

Minimum Expenditure Basket After the Earthquake Disaster in Türkiye

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

Based on pre-earthquake population data and field assessments, the typical earthquake-affected household consists of an average of 5 people, including 2 children and 3 adults. The food segment within the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) includes expenses associated with a nutritionally balanced diet, and 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 Turkish Statistical Institute².



The cost of MEB experienced an increase of 3.69 percent from November to December, reaching 2,345 TRY per individual and 11,727 TRY for a household of five. The main contributors to this increase were food and rent, with a 3.72 percent increase in food costs and a 4.48 percent increase in rent costs driving the overall increase in MEB. The inflation rate has an upward trajectory, standing at 64.77 percent annually, while the monthly inflation rate is recorded at 2.93 percent.

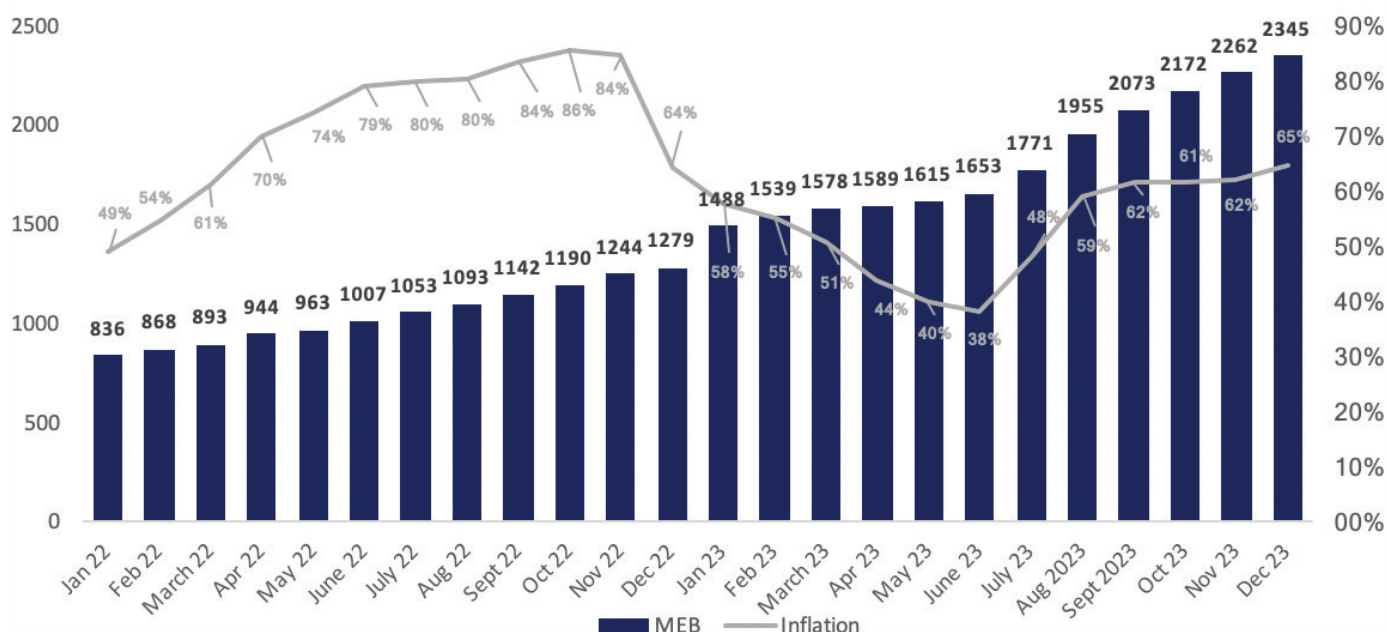


Figure 1 Comparison of Türkiye Earthquake Response MEB Cost and Annual Inflation Rate

1 For details of the MEB methodology and analysis: https://platform.kizilaykart.org/en/Doc/rapor/MEB_report.pdf

2 TURKSTAT, "Consumer Price Index - December 2023," Turkish Statistical Institute, <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Tuketici-Fiyat-Endeksi-Aral%C4%B1k-2023-49660>

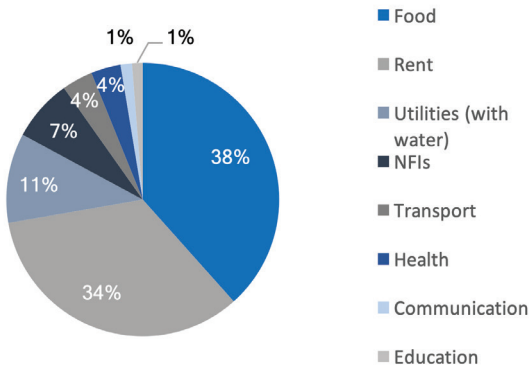


Figure 2 Share of MEB Items

Figure 2 illustrates the percentages associated with various items within the MEB. The analysis shows that the main contributor to MEB expenditure is food, which accounts for 38 percent, followed by rent at 34 percent and utilities at 11 percent. While non-food items account for 7 percent of MEB spending, the smallest contributors are transportation and health, at 4 percent, and communications and education, at

Commodities	5 People Household (TRY)	Per Person (TRY)
Food	4.501	900
Rent	3.972	794
Utilities (with water)	1.244	249
NFIs	859	172
Health	414	83
Education	149	30
Transport	430	86
Communication	158	32
MEB Cost	11.727	2.345

Figure 3 Household MEB Components

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

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

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