



In-camp Post-Distribution Monitoring Report Quarter 1—2022

WFP Türkiye Country Office



World Food
Programme

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June 2022

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We express our appreciation to all monitoring assistants of World Food Programme Türkiye country office for their efforts in the data collection of In-camp Post Distribution Monitoring Survey in Quarter 1 of 2022. We would also like to thank our participants for their patience and cooperation in filling out the surveys .

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Executive Summary

Türkiye presently accommodates almost 4 million refugees, making it the largest refugee hosting country. 3.7 million of them are Syrians who have been displaced as a result of the crisis in Syria. As of March 2022, 50,531 people live in the camps of whom 43,000 receive e-voucher assistance, namely Kizilaykart.

The in-camp Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) surveys are intended to monitor well-being of beneficiaries in terms of food consumption, dietary diversity, coping strategies, and expenditure patterns to provide them with necessary support and address their concerns/challenges.

The data collection for the Q1 2022 PDM was undertaken between January and March 2022 via face-to-face surveys. A total of 380 surveys were conducted in six camps by seven WFP field staff.

The transfer value is increased from 120 TRY to 150 TRY per person per month, effective in January 2022, to better support camp residents in meeting their needs. However, economic downturn and high inflation continue to negatively affect purchasing power of refugees in the reporting period. Annual inflation and food inflation reached 61 percent and 70 percent, respectively in March 2022. As a result, the food basket cost in the contracted markets increased to 353 TRY, representing 87 percent increase compared to March 2021 (189 TRY). WFP distributed 1,300 TRY per household in two installments in February and March 2022 to compensate for diminishing purchasing power and decreased income due to less employment opportunities during winter. While transfer value increase and top-up payments contributed to the increasing level of acceptable food consumption and more diverse diet, the support did not prevent in-camp refugees from adopting coping behaviours to meet their basic needs. In addition to more frequent use of coping strategies, refugee households have spent greater portion of their disposable income to buy food, leaving less in their pocket to cover other essential needs. Gender data shows that this has been particularly concerning for female-headed households who often rely mainly on assistance without being able to complement their income with additional resources such as formal/informal work.

Accountability, protection and gender concerns are also captured in PDM surveys. In Q1 2022, no beneficiary reports having experienced safety issues because of being a beneficiary of the programme. Almost all (99%) respondents are aware of their entitlements. 4 percent of the beneficiaries state having had problems during the reporting period. All of them contacted with authorities and report that their issues have been resolved. However, it is important to note that 27 percent of beneficiaries still don't know whom to contact when needed. Women continue to take active part in decision-making on utilization of the assistance.

Key messages

DEMOGRAPHICS

- The majority (85%) of the respondent households are male-headed.
- Slightly more than half (52%) are children. The average household size in the camps is 5.4 people.
- 45 percent of the households have at least one vulnerable family member who are either disabled, chronically ill, elderly, pregnant or lactating women who need special care.

EDUCATION

- About 10 percent of household heads are illiterate. Illiteracy is prevalent, especially among women (16%).
- More than one-fourth (27%) of the household heads, particularly the female heads, have no Turkish language ability.
- 88 percent of camp residents have not attended any technical, vocational or language courses.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

- The acceptable level of food consumption has increased to 98 percent. The increase in food consumption score is more prevalent among female-headed households (4.3%) than male-headed households (0.5%) in the last year.
- The dietary diversity score also slightly increased compared to the Q1 2021 (from 6.6 to 6.7 days), particularly among female-headed households. Male-headed households tend to have a relatively more diverse diet in Q1 2022 in all food groups.
- Beneficiary households struggle to consume meat groups, nuts, vegetables and fruits mainly because they cannot afford these items or dislike some meat groups such as fish and organ meat.

