

Minimum Expenditure Basket After the Earthquake Disaster in Türkiye

Following two devastating earthquakes in southeastern Turkey in February 2023, the UN WFP and the Türk Kızılay KIZILAYKART collaborated on a study using the Minimum Expenditure Basket¹ (MEB) methodology and analysis. This study aimed to assess and quantify basic needs to support emergency response efforts. More than a year after these devastating earthquakes, relief efforts are still underway in the most affected areas.

The average earthquake-affected household consists of five people, including two children and three adults, based on pre-earthquake population data and field assessments. The food component of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) covers expenditures related to a nutritionally balanced diet, while expenditures related to 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 TURKSTAT².

In June 2024, the cost of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) increased by 3.48 percent compared to May 2024, reaching 2,996 TRY per individual and 14,831



TRY for a household of five. The increase in shelter components has been driving the MEB calculation. Despite the slight decreases in two consecutive months (March and April), food prices indicate an upward movement again. After surpassing the food share in March 2024, rent expenditure has retained its first place at the top of the MEB component share. In addition, the annual inflation rate lost momentum and decreased from 76 percent to 72 percent, while the monthly inflation rate was actualized at 1.64 percent.

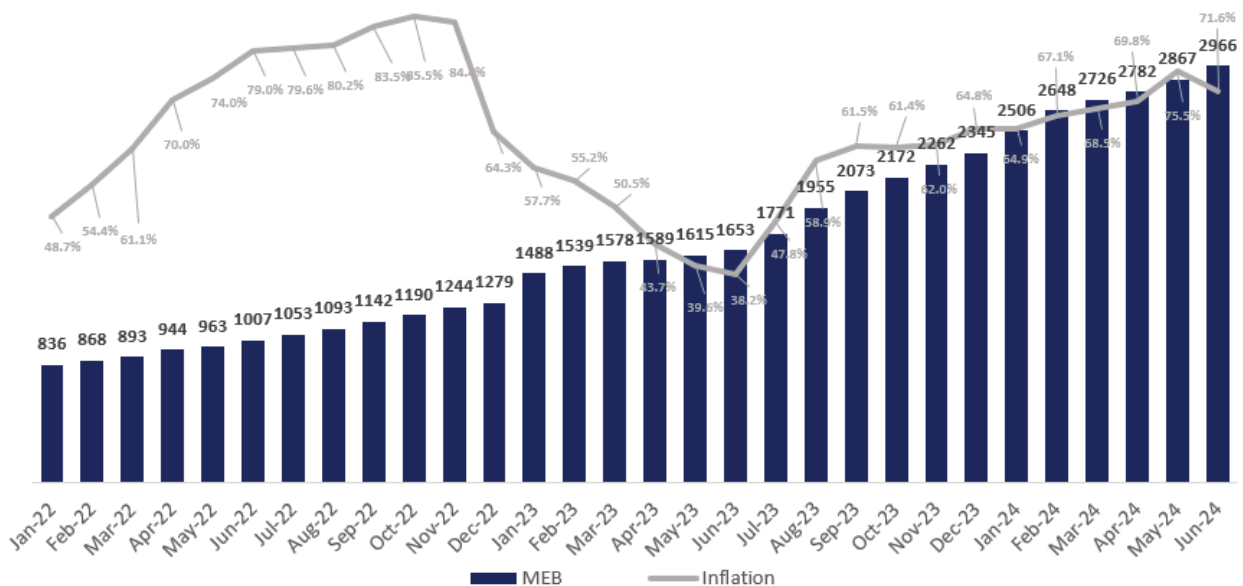


Figure 1 Türkiye Earthquake Response MEB Cost Analysis

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

2 TURKSTAT, "Consumer Price Index - April 2024," Turkish Statistical Institute, <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Consumer-Price-Index-April-2024-53614>

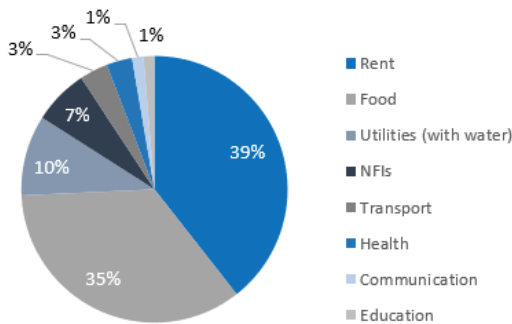


Figure 2 Share of MEB Items

Figure 2 illustrates the percentages associated with various components within the MEB. The analysis indicates that the two largest contributors to the MEB are rent at 39 percent and food at 35 percent. These components are followed by utilities and non-food items, which account for 10 percent and 7 percent of the MEB, as shown. Transportation and health costs contribute by 3 percent, while the smallest contributors are communication and

Commodities	5 People Household (TRY)	Per Person Share (TRY)
Food	5.170	1.034
Rent	5.845	1.169
Utilities (with water)	1.447	289
NFIs	995	199
Health	464	93
Education	197	39
Transport	510	102
Communication	204	41
MEB Cost	14.831*	2.966

Figure 3 Households MEB Components

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

education at 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.

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