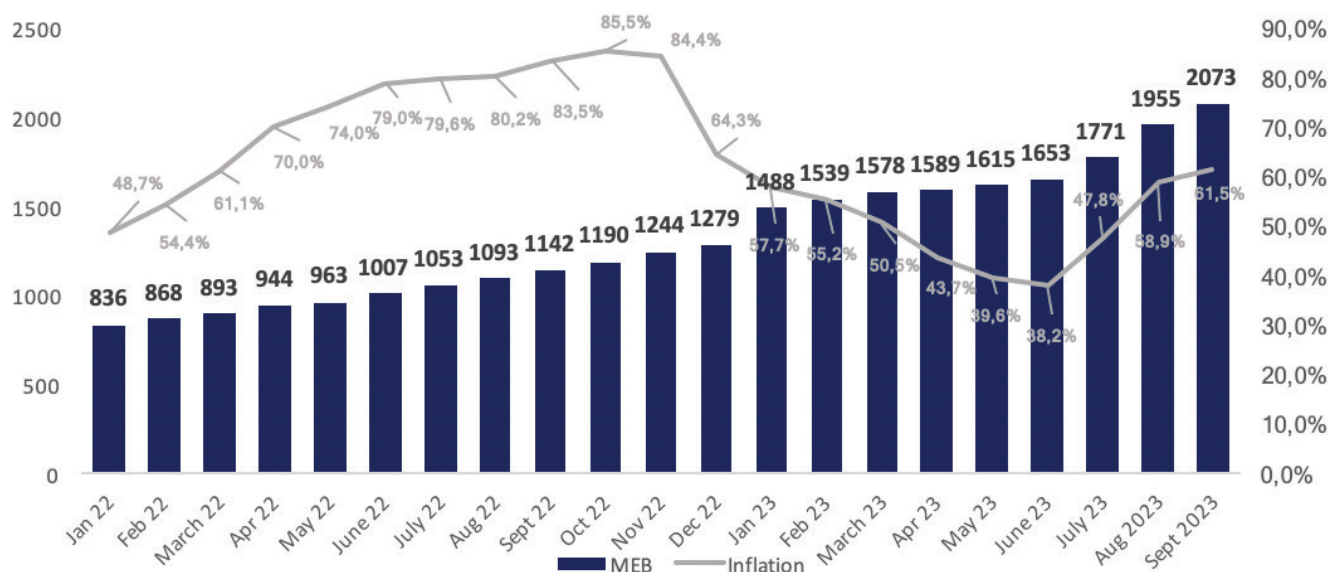


Figure 1 Türkiye Earthquake Response MEB Cost Analysis

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>

3 TURKSTAT, "Consumer Price Index - September 2023", Turkish Statistical Institute, (<https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Consumer-Price-Index-September-2023-49659>)

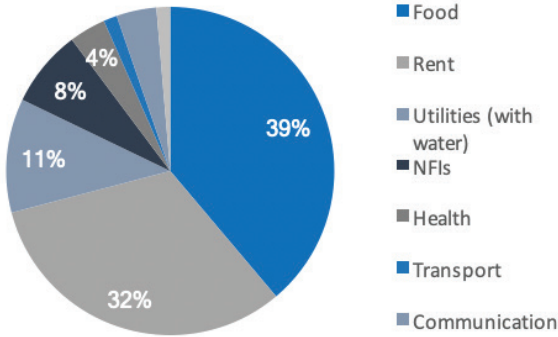


Figure 2 Share of MEB Items

Following the figure 2, percentages of MEB items are represented. The analysis indicates that the largest share contributor to the MEB is food which is 39 percent, followed by the cost of rent which is 32 percent and utilities which is 11 percent. Non-food items account for 8 percent of MEB costs, while the minimum cost to MEB is education which is 1 percent. In this context, Figure 3 above shows the cost per household and per capita for each expenditure component of MEB.

Commodities	5 People Household (TRY)	Per Person (TRY)
Food	4.026	805
Rent	3.325	665
Utilities (with water)	1.164	233
NFIs	790	158
Health	373	75
Education	139	28
Transport	408	82
Communication	140	28
MEB Cost	10.365	2.073

Figure 3 Households MEB Components

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