HOUSEHOLD ECONOMIC CAPACITY AND COPING

- The share of food in household expenditure, particularly in female-headed households increased compared to the previous year.
- Resorting to consumption coping strategies (rCSI) has nearly doubled (41%) among female-headed households compared to Q1 2021.
- LCSI increased by 25 percent compared to Q1 2021,

triggered by more frequent use of emergency level coping strategies.

- Coping strategies used by female headed households became more severe and frequent.

AWARENESS AND SENSITIZATION

- While social media becomes an important information channel, beneficiaries' social network is still the main source of information for many (62%).
- Women prefer social media more than men to access to information whereas men rely on TRC and information desk more often than women.
- All beneficiaries who had complaints in the reporting period (4%) contacted with the authorities and reported that their issues were resolved.
- 27 percent of beneficiaries don't know whom to contact when needed.

SAFETY AND PROTECTION

- None of the participants reported safety issues.
- 10 participants (out of 380) indicated that they or members of their households have not been treated respectfully in the markets.

UTILIZATION OF ASSISTANCE AND SATISFACTION

- Only 1 percent report that 150 TRY is sufficient to cover their needs
- Women participation in the decision-making process is as high as 92 percent, deciding how to utilize the assistance either jointly with men or alone.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Awareness raising activities regarding whom to contact in case of a problem.
- Seeking for resolution regarding disrespectful treatment towards beneficiaries.
- Close monitoring of adequacy of the assistance.

Chapter 1: Introduction

According to the Presidency of Migration Managements' (PMM) most recent statistics (May 2022)¹, 50,531 vulnerable Syrians under Temporary Protection (SuTP) and Humanitarian residence status holders reside in Temporary Accommodation Centers (camps) located in southeast of Türkiye. This equates to approximately 1 percent of Türkiye's Syrian refugee population.

WFP continues its collaboration with Türk Kızılay (Turkish

Red Crescent) to support 43,002 in-camp refugees with e-voucher assistance, namely Kizilaykart, as of March 2022. The card gives TRY 150 per person every month to meet their basic food needs and a restricted number of non-food items. The Turkish government provides containers with basic domestic equipment for each refugee household, such as electric stoves and cutlery.

Chapter 2: Objectives and Methodology

Monitoring and evaluation activities are essential for the program's continuous improvement and to ensure that assistance reaches those in need. Post-distribution monitoring (PDM) activities are intended to assess in-camp refugees' ability to meet their basic needs and how the e-voucher program has supported households in ensuring a smooth implementation process. The WFP publishes the in-camp PDM report bi-annually.

PDM surveys are used to gather information on household food consumption, dietary diversity, coping behaviours, and expenditure patterns to assess households' overall well-being and support evidence-based program intervention.

The 2022 Q1 in-camp PDM survey was conducted as a cross-sectional survey using a single-stage random sample of beneficiary households who receive assistance through e-vouchers in the six WFP-supported camps in South-East Türkiye. Between January and March 2022, seven enumerators performed 380 face-to-face surveys with in-camp beneficiaries. The sample size was selected based on the overall camp population and then proportionately dispersed to each camp using a 95 percent confidence level and a 5 percent margin of error. As a result, the findings are representative of all in-camp residents but not of each camp.



¹DGMM website, <https://www.goc.gov.tr/gecici-koruma5638>

Chapter 3: Findings

3.1. DEMOGRAPHICS

The average household size in the camps is 5.4 people. Males compose 58 percent of the respondents, while male heads lead the majority of respondent households (85 %). Data reveals that 52 percent of refugees are children, 44 percent are between the ages of 18 and 60, and only 4 percent are elder. Household heads were on average 42 years old.

3.2. EDUCATION AND TURKISH LANGUAGE ABILITY

The level of education of the households' head influences lives of its members, including their ability to interact with the host community, their self-confidence, and their ability to earn an income in order to live a dignified life. Refugees' education levels and Turkish language ability are generally low: overall, only 4 percent of household heads have a university degree while 33 percent and 29 percent have completed primary and secondary school, respectively (Figure 1). Ten percent of household heads are illiterate. Female-headed households have a greater illiteracy rate (16%) than male-headed households (9%). Furthermore, 88 percent of the camp residents have never taken any technical, vocational, or language classes since they arrived in Türkiye.

