

# Minimum Expenditure Basket After the Earthquake Disaster in Türkiye

Following the two massive earthquakes that struck southeastern Türkiye on February 2023, UN WFP and Türk Kızılay KIZILAYKART (Turkish Red Crescent) jointly studied a Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) <sup>1</sup> methodology and analysis to contribute to emergency response programs to quantify and inform basic needs. Almost 1 year after the earthquake, rapid response operations are still underway in the most affected areas.

According to pre-earthquake population data and field assessments, the average earthquake-affected household comprises five individuals, including two children and three adults. The food segment of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) covers expenses related to a nutritionally balanced diet, while costs associated with health, shelter, education, transportation, and communication are calculated according to Sphere standards. The monthly calculations are using Consumption Price Index (CPI) data provided by the TURKSTAT<sup>2</sup>.

The cost of MEB experienced an increase of 6.85 percent from December 2023 to January 2024, reaching 2,506 TRY per individual and 12,531 TRY for



a household of five. The components that have the highest share that constitute the MEB are food and rent, and the increase in the MEB amount in January 2024 is driven by the increase in the cost of these two components. There was a 3.56 percent increase in food expenditure and an 11.46 percent increase in rent expenditure. The inflation rate has an upward trajectory, standing at 64.86 percent annually, while the monthly inflation rate is recorded at 6.70 percent.

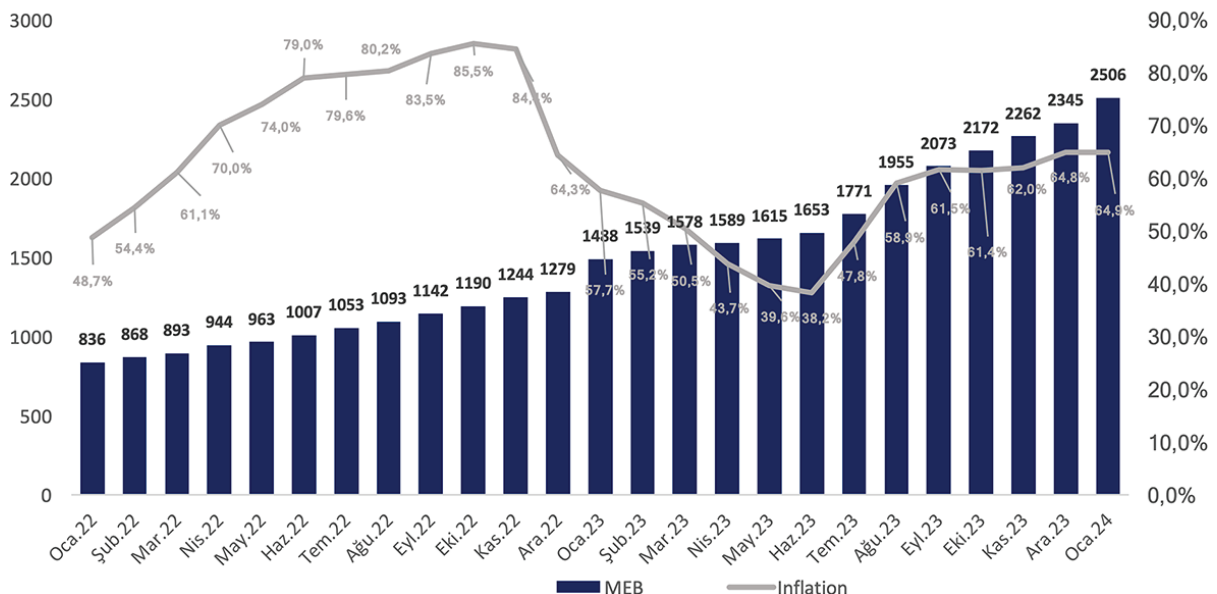


Figure 1 Türkiye Earthquake Response MEB Cost Analysis

<sup>1</sup> For details of the MEB methodology and analysis: <https://reliefweb.int/report/turkiye/minimum-expenditure-basket-methodology-and-analysis-turkiye-earthquake-emergency>

<sup>2</sup> TURKSTAT, "Consumer Price Index - January 2024," Turkish Statistical Institute, <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Consumer-Price-Index-January-2024-53622>

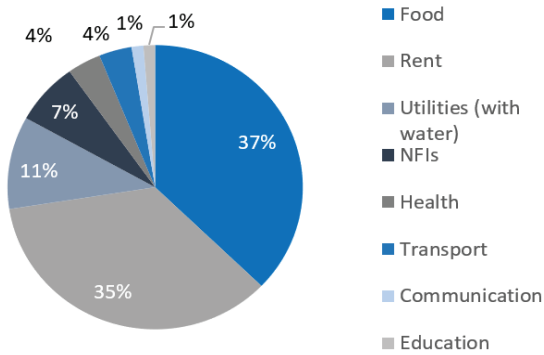


Figure 2 Share of MEB Items

Figure 2 illustrates the percentages associated with several items within the MEB. The analysis shows that the main contributor to MEB expenditure is food, which accounts for 37 percent, followed by rent at 35 percent. While utilities and non-food items account for 11 percent and 7 percent of MEB respectively, the smallest contributors are transportation and health, at 4 percent, and communications and education, at 1 percent each.

Commodities	5 People Household (TRY)	Per Person Share (TRY)
Food	4.662	932
Rent	4.428	886
Utilities (with water)	1.320	264
NFIs	888	178
Health	461	92
Education	159	32
Transport	451	90
Communication	162	32
<b>MEB Cost</b>	<b>12.531*</b>	<b>2.506</b>

Figure 3 Households MEB Components

\*Calculations might slightly differ between household and individual costs due to the rounding of decimals.

Figure 3 above provides a visual representation of the costs per household and per capita for each expenditure component of the MEB.

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