Aside from education, ability to communicate in Turkish is

a key aspect of refugee adaptation since it promotes social cohesion and facilitates access to employment opportunities. Overall, more than a quarter (27%) of household heads have no Turkish language abilities, particularly women (43%), implying that they would face more challenges to find work. However, 22 percent of camp residents speak Turkish as their first language given their Turkmen origin.

3.3. VULNERABLE SUB-POPULATIONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Despite the fact that the vast majority of residents are vulnerable in some way, certain sub-groups are in greater need, owing to dependent family members or people with specific care requirements. Disabled people, chronically ill household members, separated children, and pregnant or lactating women are just a few examples of vulnerable sub-populations. According to the data, 15 percent have a disabled/chronically ill member with or without a medical certificate, 13 percent of households have at least one pregnant or lactating female member, and 1 percent have an elderly person who cannot look after themselves. Moreover, having vulnerable members is more prevalent among female-headed households (55%) compared to male-headed households (43%).

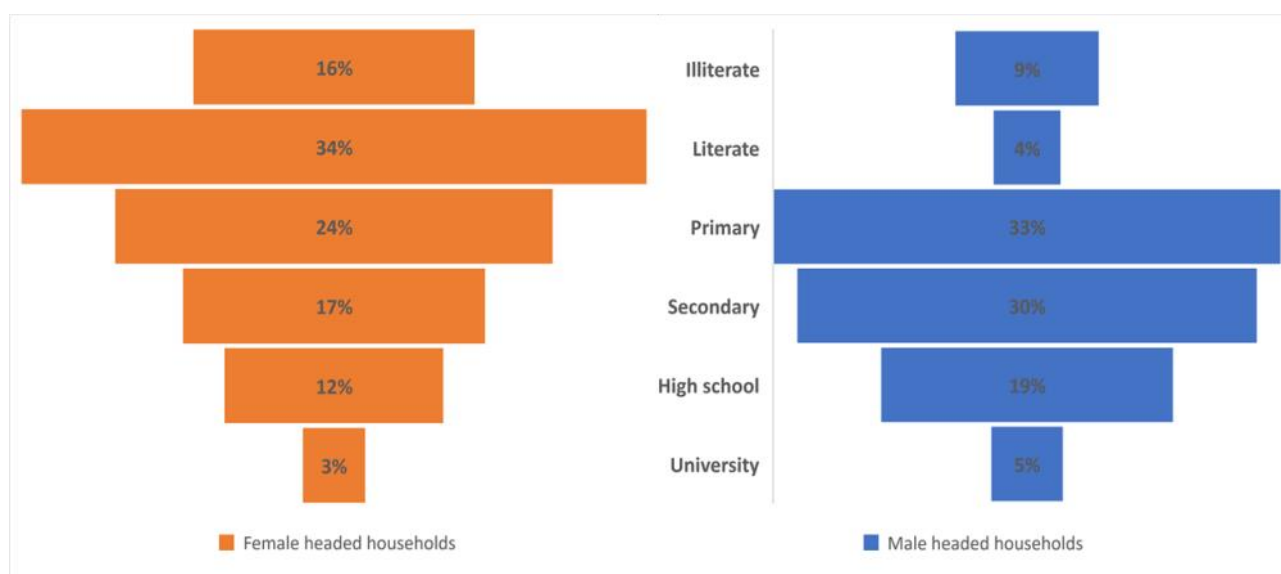


Figure 1: Education level of the head of households

Chapter 4: Outcomes

4.1. FOOD CONSUMPTION

Half (50%) of the adults had two meals day before the survey, while the other half had three meals. Children eat more frequent than adults: 77 percent of children had three or more meals day before the survey. However, it is concerning that 3.7 (1.3% in Q3 2021) percent of the children did not eat a proper meal a day before the survey.

54 percent of participants report that they could cook their food at home as much as they desired, which decreased from 60 percent reported in Q1 2021 and increased from 44 percent in Q3 2021. Improvement compared to Q3 2021 might be attributable to the top-up payments. Female headed households are more likely to be able to freely cook at home than male headed households. Not having enough money to buy food (99%) is the main challenge against their ability to cook as much as desired. In line with that finding, 99 percent of the participants think that the assistance amount is not sufficient to cover their basic food needs. In spite of the transfer value increase, those who report insufficient assistance amount increased by 3 percent compared to Q1 2021.

WFP calculates the household Food Consumption Score (FCS) which is linked to the household food access and thus serves as a proxy for household food security. The FCS is used to classify households into three categories based on their food consumption: poor, borderline, or acceptable. These food consumption groups aggregate households with similar dietary patterns - in terms of frequency of consumption and diversity - and access to food.

Food consumption remains acceptable for the majority (98%), representing a slight increase (1%) compared to Q1 2021 (Figure 1). Gender disaggregated data demonstrates that increase in food consumption score is more significant among female-headed households (4.3%) than male-headed households (0.5%). Aligned with that, female-headed households with borderline food consumption decreased from 6 percent to 1.7 percent and male-headed households with poor food consumption decreased from 0.9 percent to 0.3 percent. In this reporting period, there is only one household with poor food consumption, which is male-headed and located in Saricam (Adana).

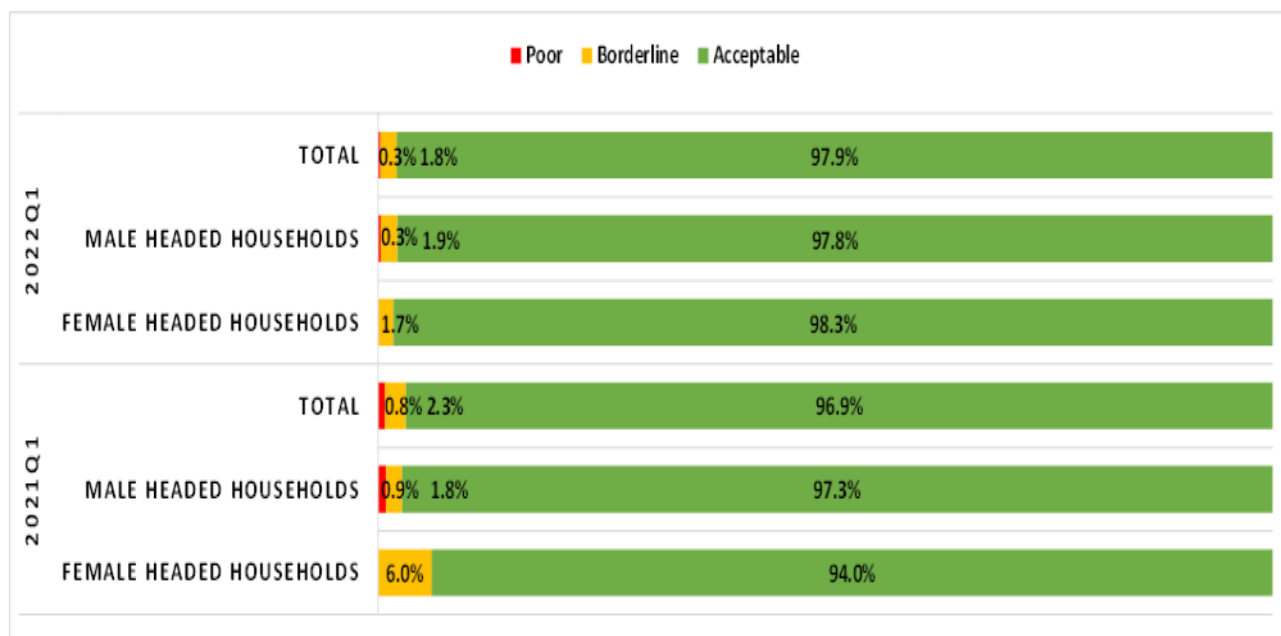


Figure 2: Food Consumption Groups (Q1 2021 & Q1 2022)

4.2. DIETARY DIVERSITY

Another indicator used by the World Food Programme as a measure for food security is the dietary diversity. The dietary diversity analysis shows that most of the food groups are sufficiently consumed by both male and female-headed households (Figure 3) with the exception of pulses and fruits. The difference of dietary diversity between female-headed households and male-headed households has been increasing in the last year. In Q1 2021, dietary diversity scores were similar in male and female-headed households except for vegetables, fruits and sugar, whereas the difference in other categories grew in Q1 2022.

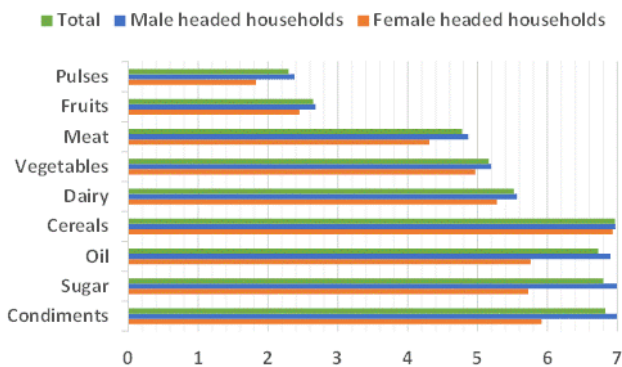


Figure 3: Dietary Diversity Score

In line with the increase in food consumption, the dietary diversity score also increased from 6.6 days in Q1 2021 to 6.7 days in Q1 2022, especially among male-headed households. Although the gap between genders is negligible, male-headed households in Q1 2022 have a more varied diet than female-headed households, especially in oil, sugar and condiment food groups. Fruit, meat and vegetable consumption of male headed households decreased while pulse consumption has increased, and consumption of other food groups did not change significantly. In female headed households, consumption of oil, condiments, sugar, vegetables and fruits decreased while consumption of dairy increased, and pulse and meat consumption did not change significantly.

The least consumed food groups are meat groups, nuts, vegetables and fruits mainly because the beneficiaries either cannot afford or dislike them (Figure 4). Furthermore, beneficiaries state that orange fruits (9.5%) and organ meat (4.4%) are not available in the markets.

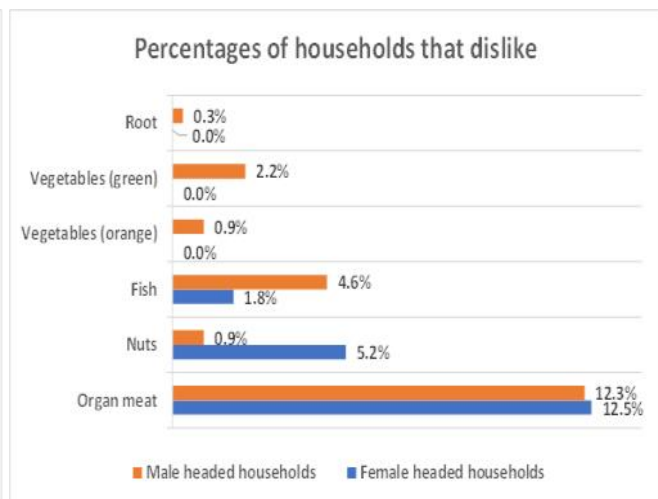
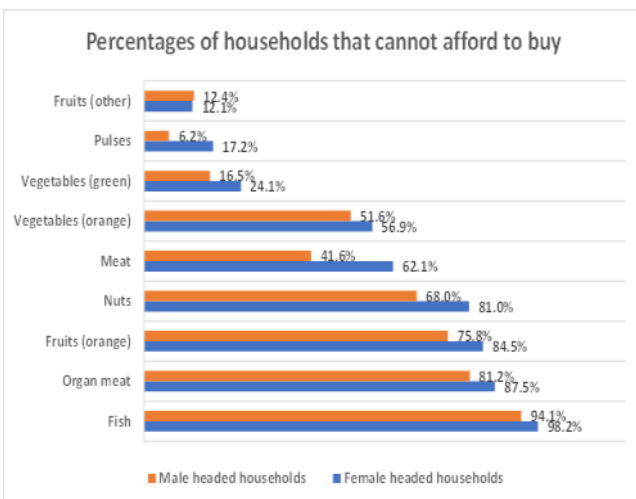


Figure 4: Reasons of households for not consuming some food groups

4.3. CONSUMPTION COPING STRATEGIES

The reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) assesses the frequency and intensity of five consumption coping strategies on a weekly basis (i.e., reliance on cheaper or less preferred food, borrowing food, reducing the number of meals, reducing the portion size of meals, or reducing food for adults to allow small children to eat more). A lower rCSI score indicates that a household can fulfil its food needs without altering its daily food consumption habits.

Analysis shows that the rCSI score of male-headed

households decreased by 6 percent while it increased significantly (41%) among female-headed households compared to Q1 2021 (Figure 5).

The most common coping strategy is relying on cheaper or less preferred food, overall adopted by 82 percent of the surveyed households, particularly female-headed households (91%). It is important to note that reducing the number of meals eaten per day is more often resorted in this reporting period compared to last year. It increased by 8 percent for overall and 37 percent for female-headed households.

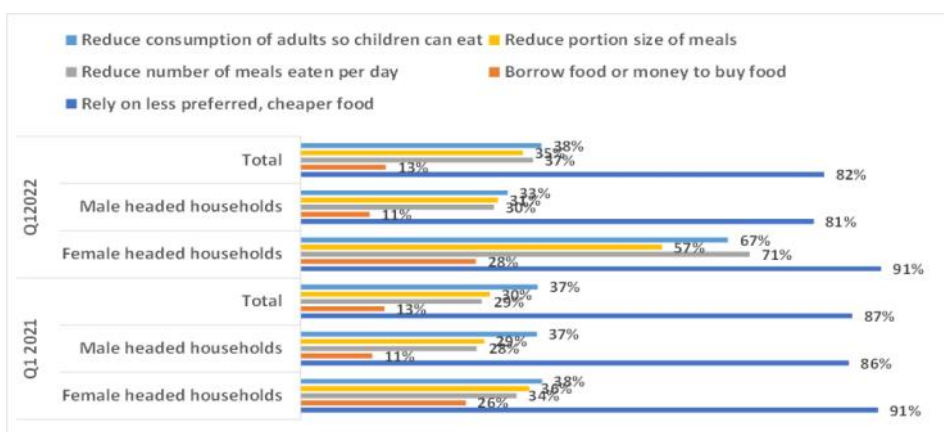


Figure 5: Reduced coping strategies by quarters

4.4. LIVELIHOOD COPING STRATEGIES

The use of longer-term household coping mechanisms is measured by the livelihood coping strategy index (LCSI). They also reveal the stability of a household's productive capacity as well as its current and future ability to meet basic needs. Some strategies, such as reducing essential expenditures or sending school-aged children to work, are more drastic than others, such as selling household assets and have long-term consequences for household resilience. The PDM surveys ask the participants if they have used any of the ten different livelihoods coping strategies in the previous 30 days, which are classified as stress, crisis and emergency depending on their severity.

In the reporting period, the LCSI increased from 3.79 to 4.72, representing a 25 percent increase compared to Q1

2021, mainly triggered by more frequent use of emergency coping strategies. The main reason for adopting livelihood coping strategies is to access food (84%). Additionally, 40 percent of respondents state that they borrowed money or credit within the three months prior to the survey, among whom 74 percent also did it to buy food.

Gender analysis shows that coping strategies adopted by female-headed households become more severe and frequent: the number of female-headed households not using any coping strategy decreased by 19 percent compared to Q1 2021 while the use of all types of coping strategies increased (6% in stress, 2% in crisis, 8% in emergency coping). Among male-headed households, resorting to crisis level coping behaviors decreased by 7 percent however, they more often resorted to emergency coping strategies (increased by 8%) as compared to last year (Figure 6).

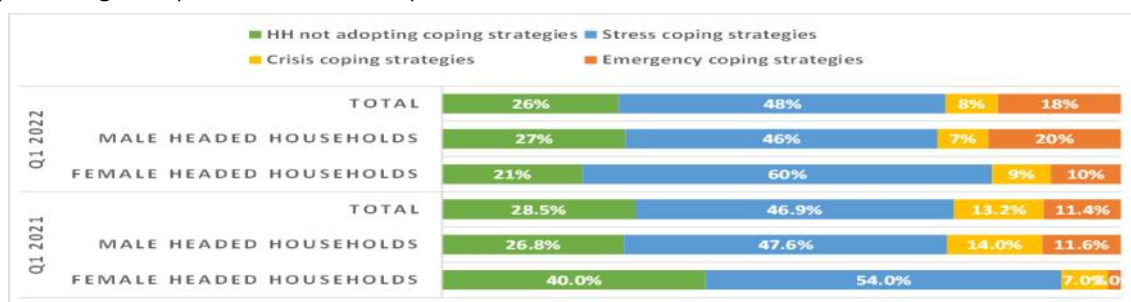


Figure 6: Application of Livelihood Coping Strategies

4.5. EXPENDITURE

Overall, 80 percent of beneficiaries have spent more than 65 percent of their total household expenditure on food (Food Expenditure Share, FES), representing a 9 percent increase compared to the previous year (Figure 7). Female headed household who use more than 65 percent of their total expenditure on food is 88 percent while the figure is 79 percent for male-headed households.

WFP's long-running advocacy efforts culminated in an agreement to raise the transfer value from 120 TRY to 150 TRY, which took effect in January 2022. The average family size is 5.4 people and an average household spends approximately 2,568 TRY on food, equating to 476 TRY per person per month significantly higher than the monthly assistance amount of 150 TRY per person.

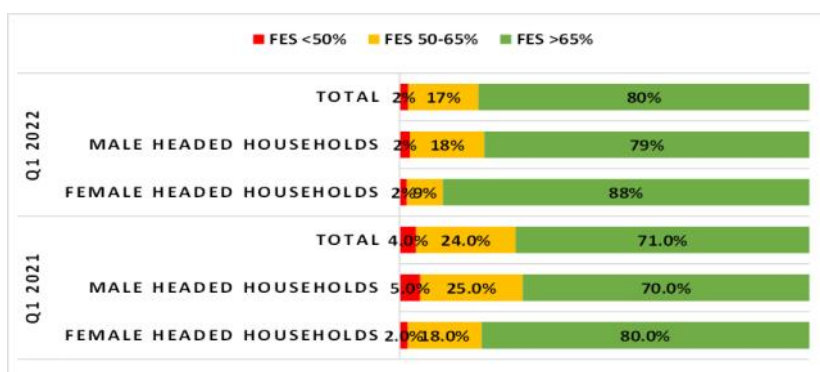


Figure 7: Food Expenditure Share (FES)

Chapter 5: Process Indicators

The PDM surveys gather data on several measures related to the implementation process, such as beneficiary expectations and understanding, as well as security concerns. The main results are summarized in this section under three themes: awareness and sensitization, safety and protection, and assistance utilization and satisfaction.

5.1. AWARENESS AND SENSITIZATION

BENEFICIARY AWARENESS AND INFORMATION CHANNELS

Almost all respondents know how much they are entitled to receive (99%) and are aware of the date that they receive the assistance (99%). More than half (62%) state that their social network, including family, friends and neighbours, is their primary source of information about

the programme. Moreover, compared to Q1 2021, importance of social media as information source overall grew by 33 percent especially in Adana although not being preferred by residents of Kahramanmaras and Yayladagi (Hatay) camps. Female-headed households use social media more than male headed households (29% and 21% respectively) and male-headed households consult TRC staff and information desk more compared to female-headed households (10% and 2% respectively).

EXPERIENCE WITH THE FEEDBACK AND COMPLAINT MECHANISM

Only 4 percent of beneficiaries reported having complaints in Q1 2022. These include pin code issues, lost, broken or canceled cards and technical problems. Complaints were received from Cevdetiye (Osmaniye), Saricam (Adana) and Altinozu (Hatay) camps.

All beneficiaries who had complaints contacted with the authorities and reported that their issues were resolved. Majority of the issues (86%) were communicated to TRC staff, followed by camp authorities (7%) and Halkbank (7%). However, it is important to note that 27 percent of beneficiaries don't know whom to contact when needed.

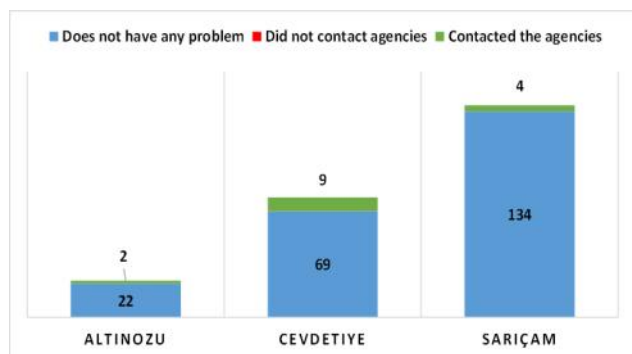


Figure 8: Complaints according to camps

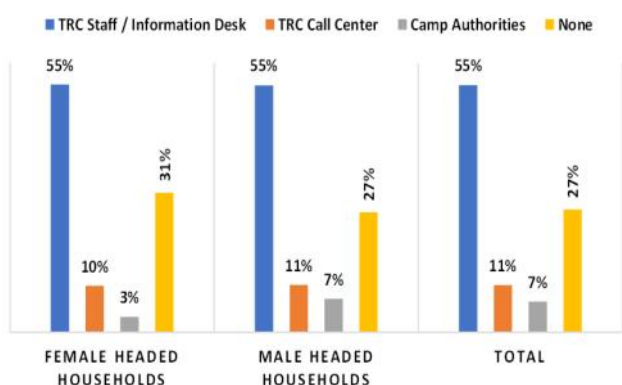


Figure 9: First channel of communication for any problem

5.2. SAFETY AND PROTECTION

None of the participants reports that their household member(s) experienced safety/protection problems as a result of being a beneficiary of the TRC-WFP programme within the last two months before the survey. Almost all (98%) beneficiaries state that they are treated with respect. However, 10 beneficiaries express that they have felt disrespectful behaviour from market staff.

5.3. UTILIZATION OF ASSISTANCE AND SATISFACTION

Only 1 percent of the households believe that the monthly assistance amount is enough to cover their basic needs (Annex A7). Compared to Q1 2021, the figure decreased by 3 percent, most likely due to the deteriorating purchasing power triggered by high inflation rates nationwide.

The decision on how to use the assistance is being made by men and women together in 60 percent of the households. Women decide utilization of the assistance alone in 33 percent of the households, indicating that women are involved in the decision-making process in 92 percent of the households. Additionally, no beneficiary reports problems in accessing the assistance.





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